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THE SOUTH AFRICAN PHILATELIST

VOLUME 44 — 1968

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- The issue made on April 2, 1931.
- The issue made on April 1, 1938, bearing a reproduction of the head of King George VI.
- The issue known as the "Bantam series" made during the period March, 1943, to September 1944, bearing a reproduction of the head of King George VI.

- The issue of different designs made in November, 1946, bearing a reproduction of the head of King George VI.
- The issue made in August, 1954, bearing a reproduction of the head of Queen Elizabeth II.
- All issues bearing a reproduction of the South African coat of arms and made for the first time in December, 1955.

The new revenue stamp denominations are: 2c, 5c, 10c, 15c, 20c, 25c, 30c, 50c, R1.25, R1.50, R2, R4, R10, R20, R50, R100 and R200.

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SOUTH AFRICAN NOTES

By DR. H. J. RAUBENHEIMER,

Hon. Associate Editor.

EXHIBITION POSTMARKS



The O.F.S. Philatelic Society issued a special commemorative envelope in conjunction with its VRYPEX exhibition. It illustrated an imprint of the O.F.S. coat of arms in similar design to that contained in the special hand stamp (illustrated) which was used at the exhibition post office.

A one-day exhibition was held at Vereeniging on the 2nd October, 1967, in conjunction with the town's celebrations to mark its 75th anniversary. A special handstamp was authorised for use on the day only. Its mark (illustrated) is in the form of a cog-wheel containing the name of the town, the date, the period "75" and bilingually "The Industrial Giant".

Special 'stickers', similar to the postmark design were also available in two colours, blue and black, indicating the first and second printing respectively.

RETOUCH OR MISSING SCREENING?

A most interesting discussion took place at the Vrypek Exhibition in Bloemfontein recently, and it centered round a peculiar mark on one of the new coloured post cards. The card had a picture of a rest camp in the Kruger National Park.

Mr. Nel of the Philatelic Bureau showed a full sheet of these cards — incidentally, described in the S.A. Philatelist of February, 1967. A certain gentleman, who shall be nameless, from the Cape, drew attention to something very unusual on one of the K.N. Park cards, which was the second card of the fourth row of the bottom pane only. This peculiar mark, rectangular in shape and blue in colour showed in the trees at the right margin of the scene.

A diagnosis of the cause was made, but another gentleman, who also shall be nameless, but this time from the Transvaal, disagreed, and made a different diagnosis. Bystanders joined in for and against and soon there was a spirited argument. Nobody won. The diagnoses were (a) that it was a retouch, (b) that it was a defective screening, in other words it showed an unscreened condition.

The question was put to the Government Printing Works some days later, and it turned out that neither diagnosis was, strictly speaking, correct. The printer well remembered what happened, and this was the story. When the blue printing cylinder, W2, was being prepared there happened to be hard spots in the gelatin of the carbon tissue of the one pane, so there the cylinder was not etched. The effect was not noticed until the cylinder was completed. It was then noticed that the screen was absent and there might be an ugly smear on the paper later.

It meant either scrapping the cylinder and making another — quite a big process, or correcting the cylinder itself, and this was done. The smooth patch was “nicked” with a sharp pointed tool to give the effect of a screen, and it requires a highly skilled hand. There is also a special tool for that purpose, a type of roulette, but it appears that the hand “nicking” is preferred, and that is called “hand engraving”. Occasionally hand engraving is resorted to but on a very much smaller scale. We cannot recall another case involving such a large area, so we can look on this specimen as something unique.

The end of the story is thus (a) it is not a retouch because, according to the printer, a retouch is done on a master negative or a multi-positive, and brushes are used, and then the mark would have appeared on both the K.N. Park cards, (b) it is not an unscreened condition in the accepted sense of the term — the cylinder did end up with a “screening” of sorts, but (c) it is a “hand engraving”.

Philatelically, a RETOUCH is described as:

1. A minor alteration (before printing) to part of a design and detectable on the resulting stamp. Williams, L. N. and M., Anna H. Smith.
2. Minor handwork made to a cliché, plate or die to repair accidental damage or wear. R. J. Sutton.—Editor.)

FEDERATION'S 1967 CONGRESS

The 29th Congress of the Philatelic Federation of Southern Africa was held at Bloemfontein on the 11th and 12th October, 1967. Some fifty six delegates attended to represent twenty three Societies out of the thirty three affiliated to Federation with an estimated membership of four thousand.

Congress was opened by the Postmaster-General, Mr. M. C. Strauss, accompanied by the Divisional Controller, Mr. van Heerden, the Postmaster of Bloemfontein and the Publicity Officer. We hope to receive and publish the opening address in due course.

After entertaining the visitors and delegates to an enjoyable morning tea, and an inspection of the exhibits, Congress settled down to “business” concerning which the more outstanding matters are recorded in a very brief manner. A full report has been circulated to affiliated societies and is available to any member who wishes further details.

The Presidential Address in which Mr. A. L. Meyburgh expressed his appreciation to all those who assisted South African philately during the past year was warmly received. Congress, in acknowledging Mr. Meyburgh's sentiments, thanked him for the good work he had done during his term of office.

Mr. J. Crewel's paper, the only one read before Congress (reproduced in our December, 1967 number) entitled “How to brighten society meetings” brought forth healthy discussion.

Financial statements for the past year were presented, discussed and adopted. These indicated that although Federation's publication, the South African Philatelist, showed a small loss due to increasing publication costs, the affairs of Federation are in a very satisfactory condition.

Reports from the Executive Committee, the Editorial Board, the Publications and the Recorded Lectures Sub-committees were discussed, and approval was expressed at the very satisfactory manner in which these committees had performed their duties for the well-being of Federation.

Several Society Motions were received, arising out of which:

1. Congress decided to request the Postal Authorities to publish details in January of each year of any contemplated new stamp issues envisaged for that year.

2. The motion that the words “SOUTH AFRICA/SUID-AFRIKA” be replaced by

"R.S.A." on our commemorative and definitive stamps resulted in a lengthy discussion after which it was decided by a majority vote "that the matter be referred to the next congress to see what transpired during the intervening twelve months."

3. By a larger majority vote it was decided that Congress asks the Executive Committee to encourage committees organising philatelic exhibitions to include a new award, a Silvered Bronze Award, in status between the existing Bronze and Silver Awards, and at the same time elevating the value of the present silver Award by a small proportion.

4. Congress decided to request the Postal Authorities to give consideration to the transposing of the slogan marks in their machine cancellations.

Under General Matters, Congress decided:

1. Not to support a suggestion that an approved insignia be instituted to identify and be worn by fellow philatelists;

2. to approve the application of the Anglo-Boer War Society for Associate Membership;

3. that a request be made to the relevant authorities that more timely notice be given of First Flights;

4. to note that if a Society wished to give credit to a member for services rendered to that Society by an award greater than a Society Award, the Society could send in a citation on behalf of that member for consideration for the Award of the Skinner Cup;

5. to note a request to send an official representative to attend the final of the Veka Cup Competition on the 5th March, 1968, when the Postmaster-General will be present;

6. to note a suggestion that adverse climatic conditions and the condition of the stands be taken into account by Societies holding exhibitions at inland centres during the warm and dry period of the year;

7. to refer for further consideration the representation of Societies situated outside the Republic of South Africa.

Awards

Congress determined the following:

1. Roll of Honour of Distinguished South African Philatelists. Mr. J. E. Creweel was elected.

2. The Harvey Pirie Memorial Award. No recommendation was received. ...

3. Congress Awards. The following were awarded for valuable articles published by the S.A. Philatelist:

Capt. M. F. Stern: "Maps and Exploration (Africa);

Mr. A. Leslie Leon: A series of eight short articles.

Mr. W. N. Turnbull: "The Postal Treatment of Rhodesian Independence Stamps".

Mr. D. Allison: "Postmark Notes".

Mr. V. F. Eilenberger: "Rhodesia — Genesis of the British South African Company's Postage Stamps and Postal Services."

4. The Skinner Cup: No recommendation was received.

5. The "Bill" Lea Trophy was awarded to Mr. Rex Reynolds for his "The Postal History and Postmarks of Griqualand West" publication.

Arrangements for forthcoming Congress:

Applications were made by the below-mentioned societies and noted: East London, October, 1968; Johannesburg, 1969; Port Elizabeth, 1970; the Royal Philatelic Society, Cape Town, 1971; Belville, 1971.

Election of Office Bearers:

The following were elected:

1. Honorary Life President: Dr. T. B. Berry;

2. President: Mr. J. Shingler;

Vice-Presidents: For the Cape Province: Mr. G. Bülbring; Transvaal: Mr. S. J. Vermaak; Natal: Mr. G. Milner-Palmer; O.F.S.: Mr. H. E. Roux and for Societies outside South Africa: Mr. J. Strong;

3. Hon. Secretary: Mr. K. E. W. Lydall;

4. Hon. Treasurer: Mr. J. Michelson;

5. Business Manager, S.A. Philatelist: Mr. S. J. Vermaak.

Conclusion:

A successful Congress concluded upon a happy note, the new office bearers being congratulated upon their election, and appreciation being extended to the retiring president for the capable and pleasant manner in which he had carried out his duties during a lengthy term of office.

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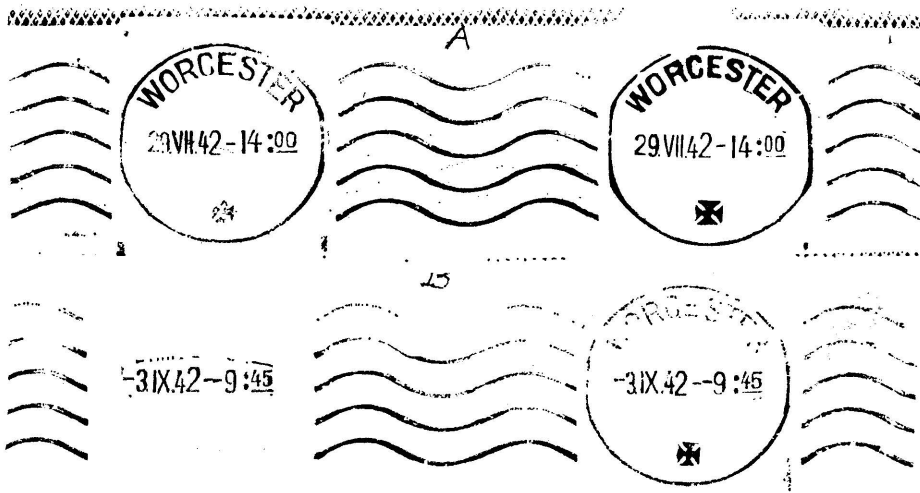
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POSTMARK NOTES

By DAVID ALLISON



Worcester Machine Postmarks

Some time ago Dr. Berry sent me an interesting lot of Worcester postmarks of the early 1940's, which are described briefly here. All of them are of the continuous type (so that the machine has two datestamps, each of which prints alternately on the envelope), and all of them have wavy lines. There appear to have been two pairs of date stamps used in this period — one with smaller crosses at the bottom and one with larger.

Four types of postmark can be recorded with these datestamps. The first — call it A — has both datestamps with small crosses; several specimens have been seen between 26 III 40 — 14:00 and 28 VIII 42 — 14:00. During this period one of the datestamps developed a break in the circle above TE, and the other developed a similar break above RC. These serve to distinguish them from one another. The one with the break above RC appears to have been discarded, due presumably to damage. Type B differs from type A only in having the frame of this datestamp missing. Three specimens were in Dr. Berry's file, with dates between —3 IX 42—9:45, —3 IX 42—9:45 and 10 IX 42—6:00.

Next comes type C. One datestamp is the one already used in types A and B; the other has a larger cross. Only one of these can be recorded, dated —7 XI 42—7:00.

Nearly a year later (23 X 43—14:00) we have type D, in which both datestamps have the large cross. This continued at least until 1946.

It may well be, of course, that other types should be inserted in this account, and certainly the dates of change should be more closely determined. Can anyone help?

Later Worcester postmarks display other features of interest. Various round datestamps, blank at the bottom, were used and rectangular ones also exist. Then in April, 1954 the machine was replaced by a non-continuous one. At least three slogans have been used on the continuous machine, and one on the non-continuous. But space does not allow a detailed catalogue.

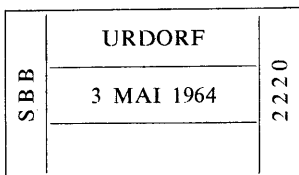


Relief handstamp at Mobile P.O.

Thanks to Dr. Berry and Mr. Walker I am able to illustrate a relief handstamp (of the old type) used at Mobile P.O. No. 12 in Durban. It has been in use since October 2nd or earlier. A similar handstamp was used at Mobile P.O. No. 3, Port Elizabeth, in 1941. (See "S.A. Philatelist, July, 1947, page 101).

Swiss Railway Cancellations

Mr. A. Leslie Leon's recent articles on South African railway postmarks have prompted me to mention some Swiss railway cancellations, used in circumstances quite different from ours. In many small places, the post office does not open on Sundays and the posting box at the railway station is emptied by a railway official. Letters in it are postmarked at the station and are sent by train to the nearest sorting office which is open. The few cancellations of this type I have are rectangular; a typical one is like this:



The initials on the left stand for Schweizerische Bundes Bahnen (Swiss Federal Railways); in French-speaking areas these initials are replaced by CFF, and in Italian areas by FFS.

South African slogans

In the October Notes it was mentioned that the slogan "Invest with the Post Office" had been introduced at seven of the usual nine towns, the exception being Kimberley and Pietermaritzburg. This slogan appeared at Kimberley towards the end of August. Incidentally "Post Christmas Mail Early" had been in use for two or three weeks just before its introduction. This is an unusually early use for the Christmas slogan. It normally appears about the middle of November, which was still in the future when these Notes were written. During October, however, a new die for the Christmas slogan was introduced at Pietermaritzburg. The "Post Office" slogan has still not been seen from that town.

Vishoek Paid

It was mentioned in the October, 1965 "South African Philatelist" that bulk postings at Kalk Bay and Fish Hoek (which the Post Office quite logically I suppose calls Vishoek) were handstamped in red, and sorted, at Kalk Bay. This had been the practice since 1961. Previously these bulk postings had been dealt with at the G.P.O. in Cape Town.

Towards the end of 1966 or early in 1967 a change was made. The sorting office was moved to Fish Hoek, and there have been

two Vishoek Paid handstamps — one in the new relief type, and a permanent one which was introduced in July, 1967. The Kalk Bay "Paid" is no longer in use.

FORTHCOMING COMMONWEALTH ISSUES

By J. WOODGATE

New Zealand: During January the current 15c and \$2 definitives will be reprinted in modified shades.

In February the 10c and 25c definitives will be re-issued in new designs, and a 22c definitive to cover airmail rates will be issued for the first time. The original 10c, 15c, 25c and \$2 definitives were issued on the 10th July, 1967, and will have had a short life for definitives.

Zambia: On January 16th decimal currency comes into force and a new definitive set of 12 values is being issued. The new currency is 100 Ngwee = 1 Kwacha = R1. The face value of the set is R4.39.

Canada: February 15th sees the first in the new "Wildlife" series, a 5c value depicting a bird (grey jay).

Ceylon: February 13th a 25c (Ceylon) stamp for Sir Baron Jayatileke.

East Africa: February 12th "Mountains". 30c Mountaineering, 50c Mount Kenya, 1/30 Mount Kilimanjaro, 2/50 Ruwenzori Mountains. Face value is 46c.

Great Britain: February 5th, 4 more of the new attractive definitive series, the ½d., 1d., 2d. and 6d. values.

Guyana: February 23rd (Provisional), an attractive new definitive set of 15 stamps, consisting of 5 fishes, 5 birds and 5 small mammals. Guyana, formerly British Guiana, became independent on May 26th 1966, and since then has used the former British Guiana definitives, in a variety of watermarks, overprinted "Guyana Independence 1966".

S. AFRICA LITERATURE

"Ship Penny" by G. Ward — 11/3d.
 "Revenue Cat" by L. J. Dodd (revised edition) — 10/6d.
 "OFS Postal and Other Markings 1869-1910" by A. C. Fenn — 16/-.
 S.A. Simplified leaflet — 1/6d.

ALL POSTAGE PAID.



C. E. SHERWOOD



105, Marford Crescent,
 Sale, Cheshire, England.

STAMP COLLECTIONS AND CAPITAL GAINS TAX

The B.P.A. has been trying to sort out with the Treasury the various problems created for stamp collectors by the introduction of Capital Gains Tax. A reply from the Financial Secretary, while pointing out the loopholes that would be created if stamp collections were to be exempted, provides the following information:

"It is, of course, only in the case of larger or more valuable collections that the question of capital gains tax arises, since the general exemption for chattels applies except when one particular stamp, or a stamp collection constituting a 'set', is disposed of for more than £1,000. The fact that a collection sold at an open auction in lots, or sold to different and unconnected persons in lots, realises an aggregate price in excess of £1,000 does not mean that capital gains tax liability arises unless individual items, or separate lots constituting a 'set', are sold for £1,000 or more."

Acknowledgement "The Philatelic Trader".

(Is it only a matter of time before South African collectors are faced with this condition?—Ed.)

EFIMEX 68

Capt. M. F. Stern, P.O. Box 3654, Cape Town, from whom further particulars may be obtained, has been appointed Commissioner for Southern Africa for the International Philatelic Exhibition, EFIMEX 68, to be held in Mexico City during November 1968 under the FIP auspices, and coincides with the Olympic Games there.

There will be no rules, Capt. Stern has been assured, against any good international collection from South Africa being shown at EFIMEX 68 and visitors from South Africa to the exhibition and Mexico will be welcomed.

It is suggested that EFIMEX 68 will rank with AMPHILEX 67 and it is hoped that Southern Africa will be represented there.

Incidentally, news has just been received that Capt. Stern has been elected a Fellow of the Royal Philatelic Society (London). We extend our hearty congratulations to him upon the honour done him.

PHILATELISTS MUST TAKE SECOND PLACE

Mr. R. Robinson, the parliamentary correspondent of "Stamp Weekly" writes that Mr. Edward Short, the British Postmaster General, has rejected an appeal to make first day covers of commemorative stamps available unspoilt by an address. He is insisting that the post office is primarily a service and, although the additional revenue from new issues is welcome, philatelists must take second place to post office principles.

Sir Eric Bullus, Conservative M.P. for North Wembley, took the matter up with Mr. Short in Parliament but failed to make any headway. Following his refusal to comply with this request, Mr. Short wrote to Sir Eric regretting that he could not depart from present arrangements, which means that stamped mail must go through the post.

Sir Eric told me he became interested in the subject following representations made to him by discriminating philatelists who wanted first day covers unspoilt by an address when buying them serviced with stamps and cancelled with the special mark.

He suggested to Mr. Short that he should take steps to overcome the present difficulties, which oblige dealers to either write the address on every cover in pencil and erase it after delivery or use self-adhesive addressed labels which can be peeled off later.

The system Sir Eric favours is one which would allow post offices to accept quantities of covers delivered by dealers with the stamps affixed for the cancellation mark to be applied. They would collect the covers when ready. In addition to providing a service for philatelists, he points out, this would save considerable manpower in re-sorting all the covers and delivering them back to the dealers as single items.

And he told Mr. Short that by insisting on its present procedure, the post office not only inflicts unnecessary work on its inadequate staff, but also renders covers liable to damage by marking or by stringing which reduces their value.

"I think the post office owes something to collectors," Sir Eric said. "After all, new issues are bringing in a great deal of revenue for the Government and it would do them no harm to give something in return".

(At present South African collectors enjoy the privilege of taking delivery of self-addressed covers after their postmarking, but for how much longer?—Editor)

THE CINDERELLA STAMP CLUB

We acknowledge the receipt of an attractive and informative journal published by Messrs. L. N. and M. Williams for the Cinderella Stamp Club.

The Club was formed in 1959 under the chairmanship of Sydney R. Turner who has occupied that position until recently when he resigned on account of his advancing age. It is an association of philatelists, amateur and professional, whose interests lie in local stamps, telegraph stamps, fiscals, bogus and phantom issues, Christmas seals, registration labels, advertisement and exhibition labels — the so-called "Cinderellas of Philately".

Any collector interested in these items would be well advised to apply for membership (subscription R2.00) to the Hon. Treasurer, 14 Summer Road, Harrow, Middlesex, England.

SWAZILAND STAMP BUREAU

We acknowledge with thanks the receipt of Philatelic Bulletin, Volume 1, No. 5, issued by the Swaziland Stamp Bureau, P.O. Box 555, Mbabane, Swaziland.

The bulletin announces, among other philatelic news, a special issue of four postage stamps, of the values 3, 10, 15 and 25 cents, on the 5th January, to commemorate "Swazi Traditional Customs". The stamps and relevant First Day Covers may be obtained from the above address upon the usual terms of payment and attention is drawn to the condition that requests to cancel stamps which are not affixed to letters cannot be complied with.

An interesting description of two Swazi Traditional Customs, the INCWALA (Feast of the First Fruits) and the UMHLANGA (The Swazi Reed Dance) is included but unfortunately space prohibits its reproduction.

Cape of Good Hope

RECTANGULARS POSTMARKS
TRIANGULARS

Extensive selections of the above are always available, as well as interesting covers and Postal History material.
— References from new customers please —

F. W. COLLINS
STOBOROUGH CROFT
WINCHESTER, ENGLAND

"RIBBED GUM"

"Ribbed Gum" is a condition frequently found on South African stamps and "Stamp Collecting", quoting Mr. E. C. Ehrmann, gives the following explanation:

"The vertical lines impressed in the gum originate from passing the gummed paper through gum-fracturing rollers prior to printing, with the object of preventing curling of the paper after printing and separation into sheets. These fracture lines become noticeable on and off, whenever the roller pressure is too strong, and have been found on various Great Britain and Commonwealth issues."

WORLD'S RAREST STAMP TO BE SOLD

"Stamp Weekly" reports that behind the scenes negotiations are going on for the sale of the most valuable stamp in the world, the unique 1c British Guiana.

The owner's name is one of the world's best-kept secrets but reliable sources of information in the United States told "Stamp Weekly" that the entire collection of British Guiana — the finest ever formed — including the great rarity is likely to be sold this autumn.

The stamp, once sold by a school boy for 6s., Arthur Hind paid 300,000 francs for it when Count Ferrary's collection was sold. A bidder on behalf of King George V failed to get it.

Mr. Fribar Kenny paid 45,000 dollars on behalf of the present owner the last time it came up for sale. The stamp has been valued for insurance as high as £200,000 and is expected to fetch "figures in excess of anything previously mentioned in connection with single stamps".

THE STAMP FORGERY CASE

Two former clerks at the offices of the Receiver of Revenue in Johannesburg, Tjaart Nicholas Benade, 41, and Edward Gordon Frost, 38, were each sentenced to five years' imprisonment by Mr. Justice Trengove at the Rand Criminal Sessions recently. They were convicted of bribery.

As counter clerks they were responsible for the sale of forged revenue stamps. Frost admitted receiving R10,000 and Benade R5,000. The total value of stamps was said to be R347,000.

— Acknowledgement "The Sunday Times".



DIE HERVORMINGSGEDENK- POSSEËLS

(Met die goedgegunste toestemming van Historia)

Hoewel Protestantisme in Suid-Afrika oor die algemeen Calvinisties is en nie die Lutherse sienswyse volg nie, is dit paslik dat daar aan die 450-jarige herdenking van die eerste daadwerklike protes teen bestaande kerklike toestande in die sestiende eeu, aandag geskenk word.

Hierdie eerste protes is geuiteur deur Martin Luther, 'n Augustynse monnik wat professor in die teologie aan die universiteit van Wittenberg in oostelike Duitsland was. Uit sy lesings in 1516 oor die Brief aan die Romeine het reeds geblyk dat hy nie met die toenmalige kerklike opvatting saamgestem het nie. 'n Jaar later, op 31 Oktober 1517, het hy in die openbaar uiting aan sy opvatting gegee toe hy 95 stellings aan die poort van die kasteelkerk in Wittenberg bevestig het. Met hierdie daad word in wese die Hervorming ingelui.

Einde Augustus van hierdie jaar het die Suid-Afrikaanse Departement van Poswese besluit om ter herdenking van hierdie gebeurtenis van vier en 'n halwe eeu gelede, twee posseëls uit te gee. Op 1 September het die eerste vergadering van hoofamptenare van die Departement en die posseël advies-komitee plaasgevind. Van die staanspoor af was dit baie duidelik dat die beskikbare tyd hierdie keer wel besonder kort was. Binne twee maande moes oor die ontwerp besluit word en 'n geskikte kunstenaar gevind word om dit uit te voer. Regeringstoestemming moes volg en daarna moes die seëls gedruk en versprei word. Amper 'n onmoontlike opdrag. Maar weer eens het geblyk hoeveel deur samewerking en harde werk bereik kan word.

Aanvanklik het gedagtes vir 'n ontwerp uitgegaan na plaaslike monumente, kerkgeboue en simboliese tekens, maar daar kon nie aan iets gedin word wat die eerste stoot tot die Hervorming toepaslik kon uitdruk nie. Al spoedig is besluit op 'n portret van Luther self en op die kerk in Wittenberg, indien 'n behoorlike afbeelding daarvan verkry kon word.

Hoewel die Duitse skilder Lucas Cranach 'n hele aantal portrette van Luther geskilder het, was die meeste daarvan tog eers op later leeftyd van die hervormer gemaak. Die keuse het gevolglik geval op 'n portret in die Nasionale Museum in Stockholm, waarvan een van die komitee lede gelukkig 'n reproduksie besit het. Hierdie portret het in 1526 tot stand gekom, nege jaar na die gebeurtenis in Wittenberg, toe Luther nog 'n baie strydbare voorkoms gehad het. Deur 'n kunstenaar van die Staatsdrukkery, Walter Frederick van Reenen, is 'n ontwerp na hierdie portret gemaak. 'n Tweede ontwerp van 'n buitestaander was lofwaardig, maar moes dit tog teen Van Reenen se tekening aflê. En dit is begryplik, want Van Reenen het oor baie meer ervaring en kennis beskik. Hy is in 1918 te Somerset-Wes in die Kaap gebore. Nadat hy die skool in Kaapstad deurloop het, verkry hy vir twee jaar 'n beurs by die Michaelis-kunsskool. Daarna word hy by 'n blokmaker- en kunstateljee-firma verder opgelei as handelskunstenaar. Vanaf 1948 is hy in diens van die Staatsdrukkery as 'n drukkers- en litografiese kunstenaar. Van Reenen skilder ook in olie en waterverf, veral landskappe en stillewes.

Met behulp van die bibliotekaris van die Openbare Biblioteek in Johannesburg is Luther se handtekening verkry: 'n pragtige handtekening met sy volle naam Marthinus



Luther! Dit is in wit letters oor die onderste deel van die portret geplaas, sodat dit die groot vlak van die donker Augustynse py 'n bietjie onderbreek. Oor die kleur van die 2½c-seël is nooit getwyfel nie. Op die eerste ontwerp was dit 'n skarlaken waarin dit duidelik ook uitgevoer is. Daar was ewemin moeilikhede met die plasing van die teks. Die datum 31 Oktober 1917, die maand in Romeinse syfer, soos dit internasionaal gebruiklik is, is regs onder aangebring, terwyl die waardesyfer 2½ regs by sy plekkie gevind het. Links bo, op 'n plek waar hulle onmiddellik die oog vang, staan die drie mooi uitgevoerde letters „R S A”. Daar was nie langer 'n volprop aan alle kante met letters en dubbele teks nie.

Fisher-Hill Stamp Co.
Investment-gebou, Commissionerstraat 97,
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Telefoon 836-5739

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'N GROOT VOORRAAD

ALBUMS, KATALOGUSSE, BYBEHORE EN
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Posbus 413 — Roodepoort

Gereëldde maandvergaderings, uitstallings,
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★

DIE BESTE RONSDENDDIENS IN DIE
LAND.

★

Sterk ledetal deur die hele land.
Belangstellendes verwelkom.

Vir die 12½c-seël kon 'n redelike afbeelding van die poort in Witteberg verkry word. Die oorspronklike houtdeur het afgebrand en is naderhand vervang deur 'n ysterdeur waarop die 95 stellings afgebeeld is. Ook hier het die kleur geen moeilikhede gelewer nie. Die ontwerper van hierdie seël, N. W. Meadows, het rekening gehou met die natuurlike kleur van die gebou, wit sandsteen en klip, en hy het die seël uitgevoer in bruin teen 'n oranjegeel agtergrond met wit. Meadows ken hierdie soort geboue goed. Hy is in 1909 naby Blackpool in Engeland ge-

bore en het in Hull skool gegaan. Vir sewe jaar het hy sy vakleerlingskap as litografiese kunstenaar deurloop waarby hy ook spesiale opleiding in drukskrif geniet het. Hy werk vir verskeie firmas en ateljees in Londen, o.a. die wêreldbekende fotogravure-firma Od-lams. In 1946 kom hy na Suid-Afrika waar hy as drukkers- en litografiese kunstenaar by die Staatsdrukkery in diens gekom het. In sy vrye tyd skets hy landskappe en hy stel baie belang in fotografie.

Meadows het die teks Hervorming — Reformation — 1917 bo die poort ingewerk, terwyl die waardesyfer en landsaanduiding onderaan gekom het. 'n Welkome afwisseling in vergelyking met die ander waardeseël. Op die eerste ontwerp het die letters, merkwaardig genoeg, oënskynlik nie in dieselfde vlak gestaan nie, terwyl dit verder gelyk het asof die gewel geboë was. Dit alles is reggemaak en die ontwerp van hierdie seël is op die eerstedag-stempel herhaal.

Hierdie eerstedagkoevert het aanvanklik die wapen van Luther gehad, maar dit is vervang deur die reproduksie in geel van 'n prent wat Luther afbeeld waar hy besig is om die stellings aan die poort te bevestig. Die nommer van die koevert, sesde in die reeks, is in kleiner syfer as by vorige uitgawes, langs die teks onder die afbeelding geplaas. Ook nou is gelukkig weer besluit om 'n kaartjie vir versterking by elke koevert te voeg. Op die een kant sien ons in sagte grys twee op mekaar toelopende rye Gotiese boë met 'n oop Bybel in die middel. Aan die ander kant toeligting oor Luther se lewe.

In die geskiedenis van Suid-Afrikaanse posseël-ontwerp is hierdie twee seëls belangrik. Twee ou geskiedkundige voorstellings, 'n portret en 'n gebou, is volgens die vereistes van moderne posseël-ontwerp uitgevoer. Die portret het geen omraming nie omdat dit die robuste kop net sou inhok. Die rooi kleur pas by die agressiewe portret. Op die 12½c-seël is weelderige Gotiese lyne beperk tot die allernoodsaaklikste. Sowel kleur as tekening is meer neutraal as die portret, maar die deur vang onmiddellik die oog.

Die belangrikste vooruitgang is ongetwyfeld die landsaanduiding wat die tradisionele twee rye nouliks leesbare lettertjies vervang het met drie kloeke letters „R S A”. Drie letters waarmee ons land reeds in die hele wêreld bekend is. 'n Groot stap vooruit in die geskiedenis van ons posseëlontwerp!

— Prof. F. G. E. Nilant.

REVIEWS

RHODESIA—A Postal History, Its Stamps, Posts and Telegraphs, by R. C. Smith, F.C.I.S., A.C.W.A., M. Inst. P.S. Price £3.3.0 plus postage.

This is the first book of its kind published on Rhodesia. It is very well got up, and is printed by Mardon Printers (Pvt.) Ltd., Salisbury. It is amazing what, in the light of modern times, H. C. Dann started in 1940, vide, 'Romance' of the Posts of Rhodesia, etc.' is now a "Collector's Piece".

The title contains almost everything, and the book itself contains much more, right through from the early days of the Runner Post Service to Cape Colony up to the 50th anniversary of the death of Dr. Leander Starr Jameson little of importance has been omitted. Mistakes? perhaps there are a few, what book of this scope has none? The author no doubt would be glad to hear of those which may be found for record and correction.

The book is written in an easy style which with the modern aspect of the Postal Story, and gradually worked back through Federation and the various postal departments, to finally the Genesis of the services. The text was roughly finished by the end of the year, and actually completed by February of 1966, proof checking took almost as long as the first part, surely a great effort when you consider the number of records the author had to wade through in various Government Departments and private collections of photographs and postal history.

The Book is written in an easy style which anyone can understand and it should be of interest to others than the Philatelist and the Historian. It is interspersed with numerous photographs of the early days of the country which are not only of postal interest. Also included are maps of the older Runner, Coach, Camel Transport and Railway routes, Travelling Post Offices, currency stamps, telephones, telegraphs and their stamps. Mention is made of the Southern Rhodesian take-over from the B.S.A. Co. (Chartered Company), the break up of Federation, and the "New Rhodesia" establishment, U.D.I., its stamps and postmarks and the printing of these stamps. All this is interspersed with odd tales, legends, humorous and otherwise, of damage to telegraph lines by humans, animals, bush fires and other stories.

Many Postal Departments are mentioned in connection with various occurrences,

mostly in story book vein. Early and modern stamp issues are mentioned, not in detail, and the reason for some issues are given and many are illustrated. A list of ancient and modern Post Offices, Postal Agencies and sub-Offices is given in what we know as Rhodesia today. Also included are lists of Postmasters, and where they were stationed; the change of names of Postal Offices, where they were and when they were opened and closed, and also some statistics, telephone and telegraph routes, rates of postage, Post Office War Services, and what not. There is no end to it all.

Precious little has been left out of this book which goes to emphasise the vast knowledge of postal operation which Robert C. Smith, the author, has acquired during the years of his service in the Rhodesian Postal Organisation of which to-day he is one of the heads. He must have travelled extensively as he writes about the country as if he has had more than a nodding acquaintance with it, not only of the Southern region, but also of the Northern Rhodesia (now Zambia) and Nyasaland (now Malawi). This book is worth having in one's postal library, the vast amount of information cannot be remembered. It is a good reference book.

G.D.B.W.

The Stanley Gibbons 1968 Simplified Catalogue, published by Stanley Gibbons, Ltd., London, W.C.2. Price 40/- plus packing and postage 5/-.

The Catalogue contains some 1,552 pages, 24,140 illustrations and lists 134,400 stamps. It condenses the world's postage stamps conveniently into an easily understandable book and reference to the larger works is thus eliminated. The various issues are clearly set out and are well illustrated, varieties of paper, shades and watermark being excluded. Beginner and thematic collectors will find the "Simplified" a book of particular value.

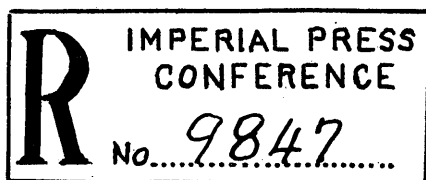
"THE SPRINGBOK"

Hearty congratulations are extended to our British contemporary, "The Springbok", upon receiving a Bronze Silver Award at the British Philatelic Exhibition, 1967, also to Mr. J. Hammond, a Silver Award for his Aerophilatelic Exhibit.

THE IMPERIAL PRESS CONFERENCE TOUR, 1935

An enquiry by Mr. P. Cattell appears in the current number of our London contemporary, "The Springbok", concerning the Imperial Press Conference Tour Postmarks of 1935. This coupled with the kindly reminder by that Journal's editor that the "South African Philatelist appears to have published very little about these marks" has called us to attention.

Upon browsing through our back numbers we find that this observation is indeed a fact for no comment has been recorded upon the postal and philatelic aspects of the Imperial Press Conference Tour, the only reference pertaining to it being two paragraphs in our March 1935, p. 34 and January 1941, p. 10, numbers.



These describe, but do not illustrate, the two types of tour postmarks which were used in the Union and also in Bechuanaland, and as the earlier numbers of the Philatelist may not be available to all readers, we reproduce their descriptions, and illustrate the marks.

"The postmark comprises a single-line circle reading inside the circle IMPERIAL PRESS CONFERENCE / IMPERIALE PRESS KONFERENSIE and across the centre SOUTH AFRICA / Date / SUID-AFRIKA. There are two varieties of this mark, one with the English inscription at the top and 'February' indicated by a "2". This is 35 m.m. in diameter. In the other, with the Afrikaans at the top, the diameter is 32 m.m., 'February' is indicated by "II", and the whole lettering is of rather a bigger, bolder type.

In Southern Rhodesia the postal authorities provided their own cancelling die, a double circle, 30 m.m. in diameter with IMPERIAL PRESS CONFERENCE/S. RHODESIA between the circles and the date in one line across the centre."

We regret that this important event has not been recorded, and to make amends for our "sins of omission", we reproduce a description of the tour as kindly supplied to us on the 20th November, 1948 by Mr. C. H. Williams, Historian, Publicity Section, G.P.O., Pretoria and now found filed in our records.

"In 1935 the Union Post Office provided special postal, telegraph and telephone facilities in connection with the visit to South Africa of the delegates to the Imperial Press Conference. The Conference, after sitting in Cape Town for one week, entered on a tour of South Africa which commenced on the 10th February, continued until the 21st March, and embraced such widely-separated places as Kimberley, Bulawayo, the Victoria Falls, Salisbury, the Zimbabwe Ruins, Johannesburg, Bloemfontein, Durban, East London, Port Elizabeth and George.

The post office attached a senior officer to the party to represent the administration and employed on the two special trains a staff of trained postal and telegraph assistants to look after the needs of the travellers in the department of communications.

A post office was opened on each train; ordinary postal and telegraph business was dealt with at all hours and every possible available channel for the disposal of correspondence and telegrams was made use of as circumstances demanded. When the trains remained for any length of time at a station, telephone connection to the post office trunk system was established and always — except when the trains were actually in motion — communication with the outside world was

maintained. At those places where the passengers remained for several days and were transferred from the trains to hotels, the post offices moved too and conducted business as usual in special rooms provided for the purpose.

Letters and telegrams received from overseas were arrested at the point at which they landed in the Union and forwarded by the quickest available route to the travellers.

Daily newspapers were produced on the trains by the Conference authorities and circulated to the delegates who were thus able, wherever they were, to keep in touch with outside events and to read the press tele-

grams supplied by Reuters as early as the ordinary dweller in the towns. The post office played its part in the work by transmitting Reuters' messages handed in at Cape Town to the trains daily and a most reliable service was maintained at all times.

While the party was travelling in Rhodesia the post office services were provided by the Rhodesian Administration which in turn supplied a special staff for the purpose and afforded the same facilities as had the Union Administration.

The amount of postal and telegraph traffic handled at the special post offices during the tour is shown in the following statement:

| | Train No. 1 (including hotel post offices) | | Train No. 2 | | Totals | |
|------------------------------------|--|---------------|-----------------|---------------|-----------------|---------------|
| | Des- patched | Re- ceived | Des- patched | Re- ceived | Des- patched | Re- ceived |
| Express articles | 150 | 35 | 53 | — | 203 | 35 |
| Registered articles | 6 | — | 1 | — | 7 | — |
| Letters and postcards: | | | | | | |
| Ordinary | 3,974 | 3,189 | 1,086 | 80 | 5,060 | 3,389 |
| Air-mail | 3,105 | | 280 | 120 | 3,385 | |
| Parcels | 15 | 34 | 7 | 2 | 22 | 36 |
| Newspapers | 720 | 436 | 90 | 32 | 810 | 468 |
| Book packets | 235 | 189 | 93 | 5 | 328 | 194 |
| TOTAL | 8,205 | 3,883 | 1,610 | 239 | 9,815 | 4,122 |
| Postage stamps sold | £96 2 9d. | | £36 12 11d. | | £132 15 8d. | |
| Postal Orders sold: (Union) | £7 2 11d. | | — | | £7 2 11d. | |
| Mails: | | | | | | |
| Despatched | 72 | | 22 | | 94 | |
| Received | 107 | | 2 | | 109 | |

| TELEGRAPHS: | Free (Press Con. Traffic) | Inland Paid | Cables | Press |
|--------------------|--------------------------------------|------------------------|---------------|--------------|
| FORWARDED: | | | | |
| No. 1 | 654 | 32 | 42 | 5,300 words |
| No. 2 | 243 | 5 | 14 | 4 messages* |

*No. of words not recorded.

RECEIVED:

| | |
|---|--------------|
| On Train No. 1 (and at Hotel Post Offices) | 450 messages |
| On Train No. 2 | 35 messages |

TOTAL 485 messages

NOTE:

In addition there was a large amount of press handed in by local reporters at functions, etc. held in towns which delegates were visiting."

Comment:

It transpires from the foregoing description that two trains comprised the tour transport and that a post office existed on each train. The purpose of a second train is not stated but it may have acted as an auxiliary

post office and also to accommodate the postal and train personnel.

The mail matter was handled by both offices but that on Train No. 1 was more than on Train No. 2, and assuming that each office retained the use of a particular canceller throughout the tour, it will not be unreasonable to designate the cancellers to a particular train according to the preponderance of their marks now in possession of collectors. A survey of this nature would be interesting. — Editor.

NORMAL, BUT SCARCE, REPUBLICAN STAMPS

Any collector likes to know that he has something scarce or rare. As regards stamps, the same principle applies; we know that printing works try to make their stamps perfect, we know also that now and then a defective stamp slips out past the checkers. It is then quickly snapped up and is prized by its owner.

But there are perfectly normally well printed stamps which are scarce, and these are the ones that I want to talk about and to show you. Scarcity is relative; five thousand sheets out of thirty thousand would not be regarded as scarce, but a hundred thousand out of seven million is decidedly scarce.

The common characteristic of these stamps is that they were issued as normal stamps, satisfying the demands that they be cleanly printed and perforated and that they fall within the proper colour range. But something had happened to them that set them apart from their fellows; that something could have been deliberate or involuntary.

A number of factors could have brought this about, and I propose to deal with them as groups and in sequence.

1. Small number of sheets printed: All cylinders that print the stamps must come to an end some time. Some are still going strongly since 1961; others have only seen the light of day for ten days when they "broke", that is, they have become unusable for that printing. Of course those stamps are scarce, being so few in number. What aggravates it all from the collector's point of view is that no one knows when it is going to happen; the stamps are here today and gone tomorrow — they are soon "used up". But when the news comes out people "climb in" and what is left is snapped up; the result is foregone. I'll give you three examples: 1c 110 — 86, 152,000 sheets in ten days; 2½c S17—S3, 119,000 sheets in one month; 2½c 60 — S27, 199,000 sheets in one month. You'll agree that these are not many when you know that there have been over eight million sheets of the 1c and over seven million of the 2½c's issued. Just recently the cylinders for the 1c 210 — 209 broke; we are told that 371,000 sheets were issued in 21 days (Panels: A 86,600, B 92,700, C 99,700, D 92,200).

2. Absence or presence of sheet numbers. All the values appeared in 1961 without

sheet numbers. It was remarked upon, but was taken as a normal development; but, not long after, sheet numbers did appear and then there was a scramble for those sheets without the numbers. But by that time they were "used up" and were scarce, particularly as you had to get a strip of ten stamps because the numbers now appeared in different places on the margin. Another example was the ½c in June, 1965. Its sheet numbers were in the 68-70 thousands range, about 2,000 of them, but the rest, 70,000 of them, had no numbers — but thereby hangs a tale. The following year, in a new printing, sheet numbers reappeared, but not in that range.

3. Perforations: There is one outstanding example of an issue, already scarce in itself, but made still more scarce by some of its perforations, and that is one of the guises that the 2½c 60 — S27 took in its short life. I'll only give you its characteristics — the whole story is too long. It is on RSA water-marked paper, the mark facing right, the holes are large and show the "drunken perforations", and its salient point is that the comb join is between vertical rows 11 and 12 (i.e. not at the arrow) and also along the left margin of stamps No. 1, thus showing on the cylinder block. This same 2½c stamp, also from cylinders 60 — S27, has another variety: a few sheets appeared with small holes. I must be fair, however, and warn you. By the time that the last printed appeared the news got around that this was an emergency printing, and many were whisked off. No doubt they will appear in due course, just as goods in short supply during the last war shyly appeared via the good ship S.S. Basement. The fact remains, however, that there are very few of them and they will always be scarce.

4. Colour: Here we are on dangerous ground. Colour variations on the same denomination, the same printing, yes, even on the same sheet can be considerable, and I would not venture to declare a stamp scarce merely on its colour. There could be one exception, however, and that is the few sheets of the Nurses stamp from cylinders S3 — S15, the first printed; it was with old ink, a small quantity left over from the 1½d. "Gold Mine" stamp of 1949. When that was finished, modern gold ink was used, and the difference was as chalk to cheese. Another scarce colour came on the 10c "emerald green" of February, 1962. And even there, to be sure that you have it, it will have to show its sheet number in the 29 to 31

thousand range, or you will have to have a certificate from an expert committee. Other stamps with unusual colours, not necessarily very scarce, but desirable in your collection, are the 1c pink paper — and it can be very pink indeed — from cylinders S11 — S7; the 7½c S21 — S20, bright green, and a beautiful green too; the 20c 27-6-60 with, instead of the usual orange colour, another colour engagingly termed “flesh”.

5. Watermark: Probably the best example comes with the RSA reversed watermark. Some rolls of this fine paper, with the mark showing clearly, turned up with this odd feature. In short, the gum was on the wrong side. It was used for two issues, and these issues appeared on both this paper and the normal paper. They were the 1c S33 — S13 and the Red Cross 2½c stamps. Our catalogue laconically prices them at five times the ordinary, but I would put them at much higher.

6. This is really a combination of groups 1 to 5 and the presence of all those factors cause the scarceness. The one example I'll show you is the 7½c from cylinders S21—S20. Out of a total of nearly 700,000 sheets from these cylinders only 16,800 had all these features. And they were: no watermark, large holes with “drunken perforations”, sheet numbers below stamps 1 and 2 and again 12 and 13, and the colours are light bistre-brown and light green. Now the above are official facts, not generally known, but they just show how a scarce item can lie unrecognised like one of those gentle souls in Gray's Elegy.

7. Lastly, there is another group, and why they are scarce is not always easy to say. Many denominations are printed in two or more panes, and these panes are marked A B C D etc. Obviously the same number of each pane is printed, but one pane can be scarce while the other is not. We see such a case in the Red Cross 2½c stamp from cylinders 42-99-89 and on reversed RSA watermarked paper. Now, in short, if you tried to get a cylinder block of four of each A and B panes you would probably have to pay R2 for the A pane, but if you could get a B pane at all, it would probably cost R15. And why? I don't know. Then there are cases where the public likes a stamp, possibly because there is something quaint about it and it appeals to people. How well I remember when the first 2½c Constantia stamp from cylinders Y4-Y1 appeared in 1961; there were four panes A, B, C and D and the collectors immediately took the C

and D panes to heart; even non-collectors regarded them with affection. Look at this specimen and you may see what I mean. So, it is a fact that C and D are worth twice as much now as A and B, and good luck to them. And on this light-hearted note I'll close.

Just a word of thanks to the Philatelic Bureau of the Post Office for providing us with the Job sheets of the Government Printing Works which give us details of printings, and from which much of the above information was obtained. The S.A. Philatelist publishes resumés of those sheets regularly, and they will help anyone to work out for himself whether the stamp he has is a scarce one or not.

NORMAL BUT SCARCE REPUBLICAN STAMPS

Small Printings:

- 1c. 110/86 A. B.: Nov., 1964.
- 2½c S17/S3: July, 1961.
- 2½c 60/S27: April, 1966.

Sheet Numbers:

First issues of all denominations, except stamps printed on the Albertina machine: Marginal strips of ten stamps without sheet numbers.

½c G7/9/16, A pane: June, 1965. With sheet numbers in the 68-70 thousands.

Perforations:

2½c 60/S27: April, 1966: With RSA watermark facing right, large holes and comb join at left of stamps 1 and between vertical rows 11 and 12.

2½c 60/S27: April, 1966: Wmk. facing left, small holes.

Watermark:

1c S33/S13 A. B.: Dec., 1963: With reversed RSA watermark.

Red Cross 2½c, both printings A. B.: Aug., 1963: With reversed RSA watermark.

Colour:

Nurses 2½c S3/S15 A. B.: Oct., 1964: The first “old gold” colour.

10c 101/114: Feb., 1962: with “Emerald Green” colour with sheet number in 29, 30, 31 thousands, or be certified.

1c S11/S7 A. B.: Jan., 1962: On “pink paper”.

7½c S21/S20: Aug., 1966: RSA wmk. Bright green.
20c 27/6/60 A. B.: July, 1965: With cyl. 6 "flesh" colour.

Combination of Features:

7½c S21/S20: Nov., 1963: No wmk. large holes, sheet number below 1.2/12.13. Light bistrebrown/light green colours.

Unexplained:

Red Cross 2½c 42/99/89B: Aug., 1963: RSA reversed wmk. B pane only.

2½c Y4/Y1 C. D.: May, 1961: C and D panes worth twice A and B.

H. J. Raubenheimer.

THE LIONS INTERNATIONAL STAMP CLUB

We extend our sincere congratulations to Capt. M. F. Stern, of Cape Town, upon his election as President of the Lions International Stamp Club.

The Induction was held in Chicago at the 5th Anniversary Convention of Lions International on July 7th, 1967, when over a hundred members of Lions International Stamp Club and guests from all over the world attended. This is the first time that a "foreigner" has so been honoured, after years of having a member from the United States of America in the chair, and in this respect South Africa has also been honoured.

We extend our good wishes to Capt. Stern for a successful term of office in furthering the good cause and ideals of Lionism.

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SOUTH AFRICA

EARLY HISTORY—PRESENT DAY

POST OFFICES

Before 1700, the Cape Colony had hardly extended as far as the Orange River, with names like Colesberg and Prieska being no more than mission outposts. About 1703, a party of ex-slaves and Hottentots established the first town north of the Orange River at Griquatown, and some hundred-odd years later the region was visited by the traveller William J. Burchell, a famous naturalist, who went on an expedition to the confluence of the Vaal and Orange Rivers. He passed through Vaal-Oranje-Douglas, Schmidtsdrift and Campbell on his journey, returning to Griquatown in time to attend the funeral of Mrs. Kramer, the first white woman to be buried north of the Orange River.

During 1820, the missionary Robert Moffat passed through Griquatown and his wife took ill to give birth to their eldest daughter, who later married David Livingstone.

(To be continued)

SOCIETY NEWS

SOCIETY OF ISRAEL PHILATELY

September: This meeting was poorly attended and could not compare with the attendance at meetings during the past eight months. Mr. Boris Glassman hit on a novel way of displaying Israel material previously seen, by only selecting those items which were firsts — like first air mails, first festivals, first independences, first towns, first birds and so on. This exhibit was up to the usual good standard — well mounted and displayed.

Leo Buchen displayed the unhappiest parts of Israel's history — The Ghetto Memorial and Memorial Covers issued annually **only** to families who had lost their sons and daughters in the wars for the liberation and independence of the State of Israel.

Mr. R. Lubinsky of 6 Filhunt, 98 Hunter Street, Bellevue, Johannesburg, Telephone No. 43-3375 has a considerable amount of Israel Mint Postage Stamps which he is prepared to sacrifice below cost.

THE ROYAL PHILATELIC SOCIETY OF RHODESIA

October: Mr. D. E. C. Dale displayed an exhibit of Pacific Islands which was very comprehensive, almost complete, evoked considerable interest and adequately upheld the high standard which has been the feature of the exhibits throughout the year.

He was sincerely thanked by members present who look forward to seeing more of Mr. Dale's material in the future.

1968 Celebrations: Under the title "Anniversary Year for Bulawayo" the journal "Property and Finance" has listed some of the events which will help to make the celebration of the City's 75th Anniversary a memorable occasion.

Included in the list is the issue of a special set of stamps (of which we have already heard) and "an exhibit arranged by the Royal Philatelic Society". Hitherto, this matter has been discussed only in Committee, and will be dependent on so many factors, that it was felt advisable not to make any announcement to members until something more concrete is available.

THE MASHONALAND PHILATELIC SOCIETY

October: Fifty-eight members and six visitors (the latter including two hardy annuals) attended this meeting. In the event it turned out that Mr. Upfill-Brown, our Chairman, was able to attend and in his opening address he touched upon the following matters:- the cocktail party held to mark the publication of "Rhodesia — A Postal History" and expressed his thanks to Mr. R. K. Brooke and Mr. J. Davenport for the work they had put into organizing it; Mr. Peter Denning's very welcome presence at the meeting; Mr. R. Vandré's offer of plastic folders

and the Study Group's gratitude for the assistance given so far in its postmark project. More detailed mention of these items will be made later. Thereafter Mr. Upfill-Brown displayed a portion of his collection of mint "Double Heads" and the evening's proceedings wound up with an Auction, which as usual was ably and wittily conducted by Mr. Brooke.

On 6th October, 1967, well over fifty persons, both invited guests and Society members gathered at the Civil Service Club, Salisbury to attend this function which the Society organized to mark the publication of Mr. R. C. Smith's book "Rhodesia — A Postal History".

THE PHILATELIC SOCIETY OF JOHANNESBURG

October: There was no meeting on the 10th, due to the public holiday. The 23rd was poorly attended, but lacked nothing else. We had two most interesting exhibits, Mr. H. L. Godwin's War Stamps with some unusual covers, and Mr. Lambert's collection of the Sudan used. I gather that much of the material for the latter collection had been difficult to acquire, for to find an interesting postmark and, at the same time, a good postmark was not at all easy. The Auction that followed was lively, but suffered a little from some of the items being grossly overpriced on the reserve, with a result that the bidding never really got going.

ROYAL PHILATELIC OF CAPE TOWN

October 12th: Three exhibitors staged the evenings entertainment. Mr. R. Birkan showed Flight Covers of the world, Prof. Sloan, a straight forward collection of the United States of America and Mrs. Bergman (in absentia) mint block of the United States of America from 1956 to present date.

October 26th: The meeting was a British Commonwealth evening when Mr. H. Bernard showed a small selection of his Ceylon collection, Mr. R. Putzel chose Newfoundland, Ceylon, Cyprus and the Gold Coast; Mr. L. du Chiappini treated members to a part of his Lagos, Niger Territories, Oil Rivers Protectorate and the Falkland Islands; Mr. Figov chose not previously exhibited items of Rhodesia and finally Mr. Kochman showed selected varieties of Rhodesia, including colour shifts, retouches and re-entries and faulty overprints of Zambia and Malawi, thus terminating an enjoyable and interesting evening.

November 1st: A number of our members visited the Bellville Society where for the first time the Beunderman Cup was presented to a member of the Bellville Society, Mrs. Stimson, for her thematic collection of "Bridges".

PORT ELIZABETH PHILATELIC SOCIETY

November 7th: The evening opened with a full report by Mr. Bulbrin on Congress held at Bloemfontein. The talk gave members and visitors a most vivid picture of the wide range of subjects dealt with by Federation.

Subsequently Mr. Peter Barnes showed us his Canadian collection. The display was pre-

ceded by a very fine talk. Mr. Barnes mainly featured the history of Mail Services in Canada from earliest to most recent times. He must have done a great deal of study. The stamps themselves were from 1937 onwards and all in mint condition. The writing up was brief and to the point and well executed. Mr. Baer proposed the vote of thanks which was carried with acclamation.

GRAHAMSTOWN PHILATELIC SOCIETY

November: Mr. Lightfoot displayed his collection of Northern Rhodesia which included a study of the colour variation in the definitive sets. There were no plate numbers for the George V set, but during the time that these stamps were in use there were at least three clearly distinguishable series of sheet numbers.

Plate numbers were brought in during the life of the George VI issue except for the 2d. value and numbers up to 4 are on record.

Other interesting items displayed by Mr. Lightfoot were complete series of plate numbers of the UPU issue (why were there 4 for the 3d. and 6d. values?), sheet number corner blocks of the postage dues, for each value from sheet 001, and a complete block of 20 of Rhodesia SG280, which may be regarded as being Northern Rhodesian as the overprinting was done in Livingstone.

AFRIKAANSE PHILATELIESE VERENIGING VAN PRETORIA

November: By die verkiesing van die bestuur vir die komende jaar is daar rekening gehou met die feit dat 'n aantal ampsdraers in die afgelope jaar te swaar belas was. Gevolglik het die nuwe bestuur breër geword as wat tot nou toe die geval was. Dit bestaan uit: Prof. H. L. Gönin (voors.), mnr. J. P. A. Schoeman (ondervoors.), prof. F. G. E. Nilant (sekr.), mnr. J. M. Becker (penningmeester), mnr. H. Fouché (rondsend en seëlverkoop), mnr. N. Dekker (nuusbrief), mnr. I. Bernhardt (versameling), mej. M. Esterhuizen en mnr. N. Dekker (vert. by Federasie), mej. L. Visser (verversingsbeampte), mnr. A. P. Havenaar en J. A. v. Tilburg (toeg.).

Daar is baie hard gewerk in die afgelope jaar. Die rondsenddiens was omvangryker as wat dit nog ooit was en die penningmeester het die finansies op 'n baie gesonde grondslag gebring. Vergaderings is gereeld en in groter getalle bygewoon; daar is gereeld veilings en wedstryde gehou.

Mnr. De Swardt het sy groot versameling 1c-seëls van die Republiek vertoon. Die versameling is aansienlik uitgebreider as wat die Handboek andui, ook in belangrike gesigspunte. Hier het ons 'n tipiese voorbeeld van hoe 'n versameling Suid-Afrikaanse seëls aangepak behoort te word.

EAST LONDON PHILATELIC SOCIETY

November: This meeting proved to be a great success, although as "Ladies Cup Night", the fair sex did not bring along any entries at all. However, anticipating this, the committee had

arranged an exhibit of "Greece" by Mr. John Shingler. This was very well received, and the beautiful copies of some of the early Hermes heads were much admired. What a treat it is to see the classics in superb condition, and what modern issues can really compare to them. In addition, Mr. Ehrlich showed us the wonderful improvements he has made to his Tristan da Cunha collection, and how interesting he has made it with his illustrations and snippets of the Island's history. Our thanks to both of you for two fine displays. There was also very exciting news about the progress for ELPEX '68, and we hope to make that National one of the finest ever held, with lasting benefit to our hobby.

PRETORIA PHILATELIC SOCIETY

November: There was a record entry in the Lecky Watson Cup Competition which was competed for this month. The standard of the six entries received was extremely high and this bodes well for the stamp-loving public of our fair city.

The first collection shown was Mr. R. N. Castignani's Italian Air Services. This included special flight covers from 1917, which, incidentally, included the two Balbo flights, as well as the many special airmail stamps. This was followed by the Tristan da Cunha collection of Mr. N. M. Dekker, which had received an award at the recent Bloemfontein Exhibition. This collection included pre-stamp covers with the 13 different cancellations including the scarce types 1 and 4, and the Resettlement overprint on the 5/- value on inverted watermarked paper. Also included were the booklets issued on the island.

Number three entry was Mr. A. P. Havenaar's collection of First Day Covers of all commemoratives issued by Holland since 1950 as well as the stamps in mint condition. This was followed by Mr. D. J. C. Reynders' collection of Rhodesia which included all early issues and the latest gum and paper trials. This collection was purely Rhodesia (Southern Rhodesia and the Federation being excluded) and many of the major varieties were shown.

The next exhibit was another which had received an award at Bloemfontein in Mr. Rex Reynolds' Study of the Numeral Bar Defacers of 1864 and 1874 and the Numeral Defacers of Griqualand West. Most of the items were on cover and many were extremely rare, and the work put into this collection is just unbelievable. Last but by no means least, Mr. H. J. Schlieben tabled a comprehensive collection of Berlin, from 1850 to the present, including early cancellations on piece and on cover as well as post World War II stamp issues.

The judges were not to be envied their job, but they eventually came up with Mr. Rex Reynolds as the winner. Mr. Reynolds is to be heartily congratulated on his fine success. He was a worthy winner of a very fine trophy.

THE O.F.S. PHILATELIC SOCIETY

October: This meeting was attended by over 30 members, which attendance was most gratifying.

Mr. Scott took the chair in the absence of the President, Mr. A. L. Meyburgh who was enjoying a well-deserved holiday. Two visitors, Mr. and Mrs. Jordens, who travelled from Tweespruit to attend the meeting, were given a special welcome.

On reviewing an excellent Congress and successful Exhibition, mention was made of some of the exhibitors from outside Bloemfontein who so ably assisted Society members to assemble exhibits. Their assistance was greatly appreciated. Thanks were also due to Mr. Meyburgh who laboured so hard and continuously over the past three years for the success of these events.

New issues were tabled by Mrs. Gray, Mrs. Bok, Mr. and Mrs. M. Marincowitz, Mr. Scott and by Master Habib.

For the Society Cup, the following competitors entered the exhibits as shown:

Mr. C. van Ee — Nature Conservation;
Mr. S. Marus — History of Postal Services of France as shown on stamps;
Mr. S. Marus — Italian States;
Rev. A. Brutch — Early Basutoland Letters;
Mr. Scott — Early Busatoland Covers;
Mr. and Mrs. Marincowitz — It's a Dog's World;
Mr. Hodgson — Inter-Parliamentary Union;
Mr. Roux — Bechuanaland;
Mr. Roux — Papua and New Guinea.

The standard of exhibits was very high and the material interesting. The judges had a difficult task, and eventually announced Mr. Marus's collection of Italian States as the winner for 1967.

THE SOUTH AFRICAN STAMP STUDY CIRCLE

November: The meeting extended a hearty welcome to Dr. W. Kark, Messrs. S. Legater and S. P. Naylor upon their return from overseas and enjoyed listening to their experiences.

Appreciation was expressed to Mr. W. Weitzmann for the work he did in connection with the exhibition and the dispatch of first day covers of the event commemorating the 75th anniversary of the founding of the township of Vereeniging.

The formal discussion for the afternoon was provided by Mr. P. J. Venter who talked on the abnormalities he had discovered in the printing of the Republican stamps suitably illustrated by exhibits from his collection which gained for him a cherished bronze award at VRYPEX Exhibition.

Mr. J. T. Burrell displayed a military air letter card issued to Jewish servicemen during the Second World War. This item has not been recorded in the catalogues of South African stamps and was discovered by Capt. M. F. Stern.

Dr. H. J. Raubenheimer disclosed what was thought to be a retouch of a defective screening revealing a blue mark in the trees depicting a rest-camp in the Kruger National Park of the current 1½ cent coloured picture postcard.

Finally the meeting was privileged to see portion of the exhibit of Mr. R. D. Allen of London sent to the National Philatelic Exhibition. This contained various cancellations used during the Royal Visit from February to April, 1947. The meeting was most interested in a

fine example of the King's Flight post mark which appears to be a most elusive item and appreciation was expressed to Mr. Allen for allowing the meeting to view his exhibit before being returned to England.

PHILATELIC SOCIETY OF NATAL

November: A well attended meeting enjoyed viewing the entries for the Union Cup. Mr. Slater-Kinghorn's Paquebot Cancellations and Mr. Ivan Bevis' study of the 2½c Groot Constantia Republic Definitive. After mature consideration the former collection was judged the winner.

Mr. Milner-Palmer gave a resumé of the business conducted at Congress and congratulations were extended to Society members upon their wards at VRYPEX.

The Committee decided at its last meeting that in order to encourage those collectors who are concentrating on the issues of the Republic, the Union Cup Competition for 1968 will be open for Republic collections only. Further, with effect from the next ordinary meeting on the 6th December, the business portion of the meeting will start promptly at 7.45 p.m.

The Society has available a remaining few of the interesting Railway Centenary Covers, 1960, and offers these at 17½c each.

PRETORIA RAILWAY PHILATELIC SOCIETY

November: There was an excellent turnout to see Mr. Frans Fouche display a number of First Day Covers from the United States. This display was augmented by Mr. W. Kriste who showed his collection of mint and used stamps of the States covering the period from 1950 up to the present. Considering that Frans has been collecting for only a short while, he is to be congratulated on his display, which could form the nucleus of a very nice collection of covers. Regarding the stamp exhibit, a number of gaps are to be seen in the collection but no difficulty should be encountered in filling these. One interesting item shown was a miniature sheet of the Dag Hammarskjöld inverted printed which created quite an argument when first discovered, resulting in a complete reprint of the invert. Needless to say, the invert shown was not the original!! Thank you Frans, for a very interesting exhibit.

During the meeting the Chairman and the Hon. Secretary reported on Congress and the Exhibition "Vrypex" held in Bloemfontein and congratulations were extended to Society members upon their awards.

EXPERT COMMITTEE

The next meeting of the Expert Committee of the Philatelic Federation of Southern Africa will be held on Saturday, February 17th, 1968.

Mention of the "S.A. Philatelist" will please the advertiser and will ensue prompt attention.

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FEBRUARY, 1968

Whole No. 514

SOUTH AFRICAN NOTES

By DR. H. J. RAUBENHEIMER.

Hon. Associate Editor.

RECENT PRINTINGS

Information supplied by the Publicity Officer of the Post Office for the period 1 April, 1967 to 30 September, 1967. The previous list appeared in our August, 1967 issue. There are now 100 stamps per sheet of all the Definitives and there are 40 postcards to a sheet.

Postage Stamps

- ½c** — Job No. 15230.80. On a new order for 240,000 sheets a first delivery of 15,800 sheets was made on 4.7.67. Total delivery to date 81,500 sheets. New cylinders 211 and 212 Interior, 213 Exterior. Old master negatives used, only one pane of double width 4-pane multipositive. Lugs used to double transfer on to cylinder. Dividing head fitted to cylinder shaft. Printed and perforated on m/c 840. Swiss paper, 240 m.m. Tête-bêche watermark.
- 1½c** — Job No. 15275.24. On a new order for 168,000 sheets 7,000 sheets were delivered on 21.9.67 with a total of 13,200 sheets to date. New cylinders 226 Interior, 225 Exterior. New type introduced, new master negatives and multipositives. Two panes of 100 stamps. Swiss paper 240 m.m. used. Printed and perforated on m/c 830.
- 3c** — Job No. 2673.47 contd. A total of 293,800 sheets on the order for 300,000
- has been delivered up to the final date 9.5.67. Same cylinders G15 Interior, G8 Exterior.
- 5c** — Job No. 2674.48 contd. On the order for 160,000 sheets a total of 152,200 has been delivered up to the final date 20.4.67. Same cylinders 31 Interior S1 Exterior.
- 7½c** — Job No. 15276.25. On a new order for 180,000 sheets, 6,800 sheets were first delivered on 25.7.67 with a total of 104,300 being delivered up to the final date 15.8.67. From new cylinders 220 Interior, 221 Exterior. New type introduced, new master negatives and multipositives. Swiss paper 240 m.m. used. Printed and perforated on m/c 830.
- 12½c** — Job No. 15277.26. On a new order for 75,000 sheets a first delivery of 1,000 sheets was made on 6.9.67; the total delivery of 73,900 sheets being made by 28.9.67 the final date. New cylinders 223 and 224 Interior, 222 Exterior. Old multipositives used. Printed on Harrison paper 370 m.m. Printed and register punched on m/c 840. Perforated on Grover m/c.
- 50c** — Job No. 15278.27. On a new order for 6,000 sheets a first delivery of 300 sheets was made on 15.6.67 and a total delivery of 6,300 sheets was made by the



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. 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.

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neem nie. Die bedrag moet voldoende wees om die pos- en registrasiegelde te dek.

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20.6.67. Same cylinders 54 Interior, 70 Exterior.

Details of the 1c and 2½c values will appear in our next issue.

Post Cards

1½c — Job No. 11895.78. On a new order for 90,000 sheets a first delivery of 1,500 sheets was made on 3.4.67 with a total of 94,050 up to the final date 27.7.67. Same 5 cylinders W1 to W5.

— Job No. 17213.43. On a new order for 90,000 sheets a first delivery of 3,600 sheets was made on 28.9.67. Same cylinders.

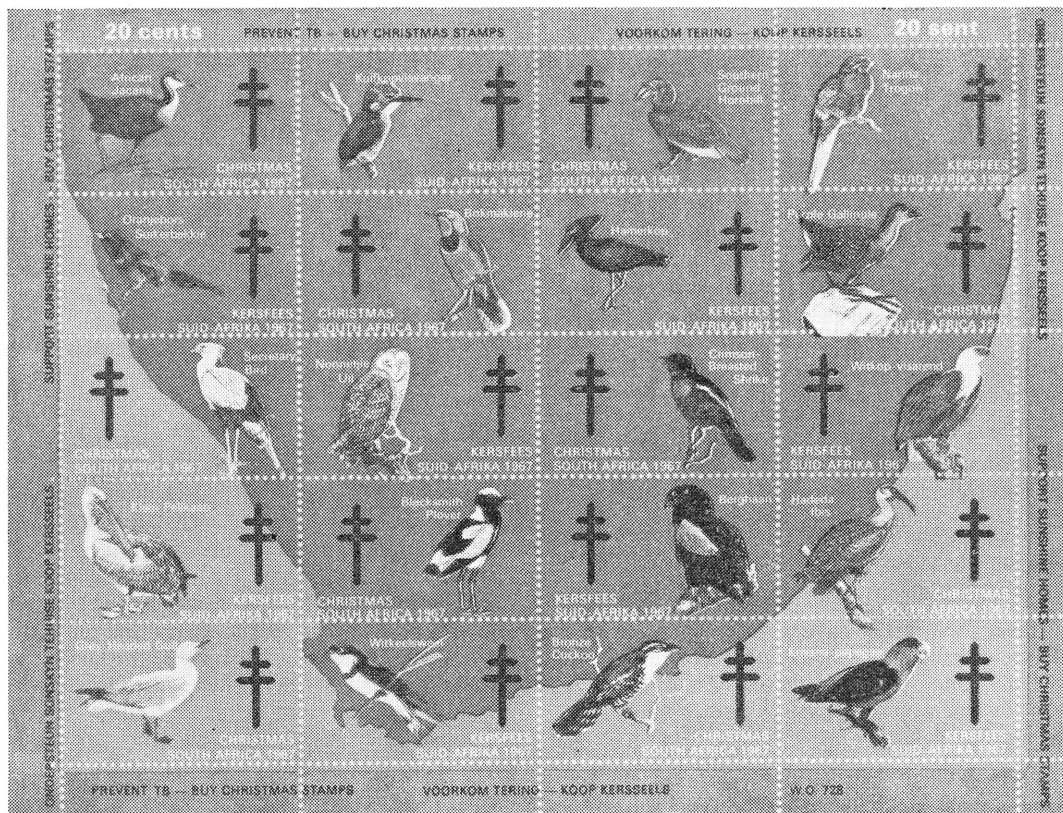
Air Letters

2½c — Job No. 9733.37 contd. On the order for 2,500,000 cards there has been a total delivery of 2,043,000 to date. Same cylinders 10 Interior, 89 Exterior.

5c — Job No. 9732.36 contd. On the order for 6,000,000 cards there has been a total delivery of 6,182,400 up to the final date 22.8.67. Same cylinders 104 Interior, D2 Exterior.

— Job No. 19350.59. On a new order for 6,000,000 cards a first delivery of 60,000 was made on 22.8.67 with a total delivery of 1,239,000 to date. Same cylinders 104 Interior, D2 Exterior.

CHRISTMAS SEALS



The 1967 South African Christmas Seals appeared early in October. In general they resemble those of the previous year; they are in sheet form, they show the map of South Africa and each stamp has it's own picture, a South African bird, from the large Secretary bird to the little honey bird.

The printing factors, however, differ markedly. There are twenty stamps per sheet

(4 rows x 5) as compared with the previous twenty five. The sheets measure 7½" x 5⅜" and the stamps are 40.5 x 24.2 m.m., considerably larger than the 1966 ones. They are now commemorative stamp size. They were printed, as before, on large sheets, two panes, each with six panels of twenty stamps on the Albertina machine in five colours; the predominating ones being light grey green for

the sheet margins and the map and light blue for the sea.

470 m.m. Harrison, coated, RSA water-marked paper, the mark being inverted, was used.

A small number of sheets of six panes each was issued, as was done in 1966 and 1965, for study and record purposes, each year shows it's own type of colour registers and controls for depth of colour.

A NEW 3c REPUBLICAN STAMP

The Philatelic Bureau received a new issue of the 3c stamp on the 19th December, 1967. The stamp itself is identical to the previous one but the printing factors differ. The details are:

Sheet Format: Double die, two panes, A and B. B having been on the left and A on the right. Vertical format. 100 stamps per pane (20 rows x 5).

Paper: Swiss, RSA watermark, tête-bêche, up and down; the mark is very clear.

Cylinders: Two, new, cross lined screened (200) Nos. 238, indigo, interior and 239, rose red, Exterior, and these numbers, in their respective colours are shown on the bottom margin below stamps 5 of row 20, together with the pane designation letter A or B in rose-red. Prepared from the previous master negatives stepped up for new multipositives for both panes.

Arrows: Rose-red, centrally placed on the left and right margins.

Marginal Bars: Rose-red, single, broken line with an extended central gap on the top and bottom margins.

Sheet Numbers: Five figure, black; showing that the printing was done on the Goebel 840 machine; on the right margin of pane A only, twice, opposite rows 8 and 9 and again 19 and 20.

Perforations: Externally perforated by the Grover machine, gauge 14 x 14. The top margin is imperforate, the bottom is perforated through, the left and right are imperforate except for the single extra hole at each end of the horizontal rows of perforations.

Colour Register: On the right margin of pane A opposite row No. 12; in the form of a cross in the two colours superimposed, the red is continuous, the indigo broken.

Perforation Register Punch Holes: Opposite rows 7 and 8; on the right margin of pane A

with rose-red concentric rings, and on the left margin of pane B with no concentric rings.

A number of the sheets of the earlier printings are markedly "pink toned".

VARIETIES

Pane B

Row/No.

- 1/5 Red dots on bottom frame line below I of AFRICA.
- 6/2 Black dot above tip of birds wing.
- 6/5 Small black dot at left of SHRIKE.
- 14/3 Red dot above c of 3c.
- 15/3 Red dot to the right of birds leg.
- 16/3 Red dot in left gutter near the top corner.
- 20/1 Numerous tiny black dots around the bottom frame line at TH AF of SOUTH AFRICA.

Pane A

- 1/5 Long red hairline from birds neck to 3c.
- 8/1 Diagonal red hairline above birds wing.
- 10/5 White "cloud" above birds back.
- 14/2 Small red "ring flaw" above C of REPUBLIC.
- 15/2 White dot in top right corner.
- 15/3 Tiny black dot in bottom gutter below C of AFRICA.

NEW POSTAGE DUES

The four values, 1c, 2c, 5c, 10c, were delivered by the Government Printing Works between the 4th and the 7th of December, 1967. Apart from the fact that the stamps themselves appear identical to the preceding ones, there are radical changes, the three most striking are: (a) the frames, from the exterior cylinder are all from the same multipositive — English and Afrikaans; (b) they are in full sheets of 100 and (c) the cylinder numbers are shown, for the first time, on the sheets.

The features, common to all the values, are:

Sheet Format: Roughly square, measuring about 219 x 265 m.m. 2 panes, with no pane letters, but distinguished by the language order, the one with Afrikaans above and the other with English above.

Stamp Format: As before, measuring 22.5 x 24.2 m.m. between the lines of perforations.

Paper: Swiss, RSA watermarked, tête-bêche up and down, the mark being indistinct.

Cylinders: New, cross-lined screened (200 line) Interior, all black, Nos. 228 for the 1c, 229 for the 2c, 230 for the 5c and 231 for the 10c; Exterior: all No. 227, rosine for the 1c, purple for the 2c, royal blue for the 5c and purple-brown for the 10c, and these numbers, in their respective colours, are shown on the bottom margins below stamp No. 10. Prepared from the preceding multipositives, the half of each one being used; the top half of the one with English above and the bottom half of the one with Afrikaans above being placed on the one cylinder. Printed on the Goebel 840 machine.

Arrows: Centrally placed on all four margins; in the respective colour of the external cylinder No. 227.

Sheet Numbers: Five-figure black, on the right margin opposite rows 9 and 10.

Perforations: Internally perforated by the single row appliance. Gauge 15 x 14. The top and bottom margins are perforated through; the left and right are imperforate except for the single extra hole at each end of the horizontal lines of perforations.

VARIETIES

B. Of the external cylinder 227. The frames. Common to all the values; in their respective colours.

Pane — with the English above

Row/No.

- 3/10 Dot on right frame line at T of BETAAL.
10/ 4 Pale area above UB of REPUBLIEK.
10/ 9 Large dot on top frame line above O of OF.

Pane — with the Afrikaans above

- 2/ 7 Tiny dot in gutter above BL of REPUBLIEK.
3/ 6 Break in bottom frame line below S of SOUTH.
5/10 Broken N of VAN.

A. Of the internal cylinders. All black.

1c — Pane — with the English above

- / 7 Dot in margin above stamp No. 7.
4/ 4 Break in left vertical side of 1 of 1c.
7/ 9 Tiny dot in gutter below FR of AFRIKA.

Pane — with the Afrikaans above

- 2/ 3 Break in right vertical side of 1 of 1c.
7/ 7 Tiny dot at left of 1 of 1c.
9/ 7 White dots in 1 of 1c near the top.

- 9/ 9 Dot on right vertical side of 1 of 1c.
10/ 9 Tiny dot on left curve of c of 1c.

2c — Pane — with the English above

- 1/ 3 Small dots within the c of 2c.
5/ 2 Broken top curve of c of 2c.

Pane — with the Afrikaans above

- 5/ 1 Tiny dot above 2 of 2c.
8/10 Tiny dot at the left of 2 of 2c.
9/ 1 Tiny dot above the foot of 2 of 2c.

5c

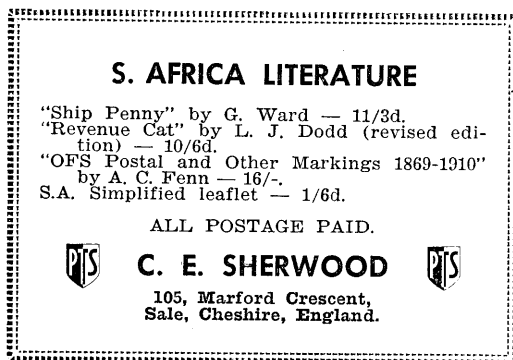
None worthy of listing.

10c — Pane — with the English above

- 1/ 1 Broken left curve of c of 10c.
1/ 5 Broken left curve of 0 of 10c and dot on right vertical side of 1 of 10c.
2/ 7 Broken right vertical side of 1 of 10c.

Pane — with the Afrikaans above

None worthy of listing.



S.W.A. SPECIAL ISSUE

Two values, 3c and 15c, were issued on the 2nd January, 1968, by South West Africa to honour the first President of the Republic, Mr. C. R. Swart. Details of the issue are contained in a Philatelic Bulletin issued by the Director of Posts and Telegraphs, Windhoek, and it also gives a biographical sketch of Mr. Swart.

As both values are printed alternately in German, Afrikaans and English, the stamps will have to be collected in strips of three.

ROLL OF HONOUR OF DISTINGUISHED SOUTH AFRICAN PHILATELISTS



Jack Emil Creewel.

Born at Springs, Transvaal, on January 10th, 1918.

Matriculated at the Commercial High School, Johannesburg, at the end of 1933; started work February, 1934, and has been with the same Company ever since. Transferred to Rhodesia — Bulawayo — November, 1946; Salisbury, May 1957 to October, 1960, then back to Bulawayo.

War service with the South African Air Force, Air Intelligence, in South Africa, North Africa and Italy. Now serving as a part-time soldier, with the Royal Rhodesian Air Force Volunteer Reserve.

Married in Johannesburg, December, 1944. Two sons, born in Rhodesia, now aged 20 and 18, only one of whom has evinced any interest in stamp collecting, and that only whilst still at school. However, the knowledge gained has been put to practical use at the London Hotel, where he was doing a period of practical training for Hotel Management — the exchange of Rhodesian Commemoratives for delectable cuts of Roast Beef!

Started collecting stamps round about 1928, when one of the Tobacco Companies distributed two or three "Fine Foreign Stamps" in each packet of cigarettes (the latter not being consumed personally!)

Joined the Philatelic Society of Johannes-

burg in December, 1934, and won a Silver in the Junior Section at JIPEX, General Collection of "Africa South of the Equator". Thus encouraged, tried a small specialized collection of "Great Britain — King Edward VIII" which was exhibited at a Society meeting early in 1938. The accompanying paper was published in the "South African Philatelist" and was later reprinted in the U.K. magazine "World Stamp Digest".

Won a set of New Hebrides, British and French issues, in a raffle and set about a collection of that country. The paper read when that collection was displayed in Johannesburg was subsequently published in the "Philatelic Journal of Great Britain".

After a period of "seeking a country", finally chose Denmark, and settled down to a serious study of that country after being de-mobbed in 1945. Became interested in the "Locals" when a small collection was acquired from the late Dr. Kaplan; the "Local" section has won a Bronze at Helsinki, 1956, and a Silver at Melbourne, 1963, and has been reported by an overseas authority to be one of the largest privately-owned collections of Danish "Locals" in the world.

Was elected Honorary Secretary of the Philatelic Society of Johannesburg in 1939, an office which ended with full-time military service in 1940.

Elected to the Committee of the Philatelic Society of Rhodesia in 1948, and became Chairman in 1951; again in 1953, when Congress was held for the first time in Bulawayo. Was re-elected to the Chair in 1961, 1962 and 1963 — the latter being the first year of the "Royal" Philatelic Society of Rhodesia.

Whilst in Salisbury was also Chairman of the Mashonaland Philatelic Society and served on the Advisory Committee of the Postmaster-General.

Switzerland and Continental countries
classics and moderns bought and sold,
also collections.

J. FRICK
CH-9658 WILDHAUS
SWITZERLAND

LETTER TO THE EDITOR

Dear Sir,

In the December issue of the "S.A.P.", my good friend M.F.S. reviewed the Airmail Exhibits at VRYPEX. As the owner of one of the two exhibits referred to as being devoted to aerogrammes, I feel entitled to speak up on behalf of the two exhibitors concerned. The review, in commenting on aerogrammes as a subject fit for exhibition, states that "these, however good, can never replace the classic items, stamps and flown covers, especially in the pioneer period."

With regard to the review in question, I submit that this is a misguided opinion which, I trust, does not receive any official support from the exhibition juries in this country at least.

One does not need to go beyond the borders of our own sub-continent to see the reasons for my contention that our aerogrammes are just as much "classic items" as are our pioneer flown covers. Commencing with the 1911 Kenilworth-Muizenberg flown covers, through the "Our Day" cards of 1918, the Handley-Page flight of 1920, the Cobham flight of 1926 (to mention some of our "classic" pioneer emissions) and until today, each and every issue has a "philatelic" aura about it. On each and every occasion facilities for "philatelic" mail were available, to a lesser or greater degree, whether publicly procured or privately "arranged". And yet this has not detracted from their status, nor should it.

But if our aerogrammes are compared in an unfavourable light with all these souvenirs (and I use this word deliberately) then I must hasten to their defence and to set the record straight.

The pioneer aerogrammes issued during World War II were produced to provide a very necessary service in times of emergency, and were not subject to any philatelic fiddles during their currency. No publicity was given when a new design was released or an issue changed. So much so that it was some years after the end of World War II before all that was known could authentically be recorded. A similar situation prevailed during the first two years of the Korean War where necessity and circumstances created items that are today extremely hard to find.

In the course of the two hostilities mentioned above, a number of aerogrammes originating as a result have become extremely rare items today, and were so even when current. They are the real classics of our sub-continent's aero-philately, for each and

every one of them is entirely free of any philatelic "taint".

With an adequate bank balance one is able to buy almost every one of these pioneer items from 1911 to 1926 without having to wait long. But I defy any one to find copies, to mention only a few, of MAL 3, 9 and 10 (all mint), MAL 16 (mint and used) MAL 17 to 19 (mint and used) simply by offering a blank cheque . . . This does not take into account the "S.A. Gifts and Comforts Fund" items about which there is a controversy which, nevertheless, do exist and have a place in this group. **In fact, what are the real classics in South Africa's aerophilately? Wartime aerogrammes!**

Yours sincerely,

J. M. WEINSTEIN.

MORE LIGHT ON RAILWAY LETTER POSTS

By A. LESLIE LEON, F.R.P.S.L.

An article published in the July, 1967 issue of the South African Philatelist under the title "Railway Side Lines" has resulted in a welcome correspondence with Mr. David Allison of Cape Town, who has been kind enough to send me some of his material for examination. Some surprising facts about the use of the Railway Letter Post have emerged, and the most important of these is the extent of the usage of this particular medium.

I have been able to ascertain that since 1922 there have been four different types of label in use by the South African Railways. These are as follows:

1. A small label (approx. 6.3 x 2.2 mm) printed in black and reading:

RAILWAY LETTER POST

Train.....Date.....

2. A similar label printed in red.
3. A larger label (5 mm x 10.2 mm) also printed in red and reading:

RAIL LETTER POST

SPOORWEGBRIEWEPOS

No.....ex.....Station
van Stasie

4. A medium sized label also printed in red (approx. 7.6 mm x 6.4 mm) reading:
Let the S.A.R. Travel Bureau arrange
your next holiday.

Laat die S.A.S. Reisburo u
volgende vakansie reël.

RAIL LETTER POST

SPOORWEGBRIEWEPOS

No.....ex.....Station
van Stasie

The first of these, the first type printed in black, has been reported by Dr. T. B. Berry, the lettering being the same as that printed in red and the date being 1922. Dr. Berry also has the second type, the label printed in red, dated as early as 1926. No. 3 occurs on a cover posted in 1937 but the label was printed in 1935, while No. 4 was of a later date, the earliest usage I have seen being in 1946 although the label evidently appeared first about 1939.

As already mentioned, the astonishing thing gathered from a study of these labels is the extent to which the Railway Letter Post is used. From the printers' marks on the labels one learns that in a period of 20 years over 3 million of these were printed. This seems to me to be an enormous number, although many were doubtless wasted. One must bear in mind, and this is also apparent from the covers lent to me and those in my possession, that numerous letters were posted at railway stations which did not carry the printed label but did carry the additional postage required. These letters have postage stamps cancelled with the oval cancellers used by Railway postmasters. It is of course quite impossible to guess how many articles of this latter type were carried in the same period, but everything points to the fact that the traffic is considerable and must mean a welcome addition to the Post Office revenue.

All the labels that I have seen bear the same index number, namely T.110, which is obviously the S.A.R. reference number for this type of printed article.

Incidentally, Mr. Allison has suggested an explanation of the "S.A.R. Johannesburg" cancellation referred to in my previous article. He has informed me that there is a Post Office at the Railway Headquarters in Johannesburg from which this cancellation may have originated.

A PHILATELIC CONTEMPLATION

By B. SEELIG

When I was a small boy, everything in the way of postage stamps was merrily and proudly pasted into exercise books. Nobody cared much about condition, nobody bothered whether or not the stamps were heavily or lightly cancelled, whether or not they were badly or well centred, all those finer points of stamp collecting came only generations later into being. The presently fashionable illness, which I call "hingeless insanity" was unknown at that time, in short, conditions were much less tense than they are today. Leaving school I had a collection of approximately 1,000 different stamps in my possession, quite an achievement in those times, the beginning of the century. After doing military service in the first world war, my stamp collection was lost when I returned from a prisoner of war camp, and now followed a period of approximately 15 years, during which I had neither the time nor inclination to form a new collection of stamps. My interest was revived when I accidentally made a bid for an accumulation of Swiss stamps, and when the beauty and attractiveness of those stamps captivated me. I began on the smallest possible scale by begging, purchasing, exchanging, until after one year the first album was complete. Of course everything was neatly hinged, as was the custom in those days. Fortunately I realized from the very beginning that the biggest obstacle facing me was the acquisition of the old classic material, and I began to concentrate my efforts on those issues, starting 1843. Through persistence, patience and strain on my financial resources I succeeded to acquire most of this material at reasonable prices. If I compare now the present catalogue quotations with the prices I paid I can only say that it would be now simply impossible for me to purchase the old Cantonal and similar issues. For many years I extended my main interest on those favourites of mine. Painstakingly and patiently I completed set after set, and to the same extent to which my collection expanded I got more and more discriminating as regards condition. I tried constantly to improve, I exchanged many of the old copies over and over again, until I now have in my albums the finest copies my financial resources could afford to acquire. To expand and build up the other sections like Commemoratives, airmail stamps, Pro Patria, Pro Juventute etc. was not too difficult, since over the years I established the best possible connection for supply,

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exchange etc. After almost 30 years of ceaseless activities it gives me again and again the greatest pleasure and satisfaction to look through this collection, consisting of 15 albums and containing amongst other items more than 1,240 mint and used blocks. Of course, being human, I do not disregard market trends, and with some amusement I notice how year after year the catalogue quotation for many items climbs sky high. Just one example, the famous Naba sheet, which in 1934 was issued for a few Swiss francs is now changing hands for the modest sum of more than R200 each. How easy it would have been to make profitable investments and easy money. However in accordance with my, shall I say, old fashioned way of thinking, the idea of buying stamps as an investment never occurred to me at that time, because in those days our hobby was not so much commercialized as it is now. People did not buy stamps in full sheets to put them away, but endeavoured to build up collections as neatly and completely as their pocket allowed. The so-called investment collector is a product of later generations, encouraged through persistent market rises. The greatest satisfaction my hobby has given, and is giving me, is the joy of possession, and the countless hours of concentration, relaxation, and peace of mind. It is gratifying to notice that in spite of getting highly commercialized this hobby of ours is gaining more popularity from year to year, and there can be no doubt that it will continue to remain so. Time and space do not allow me to continue this little contemplation. If this article succeeds to gain a few more recruits for our hobby, my effort will be sufficiently rewarded.

THE POSTAL HISTORY SOCIETY'S NUGENT CLOUGHER AWARD

The first International Award for Postal History is now being sponsored by the Postal History Society at the request of Mrs. Clougher. The Award is intended to promote research work into Postal History on a world-wide basis, and the first Award will be announced in May, 1968.

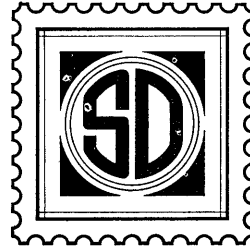
It is stressed that it is not necessary to be a member of the Postal History Society to become eligible for this Award.

Particulars of the Award may be obtained from Mr. W. R. Wellsted, T.D., F.R.P.S.L., Colesgrove Manor, Goffs Oak, Waltham, Herts, England.

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REVIEWS

South African Postmarks. A synopsis of the Routine Handstruck Cancellations, 1910-1966, by Dr. T. B. Berry. Published by the Philatelic Federation of Southern Africa. Price R2.00 (23/6).

This latest publication by the Philatelic Federation of Southern Africa continues the tradition set by the earlier studies that have received its sponsorship. Compiled by one who is well-known for the meticulous care that he gives to any philatelic undertaking that he attempts, it attains the standard expected of a work from this author's pen.

To try to list and compile an orderly and meaningful synopsis of this country's routine handstamps sounds far easier than, indeed, it is. In fact, when I first became aware of this project the question that I thought would be most difficult to answer was the manner in which all that was known was to be reduced from chaos to order. In this Dr. Berry has succeeded admirably.

As an hors d'oeuvre we have been given enough technical information on the hand cancellers themselves to enable the least practical-minded of us to understand their mechanics. Let it be said here I know that these sketches, as well as the illustrations of the postmarks themselves, were drawn by the author who combined authorship with draughtsmanship in a very successful blend.

The grouping of the hand cancellers has been arranged according to types defined by the author in a very logical breakdown. The only criticism that I make is that a page, towards the beginning of the work, showing examples of the different TYPES as defined by the author would have been a useful key to the reader and student.

Separate sections deal inter alia with Relief Cancellers, Rail Post Cancellations (a particularly interesting group very well surveyed), Registration Markings and Undeliverable Mail Marks.

With over 250 handstruck markings illustrated, and numerous other items reproduced pictorially, the immediate impression confirmed by further enquiry, is of substance. This is precisely what this study is and it deserves to be in the library of every South African collector who has the slightest interest in our postal markings. For those who have had an interest in this subject this is the ideal guide to what there is and how to classify it, an essential tool of their trade, in fact.

To Dr. Berry every credit for a very scholarly work on which the younger collec-

tors may now build. To the printer, Messrs. Framic (Pty.) Ltd., whose lithographic process continues to improve, full marks for the production. To the publishers, our Federation, praise for being courageous enough to venture into strange pastures. May this be the forerunner of many similar treatises from this and other pens. J.M.W.

* * *

Godinas' World Air Mail Catalogue of Air Letter Sheets and Postal Stationery, 1967 edition. Available from the Editor and publisher, Mr. Francois Godinas, Rue J. F. Kennedy 12, Esneux, Belgium. Price U \$10.50 (R7.50).

Recently published in Belgium, in French and English, with pricing in Belgian francs and U.S. dollars, is the latest edition of the above catalogue which was first compiled in 1955. As a labour of love by a collector it is highly recommended to any philatelist whose interests include airmail postal stationery.

At present this is the only publication in existence that attempts to list all the material that belongs to the groups involved, aerogrammes and their percussors (airmail letter cards, Active Service letter cards etc.), airmail postcards and airmail envelopes. With the most recent catalogue of aerogrammes only (that published by the late Mr. F. W. Kessler in 1961) lacking any record of issues of the last six years the Godinas' catalogue goes a long way towards up-dating this section. With regard to the postcard and envelopes, here is the only publication in which they are all found "under one roof".

This new edition is issued in two volumes with ring binders made of a durable plastic and of a very neat appearance. Statistically it is interesting to note that over 2,500 aerogrammes, including varieties, are listed and priced with airmail postcards and envelopes running to a mere 1,250 of which over a third are private issues.

Subscribers to the catalogue receive supplements automatically as and when their completion is warranted. J.M.W.

(Readers who wish to obtain a copy of the reviewed book, may place their requirement locally through Mr. J. M. Weinstein, 479a Fehrsen Street, Brooklyn, Pretoria.—Editor.)

**THE EDITOR WILL BE PLEASED TO
RECEIVE SUITABLE MANUSCRIPTS**

A FLOATING POST OFFICE

The Gambia is a small country situated at the bulge of West Africa and extending along both banks of the River Gambia from its mouth 300 miles eastwards. The river is navigable for vessels up to 3,000 tons for a distance of 150 miles from the sea and smaller vessels can, of course, proceed much farther.

The river is an important trade artery and much of the groundnut crop is carried in barges and cutters from the interior to the collecting points near Bathurst. An illustration of a typical cutter appears on the penny definitive stamp issued in 1953 and there is an interesting match with the penny coin recently issued by the Gambia Currency Board which also carries, on the reverse, a design of a cutter.

A large Government steamer, "The Lady Wright", maintains a regular service along the River Gambia and a travelling Post Office is aboard. The canceller comprises a double circle mark, with T.P.O. in the upper segment, River Gambia in the bottom one and the date horizontally in two lines at the centre.

"The Lady Wright" appears on the 3d. stamp in the definitive series issued in 1953. Although the vessel was designed for river work, it is by no means unseaworthy. Facilities for slipping the vessel have only recently been installed at Bathurst and before this it was necessary for the vessel to travel along the African coast to Dakar for regular maintenance. On one occasion, because facilities at Dakar were not available, the vessel went as far afield as the Canary Islands.

There is a good road system in The Gambia but it is unlikely that the river will be supplanted as a means of communication.

Acknowledgement to Crown Agents
Stamp Bulletin.

DEVALUATION AND THE STAMP MARKET

How does devaluation affect you, as a dealer or a collector? Very simply, it means that every stamp bought from a non-Sterling country will cost one-sixth more, while in terms of their own currency foreign collectors and dealers will pay one-seventh less when they buy.

For the dealer, this will mean that, temporarily, an increased demand for his stocks will come from abroad, which will continue just so long as he continues to supply at his current prices. But if he has to replenish his stocks of foreign stamps by non-sterling purchases he

will have to pay more and, of course, charge more!

The popularity of British and Commonwealth material abroad may also be affected by the fact that stamps purchased by dealers and collectors at the old prices will, at least for a time, be available more cheaply, in terms of local currency. An easing off of confidence in these issues may exist for a while. However, the international nature of the stamp market is such that the effect is unlikely to be long-term.

Acknowledgement "Stamp Collecting".

THE LARS AMUNDSEN SALE

Messrs. Stanley Gibbons' three day sale of the Lars Amundsen Classic British Empire stamp collection realised £190,000. Buyers attended the sale from all round the globe and the outstanding prices realised are illustrated by the following:

The "Caspary" Newfoundland cover, known to be the gem of the collection, fetched £15,500.

Bermuda 1848 1d. 'Perot', £5,250; Vancouver Island 1865 5c. rose, £3,000; Cape of Good Hope 1861 4d. Triangular 'Woodblock' Error of colour, £2,600; Ceylon 1857-59 4d. dull rose, £6,000; Nova Scotia 1851-57 1/- purple on cover, £2,200; Trinidad 1847 'Lady McLeod' on cover, £1,600; Mauritius 1848 2d. indigo with 'PENOE' error, £6,500.

Every item sold was presented on a de luxe gold-edged album page, inscribed in copper-plate, that it is from the Lars Amundsen collection. It can therefore be inserted into an album just as it is, where it will remain as a superb souvenir of this historic auction.

Lars Amundsen sold his British Colonials in order to mobilise funds to pay for a second lifeboat he is giving to the Norwegian Life Saving Society. The first one was named after his father, the second one will be named after his home town "Frederikstad" which is celebrating the 400th anniversary of its foundation. This fact alone, apart from the knowledge that he is the sole remaining male relative of the celebrated explorer (Roald Amundsen, first man to get to the South Pole) aroused interest far away from the normal philatelic circles.

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DIE JONGSTE OOR RHODESIESE SEËLS

(Vertaling van Inligtingsblaadje Nr. 8 en 8a van The Salisbury Stamp Co. (Pvt.) Ltd., Box 2371, Salisbury, Rhodesia.)

Dubbele waardes by die Mardon-drukke van die vaste reeks

Toe die oorspronklike Harrison-3d. opge- raak het, het die poswese besluit om dié seël met die dubbele waarde 3d./2½c te laat druk want, so was geredeneer, dit sou 'n gulde manier wees om die verbruiker gewoon te laat raak aan die tiendelige stelsel wat vir die jaar 1970 beoog word. Die stelsel van dubbele waardes sou gaandeweg tot al die ander waardesoorte toegepas word soos hulle herdruk moes word.

Intussen ondersoek die onlangs gestigte Desimale Oorskakelingsraad die hele aangeleentheid van die voorgename oorskakeling na die tiendelige stelsel en die metodes in gebruik in ander lande, bv. Suid-Afrika, Australië, Nieu-Seeland en Zambië en het dié liggaam aangedui dat die gebruik van die waardes in sente ietwat voorbarig is en dat dit nie moes gedoen word sonder samespreking met die Raad nie. Die Raad het nog nie besluit oor die waardesoorte van die munte wat uitgereik staan te word nie en of daar wel enige halwe sente in die nuwe geldstelsel sal wees nie.

Die gevolg is dat die poswese geen keuse het as om maar hulle beleid te hersien en om die plan om seëls met dubbele waardes op die lange baan te skuif tot die Raad die posisie opgeklaar het, behalwe waar daar 'n presiese ekwivalent is sonder die gebruik van halwe sente.

In die lig van die voorafgaande, sal die volgende inligting miskien van nut wees:

3d.-waarde: Te oordeel na artikels wat in Britse seëlblaai verskyn het, gaan die poskantoor 'n 3d.-seël sonder die desimale gelyke uitreik sodra die voorraad van die huidige 3d./2½c begin min raak. Plaaslike posowerhede verklaar egter dat dié inligting voorbarig is aangesien daar niks ampteliks is nie.

2d.-waarde: (Geen dubbele waarde nie). Hierdie seël is op 1 November 1967 uitgereik in velle van 240 seëls met silindernommers 1A en 1B aan die onderste linkerhoek. Hierdie seëls is op bruinlym (chromo)-papier gedruk.

1/- / 10c-waarde: (Dubbele waarde). Op soortgelyke papier as die 2d. gedruk en op dieselfde datum uitgegee maar deur drie silinders gedruk: 1A, 1B en 1C; 60 seëls per vel; horisontale formaat.

9d.-waarde: (Geen dubbele waarde). Op 21 November uitgereik. Papier, formaat en silinders soos voormelde 1/- / 10c.

1/6 / 15c-waarde: (Dubbele waarde). Na ons verneem staan hierdie seël vroeg in 1968 uitgereik te word.

Nota oor uitreikingsdatums: Alhoewel ons uitreikingsdatums vir die Mardon-drukke aangee, erken die poskantoor nie 'n amptelike dag van uitreiking nie. Die datums wat ons aangee is egter korrek sover ons kon vasstel.

Verkeersrobotligte: Hierdie kontrolemerke word nou na die onderkant van velle verskuif by die 2d., 9d. en 1/- / 10c-drukke, soos ook by die Flora en Fauna-gedenkstel. Hulle verskyn in elke geval op dieselfde blok as die silindernommers, behalwe in die geval van die C-silinders waar 'n blok van ses pleks van vier nodig is omdat die „C” oorkant die derde seël van die end af lê.

HERDENKINGSUITGAWES

Stel Flora en Fauna wat op 6 September 1967 uitgereik is: Hierdie stel bestaan uit vier verskeie 4d.-seëls en is 60 op 'n vel op chromopapier gedruk. Die swaardlelie lê dwars terwyl die ander, kremetart, olifant en witrenoster regop staan. Twee silinders, 1A en 1B, is vir elke ontwerp gebruik. Ons verstaan dat die seëls vinnig verkoop het en dat die A-vel van die olifant en die „B” van die ander drie reeds lankal nie meer beskikbaar is nie. Hulle sal natuurlik later moeilik bekombaar wees.

TOEKOMSTIGE UITGAWES

Die Ministerie van Poswese het die volgende program vir 1968 aangekondig:

Vyftiende Wêreldploegwedstryd: Met die Vyftiende Wêreldploegwedstryd wat op 26 en 27 April 1968 in Rhodesië gehou gaan word, sal 'n stel van vier seëls (3d., 9d., 1/6 en 2/6) wat ploëry in Rhodesië deur die jare uitbeeld, uitgegee word. Die ontwerpe van die 3d. en 9d. is ontleen aan vroeë sketse van ploëry, die 1/6 weergee 'n stoomtrekker en ploeg wat omstreeks 1905 in Umtali gebruik was en die 2/6 'n moderne trekker en ploeg soos dié wat in die wedstryd gebruik sal word.

Intussen sal die Ministerie voortgaan met sy reeks oor geskiedkundige persone en in Julie 'n enkele seël uitreik ter ere van sir Alfred Beit. Besonderhede sal later bekend gemaak word.

'n Derde stel sal in November verskyn met die 75e herdenkingsjaar van die besetting van Matabeleland. Daar sal drie seëls wees. Besonderhede is nog nie bekend nie.

VERVALSINGS VAN DIE 1966 SUID-RHODESIESE ONAFHANKLIKHEIDSOEDRUK

Notas vir versamelaars en handelaars: Soos algemeen bekend, is sommige van hierdie seëls se opdrucke vervals maar dit was oor die algemeen aanvaar dat die wanpraktyk tot die foutdrucke soos die onderstebodrukke, beperk was. Dit is egter seker dat die Churchill-seël as 'n normale seël vervals is. Sover bekend is daar twee soorte opdruckvervalsings van dié seël: (1) 'n swak poging met die lettertipe nie soos die oorspronklike nie. By die eksemplare wat ons gesien het was die drukking so sterk dat dit 'n omgekeerde bossellering agterop veroorsaak het. Ander ooglopende afwykings is aanwesig, soos die woord „In-

dependence” wat 3 mm. te lank is en die streep van „5/-” wat te dik is. Dit is veral die „5/-” wat die swaarste bossellering veroorsaak; (2) die Binda-valsseël is nie so eenvoudig agter te kom nie. Die lettertipe, grootte, ens. kom presies ooreen met die egte maar dit kan definitief deur deskundige ondersoek aangewys word.

Ons is seker daarvan dat handelaars en versamelaars hierdie seël in goedertrou aangeskak het en nou met fopseëls sit. Ons wil voorneemende kopers dus maan om maar baie versigtig te wees as hulle die Churchill-opdruk wil koop. Meeste van die vervalsings blyk tans buite Rhodesië te wees. Na ons mening beskik slegs sekere Rhodesiërs oor genoegsame kennis van die goed en gevolglik is dit meer rede vir die uiterste versigtigheid met aankope. Ons weet byvoorbeeld dat dié goed soms teen betreklik lae pryse buite Rhodesië aangebied word. U is dus gewaarsku om nie met „winskopies” gevang te word nie.

INLIGTINGSBLADJIE Nr. 8

Uitkenning van die papiertoetse met die 6d. en 1/3: Ons het etlike versoeke gehad om behulpsaam te wees met die uitkenning van die „6d. bruin-lym”, nl. die wit-chromo en die supreme-chromo, wat nie so geredelik soos die ander seëls van die papiertoetsgroep uitkenbaar is nie.

Die 6d. op wit Esparto-papier met ivoorkleurige lym (Commonwealth-katalogus Nr. 31a), en die 6d. met helder-wit lym (katalogus Nr. 31), is maklik van mekaar te onderskei, ook van die met bruin lym (3 lb.), want hulle is duidelik verskillende papiersoorte. Om dieselfde rede kan daar ook nie fout met die verskeie 1/3-seëls kom nie (katalogus Nrs. 32, 32a en 32b). Dit is eintlik net die 6d. op die wit-chromo en supreme-chromo met bruin lym (3 lb.) wat lol. Onder die kwartslamp toon die wit-chromo haas geen verandering nie. Darenteen toon die liggroen agtergrond en die wit kantruimte by die supreme-chromo 'n glimmende laventelkleur. As die seëls met lymkant na bo onder die lamp gesien word is die glimmende laventelkleur nog by die supreme-chromo aanwesig terwyl die wit-chromo feitlik onveranderd bly.

Daar moet op gelet word dat die 6d., ivoorkleurige lym (wit Espartopapier) net soos die supreme-chromo onder die kwartslamp reageer. Dit behoort egter nie 'n probleem op te lewer nie want die ivoorkleur van die lym onderskei hom maklik van die chromo-papiersoorte.

Ons het gevind dat die kwartslampstoets die positiewe uitkenning van die wit- en supreme-chromo-papiersoorde bo alle twyfel stel. Onder die lamp wyk die rooikleur van die vlamlelie ook af maar dit kan verontagsaam word en die glimmende laventelkleur aanvaar word as bewys van die supreme-chromo-papier.

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SOUTH AFRICA EARLY HISTORY — PRESENT DAY POST OFFICES

(Continued from page 20, January, 1968)

While waiting for the confinement, Moffat helped the Griquas with affairs of state and he helped to establish the mission at Campbell, where the first church north of the Orange River was built. About this period the Griquas had discovered a crater which reminded them of the biblical Daniel and the lion's den: Danielskuil was used as a convenient prison.

Robert Moffat established himself at Kuruman, where he built a church and translated the first Bible in any African language. At The Stad, near Mafeking, he obtained roofing timber for his church and he passed through this place on several occasions while establishing the Matebele Mission at Bulawayo.

The printing of the Bible being too big a task, Robert Moffat proceeded to England, where the complete printing was done for him. There he met the two missionaries Livingstone and Ross who were to assist him at Kuruman. They arrived at Algoa Bay in 1841, the trip taking them through Somerset East, Colesberg, Phillippolis, Campbell, Griquatown and Postmasburg to Kuruman.

Livingstone visited the various Bechuana missions at Olifantshoek, Boetsap, Danielskuil, Ulco, Taung. He went to meet the Moffats at Schmidtsdrift and met Mary Moffat at Campbell. They married in the Kuruman church and settled down at Kolobeng, north of Mafeking. It was here that Livingstone clashed with the Transvaal Boers, an event which forced him to seek an outlet for the Kuruman mission further north, thus becoming an explorer. He discovered the Victoria Falls, and a town, Livingstone, was named in his honour.

— Acknowledgement "The Stamp Lover".

A CORRECTION

The Imperial Press Conference Tour, 1935

The first line of the tabulated statement on page 17 of our January number should read "Registered Articles", the second line, "Express Articles" and the boxed registration cachet on page 16 should show a vertical intervening line to the right of 'R'.

THE BIGGEST COLLECTION IN THE WORLD

Over four million stamps — the biggest collection in the world — are the property of the nation and are kept at the British Museum. All too few people realise that this magnificent collection of stamps is available to them for study purposes. As Mr. James A. Mackay, keeper of the collection says: "It is your collection".

It is also believed to be the most valuable collection in the world, many of the items being literally priceless. Some rarities exist in such quantity that were they ever to come on the market they would cause a sudden drop in value of some established rarities. But the British Museum's stamps will never go on sale — the country would have to be bankrupt before such a move would even be considered!

The Nation's collection is well represented in cabinets and special displays and visitors to the Museum can spend hours examining the many stamps on show.

For those philatelists who need to study material not on show, the keeper, Mr. Mackay, goes to great pains to see that they are accommodated. If an appointment is made such collectors can see just about anything they want in the stamp world.

One of the many practical advantages of this magnificent collection to all stamp collectors is the fact that experts who provide the collecting world with certificates of genuineness are able to go along and make comparisons with the many rare and near-unique items which can greatly assist them in giving an opinion.

From the collector's point of view one of the main attractions of the Nation's collection is that it is made up of a number of very famous collections which have been donated over the years by equally famous philatelists.

As far back as 1891, Thomas K. Tapling, M.P., bequeathed his stamp collection to the British Museum; an action which over-night gave Britain a leading position in national philatelic collections. The collection comprises over 100,000 stamps and had been valued at £50,000 in 1890.

This led to a number of prominent philatelists taking a pride in the Nation's collection and adding to it. Such great names in the philatelic world as M. P. Castle, Messrs. Stanley Gibbons and Mr. Bacon (of Perkins, Bacon and Co. whose press produced the

Penny Black) made sure that Great Britain kept her lead.

A further boost came in 1900 when the Crown Agents donated albums containing rare proofs, essays and imperforate specimens of the De La Rue issues and since that date the Crown Agents have presented the Museum with all colonial stamps handled by them.

Since then many famous collections have joined the British Museum collection — The Sherborn, Row, Wilson-Todd, Mosely, Kay, Walker, Ewen, Fitzgerald, Harrison and many more.

In addition the G.P.O. deposited on permanent loan its duplicate Berne Collection — stamps of the world received from the headquarters of the Universal Postal Union in Berne, and last year the Board of Inland Revenue deposited its collection which includes die proofs of the famous Penny Black.

Some of the collections donated are of modern stamps and show that it is not only the "classics" that can be rare and valuable. There is, for example, the quite outstanding Bojanowicz collection of Polish Postal History from 1939 to 1949, displayed on 500 leaves and an example to all collectors of what can be done in a specialised field.

For the collector who wants to see the wide range of different forms of collecting that can be undertaken the British Museum is well worth a visit.

Apart from the great rarities and the imprimatur sheets here is a representative selection of every type of stamp that is collected. Indeed, one of the finest airmail collections ever-formed is in the British Museum—the Fitzgerald collection. Housed in 18 albums the collection has one album devoted to the Siege of Paris balloon and pigeon posts—a superb collection in itself. Probably the finest part of the collection is the Newfoundland album which includes eleven "Hawkers," several of which are on cover, and the only known multiple, a strip of three.

LUCKY ESCAPE

The nation is very lucky to have this collection at all—and one section (Great Britain) was lost while Mrs. Fitzgerald made her escape from France in 1940.

Also associated with the British Museum is the greatest collector of all time, Count Ferrary. He was sufficiently impressed with the Tapling collection, second only to his

own, to donate certain stamps to the British Museum to fill some of the gaps. Count Ferrary spent vast sums of money on stamps and employed staff to sort them out! Had his collection gone to the Berlin Museum, as he had willed it, Germany would undoubtedly have the best national museum—but the French confiscated the collection for “war reparations” and sold it by auction.

Acknowledgement “Stamps Weekly”

FORTHCOMING COMMONWEALTH ISSUES

By J. WOODGATE

Botswana: April 8th, I.H.R. Year.

Gibraltar: March 27th, a set of 4 values for the 60th Anniversary of the Boy Scout Movement. 4d., 7d., 9d. and 1/-.

Lesotho: April 7th, a 2½c and 25c pair for the 20th Anniversary of the World Health Organization.

Rhodesia: The 15th World Ploughing Championships are being held in Rhodesia in 1968. 4 stamps, 3d., 9d., 1/6 and 2/6 will be issued on April 20th to commemorate the Championships.

Western Samoa: January, 6th Anniversary of Independence. February 6th, 21st Anniversary of the Establishment of the South Pacific Commission.

*Acknowledgement Crown Agents
Stamp Bulletin.*

HARMER “SPECIALTIES AND RARITIES” SALE BRINGS \$ 157,667

Depreciation of Pound has little effect on market

An evening auction of “Specialties and Rarities” was held at the H. R. Harmer Galleries on 48th Street, New York on November 21 and reached the very satisfactory total of \$ 157,667 for the 395 lots, an average of almost \$400 per lot. The devaluation of the British Pound over the week-end appeared to have had little effect on most prices but there was a general feeling that British Commonwealth levels were off some 10%. A check with the auctioneers and with agents acting for British bidders showed that most had cabled reductions at 10%, some had let their bids stand and none had cancelled.

The auction included both specialized groups and a section of World rarities from

13 sources. The specialized section comprised a collection of Cape of Good Hope triangulars, the “Harrison D.S. Haverbeck” collection of India Scinde Dawk and a collection of early Switzerland, chiefly Cantonal issues, and largely originally from the “Siegmond Adler” Collection.

The sale brought Harmers total for their first six auctions of the current season to \$ 627,290.

NEWS ITEM

“Stamp News”, the monthly Australian stamp magazine has launched a world wide competition to find suitable designs for a series of stamps to be issued by Australia in 1970 to commemorate the 200th Anniversary of the discovery of the east coast of the Continent by Captain Cook in 1770.

The competition carries prizes of more than \$600 and is divided into two sections — one for adults and one for juniors up to and including 18 years of age at the time of entry. First prize in the senior section is \$200 cash, whilst the first prize in the Junior division is a special collection of 10,750 different stamps from all parts of the world with a retail value of \$100. There will also be a number of minor awards and progress awards for the best entries received each month. The competition is open to would-be stamp designers in any part of the world. There are no entry fees or restrictions on the size or number of entries, or on the art medium chosen by the artists. Captain Cook’s discovery of the east coast of Australia must, however, form the central theme of each entry. The competition closes on June 30th, 1968 and entries may be lodged with “Stamp News”, Sterling Street, Dubbo NSW 2830, Australia.

ILLUSTRATING U.S. STAMPS IN COLOUR

American regulations on the reproduction of postage stamps — and especially American stamps — have always been even more severe than those in Great Britain. Now there is strong pressure for removing many outdated taboos, even to the extent of permitting illustration of U.S. stamps in colour.

A bill to permit illustrations of U.S. postage stamps in colour was introduced in the House of Representatives on January 17th by Rep. Thaddeus J. Dulski, the New York Democrat, who is in line for the chairmanship of the Post Office and Civil Service Committee.

An outmoded law, Dulski noted, now prohibits newspapers, magazines and other publications from reproducing United States postage stamps in colour. The prohibition does not apply to cancelled foreign stamps.

At one time it was believed the prohibition served as a deterrent to counterfeiting. Dulski said, but this is hardly the case today. Counterfeiting of United States stamps is virtually non-existent. The rewards are too small, the penalties for getting caught too great. In any event, a counterfeiter would copy from the stamps themselves, not from a photograph.

The legislation offered by Dulski would permit the illustration of both United States and foreign postage stamps in colour. Cancelled stamps could be reproduced in any size, including the exact size of the original. Uncancelled stamps would have to be shown less than three-fourths or more than 1½ times the size of the original. There would be no restrictions on the size of stamp illustrations in black and white. Revenue stamps, United States and foreign, could be shown in black and white only, but could be any size. Currency and other obligations of the United States or any foreign government could be only in black and white and would have to be either less than three-fourths or more than 1½ times the size of the original.

No change would be made affecting illustrations on film or transparent slides, which are now permitted, and the bill would not apply to illustrations of coins, permitted in colour under separate legislation.

As at present, use of stamp illustrations would be limited to philatelic, numismatic, educational or newsworthy purposes in articles, books, journals or albums. They could not be used in general advertising but only in legitimate philatelic or numismatic advertisements.

Acknowledgement to "Stamp Collecting"

EMPIRE PARLIAMENTARY TOUR, SOUTH AFRICA

On Looking Back

The Union Government placed a special train for the tour at the disposal of the delegates, who were the guests of the Government during the time they were on board. The delegates were the guests of the Southern Rhodesian Government when off the train in that Colony.

The tour commenced at Durban on the 1st September, 1924, when a Train Post Office, which was accommodated in the carriage

nearest the engine of the special train, opened for business.

All classes of incoming and outgoing mail matter, telegrams and cablegrams were handled and other business dealt with included the sale of postage stamps, registered envelopes and postal orders. Banking facilities, which proved to be a great convenience to the delegates while on tour, were also provided.

Incoming letters and other articles of mail matter were delivered by the Train Postmaster to the delegates as soon as possible after the mail had been sorted, and cables and telegrams were delivered immediately after the messages had been received at the train.

A posting-box for outgoing correspondence was provided at the Train Post Office and the box was cleared at regular intervals and as opportunity for the connection of mails occurred. The times of departure of the United Kingdom, Canadian, Australian and New Zealand mails were suitably publicised on the train.

Mails were made up on the train and handed over at various points en route for onward despatch to their destinations. In addition direct mails containing overseas correspondence were exchanged weekly between the Train Post Office and Cape Town to coincide with the departure and arrival of the mail steamers.

The tour covered the Union of South Africa and Southern Rhodesia, and the train also travelled to Maseru in Basutoland, Lourenco Marques in Mocambique, and Livingstone in Northern Rhodesia.



A special date stamp, illustrated, comprising two circles 36 and 32 mm. diams., PARLEMENTER/TOER in two lines at top; PARLIAMENTARY/TOUR in two lines inverted at bottom and the date in centre in one line, was used by the Train Post Office for cancellation purposes. It was made of rubber and applied in violet ink.

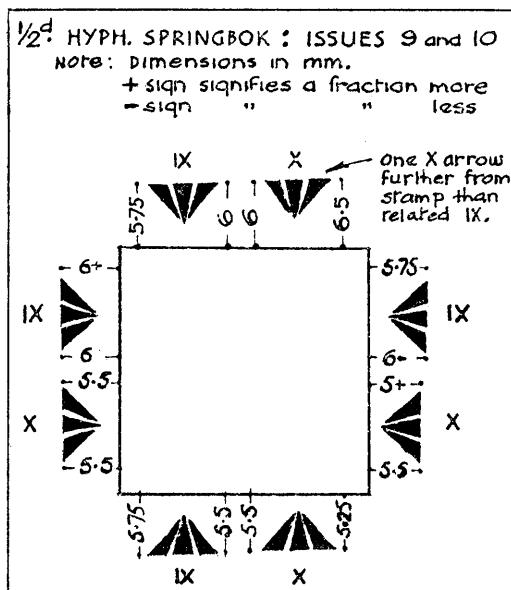
The office closed on the 25th October, 1924, when the train arrived at Cape Town at the conclusion of the tour by rail.

Acknowledgements:

Post Office Publicity Section, C. H. Williams, Historian, communication dated 20 November, 1948.

S.A. Philatelist, Vol. VI, 1928, p.71. A four-line comment with an illustration of the dater.

THE HYPHENATED HALFPENNY ISSUE 9



Further to the paper by Mr. S. J. Hagger, appearing in our November, 1967, issue, a commendable article by "R.J.L." on the same topic is included in the Nov./Dec., 1967, number of "The Springbok", which article includes a positional illustration of the relevant arrows of Issues 9 and 10.

We reproduce the illustration with acknowledgement to our oversea contemporary.

THE WATERMARK: A TIME-HONOURED TRADITION

By T. J. FITIKIDES

Collectors of the stamps of Great Britain may well deplore the passing of the watermark which has been a feature of these issues since the Penny Black appeared in 1840.

The first official hint in this direction was given in "Stamp Collecting" early in the year, following an exclusive interview granted to the Editor by the Postmaster-General. It will be

recalled that one of the questions raised was whether watermarks were still thought to be a necessary security measure in stamp printing or whether they might now be dispensed with. The Editor emphasised his question with the remark that Canada and France had never had watermarks in their stamps, and Australia and several other countries had dropped the practice.

Although the Postmaster-General's reply was not explicit, it appeared that some thought had already been given to the subject and there was a strong possibility that watermarks would be discontinued. In his report of the interview, the Editor added, in parentheses: "Apart from the saving in costs, an unwatermarked paper provides a better printing surface since the paper is of uniform thickness throughout."

Much as we may respect the Editor's opinion, there is no doubt that the views of philatelists vary on this controversial question of retaining or doing away with watermarks. The anti-watermark camp may have gained a few more followers as a result of the "inverted" watermarks that have flooded the stamp market in recent years. Many a collector of British commemoratives, in his utter despair at coping with the chaotic watermark situation, may have wished — or even prayed — for their total elimination!

However, a time-honoured practice should not be abandoned on the spur of the moment without some discussion of the subject among one of the interested parties — stamp collectors themselves.

No sound argument has been propounded in favour of the view that watermarks have ceased to be a measure of security. The fact that Canada and France have never had watermarks is as convincing an argument as is the assumption that locks are no longer a security device because some people habitually leave their cars unlocked!

If watermarks in banknotes are still thought to be a necessary security measure, they should also be regarded as such in stamps. To quote from F. S. J. Jordan in "The Road to Philately": "The watermark in paper for the printing of stamps is normally a measure of security demanded by the issuing authorities, the reason being that a forgery on unwatermarked paper is immediately recognisable by comparison with a genuine stamp printed on the official watermarked paper."

Two more reasons were offered for the abolition of the watermark; the question of costs and that "an unwatermarked paper provides a better printing surface". With regard

to cost, it will be sufficient to state that security cannot be had without cost. Also, the fact that scores of stamps printed on water-marked paper have won prizes for the excellence of their design and colour, completely rules out the contention that a watermarked paper affects good printing.

Philatelically, the watermark is as old as the Penny Black, and its value as a measure of security, even if it were questionable, is by no means, the only factor that we must consider in deciding for or against its retention.

A difference in watermark between two stamps otherwise the same connotes two different stamps. To mention only the watermarks in the latest issues of Great Britain, the Tudor Crown, St. Edward's Crown and the Multiple Crowns: they have all created additional interest in British stamps. Sideways and inverted watermarks are yet another interesting feature appertaining to British stamps.

Indeed, the hobby of stamp collecting would have provided only a fraction of its present fascination had it not been for the presence of watermarks in one form or another. It is no exaggeration to state that the watermark in British stamps has come to be regarded not only as an integral part of the stamp itself, but as a time-honoured tradition that collectors will not readily relinquish.

Acknowledgement "Stamp Collecting".

WHY PHILATELY CREATED EXPERTIZING COMMITTEES

Historical Background

"The conviction of Benjamin, Sarpy, and Jeffreys at the Old Bailey on the 14th of this month, sets the seal of success upon the efforts of the Society recently incorporated with the main object of putting an end to the shameless and ever-increasing production of forgeries . . ." This statement appeared in the March, 1892, issue of the "London Philatelist", journal of the Royal Philatelic Society, London, then called the "Philatelic Society of London.

The society referred to in the quotation was the Philatelic Protection Association. The 1892 report goes on to say: "The Philatelic Protection Association has amply vindicated its title, and should command the ungrudging and liberal support of all those who are engaged in the trade; nor should the co-operation and sympathy of collectors, to whom they have rendered a signal service, be withheld."

From this, and subsequent reports in the "London Philatelist" for 1892, it is evident that the Philatelic Protection Association was primarily a stamp trade organization. One of its functions was (apparently) to submit cases for arbitration. Another was the examination of stamps, on which it pronounced opinions. The results of its findings were published occasionally in philatelic periodicals of the time. For example, in "Gibbons Monthly Journal", July 31, 1891, the Philatelic Protection Association warns against the following forgeries which had been detected: CEYLON imperforate 4p., 9p., 1 sh. 9p., 2 sh., both with and without watermark; perforated 4p., 9p., and 2 sh., with star watermark.

The first mention of an amateur expert committee in Great Britain is found in the March, 1894, issue of the "London Philatelist": "The arrangements for the initiation of this Committee are now in active progress, and we trust shortly to be in a position to give full publicity to all the details . . ." Thereafter, references to the regular meetings of this expert committee were made in the "London Philatelist". This expert committee has been functioning for 73 consecutive years.

The then extant Philatelic Protection Association operated as a trade group primarily for stamp dealers. It would appear that the "Royal" Expert Committees was established chiefly to give consulting service to collectors.

In "Gibbons Monthly Journal", Jan. 31, 1900, there is a report from Charles J. Phillips, who had been at the helm of the Philatelic Protection Association, which reads in part: "I consider I have done my work for the P.P.A., first by founding it, and then by devoting much time for some two years to the very successful crusade against the forgers of stamps and postmarks, which culminated in three or four convictions. My business has become so much larger . . . that my time is fully occupied, and I must leave all work of this kind to younger and more able hands for the future."

Whether "younger and more able hands" were available is not known, but this pioneer group was replaced, or absorbed, by The Stamp Trade Protection Association which held its first meeting June 25, 1900, and continued to function until 1927. In November, 1927, the British Philatelic Association was formed, and incorporated many of the Stamp Trade Protection Association. It also established an expert committee in December, 1927, which has operated ever since.

(To be continued)

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.
Tulbach Square, Foreshore, Cape Town.**
at 8 p.m.
VISITORS CORDIALLY WELCOMED.
P.O. BOX 1973, CAPE TOWN.

THE THEMATIC STAMP CLUB

Meetings 2nd and 4th Mondays monthly
at 8 p.m. in
**St. John's Hall, Waterkant Street,
Cape Town.**
All interested in Thematics welcome.
Chapter No. 1 A.T.A. and Africa Section.
F.I.P.C.O.
Issues a magazine every two months and
circulates sales packets.
P.O. BOX 752, CAPE TOWN.

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
**B.C.E.S.L. Hall, St. Andrews Street,
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 838-682 (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 97, 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 3rd Thursday 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.
P.O. Box 378, Krugersdorp
Secretary's Telephone: Business 660-7511;
Home 660-3461.

THE EAST RAND PHILATELIC SOCIETY

P.O. Box 538, 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.

SOCIETY NEWS

EAST RAND PHILATELIC SOCIETY

November: The meeting was one of the most interesting meetings we have had for quite a long time. We were hosts to the Pretoria Railway Philatelic Society, and they gave us a mixed bag of exhibits which had something of interest for everybody. Firstly, Mr. Catignani showed his thematic collection "The Vine and the Wine", which was not only an unusual theme, but which was also excellently written-up. The second exhibit was of the Netherlands and was tabled by Mr. van Eijk — a beautifully laid out collection, very nearly complete and a pleasure to view. The last exhibit was a combined effort by Commander Enoch and Mr. Wim Kriste — "No. 1 and its Centenary". This comprised the first stamps issued of a number of countries, by Commander Enoch, together with the Centenary Commemoratives of the issue of those stamps, by Wim Kriste. This was truly an exhibit of contrasts — the old designs and printings with the new, and by comparison gaudy designs and printing of the Centenary issues. Altogether a most satisfying evening's viewing, which was enjoyed by all present.

BELLVILLE PHILATELIC SOCIETY

November: The President and members of the Royal Philatelic Society of Cape Town, as well as members of the Paarl Philatelic Society, and the Somerset-West Philatelic Society joined us at the meeting. This was the first time that the Beunderman Cup had been competed for and the entries were required to be of a topical or thematic nature. There were four entrants. Mr. Stinson exhibited Butterflies, Mrs. Stinson exhibited Bridges, Mrs. Voigt exhibited Animals and Mr. Kleingunther exhibited The Royal Family on Stamps of Australasia.

The exhibits were well received and the standards of the exhibits were high. Each exhibit had points of merit and much hard work had been put into the arrangements shown to us. Judging was by popular vote and the winner was Mrs. Stinson.

After the competition, members were addressed by: Mr. Jeidel, on events related to VRYPEX National Exhibition; Mr. Combrink, of Paarl, commented and also gave constructive criticism on the contestants' exhibits; Mr. Robertson on behalf of Somerset West showed pages pertaining to Railways, Flowers, Fish, Birds, National Costumes and Fruit; Mrs. Bergman, of the Royal, exhibited 30 odd pages from her Silver Award Collection of "National Costumes"; Mrs. Jeidel presented covers with slogan cancellations to indicate how pleasure could be derived from a philatelic hobby without going to great expense and Mr. Jeidel showed early pre-stamp Egyptian Covers which told something of the story of the early continental overland mail.

An enjoyable and instructive evening concluded by votes of thanks being extended to exhibitors and to Mrs. Lee for having made the presentation.

THE PHILATELIC SOCIETY OF JOHANNESBURG

November: The first meeting of the month was a fairly well attended Bourse, with plenty of buying, selling, barter and what have you. Some members were disappointed that there was no auction, and it was agreed that in future this should take place provided the auctioneer promised to be brief and not take more than half an hour.

The second meeting also had a fair attendance. Mr. Wedderburn-Maxwell gave a most interesting talk on the effects of devaluation on philately. His conclusions were that, with the lack of faith in paper currencies, good stamps can only become a still better investment. The exhibits were of a type seldom seen, but none the less intriguing. Mr. Michelson showed a part of his very fine collection of Lithuania, and Mrs. Jeidel of Cape Town (about to be welcomed as a member of our Society) showed her collection of the first issues of Israel. Mr. Buchen, on behalf of Mrs. Jeidel, read a short paper about this collection, and Mr. Hofman, in proposing the vote of thanks, spoke most interestingly on the forgeries of this issue and how they came about.

SOCIETY OF ISRAEL PHILATELY

October: Attendance at this meeting was fair and the numerous apologies were no doubt due to the inclements of the weather. Those who attended were treated to something really good, with a display by Mrs. Hilda Jeidel of the Doar Ivri Issues. The exhibit was extensive and showed perforated and imperforated varieties, forgeries, plate-blocks of all kinds and First Day Covers. The excellent paper in support of the exhibit was read by Mr. Buchen. Mr. Boris Glassman in proposing the vote of thanks offered one criticism, namely that some of the pages were slightly overcrowded, and that the plate-blocks were superimposed. Mr. Buchen also passed very favourable comment on both the display and the paper. Congratulations Mrs. Jeidel on a fine effort.

Some interesting varieties have appeared on the day of opening of New Post Offices issued on the special covers of the Israel Philatelic Services, namely some of the covers have appeared with post marks but no stamps and others have appeared stamped but only the impression, in white, of the post mark without inking. This is no doubt due to the machine cancellation pressing heavily on the one envelope resulting in the envelope below sticking to it.

THE ROYAL PHILATELIC SOCIETY OF RHODESIA

November: At the opening of the meeting the chairman welcomed back from Bloemfontein our delegates to Congress and VRYPEX. They came back covered with glory, and the chairman

congratulated them on the reflected glory enjoyed by the Society.

Postmarks. The Study Circle is making an extensive study of the Postmarks of Rhodesia. Mr. A. S. Annett, Box 8081, Causeway, Salisbury, reminds us of the appeal made by Mr. Ellenberger at a recent meeting in Bulawayo. "There are lots of Post Offices in the 'bundu' whose postmarks are not easy to obtain — if any members have contacts, business or otherwise, in the 'bundu', please look out for good, clear postmarks, and send them to Mr. Annett; he will be very grateful for any assistance thus rendered."

National Gallery Issue. From a Salisbury correspondent comes the news that local dealers are advertising the 9d. line perf. at 15/- each. The last price heard from Johannesburg was 15/- for a single, and 20/- for a marginal single.

Mardon Reprints. The new 1/-/10c stamp was received by the Bureau on August 14th, but was only recently released. It is very well reproduced, and is printed from Plates 1A, 1B and 1C, each on separate sheets. The Plate Number, 1A, is under the first stamp of the bottom row; 1B is under the second stamp, and Plate 1C is under the third stamp. So if you want a corner cylinder block of 1C, remember, a block of four will not suffice. Plate Numbers and Traffic lights are in the bottom left with Sheet Numbers and Values in the bottom right, and Imprint remains, as before, below the two middle stamps of the bottom row.

December: The December meeting being traditionally "Chairman's Night", Mr. J. Lazarus entertained those present with a quiz on the stamps of Rhodesia, followed by a competition on "The Postmarks of Rhodesia" which took the form of a set of opaque envelopes, each with a tiny window in it. Three or four letters of a postmark were visible and the object was to give the full name of the post office concerned. Finally, several frames of mint stamps exhibited the chairman's collection of West Indies, Europa and several omnibus issues.

Mr. Creewel expressed the thanks of the meeting for a most entertaining and instructive evening.

Mardon Printings. On display at the meeting were the new Mardon reprints, the 1/-, 10c stamps, in plates 1A, 1B and 1C; the 2d., plates 1A and 1B; and the 9d., plates 1A, 1B and 1C. Attention was drawn to the fact that in the 1C sheets the cylinder number is under the third stamp of the bottom row, so a strip of three or six is required. A corner block of four is useless.

Rhodesia 1968 Programme. The Philatelic Bureau has issued a circular setting out our printing programme for 1968.

April 26th: World Ploughing Contest — 4 stamps, 3d., 9d., 1/6 and 2/6, depicting ploughing through the ages in Rhodesia.

July 1st: Historical Figures Series. Alfred Beit.

November 4th: 75th Anniversary of the Occupation of Matabeleland. Three stamps, no details yet.

EAST LONDON PHILATELIC SOCIETY

December: Our meeting started off on a good note with 5 new members being accepted, and 3 entries for the President's Cup competition. It is doubtful whether this cup has previously been so hotly contested. A novel position arose in that Dr. Drusinsky's collection of the "Boer War", Mr. Hellmann's "Philatelic Terms", and Mr. Radue's "London Pictorials and Rotos of South Africa" made up the entries, and the judges must have had a difficult task before deciding that Mr. Hellman was the winner. The new members were certainly given a feast of good stamps (300 pages) on the display boards, and it is hoped that they were able to learn something regarding the mounting and display arrangements of items to the best advantage.

Arrangements are well in hand for the film premiere to be held on the 26th December, in collaboration with the Cripple Care Society, and it is hoped to have a good response. Our best wishes for the New Year go out to all other societies.

GERMISTON PHILATELIC SOCIETY

November: The occasion was the annual visit of the West Rand Philatelic Society. This year, the Krugersdorp contingent was ably led by their Chairman, Mr. E. J. Sharpe, accompanied by the 3 members who were exhibiting — exactly as announced in last month's Newsletter. In the stamp news preliminary session, we were able to view not only the new G.B. Christmas Stamps, but also those of Malta, where the 3 denominations were printed in a novel form of oblique perforations. Some collectors may feel, however, that this falls within the 'gimmick' category along with the 3-dimensional stamps of Bhutan, which were also on view.

Mr. Burrell, for the visitors, then gave us a talk on "Swiss coated papers" and demonstrated with the 'black light' which he had brought along the differentiation between this and the other fluorescent paper in current use for S.A. stamps. This was greatly appreciated by all present.

Next came the three thematic displays by our visitors; firstly 'Animals' by Mr. Gaudie; followed by 'S.A. Republican printing abnormalities' by Mr. Burrell, and finally 'Conquest of Antarctica' by Mr. Godfrey.

Votes of thanks for a most entertaining evening were given by Messrs. Suklje, Smit and Mephius, respectively.

ROYAL PHILATELIC SOCIETY OF CAPE TOWN

November: Two exhibits entertained members at not a very well attended meeting. Capt. M. F. Stern put on Flights of France and French Air Companies, which started with the first official airmail of 1870 and extended up to the modern air-services — a truly magnificent exhibit.

Dr. Vautier followed with a very extensive collection of "Miniature sheets of the World". An interesting and colourful exhibit accompanied by a talk.

November 23rd: A well attended meeting opened by viewing slides and listening to a recorded lecture compiled by Mr. Jack Burrell on the Printing of South African Stamps and put on by Mr. Watts.

Mr. and Mrs. Wannerton followed, the former showing the last section of his Canada collection, the issues of Elizabeth II, and the latter exhibited a very fine collection of Greece, thereby terminating an interesting and enjoyable evening.

THE MASHONALAND PHILATELIC SOCIETY

November: Only 48 persons attended this meeting, which consisted of an auction ably conducted as usual by Mr. Brooke. The minimum reserve was 5/- and, although some members are against this move, it seems to have been successful on this occasion and there was brisk bidding for a number of the lots on offer. After the refreshment interval a number of those present stayed on for an informal exchange session.

1968 Commemorative Stamp Programme. The first issue, the Ploughing Contest set, is due to appear at the end of April, 1968, and will comprise four values, 3d, 9d., 1/6 and 2/6. The designs are indicative "ploughing".

A temporary post office will be opened on the contest site to process First Day Covers (price 1/-) with a commemorative date stamp.

The second commemorative issue will be in honour of Sir Alfred Beit. We are now informed that this will be a single stamp to appear on July 1st, 1968 and it will be a continuation of what a Post Office hand-out terms as the "Historical Figures Series".

The third issue will comprise three stamps to mark the 75th Anniversary of the Occupation of Matabeleland and will consist of three stamps. The values are at present not known.

MANICALAND PHILATELIC SOCIETY

November: Mrs. Connolly very ably took the Chair at the last meeting and I am told that there was a very good turnout of members. From all reports the display put on by Mrs. M. Garrido was excellent and enjoyed by all. Thank you Mrs. Garrido.

It is pleasing to note the Auction was well patronised.

The constitution of the Society has now been printed and circulated to members.

THE AEROPHILATELIC SOCIETY OF SOUTHERN AFRICA

The Society plans to establish an exchange packet early in the new year and has circulated members to this effect and also with the Exchange Regulations.

PHILATELIC SOCIETY OF NATAL

December: At a very pleasant meeting our President exhibited his "Women on Stamps". The exhibit was much appreciated. This was followed by a large selection of stamps for auction which realised over R1000.

Our February meeting should prove very popular as Mr. Whysall will be exhibiting his German collection which recently won the Royal Medallion Award for the best exhibit in the foreign section at the recent Congress Exhibition in Bloemfontein.

At this same Congress, a paper was read by Mr. J. E. Creewel entitled "Food for Thought". This is published in the December issue of the South African Philatelist and I commend everybody to read it. One point brought out is that there is no doubt that a paper accompanying a display adds tremendously to the interest except if it is a highly technical treatise.

GRAHAMSTOWN PHILATELIC SOCIETY

December: The meeting was well attended, 12(!) members being present. Mr. Pettit displayed part of his Union collection and spoke to it as he did so. He showed us the 1910 stamp, the 1925 and 1929 Airmails, the London printings of the 1926 to 1928 definitives and then his specialised studies of the 1d. "Ship" and the 2d. "Union Buildings".

The 1d. "Ships" and the 2d. "Union Buildings" generated a lot of discussion and many questions, also the 1925 Airmails in view of the fact that the Union Handbook says they were sold only in the towns served by the airmail service, several members were pretty sure that they brought the stamps at the Grahamstown Post Office and that Grahamstown was not served by the airmail service.

PRETORIA PHILATELIC SOCIETY

December: The last meeting of the year, by tradition organised by the President, brought a satisfactory attendance and the fare provided by our worthy President was well up to the standard set in previous years. After the usual business had been completed, we were privileged to see some more of Cyril Enoch's Number One collection which he had divided into two parts, the first comprising 75 sheets of many of his well-known items and the second 25 sheets of unusual or rare items.

Mr. Dave Slater-Kinghorn sent up his collection of South African maritime postmarks for inclusion in the President's programme and to this Durban member the Society's sincere appreciation is extended.

The last exhibit was one tabled by Manfred Weinstein himself and this consisted of a few of his South African airletter sheets all of which were varieties of some sort, such as interrupted printing, joined and repaired paper, etc. A small exhibit but a mighty interesting one.

PRETORIA RAILWAY PHILATELIC SOCIETY

December: The meeting was a fine success. The President and his Good Lady were host to a good gathering of members and their families who were entertained to three excellent films organised by John van Eyk. The first picture shown was a travel film of a motoring trip along the banks of the Danube, through beautiful countryside dotted with many towns and villages, finishing up in Vienna. This was followed by a film about a skiing holiday in

Austria and in this picture the snow scenes in this wonderful country were outstanding.

Finally a Buster Keaton comedy was screened showing how this old-timer journeyed on a rail trolley across America from the Pacific to the Atlantic. Unfortunately the sound gave up the ghost after the first film, but this did not detract from the enjoyment of the evening. Our sincere thanks to Messrs. Pringle and Camm for putting on the show for our Society.

EXPERT COMMITTEE

The next meeting of the Expert Committee of the Philatelic Federation of Southern Africa will be held on March 16th, 1968.

GREAT BRITAIN PHILATELIC SOCIETY

The President's Display was given by Mr. R. A. G. Lee, R.D.P., F.R.P.S.L., on Saturday the 18th November, 1967 at the Royal.

Mr. Lee's display defies description in a short article. It was divided into three parts and started with a very comprehensive display of the Perkins Bacon Essays of 1879 with many blocks of ½d., 1d., 1½d. and 2d. values. Then followed Mulreadys, House of Lords and House of Commons envelopes, and postmarks. A very rare item was a complete mint sheet of Punch's Anti-Graham Wafers.

The second part was devoted to surface printed issues beginning with the colour trials of 1855, followed by a wonderful range of the 1½d., 2½d. rose mauve, 3d. rose-red, 4d., 6d. and 9d. with hair lines, 1/- and 2/- values, with a mint sheet of the latter value overprinted SPECIMEN. Also on show were some unrecorded forgeries of the 2/-, 10/- and £1 stamps thought to have come from Paris.

The last section started with a wonderful display of the De La Rue Seahorse designs, with a truly remarkable range of colours of all values. This was followed by a large number of the "Dumb" cancellations used by the Navy and Army during the First World War, and finished with some Q.E.11 varieties of perforations through the middle of, and across the corner of, ½d. stamps.

ASSOCIATED SOCIETIES

We extend a sincere welcome to the Anglo-Boer War Philatelic Society, the Orange Free State Study Circle and the Transvaal Study Circle, all resident in Great Britain, upon their election as Associate Societies of the Philatelic Federation of Southern Africa. May their association be of mutual interest and benefit to South African philately.

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(Established 1923)

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MARCH, 1968

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SOUTH AFRICAN NOTES

By DR. H. J. RAUBENHEIMER,

Hon. Associate Editor.

NEW ISSUES



1c 241 240 A.B.C.D.

A new issue of the 1c Definitive, Kafferboomblom, was delivered to the Publicity Bureau on 11 January, 1968. With the exception of the new cylinder numbers on the sheets and the varieties it is identical to the short-lived preceding issue from cylinders 219, 218.

Printed on new cylinders, Nos. 241 Rosine, interior, and 240, olive grey, exterior, prepared from the previous multipositives, the sheets, as yet, are on Harrison coated paper with the RSA watermark upright and mostly indistinct.

There are numerous varieties, multipositive

as well as cylinder, the more prominent of them being:-

Pane A

Multipositive — common to the 219 218 and 241 240 printings.
Row/No.

- 6/ 1 White dot to the right of top of right flower.
- 6/ 9 Grey smudge on right frame line, 1/3rd down.
- 7/ 9 Grey dot above P of REPUBLIC.

Cylinder

- 9/ 3 Red dot below H A of SOUTH AFRICA.
- 10/ 8 Broken left leg of second A of AFRIKA.

Pane B

Multipositive

- 6/ 9 Grey mark at top left of R of REPUBLIC.

Cylinder

- 3/ 9 "Ring flaw" with grey centre at right of top of right flower.
- 5/10 Large grey mark between tops of flowers.
- 7/ 7 Large grey "half moon" above EP of REPUBLIC.
- 8/ 4 Large grey dot right of BL of KAFFERBOOMBLOM.
- 8/10 Large "ring flaw" with inner grey rings above 1c.

Pane C

Multipositive

- 4/ 4 Broken C of AFRICA.

Cylinder

- 4/ 4 Grey dot right of left flower stem.
- 6/ 9 Tiny red dot at left of right flower stem.
- 9/ 6 Tiny red dot at right of right flower stem.
- 9/ 7 Grey mark at left of top left flower.

Pane D

Cylinder

- 2/ 3 Grey wavy hairline down left side of stamp.
- 2/10 Red dot between base of flower stems.
- 4/ 6 Dark spot in the middle of the stamp.

- 7/ 3 Large pale area below the base of the flower stems.

There are also characteristic marks on some of the arrows which may serve as distinguishing features:

- A Pan. Top arrow: Broken left prong.
- B Pane. Bottom arrow: Tiny break in base of left prong.
- C Pane. Bottom arrow: Faint red line between left and centre prongs (also found on 219 218 printing.)

The horizontal comb join, on all sheets examined is between the top margin and row 1.



2c 236 237 A.B.

A new issue of the 2c Definitive stamp "Pouring of Gold" was delivered to the Publicity Bureau on the 8th January, 1968. It has a new, redrawn, design with bolder inscriptions.

The format of the sheets and stamps and the position and colours of the cylinder numbers and pane letters, marginal bars, arrows and the colour registers are unchanged.

Other features which have changed are:

Paper: Harrison, clearly marked RSA

watermark, upright mark.

Cylinders: Two, new, numbers 236 orange, interior, from new multipositives from the preceding master negatives, and 237 blue, exterior, from new multipositives and master negatives. Stepped up for the two pane multipositives. Printed on the Goebel 840 machine.

Sheet Numbers: As before, but only opposite rows 8 and 9 and again 19 and 20.

Arrows: There is a blue shadow effect around the left arrow of pane B.

Marginal Bars: Shorter than the preceding ones. They do not extend into the side margins.

Colour Register: The vertical lines are longer and the horizontal lines shorter than before.

Perforations: The top margin is imperforate and the bottom one is perforated through (the reverse of the previous issue).

Perf. Register punched out holes: Opposite rows 7 and 8 on the left margin of pane B and the right margin of pane A. Only the ones on page A have the concentric rings — blue (the previous ones were orange).

VARIETIES

Pane B

- 3/ 1 Blue mark on stand below right mould.
- 10/ 2 Blue line in column of gold being poured.
- 16/ 5 Small blue ring on side of left mould.
- 17/ 4 White dot above B of REPUBLIC.
- 19/ 1 White dots at top left corner of left mould.

Pane A

- 2/ 5 Blue dot in right flame above crucible.
- 8/ 2 Broken R of AFRICA.
- 8/ 5 White stroke on the top frame line at the right.
- 20/ 1 Blue dot in the gold in the right crucible.

NOTE.—There are two blue dots on the bottom margin of pane A below the marginal bar below stamp 20/4.

RECENT PRINTINGS

The following are to be included in the Recent Printings appearing in our February Number, page 25, and the illustrations for the 3c Republic stamp and the New Postage Dues, page 28.

Postage Stamps

1c — Job No. 11281.70 contd. On the order

for 2,000,000 sheets a total of 1,233,302 sheets has been delivered to date, of which 338,300 were from cylinders 210 Interior, 209 Exterior, when they broke and had to be discarded. New cylinders were prepared, Nos. 219 Interior and 218 Exterior, and there was a first delivery of 34,500 sheets on the Swiss paper (RSA watermarked, tête-bêche) on 24.8.67 and 28,500 sheets on Harrison paper (RSA upright) on 29.8.67. The existing multipositives were used and transferred by means of centre lines on the positives.

2½c — Job No. 69808.17 contd. On the order for 1,500,000 sheets a total delivery of 1,554,200 sheets was made up to the final date 11.4.67. Same cylinders 12 Interior, 11 Exterior.

— Job No. 9731.35. On a new order for 1,000,000 sheets a first delivery of 500 sheets was made on 14.4.67; the total delivery of 986,000 sheets was made by the final date 12.9.67. New cylinders 17 Interior, 23 Exterior.

— Job No. 19391.00. On a new order for 1,000,000 sheets, 7,500 sheets were first delivered on 21.9.67, the total delivery to date being 52,200 sheets. Same cylinders 17 Interior, 23 Exterior.



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March 28th & 29th

Airmails of the World

This is an outstanding sale featuring a Gold Medal Award winning collection formed by Dr. Ernst Raab of West Berlin, a prominent Surgeon-physician. The collection has obtained Gold Medals at 'Bephila' Berlin 1957, 'Luposta' Vienna 1961, 'Curiosa' at the Hague 1961; Gold Medal and Grand Prix 'Luposta' Berlin 1962, Gold Medal 'Wipa' 1965 and Gold Medal of the Court of Honour at Budapest 1967.

Dr. Raab is now President of the International Aero-Philately Club, Berlin and Vice-President of F.I.S.A. and chose aerophilately as a hobby because prior to the last War he was a keen glider pilot. He specialised in the period of the pioneer flights and went to tremendous pains to obtain the finest examples still in existence of these rare items.

Some important items included in the sale are as follows: Australia: Ross Smith miniature sheet and cover. Germany: 1912 Regensburg set of three in unique blocks of four—extensive range of flight cards. Colombia: Multi-coloured series complete including covers. Italy: Pioneer flight cards. Newfoundland: 'Hawker' cover. Italian Levant: 1922 Bucharest to Paris flight, 15 p., only five known. Finland: 1930 Zeppelin '1830' error, mint and on cover. French Guiana: TAG stamps. One of the finest collections formed, includes a unique block of four.

A de-luxe catalogue with many illustrations as well as colour plates is available at R1. (Airmail)

April 3rd, 4th & 5th

Whole World General Sale

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Illustrated Catalogue 50c. (Airmail)

April 18th

The 'Sidney Harris' Malaysia

Includes Malaysian States, North Borneo, Brunei, Sarawak and Labuan. One of the finest specialised collections to appear on the market for years. Also India used in Malaya, strong in the 1854 issues with many covers. Very complete typing of overprints and surcharges.

De-luxe catalogue with colour 75c. (Airmail)

April 19th

Specialised Scandinavian

A very fine range of early rarities of Finland, Norway and Denmark. Of particular interest is a collection of Royal Swedish correspondence written by Queen Louise between 1857 and 1869. Queen Louise was from the House of Orange; she married Crown Prince Charles XV in 1856 and became Queen of Sweden and Norway in 1860. The letters are enclosed in 'lady-sized' envelopes franked with mostly perfect copies of 6 and 24 sk.b. They are addressed to the Queen's former Governess who was also one of her closest friends. The well preserved envelopes are sealed with the seals of the Royal Swedish Household.

De-luxe catalogue R1. (Airmail)



POSTAL REQUIREMENTS OF THE REPUBLIC OF SOUTH AFRICA

The January Number of the Post Office Bulletin draws attention to the following:

Air-mail Envelopes.—In order to facilitate the identification of air-mail items in sorting offices and to speed up their treatment, the public is advised to use special envelopes with multi-coloured borders. An air-mail label must in any case be affixed.

Tie-on/Adhesive Label for Parcels.—Users of the parcel post service are respectfully reminded that the existing ordinary and agricultural parcel labels will be replaced by a tie-on/adhesive label with effect from 1 April, 1968, and the use of the latter label will be made compulsory. A smaller gummed label on which the usual declaration in respect of the contents of an agricultural parcel and the signature of the sender appear, will have to be used in conjunction with the tie-on/adhesive label.

STOP PRESS

The SHOW TRAIN left from Milner Park, Johannesburg, on 27 February, 1968, on its tour of the Republic.
A special datestamp will be used by the Postal Agency attached to the Train.
Further particulars will be given later.

RECENT AIR MAIL DEVELOPMENTS SOUTH AFRICAN AIRWAYS ASSISTED BY PRIVATE ENTERPRISE

By I. H. C. GODFREY

LESOTHO—SOUTH AFRICA

Towards the end of 1967 the Governments of the South African Republic and Lesotho (formerly Basutoland) entered into an air services agreement to operate scheduled international services between the two countries on a twice weekly basis in each direction.

Monday, October 2nd, 1967. Commercial Air Services (Pty.) Ltd. (Comair) inaugurated the first service from Johannesburg to Maseru and return on behalf of the nascent **Lesotho Airways**. A few ordinary covers, post-marked Maseru "2 X 67" and backstamped at Johannesburg on the 4th October, were authenticated as having been flown by receiving the rubber stamp impression of "Comair". A number of unofficial illustrated souvenir covers, and also a few current 5c Lesotho Aerogrammes privately overprinted, were also carried on this flight.

Friday, October 6th, 1967. South African Airways.

The reciprocal scheduled weekly service run

by the South African Government carried a few official S.A.A. covers from Lesotho on the first return service. These were postmarked at Maseru "6.XI.67" in error but were correctly backstamped at Johannesburg in October.

NOTE.—Due to the frequency of mail services by surface and the distance involved, the South African Postal authorities have not availed themselves of the air facilities of the above services and NO MAIL FROM THE REPUBLIC TO LESOTHO HAS BEEN FLOWN.

AIR MAIL SERVICES — NORTHERN CAPE PROVINCE

Interstate Air Services (Pty.) Ltd.

Monday, December 4th, 1967.

An air mail service contract was awarded by the Government to I.A.S. for the conveyance of mail on their regular scheduled flights between Johannesburg and Kimberley, operated by "Beech" aircraft, the route being as follows:

Jan Smuts Airport—Klerksdorp—Vryburg Postmasburg.

Kuruman—Sishen—Lime Acres—Kimberley.

Mail was however only accepted to and from Jan Smuts, Vryburg, Kuruman and Postmasburg.

Covers inspected carried on the first service are postmarked Johannesburg 4.XII.67 and were backstamped either the same day, or the day after, at destination.

THE 1968 EASTER STAMP FUND

"Cripple Care" today embraces every aspect of rehabilitation. The Easter Stamp Fund for Cripples provides the money which the National Council for the Care of Cripples in South Africa uses to advance all facets of cripple care work.

Easter Stamps are on sale throughout the month of March. By supporting the Easter Stamp Fund EVERYBODY can help restore cripples to useful independence. Cripples don't want charity — give them a chance to become taxpayers.

Support the EASTER STAMP FUND and help cripples to help themselves.

O.R.C. NUMERAL POSTMARKS

In the 'South African Philatelist' of March, 1962, Dr. Harvey Pirie discussed at some length the series of numeral postmarks similar to the Cape Type of 1864, with 9 bars surrounding a boxed number (with figures 5 mm. tall) to form a vertical oval. His comment at that time was that this was one series of numeral postmarks which very badly needed clearing up as regards the places of usage of the various numbers . . . In concluding his omission Dr. Harvey Pirie repeated a cry that he first made in 1940 . . . "Oh, for covers with place-date cancellations as well as numeral postmarks," with the rider . . . "But I have already waited twenty years in vain!"

Regretfully, in that Dr. Harvey Pirie is no longer with us to learn that his cry was heard and answered. I am able to report the place of usage with certainty of one of these numeral postmarks. It is No. 30 (a number not yet amongst the 46 recorded numbers) and is unquestioningly from the Postal Agency of KASSEL, which falls under the Head Office of DEWETSDORP. From the evidence provided by the two postcards that I have appears the reason why these marks have for so long remained unidentified as to place of usage. These numeral cancellers were NOT accompanied by any place-name cancellation. The only evidence of the place of posting is in the sender's address which is stated clearly on the message portion of the postcards. This implies that even if these numerals are found on covers, unless these covers have an indication of the sender's address, it will not be possible to establish the place of posting.

It is interesting to record that both postcards (dated May, 1907 and July, 1909) have transit marks of DEWETSDORP, in each instance dated the day following that on which the card was written. And in order to confirm beyond a doubt that the numeral canceller was NOT applied at DEWETSDORP the transit marks are in a different ink to the numeral cancellations.

In the article already referred to a list of numerals recorded was submitted, to which I am able now to add the following:

*6 (or 9), 10, 30, 34, 50, 61, 73, 78, 92 and 119.

This brings the grand total of recorded numbers to 56.

Although the distinguishing feature of this series of numeral postmarks is the 5 mm. height of the numerals I have two numbers, 6 (or 9) and 7, which I believe belong in this

series but do not conform exactly to this pattern. In the case of these two numbers (both on Edwardian stamps of the Orange River Colony) the size of the box in which the numerals appear is 12 mm. x 8½ mm. against 12 mm. x 8 mm. in all the others. The numbers are 7 mm. high against 5 mm. already mentioned. My suggestion is that the single-digit numerals are in the larger size, and it would be interesting to know the sizes of numbers 3 and 7, reported by Messrs. Buckley and Patten in the original discussion.

* It is on the basis of this hypothesis that I have included No. 6 (or 9) in the list of additional numerals now reported.

The above-mentioned two postcards with the numeral '30' are submitted for the confirmation of my diagnosis.

J. M. Weinstein.

(The postcards have been inspected and we are pleased to confirm Mr. Weinstein's diagnosis.—Editor.)

CAPE-TYPE BARRED NUMERALS

The following barred numeral cancellations may be added to those already recorded, all are on loose stamps:

855 — being from Fort Johnston, B.C.A., at least in 1894; 466 — recorded as 'Union', now also 'Cape'; 601 — Cape; 774 — Cape; 907 — Cape; 1120 — Cape (on Edward VII 1d.); 1137 — Cape (on Edward VII 1d.) and 1402 — Cape (on Edward VII 1d.).

J. M. Weinstein.

THE GREAT BRITAIN PHILATELIC SOCIETY

The Annual Competition for the President's Cup was won by Mr. R. G. Folkard, with a very fine display of the 1855-64 Perforated 1d. Reds. This included Imprimaturs, and examples of many of the plates, all in superb condition.

The runner-up was Mr. H. Morriss with an entry of his incomparable postmarks.

The Competition, restricted to members of less than five years standing, was won by Mr. H. Dagnell with a very comprehensive display illustrating the marks of the Parcel Post, well laid out and written up. The runner-up was Mr. A. Caseby showing a selection of Scottish Local marks.

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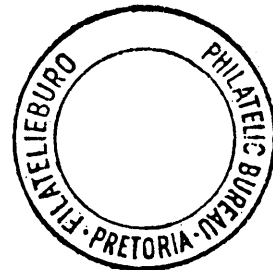


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A Philatelic Bureau exists in Pretoria to meet the special needs of stamp dealers and philatelists. Only stamps of the Republic of South Africa currently in use are on sale.

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. The amount should be sufficient to cover postage and registration.

Deposit accounts may be opened.

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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 aange- neem nie. Die bedrag moet voldoende wees om die pos- en registrasiegelde te dek.

Deposito-rekenings kan geopen word.

FORGERIES OF THE 1925 AIR MAIL STAMPS

Sir,

Some years ago I purchased in London a set of these forgeries and was told that they had been made in France — probably during the Second World War or shortly after. Sets of these forged stamps are not uncommon and are probably held in most collections of South African Air Mail stamps.

Recently a friend in England sent me another set which he stated had come to him from France, and a comparison of these with those already in my possession at once revealed certain differences which led me to examine both lots more carefully, after which I came to the conclusion that there were in existence two sets of forgeries and not only one. I set out below a table showing the differences between the stamps:

First Set

Perforation 13½.

Size of stamp 22 mm. x 28 mm.

Colour: 1d. carmine, 3d. bright blue, 6d. mauve, 9d. bright green.

Second Set

Perforation 11½.

Size of stamp 23 mm. x 28.5 mm.

Colour: 1d. much lighter shade, 3d. much darker and more like the ultramarine of the genuine, 6d. the same, 9d. dull green.

In the second set, the two lines of shading under the words AIR POST are thicker than the remaining lines of shading as is the case in the genuine stamps, whereas the first set does not have this characteristic. The general appearance of the two sets is decidedly different with the exception of the 6d. value and under the ultra-violet lamp, the second set shows much more fluorescence in the paper; the colour of the ink also differs under the lamp. Both sets have similar smooth gum.

It would be most interesting to know if others have become aware of these differences and if anything is known of the history of the forgeries, or sufficient of it to satisfy ourselves that there were either two forgers or that the same person had two "goes at the cherry"! If any of your readers has any information on the subject, would he be good enough to pass it on.

Yours faithfully,

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

THE STAMP FORGERY CASE

Lewis Meyerson (37), a Johannesburg optician, was recently sentenced to 30 years and six months' imprisonment at the Rand Criminal Sessions by Mr. Justice Hill.

He will serve only 13 years.

Meyerson appeared on a charge of forgery, one of uttering, two of bribery and one of being in possession of forged revenue stamps worth R12,950. He also appeared on a charge of conspiring to help his brother, Morris, escape from the Supreme Court cells on November 13.

On the forgery and uttering charges, Meyerson was sentenced to 10 years' imprisonment. On the next three charges, the two of bribery and the possession of forged stamps, he was sentenced to a total of 7½ years, which will run concurrently with the sentence for the first two charges.

In addition to this Meyerson will serve three years' imprisonment for the charge of conspiring to help Morris escape from the Supreme Court cells.

In passing judgment, Mr. Justice Hill said losses incurred by the State as a result of Meyerson's activities had not, and cannot, be ascertained.

Meyerson had no previous convictions.

Meyerson's appearance arises from a forgery of revenue stamps with a face value of approximately R7,000,000.

The Johannesburg "Star".

DEVALUATION AND THE STAMP TRADE

After recovering from the initial shock of devaluation, most dealers will be asking how the changes will affect them.

In the first place stamps purchased from most overseas countries will cost more, and prices will therefore have to go up. This will apply particularly to the stamps of the U.S.A., Australia, Canada, France and the other Common Market countries. On the other hand, the issues of New Zealand, Israel, Spain, Denmark and many of the Commonwealth territories will probably not be affected.

British stamps, particularly the modern commemoratives, may be cheaper to foreign purchasers, but, as Mr. Reuben Deetcher points out in a letter to the Editor, British dealers should not be tempted to make these issues available too cheaply to overseas buyers, because, once sold, it will be impossible to replace them. There is no virtue in making

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*Acknowledgement to The Philatelic Trader
and Stationer.*

STANLEY GIBBONS' CURRENT CIRCULAR ON DEVALUATION READS:

Due to devaluation, prices for all stamps are bound to rise, but Stanley Gibbons will try to maintain their basic price structure as published in the 1968 editions of their catalogues, as long as existing stocks last. Naturally, a general upgrading must take place in the international market, which will inevitably be reflected in catalogue prices (particularly of fine Classic items). Prices of current and new issues will have to be increased immediately for those countries whose currency was not devalued with the pound.

"WHY NOT THE NETHERLANDS"

By A. LESLIE LEON, F.R.P.S.L.

It seems surprising that at National Philatelic Exhibitions in South Africa during the last ten years there have not been more than four exhibits of the stamps of the Netherlands, and in no case was there a comprehensive survey of the country or its postal history. Apart from the facts that this country of ours has such an historical tie with Holland and that language difficulties for us are practically non-existent, there is no denying that the stamps of the Netherlands are in themselves beautiful and interesting and the typography has reached a very high state of perfection. There is so much to offer the ordinary collector, the serious student, the postal historian and the postmark fanatic that one imagines that there must be many a collection of the Netherlands tucked away and not put on show

at our annual exhibitions.

The first issues are not cheap in good condition, but from 1867 onwards most of the stamps are within the reach of most collectors. With the ascent to the throne of Queen Wilhelmina and the advent of the "girl queen" series of stamps, we have a large range of adhesives in beautiful and delicate colours. The centenary issue of 1913 is to my mind, as well produced a set as one could wish to see set out on an album page.

A curious feature of Netherlands philately is the difficulty the printers seem to have experienced in the perforation department — some issues come in as many as four different perforations, whilst the 1923 Jubilee of Queen Wilhelmina is listed with eleven such differences. In the same year, owing to a strike, two stamps were issued in an imperforate condition.

Commemorative and Welfare sets have been issued since 1906 but always in moderate numbers and they are no burden to collectors. The most interesting series of this nature is undoubtedly the "Summer Stamps" which have come from the Post Office each year since 1935 with a break during the German occupation. These were designed for cultural purposes and they have achieved a very high standard of typographical art. They are described and illustrated in a booklet "Summer stamps of the Netherlands, a brilliant mosaic" by Christiaan de Moor, which can be obtained in English. I got my copy by sending R1.05 to the Netherlands Postal and Telecommunications Services at the Hague, and it is well worth the money.

For the collector of postmarks, there are the interesting numbered cancellations between dots which ceased about 1894 to be followed by the small c.d.s. and its larger counterpart. As already mentioned, you can wallow in perforation differences to your heart's delight, but one must make special mention of the interrupted perfs, which came into existence to cater for automatic machines; the interruptions in the perfs may occur on two sides of the stamp, on four sides, or only at the corners, and these provide quite a fascinating study in themselves.

Naturally, this country does not lag behind when it comes to first-day covers, special cancellations and all the dodges which are supposed to delight the philatelist, but one cannot complain that the Netherlands has overstepped the mark in these matters.

An excellent catalogue is issued annually by the N.V.P.H. — the Netherlands Association of Stamp Dealers, which contains more

information than one usually gleans from catalogues and South Africans should have little difficulty in understanding it. So, why not the Netherlands?

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INFLASIE EN DIE WAARDE VAN SEËLS

Inflasie, devaluasie van die Britse pond, stygende kostes van handelsware, hoër lone, ensovoorts is almal dinge wat die seëlhandel tot 'n mate tref. Daar is versamelaars wat wil weet, gaan die waarde van seëls nog styg en is geldbelegging in seëls op hierdie tydstip wenslik?

Dat seëls duurder gaan word is seker, handelaars moet hul werknemers meer betaal, papier en skryfbenodighede word duurder en posgeld is verhoog. Die postarief van Groot-Brittanje na die buiteland het baie gestyg, vernameklik die lugpostarief. 'n Voorbeeld hiervan is die weekblad, "Stamp Collecting", wat eers R8 per jaar per lugpos gekos het, die prys is nou na R22 verhoog. Seëlversamelaars wat hul kapitaal in seëls belê het, wonder nou wat van die toekoms.

As 'n mens terugkyk na die pryse van seëls oor die afgelope twintig of dertig jaar, dan is dit duidelik dat daar 'n gelydelike styging in die waarde van goeie seëls plaasgevind het. Seëls van Groot-Brittanje en Wes-Europese lande het gedurende die laaste paar jaar skielik gestyg, 'n teken dat die aanvraag groter word. Deur al die jare was daar geen onrusbare teken van daling in pryse nie, maar wel 'n stilstand in handel wanneer depressie of selfs inflasie intree. Goeie seëls van bogenoemde lande verloor nie waarde nie, selfs in tye van inflasie is goeie seëls 'n goeie belegging, 'n vorm van besparing.

Wat vir die seëls van meeste lande geld, is ook vir die seëls van Suid-Afrika van toepassing. Daar was 'n tyd toe die aanvraag na ons seëls swak was, maar die waarde van die seëls het nie gedaal nie, die seëlhandel het ook

hier sy getye. Op die huidige tydstip is daar in dele van ons land en ook oorsee 'n redelike aanvraag na ons seëls en pryse is goed. Alhoewel die mark, na verneem word in Johannesburg, nie so goed is nie is daar tog 'n goeie aanvraag na Suid-Afrikaanse seëls in Kaapstad.

Versamelaars begin nou wakker skrik om te vind dat sommige van die prente-reëls seëls waardevol word en dat van die hoogste waardes nie maklik teen billike pryse bekombaar is nie.

Ten spyte van onseker wêreldtoestande het seëls tog 'n goeie beleggingswaarde. Die aankoop van goeie seëls moet egter met wysheid en oorleg met ervare versamelaars gedoen word.

Die Halfpennie Springbokkop

Die Suid-Afrikaanse halfpennie Springbokkop-seël van 1926 is nog nie dood nie. Dit is verblydend om te sien dat hy in die Januarie-uitgawe van „Stamp Collecting” weer aandag geniet. In 'n artikel deur A. Sterckx, word hy na al die jare van sy bestaan, nog as 'n onderwerp vir gespesialiseerde studie aanbeveel. Vir byna dertig jaar het hierdie seël diens gedoen, in 1954 is sy loopbaan beëindig en is hy deur die halfpennie vlakvark vervang. Omdat sy loopbaan so lank en aanvraag na hom so groot was, het hy tot so 'n mate vermeerder dat groot hoeveelhede van die seël vandag nog beskikbaar is. 'n Aantal jare gelede het daar 'n handboek oor die Springbok halfpennie-seël deur dr. Gordon Ward in Londen verskyn; hy gaan in die fynste besonderhede oor die verskillende drukke en afwykings. Ongelukkig is die boek vandag byna onverkrygbaar, maar die seël leef nog voort en bied selfs vir versamelaars oorsee 'n ruime veld van studie aan.

Ten spyte van die feit dat die seël sowat ses-en-veertig drukke ondergaan het, het hy weinig van ontwerp en patroon verander. Die veelvoudige Springbokkop watermerk het deurgaans dieselfde gebly. Hierdie belangrike seël wat die eerste van die prente-reeks was, is op papier aan die einde van 1925 in die drukpers van Waterlow & Sons in Londen gebore en op 1 Januarie 1926 aan die publiek van Suid-Afrika uitgelewer. Sy voorkoms was tipografies van aard in swart en groen.

Vanaf 1927 is hy saam met die ander seëls van sy stel deur die Staatsdrukker in Pretoria gedruk. Verskeie nuwe plate was van tyd tot tyd nodig om hom aan die lewe te hou; hy het ook ligter van kleur geword en van tanding 'n weinig verander, vernaamlik toe hy in boekies verskyn het; sy watermerk was ook soms omgekeerd.

Tot dusver was hy deur 'n plaat gedruk, maar in 1930 het die rolfotografureproses in gebruik gekom. Behalwe vir sy algemene voorkoms het die seël net een verandering ondergaan, nl. dat die letter R in die woorde AFRIKA en AFRICA, 'n stomp been gekry het teenoor die krul wat in die vorige uitgiftes te sien was.

In 1936 het die seël by geleentheid van die Filatelistiese tentoonstelling JIPEX, Johannesburg, in miniatuurblad-vorm verskyn, die letters JIPEX met die datum 1936 was oor die seël gedruk.

Die seël het ook in rolformaat voorgekom. Vanaf 1937 het hy verskillende skakerings van groen vertoon; groen is 'n moeilike kleur om te herhaal, gevolglik was die agtereenvolgende drukke nie altyd dieselfde kleur nie. Die skakerings het gewissel van groen na donker-groen, lig- en diep blougroen, grysgroen, geelgroen, ensovoorts.

Die agtergrond van die seël het wel veranderings ondergaan, die strepe wat die agtergrond uitmaak en wat eers baie dun was, het dikker geword. Die growwe voorkoms van die seël het ook deur middel van die rasterproses (screen process) verfyn, sodat hy meer egalig van kleur vertoon het. Toe hy nou ouer word in 1947 het hy 'n bietjie kleiner formaat aangeneem.

Baie versamelaars stel nie belang in al die klein afwykings nie, om nie eers die dotjies en kolletjies te noem nie. Vir die spesialis egter is al die fyn merkies van die aller grootste belang, hulle dien as hulpmiddels tot klassifisering van die seëls; hulle dui aan tot watter

groep, druk of tydperk van uitgifte hulle behoort.

Die halfpennie Springbok-seël van 1926 net soos die 1d. Van Riebeeckskip-seël van dieselfde jaar, sal versamelaars nog baie jare besig hou al het hy veertig jaar gelede sy amptelike loopbaan beëindig.

STAMP DEALS, POSBUS 2272, JOHANNESBURG is in voeling met leweransiers die wêreld deur en kan miskien net daarin slaag om die seël wat maar nié wil opdaag nie, vir u te kry.

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SEËLS — MET DIE KLEM OP NEDERLAND,
SUID-AFRIKA EN REPUBLIEKSE
SILINDERBLOKKE.

SUIDWES-AFRIKA

Op 2 Januarie 1968 is twee seëls (3c en 15c) uitgereik ter ere van Adv. Charles Roberts Swart, die eerste Staatspresident van die Republiek van Suid-Afrika. Soos ons al gewoon is bereik amptelike kennisgewings ons veels te laat om vir ons lesers van nut te wees. Ons sal egter ons plig versuim as ons nie daarop wys dat hierdie seëls later miskien gaan „lol”. Die rede is dat daar drie eentalige seëls is — Afrikaans, Engels en Duits. Hulle sal dus in repies van drie versamel moet word; 'n

stuk van nege as 'n silinderblokkie nodig is. Waar daar slegs 250,000 stelle uitgegee is, beteken dit slegs 83,000 versamelstukke en sowat 27,000 silinderblokkies, maar bloedmin. Alreeds is silinderblokkies onverkrybaar, natuurlik omdat besitters aan hulle vashou.

RHODESIË

Amptelik is aangekondig dat die dubbele-waarde 3d/2½c vinnig uitgeput raak en dat die voorraad aangevul staan te word met 'n nuwe 3d deur Mardon sowel as met 'n klein voorraad van die oorspronklike 3d deur Harrison, Londen. Die nuwe 3d word nou enige tyd verwag. (Die redes vir die afskaffing van die dubbele-waarde is in ons laaste „Iets vir Almal” verstrek).

WHY PHILATELY CREATED EXPERTISING COMMITTEES

(Continued from page 45, February 1968)

Two distinct groups evolved, one for the protection of the trade, and the other for collectors. The British Philatelic Association seems to have established services under both headings.

Since 1894, expert committees have been set up in many countries in Europe and in the United States, including the Expert Committee of The Philatelic Foundation, which was established in October, 1945. The services these committees undertake express opinions on stamps and philatelic material submitted for examination. "The relative importance of expert committees in philately can be judged by the extensive number of stamps which have been sent in for examination."

The Opinions Expressed

An attempt has been made to put a connotation on the functions of expert committees which embrace aspects not concerned with the services offered. During a debate, "Should Expert Committees Be Held Liable For The Opinions Expressed", at a meeting of the Collectors Club in New York, Oct. 4, 1961, one member made the point that giving an opinion is nothing more than the rendering of a service. This is what an expert committee undertakes to do.

That statement was challenged by another speaker who maintained that "a certificate from an expert committee should be a guaranteed expression of worth." A "guarantee" is a pledge that certain contracts or obligations will

be fulfilled. An expert committee has fulfilled its duty in rendering an opinion based upon the knowledge and ability of its members and consultants.

Still another speaker suggested the opinions expressed on expert committee certificates could help stabilize stamp values. The price of a stamp, as with any other commodity, is determined by supply and demand. If a stamp is offered for sale, with or without an expert certificate, and no one is interested in it, an expert certificate cannot produce a buyer, or create competition; thus, the value of a stamp cannot be established or stabilized. "Expert committees are not concerned with the worth or value of the material they examine."

Fees do not pay for Service Costs

A further suggestion made during the October debate was that the fee involved often influenced the opinion given by expert committees. Can any person honestly imagine a reputable body of philatelic authorities, who do this work freely, taking into account the size of the fee to be charged as a factor to be considered in the opinion pronounced? Certainly not. Actually, the fee charged could not possibly cover the cost of the service given. The members of expert committees and consultants work voluntarily. As it is, the fees contribute to the overhead expenses involved in operating an expert committee, and to the cost of the necessary stationery, photography, insurance, mailing, office staff, scientific instruments, and rent of the premises required to house the reference collections used.

It is doubtful if the members of any expert committee, engrossed with the examination of a particular "patient", even know what fee will be charged. The pressure of work and concentration involved in the careful study and examination of stamps, leaves little room for the mind to be cluttered with extraneous matters such as fees charged, which is the job of the accounting department.

The Service

During the past 73 years, dedicated groups of philatelists have formed expert committees with the object of detecting forgeries of one type or another, with which the less experienced collector may not be familiar. The service undertaken by these committees is to express an opinion on the stamps submitted.

At no time has it been established by an expert committee that the certificates issued

serve other than to record the opinion pronounced. The impression that a certificate enhances the value of the stamp for which it is issued is a conception that has arisen in philatelic circles, but it is not one that any reputable expert committee has incorporated in the descriptions of its services.

"Batting Averages"

As in any human endeavour there will be a modicum of error, but mistakes are a very small percentage of the volume of material examined. If an error can be substantiated, an expert committee welcomes the return of the "patient" in question, together with any new evidence available, which may possibly contribute to an opinion being amended. To simply state "the opinion is wrong" contributes nothing. In order to be constructive such a statement must be supported by evidence.

More and more non-constructive criticism seems to be levelled at expert committees by some stamp dealers. This deserves comment. One who makes his living from the purchase and sale of stamps should be knowledgeable. Otherwise, it would be difficult for him to ply his trade. Why, then, should the professional philatelist seek the opinion of expert committees? Sometimes he must do so because certain of his clients insist on obtaining an expert certificate before purchasing a stamp. If the dealer, who so readily levels criticism at the opinions expressed, is as competent a philatelist as he is expected to be, then perhaps many of his customers would not insist upon an independent opinion before buying.

Stamp dealers and collectors are prone to human failings as are members of expert committees. Occasions may well arise when the most knowledgeable of philatelists would prefer an independent authority to examine a stamp. At the same time, if a hidden defect is discovered during the examination of a stamp, the members of the expert committee should not be charged with "having spoiled a sale", which happens occasionally.

A Certificate creates Confidence

Philatelists may elect to put whatever meaning they wish on the services offered by an expert committee. They should not try to bring pressure on a dedicated committee of volunteers to assume obligations that they have not undertaken. "Expert committees are only expected to render an opinion to the best of their ability on stamps that are submitted for examination." Certainly no one is compelled to seek

an expert committee's opinion.

Philately has come a long way since 1894. The fact remains that expert committees were — and are — established with the prime object of affording a service to detect counterfeit, forged, and faked material for those whose philatelic knowledge and experience has not reached the stage where they are able to discern for themselves.

If, since 1894, the results of services offered by expert committees have created a measure of confidence in buying and selling, then the general philatelic public has shown its whole-hearted acceptance of expert committees and what they offer.

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**FROM A PARLOUR IN CLAPHAM
TO FLEET STREET HEADQUARTERS**

By SUSAN SHARP

It was in 1899 that a group of eight people met in a small parlour at the back of a sweet shop in Clapham, and listened to a young man of 17, who sat sharing the horsehair sofa.

Little was that young man to know that sixty eight years later the society he formed would have thousands of members, and be

one of the leading societies of its kind.

Frederick Melville had applied for membership to a philatelic society, and had been turned down because of his age. It was this that inspired him to start his own society, and it was this that stimulated his interest in the young collector and the beginner.

On his death, his members said of him: "I think his real contribution was his genuine interest in the young collector" and "to philatelists of nearly two generations the name of Fred Melville has been one of paramount significance. That name has stood for the best and brightest side of philately." He was hailed as the "greatest propagandist of philately."

What more could he have desired as a memorial than the National Philatelic Society? A body of enthusiasts, stamp lovers, experts and amateurs, young and old. A live society, and an energetic society.

The National Philatelic Society is now the largest society in the United Kingdom, and is the only one with its headquarters in the heart of London.

In Fleet Street is one of the finest philatelic libraries, and all members have access to the many books and periodicals.

Literature dates back to long before the society was formed, and a prize item in this collection is the first Italian catalogue.

It is quite easy to spend hours browsing along the bookshelves, or one can sit and study, or borrow some of the numerous volumes.

Regular auctions, which precede the monthly meetings have grown so popular that there are usually 70 or 80 lots, and as the number of lots is limited because of time, there is frequently a waiting list.

Meetings themselves are also popular, with the displays, talks and bourses.

One of the leading exchange packet circuits in the country is run by the society, to which members contribute. Many of the new members (and about 25 join every month) ask to be included on these circuits, and there are two—one for general collectors, and one mainly for young collectors — so that everyone is catered for.

The society also has an Expert Committee who examine stamps for genuineness or identification. The Stamp Lover, the society's journal, which is free to members, is published bi-monthly.

Acknowledgement "Stamp Weekly".

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NEWS ON RHODESIAN STAMPS

Dual Currency on Mardon Printings of Current Definitives

When the original Harrison printing of the 3d. stamp ran out, the Post Office authorities decided to reprint this stamp with the dual value 3d. : 2½c on it, as they felt this was an excellent opportunity to begin accustoming the general public to the decimal system which is due to be introduced in Rhodesia in 1970, and this was to be followed by the same dual currency printing on further values as they were required. This was explained in our Information Leaflets Nos. 1 and 6 of 1967.

However, the recently established Decimal Conversion Currency Board which is examining the whole question of the projected change-over to decimal currency and is studying the methods used in other countries (e.g. S. Africa, Australia, New Zealand, Zambia) has intimated to the Post Office authorities that the inclusion of the value in cents is somewhat premature, and should not have been done without prior consultation with the Currency Board. The Board has not yet reached a decision on the actual decimal coins to be issued and particularly, whether there will in fact be any ½ cent value in the new monetary system.

In these circumstances, the Post Office authorities have no option but to revise their policy and to postpone issuing definitives bearing the dual values until the Currency Board have clarified the position, except where there is an exact equivalent without using ½ cents.

1966 S. RHODESIA INDEPENDENCE OVERPRINT FORGERIES

As is known, certain values of these stamps have been produced with forged overprints, but it has been generally assumed that these were mainly forged overprint errors such as inverted overprints etc.

However, it is certain that the Churchill stamp has been forged to appear as a normal overprinted stamp. There are two types of Churchill overprint forgeries known to date:

1. A very crude attempt, the letters and numbers being of a different type from that of the original. In the copies we have seen, the pressure has been so great that a reversed embossed effect on the back has been produced. Amongst other obvious differences, the length of the word 'Independence' is 3 mm. longer than the genuine overprint, and the strike after 5 in 5/- is much thicker. The

figure 5/-, too, produces the most marked embossed effect.

2. The overprinting of the so-called 'Binda' forgeries, however, is identical in type and size to that of the genuine overprints, but it can be definitely detected by expert examination.

We know for certain that there are dealers and collectors who have bought these stamps in good faith as being the genuine article, and consequently purchasers should be very careful when buying the Churchill overprint.

Most of these forgeries seem to have found their way out of Rhodesia; in our opinion, only in Rhodesia is there as yet sufficient specialised knowledge for the detection of the forgeries from the genuine overprints. We know, too, that some of these forgeries have been offered in some instances at much lower prices than the normal market price, and collectors and dealers should exercise great care when buying 'Bargains' in these stamps.

IDENTIFICATION OF THE 6d. AND 1/3d. PAPER TRIALS

We have had a number of requests for the identification of the types of 6d. Brown gum, i.e. the White Chromo and the Supreme Chromo, which are not readily distinguishable at sight, as are the other stamps in the Paper Trials.

The 6d. Cream gum (White Esparto) Commonwealth Catalogue No. 31a, and the 6d. White clear gum, Cat. No. 31, are readily distinguishable from one another and from the Brown gum (3lb.) as they are clearly different papers; and the three 1/3 stamps Cat. Nos. 32, 32a and 32b cannot be mistaken for each other for the same reason. Therefore, the only papers which are difficult to distinguish at sight are the White Chromo and the Supreme Chromo used in the printing of the 6d. Brown gum (3lb.).

Examination of these two 6d. stamps under a Quartz lamp shows no significant change in the White Chromo, whereas in the Supreme Chromo the light green of the background and the white margin become a fluorescent lavender shade. When the stamps are examined under the lamp with the gummed side upwards, the Supreme Chromo again shows the fluorescent lavender shade whilst the White Chromo remains virtually unchanged.

It should be noted, however, that the 6d. Cream gum (White Esparto paper) shows the same reaction as the Supreme Chromo when examined under a Quartz lamp, but in any

case it is readily distinguishable from the Chromos by the cream shade of the gum.

We have found that examination of these stamps under a Quartz lamp gives an absolutely positive identification of the White and Supreme Chromo papers. Some changes in the red of the Flame Lily are also noticeable, but these can be disregarded and the fluorescent lavender shade produced in the Supreme Chromo under the Quartz lamp accepted as a definite identification.

"Information Leaflet by The Salisbury Stamp Co. (Pvt.) Ltd."

INTERESTING ASPECTS OF THE COMMEMORATIVE ISSUES OF THE REPUBLIC OF SOUTH AFRICA

Paper read by Mr. M. S. Weitzmann at a meeting of the S.A. Stamp Study Circle.

The Presentation of a Stamp Collection has much in common with an attractive woman. If you were to see her at home, doing the housework in a gown and slippers, with her hair in curlers and a "doek" on her head, you would hardly give her a second glance, but when she is all dressed up to go to a party then she can become an exciting proposition.

The same principle applies to the presentation of a stamp collection. While it may be in order for the philatelist to maintain his material on scraps of paper, with pencil notations in explanation, I do not believe that this is good enough when exhibiting at Philatelic meetings or exhibitions.

I am accordingly presenting my collection of Commemorative Stamps in a manner intended to generate interest in "lay-out" apart from exhibiting interesting material.

Introduction to Commemorative Stamps

It may be of interest to those present today to know that the First Commemorative Adhesive was a "local" of Frankfort-On-Main celebrating the 25th anniversary, in 1887, of the formation of a sporting club (A Stamp Collector's Encyclopedia, Sutton).

The First British Commemorative Issue was the Centenary Set of New South Wales in 1888.

The First American Commemorative Stamp was issued by the Argentine in 1892 and this was followed shortly afterwards by the U.S.A. Columbian Issue in 1893, both of which commemorated the 400th anniversary of the

discovery of America by Columbus. The Zuid Afrikaansche Republiek issued a Commemorative Stamp in the Transvaal as early as 1895.

As you are aware the First Commemorative Stamp issued by the Republic of South Africa appeared on the 1st December, 1961, to commemorate the 50th anniversary of the Air Mail Services of our country, which had its beginning on 27th December, 1911.

Why are Collectors fascinated by Commemorative Issues?

Possibly because:

(1) Not everybody has the time or patience to seriously collect the Definitive Issues which can involve a Philatelist in endless study if he specialises. Just as the majority of the public are not regular punters on the horses, yet when it comes to an occasional flutter on the Durban July then popular interest is stimulated. So it appears to be with the collectors of Commemorative Stamps who get a decided thrill in anticipating the appearances and designs of the new issues. There is always the excitement of meeting fellow collectors at the local Post Office, all scrambling through the available sheets in order to satisfy their requirements, to obtain a first-day cover, and then to discuss the current issue with other philatelists still in the vicinity of the Post Office.

(2) Those with a feeling for history will naturally be attracted to Commemorative Issues which strongly portray the national character, traditions, heroes, achievements and aspirations of the nation.

(3) Collectors are frequently attracted by the great variety of colours, designs and subjects which appear on commemorative stamps. However beautiful the Definitive Issues may be, their monotonous regularity tends to breed indifference.

The collectors of Commemorative Issues appear to fall mainly into the following categories:

- (a) The collectors of Commemorative Stamps.
- (b) The collectors of First-Day Covers.
- (c) The collectors of Date Stamps and Special Cancellations.
- (d) The collectors of specific Commemorative Items of thematic interest, such as Special Aerial Flight Covers.
- (e) The collectors who are motivated by speculative considerations.

In order to satisfy as many tastes as possible, material covering all of these fields will be exhibited today.

As my talk is entitled "Interesting Aspects of the Commemorative Issues of the Republic

of South Africa", I will now draw the attention of this meeting to the following items of interest:

First Aerial Post Commemorative Issue

Amongst the various peculiarities of this Issue two points stand out strongly:

(1) A prominent blue dot may be evident on either the left or right margins opposite row 4, or it may be bi-sected, depending upon the manner in which the individual sheets were guillotined from the web.

(2) It is also interesting to note that there were two printings, made on thin arms water-marked paper and thick arms watermarked paper.

Both issues appeared at the Post Office at the same time, namely 1st December, 1961.

The Volkspede Commemorative Issue

A 2½c Commemorative Postage Stamp was issued on the 1st March, 1962, to commemorate the 50th anniversary of the start of Volkspede in South Africa. These stamps differed from the First Aerial Post Issue in that they were produced in double-die format, comprising two panes, B and A, with B on the left.

Four-figure red sheet numbers were inscribed twice on the bottom margin of pane B only, pane A being devoid of these numerals.

A few interesting creased papers were discovered.

A special date stamp dated 1st March, 1962, was used at Bloemfontein for servicing first-day covers.

The British Settlers Monument Commemorative Stamps

Two postage stamps of 2½c and 12½c denominations were issued on the 20th August, 1962, to commemorate the unveiling of the "Precinct Stone" of the British Settlers Monument at Grahamstown.

For the first time a printer's "guide line" in the form of two superimposed crosses in the two contributing colours appeared on the sheets of both denominations.

On the 2½c denomination, a small partially printed area, exhibiting the screen effect, appears at the bottom of the sheets right margin, adjoining stamp 5 of row 20. This was probably the result of insufficient masking out of the margin with acid resist, and consequently etching of the cylinder took place here, producing a patch of undesired colour in what should have been a colourless margin.

A special cancellation was used for the first-day covers.

It portrayed the ship "Chapman" and was used in Grahamstown only on the 3rd September, 1962.

The Kirstenbosch Commemorative Stamps

For the first time Republican Commemorative Stamps were printed on white unwatermarked paper. Previous Issues were all on Arms Watermarked Paper.

For the first time, on South African stamps, "Process Colours" were used to obtain a variety of colour tints.

For the first time Republican Commemorative Stamps were printed in quadruple format with panes marked A, B, C and D.

For the first time six differently coloured electronic guide marks were used during the printing process.

Sections of these marks appeared on some of the panes where the guillotine failed to remove them entirely.

The Red Cross Commemorative Issue

Concerning the 2½c stamp, for the first time, a Republican Commemorative Stamp was found to have the watermark in the reversed position.

This occurred in both the 42-82-89 A and B and 42-99-89 A and B printings. The number of sheets so found was limited.

At first it was concluded that this was due to the paper being gummed on the wrong side.

Subsequently a reversed "R" in the R.S.A. watermarked paper appeared in the 2½c Rugby, the 2½c Calvin and the 2½c Nurses stamps.

It was then suggested that a misformed "R" was the result of a defective Dandy Roller used in the watermarking stage.

The remainder of this printing, was printed on R.S.A. watermarked paper with the R.S.A. facing right.

Early in the first printing, cylinder 82 developed a flaw and was replaced by cylinder 99.

Cylinder 82 was subsequently "cleaned off" and again reconstructed for use in the printing of the 12½c Red Cross value.

A red "blob", depending upon the guillotining process, occurs on the edge of either the left or right hand, or both margins of pane B only, opposite row 2.

This issue yielded some notable "fold over"

papers with perfs.

With regard to the 12½c stamp, this appeared on cylinders 7-82 in both panes A and B.

The R.S.A. watermark only appeared in the upright position.

Cylinder 82, as previously stated, again made its appearance in re-constructed form after having broken down during the 2½c Red Cross Stamps first printing.

The well known interrupted printing, which produced an absent Red Cross, certainly drew attention to this Issue.

The Transkei Stamp

For the first time since the beginning of the Republic a new sheet format appeared which comprised 20 rows x 4 = 80 stamps. It is understood that this arrangement was an experiment and was done mainly for audit purposes as a sheet now worked out to a round R2 in value, not R2-50c as previously.

There seems to be two printings, as some of the sheets appeared on white gummed paper and the others on brown gummed paper.

This Issue gained extra prominence by the discovery of a very fine interrupted printing, in which the green was omitted due to a stoppage of the printing machine (22 copies known to exist). Some prominent doctor blade smudges also occurred.

Two special cancellers of similar design were simultaneously used in conjunction with the Transkei stamps.

One was used at Umtata for local cancellations and the other was used in Pretoria mainly for overseas orders.

The different cancellers can be recognized because:

- (1) There is a longer dash between Umtata and Transkei on the Pretoria impression.
- (2) The centre bar of the "E" of Transkei is closer to the top bar in the UMTATA impression.
- (3) The 3 of 63 also differs between the cancellers.

Rugby Commemorative Stamps — 2½c and 12½c Denominations

There is very little to comment upon concerning this Issue.

However, it is interesting to note that differences appeared between the official photographs and the printed stamps which suggests that the designs were slightly modified.

In the case of the 2½c stamp the figure of the value appeared to be longer and thinner.

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.
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VISITORS CORDIALLY WELCOMED.
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THE PORT ELIZABETH PHILATELIC SOCIETY

meets on the first and third Tuesday each
month in the
**B.C.E.S.L. Hall, St. Andrews Street,
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 838-682 (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 97, 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).**
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PHILATELY ARE WELCOME.
P.O. Box 378, Krugersdorp
**Secretary's Telephone: Business 660-7511;
Home 660-3461.**

THE EAST RAND PHILATELIC SOCIETY

P.O. Box 538, 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.

With regard to the 12½c value, the shading of the player differs between the official photograph and the printed stamp.

Two Commemorative Date Stamps were in use on the 8th May, 1964, one was utilised in Johannesburg and the other in Cape Town.

To be continued.

FORTHCOMING COMMONWEALTH NOTES

By J. WOODGATE

Barbados: Two new issues are expected shortly. One for World Meteorological Day will come in March, and the other for the Golden Jubilee of the Girl Guides is due in April.

Canada: On March 13th, a 5c stamp for the 200th Anniversary of the 1st Meteorological Readings.

Guyana: The definitives which had a provisional issue date of February 23rd, are now to be issued on March 4th.

Jamaica: The set for International Human Rights originally scheduled for January 2nd,

is now to be issued on March 1st.

Lesotho: A 3c definitive is to be issued later this year as part of the current set. This will be the first 3c stamp to be issued by Lesotho.

Norfolk: On March 18th the next 3 definitives in the "Ships" series are to be issued. They are: 15c, the Mission brigantine "Southern Cross"; 20c, the Seventh Day Adventist schooner "Pitcairn"; 25c, an Island whale-boat.

Pitcairn: 3 stamps are to be issued in April for International Human Rights. The values are 1c, 2c and 25c. Pitcairn currency is linked to New Zealand, so after devaluation the face value of this set is 22.4 South African cents.

Acknowledgement Crown Agents Stamp Bulletin.

THE VEREENIGING EXHIBITION POSTMARKS

The date given in the second paragraph on page 1 of our January, 1968, number should read 21st October and not the 2nd October. It is regretted that our scrutiny did not detect the printer's error.

UNION OF SOUTH AFRICA

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SOCIETY NEWS

GERMISTON PHILATELIC SOCIETY

Due to the Secretary's recent absence overseas, the following reports are submitted now:

October: The meeting was devoted to a Swap and Sell session. Consequently not much to report in detail; however the reluctance of members to wend their homeward way early, it can be inferred that something of interest must have taken place.

November: The meeting was the annual visit of the Philatelic Society of the Western Rand. In addition to the three displays by that Society's members, Mr. J. Burrell gave a most interesting talk on "Swiss coated papers" and demonstrated with the "black light" which he had brought along the differentiation between this and the other fluorescent paper in current use for South African stamps.

December: In place of our usual meeting, the evening was the Society's Christmas Social, which took the form of a braai-vleis followed by a film show. A large attendance of members, their families and friends. All in all a most successful social, thoroughly enjoyed by all. Special thanks to Mr. B. Clark who acted as projectionist that evening.

January: The President, Mr. R. G. L. Mephius, was in the chair with nineteen members present.

As in previous years, it was the turn of Executive members to display at the first ordinary meeting of the new year and four members brought along ten pages or more of interesting items. Mr. N. S. Hesselbarth with a selection of First-Day covers of South African and Swaziland issues. Mr. A. C. Rix various issues of Malta. Mr. I. S. Burniston a varied selection of stamps from islands in the Atlantic and the Caribbean. Lastly, but not least, Mr. A. Thompson with a miscellaneous display of a Thematic nature. Thanks to the Exhibitors was given by Mr. H. J. Suklje. It was most pleasing to see that Mr. T. L. Ross was fit enough to be able to attend this meeting. Owing to having been in poor health for a number of years, Mr. T. L. Ross had not attended any meetings although he had retained his position as Hon. Auditor to the Society.

AFRIKAANSE PHILATELISTIESE VERENIGING VAN PRETORIA

Januarie: Die aand is gebruik vir die opstelling van die jaar se programme en daar is probeer om soveel as moontlik telkens saam met 'n veteraan 'n junior te laat uitstal wat nog nie eerder iets van sy versameling vertoon het nie. Daar word gehoop dat dit 'n aanmoedigende invloed sal hê. Mnr. Becker het sy pragtige versameling binne- en buitelandse lugbriewe van die Republiek uitgestal. Dit is 'n kompleete versameling, met alle afwykings, kleurverskille, drukfoute, waardeverskille. Die versameling is voorbeeldig opgestel, 'n voorbeeld van filatelie in die ware sin van die woord. Die ander uit-

staller was die sekretaris met 'n aantal luogkeverte van Curacao en Suriname, met die omliggende gebied, vervoer deur die K.L.M.

PORT ELIZABETH PHILATELIC SOCIETY

November: At the meeting an innovation was introduced in which questions put by members were answered. The first concerned how to remove rust on stamps and Mr. T. J. Strachan gave a detailed explanation and demonstration on how this should be done. Mr. G. Bülbring then discussed what one should strive for as far as the condition of stamps is concerned.

The display was by Mr. W. Harmer who showed us the stamps of King George VI, covering the period 1937 to 1952. Most of the sets were complete including the high values. Included in the display were a number of the sets issued round about 1950, which, due to the sudden death of the King, had a very short life and are, consequently, not easy to get hold of.

December 2nd: A special meeting of the Society was held on the afternoon for Juniors. After the President had welcomed those present, the Juniors under 14 years of age handed in their albums for judging for the George Forbes Memorial Prize which was awarded to master L. Dorfling.

The George Forbes Memorial Cup was competed for by Juniors of 14 years and over. Master T. Strachan was the only competitor and he gave us an excellent exhibit of the stamps of Basutoland, Bechuanaland and Swaziland.

The next item on the programme were three invited displays. The first was by Mr. A. S. Aldis who showed us a small part of his collection of the postmarks of South Africa. Before doing so, he pointed out that this was a subject which could be collected by Juniors without involving them in much expense, but at the same time was very educational. In his own case he was endeavouring to get a postmark from every post office in South Africa.

The next display was by Mr. L. Lazarow who put down a comprehensive collection of the stamps of Hungary. This was followed by a thematic display by Mr. R. Boardman entitled Space Exploration. This was well written up and was preceded by a most interesting introductory talk.

An interesting meeting closed with the distribution of packets of stamps.

December 5th: The meeting being "President's Night", Mr. G. Monaghan entertained a keenly enthusiastic gathering of members to a display of approximately 120 sheets from his British Commonwealth collection of King George VI and Elizabeth II issues which was thoroughly enjoyed and the Exhibitor suitably thanked.

The meeting terminated with an auction, when the usual crop of fun and bargains were to be had for the asking.

ROYAL PHILATELIC SOCIETY OF CAPE TOWN

December: As is customary, this meeting is the "Presidents'," when Mr. Jeidel entertained

members to two interesting exhibits accompanied by a talk.

The first with the rather abstruse title of "Human failures and achievements reflected in Postal Services", this exhibit was an enigma until Mr. Jeidel delivered his extremely interesting enlightening talk on the subject.

Dividing the exhibit into two sections, and dealing firstly with the "failures", Mr. Jeidel proceeded to describe the history of "money". Starting with the Persians as far back as 700 B.C., he explained the money standards, coinage, and inflation that has fluctuated through the ages. Settling finally in post-war Germany in 1924, the time of inflation, he enlarged at length, on the fantastic collection of inflation covers on show on the boards. Referring to the present times, Mr. Jeidel said that he felt that the same type of inflation was slowly overtaking us, though we are generally unaware of it.

In the second half of the evening, the human achievements were depicted, these being the balloon flights of Liechtenstein. They appeared under various headings, viz. Mail originated in Liechtenstein, Zeppelin flights, Mail flights and special flights with Liechtenstein connections. Special occasion and first-mail flights, and finally balloon and glider flights.

THE ROYAL PHILATELIC SOCIETY OF RHODESIA

December: The Chairman, Mr. J. Lazarus, pleased all tastes by exhibiting an excellent display of the stamps of the West Indies, Europa Omnibus Issues and the French Community in Africa, all in impeccable condition. He was suitably thanked by Mr. J. Creewel.

The meeting was augmented by a real brain teaser Quiz on the stamps of Rhodesia — Which SR stamp depicts Rhodes making peace? Which Royal Heads appeared on the 1947 ½d and 1d stamps? It certainly showed how little, not how much we know of our own stamps! The winner, of all people, Jack Creewel, our Danish expert;

a novelty competition — "masked" postmarks. Cut-outs showing only portions of SR Postmarks — ULA — was it marULA or bULAWayo? Thirty plus, and this time the winner was no surprise! Mr. A. Fitzstephen, whose outstanding collection of SR Postmarks is known to just about everybody, and a display of the New Mardon Printings of the 1/- — 10c stamp, Plates 1A, 1B and 1C; the 2d stamp, Plates 1A and 1B, and the 9d stamp, Plates 1A, 1B and 1C.

January: Members had been asked to bring to this informal meeting five or six sheets of their stamps for display. Not all complied with this request but a most interesting and varied display resulted. We were pleased to see that some who had never exhibited before brought along a few sheets and we hope that this gentle way of breaking the ice will encourage them to come back again with more.

The Mardon 3d/2½c issue is expected to be exhausted early this year. It is understood that the issue of the dual currency stamp was a little premature as it is not yet decided whether the half cent will feature in our decimal coinage. We are, therefore, reverting to a single curren-

cy 3d. stamp. Replenishment stocks will be trickled out to post offices as the need arises and these will be issued from 70,000 sheets of Harrison 3d and 130,000 sheets of Mardon 3d (sterling currency only). Stocks of these are expected to be available at the philatelic bureau in Salisbury on or about the 19th February.

THE O.F.S. PHILATELIC SOCIETY

November: New Issues were tabled by Mr. and Mrs. Marincowitz, and Messrs Weil and Roux.

The first exhibit of the evening was presented by Mr. A. H. Scott. His collection of "Basutoland" covered Post Cards from Edward VII to Elizabeth and included examples of Union used in Basutoland. A special cancellation worth noting was that of the Imperial Press Conference of 13/3/1935. Amongst the more recent items was an example of the short '2' on the 25c overprint; missing perfs., and weak entries on the 5c, 10c and 25c. The exhibit ended with an excellent selection of Air Letter Cards and Postal Stationery.

Mr. Roux's collection of **United Nations** was the next to be tabled, and this covered all issues from No. 1 to date, with only a few of the most recent items missing. All stamps were used or on cover. Miniature sheets were complete except for the first issue, and there was a representative collection of maximum cards and postal stationery.

EAST LONDON PHILATELIC SOCIETY

January: This was our annual general meeting, and the election of office-bearers resulted in the following appointments for 1968:

President: Mr. L. Hellmann. Vice-President: Mr. J. Shingler. Secretary: Mr. Terrence Radue. Treasurer: Mr. H. E. Williams and Messrs King, Bradley, Sparkman, Knott, Dr. Drusinsky and Dr. Fick.

The cups won during 1967 were presented to the following: President's Cup: Mr. L. Hellmann. Thematic Cup: Mr. L. Hellmann. Wehle Cup: Mr. Terrence Radue. Thornton Cup: Mr. R. Ehrlich.

ELPEX 68 will now occupy our full attention and final plans for the staging of it are underway.

CAPE SOCIETY OF PALESTINE ISRAEL PHILATELY

November: Dr. Max Peisach welcomed new members and also welcomed back Mr. Paul Keller, who had been overseas.

He reminded members that the Blum Cup would be held at the January Meeting and the theme was Israel from 1948 to date.

He also mentioned the award winners at VRYPEX Exhibition, and that two members had served on the Jury.

The Chairman then welcomed Mr. Combrink and the other members of the Thematic Society who were paying a visit to the Society.

Mrs. Coe then exhibited a short history of horses while Miss Hoffman exhibited her fishes theme.

Thereafter Mr. Combrink showed slides and a tape recording titled "Printing of Stamps in South Africa."

Mr. Paul Keller proposed a vote of thanks to the visitors.

December: The Chairman in opening the meeting stated that he was very gratified at the attendance in spite of the fact that no meeting was normally held in December.

Mr. Donno gave a report on his experiences while accompanying the South African Navy on their Goodwill Mission to Argentine.

Dr. Gottschalk exhibited a map of Palestine dated 1786.

Dr. Max Peisach then gave a talk illustrated with slides which he titled "Stamps of Palestine made easy". By the process of elimination he divided up the stamps that had been issued during the period from 1918 to 1948 in a simple manner to assist members to identify the various printings.

Thereafter the Society were privileged to see the exhibit of Mrs. Ada Colman of the Johannesburg Society entitled "The Bible on Stamps".

Various members commented on the exhibition.

PHILATELIC SOCIETY OF JOHANNESBURG

December: A record attendance and as is the custom on Ladies' Night the chair is taken by a lady member; this year Mrs. Wedderburn-Maxwell officiated. There were four exhibits: Miss Anna Smith showed her 16 Bar Cancellation of the O.F.S., which she mounted especially for the occasion; Mrs. Koralek, who has now become a tradition on Ladies' night, to exhibit her most recent Kriskindle cover, together with those of previous years, but, this year, we were treated to a collection of miniature sheets of Czechoslovakia as well. Dr. Luyckx gave a display of horses on stamps, which she said was started originally to try and interest her husband in philately; his interest being horses. Finally, Mrs. Shaw showed a complete mint collection of Estonia. Members provided enough food to withstand a siege, but alas we had to vacate the rooms by 10 p.m. and the cakes not eaten were auctioned for Society funds.

The first meeting of the year was most enjoyable, but, with many still on holiday, attendance was on the low side. The exhibits were both different and refreshing. Mr. Boss exhibited his almost complete collection of Indo China, giving a short history of the country up to 1949, and the three independent states of Cambodia, Laos and Vietnam. Mrs. Bergman's artistic collection of National Costumes made a pleasant balance to the evening and her exquisite drawings were, in many cases, infinitely preferable to the actual stamps. The auction results were poor.

PRETORIA RAILWAY PHILATELIC SOCIETY

January: A well attended meeting was entertained by Mr. R. Huthwaite on the highlights of his recent holiday spent in Japan and his experiences on one of the Japanese "Bullet Trains". He also showed a Japanese three dimensional postcard and the latest 3-D set of stamps recently issued by Bhutan.

To round off an enjoyable evening, the Hon. Secretary displayed the latest acquisitions in his Stamp Centenary collection which included some very scarce cancellations from Central Europe and Central America commemorating the centenary of the Penny Black as well as the colourful and picturesque stamp centenary issues of the Arab oil states.

TRANSVAAL STUDY CIRCLE

January: The Second Annual General Meeting was held in the Board Room of the British Philatelic Association Ltd., London. H. R. Holmes Esq. FRPSL (Past President), RDP., was installed as the first President of the Study Circle. L. Molloy-Vickers Esq. was re-elected as Chairman and the Committee remained unchanged.

In his Presidential Address, Mr. Holmes referred to the fascination of Transvaal philately and how much research remains to be done in spite of the sterling work undertaken by R. B. Yardley and other pioneers.

It was agreed in principle that the Centenary of the issue of the first Transvaal stamp would be marked in 1969 by an Exhibition in London which will be staged by the Study Circle.

After the business was concluded, Mr. Holmes displayed his collections of Pietersburg and Stellaland and afterwards produced a few other items of considerable interest.

The display will be fully written up in THE TRANSVAAL PHILATELIST which is issued to Members.

PRETORIA PHILATELIC SOCIETY

January: A good attendance under the Chairmanship of Com. C. E. D. Enoch who deputised for Mr. Weinstein, viewed two excellent exhibits, the first by Mr. Castignani of mint stamps of Australia and her Dependencies and the second by Com. Enoch of the first type of the issues of Siam and all the surcharges made on this type. Both exhibits were extensively displayed and the exhibitors suitably thanked.

After the displays a short discussion took place in connection with the reluctance of members to exhibit at Society meetings.

PHILATELIC SOCIETY OF THE WESTERN RAND

Desires to announce the change of address to: 16 Uranium Road, Carletonville.

EXPERT COMMITTEE

The next meeting of the Expert Committee of the Philatelic Federation of Southern Africa will be held on April 20th, 1968.

The South African Philatelist

(Established 1923)

Proprietors and Publishers:

The Philatelic Federation of Southern Africa

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Dr. H. J. RAUBENHEIMER, Mr. S. J. VERMAAK.

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SOUTH AFRICAN NOTES

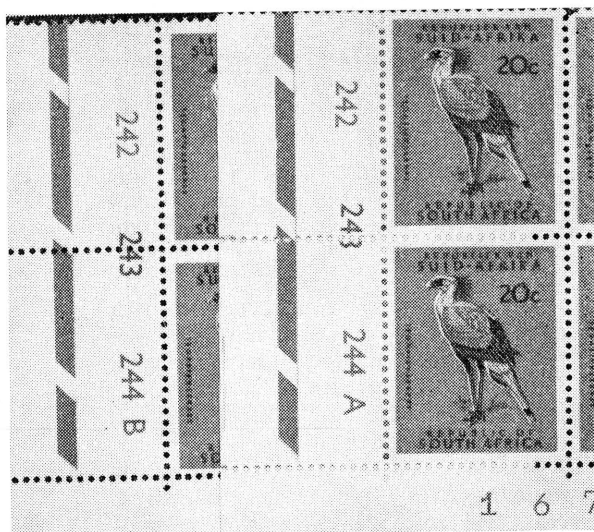
By DR. H. J. RAUBENHEIMER,
Hon. Associate Editor.

NEW ISSUES



A NEW 5c DEFINITIVE STAMP 245-246

Delivery was made to the Philatelic Bureau on 14th February 1968 of a new issue of the 5c, Baobab Stamp. It has the same design as the preceding issue from cylinders 31 S1 but the inscriptions are bolder. The sheet and stamp format have not changed, nor has the position of the arrows. Marginal bars, cylinder numbers and sheet numbers. The perforations



are as before, with the comb join, on the sheets examined, at the arrows.

Further details of the issue are:

PAPER: coated, RSA watermarked, the mark facing left and right, arranged tête-bêche. Most of the sheets examined show the watermark more clearly than on any other issues as yet.

CYLINDERS: Two, new, cross-lined, screened, numbers 245 orange-yellow, interior and 246 greenish-blue exterior. Two new mul-

tipositives, on glass, were made, 245 from the old master negative and 246 from a new master negative.

MARGINAL BARS: blue, as before, but they extend into the top and bottom margins. The previous ones were only opposite the stamps.

VARIETIES

Row/No.

- 1/17 White mark left of 5 of 5c.
- 1/19 Tiny blue dot on top frame line above A of VAN.
- 5/ 1 Large white "cloud" at left of tree.
- 5/19 Large "ring flow" above c of 5c.

NOTES: There are orange-yellow marks and smears in the right corner of the top margin. Vary in degrees.

It was revealed that about 3,000 sheets were printed when one cylinder gave trouble. It was repaired and printing was resumed after about a week when the rest of the stamps were printed. The only distinguishing feature of the first printing is that the lower margin measures 13 m.m. as compared with 18 m.m. of the second. The sheets are consequently 5 m.m. narrower.

A NEW 20c DEFINITIVE STAMP 243 244 242 A.B.

A delivery was made in February 1968, to the Philatelic Bureau, of a new 20c stamp, Secretary Bird. It has a new redrawn design, the bird is slightly smaller and the inscriptions are bolder.

The sheet and stamp format, the position and colours of the marginal bars, arrows and sheet numbers are unchanged. Distinctive features are:

PAPER: Swiss, coated, RSA-watermark, tête-bêche left and right.

CYLINDERS. Three, new, from new multi-positives and master negatives; Nos. 243 rose, 244 greenish-blue interior and 242 flesh exterior. These numbers are shown on the left margin opposite rows 4 and 5; the pane letters A and B are in greenish-blue.

COLOUR REGISTER: below stamp 9 on pane A in the form of a cross, but only two colours are shown, namely flesh and rose.

PERFORATION REGISTER PUNCH HOLES: Opposite rows 13 and 14 on the top margin of pane B and the bottom margin of pane A. Only the one on

pane A has the concentric rings in flesh. **PERFORATIONS:** As before, by the Grover, but the left margin is perforated through and the right is imperforate (the opposite to the previous 27-6-60).

GUILLOTINE LINES: As before, in the bottom corner, left or right, of pane A. It is a long thin vertical green line opposite row 5 (the 27-6-60 had a short green line in the bottom margin).

VARIETIES

Pane B

Row/No.

- 2/13 Tiny blue dot in top gutter above PU of REPUBLIEK.
- 2/16 Tiny blue dot to the left of the bird's leg.
- 3/ 6 Green dot above C of REPUBLIC.
- 3/18 Small thin blue ring above C of REPUBLIC.
- 4/ 4 Tiny blue dot at right of bird's back.
- 5/14 Tiny blue dot to the right of A of SEKRETARISVOËL.

Pane A

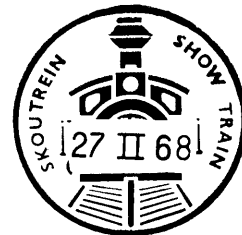
- 2/ 1 White dot above first A of AFRICA.
- 5/15 Tiny blue dot to the right of the bird's back.

Notes on the marginal bars:

Pane A, left margin: the right side of the segments are joined by a thin green line.

Pane B, left margin: the segments are also joined as on the A pane, but the bottom two are not joined.

THE SHOW TRAIN



A Show Train which is at present travelling around the country started at Milner Park Station, Johannesburg on the 27th of February 1968. It will return to Milner Park on the 3rd of December 1968. Portion of coach 5 will be occupied by a postal agency where the sale of postage stamps and the datestamping and registration of souvenir cards and envelopes are being undertaken.

The organisers of the show have issued a special souvenir postcard, measuring 140 x 110 m.m., on sale at 5c. A special datestamp,

from the post office, will be used. It is round, 30 m.m. in diameter, and shows the front of an early railway engine with "SKOUTREIN" on the left and "SHOW TRAIN" on the right. Across the centre is a panel with the date. This date is movable and starts on 27 . II . 68.

There are three post office exhibits on display; on large sheets are shown:

1. A set of the current Republican stamps, singles surrounded by twelve special postmarks that are in constant use such as Marion Island and Kruger National Park.
2. A full set of Republican Commemorative stamps, in pairs, from First Aerial Post to Reformation.
3. The five official first day envelopes or cards that were issued, serviced. They are numbered 1, 2, 3, 4, 6.

POSTMARK NOTES

By DAVID ALLISON

A mysterious handstamp.

Mr. L. E. Orkin, of Port Elizabeth, kindly sent me an envelope posted in Queenstown on 1st December, 1967, on the back of which is a rubber stamp about 16 mm. in diameter, with the inscription

1
EEN

inside the circle. Neither he or I could remember seeing anything like it before. The Queenstown Postmaster cleared the mystery up for us. The handstamp is intended for use on the letter bill accompanying a mail, to show the number of bags in that mail. It was only by accident that it got on to the envelope.

South African slogan news.

In the January Notes it was mentioned that the slogan "Invest with the Post Office" had been introduced at eight of the usual nine towns. The ninth, Pietermaritzburg, appears to have introduced it on December 18th, and to have discontinued it a couple of weeks later. It may, of course, reappear at some future date.

The April 1967 Notes contained a survey of the various dies of the "Get Home Safely" slogan. To this should be added the information that a third die of this slogan was brought into use at Kimberley in September 1967.

As usual the "Post early for Christmas" slogan was used at a number of offices. Cape Town, Durban, East London, Johannesburg, Kimberley, Pietermaritzburg, Port Elizabeth,

Springs and Welkom used dies with the English version on top. Bloemfontein, Germiston, Johannesburg, Klerksdorp, Pietersburg, Potchefstroom, Pretoria and Vereeniging had the Afrikaans version first. I would be glad of any additions to this list. Kroonstad should probably appear, but I have not seen a 1967 specimen. It appears that five new dies were supplied this year, two of them to Pretoria.

Mobile P.O. Relief Handstamp.

Mr. Walker informs me that the relief handstamp described in the January Notes was used at Mobile Post Office No. 12 from 12th September to 24th October, 1967. Since that date a new (permanent) handstamp has been used. The old one was sent away for repairs but it was replaced instead.

Rhodesian Notes.

A new postal agency was opened at Moffat Street, Salisbury, on June 20th, 1967, and a non-continuous postmarking machine was brought into use there on August 22nd. (My thanks are due to the Rhodesian G.P.O. for supplying me with this date.) It must be very unusual for an agency to have a cancelling machine. The double-circle datestamp was probably engraved in South Africa. It has MOFFAT STR at the top and SALISBURY below. Unlike most Rhodesian machine postmarks, it does not show the name of the country. West End Bulawayo and Kariba are the only two other cases that I know of.

A Causeway handstamp, probably new, also has SALISBURY at the bottom and lacks the name of the country.

O.R.C. NUMERAL POSTMARKS

Further to my article on the above topic, appearing in the March number, page 54, I feel a slight amendment is necessary for I have come across another reference in the S.A. Philatelist of February, 1965.

In it reference is made to a 5 m.m. numeral in a barred oval alongside a Dewetsdorp double circle mark on a 1905 cover. In this reference there is confusion regarding the actual numeral (it is referred to first as "40" and thereafter as "30").

It was suggested that the numeral in question was used at Dewetsdorp. If it was in fact '30' then this suggestion has now been proved wrong, as the evidence of my two reported items shows.

It would seem that there was no consistency

ZAR-100 EXHIBITION FUND AUCTION

P.O. Box 2272, Johannesburg.

CLOSING DATE 31 MAY, 1968

Auction of philatelic material donated by members of the three Philatelic Societies of Johannesburg, towards their drive to raise funds for their National Philatelic Exhibition at Johannesburg, in October, 1969, in commemoration of the Centenary of the first Transvaal Postage Stamps.

Usual auction catalogue symbols are used, e.g. m=mint, u=used, etc. Prices shown represent expected realisations. Bids preferably by post card. Viewing by arrangement; if to be posted for viewing, please send 10c in current stamps for postage.

Everything must be sold.

LOT

| | | |
|----|---|---------|
| 1 | LITERATURE: Hbk/Cat U of S.A. Stamps, Van Riebeeck Issue (1952) Deluxe Ed; ltd to 300 copies. Subs copy No. 136; never used. Real Africana | R12-00 |
| 2 | As last but Vol II (1955); another item for the Africana Collector | R6-00 |
| 3 | UNION: "Sunset Cover"; (Last day of currency of provincial stamps 31.12.37, bearing 4 Natal and 2 ORC stamps | R4-00 |
| 4 | King's Head double strip of 4 1 ^{ad} tête-bêche prs separated by gutter. M.Cat. R1-60+ | R1-00 |
| 5 | King's Head double strip of 9 tête-bêche prs. M.Cat. R3-60 | R2-00 |
| 6 | Well known 3d Pta Typo black and blue (chemically treated); a must for the specialist for it proves a point | R1-00 |
| 7 | Pta Typo 3d U H/B 39, 9 pieces (1 used blk/4), incl V.13 r/hand mgn blk/8 (4 x 2) & V.15 top rgt cnr/strip/4 with flaws | R8-00 |
| 8 | As last but V.23 (invtd wmk) btm l/cnr blk/6 with extra perfs | R2-00 |
| 9 | As last (V.25 invtd wmk), but double row of 6 prs with l/margin. Cat. R2-60 | R2-00 |
| 10 | Pta Typo 1d U. H/B 34, dbl row of 6 prs with rgt margin, showing varieties "crack thro ship", V.10 and V.11. Cat. R5 | R5-00 |
| 11 | As last but U. blk/4 with "Crack" vars. V.10 & 11. (V.10 with cnr tip torn); these vars. rare in genuinely U. condition | R5-00 |
| 12 | Pta Typo 1d U. H/B 34, 8 pieces (V.35 blk/4, top l/cnr pr, pr. with l/mgn, blk/6, 2 blks/4, 2 vert prs (1 damaged). Total Cat. R8 | R6-00 |
| 13 | As last but top l/cnr piece of 9 prs and top mgn blk/4. Cat. R5-50+ | R6-00 |
| 14 | Postage Due, 1915 (SG.D2) 1d blk/4 l/mgn showing short serif (U. H/B D2 V4). Slight crease. M. | R1-00 |
| 15 | Postage Due, 1923 (SG.D2) 1d l/hor mgn pr, var Postage (U. H/B D12 V6), M. | R2-00 |
| 16 | Postage Due, 1923 (SG.D14) 2d cnr blk/4 with 2 x U. H/B D14 V14 (missing perf. hole). M. | R2-00 |
| 17 | 1d U. H/B37 Ce M.pr with "B" opp English stamp, broken mast (part of last digit of Sht No showing). (Blk/4 as above with full Sht No is cat. R62-50) | R20-00 |
| 18 | Officials. M.O.G. except 3 items with 1 hinge mark each. All cyl blks or blks/6 (1 ^{ad} in strip/3 and 5/- vert. pr). Cat. R11-30+ | R8-00 |
| 19 | 2d Official SG.035, immaculate M; an opportunity to acquire the most expensive Union and most wanted Official in Unions. Cat R200 | R100-00 |
| 20 | REPUBLIC: Vf U copy Dr. Verwoerd, so mal-centred that the Dr.'s hair 1mm on stamp mgn; the only known copy of this variety | R2-00 |
| 21 | BASUTOLAND: Decimal Provisional SG.60a 2c/2d surcharge invtd; perfect M. Cat. R150. A bargain opportunity. | R75-00 |
| 22 | Postage Due SG.D8 5c/2d. Delightful l/mgn pr. lightly pmkd. Cat. R10. | R6-00 |
| 23 | CANADA: Complete booklet 6 x 4c SG.460. | R2-00 |
| 24 | CAPE: 4d SG.6 U. L/mgn only just touching bottom tip; lightly pmkd; an above average copy. Cat. R10. | R6-00 |
| 25 | 6d SG.7b U. All mgn close but clear; a fair copy. Cat. R60. | R20-00 |
| 26 | 6d SG.20 U. Fresh copy with wide mgn. Above average. Cat. R64. | R40-00 |
| 27 | 1/- SG.21 U. Narrow copy fully mgnd.; a fine copy. Cat. R120. | R80-00 |
| 28 | 3 Pre-stamp Entires; 1 with Jurgens T.5 pmk Cape Town, 1 similar Uitenhage (indistinct) & 1 with faint pmk but with POST PAID (J's T.11) | R5-00 |
| 29 | ECUADOR: 1949 U.P.U set SG.902/8 M. set in blks/4. Cat. R11-20. | R6-00 |
| 30 | EGYPT: 7 Sets all M (1 once hinged); SG.276/8, 353/6, 357, 359/365, 366/9, 382 & 383. Cat. R3-60. | R2-00 |
| 31 | FACSIMILES: 15 Various — Br. Guina, Mauritius & Natal Embossed, For the collector of forgeries. | R2-00 |
| 32 | FINLAND: Red Cross — a neat & well written-up coll. complete 1922/1963. Cat. R40+. | R20-00 |
| 33 | GERMANY: 1924 Charity SG.365/8. Once lightly hinged. Cat. R11-50. | R8-00 |
| 34 | GT. BRITAIN: Bradbury Wilkinson 2/6 choc/brn SG.414, F. 1/hinge. Cat. R7-50. | R5-00 |
| 35 | World Cup — 14sets (ea cat 30c); ea on piece cut to shape showing the 14 diff. pmks. | R3-00 |
| 36 | ISRAEL: All issues current at Nov. 1965. M. with Tabs, in high quality cased stk/bk (new) bound in red imitation leather; 58 stamps incl. complete 1963 Birds, Signs o/t Zodiac (no 1fl), etc. Stamps cat ± R8 & stk/bk worth R5. | R10-00 |
| 37 | Complete booklet 8.11.55, 3 panes of 6 100pr SG.1221. | R2-00 |
| 38 | JAMAICA: Q.E. II f1 FU SG.232. Cat. R2-75. | R2-00 |
| 39 | KENYA U & T: G. VI f1 M SG.150b, perf. 12 ¹ / ₂ . Cat. R3-50. | R2-00 |
| 40 | LEBANON: 1949 U.P.U set SG.389/393 M blk/4. Cat. R12. | R8-00 |
| 41 | NETHERLANDS: Van R. FDC with "Geboortehuis" pmk. Cat. R8. | R5-00 |
| 42 | NYASALAND: 1d/3/- SG.53 with neat double circle Fort Johnston pmk. Cat. R1-20. | R1-00 |
| 43 | 1d SG.57a b, FU. Cat. R6. | R4-00 |
| 44 | PORTUGAL: 10r U SG.29. Pmk moderately ight; fair copy. Cat. R4. | R2-00 |
| 45 | 120r U. SG.65; fine copy. Cat. R7-50. | R5-00 |
| 46 | 120r U. SG.94; fine copy. Cat. R7. | R5-00 |
| 47 | VAN DIEMAN'S LAND: 1854 Pt II 4d dull orange U. SG.11. Cat. R28; lightly pmkd, fresh looking copy with good mgn (but for a small crease mark it would be an immaculate specimen). | R15-00 |
| 48 | W. AUSTRALIA: 4d U. SG.46. Some perfs at left short & centred to bottom; light pmk. Cat. R16. | R4-00 |
| 49 | SWA: S/Jubilee. FU set. Cat. R6. | R4-00 |
| 50 | HUNGARY: 1949 Stamp Day min/sht SG.1088a. M. Cat. R2-75. | R2-00 |

This advertisement is sponsored by **THE WAYNE TYRE CO. (TVL) (PTY) LTD.**, retreading and vulcanizing; stockists of all makes of new tyres and tubes.

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in the application of these cancellers. They are known applied to adhesive and embossed stamps, and also applied **alongside** embossed stamps.

J. M. WEINSTEIN.

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 and election.

Members are elected by Congress, but not more than two at any one meeting. The first ten 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. Klagsbrun.
- *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.
- *1939: C. H. Thornton.
- *1939: W. L. Ashmead.
- *1948, Jan.: A. E. Basden.
- *1948, Jan.: A. A. Jurgens.
- *1948, Jan.: P. C. Bishop.
- *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.

REVIEW

THE REVENUE STAMPS OF SOUTH AFRICA. Published by and obtainable from C. E. Sherwood, 105 Marford Crescent, Sale, Cheshire, Great Britain. Stencilled and soft cover. Price 10/6, post free.

Compiled and revised by the eminent authority on Revenue Stamps of South Africa, Leonard J. Dodd, the booklet follows upon an earlier edition published by the same author in April 1958.

The 29-page publication is the culmination of a great many years of diligent research and study in the fascinating field of Revenue Stamps of the Cape of Good Hope, Natal, Orange River Colony / Free State and the Transvaal, as well as those of the Union and Republic of South Africa, and includes, by the chronological manner in which the different emissions are recorded, a survey of the detailed history of the use of Revenue Stamps on various taxable documents.

The many issues are grouped in a clear and concise manner, the items of which are priced realistically.

This booklet is a desirable and worthwhile tool for everyone interested in Revenue Stamps. It is highly recommended, and if this is your field, this is your book!

"AFTER SIXTY YEARS"

That confusion reigned in Natal Post Offices during March 1895 owing to a shortage of halfpenny stamps, is known to most South African philatelists. The value was in demand as being the local postage in towns for letters. The authorities arranged for a supply of 216,000 of the sixpenny violet Chalon head (S.G. 24) to be overprinted locally in carmine, the overprint being in two lines and reading POSTAGE / HALF PENNY. The setting was one of 12 x 5 repeated four times on the sheet and the stock of type at the local printer's was insufficient to supply letters of equal size; consequently there are the well-known varieties of P, T and A in the word Postage. These stamps were avidly seized upon by speculators and none was left within a week, necessitating the issue of further overprinted stamps listed as S.G.125. As a result, large

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- ★ WE ARE PLEASED TO ACCEPT LOTS FOR OUR POSTAL AUCTIONS.
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- ★ ★ FREE PRICELIST of S.A. MINT, USED & F.D.C.
- ★ ★ FOR A PLEASANT PERSONAL DEAL TRY US.

TIBOR D. MAJOR

for

PAN AFRICAN PHILATELIST (PTY.) LTD.

blocks of S.G.114 and even panes are still easily obtainable.

These facts make it difficult to understand that it was only some sixty years later that there came to light a doubly overprinted variety. Recently there was sold at one of the smaller English auctions, a strip of four with right hand sheet margin with double overprint. The stamps in question are those numbered 57 to 60 of the setting and include the variety EALF instead of HALF. The overprint as first printed was obviously too faint to be readily discerned and the pane was therefore again overprinted, the second being approximately 3 mm. lower than the first and, of course, of the correct intensity. When the strip was shown to the Editor of Stanley Gibbons catalogue the note beneath S.G.114 was inserted in the catalogue — its first appearance being in the 1968 catalogue. The strip in question is now in South Africa.

A. LESLIE LEON F.R.P.S.L.

LETTER TO THE EDITOR

Dear Sir,

I received news today from S.A.A. that there will definitely be a direct service Johannesburg to New York with stop at Rio de Janeiro and return over the same route during the second half of 1968. I have suggested special covers, cancellation and arrangements for collectors. Hope this will eventuate.

For members of the Aerophilatelic Society of S.A. I am arranging for them as usual free covers — of the above and also of the first flights of Swissair and Olympic Airways and Hellenic Airways. Already during present currency of their subscriptions, they have received four covers. Actually we run the Society and spend monies received on members without building up these fabulous funds which are never spent.

My regards,
M. F. STERN.

COMMONWEALTH NOTES

By J. WOODGATE

Canada: The next in the wildlife series, the Narwhal, is issued on the 10th April. The Narwhal is a marine mammal similar to a whale. It can be up to 50 feet long, has no teeth, but has a straight spiral tusk about 7 feet long between the eyes.

Ceylon: During April a set will be issued

to commemorate the 20th Anniversary of the World Health Organization.

Great Britain: 4 stamps with a new theme — "British Bridges" will be issued on April 29th. The values will be 4d, 9d, 1/6 and 1/9d.

British Solomon Islands: A new set of definitives are in preparation and are expected to be realised in April. This set replaces the rather crude designs which appeared in 1965, and has a style similar to the pictorial designs of the 1956 definitives.


BASUTOLAND OVERPRINTED LESOTHO

The recent circular issued by the Robertson Stamp Co (Pty.) Ltd., Johannesburg, follows upon the previous year's announcement of the official figures of Basutoland decimal issue overprinted Lesotho and states that the following figures of numbers sold have been officially announced and include sales in the territory and sales made by the Crown Agents.


Re the R1 value: "This is the only case where it is known (in the case of a value on both winks.) how many were overprinted on each wmk — 28,200 on Script wmk. (470 sheets) and 90,000 on Block wmk. (1,500 sheets). On account of the LSEOTHO error in this value (both wmk.) presumably all, or nearly all, of the Script wmk. were sold, thus giving the number of the R1 block wmk. sold at about 33,000 odd.


ALL UNSOLD STAMPS WERE BURNT UNDER OFFICIAL SUPERVISION

As the figures sold include those used for normal postage, telegraphic and cable use, revenue use, official accounting purposes and sales to philatelists it is quite obvious that the issue is a good one, from an investment point of view. Allowing for the various types of use, as given above, probably about 25,000 complete sets can exist (omitting the 5c postage due). Allowing also for the FACT that once a sheet was broken the LSEOTHO error was taken out AND DESTROYED, it is doubtful if even 400 of the R1 Script wmk. with the error can exist, while of the 1c due there were originally only 450 of the LSEOTHO error and in the 5c only 350 of this error, but we happen to know that the error in the dues was only discovered after supplies had been sent out to post offices, many of which are in remote areas run by African postmasters with no philatelic knowledge. Actually, the error (LSEOTHO) in the postage dues was first



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. The amount should be sufficient to cover postage and registration.

Deposit accounts may be opened.

'n Filatelieburow 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 Filatelieburow, H.P.K., Pretoria, en moet vergesels gaan van poswissels, posorders of bankwissels, betaalbaar aan die Posmeester-generaal. Tjeks word nie aange-
neem nie. Die bedrag moet voldoende wees om die pos- en registrasiegeldes te dek.

Deposito-rekenings kan geopen word.

UNION OF SOUTH AFRICA

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"THE INTERPROVINCIAL STAMPS AND
POSTMARKS"

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THE HONORARY SECRETARY
Philatelic Federation of Southern Africa
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noted by our Mr. Robertson after his supply of stamps arrived in Johannesburg from Maseru.

The official figures of numbers sold warrant a revision of catalogue values — it must be remembered that where a value exists with both watermarks the number for each watermark may be about half of the figures given — in the case of the 50c this would be about 25,000 of each watermark, including normal postage, telegraphic and fiscal use."

ON LOOKING BACK

THE ROYAL TOUR, 1925

The visit of H. R. H. the Prince of Wales to South Africa from the 30th April to the 29th July, 1925, and the extensive tour of the Union which he undertook in the White Train, necessitated comprehensive special arrangements for the delivery and despatch of the Royal party's correspondence (postal, telegraph and telephone) and to cope with press telegrams at the many places visited in the course of the tour.

A full postal organisation was installed on the Pilot Train. The post office was accommodated in an ordinary first-class compartment which was fitted on one side with counter, pigeon-holes, lockers and a posting-box with an aperture to the railway carriage balcony; suitable notice-plates being affixed. Telephone instruments were fitted on suitable boards for use on and off the train. The requisite credit stocks, scales, bags and stationery were supplied and suitably housed. Special date-stamp and seals, which had been cut to design by the Royal Mint for the occasion, were used.

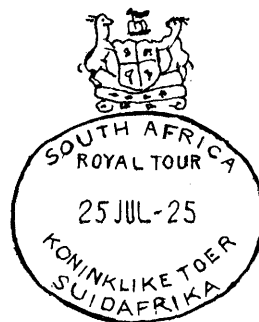
The post office was personally controlled by a senior officer of the Union Post Office who was appointed to represent the department on the Royal Tour. This officer was accompanied throughout by two expert postal and telegraph assistants, and at all times met with the co-operation of the department's local officials at points en route, as well as that of railway officials. On certain occasions the newly-inaugurated internal air-mail service was utilised to advantage.

During the period of the tour by rail, which commenced on the 4th May and ended on the 26th July, 1925, approximately 500,000 words of press telegrams were disposed of through the special train post office, and it is estimated that another 250,000 words were handed in direct to town post offices at points where ceremonies took place. The train post

office also dealt with more than 400 "official free" and ordinary "paid" telegrams, 161 cablegrams, and sold stamps totalling £82.2.6 in value. Ordinary postings on the train exceeded 100 articles daily, and the registered articles despatched totalled 161 for the tour, while 94 were received. Very few parcels were posted on the train, but 184 were received for delivery. In addition to 157 direct mails being received and 52 despatched, each station had its quota of matter for delivery on arrival of the train and received postings for disposal.

For the period of the visit to the Bechuanaland Protectorate the special train post office facilities continued to be provided by the Union, but on reaching Bulawayo, the organisation was handed over to the postal administration of Southern Rhodesia, which became responsible for the arrangements during the Rhodesian tour, at the conclusion of which control was resumed by the Union special staff.

The tour extended from Cape Town via the Garden Route and the Eastern Province to Port Elizabeth, Grahamstown, East London, Umtata, the Orange Free State, Basutoland, Natal, Zululand, Swaziland, the Transvaal, Bechuanaland Protectorate to Southern and Northern Rhodesia and back via Griqualand West and the Western Cape to Cape Town.



The date stamp, illustrated, consists of a horizontal oval, 34x27 m.m., surmounted by the Arms of the Union of South Africa. Inside the oval is the reading "SOUTH AFRICA" curved and "ROYAL TOUR" straight, at the top; "KONINKLIKE TOER" and "SUIDAFRIKA" both curved, at the bottom, with the date in one line at the centre.

(Description supplied by Mr. C. H. Williams, Historian, Publicity Section, G.P.O., Pretoria on 20 November 1948.)

STOP PRESS

Special 2½c and 12½c postage stamps will be issued on 10 April, 1968, on the occasion of the inauguration of Mr. J. J. Fouché

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Commemorative envelopes will be available from the Philatelic Bureau, Pretoria at 10c unserviced and 30c per serviced cover. Further details later.

THE EARLY UNION ESSAYS IN THE POST OFFICE ARCHIVES

The Philatelic Federation issued, in 1965, 50 numbered sets of photographs, together with their descriptive matter, of the 200 odd original essays in the Post Office Archives in Pretoria. The photographs were prepared by the Post Office and were officially stamped. The sets were quickly sold.

The Africana Society of the Africana Museum of the Johannesburg Library reproduced, in its Journal "Africana Notes and News", Vol. 17, No. 1 of March 1966 the description, on 28 pages, together with 154 of the photographs, on 8 pages. Federation obtained 50 copies of this issue and sent one to each of the subscribers at cost. This issue is now out of print.

The following is a list of the subscribers:—

- 1 H. J. Raubenheimer (Senior)
- 2 Post Office Archives
- 3 S. Legator
- 4 A. Gould
- 5 I. E. Wunsch
- 6 J. E. Frankland
- 7 J. T. Burrell
- 8 S. P. Naylor
- 9 V. Naylor
- 10 T. B. Berry
- 11 D. Kransdorff
- 12 R. D. Allen
- 13 J. Michelson
- 14 G. H. Legge
- 15 K. H. Sartorius
- 16 J. M. Weinstein
- 17 J. F. Fick
- 18 M. J. Rall
- 19 P. J. van der Merwe
- 20 L. A. Lissos
- 21 R. van Zyl Smit
- 22 J. W. Pattinson
- 23 I. W. Keen
- 24 J. Ginsberg
- 25 L. Leon
- 26 C. F. Long
- 27 Miss E. W. Clarke
- 28 G. P. Felmore
- 29 C. A. Bruyns
- 30 Y. Brouard
- 31 P. B. C. Boardman
- 32 D. Lamont Smith
- 33 J. H. Selve

- 34 Africana Museum, Johannesburg
35 C. J. Greeff
36 F. B. Reinders
37 W. G. Combrink
38 D. S. Thompson
39 Mrs. Vera
40 Mr. Kelly
41 J. Keet
42 W. P. van der Merwe
43 M. Goldberg
44 H. P. D. van Wyk
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Acknowledgement Philatelic Magazine.

NO WATERMARK STAMPS

Future printings of the current British stamps in the old designs, and the regionals, are being printed on paper without watermark. The Scottish 4d. went on sale at the London Philatelic Counter on November 28th. On December 5th the Welsh 3d. and the £1 definitive were issued.

Other regionals will appear in due course, as new supplies are printed, and it is possible that the other high values, 2/6, 5/- and 10/-, may appear. The 5d., 7d., 8d. and 10d. are also possibilities.

Acknowledgement Philatelic Trader.

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BEROEMDE VERSAMELAARS

(Ontleen aan die „Elseviers Weekblad” van Saterdag 30 Desember 1967: Aangestuur deur mnr. M. Feddema op Den Haag, Nederland)

Ferrari, die man wat van verdriet gesterf het

Wanneer sake só staan dat posseelhandelaars 24 uur per dag in hulle winkels en kantore aanwesig wil wees om veral een koningklant nie te wil misloop nie, dan praat ek van ’n lang verloë tyd. En dan gaan dit slegs om een besondere versamelaar wat dag en nag Europa en daarbuite deurreis het om unieke rariteite, komplette versamelings en selfs vervalsings te koop. U begryp dat nie alleen geweldige eise aan die liggaamlike uithouvermoë van hierdie „koning”, maar stellig nog meer aan sy geldelike kant gestel was. Maar daaroor het die handelaars beslis geen kommer gehad nie want dié klant het weekliks soveel as £2,000 vir posseelaankope beskikbaar gehad.

Die fenomina was — u het dit stellig al geraai — Ferrari. Die „groot” Ferrari was klein van gestalte, wat onversorg gekleed en in die oë van die wêreld, sonderling was. Sy voorouers van moederskant het naas dieselfde reputasie van sonderlingheid, enorm veel geld gehad. Die geld het uit Genoa gekom, waar sy voorvaders as bankiers en geldskieters in die 15e en 16e eeu groot sake gedoen het. Een van hulle het sy goue stawe en munte in ’n ondergrondse gewelf van sy huis ter ophemeling geberg. Op een kwade nag toe hy sy skatte wou gaan betrag, kon hy die kelderdeur glad nie oopkry nie; die volgende oggend is hy dood tussen sy skatte aangetref. Die nasate van hierdie kêrel het in Oupa se spore gevolg en daarby die titel van hertog van Galliera verwerf, omdat hy byvoorbaat sy geldelike middele te midde van die kringe van die hoë adellui verpag het. Die Oupa van ons versamelaar bemaak by sy dood aan sy weduwe ’n biblioteek van driehonderd boeke van pre-

sies dieselfde dikte. Van skrik ondersoek hulle toe die boeke van nader en bevind hulle dat die bladsye uit staatskuldbekentenisse wat in totaal die onaardige bedrag van eenhonderd miljoen gulde behoort, bestaan.

As kleinseun van hierdie „begaafde” weduwe word ons Philippe op 11 Januarie 1850 gebore. Hy was ’n senuweeagtige kind wat baie sieklik en daarby nogal menssku was; dit is stellig waarom mens die jongetjie altoos met posseëls doenig aangetref het en hy op die ou end tot fanatieke versamelaar ontwikkel het. Hy skryf self dat hy op tienjarige leeftyd sy eerste stelletjie posseëls aangekoop het, naamlik dié van Hannover met die kop van die koning. Sy versamelingkoors neem in hewigheid toe, maar daaroor strakkies meer. Philippe het vrygesel gebly.

Toe hy 40 was het die Oostenrykse edelman ridder von Kriegsfeld de la Renotière hom aangeneem, nie uit liefdadigheid-oorwegings nie maar omdat die heer von Kriegsfeld die opregte pappa was . . . en Phillippe neem toe weer die naam Ferrari aan vanweë sy Italiaanse voorouers. Van toe af is hy bekend as Philippe Baron de la Renotière von Ferrari. Hoewel hy die grootste deel van sy lewe in Parys deurgebring het, het hy hom as ’n Duitser voorgedoen, natuurlik as gevolg van sy anneming. So skryf hy byvoorbeeld aan ’n Duitse filatelis: Ek het my lewe lank maar weinig geleentheid gehad om iets vir my geliefde Duitsland en dierbare Oostenryk te doen; ek word verteer deur ’n vurige liefde vir my vaderland en deur ’n bittere haat jeens Duitsland se vyande. Een en ander sou hom later duur te staan laat kom. Hy woon in Parys aan de rue de Varenne 57 in ’n groot agttiende euse herehuis. Die staatsman Talleyrand het ook daar gewoon. Die Engelsman Charless J. Philips, een van sy weinige vertrouelinge wat die voorreg gehad het om sy

versamelings deur te snuffel, het die situasie soos volg beskryf: aan drie kante van die ver-trekke is stelle laaie aangebring; sy besittings is op stroke stewige papier gemonteer; beson-derhede van die seëls is bo aan die stroke aan-gebring; ongebruikte en gebruikte seëls word afsonderlik deur Ferrari gehou; die stroke is op hulle beurt in koeverte waarop die inhoud aangedui is, gebêre; bo op die stelle laaie, reg-om die vertrek berg hy groot pakke en bundels duplikate en versameling-restante. Die Paryse posseelhandelaars Pierre Mahé en Schmidt de Wilde het as bewaarders van sy seëlskatte opgetree.

Met sy aankope het Ferrari hom deur die grootste handelaars en kenners laat bedien, soos Jean-Baptiste Moens, Haniciau en om nie die kenner van die Britse Ryk te vergeet nie, Thomas Ridpath wat die wêreld se seld-saamste seël, die 1c van Brits-Guyana van 1856 aan Ferrari verkoop het. Hierdie seël wat in 1856 plaaslik vervaardig moes word omdat die besending seëls uit Londen vertraag was, is eintlik 'n grafeursvergissing. Die seël is in 1878 deur 'n skoolseun tussen familiebriewe ontdek en aan 'n plaaslike versamelaar vir 6/-verkoop om „beter” seëls met die geld te kan koop. Ferrari het dit in 1878 vir 500 gulde van Ridpath gekoop en hierdie kleinood het in sy versameling gebly.

Voorts het hy vier van die slegs 12 bekende beroemde Mauritius-seëls van 2d wat per abuis deur die plaaslike horlosiemaker-graveur „post office” pleks van „post paid” gegraveer het. Verder het Ferrari o.a. 'n velletjie van 20 3pf Sakse seëls van 1850 gehad; dit het later in die bekende Burrus-versameling te lande gekom en is in 1966 vir sowat R24,000 op 'n openbare seëlveiling verkoop.

Hier is maar 'n grepie uit die horing van oorvloed: 'n aantal sogenaamde Amerikaanse „posmeesters”, plaaslike voorlopers van die Amerikaanse federale seëls van 1847; heel beroemd onder hulle is die unieke Boscawen-seël wat Ferrari in 1912 vir 2d-Mauritius verruil het. Arthur Hind, die Amerikaanse multimiljoenêr, het die seël in 1922 vir R5,000 van Ferrari gekoop; in die depressie van die dertigerjare het genoemde seël na Hind se dood slegs 5,000 dollars opgelewer, maar met 'n veiling in 1964 is 23,000 dollars vir die einste Boscawen betaal. Ferrari wat ook versamelings opgekoop het, het die beroemdste seldsaamhede ter wêreld besit. Soms het hy ook met twyfelagtige stukke tuisgekom; al was dit nie sy eie versoek nie, is dit seker en gewis dat sekere seëls vervals is spesifiek om aan Ferrari verkoop te word. Mense noem sulke seëls „Ferraritcite”.

'n Welbekende Londense seëlhandelaarsaak

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het hom in 1890 met so 'n wanpraktyk besig gehou en Ferrari was tenvolle bewus daarvan. Op 'n dag het hy teenoor vriende gesê: Ag wat. Die man het dringend geld nodig en hy het niks ordentlik om te verkoop nie toe het ek maar die vervalsings geneem om hom te help! Met al sy eienaardighede en hartstogtelike versamelwoede het Ferrari tog 'n sagte plek-ke vir sy medemens in sy hart gehad. Meer as een keer het hy geld aan Charles Philips gegee met opdrag om dit vir dergelike doeleindes aan te wend. Origens is gesê dat Ferrari die grootste deel van sy kapitaal in posseëls ge-steek het. Sy lewe het met die uitbreek van die eerste wêreldoorlog 'n dramatiese wending geneem. Tussen die vyande van Duitsland kon hy nie lewe nie en vlug toe na Switserland met slegs 'n paar albums van hoofsaaklik Grickse seëls. Die vernaamste albums het hy in be-waring van die Oostenryks-Hongarse ambas-sade te Parys gelaat. Op 20 Mei 1917 sterf hy te Lausanne van ergenis, weemoed en ver-driet met die verlies van sy lewenswerk. Hy het egter tevore sy hele versameling tesame met 'n aardige jaarrente aan die posmuseum op Berlyn bemaak. Daar het helaas niks van gekom nie.

Die Franse regering het die versameling as 'n vyandelike bate beskou en beslag daarop gelê.

Tussen 23 Junie 1921 en 26 November 1925 is alles openbaar verkoop teneinde die

Duitse oorlogskuld te verminder. Die veiling is gehou in die bekende Hotel Drouet in die straat van die posseëlhandelaars van Parys. Tydens 14 veilings is al die mooi, seldsaam en unieke stukke wat Ferrari byeengebring het verkoop. Dit was Maurice Burrus, die tabakmagnaat uit die Elsas en die reeds genoemde Arthur Hind, 'n tekstiel-koning, wat teen mekaar om die beste stukke gewedywer het.

Die verkoping van die allerbeste karmenaadjie, die Brits-Guyana van 1856 het op 6 April 1922 plaasgevind. Hoewel selfs namens die Engelse koning gebie is, het hierdie unikum teen 30,000 dollars in die hande van Hind gekom. Na laasgenoemde se dood sou die seël aan 'n Meksikaanse grondeienaar verkoop wees wie na bewering om besit van die seël vermoor was. 'n Versekering van £200,000 moes gesluit word eer die huidige eienaar in 1965 toegestem het dat die seël op 'n uitstalling van posseëls verskyn.

Die totale opbrengs van die seëlskatte van Ferrari het destyds die gelyke van R1,200,000 opgelewer. En daarmee was dit klaar . . . maar nie met die naam Ferrari nie; die betowering van die naam bly met filateliste voortleef.

Daar was in die jaar 1967 sprake dat die Amerikaners dit oorweeg het om 'n spesiale gedenkseël vir Ferrari uit te gee, maar skynbaar het daar niks van gekom nie.

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BROLE'S GUM TREES and other tales

By DAVID ALLISON

What did it cost to send a letter from the Cape Colony to the United States in 1864?

When was the post office at St. Mark's near Queenstown, opened?

How long did the post take to go from Cape Town to Namaqualand in 1853?

From time to time many of us must have felt that it would be interesting to know a bit more about the development of the postal

services in South Africa, particularly in the district where we happen to live. It is, perhaps, not generally known what a large amount of such information is fairly readily available.

There are, of course, the Post Office Guides. In bygone days these used to contain far more detailed information about postal services than they do nowadays, and I hope in a subsequent article to show what a wealth of interesting material may be found in them. But the first Cape Post Office Guide was published in 1882, and I want to draw attention to a source of postal information which goes back much further and must be available in many libraries that lack old P.O. Guides.

This is the Government Gazette. I have recently been looking at various issues of this, mainly dated 1864, 1868 and 1874, and it is evident that if a number of collectors of "Capes" divided the labour of working systematically through the Gazettes, much interesting information would be obtained. All I want to do is to indicate the sort of thing that one finds in them. A subsequent article will summarise the main points which come to light in a systematic search through the 1868 volume.

Postage Rates

The gazette of the 19th August, 1864, contains a table showing the postage rates on letters from the Cape Colony to various other countries, when sent via the United Kingdom. The table has five columns, showing the rates for letters weighing up to $\frac{1}{4}$ oz, $\frac{1}{2}$ oz, $\frac{3}{4}$ oz, 1oz and $1\frac{1}{4}$ oz. In most cases the charges appear to have been based on half-ounce units, the rates to Canada, the United States and Peru being (for instance) $\frac{1}{5}$, $\frac{1}{8}$, and $\frac{2}{11}$ per $\frac{1}{2}$ oz. This answers our first question. In the majority of other cases quarter-ounce units were used; thus the rates to France and Switzerland were 8d and 9d per $\frac{1}{4}$ oz.

Another notice, in the Gazette of 20th November, 1868, contains a few surprises. Letters to the United Kingdom were charged 1s for each half ounce, if sent by packet (= mailship) or by Queen's Vessel, but only 4d per half ounce if sent by private ship. Letters intended to be sent by private ship had to be endorsed accordingly. Overseas letters which did **not** travel via the United Kingdom. cost 4d per half ounce if posted at the port where the mail was embarked, and otherwise 6d per half ounce, except those for St. Helena, Ascension and Madeira, which cost an extra 4d per half ounce if sent by packet.

The inland rate at that time was 4d for letters under half an ounce, and otherwise 8d

per ounce or fraction thereof. There were, however, two exceptions to this. In the first place (see e.g. Government Gazette, 23rd October, 1868) Act 30 of 1864 provided that whenever there were two or more mails per day (Sundays and holidays excluded) between two post offices, the Governor could fix a reduced rate of postage, not less than a quarter of the normal inland rates, between those offices. Thus, in the Gazette of the 11th September, 1868, tenders for the conveyance of a second mail each weekday between Port Elizabeth and Uitenhage were called for. Satisfactory arrangements were evidently made for this, for on 23rd October, 1868, the Gazette included a Proclamation by the Governor that the postage between Port Elizabeth and Uitenhage would be reduced to 1d for letters under $\frac{1}{2}$ oz, and otherwise 2d per ounce or fraction thereof. This reduced rate was to come into effect on 2nd December, 1868. Jurgens' book on Cape postmarks has a chapter (pages 105-106) on penny postage. In this chapter this proclamation of 1868 is omitted, but a later one (Government Gazette, 18th May, 1877) which extends the penny postage rate further inland, as far as Glenconnor, is included.

Jurgens also includes the establishment of a penny post between East London and King William's Town (and places in between). This came into effect on 1st May, 1877, the day on which the railway between these two towns was opened for traffic. (See Government Gazettes of 26th April and 1st May). The Post Office notice mentions that as there was only one train a day to Kei Road, that place was excluded from the penny post area.

The second exception to the 4d rate was a 1d rate "between the Chief Town in each Division and any Field-cornet Post Office Agency in such Division." These agencies may have been those served by the field-cornets' posts, mentioned below; or they may have been those at the field-cornets' farms. Does anybody know?

Post Offices and Mail Routes

Government Gazettes probably form the best available source of information about dates of opening and closing of offices. Thus, to quote just one instance, the Gazette of 11th September, 1874, mentions that a post office had been opened at St. Mark's, in the division of Queen's Town, "in connection with the Post just established between those places". This sort of information needs to be tabulated, of course, before it becomes of much use.

Tenders for the conveyance of mails were

frequently invited. The notices contained various requirements, including the blowing of a bugle when a post office or agency was approached. A scale of fines for lateness was laid down. Occasionally the amounts paid to the successful tenderers may be found in a later Gazette. Thus tenders were called for (in the issue of the 4th September, 1868) for the conveyance of mails from Wellington Station via Wellington Post Office to Worcester and Ceres. These were to leave Wellington Station on Tuesdays and Thursdays after the arrival of the first train from Cape Town, and to leave Wellington Post Office on Sunday mornings. On the return trip they were to leave Worcester and Ceres on Mondays, Wednesdays and Fridays in time to catch the second train on those days to Cape Town. The annual payment made for all this was £173, according to a notice in the Gazette of 27th October.

Some minor postal routes were known as Divisional Posts or Field-cornets' Posts. Tenders for these were called for by the local Civil Commissioners, and the notices in the Government Gazette omit most of the requirements laid down in the Postmaster-General's notices already mentioned.

And — to answer our third question — what about the Namaqualand mails? On Thursday, 1st September, 1853 (the day of the issue of the Cape Triangulars!) tenders were invited for the conveyance of mails, once a week, to Namaqualand. The route was divided into sections. For the first section, from Cape Town via D'Urban to Malmesbury, eight hours were allowed; the post left the G.P.O., Cape Town, at 12 noon on Thursdays. Other sections reach to Clanwilliam (the last town on the route) and beyond, mission stations and field-cornets' farms forming the ends of the later stages. The last of these which I can readily locate is Lily Fountain, which was (and is) the centre of Methodist Work in Namaqualand. It lies to the East of the present main road, between Garies and Kamieskroon. To return to ~~1868~~ ¹⁸⁵³, the sections from Cape Town to Clanwilliam took a total of about 29 hours, and the sections from Cape Town to Lily Fountain took about 58 hours. Lily Fountain still gets a weekly post, but the time taken from Cape Town has been reduced to less than a half of what it was a century ago.

Brole's Gum Trees

The heading was designed to catch your eye, of course, and if you have read as far as this you deserve to know what it's all about. Brole's

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Gum Trees was the name of a postal agency "about four miles from Bedford, on the Main Road to Grahamstown", the establishment of which was announced in the Gazette of 11th September, 1874. The Postal Agent was Mr. Charles Robert Brole. The 1962 postal route map shows no agency in or near this position.

What has been written above is intended merely to provide a sample of the sort of information which anybody can find who lives near a library which has a run of Cape Government Gazettes. Presumably the corresponding Gazettes of Natal, Transvaal and the Orange Free State would yield similar material. And, paging through these old volumes, one gets many fascinating glimpses of life a hundred years ago.

STANLEY GIBBONS TO GO "PUBLIC"

Stanley Gibbons Ltd. are planning to become a public company in the spring. There have been rumours of this for the past twelve months, but the news became public when it made the front page of "The Times Business News" on December 23rd.

It is understood that the 30-40 shareholders have already been canvassed for their opinions and have been asked whether they will be prepared to make shares available.

The Company's capitalisation is expected to be upwards of £1 million and S. G. Warburg, the merchant bankers, are preparing the ground for a flotation, probably in February or March.

Stanley Gibbons Ltd. has a nominal capital of £200,000 and has two subsidiaries, Stanley Gibbons Auctions Ltd. (formerly Harmer, Rooke and Co.) and Letter Filing Appliances of Birmingham.

Stanley Gibbons Ltd. was founded in 1856 by Edward Stanley Gibbons, in his father's pharmacy in Plymouth. He moved to Clapham Common in 1874 and in 1876 he moved again to 8, Gower Street, London, W.C.I.

In July 1890 Gibbons sold his entire business, stock, goodwill and trading name, of Stanley Gibbons and Company, to Charles James Phillips, who had traded as a part-time dealer in Birmingham for some years. The price was £25,000.

Phillips had recently moved to London with his family and following the purchase he turned the business into a private limited company. Gibbons became the Chairman of the new company and was issued with 6 per cent.

debentures for the amount of the purchase. Charles J. Phillips became Managing Director.

The firm continued to grow and the Gower Street premises did not afford sufficient facilities for the reception of personal buyers. A small shop was therefore purchased at 435, Strand in March 1891. In 1893 shop and offices were combined at 391 Strand, which was taken on a 28-year lease.

In 1900 the firm acquired the upper three floors of 390 Strand and in September 1902 they opened a branch in New York, under the name of Stanley Gibbons Inc. The branch was sold in 1911, but it still retains the name.

In 1904/5 Gibbons purchased the business of Hamilton-Smith and Co. and in 1905 opened a City branch at 97, Gracechurch Street. A branch was opened in Buenos Aires in 1910.

In 1913 Gibbons purchased the business of W. H. Peckitt of 47 Strand. In 1925 the firm acquired the freehold of 391 and in 1935 took over 37 Southampton Street, which linked at the rear with the Strand premises.

Stanley Gibbons acquired Harmer, Rooke and Co. in 1958 and in 1962 they purchased the business of H. E. Wingfield and Co., their next-door neighbours. Mr. A. L. Michael, proprietor of Wingfield's, became joint Managing Director of Gibbons. On the retirement of Mr. W. F. Deakin in 1966, Mr. Michael became Managing Director.

During 1967 Stanley Gibbons joined with Whitman Publishing in producing the Gibbons-Whitman Catalogue in the United States. On July 1st, 1967 the firm opened a shop in New York under the title StanGib Limited.

"The news that Gibbons is to go "public" should have a stimulating effect on the stamp market. It will bring additional publicity to the hobby and should create an increased demand for stamps. Many collectors will wish to buy shares in the Company and it will also mean that a stamp firm's shares will be quoted on the Stock Exchange for the first time.

Acknowledgement The Philatelic Trader.

WANTED

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A BELGIAN WAS WORLD'S FIRST STAMP DEALER

On April 29, 1908, there died one of the most respected oldtime Continental dealers. This was Jean-Baptiste Phillippe Constant Moens. He was the first stamp dealer in the world and it was with Louis Hanciau that the first deal in stamps took place in 1852.

At that time Moens was a bookseller at the Galerie Bortier in Brussels. This request for used stamps started off his trade in stamps. He built up a business in foreign stamps and today many collectors owe him a debt of thanks because he imported large numbers of the early issues in mint condition.

Moen's shop became a meeting place of collectors, and Moen's love of books led him to take an interest in philatelic literature.

In 1861 the first printed stamp catalogue (a primitive effort) was produced by Potiquet in Paris. Moens followed by publishing a catalogue of his own. In 1862 he produced the first philatelic handbook to be published — a work on forgeries "De la Flasiification des Timbres-Poste" which was followed in 1863 by the publication of Moen's monthly journal "Le Timbre-Poste".

In 1866 details in that journal were given of Dr. Magnus's "odontometre" — the original perforation gauge. One of the best features was its listing of new issues.

Between 1877 and 1887, 18 specialized handbooks appeared from the house of Moens. In 1900 Moens retired and the journal ceased publication. He died at the age of 74.

Acknowledgement O.F.S. Philatelic Magazine.

(It will be interesting to know something about South Africa's early stamp dealers. Will someone please supply this information? — Editor)

INTERESTING ASPECTS OF THE COMMEMORATIVE ISSUES OF THE REPUBLIC OF SOUTH AFRICA

(Paper read by Mr. M. S. Weitzmann at a meeting of the S.A. Stamp Study Circle)

Continued from page 69, March, 1968

John Calvin Stamp

These stamps were printed on R.S.A. watermarked paper, the mark facing left, and in a 4-pane format of 5 rows x 20 stamps per pane.

Complete punch holes, without concentric coloured circles appear on the top margin of panes A and C, above stamps 7 and 8. Remnant punch holes, surrounded by remnant purple concentric circles are positioned on the bottom margin of panes B and D below stamp 7 and 8.

Four pairs of electronic guide marks are imprinted on the top margin of pane C only, above stamp 17 to 20, and are coloured purple, red, purple, sepia-brown respectively, from left to right.

A special date stamp was used on the 10th July, 1964. This Issue was given extra colour by the discovery of a joined paper. (Only 5 copies known to exist.)

The Nurse's Stamps

Two postage stamps, of 2½c and 12½c denominations were placed on sale at all Post Offices of the Republic on 12th October, 1964.

The 2½c stamp is particularly interesting in view of the fact that there appears to be a controversy amongst philatelists concerning the amount of printings which took place.


In November, 1964, the newsletter of the S.A. Stamp Study Circle reported that it would appear that five printings were made, namely:

Cylinders S3/S15 A/B

- (1) Gold powder fifteen years old was used for this printing. The blue lettering of this printing appears to be more smudged but the lamp is a deeper blue than the following printing.
- (2) Due to insufficient stocks, further "gold" powder was ordered resulting in a slightly brighter gold.
- (3) During the third printing an amount of brown powder was added. This resulted in a "dull gold".

Cylinders S7/S14 A/B.

- (4) Due to damaged cylinders two new cylinders were prepared. The first print-



Switzerland and Continental countries
classics and moderns bought and sold,
also collections.

J. FRICK
CH-9658 WILDHAUS
SWITZERLAND

ing appeared in "dull" gold.

- (5) The last printing of this series can be distinguished from the first of the S7/S14 by the fact that the "gold" cylinder No. S7 and the left hand stamp frame line, along stamps 1, are faded.

Subsequently, in January, 1965, the S.A. Stamp Study Circle reported as follows:

Dr. H. J. Raubenheimer brought several complete sets of four of Identifying strips of the 2½c Nurse's Stamps.

Dr. Raubenheimer maintained that there were four printings as set out hereunder:

1. S3/S15, A/B—15-year-old ink used.
2. S3/S15, A/B—New bright gold ink bought.
3. S3/S15, A/B—1½ brown added to 1 part gold. One cylinder damaged.
4. S7/S14, A/B—Two new cylinders made.

Different light intensities gave different shades.

Members discussed the easiest method of identifying a single stamp from each set of cylinders. Mention was made that "Gibbons" separately lists both sets of cylinders and uses the base of the lamp as identification.

In the S3/S15 printing the base being more white and in the second or S7/S14 printing, the base being blue.

Members however, felt that a more positive identification is the fading of the gold lattice in the bottom left frame line of the S3/S15 printing.

From what has previously transpired it would appear that further research into this matter should be undertaken in order to bring finality to this controversy.

The 12½c stamp was, for the most part a straight forward clean printing and does not warrant any particular comment at this stage.

First-day covers were available with the special cancellation "Prefex-Prefu" Pretoria, and also with a special "congress" cancellation.

I.T.U. Stamp

Two postage stamps of 2½c and 12½c denominations were placed on sale at all Post Offices in the Republic on the 17th May, 1965, to commemorate the centenary of the International Telecommunication Union.

With regard to the 2½c denomination, there are practically no outstanding peculiarities which are worthy of mention. The blue background appeared lighter at times and slightly darker at other times, but this seems to have been caused merely by some sheets having been slightly under or over-inked. There was

also a predominance of fine doctor blade marks throughout this Issue.

Concerning the 12½c denomination, here again, the green shades varied markedly in depth on different sheets.

On pane B, the light green shades had numbers opposite stamps 8 and 9 and 19 and 20 while the dark green shades had numbers opposite stamps 7 and 8 and 18 and 19.

For the first time an official Souvenir Post Card was issued by the Philatelic Bureau.

Two printings of this card are recorded:

- (1) The first printing, which was used mainly for overseas orders, had the "L" of "International" (third line, second paragraph) missing. The "set-up" is closer and three diamonds appear at the centre bottom of the card.
- (2) The second printing has the "L". The lines are more widely spaced and only two diamonds are present.

The Dutch Reformed Church Stamps

Two postage stamps, of 2½c and 12½c denominations were issued on the 21st October, 1965, to commemorate the Ter Centenary of the Dutch Reformed Church in South Africa.

Both the 2½c and the 12½c printings were well executed and the registration of cylinders was for the most part good. However, the cyclometer numbers were frequently smudged or irregular suggesting that the cyclometer mechanism was due for overhaul.

Both values were printed on R.S.A. water-marked paper, the mark on the 2½c stamp faces right while that of the 12½c stamp is inverted, probably because it was made from stock left over after reeling off for larger rolls.

An official first-day Souvenir Envelope bearing the emblem of the Dutch Reformed Church was available from the Philatelic Bureau.

The Envelopes were actually printed and sold by the Church for funds.

A card was enclosed which provided the history and scope of the church.

A special date stamp was used at Cape Town on the 21st October, 1965, which depicted the pulpit and front benches of the "Groote Kerk".

New perforators for the Goebel 840 machine were first used on this 12½c printing.

To be continued

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COMMONWEALTH FIRST DAY COVERS and stamps sent on approval. Bok Philatelists, Box 3321, Cape Town.

SHIPS — MERCHANT AND MILITARY: I have rare cancellations and covers with postmarks of the whole world. Dr. Zappalà, Via Colle del Pino, 95126 Catania, Italy.

STAMP DEALS, P.O. Box 2272, Johannesburg, may just have (or may know where to find) that difficult stamp; now available some star items in Protectorate Decimal surcharge errors, Capes, O.F.S., Rhodesia (BSA Co.), Canada, strong collection Union Animal Series, Far East countries, USA, New Zealand, Australia, etc.

GENESIS of the British South Africa Company's Postage Stamps and Postal Services, by V. F. Ellenberger, as supplied as a supplement to the S.A. Philatelist, June, 1967. A limited number of extra copies available at 20c, post free. Business Manager, S.A. Philatelist, P.O. Box 375, Johannesburg.

G. B. LINE-ENGRAVED: Wanted, fair plating copies (unplated) of 1d. black and perforated 2d. Blues: Send offers to Commander C. E. D. Enoch, 3 Cussonia, 7 Lyburn Road, Lynnwood Manor, Pretoria.

IRELAND: Buying — top cash paid for everything. Selling — magnificent stock second to none. David Feldman Ltd., 22 Rathfarnham Park, Dublin 14, Ireland.

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: 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, U.K.

ANGLO-BOER WAR PHILATELIC SOCIETY, quarterly magazine with exchange packet in U.K. Subscription R1.50 (15/-) yearly. Secretary, J. H. Rathbone, 'Allways', Rudheath, Northwich, Cheshire, U.K.

FOR WORLD STAMP NEWS, market commentary, new issues, postmark studies, book reviews, etc., etc. read:—**PHILATELIC MAGAZINE**, published every two weeks by Harris Publications Ltd. of London. Annual sub. — One year 47/6 post paid (6.00 U.S. Dollars); Three years 130/- post paid (16.00 U.S. Dollars). **PHILATELIC TRADER**, one year 25/- post paid (3.00 U.S. Dollars); Three years 65/- post paid (8.00 U.S. Dollars). Agent in South Africa: D.C.D. Castle, P.O. Box 970, Pietermaritzburg.

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).

1840-1900.—If you want good stamps of this period, then write to **DOUGLAS ROTH**, Mona Crescent, Newlands, Cape.

F. W. COLLINS OF WINCESTER, ENGLAND, will be at the Langham Hotel, Johannesburg on the 19th and 20th April next, to meet old and new customers. He will have selected items, pre 1935, of British Commonwealth in Africa for sale. He wishes to buy fine G.B. and B.W.I., etc.

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.

WANTED FOR CASH !!! Southern African T.P.O.'s, Sea Post and Paquetbot markings on cover or on piece. Offers to J. M. Weinstein, 479(a) Fehrsen Street, Brooklyn, Pretoria.

SOUTH AFRICAN COLLECTORS' SOCIETY for the Union Collector—magazine, exchange packet. Subscription 15/- (2 dollars) year. Write Hon. Secretary, W. A. Page, 138 Chastilian Road, Dartford, Kent, England.

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

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.

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

LISTS of general interest free on request. — **UNION STAMP CO.**, Barbican Building, President and Rissik, Johannesburg. (P.O. Box 10225). Telephone 838-5879.

MOZAMBIQUE Pre-stamp Covers urgently wanted. Varieties also required.—**B. Glassman**, P.O. Box 10, Johannesburg.

SOCIETY NEWS

PORT ELIZABETH PHILATELIC SOCIETY

February 6th: Attendance at this meeting was not as good as has recently been the case, probably as a result of the continued sultry weather. The evening opened with a small auction capably conducted by Mr. Bülbring. Then Mr. Tommy Tomlinson showed us his small but impeccable collection of Vatican City. He limits himself to the stamps of Popes John and Paul. Like so many at the coast he has had bad experiences with "rust" and has, therefore, reduced his collecting range considerably.

Mr. Slabbert expressed the feelings of those present when he proposed a vote of thanks to Mr. Tomlinson for his very fine exhibit.

New arrivals to Port Elizabeth are still joining the Society in numbers and these benefit very much from the exchange of views on our coastal "rust" problems. The meeting was a particularly pleasant one, as there was just the right amount of talking from the Chair, giving members and visitors the opportunity to converse with each other.

February 20th: The Annual General Meeting of the Society was the 56th in its existence and the number of members present testified to the strides which have taken us to a new high mark of membership during the past year. The oldest member of our Society, Mr. Harmer, attended his 42nd Annual General Meeting and on the other hand many of those who joined only fairly recently were keen attendants.

The following are the newly elected Office Bearers: President: Mr. G. Monaghan, Vice-President: Mr. A. S. Aldis, Secretary: Mr. A. F. W. Pavitt, Treasurer: Mr. L. Lasarow, Exchange Superintendent: Mr. A. S. Aldis, Auctioneer: Mr. T. S. Strachan, Assistant Auctioneer: Mr. G. Bülbring, Press Correspondent: Mr. J. Aldis.

The presentation of Awards for the year proved a grand slam for the Strachan family as follows: G. Bülbring Trophy: Mr. T. J. Strachan, T. J. Strachan Trophy: Mrs. E. Strachan, G. Fobes Memorial Cup: T. Strachan junior.

It was not possible to make an award for the best Thematic Exhibit as no such exhibit had been displayed during the year and the Dave Berg Trophy was therefore not competed for. The evening concluded with an interesting auction.

SOCIETY OF ISRAEL PHILATELY

December: The attendance was poor no doubt due to a number of people having gone on leave and the remainder not desiring to display. Seven members submitted some very fine displays as listed hereunder:-

W. Mann — Odds and Ends, L. Abrams — S.W.A., Forerunners and Wunderstampfels, A. Colman — The Lion, L. Buchen — Postmarks

and Memorial Sheets, J. Michelson — Postgebit and Oberösten, M. L. Rutenberg — From Russia with Love, S. Wachenheimer — 6 Days in June.

An interesting meeting concluded with an auction.

THE ROYAL PHILATELIC SOCIETY OF RHODESIA

February: There was a good attendance of 42 members and visitors to welcome Mr. W. S. Yelland, from the West Rand, who is visiting Rhodesia and who put up two exhibits for our delight.

The early business was quickly disposed of. Two new members were welcomed and members were informed that First Day Covers for the World Ploughing Contest, 26th April, would be serviced for them by the Society. The new Mardon Printers 3d., without the 2½c., was on display for the information of members.

The meeting was then handed over to Mr. W. S. Yelland. His displays of Mardon Printers varieties and of postmarks and cachets on South African Army covers from World Wars 1 and 2 aroused a great deal of interest. So much so, in fact, that the tea got cold on the service counter while members crowded round these fascinating displays. Mr. W. H. Turnbull, in thanking Mr. Yelland, said that these displays were an aftermath of VRYPEX and Congress, where many friendships are made and renewed. The interest shown was sufficient commendation for the excellence of the exhibits, both bronze medal awards. The greetings brought by Mr. Yelland from the South African Stamp Study Circle and the West Rand Society were warmly reciprocated.

EAST LONDON PHILATELIC SOCIETY

February: A well attended meeting saw a display of British Commonwealth material by Messrs. Hellmann, Shingler and Sparkman. A varied display, from straight material to covers and the Royal Family theme. It was very interesting, and I am sure that all thoroughly enjoyed seeing it. We are trying to introduce more stamps, and less business, into our meetings, but although this first one did not really go as well as we intended, we will persevere. We have acquired a magnificent item to use as a prize in a competition we will be organising soon for Elpex 68, and will be contacting all societies in this regard. I do hope that you will all support us — you will when you know what that prize is.

THE MASHONALAND PHILATELIC SOCIETY

December: It is obvious that Members do not like informal exchange evenings as the attendance in December was only just over twenty persons which was the lowest I have seen since joining the Society. Even so I personally came away with more stamps than for a very long

time — all, I hasten to add, obtained through exchange or purchase.

January: Your Secretary only returned from leave on the afternoon of this meeting and consequently was unable to attend. The Society's thanks are due to Mr. Webb for sending out the notices for this meeting. From all accounts it was an unqualified success and Mr. Davenport tells me that something in the region of £5 accrued to the Society by way of commission from the auction. Mr. Brooke must have been in most persuasive mood.

GERMISTON PHILATELIC SOCIETY

February: There was a fair attendance of members at the 15th Annual General Meeting of the Germiston Philatelic Society held at the N.C.P. Tennis Clubhouse, on Wednesday the 21st of February, 1968. Mr. R. G. L. Mephius, the retiring President, before displaying a straight-forward exhibit of Danish stamps, gave a most informative talk on the main stamps of interest in his collection. Thanks to the exhibitor were given by Mr. H. J. Suklje, the newly elected President of the Society.

The following members were elected to the Executive Committee of the Society for the ensuing twelve months. President: Mr. H. J. Suklje; Vice-President: Mr. T. J. B. Curle; Hon. Secretary, Mr. I. S. Burniston (re-elected); Hon. Treasurer: Mr. A. C. Rix (re-elected); Hon. Exchange-Packet Superintendent: Mr. R. G. L. Mephius (re-elected); the three other Committee members being Mr. A. Thompson (re-elected), Mrs. D. M. Calder and Mr. H. Birkhead. The positions of Hon. Librarian and Hon. Auctioneer would be debated at the first meeting of the Executive Committee as no member was willing to accept either position at the Annual General Meeting. Mr. Theo Ross was again elected as Hon. Auditor to the Society.

The following members were presented with the floating Trophies of the Society:— Mr. L. Buchen, the Senior award; Mr. O. Hartig, the Society award; Mr. C. Waner, the Thematics award; Mr. A. Thompson, the Aero-Philately award.

THE O.F.S. PHILATELIC SOCIETY

January: Being the Annual General Meeting, this was, as usual not particularly well attended.

The following office-bearers were elected for 1968:— President: Mr. H. E. Roux; Vice-President: Mr. A. L. Meyburgh; Secretary: Mr. S. Marus; Treasurer: Mr. H. Hagan; Exchange Supt.: Mr. R. Lee; Committee: Mrs. E. Marinowitz, Mr. I. Marinowitz, Mr. C. van Ee, Mr. J. Havenga; Hon. Auditor: Mr. H. J. Weil.

The retiring President, Mr. A. L. Meyburgh, in presenting his Report indicated that he had decided not to seek re-election as the time had come to pass this honour onto a younger member.

New Issues were provided by Mr. and Mrs. Marinowitz and Mr. Roux. The Committee provided a joint exhibit to round off the meeting, which included the following:

"It's a Dog's World" by Mr. and Mrs. Marinowitz. "Vatican" by Mr. Marcus. "Stamp Curiosities" and "Sport" by Mr. A. L. Meyburgh. "Malta" by Mr. H. E. Roux.

The Financial Report, indicating the satisfactory position of the Society, was presented and adopted.

ROYAL PHILATELIC SOCIETY OF CAPE TOWN

January 11th: As the subject for the evening was "Research", we saw three collections in this field before Mr. Harmer exhibited the two collections that he had brought with him from London.

Firstly, Mr. Goldblatt showed various re-entries of the C.G.H. 6d de la Rue issue. Then he showed a very fascinating C. G. H. cover sent to G.B., and proved, by a tremendous amount of research that the particular hand-stamp, had in fact been applied at the Cape and not on arrival overseas.

Dr. Gottschalk showed the first Jerusalem overprint of 1920. He explained the various printings and types, and showed extensively, the major errors, also the minor varieties, into which he had done a good deal of research.

Mr. Giezendanner showed Swiss varieties which have necessitated research. Exhibiting firstly the Standing Helvetias, he showed six varieties, then the Tax Stamps with varieties of colour and finally the 1937 overprints with big numerals, and the telegraph stamps.

Mr. Cyril Harmer had brought with him from London, two really wonderful collections, certain gems of philately.

They pertained to the dispatch of the Metz Balloon Post and that of the Great Barrier Island.

Space prohibits inclusion of the relevant interesting details here but they are fully set out in the News Letter and make very interesting reading.

January 25th: Four exhibits were exhibited for the competition for the Jacob Cup namely: Lagos and the Niger Territories — Mr. du L. Chiappini. Austrian Italy — Mr. W. G. Combrink. Orange Free State — Dr. H. Gottschalk. French Airmails — Capt. M. F. Stern.

The jury after mature consideration awarded the Cup to Capt. M. F. Stern for 1968.

February 22nd: A very satisfactory attendance marked the 57th Annual General Meeting of the Society, ending another successful and pleasant year.

The business included the presentation and acceptance of the Financial Statement incorporating the Income and Expenditure account, the Librarian's, the Treasurer's, the Exchange Superintendents' and the Hon. Secretary's reports.

It was noted that the membership of the Society as at 31st December 1967 stood at: Town members 173, Country members 45, and Life members 3, a total of 221.

Society Awards were made to the following successful competitors: Jacob Cup — Capt. M. F. Stern — French Airmails, Simenhoff Cup — Mrs. A. Wannerton — S.A. Cancellations.

Kaganson Cup — Mrs A. Wannerton — Saints and Madonnas, C.R.V. Solomon Cup — Mr. S. Gutman — U.S.A. and it was noted with pleasure that for the first time, this year the "Maiden Award" was competed for. This cup was presented to the Society by the son of our late Hon. Life Member, Mr. C. R. V. Solomon, in order to perpetuate his father's name, and is to be competed for by members who have not previously won any sort of award.

THE ORANGE FREE STATE STUDY CIRCLE

September 30th: At this, the Annual General Meeting, the following officers were elected for 1967/68: President: J. A. Brook; Chairman: G. D. Duckley; Secretary: W. B. Marriott; Treasurer: A. R. Allison; Bulletin Editor: L. H. Lomax; Publicity Officer: Major H. M. Criddle; Publications Manager: B. H. Poyner; Committee: A. C. Fenn, L. Molloy-Vickers, M. F. Wray. Mr. J. A. Brook was re-elected Hon. Auditor.

The resignation of Mr. S. G. Laurence as Hon. Treasurer and a member of the Study Circle was received and accepted with regret.

Appreciation of the work done for the Study Circle by Mr. Laurence over the years, since the formation of the Circle was expressed by the members present and in respect of his long and important services, he was unanimously elected an Honorary Life Member of the Study Circle.

The dates for the 1968 meetings were agreed as follows: - March 30th, May 25th, October 5th.

It was agreed that, at the meeting on March 30th, the 1d on 5/- provisional and the revenue stamps be studied in relation to the appropriate chapters in Part I of the Handbook.

CAPE SOCIETY OF ISRAEL PHILATELISTS

January: The Chairman welcomed new members and visitors. He reported to the Meeting that the Annual General Meeting would be held in February and called upon members to raise and discuss any items which they wished to place on the Agenda.

Mr. Piat suggested that the Exchange packets had not been operating properly and he felt that the function of the Exchange Superintendent should be separated from that of the Treasurer.

He also suggested that Membership Fees should be increased to R2.00 per annum.

The competition for the Eliezer Blum Trophy was then held. Mrs. Hilda Jeidel and Mr. Jack Galloon exhibited stamps of the DOAR IVRI of 1948. Members displayed great interest in both these exhibits. The trophy was awarded to Mrs. Hilda Jeidel.

THE SOUTH AFRICAN STAMP STUDY CIRCLE

February: The Seventh Annual General Meeting of the Study Circle preceded the monthly meeting and the following office bearers for the ensuing year were elected: President: Mr. M.

Gough-Palmer; Vice-President: Mr. S. P. Naylor; Secretary/Treasurer: Mr. E. J. Sharpe; Committee Members: Dr. T. B. Berry, Messrs. J. T. Burrell and K. E. W. Lydall; Curator of the Study Circle Reference Collection: Dr. H. J. Raubenheimer; Exchange Superintendent: Mr. W. Yelland; Hon. Examiner: Mr. B. Glassman; Executive Members to Federation: Dr. H. J. Raubenheimer, Messrs. M. Gough-Palmer and E. J. Sharpe.

The J. H. Harvey Pirie Plaque, which is awarded annually for meritorious service to South African philately, was presented to Mr. E. J. Sharpe for his able and very conscientious contribution to the administration and handling of the Study Circle's affairs since being appointed Secretary/Treasurer and Exchange Superintendent in February, 1966.

Dr. H. J. Raubenheimer reported the appearance of a new issue of the 20 cent stamp from a new master negative. The redrawn design has reduced the size of the Secretary Bird and the inscription on the stamp is bolder. This stamp is printed on the Swiss paper with the "tête bêche" watermark on two panes from cylinder numbers 242 (buff), 243 (crimson) and 244 (brown).

The formal discussion for the afternoon was provided by Mr. J. Wannerton of Cape Town, whose letter on the screening of postcards was read by the Secretary. This promoted much comment and many opinions were expressed — all of which were of interest to the members.

In conclusion, several items of interest were displayed and discussed.

PRETORIA PHILATELIC SOCIETY

February: The Annual General Meeting brought an excellent attendance, all of whom were appreciative of the work performed by last year's office bearers and committee members.

All the reports submitted, reflected good progress and they were unanimously adopted by the meeting. The officials for this year were elected as follows: - President: Mr. J. M. Weinstein; Vice-President: Cmdr. C. E. D. Enoch; Hon. Secretary: Mr. G. F. W. Kuhn; Hon. Treasurer: Dr. W. J. Schiff; Joint Hon. Exchange Supts.: Messrs. E. A. Gerke, E. N. Faller and G. F. W. Kuhn; Hon. Librarian: Miss M. Esterhuysen; Hon. Curator: Mr. A. F. Reynard; Hon. Correspondent: Mr. W. Kriste; Members of Committee: Messrs. W. Impey and W. Kriste; Delegates to Federation: Messrs. J. M. Weinstein, D. J. C. Reynders and R. Castignani.

To complete the evening, the Curator displayed some pages of the Society's collection and consisting of the more recent issues and a number of the early commemoratives.

PRETORIA RAILWAY PHILATELIC SOCIETY

February: With a satisfactory attendance the Society got off to a good start for 1968 at the Annual General Meeting this month. As the Chairman remarked in his report, the Society

celebrates its coming of age this year and the July meeting has been earmarked for the 21st birthday celebrations when a bumper meeting is planned.

All reports submitted to the A.G.M. were unanimously adopted.

The meeting clearly showed its confidence in the office bearers who, without exception, were re-elected as follows:- Chairman: Mr. E. Walker; Vice-Chairman: Mr. D. Brown; Hon. Secretary: Mr. W. Kriste; Hon. Treasurer: Mr. G. Kriste; Stamp Superintendent: Mr. Z. J. van Eyk; Exchange Superintendent: Mr. S. Smith; Librarian: Mr. F. Fouche; Delegates to Federation: Messrs. W. Kriste, Z. J. van Eyk and E. Walker.

It is with deep regret that I inform members of the death of one of our Life Members, Mr. W. Howie, after a long illness. An important cog in the wheel of our Society, having been Chairman, Vice-Chairman and later Hon. Treasurer for many years, Jock guided us along the right road and it is mainly due to his efforts that we are in our present happy position. To Mrs. Howie and family we extend our sincere condolences.

EXPERT COMMITTEE

The next meeting of the Expert Committee of the Philatelic Federation of Southern Africa will be held on May 20th, 1968. The Secretary's address is P.O. Box 2388, Pretoria.

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Vol. 44 No. 5

MAY, 1968

Whole No. 517.

SOUTH AFRICAN NOTES

By DR. H. J. RAUBENHEIMER,

Hon. Associate Editor.

NEW ISSUES

THE FOUCHÉ STAMPS

Two special Commemorative Stamps, of the denominations of 2½c and 12½c, were issued on the 10th of April 1968 on the occasion of the inauguration of Mr. J. J. Fouché as the second State President of the Republic of South Africa. They would be on sale for approximately three months.

The features that appeared for the first time on the Reformation Stamps last October are repeated here, namely: the letters RSA, the absence of central gutters and of the words Postage-Postgeld.

The designs are from sketches by Dr. Irmin Henkel.

THE 2½c DENOMINATION

DESIGN: A portrait of Mr. Fouché, in profile, in Sepia-brown, on the background of light venetian red. The inscriptions are "10-IV-1968" in Sepia-brown, in the top right corner, and "RSA 2½c" in white, at the bottom.

PAPER: Harrison, coated, with the RSA watermark, indistinct, and facing right.

SHEET FORMAT: horizontal, double die, panes A and B, A having been on the right of B as they emerged from the Goebel 830 printing machine.

STAMP FORMAT: vertical.

CYLINDERS: two, cross lined, 200 line, screened, numbers 250, sepia-brown, interior, and 249, light venetian red, exterior, and these numbers are shown, in their respective colours, together with the pane letter A or B in sepia-brown, on the left margin opposite row 5.

SHEET NUMBERS: four figure, red, on B pane only, on the bottom margin below stamps 1 and 2 and 12 and 13.

ARRAOWS: premanufactured, sepia-brown, centrally placed on the top and bottom margins.

MARGINAL BARS: sepia-brown, single, broken line, with an extended central gap, on the left and right margins of both panes.

COLOUR REGISTER: in the form of a small cross, in the two colours, superimposed, on the bottom margin of pane A below stamp No. 9. The horizontal brown line is broken.

PERFORATIONS: small holes, internally perforated by the 11 row appliance. The left and right margins are perforated through while the top and bottom margins are imperforate except for the single extra hole at each end of the vertical lines of perforations.

VARIETIES

PANE B

Row-No.

1/ 5 Red dot above 2½.

THE 12½c DENOMINATION



- 3/ 9 Brown dot on the outline of the back of the head half way down.
 3/15 Short brown hairline above A of RSA, below the lapel.
 4/16 Tiny brown dot on the forehead above the eye.
 5/17 Brown line at the right of the collar.

PANE A

- 3/13 Brown smudge at the centre of the top margin of the stamp.
 4/ 1 Brown spot on the collar.
 4/ 8 Brown dot on the forehead below 10.
 4/13 Brown dot on the left edge of the Stamp, one quarter way down.

DESIGN: A portrait of Mr. Fouché, full face, in blue-black on a background of blue-grey. The inscriptions are: "10-IV-1968" in blue-black, in the top right corner and "RSA 12½c" in white, at the bottom.

PAPER: two different papers were used: (a) Harrison, coated, with the RSA watermark, fairly distinct, facing right, and (b) Swiss, coated, with the RSA watermark, tête-bêche, facing left and right.

SHEET FORMAT: horizontal, single die, containing 100 stamps (5 rows x 20).

STAMP FORMAT: vertical.

CYLINDERS: two, cross lined, 200 line, screened, in the Goebel 830 machine; numbers 252, blue-black interior and 251, blue-grey, exterior. These numbers are shown, in their respective colours, on the left margin opposite row 5.

SHEET NUMBERS: four figure, red, on the bottom margin below stamps 1 and 2 and 12 and 13.

ARROWS: premanufactured, blue-black, centrally placed on the top and bottom margins.

MARGINAL BARS: blue-black, single, broken line with an extended central gap, on the left and right margins.

COLOUR REGISTER: In the form of a small cross, in the two colours, superimposed, on the bottom margin below stamp No. 9. The horizontal line of the black is broken.

PERFORATIONS: Internally perforated by the 11 row appliance; small holes; the left and right margins are perforated through, the top and bottom margins are imperforate except for the single extra hole at each end of the vertical rows of perforations.

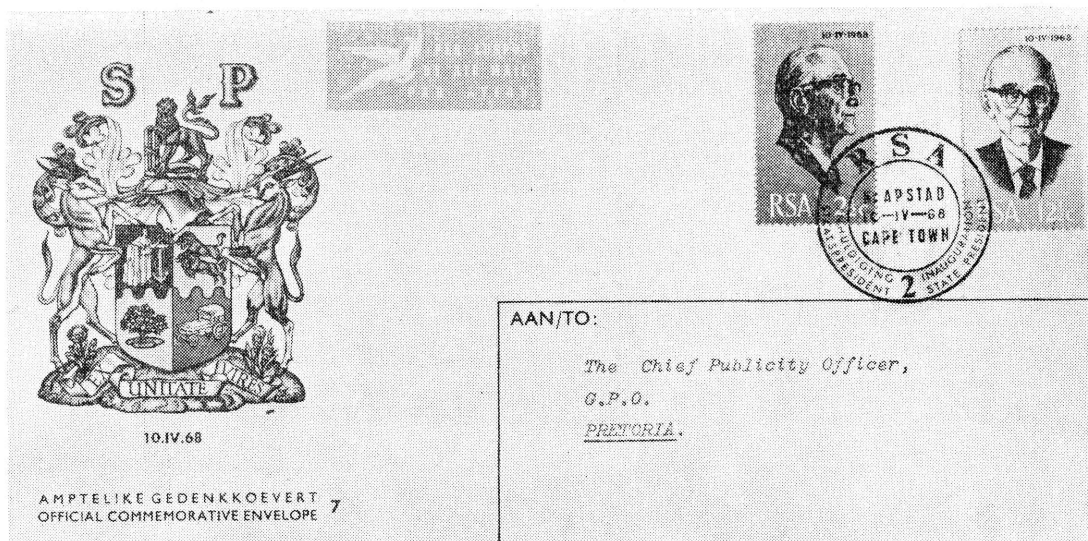
VARIETIES

Row-No.

- 3/ 5 Tiny black dot near the centre of the forehead.
 3/11 Curved black hairline below ear on the left.
 3/19 Small black dot below ear on right.

THE FOUCHÉ COMMEMORATIVE ENVELOPE

An official envelope was issued for the Fouché stamps. It measures 220 x 110 mm. and is of a pale blue-grey colour. It was sold at 10c and a fully serviced cover with the two stamps was available at 30c. The cover shows: on the left the Republican Coat of Arms in Magenta with "SP" (State President)



above and "10.IV.68" below it. At the bottom in black AMPTELIKE GEDENKKOEVERT — OFFICIAL COMMEMORATIVE ENVELOPE 7". The airmail label in blue is at the top, left of centre, and in the right bottom corner is an enclosed space 120 x 50 mm. with "AAN/TO" for the address.

The enclosed stiffener, in orange tints, shows, on the one side a photograph of Mr. Fouché with "10.IV.68" in black, and on the other side is a short biography of Mr. Fouché, Afrikaans on the left and English on the right.

THE SPECIAL FIRST DAY DATE STAMP

A special first day datestamp for the Fouché stamps was used at Cape Town on 10 April 1968 for the Fouché stamps on covers. It shows two concentric circles. In the outer ring, at the top, is "RSA" and at the bottom, on the left is "INHULDIGING STAATS PRESIDENT" and on the right "INAGURATION STATE PRESIDENT" with "2" in between. In the centre is "KAAPSTAD 10-IV-68 CAPE TOWN".

THE KIMBERLEY SHOW DATESTAMP

Kimberley is the fourth centre in the Republic to have its own special postmark for use during its Agricultural Show. The others are Goodwood in the Cape, Bloemfontein and Johannesburg.

The Kimberley Show would last from the 22nd to the 27th April 1968 and the datestamp, with movable dates, would be used at the Show at a postal agency with temporary postal facilities.

The datestamp is circular, 34 mm. in diameter; it shows, in the outer ring "LANDBOUSKOU — AGRICULTURAL SHOW";

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Usual auction catalogue symbols are used, e.g. m=mint, u=used, etc. Prices shown represent expected realisations. Bids preferably by post card. Viewing by arrangement; if to be posted for viewing, please send 10c in current stamps for postage.

Everything must be sold.

LOT

| | | |
|----|---|---------|
| 1 | LITERATURE: Hbk/Cat U of S.A. Stamps, Van Riebeeck Issue (1952) Deluxe Ed; ltd to 300 copies. Subs copy No. 136; never used. Real Africana | R12-00 |
| 2 | As last but Vol II (1955); another item for the Africana Collector | R6-00 |
| 3 | UNION: "Sunset Cover"; (Last day of currency of provincial stamps 31.12.37, bearing 4 Natal and 2 ORC stamps | R4-00 |
| 4 | King's Head double strip of 4 1½d tête-bêche prs separated by gutter. M.Cat. R1-60+ | R1-00 |
| 5 | King's Head double strip of 9 tête-bêche prs. M.Cat. R3-60 | R2-00 |
| 6 | Well known ½d Pta Typo black and blue (chemically treated); a must for the specialist for it proves a point | R1-00 |
| 7 | Pta Typo ½d U H/B 39, 9 pieces (1 used blk/4), incl V.13 r/hand mgn blk/8 (4 x 2) & V.15 top rgt cnr/strip/4 with flaws | R8-00 |
| 8 | As last but V.23 (invtd wmk) btm l/cnr blk/6 with extra perfs | R2-00 |
| 9 | As last (V.25 invtd wmk), but double row of 6 prs with l/margin. Cat. R2-60 | R2-00 |
| 10 | Pta Typo 1d U. H/B 34, dbl row of 6 prs with rgt margin, showing varieties "crack thro ship", V.10 and V.11. Cat. R5 | R5-00 |
| 11 | As last but U. blk/4 with "Crack" vars. V.10 & 11, (V.10 with cnr tip torn); these vars. rare in genuinely U. condition | R5-00 |
| 12 | Pta Typo 1d U. H/B 34, 8 pieces (V.35 blk/4, top l/cnr pr, pr. with l/mgn. blk/6, 2 blks/4, 2 vert prs (1 damaged). Total Cat. R8 | R6-00 |
| 13 | As last but top l/cnr piece of 9 prs and top mgn blk/4. Cat. R5-50+ | R6-00 |
| 14 | Postage Due, 1915 (SG.D2) 1d blk/4 l/mgn showing short serif (U. H/B D2 V4). Slight crease. M. | R1-00 |
| 15 | Postage Due, 1923 (SG.D2) 1d l/hor mgn pr. var Postage (U. H/B D12 V6), M. | R2-00 |
| 16 | Postage Due, 1923 (SG.D14) 2d cnr blk/4 with 2 x U. H/B D14 V14 (missing perf. hole). M. | R2-00 |
| 17 | 1d U. H/B37 Ce M.pr with "B" opp English stamp, broken mast (part of last digit of Sht No showing). (Blk/4 as above with full Sht No is cat. R62-50) | R20-00 |
| 18 | Officials. M.O.G. except 3 items with 1 hinge mark each. All cyl blks or blks/6 (1½d in strip/3 and 5/- vert. pr). Cat. R11-30+ | R8-00 |
| 19 | 2d Official SG.035, immaculate M; an opportunity to acquire the most expensive Union and most wanted Official in Unions. Cat R200 | R100-00 |
| 20 | REPUBLIC: VI U copy Dr. Verwoerd, so mal-centred that the Dr.'s hair imm on stamp mgn; the only known copy of this variety | R2-00 |
| 21 | BASUTOLAND: Decimal Provisional SG.60a 2c/2d surcharge invtd; perfect M. Cat. R150. A bargain opportunity. | R75-00 |
| 22 | Postage Due SG.D8 5c/2d. Delightful l/mgn pr. lightly pmkd. Cat. R10. | R6-00 |
| 23 | CANADA: Complete booklet 6 x 4c SG.460. | R2-00 |
| 24 | CAPE: 4d SG.6 U. L/mgn only just touching bottom tip; lightly pmkd; an above average copy. Cat. R10. | R6-00 |
| 25 | 6d SG.7b U. All mgn close but clear; a fair copy. Cat. R60. | R20-00 |
| 26 | 6d SG.20 U. Fresh copy with wide mgn. Above average. Cat. R64. | R40-00 |
| 27 | 1/- SG.21 U. Narrow but fully mgnd.; a fine copy. Cat. R120. | R80-00 |
| 28 | 3 Pre-stamp Entires; 1 with Jurgens T.5 pmk Cape Town, 1 similar Uitenhage (in-distinct) & 1 with faint pmk but with POST PAID (J's T.11) | R5-00 |
| 29 | ECUADOR: 1949 U.P.U set SG.902/8 M. set in blks/4. Cat. R11-20. | R6-00 |
| 30 | EGYPT: 7 Sets all M (1 once hinged); SG.276/8, 353/6, 357, 359/365, 366/9, 382 & 383. Cat. R3-60. | R2-00 |
| 31 | FACSIMILES: 15 Various — Br. Guina, Mauritius & Natal Embossed. For the collector of forgeries. | R2-00 |
| 32 | FINLAND: Red Cross — a neat & well written-up coll. complete 1922/1963. Cat. R40+. | R20-00 |
| 33 | GERMANY: 1924 Charity SG.365/8. Once lightly hinged. Cat. R11-50. | R8-00 |
| 34 | GT. BRITAIN: Bradbury Wilkinson 2/6 choc/brn SG.414, F. 1/hinge. Cat. R7-50. | R5-00 |
| 35 | World Cup — 14sets (ea cat 30c); ea on piece cut to shape showing the 14 diff. pmks. | R3-00 |
| 36 | ISRAEL: All issues current at Nov. 1965. M. with Tabs, in high quality cased stk/bk (new) bound in red imitation leather; 58 stamps incl. complete 1963 Birds, Signs o/t Zodiac (no Ifl), etc. Stamps cat ± R8 & stk/bk worth R5. | R10-00 |
| 37 | Complete booklet 8.11.55, 3 panes of 6 100pr SG.1221. | R2-00 |
| 38 | JAMAICA: Q.E. II £1 FU SG.232. Cat. R2-75. | R2-00 |
| 39 | KENYA U & T: G. VI £1 M SG.150b, perf. 12½. Cat. R3-50. | R2-00 |
| 40 | LEBANON: 1949 U.P.U set SG.389/393 M blk/4. Cat. R12. | R8-00 |
| 41 | NETHERLANDS: Van R. FDC with "Geboortehuis" pmk. Cat. R8. | R5-00 |
| 42 | NYASALAND: 1d/3/- SG.53 with neat double circle Fort Johnston pmk. Cat. R1-20. | R1-00 |
| 43 | 1d SG.57a b, FU. Cat. R6. | R4-00 |
| 44 | PORTUGAL: 10r U SG.29. Pmk moderately light; fair copy. Cat. R4. | R2-00 |
| 45 | 120r U. SG.65; fine copy. Cat. R7-50. | R5-00 |
| 46 | 120r U SG.94; fine copy. Cat. R7. | R5-00 |
| 47 | VAN DIEMAN'S LAND: 1854 Pt II 4d dull orange U. SG.11. Cat. R28; lightly pmkd, fresh looking copy with good mgn (but for a small crease mark it would be an immaculate specimen). | R15-00 |
| 48 | W. AUSTRALIA: 4d U. SG.46. Some perfs at left short & centred to bottom; light pmk. Cat. R16. | R4-00 |
| 49 | SWA: S/Jubilee. FU set. Cat. R6. | R4-00 |
| 50 | HUNGARY: 1949 Stamp Day min/sht SG.1088a. M. Cat. R2-75. | R2-00 |

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the movable date is in the centre with "KIMBERLEY" below it.

The Agricultural Society has issued a special envelope with a stiffener for the occasion, and a serviced envelope with a 2½c stamp was available at 25c.

AIR MAIL NOTES

I. H. C. Godfrey

THE SCARCEST OF ALL SOUTH AFRICAN "CRASH" COVERS?

The "Paardeberg" disaster 15/10/51

The South African Airways' Dakota plane — "Paardeberg" — whilst on a scheduled flight from Cape Town to Durban, crashed into the 10,500 ft. peak of Mt. Ingeli, eight miles south-east of Kokstad in Natal on Monday, 15th October, 1951 after leaving Port Elizabeth at 2.30 that afternoon. All thirteen passengers and the four members of the crew lost their lives.

THIS WAS THE FIRST ACCIDENT INVOLVING LOSS OF LIFE IN THE HISTORY OF SOUTH AFRICAN AIRWAYS.

A small amount of mail strewn over the mountain side — some badly scorched by fire — was found about a week later by Police and was delivered to the Durban Post Office where the envelopes were imprinted in purple ink:-

SALVAGED CRASH PLANE 15/10/51 in one line measuring 3¾ in. The salvaged covers seen were backstamped — if deliverable to addresses — on 22nd October 1951.

Two covers, so far, are known in private collections . . . two were illustrated in the "Natal Mercury" dated 23rd October 1951 . . . How many more are known?

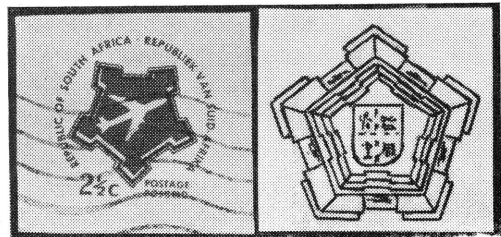
LOOPING THE LOOP

by TANDING

Philatelic varieties found in the catalogues are usually attributable to printing errors. Those occasioned by faulty design and mistakes of wording are nothing like so numerous and the originating Post Office department is usually anxious to correct the "variety" at the earliest opportunity. Cases that come to mind due to spelling errors are Jessleton and

Wawatipu. An even better known example is due to Continental inability to word British titles correctly e.g. the Greek stamp issued in honour of "Sir Codrington" meaning Sir Edward Codrington, as the corrected version eventually worded it.

Perhaps the fact that our current South African faux pas appears on an aerogramme explained the reluctance of the authorities to put it right. So many millions of the wrong one have been sold and used that if a correction were made belatedly it is possible that the right one would be scarce!



The fault under notice is the positioning of the castle (with built-in air liner) on the current 2½c aerogramme illustrated. The Castle should appear with one of the points on top and rest on its flat side. In proof of this is shown the Castle symbol which has

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Deposito-rekenings kan geopen word.

replaced the crown in military insignia of the Republic. The coat-of-arms reflects the correct facing which has been confirmed by the State Herald, who unfortunately has no power to compel departments which offend against heraldic conventions to put the matter right.

Can organized philately apply the necessary pressure?

THE IMPERIAL PRESS CONFERENCE TOUR, 1935

Mr. Philip A. C. Cattell, of Somerset, England, commenting upon the above article which appeared in our January 1968 number, p. 16, answers the query raised also by another reader as to whether the Tour did extend to Basutoland as well. We were not able to answer the enquiry at the time due to lack of material, but Mr. Cattell has now supplied the answer (and incidentally an amendment to the Historian's report) by recording the following cancellations of the tour made in Basutoland, viz. Small CDS used at Lobatsi, 12/2/35, and four large CDS all at Maseru on the 13/3/35, and thereby proving that the tour did in fact take in Basutoland.

Concerning the quest to allocate a canceller to a particular train, No. 1 or No. 2, Mr. Cattell suggests that the registration numbers appearing on the covers ought to provide useful information, provided that the cancellers had not been interchanged periodically by the postal officials on the trains. Material viewed suggests that there must clearly have been two sequences (at least) used because the total number of registered items was only 203. ? was one sequence on No. 1 train and the other on No. 2?

Summarising his observations, he puts forward the following as a working hypothesis:-

- (a) "The large CDS was used on train No. 1 and the small one on No. 2.
- (b) The Conference obviously went from

Cape Town to Southern Rhodesia but ??? No. 2 train stopped off at Lobatsi ???

- (c) The registration serial numbers of No. 1 train ran from 8801 to 8950 and No. 2 train from 9801 to 9853. This is clutching at straws of course but it will do for a start."

Yes, a very useful start which the Editor trusts will be followed by other readers, and he will be pleased to receive comments.

INTERESTING ASPECTS OF THE COMMEMORATIVE ISSUES OF THE REPUBLIC OF SOUTH AFRICA

By M. S. Weitzmann

Continued from Page 91, April 1968

The Republic Festival Stamp

Four special postage stamps, of the denominations 1c, 2½c, 3c and 7½c were issued on the 31st May, 1966, to commemorate the 5th anniversary of the Republic of South Africa. As this day was a public holiday all main Post Offices and country branch offices were open for an hour while the Main Post Office at Pretoria, the first Field Post Office at the military camp near Pretoria and the Voortrekker Monument Post Office at Pretoria were open all day for the servicing of first-day covers.

For the first time the 1c value gave no indication that it could be used for revenue purposes.

The 2½c stamp showed an interesting effect in that the marginal bars of pane A (at the bottom) are only partially screened, the top half being screened and the bottom half being unscreened.

Another unusual peculiarity was that the 1c, 2½c and 7½c denominations had no differentiation as to Internal and External Cylinders in their description.

The designs were highly unconventional and were the subject of much controversy at the time. Stamps appeared on R.S.A. water-marked paper which were clear on the 1c and 2½c values. However, there were degrees of irregularity from being "evident" to being "entirely absent" on the same sheets of the 3c and 7½c values.

For the first time since 1961 unilingual stamps appeared over the counter. The printing of the 1c and 2½c denominations were extremely untidy and one could almost regard these issues as the "blots and spots" issues.

An official envelope was again issued by the Bureau which bore the number 3 on the

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meets on the first and third Tuesday each
month in the
B.C.E.S.L. Hall, St. Andrews Street,
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meets on the first Monday of every month
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meets twice a month: Second Tuesday and
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Meets on the 1st Monday of every month
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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,
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Secretary's Telephone: Business 660-7511;
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THE EAST RAND PHILATELIC SOCIETY

P.O. Box 538, 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.

right bottom corner, suggesting that the idea of Official Envelopes was to become a permanent feature.

A Special Stamp was used by the Philatelic Bureau on Official First-day Covers.

The Verwoerd Stamps

Three postage stamps, of the 2½c, 3c and 12½c denominations were issued on the 6th December, 1966, in commemoration of the late Dr. Verwoerd.

All the denominations appeared in both pane A and pane B.

An interesting feature made it's appearance:

The cylinders started with the number 200 and the cylinder No. sequence has continued ever since.

Apart from minor flaws and a few creased papers which came to light there is not much to comment upon on the 2½c denomination. However, the 3c denomination was the high-light of the series.

- (1) The marginal bars were of a different type and the central gap was gone.
- (2) When panes B and A were compared it was found that the green plate of pane B was slightly smaller than that of pane A.
- (3) Two exciting interrupted printings came to light.

With regard to the 12½c denomination the arrow fell off the left margin of pane B during the preparation of the multi-positive and a new arrow was etched on giving a "shadow arrow" effect. It is understood that a few sheets were actually purchased without a left hand arrow.

The Stamps that were never Issued

In May, 1967, the Post Office issued a bulletin announcing that special 2½c and 12½c postage stamps to commemorate the inauguration of Dr. T. E. Dönges as second State President of the Republic of South Africa would be issued on 31st May, 1967. A Special Date Stamp and Commemorative Envelope were also designed for use on that date.

Due to unfortunate circumstances which subsequently eventuated these stamps were never issued.

The Reformation Stamps

Two special postage stamps of the denominations 2½c and 12½c were issued in the Republic on October 31, 1967 to commemorate the Church Reformation 450 years ago. Some amazing innovations appeared for the first time.

(1) The words "Postage Posgeld" were absent from both denominations although the Post Office regarded these as postage stamps.

(2) In place of "Republic of South Africa, Republiek van Suid-Afrika" the letters "RSA" appeared, on both denominations.

(3) The customary central gutters no longer appeared on the 2½c denomination and the perforations just ran through the printed sections of the stamps.

The 2½c stamp bore an RSA watermark with the mark facing right and was printed on white coated Harrison paper, while the 12½c denomination was produced on RSA tête-bêche, coated Swiss paper, with the mark facing right.

A commemorative envelope bearing the number 6 and carrying a descriptive stiffener was on sale at the Philatelic Bureau.

We can only guess what happened to number 5. I assume that it was withdrawn from circulation together with the Dr. Dönges Commemorative Stamps.

Unfortunately there are limitations to the length of a "Paper", which has necessitated that I restrict myself to items of unusual interest. For general information the Republican Handbook Catalogue caters adequately.

In conclusion, I would like to draw the

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attention of this meeting to the dynamic efforts of the Government Printer who has experimented with new innovations throughout most of the Issues in order to produce better and more exciting stamps.

A BRIEF STUDY OF THE REPUBLIC 1c CYLINDERS 219-218

DEALING WITH:-

- (1) The Breakdown of Pane A at Stamp 4/10.
- (2) The Development of Flaws on Pane D at Stamps 10/1 and 10/2.

by Mr. R. B. Cronwright.

(1) BREAKDOWN OF PANE A AT STAMP 4/10.

When Dr. Raubenheimer mentioned at the January 9th Study Circle Meeting that Pane A of the 1c Cylinder 219-218 had broken down in December because of an internal cracked drum and not from the failure of the electrolytic copper skin, I realised that I had supporting evidence of this fact. I had in my possession R. H. strips showing two stages of a horizontal line crack at Stamp 4/10 on Pane A which I had intended to show to the members and which was duly done at that meeting.

Dr. Raubenheimer further mentioned that this dark grey centre printing of the 1c from Cylinders 219-218 in December would be an interesting issue as the Printing Works had discarded the A Pane after the last development of the flaw and that the January 3rd printings of the 1c had used only Panes B, C and D, those from Pane A being discarded. He mentioned that Cylinders 241-240 had been prepared.

The nature of the internal breakdown was so uncommon that I wondered if there could be signs of the crack, signs showing its growth etc., and in studying the various printings of Cylinder 219-218 I came across signs that indicated changes on the margin surface of Pane A and also on that of adjacent Pane B. Fortunately the Agency had some sheets of the printing before and after the failure and from these, signs could be seen of some changes occurring in the cylinders. It is possible of course, that the signs were the results of the Printing Works dealing with the weakness in the Cylinders but this is not so likely, considering the nature of the evidence. It would appear that considerable stress was locked up in the drum which in time started

to distort the drum, causing the uneven surface and finally rupturing the metal and tearing the skin.

The history of Cylinders 219-218 has been given by the Publicity Officer and is briefly as follows:-

On an order for 2,000,000 sheets of the 1c, 374,000 sheets were printed from Cylinders 25-23 which then failed
338,300 sheets were printed from Cylinders 210-209 which then failed
34,500 sheets were printed by 24/8/67 from Cylinders 219-218 on tête bêche paper
28,500 sheets were printed by 29/8/67 from Cylinders 219-218 on vague R.S.A. paper
457,602 sheets were printed by 30/9/67 from Cylinders 219-218 on vague R.S.A. paper.

There is nothing definite to indicate how many runs were made from Cylinders 219-218 to print the above 457,602 sheets except a slight change in colour from pale grey to a shade darker grey, presumably two runs, all with the perforation join at the bottom of the sheet. Probably sufficient sheets were printed for 3 months use.

In December, printing was resumed with the perforation join moved one stamp distance and giving the perforation join at the top of the sheet, the colour was a pronounced dark grey and could even be called bluish grey.

No claims have yet been made that the A pane with the dark grey centre has been found without the crack flaw on stamp 4/10, and it is quite probable that the first sheets printed in December from Cylinders 219-218 showed the minute $\frac{1}{4}$ " scratch on Pane A stamp 4/10. The handling of the cylinders may have contributed to the failure. This crack developed later until finally the flaw was $\frac{1}{2}$ " long and $\frac{1}{32}$ " thick and at some stage later, printing was stopped and the cylinders removed for inspection and repairs.

Details of the repairs carried out are not available but on January 3rd, 1969, printing was resumed with the B, C and D panes and the sheets sent to the Stores while the A pane sheets were discarded as previously mentioned. The cleaning up of the B pane during repairs has resulted in the disappearance of a line of grey dots in the L.H. margin at Stamp 4/1 and the appearance of a horizontal faint grey line $\frac{1}{16}$ " above the old position of the dots; it is obvious that the Printing Works had doctored the cylinder at

Continued on Page 110



Alle georganiseerde posseëlversamelaarskringe hou jaarlikse huishoudelike wedstryde waarlangs lede onderling om verskeie trofee en ander pryse kan meeding. In die geval van die Afrikaanse Filatelistevereniging, Johannesburg neem die mededinging 'n wyer patroon aan omdat hy die beste versamelings van alle ander verenigings uitnooi om jaarliks kragte met hom te meet. Dit alles om die gebruik van Afrikaans met die byskrywing van posseëlversamelings aan te moedig. Dit het só gekom:

Een van die doelstellings van genoemde verenigings is om posseëlversamelaars Afrikaans-bewus te maak. Met dit in gedagte is twee trofee jare gelede bekom; één van die kleremakers Veka en één van die sigaretmense Rembrandt. Die Veka-wisselbeker word vir suiwer filatelistiese versamelings aangewend terwyl die Rembrandt-wisseltrofee vir tematies versamelaars beskikbaar gestel is. (Terloops, die Rembrandt-wisseltrofee is 'n buitengewone, spesiaal ontwerpte trofee in die vorm van 'n seëlalbum om 'n stander).

Die twee belangrikste kwalifiserende voorwaardes vir deelname aan die twee wedstryde wat jaarliks in Maartmaand om die beurt deur die vier Afrikaanstalige verenigings gehou word (Johannesburg, Pretoria, Paarl en Potchefstroom), is dat versamelings in Afrikaans, of „ook in Afrikaans” bygeskryf moet wees en dat aangewese versamelings die beste moet wees wat by elke belanghebbende vereniging gedurende die voorafgaande jaar uitgestal was.

Vanjaar se eindwedstryd om die Veka-wisselbeker het op 5 Maart te Potchefstroom plaasgevind onder beskerming van die betreklik jong Mooirivierse Possieëlklub, 'n seëlkringetjie wat uit die aard van sy ligging nie met 'n wafferse ledetal kan spog nie. Tog kan hy tereg daarop roem dat hy met sy eindwedstryd al die grotes in die skande gestee het.

Om mee te begin het hy sy uitstalling deur die finaliste nie tot die gebruikelike aandvertoning met 'n maandvergadering geperk nie maar 'n skoolsaal vir die doel gekry en wye publisiteit aan die saak laat kry. Die gevolg was dat nie lede en ander seëlversamelaars die uitstalling kon besigtig nie maar ook al wat Potchefstroomer is. Op dié manier het hy ons stokperdjie pertinent onder die aandag van nie-versamelaars gebring en daardeur dié liefhebberij ongetwyfeld 'n belangrike lewensgewende inspuiting gegee.

Die ereplek vir uitmuntende prestasie deur 'n „jongeling” moet egter in dié geval deur 'n ander jongeling-vereniging gedeel word omdat die Fish Hoek Philatelic Society met die beker wegeloop het in 'n taai wedstryd wat die drie onpartydige beoordelaars wat spesiaal vir die doel van Krugersdorp ingevoer moes word, lelik laat kopkrap het.

Die beskermheer-vereniging van hierdie jaarlikse wedstryde en die Mooirivierse seëlklub moet met die goeie werk wat hulle in belang van filatelie doen geluk gewens word. So ook die Fish Hoek P.S. vir 'n grootse prestasie van een van sy lede, deur al die reuse onder stof te loop.

Hier volg nou 'n verslag wat ons oor die wedstryd bereik het:

Die Veka-beker is vir 1968 deur mnr. A. Singels van Vishoek gewen (met 'n studieversameling Nederlandse seëls). Kort op sy hakke was mnr. N. Dekker (Tristan da Cunha; A.F.V., Johannesburg) en saam derde was dr. W. P. van der Merwe (Nederland; Potchefstroom) en mnr. P. Venter (Republiekse foutdrukker; South African Stamp Study Circle). Die Paarlse Fitaliste en APV. Pretoria het ook deelgeneem.

Wie weet dit nou almal? Wel, die deelnemers en hulle klubs en so 'n stuk of 200 Potchefstroomers, die meeste van wie nie seël-

versamelaars is nie.

Die Mooirivierse Posseëlklub het nl. op die blink gedagte gekom om man en muis uit te nooi na die bekendmaking van die beoordeelaars se bevinding en om die Posmeester-generaal te vra om die bekendmaking te kom doen. Hy kon nie kom nie maar in sy plek het sy bekwame adjunk mnr. P. Venter gekom en ook die Hoofpublisiteitsbeampte van die Poswese, mnr. P. Nel.

Die deelnemers se versamelings is almal uitgestel saam met die seëls van verskeie lede van die Mooirivierse Klub in die ou saal van die Laerskool M. L. Fick en die funksietjie is gehou in die nuwe saal, daar naby. Voortrekkertjies het die versameling bewaak (die Polisie darem ook) en daar was verversings vir die vale.

Onder diegene wat opgedaag het, was die ouers van die vele junior-lede van die klub en ook die belangstellendes van die pospersoneel van die dorp en omgewing. Daar was onderwysers en 'n Bantoe-kommissaris, 'n direkteur van Veka en dorpsraadlede en -beamptes, daar was, kortom, mnr. Potchefstroom en sy vrou.

Hoe kry 'n mens so iets reg? Wel, eerstens sorg jy dat jy baie junior-lede kry wie se gelate ouers hulle op 'n weeksaand laat uitgaan as hulle kan saamgaan. Dan nooi jy elke Afrikaanse instansie waaraan jy kan dink (skole, banke, bouverenigings, staatsdiensafdelings, ens.) want by die Veka-trofee gaan dit immers nie net om die seëls nie maar ook om Afrikaans. Jy sorg vir 'n item of twee deur skoolkinders (met nog gelate ouers), jy sorg vir 'n spreker wat kort en kragtig kan optree en jy sorg dat die funksie nie lank duur nie.

Resultate? U kan jammer wees u was nie op Potchefstroom om dit te sien en te hoor en te geniet nie.

ESSE QUAM VIDERI.

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Suid-Afrikaanse Permanente Missie,
Rue du Rhône 114
Genève.

4 Feb. 1968.

Waarde Heer,

„The South African Philatelist” van Desember het so pas by my aangekom en ek merk op dat u die vraag stel, hoe voel mens oor die benaming RSA op ons jongste seëls. Ek gee geredelik toe dat die gebruik van 'n hele lang „storie” in twee tale die taak van die posseëlontwerper bemoeilik en, as versamelaar vir ruim veertig jaar, hou ek van 'n mooi ontwerp. Maar om so ver te gaan om slegs letters te gebruik is myns insiens net belaglik. Tweetaligheid is 'n vereiste — trouens, een doel wat ons seëls in die buiteland dien is om juis hierdie feit te bewys — maar dis nie só moeilik om die woorde „SUID-AFRIKA/SOUTH AFRICA” op 'n seël te gebruik nie, en dis al wat nodig is (destyds was UNIE/UNION belangrik want ons land het só bekend gestaan — maar daar is dosyne „republieke” in vandag se wêreld en ons hoef dit dus nie by te voeg nie). En met die gedagte dat drie onbekende letters die buitewêreld se nuuskierigheid sal prikkel kan ek net nie saamgaan nie. Daar is soveel onkunde oor Suid-Afrika, en seëls dra tog hul bietjie by tot breër kennis, veral inaggenome die feit dat hulle soms uitkom in lande waarmee ons geen ander kontak het nie. Nou gaan dit glad nie onmiddellik vir hulle duidelik wees dat Suid-Afrika 'n land is wat bv. aan Luther hulde bring nie; en daardeur is ons die verloorders.

Ek het natuurlik ook 'n persoonlike beswaar. Vir amper twintig jaar het ek my land Suid-Afrika in verskeie lande en by baie konferensies verteenwoordig en nou skielik word ek verteenwoordiger van nie 'n land nie maar drie „mistieke” letters! A nee a, dis te veel!

Die uwe,
J.H. Selve

(Dankie mnr. Selve. Ander lesers kan gerus ook van hulle laat hoor. — Redaksie).

SOEK U IETS van die Kaap (driehoek), O.V.S., vroeë Rhodesië, Basoetoland- en Swasielandse drukfoute. Kanada, Nieu-Seeland, G.Brittanje, BWI-eilande, Italiaanse State, versameling Oos-Duitsland, ens.? Ja? Dan kry u stellig wat u soek deur middel van STAMP DEALS. Posbus 2272, Johannesburg.

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this level of the margin and made a good job of it too.

The January printing is recognised by its light grey colour and having the perforation join at the top of the sheet, a similar position to the December printing.

As previously mentioned the minute $\frac{1}{4}$ " flaw was in evidence from the start of the December printing and numerous Post Offices received sheets of this stage of the flaw indicating that the flaw did not develop further during the printing of thousands of sheets.

I was fortunate to locate at one Post Office a batch of sheets with an intermediate stage of the flaw namely about $\frac{3}{8}$ " long and thinner than the final flaw, and up to now I have not heard of any other discoveries of intermediate stages. It is probable that at this stage the flaw started growing longer and grew to the final size where it again had a dormant period. This behaviour is borne out by the number of Post Offices that had the sheets of the final flaw, proving that it did not keep on growing but remained static for a while. It is probable that the final development occurred suddenly and called for drastic action and the destruction of the incriminating sheets. (Pity!)

A study of the R.H. margin of A panes at stamp 4/10 shows:-

Early Printing: Faint grey dot or several dots on some sheets. Dec.: Dark Centre: Crack Flaw as a horizontal line, with 3 or 4 grey dots in line $\frac{3}{32}$ " below the flaw.

A study of the L.H. margin of the B panes at stamp 4/1 shows:-

Early Printing: Clean margin. Dec.: Dark Centre: Horizontal line of grey dots and a faint line above them.

Jan. Light Centre: Horizontal faint grey line across margin at the level of the "A" pane Crack Flaw.

It is interesting to note that a further flaw developed in the Dec. dark centre on stamp 1/5 when a red horizontal line, at the level of R in KAFFERBOOMBLOM, appeared. This flaw is not evident on the first printings of the dark centre but appears on the intermediate flaw sheets and remains static up to the last large flaw sheets. The red line is about $\frac{3}{16}$ " long through the L.H. flower.

(2) THE DEVELOPMENT OF FLAWS ON PANE D AT STAMP 10/1 & 10/2.

In December 1967 I was fortunate to find a red inclined thin line flaw across the top quarter of the stamp 10/1, the line starting at the last M of KAFFERBOOMBLOM and sloping downwards to the centre of the flower

in stamp 10/2. The perforation join was at the bottom of the sheet and the light colour centre showed that the sheet was printed in September.

So far, so good, there was nothing arising until the dark centre printing of December came out, with the perforation join at the top of the sheet. Inspection showed that the red inclined line had been practically removed, presumably by honing, with small red horns or lines remaining at each side of the left flower on stamp 10/1.

These horns must have increased in length with the later printings although a complete inclined line across the stamps never appeared, until the January 1968 printing appeared, with the light grey centre and the perforation join at the top of the sheet.

The January printing displayed the flaw starting at the L.H. margin, through the M and down to the centre of the flower in stamp 10/2 as was the case in the earlier printing.

What interested me was the disappearance of a scratch flaw by honing or otherwise, and its reappearance complete, in a later printing: can this be considered normal?

Anyway the life of Cylinders 219-218 was not dull, we have had tête bêche trials, multi-positive flaws, recurring scratches and finally the failure of the "A" pane. Now it only remains for the Publicity Officer to tell us exactly what did happen, when and why and how.

COMMONWEALTH NOTES

By J. WOODGATE

Canada: On May 8th a 5c stamp will be issued to recognize Canada's participation in the International Hydrological Decade.

Christmas Island: New definitives will be issued on 6th May, with the theme being fish found in the Indian Ocean. These definitives will have a top value of \$1, and will be in Australian currency. The set they replace used Malaysian currency.

East Africa: On 13th May a set of 4 values is being issued for the World Health Organisation.

Jamaica: The Human Rights issue originally due on January 1st, which was delayed until March 1st, has again been postponed. No new date of issue has yet been announced.

Malta: A Human rights issue is to be made on the 2nd May. No further details are available at present.

New Zealand: A set of 3 values is due on the 7th May. This is the 23rd anniversary of V.E. Day. Each stamp depicts a present day serviceman with an earlier serviceman in the background. The values are 4c Army, 10c Air Force and 28c Navy.

MAIL FROM SEA BED

Man's most ambitious experiment in underwater living — the Sealab 3 Project — is to be commemorated for Philatelists this summer.

Anyone, reports the "Evening Standard" can send up to four self-addressed envelopes to the United States Navy's Sealab Command Information Bureau at Long Beach Airport, California, and get them back specially stamped and sealed.

The envelopes will be taken down by **dives** into the under-sea laboratory so that aquanauts can apply a special seal to the bottom left-hand corner, together with their autographs. They will then be returned by post.

Because of the problem of using a pen under pressure 600 ft. below the waves each aquanaut is to be issued with a rubber signature stamp.

Acknowledgement The Johannesburg Star

RHODESIA CURRENT DEFINITIVE ISSUE

The Salisbury Stamp Company (Pvt.) Ltd., submits the following amended list of Mardon Printings:

1d. 1st printing: Reddish violet and Orange buff. (Obsolete); 1d. 2nd printing: Bright reddish violet and Orange buff (with lighter background). Current; 1d. Experimental Dry gum (Obsolete); 2d. Current; 3d/2½. (Some still on sale); 3d. (No dual currency) Current; 4d. Emerald, sepia and drab (Obsolete); 4d. Emerald, sepia and pale drab. Current; 6d. White clear gum. Current; 6d. Brown gum (obsolete); 6d. Cream gum (Obsolete); 9d. Current; 1/-: 10c. Current; 1/3 White clear gum. Current; 1/3 Brown gum (Obsolete); 1/3 Cream gum (Obsolete); 1/6:15c. Current; 2/- (Some still on sale); 2/-:20c. Current; 5/- Current; 10/- Current; £1 Current.

It is understood that no Mardon printing of the 2/6 value is likely to be printed for some time yet as there are still adequate stocks of the Harrison printing.

THE SOUTH AFRICAN COLLECTORS SOCIETY

We extend a hearty welcome to the South African Collectors Society, Great Britain, upon their election as an Associated Member of the Philatelic Federation of Southern Africa. May their association be of mutual interest and benefit to South African Philately.

PRICE REALIZATIONS

Messrs. Mail Auctions (Pty.) Ltd. has submitted a list of the more important South Africa price realizations at their recent November 1967 and February 1968 sales. We regret that lack of space permits the publication of only a few items instead of the complete list.

| | R |
|---|--------|
| £1 superb mint (SG 24A) | 98.00 |
| £1 superb mint (SG 24) | 91.00 |
| 3d. Geo. V Imperf. Colour Trial | 120.00 |
| 4d. Geo. V Imperf. Colour Trial | 125.00 |
| ½d. Geo. V pair printed on gummed side | 155.00 |
| Harrison Essay 4d carmine (2 Spring-boks) uncat. in S.A.H. | 145.00 |
| ½d Pair London Printing w/error 1 of "½" missing | 155.00 |
| ½d Block, double impression on three stamps | 325.00 |
| 1913 Geo V used set compl. (SC 1-24) | 39.00 |
| 1913 1d. Part sheet Wmk displaced and Split | 33.00 |
| 1913 1d. Perf. Error Blk. of 4 used | 56.00 |
| 1913 10/- single w/control | 20.00 |
| 1913 £1 (S.G. 24) mint | 85.00 |
| 1913 £1 (S.G. 24) used | 32.00 |
| 1913 £1 olive centre (S.G. 24A) mint | 90.00 |
| 1926 London 1d. offset in blk. of 4 | 20.00 |
| 1926 London 6d. imperf. plate proof blk. of 4 | 30.00 |

| | |
|--|-------|
| 1926 London 5/- mint imprint pair perf. 14 | 39.00 |
| 1926 London 5/- used vert. pair, perf. 14 | 31.00 |
| 1926 London 10/- horiz. pair 14 x 14½ | 36.00 |
| 1926 London used block of eight | 40.00 |
| 1926 London used pair | 12.00 |
| Compl. set London Printings mint pairs | 80.00 |

MAPS AND EXPLORATION (AFRICA)

By Capt. M. F. STERN

Addition to the previous article: Appearing in our October 1967, number, page 243.

Ghana issued a fascinating issue on historical castles and ships in July 1967. The most fascinating chapters of African and European history are reflected in the old historic forts and castles which sparkle up the coast of Ghana. The fleets and armies of Portugal, Denmark, Sweden, Prussia, Holland, France and England see-sawed in and out of this coveted coast.

4 NP. KUMASI FORT: (also featuring Gold Mining Tower and Cocoa Pod). This fort was built by the British in 1896, after almost a whole century of bloody Ashanti Wars. When slavery was abolished in England in 1807, the British had to look for new riches in the interior of the Gold Coast, this brought them into immediate conflict with the warlike and extremely well organized kingdom of Ashanti. Occasional reports of the unbelievable splendour and civilization of the Ashanti kingdom, ruling over a federation of several regions, reached Europe and sparked the appetite for colonial conquest. Newspapermen from many countries came to 'Cover' the Ashanti Wars, including Henry M. Stanley of the New York Herald of Stanley-Livingstone fame. This was the time when the American poet Walt Whitman was inspired to mention the feared 'Ashanti man' in his 'Leaves of Grass'. Lord Baden-Powell — then a major — was stationed in Kumasi Fort in 1896 and it was during this time he learned from the Ashanti the left handshake and the two-finger salute which he adopted for the Boy Scout movement.

12½ NP. CHRISTIANSBORG CASTLE: (also featuring 15th century British Galleon). As the name indicates, the Fort was built by the Danes, who named it after a castle by the same name near Copenhagen. It is said that



Switzerland and Continental countries classics and moderns bought and sold, also collections.

J. FRICK
CH-9658 WILDHAUS
SWITZERLAND

it was built from rocks brought down as ballast by Danish slave ships on their return voyages from Europe. Built in 1659, and subsequently occupied by the Swedes, it was captured by Portugal in 1679. Denmark retook it in 1683 but had to surrender it, temporarily to an African chief, whose army overran it. Ultimately, the Danes retook it, but upon abolishing slavery in 1802, Denmark lost interest in her Gold Coast forts, and sold Christiansborg Castle to the British in 1850. Its extremely beautiful structure — still bearing elaborate Danish royal inscriptions — has been the centre of Ghana's Government since Independence; first, as the residence of the Governor General, later as the Presidential palace, and now as the headquarters of the ruling National Liberation Council.

20 NP. ELMINA CASTLE: (also featuring 15th Century Portuguese Galleon). Also known as St. George's Castle, because the Portuguese navigators landed there on St. George's day in 1471. The fort was built in 1482 after the active trade made it necessary to 'protect' the Portuguese traders against the onslaughts of the native tribes. Some of the earliest commanders of the Elmina Castle — called after the rich gold mines in the area — were Joao de Barros and Duarte Pacheco Pereira, Portuguese Marranos of Jewish origin. During the Dutch ascendancy as a colonial power. Holland not only colonized New Amsterdam (now New York) and parts of Brazil, but also captured Elmina Castle in 1637. After long conflicts and tribulations, Holland finally sold the Fort to Britain in 1872. Already in 1683 a French visitor wrote: 'Elmina Castle is famous for beauty and strength having no equal on all the coast of Africa'. Today Elmina is a major target for tourists.

25 NP. CAPE COAST CASTLE. (also featuring 15th century Spanish Galleon). Built by the Dutch, this strong fort was captured by England's 'Royal Adventurers Trading to Africa' in 1664. The Dutch wrested it from the English company, but could not withstand the attacks by African tribes, who also had the support of Britain. In 1694 Holland had to give up the fort to the British. Cape Coast is today an important centre for local fishermen who for centuries have plied the waters around the Castle for the harvest of the sea.

(Information by Inter-Governmental Philatelic Corporation, 225 West 34th Street, New York. N.Y. 10001. U.S.A.)

THE JUDGES ARE ALWAYS RIGHT!

By K. ROBERTS

By now, the competitors in the British Philatelic Exhibition will know their fate. Those who gained an award will be considering how to get a better one next year, and those who didn't will be wondering why not.

The following brief notes are presented in the hope that both categories of competitor will find in them just one or two pointers to "better luck next time".

Scope

A competition entry is not a society display and, even more, it is not a collection. Remember you have only two frames in which to present a clear, complete and well-rounded story, not the 120 sheets you will show at the club or the 50 albums which contain your life's work.

You will probably have to rewrite your sheets completely for competition purposes. The key here is *selection*: you must pick a facet which can be described and illustrated in the number of sheets allowed — half the story is not enough. Certainly, a collection of the stamps of the Tokelau Islands may fit, but to attempt to condense the entire story of the postal history of Nyasaland or the registration markings of New Zealand into these confines is to court failure. Equally, a detailed study of one very small facet of philatelic development is not complete unless it is set into a framework which ties it to the theme as a whole.

Telling the story

Every collector is interested in his own speciality, but if he is to interest the judges he must present the material in a logical and explanatory sequence.

Putting 10 copies of a rare stamp on a page together, merely to prove that you can afford them, is not the answer; nor is the inclusion of strips or blocks where singles tell the same story. In this space, every item must contribute something new or its presence is unwarranted.

Arrangement enters into this problem. Not merely the layout of the page, which I shall discuss later, but the flow of information from page to page, the "connectivity" of the entry. In making your selection you should not leave gaps, or jump from one point to another, without explanation; your sheets must show development, either chronologically or thematically. For many entries a preliminary state-

WANTS, OFFERS & EXCHANGE

(3½c per word per insertion with a
minimum of 40c per insertion)

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WHOLESALE!! Mint stamps of Thailand, L. W. Ding, Thasala, Nakornsrihammaraj, Thailand, Far East.

SWITZERLAND: Collections, lots, rarities. Cash buyer — Bollier, P.O. Box 395, CH-8039 Zurich, Switzerland.

COMMONWEALTH FIRST DAY COVERS and stamps sent on approval. Bok Philatelists, Box 3321, Cape Town.

SHIPS — MERCHANT AND MILITARY: I have rare cancellations and covers with postmarks of the whole world. Dr. Zappalà, Via Colle del Pino, 95126 Catania, Italy.

STAMP DEALS, P.O. Box 2272, Johannesburg. Now available some star items in Protectorate Decimal surcharge errors, Capes, O.F.S., Rhodesia (BSA Co.), Canada, strong collection Union Animal Series, Far East countries, New Zealand, G.B., B.W.I., Italian States, East Germany, etc.

GENESIS of the British South Africa Company's Postage Stamps and Postal Services, by V. F. Ellenberger, as supplied as a supplement to the S.A. Philatelist, June, 1967. A limited number of extra copies available at 20c, post free. Business Manager, S.A. Philatelist, P.O. Box 375, Johannesburg.

G. B. LINE-ENGRAVED: Wanted, fair plating copies (unplated) of 1d. black and perforated 2d. Blues: Send offers to Commander C. E. D. Enoch, 3 Cussonia, 7 Lynnwood Road, Lynnwood Manor, Pretoria.

IRELAND: Buying — top cash paid for everything. Selling — magnificent stock second to none. David Feldman Ltd., 22 Rathfarnham Park, Dublin 14, Ireland.

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: 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, U.K.

ANGLO-BOER WAR PHILATELIC SOCIETY, quarterly magazine with exchange packet in U.K. Subscription R1.50 (15/-) yearly. Secretary, J. H. Rathbone, "Allways", Rudheath, Northwich, Cheshire, U.K.

FOR WORLD STAMP NEWS, market commentary, new issues, postmark studies, book reviews, etc., etc., read:- **PHILATELIC MAGAZINE,** published every two weeks by Harris Publications Ltd. of London. Annual sub. — One year 47/6 post paid (6.00 U.S. Dollars); Three years 130/- post paid (16.00 U.S. Dollars). **PHILATELIC TRADER,** one year 25/- post paid (3.00 U.S. Dollars); Three years 65/- post paid (8.00 U.S. Dollars). Agent in South Africa: D.C.D. Castle, P.O. Box 970, Pietermaritzburg.

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FOR SALE: Mint and new issues of Belgium and Western Europe at lowest market prices. Ask for lists. Exchange Western Europe new issues against South African new issues. Willy Schouleur, 57 Rue du Sart, Alleur, Belgium.

GREAT BRITAIN: New Issue and FDC Service, Bridges 5/- mint; Commemoratives (May 29th), FDC 5/3, mint 4/9; Concorde Flight, FDC 3/6, mint 3/- C.W.O. Send for list. R. Simpson, 56 Janice Drive, Fulwood, Preston, Lancs., England.

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).

1840-1900.—If you want good stamps of this period, then write to **DOUGLAS ROTH,** Mona Crescent, Newlands, Cape.

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.

WANTED FOR CASH !!! Southern African T.P.O.'s, Sea Post and Paquetbot markings on cover or on piece. Offers to J. M. Weinstein, 479(a) Fehrsen Street, Brooklynn, Pretoria.

SOUTH AFRICAN COLLECTORS' SOCIETY for the Union Collector—magazine, exchange packet. Subscription 15/- (2 dollars) year. Write Hon. Secretary, W. A. Page, 138 Chastilian Road, Dartford, Kent, England.

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

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.

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

LISTS of general interest free on request.—**UNION STAMP CO.,** Barbican Building, President and Rissik, Johannesburg. (P.O. Box 10225). Telephone 838-5879.

MOZAMBIQUE Pre-stamp Covers urgently wanted. Varieties also required.—**B. Glassman,** P.O. Box 10, Johannesburg.

ment of intent is necessary — a table or diagram on the first page which sets the limits and shows how the whole thing fits together. By all means use this if necessary, but don't just start off with a map or a coat of arms, a photograph or an ornamented title page, for decoration's sake. This is a waste of space, and if the matter is non-philatelic it may disqualify your entry.

The material

Everybody knows that there are conventions in collecting — that you do not mix mint and used stamps on a page, or covers and single stamps; that postal notices, maps and other collateral material should be segregated. "Everybody knows" — but many entrants still ignore these conventions. Remember that many items acceptable in a society display are barred from competitions, and if you still feel like "dressing up" your entry don't forget that, basically, a "philatelic" entry is concerned with stamps and covers.

As for condition, only the best is good enough. There are few stamps completely unobtainable in fine condition, and if you cannot afford them you are in the wrong class. A sheet of immaculate stamps worth 6d. each is more commendable than 100 times the catalogue value in tatty classics. With covers, the judges can usually be relied upon to use their sense, but if you need to point out that your grubby, dog-eared, torn cover is there because it is the only one of its kind, by all means make this clear in the writing-up.

Layout

Again, it is not from want of instruction and exhortation that entrants fall down in this field. I am convinced, sadly, that far too many collectors are either purblind, illiterate or totally lacking in any aesthetic sense at least!

Philately is not a cheap hobby, so why mistreat your collection? Thumbprints do not improve mint stamps, crooked hinges do not add interest to a page, erasures and deletions do not delight the eye. Mismatched leaves and torn protectors merely demonstrate your carelessness and penny-pinching. Album leaves cost only a few pence — if you spoil one, tear it up and start again.

Most people nowadays have untidy handwriting, but practice brings improvement. Nobody minds you wearing an old sweater to mow the lawn, but you would don a clean shirt to attend an interview. When you enter a competition you are putting yourself on display in a select company and it is up to

you to appear properly dressed.

One can extend the simile to the layout of your pages themselves: a clean shirt does not make much of an impression if it is buttoned up wrongly; a poorly arranged album page shows the same attitude. Play with your stamps *before* you mount them; remove them around until the appearance is attractive. Little tips like trying to put red stamps at the centre — and remembering that the optical centre is not the little cross marked in the middle of the quadrillé but somewhat higher — are useful, but if you look at enough good entries all this should become second nature and you will *know* when the page looks right.

Writing-up

If your material is acceptable in all the aspects mentioned above, it is your writing-up which will probably set the seal on the judges' decision. The written word must connect the items aptly and clearly, concisely and adequately.

When you write up, you are neither preparing a shopping list (*"Issue date -----, watermark -----, perforation -----"*) nor writing to Aunt Flo (*"If you have a close look at the second stamp, you will see that . . ."*). The answer is to hit a point somewhere between these two extremes. Don't just copy the catalogue: any semi-literate can do that. But don't ramble — you can't spare the space and the judges can't spare the time.

Take a sheet of scrap paper. Write down what you have to say; make sure it connects with what you last wrote and leads on to what you are going to put next. Then cut it down as much as possible, check your spelling and grammar, and try to fit it neatly and in pencil, in the space you have. Only when it fits, and is balanced, can you ink it in.

The judges' decision

Perhaps I should explain how the judges make their first, basic choices. They do not, believe it or not, fly at once to Mr. X's entry, acclaim it with cheers, and then proceed to work down from gold to bronze. Judging is a process of elimination: first of all they will *reject* all the entries that are just not good enough. And if your entry is one of these, it matters not what wonders it may contain — it is **OUT!**

Of course, each judge will have his own prejudices, but you may be assured that if your entry contains many of the faults listed above, the consensus of opinion will reject it. Now go and look, *really* look, as if you were an outsider, at your display — and see if you can do better next time.

Acknowledgement: "Stamp Collecting Weekly"

SOCIETY NEWS

THE PHILATELIC SOCIETY OF JOHANNESBURG

January 22nd: The following members exhibited about 20 pages each from their collections:-

Mr. Boss (The Dominion of Ceylon), Mrs. Hodgkin (The Arms of France), Mr. Miller (Anglo-French attack on Egypt in 1956), Mr. Wedderburn-Maxwell (Pitfalls for the unwary, a small collection of forgeries), Mr. Rosenberg (Forerunners of the Union), Mr. Michelson (Postal History of Latvia) and Dr. von Varendorff (pages from his collection of Lichtenstein).

February 13th: Annual General Meeting: The 38th A. G. M., was well attended. According to the register there were 61 members and 6 visitors, but a count of heads made it over 80. The usual reports were read and minuted. One of the highlights of the evening was the election of Miss Anna Smith as Honorary Life Member of this Society, which was greeted with general acclamation.

The following awards were made for 1967:- Ernest Hunt Cup: Dr. T. B. Berry, for Philatelic Publications; Robertson Cup: H. L. Godwin, War Stamps; G. R. Koralek Bowl: Mrs. T. Shaw, Estonia; Charles Cilliers Cup: Y. Brouard, Art Series of France; The Junior Trophy: T. Lydall, Canada; Special Awards: P. Michelson, Great Britain, J. Steele, Hungary, R. Steele, Poland; Society's Award: K. E. W. Lydall, Highways and Byways of South African Postal Services; I. Isaacs Award: Mrs. L. Cilliers, Insects on Stamps.

The following were not awarded: F. J. Lang Cup, Wm. Redford, J. H. Harvey Pirie and the W. N. Sheffield Awards.

The following officers and members of the Executive Committee were elected:-

President: S. M. Boss; Vice President: K. E. W. Lydall; Hon. Secretary: Mrs. M. Hodgkin; Hon. Treasurer: I. A. Miller; Superintendents: C. J. Adkins and H. H. Schwab; Ex Officio Member: W. F. Tilney, other members: K. Wedderburn-Maxwell, J. Michelson, C. S. Rosenberg, Dr. J. von Varendorff and Dr. M. Wulfsohn.

Mr. Glassman was asked to convey the Society's thanks to his firm, Julius Stern & Co., for auditing the accounts and they have kindly agreed to continue doing so for a further year.

The President did not exhibit as time was running short.

February 26th: The meeting was fascinating, a visit to the Africana Museum. Miss Smith and her staff really "went to town" and displayed a feast of material housed in the Public Library and ALL pertaining to philately. The first hour was spent in the Reference Library pouring over endless pamphlets, catalogues and books dating from the late 19th Century to the present time. After the tea break we adjourned to the Africana Museum and spent another equally interesting hour studying the Society's own collection and other items of interest.

SPRINGS AND DISTRICT PHILATELIC SOCIETY

Informing a change of address as P.O. Box 106, Crown Mines, Johannesburg.

BELLVILLE PHILATELIC SOCIETY

February: Mr. Mitchell exhibited miscellaneous items of interesting stamps which included the Protectorate Decimal overprints, which were hastily introduced to meet the decimalization deadline, an interesting cachet designed for the BALLATER GAMES by the Postmaster of a local town who is a Philatelist; the Tristan da Cunha relief fund overprints on St. Helena, etc., etc.

Mr. Goldblatt then talked on "Fun with Fakes and Forgeries", and was able to show some rare interesting forgeries by the Master forger SPERATI, which had been kindly lent by Mr. Douglas Roth. Mr. Goldblatt dealt with the very early precautions taken by the Authorities to prevent Stamp-forgery, and exhibited stamps to illustrate the points made. He also showed how the Printers introduced secret signs into the stamps and discussed the aids used by the Collector in the process of detecting forgeries.

AFRIKAANSE PHILATELISTIESE VERENIGING VAN PRETORIA

Februarie: Die aand is opgeluister deur twee pragtige uitstallings. Mnr. Du Preez het sy versameling seëls van Angola uitgestal. Dit was nagenoeg kompleet, 'n kleurryke geheel van diere, voëls en plante, wat besonder netjies en aantreklik opgestel was. Die tweede versameling was seëls van die eilande Malta en Syprus: twe lande wat veel verskil maar, veral in geskiedenis, besonder veel ooreenkoms vertoon. Dit alles word weerspieël op die posseëls. Dit is veral 'n versameling van die ouer klassieke seëls, 'n gebied waarvoor mnr. Schoeman bekend is en wat nie so dikwels aangetref word nie. Veral vir die jonger versamelaars en die beginners gee dit 'n indruk van vroeër seëls wat minder bekend is.

Maart: Mnr. Havenaer het ons hierdie aand laat geniet van 'n klein deel van sy groot versameling flora en fauna. Daar was reeds eerder voëls en orgideë, vanaand was dit visse en waterdiere. Groot en kleurryke seëls, in party gevalle besonder mooi geteken en gedruk. En die versameling is opvallend netjies en sorgvuldig opgestel en bygeskryf. Die ander uitstaller was mnr. Van Tilburg, ook 'n uitvoerige versamelaar, wat vanaand 'n deel van sy Kongo-seëls saamgebring het. Hoewel die versameling nie bygeskryf was nie, was dit tog taamlik netjies opgestel.

SOCIETY OF ISRAEL PHILATELY

February: After the usual confirmation of minutes and the Committee's Report, the LEO BUCHEN AWARD was presented to Mrs. A. Colman for the best paper accompanying a dis-

play — "The History of the Jews".

The undermentioned awards were not made this year.

H. L. KAPLAN MEMORIAL TROPHY — for outstanding service to the Society and the **MAX WULFSOHN AWARD** — for novices.

A lengthy discussion ensued as to a possible change of the nature of these two awards and the final decision was left to the incoming committee to discuss with the donors, if possible

Election of Officers

Chairman: J. Michelson; Vice-Chairman: M. Stanger; Hon. Secretary/Treasurer: B. Glassman; Public Relations Officer and Scribe: I. A. Miller; Committee: Dr. M. Wulfsohn and Messrs. L. Buchen and W. Mann.

Representatives to the Philatelic Federation of Southern Africa: Messrs. L. Buchen and L. Abrams.

Chairman's Display: Mr. J. Michelson then displayed a section of his outstanding collection of Lithuania and the newly elected Vice-Chairman, Mr. M. Stanger, proposed the appropriate vote of thanks.

PHILATELIC SOCIETY OF NATAL

February: The largest turnout for many years occurred at the meeting when 58 members and 9 visitors turned out to view Mr. Claude Why-sall's German exhibit. This exhibit was indeed well-worth the awards bestowed on it at the last Congress Exhibition in Bloemfontein. The stamps as well as the propaganda labels and all the official and semi-official local posts, which were issued during the last war, were on view. There were also many other interesting items included such as Japanese Occupation of the Marshall Islands. The issues of the Kaiserreich were also represented and altogether, the exhibit was quite fantastic.

March: A well attended Annual General Meeting at which the retiring president, Mr. B. J. Hill, when presenting his report mentioned that 1967 had been a very successful year. The membership had reached the 300 mark, the sales had increased and there was a larger attendance at all meetings but there had been a decrease in offers for office-bearers in so much that no Vice-President had been elected for the ensuing year, the other office bearers being:

President: Mr. G. J. Kruste; Hon.-Secretary: Mrs. D. Reinecke; Hon.-Treasurer: Mrs. B. Bevis. Hon. Sales Pkt Supts.: Mr. and Mrs. K. I. Bevis; Hon. Auctioneer: Mr. B. J. Hill; Auditor: Mr. Brown.

EAST LONDON PHILATELIC SOCIETY

March: A very enjoyable evening was spent by those who attended this meeting, as Mr. George Feros gave a very interesting talk on the "Darmstadt Trials", a subject in which he

is very knowledgeable. A really controversial subject on which to prepare a talk, but when one has an intimate knowledge of it, it can be very interesting. Mr. Feros received a well deserved vote of thanks.

A display of about 150 pages of Unions from 1910 to the Second Air Stamps was staged by Mr. T. D. Radue and was much appreciated.

ELPEX 68 draws nearer, and copies of the Rules have been forwarded to all societies and, in addition, provisional entry forms and hotel booking forms. Please book early, as we would really be pleased to meet you all down here.

EAST RAND PHILATELIC SOCIETY

February: The Annual General Meeting was well attended at which the election of officers and the award of trophies took place:-

President: Mr. H. Behrendt; Vice-President: Mr. M. Weiner; Sec./Treasurer: Mr. H. Godwin; Committee Members: Messrs. Legator, Botha, Charles and Whiting; Federation Delegate: Mr. S. Legator; Hon. Auctioneer: Mr. S. Legator.

The "Legator Trophy" was won for the second year in succession by Mr. J. Botha, this year for his exhibit of "United Nations". The new trophy for thematic collections, the "Hinko Suklje Award" was won by Mr. C. Waner for his exhibit of "Olympic Games Miniature Sheets" — a collection worthy of the award.

March: A good attendance at the Meeting was treated to a variety of exhibits. First, Mr. J. Botha exhibited a further selection from his "First Flight" collection — a varied and, as always, interesting display. The next display was "The Early Printing Trials of the First Rotogravure id. Postage Stamps" exhibited by Mr. S. Legator. A short descriptive talk pre-faced the exhibit, which was not only unusual, but of particular interest to collectors of South African stamps. Amongst the items shown was a block of 4 of the "Booyens" id. blue and a number of blocks printed in English and German inks and combinations of the two. Mr. H. Godwin provided the last exhibit which was of newspaper wrappers of Great Britain of the Queen Victoria and Edward VII eras.

THE ROYAL PHILATELIC SOCIETY OF RHODESIA

March: This was our annual general meeting and was exceptionally well attended.

The following officers were elected for the ensuing year:-

Chairman: Mr. W. H. Turnbull; Vice-Chairman: Mr. J. Lazarus; Secretary: Mr. F. C. Fromentin; Treasurer/Exchange Superintendent: Mr. J. P. Atkinson; Committee Members: Mr. J. E. Creewel, Dr. A. Haward and Mrs. A. D. F. Pegg; Liason Officer: Mr. J. R. Strong.

Trophies: The Porter Cup was awarded to

Dr. P. Mavros, for his exhibit of Ancient and Modern Greece.

The Society's Cup was awarded to Mr. J. R. Strong, for Meritorious Service to the Society and to Philately in general.

Exhibits: Two very interesting exhibits:- Mrs. Monica Bergman's Silver Collection of "National Costumes" and Dr. Haward's Printers Colour Proofs were staged and were thoroughly enjoyed by those present.

A short auction followed and it was interesting to note that two used single copies of the 9d. National Gallery, line perf., were sold for 12/6 and 14/6 respectively.

It was announced that the 1/6, 15c and the 2/- 20c stamps would be available at the philatelic bureau on Monday, 11th March.

THE MASHONALAND PHILATELIC SOCIETY

February: Some 67 people, consisting of 49 members and 18 guests, attended this meeting, which took the form of a "better class" auction, which was ably conducted as usual by Mr. R. K. Brooke, with the minimum reserve on all lots set at £1.

From the Society's point of view this was a most successful experiment as almost half of the lots offered were sold and the Society realised £13 in commissions, which is a record amount.

The chairman, Mr. A. A. Uphill-Brown, suggested after the auction that future auctions of this nature have a minimum reserve of £1 and a maximum of £10.

Mr. W. S. (Bill) Yelland, a member of the South African Study Circle and Philatelic Society of the Western Rand, attended this meeting. He brought greetings from these two societies, which were heartily reciprocated.

World Ploughing Contest Issue

The date of issue of this set will be April 26, 1968, and as time is marching on, members are advised to place their orders with the Philatelic Bureau as soon as possible.

GRAHAMSTOWN PHILATELIC SOCIETY

February 8th: The Annual General Meeting was well attended at which the following were elected as office bearers for the ensuing year: President: Dr. F. M. Chutter; Secretary/Treasurer: Mr. E. W. Palmer and Additional member, Mr. R. Keeble.

It was decided to streamline ordinary meetings by tabling the minutes of the last meeting rather than reading them. The "Exhibit" for the evening was a ten sheet display per member, half of those present participating, and was well enjoyed.

February 24th: The long-planned joint meeting of the East London, Port Elizabeth and Grahamstown Societies took place in Grahamstown. This was a memorable meeting for the outstanding quality of the three displays. Mr. Bulbring (Port Elizabeth) displayed Bavaria

and Wurtemberg, Dr. Drusinsky (East London) showed part of his Postal History of the Anglo-Boer War and Mr. Reynolds (Grahamstown) tabled parts of his Cape Numeral Bar Cancellations and Stamps on Stamps collections. We are most grateful to these three eminent philatelists for contributing so much to the success of the meeting.

In the evening a dinner was held in a local hotel. Thirty-two people rose to drink the health of the Philatelic Federation. Happily the President of the Federation was present to reply to the toast.

ROYAL PHILATELIC SOCIETY OF CAPE TOWN

February 8th: Capt. M. F. Stern showed a most interesting collection of space stamps and covers. This exhibit covered every single facet of the subject. The exhibit was accompanied by a most illuminating paper entitled "Into Space", which was read to the meeting.

February 22nd: At the Annual General Meeting the following Office bearers were elected for 1968:-

President: W. G. Combrinck; Vice-President: H. C. Bernaud; Hon.-Secretary: J. W. T. Wannerton; Hon.-Treasurer: E. H. Beermann; Hon.-Exchange/Superintendent: D. W. Watts; Hon. Librarian: F. Wheeler; Committee: Mrs. M. A. Bergman, Dr. H. Ackerman, R. F. Chapman, R. F. Putzel, R. Jeidel (ex Officio).

To Mrs. Bergman (retiring secretary) and Mrs. Brownlee (tea-lady) our sincere thanks for two years of untiring effort in seeing to our various comforts and requirements.

ANGLO-BOER WAR PHILATELIC SOCIETY

A lengthy report has been received of the very interesting activities of the Anglo-Boer War Philatelic Society but, regretfully, lack of space prohibits its publication in full.

Briefly, the Society met on the 20th January at Banstead, Surrey, when sheets of all the Pietersburg values were shown together with reconstructed plates, mint and used.

At the meeting at Manchester on the 2nd March, seven members showed material from the war. The invasion of Natal was well represented and Pietersburg and Commando Briefs showed up well.

The 10th Anniversary of the Society's foundation will be celebrated by a convention at Warwick, U.K., on 4th May.

Attention is drawn to the publication of Part A of the revision of the late S. G. Rich's "Philately of the Anglo Boer War" by the Society — a highly commendable work of which the S.A. Philatelist hopes to publish a review in due course.

THE O.F.S. PHILATELIC SOCIETY

February: The first exhibit of the evening was the theme "Rembrandt on Stamps" by Dr.

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Freund. We have come to appreciate Dr.'s efforts, for whenever he shows an exhibit, his methods of display and the philatelic and general knowledge contained therein, can only be of great interest and value to all who view it. This exhibit was no exception, for it contained excellent material including many scarce items.

The second exhibit was "First Day Covers of the Italian Republic" by Mr. S. Marus. This covered the period from 1961 to 1967. His material is of the best, and this display was no exception. It was not a particularly large one, but sufficiently interesting to round off a successful evening. Apart from the stamp issues on these covers, one could not but admire the covers themselves. So much goes into the production of F.D.C.'s these days that maximum colour is added to a display of this nature.

GERMISTON PHILATELIC SOCIETY

March: In the Society's Newsletter for March, 1968, a request had been made for members to support the next Ordinary meeting by providing exhibits, and, for this first meeting of the new Philatelic year, the response by members was most gratifying, as four members provided displays and a visiting Philatelist from Somerset West also helped as he had brought one of his many collections. In order of display the following collections were tabled. Mr. S. J. Hagger, with a number of pages of his mint collection of Union of South Africa Pictorials. Mrs. H. Birkhead, a short selection of Eire issues from 1922 to 1967, in used condition. Mr. T. J. B. Curle, mint issues of Papua and New Guinea from 1952 to 1967. Mr. B. Eilers, another of his extensive collections, this time Norway, used issues from 1855 to 1967. Finally, our visitor Mr. G. G. Burdett, with a selection of Great Britain, used, from 1840 to 1883. Mr. R. G. L. Mephius conveyed the thanks of all members present to the five exhibitors for their fine displays, stating that he felt certain that all viewers had found the collections of great interest. Time did not permit for two other exhibits to be displayed, but it was hoped that the two owners concerned would table their collections at another Ordinary meeting. After the exhibits, an auction was conducted by Mr. H. Birkhead, the Hon. Auctioneer, and this auction turned out to be one of the best held for many a year, especially as far as funds were concerned for the Society. The proceedings at this meeting were ably conducted by the Vice-President, Mr. T. J. B. Curle, as the President, Mr. H. J. Suklje, was overseas. Mr. John Curle was enrolled as a Junior member of the Society.

PRETORIA PHILATELIC SOCIETY

March: Due to a clerical error when compiling the schedule, the expected visit from the Johannesburg Philatelic Society did not take place. Two exhibits were consequently substituted. Mr. Sam Smith put on a very fine collection of Swaziland accompanied by a paper which set out the postal history of the country from 1857, and Mr. W. Kriste showed a collection of the

stamps of New Zealand which included many desirable varieties. An enjoyable evening was thus afforded to a very good attendance.

PRETORIA RAILWAY PHILATELIC SOCIETY

March: This month's meeting was one of the most interesting held in many years. Mr. Huthwaite came over from Johannesburg with his ultra violet lamp and gave a demonstration of its uses in philately. Grades of paper, different inks, forgeries and paper-repairs, among other characteristics, were well demonstrated.

To round off the evening Commander Cyril Enoch gave a short talk on the duties, procedure and methods used by the Expert Committee of South Africa and suggested that more use be made of it in the expertising of the more valuable items, which in turn could mean the saving of many rands.

In expressing the thanks of the meeting to Messrs. Huthwaite and Enoch, the Chairman said that he could not remember a more interesting meeting and although not many stamps had been seen, members eyes had been opened on a completely different aspect of philately.

PORT ELIZABETH PHILATELIC SOCIETY

March 5th: The fact that members were each required to bring 10 sheets for exhibition may have contributed to a lower than average attendance, but those who stayed away missed a most enjoyable evening.

The exhibits ranged from the classical to the modern, the former being represented by the early issues of Norway shown by Mr. G. Bulbring, including specimens of all three types of early cancellations, the grid, the circular town postmark and the ring numeral. Varieties included the retouch on the 7 skilling in the 1872/75 posthorn issue and the "no stop after postfrim" in the 1883 issue.

The more modern offerings included the complete Tristan da Cunha issues from Mr. E. Nagel, New Zealand Health miniature sheets from Mr. W. Berrington, New Zealand from Mr. G. Monaghan, Churchill on stamps from Mrs. H. Scott and other interesting selections to suit all tastes.

A lively auction concluded the proceedings.

THE SOUTH AFRICAN STAMP STUDY CIRCLE

March: Rather a small attendance, but the absentees missed much of great interest.

Dr. T. Berry brought along a "day of issue" envelope showing the cancellation of the "show train", which is at present visiting country areas. The canceller is of interest, and also has no "time of posting" indicated on it. Examples could be obtained from all centres visited — the "canceller" being the same, except for date changes, and the town name being shown

by a rubber stamp cachet being applied to the cover.

Jack Burrell gave a well prepared and well illustrated talk on the Goebel Rotary Stamp Printing machine as used at the Government printing works in Pretoria. This talk was confined to the unit called the Goebel 830, two colour machine, and members could follow the

complete process from the original roll of paper, to the printed and perforated sheet of stamps. It is hoped that Jack Burrell can produce this information in pamphlet form, as it could be most helpful to all collectors. Maybe he could find time to include the other stamp printing machines — the Goebel 840 and the Albertina, and also the Grover perforator, and the machine for cutting the continuous web into roll form. A booklet about these machines would be a great boom to South African philately.

EXPERT COMMITTEE

The next meeting of the Expert Committee of the Philatelic Federation of Southern Africa will take place on 18th May, 1968.

Federation regrets to announce that due to rising costs the expertising fees for items will be increased. Further particulars will appear later.

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NEW ZEALAND AND THE BOER WAR

New Zealand's participation, philatelically, in the Boer War is described in an article by Peter Collins in the "The Philatelic Magazine", an abbreviated extract from which reads:

A new aspect of the Postal History of the Boer War is provided in the philatelic connections of the New Zealand forces engaged in the conflict. It is an intriguing line to follow, involving a search for neglected and elusive material.

At the outbreak of hostilities, New Zealand offered the services of the Volunteer mounted rifles, and by the end of the war in May 1902, 6,500 officers and men had served in South Africa, each, incidentally, being asked to provide his own horse! The first contingent of 15 men sailed from Wellington on October 21st, 1889, but the first record of any postal arrangements for Soldiers' and Sailors' letters does not appear until the issue of The Post and Telegraph Guide January 1900, which gives a rate of 1d. per 1/2 oz. for letters certified as being from serving members (including Army Schoolmistresses!) to addresses in the colony, the Australian colonies, India, British Ports in the Mediterranean and the United Kingdom, and 2d. to any Post Office within the British Dominions by British Mail Packet. Letters to foreign countries were treated as ordinary letters, i.e. not at "Forces" rate.

In the early months of the war Forces mail was (incorrectly) posted home unstamped. These letters were charged postage due and were handstamped. Letters from the troops in South Africa passed through the British Army Post Offices and apparently can only be distinguished from mail of other nationalities by the writer's name, rank and regiment which postal regulations required to be written on all envelopes. No details seem to have appeared of the stamps used on soldiers' correspondence.

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SOUTH AFRICAN NOTES

By DR. H. J. RAUBENHEIMER,

Hon. Associate Editor.

NEW ISSUES

A NEW GREETINGS AEROGRAMME

A new Greetings Aerogramme has been delivered by the Government Printing Works. It has the same design as the preceding one but, in keeping with the recent trend in our philatelic matter, both the design and the inscriptions are presented in a bolder, clearer and more distinct type. The colours are deeper and the titles of the flora are markedly larger, for instance, the word KAFFERBOOM is 13 m.m. long in the previous issue, but 17 m.m. long in the new. The left vertical gummed strip is also longer. It now extends to the dotted line "Eerste vou — First fold" whereas the previous issues's was about 7 m.m. short of the dotted line.

It was printed on the Chambon machine on new cylinders prepared from new master negatives and new multipositives. An entirely new process was employed for this machine. It is called the offset gravure process, that is the imprint from the cylinder was made on to the same size rubber cylinder and then on to the paper. Furthermore, it was printed one up.

Four new cylinders were used: 12, green, 49, red, 47, blue and 1, gum, and 169,000 sheets were delivered. They cost 6c each.

A NEW 1½c DEFINITIVE STAMP

Information has been received that the previous cylinders 225-226 have broken and that new ones have been prepared. It had been noticed that the Fouché stamps started with Cylinder numbers 249,250 while the preceding 5c stamp had the numbers 245,246. So 247,248 were missing. Enquiry confirmed that these had been used for a new 1½c stamp whose printing would only commence after the Fouché stamps were completed. Apart from the fact that the cylinder numbers would be 247, 248, and that the same multipositives had been used, no further information is as yet available as the stamps have not yet appeared.

FURTHER INFORMATION ON THE FOUCHÉ STAMPS

We have supplied a description of these stamps; and that was possible through the courtesy of the Philatelic Bureau and from information from the Government Printing Works. At the time of writing, the stamps had not yet appeared. There was only a series of colour trials and with the approved final ones included. It was extremely interesting to notice later how the cylinders "develop-

ed". The very first sheets printed and delivered showed features which gradually changed as time went on. We refer particularly to the varieties. Some gradually faded and vanished while others remained and still others appeared.

It may be opportune here to describe how varieties are determined when a new issue appears. Four sheets of each value and of each pane and, when necessary of each type of paper used, are chosen for examination. They must not be consecutive sheets, but must be far apart, preferably from different packets. If a "flaw" is constant it becomes a "variety" and is listed. What to list and record then becomes the next question. On the one hand comes the complaint from the "Specialist" that not enough varieties are mentioned — and, indeed, one could find literally dozens in each issue — and on the other there is the somewhat derogatory remark about "hunting for flyspots".

The practice followed is as follows: All constant varieties visible to the naked eye are recorded and reported to the S.A. Stamp Study Circle which publishes them. The more prominent ones, seldom more than ten, are published in the S.A. Philatelist. After a prolonged period and after a number of printings have been made, four sheets, as before, are examined and the most prominent varieties are recorded for the official catalogue's supplementary pages.

To return to the Fouché Stamps; now that the order has been completed it is possible to give the final list of constant varieties. The previously mentioned ones are found, with some of them diminishing to vanishing point.

There are some further particulars about these Fouché Stamps which will be found interesting. The 12½c value appeared on both Harrison and Swiss papers and when the two sheets are viewed next to each other, the difference is discernable to the eye. The Harrison paper (with its RSA watermark facing right and barely discernable) is somewhat darker than the Swiss paper (with its RSA watermark, tête-bêche, facing left and right and very distinct — even on the stamps). It has been found that, without the use of an ultra-violet lamp — the "black lamp" — it is just about impossible to determine the type of paper on the stamp itself. A goodly portion of margin has to be present, and even then there will have to be the two papers adjacent, as check pieces, to distinguish between them.

With the relatively small number of sheets of the 12½c value ordered and printed and

the sheets packed in packets it is understandable that some post offices would get only the one type of paper and not the other. A case in point was at the Witwatersrand that seemed to get only the Swiss paper. It led to the opinion that the Harrison paper was scarce, and a hunt was started for it. In point of fact, what happened was this: When printing of the 12½c was started it was thought that sufficient Harrison paper of that width was available for the whole printing, but some rolls were found defective about halfway through the printing, so the Swiss paper was used to complete the job. The number of sheets delivered was: Harrison 8,600, Swiss 9,100, so one can hardly say one is scarcer than the other.

There appears to have been a tremendous demand for the special first day covers. They sold very quickly and stocks ran out sooner than usual. A few days after the first day, 30c specimens were on sale in Pretoria at 65c. There were two special date stamps used, made necessary by the large number of covers bought. By the modern method of making more than one of a kind, these two date stamps are practically identical. Only careful measurements can show differences. The only difference between these two has been found in the "date tablet". The one is 16 m.m. long and the other is 16½ m.m.

VARIETIES OF THE FOUCHÉ STAMPS

2½c value

Pane B

Row/No.

- 4/16 Tiny brown dot on the forehead above the eye.
- 4/17 Two brown dots in the hair at the temple.
- 5/16 Small brown and white mark above A of RSA.

Pane A

Row/No.

- 2/19 Horizontal brown line from the eye to the right edge of the stamp.
- 4/ 1 Brown spot on the collar.
- 5/13 White mark at the back of the head left of the ear.

12½c value

Row/No.

- 1/14 Black dot on neck.
- 2/10 Black dot at right edge of stamp half-way down.
- 3/19 Small black dot below the ear on the right.

RECENT AIR MAIL DEVELOPMENTS

I. H. C. Godfrey

SOUTH AFRICA — LESOTHO

In the March issue of the "South African Philatelist" it was reported that COMAIR (on behalf of **Lesotho Airways**) and **South African Airways** had established air mail services from Maseru to Jan Smuts Airport on 2.X.67 and 6.X.67, but that no mail had been carried in the reverse direction.

Both these airlines commenced to fly mail, at very short notice, **from** South Africa to Lesotho on February 26th and March 1st respectively. Very few items appear to have been flown on these inaugural flights and those seen are on plain covers with the "Comair" rubber stamp impression in purple, and official South African Airways envelopes.

LETTER TO THE EDITOR

Sir,

Your interesting account of the history of Stanley Gibbons Ltd. omits to mention the acquisition (when?) of the business of W. S. Lincoln, who claimed the title of "the oldest stamp dealer in the world".

Rather over 50 years ago I started serious (?) collecting with a fixed-leaf Lincoln album and catalogue — all in one quite manageable volume. In those days the incorporation of a simple whole world catalogue, with all illustrations reduced and some omitted was perfectly feasible. To youthful eyes it was a beautiful book, with an ornate red and gold cover typical of the period. Contemporaries may recall it.

Yours faithfully,
S. C. Crowther-Smith

The foregoing caused me to refer to my remaining school-boy album — a comprehensive, fixed leaf, sixth edition of The Strand Stamp Album, published by Stanley Gibbons, Ltd.

On the fly-leaf, in school-boy manuscript, my collection is listed as comprising Europe 350 stamps, Asia 141, Africa 241, America 180, Australasia 85 and dated the "17 Jan. 1907".

T. B. Berry

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THE SIXTEEN BAR NUMERAL CANCELLERS OF THE ORANGE FREE STATE



As there appears to be considerable uncertainty about the exact period when these cancellers were in use the following table of material in my collection may be of interest to some of the collectors of Orange Free State numeral cancellers numbered one to nineteen.

In every case the specimen is either an envelope or a card and, except where a date stamp of receipt is indicated in the "Remarks" column, the original message (itself dated) is still present. Where there is more than one example, the earliest and the latest date of the specimens in the collection have been recorded.

In some cases A. C. Fenn's dates of use as given on page 2 of his **Orange Free State Postal and other Markings, 1956**, have been pushed back a little. There is no doubt that the canceller numbered 9 was used at both Jagersfontein and Jacobsdal, and that canceller no. 17 for Ladybrand was used as late as 1901.

As the list is mainly concerned with establishing the period of use of these numeral cancellers, very little attention has been given

to the type of dated postmarks, except for an occasional reference to Fenn's grouping.

Unfortunately it has not been possible to obtain any letter or card on which the canceller bearing number 15 has been used. Nor has an entire turned up bearing the canceller numbered 16 and the postmark Wepener, although I have an example of this combination on piece. This is, of course, not as conclusive evidence for proving that 16 was used at both Brandfort and Wepener as there is in this collection to show that number 9 was used at Jagersfontein as well as Jacobsdal. So far it has not been possible to find an entire bearing V.R.I. stamps with the numeral canceller No. 18 to show that Ficksburg continued to use this canceller during the S.A. War, but there is one for No. 17 (Ladybrand) dated 7 March 1901.

It is also curious that so few entires should have been found on which the numeral cancellers occur in coloured inks. Among the loose stamps bearing these numeral cancellers, one has turned up in purple both for Winburg (No. 2) and Fauresmith (No. 4) which are

CANCELLERS USED ON ENTIRES

| No. | Place | Date of Postmark | Colour of Numeral Cancellor | Fenn's Year | Remarks |
|-----|---------------|------------------|---|-------------|------------------------|
| 1 | Bloemfontein | { 1 Nov. 1883 | Black | | Letter |
| | | { 26 Aug. 1886 | Black | | Card |
| | | { 25 Nov. 1886 | Purple | | Received 29 Nov. 1886 |
| | | { 9 Dec. 1886 | Purple | | Received 13 Dec. 1886 |
| 2 | Winburg | { 30 Dec. 1886 | Blue | | Received 4 Jan. 1887 |
| | | { 20 Jul. 1888 | Red | | Card |
| | | { 18 June 1894 | Black | | Received 20 June 1894 |
| 3 | Harrismith | { 14 Nov. 1894 | Black | | Card |
| | | { 30 Mar. 1888 | Black | | Received 10 Apr. 1888 |
| 4 | Fauresmith | { 1 Feb. 1889? | Black | | Received 6? Feb. 1889? |
| | | { 22 Feb. 1885 | Black | 1888 | Letter |
| 5 | Smithfield | { 23 Oct. 1891 | Black | | Letter |
| | | { 2 Aug. 1890 | Red | | Letter |
| | | { 15 Oct. 1886 | Black | 1887 | Letter |
| 6 | Kroonstad | { 12 Oct. 1893 | Black | | Letter |
| | | { 3 Dec. 1888 | Black | 1889 | Letter |
| 7 | Bethulie | { 17 June 1889 | Black | | Letter |
| | | { 3? Feb. 1887 | Black | 1888 | Card |
| 8 | Boshof | { 29 Aug. 1889 | Black | | Letter |
| | | { 28 May 1883 | Black | 1889 | Letter |
| | | { 24 Aug. 1892 | Black | | Letter |
| 9 | Jagersfontein | { 2 Apr. 1884 | Blue | | Letter |
| | | { 2 Jan. 1885 | Black | 1891 | Letter |
| | | { 3 Aug.? 1891? | Black | | Letter |
| 9 | Jacobsdal | { 5 Jan. 1891 | Black | | Letter |
| | | { 21 Sep. 1893 | Black | | Letter |
| 10 | Philippolis | { 19 Feb. 1884 | Black | 1884 | Letter |
| | | { 10 July 1891 | { Black numeral Purple Fenn F1 postmark | | Letter |
| 11 | Bethlehem | { 20 Oct. 1877 | Black | 1886 | Received 2 Nov. 1877 |
| | | { 23 Sep. 1888 | Black | | Letter |
| 12 | Rouxville | { 5 Nov. 1886 | Black | | Letter |
| | | { 5 Sep.? 1891 | Black | | Letter |
| 13 | Zand Rivier | 27 Jan. 1888 | Black | 1890 | Card |
| 14 | Edenburg | { 4 Mar. 1889 | Black | 1889 | Letter |
| | | { 9 June 1891 | Black | | Letter |
| 15 | Bethany | No examples | | | |
| 16 | Brandfort | 29 Aug. 1888 | Black | | Letter |
| 17 | Ladybrand | { 24 Aug. 1888 | Black | 1888 | Card |
| | | { 21 Aug. 1892 | Black | | Received 24? Aug. 1892 |
| | | { *7 Mar. 1901 | Black | | Card |
| 18 | Ficksburg | 25 May 1894 | Black Fenn Fla postmark | 1895 | Received ? 1894 |
| 19 | Reddersburg | { 22 Aug. 1892 | Black | 1891 | Received 26 Aug. 1892 |
| | | { 5 Oct. 1892 | Black | | 17? Oct. 1892 |

? = Postmark not clear

* During the war

not listed by Fenn.

No entires earlier than 20 October 1877, Bethlehem, No. 11 have been found, but in the collection there are a few parts of combination covers bearing Cape and Free State stamps for letters transmitted from Bloemfontein to Cape Town bearing numeral cancellers numbered one for both these places, and Cape of Good Hope post marks dated between February and July 1875. Bloemfontein was therefore using the numeral canceller number one as early as 1875.

As the entires are not philatelic mail but ordinary letters and post cards transmitted to firms and private persons in Cape Town, Port Elizabeth, Potchefstroom, Barkly West and Bethulie, the stamps themselves are of little significance. Among the loose specimens however, there is a fairly good cross section of the stamps issued between 1868 and 1900

which have been cancelled by means of numeral cancellers, as well as examples of fiscal and telegraph stamps so cancelled. There are also a few examples of the post war issue when Cape stamps were overprinted Orange River Colony. Much, however, still remains to be done to obtain a clear picture of when and how these numeral cancellers were used in the Orange Free State.

ANNA H. SMITH

REVIEW
STAMPS OF THE
ORANGE FREE STATE
PART I — THE REPUBLICAN ERA,
1854 — 1900

by G. D. BUCKLEY and
W. B. MARRIOTT

Obtainable from B. H. Poyner, 76 Second Cross Road, Twickenham, Middlesex, England. Price 63/-, postage extra.

"In 1953 a small band of enthusiasts founded the O.F.S. Study Circle with the object of studying the stamp, cancellations and Postal History, and of publishing an authoritative handbook". This extract from the preface of the above publication provides the key to the enterprise, determination and research that have culminated in the appearance of the first of three books that will eventually comprise the definitive study of this fascinating philatelic entity.

The authors emphasise that they are merely the spokesmen for the 65 past and present members of the study circle, all of whom have

contributed in some measure to the success of their undertaking. This, then is abundant evidence of what may be achieved through the co-operation of those with parallel interests, when their energies are pooled and proper co-ordination directs their efforts. This is a lesson that deserves to be studied and applied nearer home.

Part I devotes the major portion to the definitive issue of 1868 onwards, and to the subsequent provisional overprints. These latter provide scope for a tremendous amount of study and research, and some 150 pages of text and illustrations indicate the extent to which these have been studied. Every previously made statement has been verified if it were true, or rejected, if the evidence has been against it. The result is that many hitherto unrecorded varieties have been listed, whilst some catalogued items, apparently, do not exist or have been wrongly described in the past.

The remaining 75 pages are devoted to "cinderellas" of our hobby, the official or local "Franks", the Revenue Issues, the Telegraph Stamps and the Postal Stationary. The two chapters which deal with the well-known "Commando Briefs" and "R.D.M." (Rijderde Dienst Macht = Mounted Police Force) franks and possibly the highlights of this outstanding publication.

The treatment accorded to the sections on Revenues, Telegraph Issues and Postal Stationery is as complete and thorough as could be wished. Sideline collectors will find in these chapters all the information on the O.F.S. that they could possibly need.

It should be mentioned that no attempt had been made to deal with the Postal History or the cancellations of the period. These will be covered in a further volume which is being devoted to their study.

To illustrate the text approximately 70 pages of photographic illustrations accompany it. No expense has been spared in this direction and this undoubtedly enhances the book's value as a work of reference.

To those who were responsible for the completion and production, we in the Republic owe a particular vote of thanks. Their effort deserves every support, and it is to be hoped that collectors in this country show their appreciation by taking the first opportunity to acquire a work that is a notable addition to any philatelist's library.

J. M.W.

OBITUARIES**ERNEST HUNT**

SEPTEMBER 9, 1877 — APRIL 1, 1968

We regret to have to announce the death of the late Mr. Ernest Hunt which took place on Monday, April 1st, 1968, after a long illness most cheerfully borne.

Ernest Hunt was born in London and became interested in stamps at an early age, an interest which he sustained with ever-increasing vigour right up to his death.

He came to South Africa in 1904 to join the business founded by his father. It was then a bicycle business which paved the way for Mr. Hunt to become one of South Africa's wealthiest car magnates.

He took an early lead in sporting activities, especially cycling in which he soon became an early pioneer, later acquiring the status of Life President of the Rand Roads Cycling Club. Other interests included billiards and snooker and he was an intimate friend of many of the "greats" of the century.

Nevertheless his great love was always stamp-collecting and over a period of some 80 years he amassed an amazing assembly of collections, the most famous of which was his World Collection to 1933 which at the time of his death lacked but a few items for completion.

On the formation, in 1950, of the Expert Committee of the Philatelic Federation of Southern Africa he became a founder member and only resigned from the Committee when ill-health forced him to leave Johannesburg and retire to the North Coast of Natal recently.

For his services to South African Philately over many years he was elected to the Southern African Roll of Distinguished Philatelists in 1952 and was chairman of the Unipex Executive Committee in 1960. His unstinted efforts in this position contributed very largely to the success of this great International Exhibition.

He donated a notable trophy to the Philatelic Society of Johannesburg in 1956 to encourage the serious study of Philately among members of that Society of which he was an Honorary Life member.

He served as a member of the Executive Committee of the Philatelic Federation of Southern Africa from its re-suscitation after the war until his retirement to the North Coast and was always available to give freely of his advice and counsel.

Mr. Hunt's passing will leave a gap in Southern African Philately which will not be easily filled and our sincerest sympathy is extended to his widow, son and daughters, whose great loss is shared by all those many who were proud and privileged to call him friend.

C. E. D. E.

SIR QUINTIN BRAND

Air Vice-Marshal Sir Quintin Brand, K.B.E., D.S.O., M.C., D.F.C., died at Umtali (Rhodesia) on 7 March at the age of 74. With General Sir Pierre van Ryneveld he made the first flight from England to the Cape in 1920. The flight was adventurous for they crashed in Sudan and again in Rhodesia, and it was in their third aircraft, supplied by the South African Government, that they completed their journey. No public mail was carried but four letters from British Ministers to General Smuts and three to the Governor General were flown.

*"The Aero Field"***THE WINDHOEK AIRMAIL DISASTER**

Captain M. F. Stern reports that he was fortunate in getting a charred cover from the Boeing 707 disaster at Windhoek. This was returned to the sender under cover from the Postmaster, Windhoek with slip reading: - 'Sir/s; Madam, The accompanying postal article/s was/were included in the mail despatches which were despatched with flight SA 228 (BOEING: "PRETORIA") and accordingly damaged in the crash in which aforementioned aircraft was destroyed near J. G. Strydom Airport on April 20, 1968. I regret the condition in which this article has to be delivered to you. Yours faithfully, Postmaster. Windhoek'.

BOOKS ON FORGERIES

Arising out of a request for the name and address of the publishers, we are now able to inform that "Album Weeds", by the Rev. R. B. Earee, in an eight volume series may be obtained from Messrs. H. L. Luidquist Publications, Inc., 153 Waverley Place, New York, N.Y. 10014.

COMMONWEALTH NOTES

By J. WOODGATE

Canada: The 300th Anniversary of the voyage of the "Nonsuch", a vessel engaged in the early fur trade, will be represented on a 5c stamp on the 5th June.

Cayman Islands: A human Rights issue is due on the 3rd June.

Fiji: The 40th Anniversary of the landing of Kingsford Smith, the airman, will be commemorated by a set on the 5th June.

Gibraltar: A 2d and a 4d stamp will be issued on 17th June for the 20th Anniversary of the World Health Organization. It is unusual to find such a modest issue these days.

Malta: A set of 3 stamps to commemorate the 12th Malta International Trade Fair will be issued on the 1st June. The values are 4d, 8d and 3/-.

Papua and New Guinea: On the 26th June a set is to be issued for Free Elections and Human Rights.

Zambia: A single stamp will be issued for the Zambian Trade Fair on the 29th June.

£1,100 FOR PENNY BLACK

The famous copy of the Penny Black used from Bath on May 2nd, 1840, realised £1,100 when sold by Robson Lowe on March 6th. It was bought by a private collector, Mr. Arnold Wills of Uppingham, Rutland.

The stamp was one of two examples known used on May 2nd and formerly belonged to the late Major Adrian Hopkins of Bath.

The Penny Black was issued on May 1st, 1840, but was not valid for postage until May 6th.

"Philatelic Magazine"

THE AIRMAIL ENTIRE TRUTH

We have had the pleasure of viewing a copy of "The Air Mail Entire Truth". It is a four page news letter, pertaining to Aerogrammes and airpost stationery, published 3 times a year at 25c per copy and contains a comprehensive listing of up to date Airmail information. The local representative is Mr. H. W. H. Lee, 3 Morosson Flats, 12th Ave., Boston Estate, Bellville, Cape, from whom further particulars may be obtained.

THE DEATH OF THE DANDY ROLL

By F. MARCUS ARMAN

This somewhat macabre title has been used to introduce the obituary notice of the security device used by paper manufacturers when making paper for postage stamps over the last one hundred and twenty seven years, i.e., since 1840.

It was by means of the Dandy Roll that watermarks were literally "built into" the structure of the stamp paper at an early stage in its making. With the introduction of all phosphor lined stamps in the new U.K. definitive series introduced in 1967 this security device was abandoned. Because of the recent technological improvements, such as the electronically operated machines which count and record the number of sheets of paper made available to the printers, watermarks became an unnecessary extra.

The abandonment of this particular security device in 1967 was as revolutionary a step as that taken in 1880 when control marks were omitted from the new stamps of that time, the first fruits of the consolidated contract which the House of de la Rue won in competition with other security printing firms. The technical advances of that era similarly made control an unnecessary security refinement.

Between July 1860 and 1880 the marks were imprinted at Somerset House on sheets of stamp paper before the paper was made available to the firm printing the stamps and they indicated the denomination of stamps for which particular batches of paper were to be used. Each sheet of paper was stamped twice at the right upper and left lower corners and the contractors were debited with the cost of each sheet at the total value of the stamps to be printed on it. Accountability was the essence of these arrangements. The hazard that stamps might be printed without authority was something plainly to be avoided — as indeed it still is.

These control marks must not be confused with the marginal control letters and/or numbers which appeared on sheets of G.B. stamps until late in 1947 when they too were abandoned.

To return to our obituary of the Dandy Rolls, about to be destroyed, they are some seven feet long, two feet in diameter and made of wire mesh on which the repeat watermark motive is slightly raised.

Paper making is much the same by both hand and machine processes. Stamp paper

today is made from wood pulp. Until recently esparto grass was used. Other types of paper are made from rags or similar fibrous material. The selected material is pulped in water — one part solid to 99 parts liquid and it is this mixture which is fed onto the wire mesh bed of the paper making machinery. The essence of the process lies in the agitation and draining of the pulp so as to produce a fibrous felt which after further processing becomes the paper we use for stamps as well as for innumerable other purposes. In the course of this processing, while the pulp is still wet the Dandy Roll patterns restrict the felting of the fibres momentarily leaving behind the built in familiar “watermarks.”

Acknowledgement:
“*The Australian Stamp Monthly*”

PAPER

HOW IT IS PRODUCED

By WALDER C. HANSEN

Stamp collecting would be non-existent but for paper, that is paper as we know it today. Primitive man first learned to substitute crude pictures for speech; these pictures gradually came to serve for objects denoted by the same sound as the thing depicted.

Long before man learned to use brush and palette, events were recorded on stone, metal sheets and leather, aided by stylus and graving tool.

Later he was privileged to use papyrus, manufactured in Egypt since the first dynasty, and obtained from fibres of the great marsh-reeds. This royal material was most expensive and reserved for princess and the priestly caste, lesser lights had to draw and write on calcareous slivers or potsherds.

With the invention of papers made from common materials, learning started to spread, until the ordinary man found the purchase of books within his means. Thus, printed matter became the backbone of learning with newspapers and periodicals absorbing huge quantities of paper.

The production of postage stamps has no doubt added to the world shortage of paper and since they depend on this product for their printing I propose to deal with its manufacture and the ingredients used, a combination of the age-long craftsmanship of Great Britain and the forceful progress of our cousins in the United States of America.

Paper is made by breaking down vegetable

matter and “felting” the cellulose fibres into a sheet. Many types of material may be used: cotton and linen rags, usually obtained from textile factories and rag dealers; wood, which has to be treated to remove all resinous and foreign matter; esparto, a grass from North Africa and Spain, and a host of other chemicals in the form of additives.

Rag Paper

The rags used by a paper mill are usually the off-cuts of collars, shirt tails and other garments or selected cotton and linen clothing from dealers in left-off wearing apparels. These are brought into the mill in bales where they are hand-sorted by women, who cut off any buttons, hooks, pieces of elastic, nylon or anything detrimental to the process of manufacture.

The sorted rags then go through a “willow duster”, a cylindrical drum to which spikes are attached. After dusting, the materials pass into the chopper where they are cut into very small pieces. After a final dusting they are transported to huge rotary boilers, after which the washing liquor is drained out and the mulchy rags dug out and passed on to the breakers. The breaker is similar to a huge tile-lined cement bath containing a large cylindrical roller fitted with metal blades running lengthwise along one side. If the mulch contains coloured rags a bleach is added to ensure a good, even, white pulp. In the breaker the pulp is beaten for several hours, according to the type of paper required and resembles snowy white porridge.

When the pulp is completely broken down to the fibrous state it is pumped into a large vat, called a “stuff chest”, where it is mixed with more water in order to rid the fibre of every single bit of dirt and grit. By this time the pulp consists of approximately 99 per cent water and only 1 per cent fibre. The fibrous mulch now passes through the “breast box”, from which it is delivered in a soggy sheet on to meshed wire to be carried over suction boxes where the water content is further reduced before the paper is taken through the drying cylinders and finally through the large calender rolls where the finish or gloss of the paper depends on the number of calender rolls used.

To strengthen the paper and give it a hard surface it is passed through a bath of gelatine after which it is dried on revolving drums,

Continued on Page 132



GEDENKPOSSEËLS VIR DIE INHULDIGING VAN DIE TWEDE STAATSPRESIDENT

(met toestemming van „Historia”)

Op 31 Mei 1961, die groot dag van republiekwording van Suid-Afrika, het 'n nuwe stel posseëls vir daaglikse gebruik verskyn. Behoudens kleiner verskille en verbetering in ontwerp en kleur, is hierdie tipe seëls nog altyd in omloop. Die eerste Staatspresident van die Republiek van Suid-Afrika is in Pretoria ingesweer en dit is toepaslik beskou om ter herdenking van hierdie geleentheid 'n spesiale stempel te laat maak vir gebruik op daardie dag in Pretoria. Op hierdie stempel is die president se wapen afgebeeld en dit meld die woorde „Republiek van Suid-Afrika” en die datum.

Toe 10 April 1968 as die datum vasgestel is waarop die tweede president, mnr. J. J. Fouché, ingesweer sou word, is gevoel dat ook nou weer die gebeurtenis op posseëlgebied weerspieël behoort te word. 'n Heeltemal nuwe stel gebruikseëls sou nie aan die vereistes van die praktyk voldoen nie. Daarenteen sou die gebruik van net 'n spesiale stempel 'n bietjie karige indruk maak teenoor die oorvloedigheid wat sewe jaar gelede plaasgevind het. Die poskantoor het tot die gevolgtrekking gekom dat die juiste beleid sou wees om besondere herinneringseëls uit te gee en om 'n spesiale stempel te gebruik op die dag van inswering. 'n Stel besondere seëls in Suid-Afrika bestaan gewoonlik uit twee waardes, 2½c en 12½c, en dit is ook nou die beste geag om aan hierdie gewoonte vas te hou.

Van staanspoor af is duidelik besef dat, hoewel die seëls weer betrekking het op 'n vooraanstaande staatspersoon, hulle in geen

opsig ooreenkoms met die ontwerpe van die Verwoerd-herinneringseëls moet vertoon nie. Die posseël-advieskomitee het aanvanklik gedink aan 'n portret op een seël en die presidentswapen op die ander. Die poskantoor het egter voorkeur gegee aan 'n portret op albei seëls en bowendien is die vereiste gestel dat albei seëls vertikaal sal wees.

Dit was dus wenslik dat 'n aantal goeie portrette van die aangewese staatspresident gemaak word en die komitee het aanbeveel om weer dr. I. Henkel vir hierdie doel te nader. Dr. Henkel is 'n erkende portretskilder van amptelike persone. Hy het o.a. die portrette van die Transvaalse administrateurs gemaak, wat nou in die Provinsiale Administrasiegebou in Pretoria hang. Dit was hy wat die portrette vir die Verwoerdseëls geteken het, waarby hy baie ervaring opgedoen het van wat vir 'n goeie posseël-ontwerp vereis word. Hy is op hoogte van die effek, en die gevare wat hulle kan voordoën wanneer 'n portret soveel keer verklein word tot die afmeting van 'n posseëlbeeld. Bowendien is hy in Pretoria woonagtig en kon hy by die hand wees as sy mening by die vervaardigingsproses in die staatsdrukkery benodig sou wees.

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'N GROOT VOORRAAD

ALBUMS, KATALOGUSSE, BYBEHORE EN
SEËLS — MET DIE KLEM OP NEDERLAND,
SUID-AFRIKA EN REPUBLIEKSE
SILINDERBLOKKE.

Dr. Henkel het drie portrette van mnr. Fouché gemaak. Hiervan is die portret en profiel onmiddellik deur die advieskomitee aanvaar. Uit die orige twee portrette is spoedig 'n keuse gemaak. Maar selfs hierdie portret het nogal moeilikhede opgelewer wat eers nadat 'n aantal veranderinge aangebring is, o.a. in die skaduwees, verbeter het. Van die twee portrette bly die een wat op die 2½c seël afgebeeld is verreweg die beste.

Wat die letters en syfers betref is ook nou weer van die beginsel uitgegaan van hoe minder en rustiger, hoe beter. Die letters R S A en die waardesyfers is in wit gehou teen 'n gekleurde agtergrond. Hoewel hulle aanvanklik bo-aan geplaas was, is hulle op albei seëls na die onderkant verskuif. Bo staan nou in klein letters die datum van inswering: 10 IV 1968, waarby die maand volgens gewoonte in Romeinse syfers aangedui is. Die kleure sepiabruin en blou-grys is 'n bietjie sterker en spreker as wat die aanvanklike kleure was. Ook nou is geen omraming van die beeld gebruik nie; die kleure loop van die seël deur na die volgende een. Ten slotte is nadruklik besluit om geen naam of handtekening aan die portret toe te voeg nie. Almal weet wie die persoon is en waarvoor die seëls uitgegee word en vir die buiteland gee die eersdedag-kovert alle benodigde inligting. Internasionaal raak dit meer en meer in onbruik om die naam by 'n portret op posseëls te plaas: wanneer mens onbekend is met die persoon en die geleentheid, is daar vir die werklik belanggestelde ruimskoots moontlikhede om dit op te soek. W. F. van Reenen, die ervare tekenaar van die staatsdrukkery, is weer verantwoordelik vir die tegniese ontwerp.

Op die eersdedag-kovert staan die volledig versierde wapen van die staatspresident, met die letters S. P. Dit is opvallend dat die nommer „7” baie kleiner is as op die vorige amptelike herinneringskoerverte. Daar is gevoel dat die nommer te veel 'n prominente plek ingeneem het en hierdie kleiner syferafmeting sal in die toekoms so bly.

Die ontwerp van die besondere stempel in Kaapstad is baie rustig gehou. Behalwe die datum dui dit net die inhuldiging van die tweede staatspresident aan. Tradisiegetrou het die Poskantoor ook nou weer 'n kaartjie by die kovert uitgereik. Hierop staan teen 'n sagte rooi agtergrond die portret van die staatspresident en die datum. Op die agterkant is in Afrikaans en Engels 'n kort lewensbeskrywing van mnr. Fouché.

In alle opsigte maak die seëls 'n rustige en statige indruk, 'n voorkoms wat toepaslik is vir die doel waarvoor hulle uitgegee is.

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Vergader vierde Vrydag elke maand in die
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Publiseer maandelikse tydskrif, en verkoops-
pakkies word onder lede gesirkuleer.

POSBUS 702 — BLOEMFONTEIN

Continued from Page 129

reeled and transported to the slitting machine. The cut paper is stacked in boxes and passed to the hand-sorters where each sheet is examined for faults before being counted and guillotined to the required size.

Wood Paper

Although rag pulp is still used in the manufacture of stamp paper, the limited supply of this commodity caused paper mills to look for a cheaper material. In or about 1860, it was discovered that various vegetable fibres, notably those of esparto grass and certain kinds of wood, such as spruces, fir, hemlock, aspen and poplar, could be turned to good account in paper making, either separately or mixed with one another or with rag pulp.

Wood, being plentiful, therefore came into general use and now constitutes by far the major portion of all pulp. Paper mills receive the logs in four to ten feet lengths where the first process on arriving is to debark the timber. This is done by passing the logs through a machine in which knives tear off the bark and external knots until the log is smooth like a peeled potato. Next comes the breaking up of the log, the exact nature of this operation depending on the treatment to which the wood after being ground will be subjected.

Mechanical Pulp

There are two kinds of woodpulp — mechanical and chemical. The former has little interest to stamp collectors as it is not used in worthwhile quantities for stamp paper. However, in order to obtain this pulp the logs are shuttled back and forth across the face of a huge grinder over which water is continuously flowing. The pulp thus obtained is very fine and devoid of the long, cellulose fibres so necessary for good “felting”. Mechanical pulp therefore yields a brittle and easily torn, but cheap, paper, suitable mainly for newsprint.

Chemical Pulp

A superior type of paper is made from chemical pulp, the treatment of which is different and more costly. The logs are first cut into small chunks and boiled in a “digester” — a big steel tank — with certain chemicals. Here it is cooked under pressure for several hours and constantly agitated by “live” steam during the period of digestion. When the cooking is finished the result is a mass of brownish wood fibres needing treatment by a bleaching process.

Only about half the wood used in this method comes out as pulp, the other half having been carried away by the chemical solution. However, the remaining pulp possesses very good felting or matting qualities and it is herein that its great value lies. Approximately 75 per cent of chemical wood is used in the manufacture of stamp paper. The finishing process for chemical pulp follows closely that of rag pulp.

Esparto

For several hundred miles through Morocco, Algeria and Tunisia the traveller can see large tufts of reed-like grass climbing over the foothills of the Atlas Mountains as far as the desolate fringes of the Sahara.

These ragged tufts, dry and withered at the edges, with green shoots pushing up in the centre, represent “the green wealth of North Africa” and have a history of over 2,000 years. They are today one of the most valuable uncultivated crops in the world. From them are made fine paper suitable for most purposes, including stamp printing.

Esparto grass well justifies its name of *Stima tenassima* for its roots tenaciously grip the stony soil, enabling it to reach a height of four feet forming a wild cluster up to ten feet in circumference.

A variety of esparto — *spartum* of Pliny — was used by Hannibal’s army for ropes, and in the middle ages the Spanish navy adopted such ropes because of their great strength and ability to float on water. The same grasses also found favour in household uses, for baskets, mats, carpets, sandals, etc., but it was not until just over a century ago that the most important use of esparto was discovered.

It was found that the leaves contained from 35 to 40 per cent of cellulose, thus providing a new material for the manufacture of high quality paper. Land which was hitherto largely unproductive suddenly became valuable. The grass was introduced into Great Britain in

1857 and only a decade later its import had become a flourishing trade.

Esparto Pulp

The grass has to be picked so that the root is undisturbed. To achieve this the labourer holds in his left hand a stick about 18 inches long, grasps a handful of leaves with his right, wraps them around the stick and then jerks strongly with both hands whilst standing on the root area. The harvest is carried by camel or truck to the yards where it is baled for shipment to various parts of the world; most of that imported to Britain is treated in Scotland.

The process of turning grass into pulp is similar to that employed for rag; except for the obnoxious smell given off by esparto whilst cooking, it is delightful to the paper maker and the fibres have first-class felting quality. The bleached pulp is usually mixed with chemical wood fibres in the proportion of four to one of esparto, the latter imparting strength and surfacing quality to the wood. Our current photogravure papers are composed of 70 per cent chemical wood and 30 per cent esparto.

Additives

Many and varied are the techniques used to produce surfaces compatible with the required printing mediums and all can be met by the paper mills when supplied with specification data from the printing houses — clay, gelatine, resin, alum, french chalk and a multitude of other extenders could be named — each and every one of them having a specific job to enhance the beauty of the finished product.

Watermarks

One aspect of papermaking still to be dealt with because of its philatelic interest is the "Art of the Dandy Roll Marker". In the watermark we see a survival of that element of fancy without which philately would be very dull indeed. Of course, watermarking has its practical uses in security printing as a guard against forgery. To the keen stamp collector, however, it serves as a mark of identification and classification and if found inverted or reversed becomes a sheer delight to its owner.

The stages in the creation of a watermark vary according to its particular characteristics but will follow, roughly, this sequence: a drawn design is created by a special artist who will render it without the distortion which

takes place when it is placed on a curved surface. The shape must be calculated to a nicety so that the watermark on the dry paper will exactly reproduce the original design.

The next stage is the making of a master die. This is entirely a hand operation, for it is in effect "drawing in wire". With simple tools the craftsman coaxes the soft wire into the configurations of the prepared design. The wire drawing is then fixed to a brass plate to form the master die which in turn, is pressed into beeswax. The impression thus obtained is impregnated with a graphite powder to prevent stickiness. In this way a number of identical impressions are produced to form a base for an electrolytic deposit obtained by immersing the beeswax mould in a copper sulphate bath.

The product of this process is a shell or number of identical shells which can be soldered on to the wire gauze of a roller. When it is understood that the "bits", i.e., each individual design that forms the watermarks, have to stand in fractional relief, it can be appreciated that the height of the bits is of prime importance. Too high and they would cut through the paper, which is at its tenderest when wet during manufacture, instead of merely bruising it. The roll on which the shell is mounted is generally made of woven stout wiremesh. Others, however, are made of wires threaded through a framework of the roll.

Reprinted by kind permission of the Editor of the "Australian Stamp Monthly". Acknowledgement "The Stamp Lover".

BRITAIN TO BOOST STAMP EXPORTS

The post office is to launch an export drive . . . selling special issues of British stamps. And it aims to turn the sales of stamps into a multimillion-pound export trade.

A marketing team is being prepared to boost sales, states a report in the current issue of "Courier", the official journal of the Post Office.

It states that it will be headed by Mr. Graham Damp, a marketing expert on loan from Shell-Mex and B.P. to the G.P.O.

Mr. Damp, who has spent some time looking at the North American market, declares that stamp sales there could be a "tremendous dollar-earner."

The journal states that this is the first time the Post Office has made a serious bid to break into the international stamp market in a big way.

Acknowledgement "Rand Daily Mail"

WANTS, OFFERS & EXCHANGE

(3½c per word per insertion with a
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BOLD TYPE AT DOUBLE THE ABOVE RATE.

WHOLESALE!! Mint stamps of Thailand. L. W. Ding, Thasala, Nakornsrithammaraj, Thailand, Far East.

SWITZERLAND: Collections, lots, rarities. Cash buyer — Bollier, P.O. Box 395, CH-8039 Zurich, Switzerland.

COMMONWEALTH FIRST DAY COVERS and stamps sent on approval. Bok Philatelists, Box 3321, Cape Town.

SHIPS — MERCHANT AND MILITARY: I have rare cancellations and covers with postmarks of the whole world. Dr. Zappala, Via Colle del Pino, 95126 Catania, Italy.

STAMP DEALS, P.O. Box 2272, Johannesburg. Now available some star items in Protectorate Decimal surcharge errors, Capes, OFS, Rhodesia (BSA Co.), Canada, strong collection Union Animal Series, Far East countries, New Zealand, G.B., B.W.I., Italian States, East Germany, etc.

GENESIS of the British South Africa Company's Postage Stamps and Postal Services, by V. F. Ellenberger, as supplied as a supplement to the S.A. Philatelist, June, 1967. A limited number of extra copies available at 20c, post free. Business Manager, S.A. Philatelist, P.O. Box 375, Johannesburg.

G. B. LINE-ENGRAVED: Wanted, fair plating copies (unplated) of 1d. black and perforated 2d. Blues: Send offers to Commander C. E. D. Enoch, 3 Cussonia, 7 Lynnburn Road, Lynnwood Manor, Pretoria.

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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, U.K.

ANGLO-BOER WAR PHILATELIC SOCIETY, quarterly magazine with exchange packet in U.K. Subscription R1.50 (15/-) yearly. Secretary, J. H. Rathbone, "Allways", Rudheath, Northwich, Cheshire, U.K.

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SOUTH AFRICAN COLLECTORS' SOCIETY for the Union Collector—magazine, exchange packet. Subscription 15/- (2 dollars) year. Write Hon. Secretary, W. A. Page, 138 Chastilian Road, Dartford, Kent, 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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(Continued)

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WORLD WAR covers used at S.A. Army post offices in Egypt. Send particulars to J. H. E. Gilbert, Morven, West Close, Middleton-on-Sea, Sussex, England.

AN AUCTION HOUSE AT WORK

How to make the Best of Your Collection at an Auction

By GORDON ROSE

Buying and selling stamps by public auction still seems to many collectors to be an occupation for the well-to-do and the expert. This is not so. Even the three international auction houses in London sell many lots under £5 — and accept many small collections valued at around £10.

Let us see how they work. Primarily, an auctioneer is not an owner of stamps. He earns his livelihood by receiving one person's stamps and selling them to another person. In between those first and last limits there are several factors in which you — as the vendor or seller of a collection — may aid the auctioneer to make more money **FOR YOU**.

The scheme of things begins when you decide to sell your stamps in a collection, an assembly or a selection — or even a single rarity — and take them, preferably by appointment, to the auction house of your choice. You will be received politely and treated courteously. You will be advised on the possibility of its value when sold — or how best it can be sold — without charge.

If you decide not to proceed with the transaction you are free to walk out with your stamps with politeness unimpaired.

Should the professional expert express the opinion that your treasures are so low in value that they would not be worth the attention of his firm, he will still be courteous — and may well suggest another house or a provincial auctioneer.

But the assessment is favourable. Yes, the house will sell on your behalf. Now what? You are not called upon to sign anything. Nor to make even a verbal agreement on any aspect of the disposal of your stamps. In fact, the

auction expert you meet will do the signing — a receipt for your property which will be fully insured against all risks while in the custody of the house. Further, you will be given a copy of the auctioneer's terms of sale stating what percentage of the realisation he will take for his work.

You can, if you wish, still withdraw.

As all established houses of high repute charge more or less the same commission and work in the same manner there is nothing to be gained from trying to "shop around" to discover an auctioneer who will promise a high yield and charge a low commission. Reputable houses just do not do that.

Naturally, the more valuable your collection the less percentage of valuation can be charged — just as in buying a stamp from a dealer he will charge threepence for picking a used 3d. from a drawer and, let us say, nine shillings for selecting a used 10s. His labour in each case is the same. So it is with the auction house. For the "labour" of the auctioneer's staff between seller and buyer is what most of his commission is spent on.

Let me give you an example: on an individual lot that realises up to £50 an inclusive commission will be 20 per cent; if the lot brings in between £500 and £1,000 the commission will be 12½ per cent; should it realise over £1,000 the rate will be but 10 per cent.

What is this "labour" costing these percentages?

It comprises, in the main, the breaking of the collection into suitable lots, describing those lots, photographing the better stamps, having printing blocks made from the photographs, having the descriptions set in type, and the printing of the sale catalogue with its descriptions and illustrations, followed by its despatch by post to all parts of the world where it reaches the attention of keen collectors and dealers who **WANT TO BUY**.

Without doing more than hand over your stamps, the auction house has brought them to the close attention of some 10,000 possible purchasers!

And it has not cost you a penny . . .

What it has cost the auctioneer is no one's business — except his accountant's — especially if you are dealing with a house that illustrates its catalogues with colour. For the cost of colour block-making is fabulous.

King-pin in the whole routine is the describer: the man or woman who looks at your stamps and describes them in the exact number of words that will draw attention to their finer points, their scarcity, their condition — and not neglecting to point out where there

are faults or weaknesses, for buyers who never see the stamps on viewing days pay their money for the trust they place in the auctioneer's integrity in all matters.

It is here that YOU can provide considerable aid in making your collection an even better buying proposition.

This lies in the manner in which you prepare it for the auction house. Even a brief study of auction catalogues will show that these king-pin describers attach great importance to dates. Whether of adhesive stamps or postal history covers, date order by year, month and even the day are of prime importance — particularly in flown airmail covers.

In your collection, perhaps when giving a display, it is often more effective to show a later before an earlier item. Sometimes, stamps of various issues and dates set together will emphasise a point — or point a contrast that makes your collection and display much more vivid to your viewers. But in deciding to sell it by auction it is wiser to forget the stamp club viewer and think of the date order so that the busy describer is not allowed to overlook an important, but not obviously valuable, piece because it is out of place.

The value of your stamps will also lie in watermarks and perforations. These should be noted beside stamps that have such significant differences. Shades you will call attention to in like manner — but do not prepare to argue if the auctioneer's expert with the knowledge of several thousand fine stamps and shades — as well as the best possible light — should ignore your rare shade and describe it as the normal!

Is a stamp Type I, or II, or III? Is it from a scarce plate? Is it a proof or an imperforate reprint? Does it bear an uncommon cancellation — perhaps one of only two known? Is it emergency printing?

Let us not extend the questioning. As the owner and expert on your collection you should not only know the answers but indicate beside such extra-special stamps their particular claim to fame and the describer's attention.

One thing that will be discussed when first you take your collection to an auction house — preferably by appointment, if I may repeat a point — is that of the date when it will be sold. Do not walk out because that date will be some four months ahead. Auctions have to be arranged well in advance to allow the catalogue to be prepared and circulated and the buyers to send bids from the farthest parts of the world.

Nor is the auctioneer a money-lender. He does not provide instant cash to the full value of your collection, although in many instances

he will make an advance of a good proportion of his estimated valuation on an attractive property.

You see, there is no mystery in selling stamps by auction. In fact, collectors wishing to dispose of portions or whole £100,000 collections are not better served anywhere.

Whatever your collection and whatever its auction result you will know it was offered to the widest circle of buyers who between their bids determined the price THEY would pay.

Acknowledgement: "Stamp Collecting"

CRISIS

Politicians, financiers and speculators have brought the Western world to the verge of chaos. Never in the present century has the prospect seemed so uncertain, the future so vague and critical. Even the beginnings of the two world wars did not lead to such general bewilderment.

Everywhere people seem to have lost confidence in paper currency and have been rushing to put their fortunes into gold, silver, diamonds and — stamps. One need only look at recent realisations in the London auctions to see how stamp prices have soared upwards since the pound was devalued last November. It may seem a curious paradox that people are changing their large pieces of paper into must smaller pieces of paper as a hedge against inflation.

It is not only the classic issues of government postage stamps that are affected by the upward surge; local postage stamps, telegraph stamps, fiscals, phantoms and other categories are all being swept ahead by the widespread desire to find a stable "currency".

Collectors of Cinderella material are in a fortunate position. Quite apart from financial aspects, those philatelists have long been enjoying the fascination provided by these one-time neglected groups. Study of Cinderella issues has never been so keen as it now is. New facts are being brought to light all the time as more and more people realise how much they have been missing by not paying attention to Cinderellas.

Acknowledgement "The Cinderella Philatelist"

STANLEY GIBBONS LTD.

It is announced that A. L. Michael has appointed Chairman of S.G., in succession to F. T. Smith who has resigned from this post. Mr. Smith will remain a Director, and Mr. Michael will combine the offices of Chairman and Managing Director.

SOCIETY NEWS

THE ROYAL PHILATELIC SOCIETY OF RHODESIA

March: The Annual General meeting was well attended at which the formal business was quickly and smoothly disposed of.

The following office bearers were elected for the ensuing year: Chairman: Mr. W. H. Turnbull; Vice-Chairman: Mr. J. Lazarus; Hon.-Secretary: Mr. F. C. Fromentin; Hon.-Treasurer: Mr. J. P. Atkinson; Hon. Auditor: Mr. I. J. Tylee; Committee Members: Mrs. A. F. D. Pegge, Dr. A. Haward and Mr. J. E. Creewel, with Mr. J. R. Strong maintaining the Society's liaison with the Post Master General.

Society Trophies: The award of the Porter Cup was made to Dr. Mavros for his outstanding exhibit of Greece and the Society Cup to Mr. J. Strong for invaluable services rendered to the Society in recent years.

Members were entertained to two excellent exhibits: National Costumes sent from Cape Town by Mrs. M. Bergman and Colour Trials of the early Southern Rhodesian issues presented by Dr. Haward after which a very satisfactory auction, in all respects, wound up a pleasant evening.

BELLVILLE PHILATELIC SOCIETY

March: Mrs. Ubaghs exhibited and spoke on a specialised exhibit of "Rhodesia Post-Independence" Stamps, which included missing and misplaced perfs, colour shifts and off-sets among other varieties. The material displayed was very comprehensive and well set out.

After tea Mr. Lee gave a very informative talk on the arrangement of material and pages for exhibition purposes and demonstrated various aspects with specially mounted pages.

An auction in aid of Club Funds concluded a pleasant evening.

EAST RAND PHILATELIC SOCIETY

February: The 48th Annual General Meeting was well attended at which the following office bearers were elected for 1968.

President: Mr. H. Behrendt; Vice-President: Mr. M. M. Weiner; Hon. Sec./Treasurer: Mr. H. Godwin; Committee Members: Messrs. J. Botha, A. L. Charles, S. Legator, H. Whiting. Delegate to Federation:- Mr. S. Legator.

The Sam Legator Trophy was won for the second successive year by Mr. J. Botha, this time with his exhibit of "United Nations". The Hinko Suklje Award, presented for the first time this year, was won by Mr. C. Waner with his collection of "Olympic Games Miniature Sheets". Selections from both exhibits were again viewed.

SOCIETY OF ISRAEL PHILATELY

March: The meeting opened up with the usual philatelic reports and the showing of various covers relating to the Six Day War period. In addition Mr. Miller showed an interesting study of the Sixty Agura Nature Conservation indicating seven different progressive stages of a flaw in the Arabic S on the second left tab stamp in the perforated sheetlet. This flaw starts as a tiny degree spec and after seven stages becomes a large kidney shaped flaw with a spot extending above the G in the preceding stamp.

Mr. Leo Buchen then displayed Army Post Offices and Prisoners of War Mail of the War of Independence 1948 — 1949. The display was, as usual, well written up and mounted and the excellent accompanying paper is attached.

A hearty vote of thanks was extended to Mr. Buchen after which a very successful auction concluded the meeting.

PHILATELIC SOCIETY OF THE WESTERN RAND

February: At the Annual General Meeting the following office bearers were elected:

Chairman: Mr. E. J. Sharpe; Vice-Chairman: Mr. W. S. Yelland; Sec./Treasurer: Mrs. I. P. Rowlinson; Committee Members: Messrs.: S. J. Vermaak, J. T. Burrell and W. R. Switzer. Delegate to Federation: Mr. J. T. Burrell; Alternate delegate to Federation: Mr. E. J. Sharpe.

The Society wishes to notify a change of address to P.O. Box 397, Krugersdorp, Transvaal.

THE PHILATELIC SOCIETY OF JOHANNESBURG

March: Both meetings were well attended. On the 12th, the Pretoria Society visited us at which meeting the following exhibits were shown: the Netherlands, the last issue of William III and the first issue of Wilhelmina, by Mr. Slagt who gave a short introductory talk on the history of that period. Commander Enoch read a paper so complex that it could have been in code, but, after seeing his beautiful line-engraved 1d and 2d, I am sure some members felt encouraged to try and understand their plating and even collect a few. Mr. Havenha brought us back to earth, or should I say sea, with a collection of fish on stamps. Finally, their President, Mr. Weinstein, showed a variety of foreign stamps all bearing Jerusalem and Palestine postmarks. Thank you Pretoria, we enjoyed it.

The second meeting opened with a short talk from the P.R.O. on the new programme and Mr. Oppenheim gave a talk on forged postmarks. Mr. Tilney said he hoped that substitution in exchange packets was now a thing of the past, the matter having been finally settled. The two exhibits were by two members who came all the way from Krugersdorp. Mr. Yelland showed a most interesting exhibit of World Wars I and II on cover, with so much pathos attached one

felt that the covers could tell their own story. Mr. Burrell brought along some of his South African abnormalities; misplaced perms., missing perf., colour shifts, interrupted printed, etc. etc. "Printers' waste" it may be, but great fun.

PORT ELIZABETH PHILATELIC SOCIETY

March 19th: The display given by Mr. J. Aldis, covered the Queen Elizabeth issues of certain West Indian islands, Ascension Island and various issues of the Protectorates. Items of interest in the West Indian section included the Statehood overprints of St. Lucia and Grenada and the first stamps of the newly independent Anguilla.

The issues of the Protectorates were represented by the decimal overprints, which included the Bechuanaland one rand type one and the three types of the 3½c/4d (including varieties), and the independence overprints in the case of Lesotho and Botswana. Many items were in plate blocks of four and there were a number of varieties.

The usual auction concluded the proceedings.

CAPE SOCIETY OF PALESTINE-ISRAEL PHILATELY

March: "All Members Night, at which members are able to exhibit not only their Israel stamps but any items they collect, was a great success. Eight members exhibited as follows:-
Dr. H. Gottschalk: Interim period Israel;
Mr. S. Goldstein: Beginners collection of Great Britain;
Mr. R. Birkan: Scarcer Airmail covers;
Dr. M. Peisach: Australia, George VI;
Master I. Kasimov: Pages from general collection;
Mr. H. Grunewald: Selection from British Africa;
Mr. R. Jaidel: Issues of Egypt prepared for Palestine;
Mr. X Piat: Poland and United States.

The exhibitors spoke on the exhibits and helpful comments were added by some members present.

ROYAL PHILATELIC SOCIETY OF CAPE TOWN

March 14th: The first exhibit of the evening was Mr. A. Leslie Leon's collection of Natal. The display showed a very representative selection of this former British Colony, including very many items of interest and terminating with a comprehensive Postal History selection.

The second part of the evening was given over to short displays by four members, Capt. M. F. Stern. The "Pacific" section of his well-known collection of "Maps and Explorations." Mr. R. F. Putzel — New Issues including the United Nations "Jigsaw Puzzle" Mr. D. G. Crocker — Early Great Britain on cover and Zanzibar. Mention be made of the extremely wide variety of the spelling of the Zanzibar overprint. Mr. J. Wannerton — "World War II

Naval Covers".

March 28th: Mr. J. Creewel's extremely interesting selection of "Danish Locals", accompanied by an explanatory paper, afforded members great interest and pleasure.

Mr. Freyman's collection of "Imperial Russia" was tabled by Mr. E. Blum, who spoke briefly on the exhibit. Items of interest included pre-stamp covers, a selection of Numeral Post marks, The Romanov Essays.

All in all a most pleasant and enjoyable evening.

GERMISTON PHILATELIC SOCIETY

April 17th: A rather poor attendance of members greeted the Pretoria Railway Society representatives who braved the wet weather to travel over to Germiston.

Our Vice-President, Mr. T. J. B. Curle welcomed the visitors of whom Commander Enoch displayed a selection of his Great Britain line-engraved collection, Mr. Van Eyk, the Charity Issues of the Netherlands from 1923 to 1957 and Mr. E. Walker a number of sheets of the Transvaal, Natal, O.F.S., and Cape Inter-provincial Issues, each exhibit being accompanied by an introductory paper.

All the exhibits were much admired and were suitably acknowledged.

THE SOUTH AFRICAN STAMP STUDY CIRCLE

April: The members agreed to hold a meeting at ELPEX 68 on Thursday 17th October, as this "free" evening had been offered by the ELPEX Committee. Members were asked to prepare items for discussion, and to donate material for an auction.

Among some interesting covers on display, there was a letter to a South African prisoner of war of the 1939 war. It had the usual censor's label resealing the envelope, but the stamps had been cancelled by a rubber stamp showing the Union coat of arms with letter B below. Members were told that this was the censor's mark — the letter 'B' indicating usage at Cape Town. Our informant had himself been a censor, so he should know!!

Other items were covers from M.M.S. Vanguard during the 1947 Royal visit, various "crash covers" and a "Post Interprovincial" Orange River Colony stamp with "shipping postmaster" cancellation. There were some King's Head stamps on piece, with no postal cancellation, but "defaced" with a rubber stamp reading "CONSIGNEES LETTER" in block capitals. Any information on this item would be welcomed.

GRAHAMSTOWN PHILATELIC SOCIETY

March: Mr. Lightfoot and Dr. Chutter joined forces to display the stamp of British Bechuanaland and Bechuanaland Protectorate. The exhibit was accompanied by an introduction by Dr. Chutter wherein many interesting aspects were brought out but unfortunately there was

no postal history material on display.

April: Messrs. Van Wijk-Smith and Rex Reynolds lead a discussion on how to exhibit a collection.

This was most interesting and two schools of thought soon became apparent. Firstly there were those who felt that provided that the stamps and covers shown were of sufficient interest the way in which they were presented was not of very great importance. To others presentation was of very great importance, though the Society was obviously far from unanimity on this question of what is good presentation.

Three members of the Society recently talked about stamps and displayed small collections to the boys at Kingswood Prep. The evening seemed to be enjoyed by the boys and several were possibly stimulated to start collecting.

THE O.F.S. PHILATELIC SOCIETY

March: There was only the average attendance. New issues were tabled by Mr. and Mrs. Marincowitz, Messrs. Meyburgh, Scott and Roux.

The main exhibit of the evening was provided by Dr. de Kock, being a semi-specialised collection of HUNGARY 1867-1962. An excellent study of various printings, watermarks and perforations covered the early stages. Numerous covers and postcards about 1872 were shown and miniature sheets were fully represented. Overprints used during the Hungarian revolution were prominent, with a colourful array of the more recent issues concluding the exhibit.

Mr. Meyburgh's FORGERIES followed. Before the items were viewed, the exhibitor gave a talk on Forgeries, Bogus stamps and re-prints. All items were accompanied by the respective certificates issued by the various expert committees indicating whether the items were indeed forgeries or genuine. Where possible, both were shown. The dangers of obtaining forged items were also dealt with, and all in all, this provided one of the most informative shows seen by the Society for many a meeting.

PRETORIA PHILATELIC SOCIETY

April: The meeting comprised the Allan Cup competition for which three entries were received:- Mr. C. Slagt's collection of the South African Animal Series, Mr. W. K. Seeba, the stamps of Iceland from June 17th 1944 up to the present and Dr. W. J. Schiff, of Japan, 1896-1954. The result, by popular vote, was a win by a narrow margin for Mr. Seeba thereby terminating a very interesting evening.

AFRIKAANSE PHILATELISTIESE VERENIGING VAN PRETORIA

April: Hierdie maand het ons besoek gehad van die Pretoriase Spoorweg Filatelistiese Vereniging. Daar was vier uitstallers, wat elkeen vooraf 'n besonder interessante verduideliking gegee het oor wat hulle gaan vertoon. Dr. J. Sherel het sy versameling voetbalkampioenskappe uitgestal. 'n Pragtige versameling waar-

van party seëls baie skaars is. Vervolgens stal mnr. D. Reynders 'n versameling Nyassaland: kompleet, kleurryk en aantreklik. Mnr. E. Walker het sy versameling interprovinsiale seëls saamgebring. Dis moeilik om die hoër waardes te verkry en die stempels moet duidelik wees wat betref die plek en die datum. Ten slotte, die versameling vankommt. C. Enoch, klassieke seëls van Groot-Brittanje: slegs 'n klein deeltjie uit 'n totaal van vyftig albums! Dit is filatelie op sy beste: baie gespesialiseer in drukke, plaatnummers, tipes, kleure en watermerke. Dit moet 'n versameling wees wat op internasionale peil staan. Dit was 'n besonder goeie aand.

PRETORIA RAILWAY PHILATELIC SOCIETY

April: The meeting was entertained to, and members enjoyed Dr. P. Hack's showing of his Sudan and Tristan da Cunha collections. The former included among many other items the first issues of the Egyptian overprinted stamps while the latter all issues in both mint and used condition as well as booklets and some very nice covers posted on the Island.

EXPERT COMMITTEE

The next meeting of the Expert Committee of the Philatelic Federation of Southern Africa will be held on Saturday, 15 June, 1968.

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SOUTH AFRICAN NOTES

By DR. H. J. RAUBENHEIMER.

Hon. Associate Editor.

NOTES ON THE RSA WATERMARKED PAPERS

The South African Stamp Study Circle recently asked two of its members to lead a discussion on the various stamp papers bearing the RSA watermark. It was because there had been so many arguments about those papers. All had agreed that the two types, the Harrison and the later Swiss papers were supposed to bear a watermark, for that was the information received from the Government Printing Works, but so often there was no trace of a watermark whichever way the paper was examined.

Then the question arose: would it be correct to term a paper "RSA-watermarked" when there was no watermark. As it happened, all these papers were "chalky" and so they were simply termed "chalky paper" by some authorities. The official term given by the Printing Works was "Coated RSA watermarked paper". Notwithstanding all this there was still no answer to the many questions, not only put to the Study Circle but also in correspondence to the "experts".

We can say that there were five main groups of these papers and they appeared in sequence as follows: (1) Harrison, distinct mark; (2) Harrison, indistinct to missing mark; (3) Swiss, distinct, tête-bêche mark; (4) Harrison, distinct mark; (5) Swiss, indistinct missing tête-bêche mark. A further complication arose in that frequently one

could find a distinct, an indistinct and a missing mark on the same sheet.

All the Harrison papers have their mark facing in one direction, usually upright when viewed as they emerge from the printing machine, and the Swiss papers show the mark in tête-bêche formation, that is the marks are upside down in relation to each other. There has been one occasion when the Harrison paper appeared with its mark reversed and that was in 1963 when two issues appeared on that paper, the 1c from cylinders S33 S13 and the 2½c Red Cross — incidentally both these issues also appeared on the normal RSA watermarked paper.

The two members of the Study Circle have not been able to undertake exhaustive tests on the papers, chemical or microscopic, but have examined them as philatelists and in a way that the average person could undertake. There are certain features that are common to all the papers. The quality is very good, above average, we believe; the gum is good although specimens have been shown where it has been streaky; one sheet was shown where the gum was normal at one end and absent at the other, having tailed off like paint from a drying brush; but these are very seldom seen. Joins are very seldom seen too, there have been different types which have been difficult to explain. All the papers are

very white; generally one can differentiate between the Swiss and the Harrison papers when they are held next to each other, the Swiss is somewhat whiter than the Harrison. Some knowledgeable persons have claimed that they can determine the paper even without the watermark.

All the papers react to the Silver test, that is, the Silver pencil leaves a black mark on the front of the paper — on the printed side. It was stated, however, that the Silver pencil test is not a conclusive proof of a chalky paper and that other types of coated paper can also give a positive reaction to the Silver test. It was interesting to note that when the gum on the other side was "floated off" or even rubbed off hard under water the paper does not react to the Silver pencil test. This is of interest when referring to used stamps and it is of significance when dealing with the ultra violet lamp.

The presence or absence of the watermark is of primary importance, and therein lies the big difficulty that faces us. It is disappointing to have to record that, up to the present there is no simple means of telling what is the watermark and what is its direction in every case. When we view a whole sheet we can generally tell. The margins are, as a rule, the best places to examine. Then also, the gummed side can help; when the sheet is moved about so that the reflected light strikes it at different angles, the mark can suddenly be seen through the gum. But when we deal with a stamp itself, there, too often we have a hopeless task. We have to use a watermark detector. Certain volatile liquids such as benzine, carbon tetrachloride are recommended. They are applied to the stamp and as they evaporate, the mark shows up, or should show up. We must beware of carbon tetrachloride however, it can be ruinous to the colours. (If you have a van Riebeeck 1s stamp to waste put some on it and see what happens.)

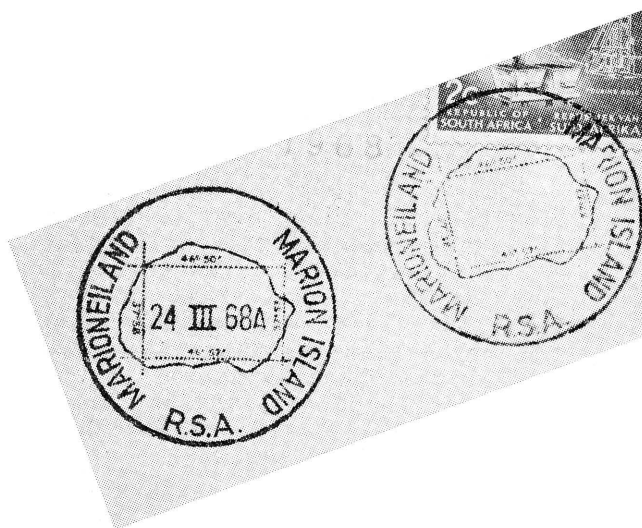
So far we have dealt with the study of the paper as viewed in daylight. But we have a most valuable ally in the ultra violet lamp, the so called "black light" which we use in a darkened room. It is often regarded, however, as a dangerous instrument as its rays are harmful to the skin and eyes. True, there are some which can do you no good and they can be expensive, but there are others, simple, safe and cheap and which are excellent; the light source is a neon like tube.

Under this light we immediately see a striking change. The front of the paper almost glows luminously, it is fluorescent, the Swiss paper even more so than the Harrison. But the gummed side shows the deciding factor.

On the Harrison it is almost as bright as the front, but the Swiss gummed side is not fluorescent at all; it has almost a light slate-blue colour and it also has a somewhat mottled appearance. And now another feature appears in these papers, and that still awaits an explanation. Soaking off or rubbing off the gum under water makes no difference to the effect of the black lamp. We have seen that there is no reaction to the Silver pencil test when the gum has been "rubbed off" and now we notice that that surface still remains fluorescent on the Harrison paper, obviously the "coating" is not removed by "rubbing". The question now to be answered is what exactly is "coated paper". In short, we have the Harrison paper fluorescent on both sides and the Swiss paper fluorescent only on the one side. Are these papers made of layers as we notice in that of the current postcards on the Japanese paper, or are they just surface treated? A treatise on this subject will be welcomed.

We have mentioned the various items of information brought forward at the Study Circle. They are what are known to us up to the present, and it does seem as if the next move is up to the scientists and paper manufacturers, with their knowledge, to enable us to describe exactly what we now call "Coated RSA watermarked paper".

ITEMS OF INTEREST



Marion Island and Sanae Datestamps.

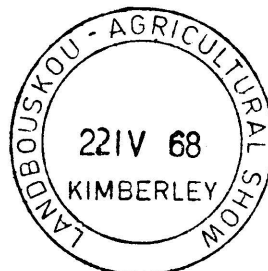
There appears to be some misunderstanding about these two datestamps. Collectors have asked why they have not heard of the visits of the research ship RSA to those parts. They

were expecting bulletins from the Post Office to enable them to send their covers for the special datestamps.

The Publicity Bureau has given us the following information. The RSA normally leaves Cape Town in December each year for Sanae in Antarctica and in February or March for Marion Island. We quote from Philatelic Bulletin No 51 which lists the special date stamps in use at present. "Orders for impressions of the datestamps used at SANAE and MARION ISLAND should be forwarded to the Philatelic Bureau G.P.O. Pretoria". We were told that ordinary mail rates apply and that covers must be in well beforehand for the Sailings. There are no bulletins sent out advising of the Sailings.

The illustration shows a strike of the damaged canceller which had been returned to the Republic and that of its repair.

THE KIMBERLEY AGRICULTURAL SHOW



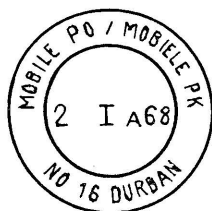
The date stamp, a description of which appeared in our May Number.

POSTMARK NOTES

by David Allison

Slogan Design Survey

The latest "Quarterly Bulletin" of the British Postmark Society includes a report of a slogan design survey conducted by one of its members. All members had been asked to complete a questionnaire, and amongst other things they were requested to select (a) the ten most attractive, (b) the ten most effective, (c) the ten worst British slogans introduced since April, 1963. As always, one man's meat was another man's poison — a local publicity slogan used at Widnes tied for fifth place in the list of attractive slogans and for fourth place in the list of worst slogans. A particularly large total of votes for attractiveness and general effectiveness was given to the various slogans used at Bath, and one of them is illustrated here.

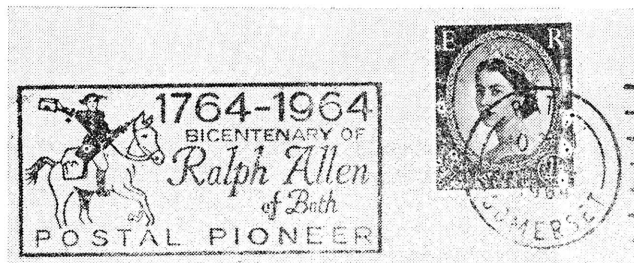


R MOBILE 16
3512

Mobile Post Office No 16

On 2 January, 1968, Durban acquired a third van, designated Mobile Post Office No. 16. It was equipped with a double-circle bilingual canceller, bearing the number 16, but apparently without registration cachet or labels, for at the present time the registration insignia is applied in manuscript, a mark authorised in 1882.

The circles of the canceller measure 27 and 18.5 m.m. respectively and the lettering, 2 m.m. in height, is of a thin and narrow type, resulting in a weak impression.



Many of those who took part in the survey remarked that continental slogans, especially French, were on the whole much better designed than British ones. It is a pity that ours must be amongst the least attractive and least effective in the world. But all the same there

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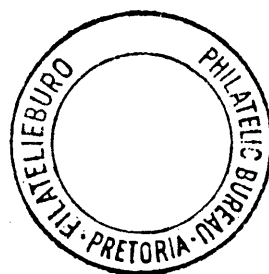
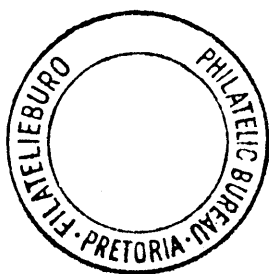
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Bestellings vir seëls moet geadresseer word aan die Filatelieburo, H.P.K., Pretoria, en moet vergesel gaan van poswissels, posorders of bankwissels, betaalbaar aan die Posmeester-generaal. Tjeks word nie aangeneem nie. Die bedrag moet voldoende wees om die pos- en registrasiegelde te dek.

Deposito-rekenings kan geopen word.

is a good deal of interest found in collecting and studying them, and here we are not overwhelmed by new issues as British collectors are — the latest British Postmark Society list covering a period of four months contains 48 new slogans.

Highest Post Office?

I am indebted to Mr. P. A. Donoghue, of Maseru, for a first-day specimen (20 III B 68) of the SANI TOP handstamp. This is a new postal agency in Lesotho, at the summit of the Sani Pass, 9400 feet above sea-level. Mr. Donoghue points out that this is the highest post office in Lesotho and wonders whether there are any higher ones in Southern Africa. Does anybody know?

The date-stamp is of the usual double-circle type, with diameters about 26 and 18 m.m. The name SANI TOP appears above, and LESOTHO below.

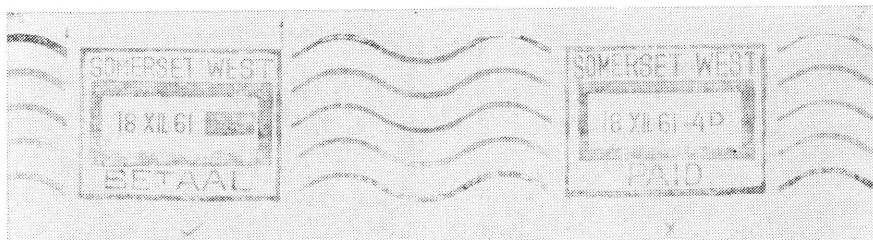
Central African Trade Fair

In these notes last July an account was given of the three postmark slogans which have been used at Bulawayo to advertise this Trade

Fair. The newest of the three — i.e. the one with the badge — has been used again at Bulawayo in March and April this year, and the oldest one — i.e. the one with the year "1960" chipped out — has been used at Belmont — Bulawayo. This is the first year I have seen a Trade Fair slogan used at Belmont, but I have no idea whether or not one has been used there previously.

A New Slogan

To Publicise the Soil Festival which reached its climax on April 6th, the slogan "Support the Soil Festival" was used at the usual nine towns. The earliest date of use I have seen is March 25th (Bloemfontein, Cape Town and Durban), and the latest is April 8th (Pietermaritzburg). The intention was evidently to use it until April 6th. My thanks are due to Mr. R. Jones of Bloemfontein for reporting this slogan. The English version comes first on specimens from Bloemfontein, Durban and East London; the Afrikaans wording comes first in Cape Town, Kimberley, Pietermaritzburg, Port Elizabeth and Pretoria specimens. Both arrangements were used at Johannesburg.



Other Matters

The Post Office seems to be finding it hard to make up its mind about Somerset West. From 1961 or earlier, the paid machine postmarks have had the name SOMERSET WEST on both the PAID and the BETAAL datestamps, so that evidently this form of the name has been regarded as correct in both languages. (The 1960 Post Office list gives the same impression; only WEST is shown, not WES). Likewise the ordinary machine cancellation had had WEST on both datestamps. On the morning of March 6th this year, however, a change was made to SOMERSET-WES on both datestamps, although early in May the Pairs were still as before. The story of the spelling in the 1950's is more complicated, and space is lacking for even

the very incomplete version I could write.

In July 1959, numbered datestamps were re-introduced at Johannesburg. Numbers 1, 3 and 4 were recorded then and 5 appeared later (See "S.A. Philatelist", July, 1964, page 131). There have been several datestamps, single and double circle, numbered 1, 3 and 4, but it seems that always the "1" has been used on the airmail machine. Occasionally there has been evidence of a second airmail machine, when an airmail letter has had an "A" postmark conspicuously different from the A's concurrently in use on surface mail. Now Johannesburg 2 has appeared, sharing the airmail work with Johannesburg 1. My first recording of this is 17.30 II-IV 1968, but the shape of the lettering strongly suggests that it was supplied along with the

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Johannesburg 5 datestamp, i.e. not later than 1962.

Second dies of the "Soil and Water are Precious" slogan have been brought into use at Durban, Johannesburg and Pretoria. Cape Town now has a fourth die of the "Get Home Safely" slogan.

REGISTRATION LABELS

Until a few years ago, South African registration labels looked so much like British ones that one imagines they were printed in England; then slightly narrower ones, with different styles of lettering began to replace the "English" ones, and these now predominate. No doubt they are printed in South Africa.

Rhodesian registration labels are evidently being printed here now too. A registered letter sent from the Philatelic Bureau in Salisbury on 26th April 1968 bore the first of these labels, evidently printed in South Africa, which I have seen, but of course they may have been in use for quite a long time. The office name is given in three lines on this label: PHILATELIC BUREAU SALISBURY.

REVIEW

THE ANGLO-BOER WAR 1899-1902

THE PHILATELY OF THE BOER AND BRITISH PRISONER OF WAR CAMPS

PUBLICATION No. 1

Published by The Anglo-Boer War Philatelic Society

Obtainable from Mr. N. Snowden, 7 Truro Avenue, Stetford, Northwich, England, Price 12/6 (approx. R1.10), Postage etc. 2/- extra (20c)

A great step has been taken by the Anglo-Boer War Philatelic Society, who have now published Part A of their revised version of Stephen G. Rich's well known book, "Philately of the Anglo-Boer War". Here indeed is a highly commendable piece of literature, a compilation of many hitherto unknown facts about a fascinating, if somewhat unorthodox War.

The patience of the Boer War collector has now been rewarded threefold by a publication which lists meticulously the history of the camps, the types of censor markings used, and illustrates with excellent drawings, all

known types of censor and other markings.

Since Stephen Rich published his wonderful record of the philately of this period in 1943, a wealth of material discovered by ardent collectors had not been listed, and often the collector has had to search diligently through numerous notes and scattered information to glean some knowledge of a particular item of interest.

This publication deals firstly with the Boer camps for British prisoners, then the British camps for the Boers, and finally the later Burgher and Refugee camps. It does not deal with the tremendous volume of Prisoner of War mail that exists from camps overseas. This will follow in a second section, and it is hoped that it will be published in the not-too-distant future. A helpful and interesting innovation appears in the form of footnotes of sources of reference throughout the text. Thoughtfully omitted are the lengthy suppositions and reasons for the War, and the pre-War history. From first page to last, the subject is the history and philately of the camps — the history is relevant, poignant and piquant (a fair amount is quoted from the contents of letters found in the envelopes of philatelic interest) and the scheduled information on the censor marks accurately tabulated for clear identification.

Each headed paragraph contains a remarkable history of the camps, Superintendents and clerks are mentioned by name, census figures are quoted with dates, and all are followed by a section — "Philately" and subsequent, relevant philatelic data. There are 80 pages, with 4 plates of handdrawn illustrations — the best I have seen yet — on the last 10 pages are check lists of censor marks and cachets. Nothing has been overlooked, no amount of erudite study has been spared, and no amount of praise can convey to the compilers of this publication how welcome this edition is going to prove. It is a must for the Anglo-Boer War philatelist. M.A.B.

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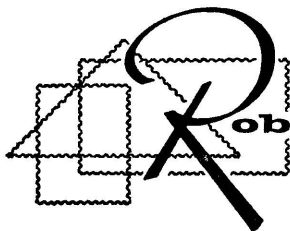
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GRIQUALAND WEST BARRED NUMERAL POSTMARKS

In the South African Philatelist of August 1967 I contributed a short note on the numeral "10" of the so-called diamond-shaped barred numeral cancellers.

At that stage Nos. 2, 4 and 7 remained unidentified, although Nos. 2 and 4 were known off cover, No. 7 not being recorded in any form so far.

Now my attention has been drawn to a cover which enables us to identify the location of the numeral "4" as BARKLY, in Griqualand West, in 1874. The cover in question was sold at a Robson Lowe Auction on 15th November, 1961, as Lot 320 and was most fortunately illustrated in the catalogue in question.

The description of the item is as follows:- "1874 (May 7th) cover from Barkly bearing Cape of Good Hope 1864 1/- (3) with two clear impressions of the "4" numeral in diamond — within — bars cancel and Barkly c.d.s. alongside . . .

The supporting illustration confirms without question the use of the numeral "4" so that the record may now safely be amended to include this identification of the eight numbers now identified six have now been shown to emanate from Griqualand West against two having been used in the Cape. The suggestion that this type of canceller was essentially for use in Griqualand West seems now to be supported by the evidence.

It may be of interest now to list these diamond shaped barred numerals and their known locations which are as follows:-

| | | |
|-------|--|------|
| No 1 | DE BEERS N.R. (N.R. — New Rush) 1873 KIMBER- LEY | 1873 |
| | (De Beers New Rush was re- named Kimberley 1873) | |
| No 2 | only known off cover | |
| No 3 | JUNCTION R. and M. | 1873 |
| No 4 | BARKLY (later renamed Barkly West) | 1874 |
| *No 5 | Somerset West | 1895 |
| No 6 | or 9 DU TOITS PAN | 1882 |
| | BEACONSFIELD | 1888 |
| | (Du Toits Pan was renamed Beaconsfield in 1883) | |
| No 7 | No example recorded | |
| No 8 | LANGFORD | 1882 |
| | DOUGLAS | 1893 |
| | (Langford Post Office abo- lished in 1883 with the open- ing of a post office at Douglas) | |
| No 9 | See note regarding No. 6 | |

No 10 THORNHILL

1890

*No 11 HOETJES BAY

1900

The dates shown are the earliest examples known to me.

* The numbers marked with an asterisk, 5 and 11, are the only two that were NOT used in Griqualand West.

Reference: The Postal History and Postmarks of Griqualand West by Rex Reynolds published in the Postal History Journal, July, 1966.

J. M. WEINSTEIN

COMMONWEALTH NOTES

By J. Woodgate

Antigua: A tourist set will be issued on the 1st July.

Ascension: 3 stamps for a human rights issue will appear on the 8th July. They will have a common design of chain links and the Human Rights flame symbol.

Australia: Certain of the definitives issued in 1966 will be replaced with a new series of floral emblems for various States. The values affected are 6c, 13c, 15c, 20c, 25c, 30c.

Bermuda: A set for the New Constitution will be issued on 1st July.

British Honduras: A 22c and a 50c stamp will be issued on 15th July as part of the International Human Rights Year.

Canada: A further stamp in the Canadian sports series will feature lacrosse. It is due on the 3rd July.

Fiji: The long-awaited new definitive set is now scheduled for the 15th July. The set will only go to £1 and not £2 as was originally expected. As Fiji did not devalue, the Fiji £ is equal to R1.80 or £1.08 Sterling. The face value of this set is therefore R4.68.

Malawi: 4 stamps depicting locomotives used in Malawi will be issued on 24th July, the values are 4d, 9d, 1/6 and 3/-.

New Zealand: The 22c stamp due earlier this year will not be issued. Instead, due to devaluation, a 28c definitive is due on the 30th July. This stamp will cover the rate for airmail postage from New Zealand to Europe.

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LETTERS TO THE EDITOR

THE SCARCEST OF ALL SOUTH
AFRICAN 'CRASH' COVERS?THE "PAARDEBERG" DISASTER
15/10/51

Dear Sir,

I refer to Mr. I. H. C. Godfrey's article under Airmail notes in the May 1968 issue.

I have in my possession a cover which was posted in S.W.A. franked with a vertical pair of SG 75, and postmarked: Keetmanshoop, 13 X A51. The cover is a printed reply envelope to a Chemist in Durban, by the name of A. H. Todd. The cover is hardly scorched, and is imprinted with a purple cachet: SALVAGED CRASHED PLANE 15/10/51.

Mr. Godfrey mentioned the cachet to read salvaged CRASH plane, whereas my cover says CRASHED: The cover is not backstamped in Durban.

I hope that this little piece of information will help to establish how many of these covers survived, as indeed I do also believe that they are very scarce indeed.

Yours sincerely,

H. W. Vlegthert.

★

Sir,

Page 101 of the magazine dated for May 1968 there appears an article by Mr. I. H. C. Godfrey under heading AIR MAIL NOTES re South African "Crash" Covers.

I was stationed at Eshowe and received a letter from Cape Town addressed as follows: Mnr. en Mev. E. J. M. Durr, p/a Magistraat, Eshowe, Natal. The stamp got lost in the rain.

The postmark is dated 13 Oct B 51. The name of the place of posting is eligible but a letter A appears. Space for the stamp is visible and the postmark is broken, that part on the stamp being missing.

The envelope is imprinted in purple ink "SALVAGED CRASH PLANE 15.10.51". The envelope I have was not backstamped. The writing shows that it was in the rain.

Now I notice it was posted at Gouda on 13th.

Yours sincerely,

E. J. M. Durr.

Dear Sir,

Paardeberg Disaster 15.10.51

With reference to the note on page 101 of the May, 1968, S.A. Philatelist, I do not know what two covers are referred to, but there are covers that I know of in the following collections:- D. Slater-Kinghorn (one cover) and Mr. Walker of Durban (one in "Phooye" collection).

I am uncertain regarding the following, but I have an idea the gentlemen stated also possess a cover:-

Mr. R. A. Escolme of Durban, Mr. A. Leon of Durban, Mr. G. Milner Palmer, Mr. J. M. Weinstein of Pretoria.

Yours faithfully,

D. Slater-Kinghorn.

★

Dear Sir,

I was interested to read of the "Salvaged Crash Cover" rubber stamp on page 101 of the May S.A. Philatelist. I have a cover with this, without any backstamp.

Yours sincerely,

David Allison.

★

Dear Sir,

Referring to Mr. Godfrey's comment about the Paardeberg Crash Cover of the 15 October, 1951, I have one of these covers housed in the Phooye Collection.

Yours sincerely,

J. G. Walker.

LOOPING THE LOOP

Dear Sir,

Tanding's notes in the May issue about the positioning of the castle on the 2½c air letter form have reference.

The castle in an upright position resembles an asbestos-clothed squat monster from outer space. Let's hope that it remains as it is. In any case, I do not think that the design (with built-in air liner) would meet heraldic conventions, nor was it intended to do so.

Yours faithfully,

I. G. Gouws.

AN APPRECIATION

Dear Sir,

My wife and I have just returned from our first (but not, we hope, our last) visit to your country; unfortunately we were only able to see a small part of South Africa.

I was greatly touched by the welcome given us by Philatelists in Cape Town, Durban and Port Elizabeth; some I had come to know over the years, through correspondence or visits to The Royal Philatelic Society, London — others I had not met before. But our common interest forged new bonds and I have made many new friends.

I was privileged to see collections of very high standard and was impressed by the knowledge and patient study which had helped to form these collections. Everywhere I met enthusiasm amongst collectors and this was most refreshing.

I cannot thank adequately all those who showed such kindness to my wife and me, but hope that this letter will, in a small way, show our appreciation.

Yours sincerely,

J. H. E. Gilbert, F.R.P.S.L.

MEMBERSHIP WAS RESTRICTED

In the early days of the Chicago Philatelic Society an applicant for membership had to prove that he owned a stamp collection before his application was considered.

Writing in "Western Stamp Collector" (U.S.) editor William Wylie says there was a good reason for this rule, which may seem strange to today's collectors.

At the time the society had its own club-rooms — a suite in a downtown office building which in that era was available at a quite modest rental. It was used for the club's meetings and every member had a key so he could drop in whenever he saw fit.

Eventually the society's leaders discovered the rooms were being used for gambling and other definitely non-philatelic purposes. Individuals were seeking membership, not because of any real interest in stamps or stamp collecting, but because they received clubroom privileges at a low cost. To keep those whose interest in the clubrooms was non-philatelic from outnumbering the collectors, the society began requiring all membership applicants to prove they possessed collections.

Mr. Wyle went on to make these comments:

"The rule was abandoned long ago, but now and then members of philatelic organisations wonder if possibly it wasn't essentially sound.

"In a good many philatelic organisations there's a feeling that too many of the members have merely an oral interest in stamps and stamp collecting.

"There's a lot of talk about stamps at the club's meetings, but a lot of the conversation has only indirect connection with stamps and stamp collecting.

"With a few exceptions, the only members who ever bring stamps to meetings are those who want to make sales.

"Only a handful of the members even enter exhibitions or show their collections at club meetings.

"When a club arranges a 'Favorite Stamp' programme and asks everyone to bring some stamp or cover and explain why it has a special appeal to him, relatively few of the members participate and a good many of those who do talk about some stamp which has appeared in recent months.

"A good friend writes that he seldom goes to meetings of his local club and more because most of those he meets there are individuals he describes as stampless stamp collectors."

Acknowledgement "Stamp News"



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MOEG VIR DIE STORTVLOED MODERNE KLEURPLAATJIES?

**Hoekom dan nie posgeskiedenis-stukke
versamel nie?**

Met al die onsekerheid wat die wêreld deesdae teister het die finansiers en kapitaliste vertrouwe in geld verloor. Goud en diamante is ook nie meer veilig nie. Die gevolg is dat hulle al hoe meer seëlwaarts keer. Vir die posseëlversamelaar het dit ongelukkige en onuithoudbare gevolge meegebring.

Net waar jy gaan kry jy hulle of hulle agente waar hulle die wêreld se seëlbeurse en -veulings oorheers. In hulle ywer om hulle geld veilig en vry van al die belastings te belê, jaag hulle mekaar op — vertrap hulle eintlik die opregte seëlversamelaar — met die gevolg dat die deursneë versamelaar nie meer die minste hoop het om 'n redelik goeie versameling van ou en klassieke seëls naastenby volledig te kry nie. Hy word dan teen wil en dank gedwing om hom by die meer moderne seëluitreikings te hou.

Maar, helaas, ook op dié gebied word hy in die wiele gery deur die parasitiese groeiers wat die hedendaagse seëluitreikers oral in sy veld plant. Net waar hy gaan of draai word hy toegegooi onder 'n stortvloed kleurvolle plaatjies wat nie vir posdoeleindes uitgegee word nie maar net om die skatkoffers te vul, en dít ten koste van die onskuldige en niksvermoedende seëlversamelaar.

Êrens tussen dié twee uiterstes moet die versamelaar vir hom 'n aanvaarbare middeweg vind. Tou opgooi wil hy tog mos nie. Nou wat staan hom dan te doen?

Nou ja, wat dan? Wat van 'n studie-versamelingsposgeskiedenis, posstempels, krygsfilatelie of iets dergelyks? Weliswaar lyk

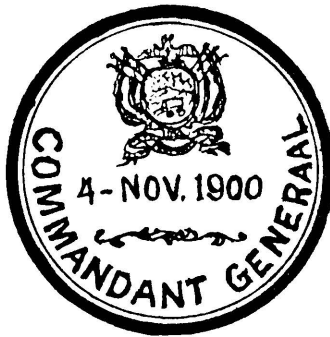
so 'n versameling uit die aard van die saak nie so netjies en mooi soos 'n versameling van posseëls nie maar dit verryk die versamelaar se kennis en gee hom baie plesier en voldoening.

Uit eie bodem kan 'n versameling Suid-Afrikaanse posmerke saamgestel word. Daar is reeds 'n aantal versamelaars wat hulle hierop toelê en 'n nuttige handleiding is beskikbaar. (Kyk na die advertensie „Union of South Africa. South African Postmarks”, elders in hierdie tydskrif). As u lus het om dieper in hierdie veld te waag, kan u nie beter as 'n versameling oor die filatelie uit die Tweede Vryheidsoorlog nie. Trouens, hierdie is 'n baie gewilde onderwerp met aanhangers in haas elke wêrelddeel. In Engeland is daar 'n baie sterk en aktiewe vereniging „The Anglo-Boer War Philatelic Society”. Dié vereniging het pas 'n baie oulike en leer-same handleiding die lig laat sien. (Dit slaan ons dronk dat ons mense vir die buiteland moes wag om ons te sê wat op eie werf plaasgevind het). Hoe dit sy, die werkie kos 'n nietige „veertien-en-ses”, bestaan uit 80 bladsye met 57 afbeeldings van al die bekende Vryheidsoorlog-, sensor- en -kampstempels. Dit is verkrygbaar van die vereniging regstreeks of van C. E. Sherwood wat gereeld in die South African Philatelist adverteer.

Hier volg 'n inleidende grepie uit genoemde boekie:

Gevangene wat die Boere aan die begin van die oorlog gencem het is na Pretoria geneem waar die manskappe op die Renbaan gehuisves is en die offisiere en hulle lyfwagte in die „Staats Model School”.

Afgebeeld is die handstempel wat onder andere vir waarmerking van passe gebruik is. Hoewel die stempel nie so aandui nie, is



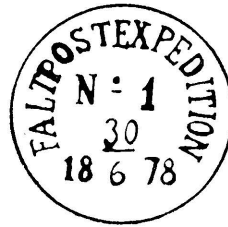
dit tog vir sensordoeleindes gebruik. Daarentrent is nie die minste twyfel nie want daar is baie koeverte wat die afstempeling dra. Die Staats Model School was geleë op die perseel op die hoek van Van der Walt- en Skinnerstraat. 'n Rukkie na die oorlog is dit as die „Central Junior High School” gebruik.

Iedere land het 'n posgeskiedenis en haas elke land het 'n oorlog beleef of aan een of meer deelgeneem. Neem maar byvoorbeeld Suid-Afrika: Frankryk, Duitswes- en Duits-oos-Afrika in die Eerste Wêreldoorlog en Midde Ooste, Italië en elders in die Tweede Wêreldoorlog, sowel as in Korea daarna. Die veld is dus onsaglik om van te kies. Poststukke om posgeskiedenis of krygsdeelname uit te beeld bestaan. Hulle moet maar net gesoek word.

Hieronder is 'n voorbeeld van een wat aandui dat die Springbokke in die Tweede Wêreldoorlog in Egipte diens gedoen het:



Toe die Sweedse Magte in die jaar 1705 in die Ou Duitsland militêr moes optree is die Sweedse Veldpos gebore. Hulle het egter nie voor 29 Junie 1871 'n spesiale posstempel gebruik nie. 'n Afbeelding van dié stempel met datum 18.6.78 verskyn hieronder. In die jongste tyd doen 'n Sweedse bataljon diens net waar die magte van die V.V.O. te vind is. Een van die stempels word ook hier gewys:



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SILINDERBLOKKE.

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CENTENARY OF THE DEATH OF EMPEROR THEODORE OF ETHIOPEA (1868—1968) (April 18, 1968)

by Capt. M. F. Stern, F.R.G.S., F.R.P.S.L.

On April 18 1968 three stamps were issued: 10c, depicting portrait of Emperor Theodore; 20c, portrait of the Emperor with lions; 50c, Crown of the Emperor. Emperor Theodore reigned over the Empire of Ethiopea from 1855 until 1868. April 22, 1968 marks the centenary of his death. In 1818 a son was born to Dejazmatch Haile Miriam of Quarra. He was named Kassa. He was sent to a clergy school and acquired a keen interest for learning and applied himself to the study of Amharic, Geez, literature and theology. His childhood and adolescence were spent in an often harsh environment of struggle. This was the era of the Grand Lords when authority in Ethiopea was split among the Lords of the four main regions of Gondar, Gojjam, Tigre and Shoa with each Lord vying for the other's power. Kassa's environment instilled in him the desire to bring unity and harmony to Ethiopea. As Kassa became attuned to political realities, he began to consolidate his military and political power. This led to clashes with the Lords but in the end Kassa emerged the successful unifier of Ethiopea and on February 7, 1855 Kassa was appointed Theodore Emperor of Ethiopea. His was not a peaceful reign. Almost immediately after taking the throne, Theodore found his Empire faced with external threats and pressures. Activities of some foreign missionaries and consular representatives within Ethiopea, forced Theodore to take certain measures which eventually brought him into conflict with Great Britain. This conflict ultimately resulted in an armed confrontation between the British Army and Theodore's forces at Magdala, Theodore's high mountain fortress located in the northeastern part of Ethiopea. A fierce battle ensued with Theodore realizing that the defeat of his army, fighting without the benefit of modern weapons, was inevitable. On Easter Monday 1868 Theodore dismissed his followers and retired to Magdala. It was there Theodore chose to take his own life rather than allow himself, an Emperor, to be captured or killed by foreign hands. He is a national symbol of Ethiopian unity, pride, unique heroism, courage and national dignity.

A NEW SUSCRIBER HELPS THE S.A.P.
ON ITS WAY. KEEP IT UP!

ORANGE FREE STATE

Occupation Issues — a side line of war!

by Gladys Driver

Bloemfontein was entered and occupied by Lord Roberts and his army on the 13th March, 1900. The following day, the Post and Telegraph offices were in the possession of the army: this proclamation was issued three days later:

"Whereas it is deemed necessary for the welfare of the Orange Free State that Postal and Telegraph Services shall be resumed in the aforesaid Republic, as far as circumstances permit, NOW THEREFORE I, FREDERICK SLIEGH BARON ROBERTS OF KANDAHAR, K.P., G.C.B., G.C.S.I., G.C.I.E., V.C., Field Marshall and Commanding-in-Chief of the British Forces in South Africa, do hereby nominate and appoint David George Anosi Flack, Administrator of the Civil Posts and Telegraphs in such portions of the Orange Free State as have been, or may hereafter be occupied by the British troops. And I do hereby order that the Postal and Telegraph services shall be resumed in the portions of the aforesaid Republic already referred to, from the nineteenth day of March, 1900, under the existing Laws and Conventions of the Orange Free State, subject to such alterations as may from time to time be notified.

Given under my hand at Bloemfontein this Seventeenth Day of March, 1900.

GOD SAVE THE QUEEN.

ROBERTS,

FIELD-MARSHALL,

Commanding-in-Chief British Forces,
South Africa."

The Postmaster-General issued a notice that Orange Free State stamps were no longer valid for postal purposes and the work of surcharging the stamps was carried out by a printer in Bloemfontein. The surcharging of these stamps started a rage throughout the occupying army. Advertisements in "The Friend" the official army newspaper, offered Kruger sovereigns and Transvaal pennies for sale, but none of the postage stamps of the former Free State, or the newly surcharged issues in use by the army. Though the Transvaal pennies fetched twenty-five shillings and were in great demand, the real enthusiasm of collectors was for postage stamps. Officers, as well as other ranks, were busy buying stamps and having them erased to make them more valuable. A contributor to the newspaper stated that war

trophies, as such, were few and hard to get. It seems that the energy of collectors was expended upon the acquisition of new and old postage stamps. Generals, Colonels and Tommies busied themselves in the craze. The writer stated that a well-known London man cleared a profit of £300, whilst still reserving a handsome collection for himself.

The army newspaper dated April 11, 1900 carried an amusing article by a man just back in Bloemfontein from a run to the Cape. He found the Market Square, the club, the hotels and street corners grouped with people intensely interested in the discussion of some all-important subject. The writer went on to say:

"The only intelligible word which I could detect was 'Dot'. I passed on to a second group where the same 'dot' arrested my attention; then to a third, which was also 'dotty', until I helplessly wandered about on the verge of 'dottiness' myself. Finally, blind to all danger, I plunged into a group of 'dotters', grasped one of them by the arm, and in reply to my appeals heard him hiss, 'Surcharged stamps you fool, misprinted, **without dots**'. Then I understood, and soon learned the subtle differences which add to, or subtract value from the surcharged Free State stamps. Finally I became the proud possessor of a 'dotless' one myself, and became hopelessly 'dotty'. To the end of my days I will always realise that affairs of State, literature, art, even money, are secondary to the importance of obtaining 'the entire set', especially if they are from 'the bottom row' and 'dotless'. This mania has taken possession of the whole army.

"From Tommy to General, the last biscuit, or a drink of whisky, or a pass to be out after 8 p.m. can be extracted by producing a 'dotless' stamp. Kruger could end this cruel war by simply sending out a dozen men mounted on swift horses, wearing white coats with the entire set pasted on the back. These scouts should ride in close to our lines and then turn round showing their backs. The moment the army saw the sets, they would make a rush and the scouts would ride fast in different directions, by nightfall the Imperial Forces would be hopelessly scattered and lost in the boundless veldt. Kruger's scouts would be perfectly safe, for no one would dare to raise a rifle in their direction. Such an act might bring down a set; but imagine if you can the fate of the miscreant if one 'dotless' stamp should be punctured or if — horrible thought — a chance scattering of lead should dot some of the precious bits of paper."

The writer having enquired about these stamps, found Major O'Meara seated in a small room at the National Bank, sorting out

from a huge collection the stamps which were to be surcharged. Watching the Major, who with wonderful skill and discrimination picked out bits of paper which were obsolete and which accidental surcharging would have made of untold value, and set the whole world of collectors into a hysteria of speculation. The writer stated: "the last stage of dotlessphobia had fastened itself on me, I have abandoned myself to full indulgence."

Few fortunes could have been made out of these stamps; the philatelic magazines after the war, carried advertisements like the following:

"Having returned from South Africa with a large stock of Transvaal, O.R.C. and other South Africans. Will be glad to hear from Collectors interested in these stamps. They are in fine condition and priced (with few exceptions) at half Gibbons or less.

J. S. Roe, Halesworth, Suffolk."

Another Suffolk Volunteer spent much of his service pay on buying South African stamps. After returning to England he compiled a diary made up of extracts from his letters to his mother. The extracts below refer to the forces mail and to his philatelic investments.

"Feb. 8th, 1900. A postcard from Brury St. Edmunds; we sail for South Africa next Sunday aboard the 'Doune Castle' from Southampton."

"March 7th. I am writing this to catch the mail steamer 'Scot' which leaves this evening."

"March 17th. We are anxiously awaiting the mail bag, we have not had any letters since leaving England. Oh! for news of home."

"March 26th. It is very disappointing to find everybody gets a letter except yourself, every time the mail comes in. You have no idea what a letter from home means out here. You should find out when the mail leaves England and post accordingly."

"April 9th. (Beaufort West) Since writing last week, a mail steamer has been sunk and several mail bags were lost. I hope my letters have not met with a watery grave."

"April 28th. Here is a list of what I am sending packed in a cigar box, and sent by the same mail as this letter:

Queen's chocolate box, presented outside Ladysmith.

Piece of Boer shell, picked up in Ladysmith. 14 photos taken here, also the bill (a curio in itself).

A Bottle of rubies, from Barkly West. 2 Locusts, Mimosa thorns, Boer stamps, Kruger penny, shillings, and halfcrown. Local paper, and other odd items.

I hope you will get them safely. I have paid the postage this end."

"May 9th. Save all the postage stamps as they are surcharged with V.R.I. and are curios in themselves."

"July 31st. We received three weeks mail. Previous to this mail we had not received any letters or papers since leaving Roodeval on May 27th. You can imagine how welcome the mail was this time."

"July 31st. The Regimental postman is now stationed here, so I shall now get my letters from him, as I have asked him to keep mine back. The rest of course go to the Regiment."

"Oct. 4th. Our postman is now sorting out our letters, I must finish this to catch the mail. Your letter, if any, I shall get within an hour from now."

"Oct. 4th. Our postman has gone to Bloemfontein again and although the letters are in we cannot get them until his return tomorrow."

"Dec. 22nd. I received five letters yesterday, the first read was yours. Hang! the pencil, I cannot use it any longer, I have run out of ink and it is fearfully hot and dusty. Can you notice where the sand scratches the pencil as I write? I hope you got my registered letter, in it are the following:

A complete set of South African stamps, Three Kruger sixpences, A railway ticket, from a place named, Herinnering-briefji (you may call it what you like) I gave it up with the tickets."

"April 9th, 1901. On the way home! we were marched straight on to the transport vessel. It is named the 'Tagus'."

"April 29th. Steamed into Southampton Docks."

In 1929, this Volunteer wrote in his diary: "I bought a lot of South African stamps with my spare cash and expected to make quite a lot out of them as time went on. I was disillusioned after thirty years. I took them to Whitfield King's and they offered me face value for them, saying so many men had done the same thing that the market was glutted with them — I brought them away with me."

Acknowledgement "The Stamp Lover"

A PLEA FOR TOLERANCE

By J. Ryan

The increasing number of new issues, many from small and obscure states, has led to a flood of protests in the pages of the philatelic press and has culminated recently in the decision of Stanley Gibbons to banish certain of these issues to the comparative obscurity

of the Appendix to their catalogues.

The theme of most objectors has been that this new material can only harm philately, by cheapening and debasing it, and that dealers and publishers ought to join with collectors in fighting against it and in following the lead given by a firm of Gibbons' standing. A look at the realities of the situation, however, shows that this is not going to be such an easy task as might first be supposed.

Governments have found that postage stamps offer a splendid and easily-exploited method of propaganda and profit, and it is very unlikely that they will be prepared to sacrifice these advantages willingly. However desirable it might be to turn back the clock, such a course is impossible; a glance at the change in the policy of British commemorative issues in the last 10 years and the recent spate of omnibus issues of the Commonwealth is enough to illustrate this. The question is not whether we can prevent these issues, but whether we can learn to live with them.

Consider the three main groups concerned in stamp collecting: the governments which issue the stamps, the dealers who sell them and the people who collect them. The influence that collectors have on governments is limited, although it must exist as we hear of countries that have "reformed" their philatelic habits. Unfortunately, the tendency of the newly-emerging states of Africa and Asia is to fragmentate rather than amalgamate, and it does seem likely that the number of countries mending their ways will be easily outpaced by newcomers jumping on the bandwagon. As for dealers, the effectiveness of the action of Stanley Gibbons remains to be proved, and again it can only apply to a tiny proportion of the objectionable issues involved. The idea of philatelic agencies is deplorable, but providing that the stamps are freely available for sale in the states involved, there is very little that can be done about it. In any case, most people will agree that there is something faintly ridiculous about a country being promoted or demoted from Appendix to Catalogue according to its current behaviour.

One important fact must always be remembered: dealers are in business to make money and not to uphold other people's moral standards, and they must make money to survive. Stamp collecting is lucky to have a very great number of small firms operated in people's leisure hours from home addresses, where both profit margins and profits can be small. The larger organisations, however, must be run on strictly commercial lines, they must make profits, and big ones, if they are to

continue to exist. Under these circumstances, it is unfair and unrealistic to try to impose restrictions on them as to what they may or may not advertise, or may or may not sell.

Similarly, with the philatelic press it is useless to expect a magazine to refuse advertisements relating to a certain country because one does not approve of that country's policy. A magazine exists partly on the revenue from advertisements, and it is, after all, a fact that we still have freedom of choice. I would rather choose from a large number of dealers and if I think that some are offering unsatisfactory material I will not buy from them. I would rather have a fine, fat copy of a magazine and those advertisements which do not interest me, or which offend me, I will ignore.

A reason often advanced for the banning of much suspect material is that the lower values tend to be sold in packet form to junior collectors who cannot be expected to realise what they are buying. Here again, I think the dangers have been over-emphasised. It is most important for children to be taught to refuse thinned, damaged or heavily-postmarked stamps, and any adult who gives a child such material, and any firm incorporating it in their approval sheets, is doing a great disservice.

As to what children collect, this is not so important. By the time the junior collectors have reached their teens they tend to lose interest in the gaudier productions of various small states and sheikhdoms, and as for younger children, they do not look upon their stamp collecting in the same light as adults. (Perhaps that is why they get so much pure pleasure out of it!) They are often perfectly happy to collect stamps for their colour, shape and design and not for any other reason.

It is very easy to apply adult standards to children, but each age brings its own delights and a boy might very well be happy to collect stamps depicting footballers, athletes or scouts without being in the least concerned about their postal validity. It is not even necessary, as some people insist, that they should realise the nature of the stamps in their collections.

An old album of mine which I used as a schoolboy still contains a set of Mongolian pictorials which Gibbons steadfastly refuse to include in their catalogue. Looking at them now, diamond-shaped, mounted so carefully with the pieces of gummed brown paper which were common during World War II, I have no feeling of being cheated, but only the recollection of the pleasure which their acquisition gave me. And after all, most of us still collect stamps for pleasure.

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WHOLESALE!! Mint stamps of Thailand. L. W. Ding, Thasala, Nakornsrihammaraj, Thailand, Far East.

SWITZERLAND: Collections, lots, rarities. Cash buyer — Bollier, P.O. Box 395, CH-8039 Zurich, Switzerland.

COMMONWEALTH FIRST DAY COVERS and stamps sent on approval. Bok Philatelists, Box 3321, Cape Town.

SHIPS — MERCHANT AND MILITARY: I have rare cancellations and covers with postmarks of the whole world. Dr. Zappalà, Via Colle del Pino, 95126 Catania, Italy.

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GENESIS of the British South Africa Company's Postage Stamps and Postal Services, by V. F. Ellenberger, as supplied as a supplement to the S.A. Philatelist, June, 1967. A limited number of extra copies available at 20c, post free. Business Manager, S.A. Philatelist, P.O. Box 375, Johannesburg.

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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, U.K.

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WANTS, OFFERS & EXCHANGE

(Continued)

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Stamp collecting is a thriving, bustling, exciting activity and, more particularly, an expanding industry — look at a copy of any philatelic journal of 10 years ago and you will easily see this.

There is plenty to interest everyone, and as far as undesirable issues are concerned, let us have not instructions but more information. Let us know which stamps are not readily available at post offices, tell us which countries are philatelically controlled by an agency, but having done that, please let us make the choice ourselves.

Acknowledgement "Stamp Collecting"

GIBBONS SHARES OVERSUBSCRIBED

S. G. Warburg & Co. Ltd. announce that the offer for Sale by Tender of 950,000 Ordinary Shares of 5/- each of Stanley Gibbons Limited was heavily oversubscribed. The striking price has been fixed at 20/- per share; at this price and above 2,006 valid applications were received in respect of 4,891,400 shares. In addition applications from employees at the minimum price of 12/6d. per share were received and accepted for a total of 65,100 shares.

Letters of Acceptance and Regret were posted on Thursday, April 11th, 1968, and dealings on the London Stock Exchange started on Tuesday, April 16th, 1968.

"Philatelic Trader"

**THE BRITISH NORTH AMERICA
SALE**

The sale conducted by Messrs. H. R. Harmer, Inc., New York during May, 1968, realised over a quarter of a million dollars.

In addition to a wide group of collectors and dealers from the United States there were many visitors from outside including one from Italy, three from England, and three from Canada. Mail bidders were even more world-wide, the auctioneers reporting bids having been received from twenty-one countries.

POLYVINYL ALCOHOL GUM (P.V.A.)

The new P.V.A. gum, the adhesive presently being used, is so invisible normally, that a small mount of pale yellowish matter is added to make it possible to see that the stamps have been gummed.

SOCIETY NEWS

EAST LONDON PHILATELIC SOCIETY

April: We had an attendance of 35 members and visitors at this meeting, and, in line with our new policy, it was an "instructional evening". Mr. John Shingler, President of Federation, with the use of pages of New Zealand stamps mounted by Mr. Gavin Knott, gave a talk on the mounting and display of stamps. This proved very instructional and helpful to our new members and the juniors, and, I am sure, all of us gained some benefit from it, particularly from the half-hour of free discussion which followed.

May: Our May meeting, held a week earlier due to a conference to be held at the museum during the next week, was very poorly attended, and what a philatelic treat the absentees missed. Charles King's excellent talk on the stamps of the Orange Free State was, I am sure, appreciated and enjoyed by all present, and some little known facts about these fascinating stamps were given us. This talk, coupled with a display by Dr. Drusinsky of most of the stamps spoken about, was the highlight of the evening.

The auction was small but brisk, and some good prices were realised, particularly for "ELPEX" items. We are "crawling" towards our target figure, and the entries are rolling in, so it looks as though we are set for a bumper show.

THE ROYAL PHILATELIC SOCIETY OF RHODESIA

April: On Sunday 17th March a party of Society members travelled to Gwelo as guests of the Midlands Stamp Club and a most enjoyable afternoon was spent in viewing exhibits and discussions. Thank you Midlands for that perfect day.

It was never thought that our present rendezvous would look like bursting at the seams, but with a record attendance of 56 visitors and members at the Monthly Meeting of April 3rd our newly elected Chairman, Mr. W. H. Turnbull, began to develop a worried look.

Mrs. M. Strong, a newly elected member, put on an outstanding display of fourty sheets of "Birds on Stamps" classified into ornithological order.

MATAPEX

An exhibition of Rhodesian stamps is to be held in the Small City Hall during 4th — 6th November. This will be staged during the City of Bulawayo celebrations being held to commemorate the 75th Anniversary of the Occupation of Matabeleland.

The theme of the exhibition would be all stages of Rhodesian History as depicted on its stamps.

Three special stamps will be issued and a special stamp cancellation has been approved.

THE MASHONALAND PHILATELIC SOCIETY

March: The meeting was the 28th Annual General Meeting of the Society attended by some 57 members and 17 visitors.

The office bearers submitted their reports which were duly adopted and the following were elected for the coming year:

Chairman: Mr. R. K. Brooke; Hon. Treasurer and Exchange Superintendent: Mr. J. Davenport; Hon. Auditor: Mr. Wimbush; Committee Members: Mrs. J. Duncombe, Mrs. R. Ellison, Messrs. Peinkie, Webb, Walters and Rudman.

No Secretary was elected, but, after gentle persuasion Mr. Brooke volunteered his services for the coming year.

April: Considerable interest was shown by all members in the very fine collection of Cape stamps displayed by Mr. D. T. Carter. Particularly interesting were the Cape Triangulars, the Good Hope Overprints and the Mafeking Siege Stamps. We congratulate Mr. Carter on his presentation and record our appreciation to him for making this fascinating display available to us.

WORLD PLOUGHING ISSUE

A heavy demand for the World Ploughing Issue was experienced at all Post Offices on the morning of 26th April and many had sold their entire stock by noon. Although it was rumoured that a reprint would be made the P.M.G. has since stated that this is not so. Therefore the numbers sold are as quoted in our February Newsletter.

Rhodesia Medical Congress: to be held at the Technical Training College, Bulawayo, from the 19th — 25th August 1968. No special stamps will be issued for this event.

Matabeleland 75th Anniversary Philatelic Exhibition: to be staged by the Royal Philatelic Society of Rhodesia in the City Hall, Bulawayo from the 4th — 6th November 1968. Stamps to celebrate the 75th Anniversary of Matabeleland will be issued on 4th November 1968. "Matapex" impressions will be available only from the City Hall Post Office in Bulawayo.

BELLVILLE PHILATELIC SOCIETY

April: At a successful meeting last month, we were most fortunate in obtaining Mrs. Coe as our Guest-Exhibitor, and she showed and talked on her magnificent collection of "Horses on Stamps". This exhibit had won the A.T.A. Award at the Paarl National Exhibition in 1965. Mrs. Coe traced the ancestry of the Horse, dealt with the War Horse, the Horse as a Beast of Burden, the Horse in Sport, etc., and her stamps illustrated the various Horses and their activities. The exhibit was greatly admired by all ensured an evening full of interest.

For some time it has been felt that the Society should have its own Philatelic Library. Nothing positive has been done in this connection, however, and we were most pleasantly surprised recently to receive a letter from a lady, who wishes to remain anonymous, offering to the Society the "South-African Philatelist" for the last few years, as well as other books

of Philatelic interest. The offer was gratefully accepted, and will form the nucleus of our Philatelic Library. Any further contributions will be most welcome.

PORT ELIZABETH PHILATELIC SOCIETY

2nd April: Mr. A. Leslie Leon of Durban is being most sincerely thanked for sending us his lovely collection of the stamps of The Gambia. It was introduced by Mr. T. J. Strachan on his behalf by the reading of a very lucid and clear paper on the salient features of these interesting stamps. Supported by this knowledge it was easier to appreciate the well laid out sheets on display and not miss such gems as the Malformed S of Postage in 1898 issue or the split A in Postage of the 1912 set or the double surcharge on the 3/- stamp of 1906. Besides the early "Cameos" we admired Die Proofs and Specimens and a very fine range of Airmail Covers across the Atlantic from Dakar and Bathurst to South America. An enjoyable evening concluded with an auction.

16th April: Mr. E. Nagel preceded his exhibit of Cape triangulars with a most interesting and informative talk on their history and printing. The exhibit itself, which was first class, included several pairs and blocks of 4, many stamps having wide margins.

Included in the exhibit were a number of woodblocks, a very nice block of four of the 1/- of the 1863 issue and an interesting cover carried from Grahamstown to King Williams Town in 1855.

A lively auction concluded the evening.

7th May: The main exhibit at the meeting was the Netherlands and Netherlands Indies, by Mr. L. Lasarow. In his introduction Mr. Lasarow explained that this was a new collection, still very much in the course of formation and that there were unavoidable gaps. The display was well received and members who are reluctant to exhibit because their collections are not sufficiently complete, could take courage from Mr. Lasarow's example.

An interesting auction was followed by a discussion on the question "If one cannot afford to buy a complete set of stamps is it advisable to get the most expensive values or to get the lower values and hope to be able to afford the higher values later?" The question was discussed by Mr. G. Bülbring and thereafter comments from the floor were invited.

ORANGE FREE STATE STUDY CIRCLE

The first meeting of the year was held on 30 March in the Board Room of the Alliance Assurance Co. Ltd, at 88 St. James's Street, London, S.W. 1. Further studies were made of the 1d on 5s Provisional of 1881, the Revenue issues and the R.D.M. officials.

The first part of the O.F.S. Handbook was published earlier in the year and is available at 66s (or equivalent) post free from B. H. Poyner of 76 Second Cross Road, Twickenham, Middlesex. The publication has received excellent reviews and a Silver Gilt Award at STAMPEX 1968.

SOCIETY OF ISRAEL PHILATELY

April: This meeting was exceptionally well attended no doubt to do honour to Mrs. Colman who displayed her collection of Judaica and read a paper — copy of which is attached. Mr. Leo Buchen in suitably thanking Mrs. Colman pointed out the excellence of the display, the manner of the write up and drew particular attention to the considerable improvement to when a large portion of this same collection was seen several years ago. This improvement did not only apply to quality and quantity but to the actual write up and mounting of the items.

Mr. I. A. Miller gave the usual stamp news and displayed some of the latest items. The meeting closed with a small auction.

1968 COLOUR SLIDE COMPETITION

The South African Zionist Federation is holding another competition for which the closing date will be the 31st August 1968 and the theme "Israel 1968". Only colour slides since June of last year will be acceptable. Further particulars are obtainable from Mr. I. A. Miller.

May: Our Vice-Chairman, Mr. Max Stanger, was very suitably complimented on a fine display entitled "Cornering the Market" which showed a collection of Plate Blocks from approximately 1949 to date. The collection was practically complete and showed various shades. Whilst I personally enjoyed viewing the collection, I must admit that I am not particularly enamoured with ready printed album sheets and prefer hand work no matter how poor.

Various new issues and latest news were submitted by me.

PHILATELIC SOCIETY OF JOHANNESBURG

April: The first meeting began with a talk on "Thematic Collecting" by Mrs. Wedderburn-Maxwell, very well illustrated by Mr. Boss's "Birds", Mr. Hartman's "Red Cross" and Dr. Wulfohn's "Doctors". In thanking Mrs. Wedderburn-Maxwell Dr. MacNae expressed some of his views on the subject, and stressed the difficulty in obtaining material. The exhibit of the evening was also by a thematic collector, Mrs. Koralek, who showed us her collection of Madonnas. The Society has seen this collection before, but it has increased enormously and Mrs. Koralek must have put in some hard work to bring it to this degree of completion.

At the second meeting of the month we were privileged to have as our guest speaker Commander Collins, who was on a short visit to this country. He spoke about the stamp market in England, of how the British public are investing money in silver or stamps without knowing much about what they are doing, making it difficult for the collector to obtain material. He feels there will be enormous rises in the 1969 Gibbon's Catalogue, partly to compensate for devaluation and partly because of demand. He advised members, when buying on overseas auctions and unable to see what they were buying, to avail themselves of an official

buyer who will examine material and buy on their instructions.

At this meeting there were two outstanding exhibits: Mr. Economides showed his U.S.A. from 1901 — 1935 and Mr. Leon, unable to be present, sent up his collection of Natal. Both exhibits were preceded by a paper. Commander Collins proposed the vote of thanks to both exhibitors, and answered a few questions put to him by members.

ROYAL PHILATELIC SOCIETY OF CAPE TOWN

April 11th: Mr. C. B. Rowe tabled New Zealand "Pictorial Issues" mint. This Exhibit consisted of the first three of these issues, with particular emphasis on the perforation and watermark varieties. The King George VI period was covered by a very fine showing of plate block material.

After the interval Mr. Slater-Kinghorn's guest exhibit of "Great Britain" Prestamps and Line engraved" was tabled. In the absence of any paper Mr. A. G. Versino at very short notice spoke on the collection.

Through a very fine range of prestamp material Bishop marks etc. to the Penny Black which the speaker described as the "Most Beautiful and finest stamp ever issued". Penny Blacks there were along with the 2d Blues to the embossed issue. Many fine pieces, cancellations, covers and plate material.

April 25th: KAGANSON CUP (THEMATIC)

The Competition this year attracted four entries:

Mrs. V. R. Coe — "Birds"; Mrs. H. Jeidel — "Judaica"; Miss. S. B. L. Savidge — "Ships"; J. Wannerton — "Kruger National Park".

By popular vote of members present the award this year went to the collection of "Kruger National Park".

The second half of the evening was given over to Mr. R. F. Putzel's collection of "Lighter than Air" craft, Balloons to Airships. From the 1870 Paris Siege, the 1896 Berlin Trade Exhibition, to the early efforts of the French and later German achievements in this field. A comprehensive exhibit which had virtually everything.

AFRIKAANSE FILATELISTE- VERENIGING JOHANNESBURG

Op 4 Mei is die jaarvergadering gehou, wat deur 33 lede en 3 besoekers bygewoon is. Die aftredende voorsitter, mnr. Vermaak, het dit tot 'n gebeurtenis gemaak, deur 'n toespraak te lewer wat nie sal nalaat om sy spore te druk op verenigingsake in die toekoms nie.

Uit die verskillende jaarverslae het geblyk dat die finansiële posisie gesond is en dat die totaal aantal lede gestyg het van 187 tot 259 in die afgelope jaar.

Die jaarlikse pryse is toegeken aan:

Mnr. Kramer van Pretoria vir sy langdurige dienste as streekbeampte vir die rondsenddiens; die Schubart-gedenktoekenning. Aan dr. Schiff van Pretoria vir sy uitstekende versameling Japan: die A.F.V. Ere-toekenning. Mnr. Kuipers van Johannesburg vir sy bydraes in die Nuusbrief wat gehandel het oor sy versameling

„Maskrs": die Skrywerssertifikaat. Dieselfde sertifikaat het gegaan na mnr. Vermaak van Florida vir 'n stroom van interessante bydraes. Die VEKA-wisseltrofee is gewen deur mnr. Singels van die "Fish Hoek Phil. Soc.", vir sy mooi versameling Nederland, terwyl beoordeelaarssertifikate uitgereik is aan mnr. Burrell, Sharpe en Yelland, vir die beoordeling van die insendings om die VEKA-wisseltrofee.

Die bestuur is as volg saamgestel: Voorsitter: J. Busser; Eere-sekretaris: E. Thamm; Penningmeester: W. N. de Jongh; Rondsendbeheerbeampte: A. J. Bakker; Redakteur Nuusbrief/Newsletter: J. Busser; Reklamebeampte: S. J. Vermaak; Afslaer: M. V. Mioch; Jeugleier: S. J. Vermaak.

THE TRANSVAAL STUDY CIRCLE

The last meeting was held as usual in the Board Room of the British Philatelic Association at 446 Strand, London, W.C. 2, on 20 April.

The advances made in the study of the Pietersburg issue were reported after which certain of the Republican cancellers and the '23d' accountancy markings were considered. The afternoon terminated with a further look at the 1st Republic forgeries. The next Meeting will be held on 13 July. The annual subscription of 15s includes the quarterly TRANSVAAL PHILATELIST.

By the kind co-operation and courtesy of the South African Embassy in London, the Study Circle will hold an Exhibition (ZAR 100 — London) in 1969 in the Visitors' Bureau adjoining the Embassy, to commemorate the Centenary of the first TVL issues. This will be complementary to a similar Exhibition being staged next year in South Africa (ZAR 100 — Johannesburg).

GERMISTON PHILATELIC SOCIETY

May: Although Wednesday evening the 15th May, 1968, had been listed as a 'Swop & Sale' meeting, very little swapping and selling went on as the two exhibits provided by Mr. B. Eilers and Mr. H. Birkhead were of such high standard that all members concentrated their attention on the stamps displayed. Mr. B. Eilers, with his usual neat writing-up of a collection in German, showed Sweden from the year 1855 to 1967, including Postage-Dues and a very nice selection of stamps on piece, being of the local postage denomination with clear postmarks of most of the towns in Sweden. Mr. B. Eilers was congratulated by Mr. R. G. L. Mephius on his very fine effort. After the tea interval, Mr. H. Birkhead, the Hon. Auctioneer, before tabling his selection of Rhodesia, conducted a very successful auction, and, by this, the funds of the Society would improve considerably. Mr. H. Birkhead's choice of Rhodesia was his collection of issues of the British South Africa Company, many fine items in excellent condition and very seldom seen by the average philatelist. Mr. S. J. Hagger thanked Mr. H. Birkhead for his very fine display. The meeting was under the chairmanship of Mr. H. Suklje, the President of the Society,

who had very recently returned from his overseas trip. During his absence the affairs of the Society were ably looked after by the Vice-President, Mr. T. J. B. Curle.

PRETORIA RAILWAY PHILATELIC SOCIETY

May: The exhibit at this month's meeting was a straight collection of the stamps of Denmark tabled by the Hon. Secretary. Although by no means complete, there being many gaps in the collection, it was a fairly representative collection of the more modern issues and included copies of both the ordinary and the fluorescent stamps issued since the latter were introduced some six years ago. Also shown were newspaper stamps, parcel post and special fee issues and postage due labels.

Other interesting items included a mint set of stamps issued for use by Danish soldiers fighting in the German Army on the Eastern Front, and the different dies of the Caravel and King Frederick sets of definitives.

After the exhibit a very interesting discussion took place on the advisability of including First Day Covers and special postmarks in a collection as was displayed at the meeting. The general feeling was that in many respects the inclusion of covers does tend to enhance the interest in a collection.

During the past month members of this Society visited and displayed collections at three sister societies, the first on April 17th at the Germiston Society, the next on April 24th at the Pretoria Afrikaans Society and the last on May 6th at the Pretoria Society. The visits were most enjoyable and our exhibitors are to be thanked for showing their collections which were very well received at all three meetings.

It is interesting to note that of the 18 Foundation Members of the Society (members who were present at the inaugural meeting in July 1947) 9 of them are still members of the Society and an invitation is to be sent to each one to be with us at our Coming of Age.

PRETORIA PHILATELIC SOCIETY

A well attended meeting, conducted by the Vice-Chairman, Comdr. C. Enoch, welcomed members of the Pretoria Railway Philatelic Society as guest-exhibitors, and after concluding the normal business the gavel was handed to Mr. E. Walker, the President of the visiting Society.

The following exhibits were displayed: South African Interprovincial Stamps by Mr. Walker; Child Welfare Issues of the Netherlands by Mr. Z. J. van Eijk who could not be present but sent his collection and the Line Engraved stamps of Great Britain by Com. Enoch.

The displays were greatly enjoyed and the exhibitors suitably thanked.

AFRIKAANSE PHILATELISTIESE VERENIGING VAN PRETORIA

Mei: Hierdie maand was daar geen uitstalings nie. Eintlik was dit damesaand, maar die dames het ander reëlings getref. Hulle het mnr. R. Huthwaite uitgenooi, wat 'n lesing gegee het oor lig, die effek daarvan op voorwerpe, strale en die gevolg daarvan, maatstawwe om lig te meet, die sonstraling, die meting van kleur. Vervolgens het hy kleur verduidelik, 'n uitleg gegee van luminisensie en fluorisensie. Al hierdie feite is vervolgens toegepas op filatelie en mnr. Huthwaite het 'n demonstrasie gegee van hoe met 'n ultraviolet fosforiserende kwartslamp gewerk moet word. Dit was verrassend om te sien hoeveel met hierdie instrument bereik kan word en waarvoor dit gebruik kan word. Mnr. Huthwaite het daarop gewys dat as gevolg van hierdie lamp in wese geen volmaakte vervalsings vervaardig kan word nie: nie net die ontwerp nie, maar ook die ink, papier en gom sou presies dieselfde moet wees. Dit blyk ook duidelik hoe kleiner en groter gebreke, veral by ou klassieke seëls, onmiddellik met hierdie lamp opgespoor kan word. In sy dankwoord aad mnr. Huthwaite het die Voorsitter die opmerking dat eintlik geen filatelist sonder hierdie instrument kan wees nie, bevestig en die hoop uitgespreek dat on Vereniging daartoe kan oorgaan om so 'n lamp vir eie gebruik aan te skaf.

THE O.F.S. PHILATELIC SOCIETY

April: In spite of counter-attractions (the Agricultural Show, the Gunter Kallman Choir) and buckets of rain, 22 members and visitors attended this meeting, which wasn't too bad an attendance under the circumstances.

New Issues were tabled by Mr. and Mrs. R. Jones, and Messrs. van Ee and H. E. Roux.

The main feature of the evening was the competition for the new Ronnie Jones Floating Trophy for Thematics and the following entries were received:

It's a Dog's World — Mr. and Mrs. A. Marinowitz; Philatelic Terms, Stamp Curiosities — Mr. A. L. Meyburgh; United Nations — Mr. H. E. Roux; The Winds of Change — Mr. J. W. Hodgson; The Postal Services of France, Errors on Stamps — Mr. S. Marus; Zoo's — Mr. C. van Ee; Special Cancellations — Mr. R. Jones.

The judges awarded this splendid new Cup to Mr. Hodgson for his collection which covered the political development of Africa over the past two decades as depicted on stamps.

During the tea interval, Mr. Meyburgh gave a most interesting talk on Perforations. This was particularly well received, and similar talks will be a feature of all future meetings.

THE GREAT BRITAIN PHILATELIC SOCIETY

The last display of the Season was given by Mr. C. W. Meredith, F.R.P.S.L., who showed Scottish Local Cancellations. This is probably one of the finest collections of this by-way of

philately The cancellations were only used from 1854 — 1860, and as no date is incorporated in the mark it is essential that they are collected on cover or piece. Many of these strikes are very rare, but Mr. Meredith was often able to show more than one example both on cover and stamp.

Where post offices over the years had changed their names he was able to show matched pairs of the old and the new names, e.g. St. Patrick Square — Clark St.

He showed a number of the interesting double named marks, Govan Govan, Renton, Onich Onich etc.

The only known copy of Cranshaw was also on view. This village was left £1000 in 1841 for the poor, which now stands at £4000, nobody has needed the money.

The display was liberally spiced with pictures of the places and maps of the areas, and pages were often linked with well known personalities, e.g. Dr. Livingstone, Robert Burns etc. A very unusual display enjoyed by all.

EXPERT COMMITTEE

The next meeting of the Expert Committee of the Philatelic Federation of Southern Africa will take place on the 20th July 1968. The secretary's postal address is P.O. Box 2388, Pretoria.

ANGLO-BOER WAR PHILATELIC SOCIETY

The Fourth Annual Convention of the Anglo-Boer War Philatelic Society was held at Warwick, United Kingdom, on 4th May 1968. Members were pleased to welcome the President, Mr. Donald D. Smythe, F.R.P.-S.L. of San Francisco U.S.A., and Mr. K. Vichoff of Delft, Netherlands.

At the conclusion of the business, our Hon. Secretary, Mr. J. H. Rathbone and the Hon. Editor, Mr. N. Snowdon were presented with suitably engraved silver goblets in recognition of ten years of faithful service in their respective offices, and Mr. L. Lomax who was absent through indisposition was awarded a fountain pen to mark the Society's appreciation of his duplicating the Anglo-Boer war Philatelist for a similar period.

Excellent and interesting displays were shown by the President, a magnificent range of Boer and British material from the war; Mr. Peters, a combined display from collections of the North of England members of sheets devoted to the Boer side of the war; Mr. W. R. Hart, Boer invasion cancellations; Mr. Vichoff, prisoner of war material from India and St. Helena and also covers of the Russian ambulances serving the Boers; Captain Holland and Mr. J. Ineson, Mafeking stamps and covers and finally, as the conclusion to a

very successful convention, the President staged a display of collateral material which included a censor seal of which only one other copy is known, in the University of Cape Town library.

SWAZILAND STAMPS

A Philatelic Bulletin, dated 9 May, 1968 and issued by the Director, Swaziland Stamp Bureau, P.O. Box 555, Mbabane, Swaziland from whom further information may be obtained, states:

Issue of 3-cent overprinted stamp

A 3-cent overprint of a 5-cent stamp was issued on 1st May 1968 to meet postal demand in Swaziland following the revision of postage rates in late 1967. (No stamp of this denomination is included in the current definitive issue.)

The overprinted stamp will be withdrawn from sale after the close of business on 5th September 1968 or earlier if supplies become exhausted in the meantime.

Advance information regarding special issue of postage stamps to commemorate the attainment of independence.

A special issue of stamps will be released on the 6th September 1968 to commemorate the attainment of Independence by Swaziland.

Production will be in two forms:-

- (i) a se tenant strip of four stamps of different denominations (in sheets of 5x4 stamps) depicting in a semi allegorical manner the emergence of Swaziland from its former unsophisticated position depending largely on agriculture, to its position today as a developing country with growing industrial potential, and
- (ii) in sheets of fifty stamps by denominations.

The stamps will be of 3c, 4½c, 17½c and 25c denominations.

An official first day cover service will be available with the special issue at an inclusive price of 60 cents (seven shillings Sterling).

The set of four stamps either in strip form or separately by denominations will be available at 50 cents (five shillings and ten pence Sterling).

A sheet of 20 stamps in strip form containing five rows of stamps in sets of four will sell at R2.50 (£1/9/2 Sterling).

The South African Philatelist

(Established 1923)

Proprietors and Publishers:

The Philatelic Federation of Southern Africa

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Business Manager: Mr. S. J. VERMAAK.

Editorial Board: Dr. T. B. BERRY (Chairman),
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AUGUST, 1968

Whole No. 520

SOUTH AFRICAN NOTES

By DR. H. J. RAUBENHEIMER,
Hon. Associate Editor.

NEW ISSUES

A NEW REPUBLICAN DEFINITIVE

1½c STAMP



Afrikanerbul. Cylinder numbers 247-248 A. B.

After a life of eight months, the 1½c stamp, from Cylinders 225-226, and described in our November 1967 issue, was replaced in mid-May 1968 by a new issue from Cylinders 247-248.

There are but few changes from the previous issue, the main one being in the colour of the animal. So far there is not a variation of shades as with the last. Where the 225-226 issue ranged from dark purple-brown to lake-brown, the new 247-248 issue, so far printed, shows the animal in a lighter brown, a light red-brown. Furthermore, the comb hole of the

eleven row perforation shows at the left margin of stamp No. 1 and can be seen on the cylinder block. Otherwise the printing factors remain unchanged.

The cylinders were prepared from the same multipositives as before with one of the previously listed varieties being reproduced here. The paper, with its RSA watermark in tête-bêche formation, appears to be from a different batch, as it has a different appearance under the ultra-violet light: The gummed side shows much deeper in colour and the watermark shows up clearly in this reflected

VARIETIES

Multipositive

Pane A

Row/No.

7/ 7 Broken K of AFRIKANERBUL
Cylinder

Pane A

5/ 7 Tiny brown dot on top margin above
R of AFRIKANERBUL7/10 Large white dot to the right of the
animal's muzzle

Pane B

1/ 3 Tiny brown dot above top margin at
the left corner4/ 4 White mark at the left margin half
way down4/ 5 Brown dot at the right margin half
way down.

A NEW REPUBLICAN DEFINITIVE

10c STAMP

254-253 A.B. Kasteel Kaapstad

A new issue of the 10c stamp from cylinders 254-253 was delivered to the Publicity Bureau on June 10th 1968. Details are:

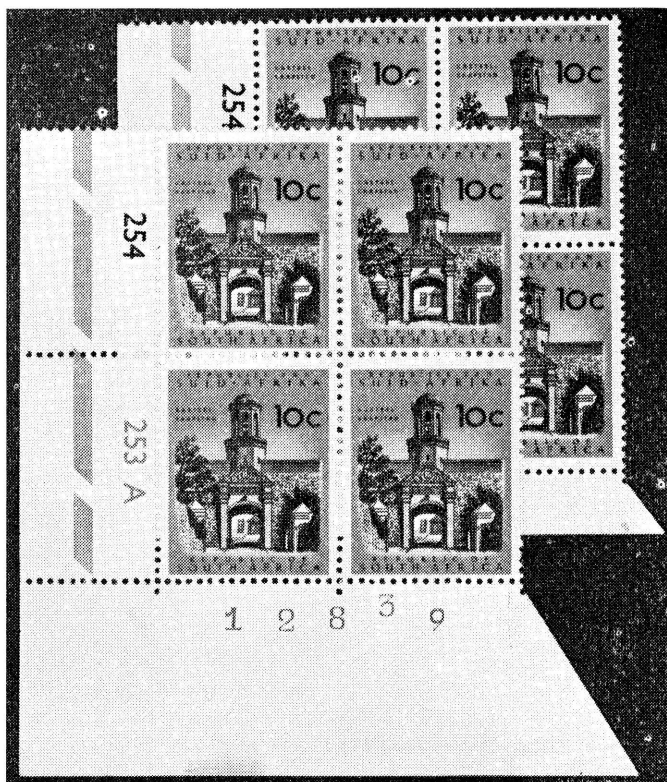
SHEET FORMAT: horizontal, double die, 2 panes A and B, A having been on the right of B as they emerged from the Goebel 840 printing machine. Each sheet contains 100 stamps (5 rows \times 20).

STAMP FORMAT: vertical, as before.

PAPER: Swiss, coated, RSA watermarked, the marks, in tête-bêche formation, face left and right and show distinctly.

CYLINDERS: Two, new, cross lined, screened, numbers 254 sepia, interior, and 253 light green exterior, and these numbers are shown in their respective colours, on the left margin opposite rows 4 and 5; number 254 opposite row 4 and 253, with the pane letter A or B in green, opposite row 5. They were prepared from new multipositives on film from the previous master negative for the 253 green and a new master negative for the sepia 254 showing more distinct inscriptions. These were stepped up for both panes with consequently no multipositive varieties.

ARROWS: premanufactured, green, centrally placed on the top and bottom margins of both panes.



MARGINAL BARS: green, single, broken line with an extended central gap, on the left and right margins, only opposite the stamps.

SHEET NUMBERS: five figure, black, on the bottom margin of pane A only, twice, below stamps 1 and 2 and again 12 and 13.

COLOUR REGISTER: in the form of a small cross, in the two colours, closely superimposed, on the bottom margin of pane A only, below stamp No. 9.

PERFORATION REGISTER PUNCH HOLES: On the top margin of pane B and the bottom margin of pane A, above and below stamps 13 and 14 respectively. Only the one on pane A has the green concentric rings with the bisecting line.

PERFORATIONS: small holes, gauge $14 \times 13\frac{3}{4}$; externally perforated by the Grover two row appliance; the left margin is perforated through, the right is imperforate; the top and bottom margins are imperforate except for the single extra hole at each end of the vertical rows of perforations.

GUILLOTINE GUIDE LINE: when present, this is found in the left corner of the wide bottom margin of pane A below stamp No. 1. It consists of thin green horizontal lines considerably smudged.

This is a well produced issue with very few varieties.

VARIETIES

Pane B

Row/No.

1/ 8 Tiny brown dot below 0 of 10c.

3/ 2 Brown dot below SU of SUID

5/ 1 White dot at S of SUID

Pane A

2/13 White dot on second A of AFRICA.

A NEW REPUBLICAN DEFINITIVE 50c STAMP



255, 256 Harbour Cape Town

A new issue of the 50c stamp from cylinders 255, 256 was delivered to the Publicity Bureau on 17th June 1968. Details are:

SHEET FORMAT: vertical, single die; each sheet contains 100 stamps (20 rows \times 5).

STAMP FORMAT: horizontal, same size as before.

PAPER: Swiss, coated, RSA watermarked, the marks being in tête-bêche formation and are distinct and facing up and downwards.

CYLINDERS: Two, new, cross lined screened, numbers 255 black, interior and 256 blue, exterior and these numbers are shown, in their respective colours, on the

bottom margin below stamp no. 5. New multipositives were prepared on film from the previous master negative for the blue and from a new master negative for the black. Printing was done on the Goebel 830 machine.

ARROWS: premanufactured, blue, centrally placed on the left and right margins.

MARGINAL BARS: black, on the top and bottom margins, single line broken bars with an extended central gap. They extend into the side margins.

SHEET NUMBERS: four figure, red, on the right margin, twice, their position ranging from opposite rows 8 and 9/19 and 20 to 9 and 10/20 and bottom margin.

COLOUR REGISTER: in the form of a small cross, in the two colours superimposed opposite row 14.

PERFORATIONS: large holes (1 m.m. diameter) gauge $13\frac{3}{4} \times 14$, with the "drunken perforations" feature. Internally perforated by the 11 row appliance; the top and bottom margins perforated through, the left and right margins being imperforate except for the extra single hole at each end of the horizontal rows of perforations. The central comb join, on the sheets examined, is between rows 10 and 11.

VARIETIES

Row/No.

2/ 3 Tiny black dot in 0 of 50c

11/ 2 Small white dot between A and F of AFRICA

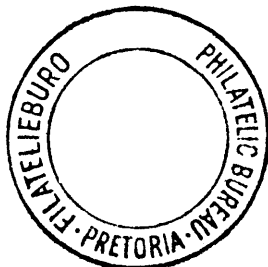
11/ 3 Blue dot in gutter at top right corner

11/ 5 Two tiny blue dots in top right corner

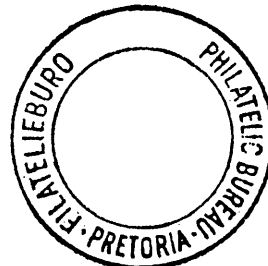
12/ 2 Blue dot in top left corner

12/ 3 Blue dot in cloud at the left of 5 of 50c.

NOTE: Attention may be drawn to unusual features in this issue. The colour of the arrows is not the same as that of the marginal bars — the first time that this has happened in the Republican Series. There is a marked difference in stamps number five on different sheets. On some, the inscription REPUBLIC OF SOUTH AFRICA is so thinned as to be almost illegible. Those of rows 9, 10, 11 and 12 are particularly afflicted. These also show a thinning of REPUBLIEK VAN SUID-AFRIKA. They also show much more lightly printed marginal bars. Together with the relatively wide range (two digits' width) in the sheet number positions and the presence of the large hole perforations, these factors make the 50c 255, 256 issue an interesting one.



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. 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 aange- neem nie. Die bedrag moet voldoende wees om die pos- en registrasiegelde te dek.

Deposito-rekenings kan geopen word.

UNION OF SOUTH AFRICA

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A NEW REPUBLICAN DEFINITIVE R1 STAMP



259 258 257 A.B. Strelitzia

A new issue of the R1 stamp from cylinders 259, 258 and 257 was delivered to the Publicity Bureau on June 10th 1968. Details are:

SHEET FORMAT: Vertical, double die, 2 panes A and B, A having been on the right of B. Each pane has 100 stamps (20 rows \times 5).

STAMP FORMAT: horizontal, same size as before.

PAPER: Swiss, coated, RSA watermarked, the marks being in tête-bêche formation; they are distinct and face up and down.

CYLINDERS: three, new, cross lined, screened from new multipoitives on film, prepared from the previous master negatives. They are numbers 258 orange, 259 green, interior and 257 bright blue, exterior and these numbers, in their respective colours, are shown on the bottom margins, number 259 below stamp 4 and 258 and 257 with the pane letter A or B in blue, below stamp 5 stepped up for both panes. In the Goebel 840 printing machine.

ARROWS: premanufactured, blue, centrally placed on the left and right margins.

MARGINAL BARS: blue, single line, broken, with an extended central gap, on the top and bottom margins, only opposite the stamps.

SHEET NUMBERS: five figure black on the right margin of pane A only, twice, opposite rows 8 and 9 and again 19 and 20.

COLOUR REGISTER: in the form of 2 concentric circles, divided by a cross, in the 3 colours superimposed, on the right margin of pane A opposite row No. 12.

PERFORATION REGISTER PUNCH HOLES: On the left margin of pane B and the right margin of pane A respectively, opposite rows 7 and 8. The one on pane A is within blue concentric circles with the dividing horizontal line.

PERFORATIONS: Externally perforated by the Grover 2 row machine. Small holes, gauge $13\frac{3}{4} \times 14$. The top margin is imperforate, the bottom margin is perforated through; the left and right margins are imperforate except for the single extra hole at each end of the horizontal rows of perforations.

There are numerous tiny varieties, the best of which are listed below.

VARIETIES

Pane B

Row/No.

1/1 Tiny blue line to the right of R of STRELITZIA

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Swaziland is NOT supplying official covers
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JOHANNESBURG

- 1/ 2 Blue dot to the right of Z of STRE-LITZIA
- 2/ 4 Blue dot above the flower at B of REPUBLIC
- 11/ 1 White dot below serif of 1 of R1
- 13/ 1 Blue dot below right orange petal.

Pane A

- 1/ 3 Large diagonal blue line at the top margin one third from the left
- 1/ 5 Blue dot in centre of left orange petal
- 4/ 2 Large, faint, orange half circle to the right of TZ of STRELITZIA
- 6/ 1 Long irregular hairline at the centre of the top margin
- 12/ 1 Small blue dot below R of R1
- 16/ 3 Small "ring flaw" with blue centre at the top of the left blue petal
- 19/ 5 Tiny green dot in the loop of R of R1.

POST OFFICE MATTERS

The current Post Office Bulletin, issued by the Philatelic Bureau, G.P.O., Pretoria, contains the following extracts:

Stamp Vending Machine

Stamp vending machines will be placed at 223 of the larger post offices, and also at certain air ports and railway stations.

Four machines, each of which delivers a stamp of a different value, and is operated with a coin of a different value, have been provided. Ten and five cent coin machines, which deliver a ten cent and a five cent stamp, respectively, are only available at places where there is a big demand for air mail stamps. Two and one cent coin machines, which deliver a two cent stamp and two half cent stamps, respectively, are however available at each of the 223 specially selected post offices and at certain air ports and railway stations.

An appeal is made to the public to make use of these machines to the fullest extent.

Coil Stamps

Stamps vending machines will be re-introduced shortly for the sale of $\frac{1}{2}$ c, 2c, 5c and 10c postage stamps. Consequently, stocks of the last-named three denominations are now also available and may be obtained in full rolls from the Philatelic Bureau, G.P.O., Pretoria. Remittances accompanying orders must include an amount sufficient to prepay

postage and registration on the consignment. Details of the coil stamps now available are as follows:-

- $\frac{1}{2}$ c: Rolls of 500 and 1,000 at R2.50 and R5: Roll No's 1 to 10. (Old stock).
- 1c: Rolls of 500 and 1,000 at R5 and R10: Roll No's 1 to 10. (Old stock).
- 2c: Rolls of 500 at R10: Roll No's 1 to 5. (New stock).
- 5c: Rolls of 200 at R10: Roll No's 1 to 5. (New stock).
- 10c: Rolls of 200 at R20: Roll No's 1 to 5. (New stock).

Field Post Offices

The 11 Field Postal Unit will again provide postal facilities for troops engaged in routine military training during August, 1968. F.P.O. No. 1 will operate from 2nd to 27th August, 1968, and F.P.O. No's 2 and 3 for a period of approximately 10 days from the 14th. Specially designed datestamps will be used (those at the last-named two offices for the first time) and the code letters "A" and "B" in the datestamps will indicate whether postal articles were posted during the morning or afternoon, respectively. These offices will be closed on Saturday afternoons and Sundays.

None of the offices will be accessible to the general public and all requests for impressions of the datestamps during the periods in question must be forwarded timeously to the **Philatelic Bureau, G.P.O., Pretoria**, together with self-addressed envelopes and clear instructions as to the time and date on which they must be datestamped. **On no account must such requests be forwarded direct to the offices concerned.** Persons resident in the Republic of South Africa must affix the necessary postage stamps to their envelopes. Requests from elsewhere must be accompanied by the necessary remittance to cover return postage. All postal orders, money orders and bank drafts must be made payable to the Postmaster General. International Reply Coupons may also be used.

Owing to the conditions under which the Field Post Offices function, serviced covers will only be returned during September, 1968.

AUTOMATIC SORTERS

Final plans are being prepared for the introduction of automatic mail sorters in South African post offices to considerably speed the delivery of letters.

The innovation will mean that every house-

holder will get a new address in the form of a "zip" code number, and letters will have to travel in envelopes of standardized size.

The automatic sorters, costing about R50,000 each, can handle 20,000 letters an hour — which is eight times faster than the most accomplished human sorter.

The Minister of Posts and Telegraphs, Mr. van Rensburg said in Parliament recently that Pretoria would get the first machine. After teething troubles have been ironed out it is expected that the Reef will be next.

When the project is introduced every street and suburb will get a code — comprising letters and figures — which will have to be written clearly on all envelopes. These codes will be "read" by electronic eyes in the mail sorting machine.

Size, shape and thickness of letters will have to conform to a certain standard, otherwise the machine won't take them. Post Office officials have said postal delivery times, particularly in the cities, will be cut to a few hours.

Officials in Pretoria yesterday refused to give details of immediate plans but said the public would be informed in "due course".

Specifications for mail, laid down in Britain when a sorting machine was introduced at London Post Office in 1966, were that only oblong envelopes could be used — the length of the long side must be at least the square root of two (1.414) times the length of the short side.

Acknowledgement "The Johannesburg Star".

AIR MAIL NOTES

By I. H. C. Godfrey
**SOUTH AFRICAN AIRWAYS' BOEING
 707 (The "Pretoria") CRASH AT
 WINDHOEK-APR. 21st, 1968**

The Postmaster General has obligingly supplied the following information regarding mails salvaged from the wreck of this plane which caused the tragic death of 123 persons.

Fifteen bags of mail were on board the aeroplane: two destined for Angola (including one from Congo Kinshasa) and the remainder for West Germany, consigned to Frankfurt and Hamburg. No mails to any other countries were involved.

Of the 271 registered and ordinary letters, **ninety five** items were recovered and duly forwarded to their destinations by a later aircraft. Six registered letters, the addresses on which were illegible, were returned to the senders.

Airmail Service — Johannesburg/Vryburg/ Kuruman/Postmasburg.

This recently inaugurated airmail service, under contract to the Government, ceased operations on 21st June, 1968 due to cessation of operations by the airline **Interstate Air Services** and in future all mail will be sent by surface.

The service was commenced on 4th December, 1967 and so was very short lived.

(See "S.A. Philatelist — March 1968")

THE PHILATELIC FEDERATION OF SOUTHERN AFRICA

Paper read at a meeting of the Philatelic Society of Johannesburg by

Mr. K. E. W. Lydall

Introduction

I well remember when I was a student having to struggle with the intricacies of the Differential and Integral Calculus, and when I was becoming desperate someone gave me a book called "Calculus Made Easy". The introduction began with the expression that "What one fool can do, another can". Thereafter the book skated lightheartedly over the rudiments of the Differential Calculus and showed just how easy it was.

The last chapter of the book was entitled "Epilogue and Apologue". This summed up the situation by stating that in fact calculus was not so difficult after all and that one need not be endowed with abnormal intelligence to cope with it.

Then came the shock — the admission by the author that although what had been demonstrated was very simple he had to apologise because he had left out all the difficult parts.

I have used this little story as an analogy to stamp collecting, for in its initial stages it is certainly very elementary. It is only when we attempt to progress we realise how much more there is to the hobby than we expected and it is natural to seek guidance from collectors with greater experience. At the same time part of the fun in having a hobby is to share it with others. Thus small groups form the nucleus of what may later become a Society and the foundation of organised philately has been laid.

Early History

So it came about in Durban in 1928, at the time of the International Stamp Exhibition there, that representatives of 7 Societies in Southern Africa (Natal, Rhodesia, Cape Town, East London, Port Elizabeth and Johannesburg) met on 4th July to draw up Rules and Regulations for the "South African Philatelic Congress" as it was then called.

The intention was to hold meetings of Congress every two or three years, but in 1932 it was recommended that Congress be held annually.

A Permanent Executive was formed, located in Johannesburg, to look after Congress affairs in between Congresses.

At the 9th Congress held at Pretoria in 1939, the name was changed to "The Philatelic Federation of Southern Africa" and the composition of the Executive Committee was broadened so as to permit every affiliated Society to be represented on it.

The Constitution of Federation has been changed several times since then, but one of the more important modifications is to allow a Philatelic Society which is not in Southern Africa to become an Associate member of Federation provided its interests are Southern African, e.g. The Anglo-Boer War Society of Great Britain.

No Congresses were held during the years 1940-1947 because of World War II, but thereafter they became annual events. The Congress to be held in East London in October this year will be the 30th and at present there are 32 affiliated Societies and 4 Associated Societies in the Federation.

It is difficult to gauge how many individual members this represents since Societies vary in size from a dozen or so members to over 300 and many philatelists belong to more than one Society. There are thus most probably anything between 2,000 and 3,000 individuals as indirect members of Federation.

Executive Committee

The Executive Committee meets in Johannesburg 3 or 4 times in between Congresses. It consists of the Office Bearers and representatives of the Affiliated Societies. Office Bearers are elected by Congress and include The President, Hon. Life President, 5 Vice-Presidents, Hon. Secretary, Hon. Treasurer, the Business Manager of the S.A. Philatelist and the Chairman of its Editorial Board.

Much of the day-to-day work is done by Sub-Committees appointed by the Executive Committee.

Publications Committee: This is perhaps the most important Committee. It investigates the need for publications, makes recommendations to Congress in this regard and organises the production and distribution of such publications. Of these, The South African Philatelist calls for special note since it has been published continuously each month from 1932, the year when Federation took over its publication from a private sponsor.

All Federation's publications relate to philately in Southern Africa and vary from pamphlets to handbooks and fully fledged priced handbook/catalogues. They include:

The "Occupational" Postmarks of the Mandated Territory of S.W.A.

Swaziland and New Republic.

Basutoland.

The Interprovincial stamps and postmarks of the Union of S.A.

South African Postmarks.

Union of South Africa Stamps Vols. I and II.

Stamps of South Africa Vols. I and II.

Stamps of the Republic of South Africa.

All these publications eventually pay for themselves and some of them are considered as 'Collector's Pieces' and standard reference works which are essential to complete a philatelic library.

Expert Committee: Many of you will be aware of this Committee to whom philatelic items can be referred for opinion as to genuineness. The Committee meets monthly and the dates of its meetings are published in advance in the South African Philatelist. Any professional or amateur philatelist may submit items to the Committee but members of Societies affiliated to Federation receive a reduction in charges.

Philatelic Estates Committee: A little used service is available through this Committee which is prepared to give advice to executors of deceased estates about the disposal of stamp collections. It is important to note that it is not a function of the Committee to value or dispose of collections.

Recorded Lectures Committee: This Committee is still developing its work which will be to record talks of about 30 minutes duration accompanied by illustrations on slides. Such lectures will be available for hire by Societies and should be most useful in supplementing normal programmes at meetings.

Congresses

These are held annually, the venue depending upon which Society is acting as host. It

is usual to rotate the venues so that one year the Congress is held at the coast, while the next year it will be inland. This gives most Societies a reasonable opportunity of being fully represented at Congress every second or third year, bearing in mind the distance factor which stops many would-be delegates from attending.

At Congress, reports of the relevant Office Bearers and Committees are read and discussed, papers on aspects of philately can be read, notices of motion are debated and generally matters of interest to the hobby can be raised. Necessary action can be taken when required. Frequently, the Postmaster General has been able to attend the opening of Congress and deliver a message. Also a member of his Department is present during Congress to listen to the discussion and give his comments where the matters raised affect the postal administration. This annual liaison is of great benefit to collectors.

The highest honour Congress can bestow is to elect a member to the Roll of Honour of Distinguished South African Philatelists. The person so elected signs the Roll and receives a certificate as a personal record of the honour.

Other awards Congress may make are:-

1. **The Skinner Cup.** Awarded for the best general work for philately during the preceding 3 years.
2. **The Bill Lea Trophy.** Awarded for an outstanding philatelic work or outstanding services to philately over a period of years which has not been otherwise rewarded. If not awarded for either of these reasons it may be awarded by the Jury of a competitive Philatelic Exhibition for a collection showing the greatest philatelic knowledge or research. Failing any of these it may be awarded for the best paper read at Congress.
3. **The Harvey Pirie Memorial Award.** Can be made only for an outstanding publication on Southern African Philately, or for published results in any philatelic journal of outstanding original research on any aspect of Southern African Philately.
4. **Congress Awards (Certificates of Merit).** Given for papers read at Congress or published in the S.A. Philatelist.

Exhibitions

No National or International Exhibition may be staged by an Affiliated Society unless it complies with the By-Laws drawn up by Federation. This does not take away the autonomy of the Society staging the exhibition,

but it does set a standard so that the status and standing of awards made by the Jury are fully acceptable, particularly since an entry for an International Exhibition must have gained at least a Silver Award at a National Exhibition before it will be accepted.

Conclusion

Philatelists are, on the whole, fairly rugged individualists who enjoy the freedom to collect in whatsoever manner they wish. Sad to relate, there are many more collectors who do not belong to a Society than those who do. There are many reasons for this, but perhaps the most disappointing result is that numerous good collections are never seen by fellow philatelists, which is to the detriment of the hobby. It is nonetheless true that such abstainers from organised philately seldom hesitate to take advantage of information and action taken by those who have given their services to Societies, Study Groups and the like. When they pass on or become enfeebled, it is left to the organised philatelist to come to the rescue.

We must continue to recruit many more members for our Societies, for in this way the hobby will flourish, less disillusioned collectors will drop out and greater interest will prevail. We shall attain that strength which comes with union.



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LETTERS TO THE EDITOR

Dear Sir,

This week I received a review copy of the first of the brochures produced by A.I.J.P. namely "Das Sammelgut in der Motivsammlung" (The Objectives in the thematic collection") which is a really wonderful publication. This is of interest not only to thematic collectors but to all philatelists and especially those who are exhibiting or making up a thematic collection. It deals with the many points raised in the past dealing with thematic collections and in addition makes many very good recommendations in regard to the following: the fundamentals of objectives, non-philatelic accessories and harmful issues of stamps, stamps in themselves in regard to condition, pictorial representation of stamps, whether used or mint, whether full sets or not, stamps with the same pictorial motif, varieties, stamps with overprints, souvenir sheets, philatelic documents e.g. cancellations, their condition, covers, set-up of thematic collections, and finally the definition of harmful, improper and undesirable issues of stamps. The copy sent to me by A.I.J.P. covers the many points in the international scale of judging and recommendations are made which are of utmost importance. This copy is of course in German, but they intend to publish this in many other languages and I have been asked to make the English translation. This is already well in hand and will be completed in the next three weeks, when it will go overseas for immediate publication — possibly within the next three months. The author is Mr. Heinrich Walz, who is well known in the international thematic circles, and moreover an international judge for over ten years. He gives in this fine brochure his experiences in the field and the general world-wide opinions. It is a brochure which is long overdue.

Yours faithfully,
Capt. M. F. Stern.

★

Dear Sir,

RE LESOTHO INAUGURAL FLIGHTS

In the June issue of the S.A. Philatelist an article appears regarding the Lesotho Flights and we enclose herewith First Flight covers Johannesburg to Maseru and Maseru to Johannesburg both dated 2nd October 1967.

The Ace Cover Service were granted the rights of producing First Flight covers which were sold at the Post Offices in Lesotho, but

someone either in South Africa or Lesotho copied our envelope by means of lithography and we know that some of these covers were despatched to a local dealer. Our covers were correctly handled and were backstamped the 2nd October 1967. Those copies produced by lithography (unauthorised by us) were addressed to the dealer care of Post Restante, Johannesburg and as the mail matter for Post Restante only arrived at that section on the 3rd October, they were backstamped 3rd October.

May we also mention the fact that we have the sole rights for the Official covers for ELPEX (East London Philatelic Exhibition) and are arranging a copyright on the design to prevent what happened in respect of Lesotho. Before we produced covers for Lesotho Airways we obtained permission and drawings from the Douglas Aircraft Corp. of America.

As the Post Office in Swaziland is not issuing an Official cover for the definitive overprints of the Independence stamps, we have been granted permission to produce "Ace" covers for this issue and special arrangements are being made for the servicing of these covers only by a special staff for which we are paying — the Post Office staff being unable to handle the definitives on FDC as they are already fully committed with the special Independence Commemoratives which will be released on the same date on Official covers.

Yours faithfully,
Robert. E. Oakes.

COIL STAMPS FOR NORFOLK ISLAND

The Administration of the Territory of Norfolk Island has advised that Norfolk Island is to introduce coil stamps on 5th August, 1968.

Three vending machines will be set up to the post office located at Burnt Pine for the convenience of residents and tourists wishing to purchase stamps after normal post office hours.

The stamps will be of the same size and design as the present Australian Queen Elizabeth II coil stamps and will be printed by photogravure at the Note Printing Branch, Reserve Bank of Australia. Each coil will contain 1,000 stamps.

Denominations and colours will be:-
3c orange background, black and flesh tint;
4c green background, black and flesh tint;
5c purple background, black and flesh tint.



WÊRELD-SOKKERKAMPIOENSKAP- WEDSTRYDE

(Oorgeneem uit die Afrikaanse Philatelistiese Vereniging van Pretoria se nuusbrief vir Mei 1968, na aanleiding van 'n uitstalling en praatjie deur dr. J. Sherel, 'n lid van die Pretoria Railway Philatelic Society).

Gedurende Mei 1904 het verteenwoordigers van België, Denemarke, Frankryk, Holland, Spanje en Switserland in Parys byeengekom en die Federation Internationale de Football Association (FIFA) gestig. Die vernaamste aanvoeders was twee Franse, Henri Delaunay en Jules Rimet. Laasgenoemde het van 1920 tot 1954 as president van FIFA gedien. Hy was verantwoordelik vir die beskikbaarstelling van die Wêreldbeker, wat in 1950 herdoop is tot die „Jules Rimet-trofee”.

Gedurende 1920 het FIFA in beginsel op die gedagte van 'n wêreldkompetisie besluit, waarom elke vier jaar en om die beurt met die Olimpiese Spele, maar buite die bestek van laasgenoemde, meegeding sou word. Niks verder is gedoen nie totdat daar in 1928 besluit is om beslis 'n Wêreldbekerkompetisie te organiseer.

Uruguay wat groot welslae in die Olimpiese Spele behaal het, het onderneem om die eerste kompetisie in 1930 te reël. Slegs vier Europese lande het aan hierdie eerste kampioenskappe deelgeneem, nl. Frankryk, België, Joegoslawië en Romenië.

'n Stadion met sitplek vir 100,000 mense is in Montevideo vir hierdie reeks opgerig. Die eindwedstryd het op 30 Julie 1930 tussen Uruguay en Argentinië plaasgevind en is deur eersgenoemde met vier doele teen een gewen. Geen herdenkingseëls is by hierdie geleentheid uitgereik nie.

Die tweede kompetisie het in 1934 in Italië plaasgevind en 39 lande het daaraan deelge-

neem. Uruguay het hierdie reeks geboikot vanweë die swak reaksie van die Europese lande tydens die eerste reeks.

Italië het die reeks gewen en het vyf gewone en 4 lugposseëls uitgereik. Dieselfde reeks is oorgedruk vir gebruik op die Aegean-eilande. 'n Verdere stel van vyf gewone en sewe lugposseëls is deur al die Italiaanse kolonies uitgereik. Hierdie dertig seëls is die skaarsste van al die wêreld-sokkergedenkseëls.

Die derde reeks is in Frankryk gehou. Italië was weer eens suksesvol. As gevolg van politieke geskille en die burgeroorlog in Spanje, het verskeie lande nie deelgeneem nie. Uruguay het weer die reeks geboikot, terwyl Engeland nie kon deelneem nie omdat hy nog steeds nie lid van FIFA was nie. Argentinië wat gehoop het om die reeks aan te bied het dit ook geboikot. Slegs een seël is deur Frankryk uitgegee.

As gevolg van die Tweede Wêreldoorlog is geen verdere kompetisies tot 1950 gehou nie. In daardie jaar is die vierde reeks in Brasilië gehou. Teen hierdie tyd het Engeland, Wallis, Skotland en Noord-Ierland by FIFA aangesluit, maar slegs Engeland het 'n span gestuur.

Uruguay het hierdie reeks 2-1 teen Brasilië gewen.

Brasilië het drie gedenkseëls uitgereik, waarvan een die Maracana-stadion in Rio uitbeeld. Dit was die grootste stadion in die wêreld en kon 200,000 toeskouers huisves. Hierdie stadion is 'n argitektoniese monument aangesien daar geen pilare is wat die uitsig van die toeskouers belemmer nie. Uruguay het sy oorwinning met twee seëls in 1951 gevier.

Die vyfde reeks in 1954 is in Bern, Switserland gehou aangesien daardie jaar die goue jubileum van FIFA was, en die hoofkwartier van die organisasie was in Zurich. Hierdie reeks is bestempel as die heftigste en bloedigste

van almal — met Brasiliaanse en Hongaarse spelers en die Switserse polisie in 'n drie-hoekige geveg betrokke. Hongarye het die geveg en die wedstryd gewen maar het in die eindronde met 3-2 teen Duitsland verloor. Switserland het vir die vyfde reeks een seël uitgegee.

Die sesde reeks is in 1958 in Swede gehou. Brasilië het Swede in die eindronde met 5-2 verslaan. Swede het seëls in drie waardesoorte vir hierdie gebeurtenis uitgereik, maar met die geperforeerde/ongeperforeerde variëteite het die totaal op sewe seëls te staan gekom. Rusland het twee seëls uitgereik wat sokkerspelers en die aardbol voorstel. Daarbenewens het Tsjeggoslowakye ook 'n seël uitgereik en in Januarie 1959 het Brasilië sy oorwinning gevier met die uitreiking van een seël. Daar is dus altesaam elf seëls vir hierdie reeks uitgereik. ...

Santiago, Chile het die sewende reeks in 1962 aangebied. Brasilië het Tsjeggo-Slowakye 3-1 verslaan. Met inagneming van al die variasies en perforasies het daar nie minder nie as 54 seëls en sewe miniatuurvelle verskyn by geleentheid van die sewende reeks.

Die agste reeks is in Engeland beslis en is ook deur hulle gewen met vier doele teenoor Duitsland se 2. 1966 was ons alreeds kniediep in die vloedgolf uitgiftes wat feitlik daaglik deur die poskantore van die wêreld op die versamelaars uitgestort word en 'n rekordgetal van 277 seëls en 54 miniatuurvelle het verskyn.

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NOW WE KNOW WHO'S LEADING

Readers re-acted sharply to our call in the November, 1967, issue of this magazine for information on the state of their holdings of the various numbers of The South African Philatelist since the appearance of the first issue in February, 1923. Unfortunately our response was not quite as sharp. However, we are happy to say that no less than four readers reported "All present and correct". They are Mr. R. D. Allen of London, Mr. R. Fisher-Hill, Mr. D. Lamont Smith (he got the two he was looking for after all) and Mr. J. Robertson who was expected to be complete anyway, since he had a big finger in the pie for quite a while. They are to be heartily congratulated.

To judge by requests received only four readers are really anxious to chase their missing numbers to the bitter end. (A number said they required many numbers but had given up the chase). The four bitter enders are prepared to exchange or buy so if any of our readers will give a hand we are sure their efforts will be very much appreciated. The four are: Dr. T. B. Berry (Box 31, Bryanston, Transvaal) who requires Feb. 1931 and Jan. 1932 as well as various numbers of 1923, 1924, 1925, 1926 and 1932; Mr. William H. Evans (Box 1015, Langley Park, Md. 20787, USA) who is short of Sept. and Oct., 1923 and Aug., 1950 (!) as well as an index for 1950; Mr. Sam Legator (Box 182, Springs) chasing a solitary issue, viz Vol. 1; No. 1; Mr. S. J. Vermaak (Box 2272, Johannesburg) who is bent on Feb. and Oct., 1923 and Mch., 1926.

Mr. Evans appeals to readers to lend him copies of Sept. and Oct., 1923 for xeroxing and prompt return. Alternatively he is prepared to pay for the costs of photostat copies. Of course all this cumbersome business will fall away if he should acquire them through readers.

We hold copies of April, 1925 and March, 1928 which the first to come may have, with the compliments of Mr. J. Robertson of stamp trade fame, whilst Mr. D. Lamont Smith (Box 1152, Johannesburg) has the following to offer:- Vol. 1 No's 2 to 8 and 11 and 12 as well as Vol. 7 No's 11 and 12. Other spares are offered by Dr. Berry, namely March and Oct., 1927, 1928 except February, March and April and July, 1931 minus the outside covers. Mr. Evans mentions some early spare numbers but unfortunately gives no particulars. (Incidentally, Mr. Evans has this very pleasing comment on The S.A.

Philatelist: "I find that after subscribing towards the S.A.P. for more than 25 years it is still one of the best philatelic journals; not just a news magazine to be read and discarded, but a serious journal to file").

Going back a bit to the fore-runners, Mr. Vermaak is looking for some numbers of the original The South African Philatelist: Nov., 1895 to Apl., 1896, 1910/11 Vol. 1 No's 1 to 5 and 1912 Vol. 1 No. 17 as also The Quarterly Review for 1921/22, Vol. 2 No's 1 to 4 and 7. Mr. Evans has some spare copies of The Quarterly Review and Union Philatelist; perhaps he will let us know which numbers he has. Dr. Berry can spare The South African Philatelic Advertiser for March 1912.

Over to you, now.

S. J. V.

FRANCE'S 1968 PROGRAMME

The French new issue programme for 1968 comprises the following:

Stamps without surcharge — Art, sculpture *The Dance*, by Bourdelle; Gauguin's painting *Arearea*; Renoir's painting *portrait of a Model*; Rock painting from the *Lascaux Grotto*; Famous People in History, Philippe the Fair, Duguesclin, Joan of Arc;

Various commemoratives — 50th anniversary of the Armistice (2 values); 50th anniversary of the Postal Cheque service; 50th anniversary of the first regular air mail service; bicentenary of the Union of Corsica with France; 650th anniversary of the creation of the Papal enclave of Vaucluse; 5th anniversary of twinning of towns; 50th anniversary of "Petits Lits Blancs" (Charity for Sick Children); 20th anniversary of French Polar Expedition; Olympic Games, Mexico; twinning of Black Forest and Forest of Rambouillet; Congress of Philatelic Societies at Beziers; prevention of road accidents; Pierre Larousse; Martrou Bridge (Charente-Maritime); Europa (two values);

Stamps with surcharge — Winter Olympic Games (five values); Day of the Stamp, showing rural postmark of 1830; Famous Men: Francois Couperin (1668—1733), General Desaix (1768—1800), Saint Pol-Roux (1861—1940), Paul Claudel (1868—1955); Red Cross (two values), *Spring* and *Autumn*, by Mignard.

Acknowledgement "The Philatelic Trader".

THE SHOW TRAIN

The Post Office Publicity Branch, Pretoria, informs that unfortunately a record was not kept of the number of articles handled by the Show Train but it was estimated that approximately 600 ordinary articles were handled on the 27th February, 1968. The number of registered articles totalled 64 of which two were accepted at Milner Park. The receipts for registered items started with the number 7001.

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PVA GUM USED BY BRITAIN JAPAN AND NETHERLANDS

In our issue of 10 February 1968 we informed our readers of the development of a synthetic gum known as polyvinol alcohol which has replaced gum arabic or gum acacia as an adhesive on postage stamps printed by Harrison & Sons of Wycombe, England. This substance is non-toxic, tasteless, odorless, and almost invisible. It is delivered to the stamp works in powder form, processed into liquid, and then applied to the stamp paper in the usual manner.

Philatelic Magazine, London, tells us that the British G.P.O. is saving up to £6,000 per year, that PVA gum is being placed into extensive use on the new Great Britain and Commonwealth printings. They further state that the PVA gum was introduced in the Netherlands early in 1967. Japan also is using this new gum.

The well-known stamp printing firm of Joh. Enschede en Zonen, Haarlem, say that PVA gum makes for easier paper handling as it is less sensitive to changes in temperature and humidity. Interleaving of sheets of stamps with wax paper in tropical countries can now be omitted. Readers of our New Issues column probably have noted that Congo stamps printed by Enschede as long ago as 1965 were printed on "white official paper specially gummed for the tropics".

Acknowledgement "Stamps" 25 May 1968.

THE TRUTH ABOUT THOSE ALCOHOLIC RUMOURS

The simple statement that, in future, British stamps would be gummed with a synthetic adhesive called Polyvinyl Alcohol caused a good deal of controversy because of the word "alcohol". Mr. John A. Bloxside, of Harrison's laboratory at High Wycombe, has explained in **Harrison Forme** what it really means.

The terms "alcohol" is used by the layman to describe one chemical only — ethyl alcohol — present in beers, wines and spirits. To the chemist, however, alcohol is a group name describing thousands of organic chemicals, each one containing the hydroxyl group, which is a combination of a hydrogen and an oxygen atom, as in water.

The adhesive Polyvinyl Alcohol is one of these alcohols which has nothing in common with everyday alcohol. It is synthesised from petroleum by-products into a molecule which

is highly complex and has much in common with vinyl plastics. The introduction of the hydroxyl group produces the solubility in water.

The chemist, by controlling the size of the molecule and amount of hydroxyl, can produce adhesives of exactly the viscosity and adhesive strength required. This gives the synthetic gum a distinct advantage over natural adhesives, which may vary from crop to crop and thus affect the adhesives which are to be manufactured from them.

Acknowledgement "Stamp Collecting".

COMMONWEALTH NOTES

By J. Woodgate

Barbados: The set for the Golden Jubilee of Girl Guides, originally scheduled for April 1968 will now be issued on 1st August.

Gibraltar: A 1/- and a 2/- stamp will be issued on the 26th August for International Human Rights Year.

Lesotho: The new 3c definitive stamp is due on the 1st August. This is the first stamp to have the Basuto Hat watermark.

Malta: On the 1st August a set for the Fourth Centenary of Grandmaster La Valette's Death will be issued.

New Zealand: In August the annual Health issue will be made. This will consist of 2 stamps, with each stamp available in the form of a miniature sheet. As for last year, the theme will again be Sport.

Pitcairn: 4 stamps depicting Island handicrafts will be issued on the 19th August.

Samoa: On the 12th August a set for Human Rights will be issued. On the same day the overprinted stamp for Kingsford-Smith issued in June will be withdrawn, provided it has not been sold out previously.

WHAT ARE PHOSPHOR LINES?

Although written for non-philatelic readers of "Harrison Forme", the house journal of Harrison & Sons Ltd., from which it is reprinted, this short article will help the philatelic tiro as well.

An increasing number of letters arrive at High Wycombe and head office asking such questions as: Why is there a variation of colour on the surface of stamps? Why is there a line down the centre of some stamps or two lines down the sides of others? Some

stamps have no lines, why is this?

For some years the G.P.O. has been bringing in a programme of mechanised letter sorting. The system is based on letter handling machines capable of "reading" postage stamps by the use of ultra violet light.

In conjunction with the post office, Harrisons developed a transparent printing ink containing a phosphor pigment which could be applied during a normal production run. This ink is virtually invisible on stamps, but when exposed to ultra violet light of certain frequencies, it emits a glow which lasts long enough for the machine to recognise first and second class mail, and sort it accordingly.

All British stamps are marked with phosphorescent ink, known commercially as Lett-lite B. The 3d. values have one strip down the centre, and all other values have a strip on each side of the stamp.

The automatic letter facing machines detect the glowing lines on the stamp and separate their values. The letters are then arranged with their stamps in one corner ready for cancelling and sorting.

It is not always easy to detect phosphor ink on stamps. The simplest way is to hold a stamp face upwards and horizontal at eye level. The matt area seen in the centre or on both sides of the stamp is the phosphor ink and this contrasts with the slightly shiny unmarked portion in the centre.

After a time, phosphorescent inks lose their peculiar qualities. The precise length of active life of the ink on a stamp varies greatly with its treatment. Kept in a cool dry room, the shelf life will be several years, but exposed to bright sunlight or ultra violet light the phosphor can die very quickly.

Acknowledgement "Stamp Collecting".

THE 1895 TRANSVAAL ISSUE

By H. S. Hagen

Behind the rather crudely printed stamp issued in 1895 by the Transvaal to commemorate the introduction of penny postage lies an interesting story of hardship and determination.

An early passenger train is shown emerging from a tunnel on the left of the stamp while a postcard is shown on the right with the Transvaal Republic's coat of arms in the centre. The motto on the coat of arms is "Eendragt maakt magt" (Unity is Strength) which in its Latin equivalent, "Ex Unitate

"Vires" was adopted by the Union and later Republic of South Africa. The Transvaal was at that time known as the Zuid Afrikaansche Republiek, the abbreviation Z.A.R. often appearing on date stamps.

The construction of a railway between Pretoria and Lourenco Marques became a practical necessity after the Transvaal had regained her independence in 1881. A company known as the Nederlandsche Zuid Afrikaansche Spoorwegmaatschappij (N.Z.A.-S.M.) was formed for the construction of the line from Pretoria to the border at Komati-poort and a British Company was formed to construct the line on the Portuguese side of the border.

No sooner had work started in 1887 than fever began to take a terrible toll. It is stated that on an average 135 men out of every 1,000 died of malaria. In spite of this fairly good progress was made on construction. The work on the Portuguese side of the border was completed by 1890 and two years later Nelspruit was reached. From Nelspruit the line twisted and climbed through one of the most beautiful valleys in South Africa to Waterval Onder — 180 miles from Lourenco Marques and 4,144 feet above sea level. Thereafter the most awe-inspiring portion of the construction began with the ascent of the highveld escarpment. The line climbed 682 feet in $4\frac{1}{2}$ miles, of which about $2\frac{1}{2}$ miles was provided with a rack section on a 1 in 20 grade operated by special rack engines. One of these engines banked ascending trains and piloted descending trains. It was on this section that the tunnel depicted on the stamp was located.

Although straining the power of the magnifying glass to the limit it is considered that the centre rack rail can just be distinguished on the stamp.

The tunnel was only 233 yds. long, but it was constructed in the remarkably short time of one year. The last bolt on the whole line was tightened by President Paul Kruger on the 2nd November 1894.

In 1904 a nine-mile deviation was opened which eliminated the original rack section and tunnel, but it was not until 1962 that the old tunnel was declared a South African National Monument. On the station at Waterval Boven there stands another simple monument to the old line — a length of rack railway and one of the countless boulders that were removed in the course of construction.

Used copies of the 1895 stamp are by no means as common as the catalogue would indicate and recently a very fine mint sheet of

60 came on to the market.

The Z.A.S.M. produced parcel stamps in four denominations, viz. 1d. green; 3d. violet; 6d. blue; 1s. red. The writer would welcome any further information about these stamps. It would be interesting to know whether the stamps were affixed to the parcel being conveyed or whether they were attached to the accompanying documents.

The Eastern Main Line (as the old Z.A.-S.M. line is now known) has recently been electrified and extensively improved at a cost of about £11 million and today traffic on the South African side of the border is hauled by powerful Class 5E electric locomotives.

Acknowledgement "Railway Philately".

BAKKER'S EXPRESS

By Peter Kelley

A small but interesting number of private local posts flourished in Southern Africa during the last quarter of the 19th century. The earliest known was organised by the trading company of Ballance & Goodliffe, of Mount Currie, in what is now Griqualand East. From 1870 to 1874 mail was carried, by permission of Chief Adam Kok III, by runners to and from Natal and, in 1874, a simple one penny green adhesive was introduced. This stamp, of which four varieties exist, is now rather rare and seldom seen in collections of local issues.

Other locals emanated from Tati, a district in Matabeleland, where large-scale gold-mining began in 1894. The native chief, the famous Lobengula, granted the mineral rights to Tati Concessions Ltd., who produced an attractive set of stamps the following year. The design shows an African elephant and the set, comprising six high values from 1s. to £5, was printed by De La Rue in London. The issue was primarily intended for fiscal use but copies have been found bearing evidence of their having prepaid a local delivery service.

Some catalogues list further South African locals particularly the Rydende Dienst Macht ("R.D.M.") labels used by the Orange Free State's mounted police in 1898-99, the Commando Brief stamp employed by the Boer Republics in the war of 1899-1900, the Bulawayo telegraph stamps — printed on a cyclo-style duplicator — made by Reuter's agent in 1894, and, of course, the famous and popular pair of stamps produced for Baden Powell during the investment of Mafeking in 1900.

A service similar to that operated by Ballance & Goodliffe in East Griqualand was established in Pretoria by Hr. F. H. Bakker in 1887. Bakker was a contracted carrier whose bullock carts delivered goods to the outlying farms and hamlets north of Pretoria travelling as far as Marabasted in the Zoutpansberg. He carried a good deal of official mail and received a government stipend for doing so but he eventually decided to have his own adhesive stamps printed in order to simplify the keeping of his accounts.

An unknown local printer was entrusted with the task of producing some simple typographed stamps in black ink on coloured papers. These consist of a double-ruled border bearing the value in each corner and "F.H.B./EXPRESS/ Z.A.R./COMPANY" in the side panels, the centre being occupied by the legend "VRY TOT POSTK" and the name of the place to where the mail was going. The sheet make-up was of 60 impressions arranged 10 across and six down. The stamps were released imperforate and both with and without gum, the paper shows no watermark:-

- ½d. black on azure (NYLSTROOM).
- 1d. black on green (MARABASTAD).
- 1d. black on rose (PRETORIA).
- ½d. (Postage Due) black on white.

The latter bears, in place of the destination, the words "TE BETALEN". This, of course, is the Afrikaans for Postage Due and the value of ½d. is possibly a misprint for 2d., which would be the usual penalty rate for unstamped mail.

Letters and packages were carried by Bakker in both directions and were collected from farms and holdings on the route. Mail for other areas was delivered to the General Post Office in Pretoria. Robson Lowe's Encyclopaedia, Volume II, shows an interesting cover in the section devoted to Transvaal stamps. It was sent from Waterberg to Senegal and bears Z.A.R. adhesives to the value of 2s. 1d. and the Bakker 1d. rose. The postmark on the local is a rectangular box of wavy lines enclosing "WATERBERG". The other cancellations show that the letter travelled via Natal (July 5th, 1887), London (August 2nd), Paris (August 3rd) and arrived in Senegal on August 13th.

Mint copies of Bakker's stamps were once easily obtainable but of late have grown to become quite scarce, the least frequently seen values being the ½d. blue and the 1d. green. Used specimens are not often encountered and complete covers are extremely rare.

Acknowledgement "Stamp Collecting".

HOW MY STOLEN COLLECTION WAS RECOVERED

By Warren H. Crain

A cleverly made counterfeit of the Barbados "Olive Blossom". Scott No. 109, with center inverted, was instrumental in the recovery of about 75% of my stolen collection.

The loss of the collection was reported in STAMPS of 26th August 1967, with considerable detail of the contents of the collection, including mention of the Barbados "Olive Blossom" material, and other recognizable items.

The recovery of a goodly portion of the collection makes quite an interesting story. It begins back on July 1, 1967, when burglars entered our home, stealing all my stamps, our son's stamps and coins, and my wife's jewelry. On or about the first of September one of the culprits was caught in another burglary, and confessed to burglarizing our home.

He had already disposed of the stamps, however, to a "fence" here in San Antonio. The police obtained a search warrant and paid a visit to the home of the fence. Nothing was found, however, and of course the man denied any involvement in the case.

In October Sgt. Bill Weilbacher of the San Antonio Police Dept. told me that they had reliable information that the fence had sent the collection, or taken it himself, to a Fort Worth, Texas, man for disposal. I immediately wrote to a collector friend of mine in Fort Worth, Kelly Shryoc, a past president of the Texas Philatelic Association. He called me long distance, requesting a number of copies of my stamp inventory, which he and Willard Jackson, a stamp dealer in Fort Worth, distributed to collectors and dealers in the Fort Worth-Dallas area.

Then on January 16 it happened! Willard Jackson received a phone call from a Fort Worth man who said he wished to sell a valuable stamp collection which he said had a catalog value of \$15,000. Mr. Jackson said he was interested, and made an appointment to have the collection brought in the next morning at 9 o'clock. Mr. Jackson then called me to ask about any unusual items in my collection that would help him identify the collection in case it was mine. One of the items I described was the Barbados "Olive Blossom" invert which I had obtained from a dealer about two years ago. It was an excellent counterfeit, and one with which I had had much fun.

On January 17th the Fort Worth man

brought in the collection as arranged with Mr. Jackson. He was accompanied by another man who was introduced as a "Mr. Miller", an employee of the Fort Worth man. He was to stay with the stamps while his boss went to attend some other business. Mr. Jackson began to check through some of the British material, and it wasn't long before he spotted the "Olive Blossom" invert! Kelly Shryoc had wandered in soon after the two men arrived with the stamps, as had been prearranged with Mr. Jackson so as to be a witness in case the collection was mine.

After spotting the counterfeit invert, Mr. Jackson told the Fort Worth man's agent that the collection was a stolen one and that he would have to call the police. The man became excited, said he would have to find his boss, and tried to take the stamps with him. Mr. Jackson said he would put the stamps in his safe until the police arrived, which he did. When the Fort Worth police arrived, Mr. Jackson turned the stamps over to them and they were taken to the property room of the Fort Worth Police Station.

Sgt. Bill Weilbacher and Detective Thomas Lauderdale of the San Antonio Police Department, drove with me to Fort Worth very early the next morning, January 18th. I had no trouble identifying the collection as mine, and after several hours, the Fort Worth Police turned it over to us.

The Fort Worth man who had brought the stamps in to Mr. Jackson, and who is a well-known business man, was interrogated quite extensively by Sgt. Weilbacher. He claimed he had won the stamps in a poker game, taking them in payment for \$6,000 which he had won in the game! He knew nothing about stamps, he said, but figured they were worth \$6,000. It seems that the fence in San Antonio and he were friends. He denied getting the collection from the fence, but did admit that he got him to catalog the collection for him.

The surprise occurred when Sgt. Weilbacher showed Willard Jackson a "mug shot". Mr. Jackson recognized him as "Mr. Miller", who turned out to be none other than the San Antonio fence!

After we got back to San Antonio a warrant for the arrest of the fence was issued and he was picked up and booked for receiving and concealing stolen merchandise. He is now out on \$7,500 bond. Since he has a long criminal record, the San Antonio police are hopeful that he will be convicted and sent to prison.

The man did a fairly thorough job of cataloging the stamps, taking practically every stamp off the album pages, cataloging each one individually, and putting them in glassine envelopes, with eight or ten glassines inside a larger glassine, with the total catalog value on the outside. This must have taken weeks or months, as there were several thousand stamps involved.

He did let my large three-ring binder of British alone, writing in the catalog value beneath each stamp, totaling the catalog value at the bottom of each page; then he added up each page with an adding machine, putting the tape in front of the album. Also, the pages of my main U.S. album were intact but with the binder missing, and here again, the catalog prices were neatly written beneath each stamp.

Now listen to this! As my collection was stolen in July, he used a 1967 catalog. Then when the 1968 volumes came out, he recataloged every stamp again, marking a line through the 1967 prices and writing in 1968 prices. What a job!

I did not recover any of my good covers, and I had many. Some common first days and first flights were recovered, but they had been badly mutilated. All the names and addresses on the covers had been cut out with scissors, but were still cataloged at the regular price! Each cover has the 1968 catalog value written on the back. Also, on the backs of many of the loose stamps he wrote the catalog number and price with a ballpoint pen!

I haven't had a chance to check everything yet, but it appears that I have recovered about 75% of what I lost. I feel very fortunate to have recovered this much, as seldom do you hear of a stolen collection being recovered.

Kelly Shryoc deserves a round of applause for his successful efforts to spread the word around Fort Worth that the collection was in that city. And the alert dealer, Willard Jackson, who handled the situation with a skill that assured recovery of the collection has earned the respect of all philatelists. This is the second collection that he has been instrumental in recovering.

Acknowledgement "Stamps".

POSTAGE STAMP FOR BUILDING AND SAVING SOCIETIES

The Australian Post Office will issue a 5 cent postage stamp to mark the 11th Triennial Congress of the International Union of Building Societies and Savings Associations to be held in Sydney from the 20th to the 27th October, 1968.

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GENESIS of the British South Africa Company's Postage Stamps and Postal Services, by V. F. Ellenberger, as supplied as a supplement to the S.A. Philatelist, June, 1967. A limited number of extra copies available at 20c, post free. Business Manager, S.A. Philatelist, P.O. Box 375, Johannesburg.

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COMMONWEALTH 1952-1966 Commemoratives: Mint half catalogue sent on approval. A. W. Albertyn, Box 10143, Cape Town.

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SOCIETY NEWS

CAPE SOCIETY OF PALESTINE ISRAEL PHILATELISTS

May: The meeting featured "Turkish Cancellations" by Mrs. H. Jeidel and "Mandate" by Dr. H. Gottschalk. The exhibit by Mrs. Jeidel started off with the early double-boxed Turkish postmarks of Jaffa, of which there were several strikes and proceeded through the various circular types up to the last days of the Turkish rule.

A good deal of interest was the World War I Covers with Turkish censor-marks, of which several types were on view.

The exhibit by Dr. Gottschalk was particularly strong in the E.E.F. issues and the early overprints. He showed a fairly comprehensive collection of the Jerusalem 18 m.m. Arabic overprint particularly of the first setting. Among other uncommon items he included the narrow setting overprint and most of the paper varieties of the pictorial issues.

GERMISTON PHILATELIC SOCIETY

May: Although the meeting was listed as "Swop and Sale" evening, little swopping and selling did in fact take place as the two exhibits provided by Mr. B. Eilers and Mr. H. Birkhead were of such high standard that all of the members present concentrated their attention on the stamps displayed. Mr. B. Eilers had written up a collection in German, and he showed stamps from Sweden from 1855 to 1957, including Postage-Dues and a selection of stamps on piece, being of the local denomination with clear postage post-marks of most of the towns of Sweden. Mr. H. Birkhead's choice was the issues of the British South Africa Company, all items in fine condition and many very seldom seen by average philatelists. The auction conducted by the Hon. Auctioneer, Mr. H. Birkhead was most successful and the funds of the Society would benefit accordingly.

Obituary: It is with very deep regret that we have to record the passing away of Mr. J. H. van Loggerenberg. A stalwart and long-standing member of our Society, and a regular attender, he always undertook the routine duties of registrar and tea-fund collector with cheerful willingness. Whenever possible he attended our visits to other Societies as well. It will be remembered that in 1965, he was awarded the G.P.S. 1963/64 Committee's Trophy on Thematics for his exhibit of K.G.V. Silver Jubilees.

June: Unfortunately several members were away on their annual leave, but the members who braved the weather to attend this meeting certainly spent an entertaining evening with the wit and humour of Mr. H. Oppenheim who had been invited to visit Germiston.

He provided exhibits of outstanding interest to all and his first exhibit was a selection of sheets of his vast collection of British Somali-

land. These consisted of various issues from 1903 to 1960. Then a selection of covers from the Netherlands, Papua & New Guinea, was followed by sheets of stamps from Chili. Finally, members were privileged to view a collection of French classics, an outstanding collection from 1850 to 1936. The thanks of all present was conveyed to Mr. H. Oppenheim by Mr. R. G. L. Mephius and Mr. H. Suklje the President. At the invitation of the President, Mr. H. Oppenheim took over the Society's auction that evening. Society's funds were duly increased.

FISH HOEK PHILATELIC SOCIETY

May: The Auction held at our Meeting was a reasonable success. The total amount raised was R22.85, the Society Funds benefited to the tune of R6.29. Thanks are due to all who helped, buyers, sellers and those who kindly donated lots. Should sufficient material be forthcoming short auctions will be held at each meeting time permitting.

EAST RAND PHILATELIC SOCIETY

June: An apology for the lack of a newsletter last month. Unfortunately, circumstances were against its issue. However, there was a meeting in May, not very well attended, no doubt due to the weather. Two exhibits were tabled, by Mr. Forner and Mr. Godwin. Mr. Forner showed a very pleasing collection of Austrian F.D.C.'s — a very nearly complete collection well set out.

The Meeting this month will be on Monday, 10th June, and a special request is made for ALL members to attend, as we will be guests to the Germiston Philatelic Society who will be providing the exhibits.

THE ROYAL PHILATELIC SOCIETY OF RHODESIA

May: We were promised something good and we got it. Mr. Creewell's display of "Something for Beginners" showed how, from an issue of four stamps (Edward VIII) it had been possible to build up a collection comprising the normal four, eleven overprints, with various control numbers, Postage Dues, Booklets and Overseas Agencies.

Mr. Fitzstephan's display of "Something for Everybody" was in fact, something for everybody, for it comprised all those items which are within the reach of all collectors. Variety post-marks and Covers of Royal Visits.

The emphasis on both these collections was the simplicity of a basis for the beginner.

Mr. Wright conveyed the thanks of members for the opportunity of viewing these displays.

WORLD PLOUGHING CONTEST ISSUE

Although it is conceded that the issue was superb, enthusiasts must be disappointed at the presentation of the First Day Covers and the fact that these had been cancelled at Norton and registered, both with tag and postmark,

at Salisbury, shatters the whole effect. At least a pretence of an authentic Norton cancellation should have been maintained, and further, why all the corner marks on the covers when it was impossible for the stamp canceller to cover all four corners of the stamps?

MEDICAL CONGRESS

No special stamps are to be issued to commemorate the Medical Congress to be held at the TEACHERS TRAINING COLLEGE from the 19th to 24th August, but a special stamp cancellation will be used at the temporary postal agency. A very limited number of special First Day Covers will be available, and for why should the Ploughing Contest stamps be appropriate? The public are invited ONLY on the 21st and 24th.

BELLVILLE PHILATELIC SOCIETY

May: Mr. Keulder was the exhibitor at the meeting and showed "Canada". He dealt with all the issues of this dominion from 1859 to date and was able to show us a number of the early issues which were most attractive. These included the blurred impressions, and the various perforations in the 1872-1878 issues. An interesting item was to be seen in the King Edward 1907 issue which consisted of a Block of 4 imperf. During the period 1950-1967 the stamps became more colourful and depicted the National Industries, Animals, Flora, Heraldic Arms, etc.

Mr. Peter Best then discussed Printing Techniques applicable to Postage Stamps pointing out the basic differences by which the various operations were put into effect. He showed us a plate used in the Litho process as also a Plate used for recess printing purposes.

June: We were fortunate to obtain Mr. Dowd as our Speaker who discussed "Intaglio Printing Method".

Mr. Dowd exhibited examples of Metal dies which had been engraved for Recess-printing — the engraving was naturally executed in reverse.

The President, Mr. Lee, exhibited United States of America after the tea-adjournment, and as Mr. Beunderman had kindly seen to the erection of additional display frames, we had the opportunity of viewing a Mammoth-display consisting of 180 sheets simultaneously. The exhibit commenced with the Presidential series and passed through all the issues of the U.S.A. to date.

Mr. Lee made some interesting comments in regard to the Stamps of the U.S.A. He pointed out that Watermarks only appear on these stamps during the period 1895-1916. 1960 apparently established a record for the volume of Commemorative Stamps issued as the U.S.A. issued 37 stamps. However, the demands made on the Collector's pocket were small as only 1 stamp is issued for each event commemorated.

A successful meeting concluded with sales and exchange.

THE PHILATELIC SOCIETY OF JOHANNESBURG

May: The first meeting was well attended, but then Bourses always are. This time, however, we had an added attraction, a talk by Mr. Huthwaite on the use of the ultra-violet lamp, with demonstrations of various types of lamps during the Bourse. Mr. Meier and Mr. Hagelsieper of Optical Instruments kindly came along and demonstrated a couple of recent models, a hand model of R26.00 and a larger model at R116.00. The Bourse, as usual, produced a hive of activity.

The second meeting, "Dealers Night", was even better attended. Mr. Hofman read a paper on Dealers' grouses, Mr. Joseph recalled a few amusing incidents he has experienced as a dealer, and then showed us a superb collection of Swiss pictures with the stamps to match the pictures. Mr. Suklje spoke about the Wholesale Dealer, and exhibited some of the choicer items from his collection. Dr. von Varendorff showed part of his fine collection of German States and Mrs. Wedderburn-Maxwell spoke on postal dealing. The auction, taken by Mr. Oppenheim, was brisk and successful.

ROYAL PHILATELIC SOCIETY OF CAPE TOWN

May 9th: Mr. M. Rall showed some pages from his South African Collection. Included were controls and colour shades of the George V issue. Some very nice missing colours and part printings of later issues were also on exhibit.

Mr. Hegardt showed what he called "Odds and ends" of South African Postmarks among them covers from Tristan 1919 and the Shackleton Expedition 1921. Entertainment Tax labels used and accepted for postage, etc. etc.

Mr. R. Putzel was the South West Africa representative, exhibiting a collection which covered the Territories postal activities very thoroughly. Giving a resume of the early history Mr. Putzel showed the first German issues, Wanderstempei, Herero and 1914/18 War material, the South African overprints and perf varieties in the 1931 pictorials.

Mr. Gericke a visitor from Somerset West, very kindly showed a cover from the crash of the Boeing "Pretoria" at Windhoek on April 20th.

PRETORIA RAILWAY PHILATELIC SOCIETY

June: Although the night of this month's meeting turned out to be the coldest of the year with the temperature well below freezing point we had a good attendance in a lovely cosy room warmed by two beautiful fires and with the nice tea and cake during the break, the members were entertained by Mr. Huthwaite, who with his good lady came over from Johannesburg in the biting weather, showed a portion of his mint George VI collection comprising the countries in the J to M category. Highlights displayed included the Kenya,

Uganda and Tanganyika 50c "Rope not joined" variety in a block of four, the Jamaica 1½d., S.G. 123a and the Leeward Island 1s issues just to mention a few of the fine stamps.

He was followed by "Cas" who tabled the Queen Elizabeth section of his mint collection of Australia and Dependencies. Mostly displayed in blocks of four, the collections included all the stamps issued by the islands in the Pacific under the control of the two Dominions. Stamps from such places as Norfolk Island, Papua and New Guinea, Western Samoa and the Antarctic Dependencies are not often shown at Society meetings and all the collections shown were thoroughly enjoyed by the members who were in attendance. Their appreciation was expressed by Messrs. Derek Brown and Sam Smith.

THE EAST LONDON PHILATELIC SOCIETY

June: The meeting, considering the cold and wet weather, was well attended, with 23 visitors and members braving the elements. We were very pleased to welcome Mrs. Hutchinson and Mr. Spence as new members, and hope to see them at our future meetings. "ELPEX 68" proceeds according to plan, and as all our available frames were taken up when provisional entries closed, we had to ask Mr. Knott to do some drawing board re-organisation to accommodate the late entries. All indications are that we will have a successful exhibition, and the pleasing feature is that there are more South African and junior entries than are usually received, in addition to many collections "never previously shown". The Thornton Cup competition received three entries, G.B. Q.E. 2 Commemoratives by Mr. King, New Zealand by Mr. Knott, and G.B. Q. E. 2 by Miss Pearson. The judging had been a difficult task, and the decision was given to Mr. King's entry. Our congratulations to him.

PRETORIA PHILATELIC SOCIETY

June: The drop in temperature throughout the Republic also brought a drop in the attendance at this month's meeting when the Vice-President organised the evening's entertainment.

This month the Commander organised an exhibit out of each of the three catalogues issued by Stanley Gibbons, namely, the red, the green and the blue.

The first exhibit, that from the red catalogue, was tabled by Mr. G. F. W. Kuhn, our worthy Hon. Secretary, who displayed his collection of the Australian Commonwealth. There were, naturally enough, a few gaps in the collection but these were mainly the "difficult to get" mint copies of the early Kangaroo and Kings Head definitive issue. The collection was well displayed with a minimum of writing up, only the essential details being given.

Mrs. Shaw, who braved the cold to come over all the way from Johannesburg with her husband, then displayed a mint collection of the stamps of Estonia, this, of course, out of the green catalogue. A complete collection,

delightfully displayed, was something out of the ordinary and a collection from a country which we so seldom have had on display.

The final exhibit of the evening was tabled by the organiser himself, who showed his collection of Shanghai. The stamps of Shanghai (from the blue book, of course) are almost, but not quite, the last of the purely local stamps still included in Gibbons and were issued under the authority of the Shanghai Municipality which was responsible for running the International Settlement at Shanghai.

Included were many of the early surcharges and some of the first type printed on laid paper, which are classed among the rarities of these issues.

Our sincere thanks are due to the Commander for a jolly fine collection displayed at the Vice-President's evening and a big vote of thanks to the exhibitors who made the evening such a success.

PORT ELIZABETH PHILATELIC SOCIETY

May 21st: The exhibit, one of British Commonwealth issues was given by Mr. M. Katz. This is the first time Mr. Katz has exhibited and the display was appreciated by those present.

The stamps were in mint and used condition and included some blocks of four. Items of note included the first "Dhows" set of Aden and a used Kenya, Uganda, and Tanganyika 30 cent of the University issue with an "inset" perforation.

An auction concluded the evening.

THE O.F.S. PHILATELIC SOCIETY

May: Although more members were expected, the attendance was fair and those who attended were entertained to a feast of O.F.S. stamps. These were exhibited by Mr. John Price. Once again, we were provided with an excellent display with all the rarer items well represented. The scarce inverted overprints and double overprints. These together with the O.R.C. 'Iostage' 4d error in both watermarks attracted much attention. To end off the exhibit were about a dozen varieties which are not listed, which lead to quite a bit of lively discussion. This collection makes a fascinating study when one considers the limited numbers of issues which were continually overprinted and surcharged.

Mr. A. L. Meyburgh presented a Philatelic Quiz and the results hereof will be given at the June meeting. New Issues were tabled by Messrs. Scott, Hodgson and Roux.

Obituary: We regret to record the passing of Adv. Gray, husband of Mrs. F. S. Gray (a member of long standing in this Society) after a long illness.

The sudden passing of Mr. Mark Marincowitz on the 1st June came as a great shock. Mark, together with his wife, Enid, have done yeoman service on the Committee in recent years and his passing is a great loss to the Society.

All our thoughts are with both families in their bereavement.

THE MASHONALAND PHILATELIC SOCIETY

May: A very pleasant meeting was held and amongst the total of 43 members and 14 visitors we were pleased to welcome Messrs. Makeir, Horton and Van Slot from Eiffel Flats. The selection of stamps offered at the auction included some early Rhodesian, Karjiba mint, 1d. Dry Gum, 6d Trial Papers etc., and a high percentage of sales were effected as a result of skilful handling by our Auctioneer and Chairman Mr. Brooke. Good work was also done by Mr. Walters who deputised for Mr. Davenport who is currently on leave. We were also pleased to see Mr. R. C. Smith, Author of "Rhodesia — A Postal History" and we understand that a few copies of this excellent publication are still available direct from Mr. Smith whose address is P.O. Box 8061, Causeway. Mr. Annett, a member of The Mashonaland Philatelic Study Group was busy selling Guide No. 3 to members and here we must emphasise the importance of your obtaining a copy of this latest publication (13/6d. post free) before it runs out of print. We say this as many members are experiencing difficulty in purchasing copies of Guide No. 2 at this late stage.

June: A total of 50 members and visitors attended the meeting held on the 12th June and its success may be measured by the fact that, despite opening promptly at 8 p.m., it did not close till just on 11 p.m. We were particularly pleased to welcome Mr. A. E. Shepherd of Gwelo who is an active member of, and brought greetings from, the Midlands Stamp Club.

Another member of long-standing, who is held in great esteem and whom we were pleased to see on 12th June, was Mr. W. Baeck, and we are most grateful to him for his offer to display some of his material later in the year.

Mr. Walters gave a most instructive paper and demonstration on "Watermarks and their Detection" which was greatly appreciated by all present.

It was announced that the Alfred Beit Commemorative stamp, one of a series honouring famous figures in Rhodesian History, will be issued on 15th July, 1968. It is of a 1/6 value, printed by offset lithography in yellow, red, blue and black colours on white coated gummed paper and perforated 14½.

AFRIKAANSE PHILATELISTIESE VERENIGING VAN PRETORIA

Junie: Die aand is by wyse van proefneming gebruik vir ruilaand. Die meeste lede het wel een en ander saamgebring en daar is druk besigheid gedoen, hierdie slag met geslote beurs. Daar is ernstig oorweeg om 'n ultraviolet lamp vir gebruik van die lede aan te skaf. Mnr. Van Tilburg het egter sy eie lamp ter beskikking van die Vereniging gestel en daar is besluit om van hierdie aanbod 'n dankbare gebruik te maak.

EXPERT COMMITTEE

The next meeting of the Expert Committee of the Philatelic Federation of Southern Africa will be held on the 17th August, 1968.

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SEPTEMBER, 1968

Whole No. 521

SOUTH AFRICAN NOTES

By DR. H. J. RAUBENHEIMER,
Hon. Associate Editor.

NEW ISSUES OF ROLL STAMPS

Roll stamps of the denominations of 2c, 5c and 10c were placed on sale at the Publicity Bureau of the Post Office in July 1968. They were printed, as before in 1963, when the $\frac{1}{2}$ c and 1c values appeared, in a continuous web on the Goebel 840 machine. New multipositives were prepared from the master negatives at present used for their respective definitive stamps namely 2c pouring gold, 5c baobab and 10c Castle, Cape Town. The colours are as before.

The sizes of the stamps remain unaltered and the continuous roll as it emerged from the printing machine showed five stamps across with a wide margin on the left with guide marks for the later cutting into rolls, and a narrower margin on the right with five figure black sheet numbers. A slitting machine divides the sheets into the five vertical rows and at the same time trims off the left and right margins. The rows are numbered one to five from the left and their numbers are written on the green wrappers enclosing the rolls.

The perforating was performed within the printing machine on the single row appliance, and the slitting machine leaves the side perforations cleanly cut through — a distinguishing feature of the roll stamps — except for the last eight or so stamps in the roll, where the rolls are torn apart by hand after the slitting.

The stamps were printed on the Swiss RSA watermarked paper which, having the mark in tête-bêche formation, makes the

mark face upwards and downwards on the 2c value and left and right on the 5c and 10c values.

It is important to note that a distinctive feature of the previous $\frac{1}{2}$ c and 1c rolls is missing in these new values, namely the wider gutter between the two stamps termed M22 and M1 where the join of the carbon tissue on the cylinder exists. There is no constant difference in the widths of the gutter between M22 and M1 and any other gutters of these 2c, 5c and 10c values. The result, of course, is that no stamp may be identified by its variety as regards its position in the roll merely from an examination of the roll. Fortunately, however, the Philatelic Bureau has obtained, from the Printing Works a length of a sheet of each value with the side margins. And the left margin has a distinctive mark at each carbon join. A study of these sheets, together with the list made of constant varieties seen on the rolls themselves, has made it possible for us to present a list of varieties and in their proper position.

It must be stated, however, that, since the stamps have been very well printed, and since it is necessary to present sufficient means of identifying the different rolls, a rather more detailed scrutiny of the stamps has been made. Little constant marks which normally would have gone unrecorded have been included where necessary. A "tiny" variety can be just about seen by the naked eye; a "very tiny" one needs a magnifying glass. Even so a

combination of varieties has been recorded to identify a roll. Consider roll 4 of the 2c; the only two constant varieties, both of which appear on more than once on the other rolls, are recorded because of their relative positions on this roll. There are no other appreciable constant varieties on this roll.

The stamps have been numbered in the rolls in the same way as the 1c and $\frac{1}{2}$ c values were done, namely the 2c, like the 1c, facing left, and the 5c and 10c, like the $\frac{1}{2}$ c, upright, and numbered from left to right. Illustrations demonstrating these appear on pages AB1 and AB4 of the Republican Handbook. The effect is that the 2c stamp faces towards the outside of the roll and the outside of the roll is on the right of the 5c and the 10c stamps.

2c DENOMINATION

VARIETIES

Roll 1

Stamp/No.

- 14 Tiny blue dot in the right side of the orange flame in the crucible.
 M 1 Blue, horizontal broken hairlines in the top gutter about 11 m.m. long.

Roll 2

- M 1 Blue dot above 2 of 2c.
 1 Tiny blue dot below the handle of the left mould.
 4 Very tiny blue dot on the left side of the left mould at the handle.
 19 Deep blue dot at the right of the top of the winding cables.
 20 Tiny blue dot above the right end of the handle of the left mould.

Roll 3

- M22 Blue, flag shaped mark in the bottom gutter below C of AFRICA, and broken C of AFRICA.
 5 Three very tiny blue dots in the top gutter $\frac{1}{3}$ from the right corner.
 M 1 Broad blue band across the right centre of the stamp up to the right margin.

Roll 4

- 19 Tiny blue dot to the left of the handle of the right mould.
 M 1 Broad blue and white horizontal bands below the inclined winding cables.

Roll 5

- 20 Two tiny blue dots on the tray between

the two moulds.

- 17 Blue dot above the right mould and below the cables.
 10 Small white dot above 2c.
 4 Tiny blue dot in bottom gutter below SO of SOUTH and two tiny blue dots in bottom gutter below U of SUID and very tiny orange dot to the left of the handle of the right mould.
 3 Large blue dot touching the top of C of 2c.
 M 1 Broad, blue, horizontal bar up to the centre of the right frame line, and cluster of tiny blue dots in the top right corner of the stamp.

5c DENOMINATION

Roll 1

Stamp/No.

- M 1 Tiny blue dot in left gutter opposite the flower.
 2 Tiny blue dot in top gutter above U of REPUBLIEK.
 12 Tiny white dot below left leaf.

Roll 2

- M 1 Large blue smudge along the left frame line opposite the flower, and faint, vertical broken hairline in left gutter opposite the flower.
 4 Very tiny blue dot in top gutter above K of REPUBLIEK.
 18 White dot at the top right of the second A of AFRICA.

Roll 3

- M 1 Tiny break in left frame line $\frac{1}{4}$ from top corner and short, vertical, broken blue hairlines in left gutter.
 12 Tiny blue dot in top gutter above LI of REPUBLIEK.
 15 Blue dot in corner of left petal of flower.
 19 Tiny white dot below branch and above IC of REPUBLIC.

Roll 4

- M 1 Triangular break in the left frame line opposite the top leaf, and vertical blue hairline in the left gutter at the centre.
 5 Large, faint, white dot below 5 of 5c.
 11 White dot below S of SUID.

Roll 5

- 8 Faint blue dot at the top right of F of OF.
 11 Tiny white dot at the bottom right of D of SUID.
 14 Tiny white dot at bottom left of S of

SOUTH.

- 15 White dot at left of 5 of 5c.
 M22 Tiny white dot at right margin opposite OF.

10c DENOMINATION**Roll 1**

- M 1 Dark brown dot in centre of tree on left.
 8 Faint white area between I and D of SUID.
 12 Faint white mark above S of SUID.

Roll 2

- 1 Very tiny white dot below A of KAS-TEEL.
 5 Faint green dot at the left frame line near the bottom corner.
 6 White dots around the top of 1 of 10c.
 10 Tiny brown dot on left frame line opposite S of SUID.

Roll 3

- 6 Tiny green dot touching the top of O of OF.

Roll 4

- 5 Tiny brown dot in top gutter above B of REPUBLIEK.
 8 Tiny brown dot at top right of F of OF.
 9 Very tiny brown dot in the left gutter in line with the bottom of the doorway.
 16 Tiny brown dot in left gutter halfway down.
 M22 Green dot on right frame line $\frac{3}{4}$ down; and green dot above 0 of 10c; and cluster of green dots in top right corner.

Roll 5

- M 1 Tiny green dot above S of SUID.
 8 Tiny faint green dot below 0 of 10c.
 10 Brown dot at 11 o'clock to top right corner of the roof.

A NEW 6c POSTAGE DUE STAMP

The fifth value, 6c, of the Postage Due stamps issued this year was delivered to the Philatelic Bureau on the 11th July 1968. It appears in the same sheet and stamp format as the other four but the printing factors are changed. There are red sheet numbers, instead of the black, having been printed on the Goebel 830 machine with the eleven row perforator. Two new cylinders were used prepared from the previous master negatives. They are numbers 262, myrtle-green interior, and 263 orange, exterior. Cylinder 263 replaces the previous 227 which was used for



the other values. The arrows on all margins are orange and the paper is the Swiss, RSA watermarked, the marks being upwards and downwards, and show distinctly.

VARIETIES**English on top**

- Row/No.
 1/ 5 Tiny green dot below 6.
 1/ 9 Short orange hairline in top gutter above EP of REPUBLIC.
 2/ 5 Tiny orange dot at lower left of 6.
 4/ 9 Dark dot below P of POSTAGE.
 5/ 9 Tiny orange dot in top gutter above UB of REPUBLIC.
 7/ 1 Tiny green dot between 6 and c of 6c.
 8/ 5 Green dot at right of top loop of 6; and orange dot in bottom gutter below A of AFRIKA.
 10/ 1 Dark dot in top loop of R of AFRICA.
 10/ 3 Dark dot between UT of SOUTH

Afrikaans on top

- 1/ 7 Tiny green dot within c of 6c.
 2/ 1 Short green hairline below c of 6c.
 2/ 7 Green dot at right of top of 6 of 6c.
 7/ 5 Tiny green dot to the left of and near the top of the upright of 6.
 8/ 1 Green dot in the top gutter above P of REPUBLIEK.
 8/ 6 Tiny green dot at the top right of c of 6c.
 10/ 5 Orange dot in the centre of the loop of 6.



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SELECTIONS FROM OUR RARE STAMP DEPARTMENT

NEW REPUBLIC

1887. Cover used internally bearing 1d. violet cancel by 'VRYHEID' c.d.s. Endorsement on back of cover meaning "advertised & unclaimed". Very rare. R258

1886/87. Cover bearing P.11½ 1d violet pair with Transvaal 2d brn-purp. cancel with Vryheid & Utrecht strikes and back-stamped 'G.P.O. Transvaal' on Christmas Day. R129

1886. Combination covers bearing two 1d violet with eight ¼d grey Transvaal and two 2d brown Transvaal. c.d.s. Vryheid, numeral "11" and "T" with "4d" in blue pencil covering postage due. Rare. R86

1886. Exceptionally rare and possibly unique combination cover from Zululand to England bearing New Republic 1d violet and 6 Natal 1d, in addition to the usual cancels there is the scarce "Too Late" cachet in box, having in all probability missed the steamer at Natal, With cert. R430



TRANSVAAL

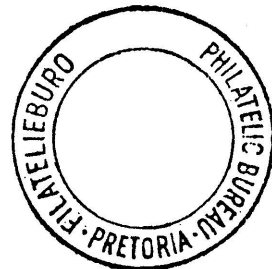
- S.G. 187. 1885. £5 deep green. The exceptional fine rarity with B.P.A. cert. Mint, illustrated. R1032
- S.G. 244/5 1902. King Edward definitives, 12 vals, mint. R15.50
- S.G. 255. 1902. King Edward superb mint block of four. R27.50
- S.G. 260/72. 1904. King Edward Mult. Crown, 13 vals, mint. R29.25

The above are a small selection from our extensive specialised stocks. If you would like to see any of the above or are interested in other countries, please write to:-

JOHN FARTHING (Commonwealth — part one — countries)
STEVEN KANDER (Foreign countries)



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. The amount should be sufficient to cover postage and registration.

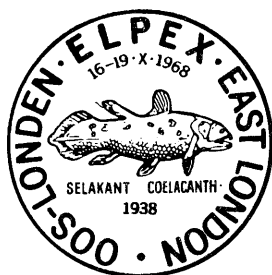
Deposit accounts may be opened.

'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, posorders of bankwissels, betaalbaar aan die Posmeester-generaal. Tjeks word nie aangeneem nie. Die bedrag moet voldoende wees om die pos- en registrasiegelde te dek.

Deposito-rekenings kan geopen word.

**NATIONAL PHILATELIC EXHIBITION,
EAST LONDON (ELPEX)**



Temporary postal facilities and a special datestamp will be provided at the National Philatelic Exhibition to be held at East London during the period 16th to 19th October, 1968, which will coincide with the Annual Congress of the Philatelic Federation of Southern Africa to be held at that centre.

Persons residing in the Republic of South Africa who desire to obtain impressions of the above-mentioned datestamp, must forward their addressed envelopes bearing the necessary postage stamps, under cover to the Postmaster (Philatelic), East London, not later than 19th October, 1968. Persons residing elsewhere must forward their addressed envelopes, together with the necessary remittance for the postage stamps to be affixed thereto to the Philatelic Bureau, G.P.O., Pretoria, to reach that office not later than 14th October, 1968.

Official commemorative envelopes will not be issued.

UNLESS ENDORSED BY THE RELATIVE BANK CHEQUES WILL NOT BE ACCEPTED.

"G.P.O. Philatelic Bulletin"

BRITISH PHILATELIC EXHIBITION

The prospectus and the entry forms for the British Philatelic Exhibition to be held in October, 1968, are available from The Secretary, British Philatelic Exhibition, 1 Hamilton Court, Ealing Common, London, W.S.

The prospectus contains valuable guidance for exhibitors to enhance their displays: "The entrant should demonstrate his knowledge of his material both by layout and drawing attention to the important details . . . sets of stamps obviously cancelled to order are to be discouraged . . . undue stress will not be placed on the catalogue value of material . . . if a cover is shown it is probably important enough to be mounted by itself.

Acknowledgement "The Philatelist"

**FREE COVERS FROM GALAXY'S
FIRST FLIGHT**

The United States Air Force and The Lockheed Georgia Co. have announced that they will fly the new C-5 Galaxy for the first time during June.

To commemorate this historic event Lockheed will issue a special commemorative first flight cover. The cachet will be in colour and will be printed on the standard 6½ airmail envelope. The covers will be franked with the new 50th anniversary 10c commemorative airmail stamp which was released on May 15.

The Lockheed C-5 Galaxy is the world's largest transport aircraft. It was designed and built primarily as a military transport but the commercial potentials of this aircraft are immense.

During the initial rollout ceremonies on March 2, President Johnson had this to say:

"The Galaxy can only be described in extraordinary terms. Its cargo floor alone is longer than the first flight made by the Wright Brothers, its jet engine is twice as powerful as any now in existence . . . It can do three times the work of the biggest cargo plane the United States now has, cutting costs in half. It can span the Pacific, from Japan to California in one single jump."

The C-5 Galaxy stands 65 feet from the ground to the top of the horizontal stabilizer, and has a wing spread of 223 ft. The normal payload for this plane is 256,000 pounds.

Anyone desiring one of these special covers may obtain one through J. C. Templeton, Jr., Box 597, Smyrna, Ga. 30080. Name, address and zip number must be included, and a gummed label to facilitate addressing will be appreciated. There will be no other charge for these covers.

Acknowledgement "Linn's Weekly Stamp News"

OBITUARY

We have learnt as we go to press of the sudden death recently at Cape Town of Mr. W. G. Combrink, an eminent South African philatelist.

A memorial note will appear in a later issue and meanwhile we extend our sympathy to his relations.

THE FORGERIES OF THE 1925 AIR MAIL STAMPS OF SOUTH AFRICA

(Paper and demonstration presented at a meeting of the South African Stamp Study Circle by Mr. S. P. Naylor.)

Having read Mr. Leslie Leon's letter in the South African Philatelist of March 1968, and being urged by Mr. Jack Hagger, I made a closer study of the air mail forgeries in my collection and also those contained in Mr. Hagger's material.

I can now confirm Mr. Leon's information that there are two sets of forgeries, printed

from two different sets of plates, which for ease of reference, I am calling Plates 1 and 2. Further subdivisions are possible by virtue of different perforation gauges, the different papers used, and other variations. Plate 1 forgeries are those first reported in the S.A. Philatelist of November 1953 (Vol. 29 page 197) and Plate 2 forgeries are the latest discoveries.

I set out below some of the differences in design between the forgeries and the genuine stamps, and from these points the two different forgeries can easily be distinguished one from the other, and from the genuine stamps.

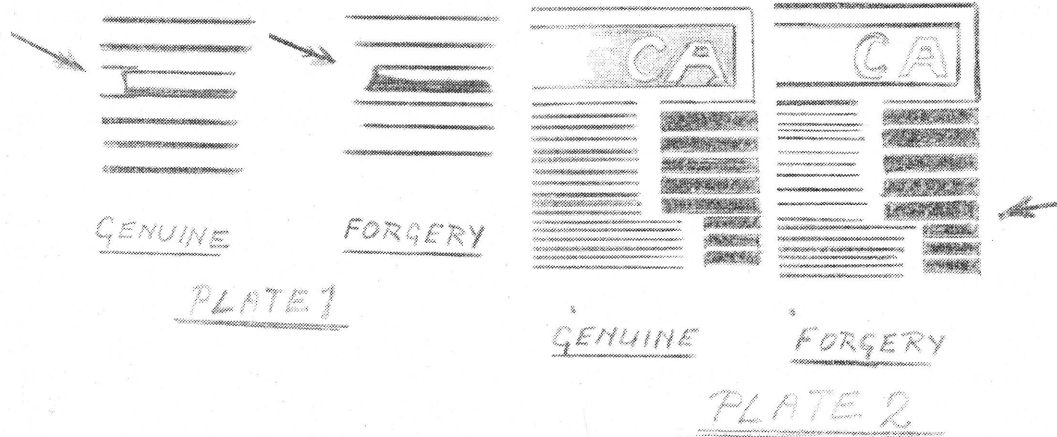
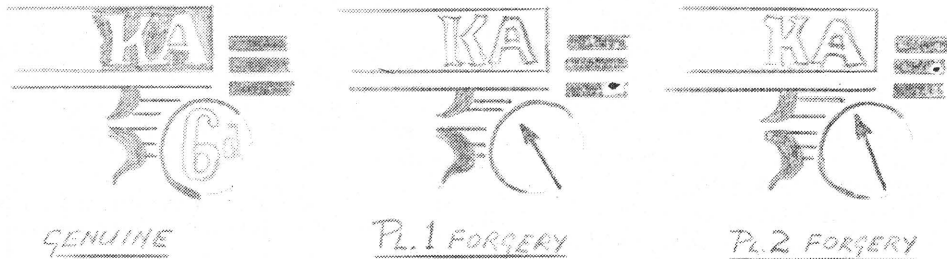


PLATE 1.

1. Below KA of SUIDAFRIKA — The second and third lines of shading are close together. On the genuine stamps the spacing is even.
2. The lines of shading around the aircraft are thinner, not evenly spaced, and the

- ends at right and left do not make a straight vertical line as in the genuine stamp.
3. The first two lines of shading under the words "AIR POST" are **NOT** thickened as in the genuine stamps.
4. The left end of the lower wing is different. The genuine stamp has short lines of shad-

ing projecting to the left from the top and bottom edges of this wing — these are missing on the first forgery.

PLATE 2.

1. Below KA of SUIDAFRIKA — The first and second lines of shading are very slightly closer together. This is not a very good point of difference.
2. As for Plate 1 forgeries, but the differences are not so marked — Also the following very clear point: Below the last A of AFRICA, the first of the longer lines of fine shading sticks out to the right.
3. First two lines of shading under the words "AIR POST" are thickened as in the genuine.
4. Left end of lower wing is similar to the genuine.

There are other minor differences, besides the above four points, but these are the best for quick reference.

Looking at the above points for Plate 2, it almost seems as if the forger tried to correct his "faults" in the Plate 1 forgeries, as points 1, 3 and 4 have been corrected, and point 2 partly so. However, in trying to correct point

2, he made a further mistake.

The Perforations are different. That of the genuine being 12 gauge (actually 11.9), while Plate 1 forgeries are known with gauges of $11\frac{1}{2}$ and 13, and Plate 2 forgeries with gauge 11. Mr. Leon states that his Plate 2 forgeries are perforated $11\frac{1}{2}$.

In some of the forgeries the lines of perforations are not parallel to the edges of the design, giving the stamp a "lop sided" look. (This shows up on the first lot of Plate 1 forgeries being shown here today).

In most of the forgeries viewed, the perforation holes are clean. The genuine stamps often have very rough perforation, in which the holes are more often "angular" rather than rounded. These rough perforations are about point two different in gauge — being 11.7 against 11.9 of the clean perforations.

Further, the perforation holes on genuine stamps are not in a straight line but are "staggered" to a degree. Most of the genuine stamps viewed are centred to the left — but it is not known if there is any significance in this.

The Size of the design, and the overall size of the stamp also show variations.

| | GENUINE | PLATE 1 FORGERIES | | PLATE 2 FORGERIES |
|-----------------------------|---|---------------------------|--|---|
| | | A | B | |
| Perforation | 12 | 13 | $11\frac{1}{2}$ | 11 |
| Width and Height of design | $22\frac{1}{2} \times 28\frac{1}{2}$ m.m. | $22\frac{1}{2} \times 28$ | $22\frac{1}{2} \times 28$ | $23 \times 28\frac{1}{2}$ |
| Overall size Perf. to Perf. | 26×32 m.m. | $27 \times 32\frac{1}{2}$ | 26×31 to 32 | $26\frac{1}{2} \times 32\frac{1}{2}$ |
| Paper | Slightly Toned | Whiter | 1d and 9d Toned 3d and 6d Whiter | Whiter than Genuine |
| Gum | Crazed by many small cracks | Smooth and clear | 1d and 9d cracked 3d and 6d smooth and clear | Smooth and Clear |
| Ultra-Violet Re-action | No Fluorescence | Paper Fluoresces White | 1d and 9d Dull 3d and 6d paper Fluoresces White | 1d and 9d Dull with many tiny fluorescent spots 3d and 6d Fluoresces White |

Note:

1. Sub-Group has letter 'F' stamped on back in Purple Ink. Otherwise the same as A.
2. Mr. Leon states that his second forgeries are perforated $11\frac{1}{2}$.

The Colours show a much greater variation in the forgeries than in the genuine stamps.

Reaction under the ultra-violet light shows up further differences, and shows that different papers have been used. With the genuine stamps, there is no special fluorescence, but the different sets of forgeries react in different ways.

The first set of Plate 1, and the sub-set with "F" stamped on the back, fluoresce very brightly, but in the other Plate 1 set which are perforated 11½, the 3d and 6d values fluoresce, but 1d and 9d are dull. With the Plate 2 forgeries the 1d and 9d are dull — but with many small fluorescent spots, and 3d and 6d values fluoresce white. This shows that at least three different papers have been used for the forgeries.

In general, the paper used for the forgeries is much whiter than that of the genuine stamps, and the gum is clear and smooth on the forgeries, while the gum of the genuine stamps is usually "crazed" with many small cracks. This could of course, be due to age.

From all the foregoing points, it would seem as if there have been at least two printings or "run-offs" from the first forged plate, and possibly also two from the second plate.

All these differences are shown in the table.

These stamps were previously not of any particular value, so it is puzzling as to why the forgers picked on them. One possible reason is that the paper had no watermark, which immediately made the problem easier.

As far as the origin of the forgeries is concerned, nothing definite is known. Most people believe that they originated in France, though there has been a suggestion that Italy could be concerned.

LETTERS TO THE EDITOR

Dear Sir,

The Sixteen Bar Numeral Cancellers of the Orange Free State

Referring to the article which appeared in your June, 1968, number, perhaps I can add some comments.

First of all, is it certain that the information given for Bloemfontein is correct? I have hundreds of Cancellor No. 1 (sixteen bars) but have never seen it on any stamp or cover after round about 1886 when the eleven bar No. 1 for Bloemfontein seems to have come into use.

Cancellor No. 17 (Ladybrand) was used well into the 20th Century and is found on the Edwardian stamps which were not issued until 1903. No. 18 (Ficksburg) is also commonly found on V.R.I. overprinted stamps.

Your correspondent has no specimens of No. 15 (Bethanie). I have four and include details in the accompanying statement. I also have No. 16 on a card dated 11th June 1891 from Weponer to Davetsdorp. Although my

collection is extensive I have never seen an item bearing No. 16 which emanated from Bandfort — then, of course, I may be unfortunate!

As to coloured inks, I have impressions from Harrismith (brown), Fauresmith (brown), Bethanie (purple) and Ficksburg (purple). I agree that coloured strikes on entires are not very common.

I attach a statement showing details of covers and cards which I have which differ from those indicated by your contributor.

| Town | Date | Colour of Ink | Item |
|--------------|----------|---------------|--------|
| Bloemfontein | 21/ 6/72 | Black | Letter |
| | 24/10/73 | Black | Letter |
| | 3/ 1/78 | Black | Letter |
| Winburg | 16/ 9/95 | Black | Letter |
| | 23/ 2/96 | Black | Letter |
| | 16/11/73 | Black | Letter |
| | 17/12/87 | Brown | Letter |
| Harrismith | 28/ 1/83 | Black | Letter |
| | 21/ 6/90 | Brown | Letter |
| Fauresmith | 28/12/73 | Black | Letter |
| | 21/ 1/81 | Black | Letter |
| Kroonstad | 23/10/90 | Black | Card |
| | 14/ 3/94 | Black | Card |
| Bethulie | 31/12/88 | Black | Card |
| | 25/ 5/96 | Black | Letter |
| Bethlehem | 24/11/89 | Black | Card |
| | 3/10/79 | Black | Letter |
| Rouxville | 9/ 6/80 | Black | Letter |
| | 10/ 3/96 | Purple | Card |
| Bethanie | 10/ 3/96 | Blue | Card |
| | 8/ 7/96 | Black | Card |
| | 10/ 7/96 | Blue | Card |
| Weponer | 11/ 6/91 | Black | Card |
| | 12/ 8/73 | Black | Letter |
| Ladybrand | 25/ 1/96 | Black | Letter |
| | 4/ 3/95 | Purple | Letter |
| Ficksburg | 18/ 6/72 | Black | Letter |
| | 6/ 5/93 | Black | Letter |
| | 6/ 3/96 | Black | Letter |
| Reddersburg | | | |
| | | | |

I am sure that your contributor would find the Orange Free State Study Circle of the greatest interest since what she has done is very much the kind of thing they will use for the third volume of their handbook.

Yours faithfully,

A. G. M. BATTEN.

Dear Sir,

I am an Australian stamp-collector who desires penpals from Africa. I am a boy aged 16 years and a student completing final year secondary education. I would be pleased if you could find me philatelists with whom I can correspond. My other interests are coins, viewcards, FDC's, postmarks, reading, chess

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and athletics. I would be very grateful if you
could help me. Thank you kindly.

NEVILLE BYRNE.

(If any reader is able to assist this lad, his
address is: 66 Monash Street, Box Hill, Vic-
toria 3128, Australia — Editor.)

THE USAGE OF CARBON TETRACHLORIDE

Our South African Notes of July, 1968,
p. 142 mentioned carbon tetrachloride as a
recommended watermark detector and warn-
ed collectors that it can be ruinous to the
colours of their stamps.

Mr. Cecil J. Adkins, of Johannesburg, sub-
mits an article "Accidents! Is your home safe?"
which appeared in "The Reef", published by
the Prevention of Accidents Committee of the
Chamber of Mines of South Africa, and in
doing so, draws attention to another aspect
of carbon tetrachloride — the lethal aspect in
the use of this chemical combination.

We are pleased to reproduce the relevant
portion of the article and express our sincere
gratitude to Mr. Adkins for drawing our
attention, and that of collectors, to a condition
of our hobby which, unwittingly, may result in
grievous consequences:

"ACCIDENTS! IS YOUR HOME SAFE?"

Take a good long look at a bottle contain-
ing carbon tetrachloride. Overstamped by the
word POISON on the label is the name of
the fluid contained in the bottle, "Carbon
Tetrachloride", a common, readily available
household chemical stocked by most chemists
and used extensively for removing spots on
clothing, cleaning upholstery, removing grease
from stoves and oil from dismantled car parts.

Also on the label is the warning "Do not
inhale". That warning should be even more
prominently displayed than the word
POISON because it is the vapour of carbon
tetrachloride that is its most vicious hazard —
a vapour more poisonous than that of its near
relation, chloroform. Two to three teaspoons-
ful of carbon tet. will saturate the air to the
danger point in an unventilated room 10 feet
square by 10 feet high.

Many persons may think opening a couple
of windows is 'adequate' but accident reports
show that this won't do the trick. A man and
his wife opened both windows to create a draft
before they cleaned some furniture with a
gallon of carbon tetrachloride in a basin. After

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15 minutes they took the furniture outdoors to dry. Half an hour later they brought it back and noticed no odour from the vapour.

The next evening the couple both became ill with what they thought was stomach flu. Finally the man was hospitalized with a kidney failure that nearly took his life. The use of carbon tet. with so-called 'adequate' ventilation cost him much misery, 45 days in the hospital and tremendous medical bills.

A mother recently used half a cup of carbon tet. to clean the upholstery of two chairs. That afternoon her seven-year-old daughter came home from school with a slight cold and sat on one of the chairs to do homework. Later the child became so violently ill that she was taken to a hospital where doctors found that her kidneys had stopped functioning and she was near death. The cause was inhaling the poisonous vapour of carbon tet. It took the efforts of a 10-man medical team and an artificial kidney to keep the child alive. She remained in the hospital six weeks until her kidneys healed.

The victim who inhales carbon tet. usually has no warning at the time that he is being poisoned. Symptoms appear after the damage has been done. A stricken person may become dizzy, nauseated, jaundiced and begin to cough. Often he suspects he is coming down with the 'flu'. In severe cases the kidneys stop functioning entirely. This is the cause of death in about 90% of the carbon tet fatalities.

Anyone who inhales carbon tet. is risking severe poisoning, but certain persons unwittingly set themselves up as candidates for death because they are unaware of a strange way that carbon tet. kills. These are otherwise average, healthy people who make the innocent mistake of having an alcoholic drink or two before, after or during their use of carbon tetrachloride.

Dr. Robert M. Farrier of the National Institute of Health in a paper presented at the annual convention of the National Safety Council of Chicago said: 'For some reason only partly understood at present, alcohol alters the liver's ability to detoxify carbon tetrachloride so that a concentration which would not be dangerous without exposure to alcohol now becomes fatal'.

Following are tragic examples: During dinner, which followed a party on board a ship docked in harbour, a waiter tripped and spilled a plate of food on an officer. The next morning the officer's wife used about a quarter of a cup of carbon tetrachloride to remove the spots from his uniform. During the cleaning, her husband lay on a couch several feet away.

Since it was winter, the windows were closed and the carbon tet. fumes were confined within the room which was average size, about 8 by 10 by 12 feet.

Eleven days later the officer died in the hospital after his kidneys collapsed. Yet, the man's wife, who had breathed the same poison-filled air, did not even suffer mild symptoms of headache or nausea. The officer had drunk a few cocktails the night before at the party, his wife did not drink. The alcohol in his system, combined with the small amount of carbon tet., spelled the difference between life and death.

A young man, after having a few drinks, cleaned his shoes in a closet with a little carbon tet. He became ill but did not enter a hospital until three days later. He died within four days and an autopsy confirmed that the culprit was carbon tet. His liver and lungs had been severely assaulted and his kidneys had completely failed.

Many authorities believe it is foolhardy to risk using carbon tet. at home, even out of doors, when there are many good, less toxic substitutes on the market. Other authorities, however, do not consider the use of carbon tet. outdoors a great hazard to most persons as long as the work is placed so that a breeze blows away the vapour. But some persons — the heavy drinkers, those who are overweight or undernourished and sufferers from liver, lung, heart or kidney ailments — are so susceptible to carbon tet. that they should never use it even outdoors.

And a person should not believe that just because he has used carbon tet. previously without apparent harm that he is safe. No one is ever immune to this chemical and the next time could be the last. Also, frequent exposure to carbon tet. over a period of time can lead to chronic poisoning.

So the question arises: Should anyone ever use carbon tet. in the home? Safety and medical authorities reply almost unanimously 'NO'."

NORFOLK ISLAND TO COMMEMORATE AIR SERVICE ANNIVERSARY

On September 25 Norfolk Island will release two stamps of 5 and 7c to commemorate the 21st Anniversary of the introduction of regular Air Service between Sydney, Australia, and the Island nation by Qantas Airways.



VIR SEËLKUNDIGE JONG VERSAMELAARS

Al is die lesers van hierdie blad oorwegend ernstige en meer gevorderde selversamelaars, plaas ons tog dié maand 'n uittreksel van 'n nuusbrief van 'n plaaslike versamelaarsvereniging aan sy jonger lede, met die vertroue dat die wenke daarin bevat van nut sal wees:

Die inligting wat uit die voltooide vraelyste verkry is wys in die meeste gevalle duidelik op 'n gebrek aan leiding.

Kyk, as ons 'n ervare volwasse versamelaar scu vra wat hy versamel, sou ons nege uit tien keer hoor dat hy net een, twee of miskien drie lande, groepe, gebiede of temas versamel. Hoekom is dit so? Waarom sou hy dan sy versameling beperk; hy het tog immers baie vrye tyd en daarby meer geld wat hy aan seëls kan bestee? Die antwoord is eenvoudig omdat die ervaring hom geleer het dat hy nie reg kan laat geskied aan 'n hele boel versamelings nie. Hy strewer altyd daarna dat, wat hy ook al aanpak behoorlik gedoen word en dat hy dit so na aan volledig as moontlik kan kry. Vra jou maar self af: wat is die mooiste en gee die meeste tevredenheid en plesier, 'n netjiese versorgde, klein versamelinkie of 'n bonte boel seëls wat nie saam hoort en dus eintlik geen betekenis het nie? Wil jy liewers met 'n duisend losstaande seëls spog, of wil jy trots sê, „ek het maar net 250 seëls maar hulle verteenwoordig al die seëls van die Republiek van Suid-Afrika en Basoetoland/Lesotho?”

Die spreekwoordelike skoolseun van die verlede het hom altyd op getalle toegelê maar ons hedendaagse skoolseun lewe nie in die verlede nie. Daarom moet hy sy pogings (sy vrye tyd en seëlgeldjies) reg inspan om 'n bepaalde vooropgesette doel te bereik. En sy

doel behoort 'n volledige versameling van een of meer onderwerpe binne sy vermoë te wees (of dan so na moontlik aan volledigheid). Sy manier van doen behoort te wees: hy kies vir hom 'n land, groep of tema wat hom na aan die hart lê en probeer om dit te voltooi. Elke burger van ons land behoort byvoorbeeld ons seëls eers te pak. Daarna kan hy in die rigting van ons stamlande en elders kyk. Dit is nie 'n reël nie. Dit is maar net 'n voorstel. Elke versamelaar versamel wat hy wil maar hy moet nie te veel aanpak nie. Ons gee die Republiek maar as voorbeeld omdat dit 'n „jong land” is. As hy die Republiek sou kies, scu hy vind dat hy eerlang kompleet is. Sodra hy dan al die seëls van die Republiek het en net moet sit en wag vir nuwe uitreikings kan hy aan 'n tweede „versameling” dink. Teen dié tyd het hy al koers gekry, slimmer geword, as't ware, en kan hy dan ietsie bietjie moeiliker aanpak, soos die Unie van Suid-Afrika. Só behoort ons te werk te gaan. Laat staan die frille en fraiings, die kolletjies en strepies. Dit is vir die filateliste. Ons doodgewone seëlversamelaars hou ons by die basiese seëls waarby duidelik kleur-, watermerk- en tandingsoorte gereken word.

Ek keer terug na die verhaal wat die voltooide vertel, en dit is dat net die maatjies wat reggehelp is reg te werk gaan. Die eerste wat opval is Teunis Weys, 12 jaar oue standerd-vyfie wat al drie jaar met slegs een onderwerp besig is, naamlik Soogdiere. Nou hoekom soogdiere en nie sommer Diere nie? Omdat laasgenoemde so 'n ontsaglike groot tema is dat dit eintlik veels te veel vir enige gewone versamelaar is. Hier sien ons duidelik die „wyse” leiding van sy moeder wat self 'n ervare versamelaar is. Nog 'n mooi voorbeeld is mej. Dubbeld, 16½ jaar oud en in standerd nege. Sy hou haar al drie jaar besig met Blomme. (As sy haar tot Rose beperk het

sou sy ook nie onledig gewees het nie). Waar wil jy nou beter of mooier! Ernst Sittig, 17 jaar oud, standard nege, versamel al sewe jaar maar kyk nie verder as die Rhodesies en Duitsland. Oorgenoeg, selfs vir 'n man met baie sakgeld. Maar hy gaan klaarblyklik reg aan met 'n gesonde grondslag vir die toekoms.

In teenstelling met hierdie drie kry ons 'n 14-jarige wat maar net twee jaar lank versamel en hom die onmoontlike taak gestel het om die volgende te versamel: Suid-Afrika, Nederland, Engeland, Frankryk en Duitsland, en 'n 13-jarige wat met Duitsland, Suid-Afrika, Hongarye, Pole België, Nederland, Monako, Diere en Voertuie spook. So is daar vele ander. Hulle waens is so swaar gelaaai dat hulle die bult nooit sal uitkom as hulle nie langs die pad begin afgooi nie.

Waar Teunis, Ernst en mej. Dubbeld onderwerpe gekies het wat hulle met 'n bietjie geduld en inspanning volledig sal kan kry en lewenslank op sal kan voortbou, tas die meeste van die ander klaarblyklik in doellose onsekerheid rond. Dit is al asof hulle voel-voel versamel. Miskien is daar nie fout mee te vind nie; miskien is dit goed so want ondervinding is mos tog maar die beste leermeester. Maar kyk net na die verlore tyd, energie en geld! (Van geld gepraat: die opmerkings oor oorlaaide waens val natuurlik weg waar 'n versamelaartjie die geldelike hulp en aanmoediging van 'n ryk pappa het.)

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THE ROYAL TOUR 1947

On Looking Back

The S.A. Philatelist, Vol. 23, 1947, contains comments pertaining to the Royal Tour but little of its Postal Aspect. Consequently we submit the following article supplied by Mr. C. H. Williams, Historian, for Publicity Officer, G.P.O., Pretoria and dated 20 November, 1948.

In the early part of the current year (1947) the Union Post Office had the honour and the privilege of providing exceptional facilities of various kinds for the visit of the Royal Family to South Africa. The visit involved the creation of a special staff to accompany the Royal Family not only to deal with personal and official correspondence and telegrams, but also to handle the enormous quantity of press matter which was handed in for transmission to newspapers throughout the world.

The Royal Family, after spending a few days at Cape Town, entered on a tour of South Africa which commenced on the 21st February and continued until the 24th April. The tour extended from Cape Town via the Garden Route and the Eastern Province to Port Elizabeth, Grahamstown, East London, Umtata, the Orange Free State, Basutoland, Natal, Zululand, Swaziland, the Transvaal, to Rhodesia and back via the Bechuanaland Protectorate, Griqualand West and the Western Cape to Cape Town.

A senior officer of the Union Post Office was appointed to represent the department on the Royal Tour and a staff of highly-trained postal and telegraph officials was employed on the White and the Pilot Trains to attend to the postal and telecommunications needs of the travellers.

A post office was opened on each train and, with the exception of Union Loan Certificates, full facilities were available and provided at all hours during the tour.

Direct mails were made up on all the large centres in the Union every day. Direct airmails were also despatched to London almost every day so as to ensure the early receipt in the United Kingdom of the packages of photographs — for publication in the overseas newspapers — which were handed in by the press photographers accompanying the trains.

The post office on the White Train only despatched mails to, and received mails from, the post office on the Pilot Train. The latter despatched and received all mail matter for both trains.

The special series of postage stamps of 1d, 2d and 3d denominations which were issued to commemorate the visit to the Union of South Africa of the Royal Family proved to be very popular and stocks were sold out on several occasions. As is now well known the stamps were of the following designs:-

The penny stamp, which was red with black inset, bore a picture of His Majesty the King dressed in Naval uniform, and the emblems of the four provinces of the Union of South Africa were embodied in the design.

The twopenny stamp, in variations of tones of violet, bore a picture of Their Majesties the King and the Queen. The only embellishments on this stamp were the Union Coat of Arms in the top left-hand corner and the protea flowers at the ends of the scroll at the base of the stamp.

The threepenny stamp was printed in blue and bore a study of the Royal Princesses, the Princess Elizabeth and the Princess Margaret, with a springbok on the left and an aloe plant on the right-hand side of the stamp.

The revenue collected from the sale of stamps on the trains amounted to £580. The following details will give some indication of other work undertaken on the two trains:-

| | Rec. | Desp. |
|---|---------------|--------------|
| Registered articles -- | 1,271 | 14,404 |
| Parcels -- -- -- -- | 390 | 42x |
| xInsured only, ordinary not counted: | | |
| Savings Bank trans. -- -- | £1,538 | |
| Money Order trans. -- -- | 652 | |
| Collections for telephone services -- -- -- -- | 23 | |
| Postal Order trans. -- -- | 145 | |
| | <hr/> | |
| TOTAL | £2,358 | |

The trains were connected to the national telephone system at practically every stopping-place and 638 telephone trunk calls were made from the trains over the post office system during the tour.

Five expert post office telegraphists dealt with the telegraph traffic maintaining a twenty-four-hour service to cope with the volume of the traffic.

For the first time in the history of the Union Post Office radio-telegraph communication, by means of high-speed Morse, was conducted between a moving train and a fixed land station. Ultra-high frequency radio equipment was installed for the disposal of traffic between the two trains and a 500 watt Marconi

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transmitter for disposing of traffic to the post office telegraph system. The post office station selected was Roberts Heights Radio which disposed of inland press traffic direct to newspaper offices or to the nearest telegraph office, and of overseas traffic to Johannesburg for onward transmission.

Telegraph traffic handled averaged 18,234 words a day and totalled 729,365 words for the period of the tour. The peak was reached on the 25th March when 34,000 words were dealt with as a result of the visit to Swaziland.

Mobile radio vans were also sent to all official stopping-places and to other vantage points where they assisted in the disposal of press traffic handed in on the trains. In addition a three-ton truck fitted with a teleprinter and a high-speed Morse transmitter covered the tour by road. This equipment was connected to Johannesburg by land line from staging points and was used when the train radio apparatus required attention or when atmospheric conditions were unfavourable.

During the period of the visit to Basutoland and to the Bechuanaland Protectorate the special train facilities continued to be provided by the Union, but on reaching Bulawayo the organisation was handed over to the postal administration of Southern Rhodesia, which became responsible for the arrangements during the Rhodesian tour, at the conclusion of which control was resumed by the Union special staff.

The post offices on the White and the Pilot Trains closed on the 20th April at the conclusion of the tour by rail.

REPRODUCTION OF UNITED STATES STAMPS IN COLOUR

Legislation to permit the reproduction of United States postage stamps in colour cleared the Senate on June 12 and was signed into law by President Johnson.

The restriction to black and white reproduction was originally imposed in the belief that this was a deterrent to counterfeiting, which today is virtually non-existent.

Under this new law, stamps may not be reproduced in the exact size in colour, but must be less than three-fourths or more than one and one-half times larger in linear dimension. Cancelled stamps may be reproduced exact size. Reproduction of foreign stamps in colour is permitted under the same terms.

HOW TO SUCCEED IN PHILATELY WITHOUT A STAMP COLLECTION

Among all those collecting stamps all over the world, there are perhaps not more than a dozen prominent ones, who are internationally well-known. These people are prominent philatelists primarily because of their great stamp collections. Their profound philatelic knowledge and also their services to philately do contribute to their recognition. But, to repeat, they are primarily known in international philatelic circles because of their collections.

In addition, a few leading figures like rulers, presidents, and great musicians collect stamps. But the latter is incidental; most of their stamp collections are average or below. Their outstanding position in public life is what makes them well-known. Their collections or stamp collecting activities have little or nothing to do with this.

Now, reference is to be made to a third type of well-known philatelist that can be best exemplified by a fictional person by the name of Lorne Moer. He is a middle-aged man, working for a daily American newspaper, where he has been writing the obituary page for some years.

Advancement and salary increases were not forthcoming. With the annual increasing cost of living and a growing family, Lorne Moer was becoming desperate; he had to ask for a raise. When he did, the boss told him he'd think it over.

His boss did consult with others on the newspaper staff to see if there were any suggestions to help Lorne Moer get a better job and pay. After all, he had done a good job for many years. But there did not seem to be any openings for advancement at the time.

Eventually, someone suggested that the paper should start a weekly stamp column. This could boost circulation, because stamp collecting is the most popular hobby. And more important would be new advertising revenue from stamp dealers. Judging by most weekly stamp columns in other newspapers, the stamp page is three quarters advertisements and the balance stamp news.

It was decided to offer Lorne Moer the job of stamp editor, so that besides his daily work on the obituary page, he could handle the weekly stamp column. A salary increase would go with it. But the offer was not immediately nor eagerly accepted. Lorne had reservations because he knew nothing about stamp collecting.

He was told that a knowledge of stamp collecting was not a requisite. Many countries issue lots of new stamps every year and, while doing this, mail out informative press releases. All the stamp editor need do is to arrange for the receipt of these releases for use in the weekly column. This was the clincher; Lorne Moer took on the job of stamp editor.

Letters were sent out to postal administrations and philatelic agents; the press release news began coming in. Advertising from stamp dealers and stores was received.

The stamp column commenced gaining collectors' attention. One of the local stamp clubs desired mention of the time and place of its regular monthly meetings in the column. This was done; it opened the door. Shortly thereafter, news releases from a large variety of stamp clubs and societies were received in the mail. These now not only were local but from all over the country. There was insufficient space to use them all.

One of the stamp clubs decided to put on a state-wide stamp show. Lorne Moer was invited to be the banquet speaker. This was accepted as mutually beneficial. The show got its publicity and the stamp editor a free dinner.

Within time, more invitations to speak before a stamp club or at a stamp show banquet were extended. By now, Lorne Moer had met hundreds of stamp collectors, who called him by his first name. Many considered him a philatelic expert. His reputation has spread so far and wide that every year he was asked to judge at least one stamp show.

Many seem to have overlooked one vital matter — did he collect stamps? Well, yes and no. Governments and philatelic agents had sent him new issues, both mint and often also on first-day covers. Furthermore, one of his advertisers, when introducing two new stamp albums, had sent him both books as a gift. But between his two jobs on the paper and his family, he found no time to mount his stamps. They were stored in a box in the cellar of his home with a hope that some day in the future the opportunity to work on his stamps and covers would arise.

Time marched on. The stamp column was a success; so was the editor. One national stamp society, in appreciation for at least one fine mention every year in the weekly column, presented Lorne Moer with its annual Hyman O'Tool Memorial Award as the outstanding philatelist of the year. A second stamp club

made him an honorary member. The greatest was an invitation from one of the Middle Sheikdoms to serve as an international juror at its coming international philatelic exhibition in Brelumaland.

Yes, in just about a decade or so, Lorne Moer clearly had demonstrated "how to succeed in philately without a stamp collection."

Acknowledgement
"The Collectors Club Philatelist".

THE FIRST COMMERCIAL MAIL-CARRYING SUBMARINE

By Victor A. Norman

It was not generally remembered that during the Summer of 1916 the German commercial (cargo carrying) submarine "Deutschland", by successfully avoiding the British blockade, completed two round trips to the United States. She brought chemicals and dyestuffs in exchange for much needed war material. Neither of these two trips officially carried civilian, private or commercial mail; however, I seem to recall having read somewhere of "unofficial" (by favour) letters having been carried.

The success of the two voyages of 1916 prompted the German high command to offer to carry civilian mail on the projected third trip early in January 1917.

The response on the part of the civilian population was enthusiastic, and mail from civilians in Germany, Austria and Hungary was delivered to Bremen, the port of departure, where it received the distinctive postmark-cachet of the T.B. Service (Tauch Boot Submarine).

The postage rates were very moderate — 30pf German, 25 heller Austrian and 25 filler Hungarian. Postcards were at a lower rate.

However, on February 1, 1917, the German High Command announced resumption of unrestricted submarine warfare. This announcement met with such great American reaction that the German High Command considered it advisable to cancel the third projected trip of the Deutschland. Consequently, all mail was returned to the senders, thus almost providing the first "submarine mail".

In August 1918, the "Deutschland" was recommissioned for naval use as the U-155. During the last two months of the war, she sank seven Allied and neutral vessels before returning to Germany for surrender to the Allies.

Acknowledgement "Linn's Weekly Stamp News"

DESIGN, DE LA RUE AND DELACRYL

(Extract from an article written at the invitation of the Crown Agents by De La Rue about their recently introduced Delacrye process of offset printing, and appearing in "The Stamp Bulletin.")

New developments in the history of printing have been rare and in the sector of stamp printing they have been rarer still. One of De La Rue's early contributions to this gradual evolution was relief engraving pioneered in 1855. Since then changes in demand have prompted the introduction and successful application of lithographic and photogravure techniques, as further alternatives to recess engraving. In 1966, the word Delacryl made its first appearance — as the name of the most recent development in stamp printing. Naturally, the interest of philatelists and Issuing Authorities alike was immediately aroused. This interest has been sustained, for in the short interval of time since then, 35 countries have commissioned Delacryl work. The name and style have become as familiar as those of the older processes, and the new process has come of age.

The origins of Delacryl lie in simple but revolutionary thinking. Postal Authorities had never been asked whether their design policies were in any way restricted by the abilities of printers generally to implement their wishes. So De La Rue sent out a questionnaire, inviting them and their designers to put aside accepted notions about what was possible and to describe their ideal. The response was immediate, comprehensive and forceful — and it showed that this approach struck the Authorities as timely. De La Rue were made increasingly aware of a longstanding gap in communications between printers and "users" of stamps. The facilities offered by printers were no longer geared to dealing satisfactorily with modern-day needs.

The replies showed that Authorities had two principal demands — for stamps with a potential philatelic appeal by virtue of their beauty or originality and for stamps that were worthy and complimentary symbols of national culture. (As competition for the attention of philatelists intensifies because of the increasing number of independent Issuing Authorities, so, of course, these two considerations become more closely linked). The designers, in their turn, sought an opportunity to concentrate on their profession without concerning themselves with the difficulties facing printers.

No single one of the traditional processes seemed regularly to satisfy these requirements. What the "consumers" sought was a combination of the best features of all of them. They wanted a triple capability — for subtle definition over a wide colour range, for firm block colours and for clear, sharp line work. And from the Issuing Authorities point of view this flexibility was only relevant if it could be achieved at an economical price.

It was clear that the means of producing postage stamps needed to be brought up to date with this demand and daunting through the technical implications were, this was the basis for the "brief" that was handed to De La Rue's Research Centre. The research team was able to draw on the company's experience in printing by all the existing processes, while maintaining the objective, unbiased outlook natural to all research scientists. After a thorough examination of each of these processes the technologists became convinced that the best prospect of achieving this triple capability and the required economies lay in the offset method. The physical constraints of the size of a postage stamp meant that improvements could be made only through the most persistent and meticulous attention to detail. In their empirical work, of refinement and "cross-breeding", De La Rue's research team were acting the role of philatelists — working under a magnifying glass and searching for minute flaws — though for very different motives of course. Under this searching scrutiny, the ordinary process was revealed as furry in its outlines and patchy in its background colour, while the improved line work, the greater solidity of the block colour of Delacryl's prototype retained its impact.

The highly encouraging results of these early examinations prompted further full scale development work and in early 1966 De La Rue were able to present the product of all these researches into opinions and techniques as Delacryl. Its acceptance is proving to be as durable as it was immediate — for already many customers have reiterated their faith in Delacryl by placing repeat orders.

Delacryl was able to prove its point because modern Issuing Authorities have demanded design features of increasing complexity and variety.

So much detail in so confined an area requires draughtsmanship of the highest order. The most discriminating selection of colours is necessary, too, if the wide colour range is to maintain its coherence. This requirement was foreseen at the research stage and specialist inks were developed for the Delacryl

process. Their use here gives the stamp a distinctive brightness, while respecting the designer's good taste and sense of unity.

AUSTRALIAN NEW ISSUES

The Australian Postmaster-General's Department announces the following Commemorative New Issues:

Special Postmark for Girl Guides' Camp

A special postmark depicting the Girl Guides Badge against a map of New South Wales will be used at a temporary post office provided for the Girl Guides Association of New South Wales State Camp, which is being held at the Lismore Showgrounds from 24th to 31st August, 1968.

Norfolk Island Qantas Commemorative Stamps

Two special stamps will be issued by the Norfolk Island Administration on 25th September, 1968, to commemorate the 21st anniversary (1947-68) of the introduction of a regular air service between Sydney and Norfolk Island by Qantas Airways.

The two stamps, in values of 5c and 7c, were designed and printed in multicolour photogravure by Harrison and Sons Ltd., London.

Stamps to Honour Adam Lindsay Gordon

A postage stamp honouring one of Australia's most noted poets, Adam Lindsay Gordon, will be issued in 1970 to commemorate the centenary of his death.

WANTED

KINGS HEADS

1d plate 2 top and bottom right corner pairs or blocks, or complete miniature sheet.

1d bottom right corners — with NO cuts or one square cut.

£1 olive green and red (S.G. 24a). Top left control pair.

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STUDY YOUR COUNTRY'S STAMPS AND POSTMARKS.

THE JUBILEE OF THE WORLD'S FIRST AIRMAIL STAMP

By R. A. Dehn

In May 1917, 50 years ago, there was issued in Italy the first adhesive postage stamp expressly designated for airmail. The practice was not to be repeated elsewhere until a year later, when the United States issued the 24c. carmine and blue illustrating the Curtis "Jenny" plane.

Aviation has for long evoked enthusiasm in Italy, providing, as it does, opportunity for *individual* courage and display. As early as the last decade of the 15th century Leonardo da Vinci explored the theory of flight, and in 1784 Vincenzo Lunardi, from Lucca, made an ascent by balloon in the presence of the Prince of Wales, to mention only two pioneers. From the start of the 19th century, flights by balloon became increasingly frequent and dramatic evidence of the possibility of using the air as a means of communication was given in 1848, when Milan revolted against Austrian rule and small balloons were constructed to carry a manifest to the people of Campagna, encouraging them to impede the movements of the Austrian arms and munitions.

Displays were given at exhibitions and, following the custom of the period, commemorative postcards were issued. Few of these were actually "flown", but some bear air cachets which justify a place in airmail history. In September 1898, for instance, at the time of the Turin Exhibition, cards were post-marked with a circular stamp bearing the legend: "Stazione Aerea-Esp Torino 6 Sett 1898".

The flying machine did not reach Italy until 1908, and in 1909, the year in which Blériot flew the channel, Wilbur Wright established the first flying school near Rome. In September of the same year the first air meeting was held at Brescia. Thirteen pilots took part, four of them being Italian. At this meeting the first aerodrome cancellation was used with the legend: "Brescia Staz-Circuito Aereo". From then on the larger Italian towns vied with each other in organising aviation weeks and meetings, which were recorded by special cards, vignettes and cachets.

The declaration of war gave increased impetus to the development of aviation. In 1917, the Italian Government were concerned at the possibility of enemy submarines hindering communications between the mainland and the islands of Sardinia and Sicily; so, following the recommendations of a special committee,

mail was transported by seaplane to Sardinia without the use of a special stamp.

The committee were encouraged by the Pomilio aeroplane company to consider airmail between the principal cities, and Turin and Milan were chosen for this purpose. The decision to use a special stamp was probably influenced by the desire to use the occasion as a means of strengthening the morale at a time when there was political and military unrest (the disaster of Caporetto was to occur in October of that year). Stocks of the 1903 25c rose express stamp (S.G.IE 1) were used and 200,000 were overprinted letterpress "ESPERIMENTO POSTA AEREA/MAGGIO 1917/TORINO-ROMA · ROMA-TORINO". The stamps were put on sale on May 16th and limited to three to each applicant. They were available at head and branch post offices in Rome and Turin. Mail had to be posted in special boxes at these offices.

As a result of the private initiative of the Pomilio aircraft company, and of the Circolo Filatelico Italiano of Turin, commemorative postcards were produced for the flight. The card produced by the Turin Philatelic Society is by far the most common. It is coloured green, has a printed address and depicts on the address side an allegorical figure of "Italia" holding a stamp album. The Pomilio company produced a light blue card without printed address, with the legend: "ESPERIMENTO POSTA AEREA Torino-Roma e Roma-Torino Maggio 1917", and with instructions at the base explaining where the new stamps could be bought. They also had printed a white card for advertising purposes with a map of Italy on the reverse, printed in brown and showing the air route between Turin and Rome.

Acknowledgement "Stamp Collecting"

More South African Literature

- "Anglo-Boer War POW Camps in S.A. and Burgher Camps", revised work. 14/6d.
- "O.F.S. Handbook Part I" revised work 64/9d.
- List of P. Offices in African Postal Union. 7/6d.
- "South African Postmarks" by Dr. T. B. Berry 23/6d.
- "Gnus" information and offers 3/-d a year all postage paid

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LESOTHO 3c STAMP

A 3c stamp, to conform to the standard airmail postage rate between Lesotho and South Africa, will be added to the current definitive issue and will pertain to the general theme of the current definitive series which feature the natural resources and products of Lesotho. Its design will depict sorghum which is widely produced and consumed in this country. The stamp which will be issued on 1st August, 1968, will also bear the head of the King as do the other stamps in the series.

The new 3c stamp will be the first to be printed on special watermarked paper, the design of which will be based on the familiar Basotho hat. Since Lesotho became independent the previous practice of using the Crown Agents' watermarked paper ceased and up to the advent of the new 3c stamp, all Lesotho's new issues will have been printed on plain paper. In future however all stamps, including reprints of other definitive values, will be printed on the special paper.

THE PHILATELIC MARKET

The growing competition in the auction room and the general increase in the turnover of retail sales of postage stamps are attributable to several causes.

Firstly, there is no doubt that there is a substantial increase in the number of collectors — basically those who collect for the joy of it whether they be tyros or specialists.

Secondly, there are those who consider philately to be a sound investment. There are probably more of these folk than one thinks and many in the first category may also be found in the second, for the financial effort to buy a rare stamp would not be made so consistently by the collector if he did not think that it was financially wise.

Thirdly, the speculator who hopes to make a profit by making a corner in one line or the other. Fortunately he often fails and has his fingers burned.

Finally, there is the almost world-wide distrust of currency and the desire to possess something which is not likely to depreciate. Perhaps this is the most important influence on the market for it stimulates everyone to buy more.

Editorial "The Philatelist"

H. R. HARMER'S SALES

Over three thousand five hundred London Sales have been held at Harmers in the last fifty years and once again many new record prices were achieved with Bond Street's highest ever total in a memorable season, £856,269 compared with £759,217.

New York also substantially exceeded last season's total (\$2,112,802) with a new record of \$2,602,970 (£1,056,617 at the appropriate rates of exchange). Sydney added \$86,900 the equivalent of £40,607 to give the Organisation a record total of £1,953,493.

MANY OVERSEAS VENDORS

About one-third of the collections sold came from overseas including the "Sanderson" collections flown from Switzerland, Sweden sold for a Continental Trust and the "Vigeland" Gold Medal Norway. South Africa contributed the late Raymond Wilson's classic Commonwealth, Bermuda the "Conyers" Commonwealth and Argentina the A. F. McIntosh Falklands.

STOP PRESS

2½c, 3c and 12½c postage stamps will be issued on 21 September, 1968, at all post offices on the occasion of the unveiling of the General J. B. M. Hertzog monument at Bloemfontein.

Fully serviced Commemorative Envelopes will be sold at an inclusive price of 33c per cover from the Philatelic Bureau, G.P.O., Pretoria, while unserviced covers, at 10c each, will also be available at the Philatelic Bureau as well as the main post offices in Bloemfontein, Cape Town, East London, Johannesburg, Pietermaritzburg and Port Elizabeth.

Orders should reach the Philatelic Bureau not later than 21 September, 1968, and remittances in respect of mail orders for unserviced covers must include return postage.

POSTAGE STAMPS FOR OLYMPIC GAMES

Australia's participation in the 1968 Olympic Games will be marked by two Commemorative postage stamps.

The stamps, of 5c and 20c values, would be sold during the period of the Games. As a tribute to Mexico, the host country, the designs would show the green, white and red colours of the Mexican flag, together with the well-known Aztec "sunstone" symbol.

SOCIETY NEWS

PORT ELIZABETH PHILATELIC SOCIETY

June 4th: Members were privileged to view a display of Mr. J. Wannerton's collection comprising the period 1774 to 1900. The pre-stamp section included many fine items of Postal History and the first type straight line postmarks among others.

A comprehensive selection of the first issue of 1852 followed and included selections of the 1868/88 Large Head Issues, the 1870/93 Small Head, the Jubilee Issue, the 1897 Maple Leaves and the 1898 Numeral Issues.

A representative selection of postal stationery concluded a most interesting and instructive exhibit.

June 18th: In addition to the scheduled exhibit of Cyprus by Mr. K. Beetlestone, members viewed an exhibit of the Vatican submitted by Mr. F. Archer of Cape Town.

Mr. Beetlestone's excellent exhibit was very well presented and included among other highlights the one piastre (S.G. 17) of 1881 post-marked with the canceller used between 1878-1880 for British stamps used in Cyprus, several of the type 7 surcharges where the overprint is as much as 1.4 m.m. apart instead of the normal 8½ m.m. or 11 m.m., and the modern issues which included the scarce 1953 definitive and the overprints complete mint.

Mr. Archer's entertaining exhibit presented a complete collection of the Vatican, was very well presented and included among other interesting items the 1934 surcharged set fine used, the 1955 death of St. Boniface, imperforated Mint, of which only 50 copies exist and the 1948 Air Stamps.

The meeting's appreciation was suitably extended to both exhibitors at the close of an enjoyable evening.

July 2nd: The meeting was a South African evening with four members showing part of their South African collections.

Mr. Pamensky exhibited the 1954 and 1961 definitives in blocks of 4; Mr. M. D. Ancketill, a selection of early Union Issues; Mrs. Fourie, a portion of her collection from 1910 to date and Mr. Malan, a complete collection of Christmas Seals from the first issue of 1929 to date.

A well supplied auction concluded a most enjoyable evening.

FISH HOEK PHILATELIC SOCIETY

June: Mr. J. Hodgson exhibited selections from his thematic collection and thereafter entertained members, still further, by a brain-searching quiz which was won by Mr. Rosenberg.

The Singles Cup Competition is going strong, one point only now separates the first three contestants.

SOCIETY OF ISRAEL PHILATELY

June: Mr. I. A. Miller displayed his Six Day War material which was not written up because most of the envelopes bore the complete legend relating to each particular item, but nevertheless the exhibitor was complimented upon his showing. Interest appears to be dwindling in the Auctions and members are urged to prevent this aspect from falling away.

A national exhibition TABIRA 1968 will be held in Jerusalem from the 8th to the 17th October, 1968 and is open only to members of the local society and of CASPIP of Cape Town. The South African commissioner is Dr. Max Peisach, 11, Stuart Road, Rondebosch, Cape, from whom further particulars may be obtained.

GERMISTON PHILATELIC SOCIETY

July: A very well attended meeting, under the chairmanship of Mr. H. Suklje, welcomed an eleven member contingent from the Johannesburg Society as our guests after which Mr. S. Boss introduced the exhibitors of the evening.

The first display "Children on Stamps" was staged by Miss D. Schwab. This was followed by Mr. W. Tilney's exhibit of New Zealand miniature sheets together with various definitive issues of that country. Mr. S. Boss concluded a very enjoyable and instructive meeting by displaying a selection of Ceylon Issues of the Dominion period, the exhibitors being suitably thanked and congratulated on their fine displays.

PRETORIA PHILATELIC SOCIETY

July: Members of the Committee entertained the meeting with four interesting exhibits. Mr. W. Impey who unfortunately could not attend sent his collection of postal stationery of the United States for display. Comdr. C. Enoch followed with another Postal Stationery exhibit which included Lettercards, Postcards, Newspaper Wrappers and Envelopes issued by the Shanghai Municipality during the last century while the final exhibit by Mr. G. F. W. Kuhn was a display of cylinder blocks of the Republican Definitive series.

The exhibitors were thanked for a very interesting display of material of diverse interests.

EAST LONDON PHILATELIC SOCIETY

July: This was a very interesting and successful meeting with 23 members and 5 visitors attending. The highlight of the meeting was the result of the "ELPEX 68" competition, and that lovely philatelic prize was won by Mrs. S. N. Schormann, 17 Waterford Road, Kenmare, Krugersdorp. In addition, we had a short, but interesting talk, and a display of "Meter Franks" by Dr. J. Fick, and we certainly learned a lot about this interesting, but neglected, sidetrack of philately. Dr. F. Drusinsky showed some of his "Stamps on Stamps" collection,

one which he is still building up, and which should make a magnificent show when it is more advanced. Our thanks to you both. We are busy with the last effort towards "ELPEX", and we have had wonderful support from all over the Republic. This has certainly been an encouragement to us, and we do wish to thank all philatelists who helped us, both financially and with entries.

PRETORIA RAILWAY PHILATELIC SOCIETY

July: The Society has "Come of Age". The Twenty-first Birthday Party meeting turned out a most enjoyable evening, the bumper attendance assisting in the success and the two ladies who supplied the "eats" are to be sincerely thanked for a lovely party. A wonderful and pleasant surprise was the arrival of "Pop" Brown, who with Mrs. Brown, made a special trip from their farm to attend. "Pop" the Founder President and First Life Member of the Society, in a short talk referred to the early days of the Society and of the wonderful progress made since 1947. He mentioned a number of the early members who are no longer with us and of the part they had played in the affairs of the Society.

Apologies for not being able to attend and messages of good luck were received from Herby Bond, Tony Fleischer, Jack Kriste and Reg Capell, all Foundation Members of the Society, as well as from the President of the Afrikaanse Philatelistiese Vereniging van Pretoria. The Presidents of the Germiston and Pretoria Societies were at the meeting in person to pass on the congratulatory messages from their Societies.

An enjoyable evening concluded with exhibits by "Pop" Brown of his George VI collection, by Mr. John van Eijk of the definitive issues of Willem III and Wilhelmina of Holland and finally Mr. Eric Walker tabled his collection of South African Hyphenated Rotogravure stamps.

ROYAL PHILATELIC SOCIETY OF CAPE TOWN

June 13th: The meeting was "Classics Night" and members were entertained to four interesting exhibits by Mr. R. Goldblatt, a selection of Cape of Good Hope; Mr. D. Roth, a mixed bag containing among others Great Britain 1d and 2d on Cover; Mr. Berneaud, the early issues of Netherlands, Baden and Portugal and finally, Mr. Wannerton, Newfoundland including among others some early Postal Stationery items.

June 27th: The theme was "France" and Mr. H. Wilson started the evening by showing Modern France mint from 1939 to date. Dr. P. Vautier, by contrast, showed the early issues, prestamp and stamp covers, Essays and early miniature sheets among others while Mr. R. Putzel handled the intermediate section from 1900 onwards of material comprising various Philatelic Congress items, Airmail stamps and items from the German Occupation periods of both World Wars (1914-1918 and 1939-1945).

THE O.F.S. PHILATELIC SOCIETY

June: This meeting was exceptionally well attended with many old faces back in circulation. Not only was the attendance good, but the fare offered was outstanding too.

New Issues were provided by Mrs. Gray and Messrs. Hodgson and Roux.

Mrs. J. C. Bok showed a collection of Modern Hungary stamps. This was the first time Mrs. Bok had exhibited and she admitted that she had derived great pleasure in preparing the collection in the four weeks allotted to her. The collection was well presented and written up, on black leaves which helped to show off the stamps to advantage. Many of the stamps and covers drew the particular attention of the viewers. This was a good show and enjoyed by all.

Mr. S. Marus tabled the second exhibit of the evening which was "Errors on Stamps" which gave viewers much food for thought. The collection has been rewritten since last shown, with many new items added, and it was very well received. It is hoped that this effort will be further crowned when shown at Elpex in October.

Personalia: We regret to record the passing under tragic circumstances of yet another member, the late Dr. S W. Nolte.

AFRIKAANSE PHILATELISTIESE VERENIGING VAN PRETORIA

Julie: Die aand is gebruik vir die jaarlikse klubkompetisie. Die insendings het in twee klasse geval, nl. filatelies en tematies. Vir elke klas is 'n afsonderlike jurie benoem. Eerste pryse is toegeken aan mnr. Bernhardt vir sy pragtige versameling Republiekseëls. Dit is 'n bekende versameling wat baie gespesialiseer is en wat naby aan kompleet is. Van party skaars seëls vind mens hier sommer blokke en lang „strips". Die eerste prys vir tematies versameling is toegeken aan mnr. Havenaer vir sy versameling Nederlands se Kinderseëls. Die versameling is kompleet, ongebruik en gebruik, en die seëls is in 'n uitstekende toestand en baie netjies opgestel. Hoewel hulle nie vanaand bygevoeg was nie, is rekening gehou met die feit dat mnr. Havenaer ook alle eersedagkoeverte en besondere seëlvelletjies van hierdie gebied besit: hulle was reeds by 'n vroeër geleentheid deur hom uitgestal.

AFRIKAANSE FILATELISTIESE VERENIGING VAN JOHANNESBURG

Our monthly meeting on the 6th July was attended by 16 members and 2 visitors, who bravely resisted the temptation of "The July". Formal matters were as usual kept to a minimum and consisted of the usual appeal to members to submit some or all of their treasures to the judges for one of our yearly contests. Furthermore, the meeting was informed about the catalogue of our library, which is now ready for duplicating, due to some hard labour by Rev. du Toit who, although far away from the centre of activities, still does

his share. Any more takers, somewhere in the country,

Mr. Vermaak announced that to date only 16 juniors have responded to the letter that was sent to them. As this sounds a bit discouraging, the enthusiasts need not to worry, as proceedings will start very soon in one way or the other. We are confident that the wait-and-see-youngsters will want to take part as well.

THE MASHONALAND PHILATELIC SOCIETY

July: Sixty three members/visitors attended the meeting and seventy out of seventy six lots were sold at the auction. Many interesting and popular stamps were offered by the auctioneer Mr. Rudman and in some cases the reserve opened as low as one tenth catalogue resulting in fortune favouring the buyer.

Perforations: Perforations was the topic selected for discussion this month and Mr. Walters explained that:-

Comb Machines perforated the top and two sides of a whole row.

Harrow Machines perforated the whole sheet at a time.

Guillotine Machines perforated one line at a time hence description 'line perf.'

These perforations are usually measured by the number of holes occurring every 2 cm. Although the inventor of the perforating machine is not known the rouletting and perforation of sheets of stamps was successfully undertaken in 1950 and the first perforated stamps of Great Britain (S.G. 16B, Alphabet 1, perf. 16) were accredited to a Mr. Archer. In 1854 the perf. was changed from 16 to 14 as closer holes of the earlier day tended to cause sheets to break up when handled. The perf. 14 has continued in use with G. B. stamps to the present day (P.15 x 14) although the higher value definitives 2/6d, 5/0 etc. are P11 x 12 no doubt because of the smaller demand and hence the need to avoid sheets breaking up at sales counters. Mr. de Jongh produced a Dutch catalogue highlighting the different perfs, and by Mr. Walters sketching the various types on the blackboard all present appreciated that when line perfs. have been used the collector may have difficulty in always obtaining specimens with good corners.

World Ploughing Issue: Mr. Peter reports finding a double impression of the black printing in the 2/6d value of this commemorative issue and we shall be interested to hear whether any other member has seen this particular variation.

THE PHILATELIC SOCIETY OF JOHANNESBURG

June: As the Honorary Secretary had been away in Natal on a well deserved holiday, it was not possible to record the Society's Activities for the month, but, instead, details of the Z.A.R. 100 National Philatelic Exhibition are given.

In March, 1966 a Committee was formed to discuss the exhibition to be held in Johan-

nesburg during 1969, appropriately so as 1969 marks the 100th Anniversary of the first Transvaal stamp. From that date the Committee has met at regular intervals and it is proposed to bring you up-to-date with their progress.

Type of Exhibition: The exhibition is to be a National one, open to people domiciled in the area covered by Federation, and to include both Thematic and Junior exhibits. There would also be an invited class of South African exhibits from overseas.

Name of Exhibition: Z.A.R. 100.

Date of Exhibition: 6th to 11th October, 1969. The Annual Congress of Federation to take place on the 7th, 8th and 9th October, 1969. A banquet to be held on the evening of October 9th. Venue of Exhibition. The Wanderers Cricket Pavilion in Corlett Drive.

Exhibition Emblem: The emblem as shown on the last newsletter, designed by Mrs. Wedderburn-Maxwell, was selected.

Exhibition Judges: Mr. C. Harmer has accepted the position of Chairman of Jury. Mr. W. E. Lea and Mr. H. R. Holmes (Chairman of Unipex Jury) have also agreed to serve.

Special Exhibition Stamp: The Postmaster was approached with a request for a special issue of stamps to mark the anniversary of the first Transvaal stamp and the decision on this matter will not be known until early in 1969.

Prospectus: The exhibition prospectus will be published in January, 1969. The closing date for exhibits is 31st May, 1969.

Exhibition Frames: Special frames are being designed to allow the maximum number in the space available and, at the same time, to allow adequate room for viewing the exhibits.

Fund Raising: In order to finance an exhibition of this nature it is necessary to raise the money needed by holding a number of functions.

EXPERT COMMITTEE

The next meeting of the Expert Committee of the Philatelic Federation of Southern Africa will be held on Saturday 21 September, 1968. The Secretary's address is P.O. Box 2388, Pretoria.

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South Africa, First Floor, Radio City Bldgs.
Tulbach Square, Foreshore, Cape Town.**

at 8 p.m.
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The EAST LONDON PHILATELIC SOCIETY

meets on the second Friday of each month
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London, at 8 p.m.

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THE PORT ELIZABETH PHILATELIC SOCIETY

meets on the first and third Tuesday each
month in the

**B.C.E.S.L. Hall, St. Andrews Street,
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 97, Public Library, Johannesburg

at 8 p.m.

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SOUTH AFRICAN NOTES

By DR. H. J. RAUBENHEIMER,
Hon. Associate Editor.

REGISTRATION ENVELOPES

New registration envelopes were issued in June 1968. They differ in many respects from the previous Coat of Arms issue. They were printed by three local printers, Spicers, Pirie Appleton and Dickinson, on linen backed paper and each has its own marked characteristics differing from the others.

The common features of the three printings, briefly, are:-

A. The gummed flaps fold forwards, instead of the backwards of the previous issue. The flaps show the space for the postage and registration stamps, instead of the Coat of Arms as before.

B. The front has, in blue, a large "R" in an upright oval in the top left corner, and "AAN-TO" above four dotted lines for the address.

C. Instructions for posting are given, bilingually, on the back, together with "NAAM EN ADRES VAN AFSENDER — NAME AND ADDRESS OF SENDER" above four dotted lines.

The individual features of the three printings, very briefly, are:-

A. Spicer's envelopes are in two sizes measuring roughly 220 x 110 m.m. and 160 x 110 m.m. The others are in the smaller size, 160 x 110 m.m. All these sizes are in conformity with the new standardised sizes of envelopes.

B. Spicers envelopes are white, the others cream coloured.

C. Spicers and Pirie Appleton print their names below the flap; Dickinson's does not.

D. The inscriptions are the same for all printings with the exception of the last word of paragraph 1 on the back. Spicers have "therefore", the others have "therefor".

E. The language order and the number of lines per paragraph of the inscriptions vary according to the printer.

A NEW 1c DEFINITIVE STAMP 261-260 A.B.C.D.

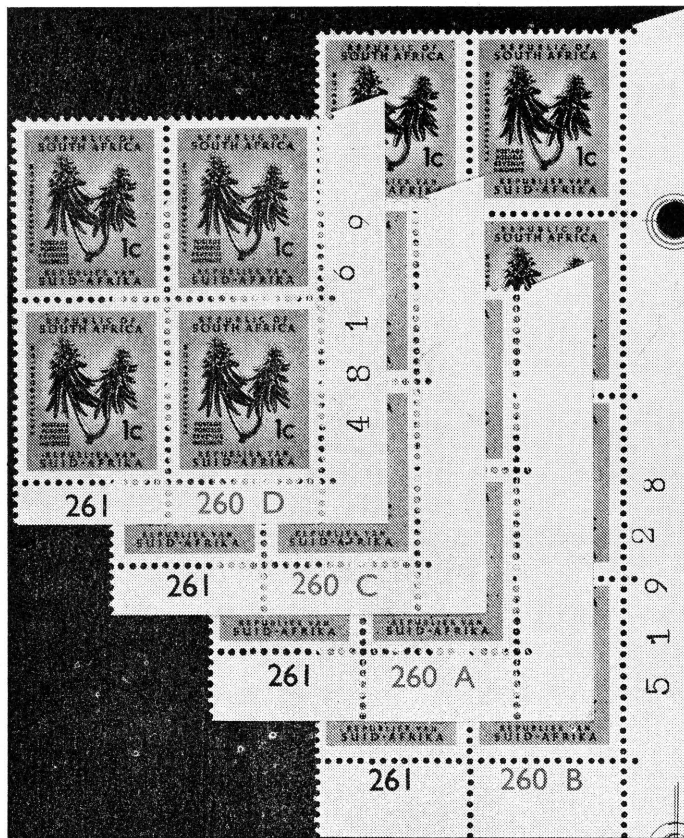
A new issue of the 1c Republican definitive stamp was issued to the Post Office on 18th July, 1968.

The sheet and stamp format are similar to the preceding 241-240 issue but there are important changes in the printing data; indeed, this issue presents features seen for the first time in the Republican 1c definitive series. In short, the changes are in the perforations and the cyclometer numbers.

Its features are:

PAPER: Coated Harrison, RSA water-marked, the mark being upright and shows distinctly in parts.

CYLINDERS: two, new, cross lined screened; numbers 261 shades of rosine, interior, and 260, shades of olive-grey, exterior, and these numbers are shown on the bottom margin: 261 below stamp 9 and 260 with the pane letter A, B, C or D in olive-grey below stamp 10. They were prepared from the same multipositives for the previous 241-



240 issue and stepped up for all 4 panes. The printing was done on the Goebel 840 machine.

ARROWS: rosine, premanufactured, centrally placed on all four margins. Those on the top and bottom margins of all four panes are very much closer to the stamps than on any previous issues — a marked distinguishing feature; furthermore, the one on the top margin of pane A is tilted on the right.

SHEET NUMBERS: five figure, black, once per sheet on the right margins opposite rows 9 and 10 of panes B and D only.

PERFORATIONS: externally perforated by the Grover two row machine. Gauge $13\frac{3}{4}$. The top margins of panes A and B are wider than any of the others and they are imperforate while their bottom margins are perforated through. The top and bottom margins of panes C and D are perforated through. The left and right margins of all the panes are imperforate except for the single extra hole at each end of the horizontal rows of perforations.

COLOUR REGISTER: as before, two concentric circles divided by a cross, in the two colours superimposed. Quadrants of these show in the top right corner of pane D and in the bottom right corner of pane B.

PERFORATION REGISTER PUNCH HOLES: opposite rows 7 and 8 on the left margin of pane A and the right margin of pane B respectively; only the one on pane B has the grey concentric circles and the horizontal bisecting line around it.

GUILLOTINE GUIDE LINES: grey, horizontal, 12 m.m. long, in the bottom right corner of pane D or the top right corner of pane B.

VARIETIES MULTIPOSITIVE

A pane

Row/No.

- 6/ 1 White dot to the right of the top of the right flower.
- 6/ 9 Grey smudge on the right frameline $\frac{1}{3}$ down.
- 7/ 9 Grey dot above P of REPUBLIC.

B pane

- 3/ 6 Grey dot at right of right flower stem.

C pane

- 4/ 4 Broken C of AFRICA.
- 9/ 7 Grey mark at left of top of left flower (now reduced in size).

CYLINDER**Pane A**

Row/No.

- 2/ 1 Tiny grey dot in the left gutter opposite MB of KAFFERBOOMBLOM.
 3/ 3 White dot above P of POSTAGE.
 7/ 1 White dot at the right of N of VAN.
 7/ 6 White dot in the top right corner of the stamp.
 7/ 8 Faint grey dot at the left of the stem of the flowers.

Pane B

- 1/ 6 Tiny grey dot between the bottom two small petals of the right side of the left flower.
 3/ 8 Long curved vertical grey hairline between the flowers.
 5/ 2 Short dark stroke between the left stem and the petal to the left of the stem.
 5/ 3 Tiny red dot in the top gutter above L of REPUBLIC.
 7/ 2 Tiny white dot above I of REPUBLIC.

Pane C

- 4/ 1 Tiny red dot to the right of the stem of the flowers.
 4/ 7 White dot between the two flowers.
 5/ 1 Tiny red dot above S of POSTAGE.
 6/ 5 White dot above O of OF.
 7/ 3 Tiny red dot in bottom gutter below first A of AFRIKA.
 9/ 7 Faint grey dot to the left of the last M of KAFFERBOOMBLOM.
 10/ 1 Tiny red dot between the two flowers.

Pane D

- 3/ 7 Grey dot to the left of the top of the right flower.
 9/ 1 Faint grey dot to the right of the first B of KAFFERBOOMBLOM.
 9/ 3 Tiny grey dot in the top gutter near the left corner of the stamp.
 10/ 4 Tiny red dot to the right of D of POSGELD.

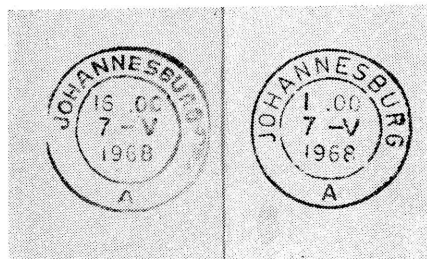
POSTMARK NOTES

By David Allison

**SOUTH AFRICAN FORCES
IN KOREA**

The Forces Postal History Society (in England) has appealed for help in recording information about Army Post Office post-

marks, censor markings, and related topics. Their inquiries cover a wide field, but it is perhaps especially in connection with the Korean War that South African collectors will be able to help. Mr. J. Daynes, of 16, High Street, Burnham-on-Crouch, Essex, is dealing with this aspect and he tells me that he has only two covers from the South African forces in that campaign. One of these passed through a British Field Post Office and the other through an American Army Post Office. He would be very grateful to any reader for careful descriptions of the marks on any covers sent by members of the forces in the Korean War. Can anybody help?

**SOUTH AFRICAN MACHINE
POSTMARKS**

I

II

Two different Johannesburg "A" date-stamps have been in recent use. One of them (Fig. I) is regularly used on surface mail; the other (Fig. II) is far less common, and all those I have seen have been on airmail. On the strength of this I described the latter in the July notes as being a second airmail machine. This is, however, not correct. I noticed that all the Fig. II postmarks had the time shown as 1.00 (1 a.m.), which never seemed to appear on any others, and wrote to the Postmaster at Johannesburg to ask what the explanation was. His reply was that the Fig. II postmark "is one used on night-duty for the franking of mail matter, both surface and airmail, posted in the central city area of Johannesburg".

For how long such an arrangement has been in force I do not know. I have, however, a Johannesburg "A" postmark date 1.00 15-XII 1962 with a date stamp very slightly different from the one which was then in normal day-time use. Of course datestamps come and datestamps go, and sometimes in the past the ordinary "A" datestamp has been like Fig. II.

UNIONS

RHODESIA

Some specialist and other items from my large stocks of above which can be seen and inspected at 183 Prince's Avenue, Benoni, or at my stall at ELPEX in East London from 16-19 October or at the Hotel Kennaway while in E.L. — All the following are MINT except where otherwise stated:—

| | R |
|--|--------|
| S.G. 3 to 24 14 values | 120.00 |
| S.G. 3 to 25 all shades — 29 values | 250.00 |
| S.G. 3 to 24 complete specimen set — 14 values | 150.00 |
| ½d Mossy green — with certificate | 25.00 |
| S.G. 17 Pane of 60 — inv. work | 60.00 |
| S.G. 20 Pane of 60 | 90.00 |
| S.G. 24 Top plate number pair | 300.00 |
| S.G. 24a Top plate number pair | 400.00 |
| 1d Purple Essay (Booyesen) Block of 16 | 400.00 |
| S.G. 24 Used — From | 35.00 |
| S.G. 24A Used | 120.00 |
| S.G. 26 to 29 Blocks of four | 50.00 |
| S.G. 26 to 29 Blocks of four — Used | 75.00 |
| S.G. 29 Strut variety — block of four | 40.00 |
| S.G. 29 imperf. pair | 35.00 |
| S.G. 34 to 39 London Printings | 80.00 |
| S.G. 34 to 39 London Printings—imprint pairs | 200.00 |
| S.G. 41 5 colour trials | 75.00 |
| S.G. 42B gutter strip of 4 | 100.00 |
| S.G. 43AA gutter strip of 5 | 160.00 |
| S.G. 42 block of 18 with 6 offsets | 50.00 |
| S.G. 53 Block 4 joined paper — 3 exist | 100.00 |
| S.G. 3A, 6A, 9B, 10A specialist collection | 200.00 |
| Jipex, reconstructed sheets of 21 sets | 50.00 |
| 1948 Booklets, reconstructed sheets of 21 sets | 50.00 |
| Final booklets complete setting 30 booklets | 50.00 |
| Set of ½d, 1d, 1½d, 2d Bantams — roulette omitted | 160.00 |
| 1d, 1½d, 2d, 3d, 4d, 6d, 1/- Bantams — slogan on stamps | 200.00 |
| Pigeon Post souvenir card No. 188 | 150.00 |
| S.G. 26 to 29 on Presentation sheet | 35.00 |
| S.G. 9B Used block of 54 | 15.00 |
| S.G. 25 Used block of 54 | 25.00 |
| S.G. 016 Used block of 84 | 20.00 |
| S.G. 241 Cyl. block 17/23B left imperf. | P.O.R. |
| S.G. 034 but "officia" o/print horizontal instead of vertical — unrecorded variety | 10.00 |
| S.G. 035 (Block pro rata) | 100.00 |
| Make your sixpence fly — Transvaal — 27 Nov., 18 | 12.00 |
| S.G. 26to 29 — 4 Covers. First flight in both directions | 40.00 |
| ½d Buck, 1d Ship, 2d Building — joined paper, each | 20.00 |
| London 4d, 1/-, 2/6, 5/-, 10/- specimens | 25.00 |

| | R |
|--|--------|
| S.G. 6 imprint block of 12 | 75.00 |
| S.G. 12 with certificate | 350.00 |
| S.G. 13 with certificate | 550.00 |
| S.G. 14 to 17 | 80.00 |
| S.G. 51 to 53 | 160.00 |
| S.G. 58 pane of 60 | 20.00 |
| S.G. 59 pane of 60 | 30.00 |
| S.G. 72A imperf. between — pair | 200.00 |
| S.G. 73 | 80.00 |
| S.G. 81A block of four | 160.00 |
| S.G. 99 | 10.00 |
| S.G. 104, 105, 108 inverted o/print — forgeries | 15.00 |
| S.G. 152 Double Heads | 70.00 |
| S.G. 155 | 30.00 |
| S.G. 155A | 30.00 |
| S.G. 156 | 40.00 |
| S.G. 156A | 50.00 |
| S.G. 159 | 30.00 |
| S.G. 160 | 30.00 |
| S.G. 160A | 50.00 |
| S.G. 160B | 40.00 |
| S.G. 161 | 44.00 |
| S.G. 162 | 60.00 |
| S.G. 163 | 80.00 |
| S.G. 164 | 100.00 |
| S.G. 165 | 150.00 |
| S.G. 166 | 200.00 |
| S.G. 166A | 200.00 |
| S.G. 166B Error of colour | P.O.R. |
| S.G. 172 | 50.00 |
| S.G. 173 | 130.00 |
| S.G. 175 | 64.00 |
| S.G. 176 | 60.00 |
| S.G. 177 | 64.00 |
| S.G. 179 | 750.00 |
| S.G. 181 | 100.00 |
| S.G. 181A | P.O.R. |
| Complete set 7 D/Heads roulettes | P.O.R. |
| 77B, 82A, 190A, 197A, 189A | P.O.R. |
| Most admirals in stock — e.g. 312 to 322 complete | 200.00 |

BENONI STAMP SHOP PTS—ASDA—APHV.

Box 485 — BENONI — Phone 54-1501 — H. Suklje

The continuous machine at Orkney has been replaced by a non-continuous one, and the date is shown as

9 - V

1968

with a horizontal bar instead of the time. Similar bars often appear instead of the time on postmarks from Empangeni, although in 1966 the time and date were given and the bar replaced the year!



STAMP COLLECTING

By Tanding

New Stamp Issues:

Every so often the Editor forwards a letter from a reader, usually resident in a country town, whose interest in collecting has perhaps been stimulated by one of these articles; in this letter he asks as a rule about obtaining new issues of stamps.

The rich and/or lazy man's way is to subscribe to a new issue service conducted by a firm of repute which undertakes to supply all new stamps of an agreed range of countries, complete to a certain maximum value, including or omitting postage dues, officials, etc., according to choice. Naturally a substantial charge is made for this service which may amount to 20 per cent of "face" of the new issues. All the collector needs to do is to send the firm of his choice the necessary remittances and the dealer does the rest.

Another way, which is cheaper and more amusing because it involves some effort and research, is to make contact with philatelic agencies at the head post offices of the countries in which one is interested. If you wish to collect mint stamps of RSA, you can, of course, obtain them from your local postmaster, but unless he is particularly co-operative you may not be welcome when demanding

cylinder and arrow blocks, faults and flyspecks at a busy time of the day. On the other hand the Philatelic Section of the General Post Office publicity in Pretoria and its branches at the other eight main post offices (Wednesday afternoons only) are most obliging and co-operative. An excellent service is provided though the Post Office news bulletins are issued far too late to enable the writer of a monthly article to keep his readers in the picture. The stamps cost no more than face value from the Post Office publicity section, plus postage both ways and you can usually obtain short-lived printings, changes of watermark, special positionings and other frills and fancies provided you learn of their existence in time. This knowledge can often be obtained by joining a recognised philatelic society — as a country member if necessary and by subscribing to monthly magazines such as "S.A. Philatelist" (P.O. Box 375, Johannesburg — R2 per annum) which has an Afrikaans feature or the "Springbok" (24, Arandora Crescent, Romford, Essex, England — 15/- per annum). The wellrun O.F.S. Philatelic Society, P.O. Box 702, Bloemfontein, has its own magazine. Collectors of foreign and colonial new issues should subscribe to a weekly magazine such as "Stamp Collecting" which can be obtained through your Newsagent. The advertisements, including those of new issue services are as interesting as the articles.

If you wish to become really well-informed (up to specialist level) on South African new issues join the Study Circle, c/o. Box 378, Krugersdorp (R2 per annum) which seems to receive and circulate the news long before anyone else. A member was the first to tell me that we are at last to have coil stamps again and these will be the size of the current revenue stamps. I have had confirmation from the General Post Office since that ½c, 1c, 5c and 10c coil stamps will be sold by vending machines.

All African territories are philatelically aware — all you have to do it to write to the head of the Post Office at the state capital when you will be sent literature. When enclosing money in any form invariably register your letter.

A similar procedure applies to countries such as those whose new issues are regularly described in this column. All cater for collectors and some keep stocks of obsolete stamps. The method of remitting will be made clear to you by the Post Office concerned.

Should the reader be interested in the colourful commemoratives of the United Kingdom, for instance, he should remember that

the Stamp Agency is at the G.P.O. Edinburgh and not in London.

Apart from English language and bilingual societies, as will be ascertained from the "S.A. Philatelist", there are several Afrikaans medium bodies whose country members receive good service. The bilingual Railway Society, P.O. Box 2388, Pretoria, extends membership to non-"wheeltappers" and makes them feel at home.

I am always glad to answer any question that I can. Time will be saved if the reader writes in duplicate, to Tanding, P.O. Box 444, Port Elizabeth, so that the answer to queries can be endorsed on the original and returned in the stamped addressed envelope which I hope will be enclosed.

Acknowledgement, "The Public Servant"

LETTERS TO THE EDITOR

Dear Sir,

I was very interested to read Miss Anna Smith's article in the June, 1968, S.A.P., re:

O.F.S. SIXTEEN BAR NUMERAL CANCELLERS.

For those interested I give below an extension of some mentioned:-

1. Bloemfontein AP 30 1874.
She mentions "Bloemfontein was using canceller 1 as early as 1875". This is twelve months earlier.
4. Fauresmith — later date AP 25 1893.
5. Smithfield — my copy FEB 1 1887 is in purple.
11. Bethlehem — later date MAY 12 1892.
My copy 7 MAY 1886 is in purple.
17. Ladybrand — early NO 11 1878, later MAY 21 1901 with V.R.I. stamp, also another V.R.I. DE 6 1901.
18. Ficksburg — later JUL 16 1900 with V.R.I. stamp.

Kind regards,
Yours philatelically,
A. CECIL FENN,
F.R.P.S.L.

* * *

Dear Sir,

RE: LESOTHO INAUGURAL FLIGHTS

According to the August issue, Mr. Robert E. Oakes (Ace Cover Service) submitted for your inspection a cover purporting to have been carried on the First Flight from Johannesburg to Maseru, Lesotho, bearing a postmark dated 2nd October, 1967.

To my knowledge a batch of privately printed "souvenir" covers was handed in to

the Jeppe Street Post Office with the request that they be postmarked 2nd October and sent to Maseru. The P.R.O.'s Office confirms that the Post Office acceded to that request although no directive had been received from Pretoria that mail was to be flown on that date. The large batch of souvenir covers was, consequently, sent by normal SURFACE mail.

On 2nd October COMAIR (on behalf of **Lesotho Airways**) inaugurated the first passenger carrying service to Lesotho from Jan Smuts Airport. On the return flight the same afternoon mail, as well as passengers, was carried from Maseru. On 6th October, **South African Airways** made its first reciprocal flight but, once again, no mail was flown to Lesotho.

These facts have been confirmed both by the Maseru Post Office and by the Airlines concerned.

The First Airmail Flights from the Republic to Lesotho took place five months after the passenger services were inaugurated, on 26th February and 1st March, 1968, by COMAIR and S.A.A. respectively. (Vide June issue).

I should like to mention in conclusion that there is a big difference between First Day and First Flight Cover collecting. Aerophilatelic publications abroad have stressed the fact that — except for the early Pioneer Flights — only OFFICIALLY ISSUED souvenir covers (those sponsored by the Post Office or the Airline concerned) attain Catalogue status and, I believe, are acceptable to International Juries. Privately printed souvenir envelopes are of no Aerophilatelic value, as exemplified in the 1931/2 Imperial Airways Flights, whereas plain covers are. This may seem strange to persons not versed in the intricacies of Aerophilately.

Yours faithfully,

I. H. C. GODFREY.

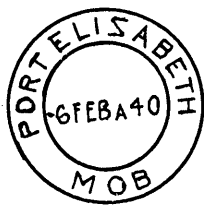
* * *

Dear Sir,

S.A. MOBILE POST OFFICE MARKS

Congratulations on the most excellent work on the S.A. Mobile P.O. Marks that appeared as a supplement to the "S.A. Philatelist" for June.

May I say that I think that it should have appeared in the body of the magazine and not as a supplement. If it was too long for one issue it lends itself to, and could easily have been published in instalments.



I have another small criticism to offer. The information regarding the bringing into service of P.O. No. 3 in Port Elizabeth cannot be correct. It must have been earlier than 2nd September 1940, and as the date of the introduction would have been known well beforehand it is hardly likely that a proper hand-stamp would not have been provided.

Enclosed is a rough tracing of what must have been the original hand-stamp taken from a vertical pair or "Large Mine" 1½d stamps in my collection. The date as will be seen is the 6th February 1940, and the canceller must have had a very short life as no other examples have been recorded.

It would have been withdrawn, I suggest, when it was decided that the number "3" had to be embodied in the date-stamp, and the relief canceller, Fig. 18, used for a short time while Fig. 19 was being made.

Yours faithfully,
JACK HAGGER.

WILLEM GODFRIED "BILL" COMBRINK

A TRIBUTE TO HIS MEMORY

By Eliezer Blum

Willem Godfried "Bill" Combrink, as he was known to his friends, passed away on Thursday, August 8th, 1968, after a short illness. He was 60 years of age, and in the midst of a life full of activity and dynamism.

It has been my good fortune to have known "Bill" as a friend and fellow philatelist for almost a life-time, and he will be long remembered by my family and myself. The loss to us all has been a great shock, and as I sit down to write these few words of tribute to a departed friend, I can hardly believe that he is no more. His personality, his friendship and willingness to co-operate at all times was such that he must be singled out as a man who stood high in the esteem of his numerous friends in all walks of life. His interests were many, his goodwill was commendable, his fertile brain was a comfort to all who needed his guidance and his advice which he always gave freely, willingly and unselfishly.

In philately, he needs no introduction. His great achievements in research, his ever ready assistance of "filling" an evening at short notice and his staging of exhibits and highly specialised subjects, worked out to the finest detail, would surprise his audience.

May I mention the countries he tabled over the years: Bosnia and Herzegovina, Austrian Levant, Montenegro, Serbia, Ukraine, Venetian Posts, Cyprus, Papua and New Guinea, Turkey, Nyasaland (highly specialised), Argentine, and many more. In any of these "far cries" from the more conservative British Empire, South African and European Specialities, his complete immersion in every one of these subjects was as unfamiliar to us as they were "home" ground to him. Whenever he decided to tackle a new field — and this he did incessantly — he determined to get the maximum scope extended to a degree that required, perhaps, more courage than cash, but this certainly did not deter him.

With regard to his activities, the following are events in which he either participated or was primarily responsible that they took place:

He organised and ran the "The Pageant of Philately" Exhibition in the Association of the Arts Gallery in Cape Town in 1951. In 1952, he organised the "The Van Riebeeck Tercentenary International Stamp Exhibition" (Satise — Sadipu), the most important of all South African Exhibitions ever held. This exhibition was talked about for many years and proved an outstanding event in South African Philately for which much of the credit was doubtless due to "Bill" Combrink, whose untiring efforts and his driving spirit were responsible for this great achievement.

In 1953, he staged, almost single handed, "The Cape Centenary Exhibition" in the Argus Gallery which proved equally successful as a major local event. In the same year, he helped and guided the Organisers of the Paarl National Exhibition, acting on the Committee and as Chairman of the Jury. Again, in 1963, "The Flora International Exhibition" sponsored by the Thematic Stamp Club, was one of his efforts as co-founder and moving spirit behind the Society. He propagated this philatelic side-line in all the years of its existence and acted as Chairman on numerous occasions. The Society's Magazine, appearing at regular intervals, was edited and published by the two Thematic pioneers in Cape Town, himself and Captain M. F. Stern.

Last year he organised the Republic Festival Exhibition in the Old Town Hall. All these events, which may be solely attributed to his

driving spirit and enterprise, coincided with the numerous other activities he always undertook, such as: Lecturing to Schools and various Clubs, mounting Exhibits and giving talks to affiliated Societies and generally encouraging interest in philately.

I could go on citing many more examples of W. G. "Bill" Combrink's achievements in philately but space will not permit to do justice to it all. At the time of his death he was Chairman of the Royal Philatelic Society of Cape Town and a Vice President of the Philatelic Federation of Southern Africa.

In conclusion, may I express the deepest sympathies of my family and myself to his son, William, his sister, Mrs. Francis Hofmeyr and family, and his aged mother.

REPUBLIC OF SOUTH AFRICA — POSTAL STATIONERY

By Mr. R. B. Cronwright

THE SMALL REGISTRATION ENVELOPES

The 1961 Provisional Issues, Group I — Types Nos. 1 and 2, of the small Registration Envelopes have been dealt with in the Catalogue of the Stamps of the Republic of South Africa, pages W1, W2, W3, but the succeeding Group 2 — Coat of Arms Issues have not been fully dealt with as regards the early issues.

It has been recorded on Page W5 of the above Catalogue that the firm of Pirie Appleton & Co., submitted envelopes with three types of Coat of Arms Crests, namely Type No. 5, 5A and 5B according to the different specifications, but that John Dickinson & Co., on page W4 only submitted a single Type No. 4 and Spicers on page W5 submitted Type No. 6. The illustrations do not show the individual details of these various Types.

From envelopes I have collected, it is evident that Messrs. John Dickinson submitted three Types that could be classified Type 4, 4A and 4B, presumably according to the Specifications, with both English and Afrikaans wording first, while Messrs. Spicers submitted two efforts, the first over-inked and unacceptable, and the second satisfactory with the same size small printing as was called for in the original Specifications, with both English and Afrikaans wording first.

If possible the Catalogue should record (1) the existence of the three Types from John Dickinson & Co., and (2) mention the early

efforts of Spicers; in addition a supplementary note — re PR214A on page W5 of the Catalogue — should record that the Pirie Appleton Type 5A exists with Afrikaans first.

Once the above three printing firms had overcome their teething troubles, the delivery of small Registration Envelopes continued for about 4 years with only minor printing variations occurring, namely double strikes, albinos, wrong guillotining, different coloured inks and paper, different sizes of lettering and thicknesses of lines, offsets of the Crest appearing on the gummed side of the flaps etc.

In November 1966 instead of the name Pirie Appleton & Co., being written under the flap of the envelope, the name was changed to Alex Pirie & Sons (Africa) Pty. Ltd. with all envelopes having English first. It was also noticed about this time that the printing firms were each delivering envelopes with only one language setting first as follows:-

Pirie Appleton & Co. — Afr. language first
Alex Pirie & Sons. — Eng. language first
John Dickinson & Co. — Eng. language first
Spicers — Afr. language first

Through the kind efforts of Dr. Berry, the Chief Publicity Officer was approached on the matter and his reply is as follows:-

"20th December, 1966.

Dear Dr. Berry,

In pursuance of my letter of the 21st November, 1966, I have to inform you that in an effort to reduce rising production costs and to eliminate charges arising from the extra work involved in changing printing dies and subsequent sorting to ensure equal distribution of envelopes on which each of the official languages was given precedence Messrs. John Dickinson & Co. (Africa) Ltd., have been authorised to supply envelopes on which English receives preference. Messrs. Spicers (South Africa) Ltd., and Alex Pirie & Sons (Africa) (Pty.) Ltd., are now producing envelopes on which the Afrikaans wording appears first.

Messrs. Alex Pirie & Sons Africa (Pty.) Ltd., and Pirie Appleton & Co., Africa (Pty.) Ltd., are the trade names of the same firm. The sales department makes use of the first title and the factory conducts its business under the name of Pirie, Appleton & Co. Africa (Pty.) Ltd. The name Alex Pirie and Sons (Africa) Ltd., has been printed under the closure flap of envelopes supplied against the most recent orders.

The price of all registered envelopes was increased to 3½c with effect from 1st Octo-

ber, 1966.

Mr. Cronwright's letter to you is returned herewith.

Yours faithfully,

CHIEF PUBLICITY OFFICER."

* * *

About this time the continual irritation of finding the flap sticking to the body of the Registration Envelope was eliminated by changing the gum to the so called dry gum or PVA adhesive.

No major change was made in the Registration Envelopes until June or July 1968 when the envelope size was increased to 163 x 113 m.m. as against 153 x 100 m.m. originally, a convenient size for enclosing the present passports etc. A further alteration is that the Coat of Arms Crest has been removed and the space allocated to the stamp is at the upper corner on the top of the flap, requiring only one cancellation strike from the Post Office official. As of old the receiver's address and the "R" symbol are on the same side as the stamp.

On the reverse side of the envelope are the warning notices and space for the sender's address.

The usual blue crossed lines are present, back and front.

Contrary to the Chief Publicity Officer's letter about reducing costs, the allocation of supplies of these new envelopes from the above three firms now is as follows:-

John Dickinson & Co. — Only English first.

Pirie Appleton & Co. — Both English and Afrikaans first.

Spicers — Only Afr. first.

In addition, envelopes from John Dickinson & Co. have been found with the name as John Dickinson & Co. (Africa) Ltd., in smaller print as well as with the firm's name missing, but the reason for this has not been disclosed yet. Some of Appleton's envelopes have the words "Pirie Appleton" too faint to distinguish the writing.

* * *

THE LARGE REGISTRATION ENVELOPE

The history of the large or foolscap size of envelope with the Coat of Arms Crest on the flap is similar to that of Spicer's small envelope, except that envelopes from one firm only, namely Spicers, have been found. These were manufactured originally with both English and Afrikaans wording first, but approximately from the time of the change

to dry gum, only Afrikaans wording first were delivered and the precedence is still in force as far as I can judge.

The size of the large envelope has been altered to 220 x 110 m.m. as against 228 x 100 m.m. originally, but the other features are similar to those of the small envelopes.

Like the small envelopes, the large envelopes have been found without the imprint of any firm's name, but are otherwise identical to Spicer's envelopes.

"BLACK BLOTS" PUT ON FOUR ISSUES

Four issues of stamps and souvenir sheets from three countries, including both perforated and imperforated items, are assessed editorial "Black Blots" in the June New Issues Chronicle of "The American Philatelist".

All three of the countries — Hungary, Panama and Royalist Yemen — were rapped on the knuckles for releasing stamps from limited printings or for intentionally including oddities with regular stamp issues.

The Black Blot is the trademark of the American Philatelic Society New Issues Educational Services under which stamps are rated as containing one of five philatelic faults:

Point one, a limited printing or limited "on sale" time in the country of origin; Point Two, an excessively extended (long) issue; Point Three, unwarranted high values included; Point Four, no direct relationship to the issuing country; and Point Five, oddities intentionally included with a release.

Anyone desiring a sample copy of the APS journal and a brochure describing membership benefits may write the executive secretary, Box 800, State College, Pa. 16901.

Acknowledgement, Linn's Weekly Stamp News.

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**THE BRITISH ASSOCIATION FOR THE
ADVANCEMENT OF SCIENCE
TOUR, 1905**

The Seventy-fifth Annual meeting of the British Association for the Advancement of Science was held in South Africa in 1905, on the invitation of the Governments of the several Colonies and of Rhodesia.

Special committees were appointed in Great Britain and South Africa to formulate arrangements and to organise the tour.

A sum of £6,000 was subscribed by the respective Governments — Cape Colony, £3,000, Transvaal and Orange River Colony, £2,000, Natal, £1,000 — towards the cost of the ocean passages of members of the official party of invited guests, while a special fund of £3,100 was privately subscribed in South Africa to meet extraordinary expenditure in connection with the meeting.

The Union Castle Steamship Company granted a reduction of 30 per cent on ocean fares to the members constituting the official party and a reduction of 25 per cent to all other members of the Association.

Of the 380 oversea members attending the meeting, 52 sailed from Southampton in the Kildonan Castle on July 22; 106 sailed in the Durham Castle on July 22 and 157 sailed in the Saxon on July 29. The ships reached Cape Town during August 8 to August 15 inclusive when the Harbour Board Authorities collected and delivered free of charge the baggage of members who were also met by representatives of the Local Reception Committee.

The Inaugural meeting was held at Cape Town on Tuesday 15th August when Professor G. H. Darwin delivered the first part of his Presidential address. The stay was extended until August 19. During the tour other scientific meetings were held and various functions organised for the entertainment of the delegates.

The party left for Durban on Friday evening August 18, some travelling by the "Saxon" which called at Port Elizabeth and East London, while the remaining ones travelled by two special trains provided by the Cape Government Railways.

The Natal Government Railways provided two special trains for the return journey to the Victoria Falls. The Railways Administration was represented by an official of the Chief Traffic Manager's Office at Cape Town while the four special trains were under the superintendence of the Assistant Traffic Manager. Seats on the two trains were assigned to the oversea members by the Chairman

of the local organising Committee and the travellers were supplied with free passes.

The tour in South Africa included Durban, August 22 and 23, Pietermaritzburg, August 24 and 25, Colenso and Ladysmith, August 26 and 27, Johannesburg and Pretoria, August 28 to September 1, Bloemfontein, September 2 and 3, Kimberley, September 5 to 7, Bulawayo, September 14, Salisbury, September 15, Umtali, September 16, Beira, September 17.

The special trains left Kimberley on September 7 for Bulawayo which was reached after a journey of thirty-eight hours.

The homeward journey was commenced from Bulawayo on September 14 when the trains were re-arranged and left for Beira and Cape Town respectively. The Beira party, comprising 206 members, travelled via Salisbury and Umtali to sail, after a reception at that port, on the Durham Castle on September 17 via the Suez Canal, while the Cape Town contingent left in the Armadale Castle on September 20 to travel the west coast route.

At the London meeting of the Association on 3 November 1905, the Council passed a resolution placing on record its high appreciation of the cordial reception given to its officers and members throughout the sub-continental tour.

The postal aspect of the tour has unfortunately not been as well recorded as its scientific section.

An extract from the Annual Report of the Postmaster General of the Cape of Good Hope for 1905 relates the postal facilities placed at the disposal of the Tour Delegates.

It reads:-

**"VISIT OF THE BRITISH
ASSOCIATION**

In the month of August the British Association for the Advancement of Science visited South Africa, and special postal and telegraphic facilities were provided for the convenience of the members.

A post, telegraph and telephone office was opened in the City Hall, the headquarters of the Association whilst in Cape Town, and by courtesy of the Government the privilege of free transmission was accorded to all letters and telegrams forwarded by the Assistant Secretary of the Association and the Secretary of the Cape Town Reception Committee in connection with the official business of the Association. The re-direction from point to point of correspondence received for the visitors was also effectively arranged for.



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I may add that on the eve of the departure of the Association from South Africa a letter was received from the Assistant Secretary thanking the department for the services it rendered, and stating that the postal arrangements throughout had been admirable."

The report mentions the establishment of only one special post office but as the Association, upon leaving South Africa, acknowledged the admirable postal arrangements rendered throughout the tour, it may be concluded that other similar offices had been established.

No official information can be determined, thus far, as to whether a special commemorative date stamp had been officially authorised to be used in connection with the tour, but an impression of a date stamp, housed in Mr. K. E. W. Lydall's album, strike illustrated, indicates the existence of such a canceller. It is of a double circle, non-metallic construction, diameter measures 39 m.m., the lettering 2.5 m.m., the date 3.5 m.m. and the impression is made in violet ink.

The dater may have been privately sponsored and as the mark pertains to Johannesburg, a town situated midway on the tour, it may be assumed that a similar datestamp had been included as part of the preparatory arrangements for each town the delegates visited in South Africa at which meetings had been held. Thus, there would then be nine of these special cancellers but where are their impressions today!

Material housed in Mr. G. D. B. Williams' collection, and supported by his intimate knowledge of Rhodesian postal matters, warrants a more complete philatelic record of the Rhodesian part of the tour.

Stanley Gibbons Postage Stamp Catalogue, and others, list an issue of stamps on 13 July 1905 to commemorate the visit of the British Association and the opening of the Victoria Falls Bridge. In reality, the delegates arrived at Bulawayo on 9 September 1905. Also, the special issue of the Victoria Falls stamps was on sale to the public on 1st July, 1905 (offi-

cially July 13th) and the Bridge was first opened in April 1905; the first train passed over on July 13th, and by the time the Victoria Falls Bridge was officially opened, the railway line was already 110 miles north of the Victoria Falls and had reached Kalomo.

A special double-circle date stamp, 37 m.m. in diameter, was used to commemorate the visit of the British Association to Bulawayo, the official date of the visit having been given as 11th September 1905. The dater is of a non-metallic construction and the strike, illustrated, appears in purple ink, although it is stated, but not viewed, that impressions appeared in black ink dated the 10th and 14th September respectively.

Advantage was taken of the visit of the Association to the Victoria Falls to invite the President, Professor G. H. Darwin, to perform the opening ceremony of the Bridge. A special single-circle date stamp of metallic construction, 35 m.m. diameter, was used to record the visit of the Association to the Falls, its strike, illustrated, being registered in black ink.

The opening ceremony took place on 12 September, 1905, but as the date commemorates Occupation Day — the date of the arrival of the Pioneer Column at Fort Salisbury in 1890 — the post office was open for only two hours in the morning. Consequently the majority of the cancellations found record the 13 September 1905.

It would be appreciated if those readers of this resume who are able to do so, would offer further information so as to bring up to date the philatelic aspect of a sparcely recorded, but important, event which took place in South Africa some sixty three years ago.

Bibliography: Report of the British Association for the Advancement of Science 1905, South Africa.

The Annual Report of the Postmaster General of the Cape of Good Hope for 1905.

T.B.B.



Dit spyt ons dat weens drukke werksaamhede van ons medewerker, hierdie rubriek hierdie maand afgeskeep sal moet word.

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THE CACHETS AND DATESTAMPS ON THE 1931-32 FIRST FLIGHTS OF SOUTH-WEST AFRICA

By M. van Wijk Smith

As a collector of South-West African air mail material, I have been struck by certain oddities concerning the cachets and datestamps employed at Windhoek for the 1931-32 first flights from Windhoek to Kimberley.

According to L. A. Wyndham (*The Airposts of South Africa*, 1936), Imperial Airways had arranged for its first official London-Cape Town flight to take place on 20 January, 1932. However, on 30 November, 1931, the British Post Office announced that a special Christmas mail would leave Croydon on 9 December. The public, therefore, had only about a week's notice of this flight.

In the meantime, South West African Airways (afterwards incorporated into Union Airways) was standing by to open a "feeder" service from Windhoek to Kimberley to connect with the main Imperial Airways route. Notified of the special Christmas flight, South West African Airways and the S.W.A. postal authorities arranged a connecting flight for 19 December. Again, arrangements obviously had to be made in a hurry.

Mail flown on this flight received a circular dated cachet, reading: "Air Mail. Windhoek-Kimberley. Lugpos-19.12.31". (See Fig. 1). It will be noticed immediately that the circular arrangement of the wording is asymmetrical, as if some wording between "Air Mail" and "Lugpos" had been removed. Note, however, the dot half-way between the words (not recorded by Wyndham, incidentally).

When the projected official "first flight" finally took place, on 26-27 January, 1932, from Windhoek to Kimberley, mail received two circular dated cachets: one reading: "First Air Mail — Eerste Lugpos — 26.1.32 — Windhoek — Kimberley" (Fig. 2), and the other, smaller in diameter, reading "Windhoek — 26.1.32 — Air Mail" (Fig. 3). Wyndham records an Afrikaans version of the latter datestamp as well, but I have not seen it used on mail despatched on the first flight. It seems, however, safe to assume that the English and Afrikaans smaller datestamps had been prepared for use on the regular post-first flight air mail.

But the circular cachet used on the Christmas flight was apparently still at hand in the Windhoek post office, and this cachet — as it made no mention of "First" or "Eerste" — was a perfectly acceptable datestamp and



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Reconstructed
portion

4



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was, in fact, regularly used on air mail after the first flight of January, 1932. I have several covers showing the continued use of this datestamp, both as a despatching and receiving mark, till as late as April, 1934. Readers may have come across even later ones. In the meantime the smaller datestamp (Fig. 3) was hardly used at all, but begins to appear frequently late in 1934.

I would submit, therefore, that what happened at Windhoek was this: A circular cachet had been prepared for the regular first flight to Kimberley, scheduled for January, 1932, before the announcement of the special Christmas flight. I suggest a reconstructed version of this cachet in Fig. 4. However, when the Christmas flight was announced, some distinguishing mark for the mail had to be found at short notice, but as this flight was not going to be the proper "first" one, the cachet to hand had to be altered: the words "First" and "Eerste" had to be removed, leaving the rest of the wording rather lopsided. It will be recalled that in Southern Rhodesia, too, mail on the Christmas flight was not designated "First", but "Experimental Flight", and in South Africa, of course, no distinguishing cachet at all was used.

Subsequently a new cachet had to be prepared for the flight of 26-27 January, 1932, the opportunity being used to find a more logical arrangement for the wording as well (Fig. 2). However, Windhoek was now left with two regular air mail datestamps, Fig. 1 and Fig. 3, and I have shown that they were both used. As further evidence that the datestamp in Fig. 1 results from a mutilated die, I may mention that on one of my covers, dated 23.2.32, bearing this datestamp, several undecipherable lines and dots appear in front of "Air Mail", suggesting that this is an impression by the mutilated area.

Finally, I would like to thank the Director of Posts and Telegraphs, Windhoek, to whom I submitted the above article for comment, for the great trouble he took to verify my suggestions. Unfortunately the datestamps and relevant records cannot be located, but an interesting new discovery resulted from the search: a mutilated die of the **small** circular datestamp, of which the Director kindly forwarded me an impression (Fig. 5). I have never seen this datestamp on cover, and cannot imagine what its use could have been. Any suggestions will be appreciated. The existence of this smaller mutilated die, however, does suggest that the practice of altering dies was not uncommon at Windhoek — for that matter, 15 years earlier German SWA datestamps were "anglicized" by this method.

POSTAL HISTORY OF THE HOLY LAND

A paper read before the Caspian and C. T. Royal Philatelic Societies by Mrs. H. Jeidel.

During the second half of last century, Turkey ruled — but not always controlled — all countries at the Eastern Seaboard of the Mediterranean, including the Holy Land.

After the Crimean War, the Turkish Government felt the need to modernise antiquated services and engaged in 1856 an expert in the person of Mr. E. J. Smith who had been postmaster of the British Field Post Service during the Crimean War. The first Turkish postage stamps were issued in 1863 and in that year there are supposed to have been 28 Turkish Post Offices in Asia.

The earliest Turkish Post Offices in the Holy Land were opened in 1865 in Gaza, Haifa and Nablus, with Jaffa and Acre following the next year and Hebron, Bethlehem and Tiberias in 1870. Nazareth opened

in 1875. From then on development was slow with Safed being opened in 1884; and the others in the 20th Century only.

There is little known about mail services connecting these Post Offices. It is usually assumed that the old courier routes of the prestamp period were still followed. Known, however is the fact that the Turks postal rights called "capitulations" to European Governments and Egypt who established their postal agencies in various places. The Austrian Government in conjunction with their shipping line, the Austrian Lloyd, supplied the area with a reliable postal service. In contrast to the Turks the Austrian personnel were honest. As a result the Austrian Agency did more business than the Turks and all the other foreign agencies together. Postmarks of the Holy Land on Austrian stamps and postal stationery are therefore, to this day, easier to find than those of the others.

To encourage more inhabitants to use their own postal service the Turkish Government not taking kindly to the Austrian competition, offered in 1881 Turkish stamps at a discount from 20% to 50% for external use only. Those stamps were overprinted either with a small red star or with the Arabic letter "B" for "Behié" meaning discount. In their turn the European powers referred the Turks to the rules of U.P.U. (Union Postale Universelle) and threatened not to convey mail franked with these overprinted stamps.

When other means to combat foreign competition failed, the Sultan issued a decree in 1900 prohibiting all Turkish subjects the use of foreign postal services.

All Turkish postmarks up to 1876 and the postmarks of many branch post offices still later have exclusively Turkish inscriptions and are undated until Turkey joined U.P.U. and had to comply with the regulations. It is amazing to compare the different spellings in Arabic of one and the same town, some are handwritten, some are printed and still they differ. Cancellers were used for short periods only with a lifespan of not longer than 5 to 6 years mostly. Dates are best established with any amount of certainty by mail still in existence.

Dates appear on Turkish postmarks after 1876 and are uni- or bilingual. Arabic numerals are read from right to left, day, month and year, each individual figure from left to right. For example: an Arabic date would look like this, 332 5 26, meaning the 26th day of the 5th month of the year 1332. The Arabic Calendar starts in the year 661 C.A. of the Gregorian Calendar. It is made up of lunar

years. To bring it in step with other calendars one year is omitted every 33 years.

There were 2 trains daily from Jerusalem to Jaffa and vice versa. Turkish people were carried by these trains daily while the foreign post offices were not allowed to make use of this facility.

Generally speaking the cancellations of the capitulation powers were also changed quite frequently, postmarks at a given period show similarities in type. The German Kaiser was the first ruling Monarch to pay a visit to the Holy Land. A special cancellation honours his visit on 31 Oct. 1898 and made obvious by the use of a colour inking pad. It is generally assumed that those special cancellations were done outside the Austrian postal agency although under the supervision of the postmaster. Closer examination leads me to believe that the same canceller was also used in the Post Office itself as the same measurements and the same distinguishing marks of wear and tear appear on ordinary mail from black inking pads as well.

Christmas 1899 saw a special Bethlehem cancellation in addition to the double circle. This Bethlehem authorisation was added after the Austrian Minister of Commerce had given his permission. There are 4 types of the Bethlehem addition which appears, in 2 or 3 lines of different length in serified letters, one starting the "t" in the lower case instead of a capital and in four lines in German.

Several letter boxes in Jerusalem facilitated posting after hours. Mail collected that way bear an additional cachet "Aus Jerusalem Oesterreichische Post" mostly boxed.

Austrian stamps overprinted centimes for the use in Crete where the Austrian office also maintained an agency, were used in the Holy Land. The reason for this usage was the exchange rate which provided an appreciable saving. This could not be overlooked especially by institutions mailing thousands of letters.

In the beginning the French cancellations consisted of numerals in dotted squares. Like each department in France, the Holy Land simply got a number. This was not realised until recently, consequently no attention was paid to those numbers and only a few can now be found.

The German postal agency only opened on the occasion of the Emperor's visit. A great amount of printed matter passed through the post office and newspaper wrappers appear in every collection. There are fewer different German cancellations than French, but each canceller had a longer life span and was repaired from time to time, leaving dents or cuts or other marks of wear and tear.

There was no necessity for the Italian Post Office at Jerusalem. It was simply a question of prestige to range on an equal footing with the big powers of Pre-World War I days. Although the Catholic clergy gave it preference the Italian post office worked with a deficit. While the Austrian post had its own mail coach, the French, German and Russian agencies shared another coach and Italy had to wait until 1912 before the competitors agreed to let her share their mail coach. Very little Italian mail with cancellations from the Holy Land is still floating around.

The Russian cancellation is called "Ropit" which represents the initials of a Russian shipping and trade Co. in the Russian language. Russian agencies were established in Acre, Haifa, Jaffa and Jerusalem. Taking into consideration that there were only 7 different cancellers known of the Jaffa agency Russian post offices must have done better trade than some of the others. Yet early Russian cancellations are quite scarce.

For a short while the Egyptians had a post office in Jaffa. Not many letters or cancelled stamps are still in existence. According to the Holy Land and Middle East Philatelic Magazine of May 1957 the only recorded copy of Poste Egiziane 1872 Jaffa on an Egyptian stamp belongs to Mr. J. H. Gilbert F.R.P.S.L. of England who recently visited this country and met many fellow collectors.

THIRD DEFINITIVE (ANIMAL) ROLL COIL STAMPS

Paper read at a meeting of the S.A. Stamp Study Circle by Dr. W. Kark.

The 1d. is the only denomination of this series prepared in roll-coil form. There were 2 issues, one in December 1954 and the other in December 1960.

First Issue of Roll Coil Stamps

In December 1954 roll coil stamps were printed from cylinder 27 on springbok water-marked paper. The cylinder was prepared from the common multipositive used for the printings on Cyls. 12 and 97 which served to produce "normal" sheets of stamps. Specimens of Cyl. 12 and Cyl. 97 printing are shown to prove the use of a common multipositive for these 2 cylinders. The proving flaws are marked.

For the printing of sheets from Cyl. 12 and Cyl. 97, the first and last rows, i.e. no. 1 and no. 22 of the multipositive, were masked,

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CORNISH STAMP AUCTIONS

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leaving an assembly of 20 rows of 12 stamps in the sheet. However, for the rolls, the whole length of 22 rows was used.

The pieces of Cyls. 12 and 97 and the rolls that are shown provide plentiful evidence for these contentions and leave no doubt about the inter-relationship of the printings.

In the exhibited specimens of the reconstructed roll coil strips of Cyl. 27, there are 24 stamps to each of the strips from number 1 to number 12. These strips of 24 are complete except for number 11, where the upper 2 members have become separated from the remaining 22. It should also be noted that the blank right hand marginal strip is not mounted at the same level as the strips of stamps; the margin is 3 units lower than the stamps.

The row numbers are indicated on the card and the letter **M** prefixes the number of the rows on the multipositive. This system of counting is the most satisfactory and consistent method of describing the horizontal rows on roll strips or webbing sheets. Its comparison with normal sheets of 20 x 12 rows is that M2 on a roll is equal to row 1 on a sheet, and successive numbers follow up to M21 on a roll which is equal to row 20 on a sheet. It follows that rows M1 and M22 are present on roll coil printings but are absent from normal sheets.

The vertical positions from 1 to 12 and the horizontal rows M1 to M22 were established by comparisons of several multipositive flaws in each of the 2 planes with those occurring in sheets from Cyls. 12 and 97 and also 95 which was issued later.

The marginal blank strip, which was printed but not used or issued with the roll strips, demonstrates the horizontal printed line demarcating every 22 rows. This line continues on to the gutter below stamp M22. It will be noted that 2 identical 5-figure black sheet numbers occur between the horizontal lines marking off 22 units and that they are set 11 rows apart, opposite rows 6 and 7 and 17 and 18 above the horizontal line.

Rolls in Sheet Form

On 22nd October 1960 the rolls were issued in sheet form. They were made by separating lengths of web 20 rows long, so providing a sheet of 20 x 12 stamps without top and bottom margins. These sheets had black sheet numbers in the right margin, printed at 11 row intervals in pairs of identical numbers with the usual progression by unitary increments per pair. The "roll" sheets have the horizontal line previously referred to between rows M22 and M1, extending from the right margin of the sheet onto the right extremity of the gutter between these 2 stamps.

This horizontal line is a constant diagnostic indication of the horizontal row level, and the 5-figure black sheet numbers bear constant relations to it. Firstly there are 2 identical numbers between 2 horizontal lines. The numbers are set 11 rows apart, and since the horizontal lines mark off 22 rows, the sheet numbers bear a constant relation to them viz. 6 and 7 and 17 and 18 rows above M22. Our Golden Jubilee Catalogue Vol. 2 refers to the sheets being "guillotined" at 20 row intervals. Actually, they were torn, not guillotined.

The 2 "roll" sheets exhibited provide the evidence for the above statements, and the various features are given in the captions on the exhibits.

Second Issue of Roll Coil Stamps

This appeared in December 1960. It was printed on arms watermarked paper, from Cyl. 95, which was prepared from the multipositive common to Cyls. 12 and 97 for sheets and Cyl. 27 for rolls. The main differences between this and the first coil issue, are the browner shade; the wider space of $3\frac{1}{2}$ m.m.

between M22 and M1; and it has its own cylinder flaws.

A reconstructed sheet of 12 vertical strips of 22 stamps is displayed.

It is interesting to speculate why the Government Printers sold sheets of webbing, supposedly surplus to roll coil requirements from Cyl. 27, in October 1960; then printed a further lot of roll coils from a new cylinder,

95, 2 months later in December 1960, presumably with the foreknowledge that in a further 2 months, on February 14, 1961, the decimal series was to be introduced. It is tempting to ascribe this series of events to the mysterious ways of a Government Printer, but one wonders whether there is some other more intellectually satisfying explanation.

SCHEMATIC SUMMARY OF ISSUES INCLUDING ROLL-COILS PRINTED FROM A COMMON MULTIPOSITIVE

| | | | |
|---|---|---|--|
| <p>Cyl 12. 1st Issue of 1d sheets 14 Oct. 1954 Sheets of 20 x 12 Several papers and shades Springbok watermark Discarded after development and extension of "Drakensberg" Flaw.</p> | <p>Cyl. 97 (a) 4th Issue of 1d. sheets. May 1957 Sheets of 20 x 12 4 bars top and bottom Springbok watermark. (i) White paper (ii) American thin (iii) Toned paper Red 4-figure sheet numbers on right (b) June 1959 Sheet numbers on left Watermark inverted (c) April 1960 Sheets of 20 x 12 (i) On Arms water- mark paper. Sheet numbers on right. (ii) Sheets without mar- ginal numbers.</p> | <p>Cyl 27 (a) Roll-coil strips. Dec. 1954. Springbok watermark. (b) Webbing sheets of 20 x 12 Oct. 1960 5-figure black sheet numbers on right. Springbok watermark.</p> | <p>Cyl 95. Roll-coil strip. Dec. 1960. Arms watermark.</p> |
|---|---|---|--|

COMMONWEALTH NOTES

By J. Woodgate

Antigua: A set commemorating the opening of the Deep Water Harbour will be issued in October.

Barbados: A set for Human Rights Year is due in October.

Canada: On the 9th October the annual Christmas stamps will be issued. They will consist of a 3c and 5c value, ordinary and tagged (phosphor). Also there will be "plastic packs" consisting of sheets of 25 and 20, ordinary and tagged.

British Indian Ocean Territory: A new definitive set will be issued on 23rd October. This replaces the B.I.O.T. overprinted set on Seychelles definitives.

East Africa: The 1968 Olympic Games will be honoured by a set from this territory on the 14th October.

Falkland Islands: A new definitive set depicting shrubs will be issued on the 14th Octo-

ber. This replaces the popular birds set which has been in use since 1960.

New Hebrides: All being well with the maiden flight of the Concorde, a commemorative set will be issued on the 9th October. Just like the Concorde, this set has also had setbacks.

New Zealand: This year's 2½c Christmas stamp is as usual beautifully produced, and shows the "Adoration of the Shepherds" by Van Honthorst. This stamp will be popular with thematic art collectors.

Norfolk Island: The annual Christmas stamp from this popular island will be issued on the 23rd October. It will be a 5c (Australian) value.

St. Lucia: After the success of their 1967 Christmas issue, St. Lucia are issuing a 1968 set in October.

Zambia: On the 23rd October, stamps will be issued to commemorate the following:- Human Rights Year, World Health Organization and U.N.I.C.E.F.

RHODESIAN STAMP HUNTS

By John Vernon

It's all very well for these so-called experts like Mr. Woolford to tell us what varieties we ought to collect on Rhodesian stamps, but he doesn't tell us how to get hold of them. The obvious thing is to wheedle them out of tame clerks at country post offices. Even if the said clerks aren't tame, they can only say "No". But they have many different ways of saying it.

Trying to be methodical, I began with the $\frac{1}{2}$ d. when collecting varieties on the 1964 Southern Rhodesia issue. I wanted the "Missing Grain" flaw on R.17/12 and confronted the chap behind the counter.

"I'd like those missing grains of maize on the $\frac{1}{2}$ d.", I said.

"Listen, buster, if they're missing how do you expect me to give 'em to you, eh? I didn't print 'em, did I? I've never seen 'em — how do I know they're missing if I haven't seen 'em? You want to read your Bertrand Russel before you come in here talking tripe like that, mate."

Now this sort of logic is of the kind called unassailable by logicians, so I bought the whole sheet for 10 shillings. I can always use the unwanted stamps for postage but, so far, I have not come across an envelope big enough to take them all. You have to watch these points, you know.

Next the "grid" flaw on the 1d., R.1/5. A different post office, but a similar clerk who would have practised cannibalism on collectors if he'd thought it worth swinging for, which he didn't.

"Have you got the 'grid' flaw on the 1d.?", I began.

"Don't talk bull. There's a buffalo on it — a buffalo bull. Get it? Buffalo Bull — not bad, eh?", and he had an ague of laughter. I bet he thought it up in his bath, too. I never got that variety — couldn't face it, somehow, after that. On to another post office.

I tried for the scar on the Queen's face on R.4/7 of the 2d. This time I began carefully to avoid trouble.

"Look, on the Queen's face there's a scar . . ."

The florid-faced youth behind the counter bellowed from a chair-top: "The Revolution! My old man said only this morning the Red Flag would be over the Palace if that bloke Karl Marx wasnt put inside a bit sharpish."

"You sound like Buffalo Bull", I said brightly.

"Haw, haw", he snorted, "I bet you thought that up in the bath."

Then the "Confetti" variety on the 3d., R.16/10. This time I approached a young lady behind the counter. Now a tip for all collectors: if you must mention confetti to females in post offices make sure first that none of them have reached that time in life when they feel they are in danger of being left on the shelf. I eventually got the stamps, but I dare not revisit the scene.

I had very little trouble with the "Dot after Y" flaw on the 6d., listed as SG. 97V3. But then I wanted the other variety, the oblong on the 6d., on Plate 1B, R.3/9. So I presented myself before a hairy-looking youth who must find it very hot in summer.

"I want that variety on the 6d., Plate 1B", I began.

"One what?"

"B."

"B. yourself", he replied with spirit (but he used the word in full).

Lengthy explanations followed, and I came away with the stamps, glad that in this licentious age murder is still frowned upon by governments. With chaps like that about the police will always be kept up to scratch, one feels.

I tried next for the 1s.3d. "disappearing" flaw on Plate 1B, R.4/3. It was the same chap I'd seen over the $\frac{1}{2}$ d. incident. He confirmed he had a sheet from 1B.

"There's a blob on one of them — or might be", I said desperately.

"Nothing on these that I can see."

"No, it's there, but it might have disappeared", I said, to make it clear.

He looked curiously at me, almost as if I was, well, curious, as he said: "You know, you're absolutely right. And come to think of it, every stamp I've got in the whole flaming building is exactly the same. I'm giving up collecting myself; I don't want to become as bonkers as you, because either you're a student of psychoneural parallelism, or you are bonkers. Now are you going quietly, or do I have to 'phone the hospital?"

Some days later, in disguise, I tried for the 2s., S.G. 101V2.

"There's a variety on the dam wall on one of the two bobs", I said.

"Oh yeah? And which damn wall, may I ask?" he asked.

"The dam wall — Lake Kyle. It's like an extra post on the parapet."

"Ah, now I see what you mean. Just for a minute I thought you were a bit screwy. We get 'em like that, you know. Only the other

Continued on Page 235

SOCIETY NEWS

SOCIETY OF ISRAEL PHILATELY

June: One of the best attended meetings for a long time opened with a reading of the usual monthly stamp news, a showing of photo copies of the proposed designs for the 1968 Festival Stamps of Israel and a display of covers showing various censor markings.

Thereafter the following exhibits were staged and greatly enjoyed by all present:-

Bor's Glassman — Mozambique Co. and Portuguese Colonies (recent issues, die proofs, specimens and varieties).

William Mann — Libya (a general collection).

Benjamin Joseph — Thematic Switzerland (stamps depicted by pictures).

Leo Buchen — German Post Offices in Turkey (small extract of a collection leading up to Palestine, particularly Jerusalem and Jaffa).

Jonas Michelson — Palestine Mandate (the beginning of a mint collection commenced only a few months ago).

Ziggy Wachenheimer — Art on Stamps (a fine mint collection of many countries) supported by a short paper.

Aubrey Miller — Constitutional Changes in British Empire (a display of mint and used stamps depicting various constitutional changes leading up to independent and emergent states).

July: Dr. Max Wulfson gave members a very interesting summary of his very recent visit to Israel — including both the old and the liberated areas. He mentioned that he had very little time left for stamps but the few dealers that he called on were not able to satisfy his requirements. Max then displayed his exhibit which consisted of used Israeli Stamps from the Doar Ivri Issue right up to the latest issue. Most of the stamps were genuinely used with tabs and mounted on Minkus Sheets. The collection was almost complete. Mr. S. Wachenheimer suitably thanked Dr. Max Wulfson.

GERMISTON PHILATELIC SOCIETY

August: Members, under the chairmanship of Mr. H. J. Suklje, welcomed three visitors from the West Rand Society, who staged the following exhibits:- Kenya, Uganda and Tanganyika by Mr. J. Burrell who also spoke on his exhibit; Miss M. Bromfield, on behalf of Mr. R. W. Brandt who was unable to be present, staged his exhibit of "Athletics on Stamps" and read his introductory paper while Mr. E. J. Sharpe showed his Samoa collection thereby concluding an enjoyable evening for which the exhibitors were suitably thanked.

FISH HOEK PHILATELIC SOCIETY

July: Mr. Rowe entertained members with an exhibit of portion of his King George V Commonwealth collection, plus a most interesting

selection of varieties of the current New Zealand Definitives, another enjoyable evening together.

ROYAL PHILATELIC SOCIETY OF CAPE TOWN

July 11: The first exhibit of the evening, "Postmarks of the Holyland" by Mrs. H. Jeidel was accompanied by an interesting and informative paper. Mr. J. Michelson's collection of "Latvia", sent from Johannesburg followed and was representative of the issues of the perforate and imperforate stamps, colour trials and proofs — all in all resulting in a very pleasant evening.

July 25: Members were entertained to four exhibits pertaining to a programme of Airmails and First Flights of the World. Mr. R. Birkan displayed Air Letters of the World; Mr. R. Jeidel, Swiss Airmail Flights; Capt. M. F. Stern, Pioneer Flights from various parts of the World, and Mr. R. F. Putzel, selections from Switzerland, Germany, Austria Balloon Flights and Charity Cards.

THE PHILATELIC SOCIETY OF JOHANNESBURG

July 9: Junior Evening Meeting at which Mr. Oppenheimer opened the proceedings with a talk entitled "Advice to Beginners" which was followed by four exhibits: Daphne Schwab showing "Children on Stamps", Andrew McNae, his collection of West Germany; Phillip Seligmann U.S.A. Commems and finally Paul Michelson his Great Britain collection.

July 17: A small contingent visited the Germiston Society and entertained the members, Mr. Tilney exhibiting New Zealand miniature sheets; Mr. Boss, Ceylon, and Miss Schwab "Children on Stamps".

July 22 was "Rhodesia Evening" when Mr. Williams showed part of his collection of Postal History and Mr. Birkhead supported by exhibiting stamps covering much the same period and including some exceptionally fine items — two most excellent exhibits, greatly admired by all present.

SOUTH AFRICAN STAMP STUDY CIRCLE

June: The exhibit was by Mr. W. Yelland — Republican Postcards. He put on a very full and interesting show which opened the eyes of many members to the possibilities of postal stationery. There was a full display of the normal postcards giving details of the different papers or cardboard used, plus many varieties.

July: Through the efforts of our secretary, we are hoping to have a visit from, and an exhibit by the Publicity Department of the Post Office. This should be extremely interesting. He is also trying to arrange a visit to a paper factory.

Mr. S. Naylor read a paper on the two types of forgeries of the 1925 Air Mail stamps. This was illustrated by diagrams showing the dif-

ferences between the two forgeries and the genuine stamps. Actual examples were also on display.

August: Dr. Kark read a paper on, and exhibited the coil stamps of the Animal series. There were reconstructed sheets of the roll stamps of both cylinders Nos. 27 and 95. Roll sheets, as sold by the Post Office of Cylinder No. 27, and also complete normal sheets printed from Cylinders Nos. 12 and 97, to show that they had all been prepared from the same multipositive. The darker "Brown-Red" colour of the stamps from Roll cylinder 95 showed up very well in the reconstructed sheet form. All the various multi-positive flaws were shown, as also individual cylinder flaws.

THE ROYAL PHILATELIC SOCIETY OF RHODESIA

Mrs. Tring's interesting display of commemorative cancellations and a smaller display of Slogan, Advertisement and Meter Marks used in the cancellation of postage matter was a culmination of Society discussions, Philatelic Terminology and Newsletter comments which you have seen and heard over the last two months.

MATAPEX, 4-6 NOVEMBER 1968. The 75th Anniversary of the occupation of Matabeleland.

The MATabeleland Anniversary Philatelic Exhibition is being promoted by The Royal Philatelic Society of Rhodesia as its contribution to the 75th Jubilee Celebrations. Coming, as it will, towards the end of the Festivities, the Exhibition will synchronise with the issue by the Post Office of a special set of Commemorative stamps, of values 3d, 9d and 1/6.

The Royal Philatelic Society of Rhodesia will be pleased to arrange for members covers to be fully serviced and stamped with the official canceller on the first day of issue at a cost of 4/- each cover.

EAST LONDON PHILATELIC SOCIETY

August: Our meeting, as is usual every year, was the Ruby Alabaster Memorial Competition evening, and was attended by 29 members and 15 visitors. Awards are given to the winning entries submitted by schoolchildren, the aim being to encourage philately in the schools. The number of entrants this year was very low compared to last year, but perhaps after seeing "ELPEX", we will have a spate of entries next year! Dr. Drusinsky showed his "Stamps on Stamps", and Mr. King his "Q.E. II Commemoratives" for the benefit of the children attending, and they really appreciated seeing them, judging from the comments heard. It was a great night for "ELPEX", and we made up some leeway on the last R200 plus we need. We are all looking forward to the exhibition and Congress and to meeting all the visiting philatelists, and to the wonderful feast of stamps. See you there!

PORT ELIZABETH PHILATELIC SOCIETY

July: The exhibit, one of France, was given by Mr. A. G. Duthoit. The collection was mounted on special printed album leaves, making a very pleasing display.

Items of interest included: (a) the recent Arts series; (b) Centenary of first French stamp issue of 1949; (c) a fine used copy of the 1000 franc "view of Paris" airmail; (d) a mint copy of the 500 franc U.P.U. airmail; and, (e) a representative selection of the classical issues.

Our usual auction concluded an enjoyable evening.

CAPE SOCIETY OF PALESTINE ISRAEL PHILATELISTS

July: The first part of the meeting was devoted to a talk by Adv. S. Aaron on the printing of Israeli Stamps. He discussed the subject from the point of view of the Philatelist rather than the technical aspects of stamp production and showed how the stamps themselves can be used to deduce information about their production. The main bulk of the talk dealt with the methods to determine the number of panes that go to make up a printer's sheet.

Mr. I. A. Miller of Johannesburg provided the exhibit for the second half of the meeting. His Thematic collection on the Holocaust dealt with the rise of Hitlerite anti-semitism and its tragic consequences as shown by covers, cancellations, postal history matter, stamps and concentration camp mail. The exhibit ended with post war stamps of many countries commemorating the wartime events and reminding us of them "Lest we forget."

THE O.F.S. PHILATELIC SOCIETY

July: A well-attended meeting opened with the showing of New Issues by Mrs. F. Gray and Mr. H. E. Roux.

Mr. Roux provided the first exhibit which covered Northern Rhodesia, Nyasaland, Southern Rhodesia, Federation and the present position. The latter part of the exhibit, Rhodesia since Independence, probably drew most attention and included the Independence overprint and Mardon printings.

Mr. A. L. Meyburgh followed with a selection of COVERS which compared favourably with any previous exhibit. These included covers dating back to the prestamp period, Boer War Patriotic Covers, an Air Accident, a first helicopter, a Mulready, a Cleft Stick and a Pigeon Post among others.

Both exhibits were well received and the exhibitors suitably thanked. A pleasant evening concluded by Mr. Meyburgh giving an informative and interesting talk on South African postmarks.

MANICALAND PHILATELIC SOCIETY

July: The Chairman, Mr. Vowles staged a very fine, large and extremely well presented display of used Great Britain. He was suitably thanked and requested to exhibit other countries of his collection.

A very successful auction terminated a pleasant evening.

GERMISTON PHILATELIC SOCIETY

August: In spite of this being the second Ordinary meeting to be held by the Society in this month, the attendance of members was good and they were treated to some fine displays by five exhibitors. New Zealand First-Day covers by Mr. F. L. Jager; a Thematic display by Mr. A. Thompson, "Birds"; Great Britain Q.E.II by Mr. A. Whitehead; K.G.VI British Commonwealth by Mr. C. Waner and First-Day covers of Canada by Mr. I. S. Burniston. The five exhibits were of great interest to all present including the seven visitors who had come along to see what takes place at a Philatelic meeting. Thanks to the exhibitors was given by the President of the Society, Mr. H. J. Suklje, who stated that he hoped the September Ordinary meeting would also be of interest to members as this meeting would be similar to the August meeting, "Open and Competitive" to all. All ladies of the Society, whether full members or not, were reminded by Mr. H. J. Suklje that it would be their evening to display on Wednesday the 16th October, 1968.

PRETORIA RAILWAY PHILATELIC SOCIETY

August: The meeting comprised the Been Cup Competition when two entries were submitted. Mr. J. van Eijk showed a straight collection of South African cylinder blocks and Comdr. C. E. D. Enoch, an assembly of Siamese errors. Both exhibits were of a very high standard and the judges after mature deliberation awarded the Cup to Comdr. Enoch while congratulating the runner-up, sentiments endorsed by a well attended meeting.

PRETORIA PHILATELIC SOCIETY

August: The Certificate of Merit for Thematic Collections competition drew a very good attendance but only two entries. Mrs. J. Wedderburn-Maxwell, of Johannesburg, staged a collection of "Birds of the World", illustrating various bird families. The introductory pages for each group were made up of the description with an original water colour by the exhibitor of the species.

Mr. J. Dohman followed, a first time exhibit, with a small but extremely interesting collection portraying "St. Martin on Stamps". This was a natural selection as St. Martin is the Patron Saint of the German town of Lennich, where Mr. Dohman was born, and during the period 371-397 AD became the Bishop of Tours.

The award was made to the former exhibit

and both competitors were heartily congratulated upon a very fine showing.

Mr. Castignani terminated a very pleasant evening with a showing of "Nudes on Stamps".

THE MASHONALAND PHILATELIC SOCIETY

August: Approximately 60 members and visitors showed great interest in Mr. Peter's display of errors and flaws in the Harrison printings of the Rhodesian 1964 and 1966 definitive issues. Some 73 sheets were exhibited, all carefully numbered and supported by a roneoed handout detailing individual faults. Doctor blade flaws, smears, smudges, major shifts, faulty perforations and grid flaws appeared in great profusion and Mr. Peter must be warmly congratulated on the excellence of his display as well as his willingness to show and discuss the many rare items he has acquired.

EXPERT COMMITTEE

The Expert Committee of the Philatelic Federation of Southern Africa will meet on Saturday, October 26, 1968. The Secretary's address is P.O. Box 2388, Pretoria.

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WANTED: Collections, lots, rarities of Austria, Germany, Switzerland, Vatican; eventually other European countries. Cash buyer. Bollier-Stamps, Box 395, CH-8039 Zurich, Switzerland.

Continued from Page 230

day a bloke, about your height, he was, came in here and asked me for a flaw on the 1s.3d. Said it was a disappearing flaw. Seems all the stamps in the office had no flaws at all, but that this particular stamp was the only one that had one that wasn't there. Of course, I phoned the hospital but he just snatched the stamps and ran. Oi, where are you off to?"

But I just snatched the stamps and ran. I was on my way in search of the "Boil" flaws on the Queen's face on the 5s., R.5/2. I went back to the character who had earlier saluted the coming of the Revolution. As I expected, he had no more fight left in him, and I got the block I wanted.

Now last, and most important, was the 10s., "Tail Feather" variety, listed as S.G. 104V1. This is one of the most prominent varieties in the catalogue, and careful preparation for the assault was made. To start with, I chose a post office I had never been to before. I took my place in the queue. Then it was my turn. I spoke clearly in the hush.

"Have you a tail feather to spare?"

The cove behind the counter stared for a second, then slowly turned round.

"See for yourself. They've all gone".

This for some reason was considered devastatingly funny, and as I legged it the roof seemed to rise behind me. I went on to the last post office within 100 miles where I was unknown, and interviewed a young girl who knew too much.

"I've got a lot of relations, and they all want one", she said flatly.

"A lot — how many?" I asked, thinking of a waiting list.

"Five kids", she said, without hesitating to count. She could only be 20.

"Good heavens", I said with genuine admiration, "how do you do it?"

Ever felt you've asked a stupid question?

Well, I got a "Tail Feather" variety in the end, but amnesia had set in by then and I

can't remember how. Since then peace has returned, but with the publication of Mr. Woolford's latest article, the clouds of war are regathering. This may happen soon in any post office within range . . .

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SUPPLEMENTARY PAGES

The Second Part of the Third Series of Supplementary Pages of "The Stamps of the Republic of South Africa, Handbook/Catalogue" was posted to subscribers during the first week of July.

Those who have not, as yet, received their copy, please contact

THE SECRETARY,

Philatelic Federation of Southern Africa,
P.O. Box 375, Johannesburg.

The South African Philatelist

(Established 1923)

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NOVEMBER, 1968

Whole No. 523

SOUTH AFRICAN NOTES

By Dr. H. J. RAUBENHEIMER,
Hon. Associate Editor.

NEW ISSUES

(It is regretted that, due to unforeseen circumstances, it has not been possible to include the accompanying illustrations. These will be accommodated in a later number — Editor.)

THE HERTZOG STAMP

Three Commemorative postage stamps were issued on 21st September 1968 on the occasion of the unveiling of the General J. B. M. Hertzog Monument at Bloemfontein. They are of the values of 2½c, 3c and 12½c and are to be on sale for approximately three months.

In the description of the stamps no mention is made of internal or external cylinders as they cannot easily be differentiated. The colours given are those supplied by the Govt. Printer. They are given without comment.

THE 2½c DENOMINATION

Design: A portrait of Gen. Hertzog as a Boer General in 1902, in deep sepia, on the right; boer figures in brown on the left; the inscriptions in white are "RSA 2½c" above, and "HERTZOG 1902" below the figures.

Paper: Swiss, coated, RSA watermarked, the mark tête-bêche facing up and down.

Sheet format: vertical, double die, 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 m.m.

Cylinders: three, cross lined, 200 line, screened, from single multipositives, the master negatives having been stepped up 200 times: Numbers 269 deep sepia, 268 brown and 267 light olive green and these numbers are shown, in their respective colours, on the bottom margin: 269 below stamp 4 and 268 and 267 with the pane letter A or B in green, below stamp 5. The printing machine was the Goebel 840.

Sheet numbers: five figure black, on the right margin of pane A opposite rows 8 and 9 and again 19 and 20.

Arrows: premanufactured, brown, centrally placed on the left and right margins.

Marginal bars: brown, single broken bar 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, on the right margin of pane A opposite row 12.

Perforations: by the Grover two row appliance. Bottom margin perforated through, top imperforate. Side margins imperforate except for the single extra hole at each end of the horizontal rows of perforations.

Perforation register punch holes: opposite rows 7 and 8 on the left margin of pane B

and the right margin of pane A respectively. The one on Pane B has brown concentric circles with a horizontal bisecting line, while the one on pane A has half circles around it in green together with a horizontal bisecting line also in green.

VARIETIES

Pane B

Row/No.

- 9/ 1 Sepia, diagonal hairline to the left of the hat.
- 10/ 3 long wavy sepia hairline in the gutter below the collar.
- 11/ 2 tiny brown dot in left gutter two thirds down.
- 19/ 5 tiny brown dot above O of HERTZOG.
- 20/ 5 white mark above hat band.

Pane A

- 4/ 3 brown dot below 2 of 2½c.
- 6/ 3 diagonal brown hairlines at left gutter half way down.
- 12/ 3 diagonal brown hairline above G of HERTZOG.
- 19/ 2 diagonal brown line in top gutter at the centre.

THE 3c DENOMINATION

Design: A portrait of Gen. Hertzog in 1924 in black on the right, a family group in brown on the left with the inscriptions "HERTZOG 1924" in brown above, and "RSA 3c" in white in an orange band at bottom left.

Paper: Swiss, coated, RSA watermarked, the mark, in tête-bêche formation, faces up and down.

Sheet format: vertical, quadruple die, panes A, B, C and D; top left was A, top right was B, bottom left C and bottom right D. 100 Stamps per sheet (20 rows x 5).

Stamp format: horizontal, measuring 40.5 x 24.2 m.m.

Cylinders: four, cross lined, 200 line, screened, from a single multipositive double transferred on to a 42 inch cylinder for the Albertina printing machine. The master negative was stepped up 200 times for the multipositive. The cylinder numbers are 5 orange, 15 sepia-brown, 26 black and 14 chrome-yellow, and these numbers, in their colours, together with the pane letter A, B, C or D in black are shown on the bottom margin below stamp no. 5.

Sheet numbers: six figure black on the bottom margin below stamps 4 and 5, with 5 digits below stamp 4 and one below stamp 5.

Arrows: brown, premanufactured. Centrally placed on the left and right margins.

Marginal bars: brown, single line broken bars with an extended central gap on the top and bottom margins.

Colour Registers: present an unusual feature; there are two, the first, a visual one, consists of two concentric circles, divided by a cross in the colours superimposed on the right margin of panes B and D opposite rows 5 and 6. This register serves as a check on the second register for the autotron. The second register is found on the right margin of pane D opposite rows 14 to 18 and consists of 6 short horizontal lines 20 m.m. apart and in colour, the colours from top to bottom being black, orange, sepia brown, orange, chrome yellow, orange. The black line differs from the others in being irregular as if hand-drawn. There is also, oddly enough, a single black line opposite row 14 of pane B. We understand it serves no purpose.

Perforations: externally perforated by the Grover 2 row appliance; the bottom margins are perforated through, the top margins are imperforate, the left and right margins are imperforate except for the extra hole at each end of the horizontal lines of perforations.

Perforation register punch holes: opposite rows 7 and 8 on the right margins of panes B and D and the left margins of panes A and C. Only the holes on B and D have the orange concentric circles, with the horizontal dividing line, around them.

VARIETIES

A pane

Row/No.

- 1/ 4 tiny black dot above R of RSA.
- 6/ 4 tiny black dot to the left of the forehead.
- 7/ 1 faint diagonal brown hairline to the left of the mouth.
- 14/ 2 black dot at right of c of 3c.
- 16/ 3 tiny black dots to the left of the cheek bone.

B pane

- 2/ 3 tiny black dots below TZ of HERTZOG.
- 15/ 5 short black line to the left of the chin.
- 18/ 3 tiny black dot below 1 of 1924.

C Pane

- 4/ 2 small brown dot above R of RSA.
- 7/ 1 diagonal black hairline at the right of the statues.
- 8/ 5 brown hairline through left margin halfway down.

- 11/ 4 brown dot at top right of A of RSA.
16/ 4 tiny brown dot above SA of RSA.

D Pane

- 7/ 4 short brown stroke below E of HERTZOG.
16/ 3 white dot below R of HERTZOG and another below 2 of 1924.
17/ 2 numerous tiny brown dots below ZOG of HERTZOG.

THE 12½c DENOMINATION

Design: A portrait of Gen. Hertzog on a background of light orange. The inscription "RSA 12½c" in white is in a deep orange band along the top.

Paper: Harrison, coated, RSA watermark-ed, the mark faces right and is distinct.

Sheet format: horizontal, double die, panes A and B, A having been on the right of B. 100 stamps per sheet (5 rows x 20).

Stamp format: vertical measuring 24.2 x 40.5 m.m.

Cylinders: three, cross lined — 200 line-screened from single multipositives with the master negatives stepped up 200 times. They are numbers 272 deep-sepia, 271 deep orange and 270 light orange and these numbers in their respective colours, together with the pane letter A or B in light orange, are shown on the left margins opposite rows 4 and 5. Printing was done on the Goebel 840 machine.

Sheet numbers: five figure, black, on the bottom margin of pane A below stamps 1 and 2 and again 12 and 13.

Arrows: premanufactured, deep orange, centrally placed on the top and bottom margins.

Marginal bars: deep orange, single line broken bars with an extended central gap, on the left and right margins.

Colour register: in the form of two concentric circles divided by a cross, in the colours closely superimposed, on the bottom margin of pane A below stamp 9.

Perforations: externally perforated by the Grover two row appliance. The left margin is perforated through, the right margin is imperforate and the top and bottom margins are imperforate except for the single extra hole at each end of the vertical rows of perforations.

Perforation register punch holes: above and below stamps 13 and 14 of panes B and A respectively, partly or wholly trimmed off. Only the one on pane A has the light orange concentric rings with the bisecting line.

VARIETIES

B Pane

Row/No.

- 1/20 black dot below ½c of 12½c.
3/ 3 numerous tiny black dots in the top right corner of the stamp.
3/ 4 tiny black dots below RS of RSA.
3/16 white dots around the top of Gen. Hertzog's head.
4/ 15 white marks at the left of Gen. Hertzog's neck.

A Pane

- 3/ 3 tiny black dot below c of 12½c.
4/ 2 tiny black dot in the top loop of S of RSA.
4/ 5 white dot at the left of RSA.
4/20 diagonal black hairline in top gutter above A of RSA and another two hairlines at the left of the ear.
5/ 1 black dot in right gutter near the top corner.
5/ 6 white dot below first 1 of 12½c.
5/ 7 white marks above the top of the head.
5/10 white dot to the right of the eye.

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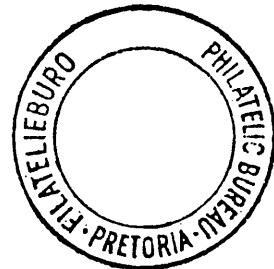
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Deposito-rekenings kan geopen word.

PHILATELIC FEDERATION OF SOUTHERN AFRICA

A well attended Special General Meeting of Federation was held on Friday, 16 August 1968, at which Articles 5(c)(1), 6(1) and 8(3) of the Constitution, pertaining to Nominated Representatives, Subscription Fees and Representation at Congress respectively, were duly amended.

Immediately following the Special General Meeting, a meeting of the Executive Committee took place at which tribute was paid to the memory of the late Messrs Ernest Hunt and W. G. Combrinck, and the following matters were determined:

MATTERS ARISING OUT OF THE MINUTES:

- (a) **Import Control.** The Secretary said that he had received a letter from the South African Reserve Bank in further amplification of the position as recorded in the minutes of the last meeting.

NOTED.

- (b) **Notice of First Flights.** Mr. Godfrey reported that the Secretary and he had interviewed a Mr. Hurter of S.A. Airways in Johannesburg. There was every possibility of a new air service being introduced to South America next year and, if so, Airways were very keen on there being special flown covers for the first flight. Standard sized envelopes and aerogrammes with a special cachet were suggested rather than the larger sizes frequently used. The possibility of better publicity in the notification of postal arrangements for internal first flights was discussed as well. Mr. Hurter said he had also discussed such matters with Captain Stern in Cape Town and the Airways was anxious to co-operate with philatelists in conjunction with the Post Office.

NOTED.

- (c) **Year Book.** The Secretary said there had not been a meeting of the Publications Committee since the matter was raised. There seemed some doubt about the practicability of such a venture.

NOTED.

HON. TREASURER'S REPORT:

The Hon. Treasurer presented the accounts for the year ended 31st December, 1967. The Federation's activities reflected a reasonable surplus notwithstanding the fact that the S.A. Philatelist showed a small deficit. The direct

administrative activities of Federation resulted in a surplus of R222 compared with R61 for the previous year, while the Expert Committee had an excess of Income over Expenditure of R54 compared with R23 for the previous year. The S.A. Philatelist incurred a loss in 1967 of R51 compared with R221 during 1966. Mr. Michelson said that Secretaries were keeping expenses down and the Business Manager of the S.A. Philatelist had once again excelled himself with improved advertising revenue and subscription lists.

In regard to the Publications Fund, the profit on publications sold out was R1,937, plus a further R405 profit on the 1st and 2nd Series of supplementary pages of the Republican Handbook with some Series 2 still available. Other publications with stocks still available had a net cost of R827. Up to 10th August, 1968, further sales of publications had amounted to another R281. An interim financial report for the period January/September 1968 would be presented to Congress.

The report was NOTED with appreciation and thanks to the various office bearers and the Chairman of the Publication Committee.

AGENDA FOR THE XXX CONGRESS:

1. **Society Motions.** Resolved that the following motions be included in the Agenda for discussion by Congress:

- (a) **South African Stamp Study Circle.**

"That the South African Government be approached to exhibit the stamps of the Republic of South Africa at Government pavilions at Expositions and philatelic exhibitions held in other countries."

- (b) **Philatelic Society of Johannesburg.**

"That Congress give consideration to the advisability of taking action, similar to that taken by F.I.P., in making exhibits containing blacklisted items which are exhibited at National or International Exhibitions in Southern Africa liable/subject to disqualification.

"That in the event of the above proposal being adopted by Congress, adequate publicity be given by Federation to items and/or countries blacklisted by F.I.P. so that collectors may be aware of these items and avoid being penalised."

2. **Draft Reports for Presentation to Congress.** Draft Reports of the Expert, Publications, Philatelic Estates, Recorded Lectures and Awards Committees were submitted and approved for submission to Congress.

3. **Papers for Presentation to Congress. Resolved** that the paper prepared by Capt. M. F. Stern, "The German African Airmails" be approved for reading at Congress.

4. The Executive went into Committee to consider recommendations for: Election to the Roll of Honour of Distinguished Philatelists, and for the award of the Skinner Cup, the Harvey Pirie Memorial Award, the W. E. Lea Cup and Congress Awards.

5 **Programme of Congress.** The President said that all arrangements were in hand for Congress which would be opened officially by the Mayor of East London. Few Societies had sent in the names of their delegates to date and he hoped those who had not yet booked hotel accommodation would not be too late.

The Exhibition would be opened officially by the P.M.G. on 16th October at 11. a.m. 342 frames had been allocated of which almost 30 were to juniors. The Jury would be Mr. M. J. Rall, M.P. (Chairman), Drs. T. B. Berry, F. Drusinsky and M. Peisach, Capt. M. F. Stern, and Messrs. E. Blum, L. Buchen, G. Bülbring, N. C. Combrink, A. L. Leon and R. Reynolds.

NOTED.

REPORTS:

Dealt with in conjunction with Agenda for Congress.

CORRESPONDENCE:

- (a) **Commemorative Stamps and Cancellor — South African Games. Resolved** that the request from the O.F.S. Philatelic Society on behalf of the local Games Committee for special stamps and canceller be forwarded to the Postmaster General with the recommendation that it be favourably considered.
- (b) **Slogan Postmark Transpositions.** The Secretary read a letter from the Postmaster General regretting that the Post Office was unable to consider the transposition of slogans and postmarks. A machine had been adapted for the purpose but the clearness of the date marks had not been satisfactory and enquiries from some postal administrations overseas had elicited similar results. **Resolved** that the Postmaster General be thanked for the information given in his letter and be informed that it would be referred to Congress for noting.
- (c) **Emblem for Federation.** The Secretary read a letter from Mrs. Wedderburn

Maxwell thanking Federation for the honorarium. Arising out of this matter, Mr. Michelson passed around specimens of the emblem in reduced sizes to show that detail was sufficiently good for reproduction on letterheads, etc.

NOTED.

- (d) **Delay in Publishing Supplementary Pages of the Republican Handbook.** The Secretary read a letter from the S.A. Collectors' Society stating that members of the Society had complained about the poor distribution of the supplements and the lack of information about proposed dates of publication or reasons for delays. The latter was a matter of concern because of the risk of loss in the post. Mr. Gough Palmer said that the S.A. Stamp Study Circle was aware of the delays, which were partly due to the lack of volunteers with sufficient spare time to complete the preparation of the text. However the matter was discussed at the last meeting of the Circle and it was hoped the proofs of the next distribution would be ready before the end of the year.

NOTED.

GENERAL:

There were no matters for discussion.

The meeting terminated at 10.55 p.m. with a vote of thanks to the chair and appreciation was once again expressed to the Wanderers' Club, through Mr. Abrams, for permitting the meeting to be held at the Club.

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POSTMARKS

What everyone throws away today can be a collector's item in time.

IT HAPPENED IN 1868

by David Allison

In a previous article ("S.A. Philatelist", April, 1968, page 86) it was pointed out that Cape Colonial Government Gazettes contain a large amount of useful information for the postal historian. The present notes summarise the main features which come to light in a systematic search through the 1868 Gazettes.

Of course there is much of interest besides postal matters. Probably the most important documents reproduced in this volume are the letters exchanged between the Cape Government, the Free State Government and Moshesh concerning the annexation of Basutoland (various Gazettes, e.g. 13th and 17th March, 1868). There are many reminders of conditions in the Cape a century ago — the report of a commission of inquiry into a fever epidemic which killed about a thousand people in Cape Town (Gazette 7th April, 1868); an Act of Parliament for the establishment of the Municipality of Port Elizabeth (Gazette 3rd April, 1868) revised Municipal Regulations for Cape Town, which included a "keep to the left" rule of the road (Gazette 14th July, 1868); and an advertisement of the South African Photographic Saloon, of 50, St. George's Street, claiming that "pictures may be successfully taken even on dull days" (Gazette 9th October, 1868). It was proposed to send a Commission "to the alleged Gold Fields", whose responsibility it would be, amongst other things, "to ascertain the existence and quantity of gold" (Gazette, 4th September, 1868). Back home in Cape Town, a "Customs' Rummage Sale" of unclaimed goods at the docks included a case of hardware belonging to Dr. Livingstone's Zambesi expedition of a few years previously (Gazette, 21st April, 1868).

Now for postal matters. A few references to the 1868 Gazettes were made in a previous article already referred to, these will of course not be repeated here.

Overseas Mails

At the beginning of 1868 there were two regular subsidised packet (i.e. mailboat) services from the Cape. There was the monthly English mail service between Cape Town and Plymouth, and there was a service to Natal and Mauritius which conveyed mail for India, Australia and the East generally. Mail could also be sent to England by this route, although one imagines that only a small

proportion of English mail went this way. Such letters went via Mauritius and through the Mediterranean. If they were taken by sea round Gibraltar to Southampton, they cost 1/- per half ounce, the same charge as by the West coast route. Alternatively they could be taken ashore at Marseilles and go overland across France. This took a few days less than the journey via Gibraltar and cost 1/4 per half ounce.

Other postage rates by this Eastern Packet included the following:

| | | | | |
|-----------|-------|-------|-------|----|
| Natal | ..... | ..... | ..... | 6d |
| Mauritius | ..... | ..... | ..... | 4d |
| India | ..... | ..... | 1s | 2d |
| Australia | ..... | ..... | 1s | 4d |

In each case these were for the first half ounce, and applied to letters posted in Cape Town. To certain destinations, letters posted inland cost more.

Because the Governments of Natal and Mauritius withdrew their subsidies, the Eastern packet ceased to operate early in 1868. The last ship to sail from Cape Town under the contract was the "Natal" which was due to leave Cape Town on 20th March. The Cape Government's share of R3,000 per annum was then used to increase the subsidy paid for the English mail packet, which became bi-monthly, sailing on the 4th and the 19th of each month from Cape Town instead of only on the 19th as previously. Vessels from Plymouth called alternately at St. Helena and Ascension, and the passage took 38 days. In the other direction each ship called at both St. Helena and at Ascension, and the journey took 39 days.

Postage rates to the East were increased as a result of the suspension of the Eastern Packet service. A letter to India or Australia, sent by mailboat via London, cost 1s8d instead of the 1s2d and 1s4d quoted above. In fact the G.P.O. London made two despatches of mail for each packet going to the East. The first of these was to Southampton, and the second went overland across France and joined the ship at Marseilles. This second despatch left London about 6½ days after the first, and by paying 2s (instead of 1s8d) the citizens of the Cape could have their mail sent by this quicker route. Mail timetables, printed in the Gazette, enabled one to work out whether it was worth paying the extra.

The information in this section has been taken from the Gazettes of 10th January, 21st February, 17th March, 21st April and 10th May, 1868.

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Overland Mail to Natal

1868 also saw the introduction of an overland mail to Natal, as an alternative to the sea route. This was despatched from King William's Town on the first and third Fridays of each month, and took about 12 days. Correspondence intended for this route had to be posted at Cape Town by the previous Saturday, and to be marked "via King William's Town". One wonders how many collectors have such covers in their possession. (Gazette 2nd October, 1868).

Mobile Missionaries

In the previous article, mention was made of Lily Fountain, the centre of Methodist missionary work in Namaqualand. In the early days, the Namaqua tribe trekked down every year to winter pastures at a much lower altitude, in the vicinity of a large rock known as Bethel Klip. This is where the first Methodist missionary in South Africa, the Rev. Barnabas Shaw, originally preached to the Namaquas in 1816. When the tribe trekked down each year, so did the missionaries and so therefore the post office. Mobile Post Offices are not so modern after all! The Gazettes reflected these moves. The issue of 21st July, 1868, announced that as from 19th July the Lily Fountain mail would be made up at Bethel, and in the 29th September issue it was stated that on and after the 27th September, 1868 "mails for dispatch from the Lilyfountain Post Office" would "be made up at Lilyfountain, instead of Bethel as at present". The postal agency at Lilyfountain is known nowadays as Kamiesberg.

Postal Rates

Changes of postal rates were notified from time to time during 1868. Reference has already been made to the increased charges on letters to the East as a result of the withdrawal of the packet service, but some reductions in rates can also be recorded. The letter rate to the United States was reduced to 1s5d per half ounce if sent by packet via Great Britain (Gazette 18th February, 1868). It is not stated what the previous rate was, but in 1864 it had been 1s8d ("S.A. Philatelist", April, 1968, page 86). The rate to most countries, including the U.S.A., by private ship was 8d, but later in the year this was reduced to 4d if posted at the port from which the ship sailed, otherwise 6d. (Gazettes 12th May, 4th September, 8th September and 20th November, 1868).

The Introduction of penny postage between Port Elizabeth and Uitenhage in 1868 has been discussed in the April "S.A. Philatelist".

Another Cape of Good Hope

From time to time changes in the lists of overseas money order offices were notified in the Gazette, so that the postmasters could keep their lists up to date. One of these lists includes an office named Cape of Good Hope, the head office of which was Birmingham. The G.P.O. Records Office in London have kindly informed me that this office was established in November 1867, and is listed in the British Post Office Guides published in 1868. It does not appear, however, in the January, 1869, issue. I think this is worth noting as otherwise somebody might find its handstamp and imagine it was a Cape post-mark.

So much for 1868. I found it quite fascinating to work through these old Gazettes, and hope that something of the enjoyment has been shared by those who have read these notes.

CORRECTION

"South African Philatelist" April, 1968, page 87, second column, twelve lines from bottom: for 1868 read 1853.

REVIEWS

STAMP DEALERS' DIRECTORY

The Seventh Edition of the International Stamp Dealers' Directory, 1968, has now become available. The book is edited by Mr. O. W. Newport, Editor of the "Philatelic Magazine and the "Philatelic Trader" and is published by Messrs. Harris Publications, London W.C.2.

The publication pertains to all aspects of the trade and is designed to help the stamp dealer in every aspect of his business. The various articles are written by experts in their particular fields and the reference material is up to date.

The names and addresses of dealers from all over the world are given in detail, thus affording an indication of the extent of the stamp business.

Much patience and hard work must have gone into the compilation of the publication which is not only highly informative but also affords an interesting resume of an important aspect which pertains so universally to the hobby of Stamp Collecting.

THE COMMONWEALTH Q.E. II STAMP CATALOGUE, 1969 EDITION

Published by Urch, Harris & Co. Ltd. Distributed by Harris Publications Ltd., 16 John Adam St., London, W.C. 2 Local Agent: Messrs. Robemark Philatelists, Johannesburg. Price 22/6 (R2.25).

The publication is the third edition of the Commonwealth Q.E. II Catalogue and comprises a hard cover volume of some 500 pages of good quality paper, listing over 14,000 fully priced stamps and more than 2,000 illustrations.

Special attention has been paid to make the Catalogue as up to date as possible by the inclusion of issues, with illustrations, which made their appearance some two weeks prior to publication, a notable inclusion being the Swaziland Independence Definitive issue released on the 6th September, a post publication date.

First Day Covers are listed and priced for every special issue; certain territories such as Anguilla and Biafra, among others, are included for the first time, while the listing of South Africa, notwithstanding the fact that the country became a Republic and left the Commonwealth on the 31st May 1961, is "continued for the convenience of collectors", the three recent watermark variations being dealt with separately in detail, a condition practised throughout the book.

The Commonwealth Q.E. II Catalogue is a pocket size volume but nevertheless presents a concise, clear and accurate up-to-date minute guide of the market values of Queen Elizabeth stamps.

SWAZILAND 1962 INVERTED WATER-MARKS — 1c R4, 2½c R10, 3½c R2, 4c R2, 5c R2.50, 7½c (scarce) R10, all six for R27.

LESOTHO — Overprints Script wmk, 12½c 20 cents, R1 at R1.50, R1 with LSE error R60 in block of 4. Dues, second printing, 15c set. 1969 Elizabethan R2.70.

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LETTER TO THE EDITOR

Dear Sir,

Further to my article entitled "Griqualand West Barred Numeral Postmarks" which appeared in the S.A. Philatelist of July 1968 at which date only the numeral '2' remained for identification as to its place of usage, I have now been fortunate enough to acquire a cover marked with this canceller which was used in Port Elizabeth. The cover is post-marked May 11 1883, and is from Port Elizabeth to London where it received an arrival postmark dated June 5 1883.

Except for the numeral "7", of which no example on or off cover is recorded, it would seem now that the chapter on this particular group of cancellers is at last complete.

To summarise, six of these numerals were used in Griqualand West and the other three in the Cape.

Reverting to the Cape Barred Numeral Postmarks, the following two numerals, which were hitherto not identified as to place of usage, are now recorded on cover as follows:
159—Zwartkops Station (1897)

432—Modderfontein, division Prieska (1900).

Yours faithfully,

J. M. WEINSTEIN.

SCOTLAND YARD UNIT TO FIGHT STAMP THIEVES

Scotland Yard has set up a special unit to deal with thefts of stamps. The unit, headed by a Detective Inspector, is building up a central registry of stamp thefts over the past five years, thieves' methods of operation, photographs and catalogues.

A reference library on forged stamps and on methods of stamp identification has been started.

So far, the unit has built up records about the theft of stamps valued at £500,000. The thefts include some from other European countries.

Trade organisations are co-operating fully with the "stamp squad". Insurance companies, through loss adjusters, have also helped.

Efforts are being made to get dealers and collectors to have their more valuable stamps photographed so that they can be "registered" with the stamp unit.

Close liaison has been established with a special section at Interpol headquarters in France which deals with stamp thefts.

Acknowledgement "The Philatelic Trader"

COMMONWEALTH NOTES

by J. Woodgate

- Botswana:** A set for Christmas 1968 will be issued on the 11th November.
- Canada:** On the 6th November a 5c stamp will be issued to commemorate the 1918 Armistice.
- Gibraltar:** The 1968 Christmas stamps consist of a 4d. and a 9d. value, and are due on the 1st November. This popular territory still issues low denominations, as it does not "live" off its stamp revenue.
- Gilbert and Ellice Islands:** The 25th anniversary of the Second World War battle of Tarawa will be remembered by an issue of stamps on the 21st November.
- Lesotho:** A set of 7 stamps will be issued on the 1st November, depicting rock paintings. The face value of this set is 81½c.
- Malawi:** The 1968 Christmas set is due on the 6th November. Each of the 4 values will depict a different Nativity painting, and in addition there will be a souvenir sheet composed of all 4 values. The set and sheet each cost 5/7d. Malawi, or 48c S.A.
- Malawi:** A new definitive set from 1d. to £2 featuring birds of Malawi is due on the 13th November. The face value of the 14 stamps is £4/4/7 or R7.25.
- Pitcairn:** The 20th Anniversary of the World Health Organisation will be the subject of a set to be issued on the 25th November.
- St. Kitts:** A Christmas set will be issued on the 27th November.
- St. Vincent:** In November a set for International Human Rights.
- Seychelles:** The 200th Anniversary of the landing on Praslin Island will be commemorated by an issue of stamps in November.

MATAPEX

The Royal Philatelic Society of Rhodesia will hold an Exhibition on 4-6 November, 1968, in commemoration of the 75th Anniversary of the Occupation of Matabeleland.

A commemorative issue of three stamps, valued 3d., 9d. and 1/6 will be made while a specially designed cover in full colour view of Rhodes' grave in the Matopos will be available.

The Royal Philatelic Society of Rhodesia, P.O. Box 803, Bulawayo, will be pleased to arrange fully serviced and stamped covers with the official canceller on the first day of issue at a cost of 4/- each cover.

The modern history of Matabeleland began on the 3rd of November, 1893, when a small body of troops led by Captain Borrow entered the deserted kraal of Lobengula, the last of the Matabele kings. The kraal was called "Gu'Bulawayo, the place of the killing", derived from the Matabele word "Bulala", to kill. The following day, the 4th of November, the main body of volunteers from Mashonaland arrived in the vicinity. Amid the debris the wagons were outspanned and the volunteers paraded. The Union Jack bearing the British South Africa Company's lion badge was hoisted; Bulawayo was born.

This settlement, now known as the "City of Bulawayo", grew rapidly with increasing influence on the surrounding countryside. It was declared a Town on the 1st of June, 1894, a Municipality on the 27th of October, 1897, and finally proclaimed a City on the 4th of November, 1943. Bulawayo is a pleasant city in which to live and work and has become the thriving industrial and commercial heart of Matabeleland. The Matopos Hills are situated some 20 miles from the city and here, in the stark splendour of the granite hills at a place named "The View of the World", is buried Cecil John Rhodes, from whom Rhodesia takes its name. Close by is an imposing memorial to members of the Shangani Patrol and its leader Allan Wilson, all of whom were annihilated in a heroic engagement during the Matabele War of 1893.

Bulawayo has been true to its motto "Si Ye Pambile" — Let us go forward — as with Matabeleland it has played a major role in the development of present day Rhodesia.

NEW STYLE AEROGRAMMES

The Australian Postmaster-General announced that a new type of aerogramme with three sealing flaps was introduced on October 1st, 1968. The provision of three sealing flaps would permit the aerogrammes to be closed on all sides before posting. This would ensure greater privacy for the contents and also facilitate mail handling processes on high speed equipment.

The new aerogramme went on sale initially at General Post Offices and other large post offices and, as stocks of the current form become exhausted, will be available at all offices.

The British Post Office was adopting the same type of aerogramme and it was expected that other countries would follow suit.



Die eerste aflewering van die „South African Philatelist” wat hierdie rubriek bevat het, kon sy verskyning in April 1965 maak, as ’n direkte gevolg van ’n beroep wat op 14 Oktober 1964 met die jaarlikse konferensie van die Suid-Afrikaanse seëlversamelaars te Pretoria gemaak is, om ook die Afrikaanstalige versamelaar tuis te laat voel in ’n organisasie wat tot op datum eksklusief Engels genoem kon word.

Voor ons verder gaan is dit, jammer genoeg, noodsaaklik om te beklemtoon dat die skrywer van hierdie bydrae in geen enkele opsig betrokke wil raak in ’n polemieks oor die twee offisiële landstale nie, omdat hy beslis nie ’n uitgesproke voorkeur vir een van hulle het nie, wat verstaanbaar is vir iemand wat groot geword het met ’n ander moedertaal.

Dit is seker daarom dat hy by hierdie geleentheid sy verwondering uitspreek dat die hand wat so spontaan gereik is, blykbaar verontagsaam word, gesien die feit dat „Iets vir Almal” slegs met horte en stote in hierdie tydskrif gepubliseer kon word en selfs in die jongste Oktober-nommer heeltemal ontbreek het.

Vir my as nie-Afrikaner is dit onbegryplik dat ’n vaste medewerker nie onder die versamelaars gekry kan word wat bereid is om die rubriek te behartig nie. Tot op datum het verskillende skrywers hulle medewerking verleen, soos blyk uit die verskille in styl wat eie is aan elkeen van hulle. Ondergetekende is van mening dat die geleentheid om Afrikaans in die seëlwêreld te propageer deur die groep wat daar belang by het, met beide hande aangegryp moet word, ook al is skynbaar almal oortuig daarvan dat Afrikaans alreeds sy plek volstaan. In die seëlwêreld is dit beslis nie die geval nie en dit is ’n treurige verskynsel dat ’n buitestaander op hierdie toedrag van sake moet wys.

Op gevaar af om beskuldig te word van partydigheid in hierdie kwessie wat alleen maar belang het vir die Afrikaanstaliges, wil ek sluit met ’n beroep wat hopelik die gewenste uitwerking sal hê: „Afrikaners, let op u saak”.

J. BUSSER.

DIE POSGESKIEDENIS VAN LETLAND

(’n Voorlesing deur mnr. J. Michelson met ’n uitstalling van die seëls van Letland by ’n byeenkoms van lede van die Afrikaanse Filatelistevereniging, in September 1968.)

50 Jaar gelede het, na die dekabel van die Eerste Wêreldoorlog, die drie Baltiese republieke, Litouë, Letland en Estland saam ontstaan. Saam het hulle bestaan, saam is hulle in die Tweede Wêreldoorlog geannekseer, saam is hulle beset en saam is hulle in 1945 deur die USSR, oftewel Rusland, ingelyf.

Dus het hulle posseësgeskiedenis net twee en twintig jaar onafhanklikheid geken met ’n eie posdiens en eie seëluitgifte, maar hulle posgeskiedenis gaan baie verder terug.

Aangesien vandag se uitstalling van die seëls van een van hierdie lande — Letland — vir homself sal spreek, sal ek my tot die posgeskiedenis van die land beperk.

Filatelie is meer as net die bymekaarmaak van seëls, inplak in albums en die voorsiening van byskrifte wat uit ’n katalogus gelig is. Die posgeskiedenis, dit wil sê die tydperk voordat seëls bekend was en die begin van ’n posdiens met al sy groeimoeilikhede — dit maak alles ’n boeiende studiegebied en is ’n onontbeerlike deel van ’n gespesialiseerde versameling. ’n Deel van die uitstalling is aan hierdie voorlopers gewy — noodgedwonge net ’n klein seleksie uit ’n volledige versameling.

Dit ter inleiding — en nou kom ons tot die posgeskiedenis van Letland.

Die drie provinsies Kurland, Livland en Lettgallen wat in 1918 die onafhanklike republiek Letland gevorm het, was al vanaf 1795 deel van die Russiese keiserryk en het dus van die Keiserlike Russiese posdiens gebruik gemaak. Net volgens die name op die briefstempels kan 'n mens vasstel dat die briewe vanuit Lettiese gebiede afkomstig is. Briewe uit die tydperk voordat seëls gebruik is, is taamlik vryelik beskikbaar, aangesien die groter stede lewendige handelsbetrekkings met die buiteland onderhou het. Vroeë Russiese seëls met stempels van Lettiese stede en dorpe is egter seldsaam, aangesien Rusland-versamelaars agter hulle aan is soos die duiwel agter 'n arme siel.

In 1916 is die Lettiese gebied deur die Duitse leër beset en is Duitse seëls deur die bevolking op posstukke gebruik, terwyl die troepe se briewe ongefrankeerd gepos is. Later is die hele Baltiese gebied na „Postgebiet Ober-Ost” verdoop en is Duitse seëls met die oordruk gebruik.

Op 18 November is die onafhanklike republiek Letland geproklameer, ofskoon 'n groot deel van die land nog in vyandelike hande verkeer het. Wit Russe, Bolsjewiks (of liewers, die Rooies) en Duitsers het nog verskeie dele van die nuutgestigte republiek beset gehou, al is Letland intussen deur Frankryk en Brittanje de jure erken.

Binne die eerste maande na die onafhanklikheidsverklaring het die eerste Lettiese seëls verskyn. Aangesien daar 'n nypende tekort aan papier geheers het, is hulle op die agterkant van Duitse militêre kaarte gedruk, waarvan groot hoeveelhede deur die terugvallende leër agtergelaat is.

Van die ander besettingsmagte het net die Wit-Russiese kolonel Bermond Awalof seëls uitgegee deur op sy beurt Lettiese en Russiese seëls oor te druk. Sy eie seëluitgifte was van 'n duidelik spekulatiewe aard, aangesien die posdiens in sy gebied feitlik in duie was. Tog bestaan daar briewe wat met Awalof-seëls gefrankeer is, wat wel deur die pos aangestuurd is, maar hulle is uiters seldsaam.

Namate die Lettiese gebied van die besettingsmagte bevry is, het die posdiens begin funksioneer. 'n Kenmerk van daardie periode is tydelike geïmproviseerde hulpstempels deur plaaslike posmeesters vervaardig. Ou Russiese en Duitse stempels is ook gebruik totdat die jong Lettiese departement van Poswese die poskantore van nuwe stempels voorsien het.

Die eerste Lettiese seëls — na die kaart-seëls — is op verskillende soorte papier ge-

druk. Enige soort wat beskikbaar en bruikbaar was is gebruik: gewone skryfpapier, sogenaamde sigaretpapier, dun, dikker en gewone dikte papier en uiteindelik selfs banknotepapier.

Laasgenoemde was al gedeeltelik gedruk, deels deur die Kommuniste, deels deur die Wit-Russe, wat weens al te haastige vertrek die werk nie afgehandel kon kry nie — tot voordeel van die jong Lettiese poswese. Afgesien van die papierverskille kry ons hier nog ongetande, getande en plaaslik getande seëls — wonderlike dinge wat 'n spesialis se hart bollemakiesie laat slaan.

Tussen 1918 en 1940 het Letland 'n konserwatiewe uitgifteprogram gehandhaaf van 'n aantal spekulatiewe stelle wat in die jare 1932 en 1933 verskyn het.

In 1940 word Letland deur Sowjetbesettingsdruk gedwing om vrywillig by Rusland aan te sluit — die jongste gebeure in Tsjeggo-Slowakye het die tydperk weer lewendig voor my oë laat herleef. In daardie tyd het seëls van die „Lettiese Sosialistiese Republiek” met die nuwe staatswapen — die Sowjetster inklusief — verskyn.

Gelyktydig was Sowjetseëls ook geldig en briewe met gemengde frankering was aan die orde van die dag. Dit het tot Junie 1941 aangehou toe die Duitse leër die Russe uitgegooi en die land op sy beurt beset het. Die posgeskiedenis het hom toe herhaal met die skepping van 'n spesiale posgebied, hierdie keer „Ostland” genoem met sy eie oorgedrukte Duitse seëls.

Die einde van die Lettiese posgeskiedenis kom nou vinnig nader. In September 1944 het die Russe Letland weer oorgeneem en dit hierdie keer 'n integrale deel van Rusland gemaak. Enige sweem van onafhanklikheid het verdwyn en — soos in die Keiserlike tyd — word briewe vanuit die Lettiese gebied net uitgeken deur die stempel op die Russiese seëls waarop onder meer die woorde staan: Lettiese Sosialistiese Sowjetrepubliek — Latvya S.S.R.

SOEK U IETS van die Kaap, O.V.S., Tvl. en ander Voor-Unie, Rhodesië, ander Brits-Afrika, Kanada, G.Brittanje, versameling Oos-Duitsland, ens.? Ja? Dan kry u stellig wat u soek deur middel van STAMP DEALS, Posbus 2272, Johannesburg.

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THE STORY OF THE 1966 RHODESIA DEFINITIVES REPRINTED BY MARDON PRINTERS

by THEO RUDMAN

The Harrison printings of the Rhodesia definitive set were issued on February 9, 1966 and in April of the same year it was announced that these stamps were already in short supply and that a Salisbury firm, Mardon Printers (Pvt.) Ltd., had been commissioned to print supplementary stocks of this issue.

Mardons printed the definitives in the basic designs of the Harrison issue, but used the offset litho process. The English printing was on pigmented paper and as this paper was not available in Rhodesia JH4 paper which is an uncoated paper was used. A difference in the tone of the two papers can be clearly seen.

As Mardons had now officially entered the stamp printing business, a perforating machine was flown out from Europe to ensure that there would not be a repetition of the unsatisfactory perforations found on the 2s6d. "Independence" stamp, which was done with a commercial perforator used for invoices etc. This was done because Mardons, who were the leading commercial printers, were

called in at short notice to print this stamp, which was the first postage stamp, other than postage due labels, ever to be printed in Rhodesia.

All the definitive stamps so far issued by Mardons have been comb perforated $14\frac{1}{2}$, except the 5s., 10s. and £1 values which are comb perforated $14\frac{1}{4}$.

The first Ministry of Posts announcement concerning these reprints said that the 1d. stamp, which was the first to be issued, had been infiltrated into Post Offices early in June, 1966, as existing stocks ran out. However, 1d. stamps cancelled "First Day of Issue" on June 1, and June 2, are in existence. The first 1d. printing was made from one cylinder only — 1A — with a large imprint in 18 pt. type extended under the four centre stamps.

Experimental gum

On July 25, 1966 a 1d. experimental printing using a South African manufactured paper known as "Dri-gum" was issued, according to an official statement, only at Union Avenue and Causeway Post Offices in Salisbury. However, supplies were also available at the Philatelic Bureau and the Bureau cancelled these stamps "First Day of Issue". Altogether 194 sheets were issued and sold and no customer was "officially", allowed to buy more than 12 stamps at a time. A spokesman for the Ministry of Posts said, at the time, "The new stamps — backed by "dry gum" — were being tried because, it was believed, they could facilitate storage in the humid conditions prevailing during the wet season as the sheets did not curl at the corners. In the past curling had created difficulties in storage and checking."

"The object of the test distribution", the spokesman went on, "was to test customer-reaction to this type of gum." The public was invited to send comments to the Controller of Postal Services. Although the stamp adhered quite well, it took longer to stick and public reaction to it was unfavourable.

These "dry gum" stamps were printed from new plates, which were prepared for a second printing of the 1d. stamp and it is assumed that the order of the printing the colours was the same as for the second printing. Both cylinders 2A and 2B were printed, although a small imprint in 8 pt. type was used, it was still necessary to have a strip of four stamps to obtain a complete imprint. "Dry gum" stamps do not react to ultra-violet light.

As only 12 stamps were to be issued to any one person at a time, the counter hands

at the two issuing post offices tore the sheets through the centre so that they had rows of six stamps long and gave each person two of these rows . . . Therefore, very few complete imprint blocks have survived.

In August 1966, the second printing for the 1d. on JH4 paper was "infiltrated" into post offices. These were officially cancelled "First Day of Issue" on August 17, 1966. However it is believed, although no official agreement has been reached, that the order of printing the colour was reversed from that of the first printing and made the two stamps easily distinguishable. In particular, the background of the second printing appeared to be much lighter than that of the first printing and there was a blue tinge on the buffalo of the second printing.

Next followed the printing of the 2s., 5s., 10s. and £1 values and quantities of these stamps were issued to post offices as their supplies of the Harrison printing were depleted. Again there is some confusion over the date of issue of the 2s. and 5s. values as two dates exist for both these stamps. The 5s. value was cancelled by the Bureau, with the "First Day" stamp, on June 23, 1966, although the Deputy Post Master General in his book, "Rhodesia — A Postal History" quotes the date of issue as June 25. He also gives the date of issue of the 2s. value as July 18, 1966, although these stamps cancelled "First Day of Issue" by the Philatelic Bureau on July 25, 1966 are in existence. The 10s. and £1 values were issued by the Bureau on August 10, 1966. The colours again differed to those of the English stamps, particularly the 10s. value which appears to be more orange.

While the 2s., 5s., 10s. and £1 stamps were being printed a number of trial sheets from both cylinders were run through the machine. The paper used for the trials was also JH4, but was of a different mill-run to that of the main printing and therefore appeared to be "whiter" in appearance. The complete 2s. trial printing was destroyed. On both the main and trial printings of the 5s. value a large imprint was used. In the case of the 10s. and £1 stamps large imprints and cylinder numbers were used for the trial, but before the main printing began new plates were made. These had a small imprint, but the type face and size used on the cylinder numbers were the same used for the trial. The trial printings were issued on the same dates as the main printings.

The next stamp to be put on sale was the 4d. value and was issued at the Philatelic

Bureau on September 29, 1966. Again the imprint was in small 8 pt. capitals.

It is understood that fairly early in the printing difficulty was experienced in the registering of the three colours, and as a result, all the sheets of cylinder 1A were destroyed, but those of 1B retained. A new plate for 1A was made and printing continued with this cylinder only. Because of this there are less sheets of 1B than of 1A. The colour of the stamp printed from the new plates is much lighter.

On November 1, 1966 the 6d. stamp was placed on sale at the Philatelic Bureau. It was printed on JH4 paper and has a small imprint.

Paper trials

In addition to the main printing of the 6d. stamp, three trials with coated paper were undertaken. The three papers used were; white chromo — dextrine gummed, is a wood based paper with a very white coated surface; supreme chromo, similar to, but of higher quality than white chromo, and rotogravure esparto made from esparto grass, which is found in Spain and North Africa.

A limited number of sheets were issued through the Philatelic Bureau. Only 35 sheets of the white chromo, 55 sheets of the supreme chromo and 155 sheets of the esparto papers were issued and sold. The first two papers have a deep cream coloured gum and the third has an off-white gum. These stamps are easily identified by the colour of their gum and are in great demand.

November 9, of the same year also saw the issue of the 1s.3d. stamp which, is of a lighter blue than the London printings. Again paper trials were performed using two German-made papers.

These two papers are readily distinguishable by the colour of their gum and are therefore known as cream gum and brown gum trials. Three cylinders, 1A, 1B and 1C were used and a total of 200 sheets of the white gum were issued and 104 sheets of the brown gum.

The authorities were satisfied with these two papers and it was announced that future issues would probably be printed on them.

First dual currency stamp

On March 14, 1967, Rhodesia's first dual currency stamp went on sale at the Philatelic Bureau. However, in "Rhodesia — A Postal History" the date of issue is given as March 15, 1967. This was the 3d./2½c value issued in

preparation for the country's change to decimalisation in 1970.

The "2½c" was positioned to the left of the kudu's head. The quality of this stamp was most disappointing and the colour appeared to be quite "flat" compared to the London printing. The blue background was very patchy and many white patches were present. These stamps had small imprints and were printed with two colours on JH4 paper on cylinders 1A and 1B.

Later that year the country's second dual currency stamp appeared. This was the 1s./10c. stamp and went on sale at the Philatelic Bureau together with the 2d. stamp on November 1, 1967. These stamps were the first of the local definitive printings not to be cancelled with a "First Day of Issue" cancellation, as shortly before this issue was released the Post Office announced, "These stamps are reprints of the current definitive issue and not considered as new releases. First Day Covers are therefore not available and supplies of stamps will be made to post offices only when existing stocks are exhausted." No attempt was made to explain the existence of the "First Day of Issue" cancellations on all stamps mentioned in this article or the fact that the Deputy Postmaster General, in his book, gives a date of issue for each of these stamps and in some cases two different day of issue cancellations exist for the same stamp.

The 1s./10c. stamp is generally much bolder and darker than the Harrison printing, although there is a considerable variation in the colour, from dark to light. They were printed on cylinders 1A, 1B and 1C and the cylinder numbers and imprint were printed in 8 pt. type. The imprint extended only under two stamps and four colours were used in the printing of the design.

Two cylinders 1A and 1B were used for the 2d. stamp and a considerable difference in colour of the two panes has been recorded. The green back-ground of pane 1A is much lighter than that of 1B. Again small lettering was used for the imprint and cylinder numbers. The cylinder numbers are not level. The green 1A as a little higher than the orange 1A and the same occurs on 1B. Two colours were used on this printing.

First definitives on coated paper

On November 21, 1967, the 9d. stamp was issued at the Bureau, again no "First Day" cancellation was used. This stamp was similar in appearance to that of the overseas printing, although the tobacco hands of the Salisbury

stamp are a little lighter. Again three cylinders were used, 1A, 1B and 1C and this time small 6 pt. type was used. The imprint extends over a similar length to that of the 8 pt. type used on the imprint of the previous stamp. In the case of the 9d. value two colours were used.

Another interesting point about this stamp, the 1s./10c. and the 2d. stamps was that they were the first local definitives to be printed on supreme chromo paper with cream gum and not the usual JH4 paper. Supreme Chromo was used for many of the commemoratives and was one of the papers used in the paper trials, although it was not the one the authorities said at the end of 1966 would probably be used for future printings. The Supreme Chromo is a coated paper and is whiter and much heavier than JH4 paper.

These last three stamps were also the first definitives to appear with all sheet details opposite and below the bottom two rows of the sheet. In the case of the 9d. and 1s./10c. value, 1A appears under stamp one, 1B under stamp two and 1C under stamp three. In the case of the 2d. value 1A is under the first stamp. In all three cases the imprint extends across the width of two stamps in the centre. The traffic light is in the left hand margin opposite the bottom row and the sheet number is stamped in the right hand margin. The sheet value appears in the bottom margin beneath the last stamp on the right hand side.

Although 19,920,000 of the 3d./2½c. dual currency stamps were printed, supplies ran low and less than a year later a reprint of the 3d. value was undertaken. Since the issue of the dual currency stamp the authorities decided that, when decimal currency was introduced, there would not be a 2½c coin. Therefore, when the 3d. Mardon reprint was issued it carried only the 3d. value. It is understood that the complete printing of the 3d./2½c. stamp was sold and that none were withdrawn. Again the date that this stamp was issued from the Bureau caused confusion. For some time the Post Office advertised that this stamp would be issued from the Bureau on February 19, 1968, although no "First Day of Issue" cancellation would be used. However the date announced by the Bureau was suddenly put forward to January 29, 1968 when it was discovered that Kingsway Post Office, which was the issuing post office for 42 offices in the district had, long before February 19, sent stocks of the 3d. value to other post offices as their stocks of the dual currency were depleted. It is therefore reasonably certain that 3d. reprints cancelled as early as January, are in existence.

The quality of this stamp was not much better than that of the 3d./2½c. value and surprisingly, the 3d. reprint was printed on JH4 paper and not on a coated paper, which could indicate that this stamp was printed some considerable time before. Again only two colours were used. This reprint also had a small imprint which extends only under two stamps and was printed on cylinders 1A and 1B. All sheet details appear opposite and below the bottom two rows.

On March 11, 1968 two more definitives were issued at the Philatelic Bureau. They were a dual currency 1s.6d./15c. and a dual currency 2s./20c. value. Both were printed on Supreme Chromo paper and only on cylinder 1A. Again a small imprint was used and all sheet details appear opposite and below the bottom two rows. In both cases three colours were used in the printing.

At the time the article was written only the 2s.6d. value had not been re-issued.

NOTE: This article does not provide a comprehensive list of technical details, but is only intended to provide sufficient information to enable the collector, in years to come, to identify and understand the confusing and sometimes contradictory details that exist in this issue.

150th ANNIVERSARY OF THE ABOLITION OF SLAVERY IN ST. HELENA

St. Helena is issuing a set of four stamps, values 3d. and 9d. in common design featuring Sir Hudson Lowe, and 1/6d. and 2/6d. values, in common design, featuring Sir George Bingham.

It is of particular interest in this appointed year for Human Rights that it should be an anniversary of the first step in the campaign for the abolition of slavery.

One of the first acts of the Governor, Lieut-General Sir Hudson Lowe, on taking up his appointment was to abolish slavery in St. Helena. Slavery had come to an end in all the dominions of the Honourable East India Company except St. Helena though slavery persisted in Britain and her colonies till 1833. In August 1818 Major-General Sir George Bingham, Lowe's deputy, found a poor little slave girl, about 14 years old, limping down the road with fresh wounds caused by a whip. He subsequently brought the girl's owner to trial and inflicted the maximum penalty of £2, but stated that, were it in his power, he would fine the brutal owner £40 and give

him a whipping. The owner then had the effrontery to complain to the Council about this. At the next Council Meeting, Sir Hudson Lowe raised the matter and proposed that slavery should be abolished. This was agreed in general principle after some discussion. Henceforward children of slaves were to be born free, though apprenticed to their mother's owners for a period of years. In this manner slavery died out gradually, without the serious upheavals caused in the West Indies twenty years later.

Acknowledgement "Crown Agents Stamp Bulletin"

AUSTRALIA'S 200th ANNIVERSARY ISSUE


Artists in all parts of the world submitted 235 entries in a competition seeking designs for a series of postage stamps to be issued by Australia in 1970 to commemorate the 200th Anniversary of the discovery of the east coast of the continent by Captain Cook.

A Sydney artist was awarded the first prize of \$200, the second of \$50 and the third of \$25 went to New South Wales and Queensland competitors respectively, while there were a number of special prizes of \$20 each.

The competition was conducted by "Stamp News", a monthly magazine for stamp collectors and the prize winning entries will be submitted to the Postmaster General so that the Stamp Advisory Committee of the P.M.G.'s Department can consider using them as the basis for the selected stamps.

QUANTAS 21st ANNIVERSARY FLIGHT SYDNEY — NORFOLK ISLAND

The 21st anniversary of the introduction of a direct airmail service between Sydney and Norfolk Island by Qantas Airways was commemorated by a special philatelic mail. The mail was carried on the anniversary date, September 25th, and a commemorative post-marker was used.



Switzerland and Continental countries
classics and moderns bought and sold,
also collections.

J. FRICK
CH-9658 WILDHAUS
SWITZERLAND

SOTTO VOCE

By "Jobus"

Reading dutifully through some letters which occasionally reach me in my capacity as Editor of the smallest Newsletter ever produced, a correspondent, obviously concerned about the well-being of his fellow-philatelists, appeals for information about the Republican Handbook/Catalogue, which is gradually, and here I quote — becoming a headache for

- a. The Compilers.
- b. The Publishers.
- c. The Philatelists.

This statement, of course, is very difficult to analyse as:-

- a. The compilers are not easily lured away from their task to be interviewed about their health problems.
- b. The publishers are buying their aspirins and other drugs in wholesale quantities regardless, and
- c. The philatelists shouldn't have any complaints at all, as nobody is forcing them to get the above-mentioned health hazard anyway.

Before we deal with the real problem, it must first be stated that Compilers are the backbone of the Philatelic World: they keep their shoulder to the wheel (to the point of exhaustion) and their back to the wall (even when it is difficult to work in that position). In short: they made, and are still in the process of making, the Philatelic World what it is today.

The next statement deals with the PHILATELISTS (oh yes, in capital letters) who become scientists in their own right. They see a glass door as made of very small particles, better known as atoms, with plenty of space between them and therefore try to walk right through the confusing lot. Any ordinary collector who uses the handle to open the same door first, is regarded by the PHILATELISTS as one of those who is not with it.

Publishers are of course only providing for the time when they have accumulated enough (guess what?) to see them through their state of inertness, usually referred to as retirement. It all depends on how much butter they are used to on their sandwiches, as to when they will call it a day.

The intelligent reader will assume that we are now getting to the core of the question which was asked by my correspondent, and rightly so.

He stated that after 7 years of Republican stamps, we have managed to issue a Handbook/Catalogue for the said stamps, which at the moment is available for R5.20. Adhering to the present system (some extra pages now and some more in the near and distant future) will saddle us with something ridiculous. No slide rule is needed to work out what the compiled information will cost when a baby (born today) will get the complete Handbook/Catalogue as a 21st birthday present. Not to mention what the same baby will have to fork out if he/she wants to keep up with the Van der Merwes, when she/he — just to show I know my manners — is reaching middle age. A properly programmed computer will reveal that by then the headache has advanced to an unbearable migraine.

He — my correspondent, not the baby — compels me to admit that the mentioned baby faces a financial disaster in time to come and therefore the following suggestions — with examples of their incorporation — are forwarded to the PHILATELIST, who may be able to feed their inspiration with this:-

THE FIRST DEFINITIVE SERIES OF THE REPUBLIC OF SOUTH AFRICA

The First Definitive Series of the Republic of South Africa was placed on sale on the 31st May 1961. As the day was a public holiday, only the main Post Offices were open, and then only for one hour between 9 and 10 a.m., for the purpose of selling the stamps and for date stamping First Day Covers. A specially designed commemorative date stamp was used at the Philatelic Bureau, Pretoria, a description of which is included in the Commemorative section.

The designs for the stamps were selected by competition. About 200 artists, from abroad as well as from South Africa submitted entries, and the successful artists were (awards in brackets):-

| | |
|------------------------|--|
| ½c, 3c, R1 | — Mrs. T. Campbell, Pretoria (R150) |
| 1c | — Miss N. Desmond, Cape Town (R30) |
| 1½c, 2c, 7½c, 10c, 20c | — An artist in the Government Printer's Department |
| 50c | — Mr. H. L. Pager, Johannesburg (R40) |
| 2½c, 5c, 12½c | — Messrs. Thomas de la Rue, London (R160) |

The stamps were printed at the Government Printing Works, Pretoria, by the Rotogravure process from screened cylinders, firstly on Arms watermarked paper, then on Unwatermarked paper, after which the RSA watermarked paper made its appearance, followed by the Tête-bêche watermarked paper. Etcetera, etcetera.

NOTE: Underlined portion to be added to the existing description in the Handbook/Catalogue.

½c GROUP I — ISSUE 1

The stamps of this group exhibit fine cross-line screening, are perforated 14 x 14.75 and conform to a sheet format of 200 units. There have been 5 Issues of this denomination depicting the Natal Kingfisher bird, printed in horizontal sheet format of 10 x 20 stamps each measuring 24.20 x 20.25 m.m. The sheet's left and right margins are perforated through and carry carmine-red single line broken bars, containing a central gap, while the top and bottom ones are imperforate, and have centrally imprinted on them a carmine-red pre-manufactured type of arrow.

Three cylinders were used for this tri-coloured printing, the cylinder numbers being positioned on the sheet's left margin opposite stamp Row 10/1, the cylinder No. 34 being superimposed on number 9 for all printings. *No. Is. Dis. C. No. Wm. S. No. Issued Perf*

| | | | |
|---------------------------|-----------|------------|--------------|
| 201 1 1st 34/9/2 Arms Nil | May, '61 | 14 x 14.75 | |
| 1 2nd 34/9/2 Arms 5 (B) | July, '61 | 14 x 14.75 | |
| 201 | | | Single M. U. |

½c. Blue, dull orange, carmine. Shades 0.02 0.01

CONTROLS-Blocks of four
Ca. Bottom corner with cyl. No. 0.25

Cb. Sheet No. (Block of four, or strip of four) 0.25

Cc. Marginal arrow (Block of four or strip of four) 0.20

Cd. Bottom marginal strip of 10 stamps (No sheet No.) 0.40

Cc. Bottom marginal strip with cyl. No. and sheet No. 0.35

Etc. Etc.

a. The Handbook/Catalogue should be issued every year at a modest price of say R2.00. A handy pocket version, approximate size 10 x 20 c.m. (decimalization is coming, no argument about that) could be adopted.

b. Cylinder blocks reproduction can be restricted to the first issue and only when a significant change occurs should it be justified to repeat the picture.

c. The rare specimens, often referred to as

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.
Tulbach Square, Foreshore, Cape Town.**
at 8 p.m.
VISITORS CORDIALLY WELCOMED.
P.O. BOX 1973, CAPE TOWN.

The EAST LONDON PHILATELIC SOCIETY

meets on the second Friday of each month
in the Museum Hall, Lukin Road, East
London, at 8 p.m.

Visitors welcome.
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Meets on the fourth Friday of every month
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**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
B.C.E.S.L. Hall, St. Andrews Street,
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 97, 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.
P.O. Box 378, Krugersdorp
Secretary's Telephone: **Business 660-7511;**
Home: 660-4085

THE EAST RAND PHILATELIC SOCIETY

P.O. Box 538, 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.

Printer's waste, i.e. 205A V 57 (these V's go in this case to No. 63), can, as far as I am concerned, be deleted.

- d. If varieties such as: tiny blue dot, tiny yellow dot etc. have to be printed at all, they could be mentioned in special small print, as the pursuers of these philatelic treasurers have their magnifying glasses at hand anyway.

Food for thought, and therefore criticism will pile up against these proposals. The first objection will come from people who know their arithmetic and are especially conversant with the adding-machine, which after a few manipulations will show that the outlay for the proposed catalogue will amount to R20.00 in ten years time.

Perfectly true, but all these years an up-to-date source of information is available, for which everybody concerned is willing to save R0.17 a month.

More clever criticism can be expected if some readers go to the trouble of reading this article. It could even be that the Editor (South African Philatelist) is going to trouble these readers with a contest to reach the best possible solution that may solve this Handbook/Catalogue problem.

If he does, he can be assured that support to this project is available from Jobus.

POSTAGE STAMPS ISSUE FEATURING THE ROCK PAINTINGS OF LESOTHO

A special stamp issue featuring some of Lesotho's wealth of rock paintings was made on the 1st November, 1968.

Several thousand rock paintings are known in Lesotho. The paintings range in size from 1 to 150 cm. and they mainly depict people and their activities, while animals, especially elands, are also fairly common. They show the culture, material possessions, and interests of a hunting people, and although the age of the paintings, and consequently the identity of the artists, has not yet been established beyond doubt, some of the latest have most probably been executed by Bushmen, the former inhabitants of Lesotho.

The rock painting show a great variety in styles and techniques, including large polychrome animals depicted in static, rigid attitudes with great attention to accurate detail; life-like, naturalistic persons and animals; shaded polychromes often with complex foreshortenings; as well as highly stylised monochrome animals and humans expressing movement and action.

The issue comprises seven stamps which have been based on colour photographs taken by Mr. L. G. A. Smits, Senior Lecturer in Geography at the University of Botswana, Lesotho and Swaziland, who has devoted considerable time to the study of the rock paintings of Lesotho, and who is an authority on the subject.

A special designed first day cover is available and the cost of the cover bearing the seven stamps and datestamped with the date of issue will be 95 cents. Orders should be addressed to:-

Philatelic Bureau,
Ministry of Posts and Telecommunications,
P.O. Box 413,
Maseru, LESOTHO.

and they must be accompanied by the appropriate remittance in postal orders, money orders, or certified bank drafts.

RECORD SEASON FOR HARMERS

The H. R. Harmer organisation has turned over stamps valued at over £2,000,000 in the season just ended. The London sales were £852,528, plus £57,000 for private treaty. The New York sales were £1,028,963, plus £60,000 for private treaty.

GIBBONS £1,134,399 AUCTION RECORD

An all-time record figure for any London stamp auction house was reached by Stanley Gibbons Auctions at the end of their season on July 12th.

The grand total of £1,134,399 was made up of auction realisations totalling £1,107,297 plus £27,102 for sales by private treaty. This exceptional figure does not include any part of the turnover of other divisions of the Stanley Gibbons Group.

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SOCIETY NEWS

BELLVILLE PHILATELIC SOCIETY

August: Mr. Beunderman exhibited Postage dues of the Union and Republic of South Africa. The exhibit covered earlier and current issues, and both used and Mint blocks were on display. Amongst the oddities missing perfs were noted as well as inverted watermarks, damaged letters, etc. The War-issue (rouletted) was also to be seen. The Postage dues were not sent out to Post Offices in complete sheets but were divided into quarters, and it was interesting to note the numerous postal markings which indicated "insufficient postage" "excessive weight", etc.

AFRIKAANSE PHILATELISTIESE VERENIGING VAN PRETORIA

Augustus: Hierdie maand het ons besoek gehad van die Pretoria Philatelic Society. Daar was vier uitstallings. Mnr. Castignani het sy versameling "vine and wine" gewys, komdt. Enoch: foute op seëls met opdruk van Siam, mnr. Dohmann sy versameling seëls met afbeeldings van St. Maarten en ten slotte mnr. Weinstein met sy versameling lugkoeverte van Suid-Afrika. Dit was vier indrukwekkende versamelings wat baie bewondering gewek het. Dit is nie net die voortreflike manier waarop hierdie versameling bygeskryf is nie, maar veral ook die entoesiasme en kennis, waarmee hulle saamgestel is, wat baie aansteeklik werk en tot navolging aanspoor. Dit was 'n besonder aangename en suksesvolle aand en ons is die Pretoria Philatelic Society dankbaar vir die mooi seëls wat hulle vir ons gewys het.

September: Die aand is opgeluister met 'n versameling seëls van Suid-Afrika, 1910-1961, wat nagenoeg volledig is. Die versameling bevat die ou prentereëls en die diereëls; dit is mooi gemonteer en was 'n plesier om te aanskou. Die tweede versameling wat uitgestal is, was die reeds beroemde versameling van kommandant Enoch: S.G. 1. Vanselfsprekend kon nie die hele versameling vertoon word nie, maar daar was mooi uitgesoekte geheel, o.a. Groot Brittanje, 'n hele aantal lande uit die Britse wêreldryk, waaronder Suid-Afrikaanse, in besonderhede. Vir 'n hele aantal van ons lede was hier seëls wat hulle eintlik net uit die katalogus kken en nog nooit in werklikheid gesien het nie. Vanselfsprekend het die versameling algemene bewondering opgewek. Ons is kommandant Enoch besonder danbaar dat hy ons in die geleentheid gestel het om hierdie versameling te kan bekyk. Dit is die mooiste versameling wat nog in ons vereniging uitgestal is.

EAST LONDON PHILATELIC SOCIETY

September: Our last meeting to be held before "ELPEX 68" was very successful indeed,

and members were given a thematic treat, as this was the night of the Thematic Cup. Two collections were entered, "Birds" by Mrs. J. Bradley and Mrs. Zarnack's collection on "Cancer". The judges had a difficult task to decide that Mrs. Bradley was a narrow winner from Mrs. Zarnack. All members really enjoyed viewing the two entries and found much of interest. Mr. J. Bradley showed his knowledge of birds in a short talk prior to the viewing, and everyone present listened intently. At a later stage, Mr. J. Shingler displayed some pages of a collection of "Birds on Stamps" sent along by Mr. R. J. van Buuren of Johannesburg, and this was also well received. Mr. Hellmann gave a progress report on "ELPEX", and, as this was our last meeting until after the exhibition, final arrangement of duties was made.

We are looking forward to meeting all our philatelic friends, and are hoping for a successful Exhibition and Congress.

THE O.F.S. PHILATELIC SOCIETY

August: A sudden cold spell — and attendance dropped suddenly too! Nevertheless, those who did brave the weather were entertained to an excellent display of 12 pages from various members, with one fine effort from a country member — Dr. van der Merwe of Viljoenskroon. Another welcome feature was the splendid effort put on by Juniors. This was by far one of the best shows put on by members. The following members exhibited:

Mr. A. L. Meyburgh: Flowers and 1st Decimal issue on Hand-drawn Covers; Mr. S. Marus: Italian Airmails; Mr. J. B. Levy: Old Curiosity Shop; Mr. H. J. Weil: Congo; Mr. H. Hagan: Railways; Dr. W. P. v.d. Merwe: O.F.S. Overprints and Errors; Mrs. Marinowitz: Dog's World; Mr. A. H. Scott: Early Basutoland Covers and Art in France; Mr. R. Lee: Scouts; Mr. H. E. Roux: Tonga and Tristan da Cunha.

JUNIORS:

G. Bierman: General; R. J. Preller: Dogs, Animals and Birds; I. Habib: Religion; D. J. Viljoen: Airmails and War in the Air.

Refreshments were provided by Mr. and Mrs. Jordens of Tweespruit.

Our thanks for this special effort by two of our country members.

ROYAL PHILATELIC SOCIETY OF CAPE TOWN

August 8th: South African Guest Night. The first exhibitor of the evening was Mr. C. S. Amler who had come from Vredenburg to show a selection of his collection of South African rarities. Every item shown had in some way a variety on it. Missing colours, double prints, perforation errors, interrupted printings, in fact any mistake a printer could possibly make was represented. The exhibitor made particular mention of the ½d. Springbok London Double Printing.

The second Exhibitor was Mr. K. Lydall of Johannesburg. A paper on the subject "South African Postal markings and Services" submitted with the exhibit was read by the Hon. Sec. The collection comprised covers of all facets of our Postal services, Paquebot cancellations, Philatelic Exhibitions, Royal Visits, Relief marks, among others of particular interest was a cover from Verneuk Pan (1929) with the word Speedway inserted.

It is with deep regret that we record the passing on August 8th of our President the late Mr. W. G. "Bill" Combrinck. An Obituary by Mr. E. Blum, a life long friend, is enclosed with this letter.

August 22nd: The first Exhibitor of the evening Mr. D. G. Crocker showed a selection of "Transvaal — First Republic and first British Occupation". Mr. Crocker gave a most interesting talk on his exhibit, mentioning that some sixty of the Transvaal stamps were rarer even than the famous P.O. Mauritius. He gave details of the various printings and explained how to distinguish the genuine from the forgeries. The talk was backed up by an impressive display of the various issues on the boards.

The second display was a selection from Mr. J. Wannerton's collection of "Canada". Briefly the exhibit covered the various aspects of the Canadian scene, starting with pre-stamp letters and on through to the latest issues.

THE PHILATELIC SOCIETY OF JOHANNESBURG

August: At the first meeting of the month, members enjoyed viewing the following exhibits:

"Birds" (J. Wedderburn-Maxwell) was beautifully illustrated with paintings of birds, and although this type of illustration is banned at international level, I feel that without this descriptive and artistic write-up the exhibit would be very scrappy, for it is almost impossible to make stamps of different size, quality and printing technique arrange and mount satisfactorily when the only thing they have in common is that they belong to the same bird family.

The Bechuanaland Covers shown by K. Wedderburn-Maxwell were most interesting and some items rare, making a fascinating study in the development and history of the country.

The second meeting was a visit from the Germiston Society, which is an annual event about this time of the year. It was unfortunate that only three of their members were able to attend, but we were treated to three exhibits, although only one was from a member who was present. Mr. Haggard showed us his S.A. Commemoratives and told us a great deal about his collection. Mr. Eillers sent over his collection of Norway and Mr. Burniston his Protectorates.

GERMISTON PHILATELIC SOCIETY

August 7th: Members of the Philatelic Society of Western Rand came over to Germiston

on the annual visit by the Society to our Society. Three most interesting exhibits were tabled that evening by West Rand. Kenya by Mr. J. Burrell; Mr. R. W. Brandt's Thematic collection of "Athletics on Stamps" which was displayed by Miss M. Bromfield and Samoa by Mr. E. J. Sharpe. A fortnight later, on the 21st August, 1968, a record number of exhibits were tabled by our members in competition for the Society's various trophies. New Zealand First-Day covers by Mr. F. L. Jager; a Thematic display of "Birds on Stamps" by Mr. A. Thompson; Great Britain Q.E. II by Mr. A. Whitehead; K. G. VI British Commonwealth by Mr. C. Waner and First-Day covers of Canada by your Hon. Secretary.

On the 26th of August, your Society made its annual visit to the Johannesburg Library, where the local philatelists were shown (1) Mr. Eiler's collection of Norway; (2) Mr. Burniston's "Protectorates" and (3) Mr. Haggard's "Union Commemorative". The exhibits were well received by a good turn-out of Johannesburg members.

September 18th: Rather a quiet meeting as several of the regular attending members were away, either overseas or on their annual holiday in the Republic. However, fourteen members were present to view the two displays on view that evening; both being exhibited by Mr. C. Waner, whose first display consisted of part of his vast collection of miniature sheets issued by most countries of the world for the 18th Olympic Games held in Tokio in 1964. This was followed by, again, only part of Mr. C. Waner's collection of First Flight covers, from Israel to practically every country of the globe. Both collections were mounted on specially printed sheets with descriptions in type of the various designs and what sports the stamps depicted. The President, Mr. H. Suklje, spoke on the two exhibits and thanked Mr. C. Waner for providing such an interesting evening.

PRETORIA RIALWAY PHILATELIC SOCIETY

September: The exhibits organised for this month's meeting proved to be small but interesting and the best attendance in many months saw three collections of different types displayed. Derek Brown tabled the first of these, a mint collection of "War Tax" stamps which were issued by British Empire territories during and just after the first World War, the majority of the stamps shown being released by the West Indian Islands as a means to raise funds for war relief. Some issues were merely overprinted with the words "War Tax" while others had an additional surcharge.

This show was followed by a collection of the stamps of Aden and Aden States sent along by Dr. Philip Hack, who, unfortunately, could not attend. Tabled in his absence by the Chairman, this exhibit proved to be a straight collection with all the colour changes, both mint and used, including the first "Dhow" set. To complete the show for the evening, the Chairman displayed a second collection submitted by Dr. Hack of mint stamps with a medical flavour

comprising the stamp issues released in 1962 by the member countries of the World Health Organisation to mark the Anti Malaria Campaign. This included miniature sheets as well as the different sets of stamps issued, most of which included the malaria campaign emblem and many issued by countries seldom included in Society meeting displays.

PRETORIA PHILATELIC SOCIETY

September: Our visit to the Natural Cultural History and Open Air Museum was definitely one of the best meetings our Society has had in years and Miss Esterhuysen and her willing helpers are to be congratulated on the entertainment provided and this includes the refreshments as well as the exhibits.

The idea had been to exhibit George V Colonial issues but as the Museum's collection was only commenced in 1933, very little material relating to George V was available. Miss Esterhuysen therefore decided to show stamps of the Islands of the British Empire excluding the New Zealand Dependencies. All other Island releases were displayed with the earlier issues either perforated or overprinted with the word "Specimen".

Before displaying the stamps Miss Esterhuysen gave some very interesting facts about some of the islands and the stamps. Did you know that the Gilbert and Ellice Islands virtually used any kind of stamp before 1911 depending upon the ship and the port through which mail was routed. These islands were also the first British Colony to issue multi-coloured stamps with the Queen's portrait in silhouette. The New Hebrides was established as a British French Condominium and duality exists as regards governorship, administration, currency and postal organisation and French and British stamps in duplicated designs are issued simultaneously. Mauritius with almost 900 persons per square mile is one of the most densely populated countries in the world and another interesting philatelic point mentioned was that the Fiji 4/- stamp of 1959 was the first of the Ektachrome "reversal" colour transparencies printed in four colour photogravure.

The different techniques in the designing and the printing of stamps of the British Empire were marked in the exhibit displayed, more especially where the early George VI issues could be compared with the more recent Elizabethan stamps. In all it was a delightful evening thoroughly enjoyed by the bumper attendance of members.

Members of the Society under the wing of Manfred Weinstein paid their return visit to the Afrikaanse Philatelistiese Vereniging van Pretoria on the 28th of August and by all accounts acquitted themselves very well with some excellent exhibits with the host Society giving them V.I.P. treatment.

EXPERT COMMITTEE

The next meeting of the Expert Committee of the Philatelic Federation of Southern Africa will be held on Saturday, 16 November, 1968.

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Vol. 44 No. 12

DECEMBER, 1968

Whole No. 524

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New Year 1969

SOUTH AFRICAN NOTES

By Dr. H. J. RAUBENHEIMER,
Hon. Associate Editor.

THE ½c NATAL KINGFISHER STAMP



A new ½c stamp was delivered in September 1968 which differed so much from the previous issues that it was included in the

list of stamps supplied by the Philatelic Bureau to standing orders for new issues.

Although it came from the same cylinders 213, 212, 211 A and B and on the same Swiss RSA watermarked paper as the preceding printing did, it showed marked changes. The more prominent were in the format of the sheets, the gauge of the perforations and the type of the sheet numbers.

The sheets have much wider left margins; that on pane A is imperforate while B's is perforated through; the sheet numbers, five figure black as before, have a different type of digits, they are thinner and clearer, more resembling those of the four figure red of other denominations and they are better aligned; the gauge of the perforations becomes 14, or more exactly $14 \times 13\frac{3}{4}$, while that of the preceding printing was 14×15 , or more exactly $13\frac{3}{4} \times 14\frac{3}{4}$; the old show signs of a two row comb, the old show signs of a single row comb.

The reason why these changes came about reveals an interesting story. It started off by the change made in the stamp duty on cheque forms. Hitherto the duty was $1\frac{1}{2}$ c and this was embossed on cheques issued by the banks. The duty was increased to 2c from 1st October 1968 so a $\frac{1}{2}$ c stamp was to be affixed to existing cheque forms on that date. As was to be expected, there was a last minute rush on $\frac{1}{2}$ c stamps and inevitably the press carried stories of queues forming and post offices running out of $\frac{1}{2}$ c stamps. Actually the position was not all that bad but there was certainly a much larger demand for these stamps than ever before.

The Government Printing Works devoted its big Goebel 840 machine to these stamps, but it could only print about 1000 sheets an hour, being slowed down by its inbuilt perforator. If the perforator — a single row appliance — were to be disconnected the printing would be speeded up to about 6000 sheets and they could be perforated by another machine, the Grover, a two row appliance, which can perforate two double sheets six at a time. The existing cylinders, however, only print single width — panes A and B follow each other — and make no provision for the registers for the punch holes on the margins, necessary for the Grover perforator. These registers are coloured rings printed on the margin at exact intervals, and holes are punched through them.

To prepare new cylinders with the registers on them and with the panes side by side would take too long, and, time being of the essence, a plan was devised by Mr. Johnny Booyen the printer, which would solve the problem of speeding up production. It had not been done before and it worked. He managed to get the exact position where the register had to be on the cylinder and by hand cut a square in lines through the chromium plating — quite a feat. It was just big enough for the holes to be punched in it.

The next hurdle was relatively simple to overcome. The printing was single width, the Grover perforates double width. It is not advisable to remove the pins of the one side of the Grover, the heavy punch would cause an imbalance. So double width paper was used. To see the roll of paper coming from the machine with the one side, the right, blank, and the sheets coming from the Grover with all the "blank stamps" on the right side perforated through, must have been quite a sight. Of course these were trimmed off and became printer's waste. Unfortunately, from a philatelic point of view, the left side,

with the unusual punch hole register, was also trimmed off. However, an uncut sheet with the "blank stamps", the punch holes with the register, is held in the Post Office Archives and was exhibited at the East London Philatelic Exhibition last October.

It must be mentioned that the only unique feature of these $\frac{1}{2}$ c stamps themselves from cylinders 213, 212, 211 is that they appear with perforations with two different gauges from the same cylinders. There have been previous issues of the $\frac{1}{2}$ c with either of these gauges, but never before with both. In the description above reference has been made to the top and sides of the sheets but it must be explained that the sheets emerge from the printing machine with the panes A and B on their sides, the cylinder numbers at the bottom and the sheet numbers on the right side; it is these two sides that have been trimmed. The sheets are always described, however, with the design upright.

It is learned that 210,000 sheets were issued Grover perforated. It will be an interesting issue especially as we have been informed that the $\frac{1}{2}$ c stamp will in future appear without any indication of its purpose, postage or revenue.

CORRECTIONS TO DESCRIPTIONS

There are two corrections to be made to our descriptions of new issues recently.

- (1) 1c cylinders 261, 260 A B C D are from the same multipositives as the previous 241, 240 issue.

The multipositive varieties are:

Pane A

Row/No.

- 6/ 1 White dot to the right of the top of the right flower.
6/ 9 Grey smudge on the right frame line one third down.
7/ 9 Grey dot above P of REPUBLIC.

Pane B

- 3/ 6 Tiny grey dot at right of the right flower stem.

Pane C

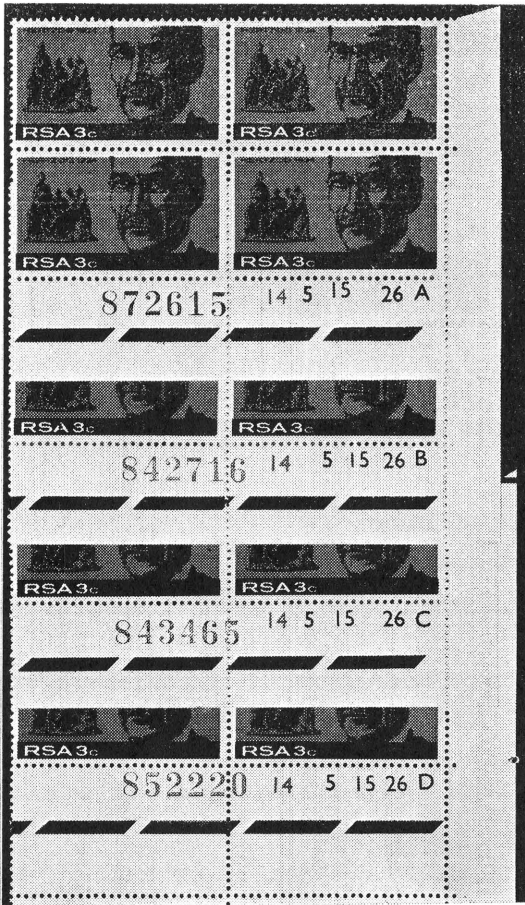
- 4/ 4 Broken C of AFRICA.
9/ 7 Grey mark at left of top of left flower (now reduced in size).

- (2) 3c Hertzog stamp.

Is on Harrison RSA watermarked paper, not Swiss tête-bêche paper.

Two more constant varieties are reported on the $12\frac{1}{2}$ c stamps:

A pane
 Row/No. 4/15 Broad striped band across check.
B pane
 2/18 Pale face.



Illustrations of the 2½c, 3c and 12½c Hertzog Issues described in our November Number.



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STOPP PRESS

A new printing of the ½c and 1c stamps is due to appear mid-December. The design of the stamps has been modified in that RSA appears with the bird on the ½c, and with the flower on the 1c, the values being present.

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THE 1c STAMP CYLINDERS 261, 260

This stamp now appears on the Swiss RSA watermarked paper, the mark being in tête-bêche formation. First day of issue to the Philatelic Bureau 24 September 1968. It is similar to the Harrison paper printing in all respects except in its sheet numbers. The five figure black numbers are from a new cyclometer in the Goebel 840 machine.

So far the new cyclometer has been used for this stamp, the ½c new stamp from cylinders 213, 212, 211 and the Hertzog 2½c and 12½c stamps.

For what it is worth, we mention that the 1c stamp from cylinders 261, 260 and on Harrison paper, with the so often irregular, old type sheet numbers first appeared on 18 July 1968. It's life was nearly two months.

LARGE AND SMALL PERFORATIONS

Another confusing little factor has crept into the already difficult question of the perforations of the Republican stamps. For years we have recognised the perforations made by the different machines at the Government Printing Works and have described them as what they should be. Apart from their gauges and their comb formation the dies in all these machines punch what we call small holes, .9 m.m. in diameter. One machine, however, the Goebel 830, has another die which is used occasionally, and that punches slightly larger holes 1 m.m. in diameter. This die has also that odd feature, the "drunken perms.". It has consequently been customary to describe the perforations of an issue, inter alia, as "small" or "large" holes.

Some time ago the dies in the Grover perforator, the two row machine that punches five or six sheets, one on top of the other, at a time with small holes seemed to become temperamental on occasion. The top sheet would have small holes, the one below slightly larger while the bottom one would have gaping holes much larger than 1 m.m. across; they are sometimes oval in shape and are not cleanly cut. Obviously there was a technical fault caused by wear. These very large holes have been seen on various printings, so often on the three colour stamps.

As a result the impression has gained ground that some issues have appeared with both large and small holes and collectors have been seeking for both types. In point of fact these particular large holes are flaws and not constant varieties. It is only the Grover that

makes these flaws and when we know that an issue is Grover perforated we can know that the holes should be small.

LETTER TO THE EDITOR

Dear Dr. Berry,

With reference to your article "Visit of the British Association" in the South African Philatelist for October, 1968, I quote hereunder paragraphs from the Postmaster General's Annual Reports.

Transvaal: year ended 30th June, 1906:-

"A temporary Post Office was also opened from the 28th August to the 1st September in the Technical Institute, Johannesburg for the convenience of the British Association".

Orange River Colony: year ended 30th June, 1906:-

"Visit of the British Association.

On the occasion of the visit to Bloemfontein of the British Association for the Advancement of Science, an office for all classes of business was opened in the Raadzaal from 8.30 a.m. on the 2nd September, 1905, till 10.15 a.m. on the 4th of the same month.

The Travelling Secretary and local Secretaries expressed their complete satisfaction with the arrangements made.

The following is a statement of the work performed in addition to a large quantity of ordinary correspondence dealt with:-

| | |
|---|-----------|
| Money Orders issued | £23-19-4 |
| Money Order Commission | 6-6 |
| Postal Orders issued | 6-12-5 |
| Postage stamps sold | 34- 0-2½ |
| | <hr/> |
| | £64-18-5½ |
| Stamps affixed to telegrams | 4- 5-3 |
| Value of Government telegrams | 1- 2-7 |
| Number of registered articles posted | 37 |
| Number of parcels posted | 1 |
| Number of parcels delivered | 2 |

There is no indication that the Natal Province extended similar facilities to the Association.

Yours faithfully,

Z. L. NEL.

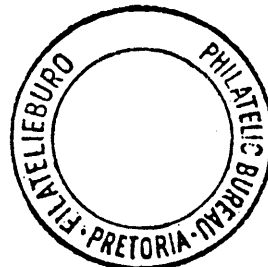
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(We are pleased to receive this information and look forward to further contributions which may result in eventually recording the long forgotten postmarks. — T.B.B.)

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ADDRESS AT THE OFFICIAL OPENING OF "ELPEX '68" EXHIBITION

by the Post Master General,
Mr. M. C. Strauss

Mr. Chairman, Ladies and Gentlemen,

I am privileged to be with you to-day and to address you on the occasion of the official opening function of your National Stamp Exhibition here in East London. Inevitably the thoughts of many of those present will go back to a similar meeting which took place in this beautiful and friendly city almost ten years ago. That meeting marked the Golden Jubilee celebrations of the East London Philatelic Society which co-incided with the always important Annual Congress of the Philatelic Federation of Southern Africa, in March, 1959. Your host society was then congratulated on reaching the half century mark which indeed is an outstanding milestone in the history of any organisation. I now congratulate them on attaining the half-century-plus-ten milestone and also on what they have achieved since their golden jubilee celebrations.

There has been considerable development in the field of philately in South Africa over the past number of years and it goes without saying that the members of your organisation played a major role in the activities which made this progress possible. Your organisation and its members are as actively as ever pursuing the objectives they have set themselves in furthering the aims of philately in this country. Notwithstanding the effort and labour that are required, congresses and exhibits such as those we have the pleasure of enjoying here today, are arranged annually. The persons responsible for these arrangements surely deserve the highest commendation for the way in which they carry out these exacting tasks.

For many years now, I have followed with interest the activities of philatelists in our country. I have been intrigued by their insatiable appetite for stamps and by their views as to how they should apply their efforts in the art of stamp collecting. In the event, there are philatelists who specialise in one or more directions. It is remarkable, however, that the particular interest of even the most ardent specialist philatelist, moves into the background when it comes to something new. A new postage stamp invariably means something new for the philatelist, be it in the line of art, history or technical workmanship. As a result, every new print or issue is awaited with keen anticipation and a sense of unknown expectation. It is when one observes the de-

voted philatelist, magnifying glass in hand, scrutinising in absolute concentration sheet after sheet of newly issued stamps, and jotting down his discoveries, sometimes with a frown, sometimes with a smile of satisfaction, that one involuntarily wonders what Rowland Hill would say if he could see the uses to which stamps, those little currency bills which were introduced one hundred and twenty-eight years ago to facilitate the prepayment of postage on mail matter, are being put today.

I believe he would experience mixed feelings of satisfaction, joy and surprise: **Satisfaction** that the original purpose of the stamp has been universally accepted and successfully developed to the benefit of the Post Office, the businessman and mankind generally. **Joy** at the pleasure these little posters are giving millions of people of all ranks and ages, all over the world in their hobby of stamp collecting, and the extent to which this hobby is being applied as an educational medium. **Surprise** at the extent to which these little messengers are being used to publicise world events, the beauties of countries from which they come and to keep history alive.

It is now an accepted fact that philately plays an important role in the lives of many people, not only in the lives of persons who are members of philatelic societies and clubs and who regularly meet to study and discuss collections and to exchange knowledge, but also in the lives of those individuals who live and work in the far-off corners of the country and the globe. These persons may be farmers, teachers, civil servants and indeed people from every walk of life. Naturally we should include the many overseas collectors who are interested in our stamps. Although philatelists are often separated by great distances, the speed of modern communications has made the world so small that little difficulty is experienced in keeping contact with and in meeting the needs of the many thousands of collectors.

On the one hand, therefore, your deliberations here are of direct importance to all those remote philatelists who depend upon you for information and guidance. On the other hand, my Department, through its Philatelic Bureau in Pretoria, is providing certain services and facilities to extend available knowledge and to assist you in furthering the aims of your organisation and of philately generally. You will thus be interested in events concerning the organisation of the Post Office, not only in regard to the printing and selling of postage stamps, but also as it affects other facilities in the philatelic field and in the way of ordi-

nary postal services. Events such as the changes which took place in the management and organisation of the South African Post Office during the past year.

Soos u teen hierdie tyd weet, mnr. die Voorsitter, het ons aan die begin van hierdie jaar 'n nuwe Minister in die persoon van Sy Edele M. C. G. J. van Rensburg gekry en kort daarna is wetgewing aangeneem om die Departement op 'n besigheidgrondslag te bestuur. Mnr. Van Rensburg, soos sy voorgangers, stel belang in die werk wat u doen en dit is vir my aangenaam om sy vriendelike groete aan u oor te dra asook sy beste wense vir 'n aangename kongres en alle sukses op dit wat u beplan vir die toekoms. Sommige van u sal onwillekeurig wonder hoe die Poskantoor in sy nuwe gedaante sal optree wanneer hy met die filatelis begin sake doen. Daaroor hoef geen kwelling te wees nie, want die goeie verhoudings, ek kan amper sê die hegte bande, wat reeds tussen die Poskantoor en sowel die georganiseerde filatelie as die individuele filatelis in die land en oorsee bestaan, sal sover dit in ons vermoë en binne perke is, nog verder en hefter uitgebou word.

Die dae toe die Poskantoor hier in Suid-Afrika die seëlversamelaar as 'n bietjie van 'n oorlas beskou het, bestaan nie meer nie. Ons aanvaar dat daar aanvanklik dinge was wat gehaper het aan die verhouding tussen die Suid-Afrikaanse Poskantoor en die filatelis. Een van die oorsake was waarskynlik die gesukkel met die ou Kaapse driehoekseëls omdat hulle nie gepeforereer was nie. Hierdie seëls wat in 1853 uitgegee is, was in driehoekformaat en 'n masjien kon nie gevind word om hulle te perforeer nie. Mens kan besef dat dit 'n gesukkel en verleentheid afgegee het wanneer 'n seëlversamelaar spesifieke seëls uit 'n spesifieke vel wou hê. Dit is dus te begrype dat die posamptenare 'n bietjie allergies geraak het vir die idee van die filatelis. Die driehoekseëls is egter in 1860 onttrek om plek te maak vir die kkonvensionele reghoekige seëls.

Die aanvanklike gesukkel het waarskynlik veroorsaak dat die Poskantoor vir 'n aantal jare ietwat sku was vir 'n filatelis en dit was moontlik ook die ontstaan van die konserwatiewe houding wat die Departement vir geruime tyd gehandhaaf het. Dit blyk trouens dat hierdie konserwatisme so diep wortel geskiet het dat die Suid-Afrikaanse Poswese in 'n stadium geweier het om die bestaan van seëlversamelaars te erken. Die Suid-Afrikaanse handelsvertegenwoordiger in Washington het byvoorbeeld in 1948 'n skrywe aan ons Poswese gerig oor 'n klag van die filatelie-

korrespondent van die Washington STAR dat die Suid-Afrikaanse Poskantoor weier om met filateliste saam te werk en waarin hy ook die woorde van 'n Suid-Afrikaanse versamelaar aanhaal, naamlik dat die Poskantoor versamelaars haat. Gelukkig is hierdie gesindheid nou geskiedenis en het ons veral oor die afgelope aantal jare iets besonders in hierdie opsig tot stand gebring. Bewys van die Poskantoor se welwillendheid is die stigting van die Filatelieburo in Pretoria en die voorsiening van spesiale filateliedienste by die toonbanke van sekere groot poskantore.

Dit is egter so dat die filatelis by die gewone poskantoor en selfs by dié waar spesiale voorsiening vir posseëlversamelaars gemaak is, soms probleme ondervind deur dat daar nie altyd in besondere behoeftes voorsien kan word nie. Ons probeer egter om te alle tye die beste moontlike diens te lewer. Die gewone poskantoor is uiteraard hoofsaaklik daarop ingestel om in die behoeftes van die gewone publiek te voorsien en nie so seer om die filatelis met sy spesifieke vereistes te help nie. Die Buro in Pretoria, wat reeds tot 'n belangrike organisasie ontwikkel het, spesialiseer daarenteen daarin om in besonder filateliebehoeftes te voorsien en elke filatelis in die land is welkom om ten volle van hierdie gespesialiseerde diens gebruik te maak. Diegene wat gereeld met die Buro onderhandel, sal weet dat die beamptes daar uit hul pad gaan om behulpsaam te wees met die versameling van posseëls en alles wat daarmee saamgaan.

The collection of postage stamps, Mr. Chairman, is continually growing in popularity and there is perhaps no other hobby with such widespread appeal today. In practically every country in the world, more and more people are finding that philately offers a fascinating and interesting diversion from daily routine. It is also true that for many philatelists their hobby has developed into a science. A science of such importance that it has been included in the curriculum of schools in some European countries. Philately knows no language, physical or geographical barriers and the question arises what are the values of philately to mankind, looked at in a broad way? To me personally, an important value is the national and international aspect — the bringing into close touch the people not only in the various parts of the same country, but the peoples of many other countries, even those geographically the most remote. Philately is thus a means by which national and international prejudices are being broken down and it occurs to me that the national and inter-

national understanding and co-operation so labouriously sought after in our day, have long existed among those actually and actively engaged in philately. For this reason, I believe that philately, as the saying goes, will always be the king of hobbies and the hobby of kings. For this reason too, I wish you every success in your future endeavours in the interests of philately.

I now have much pleasure in declaring this Exhibition officially opened.

ADDRESS AT THE OFFICIAL OPENING OF THE 1968 CONGRESS

by the Mayor of East London,
Councillor L.E.W. Glass

Mr. Shingler, Gentlemen,

At the outset let me thank you for the signal honour you have conferred on me in asking me to open the 30th Congress of the Philatelic Federation of Southern Africa.

I am very pleased to accede to this request and in doing so want to extend to all delegates a very sincere and hearty welcome to our City, which is indeed proud to provide the venue for this congress.

To this congress have come some 70 delegates representing 36 Philatelic Societies from all parts of our Republic, South West Africa and Rhodesia. To one and all I say that it is the City's sincere wish that you will all enjoy your short stay in our midst, that you will be able to take "time off" from the affairs of the Congress and from the pursuit of your hobby to enjoy the various amenities which we offer to visitors and hope that when you leave us that you will do so with a feeling of regret and a wish to return to us to renew friendships made during your stay. East London is the Conference City of the Republic and we are proud of it.

When I accepted the task of opening this Congress, I made enquiries as to the activities of your Federation, which was founded in 1928, represented by 7 Societies under the name of "S.A. Philatelic Congress". It has now 32 affiliated Societies and 4 Associated Societies, comprising between 2,000 and 3,000 philatelists under the name of the Federation, a remarkable growth which surely points to the need of the Federation.

Not being an active stamp collector myself, although I have my private collection of Natal, Orange Free State and General collection, I made further research.

I found that the noun PHILATELIC is derived from the Greek PHILOS meaning

lover of, and ATELEIA meaning exemption from payment: In other words a Philatelist is a "Lover of exemption from payment".

Straight away I knew that I was amongst kindred spirits — we in East London have 10,000 rate payers (including myself) and they are all people who want to pay as little as possible in to the Municipal coffers. Believe me, I am with everyone who wants to save and get exempted from payment as much as he can. For years it has been the accepted principle of stamp valuation that the value increases with age and the TRUISM must always be that a wise investment in stamps must always be a capital gain, much to the sorrow of the Commissioner of Inland Revenue, unless he is lucky enough to have the collector classified as a dealer in stamps. Of course there is always that much talked of Sword of Damocles in the air.

I am told that stamp collectors are rugged individuals who enjoy the freedom to collect in whatsoever manner they wish.

They collect rarities, deformities, mistakes, pictorial, cultural and historical themes and many other portrayals, too many to mention, for the satisfaction of their wonderful hobby in small pieces of printed paper of many shapes and sizes.

These mere pieces of paper must surely become the most valuable pieces of printing in existence, apart perhaps from the micro film reproductions of highly secret national plans and blue prints.

Apart from value there is the educational and cultural value of the hobby — every school child at one stage or other of his life has engaged in the hobby of stamp collecting. Whether such child likes it or not he is receiving an indirect education of the affairs of the world, so highly necessary in today's picture of the everchanging Atlas in the face of International events — especially our own Continent of Africa.

I would be remiss if today I did not say how pleased I am to see my old friend John Phillip Shingler, in the chair of the President of your Federation — John has served our City well and it owes a lot to him in recognition of his fields of public service.

In conclusion my very best wishes to your Federation for its future progress and may the work of this 30th Congress be fruitful and rewarding to all philatelists.

With these few words it is my privilege to declare the Congress officially opened.

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PRESIDENTIAL REPORT TO THE XXX CONGRESS OF THE PHILATELIC FEDERATION OF SOUTHERN AFRICA 16/18th OCTOBER, 1968

by Mr. J. P. Shingler

Three Executive Meetings were held in Johannesburg since Congress last met in Bloemfontein in October 1967 — all were well attended and the standard of debate and the enthusiasm of members augurs well for the future of Federation.

There are now thirty-six Societies and Study Circles affiliated to Federation and this fact has meant more hard work for our Secretary — Mr. K. E. W. Lydall, whose thoroughly efficient performance of his duties has made my office almost a sinecure.

In this connection, we are particularly happy to welcome the latest recruit to our ranks — The South African Collectors Society in Great Britain, whose President, Mr. Eric Sherwood, attended Congress in Pretoria in 1964.

The First Congress was held just forty years ago in Durban and the Title of the Paper read by Mr. J. Donald Robertson of Pretoria was "How best to stimulate interest in Stamp Collecting".

This idea must always be the aim and object of the members of each constituent Society of Federation.

The strength of Federation will therefore depend on the continued pursuit of such a policy in each Society.

Looking back over this period surely the finest contribution has been made by the distinguished philatelists who have served on the Publications Committee.

In the Union and Republic Handbooks are recorded the research work on our country's stamps, which have provided fascinating challenges to philatelists here and overseas. Equally valuable has been the regular publication and progressive improvement of our stamp Magazine — the S.A. Philatelist.

Expertising of stamps: This is an increasingly important service as is the advice given in the disposal of Philatelic Estates and we are most grateful to the members of these two Standing Committees who give so much of their valuable experience and time.

Organised school philately: Here little progress appears to have been made. I understand that the Film Board in Pretoria has been approached by the Cape Province Administration to prepare films suitable for use in schools. The Board has been told that Federation is most interested in this project and certain of our members are willing to help in

any way possible, but no action has been taken by the Film Board.

Speaking from my own long experience, I believe the ideal way is to have a teacher, who is a stamp collector form a junior philatelic society in his school. If the teacher is also a member of a philatelic society, then he will be all the better equipped to guide young collectors. Local Society Members give displays together with talks. Such talks should try to inculcate in scholars the study of history and geography and especially to train them in economical collecting.

Recorded Lectures: Progress has also been very slow in this field. This is unfortunate for such lectures can be of real benefit not only to specialists, but also to attract general collectors into the field of specialisation.

The **Post Office** became a **State Enterprise** on the 1st April, with an advance of R21 million from the Consolidated Revenue Fund. This is sound business and should speed the overdue modernisation of the vitally important field of Communications.

For many years the Post Office has been the Cinderella of Government Departments with its officials overworked and grossly underpaid. As a result, profits have been made for the Central Government instead of being ploughed back into Postal Developments. For example, the excess of revenue over expenditure during the past two financial years has been R10.5 and R33.5 million respectively.

At this stage I would like to pay tribute to the almost unflinching courtesy and efficiency of the postal officials I have experienced in my long business and stamp collecting career. These remarks apply not only to the Postmaster Generals; the officials at the Philatelic Bureau in Pretoria; at city and small village post offices, but also to our cheerful, foot-slogging postmen.

The first of the new dynamic services has just been installed in Pretoria in the form of an automatic letter sorting machine and is in the testing stage. Next will be the purchase of "facers canceller" machines to speed the handling of mail.

Now we stamp collectors will be most interested to know what changes will be made in stamp production policies in Pretoria, where our Union stamps were first printed in 1930.

Down the years we have commended the conservative policy of the Post Office in limiting new stamp issues — the only serious fault being the printing of unilingual stamps, which, fortunately, are no longer issued.

Times change and so must our ideas — I do not advocate the indiscriminate issue of stamps, but, I believe the Post Office should issue small sets of stamps more frequently, for never let it be forgotten that the small postage stamp (if attractive in colour and design), is the silent, but powerful ambassador for trade and tourism all over the world.

What beautiful flora, birds and magnificent scenery must still be portrayed on our stamps? What wonderful engineering feats such as the Verwoerd Dam! The distinctive charm of Cape Architecture! The wide range of Historical Monuments and Church designs!

The epoch making Heart-Transplant operations of Dr. Chris Barnard and his Groote Schuur Hospital Team!

This last reference brings me back to an idea I have advocated in the past i.e. the annual issue of Charity Stamps:

It is over thirty years ago since Sweden commenced the issue of charity stamps, part of the proceeds of which have been devoted to research and a cure for cancer. Over forty years ago Switzerland commenced the annual issue of Projuventute stamps. Likewise New Zealand has been issuing Charity Stamps or semi-postal stamps as they call them, in aid of annual Health Camps. Holland, with its issue of Voor Het Kind, must have secured considerable sums for Child Life Care, etc., etc.

In our own country the Ministry of Social Welfare is greatly concerned with what is considered to be the excessive number of Charitable and Welfare Organizations, so it would seem that, with the reorganization of our postal services, the time has now come to issue annually, stamps which will bring in local revenue, and even more important, foreign exchange for the relief of suffering and malnutrition.

Three years ago my wife and I were privileged to visit the New Smithsonian Hall of Philately in Washington, D.C. In the Hall of Philately and Postal History one was able to see the history of the development of postal services from origins in the ancient world to the present electronic era. The theme and displays are utterly fascinating and one feels sure that such a development of the Philatelic Bureau in Pretoria on these lines would prove to be a sound investment in more ways than one.

And now increasingly we all ask ourselves — whither Philately?

In the past three years the prices of the stamps of certain countries have skyrocketed — certainly the number of stamp collectors is on the increase, but not in the same propor-

tion to the greatly increased prices. What are the reasons for these higher values, which some of us believe are excessive.

Television must have played its part in drawing many to our popular hobby, for, what finer hobby can there be for widening one's circle of friends, increasing our knowledge of history and geography, and, if rightly advised, making a sound long term investment.

Paintings and antique furniture, rare books, etc. etc. have, for many years, attracted the interest and capital of the wealthy, and now non-collecting investors are buying stamps as a hedge against inflation and super taxation. I feel, therefore, each Society must go out to bring these new collectors into our philatelic families, so as to guide them along the right lines.

In Great Britain I read of one Society that favoured the experiment of non-competitive displays so as to influence new and shy collectors to display their stamps.

In conclusion, I would like to say I have felt it a great honour and privilege to act as President of Federation this year, and I thank each and every member for their very kind and helpful co-operation.

REPORT OF THE CHAIRMAN OF THE "ELPEX 1968" JURY, Mr. M. J. Rall, M.P.

Elpex was very well supported. Three hundred and forty frames, each containing twenty (20) pages were filled. The standard of the exhibits was well above that to which we have become accustomed to at National Exhibitions.

Favourable comments have been made by Members of the Jury on what was on show.

In the Competitive section the South African issues were a bit thin. There was one entry featuring officials, which gave evidence of very deep study and painstaking research. In the rest of the section I feel that the basic stamp was neglected, and that too much attention was paid to printing errors and similar flaws such as doctor's blade lifts. Except for the already mentioned official entry, there were practically no signs of any research. A spate of perforation errors was shown and with this writing I want to bring to the attention of our Government Printing Authorities that too many badly perforated sheets are sent through to the various post offices. I actually discussed the matter with the Post Master General after he had opened the Exhibition.

The championship award, the Grand Prix,

was given to an outstanding, highly specialised collection of Monaco. This collection, built up in South Africa, is of international standard and quality, and has well merited this outstanding award.

It has been a very successful exhibition and the efforts of the organisers and committee have been very well rewarded.

Collections such as the Historical Postal Exhibit dating from the days of Van Riebeeck to the beginning of the nineteenth century attracted much attention and constituted the complete documentation of the postal affairs of that period.

The Lichtenstein collection was of a very high standard and well merited the Gold Award.

A collection of Zeppelin Covers, beginning in the early stages of aviation formed an almost complete historical documentation of the various flights until the Zeppelins proved no longer reliable.

The postal markings of the Holy Land, dealing with cancellations on stamps at the various post offices in the Holy Land, was as good as could be found anywhere.

The Thematics again provided a large section, but noticeably absent were actual Thematic Exhibits, the exhibits being, in the main, topical. As usual, exhibits were included in this section which should have been placed in Group 10 (collection not included elsewhere), where they would have gained better results, particularly the Red Cross Exhibit.

There were several outstanding exhibits with "Art" as the theme, which are always colourful.

It is a pity that, over the years collections are entered again and again, with little effort to improve same.

This year saw an improvement in air mail exhibits. Remarkable sets of aerograms were shown and some of these show serious research.

It was pleasing to note the entry of two new Exhibits and also, in the old exhibits, inclusion of additional good material. One exhibit showed actual air mail stamps, something we have not seen for some time. Perhaps this will mean a return to the study and showing of air mail stamps.

The winner of the FISA award this year was absolutely outstanding and worthy of a very high International Award.

Junior Philatelics

Here there was a very marked improvement, one outstanding, with another interesting and well laid out. Here again, topicals were shown but no thematic collections.

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ELPEX — 1968

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

Congratulations to the East London Philatelic Society for staging a most successful exhibition, and particularly for attracting a number of new exhibitors with entries that were refreshingly different from those we have seen so often and for so many years. Faced with the difficulty of trying to fit an unusually large number of exhibits into a rather small hall, the Exhibition Committee improvised extremely well. I must admit that upright frames with four tiers of album sheets do not make for comfortable viewing, but the quality of the collections we were privileged to see made up for such shortcomings as there were.

The Grand Prix this year was awarded to a lady collector — Mrs. H. Jeidel, for a magnificent display of Monaco, which included not only stamps but Postal History, essays and proofs. What a pleasure it must be to collect a country which issues such beautiful "epreuves de luxe" as do Monaco and France. This collector obtained a Gold Medal for her "Postal Markings of the Holy Land" and her husband another "Gold" for his well-known and scholarly collection of "Liechtenstein". I use the word "scholarly" advisedly as I doubt whether the Jury have often seen a collection into which so much search, research and hard work has been put in order to obtain the stamps and covers representing the fore-runners of the actual Liechtenstein issues. Two other Gold awards went to Mr. G. H. Immelman for his "Cape Postal History" and to Mr. R. F. Putzel for a breathtaking display of "The History of the Airship, with particular reference to Zeppelin Flights". A wonderful array of covers started with Paris Balloon Flights including Letter Journals, continued with an array of early Zeppelin mail carried by the "Schwabens" the "Viktoria-Luise" and the "Hansa" before the first World War, and was rounded off by a comprehensive collection of the regular Zeppelin posts, including the rare "1951" error of the Egyptian flight — and this item was on cover; this was an exhibit the like of which has seldom been seen in a South African National Exhibition and it deserved the high award.

The "Royal" Medallion this year was earned, and justly so, by the "Postal Markings of the British West Indies" of Mr. T. J. Strachan

Continued on Page 276



DIE HERTZOG HERDENKINGS- POSSEËLS

(met die goedgeunstige toestemming van „Historia”.)

Tydens die eerste bespreking van die uitgifte van spesiale posseëls by geleentheid van die onthulling van die Hertzog Monument in Bloemfontein, het die seël-advieskomitee hom onmiddellik ernstig afgevera: watter rol het generaal Hertzog in ons geskiedenis gespeel en wat beteken hy vandag vir ons? Die besluit om spesiale seëls uit te gee was vroegtydig geneem en daar was ruimskoots tyd om die verskillende probleme wat hul hierby voorgedoen het rustig te ondersoek. Al spoedig het geblyk dat die lewe van generaal Hertzog die beste in drie periodes verdeel kon word, elkeen met sy eie tipiese en diepgaande invloed op ons land. Eerstens was daar die tyd van die Tweede Vryheidsoorlog, toe hy as vegeneraal by die Boereleër opgetree het. Daarna volg die periode van 1902 tot ongeveer 1924, toe hy sy volle aandag gewy het aan die opheffing en gelykgeregtigheid van die Afrikaanse volk en die taalstryd. Ten slotte volg die tyd van sy Eerste Ministerskap, die langste tyd wat enige politikus in Suid-Afrika hierdie funksie vervul het. Die gedagte dat daar eintlik drie seëls nodig sou wees om generaal Hertzog se lewe en ideale uit te beeld het eintlik as vanself gevolg.

Die komitee het die ateljee van mnr. De Jager, die skepper van die verskillende beeldgroepe wat straks in Bloemfontein opgestel sou word, saam met 'n fotograaf gaan besoek. So tussen die bome en struik teen die randjie naby Hartebeespoorddam het die bronsgroepe 'n bietjie onwerklike indruk gemaak. Maar dit het onmiddellik duidelik geword dat dit 'n onbegonne taak sou wees om te probeer om

die Monument in sy geheel op 'n posseël weer te gee. Die beeldgroepe afsonderlik het egter die verskillende ideale van generaal Hertzog besonder duidelik weerspieël en vir die seëls sou hiervan 'n vrugbare gebruik gemaak kan word.

Al gou het die gedagte posgevat dat elke seël 'n portret van die generaal moes vertoon. Dit kon 'n fotografiese, 'n getekende of enige ander vorm wees, maar al spoedig het geblyk dat dit nie so maklik sou wees nie. Portrette uit die oorlogstyd is skaars en betreklik onbekend. Vir die tydvak 1902 tot 1924 en daarna was dit makliker. Die besluit is geneem dat elke portret 'n periode moes uitbeeld, terwyl op die agtergrond die beeldgroepe geplaas sou word. In hierdie geval moes die portrette geteken word en weer is 'n beroep gedoen op dr. I. Henkel, wat die komitee reeds so dikwels bygestaan het. Inmiddels is ook die hulp van 'n vooraanstaande historikus ingeroep om te voorkom dat geskiedkundige foute sou insluip en om 'n aantal baie tipiese uitsprake van generaal Hertzog op te soek waaruit sy strewende die beste sou blyk.

So sou daar dus heelwat ontwerpe gemaak moet word: drie vir die seëls, een vir die stempel, twee vir die eerstedag-koevert en die kaartjie binnekant. Die komitee het gevolglik aanbeveel dat, behalwe die portrette, alle ontwerpe deur een persoon verrig behoort te word om op hierdie manier 'n eenheid in die geheel te verkry. Die keuse het geval op die bekende ontwerp-kunstenaar Ernst de Jong, in Pretoria, met wie 'n uitvoerige bespreking plaasgevind het. Daar moes saamgewerk word met dr. Henkel en die ontwerper moes alle benodigde hulp verskaf wat die tekenaars van die Staatsdrukkery moontlik sou kon help.

Generaal Hertzog is van geboorte 'n Vry-stater en daar is gevoel dat die wapen van die ou Oranje Vrystaat êrens tot sy reg behoort te kom, maar nie op die seëls nie omdat vroeër reeds seëls met so 'n ontwerp uitgegee is. Bowendien het die komitee gewaarsku dat daar geen plek sou wees vir abstraksies of vae simbolismes nie, en daar moes ruimskoots gebruik gemaak word van die beeldegroepe.

Op hierdie manier het die ontwerpe vir die posseëls tot stand gekom. Op die 2½c seël staan 'n portret van generaal Hertzog in die oorlogsdae. Op die agtergrond is die beeld van die terneergeslane egpaar van na die oorlog geplaas. Aanvanklik het die verkleinde afbeelding van die bronsbeeld 'n afwykende effek veroorsaak, wat verander moes word totdat dit die vorm aangeneem het soos wat dit op die seël weergegee is. Die kleure swart, olyfgroen en sjokoladebruin was van die begin af reg. Vir die 3c-seël is 'n bekende portret met bril gebruik. Hierby is die beeld van die familiegroep die toepaslikste geag. Die oë van die portret het eers 'n bietjie te swart uitgekome en moes bygewerk word. Hierdie seël simboliseer die periode 1910 tot 1924. Op die derde seël met 12½c waarde, staan 'n afbeelding van die Hertzog beeld self. Hierdie beeld het moeilikhede veroorsaak omdat die brons effek behoue moes bly. Ook van die laaste twee seëls het die kleurkombinasies, geel, swart en oranje, en oranje-swart-bruin, geen verandering ondergaan nie.

Die eerstedag-kovert is so eenvoudig as moontlik gehou, met as hoofmotief die beeld van generaal Hertzog en sy handtekening. Die hok vir die adres het verval en klein, duidelike letters en syfers is gebruik vir die aanduiding dat dit amptelike gedenkkovert no. 8 is. Die lugposstrokie het 'n heeltemal veranderde ontwerp en 'n mooier en sagter kleur as die harde blou waarin dit gewoonlik verskyn.

Die stempel dra die wapen van die Vrystaat, Bloemfontein en die datum. Daar is geen binnesirkel nie.

Vir die kaart in die kovert is eers aan 'n fotoportret gedink. Dit vertoon nou die getekende portret, die handtekening, datum en die wapen van die Vrystaat. Die uittreksels uit toesprake en wette is besonder verteenwoordigend en gee presies weer wat die strewe van generaal Hertzog was. Vandag word hierdie woorde as vanselsprekend beskou deur alle inwoners van ons land. Maar in die tyd waarin hulle geuiter is was hulle baanbrekend en het hulle baie opposisie en bitterheid veroorsaak.

In menige opsig is hierdie Hertzog-gedenkseëls uniek. Vir min Suid-Afrikaanse posseëls

het soveel mense hulle beywer en hul beste kragte gelewer en daar het 'n besondere gees van saamwerking geheers.

Bo alles is gestrewe na eenvoud: die landsaanduiding R.S.A., net op twee seëls die periode waarvoor dit staan, en op elke seël bring die balkie bo of onder voldoende nadruk vir waarde en landsaanduiding. Dieselfde geld vir die kovert, stempel en kaart. Alles maak 'n ruime, duidelike en netjiese indruk. Die stel vorm 'n opvallende eenheid, sowel in kleur as in uitvoering.

'n Onverwagte verrassing is die nuwe ontwerp van die lugposstrokie: dis beter geteken en het 'n kleur wat nie steurend is nie. Laat ons hoop dat die huidige strokies mettertyd deur die nuwe ontwerp vervang kan word.

Smake verskil, maar niemand kan ontken dat hierdie seëls, waarop elke letter, syfer en afbeelding verantwoord is, met hul moderne voorkoms en kleur, wys waartoe Suid-Afrika vandag in staat is.

— (Prof. F. G. E. NILANT)

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SUID-AFRIKA EN REPUBLIEKSE
SILINDERBLOKKE.

ELPEX — 1968

Continued from Page 273

— another example of very thorough searching to obtain rare or little-known postmarks of bygone years and a thoroughly enjoyable exhibit. I think this was counterbalanced by Mr. S. J. Hagger's "Official Overprints of the Union" which displayed and explained most intelligently this facet of philately in South Africa, on which the exhibitor is the acknowledged expert.

It was noticeable that few of the sheets on view displayed merely "stamps" and that the accent seems to be more each year on Postal

History. This makes for greater variety in an exhibition and adds to the interest of the viewer; also obvious was the fact that many collections seen before have been greatly increased and improved. This was the case with the two exhibits of "Philatelic Terms Illustrated" by Messrs. Hellman and Meyburgh. Collections such as these are of great interest and value to the true philatelist and I was greatly impressed by the quality of the items used as illustrations — to mention only one instance, the Stellaland cover in the former collection. On the other hand, several competitors seem to have rather overloaded their pages with unnecessary duplication — to do this even with items that are rare must make the Judges imagine that this may conceal gaps which should not exist if an award is to be obtained. I have always found that the difficulty when arranging for exhibition is to decide what to discard and yet show to the Jury a comprehensive selection of what is obtainable or available.

Two exhibits in particular in the Court of Honour were of great interest to all present. The South African collection of Mr. M. J. Rall is renowned for its excellence and we saw some of the "plums". Mr. E. Blum in his exhibit of Cape Postal History was able to place before us covers before the issue of the Cape Triangulars, and addressed to all the streets in Cape Town in the 18th and 19th Centuries — a truly remarkable achievement and of great interest to everyone in South Africa.

The collection of Canada owned by Mr. J. Wannerton seems to be improved every time we see it, but there were a number of collections which this writer does not recollect as having been on show in recent years and very welcome they were in company of such good quality — for example, Mr. D. G. Crocker's "Great Britain 1840-1", Professor Sorgdrager's "Ireland" and Mrs. M. P. Strong's "Birds of the World". Mr. Terence Radue's "South Africa" was the only competitive comprehensive exhibit of the stamps of our country, and one wonders whether we shall ever again see competition between collectors who do fully cover the period 1910 to date, as did Messrs. Legator, Berry, Sheffield and Rall.

"Elpex — 1968" had something on view for philatelists of all kinds and I think the standard of exhibits was higher than in some recent years, and, which is so important, the Committee were able to offer us new competitors and new countries on show. Thank you, East London!

REPORT ON THE THEMATIC EXHIBITS AT ELPEX '68

by Capt. M. F. Stern, F.R.G.S., F.R.P.S.L.

Only 12 exhibits were to be seen in the adult classes and 3 exhibits in the juvenile class 15 to 18 years. In addition 5 exhibits placed under the Thematic section, which should have been placed and judged as "Collections not included elsewhere". These were judged as thematics but several would have fared better elsewhere. In this I refer to "Philatelic Terms illustrated", "Errors on Stamps", "Stamp Curiosities" and "Red Cross". The latter exhibit was one seen before at exhibitions and was a collection of stamps showing Red Cross under country headings and in chronological order.

In regard to the thematic exhibits, these were well up to standard and several showed a marked improvement. The top award went to Mrs. V. R. Coe for her "Horse Show", which was well set out, making good use of stamps to illustrate the subject under its various sub-headings, and also well written-up. An innovation at this exhibition was the award for the best "Art" exhibit. This went to Mrs. M. Katz, where not only were there a full showing of the stamps under the heading of "The Heritage of European Painting", but also an evidence of research into the paintings shown on the stamps, with particulars where such were housed. The write-up was kept to a good level and not overdone, notwithstanding the fact that she gave more than just the usual names of the paintings. Several competitors learnt from previous exhibitions to confine themselves to sections of a topic or theme and thus to be able to show that section instead of just portions of a larger canvas.

Again topic collections overshadowed thematic collections. In the non-competitive section one thematic collection was shown — "The Sea Route to India" — which gained award at the International Thematic Exhibition TEMATICA POZNAN 1968. There were 685 exhibits at that exhibition. In the juvenile section that of Master David Hellman "Sport" was really good, while Jongheer G. van der Walt showed "In die Tuin en in die Veld", the only exhibit written up in Afrikaans. This small exhibit was well set-out and also merited fully a cup in the juvenile section. In both cases excellent selection was made of material.

Generally little use was made of philatelic documents or of cancellations showing the topic or theme.

Again at Congress the hardy annual was asked. What is a "topic" and what is a "theme" under thematics. A topic is a collection of a subject such as "Birds on Stamps", "Flags", "Sport" etc. where there is no story but the stamps show such a topic. A theme is where the stamps and write-up tell a story, such as "Development of Railways", "History of Aviation", etc. Both these are judged under thematics.

Again it will also be necessary to deal with the scale of judging. The points given are as follows: 20 for General Impression; 50 points for Topic or Theme, being in the case of a topic for grade of advancement and completeness, and in the case of a theme this 50 points are divided into 30 for knowledge and treatment, 15 for coverage of subject (note that here completeness is not required but a good selection of material to cover fully the theme), and originality 5 points (there can be little originality in a topic and only one exhibit showed originality); then 30 points for Philatelic Considerations, this being divided into 10 for philatelic knowledge, 10 for philatelic documents, and 10 for condition and rarity of stamps (in thematics rarity is not the same as for classic stamps but means the obtaining of stamps not easy to come by). All this totals up to 100. Awards are made as follows: Gold 90, Silver Gilt 80, Silver 70, Silver-bronze 65, Bronze, 60, Certificate of Merit 50, participation less than 50. Another point raised at Congress was in regard to what FIP have included namely a "Subject" collection. This has led to many difficulties and a letter was received in that the writer of same who two years ago assisted to draw up the FIP (not the FIPCO scale used by Federation) scale. He stated categorically that the FIP scale had been difficult to use, was again after last year's Internationals and this year at PRAGA 68 unfit for a fair judgement, and that an urgent revision seemed inevitable. He attended both TEMATICA POZNAN 68 and PRAGA 68 and mentioned further the menacing increase of the number of so-called Subject Collections (not to be mixed up with Topic Collections) which were a wrong way of topical philately and threatened same with a deviation into specialization.

In November the English edition of Heinrich Walz' "Material for a Thematic Collection", will be available and this fine booklet will give many answers usually put by collectors. It will be fine reference not only for thematic collectors but also for all philatelists. A good point is that after each section there are no "musts" but suggestions. In thematic

collecting regimentation must be avoided and the collector left to develop his topic or theme in his own way and with selection of such material as he wishes to use, provided that the basic rules in philately and in particular in thematic collecting are followed.

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THE HIGHWAYS AND BYWAYS OF S.A. POSTAL SERVICES

Paper read, in conjunction with an exhibit, at a meeting of the S.A. Stamp Study Circle at "ELPEX 68" by Mr. K. E. W. Lydall.

Most of the commoner postal services rendered by the Post Office will be well known to you. The purpose of this study tonight is to focus attention on some of the lesser known services which are nevertheless of more than passing interest, and to which I refer as the "Highways and Byways of our South African Postal Services".

Since it is possible in the time at our disposal to study only some of these services, I have therefore selected those which can be described very roughly as Maritime, Air and Land Travelling Postal Services. You will realise that the identification of such services relies entirely on the distinctive postal markings of these services, and many of them have been the subject of specialised study. My

object is thus to indicate the scope for serious research and recording of knowledge from the specimens shown tonight.

MARITIME POSTMARKS

I. Marks applied on board ships at sea.

The Cape Colony Post Office entered into a contract with the Mail Steamship Company to operate a post office on each mail ship plying between Britain and South Africa. Each office had its own canceller with the wording 'Cape Colony — Ocean Post Office' and a code letter just above the centre date mark, presumably to distinguish it and prove its location. These cancellers, as far as can be ascertained, were first taken into use in 1893 and continued in use after Union until they were replaced by larger cancellers bearing the inscription 'Union of South Africa — Ocean P.O.'. Each canceller bore a number from 1 to 9 which appeared below the date, and was in use during 1912 and 1913. Earliest and latest dates on display are 8th May 1912 and 6th August, 1913, respectively.

In 1913 the 'Ocean P.O.' cancellers were replaced by ones with smaller marks inscribed 'United Kingdom & S. Africa P.O.' and each again had a distinctive number at the bottom between the inner and outer circle. In addition, the direction of travel of the ship was indicated by 'N' or 'S', North or South, above the middle date line. Examples show dates of use from 18th October, 1913 to 13th July, 1914. These post offices were discontinued at the outbreak of war in 1914.

A photo-copy of an official post office document shows that cancellers numbered 1 to 12 were despatched to Southampton on 22nd July, 1913. Due to the short period the 'Union-type' cancellers were in use, specimens of their marks are very difficult to find.

II. Marks applied on board ships in harbour.

These fall in the group handled by Shipping Postmasters. The latter visit ships on arrival at ports or shortly before they sail and handle only special items such as money orders, cables, telegrams and registered articles. Ordinary mail with South African stamps affixed usually receives the postmark of the Docks post office. Shipping Postmasters or Assistant Shipping Postmasters are thought to have operated at Cape Town from 1909 and still operate now. At Durban, the Shipping Postmaster service operated from about 1937 to 1949. At Cape Town, the Shipping Post-

master was also the postmaster of the Alfred Docks from 1910-1921. This is an interesting group of postmarks and early specimens are not common.

III. Paquebot marks.

The mark PAQUEBOT is intended to be applied to mail received from vessels when they call at ports and is usually applied to cancel foreign stamps, but we do find it used on mail bearing South African stamps, although it should just be posted through the normal facilities at the docks.

The first South African marks consisted of the word 'PAQUEBOT' in capital letters contained in a rectangular frame. These were issued to the docks post offices at Durban, East London, Mossel Bay, Port Elizabeth, Cape Town, Port Nolloth and Walvis Bay. Unless the receiving office's normal date stamp appears as well, it is almost impossible to determine at what office the paquebot mark was applied. Some of these 'boxed' cancellers are still in use, but conventional circular date stamps incorporating the word 'paquebot' are now used at most of the ports, while Cape Town has a machine canceller.

During the last war 'Durban' was removed from the paquebot mark at that port for security reasons, while at Cape Town, a special circular mark 'Paquebot' was used for the same reason.

To conclude this section, covers from Tristan da Cunha and Marion Island and a cover from S.A. Hospital Ship No. 1 are shown.

AERIAL POSTS.

This constitutes a highly specialised and extensive field of study, far beyond the scope of our consideration tonight. I have thus been content to show special markings which indicate aerial post and begin with that applied to the 1918 "Make your sixpence fly". This followed the slogan publicity marks for the 1925 airmail service together with actual flown covers. Then comes a cover from the 1929 service, a specimen of the inaugural flight — Johannesburg to Perth in 1957, and early active service letter cards. Unfortunately, I do not possess a copy of the 1911 Muizenberg flight.

Jan Smuts Airport post office was an air-mail sorting office till 1958. Thereafter, this function was transferred to Germiston. It shows strikes of the last day of air sorting at

Jan Smuts, together with the 'Lug/Air' mark of Germiston.

Strikes from the date stamps at Rand Airport, Louis Botha Airport, plus a couple of items posted late fee at aerodromes are also included.

LAND TRAVELLING POST OFFICES.

Again because of the extensive nature of the field of study, I have confined my exhibits to special post office services or post offices associated with them.

I. T.P.O.'s.

Travelling post offices attached to trains were in existence before Union and continued in operation until 1950. These T.P.O.'s sold stamps and letters could be posted at them, but they were mostly used for the sorting and offloading or loading of mail destined for stopping places en route.

I show a few strikes from the Western T.P.O.'s, each of which had its own distinctive numbered canceller and showed the direction of travel by means of the letters UP or DN at the right of the date line. Transvaal T.P.O.'s mostly had distinctive numbers with separate cancellers depending on whether the train was travelling North or South. I show a souvenir of the cancellation marks in use at the time of the winding-up of the service between Johannesburg and De Aar in July, 1950.

As a reminder of special post offices that have operated on trains for limited periods, I have included covers from the Royal trains, the Imperial Press Conference, the War Train and the Show Train.

Linked with the Railway services are Rail Letter Posts and Station Post Offices, specimens of which are shown as well as a cover posted on the Blue Train.

II. Mobile P.O.'s.

A mobile post office van started operating on an experimental basis in Johannesburg on 25th January, 1937. So successful was this venture that the service was extended to 7 other cities in the country, some having more than one Mobile. Each Mobile has its distinctive number and to date there are now 15 in operation. Strikes from Relief Cancellers used on these vans are particularly interesting and uncommon. Much valuable information about these Mobile Post Offices may be found in a supplement to the June, 1968 edition of the South African Philatelist.

III. Field Post Offices.

The first South African Military Field Post Office, No. 1., was commissioned on 18th May, 1966 and functioned until 4th June, 1966. With the increase in military manoeuvres recently, two more field P.O.'s have been put into commission, viz. Nos. 2 and 3. Their first day of operation was 14th August, 1968. Specimens of their cancellation marks are on show.

IV. Oxwagon post.



Before saying farewell to the land travelling post offices we must not forget the wagons which were used to convey commemorative covers from Cape Town as a prelude to the Voortrekker celebrations in 1938.

In conclusion I trust that this introduction to the Highways and Byways of our postal services will have stimulated interest in the study of what, to me has been a fascinating aspect of our hobby, philately.

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RHODESIA — THE INDEPENDENCE OVERPRINT "ERRORS" — THE FACTS

You may have seen odd paragraphs in the daily press during the past couple of years concerning certain Court proceedings in Salisbury and Bulawayo in which individuals were charged with being concerned in the manufacture and/or sale of Southern Rhodesia stamps overprinted "INDEPENDENCE 11th November 1965" with errors in the overprints, such as inverted overprints, overprints on some rows of the sheet and absent on others, and in the case of the 1/3 Churchill stamps surcharged 5/-, one of the figures in the overprinted date missing or parts of the overprint printed weakly (interrupted inking) etc. This may have set you thinking that some

gigantic swindle was afoot and that stamps overprinted "INDEPENDENCE 11th November 1965" had better be left alone. Not so, as we will show.

Firstly, newspapers when reporting philatelic matters often give impressions that are at variance with the facts. They publish a few odd paragraphs, usually quite out of context, and miss the important parts, thereby giving entirely erroneous impressions to their readers. This certainly happened in the matter that forms the subject of this article — I ought to know, having been a Crown witness in the cases concerned and hearing most of the evidence.

"Clandestine" overprints are the most difficult of all to distinguish from genuine overprints, because the actual type that was used for officially issued stamps was used, but without official authority. And thereon hangs my tale — a tale as strange as any you could read! If it makes you say "What a fool Robertson was" I say "read on, and be grateful that you were not the one who was taken for a ride. It all happened in this way!"

We were offered three sheets of lower value Rhodesian stamps overprinted as stated in the opening paragraph of this uncanny story with overprint errors — one sheet had the overprint inverted and the others had the overprints on some consecutive horizontal rows of the sheet, but missing on the remaining rows. The prices asked were not low. We examined the stamps carefully, in conjunction with sheets of normal stamps purchased from the Philatelic Bureau of the G.P.O., Salisbury. We subjected them to all the tests known to the trade, but, like Pilate, we could find no fault, save for one detail — strangely enough the detail that ultimately, when we were offered further sheets, made us very suspicious indeed. The letters in the overprint were slightly "fussy". In all other details, stamp for stamp, they matched normal sheets (of course we examined the inverted and normal overprints with the overprints the right way up, so that we were examining the correct stamps on both a normal sheet and a sheet with inverted overprint). Could we be expected to know that the firm of printers which did the overprinting on behalf of the Government of Rhodesia did not, at the conclusion of the work, "distribute" the type, that is, break up the formes and restore the individual letters to their correct places in the alphabetical trays or, if linotype slugs were used, put the slugs in the melting pot, so that the metal could be used again to make new slugs for use in any type of work in which lino slugs are used? Were we to

know that the "formes" were left lying in a place from which they were "borrowed" and taken to another town in Rhodesia where they were used to produce varieties which form the subject of this mystery story? And could we know that the formes were quietly put back in their original places, just as secretly as they were taken away? It was only after the C.I.D. took a hand in the affair that the printers became aware of the strange adventures of the formes! All of which does not explain their laxity in apparently not treating the formes as "top secret".

Unfortunately, when printers have a rush job, and this was a rush job requiring much overtime, they do not always clean the type as often as they should, with the result that it becomes fuzzy. But, you may ask, "did any of the normal sheets which you received direct from the post office show any fuzzy overprints?" The answer is "no" but that does not mean anything. We received our total supply in consecutively numbered sheets all at one time a couple of days after the day of issue, and, for all that we knew, they could have come from the beginning of an early "run" — we were informed in Salisbury that, as sheets of stamps were sent in from outlying post offices to be overprinted, the full quantity overprinted of each value was not necessarily done at one time. The values from 6d to 2/6 are all in the same size, and the same forme could be used to overprint all of them, so the errors could quite easily have come from a later run embracing more than one of these values. Unfortunately, the ultra-violet lamp is of little use when the subject is black. What then, you may ask, did the ultra-violet lamp reveal regarding the clandestine red overprint on the Churchill stamp? It revealed this: On some copies the red flouresced exactly the same as on stamps received from the post office and on others it flouresced differently, proving that two different inks were used or that the same ink had been used, but different thinners had been used during the overprinting, so this proved nothing definite. And the disappearance of a figure or the appearance of a spacer where there should not be one? Elementary, my dear Watson. If the forme is not tightened 100% it can work loose and these things happen. Some of the errors were on covers bearing **genuine** first day of issue postmarks! Surely, you have seen many examples of both types of variety on raffle tickets, "bookies" acknowledgements of your hard earned money and other printed matter! All the other errors in the overprint on the Chur-

chill stamps can also be accounted for — save one — the one that gave the game away, as far as the Churchill errors are concerned. Unfortunately, this particular variety was the last of the "errors" to be offered to us — the vendor played his cards well. It proved that the type had been manipulated, as the particular error could not otherwise have occurred. At this point events began to move swiftly — and so did our master-minded "friend". The Rhodesian C.I.D. became interested and called on most, if not all, South African dealers to see if they had bought any of the errors or knew of anyone who had. We all co-operated fully and helped the authorities to the best of our ability. We also surrendered all the stamps that were still in our possession — we do not expect them to be returned to us. In due course a youngster was charged in Salisbury with doing the actual clandestine overprinting at Marandellas and found guilty. Later the fellow responsible for the circulation of the stamps was charged and found guilty. As a witness I had a free air trip to Salisbury. Some of the errors were sold to us, in good faith we firmly believe, by a man in Bulawayo, who received them from the mastermind in Salisbury. That meant another free trip.

In September 1968 I was again given a free air ticket to Salisbury, but I was back in Johannesburg within 31 hours of leaving. Other charges (not all connected with stamps) were formulated by the authorities against the person who was in the dock when I previously visited Salisbury, but when the Court assembled everyone was there — except the accused. He had absconded — he was out on £100 bail and had reported to the police daily as required, except for the two days prior to the date on which the cases were due to be heard. A warrant for his arrest was issued. And there the matter rests for the present.

In good faith we offered the errors to our customers and sold a few in S.A., but a well-known British firm was our best customer. As soon as the original case was decided we wrote to all those who had bought the stamps affected from us and refunded the full amounts which they had paid us, (their receipts for the refunds may be seen by anyone interested). We also sent full details to the world's leading philatelic society — the "Royal" in London — and gave them the fullest information, so that they could pass opinions on any of the errors that may be sent them by other people who may have bought them from other dealers or auctioneers — either in S.A. or abroad — the vendor did not disclose to buyers that he was also dealing with others and it was quite

some time before we realised how many people had been had. We were the biggest losers financially and we congratulate others who lost comparatively small sums. Our reputation remains as good as before — we refunded in full without delay and without waiting to be asked for the money.

The gentleman in Bulawayo with whom we dealt refunded as much of the money that we had paid him as he could, but, unfortunately, he had paid the man from Salisbury for the "errors" which he had obtained from him and is still waiting, as we are, for a refund.

To sum up, practically all the "errors" are now in the possession of the Rhodesian Government, as a result of a Court order impounding all the stamps concerned, including all those taken from the hapless dealers. Possibly a few, a very few, of the errors are still in private hands. To set the minds of collectors at rest we have to state that only errors in the overprint are involved; there was no point in forging normal overprints as that would profit the perpetrator noting — he would have to pay face value for the normal stamps and could get face value for normally overprinted stamps. In the 5/- Churchill only errors were created — no normal overprints.

Not all the overprint errors in philatelists' hands are clandestine; a sheet of one value with overprint inverted was sold by the post office in the normal way, while a sheet of another value showing overprints on some rows and missing on others was largely broken up into singles, etc., and sold over a post office counter. Only when the postal clerk had a few left did he notice the error — how many times have similar things happened in the past?

If anyone has any overprint errors in Rhodesian independence stamps about which he is not sure he should send them to the firm that can give him a definite answer regarding their status (us) and we will not charge him a cent. Oh yes, we should mention that the 5/- with "Independence" overprint doubly overprinted (actually a normal overprint with a very fine "kiss" overprint just below it) is 100% genuine. Apparently only about six mint copies are known — it seems to be another case of a P.O. clerk using up most of the sheet on parcels etc.

We photographed all the errors before the stamps were impounded by the Rhodesian Government and are prepared to supply prints of them to responsible specialists and to philatelic societies at cost price.

We almost forgot to mention that before the "errors" were offered to us by the Salis-

bury gent, we received a telephone call from a prominent Rhodesian philatelist offering us two of the sheets which we subsequently purchased from the Salisbury gent and the prices which he required were not by any means low. If he considered them genuine, could we be blamed for forming a similar opinion?

Later he offered us a portion of a sheet of stamps printed on the back and front (not offsets) for which he required a tidy sum. We had already seen and rejected the complete sheet, as we had by now formed our own opinion (subsequently proved to be correct) regarding the status of these errors. To say that we were surprised at having a portion of the sheet offered to us by a well-known collector is putting it mildly.

We hope that you like this little true story.

I wish to pay a tribute to the hospitality of the Rhodesian C.I.D., who went out of their way to attend to my comfort and met me at the airport when I arrived each time and took me to the airport when I departed. Naturally, they had an unpleasant duty to do and sincerely regretted the trouble to which they had to put me. Oh yes, as far as we know all genuine overprints are clean and show no "fuzziness".

Written on behalf of the ROBERTSON STAMP CO. (PTY.) LTD., JOHANNESBURG, by JOHN ROBERTSON.

Hon. Life Member of the Philatelic Society of Johannesburg.

Member of the Philatelic Traders' Society, London.

THE GERMAN AFRICAN AIRMAILS

**Paper read at ELPEX '68 Congress by
Capt. M. F. Stern, F.R.G.S., F.R.P.S.L.,
and received a Congress Award.**

The Germans participated in one of the first pioneer flights in Africa. This was in 1914 when on May 18 Bruno Bruckner flew a Pfalz biplane from Swakopmund to Windhoek in then German South West Africa, arriving there June 4. The plane was assembled at Swakopmund and eventually used for an Exhibition in Windhoek. He was permitted to carry mail consisting of cards and these are perhaps the greatest rarities in a collection of South West Africa and South Africa.

Germany lost her colonies in Africa after World War I and interest only revived after the formation of air transport in Germany. Early in 1926 the two big German Air Transport Companies, the Deutscher Aero Lloyd

and Junkers, amalgamated to form Luft Hansa thus theoretically binding the whole German air traffic into complete unity. It began by opening 42 services all over Germany and to many foreign countries, among which was the Berlin to Moscow service.

Not having colonies in Africa, mails were not considered to that continent, and mails were sent on the services of airlines of other countries.

In 1928 the "Graf Zeppelin" came into use and the first flight was on September 18, 1928 and up to 1934 over 350 longer or shorter journeys took place, including a world cruise, an Arctic flight and not less than 52 cross oceanic trips. On March 24, 1929 the airship made its first Orient flight on which mails were carried to Cairo, use being made of special stamps and cachet, this being in red. On April 9, 1931 the Graf Zeppelin made the 1931 Egypt flight and again a special red cachet was employed. Egyptian airmail stamps were specially overprinted for the return flight to mark the occasion. These stamps alone are collectable items and in particular the one showing the short "1" in 1931. Even a special canceller was utilised.

Interesting also are the provisional internal air services in South West Africa during 1931. In 1930 when negotiations were proceeding for the proposed Imperial Airways Service — London to Cape Town, it was deemed necessary to establish a weekly service between Windhoek (S.W.A.) and Kimberley (Cape) to make connection with the Imperial Airways Service. Tenders were called for and the successful bidders were the Junkers Flugzeugwerk Aktiengesellschaft of Dessau, Germany. S.W.A. Airways was formed by the Junkers Company and Junkers A-50 machines sent to operate the service. Meanwhile the Imperial Airways service was postponed and it was decided to utilise the services of the Company for a provisional service within South West Africa. Three services were put into operation (1) Northern Service: Windhoek — Okahandja — Omarura — Otiwarongo — Tsumeb — Grootfontein (weekly, August 1, 1931, to February 15, 1932), (2) Southern Service: Windhoek — Reoboth — Mariental — Keetmanshoop (weekly, August 5 to December 4, 1931), (3) Coastal Service: Windhoek — Okahandja — Karibib — Swakopmund — Walvis Bay (August 11 to December 14, 1931). Special airmail cachets were used and the two South African airmail stamps were overprinted S.W.A. and later two special South West African airmail stamps issued for use. Eventually on January 26, 1932,

there was the regular "Feeder" Service between Windhoek and Kimberley operated by S.W.A. Airways, which was operated for three years until February 1, 1935, when it was taken over by South African Airways.

Use was made for mails to be carried to Africa by way of the Imperial Airways service to Africa. Very few covers connected with the first flight and up to 1943 only two have been located. Although Imperial Airways had accepted collector's letters for despatch from Germany by the first flight, they did not post these letters from Cologne until one week after the service left London, and they connected with the third flight, February 28th, 1931 to Mwanza and other points.

In 1933 and 1934 mails from Tangier were carried to Brazil by the "Graf Zeppelin".

Of special interest also are covers posted in the Belgian Congo in 1934, backstamped Norwich 5 Dec. 34, Berlin 7.12.34 and Montevideo Dec. 13, 1934 carried by the Graf Zeppelin Christmas flight.

To forestall the French, the Luft Hansa commenced a service across the South Atlantic by stationing a ship, the "Westfalen", in mid-Atlantic, from which the planes were catapulted. This was on February 3, 1934 and the first return flight by the Luft Hansa boat was on February 9, 1934.

The stop between Stuttgart and Natal (South America) was at Bathurst (Africa). On November 10, 1934 there was the first acceptance of mails from Gambia to England and covers bear the special cachet "First Air Mail — Gambia — England." Later mails were accepted from Gambia also receiving a cachet but without the word "First". Mails from Ireland were carried to Gambia by this German service February 19, 1937 and on August 4, 1937 from Geneva to Bathurst. On September 7, 1938 the first mail from Brussels to Freetown via Bathurst was carried, the mails being carried from Bathurst to Freetown Sp.17.38 Covers received the usual German cachet.

On the outbreak of World War II, the service was suspended and all services now ceased to Africa except to the German Forces in North Africa and the Luft Hansa started in 1926 was formally liquidated January 1, 1951. The last flight by the prewar Luft Hansa was believed to be that of a Focke-Wulf Condor which left Berlin April 21, 1945 en route for Munich and Madrid and never heard of again.

On January 6, 1953 the provisional Company LUFTAG was organised, but on August

Continued on Page 288

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.
Tulbach Square, Foreshore, Cape Town.**
at 8 p.m.
VISITORS CORDIALLY WELCOMED.
P.O. BOX 1973, CAPE TOWN.

The EAST LONDON PHILATELIC SOCIETY

meets on the second Friday of each month
in the Museum Hall, Lukin Road, East
London, at 8 p.m.

Visitors welcome.

P.O. BOX 925, EAST LONDON
Excellent Sales Packets.

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
B.C.E.S.L. Hall, St. Andrews Street,
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 97, 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.
P.O. Box 378, Krugersdorp
Secretary's Telephone: **Business 660-7511;**
Home: 660-4085

THE EAST RAND PHILATELIC SOCIETY

P.O. Box 538, 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.

SOCIETY NEWS

SOCIETY OF ISRAEL PHILATELY

August: This meeting, which was well attended, proved to be most interesting. Master Lubinsky, one of our junior members, displayed his collection, "Abstract and Concrete" and read a paper. He was suitably thanked by Mr. Bowman for a very fine effort. The highlight of the evening was the showing of the film strip "Stamps tell the story of Israel" supported by a tape recorded story prepared and narrated by me. There were several inaccuracies and the tape broke down once or twice adding to the interest of the evening. It was decided that after the story had been correctly retaped that it would be loaned to our Sister Society in Cape Town and thereafter it would be donated to the recorded lectures division of the Philatelic Federation of Southern Africa.

GERMISTON PHILATELIC SOCIETY

September: Although this meeting had been advertised as "Ladies Evening for the display of Stamp Collections", three ladies only were present, two of whom were non-philatelists, the third lady had not had time to have her collection ready for exhibit. The Chairman remarked how disappointed he was in the turnout, at this, the Society's first tryout of a special "Ladies Evening". However, nothing ventured, nothing gained, perhaps next year such an evening would be more successful. Luckily, however, three male members of the Society had brought along short exhibits, which was just as well, as these when tabled added some interest to a rather quiet meeting. Collections of Canada and Australia were shown by Mr. A. C. Rix; "Fish on Stamps" by Mr. A. Thompson; Mozambique by the Hon. Secretary followed by several sheets of "Famous Paintings" on stamps. The Chairman thanked the three exhibitors for having the foresight to include these collections in their briefcases as by doing so they had saved the evening.

ROYAL PHILATELIC SOCIETY OF CAPE TOWN

September 12th. BRITISH COMMONWEALTH

Our Exhibitors this evening gave us an extremely fine array of material which helped toward a most pleasant and informative evening. **Mr. J. G. Figov** — RHODESIA King George V. A mint selection showing all issues. **Dr. P. Wisnovitz** and **Mr. L. Du Chiappini** "Falkland Island." The Doctor's collection was mainly mint but included an interesting letter to the Argentine, where postage due was charged as the Falkland Islands stamps are not recognised there. Mr. Chiappini's exhibit on the other hand was a blend of mint and used

with a showing of several of the scarcer cancellations. **Mr. Kochman** showed a varied selection of mint Nyassaland/Malawi including the King George VI coil stamps among others. **Mrs. D. Wisnovitz** tabled a comprehensive exhibit of Gibraltar Q.E.H. Last but by no means least our young stalwart Mr. R. Putzel displayed a selection from the "Lonely Isle" Tristan from the early pre stamp covers to date.

September 26th. WESTERN PROVINCE GET-TOGETHER

This once again proved to be a most popular event, the attendance, 75 members and visitors bearing out the point. While no enumeration of Exhibits is attempted here suffice to say they were all most enjoyable and a pleasure to see. Participating Societies who accepted our invitation to exhibit were as follows: Aero Philatelic Society, Bellville P.S., C.A.S.P.I.P., Fish Hoek P.S., Paarl P.S., Somerset West P.S., U.C.T. and the Thematic Stamp Club.

THE PHILATELIC SOCIETY OF JOHANNESBURG

September 10: The meeting was Commander Enoch's night.

He first gave a talk, "Use of the Expert Committee"; the Committee meets on the 3rd Saturday afternoon of each month and, should the agenda be too long as daylight only is used, they meet on each successive Saturday afternoon until it is completed. Items produced for expertising are sent to the Secretary, who is not a member of the Committee, and is the only person who knows from whom the material came. Each item is scrutinised with the utmost care, with the aid of lamps, gadgets, etc., before a certificate is issued. Commander Enoch urges collectors to avail themselves of this service whenever there is doubt and the cost is relatively small. The two exhibits Commander Enoch chose to show us were part of his collection of "Number Ones", ranging from pages of 1d Blacks plated to the only known copy in existence of the Uganda Number One. In the second part of the evening we saw his "Errors of Siam"; a complicated but nevertheless intriguing display. Thank you Commander Enoch.

September 23rd was "South Africa Night". The three exhibitors, Messrs Naylor, Smith and Must, were asked beforehand to arrange among themselves what part of their collections to show in order to make as complete a picture of the stamps of this country as possible. So successful were they that I heard members commenting that, although they knew little about South African stamps, they had enjoyed it enormously. Mr. Naylor showed essays, proofs and specimens, followed by the stamps as issued. Mr. Smith showed London pictorials and Mr. Must a basic collection of mint Unions.

FISH HOEK PHILATELIC SOCIETY

September: The meeting, our largest gathering for many a day, thirty five members and visitors, was a treat. The Bellville Society, our

guests for the evening really put up two extremely fine exhibits. The first "Marley" by Mr. J. Senior was a new approach to the hobby, not only collect what you like, but produce it as well. The second exhibitor Mr. R. Goldblatt showed a selection of early Cape pre stamp covers and then a most entertaining slide show on items of interest of the Cape. A most memorable and happy evening.

The Western Province get together on the 26th September was a great success. Our Society was well represented and Mrs. Rozwadowski and Messrs. Singels and Hodgson exhibited on behalf of the Society. For the record Dr. Gottchalk and Mr. M. Rozwadowski were the sole exhibitors for C.A.S.P.I.P. and U.C.T. Societies respectively.

THE O.F.S. PHILATELIC SOCIETY

A reasonably well attended meeting, but not up to expectations.

New Issues were provided by Dr. K. Freund and Mr. H. E. Roux.

Die eerste uitstalling was voorsien deur dr. W. P. van der Merwe van Viljoenskroon. Hierdie versameling van Holland gedurende die tydperke van Koning Willem III en Koningin Wilhelmina, het baie beïndruk.

Onder andere was daar 'n paar koeverte uit 1849 voor die instelling van seëls. Al die vroeë seëls was volledig met die 5c blou met tanding 14, klein gate die pronkstuk. Ander uitgawe wat die oog gevang het, was die 10 Gulden waarde van die 1809-1921 Koningin-series en weer die 10 Gulden waarde van die 1913 Herdenkingseëls.

'n Baie interessante versameling en ons bedank dr. Van der Merwe vir die geleentheid om hierdie versameling uit te stal.

The second exhibit was provided by Mr. H. E. Roux. This collection of Gold Coast/Ghana from the reign of King George VI to date as complete in mint issues with not very many gaps among the used. The miniature sheets were a complete selection, and despite the fact that this is one of the African States that has not exactly made itself very popular among many collectors, it must be admitted that these stamps provided a most colourful display, with many designs extremely well chosen and produced, which follows the trends these days.

PORT ELIZABETH PHILATELIC SOCIETY

August 6th: Mr. G. Bülbring's display of German Colonies in Africa, Asia and the Pacific was of the usual high standard expected and was much appreciated by all those present.

Mr. E. Baer proposed the vote of thanks, after which, our usual auction concluded a most enjoyable evening.

August 20th: Mr. M. Katz gave us an exhibit of Mixed Thematic, which, as the title suggests, covered a wide range of themes.

Mr. T. J. Strachan thanked Mr. Katz and commended him on his exhibit.

September 3rd: Lady members competed for the T. J. Strachan floating trophy.

Mrs. Fourie showed us her collection of Great Britain which included a study of the one

penny reds with different letters and plate numbers. The condition and presentation was excellent, making for a pleasing display.

Mrs. Strachan displayed St. Helena. The exhibit included the Tristan relief set specimens, postal stationery, and complete sheets of the Spiro Forgeries with cork canceller.

Mrs. Pamensky gave us an exhibit of the Queen Elizabeth 2nd issues of Southern Africa. The stamps were in mint and used condition, with a number of first day covers.

Mrs. Scott showed us a selection of mint and used South African issues. The display included a number of varieties.

Mr. J. Aldis proposed the omnibus vote of thanks on behalf of those present.

September 17th: Mr. T. J. Strachan showed us a "Study of the postal markings of the British West Indies". Items of interest included a Jamaican entire of 1797 with rare straight lines mark; examples of the Crowned Circle cancellations; the English Harbour "A 18" cancellation of Antigua with small horizontal oval barred obliterator; Barbado's Bootheel postmarks with numbers; a selection of pre-stamped covers and examples of Maritime Mail. Mr. Nagel proposed the vote of thanks to Mr. Strachan.

October 1st: Members were invited to display ten sheets which they had not previously exhibited.

Certificates of merit will be awarded at the next Annual General Meeting for those exhibits considered worthy thereof.

Those who competed were — Mrs. H. Scott who gave a selection of French issues; Mr. F. Bullock who gave a selection of New Zealand issues; Mr. Fraser who exhibited "keys" on stamps; Mr. Terry who gave a selection of Rhodesian issues; Mr. Pavitt who showed us part of his Mozambique collection, and Mrs. Pamensky who displayed a selection of Portuguese issues.

Mr. Bülbring commented generally on the standard of exhibits and on the points the panel of judges took into consideration whilst adjudicating. A small auction concluded the evening.

THE ROYAL PHILATELIC SOCIETY OF RHODESIA

September: Queen Victoria Seychelles. This is the display that Dr. A. Haward presented for members entertainment at the Monthly Meeting of the 4th September. With this Dr. Haward gave the philatelic history of the islands and how French and English occupation and trading had influenced currency changes.

MINING POSTMARKS OF RHODESIA

(Dr. P. Mavros)

Permission has been given for the reprinting of "Mining Postmarks of Rhodesia" an article which appeared in the May issue of Stamp Collecting Weekly. We are indebted to Dr. Mavros and the publishers for allowing us the opportunity of making copies.

This is a must for all philatelists.

CAPE SOCIETY OF PALESTINE — ISRAEL PHILATELY

September: The Symposium was a tremendous success. Mr. J. Galloon spoke on collecting mint and tabbed stamps. He personally collected tab blocks. The original tabs were issued in Hebrew, English and French. Mr. Galloon then raised the subject of the value of stamps with and without tabs. This topic was thrown open to the meeting and several members participated in the discussion.

Mr. Galloon then showed some items from his collection.

In the second part of the meeting Dr. M. Peisach spoke on "Used singles, and beauty of it". Then Mr. X. Piat spoke on how to write up a collection. Mr. Piat's talk is printed in this Bulletin. Mr. R. Jeidel spoke on preparations for exhibiting stamps.

THE MASHONALAND PHILATELIC SOCIETY

September: Members and visitors totalling 57 attended the September Meeting when we were pleased to see that our Chairman, Mr. R. K. Brooke had returned safely to Rhodesia after spending at least a month or two studying bird life in the U.S.A. No doubt we shall, over a period, get a little more detail from Mr. Brooke on how the 'birds' in the U.S.A. compare with their counterparts in this part of the world! At the same time, we would like to express our appreciation to Mr. Walters for acting as Chairman during the last few months.

A welcome visitor to our September Meeting was Mr. Bateman, Vice Chairman of the Birmingham Philatelic Society which we understand is the second oldest Philatelic Society in the United Kingdom. Mr. Bateman conveyed his Society's greetings to us which we, in turn, reciprocated.

We regret to advise that Mr. Davenport is still on the sick list but despite this we all hope that he will show some signs of recovery before the year end so that he may resume his usual place at our monthly meetings.

THE AEROPHILATELIC SOCIETY

Members of the Aerophilatelic Society have been active in that Mr. J. Hammond gained a silver medal at the British Philatelic Exhibition 1967, a silver medal at "Stampex 1968" and the "Wotherspoon" cup from the British Airmail Society, his winning exhibit being the Airmails of South Africa.

Capt. M. F. Stern gained several international awards during 1968 — silver-bronze medals at IFA 68 (Vienna) and PRAGA 69 (Prague) for his South African Airmails exhibit, and a bronze medal at TEMATICA POZNAN (Poland) for his "The Sea Route to India" exhibit, which has been written up as an article in the South African Philatelist.

PRETORIA RAILWAY PHILATELIC SOCIETY

October: There was a very fine turnout at this month's meeting when the Certificate of Merit Competition for Thematic collections was held. Four entries were received, one of them from a Country Member in the person of Mr. Terry McCall.

The first exhibit brought humour to the proceedings as Cmdr. Cyril Enoch showed "Stamps on Orchids", when he tabled a beautiful specimen of the Miranda orchid with stamps mounted, not on album leaves, but on the orchid leaves. A truly beautiful plant and a lovely exhibit. This was followed by the collection of stamps depicting "The Russian History of Lenin", a small collection of stamps depicting the Russian leader and many of his works and activities. This was rather a small exhibit but I'm sure that it will not be long before it will grow to a fairly big collection.

The next entry was one of "Stamps on Stamps" displayed by Mr. K. E. Olesen. As can be expected many of his stamps were issues commemorating my own favourite of Stamp Centenaries, but there were many other issues included which depicted stamps. This mint collection was well written up and nicely displayed.

The last exhibit in the competition was Mr. R. N. Castignani's collection which bears the title of "The Vine and the Wine". These stamps all have a bearing of the wine industry in the design, with grapes of all colours, the methods of making wine, the fermentation, and the finished article, not forgetting wine containers and different types of drinking vessels. A truly descriptive collection, well laid out and written up.

Judging in the competition was by popular vote by the members present and after the voting papers had been scrutinised, the last exhibit, that submitted by Mr. Castignani, was declared the winner. The Chairman, Mr. Eric Walker, expressed the meeting's thanks and appreciation to the members who participated in the competition, as it was through their efforts that the evening was such a success.

PRETORIA PHILATELIC SOCIETY

October: Four first class exhibits were displayed by members of the Johannesburg Society, who rolled up in force on the occasion of their annual visit to Pretoria. A good attendance welcomed the party under the leadership of Mr. Stanley Boss.

Mr. Oppenheim started the ball rolling by tabling pages selected from his collection of France. Admitting to being in the throes of remounting this collection, a few pages of the early issues were displayed without any writing up, but this certainly did not detract from the exhibit as the material shown was of the highest quality, the earlier stamps being in beautiful condition.

He was followed by Mr. Wedderburn-Maxwell who showed his collection of postal stationery of British Bechuanaland through the various changes up to the present day. Here we saw registration envelopes, postcards and reply paid

cards and newspaper wrappers of both British and Cape of Good Hope issues overprinted for use in British Bechuanaland.

A lovely collection of stamps, with a few covers included of Curacao and the Netherlands Indies was then displayed by Dr. von Varendorf. This collection was virtually complete and the condition of the earlier issues was outstanding, the used items with nice clear cancellations.

Finally, Mr. Naylor tabled his collections of essays, die proofs, plate proofs, colour trials and specimen sets of the Union of South Africa issues of the 1910 commemorative, the first definitive Kings Head set, the first pictorial issue and the fourpenny triangular stamp. This is the sort of display that collectors of South African stamps enjoy viewing, but so seldom does the opportunity occur to see such material at Society meetings, more especially when it is housed in a single collection.

Mr. Eric Walker and Cmdr. C. E. D. Enoch expressed the Society's thanks to the exhibitors for a very enjoyable evening.

EXPERT COMMITTEE

The next meeting of the Expert Committee of the Philatelic Federation of Southern Africa will be held on the 18th January, 1969.

GERMAN AFRICAN AIRMAILS

Continued from Page 283

6, 1954 Deutsche Lufthansa became the Company. The word Luft Hansa now became a single word.

Of interest is official airmail from Berlin to South Africa, posted at Field Post Office 237 Army of Occupation — by the Passport Control Officer, Government of the Union of South Africa. The one shown is dated October, 20, 1947.

Under the conditions laid down in the capitulation, Germany was not permitted to operate planes and on 28.8.1946 American Overseas Airlines served to carry German airmail. The first was from New York to Berlin FAM 24, with return flight with German mails on 30.8.1946. The US Army carried "Pre-Regular-Flight" covers, in all 100. Other Companies also assisted and on October 24, 1951 K.L.M. carried mails from Frankfurt to Johannesburg (only 60 covers). On January 7, 1953 S.A.S. carried mail from Hamburg to Johannesburg via Copenhagen, but this mail of 240 letters were lost. Air India carried

direct mails from Germany on March 1, 1953 to Cairo and also to Monrovia. South African Airways now also served Germany and on October 8, 1953 mails were conveyed for the first time between Frankfurt and Windhoek by the S.A.A. Constellation Tourist Service flight S.A.203. On March 22, 1954 Air France carried German mails direct to Cairo on its route to Jeddah. Then on January 2, 1955 mails were conveyed from Frankfurt to Salisbury by S.A.S. and C.E. while on February 22, 1955 Sabena carried mails from Hamburg to Leopoldville. The above is given to show the development up to the time when Luft-hansa again took over.

On June 11, 1955 Lufthansa reopened its trans-Atlantic flights between Frankfurt and New York, after setting up on April 1, 1955 the first domestic network and starting on April 15, 1955 international services. It is of interest to note here that Super-Constellations were used for the above service to New York, British and American crews performing flying duties until March 6, 1956 when the first German crew took over.

To be continued

WANTED

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THE MOBILE POST OFFICES OF SOUTH AFRICA
AND THEIR POSTMARKS, 1937 - 1967

DR T. B. BERRY.

Although South Africa was the first Imperial Postal Administration to adopt Mobile Post Offices, no coherent description appropriate to the importance of the service appears to have been made in the home journal, The South African Philatelist. Only fragmentary details appear as occasional comments in various numbers extending over a period of years. This deficiency was eliminated to a certain extent for an account, in an abbreviated form, of the early vans and their postmarks is contained in the "T.P.O. Magazine", Vol. 1, No. 4, July-August, 1947.

Extracts from these two journals, along with the information derived from the later postmarks, kindly made available by the Philatelic Bureau, G.P.O., Pretoria, and from sighted material graciously supplied by colleagues, have been co-related to form as complete a record as the writer is presently able to make of the various Mobile Post Offices and their postmarks.

THE INAUGURATION

The first Mobile Post Office was put into service in 1937 and an extract from the Annual Report (April, 1937) of the Postmaster General of the Union of South Africa pertaining to it reads :

"On 28 January, 1937 an arrangement was introduced in Johannesburg which had not previously been tried in South Africa. This was a specially constructed motor-van fitted as a post office, to serve residents in the more remote and less densely populated suburbs of the city.

This motor-van, officially designated "Mobile Post Office No. 1", daily visits the more distant suburbs of Johannesburg according to a time-table from twenty to thirty minutes according to the needs of each locality; all classes of post office business are transacted, and the residents, knowing that the van will be "in the same place at the same time every day" use it freely for the transaction of their postal business, the dispatch of their telegrams and the payment of their telephone accounts, thereby saving themselves inconvenient journeys to the nearest post office.

The appeal of the Mobile Post Office was immediate and remarkable. - - -

As the Number incorporated in the designation of this van implies, it is the intention of the department to extend the mobile post office system in the future and it will probably be found practical to utilise similar vans in the Native Compounds to enable non-European people to transact with ease their Savings Bank and other post office business."

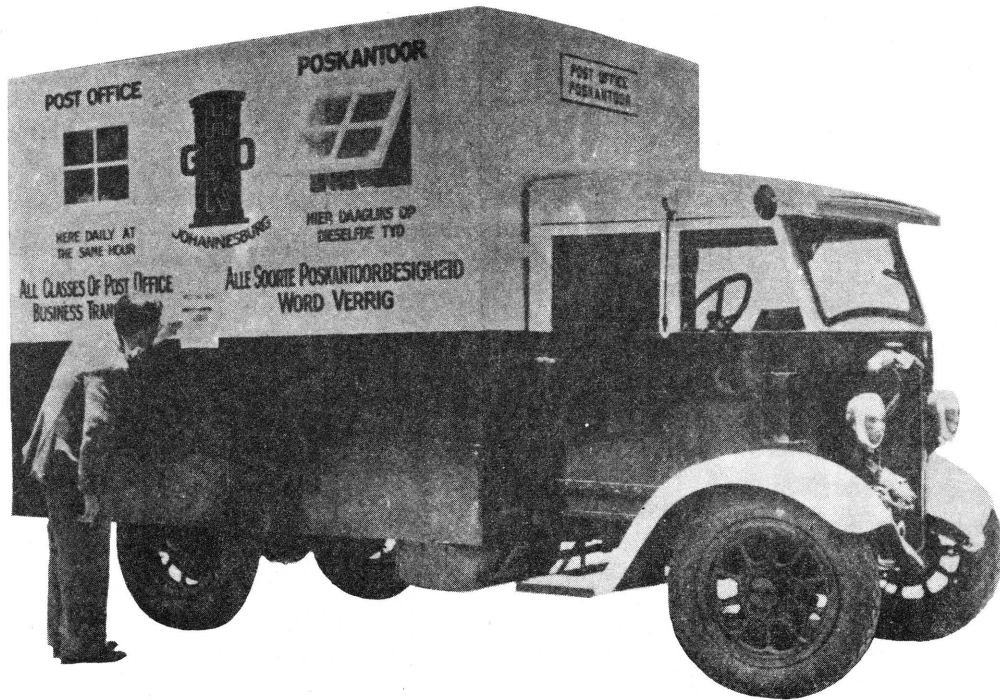
AUTHOR'S NOTE : The date stamp of the first day cancellation reads "25 January" whereas the report states the "28 January".

THE MOBILE FLEET

There are at present fifteen Mobile Post Offices in commission at certain principal towns, detailed hereunder, and the record of the vans and their marks are considered in relation to the respective towns.

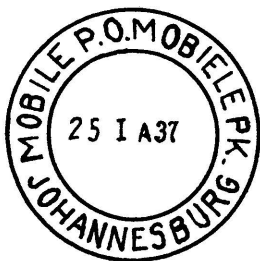
The regular postmarks are of the double-circle design, the outer circle varying in size from 25 mm to 35 mm, the inner from 16 to 22 mm diameter. Details of the postmarks are not recorded but the illustrations are indicative as they have been sketched to represent a 1 : 1 scale.

| Area | Mobile Post Office Number | Postmark Illustrations |
|------------------|---------------------------|------------------------|
| Johannesburg | 1, 2, 8, 9 | Fig. Nos. 1 to 17 |
| Port Elizabeth | 3, 15 | 18 to 26 |
| Cape Town | 4, 5, 10 | 27 to 42 |
| Durban | 6, 12 | 43 to 53 |
| Pretoria | 7 | 54 to 58 |
| Bloemfontein | 11 | 59 to 60 |
| East London | 13 | 61 to 62 |
| Pietermaritzburg | 14 | 63 to 64 |

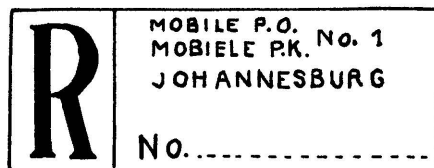


The First Post Office Mobile Van

The experimental Mobile Post Office Service-van was a converted motor lorry, illustrated, and the office served the North Western suburbs of Johannesburg.



1

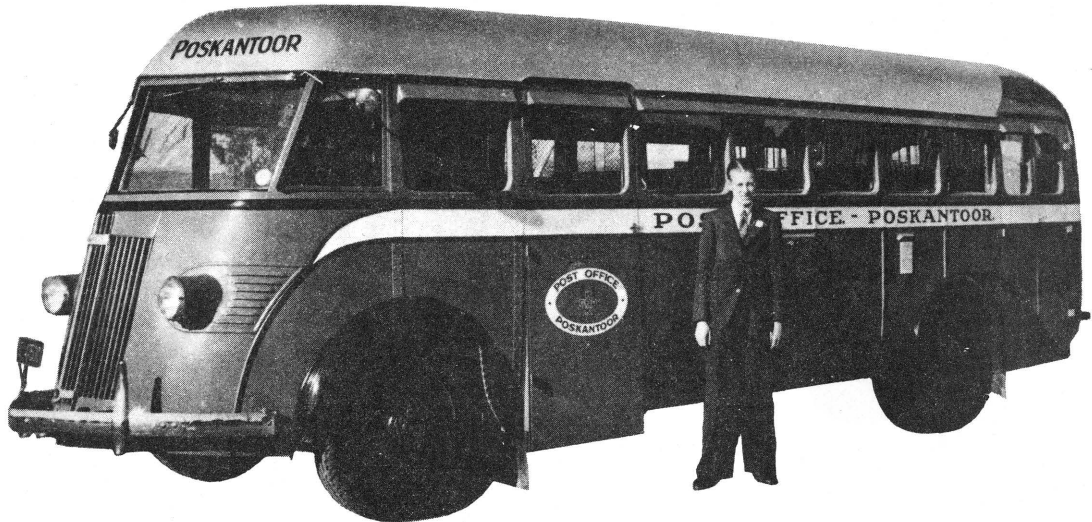


2

It was equipped with a double-circle bilingual canceller which bore no number, an impression of which is illustrated, Fig. 1, and also the mark of the van's registration cachet which was applied in purple ink, Fig. 2.

Mobile Post Office No. 1

The experimental Mobile Post Office van ceased duty on 31st January, 1939, (N. Hill) and was replaced by another specially built van, also numbered 1, the inauguration of which is described in the following extract from the "Johannesburg Star" of the 11th May, 1939, viz :

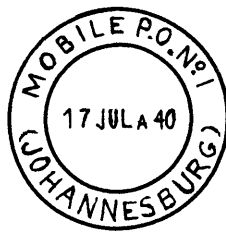


"Johannesburg's new post office -on-wheels, with gleaming red duco, spotless glass, metal grille and a maze of drawers, compartments, scales, rubber stamps and other requisites, left the Government Garage in Selby Township at 8.30 a.m. today on its first official 19 mile rounds of the suburbs .

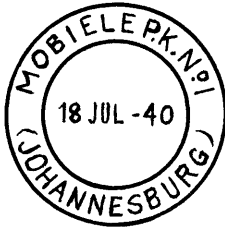
Officially known as P. O. Number 1, or the Mobile Post Office, it succeeds an old van that did service for two years. Just over 27 feet in length and nearly 8 feet wide, it weighs 9 tons, the chassis itself weighing 4 tons. The van was built by Messrs Wevell Bros. (on a bus chassis) who were complimented on their work by Mr D. Mc Lelland, acting postmaster of Johannesburg, when he accepted the van on behalf of the Postmaster General at a brief ceremony yesterday. - - - -

- - - - The Mayor sold the first stamps over the counter.
- - - - !"

When put into service, Mobile Post Office No. 1 made temporary use of the original Mobile Post Office bilingual canceller, Fig. 1, until it was supplied with two unilingual steel daters, inscribed respectively in English



3



4



5



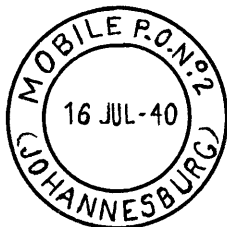
6

and Afrikaans, and both bearing the number 1, the marks of which are shown in Figs. 3 and 4, and also an illustration of the registration label, Fig. 5. The previous registration cachet, Fig. 2, was also used.

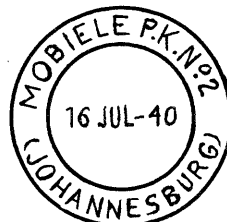
The unilingual No. 1 cancellers were replaced (earliest date viewed 11. 1.59) by a double-circle bilingual dater bearing the number 1, the mark of which is illustrated, Fig. 6.

This dater is doing duty in Mobile Post Office No. 1 at the present time.

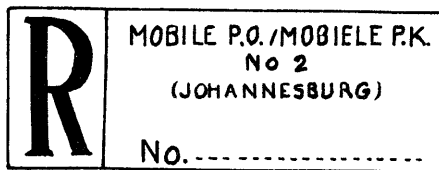
Mobile Post Office No. 2



7



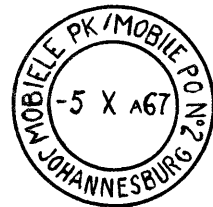
8



9



10



11

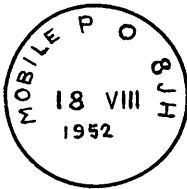
A second van, allocated Mobile Post Office No. 2, was brought into service on 1st July, 1940, and was supplied with two unilingual cancellers, inscribed in English and Afrikaans, bearing the number 2, the mark of which and also those of the registration cachet and a registration label are illustrated, Figs. 7, 8, 9, 10.

The unilingual No. 2 cancellers were replaced (earliest date viewed 11.1.59) by a double-circle bilingual dater bearing the number 2, the mark of which is illustrated, Fig. 11.

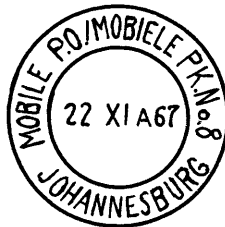
The dater is doing duty in Mobile Post Office No. 2 at the present time. This mobile office, with date stamp No. 2, was used to replace the regular Braamfontein office on one day, 28th October, 1967, during rebuilding operations there.

On 3rd September, 1951, two further Mobile Post Offices were added to the Johannesburg fleet and were numbered 8 and 9 respectively.

Mobile Post Office No. 8



12



13



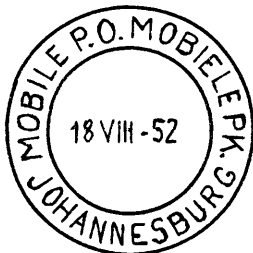
14

At the commencement of its service, Mobile Post Office No. 8 made temporary use of a relief canceller, strike shown in Fig. 12, until the 18th August, 1952 (Pirie) when the office was equipped with a double-circle bilingual dater, strike shown, Fig. 13, also an illustration of its registration label, Fig. 14.

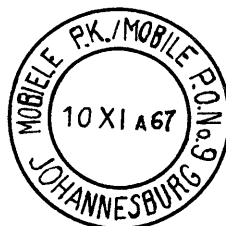
This canceller is in usage at the present time.

Mobile Post Office No. 8 did duty at Voortrekkerhoogte during the Republic Festival Celebrations, from the 20th to the 30th May, 1966, and date stamp No. 8 was used.

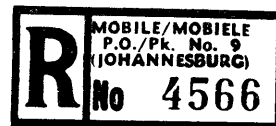
Mobile Post Office No. 9



15



16



17

When Mobile Post Office No. 9 was put into service it made temporary use of the original Johannesburg bilingual dater, strike shown Fig. 15, until the 18th August, 1952 (Pirie) when it received its normal double-circle bi-

lingual dater, mark shown in Fig. 16, and also that of its registration label, Fig. 17.

This canceller is in present day use on Mobile Post Office No. 9. The van was used in Braamfontein to replace the regular office on the 29th January, 1966 while the latter was undergoing building operations.

PORT ELIZABETH

Mobile Post Office No. 3

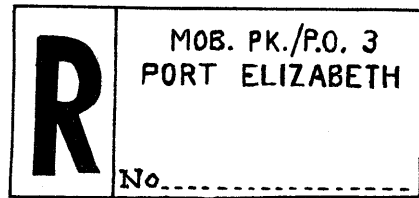


18



19

POSTMASTER
 POSMEESTER
 MOB.P.O. 3 P.E.
 MOB. P.O. 3 P.E.
 R



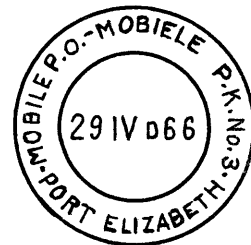
21



22



23



24

A third Mobile Post Office, No. 3, was brought into service at Port Elizabeth on the 2nd September, 1940.

Norman Hill reports in the "Philatelic Magazine" of the 21st March, (1941?) that a temporary skeleton hand-stamp, bearing the number 3 - strike shown in Fig. 18 - was used when the office was first put into service. This dater was replaced (earliest date viewed 4.11.52) by a permanent double-circle bilingual canceller, numbered 3, the strike of which is shown in Fig. 19, also an illustration of the postmaster's cachet (unboxed), a registration cachet and a registration label, Figs. 20, 21 and 22.

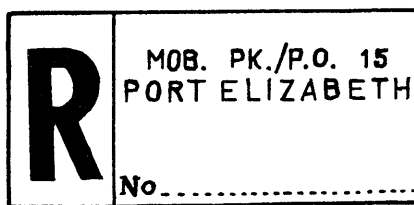
The canceller, Fig. 19 was replaced (earliest date viewed 21. 1.66) by a unilingual one, again bearing the number 3, a strike of which is shown Fig. 23. This dater appears to be of the Solid Relief Type. No information could be obtained of its period of usage "as no record was kept of the period during which the date stamp concerned was used. The date stamp was unilingual and it was accordingly replaced by a bilingual date stamp" (Official statement), strike shown Fig. 24.

This canceller is in present day usage in Van No. 3.

Mobile Post Office No. 15



25



26

A second Mobile Post Office was added to the Port Elizabeth fleet on the 5th September, 1961, and was designated No. 15. It was equipped with a double-circle bilingual canceller bearing the number 15, a strike (earliest date viewed 29. 1.66) is illustrated, Fig. 25, and also that of its registration cachet, Fig. 26.

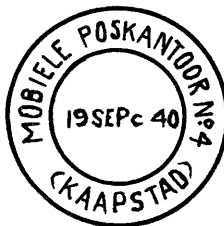
CAPE TOWN

Cape Town was allotted two Mobile Post Offices, the first numbered 4, on the 1st May, 1940, and the second, numbered 5, on the 2nd September, 1940.

Mobile Post Office No. 4



27



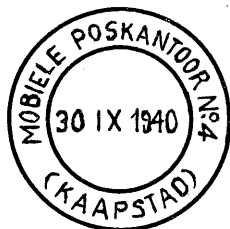
28

Mobile PO No 4

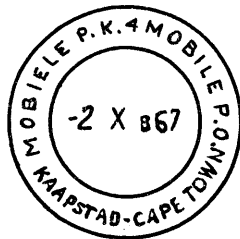
29



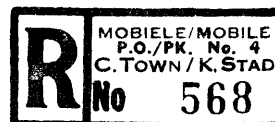
30



31



32



33

Park Smith states that the first Cape Town unit had no special cancelling stamp, merely the ordinary one, until the special new ones were obtained.

These comprised two double-circle unilingual daters inscribed respectively in English and Afrikaans, and numbered 4. The strikes are shown, Figs. 27 and 28, also the postmaster's unboxed cachet, Fig. 29. A registration label bearing the index number '38' was used by the van at its inauguration (Sydow) Fig. 30.

The Afrikaans inscribed label, Fig. 28, was either replaced by another Afrikaans inscribed dater of similar design or its date mechanism was altered as the date now appears in numerals instead of letters and numerals, strike shown Fig. 31.

The previous cancellers were replaced (earliest date viewed 5.12.58) by a bilingual dater bearing the number 4. It is in present day usage, a strike of which and a registration label are illustrated, Figs. 32 and 33.



34

A bilingual canceller, strike shown Fig. 34, bearing the number 4 and of unusual design intervened prior to the replacement stage. It was probably a temporary dater and its period of usage and status cannot, unfortunately be determined.

Mobile Post Office No. 5



35



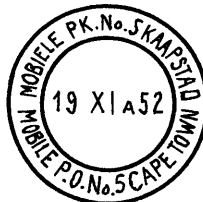
36

MOBILE P.O. NO - 5

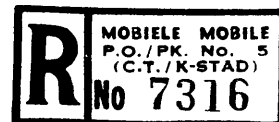
37

MOBILE P.O. No. 5.
MOBIELE PK. No. 5.
CAPE TOWN/KAAPSTAD.

38



39



40

Mobile Post Office No. 5 was equipped with two double-circle unilingual cancellers bearing the number 5, also unboxed cachets, the marks of which are illustrated, Figs. 35, 36, 37 and 38, while registration labels bearing

the serial number '39' were used at its inauguration (Sydow).

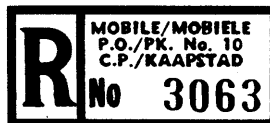
The unilingual cancellers were replaced (earliest date viewed 19.XI.52) by a bilingual dater bearing the number '5', the mark of which and the registration label are shown, Figs. 39 and 40.

This canceller is in present usage.

Mobile Post Office No. 10



41



42

A further Mobile Post Office, No. 10, was added to the Cape Town fleet on the 3rd September, 1951 and was equipped with a double-circle bilingual canceller, bearing the number '10' strike (earliest date viewed 12. 5.52) is shown, Fig. 41, and also its registration label, Fig. 42, in which the error 'C.P.' instead of 'C.T.' may be observed.

This canceller is in present usage.

DURBAN

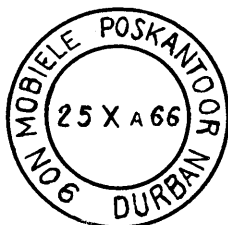
Mobile Post Office No. 6



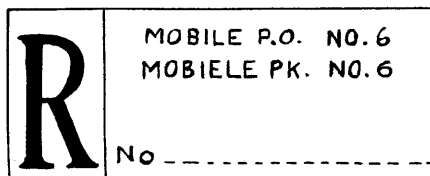
43



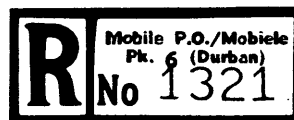
44



44a



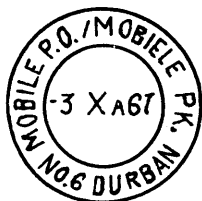
45



46

Durban received the first Mobile Post Office, No. 6, on the 20th May, 1940. It is stated that the van used an ordinary Durban dater until it was supplied with two double-circle unilingual cancellers, inscribed respectively in English and Afrikaans, each bearing the number 6, strikes of which are shown, Figs. 43 and 44. The registration cachet and a registration label are also illustrated, Figs. 45 and 46.

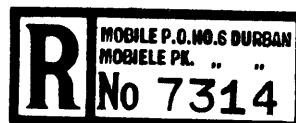
The Afrikaans inscribed dater (Fig. 44) appears to have been replaced (earliest date viewed 9.IX.53) by a unilingual Afrikaans canceller No. 6 of slightly different design and with the date expressed in numerals instead of letters and numerals, strike shown Fig. 44a.



47



48



49

The unilingual cancellers were replaced (earliest date viewed 4. V. 55) by a double-circle bilingual dater, also bearing the number 6, the strike of which is illustrated, Fig. 47. It is in present day usage.

Also shown are registration labels used by the van, Figs. 48 and 49, the latter label showing an odd "ditto" mark.

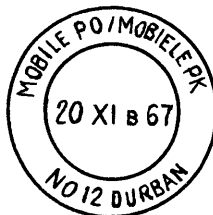
Mobile Post Office No. 12



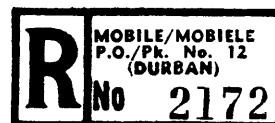
50



51



52



53

A second Mobile Post Office, No. 12, was brought into service on the 18th January, 1954, and was equipped with a double-circle bilingual canceller bearing the number 12, a strike of which is shown, Fig. 50.

During September, 1967, this canceller required repair, when it was replaced from the 12th September, 1967 to the 24th October, 1967 (Walker) by a dater of the skeleton relief type, bearing the number 12, strike shown, Fig. 51.

The original canceller was not returned from stores but was replaced by another, also bearing the number 12, but with the date expressed in numerals instead of letters and numerals, and of a slightly smaller size.

This canceller is now doing duty in Mobile Post Office No. 12. Its strike and registration label are illustrated, Figs. 52 and 53.

PRETORIA

Mobile Post Office No. 7



54



55



56



57



58

Pretoria received its first Mobile Post Office No. 7, on the 1st August, 1940. The office was supplied with two double-circle unilingual cancellers, inscribed respectively in English and Afrikaans, each bearing the number 7. The English inscribed dater measures 30 mm and the Afrikaans one 31.5 mm diameter. Their strikes are illustrated, Figs. 54 and 55.

The original cancellers were replaced (earliest date viewed 10. 4.64) by two similarly inscribed unilingual daters, still retaining the number 7, but differing from the earlier ones in that the lettering of the English one is slightly larger while the date of the Afrikaans one is set in numerals instead of letters and numerals.

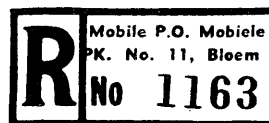
The cancellers are in present day usage, their strikes being illustrated, Figs. 56 and 57, and also a registration label used by the office, Fig. 58.

BLOEMFONTEIN

Mobile Post Office No. 11



59



60

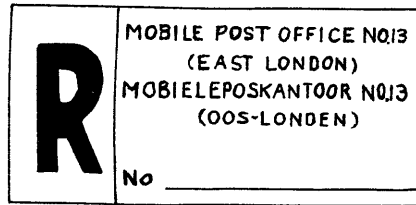
Bloemfontein received a Mobile Post Office, No. 11, on the 3rd September, 1951. No information is available of any earlier canceller, but at present the office is equipped with a double-circle bilingual dater (earliest date viewed 3.III.52) bearing the number 11, a strike of which is shown, Fig. 59, and also its registration label. Fig. 60.

EAST LONDON

Mobile Post Office No. 13



61



62

East London received a Mobile Post Office, No. 13, on the 2nd July, 1951. It was equipped with a double-circle bilingual canceller bearing the number 13, a strike of which is illustrated, Fig. 61, also a registration cachet mark, Fig. 62.

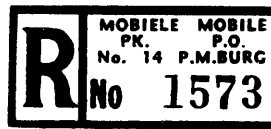
The original canceller appears to be still in use for no difference can be detected between its earliest observed mark, dated 21.IV.52, and that of the present day.

PIETERMARITZBURG

Mobile Post Office No. 14



63



64

Records indicate that Pietermaritzburg received a Mobile Post Office, No. 14, on the 3rd September, 1951. No information is available of any earlier daters (earliest date viewed 30.VIII.54), but the present one is a double-circle bilingual assembly, bearing the number 14, a strike of which is shown, Fig. 63, and an illustration of the office registration label, Fig. 64.

CONCLUSION



New light type of mobile post office designed by the Department and taken into use recently.
Post Office Annual Report 1966-1967

This record is not complete, but is presented as a basis for the addition, by other pens, of data obtainable from items long forgotten in collectors' albums, and also for the inclusion of future information as more vans are put into commission.

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The 'T. P. O.' Magazine, Vol. 1, No. 4, July-August, 1947.
The South African Philatelist, various references, 1937-1959.
The Springbok, various references.

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