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The South African Philatelist

Volume 47 — 1971

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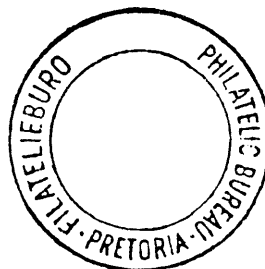
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Hobbies As Investments?

By E. Bear

Stamp and coin collecting boomed in the 1960's. The number of collectors multiplied many times. With it came an increase in the number of dealers, auction houses and publications. Increased demand pushed up prices of specific items to remarkable heights, but genuine philatelists and unmismaticans, in spite of their own personal gains, have shown themselves far from delighted with the trend.

They know that the vast majority of new "collectors" have no real interest in or love for their hobby. They are "investment hobbyists" who collect coins or stamps as a novel form of capital investment. The International Investment Handbook for 1970, published in Zürich, Switzerland, warns these collectors: Do not buy stamps or coins as an investment, unless you have a real knowledge to support your purchases.

This is good advice. Unfortunately it does not go far enough. The artificially boosted demand for rare and therefore high-value stamps and coins has encouraged more than ever before the appearance of doubtful trading practices. Even the collector with knowledge must be on his guard when buying though the stocks come from a reputable dealer or an auction firm of world renown. Clever forgeries and repaired pieces are so like the genuine article, that they cannot be distinguished without technical equipment not ordinarily available to the experts.

Stamp and coin collecting for capital investment and appreciation centres around the "antiques", which in the case of stamps, are called the "classics" and which for coins covers an even more extended and ancient period of history. This high value area exists, because there can be no natural increase in the number of pieces, as they are not any

longer printed or coined. The number in circulation is in fact continually reducing due to loss from age and carelessness. On the other hand this very limitation encourages devious practices to supplement insufficient trading stocks.

EXPENSES

In addition to the cost of stamps and coins themselves, buying and selling expenses are not cheap. The collector, when he buys from or sells to a dealer, must obviously be prepared to let him make his profit. This means that the dealer will pay less than he expects to get and that he charges more than he had to pay. This is fair and the law of all trading, but the fact is frequently not remembered by investment buyers of stamps and coins. On the face of it, buying and selling at an auction seems more attractive. However, collectors must bear in mind that buying commission can amount to an average of 15% and selling commission to 10% or more. The great auction houses of the world operate on varying commission rates, but with very few exceptions they charge commission twice, to the buyer as well as to the seller. The cost added to an auctioned stamp or coin is thus at least 20%. As this money goes to the auctioneer, the collector is hardly better off than when trading with a dealer.

Continued overleaf

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Editorial

Our Future Stamps

During this new year of 1971 South Africa will be given only one Commemorative Stamp Issue, being a set of four values to be released on May 31st, as stated by Mr. Rive, the Postmaster General, when he opened the SETPEX/SETFU exhibition in Port Elizabeth.

Although only one set per annum may not appear to be a copious supply, we welcome this curtailment of commemorative stamp issues.

Mr. Rive, however, said that in his opinion there was room for postal improvement in the South African philatelic situation. This gesture coincides with a generally expressed opinion of all those interested in South African philately who have the welfare of our stamps at heart.

In this respect we feel that not sufficient cognizance has been given to the advertisement value of our stamps, and also as an enticement to individuals to collect our stamps. Artistically many of our stamps in the past have not compared favourably with the issues of countries leading in stamp design. Often one receives the impression that appropriate pleasing colours were not used advantageously in the printing of our stamps. The printing itself did justice to the antiquated printing presses used, but now that new machines are about to be installed, we look forward to an improved reproduction.

Our stamps are our little ambassadors for South Africa and as such they should portray the many virtues which we are able to publicize — the landscapes, the fauna and flora, our history and cultural heritage, and the significant developments of our time.

Further, our definite issues should not be allowed to become stale and lose their appeal, but should be changed at periods of approximately every five or six years.

— THE EDITOR.

“Mike”

Congratulations are extended to Mr. J. Michelson upon his election as a Fellow of the Royal Philatelic Society, London — an honour well and truly deserved.

Continued from Page 1.

This added cost, more even than rising demand, has been responsible for the sharp price increases during the last decade. While catalogue prices have often doubled in a four year period, the collector will after ten years of possession frequently no more than recover his initial capital investment.

DEMAND

There are many other points “Investment Hobbyists” should know. In the case of stamps the demand is for the classics, the early printings of postage stamps from the date of their first appearance in 1840 to the latter half of the 19th century. Here again demand varies in accordance with the greater or lesser popularity of certain countries. Among the true classics the Italian and German States, the cantons of Switzerland, United States and Brazil rank high. British stamps are not nearly as sought after as some of the former British Colonies, for instance, Mauritius, British Guiana, the Cape Triangulars and others. Strangely the beautifully produced classic stamps of Britain itself have only recently gained in appeal as a result of the more imaginative and picturesque issues of the last few years. Other good items to collect are selected airmails, overprints and pre-adhesive stamp covers. Thematic collections depicting flags, ships, animals or flowers are satisfying for the true hobbyist but generally indifferent as an investment.

Coin collectors must make a choice as to whether they will only collect gold or silver coins, or rather coins of a period or of certain countries. The collector of gold coins needs a great deal of money. It may be justifiable to pay a high price for Venetian gold coins of the 14th Century because of their historical interest, but the story is very different in the case of the modern re-issues of coins by countries such as Austria, Mexico and Britain. The buyer should ascertain the gold content in relation to the price asked. He will find that in many instances he has to pay about one quarter more for the coin than he could recover, were he forced to sell on the basis of its gold content. Values of gold coins depend more on the price of gold than on collectors’ interest in them.

Silver coins are an interesting field, particularly crown pieces of the Commonwealth countries, but they also run into money. Just as in the case of stamps, the oldest coins known are the true rarities and command the highest prices. They cover the period from 700 B.C. to 600 A.D. Only collectors with sound know-

ledge and finance should specialise in these. If the collector disciplines himself to a few selected countries of the ancient world he has a chance of some capital appreciation.

Anyone wishing to start a coin collection today would be well advised to concentrate on modern issues for the period commencing about 1850. The financial outlay is controllable and the investment could prove rewarding. The most popular countries for modern coins are those with regular new commemorative issues of limited quantity. Amongst these Austria, Hungary, Israel, France and Italy are the current favourites.

The best advice to stamp collectors is, that all that is printed is true, while coin collectors must remember, that not all that glitters is gold.

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Postmark Notes

By David Allison

Bigger and Better Sorting Offices

Once upon a time there were a number of little dwarfs. Some of their names were Woodstock, Mowbray, Wynberg and Hout Bay, and they all lived happily together in a beautiful peninsula. In the same peninsula there lived a fierce dragon. His name was Cape Town, and from time to time he felt hungry and gobbled up some of the little dwarfs. Today there are only a few (like Hout Bay) that he hasn't gobbled up yet.

This is a very over-simplified version of the story of mail sorting in Cape Town. At the turn of the century letters posted in Mowbray received Mowbray postmarks because they were sorted at the Mowbray Post Office. Generally speaking, each office was responsible for the collection of mail in its own area, and for sorting it and sending it to other offices. Nowadays the pattern is quite different; most letters posted between Camps Bay, Glencairn and Bellville are taken to the main sorting office in Cape Town without ever passing through any suburban offices. Similarly, seventy years ago postmen set off on their rounds from all, or nearly all, the suburban post offices, whereas there are now fewer and bigger delivery offices, known as depots, from which letters are delivered. Much the same story could be told concerning almost any large town, and the reason for my mentioning it here is simply to provide the background to the next couple of paragraphs.

There is an increasing tendency for sorting offices to serve larger areas than hitherto. Recent British postmarks provide a number of illustrations of this. For instance, since March of this year the postmarking machines at Barnstaple (in Devon) have been fitted with dies reading, not Barnstaple, but North Devon, and most letters from South Molton as well as those from Barnstaple are sorted at that office. It is intended that the majority of letters from Bideford, Lynton, Lynmouth, Torrington and Ilfracombe will go there for sorting in the near future. In the same way Torquay postmarks have given way to South Devon ones; Exeter has been replaced by Exeter District; Blackpool machines now have Fylde Coast dies; Mid Northumberland postmarks are used on mail sorted at Morpeth, and so on.

Postmark collectors, especially those who are interested in the working of our postal system, should be alert for concentrations of mail sorting in South Africa too. Admittedly, with the lower density of population here, there is less scope for this sort of thing, and perhaps we are unlikely to have regional names in our postmarks in the near future. On the other hand, just as the postmarks of many offices have already disappeared from normal mail, so a number of others may do the same in the future.

Suburban sorting offices

Despite this trend towards centralisation, there is also a noticeable trend in the opposite direction. In recent years a few pillar boxes painted in tiger stripes have been erected for letters intended for local delivery — e.g. the one outside the Fish Hoek post office is for letters for Fish Hoek, Kalk Bay, Clovelly and Kommetjie. Letters posted in these tiger-stripe boxes are dealt with locally instead of being taken to Cape Town. Again the practice is growing of dealing at suburban sorting offices with bulk postings of circulars on which the postage is paid in cash. In either case the postmarks may be hand or machine.

There have been several new machines introduced in Cape Town suburban offices since I mentioned this topic in the January, 1969, "Postmark Notes". (See also the August, 1967, Notes). At that time there were machines at Parow (inscribed Parow Depot), Bellville (CAPE TOWN/KAAPSTAD G), and Leeusig (CAPE TOWN/KAAPSTAD F). The last mentioned machine seems to have been transferred to Rondebosch; at any rate, from late July onwards, Cape Town F was clearly in use there. During October the datestamp was replaced by a new one inscribed RONDEBOSCH. I have only seen this in red.

There are four other offices whose machines I should record. Machine postmarks inscribed GOODWOOD DEPOT and VISHOEK may be found both in red and in black. I have seen MAITLAND in red only. A machine with a CAPETOWN KAAPSTAD datestamp with the letter E at each side is in use in the Sir Lowry Road Depot for postmarking bulk postings. This datestamp was used on the airmail machine at Cape Town some years ago; it

should not be confused with the datestamp at present on the airmail machine, which has the letter E at the bottom.

These developments at Cape Town may be paralleled by similar changes in other parts of South Africa. As usual, I would value any information.

Johannesburg 2

For some years it has appeared that there have been two machines at Johannesburg used for postmarking airmail correspondence, one of them with a datestamp inscribed Johannesburg 1 and the other with a datestamp inscribed Johannesburg 2. Recently there has been a change. The backstamping of express letters, formerly done by handstamp, is now performed with a machine with a Johannesburg 2 datestamp, and as far as my observation goes only Johannesburg 1 is being used to cancel stamps on airmail letters. It may be that since the letter-facing machines (and the postmarking machines associated with them) have been introduced, only one machine is needed where two were used until recently. On the other hand there **may** be two machines in use, both with Johannesburg 1 datestamps. Two such datestamps, easily distinguishable from each other because one has a dent at the bottom, were used during October, and moreover two quite different wavy line units were used with them. This does not prove that two machines have been in use, but it makes one wonder.

LETTERS TO THE EDITOR

Watermark on some S.A. issues:
e.g. the "Festival of the R.S.A."
issue

Dear Sir,

On going through some of my S.A. stamps, for example, the uni-lingual "Festival of the Republic" issue, I found some of them without watermark — or at least, I could not, for love or money, detect any watermark on them; benzine-dropper included!

I have a theory on this but so far have not been able to convince anybody else. It is this: When the paper is made, it is rolled onto a roller. Because it is under tension, not much,

but enough — it compresses onto the roller. As each layer of paper is rolled on, the pressure becomes greater and greater and is very considerable after a few thousand layers have been rolled on.

I maintain that this compresses the paper in such a way that the watermark disappears so that, at the beginning of a printing, when you roll the paper off again, you have a clear watermark and, at the end, no watermark. How is that for an idea? I am very pleased with it but cannot get anyone else to agree.

Anyway, the fact remains: Some of the paper has a clear watermark and others have none. Give it some thought and see if you can find anyone who can come up with a better solution.

Can YOU perhaps help???

Your comments will be greatly appreciated. Maybe even through medium of the PHILATELIST.

Thanks in advance.

Sincerely,

Mrs. BEA DEYSEL.

The Ultra-Violet Lamp

Dear Sir,

In your editorial of November 1970 regarding the ultra-violet lamp in philately, you overlooked a major use to which such lamps are now being put. I refer to the search for distinguishing characteristics between different printings — of which the question of tagging may properly be considered a part. In many instances when visible differences are unclear or lacking, an examination of the material under UV will furnish a remarkable difference in paper, ink, or even gum.

The Republican Pictorials of South Africa are a good case in point. A UV lamp will serve to separate these issues into three groupings, paper-wise: the Coat of Arms and unwatermarked papers which show no reaction to UV light; the Swiss RSA tete-beche paper which glows under UV on the front only; and the RSA upright and Harrison RSA tete-beche papers which will glow both front and back. This is surely useful knowledge, as one cannot safely immerse these stamps in watermarking fluids. The eyestrain saved, particularly in dealing with single or used copies, can be immense!

In one of my specialities, the printings of United Nations definitives, a UV lamp has become a necessity. It is, for example, nearly impossible to separate the printings of the

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current 1\$ stamp; under UV, however, the gum on the third printing is much darker than that on the first two. Likewise, the second printing of the current 30c is easily distinguished from the other three under UV: its grey-coloured background becomes a pale orange!

Yours sincerely,
CHARLES BERG JR.,
Chicago, U.S.A.

Orange Free State Corner

By A. G. M. Batten, F.R.P.S.L.

I have recently been shown a 1d brown O.F.S. bearing a canceller similar to that described by Mr. Fenn as Type H.3.

It comprises a 30 mm diameter circle serrated at the edge as shown by Fenn. The canceller is not complete but the name VAR REE . . . is clear and so is the O of O.V.S. at the bottom. There is a fleuron above the date which is in one line with a decoration below as shown by Fenn under his H.1. The only date showing is 16 MR.

There is no such name in any existing record. It is thought that it may be VAN REENEN, a border post in the mountains where the road into Natal crosses them.

It would appear to be pre-1894 when the stamps changed to purple. This would be consistent with comparable marks.

C. E. Sherwood

We are pleased to learn that Mr. C. E. Sherwood, a friend of South African Philately in Great Britain, is making a slow but satisfactory recovery from his recent illness and trust that ere long he will be in his full stride again.

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SOUTHERN AFRICA'S PHILATELIC ROLL OF HONOUR

The list of Distinguished Philatelists, required to be published annually in the official journal of Federation is given in chronological order according to date of election.

Members are elected by Congress, but not more than two at any one meeting. The first 10 were elected in 1932 when the Roll was instituted and the rule was suspended once, viz., at the first post-war Congress in 1948.

The names of members deceased are marked with an asterisk.

- *1932: G. J. Allis.
- *1932: A. J. Cohen.
- *1932: G. Blockey
- *1932: Sir H. L. Gorges.
- *1932: Chas. Hand.
- *1932: G. J. Houbert.
- *1932: S. A. Glagsbrun.
- *1932: J. Ritchie.
- *1932: Emil Tamsen.
- *1932: Louis Simenhoff.
- *1933: J. Herbert Curle.
- *1934: W. J. Harrington.
- *1938: I. A. Wyndham.
- 1938: G. N. Gilbert.
- *1938: C. H. Thornton.
- *1939: W. L. Ashmead.
- *1948: Jan.: A. E. Basden.
- *1948: Jan.: P. C. Bishop.
- *1948: Jan.: A. A. Jurgens.
- *1948: Jan.: J. H. Harvey Pirie.
- *1948: Jan.: Wm. Redford.
- 1948: Oct.: H. Hilton Sydow.
- *1948: Oct.: N. Welsford.
- *1949: Alec Kaplan.
- 1949: K. Freund.
- *1951: G. K. Forbes.
- 1951: Sam Legator.
- *1952: Ernest Hunt.
- *1952: And. Watson.
- *1953: B. L. R. Fox.
- *1954: W. N. Sheffield.
- *1955: J. H. H. Chamberlain.
- *1956: T. B. Davie.
- *1956: W. Newlands.
- 1957: S. J. Hagger.
- 1958: Leo Buchen.
- 1959: T. B. Berry.
- 1959: C. E. D. Enoch.
- 1960: M. F. Stern.
- *1963: I. H. C. Godfrey.
- 1965: J. M. Michelson.
- 1966: M. Peisach.
- 1967: J. E. Creewel.

- *1968: W. G. Combrink.
- 1968: J. M. Weinstein.
- 1969: A. L. Leon.
- 1970: G. Bülbring.
- 1970: K. E. W. Lydall.

Water's in a Name

The scores of anonymous men who coined South Africa's place-names were water conscious indeed! This was evident at the prize-giving by Mr. S. P. Botha, Minister of Water Affairs, for the winners in the Afrikaanse Filatelistevereniging's juvenile water postmark competition.

The entries of the winners — 18 main prizes were awarded — were on display at the ceremony, which was attended by successful entrants and their parents, relatives and friends from all over the country.

Mr. L. F. Rive, the Postmaster General, attended to hand over the main prize — an official album containing the last five year's stamps of the Republic and South West Africa. This was won by Willem van Niekerk, a Matric pupil of the Jan van Riebeeck High School in Cape Town. His collection totalled 800 postmarks: 542 of different "watery" place-names, supplemented by postmark type studies (of Bloemfontein alone Willem had 48 different types).

Mr. Botha, who took a keen interest in the entries and in the water thematic stamp collection of Mrs. Ursula Massmann on display, confessed that he himself was amazed at the multitudes of place-names having to do with water, such as fontein, stroom, rivier, etc. He added that he was particularly impressed by the trouble the young collectors took to dress up, arrange and write up their collections.

Mr. E. Thamm, honorary secretary of the AFV, said that 60 "album entries" were received, plus others more limited in scope.

South African Success at Philympia

The name of Mr. R. Hunt who received a Vermeil Medal for his Modena Exhibit, was omitted from the list of awards published in our November number, as the award had been entered and was listed in the Official Awards List under the pseudonym "Cielo" — the penalty for "hiding one's light under a bushel"!

So Het Hulle Geswerf . . .

Deur Thys Rall L.V.

Op 'n onlangse seëlveiling in Durban is prysgeskiedenis gemaak toe daar vir 'n enkele Suid-Afrikaanse posseël R1,500 betaal is — ongetwyfeld die hoogste bod wat enige Suid-Afrikaanse seël nog ooit gehaal het. Die bod was vir een van 'n oorspronklike dubbeld gedruk is en wat in Augustus 1919 in die hoofkantoor van Johannesburg oor die toonbank gekoop is.

Hierdie gebeurtenis het soveel belangstelling gewek dat dit interessant is om die geskiedenis van die strokie na te speur en vas te stel waar die seëls oral rondgeswerf het en waar hulle hul vandag bevind.

In 1942 noem Lobdell hierdie strokie as „the greatest of Union rarities,” 'n uitspraak wat vandag nog vasstaan, en gee hy dan twee teorieë oor hoe hierdie afwyking kon ontstaan het. Vir my is daar hoegenaamd geen twyfel nie dat in die drukproses die voorafgaande vel geskeur en gedeeltelik omgevou het. Toe die vel gedruk is, het die onderste vel by die plek waar die skeur was, reeds 'n gedeeltelike impressie ontvang. Met die volgende drukslag het die onderste vel toe sy volle impressie ontvang en gevolglik 'n dubbele druk getoon so groot as wat die skeur en omvouing van die voorafgaande vel was.

In die S.A. Philatelist se uitgawe van Augustus 1970 vertel mnr. J. Robertson van Johannesburg hoe hierdie strokie, net nadat dit deur 'n kantoorbode gevind is, vir enkele sjielings aan hom aangebied is, maar dat hy in sy destydse armoede nie die geldjies gehad het nie. Die boonste paar is toe afgeskeur en vir ongeveer tien sjielings verkoop. Daarmee het die dubbeld gedrukte strokie 'n ware wêreldverstrooiing begin, maar vandag is al vyf stuks weer gelukkig in Suid-Afrika terug.

Wie die onmiddellike eienaars was nadat die stuk opgebreek is, sal ons seker nooit weet nie. Dit maak natuurlik ook nie saak nie. Die boonste paar was, volgens sy eie katalogus, reeds in 1921 in die besit van G. W. Reynolds. Daarna het dit, sover vasgestel an word, oorgegaan na J. Ritchie, wat ook 'n katalogus geskrywe het (1926) en wat dit daarin vermeld. Hy was aan die mynweise verbonde en volgens J. Robertson die eerste spesialis van Unieseëls. Later het die paar in 'n versameling van Louis Simenhoff van Kaapstad gekom en toe die skrywer hiervan in 1959 'n versameling van Hilton Sydow koop, was die paar daarin. By 'n prysberekening is die waarde van die paar toe gestel op £150 en as vandag se prys

daarmee vergelyk word, dan het die paar se geldelike waarde in ongeveer tien jaar vertien-dubbel.

Daar kan op gewys word dat die boonste seël die enigste van die vyf is waarop die hele kop dubbeld gedruk is. Die verdubbeling van die nek word laer af kleiner en kom op die vierde seël glad nie meer voor nie.

Die volgende paar is oorspronklik ook vir ongeveer tien sjielings verkoop en het te lande gekom in Londen, waar dit later geskei is. Nommer drie — dis nou die duur knaap — het in die besit gekom van regter Levy en is in ongeveer 1950 deur Harmers opgeveil en vir 212 dollar aan ene Dennis verkoop. In 1952 het Smythe die versameling van Dennis gekoop en op sy beurt het hy die versameling in 1966 weer aan Harding verkoop. Harding se versameling is toe in Julie in Durban opgeveil en daar het die dinamiese Len van der Kar van Kaapstad ondanks baie kwaai wedywering die seël vir 'n rekordbedrag van R1,500 syne gemaak.

Nommer vier was volgens Lobdell vir agt jaar lank, van 1923 tot 1931, in die besit van handelaars en is deur Stephen G. Rich aangekoop. By sy afsterwe twaalf jaar gelede het sy versameling na die museum in Kaapstad gegaan en die seël word nou in die Ou Hooggereshofgebou aan die bopunt van Adderleystraat tussen ander Suid-Afrikaanse seëls uitgestal. (Die enigste eksemplaar bekend van die 5/- van dieselfde serie, met meelopende feeslyne, kom ook van Rich en is ook in hierdie uitstalling te sien.)

Nommer vyf, waarvan net die raam in die linkerhandse hoek, bo regs, dubbeld gedruk is, het aan prof. J. J. Smith van Stellenbosch behoort. By sy oorlye het die stuk oorgegaan in die besit van sy seun Jan, van Emmarentia, Johannesburg.

Al vyf die seëls is dus na baie wedervaringe weer terug in Suid-Afrika, die land van hulle oorsprong waar hulle tuishoort.

Dit mag nou belaglik klink om R1,500 te betaal vir 'n seël waarvan die prys in Gibbons as R172 aangegee word, maar dit is tog 'n bewys dat die goeie en gesogte stukke se kataloguswaarde hoegenaamd geen betroubare gids van hul werklike waarde is nie. Hier hang dit af van hoeveel die koper bereid is om te betaal en hoe sterk die kompetisie is. Maar kom ons wag en kyk of die Rooi Gibbons vir 1972 dalk al anders oor die saak begin dink.

Tracing Their Wanderings . . .

By Thys Rall M.P.

(Translated from the original)

History was made at a recent Durban stamp auction when R1,500 was paid for a single South African stamp — without doubt the highest bid ever attracted by any South African stamp. The bid was for one of an original strip of five ½d George V series which was partially doubly printed and which was sold over the counter of the Johannesburg general post office in August, 1919.

This event attracted so much attention that it is interesting to record the history of the strip and to determine where the stamps wandered about, and where they are today.

Lobdell in 1942 called the strip "the greatest of Union rarities," a statement holding good to this day, and voiced two opinions as to how this deviation could have come about. I have no doubt that during the printing process the preceding sheet was torn and partially folded over. When the sheet was printed, the sheet below received a partial impression at the place where the tear was. With the next printing movement the bottom sheet received its full impression, thus showing a double printing as large as the tear and folding away of the preceding sheet.

In the S.A. Philatelist's issue of August, 1970, Mr. J. Robertson of Johannesburg related how this strip, soon after being found by an office messenger, was offered to him for a few shillings but that he then could not afford it. The top pair was then severed and sold for about ten shillings, and the strip started a real world-wide dispersal, but today, happily, all five of the stamps are back in South Africa.

Who the immediate owners were immediately after the piece was broken up, we will never know. In any event, it does not matter. The top pair was, according to his own catalogue, already by 1921 in the possession of G. W. Reynolds. Thereafter (as far as can be ascertained) it went to J. Ritchie, who also wrote a catalogue (1926) and made mention of it. He was in mining and according to J. Robertson was the first specialist in Union stamps. Later the pair landed in a collection of Louis Simenhoff of Cape Town, and when the author in 1959 bought a collection from Hilton Sydow, the pair was there. At a price valuation the value of the pair was then put at £150 which, compared to the current price,

means that the pair's monetary value has increased tenfold in about so many years.

It should be pointed out that the top stamp is the only one having the whole head double printed. The doubling of the neck becomes smaller lower down and does not occur at all on the fourth stamp.

The next pair was originally also sold for about ten shillings and landed in London, where it was later severed. Number three — this is the expensive chap — came in the possession of Judge Levy and was auctioned about 1950 by Harmers, when a certain Dennis obtained it for 121 dollars. In 1952 Smythe bought the collection of Dennis and he, in turn, again sold the collection to Harding in 1966. Harding's collection was auctioned in Durban during July and there the dynamic Len van der Kar of Cape Town in spite of strong competition made the stamp his for a record price of R1,500.

Number four, according to Lobdell, was for eight years, from 1923 until 1931, in the hands of dealers and was later bought by Stephen G. Rich. After his death twelve years ago his collection went to the museum in Cape Town, where it is now exhibited alongside other South African stamps in the Old Supreme Court Building at the top end of Adderley Street. (The only known example of the 5/- of the same series, with co-extensive Jubilee lines, also comes from Rich and is also on display in this exhibit.)

Number five, of which only the frame in the left-hand corner, top right, is printed doubly, belonged to Prof. J. J. Smith of Stellenbosch. Upon his death the piece came in the possession of his son Jan, of Emmarentia, Johannesburg.

All five stamps are now, after their many wanderings, back in South Africa, the country of their origin where they belong.

It may sound foolish to pay R1,500 for a stamp priced in Gibbons at R172, but it provides proof that the catalogue value of the good and sought after pieces is no reliable guide to their true worth. In such cases it depends on how much the buyer is prepared to pay and on how strong the competition is. But let us wait and see whether the Red Gibbons will begin to amend this otherwise in 1972.

S.A. Philatelic Dealers

The South African Philatelic Dealers Association held its first Annual General Meeting on 10th November, 1970. The membership of this organisation stands now at 26, including members from Great Britain and Swaziland and reports that the Membership List is growing steadily. The past business year of the Association has been very successful and future planning promises to be fruitful. The following have been elected as Office Bearers for the ensuing year:

J. Busser, President — re-elected.

W. Giesenow, Vice-President — elected — and also Hon. Secretary — re-elected.

Dr. J. von Varendorff, Hon. Treasurer — re-elected.

S. J. Vermaak, Committee Member — elected.

C. Goncalves, Committee Member—elected.

NOTAPHILY

This is the new name for the new hobby of collecting old paper money of the world. Stanley Gibbons Ltd. have created the word which derives from Latin and Greek and means "love of notes". They are setting out to popularise the hobby by publishing the first fully priced catalogue of Bank of England and Treasury Notes on December 4 at 5s. and are forming a subsidiary company to deal in paper money.

Stanley Gibbons anticipate a considerable growth in notaphily in the future as more and more people become aware of this fascinating and rewarding hobby.

There are many thousands of relatively inexpensive notes available to the beginner whilst notaphilic rarities are often undervalued in comparison to other choice collectors' pieces.

The earliest notes readily available are those of the Ming Dynasty, measuring over a foot square; these are outstanding examples of Chinese calligraphy of the fourteenth century.

There is a wealth of colourful and historic material issued throughout the world during the last century. Even today collectors' items are found in general circulation. Error notes sometimes slip through the Bank of England's checkers and can be worth many pounds.

(Gibbons Press Release.)

Australian Post Office

Postage Stamp to Commemorate Centenary of Overland Telegraph Line

The Australian Post Office will issue a special postage stamp in 1972 to commemorate the centenary of the construction of the Overland Telegraph Line from Adelaide to Darwin which was completed in August, 1872.

The anniversary of the Overland Telegraph Line is of national and historical importance and worthy of commemoration as an important event by which rapid communication between England and Australia, through the telegraphic networks of Europe and Asia, was first instituted via a submarine cable from Java to Darwin.

Prior to 1872, the only communication between Australia and Europe was a monthly sea mail service heavily subsidised by the colonial governments. The lack of a more speedy means of communication was at that time a great handicap to the rapidly developing colonies.

50th Anniversary Qantas Stamps

Attractive 6c and 30c stamps were issued on 2nd November, 1970, to mark the fiftieth anniversary of the formation of Qantas Airways.

The stamps were designed by Mr. George Hamori of Sydney. His designs contrast a Qantas Boeing 707 with the first aircraft used by the company — Sunbeam Dyak powered Avro 504. Printing of the stamps is in photo-gravure by the Note Printing Branch of the Reserve Bank of Australia.

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Wat 'n mooi versameling, die waterposstempels van Willem van Niekerk, wat hier bekyk word deur mnr. S. P. Botha, Minister van Waterwese (regs), en mnr. Erik Thamm, ere-sekretaris van die Afrikaanse Filatelistevereniging (links). Willem, die wenner van die Republiekprys in die AFV se groot waterstempelwedstryd, was een van die tiental wenners wat in November hul pryse van min. Botha kom ontvang het.

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TYRO'S CORNER

By Beginner

TOOLS OF PHILATELY

This month's article will deal with some of the more elementary and essential "tools of philately", their selection and use.

Albums

The makes and variety of albums are legion, but broadly speaking there are two types: bound and loose leaf albums. It is advisable to inspect a variety of albums before choosing one suited to one's needs. For the beginner, or junior general collector, a bound album can be suitable. If you are looking to the future, a loose leaf album is better because one can expand a collection by entering pages where required, while if you wish to rearrange a page you can discard the old one and use a fresh page. Album pages are available with pre-printed headings, or blank.

Stock books

Stock books are large or small (even pocket-sized) storing books for stamps, with transparent plastic strips fitted to the pages. They are used for keeping stamps until one is ready to mount them, or for storing duplicates. A small stock book can be bought for as little as 75c.

Tweezers

Stamps should always be handled with tweezers so as to ensure that they remain clean and unspoil. The tweezers, which are not expensive, should be of the special type with smooth ends. Tweezers with rough or serrated holding ends should never be used for stamps.

Hinges

The usual way of attaching stamps to the album page is by using the specially made peelable hinges. (Other special mounting methods are most expensive.) Stamps should never be stuck down on a page with odd bits of gummed paper.

A good type of hinge will cost only about 25c per 1,000 and will peel off the page and the stamp without leaving unsightly marks

when a stamp is removed. Hinges can be obtained either folded or unfolded, the former being the most convenient. To affix a stamp, the hinge should be moistened lightly on the smaller flap and then attached to the stamp, close to the top edge of the stamp. The other flap is then moistened and attached to the album page.

Magnifiers

Although there are also many types of magnifiers, the generally used one is the glass type. Magnifying glasses can be hand-held, or on stands. When selecting a hand-held one, you should try and obtain a glass with a diameter of three inches or more, as this is the best for viewing a single stamp conveniently.

A magnifier with a base and flexible stand, like a reading lamp, is usually smaller than a hand-held glass and is more suitable for a prolonged examination of some particular feature on a stamp. This, and the more expensive magnifying instruments, are used by the more advanced collectors.

American Topical Association

Railway Stamps, the most comprehensive explanatory listing ever compiled, will soon be issued as topical stamp Handbook No. 77 of the American Topical Association after five years of compilation and editing by an international committee headed by Howard J. Burkhalter.

Aimed at a world-wide audience, this book will be useful to any collector anywhere with or without the use of any general stamp catalogue. A Section features stations, tunnels, bridges, railway maps, engines, railway cars, railway tracks, signals, etc., listed alphabetically by name of country with Scott catalogue number, date of issue (month, day, year), denominations, colour and description of scene.

Priced to sell at \$6, a modest figure considering the size and scope of the coverage, *Railway Stamps*, ATA Handbook No. 77, is being offered at a low pre-publication price of just \$5 (50 IRCs) from American Topical Association, 3308 North 50th Street, Milwaukee, Wisconsin 53216.

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APO-8F

AUSTRALIAN POST OFFICE

South African Special Hand Cancellers Dating From 31 May 1910

By S. J. Vermaak

The different type of cancellation is set out under appropriate headings, and by their cataloguing no claim is made to completeness but rather as a record of these marks, to which additions or corrections will be appreciated.

1. Philatelic Exhibitions

(National, International and Others)

1913 Durban	1953 Bulawayo	1960 Johannesburg
1927 East London	(1953 Lourenco Marques)	(UNIPEX)
1928 Durban	1953 Johannesburg and	1961 Cape Town
1931 Pretoria	Cape Town (Cent.	1962 Port Elizabeth
1934 Pretoria	of Cape Triangle)	1963 Durban
1934 Pretoria	1954 Durban	1964 Pretoria
1936 Johannesburg	1955 Paarl (Vintage	1965 Paarl
(JIPEX) 1 English	Festival GABBEMA)	1966 Cape Town
and 1 Afrikaans	1955 Pretoria	(Domestic)
1948 Pretoria	(1956 Windhoek)	1966 Bulawayo
1948 East London	1956 Port Elizabeth	1967 Bloemfontein
1950 Johannesburg	1957 Durban (Natal	1968 East London
1951 Bloemfontein	Stamp Cent.)	1969 Johannesburg
1952 Cape Town	1957 Paarl	1970 Port Elizabeth
(SATISE/SADIPU)	1958 Germiston	1971 Cape Town
2 Types	1959 East London	(RSA 10)

2. Commemoratives

(Used in conjunction with commemorative stamp/s).

1938 Voortrekker Cent. [10 Different: Bloukrans, Bloedrivier, Bulhoek, Cape Town, Danskraal, Retiefklip, Slagtersnek, Vegkop and Voortrek- ker Monument (2)].	1954 Animal Series.	1966 5th Anniversary of RSA.
<i>NOTE: Although Bulhoek, Slagtersnek, Vegkop and one Voortrekker Monument Can- cellers are normal "Town Cancellers", they are listed here as they form part of the set.</i>	1955 Cent. of Pretoria.	1966 Dr. H. F. Verwoerd (Voort./Mon. Canc.).
1939 Huguenot Commerora- tion Day (Paarl).	1955 Church of the Vow.	1967 Church Reformation.
1949 Inauguration of Voor- trekker Monument.	1959 S.A. Academy of Arts and Science.	1968 State President Fouche.
1954 Bloemfontein Conven- tion.	1960 Sanae.	1968 Gen. Hertzog.
	1960 Union Festival (Bloemfontein).	1969 S.A. Games.
	1960 Union of South Africa (Pretoria).	1969 "Heart Transplant (47th Med. Cong.).
	1962 Volkspele.	1969 ZAR Cent. (2 Types plus Helicopter Mail Mark).
	1962 1820 Settlers.	1970 Water 70 (Also Minis- ter of Water Affairs launching cachet).
	1963 Kirstenbosch.	1970 Biblia.
	1963 Red Cross.	
	1963 Transkei.	
	1964 Rugby.	
	1964 Calvin.	
	1964 Nursing Congress.	
	1965 I.T.U.	
	1965 Church Tercentenary.	

3. Publicity

- | | | | | | |
|------|---|------|---------------------------------|------|--------------------------------------|
| 1933 | Table Mountain. | 1960 | Kirstenbosch. | 1964 | Kruger National Park (Pretoriuskop). |
| 1936 | National Park, Natal. | 1963 | Old Post Office Tree. | 1964 | Bontebok Park. |
| 1937 | The Seaside Pleasure Resort, Margate. | | Hertzog Tower. | 1966 | Golden Gate. |
| 1947 | Table Mountain (Re-engraved). | | Voortrekker Monument. | 1966 | Tsitsikamma Forest. |
| 1949 | The Seaside Pleasure Resort, Margate (Also in Afrikaans). | 1964 | Mountain Zebra Park. | 1966 | Coastal Natural Park. |
| 1957 | The Big Hole. | 1964 | Gemsbok Park. | 1966 | Cape Point Nature Reserve. |
| 1958 | Table Mountain (Re-engraved). | 1964 | Eliphant Park. | 1968 | The Show Train (5 various). |
| | | 1964 | Kruger National Park (Skukuza). | 1969 | Reinet House. |

4. General

- | | | | | | |
|------|---|------|--|------|--|
| 1911 | First S.A. Aerial Post, Kenilworth. | 1936 | Post Office Exhibition, East London. | 1957 | S.A. Medical Congress. |
| 1911 | First S.A. Aerial Post, Muizenberg. | 1936 | Bloemfontein Show. | 1958 | Marion Island. |
| 1911 | Houses of Parliament (At least 5 types to date). | 1936 | S.A. Medical Congress, Pietermaritzburg. | 1962 | SANAE ("First Voyage"). |
| 1913 | British Association. | 1936 | Empire Exhibition, Johannesburg (Also a slogan). | 1962 | Marion Island (New). |
| 1918 | Aerial Post. | 1936 | Scout Camp, East London. | 1966 | No. 1 Field P.O. |
| 1924 | Parliamentary Tour. | 1941 | War Train (2 Types). | 1967 | 75th Anniversary of Vereeniging. |
| 1925 | Royal Tour (Prince of Wales). | 1942 | Liberty Cavalcade, Johannesburg. | 1968 | No. 2 Field P.O. (A and B). |
| 1925 | S.A. Air Mail (2 Types — metal and rubber). | 1943 | RAF West Lake Camp. | 1968 | No. 3 Field P.O. |
| 1929 | Verneukpan (Malcolm Campbell's speed record attempt). | 1943 | Wool Exchange, Durban. | 1968 | Agricultural Show, Kimberley. |
| 1930 | Agricultural Show, Johannesburg. | 1944 | Thanksgiving Cavalcade. | 1969 | First Flight to Rio de Janeiro. |
| 1932 | Exhibition, Johannesburg. | 1944 | Victory Fair, Johannesburg. | 1969 | No. 1 Field Unit (A and B). |
| 1933 | Burger Camp, Pretoria. | 1944 | Liberty Cavalcade, Cape Town. | 1969 | First SAA Flight Johannesburg to Vienna. |
| 1933 | S.A. Medical Congress, Rondebosch. | 1946 | Agricultural Show, Johannesburg. | 1970 | Camporee (Scouts). |
| 1934 | S.A. Medical Congress. | 1947 | Royal Visit (6 Types). | 1970 | Intern. Union of Geological Sciences. |
| 1934 | Royal Tour (Prince George). | 1948 | Transvaal Jamborally (Scouts). | 1970 | Water Convention. |
| 1934 | Ideal Homes Exhibition, Johannesburg. | 1948 | Marion Island. | | |
| 1934 | University Congress. | 1949 | Rand Show, Johannesburg. | | |
| 1934 | Scout Camp, East London. | 1949 | Pretoria Industrial Exhibition. | | |
| 1935 | Imperial Press Conference (2 Types). | 1950 | Pretoria Industrial Exhibition. | | |
| 1935 | Post Office Exhibition, Cape Town. | 1950 | Rand Show, Johannesburg. | | |
| 1935 | Radio Exhibition, Johannesburg. | 1951 | Rand Easter Show. | | |
| 1936 | Show Grounds, Bloemfontein. | 1954 | Medical Congress, Port Elizabeth. | | |
| | | 1957 | Philatelic Services, Pretoria. | | |

Cancellations pertaining to particular organisations such as Ocean Post Office, Shipping and Paquebot Systems, Impressions of World War 2 and relevant institutions, Mobile Post Office Marks etc. are not included. They ought to appear under separate headings and should have been done years ago. Where is the S.A. Stamp Study Circle?! Author.

South African Material at Philimpia.

Continued from page 298, December, 1970.

Orange Free State, by G. D. Buckley of Great Britain, awarded a bronze medal.

A 1d die proof dated 10 May 1867; die proofs of the 4d and 5/- (1877), 3d (1882) and 2d (1883). Die proofs of the third revenue issue. A study of the VRI overprints, with varieties and double and inverted surcharges. De la Rue essay for KE VII $\frac{1}{2}$ d postcard and wrapper. A magnificent sequence of die proofs for the KE VII issue, at different stages and states. Die proofs for the Edwardian revenue issue and colour trials for the 6d value.

Anglo-Boer War, by Colin S. Rosenberg of South Africa, awarded a bronze medal.

Hooflager covers; stampless Elandslaagte "Velddienst" cover; covers from the Boer occupation of Natal and Northern Cape; Pietersburg proof strip; Wolmaransstad 1d on cover; Vryburg "Special Post" $\frac{1}{2}$ d and 1d used; POW covers with camp markings of Ceylon, Bermuda, St. Helena and India.

Transvaal, by Colin S. Rosenberg of South Africa, awarded a bronze medal.

A cover to the Cape with Potchefstroom handstamp of 4 June 1864 and circular "Bloemfontein Betaald" transit mark. Pair of 1/- proofs in lilac ex Otto plates. Otto colour trial of 6d in black. Block of four of 1d, Viljoen printing, in overinked state. Cover of 1875 from Potchefstroom to Boshof, franked with 1874 6d. The "VR Transvaal" overprint in lower case letters, 6d blue on blue, with overprint inverted. Colour trials of the Queen's Head issue. Plate proofs and colour trials of the 1885-93 issue. Pane of 60 of the 1d provisional of April 1879. Ermelo and Carolina typewritten stamps.

The variety of fine material in this collection was not well presented and dealers' codes etc. were clearly visible. This left a very poor impression on the objective viewer.

Transvaal, by Mrs. D. C. Hutson of Great Britain, awarded a large silver medal.

An 1871 Otto 3d proof pair bêche-a-bêche. The 1877 VR overprint in black, all capitals and wide setting, inverted, on hard-surfaced paper. A right-hand pane of 40 stamps with the VR overprint in lower case letters, 6d blue on blue, including a tête-bêche at number 25. A cover dated 18 April 1878, from Heidelberg to Potchefstroom, with the 6d blue on green

with VR overprint in lower case letters.

Transvaal, by H. M. Criddle of Great Britain, awarded a Vermeil medal.

Close and wide settings of the Otto printings of the 1d, 6d and 1/-, including a proof of the 1/- in purple, printed on both sides. First and second essays of the 3d, and accepted colour trials.

Viljoen printing, 1/- tête-bêche in pair and in block of four, all mint. Viljoen printing, 6d tête-bêche in used pair and in a mint block.

VR overprint of 1877 in red, all capitals, on 6d, coarse soft paper, with overprint double. Red overprint on 1/- inverted, with wide setting. Black overprint, all capitals, on 1d fine roulette, with overprint double. Black all capital overprint on 1/-, with overprint double. Overprint in lower case letters, 1d red on blue with "Transvaal" error. Overprint in lower case letters, 6d blue on blue, with overprint inverted; also 6d blue on blue with overprint omitted. The 1d and 3d of August/September 1879 issue with small T and pin perforation.

De la Rue essays of the 1d postage and 6d revenue on 1877. Unique Bradbury, Wilkinson essays of 1878 (unissued). Plate proofs of the QV issue of 1878.

Celliers printing of 1883, 1/- tête-bêche used in a block of four. Unrecorded proof surcharge, in red, of 1d on $2\frac{1}{2}$ d of 1895, including one copy on cover dated 21-6-96. Essays of the Kruger and Arms designs of 1899.

The 1900 VIR errors on $\frac{1}{2}$ d, 2d and 4d. Double VRI overprints on $\frac{1}{2}$ d, 1d and 1/-. Unique Edwardian composite essay for 1d (1901). Edwardian De la Rue die proofs and colour trials. Several copies of 1d with cabled Anchor watermark. Unissued 2d overprinted "Specimen".

Rhodesia, by E. G. Lovejoy of Great Britain, awarded a small silver medal.

A plating study of the 1896 issue and proofs, colour trials, specimens and provisionals of the 1890 issue.

Rhodesia, by "Pioneer", believed to be a South African collector, awarded a small silver medal.

Plate proofs, colour trials and essays. The Double Heads include the £1 error of colour with marginal imprint; £1 perf. 15, mint; 1/- perf. 15 x 14 with marginal imprint, mint; and a good showing of varieties on the King's Head issue.

Basutoland, by H. A. Scott of South Africa, awarded a bronze medal.

Early covers from Morija, Maseru, Mhaleshoek and Teyateyaneng. Stampless cover of 1900, written by a member of Brabant's Horse from Mafeteng. Complete range of the decimal overprints of 1961, including the 2½c with overprint inverted, used. Officials, 1d and 2d used.

Decimal surcharges of Basutoland, Bechuanaland and Swaziland, by R. S. Craddock of

New Zealand, awarded a bronze medal.

This practically complete collection included the Basutoland 2½c inverted, used; Basutoland decimal revenues; Bechuanaland 1c postage due with overprint double; Swaziland ½c with overprint inverted; Swaziland 1c and 10c with double overprints; and Swaziland 50c with type III overprint, mint.

South Africa 1929, by V. W. Dix of Great Britain, awarded a bronze medal.

A comprehensive study of the Darmstadt Trials and Hunter Penrose essays.

The Art and Architecture of Ancient Egypt as seen through the stamps of Egypt

By R. Goldblatt

By the year 3,500 B.C. the Stone Age settlements around the Mediterranean Sea had advanced to a new stage of civilization, and the World's first really great art style came into being in ancient Egypt.

It will be readily appreciated that the Mammoth structures in the forms of Pyramids and Temples were the grandiose products of the Egyptian funerary beliefs and traditions.

The Rulers vied with each other to provide, during their life-time, a suitably magnificent repository for the reception of their mortal remains, as well as for the spirit in the life hereafter.

The tombs were richly carved and embellished with paintings and statuary, and art works of varying descriptions, and thus it may be said that this art and architecture served as the handmaidens to the Egyptian religious beliefs.

A look at the Catalogue reveals stamps depicting the following antiquities:—

Pyramids and Sphinx

The oldest Pyramid, namely the step Pyramid at Saqqara is depicted on a stamp (SG 1041), its builder Imhotep, is shown on SG 176 holding his staff of office as Grand Vizier to King Zoser. This amazing man is also known as the "Father of Medicine". The pyramid constructed by him is sited near Memphis,

and consisted of six rectangular stages piled one above the other, to a height of two hundred feet.

When the Fourth Dynasty came into power in 2613 B.C. the Pharaohs constructed three massive Pyramids at Giza. An aerial view of these is to be found on the set issued in 1933, SG 193/312, and subsequently reprinted by photogravure process in 1941-46, SG 285/88, whilst SG 645 issued in 1959 shows an aerial view from a different angle. The largest of the three Pyramids at Giza, namely the Pyramid of Khufu (Cheops) is seen, together with the head of the Great Sphinx on all Egyptian stamps issued prior to 1914. Two million stone blocks weighing up to fifteen tons each were utilized in its construction — no wonder the ancient Greeks listed this Pyramid as one of the seven wonders of the ancient world.



There are approximately 80 Pyramids remaining of the many built during the long period of the ancient history of Egypt. The Great Sphinx, as beforementioned, is to be

seen on the first issues of the country, and will also be found on SG 714, being the 1961 "son et lumiere" stamp. The proportions are astounding. The body is 240 feet long, 66 feet high, and the face more than 13 feet wide. It is believed that the Sphinx is the embodiment of Harmakhis, the Sungod, but the human features are said to be that of Khafre, the King of Egypt at the time the statue was carved, 3,500 B.C. Between the paws, which are 50 feet long, is sited a roofless temple believed to be a shrine to the Sungod Harmachig.

The Colossi of Memnon

These twin seventy foot high statues seen on SG 78 and also on an aerial view, SG 646, were ordered by Amenhotep III, and were built in his likeness to be set before the funerary temple at Thebes which has now completely disappeared. An earthquake in 27 B.C. split the Northernmost statue, and the stone used to vibrate, causing a "singing sound" to be emitted. Many important personages came to hear this marvel until the Roman Emperor, Septimus Severus, repaired the statue, causing it to lose its voice.

The Shrines at Abu-Simbel

Pharaoh Rameses II, seen on SG 96/7, 579/775, 795, 836, 867, commissioned the temples to be carved out of solid sandstone cliffs at Abu-simbel in Nubia. The larger temple, dedicated to himself, is depicted on SG 81, 367, 653, whilst the background of SG 835 also shows the facade of this temple. Four enormous figures of Rameses flanked the facade of this temple, and a closer inspection of the stamp will reveal smaller figures carved at the feet of the larger ones, representing the immediate members of the Royal family.

The large figures guard the entrance that leads to the "Great Hall of Pillars" seen on SG 770 and 868. These pillars are sculptured portraits of Rameses depicted as Osiris, and serve as supports for the ceiling, which is adorned with paintings of flying vultures.

The smaller temple nearby was dedicated to the god Hathor and the Pharaoh's Great wife, Nefertari, depicted on SG 769, 791. The temple is seen on SG 674 whilst this temple is also seen on SG 879/80 together with the temple of Rameses. The facade of the temple is flanked by four large statues of Rameses and two of his queen.

SG 751 depicts a mural relief sculpture of the coronation of Queen Nefertari from this temple.

In the Mammoth undertaking, these temples were moved to a higher site, as the construction of the Aswan High Dam resulted in water engulfing their original sites of location.

The Pylon of the Temple of Karnak at Luxor

SG 35 shows the Pylon of the temple. This gateway was a monumental portal affording access to the sacred enclosure of the temple, consisting of colonnaded columns and known as the "Hypostyle Hall". The Pylon was erected under the Macedonian King of Egypt, Ptolemy III (247 B.C.). The Pylon is richly covered with sculptured relief showing the King in Prayer, and making sacrifices to the gods of Thebes.

It will be noted that the perpendicular lines of this portal have an inward slope, which is characteristic of Egyptian architecture.

The temple of Rameses

The temple is depicted on SG 367 and it is of interest to note that in conformity with the trend of Egyptian ideas the arch was completely underestimated. Nilotic building was based on a system of "flat arching", which consisted of holding roofs by means of slabs laid on supports. This aspect is clearly demonstrated by this stamp.

The temple of Isis at Philae

The temple is seen on (Quatar SG 49) and was erected on the island of Philae, at the first cataract of the River Nile, which is now submerged. Architecturally, the temple is typical of the 18th Dynasty, and was built by Ptolemaic Kings and Roman Emperors. The last example of Egyptian Hieroglyphics is to be seen in this temple.

An ornate colonnade from the temple is found on Quatar SG 53 and Trojans Kiosk is depicted on Quatar SG 50/51.

It may be of interest that the decorations of the tombs and temples, i.e. Statuary, carved relief and painting, had as one of their notable characteristics, a resistance to change over the many years. The reason therefore is threefold.

Firstly, the primary art of ancient Egypt was religious and traditional;

Secondly, the Pharaoh was the chief patron, and most exalted subject of art, and the artist was expected to meet definite specifications and was not to innovate;

Thirdly, the Egyptians were by nature conservative.

(Continued on Page 26.)

SOUTH AFRICAN NOTES

by *Dr. H. J. Raubenheimer*

POSTAGE STAMPS INFORMATION

Under the above title the Post Office of the Republic issues, at intervals, detailed lists of recent printings of stamps issued. These lists are termed Job Sheets because, for each order for stamps, air letters and so on a job number is given. There have been 32 such lists since 1961. As they have appeared, so we have printed fairly detailed summaries of them. The latest job sheets, however, contain so much information that now only the more important points will be presented, and in tabular form and with abbreviations, for easier reference. The information is continuous, so reference will have to be made to preceding lists for

completeness. The previous lists were in our July and August issues of 1970.

NOTE: The following abbreviations have been adopted due to space requirements. They are:— Cyl. for Cylinder/s; D. — Double; Sl. — Single; Ext. — Exterior; Int. — Interior; H. — Harrison; S. — Swiss; Mc. — Machine/s; Neg. — Negative/s; Pos. — Positive/s; No. — Number/s; Phos. — Phosphor/Phosphorised; Ptg. — Printing; Pre. — Previous; Wd. — Width.

Information supplied by the Post Office for the period 1 April 1970 to 30 September 1970.

POSTAGE STAMPS

Job No.	Value	Cyl. Nos.			Total No. of Sheets delivered. Paper used	Remarks
		Int.	Ext.	Phos.		
30898.21	½c	264-265.266.G4			72,000 S. 126,400 H.	
44887.43	1c	273.274.G4 414.415.G4			626,200 S. 404,900 H.	Old cyls. worn Old Neg. New Pos.
41806.93	1½c	287.286.—			37,700 S. 99,200 S.	Old Negs.
48310.32	2c	287.286.G4			20,000 H.	New Pos.
54610.70		236.237.G49			113,500 H.	
29667.74	2½c	413.412.G49 17.23.— 17.23.Y32			209,800 H. 972,300 S. 636,100 S.	Old Negs. Old Pos.
51558.48		17.8.Y32			219,100 H.	Old Negs. New Pos.
51629.18	3c	238.239.G49			84,500 S. 100,300 H.	Refer to p. 259 Nov. S.A.P.
35990.34	5c	282.283.— 282.283.G48 282.283.G49			87,500 S. 92,900 S. 69,800 H.	
32366.46	7½c	284.285.G48			63,400 S.	Amends our Pre. List
46853.90		284.285.G49			61,300 S. 30,500 H.	
40908.03	10c	254.253.— 254.253.G36 254.253.G49			37,100 S. 42,100 S. 46,800 H.	
48312.34	12½c	409-410.411.G49			29,500 S.	Deep etching, glossy print. Old Negs. New Pos.
44886.42	15c	297.298.296.G48			57,300 H.	Old Negs. New Pos.
46733.71	20c	407.408.406.G49			54,700 S.	Old Negs. New Pos.

SPECIAL WATER YEAR 1970 STAMPS			
48093.17	2½c	404.405.403.G36	551,400 H.
SPECIAL BIBLE YEAR 1970 STAMPS			
52807.85	2½c	5-25-4.19.Y21	381,600 H.
52808.86	12½c	417.416.G50	43,000 H.
ROLL STAMPS			
50676.75	½c	G26 Yellow. G59 Blue	10,945 100/220 H.
		G24 Red. G36 Phos.	i.e. 2,408 rolls
41728.15	2c	G25.G.9.G.28	19,418 20/110 S.
		Gold. Blue	i.e. 4,272 rolls
POSTAGE DUES			
48308.30	1c	228.263.—	30,600 H.
AIR LETTERS			
38367.88	2½c	41+19 48	1,491,000
48306.23	2½c	4+15 12	951,000
48305.27	5c	5+ 7 27	4,980,000
PICTURE AIR LETTERS			
20248.48	5c		1,662,000
			See Pr. List
POST CARDS—20 CARDS PER SHEET			
44819.76	1½c		200,600
51099.94	1½c		141,700
			See Pr. List
			See Pr. List

SOCIETY NEWS

AFRIKAANSE PHILATELISTIESE VERENIGING VAN PRETORIA

Oktober. Ons het die aand deurgebring met reëling van ons jaarlikse braaivleis en ander kleiner sakies. Dje aand se uitstalling is behartig deur mnr. v.d. Mey, met 'n versameling seëls van Israel. Die versameling is, op vier seëls na, kompleet. Dit is baie netjies opgestel en duidelik uitgelê. Dis merkwaardig om te dink dat die eerste stel, wat destyds vir 'n rapsie onder gesigswaarde in Johannesburg verkry kon word, in hele velle, vandag vir R1,200 te koop is, AS mens 'n stel in hande kan kry! Mnr. v.d. Mey het hom weer laat ken soos ons stadigaan van hom gewoon geword het: 'n mooi versameling, wat met veel sorg en kennis by mekaar gemaak is.

BELVILLE PHILATELIC SOCIETY

Oktober. Mr. Lee welcomed those present on opening the meeting. Eddie Beunderman then delivered his monthly reading from the philatelic press. Hubert Keulder gave us an exhibition of a portion of his extensive collection of New Zealand. These were mainly modern issues. He also commented on his most interesting display. Eddie Beunderman proposed a vote of thanks. The evening closed with sales and exchange.

ROYAL PHILATELIC SOCIETY OF CAPE TOWN

The Western Province Get-together on October 8th attracted a fair attendance from members and visitors alike. Possibly other attractions kept some away. Our visitors provided an interesting selection of exhibits which were enjoyed by all.

CASPIP — CAPE TOWN

August. The meeting was devoted to the Annual Quiz which occupied the whole evening and was won by Adv. S. Selikowitz with Mr. H. Schiff as the runner-up.

Due to the lateness of the hour, the Judaica exhibit which was to have been presented by Mr. Surdut was held over.

September. The meeting opened with an interesting exhibit and a talk on Israeli Coins by Adv. S. Selikovitz and a viewing of New Stamp Issues — both heartily enjoyed by those present.

Good wishes and bon voyage were extended to Dr. Peisach who is to leave for France on a year-long research work.

THE O.F.S. PHILATELIC SOCIETY

October. Owing to a number of our members being away at Congress, the attendance was not up to the usual. However four very fine exhibits were staged, namely Canada by Mrs. Bonthron, United States and South-West Africa by Mr. Nurse; Switzerland by Mr. J. Weil and The Brussels Fair by Mr. A. L. Meyburgh. Refreshments brought an instructive and enjoyable evening to an end.

PRETORIA PHILATELIC SOCIETY

October. The meeting was occasioned by the visit from the Johannesburg Philatelic Society which entertained members to three excellent and interesting exhibits.

Mrs. Wedderburn Maxwell showed Ascension Island, a complete survey and an attractive display; Dr. von Varendorff put on 4 pages of Line Engraved which overshadowed the excellent display of the later issues; Mr. C. Adkins displayed Modern Hungary and finally Miss Naomi Bloom covered the Malaria Area with a collection of "World United Against Malaria".

PHILATELIC SOCIETY OF JOHANNESBURG

September 8th. We had the competition for the Wm. Redford Award (British Commonwealth). Mr. G. Burdett showed Great Britain covers from Queen Victoria to Queen Elizabeth II, including postal history, cartoon covers and advertising poster covers. Mr. H. Schwab showed a small part of his collection of Ascension Island from Number 1. Mr. Button exhibited Great Britain in a straight collection including definitives, commemoratives, phosphor and plain. Mr. M. M. Wood's specialist collection of Zululand was exhibited in his absence, by Mr. K. Lydall and covered a period of over 70 years ago.

September 28th was Ladies' Night with Mrs. G. Koralek in the Chair, and as promised we had something out of the ordinary to treat members to. We managed to enslave Mr. Theo Rudman into giving us a talk and slide show as well as showing actual examples of the Binda forgeries of Rhodesia U.D.I. overprinted stamps. He gave a highly enlightening and entertaining evening to all who attended the meeting and those of you who missed this meeting have really missed something worthwhile. I would like to take this opportunity to explain that although the Society has a Ladies' Night, a President's Night and a Vice-President's Night, this does not necessarily mean that the parties concerned must put themselves on the show for the relevant evening. It actually means that the Ladies, President or Vice-President must arrange the programme for that evening's entertainment in any way they see fit.

At the *first meeting* in October, Mr. Michelson was welcomed back from Philympia, about which he gave a brief report. The exhibitors for New-comers' Evening were Mr. C. Brewer who showed Art on Stamps; Mr. Horne showed Basutoland/Lesotho plate blocks; Mr. Kuipers showed K.L.M. First Flight Covers and Mr. P. Schwab showed Queen Victoria to King George V of his New Zealand collection.

Second Meeting. In competition for the W. N. Sheffield award Mr. Lambert showed a straightforward collection of used South Africa through to Postage Dues and Officials, very neatly mounted. The amazing thing about this exhibit was that it had been all got together in under three months, starting from scratch. His exhibit was called "South Africa without Tears". The other exhibitor was Mr. Jan Smith who showed 1925 South African Airmails covering a period of only four months. It was a very interesting exhibit and Mr. Smith read a comprehensive paper on his subject. George Burdett proposed the vote of thanks to the exhibitors.

At the first meeting in November Mr. Hartman showed Madagascar/Malagasy, Mr. Adkins Modern Hungary, Mr. Lydall S.A. Postmarks, Mr. Michelson Russian and Provisional Postmarks of Latvia and Mr. Mephius Danish Ferry-boat stamps. Mr. Leo Buchen thanked all the exhibitors.

PRETORIA RAILWAY PHILATELIC SOCIETY

October. A somewhat poorly attended meeting, due to the absence of regular members at Port Elizabeth, staged the Competition for the Certificate of Merit for Thematic Collections.

The first collection was tabled by Dr. Sherel. His material being a philatelic history of "World Football" as played by the various football nations. The collection is really a magnificent piece of work, well prepared and very nicely written up. Studying this collection, Dr. Sherel managed to give an idea of the interest in World football by these nations.

The second collection was that of Erik Olesen, being his "Stamps on Stamps". Like Dr. Sherel's collection, this one was also one off the top shelf. The judging was done by the members present, and if I may say so, not at all an easy task to select the winning entry.

This meeting can be referred to as the Erik Olesen night. First he won the free raffle, then went on to win 1st and 3rd prize in the Club donation, and not satisfied yet, also the Certificate of Merit by one point. Congratulations, Erik, but don't do it again, and hard luck Dr.! Thanks to both these exhibitors for two beautiful entries tabled.

PHILATELIC SOCIETY OF NATAL

October 7th. This meeting was a very full one — possibly there were too many items. Dr. Duncan opened the meeting welcoming the members and visitors. He also extended to any members who were exhibiting at Port Elizabeth the Society's best wishes and hoped that they would do well.

The meeting devoted itself to the attention of routine matters.

SWOP NIGHT — 21st October. Mr. Kriste welcomed everyone to the meeting. He congratulated Rex Osborne on gaining a Bronze Medal for his exhibit of Mauritius at the Port Elizabeth Ex-

hibition. Mr. R. Booker showed an exhibit on "Wild Life" which included stamps of South Africa, Botswana, South West Africa and Angola. Mrs. Corke showed the sheets of Christmas Seals which were designed by Mr. and Mrs. King of Durban.

THE AEROPHILATELIC SOCIETY OF SOUTHERN AFRICA

At the Annual General Meeting held at Port Elizabeth on the 20th October, 1970, the following office-bearers were elected for the ensuing year:

President: J. T. Burrell; *Vice-President:* Mr. H. W. H. Lee; *Acting Hon. Secretary:* Capt. M. F. Stern (until such time as a new Secretary could be found); *Hon. Treasurer:* Capt. M. F. Stern; *Hon. Exchange Superintendent:* Mr. M. van Wyk Smith; *Committee members,* Cape: Mr. A. W. van Vuuren; Natal: Mr. D. Slater-Kinghorn; Transvaal: Mr. W. Yelland; Orange Free State: Mr. J. C. Bester; Overseas: Mr. J. Hammond.

PORT ELIZABETH PHILATELIC SOCIETY

At our meeting held on 3rd November, 1970, the first item on the programme was a film show called "From Picture to Post", dealing with the design and printing of the British stamps. This is a most interesting film and can be thoroughly recommended to members of other Societies when they have the opportunity to see it.

After refreshments had been served, Mr. W. H. Berrington showed us 106 sheets of the stamps of New Zealand. The display commenced with the Health issues and this was followed by the Health Miniature sheets and the Christmas stamps. The exhibit concluded with the King George VI and Queen Elizabeth issues. Mr. G. Bulbring thanked Mr. W. H. Berrington on behalf of us all for his splendid display.

SOCIETY OF ISRAEL PHILATELY

October 5th. The meeting was opened by the Chairman with a welcome to "Apprentice Rabbi" Stanley Zaiden, a country member, who is in South Africa on a short visit to assist the clergy in ministering the High Festivals in the country areas. Mr. Jonas Michelson was also welcomed back from his overseas trip. Mr. Zaiden reported briefly on "TABIT" which was being held in Tel Aviv from the 18th-29th October 1970. Applications had been received for 1,900 frames and only 360 were available. This exhibition was only open to Israeli collectors and members outside Israel could only exhibit in the Class of Honour Section.

Mr. Michelson gave a brief résumé on "PHIL-YMPIA" and advised that many of the items which were first thought of by ZAR 100 were emulated (it appears that this will also be done with other exhibitions to be held in the Republic).

October 9th. The meeting was held in a convivial atmosphere in the Succah at the residence of Mr. and Mrs. Zaiden, at which Stanley Zaiden exhibited his collection on "Synagogues" and read a paper.

Stanley Zaiden is returning to Israel early November and we all wish him a happy and safe return.

GERMISTON PHILATELIC SOCIETY

November. Close on thirty members and two local visitors were present to view the four collections tabled by members of the Philatelic Society of Johannesburg who had come out to Germiston on that Society's annual visit. The members of the team were under the leadership of their President, Mr. A. Miller, and the exhibits tabled were as follows:— covers from Antarctic Post Offices by Mr. S. J. Crozet; mint Australian issues from 1913 to 1931 by Mr. D. A. Samson; Sweden and Norway by Mr. J. Woodgate and Latvia, tabled by Mr. W. F. Tilney on behalf of Mr. J. Michelson. Four most interesting collections to all members present. Thanks to the exhibitors was given by Mr. J. H. Botha, Mr. H. Birkhead, Mr. R. G. L. Mephius and Mr. M. L. Hoffman, with additional thanks by Mr. T. J. B. Curle, the President of the Germiston Society.

EAST LONDON PHILATELIC SOCIETY

November 1970: This meeting was our "Ladies' Night", and the Feros Cup competition for lady members was held. A well attended meeting saw 5 collections entered, namely "Art" (The French School) by Mrs. M. Katz; "The Philatelist's Garden" by Mrs. J. Hutchinson; "Flowers" by Mrs. G. Bradley; "Modern Yugoslavia" by Mrs. R. Radue; and "Ships" by Mrs. M. Ashford. Once again a very close contest resulted, with Mrs. Katz just edging out the others. The meeting was very ably conducted by Mrs. Hutchinson, with a contribution of "Gleanings from my Stamp Scrap Book" by Mrs. Ashford. As is typical of this meeting each year, the tea-break is always welcome, and the ladies really presented many "new issues" in the cake line.

We decided to "take our stamps to the country", and staged a mini-exhibition of 1,584 pages of stamps at King William's Town from the 12th to the 14th November. It is difficult to assess the benefits at this stage, but it is understood that one of the big local schools will be starting a stamp club in the New Year. A great deal of interest was displayed by all who visited the exhibition, and the attendance was satisfactory.

AFRIKAANSE FILATELISTEVERENIGING

November. Mnr Erik Thamm, ons eresekretaris, het 'n deel van sy mooi versameling „Wilde Voëls van Afrika" uitgestal ter toeligtig van die wyse waarop 'n temaversameling aangepak, opgebou en bygeskryf kan word. In sy geval is al die voëlsoorte volgens die families en spesies gerangskik en word elke bladsy verhelder met 'n klein kaart van die verspreiding van die voëlsoort.

Wim Hartman het die beste van ons lede by STFU gevaar toe sy Rooi Kruis-versameling met 'n silwer medalje bekroon is. Ons sê aan hom en aan al die ander uitstallers hartlik geluk.

EXPERT COMMITTEE

The next meeting of the Expert Committee of the Philatelic Federation of Southern Africa will be held on the Third Saturday of February, 1971.

(Continued from Page 21)

All these factors combined to produce an artistic vision which sought to remain changeless.

Basically, Egyptian art can be classed into three categories:

- (a) **That used in the home:** i.e. furniture, musical instruments, jewellery, glassware, etc.;
- (b) **Funery art:** i.e. art specifically commissioned for the final rites and interment, or associated therewith. SG 784 "Albaster funery barge";
- (c) **Royal and Divine Art:** i.e. art dedicated to the glory of the dieties of the Pharoahs.

Numerous stamps depict examples in this field.

See SG 903 statuette of "Bronze Jackal".

See SG 904 "Albaster head".

See SG 905 statuette of "Pharanoic mediator".

See SG 906 "Pharanoic guard".

The above are all from the reign of Tutankhamen, circa 1350 B.C. Egyptian painting was closely linked with sculptured relief work, which was utilized for decoration and narrative purposes in the tombs and temples.

The style of painting is purely linear and essentially an art of drawing an outline or silhouette.

houette. The painter was totally unconcerned by consideration of depth, and thus figures are conventionally stylized, either in full profile, or in strict frontality.

This point will be borne out on referring to stamps

SG 74 which portrays "Cleopatra wearing the head-dress of Isis".

SG 176/7 mural of "Oimhotep".

SG 804 — The delightful family Tableau showing King Akhnaton with his family, found in the tomb of Tutankhamen, and many others.

Many statues and panels depict the Pharoahs of Egypt and their Queens:

SG 74 "Cleopatra".

SG 96 "Rameses I".

SG 173 "Amenhotep".

SG 518/21 and 791/769

"Nefertiti"

SG 794 "Osircaf".

SG 769 "Nefertari";

whilst SG 366 illustrated the beautiful slate triad with King Mykerinus, a pharaoh of the fourth dynasty, flanked by two goddesses.

NOTE: All S.G. numbers unless otherwise stated are for Egypt.

"Prehistoric" stamps for Lesotho

The Government of Lesotho took a leaf out the earth's ancient history with an issue of postage stamps depicting prehistoric footprints.

Fossilized footprints of reptiles which lived approximately 200-million years ago have been found at a number of places in Lesotho. Fossilized bones have also been found, enabling archaeologists to reconstruct the kind of animals which left these records in the sands of time.

The stamps show the foot prints in the foreground with the type of animal which could have made them in the background.

DINOSAUR

The 5c stamp, for example, depicts the dinosaur Gryponyx, a slender biped about 15ft. long with well developed hind legs and small forelegs.

Plateosauravus is shown on the 10c stamp. This was a large dinosaur standing over 10ft. high. It had stout hind legs with broad feet on which there were four strong toes.

Stanley Gibbons

The Crown Agents have acquired from Trustees a large number of shares in Stanley Gibbons Ltd. and have been invited to appoint representatives to join the Gibbons' Board, according to a press statement issued by Stanley Gibbons.

Both the Crown Agents and Stanley Gibbons emphasise that there is no question of a takeover or a merger. The shares acquired in Stanley Gibbons are in line with the Crown Agents' investment policy whereby they already have financial interests in many different companies.

Obituary

We regret to record the passing over of Mr. M. Jecks, a member of long standing of the Johannesburg Philatelic Society and also an Honorary Life Member of that Society. To his relatives we extend our sincere sympathy.

PHILATELISTS' RENDEZVOUS

THE ROYAL PHILATELIC SOCIETY OF CAPE TOWN

meets on the second and fourth Thursdays
of every month in
The Club Room of the Friends of Italy of
South Africa, First Floor, Radio City Bldgs.
Tulbagh Square, Foreshore, Cape Town.
at 8 p.m.
VISITORS CORDIALLY WELCOMED.
P.O. BOX 1973, CAPE TOWN.

THE MASHONALAND PHILATELIC SOCIETY

Meets once a month on the second Wednes-
day at 8 p.m. in the Auditorium of the
Queen Victoria Museum, Rotton Row,
Salisbury.

All visitors are welcome —

Secretary P.O. Box 2735, Salisbury.

ORANGE FREE STATE PHILATELIC SOCIETY

Meets on the fourth Friday of every month
in the
NATIONAL MUSEUM HALL,
BLOEMFONTEIN
at 7.30 p.m.
Issues a monthly magazine and circulates
sales packets to members.
P.O. BOX 702 — BLOEMFONTEIN.

THE PORT ELIZABETH PHILATELIC SOCIETY

meets on the first and third Tuesday each
month in the
The Walmer Library Hall,
Main Road, Walmer, Port Elizabeth.
at 8.00 p.m.
Visitors cordially welcome.
P.O. BOX 3 — PORT ELIZABETH.

THE PHILATELIC SOCIETY OF NATAL

Meetings 1st and 3rd Wednesdays monthly
at 7.30 p.m. in the
Geo Cato Boom, City Hall, Durban
(Entrance West Street . . . door nearest
Beach)
VISITORS CORDIALLY WELCOMED.
P.O. Box 588, Durban. Secretary's
Telephone 64306 (evenings)

THE PRETORIA PHILATELIC SOCIETY

meets on the first Monday of every month
in the
Council Chamber of the Technical College
Church Street East, Pretoria.
at 7.45 p.m.
VISITORS CORDIALLY WELCOMED.
P.O. Box 514, Pretoria.

THE PHILATELIC SOCIETY OF JOHANNESBURG

meets twice a month: Second Tuesday and
fourth Monday at
Room 75, Public Library, Johannesburg
at 8 p.m.
VISITORS ARE WELCOME.
Hon. Secretary,
P.O. Box 4967, Johannesburg.

THE AEROPHILATELIC SOCIETY OF SOUTHERN AFRICA

Meetings are not held, but members get
covers, etc. of special South African flights
and other interesting items — more than
covered by the small annual subscription.
P.O. Box 3654, Cape Town.

THE PRETORIA RAILWAY PHILATELIC SOCIETY

meets on the second Wednesday of every
month in the
Railway Recreation Club, Berea Park,
Pretoria, at 8 p.m.
P.O. Box 2388, Pretoria.
ALL PHILATELISTS ARE WELCOME.

SOCIETY OF ISRAEL PHILATELY

Meets on the 1st Monday of every month
at 8.15 p.m.
Burlington House Boardroom (2nd Floor),
c/r. Bissik & Marshall Streets,
Johannesburg.
ALL WELCOME.
Secretary P.O. Box 11502, Johannesburg.

THE SOUTH AFRICAN STAMP STUDY CIRCLE

meets at 2.15 p.m. on the second Saturday of
every month in the
Staff Tea Lounge, Basement, Corner House,
Corner Sauer and Commissioner Streets,
Johannesburg (Commissioner St. Entrance).
ALL INTERESTED IN SOUTH AFRICAN
PHILATELY ARE WELCOME.
Secretary: N. Becker
P.O. Box 9505, Johannesburg.
Telephone: 838-4679; Home 45-5452

THE EAST RAND PHILATELIC SOCIETY

P.O. Box 483, Benoni. (Hon. Secretary).
Meetings every 2nd Monday in the month
at the
BENONI TENNIS CLUB HOUSE,
Benoni, at 7.45 p.m.
VISITORS ARE WELCOME.

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IF STAMPS OF — Germany, Austria and other Western European countries are wanted, first try us.—S.A. STAMP CENTRE P.O. Box 6891, Johannesburg. Telephone 22-1391. (Want lists invited).

WE SELL Stamps of Italy, Vatican and San Marino; mint and used. Price list free on request. — Write to B. GALETTO, Casella Postale 1526, 20100 Milano, Italy.

WANTED: Cape, Natal, O.F.S., O.R.C., Transvaal Z.A.R. Union/Republic, S.W.A., German S.W. Africa, preferably postal history.—C. E. SHERWOOD (V), P.T.S., 105 Marford Crescent, Sale, Cheshire M33 4DN,

ANGLO-BOER WAR PHILATELIC SOCIETY, quarterly magazine with exchange packet in U.K. Annual subscription £1 sterling or 3 dollars. Secretary, J. H. Rathbone, 'Always', Rudheath, Northwich, Cheshire, U.K.

WANTED: Rhodesian Postmarks, on or off cover (pre-1923). Offers to J. M. Weinstein, 479a Feinzen Street, Brooklyn, Pretoria.

WANTED.—Accumulations, Collections, Office Lots on and off paper. Turn those old boxes of philatelic "junk" into cash, or exchange it with us for stamps, albums or accessories that you need. — **ROBEMARK PHILATELISTS (PTY.) LTD.,** 21 Joubert Street, Johannesburg. Box 11419.

COLLECTIONS WANTED for immediate cash settlement: Large or small, specialised or general. Top prices paid for popular sets and rare issues in fine condition.—**ELIEZER BLUM,** P.O. Box 1669, Cape Town. (Established in Cape Town since 1930).

FOR SWEDISH STAMP NEWS, new issues, FDC and mint, please write (by air-mail) to the Sweden-specialist Harold Forsmark, Box 469, S-810 Bergby, Sweden.

EXCHANGE: Want South and S.W. Africa, Mauritius, old S. African Provinces. I give Europe & Br. Commonwealth. Nils Jansson, Kungorsngatan 24, 214-61 Malmö, Sweden.

ACCUMULATIONS, ODD LOTS of Southern Africa wanted. Union Stamp Co., 15, Barbican Bldg. P.O. Box 10225, Phone 838-5879.

U.P.U. 1949: First Day Covers in fine condition wanted. Offers to E. Seelig, P.O. Box 5521, Johannesburg.

GERMAN SOUTH WEST AFRICA: Wanted early forerunners on cover or on piece, or any other items of interest. Top prices paid. **L. ABRAMS,** P.O. Box 7875, Johannesburg. Telephone: Office 22-1630; home 41-9251.

SOUTH AFRICAN COLLECTORS' SOCIETY for the Union Collector—magazine, exchange packet. Subscription 15/- year. — Write Hon. Secretary, **R. E. MASON,** 38 Rosslyn Avenue, Harold Wood, Essex, England.

LATVIA (Letland; Lettonie) out of the way items and bulk common stamps wanted.— **J. Michelson,** P.O. Box 9314, Johannesburg.

WANTED REVENUE STAMPS: I pay R3-00 per hundred. Also wanted Railway Stamps. **W. J. Pieterse,** 13 Anconia Drive, Nashua, N.H. 03060, USA.

U.S.A. SPECIALIST requires singles, blocks, covers, cancellations. **A. R. Kleiner,** 23 Cadogan Gardens, London S.W. 3, England.

WORLDWIDE PHILATELIC PUBLICATIONS! U.S.A., England, France, Germany, etc. Free subscription price list. — **Bedard Publications,** Box 5215 — SAI, Detroit, Michigan 48236, U.S.A.

BECHUANALAND, BOTSWANA, ZAMBIA: Good commercially used per 10, 100, 1,000. Your cheapest source of supply. Let us quote you. — **Phoenix Stamp Co. (Canterbury) Ltd.,** 8 Pencester Road, Dover, Kent, England.

GERMAN Concentration Camp Covers, Ghetto Covers, Military Covers and forgeries, Locals, etc. wanted. **C. A. Whysall,** P.O. Box 676, Durban.

THE STAMP COLLECTING GROUP LTD. London now publish **STAMP COLLECTING WEEKLY,** Annual sub 80/- post paid (\$U.S. 10.00), **PHILATELIC MAGAZINE** monthly, Annual sub. 40/- post paid (\$U.S. 5.00) and **PHILATELIC TRADER,** fortnightly, Annual sub 30/- post paid (\$U.S. 3.75). The most comprehensive coverage of the hobby and trade from one publisher. Agent in South Africa: **D. C. D. Castle,** P.O. Box 970, Pietermaritzburg.

ISRAEL STAMPS: Join the Eilat Club for new issue service at face value and for another five advantages. Eilat Club, P.O. Box 542, Eilat, Israel.

Editorial

Study Groups

The excellent recent survey presented at Congress, on the South African meter mark scene, brings to mind how interesting and varied the philatelic hunting fields of South Africa are!

There are several specialist groups of collectors who busy themselves with the study of specific aspects of Southern Africa. In recording and exchanging information, the studying of sources and material and in their general activities they play an invaluable role in adding perspective to the philatelic and postal history of our country.

Six such specialist groups among others are now well established: the Aerophilatelic Society of Southern Africa, the Anglo-Boer War Philatelic Society, the Orange Free State Study Circle, the S.A. Stamp Study Society, the Rhodesian Study Circle, and the Transvaal Study Circle.

These groups do excellent work and any collector interested in the fields they cover, is well advised to join the group concerned. It may be pointed out that the general activities of the specialist groups do not clash with those of our ordinary philatelic societies as their functions differ.

The success of these groups, however, gives rise to the question whether room exists for more specialist groups of a similar nature, to direct their efforts towards aspects of South African philately which currently appear to be suffering from a measure of negligence. In fact, there are some fields where our recorded knowledge is largely the fruit of dedicated individuals and where the interaction of a fraternity of well-meaning specialists can accomplish much in extending our horizons.

For instance, the philately of the First and Second World Wars — Cape of Good Hope numeral postmarks — Natal — German and occupied South West Africa, and German military campaigns — and the Bechuanalands. Perhaps not all of these fields are suited to study "circles", perhaps there are other fields to be exploited to advantage.

What do readers think?

— THE EDITOR.

Continued from Page 29

Unfortunately, I was too much of a novice then to buy the whole sheet, and so all I have is a block of six. And that is the history of item No. 22 v 6 on page 72 of the Golden Jubilee edition of *The Stamps of South Africa Handbook Catalogue* (1960). How remarkable that the only used specimen should have been placed on the envelope addressed to the one person within a radius of many miles capable of noticing it and of appreciating it!

Another unusual item I discovered on the Postmaster's stock on 30th March 1928 was a fold over in the 1d ship (item 33 v 20). There were two sheets involved, and I sent one for noting and return to Mr. Renolds who was considering a new edition of his book "*Postage Stamps of the Union of South Africa*" (1921); but instead of returning my item, he sent me a similar one from the London printing together with a cheque for £2.10/-. Needless to say, I kept both and said no more about the return of my item.

In 1928 I was transferred to my Head Office in Pretoria. In that office was Major Harrington, Philatelist, a charming, friendly and helpful person, and with his support I immediately joined the Pretoria Philatelic Society and soon got to know the notabilities of Pretorian Philately — Messrs. Klagsbrun, Hawke, Watson, Hand, Giovanetti — to mention but a few; but I never exhibited any of my material or addressed a meeting, for the simple reason that I was completely outclassed. I soon realized that a collector in a small town was at a very great disadvantage as compared with a member of a large society. Another prominent philatelist was Mr. Emil Tamsen of Nylstroom, and I spent an informative and intensely interesting afternoon with him once. During the World War of 1939-45 Mr. A. E. Basden used to take Dr. Robert Broom and myself to meetings. Dr. Broom was attached to the Transvaal Museum, Pretoria, which housed certain printing plates of the old South African Republic stamps, and I spent many a pleasant hour with him examining the plates and helping to plate stamps printed from them. I even got involved in his palaeontological studies and did a lot of proof reading for him of his (and Dr. Scheeper's) book "*The Fossil Apemen of South Africa*." Dr. Broom used to spend nearly every Sunday morning with us in the nineteen-forties; and we usually discussed stamps, fossils and tortoises. I had a large collection of tortoises, including several small specimens of the Seychelles Islands giants (one of them now weighs three hundred and fifty-four pounds!)

A very fine drawing of a giant tortoise was used on some of the 1938 stamps of the Seychelles.

On July 3rd, 1928 I walked into the Sunny-side Post Office, Pretoria, intending to buy six one penny stamps. But when the young lady opened her book of stamps, my eye fell on a sheet with a double row of perforations in the vertical right hand margin, like the illustration at page 87 of the Jubilee Handbook (only there were two rows, not only one). The sheet below had similar perforations, so I emerged from the Post Office, not with six stamps, but with four hundred and eighty!

"Defective Stamps"

In January 1933 I happened to be on holiday at George when the following incident occurred, the details of which only became known to me twenty years later, after I had retired and taken up permanent residence in the George district. A young lady, bookkeeper to a firm in George, entered the Post Office, put down a pound note and asked the clerk, a young and inexperienced man, for a sheet of penny stamps. The clerk took a sheet out of his book, folded it up and gave it to the lady, who departed, only to return shortly afterwards in a state of indignation. Throwing the sheet of stamps down on the counter she demanded to know what the clerk meant by giving her defective stamps. "See", she cried, "half of these stamps have no ship on them." Much embarrassed, the clerk quickly gave her another sheet and after scrutinising it she left, muttering something about cheats and humbugs. The clerk took the sheet to his Postmaster and asked if it should be returned to the Government Printer. The Postmaster, knowing a thing or two, said "Leave it with me." He then got in touch with Mr. Charles Sayers, the only philatelist in George in those days, and so the sheet was saved for collectors. You may find a reference to this item at page 113 - No. 37 L V 18.

Some twenty years ago I visited a farmer living many miles from the nearest town, Uniondale. In the course of conversation, he said: "You people living in towns and cities are fortunate, for you have everything to hand; but I have to send a man many miles for what I need. He is away all day and often brings me something I don't want. For instance, only last month I sent him to town to get, among other things, a sheet of stamps; but when I came to use the stamps I found there wasn't a single perforation hole in the sheet. What impudence on the part of the Post Office!" I sat up smartly and said: "Really? No perforation holes? May I see the sheet?" "No," he replied, "I'm

afraid you can't. My daughter and I wasted an hour cutting the stamps apart with scissors." Then, seeing the look on my face, he added "What's the matter, Mr. Cairncross — are you ill?"

Slogans and Meters

As I said earlier, my friend George Hockey also introduced me to South African postal slogans and other machine cancellations, as well as to meter franking machines, then a novelty in South Africa. I became very interested in these matters and accumulated books full of envelopes. Interest gradually awakened in other philatelists; and in 1936 Mr. H. Sydow of Cape Town, and I both submitted papers independently and without knowledge of each others activities, to the Editor of the South African Philatelist, with the result that an article compounded of both our efforts was published in December of that year. In 1946 I brought the list up to date; and again in 1956. But being cut off from my sources as a result of retirement, I was not able to prepare a third revision in 1966 as I had hoped to do. However, it does not matter, as an expert on machine cancellations has arisen in the person of Mr. David Allison; and to him I willingly cast the torch.

To revert to George W. Hockey. In 1932 he prepared a book on "The Machine Postmarks of the Union of South Africa, 1921-1932". This he printed by hand on tracing paper used by draughtsmen, and he then printed a number of foolscap size copies, producing the well-known "blue print" variety. He illustrated all the slogans, and the work is remarkable, not only as a source book on slogans, but as work of art. My copy is one of my most cherished possessions. I have often wondered how many copies were made and how many have survived. I hope the fortunate owners of copies realize they have a rare and beautiful piece of Africana. Mr. Hockey drew the designs of two of the covers used by the South African Philatelist during the period March 1927 - July 1928, and he also drew four of the headings used internally. He moved away from Wolmaransstad early in 1927 and I never saw him again. But every ten years we exchanged letters to commemorate our sailing from Cape Town in 1917 — i.e., in 1927, 1937, 1947, and finally, in 1957. I had looked forward to the fiftieth anniversary in 1967, but unfortunately he died in 1962. Among a number of interesting articles he wrote and illustrated, one appeared in the Johannesburg Sunday Times of July 2, 1933, while others were published in the Cape Argus (1932-33).

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Philatelic Reminiscences

by

B. L. Cairncross

I began collecting stamps when I was eleven years of age, with the advent of the 2½d commemorative stamp of the Union of South Africa in 1910. I still have a specimen collected on the date of issue: 4 Nov. 1910.

But the outbreak of the Great War in August 1914 diverted my attention. I enlisted twice; and on the second occasion I sailed from Cape Town on the 20th of April, 1917, with a contingent of the South African Infantry, bound for England and France. On board the ship, the S.S. Euripides, was George Wilton Hockey, soon to be a pilot in the Royal Air Force. We met again early in 1926, in Wolmaransstad, in the Western Transvaal. I was then clerk to the District Road Inspector; and he was a draughtsman in the Railway Construction office. He was also an artist of considerable ability, and a philatelist. He had an extensive knowledge of the stamps of the Union and of South West Africa, and also of postal slogans and the then newly introduced franking meters.

freely given advice from Mr. Hockey, I gradually accumulated most of the items I wanted, including single mint specimens with plate numbers of all the King's Head values, ½d to £1. Then came the Pictorials of 1926, and I was able to get most of the material needed over the counter of the Post Office.

A variety

One day in January 1927, as I was on my way back to office at 2 p.m., I met Mr. Hockey, who excitedly showed me an envelope he had just received and which had been posted in Wolmaransstad that very morning, the 10th. It bore a ½d green Springbok stamp, fortunately only lightly cancelled, but, as Mr. Hockey said: "Behold, a 2d stamp", for so it was, the "one" of the ½ having failed to print. We hurried round to the Postmasters' office and asked to be allowed to examine his stock of ½d stamps.

Permission being granted, we inspected several hundred sheets, eventually finding six more specimens of the missing figure 1. Hockey took two; so did the Postmaster. One came to me and one went to Mr. Leask, chemist of Wolmaransstad and responsible for the overprint "Cancelled V-R-I". In June 1900 on the Transvaal Republic stamps.

Continued overleaf

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At this very time the Government issued its 4d triangular stamp, the sight of which revived all my old enthusiasm for stamps. Mr. Hockey and I combined to get a sheet of these stamps from the Postmaster General; and that was the beginning of my collection of the Union of South Africa. Some of the King's Head stamps were still in daily use, and so I decided to begin my collection with effect from 1910. With the aid of Mr. J. Robertson of Johannesburg and Mr. A. Lichtenstein of Rouxville, and of course with

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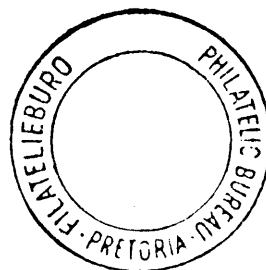
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Depositorekenings kan geopen word.

Ave atque vale

Now-a-days, having exceeded my allotted span of three score years and ten, I limit my collecting to acquiring the cylinder numbers of the stamps of the Republic of South Africa.

But the flame still burns brightly, and my interest in Philately is unabated. My collection, a modest one, as the fact that it is housed in no more than five volumes testifies, has afforded me pleasure and satisfaction over a period of more than forty-four years.

SOUTH AFRICAN NOTES

by Dr. H. J. Raubenheimer

A NEW 2½c CONSTANTIA ISSUE CYLINDERS 12-8 A B C D PANES

On the 9th December 1970 a new issue of this definitive stamp, phosphorised, was delivered. It was printed on the Albertina machine in similar manner and sheet format as the previous 12-11, 17-23 and 17-18 issues. The fact that cylinder 12 was used for both the 12-11 and this 12-8 issue is a coincidence and of no significance. Some of the printing details were last described in 1963 and are repeated here again. The printing details are:

Sheet format: horizontal, four panes A, B, C and D.

Stamp format: vertical, 100 stamps per sheet (5 rows x 20).

Cylinders: two, cross lined, screened, being numbers 12, green, interior and 8, reddish lilac, exterior. Both are from the preceding master negatives, but 12 is from a new multipositive while 8 is from the preceding multipositive. The pane designating letters are as follows: A and B are reddish lilac, after the figure 8, and C and D are green, after the figure 12.

Paper: Harrison, coated, RSA watermarked, the marks being in tête-bêche formation and facing left and right.

Arrows: reddish lilac, centrally placed on the top and bottom margins of all four panes.

Marginal Bars: reddish lilac, on the left and right margins of all four panes. Are a single broken line with an extended central gap. These central gaps are not all of the same size. On the right side of all panes the gap measures 7mm. On the left side they are 10mm. on panes A, C and D and 8 mm. on pane B. As before, those bars on the left side of pane A are surrounded by shadows while the rest are not.

Colour Registers: Are on the bottom margins of panes B and D below stamps no. 4. Consist of two vertical lines 20mm. apart; green, 12mm. long, on the left and reddish lilac, 10mm. long, on the right.

NOTE: In the preceding 17.8 issue there is

no green line on pane B.

Densitometer Colour Patches: Are found on the bottom margins of panes A and C below stamp no. 15 and the top margins of pane B and D above stamp no. 15. They consist of a reddish lilac rectangle on the edge of the sheet. Are 7mm. wide and of various height.

Perforation Register Punch Holes: Are on the top margins of panes A and C and on the bottom margins of panes B and D above and below stamps 14 and 15 respectively. Only those on panes B and D are surrounded by the lilac concentric rings bisected by a vertical line.

Perforations: By the Grover two row appliance; gauge 14. The left margins are perforated through, the right are imperforate, as are the top and bottom except for the single extra hole at each end of the vertical rows of perforations.

Guillotine Guide Line: Is a thin horizontal lilac line, 6mm. long and 25mm. below stamp no. 1 of pane B.

VARIETIES

There are no noticeable varieties of the green cylinder 12 on any of the sheets examined. Varieties mentioned are those of the exterior cylinder 8, reddish lilac. There are many of them, mainly multipositive, and clearly visible to the eye. Only the more prominent ones are listed here.

1. There are no varieties common to the 17.23 and 17.8 issues.

2. There are varieties common to 17.8 and 12.8 issues. They are multipositives and are:

A-PANE

Row/No.

2.1 two dots at top left of left shutter.

5.6 diagonal hairline at right of right shutter.

B-PANE

5.18 dot above RE of REPUBLIC

C-PANE

1.3 large dot at right of top of right shutter.

3.19 tiny mark above C of CONSTANTIA.

D-PANE

5.4 tiny dot at top right of right shutter.

3. There are multipositive varieties common to

panes A and C, and others to pane B and D of the 17.8 issue; also cylinder varieties. Already recorded.

4. There are multipositive varieties common to panes

a) A and C of the 12.8 issue. They are:

1.20 dot at top of right shutter.

2.7 mark between E and P of REPUBLIEK.

3.10 dot above large 2 of 2½c.

b) B and D of the 12.8 issue. They are:

1.6 dot on the right doorpost.

2.16 tiny dot in U of SUID.

5.6 tiny dot above second O of GROOT.

5. There are cylinder varieties of the 12.8 issue.

They are:

A-PANE: Nil.

B-PANE

2.2 Tiny dot below right scroll.

C-PANE

5.4 dot in centre gable.

D-PANE: Nil.

THE PHILATELIC BUREAU PRETORIA

Mr. L. Rive, the Postmaster-General stated at Congress at Port Elizabeth in October that he proposed to reorganize radically our Philatelic Bureau. His address is reported fully in our December 1970 issue. Changes have already been made in December. Our old friend Mr. Z. L. Nel who was head of both the Post Office Publicity and Philatelic branches now becomes Chief of Public Relations of the Post Office, and the Philatelic Services now fall under the charge of Mr. H. Steyn. We have briefly met him and are impressed by his enthusiastic approach to his new post. He will be fortunate in having another of our old friends Mr. F. Reinders, with his expert knowledge of our stamps, at his side.

Another appointment, which we heartily welcome, is that of Miss E. M. van der Merwe, in charge of the Bureau's Stamp stocks and very popular among our philatelists. She has been promoted to the rank of assistant control officer, a very high post by any standards. It is well deserved and we congratulate her.

THE 7½c STAMP FROM CYLINDERS 285-284.

This issue, at present current, has been a particularly interesting one and it has caused a degree of confusion in view of the changes it has passed through in its life of four distributions. The changes are not very striking, but they are nevertheless there, and are worthy of recording. Being the value required for register-

ed articles it has a large sale and any distribution quickly becomes obsolete and soon becomes difficult to obtain when superseded by another.

The 7½c value, together with the 10c value, became unique among the large format definitive Republican Stamps, i.e. from the 2c to the 20c values, when they all, in turn, appeared phosphorised. The 7½c and 10c had phosphor bands 5mm. wide between the stamps while the others had 3mm. bands. After some months, however, these two fell in line with the others and now they all have 3mm. bands.

Another interesting feature of the 7½c stamp concerns the gummed side of its Swiss paper. It is known that the Swiss paper differs from the Harrison papers in that it is only coated or fluorescent on the printed side whereas the Harrison papers are coated and fluorescent on both sides. This feature is particularly conspicuous under the ultra violet light; then the Harrison papers show white on both sides while the Swiss shows, even whiter on the printed side, but fairly deeply mottled on the gummed side.

Now it has been noticed that there were two types of Swiss paper used for the 7½c stamps when it first appeared phosphorised and these two appeared simultaneously on the first day. There is indisputable evidence of that. The two types differ markedly from each other on their gummed sides under ultra violet light. The one shows light bluish mottling and the other dark brown mottling. For convenience of description the first is termed light gum and the second dark gum. Oddly, many more light gum than dark gum have been seen in Pretoria.

Full details are not available of the four distributions from the Government Printing Works but, from a rather belated examination of a large number of specimens in private collections, the following facts will help collectors to identify their specimens. The simplest means is by the black sheet numbers on the cylinder blocks of the A pane, and these are the numbers seen. The numbers only show in which distribution they fall and obviously cannot represent the whole range of that particular distribution. Any further knowledge of the ranges will be welcomed. The dates of the first appearances, however, are correct to within a few days.

First Distribution: Swiss paper, tête-bêche wmk, not phosphorised. Sheet numbers 69673 to 79723. First delivery: 16 July 1969.

Second Distribution: Swiss paper, tête-bêche wmk., phosphorised, 5mm. wide bands. Two types of paper: a) light gum. Sheet numbers

Continued on Page 47.

New Stamps for New Rates?

It is expected that a 4c stamp will be issued fairly soon, and the issue of a 14c stamp during the year is a distinct possibility. This follows the announcement of the increased postal rates to come into effect on 1st April, 1971.

The announcement on the new rates has triggered some speculation on new denominations, as well as the possibility of a completely new definite set, which could be released later in the year.

The new postal rates will mean that, internally, the need for stamps of or incorporating a denomination of $\frac{1}{2}$ c will fall away. The sole exception is the still remaining rate of $1\frac{1}{2}$ c for postcards, with the words "Postcard/Poskaart" printed on the address side. It is interesting to note that a postcard without this imprint is charged at 2c, in accordance with the second class mail rates in force since 1st July, 1970.

The recent announcement stated that the internal surface mail rate is increased from $2\frac{1}{2}$ c for the first ounce to 4c for the first 40 grams (1.4 oz.).

Simultaneously, the registration cost of mail is increased from 5c (with the current $2\frac{1}{2}$ c postage included, $7\frac{1}{2}$ c) to 10c, which with the new 4c postage rate will mean that a registered letter will cost 14c.

It may be reasonably expected that the Post Office will issue a 4c stamp on or about 1st April, 1971. Upon our enquiry the Philatelic Bureau in Pretoria said that no decision had been taken about the issue of a 4c stamp, and it was not prepared to comment on a rumour that one of the current stamps would be issued with a new value of 4c.

The internal airmail rate is increased from 3c for the first ounce to 5c for the first 20 grams (0.7 oz.), with 2c for every additional 20g. This rate increase will necessitate the issue of new internal air letter sheets.

External airmail rates are governed by convention and are not now affected, but it is believed that international airmail rates are to be revised as from 1st July, 1971. At present there are airmail rates using the $\frac{1}{2}$ c ($12\frac{1}{2}$ c, $22\frac{1}{2}$ c, etc.), but it is thought that these would fall away. Until the rate of $22\frac{1}{2}$ c is changed — or a stamp issued for this denomination — the need for $2\frac{1}{2}$ c stamps will remain (20c plus $2\frac{1}{2}$ c). A stamp for $22\frac{1}{2}$ c, for airmail to North America and the Far East, was mooted some time ago already.

The rate increases on 1st April include parcels: from 5c for 8 ounces to 10c for 250 grams (8.8 oz.) by surface mail; and from 10c for 8 ounces to 20c for 250 grams by airmail. Every additional 250g for airmail parcels will cost 8c.

Other rate increases announced by the Post Office are for telegrams (30c for the first 15 words) and telephones. — J.G.

Airmail Notes

By Capt. M. F. Stern, R.D.P., F.R.P.S.L.

INTERFLUG: First flight Berlin to Cairo 2.8.70 by Illusion 740 plane. b/s Cairo Airport 3.8.70 - 10.

C.S.A.: First flight TU 104 plane 3-4, V. 1970 Prague-Tunis-Tripoli. b/s 4.4.70 Tripolitania.

QUANTAS: Australia issued a special aerogramme to mark the 50th anniversary of Quantas, this bearing a 10c, imprinted black and red stamp showing a Boeing jet plane and wording "50th Anniversary of Quantas". This was used on a special flight from Sydney to South Africa, bearing in addition the special 6s. stamp issued for the anniversary and a special cancellation of 16th November 1970 — circular black reading "Quantas Fiftieth Anniversary — Sydney NSW 2000" with vignette of Boeing plane at centre.

Lesotho Definitive Issues

On the 4th of January 1971, Lesotho released the revised Lesotho Definitive Issue which does not show the portrait of King Moshoeshoe II, but retains the basic design of the present definitive issue, except that the R2 stamp shows the statue of Moshoeshoe I.

NO official first day cover was supplied by the Philatelic Bureau.

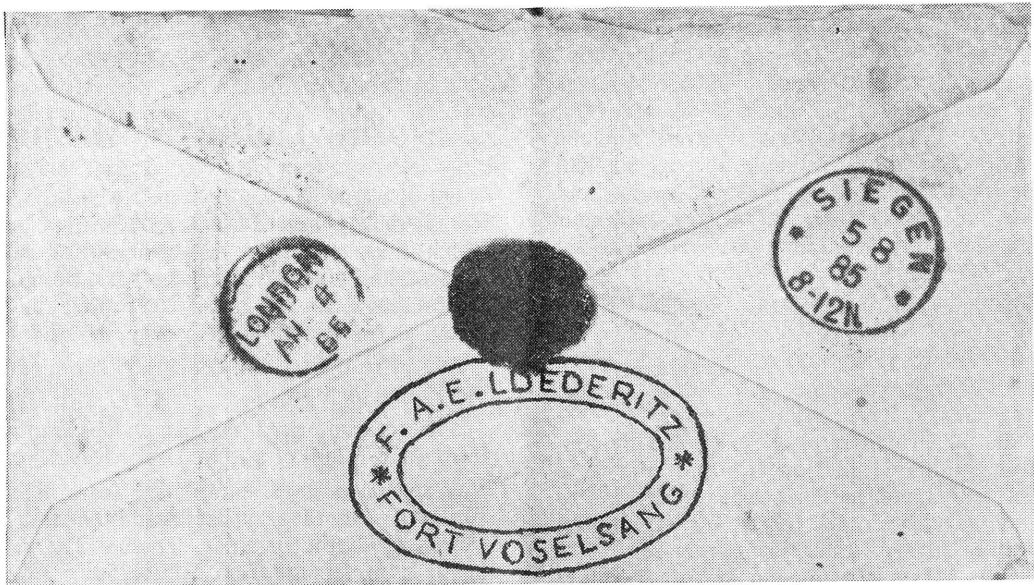
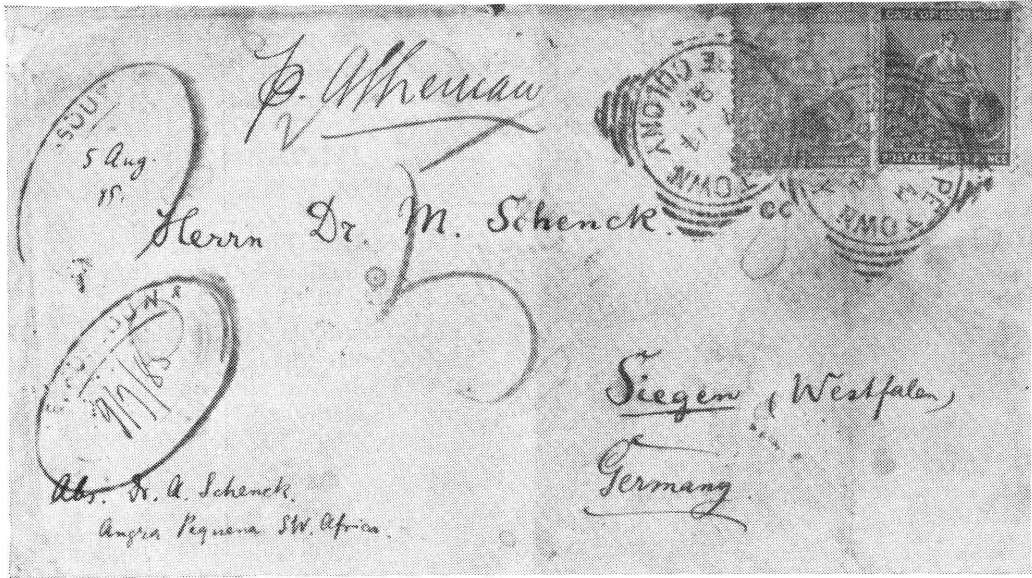
The set comprised thirteen values, ranging from $\frac{1}{2}$ c to R2.00 of a total cost of R4.15.

A special postage stamp issue featuring the Birds of Lesotho will be made on the 1st March 1971, the first day of issue. The value of the stamps range from $2\frac{1}{2}$ c to 25c.

First Day Covers complete with seven stamps will cost R1.00 each. A special charge of 5c each will be made on own covers. These and the above issue may be obtained from the Ministry of Posts and Telecommunications, Maseru, Lesotho.

A Remarkable Discovery

First Recorded Covers from South West Africa



A remarkable discovery has been made by Mr. J. M. Weinstein, R.D.P., of Pretoria: the first known covers to come from South West Africa. Both were sent from Angra Pequena via Cape Town to Germany in 1885.

The first postal office in the then German South West Africa was established at Otjimbingwe, south of the present-day Karibib, in July 1888.

As early as 1882, however, a Bremen merchant named Luderitz established trading contacts in the southern part of the territory and in April 1883 he sent a representative, Vogelsang, to run a trading post at Angra Pequena, a natural harbour on the barren desert coast. The hinterland was the arid plateau of Great Namaqualand, where the Nama and Orlams tribesmen dwelt.

Partly due to Luderitz's interest in the area, South West Africa became German territory during 1884/85, when the European powers demarcated most of Africa's present day boundaries.

Luderitz sent various expeditions to the interior, and on two of these was a geologist, Dr. A. Schenck, who was dismissed towards the end of 1885.

The first cover (illustrated), endorsed from Dr. A. Schenck, Angra Pequena, S.W. Africa, and addressed to a relative in Westphalia, has Cape of Good Hope stamps for 1/- and 3d, cancelled with the squared circle Cape Town postmark of 14th July, 1885. There are two strikes of what may be the forwarding agents' cachets, one with manuscript date 9/7/85.

The back of the cover (illustrated) has an oval rubberstamp in violet, reading between double ovals "F.A.E. LUEDERITZ/FORT VOGELSANG", plus a wax seal and a London transit and Siegen arrival mark.

The second cover (not illustrated) is franked with ½d, 1d and 6d Cape stamps, cancelled 19th August 1885. It is also endorsed from Schenck.

The "Fort Vogelsang", a prefabricated hut, was Vogelsang's base at Angra Pequena. The covers apparently travelled by ship to Cape Town, where they were posted by an agent. — J.G.

Unions "Used Elsewhere"

The qualification "elsewhere" is intended to demarcate those South African stamps which were used beyond the boundaries of the Union and did **not** fall under the jurisdiction of the Union's postal administration, from those which were similarly situated but did conform to the Union's Postal Directorate, and in consequence ranked as legitimate Union emissions.



Three common examples of the former, among others, are:

1. The Union's Hyphenated 1d, 3d, 6d (illustrated) and 1/- values overprinted "Kenya Tanganyika Uganda" and surcharged 5c, 10c, 20c and 70c respectively, SG 151-154.
2. The 1d value of the King's Head Series overprinted "Swaziland Revenue only", illustrated.
3. The 1d value of the King's Head Series overprinted "Bechuanaland Protectorate", illustrated.

The advent of the last one caused a "flutter in the philatelic dove-cote" of those days and its status was questioned.

The "Quarterly Review of Philately", December 1921 and July 1922 numbers, records that the Distributor of Stamps in Pretoria was approached and he replied that he "knew nothing about the stamp, which if genuine would be available for postal as well as fiscal use."

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The Resident Commissioner at Francistown, the post offices at Mafeking, Gaberones and other places were communicated with by the Pretoria Post Office, but nobody knew anything about the variety.

And so the matter remained, while collectors were advised not to pay fancy prices for this stamp which at best is certainly unauthorised and probably bogus, until the matter was resolved in July 1921 by Mr. Charles Hand. The report of his investigation makes interesting reading:

"In May, 1921, the one penny postage and revenue stamp of the Union of South Africa, with the overprint 'Bechuanaland Protectorate', was supplied to the Bechuanaland Administration for issue for revenue purposes. The supply consisted of thirteen half-sheets of one hundred and twenty stamps and the bulk of them were distributed to Magistrates throughout the Protectorate for disposal.

"Although the stamp was issued for revenue purposes only, and was not on sale at any post office, the fact that it is inscribed Postage and is a legitimate Government issue, makes it questionable whether the issue could be denied postal status.

"The Post Office does not look upon the stamp as a postal issue, but its standing as a genuine issue for fiscal requirements is undoubted.

"Had the stamps been overprinted 'Bechuanaland Protectorate Revenue only' as is done in the case of the Swaziland revenue issue, the question would have been placed beyond dispute."

Incidentally, it may be assumed that the Swaziland overprint was made about the same period, and due to its nature, the stamp received a more kindly reception.

T.B.B.

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LETTERS TO THE EDITOR

Wants, Offers and Exchange

Dear Sir,

As a collector of stamps and other things, I have been running a small advertisement in your WANTS, OFFERS & EXCHANGE column for three months now, under the pseudonym "Euphorbias".

With positive responses from the most unexpected quarters, I must say that my most optimistic expectations have been realised.

Now I have been wondering whether others with divergent interests could not take up this cue and possibly meet with an equal measure of success and pleasure, as this happy collector of —

EUPHORBIA

"A Chance to Compare"

Dear Sir,

I agree wholeheartedly with Mr. A. L. Leon's opinion in his article under the above heading ("The South African Philatelist", Dec. 1970, p.296) that our Philatelists from South Africa acquitted themselves well at "Philympia", although no "Gold" came the South African way. One must realise that the enormity of world philately as reflected in the cool statistics of Philympia's award list is simply staggering. Besides 3 Grand Awards, no less than 88 Gold awards were handed out! These gold awards were graded in 4 groups:

Large Gold with special awards:	11 awards
Large Gold:	28 awards
Gold with special awards:	8 awards
Gold:	38 awards
	88 awards

For us South Africans it may be of interest that the gold awards were not confirmed to the usual "classical" countries or subjects but that several "limited" or "non-classical" fields were also among the "golds", like "Serbia" and "Shanghai", to name just two.

The fifth award group, the "Vermeil" awards, contains 3 entries from South Africa but it must be added that no less than 120 (one hundred and twenty) "Vermeil" awards were dished out!

In the 6th group, the "Large Silver" awards, a total number of 153 collections are enumerated, 4 of them from South Africa.

The last two groups consisted of the "Silver" and "Bronze" awards, with the following figures: "Silver": 249 awards; "Bronze": 232 awards.

The grand total of Philympia awards was 942. If one broaches Mr. Leon's subject "A chance to compare", one cannot avoid mentioning that several entries from South Africa which had previously received "Gold" or "Silver-Gilt" awards at South African exhibitions, received Bronze awards at London's Philympia.

I have the honour to be, Sir,
Yours faithfully,
Dr. K. Freund, R.D.P., F.R.P.S.L.

Rhodesian Postmarks

Dear Sir,

Some time ago, you were kind enough to reprint a request I made through the Mashonaland P.S. for information regarding postmarks of Northern Rhodesia and Zambia. This has brought several interesting replies and at least one very good contact.

May I appeal, through your correspondence column, for more specific information about the following postmarks believed to exist:

1) Inscribed "N.-Rhodesia" — Chipili; Chitope; *Long Acres — Lusaka; *Lubengele; Luembe; *Mayankwa; Muyombe; *Mwense; *Ntendele; *Parklands — Kitwe; *Siavonga; Sinaseze.

*These offices or agencies were listed in the PMG's Annual Report for 1965 as having been opened in 1964. If any of these had been opened after Independence, they would not, of course, have been issued with N. R. marks.

2) Inscribed "Zambia" (These are agencies now closed) — Kamfinsa; Kapalala; Kasompe — Chingola; Lealui; Twapia.

I would like most of all to have specimens to buy, exchange or on loan, but failing that, photocopies, tracings, descriptions or even just reports of these marks having been seen.

Best wishes,
Yours sincerely,
W. H. Hoyte.

OBITUARY

As we go to press we regret to learn of the passing over of Mr. E. J. Sharpe ("Digger") and extend our sincere sympathy to his relatives.

Spesiale Stempel



Geagte Redaksie,

In die Januarie-uitgawe van die S.A.P. meld mnr. S. J. Vermaak in die lys van spesiale datumstempels dat 'n stempel in 1949 en 1950 vir die Pretoriase Nywerheidstentoonstelling gebruik is.

Daar was die laaste 12 of meer jaar nog elke jaar 'n poskantoor op die skouterrein, en ek vermoed dat die stempel nog elke jaar gebruik word. Hierby is 'n eksemplaar daarvan op 'n poskaart, met datum 5 IX 70.

„Kleintjie”,
Pretoria.

Paarlse Filateliste

Hierdie eerste Afrikaanse vereniging wat in 1951 tot stand gekom het, bedien nog steeds 'n heel aantal seëlversamelaars in die Bolandse dorp en omgewing.

Byeenkomste vind op die derde Donderdag-aand van elke maand in 'n sitkamer van die Central Hotel plaas waar versamelaars op 'n gesellige wyse met die nodige inligting oor seëls asook tee en beskuitjies bedien word.

Die vereniging lewer twee dienste om die belangstelling onder die jeug en die lesende publiek te bevorder. Die eerste bestaan uit 'n jeugvereniging van kinders van die personeel van die Victor Verster-Gevangenis naby Franschhoek, waar die voorsitter, mnr. J. Kaufman maandeliks besoek aflê om die kinders oor seëlversameling in te lig en aan te moedig.

Die tweede diens bestaan uit 'n permanente uitstalling van seëls in 'n tafelkas, 2vt. x 4vt. in die plaaslike Provinsiale Biblioteek waar die seëls elke 14 dae deur lede van die vereniging verander word.

Die tafelkas met 'n glasdeksel, is 'n uitdaging aan lede om 10 tot 12 blaaie van hul beste seëls van tyd tot tyd daar uit te stel. Die vertoonkas wat die naam van die vereniging dra, vind baie byval by die publiek en veral kinders.

— N.C.C.

Die Possëels van Lesotho

(Voortgeset van November, bladsy 273)

Die 2d het 'n Mosutho perderuiter getoon. Terloops 'n verduideliking van die verskeie vorms van die woord wat die mense en die land beskrywe moet gegee word. Die naam van die land is Lesuto of Lesotho, die mense is die Basoeto en enigiets wat op hul betrekking het word as Msotho of Mosotho beskrywe. Die ruiter word uitgebeeld waar hy die tipiese keëlvormige strooihoed en kombers van die Basoeto dra. Die ponie waarop hy ry is klein, gehard en vas op die pote en by uitstek geskik vir die verraderlike paadjies en bergwêreld van die land. Die Basoeto ry met 'n lang stiebeuel, uitsluitlik deur balans, op 'n galop op bergbok paadjies waarop baie mense normaalweg versigtig op hande en voete sou voortbeweeg.

Die 3d seël het 'n groep hutte vir 'n gesinseenheid of huishouding uitgebeeld. So 'n eenheid sluit in 'n man, sy vrou, hul kinders en verskeie afhanklike verwante. Die hutte is rond of langwerpig, sterk gebou van klip of rougrond afgepleister met modder en het gedekte dak van riet. Waar daar verskeie huise is, is dit die gebruik om 'n paalheining van riet om die huis op te rig. Die 4d seël het die Maletsunyane valle uitgebeeld. Hierdie valle is die tweede hoogste in Afrika suid van die ewenaar en is een van die groot skilderagtige aantreklikhede van Lesotho. Reg in die hartjie van die land op 'n hoogte van 7000vt, tuimel die Maletsunyanerivier 630 voet af op sy weg om die Oranjerivier verder suid te ontmoet.

'n Basoeto herder het op die 6d seël verskyn terwyl hy die lesiba, 'n primitiewe musiekinstrument bespeel. Gedurende die somermaande word die vee deur seuns wat nog taamlik jonk is, hoog in die berge opgepas waar daar nog heelwat weiding is. Die lesiba is 'n geliefkoosde instrument by hierdie seuns; dit bestaan uit 'n lang stok met uitstekende punte waaraan 'n snaar van ossening vasgeheg is. Aan een end van die snaar is 'n oop pen waaraan gesuig word om die musieknote voort te bring. 'n Herder was op die 1/- seël uitgebeeld met die hoë bergpieke in die agtergrond. Dit herinner daaraan dat skaapboerdery een van die belangrike bedrywighede in Lesotho is.

Twee seëls het op die oorlogsverlede van die Basoetoe gesinspeel. Die 1/3 seël het die sogenoemde Lancer's Gap vertoon. Dit is 'n

kloof in 'n kranswand van 'n hoë plato 'n paar myl oos van Maseru waar daar 'n geveg tussen die Britse magte onder Sir George Cathcart en die Basoetos onder leiding van Molape, seun van Mosjesj plaasgevind het. Die 2/6 seël toon die ou fort by Leribe wat tydens die sogenaamde Geweroorlog van 1880 opgerig is as 'n vesting vir die magte van getroue onderdane in die noorde van Basoetoeland. Alhoewel die rebelle dikwels meer was as die verdedigers is hierdie sterk fort nooit ingeneem nie.

Die sendelinge se grotwoning op die 5/- seël, was die oorspronklike blyplek van die Franse Evangelie Sendelinge in 1883. Dit het bestaan uit 'n toegemesselde grot en word nou erken as 'n nasionale monument van groot geskiedkundige belang. Die hoogste waarde, die 10/-, was in 'n regop vorm en is gekenmerk deur die skeer van Angora bokke vir hul waardevolle sybokhaar. Dit word vertel dat dit ingebore eienskappe het wat nie by ander haarsoorte voorkom nie en dit besit besondere vermengingseienskappe. Sybokhaar is een van die land se mees kosbare uitvoere, sowat 2½ miljoen pond ter waarde van R940,000 jaarliks word in die afgelope jare uitgevoer.

'n Tydelike tekort aan ½d seëls was in Augustus 1959 die hoof gebied deur 'n hoeveelheid 2d seëls te bydruk. Hierdie werk is deur die Staatsdrukker in Pretoria gedoen.

In 1961 het Suid-Afrika die desimale geldstelsel aangeneem. Saam met die ander Hoë Kommissaris gebiede, het Basoetoeland op dergelike wyse van die sterling na die desimale geldstelsel oorgeskakel, wat meegebring het dat 'n tydelike bydruk aangebring moes word om dit na sente en rand om te reken. Die bydrukke het bestaan uit ½c op ½d, 1c op 1d, 2c op 2d, 2½c op 3d, 3½c op 4d, 5c op 6d, 10c op 1/-, 12½c op 1/3, 25c op 2/6, 50c op 5/- en R1 op 10/-. Die bydrukke is deur die Suid-Afrikaanse Staatsdrukker gedoen en groot opspraak is in filateliese kringe veroorsaak toe dit ontdek was dat daar verskeie soorte bydruk vir sekere waardes bestaan het. Twee soorte het vir die 2½c, 3½c, 5c, 10c, 12½ en 50c en drie soorte vir die 25c en R1 bestaan. Daarbenewens was daar twee drukke van die 2½c, Druk II, wat verskil het in die ligging van die bydruk op die seëls. Dit is bekend dat die bydruk op die ½c dubbel gedruk was terwyl dië op die 2c en 2½c omgekeer was.

Die bygedrukte seëls was stelselmatig deur dergelike ontwerpe vervang met die waardes

in die desimale geldstelsel. Tussen 14 Februarie 1961 en 4 Februarie 1963 het die reeks van ½c, 1c, 2c, 2½c, 3½c, 5c, 10c, 12½c, 25c, 50c en R1 verskyn. Dit was gediëpdruk deur De La Rue op meervoudige CA skrifpapier. Gedurende 1964 egter is die 1c, 2½c, 5c, 12½c en 50c seëls op die meer moderne CA Blok watermerkpapier vrygestel.

Die huidige naam van die land het sy filateliese debuut op 'n stel van drie seëls gemaak wat op 15 Desember 1959 vrygestel is om die inhuldiging van die nuwe Nasionale Raad te gedenk. Die voormalige **Pitso** was omskep in 'n wetgewende raad met die magte om wette te maak oor alle sake behalwe buitelandesake, verdediging en binnelandse veiligheid. Die drie seëls met inskrip **LESOTHO** en **BASUTOLAND** was gediëpdruk deur Waterlow en seuns en gebaseer op tekeninge van James Watton. Die 3d het groot opperhoof Mosjesj I wie se kode van wette in 1854 afgekondig is afgebeeld. Die 1/- seël het die Raadshuis in Maseru vertoon terwyl die 1/3 seël 'n Mosuto ruiter en die Raad se ampstaf weergee. 'n Profiel van die Koningin is in die ontwerp ingesluit.

Die stigting van 'n wetgewende raad en die Huis van Hoofmanne het die weg vir selfregering in 1965 geëban. In April 1965 is die eerste algemene verkiesings in die land gehou.

Die Nasionale Party het 31 van die 60 setels verower en hoofman Leabua Jonathan het eerste minister geword. 'n Stel van vier seëls ontwerp deur Victor Whiteley en in veelkleurige fotogravure deur Harrison en seuns gedruk, was op die 10de Mei vrygestel. Die 2½ seël het 'n Mosotho vrou en kind uitgebeeld, die 3½c seël het 'n grenspos by Maseru getoon, 'n kenmerkende bergtoneel het op die 5c verskyn en die Wetgewende gebou was op 12½c vertoon. Hierdie seëls met inskrip **LESOTHO BASUTOLAND** was gewatermerk met CA blok.

Na die oorwinning van die Nasionale Party in die April verkiesing het 'n nuwe grondwet op 1 Mei 1965 in werking getree. Dit het Lesotho as 'n konstitusionele monargie met Opperhoof Moshoeshe II as koning tot stand laat kom. By die Onafhanklikheidskonferensie in Junie 1966 was 'n ander grondwet, geskoei op die een van 1965, opgestel en bekragtig op die 4de Oktober toe Lesotho 'n onafhanklike lid van die Statebond geword het. Op daardie dag is 'n reeks van 4 seëls in 'n eenvoudige ontwerp vrygestel. Die seëls in waardes van 2½c, 5c, 10c en 20c het Moshoeshe I en Moshoeshe II afgebeeld en vir die eerste

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DIE BESTE RONDSENNDDIENS IN DIE
LAND.



Sterk ledetal deur die hele land.
Belangstellendes verwelkom.

keer het die naam Lesotho verskyn sonder 'n vastelandse ekwivalent. Op 1 November is die hele vaste uitgawe met oordruk LESOTHO vrygestel, seëls met beide watermerke (Voolvoudige CA skrifpapier en SA blok) was gebruik. Die R1 vertoon 'n eienaardige fout, veroorsaak deur die verkeerde plasing van die druk: LSEOTHO in plaas van LESOTHO. Die R1 met die CA blok watermerk was nooit vrygestel sonder hierdie oordruk nie.

'n Volkome nuwe vaste uitgawe was op 1 April 1967 vrygestel. Dit is ontwerp en gedruk in fotogravure deur Harrison en Seuns en het Moshoeshoe II met die natuurtonele, landbou en nywerheid van die land afgebeeld. Mielies ($\frac{1}{2}c$), aalwyne (2c) en koring (10c) is van die vernaamste oeste, terwyl beeste (1c), merino skape ($3\frac{1}{2}c$), die Basoeto ponie (5c) en die Angora bok ($12\frac{1}{2}c$) die veeteelt van die land verteenwoordig het. 'n Kenmerkende Basoeto keëlvormige strooihoed het op die $2\frac{1}{2}c$ seël verskyn. 'n Betrekklike nuwe nywerheid wat 'n belangrike bydrae tot die land se ekonomie maak is diamant ontginning wat by Letseng-La-Draai in die Mokhotlongdistrik plaasvind. Diamante is op die 50c seël vertoon. Lesotho se amptelike wapen het op die R1 seël verskyn terwyl 'n portret van Moshoeshoe II die R2 versier het.

Sedert onafhanklikheidswording het Lesotho 'n aantal aantreklike herdenkingsseëls vrygestel. Op 1 Desember 1966 is 'n stel van 4 seëls uitgereik om die 20ste herdenking van UNESCO te herdenk. Die seëls, ontwerp deur Victor Whiteley en gesteendruk (litografeer) deur De La Rue, is gekenmerk deur 'n oop boek, 'n akademiese mus, mikroskoop, viool en chemiese apparaat wat Opvoeding, Kultuur en die Wetenskap gesimboliseer het. In die eersvolgende April is 'n stel van vier seëls vrygestel ter ere van die eerste toekening van grade aan die Universiteit van Botswana, Lesotho en Swaziland wat by Roma gestig is. Die seëls, deur Victor Whiteley ontwerp en in fotogravure deur Harrison en Seuns gedruk, het studente en die universiteitsgebou uitgebeeld.

Die eerste herdenking van onafhanklikheid is gevier deur drie driehoekige seëls wat op 4 Oktober 1967 vrygestel is. Die $2\frac{1}{2}c$ het die standbeeld van Mosjesj I, die $12\frac{1}{2}c$ die nasionale vlag en die 25c die krokodil, nasionale embleem van Lesotho, uitgebeeld. Die seëls is deur personeel kunstenaars ontwerp en deur Harrison in fotogravure gedruk. Lesotho was een van die lande om aan die Padvinderbeweging hulde te bring in hul diamant herdenkingsjaar. 'n 15c seël met 'n Padvinder wat

salueer, en wat 'n portret van die stigter van die beweging, Lord Baden-Powell in die agtergrond, vertoon, was op 1 November 1967 uitgereik, is ontwerp deur Victor Whiteley en deur Harrisons in veelkleurige fotogravure gedruk.

Die twintigste herdenking van die Wêreld Gesondheidsorganisasie was deur twee seëls wat op 7 April 1968 vrygestel is, gedenk. Die 2½c seël het die W.G.O. embleem teen 'n kaart van die wêreld geteken gehad, terwyl die 25c waarde 'n verpleegster en 'n kind, met weerskante die Lesotho ampswaapen en die W.G.O. embleem, vertoon het. Die seëls was deur George Vasarhelyi ontwerp en in fotogravure deur Harrisons gedruk.

'n Reeks van die seëls aan Lesotho se oerwoners se rotstekeninge gewy was op 1 November 1968 vrygestel. Die seëls, deur Jennifer Toombs ontwerp en deur Harrison en Seuns gedruk, is gekenmerk deur jagters (3c), bobbejane (3½c), 'n spiesgooier (5c), boogskutters (10c), blou kraanvoëls (15c), eland (20c) en 'n jagtoneel (25c). 'n Volledige beskrywing van die interessante het in die "Bulletin" van September 1968 verskyn. Die skilderye het in grootte van 'n halfduim tot oor die 5 voet gevarieer en het hoofsaaklik mense en hulle aktiwiteit uitgebeeld, terwyl diere, kultuur, materiële besittings en belange van die jagtersmense weergee en alhoewel die ouderdom van die skilderye nog nie presies vasgestel is nie kom dit voor dat dit waarskynlik 150 jaar oud is en loop die koms van die Basoeto nasie in hierdie gebied vooruit.

Die eeufeesviering van Maseru, die hoofstad, was in Maart 1969 herdenk deur 'n stel van vier seëls ontwerp deur Clive Househam en gesteendruk deur Perkins Bacon. Dit was op 11 Maart 1869 wat Kommandant James Bowker van die Grens Gewapende en Berede Polisie 'n polisie pos op Maseru — die plek van die rooi sandsteen — kom stig het, op versoek van Mosjesj. Die terrein was volmaak, op die oewers van die Caledonrivier in die vrugbare strook van Lesotho. Bowker het die permanente geboue op die klein koppie waar die offisersmenasie van die Lesotho Polisie vandag staan, opgerig, en 'n klein dorpjie het spoedig daarom heen begin ontstaan. Van hierdie nederige begin het die huidige dorp van Maseru, bevolking 10,000, deur die negentiende eeu ontwikkel. Die seëls het verskeie bakens van die moderne dorp uitgebeeld. Die 2½c het die Koningin Elizabeth II hospitaal, die 10c die lugdrade en geboue van Radio Lesotho, die 12½c die Leabua Jonathan lughawe, vernoem na die eerste minister, terwyl die 25c die koninklike paleis, vertoon het.

Die heel jongste vrystelling wat deur Lesotho gemaak was, was op 26 September vir die Dak van Afrika Tydren. Die vier seëls, 2½, 12½, 15 en 20 sent, het tonele van wat die mees skouspelagtige motorren gebeurtenis in Suidelike Afrika is en 'n landkaart van die 650 myl lange tog weergee. Die volgende uitreiking was op 1 Desember en dit het die gefossiliseerde voetspore van prehistoriese diere wat in Lesotho gevind is, uitgebeeld.

An Old Scandal

By A. Leslie Leon, R.D.P.,

F.R.P.S.L.

A recent addition to my Natal collection was a copy of S.G.9 — the 1d rose-red of 1859 — obliterated with the word CANCELLED in an oval of bars. This is a very rare stamp as only six copies were prepared and one is in the Royal Collection, which leaves the remaining five available for collectors. I had long known something of the circumstances of the issue of this and other similar stamps and have now investigated the story which may be of interest to readers of this journal.

Messrs. Perkins Bacon & Co. were the printers of the Penny Black and from 1851 had printed the stamps for a number of British Colonies, the Agent General for the Colonies being the official through whom their orders

arrived. In 1861 that official was Penrose Julyan who was becoming more and more exasperated in his dealings with the firm by reason of the latter's dilatoriness and slipshod methods. They usually in correspondence reversed the initials of the man who was in effect their best customer.

The story of the stamps with the CANCELLED obliteration in deep black ink was unravelled by the late Sir E. D. Bacon and reported by him in the London Philatelist for May 1929, followed by an article on the same subject in 1934. I am much indebted to both those articles and to "The Perkins Bacon Records" by Percy de Worms.

On the 18th April 1861, Ormond Hill,

nephew of Sir Rowland, wrote to the firm as follows:

"Two or three of my friends who are collectors of postage stamps have asked me to procure for them specimens of new or uncommon stamps whenever I have it in my power", and on 24th April he again wrote:

"Thank you for your kind reply to my request for Specimens of Colonial Postage Stamps. I should be glad to have six stamps of each kind if there is no objection."

In August of the same year, his cousin Pearson Hill made a similar request and on 15th August the firm wrote to the latter:

"I beg now to send you as promised a list of (we believe) all the postage stamps which we have prepared, and exclusive of those for our own Government.

"Also an envelope addressed to Ormond Hill Esqre containing 6 obliterated impressions of each of the stamps named in the list and request you will take 2 of each for Rowland Hill Esqre and yourself and then seal the package and forward it with a letter which you will also find addressed to him, to Mr. Ormond Hill."

Sir E. D. Bacon established that the stamps thus dealt with were those of twenty Colonies and Chile and that 72 different stamps were concerned, the obliteration being effected by a handstamp that had been supplied as a canceller to the Chilean Postal Authorities.

The Agent General for the Colonies took great offence when he learned of this rather extraordinary behaviour on the part of a firm of security printers; he issued orders that would prevent a recurrence and called for the return of all Dies, Rollers and Plates of every denomination "now in your custody, and belonging to the Agents General for Crown Colonies". Although this request was made on the 22nd October 1861, it was not until the 5th June 1862 that the firm fully complied with the instruction.

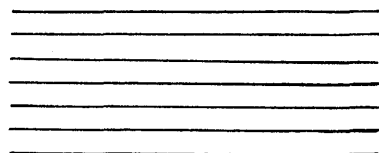
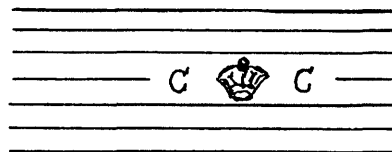
There appears to be little doubt that although the Agent General used the incident as the excuse for taking the work of printing postage stamps for the majority of Colonies from Perkins Bacon & Co. and give it to De La Rue & Co., the previous actions of the former concern and in particular the lateness of deliveries were a source of such annoyance that the end was bound to come.

In June 1862, one of the Commissioners of Inland Revenue made a request for stamps similar to that of the Hill cousins, and in a reply regretting that the firm could not oblige, they showed surprise that the Agent General should have taken exception to the supply of

the six copies that went to the Hill family. Perkins Bacon & Co. supplied no more Specimen copies and gradually lost ground in the field of stamp production, whilst De La Rue & Co. some sixty years later were still producing stamps for the British Dominions and Colonies. The obliterated stamps that caused the trouble are very seldom offered for sale and are undoubtedly some of the world's scarcest philatelic items.

The Machine Roller Defacer

A present-day stamp collector is reluctant to cross swords with an eminent authority such as A. Jurgens, but the writer suggests that the author omitted to list two further varieties to his description of the Liner Machine Roller Defacer as recorded in his "Handstruck Letter Stamps and Postmarks of the Cape of Good Hope, 1792—1910" figs. 167 to 168a, page 79.



The first suggested omission is illustrated as Fig 1, wherein the word PAID is included in the datestamp, the other denominations remaining unaltered.

Incidentally, this mark may record the early introduction of the Union's "PAID" machine canceller.

The second, Fig. 2, is similar in all respects to the mark recorded by Jurgens as Fig. 168 (Type 118), but with the letters "CC" and crown omitted, thus indicating the existence of a 7 straight liner machine canceller, which should take precedence over his 8 straight liner machine canceller, Fig. 172 (Type 120), page 80.

The addition of these two marks as Figs. 168b (Type 118) and 168c (Type 118) may advantageously be made to an admirable record of these machine cancellers. — T.B.B.

Irish Newsletter

by A. F. Finn

Two sets brought to an end the 1970 series of new issues from the Republic of Ireland. On Oct. 26th, two values, appearing in se-tenant pairs, marked the deaths in 1920 of Terence MacSwiney, and Thomas MacCurtain, fighters in the struggle for Irish independence.

It was particularly appropriate that the stamps should have been issued in se-tenant pairs, as both men were close friends, and were successive Lord Mayors of the city of Cork, in southern Ireland. MacSwiney was shot in his home in early 1920 by British irregulars, while MacCurtain died in an English prison after 75 days of a hunger strike in protest against British rule in Ireland.

The final commemorative issue of 1970 was the one appearing on Nov. 2nd, honouring an 18 year old student named Kevin Barry, who was executed for being a member of the rebel forces.

Details are now awaited of the 1971 programme. A new range of definitives is in preparation, and will bear values inscribed in Decimal Currency. Ireland, in common with Great Britain, will change its Sterling system of currency to decimal on Feb. 15th, 1971, when the pound (£1) will be divided into 100 new pence. Further sets in the "Europe" series, sponsored by the European Conference of Posts and Telecommunications, and the "Art" series, will also appear.

Hints for the Philatelic Novice Stamps That Are Not Stamps

By HERMAN HERST, JR.

Among the more frequent inquiries a philatelic columnist receives are those involving letters that have gone through the mails without bearing valid postage stamps.

A variation of this is the request on the value of a letter that went through the mails without any stamp.

Either of these might be considered a "conversation piece", to use a badly overworked phrase which Main Street folk like to use when they cannot attribute value to something but do want to attribute desirability.

The trouble is, people can talk about something for nothing, but that doesn't mean they want to buy it.

Uncle Sam must be defrauded of hundreds of dollars daily by having to handle mail for which postage has not been paid. Fraudulent it may be. But we would doubt the fraud is intended deliberately in other than a few cases.

The facts simply are that there are so many things that *look* like a stamp, it is impossible to expect more than half a million employees in 35,000 Post Offices to remember just which are stamps, and which are not. It is doubtful if 50 per cent of the philatelists can pass this test.

Uncle Sam has issued postage stamps with face values as high as \$100 which are not valid for postage now. (This, I may say, is exactly why, today, they are worth about \$5, even though they date from 1895.)

Certainly it is illegal to use for postage what is actually a substitute for a stamp. But it would be difficult for the Post Office to prove intent to defraud in such a case, although, technically speaking, they would not have to prove intent since the fraud on the Post Office is obvious.

The facts are that Post Office employees would be unlikely to suspect a stamp-like seal, etc., that actually might not be valid for postage, and the letter would complete the trip without too much notice being directed at it.

Post office personnel are instructed to watch for mail which is either not franked at all, incorrectly franked, or insufficiently franked. Many Post Offices have signs which read "Watch for underpaid mail." Employees naturally are conscientious in this regard, yet some pieces of mail do slip through.

There are thousands of employees in the Post Office whose job each day is to change the slugs in cancelling devices from one day to the next. Some large offices have dozens

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of cancelling machines; every office has at least one to be changed. The operation must be done perhaps 200,000 times daily from one end of the nation to another.

It is inevitable that in so many operations, a certain number will be incorrectly done. The year 1966 may be inserted upside down, to come out 9961. An incongruous date such as November 32, instead of November 23, will occur. Such incidents are curious, but hardly rare, and certainly a piece of mail bearing evidence of this accident will not have any value, for instances would be multiplied a

thousandfold if examples of it enjoyed any market.

At Christmas time, particularly, many mail users, either by eye trouble or hurried confusion, use Christmas seals on their letters. The act is illegal, of course, but with our stamps each year outdoing Christmas Seals in religious design, this mistake is more likely to increase than decrease. It is illegal and although the chances of escaping prosecution are rather large, it warrants caution.

Acknowledgement Meekels Weekly Stamp News.

South African Meter Franks and How to Collect Them

by K. E. W. Lydall, R.D.P.

Paper accompanied by illustrated slides, read at Congress and received a Congress Award.

Early History of South African Meter Franks.

If one asked a number of philatelists when meter franks were first introduced into the Union of South Africa it is very likely that extremely few would know. According to Barfoot and Simon, the first meter franking machine was taken into use on 18th October, 1926 i.e. just 44 years ago. Considering that meter postage was first recognised by the U.P.U., at its Madrid Congress in 1920 and that countries such as U.S.A., Britain, Germany and France only really introduced machines for franking first class mail in the early 1920's, South Africa was quite soon in the field. It is probable that today at least one-third of all letter post is franked by meters.

Uses of Meter Franks

Meter franks can be employed as substitutes for adhesive stamps in nearly every important respect, i.e. as normal and registered post, as express post, as parcel post and as substitute for revenue stamps. They also qualify for bulk post concessions.

Mail that is meterfranked is not permitted to be posted directly into a letter box but should be handed in at the post office where the machine is registered. However, as a special concession, a small quantity of franked covers, usually 6 to 12, can be inserted in a red coloured container and put in a letter box after normal post office hours.

Why Collect Meter Marks?

Since meter franks perform so many of the functions of adhesive stamps, recognition must

be given to them as substantive part of philately and postal history.

The fact that not much attention is paid by philatelists to meter mark collecting can be ascribed to several reasons. In the first place there is not the glamour attached to the adhesive stamp—colours are monotone and designs are very unattractive. Secondly, they are not 'stocked' by post offices and dealers like adhesive stamps, and thus cannot be obtained on demand. Thirdly, they are cumbersome to mount and display, while fourthly, although they are now listed in handbooks, they are seldom priced like stamps in a catalogue.

As objects of study, however, meter marks have an interest which, if pursued, places them not far short of adhesive stamps themselves for they have design and, especially the earliest ones, a scarcity much greater than many early adhesives. Further, there are no unnecessary or speculative issues of meter stamps and their use is strictly controlled.

Elements of a Meter Frank.

There are three elements to a meter mark, the variations of which form the main basis for collection and study. These elements are:

1. The main design-cum-value tablet.
 2. The date/town mark.
 3. The slogan or publicity mark.
- (Note that some meter marks combine 1. and 2.)

Covers or Cut-offs.

An early decision whether to collect complete

covers or just cut-offs must be made by the collector. Some people prefer the complete cover, perhaps because it is rather like collecting stamps on entire. Alternatively, the complete cover may confer a greater sense of authenticity. This method makes for bulky storage and display problems.

Others are content to cut the meter mark off from the cover, taking care to leave a reasonable margin all round. As little as 3/8th in. can be sufficient margin. Also it is worthwhile leaving intact the space which would normally contain the slogan, thus showing those cases where the franking machine owner elects not to use the slogan element. It also conduces to uniformity in the size of the cut-off. A large size trimmer on which the sizes of the cut-offs can be marked is a useful aid to keeping the sizes of the cut-offs uniform and tidy.

Another method is to collect both entires and cut-offs, the former just to show a specimen of the type of machine being used, and the latter for specialisation and study.

Main Groupings.

The next step is to group the meter marks under the different makes of machines of which there are 10 that have been used in South Africa. Makers produce ranges of models to suit the needs of the firms likely to buy them. Hand-operated models are extensively used, but large organisations whose daily outgoing post warrants it are able to obtain electrically operated machines. One can mention, in passing, that there are machines which can frank 11,000 pieces of mail in an hour besides performing other functions such as sealing the envelopes.

Values Dies.

The earliest machines used in South Africa were of the "Fixed Value" type, that is to say each value is printed from a separate die of which the amount of postage (value) constitutes an integral part. The first Neopost machines, for example, had mainly ½d and 1d dies with an occasional 3d die, while the first Midget machines allowed for 3 or 5 value dies. It follows then that with fixed-value machines containing only ½d and 1d dies, three impressions of the 1d would be needed to cover 3d postage.

The second general type is the "Limited-Value" machine, i.e. there is a single frame die with a limited number of separate value dies that can be changed by means of a lever to set

the postage rate required. Another example of limited value machine is found in the type of Neopost machine with the code letter 'J'. Here again, even with some flexibility of values, it would still be necessary to impress more than one value die where a single die would not cover the postage required.

By far the commonest type today is the "Multi-value" machine. Using only one frame die, a range of individual dies are arranged in banks so that they can be inserted in the frame die to print the postage required in one operation. For example, on a small capacity machine any amount from ½c to 12½c can be inserted in the frame die. However, if the postage amounted to 25c, two impressions of the 12½c would be needed. Larger capacity machines may range from ½c to 99½c, or from ½c to R9.99½c. For Revenue purposes the progression of values is by 1c units instead of ½c units and values can range from 1c to R99.99. Larger machines are equipped with more banks of keys to set the values required.

Date/Town Marks

Having described the major differences in types of machines and models in so far as value settings are concerned, we must now turn our attention to the second element, viz. the date/town mark. These impressions are roughly similar in appearance to a postal cancellation in that the name of the town and date appear, the latter having to be adjusted for the correct date. The name of the town has to be engraved on the original blank die, and while batches of dies will have similar characteristics, a number of variations in lettering and layout are to be found. The outer frame is usually circular and the name and date may be contained in a single circle or a double circle, while the inner circle may be complete or broken. A rare exception is the town/date mark of the machine used by the Beaufort West Municipality which is oval with a sort of slotted interior oval.

To be Continued

Continued from Page 34.

31015 to 33711. First Delivery: 3 November 1969.

Third Distribution: Swiss paper, tête-bêche wmk., Phosphorised, 3mm. wide bands. All dark gum. Sheet numbers: 10164 to 14170. First delivery: Mid April 1970.

Fourth Distribution: Harrison paper, tête-bêche wmk., Phosphorised. 3mm. wide bands. Sheet numbers 37053 to 40830. First Delivery 6 November 1970.

SOCIETY NEWS

AFRIKAANSE PHILATELISTIESE VERENIGING VAN PRETORIA.

November. Die aand is gebruik vir 'n uitvoerige bespreking van ons braaivleis, wat op 18 November by die Fontein gehou is en wat as 'n groot sukses beskou kan word. Dit dreig 'n jaarlikse verskynsel te word, waar teen niemand enige beswaar, eerder plesier in heeft. Die aand is opgeluister met die pragtige versameling seëls van die Republiek Suid-Afrika van Mnr. Kühn. Die versameling gaan in op klein puntjies en foutjies, die dingetjies wat mens se oë laat skerp vir sulke verskynsels, soos mnr. Wessels in sy bedankwoord gesê het. Bowendien is die versameling baie netjies opgestel en bygeskryf. 'n Versameling soos ons van mnr. Kühn kan ver wag. Met die oog op tegniese afwerking is die jaarvergadering voortaan verskuif na Februarie.

PRETORIA RAILWAY PHILATELIC SOCIETY

November. The meeting was the occasion of a visit from the East Rand Society whose members, after a tribute had been paid to the late Mr. R. N. Castignani, staged the following exhibits which were greatly appreciated by all. Mr. Roux tabled Ghana; Mr. Godwin pages of Bermuda and a collection depicting table tennis; Mr. Hilderbrand his China 1940's, and Mr. Holden Queen Elizabeth II definitives and Canadian early cancellations.

GERMISTON PHILATELIC SOCIETY

December. About fifteen members and their families present, not as many as in previous years, but all those attending thoroughly enjoyed the Braai-Vleis and Film Show, also the very nice cakes or scones provided by the members' wives at refreshment time during the interval of the Film Show. Mrs. C. F. De Kock, the Vice-President, on behalf of the Society, thanked everyone for attending and helping to make the Social a success. A special vote of thanks was passed to Mr. B. Clark for his hard work in providing the film show, all of the films shown were most amusing and interesting to the seniors as well as to the juniors present that evening.

PRETORIA PHILATELIC SOCIETY

November. The meeting staged the Competition for the Lecky Watson Cup. Three competitors entered, namely Mr. W. K. Seeba showed Madagascar since Independence; both Mr. D. J. C. Reynders and Mr. A. F. Reynard tabled Rhodesia since U.D.I., and Com. C. E. D. Enoch showed G. B. Line Engraved.

The result was that Commander Enoch was declared very deservedly the winner for the third time of the Lecky Watson Cup.

SOCIETY OF ISRAEL PHILATELY

November. Mr. Abrams reported on Philympia and gave details of the various awards and various functions which took place. Messrs. Michelson and Buchen reported on Congress and SETPEX which was recently held in Port Elizabeth. Mr. I. A. Miller asked certain questions regarding the judging of the exhibits, particularly having regard to the fact that at ZAR 100, where some of the judges were from overseas, the identical awards made at ZAR 100 were repeated at SETPEX 70 even though exhibitors had improved on their collections. Mr. Buchen was of the opinion that open discussion was not warranted and that as he was one of the judges the question was unfair. The matter was not proceeded with.

PORT ELIZABETH PHILATELIC SOCIETY

November. After welcoming the members and visitors to our meeting held on 17th November, 1970, the President presented Mr. G. Bulbring with a certificate stating that his name has been included on the Roll of Honour of Distinguished Philatelists.

Mrs. Fourie gave us a display of the stamps of Southern Rhodesia. The exhibit consisted of 45 sheets commencing with the 1924 issue up to date and was fairly complete. The sheets were beautifully written up and all the used stamps were very lightly cancelled. Mr. D. Bloom passed the vote of thanks.

December. The meeting was our annual "Ladies' Evening", when the lady members of our Society compete for the T. J. Strachan Trophy.

This year there were three exhibitors and the first was Mrs. Fourie whose display consisted of 66 sheets of the stamps of South Africa covering the period 1910-1961. In many instances, the stamps were in blocks of four. All the used were lightly cancelled and there were also a number of first day covers.

Next, Mrs. G. Pamensky showed us the stamps of Southern Rhodesia from 1953-1969. The exhibit was virtually complete, all the used stamps being in fine condition, while most of the mint commemorative stamps were shown with cylinder numbers.

Finally, Mrs. B. Zarnack of Durban gave us an exhibit of 30 sheets of the stamps of Malta commencing with the 1937 issue to date, all the used being lightly cancelled.

The meeting concluded with a most interesting and informative talk on his impressions of Philympia by Mr. G. Bulbring.

BELVILLE PHILATELIC SOCIETY

November. The meeting was the annual competition for the Lee Cup for which two exhibits were staged: Hubert Keulder, New Zealand and Theo Kurtz, R.S.A. printing abnormalities.

The Judges then went to work while Bob Goldblatt gave a short talk on Communications through the ages, followed by a brief description of competitions for Juniors in RSA 10. Tea was then served during which the second pair of exhibits

were put on display; these being Ole Flentov's Denmark and Eddie Beunderman's Military Covers. After tea Mr. Combrink, the chief judge summed up the exhibits and declared Theo Kurtz to be the winner.

Mrs. Combrink presented the Cup and Theo Kurtz delivered a short speech in appreciation. Michele Ubahs presented Mrs. Combrink with a bouquet and Bob Goldblatt followed this up with a vote of thanks.

ROYAL PHILATELIC SOCIETY OF CAPE TOWN

November 12th. The meeting was a Postal History Evening at which Mr. H. C. Berneaud tabled Hamberg; Mr. R. F. Putzel showed Tristan da Cunha; Mr. I. R. Goldblatt Cape of Good Hope and Mr. J. Wannerton, Canadian Contingent S.A. War.

November 26th. It was a most entertaining evening, highlighted by an exhibit and talk on Norway, Mr. Bulbring, accompanied by Mrs. Bulbring, having travelled from Port Elizabeth for the occasion.

Congratulations were extended to Mr. J. W. T. Wannerton upon being elected a Fellow of the Royal Philatelic Society, London.

MASHONALAND PHILATELIC SOCIETY

November. The Chairman welcomed the members and guests present and proceeded to read a report from Mr. Ellenberger on his recent visit to Philympia.

Congratulations were extended to Mr. H. Birkhead upon being awarded a silver medal for his BSA-RHODESIA collection at Philympia and information was given concerning the receipt of the publication "Magnify".

Two further points raised during the evening was that of holding the monthly meetings in a larger hall. As the Chairman pointed out, this matter had been gone into time and again, but no other suitable venue (at such reasonable cost) could be found. The second point was that the Society should endeavour to purchase catalogues for interested members, at a reduced rate. This proposal would be gone into further.

PHILATELIC SOCIETY OF NATAL

November 4th. Dr. Duncan, after opening the meeting, paid tribute to two members, Mr. D. F. Allen and Mr. R. A. Escolme, who had passed on.

Mr. A. Leslie-Leon gave a very interesting talk on the highlights of the Philympia exhibition. He talked about various exhibits and the prizes won. He also mentioned a luncheon given for overseas visitors and the prize-giving dinner which was attended by the Lord Mayor of London.

Mr. Leon had also brought with him part of his collection of Zululand and explained to the members some of the highlights of the collection.

Mrs. Foss brought up the cost of posting the magazine due to the increase in postal rates and proposed that the magazine should become bi-monthly. After a discussion it was decided that

the magazine should remain as it was.

Union Cup. There was only one exhibit for this Cup — the Cup was not awarded.

Swop Night — 18th November. Dr. Duncan welcomed two distinguished visitors from America — Dr. and Mrs. Heffernor from Texas. He also welcomed Mr. and Mrs. Davis from England. He said he was very pleased to see Mrs. Betty Bevis.

Dr. Duncan mentioned that on President's Night Mr. C. Whysall would be exhibiting one of his exhibits that gained an award at Port Elizabeth. He also thanked Mr. Goote for the donation of a Javanese doll and through the kind services of Mrs. Zarnack it had been sold for R10 which would be put into the Congress Funds.

Members were able to view Mrs. Zarnack's exhibit "Footsteps on the Moon", which had gained a Bronze Medal at Port Elizabeth. A novel note was introduced when Mrs. Zarnack handed out forms giving the points that could be awarded to an exhibit and invited the members to do some judging of her exhibit.

EAST LONDON PHILATELIC SOCIETY

December. Our last meeting of the year is "President's Evening", when the competition for the President's Cup takes place, and when the President arranges for the display. There were 4 entries for the Cup, namely Mrs. M. Ashford, "East Africa"; Mr. J. Morris, "Interprovincials"; Mr. J. P. Shingler, "Favourites"; and Mr. T. D. Radue, "Bosnia and Herzegovina", with the last-named being awarded the Cup for 1970. Mr. Hellman had arranged to show the superb collection of "Art through the Ages" from Mr. Goldblatt of Parow, and we were indeed privileged to view it, with the novel mounting and presentation. The thanks of all members are due to Mr. Goldblatt for sending along the collection for us to view.

Members were treated to a cheese and wine party after the feast of stamps had been digested, and the evening was enjoyed by all.

THEMATIC STAMP CLUB NOTES

September 15, 1970. Capt. M. F. Stern showed his latest thematic collection "Napoleon I" which was to be shown in the Court of Honour at SETPEX. This was well received.

October 20, 1970. This was an "All Members" evening when the following showed: "Sports" by F. L. Archer; "Trains" and "Flowers" by Mr. Robertson — these were sent to the Thematic Exhibition TOPEX 70 where "African Flowers" gained a third award; "Stamp shapes to come" by Mrs. V. Coe — interesting to see the curious shapes of stamps.

November 17, 1970. Dr. Ackermann showed his interesting "Pictorial Issues of Great Britain".

December 15, 1970. This was President's Night when many juniors and new members attended. Dr. P. L. Vautier showed "Christmas Stamps" and "Japanese and French Antarctic Covers". This was followed by two films of Mr. Shevelew depicting his visit to Spain and Portugal, which were enjoyed.

AFRIKAANSE FILATELISTEVERENIGING

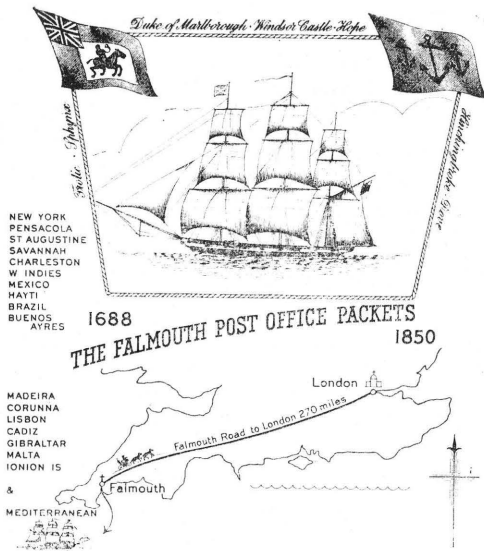
Desember. Die dertigtal teenwoordiges is vergas op 'n wedstryd van die jonglede (13 jonglede was ook by die vergadering). Die gehalte was goed en as wenner is deur die beoordelaars, mnre. Bakker en Vermaak, aangewys 'n pragtige versameling van heraldiek op seëls deur P. Lurie.

EXPERT COMMITTEE

The next meeting of the Expert Committee of the Philatelic Federation of Southern Africa will be held on Saturday, February 17th, 1971.

The Falmouth Post Office Packets 1688 - 1850

By M. F. Stern, R.D.P., F.R.P.S.L.



In 1960 there was an Exhibition at the National Maritime Museum, Greenwich, England and Mr. Alan Robertson, during the International Stamp Exhibition, London, in that year was invited by the Trustees of the National Museum to stage this Maritime Exhibition at the Museum of Seaborne Mail covering the last 300 years. A special die stamped commemorative cover was designed by him as illustrated. During the first week of the exhibition a special postmark showing a Post Office Packet was used on all mail posted at the Exhibition. The authorities then asked that a de luxe souvenir be prepared mainly for presentation to various VIPs. This was in the form of a specially bound album with gold

stamping. 100 covers to go into same were prepared, but because of damage and pilfering, only 90 sets finally could be made use of. I was indeed fortunate in being offered from England from a deceased Estate one of these souvenir albums, which seldom come on the market and in the following I shall endeavour to describe the contents. These registered covers received the date stamp of arrival at place of destination and as a result compared with the times taken by the Post Office Sailing Packets a century or more ago. The Album that I have is numbered 43.

After a description as frontispiece, there is a page of contents. Page 1 shows an old painting of Post Office Packets in 1810 with right "Diana" Capt. A. Schuyler and left "The Princess of Wales", Capt. Lovell Todd. Page 2 gives a reproduction of the Daily Statement of the Packet Boats, General Post Office, Thursday, August 27th 1812 (Post Office Records). Page 3 depicts a painting of the Packet "Sheldrake" (Admiralty 10 Gun Brig) in Falmouth Harbour, 1832 (painting by N. Cody, National Maritime Museum). Page 4 gives in full colour the Falmouth Post Office Packets flags and Commanders in 1827. In all 38 vessels are mentioned. Then on pages 5 to 21 inclusive, are mounted the registered letters despatched to the following points as shown on the commemorative cover, followed in brackets (a) time taken in 1960 and (b) time taken by the Falmouth Sailing Packets. viz: New York (2, 40-45 days), Pensacola (2, 40-45 days), St. Augustine (3, 40-45 days), Savannah (3, 40-45 days), Charlestown (3, 40-45 days), Jamaica (3, 50-60 days), Vera Cruz (4, 60-65 days), Haiti (4, 50-60 days), Rio (-, 60-65 days), Buenos Aires (3, 60-75 days), Madeira (6, 30-35 days), Corunna (2, 24-27 days), Lisbon (1, 22-25 days), Cadiz (2, 24-27 days), Gibraltar (1, 25-28 days), Malta (2, 45-50 days) and Cirfu (3, 50-55 days). Pages 22 to 27 show the concurrent Post Office issue of Postal stationery in April 1960, cancelled at the Exhibition with the special cancellation. These show the 2½d postcard, the 3d letter card, the 3d embossed envelope, the 6d air letter, the 1s 3d registered letter envelope, and 3d embossed postcard. Incidentally postage on the letters mentioned before was 1s 6d and each letter shows a different assortment of the stamps to make up this amount, thus providing the whole issue up to the 1s 6d value. Finally page 28 shows a painting by Samuel Walters, National Maritime Museum, of the first type of Post Office Steam Packet introduced on Mail service in home waters in the 1820's.

PHILATELISTS' RENDEZVOUS

THE ROYAL PHILATELIC SOCIETY OF CAPE TOWN

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Telephone 64306 (evenings)

THE PRETORIA PHILATELIC SOCIETY

meets on the first Monday of every month
in the
Council Chamber of the Technical College
Church Street East, Pretoria.
at 7.45 p.m.
VISITORS CORDIALLY WELCOMED.
P.O. Box 514, Pretoria.

THE PHILATELIC SOCIETY OF JOHANNESBURG

meets twice a month: Second Tuesday and
fourth Monday at
Room 75, Public Library, Johannesburg
at 8 p.m.
VISITORS ARE WELCOME.
Hon. Secretary,
P.O. Box 4967, Johannesburg.

THE AEROPHILATELIC SOCIETY OF SOUTHERN AFRICA

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and other interesting items — more than
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THE PRETORIA RAILWAY PHILATELIC SOCIETY

meets on the second Wednesday of every
month in the
Railway Recreation Club, Berea Park,
Pretoria, at 8 p.m.
P.O. Box 2388, Pretoria.
ALL PHILATELISTS ARE WELCOME.

SOCIETY OF ISRAEL PHILATELY

Meets on the 1st Monday of every month
at 8.15 p.m.
Burlington House Boardroom (2nd Floor),
c/r. Bissik & Marshall Streets,
Johannesburg.
ALL WELCOME.
Secretary P.O. Box 11502, Johannesburg.

THE SOUTH AFRICAN STAMP STUDY CIRCLE

meets at 2.15 p.m. on the second Saturday of
every month in the
Staff Tea Lounge, Basement, Corner House,
Corner Sauer and Commissioner Streets,
Johannesburg (Commissioner St. Entrance).
ALL INTERESTED IN SOUTH AFRICAN
PHILATELY ARE WELCOME.
Secretary: N. Becker
P.O. Box 9505, Johannesburg.
Telephone: 838-4679; Home 45-5452

THE EAST RAND PHILATELIC SOCIETY

P.O. Box 483, Benoni. (Hon. Secretary).
Meetings every 2nd Monday in the month
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WANTED: Rhodesian Postmarks, on or off cover (pre-1923). Offers to J. M. Weinstein, 479a Fehrnsen Street, Brooklyn, Pretoria.

WANTED.—Accumulations, Collections. Office Lots on and off paper. Turn those old boxes of philatelic "junk" into cash, or exchange it with us for stamps, albums or accessories that you need. — ROBEMARK PHILATELISTS (PTY.) LTD., 21 Joubert Street, Johannesburg. Box 11419.

COLLECTIONS WANTED for immediate cash settlement: Large or small, specialised or general. Top prices paid for popular sets and rare issues in fine condition.—ELIEZER BLUM, P.O. Box 1669, Cape Town. (Established in Cape Town since 1930).

EXCHANGE: Want South and S.W. Africa, Mauritius, old S. African Provinces. I give Europe & Br. Commonwealth. Nils Jansson, Kungsgatornsgatan 24, 214-61 Malmö, Sweden.

ACCUMULATIONS, ODD LOTS of Southern Africa wanted. Union Stamp Co., 15, Barbican Bldg. P.O. Box 10225, Phone 838-5879.

U.P.U. 1949: First Day Covers in fine condition wanted. Offers to B. Seelig, P.O. Box 5521, Johannesburg.

GERMAN SOUTH WEST AFRICA: Wanted early fore-runners on cover or on piece, or any other items of interest. Top prices paid. L. ABRAMS, P.O. Box 7875, Johannesburg. Telephone: Office 22-1630; home 41-9251.

SOUTH AFRICAN COLLECTORS' SOCIETY for the Union Collector—magazine, exchange packet. Subscription 15/- year. — Write Hon. Secretary, R. E. MASON, 38 Rosslyn Avenue, Harold Wood, Essex, England.

LATVIA (Lettland; Lettonie) out of the way items and bulk common stamps wanted.— J. Michelson, P.O. Box 9314, Johannesburg.

"MAGNIFY" (Official Journal of the Royal Philatelic Society of Rhodesia) is available to the public at 20c per copy post free. Write to Box 803, Bulawayo. Limited quantities of back numbers are available.

U.S.A. SPECIALIST requires singles, blocks, covers, cancellations. A. R. Kleiner, 23 Cadogan Gardens, London S.W. 3, England.

WORLDWIDE PHILATELIC PUBLICATIONS! U.S.A., England, France, Germany, etc. Free subscription price list. — Bedard Publications, Box 5215 — SA1, Detroit, Michigan 48236, U.S.A.

BECHUANALAND, BOTSWANA, ZAMBIA: Good commercially used per 10, 100, 1,000. Your cheapest source of supply. Let us quote you. — Phoenix Stamp Co. (Canterbury) Ltd., 8 Pencester Road, Dover, Kent, England.

GERMAN Concentration Camp Covers, Ghetto Covers, Military Covers and forgeries, Post-War locals, etc. wanted. C. A. Whysall, P.O. Box 676, Durban.

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The South African Philatelist

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**The Philatelic Fed-
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Stamp Policy: Dawn Of A New Era

South Africa is to get a new stamp issuing policy, while the services and facilities of the Philatelic Bureau in Pretoria are to be expanded and modernised.

This was revealed by Mr. Herman Steyn, the newly appointed head of the Philatelic Bureau, in an interview with the S.A. Philatelist.

Mr. Steyn said that it had been decided to revise the Republic's stamp policy, and that a new policy was now being drafted. The policy would be more "outward looking" and would provide for the issue of more commemorative stamps.

He referred to the Editorial in the January issue of The S.A. Philatelist, under the heading "Our Future Stamps", and said that the very points raised by The S.A.P. were being seriously considered by the Post Office. For one thing, the definite sets are going to have a shorter term of service.

New issues will be planned at least two years ahead, and steps will be taken to make postage stamp designing more competitive. There was, however, little the Post Office could do to make the stamps more attractive before the new stamp printing press was installed in the Government Printing Works.

As part of the modernisation programme of the Post Office, the Philatelic Bureau would be rationalised, and its services expanded. The services to philatelists would be speeded up, and mechanised where possible.

BULLETIN

Mr. Steyn said that it was under consideration to turn the

Philatelic Bulletin into a monthly publication. He hoped that it would be possible to shape the bulletin partly on the lines of its British counterpart, so as to include news about postmarks, postal history, designs accepted and rejected, and so on. This would also entail major changes in the production of the bulletin.

The Bureau plans to establish personal contact with philatelic societies and philatelists, and to this end Mr. Steyn intends to visit all societies within reach of Pretoria.

His task will also be the promotion of stamp collecting in general, and "I am going to bend my efforts in this direction." The fostering of stamp collecting in schools would be a main aim — his personal belief is that young collectors in South Africa do not receive the encouragement they should be getting.

ANOTHER F.R.P.S.L. TO SOUTH AFRICA

After going to press with our previous number, news was received that Mr. J. W. T. Wannerton had been elected a Fellow of the Royal Philatelic Society of London. Although belated, we now extend our congratulations in respect of the honour bestowed upon him.

Editorial

The Hardy Annual: A New Approach

At several past Congresses of the Philatelic Federation of Southern Africa, including the most recent 1969 one, discussion was centered upon ways and means of increasing support of the Federation's publication, The South African Philatelist.

Many suggestions of goodwill evolved, but no practical aid was forthcoming, the matter being left in the same "status quo" condition as signified by the recently adopted resolution "that it be left to individuals to decide for themselves whether they wished to subscribe to The S.A. Philatelist, but every avenue be explored to promote circulation."

These are cold words of comfort and not new, for arising out of previous concern for the journal, it was resolved at the Fifth Philatelic Congress held at Pretoria on 13th and 14th October, 1934, that "Congress recommends to constituent societies that a subscription to the S.A. Philatelist be included in each member's annual dues."

At many subsequent Congresses, and Executive Committee meetings, similar sentiments have been expressed on providing financial aid for The S.A. Philatelist, but no practical assistance has ever evolved.

Meanwhile rising costs of publication and distribution have to be met; also the journal is conscious of the fact that, relieved of financial embarrassment, it could extend its contents and so increase its publication value. Thus realising that financial assistance will never be forthcoming from the earlier expressed sentiments, and rather than submit to the inevitable, The S.A. Philatelist feels justified in taking steps of its own for its self-preservation, and in this respect for the benefit of South African Philately.

Accordingly, the journal has recently increased its advertisement rates with no detrimental results, and now presents a further aspect, namely to place the "Society Notes" feature upon an advertisement basis instead of a free inclusion as at present.

In this respect it is suggested that Societies would enter into an agreement with the Business Manager, through the Publications Committee, for a standing annual eighth, quarter or half page 'paid advertisement space' included

under the "Society News" heading, for the reception of their News Articles.

If implemented, this innovation would result in revenue accruing to the journal from two or three full-page advertisements in every issue, an acceptable aspect, while the payments would not seriously affect the financial resources of almost all affiliated Societies, special concessions being given to the weaker ones.

It would also have the further advantage of permitting the many Societies who are sympathetically inclined towards contributing aid towards the journal but who are not prepared to do so by making the subscription to The S.A. Philatelist a compulsory condition of membership. At present there is only one Society which enforces a subscription to The S.A.P. as a condition of membership — an extremely valuable assistance to the journal.

If this innovation were adopted, we do not foresee any appreciable reduction in the number of submitted "Society News" articles, for we are under the impression that Societies do look expectingly for the publication of their "News", a condition which may be illustrated by the fact that should a particular news item not appear in the current publication, due to its late receipt, an enquiry is likely to be received from the Society concerned as to its absence.

And finally, as a criticism of the journal, it has been said that "Society News" is the first portion of The S.A. Philatelist to be read — and the only worth-while portion!

Comment is invited from our readers.

The Editor.

New Postmarks

A new machine slogan cancellation is to be introduced on 1st March 1971 at the general post offices of Pretoria, Johannesburg, Pietermaritzburg, Durban, East London, Port Elizabeth, Cape Town, Kimberley, Bloemfontein and Windhoek. The slogan contains the metrication symbol (the letter "m" in an oval) and the wording is "Think Metric — Dink Metriek".

SOUTH AFRICAN NOTES

by *Dr. H. J. Raubenheimer*

A NEW 2½c DEFINITIVE STAMP 419 418 A AND B PHOSPHORISED

DELIVERY DATE: 20 January 1971.

SHEET FORMAT: horizontal, 2 panes A and B. B having been on the left of A.

STAMP FORMAT: Vertical, 100 stamps per sheet (5 rows x 20). Printed on the Goebel 840 machine.

CYLINDERS: two new, cross lined screened, being numbers 418 interior, bright green and 419 exterior, light reddish violet. These numbers, in their colour together with the pane letter A or B in violet, are shown on the left margin opposite row 5. From previous multipositives.



PAPER: Coated, Harrison, RSA water-marked, the marks being in tete beche formation, showing left and right facing.

ARROWS: violet, centrally placed on the top and bottom margins.

MARGINAL BARS: violet, on the left and

right margins are single broken lines with an extended central gap. There is a large whitish patch in the bottom segment of the left bar of pane A.

SHEET NUMBERS: 5 figure black, type II, twice per sheet, on pane A, below stamps 1 and 2 and again 12 and 13.

COLOUR REGISTER: consists of two concentric circles, divided by a cross, all of broken lines and in the two colours superimposed, on the bottom margin of pane A below stamp no. 9.

DENSITOMETER COLOUR PATCHES: two, green and violet, on the bottom margin of pane B and the top margin of pane A, respectively below and above stamps 14 and 15. The green is to the left of the violet.

STEP WEDGES: violet, numbered from 1 to 19, on the bottom margin of pane B and the top margin of pane A respectively below and above stamps 4 to 8.

PERFORATION REGISTER PUNCH HOLES: Are on the bottom margin of pane A, within the violet concentric circles, and the top margin of pane B, without the circles, respectively below and above stamps 14 and 15.

PERFORATIONS: By the Grover two row machine gauge 14 (14 x 13 75). The left margins are perforated through; the others are imperforate but the top and bottom margins have the single extra hole at each end of the vertical rows of perforation.

Judging by the first sheets delivered, this is the best printed Constantia stamps of the series. Registration is good and the very few varieties require magnification to be seen. Only one can be clearly seen by the naked eye. It is on pane A, row 3 no. 4. "Tiny violet dot at the right of the top window."

New Registration Envelopes

A new issue was made in January 1971 from the same three printers as before. They are Pirie Appleton — similar to the previous one; John Dickinson — similar to the previous one but the language order is reversed. Spicers — similar to the previous one but the language order is reversed and now white paper instead of cream.

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Mr. and Mrs. Bale will be at the Exhibition R.S.A. 10 in Cape Town in May 1971 and previous to that will be in Johannesburg to meet old and new clients. Contact addresses will be advised in due course.

See me at R.S.A. 10 — Stand 25

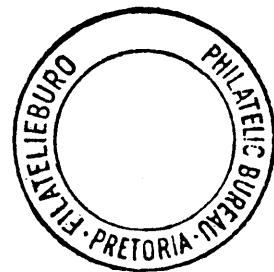
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ILFRACOMBE, ENGLAND



REPUBLIEK VAN SUID-AFRIKA
REPUBLIC OF SOUTH AFRICA



A Philatelic Bureau exists in Pretoria to meet the special needs of stamp dealers and philatelists. Only stamps of the Republic of South Africa currently in use are on sale.

Orders for stamps should be addressed to the Philatelic Bureau, G.P.O., Pretoria, and must be accompanied by money orders, postal orders or bank drafts made payable to the Postmaster General. Cheques are not accepted unless guaranteed by a bank. The amount should be sufficient to cover postage and registration.

Deposit accounts may be opened.

'n Filatelieburo bestaan in Pretoria om in die spesiale behoeftes van seëlhandelaars en filateliste te voorsien. Slegs seëls van die Republiek van Suid-Afrika tans in gebruik word te koop aangebied.

Bestellings vir seëls moet gedresseer word aan die Filatelieburo, H.P.K., Pretoria, en moet vergesel gaan van poswissels, posorders of bankwissels, betaalbaar aan die Posmeester-generaal. Tjeks word nie aange- neem nie, tensy dit deur 'n bank gewaarborg is. Die bedrag moet voldoende wees om die pos- en registrasiegelde te dek.

Depositorekenings kan geopen word.

The previous issue was made in June 1970 and was described in our August 1970 issue of the S.A. Philatelist.

5c Pictorial Aerogrammes

A new issue was made in Mid January 1971 of our pictorial aerogrammes. Almost identical to the two issued in January 1969 showing Union Building and Heerengracht Cape Town, these show Botanical Gardens, Cape Town, Joubert Park Johannesburg, Golden Gate Highlands and Durban. As before, the 5c stamp is not phosphorised. A minor change will be noticed in the address tablet; the five white lines are now much thicker than before. The aerogrammes are sold at 5c each.

Datestamps for R.S.A. 10

More than a dozen special datestamps are to be used in conjunction with RSA 10, the celebrations for the tenth anniversary of the Republic, from 22nd to 31st May 1971 in Cape Town.

At the Goodwood Showgrounds, the main venue for RSA 10 activities, there are to be a number of post boxes and all mail posted there will receive a circular datestamp reading "Kaapstad RSA 10 Cape Town". There will be eight such datestamps, numbered 1 to 8.

The RSA 10 post office will be a general post office, with a philatelic counter attached.

Special datestamps will be applied to mail posted in designated boxes on a number of days, being Youth Day, Air Force Day, Navy Day, Army Day and Republic Day (31st May).

Two of the four commemorative stamps will be issued on 22nd May: a 5c value showing the J. G. Strijdom Microwave Tower in Johannesburg, and a 12½c value depicting the Antarctic Treaty.

The other two stamps will be issued on May 31st — the 2c will commemorate the British Settlers and the 4c will picture President Kruger, President Steyn and the Vereeniging monument.

During the RSA 10 period Field Post Offices will be in operation for the convenience

of Defence Force members taking part in the military displays.

Further details will soon be announced by the Philatelic Bureau in Pretoria.

On May 26th, a "parachute mail" will be arranged and the RSA 10 Philatelic Exhibition Committee will apply an appropriate cachet to all covers carried.

J. G.

Publicity Stickers

The use of two stamp-like publicity stickers has been noted last year, which is perhaps an indication that the use of propaganda labels is on the increase.

The first is a fairly large-sized label for the 50th anniversary of the S.A. Association of



Municipal Employees and the second, for the Simon van der Stel Foundation's congress in Stellenbosch, has a "double perforation" — a printed one, as part of the design, and a punched one. The stickers are illustrated.

Both were found used on cover.

Robertson Stamp Co. (Pty.) Ltd.

P.O. Box 5826 JOHANNESBURG

are closing their shop premises on 6th March 1971 and moving to an address in Natal, from where they will carry on a postal business liquidating their important stock of British Commonwealth and South African stamps.

This move has become necessary owing to the indifferent health of the Proprietors, who are glad to have been of some assistance to collectors for nearly 50 years and whom they thank for their patronage. New address will be announced later.

Roll of Honour of Distinguished South African Philatelists



Kenneth Edward Wykeham Lydall was born in Pretoria on 1st March, 1910. He matriculated at King Edward VII School, Johannesburg, and intended originally to become an actuary. However, circumstances determined that this was not to be the case and he took up Social Science and later Personnel Management.

He started collecting stamps at the age of eight and, apart from a period on active service, he has maintained his interest ever since. It was during the war, in Greece, that he became interested in the stamps of that country and obtained his first stamps in Athens.

Mr. Lydall has collected the stamps of South Africa since his school days, but due to the influence of the late Dr. Harvey Pirie, he became more interested in South African postmarks, meter franks and postal history.

He became a member of the Philatelic Society of Johannesburg in 1947 and acted as its Treasurer for many years, later serving as President on several occasions. He represented that Society on the Federation Executive Committee for about 14 years before becoming its Secretary in May 1965, a position he still holds.

He was an early member of the S.A. Stamp Study Circle and served as its President for two years. He is also a foundation member of the S.A. Postmark Society.

Mr. Lydall was married in 1942 and has a large and happy family. One of his younger sons shows signs of becoming a serious philatelist.

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Thematics In 1970

It is little known that in the world scene South Africa has played quite a big part in world thematics. Many matters concerning this side of stamp collecting have been referred to South Africa for clarity and Milton Stern was asked to serve earlier in the year on an International Committee dealing with the judging and scale for use in thematics. This was really most interesting as the original request to serve came from the thematic collectors in Great Britain. Since the last couple of years that country is at last entering seriously into this part of collecting and have like we in South Africa and the United States been worried over the FIP Scale and rulings.

Fortunately Milton Stern is also in close touch with FIP and on their Thematic Commission. Thus it has been able to pass on the points raised both from South Africa, the U.S.A. and Great Britain to the FIP Thematic Commission. Originally he served on the Commission when the union of FIP and FIPCO took place and at that time put in a minority report. This year many of those points are now being agreed upon after the failure of the FIP rules. It is not correct to be dictatorial but to consider carefully all suggestions where they are for the good of the hobby. This year (1970) FIP had their meeting at Philymphia and many items were discussed including the controversial question regarding the point raised that a thematic collection could consist only of postmarks. FIP as also A.T.A. (U.S.A.) and Great Britain have decided that "Stamps are the main part of a thematic collection and postmarks subsidiary, where they bear illustration of the theme or topic." It is hoped that this decision will be accepted.

In regard to Scale of Judging, there is every likelihood that the International Scale will be that of A.T.A. and South Africa (the old FIPCO Scale). This Scale is workable and flexible and at the same time defines clearly the two sections of Thematics. Unfortunately Great Britain still calls Thematics "Subject Collecting" while on the Continent of Europe it is called "Constructive", and in the U.S.A. "Topical Collecting". But by using the wording "Subject Collecting" this has brought about the inclusion of collections at Exhibitions, which do not confirm to the general rulings of what a thematic or topical collection really is,

and furthermore should be included under "Miscellaneous" as done here in South Africa. As Regional Vice-President of A.T.A. Milton Stern was able to pass onto that body his impressions gained at our exhibitions and also the ideas put forward to him by philatelists overseas, thematic and otherwise, for consideration. But it was interesting to study the results of overseas exhibitions, such as the various international and local ones such as TOPEX 70. It would seem that there are differences in the outlook of juries, which is understandable, but in general their views coincide with those of the U.S.A. and South Africa. Meanwhile there will be a complete revision of the much debated and disliked FIP Scale.

It is of interest that postmarks are being allowed for the scale under the heading of "Philatelic Considerations". Postmarks are indeed interesting and serve not only as an adjunct to thematics but are an important part of Postal History. The study of these postmarks is long overdue. The main thing arising out of the 1970 year is that there is a freedom for setting up thematic collections provided that the main points agreed upon by the vast majority of such collectors are carried out — the stamps being the main thing and not overshadowed by non-philatelic matter or write-up, that non-philatelic items are not included, that a search made for originality, neatness in write-up, and other points which have been discussed by this journal over the last few years.

Thematics if done well, is a real study of a subject and no longer is the "children's collections" of the past. Perhaps it is even more difficult in many ways than a country collection. There are many thematic collectors who have rewritten their collections even as many times as five to achieve the best result. Thus 1970 has been an interesting year and many steps taken to consolidate throughout the world of what really constitutes a thematic or topical collection.

Lastly it is of further interest that South African thematic collectors have gained good results at internationals in 1970, namely at TOPEX 70, the London Thematic International, and at Philymphia 70, This all proves that we in South Africa are on the right lines.

M.F.S.

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**Orange Free State Corner
ORANJE VRIJSTAATSCH
SPOORWEGEN**

by

A. G. M. Batten, F.R.P.S.L.

For some time past I have been interested in certain postal aspects of the Orange Free State Railways covering the period from 17th December 1890, when the line from Norval's Pont (on the Cape border) was opened to Bloemfontein, until March 1900, when all the railways in the Cape, Transvaal and O.F.S. were placed under unified control as the Imperial Military Railways, which continued until after the South African War, when the Central South African Railways took them over.

Some fifteen years ago, when sorting through numbers of O.F.S. postmarks, I came across several which instead of the more usual O.V.S. found at the base of the circular datestamps, showed O.V.S.S.



Eventually I found such marks from three towns, "Smaldeel", Vredefort Weg" and "Wolvehoek". All three are railway junctions, and all are well north of Bloemfontein.

"Smaldeel" as readers will know has been

identified with Theunissen (the name under which it still appears in the railway timetable), which is the junction for the Winburg branch line. "Wolvehoek" is on the main line at the junction of the branch to Heilbron. The third, "Vredefort Weg", had been known as Heilbron Road until its name was changed on 31st January 1899.

To date I have only come across some two dozen of these marks — four on cover — all of which, with two exceptions, were used in 1899. The earliest date (not a very clear mark) is 11th January and the first clear date is 21st March. The two exceptions are dates in 1900, respectively in March and April.

These postmarks are illustrated.

The fourth item with O.V.S.S. rubber stamped in purple on a stamp already overprinted V.R.I., with level stops, is most unusual. The late Mr. W. Newlands considered this to be a security measure. If so, why only at Smaldeel? Both the examples in my possession are dated 15th March (1900) and bear the "Smaldeel" circular datestamp again showing O.V.S.S. Both seem to have been used on telegrams, but then, the same cancellers were used in general for both postal and telegraphic purposes.

New Publications

Collect British Stamps, a Stanley Gibbons Check List, published by Stanley Gibbons, price 4/6 (22½p).

A new edition in a handy pocket size with the prices thoroughly revised and expressed in the new decimal currency, concisely arranged and clearly printed.

The Stamp Year Book 71, a 'Stamp Magazine' and 'Stamp Monthly' production, published by Link House Publications Limited, Croydon, England, and priced 7/6 (37½p).

A highly commendable publication running to some 120 pages, fully illustrated and containing a diversity of articles suitable for all tastes.

Handbook on U.S. Luminescent Stamps, 1970-1971 Edition, by Alfred G. Boergen and John S. Stark. Published and distributed by Alfred G. Boergen, Box 23822, Fort Lauderdale, Fla 33307, 112 pages, enamelled paper cover, price \$4.00.

A study of the beginnings and an indispensable guide to the continued progress in the growth of luminescent stamps.

THE SOUTH AFRICAN POSTMARK SOCIETY

Two Years of Progress

Founded on the 1st May, 1969, this, the youngest of the specialised group in the vast sphere embraced by the words "South Africa", may be justly proud of its modest beginning.

Inspired by a suggestion from Dr. T. B. Berry in this journal in February, 1969, some fifteen persons indicated an interest in such a study group and were the lucky recipients of Newsletter No. 1, compiled by our first editor, Mr. W. C. Kunn of Somerset West. This very creditable first issue, with Newsletter Nos. 2, 3 and 4, actually typed and prepared by Mr. Kunn, so that each copy that he prepared actually bears his personal imprint, that to some of us has that extra touch of charm about it.

The Society's Newsletter has now reached its 10th whole number. Between these pages are to be found notes and illustrations of the greatest interest and importance to postmark enthusiasts, and which are nowhere else recorded. Original studies have been prepared for the Society's publication, and we have had the good fortune to be able to illustrate much of the material described, and so improve the quality of our offerings.

The efforts of a few individuals have largely been responsible for this satisfactory position. The enthusiasm displayed by our Hon. Editor, Mr. W. C. Kunn, and the erudition of our major contributors, Mr. D. Allison, Dr. T. B. Berry, Mr. A. L. Leon and Mr. J. G. Walker deserve to be widely acknowledged.

For this reason I believe that this brief note of our progress should be brought to the attention of our fellow philatelists. Those of our readers who have the slightest interest in the study of POSTMARKS of our country (or its previous constituents) would be doing themselves a service by linking up with the South African Postmark Society.

The annual subscription has been set at R2.00 and could be sent with an application to join us to our Hon. Treasurer, c/o P.O. Box 67031, Bryanston, Transvaal.

J. M. Weinstein, R.D.P.

Letters To The Editor

The S.A. Handbook

Dear Sir,

I am a collector of S.A. stamps and no doubt there must be very many other keen collectors in this present day. Would you not agree that it is high time that we saw a new specialized handbook for S.A. stamps on the market?

To take a brief look at the past, there is the Handbook/Catalogue of the Union of South Africa stamps issued 26th March 1952. Although out of print, a copy of this can still be obtained from time to time at a reasonable price of R2 to R3. This takes us up to 1949 and I must add that this handbook contains a sea of information to the S.A. philatelist.

Then there is a further Handbook, which I think covers a period to 1955, which I am unable to obtain. After that comes the S.A. Handbook (Golden Jubilee Edition 1960, which is going at a ridiculous price of around R25 plus — a sum of money such as this would much rather be spent on more S.A. stamps. Finally we have the RSA stamp catalogue published by the Arcade Stamp Shop. This little book has been very useful indeed as regards technical details of recent issues in the sixties, but lacks the detail published in the old Handbooks.

If all the "South African Notes" published in your magazine could be collected and issued in book form, I feel sure that it would prove to be a jewel amongst philatelic literature.

Yours faithfully,
O. J. PEETOOM,
Liverpool, England.

Watermark on some S.A. Issues

Dear Sir,

Chivalry demands that I should respond to the appeal for comments contained in the letter from Mrs. Bey Deyssel, published in the January number of the S.A.P.

She is, I am sure, quite correct in suggesting that there was every intention that the paper on which the stamps of the Republic have been printed, should have had a clear watermark, and that it was due to some defect in the manufacturing process that this has not always been the case.

Although it would not have taken place in the manner she outlined, I think she could also be correct in saying that a clear watermark

could become fainter or disappear through too much pressure being applied during the cylindering and finishing process.

This then leaves only one alternative explanation, that the watermark was not properly impressed in the first place, and this could have happened in several ways.

Obviously the paper cannot be watermarked until it is paper, and at the appropriate stage this is done by wetting the web of the paper — hence the name — and passing it between the "dandy roll", which is a wire cylinder to which patterns or devices have been welded, and a pressure roller.

At this stage the paper could already have been too compressed to receive a clear watermark, in spite of the wetting. Lastly, not enough water could have been used or enough pressure applied to the dandy roll.

S. J. HAGGER.

India Stops Stamping Mail To Expedite Postal Service

If a Posts and Telegraphs "efficiency measure" in India is fully implemented, one would not even know how late the postman has delivered the mail, says S. Sohan Singh Chowdery, for it has been decided to do away with the system of stamping the date and time of delivery on letters and other postal articles in India.

The decision, Chowdery says, taken at a conference of postmasters general some time ago, has been approved in principle by the Posts and Telegraphs board. The measure has already been introduced in some post offices in the capital and some other cities of India.

The ostensible aim of this measure, Chowdery adds, is to eliminate the time consuming stamping process to expedite the delivery of the post. But when delay occurs in transit the person receiving the letter will not be in a position to know at what stage his letter remained unattended and for how long.

The Conference of Postmasters-General had recommended that India should fall in line with other countries and dispense with the system of stamping the mail, Chowdery notes.

It was argued that the measure would help save thousands of man hours besides streamlining the postal delivery system, he adds. The P and T board accepted the suggestion in principle and directed the regional offices to introduce the measure on a limited scale and extend it gradually.

Acknowledgement "Linn's Stamp News"

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A 'G.W.' Variety Brought to Light

The stamps of Griqualand West are known for the numerous varieties of the "G" overprint applied to Cape of Good Hope stamps to denote the issues of the "diamond territory" brought under British control in 1871. However, SG 2, the Cape penny stamp with the "G.W.", was always thought of as having only a standard overprint — in fact, the "G.W." until now has not been illustrated in the Gibbons catalogues.

The December 1970 issue of Stamp Monthly, the Stanley Gibbons magazine, illustrates two distinct types of "G.W." found se-tenant in a pair affixed to a mutilated cover addressed to England.

The cover is in the collection of Mr. J. M. Weinstein, R.D.P., of Pretoria, who noted that one stamp has the lightly seriffed 'G' normally found, while the other has heavy serifs and a narrower, condensed appearance. While the stops in the latter overprint are slightly larger. Gibbons named them Type I and Type II respectively.

A previously unrecorded oval datestamp on the cover (which was formerly in the Burrus collection) attracted the attention of "The Philatelist" 21 years ago, and a photograph of it was published on page 105 of that journal's issue of January, 1950. The oval has DOUGLAS / W.G.L. / JU 19 / 1877, and the stamps are also cancelled with a barred numeral 5.

G. W. Type I

G. W. Type II

Stamp Monthly publishes a photograph of the cover, and an enlargement of the two types of lettering. The latter is reproduced here with our full acknowledgement to Stanley Gibbons Limited.

The Editor of Stamp Monthly states in the article that "consideration is now being given to including this new discovery in the Gibbons Catalogue and the Editor would be pleased to hear from any specialist who has further information (or, upon investigation, further examples) of this item."

Die Interprovinsiale Seëls van Suid-Afrika

Dit is altyd interessant om met 'n versameelaar oor seëls te gesels en veral as sy eie versameling onder bespreking kom, word die gesprek deurgaans baie lewendig. In die meeste gevalle draai dit dan uit op 'n monoloog, waarby die geduldige lusiteraar alleen maar hoef te skud met sy kop of sy bewondering uitdruk met 'n veelbetekende tsj, tsj.

Hulle wat die seëls van Suid-Afrika versamel is nie 'n uitsondering nie, en dit is verklaarbaar omdat ons land se uitgawes vir die ernstige versamelaar by uitstek geskik is om entoesiasies oor te raak.

Sodra die gesprek beweeg in die rigting van volledigheid van die versameling Suid-Afrikaanse seëls, word dit saak vir die luisteraar om op hy hoede te wees. Dit mag seker as vanselfsprekend aanvaar word dat daar nie soiets as 'n komplette versameling bestaan nie en veral kan ons so sê van Suid-Afrika-versamelings. Daar is inderdaad so 'n geweldige verskeidenheid van uitgawes wat dieselfde lyk, maar tog van mekaar verskil, dat ervare filateliste allerlei hulpmiddels moet gebruik om hulle uit te ken. Gelukkig is daar katalogusse verkrygbaar wat 'n aantal van die verskille duidelik maak en sodoende die taak van die filatelis 'n bietjie vergemaklik.

Dieselfde katalogusse maak egter nie melding van 'n periode in ons posgeskiedenis wat uiters belangrik is nie. Dié periode is bekend as die „Interprovinsiale Periode” en dit is hieroor wat ons nou 'n bietjie sal gesels.

Die opmerksame versamelaar sal weet dat die eerste seël van die Unie van Suid-Afrika uitgegee is op 4 November 1910, ter geleentheid van die opening van die eerste Unie-Parlement in Kaapstad. Almal weet ook dat die Unie van Suid-Afrika gevorm is uit die vroeëre kolonies: Kaapland, Oranjerivierkolonie, Natal en Transvaal. Die datum waarop dit plaasgevind het was 31 Mei 1910. Eers later in dieselfde jaar is voorstelle gemaak om 'n nuwe stel seëls uit te gee en om 'n lank uitgerekte prosedure uit te skakel sal ons hier volstaan deur te meld dat die nuwe uitgawe, gedeeltelik altans, sy verskyning gemaak het op 1 September 1913.

Hieruit volg dat gedurende die periode 31 Mei 1910 tot 1 September 1913 ('n periode van 3 jaar en 3 maande) geen Unie-seëls beskikbaar was behalwe die alreeds genoemde herdenkingseël vir die opening van die eerste

parlement, wat 'n frankeerwaarde van 2½d gehad het. Om die leemte aan te vul is toe besluit om die seëls van die vroeëre kolonies te gebruik, waarvan nog voldoende voorraad beskikbaar was, en ook om die seëls geldig te maak deur die hele Unie. Hieruit volg dus dat 'n versameling van Suid-Afrikaanse seëls, vir sover dit die sogenaamde Unie-periode betref, noodwendig sulke seëls moet bevat.

In aantekening (1) word die periodes aangegee waarin die verskillende seëls gebruik moes word, terwyl aantekening (2) 'n opsomming bevat van die seëls wat gebruik kon word.

Dit word nou aan die versamelaar oorgelaat om te besluit welke seëls van die vroeëre kolonies opgeneem sal word om die Interprovinsiale periode te verteenwoordig. Na die voorgaande is dit seker duidelik dat dit aanbevelenswaardig is om hierdie leemte aan te vul, wat gedoen kan word deur die posfris seëls van die vier kolonies te gebruik, of anders die gebruikte eksemplare met leesbare stempels (sien nota 1) as verteenwoordigers van die periode te versamel.

NOTA 1. Interprovinsiale Periode: 31/5/1910-31/8/1913.

Verleng tot 22/8/1920 vir die ½d van Natal.

Verleng tot Julie 1916 vir die £1 van Natal en Transvaal.

Verleng tot 11/12/1914 vir die 2d boeteseël van Transvaal.

Verleng tot 1/2/1915 vir die 3d boeteseël van Transvaal.

Verleng tot 18/3/1915 vir die ½d, 1d, 5d, 1/- boeteseëls van Transvaal.

Tot 30/5/1910, alleenlik Transvaal het boeteseëls gebruik, maar gedurende die Interprovinsiale Periode is hierdie seëls dwarsdeur die Unie gewees.

NOTA 2. Alle seëls van Kaapland was geldig, uitgesonder die driehoekseëls wat op 1 Oktober 1900 onttrek is. Alle Natal-uitgawes was geldig. Alle Oranje-Vrystaat-uitgawes, met oordrukke V.R.I. of E.R.I. was geldig.

Alle uitgawes van die Oranje-Rivier-Kolonie met die portret van Koning Edward VII was gel-

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NOTA 3. 'n Waardevolle gids vir versame-
laars wat belangstel in hierdie
periode is: "The Interprovincial
Stamps and Postmarks of the
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krygbaar is by die Ere-sekretaris
van die Federasie van Filateliste-
verenigings van Suidelike Afrika,
Posbus 375, Johannesburg. Saam-
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S. J. Vermaak, met baie oor-
spronklike stempels verduidelik, is
die boekie beslis die prys van
R2.00 werd.

NOTA 4. 'n Herdruk van die oorspronklike
"List of Post- and Telegraph Of-
fices" wat in 1912 gepubliseer is,
kan verkry word van die "Phila-
telic Society of Johannesburg",
Posbus 4967, Johannesburg. Prys
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Hulle wat nou eers deur die Interprovinsiale
gogga gebyt word, kan gerus akkumulاسies van
die ou seëls deurkyk en dan is verassings nie
uitgesluit nie. Alle moontlike sukses word u
toegewens deur

JOBUS.

Nog Beskikbaar

Daar is nog by die Africana-museum in
Johannesburg eksemplare beskikbaar van twee
besonder nuttige publikasies wat deur die mu-
seum uitgegee is.

"The World's Rarest Group of Stamps",
deur J. H. Harvey Pirie en William Redford, is
'n beskrywing (1951) van die Curle-versamel-
ing van Transvaalse seëls, en kos 25c. Die
ander boekie is „World War II Philately of
Southern and Eastern Africa", ook deur dr.
Harvey Pirie (1953), en kos 50c.

Stamp Coin Bulletin

The January 1971 number of the Crown
Agents introduces the first issue of their new
style BULLETIN which will provide details
of some of the new features which will be
running during 1971.

There will be news and articles on all new
issue coins, currency notes and medallions
handled by the Coin Bureau as well as philate-
lic matters as appropriate.

Philatelic Reminiscence

Grand Award, January 1948

By Dr. K. Freund, R.D.P., F.R.P.S.L.

I would like to tell you a very funny anecdote which happened 23 years ago when I received the first Grand Award of a South African Stamp Exhibition. Now please understand me well, I don't want to appear boisterous, but this is what happened.

It was the first post-war Exhibition and Congress, and after lying low for nine years except for local activity, philatelists from all centres looked forward to come together again and to make new acquaintances. Many new names had meanwhile appeared in "The South African Philatelist" and had put their "stamp" on South African philately. Names of new philatelic V.I.P.s whose faces were so far known only to their own circles.

The East London Society was in charge of playing hostess for this big philatelic event which took place in January 1948. An innovation was the announcement of a Grand Award to be given for the first time in South African philatelic history.

Many collections, well-known from hearsay, were entered for competition and put on show for the first time. Here is a list of some of them which makes fascinating reading now, in fact it presents a philatelic "Who's Who" of that time:

- A. Jurgens**, "Cape Triangulars and Rectangulars on Cover" (described in the Exhibition catalogue as "the only collection of its kind in the world");
- A. Jurgens**, "The Bechuanalands" (this collection formed the basis for his important handbook);
- A. Jurgens**, "Cape Pre-stamp Covers" (described as "complete");
- Ernest Hunt**, "Transvaal" (considered to rival the "Curle" collection in the Johannesburg Public Library);
- Arthur V. Jacob** (Cape Town), "Rhodesia" (of world repute, major award at New York International Stamp Exhibition);
- Dr. Harvey Pirie**, "Swaziland" (formed basis for his handbook);
- C. G. Mummery**, "Falkland Islands" (specialised extensively);

Sam Legator, "Rarities of the Union of South Africa" (no comment necessary);

Andrew Watson, "Great Britain" (in 27 large albums);

Jack Shepherd, "South West Africa" (regarded as one of the best S.W.A. collections at that time);

I. H. C. Godfrey (the international air-mail expert), "Airmails";

Emil Tamsen, "Mount Curry Express" (claimed to be a "unique" collection);

Dr. K. Freund, "Mafeking Siege Stamps" (12 albums).

Several important collections came also from such "Distinguished Philatelists" like Mr. C. H. Thornton, Mr. Wm. Redford and Dr. A. Kaplan.

I may mention that complete collections were judged at that time. Exhibition frames were meant mainly to present to the visiting public some selections of the best material in each case. It was a thorough, painstaking job for the judges. But there were no problems of frame allotting and no resulting arguments in those happy years.

The judges gave the Grand Award to the "Mafeking Siege" collection with the announcement that their decision was unanimous. The "Daily Dispatch" of East London gave great publicity for the event.

So much for the background, now comes my story:

On the day after the announcement of the award, I had lunch at Deale's Hotel with Dr. Alec Kaplan and Mr. Arthur Jacob. We glanced around the large dining room for any "old" familiar face or any possible newcomers from other centres but did not spot anybody. Congress was to start the following day.

After lunch, the two gentlemen excused themselves for an after-midday snooze while I, the more energetic one, decided to go to the Technical College, the Exhibition venue, and have a relaxed inspection of the wonderful philatelic material displayed there.

The Technical College was right at the other side of town and I wondered how to get there.

In front of the Hotel, a group of five distinguished-looking gentlemen was standing near a car with a Durban registration number. I smiled when I could not help hearing snatches of their conversation which obviously concerned "stamps". Without any hesitation, I approached one of the gentlemen who was opening a back-door of the car. He turned out to be incidentally, at a later stage, Mr. W. H. Winde, the jovial owner of a popular Durban stamp business at that time, the "GEN Stamp Box". But at this stage we did not know each other. I excused myself and asked him:

"Do you go by any chance in the direction of the Technical College?"

Having not the faintest idea who I was, he scrutinized me and said genially: "Yes, Sonny, hop right in. There is room for one more."

With an elegant hand movement, he motioned me into the middle seat at the back and took the seat to my right. The other four also boarded the car, two of them nodding slightly to me while the other two took little notice of the non-descript "young" stranger, probably because they were too much engrossed in their stamp chat. The three taking the front seats were, as I learned later, Mr. W. F. Ovens, Mr. Graham Milner-Palmer and Mr. A. L. Bevis. The gentleman to my left was a certain Mr. A. J. Cornelius.

The three in front continued their conversation and I suddenly got thunderstruck when I realised that all the time they were talking about the Mafekings at the Exhibition, my collection! Having to listen to all the tributes, I went hot and cold and covered my face.

"He has got there the Baden-Powell Reversed," one of them said. "Only six or eight copies exist."

"Well, did you see, he has all the errors complete," said another one, "all catalogued in Gibbons but unpriced. And some in strips of three or blocks of four."

"And what about the Boot-letters, those things carried out by native runners under their soles by night? It is fantastic, they all have stamps, postmarks and intermediate cancellations!"

While they were talking, Mr. Winde noticed that I felt uneasy somehow and, as the perfect gentleman he was, began to draw me into a conversation. Pointing at the three in front, he explained to me: "They are talking about stamps, postage stamps."

"Yes, I can hear that," I said with a faint smile.

"You know," continued Mr. Winde, "we five are from Durban. We belong to the strange guild of so-called 'mad' stamp collectors, ha ha."

"Well, I don't think you are so mad," I assured him.

"Mr. Cornelius on your left has four collections at the Stamp Exhibition. He got some awards!" said Mr. Winde proudly.

"Congratulations, Mr. Cornelius," I said politely to the neighbour on my left. Mr. Cornelius acknowledged with dignity. "Do you also collect stamps?" he enquired.

"A little bit," I said and could not suppress a smile. Mr. Winde noticed it and took over again:

"Well I never — why — have you also some stamps there on display?"

The three in front interrupted their conversation and pricked up their ears. "Yes, I have," I said.

"Oh — what is your name?" Mr. Winde ventured to ask. His eye-brows went up. I cleared my throat and said hoarsely: "H'm, h'm, — Freund."

"I beg your pardon?" shouted Mr. Winde. The faces of the others became alarmed. Embarrassedly I repeated my name.

"Not Dr. Freund?" screamed Mr. Winde at the top of his voice. When I nodded apologetically, the effect was unexpected:

"Rrrremm" went the car, coming to a sudden stop with a jerk. Car doors flew open and several Durbanites jumped out in various directions. Cries like "help — help — we are in the wrong car!" could be heard.

They came back however, with outstretched hands, apologising profusely. "We never knew," they said. "We had no idea — we always imagined Dr. Freund as an ancient person, with a flowing beard — something like Mr. Emil Tansen" (fine comparison, Mr. Tansen was in his nineties at that time).

There followed introductions, much hand shaking and shoulder slapping. The car moved on again and in no time we arrived at the "Tech", an imposing building. In great spirits we rushed up the steps, into the large vestibule where tables were laid out with refreshments.

And then, six jolly philatelists — 5 from Durban and one from the Free State — gave a hearty toast to their newly-found friendship, with delicious cups of tea, provided by the charming and ever-busy ladies of the East London Philatelic Society.

World's Largest Stamp Airlift

Now it can be told: \$3,000,000 worth of stamps, from over 50 USA collections, was airlifted from Phillympia 1970 by British Overseas Airways Corporation to and from London in a six-day, top security operation. It was described by N. V. Jeppeson, BOAC's cargo development manager, USA, as "probably the world's largest philatelic airlift."

Stringent insurance requirements, limiting the maximum value on any one plane, necessitated the philatelic material being carried on six separate flights and under the utmost secrecy.

Each shipment was escorted to the London-bound BOAC flight's diplomatic locker. At London, pick-ups were made by Securicor armoured cars.

On return flights, shipments were met by BOAC guards and then transported to the New York vaults of H. R. Harmer, Inc. From there they were returned to the owners.

Among the exhibits were several letters that had originally been flown across the Atlantic by the aero-pioneers of yesteryear: Alcock and Brown, first trans-Atlantic flight, 1919; Cmdr. Francesco de Pinedo, 1927 solo flight; General Italo Balbo and his Italian Armada, 1933.

How To Remove Sellotape From Stamps

The problem faced by philatelists when self-adhesive tape used to seal parcels and letters is stuck over the stamps can be overcome, according to a tip from the manufacturers of "Sello-tape" adhesive tapes.

Stamp collectors are facing the problem more and more often as the tape becomes increasingly popular, particularly to seal parcels that usually bear stamps of higher values.

In detail, the advice from Sellotape Products is as follows: Cut the stamp and tape from the packaging or envelope; remove the stamp in the normal way, that is by floating on water or with a "sweat box".

When the stamp is dry, place one or two drops of lighter fuel on its gum side, in the area corresponding to that covered by the tape and give it time to soak through; immediately it has done so, slowly peel the tape from the top surface of the stamp.

There should be no adhesive residue if the tape is removed immediately, but if any adhesive does remain it can be removed by gently swabbing the stamp surface with cotton wool

(Continued on Page 69)

The Commemorative Selous Stamp

The Posts and Telecommunications Corporation of Rhodesia announces the issue on 1st April 1971 of a 15c Commemorative Selous Stamp. Souvenir covers will also be available from the Rhodesian Post Office Philatelic Bureau, Private Bag 119 H, Salisbury.

Frederick Courteney Selous was born in London in the year 1851. He came of a family who were considered to be intellectuals and who had among their many interests the love of natural history. He received his education at Rugby and in Europe. At the age of 19 he left for Africa to become an elephant hunter and arrived at Port Elizabeth on 4th September, 1871. After a brief spell on the Diamond Fields and a short trip across Griqualand he joined Viljoen, a big-game hunter, in Matabeleland in 1872. The next eighteen or so years were spent in the country lying between the Limpopo River and the Congo Basin, hunting, trading, and exploring. Selous became known as one of the most daring and successful ivory hunters in Africa. His fame as a hunter was complemented by his ability to write and speak of what he saw on his expeditions and hunting trips in a simple and accurate manner.

Selous is remembered in Rhodesia not only for his prowess as a hunter and his ability to write but for the part he played in the early life of the country. He was chosen by Rhodes to guide the Pioneer Column into Mashonaland in 1890, the choice being prompted by Selous' extensive knowledge of the area and because of his good standing among the African Chiefs. During the years that followed he served with the British South Africa Company, playing an active role in helping to bring Matabeleland under the British flag. He took part in the Matabele War of 1893, and in 1895 was appointed as the manager of a land and mining company at Essexvale, in which capacity he was serving at the outbreak of the Matabele Rebellion in 1896. During the Rebellion he commanded H Troop of the Bulawayo Field Force. The declaration of the First World War found him now over sixty years of age but still he volunteered for service, and held the rank of captain in the Royal Fusiliers, serving as Intelligence Officer in East Africa. He was awarded the D.S.O. in 1916 "for conspicuous gallantry, resource and endurance." On the 14th January, 1917, at the age of 65, Frederick Courteney Selous was killed in action near Kisaki in Tanganyika.

"USED ABROAD"

by

A. Leslie Leon, R.D.P., F.R.P.S.L.

In our pre-occupation with paper and printing, perforations, errors and varieties, possibly we philatelists lose sight of some of the romance of our hobby. To remedy this, I suggest an excursion into the side-line known as "Used Abroad" which introduces us to romantic names and tropical places — who can resist the allure of JACMEL, FAMAGUSTA or OLD CALABAR, of BRASS RIVER or ANGOSTURA? These and many others are towns where British stamps have been legitimately used and collecting them can be a fascinating occupation. To obtain them on cover should be the ultimate aim, but cost must put that objective out of reach of most of us.

The reasons for this usage are various, but principally it occurred where there was a British community with its own consul and often its own post office, but this was not always the case as I shall point out later.

The late J. Grant Glasco of Canada amassed an amazing collection of British Post Offices used abroad and this was dispersed at a three day sale in November 1969; the sale was held in "the Great Rooms of Christie's, London," by Robson Lowe, and the catalogue is quite a massive volume in itself describing over 1400 lots on 258 pages. Here is romance galore, although I must admit that not all the items in the catalogue were postage stamps used abroad as the collector in question took a broad view and included pre-adhesive hand-stamps and similar items. The index shows that stamps used abroad in all five continents were in the collection and perusal brings up some surprising items. Who would have thought that one could obtain British stamps used in Bulgaria, for instance?

As stated above, there are reasons for the usage other than in consular offices. The Crimean War was probably the earliest occasion for such military and naval use and this has occurred on many fronts since then. Paquebot usage also comes into the category we are discussing. Not only British stamps can be collected under the heading of "used abroad". Among others, are Mauritius stamps used in Seychelles with B64 cancellations and Mauritius used in the neighbouring island of Rodriguez where the cancellation was B65.

South Africa has provided quite a reasonable manner of items for the collection should you

desire to limit yourself to this continent. Cape of Good Hope and Natal stamps used in the Transvaal before the South African Republic joined the U.P.U. make a good start. The Boer War proved most prolific in this type of material with a choice of a host of different cancellations, both local place names and Army Post Office items. Here, of course, is room for a great deal of specialisation especially in tracing the movements of the Army postal units during the course of the War. Then we have Natal stamps cancelled in Mauritius and even Mauritius used in Natal.

Our Interprovincial cancellations used between 1910 and 1913 are a species of "used abroad" and of course the First World War provided King's Heads of the Union used in South West Africa and to obtain early dates of this usage means a great deal of searching. Finally, as far as this country is concerned, our stamps were used in Basutoland and Swaziland before those territories as they were then, were provided with their own. In Bechuanaland, the field is even wider owing to the use of Cape stamps.

If the collection is not limited to the use of the stamps of the British Empire, the horizons widen and there are even more interesting items to be sought for — a notable example was the use of Norwegian Stamps on Bouvet Island on the occasion of memorable visit of H.M.S. Milford with Evans of the "Broke" in 1934.

How can the philatelic appetite become jaded when there are stamps, covers and cancellations of this nature to be sought for and lovingly placed in the album with a note as to why they were used and possibly how they were acquired. BAHIA, ISLAY, BURUTU, IQUIQUE — of you can't go there, surely the names are romantic enough to collect! Good hunting!

(Continued from Page 68)

dampened with lighter fuel.

This procedure should prove suitable for most common packaging or consumer tapes which have rubber/resin adhesive.

It may not be suitable for removing some very specialised tapes which have different types of adhesive, but these are not likely to be found frequently on parcels.

The company warns that although their method appears to be satisfactory with most U.K. and foreign stamps, lighter fuel may affect some inks, particularly those of photogravure printed stamps.

Acknowledgement "Philatelic Trader"

Towards a Better Understanding of the Printings of the Republican 1/2c Kingfisher Postage Stamps

by R. B. Cronwright

The discovery of the transposition of the red colour and the buff colour panes in the printing of the current phosphor issues of the ½c stamp on Harrison RSA tete-beche w.m. paper from Cylinders 264-265-266 was followed by the discovery of screening plate flaws in the three colours on Stamp 8/8 on the A & C panes. These two discoveries so intrigued me that I carried out some research work on the three issues from Cylinders 264-265-266 and found that in addition to the transpositions of the two colours on the Harrison paper, there had also been a transposition of over 4000 sheets on the buff colour panes on the Swiss paper phosphor issue, first delivered in January 1970.

As there is a certain amount of confusion shown by collectors about these varieties, together with some confusion existing about the ½c printings from Cylinders 213-212 211, I felt it might be beneficial to review the history of the printings of the ½c Kingfisher stamp from its first appearance in May 1961 up to the present, concentrating on the last two productions where 100 stamps per sheet were introduced.

The South African Philatelist and the Republican Catalogue cover most aspects of the printings of these stamps but there have been questions in my mind that have only now been settled by the Publicity Department's explanations as will be shown later.

The first thing that struck me about the design of the ½c stamp was the choice of a three colour design for the lowest denomination with such a big demand; normally the low value have simpler designs of one or two colours. Checking back, the records show that the first three colour postage stamp had been introduced in 1960 on the 6d Golden Jubilee issue of the Union of South Africa and as this design presumably was a success it was decided to continue the arrangement of one or two minor additional colours in the Republican stamps.

Another intriguing item was the positions of the cylinder numbers on the sheet; in the first issue from Cylinders 34-9-2, the exterior cylinder number (9) was covered by another number, but in the succeeding issues this cylinder number moved over to the right end and has remained there; the other two minor colour numbers have changed their positions from the

left to the centre and back again. The positions of the numbers do not necessarily fix the order of the cylinders although, in general, the exterior cylinder comes first and originally had the integral perforator connected to and synchronised with it.

I have been officially informed "That a standard position for the cylinders does not exist. The numbers are positioned in each case as circumstances permit or as found most expedient by the technician performing the task." And this covers my question as to why the 20c stamp's exterior cylinder number is on the left side and the other values with three colours have the exterior cylinder numbers on the right side.

The next point that needed clarification was the 1963 printing of the ½c stamp from Cylinders 104-66-45. This was in the form of single sheets of 200 stamps per sheet, printed on the Goebels 840 machine but perforated on the Grover appliance resulting in this issue having a perforation gauge of 14 x 13.75 and an imperforate margin.

The interesting thing about this printing was that the Printing Works had carried out the perforating of single sheets on the Grover appliance which is built for perforating two sheets side by side. As the 1R printed on Harrison RSA w.m. paper from Cylinder 1-11-7 in 1964 was also printed in single sheets on the Goebels 840 machine but perforated on the Grover, I was interested to know what differences existed in the treatment of the two printings, the former being on 240mm. wide paper and the later on 370mm. wide paper.

The official explanation was that "The perforation in 1963 of the single sheets caused production problems in that the single sheets could not be controlled efficiently in the Grover which is built for the perforation of double width sheets."

In the case of the 240mm. wide paper there was not sufficient width to improvise some kind of double width but with 370mm. wide paper the register punch marks could be inscribed on the old cylinder and the holes punched out on the Goebels 840 machine permitting normal perforating on the Grover appliance. The extra width of blank paper was then cut off after perforating.

This same procedure was adopted in the case of the emergency printing of the $\frac{1}{2}$ c stamp in September 1968 from Cylinders 213-212-211 as will be mentioned later, and I understand that the Publicity Department displayed the blank perforated paper, which had been cut off after perforating, at the East London Congress in 1968.

The two following issues of the $\frac{1}{2}$ c stamp from Cylinders 10-9-11 A & B and 7-9-16 A & B with redrawn design were printed on Harrison RSA paper in sheets of 200 stamps on the Goebels 840 machine and perforated on the Grover appliance, giving gauge 14x13.75. These printing are amply covered in the Catalogue and the S.A. Philatelist; they have the same characteristics, and individually the stamps cannot be distinguished between the two issues.

With the introduction of 100 stamps per sheet in 1967 from Cylinders 213-212-211 A & B, the printing was carried out on two panes in sequential order on the Goebels 840 machine with the integral single row perforator in service (gauge 14x15). The paper used initially, was 240mm. wide Harrison faint R.S.A. w.m. and the printing was sufficient to supply about 5 months demand, from July 1967 to January 1968.

Following this printing came a change in paper and several reprints were made on 240mm. wide Swiss RSA tete-beche w.m. paper.

In August 1968, the 5 figure cyclometer, which had been behaving erratically for some time, was replaced by a unit having slightly larger digits without serifs, and the combination of the new digits with the single row perforator was in service for only a short time. This was due to the extraordinary demand for $\frac{1}{2}$ c stamps to cover the increased stamp duty on cheques after 1st October 1968 and as the single row perforator slowed up production, the Printing Works had to devise some method of speeding up the printing.

The Printing Works decided to carry out the modification on the cylinder, as mentioned earlier, on single sheet printing and accordingly rolls of 370mm. wide Swiss RSA tete-beche w.m. paper were used; the register punch marks were inscribed on the cylinder and the holes punched out during printing, after which the perforating was satisfactorily carried out on the Grover appliance (gauge 14x13.75). After cutting off the perforated blank section of paper, the requisite supply of sheet was delivered in September/October 1968.

The new cyclometer had thus been used on Swiss RSA tete-beche w.m. paper in the combination with the single row perforator (gauge 14x15) and also on the same type of paper with the Grover perforator (gauge 14x13.75). To distinguish between the two printings an examination of the cylinder block is sufficient; the A pane shows a perforated L.H. margin in the first case and an imperforate L.H. margin in the second; the B pane printing can only be identified by checking on the vertical perforations.

From the above, it is evident that there are four types of $\frac{1}{2}$ c printings from Cylinders 213-212-211, as follows:—

- (1) Faint R.S.A. Harrison paper with single row perforator (gauge 14x15) and the old cyclometer with serifs on the digits.
- (2) R.S.A. tete-beche Swiss paper with single row perforator (gauge 14x15) and the old cyclometer with serifs on the digits.
- (3) R.S.A. tete-beche Swiss paper with single row perforator (gauge 14x15) and the new cyclometer with larger digits.
- (4) R.S.A. tete-beche Swiss paper with the Grover perforator (gauge 14x13.75) and the new cyclometer with larger digits.

As the last printing entailed discarding about 1/3 of the paper used in the printing, new cylinders were introduced, with a different design of stamp; the Kingfisher stamp with the blue background being discontinued and being replaced with a Kingfisher stamp on a white background.

The first issue from Cylinders 264-265-266 with the complete new design appeared in January 1969 with the prominent feature of a white background and all the wording except the value of $\frac{1}{2}$ c replaced by the figures RSA. There were also minor changes made to the blue Kingfisher. This issue has been of absorbing interest as not only were there paper changes but phosphor lines were incorporated in January 1970 to facilitate mechanical sorting of letters, etc. To understand what changes occurred during the printing of this redrawn $\frac{1}{2}$ c stamp, it is necessary to bear in mind the following characteristics of the sheets and stamps and of the printing background.

The sheets remained at 100 stamps per pane, but now there were 4 panes of 10 x 10 stamps each, labelled as follows:—

A pane at bottom left, B at bottom right, C at top left and D at top right, the printing was done on the Goebels 840 machine with the new cyclometer in service and the perforations were carried out on the Grover appliance with the

imporforate margins on the R.H. side of the C & D panes.

As mentioned in the South African Philatelist April 1969, the cylinders were prepared from new master negatives, stepped up 200 times for new multipositives and applied twice to the cylinders, the first for the C & D panes and the second for the A & B panes. There are thus common multipositives for A and C panes and for B and D panes. This procedure results in two classes of flaws:

- (a) the inherent multipositive flaws.
- (b) the cylinder flaws.

The first issue from Cylinders 264-265-266 was on Swiss RSA tete-beche w.m. paper with delivery in January 1969 and reprints made in May and August 1969r having a total delivery of 298,800 sheets (over 12 months supply)

The next issue was on Swiss RSA tete-beche w.m. paper, phosphor lined, with delivery in January 1970. The official information that I received was as follows:— "The 10,000 sheets on the 15th January 1970, was a first delivery and up to the 24 idem a total of 72,000 sheets were delivered which were all on Swiss paper. On the 10th and 12th March 1970, a further 69,500 sheets, which were printed on Harrison paper were delivered."

The above information amends that given in the July 1970 copy of the S.A. Philatelist where it is stated that 139,500 sheets of Swiss phosphor sheets were delivered. The above figure of 72,000 sheets is the smallest issue on record for the $\frac{1}{2}$ c Kingfisher stamp.

As luck would have it, in March 1970 I came across four sheets of the $\frac{1}{2}$ c on Swiss phosphor paper of the C pane with 7 extra perforations in the imperforate margin and I purchased one full sheet and the three double R.H. strips showing the extra perforations. A later examination of this C pane showed that all the buff colour flaws normally in the A pane were now on the C pane and it was obvious that at some time a transposition of the buff colour panes had occurred.

An examination of the Swiss phosphor cylinder blocks of the January 1970 issue in my possession and which came from the Bureau, showed that two D pane cylinder blocks serial numbers 05072/05073, had the buff colour flaws normally found on the B panes; a friend had a B pane cylinder block, serial number 04179, which had the buff colour flaws normally found on the D pane. These numbers point to over 4000 sheets being printed with the buff colour panes transposed. As the above cylinder blocks came from the Bureau, a study of the early phosphor lined cylinder blocks from the

same source should be quite rewarding.

On the 29th April 1970, a further issue of the $\frac{1}{2}$ c Kingfisher stamp was delivered, being printed on Harrison RSA tete-beche w.m. phosphor lined paper.

The appearance of the bird was a deeper blue colour and the paper was slightly off-white and thicker but otherwise it was not easy to distinguish between the Swiss and Harrison printings.

A good visual test of the two papers is to study the RSA triangle watermarks, the triangles on the Swiss paper are wider and the distances between triangles are greater than on the Harrison paper, also the Swiss triangle bases line up horizontally across the paper, whereas the Harrison triangle bases have steps of a few millimetres in the alignment of the bases across the paper.

A study of the Harrison printing showed that the prominent red scratch flaws on the A and C panes in the top L.H. corner had swopped places, showing a transposition of the red colour panes.

Further examination of the buff colour cylinder flaws, especially a line normally behind the birds' head on stamp 8/3 on the C pane showed that this had disappeared, also a buff colour dot between the tips of the front reeds on the C panes at Stamp 1/10 and on the B panes at Stamp 10/1 had swopped over to the A and D panes respectively, indicating a transposition of the buff colour panes. Numerous other buff colour cylinder flaws confirmed this transposition.

These transpositions can be understood as they arose from the random incorrect setting up of the cylinders which, with 4 panes on each cylinder, can easily happen.

What did interest me intensely was a sloping line flaw on the A and C panes at Stamp 8/8, below the front reeds. Judging from the lines and coloured dots on incomplete lines, they were multipositive flaws and played a game of hide and seek.

Studying these lines on the first two issues on Swiss paper, it was noticed that the A pane had a buff coloured line whereas the C pane had a blue and a red coloured line, all in the same position. On the Harrison paper however the A pane showed a red coloured line and the C pane had three lines in the three colours, i.e. — a blue, a red and a buff line. It was obvious that this common flaw could only have originated from some foreign substance on the screening plate which affected the etchings of the three cylinders.

This phenomena so intrigued me that I collected a quantity of the C panes of Swiss paper, plain and phosphor lined, and also of Harrison paper to see what variations were present in the appearance of these coloured lines. The A panes were not considered as interesting as the C panes, so were not accumulated as much as the C panes were.

I found very little change in the appearance of the lines in the Swiss plain and the Swiss phosphor issues and very little change in the early Harrison distributions, but after a while the Harrison sheets appeared with no blue or red lines on the C panes, only the buff colour line showing, then other C panes showed complete disappearance of all three lines.

This disappearance of the screening lines may have been due to wear, as has been suggested, or may have been due to a selective cleaning process at the Printing Works, only this is something that time will show. The next reprint from these cylinders on Harrison paper may have the transpositions corrected or only

one colour pane corrected, but it will be interesting to see what changes, if any, are made.

Summarising, the printings from Cylinders 264-265-266 are as follows:—

- (1) Swiss Paper R.S.A. tete-beche w.m. no phosphor, 298,800 sheets delivered.
- (2) Swiss Paper R.S.A. tete-beche w.m. Phosphor lined. Buff Colour panes transposed, over 4000 sheets issued.
- (3) Swiss Paper R.S.A. tete-beche w.m. Phosphor lined. Buff colour panes corrected to normal. 68,000 sheets.
- (4) Harrison Paper R.S.A. tete-beche w.m. Phosphor lined. Red and Buff colour panes transposed. 165,090 sheets.

Screen flaws on Panes A and C in 3 colours.

Further developments may add to the interest in these stamps and will be recorded in due course; for the time being, it is hoped that the numerous varieties can be more easily understood when considered in conjunction with the printing difficulties that had to be overcome.

South African Meter Marks and How to Collect Them

by K. E. W. Lydall, R.D.P.

Continued from Page 47 February Number

In South Africa the town names are sometimes inscribed bi-lingually. The SANTAM machine N275 was originally 'Cape Town' but was later changed to 'Kaapstad/Cape Town'. Recently, it has become the practice to inscribe the name of the Province in full or in abbreviated form in the bottom segment of the post-mark. An interesting engraver's error occurs where 'CAPE TOWN' was spelled 'CAPE-TOWN' in a batch of dies.

Slogan or Advertising/Publicity Slug

The third element is the slogan or advertising slug which is optional and can be inserted or withdrawn at will. Many firms use it to give their names and addresses, while others may advertise their products. It follows therefore, that the designs of these slugs are many and varied.

With South African machines, it is usual for the slogan to be on the left of the town mark. However, machines numbered U1 (Universal) and F1 (Francotyp) had the town/date mark at the extreme left and the slogan between it and the value mark. They also had another

feature, i.e. a cyclometer number above the advertisement or slogan, presumably to count the number of items franked. This method of cyclometer numbering is found on meters of other countries but was apparently used in South Africa only on machines U1 and F1 plus a few other early Francotyp machines which did not carry slogans.

Classifying Meter Marks

So far our attention has been focused on describing the main characteristics of meter marks which is a necessary prelude to deciding on a method of collecting them.

As mentioned earlier, meter marks should first be grouped according to the make of machine, i.e. Neopost, Universal, Frankotyp, Midget, etc. It is easy to identify the make because the design of each frank incorporates a letter such as 'N' for Neopost, 'U' for Universal, 'F' for Frankotyp and 'M' for Midget.

These major groups are now separated into sub-groups or series according to the degree of specialisation required. At this stage, it must be mentioned that each meter has a distinctive

number engraved into the value die. No two machines should have the same number, but curiously enough, Stuttafords had Neopost machines in Cape Town and Johannesburg both numbered 'N1'. Other machines in this series followed numbered N2, N3, etc. Meters numbered N1 to N16 formed the initial series of Neopost machines, i.e. those with fixed values. Later these were replaced by a second series of machines numbered N1 to N474 with a different design for the value die. In both these early Neopost series the number was sometimes accompanied by the 'N' and sometimes not. This is not a characteristic of later series of Neopost machines.

The third Neopost Series with the 'Leaping-Springbok' design had three sub-series — the first lettered and numbered N475 to N999, the second from NA1 to NA999, and the third from NB1 to NB181. Numbers NB182 onwards were allocated to a modified design without the 'Leaping Springbok' and incorporating instead the wording 'Republiek van Suid-Afrika', 'Republic of South Africa'.

Universal and Simplex machines had the letters 'U' and 'S', respectively for their first 999 machines and then used the serial letters 'UA' and 'SA' to commence the next sub-series of 999 machine numbers. The 'UA' and 'SA' sub-series changed design after South Africa became a Republic but retained the sequence of numbers. The latest type with 'S.A.' has a much smaller die.

What has been said about the change-over to Republican type dies applied to all makes which were in use at the time of the change to Republican status by the country. Earlier non-Republican designs were permitted to be used after 31st May, 1961 (converted to decimal currency), but as dies became worn out and indistinct they are replaced by Republican type designs and retain their distinctive number. The main exception was the Midget machines, the value dies of which incorporated a crown and the words 'Union of South Africa', 'Unie van Suid-Afrika' in the oval surrounding a Springbok Head. This constituted a problem and how it was tackled will be related later because attention must first be given to the big change which began on 14th February, 1961, when Rands and cents replaced £.s.d.

Decimalisation and Change to Republican Status

Most machines, other than the 'fixed-value' type were readily convertible to decimal currency. Not all machines could, however, be changed in time for Decimal Day so there follows a period when both decimal and sterling

currencies were to be found. Meter frnaks converted to decimal currency between 14th February and Republic Day, 31st May, 1961, roughly correspond to the First Decimal Series of South African stamps and can be displayed as 'Interim Period' marks.

During the interim period an experiment was made with 2 or 3 Midget machines to change the dies from pence to cents. In the case of machine M89, the 1d die had the main down-stroke of the 'd' removed so that it resembled a 'c', while a spare die was apparently engraved with 2½c for that value. Similar treatment was accorded to the 1d die of machine M247 but as the date on one specimen is September, 1964 and no other modification was made to the die, the use of this machine under such circumstances is a bit of a mystery.

To return to the design problem of the Midget machines, the few that have survived decimalisation have had the 'crown' and the wording 'Union of', 'Unie van' removed and the resulting design looks peculiarly unbalanced. In addition to this modification a few of these machines have a further amendment by completing the oval design on the dies. It is probable that so few of these machines now exist because, being of the 'fixed-value' type they are not generally flexible enough for general use.

The only make to disappear completely after the advent of decimalisation was the locally made 'Mercury', a fixed-value type of machine with the distinguishing letter 'X'. This type had no town mark. There were two types of design, the one being 18mm. in width and the other 20½mm. in width, while the latter also made provision for an advertisement below the meter mark. It is not certain why these machines were withdrawn, but they were 'fixed-value', rather crudely executed, had no town/date mark and possibly could not be converted for decimal currency.

Two types of machines which were not involved in the changes mentioned were the 'Pitney Bowes' multi-value machines which were introduced into South Africa in 1964, and the 'S.A.T.A.S.' in 1967. The former has the combined value and date mark similar to its machines used in Canada and U.S.A.

Reference Collections

A reference collection will aim to have a specimen from every machine used in South Africa. It is not difficult or cumbersome to house such a collection provided it is restricted to cut-offs. These can be filed in numerical order according to types and series in shallow

trays or boxes using visible index tabs to subdivide them for quick reference. Thus to locate U746, all that has to be done is to look in the Universal section between tags for Nos. 700 and 800. Separate sections should be made for £.s.d. and Decimal currencies. The same meter number may then be found with both currencies.

What values to collect

In the case of fixed-value and limited-value machines, the number of dies per machine is so small that it is the practice to collect a specimen of each value from that machine. Needless to say, the ordinary postage rate specimens are easy to obtain, but specimens of some values which were seldom used can be exceedingly rare. An example of this is M16 with a 5d value.

Fixed-value or limited-value machines can be fitted with value dies to suit the owner. A firm which, for example, uses a lot of registered mail will benefit by having the value die applicable to such rate. Again, when the postage rate changed, e.g. from 1d. to 1½d., then it would benefit the owner to have a 1½d. die if he did not have one before. Through meters one can trace the alterations to first class mail rates as they progressed from 1d. to 1½d., 2d and 3d. New dies clearly show by different design or engraving that they were fitted to meet a new postal rate or substituted to replace a worn die.

Because of the extended range of values in a multi-value machine and because the frame die remains the same when the value is changed, there is little point in collecting numerous value specimens of the same machine number, i.e. no further information is imparted by having many different value specimens. They merely add to the bulk of the collection.

Varieties and Errors

Some of these are very interesting. There was an apparent disagreement over the spelling on early Universal and Frankotyp value dies over the Afrikaans word for 'PAID'. Some had 'BETAALD' and later ones had the 'D' obviously removed. Still later dies were engraved so that 'POSGELD BETAAL' was spread so as to cover the same space as the earlier 'POSGELD BETAALD'. One machine, F16, had the error of 'BETAALT' and there were several other spelling varieties.

Perhaps the most interesting error occurred on Neopost machine NB186 (First Republican

design) where 'REPUBLIEK' was spelled 'REPUBLICK'. How this happened is not clear because the dies are engraved by using a pantograph. The engraver's concentration must have lapsed momentarily when he failed to copy the 'E' in the design.

Another lapse occurred on 3 or 4 Frankotyp dies when the bottom line of the panel enclosing 'SOUTH AFRICA' was not engraved. An example appears on die F618. A curious error is found on Hasler No. 13 where the machine number should read 'H13' but is 'R13' on the die.

Non-recurring Varieties

Apart from errors in the engraving of dies which appear every time the mark is printed, varieties occur when slugs are inserted upside down causing, e.g. the frame of the value die or the town mark to print upside-down. Occasionally a town mark may be omitted altogether. Such varieties are usually quickly corrected.

Another type of variety is found when dies become damaged or lost in transit and local dies have to be made in their place. An example of this is found in the Neopost series with letter 'J' when ten local replacement dies were engraved smaller than the normal and had other recognisable differences such as a smaller 'O'.

Change of Ownership

In a comprehensive collection changes of ownership should be recorded. The owner of a machine may decide to dispose of it. In such a case it can be sold and re-registered in another name. This may result in the town mark being changed since the new owner may register the machine at a different post office, i.e. the one where he will take the machine for re-setting and sealing after pre-paying for postage. On change of ownership there will usually be a change of slogan too, so it is fairly easy to establish when a machine has changed hands. However there are sometimes changes of towns without changes of owner when, for instance, a firm moves its premises from, say, Johannesburg to Isando. Big Banks also re-allocate machines to different branches. All such variations can be conveniently stacked under the same machine number with sub-tags to indicate the type of variation.

Perparing an Exhibit

To prepare an exhibit of meter marks, it is not necessary to show more than the key infor-

mation plus the important errors or varieties. Thus an exhibit should contain specimens of all makes of machines with their different series and value capacities, examples of types of town marks, machines using the former and present currencies, types of use and so on.

Acknowledgements

Valuable information for the preparation of this paper was obtained from the publication "The Meter Postage Stamps" by S. D. Barfoot, B.Sc., and Werner Simon. This applies particularly to historical references and notes on the method of collecting. Appreciation is also expressed to Matheson & Ashley (Pty.) Ltd. for permission to use illustrations of their meter franking machines and for information supplied. Thirdly, sincere thanks are due to Mr. Harry Savage who photographed the items for the slides.

Conclusion

From the foregoing it will be conceded that there is ample scope for specialisation and study of meter post marks. It may be difficult to obtain specimens of long obsolete meter strikes, but it is surprising what can still be unearthed by patience and occasional good luck. The main thing is to determine the scope and method of forming and presenting the collection and thereafter many of the formidable problems disappear. It is hoped that having studied the contents of this paper, collectors will be stimulated into collecting and studying this Cinderella branch of South African philately.

ADDENDUM

List of Makes of Machines Used in South Africa.

Make	Value Type	Serial Letters
Neopost	Fixed-value, limited-value	N, NA, NB, J.
Universal Midget	Fixed-value	M.
Francotyp	Multi-value	F or FR.
Universal	Multi-value	U, UA
Universal Simplex	Limited-value	S, SA
Hasler	Multi-value	H.
Mercury	Fixed-value	X.
Pitney Bowes	Multi-value	P.B. or P.B.H.
Satas	Multi-value	T. or A.
Roneo	Multi-value	R. or R.A.

SOCIETY NEWS

PRETORIA PHILATELIC SOCIETY

December. The evening's entertainment was provided by our President who invited Mr. du Boisson to show his South West African Collection and a Thematic display of Churchill on Stamps. After which our President tabled his display of "Postal History of the Diamond Fields" which had won a Philymphia award, a rare cover bearing a pair of the 1d Cape overprinted G.W., the two G's differing along with other extremely interesting rare covers.

PRETORIA RAILWAY PHILATELIC SOCIETY

December. The meeting was a fine success, being the "so-called" President's night we were entertained by Erik Olesen and John van Eijk.

Firstly Erik gave us a very interesting talk about what he calls his bi-coloured stamps of Denmark which he illustrated by some excellent slides. This was philately of the highest order. His study of the frame plates was something you had to see and hear for it to be appreciated. This was followed by John, taking advantage of there being a projector at the meeting he brought along some of the slides taken during his recent trip overseas.

He showed us numerous scenes of Switzerland with quite heavy snow for October and I sincerely hope that if an opportunity arises at a later date he will show us the balance of the slides taken during the trip. Our sincere thanks to Erik and John for making the President's night such a success.

PORT ELIZABETH PHILATELIC SOCIETY

December. The meeting was President's night and Mr. T. J. Strachan entertained us with three exhibits of the stamps of the British West Indies.

The first consisted of 32 sheets of Turks and Caicos and covered the period 1900-1967. It was a complete mint collection and included 11 sheets of specimen stamps.

This was followed by a display of Nevis which consisted of reprints made from the original plates. As only 50 sets were made before the plates were defaced, these are of great historical value philatelically. We were shown set No. 45, which was supported by 4 complete sheets of the stamps originally issued.

Finally, we saw a few of the classical stamps of Grenada covering the period 1861-1897. These included a collection of Chalon Heads and some interesting village postmarks.

GERMISTON PHILATELIC SOCIETY

January. Nineteen members of the Germiston Society and three local visitors were present to welcome our visitors from the Vereeniging Philatelic Society on that Society's first visit to Germiston. Mr. K. A. Reid, the co-President of the Vereeniging Society, was their leader and he introduced the

other eight members of his team, stating that they were very pleased to attend a Germiston Philatelic meeting and he hoped that Germiston in turn would accept an invitation to visit his Society during this year. Mr. K. A. Reid gave a most informative talk on what he called "Education and Philately", giving examples in a display of stamps, how children could learn by looking at stamps, all about a country, its language, currency, buildings, famous people etc., and, also by viewing blocks or strips of stamps, learn addition and multiplication from the denominations of these stamps. Two collections were then tabled, the first being Basutoland/Lesotho by Mr. R. Grant who gave a most interesting talk on the history of that country and its stamps. The second was India by Mr. H. Tucker, K.G.V. issues, mint and used. Mr. H. Tucker stated how he had obtained these stamps, his interest now in that country and his hopes of continuing the collection.

MASHONALAND PHILATELIC SOCIETY

December. There was a very good turn out of members and guests (49 in all) to view Mrs. Searson's excellent display of Rhodesian Post Marks, which was accompanied by rough maps giving some idea of where obsolete Post Offices were situated. As Mrs. Searson pointed out much research had been needed to find out where these Post Offices were. For instance, Tarn Estate — Mr. Ellenberger at one time met a man in hospital whose father had managed Tarn Estate, and which he said was near Gokwe, whereas Mr. Bill Williams of Johannesburg, who is an expert on these matter, now states it was near Hartley Hills.

The spelling of place names has been altered on occasion, as for instance Balla Balla spelt with two double ls. This was changed by the Geographical Survey a few years ago to Bala Bala, spelt with two single ls, but the local inhabitants objected and it is once again spelt with two double ls — as shown on the various post marks.

When Southern Rhodesia withdrew from the Federation, the Postal Authorities erased the S. on the cancellations, but on many the dot after the S and before Rhodesia, can still be seen. Mrs. Searson also said finding the origin or meaning of place names is difficult; many are corruptions of African names such as Ncema Dam, named from its river Enyema, and Beatrice Mine named after the sister of Borrow the Pioneer. Any help that members can give Mrs. Searson in this respect would be very much appreciated by her.

ROYAL PHILATELIC SOCIETY OF CAPE TOWN

December. Presidents Evening turned out to be a very successful event and it was most rewarding to see no less than a dozen youngsters present. Eight of them showed items from their collections and all proved to be able speakers. The Exhibitors and their exhibits were: Miss S. Berelowitz: Art on Stamps; Mister P. Flentov: Apollo Programme; Mister E. Gersie: S.A. Postmarks; Mister D. Goldblatt: G.B. — Q.E. II; Mister A. Goldman: San Marino; Mister J. Goldman: Estonia; Mister P. Levine: Tallynn Railway; Mister P. Murray: South Africa — Phosphor issues.

To round off the show Mr. Kaganson showed a selection of Swiss Pro Juventute Christmas cards. Our thanks are due to the President for giving the juniors this opportunity and it is to be hoped that they too will benefit from the experience.

THE ROYAL PHILATELIC SOCIETY OF RHODESIA

Although no reports of the activities of this Society have appeared in these pages for some months, it has been far from inactive. Regular monthly meetings have been held at which some very fine exhibits, both from Members and Visitors, have been seen.

The new venue, the Auditorium of the National Museum, is eminently suitable, and may have helped in attracting larger attendances.

Three significant events have taken place — a proposal to drop the "Royal" was heavily defeated at a Special General Meeting; the 60th Anniversary of the Society was celebrated by a Banquet at which the Mayor and Mayoress of Bulawayo were present, and the Guest Speaker was the Regional Manager of the Post and Telecommunications corporation; and the new Society magazine "Magnify" was received with wide acclaim from all quarters.

A second display, representing all the countries (except two) in which Barclays Bank is in operation, was mounted in the foyer of the Bank's Main Branch in Bulawayo, and an official visit to the Midlands Stamp Club in Gwelo took place in November.

Chairman's Night took place, as usual, in December, at which members were given a first-hand report on Philympia by Dr. Haward, who had been able to see it.

Whilst it is always distressing to have to record the deaths of any members, the passing of Mr. W. Hubert Turnbull, past Secretary and Chairman, was a grievous loss. On the other hand, it is always a pleasure to accord congratulations where due — this time to Mr. (now Senator) J. R. Strong on his appointment as Deputy President of the Senate.

SOUTH AFRICAN STAMP STUDY CIRCLE

November. This was our first opportunity to congratulate our member Ken Lydall on having his name added to the South African Roll of distinguished philatelists.

Mr. A. H. Hofman gave us a very interesting informative talk on the large and small war Issues during which quite a number of new thoughts emerged.

Mr. E. N. Gericke gave a short but very lucid account of the method used for the "Goldblocking" on stamps as used on the "Biblia" 12½ cent.

December. Mr. S. P. Naylor gave a short talk on Philympia, and all the various magazines and catalogues relating to it were on display.

Mr. K. Lydall presented an extremely well prepared recorded talk on meter marks. This was supported by slides showing the various basic types, varieties etc. He covered all types, and suggested methods of collecting.

This will be reported in full in the S.A. Philatelist but unfortunately without many of the illustrations.

January. Natie Becker brought along a postcard with a current 2c stamp, which was perforated by three C's arranged in a triangle. This led to a long discussion on "SPIFS" (Stamps Perforated with the Initials of Firms), or "Perfins" as they are more commonly called now-a-days.

Mr. Jack Hagger read a paper on the booklet Stamps of South Africa, and displayed just under 50 pages, covering all the Issues from the Kings Heads of 1913 to the last booklets issued in 1951.

This was a most comprehensive exhibit.

The ½ Pretoria Tete-beche, and the later economy strips were also represented. Thank you Jack for a very good display!!

THE O.F.S. PHILATELIC SOCIETY

November. This, the last meeting of the year, turned out to be one of our very best, due mostly to the outstanding material displayed.

Mr. Scott tabled his Philymphia prize-winning entry "BASUTOLAND". The first part, Postal History, included many scarce and rare covers and entires from many now-forgotten Basutoland Post Offices. Next, were the issues of this country with special emphasis on the Decimal overprints among which appeared rarities such as the 2½c inverted, used and the 2c large overprinting. Among the postal stationery, reistered K.G.V. envelopes with double and triple overprints.

Mr. Hagen displayed his Setpex prize-winning entry "WHAT IS A RAILWAY?" This collection is brilliantly presented and the approach to the subject is a new one. The material is good with some scarce items to boot.

PHILATELIC SOCIETY OF JOHANNESBURG

December. The Inter-Society Quiz was duly held on 23 November and was a great succes. It was thoroughly enjoyed by the 111 persons who attended. Pretoria walked off with the prizes which consisted of a cup for the winning team and tankard for each member of the team. After a play-off as to who should hold the cup it was presented to Commander Enoch who had won. Pretoria won with 26½ points. Next was the West Rand with 24 points. Johannesburg got 23 points and the East Rand 21. Thanks are due to the Hodgkin and Wedderburn-Maxwell families for compiling the very interesting questions, assisting in the running of the Quiz and for donating the trophies in the name of Sprighton Philatelists. Thanks are also due to George Burdett who did a wonderful job as quizmaster in his usual inimitable manner.

At the last meeting of the year, which was Vice-President's Evening, Keir Wedderburn-Maxwell, instead of showing something of his own, had the very good idea of persuading Harry Birkhead to show his outstanding collection of Rhodesia with which he recently won a Silver Medal at Philymphia. We also had the good fortune to see a lot of other material which naturally was not seen at Philymphia. Harry was suitably thanked by Ron Mephius and judging by the applause it was obvious that the exhibit was thoroughly enjoyed by all. At this meeting two large envelopes with hundreds of stamps in each were donated by Mr. J. S. Orford to be given to Junior collectors. Peter Lurie and the Seligman brothers were the lucky recipients.

January. About seventy members were treated to a conducted visit and demonstration of the new automatic letter facer-up and canceller in action at the Johannesburg Post Office, terminating with a tour of the tunnel through which the two way conveyor belt carries mail bags to and from the Railway Station. The event was indeed a most interesting and highly appreciated experience.

EAST LONDON PHILATELIC SOCIETY

January. Our Annual General Meeting was well attended, and the following were elected to the Executive for 1971. President: Mr. L. Hellman; Vice-President and Treasurer: Mr. H. E. Williams; Hon. Secretary: Mr. T. D. Radue; Hon. Librarian: Dr. J. Fick; Sales Superintendents: Mr. H. E. Williams and Mr. T. D. Radue; Auditor: Mr. J. Paviour; Auctioneer: Mr. M. Chiappini; Other members: Mrs. G. Bradley, Mrs. J. Hutchinson; Mr. P. Eagle, Mr. G. Knott and Mr. J. Sparkman. It is with regret that we record the passing away of Mr. Bill Bradley whilst on holiday, in England, and we extend our sympathy to his wife Gladys, and son, John.

Cups won during 1970 were presented to the following: President's Cup: Mr. T. D. Radue; Thematic Cup: Mrs. A. Douglas; Feros Cup: Mrs. M. Katz; Thornton Cup: Mrs. M. Ashford; Wehle Cup: Mr. J. Hoal. The Leo Hellmann Trophy was awarded to Mr. Leo Hellman for meritorious service to the Society during 1970. Cup winners displayed 30 pages of their collections, and members enjoyed the viewing of these. All in all, 1970 has been a very successful year, and the Society has gone from strength to strength, both in membership and increase in sales packets. If the same trend continues during 1971, we will be more than satisfied.

AFRIKAANSE FILATELISTEVERENIGING

Januarie. Die lewendige eerste vergadering van die nuwe jaar was die dag van mnr. Arie Bakker, ons bekwame rondsendhoof. Hy het 'n agtermekaar verslag vir die nege maande eindigende Desember 1970 voorgedra en ter tafel gelê, en daarvolgens was die verkope uit ronsendboekies in die tydperk meer as R8,000. Sy aandeel in die AFV se ronsenddiens, die puikste in die land, verdien ons almal se lof en waardering.

Daarmee was hy nog nie klaar nie. Eers het hy sake afgehandel met lede wie se boekies leeg geraak het, en toe het hy 'n hoop splinternuwe boekies vir 1971 op die tafel gesit. Mnr. Bakker het gewaarsku dat lede was prysbepaling vir seëls in die boekies betref, hul nie deur Gibbons se nuwe minimumprys van 5 pennies moet laat mislei nie, en ons voorsitter, mnr. Seligman, het die hoop uitgespreek dat Gibbons binne 'n jaar of wat tot 'n realistiese waarde-aanduiding sal terugkeer, al bly hul minimumprys vir 'n item 5p.

Met die oog op die komende jaarvergadering het mnr. Jobus Busser 'n uiteensetting van prosedure vir vergaderings gelewer.

EXPERT COMMITTEE

The next meeting of the Expert Committee of the Philatelic Federation of Southern Africa will be held on Saturday March 20th, 1971.

PHILATELISTS' RENDEZVOUS

THE ROYAL PHILATELIC SOCIETY OF CAPE TOWN

meets on the second and fourth Thursdays
of every month in

The Club Room of the Friends of Italy of
South Africa, First Floor, Radio City Bldgs.
Tulbagh Square, Foreshore, Cape Town.
at 8 p.m.

VISITORS CORDIALLY WELCOMED.

P.O. BOX 1973, CAPE TOWN.

THE MASHONALAND PHILATELIC SOCIETY

Meets once a month on the second Wednes-
day at 8 p.m. in the Auditorium of the
Queen Victoria Museum, Rotton Row,
Salisbury.

All visitors are welcome —

Secretary P.O., Box 2735, Salisbury.

ORANGE FREE STATE PHILATELIC SOCIETY

Meets on the fourth Friday of every month
in the

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at 7.30 p.m.

Issues a monthly magazine and circulates
sales packets to members.

P.O. BOX 702 — BLOEMFONTEIN.

THE PORT ELIZABETH PHILATELIC SOCIETY

meets on the first and third Tuesday each
month in the

The Walmer Library Hall,
Main Road, Walmer, Port Elizabeth.
at 8.00 p.m.

Visitors cordially welcome.

P.O. BOX 3 — PORT ELIZABETH.

THE PHILATELIC SOCIETY OF NATAL

Meetings 1st and 3rd Wednesdays monthly
at 7.30 p.m. in the

Geo Gato Room, City Hall, Durban
(Entrance West Street . . . door nearest
Beach)

VISITORS CORDIALLY WELCOMED.

P.O. Box 588, Durban. Secretary's
Telephone 64306 (evenings)

THE PRETORIA PHILATELIC SOCIETY

meets on the first Monday of every month
in the

Council Chamber of the Technical College
Church Street East, Pretoria.
at 7.45 p.m.

VISITORS CORDIALLY WELCOMED.

P.O. Box 514, Pretoria.

THE PHILATELIC SOCIETY OF JOHANNESBURG

meets twice a month: Second Tuesday and
fourth Monday at

Room 75, Public Library, Johannesburg
at 8 p.m.

VISITORS ARE WELCOME.

Hon. Secretary,

P.O. Box 4967, Johannesburg.

THE AEROPHILATELIC SOCIETY OF SOUTHERN AFRICA

Meetings are not held, but members get
covers, etc. of special South African flights
and other interesting items — more than
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P.O. Box 3654, Cape Town.

THE PRETORIA RAILWAY PHILATELIC SOCIETY

meets on the second Wednesday of every
month in the

Railway Recreation Club, Berea Park,
Pretoria, at 8 p.m.

P.O. Box 2388, Pretoria.

ALL PHILATELISTS ARE WELCOME.

SOCIETY OF ISRAEL PHILATELY

Meets on the 1st Monday of every month
at 8.15 p.m.

Burlington House Boardroom (2nd Floor),
c/r. Bissik & Marshall Streets,
Johannesburg.

ALL WELCOME.

Secretary P.O. Box 11502, Johannesburg.

THE SOUTH AFRICAN STAMP STUDY CIRCLE

meets at 2.15 p.m. on the second Saturday of
every month in the

Staff Tea Lounge, Basement, Corner House,
Corner Sauer and Commissioner Streets,
Johannesburg (Commissioner St. Entrance).
ALL INTERESTED IN SOUTH AFRICAN
PHILATELY ARE WELCOME.

Secretary: N. Becker

P.O. Box 9505, Johannesburg.

Telephone: 838-4679; Home 45-5452

THE EAST RAND PHILATELIC SOCIETY

P.O. Box 483, Benoni. (Hon. Secretary).
Meetings every 2nd Monday in the month

at the

BENONI TENNIS CLUB HOUSE,
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WANTED: S.A., S.W.A. and Boer War, preferably postal history.—**C. E. SHERWOOD** (V), P.T.S., 105 Marford Crescent, Sale, Cheshire M33 4DN.

ANGLO-BOER WAR PHILATELIC SOCIETY, quarterly magazine with exchange packet in U.K. Annual subscription £1 sterling or 3 dollars. Secretary, **J. H. Rathbone**, "Always", Rudheath, Northwich, Cheshire, U.K.

WANTED: Rhodesian Postmarks, on or off cover (pre-1923). Offers to **J. M. Weinstein**, 479a Fehrnsen Street, Brooklyn, Pretoria.

WANTED.—Accumulations, Collections, Office Lots on and off paper. Turn those old boxes of philatelic "junk" into cash, or exchange it with us for stamps, albums or accessories that you need. — **ROBEMARK PHILATELISTS (PTY.) LTD.**, 21 Joubert Street, Johannesburg. Box 11419.

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ACCUMULATIONS, ODD LOTS of Southern Africa wanted. **Union Stamp Co.**, 15, Barbican Bldg. P.O. Box 10225, Phone 838-5879.

WANTED TO PURCHASE THE BOOK "The Machine Postmarks of the Union of South Africa" by **G. W. Hockey**. Offers to **Dr. T. E. Berry**, P.O. Box 67031, Bryanston, Transvaal.

GERMAN SOUTH WEST AFRICA: Wanted early forerunners on cover or on piece, or any other items of interest. Top prices paid. **L. ABRAMS**, P.O. Box 7875, Johannesburg. Telephone: Office 22-1630; home 41-9251.

SOUTH AFRICAN COLLECTORS' SOCIETY for the Union Collector—magazine, exchange packet. Subscription 15/- year. — Write **Hon. Secretary, R. E. MASON**, 38 Rosslyn Avenue, Harold Wood, Essex, England.

LATVIA (Letland; Lettonie) out of the way items and bulk common stamps wanted.—**J. Michelson**. P.O. Box 9314, Johannesburg.

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U.S.A. SPECIALIST requires singles, blocks, covers, cancellations. **A. R. Kleiner**, 23 Cadogan Gardens, London S.W. 3, England.

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A RARE BIRD.—Rhodesia, 1966 Harrison Printing SG.375 2d; Block of 6 (2 x 3 vertical), bottom pair normal, top four orange colour omitted. Offers to **D. E. R. Horton**, Box A136, Avondale, Salisbury, Rhodesia.

The South African Philatelist

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Postal History in the Making

It may take some time before a reliable record emerges about the philatelic effects of the British postal strike, but it is clear that by their action (or inaction?) the strikers have precipitated the making of postal history.

We have lately received quite a bit of mail from Great Britain, but via Paris, Berne, Amsterdam, 'sGravenhagen and New York. South African subscribers to British stamp auction catalogues have received such via Schiphol, Netherlands, with instructions where to send bids to.

Robson Lowe had letters to his South African clients posted by a courier in New York, advising that catalogues would be dispatched from Holland and bids could be sent to Switzerland. Cavendish had catalogues posted in West Germany, complete with "Drucksache" imprint on the cover, but without forwarding address for bidders.

Details of a service to get mails out of Britain have reached us from Bridger & Kay, who were given Post Office authority to run a courier service through France, for letters to Europe, North America and Australia.

Their announcement says that the rate for a ½ oz letter would be 2/- service charge, plus postage — to Europe 1/-, to North America 3/- and to Australia 4/-.

And: "Special labels have been prepared and these will be affixed to all letters and cancelled by us at time of receipt of letter."

British concerns appear to have been quick off the mark in organising some or other service for the carriage of letters. On the first day of the strike we read a newspaper report about clandestine labels for the prepayment of local letter delivery being sold in a London pub, while newspapers later pictured long-haired motorcycle despatch riders doing their rounds.

We have heard of South Africans receiving letters from friends and relatives in London, written on Dutch aerogrammes and posted in The Hague.

When the strike started, our Postmaster General asked correspondents not to post letters addressed to Britain, yet within days it was reported that a million postal articles had piled up in the Johannesburg post office. By the end of February the figure had grown to six million.

Five New Fellows To South Africa

We have just received the news that Messrs. G. M. Brown, G. Bülbring, E. J. Creweel, I. E. Hall, R. E. Hunt and D. Lamont Smith have been elected to the rank of Fellow of the Royal Philatelic Society, London. We extend our hearty congratulations to them.

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Editorial

The Constantia 4c

An Open Letter

Dear Mr. Postmaster General, —

It is with pleasure that we have noted the first fruits of your guardianship. We applaud the changes you have lately brought about at the Philatelic Bureau and are gratified that you have found an early opportunity to elevate its status and extend its service, from which philatelists will also benefit.

Your proposed amendments to South Africa's stamp-issue policy spells well for the future, and is initially introduced by the allocation of six special pictorial handstamps in a period of ten days at the R.S.A. 10 celebrations.

Upon first acquaintance, this allocation appears somewhat forbidding, but upon further consideration the allocation may be reconciled as one issue for one particular event.

This thought is comforting, for in the past we have been conscious of and pleased at the conservative stamp-issue policy of our Post Office. Were this condition to be amended, we would respectfully suggest that you use your good office to restrict the number and to uphold the status of our new issues, and so eliminate the possibility of South Africa being designated a philatelic "black blot" country.

Philatelically, we feel that our hobby would be well equipped with about three or four Commemorative Issues per annum, each comprising two or three stamps. Definitive Issues could advantageously be changed every five years, while more Pictorial Handstamps than in the past would be acceptable under normal requirements.

These, we suggest, are South Africa's philatelic interests, of which we are as jealous as you are.

The Editor.

The Constantia 2½c has disappeared — in its place is the Constantia 4c, for the new internal letter rate in force from 1st April, 1971.

Similarly, the SWA 2½c definitive has become a 4c.

Mr. Herman Steyn, head of the Philatelic Bureau, told The S.A. Philatelist that it had not been possible to prepare new designs for 4c stamps for RSA and SWA in time for the switch-over to the new rate.

The 4c stamps were made available to post offices during March, and the first stocks of the new stamps became available at the Philatelic Bureau on 1st March.

The gradual introduction of the new stamps meant that first day covers were not issued.

Missing Letter in S.W.A.

Royal Visit

By Herbert C. Nöckler

It may not be known that the 1d of the 1947 Royal Visit, overprinted S.W.A. for use in South West Africa, exists with a missing "A" of the overprint.

I bought a collection at a Harmer's auction about seven years ago. In the collection was a block of 16 of the 1d value, with one stamp having the "A" missing. At about the same time Harmer's sold a cover datestamped at Kalkfeld, S.W.A., bearing a quite normal pair of the 1d, plus another pair with one stamp minus the "A".

A third pair, mint, has now come to light. This is, indeed, a rare and most unusual item. It would be interesting to hear if any other collector has such an item in his collection.

*Introduce The S.A. Philatelist
To A Friend*

SOUTH AFRICAN NOTES

by Dr. H. J. Raubenheimer

A New 50c Definitive Stamp

424.423 A and B

DELIVERY DATE 28 January 1971

This is only the third issue of this value since 1961, the preceding one lasting from June 1968. In general the stamps and sheets resemble the previous ones; the design and basic colours of the stamps remain the same but the printing factors are changed, and are thus described as follows:

SHEET FORMAT: Vertical, double die, two panes A and B, B having been on the left of A. 100 stamps per sheet (20 rows x 5).

STAMP FORMAT: horizontal, same size as before.

PAPER: the new Harrison, with the more glossy surface — this being the first printing on it. RSA watermarked, the marks being in tête-bêche formation and facing up and down and are indistinct in parts.

CYLINDERS: Two, new, crosslined screened, numbers 424 black, interior and 423 bright blue, exterior. These numbers, in their colours, with the pane letter A or B in bright blue, are shown on the bottom margin below stamp no. 5. Prepared from the old master negatives and new multipositives. Printed on the Goebel 840 machine.

ARROWS: bright blue, centrally placed on the left and right margins.

MARGINAL BARS: bright blue, on the top and bottom margins. Single line broken bars with an extended central gap.

SHEET NUMBERS: five figure black, type II on the right margin of pane A, twice, opposite rows 8 and 9 and again 19 and 20.

COLOUR REGISTER: consists of two concentric circles, divided by a cross, in the two colours superimposed; on the right margin of pane A opposite rows 2 and 3.

DENSITOMETER COLOUR PATCHES: two, black and bright blue; on the right margin of pane B and the left margin of pane A opposite rows 7 and 8, the black opposite row 7 and the blue opposite row 8.

STEP WEDGES: in depths of blue, 15 rectangles. On the right margin of pane B and the left margin of pane A opposite rows 13, 14 and 15. The numbers on them are reversed, giving a mirror image.



PERFORATION REGISTER PUNCH HOLES: On the left margin of pane B and the right margin of pane A opposite rows 6 and 7. Only the one on pane A has the blue concentric circles, divided by a horizontal line, around it.

PERFORATIONS: gauge 14 (13.75 x 14), by the Grover two row machine. The bottom margins are perforate through, the others are imperforate except for the single extra hole at each end of the horizontal rows of perforations.

VARIETIES

PANE B

Row no

- 2.5 tiny black dot above BL of REPUBLIC
- 4.5 tiny black dot between R and E of REPUBLIC

PANE A

- 17.3 black dot in top gutter towards the right.

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South West Africa Notes

By H. Maserow

In a previous issue of The S.A. Philatelist it was announced that the Government Printer in Pretoria had reserved cylinders in the 300 series for South West African Definitive and Commemorative stamps. The inauguration of the 300 series has seen the introduction of the marginal single line bar, except in the case of the two "Water 70" commemoratives, which are double line barred.

On the definitives, the sheet numbers have reverted to red. On the President Swart commemoratives red sheet numbers were used, but on the other commemorative sets issued to date, using numbers in the 300 series, the sheet numbers were in black. (On the Dr. Verwoerd set, the numbers are of the "drunken" variety.)

Here is a check-list of cylinder numbers being used for the definitive set:

$\frac{1}{2}$ c 315 314 (previously 105 10); 1c 39 122;
 $1\frac{1}{2}$ c 46 76; 2c 56 120; $2\frac{1}{2}$ c 107 42; 3c 313 312
(previously 56 54); $3\frac{1}{2}$ c 24 43; 5c 77 17; $7\frac{1}{2}$ c
14 22; 10c 36 44; $12\frac{1}{2}$ c 119 37; 15c 59 526;
20c 8 47; 50c 112 41; R1 90 15 25.

The first commemoratives using the 300 series appeared in 1967. To date, the allocations have been:

(a) Dr. Verwoerd	$2\frac{1}{2}$ c	301	300
	3 c	303	302
	15 c	305	304
(b) Pres. Swart	3 c	307	306
	15 c	309	308
(c) Water 70	$2\frac{1}{2}$ c	311	plus RSA 450 and 404
	3 c	310	plus RSA 401 and 400
(d) Bible Society	$12\frac{1}{2}$ c	316	plus RSA 416 and 417

(NB: The $2\frac{1}{2}$ c used 24 plus RSA 25 5 and 34.)

U.N. Postal Chief

A Danish artist and stamp designer, Ole Hamann (54), has been appointed chief of the United Nations Postal Administration, according to a recent announcement. Mr. Hamann has been with the UN for over 24 years and was the designer of some two dozen UN stamps.

Covers and Cancellers for R.S.A. 10

An early announcement on the special hand cancellers to be used during the Republic Festival in Cape Town has been made by the Post Office.

The handstamp for the International Philatelic Exhibition portrays the entrance to the Castle, Cape Town (as on the current 10c definitive stamp), and is to be dated 22-31 V 71. This handstamp will be used on first day covers for the issue of the commemorative 5c and 12½c stamps on 22nd May.

Orders for first day covers for the issue of 22nd May are to be sent to the Philatelic Bureau, Pretoria, in good time. The cost, fully serviced, is 33c.

The other stamps, for 2c and 4c, will (as reported in our last issue) be released on 31st May, and the official first day cover is to be cancelled with a single ring dater, having as central motif the letters "RSA" plus the



Youth Day



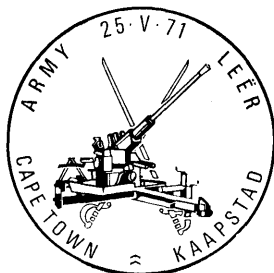
Navy Day



RSA 10 Philatelic Exhibition



Air Force Day



Army Day

figure "10" enclosed by a laurel leaf design.

Covers (31st May) are also to be ordered from the Philatelic Bureau, at 22c each.

The four commemorative stamps (2c, 4c,

5c and 12½c) are to be issued for South West Africa, with the inscription "SWA", on 31st May. Orders for the official first day cover (No. 3 in the SWA series) are to be sent to the General Post Office in Windhoek, and the price is 40c. The dater is to be similar to the Cape Town one, but slightly smaller.

The new first day covers will be without the inscription "Amptelike Gedenkkoever/ Official Commemorative Cover" — this is replaced by the new "PT" emblem of the Post Office, with the numeral.

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Special posting boxes are to be provided at the Goodwood Showgrounds, where the RSA 10 activities will be centred, for the special "day" postmarks. The first is Army Day, 25th May, and the pictorial handstamp features an anti-aircraft gun against a background of crossed swords.



Republic Day



Republic Day, Windhoek

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Youth Day is on May 27th, and the handstamp pictures young athletes with the South African flag.

Navy Day, May 28th, will have a handstamp depicting a Daphne class submarine against the anchor emblem of the South African Navy.

The last of the "days" is that of the Air Force, May 29th, with a handstamp showing an Impala jet trainer plus the wings emblem. It is clear that these handstamps portray the defensive role of the S.A. Defence Force, particularly in regard to the Cape sea route.

The Post Office will not issue covers for these "days", or handle orders for such.

— J.G.

O.F.S. Postal History

The April number of "Panorama", published in English, Afrikaans and a number of European languages, contains a well-illustrated article on the postal history of the Orange Free State.

Philatelic Reminiscence

WHY I TOOK UP PHILATELY

By G. N. Gilbert, R.D.P.

What induces anyone to take up philately? I suppose that in many cases they collected in their early school days, then lost interest only to return to their old hobby in later years.

In my own case I had never collected during my school days, my hobby then being photography — incidentally I was making colour photographs in 1910 and still have quite a few of those early efforts. Actually it was the disastrous drought of 1932/3 that started my interest in philately. For the best part of a year there was nothing to do on the farm except repairs etc. — no crops to reap, and the veld was more like the sands of the sea than grass, so I had a lot of time on my hands.

One day my wife was helping my young daughter to sort out and mount her stamps with the aid of an old Gibbons' catalogue and I was drawn in to assist. I got quite interested and it struck me then that here was a hobby which would take my mind off the desolation outside, and give me something with which to occupy myself. So I started right away with the current Union issues.

Unfortunately, starting in 1932, I had missed the King's Heads, the London and Pretoria Pictorials, and the first six plates of the Rotogravure issues, so I had quite a lot of leeway to make up. When the first Rotogravure stamps came out there were no cylinder numbers printed in the margins, with the exception of the first 1d plates, which had the letters A, B, D, E, and F together with the sheet numbers twice per sheet in the right margin. Without these letters or the four marginal arrows which appeared on the later issues of the 1d and the other denominations, there was nothing to identify any change of plate or to say what block of stamps came from which printing except by certain flaws or tiny constant spots, and as at that time there was no complete record of such flaws or spots, except a few recorded more noticeable ones in L. Simenhoff's catalogue and a couple of other small Union Catalogues I thought I would have a go and try to get together as near a complete record as I could of these Rotogravure issues for future reference.

I begged, borrowed and bought all the larger blocks of the lower denominations that



I could and examined the material of other good Union collectors. Unfortunately the only two in my vicinity were the late Paul Lowenstein of Ladybrand, and Joe Levy of Bloemfontein. I got in touch with Louis Simenhoff, and wrote to quite a few of the well-known overseas Union collectors, notably the late Dr. Gordon Ward, who later produced his great work on the 1d Ships. The late Bill Sheffield was of great assistance to me especially in the later issues, as he kept numerous complete sheets. I also visited the late Mr. L. A. B. Sharpe when I was in London for a short while.

Gradually things began to take shape, but alas, the first few plates of the ½d and 1d rotos were by then extremely difficult to locate in blocks of any size, so these had to remain rather sketchy, and incomplete.

During my study of these stamps I discovered that many of the inks used were fugitive, particularly the 1d, the red frame of which could be entirely removed by chloroform or

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ether without leaving a trace, so that the "missing frames" or partially printed frames which occasionally turned up over the counter, could be faked, and it was almost impossible to tell one from the other. The ½d green frame could be turned blue by the same means, as my old friend John Robertson will remember when he was offered a couple of sheets of this blue ½d by a bright lad in Cape Town as being rare colour trials. As far as I remember, Robby replied by offering him as many sheets of the same that he wanted.

It was in order to draw attention to this state of affairs that I made up a small exhibit which I put on the Pretoria Exhibition, I think in 1934, and hereby hangs a tale.

I noticed two gentleman examining my exhibit and I overheard one say to the other: "Surely that is no fake — it is identical with specimens we have in our books in the Works."

I then found I was speaking to the Government Printer, Major Kruger, and a colleague. I introduced myself and assured them that the exhibited items were completely "home-made".

Major Kruger then asked me to visit him at the Printing Works the following morning, so I turned up and explained to him how I had discovered that many of the inks used were fugitive and open to abuse. I think he was a bit shattered, anyway, from that time on an aniline dye was introduced which made it impossible to completely remove any of the colours by chemical means.

He then picked me out for an article I had written in the S.A. Philatelist regarding the first ½d booklet stamps, in which I had deduced the reason for the appearance on some panes of faint extra horns and ears of the springbok.

As the cylinder used for these booklets was made up of three vertical rows of three, with one row of three stamps tête-bêche and margins between so that all three strips could be bound in the booklets, I reckoned that in etching in the tête-bêche strip they had overlooked the fact that the centres of the stamps were not in fact central, and when the head-plate was printed, it was found that the springbok's head was about 2½ mm lower down and so impinged on the green frame.

So rather than scrap the whole cylinder, I considered it likely that they had honed out the tête-bêche strip and re-etched in another in the correct position. However as the tête-bêche strip was adjacent to the left hand nor-

mal strip of three, it was quite a ticklish job to avoid removing any of this strip, and the result was that very faint portions on the lefthand side remained and showed up when the new tête-bêche strip was added.

Major Kruger pooh-poohed the whole idea as complete nonsense and assured me what I saw were dirt marks common to the process and said "in any case you're a farmer, so what do you know about our business".

I ventured to disagree, whereupon he said: "We will soon settle this. I will send for the man responsible for making the cylinder and I am prepared to bet you a new hat that I am right and you are wrong."

A Mr. Booyens soon appeared and Major Kruger told him what I had had the nerve to suggest. Mr. Booyens smiled and said: "Well, Sir, that is just about what did happen." Major Kruger exploded: "Well I'm damned", but I am afraid I did not get my new hat!

I think the Mr. Booyens on this occasion is the same Mr. Johnny Booyens who was until recently on the job at the Works, and he may possibly remember the incident.

All this study and the listing of the numerous varieties etc. kept me fully occupied and gave me a great deal of pleasure — in fact I am quite sure that this enabled me to retain a certain amount of sanity during this very worrying time on the farm. When later on the Printing Works decided to print the Cylinder numbers on each new issue, I personally felt that a lot of the fun had been removed.

Of course, visiting the various Exhibitions was a great part of the enjoyment, and I shall always remember our visit to Paarl in 1957, and the visit to Mr. J. G. le Roux's beautiful wine farm. The hospitality was truly overwhelming, especially as the ten year old K.W.V. brandy flowed like water.

I remember that going there in the bus, it was pretty silent, and very different to the return journey, when the whole bus-load sang lustily conducted by our old friend Hall, who stood at the end of the corridor — albeit a trifle swaying — and conducted the proceedings. A really great party, and it only goes to show that even mad stamp collectors can be very human on occasions!

About 1950 I felt that I wanted something else to get my teeth into and started on the

Postal History of Basutoland. As this meant going back to 1833, it meant that a vast amount of research was necessary. All the knowledge I gained in this fascinating subject and the fact that I was able to produce the little handbook on "The Postal History of Basutoland" is almost entirely due to the willing assistance and knowledge of the Rev. A. Brutsch, who was then in charge of the P.E.M.S. at Morija. He allowed me to see some of the priceless items in their archives and to photograph some of the original letters dating back to 1833 from the first of the missionaries, Messrs. Cassalis and Arbousset. I also got a lot of material and help from Mrs. Amy Jacot-Guillamod, who has now left Basutoland and is a lecturer at Rhodes University.

I have never regretted taking up philately which has given me so many hours of pleasure and has made me many good friends. Unfortunately I am now well into the "sere and yellow" and as none of my family are interested, I felt it best, very regretfully, to dispose of my collections.

So today I am back to my first hobby — colour photography.

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POSTMARK NOTES

By David Allison

Bigger and Better Sorting Offices

Reference was made in the January Notes to the policy of the British Post Office of reducing the number of sorting offices while increasing the area served by each. In this connection it is worth mentioning that an article in "Stamp Collecting" of January 7th and January 14th 1971 refers to plans to reduce the present 1700 sorting offices to 120 by the mid 1980s. Since they have in fact done even better and at the time of writing have no sorting offices at all, let us turn our attention to an interesting postmark introduced in the U.S.A. last year.

At a glance it is like many other machine cancellations — a round datestamp to the left of some wavy lines. But the name of the state is at the top, in full — MASSACHUSETTS — and at the bottom of the datestamp appears the text ZIP AREA 017. Like the South Devon and other British postmarks referred to in the January Notes, this reflects a centralisation of sorting. The postmark is applied at Framingham, Mass, to mail which formerly would have been sorted at 23 surrounding offices as well as to the mail which would in any case have been sorted at Framingham itself. These offices all lie within 20 miles of Framingham, which is a "sectional center" through which their post is received and despatched. This dependence on Framingham is expressed in the ZIP codes used for sorting mail; all these towns have codes beginning with the digits 017 which appear in the postmark. Thus Framingham itself is 01701, Natick is 01760, Concord is 01742, and so on.

This AMP operation, as the American Post Office calls it — the initials stand for Area Mail Processing — began in May 1970, though not all the offices now covered by the plan were brought in at first. It is the first such project in the U.S.A. and several dozen similar ones are planned for 1971. Possible objections to the disappearance of local town names — Natick, Concord, etc. — from postmarks is largely met by two steps. Firstly in each of these towns special boxes are provided for the use of people who want the local postmark on their letters. Secondly, the name of the AMP centre (Framingham) does not

appear either, but only 017 and the name of the state.

I must record my gratitude to the Postmaster at Framingham for going to considerable trouble to provide me with this information and quite a lot more besides.

Post Christmas Mail Early

As is customary, this slogan was used at a number of South African offices at the end of last year. The period of use appears to have been 15th November to 15th December in most cases.

Two types of machines were involved. The British machines, which show the date in three lines, have been regularly used with this slogan since 1962, but this was the first year that the German machines associated with letter-facing equipment have had this slogan. These have the date in one line.

These German machines are in use at Cape Town, Durban, Johannesburg, Pietermaritzburg, Port Elizabeth and Pretoria. At each of these towns two forms of the Christmas slogan were used, one with English first and the other with Afrikaans first. A new die of the slogan was also used at Cape Town on the British machine, but Durban, Johannesburg, Port Elizabeth and Pretoria do not seem to have used it except on the German machines. I have not seen any Pietermaritzburg postmarks from the British machines during the period we are concerned with and would welcome any information.

This slogan is normally used at eleven other offices besides those already mentioned — East London, Kimberley, Springs, Welkom, Bloemfontein, Germiston, Klerksdorp, Kroonstad, Pietersburg, Potchefstroom and Vereeniging. I have no information concerning Pietersburg but the slogan was used as usual at the other ten offices. A new slogan die was brought into use at East London. (The German machines experimentally used in 1970 at Kroonstad and Welkom appear to have been withdrawn. Both these Christmas postmarks and more recent ones with wavy lines come from the usual British machines.)

Slogan News

Two new slogans came into use in January. The first was "Combat Crime — it is your duty", which was used on the German machines at all six offices which have them and on the British machines at Bloemfontein, East London and Kimberley. Both language arrangements exist from each of the towns using the

German machines. Bloemfontein has English first and East London and Kimberley have Afrikaans first. The first date noted is January 2nd from Johannesburg, and by the 6th, or earlier, it was in use at all nine centres.

The second, "Make use of P.O. Yellow Pages" appeared towards the end of the month. It will be discussed in more detail in the July Notes.

Rustenburg should be added to the list of offices in the August, 1964, S.A. Philatelist which used slogan 33a, "Help UNAC save

the World's Children" in 1948.

Slogans at Windhoek

It will be recalled that the Water, Census and Emblem slogans appeared in trilingual versions (Afrikaans / English / German) at Windhoek. In contrast bilingual (English/Afrikaans) dies of the two new slogans have been supplied to Windhoek, looking just like the South African ones. As in previous years, the Christmas slogan appears **not** to have been used there.

SPECIAL HAND CANCELLERS

Several readers have written to Mr. S. J. Vermaak following the publication of his list of "Special Hand Cancellers dating from 31st May 1910" in the January issue of The S.A. Philatelist.

Mr. Henry Maserow of Johannesburg sent the following amendments and additions:

Publicity

- 1963 (1 July) Table Mountain
- 1964 Elephant Park — should read 1965 (21 June)
- 1964 Bontebok Park — should read 1966

General

- 1963 National Nuclear Conference, Pretoria (8-11 April)
- 1967 No. 1 Field PO (7 April)
- 1968 No. 1 Field PO, A and B (Mr. Maserow's covers are both dated 2 August)
- 1970 1820 Settlers, Port Elizabeth (13 June).

Mr. Maserow also points out that the 1968 No. 3 Field P.O. should read A & B (his covers are dated 14 August and 27 August respectively), while his A and B marks for No. 2 Field P.O. are both dated 14 August.

Mr. David Allison of Cape Town has written to add the postmark of the Rosebank Show, later the Cape Show. It cancelled stamps on letters posted at the show in 1950, and as far as he knows, still does. The Cape Show has a permanent datestamp of normal (non-pictorial) design and Mr. Allison's copies are dated in 1965.

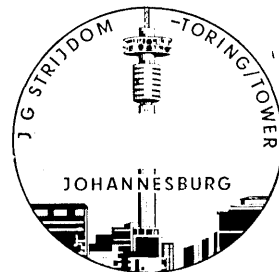
The only Rosebank Show datestamps known to him are of the "old relief" skeleton types.

A letter in our February issue voiced the

opinion that the postmark described for the Pretoria Industrial Exhibition is still in regular use.

Mr. Vermaak adds a mark, that of the 1938 Burger Camp.

We learn that a pictorial hand canceller is to come into use on 17th April 1971, the opening day of the J. G. Strijdom Microwave Tower of the Post Office in Hillbrow, Johannesburg.



First day covers for this handstamp may be ordered from the Philatelic Bureau, Pretoria, at 20c each, fully serviced. The handstamp will in future be used at the Jeppe Street Post Office, for cancelling mail posted at the tower.

New S.W.A. Issue

A few months ago the 10c appeared as a coil stamp (in rolls of 200), watermark tête-bêche; the colours are rather dull.

Lately the same denomination appeared in sheets, with the watermark the same as above and the cylinder numbers as before, but the colours are very much brighter.

Thus far the following denominations are on sale as coil stamps: ½c (no inscription), 2c (no inscription), 5c and 10c. — H.C.N.

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Dit val op hoe keurig die eersredagkoeverte van die Filatelieburo in Pretoria afgestempel word — mooi netjies, met die stempel duidelik op die koevert en net die rand daarvan wat aan die seëls raak — die trotse werk van 'n vakman.

Die man wat die meeste van Suid-Afrika se EDK's rojeer, is 'n posbesteller, hy dra 'n sterk bril en hy is links.

Piet Roos die baasrojeerder, was een van die drie posbestellers wat by die Republiekfees van 1966 op 'n lendelam tafel in die tydelike poskantoor by die Voortrekkermonument in Pretoria derduisende gedenkoeverte afgestempel het. Sy arm was lam en sy hand was stukkend geslaan, maar daar het hy homself bewys.

Daarna het die Filatelieburo hom gereeld genooi om die spesiale bronsstempels te kom hanteer vir die eersredagkoeverte, vir die postoonbanke by kongresse, en dergelike geleenthede. Die taak beteken dat hy vroegoggend by die werk moet wees om sy posronde vir die dag uit te sorteer, dan gaan hy stempel en laatmiddag vertrek hy met die bonkige possak om die eintlike dagtaak af te handel.

Piet Roos is 'n man met 'n innemende geaardheid en 'n trots in netjiese rojering. Hy het 'n akkurate hand en wat sy afstempeling merkwaardig maak, is dat sy hand nie voor sy gesig kom nie. Hy stempel links met die hand na regs, en kyk dus uit 'n ander hoek na die koevert sodat hy die hele tyd die seëls sien.

Dit is 'n vereiste dat die bronsstempel gelyk en egalig aangewend moet word. Hy stempel tot 3,000 koeverte op 'n dag en die werk is so skoon dat die Filatelieburo selde nodig het om 'n koevert af te keur.

Ek het weer 'n slag na die onlangse jare se EDK's in my versameling gaan kyk — werklik, 'n mens kan tevrede wees met Piet Roos se rojering.

J.G.

Hoofdlager en Velddienst

In 'n onlangse veilingskatalogus is drie merkwaardige posseëllose koeverte van die Zuid-Afrikaanse Republiek uit die jaar 1898 beskryf, al drie met die endossement „Veld-dienst” bo-aan die gesigkant van die koevert.

Hoewel die katalogus die koeverte verkeerdelik „voorlopers” tot die Tweede Vryheids-oorlog noem, werp die koeverte interessante lig op die stelsel van gratis posvervoer vir burgers op kommando in Transvaal.

Een van die koeverte het die dubbelring-metaalstempel „Hoofdlager/Z.A.R.”, wat ook tydens die Tweede Vryheidsoorlog gebruik was, maar met datum 23 Desember 1898. Die ander twee koeverte het gewone dorpstempels, onderskeidelik Pietersburg, 14 Desember 1898, en Barberton, 11 Julie 1898. Al drie die koeverte is geadresseer na en gerugstempel in Johannesburg.

Dit het van tyd tot tyd gebeur dat kommando's vir velddiens opgeroep is, hetsy vir strafekspedisies teen Bantoesamme of vir ander geleenthede van militêre aard. Die gratis vervoer van die kommandolede se pos was in sulke gevalle blykbaar die algemene gebruik.

Die Poswet, Wet No. 1 van 1886, maak in artikel 54 voorsiening vir die posvrye vervoer van briewe, boeke en koerante **na** en **van** burgers op kommando. Pakkette na en van diensdoende burgers moes egter teen die normale tariewe versend word.

In die volgende Poswet, Wet No. 18 van 1898, word die aangeleentheid deur artikel 53 gereël. Die gratis posdiens vir kommandolede was op 28 September 1898 weer in die Tweede Volksraad ter sprake, en daar is besluit dat die reëling sal geld ten opsigte van „almal gemoed met die handhawing van orde en die onderdrukking van oproer”.

Daarby het die republiek se Poskantoor by minstens drie geleenthede spesiale posreëlings vir burgers op kommando getref:

1. Die Malaboek-oorlog in 1894. 'n Half-weeklikse posdiens was van 16 Junie tot 30 September tussen Pietersburg en die kommando's te velde in werking.
2. Die Magoeba-ekspedisie in 1895. 'n Posdiens is van 5 tot 17 Junie gereël tussen Pietersburg en die „Hoofdlager” by Joubertskroon in die distrik Soutpansberg.
3. Die Magato-oorlog van 1898. 'n Spesiale halfweeklikse posvervoer is van 18 Oktober tot 31 Desember 1898 tussen Pietersburg en

die Hoofdlager in die Soutpansberg onderhou. 'n Telegraaflyn, met houtpale, van Pietersburg na die „Hoofdlager by Rietvlei” is in rekordtyd op 31 Oktober voltooi, en twee tydelike posagentskapkantore vir die kommando's is op 1 November geopen.

Die een was Fort Schutte, beman deur Coenraad Johannes Abraham van Reenen, en die ander Hoofdlager, waar Jan Abraham Joubert die possake behartig het. Albei was posagente, en dus nie voltydse amptenare van die Posterye nie.

Oor die opskorting van hierdie diens verskil die argivale bronne. Volgens een bron is die Hoofdlager-poskantoor op 31 Desember 1898 opgehef, volgens 'n ander is sowel Hoofdlager as Fort Schutte „vroeg in 1899” gesluit.

'n Weeklikse posdiens is vanaf Februarie 1899 regstreeks tussen Pietersburg en Fort Hendrina begin, en die tog het 14 tot 15 uur geduur. Op 1 Junie 1899 is die roete verander: vanaf Lovedale Park en ter aansluiting by dié plek se posroetes na Louis Trichardt en Pietersburg.

Die Hoofdlager-poskantoor aan die Natalse front, waar die dubbelring-metaalstempel in die Tweede Vryheidsoorlog gebruik is, het waarskynlik vroeg in November 1899 tot stand gekom.

Twee van die drie koeverte in die veilingskatalogus het dus betrekking op die Magato-oorlog. Wat die derde betref, is die aard van die „velddiens” by Barberton nie bekend nie.

Per telefoon gebie

Ons verneem dat daar, sover bekend is, vir die eerste keer in Suid-Afrika per telefoon deelgeneem is aan die bieëry by 'n posseëlveiling. Twee versamelaars in Pretoria het naamlik op 25 Februarie vanjaar 'n oproep deurgeskakel na die veiling van Wicks Stamp Agency in Durban, en het op 'n hele aantal items gebie.

Mr. C. E. Sherwood

Pleasant news has been received that Mr. Sherwood's health has improved sufficiently for him to make the trip to South Africa and that he will be in attendance at the RSA 10 Exhibition in May.

RECORDING NEW ISSUES

It is a function of the S.A. Philatelist to record all new issues and printings of our stamps. The official handbooks and catalogues, later issued, use these recordings as a basis. Years ago the descriptions were relatively straightforward; there were not so many printings or marked changes in the appearance and make up of the sheets. In the very nature of recent advances and refinements and volume of just about every form of activity the study of our stamps is becoming more complicated. There is a growing feeling that it requires more and more effort to keep up with the seemingly endless stream of new printings and there is no doubt that some collectors are turning off our stamps. Rather illogically, too, some tend to lay the blame at the door of the too specialised studies and descriptions. Other criticisms have been mentioned in the editorial of our January 1971 issue.

Be that as it may, philatelists have no control over the numbers and types of new issues and printings, but it is necessary to record their features. In describing a new issue the problem always arises of how to be concise and yet to record the essential features and also to avoid cross references. There are roughly three main points to take into consideration in the description:

- (1) the stamps themselves, the design, format, paper, watermarks, perforations and gum.
- (2) the printing features as shown on the margins, such as cylinder and sheet numbers, arrows, marginal bars, various registers and guides for colours and perforators.
- (3) Arising from the two above, to determine whether there is any relation between this issue and preceding ones, e.g. whether they are from a common multipositive — important to philatelists.

Experience teaches that one, no matter how expert, must not rely entirely on his own observations, and so, routine questions are put to the authorities — what is the paper, is it from a new machine, have new multipositives been made, and so on. And even then the information given may not be complete and even be ambiguous.

Take the case of the recent issues of the 2½c Constantia stamp. Briefly, cylinders 17-23 were used from April 1967. In a new issue in July 1970 no. 23 was changed for 8 for the 17.8 issue. In the 12.8 issue of December

1970 cylinder 8 was used again. In describing the 17.8 issue it was stated that a new multipositive was used for the 8. That was from information received and confirmed later in the official job sheets. Furthermore, the striking varieties of cylinder 23 were missing from 8. It was then forcibly pointed out that there were indeed varieties — admittedly minute — common to 23 and 8. Still further investigation revealed that the multipositive used for cylinder 8 was partly old and partly new. The portion with the stamps was old but the printing data along the margins were new. From a philatelic point of view the stamps are more important, so now the verdict will be that the old multipositive had been used again. So, from the describer — PECCAVI. Still later, another issue was made from cylinders 419.418 in January 1971. This had another set of printing data and from another machine with its own characteristics, but from the previous multipositives. No varieties common to the preceding issue have yet been seen. From these facts, and for those who want to delve still more deeply into the intricacies of stamp printing, it would seem that what are sometimes described as multipositive varieties did not come from the multipositive at all but from the carbon tissue applied to the cylinder. Hairsplitting?

To add to the discomfiture of anyone attempting descriptions, gremlins in the printing can creep in and make nonsense of a carefully prepared article. Someone is bound to jump in and draw attention to it and the embarrassment at the moment is complete. A case in point: look at your S.A. Philatelist of February 1971, bottom of page 34. The article continues on page 47 and, as it reads, does not make sense. In short, the following words of the original were omitted: After the last line — “sheet numbers.” should come “05181 to 13688. b) dark gum. Sheet numbers”. Insert them and the paragraph makes sense.

And now, to end on a lighter note. The trials and tribulations of a writer in our own respected journal can be shown in a beautiful example on page 1 of the January 1971 issue. The learned writer makes a passing reference to stamp and coin collectors — philatelists and numismatists. The mention of coins probably caused the coining of a delightful new word numismaticans. And why not? if you have Mathematicians studying Mathematics

why not numismatians studying numismatics? But the printing machine obviously has no appreciation for original thought so it printed the word unmismaticans as it's own contribution. This word went through all the stages of checking to the final printing. We can be sure that a certain popular "teddy bear" will be the first to laugh at it.

H.J.R.

[We are pleased that our publication may cause a little mirth under the present disturbing circumstances as well as the conveyance of philatelic information. — Ed.tor.]

Another Philatelic Corner

We are pleased to note another gesture of goodwill rendered to philatelists by the Postal Authorities, for the P.R.O. of the G.P.O. in Durban has announced that a philatelic counter was established in the Durban Post Office. The counter has, since the beginning of February, been operating once a week, on Tuesdays from 3.30 p.m. until 5 p.m. It is situated at the telephone accounts counter in the East Hall.

EXECUTIVE COMMITTEE

A well attended meeting of the Executive Committee of the Philatelic Federation of Southern Africa was held on Friday, 27th November 1970 and was presided over by the President, Mr. S. Kaganson. The following is a resume of some of the more important items determined.

Matters arising from Congress

(a) The appointment of Mr. J. Groenewald to the Editorial Board of the S.A. Philatelist had been approved by Congress.

(b) **Method of Election of President of Federation**

The President said the motion was not correctly presented and had not been accepted by Congress.

(c) **Film "Picture to Post" — Method of Distribution and Cost**

After a detailed discussion it was

RESOLVED

- (i) that a hiring charge of R3.00 plus cost of insured postage both ways be paid by the Society borrowing the film,
- (ii) that information regarding the make and year of projector to be used plus competence of the projectionist would be pre-requirements before the film was loaned,
- (iii) that if the film, on return, was found to be damaged, the Society which borrowed it would be responsible for the cost of repairs,

(iv) that the Recorded Lecture Committee be requested to draft Rules for the care and use of films owned by Federation and submit these for approval to the Executive.

(d) **Rules Regarding Awards for Papers read at Congress which have been Presented Elsewhere Previously**

As there was a division of opinion at Congress over the framing of the regulations regarding such awards, it was

RESOLVED

that the Awards Committee be requested to consider the rules for making all Federation Awards and to bring forward its recommendations at the next Executive Committee Meeting.

(e) **Consolidation of accounts to include the S.A. Philatelist with Other Publications:** The Hon. Treasurer said that in fact this was done but that the Philatelist account was kept separate for administrative reasons.

NOTED.

Election of Standing Committees:

- (a) **Publications Committee:** Drs. T. B. Berry and H. J. Raubenheimer, Messrs. L. Buchen, J. T. Burrell, J. Groenewald, S. J. Hagger, S. Legator, K. E. W. Lydall, J. Michelson and S. J. Vermaak were elected.
- (b) **Expert Committee:** Dr. Berry said he was unable to stand for re-election, so the following were elected: Cmdr. C. E. D. Enoch, Dr. H. O. Reisener, Messrs. E. Walker and

J. M. Weinstein. Cmdr. Enoch expressed sincere regrets at Dr. Berry's withdrawal, but said the Committee would value being able to approach Dr. Berry in a consultative capacity in the future.

- (c) **Congress Award Committee:** Dr. T. B. Berry, Cmdr. C. E. D. Enoch and Mr. J. M. Weinstein were elected.
- (d) **Recorded Lectures Committee:** Messrs. L. Buchen, J. T. Burrell, K. Lydall and R. G. L. Mephius were elected.
- (e) **Philatelic Estates Committee:** Messrs. N. A. L. Ford, K. E. W. Lydall and K. Wedderburn-Maxwell plus the five Vice-Presidents were elected.

GENERAL

Application for Affiliation

It was resolved that the Vereeniging Stamp Club and the Carletonville Stamp Club be accepted for affiliation as from 1st January 1971.

Congress — 1972

Discussion ensued as an attempt to determine the venue of the 1972 Congress during which the Secretary suggested that one of the

inland Societies might consider acting as host to Congress in 1972 without holding an exhibition at the same time. Mr. Michelson suggested that Congress might be held on board ship or at some popular resort such as the Game Reserve or the Drakensberg.

RESOLVED that the matter be drawn to the attention of all affiliated Societies and be discussed at the next Executive Committee Meeting.

Future of Federation:

The Secretary said that this matter should have been raised during Congress. Within the past few years the activities of Federation had grown, particularly as regards publications. There were regular requests for developing the services available to affiliated Societies and their members. An instance of this was recorded lectures and films on philately but there were other gaps to be filled. Federation was fortunate in having the services of a limited number of people who made time to handle Federation's affairs but it was time to consider bringing in additional workers since if any of the key workers dropped out there could be a serious breakdown.

Dr. Berry associated himself with the Secretary's remarks and said that the first requirement was to obtain an assistant to the Secretary. Mr. T. Rudman had been approached and offered his services as an understudy of

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ST. LUCIA

OPENING OF BEANE FIELD AIRPORT

Release date 30th April

One of the 57 countries who use the services of the Crown Agents Stamp Bureau, the largest Philatelic Bureau in the World, to market their stamps. Collectors wishing to add this issue to their collection, or any of the other issues released this month, should obtain them from their local dealer.

Suppliers include:
PAN AFRICAN PHILATELISTS
 P.O. BOX 2336, JOHANNESBURG

CA · CA · CA · CA

A Crown Agents Stamp Bureau announcement

CA · CA · CA · CA · CA · CA

the Secretary who would help especially in the distribution of publications.

RESOLVED that the offer of Mr. Rudman to understudy the Secretary and assist with the distribution of publications be accepted with appreciation.

REVIEWS

GREAT BRITAIN VOL. 1 — Queen Victoria (Stanley Gibbons 45/-)

This, the third edition of Stanley Gibbons Specialised Catalogue of the stamps issued by Great Britain during the reign of Queen Victoria, is a truly great work. Many additional illustrations of the varieties referred to in the text have made a material contribution to the greatly increased value of this Catalogue to all Specialists in these issues.

A notable addition to the prices quoted is the separate pricing of the various plates from Die I Alphabet II watermarked Small Crown and perforated 16 and 14.

This reviewer feels, however, that an attempt should also be made to price the different plates from the same group when imperforate (Plates 132 to 175) and also the different plates from Die I Plate 12 to Die II Plate 68 in unused or mint state. Such pricing would be of inestimable value to Specialist Collectors and does not necessarily imply that the publishers are in a position to supply such items on demand.

When considering the excellence of this volume and the immense amount of work that has gone into its preparation, it is a pity to have to record that there is ample evidence of careless proof-reading and correction as witnessed by such items as the listing of Die II Alphabet II Plate 3 Large Crown 16 which is unknown instead of Large Crown 14. The anomaly of pricing C5i mint at £25 when the normal and very much commoner stamp is priced at £40—£50 while the large number of price errors in the 1D. S.G. G1 is inexcusable although a number of these have already been corrected in recent issues of Gibbons Stamps Monthly.

It is also unfortunate that imperforate 2d stamps from plates 1 to 4 with inverted watermarks are higher priced unprinted than printed — a curious anomaly. Also 2D. Plate 5 Large

Crown 16 with inverted watermark is not listed and a constant variety is listed as lettered SN, an impossible lettering, instead of SG.

C.E.D.E.

Thiaude Catalogue of France and the French Group

The 56th edition of this Catalogue must rank as one of the best Catalogues for this Group which have appeared during the past 50 years. As has become usual during the past few years there are many price changes throughout the Catalogue and these are mostly increases. The great strength of this Catalogue lies in the new section covering the 1870-71 Siege of Paris where there are over 2,000 new prices listed.

The Encyclopaedic section of this Catalogue is quite outstanding, pricing as it does not only pairs, strips and blocks of 4 but also many of the different postmarks, unofficial perforations, bisects, plate varieties, etc., a feature not normally associated with a general Catalogue, and the publishers are to be congratulated on this valuable addition to their Catalogue.

It would be a help, however, if an additional editorial note could be added at the beginning of the book giving the foreign exchange equivalents of the French Franc in say U.S. \$, DM. and Sterling as not all overseas collectors are familiar with ruling rates of exchange.

C.E.D.E.

Philympia 1970 Slide Presentation Available to Clubs

Benson and Hedges 100's First Day Cover Series is offering to stamp clubs a half-hour, full-colour slide presentation of the Philympia Exhibition held in September 1970 in London. The program is available to stamp clubs without charge.

Held this year in the Empire Hall at the Olympia Exhibition Centre, Philympia represented the world's largest collection of stamps ever to be housed under one roof. The total value of the collections ranged upwards or \$250 million.

Highlights of the presentation include portions of the British Royal Collection and Prince

Rainier of Monaco's collection; the stand of Stanley Gibbons, and part of the Crown Agents stand, the largest in the exhibition.

In addition to collections, the artistry and methodology of stamp design and process, which were part of the exhibition, also appear in the presentation. An engraver at work on dies for a British decimal stamp soon to be issued and commentaries and sketches of earlier stamp processing are liberally represented.

The presentation also covers an exhibit of the Penny Black, the world's first postage stamp. The stamp was reproduced this year in honour of Philympia and was used for the first cover in the Benson and Hedges 100's First Day Cover Series.

Stamp clubs are invited to make their requests for program use of the Philympia 1970 slide presentation to: Benson & Hedges 100's, 100 Park Ave., New York, N.Y. 10017. Requests should indicate the club name, name and address of person to whom program is to be sent, and date of club meeting at which program will be shown.

Acknowledgement "Stamps"

The Bambata Rebellion

By A. Leslie Leon,
R.D.P., F.R.P.S.L.

You may not have heard of it, but it rocked Natal during the winter of 1906. As the fighting raged up and down the Colony the lives of the populace were in danger and the very existence of white rule was threatened. The events that led up to the Zulu rebellion and the whole course of the campaign is graphically and entertainingly described in a recent book "The Reluctant Rebellion" by Shula Marx, published by the Clarendon Press, Oxford. From the point of view of the philatelist, the maps which adorn the volume are of the greatest interest.

How does the philatelist enter into these scenes of local history? Well, in the Hurst collection in the Durban Museum there is a series of covers from this campaign emanating from Ixopo in the South of the Colony to Nkandhla in the North — the area where Bambata was killed and the rebellion finally fizzled out. The late H. H. Hurst was a noted philatelist of his era who bequeathed his collection to the Durban Museum and as the correspondence referred to is all addressed to him personally, it is obvious that he had a friend or relative in the

Natal Forces which were called up to pursue and contain the rebels.

Twice in the last ten years I have seen in auction catalogues covers from this source. Not only are they very scarce and command high prices, but a knowledge of the history of the campaign is necessary to enable one to identify such covers — the only clues usually being the circular date-stamp which will reveal if the missive was posted in an area where fighting was carried on; the date also is of course revealing.

A cover now before me was posted at Nkandhla, Zululand, on June 16th, 1906, and is endorsed "On Active Service, Stamps not procurable". It is from Captain Hugh Mullins, Brigade Major, Royston's Column, 3 F.F. Addressed to England, it carries a local Tax Mark T over 20c in an oval, and an English one — 4d over I.S. over K. At the date in question, Nkandhla was the Headquarters of the Natal Forces, the remnants of the rebel forces having been confined to the area of the Nkandhla forests.

Covers from this short campaign are not only part of South Africa's history but are also very desirable philatelic items.

Obtaining The RSA 10 Covers

The Royal Philatelic Society of Cape Town, as Organizers of the International Stamp Exhibition have undertaken, as a service to stamp collectors and interested members of the public, to prepare special commemorative covers for each of the special days mentioned above. The Society will affix both the stamps to be issued on the 22nd May, 1971 to the covers and post them to interested parties duly cancelled on the date required. The cost of each serviced cover will be 30 cents. In the Republic two of the new postage stamps, the 2 cent and 4 cent values, will be issued on the 31st May, 1971. On this day, all four stamps will also be on sale in South West Africa.

On Republic Day, when the 2 cent and 4 cent stamps will be issued, only these will be affixed and the serviced cover will be available at 20 cents.

A full set of all 5 serviced covers will be available at a special price of R1.25.

Anyone interested in acquiring one or more of the serviced covers should order them from the Secretary, P. O. Box 1973, Cape Town, enclosing Postal or Money Orders payable

to the Royal Philatelic Society, Cape Town. As there is a limit upon the number of serviced covers available, orders will be treated in strict rotation.

Cape Town to Rio Yacht Race

The cutter "Active" presently taking part in the Cape to Rio Ocean race is the official Boy Scouts entrant and to my knowledge it is the first time since the inception of the movement that the Boy Scouts' Association have entered an Inter-Continental Ocean Yacht Race.

As at yesterday, the Active was 19th in the race in actual position, and lying 23rd on handicap, and the vessel is a 50 ft. Bermudan cutter, and has had associations with the Scouts movement over a number of years, as her owner, Mr. Eric Porzig, is the Skipper, and is Scout Commissioner.

On board also are his son, Jeremy Porzig, Capt. David Powell, an old Sea Scout who is a harbour pilot in the Port Captain's Department in Cape Town, and is the navigator.

The balance of the crew consist of 5 Sea Scouts, various groups aged between 16 and 17. They have been training for the last year, mainly on the "Active", and the boys were selected on merit. The yacht is also carrying a letter of goodwill from the Mayor of Cape Town to the Governor of Rio, and have aboard a South African Kudu-horn, which is the International symbol of assembly, which would be presented to the Boy Scouts in Rio.

I felt that it would be a good idea to get out covers to commemorate this signal event, and unfortunately had to tackle the job myself for the Scouts as our local printers had closed for their Annual Holidays.

The Covers have been numbered individually, and will be signed by Skipper and crew. The covers were cancelled with the ordinary canceller at the G.P.O., Cape Town, on the 16th ultimo, being the day of the start of the race, and it is hoped that on arrival at Rio, they will be back-stamped on the flag for the date of arrival. Included will be a printed stiffener. I printed 50 covers of which 20 were allocated to Skipper, crew, Scout Museum, etc., and of the balance of 30, 25 were offered to the Public at R25.00 each, proceeds in aid of the Scout movement and have been sold.

The remaining 5 covers will be offered by Public Auction on behalf of the Boy Scouts in due course.

ROBERT GOLDBLATT.

Republic Junior Festival

Competition

The prizewinners of the competition were:

Ages 8—12:

1. Sally Stern, 59 Forest Drive, Pinelands — National Costumes
2. Philip Seligman, 36 King Edward Road, Lombardy East, Johannesburg — United States of America
3. Julian Michael Stern, 17 Eyton Road, Claremont, Cape — Great Britain

Ages 13—15:

1. Peter Flentov, 7 Jan Cilliers Street, Parow North — Malawi
2. James Goldman, 31 Higgs Road, Higgovale, Cape Town — Natal
3. Philip Levine, 51 Lincoln Street, Bellville — South Africa

Ages 16—18:

1. Darroll Goldblatt, 157 1st Avenue, Parow — Great Britain
2. Ernst van Deijl, 5 Da Gama Street, Welgemoed, Bellville — Space

Consolation Prizes:

- Gordon Dean Springett, 8 Sinclair Ave., Bonnie Doon Extension, East London;
 Cathy Stern, 59 Forest Drive, Pinelands;
 Peter Stern, 59 Forest Drive, Pinelands;
 Ryk Arnoldus Mauritius van Schoor, 3 van de Graaf Street, Welgemoed, Bellville;
 Peter Lurie, 176 Corlett Drive, Bramley, Johannesburg;
 David Simon, 11 Zion Road, Claremont, Cape;
 Christa Botha, 53 Keurboon Street, Stilfontein;
 Jochem van Oort, 24 Kerk Street, Potchefstroom;
 Ian Stewart Maclean, 18 van Vrede Street, Bothasig, Cape;
 Ian Carter, 47 9th Avenue, Boston Estate, Bellville.

The entry of the winner in each group will be on show at the R.S.A. 10 International Stamp Exhibition to be held at Goodwood during the Republic Festival from the 22nd — 31st May, 1971.

SOCIETY NEWS

AFRIKAANSE PHILATELISTIESE VERENIGING VAN PRETORIA

Januarie: As gevolg van oorpasing na elders het die penningmeester, mnr. J. Becker, bedank. Voorlopig is in sy plek aangestel mnr. D. Eksteen.

Mnr. A. Havenaer het die aand opgeluister met twee versamelings. Die een was 'n aantal seëls met afbeeldings van skoelappers en motte. Die ander was 'n kompleet stel seëls van die Oos-Afrikaanse state wat gesamentlik uitgegee word. Mnr. Havenaer beskou hierdie gebied besonder geskik vir 'n beginnende versamelaar: slegs agt tot twaalf seëls word per jaar uitgegee teen 'n prys van R1 per stel. Dit kan enigeen byhou. Die versamelings is besonder netjies gemonteer en by elke seël van 'n skoelapper is die insek se naam bygeskryf: bewys van 'n noukeurige en moeisame nasoekwerk wat hier verrig is! Ons het al baie keer 'n deel van die groot versameling van mnr. Havenaer gesien, maar dis elke slag weer 'n plesier; netjies, kleurryk en met veel kennis bymekaar gemaak!

PRETORIA PHILATELIC SOCIETY

January: At the meeting eight members showed small selections from their collections. Mrs. Led-bitter showed West Germany 1951—64. The main impression of the well filled pages was one of attractive and bold colouring.

Mr. A. F. Williams showed Liechtenstein commemoratives. For many centuries the Liechtensteins were feudal chiefs owing allegiance to the Hapsburgs.

Mr. A. F. Reynard tabled a display of odd shaped stamps where Cape Triangulars were shown with some strange companions, mainly from Sierra Leone.

Mr. J. F. M. Mapstone showed 15 pages from 15 Outposts of Empire, though they were from the period when the word Empire was rather frowned on. The Jamaica sheet showed Miss World of 1963.

Commander Enoch had taken to heart the warning against making his exhibit too high brow and showed one stamp from each of the 1d Line engraved plates of G.B. on which the authorities had thoughtfully put the plate number in the frame.

Mr. Impey showed a pleasant by-way from the United States — the Newspaper, official and registered stamps. Most of these dated from the far off times when United States issues were things of beauty.

Mr. Roché showed postal stationery from South West Africa and the protectorates.

Our President declares that he had not read the request in last month's newsletter saying "no high-brow stuff", so produced some interesting early items from the Transvaal, which besides being very fine and interesting pieces made a very nice balance to the evening.

February: The following exhibits entertained members and were sincerely appreciated.

Dr. Reisener tabled a mixed display including the highlights of Belgium. There was a very attractive page of the line engraved Medallion issue of 1849, and the three charity sets for the rebuilding of Orval Abbey. There were a number of interesting Venezulan Bisects on cover and some out of the way oddment of the Union of South Africa.

Mr. Reynard showed us New Zealand Commemoratives, a light but colourful display included outstandingly beautiful stamps. If they can do it, why can't we?

These were followed by Mr. Schlieben's Germany 1948—58. Having started collecting when the flood of mint horrors of the German inflation of the twenties were coming out, the quality of the German issues after the second war was a pleasant surprise.

PHILATELIC SOCIETY OF NATAL

December: President's night had a wonderful turnout — could it be the free tea and delicious snacks? Mr. Whysall put up his prize winning exhibit of the German Third Reich Military Propaganda and Concentration Camp stamps and covers. Dr. Duncan also displayed some of his more choice items from his South African collection. Also on the boards was Mr. Appleby's collection of Christmas stamps and last, but not least, were some sheets of postmarks which were put together for the "Water Year" competition. This exhibit came from a youngster who lives at Montclair and who belongs to the group of young philatelists that Mrs. Betty Bevis has started.

Dr. Dreosti told members about the Federation meeting he had attended on the Society's behalf. He had been asked by the Pretoria Philatelic Society whether our Society would be prepared to let them have 1973 to hold the Congress and exhibition as it was their 75th anniversary. After some discussion it was decided that Durban would keep 1973.

6th January: Dr. Duncan welcomed everyone to the first meeting of the year. He especially welcomed a visitor from England — Mr. Power, and hoped that our visitor would find our meeting interesting.

Dr. Duncan drew the attention of the members that a New Year had started and there was a lot of work to be done. At the Annual General Meeting in March a Congress Committee would be formed. He said we are all involved; we must work hard and aim for a good Congress.

20th January: SWOP NIGHT.

Dr. Duncan welcomed everyone to this informal meeting — he said he was very pleased to welcome Mr. F. J. Torres who was on holiday from Spain. Mr. Torres was a former member of our Society and at one time a member of the Newsletter Committee.

Dr. Duncan then went on to say that he had had the pleasure of meeting a Mr. Schreiber who was recently been appointed Public Relations Officer for the Durban Post Office. Mr. Schreiber attended, by invitation, the January Committee Meeting. He explained the various services the Post Office hoped to implement in the future.

BELLVILLE PHILATELIC SOCIETY

January: The first meeting in the new venue was well attended and several exhibits were displayed by members:

Peter Hesseling	—	Malaria on Stamps
Ernst Gerber	—	Orchids
Hubert Keulder	—	Canadian Emblems
Theo Kurtz	—	South African Animal Definitives
Hugh Lee	—	G.B. Booklets
Barbara Ubaghs	—	Southern Rhodesia
Philip Levine	—	Talylyn Railway
Eddie Beunderman	—	Meter Franking
Manfred Kleingunther	—	Botswana
John Stinson	—	Miscellany

Hugh Lee commented on the exhibits and congratulated the members on their effort. He thanked Hubert Keulder and Ernst Gerber for the supply of lights and for their work in installing them. He then threw the meeting open and asked members for comments and suggestions. Several points were brought up and discussed.

After tea Sales and Exchange took place and the meeting closed at 10.15 p.m.

SOCIETY OF ISRAEL PHILATELY

December: This took the usual form of a film show which in this instance was held at the residence of Mr. and Mrs. Boris Glassman as our usual venue was not available. An excellent programme of Israel films were shown through the courtesy of the Film Department of the South African Zionist Federation. Of the four films the most interesting was a recent release and the first time that a film was shown on the lives of Moroccan Jewry which featured particularly the complete evacuation to Israel of a mountain village inhabited by Moroccan Jews.

No Meeting was held during January 1971 due to the annual recess period.

THEMATIC STAMP CLUB

January: This was the usual pleasant and well attended All Members' Evening when the following were shown: Capt. M. F. Stern "The Sea Route to India", which gained a Silver at Yllympia; Capt. M. F. Stern "The Falmouth Packet Mail"; R. Jeidel "Pro Juventute"; R. Goldblatt "Art through the Ages"; Mrs. Hilde Jeidel "Towards Europe — the CEPT stamps"; W. Robertson "Modern Lesotho"; R. Goldblatt spoke on covers he had arranged for the Cape—Rio yacht race and Capt. M. F. Stern gave a short talk on how to tackle "Ships on Stamps", and showed literature, books etc. on the subject. This talk will be held regularly on various themes and topics.

THE MASHONALAND PHILATELIC SOCIETY

January: The Chairman welcomed the 23 Members and 18 Guests present at the 'Chairman's Night' and a very entertaining evening it proved, with Mr. Annett giving an outline on the 'ways and means' of writing up a collection, which was followed after the tea interval with a viewing of Mr. Ellenberger's slides of Rhodesian flaws.

An interesting point brought out during discussion on writing up a collection was that some

Members preferred to use pencil as opposed to ink and it was pointed out that such a method was acceptable for International Competitions. It all really boils down to one of the main features of stamp collecting and that is, it all depends on ones own personal desires and tastes.

EAST RAND PHILATELIC SOCIETY

February: The 51st Annual General Meeting enjoyed a satisfactory attendance and after the formal business was concluded the following office bearers for the ensuing year were elected: President, H. E. Roux; Vice President, Dr. L. David; Secretary, E. Holden; Treasurer, H. Godwin; Committee, S. Legator, J. Botha, E. Hollis, R. Rushhorft; Executive Member, S. Legator, alternate E. Holden; Auctioneer, S. Legator.

The highlight of the year under review was undoubtedly the most enjoyable and successful dinner held in September to commemorate the Society's 50th Anniversary, attended by some 42 individuals.

An enjoyable evening concluded by the Vice President, Mr. Weiner, staging an exhibit of his 1937 and 1952 Coronation Issues.

PRETORIA RAILWAY PHILATELIC SOCIETY

January: The Chairman after welcoming members to the first meeting of the year, and extending the Seasonal Greetings entertained the members by showing part of his S.A. collection N.L. oddments of S.A. stamps, Booklets, Letter Cards, S.A. Air Mails, Forgeries, and Air Crash Letters. Viewing these air crash letters, our thoughts go back to these unfortunate happenings, and those involved by it.

Dr. Goldberg tendered a suitable vote of thanks.

CASPIP

November: The meeting was a Film Evening and commenced with the Mr. H. Gottschalk Trophy Competition.

The film "Bon Voyage" depicted the travels of a young boy and girl on a scooter, singing their way through Israel.

The second film: "A Stamp is Born" is an old favourite amongst collectors of Israel and it illustrates how the stamps are conceived with particular reference to the production of the Tabil issue.

The third film: "Picture of Post" (G.P.O. London) concentrated on the designing process of recent English stamps and showed different designers at work.

This proved to be a most excellent film. After the tea adjournment, Mr. Surdut showed his Judaica exhibit which can be best described by quoting from the introductory page of the exhibit:

The fourth film, entitled "Post Mark Canada", described the postal services of Canada with emphasis on the distribution, sorting similar services provided by the Canadian P.O.

ROYAL PHILATELIC SOCIETY OF CAPE TOWN

January 14: Mr. Putzel screened a film of his recent trip oversea. This was accompanied by a

fine display of Italian stamps. A discussion on the merits of Philatelic Literature took place. The main speakers being Mr. Putzel, Mr. and Mrs. R. Jeidel, Capt. Stern and Mr. Wannerton. Views were put forward and a number of new avenues to explore were forthcoming.

January 28th: This was Jacob Cup evening and the following competed for this Cup.

Mr. L. du P. Chiappini — The Nigerias
Dr. H. Gottschalk — Palestine Mandate
Mr. D. W. Watts — Burma

Congratulations to Mr. Chiappini on being awarded the Cup for 1970.

PORT ELIZABETH PHILATELIC SOCIETY

January: Mr. Bulbring displayed about 120 sheets of his Norway Collection dating from 1855 to date and gave an accompanying and interesting talk including the background of the country. The meeting's appreciation was suitably conveyed to him.

February: It was a "ten sheet meeting" and ten members exhibited in competition for which certificates of merit were awarded to the three best exhibits, ten sheets of stamps not previously shown, accompanied by a brief description of the exhibit.

In addition two non-competitive exhibits of Antigua and Austria were shown, covering in all a varied and an extensive field.

It was a most entertaining evening and members look forward to hear of the awards on a later meeting.

GERMISTON PHILATELIC SOCIETY

February: At a fairly well attended Annual General Meeting, the following were elected as office bearers for the ensuing year:

President, Mrs. C. F. de Kock; Vice President, Mr. R. G. L. Mephius; Hon. Secretary, Mr. I. S. Burniston; Hon. Treasurer, Mr. A. C. Rix; Hon. Exchange Packet Superintendent, Mr. R. G. L. Mephius with his assistant Mr. H. Birkhead; Hon. Auctioneer, Mr. H. Birkhead; Hon. Librarian, Mr. T. J. B. Curle; Hon. News Editor, Mr. A. Thompson, also as Hon. Assistant-Secretary, a new position on the Committee; Committee Members, Mr. D. T. Cornelius, Mr. D. A. Peckitt; Federation Representative, Mr. S. J. Hagger; Hon. Auditor, Miss Trudgeon.

PHILATELIC SOCIETY EAST LONDON

February: Although our meeting was poorly attended, due to a spate of sickness, it was enjoyed by those who attended. We had one of the popular "10 pages or 10 cents" evenings, which seem to go down so well, and certainly encourages shy members to break the ice regarding the showing of their stamps. Some very interesting and novel pages were seen and we would certainly like to see some of them entered in the competitions. We were pleased to have Mrs. Whaits of Mossel Bay as a visitor, and it is understood that she is busy with

the re-forming of the Mossel Bay Stamp Club. We have also been informed that Dale College of King William's Town, has now formed a school stamp club, and this is mainly due to the mini-exhibition we staged there. What with increased postage rates, it has reluctantly been found necessary to increase our sales commission to 12½%.

We have also decided to change our venue, which has entailed a change of meeting night. In future we will meet on the 4th Thursday at the New Library, Gladstone Street.

AFRIKAANSE FILATELISTE- VERENIGING

Februarie: Die nuwe jaar het goed begin, want by die goed bygewoonde vergadering het ons ge-luister na die een naam op die ander van nuwe lede en aansoekers, iets wat daarop dui dat die AFV nou in sy 21e jaar sterker staan as ooit tevore.

Die uitstalling, aangebied deur mnr. Erik Thamm, was „Onofhanklike Rhodesië" en het afgesien van die oordrukseëls en die uitgifte sedertdien ook egte gebruikte koeverte bevat, bv. ge-pos op onafhank-likheidsdag, 11 November 1965.

EXPERT COMMITTEE

The next meeting of the Expert Committee of the Philatelic Federation of Southern Africa will be held on Saturday 15 May, 1971.

Airmail Notes

SWISSAIR: First Flight Johannesburg to Kinshasha (Congo): April 1, 1970, 60 covers were sent off on this first flight but so far only 21 were received back (February 23, 1971).

JUMBO JET FLIGHTS: The first flights will be taking place later in the year and I am informed by SAA and BOAC that covers will be carried on the first flights. Readers should follow news in the press in this regard in event of their wishing to get away covers.

—M.F.S.

Railway Stamps

Commenting on the article "Railway Stamps", which appeared in our January number, Mr. W. Giesenow of Thematic Stamp Specialists, Johannesburg, wishes it to be known that the books mentioned in the article may be obtained from him, and further that he is the sole agent in South Africa for the A.T.A. and thus may enrol applicants for membership.

PHILATELISTS' RENDEZVOUS

THE ROYAL PHILATELIC SOCIETY OF CAPE TOWN

meets on the second and fourth Thursdays
of every month in
The Club Room of the Friends of Italy of
South Africa, First Floor, Radio City Bldg.
Tulbagh Square, Foreshore, Cape Town.
at 8 p.m.
VISITORS CORDIALLY WELCOMED.
P.O. BOX 1973, CAPE TOWN.

THE MASHONALAND PHILATELIC SOCIETY

Meets once a month on the second Wednesday
at 8 p.m. in the Auditorium of the
Queen Victoria Museum, Rotton Row,
Salisbury.

All visitors are welcome —

Secretary P.O. Box 2735, Salisbury.

ORANGE FREE STATE PHILATELIC SOCIETY

Meets on the fourth Friday of every month
in the
NATIONAL MUSEUM HALL,
BLOEMFONTEIN
at 7.30 p.m.
Issues a monthly magazine and circulates
sales packets to members.
P.O. BOX 702 — BLOEMFONTEIN.

THE PORT ELIZABETH PHILATELIC SOCIETY

meets on the first and third Tuesday each
month in the
The Walmer Library Hall,
Main Road, Walmer, Port Elizabeth.
at 8.00 p.m.
Visitors cordially welcome.
P.O. BOX 3 — PORT ELIZABETH.

THE PHILATELIC SOCIETY OF NATAL

Meetings 1st and 3rd Wednesdays monthly
at 7.30 p.m. in the
Geo Gato Boom, City Hall, Durban
(Entrance West Street . . . door nearest
Beach)
VISITORS CORDIALLY WELCOMED.
P.O. Box 588, Durban, Secretary's
Telephone 64306 (evenings)

THE PRETORIA PHILATELIC SOCIETY

meets on the first Monday of every month
in the
Council Chamber of the Technical College
Church Street East, Pretoria.
at 7.45 p.m.
VISITORS CORDIALLY WELCOMED.
P.O. Box 514, Pretoria.

THE PHILATELIC SOCIETY OF JOHANNESBURG

meets twice a month: Second Tuesday and
fourth Monday at
Room 75, Public Library, Johannesburg
at 8 p.m.
VISITORS ARE WELCOME.
Hon. Secretary,
P.O. Box 4967, Johannesburg.

THE AEROPHILATELIC SOCIETY OF SOUTHERN AFRICA

Meetings are not held, but members get
covers, etc. of special South African flights
and other interesting items — more than
covered by the small annual subscription.
P.O. Box 3654, Cape Town.

THE PRETORIA RAILWAY PHILATELIC SOCIETY

meets on the second Wednesday of every
month in the
Railway Recreation Club, Berea Park,
Pretoria, at 8 p.m.
P.O. Box 2388, Pretoria.
ALL PHILATELISTS ARE WELCOME.

SOCIETY OF ISRAEL PHILATELY

Meets on the 1st Monday of every month
at 8.15 p.m.
Burlington House Boardroom (2nd Floor),
c/r. Rissik & Marshall Streets,
Johannesburg.
ALL WELCOME.
Secretary P.O. Box 11502, Johannesburg.

THE SOUTH AFRICAN STAMP STUDY CIRCLE

meets at 2.15 p.m. on the second Saturday of
every month in the
Staff Tea Lounge, Basement, Corner House,
Corner Sauer and Commissioner Streets,
Johannesburg (Commissioner St. Entrance).
ALL INTERESTED IN SOUTH AFRICAN
PHILATELY ARE WELCOME.

Secretary: N. Becker
P.O. Box 9505, Johannesburg.
Telephone: 838-4679; Home 45-5452

THE EAST RAND PHILATELIC SOCIETY

P.O. Box 483, Benoni. (Hon. Secretary).
Meetings every 2nd Monday in the month
at the
BENONI TENNIS CLUB HOUSE,
Benoni, at 7.45 p.m.
VISITORS ARE WELCOME.

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IF STAMPS OF — Germany, Austria and other Western European countries are wanted, first try us.—S.A. STAMP CENTRE P.O. Box 6891, Johannesburg. Telephone 22-1391. (Want lists invited).

WANTED.—R.S.A. Covers No's. 1, 2, 9 and 10; quantities or single items. Offers to: Rand Stamps, P.O. Box 413, Roodepoort.

WANTED: S.A., S.W.A. and Boer War, preferably postal history.—C. E. SHERWOOD (V), P.T.S., 105 Marford Crescent, Sale, Cheshire M33 4DN.

ANGLO-BOER WAR PHILATELIC SOCIETY, quarterly magazine with exchange packet in U.K. Annual subscription £1 sterling or 3 dollars. Secretary, J. H. Rathbone, "Always", Rudheath, Northwich, Cheshire, U.K.

WANTED: Rhodesian Postmarks, on or off cover (pre-1923). Offers to J. M. Weinstein, 479a Fehrsen Street, Brooklyn, Pretoria.

WANTED.—Accumulations, Collections, Office Lots on and off paper. Turn those old boxes of philatelic "junk" into cash, or exchange it with us for stamps, albums or accessories that you need. — ROEMARK PHILATELISTS (PTY.) LTD., 21 Joubert Street, Johannesburg. Box 11419.

COLLECTIONS WANTED for immediate cash settlement: Large or small, specialised or general. Top prices paid for popular sets and rare issues in fine condition.—ELIEZER BLUM, P.O. Box 1669, Cape Town. (Established in Cape Town since 1930).

TE KOOP GEVRA: Posmateriaal van die Vrystaatse en Transvaalse Republieke gebruik ná 11 Oktober 1899. J. Groenewald, Posbus 3443, Pretoria.

ACCUMULATIONS, ODD LOTS of Southern Africa wanted. Union Stamp Co., 15, Barbican Bldg. P.O. Box 10225, Phone 838-5879.

WANTED TO PURCHASE THE BOOK "The Machine Postmarks of the Union of South Africa" by G. W. Hockey. Offers to Dr. T. B. Berry, P.O. Box 67031, Bryanston, Transvaal.

I exchange **ANTARCTIC COVERS** and **SPECIAL FLIGHT COVERS** with cancellations by Argentine or Chilean bases for covers of R.S.A. or G.B. **ANTARCTIC BASES** or mint sets. H. Bergwerk, Casilla 5636, Buenos Aires.

WANTED: Early S.A. Decimal issues in cylinder blocks mint. Offers to Dr. P. Catzel, 38 Victoria Street, Waterkloof, Pretoria.

GERMAN SOUTH WEST AFRICA: Wanted early forerunners on cover or on piece, or any other items of interest. Top prices paid. L. ABRAMS, P.O. Box 7875, Johannesburg. Telephone: Office 22-1630; home 41-9251.

SOUTH AFRICAN COLLECTORS' SOCIETY for the Union Collector—magazine, exchange packet. Subscription 15/- year. — Write Hon. Secretary, R. E. MASON, 38 Rosslyn Avenue, Harold Wood, Essex, England.

LATVIA (Letland; Lettonie) out of the way items and bulk common stamps wanted.— J. Michelson, P.O. Box 9314, Johannesburg.

WANTED.—German Concentration Camp Covers and Ghetto Post, Post-war Locals, Propaganda, Forgeries, Military Covers, etc., etc. C. A. Whysall, P.O. Box 676, Durban. (68 West Street).

U.S.A. SPECIALIST requires singles, blocks, covers, cancellations. A. R. Kleiner, 23 Cadogan Gardens, London S.W. 3, England.

WORLDWIDE PHILATELIC PUBLICATIONS! U.S.A., England, France, Germany, etc. Free subscription price list. — Bedard Publications, Box 5215 — SA1, Detroit, Michigan 48236, U.S.A.

TRISTAN DA CUNHA.—Books — letters — clippings — envelopes — articles — prints — illustrations — reports; always wanted. J. Cole, 90 Ronson Drive, Rexdale, Ontario, Canada.

JAPAN: 100 Different or 40 commems. exchanged for your city's telephone directory (used). Yas Kanagwa, P.O. Box 36, 664 Itami, Japan.

THE STAMP COLLECTING GROUP LTD. London now publish **STAMP COLLECTING WEEKLY**, Annual sub 80/- post paid (\$U.S. 10.00), **PHILATELIC MAGAZINE** monthly, Annual sub. 40/- post paid (\$U.S. 5.00) and **PHILATELIC TRADER**, fortnightly, Annual sub 30/- post paid (\$U.S. 3.75). The most comprehensive coverage of the hobby and trade from one publisher. Agent in South Africa: D. C. D. Castle, P.O. Box 970, Pietermaritzburg.

ISRAEL STAMPS: Join the Eilat Club for new issue service at face value and for another five advantages. Eilat Club, P.O. Box 542, Eilat, Israel.

A RARE BIRD.—Rhodesia, 1966 Harrison Printing SG.375 2d; Block of 6 (2 x 3 vertical), bottom pair normal, top four orange colour omitted. Offers to D. E. R. Horton, Box A136, Avondale, Salisbury, Rhodesia.

The South African Philatelist

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What's on in Philately at "R.S.A. 10"

By J. W. T. Wannerton, F.R.P.S.L.
(Exhibition Secretary)

The last Philatelic Exhibition of International status was held in Johannesburg in 1960, prior to that Cape Town were hosts in 1952. Thus nearly two decades have passed since the Mother City had an opportunity of bringing together exhibits of world wide repute.

In the years between we have had Nationals in towns and cities throughout the Republic and while collections of outstanding merit may be on view they lack the lustre that "International" brings to mind.

The Exhibition is housed under one roof, in the Hall of Commerce, Goodwood Showgrounds, and contains somewhat over one thousand frames of stamps. These have been drawn from exhibitors from many lands and show a diversity of collecting interest and thought. In the non-competitive section will be governmental exhibits from several states, among them our own South Africa. The "Royal" Societies of London, Australia, Rhodesia and New Zealand will also participate.

A section of the famous "Dale-Liechtenstein" Cape of Good Hope will be there for all to see. Members of the Jury and several oversea and local philatelists will display exhibits from as many countries as there are exhibitors.

To pre-judge in the competitive section would be fair to no one. What follows is purely a very general idea of a show that it is hoped all philatelists in the Republic and beyond will endeavour to visit, if only for a short while.

A glance through the final entry forms gives a good guide to what will be there.

By far the most popular group is Europe, with nearly three hundred and thirty frames. For the connoisseur of classics, there will be classics with more to follow.

Taken as a single unit Africa fills some three hundred frames, by far the most popular area being Africa South of the Equator. Among the country groupings the remainder are fairly well dispersed with something for everyone, early to modern.

Followers of Thematics will have some two thousand sheets to whet their appetite with many a new subject to claim the attention and interest. Aero-philatelists, there will be something for you too, at the back of the Exhibition hangar. Though few in numbers, I doubt if these exhibits will be grounded for long.

For the youngsters there is the junior section to learn from and emulate in future years. Having done the frames and seen your fill, take a seat at the rear of the hall. The dealers there, men and women of repute, will serve you well.

The Post Office will be there too working to help the "fanatics". With eight counters in all they hope to be busy all the time. We hope the exhibition will be a success, for philately, for the competitors. The end result is up to you, the viewer. See you there: **22nd to the 31st May 1971.**

Editorial

RSA 10

When this issue comes off the press, we will be counting the days to RSA 10, the international philatelic exhibition held as part of the Republic's tenth anniversary celebrations in Cape Town.

An "international" is something exciting, something special, something great. We all look forward to it — to see the fine displays, to meet friends and fellow-collectors, to see what the dealers have, to post our commemorative covers, to converse and swap know-how . . . and to visit again and again those amongst the one thousand frames that interest us most.

The congress of the Philatelic Federation of Southern Africa will coincide, and we look forward to an outstanding philatelic week.

In The Red

The South African Philatelist of late has received many compliments and is also enjoying an encouraging increase in readership, and we are happy that this is so.

In the last year, however, we were faced with rapidly increasing costs of production. Virtually an all round increase, and the result has been that The South African Philatelist showed a serious deficit.

The Publications Committee has been exploring ways and means of remedying the position. Certain action has also been taken.

When the position was brought to the notice of the Federation's Executive Committee at its last meeting, three philatelists present voiced the opinion that individuals should have the opportunity of "sponsoring a page".

The first benefactor is sponsoring a page in this issue. He deserves the thanks of all of us.

— THE EDITOR

Dr. H. J. Raubenheimer

Dr. Henry Raubenheimer has relinquished his position as Honorary Associate Editor of the S.A.P., but will continue his excellent column "South African Notes".

Dr. Raubenheimer had not been enjoying the best of health lately and recently asked the Publications Committee to be excused from editorial work. His concise notes on new printings and current developments formed an important part of the S.A.P. for the last seven years and, we are happy to say, will still grace our pages.

Philately in South Africa is fortunate in having a man like Dr. Raubenheimer as its current historian. It is appropriate that we record our highest appreciation for the selfless way in which he executes this time-consuming, exacting task.

Thanks!

One page of this issue is sponsored by Mr. Albert L. Meyburgh of Bloemfontein, who has sent our Business Manager a cheque for R20.00 towards the production cost of the magazine — and that means one page. Many thanks, Mr. Meyburgh, on behalf of all our readers we record our sincere appreciation for your active support in sustaining our journal.

Certified Mail System Extended

The certified mail service, the use of which had been restricted to government and provincial departments, became available to the public on 1st April, 1971.

The object of the service is to allow through the post at a rate lower than that for the registration service, important postal items which have no intrinsic value, but in respect of which the senders require that acquittances be obtained from the addressees.

All classes of mail matter, except parcels, may be certified at a cost of 5c, plus postage at the appropriate rate. The service is internal only.

A distinctive green label with the wording „Gesertifiseerde pos/Certified mail" and a number, is used.

SOUTH AFRICAN NOTES

by *Dr. H. J. Raubenheimer*

A New Harrison Paper

Recently our stamps have been printed on a new type of Harrison paper, RSA watermarked, with the marks in tête-bêche formation. The first appeared at the end of January 1971. The paper may be distinguished from the preceding Harrison paper by its whiter and glossy appearance. It is also slightly thinner. The glossiness gives a brighter coloured stamp which is more pleasing. It is understood that there had been a degree of difficulty in perforating the previous paper because the holes are through the phosphor bands between the stamps and these bands are hard on the pins of the Grover perforating machines. Normally five sheets are perforated at a time, but, with phosphor, it is advisable to do not more than four, a factor which is of considerable importance when dealing with many hundreds of thousands of sheets. The new thinner paper overcomes that difficulty.

The following values have so far been printed on the new paper:

- 50c Cyls 424.423 A.B. 28 January 1971
- 2½c Cyls 419.418 A.B. 22 February 1971
- 4c Cyls 420.418 A.B. 1 March 1971
- 10c Cyls 254.253 A. B. 3 March 1971
- 15c Cyls 298.297.296 A.B. 25 March 1971
- R1 Cyls 259.258.257 A.B. 25 March 1971.

The dates given are, within a few days, those when first deliveries were made.

An Interesting Reprint

10c Cyls 254.253 A pane only

On the 10th of March 1971 a distribution was made of the 10c value from cylinders 254.253. It was interesting in that only the A pane was printed, as the paper, the previous Harrison RSA tête-bêche, only 190 mm wide, could only take one pane. Consequently, for the Grover perforator to be used, its pegs were brought closer together and the punch holes for them appear on both the top and bottom margins of the sheets — the first time this has happened on our stamps. These holes are found above and below stamps 13 and 14. Only the one on the bottom margin has the green concentric rings around it. These holes are characteristic features of this printing.

It is understood that very little of this original narrow paper — it is not the whiter, glossy type — was left in stock and there are very few sheets of this printing. Indeed, they were not issued in separate packets but were interspersed with others on the new glossy paper. The paper, being the same as that of the distribution of June 1970, makes it difficult to differentiate between the two printings apart from the two punch holes mentioned. An additional factor may help to distinguish. Say cylinder blocks. The sheet numbers of about a hundred sheets found in a number of packets ranged from 03515 to 04303.

Our February issue gave details of the printings of the 7½c stamp (as remarked later, there was a misprint, a line was left out, but later corrected). The 7½c and the 10c stamps were unique in that they first appeared with phosphor bands 5 mm wide, but later the bands were 3 mm wide. So here are the printings of the 10c stamp from cylinders 254.253. There have been six distributions since 1968. The dates given of first appearance are correct to within a week or so. All were on RSA tête-bêche watermarked paper.

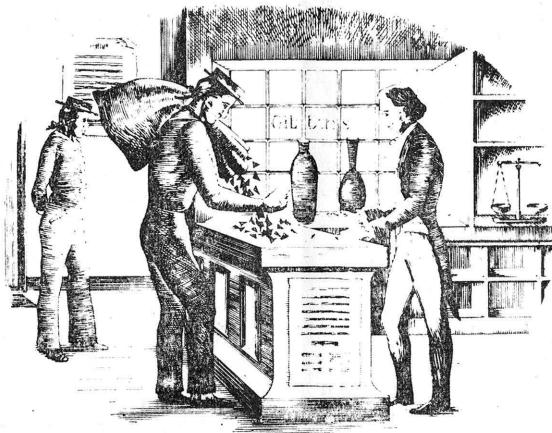
- A. panes A and B not phosphorised
 - 5 June 1968. Swiss paper. Type I black sheet numbers.
 - 31 July 1969. Swiss paper. Type II black sheet numbers.
- B. panes A and B phosphorised.
 - 30 January 1970. Swiss paper. 5 mm bands.
 - 30 June 1970. Harrison paper 3 mm bands.
 - 3 March 1971. Harrison new glossy paper. 3 mm bands.
- C. pane A only, phosphorised.
 - 10 March 1971. Harrison old paper. 3 mm bands.

A New Value In The Republican Series

4c cyls. 420.418 A.B. phosphorised
1 March 1971

This 4c denomination is an addition to the 14 values of the definitives of the Republican

**We're not expecting you
to sell us a kitbag of
Cape Triangulars
for £5**



We couldn't be that lucky all over again! .

However we are pleased to announce that John Farthing, Associate Director of Stanley Gibbons Ltd., will be visiting major cities in South Africa, and would like to hear from people interested in buying and selling stamps or collections of a specialist nature.

He can be contacted at SUNNYSIDE PARK HOTEL, JOHANNESBURG, on May 6th; and TULBAGH HOTEL, CAPE TOWN, on May 19th.

A warm welcome awaits those who meet Mr. Farthing, or visit STAND No. 24 — the Gibbons stand at RSA 10 — The International Stamp Exhibition, Cape Town (May 22-31, 1971).

You can contact him now by writing to

**Stanley Gibbons Ltd.,
391 Strand,
London, WC2R OLX.**

Cables: Stangib, London, W.C.2.

Series. It was printed for the new postage rates which came into force on the 1st of April 1971 and will be to supersede the 2½c for letters. It was, however, delivered to post offices on the 1st of March 1971. Apart from the "4" instead of the "2½" on the stamp it is identical to the previous 2½c from cylinders 419.418 which was described and illustrated in our March 1971 number. There is, however, a slight change in a shade, it is now purple instead of light reddish violet.

A new exterior cylinder no. 420 was prepared from a new master negative and multi-positive. The previous interior cylinder 418 was used again. There are also no marginal step wedges as on the 2½c.

VARIETIES

Pane B

Row No.

1.20 Small white dot at 7 o'clock of first A of AFRIKA

3.15 Tiny white dot at left of R of REPU-BLIEK

Pane A

2.11 Custer of white dots above left gable

2.16 White dot below I of SUID

3.10 White dot below U of SUID.

**Early South African Essays
From the Netherlands**

A correspondent from the Netherlands has asked for information regarding stamp essays found in the vaults of the Nederlandsche Rotogravure Maatschappij in Leiden. He says they had Harrison staff trained in using the rotogravure process in the early twenties and that they printed some stamp issues for Harrison of Egypt and Peru and also essays for orders Harrison hoped to get for other countries such as Greece, Turkey and Gold Coast and also South Africa. The South African essays were 1d Springbok, 2d Springbok, 1d Ship, 3d Table Bay, 4d Gnus and 1d Deer.

From their description these do not tally with the essays in the Post Office Archives, Pretoria, and, as far as we are aware, their existence is unknown in South Africa. The correspondent is Mr. R. C. Bakhuizen van den Brink, Morsweg 48, Leiden, Netherlands. He would be pleased to correspond with philatelists in South Africa.



The RSA 10 stamps

The 2c depicts the arrival of the 1820 Settlers. The 4c shows the Vereeniging monument and the profiles of President Paul Kruger and President Marthinus Steyn, while the 5c pictures the J. G. Strijdom Microwave Tower in Johannesburg and the profile of the late Mr. Strijdom.



The 12½c value commemorates ten years of the Antarctic Treaty, of which South Africa is a signatory.

(The designs were described already in our March issue.) *also p 159 this volume*



REMINISCENCES OF A STAMP DEALER

By Eliezer Blum

"There is no greater fool than he who thinks himself wise, no one wiser than he who suspects he is a fool."

I cannot recall the author of these lines, but I think that they hold the essence of a motto for a stamp dealer. This I have come to realize more and more after 41 years' of active philatelic dealing in South Africa. But let me start at the beginning.

I began to collect stamps at the early age of five, and, in 58 years of collecting, dealing and "dabbling" in stamps from those earliest of days, I can now look back upon more than four decades of professional dealing since I stepped ashore on this — "The Fairest of all Capes". My experiences have been many and varied; my frustrations and earlier struggles for economic survival, not only in the gloomy times of depression, but also in the so-called "normal" periods, have been such as to preclude my boring the reader with the details. However, bearing in mind the recommendations made to me by Dr. T. B. Berry, that I should confine this article to my personal experiences, I shall take his good advice and place on record the events which merit special mention in my association with people from so many different walks of life, people whose philatelic interests led them to my door. Indeed, it has been my good fortune to have met many outstanding characters, and this, to me, is the ultimate satisfaction and reward to be secured from the pursuit of life.

My earliest recollection is that of meeting the late Mr. Louis Simenhoff, only a few days after my arrival in this country. He was helpful and tried to explain that I should have to concentrate either on the Union of South Africa as a field of professional philately, or on the stamps of British Africa — this, if I was to adjust to the local collecting habits. This recommendation, which I was later to realize, was given in all sincerity, was made to me in view of the fact that I posed as a "Specialist" of the stamps of Latvia, Ukraine, and Soviet Russia, and, to a lesser extent, of those of France and her Colonies, the former countries being, of course, of limited philatelic interest in South Africa. I remember at this stage the difficulties of communication on account of language, Mr. Simenhoff politely claiming that his yiddish was nearly as good as my English, of which, to be quite honest,

neither of us had much idea!

The next step was to attend a meeting of the old Cape Town Philatelic Society (Now the 'Royal') in the old Railway Institute Building, which meetings were held bi-monthly. Simenhoff was there to meet me and make me feel at ease in this very strange and new atmosphere. He introduced me to members and to the Chairman, who then extended to me his official welcome as a visitor from Paris. I felt very important, and immediately applied for membership. For the next three years or so I was a regular attendant at these meetings, where I always felt the great friendliness and cordiality prevailing. This was something which I could never have dreamt existed in this far corner of the earth, more especially among a score or more of stamp collectors of such varied cultural, educational and national backgrounds. I was sure that one could not encounter anything quite like this anywhere else in the world. As time went by, I made many friends, and I must say that, in those days, it took some time to exchange greetings with all those present, as it would have been most discourteous to overlook the necessity of a handshake with each and every one present, or, at the very least, to say a few words of salutation. Looking back, the only present day reminder of those past years is in the person of R. F. (Chappie) Chapman, who, I would say, has not missed many meetings in the 45 years or so of his membership, which, I can well believe, must be a record. He has remained a devoted and faithful member of the Society, having now served on the Committee for much longer than I would try to remember, and I cannot imagine a meeting without "Chappie" being around, looking as youthful and energetic as ever!

Reverting again to the early days, R. W. (Bob) Hazell was our Chairman when I joined in 1930, but shortly after he vacated the position in favour of Heinrich Meyer. The latter was a model Chairman if ever there was one, and his towering personality seemed to give the meetings an air of importance. In fact, Heinrich Meyer remained in the chair for so many years that some of us assumed he had become a sort of "permanent fixture".

My happy association with the Society, however, came to an abrupt end in 1933, in consequence of some aspersions cast in my direction that, according to the rules of the Constitution, professional traders in stamps were not eligible for membership. In other words, having by now become very much of a dealer, I could no longer enjoy the full privileges accorded to collector members. An exception, so I was informed, was being considered, whereby I would be entitled to attend meetings, and although "outside" the body, as such, my status would be that of a country member. To me, this sounded like a veiled invitation to resign, and I took the hint. As I had suspected, it was only later that it came to my knowledge that one particular member of the committee who, himself, was more of a dealer than I was, though masquerading as a collector, had been responsible, apparently determined to eliminate competition.

Yet, a few years' later, perhaps in 1936 or 1937, though I cannot recall the exact date, I had a call from Messrs. Simenhoff (now Chairman) and W. J. H. Gregory, as spokesmen for the committee, with the suggestion that I should rejoin. Needless to say, I accepted the invitation to "return to the fold", and although I was told that, henceforth, I would be the only dealer-member in the Society enjoying the privilege, I did not like the idea of being exclusive. My contention was that "it is difficult to draw the line", and I think that, because of this, the rule was duly changed to admit professional dealers without any reservations or conditions. Ignoring the gap in my continued membership, Messrs. Chapman and Gregory, and myself, must be the only ones who are still around, having been in the Society all these years, and who can still recall the halcyon days of the early thirties!

Again, to revert to personalities, my friendship with Louis Simenhoff, from the day I stepped ashore at Cape Town until his untimely death in 1963, was one of the great features of my life. He was a noble man, imbued with a rare spirit of benevolence and humanity. His boyish enthusiasm, his love of people, have left due testimony among those fortunate friends who are still alive and who can recall the man's memory. As a student, researcher and author, and, above all, as a pioneer of South African philately, he needs no introduction, and his name will always be associated with those veterans who elevated the hobby to such a high standard in the

general field and in South Africa in the particular.

Then there was the late Professor J. J. Smith of Stellenbosch, one of the great men of this country, who was not only a leading Philologist, a collector of paintings and an expert in Africana, but also one of the outstanding names in South African philately. He preferred to pursue his hobby and other interests in the quiet surroundings of his estate at Jonkershoek. From the moment I met the late Professor in 1930, I came to realize that the merit of this man and his superb intellect would be an inspiration to all those who shared his interests and with whom he was associated. My first impression was soon confirmed, and as time went by we became friends. Well do I recall the pleasant week-ends I spent at the Smith estate in Jonkershoek, and where, for the first time, I met Anna and Jan, both of whom followed in their father's footsteps, and this, I may say, not only philatelically!

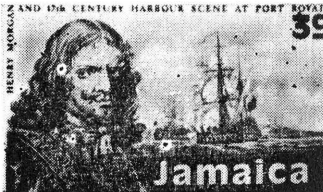
Sense of Humour

The Professor was an inveterate "leg-puller", and was always ready with some spontaneous jocular retort. If one lacked a sense of humour, or merely happened to be slow on the "up-take", he would delight in reducing the person's stature or making him feel stupid. This actually occurred once to me, as he often greeted me with the remark, "Blum, may your shadow never grow less". Well, I once ventured to counter this with a question: "Professor, why bestow this left-handed blessing on my shadow, when I, the real Blum, need it more?" His immediate response was "Ah, because I am addressing a left-handed brain!" Again, the famous palaeontologist, Dr. Robert Broom, who was a keen student of the early Transvaal republican issues, of which he amassed a very extensive collection, would occasionally put in an appearance at Jonkershoek, and produce some newly acquired specimens of great rarity. However, their condition was often so poor that the Professor could not resist the temptation of a pun, remarking: "There is no broom like an old 'Broom' to sweep up these rarities." At which, the dour Scot, possessed by an equally sharp sense of humour, quickly replied: "I canna' afford a wee new broom to sweep in Stellenbosch!"


The passing of Professor Smith, some years' ago, was a sad loss to philately and, indeed, to the country.

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I could go on describing many people who are no longer with us, but whose major interest in life was stamp collecting. To deal with all of them adequately would require more space than the Editor will allow me for this article, so I am obliged to confine myself to the more outstanding characters. Adriaan Jurgens, for instance, known to all of my generation, was a great personality, and my early contacts with him provided me with many amusing incidents. Whatever may be said about him, he did put Postal History of the Cape of Good Hope on the map, and his works, appreciated as Africana, are today of immense value to students. His two publications on the Cape and the "Bechuanalands" bear suitable testimony.

The late James (Jimmy) Silvie, a great friend and admirer of A.A.J., should equally be credited for the help and co-operation he gave so unstintingly. I do not think that A.J.J. could have completed the immense tasks he undertook without the help of Jimmy, and while Jurgens was a controversial character and open to some criticism, in contrast, J. Silvie was entirely devoted to the subject, and so much ignored the material aspects, that he was, no doubt, the student and collector *par excellence*. He avoided publicity, and this is why he is not better known. I would often arrive at 26, Woodside Road, to see A.A.J. and J.S. have an argument about a date, or postmark, or such conundrum in which postal history abounds. Both were "burning the midnight oil", and it was impossible to leave before 1 a.m. Adriaan Jurgens had many friends among prominent philatelists, and while relaxing at his place I often met such notabilities as Dr. J. Harvey Pirie, Dr. Goldschmidt (A.A.J.'s friend and sponsor), and Messrs. Courlander, Thornton, Simenhoff, Gregory, Kaganson, and others. He was known far and wide, and visitors arrived from all parts of South Africa.

Crossed the Paths

My story would not be complete if I left out the name of R. W. Wilson, one of the most knowledgeable experts of the classic issues, who died recently at the age of 85 after sixty years of incessant philately activity. His ascetic figure was familiar to everybody, and he seemed to appear wherever there was either a "stamp bargain" or the prospect of a deal. Which brings to mind that, in the sphere of professional stamp dealing, my associations over the last forty years have

probably crossed the paths, directly or indirectly, of all dealers in every town and centre of this country. The late Richard Osborne was both a friend and a business contact of many years standing, while John Wicks, who is also, unfortunately, no longer with us, was another dealer and auctioneer with whom I remained on good terms for so long. Of the younger generation of stamp dealers, John Mendelsohn came to me when only a boy in his teens, and there were others, but their professional career in philately must have been of short duration, as the names have since escaped me.

Nearer home, in Cape Town, there were only a few stamp dealers in those days. A. Neville Hayne was the oldest, and a character of a bygone period — a typical Colonial Victorian, I could say, who believed in stronger drink than water! A. Gutterson, G. W. Morris, Richard Hawkes were also established as full-time stamp dealers in the Cape. There was also a number of part-timers, to whom stamp dealing was only a side-line. Notable among these was the popular figure of C. R. V. (Solly) Solomon, who died at the age of 82 not so long ago. Later on, the names of George Petroulis, H. C. Muller and Jack Goldstein could be added to the list of semi-professionals who were very active, and all of whom have since died. If one could resurrect the colourful types which made up the small world of stamp enthusiasts of bygone days, by today's standards we would be transported into a different world — a strange and improbable one! Be that as it may, I must now return to the present, and talk about those who, fortunately, are still with us.

New Firm

In 1947, I met Brian Nichols, who, after leaving the army, decided to become a stamp dealer. To be exact, he had already started business seriously, when our paths crossed. Now, the immediate postwar years did not open up great opportunities for two full-time stamp dealers in Cape Town, and instead of competing against each other, we decided to join forces. And so it was that I became a senior partner in the newly-organized firm of Blum, Nichols & Co. (Pty.) Ltd. Alas, the partnership did not work out as hoped, due to a poor response and the general apathy which was prevalent at the time, and our intention of establishing a first-rate philatelic enterprise failed. The erratic economics were

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manifest in our turnover dropping from a sizeable figure one month to a mere fraction of it the next! Thus we decided to separate, and to remain just friends, which, by now, extends over a period of nearly twenty-five years. It was and still is a happy association, and to this day we meet about once a week to discuss stamps and other matters of mutual interest.

It was at about this time, when I first met Douglas Roth, who had just arrived from Britain to settle in Cape Town. For close on 23 years, our weekly meetings have become traditional, and are the evidence of a lasting friendship. As an expert of the classic issues of the world, he filled a great need in this country. My list would not be complete if I left out the name of Cecil J. Schoenegevel, who, from very small beginnings, came to be known as the only Stamp Auctioneer in Cape Town, continuing where H. C. Muller had left off. "Schoenie's" venue was the meeting place of collectors young and old, rich and poor, and became a landmark of the congenial atmosphere created by his pleasant personality. His retirement from business, just recently, has shown how he is missed by friends and well-wishers. However, old Tom Schoenegevel, Cecil's uncle, was in my employ from the time of his retirement until his death, which occurred at a very ripe old age. Uncle Tom had been a keen collector in his day, but having come upon hard times, had disposed of all his stamps; yet his interest remained, and he could still enjoy handling stamps while in my employ during the last 25 years of his life. Old Tom, a bachelor and old-world type, will always be remembered by me and the family as one of the most loyal and honourable men who walked this earth!

Another landmark in Cape Town philately disappeared when the long-established firm of booksellers, Messrs. Utting & Fairbrother, closed their doors a few years' ago. The owner of the firm, T. A. (Tommy) Fairbrother, carried on his stamp business on the premises for close on 35 years, and was well known among collectors.

The Largest

Of the younger set who came into prominence in recent years, I must mention Ralph Putzel, a leading philatelist and currently conducting the largest mail auctions in Southern Africa, or, perhaps, in the world, this business being very much his full-time occupation. David Crocker, erstwhile collector

and student of the line-engraved stamps of Great Britain, has also joined the ranks of the semi-professionals, but, to revert to Putzel, he first came to me before the War, and I could have guessed at the time that this teenager would one day be the country's leading philatelist, be it professional or amateur. Crocker, too, the youngest of the younger set, has made great strides, and I venture to predict that these names will give the future of South African Philately — in the rare combinations of both amateurs and professionals — the substance which will be required to maintain the hobby on a high and efficient level.

Collectors who have come into prominence since the War, plus the new generation of younger collectors, have provided many names who brought some fame to this country in matters philatelic. The greatest of these was the late W. G. (Bill) Combrink, a friend of some 25 years standing, whose sudden death, in the midst of an active life, was a great shock to all of us. He was a man of rare quality, and his dynamic personality as also his extreme devotion to philately, duly earned him the reputation of a very fine organizer of philatelic exhibitions. He had several to his credit, including the South African Tercenary International Stamp Exhibition in April 1952. I have had the good fortune to be associated with most of the leading South African philatelists, hobby-wise or socially, and I shall consider it a privilege if I may take this opportunity to mention their names: there are Drs. T. B. Berry, Max Peisach, Karl Freund, P. Vautier, Frank Drusinsky and J. du P. Kriek, plus Messrs. Gustav Büllbring, John Shingler, Leo Buchen, Manfred Weinstein, Jonas (Mike) Michelson, Aubrey L. Leon, Kurt Freyman, Ralph Putzel, Robert (Bob) Goldblatt, Jack Hagger, Sam Legator, Thys Rall, MP, The Jeidels, Henry Berneaud, Louis Feinstein, Rex Reynolds, H. Hilton Sydow, Nico Combrink, S. J. (Bray) Vermaak, Leo Hellmann, G. N. Gilbert, Edgar G. Sandler, Capt. M. F. Stern, David Glaser, Edgar and John Stein, R. D. Lambert, A. L. Myburgh, Dr. Isaac Wolfsohn, and many, others.

You will observe some repetitions in this list, in respect of which I may be allowed to refer again to the philatelically-erudite R. W. Wilson, who was known as an unofficial or informal dealer, but who was, simultaneously, an extraordinary collector, in which guise I

repeat his name here. His collection fetched a fabulous sum upon his death, but it was not a collection as normally understood, rather was it an assemblage of world rarities from the connoisseur's investment aspect, and it was certainly no systematically built up study of stamps. To my mind, this was a poor legacy compared with what his genius could have left to posterity, but, as I say of Wilson: *chacun à son goût*. And, in philately, as in any other pursuit, there is no doubt that variety is the spice of life — in this case, of course, I am referring to people!

The South African Ferrari, the late Ernest Hunt, a great man and one who befriended every collector and dealer who knew him, will reign supreme in South African Philately. Those lucky enough to have known him personally, and I was one of them, will always remember him. He died at a grand old age, and it is not too much to say that future generations will relate the saga of Ernest Hunt. Then there was the late Dr. Hans van Rensburg, perhaps not quite so well known as a stamp collector, but, nevertheless, a man of charm and intellect, Again, it was a privilege for me to have known the Doctor as a friend, and the impact of his brilliant brain was something which I cannot readily forget.

If some names have been omitted, especially among the younger generation, it is not deliberate, and I can only hope that if another opportunity is afforded me, I will have the pleasure of making the necessary amends and extending the scope of this article.

Die Wenners

Dr. W. P. van der Merwe van Viljoenskroon is die wenners van die gesogte Vekawisselbeker vir 1970—71, met sy versameling „Ou Duitsland”.

Die Rembrandt-wisseltrofee is toegeken aan mnr. J. H. Buitink van Johannesburg, vir sy versameling „Landbou”.

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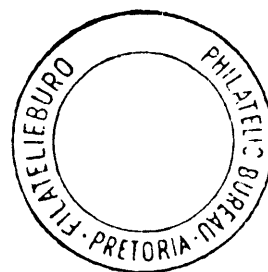
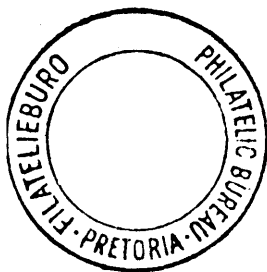
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Printers for Botswana, Lesotho and Swaziland

By H. Maserow

On 4th January 1971 Lesotho released its revised and redesigned definitive set. The political implications of the omission of the portrait of King Moshoeshoe II is in itself thought-provoking (in the case of the R2 stamp his portrait has been substituted with an illustration of a statue of Moshoeshoe I), but I am more intrigued by a subtle "wind-of-change" of a philatelic nature, which has manifested itself in the recent definitive and commemorative issues of our three neighbours Botswana, Lesotho and Swaziland.

The established coterie of security printers have been dropped and contracts are now being distributed amongst a group of three newcomers to the stamp-printing trade. Two of these countries have also stopped using the Crown Agents watermarked paper.

The following check-list of issues since decimalisation in 1961 is most revealing.

LESOTHO (Basutoland)

- (a) Definitives
 - 1961 Thomas de la Rue & Co
 - 1966 De la Rue
 - 1967 Harrison and Sons (Note 1)
 - 1968 Harrison (Note 2)
 - 1971 Questa Colour Security Printers Ltd
- (b) Postage Dues
 - 1961, 1964, 1966 De la Rue
 - 1967 Bradbury, Wilkinson & Co
- (c) Commemoratives
 - 1963 Freedom from Hunger — Harrison
 - Red Cross — Bradbury, Wilkinson
 - 1965 ITU Centenary — Enschede & Sons
 - New Constitution — Harrison
 - Int. Co-op Year — Harrison
 - 1966 Churchill — Harrison
 - Independence — Harrison (Note 1)
 - Unesco — De la Rue
 - 1967 University — Harrison
 - Independence Anniv. — Harrison
 - Scouting — Harrison
 - 1968 WHO — Harrison
 - Rock Paintings — Harrison (Note 2)
 - 1969 Maseru Centenary — Perkins, Bacon Ltd
 - Roof of Africa Rally — Harrison

- 1970 Prehistoric Footprints — Harrison
- Death Cent. Moshoeshoe I — De la Rue
- United Nations — Questa
- Tourist Attractions — Questa
- 1971 Birds — Questa

BOTSWANA (Bechuanaland)

- (a) Definitives
 - 1961 (Feb.) Waterlow & Sons
 - 1961 (Oct.) Harrison
 - 1966 Harrison
 - 1967 Harrison (Note 1)
- (b) Postage Dues
 - 1961 (Feb.), 1961 (Nov.), 1967 De la Rue
- (c) Commemoratives
 - 1963 Freedom from Hunger
 - Red Cross — Bradbury, Wilkinson
 - 1964 Shakespeare — Harrison
 - 1965 ITU — Enschede
 - Self-government — Harrison
 - ICY — Harrison
 - 1966 Churchill — Harrison
 - Pioneer Corps — Harrison
 - Independence — Harrison (Note 1)
 - 1967 University — Harrison
 - Chobe Game Reserve — Harrison
 - 1968 Human Rights — De la Rue
 - Museum-Gallery — De la Rue
 - Christmas — Enschede
 - 1969 Scouts — De la Rue
 - Christmas — Harrison
 - 1970 Development — Harrison
 - Dickens — Walsall Security Printers
 - United Nations — Walsall
 - Christmas — Questa

SWAZILAND

- (a) Definitives
 - 1961 (a), 1961 (b) Bradbury, Wilkinson
 - 1962 Enschede
 - 1968 Enschede
 - 1969 De la Rue
- (b) Postage Dues
 - 1961 De la Rue
 - 1971 Bradbury, Wilkinson
- (c) Commemoratives
 - 1963 Freedom from Hunger — Harrison
 - Red Cross — Bradbury, Wilkinson

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- 1964 Railway — Bradbury, Wilkinson
- 1965 ITU — Enschede
- 1966 Churchill — Harrison
Unesco — Harrison
- 1967 Protected State — Harrison
University — Harrison (Note 1)
- 1968 Customs — Harrison
Independence — Enschede
(Note 3)
- 1969 Admission to UN — Perkins, Bacon
- 1970 Commonwealth Games — Format
International Security Printers
- 1971 Flowers — Queta

Note 1 — Block CA watermark discontinued and unwatermarked paper introduced.

Note 2 — Basuto-Hat watermark introduced.

Note 3 — Reverted to Block CA watermark.

The Robertson Stamp Company

A citizen of the Republic, particularly in the larger towns, views with little concern the disappearance of the many historically beautiful buildings and their replacement a little later by structures of steel and concrete, reaching to the sky. Familiar landmarks no longer exist. The pleasant shade afforded by tree-lined streets under which the passer-by was accustomed to linger for a friendly chat, has given way to an area polluted by petrol fumes. These are changes of the times, resultant upon progress, which are universally accepted with little comment.

Philately in South Africa has not escaped the effect of the "winds of change", for the time honoured philatelic house of Messrs. Robertson Stamp Co. (Pty.) Ltd. has put up its shutters for all time. Established half a century ago, the concern has grown from a very humble beginning to become locally one of major importance with a concurrent over-sea influence.

The Robertson Stamp Company has served philately and South African stamp collectors well and truly. Its influence and its ever ready assistance will be sadly missed, and upon the occasion of the deletion of yet another landmark, we wish its proprietors, Mr. and Mrs. J. Robertson, good health and a pleasant, well-earned retirement.

Letters To The Editor

An Unusual Cancellation

Dear Sir,

I enclose a photostat of a cover bearing an extremely unusual registration marking of Natal — so unusual that to the best of my knowledge it has not previously been recorded; nor is there a copy in the collection of Natal cancellations built up for the Philatelic Society of Natal by the late J. H. H. Chamberlain.



The single circle cancellation (illustrated) has a diameter of 25½ mm and reads "REGISTERED — No — NATAL" and in this instance the number "569" has been inserted in manuscript. The cover itself is addressed to Mauritius from Verulam and the c.d.s. of Verulam is dated March 6th 1902.

I should be glad to hear if any of your readers has knowledge of any other usage of this registration mark.

A. LESLIE LEON,
R.D.P., F.R.P.S.L.

Durban

Poetry of the Anglo-Boer War

Dear Sir,

Over the past three years I have been making a study and collection of the poetry of the Anglo-Boer War (1899—1902). I have by now looked at the material in most of the likely Africana collections in South African libraries, and I have found many interesting poems in English, Afrikaans, German, French

and Dutch — and even some stray ones in Spanish, Italian and Russian!

If any of your readers know of such material, or have it in their possession, whether published or manuscript items, I would be most grateful to hear from them, preferably before July.

Yours faithfully,

M. VAN WYK SMITH
Rhodes University,
P.O. Box 94,
Grahamstown.

The S.A. Philatelist

Dear Sir,

I refer to the editorial in the March, 1971 issue. I sympathise with you on your circulation problem but with a few more issues like the March one I suggest that your problem will be over. This issue really contains something for everyone. A surprisingly wide field of philatelic subjects were covered by expert contributors and a bit of humour thrown in as a bonus. I am sure that the solution lies in this direction instead of in forced subscriptions. More issues like this one will create a genuine demand.

One of the March articles contains a statement on the pre-occupation with paper, printings etc. It even suggests a remedy for this implied disease. I must admit to being an enthusiastic sufferer. I must also admit my suspicion that the "printing" of today will become the "Philately" of tomorrow. Perhaps a little subterfuge is justified here. Why not include more articles of a technical nature so that both genuine philatelists and the "new technologists" can benefit from the resultant increased circulation? The changes in our Republican stamps in the last few years are what interested me in philately in the first instance and I must admit some irritation in being considered a second-class philatelist because of this. However I seem to be in good company as the March lead article centres around the new printing machine, a machine which will allow the formulation of a completely new stamp issuing policy!

Once again congratulations on an excellent issue of a fine magazine. It should be interesting to hear whether there are any readers who share this point of view.

Yours sincerely,

E. N. GERICKE
Sasolburg.

Baie Aansoeke Om Gedenkseëls

Die Poskantoor ontvang gedurig aansoeke om die uitreiking van gedenkseëls, terwyl talle aansoeke ook regstreeks aan hom gerig word, het mnr. Marais Viljoen, Minister van Pos- en Telegraafwese, op 24 Maart tydens die Poskantoordebat in die Volksraad gesê.

Hy het geantwoord op n sterk pleidooi van mnr. M. J. Rall, LV vir Mosselbaai, oor die uitreiking van posseëls.

Mnr. Rall het gesê dat hy vir die eerste keer na ses jaar weer oor posseëls wil praat. Posseëls kan 'n maklike propagandamiddel wees, want seëls word universeel gebruik. Wat die ontwerpe van Suid-Afrikaanse seëls betref, was daar in die verlede heelwat rede tot ontvredenheid, „maar ek is bly om nou te kan konstateer dat daar 'n groot verbetering ingetree het”.

Die vorige Minister (wyle mnr. Basie van Rensburg) het 'n komitee van kunskeners en ander deskundiges aangestel, en hulle adviseer die Posmeester-generaal oor nuwe uitgifte. As ons dink hoe mooi die onlangse Bybelseëls ontvang is, dan is daar wel rede tot dankbaarheid, en „ek kan u verseker dat die vier seëls wat ontwerp is om die Republiek se tienjarige bestaan te herdenk, netjies afgerond is en groot byval sal vind.”

Die Beste

Maar wanneer dit gaan om posseëls, het mnr. Rall gesê, is dit nie net 'n kwessie van ontwerp nie: wat ook tel, is die wyse waarop dit gedruk word. Suid-Afrika het dusver die rotogravure-drukproses gebruik, maar ons weet dat die Staatsdrukker die heel nuutste drukprosesmasjiene aangekoop het. Wanneer daardie masjiene geïnstalleer is en die tegnici die behendigheid ontwikkel het om daardie masjiene goed te hanteer, sal ons vir die eerste keer in staat wees om seëls te druk wat gelyk staan aan die beste wat in Switserland, Holland en ander lande gedruk kan word.

Die posseëls is tot dusver nog altyd deur die Departement van Binnelandse Inkomste gedruk dog, waar die Posterye nou 'n selfstandige departement is, kan oorweeg word om hierdie afdeling geheel en al onder die beheer van die Poswese te plaas.

Mnr. Rall het gesê dat die huidige vaste reeks van die Republiek nou al tien jaar in gebruik is en dat die tyd aangebreek het om dit te vervang. Die vorige Posmeester-generaal het bekend gemaak dat 'n nuwe reeks onder

beplanning is, en daarvoor is dit hoog tyd. Sedert 1910 het Suid-Afrika nog net vyf vaste reekse gehad en so 'n reeks behoort tussen vyf en tien jaar diens te doen, maar nie langer nie.

Wat herdenkingseëls betref, is die beleid dat daar nie meer as drie uitgifte per jaar mag wees nie. 'n Vaste beleid hieroor kan egter nie neergelê word nie, het mnr. Rall gesê, want omstandighede kan in een jaar lei tot meer, en in 'n ander jaar minder. Verlede jaar het die Poskantoor met 'n seëluitgif 'n bydrae tot die Waterjaar gelewer, en die ingebruikneming van die Hendrik Verwoerddam sal 'n geskikte geleentheid wees om 'n herdenkingreeks uit te gee.

Het Kop Verloor

„Nietemin wil ek daarvoor pleit dat ons nooit ons posseëls goedkoop sal maak deur te veel uitgifte uit te reik nie,” het hy gesê. Die meeste lande het in hierdie opsig kop verloor en die een uitgifte volg met so 'n snelheid op die ander dat niemand tred daarmee kan hou nie. Die versamelaar sal altyd die seël koop wat uitgegee is om aan die Poswese se behoeftes te voldoen, maar sodra versamelaars (in die VSA alleen is daar meer as 12 miljoen) agterkom dat seëls uitgegee word om geld uit hul sakke te trek, dan trek hulle kop in en los daardie land eenkant. Van die Afrikalande is besig om met hul uitgifte die gans wat die goue eier lê, nek om te draai — die lande word reeds opsy gestoot omdat hul uitgifte nie 'n lekker reuk het nie.

In hierdie verband is die beleid van ons Poswese so korrek en eerbaar soos dié van geen land ter wêreld nie. Daar is nog geen seël uitgegee wat nie as 'n behoefte van die Poswese verantwoord kon word nie.

Daar is nog 'n aspek wat die eerbaarheid van ons Poswese onderstreep, en dit is dat die eerste Unieseël van 2½d, wat in 1910 uitgegee is, vandag nog deur die Poskantoor as posgeld op 'n brief aanvaar sal word. Dit ten spyte van die tydsverloop, en daarvan dat ons 'n nuwe geldstelsel gekry het. Daar is maar weinig lande in die wêreld waar dit gebeur. Met sy desimalisering het Brittanje nou sy vorige seëls onttrek.

Mnr. Rall het voorgestel dat die Poswese aan die begin van die jaar aankondig watter nuwe uitgifte daar sal wees — dit sal die

groot Europese handelaars in staat stel om vroegtydig vir die koop van die seëls te begroot.

Wanneer die reorganisasie van die Filatelieburo bereik is, moet die Poswese 'n besondere poging aanwend om die voordele van posseëlversameling onder die aandag van skoolkinders te bring. Dit kan gedoen word met inligtingstukke, rolprente, lesings en skyfies. Hy is seker, het mnr. Rall gesê, kinders sal maar te graag gaan kyk hoe die posseëls gedruk word, en hoe foute ontstaan. As ons by hulle 'n liefde vir hierdie stokperdjie kan ontwikkel, sal hulle geweldig baie daaruit leer. Hulle sal geografiese kennis opdoen, en wat daarmee saamgaan, en die ordelike rangskikking daarvan kan vir hulle van onskatbare waarde wees.

In sy antwoord het min. Marais Viljoen mnr. Rall bedank vir sy positiewe belangstelling in die saak, wat gewaardeer word. „Ons doen veel om die Filatelieburo uit te bou om vir ons eintlik 'n groter beslag te gee in ons hele seëlbeleid in die toekoms,” het hy gesê. „Ek deel ook die agbare lid se beskouing dat ons nie ons seëls goedkoop moet laat word nie — ons moet nie soveel uitgee dat ons seëls nie meer gesog sal wees nie.”

Mnr. E. G. Malan, LV vir Orange Grove, het gevra waarom daar nie 'n seël uitgegee is om die geboortedag van genl. Smuts te gedenk nie.

Min. Viljoen het gesê hy waardeer dit dat daar na versoeke verwys word. Die Poskantoor kry gedurig versoeke in verband met spesiale posseëls vir verskillende geleenthede. „Vanaand is daar al versoeke van verskillende aard aan my gerig, in die gang hier buite. Verlede week het die seun van een van ons groot kunsskilders 'n baie ernstige versoek dat ons 'n spesiale seël ter ere van die kunstenaar moet uitgee, aan my gerig. 'n Mens het waardering en simpatie vir hierdie groot sake; 'n mens het ook agting daarvoor, maar binne die raamwerk van ons oordeelkundige uitgiftebeleid, is ons verplig om sekere standarde te stel, ook wat die getalle betref.

„Daarom sal ons moet voortgaan om met die uitgee van ons seëls dit steeds met die grootste mate van oordeelkundigheid te doen,” het hy gesê.

Later in die debat het mnr. W. G. Kingwill, LV vir Walmer, gevra dat 'n seël met die afbeelding van 'n merinoram as advertensie vir die wolbedryf uitgegee word, terwyl mnr. J. A. van Tonder, LV vir Germiston-distrik, gevra het vir 'n posseël ter herdenking van die Bantoetuislande wat selfgering kry.

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AT NUMBER 50

The Robson Lowe organisation reached record heights with the 1969—70 season, according to the group's recently published annual review. The reason was the fiftieth for Mr. Robson Lowe, the governing director, in philatelic trading.

During the philatelic year under review (1 Sept. 1969 — 31st August 1970) the 182 R.L. sales realised £1,834,440, including exports and overseas sales of £1,113,559, while the group turnover totalled £2,116,160.

The group's growth, particularly in postwar years, is attributed to four factors: the ever increasing popularity of the hobby; the establishment of a world-wide organisation; the variety and nature of services offered; and the maintaining of personal contact with clients.

The highlight of the year was the sale, by Robson Lowe's New York colleague Robert A. Siegel, of the British Guiana 1856 1c black on magenta for R116,666. In the London auction where R.L. offered the rest of this particular collection, a pair of 2 cents cotton-reels on an entire letter was knocked down at £75,000.

South Africa ranks tenth, with £13,721, amongst the world's top buying countries to which R.L. exported.

MISSING 'A' IN SWA ROYAL VISIT

Mr. J. Robertson of Johannesburg, commenting on the above article by Mr. H. C. Nöckler, which appeared in our April number, writes that he definitely remembers the condition of the SWA 1d Royal Visit with the 'A' in the overprint omitted, and that he had possessed a few of these stamps.

He is of the opinion that the 'A' disappeared towards the end of the overprinting process and further that it was not a constant variety.

CAPT. STERN

Capt. Milton F. Stern of Cape Town has been invited to serve on the five-man jury for the international airmail exhibition "Luposta Berlin 1971", to be held on June 10 to 13, 1971. We congratulate him upon this high honour.

FOTO-ARTIKEL OOR SEËLS

Die Huisgenoot se uitgawe van 2 April 1971 bevat 'n goed geïllustreerde artikel oor posseëlversameling, geskryf deur Rex Reynolds.

Postage Stamps Information

For the period 1 October 1970 to 31 December 1970. The previous list and code of symbols used were in our January 1971 issue.

Information supplied by the Philatelic Bureau of the Post Office, Pretoria.

POSTAGE STAMPS

Job No.	Value	Cyl. Nos. Int. Ext. Phos.	Total No. of Sheets delivered. Paper used	Remarks
38098.21	½c	264+265.266.G4	151 900 H.	
44887.43	1c	414.415.G4	526 600 H.	Old Negs. New Pos.
41806.93	1½c	287.286.G4	129 500 S.	
53361.33		287.286.G4	28 000 H.	
54610.70	2c	413.412.G49	491 100 H.	
57513.44		413.412.G49	369 700 H.	
51558.48	2½c	17.8.Y32	388 700 H.	
		12.8.Y32	197 700 H.	
51629.18	3c	238.239.G49	192 500 H.	
35990.34	5c	282.283.G49	91 300 H.	
46853.90	7½c	284.285.G49	53 900 H.	} G36 had 5 mm bands } G49 has 3 mm bands (Ed.)
40908.03	10c	254.253.G49	77 000 H.	
44886.42	15c	297+298.296.G48	69 300 H.	
46733.71	20c	407+408.406.G49	63 700 S.	

SPECIAL BIBLE YEAR 1970 STAMPS

52807.85	2½c	5+25+34.19.Y21	560 705 H.	Double width positives
52808.86	12½c	417.416.G50	43 000 H.	Single width positives

ROLL STAMPS

50676.75	½c	G26 Yellow.G59 Blue	16 668 100/220 H.	
		G24 Red.G36 Phos.	i.e. 3 667 rolls	
56365.07	2c	G25 Gold.G9 Buc.G28	3 250 H.	
			i.e. 715 rolls	

POSTAGE DUES

56364.06	2c	229.263.—	2 000 H.	
56436.78	4c	288.263.—	200 H.	

AIR LETTERS

48306.23	2½c	4+15. .12	1 965 000	
48305.27	5c	5+7. .27	5 172 000	See statement at 31/3/70

PICTURE AIR LETTERS

20248.48	5c	—	2 257 000	See statement at 30/9/69
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POST CARDS 20 CARDS PER SHEET

51099.94	1½c	See remarks	229 850	See note below A
56361.03	1½c	See remarks	6 100	See note below B

NOTE: REMARKS — A. See statement at 31/3/70 for Job 48819.76. B. Similar to Job nos. 48819.76 and 51099.94 as specified in

statement at 31/3/70 except for red cylinder Z40 which was re-etched on same cylinder.

H.J.R.

The Looks Were Deceptive

A person who wishes to remain so anonymous that he is wary even of a non-de-plume, has sent us a crack: "Nobody is fooled by the new rates — not even the Post Office."

Which, translated, means: "We still send our letters at the old 2½c rate and the P.O. doesn't bother."

And to which we cannot quite agree. But it does point to an unfortunate error of judgment on the part of the Post Office in issuing its 4c stamp.

For ten years now the internal letter rate has been prepaid by a stamp picturing the gable of Groot Constantia plus a bunch of grapes, and for ten years stamp lickers have grown accustomed to the violet and green of the 2½c stamp.

When the increased letter rate of 4c was announced, we wondered whether one of the definitive stamps would be issued with the new 4c value inscribed (The S.A. Philatelist, February, 1971). Since registration cost went up, we thought that the current 7½c stamp would become obsolete, to name but one possibility for a 4c value changing.

So, when the Post Office made it known that the 2½c stamp would be issued with 4c value as time was found lacking to prepare and print a completely new 4c stamp, we withheld any comment. Yet philatelists far and wide were alive to the situation and foresaw the confusion which was indeed reported in the daily papers before the new rate had been in force a week.

Because not only did the 4c stamp resemble the "obsolete" 2½c in **design**, but also in **colour**. And the 2½c stamps were not withdrawn: post offices had stocks and stocks of them, so it appeared, to be used up.

Imagine the burden on the P.O.'s sorting staff! They had to scan every stamp, to see whether it was a 2½c or a 4c. Delays occurred, tempers flared. Within a few days it was reported that the P.O. would "prepare a new stamp design" to "stamp out the confusion".

Philatelists pitied the P.O. staff, strained eyes and aching heads and all, but quite naturally could not resist philatelic pranks in making scores of April 1 FDC's with 2½c stamps, coming through the post untaxed. They need hardly have taken the trouble, as stacks of commercial mail travelled the same way.

The prize cover we saw was an airmail one, franked with a 4c stamp in Pretoria on 4th March and addressed to Durban. The P.O. official handling the envelope spotted the stamp, which he took to be 2½c and therefore 1/2c short on the 3c airmail rate. He taxed it 1c and a 1c postage due stamp was affixed in Durban!

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Roll of Honour of Distinguished South African Philatelists

Louis Gustav Hans Max Bülbring was born in Port Elizabeth on 6th November, 1900. He was educated at the German School in Port Elizabeth and in Germany at Magdeburg and Marburg/Lahu. He left school with University Pass (Arbitur) and returned to South Africa in 1920 and entered the hardware business (he is now retired).

He started collecting when ten years old, and joined the Port Elizabeth Philatelic Society in 1948. At present he is also a member of the Johannesburg and the Royal Philatelic Societies, the B.P.A., London, and the Portugese Philatelic Society, Britain. He was recently elected a Fellow of the Royal Philatelic Society London.



Mr. Bülbring has officiated as the President of the Port Elizabeth Philatelic Society on six occasions, and as President of the Philatelic Federation of Southern Africa. He has served on the Executive Committee of Federation on numerous occasions, also as Vice-President for the Cape Province, and represented the home society on many occasions at Congresses.

He acted as chairman or jury member on many South African national philatelic exhibitions and was a member of the Jury for Philymphia International Stamp Exhibition in 1970.

Mr. Bülbring's chief stamp collecting interests are the Classics, Old German States, Germany, German Colonies, Austria, Belgium, Holland, France, Portugal and the Scandinavian countries, along with many other sidelines, and he has been an exhibitor at most South African exhibitions, either in competition or by invitation.

AUCTION NEWS

(We are pleased to introduce this month a new feature. "Auction News", prepared by Mr. S. J. Hagger. Mr. Hagger will regularly report on auction realisations or trends of interest or importance to South African collectors.)

That the rarer stamps of the Union of South Africa continue to command high prices when sold at auction in this country, was evidenced at Sale No. 232 held by Wicks Stamp Agency in Durban on the 26th of February this year.

As was to be expected, pride of place went to the King's Heads, where the £1 olive-green and red mint control block of four went for R1 100, very close to the auctioneer's estimate of R1 200.

Other noteworthy prices in this section were:

£1 olive-green and red mint gutter margin block of four	R600
£1 green and red unused control block of four, creased	R500
£1 green and red control pair without side margin	R260
£1 green and red used block of four	R140
£1 olive-green and red, mint single ..	R125
£1 green and red, mint single	R100
10/- deep blue and olive-green mint control block of four	R155
10/- bright blue and olive-green mint control block of four	R135

Four lots comprising the five values in the four colours of the Mackay Essays, in singles, fetched a total of R205, and a nice lot of Natal stamps postmarked in the interprovincial period went for R145.

As was to be expected two items in the London Pictorial Set with Group II perforation attracted spirited bidding and the 2/6 value in a mint corner block was knocked down for R95, and the mint corner pair of the 5/- for R115. A mint corner strip of four of the 10/- with Group I perforation fetched R95.

Lastly, in the 1/2d Pretoria Typos a mint block of four with missing vignettes and off-sets of parts of other frames on the face and parts of vignettes printed on the gummed side, all due to a foldover, went for R100.

A Summary of the New Rates

The postal rates which came into effect on 1st April 1971 were wider in scope than announced in the Post Office's press statement of December last. For instance, postcards are also affected and now cost 3c by surface mail and 4c by airmail, for internal destinations.

The introduction of the new rates went hand in hand with a switch-over to the metric system. Metrication experts say we must "think metric" and forget all about conversions and equivalents and so on, yet they want the change-over to be gradual — they don't want us to rush the scale-selling shops. So here goes with two equivalents likely to be used most:

10g equals about 0.7 oz.

20g equals about 1.4 oz.

The 4c rate consequently means that we can send 40 per cent more letter at 60 per cent more cost. The snag of course is that ordinary business and commercial letters weigh rather less than 20g.

Here is a summary of the new inland rates:

Letters

Surface mail, up to 40g	4c
40g to 100g	6c
100g to 250g	10c

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DWINDLING

the publication entitled

"The Interprovincial Stamps and Postmarks"
(of the Union of South Africa), by Dr. T. B. Berry and S. J. Vermaak.

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Postcards

Surface mail, 3c each. Airmail, 4c each.

Printed matter

Surface mail, up to 30g	2c
30g to 100g	.....	.....	.....	3c
100g to 250g	.....	.....	.....	4c
Airmail, 30c for the first 20g				
1c for each additional 20g				

Samples and commercial papers

Same as for printed matter.

Parcels

Up to 250g	.....	.....	.....	.....	10c
250g to 500g	...	.....	.....	.....	20c
500g to 1000g	.....	.....	.....	.....	30c
Airmail, 20c for the first 250g					
8c for each additional 250g.					

Registration

Registration of a postal item, 10c
Compulsory registration of a postal item posted out of course, 20c.

Certification

The rate is 5c per item (see our issue of last month).

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Small registration envelopes, 4c each
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Fee of 30c for R400.

SOCIETY NEWS

AFRIKAANSE PHILATELISTIESE VERENIGING VAN PRETORIA

Februarie: Ons het hierdie aand ons jaarvergadering gehou. Die nuwe bestuur bestaan uit die volgende lede: Mnr. G. de Swardt (voorsitter), mnr. J. Havenaer (Onder-voorsitter), prof. F. G. E. Nilant (sekretaris), mnr. Eksteen (penningmeester), mev. Rhoodie en dr. Schmidt (rondsendediens), mej. Visser (verversingsbeampte), mej. Esterhuysen en mnr. Dekker (vert. Federasie), mnr. Wessels en Corstanje (addisionele lede), mnr. Bernhardt (add. lid en ouditeur). Ons was gasheer vir die jaarlikse Veka-kompetisie en daar was twee versamelings wat beoordeel is: mnr. Roediker (Nederland), mnr. Wessels (Sudwes-Afrika). 'n Derde versameling, dr. W. van der Merwe, kon nie tydig in Pretoria wees nie en sal later deur die komitee van beoordeelaars beoordeel word. Hierdie komitee het bestaan uit dr. G. Reisener en mnr. E. Walker. Ons is hulle dankbaar dat hulle in daardie hoedanigheid kon optree.

BELVILLE PHILATELIC SOCIETY

February: Mr. Lee welcomed a well attended meeting and apologised for the absence of the guest speaker who was not in attendance due to a misunderstanding. He went on and introduced Bob Goldblatt who delivered two most interesting talks. The first was about the trials and tribulations of producing a cover in a very limited time. The cover in question was the one carried by the Scout Association of South Africa's entry in the Cape to Rio race — 'Active'. He followed this with a description of the production of a miniature sheet of RSA 10 stickers. Both talks were amusing and informative.

After tea Barbara Ubaghs introduced a quiz that is to become a regular feature each month. The evening concluded with Sales and Exchange.

PHILATELIC SOCIETY OF NATAL

3 February: Dr. Duncan welcomed 46 members and seven visitors to the meeting.

Deon Futerman tabled his exhibit and Dr. Duncan congratulating him said it was excellent and well written and worthy of the award. He said Deon would certainly enter for Society Cups as soon as he was 18. Deon spoke about his collection.

Mr. Kriste took over the Chair and asked Mr. Appleby to start his Quiz. They are a popular feature — 16 cards were given for identification. Mr. Appleby has promised us another Quiz about June. Another offer is First Day Covers by Mr. Droz of Switzerland.

17 February: Under the Chairmanship of Dr. Duncan, Mr. Tunley gave a short talk on the sheets of New Zealand he had put up for exhibition. Among the sheets were some very interesting covers that had belonged to the late Mr. J. Cham-

berlain. Also shown were the New Zealand Insurance Stamps — Mr. Tunley felt that they were most unusual as these stamps were issued by the Insurance Department of the New Zealand Government. They were used by this Department for correspondence emanating from their Department only. Several members asked questions about the stamps and Gerry de Goede commented that the sheets and stamps were presented in a very novel way.

The usual auction terminated a pleasant evening.

SOCIETY OF ISRAEL PHILATELY

February: The 14th Annual General Meeting was relatively well attended at which the office bearers submitted their reports which were accepted with acclamation.

The following awards were presented:

Leo Buchen Award to Mr. A. J. Bakker for his paper entitled "A Contraversial Question".

Max Wulfsohn Award to M. L. Rutenberg for his exhibit of "Coins and Stamps so Depicted".

H. L. Kaplan award was not made and it was suggested to convert this award into a Floating Trophy to be awarded as a Premier Israeli Award at local National Exhibitions.

The following office bearers were elected for the ensuing year: Chairman, Mr. W. Mann; Vice-chairman, Mr. L. Abrams; Hon. Secretary/Treasurer, Mr. B. Glassman; Hon. Editor, Mr. I. A. Miller; Committee, Messrs. A. J. Bakker, G. Bowman, L. Buchen, K. Kruger, J. Michelson and Dr. M. Wulfsohn.

Delegates to the Philatelic Federation of Southern Africa: Messrs. L. Abrams and L. Buchen.

CAPE SOCIETY OF ISRAEL-PALESTINE PHILATELY

February: The President, Mr. M. Galp, presided over the Annual General Meeting at which the Harry Gottschalk Trophy was presented to Mr. H. Beinart and the Blum Trophy to Mrs. H. Jeydel, thereafter Adv. S. Selikovitz addressed the meeting upon the Society's activities.

The following were elected as office bearers for 1971: President, Mr. Xavier Piat; Vice President, Adv. Selwyn Selikovitz; Secretary, Mr. Benzion Surdut; Treasurer Exch. Sup., Mr. Aubrey Katzeff; Asst. Treasurer, Mr. Abe Agulis; Committee members: Messrs. J. Galoon, R. Goron, S. Goldstein; Bulletin Editor, Mr. J. Markman.

After tea the outgoing President, Mr. M. Galp, displayed his exhibit which consisted of full sheets of several Israel issues.

The new President, Mr. Xavier Piat, thereafter thanked Mr. Galp for his devotion to Caspian and service during the preceding two years.

Mr. B. Surdut exhibited a slide show on Phillypia and New York, which included slides of the Chagal, stained glass memorial at the U.N., Gugenheim Museum, and certain of Mr. and Mrs. Jeydel's exhibits at Phillypia.

PRETORIA RAILWAY PHILATELIC SOCIETY

February: The meeting was the 23rd Annual General Meeting at which the various office bearers presented their reports for adoption.

Life Membership of the Society were bestowed upon Messrs. D. Brown and Z. J. van Eijk for meritorious services rendered to the Society, after which the following office bearers were elected for the coming new year.

President, Mr. E. Walker; Vice President and Hon. Secretary, Mr. D. Brown; Hon. Treasurer, Mr. A. P. le Roux; Hon. Exchange Treasurer, Mr. S. Smith; Hon. Exchange Superintendent, Mr. K. E. Olesen; Hon. Stamp Superintendent, Mr. Z. J. van Eijk; Hon. Librarian, Mr. F. Fouche; Hon. Correspondent, Mr. R. F. Eshell; Delegates to Federation, Messrs. E. Walker, D. Brown, D. Reynders.

The meeting closed with a vote of thanks to all those who so loyally supported the Society during the past year.

THE O.F.S. PHILATELIC SOCIETY

January: Quite a few members attended the Annual General Meeting, and the evening turned out to be a very pleasant one.

The following members were elected for the year 1971: President, Mr. A. H. Scott; Vice-President, Mr. H. Hagen; Secretary, Mr. R. E. Lee; Treasurer, Mr. A. L. Meyburgh; Exchange Superintendent, Mr. S. C. Hancock; Committee Member, J. P. A. Schoeman; Hon. Auditor, Mr. Peter Weil.

To them, our best wishes for a successful year and the promise to support their work for a good attendance at the monthly meetings.

After the Annual General Meeting, a number of members showed New Issues and F.D.C.'s. Two exhibits were also tabled: Mr. Schoeman showed South West Africa covers; a number of them were First Flight covers with some scarce cancellations. This was a collection well worth seeing.

Second on the boards was France exhibited by Mr. Marus. This included only the period 1958 to 1969. A fine display of colourful stamps.

February: A well attended meeting. Due to the amount of material available for auction, only one exhibit was possible — this being part of a Canadian Collection belonging to the late Mr. J. B. Levy, tabled by his son, Mr. R. Levy. Appropriate appreciation was extended and also to Mr. and Mrs. Scott for providing the excellent refreshments.

THE MASHONALAND PHILATELIC SOCIETY

February: The Chairman welcomed the large number of Members and guests, and especially those new Members, who were present.

Few items of note were brought up under "Matters of Interest" and the main business of the evening proved to be the auction where a considerable quantity of material was bought.

PORT ELIZABETH PHILATELIC SOCIETY

February: The 59th Annual General Meeting was well attended at which the office bearers presented their reports which were accepted. Thereafter the Gustav Bulbring Floating Trophy for the best display was awarded to Mr. T. J. Strachan for his exhibit of Leeward Islands. The T. J. Strachan Floating Bowl went to Mrs. G. Pamensky for her display of Rhodesia while the G. K. Forbes Memorial Cup was won by Master H. Harrison.

The following members were elected as office bearers for the ensuing year:

President, Mr. G. Bulbring; Vice President, Mr. R. Harden; Secretary, Mr. D. Schoeman; Treasurer, Mr. L. Lasarow; Exchange Superintendent, Mr. R. Harden; Auctioneer, Mr. T. J. Strachan; Assistant Auctioneer, Mr. E. Baer; Librarian, Mr. T. J. Strachan; Auditor, Mr. G. Monaghan; Press Correspondent, Mr. F. J. Bullock; Committee Members, Mrs. T. J. Strachan, Mr. C. Corcoran, Mr. M. J. Sullivan.

GERMISTON PHILATELIC SOCIETY

Germiston members who collect Rhodesia issues certainly lost out at the March meeting of the Society when a very fine exhibit of Rhodesia since U.D.I. was on view and they did not attend. Those present certainly saw a most interesting and well produced display of all Rhodesian issues from 1965 onwards. Mr. T. Rudman gave a most informative talk on U.D.I. Day and on the various stamp issues since that day. Mr. T. Rudman was congratulated by Mr. H. Birkhead, on behalf of the members present and all wished him the best of luck with his collection when on view in Cape Town at the May, 1971, International Exhibition. Five members of Germiston would be visiting Pretoria on the 14th of April, 1971, and at least three of them would exhibit at the Pretoria Railway Philatelic Society's meeting on that evening.

AFRIKAANSE FILATELISTE- VERENIGING

Maart: In sy voorsittersverslag by die 21e jaarvergadering het mnr. P. C. Seligman teruggekyk op 'n geslaagde jaar waarin die AFV uitgeblink het met sy rondsendediens en waterstempelwedstryd, sy 20ste verjaardagete en sy goeie werk met die jeugafdeling.

Al dié dinge, en die steeds stygende bywoning van vergaderings, voorspel goed vir die toekoms.

Die ampsdraers van die vereniging is herkies, behalwe mnr. Fanie Vermaak wat as penningmeester opgevolg word deur mnr. Hannes Meintjies, maar wat lid van die komitee bly. Daarby is 'n onder-voorsitter verkies in die persoon van mnr. M. P. Vorster.

Nadat die nuut gedrukte grondwet versprei is, het mnr. L. E. Roediger almal vergas op 'n skitterende uitstalling van Baden, wat oor 93 bladsye nie alleen al die posseëls van die staat toon nie, maar daarby 508 van die 532 moontlike stempels.

Die eerste uitgif, van 1 Mei 1851, is o.a. verteenwoordig deur 'n strook van drie op koever

gedateer 28 Junie 1851. Daar was talle ander koeverte, terwyl die uitstekende toestand van die ongetande seëls opgeval het — 'n versameling van die hoogste kaliber.

SOUTH AFRICAN STAMP DUTY CIRCLE

February: At the Annual General Meeting all official business was disposed of quickly.

The J. H. Harvey-Pirie plaque was presented to Mr. R. B. Cronwright for his work on and study of the 1/2 cent and 2 1/2 cent postage stamps, and the postage dues, over the previous year. All of these studies were fully reported in the S.A. Philatelist.

Mr. Ken Lydall showed quite an assortment of Censor labels, with at least three different set-ups of the wording, and lettered from A down to about R.

Mr. D. Kransdorff showed some very good examples of registered envelopes illustrating interrupted printing due to paper intrusion.

March: We were privileged to have, as special guests, Mr. H. Steyn who is head of the Philatelic Services division of the Post Office, Mr. F. Reinders who is his right hand man, and Miss E. M. van der Merwe, who is in charge of all stock at the Bureau in Pretoria.

Mr. Steyn gave us a very interesting and informative talk, which will be fully reported in our news-letter.

Part of our reference collection was tabled by the curator Dr. H. Raubenheimer, for members to see. The collection is growing quickly, and already has some very good items.

Dr. D. Kransdorff gave a detailed talk, supported by examples, of the current Registration envelopes. By studying the "type", and differences in "set-up", he showed that there are many variations that can be collected. This will be reported in full in our news-letter.

THE ROYAL PHILATELIC SOCIETY OF RHODESIA

Three months of the year gone, and behind us are two very successful meetings, and the Annual General Meeting, details of which, in a very abbreviated form, are:

January: Normally an "informal meeting" was fairly well attended, and members were entertained by an excellent display of Rhodesian and South African Aerial Flights by Mr. A. Fitzstevens.

The February meeting was Ladies Night at which M^{ss} Whitehead staged "Snippets" from the Philatelic Press; Mrs. MacLean showed Rhodesian varieties; Mrs. Hughson British Commonwealth covers; Mrs. Tring, Modern Japanese Issues; Mrs. Pegg, a thematic collection "Children" and Mrs. Jarrett, "Stamps on Stamps".

At the A.G.M. office bearers for the ensuing year were elected and a selection made from the Society's collection for display in the Court of Honour at RSA 10 exhibition.

The following awards were made in respect of members' successes:

The Mrs. Turnbull award to Mr. G. Fisher for his collection of "Sport on Stamps".

The Porter Cup to Mr. G. D. Trotter for his Nyssaland showing. The "Mary Strong Trophy" for Thematics to Mr. Scott for his collection "In Service of Their Country".

The "Society Cup" to the Editor and Editorial Committee of "Magnify".

THE PHILATELIC SOCIETY OF JOHANNESBURG

February: The 41st Annual General Meeting was well attended at which the following officers and committee were elected:

President, Mr. I. A. Miller; Vice-President, Mr. K. Wedderburn-Maxwell; Hon. Secretary, Major F. A. Murray; Hon. Treasurer, Mr. W. F. Tilney; Hon. Exchange Superintendents: Messrs. C. J. Adkins, L. E. Roediger and H. H. Schwab; Ex Officio (Immediate Past President), Mr. K. E. W. Lydall; Members of the Committee, Mrs. M. Hodgkin, Messrs. J. Michelson, R. E. Hunt and P. Seligman.

The following members of the Society are congratulated on the awards which they received for 1970:

Ernest Hunt Cup, Mr. K. E. W. Lydall; F. J. Lang Cup, Mr. C. J. Adkins; Robertson Cup, Mr. H. Birkhead for Rhodesia; Charles Cilliers (Novices Cup) Dr. A. Davidson for Tristan da Cunha; Runner Up, Mr. H. Horn for Basutoland; Junior Cup, M. Forer for Israel; Tibor Major Cup (Thematics), C. Brewer for Art on Stamps; Society Award, Mr. R. E. Hunt for Modena; William Redford Award, Mr. M. M. Wood for Zululand; J. H. Harvey Pirie Award, Mr. B. Seelig for French Airmails; Runner Up, Mr. W. Hartman for Madagascar/Malagasy; W. N. Sheffield Award, Mr. F. Lambert for S. A. Without Tears; Special Awards to Juniors, M. Lurie, Space; P. Lurie, Heraldry; A. MacNae, Germany; W. MacNae, Austria; A. Shamos, Israel; A. Wedderburn-Maxwell, Malta.

700th Meeting

As you all know this took the form of a braai-veis at which your President and his good lady were the hosts. This was an occasion that will long be remembered by all those fellow philatelists, friends and postal officials that were present — in all — approximately 125 persons attended.

THEMATIC STAMP CLUB

February: Capt. M. F. Stern showed his collection of "Into Space", having brought this right up-to-date. This extensive collection covers Astrology, Astronomers, history of rockets, rocket flights, Meteorology, Telecommunications and finally Space Flights right up to Apollo 13 and Soyuz 6, 7 and 8.

March: This was the Annual General Meeting and the following were elected to the Committee for 1971/72: President, F. L. Archer; Vice-President, C. M. K. Robertson; Treasurer, D. Shevellew; Secretary, Mrs. V. R. Coe, P.O. Box 146, Cape Town; Hon. Editor, Thematic Magazine, Capt. M. F. Stern; ex officio, Dr. P. L. Vautier;

Committee, Messrs. R. F. Chapman and W. Combrink.

Part of the Club's collection namely the late C. Mummery's "Trip around Africa" was shown.

It was decided that in the Magazine, there would be a section devoted to Member's Wants at 1c per word with a minimum of 15c per issue.

EXPERT COMMITTEE

The next meeting of the Expert Committee of the Philatelic Federation of Southern Africa will be held on Saturday, May 15, 1971.

NEW INTERNATIONAL RATES

New international postal rates to come into force on 1st July 1971 have been announced by the Post Office. In a number of cases the airmail rates have gone down, e.g. to the U.S.A., with 2½c, and to Australia, with 5c.

The South African and South West African inland surface-mail rates for letters, postcards and printed matter also apply to such mail addressed to Angola, Botswana, Burundi, Lesotho, Malawi, Mozambique, Rhodesia and Swaziland.

To all other countries, the new **surface-mail** rates are:

Letters, up to 20g	.....	.....	.....	.....	9c
20g to 100g	.....	.....	.....	.....	21c
Postcards, 6c each.					
Printed papers and newspapers . . .					
up to 20g	.....	.....	.....	.....	4c
20g to 100g	.....	.....	.....	.....	7c
100g to 200g	.....	.....	.....	.....	11c

From the extensive schedule of rates for surface-mail parcels, we glean that it will cost R6.10 to send a 10 kg parcel to the U.S. Virgin Islands, while the same parcel would be 3c cheaper if it went to the British Virgin Islands. It would be rather cheaper to send your 10 kg parcel to Tristan da Cunha, said to be the most remote spot on earth (R2.66), than to Colombia (R7.16).

The airmail rates have been completely revised, and a blanket rate of 9c for **aerogrammes** is introduced. The exception will be the countries bordering on the Republic, for which the aerogramme rate is 5c, and Burundi, scheduled at 6c.

Postcards by airmail are to cost between 9c and 12c each, again excepting the neighbouring states.

Second-class airmail, per 10g, for destinations outside Africa varies from 7c for Western Europe to 10c for the Far East and South America.

Birds of Rhodesia

The Rhodesian Post Office will issue a very attractive set of postage stamps depicting the birds of the country on 1st June, 1971. The stamp values are 2c, 2½c, 5c, 7½c, 8c and 25c. A first day cover with a complete set of stamps may be obtained from the Rhodesian Philatelic Bureau, Private Bag 199H, Salisbury, at a cost of 60c plus postage and registration fee.

The **airmail letter rates** appear to be most complex. The weighing unit is 10g and the 1/2c is dropped completely.

For the United Kingdom, the rate goes up from 12½c to 15c, which is also the rate for Belgium, France, Italy, Portugal, Spain, Switzerland, Monaco, Morocco, Malta, Tangier and Tetuan — yet Gibraltar is 16c.

Ireland has a rise from 12½c to 16c (Republic of) and 15c (Northern).

Holland, Luxembourg, Norway, Sweden, Finland, Estonia, Hungary, Poland, Romania, Turkey and the USSR now stand at 16c, while both Germanies remain at 15c. Bulgaria jumps to 17c while Denmark and Greenland, almost incredibly, drop from 15c to 13c. Iceland is up 1c to 16c.

Greece and Greek islands are also down 1c from 15c to 14c.

In the Middle East, Israel is up from 12½c to 16c, while the new rates for Arab and other countries vary from 14c to 18c.

The North American and Caribbean rate is now 20c, which represents a decrease, while some South American countries are up to 24c from 22½c.

Australia is down to 20c and New Zealand to 21c. Far East rates vary considerably: India 17c, Ceylon 21c, Japan 22c, Philippines 24c.

In Africa, a feature of the new rates seems to be the favoured position of Burundi, which enjoys an airmail rate of 9c against the 13c of its neighbour Rwanda and 11c for Uganda, Tanzania and the Congo.

The highest airmail letter rate per 10g, being 25c, applies to letters for the Gilbert and Ellice Islands, Cook Island and Portuguese Timor.

New airmail rates for parcels were also announced. The weight unit is 250g, which is about half a pound, and the rate to Western Europe is around R1 for the first 250g.

PHILATELISTS' RENDEZVOUS

THE ROYAL PHILATELIC SOCIETY OF CAPE TOWN

meets on the second and fourth Thursdays
of every month in
**The Club Room of the Friends of Italy of
South Africa, First Floor, Radio City Bldgs.**
Tulbagh Square, Foreshore, Cape Town.
at 8 p.m.
VISITORS CORDIALLY WELCOMED.
P.O. BOX 1973, CAPE TOWN.

THE MASHONALAND PHILATELIC SOCIETY

Meets once a month on the second Wednesday
at 8 p.m. in the Auditorium of the
Queen Victoria Museum, Rotton Row,
Salisbury.

All visitors are welcome —

Secretary P.O. Box 2735, Salisbury.

ORANGE FREE STATE PHILATELIC SOCIETY

Meets on the fourth Friday of every month
in the
**NATIONAL MUSEUM HALL,
BLOEMFONTEIN**
at 7.30 p.m.
Issues a monthly magazine and circulates
sales packets to members.
P.O. BOX 702 — BLOEMFONTEIN.

THE PORT ELIZABETH PHILATELIC SOCIETY

meets on the first and third Tuesday each
month in the
**The Walmer Library Hall,
Main Road, Walmer, Port Elizabeth.**
at 8.00 p.m.
Visitors cordially welcome.
P.O. BOX 3 — PORT ELIZABETH.

THE PHILATELIC SOCIETY OF NATAL

Meetings 1st and 3rd Wednesdays monthly
at 7.30 p.m. in the
Geo Cato Room, City Hall, Durban
(Entrance West Street . . . door nearest
Beach)
VISITORS CORDIALLY WELCOMED.
P.O. Box 588, Durban. Secretary's
Telephone 64306 (evenings)

THE PRETORIA PHILATELIC SOCIETY

meets on the first Monday of every month
in the
Council Chamber of the Technical College
Church Street East, Pretoria.
at 7.45 p.m.
VISITORS CORDIALLY WELCOMED.
P.O. Box 514, Pretoria.

THE PHILATELIC SOCIETY OF JOHANNESBURG

meets twice a month: Second Tuesday and
fourth Monday at
Room 75, Public Library, Johannesburg
at 8 p.m.
VISITORS ARE WELCOME.
Hon. Secretary,
P.O. Box 4967, Johannesburg.

THE AEROPHILATELIC SOCIETY OF SOUTHERN AFRICA

Meetings are not held, but members get
covers, etc. of special South African flights
and other interesting items — more than
covered by the small annual subscription.
P.O. Box 3654, Cape Town.

THE PRETORIA RAILWAY PHILATELIC SOCIETY

meets on the second Wednesday of every
month in the
**Railway Recreation Club, Berea Park,
Pretoria, at 8 p.m.**
P.O. Box 2388, Pretoria.
ALL PHILATELISTS ARE WELCOME.

SOCIETY OF ISRAEL PHILATELY

Meets on the 1st Monday of every month
at 8.15 p.m.
**Burlington House Boardroom (2nd Floor),
c/r. Rissik & Marshall Streets,
Johannesburg.**
ALL WELCOME.
Secretary P.O. Box 11502, Johannesburg.

THE SOUTH AFRICAN STAMP STUDY CIRCLE

meets at 2.15 p.m. on the second Saturday of
every month in the
**Staff Tea Lounge, Basement, Corner House,
Corner Sauer and Commissioner Streets,
Johannesburg (Commissioner St. Entrance).**
ALL INTERESTED IN SOUTH AFRICAN
PHILATELY ARE WELCOME.
Secretary: N. Becker
P.O. Box 9505, Johannesburg.
Telephone: 838-4679; Home 45-5452

THE EAST RAND PHILATELIC SOCIETY

P.O. Box 483, Benoni. (Hon. Secretary).
Meetings every 2nd Monday in the month
at the
BENONI TENNIS CLUB HOUSE,
Benoni, at 7.45 p.m.
VISITORS ARE WELCOME.

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MAFEKING SIEGE: Used 3d deep blue Baden Powell; 21mm wide. What offers? Apply through S.A. Philatelist.

WANTED: S.A., S.W.A. and Boer War, preferably postal history.—C. E. SHERWOOD (V), P.T.S., 105 Marford Crescent, Sale, Cheshire M33 4DN.

ANGLO-BOER WAR PHILATELIC SOCIETY, quarterly magazine with exchange packet in U.K. Annual subscription £1 sterling or 3 dollars. Secretary, J. H. Rathbone, "Always", Rudheath, Northwich, Cheshire, U.K.

WANTED: Rhodesian Postmarks, on or off cover (pre-1923). Offers to J. M. Weinstein, 479a Fehrsen Street, Brooklyn, Pretoria.

WANTED.—Accumulations, Collections, Office Lots on and off paper. Turn those old boxes of philatelic "junk" into cash, or exchange it with us for stamps, albums or accessories that you need. — **ROBEMARK PHILATELISTS (PTY.) LTD.**, 21 Joubert Street, Johannesburg, Box 11419.

COLLECTIONS WANTED for immediate cash settlement; Large or small, specialised or general. Top prices paid for popular sets and rare issues in fine condition.—**ELIEZER BLUM**, P.O. Box 1669, Cape Town. (Established in Cape Town since 1930).

TE KOOP GEVRA: Posmateriaal van die Vrystaatse en Transvaalse Republieke gebruik ná 11 Oktober 1899. J. Groenewald, Posbus 3443, Pretoria.

ACCUMULATIONS, ODD LOTS of Southern Africa wanted, Union Stamp Co., 15, Barbican Bldg. P.O. Box 10225, Phone 838-5879.

WANTED TO PURCHASE THE BOOK "The Machine Postmarks of the Union of South Africa" by G. W. Hockey. Offers to Dr. T. B. Berry, P.O. Box 67031, Bryanston, Transvaal.

I exchange **ANTARCTIC COVERS** and **SPECIAL SLIGHT COVERS** with cancellations by Argentine or Chilean bases for covers of R.S.A. or G.B. **ANTARCTIC BASES** or mint sets. H. Bergwerk, Casilla 5636, Buenos Aires.

MAURITIUS c.d.s. wanted on cover, piece or stamp: Baker, 1 Ferndale Road, Port Alfred.

GERMAN SOUTH WEST AFRICA: Wanted early forerunners on cover or on piece, or any other items of interest. Top prices paid. L. ABRAMS, P.O. Box 7875, Johannesburg. Telephone: Office 22-1630; home 41-9251.

"MAGNIFY" (Official Journal of the Royal Philatelic Society of Rhodesia) is available to the public at 20c per copy post free. Write to Box 803, Bulawayo. Limited quantities of back numbers are available.

LATVIA (Letland; Lettonie) out of the way items and bulk common stamps wanted.—J. Michelson, P.O. Box 9314, Johannesburg.

WANTED.—German Concentration Camp Covers and Ghetto Post, Post-war Locals, Propaganda, Forgeries, Military Covers, etc., etc. C. A. Whysall, P.O. Box 676, Durban. (68 West Street).

U.S.A. SPECIALIST requires singles, blocks, covers, cancellations. A. R. Kleiner, 23 Cadogan Gardens, London S.W. 3, England.

WORLDWIDE PHILATELIC PUBLICATIONS! U.S.A., England, France, Germany, etc. Free subscription price list. — Bedard Publications, Box 5215 — SA1, Detroit, Michigan 48236, U.S.A.

TRISTAN DA CUNHA.—Books — letters — clippings — envelopes — articles — prints — illustrations — reports; always wanted. J. Cole, 90 Ronson Drive, Rexdale, Ontario, Canada.

WANTED: Ryukyu Islands, all varieties in quantity; receive same quantity all different U.S.A. or Canada. Goldman, 615 King Street, Wilmington, Del. 19801, U.S.A.

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THE SPRINGBOK, magazine of the South African Collectors' Society for Union and Republic collectors. Subscription R2 a year. Membership; Secretary, R. E. Mason, 137 Lichfield Court, Richmond, Surrey, England.

SWEDISH Military Philately wanted. Write first: S. J. Vermaak, Box 2272, Johannesburg.

The South African Philatelist

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R.D.P.

Hon. Assistant Editor.

**Mr. Joh
Groenewald**

Business Manager

Mr. S. J. Vermaak

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A Break-through: Thematics at the "Royal"

by Dr. K. Freund, R.D.P., F.R.P.S.L.

A new chapter began in the annals of the London Royal Philatelic Society when an "undisguisedly" thematic display was given to the rather astonished members and fellows on November 5, 1970.

The subject was "A Philatelic approach to Entomology", or in more popular terms just plainly "Butterflies and Moths". The type and material of the display was a revolutionary deviation from the usual conservative and philatelically highbrow character of the "Royal".

The exhibitor, Mr. A. G. M. Batten, F.R.P.S.L., F.R.E.S. (Fellow of the Royal Entomological Society), is better known for his excellent work in connection with the postal history of the Orange Free State. Introducing his display, Mr. Batten read a paper on Lepidoptera outlining all insect families and sub-families with their various member specimens. Mr. Batten admitted rather shamefacedly that he is "well aware that many members of this Learned Society will in all probability regard a thematic collection . . . as something not quite up to what is expected at a meeting of the Royal".

This paper is appearing in the Royal's magazine, "The London Philatelist", spread over two numbers (March and April 1971). The accompanying illustrations of picturesque butterflies flitting about on the pages of this staid journal provide an unusual sight among all the cus-

tomary articles of philatelic research.

On another page of the March number, a philatelic cynic gives a light-hearted comment on this thematic intrusion into the "Royal", asserting that "I am not dreaming, of course, of changing my hobby-horse", or "I shall still find it difficult to get anything out of looking at a thematic collection".

While many of us appear to be more broad-minded than that, one really amazing aspect in this "Butterfly" presentation has to be mentioned: It is the fact that for the sake of completeness stamps of doubtful status have been included, in the actual display at the "Royal" as well as in the article in the "Royal's" journal. Most philatelists will rub their eyes in disbelief that stamps from **Oman**, for instance, have been included (ibid., pp. 63, 65). The authority of the State of Oman to issue stamps has been queried by a rival government in Southern Arabia. These uncertain conditions had the result that practically everybody seems to ignore the stamps from Oman and they do not even make the grade of being listed in Stanley Gibbons' well-known "Appendix" which appears in their monthly magazine and in their

Editorial

The Young Ones

Of late we have sensed a growing awareness for the need to stimulate stamp collecting among young people. The matter has been broached in Parliament, and the new head of the Philatelic Bureau earlier this year expressed his intention of generating philatelic interest in schools.

It is our obvious duty to initiate the new generation in philately, and to gain fresh recruits to our ranks. Otherwise, where will the future stamp collectors come from?

Today's teenagers live in a world more complex than the one we grew up in, and we should not become despondent if our young protege collects stamps on one day and astronaut autographs the next. If we can instill a love for stamp collecting in the young ones of today, we will have achieved much. Most of them may forget all about their school-age collections — but some will start afresh in ten or twenty years' time. We know this happens: it is to be encouraged.

We know that education authorities are bound to be sympathetically inclined towards stamp collecting, because world wide stamp collecting has proved its educative value in developing character and extending knowledge.

But what are we doing to foster stamp collecting among the younger generation? Are we doing anything? Are we doing enough?

Most of the philatelic societies have some or other project aimed at junior collectors, be it only a juvenile competition. Some societies do rather more, the most active in the junior field being the Afrikaanse Filatelievereniging (Johannesburg).

Yet so much more can be done! The potential is there, as is evidenced by a recent popular Afrikaans youth magazine having six display advertisements from stamp dealers, including one from overseas (we might add that none of them advertise in this journal). There is a high school near you, and there are boys and girls wanting to collect stamps — will you go and guide them? Knowing the need is a good thing, doing something about it is better.

— THE EDITOR.

catalogues and tolerantly gives a brief annotation of a number of undesirable issues.

But perhaps Mr. Batten is right after all. It is a fundamental of philately as a hobby that the individual collector should please and enjoy himself. Large stamp associations should enlighten and recommend but not dictate.

A collector may have his own good reasons for including certain stamps which are frowned upon by many, as in Mr. Batten's case where the omission of these stamps would mean a gaping blank in the philatelic presentation of a scientific synthesis.

New Values

The new postal rates have necessitated the issue of more new value stamps (the new foreign rates which are to be introduced on 1st July, were mentioned in our May issue).

A 6c stamp was released on 3rd May, being the 7½c Mealie stamp with value changed.

A 9c stamp was due for issue during the first days of June. In this case, the old 12½c Protea stamp was used.

Both these stamps are considered to be interim issues, pending the introduction of a new definitive set.

(Commenting on the 6c and 9c emissions, someone cleverly pointed out that the new rates were not always on an upward trend, because here we have the Post Office selling the same stamps as before, but more cheaply.)

Two Printings of SWA 1c

Mr. Herbert C. Nöckler reports from Windhoek that there are two different printings of the SWA 1c stamp with RSA watermark:

1. Darker purple, thick glossy paper, watermark tête-bêche very faint, letters RSA indistinguishable, and large red serial numbers.
2. Light purple, thin blunt-surfaced paper, RSA watermark pointing to the right (viewed from the front), and small red serial numbers.

The cylinder numbers, 39/122, are the same.

SOUTH AFRICAN NOTES

by Dr. H. J. Raubenheimer

RSA 10 Commemorative Stamps Interstex

Two Republican commemorative postage stamps were issued on 22 May 1971 to coincide with the opening of the International Stamp Exhibition which was organised as part of the Republican festivities in Cape Town. The motif of the 5c value is the J. G. Strijdom tower and a profile of the late Mr. Strijdom. This stamp commemorates the inauguration of the micro wave tower. The 12½c stamp commemorates the tenth anniversary of the Antarctic Treaty. Its motif is the emblem of the contracting countries.

The 5c Denomination

Design: The microwave tower, in greenish-yellow is in the centre. The Strijdom head in the top right corner and the "echoes" of the tower below it are in light blue. The buildings below are in black. The inscriptions, in white, are 5c in the top left corner and RSA in the bottom right corner. The sky is in gradations of light blue.

Paper: Coated, Harrison, RSA watermarked, the marks being in tête-bêche formation, facing left and right.

Sheet format: Horizontal, single die, 100 stamps per sheet (5 rows x 20).

Stamp format: Vertical, measuring 24.2 x 40.5 mm. The stamps have frame lines and perforated gutters.

Cylinders: Four; three of them being for the colours and the fourth for the phosphor bands 3 mm wide along the gutters. The colour cylinders are nos. 429 greenish-yellow, referred to, in short as yellow, 428 black, interior and 427 light blue, exterior. These numbers, in their colours, are shown on the left margin opposite row 5. The number 429 is barely visible but shows clearly under ultra violet light. The printing was on the Goebel 840 machine.

Sheet numbers: Five figure black, type II on the bottom margin, twice, below stamps 1 and 2 and again 12 and 13. May be partially or wholly trimmed off.

Arrows: Blue, centrally placed on the top and bottom margins.

Marginal bars: Blue, double line, broken bars with an extended central gap, on the left and right margins. The apices of the large V shaped gaps point towards the edges of the sheet.

Colour register: Consists of two concentric circles bisected by a vertical line, all in the three colours superimposed, on the bottom margin below stamps 18 and 19. May be partially trimmed off.

Perforations: By the Grover two row machine, perf. 14 (14 x 13.75). The left margin is perforated through, the right is imperforate as are the top and bottom margins except for the single extra hole at each of the vertical rows of perforations.

Perforation register punch holes: Are on the top margin above stamps 14 and 15 and on the bottom margin below stamps 14 and 15. The bottom hole, alone, has the blue concentric circles bisected by a vertical line. They also are both partially or wholly trimmed off.

Guillotine guide lines: Consist of thin blue, vertical scratch lines opposite row 5 of either the left or right margins.

Varieties

Row No.

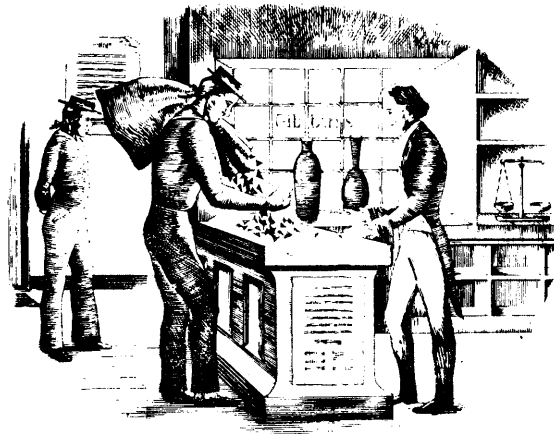
- 1.2 White dot above top left platform.
- 1.4 Black hairline at back of Mr. Strijdom's head.
- 2.15 White dots below chin.
- 5.8 White stroke in hair at the back of the head.

The 12½c Denomination

Design: The central square is in depths of indigo; in it are the map of Antarctica in white with concentric rings and radiating "spokes" in indigo and white, also are the words BORG and SANAE in red orange. The mountains below are in white. The inscriptions are in indigo, and are RSA 12½c in the top right corner and ANTARKTIESE VERDRAG 1961-1971 ANTARCTIC TREATY along the bottom of the stamp.

Paper: Coated, Harrison, RSA watermarked, the marks being in tête-bêche formation, facing up and down.

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However we are pleased to announce that John Farthing, Associate Director of Stanley Gibbons Ltd., will be visiting major cities in South Africa, and would like to hear from people interested in buying and selling stamps or collections of a specialist nature.

He can be contacted at SUNNYSIDE PARK HOTEL, JOHANNESBURG, on May 6th; and TULBAGH HOTEL, CAPE TOWN, on May 19th.

A warm welcome awaits those who meet Mr. Farthing, or visit STAND No. 24 — the Gibbons stand at RSA 10 — The International Stamp Exhibition, Cape Town (May 22-31, 1971).

You can contact him now by writing to

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Cables: Stangib, London, W.C.2.

Sheet format: Vertical, single die, 100 stamps per sheet (20 rows x 5).

Stamp format: Horizontal, measuring 40.5 x 24.2 mm. The stamps have frame lines with perforated gutters.

Cylinders: Four; three for colours and one for the 3 mm wide phosphor bands. The colour cylinders are nos. 432 red-orange, 431 indigo, interior and 430 turquoise-blue — referred to, in short, as blue — exterior. These coloured numbers are shown on the bottom margin below stamp no. 5. Printed on the Goebel 840 machine.

Sheet numbers: 5 figure black, type II, on the right margin, twice, opposite rows 8 and 9 and again 19 and 20.

Arrows: Blue, centrally placed on the left and right margins.

Marginal bars: Blue, single line broken bars, with an extended central gap, on the top and bottom margins.

Colour register: In the form of two concentric circles, divided by a cross, in the three colours superimposed, on the right margin opposite rows 2 and 3.

Step wedges: One on the left margin opposite rows 2 to 5; there are 16 and the depth of the colour indigo decreases downwards. They are mostly trimmed off.

Densitometer colour patches: Are on the left margin, indigo, opposite row 14, orange opposite row 15 and blue opposite row 16. They are also partly trimmed off.

Perforations: By the Grover two row machine gauge 14 (13.75 x 14). The bottom margin is perforated through; the top, left and right margins are imperforate except for the single extra hole at each end of the horizontal rows of perforations.

Perforation register punch holes: Are on the left margin opposite rows 6 and 7 and the right margin opposite rows 6 and 7, this has the blue concentric rings around it and divided by a horizontal line. They may be partially trimmed off, the left more than the right.

Varieties

Row No

- 5.2 White dot at right of mountain peak on the left.
- 9.1 White dots above left mountain.
- 10.2 White dot in sky at left of BORGA.
- 11.1 Faint white clouds around 12 of 12½c.

New Emblem For Bureau



A special emblem has been adopted for the Philatelic Bureau, according to an announcement by the Postmaster General, Mr. L. F. Rive.

The emblem is based on the "post office stones", used by mariners centuries ago at the Cape to leave letters for passing ships. The circle symbolises the stone, the semi-circle beneath it the letters, and the horizontal line the earth.

Henceforth the emblem will appear on the Philatelic Bureau's envelopes, letterheads and bulletins (the print order for the bulletin now runs to 12 000 copies).

According to the announcement it was decided to give the Bureau a distinctive symbol with a view to putting it on the map. A competition was held amongst the final year art students of the Pretoria College for Advanced Technical Education. The judges were the senior art lecturers of the college, and they decided to split the R100 prize between the entries of Miss A. J. Koller (for her design) and Miss R. Kuiters (for her letterwork).

IN MORE LIBRARIES

Our Business Manager, Mr. Vermaak, reports that 30 public libraries in the Cape Province are amongst the new subscribers to The S.A. Philatelist.

Philatelic Reminiscence

Golden Days With The Pretoria Philatelic Society

by L. J. Dodd

It has been suggested that, following up the interesting articles written by Messrs. Robertson and Cairncross I should supply the memories of my time with the Pretoria Philatelic Society.

Now, how does one start on a job like this? Avoid being too rambling, a failing of the not so young, and above all not too much of self.

It must be emphasised at the start that nearly all I write is purely from what I can recall of happenings; and also of people I have met and many kindnesses received along the way. Going back over about thirty years and with, practically no records to which to refer will probably prove that one's memory is not always too correct.

It seems to me that the major interest must be in the people who in turn gave up their time and energy to running the Society, whose services ought to be put on record so I shall try and include most of these, adding comments as I go along.

Firstly, those who founded the Society on 28th of February 1898 were a small group of five, namely Rev. Canon Fisher, Messrs. C. Plommer, Isaac van Alpen, J. J. Haupt and E. C. David who drew up the rules and regulations. In April of the same year Mr. Emil Tamsen joined. Monthly meetings were held and by the end of the first year membership was thirty four.

During 1899 the attendances at meetings gradually grew smaller and later were suspended for the period of the Anglo-Boer War.

Of all the members of that period I can only record as having met Mr. Obermeyer and Mr. Tamsen, the latter venerable old gentleman who attended the 1948 Golden Jubilee Dinner; the former was at some of the earliest meetings I attended after being elected in 1940. My sponsors were Mr. H. N. B. Hawke and Miss B. J. Versefeld.

There was a revival of Society meetings in 1902 but a lean period faced those who undertook the revival and few attendants are record-

Grand Old Man

This reminiscence has been especially selected to celebrate the date at which Leonard Dodd will have reached his ninetieth birthday and also to commemorate his inauguration as a Grand Old Man of South African Philately, in which respect he will rank with other stalwarts such as Emil Tamsen and Ernest Hunt.

On behalf of all interested in the Hobby, particularly the older generation who have benefitted from his counsel, we welcome him to this status and congratulate him upon being spared, with moderate health, to reach this ripe old age.



We trust that along with his life's helpmate, Eva, he may continue his association with us and to record the Revenue Stamps of South Africa, an aspect of philately which he has diligently handled and for which he has become to be universally renowned.

The S.A. Philatelist.

ed until 1905. Credit must be given to Messrs. S. A. Klagsbrun, Haupt, Levitt, W. J. Giovanetti and H. N. B. Hawke for keeping the flag flying. Messrs. Giovanetti and Hawke still attended after I joined.

Three Presidents

At this point I think it wise to remark that in my opinion, the Society has been very fortunate in having three men who each acted as Presidents for a number of consecutive years and carried it forward so successfully.

I think firstly of Mr. A. E. Basden with his Secretary and Treasurer Professor Wager and Mr. N. L. Watson respectively; they got

affairs running very smoothly with increasing numbers joining. Outstanding members included Mr. E. C. Wright and Dr. A. J. Broughton, the former making a grand job of running the Exchange Packet, the latter undertaking the job of Auctioneer and also was much in demand for valuing collections; however his keen interest in photography in the end robbed us of a real asset to the Society. To Mr. Wright I have always been very thankful for help in my early days as a collector; his own collection he termed a straight collection of British Colonials, owing to having been got together from a number of years ago is, in my opinion, the best lot of material in private hands in this country; also his Postal Stationery is outstanding.

After a few years the second of the three men to whom I referred above became our President, Mr. F. C. Ferguson, who carried on into the year of World War II, a period of great progress in which many keen members joined up and corresponded to the years in which the writer was a very regular attendant at the still bi-monthly meetings. Names which come prominently to mind are, Dr. Robert Broome FRS, a great student of the first stamps of the Transvaal; Dr. J. H. Harvey-Pirie, President for many years of the Philatelic Federation of Southern Africa and Editor of *The S.A. Philatelist*; Commander C. E. D. Enoch, an outstanding philatelist whose material of Great Britain line-engraves and his Nos. I of the British Empire gave us much over which to ponder and admire; Mr. W. H. Bottomley joined in 1938 and still attended meetings up to 1969; also Mr. W. Impey came forward following Mr. Wright as Exchange Superintendent and did a grand job making this section very popular and a source of good profit to Society funds. I must mention Mr. W. Newlands with his collection of Orange Free State and many others whose help provided good training for me and many others.

Nor should I omit Mr. L. E. Orkin a member whose efforts in arranging quiz papers etc. for meetings gave a lot of pleasure; the highlight was the compiling of the Menu for the Golden Dinner in 1948.

Reference Collection

About this time it was resolved to end the Society's reference collection of the stamps of the British Colonies and replace it by one of the stamps of the Union of South Africa. The original collection was formed at the instance of Mr. C. Hand, it contained sets up

to one shilling value only. Sales of the first collection by auction at Society meetings besides giving members the chance of buying material at very reasonable prices helped to provide a fund for starting the new reference collection which was also helped by donations from members.

A very generous donation by Mrs. Hawke of the stamps of her late husband helped with the collection as it contained much Union material of the earlier days. Items not required were put up to auction and here again the members were greatly favoured by being able to buy at relatively moderate prices for their own collections.

The Society owes a debt of gratitude to the various Curators who carefully built up the present collection, today a valuable asset, and which owes much to the great work of Dr. T. B. Berry during his term of office.

Some of us were of the opinion that World War II would affect attendance at meetings, however the opposite proved true, possibly with Pretoria being the centre of the Defence Department a large population came to the city. Among the large number who were recruited was Mr. Manfred Weinstein, the third of the three who gave of their time and energy, while taking on the Presidency.

As I am now coming to the more recent activities of members I must mention the splendid job done by Mr. Slater-Kinghorn who took over the office of Librarian; by the mounting and cross referencing of articles cut from magazines.

The tendency today leans towards intensive study of postal history, including cancellations and covers which illustrate early history. Two members come to mind with this in view, Dr. Berry and Mr. Weinstein, the former with his work on postmarks, plus of course, that he will go down in South African philately for his work on catalogues; the latter for his keen search for early African material.

If I may be permitted to do so I would like to congratulate both of the two I have mentioned immediately above.

Over the years the Society has provided many members who have done good work on the Expert Committee of the South African Philatelic Federation.

I am now going to add a few words on my personal participation in the Society activities. For a short period I took over the job of Librarian and possibly this led to my being entrusted with the handling of the sale of Mrs. Hawke's magnificent donation. Over a period

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of nearly two years this realised a little more than £1 000. I was greatly helped by Mr. N. L. Watson.

Mr. Watson in his turn expressed a wish, before his death, of making a donation to the Society of which he was a member for so long. This led to his heirs presenting us with "The Lecky Watson Trophy" which is competed for annually by exhibits revealing study and new discoveries.

I now pass on to describing how I started collecting stamps, just the usual schoolboy's beginning by keeping everything I could get and later discarding by stages Foreign, British Colonials, and Dominion stamps and today collect only revenues and their sidelines.

My real start with fiscals was a purchase of material at a Society auction by Mr. A. E. Basden who was liquidating part of the late Mr. S. Klagsbrun's stamps. The item of a strip of 5 of the first printed issue of revenues of the Transvaal with a manuscript cancel by H. Rider Haggard, a clerk who came up with Sir Theophilus Shepstone at the first British Occupation of the Transvaal.

Mr. Cairncross mentioned the old Transvaal stamps overprinted V.R.I. and "Cancelled" which was done at Wolmaransstad, to this I would like to add that it was my privilege to help the late Mr. W. H. Bottomley to value a remainder of these stamps still in the possession of a daughter of Mr. James Leisk, the owner of a large store in that town, whose stock of stamps was commandeered by the British Forces when the post office was left bare by the retiring Boer soldiers. The material contained the receipt given by the Officer who took over the stamps, which is a very special document, and quite a treasure for collectors of Boer War items, much sought after today.

Check List

Together with Mr. J. C. Silvie and Mr. T. A. Harper I put together a priced Check List of the Revenue stamps of South Africa and the four Colonies that came together to form the Union. The list we felt helped to save a lot of interesting material that was previously ignored as not being worthy of study.

The only times I have been able to add any real information about stamps as such, and which has merited further publicity was passed on to the firm of Robson Lowe Ltd. It was in connection with the Newspaper Duty Stamps of the Cape of Good Hope, which

at one time were quoted as being older in use than the Great Britain penny black. The details about them were rediscovered in the Cape archives by Mr. Silvie and I was able to supply photographs of the actual impressions on newspapers for the article published in "The Philatelist" of November 1959. My second effort was producing two Cape revenue stamps with a red manuscript overprint, 1d. on a sixpenny stamp, used by the authorities of Griqualand West. These also provided material for another article that was published in the number of January 1971. We are indebted to the intervention of Mr. Weinstein who passed on the data to Robson Lowe.

It is now time to end this jotting down of my memories. I am afraid I may have omitted the names of many to whom I owe thanks for help and although I am no longer able to attend the monthly meetings I still retain very happy memories of time spent with members of the Pretoria Philatelic Society and learning from them the finer points of stamp collecting, the hobby for young and old.

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PAN AFRICAN PHILATELIST (PTY.) LTD.

Letter to The Editor

The April Editorial

Dear Sir,

1. Do the ideas expressed in your Editorial: "An Open Letter" of your April 1971 edition reflex the opinion of the Philatelic Federation of Southern Africa, or are they your personal views?
2. Could you kindly indicate:
 - (a) the norms and rules applicable when countries are "black blotted".
 - (b) could you name some countries whose stamps have been "black blotted" and which rules were applied in each case.
3. Would you consider Great Britain, Australia, Canada and New Zealand, who are at present following less conservative policies than they have in the past, as potential philatelic "black blot" countries?
4. Would you term South Africa and South-West Africa with its present stamps issuing programme:
 - (a) Internationally popular countries.
 - (b) Popular only among Commonwealth collectors.
 - (c) Popular among some South African collectors only and could you qualify your answer.
5. Could you kindly indicate why young countries like Malawi and Lesotho are so popular and are daily adding new collectors to their standingorder lists.
6. Could this letter and your supplies receive "open publication" as it would clear up quite a few problems for many South African philatelists.

Yours truly,

H. STEYN,

Head: Philatelic Services

Replying to the points contained in our correspondent's letter, we would state:

1. Our Editorial Articles pertain to an international code of journalism in that they are "of or belong to an editor". The opinion of the Philatelic Federation of Southern Africa is not reflexed.
2. (a) Editorial "Black Blots", assessed by the American Philatelic Society, indicate one or more of the following philatelic deficiencies: (1) A limited printing or a limited "on sale" time in country of origin. (2) An excessively extended issue. (3) Unwarrented high value included. (4) No direct relationship to the issuing country. (5) Oddities intentionally included with the issue.
 - (b) Amongst recent "Black Dot" assessments are emissions by Grenada, Liberia, Cook Islands, Antigua, Dominica, East Germany and a number of Arabian sheikdoms, while nearer home Botswana received a black blotting not so long ago.
3. Any country could issue stamps liable to "black blotting".
4. The South African Philatelist's views suggesting a stamp issuing policy for South Africa and South-West Africa have been expressed in our editorials. We regret we are not in a position to measure an intangible such as "popularity".
5. As we have had no philatelic contact with collectors of the stamps of Malawi or Lesotho, we are not able to determine the degree of popularity of their stamps. However, we do know there is a marked difference in the appeal of their stamps compared to ours.
6. We are pleased to publish our correspondent's letter. Our replies are made in accordance with his desire that they should clear up certain problems for South African philatelists. Moreover, we would refer him, and them, to the pledge given by the Minister of Posts in Parliament to uphold South Africa's conservative stamp issuing policy (reported in our last issue, "Baie Versoeke om Gedenkseëls). — Editor.

SOUTH & S.W. AFRICA

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THE "DRAGON" VARIETY

A Revised History by R. J. Lawrence

Acknowledgement: "The Springbok"

The revival of this old and well ventilated subject is believed to be worthwhile as recent research has brought to light evidence which alters previous theories and adds even more interest to the sequence of multipositive changes.

Spread over many years the views on the subject by three eminent students summarise the early thinking and for the benefit of those lacking the necessary references they are quoted below:-

(1) South African Philatelist July 1935 . . . in the addenda and corrigenda to his analysis of the 1d. Unhyphenated Issues I-VII, Mr. G. N. Gilbert says of the "Dragon" flaw, "We can now trace four stages of this variety viz:-

- (a) The "Buckle" in Plates V & VI.
- (b) "Black spot" in the second Roll Issue (R.XI retouch).
- (c) "Dragon" in Booklets . . . the positive was obviously still further damaged and portions of the black retouching scraped off although the outline of this black spot is quite plain to see.
- (d) "Rigging on fire", in "Plate" VII sheets in which the heavily damaged positive has been again touched up.

(2) South African Philatelist August 1958 . . . Dr. T. B. Berry introducing the "White spot" condition on Issue V, gives a more detailed description of the flaws and amends the sequence but as the essence of this is published by the third student in his book of the 1d. Ship it will save repetition by going direct to:

(3) Dr. Gordon Ward . . . who on page 26 of "The Ship Penny" quotes Dr. Berry and adds his own comments:-

- (a) Dr. Berry says "the first sign of the flaw was on Issue V where it appears as a small white patch adjacent to the white triangle and situated between the ship's second and third yardarms.
- (b) On VI the white patch is seen to have developed into a curious white "face with a tail" to it. (G.W. I call this the "Imp").
- (c) Next comes the "Dragon" and this appears only upon Booklets . . . (G.W. These two varieties (b) & (c) have the same frame flaws which a blur on the lower part of "U" and badly deformed

leaf on the left, opposite yardarms 4 & 5, are the most conspicuous").

(R.J.L. — not correct! The blurred "U" does **not** appear with the "Dragon", it is a frame cylinder flaw confined to Issues III, VI & VIa "Buckle" stage only; the deformed leaf is a multipositive flaw and shows on all Issues I-VIa including the Booklets . . . see illustration 1a.)

- (d) On the stamps of R.Xa (now R.XI) a black blob appears and partially obscures the "Dragon".
- (e) The last appearance of this flaw is on Issue VII where the picture has entirely changed and we have instead the "Searchlight" or "Rigging on fire" variety.

Paying tribute to Dr. Berry's collection, G.W. goes on to say, "Nevertheless, it should be placed on record that the "Imp" or "Buckle" flaw occurs on IV and is presumably also present on Issue III since it appears on VI (which is a later issue of the cylinders used for III). It is not on I. Possibly Dr. Berry's first stage should have been recorded on II rather than so late a cylinder as V.

Before going further, short answers to "G.W." . . .

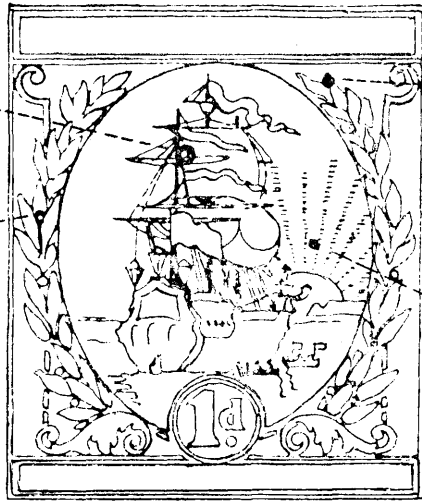
"E" & "D" Control blocks including the position confirm **NO** flaw on row 17/9, Issue II. A "Buckle" or "Imp" flaw postmarked 3 September 30 seems evidence enough of its happening on Issue III; its occurrence on IV had been accepted as a logical succession until the writer stumbled upon the **actual** stage which is dealt with hereon.

The chance discovery would not have happened but for several evenings spent in extending Mr. E. W. Merriman's list of multipositive flaws, 1d Ship, Issues I-VI, this pastime providing the minor multipositive flaw for row 17 x 10, which enabled a once discarded pair of IV's to be positioned as row 17 x 9/10 . . . and 17 x 9 without any obvious stage of the "Dragon" variety!

Conviction, however, that "something must be there" plus a magnifier revealed a black spot covering the earlier "Buckle". This had nothing of the character of a cylinder retouch and comparison with the "Blob" retouch recorded for Roll R.XI (see figure C) confirmed the point. Manifestly alike, both must have originated from the same multipositive state

Area of 'Dragon'
stages.

1a.
Row 17x9
'Deformed leaf'
Ext. multi
All issues

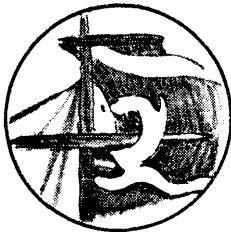


1b.
-Row 6x8 Int. multi.
Issues II, B8/9, III, IV.
Query V
NOT R XI, VII.

1c.
Row 12x2. Int. multi.
Issues III, IV, V, VI, R XI, VII.
NOT I, R X, II or B8/9

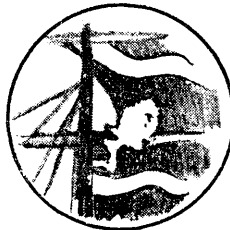
ILLUSTRATION 1.

Fig. A



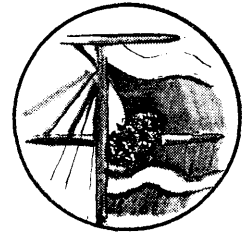
'Dragon'
Booklets B.8/9

Fig. B



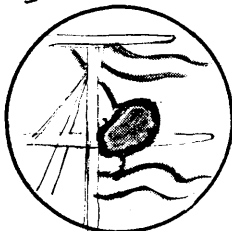
'Buckle' or 'Imp'
Issues III, VI

Fig. C



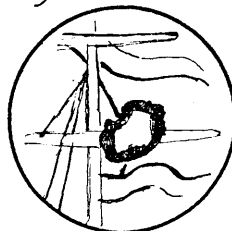
'Blob' retouch
Issues IV, R XI

Fig. D



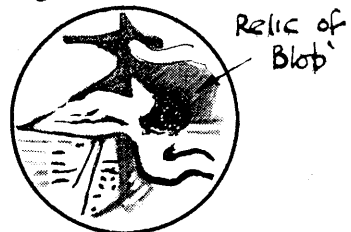
'Blob' with thin
centres.
Issue IV.

Fig. E



'White spot'
Issue V

Fig. F



'Rigging on fire'
Issue VII

(as far as row 17 x 9 is concerned) proving that the two cylinders were prepared in **immediate succession**. (Note: The SAC/H, page 225 refers to the R.XI "Blob" variety as row 15 x 8 — corrected in Vol. 2 to 17 x 9. Page 246 refers to the "Dragon" as row 16 x 9 — yet to receive amendment).

Reassurance that the critical pair was indeed from Issue IV took several weeks of correspondence and cross checking during which phase eleven further examples of the "Blob" (used singles) were, at first by frame flaws, found by Mr. Merriman and self, and thirty "Buckles" in a wide range of shades received intensive study — all the latter proving beyond doubt, to have emanated from either Issues III, VI or VIa.

To sum up:-

- (a) No evidence supported Dr. Gordon Ward's contention of a "Buckle" stage on any printings from Issue IV;
- (b) The likelihood of the "Doctor" having judged by shade alone seems probable as certain shades of VI/VIa are so akin to typical IV's that confusion between is readily possible;
- (c) The "Blob" stage in IV printings is not for the casual glance. Deeper etching of the interior cylinder led to "heavier" centres in which the blob merged with the sail whereas in the more balanced production of R.XI the spot is clearly visible to the naked eye.

The next step was another and more exacting examination of the other stages.

Issue V . . . "White patch" in sail. Alerted, white patch was now seen to be set within the black of the "Blob" (see figure E); again the darker background tends to camouflage the black portion the reason, no doubt, why it was not spotted before.

Issue VII . . . "Rigging on fire". The disintegration and retouching covers a sizeable area, yet a relic of the "Blob" remains (see figure F). BUT the "Dragon" from Booklets B8/9 (figure A) . . . Mr. Gilbert's "evidence of the black spot is plain to see" belies my experience — none such could be found! This served to revive long held doubts as to its allocation by both Mr. Gilbert and Dr. Berry so late in the sequence of multipositive changes. Aroused first by the SAC/H details, B.8 issued 1930 and R.XI — April 1932, the doubts were stimulated with the find of Booklet stamps dated Sept/Oct 1930 and R.XI-Dec 31/Jan 32.

(The origin of a note "R.XI, seen Sep '31" now escapes me).

This absence of any remains of the black spot appeared to justify the belief that the "Dragon" came at least before the "Blob" on R.XI and meant, with the discovery of the selfsame state on IV, that it also preceded that Issue leaving only III and the "Buckle" to be accounted for. A first try at eliminating III using early dates of usage as a medium led nowhere — except that some Issues were shown to be in use before published dates — so within my own collection and references something more tangible was sought.

Fortunately, it was not necessary to go far. Mr. Gilbert's classic analysis of the unhyphenated roto's, South African Philatelist 1934/35 supplied the clue. Under the 1d's is listed an acquired Int. multipositive flaw . . . row 12 x 2, Black spot in sunrays (see illustration 1c). Apart from Issue V, personal checking testifies to its absence from Issues I, II, R.X and Booklets B8/9, but to its presence on Issues III, IV, (V — vouched for by G.N.G.), VI, R.XI, and VII. Since there is no question of this type of flaw being capable of going and coming at will the conclusion is obvious. The Booklet B8 was prepared before Issue III and the "Dragon", therefore, led the "Buckle".

The revised history of the Interior Multipositive, Row 17/9, thus becomes:

Issue	Characteristic indicating order of events	Mult. 17/9
I	Absence of the prominent interior multipositive on row 6 x 8 (Black mark top of leaves on right)	Nil
R.X.	ditto	Nil
II	First appearance of the row 6 x 8 multipositive flaw	Nil
B8	First appearance of Interior multipositive varieties "Oblique line in sunrays", row 20 x 4; "extended yardarm", row 20 x 7	Dragon
III	First appearance of Interior multipositive,	
VI	row 12 x 2, "Spot in sunrays"	Buckle
IV	First appearance of the retouch-black blob	Blob
R.XI	As Issue IV, second appearance of this retouch, row 6 x 8 flaw removed from the multipositive	Blob
V	White patch in centre of the black blob. Query presence of row 6 x 8 flaw	White spot

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VII Disintegration of the affected area, further retouching and Rigging relic of the black blob. on No row 6 x 8 flaw fire

Although the SAC/H Issue numbers have been used throughout it is worth remembering that Government Printers of the day were far less communicative than nowadays and no official statement placing IV, as we know it, before V, was made. Without going into lengthy explanations three points conspire to make the SAC/H placing suspect.

1. Difficulty in reconciling SAC/H dates of Issue with a knowledge that IV and R.XI were successive productions (Int. cylinders at least).
2. If V did follow R.XI, why not the use of the new Ext multipositive?
3. A strangeness about nearly half the IV, row 17 x 9 "Blobs" examined.

Due possibly to different ink/inking conditions, these last show with very "thin" centres (not well shown in figure D) which could signify either an inherent weakness in the black retouch which crumbled to leave the white patch of V or, conversely, a wackish touch-up of that white patch — inferring thereby that IV followed V. Admittedly, the latter theory carries less conviction and certainly adds to the difficulty of analysing the flaws changing structure yet the basic idea of switching these two Issues is not new. The original theory came to me several years ago from Mr. S. J. Hagger, who, investigating along lines quite unrelated to anything in the foregoing, arrived at this conclusion with a fair degree of certainty.

The only satisfying answer lies with the possessor of a large proving block — ideally one with an identifying arrow or part thereof — of Issue V including the stamp, row 6 x 8.

Originating with Issue II, stamps from this position up to and including IV all featured an Int. multipositive "Black spot on leaves" top right, (see illustration 1b); it does not appear on stamps produced after Issue IV. Therefore its presence on the issue known as V would indicate the Issue preceded the one known as IV; on the other hand its absence would confirm the accepted arrangement except that the Roll Issue R.XI fits between IV and V.

And, finally, an earnest request to fortunate owners of suitable proving pieces of Issue V for the information that would complete the story . . . Did the multipositive flaw, "Black spot on leaves", appear on the stamp of row 6 x 8?

Juniorhoekie

(Ontleen aan die Nuusbrief van die Afrikaanse Filatelistevereniging)

In die geskiedenis van die posseëlwêreld, is die geskiedenis van die posseëls van die Britse Suidpoolgebied waarskynlik uniek. Daar is geen stede, geen vaste inwoners en selfs geen klein dorpies nie. Tog het daar 'n behoefte ontstaan vir posverbindinge en as gevolg hiervan is posseëls uitgegee.

Die Suidpoolgebied is baie, baie groot, omtrent 12 miljoen kilometer, waarvan 2 miljoen vierkante kilometer aan Engeland behoort. Ses jaar gelede is die eerste seëls van hierdie „land” uitgegee. Die seëls is nie alleen besonder kleurvol nie maar ook baie leersaam. Die seëls beeld die uitgebreide en moeilike wetenskaplike ondersoekinge uit.

Die voorrade vir die geleerdes word per skip ingevoer. Die verblyf van die geleerdes is slegs tydelik. Dit sou dus maklik wees om Engelse seëls te gebruik wat dan by aankoms in Engeland afgestempel kon word. 'n Mens sou dus maklik daarvan aflei dat die seëls slegs uitgegee word om geld uit die versamelaar se beursie te kry. Tog is dit nie so nie. Die uitgee van hierdie seëls het wel deeglik 'n doel, en wel die volgende.

Lande soos Nieu-Seeland, Australië, Frankryk, Noorweë, maar in besonder Chili en Argentinië maak aanspraak op dele van die gebied. Daarom het Engeland deur middel van eie seëls vir die gebied sy aanspraak verstewig. Weer eens 'n bewys van die mag van die posseël.

Die aanspraak wat Engeland op die gebied maak, gaan baie jare terug in die geskiedenis. James Cook het in die jare 1773—1775 die eerste ontdekkingsreise in die gebied onderneem. Hy het toe die Suidelike Sandwich-eilande ontdek wat later herdoop is tot Hawaiiëse Eilande. Toe in 1775 die nuus bekend geword het dat hy daar walvisse gesien het, het die walvisjagters dadelik van die gebied begin gebruik maak. In 1819 het William Smith van die Shetland-eilande 'n verdere seeroete na die Suidpool gevind. Daarna het Weddell in 1823 die Weddellsee ontdek en tussen die jare 1839 en 1843 het Ross tot by die Ross-see deurgedring.

In die begin van die jaar 1900 is daar 'n ontdekkings-komitee in Engeland gestig. Die gevolg was dat weerkundige stasies gebou is in die Seotia-baai van Laurie-eilande. Toe die ondersoekingswerk klaar was, is aan Argentinië gevra om die stasie oor te neem. Argentinië het ingestem en voortaan was die stasie

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DIE BESTE RONDSENDDIENS IN DIE
LAND.



Sterk ledetal deur die hele land.
Belangstellendes verwelkom.

in Argentynse hande. Die feit is in 1947 met twee posseëls herdenk wat die eerste Argentinise Suidpool-pos 4 jaar vroeër herdenk het. Argentinie het tegelykertyd die bul by die horings geneem en gesê dat die gebied syne was. Engeland het geantwoord dat dit sy gebied was en om sy aanspraak te verstewig het hy vier seëls uitgegee wat moes bewys dat die gebied wel deeglik syne was.

In 1958 word 'n spesiale stel van vier seëls uitgegee. Dit was seëls van Falkland wat oordruk is met die woorde „Trans Antarctic Expedition 1955—58”.

Die seëls is gebruik deur lede wat deelgeneem het aan die Hillary-Fuchs-ontdekkingsreis.

Daarna het die Engelse Suidpoolgebied sy eie seëls uitgegee. Dit lyk nie of die versameelaars uitgebuit gaan word nie. Tot dusver het een volledige stel seëls verskyn van 1/2d tot £1. 'n Hoeveelheid van 15 seëls. Ook het daar twee stelle herdenkings-seëls verskyn. Die eerste het verskyn in 1966 ter herdenking van die sterwe van Winston Churchill.

Die laaste het in 1969 verskyn om die 25-jarige onafgebroke ondersoekprogram te herdenk.

“Not In The Catalogue!”

A survey of material ancillary to the philately of Natal
by A. Leslie Leon, R.D.P., F.R.P.S.L.

The serious philatelist must eventually come to the conclusion that his collection should contain more than only the stamps of the country he is interested in; he then, and this is particularly true of the modern specialist, looks to the story behind the stamp and its production. He will endeavour to add items such as artist's drawings (what is now described as 'artwork'), proofs of various kinds, specimens and the like to the pages of his albums so as to enable his collection to reflect truly the manner in which the stamp was brought into being, no doubt also illustrating the use of the stamp by covers, cancellations and similar manifestations of the postal history of the country in question.

The problem then arises as to what material of this kind is available and this, of course, does not appear in the standard catalogues. Unless the philately of the country has been tackled in a monograph, book or booklet, it is not easy to track down the items referred to; Robson Lowe's *Encyclopedia of Stamps of the British Empire* has gone a long way to solving the difficulty, but in some instances the information in it is incomplete and of course those volumes which were published twenty and more years ago, are not always up-to-date.

A perusal of the standard works on the postage stamps of Natal gives no assistance in this regard. The Royal Philatelic Society's publication popularly known as "Africa, Part II" gives no indication of the story and material behind the production of the stamps and the same must be said of Eric W. Mann's "The Victorian Postage Stamps of Natal". A glance at the list of authorities quoted at

the end of this article shows that a somewhat extensive library must be consulted to arrive at any idea of what there is to be collected in this field. It may be an opportune moment to gather the available data for the guidance of the would-be specialist of this Colony. The information set out below cannot be considered exhaustive, in fact it is known that there are other similar items although they cannot now be described in detail, but a general idea of the extent of the country to be explored will emerge from the table appended and the writer will be grateful for any additions that may be known to readers.

"Specimen" stamps are not included in this survey for two reasons: first, the material dealt with concerns only the steps in the production of the finished article — the adhesive; secondly, stamps so overprinted are now being listed in catalogues.

Authorities, other than those mentioned in the text:

"The Royal Philatelic Collection" by Sir John Wilson Bt.

"The Perkins Bacon Records" by Percy de Worms.

"The De La Rue History of British and Foreign Postage Stamps" by John Easton.

"British Postage Stamp Design" by John Easton.

"Postage Stamps in the Making" by F. J. Melville.

"The Encyclopedia of British Empire Postage Stamps" Vol. II. Robson Lowe.

"The Tapling Collection" by James A. Mackay.

Private Correspondence with De La Rue & Co. and others.

Date & Description	Artist's Drawing	Die Proof	Coloured Die Proof	Colour Trial or Plate Proof	Remarks
1. Dec 1858 3d	In black on card by Perkins Bacon with bordering & lettering hand painted.	1) In black before labels added. 2) Background design only. 3) With dots in corner squares not joined. 4) In black before oval altered.	In blue (printed by De La Rue) — (R.L.)		
2. Oct, 1859 1d	In black on card by Perkins Bacon with bordering & lettering hand painted.	In black on card.		Imperforate & perforated plate proofs in black.	
3. Oct, 1861 6d	In black on card by Perkins Bacon with bordering & lettering hand painted.	In black on card.			Oval surrounding the portrait has been widened.
4. 1862 3d			Imperforated essay in blue on paper with star watermark.		Not issued.
5. 1862 1d 3d			In carmine on card.		
6. 1864 6d		In black on card.	In blue on card. In lilac on card.		
7. 1866 1/-	In green by De La Rue, head pasted on, rest painted in water colour.	In black on cards, dated 7, 9, 10, 11, Jan. 1867.	In green on card. In pale blue on card. In dark blue on card.		
8. 1874/78 1d 3d 4d 6d 5/-	4d painted over 6d (lilac) stamp with new corners painted in (30/8/77)	In black on cards, 1d 3d 6d 5/-) 4d dated 12, 17, 18, 19, 20 September 1877.	In issued colours on cards		
9. 1875 1d 6d				Yellow Imperf. Rose Imperf.	Fiscals used for postage.
10. 1880 ½d	In black on card by De La Rue (26/5/80)	In black on card.			
11. 1881 Telegraph stamps		1) Uncleared die in black on card. 2) Die cleared but without value — in black on card.		Imperforate plate proofs in issued colours (all values).	
12. 1891 2½	Rejected essay by De La Rue & Co.	In black on card, as issued.			
13. 1893 1d		In black on card.			New die, Plate 3.

14. 1894	Designs for proposed Natal Watermarks. (De La Rue)				
15. 1896 2d 2/-	Designs submitted by De La Rue for new unified series.				
16. 1897 Jan. 1		1) In black on card, Name & Duty tablets blank. 2) In black on card, name tablet with inscription "AFRICA".	1) In purple, duty tablet in green, red, brown, blue, orange, olive. 2) In green, duty tablet in purple, red, blue, orange, black. 3) a. Purple & Blue. b. Green & Red. c. Purple & Black on red paper.	Perforated, on gummed paper 1) Grey 2) Mauve 3) Purple	De La Rue's "Lady in Helmet" stamp. ditto ditto Selangor High Value stamp (elephants). * See note below. Q.V. New Die, Plate 4.
17. 1900 $\frac{1}{2}$ d		In black on card.			
18. 1901 May 2 1 $\frac{1}{2}$ d 5d 6d 1/- 2/- 2/6 5/-				1874 6d in stone for 1 $\frac{1}{2}$ d & in chestnut for 5d. 1874 5/- overprinted 2/- & 2/6 (yellow & lavender).	Proposed provisionals with new values.
19. 1901 May 30 2d	Head pasted on, rest painted in. (Black and Red).	All in black on cards. 1) Vignettes of Head a. Low values b. High values. 2) Uncleared Dies a. Low values b. High values. 3) Complete Die Frames only. Frames only.		1 $\frac{1}{2}$ d value bicoloured in 7 combinations. 2d value in 11 different single colours and 9 bicoloured combinations. 5/- value in 15 bicoloured combinations. £1.10.0 value in 9 bicoloured combinations.	R.L. says all values exist with die proof of complete stamps.
$\frac{1}{2}$ d & 1d 1 $\frac{1}{2}$ d to 4/- 5/- to £20					The overprint only.
20. 1904		In black on card. OFFICIAL			R.L. says all values exist with die proof of complete stamps.
21. 1908		All in black on cards. 1) Uncleared Dies a. Low values b. High values. 2) Frames only all values.			
6d to £1					
22. 1901 May 30 4d Registration	Vignette of head pasted in.			In Red — values for postage & registration.	

NOTES: R.L. refers to "The Encyclopedia of British Empire Postage Stamps" Vol. 11.

Dies proofs in black on card may be found inscribed "BEFORE STRIKING", "AFTER STRIKING", "BEFORE HARDENING" and "AFTER HARDENING". Proofs may also be found with pencilled instructions or inscriptions. Some may be dated, others not.

* This was a colour scheme submitted at the request of the Natal Postal Authorities. The purple and green used were the colours of De La Rue's "doubly fugitive" inks.

Avalanche of Strike Mail

It is appropriate that we sound a note of caution about the collection of "strike mail".

When most of the 230 000 members of the Union of Post Office Workers went on strike in Britain in January, the post office relinquished its monopoly of letter and parcel handling and allowed private operators to establish postal carriage services.

Within the day, private postal services mushroomed. Nearly all of them issued their own "stamps", and a number of the services pooled resources and established link-ups to create a countrywide service. Some services functioned locally, or inland, while others were for outward bound mail, and even for inward bound mail.

As to be expected, the "stamps" — mint, used, on FDC, with decimal overprints, and what have you — appeared in the philatelic trade. Just about every conceivable type of "postal history" item was loaded onto the market, and it soon became apparent that the British philatelic magazines felt a degree of reserve about the position.

It was in fact pointed out that the manufacture of strike labels could continue for as long as the market lasted, while we also read a reference to a "license to print money".

One estimate put the number of private postal services at 150, and we noted that a "catalogue of strike mail" was in preparation.

In this perhaps somewhat bewildering situation we would like to suggest to our readers, especially those who collect the stamps and postmarks of Great Britain, that they exercise care in the acquisition of "strike covers". Two or three or four covers, commercially used and carried by private services which indeed functioned in the interests of the public, would make a useful adjunct to a Great Britain collection, and would decidedly be of postal historic value.

On the other hand, every collector is free to please himself.

TRISTAN DA CUNHA

A set of four stamps commemorating the 50th anniversary of the Shackleton-Rowett Expedition was due for release on 1st June, 1971. The values are 1½p, 4 p, 7½p and 12½p.

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Brochure Published on RSA Stamps

A handsome colour brochure on the stamps of the Republic has been published by the Post Office. The brochure, a handy reference to the emissions since 1961, is available from the Philatelic Bureau.

The brochure pictures the commemorative and definitive stamps of the Republic, as well as the official commemorative covers of the last ten years, watermarks and special hand cancellers. There are photographs of stamp printing and automatic cancelling and sorting equipment, and a list of mobile offices.

Valuable information on the philatelic services is given in a question and answer form.

We are confident that this publication will achieve much in acquainting new collectors with RSA philately and in boosting our hobby.

Mooi Gebaar

Vier Britse handelaars, mnre. Ritchie Bodily, M. A. Bojanowitz (Arthur Boyle Ltd.), S. W. Collins and William Frazer, het kort voor RSA 10 'n seëlbeurs onder die naam van Langham Philatelia in 'n Johannesburgse hotel aangebied.

Die omsendbrief wat hulle vooraf aan versamelaars uitgestuur het, was tweetalig. Hierdie mooi gebaar van taalerkenning teenoor Afrikaanssprekende versamelaars het nie ongemerk verbygegaan nie, en die gesindheid van die vier vriende word waardeer.

SOCIETY NEWS

PRETORIA PHILATELIC SOCIETY

March: At a well attended Annual General Meeting the following were elected as office bearers for the ensuing year:

Mr. J. M. Weinstein, President; Commander C. E. D. Enoch, Vice President; Miss M. Esterhuysen, Hon. Secretary; Mr. C. Roché, Hon. Treasurer; Commander Enoch and Mr. W. K. Seeba, Hon. Exchange Superintendents; Mr. C. Roché, Honorary Librarian; Mr. J. Groenewald, Hon. Curator; Mr. A. F. Reynard, Hon. Correspondent; Mrs. M. Ledbitter and Mr. W. Impey, members of the committee; Messrs. Weinstein, Roché and Groenewald were elected delegates to the Philatelic Federation of Southern Africa.

It was arranged for Dr. H. O. Reisener, Commandant W. Black and Mr. C. Slagt to go to the

The South African Postmark Society

It is with pleasure that we learn of the affiliation of the S.A. Postmark Society to the Philatelic Federation of Southern Africa upon which status we extend a hearty welcome.

The membership although small at present comprises active individuals who are interested in the postmarks and postal stationery of Southern Africa, a sphere hitherto sadly neglected.

Meetings of the Society are held occasionally but the main contact between members who are spread throughout the Republic and overseas is maintained by a bimonthly newsletter containing articles and illustrations of the greatest interest and importance to postmark enthusiasts, and which are nowhere else recorded.

The annual subscription is R2.00 and application for membership may be addressed to the Hon. Secretary, Flat 2, Lougill Court, The Highway, Florida, Transvaal.

Reader's Digest

A well-written article on stamp collecting was published in the May issue of The Reader's Digest, South African edition.

Federation Congress in Cape Town in May.

Miss B. J. Versveld and Dr. P. Hack were elected honorary life members of the Society.

The meeting closed with the retiring curator tabling a portion of the Society's collection.

EAST LONDON PHILATELIC SOCIETY

March: Two meetings were held during the month — a special auction meeting to mark our last meeting at the Museum, and a meeting on the *4th Thursday* (this will be our regular booking for future) at our new venue, which is the Lecture Room of the new Public Library. Regretfully, we did not have a very good attendance, but this is sure to improve once members get used to the idea of meetings in the beautiful new surroundings of this magnificent building. Displays were given by Mrs. Hutchinson; "Rhodesia and Nyassaland"; Mr. McKinlay; "Pacific Isles"; and Mr. Hoal; "New Zealand". These were certainly enjoyed by all attending, and then we listened to a talk by Mr. P. Farrant on "Printing methods and terminology". Mr. Farrant, a non-collector, is an expert on his subject, and we learnt how the various printing methods were related to stamp printing.

BELLVILLE PHILATELIC SOCIETY

March: Mr. Lee opened a well attended meeting and then called on Bob Goldblatt to give his monthly talk. Bob informed us of the covers that are to be issued during RSA 10 and then proceeded to display some of the entries received for the RSA 10 Junior Competition. He then gave a most interesting talk on the statistics and standards of entries received. This was followed by Eddie Beunderman's talk which gave us all the why's and wherefore's about perforations. After tea Eddie Beunderman exhibited his collection of the Bible Story on Stamps, which drew favourable comment and showed Eddie's knowledge of his subject. The evening concluded with Sales and Exchange.

SOCIETY OF ISRAEL PHILATELY

February: Mr. Leo Buchen displayed his Bye Ways of Israel Philately and as usual we were not let down and those present feasted their eyes on something unusual and outstanding. Members have learned from this exhibit how to build up a collection from the waste paper basket and friends without it costing any money. The little expense being the cost of the album sheets and mounting materials. Leo had previously shown a similar exhibit ten years ago but has considerably added thereto and is to be complimented on what he has done. An excellent paper was read in support of the exhibit.

AFRIKAANSE PHILATELISTIESE VERENIGING VAN PRETORIA

Maart: As gevolg van 'n organisasie-moeilikeid was dit by die vorige byeenkoms nie moontlik om al drie deelnemers aan die Veka-wedstryd te laat uitstal nie. Dr. W. P. van der Merwe uit Viljoenskroon kon nie tydig sy versameling in Pretoria kry nie. Nadat die beoordeling naderhand plaasgevind het, was dr. Van der Merwe bereid om tog nog sy versameling by ons Vereniging te laat uitstal. Die versameling, seëls van Duitsland, wat in Port Elizabeth met brons bekroon is, het ook nou weer die prys gewen. Die versameling is bekend genoeg om 'n beskrywing noodsaaklik te maak. Ons kan net sê dat ons dit baie geniet het en ons waardeer dit dat die eenaar so vriendelik was om dit vir vanaand af te staan. Die Voorsitter het nog 'n demonstrasie gegee met gebruik van die blou lamp en die moontlikhede daarvan. Ons het mnr. Corstanje bereid gevind om die penningmeester te help met die bestel van seëls van die omliggende lande. Mnr. Fresco, na langdurige siekte, kon vir die eerste keer weer ons vergadering besoek en hy is met handegeklap begroet!

THE MASHONALAND PHILATELIC SOCIETY

March: A well attended Annual General Meeting elected Mr. Annett as Chairman, Miss P. J. Flack as Secretary, Mr. W. M. Thomson as Treasurer/

Exchange Superintendent, Mr. P. G. Wimbush as Auditor and the following Committee Members, Mrs. R. Ellison, Messrs R. K. Brooke, W. F. Calder and K. A. E. Stevenson.

The meeting approved the proposal that the Society invite Federation to hold its Congress in Salisbury in Show Week in 1972.

THE PHILATELIC SOCIETY OF NATAL

3rd March: At a well attended Annual General Meeting the reports of the office bearers were presented and accepted and thereafter the following office bearers were elected for the ensuing year:

Hon. President, Dr. John Duncan; Hon. Vice-President, Mr. Claude R. Whysall; Hon. Secretary, Mrs. D. Reinecke; Hon. Treasurer, Mrs. B. Leak; Hon. Sales Packet Superintendent, Mr. Geo Ponsford; Hon. Auctioneer, Mr. Brian Hill; Hon. Examiner, Mr. H. R. Brown; Trustees: Mr. R. L. Bevis and Mr. G. Milner-Palmer; Committee: Mr. R. Booker, Mrs. Pat Foss, Mr. S. Parry, Mr. H. A. Wooster, Mrs. Barbara Zarnack.

Certain business matters were concluded and thereafter Mr. R. L. Bevis presented his collection of "Orchids on Stamps" which was very well accepted.

17th March: SWOP NIGHT.

This was, indeed, a very happy evening, when we were privileged to entertain some thirteen boys from Kearsney College, Botha's Hill. They were accompanied by their popular master, Mr. Barry Williams.

For their benefit, and for the members present, Mr. A. Leslie Leon exhibited part of his magnificent collection of the Conquest of the South Atlantic Airmail Route by the Germans in the 1930's.

The interest displayed by the boys was shown by the intelligent and original questions they put to Mr. Leon.

In expressing grateful thanks to Mr. Leon the Chairman once more noted how fortunate we were to have him in our midst.

Mr. Rex Osborne, in the absence of our auctioneer, very ably conducted the auction.

PRETORIA RAILWAY PHILATELIC SOCIETY

March: At a fairly well attended meeting, interesting observations were made upon the newly issued 4c definitive stamp and the re-routing of the mail from Great Britain to South Africa.

After the tea break Dr. Goldberg entertained the meeting with a selection of Republican colour varieties including the 2½c definitive and the S.A. Games commemorative series. Apart from these his Australian moderns and his George VI definitives were of particular interest. The latter showed the various watermark varieties. These latter were mint and further included the high values; that means also the 10/- rare dark blue variety. Finally Dr. Goldberg's selection of pictorials from the Falkland Islands, a little place with some lovely bright moderns, was shown.

Mr. E. Brown and Mr. Eskell spoke on the exhibits shown by Dr. Goldberg and added their observations.

PORT ELIZABETH PHILATELIC SOCIETY

27th February: Mr. G. Bülbring presided at a well attended Junior meeting in the afternoon at which the boys and girls were "schooled" in philately and the George Forbe's prize for 1970 was presented to Master Rodney Dicks.

Mr. Nagel displayed some sheets of Cape Triangulars and Mr. Laserow, Hungary Postal stationery and stamps.

2nd March: In welcoming all present, Mr. Bülbring, the president, extended a very cordial welcome to Mr. Mike Turner, member of a British Philatelic Society and expressed the hope that he would enjoy the evening.

He then made reference to the Junior afternoon, commenting on its great success and thanked the adults who came along to help.

Mr. B. Bloom displayed seventy sheets of Great Britain definitive issues, commencing in 1887 and up to Queen Elizabeth II issues.

The president then called upon Mr. Turner to propose a vote of thanks. He regarded the display of a very high standard and congratulated the society on the friendliness of the members present.

16th March: At a well attended meeting, Mr. Bülbring extended a special welcome to Mr. Lightfoot, Mr. Allen, who has been a stamp collector all his life, Mr. John Aldis who has recently returned from Cape Town and Mr. Cartwright.

Beautiful and informative displays were shown, which consisted firstly, of the president's display of Sweden showing, in particular the 50th Anniversary of the Universal Postal Union. Secondly, Mr. David Bloom displayed commemorative stamps of Malta from 1935 to 1953, followed by a very informative talk. Thirdly Mr. Ernst Baer displayed 5 sheets of Hamburg classical stamps, pointing out which were old and very rare. He also displayed 5 sheets of Saar (Sarre) giving explanations on the various aspects of the designs. Finally, Mrs. Schoeman displayed 7 sheets of the Republic of France depicting "Art", which were very colourful and beautiful.

6th April: Mr. David Bloom presented his display, accompanied by an informal talk, which consisted of approximately 100 sheets of a selection of Queen Elizabeth stamps during the period from 1965 to 1971 decimilization, which included mint, used, first day covers and blocks of four from islands of the West Indies, Indian and Atlantic oceans. Of interest was the unissued set of the Jamaica International Human Rights set of 1968, which was prepared and never issued.

Mr. Strachan passed a vote of thanks.

PHILATELIC SOCIETY OF JOHANNESBURG

March: At the first meeting a contingent from Pretoria under the leadership of Mr. Weinstein came to visit us and entertained us with four exhibits. Thank you very much Pretoria. We know that we will always see something good when you visit us.

At the second meeting Mr. Weinstein came along as a member of our Society to show us Pre-Union Postal History, nearly all on covers. Many of the

items are extremely rare and worth special mention are the Basutoland forerunners and an early Transvaal cover which is probably unique in itself. Mr. Hagger, in proposing the vote of thanks, said that a great deal of knowledge was necessary to produce such a fine display.

LECTURES ON PHILATELY

A course of six lectures on Philately will be offered by the Institute for Adult Studies in association with your Society and will be arranged by Mr. Peter Seligmann. The fee for the course will be R3.00 and the class will be limited to 50.

For further particulars please contact Mr. P. C. Seligmann at 608-2916 (home) or 724-1311 Ext. 486 (office hours).

AFRIKAANSE FILATELISTE- VERENIGING

April: Twee welkome „besoekers" was dr. W. P. van der Merwe van Viljoenskroon en prof. A. J. E. Sorgdrager van Potchefstroom. Dr. Van der Merwe het sy Duitsland kom vertoon en die Veka-wisselbeker kom haal. Ons kan hom gelukwens met die driekuns, want dit is die derde keer dat hy die beker verower.

Die Duitsland-versameling, die vrug op 18 jaar se bestudering van ruim 20 000 seëls van die naoorlogse gebouereeks alleen, is voorwaar iets besonder. Die druk- en plaatstudies van hierdie reeks verteenwoordig 'n merkwaardige filateliese werkstuk.

Die „Bakkerij" is weer besig met 'n nuwe rekord want volgens sy tussentydse verslag is in die eerste drie maande vanjaar meer as 1 000 boekies in die rondsenddiens geplaas!

GERMISTON PHILATELIC SOCIETY

April: A good attendance of eighteen members under the chairmanship of the President, Mrs. C. F. de Kock. Competitive evening with two exhibits tabled by members who had not shown before. Mrs. A. C. du Plooy with a nice showing of the issues of Mauritius, both mint and used. Mr. S. R. Kantor, an excellent collection of mint Rhodesian and Nyssaland. Both exhibitors were thanked by Mr. Theo Rudman. The Hon. Auctioneer, Mr. H. Birkhead, was again a busy man that evening. Most of the items up for auction were taken. It was a feather in the cap for Germiston that three of its members were to act as delegates to Congress at Cape Town next month on behalf of Rhodesian Philatelic Societies. The May ordinary meeting will take the form of a showing of RSA Republic exhibits by as many members as possible in celebration of the Republic's 10th Anniversary on the 31st.

EXPERT COMMITTEE

The next meeting of the Expert Committee of the Philatelic Federation of Southern Africa will be held on Saturday 17th July 1971.

PHILATELISTS' RENDEZVOUS

THE ROYAL PHILATELIC SOCIETY OF CAPE TOWN

meets on the second and fourth Thursdays
of every month in
The Club Room of the Friends of Italy of
South Africa, First Floor, Radio City Bldgs.
Tulbagh Square, Foreshore, Cape Town.
at 8 p.m.
VISITORS CORDIALLY WELCOMED.
P.O. BOX 1973, CAPE TOWN.

THE MASHONALAND PHILATELIC SOCIETY

Meets once a month on the second Wednes-
day at 8 p.m. in the Auditorium of the
Queen Victoria Museum, Rotton Row,
Salisbury.

All visitors are welcome —

Secretary P.O. Box 2735, Salisbury.

ORANGE FREE STATE PHILATELIC SOCIETY

Meets on the fourth Friday of every month
in the
NATIONAL MUSEUM HALL,
BLOEMFONTEIN
at 7.30 p.m.
Issues a monthly magazine and circulates
sales packets to members.
P.O. BOX 702 — BLOEMFONTEIN.

THE PORT ELIZABETH PHILATELIC SOCIETY

meets on the first and third Tuesday each
month in the
The Walmer Library Hall,
Main Road, Walmer, Port Elizabeth.
at 8.00 p.m.
Visitors cordially welcome.
P.O. BOX 3 — PORT ELIZABETH.

THE PHILATELIC SOCIETY OF NATAL

Meetings 1st and 3rd Wednesdays monthly
at 7.30 p.m. in the
Geo Cato Boom, City Hall, Durban
(Entrance West Street . . . door nearest
Beach)
VISITORS CORDIALLY WELCOMED.
P.O. Box 888, Durban. Secretary's
Telephone 64306 (evenings)

THE PRETORIA PHILATELIC SOCIETY

meets on the first Monday of every month
in the
Council Chamber of the Technical College
Church Street East, Pretoria.
at 7.45 p.m.
VISITORS CORDIALLY WELCOMED.
P.O. Box 614, Pretoria.

THE PHILATELIC SOCIETY OF JOHANNESBURG

meets twice a month: Second Tuesday and
fourth Monday at
Room 75, Public Library, Johannesburg
at 8 p.m.
VISITORS ARE WELCOME.
Hon. Secretary,
P.O. Box 4967, Johannesburg.

THE AEROPHILATELIC SOCIETY OF SOUTHERN AFRICA

Meetings are not held, but members get
covers, etc. of special South African flights
and other interesting items — more than
covered by the small annual subscription.
P.O. Box 3654, Cape Town.

THE PRETORIA RAILWAY PHILATELIC SOCIETY

meets on the second Wednesday of every
month in the
Railway Recreation Club, Berea Park,
Pretoria, at 8 p.m.
P.O. Box 2388, Pretoria.
ALL PHILATELISTS ARE WELCOME.

SOCIETY OF ISRAEL PHILATELY

Meets on the 1st Monday of every month
at 8.15 p.m.
Burlington House Boardroom (2nd Floor),
c/r. Bissik & Marshall Streets,
Johannesburg.
ALL WELCOME.
Secretary P.O. Box 11502, Johannesburg.

THE SOUTH AFRICAN STAMP STUDY CIRCLE

meets at 2.15 p.m. on the second Saturday of
every month in the
Staff Tea Lounge, Basement, Corner House,
Corner Sauer and Commissioner Streets,
Johannesburg (Commissioner St. Entrance).
ALL INTERESTED IN SOUTH AFRICAN
PHILATELY ARE WELCOME.

Secretary: N. Becker
P.O. Box 9505, Johannesburg.
Telephone: 838-4679; Home 45-5452

THE EAST RAND PHILATELIC SOCIETY

P.O. Box 483, Benoni. (Hon. Secretary).
Meetings every 2nd Monday in the month
at the
BENONI TENNIS CLUB HOUSE,
Benoni, at 7.45 p.m.
VISITORS ARE WELCOME.

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IF STAMPS OF — Germany, Austria and other Western European countries are wanted, first try us.—S.A. STAMP CENTRE P.O. Box 6891, Johannesburg. Telephone 22-1391. (Want lists invited).

WANTED: S.A., S.W.A. and Boer War, preferably postal history.—C. E. SHERWOOD (V), P.T.S., 105 Marford Crescent, Sale, Cheshire M33 4DN.

ANGLO-BOER WAR PHILATELIC SOCIETY, quarterly magazine with exchange packet in U.K. Annual subscription £1 sterling or 3 dollars. Secretary, J. H. Rathbone, "Always", Rudheath, Northwich, Cheshire, U.K.

WANTED: Rhodesian Postmarks, on or off cover (pre-1923). Offers to J. M. Weinstein, 479a Fehrsen Street, Brooklyn, Pretoria.

WANTED.—Accumulations, Collections. Office Lots on and off paper. Turn those old boxes of philatelic "junk" into cash, or exchange it with us for stamps, albums or accessories that you need. — ROBE MARK PHILATELISTS (PTY.) LTD., 21 Joubert Street, Johannesburg. Box 11419.

COLLECTIONS WANTED for immediate cash settlement: Large or small, specialised or general. Top prices paid for popular sets and rare issues in fine condition.—ELIEZER BLUM, P.O. Box 1669, Cape Town. (Established in Cape Town since 1930).

TE KOOP GEVRA: Posmateriaal van die Vrystaate en Transvaalse Republieke gebruik ná 11 Oktober 1899. J. Groenewald, Posbus 3443, Pretoria.

ACCUMULATIONS, ODD LOTS of Southern Africa wanted. P. J. Nadon, 48, 8th Street, Parkhurst, Johannesburg. P.O. Box 10225. Telephone 42-3671.

I exchange ANTARCTIC COVERS and **SPECIAL FLIGHT COVERS** with cancellations by Argentine or Chilean bases for covers of R.S.A. or G.B. **ANTARCTIC BASES** or mint sets. H. Bergwerk, Casilla 5636, Buenos Aires.

WANTED: International Reply Coupons (all issues) of Africa South of the Equator. L. Buchen, P.O. Box 11520, Johannesburg.

COLLECTOR starting up a S.A. and S.W.A. collection from 1910 up to the Animal Series, requires material for study purposes. Also requires the Jubilee issue of the Handbook of South Africa. Write to: Advertiser, P.O. Box 348, Paarden Eiland, C.P., R.S.A.

GERMAN SOUTH WEST AFRICA: Wanted early forerunners on cover or on piece, or any other items of interest. Top prices paid. L. ABRAMS, P.O. Box 7875, Johannesburg. Telephone: Office 22-1630; home 41-9251.

"MAGNIFY" (Official Journal of the Royal Philatelic Society of Rhodesia) is available to the public at 20c per copy post free. Write to Box 803, Bulawayo. Limited quantities of back numbers are available.

LATVIA (Lettland; Lettonie) out of the way items and bulk common stamps wanted.—J. Michelson, P.O. Box 9314, Johannesburg.

WANTED.—German Concentration Camp Covers and Ghetto Post, Post-war Locals, Propaganda, Forgeries, Military Covers, etc., etc. C. A. Whysall, P.O. Box 676, Durban. (68 West Street).

U.S.A. SPECIALIST requires singles, blocks, covers, cancellations. A. R. Kleiner, 23 Cadogan Gardens, London S.W. 3, England.

WORLDWIDE PHILATELIC PUBLICATIONS! U.S.A., England, France, Germany, etc. Free subscription price list. — Bedard Publications, Box 5215 — SA1, Detroit, Michigan 48236, U.S.A.

TRISTAN DA CUNHA.—Books — letters — clippings — envelopes — articles — prints — illustrations — reports; always wanted. J. Cole, 90 Ronson Drive, Rexdale, Ontario, Canada.

WANTED: Ryukyu Islands, all varieties in quantity; receive same quantity all different U.S.A. or Canada. Goldman, 615 King Street, Wilmington, Del. 19801, U.S.A.

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ISRAEL STAMPS: Join the Eilat Club for new issue service at face value and for another five advantages. Eilat Club, P.O. Box 542, Eilat, Israel.

THE SPRINGBOK, magazine of the South African Collectors' Society for Union and Republic collectors. Subscription R2 a year. Membership: Secretary, R. E. Mason, 137 Lichfield Court, Richmond, Surrey, England.

SWEDISH Military Philately wanted. Write first: S. J. Vermaak, Box 2272, Johannesburg.

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The Great Exhibition of RSA 10

Never before has such a wealth, and depth, of Southern African philatelic material been on display in this, its country of origin, as at the RSA 10 International Stamp Exhibition in Cape Town — and rarely were days so philatelically filled as May 22nd to 31st, 1971.

The exhibition was great — in scope almost overwhelming, in quality quite breathtaking. The list of awards speaks for itself, and we in this issue also publish the jury's report. Suffice it to say that those collectors who travelled hundreds of miles to see the show, were thrilled at seeing what the 1400 frames held.

In the exhibition time, and against the background of the RSA 10 festivities, philatelists met the Minister of Posts, Mr. Marais Viljoen, who opened the exhibition; the Postmaster General, Mr. Rive, who opened congress; and the Prime Minister, Mr. Vorster, who was the popular guest of honour at the prize-giving banquet.

They also met jurymen and philatelists from all over the world, specialist dealers, experts, and fellow-collectors from all parts of the country.

They enjoyed a Cape Peninsula drive and smorresbrod at Hout Bay, a cocktail reception by Mayor Jan Domisse of Cape Town, a visit to Stellenbosch and a wine and cheese party by the Oude Meester Bergkelder. And the grand banquet at the Mount Nelson Hotel.

There was the very important two-day Congress of the Philatelic Federation of Southern Africa, the luncheon of the Aerophilatelic Society of South Africa, the annual general meeting of the South African Postmark Society, the first South African meeting of the Anglo-Boer War Phi-

latelic Society, the tenth birthday party of the Cape Society of Palestine, Israel Philately, a cocktail for Fellows and members of the Royal Philatelic Society of London, and numerous other gatherings of a private nature.

Yes, it was a great time for meeting and conversing with friends and correspondents from far and wide, exchanging information and adding material to collections.

A newcomer to the philatelic scene was Mr. Herman Steyn, the new head of Philatelic Services in Pretoria. He was warmly welcomed by philatelists.

In retrospect, one's mind keeps returning to the great exhibits — those magnificent Capes of Dale-Lichtenstein, Levitt and others, Major Criddle's incredible Transvaal tête-bêches, the brilliant Swiss cantons by "Helvetia", the astounding German South West Africa postmarks of Lou Abrams . . . and many, many more, including the finest Unions ever to be on view together.

It may be expecting too much to wish that Congress plus an International Exhibition plus what goes with it, and all that against the colossal backdrop of RSA 10 festivities, be executed without a hitch. Yet the Royal Philatelic Society of Cape Town did exceptionally well, and are to be congratulated on the fine achievement. The appreciation of all philatelists in

Editorial

Ten Fine Days

The last ten days of May, 1971, will long be remembered as the philatelic highlight of the decade in South Africa.

In these days were held the 33rd Congress of the Philatelic Federation of Southern Africa, which took — unanimously, and with applause — a momentous decision which will go down in history, namely to link society membership with readership of The South African Philatelist.

And the finest, best International Stamp Exhibition ever seen in this country. We in South Africa find ourselves somewhat at a loss of words to do justice in describing this International, where under one roof was collected Southern African philatelic jewelry as never seen in its country of origin before. It was a feast for eye and mind.

We were most pleased that this feast, on the tenth anniversary of the Republic of South Africa, was shared with us by Jury Members, Commissioners and distinguished philatelists from all over the world. A very high standard was maintained at the exhibition, where no less than 106 overseas collectors exhibited — a record for this country. We were equally honoured by the presence of 24 British and one American philatelic dealer.

The Royal Philatelic Society of Cape Town is honoured in having been the host, for ten unforgettable days, for a philatelic event par excellence.

Our Journal

The decision taken at Congress on the future of the South African Philatelist is now to be implemented.

The Philatelic Federation of Southern Africa, proprietors and publishers of this journal, has clearly set itself upon having a magazine devoted to the interests of all collectors in South Africa.

Your Editor gives the assurance that this journal will incessantly strive to uphold the interests of philately in Southern Africa, and to faithfully record the philatelic scene in our country and the world. We will have a magazine to be proud of.

THE EDITOR.

South Africa is due to them and their helpers, including the South African Airways, which had a ground hostess at the Exhibition, and Saambou National Building Society, for a stenographer at Congress.

Thanks !

Mr. Bill Williams, of Melrose, has donated R10 towards the publishing cost of The S.A. Philatelist, while the O.F.S. Philatelic Society has sponsored a page in this issue by sending R20.

At the Philatelic Congress in Cape Town the following donations were received:

Adv. S. Selikowitz	R25.00
J. T. Burrell	R20.00
Arcade Stamp Shop	R20.00
"Aerophill"	R10.00
T. Rudman	R10.00
Cmdr. C. E. Enoch	R20.00
I. E. Hall	R10.00

East London delegates:

T. Radue	R 5.00
J. Shingler	R 5.00
L. Hellman	R 5.00

Shortly after Congress, the Philatelic Society of Johannesburg presented a cheque for R200.00 to The South African Philatelist — a gesture which speaks for itself.

STOP PRESS

We have been informed that some sheets of the 2c and 4c issue of the current RSA 10 Commemorative Stamps have been found with the RSA Tête-Bêche watermark in a reversed setting when viewed from the printed surface of the sheet the "R" appears reversed, the "A" on the left and the "S" reversed on the right.

New Designation

The Philatelic Bureau in Pretoria has had its name changed to the Philatelic Services / Filateliese Dienste, and the office is now designated as a "section" in terms of the Post Office's internal organisation.

SOUTH AFRICAN NOTES

by *Dr. H. J. Raubenheimer*

RSA 10 Commemorative Stamps

2c and 4c — Issued 31 May 1971

These two values were issued on 31 May 1971 to commemorate the tenth anniversary of the Republic of South Africa (RSA 10). The 2c stamp depicts the landing of the 1820 British Settlers from a drawing by Thomas Baines. The 4c postage stamp shows President Steyn and Kruger as well as the Treaty of Vereeniging Monument designed and sculptured by Coert Steynberg — the design on the postage stamp symbolises the growth to independence. Both stamps are printed in double sheets of 100.

THE 2c DENOMINATION

Design: the frame, the boats, the ships and the shore are in gradations of lake-brown, also the shield in the top right corner. The sky in rose with the clouds in light buff from the background.

Sheet Format: vertical, double die, 2 panes A and B; A having been on the right of B. 100 stamps per sheet (20 rows x 5).

Stamp Format: horizontal, measuring 40.5 x 24.2 mm.

Cylinders: the three for the colours, cross lined screened, are numbers 435 rose, 433 light buff, interior and 434 lake-brown — referred to as brown — exterior. These numbers, in their colours, together with the pane letters A or B in brown, are shown on the bottom margin below stamp no. 5 from new master negatives and multipositives. The fourth cylinder was for the phosphor bands. Printing on the Goebel 840 machine.

Sheet Numbers: five figure black, type II on the right margin of pane A, twice per sheet, opposite rows 8 and 9 and again 19 and 20.

Arrows: light buff, centrally placed on the left and right margins.

Marginal Bars: light buff, on the top and bottom margins consist of single line broken bars with an extended central gap.

Colour Register: in the three colours, superimposed, in the form of two concentric circles divided by a cross, on the right margin of pane A opposite rows 2 and 3. Generally largely trimmed off.

Perforations: by the Grover two row machine perf. 14 (13.75 x 14); the bottom mar-

gin is perforated through; the others are imperforate except for the single extra hole at each end of the horizontal rows of perforations.

Perforation Register Punch Holes: these are generally trimmed off and all that remains is a trace of the concentric circles in brown surrounding the hole on the right margin of pane A opposite rows 6 and 7.

There are no varieties clearly visible on the sheets examined that are worthy of cataloguing.

THE 4c DENOMINATION

Design: profiles of President Steyn and Kruger at the top and the inscription RSA in the top left corner, all in light blue-green. The two figures at the bottom are in blackish olive. The value 4c is in white in the bottom left corner. The background consists of large sweeps of gradations of blue-green.

Paper: Harrison, coated, RSA watermarked, the marks being in tête-bêche formation facing left and right.

Sheet Format: horizontal, double die, two panes A and B, A having been on the right of B. 100 stamps per sheet (5 rows x 20).

Cylinders: two, for the colours, cross lined screened, being numbers 426 blackish-olive — referred to as black — interior and 425 blue-green — referred to as green — exterior. These numbers, in their colours, together with the pane letter A or B in green, are shown on the left margin opposite row 5. From new master negatives and multipositives. The third cylinder was for the phosphor bands. Printing on the Goebel 840 machine.

Sheet Numbers: 5 figure black, type II on the bottom margin of pane A, twice per sheet, below stamps 1 and 2 and again 12 and 13.

Arrows: green, centrally placed on the top and bottom margins.

Marginal Bars: green, on the left and right margins. Consist of single line broken bars with an extended central gap.

Colour Register: on the bottom margin of pane A below stamps 18 and 19. Consists of two concentric circles, divided by a cross, all in the two colours superimposed.

Densitometer Colour Patches: two, below and above stamps 6 and 7 of panes B and A respectively, the green being at stamp 6 and the black at stamp 7.

Step Wedges: in 5 graduations of black, not numbered, below and above stamps 17 and 18 of panes B and A respectively.

Perforations: by the Grover two row machine gauge 14 (14 x 13.75); the left margin is perforated through, the others are imperforate except for the single extra hole at each end of the vertical rows of perforations.

Perforation Register Punch Holes: on the sheets examined they only show on the bottom margin of pane A below stamps 14 and 15. This hole, partly trimmed off, has the green concentric circles, bisected by a vertical line around it.

Varieties

B pane

Row No

2.10 tiny white dot on Pres. Steyns ear — "earring".

3- 6 white dot left of 4 of 4c

A pane

2.11 faint white cloud above 4 of 4c

5. 7 long white hairline at right of Pres. Kruger's beard

5.11 dark dot on right frame line three quarters down.

A New Value in the Republican Series

9c Cylinders 409.410.422 A and B phosphorised — 17 May 1971


Design: Protea, identical to the previous 12½c stamp from cylinders 409.410.411 except that 9c replaces 12½c.

Sheet Format: horizontal, double die, two panes A and B, B having been on the left of A. 100 stamps per sheet (5 rows x 20).

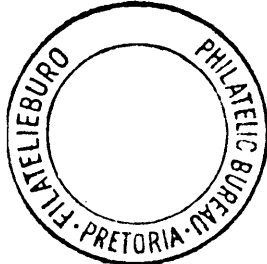
Stamp Format: vertical, measuring 24.2 x 30.2 mm.


Paper: Harrison, coated, glossy. RSA watermarked, the marks being in tête-bêche formation and facing left and right.

Cylinders: three for the colours, cross lined screened, being numbers 409 greenish-yellow — referred to as yellow — 410 rosine, interior and 422 blackish-green — referred to as green — exterior. These numbers, in their colours, with the pane letter A or B in green, are shown on the left margin opposite rows 4 and 5. The two interior cylinders 409 and 410 were the same as were used for the previous 12½c; the exterior cylinder 422 is



REPUBLIC VAN SUID-AFRIKA
REPUBLIC OF SOUTH AFRICA





A Philatelic Bureau exists in Pretoria to meet the special needs of stamp dealers and philatelists. Only stamps of the Republic of South Africa currently in use are on sale.

Orders for stamps should be addressed to the Philatelic Bureau, G.P.O., Pretoria, and must be accompanied by money orders, postal orders or bank drafts made payable to the Postmaster General. Cheques are not accepted unless guaranteed by a bank. The amount should be sufficient to cover postage and registration.

Deposit accounts may be opened.

'n Filatelieburo bestaan in Pretoria om in die spesiale behoeftes van seelhandelaars en filateliste te voorsien. Slegs seëls van die Republiek van Suid-Afrika tans in gebruik word te koop aangebied.

Bestellings vir seëls moet geadresseer word aan die Filatelieburo, H.P.K., Pretoria, en moet vergesel gaan van poswissels, posorders of bankwissels, betaalbaar aan die Posmeester-generaal. Tjeks word nie aangenem nie, tensy dit deur 'n bank gewaarborg is. Die bedrag moet voldoende wees om die pos- en registrasiegelde te dek.

Depositorekenings kan geopen word.

from a new master negative and multipositive. The fourth cylinder was for the phosphor bands. Printing on the Goebel 840 machine.

Arrows: green, centrally placed on the top and bottom margins.

Marginal Bars: green, single line broken bars with an extended central gap; on the left and right margins.

Sheet Numbers: five figure black, type II, on the bottom margin of pane A, twice per sheet, below stamps 1 and 2 and again 12 and 13.

Colour Register: in the form of two concentric circles, divided by a cross, in the three colours superimposed, on the bottom margin of pane A below stamp no. 9.

Densitometer Colour Patches: are on the top margin of pane A and the bottom margin of pane B above and below stamps 5, 6 and 7 respectively, the green is at stamp 5, the rosine at stamp 6 and the yellow at stamp 7.

Perforations: by the Grover two row machine, perf. 14 (14 x 13.75), the left margin is perforated through, the others are imperforate except for the single extra hole at each end of the vertical rows of perforations.

Perforation Register Punch Holes: are on the top margin of pane B and the bottom margin of pane A respectively, above and below stamps 14 and 15. Only the hole on pane A has the rosine concentric rings, divided by a vertical line, around it.

Varieties

B pane

Row No

2.12 tiny white dot at tip of leaf at left of 9 of 9c

3. 2 two white dots above 9 and c of 9c

A pane

3. 1 irregular white cloud just above the centre of the left frame line

5.10 long vertical white hairline downwards from F of AFRICA.

A New Republican Definitive Stamp

6c Cylinders 421.284 A and B
Phosphorised — 3 May 1971

A new value of the Republican Series appeared on the 3rd of May 1971: 6c, replacing the 7½c from cylinders 284, 285.

Design: depicts Maize, identical to the

previous 7½c except that 6c replaces 7½c.

Sheet Format: horizontal, double die, two panes A and B, B having been on the left of A. 100 stamps per sheet (5 rows x 20).

Stamp Format: vertical, measuring 24.2 x 30.2 mm.

Paper: the new glossy Harrison, RSA water-marked, the marks being in tête-bêche formation facing left and right.

Cylinders: two, cross lined screened; numbers 421, brown interior and 284, bright green exterior. The interior cylinder 421 is from a new master negative and multipositive and the exterior, 284 is the old cylinder used for the 7½c value. These numbers in their colours, with the pane letter A or B in brown, are shown on the left margin opposite row 5. Printing on the Goebel 840 machine.

Arrows: brown, centrally placed on the top and bottom margins.

Marginal Bars: brown, single line broken bars with an extended central gap, on the left and right margins.

Sheet Numbers: five figure black, type II on the bottom margin of pane A, twice, below stamps 1 and 2 and again 12 and 13.

Perforations: externally, by the Grover two row machine, gauge 14 (14 x 13.75). The left margins are perforated through, the others are imperforate except for the single extra hole at each end of the vertical rows of perforations.

Colour Register: on the bottom margin of pane A below stamp no 9; in the form of two concentric circles in brown divided by a cross in green and brown superimposed.

Perforation Register Punch Holes: On the top and bottom margins of panes B and A respectively, above and below stamps 13 and 14. Only the one on pane A has the concentric circles, in green, around it.

Varieties

Pane B

Row No.

4. 1 white dot above B of REPUBLIEK
5. 2 tiny dot at top right of C of REPUBLIC
5.11 white dot at right of A of AFRICA.

Pane A

1. 2 tiny white dot in top right corner
1.10 brown dot at left margin near the top
2. 1 faint white mark at left margin one third down
2. 3 small white dot at right margin one third down and faint white cloud above elevator
2.17 Tiny brown dot at top left of 6 of 6c
3. 7 white dot above S of SOUTH.

POSTMARK NOTES

By David Allison

Slogan Postmark Exhibition

FLAMEX 1971 is the name of an exhibition of slogan postmarks being held at Marseilles in June this year. It would be interesting to know more about this exhibition, but the only information I have is taken from a postmark slogan publicising this event. This has been used at a sorting office in Paris and reads

FLAMEX 1971
IÈRE EXPOSITION DE
FLAMMES D'OBLITÉRATION
19 — 20 JUIN
MARSEILLE.

This information is taken from a list of new slogans issued by the French Post Office.

New South African Slogans

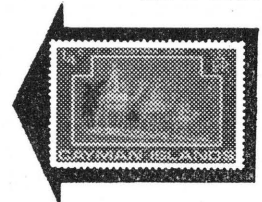
Two new slogans have appeared, making a total of three so far this year. "Make use of P.O. Yellow Pages" was introduced towards the end of January, the earliest date I can

record is 22.1.71—12⁰⁰ (Pretoria). Readers in South Africa will know already that there has recently been a vigorous advertising campaign to encourage the use of these pages. In the Western and South-Western Cape this section is now issued as a separate book of over 650 pages.

It was announced in a press release reproduced on page 54 of the March "S.A. Philatelist" that the slogan "Think Metric" with the metrication symbol ("m" in an oval) would be introduced on 1st March at the usual ten offices. At least three — Cape Town, East London and Pretoria — were using the slogan on that day but some of the others appear to have started later.

In the light of recent practice, one would have expected that Bloemfontein, East London, Kimberley and Windhoek would each have received one die of each of these two slogans for use on machines of British origin. Six other offices (Cape Town, Durban, Johannesburg, Pietermaritzburg, Port Elizabeth and Pretoria) have letter-facing equipment made in Germany, and it has been the practice to use two dies of each slogan at each office. One has had the English version first and the other has had the Afrikaans version first. This pattern may well have been follow-

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COMMONWEALTH COLLECTORS!**



55 of the **LATEST** large
Commonwealth Commemoratives **18c.**

including *Cayman Paintings, *Giant Grenada,
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PLUS! the chance to select from approvals of

(a) British Empire singly priced or at unit prices.

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TICK your preference.

Keep for TEN days.

NO obligation.

SEND OMNIPHIL Ltd., Dept. 13,
NOW TO Omniphil House, Chesham, Bucks, England.
I enclose 18c for the whole offer.

NAME

ADDRESS



ed with the "Yellow Pages" and "Think Metric" slogans. However four of the dies one would expect to exist have not yet turned up. I would be very grateful for reports of the "Yellow Pages" slogan from Bloemfontein, or (with Afrikaans first) from Pietermaritzburg; and I have not yet seen the Metric slogan from Durban.

The Cape Town post office has followed a systematic plan to ensure that all three of this year's slogans have been used. During March and April, the Metric slogan has been used on the C and D machines. The Crime and Yellow Pages slogans have been used in turns on the A and B machines; usually one slogan has been on for a week and then the other for a week, but occasionally the period has been a fortnight instead of a week. The changes have been regular enough to make it plain that a definite plan is being followed. On the other hand most offices have been less systematic.

The table which follows shows the language arrangements of the last six slogans used at Bloemfontein, East London, Kimberley and Windhoek. The letters E and A indicate bilingual dies, with English first and Afrikaans first respectively; G indicates the arrangement Afrikaans/English/German.

	Bloem.	E.L.	Kim.	Windh.
Water	A	E	A	G
Census ...	E	A	E	G
Emblem	A	E	A	G
Crime	E	A	A	E
Yellow pages ...	?	A	A	E
Metric	A	E	E	A

Rhodesian slogans

Over the years there have been several slogans used to publicise the Annual Trade Fair in Bulawayo. The current one was introduced in 1969 and incorporates the badge of the Fair. It has been used at three offices at least — Belmont-Bulawayo (1969, 1971), Bulawayo (1969, 1970, 1971), and Salisbury (1969, 1970, 1971). Can anybody add any offices to this list?

Rhodesia has also been using a "Think Metric" slogan at Bulawayo, Causeway, Salisbury, Umtali and possibly other offices. Their m is in a rectangle, not an oval. The earliest date noted is 5 May 1970 6-AM (Salisbury).

Another recently introduced Rhodesian slogan is "Rhodesia Welcomes Visitors", seen so far from Bulawayo, Umtali, Gwelo and Salisbury. The earliest date I can record is 19 SEP 1970 11-AM.

Don't miss th's special offer

Letters which have been sorted at Pretoria often show a number of short verticle black lines at the right hand side of the envelope. As most readers will know, these are applied to the letters during their passage through the electronic sorting machine in use at Pretoria. A reader of The S.A. Philatelist has a large supply of cards with these marks and he would like to give them to someone who would care to sort them. Anybody interested is invited to write to me, care of The Editor. I will pass requests on to the owner of this material.

Reviews

The Rhodesia Stamp Catalogue 1971

(Published by Rhodesian Philatelic Agencies (Pvt.) Ltd.) This fine publication was received from the Salisbury Stamp Co. (Pvt.) Ltd., P.O. Box 2371, Salisbury, Rhodesia. Priced at a small cost of R1.50, it is a welcome addition to philatelic literature. The Edition covers Southern Rhodesia, Federation of Rhodesia and Modern Rhodesia: from 1924 to March 1971 and includes first day covers, errors, and varieties, booklets, dues, and further information of the printings. There are 68 pages, well printed on good paper, giving all this detailed information. It is at the same time fully priced and illustrated. No doubt Rhodesian collectors will add this book to their library.

M.F.S.

Andorra Philatelist: Issue No. 1 April 1970. (Editor: Ernesto Fink, P.O. Box 2554, Mexico.)

This interesting publication on a little known philatelic country is published in English and covers 12 pages. Andorra is a field which commends itself to a serious philatelist and has two postal systems and above all so far has pursued a very clean standing.

The first issues of the Spanish administration with its perforation varieties and control numbers on the back still require plenty of research. Also postal history needs investigation but it is not difficult to compile a "complete" collection of all the stamps which make a good showing.

M.F.S.

History Made at Congress

The 33rd Congress of the Philatelic Federation of Southern Africa will be remembered as a milestone in the history of organised philately in South Africa because of the far-reaching decision taken to sustain and to promote the Federation's monthly journal, *The South African Philatelist*.

The Congress was held on 24th and 25th May 1971 at the Lodge de Goede Hoop on the Stalplein in Cape Town.

Its vital decision was that all member societies in the Republic would pay to Federation an annual levy of R1.50 per full member, towards the financing of *The S.A. Philatelist*. A second decision was that society members on whose behalf the levy was paid, would automatically receive the magazine as a benefit to their society membership.

The decision was reached upon the consideration of the report of the Publications Committee, from which it became clear that the rising costs of production meant that *The S.A. Philatelist* could with its current circulation not pay its way and would have to cease publication by December this year, unless immediate action was taken.

In the discussion it became apparent that if all members of all philatelic societies subscribed, a group reduction in the subscription fee to R1.50 would become possible. The levy of R1.50 per full member is applicable to societies, and collectors who are members of more than one society, will be asked to declare which their "home society" is for the purpose of the levy.

Details about the decision and its implementation will reach all affiliated societies shortly, and the new system will commence in January 1972.

Commenting on the decision, which was unanimously adopted, with applause, Mr. J. Michelson, chairman of the Publications Committee, said: "This is a momentous day for philately in South Africa. For twenty years I have advocated the ideal which was reached today — now we will be able to publish a magazine to be proud of."

The Congress was opened by Mr. L. F. Rive, the Postmaster General, whose speech is reported in this issue.

The first discussion was on an aspect arising from the previous congress (that of October last year in Port Elizabeth), namely the issue of charity stamps in South Africa. Mr. Her-

man Steyn, Head of Philatelic Services, said that the Post Office received many requests for the issue of charity stamps, such as those issued by the Netherlands and Switzerland. All requests were turned down because there were so many charity organisations and so many deserving causes, and as the Post Office could not allow stamps for one body and refuse an issue to the next, he doubted whether a charity issue could be considered.

Mr. R. F. Putzel suggested that the Government establish a fund from which all organisations could benefit, and Mr. Len van der Kar said that there would be no opposition forthcoming against children's stamps.

Mr. Steyn asked philatelists to put forward substantiated and well motivated written proposals on the issue of charity stamps. (Applause).

Paid Tribute

In his presidential address Mr. Sam Kaganon paid tribute to the office-bearers of the Federation for their successful endeavours during 1970—71, and thanked the members of the Royal Philatelic Society of Cape Town for their hard work in connection with Congress and the RSA 10 International Stamp Exhibition. The report of the Executive Committee of Federation was accepted.

Cmdr. C. E. D. Enoch presented the report of the Expert Committee and mentioned that close on 2 000 certificates had already been issued by the committee. In answering a question, he said that when a sheet of stamps was submitted for expertising, the committee's fee would be for as many stamps as there are in the sheet, but the committee does exercise its discretion.

Mr. K. E. W. Lydall reported a quiet year for the Philatelic Estates Committee, and it appeared that in a number of cases the next-of-kin of a deceased collector approached local societies for valuations and advice. Mr. Kaganon intimated that in such cases it was the duty of societies to form subcommittees to handle matters.

Progress was reported by the Recorded Lectures Committee, and after Mr. Lydall's report Mr. Jack Burrell explained that further work was being done while a suitable person was enlisted to take care of the film "Picture to Post".

The report of the Honorary Editor of *The S.A. Philatelist*, Dr. T. B. Berry, was present-



Mr. Rudi Jeidel, RSA 10 Exhibition Committee chairman, and Mr. Sam Kaganson, President of the Philatelic Federation, in conversation at a reception.

ed and accepted, after which followed the report of the Publications Committee, read by Mr. J. Michelson. To relieve the financial pressure on The S.A. Philatelist during the current year, the various societies present promised donations totalling R560 to the magazine.

Awards

Two collectors were elected to the Roll of Honour of Distinguished Philatelists: Mr. A. L. Meyburgh and Mr. V. F. Ellenberger.

The Skinner Cup was awarded to Cmdr. C. E. D. Enoch, R.D.P.S.A.

The J. H. Harvey Pirie Memorial Award was not made, while the W. E. Lea Cup was awarded to the Anglo-Boer War Philatelic Society of Great Britain, for its publication in two parts of "The Philately of the Boer and British Prisoner of War Camps".

Congress Awards were made for two articles published in The S.A. Philatelist, being

"Natal — The Earliest Postal Routes", by A. Leslie Leon, R.D.P.S.A.;

"Towards a Better Understanding of the Printings of the Republican ½c Kingfisher Postage Stamps", by R. B. Cronwright; and for the paper "The Binda Forgeries of Rhodesia", read at Congress by Mr. Theo Rudman.

It was resolved by Congress that the correct initials to be used by signatories to the Roll of Distinguished Philatelist are R.D.P.-S.A., so as to differentiate between the Roll of Southern Africa and that of other countries.

New Societies

The affiliation to Federation of three new societies was accepted by Congress. They are the Midlands Stamp Club of Gwelo, founded in 1955, the Post Office Tree Philatelic Society of Mossel Bay, and the Wanderers Philatelic Club, which falls under the aegis of the Wanderers Club in Johannesburg.

The Federation's new President is Mr. Jack Creewel, and the Vice-Presidents are Messrs. C. A. Whysall (Natal), A. L. Meyburgh (OFS), S. Legator (Transvaal), R. G. Mephius (Other areas) and Dr. F. Drusinsky (Cape Province).

Messrs. Lydall, Michelson and S. J. Vermaak were re-elected as Hon. Secretary, Hon. Treasurer and Business Manager of The S.A. Philatelist respectively, while Mr. T. Rudman was appointed assistant to the secretary.

The 1972 Congress is to take place in Salisbury, at the invitation of the Mashonaland Philatelic Society. The Natal Philatelic Society offered to hold the 1973 Congress in Durban, during the last week of May, while 1974 has provisionally been allocated to Pretoria.



A helicopter mail at RSA 10 — the Post Office taking delivery of a special mailbag from the South African Air Force. Due to inclement weather on 26th May, the helicopter mail was arranged to replace the proposed

A Strange Gibraltar Stamp

By Prof. C. J. H. Schutte

On the 18th September, 1970 Gibraltar issued a set of two stamps commemorating the PHILYMPIA International Stamp Exhibition held in London during September 1970. Each of these stamps shows a facsimile of a famous Gibraltar stamp error (see figure 1), viz.

- (i) The 1/- vermillion and bronze-green has the facsimile of the 7d denomination of the set issued to commemorate the "European Sea Angling Championship" of August, 1966, with the value and inscription (in black) omitted. A single sheet of this error was discovered, and it caused quite a stir in the philatelic world when it was exhibited at STAMPEX, 1967.
- (ii) The 2/- bright blue and magenta has the facsimile of the other major Gibraltar error, viz. the 1892 10 centimos with the empty value tablet; only a few of these stamps were ever discovered, but it is thought that a whole sheet was also involved.



Fig. 1

As I am a collector of "Stamps-upon-Stamps" I examined these stamps carefully and compared the commemorative facsimiles with the originals, and made a startling discovery with regard to the 2/- facsimile!

Reference to any Catalogue of Stamps (1) shows that the Gibraltar 1889—1898 definitive series is of a uniform design, showing the same frame and head of Queen Victoria, engraved along the Wyon-tradition; the name GIBRALTAR appears in the top tablet, and the value (decimal) is inscribed in the bottom

GAMBIA

I HAVE RECENTLY PURCHASED THE AWARD WINNING COLLECTION
FORMED BY THE LATE MR. ERNEST HUNT

THIS HIGHLY SPECIALISED COLLECTION INCLUDES:

- 1869 First Cameos, both mint and used imperforates, with a mint marginal copy of the pale blue SG.4;
- 1874 Second cameos, imperforate mint and used, including 6d watermark inverted;
- 1880 Perforated Cameos, with the rare Line Perfs complete;
- 1886 Second perforated Cameos, including complete sheets and Sloping Tablet varieties;
- 1902 Edwards, unique Artists Handpainted Proofs;
- 1906 Provisionals, used blocks of 4 and 6; ½d Corner Plate block with Penny error; 1d marginal block of 6 on piece with first day postmark; 1d on 3/- Surcharge Double, superb mint, Royal Cert;
- 1922 Die Proofs in colour;
- 1882-1922 Complete Range of Specimen Stamps;
- 1922-1927 3/- Slate purple, single and horizontal pair;
- 1902-1927 Complete range in mint and used singles and blocks of four.

The condition is fresh and very fine throughout. Inquiries and want lists are welcome and will receive prompt, courteous attention.

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67 SHAKESPEARE HOUSE
P.O. BOX 1607

COMMISSIONER STREET

JOHANNESBURG

TELEPHONES: OFFICE 834-7494; HOME 42-5042

tablet. Various colours also distinguish the stamps of this series. The head was engraved by Joubert de la Ferté for De la Rue, and shows what is commonly known as **Diadem VI** which consists of a ball, a thistle, a ball, a shamrock, a ball, etc.; this diadem was used for many colonial issues since 1865. A first glance at the Gibraltar commemorative 2/- stamp convinced me that the head of Queen Victoria was wrong, because it quite definitely shows the **Diadem I**, consisting of alternate roses and crosses, first engraved by Joubert de la Ferté for the Great Britain 4d stamp of 1855 (reprinted on the recent GB PHILYMPIA stamp!). Diadem I was used for all the Queen's Heads of GB till the end of the reign of Queen Victoria, and also for the 1855 issue of India (2) but **never** for any Gibraltar stamp.

It was thus clear that something was strange in connection with this stamp! I immediately tried to get a photo of the original stamp of 1892 with the error, in order to remove all possible doubt, because all the catalogues list the error but do not illustrate it (Gibbons refers to the 5 centimos, and indicates it to be of the same type). I eventually traced a photo of it in the very brief description of the Donne collection which was exhibited at PHILYMPIA (3). This photo definitely supports my statement above that the facsimile on the 1970 stamp is not that of the original 1892 stamp.



Fig. 2



Fig. 3

Unfortunately I cannot reproduce that photo here, but in Figure 2 I show the 1889—1898 10 centimos with the value inscribed; this can be compared by the reader with Figure 3 which shows the enlarged facsimile of the 1970 Gibraltar Commemorative.

There is another curious feature about this 1970 stamp of Gibraltar. The Crown Agents Stamp Bureau advertised their latest issues in the "Stamp Monthly" (4), and shows inter alia the two Gibraltar PHILYMPIA commemoratives. However, it is quite clear that the 2/- stamp advertised, is not the stamp I have in my possession: it quite clearly displays the correct Diadem VI and the "broader" face

and neck of the Queen just as in the 1892 original (3) — see Figure 2; otherwise the stamp is the same! This rather shocked me, and I paged through all my stamp journals of the past months, and eventually found another illustration of the 2/- stamp (all the journals illustrate only the 1/- stamp!) and this is quite definitely identical to my own stamp (5)! I, therefore, feel reasonably satisfied that my stamp is genuine, and that it seems that the Crown Agents advertised one stamp and that another design was eventually sold. What actually happened is, naturally, unclear, and I would hesitate to give an opinion.

References:

- (1) Any issue of Gibbons or Scott.
- (2) John Easton, "British Postage Stamp Design", Faber and Faber Limited, London, 1953.
- (3) Anon, "Three Views on a Stamp Collection", Stamp Monthly, Vol. 1, No. 4 (Sept.), p. 97 (1970).
- (4) Advertisement in Stamp Monthly, Vol. 1, No. 5 (Oct.), p.v. (following p. 126) (1970).
- (5) Supplement No. 31 to the 1970 Edition of the H(arris) Commonwealth QE II Stamp Catalogue, Philatelic Magazine, Vol. 79, No. 3 (Dec.), p. 213 (1970).

Good Show

A most interesting exhibit at the RSA 10 International Stamp Exhibition was provided by the South African Post Office, where Mr. Felix Reinders of the Philatelic Services, Pretoria, was in constant attendance to answer the seemingly never ending stream of questions.

The printing process of postage stamps was illustrated with artist's drawings, sets of multi-negatives and multipositives, actual printing cylinders complete with doctor blade, and a set of perforation blocks, as well as plate inking impressions.

A large diagram of the Goebels 840 printing machine decorated the wall. Colour proofs of the unissued Dr. Dönges inaugural stamps of 2½c and 12½c values were to be seen, as well as colour proofs for the RSA 10 commemorative stamps.

There were proofs of all printing stages for the production of commemorative covers in full colour, a sheet of postcards (3c value), the more recent air letters and artist's drawings of datestamps.

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We give you below extracts from the South African and S.W. African pages of our next catalogue (No. 38), closing at the beginning of September:-

(Lots 1—38 South African Interprovincials of all Provinces)

Lot No.

- | | | | |
|--------|--|---------------|-----------------------------------|
| 39 * | SOUTH AFRICA. 1910 GeoV 2½d commem. deep blue in blk of 4, superb mint | SG.1 | SG. Cat. £3.00+ |
| 49 Cv | -do- Cover front addr. to the "Consul for Spain" w/Cape Town cds. over pink oval cachet over normal pmk. "On Naval Service, Official Free, Cape Town", v. fine, an interesting item | | |
| 81 * | 1913—22 Geo V 4d A11 w/Wmk. inverted: 3xcorner Plate Blks. of 4 (only top right missing), superb (Normal Cat. £9) (S.A. Handbk. No. 8/Cc) | SG.17 | Est. Price R 25
Est. Price R 6 |
| 97 * | -do- 10s HORIZ. CORNER PAIR (BOTT. RIGHT) WITH CONTROL 1, EXTREMELY RARE THUS, FINE MINT (PHOTO) | SG.23
(Fr) | Est. Price R100 |
| 100 ** | -do- 3s Booklet complete, superb mint, v.rare (all panes have wmk.s. inverted (PHOTO)) (S.A. Handbk. B.4) | | Est. Price R 40+ |
| 107 Cv | 1918 Reg. Cover from YORK/NATAL (scarce pmk.) w/2x1d & 1x3d GeoV w/provisional manusc. regist. endorsement (!) to London, backstpd. Pietermaritzburg & red London cds., v.fine, a good cover (PHOTO) | | Est. Price R 12 |
| 108 Cv | 1913 Very pretty cover w/scarce "Olifants' Hoek" cds. (2x), also 2 diff. censor cachets to U.S.A. (PHOTO) | | Est. Price R 10 |
| 113 Cv | 1917 Cover from Gen. Northey's Jones in Nyasaland & East Africa w/2xS. Afr. GeoV ½d stps. w/triangul. "2" pmks. together w/3xNational War Fund Charity labels w/Pretoria arriv. cds. on front, a rare cover (PHOTO) | | Est. Price R 25 |
| 115 Cv | 1918 "Aerial Post Card" (Red Cross) (dark blue prt.g.) w/small wings w/special "Aerial Post" pmk. 20.11.1918 addr. to Johannesburg, v.fine (PHOTO) | | Est. Price R 25 |
| 117 Cv | 1919 Pigeon Post, Pigeogram No. 194 from Cape Town to Bloemfontein in poor condition and patched, still a collectable item (worth R200 in good condition) | | Est. Price R 50 |
| 120 * | 1923 Harrison Essay of Springbok design, imperf., superb, unscreened in black (size 33x18½mm) (PHOTO) (S.A. Handbk. 66) | | Est. Price R 25 |
| 123 * | 1925 Airmail Complete set, v.fine mint | SG.26-29 | Est Price R 12 |
| 134 : | -do- 9d imperf. marg. at left, v. fine mint (imperf. marg. has slight vert. crease but well away from stamp, VERY RARE (PHOTO)) | SG.29 | Est. Price R 75 |
| 136 | -do- OFFICIAL PRESENTATION SHEET W/AIRMAIL SET OF 4 MOUNTED INSCRIBED IN FRENCH DATED "APRIL 1925", VERY FINE AND RARE (PHOTO) | | Est. Price R 90 |
| 137 ** | -do- THE RARE SET OF FORGERIES IN SUPERB MINT UNHGD. BLKS. OF 4 (PERF. 11 TYPE 11) — 2 THICKER LINES BELOW "AIR POST" (PHOTO OF 9d BLOCK) | | Est. Price R 70+ |
| 1970 * | London Prtg. Booklet pane (Perf. 14½x14) 1d w/Arrow & Jubilee lines on binding margin, Inverted wmk., v. fine (PHOTO) (S.A. Handbk. B6/P8) | | Est. Price R 28 |
| 193 * | -do- 2d Perf. 14x13½ (down) in compl. Miniature Sheet of 4 corner blks. of 4. Rare thus (PHOTO) (S.A. Hbk. 24B) | SG.34 | Est. Price R 60+ |
| 206 * | -do- 3d black & red (Perf. 14x13½) 4 corn. blks. of 4, superb mint (S.A. Hbk. 25A) | SG.35 | Est. Price R 65 |
| 245 ** | 1930—45 PICTORIALS UNHYPHENATED: 1d ISSUE 5 (UPRIGHT WMK.) THE COMPLETE SET OF 4 ARROW BLKS., EXTREMELY RARE THUS (IN DEEP ALMOST MAROON SHADE), SUPERB MINT (PHOTO) (S.A. Hbk. 3y/C9) | | Est. Price R120 |
| 283 * | -do- 4d brown in top left corn. blk. of 4 (Issue 1), invtd. wmk., v.fine mint | SG.46 | SG. Cat £ 4.00+ |
| 318 ** | 1933—48 PICTORIALS HYPHENATED: 1933 ½d SUPERB IMPERFOR. & UNHGD. HORIZ. PAIR (EXACTLY AS ILLUSTRATED IN NEW BOOK OF ROSENTHAL & BLUM, EXTREMELY RARE (PHOTO) | SG.54 | Est. Price R325 |
| 322 ** | -do- 1 HORIZ. PAIR IMPERF. (SEE NEW BOOK OF ROSENTHAL & BLUM) UNHGD., EXTREMELY RARE THUS, ONLY A FEW PAIRS CAN EXIST, SUPERB, A MAJOR EXHIBITION ITEM (PHOTO) | | Est. Price R240 |

- 336 * 1936 1½d LARGE MINE (GROUP I ISSUE) RIGHT MARG. BLK. OF 8 (4x2) W/VARIETIES: SHADING ON MINE DUMPS COMPLETELY MISSING ON NO LESS THAN 4 STAMPS, 90% MISSING ON A 5th STAMP. PLUS BROKEN CHIMNEY VARIETY — AN EXTREMELY RARE BLOCK AS NORMALLY ONLY ONE OR TWO MISSING SHADOWS ARE SEEN TOGETHER (NORMAL CAT. £15 EACH) (PHOTO) (S.A. Hbk. 46) SG.57aa Est. Price R110
- 351 * 1935 Silver Jubilee. The set of 4 in horiz. pairs all w/ 'cleft skull' variety, superb mint SG.65-68 Est. Price R 10
- 393 Cv 1943 Pretty Act. Service Cover from Egypt to S. Africa w/no less than 5 diff. countries' stamps, superb used together (S.A., N.Z., Australia, G.B. & Rhodesia) (this was quite legitimate, although rarely done thus) Est. Price R 8
- 455 ** 1961 Defin. (Decimal Currency): R1 in miniat. sheet of 4 corn. blks. of 4 1st Prtg. (w/out sheet no.) Control 1/12/117 w/Cyl. Flaw: orange smudge in top marg., superb mint (staps. unhgd.) (total 16 stps.) (SG.210) Est. Price R 50
- 468 Cv 16.1.71 Cape to Rio Ocean Yacht Race Cover carried by Boy Scout Entry: Cutter "Active" — only 50 covers carried (numbered) of which only 30 were sold to public, w/Brazil arriv. pmk. & signatures of Skipper & all members of crew, superb Est. Price R 40
- 507 Cv S. ARICAN BOER WAR. 1899 Cover to London sent by Officer Commanding Police in the Natal Police Field Force from "Tugela Ferry, Natal", as per manuscr. endorsement on front to London, w/out stps. w/"1" cachet plus "1D" cachet neat Greytown/Natal cds., a very fine campaign item (PHOTO) Est. Price R 60
- 510 Cv 6.3.1900 Superb "Ladysmith Siege" Card w/neat cds. of the Siege P.O., addr. to England, very pretty (PHOTO) Est. Price R 25+
- 513 Cv 1900 COVER FROM PRETORIA TO ENGLAND WITH A SUPERB EXAMPLE OF THE EXTREMELY RARE FRAMED BOER CENSOR CACHET IN VIOLET "GEZIEN/POSTCENSOR/PRETORIA/Z.A.R. WITH 2½d TVL, ARMS, BACKSTPD. LOURENCO MARQUES & WINDSOR, ON FRONT "STAINES" ARRIV. CDS., READDRESSED, ROUGHLY OPENED AT TOP BUT THE FINEST EXAMPLE OF THIS CENSOR WE HAVE SEEN (PHOTO) Est. Price R 80
- 514 Cv 1900 Cover from Lourenco Marques to Natal w/100r L.M. stp. & triang. PASSED PRESS CENSOR, backstpd. DURBAN No. 23 1900, very fine Est. Price R 8
- 515 Cv 1901 Cover front from Stellenbosch to Ahmednagar POW Camp (India) w/pair of ½d Hope (fold) pmk. Stellenbosch squared circle with the rare red Stellenbosch censor cachet with overlapping frame lines of Nov. 26, 1901 also oval Ahmednagar censor cachet, a rare item (PHOTO) Est. Price R 35
- 524 Cv 1901 Bermuda ½d. Vict. Post Card w/v fine "Prisoner of War/Bermuda" Censor Strike in blue from Hamilton to Greytown/Natal/w/neat arriv. cds. on front, a good item (PHOTO) Est. Price R 25
- 532 Cv 1901 French Cover in very good condition addr. to POW in Brer Hospital, Jamestown St. Helena w/neat violet censor cachet & St. Helena arriv. pmk. on front, scarce (PHOTO) Est. Price R 25
- 543 Cv 10.1.1902 ½d. VICT. NATAL POST CARD W/NEAT CDS. OF "ESHOWE/ZULULAND" WITH LARGE OVAL CACHET OF "COMDT. SUPERINTENDENT/ESHOWE/BURGHERCAMP" ADDR. TO BERLIN W/DURBAN TRANSIT, BERLIN ARRIV. & ALSO 2xBERLIN/RUCKBRIEFSTELLE CDS., A VERY NICE ITEM (PHOTO) Est. Price R 60

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PMG Says

“Teach Teachers Philately”

He believed that philatelic experts should lecture at universities and training colleges so as to acquaint the teachers of tomorrow with the value of philately as an educational aid, Mr. L. F. Rive, the Postmaster General, said when he opened the 33rd Congress of the Philatelic Federation in Cape Town on 24th May 1971.

Mr. Rive said that to a large extent the responsibility of educating our youth to take an interest in the hobby, rests with the Federation and all its affiliated societies.

Mr. Rive started his remarks by congratulating the Royal Philatelic Society of Cape Town on organising the International Stamp Exhibition RSA 10, which was a magnificent contribution to the Republic festivities. He continued:

“I read the other day that Mr. Winston Ovens, a former President of the Natal Philatelic Society who now lives in New South Wales, addressed that Society during the course of a recent visit to South Africa. What interested me in particular, was the point he made that South African philatelists were very fortunate in having this Federation. He also said that he had drawn the attention of his colleagues to the advantages of such an organisation and that he hoped, through his efforts, to see the establishment of a similar organisation in Australia. I cannot agree with him more and I hope his efforts succeed!

“One of the first public functions I performed as Postmaster General — scarcely six weeks after my appointment — was the opening of the Settlers Philatelic Exhibition in Port Elizabeth last year. At that time I said that I shall always strive to realise as closely as possible the ideals of organised philately in this country. As a first step, I proposed re-organising our Philatelic Bureau and building it into something that would be an asset not only to the Post Office, but also to our country. I have since had time to study the philatelic situation in South Africa in more detail and have found answers to various questions which have been exercising my mind.

“My examination of our philatelic set-up reveals a number of very interesting facts. Indeed, I find that our philatelic services compare quite favourably with those of other large Postal Administrations. A service we offer and

which is offered by only a few other Administrations in the world, is the one which enables the philatelist to purchase any stamp in any single sheet of stamps, without having to buy the whole sheet. We even supply particular printings or sheets.

“Our first-day covers receive special care as regards the affixing of stamps, cancellation marks and addressing, while an interesting stiffener card goes with every envelope. A plastic cover ensures that the envelope reaches the recipient in mint condition and the price of our first-day covers is as reasonable as that of any other Administration. Our special postmarks are designed by well-known artists and we endeavour to connect the theme of such postmarks to that of the stamps for which the postmarks are used.

“Many other Administrations have followed our example with regard to issuing specially numbered official first-day covers. For some time, we have been providing special posting boxes for philatelic mail at certain post offices. This facility we propose to extend to all our large cities in order to ensure special treatment of such mail.

“Lest this be construed as extolling our philatelic services too much, I again refer to Mr. Winston Ovens. In his recent address to the Natal Philatelic Society, he also paid glowing tribute to the efficiency and courtesy of our Philatelic Bureau. He said that nothing was too much trouble for the Bureau and that his orders were executed to the last detail. He maintained that no other Philatelic Bureau offered such services.

Museum

“An important task awaiting us, is the planning and establishment of our own Post Office museum, which we hope will be something of pride for the Post Office and our country, and in which philately will doubtless occupy a place of honour. We are in contact with many Administrations in order to keep abreast of what is happening in other parts of the world. All this takes time and being traditionally conservative, we do not intend rushing in where philatelic angels fear to tread. We try to justify every move we make.

“Our Philatelic Services Section is particularly proud of its own emblem. I believe

that South Africa is the first and only Administration so far to introduce a specially designed symbol for philately. Wherever in future this symbol appears on the doors of philatelic dealers in South Africa and elsewhere in the world or is affixed to the rear window of a car, whether in Caledon or Cincinnatti, this emblem will identify someone with an interest in South African postage stamps.

"As indicated by the Minister we are considering a new policy with regard to postage stamp issues. It would not be prudent to elaborate on this topic now, but I wish to reassure all interested parties that we shall steer clear of the many pitfalls caused in the rush to be 'with it'.

Changes

"However, it is on the cards that some of our more conservative purists will have to do a fair amount of soul searching and that they will have to condition themselves to the changes which are bound to come.

"There are few fields which have escaped revolutionary changes in the past few years, and it occurs to me that the purist might well be wrong in believing that the majority of collectors still wish to acquire only those stamps which demand a deep and ever-increasing technical knowledge of philately. If collectors and dealers accepted the fact that the basic decisions are still a matter of free choice, the present divisions into almost hostile factions — which I believe do exist — would disappear.

"Today, collecting stamps is claimed to be the world's most popular and fascinating hobby. Almost certainly it is, but would this hobby have assumed such world-wide popularity if all stamps had stayed in the domestic, refined plainness of the Cape Triangle? I fear not. On the contrary, I believe that the hobby would not have survived its infancy.

"It is an historical fact that the dullness of the stamps in the 1850's and 1860's nearly caused philately's collapse. The philatelist does not merely collect stamps — at least I hope he does not. He also collects colour, gaiety, inspiration, beauty and variety. This we are planning to give you, but as the Chinese proverb says: We are catching the monkey softly, softly. What I would like to see added to the entire process, is artistic excellence and professional know-how.

"Stamps are no better than the designers and the printing presses of the issuing country. In this regard we are exploring the field of stamp designers nationally and internationally. We recently had enquiries from well-known

overseas designers offering their services, and there will be no hesitation on our part to use their services if this will result in better and more attractive stamps. I do not say this to discourage or belittle our own designers, but to encourage them and other young art students to study the minuscule art of stamp designing; a specialised art with its own norms and limitations.

New Press

"On the subject of stamp printing, the Government Printer will shortly visit Europe to watch the test run of the new De la Rue — Giori stamp printing press which is on order for South Africa. The press is unique in that it is possible to use two printing processes simultaneously.

"The first process is the photogravure process which is in use at present for the printing of our stamps. In this process, the stamp design is photographically transferred to the copper printing cylinder into which the design is chemically etched. A fluid, volatile ink, is used for the printing.

"The second process is the vintage intaglio process by means of which the design is transferred to the paper under great pressure by means of a steel printing cylinder. In Europe this is termed "stahldruck" or "steel printing". This means that the stamp images are impressed into the steel printing cylinder from a steel "wheel" which contains the image in relief. Thus, the whole process of making the printing cylinder is mechanical.

"The intaglio process enables the printer to reproduce very fine detail, such as is obtained with steel engraving. Combined with the photogravure process, the most intricate designs can be reproduced in up to five colours.

"This press has been specially designed and developed and I have been assured that it will make possible the production of stamps in South Africa which will be as good as the best printed anywhere in the world; this we shall still have to see. To ensure the highest possible standard, the Government Printer is also investigating the use of more modern coated printing paper.

"After its test run in Europe the press will be shipped to South Africa and eventually installed in the Government Printing Works in Pretoria probably towards the end of this year.

Three Themes

"It is hoped that it will be ready to commence printing the first of the postage stamps in the new definitive series which is at present

being planned, in 1972. We envisage a new definitive series with a thematic cohesion which our present series lacks and when the new stamps make their appearance, there will be a change of stamp scenery in more ways than one. The themes, which were decided in the time of my predecessor, will be flowers, fishes and birds.

„Very recently, we have been criticised — and I think fairly — for using old postage stamp designs with changed value tablets. Please accept my assurance that this was unavoidable owing to the lack of time to create new designs for the new values. It must be seen as a purely temporary and transitional measure, until we have all the facilities available to satisfy the more demanding, and may I say more critical discriminating, tastes of our philatelists and others.

„I feel sure that our advanced planning programme which envisages somewhat shorter periods between definitive postage stamp issues, the publication of regular and colourful philatelic bulletins and other special services, will meet the promises made to you last year. We fully realise that one of the primary functions of philately is to give pleasure and satisfaction. We shall not overlook that function.

„Ons besef egter dat die Poskantoor ook in ander opsigte 'n bydrae tot filatelie kan maak. Ons weet byvoorbeeld dat posseëlversameling 'n besliste opvoedkundige waarde het. As vader

van 'n jong seun wou ek vasstel waarom kinders seëls versamel. Toe eers het ek tot die besef gekom dat byna elke skoolier die een of die ander tyd in sy lewe seëls versamel.

„Die meeste doen dit willekeurig; sonder 'n besondere smaak of voorkeur, sonder leiding en net vir 'n beperkte tyd. Meeste van hulle begin tussen die ouderdomme van 11 en 12 jaar. Hul beweegredes: na-aperij, die versamelinstink en die besittersvreugde. En natuurlik nuuskierigheid, die lus na avontuur en die hunkering na die vreemde.

„Voorts is dit 'n spontane neiging by die jeug om posseëls in pakkies, dikwels vir min geld, aan te skaf. Grootformaat- en kleurvolle gedenkseëls is blykbaar die gewildste vanweë die bekoring van die bonte prentjies. Baie jeugdige glo dat hulle eendag vir hul nuutaangekoopte seëls minstens soveel sal terugkry as wat hulle daarin gesteeke het — hopelik meer. In baie gevalle sien hulle ongelukkig nie die vetkollie, die gebreekte tanding en die geskeurde hoekies op hul seëls raak nie!

Leiding

„Nou tref dit my dat alhoewel so baie kinders vroeër of later posseëls versamel, daar aan ons skole so 'n gebrek aan onderwyskragte is wat in filatelie ervare en onderleg genoeg is om aan hierdie jong filateliste leiding te gee en hulle aan te moedig. Die jeugdige versamelaar van vandag wat eintlik die filatelist van môre behoort te wees, gaan in die proses

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One of the 57 countries who use the services of the Crown Agents Stamp Bureau, the largest Philatelic Bureau in the World, to market their stamps.

Collectors wishing to add this issue to their collection, or any of the other issues released this month, should obtain them from their local dealer. Suppliers include:—

Pan African Philatelists, P.O. Box 2336, Johannesburg.

A Crown Agents Stamp Bureau announcement

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verlore omdat hy in hierdie wordingsjare geen of in elk geval te min aandag kry.

„In die meeste gevalle hou seëlversameling deur seuns en dogters na hul skooldae en gedurende tydperke van verdere studie plotseling op. Ook hiervoor is daar moontlike redes, te wete 'n gebrek aan tyd en verdere belangstelling, en die ontnugtering oor, sal ek sê, die geringe waarde van hul eie onvolledige versameling.

„Ek glo dat daar met goeie gevolg aan ons universiteite en onderwyskolleges lesings deur filateliese kenners gelewer kan word om die onderwysers van môre te oortuig van die waarde en nut om posseëlversameling in hul leerplanne in te bou. In ons tyd van aanskouingsonderwys, pas posseëls uit alle dele van die wêreld byna volmaak in by feitlik alle skoolvakke; in die besonder by geskiedenis, aardrykskunde, biologie en volke- en burgerkunde.

„Elke seël vertel sy eie besondere storie; 'n storie van die mense en lande en volkere en hul geskiedenis en dies meer. Kan u aan 'n beter medium dink om meer kennis en beter begrip oor hierdie dinge die wêreld in te dra? Ek glo dat onderwysers die vak Filatelie met die hulp van kleurskyfies so popuer kan maak dat 'n lewenslange belangstelling daarin by die jeug gekweek kan word.

“I believe that to a large extent, the responsibility of educating our youth to take an interest in, and ultimately to come to love this hobby, rests with the Federation and all its affiliated societies. Besides approaches to educational institutions, there are various ways and means of doing this, for instance by radio broadcasts, films and regular features in the press. And now that television is underway, this medium can no doubt also be exploited. The Post Office too will do what it can to develop this mentally stimulating and healthy form of recreation among the youth of South Africa.

“In conclusion I should like to say that, to my mind, the Post Office of today can in all modesty claim to be dynamic and progressive also in this sphere of its activities, and that you, who are so intensely interested in, or concerned with this hobby can accept that a new era has dawned for philately in South Africa.”

The New Policy

A decision on a new stamp issuing policy in South Africa would be taken later this year, Mr. Marais Viljoen, Minister of Posts and Telegraphs, said when he opened the RSA 10 International Stamp Exhibition at Goodwood on 22nd May 1971.

He said that changes were imminent. It was believed that the present issuing policy, which was pegged down in 1963, was out of pace with present-day trends and conditions, and that postage stamps should be used to greater advantage to win friends for and to publicise our country.

“What we have in mind,” Mr. Viljoen said, “is more attractive, varied and better designed stamps, and more frequent, but not too frequent, issues at reasonable prices.

“I immediately want to give the assurance that nothing will be done to exploit philatelists or the philatelic trade. On the contrary, we shall ensure that our future issues bring more credit to South Africa and more pleasure to all who use and collect them.

“Countries such as England, New Zealand, Australia and Canada, have already reviewed their issuing programmes without losing their dignity and grace in the philatelic world. This is precisely what we intend doing and there is no need for fear that we shall sacrifice our balance or good name.”

Mr. Viljoen referred to the reorganisation of the Post Office's Philatelic Services and promised that further reorganisation proposals would soon be implemented.

In the light of the recognised educational value of philately and its beneficial effect in the forming years, it was envisaged to cater for the requirements of junior collectors and beginners in various ways. The Post Office would try to stimulate interest and to encourage young collectors.

“Too often beginners were put off by the scope of philately and the impressive knowledge of the long experienced philatelist. Too often young people lost interest because of inadequate information or too high prices for stamps and other collector's items. These and similar matters will have to be rectified,” he said.

Perspektief op Pietersburg

Dit is vanjaar sewentig jaar sedert die Zuid-Afrikaansche Republiek sy laaste posseëls uitgegee het — daardie onaantreklike primitiewerige seëls op die heldergekleurde gompapier, met iemand se handtekening daaroor asof dit inkomsteseëls kan wees: die seëls algemeen bekend as die „Pietersburgs”.

Sewentig jaar gelede was dit oorlogtyd in Transvaal. Teen Oktober 1900 het die Britse magte groot dele van die Republiek beset en was die Witwatersrand, Pretoria en die spoorlyne na Kimberley, Bloemfontein, Natal en Lourenco Marques in Britse hande. Maar die Boereregering „te velde” was in Noord-oos-Transvaal, in die omgewing van Leydsdorp en Tautesberg, en die hele Noord-Transvaal, die Oos-Transvaalse Hoëveld, die Bosveld en dele van Wes-Transvaal was nog onder die republikeinse bewind.

Daar is getuienis dat ’n posdiens in Noord-Transvaal tot in April 1901 in stand gehou is, maar dit blyk dat die posseëls vroeg in 1901 aan die skaars kant begin raak het. Burgers op kommando kon briewe gratis versend, maar dorpenaars moes seëls gebruik, en so het dit gekom dat die „Pietersburgs” as ’n noodmaatreël tot stand gekom het.

Die verhaal van hierdie seëls is op onderhoudende wyse deur mnr. Nico Combrink in die S.A. Philatelist van April en Mei 1966 beskryf — dit is ’n geskiedenis wat ’n mens gerus kan nalees. Heelwat oor die seëls is geskryf deur Emil Tamsen, Curle en Basden, Daniel S. Franklin, en lede van die Transvaal-Studiekring. Dit is veral die tallose afwykinge en variëteite waaraan die drie drukke van die meeste waardes kenbaar is, wat ’n versameelaar jare lank kan besig hou!

Maar het dit nie nou, ná sewentig jaar, tyd geword dat ons hierdie seëluitgif in die regte perspektief stel nie?

Spesifiek gaan dit om Stanley Gibbons se klassifikasie van hierdie seëls as ’n „unofficial issue”, op grond waarvan die opgaaf van „Pietersburgs” agter aan die Transvaal-seksie in die Gibbons-katalogus gelas word.

Dit bring mee dat talle versamelaars hierdie seëls negeer en nie by hul Transvaal-versamelings insluit nie. Gibbons spog self dat sy klassifikasies wêreldwye erkenning geniet.

’n Mens kan jousef wel afvra op grond waarvan Gibbons die seëls ’n nie-amptelike uitgif noem.

Die feite, sowel as deskundige mening, het dit dat die uitgif ’n amptelike, egte posseëluitgif van die Transvaalse republiek was. Eerstens die feite:

1. Die uitgif is gemagtig deur F. W. Reitz, die Staatssekretaris, wat die Boereregering se hoof-uitvoerende amptenaar was. Sy brief van magtiging is in die Curle-versameling in die Africanamuseum.
2. Die uitgif is voorafgegaan deur ’n opname, deur die poskantoor, oor die behoefte aan posseëls.
3. Die drukkery van De Zoutpansberg Wachter is opgekommandeer om as staatsdrukkery te dien.
4. Toesig oor die druk van die seëls is uitgeoefen deur I. T. de V. Smit, die regeringskontroleur.
5. Proewe van die seëls is gesertifiseer deur landdros J. Heystek van Pietersburg.
6. Smit moes, juis om vervalsing te voorkom, elke seël met sy voorletters parafeer (sy proefhandtekening soos voorgelê aan Reitz is ook in die Curle-versameling).
7. Die seëls is deur die poskantoor verkoop, en daar bestaan voorbeelde op koevert wat inderdaad posdiens gedoen het.
8. Daar het ’n werklike behoefte aan die seëls bestaan, en daar is nie oorbodige waardes uitgegee nie.

Die gesaghebbende opinie van Curle en Basden in hul boek „Transvaal Postage Stamps” oor die amptelike van die miskende „Pietersburgs” is treffend gestel, maar ek wil eerder aanhaal wat mnr. H. R. Holmes drie jaar gelede in sy voorsittersrede voor die Transvaal-Studiekring gesê het:

„Ek is bly dat die laaste uitgif van die ou Boererepubliek — die sogenaamde seëls van Pietersburg — so lank versmaai, nou deur Transvaal-versamelaars bestudeer word.”

Mnr. Holmes is heeltemal reg. En dit is tyd dat versamelaars die seëls as sodanig erken en by hul toepaslike versamelings insluit. Ons sien dat die Yvert & Tellier-katalogus die seëls as ’n oorlogtydse uitgif van die Boere lys, nes hy die VRI-oordrukke op ZAR ’n oorloguitgif van die Engelse noem.

Dus, ons doen aan die hand dat Stanley Gibbons sy ordening wysig en afstand doen van die naam „Pietersburgs”.

Gebruikte

Daar is nog 'n aspek oor die seëls wat ons gerus kan noem. 'n Ruk gelede is 'n gebruikte eksemplaar van een van die waardes in 'n veilingskatalogus beskryf as „besonder skaars — Gibbons toon nie 'n prys vir gebruikte nie!” 'n Mens wonder teen hoeveel die seël verkoop is.

Die rede waarom daar nie 'n waarde-aanduiding vir gebruikte eksemplare is nie, is eenvoudig omdat die meeste „gebruikte” eksemplare oor die toonbank afgestempel is, op versoek, en gevolglik geen posdiens gedoen het nie. So bestaan daar vanda gnog hele veldele, netjies afgestempel, met volle gom.

Daar is een vel van 24 seëls bekend met die een helfte van 12 netjies gerojeer en die ander helfte vars „ongebruik”! Die meeste gebruiktes is gerojeer met die dubbelring-stempel van Pietersburg, en omdat dit uiteraard 'n onbegonne taak is om te onderskei tussen werklik gebruiktes en filatelisties afgestempeldes, dui Gibbons geen prys aan nie. Gebruikte eksemplare is vrywel nie so volop soos ongebruiktes nie, maar skaars is hulle beslis ook nie.

„Gebruikte” eksemplare is bekend met die stempels van Pietersburg, Nylstroom, Ermelo, Lovedale Park, Zandriviërspoort, Modderspruit, Houtboschdorp en die driehoek genummer 17 (Nylstroom). Curle & Basden noem dat die 1d op 20 Maart 1901 uitgereik is en die ander waardes op 3 April. Volgens die datumstempels bekend was van die seëls al op 7 Maart in gebruik en is die seëls ná die Britse besetting van Pietersburg (op 9 April 1901) nog by ander poskantore gebruik, waarvan Ermelo tot op 2 Mei 1901.

Die koeverte wat bestaan, is ook meestal filatelisties en is oor die algemeen hetsy geregistreerd, met die hele reeks seëls daarop, of gefrankeer met slegs die 1d-seël en geadresseer na Nylstroom. Hoeveel koeverte daar bestaan, val maar te raai. 'n Medewerker in 'n onlangse uitgawe van The Anglo-Boer War Philatelist sê hy glo nie daar is een nie. Ons dink daar is darem seker dertig.

J.G.

The S.A. Material

Mr. Manfred Weinstein, R.D.P.S.A., will starting with our next issue summarise the displays of Southern African material at the RSA 10 International Stamp Exhibition.

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Jury Report

The jury wishes to express its appreciation of the arrangements made by the Organising Committee for the convenient examination of the competitive exhibits, and to tender its thanks for all the help so willingly given.

Further, the jury would also like to express its pleasure at seeing the notable exhibits contributed by the Royal Philatelic Society, London, and the other Royal Philatelic Societies of Sydney and Victoria (Australia), New Zealand and Rhodesia. The exhibit of Cape of Good Hope stamps from the Lichtenstein-Dale Collection, and the exhibits provided by the postal administrations of the Republic of South Africa, the United Kingdom, Israel, Malawi, Liechtenstein, Portugal and the Philippines were also most enjoyable.

The standard of the competitive exhibits was very high indeed, and this is reflected by the award of 21 gold medals and 32 silvergilt medals. All the awards were unanimously approved.

Two entries (frames 557—559, 560—562) in the Thematic section were transferred to a different section, as they were not considered to be true Thematic collections.

The collections of reprints, etc., shown in frame 949—952 were not judged as there was no appropriate class for this material.

H. R. HOLMES
Chairman.

(The two thematic collections referred to were "War and Philately", while that in frames 949—952 was entitled "Reprints of Classic Stamps". — Ed.)

The Major Awards

Large Gold Medal & National Grand Prix
H. E. Levitt (U.S.A.) — Cape of Good Hope

Large Gold Medal & International Grand Prix "Helvetia" (Switzerland) — Switzerland

Large Gold Medal & Special Prize for best collection shown by a South African Citizen Louis Abrams (R.S.A.) — South West Africa

Large Gold Medal & Special Prize
Maj. H. M. Criddle (U.K.) — Transvaal

Large Gold Medal & Special Prize
A. J. Hubbard (U.K.) — Newfoundland

Large Gold Medal & Special Prize
J. O. Griffiths (U.K.) — Great Britain

Large Gold Medal & Special Prize
U. Ivarsson (Sweden) — Sweden

Large Gold Medal & Special Prize
E. Berms (Germany) — Sicily

Gold Medals

A. Leslie Leon (R.S.A.) — Natal
M. J. Rall, M.P. (R.S.A.) — South Africa

I. E. Wunsch (R.S.A.) — South Africa
(With Special Prize)

G. J. Elliott (New Zealand) — New Zealand

A. van der Auwera (Belgium) — Belgium
H. Wurr (Germany) — German Colonies
Dr. K. Pennycuik (U.K.) — East Africa

T. Light (U.S.A.) — Afghanistan
J. H. E. Gilbert (U.K.) — Egypt (With Special Prize)

Mrs. Hilda Jeidel (R.S.A.) — Holy Land and Israel (With Special Prize)

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Silver-Gilt Medals

I. R. Goldblatt (R.S.A.) — Cape of Good Hope (With Special Prize)
E. Berms (Germany) — Cape of Good Hope
R. E. Hunt (R.S.A.) — Cape of Good Hope
M. E. Legnazzi (Switzerland) — Natal
G. D. Buckley (U.K.) — Orange Free State (With Felicitations)
P. C. Pearson (U.K.) — Cape of Good Hope
S. P. Naylor (R.S.A.) — South Africa
H. J. Schlieben (R.S.A.) — German S.-W. Africa (With Felicitations)
G. Braus (Germany) — Danzig
H. J. Stromberg (U.S.A.) — Estonia
G. Harden (France) — France (With Felicitations)
R. Gummesson (Sweden) — Finland
R. E. Hunt (R.S.A.) — Modena
Mrs. Hilda Jeidel (R.S.A.) — Monaco
G. South (U.K.) — Finland
J. Michelson (R.S.A.) — Latvia
A. S. Odegaard (Norway) — Norway
B. A. Hennig (U.S.A.) — German East Africa (With Felicitations)
H. V. Farmer (U.K.) — Seychelles
Sen. J. R. Strong (Rhodesia) — Rhodesia (With Special Prize)
C. McCaig (U.K.) — Sierra Leone
L. du P. Chiappini (R.S.A.) — Nigeria
J. R. Whitfield (U.K.) — Gold Coast
C. McCaig (U.K.) — Gold Coast (With Felicitations)
Dr. H. Gottschalk (R.S.A.) — Sudan
B. Rietz (Sweden) — Hong Kong
I. A. Miller (R.S.A.) — Israel

THEMATICS

Silver-Gilt Medals

M. Guggenheim (Switzerland) — Story of Stamp Collecting (With A.T.A. Gold Medal)
G. K. Leverington (U.K.) — Philatelic Events (With A.T.A. Silver Medal)

LITERATURE

Gold Medal

Nederland Plaats II, IV, V

Silver-Gilt Medals

Essays and proofs of British North America (With Felicitations)
Michel — Germany 1971, Specialised Germany 1971, Europe
Stanley Gibbons — Great Britain Specialised, Vols. 1—3.

First Gibbons Banknote Sale

Stanley Gibbons Auctions Ltd. will be holding what is believed to be the first major public auction of banknotes and coins ever staged in Great Britain, on Tuesday, October 5th 1971.

Letter to the Editor



An Enquiry

Dear Sir,

I recently acquired an interesting Post Card, posted at Cannes, bearing a cachet, apparently from a French Hospital run by South Africa in the 1914—18 war. I cannot find any reference to this in my own library and wonder if any additional information is known or if any readers have seen this cachet?

I am enclosing a photostat of the P.C. which bears the writer's address as Ambulance Sud Africaine, Cannes, France.

Yours faithfully,

W. A. Page, F.R.P.S.L.

Philatelic Badge

The philatelic emblem, pictured in our last issue, has made its appearance as a lapel badge, in gold on green.

The first badge was presented to Mr. Sam Kaganson, President of Federation, by Mr. Rive, the Postmaster General, when opening the Congress in Cape Town. Copies were later made available to Congress delegates.

All holders of deposit accounts with the Philatelic Services will receive examples of the badge, of which 1 000 were made.

R. S. A.

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An Analysis of the Watermark Variety in the Second Phosphor Issue of the Republican 2½c Stamps, Printed from Cylinders 17-8

by R. B. Cronwright

An introduction of the events leading up to the watermark variety is given first, after which my involvement is mentioned and finally a list of unexplained factors are tabulated and assistance requested.

On July 24th, 1970, the second phosphor lined issue of the Republican 2½c definitive stamp from Cylinder 17—8 was delivered by the Government Printing Works and aroused no undue interest, the only changes being a new exterior cylinder 8 instead of 23 and the use of Harrison instead of Swiss paper, the watermark remaining the same, is tête-bêche RSA facing right and left.

The first phosphor issue of the 2½c definitive stamp had been delivered on the 12th January 1970 and the 636 000 sheets printed then were expected, with the assistance of the 551 000 sheets of the Water Commemoratives 2½c stamps, to last to the end of August 1970, when the 2½c Bible Commemorative stamps were due. Apparently the demand was heavier than anticipated and it became necessary to print a small supply of 2½c definitives before the end of August.

As the exterior cylinder No. 23 had reached the end of its life, it became necessary to prepare a new exterior cylinder at short notice and, according to the official records, the old Negative and a new Positive were used to produce Cylinder 8, the replacement unit. Incidentally the interior cylinder No. 17 had also become the worse for wear and a new interior cylinder had been prepared but was not a success, so the old interior cylinder 17 was again used with Cylinder 8 for the printing of the second phosphor issue. (Later cylinder 12 replaced cylinder 17 in the third issue.)

An examination of the second issue showed that several exterior cylinder varieties were common to cylinders 23 and 8, some of the more obvious ones being the following:-

Panes A and C, stamp 2/19 — lilac dot at L side of R.H. window.

Panes B and D, stamp 5/1 — 2 dots near top of L.H. wall.

Panes B and D, stamp 5/2 — dot at L side of R.H. window (top).

According to official sources, the first sheets printed were despatched to the Orange Free State to overcome the critical shortage of 2½c

stamps there, also the Philatelic Bureau received their quota in due course (see November 1970 issue of the South African Philatelist) and used them to supply mail and counter orders and standing orders. Matters proceeded normally for about a fortnight, when a collector in the Cape Province reported to the Bureau that his set of 2½c cylinder blocks were a mixed lot, the "D" pane having a RSA pointing left watermark and the A, B & C panes having RSA tête-bêche watermarks, and could he have a set with each watermark etc.

Remnants

A hurried check at the Bureau showed that some of the D pane remnants were the only specimens left over from two packets with this incorrect watermark and unfortunately all the cylinder blocks had been cut out and sold. An inquiry by the Bureau received the explanation from the printers that inadvertently the last reel of Harrison paper with RSA watermark, pointing left, had been included in the allocation of paper for printing these 2½c stamps.

This explanation however left a lot unanswered, as the following record shows.

I had posted my mail order on the 24th July for a set of 2½c cylinder blocks and on my return from leave found that they had been despatched from the Bureau on the 27th July; unfortunately I did not check up on them on my return, as I had studied the issue from material bought elsewhere. On the 11th September, however, during a telephonic inquiry to the Bureau, I learnt of this watermark variety and found that my D cylinder block, serial number 649 849, received from the Bureau, was on the incorrect watermark paper.

Although hampered by the 2½c "Sower" commemorative stamps then being sold at all Post Offices, I was fortunate in finding a batch of the "C" panes, cylinders 17—8, Serial Nos. running non-consecutively from 648,676 to 648,058, with the RSA pointing left watermark.

Purchasing all these sheets and contacting other collectors, I discovered that the matter was not as simple as I thought.

Several collectors on the Reef had the "D" cylinder blocks with incorrect watermark from the Bureau, with serial numbers running from

758,171; 758,166; 758,165 and one lucky collector at the coast had 758,304; 758,174; 758,068; while at the same time other collectors on the Reef were finding several sheets of the "D" pane with incorrect watermark and at the West Rand, with serial numbers 650,079; 649,623; 648,156; 648,147; etc.

A little light was thrown on the matter when the S.A. Stamp Study Circle meeting in October was informed that the Publicity Officer had obtained the following information from the Government Printing Works: "From one reel of (Harrison) upright watermark paper, sheet Nos. 762,575 to 757,971 were issued, the rest were on T.B. paper," (4604 full sheets printed). The story is given in the November, 1970 issue of the S.A. Philatelist where it is stated that 3 575 good sheets of four panes were obtained from the 4 604 printed, giving a total of 14 300 panes; of these only 100 cylinder blocks of the "D" pane were saved, these being in the Bureau's quota.

Several Sheets

At this same meeting, the members were told that a batch of printings from Cylinders 17—8 were issued on tête-bêche watermark paper with the same range of serial numbers as the 650,079 to 648,058 set mentioned above which had RSA pointing left watermark. I understand one collector has found several sheets with T.B. watermark having the same serial numbers as given in the range mentioned above.

The whole matter can be likened to a jig saw puzzle in which more pieces are missing than have been correctly placed; any collector possessing a missing piece would assist materially by publishing his information; as it is over 6 months since these stamps were issued it is unlikely that further material will be found in the Post Offices.

The following information would be useful:

- (a) Serial Nos above 762,575 to show whether the upright watermark reel was the first used or not; should have tête-bêche watermark.
- (b) Serial numbers just above 650,079 or just below 648,058 with wrong watermark to show the size of the printing of the lower range; according to the figures submitted here the size of the known range is 2021 sheets, say half a reel, which could mean a joined strip of incorrect paper in a reel of tête-bêche watermark paper from Harrison.
- (c) Serial numbers in the range 650,079 to 648,058 with tête-bêche watermark paper

to see how far the numbers are duplicated and why?

There are other factors that do not fit into the picture, such as the alleged size of the printing from Cylinders 17—8. If the highest serial number is 762,575, and the known lowest is 642,693 (given at the October Study Circle Meeting), then roughly 120 000 full sheets were printed or 480 000 panes. The Publicity Officer's notes mention 219 100 panes printed by the 30th September. This number is confirmed in the November 1970 issue of the South African Philatelist but, I am afraid, must be taken with reserve.

A second factor difficult to understand is the missing A & B panes in both range of numbers and any report of an A or B Cylinder block with these serial numbers would reassure collectors that they were issued.

From Zululand

In addition to information from mint specimens, additional information could be obtained from cancelled specimens and in that regard I was fortunate in obtaining some "used" Registered Envelopes from Northern Zululand, bearing strips of 3—2½c Groot Constantia stamps, dated August 1970. On removal from the envelope, the RSA watermark could be positively determined as pointing left. The earliest date is 6-VIII-70 from Dundee, and others cancelled in August were from Newcastle, Dannhauser, Vantsdrif, N'Kande, Bloedrivier, Dick's Post and other Zulu named post offices; thus showing that Natal must have received a batch of these printings. Unfortunately I can not pick out any flaws, so do not know what panes were supplied.

By supplying the Orange Free State and Northern Zululand with this watermark variety of stamps, one can say that the Post Office officials have hidden their light under a bushel, or is it two bushels.

As things stand at present, I think it is safe to say that the history of this variety is one of the most obscure in the Republican issues, and we must look forward to more details being supplied by collectors, before we can definitely explain all the factors.

Addendum

Since writing the above article, I have made a further examination of my cancelled specimens from Natal and have found the following:

1. At the end of a strip of these stamps, with the incorrect watermark and cancelled at Newcastle on the 18th August,

- 1970, the flaw peculiar to stamp 1/20 on the "B" pane is present; i.e. a white mark above IE of REPUBLIEK.
2. Stamps, with the incorrect watermark, cancelled at Dundee on the 6th August, 1970, can be positioned, according to an

obvious flaw, on panes "A" or "C". By the absence or presence of certain fly specks these stamps can be allocated to the "A" pane at 3/17, 3/18, and 3/19. Thus without the aid of cylinder blocks it can be stated that the "A" and "B" panes were issued, to Natal at least.

Strong Trade Contingent

A contingent representing no less than 24 stamp and album dealers and philatelic auctioneers from the U.K. attended the RSA 10 Stamp Exhibition, while one American dealer and two Cape Town firms were represented.

At a conservative estimate of a total valuation of R1 million the dealers' stock in itself was something to view! Items such as seldom seen in South Africa were on display at the dealers' stands in a section of the exhibition hall.

For the benefit of our readers, we list the firms which took part.

Argyll Stamp Co. Ltd., of London, specialising in stamps on cover and postal history from practically all countries. Strong in artists drawings, die proofs, colour trials, specimen stamps, etc. Represented by Mr. W. R. Hart, director, accompanied by Mrs. Hart, also a director.

Arlington Supplies Ltd., of London, noted for its "Hot News" covers and "event" covers from all countries. Represented by Mr. Henry Murray, managing partner.

M. H. Bale, of Ilfracombe, who deals exclusively in Palestine and Israel and all aspects of Holy Land philately. Represented by Mr. Michael Bale, accompanied by Mrs. Bale.

L. Baresch, of London. Specialists in early issues of the world, with particular emphasis on Europe and Switzerland. Represented by Mr. Werner Gattiker, general manager.

R. Bodily, of London, who handles specialist material of all countries, including proofs, specimens, covers and rare items. Strong in African Commonwealth, West Indies, Malaya and foreign countries outside Europe. Represented by Mr. Ritchie Bodily, managing director, accompanied by Mrs. Bodily.

L. Constantindes, of London. Dealing in Western Europe, with particular strength in Germany and Greece, both old and modern. Represented by Mr. Constantindes.

F. W. Collins, of Winchester, specialising in Cape of Good Hope and in fine and rare

British Commonwealth issues before 1935. Represented by Cmdr F. W. Collins.

E. Etkin Ltd., of London. Strong in stamps and postal history of the whole world, especially the older issues, but all periods are catered for. Represented by Mr. Eric Etkin, managing director.

Clive Feigenbaum Ltd., of London. All types of thematics, also Middle East and Israel. Represented by Mr. D. Watts, director.

France and Middle East Stamp Co. Ltd., of London. Dealing in the stamps of Europe, including colonies and ex-colonies, especially France, Germany, Great Britain, Turkey, Arab Countries and Palestine. Represented by Mr. Maurice Elias, managing director.

William Frazer Ltd., of London, specialising in the stamps of the British Empire, including proofs, blocks and rare items. Strong in African colonials. Represented by Mr. Frazer, accompanied by Mrs. Frazer.

Proud Bailey Co. Ltd., of Brighton, the postal history specialists. Represented by Mr. Robin Taylor, auctioneer of the group's auction house, London and Brighton Stamp Auctions. In association with G. F. Rapkin Ltd., the album manufacturers, represented by Mr. Donald Miles, manager.

Rembrandt Philatelics, of Botley. Producers of commemorative covers, and philatelic agent to the Cunard Company. Represented by Mr. Philip Croucher, partner.

Robson Lowe International, of London, the internationally linked stamp auctioneers, publishers and dealers in classic rarities. Represented by Mr. Robson Lowe, governing director, Mr. R. Belton, director, and Mrs. J. Norman, secretary.

Royale Stamp Co., of London, specialist dealers in the stamps of Great Britain and strong in Commonwealth (G VI and QE II). Represented by Mr. Peter Bailey, manager.

Rushstamps Ltd., of Southampton, dealing principally in Great Britain, including major errors and varieties, and Channel Islands. Represented by Mr. Roger Aspey, director.

C. E. Sherwood, of Sale, Cheshire. The

South Africa specialist, represented by Mr. Eric Sherwood, a veteran member of the Philatelic Traders Society, accompanied by Mrs. Sherwood.

Southern Stamp Services Ltd., of London, specialists in Japan, Hungary and the early issues of most European countries. Represented by Major L. T. Tomkins and Mr. Neil Pritchard, both managers.

Stanley Gibbons Ltd., of London. Auctioneers and dealers in albums and accessories, new issues of the world and classic stamps (several hundred thousands of rands' worth of stamps were at hand). Represented by Mr. John Farthing, associate director, and Mr. Richard Ashton.

M. Uehlinger, of Iver, dealing in world classics and specialist items, with Switzerland to date. Represented by Mr. Max Uehlinger, and a relative, Mrs. G. Hunziker of Switzerland.

Urch Harris & Co. Ltd., of Bristol, specialists in British and Commonwealth rarities and varieties of all periods. Represented by Mr. R. Cheshire, director, and Mr. M. Hale, manager of the London branch.

Western Auctions Ltd., of Cardiff, the largest provincial stamp auctioneer in Britain. Represented by Mr. P. A. Wilde, managing director.

From New York came Mr. E. Mosden, who represented the Philippine Government. Mr. Mosden, who was accompanied by Mrs. Mosden, is the publisher of the Mosden catalogue of Israel and Holy Land philately.

The one local dealer at the exhibition was Globe Stamps, retailers for the stamps of Southern Africa and the British Commonwealth. Represented by Mr. Roy Turton, manager.

The other was The Philatelic Salon, including Ace Covers, the largest cover dealers in South Africa. Represented by Mr. David Shaw, manager, Mr. H. J. Piepers and Mrs. K. Kapp.

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SOCIETY NEWS

BELLVILLE PHILATELIC SOCIETY

April. The President presided over a well attended meeting at which Mr. Beundeman gave his monthly talk and thereafter Mr. Bob Goldblatt announced the winners in the RSA10 Junior Competition, and congratulated the members of our Society who had participated. Those who won prizes were:

Age Group 13-15—1st: Peter Flentov.
3rd: Philip Levine.

Age Group 16-18—1st: Darroll Goldblatt.

Consolation Prize: Ryk van Schoor, Ian Maclean and Ian Carter.

After tea Mr. Blum presented his "Rogues' Gallery" — an exhibit of forgeries, repairs and fakes. The display, coupled with Mr. Blum's knowledgeable and witty commentary, made a most unusual and entertaining feature. Mr. Blum also exhibited German States.

Bob Goldblatt then took the helm as Auctioneer and proceeded to knock down 15 lots which realised R7.00 for club funds.

The evening concluded with the Quiz and Sales and Exchange.

AFRIKAANSE PHILATELISTIESE VERENIGING VAN PRETORIA

April. Een uitstalling vanaand is behartig deur mej. M. Esterhuisen met meterstempels en stempels met leuses. Dit is 'n versamelgebied waarvoor daar veel te min belangstelling bestaan. Net vir Suid-Afrika kan hiervan reeds 'n besonder interessante versameling opgebou word. Die versameling het gevolglik baie aandag geniet, ook om die manier waarop dit opgestel was, nl. net die stempels en nie volledige briefstukke nie. Dit lyk asof mej. Esterhuisen baanbrekerswerk verrig op hierdie gebied en ons hoop dat daar meer aandag deur ander versamelers aan gegee sal word.

Die tweede versameling was Bechuanaland/Botswana van mnr. Constanje. Dis 'n kompleete en uiters waardevolle versameling, wat opmerklik netjies en mooi opgestel is. Elke seël verskyn in 'n swart raampie. Kleurryk, ryk en volledig: 'n pragtige versameling om uit te stall!

Mei. Vanaand het ons twee versamelings bewonder: 'n versameling gefosforiseerde seëls van die R.S.A., en seëls van Duitsland van 1933-1945 van dr. L. Schmidt. Mnr. Pretorius het verduidelik wat met gefosforiseerde seëls bedoel word en wat die doel daarvan is. Dit is 'n uitgebreide versameling wat van silinder-blokke, verskille in kleur, papier en watermerk. Dis opmerklik hoeveel seëls en drukke alweer verskyn het vanaf die Transvaalse posseëlherdenking seëls, wat die eerste seël (2½c) was wat in hierdie uitvoering verskyn het. Die versameling van dr. L. Schmidt, seëls van Duitsland van 1933-1945, is 'n versameling seëls van 'n land, wat eintlik, soos hy self sê, tematies opgestel is. Dr. Schmidt het hom die moeite getroos om van elke seël na te gaan wat die agtergrondsgeskiedenis is, wat dit voorstel en wat die doel van die seël is. Hierdie gegewens het hy kort-

liks hygeskryf. Ondanks die feit dat die teks gevolglik uitgebreider is as wat mens gewoonlik aantref, is die geheel tog dusdanig opgestel dat die seëls nie weggedruk word nie. Hier is 'n meesterstuk verrig op die gebied van ewewig tussen seëls en teks.

ORANGE FREE STATE STUDY CIRCLE

At the recent AGM, A. R. Allison was elected President while G. D. Buckley FRPSL (recipient of the RPSL Tapling Medal for 1969-70) and W. B. Marriott were re-elected Chairman and Hon. Secretary. The first four definitive values were further examined at the subsequent Meeting, as also were the S'charges of 1890-91. The next Meeting will be held on 22 May in the Board Room of The Alliance Assurance Co. at 88 St. James' Street, London, SW1, at 2.30 p.m.

The OFS Handbook Vol. I is still available at £3.30 (post free). Annual Subscription £1.05. Hon. Secretary:— 46 Kingswood Gardens, Roundhay, Leeds 8, Yorks.

TRANSVAAL STUDY CIRCLE

H. R. Holmes FRPSL (Past President, RDP, was re-elected President at the recent Annual General Meeting. Also re-elected were W. R. Hart and Major H. M. Criddle, FRPSL, as Chairman and Hon. Secretary respectively. Mr. Holmes then gave a paper, supported with material, on the EEN PENNY on 4d of 1882 and the similar but larger handstamped surcharge. Major Criddle showed some 160 pages on 24 April. These included essays, proofs, colour trials and varieties throughout the 40 years from 1869. The next Meeting will be held in the Board Room of BPA at 446 Strand, London, W02, at 2.30 p.m. on 10 July.

Annual Subscription £1.00. Hon. Secretary:— 23 Longcroft Avenue, Banstead, Surrey.

THEMATIC STAMP CLUB

April. This was an All Members' Evening and there was a very varied showing by the following: Dr. H. R. Ackermann — "British Booklets Great Britain, pictorial, Queen Elizabeth II"; Dr. P. L. Vautier — "Recent F.D.C.s and first flights" — some interesting thematic material: Mr. R. Fortune — "F.D.C.s"; Mrs. V. R. Coe — "Pitcairn", a fine straightforward showing of this island; Capt. M. F. Stern — "Pirates", being that section out of his "Ships on Stamps", made possible by issues during the last few years.

PRETORIA PHILATELIC SOCIETY

March. A well attended meeting enjoyed the display staged by Mr. Olesen of his study of the bi-coloured stamps (1875-95) of Denmark and supported by a number of slides illustrating the different varieties and printings.

April 5th. Comd. C. E. D. Enoch entertained the meeting with an extensive display of his No. 1 Collection, featuring the first stamp of every country, a highly specialised study.

PHILATELIC SOCIETY OF NATAL

7th April. The Chairman opened the meeting with a cordial welcome to the 26 members and six visitors who signed the register. Apologies were received from Mrs. Pat Foss, Messrs. Tunley, Walker, Van Rooyen, Leak, Hill, Burger, Braun and G. de Goede and the Rev. Brash.

The business side of the meeting was soon disposed of, there being little of importance to discuss.

WINDE CUP

There were two entries for this competition. Our congratulations go to Mr. F. Taschl, who was the winner with his collection of "Austria". Mrs. Salinger very kindly consented to present the trophy.

21st April. The meeting was "Swop Night" at which a large attendance, estimated at 60, was present, exhibits were viewed and visitors to Natal were welcomed. The night closed with the usual auction.

PRETORIA RAILWAY PHILATELIC SOCIETY

April. After concluding certain matters of routine business, the meeting was handed over to our visitors from Germiston who staged a series of most interesting exhibits, namely:

Jack Hagger was the first to table his Unions used abroad, these included Union stamps used in Basutoland, Swaziland, Tristan da Cunha and Egypt. Mr. Burkehead followed tabling a collection of the Siege of Mafeking, 22 pages of these fascinating stamps, forgeries and including a few Baden-Powells. Next Mr. Rudman showed us his collection of Rhodesia since U.D.I. This consisted of genuine stamps together with a fine study of the Binda and "Cape Town" forgeries, clearly showing how to distinguish them. This was followed by a display of the normal post independent issues.

Mr. Mephius then showed us a display of Postfaerge (Parcel post overprints). This display showed a fine study of these difficult and often very scarce overprints issued for use as parcel post stamps on the ferry services. These stamps are very seldom seen and were a refreshing change from the more usual displays. Finally Mrs. de Kock showed a collection of Covers where stamps must have an affinity to the postmark, this collection was made as a guide to interest children in stamp collecting.

A pleasant evening session concluded with the usual draw and refreshments.

EAST LONDON PHILATELIC SOCIETY

April. At a not very well attended meeting for various reasons, there were four entries for the Wehle Cup: Mrs. Hutchinson (Rhodesia); Mrs. Nicholas (West Germany); Mr. J. Morris (Inter-provincials) and Mr. Knibbs (Tristan da Cunha). Mr. Hellman and Dr. Drusinsky, who did the judging, really had an extremely difficult task before deciding to award the Cup to Mr. Knibbs. What a wonderful improvement has taken place in the type of entry being received compared to a

year or two ago, and all the entrants are to be congratulated on a wonderful effort.

THE MASHONALAND PHILATELIC SOCIETY

April. 24 Members and 17 Visitors attended the meeting. A very interesting discussion took place on the production and presentation of current Rhodesian stamps. Conclusions reached were that:

- (a) There should be a single subject on definitives, e.g. Cecil Rhodes or Zimbabwe Bird.
- (b) Commemoratives to have a consistent theme and a consistent format, i.e. all photographs or all artist design.
- (c) Colours should not be garish, i.e. the red sail 10c. is out of context in the present definitive issue. On the other hand the Railways set and Selous issue were considered to be pleasant colours.

RE-PRINTS RHODESIAN DEFINITIVES:

The following Mardon reprints of the current definitive (decimal) issue of postage stamps will be placed on sale at the Philatelic Bureau on Monday, 10th May, 1971. These re-printed postage stamps are not considered a new release. First Day Covers are therefore not available and supplies of stamps will only be made to Post Offices when existing stocks are exhausted.

- 2c. Plates 1A and 1B. No change in design, selvage or colour but the sheet numbers are preceded by the letters P.T.C.
- 2½c. Plates 1A and 1B. No change in design or selvage, but a whiter paper and clear gum has been used and the colours are paler than the previous printing. The sheet numbers are preceded by the letters P.T.C.

PHILATELIC SOCIETY OF JOHANNESBURG

At the first meeting in April we were honoured with the presence of two senior Post Office Officials, Messrs. Steyn and Reynders. Mr. Steyn delivered a very interesting and informative address. He told us that there was a great deal of re-organising going on within the Postal Administration and that a Postal Services Bureau had been formed, with the emphasis on "Services", as it had been realized that Philatelists must be catered for. He elaborated on the channels a new stamp design and the colours for it have to go through before they are finally approved. He stated that it was a lengthy and sometimes frustrating process but that everything was being done to obtain more pleasing designs more frequently, but with no intention of flooding the market with new issues. Mr. Steyn's address was very well received by all present and after he had answered a number of questions from the floor, Mrs. Janet Wedderburn-Maxwell made a pleasing vote of thanks to him.

After the tea interval the film "Picture to Post" was shown. It was a very interesting colour film showing the vast amount of work and study that goes into making a stamp. A very entertaining and enjoyable evening.

At the second meeting Mr. Brouard showed his collection of Mauritius, his birthplace. He then

showed us colour slides taken on the island on a recent holiday with a running commentary in his attractive French accent. Another very good evening.

SOCIETY OF ISRAEL PHILATELY

April. A relatively well attended meeting at which 5 members displayed the following:—

B. GLASSMAN — "ISRAEL OF THE SEVENTIES". A short paper was read in connection with this exhibit.

A. J. BAKKER — "HELP FOR THE REFUGEES".

L. BUCHEN — "TURKISH, AUSTRIAN AND FRENCH POST OFFICES IN THE HOLY LAND".

I. A. MILLER — "FIRST AND SPECIAL FLIGHTS".

W. MANN — "EARLY ISRAELI STAMPS".

THE O.F.S. PHILATELIC SOCIETY

April. It is indeed gratifying to report continued increases in attendance this year. Twenty-five members, visitors and Juniors attended this meeting. Among the visitors present were five boarders from St. Andrew's School, brought along by Mr. Caruthers.

A special welcome was extended to Mr. Schoeman who was attending his last meeting prior to his transfer to Pretoria.

New Issues were shown by:

Mr. R. Jones — United Nations and a souvenir cover commemorating the National Scout Adventure at Cedarberg in December last.

Mr. Weil — Easter Stamps from Malawi and Botswana Important Crops.

Mr. Schoeman — Not new issues but panes of Free State stamps recently acquired.

The main item on the agenda was the Ronnie Jones Thematic competition. Entries were rather disappointing, as only three were received . . . *Mr. Marus* — Postal Services of France; *Mr. Jordens* — Russia — all issues of 1966; and *Mr. Lee* — Scouts on Stamps.

Judging was undertaken by Messrs. Meyburgh and Weil, who, after much deliberation, declared *Mr. Marus's* entry the winner.

Our thanks to Messrs. Meyburgh and Marus for providing non-competitive material for display. *Mr. Meyburgh's* "Stamp Curiosities" and *Mr. Marus's* "Errors on Stamps" are enjoyed by all whenever they are tabled.

A most enjoyable evening was rounded off with refreshments prepared by the ladies and provided by *Mr. and Mrs. Oxley* and *Mr. and Mrs. Marus*.

AFRIKAANSE FILATELISTE-VERENIGING

Mai. Die soeklig het gekom op die planne van die katalogusuitgewers vir die toekoms, en op allerlei mededeling soos die versamelvoorkeure van versamelaars in Duitsland. *Mnr. Wim Hartmann* het nuwe Rooi Kruis seëls gewys, en 'n EDK van 'n Swazilandse vlug waarop daar maar 25 koevertes was.

Die nuwe ledelys wat pas opgestel en gesirkuleer is, is al klaar verouderd want ses nuwe lede is verwelkom, terwyl nog soveel aansoekers al weer ontvang is.

SOUTH AFRICAN POSTMARK SOCIETY

May. The second Annual General Meeting was held on May 25th, during the Congress week, at the home of *Mr. and Mrs. D. Allison*, Rosebank, Cape. Reports on business matters were received and adopted. The financial statements showed a small but satisfactory credit balance.

The following office-bearers were elected: Chairman — *Dr. T. B. Berry*. Hon. Secretary — *Mr. J. Keet*. Hon. Treasurer and Exchange Superintendent — *Mr. W. S. Yelland*. Hon. Editor of the Newsletter, and Librarian — *Mr. D. Allison*. Delegate to Federation — *Mr. J. Keet*.

It was resolved that the newsletter, a bi-monthly publication of 16 pages, would in future be commercially printed.

Exhibits which led to interesting discussion were provided by *Mrs. J. Wannerton* (various postmarks), *Mr. C. F. Hegardt* (exhibition and commemorative covers) and *Dr. Berry* (unusual and unrecorded postmarks).

ANGLO-BOER WAR PHILATELIC SOCIETY

May. The Society's first-ever meeting in South Africa was held in Cape Town on May 28th, and was attended by 18 members and six visitors. *Mr. C. E. Sherwood*, Chairman of the Society, was in the chair and at his request the discussion on the exhibits that members had brought along was led by *Mr. Bill Hart*, Hon. Treasurer of the Society.

Most interesting and unusual items were viewed by the members, and a stimulating discussion on a wide range of points took place.

Mr. J. M. Weinstein, RDPSA, on behalf of the Philatelic Federation of Southern Africa, presented *Mr. Sherwood* with a miniature of the *W. E. Lea Cup*, which was awarded to the Society for its two-part publication on the philately of the Boer and British Prisoner of War Camps in South Africa and abroad. (For customs reasons, the cup itself may not leave the Republic.)

Mr. J. Groenewald expressed the appreciation of the S.A. members for the good work done by the Society in its field, and said that he hoped South African members would in future contribute more to the Society's researches and writings. *Mr. Hart* replied that the greater interest in the war philately in South Africa itself was encouraging, and reported that five new members had joined during the RSA 10 International Stamp Exhibition.

It was proposed that the S.A. members should hold regular annual gatherings in future.

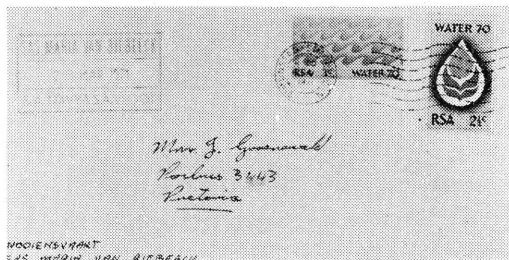
AEROPHILATELIC SOCIETY OF SOUTHERN AFRICA

May. A luncheon was held at the Grand Hotel, Cape Town, on 25th May 1971. The meeting was

addressed by Mr. M. Kaptein, representing the FISA, and was attended by about 20 members and two visitors. Mr. Kaptein's address is to be published in The S.A. Philatelist.

EXPERT COMMITTEE

The next meeting of the Expert Committee of the Philatelic Federation of Southern Africa will be held on Saturday, August 21st, 1971.



'n Koevert wat die eerste seereis uit Toulon, Frankryk, aan boord van Suid-Afrika se eerste Daphne-klas duikboot, die SAS Maria van Riebeeck, meegemaak het. Op die sigkant van die koevert is die skeepskasjet, met datum 25 Maart 1971, en die Simonstadse datumstempel van 18 Mei 1971. Volgens ons verneem is slegs 15 koeverte deur die duikboot vervoer, almal met Suid-Afrikaanse posseëls daarop. (We believe only 15 covers were carried in South Africa's first submarine mail.)

Guatemala Group

For the first time a South African has joined the International Society of Guatemala Collectors. He is Mr. Gunther Linzer of Yeoville, Johannesburg.

Mr. A. L. Hobbs, the U.K. area representative of the society, wrote that Mr. Linzer had sent him the March issue of The S.A. Philatelist, and "although I do not collect South Africa myself, I feel I must congratulate you and your staff on the first class magazine . . . I was particularly impressed by the scope covered".

In his letter Mr. Hobbs invites South African collectors interested in Guatemala to contact him. His address is 25, Gwydyr Road, Dolgarrog, Conway, Caernarvonshire, North Wales, U.K. His society publishes the journal "El Quetzal".

British P.O.

The British Post Office was very pleased about the keen interest in British stamps evident at the RSA 10 International Stamp Exhibition, Mr. George Codd, of the marketing division of the British P.O., told The S.A. Philatelist.

Mr. Codd said that business was brisk at the stand of the British Post Office, where British stamps could be bought at face value. It was encouraging that so many of the younger collectors had taken an interest in the issues of Great Britain.

Mr. Codd and Messrs. Harry Good and Colin Tovey, both of the philatelic counter at the London chief office, were in attendance.

At the exhibition, exhibits were provided by the postal services of Great Britain, Rhodesia, Liechtenstein, Malawi, Israel, the Philippines and Portugal.

Stamp Reproduction Rules Relaxed

Conditions governing the reproduction in colour of British and oversea postage stamps, have been relaxed by the Post Office.

Until now, reproductions have had to be both defaced (by a diagonal line or cancellation mark) and printed at least 50 per cent bigger or 25 per cent smaller than the original. In future, anybody reproducing stamps will be able to choose between either defacing or varying the size.

It will still be necessary to get the written permission of the Post Office before any stamp that is valid for postage — either in Britain or overseas — or a major part of its design is reproduced in this country. A memorandum setting out the new conditions in detail is available from Postal Headquarters.

Acknowledgement "Stamp Collecting"

R4450 FOR TWO PENNY STAMPS

Two Cape triangular stamps, printed locally in 1861, were sold for £1 250 and £1 350 (R2 150 and R2 322) respectively at an auction in London.

The prices were slightly disappointing as the stamps — an unused example of the penny vermilion and an example of the stamp printed in blue through error — had been expected to fetch a total of £3 000 (R5 160).

The stamp with the colour error fetched the higher price.

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SEELRUIL gevra. België posfris nuutjies vir selfde van RSA, SWA en Rhodesië. G. van den Bulcke, Huize „de Spore“, Meidreef nr. 6, 2548/Lint, België.

ANGLO-BOER WAR PHILATELIC SOCIETY, quarterly magazine with exchange packet in U.K. Annual subscription £1 sterling or 3 dollars. Secretary, J. H. Rathbone, "Always", Rudheath, Northwich, Cheshire, U.K.

WANTED: Rhodesian Postmarks, on or off cover (pre-1923). Offers to J. M. Weinstein, 479a Fehrsen Street, Brooklyn, Pretoria.

WANTED.—Accumulations, Collections. Office Lots on and off paper. Turn those old boxes of philatelic "junk" into cash, or exchange it with us for stamps, albums or accessories that you need. — **ROBEMARK PHILATELISTS (PTY.) LTD.**, 21 Joubert Street, Johannesburg. Box 11419.

COLLECTIONS WANTED for immediate cash settlement: Large or small, specialised or general. Top prices paid for popular sets and rare issues in fine condition.—**ELIEZER BLUM**, P.O. Box 1669, Cape Town. (Established in Cape Town since 1930).

TE KOOP GEVRA: Posmateriaal van die Vrystaate en Transvaalse Republieke gebruik ná 11 Oktober 1899. J. Groenewald, Posbus 3443, Pretoria.

ACCUMULATIONS, ODD LOTS of Southern Africa wanted. P. J. Nadon, 48, 8th Street, Parkhurst, Johannesburg. P.O. Box 10225. Telephone 42-3671.

WANTED: International Reply Coupons (all issues) of Africa South of the Equator. L. Buchen, P.O. Box 11520, Johannesburg.

COLLECTOR starting up a S.A. and S.W.A. collection from 1910 up to the Animal Series, requires material for study purposes. Also requires the Jubilee issue of the Handbook of South Africa. Write to: Advertiser, P.O. Box 348, Paarden Eiland, C.P., R.S.A.

FOR SALE: Union Handbook Catalogues, 1952 Ordinary and De Luxe Editions (Subscription No. 124), 1955 Volume 2 and 1960 Jubilee De Luxe Edition. Also bound volumes of S.A. Philatelist 1947-1962 and unbound for years 1963, 1966 and 1967. Offers to E. Schaiowitz, 4/2 Theodore Court, Toorak, Victoria 3142, Australia.

REQUIRE South Africa and British Empire, offer Germany, France and other European countries. Correspondence in English, French, German. H. W. Dahl, S-57100 (Sweden) Nässiö.

GERMAN SOUTH WEST AFRICA: Wanted early forerunners on cover or on piece, or any other items of interest. Top prices paid. L. ABRAMS, P.O. Box 7875, Johannesburg. Telephone: Office 22-1630; home 41-9251.

LATVIA (Lettland; Lettonie) out of the way items and bulk common stamps wanted.— J. Michelson, P.O. Box 9314, Johannesburg.

WANTED.—German Concentration Camp Covers and Ghetto Post, Post-war Locals, Propaganda, Forgeries, Military Covers, etc., etc. C. A. Whysall, P.O. Box 676, Durban. (68 West Street).

U.S.A. SPECIALIST requires singles, blocks, covers, cancellations. A. R. Kleiner, 23 Cadogan Gardens, London S.W. 3, England.

TRISTAN DA CUNHA.—Books — letters — clippings — envelopes — articles — prints — illustrations — reports; always wanted. J. Cole, 90 Ronson Drive, Rexdale, Ontario, Canada.

WANTED: Ryukyu Islands, all varieties in quantity; receive same quantity all different U.S.A. or Canada. Goldman, 615 King Street, Wilmington, Del. 19801, U.S.A.

THE SPRINGBOK, magazine of the South African Collectors' Society for Union and Republic collectors. Subscription R2 a year. Membership; Secretary, R. E. Mason, 137 Lichfield Court, Richmond, Surrey, England.

SWEDISH Military Philately wanted. Write first: S. J. Vermaak, Box 2272, Johannesburg.

IF STAMPS OF — Germany, Austria and other Western European countries are wanted, first try us.—**S.A. STAMP CENTRE** P.O. Box 6891, Johannesburg. Telephone 22-1391. (Want lists invited).

WANTED: S.A., S.W.A. and Boer War preferably postal history.—**C. E. SHERWOOD** (V), P.T.S., 105 Marford Crescent, Sale, Cheshire M33 4DN.

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S.A. Stamps To Be More Popular?

He hoped that the new stamp policy would enable South Africa to gain popularity amongst the current-issue collectors of the world, Mr. C. E. Sherwood, President of the South Africa Collectors' Society in the U.K., said in an interview with The S.A. Philatelist.

South Africa did not rate very high in world popularity, compared with the export demand for the stamps of the United States, Canada, Australia, New Zealand and Great Britain. Mr. Sherwood said this was largely due to the designs of the stamps, and to the length of time a definite set was in use, which was rather too long.

There was a certain harshness about the designs of South African stamps, and with the choice of colours they often looked less attractive than the stamps of other countries. This was a factor which influenced packet makers in selecting material for the stamp packets. As present there is a limited demand for kiloware of South Africa.

"I do hope the new policy will achieve much in improving the world-wide popularity of the stamps," he said. Experience had shown that the two-value commemorative set was not popular.

The issue of the same commemoratives for the Republic and South West Africa, with those of the territory inscribed "SWA", was, in the opinion of Mr. Sherwood, "stifling interest in South West Africa." He hoped that this position could be adjusted, for already

the interest in South West Africa was waning and a sure decrease in philatelic sales could be predicted.

Collectors have told him: "But what is the use now of collecting South West Africa at all?" Mr. Sherwood said he believed that South West Africa should issue its own commemoratives, commemorating its own events and such general events as commemorated by South Africa, but with its own designs.

Mr. Sherwood said there were serious collectors all over the world which took a special interest in South African stamps. This was especially the case in English-speaking countries. There were a number of outstanding Union collections in the U.K., where the 200 members of the S.A. Collectors' Society were active in a number of study fields, particularly the study of stamp printings.

Gold Replicas

Gold replicas of the RSA 10 commemorative stamps, 2c and 4c values, were presented to Mr. Marais Viljoen, Minister of Posts and Telegraphs, and Mr. Rive, Postmaster General, at the opening of the Exhibition and of Congress respectively.

Editorial

Think Small

After the RSA 10 International Stamp Exhibition a man approached us with a problem which deserves the attention of all. He was most interested, and wished to take up collecting, but he was put off by the cost. It was clear that stamps were frightfully expensive, so what chance did he have of ever forming a presentable collection?

We realised that his view was shared by many non-collectors and by many potential collectors. The image of stamp collecting, unfortunately, is that it is "frightfully expensive", and this impression deters new recruits to our ranks.

We pointed out a number of aspects to our friend. Firstly, that stamp collecting is a hobby. Each can practise it according to his own liking and enjoyment. The man who sails a dabchick on the Hartbeespoort Dam may derive more fun from his yachting than the owner of the luxury motor yacht on the Mediterranean.

Secondly, that collections are not built in a day. Also, that the scope of philately is virtually unlimited. And so on.

We introduced him to the challenges of thematics, the personal study required for plating inexpensive Ship Pennies, the wide open field of postmarks, and even postmark thematics. "Have you ever seen the postmark of Kafia, Botswana?" we said to him. Or, "How many elephants on stamps that can be collected for R10?"

A week later our friend called to say that he had found a philatelic pasture much to his liking, specialised yet inexpensive, and that he was joining a society.

There is a lesson in this for all of us. Are we not being too highbrow to new collectors? Can our readers, as the knowledgeable philatelists of our communities, imagine ourselves in the position of a beginner?

Let us do what we can to help and guide the "new" men and women who are waking up to the greatest of all hobbies.

THE EDITOR.

Letters to The Editor

Skukuza

Dear Sir,

Re: Article — S.A. Special Hand Cancellers Dating From 31st May, 1910 — January 1971 Issue.

Under section "Publicity" the date-stamp for Skukuza (Kruger National Park) is given as 1964. I have in my possession one dated 1954, so either it was re-issued in 1964 or it should read 1954, in which case I assume that all the National Park Cancellers should have the date 1954.

Yours faithfully,

STANLEY J. BARNES.

Radio Talks

Dear Sir,

You may remember that quite some time ago I approached you for permission to use material from the "S.A. Philatelist" for a script for early morning radio talks on stamp collecting.

These scripts have been accepted by the S.A.B.C. and will be broadcast on the English Programme (6.55 a.m.) some time in August.

In view of what you say in your latest editorial about young people taking up stamp collecting, I hope many of them will derive a benefit from these talks, but I wonder how many of them are awake and listening to that programme.

Again many thanks for letting me use material from the Journal.

Yours sincerely,

J. E. PORTMANN.

THANKS !

The S.A. Philatelist has received a donation of R10 from Mr. L. E. Roediger of Sandton.

Mr. E. Blum of Cape Town has also sent R10, while the Society of Israel Philately contributed R50. The Afrikaanse Filatelistevereniging (Johannesburg) has followed suit with a generous donation of R200.

SOUTH AFRICAN NOTES

by *Dr. H. J. Raubenheimer*

Surprise Findings in the RSA 10 Stamps

- (a) **2C ON REVERSED RSA WATER-MARKED PAPER.**
- (b) **4C ON REVERSED RSA WATER-MARKED PAPER.**
- (c) **5C ON ARMS WATERMARKED PAPER**

(a) A letter was received from Mr. E. S. Whitlock of Graaff-Reinet drawing attention to sheets of the 2c RSA 10 stamps found there with the RSA *tete-beche* watermark reversed. A corner piece enclosed confirmed the point. An enquiry at the Philatelic Services at Pretoria revealed that they had also been informed of this feature, but there were no sheets or cylinder blocks in stock. The deduction was that, if that office had ever had them, their cylinder blocks had been sent out on standing orders without the watermark being noticed, and further that the broken sheets were still about. A diligent search of sheets proved this to be correct, for sheets were found with the reversed watermark, but with the cylinder blocks removed. The news got around and they sold like hot cakes. It really was a sight to see the crowd at the counter.

With so little material to go by it is impossible to give final details of this interesting event, or to give figures of the number of sheets issued. The Government Printing Works could not help as it, too, had not noticed the watermark. This, however, can be said. There were at least two printings distinguished by the colours of the stamps; the first one with the skies light, almost white, and the other with the skies a deeper pink. The reversed watermark is seen on the former, although it has been reported that the normal watermark has also appeared with this colour. The stamps themselves of the two printings can readily be distinguished by their colours in general; the first is much more yellow than the second. The sheet numbers — seen here on the A panes opposite rows 8 and 9 — range from about 88,400 to 94,500.

This reversed watermark harks back to 1963 when the “upright” RSA watermark, and

also on the Harrison paper, appeared on some sheets of the 1c, cylinders S33S13 and the 2½c Red Cross stamps. Whatever happened to cause this “reversal”, the effect is that of the gum being on the wrong side of the paper and the printing on the other, so the watermark appears normal when viewed from the gummed side but has a mirror image from the front.

(b) Spurred on by this discovery, the watermarks of the other RSA 10 stamps were examined and, sure enough, the same thing was discovered on the 4c value. The whole process, exactly like that of the 2c, was gone through again and back came the crowd. But this time by no means as many broken sheets were found and they soon went. It was quite a treat to see the joy of one collector who had received an A and a B cylinder block from his standing order. Here and there it was heard of others who had either an A or a B block. The sheet numbers on the few A panes seen ranged around 60 thousands.

(c) The third surprise came on the 22nd June when sheets of the 5c — Strydom Tower — appeared on the Old Arms watermarked paper. It was years since our postage stamps were printed on this paper and it was believed that there was no more of it left. It would appear that a reel of single width paper turned up and suitable for this single die printing. The paper may readily be distinguished from the other RSA paper. It is thinner and tears far more easily at the perforations — maybe this is helped by the phosphor bands — and most strikingly different under the ultra violet light. The colours of the stamps on the arms paper are duller than on the other paper and lastly the paper itself is not as white and shiny as that of the RSA paper.

The exact number of sheets issued is at present not known but it is pretty definite, however, that a little more than three thousand good sheets were delivered. The sheet numbers of those seen are in the 06 thousand.

While on the subject of the 5c RSA 10 stamp it could be mentioned that a few sheets with normal watermarks have appeared with-

out sheet numbers. It must not be assumed that the numbers were not printed, for further research has established that the distance between the digits and the bottom frame of the stamps varies from about 4 mm — the normal — to about 10 mm in different runs of the machine. The trimming of the margin may thus remove the entire sheet number.

with the previous issue's figures in parentheses: Stamp 27 x 21 mm (21 x 17 mm), phosphor 33 x 27 mm (29 x 25 mm).

The new postage rates for postcards are: Surface mail 3c, airmail 4c. The cards come in packets of twenty and cost 4c each.

New Pictorial Postcards

New pictorial postcards, with a new 3c stamp, appeared on the 17th May 1971. With the exception of the 3c, shrike, stamp in new blue which replaces the 1½c stamp, Afrikanerbul, in light blue of the previous issue of November 1969, the cards of the two issues are almost identical.

The printing details of the new issue are as follows: Cylinders: Blue Z25, Black Z17, Yellow Z9, Red Z40, Phosphor Z14. Printed on the Albertina machine on paper supplied by van der Berg, Holland. The 3c stamp is much larger than the 1½c stamp of the previous issue, and that applies to the phosphor bands, too. For the record here are the sizes,

New Aerogrammes

INLAND 4C ABROAD 9C

These two new aerogrammes appeared on the 17th May 1971 and differ markedly from the previous ones, mainly in their format. The new format of both values is a vertical rectangle roughly 144 mm x 320 mm with three gummed flaps at the top. There are two horizontal folds giving the folded aerogramme a size of roughly 144 x 100 mm.

The 4c aerogramme: The directions for use differ from those before because of the new format, but the air label and the stamp — 4c instead of 2½c but with the same Castle design — are very similar to each other. The printing details, given officially, are: New format, old wording; Machine, Chambon;

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Name

Address

Age: (if under 21).....

Cylinders: Gum 108, orange 111, green 57, phosphor 113. Paper colour: blue. Manufacturer: Sappi.

The 9c aerogramme: The two noteworthy features are the air label and the stamp. They both give the appearance of stickers or stamps stuck down, but are in fact printed with the other wordings. The air label, 35 x 24 mm, has a lemon coloured bar above and below a slate coloured centre. The 9c stamp is within white gutters with perforations; it shows a silhouette of Table Mountain in slate, an aeroplane and RSA 9c in slate, on a lemon background. The stamp measures about 33 x 23 mm. The paper is white but two of the three sectors of the front are printed pale blue, stippled, so that this colour shows when the aerogramme is folded and gummed closed. The official printing details are: Abroad 9c, new format, new design, new wording. Printed on both the Chambon and the Albertina machines, the cylinders being (Albertina in parentheses): Blue 107 (Z6), grey 109 (Z15), yellow 105 (Z32), phosphor 106 (Z12), gum 108 (Z68). Paper manufactured by Fletcher Millstream, England.

New Registration Envelopes

Three new registration envelopes were issued in May and June 1971. Measuring about 163 x 115 mm they are almost identical to the issue in January 1971 and are from the same firms, Spicers, Pirie Appleton and John Dickinson. None of the new ones are linen lined, however. Only Spicers show a reversal in the language order. The others are the same as before.

Cover for Flower Show

It is expected that an official commemorative cover would be issued for the International Flower Exhibition in Johannesburg, 26 October to 6 November 1971. A special postmark is to be used at the exhibition, which will highlight the wealth and variety of South African flora.

Roll of Distinguished South African Philatelists



Albert Lambertus Meyburgh, C.A.I.B. (S.A.), was born in Cradock on 20th September 1895. He took up a banking career in 1914 and retired as manager of the Bloemfontein branch of Barclays Bank DCO in 1955.

A past President of the Philatelic Federation of Southern Africa. Joined the O.F.S. Philatelic Society in 1950 and served on their Committee continuously since 1951. Officialised as President on many occasions. Served on the Executive Committee of Federation on numerous occasions, also as Vice-President for the Orange Free State. Represented his Society at Congresses since 1956.

Mr. Meyburgh has been collecting stamps since 1906. In addition to thematic collections his main interests were in his Anglo-Boer War and Philatelic Terms Illustrated collections. Has been an exhibitor at all the South African National Exhibitions since 1956 and received many awards — from Diploma to Gold. Was a member of the Jury at "Setpex" and "R.S.A. 10" International Exhibition 1971.

A Study Of The Overprints On The Rhodesia Independence Issue

by Theo Rudman and "Boetie" Davidson

On looking at a large block of the $\frac{1}{2}$ d. Rhodesia Independence overprinted stamps, S.G. 359, one of us (B.D.) found that the overprint varied considerably in relation to the design of the stamp, particularly the left-hand side of the stamp and the left-hand stamp margin. At first it was thought that the overprint had been misplaced to the left on some sheets of these stamps and also on numerous stamps on the same sheet, because on vertical rows on the same sheet of $\frac{1}{2}$ d. stamps, the overprint varied by as much as 2 mm. in relationship to the left-hand stamp margin.

It had been accepted that the same overprint forms had been used for overprinting all the denominations in this issue up to and including the 4d. value, so we therefore looked at all these denominations, and found that the relationship of the overprints to the left-hand stamp margins were much more constant than on the $\frac{1}{2}$ d. stamps, although on all the denominations up to 4d. we did find some minor degree of variation. The obvious probability therefore was that a different overprint form had been used for printing the overprint on the $\frac{1}{2}$ d. stamp, as opposed to the other values up to 4d. denomination. As this conclusion was a departure from the published detail, it became essential to review the overprints on all the issued stamps.

It became imperative that a method of investigating these overprints be devised to try and assess how this difference of relationship existed between the stamps and the overprints, and to assess how many different overprint forms were used for the entire overprint issue. We were most fortunate in having offered large stocks of these overprinted stamps, at least eight sheets of each value apart from many large positional blocks, and because of the large number of stamps available for study, we are able to present our conclusion.

To be able to compare the overprint used for the various stamp denominations, we decided upon the following method of investigation. We took tracing paper and laid it over a sheet of the $\frac{1}{2}$ d. overprinted denomination, with the two papers carefully positioned. We

then made a pencilled dot on the tracing paper at the tip of the first "1" of "11th" in the overprint, on the vertical stamps of two rows in the sheets, with five vertical rows of stamps between. We selected the fifth and the eleventh vertical stamp rows on stamp sheets for the tracing and making of the templates.

Did not match

Having made these marks on identical positions of each overprint on the two chosen vertical rows of the $\frac{1}{2}$ d. denomination stamps, we then placed this template over the identical positions on the other overprinted values — and found that they did not match with the overprints on the other low value stamps. Therefore, similar templates, using the identical positions on the overprints and identical rows (5th & 11th) on the sheets were made for each denomination in the overprinted set.

At this stage, the templates themselves were compared one against the other and it was found that some matched perfectly and were therefore identical and interchangeable. On this basis we were able to divide the overprint templates into seven different "families", namely:

- A. Overprint template of the $\frac{1}{2}$ d. value — matched no other template.
- B. Overprint templates of the 1d., 2d. & 4d. values — all identical.
- C. Overprint templates of the 3d. value — matched no other template.
- D. Overprint templates of the 6d., 9d., 1/- & 2/- values — identical templates.
- E. Overprint templates of the 1/3d. & 2/6d. values matched identically.
- F. Overprint templates of the 5/-, 10/- & £1 values were identical.
- G. Overprint template for the "Churchill" stamp, overprinted 5/-.

This same research was undertaken by the Maschonaland Philatelic Study Group in Salisbury, at the time that the stamps were issued, and the following conclusions were published (obviously at variance with ours):

1. At least one plate for the values up to 4d.
2. One for the 6d., 1/3 and 2/6 values.

3. One for the 9d., 1/- & 2/- values which have the following constant flaws in common:
Row I No 1: Short second leg of "h" of "11th".
Row 6 No 10: Cut-off end of top bar of last "E" of "Independence".
4. One for the 5/-, 10/- & £1 values.
5. One for the "Churchill" overprint.

At this point in the research, one of us (T.R.) went to Rhodesia with these templates we had made, and compared them with the overprints on the half-sheets of these stamps in the Archives in Salisbury. It was found that our templates matched identically with the overprints on all the denominations except for the 1/- and 2/- values, so two new templates were made for these values to conform to the overprints on the 1/- and 2/- half-sheets of stamps in the Archives. On his return, these two new templates were compared with the overprints on the 1/- and 2/- sheets of stamps used for this study, and for further comparison with the original templates of the 1/- and 2/- overprints. To our amazement we found that these new templates matched neither the original templates nor the overprints on the sheets of stamps we had been studying! For this reason we postulated that there must have been two different overprint forms used for the overprinting of the 1/- and 2/- stamps. This is strange, particularly in view of the small number of sheets printed of these two values.

Two Formes

An authority on Rhodesian modern issues has stated that two separate formes must have been used for overprinting the 4d. denomination, because certain flaws caused by dropped spacer bars are present on some sheets of the 4d. stamps and not on others, and are never found concurrently on the same sheet of stamps. This statement is not of major significance, because flaws caused by dropped spacer bars cannot be considered as constant, and in fact, other publications stating that constant dropped spacer bar flaws exist on different denominations have not been corroborated by our study. It is interesting that the flaws found by the Mashonalond Philatelic Study Group in Rhodesia on the 9d., 1/- and 2/- values are also found on the 6d. denomination (we refer to the varieties found on the stamps of Row 1 No. 1 and Row 6 No. 10), proving that the 6d. denomination was over-

printed with the same overprint frame used for the 9d., 1/- and 2/- values, and confirming our "family" theory, our conclusion having been reached by our template method, and not by finding of constant positional flaws on the sheets of the different denominations.

The importance of this study is the realisation that the published information about the different overprint forms used for these stamps is incorrect, and that this work can be corroborated by comparing positional blocks of these stamp denominations.

We wish to thank Mr. Benny Joffe of Johannesburg for having made available to us his vast stocks of these overprinted stamps and for having withheld the sale of all his sheets and positional blocks until we had completed our study.

A Tip-Top Tip

We quote in full from the "Commonwealth Courier", April 1971, being a publication of The Commonwealth Stamp Co. of Liverpool, England. This issue's "Tip of the month" reads:

"South Africa. It is only a few months since we mentioned the stamps of this country as well worth the attention of collectors, who do not wish to spend the housekeeping money, but want their hobby to provide plenty of enjoyment. Last week a collector who had taken up the tip, showed us his South Africa collection running from 1937 to the present day. He had all the special issues, but it was the definitives which he had found so interesting, and based on the C.W. K.G.VI and Q.E.II Catalogues (he was particularly warm in his praise for the 'K.G. VI') these indeed made a show about which any philatelist might well be pleased, and we were pleased too, for his collection bore out completely our contention that for the philatelist, one who wishes to really study his stamps, those of South Africa are easily tops, and are likely to remain so, for here is one of the very few postal administrations left, which whilst from time to time is willing to issue an inexpensive set, to mark some important national event, at the same time never ceases to remember the real reason why there are stamps at all, and this means that a collection of South Africa is entirely what it is supposed to be, i.e. a collection of postal issues all issued for the purpose of doing postal duty."

Notes On An International Theme

By Senex

The organisers of R.S.A. 10 and their overseas commissioners must be congratulated on the high quality of the exhibits which they persuaded collectors from many parts of the world to send to Cape Town. Some of these collections were of such philatelic interest that I feel they should be brought to the notice of readers who were not able to view them personally. The exhibits I propose to discuss were not those that, in every case, received the highest awards but the ones that I found fascinating.

"Mauritius Post Markings and Cancellations" from P. Langlois (France) was a delightful study of the postal workings of the island and a joy to the true philatelist. The building up of a collection of this nature is more of a challenge than the mere acquisition of the stamps of a country and I spent a long time before these frames.

"Sicily" the exhibit of E. Berms of Germany was, in my opinion, an almost perfect display of the "King Bomba" issues and, as the Catalogue states, on covers showing different rates, sheets and multiples as well as a study of cancellations. The beautiful stamps were in wonderful condition and must have made many a philatelic mouth water.

"Afghanistan" from T. Light, Chicago, U.S.A. Have you ever tried to plate Penny Blacks, or Sydney Views of Gambia Cameos? Well, such efforts must be easy compared with this gentleman's "Plate re-construction of the Lion Head issues of 1871-78", both mint and used. To most of us in South Africa this must seem an incredible feat and a lesson in philately — and patience!

"Homo Sapiens Philatelicus" exhibited by M. Guggenheim of Basle, Switzerland. It is not really a descent from the sublime to the ridiculous to mention this thematic exhibit in a review such as this as the coverage was so large, the theme so well treated and the items in many cases so rare that the display warranted not only the pride and care shown by the owner, but also the interest displayed by the public who viewed it.

"Egypt" by J. H. E. Gilbert of United Kingdom. Two collections were grouped together by the Jury for the award of a Gold

Medal. Both are well-known in England and they contain most that is worth-while in Egyptian philately with the addition of a number of unique items. The owner's discoveries in regard to the Canadian Voyageurs with the Gordon Relief Expedition is well-known and the results of his investigations have been shown in South Africa for the first time.

"Transvaal" — Major H. M. Criddle, United Kingdom. This is now one of the finest collections of this country and deserved the very high award it received. It is the serious and instructive study of a dedicated philatelist and much can be learned from it; one feels that one should have notebook and pencil handy when standing in front of the frames enjoying an exhibit such as this.

As this is not intended to be a review of this fine International Exhibition but merely a pointer to the fact that we have probably never seen in this country so much fine philatelic fare from so many countries, I must bring these remarks to a close. I cannot do so without setting down in print the pleasure I found in viewing two other collections:

"Switzerland" from Helvetia of Switzerland, which is so modestly described in the catalogue and contains so many superb rarities that one's mind boggles at the cash value they must represent. The sort of collection that every collector dreams of possessing, and finally

"East Africa" by Dr. K. Pennycuik of Great Britain whose knowledge of the philately of this area is so profound and so well displayed in this interesting collection which would hold the attention of the historian, the geographer and the philatelist.

Charity Auction at Gibbons

A highly successful charity auction, consisting of stamps from Heads of State from all parts of the world, took place at Stanley Gibbons auction rooms in London on the evening of Thursday, June 10th.

The auction, conducted on behalf of "Action for the Crippled Child", raised a total of £6,155, which will go towards research into the cause, prevention, cure and treatment of all forms of crippling.

Reviews

RSA Postage Stamp Catalogue, Second Edition.

Reviewing the work of someone else is always something of a challenge to me as my immediate thought is "Could I have done better?"

In connection with the 1971 R.S.A. Postage Stamp Catalogue, second edition, the answer is simple — no! Published in time for R.S.A. 10 by the Arcade Stamp Shop (Pty) Ltd., of Johannesburg, it is a completely revised work, clearly readable and easy to follow. The publishers have stuck to a plain straightforward listing, resisting the temptation to include varieties about which they may have had some doubts and pressure from various quarters, but I think they have done well to just state the bare facts clearly and precisely. It is more readable in that the brief details about the stamp appear first followed by the illustration, followed by the cylinder numbers and finally the pricing.

I sympathise with their having to make a 5c minimum charge for the low valued stamps but it is a simple fact in realistic terms of time and money that this is the simple cost of servicing a $\frac{1}{2}$ c stamp.

For the simple collector here is a straightforward listing of all the stamps and for the enthusiast there is another listing giving the position and details of the sheets numbers. It is completely up to date and I have no hesitation in saying the cost of the catalogue at R2 is an investment and with the new policy threatened or promised by the Post Office, I hope they will be able to maintain their high standard for many years to come. — C.E.S.

Airmails 1870-1970

By James Mackay. Published by William Collins (Africa) (Pty) Limited, price R6.30.

This ambitious book, based chiefly on the study of the Airmail collection of the late Mrs. Augustine Fitzgerald in the British Museum, covers an interesting survey of that period. Naturally in just over 200 pages it would not be possible to deal with the subject in full detail, but it does give an interesting coverage to the general reader and philatelist. South Africa is mentioned in a few places, but

one misses much of the early development of the African Continent. The South African references, in a good bibliography, is the Federation Publication on South African Airmails. All types of Airmails are covered and it is a book which can be recommended as it is well written and of interest. — M.F.S.

British Elizabethan Stamps

By David Potter. Published by Messrs. William Collins (Africa) (Pty) Limited, price R5.20.

This excellent publication, which is well illustrated, gives a very good overall coverage and includes the latest Machin definitives. All sections dealing with these stamps are given and they include articles on the commemoratives and their design, the reasons for issuance, postal stationery, the stamps of Guernsey and Jersey, Cinderellas, printing, errors and varieties, and to finish off excellent advice on the collecting of Great Britain's Elizabethans. It should be invaluable to those starting on this field and in addition a reminder to those who have been collecting these stamps. Naturally, in addition to this volume, it would be necessary to consult the catalogue and journals which are given in an appendix. There is also a useful appendix giving postal rates, inland, over the period and also the decimal conversion. — M.F.S.

Half-cents to Disappear

The current definite set's stamps with $\frac{1}{2}$ c values would not be reprinted when the present stocks are exhausted, according to Mr. Herman Steyn, head of Philatelic Services.

The need for stamps with the $\frac{1}{2}$ c denomination has lapsed due to the new inland postage rates, in force from 1st April, and the new international rates, which came into effect on 1st July.

Five stamps were affected, being the $\frac{1}{2}$ c, $1\frac{1}{2}$ c, $2\frac{1}{2}$, $7\frac{1}{2}$ c and $12\frac{1}{2}$ values.

Abolition of UPU Reply Card

In accordance with the 1969 Universal Postal Union (UPU) Convention, UPU reply card (10c) will be abolished as from 1 July 1971. Accordingly, this postal card will cease to be sold on and after 1 July 1971.

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An Official Display by the U.S.A. Authorities under guard

By Dr. K. Freund, R.D.P.S.A., F.R.P.S.L.

[This article was unfortunately held over due to lack of space — Ed.]

With "Apollo 14" safely returned, I wonder whether the U.S.A. authorities have continued their lunar philatelic activities and output. I hasten to explain:

Although "Philympia" is now only a shimmering memory, a sensational spectacle which was presented there by the United States still deserves to have a glaring philatelic searchlight thrown on it to show up how even a government usually known to be strict, can be re-proved for an emission which is of poor philatelic taste and status.



Let us first have the facts which appeared in an exclusive report in the London Weekly "Stamp Collecting" (10th September, 1970, p. 63):

"... On the top floor, the third of the galleries of the Empire Hall, is the Exhibit which **Everyone** will want to see. It is here that the **U.S.A. Moon Landing Exhibit** will be displayed under guard. For the first time, the British public and their Philympia visitors from overseas will be able to see the envelope which franked with a die-proof of the U.S. First Man on the Moon stamp, was cancelled with a Moon Landing — Jul 20 1969 — U.S.A." handstamp by Neil Armstrong and brought back to Earth, **the first genuine piece of moon mail**. The Exhibit will include the master-die, which also went to the Moon and back, from which the printing plates for the stamps themselves were prepared."

Despite the enthusiasm the U.S. authorities revealed for their philatelic rarity of their own making, true philatelists must have been little impressed. The following thoughts and questions come at once to mind when looking at the first "genuine piece of moon mail"?

(1) *No genuine postal function of letter or message delivery*

The first basic question is: Who on the

Moon wrote a letter or message to whom? Did Armstrong himself, the acting "post-master", or Edwin Aldrin, his companion in the landing module, write it? After all, there was no other creature, literate or illiterate, anywhere near. To whom did they write, to mission control? To their wives? To the President?

And what could the contents of the letter have been? That they landed safely? Everybody on Earth got all the details when they actually happened — over the radio in South Africa, on television in all other countries. So why write and mail a letter which would be antiquated when arriving some time later? Postcard cliché phrases such as "Having a wonderful time, wish you were here" were also not the right thing after the prompt direct communications by radio and television.

And when did Armstrong wield the rubber canceller and spoil a good specimen of a die-proof affixed on the envelope? He must have done it soon after landing in the evening during his sojourn when resting and waiting in the module, because the handstamp date is the "20th July". The moon-walk was to start after midnight at 2.30 a.m., i.e. in the early hours of the 21st July, 1969.

One must picture the farcical scene of the postal job: There sits poor Armstrong, breathless and overwhelmed after the laborious landing manoeuvres; the epoch-making moon-walk and the step into the unknown are only a few hours in front of him; but philately cannot be forgotten in this momentous hour. Bravely he digs out from somewhere the envelope, so neatly prepared at home on mother earth; down comes his hand-canceller with a thud — and a new philatelic rarity is created! After which the envelope is stowed away again to go back to where it originally came from.

After the successful return, this unheralded "surprise" letter and a travel companion, the metal master-die, were duly on show at Philympia. Visitors admired in awe these two articles and their great achievement of having been actually on the Moon which the poor ordinary earthling cannot hope to emulate for quite some time, if ever.

One could not admire much else in this case. Certainly not the postal or philatelic merit of the American Moon Mail display because contrary to the official assurance it lacked any "genuine" postal function of mail delivery. It was a mere "souvenir stunt" as the following points will make this still clearer:

(2) *Absurd franking with a Die-proof*

Look at the fancy stamp for instance which the U.S. authorities selected for adorning and franking their sensational Moon cover. It is no proper postage stamp at all but an imperforate item from the experimental printing stage the proper purpose of which is supposed to be for reference only. How odd the whole thing really is becomes clear if one considers that this fancy "stamp" was ungummed as any decent die-proof, worthy of its name, naturally is. Just imagine how the authorities busied themselves with glee to "doll up" their philatelic rarity for the moon trip, painstakingly smearing some foreign glue matter on the barren back of the die-proof and taking great care to affix this sticky item cleanly and neatly on their envelope which was destined to become a priceless "piece of moon mail".

(3) *Air mail postage to the Moon and back:
10 cents!*

Did the U.S. authorities ever realise that the "stamp" they affixed on the lunar envelope is only a 10c denomination? Just imagine, a 10c air mail rate to the Moon and back! With this precedent, may we entertain the hope that this will be the standing air mail charge now for any future Moon mail delivery by moonship and landing-module or for any future regular moon service? Come to think of it, even an air mail letter from Bloemfontein to Zambia costs more.

This 10c "Moon" franking is just another incriminating point showing how absurd the first official Moon letter really is.

(4) *Which was the First Day of Issue?*

If you check up in your catalogue, the "9th September, 1969" was so far the officially announced and recognised First Day of issue of the U.S.A. "Man on the Moon" stamp. But like magicians, the American authorities have produced out of their sleeve — or better, "out of the blue sky" — a surprise cover from the Moon which purports to have been used and cancelled there on the "20th July, 1969" already. That means nearly 2½ months earlier

than the announced day of release! Now we are truly in a fix: Must the catalogues be corrected? Are all those pretty pictorial First Day covers of the 10c "Man on the Moon" stamp, so popular with the American public, to be discarded as inaccurate?

The U.S. authorities must not come now with excuses that the affixed stamp was "only" a die-proof. They themselves have used it as a proper stamp for valid franking on a "genuine piece of (moon) mail" which are their own words. You cannot have it both ways: You either admit that the first day of release was the day you validly used the stamp for franking for the first time and postmarked it accordingly, or the use of a stamp for franking 2½ months **before** your announced official release is highly irregular, inadmissible and utterly perplexing to the general public.

(5) *For what purpose did the Master-die go along on the round-trip?*

By all means, display a Master-Die to the general public on some occasion or other. People like to get educated. Show even the printing plates or the whole "Giori" Press, for that matter, which printed the U.S.A. Moon stamps. But what was the great idea of the U.S. authorities to give the little metal Master-Die the grand opportunity of riding along to the Moon and back? It was certainly only a passive passenger as one could expect, and never participated in any postal or philatelic exploit on lunar territory. It just went along on the round-trip and splashed back to earth, accompanied by the astronauts, to be admired later at Philymphia as also "having been there".

The fact is that the "Moon Mail" spectacle which presented the little Master-Die as second co-star, had never the object of unfolding the Genesis of the U.S. 10c Moon stamp. This stamp by itself was nothing very special — many other countries, even from South Arabia, had cashed in on similar Astronaut stamps, some of them of even more striking design. The sensation and object of the American display was to present to the world the "first genuine Moon mail". As far-fetched and as weak in status this effort may have turned out, the little Master-Die had certainly nothing whatever to do with the mail.

To emphasize: There is no harm in displaying the metal thing, the objection is against dragging it first to the Moon. What did the Americans try to achieve with this? It only shows again that they were over-anxi-

ous to work out something philatelically big.

A fact which makes the "genuineness" of the first Moon letter also very shaky.

(6) *Why the Extra Guards flanking the Souvenir Cover at Philypia?*

The inscrutable U.S. authorities provided only one Moon Souvenir cover for suffering humanity languishing for First Day covers. A would-be thief accomplishing a well-planned grab in Hollywood style would have some explaining to do how and when he managed to get hold of the only cover extant. Similarly, a would-be forger announcing that somehow he succeeded to possess a second copy, would find it difficult to explain when exactly he managed to slip to the moon and get himself also a First Day cover there. Thus, robbing the exhibited cover would get a culprit nowhere. It would be of no use or value to him. So why the flanking guards if there was the usual glass protection and, most of all, a sufficient number of security guards throughout the three galleries of the exhibition building anyway? In our humble opinion, the displayed Moon cover was not at all such an outstanding philatelic gem that it outshone the countless classic and peerless rarities which also happened to be on display throughout the Philypia halls.

I remember that the famous 1856 British Guiana 1 cent, the world's rarest stamp, was exhibited at the 5th N.Y. International Stamp Exhibition in 1956 with security officers on either side of the exhibit carrying "drawn revolvers", as publicity write-ups bragged at that time. Happily, this melodramatic "revolver" stunt was omitted at Philypia, thus allowing an unhindered, peaceful inspection of the Moon cover. True enough, the extra guards were there but I am sure their pomposity must have only caused occasional smiles of sober-minded visitors.

(7) *Conclusion*

As far as I am concerned, all my fond hopes and plans are shattered. I was toying with the idea of building up a specialised collection of "genuine pieces of Moon Mail", waiting for the time when the population on the Moon and the postal activities there would multiply. I was planning to acquire at some later stage a "Sea of Tranquility" postmark for instance, on the "First Day" the post office would open there. But the American authorities have dealt a cruel blow to my ambition. I shall never be able to wrest from them the "first" genuine solitary piece of Moon Mail which could have

been an absolute "must", for the sake of completeness, to start off my collection properly. I shall probably just get myself a "Sea of Storms" postmark — the way I feel now! My tranquility is gone.

Jokes aside — Authorities may certainly celebrate an epoch-making event in the manner they see fit. But to put it in a nut-shell. There was no reason nor any necessity to add to the 3 Astronauts a Fourth Astronaut: *Philately* — —.

"Air Collectors Should Be Active"

Aerophilatelists in Southern Africa were encouraged by Mr. M. Kaptein, of the Federation Internationale des Societies Aerophilateliqes, to actively promote their branch of the hobby.

He addressed the annual general meeting of the Aerophilatelic Society of Southern Africa on 25th May, 1971, at Cape Town.

"Our hobby requires incessant study," Mr. Kaptein said, "and for this reason every collector of aerophilately should try to contribute."

He outlined how FISA was founded a decade ago in an attempt to counter misunderstanding about aerophilately, and how the international federation achieved recognition for this branch of philately, and co-operation between its world-wide exponents.

Mr. Kaptein said that every aerophilatelist should study his collecting field, promote his interest by taking part in exhibitions, write articles, recruit new members to the ranks, help new collectors, give lectures, and study and record air post history.

The South African Society could organise small exhibitions, of 20 to 30 frames, on special occasions such as anniversaries and special S.A.A. events or events of other airlines. In particular the local Society should maintain close relations with S.A.A., so that the Society may be advised on S.A.A. events in good time.

Mr. Kaptein paid tribute to Capt. M. F. Stern for his aerophilatelic work in South Africa, and conveyed the best wishes of FISA to the South African Society.

Die Versameling van Posstempels

Na aanleiding van 'n Baden-versameling deur L. E. Roediger

Die versameling van posstempels is maar aan die begin van sy ontwikkeling en die gewildheid daarvan neem snel toe. Hierdie versamelaspek lê 'n wye terrein bloot van filateliese belang en van geskiedenis, wat ek breedweg wil uitwys voordat ek besonderhede noem.

Wat kan 'n posstempel vir 'n filatelis beduie? Vroeër dae is seëls met die hand gerojeer en die stempel moes die hele seël bedek: 'n paar of 'n strook van drie het dus gewoonlik twee en drie stempelmerke onderskeidelik gehad. Die stempel het nie alleen aangedui van watter plek die brief gepos was nie, maar ook die datum, en soms die tyd van die dag. As 'n mens noukeurig na posstempels oplet, sal jy nie maklik deur vervalste gebruikte seëls mislei word nie. Neem byvoorbeeld die gebruikte 30 kruizer-seëls van Baden of Thurn & Taxis, waar die pryse onderskeidelik 15 en 140 keer hoër as die van die ongebruikte seëls is. As net 'n deel van die stempel op 'n seël wys en dit nie ten volle kenbaar is nie, kan 'n mens seker wees dit is 'n vervalsing!

Die rojeermerk sal boonop 'n mens help om 'n bepaalde afwyking te herken van 'n seël wat soms moeilik onderskeibaar is na die watermerk, papiersoort, kleurskakering of tanding. Dit lê voor die hand dat die datum van die rojering min of meer moet ooreenkom met die besondere seël se uitreikingstydperk. Daarby is 'n seël met 'n duidelike en goed leesbare rojering altyd meer gesog en waardevoller as 'n swak afgestempelde eksemplaar.

In die vroeë dae van kolonisasie het Engeland en Duitsland hul eie seëls in hul besittings en oorsese poskantore gebruik. Hierdie sogenaamde „voorlopers” kan slegs aan hul rojeringe uitgeken word. Oorspronklik is 'n brief afgestempel met die merke van elke hoofsoort vervoer waarmee dit gereis het, en as voorbeeld hiervan is in my versameling 'n stuk wat van Baden na Londen gestuur is. Dit is op 25 Junie 1858 gepos en het op die 28e aangekom, wat beteken dat die brief binne drie dae afgelewer was. Daarop is afsonderlike stempels van Trein No. 1, spoorweë van Baden na Strassbourg en van Strassbourg na Parys, een van Parys se hoofposkantoor, van die spoorweg van Parys na Calais, en van Paddington-stasie in Londen.

'n Ander koevert in my versameling is gefrankeer met 'n strook van drie van Baden se heel eerste seël, gerojeer op 28 Junie 1851. Ek beskou dit as 'n merkwaardige stuk, want

die brief is afgestuur kwalik twee maande ná die instelling van die posdiens en die uitreiking van die seël op 1 Mei van daardie jaar.

En hoe het ek my posstempelversameling begin? In my oorspronklike versameling van Duitse State het die seëls van die groothertogdom Baden my altyd besonderlik geïnteresseer. Ek het verskeie versamelings gekoop en toe afgekom op 'n paar heel eienaardige rojeringe wat ek nog nie tevore gesien het nie, en dit het gelei tot 'n spesialisasie in en 'n studie van die onderskeie posstempels.

Met die uitgif van posseëls in Baden (en die ongetande seëls is met skêre uit die vel gesny) is nommerstempels uitgereik om die seëls mee te rojeer; en daar was 177 van hulle. Die stempels is in numeriese volgorde uitgereik aan die onderskeie poskantore, na 'n alfabetiese lys. Daar was drie tipes nommerstempels: die eerste met vyf ringe om die nommer, 'n tweede met 'n getande buitering, en oplaas 'n paar met 'n enkelring. Daar was een poskantoor wat al drie die tipes stempel



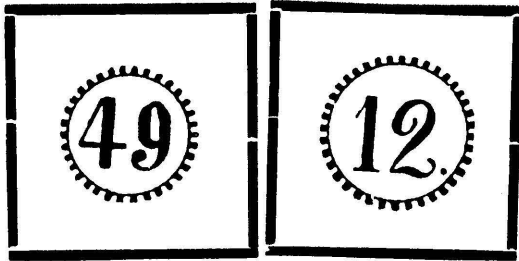
Drie tipes numeriese rojeringe

gebruik het. Afgesien van die nommerrojering, moes elke koevert afgestempel word met 'n plaaslike datumstempel. Die fynproewer probeer albei stempels naas mekaar versamel op koevertstukke, of verkieslik heel koeverte. Dit het gebeur dat van die vroeë seëls in stryd met die amptelike opdrag met die plaaslike datumstempel gerojeer is, en sulkes is besonder seldsaam. Swart ink moes vir stempelpwerk gebruik word, dog in 'n paar gevalle vind 'n mens rooi, blou of selfs groen posstempels.

Teen Junie 1860 is getande seëls uitgegee en teen die einde van 1862 is die nommerstempels vervang met plaaslike datumstempels, waarmee die seëls gerojeer is. Die naamstempels bestaan met 'n enkel- of dubbelring daarom, met groot of met klein letters, en sommige het die wapen van Baden aan die onderkant.

Dan is daar 'n baie interessante spesiale

tipe sogenaamde „Uhradstempel”, waarvan nommers 1 tot 50 bekend is. Die was gebruik in klein ondergeskikte plattelandse poskantore en party van die hoofposkantore, volgens die grootte van hul distrik, het in 'n kleiner of groter mate daarvan gebruik gemaak. Hierdie stempels is met die handgesny en gevolglik bestaan 'n hele verskeidenheid daarvan.



„Uhrad”-stempels



Die „Postablage”-stempels



Die „E.B.”-merke

Daarbenewens het daar, sover bekend, 380 „Postablage”-stempels bestaan. Hulle is gelaat in plattelandse posbusse, in klein dorpieë en gehuggies, vir gebruik deur die posbeampies wat verbygekom het om die pos te lig. Dit was nodig want die beampies kon op sy rondgang sonder versuim van die briewe in naburige dorpieë aflewer.

Ten slotte was talle spoorweg-, grensoorgang- en spesiale posstempels in Baden gebruik. Dit is werklik verrassend watter geweldige verskeidenheid aan posstempels nage-spoor kan word in 'n landjie so klein soos Baden, en dit 100 tot 120 jaar gelede!

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A PHILATELIST REMEMBERS . . .

By W. Mann

I simply cannot recall the time when I did not collect stamps. It seems to me that I was "born" a Philatelist!

I remember collecting *all* stamps at a very young age, when I first started school. This makes me a collector of almost half a century.

In the small village in far-away Lithuania where I was born, stamp dealers were unknown, as were albums, catalogues or even hinges, so I collected all used stamps, pasted them into exercise books by means of egg whites — eggs were always plentiful — and the stamps thus glued in simply stayed . . . In those days I never collected *mint* stamps for financial reasons.

I used to haunt the Post Office not far from our house, scrutinising all letters coming from abroad, but seldom did I see stamps from far away lands, except from our neighbouring countries, the U.S.A. and South Africa, the latter two being the countries to which most of our population had emigrated over the years.

Polish stamps were at a premium, as our native Lithuania had severed all communications with Poland, who had seized our ancient capital Vilna by force.

I well remember the excitement when an uncle of ours who had settled in America decided to pay us a visit, after first touring Europe. He wrote from Paris advising us of his impending visit, and I still have the stamps commemorating the 1926 Paris Exposition. Needless to say, I was more excited with the stamps than with the uncle and his visit . . .

One day the Postmaster's son, a playmate of mine, told me the exciting news that a letter had arrived from Italy. On my suggestion he promptly tore off the stamps, much to the consternation of his father. The same thing was repeated when this very same visitor — he must have been an old resident of our village — embarked on a tour of Europe and wrote from Greece and Yugoslavia.

I still have these stamps to this very day and whenever I look at them the memories come rushing back.

I first came across albums, mostly in German, with fixed leaves, when I left our small village to attend High School in a bigger town. I promptly set to remounting my "treasure", acquired a catalogue in German, and thus became a "serious" collector at the age of 12.

In 1934 two American fliers of Lithuanian

origin attempted what was then a very hazardous air crossing of the Atlantic, from New York to Kaunas (Kovno), the Lithuanian capital.

Unfortunately, their attempt, followed by the people of Lithuania with the greatest pride, interest and excitement almost hourly, met with disaster when their plane the "Lituania" crashed into the ocean near the Irish coast. Both brave men perished.

The whole nation was shocked and went into deep mourning. The Post Office issued a special set of 6 commemorative stamps to mark this disaster. Incidentally, this was the first time in the world when stamps were issued to commemorate an air disaster (Miss Anna Smith please note!). I still own this set (used).

When I left Lithuania to make a new life in South Africa I took my entire collection with me. I settled in Cape Town where I acquired an English Album — a Rapkin — and for the first time used hinges. My interest never waned, in fact, it was shared by my newly-acquired friends, three brothers with whom I went to school. Daily we would meet at their house and talk, swop, live and breathe stamps. Their father could never understand this strange obsession and could ill-conceal his annoyance at the four teenagers who seemed to have nothing better to do than waste their time on such childish and trivial things. One of his sons seems to have taken heed, he is today Headmaster of the Herzlia High School in Cape Town, but alas, no longer a Philatelist . . .

Slowly I started buying stamps of South Africa, mostly mint, and thus continued with my hobby.

The outbreak of the last war found me working in the Cape in a small village known as Touws River. A traveller whom I knew well, and to whom my interest in stamps was well known, offered me his entire collection for the princely sum of £5.0.0. He was joining the army and had nowhere to leave his stamps. I jumped at the opportunity and still have those stamps, some of which are of high values of East African mint, and other mint of British Colonies.

When I too volunteered for active service shortly afterwards I entrusted my collection to my then employer. In 1946 I was demobilised and before settling down to civilian life

made a special trip to Touws River to collect my belongings and, most important of all, my stamps.

Imagine my consternation when I found on my arrival that the business had been sold, and with it my entire collection . . . My dismay and bitter disappointment soon turned to joy when I learned that the new owner, Mr. Conradie, had no interest in philately, and with the typical naïvete of a non-philatelist, promptly allowed me to collect my stamp albums, etc., from one of the storerooms where these had been dumped and discarded as "junk".

Whilst on active service I lost no opportunity of visiting the post offices in the "liberated" Italian colonies, but with little success. The ones I did come across had either gone up in smoke or had been looted by the local populace or our troops.

In Italy too I visited stamp dealers and actually succeeded in locating one who owned a book store. He had a nice collection of Italian mint stamps. However, no amount of cash would induce him to part with it; he wanted cigarettes, and cigarettes only. Once again fortune smiled on me. I am a non-smoker, so my army ration of cigarettes was promptly utilised for this most worthy cause. The nucleus of my present-day Italian collection was formed and I was launched . . .

Few stamps were available from dealers, but I bought all I could lay my hands on. The Italian post offices, depleted by the war, were no better, offering mostly stamps overprinted by Mussolini's Republic, of low denomination and of very limited issues. I bought some of these, but their value has not risen with the passage of time.

In Turin, after the armistice, I met up with one of the three brothers from our school days, and we spent all our available free days

stamp-hunting, our pockets bulging with army cigarettes. One of the bargains we tracked down consisted of 100 sets of Hitler-Mussolini used stamps, which we brought home with us. I subsequently sold two dozen sets to a local dealer, this incidentally, being the one and only time I ever sold stamps at a profit!

One day in the early 1950's my good friend Boris Glassman telephoned me at work to tell me of a certain dealer in de Villiers Street, Johannesburg, who was closing down. He had two mint sheets of the famous "Balbo" Atlantic Flight stamps for sale. I donned tools, and hurried down in great excitement, my heart beating with anticipation. After some negotiation I became the proud owner of this unique item for the sum of £11.0.0. Of course, I did not tell my newly-acquired wife of this "windfall", my weekly drawings at the time being £15.0.0! . . .

These two sheets have been a constant source of joy to me, and of great pride. They have drawn a great deal of admiration at every stamp exhibition ever since, seeing they are the only ones of their kind known to be in South Africa. (Thank you, Boris).

I feel that I am speaking for many a Philatelist when I say that this wonderful and fascinating hobby has brought me endless joy, happiness and hours of relaxation. I hope to continue with it for all the days of my life. My wife, though she does not share my enthusiasm, is shrewd enough to realise that it is better to share a husband's affections with a stamp collection, than perhaps with . . . who knows?

Things augur well for the future. The younger of our two sons, a lad of nine, is most enthusiastic and seems to have caught the fever. I hope it grows into a flame, and this will be my joy and my reward! . . .

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ZULULAND: THE PROVISIONAL 1/2d STAMP OF 1888

By A. Leslie Leon, R.D.P.S.A., F.R.P.S.L.

This is an interesting stamp about which little has been written.

The Zululand postal services were started on May 1st 1888 according to a proclamation in the Natal Government Gazette of May 15th of that year. The stamps used were the current series of Great Britain overprinted in England with the word ZULULAND and the values available during that month were 1d, 2d, 3d, 4d, and 6d. The need for a ½d stamp was soon felt, probably because that was the cost of transmission of a letter locally as in Natal; the British Q.V. ½d stamp overprinted as set out above did not arrive until November 1888.

There were at least two settings of the overprint and it seems certain that, as suggested by E. W. Mann in 1941, the settings were each covering six stamps horizontally. The reason for such a small setting is probably that a local printer's fount of type of this fancy nature would not carry more than six "Z's" and twelve "U's". Fig. 1 shows a strip of 3 from the top of the pane, the upper stamp of which has the overprint misplaced diagonally, the middle stamp has no overprint and the lower has the overprint as it normally appears. This would appear to support Mann's theory, as would Fig. 2 which is a photograph of a block of four (position on sheet unknown) on which the double overprint has the second of these closer to the first on the lower pair than on the upper.

In one setting the overprint carries a stop after ZULULAND whilst another setting is without the stops. B. W. H. Poole in 1909 stated that "it is practically certain that the type with the stop was the first to appear" and concludes that it is highly probable that the type without stop first appeared towards the end of August 1888. He thought that the setting without stops was printed from the same type as the first, with the stops removed. He was not able to describe the position of the stops in the first setting with any particularity.

E. W. Mann is able to take the matter a little further. Writing in the P.J.G.B. for March 1941, he says: "The first setting is normal but in the second setting the 2nd and 6th stamps of each strip have a square instead

of a round stop, the square being practically on a level with the lettering whereas the round stop is somewhat below." His authority for this statement was a large block of 30 (which originally had been a block of 60 in the Ferrari collection); large pieces are very seldom seen.

We would now appear to have three settings of six, as follows. The first with round stops in each case, the second with round stops except in the case of the second and sixth stamps where the stops are square, and the third without stops.

The question of the square stops is further complicated, however, by Poole's statement that some are of a nondescript shape that defies description and I have discovered in the Rich collection in the Durban Museum one copy with a stop that is vertically rectangular.

It is hard to resist the conclusion that both settings were in existence at the same time as I have a block (shown in Fig. 2) on which all the stops are round except on the left upper stamp which bears one round and one square stop. As Mann observes "it is just conceivable that an overprinted pane may have been accidentally introduced into a batch set aside for later overprinting." Unless the Ferrari block was later broken up and four of the stamps have now come into my possession, this procedure must have occurred twice, which seems unlikely. Of course, many of these varieties may have been produced for philatelic reasons, in which case anything could have happened!

Settings with and without stops gave rise to double overprints as well as se-tenant stamps with and without overprints (Figs. 1 and 3). The double overprints, in particular, must make one doubt the integrity of the printers in those far-off days. Fig. 2 shows the double overprint with the first practically coinciding with the second, but I have a cover addressed to Paris which bears a strip of three with the top stamp with single overprint while the other two have the overprint both at the top and the bottom of the adhesive.

The overprint appears inverted both with and without stop, and in the former case should be available with round or square stop. I have not seen such a copy with a round

stop; Mr. Douglas Roth was once in possession of a pair with inverted overprint with square stops. If Mann was correct as to the incidence of square stops in the setting, the last mentioned pair is an impossibility and this certainly casts doubt on Mann's assumption.

An examination of the letters composing the overprint shows a certain number of varieties which one would expect in the circumstances. These are of the following nature — broken letters, different sizes and letters out of line. They add interest to the study of the stamp and could assist in plating and settling the controversy as to the settings if a number of large pieces could be assembled for study. I have endeavoured not to be dogmatic and if no definite conclusions have been arrived at in the course of this article, I hope I have succeeded in showing how much interest lies in gaining a knowledge of the ½d Provisional of Zululand, S.G.12.

The First "Post Office" in South Africa

As far as historically can be ascertained, the first letter ever left in Southern Africa was left early in 1501 by Pedro d'Ataide at Aguada (Watering Place) Sao Bras, the present Mossel Bay. Pedro d'Ataide was a Captain in the fleet of Pedro Alvares Cabral, the third voyage round the southern point of Africa to India. Cabral's fleet met with a terrible tempest in attempting to round the Cape, but on the return journey from India, Pedro d'Ataide touched at the Watering Place of Sao Bras (Mossel Bay) and left a letter in a Portuguese seaman's shoe in a tree. At the Watering Place (the fountain is still running) is to this day a large Milkwood tree. This tree, the famous Post Office Tree, is today a National Monument.

In this letter d'Ataide gave information to the following fleet from Portugal. Amongst others he mentioned the antagonism of Calcutta towards the Portuguese. Shortly afterwards another Captain of Cabral, Sancho de Tovar, also entered this Bay and it is possible that he left another letter with additional information.

The letter of d'Ataide was found by the Fourth Portuguese Fleet to India under Joas da Nova on 7th July, 1501. The information



about Calcutta was appreciated and he was forewarned. Da Nova also left an inscription on a stone in 1501 at Mossel Bay and this was found at Mossel Bay in about 1850.

Antonio de Saldanha was the first navigator to enter the present Table Bay in 1503. He was one of three commanders of the Fifth Portuguese Fleet to India. The present Table Bay was henceforth known as Aguada de Saldanha. He was also the first European to climb Table Mountain and probably also named it Table Mountain. Aguada de Saldanha was changed to Table Bay in 1601 by the Dutch navigator Joris van Spillbergen. It is possible that this navigator mistook the present Saldanha Bay for (the Portuguese navigator) Saldanha's Aguada de Saldanha (the present Table Bay), and thus this name was transferred to the present Saldanha Bay. I can find no record of any letters or inscriptions left by Antonio de Saldanha at the present Table Bay.

There are no records of any other letters found at Table Bay or anywhere in Southern Africa before about 1613. These were the letters of the factors of Captain Downston's Fleet (English).

It is therefore correct to say that the letter of Pedro d'Ataide left at the present Mossel Bay in 1501 in a seaman's shoe in the old milkwood tree was the first letter ever left in South Africa, and the old milkwood tree therefore becomes the first "Post Office" in South Africa.

G. H. P. DE BRUIN.

Auction News

Some realisations in auction no. 34 of Collectors' Mail Auctions are listed.

South Africa

- KG V 1913 $\frac{1}{2}$ d, 1d, 2d, 3d, 6d, 1/-, 2/6 and 5/- overprinted "Specimen" R30
- KG V £1 olive-green and red, SG 24a, mint R125
- KG V 2d mint, no watermark R25
- 1930 $\frac{1}{2}$ d Springbok horizontal pair with printed centre die of head only on gummed paper with wmk. Springbok upright R100

- 1961 Republican def. set of singles with cylinder numbers, mint R11
- 1927 Postage Due proof of red frame in imperf. marginal block of four R61
- 1970 Postage Due 4c cylinder corner block of four (288/263) on Harrison paper R35
- Anglo-Boer War cover of British POW to Marseilles, 11/1/1900, with Commandant Generaal mark Walvis Bay cover, 1906 registered to New Zealand, with Cape stamps R105
- R56

South West Africa

- 1923-24 Overprint type III, 1d mint block of 8 with error due to fold-over during overprint: one stamp has only the Z of Zuidwest (SG 17) R150
- 1923 Overprint type VI on 3d deep blue, mint corner block of four, one stamp without stop R50
- 1923 Overprint type VI, £1 green and red, top right corner block of four, with control, mint R46
- 1927 1d and 6d both in mint blocks of four with errors of no stop R38.50
- 1927 5/- horizontal pair used, variety no stop (SG 66a) R17
- Bechuanaland 1897 $\frac{1}{2}$ d Cape overprinted, cancelled by numeral 1061 R20
- Cape 1880 "3" on 3d, the two types in used vertical pair R72
- Griqualand West 1897 1d with black and red overprint Type 17, both inverted, mint (similar to SG 93b) R39
- Natal 1902 Edward VII £1 black and bright blue, used at Melmoth, Zululand (1907) R120
- Rhodesia 1910-16 Double Heads £1 carmine-red and bluish black, with printing streaks, mint R133
- Rhodesia Double Heads 4d perf. 15 x14, mint horizontal pair R136
- Rhodesia Double Heads, 4d perf. 15 x 14, mint single R116
- Stellaland 1884 1d with pen cancellation R5.50
- Tristan da Cunha 1946 Potato Label, block of 4 of the 1d, unused R25.50
- East Africa campaign: 1917 postcard written by S.A. soldier from Dar-es-Salaam to Pretoria, pmk. FPO 343 R25

The Southern African Material at RSA 10

By Manfred Weinstein, R.D.P.S.A.

There has never before been such a splendid display of Southern African philately on display in this country as at the RSA 10 International Stamp Exhibition. My brief summary can obviously highlight only the most important of items.

In particular, the Cape and Transvaal collections on show at RSA 10 will stand out as highlight exhibits. Also on view were four of the five best Union collections known to exist.

INVITED EXHIBITS

Cape of Good Hope, by the Louise Boyd Dale Lichenstein Foundation of New York.

Cover franked by a block of four 1d Woodblocks, one being the 4d error of colour. Block showing the tete-beche Woodblocks. Cover with a multiple of eight of the 1d on blue paper. Three Woodblock 1d errors of colour, in blue and milky blue. Woodblock 4d pair, one with a corner retouch. Woodblock deep blue pair on cover.

Stellaland, by H. R. Holmes of the U.K.

This exhibit included four Stellaland covers, including the surcharge "Twee" on cover. Pencancelled and postmarked copies. Imperforate stamps. Fiscals.

Anglo-Boer War Postal Markings, by N. C. Combrink of South Africa.

A representative array of censor, POW and camp marks. The round and the rectangular "Gezien" marks on mail from British POW's held in Pretoria, plus Commandant Generaal mark of 25th Nov. 1899. Cover with four different Bermuda camp marks.

Cape of Good Hope, by R. A. G. Lee of the U.K.

Triangulars printed by Perkins, Bacon and by De la Rue. Marginal block of nine Perkins, Bacon 1/- in deep green. Multiples in slate blue and steel blue.

Unusual 19th Century S.A. Postal History, by J. M. Weinstein of South Africa.

Early Basutoland and Griqualand West covers. First known covers (1885) from South West Africa. Transvaal and New Republic combination covers. Transvaal 1894 Malaboch War cover.

Union of South Africa Used Abroad, by S. J. Hagger of South Africa.

Unions used in Swaziland, Basutoland, South West Africa, and in the field during World War II. Transvaal 10/- used in Swaziland. Transvaal £1 used in Basutoland. Postage dues.

South Africa 1929, by S. Legator of South Africa.

Hunter Penrose Essays and Darmstadt Proofs.

German Colonies and P.O.'s Abroad, by G. Bülbring of South Africa.

Including a number of very early South West African postmarks.

Forgeries, Reprints, etc., by A. L. Meyburgh of South Africa.

Including imitations of Cape triangulars, Unions, etc.

Canadian Contingent, S.A. War, by J. W. T. Wannerton of South Africa.

Postal history of the Canadian Contingent in South Africa — covers, cachets, etc.

COMPETITIVE

Cape of Good Hope, by I. R. Goldblatt of South Africa, awarded a silver-gilt, with special prize.

This exhibit featured the pre-adhesive postal history of the Cape and included a Briefstok letter, prestamp markings, the C.G.H. 1818 Packet Letter mark on cover, and the Worcester Postmaster's private handstamp.

Cape of Good Hope, by E. Berms of West Germany, awarded a silver-gilt medal.

Prestamp letters and marks. Mint blocks and multiples of triangulars, beautifully mounted.

Cape of Good Hope and Selected Mafeking, by H. E. Levitt of the U.S.A., awarded a large gold medal and National Grand Prix.

Cover to Jan van Riebeeck. Double VOC mark. 1853 triangular with watermark sideways. Block of 14 of the 4d deep blue on blue

paper, used. Block of 12 4d blue on slightly blue paper. Unit of three 4d blue with postmark of Potchefstroom, 3 Oct. 1865. Earliest known cover to overseas destination, 7th September 1853, with pair of 4d deep blue on deeply blued paper. Three copies of 1d deep rose-red on white paper, paying a 3d newspaper rate to England at 1d per ounce. Marginal block of 36 4d blue, Perkins Bacon 1855, mint. Block of nine mint of Perkins Bacon 6d deep rose lilac. Two copies of 4d black (9 are known).

Woodblock of four 1d on cover. Cover with Woodblock 1d and Perkins Bacon 4d. Unused Woodblock pair, vermilion. Cover with unit of three Woodblock 1d, plus single 1d — including the 4d error of colour. Unused 1d blue, error of colour. Five used copies of 1d blue, error of colour. Two used copies of 4d vermilion, error of colour. Woodblock pair of 4d pale bright blue on cover. Woodblock 4d deep bright blue on cover. All shades of 4d Woodblocks. Woodblock 1d in carmine, brick red and dull vermilion.

Mafeking Bicycle, complete sheet of 12. Block of four of the imperforate essay of the Bicycle. Blocks of four of Baden-Powell mint. Block of four of 1/- on 4d, with double surcharge on the lower pair. Strip of three with double surcharge, one inverted (five copies exist).

Cape-o-Rama, by I. R. Goldblatt of South Africa (awarded jointly with the first entry above).

Covers to Cape governors and other leading personalities, with photographs of and brief notes on the addressees — a novel exhibit.

Cape of Good Hope, by R. E. Hunt of South Africa, awarded a silver-gilt medal.

Prestamp covers — to Van Riebeeck, with VOC marks and Cape markings. 1855 1d triangular with watermark sideways. Block of four 1d Woodblock on cover. De la Rue 1d deep carmine red with Crown CC watermark. Plate proofs, and forgeries.

Forerunners of Union, by C. S. Rosenberg of South Africa, awarded a silver medal.

A variety of pre-Union material. Mint sheet of the Commando Brief label. OVS covers and OVS postcards of various printings. Transvaal combination and New Republic covers.

Natal, by M. E. Legnazzi of Switzerland, awarded a silver-gilt medal.

Prestamp Natal covers from 1852. Embos-

sed issue on cover. Chalon Heads in multiples on cover. Three 1d and three 3d on cover, pen cancelled. Victorian die proof. Edwardian proofs, also composite die proof of 1d purple. Specimens. Piece with £1 used in Cape. Colour trials of Telegraph Stamps. NGR perforations. Two Madagascar combination covers of 1895.

(To be continued)

Letters By The Million

Last year, the Post Office handled 1 678 000 000 postal articles at a total of 3 034 offices, of which 1 738 were post offices and 1 296 postal agencies.

And, according to the Post Office Annual Report for 1969—70, fifteen and a half million articles were undelivered. The value of the contents of undelivered articles was R4 150 000.

The report is crammed with staggering statistics. Did you know that the Post Office was a R670 million business employing 35 000 people? Or that South Africa's outward bound airmail was carried by 18 airlines?

The total number of post offices shows a decline from 3 086 in 1967—68 and 3 059 in 1968—9, but this is due to a drop in the number of postal agencies as 86 new post offices were opened in the last three years.

The stores depots handled requisitions for R21 million's worth of postage stamps, there were just on 200,000 private boxes and 15 000 private post bags, and 8 218 licensed franking machines. There were 5 769 posting boxes (pillar boxes) other than those on PO premises.

Three million taxed letters were handled.

Airmail articles amounted to 137 million, of which 101 million were letters and 19 million airletters.

The report says that equipment which automatically separates newspapers, large letters and packets from the rest of the mail, and then faces the remaining items and cancels the postage stamps, was installed and brought into use at Pretoria, Cape Town, Port Elizabeth, Durban and Johannesburg.

A machine capable of performing the facing and cancelling operations only was installed at Pietermaritzburg, and similar machines are on order for Bloemfontein, East London and Germiston.

SOCIETY NEWS

PRETORIA RAILWAY SOCIETY

May. The members were entertained by a visit from the Pretoria Philatelic Society under the leadership of Cmdr. Enoch when Miss Esterhuizen staged an exhibit of Meter Franks and Slogans from just about all over the world, excluding S. Africa. Mr. A. Reynard followed with an exhibit entitled "Why Collect Stamps" and thereafter Cmdr. Enoch put up his two frames consisting of 16 sheets of Siam and 16 sheets of Shanghai which he intended exhibiting at the RSA 10 exhibition.

Suitable votes of thanks were extended to the exhibitors and for the hospitality received.

EAST LONDON PHILATELIC SOCIETY

May. In spite of many members being away at Cape Town, and on holiday overseas, 19 members and 4 visitors came along and enjoyed a new innovation, a "Popular Vote Competition". There were four entries of 20 pages each submitted by Mrs. Bradley, Mrs. Hutchinson, Mrs. Nicholas and Mr. Knibbs. The voting of the members resulted in a tie between Mrs. Hutchinson and Mr. Knibbs. Mr. Eagle had donated a prize for the winner, and this was presented to Mrs. Hutchinson, and another prize will be obtained for Mr. Knibbs. From what I have been told, all present enjoyed this new idea (for us!), and probably gave members some idea of the difficulties judges do encounter. We are now looking forward to a visit, with displays, from our friends of the Port Elizabeth Society on the 19th June.

SOCIETY OF ISRAEL PHILATELY

May. Notwithstanding the sudden cold weather the attendance was back to normal. After the Hon. Editor informed members of a new issue of stamps in honour of the Festival of SHAVUOT (he expressed the fear of this becoming an annual event and thereby increasing the number of stamps issued each year) Dr. Max Wulfsohn tabled an extensive display of "THE INDEPENDENCE ISSUES OF ISRAEL" which was preceded with the reading of a comprehensive paper. Dr. Wulfsohn was suitably thanked on a fine display. Mr. G. Bowman read a very short paper which he prepared on the subject of "CONCORDANCE VIA COMPUTER". The meeting then concluded with a small but interesting and successful Auction.

BELVILLE PHILATELIC SOCIETY

May. The first item on the agenda this evening was Eddie Beunderman's talk and this month he delivered a most enlightening talk on watermarks and explained their purpose, how they are made

and also some of the better known examples were displayed in an enlarged form.

As it was President's Night, this was followed by Hugh Lee's exhibit of leaves from various collections he has compiled over the years. In this way he showed various methods of mounting and arranging sheets to achieve differing effects.

After tea he continued to hold the floor and gave a most interesting practical demonstration of the use of black light and ultra-violet light. We thank Hugh for a most enjoyable and instructive evening.

MASHONALAND PHILATELIC SOCIETY

May. The Chairman welcomed the 29 members and visitors present. He advised that in the event of Salisbury being selected as the venue for the 1972 Philatelic Federation of Southern Africa Congress, Mr. J. A. Walters had kindly agreed to act as Chairman of the Exhibition Committee, which would need to be formed.

The main event of the evening was the viewing of Mr. R. M. Thomson's excellent display of the "First Issues of Southern Rhodesia" — a collection indeed to be proud of and well worth seeing to give one ideas on lay-out, writing up, etc.

Additional Earlier Meeting: 27.5.1971. 14 members and 3 visitors attended the additional meeting and were very well entertained with the viewing of Mr. W. Baeck's excellent early Austrian stamps, depicting many types of paper used, post marks, etc., and Mr. A. S. Annett's very interesting display of Federation, which wove a story of the historical events which occurred during the 10 years of the Federation's existence.

PORT ELIZABETH PHILATELIC SOCIETY

April 24th. The meeting was a Junior Afternoon session. Mr. T. J. Strachan, who stood in for the president, Mr. Bülbring, who was unable to attend, welcomed approximately 30 juniors and a number of parents.

A demonstration was given explaining how used stamps should be removed from paper, dried and pressed, ready for mounting in albums. Some juniors presented stamps on paper which were removed and returned to them at the end of the meeting.

A talk was given with illustrations on how perforations first came into being and the purpose they serve in the Post Office and to Philatelists for identification purposes. This was then followed by a further talk explaining the purpose of water marks and how they are formed in the paper by the manufacturers.

Cokes and cakes were provided which rounded off a very pleasant afternoon.

May 4th. 30 members and visitors attended the first meeting of the month.

This meeting was one of a series of "One Country" nights, which the Society is introducing with the object of encouraging both new and old members to display their stamps. This evening was designated a "Swiss Evening".

The result was a little disappointing as only two members, Mr. Bülbring and Dr. Jankowitz provided exhibits.

Mr. Bülbring, in an interesting address, traced the postal history of Switzerland from the Cantonal administration to the present time. His exhibit commenced with the issues of 1850 and proceeded through various issues of characters and pro-juvenile stamps.

A comprehensive display of official and of various organisations based in Switzerland, such as the International Labour Organisation and the Postage Dues, completed the exhibit.

Dr. Jankowitz provided a small display of more recent issues, including a number of booklets which well illustrated the excellence of the printing of these stamps.

After a vote of thanks had been passed to the exhibitors, the evening ended with a well patronised auction.

PHILATELIC SOCIETY OF JOHANNESBURG

At the first meeting in May Mr. Roediger showed a fine collection of Switzerland which he had started many years ago as a boy and which he had only recently pulled out again to resume making up the deficiencies. Mr. Birkhead then showed Mafeking. Both exhibitors gave interesting introductions to their displays. Dr. von Varendorff proposed a vote of thanks to Mr. Roediger and Mr. Tilney to Mr. Birkhead. Before commencing with the auction Mr. Oppenheim asked members for their opinions regarding the lack of interest shown in auctions. It was generally agreed that prices asked for auction material were too high.

At the second meeting Mr. Economides showed a selection from his vast collection of United States. Mr. Seligmann proposed a vote of thanks for a very fine display which included many rare items not often seen. It was amusing to note that Mr. Economides spoke at length on his exhibit without once mentioning which country he was going to show. To most of us, of course, this was not necessary as he is known as "Mr. United States".

PHILATELIC SOCIETY OF NATAL

5th May. A well attended meeting enjoyed an exhibit of Mr. D. C. C. Castle of Pietermaritzburg, entitled "Some Aspects of the History of the British Commonwealth on Stamps". An entertaining talk accompanied the exhibit.

The second part of the evening was devoted to Mr. Whysall's demonstration of the removal of "rust" from philatelic material. His main argument, and we agree with him, is that "it is better to have a clean mint stamp without gum than to have a dirty, rusty stamp that could not be put into your collection."

19th May. Swop Night. In the absence of Dr. Duncan, who, along with several other members, is attending the Exhibition in Cape Town, Mr. J. Kriste took the chair. There was a good attendance

of members and an excellent display of Swiss material was put on by Mrs. E. M. Vera.

Mr. Brian Hill then conducted the auction in his own inimitable style, and then a large number of members got down to the serious business of "Swopping".

PRETORIA PHILATELIC SOCIETY

June 7th. The meeting was entertained by a visit from Mr. Herman Steyn who gave an interesting talk on matters philatelic.

There were three entries for the Allan Cup. First was Mrs. Crowley's Great Britain 1952-69. An attractive display, in spite of showing some of the world's outstanding monstrosities, she ignored watermarks and minor varieties, which is quite in accordance with Allan Cup rules. The rules of this competition give an abnormal emphasis to the writing up.

Next was Mr. K. H. Winter's commemoratives of the Republic of South Africa. The writing up of this collection made an impact but occasionally failed to give vital information.

Mr. C. T. Williams' collection of Liechtenstein included rare stamps, interesting items of postal history and superb writing up.

Mr. Williams was voted the winner and is to be congratulated on a most attractive display, and we should like to thank the unsuccessful entrants for all the trouble they have taken to put their stamps on show for us.

The Exchange Superintendents regret to report a case of substitution in the exchange packet. A fiscally used specimen has been substituted for a postally used copy of Natal £1-10-0 (S.G. 143). They appeal to the person responsible to return the stamp concerned (anonymously, if preferred) and clear their conscience of the crime of theft from a fellow member.

GERMISTON PHILATELIC SOCIETY

June. A fairly good attendance of 14 members and two visitors under the Chairmanship of the President, MRS. C. DE KOCK.

In keeping with the current R.S.A. festivities in our City and Country, we had a "R.S.A. EVENING". Three exhibits tabled by our Members . . . MRS. C. DE KOCK, A. RIX and P. DE WET, all of mint Republic Stamps neatly mounted, well written up and enjoyed by all present. The exhibitors were thanked by Mr. J. Hagger who also gave us a report on the R.S.A. 10 International Exhibition just held in Cape Town where he was one of the panel of International Judges.

THE O.F.S. PHILATELIC SOCIETY

May. The Vice-President, Mr. Hagen, presided in the absence of the President, Mr. Scott, and the meeting began with the ever popular auction being conducted by Mr. Weil in the absence of our regular auctioneer, Mr. Meyburgh. Material for the auction was provided by "Oom Danie" Eksteen

and Mr. Scott, and bidding was brisk.

The main item on the agenda was the Junior competition. Entries were received from the following:

- G. Bierman — Churchill on Stamps.
- R. Vinen — Lesotho.
- P. Bernard — Tourist attractions of France.
- B. Lee — Sport and Birds on Stamps.

Mr. Weil judged the collections of P. Bernard (winner) and B. Lee (runner-up). Well done, Juniors! We look forward to seeing more entries for the next competition, which it is hoped will be held in March/April 1972.

The main exhibit of the evening was Mr. Meyburgh's "Brussels Fair".

Despite the small attendance, those present had an enjoyable evening.

THE POST OFFICE TREE PHILATELIC SOCIETY

The Society reports that to celebrate the inauguration of our Automatic Telephone, which will take place on the 19th June; with an official function at which the Postmaster-General, Mr. Rive, will perform the opening ceremony, and which will be attended by many notables from our town and Cape Town; they are producing for us our very own First Day Cover.

These will be produced in a very limited edition, for sale at the scene of the Opening, at 25 cents each, duly serviced. They will be somewhat similar to the Mossel Bay First Day Covers familiar to you celebrating the New Postmark, and the Da Gama Cross, and will bear the Post Office Tree Postmark.

AFRIKAANSE FILATELISTEVERENIGING

Junie. Mnr. M. P. Vorster, ondervoorsitter, het vertel van die filateliese kongres in Kaapstad en van die RSA 10 internasionale seëltentoonstelling en die verrigtinge wat daarmee gepaard gegaan het.

'n Hele aantal lede het pryse by die uitstalling verower, en mnr. Lou Abrams net die hoë onderskeiding verwerf deur die nasionale Grand Prix te verower, met daarby die spesiale prys vir die beste inskrywing deur 'n Suid-Afrikaanse versamelaar.

Mnr. Seelig het by die vergadering sy Franse gedenkseëls vertoon, en vyf nuwe lede is aanvaar.

SOUTH AFRICAN STAMP STUDY CIRCLE

April. Mr. Jack Burrell gave an interesting talk on "Perfins", with many examples.

Mr. Busser gave a detailed talk on paper-making, covering the history of paper, and the details of how the watermark is put into the paper. He also had samples for viewing under a microscope of paper made from different basic materials.

May. That stalwart, Jack Burrell, came to the fore again with his collection of freaks and printing

abnormalities of the Republican series. Besides having them on view, he gave a talk on how they all came about.

June. Our President tabled a very nice letter from Mr. Steyn, the Head of the Philatelic Services, thanking the Study Circle for the gift of a "Black Light". According to the "tone" of this letter, "officialdom" is becoming much more friendly — at least in the philatelic world!

Many items of interest were shown, including an example of the 12½c "Nurses" stamp with the "missing red cross".

The delegates to congress in Cape Town reported back, and gave some details of the RSA 10 Exhibition.

AFRIKAANSE PHILATELISTIESE VERENIGING VAN PRETORIA

Junie. Een van die uitstaller vanaand was mev. A. R. Nel met 'n baie mooi versameling van seëls van Suidwes-Afrika. Die versameling is nagenoeg compleet, sonder afwykings ens., en is opmerklik mooi en netjies opgestel. Die ander versamelings is vertoon deur mnr. A. Havenaar, eers diere op seëls in Afrika, wat 'n baie kleurryke geheel gevorm het in die trant waarin ons dit so stadigaan van mnr. Havenaar gewoon geraak het. Verder het mnr. Havenaar sy kinderseëls van Nederland vertoon, vanaf die eerstes in 1923 tot die jongste stel. Elke stel is ongebruik sowel as gebruik, vir elke stel 'n afsonderlike bladsy. 'n Baie mooi versameling, met sorg opgestel, van 'n interessante onderdeel van Nederland.

Ons het twee besoekers gehad, nl. mnr. H. Steyn en mnr. F. Reinders van die Filatelie-diens van die Poskantoor. Mnr. Steyn het 'n baie interessante toespraak gehou, waarin hy die verskillende maniere waarop die Filatelie-dienste sal verander en hoop om te verbeter duidelik aangedui het. Ons is die twee besoekers baie erkentlik dat hulle ons besoek het.

EXPERT COMMITTEE

The next meeting of the Expert Committee of the Philatelic Federation of Southern Africa will be held on Saturday, September 18th, 1971.

SOUTH & S.W. AFRICA



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THE SPRINGBOK, magazine of the South African Collectors' Society for Union and Republic collectors. Subscription R2 a year. Membership: Secretary, R. E. Mason, 137 Lichfield Court, Richmond, Surrey, England.

SWEDISH Military Philately wanted. Write first: S. J. Vermaak, Box 2272, Johannesburg.

IF STAMPS OF — Germany, Austria and other Western European countries are wanted, first try us.—S.A. STAMP CENTRE P.O. Box 6891, Johannesburg. Telephone 22-1391. (Want lists invited).

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Grave Concern About Curle Stamps

Grave concern about the deteriorating condition of the Curle Collection of Transvaal stamps in the Africana Museum, Johannesburg, was expressed at the last meeting of the Executive Committee of the Philatelic Federation of Southern Africa.

Several speakers referred to the Curle Collection during the discussion on the desirability of keeping an eye on collections housed in museums, so as to ensure their proper preservation.

Mr Harry Birkhead described the deterioration which was apparent when the collection was recently viewed and said that the housing of the collection had become a cause of alarm. A number of members who had seen the collection, elaborated on the state it is in and Mr Manfred Weinstein said the covers in the Curle Collection have already been ruined.

Mr S. J. Vermaak said that he was a member of the Africana Museum Liaison Committee and he was prepared to pursue the matter on behalf of Federation.

Cmdr C. E. D. Enoch said that he was given to understand that the Natal 3d embossed tête-bêche pair in the Durban Museum was in danger of slowly disintegrating. Only six tête-bêche pairs were known and four of these were in museums.

Mr C. Whysall replied that the Hurst Collection in the museum was currently being taken care of and partially re-

mounted by Mr A. Leslie Leon.

The Executive Committee decided to call for reports on the condition of these two collections at its next meeting on 12th November from Mr Vermaak and the Natal Philatelic Society, respectively.

(Mr J. Herbert Curle thirty years ago bequeathed his Transvaal collection, said to be the finest ever formed, to the Africana Museum. The collection contains numerous unique items and rarities of the first magnitude, including various Transvaal tête-bêches, and formed the basis of the book 'Transvaal Postage Stamps' by J. H. Curle and A. E. Basden.

The collection is not on display to the public but may be viewed by special arrangement. — Ed.)

Rugby Centenary

The centenary of the Rugby Football Union was marked by the 9d stamp in the British "anniversaries" set issued on 25th August, 1971. To coincide with the issue of the stamp, a special cover was released by the Rugby Philatelic Society. Rugby is the Midlands town where the game is said to have had its origins in 1823.

Editorial

On Literature

The complaint is often voiced that philatelists "don't read", which implies that they are mere casual collectors not intent upon really mastering their hobby. We do not think the complaint is entirely justified, but it does point to an unfortunate reluctance to thoroughly study a collecting field.

Collectors do read — in the first place, catalogues. A substantial proportion also read or at least page through stamp journals, auctioneers' catalogues and dealers' offers lists. They pay attention to new issues news and try to spot bargains advertised by dealers. But, and this is where the real problem lies, this is the sum total of the philatelic reading of the majority of collectors.

Only a minority of collectors refer to specialist handbooks and publications covering their field of interest. We can think of three possible reasons for this: not knowing which publications are available, not knowing where to obtain publications a collector knows to exist, and lastly a "can't be bothered" attitude.

To those in the last group we can but say: think it over. It pays to be well versed in one's field — it is only in your own interest to study what others have written about the stamps you are collecting.

To those desirous of extending their philatelic reading but not knowing where to pick up the leads, we can suggest that they enquire through their society and its honorary librarian, and that they approach advertisers in this journal. A collector stands only to gain by studying the literature pertaining to his field, and we would that more collectors avail themselves of philately's published word.

THE EDITOR

Thanks!

More donations towards the publishing cost of *The S.A. Philatelist* have been received in the past weeks. The Philatelic Society of Natal has sponsored two pages by sending R40, while R50 was received from Stamp Deals, a stamp brokerage firm. Mr H. A. J. Stead has contributed R3.

The East London Philatelic Society contributed R40 — that means a sponsorship of two pages of our journal — while Dr F. Drusinsky, also of East London, sent R5. Mr S. Kaganson of Cape Town donated R40, which is the biggest personal contribution received so far.

Caribbean Study Group

Collectors of West Indies will be interested in the work of the British Caribbean Philatelic Study Group, being Unit 27 of the American Philatelic Society. The study group publishes a bi-monthly journal, the latest issue of which contains an article on the British FPO markings currently in use in Anguilla.

Enquiries about membership may be directed to A. N. Johnson, 2610 Virginia Street, Baytown, Texas 77520, USA.

AFV Verleen Volle Steun

Een van die eerste verenigings wat sy uitvoering aangekondig het van die kongresbesluite in verband met *The S.A. Philatelist*, is die Afrikaanse Filatelistevereniging van Johannesburg.

Die vereniging gaan sy ledegeld vir 1972 van R1.00 tot R1.50 verhoog om die heffing vir die tydskrif te dek. Dit beteken dat die vereniging nie ledegeld vir die verkryging van lopende inkomste gebruik nie, want die R1.50 per lid word net so vir die tydskrif oorbetaal.

Mnr. E. Thamm, eresekretaris van die AFV, sê dat sy vereniging die *S.A. Philatelist* heelhartig steun. Afgesien van die heffing waarvolgens elke lid van Januarie af die tydskrif gaan ontvang, word moontlikhede ondersoek om die tydskrif aan jonglede beskikbaar te stel en het die vereniging 'n milde bydrae van R200 tot die *S.A. Philatelist* gedoen.

SOUTH AFRICAN NOTES

by Dr. H. J. Raubenheimer

Definitive Series Discontinued Printings

Information has been received from the Philatelic Services Pretoria that there will be no more printings of the following values: $\frac{1}{2}$ c Natal Kingfisher, $1\frac{1}{2}$ c Afrikanerbul, $7\frac{1}{2}$ c Maize and $12\frac{1}{2}$ c Protea. No mention has been made of the $2\frac{1}{2}$ c, Groot Constantia, although we know that the design, in its colours, has been used for the 4c value.

The designs, in their colours, of two of the values will be retained, namely Maize, for the 6c and Protea for the 9c. Natal Kingfisher and Afrikanerbul now become obsolete.

RSA10 Covers and Postmarks

It is very likely that collectors of the above items and who visited the Stamp Exhibition, in Cape Town, in May 1971, could have been confused by the variety of covers and postmarks available during that period. And that dealing only with those issued by the Post Office and by the Exhibition Authorities. To obtain the minimum number of covers and postmarks he would have to buy ten covers, two from the Post Office and eight from the Organisers, as well as fourteen postmarks from the Post Office; all the above different.

The covers were a) from the Post Office, No. 16 Interstex and No. 17 RSA10, b) from the Organisers, Army, Youth, Navy, Airforce, "parachute jump", Antarctic and two Boy Scouts.

The postmarks were Interstex 22-31.V.71 and RSA10 31.V.71, Army 25.V.71, Youth 27.V.71, Navy 28.V.71, Airforce 29.V.71. Then there were the postmarks from the datestamps used at the counters each day during the Exhibition. There were eight of them, one for each counter and numbered one to eight, making a total of fourteen.

For those collectors who aim for completeness, and, be assured, there are such collectors, the task is considerably greater, for each of the last mentioned datestamps has a movable date-panel, changed every day, as well as the letter A or B for each day signifying morning or afternoon.

Another item, duly mentioned in the official Bulletin, is the postmark of the Field Post Office for the troops in Cape Town for the

festival celebrations, 17 May to 2 June. Here again is the movable date and the letters A and B. And finally, one can round off his collection with an interesting item, a Strijdom Tower special cover with a 5c RSA10 Strijdom Tower stamp with the special Strijdom Tower postmark of 22.V.71 first day. An attractive cover.

With the wealth of material available for the philatelist the thought may cross one's mind whether it is so welcome and whether the pattern is now laid for future exhibitions.

An Unrecorded Flaw

$2\frac{1}{2}$ c Constantia 419.418

Mr. A. W. Stowell of Pietermaritzburg writes: "I refer to your issue of March 1971 in connection with the redraw $2\frac{1}{2}$ c Constantia stamps from cylinders 419.418. A hitherto unrecorded constant flaw in this regard is that of a 'smudged grapes' variety on stamp number 14 row 5 in the A pane. It will be noticed that on this stamp the two left hand grapes have been completely blotted out by a lilac flaw which gives rise to a 'smudged grapes' variety."

And, sure enough, there was the flaw and a striking one, too. But a surprise was in store for, on referring to sheets bought on the day of issue, 20 January 1971, it was seen that some showed the flaw and others did not. It is obvious that the flaw developed during the early run of the printing. Fortunately, it being the A pane, the sheet numbers were present and number 02514 showed no "broken grapes" but number 08912 — some 6 000 sheets later — showed the flaw.

As it happened, the sheets, five of them, examined for the S.A. Philatelist, did not show the flaw and it consequently was not listed. It will be recorded as an acquired but not a constant variety. This subject was discussed at the S.A. Stamp Study Circle, the facts were confirmed and the query was put whether the flaw could be missing from the sheets on the new glossy paper. That would appear unlikely as the glossy paper only appeared on 22 February 1971 and the flaw appeared while the printing was done on the old "mat" paper between sheet numbers 02514 and 08912.

The Emblem On The 2c RSA10 Stamp

It has been learned that the little emblem on the 2c RSA10 stamp was designed by Mr. Robin J. Blignaut of Graaff-Reinet, and is the emblem of the 1820 Settlers Monument Trust. It was designed in 1961. It has a feature, not normally noticed unless attention is drawn to it. Below the date tablet 1820 are the symbolic roots of the tree above. The roots do appear highly irregular, but look closely at them, exert your imagination a little and what do you find — the letter R.J.B., the initials of Mr. Robin J. Blignaut.

Further Notes On The 2c RSA Stamp

The discovery of this 2c stamp on reversed RSA watermarked paper has led to a search for more of them and interesting results have been reported. Firstly, dealing with the reversed watermarked paper, two distinct shades have been found but both with the light skies. The paper is not glossy and the sheet numbers on the A pane have been found ranging from

08706 to 12391 — we previously reported 88.400 to 94.500.

The normal watermarked paper shows greater variety. There we have both glossy and "matt" papers and shiny gum and dull gum. In fact, specimens bought on the same day show glossy paper with dull gum and matt paper with shiny gum and with very little to distinguish any of them under the ultra violet light. As regards colour there is a relatively great range. Those on the glossy paper are brighter than those on the "matt" paper and there is one on "matt" paper with a strikingly yellow overall colour, quite unattractive. Much reliance cannot be placed on the sheet numbers, for the same number can appear a number of times in large printings such as this one.

International Thematics

The second International Thematic Stamp Exhibition is to be held during May 1972 at Luton, Bedfordshire, England, and is to be known as "U.K. Thematics '72".

The prospectus is available from the information officer, P. Wilkins, 63 Lynham Road, Luton LU2 9JT, Bedfordshire, U.K.

OUT OF THE ORDINARY ...

Gt. Britain:	1911 ½d SG.326 bluish green; very fine mint; Royal Cert. Cat. £15	R40
Guernsey:	1941 1d SG.2a; imperf. horizontal pair; brilliant mint	R50
Cape:	1865 4d SG.19c steel blue; superb used; Royal cert. Cat. £40	R75
Mafeking:	1900 1d SG.18; a most beautiful pair; full O.G.; superb. Cat. £200	R350
Gambia:	1906 ½d & 1d SG.69/70; blocks of 4 and 6; former plate number & broken E; latter on piece 1st Day of issue; superb used. Cat. £72	R120
Hong Kong:	1935 5c SG.134a; Extra Flagstaff; cnr pr; superb used. Unpriced	R50
Kenya:	1938 50c SG.144a; positional blk of 4; mint, very fine. Cat. £35	R60
Nyasaland:	1903 £1 SG.66; well centred; brilliant mint. Cat. £40	R75
Rhodesia:	1909 £1 SG.113b violet o/pt; record copy; well centred; marginal unmounted	R80
	1910 £1 SG.166a Extra Eyebrow var.; well centred; very fine; VERY RARE	R500
	1910 £1 SG.166a; an extraordinary colour variation — reddish purple & slate black; perfectly centred; brilliant mint; A GREAT RARITY	R500
	1913 3/- SG.250 Perf 15; very fine mint; undercatalogued at R48; rare	R120
S.W.A.:	1927/30 1/- SG.64a; No Stop var.; fine mint hor. pair; unpriced; rare	R60
S.Rhodesia:	1964 1/- SG.99a; Queen's head and emeralds omitted; well centred; brilliant unmounted mint; in pair with normal; VERY RARE. Rhod. Cat. R900	R650
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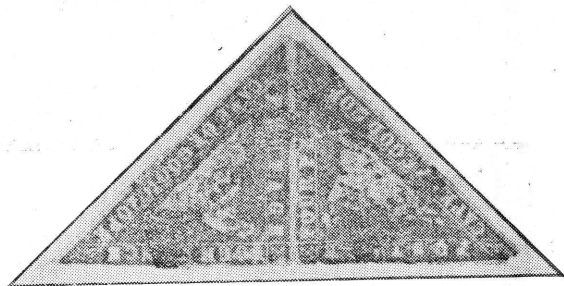
The "Unique" Tête-Bêche of the 1d De la Rue Cape Triangular

by Eliezer Blum

*"By wrestling with perplexing points,
o'er which we prone to wrangle are,
I've proved three cornered Capes so called
because they are TRIANGULAR.*

(John Thomson Jr. in "An Erudite Philatelist")

It is a known fact a tête-bêche pair exists of the 4d Woodblock issue (see illustration) of the Cape Triangulars. The occurrence of this error is due to an accident during the first printing when the corner stereotypes became unfixed and the printer replaced them in the wrong position. Apparently, the error was soon discovered and corrected — this is proved by the woodblock plate in the South African Museum.



*Illustration of the Tête-Bêche error in the 4d
Woodblock issue*

In view of this discovery, somebody must have conceived the idea that, if this can happen in the one recorded instance, it would stand to reason that it could also occur in the later De la Rue printing. Why, then could not such an error be "created"? Had he reflected upon the impossibility (technical) of such an accident in the line engraved process of printing as opposed to the lithographed and very much inferior method of printing as is the case of the so-called Woodblock provisional issue, he certainly would have abandoned the idea! However, be it as it may, the manufacture of this priceless philatelic gem, a unique example of a hitherto unrecorded tête-bêche error in the 1d De la Rue of the Cape Triangulars was actually conceived and executed. The illustration below of a block of 4 incorporating this variety, if not obvious at first glance, would certainly excite

any Cape Specialist who would naturally be led to assume that this is the philatelic discovery of the century!

"The manufactured gem"



Illustration of the 1d De La Rue Tête-Bêche error — note the 2 lower stamps wrongly placed. Postage panel facing ONE PENNY instead of POSTAGE.

Especially so, if he'd spotted it in a Collection without having his attention drawn to it by the Collector. Without realising it, on the spur of the moment, that this would be an impossibility in a recess printed stamp, not to have been noticed, would only amount to so much wishful thinking. After all, large remainders in complete sheets were found of this particular issue and as the Cape has always been known to be a very attractive subject for the student and Specialist, this error could not possibly have been overlooked. If it did exist, it must be concluded that it is constant and in view of the fact that several million of the 1d value were printed, any number of the error in combination would have come to light.

I must confess, without having given any thought to the pertinent points stated in the previous paragraph, I immediately jumped to the conclusion that I have made the biggest discovery of my career as a stamp dealer once I glimpsed the piece and noticed what I naively

believed nobody else did before me. After all, I'd bought this Collection, containing several 100 Cape Triangulars with many multiples, pairs, blocks and covers and although it was formed by a well-known Cape Specialist, the fact that he did not note this error did not disturb me! The excitement only lasted a few minutes — my defeat and disillusionment was cruel when I established, beyond an iota of a doubt, that the "error" was made from 2 perfectly genuine pairs, turned around and so cleverly joined that it took me some time to admit to myself that this is the case. It is a very clever trick and I must say, would fool many an expert, at first glance.

I have kept this piece although I could separate the block and gain two fine used pairs by removing the joined part. On the surface, it is almost impossible to see any trace whatsoever of the joined portion — not even under the lamp — however, on the reverse, after some concentrated scrutiny one can see some paper disturbance. The question which will now be asked — what about the original owner? Did I question him? Of course, I did! He was

not a little amused. He had been taken in when he acquired the block many years ago and, as much as I, so did he at first think that it is a perfectly genuine piece and considered himself lucky to be the proud possessor of such an unique Cape Triangular gem. This was his belief for many years — in those days one did not come across many so cleverly executed repairs — until somebody managed to persuade the original owner to consult an expert committee, which he did.

The result, as one can imagine, was most disappointing, to say the least. He left the block in the Collection "as is" and since he did not include a premium in the valuation, there was no need to have said more. The moral of this story is: Never jump to easy conclusion and don't underestimate the knowledge of a Collector who has specialised in a field and could perhaps know a little more than you would readily accept or believe. My only grudge against the original owner: By omitting to include the condemnatory certificate attached to the piece, he gave me a few uneasy and unnecessary heart throbs!

Orange Free State & Orange River Colony

31st March, 1863 entire letter from Bloemfontein to Beaufort West written by H.A. Hamelburg, the Advocate on the first elected City Council of 1858. Transit handstamp and manuscript "6" in red. Fine item	£45
A selection of other pre-adhesive entires and entire letters ranging in dates from 1859 to 1864 is available from stock. ENQUIRIES WELCOME	
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Many other DIE PROOFS in stock.	

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Scarce Stamps on Cover

Some of the most sought after South African stamps are the "Town Issues", being the provisional local stamps of the Anglo-Boer War. They are listed at the end of the Transvaal section in the Gibbons catalogue.

The stamps are scarce — of some denominations, not priced by Gibbons, only a few hundred copies could ever have existed.

On cover, such stamps are scarcer yet and seldom come on the market. It was therefore most interesting to view a number of Transvaal local issue covers at the RSA 10 International Stamp Exhibition, and to try and gauge their relative rarity.

Expert opinion has it that a fair number of Rustenburg covers exist, mainly addressed to the U.K. and franked by either the 2½d stamp or two 1d stamps and the ½d. The same applies to the Lydenburg issue, of which two covers were on display at RSA 10. A third one, genuinely used, was shown by a member at the meeting of the Anglo-Boer War Philatelic Society.

One of the two Schweizer Reneke covers at RSA 10 was franked by one copy of each of the six values with the "Besieged" overprint, a clearly philatelic item. It is thought that about half a dozen such covers exist, and probably ten to twenty covers franked with between one and five Schweizer Reneke stamps. As far as can be ascertained, only three covers are known to have actually done postal duty (to Cape Town, Cardiff and Reading).

The rarest issue on cover must be that of Wolmaransstad. At RSA 10 Mr C. S. Rosenberg exhibited a beautiful local cover, franked by the ZAR 1d Penny Post commemorative overprinted in fancy style "Cancelled, V-R-I". It is a printed cover of Thos. Leask and Co., addressed to Thos. Leask.

Mr Rosenberg described the item as "the only Wolmaransstad cover known to me". It is, however, now thought that about five or six Wolmaransstad covers are extant. One, franked with the 2d and postmarked on 19th July 1900, is in the Royal Collection in London.

A further two covers were sold in the Rossouw sale (Robson Lowe, 1959). One was franked by the ZAR definitive 1d and addressed to Kimberley, and bears a censor endorse-

ment. The other had the ZAR 1d commemorative, dated 19th July 1900, and was used to Warrenton.

At least one other Wolmaransstad cover is believed to be in a private collection in the U.K. — J.G.

A New Mobile Post Office

Mobile Post Office number 19 was opened on 1st July, 1971. This office serves Klerksdorp, and an impression of its date stamp is illustrated.



The Helicopter Mail

The shaky caption to the helicopter mail photograph in our July issue calls for some adjustment. Firstly, it should be noted that, due to the weather, the proposed parachute drop mail on 26th May 1971 was cancelled. The helicopter mail was substituted. Secondly, our picture does not show the arrival of the mail, but the departure. Upon arrival at the RSA 10 Festival Area at Goodwood, the helicopter hovered in the stadium while an airman descended a suspended ladder with the mailbag.

Censor Seals

The Anglo-Boer War Philatelic Society has set about recording all the censor seals used in South Africa during the 1899-1902 war, with a view to publishing a handbook on the seals. Detailed listings of the seals, their characteristics and use have been published in the last three issues of *The Anglo-Boer War Philatelist*, the society's newsletter, and collectors were invited to comment.

Those of our members who have covers with such seals are welcome to write to the Anglo-Boer War Philatelic Society, giving details about the seals in their own collections. The society's address is to be found under the smalls advertisements at the back of this issue.

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Letter to The Editor

"The Young Ones"

Dear Sir,

Your Editorial "The Young Ones" in the June issue touches a subject of the greatest importance. How often am I being asked by "beginners": "Where and how do I start? Why all the fuss about perforations, types of paper, issues, distributions? Who is going to tell me? Who is going to explain to me?" Here we have our "South African Philatelist" full of interesting articles, contributions by experienced collectors, with descriptions of new and old printings, very often even for a "not beginner" too complicated to follow. Why not a **monthly** article for those who know nothing yet and who are so anxious to learn. I happen to know that our friend "Jobus" (J. Busser) is more than willing to contribute and with his experience, those articles would not only be of extreme interest for the young ones, but many of the older ones would be surprised how much they can still benefit from such information. Let us not forget that our periodical is being read by youngsters, subscribed to by them or bought over the counter and I feel that it is the duty of us to assist them as they help us exist.

Yours faithfully,
Henk Niegeman,
Cape Town.

We appreciate the need, and receipt, of articles of less advanced nature, and publish Jobus' contribution thereto although his article does not appear to be what our correspondent had in mind. — Editor.

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Why And How To Collect Stamps

by Jobus

Those who do not possess the instinct (a native or hereditary factor in behaviour) of collectors often wonder what makes them tick. This instinct can not be acquired through mere endeavour, but is rather something that one is born with. This favour of nature, like all other natural gifts, has to be fostered and guided into certain channels, for which development not every individual is suitably equipped. However, the average collector will derive much pleasure from putting things of a certain nature into groups and is often capable of assembling individual elements together in such a way that the overall appearance of his collection will enhance the beauty of the individual items.

For more than 130 years, the Postage Stamp has provided us with an excellent opportunity to answer nature's call, that is to collect or in some cases hoard these precious little pieces of paper. That this branch of collecting became so popular that it surpasses any other hobby in this respect, is due to a number of advantages. We only need to point out that a fairly large collection can be kept in a comparatively small space, that no matter how young or old you are and whatever your financial status, an abundance of material of your choice is always available.

Furthermore, no other hobby is so well documented for the beginner or the specialist alike and the philatelic field is of such an immense variety, that it is not surprising to see an ever growing number of stamp collectors emerge. One appreciates also the various crafts that are combined to produce postage stamps, such as papermaking, designing, engraving, printing, etc., all of which are extensively studied by specialists. History, geography, ethnology, agriculture, art and numerous other subjects depicted on stamps enhance our knowledge of the world we live in and last but not least, stamps are easy to handle and lend themselves well for making neat arrangements. A well balanced album page with quite common stamps can be very pleasing to the eye indeed.

Although more could be said about the "why" of stamp collecting, the young or old beginner is more concerned about the "how", which comprise the whole philatelic field and thus can hardly be condensed in one article.

Before discussing any technical details, we will firstly consider one of the most difficult aspects of this hobby, which in fact holds for most forms of collecting. We refer to the financial side, nowadays one of the main reasons why stamp collecting is becoming so wide spread that we can almost regard the growth as an explosion. Not that South Africa as yet experiences an expansion as can be observed overseas, but the signs are on the wall that it can happen anytime now. One only needs to keep a watchful eye on the membership lists of Societies, the number of subscribers to philatelic magazines, the number of visitors to philatelic exhibitions and the significant increase of staff at the Philatelic Bureau in Pretoria, to appreciate what is happening.

Any form of serious collecting attracts professional dealers, who are eager to make a profit on their business. Likewise, there are collectors who support their hobby with considerable amounts of money and quite rightly expect some security against financial loss. However, no collector should pursue his hobby with the prime motive of speculation, as this resembles entering the stockmarket which is governed by the slogan: "No sentiment in business". Speculative investment in stamps tends to concentrate on those items that are considered good investments, thus neglecting material that is not attractive to speculators because it is not in the lime light. Also, the investor is not interested in entering the philatelic research field, but leaves this quite willingly and sometimes gratefully to the bona fide collectors, who thus add splendour to their instinct. The ideal situation whereby collecting is not attached to financial strings is far removed from reality at the present and it is therefore that beginners are urged to work out a scheme that suits them best.

Nobody would advise a collector with a small purse to start a collection of real classic stamps, but rather inform him about the fun that can be had with a general accumulation. It is often said and is repeated here, that once the beginners' choice has fallen on a certain country or theme, he should try to obtain the largest packet of wanted material within his means. More expensive items which have to be

acquired to lift the collection **towards** the state of completeness, are best obtained by studying offers in the philatelic press.

Whilst mentioning the latter subject, it should be emphasized that there is no short cut to becoming an advanced collector or philatelist, as only consistent reading of appropriate articles and personal research will elevate a beginner to this status. Literature, dealing with philately, is plentiful and no attempt will be

made here to guide anyone into a certain area of interest, although it is quite obvious that the magazine you are reading now is a must for the collector of South African stamps. However, your personal interest in research might be enhanced, if you are made aware of certain interesting features of quite common stamps. It is intended to do just that in our next article, which might be of interest to advanced collectors as well.

Wrecks And The Philatelist

by A. Leslie Leon, R.D.P.S.A., F.R.P.S.L.

Recently I was discussing with a philatelic friend his intention to start a new collection. He eventually decided to collect covers dealing with wrecks and other disasters and I was able to suggest his purchasing that excellent and enjoyable work "A History of Wreck Covers" by the late Major A. E. Hopkins. He did so and was well rewarded as this book, besides being the standard work on the subject, contains so much interesting information and has so many tales connected with shipwreck that it is akin to a novel.

After re-reading the book, it struck me that I know of no literature connecting the subject with South Africa. In other words, there appears to be no list of covers that could or should be in a collection devoted to South African philately and I shall do my best to remedy the omission.

Hopkins' book appears to refer only to five wrecks which would supply material for our South African collector. These are:

- 1880 s.s. "American" en route from Southampton and Plymouth for Cape Town. The author's cover bears no wreck markings.
- 1900 s.s. "Mexican" sunk in collision with the British Transport "Winkfield" 80 miles off Cape Town. The salvage cachet in red reads "Recovered from/ wreck of Mexican".
- 1919 s.s. "Orca" from which a letter posted at Perth is marked "Received at Durban/ ex S S Orca/ damaged by water".
- 1943 "damaged by sea water/ beskadig deur seewater" appears to be all that is known in connection with two covers forwarded from Cape Town during the Second World War.
- 1943 "Damaged on board" is the cachet on a cover addressed to Johannesburg.

And there you have the sum total of covers of this nature referred to by Hopkins. However, he does tell us of other items which would naturally be included in a collection dealing with disasters. The first category apart from disasters at sea is that dealing with similar affairs on land and the Anglo-Boer War provides an illustration of this type; the author records several items such as covers stamped "Recovered from Mails looted by the Enemy". There are also references to two instances of mail damaged by fire on a train in South Africa. These took place in 1909 and in 1925.

Finally we come to the section dealing with casualties to British Overseas Aircraft which gives us four items with a South African connotation. These are the wreck of the Air Liner "Artemis" in 1936, two in 1939 — the "Corsair" and the "Challenger". In 1944 the British Aircraft "Lyndhurst came to grief in the Aberdare Mountains and the salvaged mail provides an interesting story connected with one of the best known collectors of this type of material, the late I. H. C. Godfrey.

I felt that the search for material of this sort should not end with the perusal of Major Hopkins' book and I found a local production that can help very materially. "South African Airmails" by Capt. M. F. Stern published by The Aero-philatelic Society of Southern Africa contains many examples of local aircrashes which will yield covers for the collection, beginning with the Handley Page flight of 1920 and ending with the Windhoek disaster of 1968. As each item in this handbook is numbered, I propose only to give the numbers of the items which would concern the collector in this field. Those numbers in Capt. Stern's book are: 17, 30, 36, 47, 72, 103, 124, 135, 153, 161, 182, 183, 300, 333, 495, 501.

Congress to be in Showtime

The next Congress of the Philatelic Federation of Southern Africa is to be held in conjunction with a stamp exhibition during the week of Monday 28th August 1972 to Saturday 2nd September 1972, in Salisbury, the capital city of Rhodesia.

The hosts are the Mashonaland Philatelic Society.

At the Executive Committee meeting of Federation in Johannesburg on 30th July Mr Jack Creewel, President of Federation, revealed that the Mashonaland society had plans for the event well in hand. The dates will coincide with the agricultural show in Salisbury.

The Executive Committee set its work for the next twelve months in motion by electing six standing committees. The committees are:

Publications Committee: Drs T. B. Berry and H. J. Raubenheimer, Messrs L. Buchen, J. T. Burrell, J. Groenewald, S. J. Hagger, S. Legator, K. E. W. Lydall, J. Michelson and S. J. Vermaak.

The S.A. Philatelist Management Committee: The Hon. Editor, Hon. Asst. Editor, Business Manager, Hon. Secretary and Hon. Treasurer (being at present Dr Berry and Messrs Groenewald, Vermaak, Lydall and Michelson).

Expert Committee: Cmdr C. E. D. Enoch, Dr H. O. Reisener, Messrs A. F. Reynard, E. Walker and J. M. Weinstein.

Congress Awards Subcommittee: Dr T. B. Berry, Cmdr C. E. D. Enoch and Mr J. M. Weinstein.

Recorded Lectures Committee: Messrs J. T. Burrell, L. Buchen, K. Lydall, R. G. L. Mephius and H. R. Savage.

Philatelic Estates Committee: Messrs N. A. L. Ford, K. E. W. Lydall and K. Wedderburn-Maxwell, plus the five vice-presidents.

The Management Committee for The S.A. Philatelist was founded at the suggestion of Mr Michelson to deal exclusively with the affairs of the magazine. The Executive Committee decided to have a separate standing committee

to this end, rather than a subcommittee of the Publications Committee. This latter committee would now busy itself with all Federation publications other than The S.A. Philatelist.

The next meeting of the Executive Committee was scheduled for 12th November.

Around Us

Lesotho issued a set of four stamps for Soil Conservation on 1st July, 1971. The four values (4c, 10c, 15c, 25r) picture work done in this regard, especially the building of small dams.

This issue draws the attention to one of the most tragic features of Lesotho, being the "state of the land". Basuto farming practice coupled with the system of communal land tenure has denuded and eroded the finest agricultural land, and the erstwhile clear mountain rivers have even at high altitudes become silt rushes. It is saddening to see the overgrazing at 10 000 feet and the attempts to raise maize at 8 000 feet and to sense the pressure of population upon an exhausted soil.

Progress is being made with some pilot schemes for soil rehabilitation, as illustrated by the stamps, and it is to be hoped these schemes can be extended to cover the whole country.

Speaking of agriculture, our other neighbour Botswana has withdrawn its four-value "important crops" set on 5th July, 1971, three months after issue on 6th April.

Botswana will issue a set of five values for its fifth anniversary of independence, in the next few weeks. The values are 3c, 4c, 7c, 15c and 20c.

A "National Development" set is due for Lesotho in October.

The Shackleton-Rowett commemorative set of Tristan da Cunha was withdrawn at the end of August, and the island's next issue is the Longboat set on 1st November. The four values (2½p, 4p, 7½p, 12½p) will depict the launching, rowing and sailing of the island's home-built longboats. These boats and their crews are famous for their performance under adverse conditions, and have helped to establish the South African weather base at Marion Island. The Tristan boatmen undertake annual visits to Nightingale and Inaccessible Islands.

REVIEWS

HJMR Priced Guide to Philatelic Literature.

509 pages, clothbound, \$7.50, published by HJMR Co., P.O. Box 308, North Miami, Fla. 33161, U.S.A. Second edition 1971.

This book represents a tremendous service to keen philatelists and stamp collectors all over the world, for in its 500 pages are crammed details about thousands of handbooks, catalogues, articles and publications on practically all aspects of philately.

It will be appreciated that it will hardly be possible to bring together a "master list of philatelic literature" to cover the past 130 years, yet HJMR Co. has gone far in this direction. Although we did not expect it to be the case, it is even fairly strong in its Southern Africa listings.

The HJMR Co. is able to supply the material listed — about 50 000 items of philatelic literature — at the prices quoted in the "Priced Guide". This is a commendable service. — JG

Branching out in Stamp Collecting, by James Watson, published by Arthur Barker Limited, 5, Winsley Street, London, W.1., U.K. Price: 30s.

This is a follow-up to the book "An Introduction to Stamp Collecting" by Colin Narbeth by the publishers. It is a guide to the stamp collector who, from being a general accumulator, wishes to become a collector in the true sense of the word.

Section 1 covers the philatelic collection and the reader can get some idea as what to select in this field. Section 2 deals with the Thematic collection. The ABC of this section is excellent and it is pleasing to note that the author disagrees with the category "Purpose of Issue" (introduced by F.I.P.). Rather misleading on pages 82, 83 and 84 is a collection of Tell stamps, thinly disguised as a Thematic collection by sheets 9 and 10.

Section 3 dealing with albums, as elsewhere in the book, gives undue prominence to those of Stanley Gibbons as also their catalogue. This book could have been improved with a bibliography. — M.F.S.

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THE NATIVITY WITH SAINTS (Design) by ROMANINO

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One of the 57 countries who use the services of the Crown Agents Stamp Bureau, the largest Philatelic Bureau in the World, to market their stamps.

Collectors wishing to add this issue to their collection, or any of the other issues released this month, should obtain them from their local dealer. Suppliers include:

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A Crown Agents Stamp Bureau announcement

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Cinderella Stamps by L. N. & M. Williams
(published by Heinemann, London, U.K.
Price: £2.50)

This is a truly fascinating book by two authors who have produced many fine philatelic books in the past since 1938 and are past editors of leading journals as well as appearing on TV and radio. This aspect gains many new friends and the group is large as it includes local postage stamps, railway stamps, revenues, Telegraph issues, phantom and bogus stamps, Christmas seals, registration labels and several other classes. Few of these are found in standard catalogues but behind many of these stamps there are romantic stories. The authors give an excellent chapter on their literature and also references throughout the book and complete same after a remarkable coverage with a chapter on Mystery Issues. Besides being exceedingly readable, the various items discussed are also well illustrated. — M.F.S.

British Elizabethan Stamps, by David Porter
(published by Messrs. William Collins
(Africa) (Pty) Limited, retail price:
R5,20.

This excellent publication, which is well illustrated, gives a very good overall coverage and includes the latest Machin definitives. All sections dealing with these stamps are given and they include articles on the commemoratives and their design, the reasons for issuance, postal stationery, the stamps of Guernsey and Jersey, Cinderellas, printing, errors and varieties, and to finish off excellent advice on the collecting of Great Britain's Elizabethans. It should be invaluable to those starting on this field and in addition a reminder to those who have been collecting these stamps. Naturally, in addition to this volume, it would be necessary to consult the catalogues and journals which are given in an appendix. There is also a useful appendix giving postal rates, inland, over the period and also the decimal conversion.
— M.F.S.

BELGICA 72

Information has been received that Capt. M. F. Stern, P.O. Box 3654, Cape Town, has been appointed Commissioner for South Africa for the BELGICA 72 Exhibition to be held in Brussels from June 24th to July 9th 1972.

Any exhibitor desirous of entering or of obtaining any relevant information should contact Capt. Stern.

Auction News

The more important Southern Africa lots realised the following at an auction held by Sprighton Philatelic Auctions in Johannesburg on 19th May, 1971:

South Africa	
KGV £1 SG 24 Fine used	R32
KGV £1 SG 24 Fine used but with tiny rust spots	R22
Airmail letter sheet with interrupted printing of the blue colour, only about one inch showing on the left hand side	R165
Basutoland	
1961 2d with surcharge 2c inverted, SG 60a, mint	R60
Cape of Good Hope	
1863 de la Rue 6d fine used with sideways wmk.	R32
Lesotho	
Postage due 1c, SG D11a, mint plate block of 12, one stamp with LSE flaw	R30
Nyasaland	
1903 KEVII £10, SG 67, overprinted Specimen	R24
Rhodesia	
1898 £5 blue unused, slight gum creasing and centred slightly high, SG 92	R64
1910 10/- deep myrtle and orange, superb used, SG 163	R30
1910 £1 carmine and bluish black used, SG 165	R65
1913 1d perf. 15, carmine, SG 204, unused	R25
Photographic forgery of 1965 Independence comm. 2/6d., hand perf. with "Illegal" and "Due" added	R30
1966 Independence overprint 9d, imprint block of 6 with fading overprint and offset on bottom 4 stamps. Authenticated	R30
As above but without imprint	R28
1966 Independence ovp. 5/- imprint block of 4 which overprint double	R130
Swaziland	
1961 decimal ovp. R1 type III	R24

Philympia 1970 made £1 830 profit

"Stamp Collecting" reports that the Final Report on Philympia 1970 has now been published. Financially, it shows that after repayment in full of the 10% call-up made on guarantors and the repayment of loans, the exhibition made a cash profit of £1 830 — a remarkably close thing on a total budget involving £122 500. The gloomy spot in the Balance Sheet is the loss of over £5 000 on souvenirs, the sales of the three special envelopes being well below the figures anticipated by the traders who advised the Executive. In his report, the Honorary Treasurer, Thomas Traill, states that, in his opinion, this was "the only unsatisfactory heading in the accounts".

Ons R.S.A. 10-seëls

deur prof. F. G. E. Nilant

Vier posseëls het in Mei verskyn om die tienjarige bestaan van die Republiek van Suid-Afrika te herdenk. Vyf jaar gelede het ons ook vier seëls gekry met die vyfjarige bestaan van die Republiek. Maar met een oogopslag sien ons onmiddellik dat daardie seëls heeltemal anders gelyk het as die van vanjaar. Al vier vyfjaar-herdenkingseëls is ontwerp deur een kunstenaar, Cecil Skotness, en al vier het 'n simboliese betekenis. Daar is selfs nadruklik gemeld dat die 1c-seël met sy diamantontwerp nie as 'n herdenking vir die ontstaan van die diamantindustrie beskou mag word nie.

Een ontwerp, wat sterk uiting gegee het aan industrie, is afgekeur. Dit was egter 'n goeie ontwerp en dit is naderhand korter gemaak en in gebruik geneem vir die 15c-posseël.

Die vier seëls vanjaar gee 'n heeltemal ander beeld, 'n sienswyse wat juis teenoorgesteld is aan die mening wat vyf jaar gelede oorheers het. Hierdie slag is daar nouliks simbole. Daar is doelbewus gestrewe na 'n moontlikheid om uiting te gee aan vooruitgang op tegniese en wetenskaplike gebied, gegrondves in geskiedenis en tradisie. Hierdie uitgangspunt het tegelykertyd die bindende gedagte by die seëls geword, wat hulle tot 'n eenheid maak.

In ons geskiedenis moet, saam met die Groot Trek wat al herhaaldelik op ons seëls herdenk is, die Britse Setlaars van 1820-1823 as 'n unieke verskynsel beskou word van 'n strewe na die toekoms, 'n vaste besluit om 'n nuwe bestaan in 'n nuwe land te maak. As ons vandag 'n bietjie nagaan waar die afstammelinge van hierdie Setlaars hulle bevind en watter plek hulle in die samelewing inneem, besef ons dat die strewe van die mense altesins met sukses bekroon is.

'n Soortgelyke strewe tref ons aan by die Vrede van Vereeniging. Hoe pynlik dit vir 'n groot deel van die bevolking in Suid-Afrika was, besef ons nou agterna dat toe reeds die eerste saaitjie geplant is vir die totstandkoming van die Republiek van die hele Suid-Afrika wat dit vandag is. Meer tegniese is die Strydomtoring, wat egter ook 'n eenheid voorstel omdat dit instrumenteel is vir telefoniese verbinding van alle plekke in die land. Die Antarktiese Verdrag is ten slotte 'n beeld van eenheid van wetenskaplike ondersoek, nie net binne Suid-Afrika self nie, maar in samewerking met die hele wêreld.

Niemand kan ontken nie dat met so 'n beplanning vir die herdenkingseëls baie hoog gemik is. Daar is van die begin af baie goed besef dat 'n moeilike taak voorgelê het. Probleme het nie uitgebly nie.

Laat ons met die 2c-seël begin. Die bekende skets van Thomas Baines in die Fehrversameling in Kaapstad was die aangewese afbeelding vir 'n posseël vir die Britse Setlaars: die landing op die kus van Suid-Afrika. Om tegniese redes lyk dit egter asof 'n grafiese kunswerk hom nie baie goed leen vir 'n posseëlontwerp nie. Moontlik maak die lyne dit bietjie skraal, miskien is dit die gebrek aan kleur wat die oorsaak is. Bekende voorbeelde is die Rembrandtseëls van Nederland (1956) waarvoor etse van die kunstenaar as voorbeeld gedien het, en die Albertinestel van Oostenryk (Sept. 1969). Mooi seëls, maar tog ontbreek daar iets.

Ons Setlaars se sloep het aanvanklik verlore geraak tussen 'n veelheid van lyne en 'n massa van opstalende wolke. Op die oorspronklike werk was dit alles verantwoord, maar op die klein oppervlakte van 'n posseël het dit 'n volkome verwarrende effek veroorsaak. Gevolglik is die tekening drasties vereenvoudig, groot lynpartye moes weggelaat word en ten slotte het alle nadruk op die sloep geval, terwyl van die res van die tekening maar min oorgebly het. Maar dit het baie aan duidelikheid gewen.

Wat kleur betref, is daarna gestrewe om soveel as moontlik die indruk van perkament te behou. Die saggeel agtergrond moet hiervoor as suksesvol beskou word en die wit buiterand van die seël dien om voldoende afwisseling te bereik. Die bruin van die afbeelding het hoofbrekens gekos en daar is talle toetse met verskillende tinte geneem. Die rooibruin waarop uiteindelik besluit is, is die kleur wat hom die beste vir die ontwerp geleen het en wat die belangriker dele van die tekening ten beste tot hul reg laat kom het.

Die 4c-seël het ook 'n hele groeiproses deurgemaak. In beginsel is van die staanspoor af met die ontwerp saamgestem. Die lyngolwe, wat groei simboliseer, het eers op die toeskouer afgekom. Om dit te verander, is die ontwerp omgedraai, sodat ons nou die spieëlbeeld van die oorspronklike het. Ons vorm nou self 'n deel van daardie groei en die monument van die Vrede van Vereeniging het betekenis gekry.

Die koppe van die twee presidente van die ou republieke is geteken vanaf gips-bootseerwerk deur die kunstenaars van die reeks seëls, terwyl die bekende beeldhouer Coert Steynberg die skepper van die monument in Vereeniging is. Die oorspronklike medaljons moes verklein word tot posseëlgrootte en dit het aansienlike veranderinge vereis. Die skerp omlynings van die koppe is bietjie vervaag en die baard van president Kruger is bygeteken. Dit is die eerste keer dat die portret van president Steyn op een van ons posseëls verskyn!

Ons moet nie uit die oog verloor dat dit geen foto's is nie, maar gestileerde portrette. Die egale kleur het die besondere effek goed bewaar. Ook by hierdie seëls was daar baie voorstelle wat kleur betref en aanvanklik is 'n bruin tint uitgesoek. In die Republiek sou hierdie twee seëls afsonderlik verskyn, met die twee hoër waardes op 'n vroeër datum. In Suidwes-Afrika sou daarteenoor al vier seëls op dieselfde dag beskikbaar gestel word en sou hulle gesamentlik op een koevert verskyn. Die bruin kleur vir die 4c-seël het in so 'n stel nie ingepas nie en op die laaste oomblik is die groen kleur gekies, waarin die seël uiteindelik gedruk is.

Die 5c-seël is eintlik 'n boodskap oor kommunikasie. Die Strydomtoring het aanvanklik meer in die middel gestaan en daar was twee opvangpierings. Onder die torings was bergies wat bietjie kunsmatig gelyk het. Dit ontwerp was te vol. Gevolglik het die opvangpierings verdwyn en is die bergies deur 'n strak stadsilhoeët vervang. Die toring is na links verskuif, die letters RSA bo mekaar geplaas en ten slotte is ook in hierdie geval die kop van adv. Strydom effens bygewerk. Die kleure, liggeel en blou, het van die begin af vasgestaan, net oor die tinte is later besluit.

Ten slotte was daar vir die 12½c allerlei voorstelle, o.a. met die afbeelding van die navorsingskip „R.S.A.". Daar is besluit dat die embleem van die Antarktiese Verdrag voorkeur behoort te geniet en dat 'n poollandskap in wit en blou 'n toepaslike agtergrond sou wees. Die klein letters aan die onderkant dra baie by tot eenheid van die ontwerp. Die landkaart is ietwat na links verskuif, sodat die lands- en waarde-aanduidings bymekaar aan die regterkant geplaas kon word sonder dat die ewewigsfaktor in gedrang sou kom. Ook is besluit dat die name Sanae en Borga in rooi op die kaart aangegee sal word, waardeur die totale kleurindruk lewendig geword het.

Die Poskantoor het alle ontwerpe en proefvelle van hierdie seëls tydens die RSA 10-posseëltoonstelling in Kaapstad uitgestal,

waar dit baie aandag van die publiek getrek het. 'n Mens is by die aanskouing van sulke tekeninge en proefvelle dikwels geneig om te meen dat die ontwerp en kleure waarop uiteindelik besluit is, tog nie eintlik die beste was nie. Persoonlike smaak speel vanselfsprekend 'n rol. Maar die feit dat die ontwerp plotseling in 'n heeltemal ander kleur gesien word as waaraan 'n mens inmiddels gewoon geraak het, laat die skyn gee van helderder en frisser te lyk.

Deur almal wat daarby betrokke was moes hard gewerk word om die vier RSA 10-seëls tot stand te laat kom. Die betreklik groot aantal proefvelle wat vir hierdie seëls gedien het, is op sigself 'n aanduiding daarvan. Maar dis opvallend dat die besoekers aan die uitstalling by die aanskoue van die voorafgaande pogings deurgaans tot die slotsom gekom het dat die ontwerpe en kleure van die seëls, soos hulle nou is, inderdaad die beste was!

Malaboeh-oorlog

In die April-uitgawe van die S.A. Philatelist is in die artikel „Hoofdlager en Velddienst" vermeld dat daar tydens die Malaboeh-oorlog van 1894 'n posdiens tussen Pietersburg en die kommando „te velde in die distrik Soutpansberg" ingestel was.

'n Posstuk uit hierdie oorlog het nou aan die lig gekom. Dit is 'n koevert in die Transvaal-versameling van mnr. Manfred Weinstein, RDPSA, van Pretoria.

Die koevert is geadresseer na Beaufort-Wes en gefrankeer met die 2d-seël van die ZAR se Enschedé-uitgif. Bo-aan die koevert staan „In dienst / Op Commando", en die afsender het in die linkerhoek van die koevert sy naam geteken:

Henry Holzer
Lieutenant
Pretoria Lager
Blaauwberg
8/7/94

Die seël is gerojear met die dubbelringstempel van Pietersburg, met datum 9 Julie 1894, en op die rugkant van die koevert is die deurgangsmerk W.T.P.O. UP Jy 13, 94 en die aankomstempel van Beaufort West met dieselfde datum.

Totasnog is geen ander koeverte uit die Malaboeh-veldtog bekend nie. — J.G.

THE EXPERT COMMITTEE

Comment is sometimes made, and occasionally criticism is levelled, at the excellent work Federation's Expert Committee is doing, mostly due to the fact that so little is generally known of the inner working of the Committee.

The following extract from "Philately", the Journal of the British Philatelic Association, Limited, is reproduced as it affords an interesting comparative insight into the set up of such a committee.

"The Secretary draws attention to

The British Philatelic Association Expert Committee.

I give below the conditions under which stamps are accepted for Expertisation by the B.P.A. Expert Committee. They should, of course, be sent by registered post; addressed to The Secretary of the B.P.A. Expert Committee, NOT The Secretary, B.P.A., as this is liable to cause delay. It takes approximately 6-8 weeks for an item to be expertised; con-

siderably more work is involved than is generally realised: preparation of plates for photography, etc.

Any Philatelic material is accepted for expertisation; this includes pre-adhesive items.

The following revised scale of charges has been authorised by the Council and applies to all items:

Members	£2.50 per stamp
Non-Members	£4 per stamp

irrespective of whether the stamps are found to be genuine or not.

If the committee declines to give any opinion there will be a minimum charge of 50p plus registration and postage.

Stamps catalogued at £200 or more will be charged:

Members	1½% of the cat. price
Non-Members	2½% of the cat. price

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other than Full Business Members of the Association.

For stamps not listed in the catalogue, or whose value is greatly enhanced when on cover, the charge will be assessed by the Chairman of the Expert Committee, based on known Auction prices. The maximum charge for any Certificate will remain £100.

(The catalogue used will be Stanley Gibbons Ltd., current edition.)

The right will be reserved to charge extra for items involving extensive research and enquiry; also to decline to express opinions on items of nominal value or little philatelic significance which take up more time than they justify.

Any stamps or other philatelic material submitted to the British Philatelic Association Ltd., are at owners' sole risk and neither the Association nor the members of the Expert Committee can accept any liability either collective or individual thereof however caused. No responsibility will be accepted for any opinion expressed by the Expert Committee.

Various colours are used for certificates expressing different opinions:—

YELLOW — for stamps considered genuine.

PINK — for those considered forgeries or fakes.

BUFF printed in green — for items for which the Committee decline to issue a certificate, or which are catalogued £10 or under.

The above fees, which are subject to revision, are charged for each item examined by the Committee, including each stamp in a complete set for which one certificate only is required.

In the absence of instructions to the contrary, material submitted will be returned by Registered Post. All postage, packing and registration charges will be at the cost of the owner.

The submission of stamps or other material involves acceptance of these conditions."

HANDBOOK/CATALOGUES

PRICE CHANGES

By popular request, The S.A. Philatelist will in future feature price changes at public auctions of the more important items of South African stamps. Unfortunately space and time do not permit of a complete repricing. In any

case, this is hardly necessary as all single stamps are priced by cataloguers such as Stanley Gibbons.

Collectors are, however, often in doubt when buying or selling certain major items, simply because they have no authoritative guide. In our small way we hope to dispel such doubts. We are pleased to say that the South African Philatelic Dealers Association (SAPDA) have kindly offered to endeavour to keep collectors informed of price fluctuations.

As far as practicable the catalogue numbers of the Union and Republic Handbook/Catalogues will be adhered to. The listing of the "Stamps of South Africa, Golden Jubilee Edition" will be referred to as UHB and that of the "Stamps of the Republic of South Africa", as RHB.

		Mint	Used
UHB	2a ½d Dark mossy emerald green	R15,00	R10,00
	5a 2d Dark plum	20,00	15,00
	11 1/3 Violet (shades)	3,00	2,50
	15 £1 Green and red	125,00	40,00
	15Ca do Plate pair	320,00	—
	do Plate single	150,00	—
	15a £1 Pale l/grn and red (dated used, with Cert.)	150,00	250,00
	do Plate pair	360,00	—
	do Plate single	170,00	—
RHB	202Ca 1c. Cyls. 25/26S.		
	Unwmkd paper. Pane A	8,00	—
	Pane B	7,50	—
	205Ca 2½c. Cyls. Y4 Y1.		
	Pane A	4,00	—
	Pane B	4,00	—
	Pane C	6,00	—
	Pane D	6,00	—
	205Ce. 2½c. Cyls. S17 S3	3,50	—

Australian P.O. Booklets

The Australian Post Office has published the second and third booklets in its attractive series on "Australian Postage Stamps". The booklets are well illustrated and contain much official information not published before.

"The 1913-14 Recess-printed Series and the King George V Sideface and Pictorial Definitive Stamps", 32 pages, deals with the well-known Georgian series. "The Early Federal Period, 1901 to 1912-13", 24 pages, concerns the postage and postage due stamps in use in Australia after Federation but before the issue of the country's first uniform series in 1913.

Both booklets may be ordered at 50c each (post free, overseas surface mail) from the Philatelic Bureau, 12th floor, 374 Bourke Street, Melbourne, Victoria 3000, Australia.

The Southern African Material at RSA 10

By Manfred Weinstein, R.D.P.S.A.

(Continued from page 221, September 1971)

Transvaal, by C. S. Rosenberg of South Africa, awarded a silver medal.

Potchefstroom postmark of 1864 on cover. 1875 cover with 6d grey, Otto printing, from Bloemhof to Boshof, via Potchefstroom. Various printings of First Republic, also bisects. Bradbury Wilkinson colour trials for QV issue. Imperforate proofs of Enschede issue, and imperforate colour trials in sheets. Two combination covers with New Republic. Three stamps of Ermelo and Carolina local issue.

Natal, by A. Leslie Leon, of South Africa, awarded a gold medal.

Prestamp covers from 1854. Embossed issue on cover. Part cover with 6d and 1/- of 1859. Chalon heads in multiples, also on cover. Strip of three of the 1871 1d rose with two types of Postage overprint, one being SG 44 and two SG 38. QV die proofs in black and in colour. 1875 combination cover from Pilgrim's Rest, Transvaal, through Natal to the USA. Two 1879 Zulu War covers. Durban ship

letter mark of 1889. Two 1895 Madagascar combination covers. New Republic combination cover. Covers of Boer invasion of Natal. Edwardian colour trials of 1½d 2d, 5/- (in 15 colours) and £1 10s. Mint copy of £5. Telegraph stamps. Numeral postmarks.

Transvaal, by Maj H. M. Criddle of the U.K., awarded a large gold medal and special prize.

Otto printings imperforate and in fine roulette. Proof of 1/- lilac printed both sides. March 1870 3d ultramarine in block of four, used. Otto colour trials. Viljoen 6d tete-beche used and unused, and 1/- tete-beche. Various printings of Viljoen, Borrius and the Stamp Commission (also in pin-perf.). Red VR overprints, also red VR inverted on 1/- green. 3d overprinted in red on the back. 6d double overprint. Black VR overprints, including double on 1d, inverted on 6d and on 1/-, and setting varieties. Cover with three of the 1d in lower case letters.

1877 De la Rue essays. 1878 Bradbury Wilkinson essays. QV 1/- green bisect on cover dated 11 May 1881, from Potchefstroom to Harrismith. 1883 1/- green, perf. 12, tete-beche in block of four. Varieties of provisional surcharges on Enschede. Proof of red 1d overprint on 2½ mauve, on 1895 cover. V.I.R. overprint errors. Kruger Head and ZAR Arms essays. KE VII artist's essays. Rustenburg (including 2/6 used). Wolmaransstad 1d commemorative in unused block of four. KE VII 1d with watermark Cabled Anchor, eight copies.

Zululand, by M. M. Wood of South Africa, awarded a silver-gilt medal.

Mint stamps in multiples. Both £1 and £5 mint. £5 used at Eshowe. Postmarks and postmark type studies. Covers, including 1897 cover to Sir Henry Bulwer. Postal stationery. Specimens.

Orange Free State 1900, VRI Settings, by G. D. Buckley of the U.K., awarded a silver-gilt medal, with felicitations.

A research collection of V.R.I. overprints in 18 settings, with numerous printings, on postage, telegraph and revenue stamps. Complete panes. Errors and varieties.

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Orange Free State VRI Printings, by D. S. Franklin of the U.S.A., awarded a silver medal.

A collection similar to the previous, also including complete panes, and with varieties on cover.

Cape of Good Hope Rectangulars, by P. C. Pearson of the U.K., awarded a silver-gilt medal.

Interpaneau block of 48 of the 1865 1d, watermark Crown CC. Die proofs of 4d, Hope Seated. Rectangulars on cover, including with Tarkastad postmark in blue ink. Provisional 1d on 6d and 1d on 1/-. Vertical strip of three 3d rose, the upper and lower stamps with two types of "3" surcharge and the middle stamp with surcharge omitted. Mint marginal block of 12 of 5/- brown orange. Mint block of four of 5/-, watermark Crown CA. OVS combination covers, 9 Transvaal combination covers. Gun War cover and Cape used in Basutoland. Dumb and cork cancellations.

Union of South Africa, King George V, by

L. van de Kar of South Africa, awarded a silver medal.

Specialised study of the first Union stamp and the King's Head issues. Essays, die-proofs, colour trials, specimens. PO publicity cards. Photo proofs of McNeil design (essay). Anonymous essays, Immelman and Mackay essays. Panes, watermark varieties. Control blocks of £1, SG 24 and SG 24a. KGV booklets. Printing and perforation varieties. Postage Due proofs and colour trials. KGV ½d with partial double print, displayed with a photograph of the original strip of five.

Maritime Marks of the Cape, by R. D. Allen of the U.K., awarded a bronze medal.

Specialised collection including Union of South Africa Ocean P.O. marks and U.K. and S.A. Sea Post Office on cover. Strong group of shipping postmaster strikes. Paquetbot to date.

Griqualand West, by Dr G. H. Jonkers of the Netherlands, awarded a silver-bronze medal.

The "Adam Kok collection". 1872 cover from Potchefstroom to the U.K., via Diamond Fields. Multiples of red and black overprints. Comprehensive range of "G" type face varieties. Multiples of small overprints. 1881 cover from Langford, with numeral 8. Revenues.

Union of South Africa, by Mrs. R. L. Bonthron of South Africa, awarded a bronze medal.

A straight-forward Union collection, including interprovincials.

Kings' Heads, and South Africa 1924-29, by D. Abramson of South Africa, awarded a silver medal.

KGV £1 controls. Mackay essays, proofs, specimens. Flight covers including 1920 Handley Page cover. Harrison essays, Bradbury Wilkinson colour trials. London pictorials. Pretoria typos, including ½d and 1d tete-beche. Unhyphenated rotos including tete-beches with gutter. First and second airmail issues.

South Africa, by M. J. Rall of South Africa, awarded a gold medal.

Array of die proofs. Interprovincials, including Natal high values. Original die of 1910 2½d. Unique vertical pair of KGV ½d partial double print. 1d one nick and two nick controls. Corner blocks of KGV £1. 1925 airmail tete-beches. Bradbury Wilkinson colour trials. All major varieties of the unhyphenated rotos. Arrow pieces. Reconstructed booklet sheets.

The Kings' Heads, by S. P. Naylor of South Africa, awarded a silver-gilt medal.

Mackay essays. De la Rue die proofs and colour trials. KGV £1 control blocks. All major and prominent varieties. Control block of ½d dark mossy emerald green. Booklets and coils. Stationery die proofs and artist's colour proof. Officials.

South African Postal Services in the Middle East, by L. M. A. Crandel of the Netherlands.

Cancellations and marks on covers during World War II.

Union of South Africa, by I. E. Wunsh of South Africa, awarded a gold medal, with special prize.

Natal high values used interprovincially. Mackay essays. King's Head die proofs. ½d Plate 2 blocks. King's Heads in panes. KGV £1 control pairs and blocks. All imperf. varieties of 1925 Airmails. Harrison essays. London printings, ½d and 1d tete-beche pairs. Pretoria typos in plate proofs and colour trials. Unique sheets of die proof of 1d Pretoria typo — head and frame plates. Same for 1929 Airmail 4d and 1/-. Postage Due 1/- in complete pane. Stationery die proofs.

Anglo-Boer War, by C. F. Hegardt of South Africa, awarded a bronze medal.

Siege issues, POW mail, censor markings and labels. Kuruman Besieged overprint inverted, used.

Anglo-Boer War, by Dr F. Drusinsky of South Africa, awarded a silver medal.

Mafeking local cover. Two Schweizer Reneke covers, one with all six values. Two Lydenburg covers. Two Pietersburg covers. Three Commando Brief covers. Ladysmith Siege items. Stampless covers from both sides. POW and Burgher Camp marks. Army Post Offices, etc.

Anglo-Boer War, by C. S. Rosenberg of South Africa, awarded a silver-bronze medal.

Invasion and occupation material. Soldiers' stampless covers. Wolmaransstad cover. Censored and POW mail. Siege items. Pietersburg proof strip.

South African Postal Markings, by Mrs A. Wannerton of South Africa, awarded a bronze medal.

A study of postmark types and development, including marks of special offices. Examples of hundreds of postmarks.

The Forerunner Postmarks of the Union of South Africa, by Dr T. B. Berry of South Africa, awarded a silver-bronze medal.

Single ring cancellers of the Cape from 1864. Numerous types of cancellations and postmarks shown. Interprovincial cancellations. Development of machine cancellers.

Pioneer Airmails of South and South West Africa, 1911-1932, by Capt M. F. Stern of South Africa, awarded a silver medal, with special prize.

Kenilworth flight of 1911. Pioneering flights, exploratory flights, air races, first airmails between various centres, etc. Numerous rare covers and cards.

South African Aerogrammes, by H. W. H. Lee of South Africa, awarded a silver-bronze medal.

Aerogrammes from 1941. Military aerogrammes. Inland and Airmail letter cards. SAAF in Korea overprints. Sanae cancellations. Decimal issues.

Airmails in and from South Africa, 1911-32, by L. van de Kar of South Africa, awarded a silver medal.

1925 and 1929 Airmails including colour trials, control blocks, imperfs, varieties, forgeries, 9d imperf on cover. Flight cards, first flight covers.

German South West Africa, by H. J. Schlieben of South Africa, awarded a silver-gilt medal.

Forerunners, overprints, Ship issue. Wanderstempel postmarks. Small office postmarks. German postmarks altered after S.A. occupation. Campaign items.

German South West Africa Postal History, by E. F. W. Fahl of South Africa, awarded a silver medal.

Wanderstempel and other cancellations, "Feldpost" letters and cards of 1904-07. Telegrams and field telegrams. Heliograph receipts. 1914-15 war cancellations.

German South West Africa and South West Africa, by L. Abrams of South Africa, awarded a large gold medal and special prize for the best collection shown by a South African citizen.

A comprehensive collection. Forerunners. Numerous rare cancellations, also in manuscript. Campaign and fieldpost items. Wanderstempel. 1914 flight Swakopmund to Windhoek, cards from all places en route. Occupation items. KGV £1 overprinted, sheet of 60. Windhoek Boeing air disaster covers.

Union Post in German SWA, by W. Lohman of West Germany, awarded a silver medal.

Cancellations of the Union postal services in the occupied territory. Adapted and make-shift cancellers.

Republican Printing Abnormalities, by J. T. Burrell of South Africa, awarded a silver-bronze medal.

A representative selection of abnormalities, being paper varieties, printing varieties and perforation varieties, including imperforate block of six ½c Kingfisher.

South West Africa, by J. T. L. Stinson of South Africa, awarded a bronze medal.

A study of the 1923-30 overprints.

Decimal Surcharges of Basutoland, Bechuanaland and Swaziland, by R. S. Craddock of New Zealand, awarded a silver medal.

A virtually complete collection of the decimal surcharges, including inverted and double surcharges, misplacements. Postage Dues and postal stationery.

Basutoland, by A. H. Scott of South Africa, awarded a silver medal.

Early covers, Cape and Union stamps used in Basutoland, specimens, officials, etc.

(To be concluded)

SOCIETY NEWS

PRETORIA PHILATELIC SOCIETY

Our mid-month meeting was started by Mr Hart of the Argyll Stamp Co., of London, showing us 15 items from the large brief case of material he was taking down to his stand at the RSA 10 Exhibition at Cape Town. The emphasis was on proofs and specimen stamps.

Then Mr Graham Kriste showed his Kenya-Uganda-Tanganyika 1935 to 1962. Though some of the more vulgar perforation varieties were missing this is an outstanding collection which has entailed a lot of homework, with "specimen" stamps of almost everything.

Last Dr P. Hack showed his thematic collection of "Stamps of Medical and Nursing Interest". Most of the fascination of a thematic collection is the way in which it opens up avenues of interest.

7th June. The meeting was Vice Presidents evening when these were three exhibits:

Mr Reynard's collection "Why Collect Stamps" is the collection which was recently shown at the Railway Society, and can perhaps best be described as an adventurous philatelic journey. Mr Kriste tabled "Centenaries", a fine collection containing many unusual items, miniature sheets and covers.

Cmdr Enoch showed two covers with the Oldenburg 1/30 thaler, type (a) and type (c) respectively, which due to a renumbering by Gibbons was not a "Number One" any more. There were also three stamps of Carlist Spain. Cmdr Enoch tabled 16 pages of Shanghai, and 16 pages of Siam.

PRETORIA RAILWAY PHILATELIC SOCIETY

June. After the usual preliminaries had been concluded and a report on RSA 10 Exhibition submitted, Mr Sam Smith's Port Elizabeth's award winning Rhodesian Double Heads (1910—1916) was displayed. The exhibit was very well illustrated and principal varieties, e.g., colour errors, guide lines and known 'specks' were easily distinguishable by the clear manner of write up. In all this was a very well presented exhibit of these Waterloo Printings as could be expected from an award collection. Cmdr Enoch was called upon to express our appreciation of the exhibit.

SOCIETY OF ISRAEL PHILATELY

June. The meeting opened with a report on Congress and the RSA 10 Exhibition after which Mr I. A. Miller displayed his exhibit of the Six Day War and advised that he had not prepared a paper as the exhibit was self-explanatory and much had already been written on the subject. Some of the covers were postally used having been sent to him or to members of his family, in Israel, at the time, but the bulk were commercially produced by dealers and related in the main to the opening of new Post Offices in the liberated areas after the conclusion of the Six Day War. Mr L. Buchen thanked Mr Miller on behalf of all present and also expressed his amazement at the extent of the exploitation and commercialisation of the Six Day War and its aftermath, from a philatelic point of view.

THE BELLVILLE PHILATELIC SOCIETY

June. The meeting was held in conjunction with the Fish Hoek Philatelic Society at Fish Hoek and was attended by a few members of our Society. However, a most enjoyable evening was had by those who did go and our thanks are extended to our hosts.

PHILATELIC SOCIETY OF NATAL

2nd June. A well attended meeting of 47 members and 17 visitors was presided over by the Chairman, Dr J. Duncan who in opening the meeting welcomed four distinguished visitors from overseas Messrs Bodily, Hart and Fraser, from the United Kingdom, accompanied by their wives, and Mr Milton Mitchell, President of the Society of Philatelic Americans.

Comments and reports were presented upon the RSA 10 Exhibition and Congress matters.

A competition for the Maynard Cup took place which, after due meditation, the judges made the award to Mrs Barbara Zarnack.

As a climax to an evening long to be remembered, Messrs Bodily and Hart showed a wide range of classical material which included postal historical covers of Palestine, military Boer War covers, with penny blacks and reds in profusion (and at a price!!).

Mr Milton Mitchell, from the U.S.A., whose trip seemed to have the blessing of the U.S. State Department, gave a most humorous account of the many mishaps his plane, which was to have carried him to South Africa, suffered before his final departure and safe but rather belated arrival. He stressed the point, a little away from stamp collecting, of the misrepresentation of the affairs of this country in the American Press.

Swop Night, 16th June: There was an unusually large attendance for a swop night. Many members responded to the call to display six to ten sheets, so that before long the boards were covered with a wide range of material. It seemed to be a case of first come first served, as some went away without exhibiting, but so popular did this night prove that more will be held in the future.

The evening concluded with some slick auctioneering by Brian Hill.

MASHONALAND PHILATELIC SOCIETY

June. The meeting was well attended there being 40 members and 16 visitors present. The Chairman was very happy to advise the meeting that official confirmation had now been received that Salisbury had been selected as the venue for the 1972 Congress of the Philatelic Federation of Southern Africa.

The Chairman asked members to think of an appropriate name for Congress and suggestions to be put forward at the next meeting. The actual date of Congress had still to be set, but in all possibility this would be at the beginning of September, 1972.

Mr Brooke's collection on "Birds of Rhodesia" was well received and made for a very interesting display. This was followed by the Auction at which a vast quantity of material was offered for sale, about 170 lots of which approximately 120 lots were sold.

PORT ELIZABETH PHILATELIC SOCIETY

18 May. This meeting consisted of a Pot-pourri display by Mr W. Harmer who has collections of many countries. More than thirty-five countries were represented by a few sheets of each, which included Malta, Montenegro, Barbados, Federated Malay States, Nigeria, New Zealand, United States, Transvaal Republic, Cape Triangulans 1855 to 1858, Natal, Orange Free State, Hong Kong, Israel and others, too numerous to mention.

After a vote of thanks had been passed to Mr Harmer, the evening ended with a lively and well patronised auction.

1 June. Mr T. J. Strachan presided at our meeting held on 1st June 1971 and, after welcoming those present, gave us a comprehensive report on the RSA 10 Congress and Exhibition.

Mr J. C. Scheltema displayed some of the stamps of Israel and showed us approximately fifty sheets of mint and used. On behalf of Mr Scheltema, Mr Strachan read a paper which the former had written dealing with the country and its stamps. The collection was not complete but all the stamps were in good condition and the sheets were beautifully written up.

The vote of thanks was passed by Mr E. Hutter.

15 June. This was the second meeting for June at which members were invited to exhibit 10 pages of material not previously exhibited for which certificates of merit were awarded to the three best exhibits.

On display were Mr Harden's Independent Rhodesia, for which he received an award. Mrs Scott's exhibit of Pitcairn Islands also received an award. Mr Nagel's Papua and New Guinea were merited an award.

Mrs Pamensky's display was on malaria, which consisted of stamps from various countries. Mrs Darby displayed first day covers and Christmas stamps of Great Britain and Master Rodney Wells displayed miniature sheets of Space stamps.

The evening concluded with a lively auction.

EAST LONDON PHILATELIC SOCIETY

June 1971. Our friends from the Port Elizabeth Philatelic Society visited us on the 19th June, and we had the pleasure of renewing our friendship with Mr and Mrs Bülbring, Mr and Mrs Strachan and family, Mrs Winsley, Mr and Mrs Berrington and Mr Harden. Mr Bülbring displayed his "Norway"; Mr Strachan "St. Vincent"; Mr Berrington the "New Zealand Healths", and Mr Harden "Rhodesia". Those of our members who turned out, in spite of the counter-attraction of the Rugby Test match, thoroughly enjoyed the display, and we are certainly grateful to the exhibitors in bringing along collections from which members could learn. In the evening, the visitors were our guests at our annual dinner, and the turnout of 48 members and guests certainly enjoyed a first-class meal.

At our usual monthly meeting on the Fourth Thursday, the Thornton Cup competition was held. This is for novices, and we were pleased to attract entries from Miss Staddon (The Wonderful World of Plants), and from Mr Ancer (Fish). The judges decided that the Cup should be awarded to Miss Staddon, but the margin was very close.

PHILATELIC SOCIETY OF JOHANNESBURG

June. At the first meeting the attendance improver considerably and the meeting was devoted entirely to an auction which realised a total sales of R184,50 and of which the S.A. Philatelist benefitted to the extent of R43,95.

At the second meeting we were pleased, as usual, to welcome a delegation from the Germiston Philatelic Society led by Mr R. Mephius who introduced the members of the delegation and who exhibited the following:

Mr J. H. Botha showed a collection of Poland and explained that due to the system of supplying stamps from Poland it was not easy to collect this country. He was suitably thanked by Mr Hofman. Mr Eilers showed a beautiful collection of Early Germany and was suitably thanked by Dr van Varendorff. Mr S. J. Hagger, as was to be expected, showed a South African theme and displayed South African Air Mails and London Printings. He was suitably thanked by Mr Lydall. Finally Mr S. R. Kantor showed a beautiful collection of the Rhodesian Federation Period and was also suitably thanked by Mr Wedderburn-Maxwell. At the conclusion of the meeting Mr Oppenheim quickly auctioned a few items, the proceeds of which were being donated to the S.A. Philatelist.

THEMATIC STAMP CLUB

July. The President, Mr F. L. Archer, showed "Latvia", an interesting exhibit showing whole sheets of stamps on printed bank notes, maps etc. This was followed by an exhibit of Mr Norman Senior "Stamp designs for Marley". This was indeed a wonderful skit on the emergent countries showing how use was made of every conceivable event for an issue. Many of the designs could well be adopted. He also showed several of his designs for "Polluted Rhodesia".

AFRIKAANSE FILATELISTE-VERENIGING

Julie. Die vergadering is vergas op twee uitnemende uitstallings. Die eerste was Rooi Kruis-seëls van mnr. Wim Hartman, wat heelwat uitgifte van die Tweede Wêreldoorlog en heel velle van Kroatië ingesluit het. Daar was ook die Belgiese stel van 1918 met opdruk, tanding 14, posfris.

'n Ander opvallende stuk was 'n hoekpaar van die 1917-opdruk op Trengganu 3c, een met die spelfout CSOSS pleks van CROSS.

Mnr. Milch het België 1849-1938 vertoon, met pragtige eksemplare van die eerste uitgif en 'n reeks seldsaamhede, soos die 1919-stel, die watersnood van 1926, die kardinaalstel van 1932, en dergelike.

Mnr. Arie Bakker, wat twee bladsye mooi bygeskrewe Zurich-vervalsings byderhand gehad het, het 'n geluk getref toe mnr. Fanie Vermaak vir hom die omgekeerde watermerk op die RSA 2c uitgewys het.

EXPERT COMMITTEE

The next meeting of the Expert Committee of the Philatelic Federation of Southern Africa will be held on Saturday October 16th, 1971. Postal address, P.O. Box 2388, Pretoria.

PHILATELIST'S RENDEZVOUS

AFRIKAANSE FILATELISTEVERENIGING

Eresekretaris: E. Thamm, Bus 8124,
JOHANNESBURG.
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nuusbrief, puik rondsenddiens).

THE ROYAL PHILATELIC SOCIETY OF CAPE TOWN

meets on the second and fourth Thursdays
of every month in
The Club Room of the Friends of Italy of
South Africa, First Floor, Radio City Bldgs.
Tulbagh Square, Foreshore, Cape Town.
at 8 p.m.
VISITORS CORDIALLY WELCOMED.
P.O. BOX 1973, CAPE TOWN.

THE MASHONALAND PHILATELIC SOCIETY

Meets once a month on the second Wednes-
day at 8 p.m. in the Auditorium of the
Queen Victoria Museum, Rotton Row,
Salisbury.

All visitors are welcome —

Secretary P.O. Box 2735, Salisbury.

ORANGE FREE STATE PHILATELIC SOCIETY

Meets on the fourth Friday of every month
in the
NATIONAL MUSEUM HALL,
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Issues a monthly magazine and circulates
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P.O. BOX 702 — BLOEMFONTEIN.

THE PORT ELIZABETH PHILATELIC SOCIETY

meets on the first and third Tuesday each
month in the
The Walmer Library Hall,
Main Road, Walmer, Port Elizabeth.
at 8.00 p.m.
Visitors cordially welcome.
P.O. BOX 3 — PORT ELIZABETH.

THE PHILATELIC SOCIETY OF NATAL

Meetings 1st and 3rd Wednesdays monthly
at 7.30 p.m. in the
Geo Cato Room, City Hall, Durban
(Entrance West Street . . . door nearest
Beach)
VISITORS CORDIALLY WELCOMED.
P.O. Box 588, Durban. Secretary's
Telephone 64306 (evenings)

THE PRETORIA PHILATELIC SOCIETY

meets on the first Monday of every month
in the
Council Chamber of the Technical College
Church Street East, Pretoria.
at 7.45 p.m.
VISITORS CORDIALLY WELCOMED.
P.O. Box 514, Pretoria.

THE PHILATELIC SOCIETY OF JOHANNESBURG

meets twice a month: Second Tuesday and
fourth Monday at
Room 75, Public Library, Johannesburg
at 8 p.m.
VISITORS ARE WELCOME.
Hon. Secretary,
P.O. Box 4967, Johannesburg.

THE AEROPHILATELIC SOCIETY OF SOUTHERN AFRICA

Meetings are not held, but members get
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and other interesting items — more than
covered by the small annual subscription.
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THE PRETORIA RAILWAY PHILATELIC SOCIETY

meets on the second Wednesday of every
month in the
Railway Recreation Club, Berea Park,
Pretoria, at 8 p.m.
P.O. Box 2388, Pretoria.
ALL PHILATELISTS ARE WELCOME.

SOCIETY OF ISRAEL PHILATELY

Meets on the 1st Monday of every month
at 8.15 p.m.
Burlington House Boardroom (2nd Floor),
c/r. Bissik & Marshall Streets,
Johannesburg.
ALL WELCOME.
Secretary P.O. Box 11502, Johannesburg.

THE SOUTH AFRICAN STAMP STUDY CIRCLE

meets at 2.15 p.m. on the second Saturday of
every month in the
Staff Tea Lounge, Basement, Corner House,
Corner Sauer and Commissioner Streets,
Johannesburg (Commissioner St. Entrance).
ALL INTERESTED IN SOUTH AFRICAN
PHILATELY ARE WELCOME.
Secretary: N. Becker
P.O. Box 9505, Johannesburg.
Telephone: 838-4679; Home 45-5452

THE EAST RAND PHILATELIC SOCIETY

P.O. Box 483, Benoni. (Hon. Secretary).
Meetings every 2nd Monday in the month
at the
BENONI TENNIS CLUB HOUSE,
Benoni, at 7.45 p.m.
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WANTED BY COLLECTOR to buy or exchange the following countries, with other interested stamp collectors: Early G.B. to G.VI, Australian Roos to Navigators \$1,00 and Israel from 1948 onwards, including FDC's. D. Levitas, Box 348, Paarden Eiland, C.P.

ANGLO-BOER WAR PHILATELIC SOCIETY, quarterly magazine with exchange packet in U.K. Annual subscription £1 sterling or 3 dollars. Secretary, J. H. Rathbone. "Always", Rudheath, Northwich, Cheshire, U.K.

WANTED: Rhodesian Postmarks, on or off cover (pre-1923). Offers to J. M. Weinstein, 479a Fehrsen Street, Brooklyn, Pretoria.

WANTED.—Accumulations, Collections. Office Lots on and off paper. Turn those old boxes of philatelic "junk" into cash, or exchange it with us for stamps, albums or accessories that you need. — **ROBEMARK PHILATELISTS (PTY.) LTD.**, 21 Joubert Street, Johannesburg. Box 11419.

TE KOOP GEVRA: Posmateriaal van die Vrystaatse en Transvaalse Republieke gebruik ná 11 Oktober 1899. J. Groenewald, Posbus 3443, Pretoria.

163 REVENUE STAMPS FOR SALE: Include Northern Rhodesia £10; Rhodesia £10, £1; Double Head 2/-; Transvaal Edward VII £1; Cape: Hope £4, £2; Victoria £10, £5, £2½, many shillings; George V from £10. Write offers to: Hobson, Box 67, Pearston, C.P.

FOR SALE: Vast modern Rhodesian collection; before, during and after Federation; mainly mint; some Postal History; numerous varieties (e.g. Tail Feather, Broken Sword, 6d Binda Forgery). Inquiries invited. Telephone Johannesburg 40-7721, 7 to 8 p.m.

TOP CASH PRICES paid for selected Rhodesia and Bechuanaland early postmarks and material on cover. H. Birkhead, 12 Hill Terrace, Bedford View. Telephone 53-1847.

GERMAN SOUTH WEST AFRICA: Wanted early forerunners on cover or on piece, or any other items of interest. Top prices paid. L. ABRAMS, P.O. Box 7875, Johannesburg. Telephone: Office 22-1630; home 41-9251.

LATVIA (Lettland; Lettonie) out of the way items and bulk common stamps wanted.— J. Michelson, P.O. Box 9314, Johannesburg.

WANTED.—German Concentration Camp Covers and Ghetto Post, Post-war Locals, Propaganda, Forgeries, Military Covers, etc., etc. C. A. Whysall, P.O. Box 676, Durban. (68 West Street).

U.S.A. SPECIALIST requires singles, blocks, covers, cancellations. A. R. Kleiner, 23 Cadogan Gardens, London S.W. 3, England.

THE SPRINGBOK, magazine of the South African Collectors' Society for Union and Republic collectors. Subscription R2 a year. Membership: Secretary, R. E. Mason, 137 Lichfield Court, Richmond, Surrey, England.

SWEDISH Military Philately wanted. Write first: S. J. Vermaak, Box 2272, Johannesburg.

IF STAMPS OF — Germany, Austria and other Western European countries are wanted, first try us.—**S.A. STAMP CENTRE** P.O. Box 6891, Johannesburg. Telephone 22-1391. (Want lists invited).

WANTED: S.A., S.W.A. and Boer War, preferably postal history.—C. E. SHERWOOD (V), P.T.S., 105 Marford Crescent, Sale, Cheshire M33 4DN.

The South African Philatelist

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S.A. Philatelist To Be Bigger, Brighter

The January issue of The South African Philatelist will be something to look forward to, for this issue will mark the publication of our journal in an attractive, much improved form.

As from January, The South African Philatelist will be printed by offset litho, a process facilitating the use of photographs and illustrations. The magazine will be on the international A4 print format, which means a size increase of about 30 per cent.

This brighter, better new magazine has been made possible by the unanimous decision of the Congress of the Philatelic Federation of Southern Africa to link leadership of the journal with society membership as from the beginning of 1972.

The decision is now being implemented and Mr K. E. W. Lydall, RDPSA, Hon. Secretary of the Federation, reports the wholehearted support of a number of societies who already announced their plans for the new year.

In reviewing some positive criticism to the effect that the magazine did not always adequately cater for all collecting interest groups found in Southern Africa, the newly-constituted South African Philatelist Management Committee resolved to not only broaden the scope of the journal's coverage, but to place the magazine on a new footing.

Detailed preparations to this end are now in the mak-

ing. The Management Committee, chaired by Dr T. B. Berry, is giving particular attention to all aspects of the management, contents and distribution of The S.A. Philatelist.

A new masthead will grace the front cover of the January number. Designed by Mr Doug Treasure of Cape Town, a creative artist at Van Zijl & Robinson Advertising, it will give the magazine a bold new look.

With effect from January, the subscription rate has been increased to R3,00 per annum. This will of course not affect society members receiving the journal by virtue of society membership, as the group subscription rate for societies is only R1,50. The single copy price will be 30c.

Further particulars about the new S.A. Philatelist will be announced shortly.

Thanks!

One page in this issue of The S.A. Philatelist is sponsored by the Pretoria Railway Philatelic Society, which sent a donation of R20 towards the journal's publication cost. The Royal Philatelic Society of Cape Town has sponsored 2½ pages with a contribution of R50.

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Editorial

Investment?

It is common knowledge that overseas men of means are active on the philatelic scene as "investors" who purchase stocks and rare items to sell after two or five or ten years at theoretical profits of 100 to 300 per cent. In the oversea philatelic press are to be found advertisements directed to this type of collector, while articles in the popular press, e.g. in Britain, advise readers about "sound stamp investments".

We can agree to a view that stamp collecting represents some form of investment, as do some other collecting pastimes.

But primarily stamp collecting is a hobby, a voluntary own-time activity and a distinct form of mental recreation. The exponent of philately seeks enjoyment, pleasure and satisfaction, not monetary reward from his hobby.

True, stamps and stamp collections have value and generally the value increases with time. But a collection built up by a collector who "invested" a total of say R50 in his material, is hardly likely to realise half that amount when sold. More valuable collections, however, often show a slight "profit" above the original purchase price, after a period of time.

A famous collector once said that he was quite happy to lose ten per cent on a collection he had built to satisfaction and then grown tired of, as one had to be prepared to pay somewhat for one's enjoyment.

This is a view we can commend to our readers, because it would be unwise to be misled by tales of investment into expecting wonderful returns when a collection was realised. Many an investment can turn sour. Let us rather relax, enjoy our hobby, and smile quietly to ourselves when we receive a letter franked with stamps of the 25-year old Small War Issue.

THE EDITOR

Stamp Issue for

Verwoerd Dam?

Rumour has it that a commemorative stamp issue is to be made in February 1972 for the opening of the giant Hendrik Verwoerd Dam on the Orange River.

The Post Office has declined to comment, but it was learnt that such an issue has been suggested quite some time ago.

The Hendrik Verwoerd Dam, a gravity and arch construction, represents a remarkable engineering feat. It was built in five years at a cost of R80 million and is the major storage dam in the Orange River Project, a river harnessing and power scheme which will change the face of the earth over substantial portions of the South African interior.

With its capacity of 5 952 million cubic metres of water, it is two and a half times the size of the Vaal Dam. The main dam wall, which was plugged in September 1970, is about 1 000 metres long and 100 metres high. At the base it is 25 to 45 metres thick, and at the crest 10 metres.

The dam, 8 kilometres upstream from Norvalspont, already holds back water for 100 kilometres and has a shoreline longer than that of Natal.

Work on the dam started on 18th November 1966, when the Prime Minister, Mr Vorster, pressed a button to send tons of rock into the sky in the first excavation blast.

Although no details about the opening ceremony or a stamp issue could be obtained, it might be supposed that covers would be post-marked at Oranjekrag, the dambuilders' town.

Macro Jet Cover

An official commemorative cover, number 19, is planned for the South African Airways' first Macro Jet flight on December 10, 1971. The cover will be flown by the first Boeing 747 on the route Johannesburg-London-Johannesburg.

SAA has three Boeing 747's on order and these, styled macro jets, are the first of an improved model of the current jumbo's.

The Chemical Prevention of Mould on Postage Stamps

by Dr C. R. Mackenzie and Dr J. Duncan

The prevention of mould, known also as "rust" or "foxing" on postage stamps, poses a serious problem for the collector in areas of high humidity.

This is especially so if a dehumidifier or an airconditioning plant cannot be installed, to maintain the optimum temperature range of 10°C—18,3°C and a humidity within 50 to 60%. The only methods remaining are:

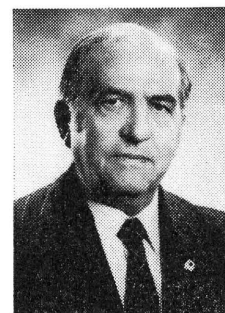
- (1) the use of silica gel¹, which can be kept in the stamp cupboard or drawer, and oven-dried regularly; or
- (2) chemical inhibitors of mould, about which we would like to comment briefly.

Thymol crystals¹ are generally left loose in the stamp cabinet in saucers or cages, or dissolved in acetone and painted on to blotting paper used for page interleaving; all these methods have the disadvantages of intensive odour, causing watering of the eyes and throat irritation, so that their use is best confined to etchings and paintings where the article to be preserved is kept permanently sealed.

Various phenol (carbolic acid) products have been suggested from time to time in relation to rust inhibition, amongst them, sodium orthophenyl-phenol (Topane W. S., Dovicide A.)² ranks fairly prominently.

One of us (J.D.) soaked tissue paper in sodium orthophenyl-phenol at a strength of 5 ml per litre water, in which it is readily soluble. Care is needed in preparation as the solution is as alkaline as strong washing soda. Drying of the paper presents some problems, but the finished product is odourless. The efficacy of this method is open to doubt, because being odourless there is no way of telling when the paper stops being active in inhibiting rust.

Rust and mould infections of citrus and other fruit are fairly common, and we thought it worthwhile to communicate with those concerned with the export of these products. The Acting Director of the Plant Protection Institute³ suggested diphenyl (phenyl-benzene) or diphenylamine and furnished the names of firms which might supply paper impregnated



Dr C. R. Mackenzie and Dr J. Duncan

with these chemicals. From the Research Department of the Citrus Exchange⁴ came information that diphenyl was fungistatic, that is to say it stops the growth of moulds but seldom destroys them. Further, it is virtually harmless to mammals. The chemical diphenyl (phenyl-benzene) is highly volatile and gives off a distinctive odour. However, each time any impregnated paper is exposed to air, it loses some of the chemical, thus it has the advantage that one knows at once when all volatility is lost as when the odour has gone the paper will be known to have lost its ability to inhibit mould.

The other substance, diphenylamine, is usually used in an oil solvent and cannot be considered for obvious reasons.

Diphenyl impregnated paper — 33 mg diphenyl per 625 sq. cms of paper, kindly supplied for testing⁵ — was used by ourselves in a simple experiment.

The basic stock of paper was kept well wrapped in aluminium foil and single sheets of paper (25 cms x 30 cms or 25 cms x 25 cms as supplied) were placed between album pages and their interleaving under the album cover and in the stamp album boxes. Several sheets of paper were merely screwed up and left in corners of the cupboard or drawers. The loose papers rapidly lost their odour but the sheets used in the actual albums and their boxes still

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had the characteristic smell after 6 to 8 weeks, showing that they were still able to inhibit rust. During the testing period, the mean atmospheric temperature in the shade, and the mean relative humidity, were approximately 17,6°C and 75,5% respectively, although far higher temperatures and relative humidities occurred simultaneously during this period.

Unfortunately the impregnated paper is not available in retail quantities, although it is cheap — 60c per 1 000 25 cm x 25 cm.⁶ However, this can be overcome by philatelic societies purchasing large quantities, against advance payments by interested members.

Conclusion

In conclusion, we believe, on the grounds of a short-term experiment, that in areas of high humidity the use of diphenyl (phenyl-benzene) impregnated paper may offer reasonable prospects of protection against rust, provided it is used as album page interleaving (not against stamps) and replaced as soon as the characteristic odour decreases to any marked extent.

1. Milner Palmer G. (1970) S.A. Philatelist, Vol. 46 No. 8
2. Baynes Cope A. D. (1970) Stamp Collecting, Vol. 114 No. 24
3. Bot, J. (1971) Department of Agricultural Technical Services — Pers. comm.
4. McOnie, K. C. (1971) Co-operative Citrus Exchange Ltd. — Pers. comm.
5. S.A. Co-operative Citrus Exchange Ltd. and Fruit Wrappers S.A. Ltd. (1971) — Pers. comm.
6. Fruit Wrappers S.A. (Pty) Ltd. (1971)

Exchange Wanted

Dear Sir,

You may perhaps know of someone who might be interested in an exchange of stamp material.

Although I am a fairly limited collector myself, I do have some surplus Great Britain stamps, and would like to "swop" these for South African stamps, or others.

All good wishes and success to The South African Philatelist!

Yours sincerely,

Joyce E. Gledhill (Miss)
76 St John's Road
Falsgrave
Scarborough
Yorkshire, U.K.

SOUTH AFRICAN NOTES

by *Dr. H. J. Raubenheimer*

POSTAGE STAMPS INFORMATION

For the period 1 January 1971 to 30 June 1971. The previous list appeared in our May 1971 issue and the code of symbols used was

in the January 1971 issue. From Job Sheets No's. 34 and 35 from the Philatelic Services of the Post Office Pretoria:

Postage Stamps

Job No.	Value	Cyl. Numbers			Total No. of sheets		Remarks
		Int.	Ext.	Phos.	delivered	Paper used	
38098,21	½c	264+265	266	G4	229 000	H	(Phos. bands 5 mm wide)
59108,23	do	264+265	266	G45	86 200	H	(Phos. bands 3 mm wide)
44887,43	1c	414	415	G4	673 900	H	
53361,33	1½c	287	286	G4	79 600	H	(Phos. bands 5 mm wide)
		287	286	G45	55 000	H	(Phos. bands 3 mm wide)
57513,44	2c	413	412	G6	844 900	H	
51558,48	2½c	12	8	Y32	273 500	H	
		418	419	G6	422 600	H	Old Pos. First Printing on Machine 840
51629,18	3c	238	239	G49	348 500	H	
59394,06	4c	418	420	G6	514 500	H	New Neg. New Pos. 420
48311,33	5c	282	283	G6	116 200	H	
59395,07	6c	421	284	G6	27 200	H	New Neg. New Pos. 421
46853,90	7½c	284	285	G49	118 600	H	
59393,05	9c	409+410	422	G6	27 100	H	New Value on Old Neg. One New Positive
56295,38	10c	254	253	G6	83 800	H	
48312,34	12½c	409+410	411	G49	57 600	S	
44886,42	15c	297+298	296	G48	80 700	H	
56296,39	do	297+298	296	G6	39 400	H	
46733,71	20c	407+408	406	G49	86 400	S	
56297,40	do	407+408	406	G6	26 900	H	
59110,25	50c	424	423		11 900	H	Old Neg. New Pos.
59109,24	R1	258+259	257		5 500	H	

Commemorative Stamps RSA 10

1820 Settlers

59804,12	2c	433+435	434	G50	335 500	H	Double pane
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Presidents Kruger and Steyn

59801,09	4c	426	425	G50	403 500	H	Double pane
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Strydom Tower

59802,10	5c	428+429	427	G29	121 800	H	Single pane
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Antarctica

59803,11	12½c	431+432	430	G29	23 600	H	Single pane
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Roll Stamps

50676,75	$\frac{1}{2}$ c	G26 yellow	G59 blue	G36	25 890 ²⁰⁰ — i.e. 3 667 rolls x 1000 and 4 058 rolls x 500 from 5/2/71	H	The quantity of stamps per roll being reduced due to tearing of rolls during slitting
56365,07	2c	G25 gold	G9 blue	G28	21 037 ³⁰ — i.e. 4 626 rolls	H	
63809,78	5c	G1 yellow	G5 blue	G28	6 412 ⁸⁰ — i.e. 3 527 rolls	H	

Postage Due

56364,06	2c	229	263	22 000	H
56436,78	4c	228	263	3 400	H

Air Letters

48306,23	$2\frac{1}{2}$ c	4+ 15	12	2 817 000	
61092,88	4c	57+111	113	666 000	New shape on blue paper Chambon Machine 822
61091,87	9c	105 107 109 113		50 000	New shape on white paper Chambon Machine 822
		Z2 Z6 Z32 Z12		820 500	New shape on white paper Albertina Machine 815

Picture Air Letters

20248,48	5c			2 375 500	
35239,91	5c			2 373 000	See Footnote No. 1

Postcards (20 cards per sheet)

56361,03	$1\frac{1}{2}$ c			119 130	
59396,08	3c			113 710	See Footnote No. 2

Footnotes

No. 1. 1st printing of pictures of Joubert Park, Johannesburg; Botanical Gardens, Cape Town; Golden Gate Highlands and Durban. One photo of each on one sheet. 713 sheets printed.

Machines used and sequence of colours. D D Rolad Parva 118 Machine 779 Blue, Machine 778 Yellow, Machine 775 Red, Machine 777 Black. **Paper used.** Nakoosa 45 gm. Inks from Ault and Wüberg. Colour separation done by Beith-Process, Johannesburg. Bycrl plates used.

No. 2. Similar to previous Job No. 56361,03 except for New Cylinder Z25 for change in postage and New Phosphor Cylinder Z14 to fit new stamp.

Radio Talks

Further to Mr Portmann's approach to the above subject contained in our August 1971 number, we have now been informed that the broadcast by the S.A.B.C. will take place at 6.55 a.m. on the English Programme from the 11th to the 15th October.

As these talks will precede the early morning news by five minutes we trust readers will arrange to include them in their early morning routine, and furthermore we would welcome an expression of opinion upon their purpose and desirability with a view to making further arrangements for future philatelic broadcasts.

Meanwhile we extend our appreciation to Mr J. E. Portmann for his public mindedness in organising and introducing this aspect.

The Second Genuine Moon Letter

By Dr. K. Freund, R.D.P.S.A., F.R.P.S.L.

The foreboding in my "Moon" article in the August number of this magazine has come true: The Argus press has brought the following brief report on August 3, 1971:

"David Scott set up the first post office on the moon yesterday when he franked a pair of eight-cent stamps honouring US space achievements. The two stamps make up a combined design, one commemorating 10 years of space exploration, the other depicting Apollo 15's lunar Rover. — SAPA-R."

Please observe:

(1) The postal rate to the Moon and back appears to have been increased from 10c to 16c (U.S.A. cents). Shocking how everything gets dearer these days.

(2) Anybody who has to send some private or business correspondence to the new post office at the Apennine Mountains please take care to add the word "Moon" in the address

as the letter might get misdirected ("mis-carriage") to Italy which also has some Apennine Mountains.

(3) However I suspect that the announcement of the newly "set up" post office on the Moon is sheer bragging and much premature and that no post office building or shack, nor even a mere counter or signboard has been erected yet anywhere on the Moon. I fear, David Scott has taken his handcanceller and ink pad, the **only** postal paraphernalia, back to Earth again, together with the franked envelope which had been prepared so neatly on Earth already.

(4) Incidentally, why was no special post office proclaimed in 1969 when Neil Armstrong wielded **his** handcanceller on the Moon and let it strike the very first home-made Moon letter? The postal action on the Moon was the same.

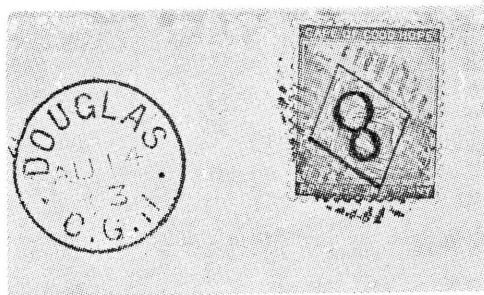
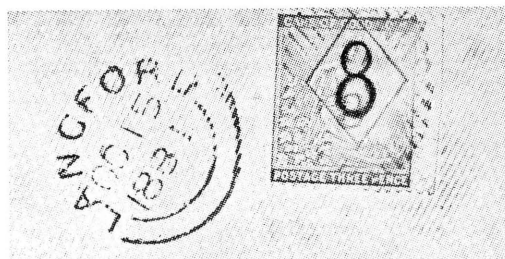
Langford — Not Douglas

by Cmdr F. W. Collins

In the outstanding collection of Griqualand West shown by Dr G. H. Jonkers of the Netherlands at R.S.A. 10, a cover (see illustration) was shown which seems to prove that the numeral in diamond within an oval of bars No. 8 was used at Langford during the period that Griqualand West issued its own stamps. Hitherto this number has been attributed to Douglas but it is now evident that it was not used in Douglas until after Griqualand West ceased to be a separate Colony and became a Province within Cape Colony in October 1880.

The office at Langford was opened in 1877 and though the allocation of No. 8 to it when it was opened has not yet been proved the above cover, containing a letter from Langford to Cape Town, is dated 15th October 1881. This shows that Langford must still have been using No. 8 when the Colony became a Province within the Cape.

Furthermore, a Post Office notice issued in Cape Town on 1st March 1883 stated that the office at Langford had been closed and one opened at Douglas. Dr Jonkers also showed a cover from Douglas dated 14th August 1893 with the stamp cancelled with the diamond in



oval in bars No. 8 but, though this confirms that Douglas did use No. 8, it is not evident that the actual handstamp used at Langford was transferred to Douglas because the dimensions of the former are noticeably larger than the latter when measured on these two covers.

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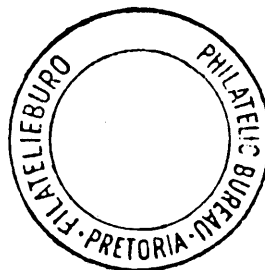
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Bestellings vir seëls moet geadresseer word aan die Filatelieburo, H.P.K., Pretoria, en moet vergesel gaan van poswissels, posorders of bankwissels, betaalbaar aan die Posmeester-generaal. Tjeks word nie aangenem nie, tensy dit deur 'n bank gewaarborg is. Die bedrag moet voldoende wees om die pos- en registrasiegelede te dek.

Depositorekenings kan geopen word.

Signatures on Stamps

by Joyce Gledhill

One of the most interesting features of stamp collecting is its diversity. Suddenly two unrelated hobbies can come together as one.

Autographs were at one time quite a craze with me, and I still retain a passing interest in them.

But although you may not be aware of it, some of the most valuable additions to an autograph book may be found between the leaves of a stamp album!

Norway is probably the first country that springs to mind, and for the neat signature of the dramatist Henrik Ibsen, we must turn to the 1928 series of four stamps to honour his centenary. Once considered a radical firebrand of the theatre, his satirical works are now world famous and world renowned. His genius was first recognised with the publication of Brand.

Another Norwegian playwright whose autograph appears on four stamps of 1934 is Ludvig Holberg. Not only was he a fine dramatist, but he excelled in philosophy and was a brilliant Historian. 1932 saw the Birth Centenary of Bjornstjerne Bjornson, and again we find four "autographed" stamps to add to our collection. This famous writer was educated at Christiania University, he was the author of the Norwegian National Hymn, a writer of novels featuring peasant life, and a great politician and dramatist. His most famous drama is Sigurd Jorsalfar, and in 1903 he won the Nobel Prize.

Another writer who specialised in poetry and stories of folk-lore was Carmen Sylva. This was the pen-name of Elizabeth who ruled as Queen of Roumania up to 1916. Her autograph is particularly well-shown on the 1906 Charity stamps of Roumania, which depict her tending a wounded soldier.

Yet another poet is Ivan Vazov of Bulgaria. The 1920 issues show his signature and the 50s green depicts "The Bear Fighter", a character from one of his best known works symbolically called "Under the Yoke".

The son of a Jewish lawyer, who studied at university and turned his mind to social and economic problems, is the subject of our next stamp — the 35K purple of Russia 1933. This shows Karl Marx with his name in strong upright characters. While still in the U.S.S.R.

we can study the benign features and more flowing signature of Maxim Gorki — a writer who was exiled from his country for his revolutionary theories. He appears in the 1932 15K sepia and 35K blue.

George VI

The 1956 Stamps of Malta carry two very interesting features. The 3d red bears the head of Elizabeth our present Queen, and the King's scroll with a written message and signature of George the Sixth. In it he honours the People of the Island Fortress by bestowing the George Cross on Malta. The document is dated April 15th 1942.

The 4½d blue of the same series depicts Franklin D. Roosevelt's Scroll, signed and dated.

A singer who put pen to paper and at the same time has enhanced the realms of philately is Dame Nellie Melba. Her Birth Centenary in 1961 was commemorated in Australia with a lovely stamp, the 5d blue. It shows the operatic artriste in profile with signature at the bottom of the stamp.

The discoverer of "animal electricity" adds his autograph to a rapidly growing list. Italy issued two stamps in 1934 for this famous professor of anatomy Luigi Galvani. Among his many discoveries he is best remembered for the galvanometer, an instrument which measured electrical current. "Galvanism" the current generated by voltaic cells derives its name from this physiologist, as does galvanized iron, which owed its origin to a coating of zinc on iron applied by galvanic methods.

The beautiful signature of St Francis Xavier appears on the 1931 2R brown stamp of Portuguese India. This saint was called the Apostle of the Indies. After studying medicine he journeyed throughout Japan and India, gaining many converts in his travels.

Initials

Signatures of a different kind appear on the earliest issues of British Guiana. These 1850 rarities were initialled by the postmaster or post office clerks before they were issued.

Similarly the signature of W. B. Perot appears on stamps of the first issue of Bermuda. Perot was a descendant of the Huguenot settlers in New York who later moved to Ber-

muda, and prepared and issued these famous stamps.

The unsuccessful Morgan-Raynham flight over the Atlantic in 1919 is recognised by the "Caribou" issues with special overprint and initialled by the postmaster J. A. Robinson, but like most stamps where the autograph is actually penned by the person concerned, these rarities are beyond the purse of more modest collectors.

There is much material however in which the signature forms an integral part of the design, and no need at all for this "marriage" between autographs and philately to be considered a "write-off" by the keen collector interest in this unusual subject!

Vooroorlogse Velddienst

Nog 'n Transvaalse „velddienst"-koevert van voor die Tweede Vryheidsoorlog het aan die lig gekom. Die koevert, sonder posseël, is gerojear „Bremersdorp Z.A.R." op 3 Augustus 1898 en is geadresseer na Pretoria. Bo-aan is geskryf „In velddienst".

Hierdie koevert is in 'n versameling in Kaapstad.

„Eerste Lugpos" uit Swaziland



Slegs 25 koeverte is vervoer met die Suid-Afrikaanse Lugdiens se eerste lugpos vanuit Swaziland op 5 April 1971. Al die koeverte is gemerk met 'n rubberstempel soos hierbo afgebeeld, en die oorspronklike stempel is aan die Swazilandse Nasionale Argief geskenk. Die posdiens tussen die lughawe Jan Smuts en Matsapa-lughawe word onderhou deur SAL en Swazi Air en het snel in gewildheid toegeneem — teen einde April is reeds 58 kg lugpos op 'n keer vervoer. Interessant is dat die eerste vlug koeverte bevat het wat ½c ondergefrankeer was, dog nie beboet is nie. (Erkenning aan kapt. J. Bakker, Protea-lugdiens.)

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Pilot Train of 1934 Royal Tour

Notes on a display of 100 envelopes pertaining to Prince George's Tour, given by L. A. Wyndham before the Cape Town Philatelic Society and published in *The S.A. Philatelist* of December, 1934, page 188, make no mention of a Pilot Train run in connection with the Royal Tour.

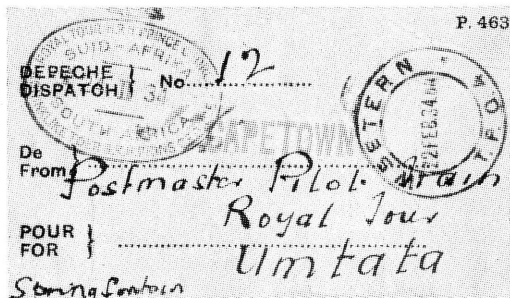
Mr Wyndham stated that envelopes were posted at various points visited by the Royal Train and "a special postal agency was established on the train and all correspondence dispatched from it was impressed with an oval seal date stamp, surmounted with the Royal Crest and bearing the words 'Royal Tour / H.R.H. Prince George / South Africa' in both official languages".

ready departed from Cape Town on 13th February 1934) by the Western Travelling Post Office 4 Down Train (Cape Town to Johannesburg) via Springfontein, at which point the bag would be transferred to the East London train for conveyance to East London and ultimately to Umtata, where upon delivery to the Post Master, Pilot Train, Royal Tour, it was datestamped with the oval seal date stamp dated 24th February 1934, a day after the scheduled date of arrival (on 23rd February 1934) of the Royal party at Umtata.

The postbag thus made the connection, perhaps twelve hours late. The humble postal marks on the tag are indicative of the interesting information which may be derived from a somewhat neglected piece of postal stationery.

— T.B.B.

(With acknowledgement to *The S.A. Postmark Society Newsletter*)



Protea Stamp on Flower

Show Cover

An official commemorative cover, number 18, will be issued for the International Horticultural Show to be held at Milner Park, Johannesburg, from 26th October to 6th November 1971.

The cover was designed by Major George van Ryn, who with Mr Johnny Booysen also designed the special datestamp.

Covers will be franked with the current 9c Protea stamp and may be ordered from the Philatelic Services, Pretoria, until 25th October. The charge for serviced covers will be 25c each, whether they are addressed or not.

The show will probably portray South Africa's tremendous wealth and variety of indigenous flora, about which the stiffener card will give some details.

Botanists have marvelled at South Africa's flora for over two centuries, but it is only fairly recently that South Africans themselves have started the garden cultivation of proteas, ericas, aloes etc. on a large scale. The Kirstenbosch Botanical Gardens commemorative stamp of 1963, which features a red disa, was the first full-colour stamp to be printed in South Africa.



The postbag tag or label, illustrated, would indicate an hitherto unrecorded fact that a Pilot Train had been run in connection with the Royal Train, for the bag was consigned from Cape Town to the "Postmaster, Pilot Train, Royal Tour, Umtata".

Further, the postbag tag indicates that the bag was dispatched from Cape Town on 22nd February 1934 (the Royal Train having al-

Stokperdjies in Pas

Seëls versamel is die voorste onder stokperdjies; dit word gereedelik toegegee. Dit is die grootste, voortreflikste, mees aangeprese vryetydsaktiwiteit ter wêreld. Die koning van stokperdjies, maar die stokperdjie nie net van konings nie — intendeel.

Maar seëls versamel is nie „n” stokperdjie nie — dit is inderwaarheid ’n sambreel van stokperdjies. Want daar is nouliks enige stokperdjie waarby seëls versamel nie aanklank vind nie.

Het u al daaraan gedink?

Iemand wat versot is op tuinmaak, kan saans sy belangstelling voortsit met ’n versameling van blomme op seëls. En struike, en gras, en bome, en botaniese gedenkwaardighede, en botaniste. Eweso kan die beesteler ’n pragtige versameling van prentjies van die pronkbulle van baie lande opbou.

Daar is seëls vir die voëlkyker, die vlinder-vanger en die skilpadsoeker. ’n Muntversamelaar gaan waarskynlik op seëls munte bymekaarbring wat hy nooit in sy numismatiese versameling sal hê nie. Dit geld vanselfsprekend ook vir medaljes, swaarde en ou vuurwapens.

’n Liefhebber van skilderye kan ’n hele muur vul met afdrukke van werke van die ou meesters: volkleur-miniatuurafdrukke op seëls. Hy kan selfs rye van skilders se selfportrette maak. En mense wat van musiek hou, kan seëls met komponiste van oraloer versamel en daarby nog ’n bietjie bladmusiek op seëls kry!

Sport

Sporttoeskouers kan hulle verlustig aan die seëls van hul gunstelingsport, en selfs ’n hele

klompie sportsoorte wat nie as toeskouersport geag word nie, word op die seëls van baie lande uitgebeeld. Vir hengelaars is daar baie meer met die seëltangetjie te vang as met die hoek, van forelle tot marlyne. Eenvoudig alle vorme van sport kan „versamel” word — van ruitersport deur die hele spektrum van liggaamlike aktiwiteit tot by snelskaats.

Skulpies versamel is ewe interessant as die skulpies op seëls is. Vir mense wat kaarte versamel, of handtekeninge versamel, of ou meubels, of militêre uniforms, is daar seëls wat pas.

Hou iemand van motorwedrenne, renmotors, tydrenne of noagkarre? Honde, katte, kanaries? Of stel iemand belang in ontdekkingsreise, die verhaal van skeepvaart, pooltogte of die mens se pogings tot verowering van die ruimte? Kyk maar na die posseëls!

’n Mens kan aanhou met lyste maak van onderwerpe, temas en belangstellings, maar seëls sal daar wees. Of iemand belang stel in wêreldletterkundiges, of chirurgie, of vegvliegtuie, of noodleniging, of godsdiens, of argitektuur, of rotstekeninge, of skaak, of dans, of nywerheidsgroei, of kerkgeboue, of gorillas — die seëls is versamelbaar.

Geen wonder nie dat dit Die Stokperdjie genoem word, want dit is ’n vryetydsbesteding sonder weerga. Daaraan kan meedoen oud en jonk, ryk en arm, gesond of liggaamlik gestrem, en, dit is die mooiheid daarvan, elkeen kan seëls versamel na sy eie smaak. Hetsy as ’n stokperdjie op sigself, of as ’n stokperdjie wat ’n ander een aanvul.

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Postmark Notes

by D. Allison

New Mobile Post Offices

At the RSA 10 Exhibition, an official brochure "Stamps of the Republic of South Africa" was available. At the bottom of page ten is a list of Mobile Post Offices. Numbers 1 to 17 have been recorded before, and readers will remember Dr Berry's pamphlet on Mobile Post Offices which was a supplement to the "S.A. Philatelist" of June 1968. There are however two more in this new list, number 20 at Kimberley and number 25 at Durban. The gaps in the list suggest that several other such offices will be opened soon.

The July 1971 P.O. Bulletin includes one of the above offices in its list of new post offices, namely No. 20. It also lists three new Mobile Post Offices in South West Africa, which are, I think, the first in that territory. Only one of the three is numbered; their names are

Mobile P.O., Ondangwa,

Mobile P.O. No. 2, Ondangwa,

and Mobile P.O., Rundu.

Suburban Sorting Offices

In the January Notes it was mentioned that the CAPE TOWN/KAAPSTAD F date stamp on the machine at Rondebosch had been replaced by one inscribed RONDEBOSCH. More recently, the datestamp CAPE TOWN/KAAPSTAD G at Bellville has given way to one inscribed BELLVILLE.

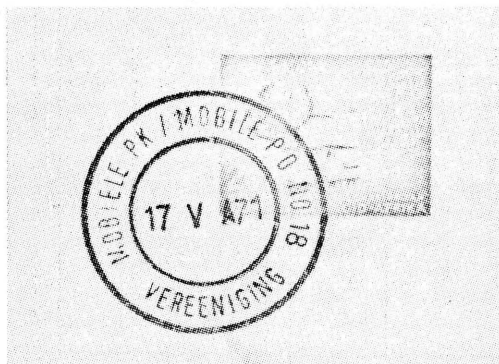
Johannesburg X

For some years Johannesburg has had a datestamp with the letter X at the bottom. Impressions of this have never been very common. Recently it has been used to backstamp express letters passing through Johannesburg, evidently replacing "JOHANNESBURG 2" which had been used for this purpose since last October (or a little earlier). I have not seen Johannesburg 2 since it disappeared from express letters and would be interested to hear from anyone who has.

Philatelic Postmark To Be Replaced

A new postmark for the Philatelic Services in Pretoria is to be introduced on 1st November, 1971.

More New Mobile Offices



Two more new mobile post offices have come on the road.

Mobile Post Office No. 18 started its rounds in Vereeniging on 17th May, 1971. Its postmark is illustrated.

On 1st July, 1971, the same day as Number 19 at Klerksdorp (reported in our last issue), Mobile P.O. No. 23 went into action in Cape Town.

Definitives Are Delayed

No definitive news is as yet to hand about South Africa's new definite set.

The printing and issue of the set awaits the arrival, installation and "running-in" of the new stamp printing press at the Government Printer in Pretoria. This means that the issue can only be expected during the course of next year.

When he opened Congress in Cape Town, Mr Rive, the Postmaster General, said that the stamps would feature birds, fishes and flowers (as reported in The S.A. Philatelist, July issue). No further particulars are available, and it is also not known how many and which values the set would have.

The stamps were designed by Mr Ernst de Jong.

Telegraphic Address

The Philatelic Services in Pretoria now has a telegraphic address: SASTAMPS, Pretoria.

The new telephone number of the office is 3-4100.

LITERATURE

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Reviews

Net Catalogue of the Stamps of South Africa and South West Africa. Edited and published by B. Joseph and J. van Varendorff. August 1971, 99 pages. Illustrated, paper bound. Price R2,00.

The title is self-explanatory. The scope of the publication opens at the Introductory Period of the stamps of South Africa, the Inter-provincial Series, and extends up to the present time to include all the subsequent issues of the Definitive, the Commemorative, and the Official Stamps, also the Postage Due Labels. Corresponding attention is also bestowed upon the various emissions of South West Africa, a welcome addition not usually included in a catalogue of the stamps of South Africa notwithstanding their existing close relationship, territorially and philatelic.

The booklet is clearly printed on good quality paper and is copiously illustrated with reduced-size stamps. Authors' notes and summaries of the various printings are dispersed throughout.

The composition of the Catalogue is both instructive and pleasing. The various issues are systematically recorded and each printing bears an introduction detailing its date of issue, manner of preparation and perforation.

The pricing which is set out in detail for perfect mint and clean used specimens is realistic and is made for the basic stamps, no attention being paid to varieties, items of exceptional value or the requirements of the specialist collector. A welcome introduction is the pricing for sets of First Day Covers when these are applicable.

The Catalogue is an ambitious record and ranks as an invaluable guide and an essential work of reference for those who require a non-specialised booklet on the stamps of South and South West Africa.

ANDORRA PHILATELIST No.2. February 1971. (Published by Ernesto Fink, P.O. Box 2554, Mexico 1. D.F. Mexico.)

This interesting publication can be obtained by sending for each copy self-addressed envelopes (foolscap) and one international reply coupon for regular mail world-wide posting or five to South Africa by airmail. This issue gives information on a visit to Andorra, means of obtaining stamps etc. of Andorra, postal memories of an Andorran Oldtimer, Post Offices in Andorra, Spanish Mail during the Civil War,

and Postal History of Andorra by Derek W. Tanner (an expert in this field). M.F.S.

A Guide To Catalogues 1971, published by Stamp Informs Associates, 675 Massachusetts Avenue, Cambridge, Mass 02139, USA, at \$3,50 postpaid.

A catalogue has been called the collector's best friend, yet few collectors ever use more than one or two or perhaps three catalogues. This publication, an attempt to show the

catalogue reference material available to collectors, is a handy guide to the broadening of catalogue use, for beginners and specialists alike. Over 300 catalogues are listed, with addresses and estimated prices.

It is a commendable publication, and we hope that the publishers of local catalogues will see to it that the South African section is updated in a future edition of the guide. JG

The Southern African Material at RSA 10

by Manfred Weinstein, R.D.P.S.A.

(Continued from page 221, September Number)

Cheque Stamps of Nyasaland, by D. G. Crocker of South Africa, awarded a bronze medal.

Singles, blocks and covers of the 1898 provisional issue.

Northern Rhodesia, by N. P. Hartley of Zambia, awarded a bronze medal.

1925 specimens. 1963 missing values mint and used on cover.

Rhodesia, by J. Figov of South Africa, awarded a silver-bronze medal.

Essays, proofs, specimens, provisionals, shades of Double Heads and perforation varieties.

St. Helena, by Mrs E. M. Strachan of South Africa, awarded a silver-bronze medal.

Pre-adhesive covers. Cork cancellers. Tristan Relief Set. Die proofs, specimens.

Tristan Postal History, by G. de Goede of South Africa, awarded a bronze medal.

Genuine and imitation postmarks. Immediate pre- and post-evacuation period October 1960.

Tristan da Cunha, by Dr A. Davidson of South Africa, awarded a bronze medal.

Postal history from 1908. Cachets, covers and stamps.

Tristan da Cunha, by J. Cole of Canada, awarded a silver medal.

First known cover, 1898. First known usage of 1908 cachet. Shackleton-Rowett overprints. Submarine and "airmail" covers. "Atlantic isle" and "Job No. 9" covers from Second World War. St. Helena Tristan Relief set in blocks of four, used.

Mozambique and Mozambique Co., by B. Glassman of Johannesburg, awarded a silver-bronze medal.

Colour trials, proofs, specimens. Beira emergency mail.

Rhodesian Printed Stamps since UDI, by T. Rudman of South Africa, awarded a silver-bronze medal.

UDI overprints, also its forgeries. Trial printings of definitives, rare double black printing of Jameson issue, treatment of Rhodesian mail in the UK.

Rhodesia Since Independence, by R. F. Newdigate of South Africa, awarded a bronze medal.

A collection similar to the previous.

Rhodesia Postage Dues, by H. C. Russell of Rhodesia, awarded a bronze medal.

Varieties, covers, cancellation marks.

Rhodesia: British South Africa Company, by Sen J. R. Strong, awarded a silver-gilt medal, with special prize.

1898 £20, mint. 1909 £1 pair one with overprint omitted. 1896 4d provisional pair, one with Company omitted. Double Heads, marginal pair of £1 error of colour. Die proofs, plate proofs and imperforate of Arms issues. All known varieties of Admirals, including imperforates.

Rhodesia 1890-1924, by H. Birkhead of South Africa, awarded a silver medal.

Die proofs, plate proofs, colour trials. Imprint copy of £1 error of colour and of 1/perf. 15 x 14. Specimens, forgeries. Other stamps used in Rhodesia. Full sheets. Covers and cancellations.

SOCIETY NEWS

EAST LONDON PHILATELIC SOCIETY

July: This was certainly the best attended meeting of the year, and we were pleased to welcome 40 members and 3 visitors to view a display of G.B. Commemorative controls, and to hear a talk on them given by Mr M. Chiappini.

He certainly gave us an insight into how he obtained a complete set of the controls, some of which are in the extremely scarce class. He was working in London at the time when G.B. stamps suddenly started to gain popularity, and he got in on the ground floor, but, even then, he had a difficult task to search out the elusive items.

Members really enjoyed his enlightening talk, which was put over very well. We also had a record intake of new members, no fewer than seven applications being approved, so it would seem that philately in these parts is on the up and up. Now that the future of the "S.A. Philatelist" is assured, we are hoping that the promised improvement in the magazine from next year will assist in bringing in more members to the various societies. Our August meeting will feature the Ruby Alabaster Competition for junior collectors, and we are hoping for a fair number of entries.

BELLVILLE PHILATELIC SOCIETY

July: The meeting started with discussion concerning the levy imposed by the Federation to underwrite the S.A. Philatelist. There were several points of view expressed both for and against the proposal. Several ideas were suggested to raise the additional revenue required for the levy; these being:

- i Auction on Lee Cup Night (Eddie Beunderman)
- ii Cheese and Wine Party (Mrs Gerber)
- iii Bellville P.S. Ties and Badges (Dr Wolfe)
- iv A philatelic Raffle (Mr Lee)
- v Increase of subscription by 50c (Mr van Dijk)

Any further suggestions will be most welcome and should be discussed at this meeting.

Eddie Beunderman brought greetings from the newly formed Mossel Bay Society and then described some watermark varieties that had come to light on the recent commemoratives. This he followed up with his monthly talk which this month embraced the wide field of Surcharges and Overprints.

Bob Goldblatt then described the evolution of some covers that were prepared for RSA 10 and showed a cover that is being made for the 13th World Scout Jamboree — Nippon '71.

Ernst Gerber then presented the feature of the evening — 'Medicine on Stamps'. He described his exhibit in such a way that this rather technical subject was full of interest for the layman.

THEMATIC STAMP CLUB

August 18, 1971: Mr H. Beinart gave three interesting exhibits illustrating various methods of displaying the topic "Sport on Stamps". At the meet-

ing the July/September 1971 issue of the Thematic Magazine was issued in its new format and cover. This was 22 pages packed with many articles, including Personalities on African Stamps, Napoleon I, the Princes of Liechtenstein, Motorcars of Yesterday and Today, Wines of Portugal and other items. The Magazine is issued quarterly and is included in the annual subscription.

SOCIETY OF ISRAEL PHILATELY

July: The attendance was slightly down but this was no doubt due to the weather and the number of people away on holiday. The Hon. Secretary displayed the new RSA airletter forms and gave some information on the various changes in the RSA stamps and postal rates. Thereafter Mr Stanger read a short note on his exhibit which consisted of Flora as appearing on the stamps of other countries. He then passed the sheets around the table instead of laying the sheets out on the table. This proved a much better way of displaying and also ensured the exhibitor that his complete display would be seen by every member present. This procedure may in future be adopted. After the display Mr Stanger entertained us to the showing of slides pertaining to the Flora displayed and gave a most interesting and illuminating running commentary on each slide. In this manner members were able to appreciate the various Flora depicted on the stamps and also on the Flora of Israel and South Africa. Mr Rutenberg thanked the exhibitor on behalf of all present.

DIE AFRIKAANSE FILATELISTIESE VERENIGING VAN PRETORIA

Julie: Die aand is opgeluister met twee versamelings. Mnr Pretorius het sy versameling seëls van die Unie gewys, almal gebruik, die vorm waarin ons hulle eintlik die meeste gesien het. Die afstempelings was netjies en die versameling was kompleet. Na die baie ongebruikte seëls wat mens gewoonlik maar dien, is dit aangenaam om weer 'n slag gebruikte seëls te kan bekyk. Ons Voorsitter, mnr De Swardt, het 'n uitstalling gehou van die R10-seëls. Die versameling is kompleet in silinderblokke, met die watermerkverskille. Hy het ook 'n voorbeeld gehad van elke afsonderlike besondere stempel wat in Kaapstad gebruik is. Dis interessant om so kort na 'n uitgifte so 'n stel kompleet en netjies opgestel te sien.

Augustus: Die aand is gebruik vir ons jaarlikse klubkompetisie. Daar was 'n hele aantal indrukwekkende meedingers, sowel filatelistas as tematies. Filatelistas was daar twee versamelings: mnr Havenaer met seëls van Malawi en mnr V.d. Mey met sy versameling ongebruikte seëls van Nederland. Albei versamelings is kompleet. Die seëls van Malawi is van meer ondlangse inhoud, die van mnr V.d. Mey loop vanaf die eerste seëls van Nederland, met boetesëëls. Die versameling bevat o.a. 'n paartjie (!) van die drie-gaats roltanding, mooi gesentreer, en ongebruikte stelle van die Internasionale Hofseëls! Die eerste prys is aan mnr V.d. Mey toegeken. Die enigste junior was mnr Denyschen met ou seëls van Transvaal. Hierdie jong kêrel is bekend vir sy mooi ou Transvaalse seëls, wat tot in

besonderhede uitgestal is en opemrklik mooi en duidelik bygeskryf is. Tematies het meegeeding mnr Havenaer met blomme op seëls, en prof Gonin met Switserse „Pro Juventute“-seëls. Albei versamelings was baie mooi. Die versameling van prof Gonin is egter uitvoeriger bygeskryf en het die eerste prys verwerf. Alles saam was dit 'n besonder leersame aand.

THE PHILATELIC SOCIETY OF NATAL

July 7th: Forty-one members and guests were welcomed by the Chairman, Dr J. Duncan, and after the formal business was concluded, Mr Boston led a discussion on the mounting of a collection in which many members joined.

July 21st: Swop Night. This was a well-attended meeting of 48 members, together with their guests. It was gratifying to see so many children accompanying their parents, this no doubt due to the attraction of the nature of the exhibit, Mrs Barbara Ubagh's "Children's Stories and Fairy Tales", which gained a silver-bronze award at the RSA 10 Festival Exhibition.

Dr C. R. Mackenzie gave the results of his inquiries in an endeavour to find a suitable chemically-impregnated paper to be used for the prevention of "rust". He also promised to summarise and publish the methods that he and Dr J. Duncan are using in this respect with our collections.

A most enjoyable and delightful evening was closed with a breezy auction conducted by Brian Hill.

PORT ELIZABETH PHILATELIC SOCIETY

6 July: The meeting was the Dave Berg Floating Trophy Competition for the best Thematic Exhibit for the year. The following exhibited: Mrs M. Katz — The Heritage of European Paintings; Mrs Fourie — Paintings; Mr A. F. W. Davitt — Dogs; Mrs B. Schoeman — Birds and Oddities; Mr M. Call — The History of Lenin; Mr D. Bloom — Stamps on Stamps and Mrs Scott — Development of Ships.

It was a very pleasant evening, thoroughly enjoyed by all.

PRETORIA RAILWAY PHILATELIC SOCIETY

July: A fairly well attended meeting devoted itself firstly to the formal business of the Society, including the reception of reports, and after the tea interval Comdr Enoch displayed an excellent selection from his extensive Line Engraved Stamps of Great Britain collection. He prefaced the exhibit with the title "An introduction to the study of Line Engraved" — an exhibit thoroughly enjoyed by all for which an appreciation was extended.

THE MASHONALAND PHILATELIC SOCIETY

July: Thirty-six members and ten visitors attended the meeting which was chaired by Mr Brooke in the absence of Mr Annett. During 'Matters of Interest' a member mentioned that he had noticed 3 distinct shades in the printing of the 7½c Bird stamp — dull olive on 1A Pink/Olive 1B and paler shade on a second 1B printing.

The highlight of the evening was the viewing of Mr Wacker's collection of Indonesian stamps from 1050 onwards which exhibit was introduced by an introductory speech.

Mr Walters, Chairman of the Exhibition Committee, reported upon the formation of an Exhibition Committee and the progress already made towards a successful Congress and Exhibition which is set down for 28 August, 1972 to 2 September, 1972.

GERMISTON PHILATELIC SOCIETY

July: A good attendance of seventeen members and two visitors under the Chairmanship of the President, Mrs C. F. De Kock.

An exhibit of B.S.A./Rhodesia by Mr Harry Birkhead. This was an exhibit of world class as Mr T. Rudman said when he thanked Mr Birkhead on behalf of the Society. It had so many unique items that other experts did not even know about them.

Our Hon. Secretary and Mrs Burniston sent kind regards from the Canal Zone on their way around their world trip.

Mr Ron Mephins gave a good report on our away visit on the 26th June to the Johannesburg Society and reported that the following members exhibited the underlisted:

Mr J. Botha	— Poland (mint)
Mr B. Eilers	— Early Germany
Mr S. Kantor	— Mint Rhodesia & Nyasaland
Mr Jack Hagger	— S.A. Airmails and London Printings

MARITZBURG PHILATELIC SOCIETY

Although not a very big Society, Maritzburg Philatelic Society is very active and our monthly meetings are fairly well attended considering our membership. It is hoped that from now on regular news of the Society's doings will be submitted.

June: A fairly well attended meeting saw Mr Goldsmith's collection of his whole world U.P.U. This was a fine exhibit and very well mounted in Mr Goldsmith's own method of using plastic envelopes. Mr Arbuckle who represented the Society at Congress gave us a very interesting report of the proceedings. He was thanked by the Chairman, Mr Dominy, for his report and for representing us.

July: Our usual auction was held and a number of items were disposed of. Mr Benton gave us a very interesting display of "Shells on Stamps". This exhibit was accompanied by most of the actual shells depicted on the stamps. This display was enjoyed by a good meeting.

Mr Arbuckle showed us some of his Transvaal Locals, a most interesting exhibit which has taken a great deal of time and effort.

We wish our Chairman, Mr Dominy, a happy holiday during August.

THE O.F.S. PHILATELIC SOCIETY

June: A well attended meeting comprising 15 members and 23 visitors enjoyed New Issues/Recent Acquisitions tabled by:

- Mr Scott — Some very interesting early Basutoland covers
 Mr Carruthers — Great Britain Ulster Paintings set
 Mr Lee — Rhodesian Birds issue on F.D.C.
 Mr Meyburgh — Congress Banquet Menu, Jurymen's Bronze Badge of Office and Silver Gilt Medal awarded for services rendered as a Judge, and most important of all, his certificate of enrolment as RDPSA.

The main exhibit of the evening was provided by Dr W. J. van der Merwe of Viljoenskroon — aangiesien dit lede-aand was, was dit baie paslik dat ons hoofuitstalling bestaan het uit 'n buitestedige lid se versameling. Almal het hulle verkyk aan die baie mooi items wat op die vertoonrakke verskyn het. Met die oog veral op die baie Junior lede en skool-besoekers wat die aand teenwoordig was, is in die inleidingswoorde o.a. verwys na die poolvlug van die lugskip „Graf Zeppelin”; die INFLA-posstempels en die 1951-53 Vryheidsklok met die verskillende klepelposisies.

This being “Members Night”, all members present were required to provide a 12-page exhibit and visitors were provided with a feast of varied collections . . .

- Mr Scott — Basutoland and France
 Mr Meyburgh — Christmas Stamps
 Mrs Jordens — Rembrandt Paintings
 Mr Jordens — Uniforms on Stamps
 Master Dale Viljoen — British Commemoratives
 Mr Carruthers — British Commemoratives
 Mr Lee — Scouts on Stamps

Mr Scott rounded off a most successful evening by commenting on each of the exhibits, and by passing a vote of thanks to the providers of the refreshments.

July: Those who attended this meeting were rewarded by seeing some very fine stamps. The first exhibit of the evening was “Mauritius” tabled by Mr R. Osborne of Durban. This was a real treat to view. He covers the whole postal history of this island, commencing with pre-stamp covers, locally-printed stamps, right through to modern times.

The second exhibit was Mr S. Hancock's “South Africa” — his first full exhibit. The collection was based on Stanley Gibbons Part I and of special note was the lay-out and excellent write-up. We look forward to seeing this collection again as it develops.

Our sincere thanks to these two exhibitors.

PRETORIA PHILATELIC SOCIETY

July: The Junior Competition for the Enoch Cup was held and there were five entrants, in alphabetical order:

- | | | |
|------------------|---------|--------------------|
| Carel Denysschen | | Pietersburg |
| Lawrence Eskell | Aged 13 | Great Britain |
| Graham Ledbitter | Aged 14 | Great Britain |
| Anne Mapstone | Aged 17 | 25 Years of U.S.A. |
| Micky Mapstone | Aged 15 | France & Publicity |

All the displays gave an impression of a very much higher standard than last year. Each exhibit was a coherent whole and was neat.

Carel Denysschen was declared the winner and Miss Mapstone a strong runner-up.

August: Members present were asked to table ten pages. There was such a good response that some members went home with their stamps unshown. There were 22 exhibits and I am not going to try to describe each display separately, but there was something for everybody's taste. There were colourful displays of handsome stamps, out of the way things that we have never been shown before, with great varieties among them, and old friends that never pall.

SOUTH AFRICAN STAMP STUDY CIRCLE

July: Our secretary, Natie Becker, reported a very interesting find, namely the 2½ cent from cylinders 12.8 with missing watermark. He had prepared a very good, detailed report on this, supported by the actual stamps, and drawing which made it all very easy to see. A very good find, and a very good report on it.

Mr G. Joseph gave a very interesting talk on all the stages and processes leading up to the preparation of the printing cylinders for colour work.

August: A questionnaire sent out to all local members was replied to by only about 40% of these members. This lack of response is fairly commonplace these days, but makes things even more difficult for those who are trying to run the society.

Arising out of a discussion on a Submarine Cover, Dr T. Berry gave a talk on Military maritime mail, describing the various handstamps and/or cancellations that may be applied, and the reasons therefor.

The rest of the meeting was given over to a bourse, which turned out to be very popular. Many members were still “doing deals” long after our normal closing time.

AFRIKAANSE FILATELISTEVERENIGING

Augustus: Ses nuwe lede en vyf jonglede is by die vergadering aanvaar, terwyl 'n verede agt aansoek gedien het.

Nadat ons voorsitter, mnr Seligman, onderhoudend vertel het van sy filateliese wedervaringe in Europa en sy besoek by 'n uitstalling in Liechtenstein waar asemnemenende rariteite vertoon is, het mnr Wim Hartman sy pragtige versameling Madagaskar en Malgassiese Republiek uitgestal.

EXPERT COMMITTEE

The next meeting of the Expert Committee of the Philatelic Federation of Southern Africa will be held on Saturday, November 20, 1971. The Secretary's postal address is P.O. Box 2388, Pretoria.

PHILATELIST'S RENDEZVOUS

AFRIKAANSE FILATELISTEVERENIGING

Eresekretaris: E. Thamm, Bus 8124,
JOHANNESBURG.

Gereelde maandvergaderings: eerste Saterdag
elke maand om 2.30 nm.; saal 75 Openbare
Biblioteek (uitstallings, veilings, tweetalige
nuusbrief, puik rondsenddiens).

THE ROYAL PHILATELIC SOCIETY OF CAPE TOWN

meets on the second and fourth Thursdays
of every month in

The Club Room of the Friends of Italy of
South Africa, First Floor, Radio City Bldgs.
Tulbagh Square, Foreshore, Cape Town.
at 8 p.m.

VISITORS CORDIALLY WELCOMED.

P.O. BOX 1973, CAPE TOWN.

THE MASHONALAND PHILATELIC SOCIETY

Meets once a month on the second Wednesday
at 8 p.m. in the Auditorium of the Queen
Victoria Museum, Rotton Row, Salisbury.

ALL VISITORS ARE WELCOME.
Secretary, P.O. Box 2735, Salisbury.

ORANGE FREE STATE PHILATELIC SOCIETY

Meets on the fourth Friday of every month
in the

NATIONAL MUSEUM HALL,
BLOEMPONTEIN
at 7.30 p.m.

Issues a monthly magazine and circulates
sales packets to members

P.O. BOX 702 — BLOEMPONTEIN.

THE PORT ELIZABETH PHILATELIC SOCIETY

meets on the first and third Tuesday each
month in the

The Walmer Library Hall,
Main Road, Walmer, Port Elizabeth.
at 8.00 p.m.

Visitors cordially welcome.

P.O. BOX 3 — PORT ELIZABETH.

THE PHILATELIC SOCIETY OF NATAL

Meetings 1st and 3rd Wednesdays monthly
at 7.30 p.m. in the

Geo Cato Room, City Hall, Durban
(Entrance West Street, . . . door nearest
Beach)

VISITORS CORDIALLY WELCOMED.

P.O. Box 588, Durban, Secretary's
Telephone 64306 (evenings)

MARITZBURG PHILATELIC SOCIETY

meets monthly on the last Tuesday of the
month in the Basement, Natal University
Library, at 7.15 p.m.

ALL VISITORS ARE WELCOME.

P.O. Box 256, Pietermaritzburg.

THE PRETORIA PHILATELIC SOCIETY

meets on the first Monday of every month
in the
Council Chamber of the Technical College
Church Street East, Pretoria.
at 7.45 p.m.

VISITORS CORDIALLY WELCOMED.

P.O. Box 514, Pretoria.

THE PHILATELIC SOCIETY OF JOHANNESBURG

meets twice a month: Second Tuesday and
fourth Monday at
Room 75, Public Library, Johannesburg
at 8 p.m.

VISITORS ARE WELCOME.

Hon. Secretary,

P.O. Box 4967, Johannesburg.

THE AEROPHILATELIC SOCIETY OF SOUTHERN AFRICA

Meetings are not held, but members get
covers, etc. of special South African flights
and other interesting items — more than
covered by the small annual subscription.

P.O. Box 3654, Cape Town.

THE PRETORIA RAILWAY PHILATELIC SOCIETY

meets on the second Wednesday of every
month in the

Railway Recreation Club, Berea Park,
Pretoria, at 8 p.m.

P.O. Box 2388, Pretoria.

ALL PHILATELISTS ARE WELCOME.

SOCIETY OF ISRAEL PHILATELY

Meets on the 1st Monday of every month
at 8.15 p.m.

Burlington House Boardroom (2nd Floor),
c/r. Bissik & Marshall Streets,
Johannesburg.

ALL WELCOME.

Secretary P.O. Box 11502, Johannesburg.

THE SOUTH AFRICAN STAMP STUDY CIRCLE

meets at 2.15 p.m. on the second Saturday of
every month in the

Staff Tea Lounge, Basement, Corner House,
Corner Sauer and Commissioner Streets,
Johannesburg (Commissioner St. Entrance).
ALL INTERESTED IN SOUTH AFRICAN
PHILATELY ARE WELCOME.

Secretary: N. Becker

P.O. Box 9505, Johannesburg.

Telephone: 838-4679; Home 45-5452

THE EAST RAND PHILATELIC SOCIETY

P.O. Box 483, Benoni. (Hon. Secretary).

Meetings every 2nd Monday in the month
at the

BENONI TENNIS CLUB HOUSE,
Benoni, at 7.45 p.m.

VISITORS ARE WELCOME.

WANTS, OFFERS & EXCHANGE

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WANTED: REVENUE STAMPS: I pay R1.50 per hundred, any quantity. W. J. Pieterse, 13 Franconia Drive, Nashua, N.H. 03060, U.S.A.

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ANGLO-BOER WAR PHILATELIC SOCIETY, quarterly magazine with exchange packet in U.K. Annual subscription £1 sterling or 3 dollars. Secretary, J. H. Rathbone, "Always", Rudheath, Northwich, Cheshire, U.K.

WANTED: Rhodesian Postmarks, on or off cover (pre-1923). Offers to J. M. Weinstein, 479a Fehrsen Street, Brooklyn, Pretoria.

WANTED.—Accumulations, Collections, Office Lots on and off paper. Turn those old boxes of philatelic "junk" into cash, or exchange it with us for stamps, albums or accessories that you need. — **ROBEMARK PHILATELISTS (PTY.) LTD.,** 21 Joubert Street, Johannesburg. Box 11419.

TE KOOP GEVRA: Posmateriaal van die Vrystaatsse en Transvaalse Republieke gebruik ná 11 Oktober 1899. J. Groenewald, Posbus 3443, Pretoria.

REPUBLIC REVERSED WATERMARK: I have some 2c A Cylinder blocks to swap for for 2c B and 4c A and B Cylinder blocks. H. Pretorius, 1155 Cobham Road, Queenswood, Pretoria.

MIXTURES. Biggest stock in variety over 125 kinds. Most favourable wholesale-quotations. Ask for newest pricelist from Mixture-house Rolf Gummesson AB, Kungsgatan 55, 111 22 Stockholm, Sweden.

SCARCE BACK NUMBERS of S.A. Philatelist for sale: Vol. 4 No. 11 (Dec 1926) 50c; Vol. 20 No's 7, 8 & 9 (July, Aug. & Sept. 1944) 35c each. Inquire through Business Manager, S.A. Philatelist, Box 375, Johannesburg.

EXCHANGE through Rhostamps Exchange Club. Details from Box UA 28, Salisbury, Rhodesia.

TOP CASH PRICES paid for selected Rhodesia and Bechuanaland early postmarks and material on cover. H. Birkhead, 12 Hill Terrace, Bedford View. Telephone 53-1847.

GERMAN SOUTH WEST AFRICA: Wanted early forerunners on cover or on piece, or any other items of interest. Top prices paid. L. ABRAMS, P.O. Box 7875, Johannesburg. Telephone: Office 22-1630; home 41-9251.

LATVIA (Letland; Lettonie) out of the way items and bulk common stamps wanted.— J. Michelson, P.O. Box 9314, Johannesburg.

WANTED.—German Concentration Camp Covers and Ghetto Post, Post-war Locals, Propaganda, Forgeries, Military Covers, etc., etc. C. A. Whysall, P.O. Box 676, Durban. (68 West Street).

U.S.A. SPECIALIST requires singles, blocks, covers, cancellations. A. R. Kleiner, 23 Cadogan Gardens, London S.W. 3, England.

THE SPRINGBOK, magazine of the South African Collectors' Society for Union and Republic collectors. Subscription R2 a year. Membership: Secretary, R. E. Mason, 137 Lichfield Court, Richmond, Surrey, England.

SWEDISH Military Philately wanted. Write first: S. J. Vermaak, Box 2272, Johannesburg.

IF STAMPS OF — Germany, Austria and other Western European countries are wanted, first try us.—**S.A. STAMP CENTRE** P.O. Box 6891, Johannesburg. Telephone 22-1391. (Want lists invited).

WANTED: S.A., S.W.A. and Boer War, preferably postal history.—C. E. SHERWOOD (V), P.T.S., 105 Marford Crescent, Sale, Cheshire M33 4DN.

The South African Philatelist

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More Stamps For S.A. Coming

It is expected that South Africa's new stamp issuing policy, which was earlier this year foreshadowed by the Minister of Posts and Telecommunications, Mr. Marais Viljoen, will be announced before the end of the year.

Mr. Viljoen at the opening of the RSA 10 Stamp Exhibition in Cape Town revealed that the authorities were re-considering the present policy, which was not in keeping with modern trends. He indicated that the new policy would remain conservative — more so than that of other “conservative” countries — yet would offer more to collectors, especially younger collectors, who were not much concerned with cylinder blocks of new printings and the like.

Philatelists are keenly looking forward to details about the new policy.

From carefully reading the speeches of Mr. Viljoen and Mr. L. F. Rive, the Postmaster General, it can be safely deducted that we are going to see more commemorative or special stamp issues in future. Our definitive sets will have a shorter life span as well.

The current policy is that not more than three commemorative issues are made per year, while such issues are with very few exceptions limited to two values only. As Mr. Viljoen intimated, this is not much of a stimulant for young collectors.

Six Issues?

The new policy may provide for anything from four to six commemorative issues per annum, each having anything between one and five or six values. Taking the three-month issue period for a commemorative set into considera-

tion, this may mean that we could have more than one issue running concurrently.

As the new definitive set is to be introduced next year — we think it will have around 15 values — it is possible that we will not yet get a full quota of special issues during 1972. When we asked Mr. Herman Steyn, head of Philatelic Services, about this aspect, he declined to comment as next year's programme is obviously still in the melting pot.

Meanwhile the Department of Water Affairs confirmed to us that a stamp issue for the opening of the Hendrik Verwoerd Dam has been approved.

Other topics for 1972 are for the guessing. One subject which could make a good stamp feature, is touristic attractions. Another is sport. We also recall that a Member of Parliament suggested issues for Bantu regional authorities gaining selfgovernment (reported in our May issue), and we believe three or four such authorities are now on the threshold of Transkei-like administrations and thus are potential subjects for Transkei-like stamps.

One aspect not mentioned in official pronouncements so far, is the position of South West Africa. Since the incorporation of the territory's postal system with that of the Republic, the same commemoratives were issued for both,

Continued on page 279

Editorial

Post Office Unlimited

The United States Post Office is experimenting with the sale of reprints of paintings over the counters of post offices. Which reminds us of the cookery books the British Post Office has been selling under the guise of stamp booklets. And which raises questions about the trading activities of post offices.

Post offices make money selling stamps and postal stationery which do not frank mail or do postal duty. To this we agree, we ourselves desire it to be so. Practically every country today has a philatelic service bureau (and we are quite proud of the service rendered by South Africa's).

We do, however, not condone all the philatelic production generated by such governmental agencies. The liberal releases of sets upon sets of stamps by a variety of Arab Sheikdoms and some other countries, are to our way of thinking on par with the "conservative" stream of issues for Tristan da Cunha, which far outstrip that island's postage stamp requirements. But this is only one aspect of philatelic trading.

Philatelic offices have a tendency to mushroom. Australia had nine a few years back, now there are well over 400! They also have a tendency to expand the range of wares offered for sale. One can buy and subscribe to a philatelic bulletin, that is fine. One can buy monographs and booklets published by the Post Office (as in Australia), and thank the P.O. for making such available at reasonable prices.

But some excess becomes apparent when one looks at the British P.O.'s "Stock list and order form". We find for sale an array of inter alia 11 "gift packs" and 22 "stamp booklets"! Also for sale at quoted prices wall charts, a postal history map, binder covers, and a "Netto GB Stamp Album".

When the Canadian Postmaster General a year or two ago spoke about "catering for the market" we agreed with him because he was outlining Canada's stamp issuing policy, which seems to be a good one. That, surely, remains the basic thing a post office authority should stick to.

Any post office making trading inroads into the traditional fields of free and private enterprise in the philatelic world, is harming not only itself, but our hobby — which is founded upon the work of private dealers, auctioneers and publishers of repute.

Cobbler, stick to your last!

THE EDITOR

Special Articles for Beginners

One of the important new features in The S.A. Philatelist as from January 1972, will be the regular article "For Beginners", written by Mr. Wim de Jong.

Mr. de Jong, the youth section leader of the Afrikanse Filatelistevereniging (Johannesburg), will write his articles alternatively in English and Afrikaans.

Die artikels sal goed geïllustreer wees en sal alle basiese aspekte van posseëlversameling en die filatelie behandel. Mnr. de Jong hoop om 'n nuttige verwysingsgids met die artikelreks daar te stel. Nuweling-versamelaars — jonk en ook nie so jonk nie — sal besonderlik by sy artikels baat vind.

The feature will include a bilingual "vocabulary corner" to explain philatelic terms.

"For beginners" is one of a number of innovations to be introduced by our journal as from January, about which more details will be announced in the December issue.

Thanks!

The South African Stamp Study Circle is sponsoring one page in this issue with a contribution of R20.

The Mashonaland Philatelic Society contributed R20, and the Philatelic Society of the Western Rand R10.

The South African Philatelist has also received a grant of R100 from the Department of National Education, which is highly appreciated.

SOUTH AFRICAN NOTES

by *Dr. H. J. Raubenheimer*

New Issues

R1 Cylinders 438, 439, 440

50c Cylinders 436, 437

At the time of going to press advance information has been received that there will be two new issues, R1 and 50c, delivered probably by the middle of October 1971. The dates will be announced later. Details as supplied by Philatelic Services, are as follows:

R1 Cylinders 438 blue, 439 orange, 440 green; from the preceding multipositives, screened Harrison, glossy paper 370 mm wide. 2 panes A and B; RSA watermarked, tete-beche; PVA gum, 8 000 sheets ordered.

50c Cylinders 436 blue, 437 black, screened from the preceding multipositives. 2 panes Harrison, glossy, paper 370 mm wide. RSA watermarked, tete-beche, PVA gum. 15 000 sheets ordered.

Obsolete Denominations

$\frac{1}{2}$ c, $1\frac{1}{2}$ c, $2\frac{1}{2}$ c, $7\frac{1}{2}$ c, $12\frac{1}{2}$ c.

Under the above heading a notice appears in the Post Office Circular of 23 August, 1971, advertising all postmasters to return these values on or after 3 September, 1971.

Further details, extracted from this notice, are as follows: "As a result of the recent postal tariff changes there is now no demand for $\frac{1}{2}$ c, $1\frac{1}{2}$ c, $2\frac{1}{2}$ c, $7\frac{1}{2}$ c and $12\frac{1}{2}$ c postage stamps both in the Republic of South Africa and South West Africa and for $3\frac{1}{2}$ c postage stamps in South West Africa". "Postmasters . . . who have supplies exceeding a total value of R5 should return the redundant stock to the Director, Stores (Stamps Section) . . .". "Notwithstanding the foregoing instructions, sufficient stocks of the obsolete stamps should be retained to meet the demand at those offices providing philatelic services and postmasters in South West Africa should keep sufficient stocks of $1\frac{1}{2}$ c postage stamps available until postcards bearing the impression of a 3c stamp are circulated probably during November, 1971."

Comment

None of a number of post offices visited on 3 September, had any of these values on sale. Enquiries thereon elicited the information that they had already been returned. At all events, it is unlikely that many post offices had less

than a total of R5 value of those denominations by the 3rd so it is assumed that a negligible number of those stamps remained for sale after that.

The Philatelic Services — the new name for the Philatelic Bureau — Pretoria, had, it is assumed, appreciable stocks, but, in the nature of things, these will not last long.

Phosphor Band Widths

When the Republican stamps first appeared phosphorised — that is with phosphorous bands between the stamps — it was noticed that there were two widths of bands used. The three lowest denomination, $\frac{1}{2}$ c, 1c and $1\frac{1}{2}$ c, as well as the $7\frac{1}{2}$ c and 10c, had bands 5 mm wide. Later the $7\frac{1}{2}$ c and 10c values had 3 mm bands. Starting in May this year the three lower values have appeared with 3 mm bands. As far as the $\frac{1}{2}$ c and $1\frac{1}{2}$ c values are concerned this change over has been interesting and significant, for they are the ones that have become obsolete.

As it happened they appeared without their narrower bands being announced, and were largely missed, having gone into circulation. Anyone studying the "Postage Stamps Information" recently published in this journal will have noticed that cylinder G45 had replaced cylinder G4 for the $\frac{1}{2}$ c and $1\frac{1}{2}$ c. Well, phosphor cylinder G45 has 3 mm bands and G4 had 5 mm bands. G45 has since been used for the 1c. The significance of these facts lies in the possibility that the $\frac{1}{2}$ c and $1\frac{1}{2}$ c stamps with 3 mm bands are decidedly scarce since they were withdrawn so soon afterwards.

Figures recently received from Philatelic Services show that a total of 86 200 sheets of the $\frac{1}{2}$ c's were delivered from the 25th to 27th May, this year and 9 900 sheets of the $1\frac{1}{2}$ c were delivered between 17th May and 19th August this year. These had 3 mm bands and the numbers are minute as compared with the previous 5 mm issues.

To add to the interest, two of these values $\frac{1}{2}$ c and 1c with the narrow bands, have been found on Harrison paper with reversed RSA watermark. Due to their open design the watermark shows more clearly than on other values with their more involved design and where it is usually necessary to have marginal

pieces for identification; the 1½c value has not been found on the reversed watermark paper. As far as is known the A pane of the 1c has also not been found. The number of sheets issued with the reversed watermark is not available; it would appear that the number is unknown, but, judging by the difficulty in getting specimens, the number must be very small.

Correction

RSA 10 2c value. In the description of this stamp in July, 1971, issue of the SA Philatelist it was stated that its cylinders were cross lined screened. This is incorrect for two of them 434 lake brown and 435 rose were unscreened while 433 light buff was screened, 200 line. It is so long since any of our stamps were unscreened that this 2c stamp can provide a good example now to compare with, say the 4c RSA10 value to show the difference. It needs, however, a fairly strong magnification glass.

Postmarks Made Popular

The Daily Dispatch of East London on 11th September, 1971, published a popularly written feature on the postmarks of Queens-

town. Eighteen different Queenstown postmarks were illustrated under the heading "History woven into Border doctor's unusual hobby".

The feature was based on the collection and researches of Dr. Bill Horne of Johannesburg, who recently recorded Queenstown postmarks in the S.A. Postmark Society Newsletter.

Sectional Catalogues Stopped

Stanley Gibbons have stopped the production of its sectional catalogues, and the "sectionals" are not to be re-issued.

In an announcement Stanley Gibbons said that the publishing of these paperback catalogues was no longer a practical proposition, due to "their high costs in the light of present conditions in the printing industry".

It has now been decided to put the whole of the foreign countries, including the sections already published, into six volumes. These will be bound books to be issued at the rate of two volumes a year rotating through a three-year cycle. It was hoped that the first volume would be ready early in 1972.

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Roll of Honour of Distinguished South African Philatelists



Upon welcoming Mr. V. F. Ellenberger, of Salisbury, Rhodesia, upon his election to and inclusion in the Roll of Distinguished South African Philatelists, we include a very brief account of the philatelic activities of this eminent philatelist, which may be summarised as follows:

- 1951 — Joined the East London Philatelic Society
- 1952 — Grahamstown Philatelic Society
- 1955 — Mashonaland Philatelic Society
- 1961 — Founded the Mashonaland Philatelic Study Group. Chairman for ten years.
- 1963 — Began showing coloured slides of flaws on Rhodesian stamps (these have been shown all over Rhodesia, to the Royal Philatelic Society of Cape Town, the Philatelic Society of East London and the Rhodesian Study Circle, London.)
- 1965 — Edited "A Guide to the Postage Stamps of the Rhodesias and Nyasaland (1888-1963)". Published by the Mashonaland Philatelic Society.
- 1966 — Awarded the Bill Lea Trophy for contribution to A Guide to the Post-

age Stamps of the Rhodesias and Nyasaland.

- 1966 — Edited Guide No. 2 to the Postage Stamps of Rhodesia.
- 1967 — Wrote a paper entitled "Genesis of the B.S.A. Company's Postage Stamps and Postal Services" (published by the S.A. Philatelist as a Supplement to Vol. 43 No. 6.) Congress Award.
- 1968 — Edited Guide No. 3 to the Postage Stamps of Rhodesia.
- 1969 — Elected Hon. Life Member, Mashonaland Philatelic Society.
- 1970 — Compiled a study of the Postmarks of Rhodesia (1950-1969).
- 1971 — Elected to the Roll of Distinguished South African Philatelists.

(Photograph by the Rhodesian Herald with acknowledgement.)

Well Done, Brother

Our contemporary in Australia, the Australian Stamp Monthly, is to be congratulated upon a major milestone attainment when it published its 500th issue in August this year.

For forty years now the Australian Stamp Monthly has served collectors all over Australia, New Zealand and the Pacific, and has served them well, growing into one of the world's major philatelic periodicals.

A bumper issue was published for the occasion, and articles and advertisements from the very first issue were reproduced, while former editors wrote about the days gone by.

The Editor writes: "Although other philatelic publications have been in existence longer, we feel proud that we are the only magazine in the Southern Hemisphere devoted solely to philately to achieve this goal."

Now, we don't wish to detract from our colleague's achievement, but the August number of The South African Philatelist was our 556th issue.


Handbook/Catalogue Price Changes

In order to clarify a possible misunderstanding, the prices quoted in our September number, page 243, pertain to current trade-prices of items as submitted by the South African Philatelic Dealers Association, and not to those determined at open auctions.

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CA · CA · CA · CA · CA · CA

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Release date 15th November — 3 Values 2, 10 & 40c are common design.

One of the 57 countries who use the services of the Crown Agencies Stamp Bureau, the largest Philatelic Bureau in the World, to market their stamps. Collectors wishing to add this issue to their collection, or any of the other issues released this month, should obtain them from their local dealer. Suppliers include:

R. G. DRAPER, 10 Athlone Road, Mount Road Township,
Port Elizabeth, R.S.A.

A Crown Agents Stamp Bureau announcement

CA · CA · CA · CA · CA · CA


**REPUBLIEK VAN SUID-AFRIKA
REPUBLIC OF SOUTH AFRICA**

A Philatelic Bureau exists in Pretoria to meet the special needs of stamp dealers and philatelists. Only stamps of the Republic of South Africa currently in use are on sale.

Orders for stamps should be addressed to the Philatelic Bureau, G.P.O., Pretoria, and must be accompanied by money orders, postal orders or bank drafts made payable to the Postmaster General. Cheques are not accepted unless guaranteed by a bank. The amount should be sufficient to cover postage and registration.

Deposit accounts may be opened.

'n Filatelieburo bestaan in Pretoria om in die spesiale behoeftes van seëlhandelaars en filateliste te voorsien. Slegs seëls van die Republiek van Suid-Afrika tans in gebruik word te koop aangebied.

Bestellings vir seëls moet geadresseer word aan die Filatelieburo, H.P.K., Pretoria, en moet vergesel gaan van poswissels, postorders of bankwissels, betaalbaar aan die Posmeester-generaal. Tjeks word nie aange- neem nie, tensy dit deur 'n bank gewaarborg is. Die bedrag moet voldoende wees om die pos- en registrasiegelde te dek.

Depositorekenings kan geopen word.

The 2¹/₂^c Heart Commemorative "Barnard" Stamp of 1969

By Prof. C. J. H. Schutte

The Republic released two commemorative stamps on the 7th July, 1969, for the 47th South African Medical Congress; these stamps have the common theme of "heart" and the maroon 2¹/₂^c shows the Grootte Schuur Hospital together with the head of Professor Barnard who performed the world's first heart transplant operation on the 3rd December, 1967, while the 12¹/₂^c shows a symbolic heart enclosed by two hands on a blue background. These stamps were concisely described by Dr. Raubenheimer (1), and a list of the varieties were given by him.

I have recently made a detailed study of a few thousand of the 2¹/₂^c maroon Barnard stamps with emphasis on the varieties. Although the stamps which formed my study-collection came from envelopes which were posted from all over the Republic, including the Bantu homelands, a large percentage was posted in the "City regions" of the country, viz. the Witwatersrand Area, Pretoria, Cape Town, Port Elizabeth, East London, Durban, Bloemfontein, etc. The study collection, therefore, represents a reasonable statistical sample of the 2¹/₂^c Barnard stamps which were sold to the members of the public, and I expected to find roughly equal numbers of each of the five varieties of Pane B and of each of the three varieties of Pane A listed by Dr. Raubenheimer (1). This proved to be the case, excepting for the varieties of row 11 No. 1 and row 16 No. 3 of Pane B which refer to minute dots in the top margin — these dots are not easy to detect in postally-used stamps; the occurrence of roughly equal numbers of the other six varieties shows that my search was statistically "thorough".

No "startling" varieties were found in this study, excepting a fair number of accidental varieties (of the "circular white area" type where the red colour was not printed, probably because of air bubbles in the ink), but fairly soon it was clear that other constant varieties were turning up. Some of these additional constant varieties occurred with roughly the same statistical frequency as the listed varieties referred to above. This means that

they must either be truly constant varieties or are due to progressive flaws which developed on the plates fairly soon in the printing process (the stamps found come from all over the country). I favour the second possibility, because some of these additional constant varieties are so important that Dr. Raubenheimer (1) could hardly have missed them on the first sheets he examined. They are also not such minute "fly-spots" that it does not pay to list them; in fact, it is possible to identify many 2¹/₂^c Barnard stamps' positions in the two sheets by these flaws.

I have in my possession the complete sheet with cylinder numbers 290, 289B, as well as the complete sheet with cylinder numbers 290, 289A and sheet number 96461. These sheets show a number of the new constant varieties I found, as well as the constant varieties of Dr. Raubenheimer; in addition there is a number of stamps with marks on them which could well be also constant flaws, but which I did not find in the study collection. I list all these flaws stamp-by-stamp below, indicating with an **asterisk** those which turned up with a reasonable frequency in the study collection, and with a **double asterisk** those which are also listed by Dr. Raubenheimer. The stamps which are not labelled, may have accidental markings on them, or may be constant flaws which escaped my notice in the study collection. I, therefore, ask those collectors who possess complete sheets of these stamps to check their sheets whether they can identify my constant varieties or not and to let me know (2), indicating in all cases the relevant A pane sheet number, so that I can determine the printing history of these flaws (that is, whether they are truly constant varieties or are progressive flaws which developed during the printing process). I use the notation A(R2,5) to refer to the fifth stamp of the second row of pane A; this short-hand notation will allow collectors who wish to contact me, to do so in a very concise manner.

*A(R1,1 to 44): the upper part of the sky is darker maroon;

- A(R2,2): small dark dot in upper margin just above $2\frac{1}{2}c$;
- A(R2,4): two small maroon dots in upper margin just above SA of RSA;
- A(R3,4): small maroon dot to the right of 1 of $\frac{1}{2}$ at the foot;
- **A(R3,5): two white dots on S of RSA;
- A(R4,2): small maroon dot just left of the top of the square dot after A;
- **A(R5,2): white line between R and left margin;
- A(R5,3): maroon dot at foot of big 2 at the left;
- *A(R6,4): big maroon dot at left bottom of big 2;
- *A(R8,2): collection of small dots to the right bottom of the square dot;
- A(R8,4): white dot in S of RSA; small black dot to left of Barnard's right eye;
- A(R8,5): large white dot to right of c of $2\frac{1}{2}c$;
- A(R9,3): broken margin above S of RSA;
- A(R11,2): broken c of $2\frac{1}{2}c$;
- *A(R13,1): maroon dot to left of Barnard's right eyebrow;
- *A(R13,2): broken S and small white dot just left of 1 of 3.12.67;
- *A(R14,1): maroon dot about 2 mm left of Barnard's right eyebrow;
- *A(R14,3): maroon dot directly below square dot, just above rim of mountain;
- *A(R15,1): maroon dot near upper margin between Barnard's hair and $2\frac{1}{2}c$;
- *A(R15,2): same as A(R15,1) but more to the right;
- *A(R15,5): maroon "question mark" just above mountain rim below big 2 of $2\frac{1}{2}c$;
- *A(R16,2): maroon dot to left of Barnard's right eye, characteristic small maroon smudges near c of $2\frac{1}{2}c$;
- *A(R19,2): maroon "bracket" just off Barnard's right eyebrow;
- *A(R20,3): very many prominent maroon specs between Barnard and the mountain;
- **A(R20,5): indefinite dark spot directly below $\frac{1}{2}$ of $2\frac{1}{2}c$ and "half-moon" coming up over mountain below big 2 of $2\frac{1}{2}c$ (3);
-
- *B(R1,5): two small maroon dots below square point between RSA and $2\frac{1}{2}c$;
- *B(R2,4): maroon dot between S and top margin;
- B(R3,2): small maroon dot to top right of square point;
- B(R3,3): small maroon smudge at top of c of $2\frac{1}{2}c$;
- B(R3,5): small maroon dot to left of Barnard's right eyebrow;
- *B(R4,4): two thin broken diagonal hairlines below big 2 of $2\frac{1}{2}c$;
- **B(R4,5): black dot in Barnard's collar;
- B(R5,4): maroon dot just above mountain rim to the right of righthand tower of hospital;
- B(R6,5): two white dots between square point and 2 and maroon hairline below $\frac{1}{2}$ of $2\frac{1}{2}c$;
- **B(R7,1): white dot to left of R;
- B(R9,1): white dot to left of Barnard's right eyebrow;
- *B(R9,4): white dot at right foot of big 2;
- *B(R9,5): maroon curved hairline left of Barnard's right eyebrow;
- *B(R10,2): small maroon dot just above mountain rim to the right of right-hand tower;
- **B(R11,1): black dot in margin above S;
- *B(R11,3): white line between R and S in the middle;
- *B(R11,4): maroon dot above between c and hair of Barnard;
- B(R11,5): maroon line of dots over rim of mountain below big 2;
- *B(R12,5): big white spot just left of Barnard's eye;
- B(R13,5): two maroon lines between square point and big 2;
- B(R14,1): dark maroon dot on left margin below R;
- *B(R14,2): two maroon dots to left of

square point near right foot of A;

**B(R16,3): tiny maroon dot in top gutter above c of 2½c;

*B(R16,4): white smudge to right of A at top;

B(R17,1): two white dots in bar of A;

**B(R19,1): large maroon dot and a small red dot below ½ of 2½c;

*B(R20,1): many dark maroon smudges below 2½c;

*B(R20,5): broken margin to the left above S.

Notes

- (1) Dr. H. J. Raubenheimer, South African Philatelist, Vol. 45(8) p.165 (1969).
- (2) c/o Department of Chemistry, University of South Africa, P.O. Box 392, Pretoria.
- (3) There is a printing error in (1) where B(20,3) is listed instead of B(20,5).

African Airmails

Capt. M. F. Stern reports the following special flight commemorative covers just received:

Air France — 35th anniversary of the first regular service in 1935.

KLM — First flight Amsterdam to Kinshasa, Congo.

Aeroflot — First flight Vienna-Tripoli-Lagos.

Aeroflot — First flight Vienna-Tunis, 17th June, 1970.

Sabena — First flight Brussels to Dakar, 13.4.1971.

Lufthansa — First flight with LH 190 Frankfurt-Casablanca.

Air France — 25th anniversary of first liaison Paris-Mauritius.

Macro Jet Cover

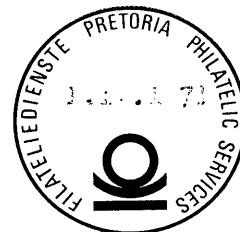
The official commemorative cover number 19 for the first South Africa Airways macro jet flight to London on December 10 will be franked by the current definitive 15c stamp.

Covers may be ordered from the Philatelic Services in Pretoria before 7th December. The price is 30c, whether the covers are addressed or not.

Pending negotiations by the Post Office, it is hoped that the covers will be backstamped in London on the day of arrival.

Special Handstamps

The special hand canceller used at the International Garden Show in Johannesburg is illustrated, as well as the pictorial design of the official commemorative cover number 18 used for this event.



On 1st November, 1971, the Philatelic Services introduced its new postmark, which is also illustrated. The postmark incorporates the newly adopted emblem of the office.

Continued from page 271

those for South West being inscribed "SWA".

It has been suggested in our journal that this procedure is not quite satisfactory, and we for dear life hope that if South West Africa is to get a new definitive set, it won't be the South Africa one with "SWA" name tablets!

"The Stories They Tell"

"An excursion into Postal History"

by A. Leslie Leon RDP SA, FRPSL

"They" are covers and postal cards that find their way into our collections, and so often they tell us so much more than the stamps themselves.

For instance, here is a postal card printed in Chinese which was posted at Tengyueh on December 9th 1903, travelled by the "Burma Road" to Bhamo where an India One Anna K. E. stamp was affixed on December 18th, received a "Sea Post Office" cancellation at sea on December 26th and had an Antwerp arrival cancellation dated January 9th 1904.

The Burma Road may mean little to the present generation, but during the second World War it was much in the news; this postcard shows that it was in use some forty years earlier. You will not find Tengyueh in the atlas nowadays but a little research revealed that it was a town in the Yunnan Province of China, was opened to foreign trade

in 1897 and in 1913 was re-named Tengchun. Bhamo is a town in southern Burma and unfortunately there is no indication of the route followed from there to the seaport where eight days later it received the Sea Post cancellation.

As China did not join the Universal Postal Union until March 1st 1914, the Indian stamp was required for onward transmission of this card in its travels half-way around the globe.

The second example is a cover addressed to Lyon, France and emanating from Marrakesh in Morocco. Internal posts in Morocco in 1894 were a private affair. Mr. Isaac Brudo ran such a post from 1891 to 1899 and this cover was carried from Marrakesh to Mazagan on the coast and thence to France. The covers bears 10 and 25 centimes adhesives of the Brudo Private Post cancelled at Marrakesh on April 30th 1904 plus a French 25 centimes

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stamp overprinted in red '25 centimos' for use in the territory; the latter is cancelled on May 3rd 1894. Morocco's inclusion in the U P U did not come about until October 1st 1920.

Finally, a cover from Sydney New South Wales to Edinburgh with 1d and 2d "Laureated" N S W adhesives. Comparatively unremarkable were it not for the fact that the sender had inscribed "Per Steamer 'Argo'" on the left top corner. This does tell us a great deal as the reverse bears a c.d.s SYDNEY

SHIP LETTER AU 3, 1853 and London arrival c.d.s of 28. Dct. 1853.

This cover was carried on the first round-the-world voyage by a vessel propelled by steam; in actual fact, the voyage took 121 days and both sail and steam were used. She was thus a successor to Magellan and the predecessor of the Cooks' tours of the present day. The vessel was wrecked off Newfoundland in 1859.

Reviews

"Stamps Tell The Story Of The Republic Of China"

This magnificent brochure, published July, 1971, is obtainable from the: Director General of Posts, Philatelic Dept., Taipei, Taiwan (106), (FORMOSA), Republic of China, at the small cost of 50 cents (U.S.A.) It is a booklet through stamps issued by Formosa (Republic of China) covering China's cultural heritage consisting of the teaching of Confucius, famous men and women, chronology of Chinese dynasties, life in China, music and opera, Chinese paintings, ancient art followed by birth of the Republic and its history, and thereafter the Republic of China of today describing Taiwan, its economic growth, landscape and postal services as well as the nature series. The booklet is fully illustrated in colour and makes fantastic reading. This is a book which every philatelist should have.

M.F.S.

"Stamps In Schools"

Here is another fine booklet issued by the Publicity Manager, Postal Headquarters, St. Martins-Le-Grand, London, EC1A 1HQ, England. This gives suggestions for teachers and others on running a Stamp Club, being beautifully printed with colour illustrations on how to develop the interest of the youngsters in our hobby. It is well set out, readable and worthy of being in every philatelic Library. May I again remind readers that an essential publication issued is the Crown Agents Bulletin and in addition the Philatelic Bulletin issued by the Postal Authorities.

M.F.S.

"The Wooden Fighting Ship In The Royal Navy A.D. 897-1860" by E. H. H. Archibald — published by Messrs. Blandford.

There have been a number of excellent books on ships mentioned previously by me, but this is one of the really essential ones. A great deal of research and study has gone into its production and it is beautifully illustrated both in colour and in diagram to illustrate the subject. Actually there are 51 illustrations in colour and 20 in black and white. Besides the general text, the book contains copious lists of established ships and guns, a summary of British naval events to 1860, appendices on flags and types of shot, and a glossary of naval terms. For those interested in flags there are also in full colour illustrated the flags used in the Royal Navy commencing with 1588. A companion volume will deal with the development of iron and steel-hulled warships from their first appearance in the middle of the last century until the present time. This will be eagerly awaited.

M.F.S.

"One Hundred Great Guns" by Merrill Lindsay — published by Messrs. Blandford.

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M.F.S.

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LETTERS

Die RSA 10-Seëls

Geagte Heer,

In die September-uitgawe skryf prof. Nilant oor die ontwerpe van die RSA 10-gedenkseëls:

„Daar is doelbewus gestrewe na 'n moontlikheid om uiting te gee aan vooruitgang op tegniese en wetenskaplike gebied, gegrondves in geskiedenis en tradisie. Hierdie uitgangspunt het tegelykertyd die bindende gedagte by die seëls geword, wat hulle tot 'n eenheid maak.”

Hierdie regverdiging vir die ontwerpe, wat dan 'n „eenheid” sou vorm, lyk beslis nie oortuigend nie.

Ek dink trouens dat alle lesers sal saamstem dat die ontwerpe nie 'n eenheid vorm nie. Dit staan in skerp teenstelling met die 1966-uitgif, waar die simboliese ontwerpe van Republiek-groei wel 'n eenheid vorm.

Prof. Nilant se verklaring oor „vooruitgang op tegniese en wetenskaplike gebied, gegrondves in geskiedenis en tradisie” lyk maar flou as 'n mens die RSA 10-seëls mooi bekyk.

Die 2c beeld die aankoms van die Britse Setlaars uit, maar waar pas so iets in die uitgangspunt vir 'n uitgif om tien jaar van Republiek te gedenk? 'n Mens dink dié seël moes in September 1970 verskyn het om die 150-jarige herdenking van die Setlaars se aankoms te kenmerk.

(Vir Prof. Nilant se inligting kan 'n mens ook meld dat daar reeds 'n Setlaars-gedenk-uitgif verskyn het.)

Die 4c versinnebeeld die herrysenis van die republiek as staatsvorm, iets wat gegroei het uit die republieke van die twee noordelike provinsies. Hierdie seël pas in by die tienjaarviering van die huidige republiek, maar ek wonder of dit nie meer gepas sou gewees het om die seël — naas die gedenkseël vir die ses eerste ministers — in 1961 uit te gee het nie. Of hoe?

Die 5c, Strijdomtoring, toon vooruitgang op tegniese en wetenskaplike gebied, maar dit is vir my onduidelik wat mnr. Strijdom, wie se afbeelding op die seël pryk, presies met die Poskantoor se nuwe kommunikasie-vooruitgang te doen het.

As hierdie seël die inwyding van die toring wou gedenk, moes hy op 17 April, 1971, verskyn het. As hy een is wat vooruitgang op tegniese en wetenskaplike gebied wil illustreer, waar is die ander seëls wat soortgelyke dinge uitbeeld? Meer nog, ek dink die Poskantoor verdien 'n uitgif (van nie net een seël nie) om

sy beduidende prestasies met telekommunikasie, brieffortering en dies meer bekend te maak, vergelyk die Britse poskantooruitgif van 'n jaar of twee gelede.

Die 12½c gedenk die Antarktiese Verdrag, heel gepas ook want Suid-Afrika is 'n mede-oprigter daarvan, maar in watter mate het die twaalf jaar van die verdrag te doen met die tien jaar van Republiek? Ek sien ander betrokke lande gee ook Antarktiese Verdragseëls uit, dog hulle laat dit nie 'n „eenheid” vorm met hul uitgifte vir staatkundige verjaarsdae nie. Nee, hierdie seël het in werklikheid nie verband met die tien jaar van die Republiek van Suid-Afrika nie.

Dus voer ek aan dat Prof. Nilant se „bindende gedagte by die seëls” maar baie dun is en voorgehou word as 'n regverdiging vir 'n uitgif wat bloot 'n samevoeging is van elemente wat na my mening nie met mekaar of met die tema van RSA tien jaar te doen het nie.

Die 1966-uitgif was 'n simboliese en die 1971-uitgif kon maklik die tien jaar se vooruitgang op tegniese en wetenskaplike terrein uitgebeeld het. Dink maar aan dinge soos kernnavorsing, die plaaslike vervaardiging van straalvliegtuie, die Kaktus-projektiel, die Hendrik Verwoerddam, die aluminium-smelterij en die nuwe Sasol-raffinadery, polio- en hartnavorsing, uraanverryking, montasieboumetodes, die veredeling van sagte en sitrusvrugte, landwyse rekenoutomaatnetwerke, waterherwinning, die bou van deurpaaie, Evkom se vooruitgang, skeepsbou, die groei van die chemiese bedryf, slumopruiming, die rasionalisasie van natuurbewaring, en so aan.

As ons dan tegniese en wetenskaplike vooruitgang wil grondves in geskiedenis, kan ons toepaslike 50- of 100-jaarse gedenkseëls uitgee vir dinge soos dr. Annecke se werk oor die tsetsevlieg, dr. Merensky se diamantontdekking en dergelike.

Die uwe
C. Roché
Pretoria

Good Service

Dear Sir,

May I, through your column, be permitted to acknowledge the excellent service rendered by the Bureau in Pretoria, particularly during the past twelve months.

They have shown remarkable understanding and patience, for it is not so easy when one is operating some 5 000 miles from the scene of activity to convey just what is wanted as often events have occurred some days or even

weeks before I know of them.

I wonder if the collectors attending the Bureau know just how lucky they are — I cannot get cylinder blocks from the Bureau here unless I buy half a sheet and as for taking just one stamp from a sheet, you would not dare ask!

I have been fortunate enough now to have visited the Bureau in person and each time the reception has been the same, happy and delighted to be of service.

Thank you, Bureau, for your service and a job well done.

Yours faithfully,
C. E. Sherwood,
Sale, Cheshire, U.K.

S.A. Material

Sir,

In his interesting review of Southern African material displayed at “R.S.A. 10”, Mr. Weinstein refers to a “unique sheet of die proofs” in the Wunsh collection of Unions, and one wonders exactly what sort of a creature a sheet of die proofs must be, since this would appear to a neat contradiction in terms.

The item, in fact, is surely a sheet of plate proofs, and your contributor does no more than repeat an error — since this item is actually described as such in the write-up of the exhibit itself — a serious blemish in an otherwise dazzling display.

Yours faithfully,
(Dr.) P. Mavros
Gwelo

Manager

at SG



Stanley Gibbons Auctions Ltd., announced the appointment of Mr. Richard Ashton as manager.

Mr. Ashton has been with the Organization for a number of years — serving in both the Auction Dept. and the Rare Stamp Dept.

He is well known to clients of the company — particularly among those in South Africa — a country he has visited on several occasions.

Toe Kla Hy by die Staatspresident!

'n Ontevrede jong posmeester het bedank en toe sy griewe oor die Poskantoor gaan lug by niemand minder nie as die Staatspresident — en die Staatspresident het geweier om sy bedanking te aanvaar! Die jaar was 1893.

Dit is die merkwaardige verhaal van stellig die laaste posmeester van die Zuid-Afrikaanse Republiek, Jan van Bergen, wat vroeg verlede jaar in die ouderdom van 99 jaar naby Pretoria oorlede is. Ek het onlangs na twee bandopnames van sy herinneringe geluister.

Jan van Bergen is in 1871 gebore op 'n plaas tussen Winburg en Theunissen en het grootgeword by die teenswoordige Wolmaransstad, waar sy vader die eerste plaasskoolonderwyser was. In die vroeë jare negentig is hy in die Staatsartillerie as veldtelegrafis opgelei, en daarna het hy 'n betrekking in die Telegraafdepartement aanvaar as telegrafis en posmeester by Kaapsche Hoop, in die distrik Barberton.

Na sy troue in Julie 1893 was hy begerig op bevordering want die salaris van 'n amptenaar was verbonde aan sy standplaas. Die Poskantoor het destyds vakatures op die telegraaf aangekondig en toe Van Bergen sien dat die direkteurskap van die Klerkdorpse sirkulasiekantoor (pos- en sorteerkantoor) oopval, het hy dadelik om die pos van £300 per jaar aansoek gedoen.

Toe dit blyk dat ene Du Toit, „'n Kapenaar, en jy weet ons mense het destyds nie veel van Kapenaars gehou nie,” aangestel is, het Van Bergen dadelik met 24 uur kennisgewing bedank — wel wetende dat dit drie dae sou duur om 'n aflosbeampte uit Pretoria na Kaapsche Hoop te stuur. 'n Jong telegrafis is egter van Barberton af gestuur om die kantoor te gaan beman.

Van Bergen was vasbeslote om by die Staatspresident self te gaan kla oor die onreg wat hom aangedoen is. Hy het sy ossewa gepak en ná 'n tog van 14 dae sy vrou gaan aflaai by haar ouers te Skeerpoort, wes van Pretoria, en toe sy vriend Tjaart Kruger, seun van die President, in Pretoria gaan opsoek.

Tjaart Kruger het die aand Van Bergen in die hotel gaan sê dat hy die volgende oggend om tienuur na die Presidentswoning kon kom. Die volgende oggend was Van Bergen uitgevat

in kispak en hardebolkeil, stip op tyd. Staatspresident Paul Kruger het hom op die stoep van die Presidentswoning ontvang, en die klokke gelui vir koffie.

Toe die President na die koffie vra „wat is jou moeilikheid?” was Van Bergen reg en hy vertel dat sy leermeester, kaptein Paff, en sy werkgewer, Van Trotsenburg (hoof van die Telegraafdepartement), kwaai-vriende is en dat hy hom die rede nie deur Van Trotsenburg bevorder word nie.

Oplaas antwoord die President: „Het ek jou nie laat leer vir telegrafis nie, en het ek jou nie nog boonop 4/6 per dag betaal terwyl jy geleer het nie?”

„Ja, U Hoogedele,” antwoord Van Bergen.

„Du Toit is 'n goeie man en hy dien my al ses of sewe jaar getrou — en nou wil jy hê ek moet hom uitskop vir so 'n snotkop soos jy? Jy moet jou werk gaan doen! Ek neem nie notisie van jou bedanking nie. Sê vir Van Trotsenburg ek sê hy moet jou afwesige tyd opskryf as verlof.”

So is Jan van Bergen heel bedeesd daar weg!

Na Belfast

Kort daarna is hy as die eerste posamptenaar na Belfast, wat as dorp aangelê is op die plaas van Richard (Gert) O'Neill, seun van Majuba se O'Neill. Hy het in die poskantoor-tjie gewoon en telegraaflyne na Dullstroom en Carolina laat bou.

Met die Jameson-inval is hy vir die veldtelegrafie opgeroep en daarna was hy ses maande lank waarnemende hoof van hierdie afdeling terwyl kapt. Paff in Europa was. Einde 1896 het hy as telegrafis by die NZASM aangesluit.

In die Tweede Vryheidsoorlog was Jan van Bergen telegrafis op die personeel van kommandant-generaal Piet Joubert, maar ongelukkig hou die langer een van die twee bandopnames op net waar hy begin vertel hoe hy met 'n gebuite Britse kodeboek heliografiese verbinding met 'n Britse eenheid aan die Tugelafront wou bewerkstellig.

(Volgens Poskantoorrekords is Jan van Bergen op 1 November 1895 tot die rang van posmeester op Belfast bevorder.) JG

Around Us

Tristan da Cunha's "Longboat" set, which was due for release on 1st November this year, is now to be issued on 1st June, 1972. The Crown Agents have announced that the Longboat set and the island's next release were switched due to production difficulties.

An "Island Families" set of five values — 1½p, 2½p, 4p, 7½p and 12½p — were to be issued on 1st November, 1971.

The island is to have a new definitive set depicting flora early next year. The provisional release date is 29th February.

Swaziland has a commemorative issue for the 25th anniversary of UNICEF due this year still, but details have not yet reached us.

Meanwhile Botswana on 30th September celebrated its fifth anniversary of independence with a five-value set. The designs feature aspects of development against an outline map of the republic, and incorporate the word "Pula!". The values are 3c, 4c, 7c, 10c and 20c.

Botswana's Christmas issue (2c, 3c, 7c, 20c) is due on 11th November.

"National Development" is the theme of Lesotho's issue on 4th October, coinciding with the kingdom's fifth anniversary of independence. The stamps illustrate the work sponsored by the Lesotho National Development Corporation, and the values are 4c (diamond mining), 10c (pottery), 15c (weaving) and 20c (construction).

The Lesotho soil conservation set was withdrawn on 14th October.

Malawi on 5th October issued a 30 tambalastamp for the Police Force Half Centenary.

Tswana Greeting On

Stamps

The commemorative issue for the fifth anniversary of Botswana's independence features the word "Pula", which is a greeting, or salute, with a special significance.

"Pula" means "rain", a very important word in a semi-arid country. The greeting "Pula", used particularly at state occasions, can be interpreted as "peace and prosperity". It can be used for hailing an officiating dignitary, such as the President; for applause;

and as a national salute.

In a more everyday sense the greeting is used for respected persons to signify "good luck!"

Setswana is with English the official language of Botswana, and is spoken by half a million people in that country and 1½-million in South Africa. When Robert Moffat in 1833 at Kuruman started translating the Scriptures, it became the first Bantu language to be reduced to writing. Since then almost 2 000 books have been published in Tswana.

Mr. A. T. Malepe, MA, senior Tswana linguist at the University of South Africa, told the S.A. Philatelist that he was happy to see the language used on stamps. This was a move in the right direction, and he hoped that the language would feature more prominently on stamps in future.

APS Black Blots

The latest list of editorial "black dots" assessed against recent postal emissions and compiled with the assistance of the American Philatelic Society's New Issues "Watchdog" committee, Robert W. Murch, chairman, is reported by James M. Chemi in the August issue of "The American Philatelist."

Antigua: Souvenir sheet of one stamp of each value of the Military Uniforms set issued July 12.

Dominica: Souvenir sheet of two values for the 25th anniversary of UNICEF. There is no editorial "black dot" assessment against the normally printed set in four denominations.

Fujeira: Five values and perf and imperf souvenir sheets of Pre-Olympic Games totaling \$10.70 U.S., and nine values and perf and imperf souvenir sheets for the 11th Winter Olympics at Sapporo, \$4.50 U.S.

Grenada: "Miss World" 50c stamp souvenir sheet. There is no assessment against the normally printed "Miss World" set.

Malawi: The four-stamp flowering shrubs and trees souvenir sheet with the set issued July 14.

Manama: Eight items and a souvenir sheet depicting nude paintings by Rubens.

Paraguay: Souvenir sheet with Dr. Wernher von Braun portrait and space vehicles theme.

Togo: Souvenir sheet of four imperf stamps of 40, 50, 100 and 200 francs and decorative margins for Apollo 14.

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Auction News

Compiled by S. J. Hagger

The following are some of the prices realised for the more important Southern African items auctioned by Messrs. H. R. Harmer Ltd. in London on 20th and 21st July, 1971:

Cape of Good Hope

186r Woodblock 4d pale bright blue, SG 14b, used, good even margins, a few small creases otherwise fine £62½

1882 wmk CA ½d on 3d deep claret, variety "P" in "Penny" omitted, SG 42a, used, horizontal crease, otherwise fine £30

South Africa

1913 £1 green and red, SG 24, part o.g., centred to bottom, a few blunt perfs. and a trifle soiled, otherwise fine £34

1913 £1 green and red, used, centred slightly to bottom, has faint red mark on surface, a few blunt perfs., otherwise fine £30½

New Republic

13th Jan. 1886 2d violet, SG 3, used on piece with Transvaal 2d, tied by the circular arms type and transverse oval pmk in violet, dated 29th Jan. 86, the 2d New Republic damaged two sides, both a little soiled and stained £16

Zululand

1894-96 £5, SG 29, but overprinted "Specimen", part o.g., has small crease, otherwise fine £24

Medicine on Stamps

"Medicine on Stamps" is a popular collecting theme, yet it came as a pleasant surprise to us to see the tremendous scope covered by the July 1971 issue of "Scalpel and Tongs", being the journal of the Medical Subjects Unit of the American Topical Association.

This issue features the philatelic coverage of diabetes mellitus and insulin, six biographies in the physician-naturalist series, new issues of medical stamps, medical exhibits at Topex 71, etc. The editor of the magazine is Dr Domingo M. Aviado of the University of Pennsylvania.

Membership enquiries about the group may be directed to Mrs Myrtle Watt, Secretary-Treasurer, 5293 Jasmine Circle North, St Petersburg, FL 33714, USA.

The "Binda" Forgeries of Rhodesia

(Paper read at the 1970 Philatelic Congress and received a Congress award)

by Theo Rudman

What could be described as one of the world's most dangerous forgeries occurred in the Rhodesian "Independence" overprint issue, during 1966.

The matter received public attention when in November of that year one, Ernest Andrews, was charged in the Salisbury Magistrate's court with altering 396 postage stamps by over-printing "Independence 11th November 1965" on them.

The court was told that Andrews was approached by Alexander Binda, who asked him to do the overprinting. Andrews claimed that he was reluctant to agree, but his reluctance diminished when Binda offered him a handsome fee. He spent about six to eight hours on weekends producing the overprints of the stamps, by using type obtained from Mardon Printers (Pvt.) Ltd., where the official overprinting had been done. It was revealed that Andrews, who was employed as a police printer, had served his apprenticeship at Mardon Printers, and consequently was known to the night-watchman, and he also knew where the formes were kept. He made several visits to the factory during the night shift, usually at tea-time, and therefore had no difficulty in removing the type without being seen by his former workmates. Complete formes from the lower denominations were removed, while only two horizontal rows of type used for the Churchill stamp was taken. All type was returned after use.

The overprinting was conducted at a print shop at Marandellas, 45 miles east of Salisbury, on a Glauchner machine.

At the trial R. J. Haussman, manager of the shop, admitted that he was paid £605 (R1 210) by Binda for having the printing done at his works. Binda had told him that the forgeries would not be sold in Rhodesia but in England.

Asked by Andrews' defending counsel what made him accept the money, Haussman replied: "I would say it was the sanctions. It was put to me that certain countries were



Fig. 1 Top: Genuine
Bottom: Forgery

riding Rhodesia, so I thought it would be a good idea to ride those countries in return.

It is known that Haussman overprinted some Churchills with his own type, but this did not match the genuine overprint. (See illustration No. 1.) These items are commonly referred to as the "Binda trials". Because of their inability to match the type, it is claimed that Binda then approached Andrews, who had access to the actual type at Mardons.

Red Ink

Andrews admitted that he first used ink taken from the police print shop for the Churchills, but as the ink was not identical to that of the genuine he, with the help of a machine minder at Mardons, obtained a supply of the same red ink that was used for the genuine overprinting.

Note:

Most genuine Churchill overprints examined under the U/V lamp fluoresce red, indicating that two different inks were used or that the same ink had been used, but that different solvents (and/or quantities) had been employed. The fluorescence under the U/V lamp depends on the thickness or amount of ink applied. Genuine overprints vary appreciably,

so the fluorescence can be very misleading.

In evidence Haussman described how the stamps were printed on the Glauchner press, which is a cylinder press.

When printing single stamps the procedure was to affix the stamp to a large sheet of paper with stamp hinges, and then to pass the sheet (with stamp affixed) through the machine to be printed.

Note:

The genuine overprinting was done on a flat-bed Heidelberg machine.

It was said, in further evidence, that Andrews had set up type so that the overprints read "1th November" instead of "11th November", and attempts were made to produce other errors by omitting letters from the overprint, by creating offsets, by making faded impressions across the sheet of stamps and by reproducing it on both sides of the stamps.

On the 25th November Andrews was sentenced to twelve months imprisonment, eight months of which were suspended conditionally for three years.

In March the following year Alexander Binda appeared before the Chief Magistrate, Mr. J. O. Jackson, in the Regional Court, Salisbury, on two charges of contravening the Posts and Telegraphs Act.

Errors Made

It was alleged that between 1st April and 31st August 1966, Binda overprinted 717 postage stamps of various denominations with "Independence 11th November 1965" and in some cases made errors in the printing to increase their value. He was also alleged to have offered for sale or sold 162 of the altered stamps.

In evidence John Laird Corrans, chief accountant, Ministry of Posts, revealed that the official overprinting exercise had been undertaken during the period 29th November, 1965, to 10th January 1966. He said that one complete packet containing 500 sheets of 1/3 Churchills was overprinted, and that initially 360 sheets were released for sale.

According to this witness, there was a minor variation in the positioning of the overprint from packet to packet of the various black overprintings. He said that on the Churchills the overprint tended to appear in higher or lower positions on the stamp from sheet to sheet.

He stated that Mardon Printers had been instructed to destroy all type formes on the completion of the exercise.

The forensic scientist for the British South Africa Police, Dr. John William Thompson, told how he carried out an examination of stamps either found in Binda's possession or sold by him to various people.

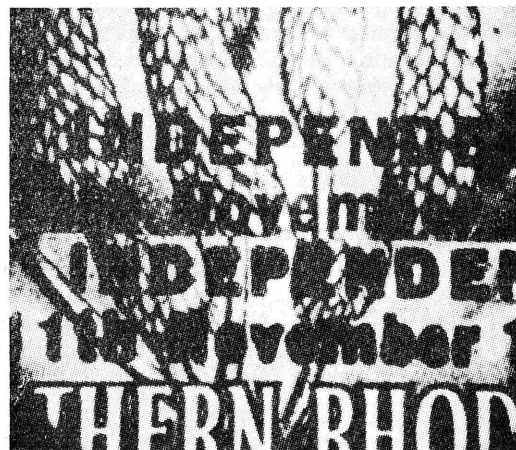
"Lower Quality"

The following is a verbatim extract from his evidence:

"The exhibits consisted mainly of a sample of genuine stamps, guaranteed by the Post Office I understand, and the whole series of other stamps which were considered to be suspect. The overprinting on the genuine stamps was of good quality, but many of the suspect stamps showed an appreciably lower quality of ink. A thinner ink had been used, and for this reason the lettering showed certain characteristics. The ink tended to pile up around the edge of the letter. It didn't cover quite so well, and it tended to block up the eye of the "e" and the point inside the "e" in that sort of shape indicating). To illustrate this point I took photographs."

An album of photographs was produced as exhibit 19 and the following was said about this item:

"On page 1 (see illustration No. 2) I have shown two photographs taken by means of a comparison microscope, so that on the same picture or photograph you can see the stamp (top stamp) from folio 44, which was given to me as a genuine stamp, compared to one of the stamps from folio 32 (bottom stamp) which was one of the suspect stamps. The

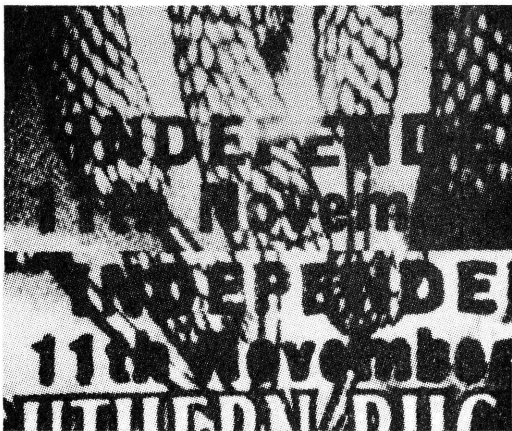


*Fig. 2 Top: Folio 44 Genuine
Bottom: Folio 32 A/5*

thickness in the ink in the body of the letter can be seen, and spreading round the edge of the letter can be seen, the closing up of the "e"s and the irregular outline of the letters.

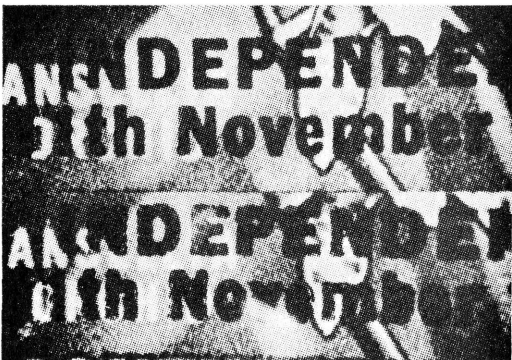
"The caption on the photograph (folio 32 A/5) indicates that the stamp was from folio 32, which was a complete sheet of stamps, A indicated Row 1 and 5 the position of the stamp in the row.

"The photographs appearing on pages 1 to 4 only illustrate the same point. (See illustrations Nos. 2 and 3.)



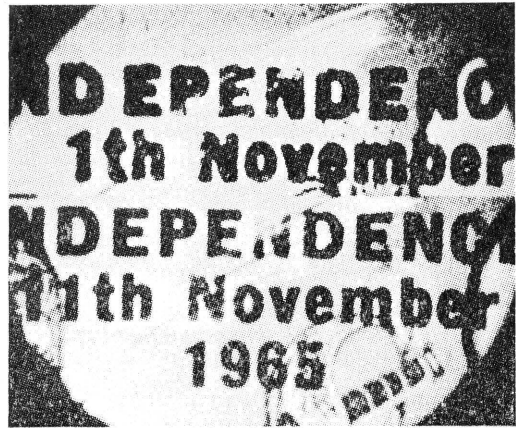
*Fig. 3 Top: Folio 44 Genuine
Bottom: Folio 32 B/9*

Two photographs on page 5 show a comparison between a genuine 6d. stamp with a suspect one. (See illustration No. 4.) The poor quality of the printing on the top or suspect stamp can be seen.



*Fig. 4 Top: Folio 49 Genuine
Bottom: Folio 6*

The top photograph on page 6 shows a Churchill with an error, "1th November" instead of "11th November", compared to a genuine stamp." (See illustration No. 5.)



*Fig. 5 Top: Folio 15
Bottom: Folio 43*

Dr. Thompson explained that when one looked at photograph 1 on page 1, the "I" of Independence, it could be seen that the right hand edge of it was almost over the left hand edge of the "th" of "11th". On the second photograph it could be seen that the "I" of Independence had moved back and was nearer the second "1" of the "11th November". As the photographed stamps were from the same positions on their respective sheets, and that the positioning of the top row in relation to the bottom was identical, it would indicate that both the genuine and suspect stamps had been overprinted with the same type.

Same Forme

The forensic expert told the court that a further examination of the relative positions of the two lines of type indicated that the 6d. and 9d. values of the suspect stamps had been printed with the same forme as was used to print the genuine 1/3 value. When he compared, say a 6d. suspect stamp with a 6d. stamp in the same position on a genuine sheet, it was not identical, but matched in every respect a genuine 1/3 stamp in the same sheet position.

He also noted that the space between the overprint on rows 2 and 3, 4 and 5 on the suspect Churchills was different to that of the genuine sheet, thus indicating that the suspect Churchills were only printed two rows at a time.

During questioning of Dr. Thompson several suspect Churchill overprints on cover cancelled "First Day of Issue" were produced. In spite of the cancellation the witness was certain that they were forgeries.

Later Henry Edward Finch, postmaster at Kingsway Post Office, admitted in evidence that in June or July 1966 he had cancelled about four covers "First Day of Issue" for Binda, as the accused had produced these short set FDCs with the more difficult values uncancelled, and asked Finch to cancel them, explaining that he had now been able to obtain the missing stamps and was anxious to complete FDCs.

An auditor in Internal Audit Department, Ministry of Posts Headquarters, Ronald John Wilson, said that it was his job to take the stamps to Mardons to be overprinted.

He recalled that a total of about 45 000 sheets of all values were overprinted and that between 500 and 600 sheets were rejected and destroyed in the shredding machine. He said that 360 sheets of Churchills were initially put on the market, and speaking from memory thought that 17 sheets of Churchills had to be destroyed.

(To be continued)

STOCKS DWINDLING

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SOCIETY NEWS

PORT ELIZABETH PHILATELIC SOCIETY

August 3: Mr. T. J. Strachan entertained the meeting with an exhibit, introduced by a talk, of the stamps of Cayman Islands, which was well enjoyed by those present.

A vote of thanks was passed by the Rev. Grace, and the evening's activities were rounded off by an auction conducted by Mr. T. J. Strachan.

August 17: At our meeting all members were requested to bring 10 sheets for display, certificates of merit were given to those which were considered worthy of an award. We saw the following exhibits:- Mr. M. Katz showed a selection of King George VI stamps; Mr. Lorton, Australia from 1929-1956; Mrs. G. Pamensky, Australia from 1913-1941; Mr. E. Nagel, Israel; Mr. L. Lasarow, Victorian selections of the British Empire and Mr. G. Bullbring, non-competitively, stamps of Belgium.

Certificates of merit were awarded to Mr. Lorton and Mr. Nagel.

After a pause for refreshments, Mrs. R. Page on behalf of the Shell Company of South Africa Limited showed us two excellent films "The Stamps of Malaysia" and "The Soul of Japan".

PHILATELIC SOCIETY OF JOHANNESBURG

The first meeting in July was Junior Evening and we were entertained by the three award-winning exhibits at RSA 10 of the Glassman boys and by S. Abramowitz. Mrs. Koralek thanked the boys for their efforts and offered them a few words of advice. What has happened to the girls, have they given up collecting?

At the second meeting Mr. Roediger showed a collection of Baden which was made up partly of a straight collection and partly of postmarks. Mr. Michelson showed a portion of his Latvian collection. He mentioned that he had some 2 000 pages in his collection of a small country with a short stamp-issuing life. Mr. Buchen thanked the exhibitors and commented on the fine condition of the Baden stamps and the clear copies of the early numeral postmarks. He said that he had watched the Latvian collection grow from a very ordinary one to something outstanding.

Meetings. August 10: The Society of the Western Rand ably led by Miss Mary Bromfield brought three exhibits — 1. A collection of Butterflies accompanied by slides belonging to the late E. J. Sharpe, 2. Scouting on stamps by J. M. Keet, 3. Great Britain by J. Burrell. Thank you West Rand for an enjoyable evening.

August 23, 1971: was one of those rare evenings, with two first timers who turned out 2 magnificent exhibits well worthy of national awards, the first by Dr. Hirschman with his fine collection of Bechuanaland, the second Mr. Rickards with his B.S.A. Co with all the varieties, blocks shades etc, etc., the 3rd exhibit though not by a newcomer, on the contrary probably one of the most knowledgeable exponents of modern Rhodesia and all the for-

geries etc., — Theo Rudman. Only one thing wrong with the evening — not nearly enough time to absorb it all.

FISH HOEK PHILATELIC SOCIETY

The evening is devoted to Competitions:-

First the "Foreign" Cup, for exhibits of countries found in the green or Blue Gibbons. Secondly the "Thematic" Cup. The maximum number of sheets allowed is twenty-one (21). The number of exhibitors is limitless. This is the first time either of these cups has been up for competition so please let us get off to a FIRST CLASS start.

At the August meeting Dr. H. Gottschalk showed a most interesting collection on "Churchill". This gentleman also gave a talk and slide show on watermarks. Enjoyed by all present a most informative evening.

EAST LONDON PHILATELIC SOCIETY

August: 31 members and 35 visitors signed the attendance register.

The big draw card was the Ruby Alabaster Competition for juniors, and we had a total of 34 entries. In addition we were grateful to Mr. Theo Rudman for arranging a display of Mr. Birkhead's "Mafeking" for us.

Mr. Monty Nick had brought along 100 pages of his "Space" collection, featuring the "Apollo" flights. The juniors really enjoyed this display, and were intrigued by the gold and silver stamps etc. I certainly say many longing eyes. Mr. Hellmann, in explaining how badly some of the juniors had mounted their stamps, gave a practical demonstration of how to mount, using a giant-size "stamp", and hinges.

All in all, a very successful meeting, and most enjoyable, and I am sure that the Society will reap the benefit of a membership again.

PRETORIA RAILWAY PHILATELIC SOCIETY

August: As it was "Been Cup" evening, the tables were cleared for the exhibit to be tabled, there being only one entry, that of Mr. R. Eskell.

He tabled a collection of Great Britain, starting with a 1652 letter and beginning actually with a 1675 Bishop mark as "Philately". A brief outline of post and their franks are shown to 1840. The Line Engraved show principal common varieties from plate IA penny black to the 1870 1½ penny stamp.

A big "Thank you" for showing us such a worthy collection, and congratulations on behalf of us all for winning the trophy for 1971. The Chairman called upon Eric Olesen, the winner of 1970 to present the trophy to Roy.

September: A well attended meeting welcomed the Afrikaans Society as guests for the evening after which Mr. de Swart, Chairman of the visiting Society occupied the chair, and thanked us for our hospitality. He then called upon his two members who were to exhibit, to give a brief resumé of the material which we were about to view. Mr. Pretorius tabled a selection of S.A. Cylinder blocks, whereas Mr. van der Mey, assisted by his good lady, entertained us with a collection which he called "80 jaren van Nederlandse seëls". This collection was also a unique one, and how privileged were we to view it. Mr. van der Mey explained the

collection in detail, and I can give him the assurance that it was pleasing to the ear to listen to his Netherlands accent. Our hearty thanks to Mr. de Swart and his team for an enjoyable evening's entertainment provided.

NATAL PHILATELIC SOCIETY

August 4: 49 Members and 11 visitors attended the meeting which was for the Percy Bishop Cup Competition.

There were four entries for this competition, which was open to all exhibits of stamps of "the British Empire", more easily described as all stamps in the 'Red Gibbons.' "Mr. Alf Klein was adjudged the winner with his beautiful collection of "Jersey".

Mrs. Barbara Ubaghs was declared the runner-up, and she, too, had an exceptionally fine display of "Rhodesia — post-U.D.I.", showing colour shifts, brown and white gums, and a wide range of the various Rhopex miniature sheets. The judges also praised the exhibits of the other entrants, whose efforts contributed to a very brilliant evening. The Chairman thanked both the exhibitors and the judges.

Brian Hill was once again in form as the auctioneer, and not only disposed of a cake donated by Mr. J. S. Martin for R7,35, but also a large selection of philatelic material, much of which was donated by members for exhibition funds.

During the course of the evening the Chairman thanked Mr. and Mrs. Zarnack and Bert Wooster for the part each played in securing a successful and profitable braai party. The sum of R52 was handed in for the exhibition fund.

Swop night, 18th August: For a swop night and a non-competitive evening there was a good attendance of about 35 members and their guests.

GERMISTON PHILATELIC SOCIETY

August 18: A fairly good attendance of 15 members and two visitors under the Chairmanship of the Present, Mrs. C. F. De Kock attended this Open and Competitive evening for our Society's cups.

Three exhibits were tabled; two competitive and one non-competitive. Mr. J. Botha exhibited a very large straight collection of Mint Czechoslovakia. This collection was obtained entirely on a swop basis from a lady correspondent in Czechoslovakia. It was started in 1957 and was only short some 120 stamps.

Mr. P. De Wet tabled his collection of R.S.A. corner blocks this being a comprehensive collection of all the commemorative stamps. One very good item being the 2½ cent Red Cross stamp with reversed watermark — 99B cylinder —

Mr. N. Hesselbath who's exhibit was not up for competition showed a straight collection of the stamps of the Union of South Africa. Only a few of the very rare stamps were missing from this collection.

SOCIETY OF ISRAEL PHILATELY

August: After concluding the formal business, the following exhibits were staged:

The first exhibit was by Mr. Lou Abrams, who showed Forerunner Cancellations of German South West Africa and before displaying his exhibit, he gave a short talk on what was to be displayed. This was followed by Dr. Klein's Exhibit on Childrens Paintings depicted on Stamps. Mr. B.

Glassman then displayed Portuguese Colonial Issues of the last decade, accompanied with a dozen presentation booklets, as issued by Portuguese Postal Authorities to commemorate the new issue of stamps. Mr. W. Mann displayed Lithuania, as he had collected as a boy. Then Mr. J. Michelson displayed Lithuania in a specialised form, showing only certain of the early issues. Mr. A. J. Bakker displayed some pre-postal items on Netherlands and its Colonies.

Mr. Isaacson, as a visitor, spoke on Mr. L. Abram's Exhibit on South West Africa, and explained the origin of many of the names of the postmarks. Mr. Zeiden thanked Dr. Klein for his Exhibit of Children's Paintings. Mr. Buchen spoke on the balance of the Exhibits and thanked each of the collectors concerned.

PRETORIA PHILATELIC SOCIETY

August 15: Mr. van Vliet showed us the small display which had been postponed from the previous meeting. It consisted of a selection of complete sets of British Colonials, attractively written up. A creditable display for a junior collection.

Mr. Reynders has a comprehensive collection of Rhodesia with some interesting early postal history, and also some outstanding items after Independence but on 15th he showed us the period in between — Southern Rhodesia from 1924 to 1965.

On 7th September we assembled for the thematic competition. But where were all our thematic collectors? Only Miss Esterhuysen ventured the hazards of competition. Her theme was **SPORT ON STAMPS**. It was a very high quality entry, backed by a lot of painstaking research.

Then Prof. Schutte showed us a selection from his **STAMPS ON STAMPS**, excluding Stamp Centenaries, which he was too bashful to enter in the competition, which was a pity.

At very short notice Mr. Seeba had been asked to put on a display, so he showed German Federal Republic 1951 to 1969 and Malagasy Republic. The latter were fine used copies of pictorials in the French tradition, issued with more than one eye on the tourist trade.

THE MASHONALAND PHILATELIC SOCIETY

August: The meeting was exceptionally well attended there being 47 members and 11 guests present. Following 'Matters of Interest', where once again the subject of Mint versus Used was discussed but no definite conclusions reached, one point put forward was, where there is a vast use of postal mail, such as in the UK, then collect stamps in mint condition), Mr. Jones' excellent collection of West German stamps since 1951 was displayed. An interesting point that came out in the display was the inclusion of Hitler's face, in the branches of a tree on (S.G. Simplified 1282) the 50 pf. stamp.

Mr. Jones had utilised good quality typing paper for his display and maintained that this type of paper was equally as good, if not better, than using the normal type of leaves, and, of course, far cheaper to buy. The typing paper did not cause any damage to the stamps.

THE O.F.S. PHILATELIC SOCIETY

August: A well attended meeting viewed. New Issues and Acquisitions tabled by:-

Mr. A. L. Meyburgh — A block of 40 of the 1926 Triangular issue.

Mr. A. H. Scott — Two postcards cancelled by the Lesotho Postal Agency at Motsekua. The one cancelled 12/7/1971, the day the Agency opened, and the other 16/7/1971, the day it closed.

The main exhibits of the evening were provided by Mrs. Jordens — "Art on Stamps", and Mr. Meyburgh — "Canadian Covers". Both were thoroughly enjoyed by those present, and our thanks are extended to these two members for the fine display.

A sumptuous array of eats provided by Mrs. Jordens rounded off a very pleasant evening.

AFRIKAANSE FILATELISTEVERENIGING

September: By die vergadering het jeugleier Wim de Jongh 'n slaggie vir die ouer garde iets kom leer! Hy het naamlik 'n uitvoerige en goed geïllustreerde lesing aangebied oor hoe 'n versameling byeengebring en bygeskryf behoort te word, en hoe nie. Omdat hy dalk op tone gaan trap, het Wim sy praatjie aangebied in die vorm van 'n sprokie oor die jongeling wat by die filateliese ringkoppe kers probeer opsteek het!

Daarby het hy 'n deel van sy aantreklike versameling „Soogdiere van Afrika" vertoon.

Ses nuwe lede is aanvaar.

EXPERT COMMITTEE

The next meeting of the Expert Committee of the Philatelic Federation of Southern Africa will be held on Saturday 18th December. The Hon. Secretary's postal address is P.O. Box 2388, Pretoria.

Death Claims Former Owner Of Rare Stamp

Frederick T. Small, the Australian stamp collector who once owned the world's rarest stamp, the British Guiana 1c magenta, died August 6 at his home in Fort Lauderdale, Fla.

Mr. Small was revealed as the former owner of the stamp after it brought a record price of \$280 000 when it was auctioned off in New York City last year.

A retired engineer, Mr. Small, who was 83, went to England in 1920 and after some four years with a British industry was sent to the United States to establish a factory in Cumberland, Md. He retired in 1955.

When he was disclosed as the owner of the stamp, he said he had acquired it and others in 1940 as a hedge against the recurrence of the inflation that followed World War I in many countries.

Mr. Small said he paid \$42 500 for the stamp which he bought through Finbar Kenny, then with the stamp department in Macy's.

Mr. Small is survived by his wife, a son in Washington, D.C.; a daughter in New York City and three grandchildren.

Acknowledgements Linn's Stamp News

PHILATELIST'S RENDEZVOUS

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nuusbrieff, puik rondsenddiens).

THE ROYAL PHILATELIC SOCIETY OF CAPE TOWN

meets on the second and fourth Thursdays
of every month in

The Club Room of the Friends of Italy of
South Africa, First Floor, Radio City Bldgs.
Tulbagh Square, Foreshore, Cape Town.
at 8 p.m.

VISITORS CORDIALLY WELCOMED
P.O. BOX 1973, CAPE TOWN.

THE MASHONALAND PHILATELIC SOCIETY

Meets once a month on the second Wednesday
at 8 p.m. in the Auditorium of the Queen
Victoria Museum, Rotton Row, Salisbury.
ALL VISITORS ARE WELCOME.
Secretary, P.O. Box 2735, Salisbury.

ORANGE FREE STATE PHILATELIC SOCIETY

Meets on the fourth Friday of every month
in the

NATIONAL MUSEUM HALL,
BLOEMFONTEIN
at 7.30 p.m.

Issues a monthly magazine and circulates
sales packets to members
P.O. BOX 702 — BLOEMFONTEIN.

THE PORT ELIZABETH PHILATELIC SOCIETY

meets on the first and third Tuesday each
month in

The Walmer Library Hall,
Main Road, Walmer, Port Elizabeth.
at 8.00 p.m.

Visitors cordially welcome.
P.O. BOX 3 — PORT ELIZABETH.

THE PHILATELIC SOCIETY OF NATAL

Meetings 1st and 3rd Wednesdays monthly
at 7.30 p.m. in the

Geo Cato Room, City Hall, Durban
(Entrance West Street... door nearest
Beach)

VISITORS CORDIALLY WELCOMED.
P.O. Box 588, Durban. Secretary's
Telephone 64306 (evenings)

MARITZBURG PHILATELIC SOCIETY

meets monthly on the last Tuesday of the
month in the Basement, Natal University
Library, at 7.15 p.m.

ALL VISITORS ARE WELCOME.
P.O. Box 256, Pietermaritzburg.

THE PRETORIA PHILATELIC SOCIETY

meets on the first Monday of every month
in the
Council Chamber of the Technical College
Church Street East, Pretoria.
at 7.45 p.m.

VISITORS CORDIALLY WELCOMED.
P.O. Box 514, Pretoria.

THE PHILATELIC SOCIETY OF JOHANNESBURG

meets twice a month; Second Tuesday and
fourth Monday at
Room 75, Public Library, Johannesburg
at 8 p.m.

VISITORS ARE WELCOME.
Hon. Secretary,
P.O. Box 4967, Johannesburg.

THE AEROPHILATELIC SOCIETY OF SOUTHERN AFRICA

Meetings are not held, but members get
covers, etc. of special South African flights
and other interesting items — more than
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THE PRETORIA RAILWAY PHILATELIC SOCIETY

meets on the second Wednesday of every
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P.O. Box 2388, Pretoria.
ALL PHILATELISTS ARE WELCOME.

SOCIETY OF ISRAEL PHILATELY

Meets on the 1st Monday of every month
at 8.15 p.m.

Burlington House Boardroom (2nd Floor),
c/r. Rissik & Marshall Streets,
Johannesburg.

ALL WELCOME
Secretary P.O. Box 11502, Johannesburg.

THE SOUTH AFRICAN STAMP STUDY CIRCLE

meets at 2.15 p.m. on the second Saturday of
every month in the

Staff Tea Lounge, Basement, Corner House,
Corner Sauer and Commissioner Streets,
Johannesburg (Commissioner St. Entrance).
ALL INTERESTED IN SOUTH AFRICAN
PHILATELY ARE WELCOME.

Secretary: N. Becker
P.O. Box 9505, Johannesburg.
Telephone: 838-4679; Home 45-5452

THE EAST RAND PHILATELIC SOCIETY

P.O. Box 483, Benoni. (Hon. Secretary).
Meetings every 2nd Monday in the month
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BENONI TENNIS CLUB HOUSE,
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WANTED: Rhodesian Postmarks, on or off cover (pre-1923). Offers to J. M. Weinstein, 479a Fehrsen Street, Brooklyn, Pretoria.

WANTED.—Accumulations, Collections, Office Lots on and off paper. Turn those old boxes of philatelic "junk" into cash, or exchange it with us for stamps, albums or accessories that you need. — **ROBEMARK PHILATELISTS (PTY.) LTD.,** 21 Joubert Street, Johannesburg. Box 11419.

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SCARCE BACK NUMBERS of S.A. Philatelist for sale: Vol. 4 No. 11 (Dec 1926) 50c; Vol. 20 No's 7, 8 & 9 (July, Aug. & Sept. 1944) 35c each. Inquire through Business Manager, S.A. Philatelist, Box 375, Johannesburg.

TOP CASH PRICES paid for selected Rhodesia and Bechuanaland early postmarks and material on cover. H. Birkhead, 12 Hill Terrace, Bedford View. Telephone 53-1847.

GERMAN SOUTH WEST AFRICA: Wanted early forerunners on cover or on piece, or any other items of interest. Top prices paid. L. ABRAMS, P.O. Box 7875, Johannesburg. Telephone: Office 22-1630; home 41-9251.

LATVIA (Letland; Lettonie) out of the way items and bulk common stamps wanted.— J. Michelson, P.O. Box 9314, Johannesburg.

WANTED.—German Concentration Camp Covers and Ghetto Post, Post-war Locals, Propaganda, Forgeries, Military Covers, etc., etc. C. A. Whysall, P.O. Box 676, Durban. (68 West Street).

U.S.A. SPECIALIST requires singles, blocks, covers, cancellations. A. R. Kleiner, 23 Cadogan Gardens, London S.W. 3, England.

THE SPRINGBOK, magazine of the South African Collectors' Society for Union and Republic collectors. Subscription R2 a year. Membership: Secretary, R. E. Mason, 137 Lichfield Court, Richmond, Surrey, England.

SWEDISH Military Philately wanted. Write first: S. J. Vermaak, Box 2272, Johannesburg.

IF STAMPS OF — Germany, Austria and other Western European countries are wanted, first try us.—**S.A. STAMP CENTRE** P.O. Box 6891, Johannesburg. Telephone 22-1391. (Want lists invited).

WANTED: S.A., S.W.A. and Boer War, preferably postal history.—**C. E. SHERWOOD (V), P.T.S.,** 105 Marford Crescent, Sale, Cheshire M33 4DN.

The South African Philatelist

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Wanted: A Name For Covers From Our Cold Outposts

To which part of a collection should items from the South African weather bases at Marion Island, Gough Island and Sanae be allotted? This is a question posed by the Editor of "The Springbok", journal of the South African Collectors Society in Britain.

The Editor describes covers postmarked at Marion and Sanae, covers from Tristan da Cunha with South African stamps (though not tied by the Tristan postmark), and covers with the well-known "Government office" type of handstamp of the weather base on Gough Island.

He then asks where in a collection should such items belong. Are they Maritime, or Postmarks . . . or a separate collection headed "Island Posts"? Or are they not part of a South African collection?

How to group such items, is certainly not an easy decision. The whole situation is a bit involved, as we will point out, and comment and further views are invited from our readers.

Marion Island — This is the major island of the Prince Edward group, which was formally attached to South Africa at the end of 1947 when visited by the SAS Transvaal. A weather observation station was established shortly afterwards, and mail, duly endorsed, handstamped or postmarked, is known right from the beginning.

Initially the annual relief ships were vessels of the South African Navy (could covers carried by them then be classed as "naval mail"?), but in the last ten years most of the trips were undertaken by the Antarctic supply ship RSA of the Department of Transport. The Weather Bureau is a unit of this department.

(Continued on page 300)

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The South African Philatelist

wishes you
A Merry
Christmas
and a
Prosperous
New Year

wens u toe
'n Gesëende
Kersfees
en 'n
Voorspoedige
Nuwe Jaar

Editorial

On Insurance

Collectors devote much attention to the good keeping of their stamps in albums and stockbooks, hinged down or in hingeless strips, in packets and boxes, in glassine or acetate coverings — in cupboards or special book-cases, drawers and filing cabinets, in safes or special stamp rooms.

Some even keep major holdings in bank vaults, either in general bank safekeeping or in hired security boxes.

But few collectors, so it appears, have their stamps adequately insured. Although statistics are not available, the impression is gained that very many collectors do not have their philatelic holdings insured at all.

Whether to insure or not, is a personal decision. But any collector who has built up a meaningful collection, is well advised to take the precaution of having himself covered against loss by burglary, theft, fire or water damage.

Philatelic properties can be included in the policy covering the contents of a collector's home, or a special policy for stamps only can be obtained from the collector's regular short-term insurer. A somewhat higher premium is attached to the latter type of policy.

There are also insurance firms with specific philatelic sections, experienced in this type of coverage. Collections can be insured whether they are stationary, in transit or on display. Enquiries about such policies may be directed to the stamp dealers advertising in this journal.

A person taking out philatelic insurance has to state the security arrangements and precautions taken by him. This might also affect the premium. Furthermore the insurer has to be supplied with a list of the material, with Stanley Gibbons catalogue numbers, or that of another recognised catalogue. The insurance valuation is usually based on sixty per cent Gibbons, while some proof of purchase cost has to be furnished for items not catalogued, e.g. rare stamps, covers, multiples and special items.

Moreover, the insurance coverage should be reviewed and updated on an annual basis.

Collectors are well advised to provide protection in the form of philatelic insurance.

The Editor

Our Printers

As from next month, the South African Philatelist will be printed by offset litho by The Co-operative Press of Silverton, Pretoria. The journal will be produced in the A4 size.

This number is the last to be printed by Prompt Printing of Westgate, Johannesburg. For many years The S.A. Philatelist has enjoyed a pleasant association with Messrs. Prompt Printing, and it is fitting that we express our sincere appreciation for the way in which they handled the production of our magazine. Often special arrangements had to be made, or copy was not as timeously as it should have been, personal attention was required for the handling of valuable material which was to be illustrated, overtime work was necessary, or messengers had to call at your Editor's residence out of town.

These are things not provided for in printing contracts, and we are indebted to our printers for their fine service, in particular the personal efforts of Mr. P. Nieuwoudt, the works manager. We wish Prompt Printing well in future.

Koevert en poskaart vir Bloedrivier

'n Spesiale datumstempel gaan vandeemaand gebruik word by geleentheid van die inwyding van die herboude Bloedrivier-slagveld in Natal.

Die slagveld is „gerestoureer" deur Slagvelde van Suid-Afrika Bpk., wat die terrein herskep en 'n laer van brons ossewaens aangebring het op die terrein van die historiese veldslag van 16 Desember 1838.

Die datumstempel sal lees „Bloedrivier-Slagveld, 14-16 Desember 1971". 'n Posttoonbank sal beskikbaar wees by Bloedrivier, naby Dundee in Noord-Natal.

Die feeskomitee stel teen 20c 'n gediensste koevert beskikbaar, gefrankeer met twee 2c-seëls. Die koevert sal 'n ossewa en die aflegging van die gelofte deur Charl Cilliers afbeeld.

Daarbenewens sal daar 'n poskaart wees, ook teen 20c maar gefrankeer met die 6c-seël en met die teks van die gelofte op die keersy.

Skriftelike bestellings om die koevert en die poskaart kan voor 13 Desember gerig word aan Die Skakelbeampte, Hoofposkantoor, Durban.

SOUTH AFRICAN NOTES

by Dr. H. J. Raubenheimer

The Reversed RSA Watermark

This phenomenon has figured considerably in the discussions by the S.A. Stamp Study Circle. Even the correct designation has showed differences of opinion. It has been suggested that this watermark should read as ASR in place of RAS. It was then pointed out the term "Reversed" was not strictly accurate and "Mirror picture" would be more appropriate. It is indeed a mirror image but the term "Reversed Watermark" has been used and is generally accepted as descriptive of this feature.

In "The Language of Stamp Collecting", issued by the Public Library, Johannesburg, it is described as follows "This term is used when a sheet of paper has been fed through the press the wrong side to the printing surface so that the watermark reads the wrong way round: . . . it must not be confused with inverted watermark."

This watermark variety has made its appearance on five different printing and it would appear that the paper with it went through the printing press without its feature being noticed. Once spotted, however, collectors were on the lookout for others. One cannot even make a guess about the number of such sheets issued, but they are certainly not numerous. The biggest surprise came when Dr. D. Kransdorff discovered a sheet of the 2½c Constantia from cylinders 12 8, pane D with the reversed RSA watermark showing clearly. This was in September, eight months after the 12 8 issue had been replaced by the 418 519 issue. As soon as the discovery was reported collectors went through their stocks, but, as to be expected very few specimens were found.

As the interest mounted, members of the Stamp Study Circle were asked to bring their specimens to the next meeting so that some idea could be had of how many sheets were issued. The obvious way would be to record the sheet numbers and this was accordingly done at the October, 1971, meeting. The following is an extract from the news letter No. 121.

"No formal paper was read and it was decided instead to record the sheet number ranges between which the various denomina-

tions with reversed watermarks had been found to date. These are as follows:"

½c Pane B 89507-91394: Pane D 86015-90750 All four panes known.

1c Pane B 48572-48624: Pane D 48341-48468 All four panes known.

2c RSA10 02373-12411: Both panes known.

4c RSA10 Series 1 60532-71676: Both panes known.

Series 2 97814-99423: Both panes known.

2½c Cyls. 12/8 Pane B 631250-637210: Pane C 636120 Only panes B, C and D reported to date.

Stamp News From Philatelic Services, Pretoria

The Philatelic Services Pretoria, now receives regular notification from the Government Printing Works of new printings now under way there. It is thus possible for us to give our readers advance information on what to expect. No doubt, due to the time lag during printing, these issues may have appeared before publication but when they do appear they will be described as before.

One such notification, as an example, is given here in full.

Value 2c Job No. 67258

Master negative — Standing.

Multipositive — Standing.

Cylinders — Standing.

Paper: Contractor Harrison Phosphorescent.

Width 370 mm. Gum: PVA.

Watermark: RSA T/B.

Printing Machine — Goebel 840. Perforator — Grover.

Remarks — Order for 1 500 000 sheets.

Other printings need not be quoted in such detail, but, as we go to press, they are:

4c standing, except for phosphor — First printing on phosphorescent paper (further details given below).

5c standing. Harrison, phosphorescent.

9c Aerogramme. New cylinders Z7 blue, Z5 grey

Z29 yellow Z37 Gum, Z8 phosphor 3 mm.

PVA gum. No watermark, 6 000 000 aerogrammes.

The New Phosphorised Paper

Harrison is now supplying its high quality paper ready phosphorised. It is understood that the phosphor is mixed with the coating on the paper. Examined in daylight the only difference seen is that it does not appear glossy, but more like the previous matt. Under the ultra violet lamp, however, the change is strik-

ing: the paper has a milky white overall colour compared with the pale blue of the preceding one (which has the phosphor bands). There is no change in the gummed side.

So far only the 4c Constantia from cylinders 420, 418 has appeared on this paper. The purple of cylinder 420 is now much paler. Whether this change is due to the paper is, at the moment, difficult to say.

Postage Stamps Information

For the period 1 July, 1971, to 30 September 1971. The previous list appeared in our October, 1971 issue and the code of symbols

used was in the January, 1971 issue. Condensed from job sheets No. 36 from the Philatelic Services of the Post Office, Pretoria.

Postage Stamps

Job No.	Value	Cyl. Numbers			Total No. of Sheets delivered	Paper used	Remarks
		Int.	Ext.	Phos.			
44887,43	1 c	414	415	G45	122 700	H	New Pos. old Neg. (Phos. bands 3 mm. wide)
53361,33	1½c	287	286	G45	57 800	H	
57513,44	2 c	413	412	G6	956 300	H	
67258,93	2 c	413	412	G6	78 900	H	
65516,68	3 c	238	239	G49	29 900	H	

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59394,06	4 c	418 420	G6	888 700	H	New Ext.
59395,07	6 c	421 284	G6	71 500	H	New Ext.
59393,05	9 c	409+410 422	G6	48 900	H	New Ext.
56295,38	10c	254 253	G6	127 200	H	
65518,70	10c	254 253	G6	15 100	H	
56296,39	15c	297+298 296	G6	52 300	H	
65519,71	15c	297+298 296	G6	12 800	H	
56297,40	20c	407+408 406	G6	60 000	H	
67984,11	50c	437 436		14 800	H	

Commemorative Stamps RSA10

1820 Settlers

59804,12	2 c	433+435 434	G50	366 000	H	
Presidents Kruger and Steyn						
59801,09	4 c	426 425	G50	530 100	H	

Strydom Tower

59802,10	5 c	428+429 427	G29	153 300	H	
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Roll Stamps

63808,77	2 c	G25 G9 G28		90 11 431—H		
				110		
				i.e. 2 515 rolls		
				70		
63810,79	10c	G20 G18 G28		1 723—S		
		brown green		110		
				i.e. 948 rolls		

Air Letters

61092,88	4 c	Z1, Z6, Z32 Z12		917 000	White	New shape on white paper. Albertina machine 815.
61091,87	9 c	Z2, Z6, Z32 Z12		2 935 500	White	New shape on white paper on Albertina machine 815

Post Cards

59396,08	3 c			177 710		See previous remarks
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Sanae Covers

Around New Year's Day the meteorological relief ship RSA will set out on the first of its voyages to the South African outposts in the "Roaring Forties" and the Cold South.

Collectors wishing to have covers post-marked at Marion Island, Sanae and Gough Island should send their self-addressed envelopes, pencilmarked for the required destination, to the Philatelic Services, GPO, Pretoria, before 20th December, 1971. The covers should be franked, the rate being 4c for destinations in South Africa and SWA and, for other countries, the normal surface mail rate.

Thanks!

The S.A. Philatelist gratefully acknowledges the following donations towards our publishing costs:

Royal Philatelic Society of Rhodesia	R20
Mr. Leo Buchen	R14.12
Mr. Sam Legator	R25
Dr. A. Gould	R10
Dr. G. I. Faerber	R10
Mr. I. E. Wunsh	R10
"Bluenose"	R20
Mr. J. E. Portmann	R10
Mr. H. du Plessis	R10

(Continued from page 295)

We know that long-range maritime reconnaissance aircraft of the South African Air Force have flown to the island, but are not sure whether any mail was dropped.

In the last century Marion and Prince Edward Islands were visited for periods by American whalers operating in the southern oceans, but we have never yet heard of postal history items pertaining to the islands prior to 1947.

Bouvet Island — This Norwegian island was the goal of a British Navy excursion in 1934, when Norwegian stamps were overprinted

BOUVET OYA for the occasion. According to a report of the visit, the overprint was made under the authority of the Norwegian diplomatic representative in Cape Town, but not sanctioned by his government.

In 1955 the South African Navy mapped the island, and in the early sixties a South African scientific expedition carried out an extensive survey of Bouvet with a view of establishing a weather base there. Covers are known from both occasions.

We believe that such a base is due to be founded but has been postponed because of the difficult terrain. The island has sheer cliffs dropping into the water all round, but the latter South African expedition found a "beach" where a cliff had apparently tumbled down — a somewhat disturbing feature if one has to erect weather huts on the island.

Sanac — the South African National Antarctic Expedition is a feature of South Africa's participation in the Antarctic Treaty. The base is on Queen Maud Land, a Norwegian part of the Antarctic mainland, and covers were postmarked at Sanac since the expedition's founding in 1960. A substation is also manned.

It is interesting to note that although Norwegian territory, Sanac forms part of the magisterial district of Pretoria.

Gough Island — part of the Tristan da Cunha group, about 300 miles southeast of Tristan. The island's philatelic history started fifty years ago when British stamps were marked with a rectangular box with the island's name, in pairs, for the Shackleton-Rowett expedition.

In 1955 a British research team surveyed the island, and a sub-office of the Tristan da Cunha post office was established for the expedition.

A permanent South African weather base was established shortly after, and South African stamps are generally used from this office. The rectangular office cachet is, however, not used to tie the stamps: they are postmarked upon arrival in Cape Town.

Tristan da Cunha — prior to the island's issue of stamps, South African and British stamps were generally used, while stampless covers received South African postage dues upon arrival at Simonstown or Cape Town.

Since then stampless covers have often received South African postage dues, while it is not uncommon to find South African stamps

LITERATURE

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on envelopes posted at or "around" Tristan. A reason for this may be that the South African motor vessel RSA is a regular caller at the island and represents a major contact with the outside world — as a mark of the islanders' appreciation, the gallant little ship is pictured on Tristan's 10/- definitive stamp.

Other Antarctic ties — South Africa has a direct link with Sir Vivian Fuchs' 1955-56 Trans-Antarctic Expedition, so "team covers" carried by the expedition could also be considered in the sphere of southern posts.

We presume that Belgian Antarctic expeditions carried by the RSA used their own stamps, but such covers may possibly have the ship's cachet.

Now where?

In the field of the "southern posts" we thus have an array of postal situations not making for easy grouping. To return to the question put in "The Springbok": these posts surely fall under the general heading "South Africa", but would constitute a specialised section thereof.

Maritime Posts? This does not seem an appropriate heading, as we are not here concerned with all maritime postal history which would include the Cape sea route and all that. **Postmarks?** Not likely, as we are to quite an extent concerned with cachets. We in fact find an aspect, from the South African point of view, of naval mail, of aerophilately (aerogrammes postmarked at Sanae), of South Africa "used abroad", and so on.

Island posts? Sanae is not an island, of course, while this grouping would include Robben Island, Dassen Island, perhaps the St. Croix Islet Lighthouse in Algoa Bay, and the guano islands off the South West African coast. These latter islands incidentally form part of the Cape Province (and part of the Green Point constituency). The best-known is Ichaboe, other resounding names being Roast-beef Island and Plumpudding Island, and so on.

So, how are we to describe postal items pertaining to South Africa's offshore weather observation and research activities? "From the Roaring Forties"? "Cold and Met. Covers"? We don't know — perhaps our readers can cast more light on this interesting aspect of South African philately.

JG

Letter to the Editor

Further notes on the 2½ cent Constantia — Cylinder 17 8

Dear Sir,

In reply to Mr. R. B. Cronwright's appeal in the July, 1971, S.A. Philatelist for further information on the above Cylinder, I am able to confirm that a duplicate set of sheet numbers exists of both Watermark RSA facing left, and Watermark Tête bêche RSA.

The range with **RSA Watermark facing left** has been recorded as follows:-

- a) From 648058 to 650079 (prominent watermark), and
- b) From 757971 to 762575 (faint watermark).

The following **Tête-bêche watermark** numbers in the a) range above are now recorded:-

- 1) Pane D from 649348 to 649811 of which 649708 to 649721 were consecutive.
- 2) Pane C from 649972 to 650061.

It is believed that the initial printing with tête-bêche watermark paper provided a continuous sequence of numbers, and that probably at a later stage 2 rolls of RSA paper were used and provided the a) and b) range of watermark facing left. The duplication of numbers throws out the suggestion that the 2 rolls were merely patches inserted in Tête-bêche watermark paper to replace damaged sections.

I am able to record numerous sheet numbers with Tête-bêche watermark in the range between the 2 rolls a) and a) i.e. between 655378 and 712592 (my highest number being 712592 C. However it is important to know if any numbers exist outside the 2 rolls — i.e. less than 648058, and higher than 762575.

I add my appeal to collectors to inspect their stock, and add to the information presented above, to help solve this mystery.

D. Kransdorff,
Johannesburg.

Subscription

The new subscription rate for The S.A. Philatelist is R3.00, payable in advance. The single copy price is 30c.

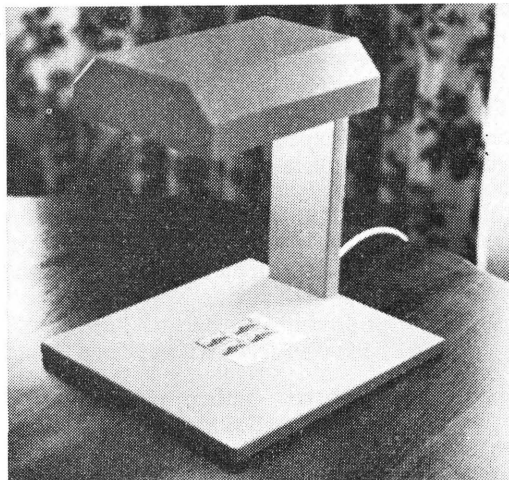
The new advertisement rates, as announced previously, may be had on application. The rate for "Wants, Offers and Exchange", the smalls section, remains at 5c a word with a minimum of 60c per insertion.

Make Your Own UV Lamp

by E. S. Whitlock

Philately has advanced very far since the day when the only requirements in the line of philatelic tools were a tweezer and a good magnifying glass. To-day modern equipment facilitates the study of stamps, and probably the most useful item is the Ultra Violet Lamp. For the South African collector its use is essential in determining the various papers used for recent printings.

Not being able to obtain the manufactured article locally, I set to work to make an UV lamp for myself and within a few hours had turned out a simple yet very efficient lamp, and comparatively inexpensive too! For collectors who would like to undertake the construction of a similar lamp here are some details.



SELECTED AND CHOICE

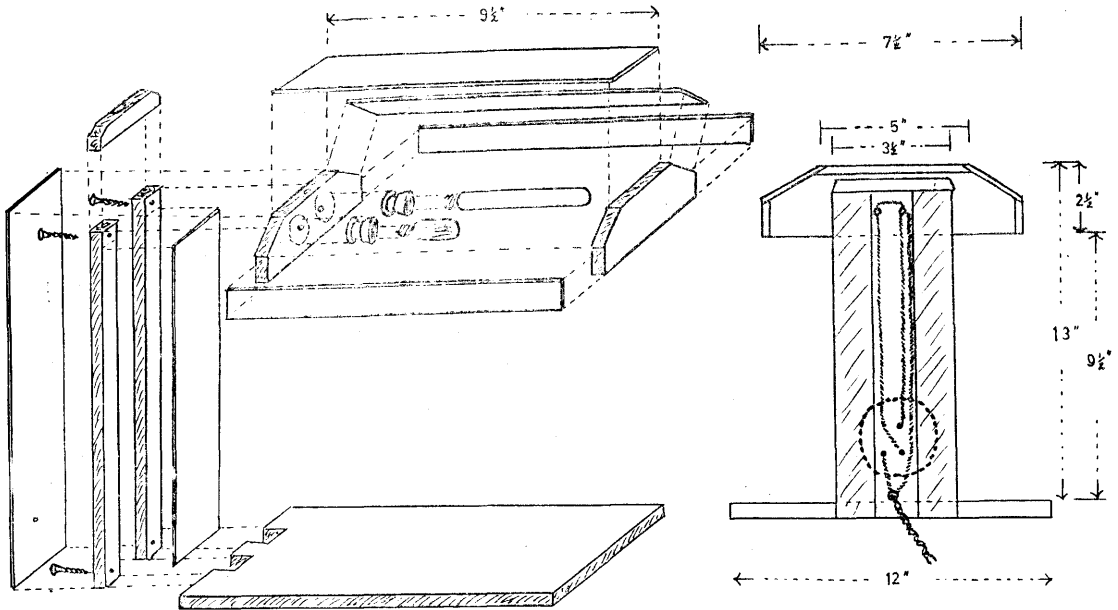
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	Approx. Price
"Fibre Board 12" x 12" for base board	15c
"deal 5" x 20" for upright and light shade ends	20c
"masonite (hardboard) scrap for shade and covering uprights	10c
1-6 Watt Ultra Violet lamp (such as Philips TW 57416 E/70	R5
1-15 Watt Pigmy lamp	30c
2 Batten Holders for above lamps	60c
1-2-way wall switch	40c
A few yards 2 core flex & suitable plug Cold glue (such as Alcolin), a few panel pins and screws.	15c
	R7.40

The accompanying sketch will give the basic construction. The upright is hollow to provide conduit for flex to both lamps, which are connected to 2-way switch mounted on outside of upright. The 2-way switch allows only one lamp to burn at a time, thus making it easy to study the stamp under ordinary light before flicking the switch to see the same stamp under UV light.

The finished lamp-stand can be sanded smooth and painted (white inside the lamp shade) and if you want to prevent scratching the diningroom table, glue a piece of felt or similar material under the base board.

Swaziland

by J. E. Ferguson

Swaziland has officially issued 187 stamps since 1889 — and seems to be in no haste to add to this number. Compare this with Great Britain — 200 stamps in the last six years — or Malawi with nearly 400 since independence in 1965 — and no sign of slowing up.

It is a good record and it would seem that their policy of only issuing a fair and reasonable number of new stamps is to be maintained. The last issue, Flowers of Swaziland, appeared on February 1st 1971, and here we are in October and no signs of an encore! Probably this is the main reason why Swaziland stamps are amongst the more popular of African states, for it is possible to make a very comprehensive collection of Swaziland from S.G. 1 to date with relatively little outlay — AND keep it up to date without dying of shock at the overdraft!

The history of Swaziland too, is mirrored in it's stamps and this makes a collection far more interesting. Fascinating stories lie behind many of the issues. So watch this space month by month if you would like to hear about some of them and their history.

Aristocratic Old Austria

by Joyce Gledhill

The early issues of old Austria hold their dignity and their price, in a philatelic world which can sometimes be a very dicey market!

They are among the European "classics", and have firmly held the attention of both general, and specialist collectors.

The simple artistry of their design proves a striking contrast to many more elaborate 20th Century stamps, and from early days there has been no lack of native talent, both in the designing and engraving of many stamps.

The first issues came out on June 1st, 1850. They showed the Austrian arms in a common key design, with space allowed for the insertion of value-numerals in intermediate dies. The method of number insertion has provided philatelists with some interesting die-varieties — a few of them very rare.

The actual design was probably thought up by an engraver called: Tautenheim: It had the dual distinction of serving for two separate series of stamps, one of which was used for Austria proper, with values in Kreuzer, and the other for the Lombardy — Venetian States (later returned to Italy after the Great War), or for Austrian Italy, with denominations in Cents, or Centesimi to quote the full value.

A few months later the first issues were augmented with special stamps for use on periodicals and newspapers. They were designed and engraved by the famous etcher and engraver — Joseph Axmann.

We have him to thank for those little "gems" in every sense of the word, the "Mercury" editions. The "Mercurys" were inscribed "K.K. Zeitungs Post Stempel", with no value denoted.

Chiefly they were used as a 6- Kreuzer denomination, printed in blue, red and yellow. Printed in rose the "Mercury" served as a 30- Kreuzer stamp for heavy packages.

Red Mercury

Real aristocrats of the stamp world, the scarcest of the lot, and one of the historic rarities among European stamps is the "Red Mercury", a good edition fetching about £4 000, mint, and £4 500, if used.

The rose and yellow came next in order of scarcity, and the blues are comparatively plentiful.

As these newspaper stamps and their successors bore no denominations, they were used for franking papers in both Austria and Austrian Italy.

Austria stamps then emerged practically at the beginning of the Emperor Francis Joseph's long rein, which began amid revolution in December, 1848. It wasn't until ten years later, however, in 1859 that a Professor Meissner designed neat little embossed heads of the young monarch.

These are among the lower priced items in The Catalogues, though it is difficult to obtain good well-centred stamps.

They were the first perforated stamps of Austria with a gauge of "15", and this serves to distinguish originals from the several reprints of later years.

Intensive specialism has unearthed many complications in plate and printing varieties, while here and there a rare error of colour has been found.

Newspaper Stamps

A point of interest is that two different classes of early newspaper stamps existed in Austria. Those for use in Austria or Austrian Italy bore the word "Post", or the Mercury emblem. A different set bearing the Imperial Arms and inscribed K.K. or Kais Kön Zeitungs Stempel (Imperial and Royal Newspaper Stamp), were intended for the purpose of collecting tax on periodicals and newspapers coming from foreign countries into Austria.

As a collector with (I believe) a very broad outlook on the allurements of stamps which is offered to the millions of people who collect them, I find that my own personal inclinations may change from time to time.

But all lovers of stamps cannot fail to appreciate the notable contribution early Austria has made to philately, a contribution which places old Austrian issues in the ranks of aristocrats of the European stamp world.

Nuut in Pretoria

'n Nuwe posseëlhandelaar, Die Seël- en Munthoekie, het verlede maand in die middestad van Pretoria sake begin doen. Die bestuurder is mnr. Max Lurie.

A Philatelic One-Act Play For Christmas

by Dr. K. Freund, R.D.P.S.A., F.R.P.S.L.

Recently when paging through some old numbers of the "O.F.S. Philatelic Magazine" I came across a little one-act play, written sixteen years ago when I was still the editor of this roneoed magazine and all articles were originals. I had to smile in sentimental memory. As the playlet seems to have lost nothing of its flavour and with Christmas approaching once again, I offer it here to a wider circle in practically unchanged form without up-dating it. It is from the type-written December number, 1955:

Mrs. F. buys a Christmas Present

Characters:

Mrs. F. an attractive Brunette (housewife)
Mr. F. her husband (main occupation: stamps).

Scene:

The Lounge in a stamp collector's home. — On the right: A Couch. (this piece of furniture is very important, as will be observed at the end of the play).

Time:

Christmas 1955.

She: Darling, I bought you something very special for Christmas. You'll love it.
He: Oh? — What is it?
She: Just guess!! Something you really want and are mad about.
He: Well, let me think — a ball point pen for a shilling? Nylon socks? An electric razor?
She: Haha, wrong, hahaha. No, I bought you some very — special — stamps! I know you always play with stamps.
He: Stamps? But you don't know what sort I collect! I specialise in "Unions" and Mafekings only!
She: Never mind Mafekings. These stamps are beautiful, and there are also some Unions. If you don't like them, you can always exchange them with your friends.
He: (*fearing the worst*): O.K., let's see them.
She: Well, here is number one: A packet with no less than 250 stamps!
He: 250 of what?
She: Genuine German Inflation stamps! Just imagine: 250! And I only paid 7/6 for them.
He: Hem-hem.

She: What do you mean "hem-hem"? Don't you like them? — Well here is another packet: A very original Russian set with stamps in all shapes and with thrilling pictures. Look, it reads:

"Tan — nou — Tou — va."

He: Hem-hem, hem-hem. What in blazes.

She: I knew you would be excited. Now here is an item the dealer told me you would really appreciate: It is a stamp from a prisoner-of-war camp of the South African War!

He: Oh — that sounds better — let me see — good heavens, this is just a common 1d mauve English Queen Victoria stamp!

She: Well, it was stuck on an envelope covered all over with those *ugly* postal marks and censor marks and such things So I quickly took the stamp off and threw the old envelope away. — Why, what's the matter? You collect stamps, don't you?

He: (*gripping his heart*): Woman, what have you done!

She: Did I do anything wrong? I must say, it is very difficult to please *you*. — Well, cheer up, I am sure the next items will make you smile. They are Unions!! You said yourself you like Unions.

He: (*disheartened*): I won't smile. I bet they will be some common Aardvark or Wildebeeste stamps.

She: There is no need to get abusive. Wildebeest yourself. The dealer assured me this set is really good. I even remember the scientific name of the stamps: They are "London Pictorials 1927"!

He: (*starting to smile*): London Pictorials? A full set, up to 10/-

She: (*nodding*): Darling, you are the cleverest woman on earth. — The set is in pairs?

She: Better than that — 4 stamps of each value.

He: (*getting worried*): What do you mean, 4 stamps of each value?

She: Well, they were in an awkward block of 4 when the dealer sold them to me. So I tore the stamps nicely apart, to save you the labour.

He: (*gripping his heart again*): You — broke up those beautiful blocks?

She: Don't get excited. I even gave one stamp of each to young Hanekom next door. You don't need so many of each, 3 of each is enough. Don't be so selfish.

He: (*breathing heavily*): What atrocious cruelty! — Did you tear anything else?

She: Yes. I tore some selvage from the bottom of the blocks. There was some trivial inscription on the bottom strips. Some firm's name. I naturally threw these strips away.

He: (*supporting himself on a chair*): You mean to say you tore off the bottom mar-

gins with the inscription of Messrs. Bradbury, Wilkinson & Co., Ltd.?

She: Sorry, I did not mean to insult these gentlemen.

He: (*sobbing*): Why, oh why did you do it?

She: (*innocently*): Well, you know, if one gives a Xmas present one always tears off the ticket with the Firm's name.

He: (*weeping bitterly, throws himself on the Couch on the right and tears his hair, while*

CURTAIN slowly closes.)

The "Binda" Forgeries of Rhodesia

by Theo Rudman

(Continued from Page 290)

Anthony Edgar John Smith, Superintendent of A Stock Section, Kingsway Post Office, said that there were 44 post offices which drew their stock from that section. He revealed that on the 12th January he received only six sheets of Churchills and they were only offered for sale at Kingsway Post Office. They were treated as normal 5/- stamps. Sheets were torn into singles and included with the balance of the issue in small plastic packets. He said that NO Churchills were available singly from Kingsway — all were included in complete sets. He said that he examined these six sheets and noticed no errors.

Verdict

The Chief Magistrate, Mr. J. O. Jackson, found Binda not guilty on the first charge, and guilty on the second charge of having offered for sale or sold 162 postage stamps which he knew were made or altered without lawful authority. He was later sentenced to six months imprisonment, of which three were suspended conditionally for three years.

In his judgment the magistrate said that the quantity the accused acquired must have been in round figures, at least 700, although the court would say that it was 714. He also said that with some of them there were no discernible irregularities to the naked eye, but most had patent defects.

The magistrate also said, "It was adduced in evidence by the production of some magazines that there must have been in existence

a fair number of patently defective stamps of the same issue on sale, and Mr. Robertson (a Johannesburg stamp dealer) spoke of inefficient printing in South Africa of Lesotho overprints. The suggestion is that this would be known to the accused and he could therefore not be expected to be suspicious of those he got from Andrews. On the other hand there was evidence that, unfortunately, forged stamps in an issue such as the present one, are by no means uncommon, and it may be that some of those stamps advertised are in fact clandestine. Mr. Harper, (machine room foreman at Mardon Printers) who was responsible for the printing seemed to think so."

Mr. Jackson went on, "The accused is charged with dealing in 162 postage stamps. These do not, in other words, include the postage stamps he sold to Mr. Robertson. They only include the stamps he sold to Mrs. Batteley, Mr. Diamonds and Dr. Strong. One must leave out Mr. Robertson insofar as this is concerned. Different considerations might, in any event, have appertained to Mr. Robertson if they had been part of the charge with which the accused had been faced.

Disposal

"The next function is to make the order in connection with the disposal of the stamps. Although these stamps are not genuine, no doubt some philatelists would like to have them as collectors items. Unfortunately, or fortunately perhaps, the Posts and Telegraphs

Act provides that any stamp or similar postage articles, which are found to have been false, must be forfeited to the Crown.

"I therefore make the order of forfeiture as follows:-

"Folio 1 Exhibit 6, one Churchill forfeited only; Folio 2, eleven Churchills forfeited; Folio 3, eleven Churchills forfeited, the three separate ones in one envelope are excluded; Folio 4, two Churchills; Folio 5, two Churchills; Folio 6, four Churchills; Folio 7, six Churchills; Folio 8, four Churchills; Folio 9, two Churchills; Folio 10, four Churchills; Folio 11, 6d. denomination, the top four of these stamps are forfeited. Two of these have been overprinted and the other two have slight ink marks on them. The remaining two are not forfeited; Folio 12, 6d. value, twelve forfeited; Folio 13, fourteen Churchills forfeited; Folio 15, one sheets of 60 forfeited; Folio 16, eighteen x 1/3 stamps; Folio 17, nine x 1/3 forfeited; Folio 18, eight Churchills; Folio 19, one Churchill; Folio 20, four Churchills; Folio 21, one Churchill; Folio 22, two Churchills; Folio 23, one Churchill; Folio 24, four Churchills; Folio 25, thirty three x 6d. forfeited; Folio 26, forty two x 6d. This is all except stamps 1, 2, 3, 4, 5 and 7 of the sixth or bottom row reading from the left. Folio 27, two Churchills; Folio 28, two Churchills; Folio 29, four Churchills; Folio 30, two Churchills; Folio 31, two Churchills; Folio 32, twenty one x 1/3; Exhibit 9, Folio 52, fifty two x 6d.; Folio 53, fifty two x 9d.; Folio 54, forty five x 6d.; **Only the last line contains NO overprint or any black ink at all.** Folio 55, twenty forfeited — the remainder not; Folios 56-63, one Churchills in each forfeited; Folio 64, one Churchill; Folio 65, two Churchills; Folio 66, two Churchills; Folio 70, two Churchills; etc. etc."

The schedule of particulars of stamps contained in exhibit 6 is attached, as well as details of the magistrate's order of forfeiture.

Details of Forgeries

As some of the forgeries are still extant, and in order to protect the public, the Court expressed the wish that details of the forgeries be published in due course. It is of course possible that other varieties may exist, which were not exhibited at the trial, but sufficient examples of the forgeries have been given to illustrate the techniques employed.

It is comparatively easy to detect a forgery with a black overprint, as the effect of the ink on the stamp is greatly different to that of a genuine one. The overprints could best be described as being fuzzy, being over inked in

places, being thin in places and the eyes of the "e"s and "o"s being blocked. This is illustrated in illustrations 2 to 4.

The Churchills are a little more difficult to detect. All the characteristics of the ink found in a forgery can be found in a genuine stamp, i.e. blocking of the eyes of "e"s and "o"s, piling up of ink at the edges, irregular outlines of the characters and general untidiness. Therefore it is only the degree to which they occur that can determine their origin.

In an examination that involved about 700 Churchills I found that in approximately one in ten cases it was impossible to decide if the stamp was a good forgery or a poor genuine. In the other nine stamps there were either too many, to too great a degree, of the characteristics previously mentioned thereby indicating a clandestine, or too few characteristics indicating a genuine overprint.

After experimentation I found that a one in fifteen magnification gave the best results. Through this magnification one can see the depth or contour of the ink.

Offsets

It is a popular misconception that black clandestine overprints of this issue only exist with errors, and as the forger could, at that time, buy overprints at the post office at face value (with the exception of the 2/-, 5/-cattle and 5/- Churchill) there would be no point in overprinting these values without errors. This view has been offered by the Rhodesia Deputy Postmaster General. It must therefore be pointed out that several sheets of the 1/3 value were condemned by the Court as forgeries, although they contained no patent defect. I believe that these were overprinted in order to create offsets on other sheets. Various values containing offsets were found in Binda's possession. The pertinent point is, did the forger create offsets on the back of sheets genuinely overprinted, or did he overprint the front of the sheet as well?

In view of this, it is conceivable that clandestine overprints exist in all values, although I have no further proof or information in this regard, except that a great many offsets on most values appeared on the market a few months after the issue was released.

The Court found that some Churchills with no errors had also been illegally overprinted.

I feel that an overprint error must not be condemned purely because it is similar to a known forgery error, although this will go against it. The overprint must be studied on its own merits, taking all characteristics into consideration, including the fluorescence under

the U/V lamp and colour. While most of the genuine Churchills examined had a dark red overprint, "Binda's" vary from a light orange to a similar colour to that of the genuine. Blocking of the eye of the "e"s on genuine Churchills occur occasionally.

"Disappearing Overprint"

A very perplexing item that I have come across is a vertical strip of the 1/- value with disappearing overprint. This same error on the 6d. and 9d. values was confiscated by the Court, therefore it would be reasonable to assume that a similar error on another value is a clandestine. However, I have examined a particular strip of this 1/- value and ignoring the error and other implications and confining my examination to the top stamp with normal or full overprint, would say without doubt that it is genuine. But what of the circumstantial evidence?

Is this one of Andrews' best results or is this one of those errors that are valuable by virtue of the "impossibility"?

Apart from the two types of forged overprints already discussed there is what has become known as the "Cape Town forgery", as this item first made its appearance in that city. This is a forgery in the proper sense of

the word, as different type was used and can be easily identified. The tail of the characteristic 9 does not curl up as much as the genuine one. The "b" of November and "h" of "11th" are also different. The rather thinner printing with slight blurring is also characteristic.

There appear to be a large number of these forgeries on the market, and I understand that one European dealer recently visited South Africa with a stock of 2 000 copies, mostly in blocks of four without margins.

In conclusion I would like to thank the public prosecutor in Salisbury, Mr. Nimo, who allowed me to study the court record, and the Chief Magistrate, Mr. J. O. Jackson, who made it possible to obtain photographs used in the trial, and particularly to Dr. John Thompson, the B.S.A.P. forensic expert, who gave me a great deal of his time and help.

Auction News

Compiled by S. J. Hagger, RDP SA

Some of the more important realisations for Southern African items at Sprighton Philatelic Auctions, sale No. 20, held on 17th August, 1971:

South Africa

- | | | |
|------|--|---------|
| 1913 | £1 pale olive green and red, unused, but some toning and staining | R 50 |
| 1927 | London printings 1/-, 5/-, 10/- u.m. vertical pairs and 2/6 u.m. horizontal pair | R 52.50 |
| 1968 | 2c part sheet with major perforation shift in top row | R 42.50 |

Cape of Good Hope

- | | | |
|------|---|------|
| 1853 | 4d deep blue, superb used pair, very deeply blued paper | R 47 |
| 1855 | 6d slate-lilac on blued paper | R 59 |
| 1861 | 4d woodblock deep bright blue, cut close, light pink | R 85 |
| 1882 | 5/- wmk Crown CA, unused, creased | R 60 |

Rhodesia

- | | | |
|------|--|------|
| 1910 | 5d lake-brown and green (error of colour), pmk Selukwe | R130 |
| 1913 | 5/- blue & blue-green, perf 15, 'water colour retouch to cap' mint | R 45 |
| 1966 | 9d overprint double, marginal mint | R 90 |

South West Africa

- | | | |
|------|--|------|
| 1923 | £1 hor. pair ovp. setting III, superb used | R 41 |
| 1927 | 4d perf 11½, English & Afrikaans pairs handstamped 'Specimen' in violet | R 41 |
| 1927 | 1d SWA ovp. top marginal block of 6, the top pair with overprint omitted, mint | R 65 |

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Republican Handbook/Catalogue: Supplementary Pages

A complete fifth issue of supplementary pages was made during March, 1971, consisting of 33 sheets (61 pages of listing). This set was sent to all who subscribed in advance and any subscriber who did not receive the set should notify the Secretary of the Philatelic Federation without further delay. Not infrequently sets fail to reach subscribers because they have changed their addresses without notifying the Federation.

The table shown below is a check list of the pages included in the original set of pages and each supplementary set. While there are

reasonable stocks of some individual sets, others are in short supply and persons wishing to obtain missing sets are advised to apply as soon as possible since it is unlikely that reprints will be made.

A very limited number of complete Handbook/Catalogues can still be supplied. A further supplementary set 6 is being compiled. This added to the preceding pages cannot be accommodated in a single ring binder, so that the cost with two binders and subscription to Set 6 is R9.60. For the South African specialist in Republican stamp issues this Handbook/Catalogue is essential.

Pages issued according to sets

Original issue	Set 1	Set 2	Set 3	Set 4	Set 5	
A1	O1	B1	D5-6	D7-11	Expl. C6-7	F6-8
C1-5	P1-2	D3-4	E9-13	E14-15	D12-16	J6-8
D1-2	Q1-11	E7-8	G4-5	H17-21	E16-27	K6-8
E1-6	R1-3	H8a & 12-15	H16	M5-6	F2-5	Q69-86
F1	S1-3	I3-4	I5-6	MA1-2	G6-8	U10-22
G1-3	T1-2	L4-5	M3-4	P4-5	I7-9	MA3-6
H1-11	U1-3	N2-3	Q19-34	Q35-53	J3-5	AB7-13
I1-2	V1-2	Q12-18	U6-8	U9	K3-5	WA7-16
J1-2	W1-5	R4	V3-4	V5-6	L6-9	
K1-2	X1	S4	Y4-5	WA1-6	M7-8	
L1-3	Y1-3	T3-4	AA2-3	Y6	N4-6	
M1-2	Z1	U4-5		AA4-6	O2-4	
N1	AA1	AB1-6			P3	
					P6-8	
					Q54-68	

REVIEW

Orders, Medals and Decorations of Britain and Europe — by Paul Hieronymussen.

Published by: Blandford Press, 167, High Holborn, London. Priced London £1.75.

This fine book in colour, in their series of pocket size books, warrants more than a mere customary review. It has 80 pages — showing 450 photographs printed in seven colour lithography. In addition the concise text describes each of the Orders, Decorations and Medals and there are very many line illustrations in black and white covering supplementary Orders of each country. The book was originally published in Denmark and this English edition

has a British Supplement which deals with Military Decorations. The introduction alone is worth careful reading as it describes the beginnings of Orders and the final developments.

One must, however, leave it to the reader to absorb the full story of a subject that touches on history, international affairs and the ceremony of State occasions. Besides being absorbing, this book is recommended to those interested in such matters. Over the years there have been stamps depicting Orders and Medals and these can form a very interesting thematic collection. This book is the key to such information. It is only hoped that at some later date the publishers will bring out a similar book on the Orders, Medals and Decorations of countries outside of Europe. M.F.S.

SOCIETY NEWS

SOCIETY OF ISRAEL PHILATELY

September: There was no meeting as such during the month of September, 1971, but the Public Relations Officers of the Johannesburg General Post Office took members of the Society on a two hour conducted tour of the Post Office starting with a showing and detailed explanation of the automatic sorting and cancelling machine. For the benefit of members, Post Office staff worked an extra half hour on these machines, overtime, in order that members could see the actual functioning. After this we were taken to the various departments and shown the full gambit of Post Office workings, except the telex and cables department, including a walk under the City from the Post Office at Jeppe Street through the tunnel and eventually emerging at Park Station from where all incoming mail by train is transferred to the Post Office by underground conveyors. A tiring but very pleasant evening was spent by those persons who turned up. (40 in all).

EAST LONDON PHILATELIC SOCIETY

September: The competition for the Thematic Cup was the highlight of the evening, and three very good entries competed, namely "Ships" by Gordon Springett, "The Philatelist's Garden" by Mrs. Hutchinson and "Birds of the World" by Mr. Godfrey Peck. The result was that the Thematic Cup was won by Gordon Springett, but all of the entries were adjudged worthy of being entered in a National Exhibition. On the 25th September, a contingent of 11 from our Society visited the Port Elizabeth Society, together with several members from the Grahamstown Society. There was a real feast of stamps to view, and I am sure that everyone found something to suit their taste. In the evening we were entertained to dinner, and, as is usual with functions of this nature, a good time was had by all. Our thank-yous to Mr. Bülbring and his members for a most enjoyable week-end.

THEMATIC STAMP CLUB

September: The Bellville Club visited and Mr. H. W. T. Lee showed South African Commemorative stamps, which were most attractively mounted and included covers and literature pertaining to the stamps, together with a pleasant talk. He was followed by Mr. Gerber, who brought along a few sheets of his fine collection on "Drugs on Stamps", showing medicinal flowers. He is an expert on the subject and gave a most interesting and erudite talk.

MASHONALAND PHILATELIC SOCIETY

September: A well attended meeting at which 44 members and 20 visitors were present, and after concluding the formal business the meeting viewed Mr. Carter's collection of Sierra Leone and Mr. Walters excellent collection of Early British Postmarks, Penny Blacks and Reds, which were very much en-

joyed by the members and visitors who came along on this occasion.

We were also very honoured to see Mr. D. M. Reid-Henry, who is at present visiting Rhodesia and who designed the issue of Bird stamps of both Botswana and Mauritius (Definitive issue 1967 and 1965 respectively). Mr. Reid-Henry will be staying in Rhodesia for some months and very kindly said that he would be pleased to autograph any covers, etc. of the above issues of stamps, should members so wish, and can be contacted through the Queen Victoria Museum, Salisbury.

October: This was very well attended there being 51 members and 13 visitors present to view Mrs. Searson's display of 'Past and Present Post Marks of Rhodesia'. Mrs. Searson, in her introductory speech said, the collection which was arranged along the road system of Rhodesia, with a very rough map of the route and its feeders at the beginning of each section, was started as an aid to discovery. Where were places in Rhodesia that she had heard spoken of, such as Chin Mine; why Inoro had a post office once; how the outlandish name of Tshabalala had arisen, and who was Julia of Juliasdale or Mabel of Mabelreign? Was the water really cold at Chilimanzi and why was the post office of Sebakwe renamed Que Que? Some of these questions she had managed to answer in the display.

PHILATELIC SOCIETY OF NATAL

1st September: A well attended meeting under the chair of Dr. John Duncan firstly attended to routine and business matters and thereafter the Festival Cup competition was staged.

There were four entries for the competition. Mr. Jack Kriste, the spokesman for the judges praised the entrants for the high standard of their exhibits and said that high marks had been awarded in every case. Mr. C. J. Howie was adjudged the winner of this coveted award for his "A B C" on stamps. Mr. J. P. Martin was the runner-up with a fine display of "Swaziland." Our congratulations go to Mr. Don Tunley with his "New Zealand" and Mrs. June Cowan for her "Ireland." Their combined efforts contributed to a very gay evening.

The evening closed with a very successful auction, when a good quantity of attractive material was sold.

15th September: Swop night. This was a well attended meeting, and those who came were not disappointed. Invitation Exhibition: As was expected, Alf Klein gave a pleasing and entirely unexpected display of the Welsh Railway Stamps.

The evening closed with an auction marked by the paucity of the material on offer.

PORT ELIABETH PHILATELIC SOCIETY

September: In welcoming all present at a well attended meeting, the president extended a cordial welcome to Mr. Beesley, who is now resident on the Reef and was down here on leave and to Mr. Gambrell.

He also gave details of the visit by East London and Grahamstown Societies, which would take place on Saturday, 25th September, 1971.

Mr. Mike Sullivan displayed a collection of

New Zealand, consisting of singles and blocks of four and more. We also saw specimens with the Chambon perforations.

After the tea break an auction was held.

AFRIKAANSE FILATELISTIESE

September: Damesaand! Die aand is georganiseer deur mev. Rhoddie met hulp van mej. Visser. Daar was drie besonder interessante uitstallings. Mej. Esterhuysen het seëls uitgestal wat hoofsaaklik Olimpiade-seëls omvat het. Hierby het egter die nadruk geval op die sporte self en nie op die vierjaarlikse internasionale sportbyeenkomste nie. 'n Uitgesproke tematische versameling wat baie mooi gemonteer is en wat met sy seëls van verskillende lande 'n mooi gevarieerde indruk maak. Mev. Scholz het 'n versameling seëls van Nieu-eeland uitgestel. Soos ons gewoonnd geraak het van hierdie versamelaarster was dit weer 'n keurig netjiese geheel met seëls in 'n puik toestand. Tenslotte 'n versameling seëls van mev. unckel van Australië. Ook hierdie versameling was opmerklik netjies opgestel en het 'n kleurryke indruk gemaak.

Oktober: hierdie aand het die Pretoria Philatelic Society ons besoek. Daar was drie versamelings: mnr. Seeba met seëls van die Republiek Madagaskar, vervolgens mnr. Weinstein: seëls van Griekwaland-Wes, en tenslotte Kmdt. Enoch met lyn-gegraveerde seëls van samelings wat ons in 'n lang tyd gesien het. Groot-Brittanje. Dit was van die mooiste verdie seëls van Madagaskar is groot van afmeting en het alle kleure en afbeeldings wat mens kan bedink, soos ons van die uitgiftes van die buurstate gewoonnd geraak het. Die versameling Griekwaland-Wes is die beste in die wêreld op hierdie gebied en dit was opvallend hoeveel kennis van omstandighede en feite uit die byskrifte vorentoe gekom het. Dit geld ook vir die kolossale versameling van kmdr. Enoch, wat tot in alle besonderhede gaan van die lyngegraveerde seëls van Engeland. Party van hierdie seëls is uiters seldsaam en skaars; van een is slegs twaalf eksemplare bekend. Maar ook hier is dit nie net die waarde en skaarsheid wat die aandag getrek het nie, maar die geweldige kennis en filatelistiese belangstelling wat uit hierdie versameling blyk. Ons het vanaand drie pragtige versamelings gesien en ons waardeer die moeite wat die lede vir ons gedoen het.

JOHANNESBURG PHILATELIC SOCIETY

At the first meeting in September we were treated to two interesting displays. Mr. Burrell showed S.A. aerogrammes amongst which was a very rare copy of the Jewish Forces issue which Mr. Burrell thought was the only known mint copy. Mr. Hagger showed a fine study of the animal issue of S.A. which included a large range of cylinder numbers, varieties and changes of paper.

At the second meeting Mrs. J. Wedderburn-Maxwell gave an interesting talk on the early days of Ascension's history and mentioned some of the covers, forgeries and flaws she was showing. Mr. Schwab displayed his daughter's Children on Stamps which was last seen at ZAR 100. Major Murray said that Miss Schwab's collection was a very good example to all youngsters. Mrs. Koralek showed a portion of her Czechoslovakian collection, mostly

covers in fine condition.

As this meeting was Ladies Night the meeting was efficiently conducted by none other than Mrs. Koralek in the Chair.

THE O.F.S. PHILATELIC SOCIETY

September: Mr. A. H. Scott, in the chair, welcomed sixteen members, six visitors and four juniors. Business was brief, and new acquisitions were tabled by:

Dr. van Zyl Smit: Various philatelic literature.

Mr. A. H. Scott: Lesotho airletters.

The President also displayed the Bronze medal awarded to the "O.F.S. Philatelic Magazine" at RSA 10. It is hoped that the Editor will be present at the annual Society Dinner, on which occasion he will be asked to formally accept the medal on behalf of the Society.

Not for the first time this year both exhibits of the evening were provided by country members. Mrs. R. Bonthronne came in from Virginia to show a portion of her UNION OF SOUTH AFRICA collection. Neatly written up and containing numerous desirable items, the collection captured the attention of all.

Mr. J. Jordens of Tweespruit showed his Russia 1966-1968. Virtually complete, the exhibit showed off the distinctive characteristics of modern Russian stamps very well.

The meeting ended with a vote of thanks to the exhibitors by Mr. H. Weil, and to Mr. and Mrs. A. L. Meyburgh for an excellent tea.

GERMISTON PHILATELIC SOCIETY

October: After concluding the routine business, sixteen members welcomed Mr. Jack Burrell of Krugersdorp as the guest speaker and exhibitor of the evening, and also Mr. and Mrs. I. S. Burniston upon their return from their five months world tour.

Mr. Burrell then took over the chair, and, after giving a most informative and interesting talk on how to set about starting a stamp collection, what to collect and how to mount the stamps, tabled a number of Great Britain Commemoratives, followed by a collection of South African aerogrammes including many that had been brought out during the second world war. One of great interest was a very rare copy of the Jewish Forces issue which Mr. Jack Burrell thought was the only known mint copy. Mr. S. J. Hagger thanked Mr. Jack Burrell and remarked on how difficult it was to find mint copies of aerogrammes, especially those of the forces. Mr. Burrell's talk and exhibit was of great interest, especially to the two teachers and the two pupils from the Germiston High School who were present at this meeting as special visitors.

AFRIKAANSE FILATELISTEVERENIGING

Oktober: Die uitstalling Switserse pospapier van mnr. Arie Bakker en die „Wilde Voëls van Afrika" van mnr. Erik Thamm het die uitstalrame versier, terwyl mnr. Wim de Jongh gewys het toe die jonglede hul byskrywings en rangskikkings aan die hand van sy wenke reeds heelwat verbeter het.

Mnr. Bakker het vertel van 'n vonds in 'n rondsendboekie: die ongetande Spaanse seël SG 144 wat ongebruik 'n kataloguswaarde van £400 het. Die seël in die boekie was gebruik,

en Gibbons meld nie eens die gebruikte waarde nie! Maar dieselfde seël kom ook met tanding voor as SG 162, en dan is sy waarde maar 'n paar sent. Deur moei die seël te meet, het dit geblyk dat die aangeprese seël in die boekie die laasgenoemde een was, met tanding afgeknip! Die les is duidelik.

PRETORIA PHILATELIC SOCIETY

October: In their visit to us, the Johannesburg Society fully lived up to the high standard which they have set themselves in the past.

They led off with Dr. Hirschman's Bechuanaland. This is a very fine collection with die Proofs and several sets of colour trials and the overprint varieties of the first issue. There were many early covers including one from Tati in 1889, and another from the Bechuanaland campaign of 1897.

This was followed by Mrs. Wedderburn-Maxwell's Ascension.

We were shown a wealth of new and interesting material. There were expanded studies of the forerunners, G.B. stamps used in Ascension including forged postmarks, and of the Broken Mast flaw. There was a die Proof of the 1924 issue and six Ascension stamps used in St. Helena.

There was drama over whether the last exhibit would get to the meeting in time, but fortunately no planes were late, and we were shown Mr. R. D. Rickard's B.S.A.Co.

This was an outstanding display with vast masses of everything, all mint.

The main impact of the collection came from the double heads which always make an attractive display.

There was a comprehensive range of varieties (gash on ear etc.) and shades running right up into the high values, including the £1 in Perf. 15 and in the colours of the 10d.

Mr. Hodgkin also produced an ingenious and challenging parlour game. 54 stamps with the names of the countries, and sometimes more, cut away. The puzzle was to identify what country they came from. All the high 'falutin' specialists were completely lost. A small prize was offered which was won with 52 correct answers, a very good effort.

We should like to thank our friends in Johannesburg for a very good evening's entertainment.

THE ROYAL PHILATELIC SOCIETY OF RHODESIA

As a variation of the usual theme of monthly reports, a resume of the activities of the Society over the past seven months is given.

Attendances have varied between 44 and 63, with an average of 55, and during the period 25 new members have been enrolled. Exhibits have catered for all tastes, there being two different displays of Rhodesia — The Federation by Mr. Scott, and Southern Rhodesia by Mr. Follwell. For a "first-timer" Mr. Follwell put on a very fine show indeed. Zanzibar, by Mr. Trotter was outstanding, and amongst other Commonwealth displays were Bechuanaland from the first issues to Inde-

pendence by Dr. Wragge and Norfolk Islands by Mr. Moore. In the foreign class, Mr. Fitzstephen showed his very fine Norwegian collection, and followed this with an exhibit of Bulawayo postmarks and Rhodesian Postal Stationery, the latter being of special interest.

Thematics — Scouting on Stamps, by Mrs. Jarret; a film show by Mr. Creewel, with the "Making of a Stamp" (loaned by the East London Society) followed by slides of similar views to those illustrated on New Zealand Stamps. The highlight of the programme was a display of the B.S.A. Company and some Nyasaland stamps owned by the National Museum, which was supported by a most informative talk by the Curator, Mr. Godfrey. Under pressure from Mr. V. F. Ellenberger, RDPSA, a further quantity of original plates had been found in the Museum's Archives — a memorable discovery, and naturally one of great importance to all Rhodesian philatelists. A full report on these plates was given by Mr. Godfrey, and published in "Magnify". Our monthly journal continues to maintain the high standard set from the inception, and letters of commendation are frequently received.

Whilst the monthly auctions fluctuate, both in regard to the quantity and quality of material submitted, and prices realised, a most welcome feature of recent meetings has been the increasing volume of discussion on philatelic matters in general, but in particular on the standard of design and recent Rhodesian issues, and the mishandling of Philatelic Mail by the Postal Authorities.

EXPERT COMMITTEE

The next meeting of the Expert Committee of the Philatelic Federation of Southern Africa will be held on Saturday, 15th January, 1972. The postal address of the Hon. Secretary is Box 2388, Pretoria.

Lesotho is to commemorate the centenary of its post office on 1st January, 1972, with a special issue, or shall we rather say, the centenary of a postal service in that territory, as the land of the Basotho was actually part of the Cape Colony a century ago.

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VISITORS CORDIALLY WELCOMED
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P.O. Box 588, Durban. Secretary's
Telephone 64306 (evenings)

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