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The South African Philatelist

Volume 29-1953

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KEY TO HOPE AND RAM ISSUES OF C.G.H.

(Reprinted by kind permission from "Stamps")

By

OSWALD L. HARVEY.

This key is to make easier the general classification of Hope and Ram issues of the Cape of Good Hope, 1864-93. All perfs. are 14. Watermarks are CC, CA, or A (Anchor). Frame-line refers to outer line in earlier issues; it is sometimes difficult to observe. Parentheses identify Scott (2 vol.) catalogue numbers, 1951.

½d. green (42); grey-black: CC (23), CA (33). A (41).

1d. frame-line (16); no frame-line: CC (24), CA (34), A (43).

2d. CA (35); A: bistre (44), chocolate (45), s/c ONE PENNY (58).

2½d. olive-green (56), ultramarine (57).

3d. CC: rose (25), claret (26); CA (36); 4 (46); s/c 2½d. (55); s/c 3 (31-32); s/c One Halfpenny; CC (39), CA (40).

4d. frame-line (17); no frame-line: olive-green (48); blue: CC (27), A (47); s/c red THREE PENCE (29); s/c black THREEPENCE (30).

6d. CC (18); CA (37); A (49); s/c Four Pence (20); s/c ONE PENNY (21).

1/- no frame-line: ochre (52), green (51); frame-line: CC (19), A (50).

5/- CC (28); CA (38); A: orange (53), brown-orange (54).

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THE
SOUTH AFRICAN PHILATELIST

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Union Notes

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

RECENT PRINTINGS.

The publicity Officer of the Department of Posts and Telegraphs has kindly supplied the following information covering the period from the 30.7.52 to 29.10.52. For the previous list see our September 1952 issue.

Ordinary Pictorial Postage Stamps

1d. — Job No. 474 contd. On an order for 1,000,000 sheets of 240 stamps per sheet, 1,079,256 were delivered up to 25.9.52 — the final date of executing this order. Same cylinders as before, 6925 (Int.) and 36 (Ext.).

— Job No. 5905. On a new order for 1,000,000 sheets of 240 stamps per sheet, 13,500 were delivered on 2.10.52 and a total of 206,000 sheets to date. Same cylinders as before.

2d. — Job No. 475 contd. On an order for 1,000,000 sheets of 240 stamps per sheet, 907,635 were delivered up to the 21.10.52 from the same cylinders as before, 6927 (Int.) and 50 (Ext.). On the same order, 13,500 sheets of 240 stamps per sheet were delivered on the 23.10.52 from new cylinders Nos. 30 (Int.) and 18 (Ext.). Total delivered to date from the new cylinders, 31,500 sheets.

3d. — Job No. 12451 contd. On an order for 120,000 sheets of 120 stamps per sheet, 70,910 have been delivered to date. Same one colour cylinder — No. 17 — as before.

4d. — Job No. 2336. On an order for 60,000 sheets of 120 stamps per sheet, 9,500 were delivered on the 21.8.52 from new one colour cylinder No. 103. Total delivery to date, 19,814 sheets.

1/- — Job No. 12453 contd. On an order for 120,000 sheets of 120 stamps per sheet. 64,927 have been delivered to date. Some cylinders as before, 6926 (Int.) and 6935 (Ext.).

Roll Stamps

1d. — Job No. 478 contd. On an order for (a) 8,000 rolls of 506 stamps per roll and (b) 5,000 rolls of 1,012 stamps per roll, the totals delivered up to the final date of executing this order were: (a) 15,116 rolls x 506 stamps and (b) 6,548 rolls x 1,012 stamps.

Air Letter Cards

6d. — Job No. 4112. On an order for 4.000,000 cards, 90,000 were delivered on the 28.10.52 from a new design and produced on a Chambon Printing Machine.

Pictorial Post Cards

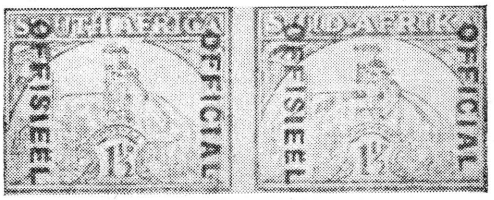
1d. — Job No. 4115. On an order for 2,720,000 cards, 69,120 were delivered on the 31.7.52. Same printing as before on Chambon Machine and total delivered to date on this order, 952,320 cards.

Air Letter Cards Overprinted for use of Air Unit serving in Korea

1½d. — Job No. 4692. Cards to the number of 21,600 were supplied by the P.M.G. and overprinted FREE FORCES MAIL — POSVRY VANAF MAGTE. First delivery of 9,600 on the 11.7.52 and final delivery of the order of 21,600 on the 5.8.52.

Diaeresis Variety on 1½d. Small Mine "Official" Stamps

The Robertson Stamp Company of Johannesburg has drawn our attention to an article in the December (1952) issue of "Gibbons' Stamp Monthly" recording the recent discovery of a spelling variety in the form of a diaeresis (two dots) over the second "E" of OFFISIEEL on some copies of the 1½d. Small Mine "Officials," (S.G. O26b).



In the article, with its illustration reproduced above, Mr. C. P. Rang points out that this variety has probably been in existence since 1947 and has only now come to light through the observations of a collector in England, Mr. R. H. Read. He adds that the only previous occasion when this form of spelling was used was on the overprinted ½d. value issued in 1944 (S.G. O32), but the arrangement of the words differed, OFFICIAL being on the left of the stamp and reading upwards.

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Mr. Rang considers that the most likely place to find a copy bearing the diaeresis variety is among duplicates of S.G. O26b and he looks to collectors in South Africa to unearth the rest of the story and kindly let him have the information for publication.

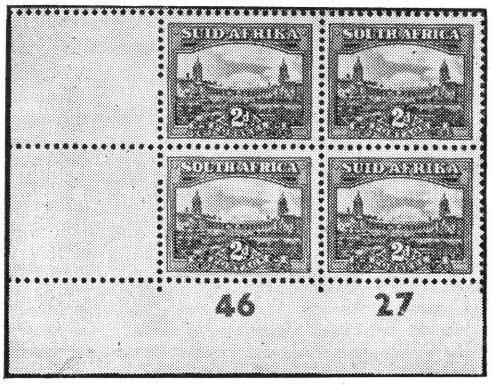
(Note: The 1½d. Small Mine "Officials" with the 14½ mm. overprint (S.G. O26b) are listed in the Union Handbook/Catalogue under the numbers "O71" and "O80". W.N.S.).

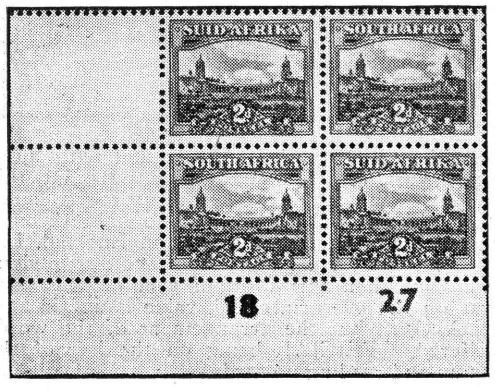
Further Cylinder Changes in the Latest Printings of the Small 2d. Pictorial Stamps

We have been advised by the Publicity Officer of the Philatelic Agency, Department of Posts and Telegraphs, Pretoria, that sheets of the small 2d. pictorials appeared on sale during the first week in December showing further changes in the cylinders employed for the printing of these stamps.

As recorded last month, a new printing from cylinders Nos. 30 Interior and 18 Exterior appeared early in November with a change in the language setting and the cylinder numbers imprinted at the left hand end of the sheet instead of, as in the 6927/50 issue, at the right hand end.

We now have two additional printings, one from the pair of cylinders Nos. 27 Interior and 18 Exterior and the other from the combination of Nos. 27 Interior and 46 Exterior, the number blocks of which we reproduce below. The number block of the November issue was illustrated in the Handbook Supplement No. 6 published last month.





The language setting for both is the same as the 30/18 printing, i.e., the first stamp on the sheet inscribed in Afrikaans, and since the general appearance and colours of these three latest productions are all very similar, some difficulty is likely to be experienced in distinguishing isolated pairs of the one printing from the other.

A letter from Mr. S. J. Hagger of Alberton, Transvaal, however, brings out certain features in the three new printings which are well worthy of note.

He first of all points out that the change in the position of the imprinted cylinder numbers from the right hand end of the bottom margin of the sheet — as in the 6927/50 issue — to the left hand end of the same margin for the 30/18, 27/18 and 27/46 printings, is an indication that the Government Printing Department has evidently adopted this position on the sheet as the standard one for the cylinder numbers of all the denominations.

The cylinder numbers on the 2/6 value were recently changed to this position (see Supplement No. 3, September 1952) and though the design on the 2d. stamp is set differently to that of the other pictorials — except the 1½d., which, like the 2d., lies parallel with the **length** of the sheet — the roll of paper on which it is printed travels through the machine in the same line of direction as in the case of all the other values from the ½d. to the 10/-. The watermark of the multiple Springbok's Head is therefore upright on such stamps as the ½d., 1d., 3d., 4d., 6d. etc. and facing **left** on the 1½d. and 2d. denominations.

Mr. Hagger next notes that though there are probably quite a number of small flaws common to all three of the latest printings the following are sufficient to prove that the FRAME cylinders No. 18 and No. 46 are from the same multopositive:—

Row 4/Stamp 8 — Smudge at left centre of frame.

Row 9/Stamp 1 — Small dot above bottom left corner.

Row 12/Stamp 17 — Dot above bottom right hand corner,

and since none of these was present on the 6927/50 sheets he is of the opinion that in order to get the change of language setting for the new stamps, a new, or at anyrate, a different exterior multopositive was employed.

Further, near the right hand corner in the top frame line of every Afrikaans inscribed stamp, he has detected a small white nick, shown in an enlarged form in the accompanying sketch, which indicates that in the making of the new multopositive for the frame portion of the stamps a new master negative consisting of **two** images only was used. This distinguishing feature, he points out, was not present on the Afrikaans stamps of the 6927/50 printing, but curiously enough, can be easily picked up with the aid of a magnifying glass on the 2d. denomination of the current 3/6 Booklets, and we shall expect to receive more information from him on this point in due course.

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Finally, a study of some of the small flaws on the interiors' of the stamps of the 6927/50 issue, and those on the 30/18, 27/18 and 27/46 printings. shows several of them common to all and therefore the employment of the same **interior** multopositive for the four issues. Mr. Hagger gives the following two examples:—

Row 2/Stamp 18 — Dot to the right of the left hand tower,

Row 7/Stamp 17 — Small blotch above roof near centre,

and concludes by drawing attention to the fact that once again we have that phenomen which belongs solely to the Union of South Africa issues namely, the same flaws appearing on the interiors of stamps with first of all English inscribed frames and then later, with frames inscribed in Afrikaans, or vice versa.

New 2d. Postage Due Stamp in Use

We have been advised by the Publicity Officer of the Department of Posts and Telegraphs Pretoria, that a new 2d. Postage Due Stamp printed from a new interior cylinder No. 44 and the old exterior cylinder No. 33 appeared in use towards the end of the third week in December.

Issue Dates of the Union "Officials" Required

With the object of compiling a more detailed list of the approximate dates the various Union "Officials" were issued. Mr. Sam Legator of Brakpan would appreciate any information readers may be able to furnish him with on this subject. Letters should be addressed directly to him at P.O. Box 133, Brakpan, Transvaal, giving the month as well as the year of issue, whenever possible.

SOME AUCTION PRICES.

H. R. Harmer:

Complete Silver Jubilee Set, £27.

Complete Silver Wedding Set, £50.

Cape, De La Rue pale blue, 4d., block of 9, £230.

Gough Is. All values of G.B. used there by Shackleton-Rowat Exped. blocks of 4, £23.

G.S.W.A., 25 pf. (S.G. 11), used, £6.

Robson Lowe:

Barbados, 1918, 3/-, block of 4, £48.

Rhodesia, 1897, 3d. pair imperf., betwen £24; 1909, £5 optd. Rhodesia, £33; 1910-16, £1 error of colour, pair, £95; 2d. Admiral Die III, imperf., between £34.

XMAS AND NEW YEAR GREETINGS

We gratefully acknowledge greeting cards from: Messrs. Stanley Gibbons Ltd.; Central News Agency; S.A. Collectors Society (C. E. Sherwood); O.F.S. and Basutoland Philatelic Society, Messrs. Francis J. Field, Ltd.

ALL IN THE GAME

II.

By W. LOXLEY-CHAMINGS.

Most of us, I imagine, if we began collecting as juniors, set out with a fixed-leaf album, and all was grist that came to our mill. Indeed, this stage of the game affords unequalled opportunities of learning the elements of philately, and the collector who starts straight off with a very limited objective and a couple of loose-leaf albums is going to miss quite a bit of the sport.

Comes the day however for most collectors when the fixed leaf albums are jettisoned, and thenceforward loose leaves are the thing. Yet I am not sure if the cut with the fixed-leaf album need be as clean as all that. It can still hold its own along with its companions. Here is an experience of my own.

A friend gave me a fixed-leaf album that had belonged to his son, killed in World War I. Perhaps the sight of it was too poignant for him. It was a magnificent album, with numbered spaces for all the world's stamps, on simplified lines, and excluding officials, postage dues, and the like, up to 1910, the end of the Edwardian era. It was interleaved, not with transparent tissue, which for all its virtues has certain disadvantages, but with thin paper the full size of the album leaves. I forget how many stamp-spaces there were — round about 15,000 I think. My friend's son had not gone far in his collecting, and had mounted 500 stamps at most, not always in their right places. It was in my mind to pass on the album to some junior, when the possibilities of such an album began to simmer in my mind.

One objection to the fixed-leaf album with numbered spaces has always been the mournful rows of blank spaces, where the rarities should reside, that must confront the ordinary collector. But why tolerate them? Out came my razor, and the countries which could never be complete just disappeared along with a number of others which held but the faintest interest for me. And behold I was left with an album ruled for exactly 8,000 stamps, all of which could be obtained without great expense, belonging to exactly 100 territories. The album could never bulge in an unsightly way, owing to the many pages that had been neatly excised. And what a thrill, for which I had long hunted, to conduct a little chap, to his numbered and reserved seat! The interleaving allowed also of the insertion of a number of maps and other guides to intelligent collecting. The pages rapidly filled up, and in a few years the collection was within sight of the goal of 8,000. By that time the cloth cover was distinctly ragged, so I had the whole thing rebound in full leather. It has gone its way to be sure, but what fun it was!

S.W.A. CORONATIONS.

It has been officially announced that there will be five stamps, of 1d., 2d., 4d., 6d. and 1/- values.

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AUSTRALIA'S PHILATELIC "ZOO"

By K.A.

Over a period of years, the Australian postal authorities have provided some interesting publicity for the many unique species of wild life peculiar to that continent.

Many American and other travellers have come to Australia to see for themselves the koala and platypus featured on its stamps.

The fast-hopping kangaroo — its scientific name, macropus, means big foot — has long been a stamp subject. With the emu, it shares pride of place on the Australian coat-of-arms.

The kangaroo is Australia's largest marsupial, often standing more than six feet high. Yet, when born, it is no more in size than a peanut!

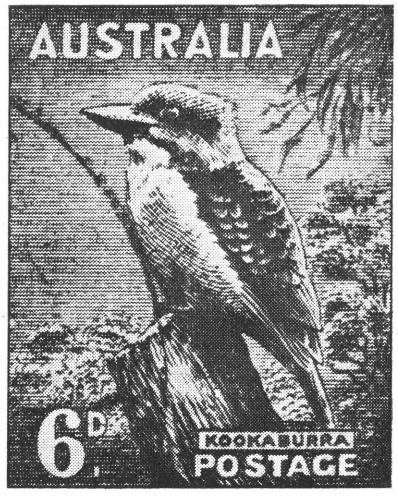
It has a long sinuous tail, which helps to propel it — often in bounds of thirty feet, and it can clear heights of nine feet. It can travel also at 50 miles an hour. Its forelegs, which are much shorter than its hind legs, have vicious talons, with which it fights or defends itself.

The female kangaroo carries her young in a pouch low on her belly, and, if danger threatens, the young kangaroo (called a joey') is thrown out and retrieved when the crisis has passed. The kangaroo lives on grass, but has a liking now and then for cultivated crops.

Its first philatelic appearance was on a stamp struck by New South Wales in 1888 during the Centennial Celebrations.

The first Commonwealth of Australia labels of 1913 showed it again, this time poised apprehensively on a map of Australia, while current halfpenny stamps depict a young red kangaroo in a bushland setting.

One of Australia's most well-known birds is the laughing jackass, the friendly kookaburra. It is one of the Kingfisher family, but of bigger build, and brown and grey. Native to eastern and southern Australia, it can be easily tamed.



The kookaburra likes to sit on the lower branches of gum trees, or on tree stumps. Its nest is made in a hollow limb or a termite's nest — even in a hole in the ground. The bird has a powerful bill and a very keen eye.

Because it relishes insects, reptiles, rats, mice, lizards and snakes, it is a favourite with farmers and settlers. Its merry, contagious laughter in early morning and at night is often heard both in the bush and the suburbs of cities.

The first stamp to bear its likeness, on a gum tree branch, was a 6d., circulated during 1913. The second occasion was in 1928 on a 3d. value. Both studies featured the bird facing to the right.

Further impressions appeared in 1932 and in 1937, the former a 6d. denomination and a more defined study. The latter depicted the kookaburra seated on a tree stump in a bush setting.

When Western Australia had its own stamps from 1854 until Federation in 1901, the graceful black swan was given pride of place in the design.

As the State emblem, this bird also figured on a commemorative issue by the Commonwealth of Australia in 1929 to mark the centennary of Western Australia's foundation.

Swan River, on which Perth, the capital, stands, was named by De Vlaming, the Dutch navigator, in 1696, because he saw so many of these strangely-coleured birds.

The largest member of the duck family, the black swan is somewhat smaller than the English white swan. It nests on a mound of reeds and sticks in a swamp. The bird's sooty black feathers are relieved by white quill feathers and a bright scarlet bill.

When in flight, it makes a trumpet-like call. It generally travels at night to new feeding grounds. The cygnets are dusky and are hatched in mid-winter. The swan is distributed throughout the mainland and Tasmania.

The Australian Commonwealth issue depicting the bird was submitted by Mr. G. P. Morrison, of the Art Gallery in Perth, being an armorial representation.

Another well-known philatelic bird is the timid lyre bird, so named because the beautiful tail feathers of the male resemble a Grecian lyre.

The lyre bird was displayed on a New South Wales 1888 Centennial issue and again on 1/- values issued in 1932 and 1937. The two latter stamps were based on sketches supplied by the National Museum, in Melbourne.

The tail is spread and moved gracefully as the male bird dances in quiet bushland glades. The bird has some of the habits of the domestic fowl. It scratches for worms, insects and snails with its strong claws. It roosts in the branches of trees at night.

The lyre bird can faithfully mimic the songs of other bush birds, as well as the sound of an axe, saw, motor car horn and the barking of a dog.

Frequenting rough country in south-eastern Australia, the bird rarely flies, but glides rapidly through the thickest undergrowth.

(To be continued)

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FOR WHOM THE BELLS TOLL

By Dr. K. FREUND



Do they toll for you? I mean, philatelically speaking? I, for one, have a very soft spot for them, when they appear on stamps. What sound could be sweeter than to page through your collection with all those bells ringing, tinkling, jingling, chiming and tolling at you?

The "Thematic Magazine," that gallant little periodical issued by "The Thematic Stamp Club" in Cape Town, listed a few of them in its September number. But there are many more, in fact so many that I have to warn you, your head may "ring." For those who would like to transform their album into a "Belfry" and "affix" philatelic Bells there, here is a long list, the first attempt at a systematic arrangement:

Bell-ringers in Action.

Let us start off with stamps from three countries which show us Bell-ringers busily exerting themselves in the act of pulling bell-ropes. The first one from HUNGARY introduces to us an attractive angel who smilingly rings a large shiny Bell (1940, 20th Anniversary of Regency, 20 f. red).

Another stamp, from BRAZIL, presents a Native of early times tolling a Bell which is suspended from a wooden arch in front of an old Settlers' Church (1935, 4th Centenary of Foundation of Pernambuco, 200 R. brown and claret). The whole scene reminds us of our own South African Pioneer days, and the Bell in particular is in appearance very much like our own Cape "Slave Bells."

On a stamp from ITALY, some Clock Bell-ringers can be seen in action at a typical old-Venetian "Campanila" (1949, 25th Biennial Art Exhibition, 15 L. green and cream).

Some More Church Bells

Church bells, large and small, can be found on quite a number of stamps.

A view from a Belfry looking out on church cupolas, with a huge Bell dominating the foreground, forms the design of a stamp from ITALY 1946, Medieval Italian Republics, 5 L. violet).

You can detect, if you are inventive and not too short-sighted, a surprisingly large number of Church bells of much smaller dimensions on stamps which feature Church steeples and Belfries. By all means use a magnifying glass, if your eyes are not what they used to be. Anyway, if those Bells can clearly be spotted, they should certainly be included in our collection. The "St. Francis issue" of ITALY, 1926, for instance, shows on two values (30c. grey and 50 L. brown) a Bell hanging in the little open tower of the Chapel in the background.

Similar in appearance to this Chapel with its little tower and free-hanging Bell is the little "Holy House" which appears in varying style on several stamps of the VATICAN (1938, Air, 80 ct. blue, and 10 L. purple; 1947, Air, 4 L brown, and 25 L green).

Two bells can be seen peeping through two windows of the tower of the "Notre Dame de Meritxell," which is featured on 17 values of an ANDORRA set of 1932. Another set also from ANDORRA (1944), shows us on 6 stamps the Church of "St. Jean de Caselles"; in its tower, we can see a Bell in swinging action, with its "mouth" turned to the onlooker and its "clapper" clearly visible.

Two other stamps of ITALY feature in each case a Church steeple in the background, with a Bell showing in the window opening (1945, Air, 100 L green; and 1950, Provincial Occupations, 5 L grey-green).

A recent stamp from JAPAN may conclude this section; it depicts — of all things — a Catholic Church of Nagasaki, complete with a Bell in the tower (1951, Tourist Views, 8 y carmine).

Peace Bells

"Bells of Peace," though strictly also Church bells, may receive a section of their own. These Peace bells are either denoted as such, or are featured with some symbols of Peace, live Doves.

A large swinging Peace bell with Doves fluttering around it can be seen on two stamps of the VATICAN (1936, Catholic Press Exhibition, 5 c green and 50 c brown).

A chime of three Peace bells on a large rafter ring lustily on eight stamps of PORTUGUESE COLONIES, with a Dove sitting right below the noise, obviously enjoying the musical performance (1950, Holy Year issues: ANGOLA, 1 a violet; CAPE VERD ISLANDS, 1 E red-brown; MACAO, 32 a violet; MOZAMBIQUE, 1 E.50 red-orange; PORT. GUINEA, 1 E claret; PORT. INDIA, 1 rl. bistre; ST. THOMAS AND PRINCE ISLANDS, 2 E.50, light blue; TIMOR, 40 a green).

The same three bells give an "Encore" performance on a second "Holy Year" set of PORTUGUESE INDIA, issued in 1951 (5 values of a set of eight).

A whole Carillion of at least ten bells appears on the 1/- value of the NEW ZEALAND "Peace" set of 1946. These bells, overlooked by many, appear high up on the stamp, where they surround the word "Peace" and issue waves of ringing sound right down the stamp.

The two Peace bells which featured in the British "Victory" postmark of 1945, are, for once, a prominent contribution GREAT BRITAIN has made to the cause of thematic philately. This pictorial postmark was in use from May to September 1945. The design of the two Bells contains a pronounced "error" which may be revealed here for the benefit of

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those who maintain that true philately begins with "flaws" and "errors": The "tongue" of the "bell clapper" is missing in each case and only the spherical tip can be seen suspended without connection.

(To be continued.)

STELLALAND.

A query recently appeared in a British philatelic paper about the origin and/or significance of the two fishes pierced by a sword which are to be seen in the coat-of-arms on the Stellaland stamps.

Mr. A. Lichtenstein of Bloemfontein, thinking this matter would be of interest to South African philatelists, wrote to the Chief Archivist of the Union and received the following reply which was taken from the Imperial Blue Book, No. C 4643 of 1886, p. 102:—

"I also enclose a description of the standard, from which it will be seen that the history of Stellaland is depicted by Canting Heraldry: in the one quarter is the emblem of a bird (the Khoran) caught by the leg by a white man, representing Mankoroane, or perhaps the Koranna race; in the other are two fishes pierced by a sword, representing the destruction of the Batlaping race of fish eaters."

Mr. Lichtenstein notes incidentally that the "Stella" of the country's name and coat-of-arms refers to the Comet of 1882, in which year a feud between rival tribes was mainly responseible for the occupation of the territory by Whites and the setting up of the Republic.

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SWAZILAND.

The 5/- slate (Commonwealth Cat. No. 22a) is being boomed in the "Commonwealth Courier" as likely to be worth a fiver one day (unless another printing turns up of the same shade, which is quite unlikely). They regret that their own stock of them went at a little over face and that they have never been able to replace, except for odd copies.

KENYA.

Mr. W. Tunstall has sent us, somewhat belatedly, a special 1st day cover of 1 April, with the new colour issues of the 10, 15, 25, 30 and 40 cents stamps.

Also a cutting from the "East African Standard" reporting that East African Posts and Telecommunications Advisory Board had met and selected six new designs from a short list of 78 picked by Colonial authorities in London. These 78 were from several hundreds submitted in competition.

The six selected will now go to the Secretary of State for the Colonies, and perhaps to the Queen herself for final approval.

RARE KENYA VARIETY.

In the 1935-36 issue the 5c. and the 1/- are listed by Gibbons perf. 13 x 12, but both are very rare stamps. Early last year they recorded finding a 3/- with this perf. but wanted to hear of other copies before deciding to list this. "Stamp Collecting" now reports the finding by Messrs. Zinopoulos & Sons of a mint specimen. It would appear therefore that there was probably a complete sheet issued. Where are all the others?

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STAMPS.—Want lists invited for any country; specialities Union, S.W.A., British Africa. — LACY'S, Gillbern Buildings, cor. Plein and Mostert Streets, Cape Town.

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AUSTRALIA.

Mr. Donald G. Cox of Newcastle, N.S.W., informs us that the following new issues have been announced by the P.M.G.: Three Special Coronation stamps; Food production 3d. and 3½d. stamps early in February; 1d. and 3½d. Q.E. II stamps to replace the corresponding K.G. VI stamps in March, and other values later in the year; two or three stamps in September to commemorate the 150th anniversary of Settlement in Tasmania.

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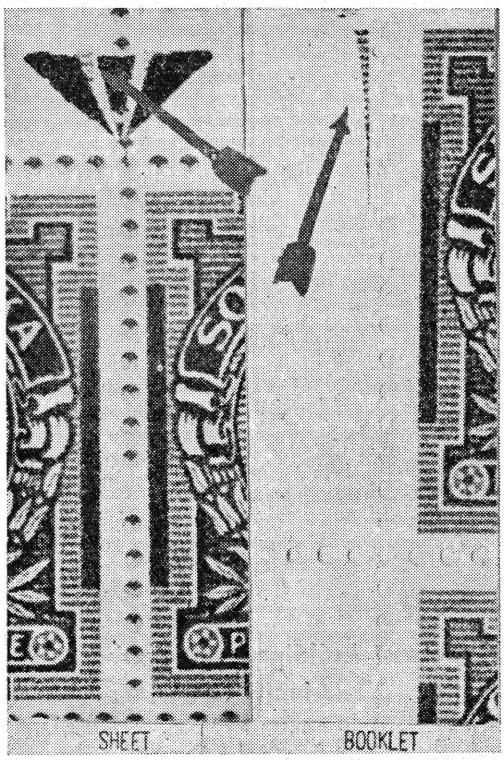
THOSE "SMUDGY" ARROWS

THE EXPLANATION

By S. J. HAGGER.

During a recent visit to Bloemfontein, I spent an evening with Mr. J. B. Levy of that city, during which he drew my attention to two items in the current halfpenny stamps. The first was a booklet pane on which part of the frame of another stamp was clearly visible in the top portion of the binding margin. This is of interest in that it confirms that this frame cylinder was etched by the same process as has been employed previously. That is to say a strip of some opaque material (for convenience hereafter referred to as tape) was pasted over the first, fifth and ninth vertical rows of the frame multopositive before its impression was transferred to the carbon tissue sheet, with the result that these rows were not etched on the cylinder. These show as blank spaces when the stamps have been printed and portions of them form the binding margins when the sheets are cut up into booklet panes.

In one place evidently the edge of the tape curled over, thus allowing a small portion of an unwanted frame to be printed. I imagine that, when the promised article on the reconstruction of these booklet sheets appears, it will be found that this flaw is in the first horizontal row.



Next Mr. Levy showed me that the smudges between the prongs of the top arrow on the sheets from Cylinders 31 and 70 are really portions of the frames of two extra stamps. On my return I was discussing this item with another Union specialist, Mr. W. S. Yelland, when we noticed that the bottom arrow of this printing has the same feature. Later I noticed that the top arrow of the five shilling stamps from Cylinders 36 and 6925 is an even better example, in which a portion of one of the ornaments in the frame design of an extra stamp can be seen at the extreme right of the arrow. Further checking revealed that most of the top and bottom arrows from cylinders printing ½d. and 1d. stamp frames in the 18 mm. x 22 mm. size have slight traces of extra frames.

I have given this matter some thought but before offering an explanation it is necessary to mention very briefly the various steps in the etching of arrows on the frame cylinders.

First large scale drawings of the arrows are made and photographs taken of them. The negatives, reduced to the size that the arrows are to appear on the cylinder, are next trimmed to the required dimensions, roughly one inch square. If the multo positive consists of 240 or 120 images, as the case may be, the four negatives are fastened lightly with transparent gum in the correct positions relative to the frames and the whole etched on the cylinder via the carbon tissue sheet. Where, however, the multo positive consists of twenty-two horizontal rows of frames the procedure has to be changed as far as the negatives of the top and bottom arrows are concerned. In the case of Commemorative stamps, or where the two extra rows will never be required, all or most of the two frames in the centre of the first and twenty-second rows are erased from the multo-positive and the arrow negatives are pasted in the cleaned spaces. Next, two strips of tape, with portion of the centre cut away so as not to cover the arrows, are pasted over the remainder of these first and last rows. The normal etching process then follows.

It is in the third case of ½d. and 1d. frame multo positives which might be used for etching roll stamp cylinders, and in these and other values where a change in language order might be desired, that I suggest the following technique is employed when 20 row cylinders have to be etched from these multo positives. As it is not now possible to erase any of the images in the first and last rows the arrow negatives are pasted in their correct positions and covering portion of the two images in the centre of those rows. If it were now possible to cut holes in the tapes in such a way that when pasted on the multopositive they would obscure everything in the unwanted rows except the prongs of the arrows, the next stage would be simple. Obviously, however, such cutting of the tapes is too difficult, and they are pasted on the multopositive with a portion, larger than the arrow, cut away. The next stage is not clear, but it seems that now further small pieces of tape are pasted on to fill in the space round the arrows. Evidently it is impossible to adjust these small pieces so that they coincide exactly with the edges of the prongs, and of course, no attempt can be made to mask

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the spaces between the prongs and for this reason the carbon tissue sheet in due course receives the impression of those portions of the frames which have not been masked.

When the printed arrows and stamps are examined through a magnifier it can be seen that those portions of the frames which have intruded in this way are not as clearly printed as the frames of the stamps themselves. This would be accounted for by the fact that to register their impression on the carbon tissue sheet, the light had to pass through the extra thickness of a photographic negative, plus the gum fastening it to the multopositive. These could not be completely transparent and would explain the slight difference.

QUEEN ELIZABETH STAMPS.

As briefly noted last month the 1½d. and 2½d. stamps for Great Britain appeared on 5th Dec. The former, in green, with a circlet of the national floral emblems (Rose, Thistle, Daffodil and Shamrock) surrounding Her Majesty's portrait, is a particularly attractive stamp. The red 2½d. has the same portrait surrounded by an ornamental oval, with a heraldic representation of the national emblems in the bottom left corner.

Orders seem now to be placed for most of the Crown Colonies stamps, but the Gold Coast appears to be their first in the race to issue with the 2½d. appearing on 19th December. This has Her Majesty without Crown, the design in general being like the 1948 ½d. (mounted constabulary).

UNDESIRABLE STAMPS.

The International Philatelic Federation have black-listed the following stamps as undesirables and as such they will be excluded from future exhibitions organised under the auspices of the F.I.P.

Belgium: 30 fr. Koechelberg, "E Verhaeren" fr. 4 plus 9 and "H. Conscience" fr. 8 plus 9. These hada limited issue and the surcharges exceed 50% of the postal value.

Curacao: Set of 5 charity stamps, all with surcharge exceeding 50% of the postal value.

Hungary: Two air mail stamps, also with surcharge exceeding 50% of postal value.

FRANCE.

The Administration of Posts reports the issue on 13 December of two semi-postals, the surtax being in aid of the French Red Cross. The two stamps (12 fr. plus 3 fr. and 15 fr. plus 5 fr.) feature figurines of infants on the fountain of Diana at Versailles.

According to the "Philatelic Magazine" the Minister of Posts has announced that the present haphazard issuing of commemorative stamps with no relation one to another, is to cease. In future they will be issued in small sets of three or four stamps, each set dealing with a suitably chosen theme.

ASSISTANT SHIPPING POSTMASTER, CAPE TOWN.

In a paper by Pirie and Sydow on Maritime Postmarks in the S.A. Philatelist Jan., 1944 **et seq.** a mark is illustrated as Fig. 6 of a mark recorded by Robt. S. Gordon, but actually belonging to S. G. Rich, with the wording as in the title, stars separating the upper and lower lettering. The date is in one line in the centre 7 Aug. 1914. Size approx. 38mm. diameter.

Mr. R. D. Allen, England, later reported a composite piece of six stamps with 4 parts of marks, from which he was able to reconstruct a whole. This whole corresponded fairly closely with the Fig. 6 illustrated and it should be noted that the reproduction was from a rough sketch made by Mr. Gordon, not from an actual tracing.

Messrs. Allen, Gordon and Rich have been in communication with each other about these marks and have come to the conclusion that they stem from the same handstamp, with only minor differences inseparable from rubber handstruck marks.

The wavy lines should be rather wider apart than they are in Fig. 6; the top one in Mr. Rich's specimen is 11mm. long and the lower one 16mm. long.

Mr. Allen's marks have an earlier date, viz., 25 Apr. 1914.

The mark would appear to be rather a rare one, as no further specimens of it have been recorded.



B.r.A.

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THE POSTMARKS OF ZULULAND

By W. NEWLANDS

(Cont. from page 221 of December issue)

Turning to the types of postmarks I am following, as far as possible, the type numbers used in the "Philatelist" of December, 1950, in an article by Robson Lowe. My own collection contains every type listed in that article and I think the actual covers and stamps from which the illustrations were made.

TYPE 1: This is a 30 mm. single circle post mark with POST OFFICE at top and ENTONJANENI at bottom with date in centre. Period of use: 1888 to 1891. All postmarks so far seen for 1888 and 1889 have month first then day date. Those for 1890 and 1891 have this date order reversed i.e. day date then month. Earliest date Jul.16.88. Colour: Black and Grey - Black. The "Philatelist" records QUDENI in this type for 1897. (Jan. 1951).

TYPE 2: A postmark 37 mm. in diameter of double circle type with a DOUBLE outer circle. Between the inner circle and the inner of the two outer circles the wording reads: NKANDHLA at top and ZULULAND at bottom with Maltese Crosses dividing the two words. Date in centre in one line. Date: 25 FEB 91. Colour: Purple.

TYPE 3: A large oval postmark with double outer circle and single inner circle with wording between reading NONDWENI at top and ZULULAND at bottom with the words separated by two stars. Date in single line in centre between two ornamental lines. Colour: Purple. Dates: 23 DEC. 92 and — APR. 93.

TYPE 3a: A postmark all as described for Type 3 without the two ornamental lines above and below date. Details of postmark: ESHOWE ZULULAND 7th DEC. 94. The date '7th' is written in by hand. On 1/- value S.G.10. Colour Purple. THIS TYPE HAS NOT BEEN PREVIOUSLY RECORDED FOR ESHOWE.

TYPE 4: (ROBSON LOWE'S TYPE 6): A single circle postmark 24 mm. diameter with the words R.M. OFFICE at top and office name at bottom. Date in centre in three lines with day date at top in very heavy type. Colour: Purple. Earliest recorded date: 1894 ("Philatelist" for Jan. 1951) for Lower Umfolosi. Offices: HLABISA in 1896, LOWER UMFOLOSI in 1895. (This copy has day date omitted).

TYPE 5: A 25 mm. single circle type postmark with office name at top and ZULULAND at bottom. Date in centre in three lines. Colour: Purple. Period 1895 onwards. Also seen used on Natal stamps after incorporation. This type contains many date errors. Offices: NONGOMA: Feb. 5 1895, and 6 APR. 1897.

also date error: — 8 1895 inverted.

UBOMBO: 8 Apl 9681

INGWAVUMA: 28.May 1897.

"Philatelist" records UBOMBO for 1895 and LOWER UMFOLOSI for 1895.

TYPE 5a: A 25 mm. single circle type similar to Type 5, but with the lettering of the name and ZULULAND in serif-type letters. Date also in fancy type. Colour: Bluish Purple. Date 29.May.1897. Office: LOWER UMFOLOSI on 2½d. S.G.22. **This is a new type not previously recorded.**

TYPE 5b: A single circle type postmark all as for Type 5, but with different wording. Wording at top instead of P.O. name of Type 5 is: POST OFFICE. Wording at foot is off stamp except for a portion too faded to decipher. Colour: Purple. Date 6.NOV. 18—. Used on 1d. stamp S.G.21. **No previous record of this type.**

TYPE 6 (ROBSON LOWE'S 4): A double circle type postmark that was widely used in Zululand as the normal canceller. Outer circle ranges from 24½ to 27 mm. in diameter and the inner from 15 to 16 mm. In the 27/16 mm. type the letters are of a slightly larger type. Colour: Black. Period of use: 1890 onwards. Name of office appears at top and ZULULAND at bottom. Date in centre in two lines.

Offices and dates:

ESHOWE DE 13/90, NO 17/91, OC 31/95 and MY 11/96.

ESHOWE A MR 29/94 and other dates in 1894, 1895 and 1896.

ESHOWE P JY 4/94 and AP 2/95.

ULUNDI MR 6/95.

NONDWENI JU 18/96 and 3 MR/97.

LOWER TUGELA OC 31/94.

NOUTU 4 JY/-

MELMOTH 94 and 19 JY
JU 2 46
14 DE/93

NTINGWE (?) AP 25/-.

INGWAVUMA: Recorded by Philatelist (Jan. 51) for 1895.

TYPE 6a: A double circle type postmark, 26 mm. outer and 16 mm. inner circles, all as for Type 6, except that the word 'Zululand' at the bottom is omitted. Only recorded for ESHOWE. Earliest date: SP 17/88. Other dates: OC29/88 Philatelist Jan. 1951) and NO 6/88 (Paul A. Dorn). Colour: Black.

TYPE 7: A single circle type postmark 25 mm. diameter with wording: Office name at top and ZULULAND at bottom. Date in centrei n two lines. Colour: Black.

Offices: (a) ESHOWE: JA 2/94 JA 12/94 and SP 16/96. The figures of the year date are of the same size and type as the figures used for the day date.

(b) ESHOWE: JU 9/98. Here the year date is of a smaller and different type to that used for the day date and is similar to that illustrated in the "Philatelist" (Dec. 1950) (Dated NO 25/98).

The last subtype (b) is obviously the first of the Natal cancellers for Zululand whereas the subtype (a) is a similar one made for and used by the Zululand Postal Administration. **This subtype (a) has not previously beenr ecorded.**

REGISTRATION MARKS: Although there must have been some registered postal matter, so far no registration mark has been forthcoming, nor have any special parcel postmarks come to light.

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B. J. HUNTER, 56a, EAST STREET, BRIGHTON, SUSSEX, ENGLAND

Once more we offer a selection of items from our large stock of fine British Colonial Stamps, full details of which appear in our Fortnightly Lists (specimen copy sent free upon application). This time we are offering from a wide range of colonies a number of sets and single stamps:

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1912 S.G. 170-180, £6.15.0.
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BRIT. HONDURAS 1913/21 S.G. 101-110, £7.10.0.
BRIT. SOLOMON ISLANDS 1907 S.G. 1-7, £4.15.0.
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CYPRUS 1928 S.G. 123-132, £8.
1934 S.G. 133-143, £2.12.6; U., £2.15.0.
FIJI 1903 S.G. 184-194, £8.
JAMAICA 1905/11 S.G. 37-43, £2.7.6.
LEEWARD IS. 1890 S.G. 1-8, £3.12.6.
MALTA 1928 S.G. 174-192, £5.7.6.
1930 S.G. 193-209, £5.15.0.
NEW ZEALAND 1913 Auckland Exhbn. Set in blocks of four, £27.10.0.

SINGLES

KENYA 1906/07 R. 10 S.G. 30, £5.
LEEWARD IS. 1938 £1 S.G. 105, £22.10.0
MALTA 1922 10/- S.G. 105, £6.
1922/25 £1 S.G. 135, £3.15.0; S.G. 136, £2.17.6.
MONTSERRAT 1908/13 5/- S.G. 47, £2.15.0; U., £3.
1914 5/- S.G. 48, £3.15.0.
NIGERIA 1914/26 10/- S.G. 13, £1.5.0; S.G. 13a, £1.8.6.
S.G. 13b, £15; S.G. 13c., £2.2.6.
ST. HELENA 1922/27 £1 S.G. 96, £4.15.0.
ST. LUCIA 1864 6d. S.G. 14 superb used, £1.15.0.
ST. VINCENT 1886/89 5/- S.G. 49a cor. block of four, £5.10.0.
SEYCHELLES 1890 96c S.G. 8 in block of four, £5.
SIERRA LEONE 1903 £1 S.G. 84, £6.
SOUTH AFRICA 1913/21 £1 S.G. 24, £12.10.0.
TRINIDAD & TOBAGO 1921/22 £1 S.G. 212, £3.7.6.
1922/28 £1 S.G. 229, £4.

ALL MINT EXCEPT AS STATED.

PARAGUAY ANNUAL ANNOUNCED

The SIXTH annual „REVISTA FILATELICA PARAGUAYA" will soon be published by Mrs. Felicita Rufina B. Lopez de Mayer, CIUDAD: CORONEL BOGADO, (PARAGUAY, South America) for distribution — inclusive exchange adlet — at US $ 1.00 dollar.

Please remit text and remittance (US $ 1.00 CASH) for your adlet. Use a strong outer envelope, seal it well, and send it REGISTERED AIR MAIL.

The periodical, which usually contains more than 300 pages, 75 articles and 1.350 fine illustrations, is printed in SEVEN languages (IN ONE VOLUME) and reaches a considerable number (3000) of collectors all over the world, wishing to exchange stamps by correspondence.

R.F.P., is one of the world's largest and best philatelic periodicals and the recent volume No. V., 232 large pages; 54 articles and over 300 superb. SWEDEN, and other Scandinavian, 155 Great Britain, (Colonies, Former Colonies, Offices and Territory of, or Controlled by THE BRITISH COMMONWEALTH OF NATIONS) engravings and 850 of other Foreign Countries of the latest novelties, is really profusely illustrated, its stamps and art reproduction being of the highest quality.

„REVISTA FILATELICA PARAGUAYA" City: CORONEL BOGADO, Paraguay, S.A., is the "BEST-SELLER" of the Philatelic Literature (1953) of the World.

Printed: 30,000 copies.

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This concludes the list of Zululand postmarks but before closing this paper I would like to draw attention to the interesting postmarks for the period 1898 to 1904. In 1900 Eshowe had a postmark reading: 'Eshowe. Province of Zululand' and later in the 1900's the 'P.O.A. and number' type came into use for the various agencies. During the Boer War certain parts of Zululand were occupied with the result that Zululand place names can be found on Z.A.R. and O.V.S. stamps. Thus a collection of postmarks for the Natal Provincial period would make a very interesting display, and is well worth the attention of S.A. Philatelists.

NICARAGUA.

The philatelic agency announces the issue on March 31, 1953 of 5 ordinary and 5 Air Mail stamps in connection with the formation of ODECA, an organisation aiming at the welding of the five Central American States into one.

UNIONS "USED ABROAD" WORLD WAR I.

German East Africa.

Comment on the scarcity of covers, etc., from Union Forces in G.E.A. brought to light the existence of such items; see our April and June 1952 issues.

Mr. C. E. Wright reports another, this time a Union ½d. postcard, cancelled with an Indian F.P.O. No. 52 mark.

It has now been established:

(a) That a South African postal contingent served in G.E.A.
(b) That the officials of this were attached to the Indian Army Postal Department, but,
(c) They had a Base Office at Kilindini, with an ovel rubber cachet.
(d) Union stamps **may** have been available at this Base P.O., but in any case a few Union stamps are now known postally used.

France.

So far no Union stamps used on correspondence, from the S.A. Brigade in France have been recorded, but perhaps this comment will bring to light their existence, as in the case of G.E.A. referred to above.

A cover is known with a (British) Field Post Office double-circle mark, it being numbered "S.A.1" This is in keeping with the mark which the British Army Postal authorities supplied to the S. African forces in Egypt; the numbering is the same, although the type of mark is otherwise quite different.

Now, who can produce Union stamps with this cancellation?

REVIEWS

Stanley Gibbons "Simplified" Catalogue, 1953, Stanley Gibbons Ltd., 391 Strand, London, W.C.2. Price 18/6 nett (postage abroad 1/6).

This new edition has 57 pages more than the last, but the selling price has not been put up. The stamps listed total over 83,000 with over 11,000 illustrations, rather amazing figures when one considers that this is a "simple life" catalogue, ignoring differences of watermark and perforation, shades, errors and minor varieties.

Not the catalogue, of course, for a specialist, but eminently suitable for general collectors interested in a diversity of countries.

Encyclopaedia of British Empire Postage Stamps, Vol I. (Great Britain and the Empire in Europe), price 42/-. Robson Lowe, Ltd., 50, Pall Mall, London, S.W.1.

This is a 2nd revised edition. The original, published in 1947 contained 304 pages; there are now 460.

The contents are truly encyclopaedic for about Great Britain there is just about everything one could think of concerning hand-struck stamps, adhesive stamps, postal stationery, cancellations, local and stamps for special services (newspaper, telegraph, railway, college, circular delivery, etc.) and postal history articles.

There are 66 pages devoted to the Channel Islands, Cyprus, Gibraltar, Malta and Southern Ireland and 29 pages to ex-British possessions and consular Posts.

There is a wealth of illustrations and the whole get-up is superb. Altogether a magnificent production.

Saar Standard Catalogue, Johannes Becker (15a) Weimar, Friedrich-Ebert-Strasse 29, Germany. Price D.M.3.

A wonderful listing of all Saar stamps issued since 1920 with illustrations in colour. Details given are numbers issued and dates.

Stanley Gibbons Priced Catalogue of K.G. VI. Stamps, 1953. Price 4/- (3d. postage), Interleaved edition 7/6 (6d. postage).

This has 20 pages more than the previous edition, making 200 in all. It lists some 7,220 stamps, including stamps issued since the King's death, and without his portrait. These will have ultimately to be reckoned as Q.E. stamps.

The catalogue numbers are those of the publishers general British Empire catalogue.

NEW ISSUES

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Queen Elizabeth 2½d.	4d.	4d.
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½d. to 1/-	4/-	4/6
½d. to 2/6	10/-	11/-
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3½d. Scout Jamboree	4d.	4d.
Morocco and Persian Gulf		
Q.E. II 1½d. and 2½d. (10)	2/3	2/9
India		
Saints and Poets	2/9	2/-
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SOCIETY NEWS

PORT ELIZABETH PHILATELIC SOCIETY

4th November:

The first meeting of the month took place at the usual venue. Apologies of absence were received from our Hon. Secretary and Auctioneer, the attendance being somewhat small with only 14 members present. Mr. G. K. Forbes acted as Auctioneer, much material being tabled. After tea interval, Mr. G. Bulbring read a paper entitled "Protective Measures practised by Postal Authorities." In it he dealt with various aspects of this philatelic field, such as design, print, secret marks, paper, watermarks and the like. The talk was supported by a display of stamps illustrating the various points made by the speaker. Discussion followed and a vote of thanks ably proposed by Dr. J. W. Harris seemed to indicate that those present had enjoyed the evening.

18th November:

Again the attendance could have been better for a very entertaining evening. Those present however were able to secure at the auction at very reasonable cost some first flight covers of the recently inaugurated Australia-South Africa Quantas Air Service, these having been obtained on the initiative of the Society's Committee. After the minutes of previous meetings and other official matters had been dealt with, Mr. Frank Ingham showed us his collection of the stamps of the three Protectorates, Basutoland, Swaziland and Bechuanaland. They were a particularly attractive and clean lot, neatly mounted, most issues being well represented if not complete both in mint and very wine used condition. Members did enjoy Mr. Ingham's contribution to the evening as well as his talk explaining the stamps. Mr. Forbes thanked the Exhibitor for his effort.

2nd December:

The last meeting of the year saw a gratifying attendance of both members and visitors. It was our President's (Mr. G. K. Forbes) evening in more than one way; he wished members a happy festive season, treated us to tea and refreshments and last, but not least, showed us his collection of Australian pre-Commonwealth Stamps. We feasted our eyes on the old Primitives, Sidney Views, Black Swans and many other fine stamps rarely seen by the younger collectors. All the Australian Stamps were well represented, including those from New Zealand, Tasmania, Victoria, New South Wales, West Australia; the writer being particularly interested in some pages of South Australian Departmental Officially overprinted Stamps, besides the Classics. Mr. Forbes gave a talk on his display, touching in his well-known cryptic and humorous manner on various interesting facts about the stamps, as well as giving much information of historical interest and on the production of this group of stamps.

The syllabus for the meetings, January to June 1953 was finalised with the assistance of members present.

Before leaving for their homes, members wished each other a Happy Christmas and New Year and the President expressed the hope that the Port Elizabeth Society would enjoy another successful year during 1953.

ROODEPOORT STAMP CLUB.

Our monthly meeting was held on Wednesday the 26th of November, 1952, in the Parish Hall, Amelia Street, Roodepoort.

The Exhibit for the evening was confined to six pages of interest by various members. Mr. Sharpe tabled Solomon Islands, neatly written up, including a map showing the position of the Islands. Mr. Vermaak tabled U.P.U. of Sweden which was very interesting. Mr. Yelland with Post Card cancellations of different Royal Tours, an outstanding display, Mr. Keet with the colourful costumes and flowers of Austria.

We wish to bring to the notice of the Philatelic World that as from the beginning of January, 1953, the two Clubs on the West Rand will incorporate, and be known as the "Philatelic Society of the Western Rand." The meeting will be on the fourth Wednesday of the month, and will be held at the Parish Hall, Amelia Street, Roodepoort at 8 p.m.

J.K.

WEST RAND STAMP CLUB.

December:

Once more a very pleasant evening was held at Mr. Burrell's residence and as this was our last meeting before the amalgamation with the Roodepoort Society there was a certain amount of formal business to be gone through.

As all this could not be completed it was decided that a final meeting be held at a date to be fixed for the purpose of winding up the affairs of the club.

After the business was finished Mr. Keet tabled his collection of Union Postage Dues which was a very nice little lot.

This was ably commented upon by Dr. T. B. Berry who also thanked Mrs. Burrell for providing tea and refreshments which as usual were enjoyed by all present.

After tea we had our usual informal chat on stamps in general and the meeting terminated at 10 p.m.

E. J. S.

PHILATELIC SOCIETY OF NATAL

December 3rd:

The monthly general meeting opened at 7.45 p.m. and the president welcomed 35 members and a visitor, Mr. J. Sheppard of the East Rand.

Included in the correspondence dealt with was a financial statement from the Federation giving evidence of the extent to which the "Philatelist" and the Union catalogue dominated the whole statement. The statement provoked some discussion and the President, Mr. L. Bevis, concluded by appealing to the members to buy more catalogues. He thought every member should have one as it was a fine publication and fully worth the purchase price.

There were two displays. The first was by Mr. J. Sheppard and consisted of about 30 sheets of items in connection with Cape Triangulars in the shape of proofs, essays and forgeries. There was not a real stamp in the display and members were greatly intrigued and interested. Mr. Milner Palmer voiced the opinion of all when he thanked Mr. Sheppard for having so kindly allowed us to view such an interesting and unusual exhibition. The second display was by Mr. Donald Castle of Greytown, Natal, who unfortunately, through illness, was unable to introduce it personally. It comprised approximately 100 sheets of items in connection with Christmas including Christmas stamps, seals, cards, covers, cancellations and other items from the world over, and even included covers addressed to Santa Claus at the North Pole and other

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of his various addresses. There were also covers posted at the Antarctic.

Members were again entertained and very appreciative of the fact that the display must have involved much trouble and research in its building up by Mr. Castle who was congratulated and thanked by Rev. Richardson on our behalf. It was hoped, too, that Mr. Castle would soon be restored to complete health after his recent serious illness. After the usual formalities and auction the meeting closed at 10.15 p.m. — V.F.M.

JEWISH GUILD PHILATELIC SECTION.

At the meeting held on November 27th, 1952, the Philatelic Society of Johannesburg paid an official visit to the Section and its members provided the exhibits.

Mr. Frankland showed Kedah, Kelantan and Bahrain. The exhibit included the 2½ annas double overprint in the Bahrain Olympic Games issue.

Dr. Pirie showed Madagascar posts other than the French posts. He first read a paper on them. The exhibit included pre-stamp covers and all the British Consular posts and Norwegian missionary posts. The Second World War period of Allied occupation was also represented by covers.

Mr. Schaiowitz showed a Thematic Collection of pairs of people, animals, etc., on stamps.

Mr. Froehlich showed a Thematic collection of French artists.

Mr. Sheffield showed a collection of the 1d. Rotogravure Union in all varieties. There were numerous sheets, blocks and booklets.

Mr. B. Joseph spoke on the exhibits which were all much appreciated by the members.

PRETORIA PHILATELIC SOCIETY

On the **3rd November,** the President, Mr. F. C. Ferguson, handed the meeting over to our Hon. Librarian, Mr. D. Slater-Kinghorn, who then constituted all present into a quiz audience. A "Philatelic Digest," introduced as a new, experimental type of programme, was presented, firstly in humorous catchy questions on stamp-lore, for which correct answers were awarded with a prize of stamps, and secondly, of nine small, unusual exhibits contributed by invitation. Amongst many most interesting items seldom seen, were Mr. E. C. Wright's Zemstov (Russian Rural Stamps), 1865-1917. It was indeed a meeting out of the ordinary, much enjoyed by all present, and Mr. Slater-Kinghorn was complimented on his innovation.

For the second bi-monthly meeting, held on the **17th November,** Mr. W. N. Sheffield, President of the Johannesburg Philatelic Society, brought a numerous contingent of members of his Society for their annual reciprocal visit. The good fare provided by the visitors included the Non-French Madagascar Posts 1884-1942 (Dr. J. H. Harvey Pirie), British Somaliland, almost complete from 1901 (Mr. J. E. Frankland), and the historical aspect of music in a thematic collection (Mr. E. Schaiowitz). The exhibits were found intensely interesting and the contributors as well as the several other visitors from Johannesburg were suitably thanked for coming.

On the **1st December** the main speaker was Dr. Raubenheimer who is primarily an Africana collector and includes philately only as far as it represents Africana. Giving attention on this occasion mostly to his efforts to get, if possible, a complete postal history of the Voortrekker and Van Riebeeck issues, Dr. Raubenheimer told many stories of events which showed that the issuing and date stamping of stamps and covers did not always run to plan. His knowledge of what led up to unusual procedure in some cases, made the extensive exhibit which illustrated his talk, specially interesting.

The "President's Night" was staged at the last meeting of the year, on **15th December 1952,** and there was a good attendance considering that the usual summer exodus to the coast had already begun.

The piece de resistance was a talk given by the Very Rev. Father Fergus Barrett, Rector of the Pretoria Roman Catholic Theological Seminary, on the life and work of His Holiness Pope Pius XII. In this very interesting survey tribute was paid to the Pope's dynamic personality and his career as a student, political economist, jurist, diplomat and theologian. His outstanding efforts for peace in the two World Wars, services abroad as an Ecclesiastical Envoy and in Italy as State Secretary, and his life work for humanity of all creeds, colours and races, made an absorbing story, most ably told by Father Barrett.

The talk was followed by the President's personal, comprehensive exhibit of the stamps of the Vatican City — well written up and illustrated. As a record of personalities, architecture, history and very fine stamp design and production, the exhibit was outstanding. Linking it up with the preceding talk made it all the more interesting to see.

After appreciation and thanks were expressed, the President wished all members the Compliments of the Season and "happy hunting" in their hobby.

B.J.V.

PHILATELIC SOCIETY OF JOHANNESBURG.

At the meeting held on December 14th, 1952, Mr. Kleiner showed a fine collection of Seychelles

There were numerous items of Mauritius used in Seychelles including many on covers. The Queen's issues were represented with all varities and errors and there were numerous large blocks both mint and used. The Edwardian and Georgian issues were complete with varities, shades and errors.

There were numerous die proofs and specimens, and numerous covers showing first works of different kinds.

Mr. W. Redford spoke on the Exhibit.

Mr. Kleiner read a short paper on the Exhibit.

SHORT NOTICES.

H. R. Harmer Organisation, 27th Annual **Résumé.**

This account of the work of the organisation, with its houses in London, New York and Sydney, shows that it is flourishing, which is practically equivalent to saying that Philately is flourishing.

The Résumé gives, as usual, a list of the firm's various activities — auctions, sales by private treaty, valuations, publications, etc., together with an illustrated list of the most important items disposed of during the past year.

An interesting editorial deals with the future of the rarity, meaning the stamp, block or cover with a value to-day of £1,000 or more, and also of the many thousands of pieces worth from £100 upwards. The conclusion reached is that all such items are a sound investment financially.

Not in the résumé, as it comes into this year's sales, is an intimation of the sale of two important South African collections on 26-27 January. They are the collection of the late W. J. Giovanetti of Pretoria and the late W. D. Harris of Cape Town.

Mr. C. J. Curtis, of 43 Showell Green Lane, Birmingham 11, sends us a Price List of World War II Covers with Special Postmarks and Censor Marks.

These include British Naval, Military and Air Force covers from practically every theatre of war where they operated.

There are also some East African, South African and Indian marks from the African, M.E.F. and Indian Ocean areas.

NORTHERN RHODESIA.

Messrs. J. F. Davidson and W. C. Kuun both report that the current ½d. stamp has been on sale for a few weeks from a new plate, Plate 4.

But more important, it appears in two different perforations, some sheets being in the usual 12½ line, while others are comb perforated 12½ x 13¾.

They are wondering if the 1d. and 1½d. will turn up with this change, as the present plates appear to be badly worn.

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THE
SOUTH AFRICAN PHILATELIST
PROPRIETORS AND PUBLISHERS :
The Philatelic Federation of Southern Africa
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Vol. 29. No. 2. FEBRUARY, 1953. Whole No. 335.

Union Notes

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

Unusual Specimens of the King's Head 4d. Stamps.

We reproduce below two mint copies of the King's Head 4d. stamps — Union Handbook/ Catalogue No. 8 — showing, in the one case, a multiplicity of small errors in the lettering and frame portion of the design, and in the other, distinct indications of a "double strike" action during the printing process.



Mr. E. Dee of Durban, who recently acquired the stamp with the numerous flaws, states that he has not seen or heard of a copy with quite as many errors as the one now in his possession and lists them as follows:

(1) "SOUIH" instead of "SOUTH."
(2) "AIRICA" for "AFRICA".
(3) Four jewels missing in base of crown.
(4) Five jewels and scrolls missing from the dome of the crown.
(5) Postage and Postzegel lettering damaged.
(6) Border lines at top faulty.

He adds that the cause of so many printing flaws was no doubt due to over-inking and dirty plates.

In the second example, shown to us by Mr. M. J. Rall of Oudtshoorn, Cape, the effect of the paper striking the plate twice during the printing of the stamps can be clearly seen in the doubling of the lines around the right hand portion of the headplate design. This defect can occur when the large sheets of gummed paper are inclined to curl as a result of the temperature and humidity conditions of the room not being correct during the printing process.



Another Diaeresis Variety on Union "Officials".

Further to our mention last month of an article in the December number of "Gibbons' Stamp Monthly" reporting the discovery of a diaeresis variety on copies of the Union 1½d. Small Mine "Officiel" stamp (S.G. O26b and Union Handbook No. O71), it is now recorded in the January issue of the same magazine that another diaeresis variety has been found—this time on the 2d. "Official", S.G. O27a and basic stamp S.G. 107a. (Union Handbook No. O72 and basic stamp No. 47C — Plate VI.).

The discoverer of this latest example, Mr. D. Addey, was able to produce a block of four of these "Officials", two stamps of which showed the diaeresis over the second "E" of OFFISIEEL and the other two with no distinguishing mark above the letter — an indication of a mixed setting.

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An examination of a sheet which we happen to have in our possession, and had not previously studied, shows the presence of the diaeresis on only four of the one hundred and twenty stamps contained in a sheet and these are in the positions of Nos. 5, 6, 65 and 66, or according to rows:—

Row I—Nos. 5 and 6.
Row II—Nos. 5 and 6.

The month of issue of these "Officials" is not known at the moment, but they probably made their appearance towards the end of 1946, or early 1947. In any case, it is worthy of note that the following production of the 2d. "Officials" — Union Handbook No. O81 (overprinted on the basic 2d. stamp No. 47C — Plate VII), recorded as in use in August 1948, is known from other sheets in our possession, to have no diaeresis varieties on any of the stamps.

Regarding its discovery on the 1½d. "Small Mine" issue, Mr. A. Lichtenstein of Bloemfontein has written to say that he has in his possession a used pair that came on an envelope containing mint supplies from the Postmaster-General in Pretoria and bearing the date 29.4.1946. In addition, he has a few mint specimens that show there was an issue of 1½d. "Officials" with a diaeresis above the second "E" of OFFISIEEL and that the overprinting was carried out on the identical basic stamp sheets as those classified in the Union Handbook as No. O71, i.e., on yellowish gummed paper, colour yellow-buff and deep slate-green, black sheet numbers and the same sheet arrows.

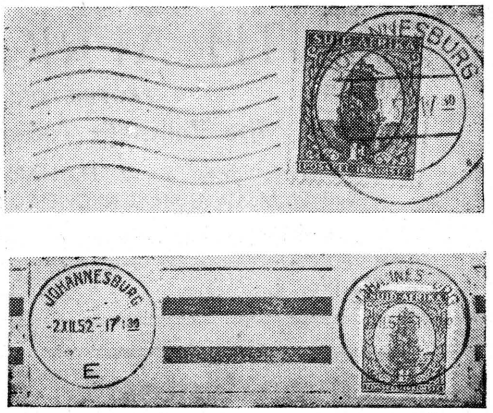
Mr. Lichtenstein has shown us two blocks of four of these early 1½d. Small Mine "Officials", both of which include the stamp with the basic variety of "Gold blob on tower" — Stamp No. 4 of the third row in the sheet. The colours of the copies in the two blocks are identical and at first sight one would say the same about the overprints. But a closer examination reveals that the stamps in one block all have the diaeresis over the second "E" of OFFISIEEL whereas those in the other have no distinguishing mark.

Mr. S. J. Hagger of Alberton, Transvaal, has also shown us two used blocks of four of the 1½d. "Officials" which he received on envelopes containing mint stamps from the P.M.G. in Pretoria. The date on one is not quite decipherable, but on the other it is clearly 8.8.1947 and all of the stamps have the diaeresis form of spelling. Small printing characteristics on some of the copies have made it possible to determine their original position on the sheet and since these are all different the evidence to date tends to confirm Mr. A. Lichtenstein's conclusions that in 1946 there was an issue of 1½d. Small Mine "Officials" similar in many respects to the Union Handbook No. O71 (S.G. O26b), but with a diaeresis over the second "E" of OFFISIEEL.

Two New Machine Cancellations.

Mr. S. J. Hagger of Alberton records the appearance of two new machine cancellations on letters bearing Johannesburg postmarks, examples of which are shown in the accompanying illustrations.

The first, with two broad straight bars, is



dated 2nd December, 1952, and the other, with the six wavy lines, was posted on the 2nd January, 1953.

Writing in connection with a specimen of the later cancellation Mr. David Alleson of Mowbray, Cape, notes that the postmark is non-continuous and the datestamp is at the **right** — like some Continental machines. The date between the two parallel lines in the middle of a double-circle datestamp, on his cover, is 3.1.53.

Issue of New Printing of the Current 1d. Pictorial and also Various "Officials".

As we go to Press we learn from the Publicity Officer of the Department of Posts and Telegraphs (Philatelic Agency) Pretoria, of the following new issues:—

1d. Pictorial — New cylinders, Nos. 54 Interior and 53 Exterior.

"Officials".

½d.—Sheets from cylinders 31 Int. and 70 Ext.
2d.—Sheets from cylinders 30 Int. and 18 Ext.
2/6—Sheets from cylinders 3 Int. and 51 Ext.
5/—Sheets from cylinders 36 Int. and 6925 Ext.

BEHIND THE IRON CURTAIN.

Under the title of "Philately behind the Iron Curtain" Mr. H. D. S. Haverbeck, who has been a serious student of Russian philately for many years, deals in the "Collectors Club Philatelist" with the present-day situation.

He paints a sorry situation which is almost summed up in his opening paragraph "The stamp collector has been suppressed, exterminated and driven out." Stamps are merely instruments of propaganda and a source of hard currency. Stamp dealers are outlawed and the export of stamps is a government monopoly. Stamps are only sold by it wholesale at its own price.

There are no postage stamps in Russia in the true sense of the word; the multi-coloured labels which are sold abroad are not to be found in the post offices in Russia, Poland, East Germany and China.

Not only are present-day issues prostituted in this way but there has been a lot of reprinting of Civil War issues are even of the old Zemstvo or Rural Post locals of Russia.

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GREAT BRITAIN obsolete 2/6 to £1 S.G. 476-478b (6 stamps) 170/-
GREAT BRITAIN new colours sideways watermark 1d. to 2½d., S.G. 504-507a 1/-
GRENADA 1951 ½c. to 2dol. 50c. S.G. 172-184 25/6
JAMAICA Constitution, one of each vale (7) 21/-
JORDAN 1947 Parliament set in imperf. singles, S.G. 259-67 ..... 80/-
MALAYA BMA set complete except for S.G. 2a (21 stamps) 80/-
MONTSERRAT 1938 perf. 13 set ½d. to 5/-. S.G. 101-110 ..... 50/-
NAURU 1937 set on white paper, S.G. 26-39 (14 stamps) 20/-
NEWFOUNDLAND 1941-44, S.G. 276-289 ..... 12/6
NEW GUINEA/PAPUA 1952 set complete 42/-
NEW ZEALAND 1940 Centenary set, complete, S.G. 609-621 ..... 35/-
NEW ZEALAND 1941 Health stamps (two), S.G. 628-629 ..... 5/6
NEW ZEALAND 1942 Health stamps (two), S.G. 620-631 ..... 2/-
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SARAWAK 1947 Cypher overprints, S.G.150-164 25/-
SIERRA LEONE 1938 complete including original colours of 1½d. and 2d., S.G. 188-200 77/6
SOUTH AFRICA 1938 Voortrekker set of 6 prs. 17/6
SOUTH AFRICA 1939 Huguenot set of 3 pairs 9/-
SOUTH AFRICA 1941 Large War issue. Pairs except 2d. and 1/- without shades 12/6
SOUTH WEST AFRICA 1935-6 Voortrekker set, S.G. 92-95 ..... 12/6
SOUTH WEST AFRICA 1938 Voortrekker set of six pairs 20/-
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KEY TO THE S. AFRICAN PICTORIALS

By OSWALD L. HARVEY.

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The so-called pictorial postage stamps of the Union of South Africa constitute a series of considerable interest to both the general and the specialized collector. The series began in 1926, and is still current after over a quarter century of use. The basic designs have been retained with only occasional redrawings, and there has been considerable variation in colour. All values are printed in two languages separately. Watermark variations are few; but even in the multopositive printings there is sufficient of die and plate variations to gixe zest to the pursuit of a full collection. Finally, the stamps are relatively inexpensive.

The Handbook/Catalogue of the Union of South Africa Stamps, published in 1952 by the Philatelic Federation of Southern Africa, covers the full range of Union stamps, and caters to all classes of collectors, from beginners to specialists. The pictorial issues, from the dates of their first appearance up to the latest printing of the half-penny denomination in December 1951, are fully dealt with in chronological order, and in a manner which cannot fail to assist the student of this interesting series.

However, as with most countries in the stamp-collecting world these days, a relative newcomer to such a field as the Union pictorials is always on the lookout for any additional guidance in classifying a particular stamp or stamps, and for these collectors ahe following KEY has been prepared.

The KEY assumes: that most collectors have few or no other items for direct comparison in the value series concerned, wherefore some distinctive characteristic is necessary for identification of issue; that colour, except when marked differences are involved, is not a convenient differentiating characteristic; and that, unless some clearly evident differentiating characteristic can be identified, there is no point in specifying issue varieties.

No use is made in this KEY of information on perforations or watermarks in the identification of the various issues, despite the fact that these characteristics do sometimes vary within the issue. Nor is any distinction made as regards booklets and coils, except in the one-colour halfpenny and one-penny values. As regards word-usage, the term "purpose" refers to postage and revenue (or their Afrikaans equivalent); and the terms "hyphen" and "no-hyphen" refer to the presence or absence of a hyphen in the name as expressed on the Afrikaans stamps only, thus SUID-AFRIKA is hyphenated. It is because this characteristic is useless in the identification of solitary English items that the KEY has been cast in a form different from that so admirably followed in the "Handbook".

For the convenience of those who wish to identify items by catalogue numbers in common use, each item listed in the KEY is followed by a series of code numbers referring to the following published catalogues:—

(S) Scott Standard Vol. I, 1951.

(R) Robson Lowe Encyclopedia Vol. II, 1949.

(G) Stanley Gibbons Catalogue Part I, Sec. A, 1949.

(U) Handbook/Catalogue of Union of South Africa Stamps, 1952.

HalfPenny.

One colour (green); coil; perf. 15 x 14; all screened; hyphen:

Coarse screen (dark blue green) U-R21 1948

Fine screen:

Bluegreen S144-145; R176; G105; U-R19 1943

Light green, better definition U-R22 1949

Two colours (black to grey or brownish grey, and green to greenish blue):

Solid horizontal bar at top of stamp; centre background 40 lines:

Tail of R in name is curled; no hyphen S23-24; R45, 52; G30; U22, 33 1926-27

(Olive-grey and dull bluegreen is temporary re-issue R205; U33A .... 1948)

Tail of R is not curled; hatching in top bar slopes up left to right:

Shading in leaves and side scrolls thin or absent; no hyphen S43-44; R80; G42; U36-D 1930

Shading full: hyphen S73-74; R113; G54; U44 1935

Horizontal white line through top green bar; centre background of 28 lines; hyphen:

Stamp size 18½ x 22½ mm.; hatching in top bar slopes up right to left S95-96, 95a-96a, 95b-96b; R114; G55-55a; U44A 1937

Stamp size 18¼ x 22¼ mm; hatching slopes up right to left R191; U44B Aug. 1947

Stamp size 18 x 22 mm.:

Frame fine cross-hatched (not screened) R192(?); U44c ..... Nov. 1947

Frame screened over discernible cross-hatching R193; G55b; U44 D-E 1948

All screened—U44F-J 1949

One Penny

One colour (red); coil; perf. 15 x 14; screened; hyphen:

Coarse screen (deep red) S146-147; R177; G106; U-R20 1943

Fine screen (red)—U-R23 1949

Two colours (black to grey, and red, carmine, or carmine pink):

Not screened (oval background made of lines):

Tail of R in name is curled; no hyphen: S25-26; R46, 53; G31; U23, 34 1926-27

Tail of R is not curled:

Stamp size 18½ x 22½ mm:

24 red lines in 5 mm. up from top of purpose tab; distance between L and I of purpose (Afr.) is ½ mm. no hyphen—S45a-46a; R81; G43; U-37-K 1930

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22 lines in 5mm. distance L-1 (Afr.) is 1 mm.:
Black and rose (no hyphen)
S45-46; R82; G43a; U37L-M 1932
Grey and carmine (hyphen)
S63-64; R115 a b; G56; U45 1934
Stamp size 18 x 22 mm. (hyphen):
Grey and bright carmine (poorly printed; smudgy)
S63b-64b; R115c; G56; U45A 1940
Grey and carmine-pink (frequently white ghost-line above purpose tab)
R194, 195; U45B 1947

All screened (oval background made of dots); hyphen:
Stamp size 18 x 22 mm.; sun has 6 rays of grey dots
U45C 1950
Stamp size 17½ x 21½ mm.; sun has 4 clusters of white rays—U45D 1951

One and One-Half Pence.

Large size (27 x 21½ mm.)
S79-80; 89a-80a; R116; G57;, 57a; U46-B 1936
Medium size (22 x 18 mm.)
S126-127; R156; G87; U46C-E 1941
Bantam size (22½ x 12½ mm.); one side rouletted (Temporary issue)
S166-167; R204; G114; U46F 1948

Two Pence

Centre made of lines; large size (about 27½ x 22 mm.)
At upper left of value tablet are steps from terrace, no hyphen
S29-30; R62; G34; U24-C 1927
At upper left of value tablet is a cylindrical building (war memorial); S in SOUTH is 2 mm. wide; S in POSTAGE is 1¼ mm. wide; no hyphen:
Grey-green and dull mauve
S49-50; R83; G44; U38-A 1931
Slate-grey and slate-purple (colour variety)
S49a-50a; U38B-C 1935
Dull blue and violet (colour variety)
R83; S44b; U38D 1937
S in SOUTH is 1½ mm. wide; S in POSTAGE is 1 mm. wide; hyphen:
Blue and blue violet
S103-104; R117; G58; U47 1938
Grey and dull violet (colour variety)
S104A-104B; G58a; U47A 1941
Centre made of dots (photograph); hyphen
Large size (27 x 21½ mm.):
Upper left curve of numeral touches value tab circle (purple frame):
S148-149; R182; G107; U47B 1945
Numeral curve does not touch circle:
Centre screened; minute dot opposite centre of outside left and right frame lines; iron-grey and vivid purple
R183; U47C 1948
All screened; deep slate and plum
R184(?); U47D ..... Mar. 1950
Small size (21½ x 17½ mm.); all screened; deep slate and plum.
U47E ..... Apr. 1950

Three Pence

Black and red; size 27½ x 21¾ mm. no hyphen:
Two fine horizontal lines inside top frame line; 3 inside lines below purpose
S31-32; R63; G35; U25-A 1927
No lines inside top frame line; one inside line below purpose
S51-52; R84; G45; U39-A 1931
Blue:
Tree tops complete; not screened; size 27½ x 21¾ mm.; no hyphen:
S61-62, 61a-62a; R85; G45a; U39B-C 1933
Tree top cut off by top frame line; screened; size 26½ x 21 mm.; hyphen:
Separate plates for centre and frame; often shows minute gap or overlap between foliage and inner top frame-line due to bad register; clouds poorly indicated:
Centre screened; curved lines in scroll above numeral are distinct and separate.
S109-110; R118; G59; U48 1940
All screened; curved lines in scrolls are blended, massed, and indistinct
U48A 1949
Single plate; entire stamp screened; no gap at frame line; clouds very distinct
U48B 1951

Four Pence

Triangular (slate-green)
S21-22; R43, 44; G33; U26-A 1926
Rectangular (brown); no hyphen:
Three lines in top beam of uncompleted hut at right; diagonal lines of shading in scroll under ends of purpose tab; background to palm fronds in upper corners is a noticeable grid; lowest inner palm frond on either side does not touch white vertical inner frame line; 5 background lines under nose of numeral
S41-42; R64; G35a; U27-C 1927
Two lines in top beams; scrolls are shaded solid; light lines parallel to frond edges appear between fronds in upper corners; lowest frond on side does not touch inner white frame line; 3 background lines under nose of numeral
S53-54; R86; G46; U40 1932
Top beam is solid; scroll has S-shaped line; hatching in upper corners, sloping up left to right; lowest frond touches inner white frame line; 5 background lines under nose of numeral (Colour dark brown after 1940)
S53a-54a; R87; G46a; U40A 1936

Six Pence

Open curl, 1¾ mm. high, in each spandrel (upper corners): stamp size 18½ x 22½ mm.:
Tail of R in name is curled; no hyphen:
S27-28; R47, 54; G32; U28, 35 1926-27
Tail of R is not curled:
Buff-coloured frame; SUIDAFRIKA is 16¼ mm. wide; no hyphen:
S47-48; R88; G47; U41-A 1931
Vermilion or orange-red frame:

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Leaves in wreath and in background to tree are very thinly shaded; SUID-AFRIKA is 16¼ mm. wide; hyphen:
S97-98; R119; G61; U49 1937
Leaves and oval background strongly shaded; SUID-AFRIKA is 17 mm. wide; hyphen:
S97a-98a; R120; G61a; U49A 1938
Closed curl, 1½ mm. high; stamp size 18 x 22 mm.; hyphen:
Not screened—R196; G61b; U49B 1946
All screened—U49C 1950

One Shilling

Shadow of last A in name cuts off only the tip of one petal of daisy below the A; face of dark gnu is made up of shade lines only, without border; no hyphen:
S33-34; R65; G36; U29-C 1927
Shadow of A cuts deep into two upper petals; face of gnu is outlined:
Not screened; background of value is made up of lines:
Left crook under S of name in both languages show no vignette shading-lines (compare right crook, which is shaded); colours clear; in Afrikaans items top left scroll is broken at 10 o'clock; in English items T in POSTAGE is 2¼ mm. wide; no hyphen:
Vignette lines under name are firm and clear; between feet of H and A (English name) and feet of F and R (Afrikaans name) vertical shading is complete:
Grey-brown and deep blue
S55-56; R89; G48; U42 1932
Olive-grey and slate-blue
S55a-56a 1936
Vignette lines spotty and broken; vertical shading between letters indicated above is thin or missing:
Black-brown and dark blue
S55b-56b; U42a 1938
Both crooks are shaded; colours milky or chalky; in English items T in POSTAGE is 2½ mm. wide; hyphen:
Absence of distinctive spot on hillside to left of front gnu's eye
S105-106; R121; G62; U50 1939
Presence of distinctive brown spot on hillside about 2mm. to left of front gnu's eye
U50A 1948
All screened; value background made up of dots; vignette lines and clouds also made of dots; mark on hillside at left of front gnu's eye; hyphen:
U50B 1950

Two Shillings, Six Pence

Not screened; no hyphen:
Brown shading thin, distinct, and clear; two thin horizontal white lines in shading under name
S35-36; R66; G37; U30-A 1927
Brown shading thick and obscure; one thick horizontal lines of brown shading ing under name; centres range from green to blue, and frames from yellow-brown to deep brown:
Bluegreen and red-brown
S57-58; R90; G49; U43 1932
Bright bluegreen and yellow-brown
S57a-58a; U43a-c 1937
Light blue and red-brown
S57b-58b; U43d-f 1944
All screened; hyphen; grey-green and light brown
U51 1949

Five Shillings

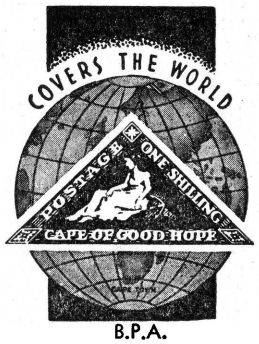
Not screened:
Tail of R in name is curned; no hyphen:
S37-38; R67; G38; U31-B 1927
Tail of R is not curled; hyphen:
Black and myrtle-green
S59-60; R122; G64; U52 (exc. 52b) 1933
Black and bluegreen
S59a-60a; U52b 1944
All screened—U52A 1949

Ten Shillings

Picture of Table Bay (blue and brown)
S39-40; R68; G39; U32 1927
Picture of Dutch-colonial styled dwelling:
Greenish-black frame; centres blue to ultramarine
S107-108; R123; G64a; U53 1939
Grey-black frame and ultramarine centre 1949

U.S.A.

Commemoratives announced for the early part of this year will have as their subjects: National Guard 23 Feb.; Ohio Statehood and Washington Territory, both on 2 March; Louisiana Purchase, 30 April. Issues later in the year are left for the incoming P.M.G. to announce.



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FULL RANGE OF RAPKIN'S AND GIBBONS' ALBUMS & PERQUISITES.
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SEYCHELLES

The stamps of this colony are among the most popular issues with collectors of fine British Colonial stamps. The tablet type which has been a feature of these issues for so many years is being appreciated more each year, and the fact that there is a reasonable chance of obtaining all these issues (other than a few varieties) complete, both mint and used, encourages many collectors who are sometimes dismayed at the cost of earlier issues of many other colonies. We hold a good stock of all issues, and offer here a selection; but full details will appear in our regular fortnightly lists, a sample copy of which will be sent post free upon application:—

1890 Plate I Set S.G. 1-8, **£3.**
2c. S.G. 1, **1/9.** Block of four, **7/6.**
4c., S.G. 2, **8/6;** Block of four, **£1 17s. 6d.**
8c., S.G. 3, **4/-;** Block of four, **17/6.**
10c., S.G. 4, **6/6.**
13c., S.G. 5, **3/6;** Block of four, **15/-.**
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48c., S.G. 7, **11/-; Block of four vbgkqj**
48c., S.G. 7, **11/-;** 96c., S.G. 8, **£1;** Block of four (scarce thus), **£5.**

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4c., S.G. 10, **1/3;** Block of four, **6/-.**
8c., S.G. 11, **2/6;** Block of four, **11/6.**
10c., S.G. 12, **4/6;** Block of four, **£1.**
13c., S.G. 13, **2/6;** Block of four, **11/6.**
16c., S.G. 14, **4/6.**

1893 Surcharges, S.G. 15-21, **£2.**

1897/1900 Plates II and III, S.G. 32-40, **£5.**
15c., S.G. 34, **6/6;** 18c., S.G. 35, **5/-.**
36c., S.G. 36, **8/-;** R.1, S.G. 38, **10/6;**
R.1.50, S.G. 39, **£1 2s. 6d.**

1901 Surcharges, S.G. 41-44, **7/-.**
3c. on 10c., S.G. 41, **2/-;** 3c. on 16c., S.G. 42, **2/-;** 3c. on 36c. S.G. 43, **1/6;** 6c. on 8c., S.G. 44, **1/6.**

1902 Surcharges, S.G. 45-49, **£2 7s. 6d.**
2c. on 4c., S.G. 45, **4/6;** 30c. on 75c., S.G. 46, **4/6;** 30c. on R.1, S.G. 47, **10/-;** 45c. on R.1, S.G. 48, **10/-;** 45c. on R.2.25, S.G. 49, **£1.**

1902 **Varieties:** 30c. on 75c., S.G. 50, **15/-.**
30c. on R.1, S.G. 51, **£2 5s. 0d.**

1903/04 Set complete, S.G. 53-63, **£3 10s. 0d.**
12c., S.G. 56, **3/-;** Block of four, **13/6.**
15c., S.G. 57, **3/-;** Block of four, **13/6.**
18c., S.G. 58, **7/6;** Block of four, **£1 12s. 6d.**
30c., S.G. 59, **6/6;** Block of four, **£1 7s. 6d.**
45c., S.G. 60, **6/6;** 75c., S.G. 61, **9/-;**
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15c., S.G. 71, **3/-;** 18c., S.G. 72, **3/6;** 30c., S.G. 73, **3/6;** 45c., S.G. 74. **6/6;** 75c., S.G. 75, **7/-;** R.1.50, S.G. 76, **13/6.**

From here we have most issues in stock, including K.G. VI obsolete colours (complete set, **£10).**

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PARAGUAY ANNUAL ANNOUNCED

The SIXTH annual „REVISTA FILATELICA PARAGUAYA" will soon be published by Mrs. Felicita Rufina B. Lopez de Mayer, CIUDAD: CORONEL BOGADO, (PARAGUAY, South America) for distribution — inclusive exchange adlet — at US $ 1.00 dollar.

Please remit text and remittance (US $ 1.00 CASH) for your adlet. Use a strong outer envelope, seal it well, and send it REGISTERED AIR MAIL.

The periodical, which usually contains more than 300 pages, 75 articles and 1.350 fine illustrations, is printed in SEVEN languages (IN ONE VOLUME) and reaches a considerable number (3000) of collectors all over the world, wishing to exchange stamps by correspondence.

R.F.P., is one of the world's largest and best philatelic periodicals and the recent volume No. V., 232 large pages; 54 articles and over 300 superb. SWEDEN, and other Scandinavian, 155 Great Britain, (Colonies, Former Colonies, Offices and Territory of, or Controlled by THE BRITISH COMMONWEALTH OF NATIONS) engravings and 850 of other Foreign Countries of the latest novelties, is really profusely illustrated, its stamps and art reproduction being of the highest quality.

„REVISTA FILATELICA PARAGUAYA" City: CORONEL BOGADO, Paraguay, S.A., is the "BEST-SELLER" of the Philatelic Literature (1953) of the World.

Printed: 30,000 copies.

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ZULULAND REGISTRATION MARKS.

At the end of his paper in last month's issue on the Postmarks of Zululand Mr. Newlands states "Although there must have been some registered postal matter, so far no registration mark has been forthcoming nor have any special parcel postmarks come to light."

We have been shown a registered cover, franked with a 6d. stamp of Natal overprinted "Zululand" (S.G. 16) which is cancelled with an "Eshowe/Zululand" double-circle postmark of date JU—96 (Newland's Type 6, Robson Lowe's Type 4).

The cover has the word "Register" in block capitals, in red, in the top left corner; this is 44 mm. in overall length, the height of the R being 14 mm. and of the other letters 7 mm. There is the usual blue pencil + on the front of the cover. Near the word "Register" in manuscript is "B 215" and in the bottom left corner 709 in blue pencil.

The manuscript marks we take to be definitely Zululand registration marks, but the word 'Register" is just as definitely **not.** Our reason for saying that is that we know the same mark on covers from Swaziland; these Swaziland covers and this Zululand cover are addressed to the same person, in the same handwriting, the recipient being a well-known stamp collector. It seems fairly clear that this collector sent the covers to both places to be returned to him, and that he applied the word "Register" in both cases.

The evidence, so far as it goes, seems to indicate that there was Registered Post in Zululand, but that no special registration labels or "Registered" Postmarks were used.

AIR MAILS.

1. Scandinavian Airlines have started a weekly service between Stockholm and Johannesburg. The first plane arrived on Saturday, 10th January, the return flight being on the following day. This flight brought mail, and some of it was carried back again, being routed for the round trip; no mail originating in South Africa was carried on the return flight, however.

2. A direct service between Johannesburg and Windhoek was initiated on 10th January, returning the same day. This service is to operate every Saturday, being additional to the bi-weekly service calling at Kimberley, Upington and Keetmanshoop.

MODERN COMBINATION COVERS.

These are often thought to have been decently buried by the operation of the U.P.U., but Mr. King-Farlow in "The Philatelist" shows that they can still be obtained by anybody who studies his postal regulations closely. He quotes two examples of how legitimately to obtain British and Danish stamps on one and the same cover.

(a) "Sunday letters." There is normally no Sunday delivery in Denmark but delivery can be obtained by special marking and the addition of a special extra stamp of 30 ore value. As this has nothing to do with the U.P.U. this extra fee must be in Danish stamps. So post your letter in Britain with the extra Danish stamp which will not be cancelled by the British P.O. but will receive a Danish cancellation.

(b) Registration of the return half of a British reply-paid postcard. Send a reply-paid postcard to Denmark, asking recipient to register the return half; he will have to add Danish stamps to the British stamp on it.

Can any reader report Southern African Combination covers which can still be legitimately obtained?

JUNIOR STAMP COLLECTORS EXCHANGE CLUB.

We regret to hear that this Club has had to close down after operating successfully for several years with offices partly in Kimberley and partly in Grahamstown, including the issue of a nice little magazine "The Junior Collector."

Lack of new members and the fact that one of the two live spirits behind the Club is leaving Kimberley leaves no option. They recommend their members to link up with "The World Association of Young Stamp Collectors", c/o. "The Stamp Collectors' Fortnightly," 44 Bedford Row, London W.C.1.

U.N. HUMAN RIGHTS STAMPS.

The United Nations Postal Administration issued its second commemorative stamps on 10 December, Human Rights Day. There are two values, 3c. and 5c., the common design showing a flame surrounded by the words "Human Rights" in five official languages of the United Nations; this is superimposed on the two hemispheres of the world.

FEMININE ENVY OF THE PHILATELIST

He sends for stamps from overseas,
From Britain and the Continent,
Their value, ten or fifty pounds,
And then hey presto! — they are sent!

No reference does he enclose,
Nor any type of guarantee,
For stamp collectors everywhere
Are noted for their honesty.

If only we had hats and frocks,
From London and from Paris, too,
Sent here on appro. like his stamps! —
But that's a thing they'd never do!

So I just live and envy him,
For all advantages I've missed;
The privileges he enjoys,
Because he's a philatelist!

MARGARET CAMERON.

SATISE.

Several enquiries have been made to us as to when the balance sheet of the Exhibition is to be published. We do not know, but it does seem to be quite a long time since the exhibition ended and surely all accounts must be in by this time. Subscribers have a right to know the financial position, whether good or bad. If the former, well and good; if the latter they may have to consider putting their hands in their pockets again. But whatever the position let it be known soon.

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SPECIAL SUMMER OFFER.

M—Mint, U—Used, C—Complete.

26 African Royal Visits 1947 6 Comp. sets 6/6
10 Austria 1948 Beautiful Flowers CM. 5/-
4 Argentine 1951 5 Years Plan CM. 1/-
4 China 1951 Self-Administration of Formosa 1/9
11 Hungary 1952 Triangle Birds CU. 5/-
5 Hungary 1950 Flowers CU. cancel to order 2/2
5 Hungary 1951 Flowers CU. cancel to order 2/2
5 Jugoslavia 1950 Chess Contest CU. cat. 10/- 2/6
5 Liberia 1947 Matilda Newport Firing Cannon, bi-coloured pictorials CU. 2/6
5 Monaco 1948 Olympic Games CM (postage) 1/4
11 Ital. E. Africa 1938 pictorials M 1/-
3 Poland 1948 Circuit of Poland cycle race 9d.
4 Poland 1943 Germany occupation, Picts. CM 1/-
3 Russia 1946 Soviet Stamps 25th anniv. CU 1/-
9 Russia 1946 Airs CU cancel to order 2/3
2 Kenya 1952 Royal Visit CM. 3/6
6 Slovakia 1942 Literary Society CM. 2/8
10 Seychelles 1952 Pictorials to 50c. M. 4/-

GERMANY, mint, all in complete sets. 1935 World Jamboree 2v., **1/6**; 1939 International Motor Show, 3v., **3/9**; 1939 Hitler's Culture Fund 1v., **1/9**; 1939 Nuremberg Congress 1v., **2/-**; 1943 Arm Force I 12v, **2/3**; 1944 Arm Force II 13v., **2/3**; Hitler's Birthday, 1939 **1/10**; 1940, **1/9**; 1941, **1/-**; 1942, **9d.**; 1943, **1/9**; 1944, **6d.**; 1941 Hitler/Mussolini, **1/6**; Brown Ribbons, 1936, sheet, **1/10**; 1940, **5/-**; 1941, **1/9**; 1942, **1/6**; 1943, **6d.**; 1944, **6d.**; 1944 Air Mail Service, **7d.** All War Issues in stock, send your wants.

TRUPEL stamp hinges. Give your mint stamps protection! Leave no trace of gum on mint stamps after hinge removed. Only **2/6** per packet of 250 plus 2d. postage. Subject unsold, cash with order. Please add postage under 20/-.

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(Numbers in brackets from Gibbons 1952)

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2 Mk. Reichspost (C27), fine used 12/6
3 Mk. Reichspost (C28), fine used 17/6
5 Mk. Reichspost (C29), fine used 90/-
1½ Dollar, no wmk. (C38), fine used 10/6

TURKEY 10 Piaster, Reichspost (T33a), f.u. 63/-

CAROLINES Hohenzollern 1, 2, 3 mk., mint 15/-
Do. 5 mk. with wmk., mint 12/6

NEW GUINEA, 25 and 50 pf. (6 and 7), m. 27/6

S.W.A. 10, 20, 50 pf. (9, 10, 12), mint 17/6
Hohenzollern 2 mk. (24), fine used 15/6
Do. 3 mk. (25), fine used 22/6

KIAUTSCHOU ½ Dollar (80), fine used 22/6
1 Dollar (81), fine used 21/-
2½ Dollar (83), fine used 170/-

MARSHALL 3-50 pf. (ex 25) (7-10, 12), mint 42/-

SAMOA Vorloeufer, Pair 20 pf. Eagle, pmk. APIA 17/6
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Hohenzollern 5 mk. wmk. (23), mint 12/6

TOGO Hohenzollern 1, 2, 3 mk. (18-20), mint 15/-

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½ lb. and ¼ lb. lots supplied.

Pictorial—mixtures per 100. U.S.A., **4/3**; G.B. & Eire (mixed), **2/-**; Latin America, **6/6**; Italy, **6/6**; Brit. Col. large pictorials, **6/6**; Higher Val. Cols. (2½d. and over), **9/-**; World Pictorials, **3/6**; Superior World, **7/6.** Australia Geo. V heads stocked.

U.S.A. precancels, 200 mixed, **5/-.** Recent U.S.A. comms. F.U. 1d. Mint, **3½d.** (and S.A.E.) U.S.A. full list of singles, **2d.**

U.S.A. comms. all different, 100, **6/6**; 150, **14/6.**

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British Hospital Mixture, including Pictorials, 9 lb. lots, **25/-** (Sample 1½ lbs. **4/-**).

All the above items post free to Brit. Africa and South Africa.

A. DAVIES

(Established 1936).

111, HOLME LACY ROAD, HEREFORD, G.B.

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AUSTRALIA'S PHILATELIC ZOO

By K.A.

(Continued from page 4 of January issue.)

The 5d. stamp, depicting a merino ram, printed in 1938, was modified from the original series struck in 1934 to commemorate the centennary of the death of John Macarthur, founder of the Australian wool industry.

Without this famous animal, settlement and use of much of the semi-arid country back from the eastern seaboard would not have been possible.

A familiar landmark of rural Australia, this species of sheep produces the finest wool in the world. Macarthur introduced, in 1797, the Merino breed, on which he experimented at his New South Wales Camden Estate, near Sydney.

Background to the stamps honouring the Merino is a distant view of the Blue Mountains of New South Wales.

The so-called native bear, better-known as the koala, first figured on the 4d. stamp which appeared in 1938, and is a study of "Gumleaf". This koala was born at Koala Park, Pennant Hills, near Sydney, in 1930 and attained fame as the subject of countless publicity posters with wide circulation. "Gumleaf" died in 1933.

The koala has a lovable disposition and an amusing appearance, with round button eyes, great furry ears and a childish innocence. It is a great favourite with visitors to parks and reserves where the animal may be seen.

The koala is shy and timid, but can be handled if treated carefully. The young is usually carried on the back of the mother. Most of the time it spends in certain types of eucalyptus trees. On the ground, it is awkward and clumsy. It lives on fresh gum leaves.

It is nocturnal, grows to about three feet in height and is a marsupial related to the opossum.

One of the world's greatest zoological curiosities, the platypus, has twice been represented on stamps — in 1880 on a "stamp duty" from Tasmania, and on a 9d. label issued by the Commonwealth of Australia in 1938.

It is found principally in eastern Australia and in Tasmania, and possesses the features of animal and bird. It grows to some seventeen inches in length, with a six-inch tail like that of a beaver.

The platypus lays eggs and suckles its young,



has a furred hide, soft and velvety, a duck-bill and webbed feet equipped with claws.

It is a skilful swimmer which builds its nest in burrows in the banks of streams, with entrances below the water-line. The platypus hunts for food in the water. It has small, beady eyes, and moves about chiefly in early morning or nightfall. The 1938 stamp depicted the creature about to enter the water.

The emu has won as much respect as the kangaroo. This bird is common in the inland regions of Australia, but is extinct in Tasmania. The species is usually found in pairs, or in small flocks. It cannot fly.

It closely resembles the ostrich, but has ornamental tail feathers. Standing five feet high, it is one of the largest birds in the world. It can run at a great speed on long, thin legs, with three toes to each foot. Ordinarily, it saunters about with great dignity. The body is covered with brownish-black feathers, but when young the chicks are striped buff and brown.

The emu makes its nest on a platform of trampled-down grass. The male does most of the egg-sitting.

The bird was shown on the 1888 New South Wales Centennial stamps, and again in 1942 on the Commonwealth of Australia 5½d. It appeared looking to the left.

A 3½d. blue stamp, introduced during 1942 and portrayed King George VI, included small studies of a male and female blue wren in the design.

The male of this tiny bird has brilliant blue and black plumage ,with a touch of brown. The female is equipped only with brown plumage. The wren is endowed with a cheerful vocal ability, often said to resemble "a musical alarm clock".

Blue wrens are usually in pairs, or in family groups. Their favoured haunts are rivers and creeks, but they are frequent visitors to the gardens of suburban homes. The birds nest close to the ground in a dome-shaped structure.

A crocodile distinguished the 2/- stamp circulated in 1948. A prize-winning entry in an Australian competition for stamp designs, the crocodile appeared in the style of aboriginal art.

The dozen known types of crocodile extend from India to the Solomon Islands. Some are found in northern Australia, particularly Queensland and the Northern Territory.

The crocodile is distinct from the alligator, being larger with a longer snout, inter-locking teeth, and unarmoured belly. It feeds on fish and birds, and nests amongst mangrove trees, lying in the mud or on river banks, and basking in the sunshine. It is a rapid swimmer and charges with great speed. It bellows like a bull.

Crocodile skin has great commercial value. Thirty feet is not an uncommon length for this reptile.

Issued at the same time as the 2/- crocodile stamp was a 1/3 value featuring a Hereford bull. Cattle raising is one of Australia's important primary industries. Herefords are raised principally in Queensland and Northern Australia.

A Hereford was also part of the design for stamps printed in 1946 for the centenary of the exploration of the pastoral lands of central Queensland by Sir Thomas Mitchell.

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SOUTHERN RHODESIA.
RHODES CENTENARY STAMPS.

(Condensed from the "Rhodesian Herald").

A special series of five denominations of postage stamps will be issued to commemorate the Rhodes Centenary.

The stamps, in ½d., 1d., 2d., 4½d. and 1s. denominations, will be on sale at all Post Offices in the Colony from April 15 to October 15 inclusive.

Special arrangements are being made by Post Office officials to supply the stamps to persons both in and outside the Colony. No "first day" covers will be issued.

Philatelic societies, dealers and persons living outside the Colony should send fully addressed envelopes with the necessary money to the Secretary, Staff Room 4, General Post Office, Salisbury. All those which reach the secretary before April 15 will be stamped and posted on the first day of issue, but applicants are advised to send their covers in early. Covers for registration should be blue-lined.

In each of these new stamps which are to be issued at the time of the Centenary celebrations, a scene of 1853 and a scene of 1953 Rhodesia is depicted.

In the 4½d. stamp, old water systems in blue are compared with a modern dam in green. In the 1d. stamp the green bush is compared with the ploughed estate in brown.

In the ½d. stamp, early medical aid by Dr. Livingstone in an African village forms a background to a modern hospital.

The 1s. compares old mule team and wagon transport with modern railways. The foreground is in brown, and the train in black. The 2d. one in green and purple, compares the open veld, with scattered Native dwellings, with a modern city.

A 6d. Exhibition stamp, to be sold only at the Bulawayo exhibition site, will also be issued. It is understood that this stamp, possibly with a different inscription, will also be on sale in N. Rhodesia and Nyasaland.

AUSTRALIA.

The Postmaster-General is taking a very active interest in philatelists and is setting up a Philatelic Section in each state, that in Melbourne to handle in addition all requests from overseas countries.

They are to issue bulletins to Philatelic societies and Journals and provide a first-day cover service, etc. We are glad to hear, however, that new stamps would not be issued indiscriminately "as Australia's reputation in the international stamp world is too high to be jeopardised by such practices."

We have received bulletins dealing with Topical Australian Slogan Postmarks and with the various Coronation and other stamps associated with Royal occasions, which have been issued from itme to time.

The first real Coronation stamps, to appear on June this year, will be of 3½d., 7½d. and 2/- denominations.

The 3d. and 3½d. stamps associated with Food Production, announced in our last issue, will all be prominently inscribed "Produce Food"; the designs will be associated respectively with Butter, Wheat and Beef, the 3d. stamps being green and the 3½d. red. In respect of each denomination the three stamps will be included in the same sheet for ease of production and post-office handling. They are due to appear on 11th February.

We have received a cutting from the Melbourne "Sun", sent us by Major Welsford, and the criticisms of these stamps are most scathing. Some of them are: "Perhaps excusable as propaganda stickers, but disappointing to philatelists." "Not even decent jam labels." "Nothing to show that they are postage stamps, the word 'Postage" does not appear." "Perhaps good for local propaganda but will never have a wide philatelic circulation." "There will be few people proud to put these stamps in their collection".

In addition to the stamps mentioned in our January issue there is to be an innovation in August in the form of a bicoloured stamp in honour of the 25th year of the organisation on a State basis of Young Farmer's Clubs.

AUSTRALIA NEW ISSUE

Practically all Mint and Used King George VI issues in stock.

All current and coming issues up to the 1/- value at face Sterling. Higher values at the lowest rates in South Africa.

Imprint blocks also in Stock.

I receive all NEW ISSUES direct from Australia per AIRMAIL.

Send S.A.E. for price list.

MAX REBECK,
P.O. BOX 155, STANDERTON.

MALTA CORONATION F.D.C.'s

Orders accepted for servicing FDC's up to the day of issue. F.D.C.—5d.; F.D.C. and mint pair, 9d.; Block of 4 F.D.C., 9d.; Block of 4 F.D.C. and mint Block of 4, 1/4.

Terms for Traders enclosing S.A.E. Current Mint and New Issues — 5 per cent. on face plus reg. post.

STP. DEPARTMENT. 122 PAWLA SQUARE,
PAWLA CITY GENERAL STORES,
PAWLA, MALTA.

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FOR WHOM THE BELLS TOLL

By

DR. K. FREUND.

(Continued from page 7 of January issue).

Christmas Bells

Twelve pretty little Christmas Bells with neat ribbons form an attractive frame on the "Navidade" issue of CUBA, 1950/51 (1 c. green and red, 2 c red and green).

No other postage stamps with jingling Christmas bells have been issued so far. But a pair of Christmas bells feature prominently in the design of the "Air Letters" of SOUTH AFRICA which were in use by the Union Defence Force in the Middle East during Christmas 1944 and 1945 (2 types). As these bells appear on official mail matter, they may well be included in our bell collection. The two types of Air Letters are listed and described in the New Union Handbook, on p. 44.

If you are in a carefree Christmas mood, you even may magnanimously include some foreign Christmas labels, just for the show of it. There are many, particularly from the U.S.A., which show Christmas bells in all styles and sizes.

Liberty Bells

These "Bells of Freedom" are strongly represented in philately. They are usually characterized by a top yoke which is in most cases arched. The yoke may be wooden or of metal in which case it is joined with the bell itself.

The most famous "Liberty Bell" is the historical one which is immortalized on the 2cts. stamp of U.S.A., 1926 (150th Anniversary of Independence). This bell of the Independence Hall in Philadelphia was rung when in 1776 the Continental Congress declared the Independence of the United States. Whether the Yankees were in the habit of shaking it too vigorously, or whether the North American climate did not agree with it, is not known; anyway, it cracked in 1835. The crack is clearly visible on the stamp as a thing irregular red line running down the Bell.

The U.S.A. issued in addition, on the same occasion in 1926, an envelope with an impressed 2 cts. stamp. The design of this impressed stamp is different from the adhesive stamp, but it contains also the "Liberty Bell" which appears as a white silhouette on a red background. A very interesting feature here is the crack which is now clearly visible as a thin "crease" in the otherwise plain white embossing. The uninitiated, but keen "flyspotter" might regard this "crease" as a faulty irregularity of the paper, but actually it is a most realistic and intriguing, three-dimensional imitation of the actual crack. We have here, for once, a "crack" and "creased paper" variety which is not a "flaw" but intentional.

Another Liberty Bell, a shiny specimen with arched yoke, graces one of the last stamps which independent LITHUANIA managed to issue (1940, "Liberty" issue, 10 c green); the Liberty Bell rang in vain. A Spanish Liberty Bell is illustrated at the head of this article; it appeared on the 25 c. value of an Anti-Tuberculosis set of SPAIN (1949, 25 c claret and red). A fine example of another "Bell of Freedom" is depicted on two stamps of the "Roosevelt" issue of ECUADOR (1948, 10 c claret and grey; 20 c olive and blue).

GERMANY recently had a whale of a time "casting" quite a number of philatelic Liberty Bells. The industrious "WEST BERLIN" sector, responsible for this lively output, first issued two values in 1950, depicting a large beautiful "Freiheitsglocke" (Bell of Freedom). Then, obviously pleased with her creation, she produced another three "casts" (values) of this Bell a few months later. So far, the clapper of the Bell was shown on these five stamps in one and the same position, namely striking the left side of the Bell. But a new "Bell" set was turned out in 1951, presenting the "Freiheitsglocke" again in five specimens (values). This time, to relieve the monotony, an ingenious change was made by placing the clapper now to the right side. Come to think of it, it is also likely that by swinging the clapper in successive issues pendulum-like from one side to the other, a certain stereoscopic effect of the continuous action of a ringing bell was intended. Another example where by clever means the humble bit of paper called "postage stamp," can certainly present some life-like, dynamic effect.

Together with the stamps, WEST BERLIN issued also at least eight different types of Postcards, all impressed with stamps depicting the "Freiheitsglocke" (5 Pf., 10 Pf. and 20 Pf. values).

One more interesting point which concerns the appearance of this beautiful Bell: On its rim, as presented on the stamps, one can see the following legend prominently inscribed in English: "New Birth of Freedom." That means that we have here the rare and interesting paradox of German stamps with a text in the English language!

Olympic Bells

At the occasion of the Olympic Games held in Berlin from the 1st to 16th August, 1936, GERMANY issued two special postcards, one imprinted with a 6 Pf. brown, the other with a 15 Pf. maroon stamp. The imprinted stamps feature an Olympic Bell, which the Germans in typical Nazi manner adorned with a German eagle who holds the 5 Olympic Rings in his claws.

Special pictorial postmarks were also applied to mail sent from the Stadium and the Olympic Village. The postmarks featured the same Olympic Bell and consisted of sixteen major varieties, with varying inscriptions from various sport sections and contest sites. At each individual post office, several cancelling machines were employed owing to the general rush, producing identical inscriptions but showing distinguishing serial letters for each machine at the bottom of the postmarks. Thus, a grand total of altogether 193 individual postmarks were in existence showing the Olympic Bell! Of course, you need not get panic-stricken, one example will do for your collection.

Wedding Bells.

During November 1947, another pictorial postmark was applied in various towns of GREAT BRITAIN, featuring again two Bells in similar style as the two Victory Bells of 1945. The new

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occasion was the Royal Wedding of Princess Elizabeth and the Duke of Edinburgh. The two Wedding Bells are smaller than their antecedents of two years before, but show also the "clapper-tongue" missing. Besides the two Bells, the wedding postmark contains also a "lovers' knot" and the initials "E" and "P" of the Royal couple.

"Big Ben".

A bell-tune known throughout the world, relayed daily over radio stations, and formed into modern "hit-tunes" several times, is the melody chimed hourly by "Big Ben", the great Bell attached to the "Westminster Clock" in the famous tower of the Houses of Parliament in London. There is no image of the great bell itself on any stamp, in fact, very few mortals will ever have the chance of seing it. But it may be represented in our collection by stamps depicting the famous clock tower. This tower is usually associated with the bell: If you see the tower or a picture of it, the tune of the chimes comes at once to your mind. Frequently the name "Big Ben", belonging strictly only to the Bell itself, is even transferred — wrongly — to the big Tower or its far-visible clock. It may therefore be appropriate to show in our collection this big Parliament Tower in substitute for the Bell, which can best be done with the "Victory stamps" of the BRITISH COLONIES of 1946 where it is featured prominently.

"Big Ben" itself is one of the biggest Bells in the world. It is 9ft. in diameter and weighs 13½ tons.

For music lovers who are advanced enough to perform the bell-tune on their piano with one finger, here it is, expressed in music symbols:

"e—c—d—g (low),
g—d—e—c".

Oriental Bells.

From the Far East, some quaint Bells can be added to our collection.

There is the "Medieval Postman's Bell", shown on a stamp from JAPAN (1946, Anniversary of Postal Service, 15s. orange). It has the pretty, original shape of a Chinese lantern.

A large Burmese Bell, suspended from a stone-arch structure, can be seen on a stamp from BURMA (1949, Independence Issue, 1 a red).

Then there is the Pagoda of Horyu-Ji at Nara, featured on two stamps from JAPAN again (1945, 30 s. violet; 1 y 20 green). It is five-tiered and is adorned with silver bells which can clearly be seen on the stamps hanging on the corners of the 5 roofs. These little silver bells, swaying lightly in the wind, produce a never-ending tinkling music of Aeolian charm.

Transport and Alarm Bells.

The number of stamps depicting vehicles of transport and travel is exceedingly large. But on only a few of them can one discern Bells which these vehicles usually carry for signalling and alarm purposes. The reason is that the bells are generally in proportion so small that they disappear in the design limited by the dimensions of a postage stamp.

Take for instance RAILWAY ENGINES. In their case, the perceptibility is complicated by the fact that they are fitted on top with an assortment of small domes and valves for various purposes. One can never say with certainty whether one of these little domes seen on a stamp is by any chance a Bell. However, the following Train Locomotives on stamps appear to possess a Bell on top:

ECUADOR, 1908, 1 c.; JUGOSLAVIA, 1949, Railway Centenary, 2 d.; NICARAGUA, Railway stamps of 1911; U.S.A., 1869, 3c.; 1901, Buffalo Exhibition, 2 c.; 1944, Annivessary of Transcontinental Railway, 3 c.

It is similar with SHIPS. There are probably more vessels seen floating on stamps than are cruising the seven seas. And yet I could spy only one ship on a stamp which displays with steaming pride a Ship Bell on her front mast: The "Lake Steamer" on the 1 c. stamp of U.S.A., 1901, Buffalo Exhibition.

As far as BICYCLE BELLS are concerned, the position is still more hopeless. Of the numerous cyclists seen riding on stamps of various countries, everyone would promptly be "spotfined" by a traffic-cop in this country, because not one of thef appears to have a Bell affixed on his bicycle.

Cowbells and Harness Bells.

Animals are frequently adorned with Bells, for ornamental and other reasons.

In order to know the whereabouts of straying cows for instance, people often hang idyllic bells around their (the cows') necks. Such COWBELLS are proudly shown off by a couple of cows on a 1 f. stamp of FRANCE (1951, Arms of Bearns). The same bovine couple is portrayed again on eight stamps of ANDORRA (1944, 10 c. to 1 f.). Although the cows are in this case of smaller stature, their Cowoells are still clearly visible.

Reins studded with resplendent Bells are part of the outfit with which a Professional Elephant is equipped on two stams of INDO-CHINA (1941, Fetes of Nam-Giao, 3 c. and 6 c.).

Small roundish Bells can also be seen on the breast strap of the harness which is affixed to the rocking-horse on the five "Child Welfare" stamps of NETHERLANDS of 1946.

Ornamental Bells.

A very good example of Ornamental Bells is shown on three stamps of the VATICAN (1935, International Juridical Congress, 75 c., 80 c., 1 L25). We see here the Pope on his throne, in front of which leans a magnificent, escutcheon-like part of his regalia which contains a number of well-shaped Bells with visible clappers.

Some Funny "Bells".

If you feel in the mood to make your collection a high-spirited one and to arrange it "in lighter vein" (after all, stamp collecting should not be a serious business), make a **humourous** appendage of "Bells". Do not leave any doubt that it is only an appendage, and include the most extraordinary "Bells" yon can think of. Here is what I mean:

There are, for instance, some "Bells" of the kind that certainly do not hang on rafters and produce in most cases no sound any more. A good example is old, bearded Alexander Graham Bell, who can be found on a U.S.A. stamp (Inventors set, 1939, 10c.), on a CANADIAN stamp

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(1947, 4c.), and on an ARGENTINE stamp (1944, Postmen's Fund, 10c.).

Or what about the equally famous "ISA-BELLS"? You know, Isa-bell the Catholic, of Spain, for instance. You can find her, complete with saddle-nose, on various SPANISH stamps. Or there is Isa-bell of Austria, portrayed on a BELGIAN stamp (1948, Anti-Tuberculosis Fund, 4F.). Her face gives one the impression that she might address us in "ringing" tones any moment.

Talking about good-looking females, this may lead (or mislead) us to "Bell(e)s" in general, like the "Belle of New York" and of other places, Country Bell(e)s (GERMAN, AUSTRIAN, SWISS Costume sets), Bathing Bell(e)s (Girls diving on Olympic Games stamps). You may please your own fancy and take your pick from a large bevy of philatelic beauties.

Well, thinking of all these Bathing Bell(e)s and such like, this brings to our mind the thought of "DUMB BELLS", of course. Before causing any uproar and commotion, let us hasten to clarify that "Dumb-bells" are things you grip tightly and firmly and lift up, for exercise and strength, in short are gymnastic weights. The inference is that "Dumb-bells" are symbols of strength, and Females are nowadays regarded as the stronger sex (or are they?). Anyway, Dumb-bells can be found on the following stamps: BULGARIA 1939, Yunak Sports, 2l. red; do., in a special pictorial postmark of that issue; RUSSIA, 1949, National Sports, Second set, 1r. red.

In case some females might take the strongest exception to the foregoing paragraph, in spite of our convincing argument, let us hasten to tell them that "Bell(e)s" remind us really of beautiful Flowers, like "BLUE-BELLS" (HUNGARY, Flower set 1951, 1.70ft.), or "COW-BELLS" (AUSTRIA, 1948 Flower set, 45g.).

Come to think of it, the word "Cow-bells" might get us into trouble too, so let us make a stop here and now to avoid getting further involved.

PHILIPPINES

The Bureau of Posts report the issue on 15 December of two stamps (5c and 6c) honouring the "Lion's" Convention held last April in the city of Baguio. Unfortunately they do not say who or what the "Lions" were, and the stamps merely feature a pleasant scene in the Wright Park, Baguio.

EARLY EAST AFRICAN POSTMARKS.

Dr. W. E. Flood has been studying the early postal history of East Africa and as he remarks in the latest number of the Postal History Society's Bulletin, "it becomes more absorbing (and more difficult) as research progresses.

In this note he records a squared circle postmark of "Kikurgu" on the B.E.A. ½a. green stamp of 1896. This mark is also known on two copies of Uganda typeset stamps. "Kikurgu" is now generally believed to be a misspelling of "Kikuyu".

Any readers with early covers of B.E.A. and /or Uganda might help research in this matter considerably if they would notify the particulars of their treasures.

SHORT NOTICES.

Revista Filatelica de Nicaragua. The Sociedad Filatelica de Nicaragua announces the early publication of a magazine under the above title.

Background to Philately. The Philatelic Congress of Great Britain proposes to publish a selection of the papers read before Congress and some 26 papers chosen from the 117 presented between 1909 and 1951 are to be included in this proposed Anthology. The selection covers many aspects of philately, as the title suggests.

The price will be approximately 10/6 and it is hoped to have it ready for the 1953 Congress meeting in June, but publication will depend on whether a reasonable number of copies are ordered beforehand. Anyone interested should order from the Hon. Sec., 3 The Woodlands, London Road, Withdean, Brighton 6, Sussex.

The Royal Philatelic Collection. The recent British philatelic papers have had numerous notices about this publication, which is one of the most famous books of the decade and probably the most illustrious philatelic volumes ever published.

We are unfortunately not able to say anything about it from personal examination as, strangely enough, we did not receive a review copy and the editorial salary does not run to the purchase of 60 guinea books, worse luck.

From both the philatelists' and the bibliophilists' point of view it would appear to be something beyond ordinary words to describe.

Prepared by Sir John Wilson, Bt., Keeper of the late King's stamps, it deals with the 325 volumes of the collection made by King George V, containing nearly a quarter of a million stamps, has a lengthy monograph by the author, twelve plates in colour and sixteen in half-tone.

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REVIEWS

Stamp Collectors' Annual. Ed. by Tom Morris. Harris Publications Ltd., 29 Buckingham St., Strand, London W.C. 2. Price 2/6.

This most useful work of reference comes up to our usual expectations with its Currency Guide, Books of the Year, Directories of Philatelic Literature, active Philatelic Societies and Exchange Clubs.

In addition there are a number of special articles, of which the outstanding are: Iron Curtain Philately, Sudanese Pictorial Stamps, Best designs of 1952, "Target" stamps of Denmark, Gambian Cameos — Numbers issued, and Registration Labels of the World. A book with something for every taste.

A Review 1951-1952. Robson Lowe Ltd., 50 Pall Mall, London S.W.1.

This is the usual twelve-month review of all the various activities carried on at 50 Pall Mall, which is described as a bank-cum-club for many collectors — a very apt description as the writer knows from personal experience.

It deals with outright sales for cash, private treaty sales and auction sales, including the specialised stamp sales and postal history auctions.

The review demonstrates that the market for British and British Empire stamps continues to fall towards the lower level of the hard currency markets, but that London is still the centre of the world's markets.

Special items from many of the sales are illustrated and there is reference to the firm's publications and their associated Exchange Clubs.

Kleines Handbuch der Deutschen Feldpost, 14th-Century to 1914. Alfred Clement, Graz, Heinrichstrasse 27/1, Austria.

Notes of markings on covers of 13 to 17 hundreds are naturally few, though they get more numerous towards the latter part of the 18th century. From then onwards they become fuller and fuller, with numerous reproductions of postmarks and other special war markings. The largest sections are those of the various German States 1804-1871 and of the Franco-Prussian War of 1870-71. Overseas campaigns such as the siege of Kiautschow 1879, Boxer Campaign in China 1900-1901 and the S.W.A. Campaigns of 1903-07 are also dealt with.

SOUTH AFRICAN COLLECTORS' SOCIETY.

The first issue of "The Springbok" has now been distributed. Early application for membership is desirable if you wish to have your copies starting from Volume 1, Number 1. Overseas applications welcomed.

Details from:—

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Collectors' Wants & Offers

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

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

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

SOMALILAND PROTECTORATE. Minor varieties wanted, mint and used. Good copies only.—WILLIAM REDFORD, P.O. Box 1182, Johannesburg.

REQUIRED Switzerland. All issues, mint, used and covers. For Cash or Exchange for Geo. VI.—B. JOSEPH, P.O. Box 4967, Johannesburg.

STAMPS.—Want lists invited for any country; specialities Union, S.W.A., British Africa. — LACY'S, Gillbern Buildings, cor. Plein and Mostert Streets, Cape Town.

WANTED: Orange Free State — everything — buy or give used British Empire, Foreign in exchange.—Morton Morris, 37 Overlook Terrace, New York 33, New York, U.S.A.

WANTED: Army Covers all periods, especially Boer War. — E. Proud, Malim Nawar, Perak, Malaya.

1840-1890. For the stamps of any country in this period write DOUGLAS ROTH, Mona Crescent, Newlands, C.P. Phone 694282.

Offering Thousands of world wide postmarks — cheap. — JACKSON, "The Alcove", Highfield St., Green Point, Cape Town.

FOR SALE.—Collections of Finland, Sweden, Norway, Denmark, Holland, Italy, Israel. Fine basis for specialised collections. Very reasonable.—NORMAN WELSFORD, Box 74, Mbabane, Swaziland.

WANTED to exchange stamps. — WALTER KRUG, 419, Dixon Ave., Dixon, Ill., U.S.A.

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BELGIUM.

"Mekeel's Weekly" reports that recently two sheets of 50 stamps each of the 11 fr. red orange were found with all six rows of vertical perforations missing. Errors of this kind are very rare on Belgian stamps.

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SOCIETY NEWS

PORT ELIZABETH PHILATELIC SOCIETY.

7th October 1952.

The main fare of the evening was provided by a Quiz set by Mr. G. K. Forbes who also acted at Quiz Master. Two teams competed in the event, the winning section collecting 14½ points, whereas the opposition could only lay claim to ten. Congratulations to the successful team who, as far as years are concerned, was the lesser one but not in prowess. It was a most enjoyable affair and a pity that comparatively few members were present.

Our usual Auction after tea interval brought in additional funds to the Society, much work being done by our Auctioneer, Mr. Watson.

21st October 1952.

The Society had the pleasure of a visit from Mr. Douglas Roth, Cape Town, who kindly stayed a little longer on a visit to Port Elizabeth to give us a talk and display. He chose as his subject — "Reprints" and brought with him about 60-70 sheets selected to cover a wide field of reprints from many countries. The show proper was preceded by a very interesting and informative talk by Mr. Roth. He gave a definition of the reprinted stamps, reasons for their printing, whether official or private, for Exhibition purposes, distribution U.P.U., Philatelic Study, etc.; then explained how to distinguish them from the Originals; dwelt on the different methods used in reprinting stamps. Finally he explained their uses, such as assisting in plating, comparing with and detecting forgeries and the like. Stories and details about various stamps which we afterwards saw were interwoven with his remarks, so that the audience could intelligently appreciate the stamps on view after his address.

The display itself abounded in very many fine and rare reprints, inter alia, a complete lot of the numerous reprints of Heligoland, early Austrian issues and Prussia; notable examples of the French 1862 reprints; the rouletted issues of Finland and a lovely lot of early Danish, Great Britain was represented by the Royal and Paris Exhibition reprints of the "Penny Black"; nor were the New South Wales Laureateds or early Canadian issues absent in their reprints. Other examples hailed from South America and Asia. A truly wonderful lot.

Mr. Forbes expressed everyone's gratitude to Mr. Roth for the most interesting talk and display which will be long remembered.

Another welcome visitor was Mr. J. V. Jensen, past President of the East London Society.

Tea and refreshments were served before an auction concluded an outstanding evening's entertainment.

AFRIKAANSE FILATELISTIESE VERENIGING.

2 Januarie.

Ons eerste byeenkoms van 1953 was goed bygewoon, tenspyte daarvan dat dit so dig op Nuwejaar gevolg het.

Weer eens het ons 'n nuwigheid gesien, en wel oor minder bekende seëls wat nie deur Gibbons gekatalogeer word nie. Vriend Lambert het 'n vertoning van die nie-amptelike lugposseëls van Lundy-eiland verskaf; vriend Schubart 'n paar eienaardighede uit Nederland nl. 'n paar seëls met Bosse-tanding, ongetande seëls van koningin Wilhelmina, posbewysseëls en die half-amptelike interneringskampseëls van die eerste wêreldoorlog; en vriend Kokke het gesorg vir 'n paar buitengewone koeverte. Lid Vermaak het die vertoners bedank vir 'n interessante vertoning en daarop gewys dat 'n katalogus nie noodwendig die laaste seggenskap in versameling het nie. Hy het die hoop uitgespreek dat versamelaars van sulke eienaardighede meer na vore sal kom en ook dat hulle hul kennis van sulke materiaal met andere sal deel.

In Februarie kom lid Schubart aan die beurt met 'n vasvrawedstryd.

Op Maandag, 16 Februarie, bring ons 'n besoek aan die Pretoria Philatelic Society.

Mnre. Lambert en Vermaak is aangewys om die vereniging te verteenwoordig as lede van die komitee wat die moontlikheid van 'n nie-kompeterende uitstalling in September a.s. sal ondersoek. Ander verenigings word gevra om twee lede elk te kies vir samesprekings vroeg in Februarie a.s.

Nuwe Lede: Mej. F. Gonin en mnr. M. J. Rall.

Alle versamelaars word hartlik 'n lekker versameljaar gedurende 1953 toegewens. S.J.V.

ORANGE FREE STATE & BASUTOLAND PHILATELIC SOCIETY.

The November meeting was again full of variety and interesting features. The first half consisted of the "Exchange Half-Hour", a Sweepstake, the "Philatelic News" reported by Mr. J. Lewis, "New Issues" tabled by Mr. A. G. Denne and an Auction sale of a few stamp lots with Mr. A. H. Scott as auctioneer.

In the second half, three major displays were given. The first one was a fine collection of South West African covers, exhibited by Prof. G. H. van Rooyen. Every period of the postal history of South West Africa was represented with some interesting entries. Mr. C. Kachelhoffer followed with a splendid array of Van Riebeeck covers. All known Special covers, issued in connection with the Van Riebeeck celebrations, were shown with an artistic write-up, making a most colourful display. The last exhibit was given by Dr. K. Freund who showed another one of his numerous thematic collections. This one was entitled "British Empire Farthing stamps". The collection consisted of more than 50 pages of 'Farthing" stamps, highly specialised in a pleasant presentation, with all possible imprint and plate number blocks.

The last item on the evening's programme was a Quiz, composed and arranged by two Junior members of the Society, scholars of Grey College. The quiz questions put forward by them were very original, concerning mainly British Empire stamps, and most of the senior members had shamefully to admit that they were stumped. The winner of the quiz was Dr. Freund, although his total points were only fair.

In December, the Society was in recess.

THE PHILATELIC SOCIETY OF RHODESIA.

October 1952.

The main item of the meeting was a display of the stamps of Norway, with an explanatory talk, given by Mr. A. FitzStephens. As an introduction to the display, Mr. FitzStephens gave us some facts about the geography and ethnography of Norway, followed by some interesting philatelic information. The display was most interesting and well presented, and included pre-stamp covers, a cover from "Hell", and various covers used by the Norwegian Armed Forces and exiled Government in Britain during th last world war.

November 1952.

This month we had a fine attendance of about 40 members. Mr. J. Crewell introduced Mr. L. Buchen of the Johannesburg Society, who had brought along his collection of S.W.A. for our entertainment. Mr. Buchen gave a most interesting talk on the stamps of S.W.A., making special mention of the rare postmarks he possessed, together with a description of the development of the territory and its posts from early days up to the present.

The exhibit consisted of several early covers, sets and blocks of the early "Kaiser's yacht" stamps printed in Germany, followed by the overprinted Union stamps and the modern stamps of the territory.

Mr. Billau then gave a display of Northern Rhodesia stamps of the reigns of King George V and King George VI in singles, blocks of four, etc.

December 1952.

This is normally the Chairman's evening, but as the Rev. Dryden had left us, Mr. Crewell was asked to take over after the completion of normal Society business. In his usual efficient manner he gave us a most interesting and enjoyable evening. Mrs. Crewell added to the pleasure by providing and serving refreshments.

First of all there was a "quiz", consisting of 14 questions which taxed the philatelic knowledge of all to the utmost. One member scored 13 points, thus winning the prize. By way of relaxation after all this mental effort, Mr. Crewell then entertained us to a lantern lecture on the designing and printing of the Union "Voortrekker" and U.P.U. issues. Members found this very interesting and instructive.

Next Mr. Crewell gave us each an envelope containing small cuttings of stamps. On the outside of each envelope were two stamps which had to be formed from the cuttings by exchanging with other members. This was simplified a little by emptying all the cuttings on the table. One member finished

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way ahead of everybody else and secured the prize.

Finally, Mr. Crewell presented an interesting display of several leaves from his Empire collection.

January 1953.

Our meetings are now held on the first Wednesday of each month at the Milton Junior School library — change of both date and venue. Members generally expressed their satisfaction with the larger room and improved lighting. Two applications for membership were unanimously approved by the meeting.

Mr. Prentice, a junior member, gave an exhibition of his collection of stamps of Australia. The stamps were well set out, and the writing-up was of a very high standard, being extremely neat as well as informative.

This was followed by a display of the stamps of Eire, presented by Dr. Strong. Most of the varieties of the Dollard and Thom printings were shown. This was the first display of Eire stamps for some years, and was therefore particularly interesting.

P.H.

PHILATELIC SOCIETY OF JOHANNESBURG.

13th January.

The main feature of the evening was a display of stamps of St. Helena by W. Redford. As is usual with Mr. Redford's exhibits this was a treat for the eye, beautifully mounted and every stamp in first class condition. This is an aim not easily obtained, but the exhibit showed that it was possible.

It stopped short of the K.G. VI issues but in all the earlier ones there was a fine range of shades, almost all the catalogued varieties and quite a few not catalogued. In addition there was a fine display of numerous plate and die proofs.

26th January.

Mr. W. Mann showed a very fine collection of Italian colonial stamps, which he had only been working at for some months, but had made wonderfully near completion As in many countries however, some stamps are very hard to come by even though catalogued quite cheaply.

Many of these stamps are exquisite examples of the printer's art.

Mr. Froehlich spoke on the exhibit, pointing out in principle what a fine thing it was educationally to collect something other than, or in addition to, Unions and King George VI.

PHILATELIC SOCIETY OF NATAL.

Wednesday, 7th January.

In the absence of the President, Mr. H. R. Brown welcomed 36 members. Mr. and Mrs. Stevens from Nyasaland were visitors.

An innovation in the programme was a different type of quiz or competition. Mr. Selwyn Smith was the quizmaster and Messrs. Lyle and Williams were each in charge of a team of three. Perhaps it was stage-fright that caused the falling down on some of the easier questions for many of the answers raised a great deal of laughter from the audience; so, as an entertainment, the competition was a success and Mr. Williams' team won 18-10.

The exhibit of the evening was staged by Mr. Walsh with a collection of the Union of S.A. and, although Mr. Walsh is not a collector of long standing, a very creditable exhibition of 120 pages evoked great interest. Prof. Burrows thanked Mr. Walsh for his fine effort and in so doing voiced the unanimous opinion of the members present.

Mr. Robinson spoke about foreign stamps and post-marks being used for propaganda purposes and illustrated his remarks with examples.

The auction sales realised £6.2.8 and of this 4/9 was donated to the Congress fund. After refreshment the meeting closed at 10.20.

V.F.M.

EAST LONDON PHILATELIC SOCIETY.

9 January.

A very well attended meeting with four visitors. Mrs Cordes was nominated Secretary in place of Miss Taylor who resigned. There were various items shown of Philatelic interest. A 4d. G.B. Postage Stamp may be issued for postage to Europe. Mr. Hellman said that some of the Provisionals of Israel may become some of the rarest of modern times.

Members were warned not to put mint stamps into envelopes to stick and get rust.

There was a display of Italy by Mr. Lazarus who was thanked by Mr. Harper, and a collection of Australian States by Mr. Paviour who was thanked by Mr. Shingler. Both collections showed a high standard and were appreciated by the Members.

R.A.

PRETORIA RAILWAY PHILATELIC SOCIETY.

January.

The initial meeting for the year took place at the usual venue on the 14th inst., when the Society got off to a good start with a well attended meeting. There were 24 members and 7 visitors present when the meeting was called to order, and a very pleasant evening was indulged in. Two very good exhibits were put up. The first a thematic collection of "Children on Stamps" by Miss J. Taylor, and the other a collection of U.P.U. issues by Mr. F. London. Both collections proved to be most colourful and beautiful, and the foreign issues in both collections are really outstanding. The exhibitors were both thanked for providing the members with an enjoyable evening, and are to be congratulated on an excellent effort.

We are pleased to welcome Mr. J. Parkinson of Pretoria as a new member of the Society, and wish him a very happy and successful philatelic association with us.

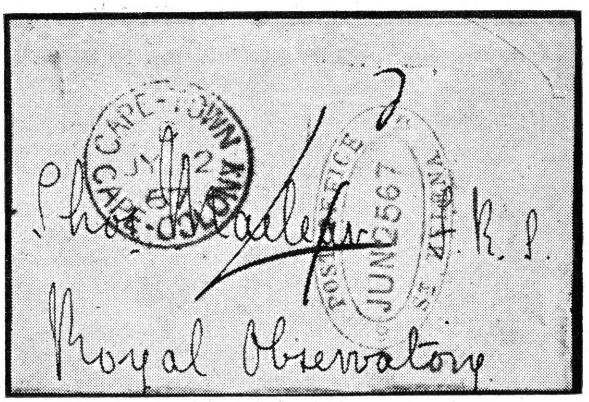
W.K.

A ST. HELENA DATE STAMP.

In his Encyclopaedia of British Empire Postage Stamps, Vol. II, Robson Lowe describes under the heading of "Handstruck Stamps" a Date Stamp (HS 11) used in 1858-61, which is occasionally, but only rarely, to be found as a cancellation. This is further described as "St. Helena" in double oval frame, and similar to type HS 31 of the Cape of Good Hope used in 1835-55.

We have been shown a mark of a different type, which would appear to be worthy of record. This is on a cover sent from St. Helena, without any adhesive stamp in 1867, addressed to Sir Thomas Maclear at the Royal Observatory, Cape Town, where he was at that time Astronomer-Royal.

The mark, as can be seen in the accompanying illustration (nat. size), is a double oval one, with "Post Office" at the top, "St. Helena" below, the date (JAN 25 67) in the centre, and there are two indistinct marks (? Maltese Crosses) separating the top and bottom lettering.



It is of a faded bluish-green colour.

The Cape Town arrival mark has the date JY 12/67 and there is seen the large 4d. in manuscript, presumably the charge raised on delivery.

FRANCE.

An 18fr. stamp featuring the entrance gate to the Chateau de Versailles was issued on 20 December; it is part of the propaganda for the restoration of the buildings.

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CHECK LIST OF O.V.S. & O.R.C. POST OFFICES & AGENCIES, ETC.

(PERIOD 1868 TO 1910).

By W. NEWLANDS.

PREAMBLE

1. As far as possible the District stated is the one given in the first P.M.G.'s report mentioning the office or agency. As the O.V.S. (Republic) and O.R.C. prospered the large original districts were sub-divided.

2. Spelling changes, where known, are noted and cross-referenced.

3. Where information in reports seems conflicting or where doubt exists as to the correctness of a given date, name, or district, attention is drawn to this fact in the remarks column.

4. The various reports are not always consistent. For instance one report calls a district "Caledon River" or "Moroko" but reports prior to this as well as subsequent ones refer to "Smithfield" or "Thaba 'Nchu."

5. The sources of information are:—

(a) P.O.'s etc. marked * from the last pre-Union report of the O.R.C. P.M.G. in 1910.

(b) P.O.'s listed as 1889 from the Republican report for that year and 1890. No agencies are noted in these reports — only full post offices.

(c) All P.O.'s, P.O.A.'s etc. for the Republican period from the Republican reports for the years 1893, 1895, 1896, 1897, 1898, 1899 and July 1899.

(d) 1903/1909: From a list compiled by A. Cecil Fenn of Sutton Coldfield, England. This list has been checked against the 1910 P.M.G.'s report and several reports for the years 1903-1909.

(e) P.O.'s etc. marked ‡ from list by Peter Smits from information obtained from Archives at Bloemfontein.

(f) P.O.'s marked † are known to have been open prior to 1868.

(g) The following Post Offices are **not** mentioned in the lists although they are known to exist:—

(1) Army Manoeuvres, Waterworks 15th-24th Sept. 1906. It is presumed that the office called "Tweespruit Camp" of 1904 is of a similar nature.

(2) Government Offices (Bloemfontein) for period 1904-1910. This office was temporarily closed on 28/10/08 when the Government offices were destroyed by fire.

(3) Several T.P.O.'s for the Republican and later the Colonial period.

6. The Army P.O.'s of the 1900/2 period are not included.

7. Where the letters O.R.C. follow the name of an office the office is named in that fashion in the O.R.C. P.M.G.'s report.

8. Month and year date in remarks columns indicates a **clear** dated postmark earlier than 1889 (or date given as date when P.O. is first mentioned in Reports).

9. In report of 1880/81 the P.M.G. (item 4 of Report) states that 34 P.O.'s and 29 P.O.A.'s were in existence.

ABBREVIATIONS.

P.O. Post Office with full facilities.

S.O. Sub Office.

R.S.O. Sub Office at Railway Station with Telegraph Facilities.

P.A. Postal Agency.

R.P.A. Postal and Telegraphic Agency at Railway Station.

R.T.O. Railway Telegraph Office.

T.O. Telegraph Office **ONLY.**

* Open in 1910. † Open prior to 1868.

Where details are **not** given no information available as to office status, etc.

B—Bloemfontein
BM—Bethlehem
H—Harrismith
BO—Boshof
S—Smithfield
V—Vrede
BE—Bethulie
T—Thaba Nchu.
W—Winburg
VF—Vredefort
R—Reitz
K—Kroonstad
L—Ladybrand
BR—Brandfort
SP—Springfontein
E—Edenburg
F—Ficksburg
HO—Hoopstad
WE—Wepener
FA—Fauresmith
J—Jacobsdal
FF—Frankfort
RO—Rouxville
HN—Heilbron
LY—Lindley
P—Philippolis
SE—Senekal
BV—Bothaville
BY—Bethanie.

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Grade	Name	District	Date opened or year of P.M.G.'s report where first noted	Closed (where known)	Remarks
PA	Aasvogelkop	B	1899		
PA*	Aasvogelrand	VF	15-11-05		
PA	Aasvogelkrans	V	1895		
RSO*	Aberfeldy	H	?		
PA*	Abrahamskraal	B	1893		
PA	Albertina	H	1893		
SO*	Arbeidskolonie	—	?		
PA*‡	Allandale	W	1887		S/O in 1910
	Altona	T	?	3-9-07	
SO*	Austin's Post	B	15-4-06		(Austenspost?)
PA‡	Banksdrift	BO	1887	1898	
PA	Bankies	K	1899		
PA	Beginsel	V	July 1899		
	Beginseldam	BO	1-3-07	14-5-08	
	Belmont	—			
PA*	Bernhardina	H	1895		
PO‡	Bethanie	BF*	1867		until about 1900/1
RSO*	Bethany Rail	E	1899		See Bethany Station
PA	Bethanie Station	B	1899		See Bethany RAIL
SO*	Bethany Village	E	?		Postmark "Bethany"?
PO*‡	Bethlehem	BM	1867		
RTO*	Bethlehem Rail	BM	?		
PO*‡	Bethulie	BE	1867		
RTO*	Bethulie Rail	BE	?		
	Beverley	L	1-3-04	28-2-05	
	Bezuidenhouts Drift	BM	15-3-04	15-1-05	
PA	Bissiesfontein	R	1898		
	Blaauwbank	K	1-10-03	15-5-04	
PA‡	Blauwheuvel	P	1887		(Closed by 1889?)
PA‡	Blesbokfontein	B	1875		(Closed by 1889?). Described in report as "HULP POST KANTOOR".
PO*‡†	Bloemfontein	B	1867		
PO	Bloemfontein Army	B	?		
PO*	Bloemfontein East	B	?		
PA*	Bloemfontein, Monument Road Extension	B	?		
TO*	Bloemfontein, Naval Hill	B	?		
RTO*	Bloemfontein Rail	B	?		
SO*	Bloemfontein South West	B	?		
SO*	Bloemfontein West	B	?		
	Boesmanskop	HO	1-6-04	30-6-05	
	Bontebokskraal	BO	15-8-03		
PA*	Bordeaux	FF	15-11-05		
PA*	Bluegumboom	—			
	Boschdraai	W	15-11-03	30-6-05	
PA	Boschfontein	HO	1898		
	Boschrand	—			
PA*	Boschvarkfontein	—			
PO*‡	Boshof	BO	1867		
PA	Bosjesspruit	W	1893		
PO*	Bothaville	K	1895		
PA	Brakdam	FA	1893	1898	
PA	Brakfontein	FA	1899		
	Brakkraus	H	15-3-04		
PO*‡	Brandfort	B	1880		
RTO*	Brandfort Rail	BR	?		
PA	Brandsdrift	L	1893 Re-opened 1-7-03	31-5-04	
PA*‡	Breipaal	S	1887		Breijpaal in 1887 S.O. in 1910.

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Grade	Name	District	Date opened or year of P.M.G.'s report where first noted	Closed (where known)	Remarks.
PA*	Brindisi Road	F			
PA	Brindisi	F	1893	31-5-06	P.O. in 1895 (-1891)
PO*‡	Bultfontein	HO	1875		S.O. in 1910
PA*‡	Bushmanskop	WE	1887		
PA	Carlton	BO	1895		
PA*	Cheddar	—			
	Chicago	LY	1-3-04	30-6-05	
PA*	Christina	H	1893		
PA	Cilliers Hoogte	BM	1899		
PA*	Cijferfontein	—			
PA	Cijfergat	HN	1898		
PA*‡	Clocolan	L	1887		(Feb. 1885).
RTO*	Clocolan Rail	L			
RPA*	Coalbrook	HN	1-8-05		
	Commando Drift	HO		30-4-08	See Kommando Drift
PA*	Commando Siding	F	1-10-07		
PA‡	Commissiedrift				(closed by 1889?).
PA*‡	Commissiepoort	L	1887		
PA	Constantia	L	1893		
PA*	Constantia Drift	L	1-8-03		
PA*	Cornelia	V	1895 re-opened 15-10-04		
PA*	Cornelis River Bridge	H	1-7-03		
PA*	Cornetspruit	RO	1895		
	Counter	—			SO in 1910 (Bloemfontein?)

(To be continued)

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THE

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Union Notes

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

The Publicity Officer of the Department of Posts and Telegraphs has kindly supplied the following information covering the period from 30.10.52 to 20.1.53. For the previous list see our January issue.

Ordinary Pictorial Postage Stamps.

½d. — Job No. 6112. On an order for 25,000 sheets of 240 stamps per sheet, 16,500 were delivered on the 20.1.53. Same cylinders as before, Nos. 31 (Int.) and 70 (Ext.).

1d. — Job No. 5905 contd. On an order for 1,000,000 sheets of 240 stamps per sheet, 467,385 have been delivered to date. Same cylinders as before, Nos. 6925 (Int.) and 36 (Ext.).

2d. — Job No. 475 contd. On an order for 1,000,000 sheets of 240 stamps per sheet, the following deliveries have taken place :—

(a) Cyls. 6927 (Int.) and 50 (Ext.) — 907,635 sheets from 14.6.51 to 21.10.52.
(b) Cyls. 30 (Int.) and 18 (Ext.)—234,500 sheets from 23.10.52 to 27.11.52.
(c) Cyls. 27 (Int.) and 46 (Ext.)—6,000 sheets from 2.12.52 to 4.12.52.
(d) Cyls. 27 (Int.) and 18 (Ext.)—122,000 sheets from 4.12.52 to date.

Total delivered, 1,270,135 sheets.

3d. — Job No. 12451 contd. On an order for 120,000 sheets of 120 stamps per sheet, 122,472 were delivered up to the final date, 18.12.52. Same one colour cylinder — No. 17 — as before.

4d. — Job No. 2336 contd. On an order for 60,000 sheets of 120 stamps per sheet, 19,814 have been delivered to date from the new cylinder No. 103.

6d. — Job No. 6113. On an order for 50,000 sheets of 240 stamps per sheet, 60,820 were delivered between 11.12.52 and the final date, 8.1.53. Same cylinders as before, Nos. 6930 (Int.) and 6 (Ext.).

1/- — Job No. 12453 contd. On an order for 120,000 sheets of 120 stamps per sheet, 84,297 have been delivered to date. Same cylinders as before, Nos. 6926 (Int.) and 6935 (Ext.).

Air Letter Cards.

6d. — Job No. 4112 contd. On an order for 4,000,000 cards, 1,141,200 have been delivered to date from the new design first noted in the January list.

Pictorial Post Cards.

1d. — Job No. 4115 contd. On an order for 2,720,000 cards, 952,320 have been delivered to date. No change.

Postage Due Stamps.

2d. — Job No. 6114. On an order for 25,000 panes of 60 stamps per pane (240 stamps per sheet), 20,000 were delivered on the 9.12.52 and the total of 102,200 up to the final date of 20.1.53. Produced from new Interior cylinder No. 44 and old Exterior cylinder No. 33.

Further Notes on the "Offisieel" Diaeresis Variety.

Some additional information on the diaeresis variety recently discovered by readers of "Gibbons' Stamp Monthly" on Union "Officials", and discussed in our last issues, have been received from Dr. T. B. Davie of Rondebosch, Cape.

He states that a top left hand corner block of four of the 1½d. "Small Mine" overprinted stamps in his possession shows the two dots over the second "E" of OFFISIEEL as being present only on the left hand vertical pair of the block and that there is no indication of the variety on the other two stamps.

This means that in the sheet of 12 rows and 20 stamps per row from which the corner block was taken, the variety was present on stamps Nos. 1 of the first and second rows and not on stamps Nos. 2 of the same rows, thereby proving that the diaeresis was not as constant throughout the sheet as an examination of previous specimens had tended to indicate.

Dr. Davie confirms that the stamps are on a cream coloured paper with overprints similar to those designated as "O71" in the Union Handbook and mentions that he has a "small sheet" of four corner blocks of the 1½d. "Officials" with a 14½ mm. overprint, but produced on a distinctly white paper and with no diaeresis on any of the stamps. This is evidently No. "O80" in the Handbook.



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He also gives as the probable explanation for the variety only now coming to light the fact that the second "E" of the overprint OFFISIEEL overlies the dark portion of the frame design and therefore the two dots do not stand out as clearly as they would if the background had been lighter, and concludes by saying it will be interesting to see if a full sheet will in time be built up showing on what stamps the diaeresis was printed.

Further to our notes in last month's issue, of the discovery of the diaeresis on copies of the 2d. "Officials", we show in the accompanying illustration the type of marginal arrow found on those sheets which have the variety on four of the stamps. The basic issue is that given in the Union Handbook as Plate VI, i.e., the frame design in which the numeral "2" **does not** touch the enclosing circle (S.G. 107a), but the sheet arrows are the same as those present on the Plate V printing (S.G. 107). See page 133 of the Handbook.

During February we learnt from Mr. C. P. Rang, Editor of "Gibbons' Stamp Monthly", that the variety had also been found on the 1/- "Officials" and that there was a probability of it turning up on the 2/6 denomination.

Regarding the 1/-, we can now confirm the existence of the diaeresis on this denomination for since learning the news from overseas we have been shown a cover in the possession of Dr. M. Wulfsohn of Johannesburg, on which there is a block of four of the 1/- "Officials" with the diaeresis form of spelling on **one** of the English inscribed copies.

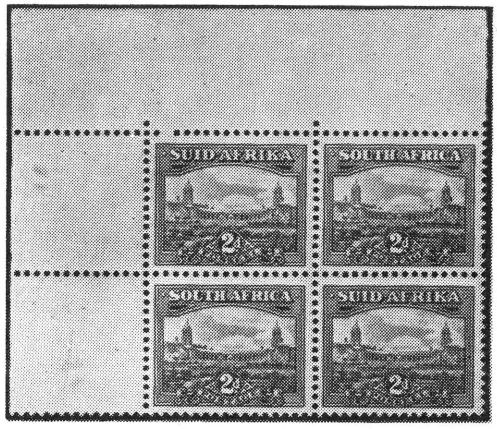
The cover is one of the foolscap size Pretoria Philatelic Society Exhibition productions of 1948 and bears blocks of four of the ½d., 1½d. and 1/- "Officials" on sale at the Exhibition Post Office during the period it was open to the public. The colours of these 1/- stamps can be classified as light brown and milky blue and they were issued with the Union Handbook Type VIII overprint, spaced at 20 mm. A mixed fount was evidently employed in the overprinting process for the length of the OFFISIEEL on which the diaeresis appears is only 15 mm. whereas the same word measures nearly 17 mm. on the other three copies forming the block.

The cover was registered at the time and the Exhibition postmarks on the stamps clearly show the date of cancellation as 20.X.48.

Characteristics of the Recent 2d. Pictorial Printings.

Following the notes in our January issue on the three latest printings of the 2d. pictorials, Dr. T. B. Berry of Bryanston, Transvaal, has tabulated the list of characteristics given below.

It will be noted that most of the flaws are printed on two or more of the three issues and that in addition to the Cylinder No. block, the top left hand corner block of the 27/46 production is easily distinguishable by the "Cloven hoof" marks on the left hand margin opposite Rows Nos. 1 and 2 and illustrated herewith. There is also a plum coloured smudge immediately to the left of the left hand tower on the first stamp of the sheet, i.e., the corner copy in the same block.



Another feature of the 27/46 printing is the narrower appearance of the marginal arrow prongs as compared with those on the sheets of the 27/18 and 30/18 stamps and because they are not so heavily inked, the screening employed for the 27/46 arrows is clearly visible under a magnifying glass.

Flaws on the Three Printings of the 2d. Stamps.	Cylinder Nos. 30/18	27/46	27/18
Short blue line in upper margin above stamp in Row 1/ No. 5	—	X	X
Fine sloping line across sky of stamps, Row 1/Nos. 2 and 3	—	X	X
"Cloven hoof" marks in left margin adjoining Rows 1 and 2	—	X	—
Plum coloured smudge to left of left hand tower, Row 1/. No 1	—	X	—
Smudge at left centre of frame, Row 4/No. 8. Multopositive flaw	X	X	X
Dot in "R" of AFRICA, Row 7/No. 8. Multopositive flaw	X	X	X
White sky behind left hand dome, Row 7/No. 9	X	—	—
Tiny dot to right of left hand dome, Row 9/No. 2	X	—	—
Dots to right of left hand dome, Row 10/No. 20	—	X	X
Dot on right vertical frame line, Row 12/No. 17, Multopositive flaw	X	X	X

Some Features of the New 1d. Pictorial Printing

In connection with the 1d. stamps printed from new cylinders, and issued in January this year, Mr. S. J. Hagger of Alberton writes:—

"The new centre cylinder No. 54 has very few flaws, and those only of a minor nature, in fact, nothing to compare with the "Darkened Sky", R/10 and "Dots at top of oval", R/11, of cylinder No. 6925. Although the appearance of the centres is somewhat different, the presence of two minor flaws, "Dot in sun-rays", R3/1 and "Dot above sun", R7/2, also found in the same positions on the sheets, from cylinder No. 6925, indicates that the same multopositive has been used again in preparing the new cylinder.

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Apparently by reason of a shorter exposure of the multopositive the etching is shallower, causing the sky to appear much lighter and the ship to stand out more on the new printing.

"Old cylinder No. 36 was obviously taken from rows 2 to 21 of the frame multopositive, because portions of images from rows 1 and 22 show around the top and bottom arrows respectively. The recurrence on the new cylinder No. 53 of the following five frame flaws, viz.:—

Line from frame to oval at left, R2/3,
Extension of foot of "R" of Africa, R5/5,
Dot on frame at left, R8/5,
White spot below "OS" of Postage, R12/10,
Red dot in "1" of 1d., R13/9.

proves that the same rows of the multopositive have been used again; but the much improved appearance of the top and bottom arrows in the new printing makes one suspect that portions at least of the images have been erased from the 1st and 22nd rows of this frame multopositive. If this is so and a further frame cylinder has to be made from this multopositive before 1d. stamps in the new design appear, it too will have to have the first stamp inscribed in English.

A slightly coarser screen seems to have been used in preparing the new frame cylinder, and it too has few flaws, also of the same minor nature, such as:—

Nick in frame at bottom left, R4/7,
Nick in top frame over "U" of South, R15/1,
Red smudge above mountain, R16/11,

and as I only examined one sheet, these may not be constant.

It must be agreed I think that the appearance of the stamps from this new printing is most pleasing, and they reflect credit on the Printers.

South African Handbook/Catalogue Supplements.

It is proposed to start publishing the Handbook Supplements again in our May issue and in the meantime the attention of readers is drawn to the article on the "Plating of the 3/6 Booklets" which appears on the centre pages of this number and will be concluded in April.

This is, in fact, of the same nature as a Supplement and Mr. Sam Legator's interesting discovery that the small printing flaws and blemishes in and around the design on the front covers of these booklets, could be used as a KEY for accurately plating the panes of stamps makes this series one of the most unusual and intriguing that any collector could wish for.

The booklets are on sale at all post offices throughout the Union.

HIGH PRICES IN LONDON FOR S.A. AND S.W.A. STAMPS.

At a recent auction sale by Messrs. H. R. Harmer there was keen competition for many items in the sale of the collections of the late Messrs. W. J. Giovanetti of Pretoria and W. D. Harris of Cape Town. Many items fetched well above the estimates.

Individual prices included £90 for a block of four South Africa 1d. of 1930-45 with six pairs partially printed (C.A.H.37Vc (4) and 38Vd (2) against S.A.H. Cat. £53; for a strip of six 2d. of the same issue with four stamps similarly imperfect (S.A.H. 38Vk (2) and 38Vj (2)) £75 was paid — well over three times S.A.H. Cat. price of £21 10s.

A complete set of Coronation Die Proofs of South West Africa fetched £90.

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10/- used block of four. Not superb but presentable and scarce thus 25/-
1913 ½d. perf. 14 x imperf. S.G. 3a, mint 1/9
½d. do fine used ..... 6d.
1d. do (shades) do ..... 9d.
2d. do. with one perf. hole (Union Cat. R4c), mint 4/-
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do. in mint Control blocks of 4 ..... £12
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1927 10/- engraved. A fine used horizontal pair. S.G. 39, cat. £3 ..... 25/-
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"SWAZIELAND" FORGERIES

By

J. H. HARVEY PIRIE.

(Paper read at the Philatelic Congress, Capetown, March, 1952, and given a Congress Award)

This communication is concerned solely with forgeries of the overprint "Swazieland" on Z.A.R. stamps, the stamps in use in Swaziland 1889 to 1894.

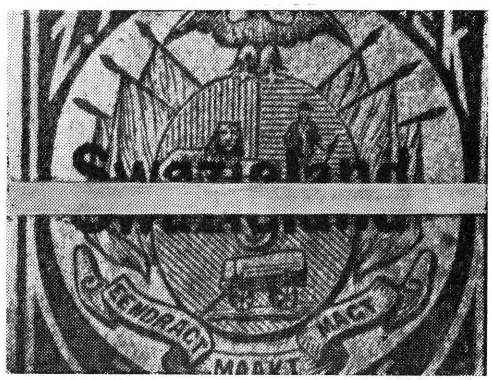
It may be mentioned here, however, that I know of only one record of a stamp and overprint both being forged. This was noted in the "South African Philatelist" Vol. 2, 1924, p. 114 by Mr. C. B. Hardenberg of Lourenco Marques. He records the colour of this 1/- stamp as bright green rather than the yellowish green of the genuine stamps and this feature first made him suspicious of it. He then lists some twenty little points of difference in the design, none of them very great individually, but totalling to quite a lot. The overprint he describes as correct in length but the letters as a whole look slightly taller than the genuine. The "S" is wider and the middle stroke more nearly horizontal than the normal. The "a's" have a straight downstroke and no serif or curve at the bottom, while the horizontal strokes of the "z" are as thick as, if not thicker than, the sloping stroke. The stamp is perforated 13 and the holes are smaller than those of the genuine stamps.

When we consider forgeries of the Overprint on genuine stamps it is another story altogether. They are generally accepted as being common; Robson Lowe, for example, in his Encyclopaedia of British Empire stamps, Vol. II, Africa, says "Forgeries: Many, some very dangerous." But I have been unable to find anywhere a description of these many forgeries so that one could recognise them, especially those said to be very dangerous.

During the course of building up my Swaziland collection I had acquired some stamps with what were easily recognised forged overprints, but only one or two that might have been termed 'dangerous'.

I then happened to come across somewhere a description of a very delicate method of detecting small differences in the length of overprints, and knowing that such differences were often very important in the recognition of forgeries I determined to try it out on my stamps. The method consists in taking a genuine specimen and bisecting it through the middle, lengthwise, of the overprint; then apply one half to the overprint to be tested — if this is to pass the test for length there must be an absolute fit with all the latters.

Well, I applied this test, beginning naturally with my rarities, the inverted overprints and the "Swazielan" errors. The result was disastrous and I realized the truth of the old dictum that "Where ignorance is bliss 'tis folly to be wise." I had to condemn all my "Swazielan" inverted specimens, and have since been able to obtain only one that I could accept as genuine; some of my "Swazielan" not inverted; and some of my "Swazieland" inverted; to say



nothing of one or two ordinary "Swazieland" on the higher values. The net result was that instead of having about half-a-dozen forgeries I found myself with no less than twenty-eight. The only consolation I could find was that by making my findings known I might be able to prevent others from being taken in by "dangerous" forgeries.

Now to come to a description of the various types of forged overprints. I am only dealing with those in my own collection; quite likely there may be others, but even in my little lot I am distinguishing eight different vintages of them. I am dividing them into two main groups (a) those in which the overprint is longer than the genuine, and (b) those in which the overprint is correct as regards length but has to be condemned on some other feature.

GROUP A.

Overprint longer than the genuine.

Variety 1. In this the overprint is 15.5 mm. long as against the genuine 13 mm. It is therefore easily spotted, practically by the naked eye without any measurement. There are also small differences in the characters of some individual letters but these are of little interest as compared with the great divergence in length from the normal.

I have this variety on ½d., 1d., 6d. and 1/-; apparently the forger in this case was content with small game and did not attempt to imitate the rarities. All four specimens are cancelled — but such cancellations! These and other seemingly "used" forgeries will be considered anon.

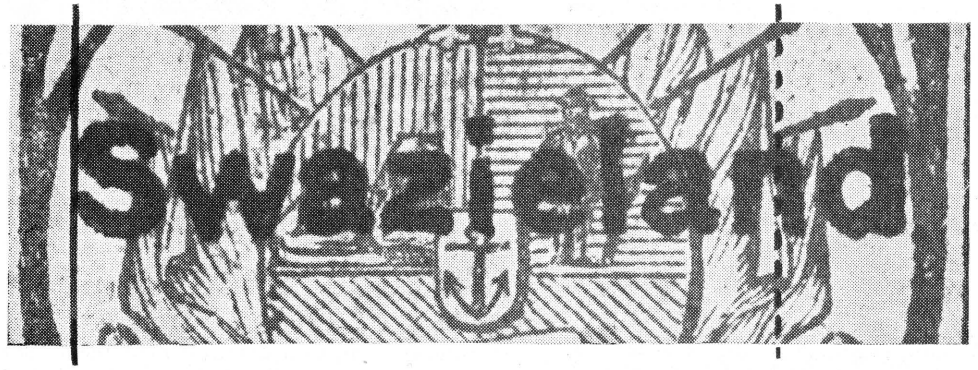
Variety 2. This is an even cruder type. The overprint is 16 mm. long, letters very irregularly set and the "S" and the "d" have serifs. Only one specimen, a 2d. stamp, which also has a vague cancellation.

Variety 3. This I regard as falling into the "very dangerous" class. At any rate it is the variety which has taken me in most frequently and I only came to recognise it by means of the "bisected overprint" test. By this test I had to condemn twelve stamps, all of which came from reputable sources and had not previously been under suspicion. I have also seen a few others in friends' collections, including one on a 6d. stamp which I did not have in my own collection. Seven of my twelve are mint, the other five have what seem to be genuine Bremersdorp cancellations. The forger in this instance has gone after big game; I have this variety on a

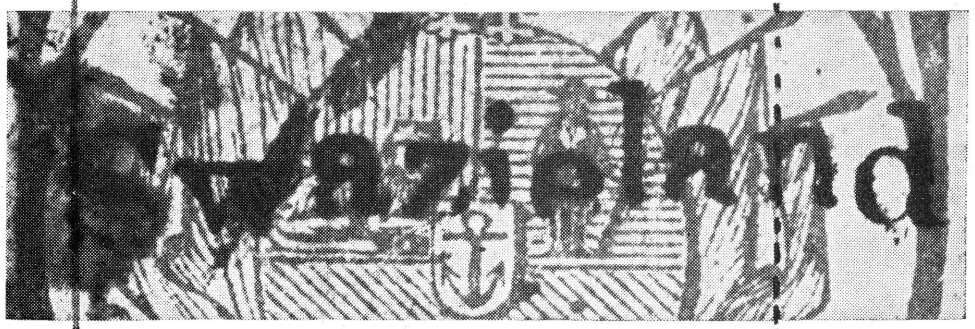
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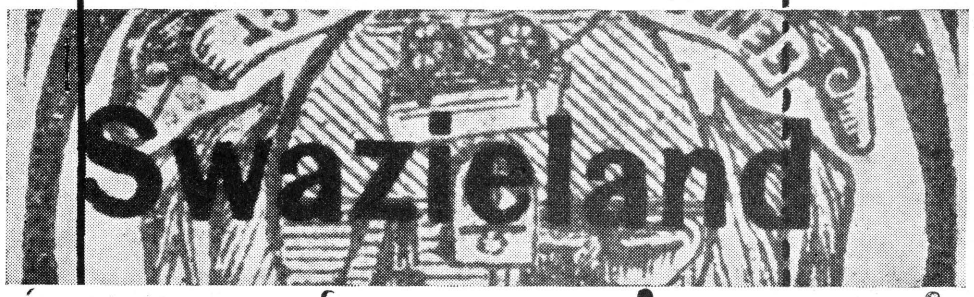
Genuine



Var. 1



Var. 2.



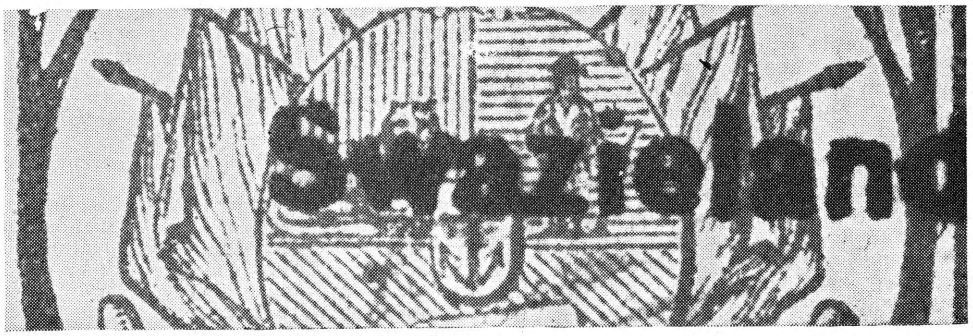
Var. 3.

Illustrations magnified x 7. Note — the short leg of the "n" in the genuine is an accidental feature, not a constant one.

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Genuine



Var. 4.



Var. 5.



Var. 6.

Illustrations magnified x 7. Note — the short leg of the "n" in the genuine is an accidental feature, not a constant one.

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2/6 mint and a 10/- used (overprints in normal position), six as Inverts (½d., 1d. and 2d.), two as "Swazielan"s (½d. and 5/-) and two as "Swazielan" inverted (½d. and 2d.).

The overprint is too long by about 0.25 to 0.3 mm. When applying the test, if one makes the "S" fit it will be seen that there is a gradually increasing misfit of the other letters until when one comes to the "d" the forgery is seen to be too long by just the thickness of the downstroke of that letter.

It might be thought that this is a very small difference in length on which to condemn an overprint and that such a variation might come within the normal limits of genuine overprints. To check up on this I have measured the lengths on four complete sheets of 60 stamps each, two of them in my own collection and two in the Postal Museum, Pretoria — the latter being from the early printing with the "Swazielan" error uncorrected. In not one single instance did I find an overprint varying in length by this amount and I was therefore forced to the conclusion that what I have termed "Variety 3 Forgery" must really be a forgery.

There is one other feature about this variety which is, I think, a constant one. Although I have been unable to detect any real difference in the character of the individual letters from that of the genuine overprints, it is noticeable that **all** the letters have very sharply defined edges; the type used must have been new and quite unworn. This is not the case with the genuine overprints; although some letters on some stamps may be equally sharp, generally speaking they are not — they obviously come from somewhat worn type.

Varieties 3a and 3b. I have included these two as sub-varieties of No. 3 because, like it, they differ from the genuine by exactly the same degree in length — the thickness of the "d" downstroke. Actually, however, they are of quite different vintages, differing both from No. 3 and from each other.

In the case of 3a the letters are less tall than the genuine but appears to be from unworn type as in No. 3. I have this as "Swazielan" on ½d. and as Swazieland, inverted on 2d.

In the case of 3b, of which I have only one specimen, on a 2d. stamp, overprint inverted, the letters are taller than in the genuine, but again apparently from fresh type.

GROUP B.

Overprint correct as regards length.

Variety 4. In this, although the length is correct, the forgery is recognisable by the fact that the letters are less tall than those of the genuine overprints. Not from fresh looking type. Four specimens, a 2d. inverted (cancelled), two sixpennies (one mint, one cancelled) and a 1/- cancelled. All cancellations very vague.

Variety 5. In this the letters are too tall and the printing has been done with unworn type. Three specimens, all mint, ½d. (red overprint), 2/6 and a 10/- with the overprint inverted, a variety not catalogued as existing.

Variety 6. This might come into the "dangerous" class, but I have not sufficient material to dogmatize about it, actually only one specimen, although I have seen one or two others. I am not even prepared to say whether everything that might be included is of the same "vintage" or whether this is a mixed group. The common feature would seem to be that one or more letters are pretty obviously not from the same fount as the genuine — the "S" being generally the most apparent.

My specimen is a 5/- with "Swazielan" inverted. It is pretty certain that only one sheet was printed inverted and therefore only one "Swazielan" inverted can ever have existed. My specimen is definitely **not** it. Its falsity is given away not merely by the dubiousness of the overprint, but by the fact that it is on a stamp perf. 12½ x 12, whereas the 5/- stamps overprinted for use in Swaziland were all perf. 12.

CANCELLATIONS ON FORGERIES.

Swaziland cancellations are almost always very clear and distinct so if a cancellation is just a blur, vague or not showing any readable part of the place name (most commonly Bremersdorp) or of "Swazieland", be suspicious of the specimen immediately.

Unfortunately the converse does not hold good. A stamp with what appears to be a perfectly genuine cancellation is not thereby given a certificate that all is well with it.

A number of my forgeries have the squared circle "Bremersdorp/Swaziel" cancellation and I have not been able to detect any feature distinguishing it from the genuine. In other words, unless an extraordinary good copy of the genuine canceller were made, then either these stamps with forged overprints passed through the post unsuspected or they were cancelled by connivance with the genuine canceller.

I strongly suspect that the latter is the case. If the forgeries had passed through the post unsuspected they would almost certainly have been found ere now on cover. Swaziland covers are not so very scarce, but I do not know of any forgeries on cover, though they are not uncommon "on piece". Whether the cancelling was done while the stamps were on issue or at some later date I cannot say but it would seem to be a possibility that the "Bremersdorp/Swaziel" fell into wrong hands when it went out of date in 1895.

I am informed on very good authority that forged overprints are not uncommon on the Enschedé 'remainders', although I do not happen to have come across them myself. These 'remainders' are the printings ordered by the Z.A.R. administration, but undelivered on account of the outbreak of the Anglo-Boer War, and later sold to a Parisian dealer. A helpful point in recognising these remainders is that the perforation holes are larger than in those stamps which were in circulation in the Transvaal, including of course those which received the genuine 'Swazieland' overprints. In some values the shades are also different, especially noticeable perhaps in the 10/-, where the remainders are more of an orange-red than the pale brick-red of the genuine.

XMAS CARDS.

We have to acknowledge the somewhat belated arrival of greeting cards from Ramsay Stewart, Philately House, 61 Frederick St., Edinburgh and from H. R. Harmer, Inc., New York. They were just too late to be noted in our February issue.

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PLATING THE UNION of SOUTH AFRICA 3/6d. BOOKLETS OF 1951

By
SAM LEGATOR and W. N. SHEFFIELD.

The current 3/6 Booklets of the Union Postage stamps, first issued in April 1951, are made up of two panes each of the ½d., 1d. and 2d. denomination — a total of three shillings and six pence.

The six panes — each consisting of six stamps — are enclosed between two thin off-white card covers and the whole bound together by machine stitching at the left hand side. The face of the top cover bears the design shown in the accompanying illustration, and on the inside and

	½d.	1d.	2d.
Cylinder Numbers.	Interior 6912 Exterior 58	Interior 55 Exterior 38	Interior 6934 Exterior 64
Design	Springbok Head	Van Riebeeck's Ship	Union Buildings
Colour	Black and Dark Green	Blue Black and Carmine	Slate Black & Purple
Format	18 x 22 m.m.	18 x 22 mm.	21½ x 17½ mm.
Perforation	15 x 14	15 x 14	14 x 15
Watermark	Upright	Upright	Facing Left
Top pane language setting	English first	Afrikaans first	English first
Bottom pane language setting	Afrikaans first	English first	Afrikaans first.

In the preparation of the cylinders from the 22 row by 12 stamp-image glass plates, the 1st, 5th and 9th columns of the interior and frame multopositives were blacked out for the purpose of providing each pane with a booklet binding margin, and in addition, the centre row of the plates was omitted in order to change the language setting of the panes in the top and bottom halves of the sheets.

Thus in the ½d. value, the fifteen panes in the top half of the sheet all show the first stamp inscribed in English, whereas those in the bottom half have the first stamp inscribed in Afrikaans. The settings for the other two values are given in the Table and it should be noted that this knowledge immediately enables a book to be identified as belonging to either the top or bottom half of the sheet.

In the making up of the booklets, the sheets of 180 stamps and the white cards bearing the back surfaces, postal rate information is given in English and Afrikaans. There are no advertisements and the panes are interleaved with thin white tissue paper.

The stamps were produced by the rotogravure process at the Government Printing Works, Pretoria, in sheets of 180 and on paper with the Multiple Springbok's Head watermark. The perforating was done with a single comb apparatus and the sheet serial numbers are of the five-numeral type printed in black on the right hand margins of the ½d. and 1d. values and on the bottom margin of the 2d. These numbers appeared twice on each sheet and will be found on the right hand margins of the panes in the booklets designated as "C2" and "C7".

The designs on the stamps are the same as those on the three denominations in current use in sheet form and except for shade differences, the colours can also be said to be basically the same. The position of the watermark and other general features of the three values are set out in the table below.

designs and postal rate information for 30 covers, were first of all printed in the form shown in the illustrations. Two sheets of each denomination, together with tissue interleaving of the same dimensions, were then enclosed between the cover pieces and the whole bound together in a stitching machine. The final operation consisted of cutting up the bound sheets into thirty booklets and them trimming to size in a paper guillotine.

It becomes evident then that the presence of any small printing flaws, spots or marks on a cover — or its enclosed stamps — can be used to trace the position of that particular booklet when in its original sheet form, and because all thirty covers have one or more distinguishing marks it is a fairly simple matter to identify the position of each one and reconstruct the sheet. See fig. 1.

In the photograph of the covers on the centre page the majority of the identifying characteristics have been slightly enlarged with Indian ink in order to make them more easily visible in the reproduction. A description of the marks on each cover is given in conjunction with the detailed

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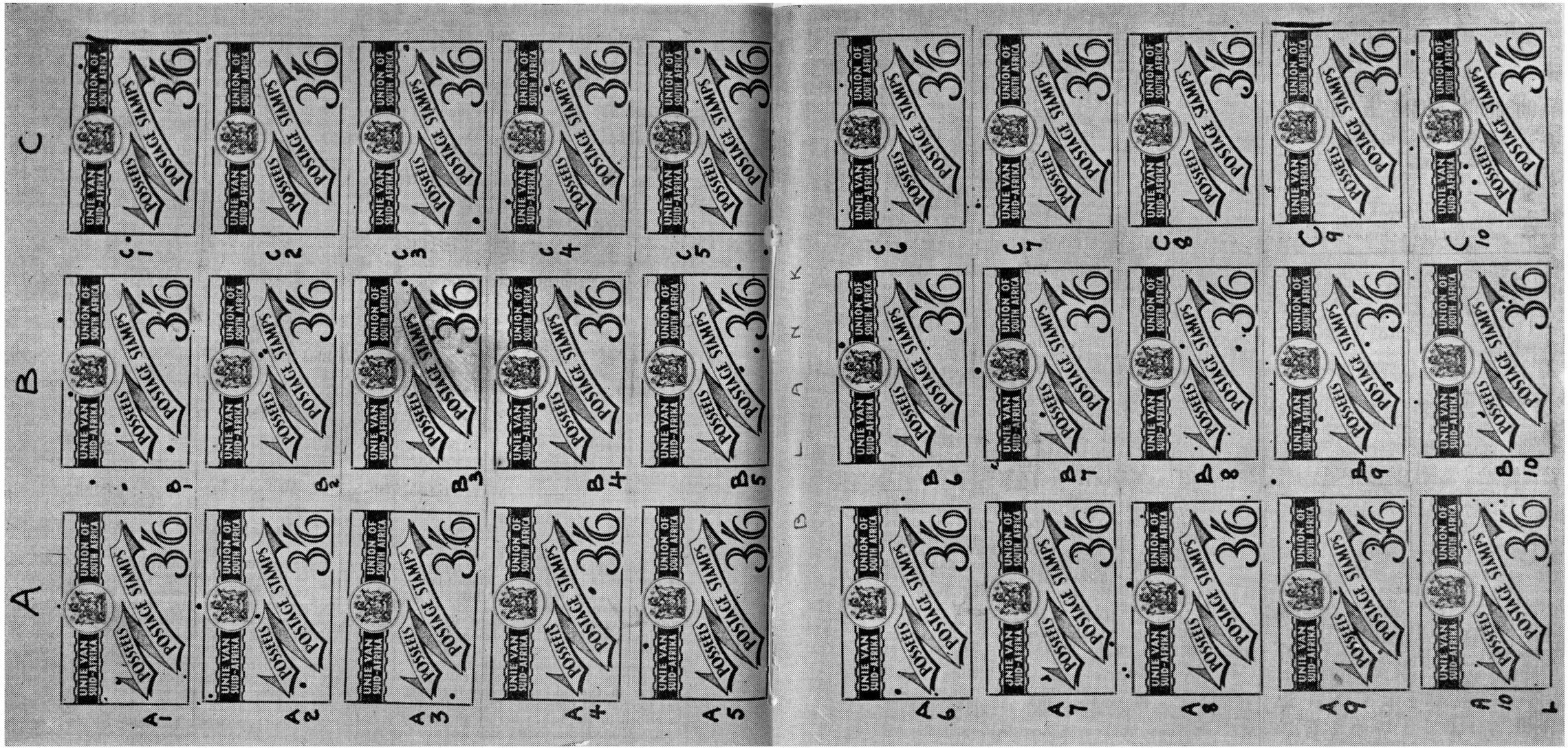


Fig. 1. Complete Sheet of Booklet Covers.

list of small blemishes and printing varieties on the stamps themselves, and considerable pleasure will be experienced in collecting and plating this most interesting series of booklets.

The authors desire to express their thanks for the kind assistance given to them by the officials of the Department of Posts and Telegraphs in the preparation of this article and also to Dr. C. L. L. Murray of Kuils River and Mr. E. Walker of Pretoria for the lists of cover marks and stamp flaws incorporated in the Plating Chart.

Collectors' Wants & Offers

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

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

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STAMPS.—Want lists invited for any country; specialities Union, S.W.A., British Africa. — LACY'S, Gillbern Buildings, cor. Plein and Mostert Streets, Cape Town.

REQUIRED Switzerland, All issues, mint, used and covers. For Cash or Exchange for Geo. VI.—B. JOSEPH, P.O. Box 4967, Johannesburg.

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INFORMATION ON TAP: Philatelic Press Cutting Service for the Specialist. — CLIFFORD DE KUSEL, 38, London Rd., Stroud, Glos., England.

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TRISTAN DA CUNHA.

The First Postmark.

The first postmark (unofficial, used by the resident missionary) of Tristan da Cunha was one as shewn in the accompanying illustration.



but when it came into use is not definitely known. Mr. A. J. Sefi, who first wrote up the postal history of the island (See the **Philatelic Journal of Great Britain,** Vol. XXXIV, 1924, p. 170) thought it was probably towards the end of last century. The actual earliest dated post from the island bearing this mark is one in the collection of Mr. D. B. Armstrong, the year being 1909.

Recently in Cape Town I was given some information which I think pins down the sending of this canceller to the island to either 1907 or 1908, with the probabilities pointing to 1908. I was informed by a friend of the family that the late Mr. Casper Keytel took it there on the schooner "Greyhound". He went there with ideas of starting a fishing industry which, however, did not materialize.

That in 1907 and 1908 small sailing vessels were chartered by the Imperial Government to take mail and stores to Tristan is confirmed in the Annual Reports of the P.M.G. of Cape Colony and that Mr. Keytel went there on the "Greyhound" in those years is confirmed by Mrs. Barrow, wife of the missionary, the Rev. J. G. Barrow, in her book "Three years on Tristan de Cunha." The Barrows reached the island in April 1906 and were there till 1909. On the occasion of Mr. Keytel's second visit in 1908 he remained on the island for the best part of a year.

The probability seems to be therefore that Mr. Keytel was asked by Mr. Barrow on the occasion of his 1907 visit to bring back a canceller with him when he returned in 1908.

This mark remained in use till 1918 when it was reported in one letter from the island as "nearly worn out." The known marks on covers showing it are all in violet and most of them are now badly faded and only faintly discerible.

Not connected with the first mark, but of interest to Tristan collectors is the following extract from a letter sent to Mr. H. J. Butler by the Administrator of Tristan da Cunha and published in the March issue of "The Philatelist". It shows how quickly fakers can get busy when a place is in the limelight, as Tristan is at present.

"A point that may interest you is that I have found that a Tristan 'frank' has been manufactured in England recently, and quite illegally. I have had batches of stamped letters marked with this frank sent here — presumably to 'authenticate' them by the 'paquebot' mark. Needless to say, this has been foiled by sending all the letters back in a parcel unstamped. I hope the postage due was heavy!"

Mr. Butler adds that he has seen some of these envelopes, which are understamped and have been re-posted in England: they therefore have a fake Tristan mark and postage dues attached. The only marks that have been used on Tristan mail are those illustrated in his article which appeared in the September issue of "The Philatelist." J.H.H.P.

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B. J. HUNTER

have pleasure in offering a few items of interest to their many customers in the Union. Some of these stamps were purchased recently when two famous collections were sold at auction, and the remainder were bought privately;—

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2/6 S.G. 21 Plate I horizontal strip of three showing plate number, **£4 10s. 0d.**
5/- S.G. 22a Marginal copy with co-extensive Jubilee line, **£10 0s. 0d.**
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£1 S.G. 24, **£12**; £1 S.G. 24a, **£14.**

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2d. P.14 x 13½ S.G. 34 inscriptional block of four, **£1 17s. 6d.**
1/- P.14 S.G. 36 Marginal block of four ex "Lewis" collection, showing "extra horn" and "mane" varieties (one stamp very slightly defective), **£5.**
1/- P.14 S.G. 36 inscriptional pair, **£1 15s. 0d.**
2/6 P.14 S.G. 37 right corner block of four with oval perfs., **£5.**
2/6 P.14 S.G. 37 inscriptional pair, **£3 15s. 0d.**
5/- P.14 S.G. 38, **£4**; Inscriptional pair, **£6 10s. 0d.**
10/- S.G. 39, a used block of four P.14, and a used block of four P.14 x 13½, the two, **£2 10s. 0d.**

ALL MINT EXCEPT AS STATED.

The above are all in stock at the time of forwarding copy to the Publishers, and will not be offered elsewhere for at least three weeks, to give our overseas clients every opportunity of securing these items.

B. J. Hunter 56a, EAST STREET, BRIGHTON, SUSSEX, ENGLAND
TEL. BRIGHTON 29677.

SOUTH AFRICAN COLLECTORS' SOCIETY.

The first issue of "The Springbok" has now been distributed. Early application for membership is desirable if you wish to have your copies starting from Volume 1, Number 1. Overseas applications welcomed.

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URGENT NEED FOR ANNUAL ISSUE OF HEALTH STAMPS

By

J. P. SHINGLER.

(Paper read at the Philatelic Congress, Cape Town, March, 1952.)

The visit of the wonderful blind personality, Miss Helen Keller, and her equally remarkable companion, Miss Polly Thompson, must have brought to the minds of many South Africans, the needs not only of the 31,000 blind people in this country, but also the crying needs of the under-nourished and sick people in what is called the "Dark Continent".

Switzerland has produced an annual set of charity stamps since 1913, the profit from which is devoted to Child Welfare work. Firstly, the Pro Juventute bore the pictures of children and later, the arms of Canton and now more recently, the beautiful views of Swiss scenery and of flowers have appeared on these children's stamps.

Large numbers of these stamps are sold to collectors each year, but they fulfil the proper purpose of a charity issue, for the Swiss take pride in using them for several weeks after they appear, in spite of the increased cost as compared with the ordinary postage stamps.

It is significant too that these annual charity stamps usually appear in Switzerland in December, for it is rightly felt that at Christmastide folks are more kindly disposed towards good works and thus maximum sales are secured.

We have only to think back through the last two World Wars to realise what enormous sums have been raised for Red Cross and other work among the troops and on the Home Front. When hostilities cease, claims of widows and orphans, war invalids and returned prisoners of war are urged by attractive stamps.

To-day a number of countries, particularly in Europe, have their annual series of charity stamps and these are invariably beautiful. In the British Empire, New Zealand started issuing charity stamps in 1929, and in 1932 began its first popular health stamp issue.

For purposes of accuracy, the change in the designation of the premium was made and the funds derived from the sale of these stamps have been devoted to the foundation and mainteance of Health Camps, where in the summer under-developed children can be rehabilitated physically. The following are the sales of charity and health stamps in New Zealand since their inception in 1929.

1929	592,848	1940	644,728
1930	215,543	1941	784,398
1931	186,731	1942	1,662,467
1932	277,504	1943	6,427,797
1933	260,883	1944	6,450,548
1934	279,120	1945	7,989,478
1935	1,250,057	*1946	9,500,000
1936	1,449,980	*1947	11,500,000
1937	897,035	1948	11,346,809
1938	1,234,720	1949	11,516,143
1939	998,792	1950	Over 13 Mil. x sales £119,380.
		1951	—With a target of £110,000, the First Day's sales reached £81,554. I have not yet seen the final sales total.

*Number printed (sales not available).

x£9,942 in excess of 1949 Sales.

The Health Camp will benefit by £39,000.

In South Africa, one must remember the constantly recurring financial appeals each year for the blind, the deaf and dumb, and the scourges of Tuberculosis and Cancer, and finally, the needs of the Red Cross Society for many undernourished citizens. Surely, the practical policy to follow would be the issue of Health Stamps each year, and the premiums gained could be divided each year amongst these special funds. I believe that such postage stamps are in effect paper salesmen who will silently spread Health Propaganda not only on this Continent, but wherever there are Stamp Collectors. South Africa has a much larger population than New Zealand, and the proceeds of the Sales of Health Stamps would be much greater.

In South Africa, we have had only three issues of stamps from which surcharges have been made for the Voortrekker and Huguenot Commemorative Funds. However, we have Easter Stamps sold by voluntary workers in aid of the Fund for the care of crippled children. As well Xmas Stamps are sold to raise Funds for the National Tuberculosis Association. Here, the public has subscribed generously for what are, in effect, only labels and which do not serve any definite postal duty.

In this country where tuberculosis and other serious diseases take their terrible toll of the lives of men, women and children, and reduce working efficiency and economic output to an alarming degree, let us all unite to urge the Government to issue annually Health Stamps.

NORTHERN RHODESIA.

Three correspondents, Messrs. J. F. Davidson, W. C. Kuun and J. W. R. Brown, have kindly sent us information about new issues, particularly the ½d. with comb per. 12½ x 13¾.

So far this issue appears to be on sale in sheet form only at Kitwe, Luanshya and Mufulira. But a new development has occurred at Kitwe, where stamp vending machines for both ½d. and 1d. stamps were introduced in January. (Query, also at Ndola and possibly other offices). The rolls for these machines have obviously been made up from sheet printings, and they show a join after every 12th stamp (the sheets are 10 horizontal x 12 vertical).

In the case of 1d. stamps the rolls are made from the original 12½ line perf. stamps, but the ½d. rolls have the new comb perf. 12½ x 13¾ stamps. Our thanks for the information and specimens.

EIRE — A BURDEN.

A controversy and even a demand for an overprint has been raging since November when the two stamps honouring Thomas Moore were issued by the Irish Republic. The stamps had, at the bottom, the value and the one word "Eire". It appears to be arguable whether this word is the state's official name, but accepting that it is, the initial "E" should have an acute accent. Without an accent, the word means something like a burden, or a stumbling block.

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REVIEWS

German Philatelic Review. Peter C. Rickenback, 163 Sumatra Road, London N.W. 6, England. Price 2/-.

A new publication, with no advertisements, which it is proposed to issue bi-monthly. It is intended to bring German philately (ancient and modern) before collectors whose knowledge of German may not be very great, and/or those who have little opportunity of seeing German publications. The contents will be mainly translations from the German philatelic press — with political propaganda, if any, removed!

To give an idea of its scope here are the titles of the chief articles in Vol. I, No. 1: Booklets issued since 1.11.10; Remainder stocks of Bavarian issues; Prussian POL perforations on post-war issues; Berlin Kabinetts-Postamt; Chemnitz Forgery of 10 pfg. Germania; Nuremberg Glider Meeting — Flown covers are Forgeries; Metz, Germany's only Pre-cancel; Postal stationery of Alexanderstadt.

The Printings of King George VI Colonial Stamps, by W. J. W. Potter in collaboration with R. C. M. Shelton. Published by "Stamp Collecting" Ltd., 42 Maiden Lane, London W.C.2. Price, strong card covers, 7/6; Blue cloth boards, 10/6. Postage 3d. extra.

There are tables of **all** printings of the British Colonial stamps, showing in a readily followed manner the changes in shade, perforation, paper, etc. which took place. As most readers know these changes were numerous during the war years. In some cases the lists may even yet be not quite complete, but there can be little doubt that they are more nearly complete in this publication than in any other. This is a book which should certainly be in the hands of all those who aim at a really fine collection of K.G. VI stamps.

The Springbok. Edited by C. E. Sherwood for The South African Collectors' Society, 105 Marford Crescent, Sale, Manchester.

The Society now has a membership of nearly 100 and a magazine is considered necessary to take the place of the news folders previously circulated amongst members. We gather, though, it is not specially stated, that it will be a bi-monthly production. No price is mentioned, so it may be presumed it is only to be issued to members.

It is very nicely produced, with an attractive cover, the design being based on our ½d. stamp.

The contents are good solid meat, 20 pages of them, and we welcome our new contemporary. The editor states that it is not intended to replace or to compete with the "South African Philatelist," but to be complementary to it in order to increase the interest in the collecting of South African stamps outside that country and in particular in the United Kingdom. Good luck to it!

CANADA.

The 2nd February saw the issue of a new black $1 stamp, featuring a Pacific Coast Indian House and Totem Pole.

SHORT NOTICES.

Mr. J. Stephen, of 26 Coed Pella Road, Colwyn Bay, Great Britain has sent us his first catalogue of a series of mail sales proposed to be held. This present list contains mainly Air Mail Covers (his original speciality) and Japanese occupation stamps. Items will be sold at the prices marked, to the first bidder; if you are only interested in something at a lower price, send it in — if not exceeded by anyone else and if not too low, it may be accepted.

Catalogues will be sent regularly for 2/6 per annum.

Philatelic Societies' Year Book 1952-53. Published by the B.P.A., 3 Berners St., London W.I. Price 1/6.

A useful reference booklet giving particulars (addresses, office-bearers, programmes) of (a) National bodies, (b) Societies in Great Britain and Eire, (c) Specialist societies and study circles, (d) Societies in Australia, New Zealand, South Africa, (e) a few others in East and West Indies, etc.

(British) National Stamp Exhibition. This exhibition, sponsored jointly by the Junior Philatelic Society and the Philatelic Traders' Society, was held in the Central Hall, Westminster, Jan. 10th—17th.

Non-competitive, but with a lot of fine exhibits sent in by invitation; also lots of dealers' stands.

The P.M.G. authorised the use of a special postmark, a large double-ring mark with the wording "Coronation Year National Stamp Exhibition 1953" surrounding a Maltese Cross device with the date below it.

Supplements to "The Encyclopaedia of Empire Postage Stamps". Robson Lowe has commenced Supplements to the 3 vols. of his Encyclopaedia, much on the same lines as we publish in this magazine supplements to the Union Handbook/Catalogue.

The supplements in the January issue of "The Philatelist", so far as concerns Vol. II (Africa) deal entirely with the first 5 pages, i.e. mainly proofs, essays, etc. of the early stamps of the Union of South Africa.

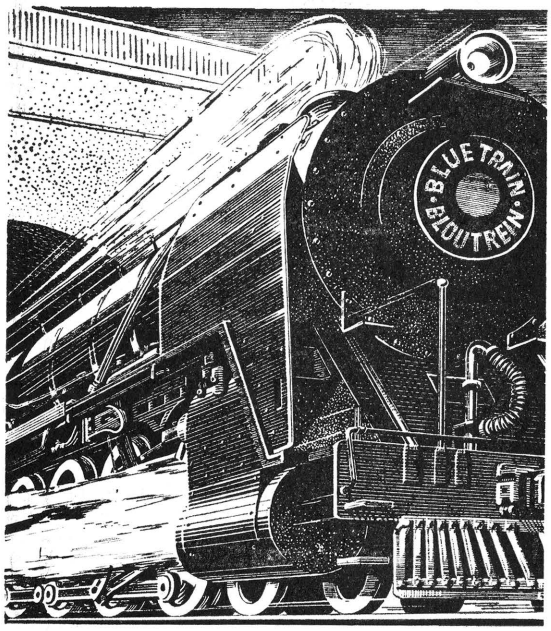
Coronation Album — Gibbons and Rapkin Combine. Messrs. Stanley Gibbons and Messrs. G. F. Rapkin are combining to issue a special album for the stamps issued in connection with Her Majesty's Coronation. There will be spaces for all the stamps to be issued and brief details of the various countries issuing them. The retail price will be 10/6.

B.A.P.I.P. Exhibition. The British Association of Palestine-Israel Philatelists is holding an exhibition in London, April 20-25. There will be an official Israeli exhibit, others by members of the Society. Details have reached us too late unfortunately for entries to be made from South Africa.

BELGIUM.

There has been a rumpus by the Belgian public over the King Baudouin stamps to the effect that his portrait is quite unlike what they ever see him, viz., the absence of the horn-rimmed spectacles which he always wears in public. This point was discussed when the stamps were being prepared and it was decided against spectacles. Now the vox populi demands spectacles.

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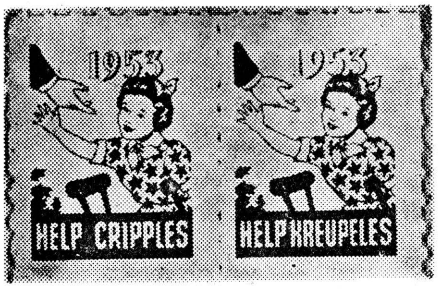
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EASTER STAMPS

By ALFRED BRASCH.

A helping hand stretched out towards a crippled girl who tries to take hold of it is the theme of the design of the 1953 Easter Stamp. The artist, Mr. Treasure, with his design and caption "Help Cripples" endeavours to depict the purpose of the Easter Stamp Fund which is launched annually for a few weeks prior to Easter.



Whilst the National Council for the Care of Cripples in South Africa was formed in 1939, it was in 1945 that the Easter Stamp was adopted as its Fund-raising vehicle.

South Africa has never issued Charity Stamps which, like the Health Stamps of New Zealand, the Pro Juventute Stamps of Switzerland, the Child Welfare Stamps of the Netherlands, etc., have besides a franking value, a surcharge devoted to charitable purposes.

In 1929, South Africa introduced, with the help of Mrs. Christiansen, the Christmas Seals, with the object of collecting Funds for the prevention of Tuberculosis.

The Easter Stamp became the second charitable stamp of this nature in South Africa; neither have any franking value, but are sold within the precincts of the Post Office with permission of the Postmaster-General. The Easter Stamp is sold by voluntary workers not only at the Post Office, but wherever possible; Schools participate, too.

The people of South Africa in increasing numbers use the important seasons of Christmas and Easter as a welcome opportunity to send a special message of goodwill with their messages transmitted by post. Every Easter Stamp on your letter helps to swell the needed funds for a worthy cause. But more, it also fosters in us one of the principles of a healthy state, namely, that we are all one people, where the fortunate must help the less fortunate. And last, but not least, every Easter Stamp bears a message of hope and a promise: the prospect for a more useful life to all our cripples. This hope is well expressed in the words on the emblem of the Council — "Then shall the lame man leap." (Isiah. 35 : 6).

The Easter Stamp is solely dependent on the voluntary work of individuals, of Ladies' Societies, Churches and Charitable Groups. The Christmas Stamp Fund is in the fortunate position of having the distribution, sale and accounting of their Xmas Stamps undertaken by the Union Postal Authorities. Since 1932, they have been printed by the Government Printers using the same process as for the Union Postage Stamps. This is of indeed great value, and it is to be hoped that in the not too distant future a similar facility will be granted to the Organiser of the Easter Stamp Fund.

As for the Easter Stamp itself, I may mention that there are quite a number of countries besides that of the Union which issue charitable stamps at Eastertime to help Cripples. There are even quite a few Collectors who collect those Charity Seals in the same manner as Postage Stamps are collected. It might be well worth while for readers to consider collecting the stamps of Welfare Organisations in South Africa this year, if they have not already done so.

Southern Africa's Easter Stamp still has room for improvement. While some of the designs issued so far show considerable thought and artistic planning, the printing and finish do not do full justice to the designs and their messages.

The target for the 1953 Campaign aims at the sale of 7,200,000 Easter Stamps (or £30,000). When it is realised that there are approximately 56,000 cripples in our midst, of whom the greater number could be rehabilitated by the expert attention provided by the Cripple Care Services in our country, this is not so great a sum as it first appears.

Let the helping hand depicted on the 1953 Easter Stamp be your hand and give freely, and say a prayer for your own good health and vitality.

KOREAN "FREE FORCES MAIL".

This service is no more. Such at least is the news Mr. I. H. C. Godfrey has received from the Chaplain to No. 2 Squadron S.A.A.F. in Korea. The free postage privileges which they have enjoyed since May, 1951, were withdrawn in January and all remaining stocks of the "Free Forces Mail" letter cards have been recalled.

Their place is being taken by the British "Forces Letter" forms which require to be franked with British adhesive stamps to the value of 2½d.

There would appear to have been five distinct types of "Free Forces Mail" letter cards, apart from colouration varieties, and as each of them has Afrikaans first and English first wordings on the basic sheets, there are at least ten collectable items of this interesting series of South African Airmail Postal Stationery. Illustrations and descriptions were given in our 1952 volume, pp. 86, 124, 180 and 222.

Mr. Godfrey has been informed by the G.P.O. Publicity Department that the total number of Free Forces Mail forms issued was 21,600.

TRANSVAAL PHILATELIC BOWLERS.

The annual meeting of bowling teams representing the Philatelic Societies of the Transvaal, the Postal Department and the Government Printing Works has been arranged this year to take place at Vlakfontein Mine, Springs, on 19th April. This should be a nice sedative for the players after the excitement of the general election.

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ROLL OF HONOUR

MAJOR NORMAN WELSFORD.

Norman Welsford was born in 1891 at Melbourne, Australia and his early boyhood (ca. 1896-1901) was spent in Canada and U.S.A. He started stamp collecting in Canada when the Jubilee issue of 1897 attracted him, but gave it up when his father was offered ten shillings for a collection which he fondly expected would realise as many pounds.

Came to South Africa in 1901, when the stamp bug again bit him and he has had a chronic infection therefrom ever since. Shortly after leaving school in Durban he was one of the little band which formed the Philatelic Society of Natal; he was its first Hon. Secretary and subsequently held most other offices in it. About this time he developed a large correspondence with collectors throughout the world, exchanging stamps with them. He also published "The South African Philatelic Advertiser".

The organising side of philately has always been a strong point with him. He was Organiser of both the International Stamp Exhibitions held in Durban, in 1913 and 1926; Assistant Hon. Organiser at SATISE last year; and for a short period in the post-war years was Hon. Sec. and Treasurer of the Philatelic Federation of Southern Africa.



Major Welsford served in both World Wars; in both S.W. and E. Africa in No. I and in the hospital ship "Amra" and in the Union in No. II.

Outside of philately his organising abilities also found scope: he was Hon. Sec./Treasurer of the S.A. Amateur Athletic and Cycling Association, 1930-7 and an Hon. Life member thereof since 1938; had similar offices in the Natal Motor Cycle Club and the Natal Prov. Olympic Games Assoc. Finally it must be mentioned that he was Manager of the S. African Team at the British Empire Games held in Canada, 1930.

He has been in the past a general stamp collector with advanced collections of a number of countries, but now specialises only in Australia. He has contributed extensively to the press on philatelic subjects and is at present endeavouring to arouse interest in the hobby in Swaziland, where he now lives, by contributing a column weekly to the "Swaziland Times".

He was elected to South Africa's philatelic Roll of Honour at the Pretoria Congress in Nov., 1948.

BULAWAYO CONGRESS.

It looked at one time as if it might not be possible to hold Congress in Bulawayo, through difficulties about accommodation with the crowd of visitors expected for the Rhodes Centenary celebrations.

These difficulties have been overcome, however, largely through the energy of Mr. Jack Crewell. Congress will definitely be held in a conference hall of the centenary exhibition and the Philatelic Society of Rhodesia will stage a non-competitive philatelic exhibition contemporaneously with Congress, i.e. Monday, 13th July to Thursday, 16th.

A trip to the Victoria Falls will be arranged for 17th and 18th July for those desiring it.

Societies have already been notified of these arrangements and it is known that sufficient delegates will be going to make Congress a success. Anyone wishing to go, who has not already fixed things up, should communicate **at once** with Mr. J. E. Crewell, P.O. Box 803, Bulawayo.

U.S.A.

The first commemorative of 1953 was a 3c. one issued on 23 February, honouring the National Guard, the oldest military organisation in the country.

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½d. to 2/6	10/-	11/-
½d. to 10/-	19/6	21/6
½d. to £1	39/6	42/-
Australia		
3½d. Scout Jamboree	4d.	4d.
Morocco and Persian Gulf		
Q.E. II 1½d. and 2½d. (10)	2/3	2/9
India		
Saints and Poets	2/9	2/-
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SOCIETY NEWS

PRETORIA RAILWAY PHILATELIC SOCIETY.

The monthly meeting of the Society that took place on the 11th February was one of the most outstanding that we have had to date. The reason for the success was, that the East Rand Philatelic Society paid us a visit, and gave us a very excellent evening. A strong contingent came over, and together with some other visitors and our members, the attendance total was over 40. Three exhibits were tabled, and everyone, from the experts to the thematic-minded was catered for.

The first exhibit to be shown was that of Mr. Sam Legator, and as this gentleman's fame is a byword with South African philatelists, it follows that his exhibit of "Union Officials" was of the highest order. As always with a specialist collection the experts all enjoyed this exhibit immensely. The second to be tabled was that of another well known South African collector, Mr. Sheffield, who displayed his collection of "Christmas Stamps". This proved to be something right out of the groove, and must be unique in this country. Apart from the fact that the T.B. funds must have received a good donation from this gentleman, his collection proved to be very beautiful and colourful. It was also very well displayed, and I heard many expressions of delight from those present. The third exhibit was that of Mr. Feinstein who presented his "Growth of the Union". This collection, I was told, recently obtained the award of the "Legator Trophy", which is competed for by members of the East Rand Society. The theme was well covered from the landing of Van Riebeeck to the present day, and this gentleman must have put in an enormous amount of work and research of our postal history. The result is that it is a beautiful collection, well displayed, and containing many interesting items. I would like through the medium of the bulletin to endorse the remarks of Messrs. Walker and Howie who spoke on the collections, and also to add my congratulations to the three gentlemen concerned on their outstanding efforts.

AFRIKAANSE FILATELISTIESE VERENIGING.

6 Februarie: Of dit is dat lede nie juis in die seëls van Siam belangstel nie weet ons nie, maar dit wou amper so lyk, want slegs tien geesdriftiges was met hierdie byeenkoms teenwoordig om die uitstalling van commodore C. E. D. Enoch te besigtig. Al is Siam nou nie in almal se kraal nie, was die uitstalling tog iets besonders. Vir die gewone versamelaar was dit miskien effens eentonig, maar die filatelis kon hom nou werklik verlustig in 'n versameling wat getuig van onvermoeide navorsing.

In 'n voorlesing het die commodore een en ander omtrent die uitstalling meegedeel, en afgesluit met 'n aanbieding om die kennis wat hy in 'n veertigjarige loopbaan opgedoen het tot lede beskikbaar te stel.

Ons gas was namens die vereniging deur die voorsitter bedank.

Met die byeenkoms op 6 Maart sal die voorsitter en sekretaris gesamentlik verantwoordelik vir die uitstalling wees, nl. oorlogstydse lugposstukke uit Switserland en Unielugbriefkaarte uit die Verre-Ooste. Ook sal die voorsitter 'n vasvrawedstryd stel.

Op Maandag, 16 deser bring die vereniging sy eerste besoek aan die Pretoria Philatelic Society.

Kennis is geneem van 'n aansoek om lidmaatskap deur die heer A. R. van der Merwe, van Jagersfontein.

Graag bring ons weer onder die aandag van belangstellendes dat almal baie hartlik verwelkom sal word op ons vergaderings. S.J.V.

AFRIKAANSE PHILATELISTIESE VERENIGING VAN PRETORIA.

23 Januarie. 'n Baie gesellige aand is deurgebring toe ons met ons eerste vergadering van die jaar deur die „Pretoria Philatelic Society" besoek is. Die aantal besoekers en lede teenwoordig het van goeie samewerking in die toekoms getuig, en lede van ons vereniging kyk uit na ons beesoek aan die „Pretoria Philatelic Society".

'n Kort proses is gemaak van die gewone besigheid en daarna is mnr. P. G. D. Gain, wat as voorsitter van die besoekers opgetree het, aan die woord gestel.

Die eerste besoeker wat tntoongestel het was mnr. W. Newlands. Nou ja dit spreek vanself. Van 'n Newlands kan jy net iets uit die boonste rakke verwag, hier was dit toe 'n versameling van Burma 1942-46. Nou ja, wat sal ons sê, ek dink selfs die Burmese sal verbaas wees om te sien wat gedurende daardie jare deur hul pos gegaan het, en in sy versameling 'n tuiste gevind het.

Die volgende wat ons te sien gekry het, was die versameling van Unie offisiële posseëls. Die versameling wat aan die „Pretoria Philatelic Society" behoort en deur die Kurator Dr. H. O. Reisener tentoongestel is, het ook meer dan een Unie-versamelaar se mond laat water.

Ten laaste het mnr. C. S. Gouws 'n versameling van diere op posseëls uitgestal. Ook die versameling het baie aandag getrek en 'n spesiale woord van dank aan mnr. Gouws.

Die vergadering het om 10.15 n.m. verdaag.

Nuwe lede: Drs. A. V. Opperman, Z. Gurevics en H. O. Reisener.

G. J. de S.

EAST RAND PHILATELIC SOCIETY.

At our **December** meeting there were a further four entries exhibited for Sam Legator Trophy. They were:—

Mrs. P. G. Wells, New Zealand; Mr. P. G. Wells, Canada; Mr. MacArthur, America and European States; Mr. A. Kaplan, France. This makes a total of 12 entries for this trophy.

At our Thirty-Third Annual General Meeting held on **20th January** we had a very good turn out of mmbers and visitors, making a total of 23 present. This was due to the presentation of the Sam Legator Trophy which the judges awarded to Mr. L. Feinstein for his Collection of Stamps and Covers on "The Birth, Growth and Development of South Africa." The collection started with the early postal history at the Cape of Good Hope, with covers of the Dutch East India Company; letters addressed to the Governors of the Cape, and a variety of covers of the period 1806 to 1840.

Then the major events of the last century were shown and illustrated with stamps, such as the Great Trek 1836 and the formation of various Boer Republics; Mafeking Siege stamps and prisoner-of-war stamps representing the Anglo-Boer War; then the stamps of the Republics overprinted V.R.I. and E.R.I., followed by the stamps of the provinces; then stamps of the Union of South Africa with Commemoratives up to date.

Officers for the fortscoming year are: President, Mr. H. Suklje; Vice-President, Mr. L. Feinstein, Hon. Secretary-Treasurer, Mr. E. N. Rigg, 157 Woburn Avenue, Benoni; Additional Members to Committee, Messrs. I. Slomowitz and S. Legator; Federation Delegate, Mr. S. Legator, P.O. Box 133, Brakpan; Congress Delegate, Mr. H. Suklje, P.O. Box 485, Benoni.

At our **February** meeting there was a fair attendance and three new members were admitted to the Society. The evening's exhibits were provided by Mrs. Wood who showed portion of her collection of Switzerland, and Mr. Legator, who also tabled portion of his collection of Orange Free State.

Dr. Kaplan displayed his collection of Antigua, which was an entry for the S. Legator Trophy. .....

Bowls Tournament.

Mr. Shepherd who has had the arrangements for fixing the venue for the tournament reported that arrangements have now been finally fixed, and the venue will be on the Greens of the Vlakfontein Gold Mine, East Rand, on the 19th April, 1953. Members wishing to take part, should without delay send their names into Mr. Ferguson of the Pretoria Society.

Other members who wish to have a day's outing with their families, are also welcome, but they must provide their own picnic baskets. The management of the Mine has also permitted their swimming baths to be used by our members. E.J.R.

ORANGE FREE STATE AND BASUTOLAND PHILATELIC SOCIETY.

The Annual General Meeting of the Society took place at the Technical College on Friday evening **23rd January** and the whole evening was devoted to business.

After Mr. C. A. Larsen, the retiring President, had presented his Annual Report, Mr. J. B. Levy, a past President of the Society moved a unanimous vote of thanks to Mr. Larsen for his years of guidance and keen interest in the affairs of the Society.

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Dr. K. Freund was elected President of the Society for the ensuing year and Mr. C. E. Kachelhoffer was elected Vice-President. A new Committee was formed consisting of the following members: Secretary/Treasurer and Exchange Superintendent, Mr. A. J. Denne, and Messrs. C. A. Larsen, H. E. Searle, H. J. Nel and A. H. Scott.

PHILATELIC SOCIETY OF THE WESTERN RAND

The two West Rand Clubs which have now comzined and will be known as "Philatelic Society of Western Rand", had their first General Meeting on the **28th January,** in the Parish Hall, Amelia Street, Roodepoort.

With the election of Office-Bearers, Mr. E. J. Sharpe was put into the chair, and took over the meeting, which consisted of putting the new Club onto its feet, and pooling all the finance and resources of the old Clubs into one.

Mr. J. Keet, of 5 Nerissa Street, Florida, was appointed Hon. Secretary.

Dr. Berry gave us an interesting talk and display on the four last Cylinder Numbers of the Union 2d. including varieties. Mr. Vermaak thanked Dr. Berry for his valuable information which was news to most of the collectors.

Mr. W. Lelland was awarded the Semmens Prize for 1952. Being the most outstanding exhibitor of the year, the display consisted of Union Coils and Booklets. J.K.

PHILATELIC SOCIETY OF JOHANNESBURG.

The Annual General Meeting of the Society was held on Tuesday, **February 10th,** and there was a good attendance.

Reports of the President, Treasurer, Hon. Secretary and Hon. Exchange Superintendents showed that the Society had had a satisfactory year.

After the Constitution had been amended in some respects an election was held for Officers and Committee for 1953/4. and resulted in the following being elected: President, Mr. E. Schaiowitz; Vice-President, Mr. B. Joseph; Hon. Secretaries, Messrs. Frankland and Hutton; Hon. Treasurer, Mr. K. Lydall; Hon. Exchange Superintendents, Messrs. B. Joseph, L. Strong and M. Jecks. Members of the Committee: Messrs. Buchen, Glassman, Isaacs and Lilley and Dr. Kaplan with Dr. J. H. Harvey Pirie and Mr. W. Sheffield as ex-officio members.

Mr. W. Sheffield exhibited a selection of his Unions showing some special items including a sheet a cross-hatch ½d. value and the 2d. official with the diaeresis variety. Dr. Farber spoke on the exhibit.

On Monday, **February 23rd** the exhibit was provided by Mrs. E. Hunt who showed a fine collection of Gambia. The cameo issues in portraits were shown in all varieties of watermarks, gum and perforation and imperf. There were numerous small sheets of those fine stamps and there were several fine used items including the rare 2d. buff.

The Queens Key Type issue and the issues of Edward VII and George V were also well represented in blocks as well as fine single items. The Pictorial and Commemorative issues were all shown.

There were numerous essays, proofs and specimen stamps of all issues, including a unique proof of the cameo issues and colour trials of George V issue.

Mrs. Hunt prepared a paper on the exhibit which was read by Mr. E. Hunt.

Commodore C. E. D. Enoch spoke on the exhibit and drew attention to several varieties.

PRETORIA PHILATELIC SOCIETY.

On the **2nd February, 1953,** the Society's Annual General Meeting was held. The usual formalities of such an occasion included acknowledgements to retiring Office Bearers and elections as follows for the ensuing year: President, Mr. F. C. Ferguson, Vice-President, Mr. P. D. Gain; Hon. Secretary, Mr. H. Endemann, and as Committee Members Miss B. J. Versfeld, Dr. H. Reisener and Messrs. S. J. Gouws (Treasurer), W. Impey (Exchange Superintendent), D. Slater Kinghorn (Librarian), W. Kriste, J. Coombe Martin and E. C. Wright.

Dr. H. Reisener was accorded the Hawke Memorial Award for 1952, and Messrs. N. L. Watson and L. J. Dodd were elected as Honorary Life Members, for outstanding philatelic services, for all of which the Society was happy to record its indebtedness in this manner.

After reports on a successful year as to activities, membership and finances had been received, Dr. V. Fitzsimons, Director of the Transvaal Museum, entertained the meeting with an exhibit from the Museum's fine collection of New Issue stamps. He showed some from "behind the Iron Curtain", which were of particular interest as to their rarety, historical significance and excellent production.

The second bi-monthly meeting, held on the **16th February,** was a bilingual one, brought about by the first visit from the Afrikaanse Filatelistiese Vereniging, Johannesburg. The President, Mr. J. W. Schubart, came with an enthusiastic contingent of about 14 members, who provided an evening of good and varied interests. Stamps were shown by Mr. E. Achterberg (Belgium), Mr. H. J. Schwartz (St. Helena), Mr. S. J. Vermaak (Korean postal stationery), Mr. J. W. Schubart (O.F.S.), and Mr. W. Lambert (Airmails).

The meeting was delighted by the high standard of the exhibits, and Mr. Ferguson and other speakers congratulated the Vereniging on its impressive achievements when it was as yet a very young organisation; good wishes were expressed for continued progress as well as thanks for a much appreciated visit. B.J.V.

23-2-53.

The Editor, "S.A. Philatelist",
Johannesburg.

"SATISE" BALANCE SHEET.

Sir,

As I have received a number of inquiries regarding the non-publication of the above I would be glad if you would afford me some space in your columns to explain the position as far as I am concerned.

I left Cape Town at the beginning of August last and at that time the audited financial statement of the Van Riebeeck Cover Committee was in the hands of the Committee of which Mr. E. Blum is Chairman. There was a very substantial balance on hand and doubtless the plans regarding the disposal of these funds will be announced shortly.

Regarding the finances of "Satise", as there were a few accounts still to come in the books could not be closed off and I therefore tendered my resignation to the Honorary Organiser, Mr. Combrink, but was asked to withdraw same, which I did. The accounts had been audited up to a few days prior to my departure and in this account too I am happy to say that quite a large credit balance remained.

It was promised to me that as soon as the few remaining accounts had been received the books would be handed to the auditors to complete their work and the balance sheet sent to me for signature.

Under cover of a letter dated the 30th January the Hon. Organiser sent me a **copy** of the Balance Sheet but up to the time of writing I have not been asked to scrutinise or sign the original.

Yours faithfully,
NORMAN WELSFORD.

SOUTHERN RHODESIA.

Additional to the notes given in our February issue, it can now be stated that there will be a special 2/6 Coronation stamp issued on 1 June, also that the permanent Q.E. issue will come out on 15 October. There will be 14 values, ½d. to £1; they will be pictorial in design with a cameo portrait of the Queen. The special 6d. Exhibition stamp will be on sale at the Exhibition 30 May—29 August.

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NOTES ON THE FOUR ISSUES OF THE CURRENT 2d. STAMPS

By

A. LICHTENSTEIN.

A comparison between sheets printed from the four sets of cylinders reveals the existence of **two** sets of multopositive Plates (referred to hereafter as MP.) viz.:

(1) MP. Exterior I and MP. Interior I, employed for Cyl. 6927/50, i.e. the first set of cylinders, in use from 1950 until the middle of 1952. On this exterior MP. the first and last stamps are in English.

(2) MP. Ext. II and MP. Int. II used for the production of cylinders 18/30, 18/27 and 46/27 alike — all of them having the first and last stamps in the sheet in Afrikaans—and all these made their appearance during the latter half of 1952. Curiously enough, the cyclometer sheet numbers on this second set of MP. printings differ from those of the first set by the size and shape.

There can be no doubt the 6927/50 issue having been printed from MP.'s different to the other three issues, as a careful scrutiny of a number of sheets has failed to reveal any trace of a single characteristic common to all of them. On the other hand, there is an abundance of quite prominent, besides minor, flaws common to the 18/30, 18/27 and 46/27 printings so as to leave no doubt at all in one's mind of **one** set of MP.'s (viz. Ext. II and Int. II) being the parent of them all.

Before proceeding with detailed listings of flaws, I would like to emphasise that all flaws occurring on the three issues of group MP. II can be divided into the following categories, viz.:

(a) Multopositive flaws, occurring (with variations in density, etc.) on **all** three issues — naturally always in the same position.

(b) Flaws common to both printings from the same cylinders (Cyl. 18 Ext., and 27 Int., — each existing in combination with another cylinder).

(c) Flaws peculiar to any one cylinder, used in conjunction or combination with another cylinder.

Unfortunately, a host of minor and/or minute dots and spots have to be cited as evidence of proof, and the student of these issues will exercise his discretion as to which of these dots, etc., he will admit to his collection. In the list now following, I have purposely omitted mention of additional minor dots where these occur on a stamp already listed for some distinctive flaw, or where their listing would serve no other purpose than to complicate matters.

TABULATED LIST OF PRINTING FLAWS:

(A). Multopositive Flaws, common to all printings from Cyls. 18/30, 18/27, 46/27.

(1) Flaws of **Exterior Multopositive (II).**

Row
1/1 tiny dot between frame lines above K.
2/17 dot outside right frame opposite dome of tower.
2/20 tiny dot on top of frame centre (varying in size).
4/3 white top to F.
4/8 "bee-hive" centre left frame.
6/18 dot in right bottom frame.
7/8 dot in top left of R.
9/1 dot in lower outer left frame.
11/14 oblique line in right top corner.
12/17 prominent blob in right frame.

(2) Flaws of **Interior MP. II.**

1/15 dot to left of right tower.

(B). Characteristic Cylinder Flaws.

(1) **Cyl. 18 Exterior** (on 18/30 and 18/27 sheets).

Row
1/1 tiny dots about top right corner.
2/2 dot on stop before SUID.
3/15 cluster of dots below left top stop.
5/1 "locust" clinging to top left frame.
7/20 inner white frame blocked below top left wedge.
9/10 dot below top left stop.

(2) **Cyl. 27 Interior** (on 18/27 and 46/27 sheets).
1/3 "antenna" between towers.
5/6 two pigeons in sky below H.
9/13 dot in left lower central sky.
9/16 "snake" in central sky below U.
10/20 huge flock of birds near left corner.

(C) Flaws peculiar to individual cylinders in certain combinations, either 18/30, **or** 18/27, **or** 46/27, but common to none.

(1) **Interior Cyl. 30.**

Row
1/2 tiny dots about left tower.
4/12 spot in top left sky below wedge.
5/14 dot in lower left centre of sky.
5/17 dot in lower centre of sky.
6/9 spot between right tower and chimney.
6/18 spot right centre sky above flag-pole.
8/9 two blobs top right centre of sky.

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9/13 dot between left frame and tower.
11/15 dot in central sky below F.
Vertical row 9 has lighter skies, particularly the 7th stamp.
(2)**Interior Cyl. 27** (on 18/27 sheets).
Row 1/2 three dots about left tower.
(3)**Exterior Cyl. 18** (on 18/27 sheets).
Row 12/1 smudge at bottom left outer frame.
(4)**Exterior Cyl. 46.**
Row 3/11 dot in S of SUID.
3/15 "baby snake" below top left stop.
5/13 flaw below E of Posseel.
7/14 spot below top left stop.
7/14-15 smudge between top of stamps.
10/11 dot in head of figure 2.
11/11 spot in frame below point of left wedge.
12/1 extra frame line below stamp margin opp. No. 1 of rows 1 and 2 "clover hooves" (shades of van Riebeeck issue!!)

Before concluding I should like to draw my readers' attention to the truly wonderful range of shades, nay, colours, in which this 2d. stamp has been issued during the three years of its currency. I have before me Cylinders:
6927/50 in pale blue and purple, blue and bright reddish purple, blue and deep reddish purple, grey-blue and dull purple.
18/30 dark blue and lilac, deep blue and dull purple.
18/27 deep blue and deep purple.
46/27 deep blue and bright purple.
No doubt many other notable shades exist, but I would prefer that some other Union enthusiast, possessing more material than I do, would take up this subject more fully, with dates of issue, and so forth.

Since writing the foregoing, Mr. Lichtenstein has submitted the following additional information on this subject.

"I have just had an opportunity to examine a further batch of sheets of the 2d. Cyl. 18/30 printing and find two prominent additional varieties which are not present on the first batch in my possession and on which I based my original listing.

The additional varieties are:—

(1) Row 7, No. 13; a very prominent blotch at left lower frame, running from the centre plate in the form of a "slate leaf"—curiously similar to the "green leaf" on the ½d. (somewhere in the vertical Row 1 of the Group 6, Handbook printings, but not listed in the Handbook).

(2) A short thick line (often punched out by the perforating machine) between stamps Nos. 14 of Rows 8 and 9, towards the left.

The colours of this printing with the above two varieties are rather deeper lilac and more intense blue than the other sheets seen earlier. and it is just possible that the development of these additional flaws led to the substitution of Cyl. 30 by the subsequent Cyl. 27.

FLOOD RELIEF STAMPS.

According to "Stamp Collecting" the Netherlands P.O. is to issue a 10c. plus 10c. semi-postal the surcharge to be for the benefit of the victims of the disastrous floods.

Denmark is also going to overprint one of the current King's Head stamps as a charity stamp for the flood victims of Holland. Iceland is also having an overprinted stamp.

S.W.A. CORONATIONS.

The Director of Posts and Telegraphs has sent us illustrations of the 5 stamps to be issued on 2nd June, 1d., 2d., 4d., 6d. and 1/-.



The designs of all are similar, but the native flowers shown vary from stamp to stamp. The colours and the names of the flowers are as follows:

1d. Stamp: Colour, Red. Flower, Catophractes Alexandri.
2d. Stamp: Colour, Green. Flower, Bauhinia Macrantha.
4d. Stamp: Colour, Maroon. Flower, Carallu-ma Nebrownii.
6d. Stamp: Colour, Blue. Flower, Gloriosa Virescens.
1/- Stamp: Colour, Brick. Flower, Rhigozum Trichototum.

Stamps and first day covers may be obtained from The Stamp Section, G.P.O., Windhoek. Envelopes will not be supplied departmentally and addressed envelopes must accompany remittances. The stamp will measure approximately 1 3/16 x 15/16 inches and space should be left for the full set on the envelope.

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MEMORIES OF A P.M.G.

(Address to the Nairobi Stamp Club by Mr. German, Postmaster-General, Nairobi.)

Mr. President, Ladies and Gentlemen, when I was asked to come and address the Nairobi Stamp Club my first immediate question was "What do you expect me to talk about?" and Mr. Mann said, "Well, can you talk about something that has happened in your life or experience with some sort of reflection on stamps?"

The fact is that I am not a philatelist. Even in my youth I never collected stamps and when I went into the Post Office in Great Britain 27 years ago I had no knowledge whatever as to how stamps were produced or how they were designed. I was in the Post Office quite a long time before I had anything to do with stamps.

About 1937, I think, I had my first contact with stamp designing in Great Britain and learnt then for the first time what was involved. Now in Britain as you know, there is a tradition that the stamp should contain the head of the monarch only and, indeed, there didn't seem to me so much difficulty about designing a stamp — you put in the monarch's head, added a frame of some kind and the words Postage and Revenue (the name of the country isn't necessary) then the value and that was that. But if you only knew the agony that goes to make the finished design in Great Britain you would be amazed and even more so to find that so few people seem satisfied with the design when it is eventually produced. In Great Britain in those days this was the practice: someone suggested a particular artist or artists, he was commissioned to produce a design and, frequently, he was given an idea as to what he should put in the design. If he was to include anything of a national character it had to be one each for England, Scotland, Wales and Ireland. In due course, a design was produced. A committee in the Post Office had a look at the design or designs before the Royal Fine Art Commission was asked to comment upon them and, of course, finally after the design was approved it went to the monarch for final approval.

I went through all these processes in 1937/1939 and my next contact was a rather peculiar one because in 1940 you will remember that Mr. Churchill suggested to the French a very close link up between the two countries. I do not know whether you know but consideration was given at that time to the preparation of a stamp which would have been twice the size of our present stamp and bear the head of M. le Brun and our own King. Very rough designs were prepared for a suitable stamp in France and, I cannot remember the actual date, no doubt May or June, 1940, I attended a meeting in London at which the French Minister of P.T. and T. was present and he produced a rough design which, of course, died a natural death because before serious consideration could be given to this proposal France collapsed.

In 1942 I went to the Sudan and there as you will all know there was still the "Camel" design. The "Camel" design was, and still will be, the earliest original design in existence. There was also at that time the "Palm Tree" design and, in the course of my discussions there, I asked how the "Palm Tree" design came to be produced and was a bit horrified at the reply.

The Sudan Postal Authorities had no intention of changing the design but stocks of stamps were lost by enemy action and stocks were becoming so low that it was necessary to find stamps at fairly short notice and enquiries were made about the possibility of a new design. It was impossible to obtain stocks from Great Britain and enquiries were made in India and, in due course, a printing firm there stated that they could produce stamps but had no blocks or designs which would have to be prepared for them. The Director of Posts and Telegraphs at that time had staying with him his sister who was an artist and during a dinner party one evening someone asked "Could you produce a design for a stamp?" Well, she had never tried one, but said she would have a shot at it. She produced a design which was produced at a later dinner party and was more or less accepted at that dinner party. I was really quite amazed to think that such a very good stamp indeed should have been produced in such a haphazard sort of way.

Now my next connection with stamps was rather peculiar. In 1950 I returned to a British Post Office and amongst my duties was to be in charge of records we had in the Post Office. We were asked by Sir John Wilson, the Keeper of the King's stamps, whether we would lend some sheets from the Post Office official collection for an exhibition in London and were in course of preparing these sheets when the archivist came to me one day with a book. This book was about 12in. x 10in. and about 3 or 4 inches thick and he said "This book has been found in the basement and I was rather surprised on opening it to see that it contains a lot of stamps." I glanced over the book and it was rather obvious to me that some of the stamps were quite valuable. As far as I can judge there was at one time a private secretary to the Postmaster-General who had taken over from his predecessor and, in a drawer of his desk, he found a lot of stamps. He was by the way of being a philatelist and he took the trouble of getting an album and entering the stamps in so far as he could judge the right order and under the right headings. These stamps had been apparently presented to Postmasters-General at various times from about 1850 to about 1890. They were laid out in sets with just a few gaps here and there and the album was placed in the record office.

As I say I am no philatelist and I was not in a position to judge the value of this collection so I suggested that Sir John Wilson might have a look at this particular book. He came and brought with him an elderly man whose name is either Garven or Garson, I cannot quite remember, but he is quite a well known figure.

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These two men looked at the album and for the next hour it was quite impossible to get a word out of either of them. I was amazed to watch and listen to this sort of thing: "Sir John, this blue 2d. something or other is a much better specimen than you have, etc. Nowhere in the world is there any like it." They went on like this, so much that in the end Sir John Wilson asked to be allowed to cut up this particular album and exhibit certain pages in the Exhibition. In return he undertook to prepare a complete catalogue of the stamps in this particular book. I asked him if it was valuable. "There are stamps in it worth more than £200 and the total value is well over £1,000 and I advise you to keep it under lock and key," was his reply.

My next contact with stamps was when two and a half years ago I came to East Africa to find that the current issue was already old and that it was about time we had a new issue. I know enough about stamps to know that there is money for the Post Office in new issues. In 1950 the Post Office here was running at a loss and I became quickly convinced that a new issue would help solve our deficit. In the Colonies, of course, we are not entirely independent as to what we do about stamps. The Crown Agents who control the printing of stamps cover about fifty colonies. Therefore, they are not particularly keen on too many new issues. But they realised that our issue had been in existence for a long time and it was a reasonable request for us to make. We discussed the best means to get good designs and, in the end, we decided to have a competition. I would remind you that my only contact with the actual designing of stamps, as I told you, was where artists were commissioned to produce designs and in the Sudan where the design was produced as a result of a dinner party conversation. As you know, our existing stamps are a pictorial set. I do not like pictorial stamps very much because there are relatively few things which are sufficiently distinctive as to show what exactly they are. One stretch of water is exactly like another and I do suggest to you that for example in the existing East African stamp where we have Lake Naivasha or a Dhow on Lake Victoria we have a clear example of what I mean. Nevertheless, we had to have regard to the general opinion that pictorial issues are attractive and when announcing our competition we gave the artists completely free choice as to what they designed.

I went to England in the middle of the year and saw the Crown Agents.

The number of entries at that time received was small and they were very poor but during the first week in July, when I returned to the Crown Agents, many more entries had been received and there seemed a very good prospect of being able to select six designs which would form a really worth while set. In due course the Crown Agents sent to East Arrica 78 designs which they thought were the best and we have considered these and shall, within the next few days, be returning to London those which we regard as the most suitable. The selected printers will then have the task of preparing water colour essays for submission to the Secretary of State and to Her Majesty. Obviously an announcement of the actual results cannot be made until approval is received.

I do not think that, on the whole, the entries were up to the standard which I had expected. I would remind you that we offered prizes of 100 guineas for each of six selected designs. I had hoped that artists of world wide reputation might have been attracted by these prizes but this did not prove to be so. It may be, of course, that the recognised stamp designers in Great Britain are only prepared to work on a commission basis and will not enter for competitions. When the idea of a new issue was first considered I had hoped that the issue might have been produced some time in 1953 and that it might have had a relatively clear field. Unfortunately, the tragedy of the King's death occurred and as a result the whole of the stamps of the British Commonwealth therefore are having to be reprinted and, in the next two or three years, there will be a flood of new stamps. The East African new issue cannot, therefore, hope to attract as much attention as had been anticipated. Reverting to what I said earlier about stamp designing in Great Britain, I imagine most of you will have seen copies of the two new stamps bearing the Queen's head which have been issued this month. I haven't myself seen actual copies but only newspaper reproductions. I thought the stamps were very good and I was, therefore, surprised to see in the Times of two or three days ago a rather carping letter criticising the lettering on one or other of the stamps. This is an illustration of the point I made earlier that no matter how much care is taken in the production of a stamp design there is always someone not satisfied with it.

I know that philatelists are extremely concerned by the way in which stamps are cancelled and the importance they attach to the datestamp being legible and not too heavy. I know also that many of my staff have no particular interest in philately and could not care less about these delicate matters. I know too that philatelists are often extremely critical of postal authorities on these and other matters and do from time to time ask for special consideration by postal authorities. We, in East Africa, do what we can to help philatelists but I make no excuses for the man in my department who recently refused to give to a philatelist a particular stamp out of a number of sheets because it had some particular attraction from his point of view. There are limits to what we are prepared to do.

I would like to say a word or so about the official collection in the Post Offica here. We have in the British Post Office a very fine official collection of stamps; it contains most valuable mint stamps in very fine condition. Parts of it are frequently exhibited at exhibitions. I was, therefore, rather horrified to find that the official collection in East Africa is very poor. We have copies of all the stamps which have been issued in Kenya and Uganda but they have all been rather heavily defaced by the word "specimen" impressed by a rubber stamp. In some cases the designs are hardly recognisable. I do not know whether there are, in Dar es Salaam, copies of the earlier Tanganyika stamps but I am trying to find out and intend, if they are

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available there, to collect them together with the Kenya and Uganda stamps now in Nairobi Headquarters. I am not proposing in future that stamps held in the official collection should be so defaced.

In the middle of this year I went to Brussels to attend the Universal Postal Union Congress. Now you as philatelists will know that in our international Postal Regulations there are three colours which are laid down for particular stamps, blue is to be used for the first weight unit of the letter post, red for postcard and green for the first weight unit of the printed paper post. It was for this reason that the colours of certain of our stamps were changed earlier this year and new values introduced. The reason for having specific values for these particular stamps is, I think, quite clear and has always seemed to me to be reasonable. It was to ensure that postal people thropghout the world should be able to recognise by the colour of a stamp whether the correct postage had been paid. They could do this without having any regard to the actual currency of the country concerned. It is, I think, therefore rather surprising that at the Brussels Conference it was agreed that this stipulation should no longer be retained and it is now no longer incumbent upon us to have these particular colours. I have, therefore, within the last two or three days been reviewing the number of stamps we need in East Africa. At the moment we have fifteen stamps and there are obvious advantages in not having too many. We have now decided that in the new issue we shall only need ten stamps. These will be: 5c., 10c., 20c., 30c. and 50c.; 1/-, 2/-, 5/-, 10/- and 20/-, for intermediate postage rates it will be necessary to affix two stamps. I do not know how you as philatelists will react to this proposal, at least you will be able to obtain the complete issue for a few cents less than the present one but you will no longer be able to buy 1 cent stamps which are completely unprofitable to us. It has, of course, been a popular stamp among stamp dealers who have included copies of it in those envelopes with which, I am sure, you are all familiar, which bear something like the following "Assortment of 50 stamps for 6d."

One final word: I personally have no intention of producing new issues at very frequent intervals. When I was in the Sudan I saw the effect on philatelic sales of very frequent issues in Egypt. I believe that by having fewer issues there is a greater hope of maintaining a high standard of stamp designing and a higher standard of stamp production. In earlier days it was regarded as necessary to have a high standard of production because of the danger of forgery. Some of the stamps which were presented to me as a delegate to the Universal Postal Union Congress, and I was presented there with a set of stamps from every country in the world, do not, I think, measure up to what I myself would regard as a high enough standard. Some of them indeed seem to me to be little better than those sticky labels which one frequently sees at Christmas time put on the back of envelopes and which in many cases would be regarded as much too inferior to be put on the front.

EXHIBITIONS IN JOHANNESBURG.

The air on the Witwatersrand is full of rumours of philatelic exhibitions:

(e) A possible small one in the near future in connection with a Juvenile Hobbies exhibition.

(2) One initiated by the Afrikaanse Filatelistiese Vereniging, but now to be sponsored by all the Transvaal Societies, to celebrate the Centenary of Cape Triangulars.

This will be held in the foyer of the Johannesburg Public Library from Monday, 31st August to Saturday, 12th September. The exhibition will be predominatingly of Capes, starting with the pre-stamp period; to add a little variety, there will be a sprinkling of stamps of the 1853-56 period from the mother-countries of the Cape Colonists—Netherlands, France and Britain.

(3) An International in 1960. The idea of holding this has been accepted by the Phil. Soc. of Johannesburg in principle and a start is being made on an Exhibition Fund. 1960 has been chosen as being the Jubilee of the formation of the Union.

SOME RECENT AUCTION PRICES.

Robson Lowe.

1st England-Australia Flight frank stamp, £170.

Great Britain. 1d. black with bright blue Maltese Cross cancel, £50.

Do. Do. yellow Maltese Cross cancel, £33.

Cape. Pair 6d. 1855-58, fine used, £21.

U.S.A. 1847 5c. brown, fine used, £21.

Collection of Waghorn's Overland Mail, £480.

Papua 4d. (S.G. 5) bisect on cover, £21.

Do. 2/6 (S.G. 37a) O'pt reading downwards £36.

H. R. Harmer.

Transvaal, £5 (S.G. 259), £23.

Do. 1d. Anchor Wmk., £14 10s.

Natal. 1895 ½d. on 6d. surcharge double (S.G. 114 1b), £15 10s.

Union. 1926 1d. pair, one imperf., £15 10s.

Do. Pane 3d. (39B Vi) partly printed, £29.

S.W.A. 4d. 1943-44 O'pt. inverted, Vert. strip of 3, £6 15s.

Do. 1/- Bantam pr., O'pt. inverted, £16.

Do. 1d. Victory, O'pt. inverted, £5 5s.

G.E.A. 1 Rupee, used, £55.

Kenya. £4 (S.G. 106), £18.



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TRADE AGENCIES (Stamps)
20, SWAN PASSAGE, BIRMINGHAM 5, ENGLAND.

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THAT O.V.S. ORANGE TREE!

We believe there are still people who think that when President Brand ordered the first O.V.S. stamps from Messrs. De La Rue & Co., he specified the design as an Orange Tree and Posthorns, whereas he merely said "a tree and posthorns".

If further proof be needed here is a quotation from a letter written to Mr. A. Cecil Fenn by a Director of Messrs. De La Rue & Co., which letter has been submitted to us by Mr. Fenn. The Director had been going through their O.F.S. records and sent Mr. Fenn the following extract:—

"On Dec. 8th, 1865 we quoted James Searight, 7 East India Avenue for 1d., 6d. and 1/- stamps, as three sketches supplied to us from these values. None of them showed any oranges on the tree, but such fruit was added to the sketch we prepared for engraving, and is embodied in the colour proof sheets submitted on May 3rd, 1867."

He adds: "It may interest you to know that the initial quantities are annotated as being — 1d., 180,000; 6d., 105,000; and 1/-, 30,000."

In a further letter the Director states about original sketches they received:

"In the case of the 6d., under a strong glass, there are faint traces of what **might** be construed as oranges, but there is no sign of oranges in the case of the 1/- or the 1d."

ABUSIVE ISSUES.

The Committee of the F.I.P. against abusive issues has communicated its views re charity and commemorative publications. They are prepared to support issues with surtaxes for non-postal purposes provided that, briefly:—

(a) Not more than two issues per year.
(b) Surtax to be on stamps used for ordinary mail.
(c) Surtax not to exceed 50 per cent. of the face value of the series. [See (g) for exception.]
(d) Commemorative issues are overdone. If the subjects cannot be cut down it is hoped that only one value will be issued, not a series.
(e) The following are considered injurious:—
  (1) Issues delivered only to subscribers.
  (2) Issues sold in bulk to an individual or group.
  (3) Issues not sold at postal counters.
  (4) Issues with limited editions.
  (5) Issues only obtainable in proportion to the purchase of other stamps.
(f) Collectors should not purchase stamps falling into the categories of (e) and they should be excluded from exhibitions.
(g) Miniature sheets should be issued only for national and international exhibitions. Surtaxes on stamps for philatelic exhibitions may exceed 50 per cent of face value, as these stamps make publicity for philately and enable the organising of important exhibitions.
(h) Surcharges (overprints) are a great danger to philately and it is hoped they will be avoided wherever possible.

STAMP SUPPLIES.

We have been asked by a youthful subscriber to publish a list of addresses of places similar to the Philatelic Agency of the Union Post Office, in Pretoria, where stamps can be purchased. Here is a list covering the British territories in Southern Africa. In all cases when ordering stamps sufficient must be added to their face value to cover postage.

BASUTOLAND: The Government Secretary, Maseru, Basutoland.

BECHUANALAND: The Government Secretary, Mafeking, Bechuanaland Protectorate.

KENYA. The Postmaster-General, P.O. Box 311, Nairobi, Kenya.

NORTHERN RHODESIA: The Postmaster-General, General Post Office, Lusaka, Northern Rhodesia.

NYASALAND: The Postmaster-General, General Post Office, Blantyre, Nyasaland.

SWAZILAND: The Government Secretary, Mbabane, Swaziland.

ZANZIBAR: Chief Postmaster, General Post Office, Zanzibar.

SOUTHERN RHODESIA: Postmaster Surveyor, Salisbury, Southern Rhodesia.

SOUTH WEST AFRICA: The Director, Posts and Telegraphs, Windhoek, South West Africa.

CEYLON.

Ceylon is to have a special Coronation stamp, a 5c. one in green, with a different portrait of Her Majesty from that on the Crown Colonies issue.

NEW ISSUES

	M.	U.
Australia		
Food 3d., strip of 3	1/8	1/11
Do. block of 9	4/9	5/3
Cayman Is.		
Queen Elizabeth 4d.	5d.	6d.
Eire		
"An Tostal"	1/10	1/10
Gold Coast		
Queen Elizabeth 2½d.	4d.	4d.
Do. ½d., 1½d., 3d., 4d.	11d.	1/1
Malta		
new colours to 4½d.	1/6	1/9
Southern Rhodesia		
Rhodes Centenary	2/-	2/4

Postage 2½d. Registration 6d.
Air Mail 1/3 per half oz.

CORONATION STAMPS

Now booking—	M.	U.
Cr. Cols. & Malaya	12/4	15/-
Australia	2/9	3/-
Canada	5d.	5d.
Ceylon	2d.	3d.
Great Britain	3/8	4/-
New Zealand	3/5	3/9
New Zealand Depen.	2/9	3/-
New Hebrides	4d.	5d.
S. West Africa	2/6	2/9
S. Rhodesia	2/11	3/3
Tokelau Islands	4d.	4d.

CORONATION ALBUMS

Gibbons/Rapkins loose leaf 10/6
Grank Goddens loos leaf 15/-

RECENT ISSUES

Canada	M.	U.
Animals 2c., 3c., 4c.	1/-	1/2
new 1 dol. (or "G"	9/3	—
new 7c. Air (or "G")	9d.	9d.
Prime Ministers	9d.	6d.
Red Cross	5d.	4d.
British Guiana		
12c. perf. 14 x 13	7½d.	9d.
3 dol. perf. 14 x 13	14/6	16/8
Albums		
Goddens Graduate		22/9
Goddens Burleigh		42/6
Goddens Warwick		63/-
Goddens Warwick Jet		55/-

Postage about 2/6 per Album. and I use Morocco stamps.

HAROLD STROUD (S.P.A.), **58 DARWEN STREET, BLACKBURN, ENGLAND**

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A. Lichtenstein

B.P.A.

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JOHANNESBURG.

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PLATING THE UNION of SOUTH AFRICA 3/6d. BOOKLETS OF 1951

By SAM LEGATOR and W. N. SHEFFIELD.

(Continued from page 48 of March issue.)

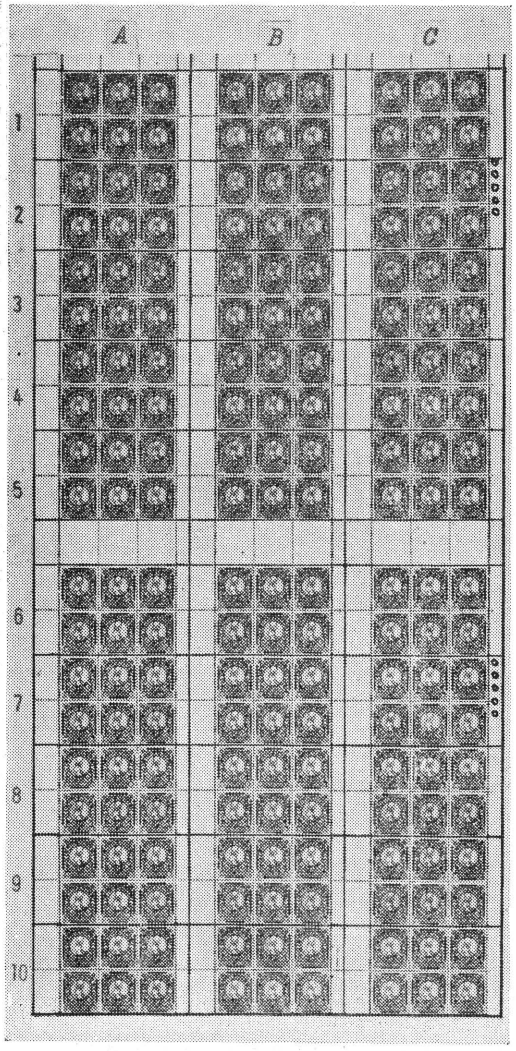


Fig. 2 — Layout of the 30 panes — all values.

Figure 2 is a photograph of a composite sheet of ½d. stamps with lines drawn to show how the booklet sheets were cut up into thirty panes and the margins trimmed to the finished size. The blank row in the centre was, of course, not used.

Figures Nos. 3, 4 and 5 are photographs of **reconstructed** sheets of the ½d., 1d. and 2d. stamps made up from the booklet panes, an example of which is illustrated in Fig. 6. Complete sheets of the stamps were never issued to the public.

In the Plating Charts, "A", "B" and "C", it should be noted that no attempt has been made to record every small printing flaw, but only those characteristics considered as likely to assist the collector in plating the series. The inclusion of a number of other marks of a constant nature would only have made the lists unnecessarily long.

The "bars" and "pillars" referred to under the ½d. denomination are those thick solid green portions of the stamp along the top and bottom edges, and at the left and right hand sides of the frame design. In the case of the 1d. stamp, the yard-arms are, for convenience, designated as "lower", "middle", "upper" and "top", and the sun rays as Nos. 1, 2, 3 etc. counting from the left..

In the concluding paragraph of last month's part of this article the name of Mr. R. B. Cronwright of Germiston should be added to those who kindly assisted in the compilation of the Plating Charts.

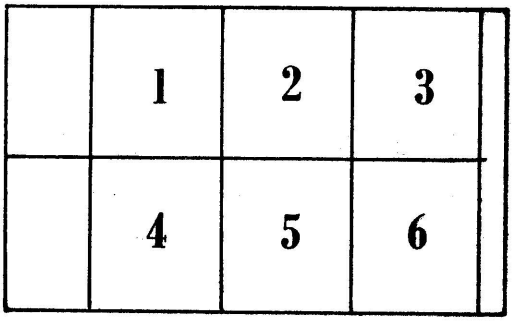


Fig. 6 — Booklet Pane — ½d. value.



Fig. 7—Booklet Pane—Stamp No. Diagram. All values.

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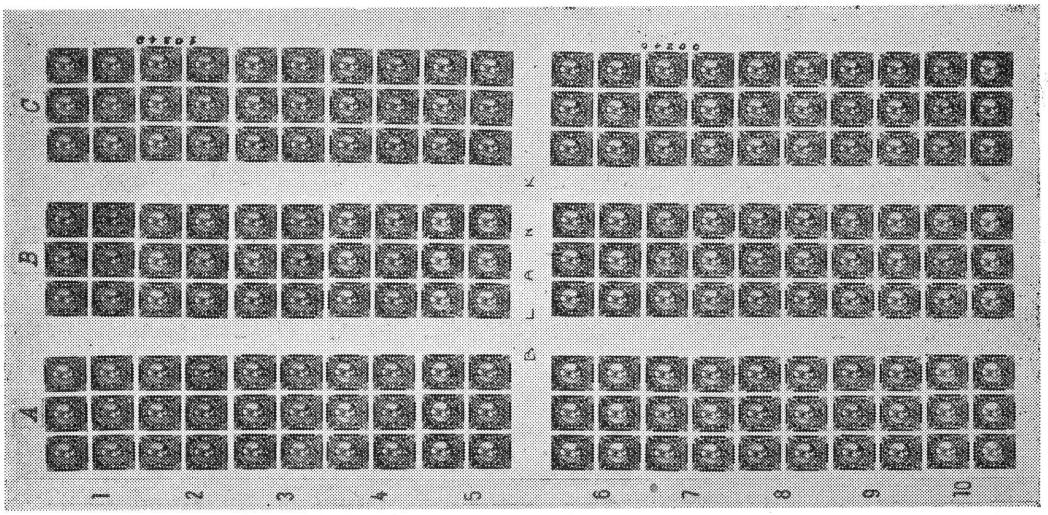


Fig. 3 — Complete Sheet of ½d. value.

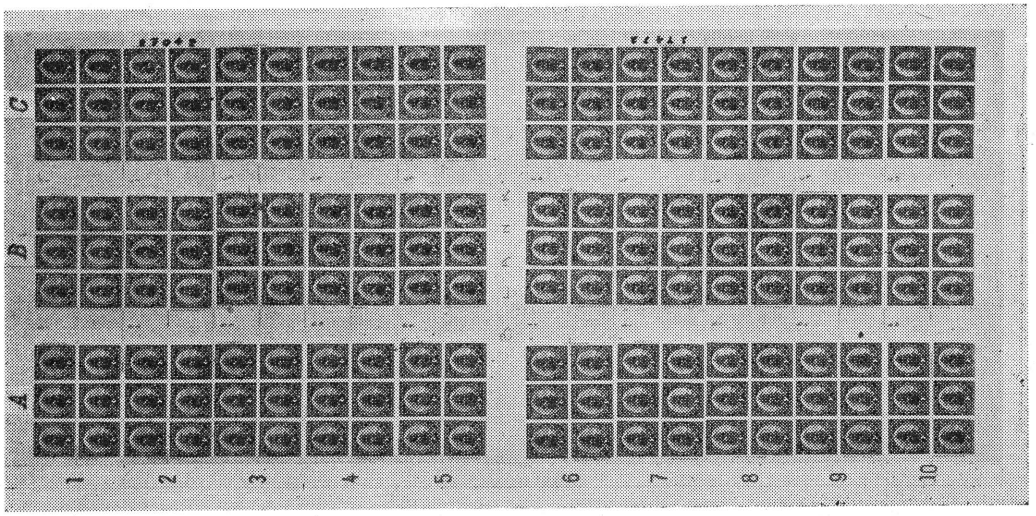


Fig. 4 — Complete Sheet of 1d. value.

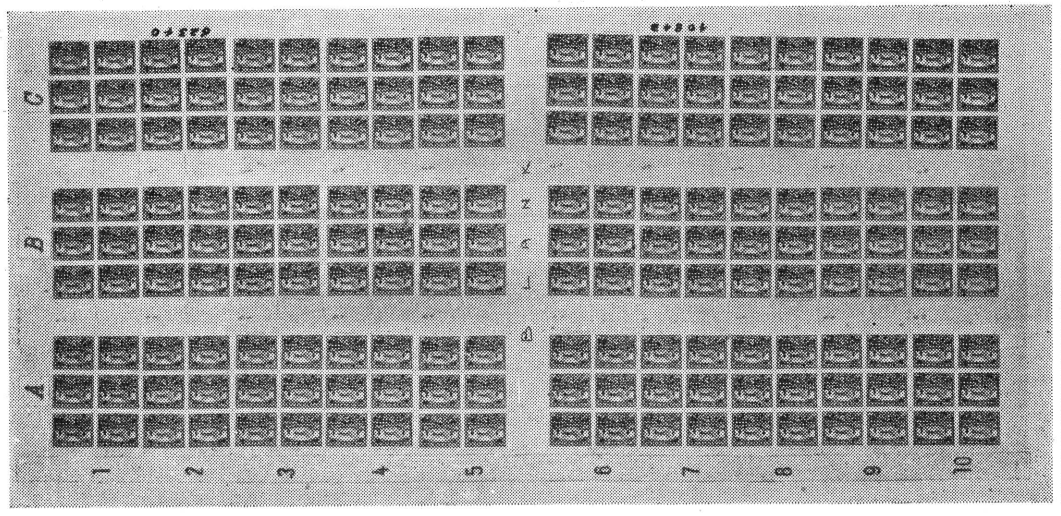


Fig. 5 — Complete Sheet of 2d. value.

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PLATING CHART — "A".

Booklet Plating Numbers	Cover Marks	STAMP PRINTING FLAWS AND VARIETIES ½d.	1d.	2d.
A 1	Dot at 12 o'clock near to Coat of Arms circle. Dot close to upright tip at left end of scroll. Dot in left foot of "N" of UNIE.	No. 5—Black vertical line between horns of buck. No. 6—Green dot on lower line of bottom bar under "K" of INKOMSTE.	No. 6 — Red spot to left of stern of ship.	No. 1 — Purple dot to left of spire on left tower. No. 3 — Purple dot in top right hand corner of frame. Purple stain in left frame, about one-quarter up.
A 2	Dots at 7 and 12 o'clock outside Coat of Arms circle. Dot in top left corner of frame lines.	No. 2 — Centre of first "A" in AFRIKA nearly all white. No. 3—Green dot in top of right hand margin, third line down.	No. 3 — Black dot above left end of middle yard-arm. No. 4 — Black dot to left of top yard-arm.	No. 1 — White spot in sky against inner frame line and under "U" of SOUTH. No. 6 — Dots in top margin above first "A" and "K" of AFRIKA.
A 3	Dot ¼ inch up from left bottom corner frame lines. Dot between extreme left end of scroll and left frame line.	No. 4—White mark in left frame lines, one-third up from bottom. No. 6—Green dot lower right margin, sixth line up.	No. 1 — Black dot in sun. No. 3 — Red stroke in top margin above "S" of SUID.	No. 1 — Purple dot in top right corner under full stop, and one in top margin above full stop. No. 2 — Dot in top margin above "UI" of SUID.
A 4	Apostrophe mark between "LS" of POSSEELS. Dot under "E" of POSTAGE. Broken line in scroll under "SS" of POSSEELS.	No. 3 — Green dot and a white dot on inner side of right pillar (below centre). No. 4 — Black dot above buck's shoulder.	No. 5 — Black dot between lower and middle yard-arms (left), and black dot in tablet line above "F" of AFRIKA.	No. 1—Dot against inner frame line under "SO" of SOUTH. No. 3 — Black dot to left of left tower, near frame.
A 5	Dot above "A" of VAN near top frame line.	No. 1 — Black dot between buck's horns, second line down, and to right. No. 2 — Same as No. 1, but with dot at left end of the line.	No. 2 — Black dot in frame lines on left, above "P" of POSTAGE.	No. 4—Break in top frame line above "RI" of AFRIKA. No. 6—White mark in left frame, about half-way down.
A 6	Dot slightly below the extreme left end of scroll (and inside the frame line) and one at extreme right end of scroll, but outside the frame line.	No. 1 — Vertical green line at top of left hand margin. (Evidently a portion of the adjoining stamp design).	No. 3 — Number of black dots and marks around top of centre mast. Red line through first "A" of AFRICA.	No. 5 — Purple dot in clouds below "AF" of AFRIKA.
A 7	Brown "V" shaped mark close to upright tip at left end scroll. Spot in left leg of "U" of UNIE.	No. 5—White stroke from "K" of AFRIKA to the boundary of oval.	No. 1 — Black dot at top of centre mast. No. 2 — Black dot below middle yard-arm. No. 6 — Red dot above top pennant.	No. 3 — Group of purple smudge marks near centre of left hand frame. No. 2 — Slate black "V" mark to right of left hand tower. No. 5 — Purple spot on left tower.
A 8	Dot at 1 o'clock outside Coat of Arms circle and one near 6 o'clock inside the circle. Dot near right bottom corner on outside of the vertical line.	No. 1—White mark on boundary of oval about 7.30 o'clock. No. 3—Two black dots in oval, level with buck's eye.	No. 2 — Fine black line through bottom frame and "S" of INKOMSTE. No. 3 — Short black mark between lower and middle yard-arms.	Purple dots in sky: No. 1 — Under "F" of AFRIKA. No. 2 — To left of right hand tower. No. 4 — Under "A" of AFRICA.

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A 9	Dot at 6 o'clock outside Coat of Arms circle. Dot below first "E" of POSSEELS and also one between "P" of POSSEELS and "P" of POSTAGE STAMPS.	No. 6—Green spot on inner side of left hand pillar, near top.	No. 2—Red smudge across top portion of value tablet. Short red horizontal mark on frame line at top left corner.	No. 5 — Purple dot above "S" of SUID. No. 6 — White mark on top of "F" of AFRICA. Purple dot touching top frame line at right hand corner.
A10	Brown "L" shaped mark in left bottom corner of cover. Bottom of left vertical frame line bevelled to a point.	No. 6 — Black spot on 4th line above buck's shoulder.	No. 4 — Black spot on top of "M" of INKOMSTE. No. 5 — Red dot in top margin above "H" of SOUTH.	No. 4 — Purple spot on top of "F" of AFRICA. No. 6 — White spot below "SO" of SOUTH.

PLATING CHART — "B".

Booklet Plating Numbers	Cover Marks	STAMP PRINTING FLAWS AND VARIETIES ½d.	1d.	2d.
B 1	Dot at 10.30 o'clock outside Coat of Arms circle. Dot below first "A" of AFRIKA and level with the upright tip at left end of scroll. Dot in "O" of POSSEELS.	No. 2 — Irregular outer line, top half of left pillar. No. 3—Green mark in top right ornamental corner, and green dot in centre of the stop under the symbol of value.	No. 2 — Red dot in "R" of AFRICA. No. 4 — Red dot above "R" of AFRICA. No. 5 — Black spot in sun rays.	No. 1—White spot in sky. No. 3—Slate black spot on left side of left tower. No. 6—Purple dot in foot of "2".
B 2	Two dots at 5 o'clock outside Coat of Arms circle and in line with "A" of STAMPS.	No. 4 — Vertical green dotted line at bottom of left margin. (Evidently a portion of the adjoining stamp design). No. 5—White spot over first "A" of AFRICA.	No. 3 — Red dot in the white tablet line above the hyphen of SUID-AFRIKA. No. 4 — Red dot under "S" of POSTAGE	No. 1 — Dot in sky under "H" and "A" of SOUTH AFRICA. No. 4 — Purple dot in the second "A" of AFRIKA.
B 3	Spot touching scroll line under "A" of STAMPS. Dot at extreme right hand end of scroll, ¼ in. inside frame line.	No. 5 — Break in bottom line at right hand corner. No. 6 — Green dot in the right margin six lines up.	No. 1Red dot over "K" of AFRIKA. No. 5—Red dot over "S" of SUID and black dot under "RI" of AFRIKA.	No. 3 — Purple dot just above roof, left centre. No. 6 — Purple dot in foot of "2", left end.
B 4	Dot under second "A" of AFRIKA in line with dot above the second "E" of POSSEELS. Dot in upper horn of "3".	No. 3 — Green dot in top margin at right hand end of bar. No. 5—Fine white diagonal line above "U" of SOUTH.	No. 3—Large break and smudge in right hand frame line, above centre.	No. 4 — Small nick in top frame line close to corner. No. 5 — Purple dot in centre cloud.
B 5	Two dots in line with "A" of POSTAGE and tail of "3". Dot between folds of the scroll, below first "S" POSSEELS.	No. 2 — Green line sloping downwards from outer side of right pillar. No. 3 — Black spot on boundary of oval to left of buck's ear. No. 4 — Black dot centre of buck's horns.	No. 4 — Red dot in top margin above "U" of SOUTH. No. 5 — Black dot at 11 o'clock in sun.	No. 4—Break in left hand frame line close to bottom corner. No. 5 — Purple spot on right frame line a little above centre.

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B 6	Dot at 1 o'clock outside Coat of Arms circle close to top frame line. Dot above "AM" of STAMPS and one below scroll, between "E" of POSTAGE and "S" of STAMPS.	No. 3 — Green mark in the white line below "EE" of POSSEEL.	No. 1 — Number of black spots around the sails and masts of ship.	No. 6 — Purple dot in margin above "T" of SOUTH.
B 7	Dot close to top edge of cover at about 11.30 o'clock on Coat of Arms circle. Dot close to scroll line above second "S" of POSSEELS.	No. 5 — Green line protruding from right pillar, at level of second "A" of AFRIKA.	No. 5 — Black dot below tip of pennant.	No. 1 — Purple dot in curved leg of "D" of SUID. No. 2 — Purple dot in top margin above "H" of SOUTH.
B 8	Dot at 5 o'clock outside Coat of Arms circle. Dot at left end of scroll under "P" of POSSEELS.	No. 3 — Black spot on left boundary of oval at centre line. No. 5 — Green dot on left margin level with division bar of value. (Sometimes perforated out).	No. 1—Nick in tablet line above "O" of SOUTH. No. 4 — Black dot in the ornamental scroll above "PO" of POSSEEL.	No. 4 — Purple dot in "T" of SOUTH. No. 5—Short purple mark in left margin, half way up.
B 9	Dot in top left corner of cover. Dot under the "F", and one in the vertical leg of that letter, in AFRIKA. Circular mark under "O" of POSTAGE	No. 3 — Green mark at right hand end of top bar.	No. 2—Three black dots in sun rays. (Scattered in form of "V".	No. 5—Large black spot below "S" of SUID. No. 6 — Purple dot in top margin above "R" of AFRICA.
B10	Small group of dots above first "S" of POSSEELS. Two dots close to outer curve forming top horn of "3".	No. 4 — Black dot close to left boundary line of oval, about centre.	No. 3—Red dot on top frame line above "CA" of AFRICA.	No. 5—Broken frame line above "F" of AFRIKA.

PLATING CHART — "C"

Booklet Plating Numbers	Cover Marks	STAMP PRINTING FLAWS AND VARIETIES ½d.	1d.	2d.
C 1	Thick brown line down right hand side of cover, close to outer edge.	No. 2 — Black spot at side of buck's eye. No. 3 — Top right hand corner margin cut at angle. No. 6 — Portion of sheet serial number in bottom right corner of margin.	No. 3 — Top right corner of margin cut at an angle. No. 4 — Black dot in sun rays at right side of oval. No. 6—Group of red dots in margin above first "A" of AFRICA.	No. 2 — Purple dot in left leg of "U" of SUID. No. 3 — Top right corner of margin cut at an angle. No. 5 — Purple smudge marks on left and right frames, lower half of stamp.
C 2	Brown mark at top right hand corner of cover. Spot in "O" of POSSEELS. Dot on upper side of division stroke between "3" and "6".	No. 1—Black dot on first line above buck's shoulder. Nos. 3 and 6—Sheet serial number on right margin.	Nos. 3 and 6—Sheet serial number on right margin. No. 6 — Black spot in sun, close to mountain.	No. 2 — Purple marks near base of left tower. Nos. 3 and 6—Sheet serial numbers on bottom margin. No. 5 — Purple mark resembling figure "2" near centre of right margin.

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C 3	Dot in bottom left corner of frame lines. Dot in top right corner below name tablet. Dot below "A" and one between "A" and "M" of STAMPS.	No. 1 — Green dot adjoining sixth line down in right margin. No. 2 — Black dot on third line up between buck's horns and also one to left of ear.	No. 3 — Red spot on top frame line above "AF" of AFRIKA. No. 5 — Red dot in sun next to lantern and black spot at top of second sun ray.	No. 3—Purple spot in right hand frame, about one-third up from corner.
C 4	Dot above second "S" of STAMPS, close to line of scroll. Dots under "PO" of POSTAGE and above "IE" of UNIE.	No. 3 — Green dot on outer line of left pillar, opposite "S" of SOUTH. Green spot in left margin, little below centre.	No. 5 — Black dot in sun under lantern. No. 6 — Red dot above pennant and black line on scroll above "E" of REVENUE.	No. 2—Purple dot on inside frame line, right bottom, near corner. No. 4—Group of purple dots on bottom frame line near right corner. No. 5—Two purple diagonal strokes, top right corner.
C 5	Dot in bottom left corner of cover. Dot above "M" in STAMPS and one at right hand end of scroll.	No. 1 — Black dot on the second top line between buck's horns. No. 6 — Green mark on the ornament at top right corner and also short green mark in margin at right hand end of top bar.	No. 4 — Red dot above upper yard-arm (left). No. 5 — Black dot at top of mast (right) No. 6 — Red dot at top of mast (centre).	No. 3 — Number of purple dots to right of left side tower, immediately above roof of building.
C 6	Dot above "UN" of UNIE and one above "NI" of UNION. Dot at left end of scroll, slightly to left of upright tip.	No. 6 — Portion of sheet serial number in bottom right corner of margin. Small green mark in margin, slightly above left pillar.	No. 6 — Red blob on top frame line above "S" of SUID. Black spot on left boundary of oval, level with lanterns.	No. 1 — White nick in top inner frame line, between "K" and "A" of AFRIKA. No. 6—White nick in left hand inner frame line, slightly below centre.
C 7	Dot at lowest point of scroll, under "P" of POSTAGE. Dot immediately below upper tail of "3", and one above top frame line, over "N" of UNIE.	Nos. 3 and 6—Sheet serial number on right margin. No. 5 — White mark at right hand end of top bar.	No. 1 — Black dot in the crutch of upper yard-arm and mast. No. 2 — Black dot at top of second sun ray. No. 3 — Black dot in sun, above lantern. Nos. 3 and 6—Sheet serial number on right margin.	Nos. 3 and 6—Sheet serial number on bottom margin. No. 4—Large purple spot in sky under "R" of AFRICA. No. 5—Purple dot in sky under first "A" of AFRIKA.
C 8	Brown mark in the curve formed by lower tail of the "3". Dot outside frame line on right, level with centre of "6". Dot between "S" and "T" of STAMPS.	No. 2—Green mark under the bottom left corner of POSTAGE REVENUE tablet. No. 4 — Black dot in buck's left ear. No. 5 — Green dot on top frame line, left of bar.	No. 4 — Black dot at top of third sun ray. No. 5 — Large black spot in sun (right hand quarter).	No. 3—Purple dot in left leg of "U" of SUID. Purple dot in top right corner of frame lines. No. 5—Short purple vertical stroke above first "A" of AFRIKA.
C 9	Vertical thick brown streak, about 1 inch long, on right hand edge of cover,upper half.	No. 5—"Fish hook" mark in oval, to right of buck's ear.	No. 5—Large black spot about middle of second sun ray. No. 6—Red dot in "I" of AFRIKA.	No. 4 — Purple dot above "S" and white nick in top frame line above "T" of SOUTH. No. 5—Purple dot on inner frame line above last "A" of AFRIKA.
C10	Dots above first "S" and second "E" of POSSEELS. Large spot above and close to top frame line, approximately over "O" of the word OF.	No. 1 — Black dot to left of buck's nose. No. 4 — Black dot at tip of buck's left ear	No. 2 — Two black dots on line immediately below pennant.	No. 1—Purple dot in head of numeral "2". No. 2—Purple dot in right margin, about half way up. No. 5 — Number of slate black spots to left of the left tower.

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''THE SPRINGBOK''

When this advertisement appears, the second issue of the magazine of the South African Collectors' Society will be in the post to the rapidly growing membership in all parts of the world.

From the many letters received commenting favourably on the first issue ther is no doubt the magazine is wanted. Subscription is 10/- per annum postage paid, so if you are at all interested in the stamps of the Union, write without delay, for membership, to—

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Rhodesia 1905 set S.G. 94-99	£3	0	0
St. Helena 1912/16 set S.G. 72-81	£3	5	0
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Seychelles 1890 set S.G. 1-8	£3	0	0
1902 set S.G. 45-49	£2	7	6
1903/04 set S.G. 53-63	£3	10	0
S. Leone 1903 set S.G. 72-84	£12	10	0
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A (?) ZULULAND MARK.

We have been shown a half cover with what seems to be a "to pay" mark, which may be either of Natal or Zululand origin, but in either case is interesting.

This half cover (left-hand half of envelope) has the following portion of the address, in what appears to be a Native's handwriting:—

"Mr. Dav . . . Ntomb . . ./C/o. the Rev./F. M. /(?) Rturs No...../Zulu . . ."

Postmarks on the back are: (a) Single circle, of 2 SP 96, (b) double circle Eshowe/Zululand, of Sp. 3 96, and (c) in violet, from rubber stamp, single circle Nongoma/Zululand, of 7 Sep. 1896.

It looks therefore as if the letter originated from Durban and was sent to Nongoma.

The mark of special interest is on the front, in black ink apparently from a metal stamper. It is a single circle of 27 mm. diameter, with 6d. inside, the figure being 16 mm. high. Written across this in red ink is "Note. Please send this amt. (?) F.S.S./pm." and lower down "P.Z. 180/96."

The odds would seem to be on this being Zululand mark indicative of charges due for non-payment of postage. It is unfortunate that the whole cover is not available — one might then have been more able to see why 6d. was charged. The ordinary postal rate in Natal and in Zululand at that period was only 1d. Possibly the cover actually came from further afield.

EXCHANGE WANTED.

Through the "Sunday Times" we have received a note from Mr. H. W. Arndt, of Canberra University College, Canberra A.C.T., Australia, stating that he is specially interested in South African stamps and would like to exchange with a collector here.

NEW ZEALAND.

On account of changes in postal rates, alterations have been made in the Coronation stamps; the amended list of them is now: 2d., 3d., 4d., 8d. and 1/6. The definitive Q.E. series will consist of 14 values, ½d. to 10/-; these will probably appear about September.

GREAT BRITAIN.

The Coronation issue will comprise four denominations, 2½d., 4d., 1/3 and 1/6.

INDIA.

The Indian Posts and Telegraphs Department announces a stamp to be issued on 16 April to commemorate the centenary of Indian Railways. There is to be a large railway exhibition at New Delhi, with a special post office.

ST. HELENA DATE STAMP.

In our February issue we illustrated a previously unrecorded date stamp of 1867. In the accompanying text the date on this was stated to be JAN 25—67. This should have read JUN 25—67. Fortunately the date was quite legible on the illustration. The letter did not take 6-7 months to reach Cape Town on JY. 12. 67, less than 3 weeks actually.

Collectors' Wants & Offers

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

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

SOMALILAND PROTECTORATE. Minor varieties wanted, mint and used. Good copies only.—WILLIAM REDFORD, P.O. Box 1182, Johannesburg.

STAMPS.—Want lists invited for any country; specialities Union, S.W.A., British Africa. — LACY'S, Gillbern Buildings, cor. Plein and Mostert Streets, Cape Town.

REQUIRED Switzerland. All issues, mint, used and covers. For Cash or Exchange for Geo. VI.—B. JOSEPH, P.O. Box 4967, Johannesburg.

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

1840-1890. For the stamps of any country in this period write DOUGLAS ROTH, Mona Crescent, Newlands, C.P. Phone 694282.

WANTED. Mint Unions. All Handbook/Catalogue numbers. Cash waiting. ANDREW GRANTZOW, 149, Brookside Avenue, Irvington 11, N.J., U.S.A.

INFORMATION ON TAP: Philatelic Press Cutting Service for the Specialist. — CLIFFORD DE KUSEL, 38, London Rd., Stroud, Glos., England.

FOR SALE: Postcards: Albino 15/-; stamp white background 7/6; Sets: No. 15, 10/-; No. 31-32, 30/-; No. 39-40, 30/-; No. 41abcd, 21/.- Booklets No. 4, 120/-; No. 10, 40/-; No. 14, 2/6; No. 17, £3; No. 19, set of 21, £10; No. 20, set of 90 panes, 100/-. Also Airletters, letter cards, etc.—Dr. MURRAY, Kuilsriver, Cape.

FOR SALE: Want lists, 1d. each, postage extra (up to 25 2d., up to 50 4d., per 100 or part 6d. postage). Can be used with any catalogue. Specimen copy sent on receipt of 3d. in stamps. Write—ROTAPRESS, Mtunzini, Zululand.

WANTED to Exchange Stamps — JOZE YERETINA, Ljubljana, Rue Miklosiceva 13, Yugoslavia.

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ARE OUR PHILATELIC HORISONS TOO LIMITED

J. CREWELL.

Paper read at the Philatelic Congress, Capetown, March, 1952.

Mr. President, Ladies and Gentlemen,

I think I can safely say that the majority of exhibits presented at Society Meetings in this country have a distinctly "British Empire" flavour. Rightly or wrongly, that has certainly been my impression, and I feel reasonably certain that some of you now present, and many others, have wondered at one time or another, why there should be this preponderance of "Empire Exhibitions".

When it was announced at a recent meeting of the Philatelic Society of Rhodesia that the display at the following meeting would be "Pre-War Europe", a very marked tone of disapproval was observed, and I resolved to try to find a satisfactory answer to this problem which has often worried me over a long period of time — why is there such a very marked bias in favour of the stamps of the British Empire?

In the early stages of my association with the Philatelic Society of Johannesburg, I can recall these same limited horizons amongst its members, though, if my memory serves me well, with the arrival of the immigrants from pre-war Europe, there was a marked drift away from the "imperial" atmosphere. This leads me to one conclusion — that it is the well-known convervatism of the British peoples that is even influencing their philatelic inclinations.

On this score I must admit that the other side of the picture is apparently equally prejudiced. I wrote to the Secretary of the Copenhagen Philatelic Society, hoping that I might find a contact there willing to exchange the stamps of Denmark with those of Southern Africa. A reply came to hand quite recently, apologising for the time it had taken to reply, and regretting even more sincerely that it was not possible to assist me, as none of the members appeared to have any interest in stamps from this part of the world.

Is it then a question of "nationalism"? One naturally gives pride of place in everything to one's mother country, but after all, stamp collecting is really only a hobby, though it is rapidly developing into a highly scientific subject, and it seems to me a pity that in our small sphere, we are opposing the ultimate objects of UNO — a brotherhood of nations in which each individual is friendly with his neighbour.

Can it be a matter of "stamp appeal"? — the appeal which the designs of the stamps may have for the philatelist. I can hardly credit this! Not all the foreign issues are beautiful; far from it; but then one of the most miserable efforts in stamp design was one produced by Great Britain itself — the Channel Islands Commemorative issue of 1946. The majority of colonial stamps to-day are pictorials — true pictorials with views of this and that, landscapes, towns, etc., but how many of the issuing countries have brought out stamps of prely educational interest — botanical subjects, geographical subjects and so on. Not many! And yet, on the other hand, there is an abundance of such types amongst foreign issues, to quote only a few — the Austrian flowers, the Mocambique fish, the Japanese national parks. From an educational point of view, therefore, I think the balance must lie in favour of foreigns.

In dealing with this point, may I remind you that it is only comparatively recently that the countries of the Empire have broken away from the traditional King's Head or symbolic types. That this conservatism was extended to its limits is evident from the fact that right up to the early part of the reign of King George V, the design was the same for all the Crown Colonies. Admittedly, in those early days stamps were produced purely for postal purposes without any consideration for their subsequent fate as collectable pieces; without any consideration for budgetary enrichment, and certainly without any thought for philatelic speculation.

When considering the appeal of any stamp design, I suppose one must also give some thought to the various methods of printing and production. Here again, I cannot concede that any factor is more markedly in favour of the British and Colonial Issues. I think you will agree that the South African stamps, with their multitudes of dot and dash varieties, and the early Australian George V issues, do not represent the perfection of the printer's art, any more than do the early French, Greek, Italian or Egyptian. The George VI issues are well known to everybody; far better, it seems, than recent and current foreign issues appear to be, so permit me to mention a few of what I consider the more outstanding examples amongst them — the recess-printed German War Stamps, the French "City" types of post-war days, and some of the Swiss pictorials; amongst the photogravure productions, the Austrian flowers again, several of the Swiss commemoratives, and some of the Hungarian and Egyptian issues. So that it is not a question of which method of production is more favourable, for there are comparable examples in all types.

I do not imagine that philatelic interest to the extent of "specialisation" is a factor which has been of great importance to many collectors in their choice of a country. We all know that there have been published lengthy and highly detailed treatises on early Great Britain — plating the "Penny Blacks"; the Cape Triangulars; Australian States, Canada and so forth, but I would like to remark that amongst the most highly specialised countries in the philatelic world are Greece, Imperial Austria, early France, and perhaps also Sweden and Norway.

One factor, I am convinced, which was, and is still responsible for the antipathy towards foreigns, was, and is the flood of "new issues". Collectively, when one looks at the magazines, there would appear to be a far greater avalanche of foreign "new issues", but individually, is the preponderance so very much greater? Aparently working quite an obvious racket — enriching the state by fleecing the philatelist, many of the foreign states seem to take particular delight in the issue of commemoratives on the slightest

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provocation — long sets, short sets, low values, high values and miniature sheets. It is merely a case of selection, and you will find a certain faction — Monaco, France, Italy, the South American States and even the U.S.A. (though in this case it is patently not the need for money to balance the budget) with its "Poultry Industry" and "Gold Star Mothers" — far more guilty than the others.

Indeed, it is quite a well-known fact that in the course of a parliamentary debate in a small and scarcely opulent Central European state (Liechtenstein), it was stated that the deficit in the budget could quite easily be wiped out by the issue of a new set of stamps. An equally well-known fact is that within the Empire, a small group of islands (Pitcairns), whose annual revenue prior to the issue of its first set of stamps, was in the neighbourhood of £1,000, was overwhelmed with more than £40,000 in the year of issue.

But let it be acknowledged that in the case of the U.S.A., and many others, these commemoratives are always of a low denomination and easily obtainable. Now is the Empire any the less guilty with its Silver Jubilees, Coronations, Victories, U.P.U.'s and more local and limited issues, and the biggest financial racket in the history of philately — the Silver Wedding issue?

Can it be the language question? After all, it is not easy to follow the gist of things in a language entirely strange to one. However, I cannot allow that it is a really serious obstacle. Stanley Gibbons provides a good basic outline and a limited amount of the more important philatelic data on foreign countries, but when still more detailed information is required, there are always more catalogues and handbooks to which one can refer. These may or may not be in English, but when it comes to philatelic terms, it is surprising how easily they can be translated from the native tongue into the more easily understandable English.

Having dealt with a lot of "ifs and ands", I come now to one or two more positive facts. Firstly, it is not that foreign issues are more difficult to obtain, it is just that they are not so readily obtainable; a fine distinction, perhaps, but easily explained as you will see in a moment. For all those who are really seriously interested, who will take the trouble of writing a few letters and who will wait patiently until those letters, and possibly others which follow, 'bring home the bacon', it is no problem at all. At the outset it is something of a bind exploring various channels in turn, some of which may or may not prove fruitful, but eventually these will sort themselves out. If I may quote from my own experience — for months I battled to find a contact of any sort; now I have a reliable dealer in Scotland and another in Copenhagen, two philatelists in Denmark, and two in the Union, with whom I am constantly in touch, and from whom I get all the material I want, besides having received, through their courtesy, all the catalogues and reference books I need to help me on with my collection and study of Danish stamps.

There are still many of us under the impression that it is still not possible to obtain foreign stamps due to various export and import restrictions and currency regulations that were imposed during and after the last war. For their information, most of these restrictions have now been removed, and even where currency difficulties are still to be encountered, there is generally nothing to prevent an exchange or barter system. So that, as an argument against 'foreigns', is almost entirely overruled.

Secondly, I blame the dealers to a very large extent for this pro-Empire bias, equally as much as I am prepared to criticise foreign dealers for their exclusion of Empire stamps. One has only to examine our magazines; without having gone very closely into figures I feel it reasonably safe to say that 95 per cent. of all the advertisements refer to Empire stamps. The advertisers, the dealers, making their living as they do, by catering for the wants of the philatelist, natnrally play for the safest market. A prominent stamp dealer — a professional dealer — in this country, not one of the many so-called "amateur" dealers that plague the market to-day, once told me that if there was a demand for foreign stamps, he wold perforce widen his stock-in-trade, and do so gladly. Others would soon follow the same course. Therefore the collectors themselves are not entirely blameless for allowing themselves to be led like sheep along this straight and narrow path.

This continual and almost exclusively "Empire" advertising campaign not only offers the line of least resistance to existing collectors, with its new issue services, etc., but to my mind is an undoubted menace to newcomers to the game — they can too easily be led to believe that there is nothing else to collect!

Finance in connection with philately is a topic which gives rise to frequent and animated discussions amongst stamp collectors of all classes. It is an aspect of philately about which I feel very strongly, and such being the case, I can only speak of it very critically and without pulling any punches. This "commercialism" which has enforced itself on philately, and has transformed a pleasant, instructive and interesting hobby into a financial speculation, to my way of thinking is one of the principal factors underlying any decision a collector makes today in regard to his sphere of operations.

Let me put it to you this way. The state of affairs for all of us, at present, is such that money is in short supply. We have only a limited amount to spend on our stamps, and understandably do not wish to spend it unwisely.

Assuming then, that our hobby was photography. We would have to purchase cameras and enlargers and other paraphernalia; capital equipment which, in time, and under certain circumstances, might appreciate, but which is more likely to depreciate because of wear and tear, and because newer and better models have been produced. Consider also the money to be spent on films, developing and printing materials, etc., money spent and quite irrecoverable. In photography the pleasures derived from the expenditure of money and energy are too often likely to be very short-lived. A photographic memento of a holiday tour will probably survive longest and provide happy memories — a treasured nostalgia of the episode — but only to the person or persons involved. An exhibition

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print, after achieving various successes at different salons, will be given pride of place over someone else's mantleshelf, but will not enhance itself with any appreciable monetary value.

Whereas every stamp purchased is capital equipment, and more likely to appreciate than depreciate. With that before us, does it matter what we buy — whether it be British or Foreign? In the same way as any collector of foreigns has found a source of supply, he will find a market if he should wish to sell, and carefully handled, his investment will realise every bit as much, and possibly more, than any British Empire collection, excepting, perhaps, those of outstanding quality such as that of the late Mr. Schofield.

It is a fallacy, created by the press campaign to which I have referred, and articles such as those of Sagesse, W. E. Fyndem and others, that Empire stamps find higher market levels. Quoting from an article recently published by a well-known overseas dealer "20 years in the commercial stamp market has proved that good foreign sets shew an overwhelming number of sales over B.E. Those who believe British stamps to be the only ones that bring big prices in world auctions would be sadly disillusioned if they checked sales regularly. It must be remembered that there are many more millions of philatelists throughout the world besides those who favour B.E."

We are prone to be guided almost too completely by Stanley Gibbons in regard to price. That their quotations are hardly a true reflection of the market in Empire issues is acknowledged without doubt, but regarding foreign material, matters are still worse. I would be prepared to purchase their entire stock of Denmark at their own catalogue prices, to resell in Denmark at the current Danish catalogue prices.

A careful study of present-day values will show that the number of cheap sets of British Empire issues is rapidly growing less as far as the average and moderate collector is concerned. A frequent complaint relative to foreign sets is that due to financial considerations, it is almost impossible to-day to complete any foreign country; but is a parellel situation in regard to British Empire issues not rapidly manifesting itself?

In conclusion, then, I will put the following question to you — "Are we collecting stamps for the pleasure it affords us, or are we collecting stamps mainly with an eye on their financial prospects?"

If we can honestly answer that by saying that it is for the pleasure we derive from collecting these "silly little bits of paper" — WHY DON'T WE COLLECT MORE FOREIGN?

AUSTRALIAN STATES
AUSTRALIAN COMMONWEALTH
NEW ZEALAND

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Please say what are your particular interests, and state whether you collect mint or used, or both. Fine copies only are mounted, and our prices are reasonable.

H. A. L. HUGHES & CO.

28 NELSON HOUSE, PARK RD., PETERBOROUH.

AIR MAIL NOTES.

Scandinavian Airlines System—8th January,1953.

Special postmarks were applied to mail carried on the inaugural flight from Sweden and Denmark to Johannesburg.

At Stockholm early mail matter received an UNDATED postmark inscribed "FORSTA/ REGULJAR/FLYGNINGEN / STOCKHOLM/ JOHANNESBURG" surrounding a Springbok's head. Late mails bore the same postmark but the date 8.1.1953 was inserted.

The special postmark on mails from DENMARK was inscribed "KOBENHAVN LUFTHAVN/8.1.1953/1 STE SAS FLYVNING/TIL/ JOHANNESBURG" and incorporated the Air Line's crest.

As advised in the February issue of the "South African Philatelist" no mail was carried on the return flight of this new service as Scandinavia has not yet concluded any agreement with the Union for the carriage of South Arfican mails.

I. H. C. GODFREY.

SHORT NOTICES.

The Amateur Collector, Ltd., of 27 Westbury Road, London N12. announces a 2nd Edition of their Catalogue of the stamps of Switzerland. Price 2/6. This edition adds to the original a listing of first and special flights, a table with numbers of stamps printed, and pricing of many more shades of the older issues.

Farouk Collection. Messrs. H. R. Harmer, Ltd., have been commissioned to sell ex-King Farouk's collection and the sale will be held in Cairo early next year.

B. J. Hunter, who has been an advertiser in our columns for some time, announces that his firm has been reconstituted, the partners being himself, Mr. and Mrs. Adams, and Mr. Robert Myer (lately of Merx Ltd., which business is now being incorporated in that of B. J. Hunter).

(Concluded from page 75)

Welcome visitors at the meeting included Comdr. C. D. Enoch and Mr. Schubart, from the Johannesburg Philatelic Society. The former read a paper on the stamps of Siam of the 19th century. His exhibits to illustrate the talk included many hand-struck stamps and forgeries, and the meeting much enjoyed enlightenment on a country rarely seen in collections. Another exhibit viewed with much interest was that of modern German new issues, loaned for the occasion by the Trustees of the Transvaal Museum.

The meeting held on the **16th March** was presided over by the Vice-President, Mr. P. G. Gain. The Publicity Officer of the Dept. of Post and Telegraphs, Mr. T. I. Ferreira, accompanied by Messrs. N. J. Grobler and M. T. O'Connor, were present as principal guests, and each of them spoke on the aspects of his work in the Publicity section of the Stamp Agency, as far as it directly touched on matters of interest to stamp collectors. In each case the meeting heard much that was new, and the sum total impressed all hearers with the considerable field of work entailed. We were told too of the Agency's problems, difficulties, and amusing situations, which aroused sympathy as well as laughter. Among many tit-bits told, was the reason why Union of South Africa stamps show "posseël" as a translation for "postage". The Agency was started in 1949, and has become a vital institution to collectors here as well as overseas.

As an exhibit Mr. Ferreira showed the Department's fine proofs and colour trials of the recent van Riebeeck issue. The privilege of seeing these was much appreciated, and many members took the opportunity of warmly thanking the officials not only for the pleasant evening they had provided, but also for the valued and considerate assistance given to collectors at the Agency at all times. B.J.V.

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SOCIETY NEWS

PHILATELIC SOCIETY OF THE WESTERN RAND.

At our monthly meeting held in the Parish Hall, Roodepoort, on Wednesday the 25th of February, attendance was not up to standard, but a pleasant evening was enjoyed by those present.

An outstanding display of India was tabled by Mr. Henderson, consisting of all mint stamps from the Silver Jubilee, right up to date.

On behalf of the Club, Dr. Berry thanked Mr. Henderson for his display which was well mounted and written up. The Sideline consisting of a series of The Angola Birds, was tabled by Mr. Keet. Mr. Vermaak thanked Mr. Keet on his colourful and neat display. J.K.

PORT ELIZABETH PHILATELIC SOCIETY.

January, 1953:

At the opening of the first meeting of the year, the President, Mr. G. K. Forbes, extended New Year Greetings to all Members. Minutes of the last meetings — November/December, 1952, were read and correspondence dealt with, followed by our usual auction. After tea interval each member put on view a few sheets with interesting items. Much attractive varied and fine material was displayed thanks to the co-operation of all and discussion amongst members on the show delayed the closing of the meeting beyond the usual time.

3rd February, 1953.

A good turn-out of members regretfully bid goodbye to Mr. D. Watson, who is leaving shortly for the West Indies to take up a new appointment there. Our President thanked Mr. Watson for the services he had rendered to the Society during his years of Membership, especially as Hon. Auctioneer and wished him good fortune in his new post. After the auction, Mr. A. T. W. Kennedy and Mr. P. Barnes joined forces in showing members some of their United States Stamps. The former tabled mainly the middle issues of America, the stress being on the historical interest, and Mr. Barnes is to be congratulated on a very neat display of the Commemorative Stamps from 1940 to 1953. Mr. Kennedy commented on his part of the evening's show by reading some interesting notes. Mr. Forbes thankel both and reminded members of the Annual General Meeting which takes place on the 17th February, 1953.

17th February, 1953.

The evening was devoted to the Annual General Meeting, Mr. G. K. Forbes presiding over a fair attendance of members. After apologies for absence of some members had been read, the Hon. Secretary gave his comprehensive and encouraging report on the activities of the Society during 1952; followed by the Hon. Treasurer presenting the statement of accounts as on 31/12/1952. A gratifying surplus could be reported and generally it was felt that the affairs of the Society were in good shape. The retiring President's address revealed the same healthy state of affairs, he stressing th high standard attained at meetings during the year.

A motion to change the dates of meetings was defeated, they will now still take place on the 1st and 3rd Tuesday of every month.

The new Committee was elected as follows:—

President, Mr. G. Bulbring; Vice-Presidents, Dr. J. W. Harris, Mr. D. Berg; Secretary, Mr. A. F. W. Pavitt, 37 Heugh Road, Walmer; Treasurer, Mr. H. Youngelson; Auctioneer, Mr. R. W. Pearson; Auditor, Mr. T. van Duyker; Press Correspondent, Mr. G. Bulbring; Librarian, Mr. G. K. Forbes; Hon. Life President: Mr. G. K. Forbes, in recognition of past services.

The meeting resolved to support the Rhodesian Exhibition by way of a donation; Dr. J. W. Harris being elected as the Society's delegate to Congress.

After discussing various proposals affecting the internal running of the Society the meeting closed at about 10.30 p.m.

3rd March, 1953.

An entertaining evening for members and a visitor (who afterwards applied for admission) consisted first of an auction, followed by the tabling of some interesting items: Quantas Flight Cover, showing both Australian and South African Postmarks of outward and return trip (Dr. Harris); Australian new Food Industries Stamps in blocks (Mr. Pearson); Netherlands new Watersnood Surcharge Stamp on cover and recent German Covers (Mr. Bulbring).

Mr. P. W. Barnes gave the display of the evening, a very nice clean lot of German issues from 1933 to 1945. The stamps were well set out and written up, the President voicing the thanks of those present.

As an innovation reports from various Stamp Magazines were read on the subject of desirable stamps, which were tipped as likely to appreciate in value. Lively discussion followed and it is hoped to incirporate this feature at future meetings.

AFRIKAANSE FILATELISTIESE VERENIGING.

16 Februarie:

'n Mooi opkoms was ons te wagte tydens ons eerste besoek aan die Pretoria Philatelic Society en ons is bly om te kan sê dat die seëls wat ons uitgestal het klaarblyklik veel byval gehad het. Die uitstalling is verskaf deur die vriende Achterhof (België), Schwartz (St. Helena), Lambert (lugpos), Vermaak (Unie-lugbriefkaarte uit die Verre-Ooste) en Schubart (Vrystaat).

Almal het getuig van 'n genotvolle kuiertjie.

Op Vrydag, 2 Oktober, kom lede van die Pretoria Philatelic Society aan die beurt met 'n besoek aan ons.

6 Maart:

Lede Schubart en Vermaak was verantwoordelik vir die aand se uitstalling, t.w. spesiale militêre seëls — en briefstukke van Swede en Switzerland en Korea lugbriefkaarte.

Omdat die eerste Vrydag in April Goeie Vrydag is, sal ons jaarvergadering op die daaropvolgende Vrydag, 10 April, plaasvind. As nuwigheid sal 'n seëlloting uit die kas gehou word. Elke lid sal iets wen, maar slegs die eerste drie pryse sal noemenswaardig wees. Die loting sal 'n jaarlikse instelling wees. Almal word vriendelik uitgenooi om aan die pret te kom deelneem.

Nuwe lid: Mnr. A. R. van der Merwe, Reidstraat 19, Jagersfontein.

Aansoeke om lidmaatskap: Mnr. D. R. de Wet, Humanskraal, Ottosdal, en die jongeheer Arie Spoon van Lyndhurst, Johannesburg. S.J.V.

PHILATELIC SOCIETY OF JOHANNESBURG.

At the meeting of **March 10th** there was a visit by members of the Pretoria Philatelic Society who provided the exhibits. Fr. Ferguson, the President of the Pretoria Society introduced the visitors.

Mr. Watson showed stamps of George V. The exhibit contained numerous commemoratives. There were several fine used items although the majority were fine mint.

Mr. W. Oppenheim spoke on this exhibit.

Dr. Berry showed Union King's Head. The exhibit included several proofs and colour trials. There were also specimen stamps and plate numbered blocks. There were numerous varieties of shades. All the errors were shown.

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

Miss Versfeld tabled current issues of Russia lent by the Trustees of the Transvaal Museum. She first read some notes on this exhibit which included miniature sheets and commemoratives.

Rev. Loxley Chamings spoke on the exhibit.

Mr. Beltjer showed modern Germany. The exhibit included stamps of all the occupation zones. There were several commemoratives and miniature sheets.

Mr. W. Oppenheim spoke on the exhibit.

Mr. Ferguson showed Vatican stamps including early Roman states. The exhibit was beautifully illustrated. There were some fine Roman States on cover. The modern stamps were shown in mint and used and several were on cover.

Rev. Loxley Chamings spoke on the exhibit.

At the meeting of **March 23rd** there was an auction and a quiz. The rest of the time was devoted to exchange and information.

PRETORIA PHILATELIC SOCIETY.

This Society being honoured by the donation of a Memorial Trophy to the memory of the late Mr. H. B. Hawke, the meeting held on the **2nd March, 1953,** was the occasion on which it was formally received. The presentation was to have been made by Mrs. Hawke, but in her absence Dr. Broughton, a Life Member, handed it to the President, Mr. F. C. Ferguson, who accepted it on behalf of the Society. It is unusual in design, and is to bear a permanent record of those to whom it was awarded annually together with an inscribed plaque; Mr. Hawke was a Foundation Member of the Society, and this award will serve to honour those who do outstanding service to the Society. The first recipient was Dr. H. Reisener, for services in 1952.

(Continued on page 74)

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Check List of O.V.S. & O.R.C. Post Offices and Agencies, etc.

PERIOD 1868 TO 1910

By W. NEWLANDS.

(Continued from page 36 of February issue.)

Grade	Name	District	Date opened or year of P.M.G.'s report where first noted	Closed (where known)	Remarks
SO*	Crown Mine	K(?)			
PA	Daggafontein	BM	1899		
	Daggafontein	T	1-6-08	31-8-08	
PA	Davelsrust	BM	1898		
PO*	Dealesville	BO			
PA	De Bad	K	1899		
RSO*	De Brug	B	1-5-08		
	De Knile	H	1-5-05	31-12-05	
PA	Delaware	V	1899		
PA*	De Molen	BM	15-8-06		
PA‡	De Put	BY	1887		
	Dewarfontein	J	15-2-07	31-5-08	(De Werf?)
	Dewer	J	15-2-07		(De Werf?)
PA	De Werf	J	1898	31-5-08	
PO*‡	Dewetsdorp	B	1880		(Oct. 1888)
	Diepfontein	K	1-7-03	30-6-04	
SO*	Don Don	L	21-7-03		
PA*	Donkerpoort	P	1893		RSO in 1910
PA	Doornfontein	W	1895		
	Doornkloof	LY	15-9-04	31-6-06	
PA	Doornpan	HO	1898		
PA	Douglas Valley	HN	July 1899		
RSO*	Dover	VF	15-7-06		
PA	Driefontein	HN	1893		See Driefontein 1.
PA‡	Driefontein	BO	1887		See Driefontein 2.
PA	Driefontein 1	HN	1899		Same PO as that of 1893
PA	Driefontein 2	BO	1899		Same PO as that of 1895
PA	Driekop	BM	1898		
PA	Droogefontein	WE	1893		
PA	Dundas	V	1893		
PA*	Du Plooys Rust	SE	1-10-04		
PA	Dupreezlager	W	1895		
PO*‡	Edenburg	FA	1867		
RTO*	Edenburg Rail	E			
RSO*	Eensgevonden	W	1899		
PA	Eensgevonden Siding	W	1899		See Eensgevonden (OCT. 1898).
PA	Egypte	T	1893		
PA*	Eilm	—			(ELIM?)
SO*	Eintracht	F			
PA*	Eksteen	LY	1-7-07		
	Elandskloof	RO	1-12-03		
PA	Elandsrivierbrug	H	1893		
PA	Elim	BM	1895	31-3-07	
	Elston Siding	BE			(Elstow?)
	Elston Siding	SP			(Elstow?)
PA*	Elstow	BE		7-12-06	
PA*	Emms	—			
	Ennys	BE	15-9-07		
	Essex	T	1-7-03		
	Esterhoven	J		31-3-04	
PA	Fairy's Post	W	1899		

(To be continued)

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THE
SOUTH AFRICAN PHILATELIST
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UNION NOTES
Sub-Editor: Mr. W. N. SHEFFIELD, Box 99, Cleveland, Transvaal.

Coronation Stamps.

A Bulletin received from the Philatelic Agency, Publicity Section of the G.P.O., Pretoria, concerning the Coronation stamps to be issued in the Union on the 3rd June, 1953, is given below. (NOTE. The original Bulletin gave the date of issue as the 2nd June, but just prior to going to Press we were informed by the Publicity Officer that since the 2nd June was a public holiday the date of issue for the Coronation stamps had been changed to the 3rd June. —Editor, South African Philatelist).



UNION OF SOUTH AFRICA.
DEPARTMENT OF POSTS AND TELEGRAPHS.

CORONATION STAMPS.

A special postage stamp to commemorate the Coronation of Her Majesty Queen Elizabeth II will be placed on sale at all post offices in the Union for a period of approximately three months as from the 3rd June, 1953. The stamp will be printed in vertical format 24.2 by 40.5 millimetres and the value will be 2d. Each stamp will be inscribed in Afrikaans and English. The stamps will be printed in sheets of 120. The design is taken from a photograph approved by Her Majesty.

FIRST-DAY COVERS.

Orders for First-Day Covers and mint stamps must be addressed to the PHILATELIC AGENCY, PUBLICITY SECTION, G.P.O., PRETORIA, and posted so as to arrive not later than the 30th May, 1953. Envelopes for use as First-Day or Commemorative covers will **not** be provided by the Post Office, or purchased from outside sources on behalf of the applicants. Persons desirous of having covers serviced must therefore forward their own addressed envelopes Requests for more than one particular postmark on an envelope will not be entertained.

REMITTANCES.

Remittances must be made by means of International Money Order, Bank Draft, British or South African Postal Oorders made payable to the Postmaster-General, Pretoria. Those in respect of orders for mint postage stamps must include an amount for return postage and registration. **Cheques, foreign bank notes, foreign coin and foreign postal orders will not be accepted.**

DESPATCH OF ORDERS.

Every effort will be made to despatch orders as soon as possible after the date of release of the stamps, but in view of the large number of orders expected and the consequent volume of work involved, delay in some cases will be unavoidable. Applicants therefore requested to withold any enquiries or reminders relating to their orders until the beginning of September, 1953.

Diaeresis Variety on 2/6 "Officials".

In our March issue we mentioned that information had come to hand from the Editor of "Gibbons' Stamp Monthly" to the effect that following the discovery of the diaeresis variety on the 1/- "Officials" there was a probability of

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it now turning up on the 2/6 denomination and sure enough, during the early part of April we received a letter from Mr. A. Lichtenstein of Bloemfontein, who wrote as follows:

"2/6 with E variety. One of my clients, Mr. J. Somerville of Muizenberg, Cape Province, has submitted to me a pair of Handbook No. 084, **with left hand margin,** the first stamp being English, "Offisieel" 16½ mm. and "Official" 14 mm. The second stamp has "Offisieel' with diaeresis, measuring 15 mm. and "Official" also measuring 15mm. This pair seems to correspond to Dr. M. Wulfsohn's 1/- block as reported on page 38 of the March issue and establishes the following three settings, viz.:—

"(a) The 2d., Handbook No. O72, with diaeresis on stamps Nos. 5 and 6, and 65 and 66 — all stamps having normal large overprint."

"(b) The 1/- Handbook No. O74, and the 2/6, No. O84, with "mixed fount" and the diaeresis in odd positions not yet determined."



"(c) The 2d., Handbook No. O81, with "mixed fount", but no diaeresis variety."

Mr. Lichtenstein also mentions in the same letter that the diaeresis variety on the 1½d. stamps becomes more and more puzzling for he has now come across a block of four of these "Officials" in which the top right hand stamp (Afrikaans inscribed) has "Offisieel" with normal "E" and the overprints spaced 16½mm., whereas the other three stamps have the diaeresis form of spelling with the overprints spaced 15½mm. There is no indication of the position of the block in the sheet.

Varieties on the Current and Recent Issues of the 2d. Stamps.

Further to the notes that have been published in these columns during the last few months on the varieties that have appeared on recent issues of the 2d. pictorial stamps, we reproduce here photographs submitted by Dr. B. Wasserstein of Pretoria, showing three of the flaws.

The top photograph illustrates the white mark above the "F" of AFRICA on the 3rd stamp of row 4, and the lower ones, th eplum coloured mark in the two forms in which it appears on the "R" of AFRICA in row 7, stamp No. 8.

These varieties are present on the sheets of all three printings — 30/18; 27/46 and 27/18 i.e., Plates X, XI and XII respectively — but as shown in the centre photograph, the flaw on the "R" is smaller on the stamp of the 27/46 printing than in the case of the other two issues.

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of

Southern and Eastern Africa,

by

J. H. Harvey-Pirie.

●

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●

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POSTAGE STAMP CENTENARIES

By W. KRISTE.

Having been a lover of the classics ever since I started collecting stamps as a nipper but never actually being in a position to acquire good copies of any of them for my collection, all I could do was to study those owned by more fortunate collectors when they were exhibited at various Society meetings. I must also admit to being very envious of such collections and really bemoaned not being able to have a collection of my own of these gems.

One day, however, paging through a French catalogue I came across a Brazilian "Bull's Eye" shown as being issued in 1943 and on further translating the details of the stamp shown I found that it was one of a set issued to commemorate the Centenary of the first "Bull's Eye". This immediately put the thought in my mind that as I was not in a position to collect classics, I could for a small outlay manage to acquire a collection of reprints, re-issues or replicas of such stamps, or better still, why not form a collection of stamps which were issued to commemorate one hundred years of postage stamps.

The first adhesive postage stamp ever to be issued was of course the Penny Black in 1840 and Great Britain, to celebrate the Centenary of Sir Rowland Hill's brain child, issued a set of six stamps. Although the design of this commemorative issue does not show anything of the original stamp, it does however incorporate the head of Queen Victoria as shown on the Penny Black together with the head of King George VI. For some years after 1840 adhesive stamps developed slowly. Countries like Switzerland and Brazil were quick to appreciate this new idea of pre-paying postage, but others like France, Belgium, Holland, etc., took some time to be convinced of the success of these postage stamps. Towards 1850, however, the process hastened and after this hardly a year went by without some country being added to the list of stamp issuing countries.

It follows therefore, that all countries are likely to celebrate the Centenary of their first postage stamp. In fact, it is extremely unlikely that any nation will allow the event to pass unhonoured, and I feel that the majority of these Centenary issues will incorporate the design of the original stamp.

To get back to the Centenary sets already issued, I have already made mention of the Great Britain set. Four of this set of six were overprinted for use in Morocco and three overprinted for use in Tangier. These sets were all issued on 6th May, 1940, exactly 100 years after the first Penny Black. Actually, the very first set issued to commemorate this Centenary was issued by Salvador, which brought out one postage and two air mail stamps on 1st March, 1940, or something like 9 or 10 weeks before Great Britain!

Other countries to celebrate the centenary of the "Penny Black" during 1940 were Cuba with one stamp and an imperforate miniature sheet; the Dominican Republic with two stamps showing Sir Rowland Hill; Mexico, with a set of five postage and five air mail stamps, all of which had a reproduction of the "Penny Black" in the design. Paraguay too, issued a set of four stamps, one showing Sir Rowland Hill, and the other three having the first Paraguayan stamp incorporated in the design. European stamp-issuing countries were also not backward in commemorating the first stamp. Turkey with a set of four stamps depicting various methods of postal management; Portugal with a set of eight showing the head and shoulders of Sir R. Hill, these eight differently coloured stamps also being issued in a miniature sheet; while Estonia brought out a set of four and Bulgaria a set of two stamps. The only country in the British Empire to commemorate the occasion, was Burma which overprinted one stamp with the words "Commemoration, Postage Stamp, 6th May, 1840".

During 1941 two other countries produced Centenary Commemorative sets. These were Nicaragua with a set of three air stamps showing a portrait of Sir R. Hill and reproductions of the first Nicaraguan stamps and Liberia, which overprinted a set of three postage and three air mail stamps with the following: "Postage Stamp Centennial 1840-1940" together with an overprinted portrait of Sir R. Hill. Curiously enough Gibbons does not quote this issue while Yvert and Tellier mention them under the heading "Labels".

Zurich in Switzerland was the next to realise the value of adhesive stamps, and this place issued its first stamp on 26th February, 1843, to be followed a few months later by Geneva. The Centenaries of both these issues were commemorated by the Swiss Postal Authorities who issued a perforated stamp of the same design as the original Zurich stamp, an imperforate sheet of twelve of these stamps and a further miniature sheet with one imperforate stamp in the centre. The Geneva Centenary issue consisted of an imperforate miniature set of replicas of the first two Geneva stamps. Again in 1945, Switzerland issued a further miniature sheet with replicas of the first two Basle stamps. This then actually means that Switzerland celebrated the centenaries of three different postal issues within the space of two years.

The next country, the first in the New World, to commemorate its own stamp centennial was Brazil which on 1st August, 1943 issued a set of three imperforate reproductions of the "Bull's Eyes" and three perforated Air mail stamps. Both these issues were also sold in miniature sheets, the first being imperforate and the latter with the stamps perforated on two or three edges only. Cuba also celebrated the centenary of the "Bull's Eyes" with a stamp issued on 20th December, 1943.

The next big philatelic centenary was of the U.S.A., which on 15th May, 1947 issued a single stamp to commemorate 100 years of her own postage stamps. A big International Philatelic Exhibition was held in New York at the same time and the stamp commemorated both Exhibition and Centenary. An imperforate miniature sheet, showing reproductions of the first two U.S. stamps was also issued. This International

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affair together with the Centenary was also commemorated by Liberia with one postage and five air mail stamps, all showing pictures of the original U.S. stamps; by Mexico with two postage and three air mail stamps also showing the original U.S. issues; while Monaco with one postage and five air stamps also celebrated the event. Of these one postage and two air stamps were also issued as a Triptique, i.e. the three stamps se tenant with the postage stamp in the middle. This is really a colourful item. San Marino and Bulgaria also issued commemorative stamps for the event, the former having a set of six postage and one air stamps and the latter a single air mail stamp.

Then came the Centenary of the Mauritius "Post Office", with a commemorative set of four stamps, issued on 22nd March, 1948, each stamp showing in miniature a replica of the original "Post Office" stamp, while on 11th April, 1949 another British Colony, Bermuda, commemorated the centenary of another very famous first stamp, the Postmaster Perot issue. This centenary issue consisted of three stamps, each showing the original Perot stamp in the design.

Belgium too celebrated the Centenary of her first postage stamp during 1949 with an issue of four postage stamps and one air stamp, the design of the stamps showing a portrait of King Leopold I as depicted on the original Belgian stamp.

Centennial commemorative issues from this period follow each other in fairly quick succession. France issued two Ceres imperforate stamps and two perforated Marianne stamps (i.e. the old design and the new). These were issued as vertical strips with the two imperforate stamps at the top and the perforated pair below, as well as being sold in sheets of ten such vertical strips. Two French Colonies brought out one stamp each to honour the hundredth anniversary of the first stamp and to celebrate the "Day of the Stamp". These were Algeria and Tunis, and the stamps showed a portrait of Etienne Arago who designed the Ceres stamps of France.

Germany commemorated a hundred years of postage stamps on 30th Sept., 1949 by issuing a set of three stamps showing in the design the first Bavarian stamp and later a further issue of two stamps each for Baden, Rhine, Palatinate and Wurttemburg.

1950 saw the Centennial commemorative issues of Austria, which issued a single stamp on 15th May, Switzerland once again, this time to celebrate the hundredth birthday of the first Federal Swiss stamp, which was duly done with an issue of one stamp on 1st June. Germany too issued a single stamp to celebrate the centenary of the first stamp of Saxony, while Australia brought out a pair of stamps on 27th September to commemorate the first two Australian issues, namely the first New South Wales (Sydney view) and the first Victorian Stamp (Queen Victoria), the two commemorative stamps being printed alternately in the sheet.

Last but certainly not least the year 1950 brought us the Spanish centenary and the Spanish authorities brought out on 12th October a set of stamps incorporating in the design a replica of the original Queen Charlotte stamp of Spain. This set is really a very fine example of modern engraving and the printing is excellent.

During 1951 Denmark issued two stamps to celebrate her hundredth year of postage stamps; Italy, two stamps to commemorate the first Tuscany stamp, the commemorative stamps also being overprinted for use in Trieste, these latter pair not exactly easy to come by; and the Dominion of Canada, which only a few months ago celebrated one hundred years of postage stamps by holding a big International Stamp Exhibition and at the same time issuing a commemorative set of four stamps, while 1952 brought us commemorative issues by Holland, Luxemburg, Barbados and Pakistan, which countries have celebrated one hundred years of adhesive postage stamps.

CANADA

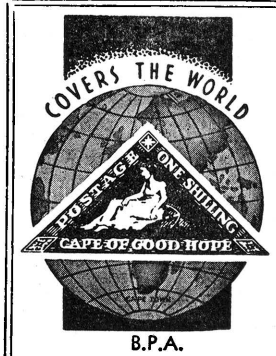
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THE FIRST RHODESIAN STAMP EXHIBITION BULAWAYO—July 13-16

Early in 1952, when plans for the Rhodes' Centenary Exhibition began to take concrete form, philatelists in Bulawayo felt that the occasion could not be allowed to pass without some token of recognition of the part the humble Postage Stamp had played throughout the history of the Colony.

As it had already been announced that the Centenary would be commemorated by the issue of a special set of stamps, the members of The Philatelic Society of Rhodesia, in Bulawayo, set afoot plans to hold the first Stamp Exhibition to take place in the Colony. It was fortunate indeed, that we were able to arrange for the Exhibition to be held in the Main Conference Hall at the Centenary Exhibition, from July 13th to 16th — commencing during Rhodes' and Founders' Week-end — as so many Rhodesians will undoubtedly be visiting Bulawayo during that period, and will have the opportunity of seeing what must be the finest array of stamps of Central Africa that it is possible to assemble.

At the head of the list of prominent philatelists who are giving us their support, is Mr. Arthur V. Jacob, of Cape Town, whose collection of the stamps of the British South Africa Co., has won top honours at International Exhibitions in London and New York. More than 100 pages of this renowned collection will be on view, portraying the stamps of the period 1890-1924, with many of the varieties and errors so sought after by all philatelists, and coveted by the less fortunate collectors.

Southern Rhodesia will be shown jointly by Dr. A. Kaplan, of Germiston, and Mr. B. L. R. Fox, of Bulawayo, whose collections have met before, in competition, at National and International Exhibitions in the Union, and which have been awarded Gold and Silver medals respectively.

Northern Rhodesia will be represented by a collection formed by the late Mr. A. Fitzstephen, of Bulawayo. This will be the first occasion on which this collection has been shewn in public, but revealing as it does, a lifetime of work and study of these stamps, it can only be regarded with high esteem. A very fine selection of the stamps of Nyasaland, and the former territory of British Central Africa, by Mr. Gordon Brown of Johannesburg, will also be included in the main theme of the display.

Particular mention must be made of an exhibit by Mr. W. G. Nodder, of Bath, England, who is sending a portion of his "Postal History" collection, and also of a collection of the Air Mails of Southern Rhodesia, by Mr. I. H. C. Godfrey, of Johannesburg. These two exhibits, deal not so much with the actual postage stamps, but with the history of the Postal Services — the former with their development in general, and the latter the progress afforded with the advent of the aeroplane.

In support of this abundance of superlative stamps we will also have collections from the surrounding territories — the Union of South Africa, principally from a collection which won the Championship at Cape Town last year; and the provinces of the Union — Cape of Good Hope, another Gold Medal collection; Transvaal, which will show some of the earliest and rarest of these stamps; Natal, another feast of rare and expensive items, and the Orange Free State; the High Commission territories of Basutoland, Swaziland, and Bechuanaland (the latter being from a Bulawayo collector).

From further afield we will show stamps of Kenya, Uganda and Tanganyika, Mocambique and the Belgian Congo. Outside of Africa, we will show Great Britain — for no exhibition could be complete without a representative of the very first postage stamp issued — the famous "Penny Black", Canada, Australia and New Zealand.

It is also hoped to include in this very fine display, a portion of a collection of the stamps of Mafeking belonging to Dr. Freund, of Bloemfontein. This collection, which, in its entirety, gives the full story of the siege of that town, is intensely interesting, and is the only one of its kind and calibre in the world.

The latest development in philately, "Thematic" collecting — in which a subject, not a country, is the main object, will be represented by collections with Medicine and Religion as their themes, and particularly, a most unusual collection of "Antarctic Posts" — mails from South Polar Expeditions, loaned by Dr. J. H. Harvey Pirie of Johannesburg.

The accumulated value of the collections which will be on show is estimated at well over £50,000, and it is hoped that this philatelic feast, featuring mainly Rhodesia, sponsored by the Philatelic Society of Rhodesia, and supported by many Rhodesian philatelists, will be visited and enjoyed by all visitors to the Centenary Exhibition, whether they be stamp collectors or not.

In conjunction with the Philatelic Exhibition, the Annual Congress of the Philatelic Federation of Southern Africa will take place in Bulawayo, when representatives of Philatelic Societies and philatelists from all over Southern Africa will gather to discuss the hobby.

Congress meets on July 13 and 14; the Exhibition will be open July 13-16.

CANADA NEW ISSUES

Wild Life 2c., 3c., 4c. ..... 1/-.

Elizabethans 1c., 2c., 3c., 4c., 5c. 1/6

Coronation 4 cent ..... 5d.

CANADA and U.S.A. mint our SPECIALITY.

WANT LISTS INVITED.

FRANK E. HAMILTON,

MARNE 17, Michigan, U.S.A.

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Correspondence

The Honorary Editor,
The S.A. Philatelist.

CURRENT 2d. STAMPS.

Sir,

In the notes by Mr. A. Lichtenstein on the four issues of the current 2d. stamps, which were published in your April, 1953, number, it is stated, inter alia, that there can be no doubt that a different interior multopositive was used for printing cylinder 6927 from that used for cylinders numbered 30 and 27. This is in direct contradiction to a statement of mine, that all three interior cylinders are from the same multopositive, which appeared in "Union Notes" in your January, 1953, issue. I have no wish to enter into any controversy with Mr. Lichtenstein, who is my friend and for whose opinions I have the greatest respect, but as silence on my part might be construed as an admission that I am wrong, I hope you will allow me to state my case, so that collectors can form their opinions while the necessary material is readily available.

My original letter to the Sub-Editor was a fairly long one, and lack of space compelled him to shorten and change the form slightly. I wrote that a preliminary inspection of sheets from the four printings revealed that there was a flaw common to cylinders 30 and 27 (R.1/15. Dot at left of right tower) which was not present in the old cylinder 6927, and this seemed to indicate that a new interior multopositive had been made; but a complete check had shown that there were two flaws, viz.:

R2/18. Dot to right of left hand tower, and

R7/17. Small blotch above roof near centre,

which are common to all three cylinders, therefore they must all have had their origin in the same multopositive.

Multopositive flaws are of two kinds, those which find their way on to the multopositive while it is being made, and others which make their appearance at a later stage; both kinds can be, and have been corrected in our Government Printing Works.

Most excellent examples of these flaws and their removal may be found in the multopositive which has produced the frame cylinders for our ½d. stamps since they were reduced to the 18 x 22 mm. size. From the beginning and until just before the cylinder numbers were printed in the margins all the 240 stamp sheets had two flaws in common, viz.:

R9/12. Mark above ornament in top right corner, and

R14/1. Smudge at bottom right of left hand bar.

These two therefore belong to the first type of multopositive flaw. In addition to these two there was on cylinder 7020B a dot in the scroll to the right of the circle on R2/7. On cylinder 11B — taken from different rows of the multopositive — all three flaws appear, but one row higher. Although the dot is slightly smaller on cylinder 11B, the fact that it is repeated shows that it is a multopositive flaw, but of the second type. The current cylinder 70 has only one of these flaws, that on R9/12(but surely no one is going to suggest that because two of the multopositive flaws have disappeared a new multopositive has been used. I am no mathematician, but I should say that the chances against two cylinders, prepared from different multopositives, exhibiting the same flaw in identically similar positions, are millions to one.

Returning now to the interior cylinders of the current 2d. stamps I suggest that there is an analogy between these and the frame cylinders of the ½d. stamps. The flaw which is common to cylinders 30 and 27 (R1/15) must be classed as belonging to the second type of multopositive flaw mentioned above, which is to say it found its way on to the multopositive at a later stage in its use. Mr. Lichtenstein states that he could not find any flaw common to all three interior cylinders 6927, 30 and 27, but I assure you that there are two of these on R2/8 and R7/17 described above, and although not large, are in the same category as that mentioned by him as occurring on R1/15 of cylinders Nos. 30 and 27. It is fantastic to assume that these two flaws could have originated anywhere but from a common multopositive, in fact, there just could not have been more than one.

S. J. HAGGER.

CAPE OF GOOD HOPE — USED.

1853	Original Perkins Bacon Plate Proof of 1d. in black. Triangular block of 4	20	0	0
	As above, but rectangular block of four of the 1/-	35	0	0
	Deep Blued Paper			
	1d. pale brick het, S.G.1	5	0	0
	1d. deep brick red, S.G. 1a	10	0	0
	4d. deep blue, S.G.2	3	10	0
	4d. deep blue pair, S.G. 2	10	0	0
	Slightly Blued Paper			
	1d. brick red, S.G. 3	7	0	0
	1d. brick red pair, S.G. 3, superb	25	0	0
	1d. brown red, S.G. 3a	9	0	0
	As above, but strip of 3 trans. dies	40	0	0
	4d. deep blue, S.G. 4	2	10	0
	4d. deep blue pair, S.G.4	14	0	0
1855/8	4d. pale blue, S.G. 4a	3	0	0
	White Paper			
	1d. brick red, S.G.5	6	10	0
	1d. pale rose, S.G.5a	4	0	0
	1d. deep rose red, S.G. 56, pair	10	0	0
	4d. deep blue, S.G.6 from £2 to	6	0	0
	4d. blue, S.G.6a from £2 to	6	0	0
	6d. slate lilac, S.G. 7, Superb	10	0	0
	6d. slate lilac on blue, S.G. 7a from	12	0	0
	6d. pale rose lilac, S.G.7b from	5	0	0
	6d. deep rose lilac, S.G.7c from	7	7	0
	1/- bright yellow-green, S.G.8, from	10	0	0
	1/- deep dark green, S.G.8a from	7	10	0
	De La Rue			
	1d. carmine red, S.G.18	7	0	0
	1d. deep brown-red, S.G.18a	8	0	0
	1d. brownish-red, S.G.18b	7	0	0
	4d. dark blue, S.G.19 from	2	0	0
	4d. pale blue, S.G.19a	3	0	0
	4d. slate blue, S.G.19b from	12	10	0
	4d. steel blue, S.G.19c from	12	0	0
	6d. bright mauve, S.G.20	10	0	0
	Re-entries			
	6d. slate lilac, S.G.7, Re-entry No. 2	20	0	0
	6d. slate lilac, S.G.7, Re-entry No. 3	20	0	0
	6d. slate lilac, S.G.7, and bright mauve, S.G.20, showing re-entries in sixpence and Cape of Good Hope. Stevenson No. VII matched pair	45	0	0
	6d. slate lilac, S.G.7, showing re-entry Stevenson No. VIII	20	0	0
	4d. dk. blue, S.G. 19, mint, showing re-entry Stevenson 1b	20	0	0

J. E. LEA

"The Mecca of Northern Philatelists"
14 EXCHANGE STREET, MANCHESTER, 2.

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REVIEWS

Mueller's German Catalogue. This 4th Edition of the post-war stamps of Germany and Austria should be welcomed by collectors of these stamps. Stamps of Germany from 1945 onwards are a most complicated group, but here they all are in a priced catalogue of 234 pages with numerous illustrations. Although in German there should be little difficulty for readers not familiar with the language in following at least the main features of description of the various issues. They are all dealt with, including the "Locals" and a short section on the Feld- and Insel-Ports of 1942/45.

The catalogue is obtainable from the British Empire agents (Waltham Stamp Co., 163 Sumatra Road, London, N.W.6) at 12/6.

The Romagna, by Donald S. Patton. Published by Robson Lowe Ltd., price 10/- post free.

A very scholarly work on the stamps, cancellations and general postal history of the Romagna, which was the name given to the provinces of Bologna, Ferrara, Forli and Ravenna which, prior to 1859, formed part of the Papal States.

The stamps were short-lived; Papal States, many of the bisected, for about 2½ months, then the "Romagne" issue with values in Bajocchi for five months. There were many remainders of this issue.

Nearly half the booklet deals with forgeries, these stamps having been more extensively forged than those of probably any other country.

There are numerous illustrations and full keys to the forgeries.

Special Postmarks. Francis J. Field Ltd., Sutton Coldfield, England. Price 2/6.

A priced catalogue of pictorial cards and covers with special postmarks, grouped under such headings as: Arts, music, etc.; Engineering and Radio; Garden and Field; Mail Transport; Mobile P.O.'s; International Exhibitions; Religion; Royalty and Royal Tours (including a number of Southern African items); Scouts and Guides; Sport. Something for almost every type of collector here.

Japan: Overseas and International Flights. Francis J. Field, Ltd., Sutton Coldfield, England. Price 3/6.

A chronological catalogue of all external flights to and from Japan from 1912 to 1952. Most of these were not included in the publishers' handbook "Bridging the Pacific", to which this brochure may be regarded as a supplement. The difficulties of Japanese postmarks, etc., have been simplified by a map, illustrations and a preliminary chapter.

The majority of the items (some 120) are priced, but a fair number are apparently so scarce that no price is given against them.

PHILIPPINES.

National Language Week was commemorated on 27 March by the issue of a 5c. stamp bearing the head of Francisca Baltazar, the most famous of Philippine poets.

O.V.S. POSTMARKS.

Mr. Smits writes:—

Referring to my article on the Numeral and Letter postmarks of the O.V.S. which appeared in the 1952 June and August issues of the S.A. Philatelist I am pleased to say that items of interest are still coming to hand. The latest is from Dr. John R. G. Gosling of Ann Arbor, U.S.A. who has kindly sent me an O.V.S. postcard clearly indicating the use of the letter "X" at Vrede. This however does not explain the oft found use of this letter cancelling stamps on wrappers of a Bloemfontein newspaper, unless there was a sub-distribution depot there.

Mr. Fenn of England has sent us a photograph of an O.V.S. postcard in his possession showing the use of the 16-bar canceller No. 13 having been used at Zand Rivier in 1890.

Information is also to hand that No. 18 in this series was used at Ficksburg. This now only leaves No. 15 to be located.

Mr. Fenn has also located the "X" mark at Vrede.

He further notes as in his possession:

(a) A 12-bar grid with No. 24 on a £5 fiscal.
(b) A 17-bar grid (small sans-serif No. 4) on a £4 fiscal.
(c) A 15-bar grid with No. 18 on a 2d. V.R.I.

He states these are all clear cancels, not at all smudged, but we feel they need confirmation before they can definitely be accepted as O.V.S. postmarks.

"THE SPRINGBOK"

When this advertisement appears, the second issue of the magazine of the South African Collectors' Society will be in the post to the rapidly growing membership in all parts of the world.

From the many letters received commenting favourably on the first issue ther is no doubt the magazine is wanted. Subscription is 10/- per annum postage paid, so if you are at all interested in the stamps of the Union, write without delay, for membership, to—

C. E. SHERWOOD

105 MARFORD CRESCENT, SALE,

MANCHESTER, G.B.

U.S.A. COMMEMORATIVES.

Two appeared on 2 March; one celebrating the centenary of what is now the State of Washington becoming a recognised U.S.A. Territory; the other reminds us that Ohio became the seventeenth state in the Union in 1803. On 30 April there was one commemorating the Louisiana Purchase.

Six additional Commemoratives for 1953 have been announced by the new P.M.G. (1) Golden Anniversary of Aviation. (2) Commodore Perry's negotiations with Japan, centenary. (3) 75th anniversary of the Bar Association. (4) 25th anniversary of "Future Farmers of America". (5) General George S. Patton. (6) Centenary of Gadsden Purchase.

FLOOD RELIEF STAMPS.

Messrs. Whitfield King & Co. have been informed that special Flood Relief Stamps have been issued for Curacao, Suriman and Dutch New Guinea. Details not yet available.

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THE GAMBIA

By
Mrs. G. HUNT.

(Notes read with a display to the Philatelic Society of Johannesburg.)

Until I was persuaded by my husband to join him and become a philatelist I must confess that I had not the remotest idea of where Gambia was or to whom this country or territory belonged.

I am quite sure there are many people beside myself as blissfully ignorant in this respect, but now, since starting my collection I can boast that I not only know that Gambia — and please note it is always called **the** Gambia — is on the West Coast of Africa some 900 miles north of the equator surrounded by the much vaster colony of French Senegal and that it lies in a narrow strip of land little more than ten miles wide for nearly 300 miles on each side of the Gambia River but I can actually tell you that the population is, or was, 211,223, that Bathurst is the capital and the chief export of this British possession is ground nuts. I can also tell you that the Gambia is not a healthy area. Rain usually falls between June and October and for four or five months in each year conditions can be very pleasant but the swampy nature of the country coupled with the temperature encourages the breeding of vicious malaria-carrying mosquitoes and the dreaded sleeping-sickness tsetse fly. Infant mortality is appalling. In 1948 of 4,482 children born 1,928 died before the age of 10 years. Yes! ladies and gentleman, a gazetteer is a most useful book but mine says nothing whatever about the stamps of this intriguing little colony so I have had to look elsewhere for this information.

The collection I am showing you this evening is mainly a specialised one of the Cameo issues, which was started by a member of this Society, the late Mr. G. Carleton Jones who was known to many of you present here tonight, and who was highly respected for his philatelic knowledge.

I have been very fortunate in acquiring some of the rarer items which were missing in his collection, and also what is stated to be an unique proof of the embossed Queen Victoria head which was found amongst the late William Wyon's effects in the possession of his grandson. William Wyon, as you may know, was the engraver of the primary die for the embossed stamps of Great Britain, 1847-54 which were printed at Somerset House and it seems a logical inference from this particular 'find' that Wyon was engaged by the printers of the Cameos, Messrs. De La Rue & Co., to engrave the die for the embossed head of these stamps. Anyhow it is an interesting philatelic item and it is the only known copy of this proof in existence.



So far I have not succeeded in getting a copy of the 1887 Cameo 2d. yellow (Stanley Gibbons No. 25b). I have had several copies offered to me by dealers but on comparison with my copies of the yellow-buff, particularly the used copy, they could not be accepted as the real 'yellow' colour. I have not yet seen a copy of this stamp.

I am also without any copies of double embossed heads. Those in Mr. Carleton Jones' collection which he described as double embossed I do not accept as such, as I believe they are only instances where the printing and embossing do not register accurately. However, I am open to correction in this respect.

The cameos were discontinued in 1897 after being current for 29 years and the Queen Victoria key type took their place and this comparatively uninteresting issue of eight values lasted from Jan., 1898 until the accession of King Edward in 1902.

This Queen Victoria issue is remarkable for the fact that although it was in use for four years there are no recorded errors and apparently from my small collection no varieties of colours or shades, so one of each of these stamps seems to form a representative display.

In the King Edward 1902 issue (Crown CA) you will note that I show mint blocks of four but I am missing the one shilling value and have merely one poor solitary example — a specimen copy. This particular value is the rarest of this issue, catalogued at only 40/- by Gibbons, but I am inclined to believe this stamp is under-priced.

My collection of the later issues, George V and George VI are not, in their present state of incompleteness, worthy of display and I am sorry for the poor showing in this connection but I hope to do better next time.

NEW ISSUES

	M.	U.
Australia		
Food 3d., strip of 3	1/8	1/11
Do. block of 9	4/9	5/3
Cayman Is.		
Queen Elizabeth 4d.	5d.	6d.
Eire		
"An Tostal"	1/10	1/10
Gold Coast		
Queen Elizabeth 2½d.	4d.	4d.
Do. ½d., 1½d., 3d., 4d.	11d.	1/1
Malta		
new colours to 4½d.	1/6	1/9
Southern Rhodesia		
Rhodes Centenary	2/-	2/4

Postage 2½d. Registration 6d.
Air Mail 1/3 per half oz.

CORONATION STAMPS

Now booking—	M.	U.
Cr. Cols. & Malaya	12/4	15/-
Australia	2/9	3/-
Canada	5d.	5d.
Ceylon	2d.	3d.
Great Britain	3/8	4/-
New Zealand	3/5	3/9
New Zealand Depen.	2/9	3/-
New Hebrides	4d.	5d.
S. West Africa	2/6	2/9
S. Rhodesia	2/11	3/3
Tokelau Islands	4d.	4d.

CORONATION ALBUMS

Gibbons/Rapkins loose leaf 10/6
Grank Goddens loos leaf 15/-

RECENT ISSUES

	M.	U.
Canada		
Animals 2c., 3c., 4c.	1/-	1/2
new 1 dol. (or "G"	9/3	—
new 7c. Air (or "G")	9d.	9d.
Prime Ministers	9d.	6d.
Red Cross	5d.	4d.
British Guiana		
12c. perf. 14 x 13	7½d.	9d.
3 dol. perf. 14 x 13	14/6	16/8
Albums		
Goddens Graduate		22/9
Goddens Burleigh		42/6
Goddens Warwick		63/-
Goddens Warwick Jet		55/-

Postage about 2/6 per Album.
and I use Morocco stamps.

HAROLD STROUD (S.P.A.), 58 DARWEN STREET, BLACKBURN, ENGLAND

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B. J. HUNTER

Some Complete Sets
taken from our important stock of
FINE BRITISH COLONIAL STAMPS.

Maldive Is. 1906 set 1-6	£6	10	0
Malta 1885 set S.G. 20-28	£2	7	6
1903/04 set, S.G. 41-47	£1	17	6
1904/06 set, S.G. 48-57	£1	17	6
1907/11 set S.G. 58-68	£2	12	6
1922 set S.G. 123-134	£3	7	6
1926 set S.G. 143-156	£3	5	0
Mauritius 1910 set S.G. 181-195	£5	15	0
Montserrat 1903 set S.G. 14-23	£8	0	0
1916/23 set S.G. 50-61	£3	15	0
1922/28 set S.G. 66-83	£4	0	0
Natal 1902/03 set S.G. 127-139	£3	5	0
1904/08 set S.G. 146-157	£3	10	0
Papua 1901/05 set S.G. 1-8	£7	15	0
1906/07 set S.G. 34-37	£3	10	0
Rhodesia 1905 set S.G. 94-99	£3	0	0
St. Helena 1912/16 set S.G. 72-81	£3	5	0
St. Lucia 1886/87 set S.G. 39-42	£2	17	6
1907/09 set S.G. 72-78	£3	5	0
1936 set S.G. 113-124	£4	10	0
St. Vincent 1902 set S.G. 76-84	£4	5	0
Sarawak 1932 set S.G. 91-105	£3	0	0
Sarawak 1934/41 set, S.G. 106-125	£5	15	0
Seychelles 1890 set S.G. 1-8	£3	0	0
1902 set S.G. 45-49	£2	7	6
1903/04 set S.G. 53-63	£3	10	0
S. Leone 1903 set S.G. 72-84	£12	10	0
1907/10 set S.G. 97-111	£9	10	0
Somaliland 1903 set S.G. 1-13	£3	0	0
1904 set S.G. 32-44	£4	4	0
S. Nigeria 1903/02 S.G. 10-19	£16	10	0
1912 set S.G. 43-54	£8	10	0

All mint but we can also offer a wide range of sets in fine used condition. Please let us have your wants lists for singles or sets—Mint or Used.

B. J. Hunter (Incorporating Merx)

56a, EAST STREET, BRIGHTON, SUSSEX, ENGLAND

TEL. BRIGHTON 29677.

ISN'T IT ANNOYING

to see those gaps every time a page is turned? Perhaps I can help you fill them. I have very few Foreign stamps but my extensive range of the stamps of the British Commonwealth surely holds something you need.

Send me a list of your wants and I will quote for what I can supply. Customers already known to me may have them on approval but everything I sell, paid for or not, is subject to the customer's complete satisfaction.

Please say whether mint or used are wanted.

I have very few new and recent issues.

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Germany 1945 to date: Separate selections of East and West Zones now available, with latest novelties.

Italian States: Some very fine and unusual Classic material, recently acquired.

Kenya, Tang. and Uganda: Completely re-made selections available.

NEW ISSUES:

Australia: Food, blocks of 9 showing all possible combinations. Pair blocks, **7/6.**

Luxemburg: Last month's Royal Wedding, complete set, **6/6.**

Ruanda-Urundi: Just out, Flower set, 19 cpl., **17/6.**

C.W.O., POST FREE.

A. Lichtenstein

B.P.A.

Box 1117 ——— BLOEMFONTEIN

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Handbook – Catalogue Union of South Africa

SUPPLEMENT No. 7.

Editors: Dr. Alec Kaplan, Sam Legator, William N. Sheffield.

SECTION 9.

1d. VAN RIEBEECK'S SHIP

GROUP 7 — PLATES XXV-XXVI.

Fifth Hyphenated Series

Redrawn Design—Format 17½ x 21½ mm.

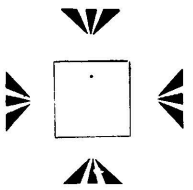


PLATE XXVI.

Cross-lined screened cylinders: Interior 54 and Exterior 53. Issued January 1953.

Same design, size and language setting as Plate XXV, but the sky has a much lighter appearance and the ship stands out more prominently on the stamps of this new issue

Printed as before, in sheets of 240 (20 rows x 12) with marginal arrows in the same colour as the frames of the stamps and four-figure red serial numbers printed twice on the right hand margins. Watermark upright and the cylinder numbers printed on the right hand side margin opposite rows 19 and 20. Same size screens used as for Plate XXV.



Cat. No.		Pairs Mint	Used
45D	**1d.** a. Grey-black and carmine	—	—
	b. Grey-black and carmine	—	—
	CONTROLS		
	Cc. Block of four with Cylinder Nos. 54 and 53 on attached margin	—	—
	Cd. Marginal arrow (Pl. XXVI)	—	—
	VARIETIES		
	Va. Red smudge above mountain. Row 16/11.		

2d. UNION BUILDINGS, PRETORIA.

GROUP 6 — PLATES X to XII.

Fifth Hyphenated Series.

Format 21½ x 17¼ mm.

NOTE.—Because of the issue of two new printings within a few weeks of the appearance of Plate X, and the cylinder number relationship of the three printings, which incidently were all on sale for a short period at the same time, the information given in the December 1952 (No. 6) Supplement regarding Plate X is repeated here for convenience of reference.

The heading to the December Supplement should be corrected to read No. 6 instead of No. 5 and also, in the heading under Section 9 in the text, Group 5 should be altered to read 'Group 6".

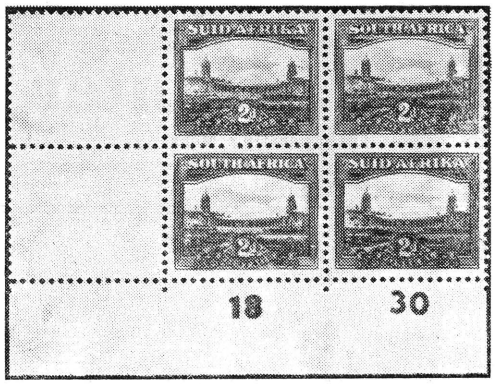


PLATE X

Cross-lined screened cylinders: Interior 30 and Exterior 18. Issued November 1952.

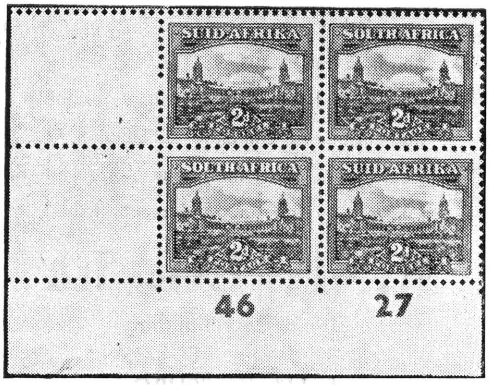


PLATE XI

Cross-lined screened cylinders: Interior 27 and Exterior 46. Issued December 1952.

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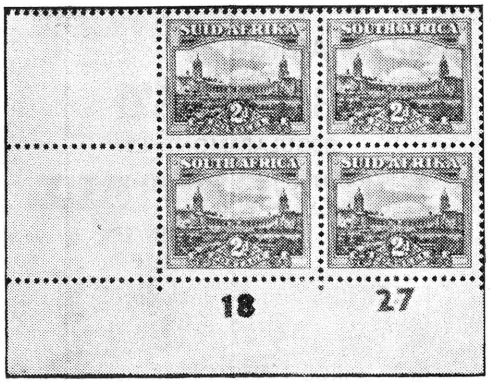


PLATE XII

Cross-lined screened cylinders; Interior 27 and Exterior 18. Issued December 1952.

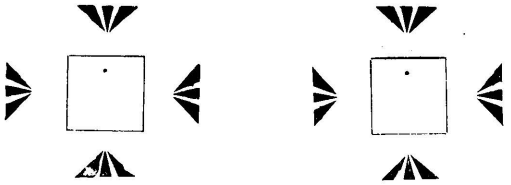
Design and size the same as PLATE IX, but language setting changed and the first stamp on the sheet inscribed in Afrikaans instead of English. Position of cylinder numbers imprinted on each sheet also changed from right hand end of bottom margin to the left hand end, and consequently now under stamps Nos. 1 and 2 of the 12th row.

Printed as before in sheets of 240 (12 rows x 20) from cross-lined screened cylinders, with four marginal arrows in the same colour as the frames and of a similar type to PLATE IX.

Watermark sideways, facing left; perforated 14 x 15 and four figure red serial numbers printed twice on the bottom margin — all as before.

The similarity in the general appearance of the stamps of the three Plates make it difficult to distinguish isolated specimens of one printing from the others. Therefore, unless copies are marginal pieces with the cylinder numbers attached, ore are identifiable by some other characteristic known to be a feature of a particular cylinder, then such stamps should simply be classed as belonging to the Group.

Cat. No.		Pairs Mint	Used
47F	**2d.** Slate blue and plum	—	—
	a. Slate blue and lilac	—	—
	CONTROLS		
	Ca. Block of four with cylinder numbers "30" and "18" on attached margin	—	—
	Cb. Block of four with cylinder numbers "27" and "46" on attached margin	—	—
	Cc. Block of four with cylinder numbers "27" and "18" on attached margin	—	—
	Cd. Marginal arrow PLATES X and XII	—	—
	Ce. Marginal arrow PLATE XI	—	—



MARGINAL ARROWS.

PLATES X and XII PLATE XI.

NOTE. A number of the flaws on the stamps in this Group originated on the glass multopositive plates and are therefore common to all three printings. The more prominent of these, and also a selection of the cylinder flaws, are tabulated herewith as varieties.

Cat. No.		Pairs Mint	Used
	VARIETIES		
	Common to Plates X, XI and XII.		
	Va. White mark on top of "F" of AFRICA, Row 4/3 (E)	—	—
	Vb. Large plum coloured mark on left hand frame lines near centre. Row 4/8, (A)	—	—
	Vc. Mark in "R" of AFRICA. Row 7/8 (E)	—	—
	Vd. Plum coloured spot on right frame line about one-third up. Row 12/17. (E)	—	—
	Common to Plates XI and XII.		
	Ve. Fine sloping line across sky, Row 1, Stamps 2 and 3 (A and E)	—	—
	Vf. Numerous dots on right hand side of the left tower. Row 10/20 (A)	—	—
	Plate X.		
	Vg. White sky behind left tower. Row 7/9 (A)	—	—
	Vh. Large slate coloured blotch on left hand frame lines. Row 7/13. (A). (Present only on a later batch of sheets issued early in 1953)	—	—
	Vi. Broad slate coloured vertical line between stamps Nos. 14 of Rows 8 and 9, near left hand corners. (Present only on a later batch of sheets issued early in 1953)	—	—
	Vj. Plum spot below top right stop in frame. Row 9/10 (A)	—	—
	Plate XI.		
	Vk. "Cloven hoof" marks on left margin adjoining Rows 1 and 2	—	—
	Vl. Plum coloured stain in sky at left of left hand tower. Row 1/1. (A)	—	—
	Vm. Dot in "S" of SUID. Row 3/11. (A)	—	—
	Vn. Dot in ball of "2". Row 10/11. (E)	—	—
	Vo. Plum coloured streak under bottom frame line. Row 12/1 and part of 2 (E)	—	—

SECTION 11.

ROLL STAMPS.

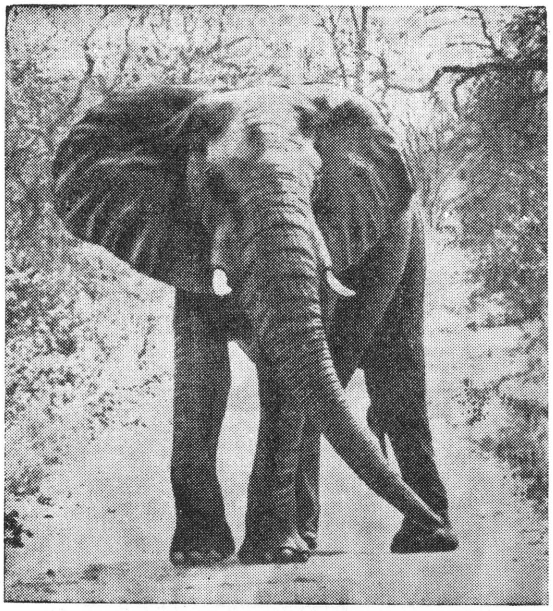
Cat. No.		Pairs Mint	Used
R14a.	**½d.** After "Pale grey and green" add size 18½ x 22⅔ mm.	—	—
R14b.	**½d.** Delete this item with its accompanying date and cylinder numbers.		
R15s.	**1d.** Insert: From Sheets Grey and pale carmine	2 6	1 0
R16.	**1d.** After the colours, add the size 18 x 22 mm.		
R16	**1d.** "From sheets." Delete this item from text. Its correct number is "R15s." as above.		
R16s.	**1d.** Add size of stamp, 18 x 22 mm.		
R17.	**½d.** After colours, add size of stamp, 18¼ x 22¾ mm.		
R23.	**1d.** Add varieties:		
	Vd. "Cloud" to left of ship on Afrikaans stamp	1 0	0 6
	Ve. "Blazing sun" (As in R20) on Afrikaans stamp	1 0	0 6

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RUSSIA

By
J. BARRY,
Secretary, British Society of Russian Philately.

Specialist societies are sometimes looked at askance by collectors as ploughing only a single furrow in the philatelic field.

The idea is prevalent that by confining ourselves to a single country the hobby becomes too rigid and that much pleasure is missed by such a limitation.

It is doubtful whether this is true of any country except the smallest units. It is certainly not correct with regard to Russia, that vast land mass whose philatelic history is so varied and interesting.

From 1858 to 1917 came the Imperial issues which cover a wide field, providing great scope with their intriguing "dots", numeral, dumb and railway postmarks together with many varieties of printing, perforation and watermark. For the Romanov Tercentenary issue of 1913, seventeen stamps featuring portraits of the Czars from the sixteenth century onwards, four years were needed to produce the essays and proofs. Half a million gold roubles, 4,000 workers and the skill of the finest engravers went into this effort. Approximately 2,000 proofs of this issue alone were made, the bulk of which went with Czar Nicholas II into exile.

Current with the Imperials were stamps used by the many offices abroad. The Levant with its steamship mail is a study in itself. Offices in China and Persia form other phases.

During the above period local stamps "Zemstvos" were issued by 163 towns from 1865 to 1917. These issues covered districts not served by the Imperial system. The local service linked up with, but did not compete with, the government postal services.

Zemstvo stamps were, for the most part, printed locally. In all 2,427 varieties were issued during the period of operation. These can be subdivided into many more different types, a huge and never ending study in themselves, especially of the errors small printing firms can make.

One **Tikhvin** issue, for example, shows the inscription in reverse and can only be read by holding the stamps before a mirror. Another curiosity is the tea-wrapper issues of Griazorets. Different coloured wrappers from variously priced teas were used. The wrapper for the most expensive tea indicated the highest value stamps and so on down the scale.

During the revolutionary period 1917 to 1922, Russia was split by various contending factions. This led to issues by the governments of the Ukraine, Georgia, Azerbaijan and Armenia along with others put out by the white armies at all points of the compass. At the same time the revolutionary government, faced with inflation, put into use numerous provisionals using Imperial arms and type stamps, fiscals and others. Some were surcharged, most of the time inflation developed so rapidly that the stamps were used as issued and calculated at 10,000, later 100,000 times their face value.

Also coming into the orbit are the stamps of the three Baltic countries, Latvia, Lithuania and Estonia with those of Poland and Finland.

Lastly comes the modern issues, numerous enough to keep a collector well occupied.

The British Society of Russian Philately is now the only organisation extant which provides for the collector and student of Russian material.

Formed in 1936 as a national society it has expanded considerably and now has many members in the Dominions and countries outside the Iron Curtain. With headquarters in London it issues an illustrated journal three times a year carrying articles illuminating the varied phases of Russian philately, has published several books and has others in preparation.

Collectors' Wants & Offers

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

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

SOMALILAND PROTECTORATE. Minor varieties wanted, mint and used. Good copies only.—WILLIAM REDFORD, P.O. Box 1182, Johannesburg.

STAMPS.—Want lists invited for any country; specialities Union, S.W.A., British Africa. — LACY'S, Gillbern Buildings, cor. Plein and Mostert Streets, Cape Town.

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

1840-1890. For the stamps of any country in this period write DOUGLAS ROTH, Mona Crescent, Newlands, C.P. Phone 694282.

WANTED. Mint Unions. All Handbook/Catalogue numbers. Cash waiting. ANDREW GRANTZOW, 149, Brookside Avenue, Irvington 11, N.J., U.S.A.

INFORMATION ON TAP: Philatelic Press Cutting Service for the Specialist. — CLIFFORD DE KUSEL, 38, London Rd., Stroud, Glos., England.

FOR SALE: Want lists, 1d. each, postage extra (up to 25 2d., up to 50 4d., per 100 or part 6d. postage). Can be used with any catalogue. Specimen copy sent on receipt of 3d. in stamps. Write—ROTAPRESS, Mtunzini, Zululand.

FOR SALE: Postcards: Albino 15/-; stamp white background 7/6; Sets: No. 15, 10/-; No. 31-32, 30/-; No. 39-40, 30/-; No. 41abcd, 21/.- Booklets No. 4, 120/-; No. 10, 40/-; No. 14, 2/6; No. 17, £3; No. 19, set of 21, £10; No. 20, set of 90 panes, 100/-. Also Airletters, letter cards, etc.—Dr. MURRAY, Kuilsriver, Cape.

FOR SALE. Superb Mint Collection Seychelles almost complete. Catalogue value £110, also fine Mint Collection St. Helena, Catalogue value £75 and Mint Collection Ascension, Catalogue value £35. — Dr. B. MORRIS,, 917 Colonial Mutual Buildings, West Street, Durban.

GREAT BRITAIN: Private collection, including rarities offered. Details on application.—E. JEPPE, 2 Grove Road, Rondebosch, Cape.

SEYCHELLES—Required for specialised collection: Panes of Provisionals, Covers and other interesting items.—A. R. KLEINER, 101 Westwoldway, Saxonwold, Johannesburg.

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BASUTOLAND.

Mr. G. N. Gilbert sends the following notes:

The following two Agencies have been closed viz., Sehlabathebe and Kubung, while the following new ones have been established, viz.—Cutting Camp, Matsaile, Mohlakoanas, and Mount Moorosi.

Cutting Camp is interesting in being at the "cutting" made by the troops to bring up their guns etc. when trying to quell Chief Moorosi's rebellion in 1879, and from which most probably Quthing got its name. Both Matsaile and Mount Moorosi are old Agencies which were closed, and have now been re-opened, the latter one being now spelt with two O's, which is the correct spelling of the old Chief's name, while previously it was spelt Mount Morosi.

Rumour has it that Basutoland will have a completely new pictorial set in the not far distant future.

It is to be hoped that rumour is not "a lying jade" in this instance, and that the new set will retain the high standard set by the previous two Basutoland issues.

WE THINK NOT.

"L'Officiel de la Philatélie" has a fine picture of a magnificently accoutred Durban Rickshaw boy. It is stated that this is a national costume and that a silhouette thereof will ornament one of the forthcoming permanent set of stamps.

It is hardly surprising in view of the delay in the appearance of this set, that there should be speculations about designs, but this is a very wild speculation indeed.

MADAGASCAR.

Rare Consular Mail Item.

Everyone is familiar with at any rate illustrations of the large stamps of this mail which operated around 1885-86 before the French started a regular postal service; but who has ever seen these large stamps on cover?

Very, very few, the reason being that they were not intended to accompany letters to their destination. The mail was set up by the British Consul in his private capacity to take mail from the capital (Antananarivo) in the interior by runner to the port of Tamatave. The service was actually neither consular nor official nor British, although the stamps all bear the Consul's official handstamp.

The stamps had gum at the top left hand corner only to stick them on the letter; the Consul had an agent at Tamatave who detached the stamps and affixed a 2½d. Natal stamp for further transmission by the first British ship available. The cost of the Natal stamp was included in the fee paid in the interior. The Consular stamps were returned by the agent as vouchers for his bill of stamping the letters for further transmission.

However, to return to the point of seeing the stamps on cover. Mr. C. Jewell, in "The West-End Philatelist" describes and illustrates a cover with two stamps which are firmly stuck down. This cover was addressed to Tamatave only and was not going further; the stamps were therefore not required as vouchers for the agent. It is a most unusual item.

STAMPS ARE NOT WHAT THEY SEEM.

Beside his usual desk he sat,
Large sheets of blotting-paper there,
On which he placed his latest stamps
With tenderness and loving care!

I noticed a stamp set apart,
A dull, uninteresting one,
And thought "The dustbin is its place—
Its usefulness is surely done!"

Insipid yellow was its shade,
Its perforation tattered, torn,
And on its face no pleasant view
To hide the marks the years had worn!

Imagine my intense surprise,
When in a frigid voice so damp
And withering glance, I was informed
That this was quite his rarest stamp!

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CAPE OF GOOD HOPE FORWARDING AGENTS' CACHET.

Mr. F. W. Collins of Stoborough Croft, St. Cross, Winchester, England, writes:

I have recently acquired an example of the THOMSON WATSON & CO. Forwarding Agents' Cachet described by Mr. A. A. Jurgens in his book, "The Hand-Struck Letter Stamps and Postmarks of the Cape," p. 48, which may be of interest to your readers.

It is a clear strike on the back of a letter from Protea near Wynberg to London, whence it was forwarded to Burton-on-Trent. The London arrival mark is dated the 6th July, 1836 which is four years earlier than the earliest recorded by Mr. Jurgens. On the front is the scarce hand-struck marking in red, INDIA LETTER LYMINGTON and on the back there is also a very faint impression of a London Branch Office date stamp from which the letter was presumably forwarded.

Unfortunately the parts of the letter sheet which would carry the address and signature of the writer have been torn away so the date of writing and the author are unknown, but this does not detract from the external appearance of the letter.

STAMP EXCHANGE.

Any one approached by Mr. J. Montmorency Dumont, of 44 Berry Street, East Melbourne, Australia, is requested to communicate with Mr. L. Buchen, Box 4012, Johannesburg.

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MESSRS. ROBSON LOWE LTD.'s FRONT COVER ADVERTISEMENT.

We regret that in our February issue a mistake was made in reversing the titles of Vol. II and Vol. III of their Encyclopaedia. Vol. II should be Africa, price 21/- and Vol. III Asia, price 42/-., **not** as it appeared Vol. II Asia at 21/- and Vol. III Africa at 42/-. We hope too much inconvenience has not been caused by this error.

UNITED NATIONS.

Commemoratives show signs of becoming almost as common as those of the U.S.A. Four sets, fortunately all short, are envisaged for 1953.

On 24 April there were two, 3c. and 5c. for "Refugees". Two of same values listed for 12 June honouring the U.P.U.; ditto on U.N.-day, 24 October for "United Nations Day"; and, finally two on 10 December for "Human Rights Day."

SHORT NOTICES.

Hans Lagerlof Collections. These, probably the largest collection of specialised collections ever completed, are to be disposed of at a series of auctions by H. R. Harmer, Inc., in New York. The first sale is scheduled for 27 April.

Philippine Year Book. The 1952 Year Book of the Association Filatelica de Filipinas containing a number of articles, some in Spanish, some in English, on Philippine philately, also a souvenir programme of the Pan-Asian Exhibition held last November.

CANADA.

On 1 April there were issued three Wild Life stamps which are the first of a series which will gradually be released over a period of several years. These first three are a 2c. picturing a polar bear, a 3c| with the head of a moose, and a 4c. with the head of a bighorn or mountain sheep.

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FIRST DAY CORONATIONS.

Addressed envelopes will be serviced in the Union, S.W.A., The Rhodesias, Nyasaland and Kenya.

Dates of issue seem to be rather uncertain, as in most, if not all, territories, 2nd June will be a public holiday, and post offices closed. In Nyasaland the P.O. at Zomba will be open for an hour on 2nd June, and a special cancellation used.

NETHERLANDS SUMMER STAMPS.

The Netherlands Embassy has informed us of the issue on 1 May of 5 summer semi-postal stamps, values 2c. plus 2c., 5c. plus 3c., 6c. plus 4c., 10c. plus 5c. and 20c. plus 5c. The surcharges will go to social and cultural objects. The designs are gay flowers, designs bicoloured. The flowers are, in order of the values, hyacinth, African marigold, daffodil, anemone and iris.

AUSTRALIA.

A 3½d. postage stamp bearing a portrait of Her Majesty Queen Elizabeth was issued on Her Majesty's birthday, April 21, 1953, by the Commonwealth of Australia. The stamp has a red background and replaced the then current stamp of the same value portraying His Majesty King George VI. It was the first of a series of stamps to be issued bearing Her Majesty Queen Elizabeth's likeness to replace those showing her late father.

There is now little demand for the 4½d. stamp and no more are to be printed, although existing stocks will be used up.

We are informed by the Postal Department that three special Coronation stamps will be issued on Monday, 25th May.

The values will be 3½d., 7½d., and 2/-; they are to be double the size of the current 3½d. K.G. VI stamp, with a threequarters face portrait of Her Majesty at the right; at the left, superimposed upon the outline of a Crown, a 6-line inscription reading "Coronation of Her Majesty Queen Elizabeth the Second 2 June, 1953." The denomination appears in the lower left corner and "Australia" is centred at the base below the commemorative inscription. The colours had not been finally determined at the date of the notice (1 April).

SOME RECENT AUCTION PRICES.

H. R. Harmer.

Cape Pair 1d. carmine Woodblocks, used, £52 10s.
Egypt, 1926, 50 pi mint, £40.
S.W.A., 1d. Postage Due (S.G. D13), pair, mint, £46.
Canada, Port Hood provisional, £37.

Robson Lowe.

Sudan, 1876, letter from Gen. Gordon, franked by 2 and 2½pi Egyptian stamps, £85.
Malta. G.B. 6d. on 6d., block of 12, with "A25" cancel, £26.
Palestine, 1718 letter from Acre to Venice, with Venice Ship Letter arrival mark, £25.

TRANSVAAL PHILATELIC BOWLERS.

The annual match held at the delightful grounds of the Vlakfontein mine on 19 April was attended by six teams from Pretoria, E. Rand and Johannesburg, with two teams from the local club to make up eight. One of the latter proved to be the winner. The day was very pleasant and even if the bowling standard was not very high, the outing was much enjoyed by all.

An old friend was present in the person of Col. Kruger, a former Government Printer. In a witty after-lunch speech he gave us a clue as to why there are so many fly-marks on rotogravure stamps — solve the problem set in the title of the old song "Where do flies go in the winter time?" and then you will know.

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SOCIETY NEWS

PRETORIA RAILWAY PHILATELIC SOCIETY.

March 11th.

The usual monthly meeting attracted a very good attendance. There were 32 members and 11 visitors present when the meeting was called to order. After disposing of the business of the evening, the President called on Mr. E. C. Wright who first displayed a small collection of Postal Stationery that proved to be very interesting. Included in this collection were Mulready covers, Free State and Transvaal stamped covers and cards, and a variety of letter cards. Mr. Wright followed this up by exhibiting a large number of pages taken from his British Empire Collection. Here the members were privileged to see a number of items not usually seen at Society metings. These items included the Rhodesian 'double head", high values, many George V high values, Victorian colonial imperfs. on piece, and many other outstanding items. Dr. Reisener spoke on behalf of the members and thanked Mr. Wright for a very excellent show that was very much appreciated by those who were fortunate to be present.

F.J.V.L.

EAST LONDON PHILATELIC SOCIETY.

13 February.

Owing to adverse weather conditions the meeting was small. The President, Mr. Hellman, welcomed the visitors: Mrs. Ellenberger, Miss Stanjer and two juniors. Many items of interest were shown including the New German Catalogue of 1953.

Four new members were elected.

Displays for the evening were given by Mr. Gillespie of Ceylon — a very nice collection and of the Cape of Good Hope by Mr. Thornton who was thanked by Mrs. Alabaster. This latter collection, as Mr. Hellman remarked, should have been shown at the International Exhibition held at Capetown last year. All members thoroughly enjoyed looking at his really beautiful and rare stamps.

13 March.

A large meeting with many visitors who were heartily welcomed by the President, Mr. Hellman. Items of interest were shown by several members including some Danish stamps by Mr. Jensen showing an additional tax in aid of the Netherland Floods, the first occasion that a country has levied such a sum for another country's benefit. This is the right spirit and should be a fine example of a benign international outlook.

Mr. Feros read a long paper on the Darmstadt Trials (or errors) and gave a fine example of these stamps which were magnificently displayed. His knowledge of these trials and his beautiful collection were greatly appreciated.

Mr. Thornton kindly brought some of his fine specimens to delight the members as usual. R.A.

EAST RAND PHILATELIC SOCIETY.

March.

There was a very good attendance at our usual monthly meeting, the draw being the official visit from the Pretoria Philatelic Society and they gave us a surprise with the exhibits which they brought over. After the formal business was conducted, the Chair was handed over to our visitors. The first exhibitor was Mr. Combe Martin: Collection of odds and ends, ancient and modern; this exhibit was very well displayed and contained some very valuable stamps, hard to obtain now. Mr. Gouws brought along his Zoo collection of Animals, this collection was displayed with photos and stamps featuring the animals; I must say it was very interesting to see what can be done when one decides what to to collect. The exhibit contained animals, birds, insects, fish, etc. The third exhibit was sent over by Mr. Ferguson, who was not able to be present in person. It was stamps of the Vatican City which were supported with photos and prints, the history of the stamps was also given and it was a very interesting collection.

Messrs. Legator and Kaplan thanked the exhibitors for a very pleasant evening on behalf of the members.

April. There was a large attendance for a visit from the Philatelic Society of Johannesburg. The visitors showed two large and four small exhibits. The two main displays were (a) German South West Africa by L. Buchen, including a fine lot of early Wanderstempel marks and one of the rare flown cards of 1914. (b) K.G. VI "Specimens" by B. Glassman, an almost complete collection of these. The smaller exhibits were: K.E. VII mint stamps of G.B. by J. E. Frankland, with examples of most of the various printings; a "Great Scot" collection by Dr. Pirie, showing Scots on stamps and postmarks of places throughout the world with Scottish place or family names; a selection by F. Froelich from his beautiful collection of artists on stamps, with miniature reproductions of some of their pictures; finally Gambia key types by K. Lydall. Messrs. J. Shepherd and S. Legator spoke on the exhibits and there were various questions asked, particularly as to how "Specimen" stamps got out. E.N.R.

PORT ELIZABETH PHILATELIC SOCIETY.

17th March, 1953:

The second gathering of the month was attended by the usual number of enthusiasts who so infected a visitor that he decided to join the Society before the meeting ended — he also having won the evening's stamp raffle. After the auction, Mr. Pearson tabled Gold Coast Stamps of the 1938/41 issue, showing the line and comb. perforations and pointed out their differences. Tea and official business occupied some little time, the rest of the evening being devoted to a display by the President, Mr. G. Bulbring, of about 60 Sheets of the Classical Stamps of some of the old German States. An explanatory talk went with the exhibit which consisted mainly of the Stamps of Baden, Prussia, Saxony, Thurn and Taxis, Lubeck, Hanover, North German Confederation; the imperfs. of Bavaria; some Mecklenburg, Oldenburg and Schleswig. Members commented favourably on the quality and completeness of the display and seemed to enjoy its somewhat uncommon nature and departed only at a later hour than usual.

PHILATELIC SOCIETY OF JOHANNESBURG.

At the meeting of **April 14th, 1953**, Mr. Seelig showed a collection of stamps of Australia, after reading a short paper to introduce his exhibit. It was a full range of Commonwealth issues, and consisted of both mint and used. The mint stamps were chiefly in imprint blocks. The used were very fine examples including all the high values of the different issues. There were numerous varieties shown.

Mr. Schubart spoke on the exhibit.

On **April 27** a visit was paid by the Afrikaanse Filatelistiese Vereniging. Mr. Rosseau showed South African Postal Stationery. This was a complete collection from early times. Most of the items were mint but there were also many used.

Dr. Pirie spoke on the exhibit.

Mr. Schubart showed Holland. This was a fine exhibit of the early issues mostly in fine used condition.

Mr. Mioch showed a fine general collection of Holland — from early to modern issues. There were some fine commemoratives.

Dr. Hesse spoke on these two exhibits.

Mr. Vermaak showed Free Forces Mail Air Letter sheets from Korea. He had a complete selection of the different printings. There were some mint and some used at the various military Post Offices of the Korea Campaign.

Mr. Lambert showed an exhibit of used air mail stamps of Peru. All were in very fine used condition.

Mr. I. Isaacs spoke on these exhibits.

AFRIKAANSE FILATELISTIESE VERENIGING.

10 April.

Hierdie byeenkoms het vir ons meer ingeehou as 'n blote vergadering. Dit was die geleentheid van die tweede verjaardag van die A.F.V.—'n geleentheid wat op paslike wyse gekenmerk is deur die skenking van 'n wonderlike verjaardagpresent in die vorm van 'n silwer en hout wisseltrofee deur die Rembrandt Tabakkorporasie. Met die oorhandiging van die trofee het die heer A. L. du Toit, namens sy saak, o.a. gesê dat Rembrandt trots is dat nog 'n Afrikaanse organisasie sy merk gemaak het, en die hoop uitgespreek dat die vereniging van krag tot krag mag gaan.

Die trofee is geskenk vir Uniale mededinging. Lede van al die bestaande Afrikaanse verenigings, nou of in die toekoms, sal om die trofee kan wedywer.

Die verkose bestuur is soos voorheen, behalwe dat lid Schwartz in die plek van lid Fetter verkies is om as bykomstige komiteelid te dien. Om die voorsitterskap was daar drie nominasies, maar lid Schubart het sy teenstanders uitgestof en is weer verkies. Die ander bestuurslede is sonder meer vir nog 'n jaar diens aangewys.

Die vereniging het op 'n nuwe instelling besluit, nl., om een keer per maand op 'n Saterdagmiddag om 2.30 nm. te kamer 91, Openbare Biblioteek, 'n byeenkoms te hou ten einde versamelaars 'n kans te gee om met lede van ander verenigings kennis te maak en om na hartelus te ruil en deel te neem aan veilings van seëls en filatelistiese ware. Die eerste vergadering sal gehou word op Saterdag, 13 Junie.

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Almal is hartlik uitgenooi. **Sal lede van alle verenigings (Afrikaans sowel as Engels) asseblief hiervan kennis neem en opdaag met wat hulle te ruil of verkoop het.**

Nuwe lede: Mnr. D. R. de Wet van Ottosdal en die jongeheer Arie Spoon van Johannesburg.

Aansoek om lidmaatskap is ontvang van die heer P. P. H. Hamel van Johannesburg en die jongeheer J. D. de B. Joubert van Salisbury.

Ons volgende byeenkoms is op 1 Mei, wanneer vriend Lambert its uit Aden sal uitstal, en lid Vermaak 'n opvoedkundige vasvrawedstryd sal stel. Alle belangstellendes ter eniger tyd welkom.

If the necessary support is forthcoming, this Society will hold a monthly "get-together" on a Saturday afternoon for purposes of exchange and auctioning.

The first of these meetings will take place on Saturday, June 13th, at 2.30 p.m. in room 91 of the Public Library, Johannesburg, and thereafter on the second Saturday of every month.

A hearty invitation is extended to all philatelists, collectors and other interested persons.

S.J.V.

CAPE TOWN PHILATELIC SOCIETY.

27th February.—The Annual General Meeting. Mr. Arhtur V. Jacob, who had occupied the Chair with distinction for the last three years, did not seek re-election as President, and Mr. Geo. Petroulis was elected to succeed him. Details of the committee are as follows:—

Vice-Chairman, Mr. A. M. Jones; Secretary, Mrs. Joan Hall; Treasurer, Mr. I. E. Hall; Exch. Supt., Mr. C. R. V. Solomon; Librarian, Mr. W. G. Combrink; Committee: Mr. A. V. Jacob (ex-officio), Mrs. J. Hotz, Mr. C. G. Mummery, Mr. H. R. Savage, Dr. P. L. Vautier.

12th March: Mr. R. Axer, who is a well-known specialist in Unions, surprised members by showing a selection of covers from his extensive collection.

26th March: Mr. L. Simenhoff exhibited items of educational interest. A new departure was made in the use of epidiascope for projecting exhibits on the screen.

9th April: Dr. Thos. Davie gave a lecture on the "Darmstadt Trials" which revealed research into this controversial subject. Members were left in no doubt that the "Darmstadt Trials" were produced with the knowledge and co-operation of a representative of the Union Government, and as such shold be recognised as official proof of the first Union 1d. stamp.

In seconding the vote of thanks proposed by Mr. L. Simenhoff, Mr. W. G. Combrink said that it was unfortunate that the editors of the new Union Handbook/Catalogue had adopted such an uncompromising attitude towards the "Darmstadt Trials". J.H.

THE PHILATELIC SOCIETY OF THE WEST RAND.

Our monthly meeting for March was held on Wednesday, 25th.

There were nine members in attendance and three visitors.

After the business of the meeting, the notes of the month were read by Mr. Sharpe. Dr. Berry followed with a talk on the new Union 5/- Official, then the exhibits were displayed. A Sideline of Farthing Stamps by our Junior, David Crocker, and the main display "French Oceania Settlements" by Mr. Sharpe, consisting of all stamps from issues of 1892 Tablet Types, with a representative lot of Pictorials including the overprints of 1915 to 1927, most of the commemoratives, the Free French issues, and concluding with the 1948 issues and U.P.U. Stamps. Included in the collection was a map of the Islands, and a list of Post Offices operating in this area.

Mr. Henderson thanked Master Crocker for his fine effort, and Mr. Burrell thanked Mr. Sharpe for his outstanding display, and especially the manner in which it was written up. J.K.

THE PHILATELIC SOCIETY OF RHODESIA.

February. This meeting was the Annual General Meeting of the Society. After the minutes of the last A.G.M. had been read, the Society's officers gave their reports. These reports revealed a very satisfactory year, both philatelically and financially. A vote of thanks to the outgoing chairman and secretary was proposed by Mr. B. L. R. Fox. Officers for the coming year were then appointed as follows:—

Chairman, Mr. Creewel; Vice-Chairman, Mr. B. L. R. Fox; Sec./Treasurer, Mr. Prentice; Committee: Mrs. Wallace, Mr. Whitehead, Mr. O'Neill.

A large Exhibition Sub-Committee was also selected. It was noted that Congress would be held on July 13th and 14th, and the Philatelic Exhibition from July 13th to July 16th.

March. At this meeting there was a good attendance, and a most interesting evening was spent. Among the correspondence was a letter from the P.M.G. stating that the Rhodes Centenary Exhibition 6d. Commemorative stamp would be on sale at all Post Offices, as well as at the Exhibition.

Mr. Birsen gave a short discourse entitled "Stamp Musings", illustrated by specimens from his own collection. This talk caused an interesting discussion among members.

A fine display of British Empire commemoratives was given by Mr. Spencer. It was most attractive and was well written up.

During the evening it was revealed by a member that in addition to the 4d. blue British Postage Due overprinted "Southern Rhodesia", there is also in existence a sheet of S.G. D.31 of Great Britain overprinted "Southern Rhodesia", of which he is in possession of a pair.

April. This meeting was held on April 1st. Despite the date, and a Federation meeting, there was quite a good attendance.

After the correspondence had been dealt with, the Chairman revealed that the P.M.G. had authorised the sale of the Centenary stamps to recognised philatelic bodies a few days prior to their release, for First Day Covers only.

Mr. Jaffa then conducted an unusual competition, charging a 6d. entrance fee, which went towards the Society's Exhibition Fund. The names of the personages on 25 stamps, mostly foreign had to be guessed. As all clues had been obliterated, this was quite a job. Mr. Creewel and Mr. O'Neill tied for first place with a score of 18. The unfortunate who won the booby prize with a score of 7 shall remain nameless.

Mr. King, a new member, then gave a display of his collection of Switzerland from the early Canton, Zurich and Rappen issues right up to the latest pictorial issues. The neatness of the early issues contrasted well with the glowing colours of the modern designs.

Mr. Creewel commented on the collection, and on behalf of the members thanked Mr. King.

For the information of members of the Society, these notes will in future be submitted monthly.

P.H.

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LOURENCO MARQUES 1st PHILATELIC EXHIBITION.

To commemorate the Centenary of Portuguese Postage Stamps an Exhibition is being staged in Lourenco Marques by the Clube Filatélico de Mocambique, July 23-August 2. This is open to all stamp collectors, and there will also be a section for coin collectors.

The extracts from the rules which have been sent us show that it is being run on the usual lines of competitive exhibitions. Entry forms have to be in by 15th May and the actual exhibits 30 days before the opening date of the exhibition.

Apply to the Secretary of the Philatelic Society, P.O. Box 720, Lourenco Marques for entry forms and further particulars. No mention is made, be it said, of any fees payable, although gold, silver and other awards are being given.

POPULAR MODERN PICTORIALS

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4 China 1952 Glorious Motner Country 1 issue, C.M. 2/-
5 Finland 1945 Sports, Complete Mint 2/3
CM 2/-
4 China 1952 Asiatic Pacific Peace Conf., M2 ..... 2/3
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5 Finland 1945 Sports, Complete Mint 2/3
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P.O. BOX 100 ——— VEREENIGING.

STUDY CIRCLES.

Study circles seem to be springing up in Britain like mushrooms; this is probably the inevitable result of specialisation, just as the latter is forced upon collectors through the practical impossibility these days of being a general collector to any advanced degree.

In the last couple of months we have been advised of three new such societies.

1. **Polar History Society.** Hon. Sec., H. E. Evans, 32 Salisbury Road, Cosham, Portsmouth. For the study of the postal history of the Arctic and Antarctic regions and the exchange of material and information. Publication of a Newsletter and formation of a library.

2. **India.** Hon. Sec., R. A. Killick, 21 Vale Ave., Brighton 6. For a study of Indian stamps and postal history, including 'Used Abroad'. They already have a bi-monthly news sheet (a specimen copy of which is quite attractive), exchange packets circulating in the U.K. and postal auctions for the benefit of members anywhere.

3. **Orange Free State.** Hon. Sec., S. G. Laurence, 11 Beach Ave., Horsforth, nr. Leeds, Yorkshire. This is only so far in the initial stages of formation, and much will depend on whether a sufficiency of enthusiasts roll up or not. A very ambitious programme is outlined, covering every phase of the philately, postal history and ordinary stamps, fiscals, officials, telegraph stamps, postal stationery, cancellations, etc. The general idea is to get together ultimately the material for a full handbook.

SWAZILAND.

Major N. Welsford reports that recent printings of the ½d. and 2d. values, on sale at Mbabane, have the top margin perforated through, but not the bottom margin. This is a reversion to what pertained with the original perforation (13½ x 13) of the K.G. VI stamps, but with the 13½ x 14 perforation up till this year the bottom margin was perforated and not the top.

It has been announced in the public press that the Union Government has agreed in principle to the Swaziland Administration operating its own postal service. The date and details of the change-over have still to be settled.

KENYA.

Following up the note in our January issue, p. 7, Mr. A. R. Stripp of Queenstown records having the two scarce K.G. V stamps 5c. and 1/- perf. 13 x 12 mint.

He has also — not listed by Gibbons — the 5c., 10c., 50c. and 1/- K.G. VI 1938-52 issue, perf. 13 x 11½ in both mint and used condition. He is keen to know if others have found these varieties, and also if possible the date of their printing.

AUSTRIA.

In February Austria honoured another musicia by the issue of a 1.50 sch. stamp bearing his portrait. He was Hugo Wolf, composer of many Lieder, and the date of issue was the 50th anniversary of his death.

NYASALAND.

The Public Relations Officer, Zomba informs us of:

(a) A 2d. Coronation stamp on 2nd June, with a special cachet for first-day covers at Zomba.

(b) A 6d. Rhodes Centenary Exhibition stamp, going on sale at all offices on 30 May. Mint stamps will also be available at the Nyasaland Government's stall in the Bulawayo Exhibition.

(c) Q.E. general issue. It is hoped that the 2d. will be issued in May and that the other 14 denominations (½d.-£1) will be available in August.



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(Stamps)
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FRANCE.

March 14 was "the day of the stamp" and for the occasion there was issued a 12fr. plus 3fr. stamp bearing the effigy of Count d'Argenson, who was Superintendent-General of Posts under Louis XV around 1751-57.

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Check List of O.V.S. & O.R.C. Post Offices and Agencies, etc.

PERIOD 1868 TO 1910

By W. NEWLANDS.

(Continued from page 76 of April issue.)

Grade	Name	District	Date opened or year of P.M.G.'s report where first noted	Closed (where known)	Remarks.
PO*‡†	Fauresmith	FA	1867		
RTO*	Fauresmith Rail	FA			
RSO*	Ferreira	—			
PO*‡	Ficksburg	F	1875		
RTO*	Ficksburg Rail	F			
PA	Flyfontein	HO	1895		
	Fontein Reit (?)	HN		31-3-07	(See Fontein Retief).
PA*	Fontein Retief	HN		31-3-07	
PO*	Fouriesburg	F	1895		(Sept. 1894).
RSO*	Fouriesburg Rail	F	2-7-07		
	Fouriesburg Spoor	F	2-7-07		(See Fouriesburg Rail)
PO*‡	Frankfort	V	1875		
PA	Frere Brug	RO	July 1899		
	Geduldfontein	K	1-9-03		
PA	Gelderland	RO	July 1899		
PA	Geluk	V	1898		
	Generals Nek	F	1-10-07		
	Geneva	K		1-8-07	(See Geneva Siding)
PA	Geneva Siding	K	1899	1-8-07	
PA	Georgina	H	1899	2-10-04	
PA*	Glen	B	1895		RSO in 1910.
PA*	Glenlennie	H	5-10-08		
PA*	Glenrock	T	1-12-04		
PA	Gottenburg	HN	July 1899 Re-opened 15-6-04	25-12-07	
PA*	Grandstable	HO	1-9-08		
RSO*	Greenlands	—			
	Groenburg	K		30-11-05	
PA	Groenfontein I	K	1899		
	Grootfontein	B	15-9-04		
	Groenfontein	K	10-10-03	30-11-05	(Groenfontein I?)
PA‡	Groot Constantia	HO	1887		
PA	Grootfontein	HO	1898		
SO*	Groothoek	H			
PA*	Groothof	S	1-11-06		
PA	Groot Kraal	HO	1893	1895	
PA	Groot Rietgat	K	1895		
PA*	Gruisfontein	BE	1-9-07		
RSO*	Gumtree	F			
	Haagenustad	B		30-4-04	
RTO*	Hamilton	—			
PA*	Hammonia	H	1893		See Hammonia (Ficksburg).
	Hammonia	F(?)	1-12-03		
PO*‡	Harrismith	H	1867		
PO	Harrismith Army	H	May 1904		
RTO*	Harrismith Rail	H			
PO*‡	Heilbron	HN	1875		
RTO*	Heilbron Rail	HN			
PA	Heilbron Road	HN	1893		
PA*	Helpmakaar	BE	1895		

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Grade	Name	District	Date opened or year of P.M.G.'s report where first noted	Closed (where known)	Remarks
			Re-opened 1-12-04		
PA*	Helvetia	S	1893	31-7-07(?)	
			Re-opened 1-8-03		SO in 1910. Open in 1910.
SO*	Hibernia	SE	1-8-05	16-2-06	
	Highbury	—			
SO*	Hillside	—			
RSO*	Holfontein	K	1-3-05		
PA*	Holspruit	—			
PA*	Homerule	B	15-3-09		
RSO*	Honingspruit	K			
PO*‡	Hoopstad	HO	1883		
PA	Honingspruit Siding	K	1898		
PA	Hopefield	K	1899		
SO*	Immigrant Siding	B	1-8-08		
	Inland Sea	VF	1-1-06		
PA*	Inzicht	—			
PA‡	Jackalsdanz				(Cl sed by 1899?)
PO*†	Jacobsdal	J	1867		
PO*	Jacobsdal (ORC)	J			See Jacobsdal.
PA*	Jackhalskraal	W	1-1-09		
PO*‡	Jagersfontein	FA	1880		
RTO*	Jagersfontein Rail	FA			
PA	Jagersfontein Road	FA	1893		
PA	Jakhalskraal	W	1-1-09		See Jackhalskraal
PA*	Jammerberg Drift	WE		30-4-04	See Jammerbergsdrift
PA*	Jammerbergsdrift	WE	1893		(Dec. 1883).
	Jordaan	K		16-1-07	
PA	Kaalfontein	K	1893		Kaalfontein 1 from 1899
PA	Kaalfontein 1	K	1893		
PA	Kaalfontein 2	HN	1899		
	Kaalkop	V	1-6-07		
PA*	Kaallaagte	BM	1-10-07		
RSO*	Kaalspruit	—			
PA*	Kaalvalley	—			
	Kadie	W		15-6-04	
PA	Kafferrivier Siding	B	1893		Spelling altered in 1899?
PA	Kafferstad	H	1899		Postmark of 1904: "Kafferstadt".
RSO*	Kaffir River	B	1893		See Kafferrivier Siding
PA	Kaffirrivier	B	1893		See Kafferrivier Siding
PA	Kaffirrivier Siding	B	1893		
PA	Kaffirs Kop	BM	1893		
PA*	Kaffirskop	BM			See Kaffirs Kop
PA*	Kaffirstad	H			See Kafferstad
PA	Kalkfontein	P	1895		
	Kalkoenskrantz	H	1-6-04	30-6-04	
	Karba	W	1-7-04	31-8-06	(Khaba?)
PA	Kareepan	HO	1899	5-10-03	
PA	Karee Siding	B	July 1899		
RSO*	Karree	B			See Karee Siding
PA*	Karreespruit	—			
PA*	Kassel	B	1-10-04		
	Keeromoonst	BO	6-8-03	30-6-04	
PO*	Kestell	BM	1-10-05		
RPA*	Kestell Road	H			now Afrikaskop
SO*	Kildare	T	15-8-08		
*	Kincora	B	1883	30-1-05	(Kincord?)
	King Edwards Road	B	22-2-04		
PO*	Kings Hill	H			See Harrismith Army
PA	Klaarwater	RO	1895		

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THE

SOUTH AFRICAN PHILATELIST

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EDITORIAL

THE DARMSTADT LABELS.

On another page of this issue we give the Report of a sub-committee appointed by the Executive Committee of the Philatelic Federation to explain more fully than has hitherto been done, why the Federation at its Cape Town meeting in March, 1952 endorsed the action of the editors of the Handbook-Catalogue in not listing therein these "stamps" or labels.

This Report may be taken as the considered view of the Federation, but we believe in free discussion of any subject on which there is a difference of opinion and our columns are open, within reason, to expressions of contrary views.

Where these labels came from is not disclosed in the Report, although we understand it is known in certain quarters, but it is really immaterial to the opinion come to about them. It would seem to be a reasonable inference that they came either from the 20 sheets sent to Messrs. Hunter, Penrose or from the much larger quantity which was not sent to them. If this be accepted as their origin, then they may be described as having come on the market by a "backdoor route", not legitimately or openly.

It is clear, however, that the editors have declined listing the Darmstadt "stamps" or labels solely because they do not represent any stage in the evolution of a stamp or stamps subsequently to be sold to the public by the post-office, such as do the other proofs and trials which are listed. In this they have followed the custom common to all specialised catalogues, and in so doing we consider they have taken their stand on very firm ground.

In our opinion the only criterion on which to determine whether or not any particular essay, proof or trial should be given catalogue status, is "Does it represent a stage in the evolution of a postage stamp or not."

Had they turned down these Darmstadt items just because of their "backdoor" origin, they would, on the other hand, have been standing on a very slippery slope. Not much in the case of the Union, but quite commonly in the case of many countries, there is no doubt but that many proofs, etc., which are recognised in specialised catalogues because of their being undoubted stages in the evolution of stamps, have a "backdoor origin."

A sorry state of things perhaps, but it exists and is generally condoned. Many governments and/or stamp printers (unfortunately or fortunately, according to your point of view) do not seem to worry very much as to the fate of essays, proofs and trials.

There is just one item in the Sub-Committee's Report with which we personally, although a member of the Sub-Committee, do not agree. What immediately follows, but only to this extent, may therefore be regarded as a Minority Report.

This item is the penultimate paragraph of the Report, dealing with the trials made by Mr. J. L. Booysen. Even though the Post Office, the Handbook-Catalogue editors and the Federation may regard them as "Official Essays" and therefore worthy of catalogue listing on the grounds that they may be looked upon as a preliminary stage in the printing of Union stamps by rotogravure, we have very series doubts as to the validity of the argument.

To be consistent, the same yardstick must be applied to the Booysen trials as was done for the earlier Darmstadt trials, and we consider they do not measure up to catalogue listing.

In no sense, so it seems to us, can they be regarded as a stage in the development of any particular Union stamp. It is true they are not quite in the same category as the original Darmstadt trials — trials of a machine; the machine had already been tried and not found wanting. They are at best however, only trials of a method of printing, and beer-bottle or match-box labels would have served equally well.

Finally we would just like to say that some of the Darmstadt "stamps" are superficially such close immitations of genuine postage stamps that they could conceivably be used for postal purposes, and probably get away with it, thus depriving the Post Office of legitimate revenue. Although admittedly they were not made with this object in view, we wonder whether individuals in possession of such items might not come under the provisions of the Post Office Act and be rendering themselves liable to prosecution.

PROTECTORATES.

The following stamps of Basutoland, Bechuanaland and Swaziland will be invalidated as from 31st August: K.G. V general issue, K.G. V Jubilees, K.G. VI Coronation stamp, the Victory issues and the Royal Visit stamps.

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UNION NOTES

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

The Coronation Commemorative Stamp.

Our congratulations to the Government Printer and his staff for the very fine Union postage stamp produced in Pretoria to commemorate the Coronation of Her Majecty Queen Elizabeth II.

As the eighteenth commemorative to be placed on sale by the Department of Posts and Telegraphs since Union in 1910, the design and colour of this new stamp will quite easily hold its own as one of the highlights of this country's issues and, in addition, will undoubtedly prove one of the most attractive items in the 1953 Coronation series.

The design, as illustrated in our May number, embodies a head and bust photograph of Her Majesty, and the format is set out in a similar size and form to that of the 1d. and 4½d. Van Riebeeck stamps of 1952. As with that issue, the 120 stamps on each sheet are bilingually inscribed and are again divided into two panes of 60 by a blank vertical gutter — the same width as the stamp — in the middle of the sheet. Of particular interest to the collector in this latest issue however, is the fact that the cylinder number is now imprinted on the bottom margin under the 1st and 11th stamps instead of, as in the case of the Van Riebeeck sheets, under the 2nd and 12th items. It follows, therefore, that the left hand bottom corner specimen with its attached margin, from either pane, is really all one requires for exhibiting the stamp and recording its cylinder number.

Another innovation, is the printing of a marginal arrow half way up each side of the central gutter so that we now have four arrows per sheet, but all located on the longitudinal perforation gutter between the 3rd and 4th rows. Thus in event of the sheets being guillotined down the middle of the centre gutter, and thereby divided into panes for distribution purposes, each pane will appear with both a left and a right hand marginal arrow.

As we go to Press we learn that two different cylinders must have been used in the production of the stamps — No. 66 and No. 98, but so far we have only seen the former and give below a list of the principle features connected with that printing.

DESIGN—Portrait of Queen Elizabeth II. Each stamp inscribed in English and Afrikaans. Vertical format.

SIZE—Size of design 21 x 37½ mm.

MONOCOLOUR—Bluish violet. (Stanley Gibbons 1952 colour guide).

PERFORATED—14 x 15.

WATERMARK—Multiple Springbok Head, facing LEFT.

CYLINDER—Single mesh screened cylinder, No. 66. Number imprinted in bluish violet on bottom margin under 1st and 11th stamps.

SHEET FORMAT—Printed in sheets of 120 stamps (6 rows x 20) in two panes of 60 stamps each. Vertical imperforated gutter between stamps Nos. 10 and 11. Four figure red serial numbers printed twice on bottom margin. Arrows on left and right hand side margins and also on centre gutter.

In common with other issues produced by the rotogravure process there are a number of minute white and violet specks present on the stamps, but apparently very few of the type that might be listed as varieties and we give two which have so far come to our notice.

Row 1/2 Small violet mark on upper lip under left eye.

Row 2/8 Defective letters in POSSEEL and POSTAGE.

Imperforate Edge on High Value "Officials".

Some of the higher value Union "Officials" occasionally turn up with the top edge of the stamp cut away in the manner shown in the accompanying photograph and we are indebted to Dr. T. B. Berry of Bryanston, Transvaal, for the explanation which he received in the following letter from the Publicity Officer of the G.P.O., Pretoria.



"In reply to your letter of the 7th March, 1953, I have obtained the following information from the Government Printer."

"The 5/- "Official" stamps are originally printed as ordinary postage stamps, in sheets of 120 and delivered to the Stores Branch of the Post Office in sheets of 60 stamps. Up to the present, there has been no blank strip in the middle of the sheet and therefore the stamp-edging appears only on the top edge of one half of the full sheet. On the other half, only horizontal perforations appear at the top where the original full sheet was torn in half."

"In the case of the stamps under enquiry, a quantity of both groups of sheets, i.e. the upper and lower halves of full sheets, were sent to the Government Printer for over-printing and in order to keep the lay of the upper half-sheet on the press constant, it was decided to guillotine the stamp-edging, with the result that the horizontal perforation on the top edge of some of the overprinted sheets is missing entirely."

"Cloven Hoof" Mark on the Margin of the Current 4d. Stamps.

The "Cloven Hoof" mark, which has occasionally appeared on the margins of some of the Union stamps, is reported by Mr. C. A. Abbot of Pietermaritzburg to have now shown up on the current 4d. stamps. (Cyl. No 103).

It occurs on the margin in the bottom left hand corner adjoining Row 20/No. 1, and though

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not present on the first sheets to be printed from this cylinder, was found by Mr. Abbot to be constant on a number of sheets he examined.

Misplaced Perforation on Small 2d. Pictorials.

It is not often a sheet of stamps with misplaced perforation finds its way onto the post office counters, but there was a case about the middle of last year when Mr. J. E. Jeppe of Cape Town purchased at one of the local post offices a quarter sheet of the then current 2d. pictorial stamps (Cyls. 6927/50) with the perforations misplaced to the extent shown in the photograph below.



Mr. Jeppe states that the stamps Nos. 1 to 9 on the left hand side of the sheet were normal, but those from Nos. 10 to 20 inclusive were all affected in the portion he obtained and adds that the lower right hand half of the sheet had already been disposed of in separate units before he happened to see the stamps.

New Cylinder in Use for 1d. Monocoloured Roll Stamps.

We have been advised by the Publicity Officer of the G.P.O., Pretoria that a new cylinder, No. 97 is now being employed in the production of the 1d. monocoloured roll stamps.

And writing in connection with this new printing Mr. S. J. Hagger of Alberton, Transvaal, has submitted the following information:

"Recently I opened a roll of 1d. monocoloured stamps which must obviously have been printed by the new cylinder No. 97. The most striking difference between these stamps and the most recent printings from cylinder No. 24 is in the shade; the new printing is in a bright carmine similar to the early printings from cylinder No. -4 and quite distinct from the very deep carmine of the later ones. The screening of cylinder No. 97 is fine while that of No. 24 was medium."

"The second pencilled number (see "Union Notes" of October, 1952) on the wrapper of this roll was 5, and it differed in one important respect from any of the numerous rolls from cylinder No. 24 that I had examined. These had always commenced with a stamp from the first horizontal row of the cylinder whereas this latest one started with a stamp from the ninth horizontal row. In the gutter between the stamps from the twenty-second and first horizontal rows, portions of one of the "lines", described in "Union Notes" of November, 1951, appear below the 22nd stamp, while on the fifth vertical row of cylinder No. 24 they were above stamp No. 1".

"A comparison of the corresponding strips from the fifth vertical row of the two cylinders shows that while most of the flaws are different there are at least three common to both, proving that the same multopositive has been used again. The fact therefore that the "lines" are now different seems to substantiate my theory that they are caused by the edges of the multopositive, which has been trimmed too close at top and bottom. Difference in pressure of these edges on the carbon tissue sheet would I think account for the difference in the "lines". Anyway it will be interesting to compare, as I hope to do in due course, strips of 22 stamps from the remaining ten vertical rows of the new cylinder with their counterparts of the old one in order to see if the "lines" coincide at any point. Eleven rows are mentioned advisedly because stamps from the eleventh vertical row of cylinder No. 24 were never sold. If we see no rolls from this new cylinder with number 11 on the wrapper, it will show that there is a flaw in this position on the multopositive."

NEW ISSUES

	M	U
Australia		
Food 3d., 3½d. in str.	1/8	1/11
Do. blocks of nine	4/9	5/3
Q.E. II new 3½d. val.	4d.	4d.
Canada		
Animals 2c. 3c. 4c.	1/-	1/2
Q.E. II 1c. to 5c.	1/6	1/9
India		
Railway Centenary	4d.	4d.
Trinidad		
Q.E. II to 24c.	3/2	3/8
Do. to 4 dol 80c.	34/-	39/-
United Nations		
U.N. Day (1)	7d.	—
Human Rights (2)	11d.	—
Refugee (2)	11d.	—

CORONATION STAMPS

Now available	M	U
Cr. Cols. and Malaya	12/6	15/-
Dominions	15/9	17/3
Great Britain	3/8	4/-
G.B. Agencies	15/-	18/-
Australia	2/9	3/-
Canada	5d.	5d.
Ceylon	2d.	3d.
S.W. Africa	2/6	2/9
S. Rhodesia	2/11	3/3
New Hebrides	4d.	5d.
New Zealand	3/5	3/9
N.Z. Dependencies	2/9	3/-
Tokelau Island	4d.	4d.
Bahrain or Kuwait	3/9	4/6
Muscat or Morocco	3/9	4/6

QUEEN ELIZABETH NEW ISSUES

The cheapest and most efficient way of buying these stamps is to join my

BRITISH COLONIAL NEW ISSUE SERVICE.

Mint 10% on face; Used 25%.

CORONATION ALBUMS.

Gibbons/Rapkin loose leaf 10/6
Frank Goddens loos leaf 15/-
Darracott bound album 7/6
Postage extra please.
Letters: seamail 2½d.; airmail 1/3
Albums about 1/6; registration 6d. and 1 use Morocco stamps.

HAROLD STROUD (S.P.A.), **58 DARWEN STREET, BLACKBURN, ENGLAND**

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19th Century Siam

By C. E. D. ENOCH.

There is no doubt that Siam is a very "ticklish" country to collect! In fact, in my opinion it should only be attempted by men of Derbyshire from the town of Ilkley, as it is quite impossible to complete a collection of this country "baht 'att"!

I need hardly add that I would rather not hear any more references to twins and cats!

I might describe this exhibit as an introduction to a specialised study of the early issues of a very neglected country. The stamps of Siam have never been philatelically popular, yet they include something to interest every collector, from the collector of rarities to the collector of oddities!

The sheets I am showing you this evening cover all issues to September 1899 and include examples of all the various surcharges which appeared between 1885 and 1899. Many of these surcharges are of sufficient interest to form specialised studies on their own, and a number of them are of considerable rarity.

To the best of my knowledge and belief, I may claim to "have done it again"! By that I mean made a specialised collection of a country nobody else collects — nor wants to collect!

Turning to the stamps themselves, I feel in honour bound to give you some sort of description of what you are being shown this evening and to draw your attention to any particular features which you might otherwise miss, owing to the extreme philatelic unpopularity of my subject!

To begin with, all stamps issued by Siam during the 19th Century bear the portrait of King Chulalongkorn, who reigned for over 42 years, i.e. from October 1, 1868 to October 23, 1910.

The first Siamese stamps were issued by Waterlow & Sons, Ltd., of London. Examples are shown of all values, including the three different plates of the ½ att. (1 solot) and plate proofs of the 1 solot, plate 2, 1 sik (4 atts) and 1 salung (16 atts). A fine re-entry on plate 3 of the 1 solot is also shown.

In 1885 there arose a need for a higher value than 16 atts, consequently the colour of this stamp was changed and the value reduced to 12 atts, and at the same time the 1 solot (½ att) was surcharged 1 tical in English to provide for a new top value. This surcharge, in five different types, was applied indiscriminately to stamps from both plate 2 and plate 3. So far I have not found any copies from plate 1. These surcharges have been extensively forged and a few of these are on display with the genuine stamp for comparison. I would draw your attention to the mint block of four of S.G. 11.

In April 1887 a new set in a change of design was issued. This set was typographed by De La Rue & Co., Ltd. of London and is noteworthy only for the fact that certain denominations were the basic stamps for all surcharges from December 1889 to 1899 and for 3 more issued in December 1907, September 1908 and in 1909 and as you will see, there were, literally, hundreds of varieties of these surcharges during the 10 years of their issue!

A final appearance of the first issue was made in 1889 when the 1 sio (2 atts) was surcharged in Siamese only for use as 1 att. This was done by means of a handstamp and minor varieties abound!

In December 1889, the plethora of surcharges began to roll off the production line. The 2 atts was handstamped 1 att, and the 3 atts 1 or 2 atts. There are many varieties of type to be found in these surcharges, most of which are on view. These surcharges were in Siamese with the English figure of value in addition. The 3 atts was similarly surcharged in March 1891 but from type. In October 1892 the 24 atts was surcharged 4 atts in Siamese only. This proved unsatisfactory and in November 1892 these were further surcharged in English with the word "atts" in Roman type, and this is where the fun starts! These stamps were printed in sheets of 120 and the overprinters do not appear to have owned sufficient type to avoid the most glorious mixture of founts imaginable! It is also likely that the Oriental type-setter was not placed very high in school in his English class! I would draw your attention to S.G. 53 with Siamese surcharge double, i.e. S.G. 47 with normal additional surcharge in English. Other varieties are also shown.

In 1894 the 64 atts was surcharged in Siamese and English 1 or 2 atts| I am displaying nine sheets of these surcharges which show the enormous variations to be found in the normal surcharges where the English surcharge varies in length from 12½ to 17½ mm. In addition, there are, of course, the usual crop of varieties, most of which I possess but am not showing to-night.

In 1894-95 the surcharge was reset and the 24 atts was also surcharged 10 atts. This issue again gave rise to a truly formidable crop of errors, a large selection of which are on display. I would draw your attention to the mint and used copies of S.G. 105 and 106 with the surcharge on the back as well as on the face of the stamp! and to S.G. 91 which is a variety — the normal is 8½ mm. in length!

In 1896-97 the 12 atts was also surcharged 4 atts, with the usual varieties, and I am showing a mint normal with double surcharge.

In the meantime our Oriental friend was getting busy with his type and from 1895-99, concurrently with the foregoing stamps, he produced his "magnum opus" with the English surcharge in Antique type, and every possible combination of Antique and Roman types by way of varieties. I show you a large collection of these varieties together with one normal 4 atts on 12 atts with double surcharge.

But our worthy friend had not yet shot his bolt and in 1894 and 1899 he had a final fling, changed his type and reverted once more to Roman type for his English surcharges. This time, however, he fell from disgrace and produced no mixtures of type, but I think you will agree that his other efforts at fresh varieties aptly make up this vacuum!

In 1899, Messrs. Giesecki & Devrint of Leipzig were commissioned to print by typography a new definite issue. Their first design was rejected but, unfortunately, a few sheets were issued, mainly at Korat, by mistake and the five values concerned are, in consequence, in the nature of minor rarities.

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Their second design was approved and calls for no comment except that it, in its turn, provided the basis for a further crop of surcharges, but as these were issued between 1902 and 1909 they do not concern us this evening.

I must, in conclusion, apologise for the length of this paper, but my excuses are twofold, firstly that the stamps in question are unknown to the majority of South African philatelists and secondly, that the stamps themselves were placed on view in the frames earlier in the evening so that members might examine the collection from the time of their arrival and thereby have longer than usual to indulge their philatelic curiosity!

TYPE COLLECTING.

Basis and Effect.

Under this heading, in "Philately from Australia," Mr. J. R. W. Purves, in view of the growth of "Thematic" collecting, thinks it reasonable to examine its basis and effect.

He affirms his emphatic belief in the right of an individual to collect what he choses, provided the collector **enjoys** his collecting.

He describes "type" collecting, as collecting **with** stamps, not the collecting **of** stamps. Philately, he considers, should only comprise those branches of stamp collecting which pertain to stamps **as** stamps (i.e. which are peculiar to stamps) and could not be pursued with any **other** medium.

Take collecting of **bridges** on stamps, for example. You cannot really study the architecture and engineering features on the reproduction of a bridge on a stamp, but, if you like finely produced little pictures of bridges, by all means collect them. By reason of the great variety of country and design it is certainly easier to make pages look attractive then in many other kinds of collecting.

If "type" collecting had stopped where it was, say, five years ago, there would have been little if any, need for this comment. But now Governments are exploiting the thematic collector by issuing unnecessary stamps to attract the "type" collector and this has its repercussions, of course, on the ordinary stamp collector. To add insult to injury, some of these "type" sets are far from cheap.

Mr. Purves admits that there are many thematic approaches which are philatelic. For example, if a type collector examines the origin of a stamp design, the designer, its significance, the engraver, etc., this **is** Philately because **the design is part of a stamp,** not because the stamp is of a certain design.

Mr. Purves considers the older forms of collecting as giving greater mental satisfaction than type collecting, which is only a form, albeit rather glorified, of scrapbook.

But, if coloured pictures attract you, he says, pursue and enjoy them with pleasure, and even with pride. But don't, don't let us pretend it is Philately!

SOUTHERN RHODESIA.

There have been some changes relative to the various forthcoming issues; it is now officially announced:—

(1) The 5 centenary stamps will be on sale from 15 April to 29 August, unless sold out earlier.

(2) The 6d. Exhibition stamp will be on sale 30 May to 29 August.

(3) The 2/6 Special Coronation will be on sale only from 1st to 6th June.

(4) The permanent new issue (½d. to £1) will be on sale from 31st August.

STAMP SUPPLIES.

The list of addresses where stamps could be ordered from various British territories in Southern Africa given in our April issue seems to have met a popular need, and we have been asked to supplement the list so as to cover other British African territories. Here it is:—

Ascension: The Postmaster, Ascension Island.

Gambia: The Postmaster, G.P.O., Bathurst, Gambia.

Gold Coast: The Postmaster General, G.P.O., Accra, Gold Coast.

Mauritius: The Postmaster General, G.P.O., Port Louis, Mauritius.

Nigeria: The Chief Accountant, G.P.O., Lagos, Nigeria.

St. Helena: The Chief Postmaster, G.P.O., Jamestown, St. Helena.

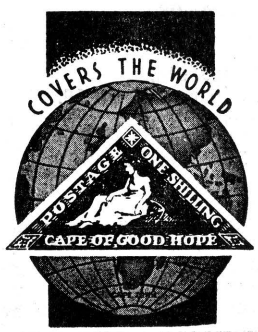
Seychelles: The Chief Postmaster, Central Post Office, Victoria, Mahé, Seychelles.

Sierra Leone: The Postmaster General, G.P.O., Freetown, Sierra Leone.

Somaliland Protectorate: Director of Posts and Telegraphs, Berbera, British Somaliland.

British Morocco: The British Postmaster, Tangier, Morocco.

Sudan: Director of Posts and Telegraphs, Khartoum, Sudan.



The NEW CENTRAL STAMP AUCTIONS

The GLOBE POSTAGE STAMP COMPANY proudly presents the above public auctions which will be held regularly in the comfortably furnished, well-lit basement of the Company's centrally situated, ground-floor premises.

The auctions will be conducted by an expert philatelist with long experience of values.

Philatelists throughout Africa are cordially invited to inscribe their names for regular gratis supply of full descriptive catalogues. Postal bids welcomed.

Material for sales also welcomed.

Auctioneer: R. H. LACY

BPA BRITISH PHILATELIC ASSOCIATION Trade Section

Gilbarn Buildings,
Plein & Mostert Streets
(12 Mostert Street),
CAPE TOWN.

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SOME RECENT AUCTION PRICES.

Robson Lowe.

Canada 1852-57, 6d. on very thick soft wove paper, £36.

Canada 1857 7½d. pale yellow green, part re-centred imprint, £72 10s.

Canada 1868 2c. bluish green, watermarked, £21.

St. Helena 2d. surcharged in blue black (S.G. 27a), £75.

Seychelles 1901 3c. on 10c. surcharge inverted, £19.

Seychelles 1901 6c. on 8c. surcharge inverted, £18.

Gt. Britain 1840 1d. black corner pair V.R., £125.

Hong-Kong 1880 10c. with only known Hankow (D 29) obliteration on cover, £85.

H. R. Harmer.

Austria 1851-56 6 kr. Newspaper stamp yellow £17.

Bermuda 10/- (S.G. 119), £10.

France, Jerusalem 1948 6fr. orange-green, £40.

G. Britain 1929 P.U.C. £1, £4 4s.

Kenya 1938-52 £1 perf. 12 x 13 (S.G. 143), £10 10s.

Newfoundland 1929 3c. on 6c. surcharge inverted (179a), £22.

Cape, 1d. Woodblock, vermilion, large margins, £67 10s.

Cape 1/- bright yellow green (1855-58) enormous margins, £25.

Sierra Leone £5 (S.G. 136), £29.

S. Africa £1 (S.G. 24), £11.

S.W.A. 1923, S.G. 1-12 in horizontal pairs, £11 10s.

Mafeking 1d. on ½d., surcharge inverted (S.G. 6a), £27.

Seychelles 6c. and 1r. Silver Jubilee, extra flagstaff, £23.

SHORT NOTICES.

Philatelic Literature Review. The Official Journal of the Philatelic Library Association — published at P.O. Box 300, Canajoharie, New York. No. 1 of Vol. 3 is mainly taken up into short accounts of numerous books, etc., which are general guides to stamp collecting. No. 2 has a useful review of the literature of British North America.

Sport-Phila. A new monthly magazine devoted entirely to sports stamps is being published at Via Guilio Romano 18, Rome. Articles are nearly all in five languages, French, English, Italian, German and Spanish.

The Thematic Magazine. Congratulations to our Cape Town contemporary on the new cover to their fifteenth number. They are growing up rapidly in both size and quality.

The B.P.A. This Association has sent us a number of papers relating to their Annual General Meeting on 6 May. We regret to note that, like many another institution, they are feeling the cold financial breeze and have had to economise on some of their activities. Their journal "Philately", for instance, has had to be cut down to six issues a year, instead of twelve.

Mission Mixtures. We have received from W. Lotz of 89-21, 88th Street, Woodhaven 21, New York, a list of some 22 missions which sell various stamp mixtures by weight. All of them are in the U.S.A., except one in Ireland. The list can be lent to anyone interested.

MOZAMBIQUE.

This colony seems to be out to exploit thematic collectors. We have just been getting used to their attractive fish set, now it is announced there is to be a set of twenty stamps (10c. to 4c) featuring buterflies and moths.

B. J. HUNTER

SOME POSTALLY USED STAMPS

Aden 1937 R.5 S.G. 11, £3.
Ascension 1922 Set S.G. 1-9, **£7 10s. 0d.**
Australia 1913 £2 S.G. 16, **£12.**
Barbados 1906 Set S.G. 145-151, **£3.**
Bermuda 1922/35, **12/6**; S.G. 93, **£4.**
Brit. E. Africa 1897 Set S.G. 80-85, **£3 7s. 6d.**
B. Honduras 1872/79 6d. S.G. 15, **£4.**
Canada 1868/72 12½c. S.G. 61a, **£8.**
Cayman Is. 1935 Set S.G. 100-111, **£6.**
Cyprus 1882/86 Set S.G. 28a-34, **£2 16s. 6d.**
Dominica 1907/08 5/- S.G. 46, **£3 13s. 6d.**
Fiji , 1912/23 £1, S.G. 222, **£3 15s. 0d.**
Gambia 1922/27 3/- S.G. 139, **£18.**
Gibraltar (G.B. used in) 1872/73 6d. Z129, **£2 10s.**
Gibraltar 1907/11 8/- S.G. 74, **£11 10s. 0d.**
Gt. Britain 1929 £1 S.G. 438, **£5 15s. 0d.**
Jamaica 1923 Set S.G. 104-106, **£2 5s. 0d.**
Kenya 1922 £1 S.G. 96, **£2.**
Malaya 1906/11 Set to $5 S.G. 175-188, **£2 2s. 6d.**
Mauritius 1848 2d. S.G. 16, **£20.**
Montserrat 1932 set S.G. 84-93, **£12 10s. 0d.**
Newfoundland 1931 $1 S.G. 197, **£2 10s. 0d.**
N.Z. 1906 Set S.G. 424-427, **£4 4s. 0d.**
Nova Scotia 1851 6d. S.G. 5, **£7 10s. 0d.**
Rhodesia 1910/16 10/- S.G. 164, **£5.**
St. Helena 1934 set S.G. 114-123, **£14.**
S. Africa 1913/21 £1 S.G. 24 (pmk. S.W.A.), **£5.**
Swaziland 1933 Set S.G. 11-20, **£4.**
Tanganyika 1916 Set S.G. 33-37, **£2.**
Turks & Caicos 1913/18 2/- S.G. 137a, **£6.**

All fine used.

B. J. Hunter (Incorporating Merx)

56a, EAST STREET, BRIGHTON, SUSSEX, ENGLAND

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REVIEWS

Newfoundland Air Mails, 1919-39, by R. E. R. Dalwick and C. H. C. Harmer. Published by H. R. Harmer Ltd., price 15/- (16/- post free).

This is a really monumental work; it contains a wealth of information, much of it hitherto unpublished, on the special stamps issued for trans-Atlantic and other flights, proofs, essays, errors, varieties, specimens, etc., as well as on the flights themselves.

It also gives, for the first time, a clear listing of the numerous internal flights.

It is lavishly illustrated with reproductions of stamps and covers, photographs of planes and personalities, and there are 5 maps.

There are also short additional notes, covering the period subsequent to 1939, with the big Airways Companies taking over, War and Post-War development, and the union of Newfoundland with Canada.

World War II Philately of Southern and Eastern Africa. By J. H. Harvey Pirie, F.R.P.S.L. Published by The Africana Museum, Johannesburg. Price 5/- post free. 60 pages plus iv.

Dr. Harvey Pirie had accumulated a comprehensive collection of covers and other items with Army postmarks, censor marks, seals and other war-time markings on correspondence from and to Southern and Eastern Africa during World War II; this collection was presented to the Africana Museum, Johannesburg, and this booklet is based on the collection and has been compiled as a guide to it.

As the collection was a comprehensive one the booklet is actually a full account of the war-time postal history of these regions. The geographical area covered includes not merely Southern and Eastern Africa but also countries further afield where troops from these parts saw service.

The Booklet has six chapters and an Appendix.

Chap. 1 describes the markings of the Union of South Africa, including Mail Service Suspended; Censor Marks and Seals, both civil and military; Civil Postmarks connected with the war effort, such as internment camps; and Army Postmarks. Each section is fully described and there are numerous illustrations of the various markings. The chapter also gives details of Army Postal Stationery and the special war issues of stamps are briefly considered, although not quite so fully as in the Union Handbook/Catalogue. Patriotic Slogans, P.O.W. Mail, Naval and Maritime markings, and Army Registration marks all find a place, whilst the Aerophilately section deals with Active Service Letter Cards, air letters, Airgraphs and Aerial Propaganda leaflets.

Chap. 2 deals with the postal history of Tristan Da Cunha, South West Africa, Basutoland, Bechuanaland and Swaziland. The first of these is included because, although it was under the control of the British Navy, the meteorological station set up there was manned by South African military personnel.

Chap. 3 describes the war philately of the Rhodesias and Nyasaland on the same lines as in Chap. 1. The special features here are concerned with the numerous R.A.F. training camps and there is also an informative section on the aerophilately of Southern Rhodesia.

Chap. 4 deals with the East African Command area from which there came a wealth of Army Postmarks, Censor marks and seals, and aerophilatelic items, mainly from the Kenya area.

Chap. 5 is concerned with the other territories falling under the East African Command — Zanzibar, Mauritius, Rodriques, Reunion, Madagascar, Sudan, Italian East Africa, Abyssinia, and British Somaliland.

Chap. 6 deals with the Middle East and Central Mediterranean Forces insofar as participation of South African forces there are concerned.

The Appendix gives an interesting list of Cross Cancellations and Combination covers showing stamps used in Army P.O.'s of countries other than those to which the stamps belong.

There are 289 sheets in the collection to which this booklet is a guide. The booklet is well printed on good paper with many fine illustrations. It provides a valuable history of the period and area it covers, and every serious student of postal history should possess a copy.

I. ISAACS.

Collectors' Wants & Offers

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

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

SOMALILAND PROTECTORATE. Minor varieties wanted, mint and used. Good copies only.—WILLIAM REDFORD, P.O. Box 1182, Johannesburg.

STAMPS.—Want lists invited for any country; specialities Union, S.W.A., British Africa. — LACY'S, Gillbern Buildings, cor. Plein and Mostert Streets, Cape Town.

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

1840-1890. For the stamps of any country in this period write DOUGLAS ROTH, Mona Crescent, Newlands, C.P. Phone 694282.

FOR SALE: Want lists, 1d. each, postage extra (up to 25 2d., up to 50 4d., per 100 or part 6d. postage). Can be used with any catalogue. Specimen copy sent on receipt of 3d. in stamps. Write—ROTAPRESS, Mtunzini, Zululand.

SEYCHELLES—Required for specialised collection: Panes of Provisionals, Covers and other interesting items.—A. R. KLEINER, 101 Westwoldway, Saxonwold, Johannesburg.

PHILATELIC CONTACT CATALOGUE contains addresses of contact seekers in all Countries, also coupon for free membership. Circulation in all Countries. Price two international reply coupons. MOLGER JENSEN, Soldugvej 16, Copenhagen, Kastrup, Denmark.

POLAND.

"Varimex", the Polish company for foreign trade, reports the following issues during the first four months of the year: For 10th anniversary of Stalingrad victory, 2 stamps; 6 year plan, 2 stamps; Lublin lorry factory (2); 70th anniversary, death of Karl Marx (2); Official stamps (2); 480th anniversary birth of the astronomer Kopernik (2); International Cycling Tour (3).

During the next two months the following issues are expected: Labour Day, 1 May (2); European Boxing Championship, Warsaw (3); J. W. Stalin (1879-1953) (2); National Health Week (2); Mechanization of Agriculture (2); Merchant Navy (2).

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★

RHODESIA

Mint Imperforate Varieties

★

S.G. No.	Description	Price
1—13	Imperf. — Presentation Set — A Great Rarity	£150
39	Imperf. — Vertical corner pair — Another Rarity	£150
70A	Imperf. vertically — horizontal pair	£50
75A	Imperf. vertically — horizontal pair	£6
77	Imperf. at right — vertical pair	£6
77A	Imperf. vertically thrice — imprint horizontal pair	£25
77B	Imperf. horizontally — vertical pair	£6
119A	Imperf. all round — horizontal pair USED	£20
188A	Imperf. at left — single	£5
188A	Imperf. horizontally — vertical pair	£15
188A	Imperf. horizontally — vertical imprint pair USED	£20
190A	Imperf. horizontally — single	£5
190A	Imperf. horizontally — imprint single	£6
190A	Imperf. horizontally — vertical pair	£10
190A	Imperf. vertically — horizontal pair USED	£15
197A	Imperf. vertically — horizontal pair	£20
256A	Imperf. vertically — imprint block of four	£50

★

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BENONI STAMP SHOP

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THE DARMSTADT LABELS

A number of collectors and dealers have been pressing for the inclusion of these labels in the Handbook/Catalogue Union of South Africa Stamps.

Members of Philatelic Societies, who have heard papers read on this subject, may become interested in the collection of these labels though a lack of knowledge of the full history of these emissions. The Philatelic Federation, in order to safeguard the interests of its constituent Societies and their members, appointed a Sub-Committeee, containing amongst others, the three editors of the Handbook/Catalogue and the editor of the South African Philatelist, to issue a more detailed report and warning on the Darmstadt Labels.

In 1949 quantities of "stamps" closely resembling the unhyphenated issue of the Union 1d. Postage Stamp (Van Riebeeck's ship) appeared on the market. Some distinguishing features of these were the trefoil or clover-leaf watermark, or no watermark, in place of the multiple springbok's head. These labels have commonly come to be known as "The Darmstadt Trials", and quite a brisk trade has been done in them with those people who are not in possession of all the facts.

The editors of the 1952 "Handbook/Catalogue —Union of South Africa Stamps", after careful investigation decided against including these labels in the catalogue and their action was approved by the Congress of the Philatelic Federation of Southern Africa held at Cape Town in March, 1952. (See Notice in the "South African Philatelist", May, 1952, p. 83).

It is, of course, well known that before any stamps can be printed off in quantity in a state ready for **sale to the public,** there is a lot of preliminary work done by the printers in the way of printing proofs, colour trials, etc. at the various stages to see how the finished article is going to shape. Such proofs and colour trials represent stages in the evolution of the particular stamp concerned and are much prized by specialist collectors.

A large number of these proofs are issued to the press for propaganda and news purposes. A number are presented to prominent people or visiting dignitaries, and some have even been presented to prominent philatelists by the Postal authorities. This has been the practice of the Post Office in South Africa. Excluding two notorious cases where certain people were convicted, none of these proofs of South African stamps have left the custody of the South African Postal Authorities, except as stated above

Where South African stamps were printed by private firms some proofs have been salvaged from the refuse bins, where they were thrown, and others were given away by these private printers.

But in all these cases these proofs and trials represented a stage in the printing of stamps which were subsequently sold through the Post Office for postal purposes.

In 1928 Messrs. Hunter, Penrose Ltd., of London, were officially authorised by the Union Government to report on the suitability of a machine for printing stamps by Rotogravure — a machine being made at the time by Messrs. Goebels A-G of Darmstadt, Germany.

For this purpose cylinders were made by the N.V. Nederlandsche Rotogravure Maatschappij (at the request of Messrs. Hunter Penrose) of Leiden, at least two of these being for complete replicas of the design of the then current Union 1d. stamps, others being for various dummy labels, Hunter Penrose photographs, etc.

Numerous sheets of the dummies and of the replicas of the Union 1d. stamp were printed **for trial of the machine,** and returned to Messrs. Hunter Penrose.

At least 1,000 sheets x 240 were printed of the complete 1d. stamp, besides others in incomplete states (e.g. frame alone and centre alone or other freak items).

Messrs. Hunter Penrose gave instructions that 1 sheet out of every consecutive 50 printed was to be sent to them for inspection; therefore they received at least 20 sheets x 240 stamps. It is not known what happened to these 20 sheets or to the others. All that is known is that many years later some person sold these labels to collectors and dealers who obviously were not aware of their origin or status.

On the report of Messrs. Hunter Penrose (after all these trial labels had been printed), the machine was purchased by the Union Government. This statement was made by the Government Printer to the Union Handbook Sub-Committee.

Any one interested in the products of Messrs. Goebels A-G of Darmstadt could be logically interested in the collection of these stamp replicas, photographs, labels, etc. as showing the capabilities of their printing machines, but there can be no sane reason why collectors of Union Stamps should collect this mass of rubbish.

The decision not to include the Darmstadt labels was based on the fact that these replicas and labels, although printed after instructions from agents of the Union Government, were made solely to test the suitability of a particular machine for printing stamps. They in no way represent a stage in the evolution of a stamp such as do the essays and proofs which we have listed in the catalogue as "Official". In our opinion it is unfortunate that replicas of the Union 1d. stamp were made in these machine trials as this has led to the appearance on the market of what are really only "imitations" of the genuine stamps.

Messrs. Hunter Penrose reported favourably on the Darmstadt machine; it was purchased by the Union Government and is still in use.

After the purchase and before it was shipped out, however, Mr. J. L. Booysen of the Union Government Printing Works, was sent to London, Leiden and Darmstadt to study the process of Rotogravure and whilst at Darmstadt printed certain trials which the Post Office and we regard as official essays because they definitely may be looked upon as a preliminary stage in the printing of Union stamps by rotogravure, the process adopted on the arrival of the Goebels machine. These essays are described on p. 79 of the Handbook/Catalogue; they can in no way be mistaken for actual Union stamps.

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It is not for us or for the Federation to say to collectors what they shall collect or not collect. They are at liberty to collect Darmstadt Labels if they so desire and if they have money to waste, but we consider it is our duty to warn them that they will merely be collecting labels made to test the operation of a machine and that these labels do not qualify for admission to a catalogue of the stamps of the Union.

—— □ ——

DIAERESIS VARIETY ON 2/6 "OFFICIALS".

Although I cannot solve the mystery of the diaeresis varieties in the "Official" overprints only recently discovered on Union stamps issued a few years back, I can fortunately clear up one misunderstanding in this regard. In "Union Notes" of May 1953 it is surmised that this diaeresis occurs on the stamp listed in the Handbook/Catalogue as number O.74, but this is not the case. I was shown Dr. Wufsohn's cover soon after it was discovered that the block of 1/- stamps on it had this variety, and I pointed out that as the colour of the basic stamp was light brown and milky blue, it could not belong to what is generally described as the "mixed fount" series, because in this issue the colour of the 1/- stamp is purple-brown and grey-blue.

When I checked this material in my collection I found that I also had a used pair of 1/- stamps of the same shade and with this diaeresis variety in the overprint. The postmark was mostly off the stamps but the year (48) was very clear, and the left-hand (English) stamp had the small "Official" and the other (Afrikaans) the small "Offisieel", with diaeresis. The two dots, though unmistakable, were faint, which is why they had escaped my notice before. In fact I had only detected the mixed type and mounted the pair in my collection with the "mixed fount" 2d. and 2/6 stamps.

Apart from the great difference in the colour of the basic stamp, there is I think another factor which precludes this pair from belonging to the "mixed fount" series. I have two blocks of the purple-brown and grey-blue stamps with portions of different marginal arrows attached, in which the "mixing" of the type of the overprint coincides exactly with that of the overprint in the corresponding positions of the 2d. listed in the Handbook/Catalogue as O.81. It is reasonable to assume that the remaining stamps making up the sheet also received the same overprint as this 2d. stamp, the layout of which was fully described in "Union Notes" of October, 1948. In this layout there is not a single case where a small "Official" occurs in conjunction with a small "Offisieel" on the next stamp.

The usual practice of overprinting only half sheets of the higher value stamps was followed in the case of the "mixed fount" 2/6, and the layout of the ten rows of this overprint can be found in "Union Notes" of September, 1949. It will be seen that this coincided exactly with rows 9 to 18 inclusive of that of the 2d. (and I suggest the 1/-) so that the pair of 2/6 stamps described by Mr. Lichtenstein as having a small "Official" on the left-hand stamp and small "Offisieel" on the other, cannot be from this series. In fact this pair of 2/6 stamps corresponds exacly with my 1/- pair, and it looks as though in describing it as O.84 Mr. Lichtenstein has fallen into the same error as I did. I would suggest therefore that the colours of this pair of 2/6 stamps should be compared very carefully with that of 2/6 stamps with the true "mixed fount" overprint, and thus known to be O.84. Should they be required I can lend a couple of my spare used pairs for this purpose, and I do think it will be found that this 2/6 stamp with the diaeresis in the overprint belongs to an issue prior to that with "mixed fount".

S. J. HAGGER.

THE ELUSIVE BROKEN "C".

With reference to Dr. Berry's article in your August number of 1952 dealing with the "elusive broken C" in the ½d., 1d., and 6d. of the overprinted Officials, he will doubtless have noticed that in the last printings of all three of the denominations there is a different type of flaw on the C of row 3 No. 2. This now appears flattened, as if the curve has been filed, and is quite different from the original two stages of the "bite" and the retouch.

Also in these sheets, the top of the first F in Official on No. 2 row 18 is shorter than normal.

Regarding his theory that this new processed overprint is set up in quadrants, I think there is no doubt whatever that this is set up in four equal quarters of the sheet.

This can be deducted from measurements taken between the o/ps between rows 10 and 11, and between stamps 6 and 7. Sometimes the difference is quite appreciable, depending how the four sections were fitted, and I have a sheet of 2d. here which is quite apparent to the eye, the top right quarter of the sheet, i.e., stamps 7 to 12 and rows 1 to 10, having the overprint about 1 mm. higher than that on the six stamps in the left hand quarter while the bottom two quarters also differ if measured with a rule.

The arrangement is the same in the 1½d. and 2nd sheets, although the o/ps. are reversed. I have not had an opportunity of studying a complete sheet of the higher overprinted denominations so cannot say if the same division of the stereotype is made.

G. N. GILBERT.

THE CROSS-HATCH HALFPENNY.

In the "Philatelic Magazine" of 13 March Mr. A. I. Mackenzie has an article on these stamps. After describing the process of "screening" he ends up with the query "Is the cross-hatch halfpenny a rarity or a faulty proof? or, in other words, should a cross-hatch on a stamp be regarded as printers' waste?"

He is apparently under the impression that there **must** be screening to make the printing cylinders for all Union rotogravure stamps and to be unaware of, or to ignore, the well established fact that the cylinders of the "cross-hatch" halfpenny were not screened.

The readers of the "Philatelic Magazine", however, seem to be well aware of the position, and give him a good hauling over the coals in the issue of 10 May.

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CAPE TRIANGULAR CENTENARY.

1. We intend making our September issue a special centenary number. It will be difficult, if not impossible, to have anything really new to say about Cape triangulars, but we intend publishing a number of reprints or extracts of various articles dealing with different aspects of these famous stamps, also illustrating some of them with hitherto unpublished photographs. This we hope will put our readers in possession of information about the triangulars which is not readily accessible to all and will be rather more than is to be found in the ordinary catalogues.

2. The Government, as already announced, will be issuing 2 special commemorative stamps.

3. At the exhibition to be staged in the foyer of the Johannesburg Public Library from 31 August to 12 September, there will be a special Post Office with a commemorative date-stamp.

4. We understand the Cape Town Philatelic Society is holding an exhibition in Cape Town, but we have not yet received particulars.

AUSTRALIA.

In September three stamps will be issued in connection with the sesquicentenary of settlement in Tasmania; there will be two 3½d. stamps issued as a pair within the same sheet, portraying Lieut.-Governors Collins and Paterson, and a 2/- stamp featuring Sullivan Cove, Hobart.

There will be a 3d. stamp in November commemorating the centenary of Tasmanian stamps. This will incorporate a reproduction of the first 4d. stamp, which portrayed Queen Victoria.

The colour of the Coronation stamps, which we were unable to announce last month, will be: 3½d., scarlet; 7½d., violet; 2/-, slate green; These stamps will be on sale for approximately two months.

Norfolk Island. A set of 6 new stamps is announced for 10 June, values 3½d. to 5/- (total 8/- a set). Two of the six will feature old buildings dating from about 1827-1850. Supplies may be had from the local postmaster, also from the Department of Territories, Canberra.

NEW ZEALAND

This is a very fascinating country for collectors. If you are looking for an interesting country—try N.Z.! Gibbons lists over 1,000 stamps (excluding the Dependencies), so there is plenty to 'cut at'!

We have recently broken up some good collections, and shall be glad to send an approval book to any collector interested.

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AUSTRIA.

On April 24 a 1.50 s. stamp was issued in honour of the 80th birthday of the President, Dr. Theodor Koerner. The stamp, steel blue in colour, has a fine full face portrait of the President.

STAMPS OF THE U.S.A.

By W. LOXLEY CHAMINGS.

Some of you have heard this story before, but others have not. I tell it to illustrate a point I wish to make. One of my sons-in-law, a Padre in the Sixth Division in the late war, was having tea one day in Rome with two American Nurses, and he happened to mention Pretoria in the course of conversation. "Pretoria?" said one of the Nurses, "I have not heard of that little burg." "O Sadie," said the other, "You surely have heard of Pretoria Falls!" The point I wish to make is that the people on one side of the Atlantic have only the vaguest ideas about people and places on the other, and I don't know that we are much better than the American Nurse in this respect. How many of us, to be concrete, could say how many states make up the United States, or write down more than half their names. Could many of us name the chief cities of Maryland or Maine, or say anything sensible about the Louisiana Purchase or the Oregon Trail? And yet here is a land of infinite interest, magnificent scenery and engrossing history, and, to come to our muttons, a land whose stamps, perhaps more than any other land's, reflect vividly its multi-coloured life. I have limited my display this evening to 100 people and 50 places, and I am going to show them as near as may be in historical order.

The Government of the United States has from the start taken trouble with its stamps, and their designs. They are all engraved with some superb examples, a large number very satisfactory, and only a few lamentable lapses. It is chiefly of the designs that I wish to speak. It has been a puzzle to me why, when governments have taken such infinite pains with the designs of their stamps, collectors have often practically ignored them, but the days of this childish ignorance are passing. Collectors are growing up, and designs are more and more becoming a major feature of philatelic exhibits.

Naturally I cannot comment upon each of the 150 stamps you can see, but I would like to draw your attention to a few salient points. More information can be found if desired on the back of each card.

We begin with a physical map of the States showing two biplanes of 1926 about to collide in mid-air and strew their wreckage over the Mississippi basin, and the map shows what an enormous affair this is, covering more than half the entire area. Then follow eight stamps of the 1934 National Parks series. The National Parks form one of America's most fascinating features, huge reservations where life, whether of bird, beast or plant, may be seen in all its wild beauty. The last of the eight shows a part of the Mesa Verde, the Green Table, in Colorado.

This Cliff Palace, built by Indians some thousand years ago, is a marvel of well-preserved stonework.

(To be continued.)

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SOCIETY NEWS

THE PHILATELIC SOCIETY OF THE WESTERN RAND.

Our April monthly meeting was held on Wednesday the 22nd in the Parish Hall, Roodepoort. In attendance were eleven members and three visitors.

In the absence of the Chairman, the Vice-Chairman Mr. Henderson presided over the meeting.

The main exhibit for the evening was tabled by Dr. Berry, consisting of Union Postage Dues complete to date, including the Die Proof before hardening of the London Postage Due 1/-, 2d. imperf. pair, doubled 2d., Cigarette Tax as Postage Due, and all the other varieties, then Postal Stationery used as Dues with the large Wings Card (Cape Town) posted without stamp, franked and stamped as Postage Due. Mr. Burrell thanked Dr. Berry on his outstanding display, and said that he and the members have never seen the Large Wing Card used as Postage Due, and would like to know if this item has been seen before by any other collector.

I might mention that this Collection won the Allan Cup for the best Exhibit of the year 1953, at the Pretoria Philatelic Society. The sideline of New Zealand Healths was shown by Mr. Keet. Mr. Vermaak thanked the Exhibitor for his complete and neat display. J.K.

EAST LONDON PHILATELIC SOCIETY.

April 17.

The Annual General Meeting was held at the East London Board of Executors at 8 p.m. The President, Mr. Hellman, read his annual report. Membership had increased to 85 largely owing to the Exchange Club. Mr. Paviour was asked to take the chair for the election of officers. Mr. Hellman was re-elected President for a second year. Mr. Pludderman, Vice-President and Mrs. Cordes kindly consented to continue as Secretary. Three medals were presented by Mr. Hellman; one to Mrs. Alabaster and one to Mr. Attwell for the best displays, and one to Mr. Jensen for the best paper.

Mr. Williams' financial statement of the club showed a nice increase in funds over last year. Cakes were provided by the lady members and a pleasant evening was had by all, especially after viewing the lovely Rectangular Cape Collection kindly brought by Mr. Thornton.

The Annual Dinner was held at Deal's Hotel on Saturday, April 25th. Hand Painted "Coronation Menus" were provided by Mrs. Alabaster and Mr. Cordes and Miss Edleman sang and played beautifully for our entertainment.

May 8th, 1953.

Owing to the late arrival of the President Mr. Plüdeman took the chair. Items of interest were shown, one of special interest being brought by Mr. Plüdeman — a stamp to mark the anniversary of the birth of Maxim Gorki — Russian hero on a German stamp!

Mr. Hellman mentioned that the scarce 2d. Union was being sold in Johannesburg for 12/6. He also drew attntion to the fact that the new Scott's catalogue was being sold for only one dollar in the States.

The official date of the Coronation obliterations is now given as June 3rd as June 2nd is a Public holiday.

An invitation from Hobbies Unlimited was extended to the Society to exhibit members' stamps.

Mr. Harper showed his beautiful Early Europeans prefacing the display with a short talk. Mr. Watson warmly thanked him.

Mr. Hellman then displayed a South West African collection lent by Mr. Buchan who was thanked for his kindness in allowing members to view this unique collection. R.A.

AFRIKAANSE FILATELISTIESE VERENIGING.

Maandag, 27 April: Ons tweede besoek aan die Philatelic Society of Johannesburg was net so geslaagd soos die eerste. Ons gashere het ons ontvang en trakteer op 'n manier wat 'n groot vereniging betaam. Klaarblyklik het ones eerste besoek van 'n jaar of wat gelede enige gedagte aan novise uitgeskakel, met die gevolg dat die gas-vereniging net die beste verwag. Of ons uitstallings nou onder daardie klas resorteer wil ons nie graag self sê nie, maar ongetwyfeld was almal tevrede en selfs opgewonde oor enkele aspekte van die vertoonde stukke. Vir ons is dies hoë lof toegeswaai bemoedigend en kan ons met volle vertroue aanstryk.

Vrydag, 1 Mei: Vriend Lambert het weer die hoofdis verskaf, en wel in die vorm van die lugposseëls van Salvador en Venezuela. Hy het vooraf een-en-ander oor sy uitstalling te sê gehad, en as mens die moeinlikhede waarmee 'n versamelaar van hierdie klas materiaal te kampe het, in aanmerking neem, kan hy nie minder nie as bewondering uitspreek vir die stadium reeds deur hierdie vriend behaal. Al kom daar baie gapings voor, verdien lid Lambert hoë lof vir sy mooi vordering met 'n lastige taak.

Die A.F.V. hoop om in die nabye toekoms 'n volledige Engels-Afrikaanse filatelistiese woordelys beskikbaar te hê vir diegene wat daarin belangstel. Finale drukkoste is nog nie bereken nie, maar gemen word sal die boekie omtrent 2/6 vir lede en 3/6 vir andere kos.

Nuwe Lede: Mnr. P. P. H. Hamel, Johannesburg en die jongeheer de Bruyn Joubert van Salisbury.

Ons ontmoet weer op Vrydag, 5 Junie, en wil belangstellendes ook weer herinner aan ons geselligheid om 2.30 n.m. op Saterdag, 13 Junie in kamer 91, Openbare Biblioteek, Johannesburg. Almal is hartlik uitgenooi. Bring u los goedjies saam en kom deel mee aan die ruil, veil en sommer lekker gesels. S.J.V.

JEWISH GUILD PHILATELIC SECTION.

At the meeting of the Section held on April 30th there was a variety of exhibits by various members and visitors.

Mr. W. Oppenheim showed classical issues of Holland chiefly in fine used condition. He also showed Monaco Commemorative issues and a few rarities of other countries.

Mr. Lambert showed used airmails of Turkey, many of these were very rare and all were in fine condition.

Mr. R. Reckling showed postal stationery of Dutch East Indies. There were many unused and others were used, some in combination with adhesive stamps.

Mr. I. Isaacs showed some flown covers including some South African and Sudan.

Members of the Section are always pleased when visitors attend the meetings which are held on the last Thursday of each month at the Jewish Guild Memorial Hall. All members of other Societies affiliated to the Philatelic Federation of Southern Africa are welcome and stamp collectors who are not members of other Societies are also welcome. Visitors may bring stamps for exhibit or exchange. All members of the Jewish Guild are, of course, entitled to attend the meetings even though not officially members of the Section.

EAST RAND PHILATELIC SOCIETY.

At our May meeting we had a very good attendance but through some unforseen circumstances, we had only one exhibit for the Sam Legator Trophy. The members who were not able to come along with their exhibits will be given a further opportunity with their entries. Mr. Behrendt tabled his collection of Geo. VI; these stamps were arranged in a very unique manner to represent the country of their issue.

Mr. Johnson brought along a quiz competition consisting of six pages of stamps with several stamps on each page. One had to state what country they were from; others again the postage value had to be given and what date stamps were issued; or why certain stamps were issued and for what commemoration. This competition showed that the members although collectors know very little about the stamps that were shown. The winner of the competition was given 40 marks out of a possible 100. To close the meeting there was a general discussion on Stamps in General. E.M.R.

PORT ELIZABETH PHILATELIC SOCIETY.

7th April, 1953:

A well attended meeting presided over by the President. After auction and tea, Mr. R. W. Pearson showed his collection of Australian Commemoratives. The stamps were particularly well set out and superbly written up, features which were stressed when the Exhibitor was thanked by Mr. G. Büulbring at the end of the evening.

21st April, 1953:

Although both Secretary and Treasurer were absent from the meeting and town, the evening proved to be well supported. The main event was a most enjoyable Quiz conducted by Mr. G. K. Forbes, who took as his subject "Scenes depicted on British Empire Stamps". The Assembly split into two competing teams, the winning one being seven (7) points ahead at the finish. Mr. Forbes continued his good work for the evening by giving us the pleasure of seeing his very fine Newfoundland Collection, a real

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treat for all. Auction and talk amongst members and tea interval occupied the rest of a very enjoyable evening.

PHILATELIC SOCIETY OF JOHANNESBURG.

At the meeting held on May 12th, 1953, Mr. J. Michelson showed a fine collection of stamps of Estonia.

This was almost a complete collection of mint stamps including miniature sheets and stamps issued under the German occupation. There were also numerous covers, many flown, including Zeppelin flights. There was a pre-stamp cover postmarked Dorpat.

Mr. Michelson gave a few notes on the exhibit. Mr. W. Oppenheim spoke on the exhibit pointing out many rarities.

During the evening Mr. B. Glassman showed some sheets of recently issued British Empire Stamps.

At the meeting of May 25th Mr. S. Hoeningsberg showed modern France in fine mint condition. There was a nearly complete collection of the issues from 1938 including the commemoratives, air mails and miniature sheets. The exhibit was well written up and beautifully displayed.

The Rev. Loxley Chamings spoke on the exhibit.

THE PHILATELIC SOCIETY OF RHODESIA.

About 30 members attended the May meeting, held on the 6th May. After the minutes of the previous meeting and the correspondence had been dealt with, Mr. Crewell gave a report on the progress that had been made in connection with the forthcoming Congress of the Philatelic Federation of Southern Africa, and the Stamp Exhibition. There had been an excellent response from those invited to exhibit.

Mr. Crewell then conducted a "Quiz", questions being asked about a variety of stamps, collectors of foreign scoring well. Mr. Lazarus scored the most points, and was awarded a small prize.

After refreshments had been served, Mr. B. L. R. Fox gave an exhibit of Australia, New Zealand, and the Pacific Islands, which aroused much interest. Mr. Billau commented on the exhibit, and proposed a vote of thanks to Mr. Fox. The meeting closed at 10.15 p.m. P.H.

AFRIKAANSE FILATELISTIESE VERENIGING VAN PRETORIA.

24 Feb. Die maandelikse vergadering is deur agtien lede en drie besoekers bygewoon. Na afhandeling van die gewone besigheid is 'n baie interessante versameling van Kanadese offisiële posseëls, deur ons voorsitter, Mnr. J. A. Erasmus tentoongestel. Die vroegste offisiële posseëls, wat ongelukkig nie deur Gibbons gekatalogiseer word nie, naamlik die seëls wat O.H.M.S. deur geperforeer is, was baie goed verteenwoordig in die uitstalling: 'n ware jagveld vir die persone wat na afwyking soek. Die jongste uitgawes was ook volledig.

27 Maart. 'n Baie gesellige aand is deurgebring deur die 22 lede teenwoordig. Daar is besluit dat ons vergaderings voortaan in dieselfde lokaal, die vierde Woensdag i.p.v. die vierde Vrydag elke maand om 7.30 n.m. gehou sal word. Mnr. P. H. Kok het 'n unieke versameling van Israel eerstedagkoeverte tentoongestel. Selfs die persoon wat nie van eerstedagkoeverte hou nie kon nie anders as om die versameling te bewonder nie. Aan kleure en mooi posseëls onbreek dit nie. Ja selfs die eerste Israel „Coin Set" verskyn in hoek blokke van vier op 'n stel koeverte. Werklik 'n versameling die moeite werd om te sien. Verder is die aand op 'n geslaagde manier deurgebring deur onderling posseëls uit te ruil.

Nuwe lede: Mnre. V. Pienaar, A. den Hartog en I. P. Strydom. G.J. de S.

ORANGE FREE STATE AND BASUTOLAND PHILATELIC SOCIETY.

March.

Mr. A. Scott displayed his very interesting collection of Holland, including the latest "Flood Relief" stamps from that country. Another "intoxicating" display, as it was called at the meeting, was given by Dr. Freund. It was a Thematic Collection called "Alcohol on Stamps", this being one of his many Thematic collections. It is sincerely hoped that more of these collections will be displayed in the near future to give other philatelists the idea of what can be collected. Mr. A. I. MacKenzie gave an interesting talk on "a new method of the screened process of the latest Union 2d. issue." The usual features viz. the News Report, an auction sale and a sweepstake rounded off a pleasant evening.

April.

Mr. Larsen displayed a most interesting collection of South West African Revenues. These included the U.P.U. with a second overprint, "Amusement Tax —Vermaaklikheidsbelasting." The collection contains a number of varieties and errors of overprint which present an instructive comparison to similar errors of the postage issues and prove that such errors are mostly not "to order". Mr. Scott and Mr. Denne tabled "New issues of the month". Mr. Weil gave a fine display of various colourful sets of Mozambique and other Portuguese Colonies. Mr. Lewis gave his usual "Monthly News Report." He stated that items to be noted lately were the changing of cylinder numbers and colour variations. Since December 1952 there have been three distinctive types of the 2d. issues, viz. 18-30, 46-27 and 18-27. The first and last are still available but the 46-27 will turn out to be a very good item. The evening ended with the usual sweepstake and a most interesting auction. H.J.N.

—— □ ——

The Editor, S.A. Philatelist.

UNION STAMP PRICES.

Sir,

In the March issue you delighted us and made our hearts jump, with a short note about the high prices, so many times beyond catalogue value, that were fetched by Union and S.W.A. items on a recent London sale. I think the note is somewhat misleading however as to what actually happened at the sale. There are so very many people who collect stamps, not for the fun and enjoyment of it, but only with the idea of making a lot of money out of it one day. These people I have got in mind and don't you think you should show them the other side of the picture too and tell them that on the same sale some of the choicest Union items actually went for a song? e.g. complete double strips of both the ½d. and 1d. tête-bêche, catalogued in the Union Handbook for not less than £400, hardly realised £60. This, I think ,ought to make people think twice before they start collecting with the idea of financial gain in the back of their heads.

Yours, etc.,

M. J. RALL.

SOUTH AFRICAN COLLECTORS' SOCIETY.

The third issue of "The Springbok" has been distributed to nearly 200 members, in various parts of the world. Need more be said in favour of an immediate subscription of 10/-?

C. E. SHERWOOD
105 MARFORD CRESCENT, SALE,
MANCHESTER, G.B.

FRANCE.

The Postal Administration announces the issue on 24 April of a 30 fr. bicoloured stamp, one of a series dealing with the height of fashion. It features a beautiful lady wearing a beautiful grown.

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Check List of O.V.S. & O.R.C. Post Offices and Agencies, etc.

PERIOD 1868 TO 1910

By W. NEWLANDS.

(Continued from page 96 of May issue.)

Grade	Name	District	Date opened or year of P.M.G.'s report where first noted	Closed (where known)	Remarks.
PA*	Kleinfontein	—			
	Klerkspruit	H	15-9-03	30-11-05	
	Kleinzuurfontein	BE	1-6-07		
PA*	Klipdrift	B	15-6-09		
PA*	Klipfontein	—			
PA	Klipfontein	RO	1899	31-1-09	
PA*	Klipnek	FA	15-7-07		
	Klipplaat	FF	1-1-06		
PA*	Klippan	B	1895		See Klippan (Hoopstad)
	Klippan	HO	1-3-04		
PA*	Koedoesrand	BO	15-12-06		
PO†	Koffiefontein	FA	1882		
PA	Koffiekuil	FA	1893		See Luckof
PO	Koffijfontein	FA	1893		See Koffiefontein
PA	Koffijkuil	FA	1893		See Koffiekuil
PO*	Koffyfontein	FA			See Koffijfontein and Koffiefontein
PA	Koksfontein	FA	1893		
PA	Kolkje	BM	1898		
PA	Komandodrift	HO	1895		See Commando Drift
	Komspruit	LY	1-7-06		
PO*	Kopjes (ORC)	VF			
PA*	Koudekraal	RO	1895	4-6-04	
	Kransdraai	SP			
PA	Kransfontein	BM	1893		
	Kromwellensborg Drift	E(?)	15-3-04	30-4-05	Probably Kromwellen-boogsdrift, BOSHOF
PO*†	Kroonstad	K	1867		
PO*	Kroonstad Station	K	1899(?)		Spelt: "Kroonstadt" Station
	Krugers	E		30-4-07	
	Krugersdrift	B	15-11-05	13-7-07	
PA	Kruidfontein	B	1893		
PA	Kwaggaspruit	K	1899		
PO*†	Ladybrand	L	1875		
RTO*	Ladybrand Rail	L			
	Lake Warden	HO	1-10-06	31-12-07	
SO*	Landplaats	W	1-8-03		
	Langewacht	BM	15-11-03		
	Langhoek	BM	1-8-03	28-2-05	
SO*	Langhoek	V			See Langhoek (BM)
PA	Langlaagte	BO	1895		
PA†	Langspruit	BM	1887		(Closed by 1889?)
PA*	Langvlakte	—			
PA*	Leeuwbank	V	1895		SO in 1910
	Leeuw River Mills	T		31-5-04	
PA	Leeuwpan	W	1898		
PA	Leeuwvlei	B	1893		
PA*	Leeuwvlei	B	1-6-04		
PA†	Le Souvenir	L	Sept. 1883	31-5-04	(La Soucernier in 1883)

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Grade	Name	District	Date opened or year of P.M.G.'s report where first noted	Closed (where known)	Remarks
PA*	Levensbron	LY		30-11-06	
	Libertas	SE	1-5-08		
PA	Lijnfontein	BO	1899		
PA	Lindequesdrift	HN	July 1899		
PO*	Lindley	BM	1893		(Oct. 1878) (pen cancelled)
RSO*	Lindley Road	BM	1-10-05		
PA*	Lombaardsdrift	—			
PA	Lowlands	L	1899		
PA*	Lourensrust	V	1-1-04		
RSO*	Lovat	LY	30-6-06		
PA	Lubben	HN	July 1899		
PO*	Luckhof	FA	1898		See Koffiekuil
PA*	Mahemskuil	K	1-8-07		
	Makauws Drift	BO	15-9-03	15-8-06	
PA*	Malan's Post	BM	July 1899		(Malanspost)
PO*	Marquard	W	15-9-05		
RSO*	Marseilles	L	1-6-04		
PA	Memel	W	1895		via Senekal
SO*	Memel	V	15-3-07		
PA†	Mentzford	S	12-10-83		(Closed by 1889?)
	Mimosa	P	1-3-04		
RPA*	Modderpoort	L	15-12-03		
PA	Molendraai	HN	1-2-07		
	Monaro	T	15-2-04	31-5-04	
PA	Monastery	W	1898		
	Monument Road East	B	15-6-09		See Bloemfontein Mon. Road EXT.
PA*	Mooifontein	H	15-12-07		
PA	Mooiplaats	H	1899		
PA	Mosterdshoek	BO	1899		
	Muirton	FF	1-11-03		
	Mullas Pos Noord	H	8-4-08	18-4-08	(Mullers Pas Noord?)
PA*	Mushroom Valley	W	1-4-05		
PA†	Naauwpoort	BM	10-10-1883		(Closed by 1889?)
PA	Naauwpoort	WE	1898		
TO*	Naval Hill	B			See Bloemfontein Naval Hill
PA	Nelsrust	BM	1899		
	Neve	WE	15-11-04		
PA	New Market	HN	1893	5-2-05	
	Newmarket	H			New Market (Heilbron?)
	New York	B	15-11-05	14-8-08	(Thaba 'nchu?)
PA*	Ngoana	—			
	Nooitgedacht	BO	1-12-03		
SO*	Northfield Farm	B			
PA*	Novo	FA	15-11-04	31-3-09	
PO*	Odendaalsrust	HO			
PA†	Olifantsfontein	BO	1875	1898	(P.O. in 1880)
PA*	Oliviers Post	LY	15-6-05		(Olivierspost)
PA*	Ondebergsfontein	—			
PA*	Ongegund	SE	1-5-08		
PA*	Oorlogspoort	B	1-7-07		
	Oosthuizen's Siding	K	1-10-06	31-7-08	
PA*	Orangepan	K	15-1-08		(Oranjepan)
PA	Oranjepan	HO	1-10-04	28-2-05(?)	(Orangepan)
PA	Osfontein	BO	1895		
PA*	Outlook	—			
RSO*	Paardeberg	J	1-5-08		
PA*	Paardekraal	K	1893 Re-oponed 15-12-03		

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Centenary of Postage Stamps

The Publicity Officer of the G.P.O., Pretoria, has kindly supplied us with the photographs and following information in the special issues to commemorate the Centenary of Postage Stamps.

Special 1d. and 4d. postage stamps to commemorate the Centenary of the introduction of postage stamps in South Africa will be on sale **at all post offices** in the Union for a period of approximately three months from the 1st September, 1953. The stamps will be printed in horizontal format 21 by 37 millimetres and in sheets of 120.. The central designs are replicas of the stamps which were issued on 1st September, 1853, and in the exterior frame appears the usual wording in Afrikaans and English. The background of the 1d. is in the form of rays of light and that of the 4d. shows a spray of silver-leaves (leucadendron argenteum). The colours are reddish-brown for the 1d. and blue for the 4d.





FIRST-DAY COVERS.

Envelopes for use as first-day or commemorative covers will **not** be provided by the Post Office or purchased from outside sources on behalf of applicants. Orders for the servicing of first-day covers which the public particularly desires should be treated at the Philatelic Agency, Publicity Section, G.P.O., Pretoria, and which will bear the postmark "Pretoria", **must be accompanied by addressed envelopes** and a remittance to cover the value of the stamps which the sender desires should be affixed to the envelopes. Such orders must reach the above address not later than the 31st August, 1953. Cheques will **not** be accepted and orders will not be sent **"C.O.D."**

POSTAGE STAMP EXHIBITION.

A Postage Stamp Exhibition is to be held at Johannesburg under the auspices of the Transvaal Philatelic Societies, the opening date of which will coincide with the date of issue of the stamps. A special date-stamp with the wording "Postage Stamp Centenary Exhibition — Posseëleeufeesuitstalling, Johannesburg," will be in use at the Exhibition from the 1st to the 12th September, 1953. Orders for the servicing of addressed envelopes on which it is desired to have an impression of this date-stamp on the first day of issue, namely the 1st September, 1953, may be sent to the Philatelic Agency, Publicity Section, G.P.O., Pretoria. Envelopes must be supplied by the applicant and a remittance to cover the cost of the stamps to be affixed must accompany the order.

POSTMARKS.

Applicants must specify whether the "Pretoria" or the "Postage Stamp Centenary Exhibition" date-stamp should be used to postmark their envelopes. Request for both postmarks on one envelope will **not** be entertained.

ORDERS FROM APPLICANTS OUTSIDE THE UNION.

Remittances in respect of orders from persons outside the Union must be made by means of International Money Order, Bank Draft or British Postal Order made payable to the Postmaster-General, Pretoria. Those in respect of orders for unused ("mint") postage stamps must include an amount for return postage and registration. **Cheques, foreign bank notes, foreign coin and foreign postal orders will not be accepted and orders will not be sent "C.O.D."**

DESPATCH OF ORDERS.

Every effort will be made to despatch orders as soon as possible after the date of release of the stamps, but in view of the large number of orders expected and the consequent volume of work involved, delay in some cases will be unavoidable. Applicants are therefore requested to withold any enquiries or reminders relating to their orders until the end of October, 1953.

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THE

SOUTH AFRICAN PHILATELIST

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UNION NOTES

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

RECENT PRINTINGS.

The Publicity Officer of the Department of Posts and Telegraphs has kindly supplied the following information covering the period from the 21.1.53 to 21.4.53. For the previous list see our March issue.

Ordinary Pictorial Postage Stamps.

½d.—Job No. 6112 contd. On an order for 25,000 sheets of 240 stamps per sheet, a total of 25,200 were delivered up to the final date, 22.1.53. Same cylinders as before, Nos. 31 (Int.) and 70 (Ext.).

1d.—Job No. 5905 contd. On an order for 1,000,000 sheets of 240 stamps per sheet, 467,385 have been delivered from the old cylinders Nos. 6925 (Int.) and 36 (Ext.), and 485,072 sheets from new cylinders Nos. 54 (Int.) and 53 (Ext.). Date of first delivery from the new cylinders, 22.1.53. Total deliveries on this order, 952,457 sheets, and final delivery on the 16.4.53.

2d.—Job No. 475 contd. On an order for 1,000,000 sheets of 240 stamps per sheet, an additional 134,600 sheets have been delivered from cylinders Nos. 27 Interior and 18 Exterior, making the total from this combination, 256,600 sheets. Total number delivered on this Job 1,404,735 sheets and finual date of delivery 5.3.53.

4d.—Job No. 2336 contd. On an order for 60,000 sheets of 120 stamps per sheet a total of 71,968 have been delivered from the new cylinder No. 103. Date of final delivery, 17.3.53

1/- — Job No. 12453 contd. On an order for 120,000 sheets of 120 stamps per sheet, 126,307 have been delivered from the old cylinders 6926 (Int.) and 6935 (Ext.). Final delivery on the 24.2.53.

Air Letter Cards.

6d. — Job No. 4112 contd. On an order for 4,000,000 cards, an additional 1,177,200 have been delivered since the information published in March making the total to date, 2,318,400. New design. Chambon Printing machine.

Pictorial Post Cards.

1d. — Job No. 4115 contd. On an order for 2,720,000 cards, 1,444,032 have now been delivered. Same Printing Chambon machine.

Roll Stamps.

1d. — Job No. 4113. On an order for 12,000 rolls of 506 stamps per roll, and also 7,000 rolls of 1012 stamps per roll, 2,800 of the former and 1,260 of the latter have so far been delivered. Printed in sheets of 264 stamps per sheet from a new one colour cylinder No. 97 and date of first delivery, 19.3.53.

S.W.A. Coronation Stamps.

The following information is given regarding the printing of the five denominations for the South West Africa Coronation issue.

Each value was produced in sheets of 120 stamps from single colour cylinders and the quantities ordered were all delivered on the 21.4.53.

1d.—9,350 sheets. Cylinder No. 122.
2d.—20,364 sheets. Cylinder No. 16.
4d.—3,254 sheets. Cylinder No. 2.
6d.—3,280 sheets. Cylinder No. 38.
1/- — 3,276 sheets. Cylinder No. 29.

Air Letter Cards Overprinted Swaziland.

6d. — Job No. 33,012. Air Letter Cards totalling 14,399 were supplied by the P.M.G. and overprinted SWAZILAND from same formes as before. Delivery date, 17.2.53.

Customs Stamps.

½d. — Job No. 11781. Sheets of ½d. stamps to the total of 999 were supplied by the P.M.G. and overprinted DOUANE from the same block as before. Delivery date 10.2.53.

"Official" Stamps.

The following were supplied by the P.M.G. and overprinted OFFICIAL—OFFISIEEL from the same process blocks as before.

½d.—499 sheets x 240: 1d.—499 sheets x 240.
1½d.—499 sheets x 240: 2d.—499 sheets x 240.
6d.—499 sheets x 240: 1/-—499 sheets x 120.
2/6—499 sheets x 60:5/-—499 sheets x 60.
All delivered on the 27.1.53.

SOUTH AFRICAN COLLECTORS' SOCIETY.

The third issue of "The Springbok" has been distributed to nearly 200 members, in various parts of the world. Need more be said in favour of an immediate subscription of 10/-?

C. E. SHERWOOD
105 MARFORD CRESCENT, SALE,
MANCHESTER, G.B.

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Two Printings of the Coronation Issue.

As mentioned in our Notes last month, two different cylinders—No. 66 and No. 98—were used in the production of the Union Coronation stamps and from reports it is evident that sheets of the two printings were distributed simultaneously and both made available to the public on the first day of issue, namely 3rd June, 1953.



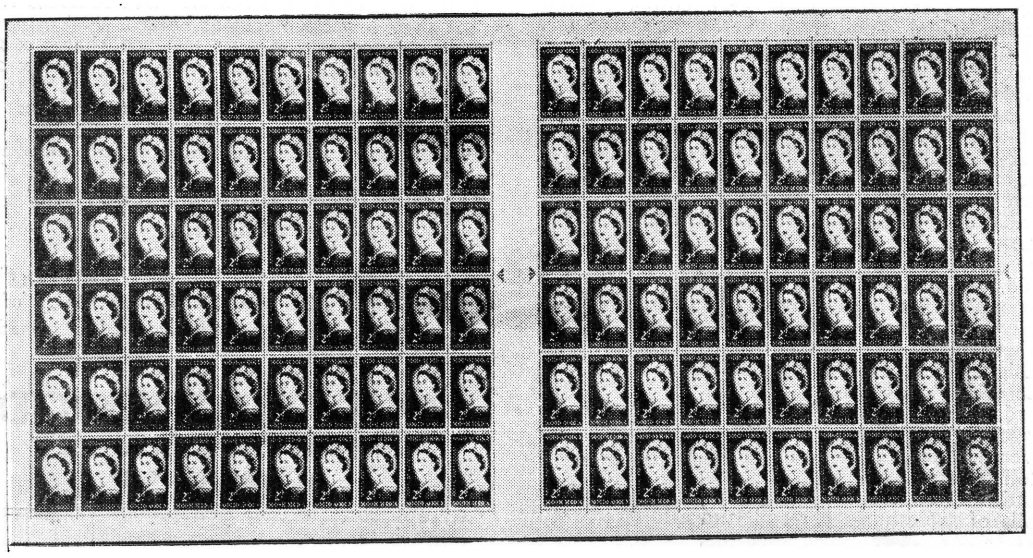


The general description given in our June number for the "66" printing applies equally to the "98" issue and apart from the cylinder number pieces, one or two varieties, and small printing flaws on certain of the stamps, there is really nothing to distinguish between the two printings.

The same glass multopositive plate was undoubtedly employed for the making of both cylinders and one of the characteristics indicating this fact is a small blue dot clearly visible in the right leg of the "O" of SOUTH on **either** the 1st or the 11th stamp in the bottom row of the "66" sheets, or, so far also on the 11th stamp in the bottom row of the "98" printing.

The 1st and 11th stamps of the bottom row in both issues are those under which the respective cylinder numbers are printed so that this little flaw can be quite easily found and its appearance in the design of either the 1st or the 11th stamp is entirely dependent on which of the two-pane gutters the guillotining action was **commenced** when cutting up a ribbon of printed stamps into sheets.

For those who are not conversant with the method of printing these stamps it may be mentioned that the etched images on the surface of the copper cylinder are laid out in the form of two sixty-stamp panes separated from one another by two blank gutters, each the width of a stamp, and set 180 degrees apart. As the cylinder revolves in the course of production, a continuous succession of panes, with a gutter between each, is printed in ribbon form on the roll of paper and after perforating they are divided up into two-pane sheets by a guillotine which is timed to cut along the centre line of every **alternate** gutter.



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A sheet of the Coronation stamps is shown in the accompanying illustration and it will be seen that with the introduction of marginal arrows in the centre gutter — a feature not present on the sheets of the Van Riebeeck stamps issued last year — all the panes and gutters now have the same general appearance. There is no completely blank gutter, such as was present in every alternate separating strip of the Van Riebeeck issue, to guide the machine operator in the division of the ribbon of panes into sheets and consequently it must follow that in the running off of different batches of stamps there will be occasions when the guillotine is set to operate in the **first** of any two-pane gutters and on other occasions, in the **second** gutter.

It becomes evident then that panes of stamps distinguishable by their varieties and small printing flaws as being on the left hand side of some sheets, may quite possibly be found on the right hand side of others, and in bringing this new and interesting feature on Union stamps to the notice of our many enthusiastic collectors we can visualise the difficulties that lie ahead in determining and publishing the position of varieties — especially if the new definitive issue comes out in the same form— and can only ask one and all to to shed a gentle tear of sympathy and understanding when we list a variety as occurring on some particular stamp in the sheet and then some one kindly informs us that we are just **ten positions** out in our numbering!

So far, we know only of an interchange of the panes on the No. 66 sheets and there has been no information to date of a similar feature in the No. 98 issue. We list below some further varieties on these stamps:

Multopositive Flaws.

Cylinder No. 66—Row 4/Stamp 9 or 19.
Cylinder No. 98—Row 4/Stamp 9.
White spot below centre arm and touching upright of letter "F" of AFRICA.

No. 98 CYLINDER FLAWS.

Row 1/11—White diagonal line through "U" of SOUTH.
Row 2/11—White diagonal line through "A" of AFRIKA.
—White diagonal line through "O" of SOUTH.
Row 4/7—Circular mark on neck of Queen.

S.W.A. Coronation Stamps.

Reading through the list of "Recent Printings" published in this number it is of interest to note that the South West Africa Coronation series of five denominations was printed by the Government Printer, Pretoria.

As with the Union issue, the 120 stamps on each sheet were inscribed bilingually and divided into two panes of 60 (each 10 rows by 6) separated by a central gutter between the 10th and 11th rows.

The respective cylinder numbers appear on the right hand margin opposite rows 10 and 20, and in addition to a central arrow in the top and bottom margin there are also two in the separating gutter.

An illustration of the 1/- denomination with particulars of the colours appeared in our April issue.

The Diaeresis Variety on the 1½d. "Officials".

In our March number this year we recorded that in a block of four stamps taken from the top left hand corner of a sheet of the 1½d. "Officials", the recently discovered diaeresis variety was shown to be present on stamps Nos. 1 of the first and second rows of the sheets **but not on** stamps Nos. 2 of the same rows.

The matter is of interest again in locating the various positions where the variety occurs on the sheet for we have now seen a mint horizontal pair taken from the bottom left hand corner which shows the diaeresis mark above the second "E" of OFFISIEEL on **both** stamps. Hence the second stamp in row 12 on the sheet is different from the same numbered items in rows 1 and 2.

Unusual Varieties on Recent 1d. Pictorial Stamps.

Two varieties of the non-constant type, which appeared on copies of the Plate XXV (Cyl. Nos. 6925/36) 1d. pictorial stamps, have recently been shown to us and are illustrated below.



That on the left, submitted by Mrs. J. A. Erasmus of Pretoria, is an example of one of eighteen known copies which had apparently formed part of a column in a sheet of the 1d. stamps purchased at one of the local post offices last October. The majority were used up at the time for the additional 1d. revenue on cheques and following her discovery of the flaw, Mrs. Erasmus was only able to secure one unused copy.

The other item is, so far, a mint singleton in the possession of Dr. C. L. L. Murray of Kuils River, Cape Province, and he would be interested to know if anyone else has come across a similar variety.

Coronation Pre-Dated Covers.

The existence of at least one Union cover bearing a 2d. Coronation stamp and the cancellation date of **June 2nd** is recorded by Mr. I. Dekenah of Cape Town.

Being desirous of obtaining two covers postmarked on the actual Coronation day (2nd June) and also on the first day of issue of the Union commemorative stamp (3rd June) Mr. Dekenah affixed 3d. Royal Visit Union stamps of 1947 to the letters and posted them on Table Mountain on the 2nd June.

They were duly delivered next morning postmarked TABLE MOUNTAIN—2.6.53 and after affixing 2d. Coronation stamps on each he reposted them in the city in order to get the First Day Cancellation. One came back postmarked CAPE TOWN—3.6.53 and to his sur-

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prise the other arrived with the Coronation stamp cancelled TABLE MOUNTAIN—2.6.53.

Mr. W. Kriste of Pretoria mentions in a letter that he has a piece with a Union Coronation stamp machine cancelled in Johannesburg with the date "4. IV. 53" instead of "4. VI. 53". He adds that someone had evidently inadvertently transposed the Roman numerals on that particular day for the mail that came through on the 5th June was correctly dated.

Incidently we note that such places as ELIZABETHSFONTEIN in Namaqualand, WESTMINSTER in the Orange Free State and CORONATION in Natal all had particularly appropriate names for the collectors of First Day Covers.

IN SUPPORT OF THE "DARMSTADT TRIALS"

(Eight brief points from a talk given at the O.F.S. Philatelic Society.)
By Dr. K. FREUND.

(1) Read the detailed account given in "The London Philatelist" (Journal of the "Royal Philatelic Society"), October 1950, by Victor W. Dix, F.R.P.S.L.—Prof. Dix was given all possible facilities for a thorough study of this matter. His account is more authentic than the limited statement made by the Government Printer at a more recent date.

(2) The Darmstadt "Trial Printings" were **not** made solely to test the Goebels rotogravure machines; these machines were world-famous and renowned and did actually not require any additional testing. The printings were specifically made to find out whether in the case of our Union stamps this **new type of rotogravure process was suitable and practical to replace the old typograph process.** They were proper "trial printings" in the true sense, and were indeed **the very first stages in the evolution** of the first rotogravure issue. To appreciate this point, it is most important to know that there were in particular also **"Ink Trials"** (various, with German and with English inks), also "Paper" and "Gumming Trials", all of which were less concerned with machine testing, but represented **"experimental printings"** to determine which was **the most suitable material and process** for the next 1d. issue to replace the old typographed issue.

(3) **Any** product of the earliest experimental printing stages, if and when it becomes available (through proper channels or otherwise), is of the greatest interest to the philatelic student (even unaccepted artists' designs and essays are of interest).

The "Darmstadt Trials" are particularly interesting and **important** for a reason which has been overlooked by everyone so far: They are the **original examples (essays) where for the first time the characteristic rotogravure design and letter style appears** which was to become so typical for the definite rotogravure issues! They presented, **for the first time,** the "R" with the short, straight foot and the other "roto" characteristics!

(4) The "Darmstadt Trials" are **"official"** items: They were printed

(a) **on instructions** from agents of the **Union Government;**

(b) on the **proper rotogravure machine** which is **still in use at the Government Printing Works (!);**

(c) **from proper cylinders** manufactured in the proper manner on official instructions from officially supplied specimen material.—What more does one want? Surely they have at least a similar status as official "reprints" have which are considered worthy of philatelic study and listing.

("Reprints" are printings made from the proper plates or cylinders, but not during the official period of the printing job.)

(5) If the philatelic world has to be safeguarded against "this mass of rubbish" (term used by the Sub-Committee of the Federation), then **just for this reason** it should be put on record and listed in a Specialised Handbook to show the difference from normal issues. Even Forgeries (frequent and important types) are considered of interest by the serious collector and are included in Handbooks and collections for reference.

(6) The laconic argument of the Sub-Committee that the "Darmstadt Trials" are to be despised and ignored simply because they are "unfortunate replicas" and "imitations" of the genuine stamps, does not convince. The words "replicas" and "imitations" are very vague expressions and need not, in principle, convey anything wrong, as this example might illustrate: A "second" printing is always the "replica" or "imitation" of a "first" printing, is it therefore to be despised and ignored?

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To be quite exact however: **All rotogravure issues are "replicas" of the Darmstadt Trials!** It is exactly the opposite from what the Sub-Committee alleges. The "Darmstadt Trials" were created first and were the **antecedents** from which the definite issues were "imitatel" (to use the Sub-Committee's expression) and evolved. One must remember that the rotogravure characteristics of the design and letter style appeared for the first time in the "Darmstadt Trials". It is therefore not clear how the Sub-Committee can sall them "unfortunate replicas."

(7) Why **Booysen's** product, the "1d. Springbok", should be singled out, recognised and listed "definitely" as an "official essay," is not clear and has never been explained by the Editors of the Handbook nor by the Sub-Committee. It should be just the reverse. Booysen's item is nothing but the private effort of a working man doing some general printing **exercises** to become efficient in printing. The Editors of the Handbook and the Sub-Committee obviously do **not** realize that during Booysen's apprenticeship there was **no intention whatever, nor any thought of changing the existing 1d. "ship" design,** to a new "Springbok" design or to any other design. The "long-necked, hornless Springbok" was neither a proposed essay nor any other stage in the evolution of a postage stamp, but just the expression of a whim **without** any relevance. In contrast to this, the majority of the "Darmstadt Trials", besides being "official", present interesting material for study and comparison with the definite issues.

(8) The very harsh **"threat"** that **"possessors of 'Darmstadt Trials' might be liable to prosecution"** (see Editorial, "S.A. Philatelist," June 1953), should not cause any panic among well-meaning Union collectors. Many essays, proofs, colour-trials and forgeries "could conceivably be used for postal purposes" though not valid for franking, but the possession of all these items is considered in practice not illegal, if they are clearly defined and annotated as to their true character and status.

LOURENCO MARQUES EXHIBITION.

The exhibition, celebrating the centenary of Portuguese stamps, runs from 23 July to 2 August.

To commemorate it a set of three stamps will be issued and special covers, printed in three colours are being prepared by the Mocambique Philatelic Society for use at the exhibition post office on the first day of issue. A special cancelling stamp will be applied.

The exhibition is competitive and awards, judged on research, illustration, appearance and value, will be gold, silver or bronze medals which are being struck in Lisbon.
No entry fees, but postages and insurance, if any, must be arranged by exhibitors.

Intending visitors wishing to make hotel reservations should communicate well in advance with the Secretary, Clube Filatélico de Mocambique, PO. Box 720, Lourenco Marques.

BULAWAYO CONGRESS AND EXHIBITION.



The Special Exhibition Stamps. There are similar ones with 'Northern Rhodesia' and 'Nyasaland' in place of 'Southern Rhodesia.'

SWAZILAND.

"Fyndheim" in "Stamp Collecting" reports the 1d. K.G. VI perf. 13½ x 14 used as ungetable in London. This is officially still the current 1d. stamp.

Mbabane got a new canceller, used first on 3rd June, but there is nothing specially "Coronation" about it, and it is now in everyday use.

NYASALAND.

The latest number of the Journal of the Rhodesian Study Circle reports the recent introduction of Meter Posts. Two types, Universal and Neopost, are in use—the former in October, 1952 and the latter since 10 Dec., 1952.

A special postmark was used for 1st day covers (2nd June), applied "on request".

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AIR MAIL NOTES.

B.O.A.C. "Comet" Crash—2 May 1953.

A B.O.A.C. "Comet" Jetliner, bound from Sngapore for London, crashed in a storm soon soon after taking off from Calcutta on May 2nd with the tragic loss of 42 lives.

It is pognantly ironical that the accident should have occurred exactly one year, to the day, after B.O.A.C. had opened the World's first jet service (London to Johannesburg). During those twelve months B.O.A.C. "Comets" made some 250 return flights on the routes Great Britain to South Africa, Colombo, Singapore and Tokyo without any major mishap, and carried nearly 28,000 passengers.

A certain quantity of badly scorched mail was salvaged from the wreck, enclosed in Official covers at Calcutta, and forwarded to destinations. The enclosing envelopes bear a rubber stamp impression in purple (2½ x 11/16 in.) reading: "SALVAGED MAIL/"Comet" Crash, Near Calcutta/2nd May 1953."

Others (four have been received in South Africa) also shows damage by water, the stamps having come off, but in two cases the above cachet was directly on the original cover, not enclosed in an official envelope. On most there is an interesting error in the cachet — a capital "G" instead of a "C" in Calcutta, but in one of the four this error has been corrected.

South African Airways.

Two new services were commenced in May 1953, mails being carried in each direction, by "Skymaster" aircraft.

First Direct—WINDHOEK to CAPE TOWN —4th May—Return flight 6th May. Four and a half hours.

First Direct—UPINGTON to CAPE TOWN —7th May—Return flight 8th May. Two and a half hours.

I. H. C. GODFREY.

AIR MAIL RATES UP.

As from 1st July the Union air postal rates for letters per ½oz., postcards, and aerogrammes (air letter forms) will be raised. Charges to the following countries of the three categories will be: United Kingdom and Ireland, 1/3, 8d., 6d.; U.S.A. and Canada, 2/3, 1/2, 1/-; Australia and New Zealand, 3/-, 1/6, 1/-.

AUSTRALIA.

Three stamps, 3½d., 7½d. and 2/- are to be issued early in 1954 to commemorate the visit of H.M. The Queen and His Royal Highness the Duke of Edinburgh. Designs will be announced later.

The Brighton and District Philatelic Society is to hold an exhibition from 3-5 September. They are issuing special covers and there will be a special cancellation. These may be had at a cost of 3d. (S.A. currency) plus postage required, 1d. extra for registration, from A. Jasper-Bakon, 239 Hawthorn Road, Caulfield, Victoria, Australia.

A 3d. stamp of the permanent Q.E. set was issued on 17 June; it is of the same size and design as the 3½d. issued on 21 April. A similar 1d. is in course of preparation and will appear soon.

The late Mr. Murgatroyd...



Mr. Murgatroyd *always* **had train trouble —until he passed the headaches on to the South African Railways Travel Bureau. Now, whenever he contemplates a holiday or business trip, he has all the details—tickets, hotel accommodation, meals and bedding ... in short, everything—organised by the Travel Bureau's specialists. From the outset he is confident of a comfortable, carefree trip. All he does now is make up his mind to go ... the South African Railways Travel Bureau does the rest!**

★ *For details of travel anywhere in Africa—or the world—see your nearest South African Railways Travel Bureau. There are two in Johannesburg, one in Pretoria, and eleven others throughout Southern Africa—or ask your local Station Master. He will help you!*



T/I/E

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STAMPS OF THE U.S.A.

By

W. LOXLEY CHAMINGS.

(Continued from page 108 of June issue.)

The earliest person to appear on a stamp of the States is Vasco de Balboa, who first visited America in 1500, made his first landing and was the first to sight the Pacific thirteen years later. The next stamp shows the fortalice in Porto Rico which the Spaniards began to build in 1529, and thirteen years after that, Cabrillo, a Portuguese navigator, landed at San Diego, shown on the next. Twenty years later, another stone was laid in early American history when Jean Ribaut, leading a group of French Huguenots, established a colony in Mayport, Florida. The Spanish Governor, who had sworn he would drive all Protestants from the New World, massacred the entire colony, and the next stamp shows the stone that marks the tragedy. Then comes the redoubtable John Smith, and the fascinating figure of Pocahontas, who rescued him from death at the hands of her father's tribe, 1626. It is fitting that at this point we should have a glimpse of the New York skyline, for in 1609 the ill-fated Henry Hudson established a trading-post here, soon to be known as New Amsterdam and finally New York. Next, the Charter Oak in Connecticut, whose place is now taken by a monument, witnesses to the following romantic story. By 1635 certain dissatisfied members of the Massachusetts Bay Colony had moved into the valley of the Connecticut and settled near Harford. Sir Edmund Andros, the new Royal Governor from England, arrived at Harford and demanded that the Connecticut Colony surrender its charter. The box containing the charter was placed before him, and suddenly the lights were extinguished and the charter vanished, only to be found years later when the danger had passed, in the hollow of this tree about a mile from Harford.

A few more notes of these early days, and I must then leave the stamps to speak for themselves. The next three people are Roger Williams, a Puritan Preacher who founded the first Baptist Church in the States, William Penn, the Quaker son of an English admiral, a wise and far-seeing colonist after whom the State of Pennsylvania is named, and General Oglethorpe, Governor of Georgia, who at one time had the famous John Wesley as his Chaplain and his brother Charles as his Secretary. The great City of St. Louis, founded in 1746, is seen in the background of the next stamp, with the Eads Bridge, the first to span the mighty Mississippi, in the foreground. It is a regular Mark Twain scene, with the boats plying up and down the river that virtually divides the land in two. Then follow the heroic figures of America's struggle for independence — George Washington, with Martha Custis his wife, both born in 1732, the amazing Benjamin Franklin (note the superb engraving of this stamp) his senior statesman, Nathan Hale who perished at 21 in trying to obtain information of the enemy, and four other soldiers, John Sullivan of New Hampshire, two Europeans who rallied to the cause of American independence, Count Pulaski from Lithuania and General von Steuben from Prussia, and Alexander Hamilton, later Secretary of the Treasury, killed in a duel with Aaron Burr. Then the Liberty Bell of the Philadelphia Fathers, which rang out at the Declaration of Independence in 1776, Carlyle House and Gadsby's Tavern in Alexandria, headquarters of several of Washington's generals, and his own headquarters at Newburgh, from which peace was declared in 1783. A few stamps later we see a portrait of Gilbert Charles Stuart, one of America's greatest artists, the first of a long gallery of men and women famous as authors, poets, educationalists, scientists, composers, artists, inventors and so forth.

Another series of stamps celebrate the attainment of statehood by successive territories, often depicting their capitols, generally buildings of the most impressive character. All the Presidents are here, in the order of their office, with the exception of Hoover, Franklin Roosevelt and Truman, 29 in all, and though to be sure a few of them were men of no heroic stature, it must be conceded that on the whole America has been extremely well served by men of distinction and devotion. They must also be pretty tought to survive the ordeals of candidature!

1803 witnessed the amazing Louisiana Purchase, whereby Napoleon sold the greater part of the Mississippi basin, just about half the present area of the whole country, to the States for $15,000,000! The five stamps issued in 1904 to commemorate this event are all of intense interest.

For the rest, I bid you note specially the beautiful stamp where Captain John Charles Frémont hoists the flag on one of the highest peaks of the Rockies in 1842, the handsome features of Stephen Collins Foster to whom we owe those deathless plantation songs but who, alas; drank himself to death at 37, the little gallery of worthy women, Louisa May Alcott, of "Little Women" fame, Frances Willard, the Social Reformer, Clara Barton, Pioneer of the American Red Cross, Jane Addams, Pioneer of the Women's International League, Juliette Low, known as Uncle Sam's Favourite Daughter, Pioneer of Girl Scouts, and Moina Michael, originator of Flanders Field Poppy Day. For them their countryman, Walt Whitman might well have written his "Pioneers", and they have done more for the world than all the bigwigs put together. And I think we will put with them gay, gallant Will Rogers, for he would shine in such a company, with his irrepressible smile and his dictum, writ large on his stamp, **"I never met a man"** (and here I am sure "man" is common gender) **"I didn't like!"**

CORONATIONS.

The four British stamps (2½d., 4d., 1/3 and 1/6) are elegant stamps, beautifully produced; the 1/3 design is rather less attractive than the others. There was also a special air letter card of a very pleasant design.

The Colonial stamps, of uniform design throughout, with centre vignette in black and frame in colour are magnificent bits of work.

The Southern African Protectorates had official first-day covers.

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O.F.S.

1896 "½d." ON 3d. ULTRAMARINE.

By

S. G. LAURENCE.

Due to the stock of the ½d. chestnut (S.G. 48) having been exhausted the 3d. ultramarine was utilized and surcharged with a large "½D." (S.G. 69/75). It is generally accepted that this provisional issue was made in November 1896 but from copies I have seen, it is evident that the stamps were available to the public at an earlier date. Mr. Morris of New York mentions in last year's February number of the South African Philatelist that he has several copies with dates ranging between October 5th-10th. I have a block of four (S.G. 75) bearing the Trommel single circle date stamp with the date October 1 '96. This should prove conclusively that the issue was made in October and probably on the first of that month.

I should say without hesitation that all philatelists have been puzzled at one time or other by the close resemblance between types (a) and (b) and types (e) and (f) which, it is alleged only differ in the serif of the "1". Types (a) and (e) have a curved and sloping serif whilst the serifs of types (b) and (f) are horizontal or sometimes sloping upwards in the case of type (f).

(a) (b) (c) (d) (e) (f) (g)

Quite often the impressions are so weak as to make it impossible to distinguish at least between the supposed types (a) and (b). Notwithstanding the reports current at the time of the issue that there were seven types, and that most present day philatelists have accepted the existence of seven distinct types, I should like now to put forward the suggestion that in actual fact there were only five types. It has already been established that the original sheets of the definitive issues were printed in London by Messrs. De La Rue and Co. in four panes of sixty stamps each. The surcharging however, was undertaken locally, and it is evident that the machine used was not large enough to surcharge a whole sheet at once. The setting proves that the upper panes were done at one operation and the lower panes at another, and thus the upper and lower halves of the sheet correspond.

Now let us examine closely the setting described in "Africa Pt. III 1906" and which was agreed by Edward Moseley, F.R.P.S.L. in the Philatelic Journal of Great Britain No. 592 Vol. L. Page 58. April 1940.

a a a a a a	a a a a b b
a a a a a a	b a b a b a
a b a a a a	a a a b a b
a a a a b b	a a b a b a
c c d d d d	d d d d d b
f f f f c c	c c c c c c
e e e e e f	f f f f f f
g g g g f f	f e f e e e
g g g g g g	g g g g g g
g g g g g g	g g g g g g

From an examination of various illustrations and actual panes I have seen or possess, I am not so sure that the above setting is correct. There is no doubt that the placing of types (c), (d) and (g) is accurate enough, but the placing of some of the supposed types (a) and (b) I do not agree, and in regard to come of the types (e) and (f) I am unable to say.

It is of considerable interest that when reading the setting across the two panes, from right to left, it is disclosed that there are:—

49 of types (a) and (b) mixed	followed by
9 of type (d)	followed by
10 of type (c)	followed by
24 of types (e) and (f) mixed	followed by
28 of type (g)	
120 (complete setting).	

I find it hard to understand that the printer, when setting up the type, should have been so accurate in the order of types (c), (d) and (g), and yet have become so confused in the order of types (a) and (b) and types (e) and (f). Personally I do not believe that the printer did become confused but that it is simply a question of philatelists finding more varieties of type than were intended and that these differences were there when the surcharging was commenced, perhaps because the four types in question (or at least some of them) had been used previously for another purpose and the serifs of the "1" had become damaged. In the short time at his disposal, the printer was unable to obtain a fresh supply of type and so had to use what was to hand in his own stock.

The printing of this surcharge was far from satisfactory and was soon replaced by a further surcharge of a different type reading "Half Penny" in two lines.

I appreciate that what I am raising now will be a contentious point, but if proved or agreed upon by the majority, it should eliminate in the future all uncertainty as to whether a type (a) is a type (b) or a type (e) is an (f). It will be noted too that there is a substantial difference in the price of S.G. 69/70 and S.G. 73/4 — so often do we find a damaged type (a) being offered as (b) or a badly formed (f) as (e).

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GREAT BRITAIN.

A special Coronation 6d. Air Letter form with impressed stamp was on sale from 3rd June onwards. Special machine postmarks were in use at most head post offices between 3 and 30 June; these had a crown and "Long live the Queen."

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Marginal block of 4	15/-
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3d. VERY DEEP ULTRAMARINE:

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Gutter block of 4	17/6
Ditto, missing Jub. line	30/-
Damaged K of Afrika, in block	25/-
Damaged A of Afrika, in block	25/-
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Plate number block	25/-
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As above, but Plate number block	63/-

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Marginal block of 4	15/-
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Cash with Order; Postfree.

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B.P.A.

Box 1117 ——— BLOEMFONTEIN

B. J. HUNTER

We have been extremely busy with the new Coronation issues and in consequence this present advertisement is rather a jumble of odds and ends (but most of them are of more than normal interest).

S. Africa 1932 1d. Union cat. 37K (V.G.) joined paper in block of 6, **£7 10s. 0d.**

Cayman Is. 1907. Set S.G. 13-16 overprinted "Specimen", **£3.**

Ascension 1924/33 6d. S.G. 16, a pair showing Plate No. and 'Cleft in Rock' variety, **£5.**

Australia 1938 vbgk

Australia 1915/28 £2, S.G. 46, **£21.**

Barbados 1938 ½d. S.G. 248a, block of four, **£12.**

Bermuda 1938, £1, S.G. 121, **£7 10s. 0d.**

Gt. Britain 1856/58 1d. S.G. 41, a marginal block of 12 lettered KA/KD-MA/MD, **£3 10s. 0d.**

Gt. Britain 1924/26 1½d., S.G. 420 a, Tête-bêche pair, **£10.**

Hong Kong 1863/74 96c, S.G. 18 superb used **£5 10s.**

Kenya 1935/36 1/- S.G. 118a, Used, **£2 10s. 0d.**

Malta 1922/25, £1, S.G. 136 superb Used, **£4.**

Nyasaland 1903/4 £1, S.G. 66, **£5 10s. 0d.**

Rhodesia 1913/22 £1, S.G. 278, **£4 7s. 6d.**
£1 S.G. 279, misplaced Head, far to left, **£5.**
£1 S.G. 279a, **£6.**
£1 S.G. 279b Hand painted over cap, **£10.**

Rhodesia 1922/25 1d. S.G. 286, **£2 17s. 6d.**

St. Vincent 1913 £1 S.G. 118. Used, **£4 5s. 0d.**

S. Africa 1913/21 £1 S.G. 24, **£12 10s. 0d.**
1927/28 2/6, S.G. 37, **£2.**
5/- S.G. 38, **£4.**

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KING HALFPENNY

By
S. J. HAGGER and G. I. FAERBER.

When in March, 1937, the "S.A. Philatelist" commenced publishing data from the Government Printer regarding the quantities of stamps printed and the numbers of the cylinders used to produce them, specialist collectors of the stamps of South Africa were entitled to believe that the identification of the various printings would be made easy. However, a reference to page 50 of the "Standard Catalogue" of these stamps published in 1946, where the cylinder numbers used for printing one of the Roto Hyphenated ½d. stamps could not be quoted or to that well tabulated summary of the printing changes of these stamps published in the "S.A. Philatelist" of April, 1949, where we read "Question but possibly" and "Possibly — or —" shows that this has proved not to be the case.

In an endeavour to clear up this mystery, the writers decided to take out a summary of all information regarding the printings of ½d. pictorial postage stamps supplied by the Government Printer and published in the "S.A. Philatelist" from time to time. Then by working backward and forward from the printings to which cylinder numbers could be allocated, we attempted to identify them all by a process of elimination. It had to be a summary, because working from ever so many different numbers of the magazine, even when bound and indexed, would have proved too difficult. This summary is appended.

Issue of "S.A.P."	First Date of Delivery to P.M.G.	Centre Cylinder Number	Frame Cylinder Number	No. of Sheets Printed
March and May, 1937.	4th February 1937.	52	51	122000
Dec. 1937 and February, 1938	23rd November 1937.	6934	26	84000
September 1938.	2nd August 1938.	31	6932	229675
June 1939.	9th February 1939.	6933	7014	61000
June 1939.	23rd February 1939.	6920	16	181150
June 1939 & Sept. 1940	25th April 1939.	25	7019	780000
June, September & Dec. 1941, March, June, Aug. & Nov. 1942	29th April 1941.	60	21	433000
November 1946, February, April & August 1947	8th May 1946.	60	49	330275
August & November 1947	17th April 1947.	6912	7019	119500
Nov. 1947, March & June 1948	28th August 1947.	48	6933	685010
November 1947.	4th September 1947.	48	45	19500
March 1948	30th September 1947.	6916	29	66500
March 1948	22nd December 1947.	6912	6933	72000
June 1948	16th March 1948.	25	6912	173400 (x 180)
January 1949	1st June, 1948.	86	82	355000
June 1949	14th December, 1948.	7020A	7020B	238000

It will be seen that the summary concludes with the screened centre and screened frame printing from cylinders numbers 7020A and 7020B because once these cylinder numbers were printed in the sheet margins, everything became straightforward. This also provided a most suitable starting point for the investigation, and we worked backward from here.

It is well known that the printing which preceded that from cylinders numbers 7020A and 7020B had unscreened centres and screened frames and marginal arrows of the "venetian blind" pattern. This printing could with certainty be allocated cylinders numbers 86 and 82. Of course, there was no doubt either about the 180 stamp sheet printing ffrom cylinders 25 and 6912.

Continuing to work back from here, we were immediately confronted with the difficulty that there were 14 recorded sets of cylinders while we knew of only 12 different printings. It is generally accepted that since the design was redrawn in 1937, nine sets of cylinders were used for printing these stamps in the large size (18½ mm. x 22½ mm.) one set for the intermediate size (18¼ mm. x 22⅛ mm.), and two in the reduced size (18 mm. x 22 mm.) preceded the 180 stamp sheet printing. These two printings in the reduced size had unscreened centres firstly in combination with unscreened "crosshatched" frames and then with coarse screened frames. There is no doubt about our starting point because published information made it quite clear that the first printing in the redrawn design was made from Cylinders 52 and 51.

It occurred to us that the only way to break this deadlock was to try to identify one or more sets of cylinders at some intervening point and work backward and forward from here. We chose as this intervening point cylinders numbers 60 and 21, and 60 and 49, as we knew that the last two of the frame cylinders of the 18½ mm. x 22½ mm. size were in fact used with a common interior cylinder. Frame Cylinder No. 21 had "solid" type arrows placed at top and bottom approximately 5 mm. from the stamps, and the other Frame Cylinder No. 49 had the arrows at top and bottom spaced nearer and characterised by large white splotches. This frame cylinder No. 49 can also be identified by the white mark over the "UT" of SOUTH on row 20/11. When a marginal bottom right corner block of four stamps from Cylinders 60 and 49 is compared with a similar block of four

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from Cylinders 60 and 21, the sloping black marks in the margin, one next to Row 19/12, and the other below and to the right of Row 20/12, prove that they are from the same interior Cylinder No. 60. There are, of course, other marks which are common to these two printings and which are not found in any of the others.

The quantity of stamps given as having been printed from Cylinders Nos. 60 and 49 appears to be incorrect, but of that more anon.

Working forward from this point (Cylinders 60 and 49) we allocated Cylinders 5912 and 7019 to the intermediate size (18¼ x 22½ mm.) where we believe our supposition is confirmed by the quantity of stamps given as having been printed (119,500 sheets) which would make this printing neither scarce nor common. This is in fact the case.

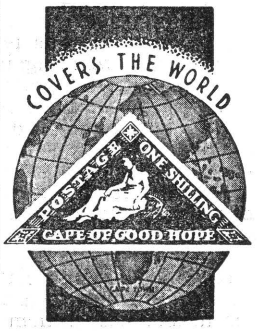
We were now left with four sets of cylinders to be divided between two printings, namely the "crosshatched" and "coarse screened" frames. On checking very carefully the actual stamps of these issues in our collections we noticed that the two top left corners of the "cross hatched" issue each had a large black blob in the top margin well above and slightly to the left of the first stamp, while of these a block of six (3 x 2) did **not** have the multopositive mark between the springbok's horns on Row 1/3 which we understood had appeared in this position on all sheets in the reduced size (i.e. from the crosshatched printing onwards). As we seemed to be making headway, we checked this material in the collections of Dr. Berry and Mr. W. N. Sheffield, which they kindly made available, and we found that their corresponding crosshatched stamps did show this multopositive mark. It was now quite clear that there were in fact two sets of cylinders used to print the stamps with "cross hatched" frames.

The appearance of the springbok on the stamps printed from the earlier centre cylinder of the two cross hatched printings is quite different. Except for the inside of its left horn, the outlines of the horns do not consist of a solid but two outer thin irregular lines with white and black spaces between them, also the horizontal lines to the left of the design merge into the outline of the face giving it a mottled appearance, quite different from the subsequent springbok heads of the second printing which originate from the multopositive still in use at the present time for printing the all-screened ½d. stamps and in which the outlines of the horns and face consist of solid lines. The two "cross-hatched" frame cylinders are both from the multopositive which is still in use and it is only the arrows which differ.

It would be natural to assume that these stamps with unscreened centres and "cross-hatched" frames would have been printed immediately after those in the "intermediate" size and before those with "coarse-screened" frames. Therefore they should be assigned the next two sets of cylinders in the Summary, viz. 48 and 6933, and 48 and 45, but the objections to this, however, were twofold. In the first place 685010 sheets could not possibly have been printed from either of the "cross-hatched" cylinders, so that cylinder 6933 could not have been used to print anything but the "coarse-screened" frame stamps which are comparatively plentiful: secondly, the centre cylinder number 48 mentioned in these two combinations was almost certainly one and the same, seeing the dates of use were so close together. In fact this repetition in the summary of centre cylinder No. 48 (almost certainly the same) and frame cylinder No. 6933 (probably the same) represented a great problem. If we were correct in placing frame cylinder number 6933 as the "coarse-screened" one, then probably it was used again but with a different centre cylinder No. 6912 for a small printing later on (as will be seen by reference to the Summary). A careful study of our material showed that this was most probably so as in a small proportion of these stamps the centres did have a different appearance. Those which we knew came from cylinder 48 showed a "lightness" in the horizontal lines to the left of the design where they joined the base of the ear, which was absent in the smaller printing which we decided belonged to cylinders 6912 and 6933.

At this stage, knowing that we required more material to identify cylinders 6912 and 6933, Mr. Sheffiell very kindly made available his complete sheets of ½d. stamps.

In studying these sheets we made the surprising discovery that there were two very similar screened frame cylinders which had been used in combination with one common centre cylinder, because in both combinations the "split ear", R.5/11, and other flaws were present. These two frame cylinders are so much alike that no one had apparently suspected that there was a difference, but there was no doubt about it. On



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the newly discovered frame cylinder, the screening is not so coarse and although the top and the side arrows are identical, the bottom arrow is larger, and the "white flower" R5/8 is absent. In addition, there is a frame flaw consisting of a small white mark below the "I" of SUID R10/7, which is not found in the first more coarsely screened frame cylinder.

The centre cylinder with the "split ear" must obviously be No. 48, the frame cylinder with the "white flower" 6933 and the newly discovered frame cylinder 45, so that we had now accounted for the combinations of cylinders 48 and 6933 and 48 and 45. Unfortunately Mr. Sheffield had no sheet to which we could allocate cylinder Nos. 6912 and 6933, nor have we in the meantime been able to prove anything in this regard, though we feel sure we are correct in assuming that there was a printing from a centre cylinder No. 6912 without the "split ear" used in combination with frame cylinder No. 6933 with the "white flower".

The problem had been solved, or rather "oversolved" because we were now in the position where we knew of more combinations of cylinders that we had numbers to allocate to them. The last remaining numbers 6916 and 29 we decided must belong to the second "cross-hatched" combination, and the first therefore went un-numbered.

We were now able to draw up a list of Rotogravure ½d. stamps giving the various combinations of cylinders, as follows:—

Combination Number	Centre Plate Number.	Centre Cylinder Number	Frame Plate Number	Identification	Frame Cylinder Number
1	1	—	1	Unhyphenated	—
2	1A	—	2	do.	—
3	2	—	3	do.	—
4	3	30	4	Hyphenated	7016
5	4	52	5	Redrawn	51
6	5	6934	6	do.	26
7	6	31	7	do.	6932
8	7	6933	8	do.	7014
9	8	6920	9	do.	16
10	9	25	10	do.	7019
11	10	—	11	do.	—
12	11	60	12	do.	21
13	11	60	13	do.	49
14	12	6912	14	Intermediate Size	7019
15	13	—	15	Cross-hatched Unscreened	—
16	14	48	16	Coarse-Screened	6933
17	14	48	17	Medium-Screened	45
18	15	6916	18	Cross-hatched Unscreened	29
19	16	6912	16	Coarse Screened	6933
20	17	25	19	180 Stamp Sheet	6912
21	18	86	20	Venetian Blind Arrows	82
22	19	7020A	21	All Screened	7020B
23	19	7020A	22	do.	11B
24	20	11A	22	do.	11B
25	21	31	23	do.	70

While we should not look a gift horse in the mouth, and it is agreed that the information regarding stamp printings published in "Union Notes" from time to time has been of the utmost value, we have been forced to the conclusion that as far as the halfpenny stamps are concerned there have been at least two occasions when this information was not accurate.

The first of these occurred, we suggest, after September, 1940, as up to that number the information published tallies fairly well with the stamps as we know them. Judging by the large number of shades, and the fact that arrow blocks of this printing are available we can with a fair degree of certainty assign Cylinders Nos. 25 and 7019 to Combination No. 10, and we agree with the Handbook/Catalogue that in the case of the following Combination No. 11, cylinder numbers were not notified. For reasons previously stated cylinders 60 and 21 must be allocated to Combination No. 12, and 60 and 49 to No. 13; but there could not possibly have been 330,275 sheets printed from this Combination No. 13, because if it were so it would be expected that the stamps would be plentiful. This, however, is not so: unused copies are extremely scarce, in fact much scarcer than the "cross-hatched", and used copies even more so in our experience. In the November 1946 issue of the "S.A.P." the first reference to these cylinders mentions cylinders 60 and 49 "as before", further confirmation we suggest that there is some confusion at this period.

The next period about which there is uncertainty, is about November, 1947, when again we have no cylinder numbers to allocate to Combination No. 15 which we have assumed to be the printing with "cross-hatched" frames and centres from the uncommon multopositive. If we are correct in allocating Cylinders Nos. 6916 and 29 (Combination No. 18) to the printing with "cross-hatched" frames and centres from the common multopositive, and there is virtually no other alternative because Combinations 16, 17 and 19 are determined, it would seem that the method of printing was changed from screening of the frames back to unscreened, then over to screening again. However, the sequence of

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delivery to the Postmaster General, was not necessarily the sequence in which the stamps were printed.

In conclusion we have therefore to admit defeat in that we could not accomplish the task we attempted, but we have changed the problem from one of too many cylinders to that of too few, and we hope that interest will be stimulated in the study of this fascinating springbok head stamp of South Africa. Although the lowest in value of the series it is the greatest in interest — in fact "King Halfpenny".

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KEY TO NATAL'S CHALON PORTRAIT STAMPS.

By
OSWALD L. HARVEY.

(Reproduced from "Stamps")

In this KEY to the stamps of Natal on which the Chalon portrait of Queen Victoria is engraved, the term "specimen" is used to indicate a stamp on which the word SPECIMEN or the word CANCELLED has been overprinted. After each regular issued item, other than these specimens and a few die or plate proofs, a parenthetical note gives the catalogue numbers of the item in (S) Scott standard catalogue, vol. I, 1952; (R) Robson Lowe Encyclopaedia, vol. II, 1949; and (G) Stanley Gibbons 1949 catalogue, part I, sec. A as identified by Lowe.

One Penny.

No overprint:
- Wmk. small star, perf. 14-16 (rough) rose-red shades (S14; R13; G15) '62 —imperf., proof.
- Wmk. Crown CC, perf. 12½.
  - brown-lake to lake (S15b; R16; G20) '64.
  - —imperf., plate proof
  - rose-carmine (S15; R17; G21) '64
  - imperf., plate proof
  - deep bright rose (S15a; R18; G22) '68
  - —imperf., plate proof
- No wmk.
  - brownish-lake, perf. 13 (S10; R14; G18) '63
  - —imperf., plate proof
  - carmine-lake, perf. 13 (S10; R15; G19) '63
  - —imperf., plate proof
  - carmine-red, die proof of R14-15
  - carmine, perf. 14 (large holes) (S8; R8; G9) '60
  - rose (on thick card), plate proof of R8
  - black, plate proof of R8
  - black, die proof of R8

Overprinted:
- op 10d. on R-14-15 (not a surcharge)
- op POSTAGE Half-penny, with barlines on yellow (S61; R51; G90) '77
- op POSTAGE vertically twice
  - 13-14 mm., serif
    - brownish-lake (S45, 45a; R42; G65) '74
    - —op. on one side only.
  - 14 mm., sans-serif
    - rose to vermilion shades (S38; R31; G60) '70
    - imperf., proof
    - also CANCELLED, specimen
- op POSTAGE horizontally once

ALL CAPS., no period
- 14½ mm. (13 mm. is fraud) '75
  - brownish-lake (S48; R45; G81)
  - yellow (S47; R46; G82)
- 12½ mm. (tall thin letters) '67
  - brownish-lake to lake (S34a; R22e; G26)
  - rose-carmine (S34; R23e; G27)

ALL CAPS, with period
- 13 mm., serif (modern) '67
  - brownish-lake to lake (S30a; R22d; G50)
  - rose-carmine (S30; R23d; G51)
- 13 mm., sans-serif '75
  - brownish-lake to lake (S46; R43; G77)
  - rose (S46a; R44; G76)
- op POSTAGE horizontally once

Initial cap., with period
- 12¾ mm. 67
  - brownish-lake to lake (S18a; R22a; G32)
  - rose-carmine (S18; R23a; G33)

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13¾ mm. '67
brownish-lake to lake (S22a; R22c; G38)
rose-carmine (S26; R23b; G45)
op CANCELLED
brownish-lake to lake, specimen of R16
—imperf.
rose-carmine, specimen of R17
—imperf.
deep bright rose, specimen of R18
—imperf.
op CANCELLED with bars
carmine, specimen of R8.
op SPECIMEN
wmk. Crown CC, perf. 12½
brown-lake to lake, specimen of R16
—imperf.
rose-carmine, specimen of R17
—imperf.
deep bright rose, specimen of R18
—imperf.

Three Pence.

No overprint:
Wmk. small star
blue, imperf., essay of R13 (?)
No wmk.
perf. 14-16 (rough)
blue to greenish-blue (S12; R11; G12) '61
—imperf. between pairs
perf. 14-16 (intermediate)
deep blue (S11; R10; G11) '61
—imperf. between pairs
perf. 14 (large)
blue (S9; R9; G10) '59
blue, die proof of R9
black, die proof of R9
black, plate proof of R9
Overprinted:
op 10d. on R10 (Not a surcharge)
op POSTAGE vertically twice (red)
ultramarine to Prussian blue (S39; R32; G61) '72
—imperf., proof.
op POSTAGE vertically twice (red) and CANCELLED
ultramarine to Prussian blue, speciment of R32
op POSTAGE horizontally once
ALL CAPS., no period, no wmk. '67
12½ mm. (tall thin letters)
blue, perf. 14 (large) S35; R24e; G28)
blue, perf. 14 (large) (S31; R24d; G52).
deep blue, perf. 14-16 (intermediate) (S35; R25e); G28a)
ALL CAPS., with period, no wmk.
13mm., serif (modern) '67
blue, perf. 14 (large) (S31; R24d; G52)
deep blue, perf. 14-16 (intermediate) (S31; R25d; G53)
op Postage horizontally once
Initial cap., with period, no wmk.
12¾ mm. '67
blue, perf. 14 (large) (S19; R24a; G34)
blue, perf. 14-16 (rough) (S19; R26a; G34b)
deep blue, perf. 14-16 (intermediate) (S19; R25a; G34a)
13¾ mm. '67
blue, perf. 14 (large) (S23; R24c; G40)
blue, perf. 14-16 (rough) (S23; R26c; G40b)
deep blue, perf. 14-16 (intermediate) (S23; R25c; G40a)
14½-15½ mm. '67
blue, perf. 14 (large) (S27; R24b; G46)
blue, perf. 14-16 (rough) (S27; R26b; G46b)
deep blue, perf. 14-16 (intermediate) (S27; R25b; G46a)
op CANCELLED, wmk. small star, imperf.
blue, specimen, of R13 (?)
op CANCELLED, within bars, no wmk., perf. 14 (large)
blue, specimen of R9

Six Pence

No overprint
wmk. Crown CC, perf. 12½ (white wove paper)
lilac mauve (S16; R19; G23) '64
—imperf., plate proof
deep violet (S16a; R20; G24)' 64
—imperf., plate proof
No wmk., perf. 14-16
grey (S13; R12; G13) '61
lilac, die proof of R14 (?)
lilac, die proof of R19-20
black, die proof of R12
black, die proof of R19-20
Overprinted
op 10d. on R12 (Not a surcharge)
op POSTAGE One Penny, with bars of lines
rose (S63; R53; G92) '77
violet (S62; R52; G91) '77
op POSTAGE. Half-penny, and full bar (red)
violet (S79; R70; G114) '95
—also op. SPECIMEN
op POSTAGE vertically twice
lilac-mauve (S40; R33; G62) '73
op POSTAGE horizontally once
All CAPS., no period
14½ mm. (13 mm. is fraud)
violet (S49; R47; G83) '75
12½ mm. (tall thin letters) '67
lilac mauve (S36; R27e; G29)
deep violet (S36; R28e; G30)
All CAPS, with period
13 mm., serif (modern) '67
lilac mauve (S32; R27d; G54b)
deep violet (S32; R28d; G55)
op Postage horizontally once
Initial cap., with period
12¾ mm. '67
lilac mauve (S20; R27a; G35)
deep violet (S20; R28a; G36)
13¾ mm. '67
lilac mauve (S24; R27c; G41)
deep violet (S24; R28c; G42)
14½-15½ mm. '67
lilac mauve (S28; R27b; G47)
deep violet (S28; R28b; G48)
op CANCELLED, imperf., wmk., Crown CC
lilac mauve, speciment of R19
deep violet, specimen of R20
op SPECIMEN
wmk. Crown CC, perf. 12½
lilac mauve, speciment of R19
—imperf.
deep violet, specimen of R20
—imperf.

NICARAGUA.

The Philatelic Agency, P.O. Box 325, Managua, announces the issue on 25 June of 13 Air Mail and 5 ordinary postage stamps bearing effiges of Presidents of Nicaragua. The cost, in U.S. currency is $1.26 for the air stamps and $0.17 for the others.

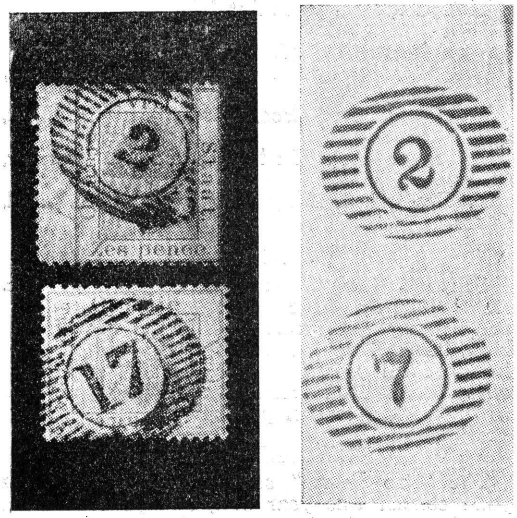
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NUMERAL & LETTER O.V.S. CANCELLATIONS.

In your June and August, 1952 issues there appeared an article by Mr. Peter Smits on these cancellations. Here he mentions a copy of an invoice in the Bloemfontein Archives to which was attached an imprint of these numerals and letters as supplied.

I have given this careful study and thought it strange that numerals 2 to 19 had been supplied with 11-bar grids, as all the copies I have seen on stamps (many hundreds) have always 16-bar grids. Mr. Smits mentions No. 8 with an 11-bar grid but I have not seen this.

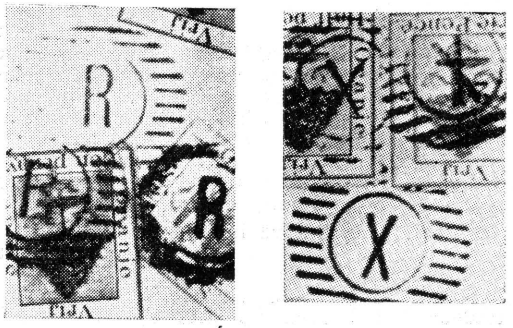
The Bloemfontein Archives have been good enough to supply me with photostats of the four pages of imprints in their possession. I am sending a copy of these and you will see that the numbers are of a completely different fount from those usually seen on cancelled stamps. The most noticeable differences are perhaps in the 2's and 7's (see illustration), but the other numerals all show some differences.



It would therefore appear that there should be **two** sets of numbers, or else those alleged to be the imprints of those supplied are not so. Coming to the numbers over 30, of which I have 42, 55 and 56, these **are** of the fount shown on the imprint.

In the case of the letter cancellations, here again those on the imprint attached to the invoice do not agree with those seen used on stamps. In this case I have sent a copy of the Bloemfontein photostat with superimposed on it copies of cancellations from my collection. It will be seen that the imprint letters are of a narrow tall type whereas those actually used on stamps are in the main shorter and wider. Two exceptions, however, are the R and the X; two varieties of these occur, one similar to the imprint, and one similar to the fount of the other letters, viz., shorter and wider (see illustration). In the case of the Q, Mr. Smits has sent me a specimen with a curly tail, as on the imprint: Dr. Pennycuick and I both have specimens with the tail of the Q a horizontal line from the base and this Q is of similar fount to the C and the O as seen on stamps.

All this seems to indicate what I have suspected for a long time, viz., that there were letter cancellers of two types, as exemplified by the R and the X.



I also send photographs of three items from my collection (a) No 18 with a clear 15-bar grid, not 16 (b) a No. 24 with a clear 12-bar grid instead of the usual 11-bar (c) a peculiar No. 4 with a clear 17-bar grid instead of 16, the 4 being also of a different fount from the usual.

Perhaps if this were published in the "South African Philatelist" it would elicit useful comment or argument on this subject.

A. CECIL FENN.

Mr. Fenn asks for comment or argument, to see if this matter can be brought to finality. To set the ball rolling I would say the following:—

(1) His argument seems to me to be unanswerable, that there were two lots of numeral and letter cancellers **made,** namely, a complete set in 11-bar grids of the numerals 1 to 60 and of the letters A-Z. These are known from the invoice imprints in the Bloemfontein Archives. But how many of these were actually issued and/or used, is another matter.

(2) A second set, not so comprehensive perhaps, must have been made and these are known so far only from cancellations on stamps. This set would seem to include at least (a) most (perhaps all) of the letter cancellers, (b) all the 16-bar numeral cancellers with Nos. 1 to 19, probably some, if not all of the Nos. 20 to 30 with 11-bar grids. So far there would seem to be little or no evidence suggesting a duplication of the 30-60 group of numerals.

(3) In a few instances there would seem to have been a third canceller made. I would hazard the suggestion, but admittedly it is guesswork, that such items represent casual replacements of worn or damaged cancellers.

Short of finding in the Archives or elsewhere documentary evidence of the manufacture of a second set of cancellers, information about them would seem at present only to be obtainable from a recording of the characters of numbers, letters, and grids as seen on stamps. As a small contribution towards this I give a few notes on cancellations in my own modest collection.

No. 1 occurs in both 11-bar and 16-bar grids, the numeral in the former being thick and coarse compared with the latter.

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No. 3. Two varieties, a round-topped and a flat-topped numeral, both of them different from the numeral of the 11-bar invoice imprint.

Nos. 6 and 9 each have a stop after the numeral, these being fine delicate figures quite different from the invoice imprint.

No. 8. As seen on stamps the numeral is considered taller than on the imprint and there is a marked difference in size between the two circles of the '8'. I have a specimen in an 11-bar grid as recorded by Mr. P. Smits; this has a tall thin '8' with the two circles of it about equal in size. Finally, I have specimens with a very thick, squat '8', but they are so badly applied that it is uncertain whether they are in 11-bar or 16-bar grids.

No. 11. This I have in both 11-bar and 16-bar grids. I also have a curious specimen of a 16-bar mark, very clear, in which the circle between the grid and the numeral is not continuous but broken up into segments, each corresponding with a bar of the grid. This was illustrated in the "South African Philatelist" of October, 1940, p. 147.

Nos. 20-29. All the '2's have straight feet, not the curly feet of the imprint series. The '7' of the '27' however, although having the curved stem like the imprint '7' has a flat top instead of a slightly wavy one.

I have too few numbers above 30 and of letters to add anything of value.

EDITOR.

TRISTAN DA CUNHA.

The Crown Agents announce that a definitive set of 14 bicoloured stamps has been ordered from Messrs. De La Rue. Each stamp will bear a portrait of H.M. The Queen and a Crown. The values and designs will be:

½d. Crawfish.
1d. Carting Flax.
1½d. Rockhopper Penguin.
2d. Big Beach Factory.
2½d. Mollymank.
3d. Island Boat.
4d. Tristan from S.W.
5d. The Potato Patches.
6d. Inaccessible Is.
9d. Nightingale Is.
1/- St. Mary's Church.
2/6 Sea Elephant.
5/- Flightless Rail.
10/- Island Spinning Wheel.

RHODESIAN ROYAL TRAIN.

The Royal Train taking the Queen Mother and Princess Margaret around Rhodesia will have a post-office aboard and the postal authorties have arranged to service covers on it. Addressed envelopes (preferably stamped) should be sent to "Secretary, Royal Train Covers, Staff Room 4, P.O. Box 61, Salisbury, S. Rhodesia."

They will be accepted July 2-12. We regret we did not have earlier intimation of this service.

SOME RECENT AUCTION PRICES.

H. R. Harmer.

Belgium. 5fr. 1875-81, yellow-brown, £25.
Cape 4d. Woodblock, pale milky blue, rare red pmk., £18.
G. Britain £1 green (S.G. 403), £12.
Gt. Britain 1840 1d. Black VR, strip of 7, £400.
S. Africa. Hunter Penrose essay 1 ni green and proof in black of vignette (sailing ship) of 1d. £4 4s. 0d.
Do. £1 (S.G. 24a), £12 10s.
Antigua. Tercentenary Set, used, £10.
Barbados 1d. on half 5s., 1878 (S.G. 86), £18.
New Zealand. Smiling Boy 1931, 1d. and 2d. blocks of 4, £23.

Robson Lowe.

New Zealand 1885 1d. dull carmine (S.G. 1), £75.
Australia £2 (S.G. 46a) block of 4, mint, £80.
Do. 3d. (S.G. 106 var. imperf.) block of 4, mint, £90.
Kenya 1922 £25 mint, £60.
Do. £50, mint, £110.
Malaya 1912-22 $500 mint £180.

Wicks.

Cape Triangular 4d. steel-blue, £33.
Bechuanaland opt. on Union S.G. 5, pair mint, £2 5s.
Union 1918. Red Cross Card, Boksburg flight, £3.
Do. 1947. Block of 2d. with "curtain" variety, £2 15s.
N. Zealand. Smiling Boy 1d. and 2d. used, £5 10s.

CANADA.

Canada's Coronation commemorative, a 4c. stamp slightly larger than the current issue, and bearing a sculptural profile of Queen Elizabeth, is not having a very favourable reception in the local press. In fact there is rather an outcry about a number of recent designs, as well as about this one in particular.

SWITZERLAND.

The "Pro Patria" semi-postals issued on 1 June consist this year of 4 stamps continuing the 'Lakes and Watercourses" series, beautiful lake and mountain scenery; also one featuring the coat of arms of Berne. The last is included in tribute to the sixth centenary of its admission to the Swiss Confederation, which falls due this year.

BULAWAYO CONGRESS AND EXHIBITION.

This is now close on us. Probably intending visitors have already made all their bookings but here is just a little reminder of dates:

15th Congress of the Philatelic Federation of Southern Africa, 13th and 14th July, 10.30 a.m. in the Sundowner Room, Hotel Victoria.

13-16 July. Philatelic Exhibition, Conference Hall of the Rhodes Centenary Exhibition.

14 July. Congress Dinner given by the Philatelic Society of Rhodesia, Hotel Victoria, 8 p.m.

15 July. Sadlers Wells Theatre Ballet for those who have booked.

16 July. Off to the Victoria Falls, if you have arranged for it.

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SOCIETY NEWS.

THE WESTERN CAPE PHILATELIC ASSOCIATION.

At a well- attended joint meeting of The Cape Town Philatelic Society, Die Paarlse Posseelversameiaarsvereniging, The Thematic Stamp Club, and The University of Cape Town Philatelic Society held on May 12th, 1953, it was unanimously decided to form a body to be known as "The Western Cape Philatelic Association", whose objects are:— To provide machinery for closer co-operation between the philatelic societies in the Western Cape by the holding of conferences and meetings to (i) further the aims and objects of the member societies, (ii) encourage, advise, and assist in the formation of further philatelic societies in any part of the Western Cape, and (iii) provide a means for the open discussion of items of mutual interest, current philatelic topics and problems of member societies.

The constitution which had been previously drawn up by representatives of each society and subsequently approved by the annual general meetings of the societies, was formally adopted, and Mr. M. C. B. Hotz of the University Society elected as the first chairman. Mr. W. G. Combrink (Cape Town Philatelic Society) was elected Vice-Chairman, and Mr. V. Dubowitz (University), secretary.

PRETORIA RAILWAY PHILATELIC SOCIETY.

The usual monthly meeting of the Society that took place on the 13th May turned out to be yet another of our very successful gatherings. This was the occasion when the Pretoria Philatelic Society paid us their annual visit, and as the very high standard that has been set by these visits was maintained, it follows that the meeting was very pleasant and interesting both for our visitors and our own members.

Owing to the absence of Mr. Ferguson, who is away at present on an overseas visit, and Mr. Bain who was unavoidably absent, the chair was taken over from our President by Dr. Reisener, who did not waste any time in getting the various exhibits on the way. The first item was a paper by Mr. Manville Ford on his Edward VIII collection, and this was very ably read by Mr. Slater Kinghorn, who deputised for Mr. Ford. Our congratulations must go to Mr. Ford for an excellent paper on the Edwardian regime, and also for his fine exhibit, which showed most of the designs and some very interesting items of this reign. This was flolowed by an exhibit by Mrs. Betzler, who showed us her collection of "Post-War Germany." Here again our congratulations are due for another good exhibit, which showed stamps that had been printed by different small towns in East and West Germany. Some of these were printed by speculators and were probably forgeries, but it showed us what is happening in Europe. Mr. E. C. Wright then gave us a view of his "Barbados" and "Sudan" collections, and as usual we always expect and always get something good when this gentleman exhibits. These collections contained many choice items, were fairly complete, and the stamps were in perfect condition and very attractively displayed. The "classics" were also fairly well represented, and it only remains for us to congratulate Mr. Wright on his good show. Last but not least was Mr. Watson's exhibit of his "Silver Jubilee" collection. This issue is noted as being the first to have any connection with the Royal Family, and was also very interesting owing to the nearness of the Coronation of Elizabeth II. Although this issue has the drawback of being mostly of the same design yet Mr. Watson showed us several exceptions, and can also be congratulated for a good effort. Dr. Reisener spoke on the various exhibits, and we can only voice our sincere thanks to the Pretoria Society for a grand evening. F.J.V.L.

PHILATELIC SOCIETY OF THE WESTERN RAND.

The May meeting of the Club was held on Wednesday the 27th in the Parish Hall, Roodepoort. With a visit from the Philatelic Society of Johannesburg, a very enjoyable evening was spent.

After the usual business of the Club was concluded, our Chairman called on the visiting chairman Mr. Joseph to take over.

The displays tabled were all outstanding and very interesting, especially the theme in some of the Thematic Collections. Mr. Frankland tabled his superb collection of Edwardians. Mr. Oppenheim a few sheets each of Brazil, Monaco, Netherlands and Luxemburg. Mr. Isaacs with The Poets Stamp Album, Dr. Hesse with Art and Artists, Commander Enoch with a few early pages of Siam, and last but not least Mr. B. Grassman's outstanding collection of the United Nations.

On behalf of the Club, Mr. Vermaak thanked the visitors for their excellent displays, which were certainly enjoyed by all present.

Dr. Berry passed a vote of thanks to the ladies for helping to make the evening a success, by providing and helping with the tea and snacks. J.K.

PORT ELIZABETH PHILATELIC SOCIETY.

19th May:

A larger number of members and visitors than usual was present. Official business was accorded preference as it had been brought forward from previous meetings. Five new members were enrolled. Auction occupied the time until tea interval. Mr. A. G. Geard brought along and displayed his collection of Russian stamps. He had to be complimented on them by the President, because the collection had been brought together in the spare time which his Stamp-Dealer's business allows him. The sheets were well-filled and written up and gave members an insight into the many historical events of Russia as well as acquainting them with famous personalities of Russia and their achievements — an aspect one is apt to lose sight of in these days of sharp division between East and West. Thus those attending the meeting were well rewarded.

3rd June:

Owing to the Coronation Holiday the first meeting of the month took place a day later. A good attendance can again be recorded; much popular material being bid for during a very successful auction.

Mr. Ostrin showed a very interesting "Crash Cover" from the recent "Comet" disaster in India, which had come his way through the usual mail channels.

The latter part of the evening was given over to viewing an exhibit by Mr. G. K. Forbes, consisting of the stamps of Portugal and her Colonies. The stamps of the Mother Country covered the earliest issues to those of recent years, the tables not proving large enough to accommodate all the sheets Mr Forbes had brought along. The material displayed proved most interesting as did the talk that went with it. Mr. G. Bülbring expressed the thanks of the Society for another unusual treat, the meeting ending about 10 o'clock.

AFRIKAANSE FILATELISTIESE VERENIGING.

5 Junie: Met sy pragversameling van die seëls van Na-oorlogse Duitsland, het vriend D. W. Rossouw vergoed vir die bietjie koue wat lede moes verduur. Dr. Hesse, self 'n versamelaar van hierdie groep, het homself verlustig en baie verlangend gekyk na die stukke wat hom totnogtoe ontwyk het. Dit was dan ook aan doktor oorgelaat om die uitstalling te bespreek en die vertoner te bedank vir 'n mooi en interessante uitstalling, wat baie belangstelling ver-

wek het.

In Julie vertoon lid Lambert sy seëls van **Aden.**

Nuwe lede: Mnre. H. T. Klopper, Johannesburg, E. Schaiowitz, Johannesburg, P. C. van Schalkwyk, Fraserburg en A. E. du Preez, Thabazimbi en die jongeheer Kosie Nolte, Meyerton.

S.J.V.

PRETORIA PHILATELIC SOCIETY.

7th April, 1953: The Society's annual Allan Cup competition was held, the winner of four entrants being Dr. T. Berry who exhibited Union Postage Dues. The runner-up was Mr. J. McLoughlin, who showed Railways of the World on stamps. Presentations of the annual award of the magnificent Hawke Plaque, for outstanding services to the Society, were made to Mr. F. C. Ferguson (for 1951) and Mr. L. G. Dodd (for 1952).

Mr. Williams, a welcome visitor, attended the meeting and brought greetings from the East London Philatelic Society; these were cordialy reciprocated.

20 April, 1953: Two members of the Johannesburg Philatelic Society attended this meeting and provided the evening's main items of interest. Mr. D. W. Sutcliffe spoke on and showed a fine exhibit of George VI New Issue stamps — complete with varieties — and Mr. R. D. Lilley presented an interesting and entertaining quiz. Both were warmly thanked for an enjoyable evening.

The President, Mr. F. C. Ferguson, was granted leave of absence for some months and good wishes were extended to him for a well-earned vacation overseas.

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4 May, 1953: The Vice-President, Mr. P. D. Gain, presided. Mr. E. M. Ford read a paper on "Ramblings of an Edwardian stamp collecto.", which was much enjoyed by the meeting as emissions of this period are generally popular in the Society. Mr. Ford's remarks were illustrated by an exhibit of his own excellent "embryonic" collection, and also by Mr. E. C. Wright showing an exhibit of the same period. The two well planned exhibits were complementary to each other and provided a first-rate display of one of our most interesting philatelic periods.

18 May 1953. Dr. P. Hack gave a paper and exhibit entitled "Stamps of Medical Interest" — one of the most extensive thematic fields, to which Dr. Hack's collection does full justice. He was suitably thanked.

1st June, 1953. Mr. P. D. Gain's resignation as Vice-President (and Acting President during Mr. Ferguson's absence), owing to his leaving Pretoria, was received with much regret. Dr. H. O. Reisener was elected to act as Chairman for this meeting.

Dr. T. Berry showed his comprehensive collection of King's Head issues — and gave an interesting talk thereon. Both contributions were informative and much appreciated by the meeting.

15th June, 1953. Dr. T. Berry having been elected by the Executive as Vice-President to take the place of Mr. P. D. Gain, he presided over the meeting as Acting President.

The Society's own highly specialised Union collection, which many members consider gives exceptional facilities for study and reference, was shown by the Curator, Dr. H. O. Reisener.

Mr. Peacock also showed his valuable and unique collection of Ship Letters and Pre-stamp covers. Both exhibitors were appreciatively thanked. B.J.V.

EAST RAND PHILATELIC SOCIETY.

At our June monthly meeting we had a fair attendance seeing that the weather had turned cold and this, no doubt, kept some members from attending. The business was soon disposed of, as we had three exhibits for the Legator Trophy. (1) Mr. MacArthur's, which consists of several pages from the various European countries in Europe; (2) Mr. J. Bogner Jnr., British Colonials, and (3) Dr. Kaplan's Collection of Netherlands. All these collections were very well displayed and a very enjoyable evening was spent. Our Chairman expressed the thanks of our members to the exhibitors. E.W.R.

PHILATELIC SOCIETY OF JOHANNESBURG.

At the meeting held on June 9th, 1953 the exhibits were provided by members of the Philatelic Society of the West Rand who paid an official visit.

There were several fine exhibits. Mr. Sharpe, the President of the West Rand Society showed the stamps of the French Oceanic Settlements. There was an almost complete collection in mint condition and the exhibit was beautifully written up, a map also being provided.

Mr. Burrell showed a George VI collection of Kenya, Uganda and Tanganyika. He had all the rarities including the 50c. broken rope, both mint and used. All the varieties of perforations and numerous shades were shown in all values including the highest.

Commander Enoch spoke on both the above exhibits and expressed the thanks of the Society.

Master David Crocker, a junior member, showed a nice little collection of Cape and also South African War covers. The Cape included several triangulars in good used condition. The covers included a prisoner-of-war cover from Bermuda.

Mr. Lilley spoke on this exhibit and expressed the Society's thanks.

Mr. Keet showed a Thematic collection, the theme being "Zoology". Numerous countries were represented but the classification was according to the kind of animal. The collection was well written up.

Mr. Froelich expressed the thanks of the Society in speaking on this exhibit.

Mr. Vermaak showed Union Current Post Cards, these being the ones referred to in the Union Handbook used No. 10/c 41. The exhibit, however, contained several items not mentioned in the handbook including several postcards with missing stamps and several with portion of stamp missing. Mr. Vermaak introduced his exhibit with an explanation on the method of printing and expressed the hope that there would be many more collectors of Union Postal Stationery.

Mr. Lydall spoke on the exhibit and expressed the thanks of the Society.

Dr. Berry showed Union Postage Dues. He had a fine collection including proofs and colour trials anl numerous varieties were shown. Several were shown used on cover and the covers included one with the Cigarette Tax Stamp used as a postage due. There were also a Red Cross Flown Cover of 1918 with a 1d. postage due stamp, the card lacking the ½d. stamp necessary for postage.

Mr. Sheffield expressed the thanks of the Society for this exhibit.

Mr. Henderson showed stamps of India, the Empire of India issues being from 1935 onwards and the Republic of India issues being complete. All were in fine mint condition.

Mr. Frankland thanked the exhibitor on behalf of the Society.

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PACKETS ■ KILOWARE

SINGLE STAMPS ■ SETS

As the largest wholesale stamp firm in the United States, we are constant buyers, in large wholesale quantities, of all kinds of postage stamps.

Send us a detailed list of your offers, which will receive our prompt, careful attention. References will be sent on request (if you do not already know us) so that you may deal with us with complete confidence.

H. E. HARRIS & CO.

BOSTON 17 MASS.—U.S.A.

R.D.P.

At the meeting of the Philatelic Congress of Great Britain held in June at Whitley Bay, Northumberland under the auspices of the Newcastle-upon-Tyne Philatelic Society, five new names were added to the Roll of Distinguished Philatelists. The five newly elected were:

Alfred H. Caspary (U.S.A.).
Dr. George Fulpius (Switzerland).
H. R. Holmes (England).
Dr. Carlos Trincao (Portugal).
Dr. Gordon Ward (England).

U.N. STAMPS ON SALE IN LONDON.

It has been announced that an office of the United Nations Postal Administration has been opened at Russell Square House, Russell Square, London W.C.1. Orders from within the sterling area should be accompanied by British Postal Orders, allowance being made for return postage and registration (if required).

Sterling equivalent for the stamps may be reckoned at one penny per cent up to 6 cents and slightly less for the higher values. Thus a 25 cent stamp is listed at 1/10, 50 cents at 3/7, with the dollar at 7/2.

These stamps are only valid for postage purposes when mailed at U.N. headquarters, New York.

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Check List of O.V.S. & O.R.C. Post Offices and Agencies, etc.

PERIOD 1868 TO 1910

By W. NEWLANDS.

(Continued from page 112 of June issue)

Grade	Name	District	Date opened or year of P.M.G.'s report where first noted	Closed (where known)	Remarks.
PA*	Palmyra	L	1898		
PA	Panfontein	B	July 1899		
PA*	Paradijs	K	1-9-07		
PO*†	Parys	HN	1882		(Old spelling PARIJS)
RTO*	Petrus	J	1893		
PO*	Petrusburg	J	1867		
PO*†	Philippolis	P	20-2-05		
RSO*	Philippolis Road	P			
PA	Poplar Grove	BO	1893		
SO*	Port Allan	HO	1-10-04		
	Prinsloos Request	K		30-6-05	
RSO*	Priors	BE			See Prior's Siding
PA	Prior's Siding	BE	1895		
PO*	Pniel (Griqualand West)	—	2-6-71		(Volksraad Notulen 2-6-71)
PA*	Quaggashoek	HO	1893		(Boshof?)
PA	Quaggaspoort	V	1898		
PA*	Ramsbottomspost	BM	1893 Re-opened 15-2-08		
	Randfontein	—			
PA*	Randjeslaagte	—			
PO*†	Reddersburg	B	1867		
PO*	Reitz	BE	1893		
PA*	Reitzburg	K	1893 Re-opened 17-7-03		(Vredefort?)
	Reitzkuil	V	15-2-04	10-6-06	
	Retiefsnek	BM	15-10-05	31-10-06	
	Revelstoke	H	15-4-05		(15-4-04?)
PA*	Rexford	—			
PA	Rietfontein 1	HO	1899		
PA	Rietfontein 2	RO	1899		
PA†	Rietgat	W	1887		(Closed by 1889?)
PA*	Rietspruit	W	1893 Re-opened 16-1-06	10-6-06	
PA	Rietvallei	BO	1899		
	Rietvlei	BO	15-11-03		See Rietvallei
PA*	Riviera	HN	1-9-04		
PA*	Robertsrust	B	15-4-05		
	Rockwood	T	9-10-06	15-6-08	
PA†	Roodebult	—			(Closed by 1889?)
PA	Roodekrans	F	1895		
	Rondebosch	—			
PA	Roodepoort	BM	1898		
RSO*	Roodewal	K			See Roodewal Siding
PA	Roodewal Siding	K	1898		
PA	Rooikop	HN	1895		
PO*†	Rouxville	RO	1867		

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Grade	Name	District	Date opened or year of P.M.G.'s report where first noted	Closed (where known)	Remarks
PA†	Ruigtefontein	SE	1887	1895	
PA*	Rustfontein	HN	15-7-03		
	Rustpan	K	15-11-03	30-6-06	
	St. Clet	FF	——	31-12-06	
	Salderyspoort	BO	15-9-06		
SO*	Saltpan	B	15-10-06		
PA	Sandhurst	H	1898		
PA	Sannaspost	B	1893	1895	
PA	Schoemansdrift	K	1893	1895	
PA	Schoonzicht	BM	1893	1895	
PO*	Schuttesdraai	BV	15-7-07		
	Schuttesdraai Rail	BV			
	Schuttesdraai Spoor	BV			See Scuttesdraai Rail
	Scotland	T	1-1-06	31-12-06	
PA*	Scotland West	W	1-11-03		
PA	Sechaora	B	1898		(Sechoaro?)
PA	Sechoaro	B	?		See Sachaora
PO*†	Senekal	W	1880		
	Senekals Post	SE	15-10-05(?)		See Senekals Rus?
	Senekals Rust	SE	15-11-05(?)		See Senekals Post?
PA*	Sepani Siding	T	1-3-05		
PA*	Serfontein	—			
PO	Sevenfontein	BO	1895		
PA	Sinkspost	H	1898		(Aug. 1896)
PA*	Slaapplaats	SE	15-1-07	28-2-08(?)	Open in 1910
	Slootkraal	RO	15-10-07		
PA†	Smaldeel	K	1887		Now Theunissen
PA	Smaldeel 1	K	1895		Same as Smaldeel
PA	Smaldeel 2	HO	1895		
PA*†‡	Smithfield	S	1867		
	Smithspost	BM	1-11-03	2-9-04	
PA	Spitskop	F	1899		
PA	Springfield	HN	1893	1898	
PA*	Springfontein	P	1893		July 1891
	Stellenbosch	—			P.O. in 1910
PA*	Steynspruit	B	1899		
PA*	Stijldrift	H			
PA*	Stillewoning	K	1-7-03	31-12-06	
PA*	Stonewall	BO			
	Stonybroke	T	1-6-05		
PA	Stroomzamenloop	W	1899		
	Strydfontein	K	15-1-04	31-1-05	
PA	Susandale	HN	1899		
PA*	Susanna	HO	15-6-08		
	Swartkop	BO	1-7-04		
PA*	Sweet Home	BO	1-12-04		(Sweethome)
RSO*	Swinburne	—			
	Sydenham	—			
PA†	Taaiboschspruit	W	Sept. 1883(?)		(Closed by 1889?)
PA*	Tafelkop	V	1895		SO in 1910
PA*	Talsen	—			
PA*	Tampasfontein	S	15-2-07		
	Tarrogona	FF	1-12-03	1-8-05	
PO*	Tempe	B			See Bloemfontein Army
	Tevredenheid	FA			
PO*	Thaba 'Nchu	T	1889		(Maroka?)
RTO*	Thaba 'Nchu Rail	T			
	Thaba 'Nchu Station	T	15-10-03	20-6-06	See Thaba 'Nchu Rail
	Thabapakhoe	T	15-8-08		
PA*	Thaba Patchoa	B	1898		

(To be continued)

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THE

SOUTH AFRICAN PHILATELIST

PROPRIETORS AND PUBLISHERS :

The Philatelic Federation of Southern Africa

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Business Manager: Mr. J. MICHELSON.
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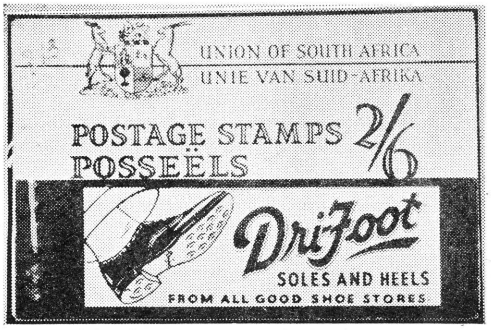
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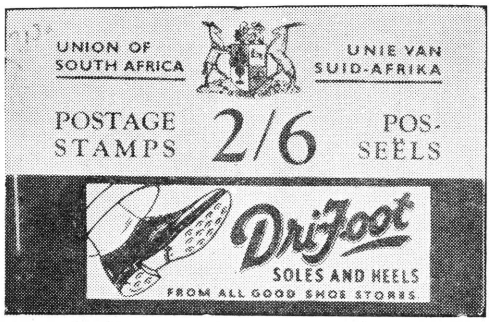
UNION NOTES

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

Uncatalogued Booklet.

We illustrate below the front covers of two booklets recently submitted by Dr. C. L. L. Murray of Kuils River, Cape, with the queries as to which of the two should be designated as "B13" in the Union Handbook, and the date of issue of the other.





Both were printed in black on buff with the small Drifoot advert in the lower portion, but in addition to other different features, it will be seen that the Coat of Arms is at the left hand side of the cover in one case and situated in the centre of the other.

The various founts used for the printing of similar advertisements and postal information on the interleaving pages of the two books, are also different and the length of the cover marked as "13a" is three mm. greater than in the case of "13".

Dr. Murray thinks that the cover with the Coat of Arms in the centre was the earlier issue, but he has no definite proof and would be glad of any information that would decide the matter.

Most of the advertisements in the two booklets were inserted by the same parties, but there are two in the "13a" issue, namely "Handbook for Farmers in South Africa — 5/- and 7/6" and "Wool — Wear wool all the Year Round", which did not appear in the "13" books and this factor may assist those who remember the sale of these booklets to recall which of the two came first.

Coronation Varieties.

We are indebted to Mr. J. A. Clarkson of Grahamstown and Mr. A. Singels of Paarl for the following list of varieties on the "98" cylinder number printing of the Coronation stamps.

Row 1/11—Violet mark under lower lip.
1/20—White dot to left of "K" of KRONING.
2/7 —Violet mark above upper lip and violet marks above left eye.
2/11—White mark through "O" of SOUTH and also through "A" of AFRIKA.
2/17—Violet mark under chin.
3/3 —White spot to left of head and also one to right of neck.
3/9 —"Q" for "O" in CORONATION.
4/7 —Round mark on neck touching line of cheek.
4/9 —White spot on "F" of AFRICA.
5/4 —White spot near "O" of CORONATION.
5/5 —Violet spot at bottom left hand end of numeral "2".
5/17—Small violet dots around nose.
6/11—Violet dot in right leg of "O" of SOUTH.

Unusual Varieties on Recent 1d. Pictorial Stamps.



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Following the photograph in our last issue of two unusual varieties noted on recent 1d. stamps, Mr. S. J. Hagger of Alberton, Transvaal, has come to light with a mint pair showing a similar flaw to that on the item previously submitted by Dr. C. L. L. Murray.

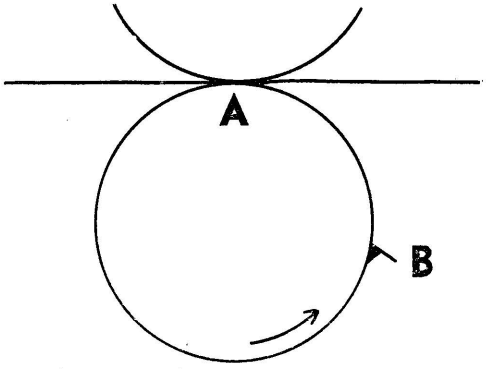
The accompanying illustration shows Mr. Hagger's pair of stamps and we give below his interesting notes on this unusual variety.

"Further to Dr. C. L. L. Murray's query in "Union Notes" of July, I am forwarding for reproduction a pair of current 1d. stamps from my collection, in which portions of the centres are similarly much lighter than normal. I know that this pair came from a piece of 6 stamps wide by 4 deep and in the three lower rows the centres were completely underinked similar to the lower part of the centres in the top row. This variety is caused by a stoppage of the machine during the printing.

The Rotogravure process by which these bicoloured stamps are produced allows the centres of the stamps to be printed almost directly after the frames, so it follows that a very quick-drying ink must be used. If, therefore, the machinery has to be stopped for any reason while the stamps are being printed, the ink immediately starts to dry on the cylinders. Should the stoppage be of short duration the drying of the ink is only partial, but in a lengthy one the drying is complete.

Appended is a rough sketch which helps to show what happens when the machinery is restarted. The circle represents in section the circumference of the printing cylinder with an arrow indicating the direction (anti-clockwise) in which it revolves. The horizontal line is portion of the roll of paper on which the stamps are being printed, and as "A" indicates the point at which the printing takes place, the portion to the left has been printed, but that to the right not yet. "B" is the Doctor Blade which scrapes the surplus ink from the surface of the cylinder.

When the cylinder starts to revolve again after the stoppage it follows that as there is no means of re-inking that part of its circumference between "B" and "A", the first four rows or so of frames or centres must be partly or completely albino, depending on the amount of drying of the ink which took place; but the remainder of the circumference will print normally as it picks up sufficient ink to do this from the surplus retained between its surface and the Doctor Blade until the usual inking process comes into play.



Should this transition from "under" to "full" inking take place during the printing of a row of centres or frames, then it follows that the lower portions will be partly printed and the tops normal with a sharp division or "line" between them. As the Doctor Blade is never horizontal but dips slightly to the right, this "line" or division also falls slightly in the same direction. This does not show up so well in Dr. Murray's single specimen but can be seen better in my pair of stamps. It is interesting to note that this angle of dip of the Doctor Blade is slightly less today than it has been in the past. I have seen several examples of this variety in the earlier roto issues, and although the line always appeared to dip at the same angle, this was steeper than on the present example.

Incidentally Dr. Murray can be thankful that the machine stoppage which caused this present variety was a comparatively short one, as had it been longer, some of the centres would have been completely albino, and the checker must have seen and rejected them as he almost certainly did the partly printed frames of this printing, and we should have missed seeing another example of this most interesting phenomenon of rotogravure stamp printing."

Pictorial Post Card Varieties.

Dr. J. F. Fick of Goedgegun, Swaziland, records that he has the following post cards from the pictorial series P.C. 4½d.—Cylinder 4 (Union Handbook) without stamps:

Skaapboerdery—Sheep Farming, Harrismith.
On Table Mountain — Cape.
Union Buildings — Pretoria.
Dist. Haenertsburg — North Transvaal.

N.C.R. Parcel Labels.

Dr. J. F. Fick also reports that the following additional towns are now using N.C.R. parcel labels.

Central Street — Pretoria.
Dundee — Natal.
Oxford Street — East London.
Springs — Transvaal.
Vryheid — Natal.

Two Interesting 1d. Pictorial Roll Stamp Varieties.

We reproduce below photographs of two 1d. pictorial roll stamp varieties.





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The one with the large white patch on the stern of the ship, submitted by Mr. J. E. Frankland of Johannesburg, appeared in the fine mesh screened stamps first issued in 1949 from Cylinder No. 24 and has been variously described as the "Gun flash", "Bomb flash", or the "Bursting shell."

The other, discovered by Mr. S. J. Hagger of Alberton, Transvaal, has shown up on the 1d. rolls now on sale from the new Cylinder No. 97 and is particularly interesting in the fact that the misalignment of the two stamps indicates the junction between the 22nd and the 1st rows in any strip of twenty-two stamps.

In his letter on the matter, Mr. Hagger notes that the multopositive from which this and the previous cylinder originated consists of twenty-two horizontal rows and explains that when preparing the new cylinder, No. 97, for etching, the carbon tissue sheet was wrapped around it in such a way that the images of the 1st horizontal row were not in exact alignment with their counterparts in the 22nd horizontal row. The enlarged illustration of stamps Nos. 22 and 1 from the tenth column of the web (Roll No. 10), with the gutter between them, clearly shows the result.

SMALL SIZED ENVELOPES.

Are you thinking of getting married soon? If you are don't send out invitations to the ceremony in the neat little envelopes it has been customary to use for such occasions. Apparently the Union postal authorities find these small letters a nuisance for sorting and have decreed that from 1 July the minimum size that will be accepted for transmission is 4in. x 2⅜in.

SWEDEN.

There have been issued a special set of stamps commemorating the 700th anniversary of Stockholm, and a special cancellation for the occasion.

EXCHANGES WANTED.

Karl G. Knutsson, of 27b Lastmakaregatan, Stockholm C, Sweden, who runs stamp columns in two Swedish weekly magazines, would like to exchange first-day and first-flight covers, special cancellations, new issues and stamps with advance information about them, with some one in South Africa.

L. H. A. Rickson, of 48 Brownhill Road, Catford, London S.E. 6, who is a teacher and a keen collector himself, would like to exchange with a teacher in South Africa on behalf of the children in his school. Could deal with hundreds of stamps and would send British, Colonials or Foreign, as desired, in exchange.

OBITUARY.

ADRIAN ALBERT JURGENS

We regret exceedingly to have to record the sudden death on the 11th July of A. A. Jurgens at the age of 66. In him South African philately loses one of its really big men.

Quite recently, in June 1951 we published a biographical note, with photograph of him, as a member of the Roll of Honour of distinguished South African philatelists, so will not repeat it all here, beyond stating that last year he was elected to the British Roll of Distinguished Philatelists, being one of only 3 South Africans on that Roll.

His outstanding work dealt with the Postal History of South Africa, particularly with the Cape of Good Hope and Bechuanaland and his collections of these countries, on which are based the two large works he has published, are unquestionably the finest in existence.

REVIEWS

STAMP COLLECTING: **How to go about it.** By S. C. Johnson. Thorsons Publishers Ltd., 91 St. Martins Lane, London, W.C.2. Price 2/6.

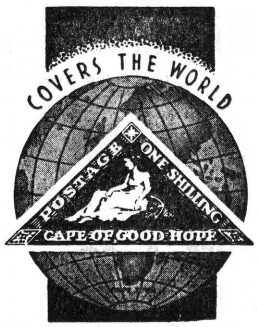
Books telling one how to collect stamps are now legion; many of them appeal to varying grades of collectors — young or early, rather more advanced, or well advanced as the case may be. This little work is meant for the complete beginner or for those hovering on the brink of collecting.

From this point of view it is excellent; the author tells enough of the mysteries and lore of stamps to attract newcomers to the Brotherhood of Philately, without going into such details as to scare them off.

Only one feature we rather dislike — the front cover has as a sub-title "A practical illustrated guide to a fascinating and remunerative hobby." Is it wise to make a novice imagine he is going to make a fortune from his hobby?

POST OFFICE PROGRESS — The Annual Report for 1951-52 of the Union P.M.G.

This report deals with all the many aspects of the work of the Post Office and makes most interesting general reading, although it cannot be said that there is much in it specially appealing to philatelists. It is clear that shortages of staff, buildings and material for telecommunications hamper expansion of services and prevent them from being all that the P.M.G. would like them to be.



The NEW CENTRAL STAMP AUCTIONS

The GLOBE POSTAGE STAMP COMPANY proudly presents the above public auctions which will be held regularly in the comfortably furnished, well-lit basement of the Company's centrally situated, ground-floor premises.

The auctions will be conducted by an expert philatelist with long experience of values.

Philatelists throughout Africa are cordially invited to inscribe their names for regular gratis supply of full descriptive catalogues. Postal bids welcomed.

Material for sales also welcomed.

Auctioneer: R. H. LACY

BPA BRITISH PHILATELIC ASSOCIATION Trade Section

Gilbern Buildings,
Plein & Mostert Streets
(12 Mostert Street),
CAPE TOWN.

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ROYAL CAPE TOWN PHILATELIC SOCIETY.

Our heartiest congratulations to the Cape Town Philatelic Society on the news we have just heard by radio as we go to press, viz., that H.M. the Queen has been graciously pleased to grant the Society the privilege of prefixing the word "Royal" to its name.

This is a grand climax to the celebration of the centenary of the Cape stamps and should be a fine stimulus to the Society's stamp display on 1st September.

LIECHTENSTEIN.

Mr. Gaudenz Muller, of Berne, reports that on the occasion of the 14th International Boy Scout Rover meeting in Liechtenstein on 4th August, that country will issue 4 special stamps



(10, 20, 25 and 40 cts.) each showing a portrait of Baden-Powell. This will be the first occasion he has appeared on stamps since the famous Mafeking Siege issue.

ALL IN THE GAME

III.

by W. Loxley Chamings.

Many readers of this journal know that my main interest in stamps is in portraits, and that I collect these, not in albums, but on cards in a steel filing-cabinet, one person to a card. It may be of interest to note that by the end of 1952 just over 2,500 different people had appeared as the chief feature of a stamp, and my cabinet shows them all except a few new-comers not yet to hand. I have not however entirely jettisoned albums, and it is of one that I write. This houses bits and pieces that interest and attract me. Here are a few of its contents.

(1) A selection of 250 of the amazing world-wide Universal Postal Union issues of 1949-50, 26 listed in the red Gibbons, 129 in the green, and 95 in the blue, together with a couple of sheets that Gibbons disdains to list. I was fortunate in getting the difficult items like the Portuguese colonies, Persia and Spanish Morocco, and this U.P.U. lot makes a most colourful and interesting show.

(2) Items of natural history that have caught my eye, such as the birds of Angola, the fishes of Mozambique, the insects that are emerging four by four from the Swiss ark, the glorious flowers of Austria, Columbia, Finland, Timor, Switzerland and elsewhere, and the amazing composite sheets marking the centenary of Gay's "Chilean Flora and Fauna," 1844. I show the 60 c blue half-sheet of 25, which always reminds me of the engaging tiles in the Johannesburg Railway Tea Room!

(3) Of the odd items that figure here, pride of place falls to the Penny Black of 1840 and the Pound Black of 1929, the two most beautiful stamps of Britain. The endless repetition of Commonwealth stamps, specially of the middle period, repels me, but I include a few Georgian sets that have caught my fancy, for instance the five attractive designs of recent Seychelles stamps, the Coco-de-mer Palm, the Giant Tortoise, the Fishing Pirogue, the Sail Fish and the Indian Ocean. I was glad to note among my accumulation over the years the three elusive items, S.G. 141, 145 and 146. Of other Empire stamps, the Pitcairn set tells its tale of mutiny and marooning and the revolution wrought by Bible and School, the recent Virgin Islands issue is full of yarns, and the rather flamboyant set recently hailing from Papua-New Guinea is perhaps the most talkative of all. The costume series of Austria and Switzerland afford a pleasing glimpse of woman in her infinite variety, the more so inasmuch as one woman acted as model for all the Austrian designs. Her wardrobe, bought or borrowed, must be quite a thing! Professor Mazzana's clever designs showing the typical industries and occupations of the 10 provinces of Italy, with charming glimpses of the scenery of each, make a very decorative page. History also plays its part. A recent issue for Cape Verde, with gallant pairs of mediaeval navigators and two engaging maps, makes the most colourful page in the album. Then there is a page for Francis of Assisi and the scenes of his evergreen life, another for the Italian mediaeval republics, and one for Edmund Dulac's twelve designs to mark the heroic stand of Free France. The sports series that keep pouring out of the stamp presses do not attract me, but I have found a page for chess, one of its five designs showing Capablanca making "la jugada precisa" with which he beat the champion Lasker.

Apart from the intrinsic interest of this album it has proved a wonderful recruiting agent for our king of hobbies. The philatelic bug lurks within its pages and has bitten not a few!

AFRICAN COLONIES

The numerous British Colonies in Africa have always been steadily popular with collectors. Ranging from triangular Capes to Zanzibar, they represent a varied and interesting group. We have just made up some fine Approval Books of these stamps. **They are worth seeing if you are interested.**

Please state countries in which you are interested.

H. A. L. HUGHES & CO.

28 Nelson House, Park Road, Peterborough.

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B. J. HUNTER

SOUTH AFRICA - A Discovery!

We have just received a unique variety, which has reached us together with a certified copy of a letter stating that the material was purchased in Natal in 1942 (over the post office counter in the ordinary course of business.

The discovery was of a sheet of 1½d. Bantam S.G. 98a (Roulette 13), **the right hand margin being without slogans** for the greater part of its length, and extending to the bottom margin. As far as is known, this variety has not hitherto been recorded, and it is believed that only the one sheet exists.

We can offer the following, subject unsold:—

Horizontal pair showing margin without slogan	£12 10 0
Right hand Arrow block of four, margin without slogan	£50 0 0
Cyclometer block of four, margin without slogan	£40 0 0
Right hand bottom corner block of four, side and bottom margins without slogan (Stamp 11 Row 20 shows 2 white dots of 1st printing)	£50 0 0
Top right hand corner block comprising six horizontal pairs together with top and side margins with slogans at top and side for first three rows, defective slogans at 4th and 5th rows, and completely missing at 6th row	£30 0 0

(All Mint and offered subject unsold.)

B. J. Hunter (Incorporating Merx)

56a, EAST STREET, BRIGHTON, SUSSEX, ENGLAND

TEL. BRIGHTON 29677.

UNION.

2d. Photo Vignette, S.G. 116, HB 47D, variety "white inner frame line", mint, pair 5/–

½d. and 1d.: entirely new selections now available, diff. printings, varieties, sheet positions, etc.

MOZAMBIQUE BUTTERFLIES.

Lovely set of 16 different, to 5 es. 12/6

Short set of 12 for **5/6**, 8 diff. only 1/9

CORONATION.

Rapkin/Gibbons Looseleaf Souvenir Album, Red or Blue binder, at 15/6

1954 CATALOGUE.

Gibbons Part III, Rest of the World, outside Brit. Empire and Europe and Colonies, price 21/–

NEW APPROVAL BOOKS.

Completely re-made selections now available of Ethiopia, German Colonies, Italy modern commemoratives. Available on request against references.

All Offers postfree, Cash with Order.

A. Lichtenstein

B.P.A.

Box 1117 —— BLOEMFONTEIN

CAPE TRIANGULARS

will be 100 years old next month.

The latest and most informative book on these stamps is that by D. Alan Stevenson. Available from stock, price **63/-**.

I can also offer a fine range of the triangular stamps themselves.

The 1926 SOUTH AFRICAN TRIANGULAR stamp is available in either language at 1/9 per stamp mint, 1/3 each for fine used copies. Postage extra.

Last month I advertised the South African 2d. Cyl. 46/27 and the Official 1d. S.G. 036. A few of each are still in stock for those who order promptly.

WANT LISTS for mint and used Empire stamps of all periods will have my immediate attention.

R. T. LILLEY

504 Belfast Building,
29 Joubert Street,
JOHANNESBURG.
(Telephone: 23-9040)

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BULAWAYO CONGRESS AND EXHIBITION

Congress.

The 15th Annual Congress of the Philatelic Federation of Southern Africa, held at Bulawayo under the auspices of the Philatelic Society of Rhodesia on the occasion of the Rhodes Centenary Exhibition, has passed off successfully and pleasantly.

Congress was held in the Hotel Victoria on the 13th and 14th July, after being formally opened by Councillor Butcher, Senior Councillor in residence, of Bulawayo. There were thirty delegates, representing most of the affiliated societies.

Following are the main points dealt with, full minutes of the meeting will be submitted to societies in due course:—

(1) The Pietermaritzburg Philatelic Society applied for and was cordially granted re-admission to the Federation.

(2) Arising from the report submitted by the Union Handbook/Catalogue sub-committee it was decided that the present sub-committee should carry on with the preparation of a Supplement, but that for the time being no mention should be made of the Darmstadt Trials. In the event, however, of further evidence about them being brought forward, as seems likely to be the case, a new committee should be appointed to consider the Federation's attitude towards them.

In view of this decision no further communications on Darmstadt stamps, either for or against, will be published in the "South African Philatelist" in the meantime.

(3) Associate Membership of the Federation. It was decided to amend the Constitution of the Federation to admit Societies, Study Circles or similar bodies concerning themselves particularly with S. African Philately but not situated in Southern Africa, to Associate Membership of the Federation at a subscription of £1 11s. 6d. per annum. Associate Members not to have any say in the affairs of the Federation but to receive the "South African Philatelist" and notices re Congresses.

(4) Final Approval was given to the holding of the 16th Congress in Durban on 1st-2nd June, 1954 under the auspices of the Philatelic Society of Natal and for that Society to stage a National Exhibition. These will be held during the time of Durban celebrating its centenary as a municipality.

Preliminary approval was given to the holding of the 1955 Congress in Pretoria.

(5) Three papers were read before Congress, each one, as it happened, dealing with a different aspect of philately and each was voted on as worthy of a Congress Award. The subjects and writers were: ½d., 1d. and 6d. Union "Officials", Dr. T. B. Berry; Postal History of Basutoland, G. N. Gilbert; Thematic Collecting, J. E. Crewell.

It is hoped these will be published in the S.A. Philatelist in due course.

(6) Roll of Honour. The only election to the South African Roll of Honour of Distinguished Philatelists was Mr. B. L. R. Fox of Bulawayo. Mr. Fox, in a neat brief speech returning thanks for the honour paid him, stressed that philately's finest feature was the friendships which it made.

(7) The Federation's "Skinner Cup", awarded annually to the philatelist considered by the Executive Committee to have done the best work for philately during the preceding twelvemonth, was awarded to Dr. Alec Kaplan. Dr. Kaplan, as is well known, has been doing good work for philately in many directions for many years, his most obvious work recently having been, of course, as one of the Editors of the Union Handbook/Catalogue.

(8) Election of Office-bearers for 1953-54.
President: Mr. Milner Palmer, Durban.
Vice-Presidents: B. L. R. Fox, Bulawayo; A. V. Jacob, Cape Town; R. Morton, Pietermaritzburg; G. N. Gilbert, Orange Free State; P. Kaplan, Transvaal.
Sec. and Treasurer: J. Michelson, Box 375, Johannesburg.

(9) Mr. A. V. Jacob submitted an audited Balance Sheet of the Cape Town 1952 International Exhibition, showing a considerable profit; the sale of commemorative envelopes had contributed very materially towards this satisfactory result. He intimated further that the money thus accruing to the Cape Town Society would in all probability be turned into a Trust Fund, from which advances could be made for any philatelic object considered suitable by the Trustees.

Exhibition.

The Exhibition organised by the Philatelic Society of Rhodesia, the first ever held in Rhodesia, was staged in the Conference Hall of the Rhodes Centenary Exhibition. It was not a competitive exhibition and was not very large; the exhibits were all "by invitation", mostly from members of societies in the Federation. They were designed to fit in with the plan of the general exhibition, i.e. were strong in the Rhodesias, but including also displays from all the neighbouring territories in Africa South of the equator, both present-day and former stamp issuing countries. Pride of place must be given to the exhibit put up by Mr. A. V. Jacob of the B.S.A. Company's stamps — a magnificent show, including some recent acquisitions, notably complete sheets showing all the various watermarks on the stamp paper.

There were also a few exhibits of countries outside Southern Africa.

An exhibit much missed was the only one from overseas, Postal History of B.C.A. by W. G. Nodder, Bath, England. Notification of its despatch on 6th May had been received, but it had not arrived. Probably it had been sent by Parcel Post, but not marked "via Cape Town."; such items are usually sent by the East Coast route and take considerably longer.

A number of frames of colourful French Colonial stamps were on temporary loan at the philatelic exhibition from the French Colonial pavilion.

There were also on view several frames of pictures composed of pieces of stamps, notably a

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very good likeness of Rhodes. These were made by Mr. B. P. Jaffa and were wonderfully artistic, but the artist does not claim that they were really philately.

General.

The Bulawayo meeting of 1953 will be remembered by all attending it as a very pleasant function and much credit is to be given to Mr. J. E. Crewell and his Committee for the organisation.

The delegates arrived by various means, air, train or motor; some had toured Eastern Rhodesia (the really scenic part of the country) en route and a number made a short trip to the Victoria Falls after the closing of the philatelic exhibition.

On the afternoon of the second day of Congress, most of them made a pilgrimage to the Matoppos where Rhodes is buried. Otherwise in their spare time they were fully occupied in seeing the general Exhibition; this was a very fine show, the most outstanding feature being the amazing historical exhibits of Rhodes himself and of the early days of Rhodesia. In the evening the host society treated delegates and their wives to a very pleasant dinner, with only one speech — a short address by the Postmaster of Bulawayo.

The Exhibition post office did a roaring trade with special stamps, air-letter forms and commemorative postmark although, of course, the time for first-days was past.

A busy trade in stamps was also done at the pavilions of Kenya, N. Rhodesia, Nyasaland, Zanzibar, and the High Commission territories, all of which were selling their respective country's stamps, although these could not be used at the Exhibition.

SOUTHERN RHODESIA.

4d. Postage Due Error.

When certain British Postage Due stamps were overprinted in 1951 for use in S. Rhodesia, the grey-green 4d. was still current in Britain, but in the set overprinted the new blue 4d. was used, although this was only issued for use in Britain a little later.

It now appears that some of the grey-green 4d. stamps were overprinted in error and sent to S. Rhodesia, where apparently they were not discovered till about the beginning of 1953 and in March such stamps as had not been used were recalled by the P.M.G., Salisbury for destruction.

At Bulawayo we learnt the following particulars regarding these stamps, and saw a few specimens of them: Apparently one package of 500 sheets (240 per sheet) was sent to Gwelo post office; some of these were used locally, others were sent to 10 district post offices for which Gwelo was the distributing centre. When instructions came to return the unused balance it is understood that about 400 were handed in for destruction. That leaves a balance of about 100 sheets which may have been postally used or are in existence in unused condition. They may not therefore be quite so scarce as was at first imagined.

"Royal Tour" Postmark Farce.

After performing the official ceremony of opening the Rhodes Centenary Exhibition at Bulawayo H.M. the Queen Mother and H.R.H. Princess Margaret went on tour round Rhodesia by train.

Some two or three weeks earlier the following statement appeared "from our Bulawayo correspondent" in the "Rhodesia Herald" of 17 June, 1953 and was copied into various newspapers in other territories.

ROYAL TRAIN DATE STAMP

Although there are no facilities for the public to post letters on the Royal Train, the postal authorities have arranged for philatelists to get the Royal Train date stamp impressed on letters.

It is made clear, however, that the public has to provide its own covers, preferably stamped, which can be sent in parcel form to the Secretary, Royal Tour Covers, Staff Room 4, P.O. Box 61, Causeway.

Return of Covers.

Registration facilities are available for the return of covers provided they are clearly marked and the stamps cover the registration fee of 4d.

Covers will be accepted between July 2nd and 12th inclusive. Covers received after July 12th will not receive attention. The public is warned against posting the covers they want stamped with the Royal Tour impression through the ordinary post because they will arrive already stamped with the impression in everyday use. It is emphasised that they must be sent under separate cover."

Wouldn't you, on reading this intimation, have imagined that there was to be a Post Office on the Royal Train and that, although the public was not to have the privilege of mailing directly at it, the G.P.O. in Salisbury was prepared to service covers sent them, by forwarding them daily, or at any rate whenever convenient, to the Royal Train P.O. for postmarking?

Many Philatelists in Rhodesia and in the Union got that impression, anyway.

Where the idea of this service arose we have not been able to find out; but it definitely was not asked by the Rhodesian Philatelic Societies.

Could the Post Office have originated the idea just out of the kindness of their heart towards cover collectors, or could they, perhaps, have had a little notion of revenue raising as well? We do not know.

But what actually happened?

Well, there was a post office accompanying the Royal Train, but its use was entirely confined to the passengers and staff of the train, for none of the many covers sent to the special room in the G.P.O., Salisbury, ever went near the train — they were all postmarked in Salisbury.

Passing through en route for Bulawayo we handed in personally a bunch of covers. Postmarking was going on busily, but we were asked "Are any of these for yourself?" and on picking out two which were, these were postmarked there and then and handed back to us — to save time and keep the covers nice and clean!

On looking at the cancellations we found they were the same one which had been used for the Royal Train in 1947; the date was 2nd July, although we handed them in on the 8th, so we got 1st day covers as well!

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To compare their marks with those of the 1947 Royal Tour readers are referred to a detailed account given by Mr. H. W. Bond in the "S.A. Philatelist" 1952, p. 200. He describes there no less than 6 different types of covers with variations in the postmarks and registration marks depending on whether they were done actually on the train P.O., in Room 4, G.P.O., Salisbury, or in both (cancelling on train, registering in G.P.O.).

The covers we have seen have a cancellation mark like that used at the G.P.O. in 1947, the base of the Royal Coat of Arms above the oval canceller being curved to the oval, and without bars across it; the letters "R" in "Royal Tour" are narrow (2 mm. wide) and those in "Southern Rhodesia" 1.5 mm. wide.

We have not actually seen a copy from the Royal Train so cannot say whether or not the mark there had the wide "R's" (2.5 mm.) and the 3 bars across the base of the coat-of-arms, as in 1947.

We have been informed that the Registration marks of real Train covers are in black ink, whereas those we have seen from the G.P.O., Salisbury are in violet ink with the number machine-typed in black.

Perhaps further information will become available in due course.

We refrain from further comment, and leave it to readers to form their own opinions. Personally we feel that we must write to the philatelic friends interested in T.P.O. cancellations to whom we sent covers, explaining that though the covers **may** possibly be described as "Royal Tour" covers, they are certainly not what the registration marks describe them as — "Royal Train" covers.

We realize, of course, that S. Rhodesia is not the only sinner in doing this sort of thing and perhaps collectors are themselves largely to blame by their craze for 1st day and commemorative covers in such quantities that post offices are just forced to adopt somewhat dubious methods of meeting the demand.

J.H.H.P.

Definitive issue 31st August.

The new definitive issue, comprising 14 denominations,, ½d. to £1, is due to appear on August 31.

The Philatelic Society is prepared to service 1st day covers at the following rates:—

7 values up to 6d. at 2/6 per cover.
9 values up to 1/- at 4/6 per cover.
11 values up to 2/6 at 10/- per cover.
12 values up to 5/- at 15/- per cover.
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Cash with orders to be sent in good time to P.O. Box 803, Bulawayo.

U.S.A.

July 14th saw the issue of a 5c. stamp commemorating the centenary of Commodore Perry's negotiations with Japan, which opened her doors to foreign trade after more than 200 years of isolation. The design depicts a night scene of Perry's vessels in Tokyo Bay with Mt. Fuji in the distant background.

Collectors' Wants & Offers

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

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

SOUTHERN NIGERIA. Full S.G. prices offered for superb used copies of S.G. 15, 17, and 28. — WILLIAM REDFORD, Box 1182, Johannesburg.

STAMPS.—Want lists invited for any country; specialities Union, S.W.A., British Africa. — LACY'S, Gillbern Buildings, cor. Plein and Mostert Streets, Cape Town.

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

1840-1890. For the stamps of any country in this period write DOUGLAS ROTH, Mona Crescent, Newlands, C.P. Phone 694282.

FOR SALE: Want lists, 1d. each, postage extra (up to 25 2d., up to 50 4d., per 100 or part 6d. postage). Can be used with any catalogue. Specimen copy sent on receipt of 3d. in stamps. Write—ROTAPRESS, Mtunzini, Zululand.

SEYCHELLES—Required for specialised collection: Panes of Provisionals, Covers and other interesting items.—A. R. KLEINER, 101 Westwoldway, Saxonwold, Johannesburg.

SWAZILAND.

Dr. J. F. Fick of Goedgegun reports that the Coronation stamps appear to have been printed in two sheets or panes of 60 stamps each, one with plate numbers 1A and 3A, the other with plate numbers 1B and 2B. These numbers appear on the bottom margin under the last two stamps, the 1A and 1B being in the colour of the frame (brown), the 3A and 2B in the colour of the centre plate (black).

No other distinguishing marks or differences have been noted between the two lots.

The imprint "Thomas de la Rue & Company, Limited, London" is under the four centre stamps of the bottom row. The stamps are perf. 13½ x 13, the perforations running through the top margin of the sheets but not through the bottom margin.

Following a note in our May issue, p. 94, it can now be recorded that all values of the K.G. VI stamps are obtainable with the perforations running through the top margins of the sheets but not through the bottom.

Later. More plate numbers have been seen, viz., 1A with 2A and 5A, and 1B with 3B and 5B.

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UNION POSTAL STATIONERY

By S. J. VERMAAK.

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

Mr. President and Gentlemen,

By now you will know that I am not one for making speeches, nor to hold forth on any given subject, but, as I hope to convert a few of you to postal stationery fans by my little show to-night, and because of the very nature of the thing to be exhibited, I have virtually forced myself into saying something.

Let me first clear the air lest I am accused of an ulterior motive. The reason why I am looking for recruits to join the small band of postal stationery collectors in our country, is not because I have anything to sell. On the contrary, I want to buy. As you will see presently, I lack quite a few items. My recruiting effort is because I consider that this aspect of our philately has been very sadly neglected by our collectors of Union stamps. This is indeed sad, as outside collectors are more interested in our postal stationery than we are and I wish to use this opportunity to urge you seriously to consider giving some attention to the postal stationery of the Union.

The cards to be displayed tonight deal with P.C. 41 and what follows, that is, Union Handbook number P.C.41 and not anything like Archibald Willoughby-Barkley, better known in radio detective yarns as P.C.41 — or is it P.C. 49?

For the benefit of those who do not know the set-up, these cards are printed on a machine using a sheet-size giving 8 cards and, as there are 32 cards in the set, four printings, or more correctly four cylinders are used. These are shown in the handbook as Cylinders 1, 2, 3 and 4, or numbered P.C.41a, b, c and d. I mention this as I show the complete set which first appeared in May 1951.

At this stage let me say that opinion disagrees with the handbook regarding the colour of this first issue. In fact, collectors disagree among themselves on the description of the various colour groups, so that I am quite muddled and even sometimes find that I disagree with myself. So please do not remind me that I have my colours all mixed. This reminds me that a collector of this group of cards once referred to it as "a most fascinating study." Now, if I were to be honest towards myself, I should say that it is a pain in the neck, but as such an admission won't bring me any recruits, I will cheat myself and pretend to agree with my friend.

While on colours, allow me to mention something about the five different types of which I am aware. The colours of four of the five types are fairly constant throughout the printings of the four different cylinders. There are some variations. But the fourth issue, that described as slatish, varies from cylinder to cylinder, with the result that I doubt whether any collector has as yet succeeded in completing the set in uniform colour.

Now something about each type. First, we have T.1., described as sepia. T.11 is red-brown. The dates of issue of this and the two succeeding types are not known to me. Perhaps someone present can help me out. Then came a type which is distinctly more brown and the stamp decidedly rose-coloured. T.4 is shown as slatish. All these issues are on a soft- toned card. T.5 made its appearance in October 1952 and differs from the others in three main respects, viz. (i) a hard, white card is used; (ii) the view is in chocolate brown, and (iii) the stamp shows more colour. However they were issued, the first four types followed each other very closely. I remember having bought the half-stamp and the four stampless cards at the Jeppe Street P.O. in October 1951. These five cards I think are sepia and tonight I show them as such, but other collectors class them as slatish.

That brings me to the gay variety of varieties which interest me very much, but does not fascinate my friend as much as the "colour study". All but the last type bristle with freaks and varieties. Apparently the printers still had teething trouble with the new machine. The latest issue has not to my knowledge produced any varieties and one can only assume that the printers are now fully conversant with its usage.

In type 1 there are three groups of varieties. The most important is the half-stamp on the card of "The Falls". As far as is known, one copy only exists and I was lucky enough to have it come my way. Secondly, Cylinder 4 occurs entirely without stamp. I have four of the 8. The third variety is a cracked stamp-plate on "Yachting". This I also have.

In T.2, Cylinders 1 and 2 produced stampless cards. I have those from Cyl. 1 only. Possibly they exist also in the printings from the other Cylinders. A more important freak is, however, found in this group, viz. one-third of a stamp. This occurs on cards No. 2 and 7 of Cyl. 1. There are five copies known. I acquired one just in time for to-night's exhibit.

Type 3 is known to have produced a badly smudged stamp from Cyl. 1. This variety is known on Cards Nos. 1, 7 and 8, which I show to-night. In all probability all the cards from Cyl. 1 will have this variety. A minor flaw in the form of a defect in the trees is shown on card No. 5 of Cyl. 1.

In the slate-coloured issue (that is, if I am right in saying "slate"), two varieties are known, namely, vertical lines in the colour of the stamp through the view. Cyl. 2 is responsible for this mess. I have 5 out of the 8 cards, so marked. The second variety is an oblong smudge in the colour of the view, on the stamp. This is also shown.

Other varieties are known, but I have not yet been able to ascertain to what groups they belong. Most important of these are: a card ("The Sentinels") in which the scene is only partly printed and the Arms and wording not printed at all; another card (Naby Chuniespoort) has a badly printed scene, while yet another (Golden Gate) has a defectively printed stamp.

To conclude — if it is variety and colour you seek, there is no need to enlist the aid of P.C. 49. P.C. 41 provides it all.

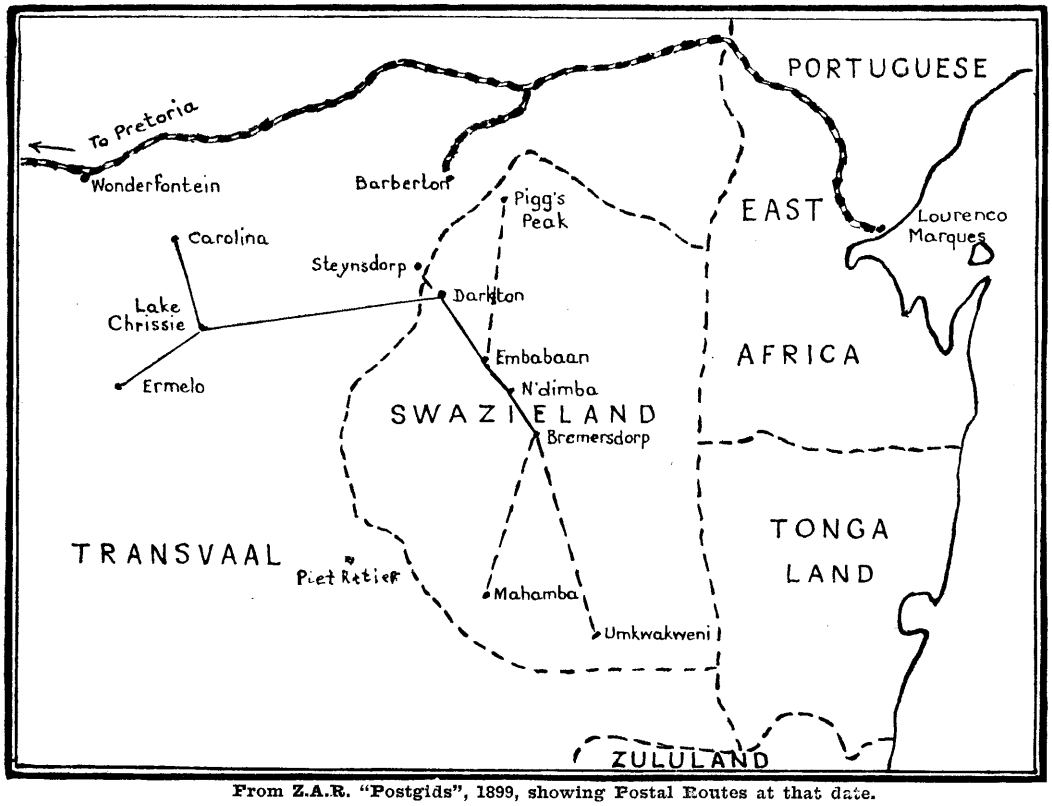
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SWAZILAND—POSTAL HISTORY and STAMPS

By
J. H. HARVEY PIRIE.

CHAPTER I.
GEOGRAPHY & GENERAL HISTORY.

Some little knowledge of the geography and general history of Swaziland is necessary for an understanding of its postal history. A short consideration of these therefore introduces this study.



From Z.A.R. "Postgids", 1899, showing Postal Routes at that date.

GEOGRAPHY.

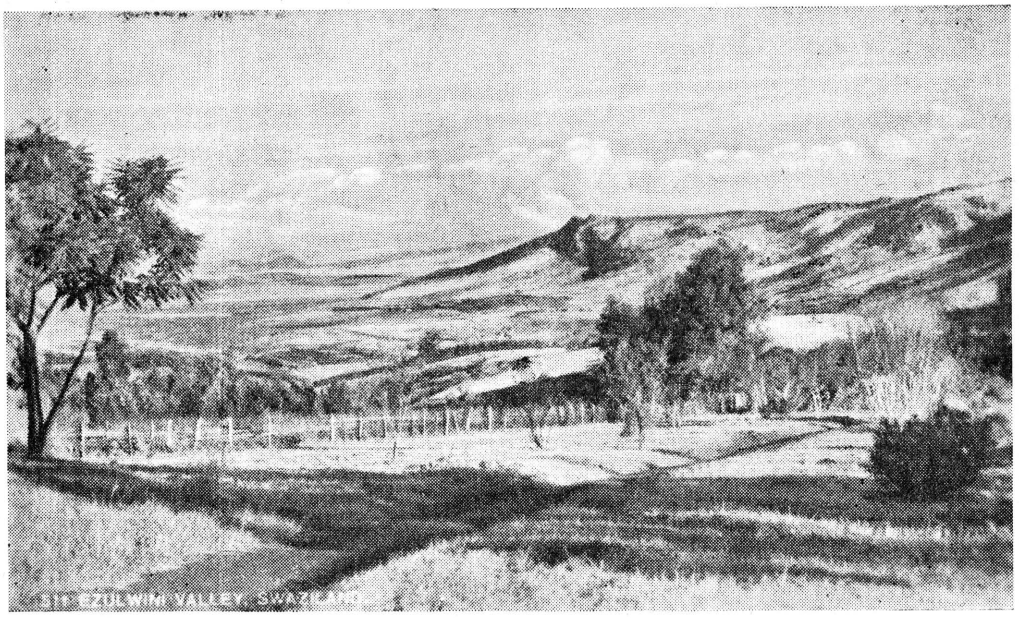
Swaziland is a small country about 6,700 square miles, i.e. a little smaller than Wales. It is surrounded on the north, west and south by the Transvaal, and on the east by Portuguese East Africa (Mozambique).

It is partly "Low Veld" country, especially in the centre and south, while the western part gradually rises to some 3,000 or 4,000 feet to merge into the Transvaal High Veld. The north-western part is distinctly mountainous, the highest peak being Emlembe ("The place of the spider") which rises to 6,122 feet. Along the whole of the eastern boundary runs the Lebombo Range, but this only exceeds 2,000 feet in a few places and it is cut by deep gorges where the Imbuluzi, the Usutu and the Ngwavuma rivers pierce it running eastwards.

The boundary between Swaziland and the Transvaal may be described as artificial and without any natural geographical features defining it.

On the north a more natural boundary would appear to have been the Crocodile River. The Swazis did indeed at one time claim that part and actually beyond it, to about as far as Ohrigstad in the N.E. Transvaal. This they had little real claim to, however; it was merely their favourite raiding ground and in 1846 King Mswazi ceded to Hendrik Potgieter all land north of the Crocodile River to which they

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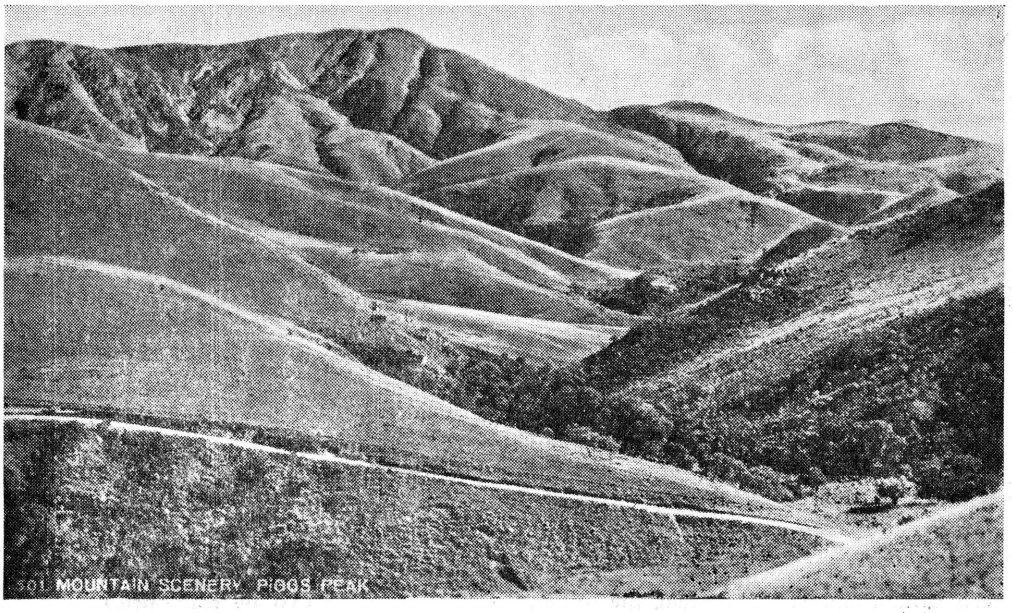


Looking down to the lowveld from Mbabane.

had made any claim, and almost agreed to what is practically now the northern boundary.

On the south a curious long tongue of Transvaal territory lies between Swaziland and the Pongola River, which would appear to have been a more natural boundary between it and Zululand on the south. Actually it was at one time definitely Swazi territory and the story of how it became Transvaal territory was told me by Mr. Alastair Miller, who was in 1888 the Secretary of the Government or "White" Committee. Here it is:—

The Swazis and the Zulus were practically at war with each other all the time, although ethnologically closely related, and constantly raiding the border marches. In 1864 King Mswazi thought it would be a good idea to have a White buffer between himself and the Zulus and gave one, Conrad Vermaak, a hunting concession over this strip of land lying just north of the Pongola river. A Judicial Commission sitting in 1890 to determine boundaries, etc., of various concessions which had been granted, came to the conclusion that the terms of Ver-



Mountain Road in N.W. Swaziland.

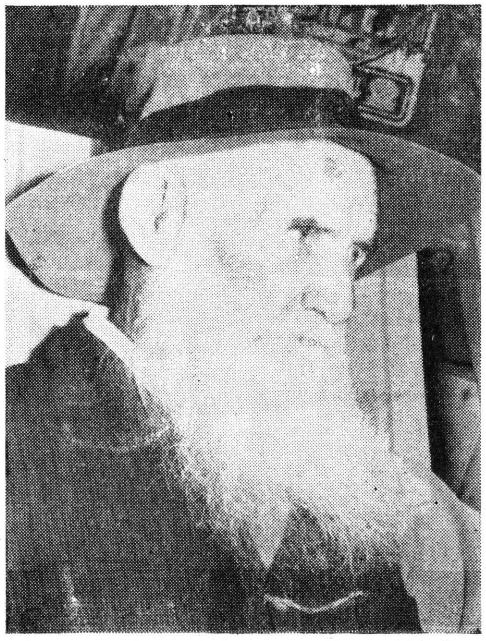
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maak's concession were such as amounted to actual ownership and, he being a Transvaal Burgher, the land passed to the Transvaal.

The northern and western boundaries were surveyed and determined by Major Alleyne of the Royal Engineers in the early 1890's. He persuaded King Mbandine to give up all claims he had made to the Carolina, Barberton and Komatipoort districts and accepted them as being Transvaal territory.

One little area on the south-western boundary deserves special mention. A glance at the map of Swaziland shows that to the north-east of Piet Retief, on the line between it and Mankaiana, there is a bulge of Transvaal territory into Swaziland. This is the area known even to-day, at any rate locally, as "The Little Free State."

This area was for some six or seven years practically an independent state. Its story is that the Swazi King, Mbandine, sold some 40,000 acres of land to a number of farmers, who then proclaimed the area as a Republic of their own. There was some difficulty as to who should be President so they decided to govern the state by a "Driemanskap" or Triumvirate. Of this trio, which made the laws and settled all disputes, one is still (1951) alive and living in Piet Retief at the age of 90. This is Mr. Ignatius Maritz, commonly called "Oom Naas"; the accompanying photograph of him appeared in "The Star" of 27-2-51 along with notes of an interview.



During the existence of the Little Free State the Driemanskap performed twelve marriages, but when it came to trying a murder case this was too much for them and on behalf of the 60 burghers they petitioned for incorporation with the Transvaal. President Kruger was agreeable to this and, at the 1890 Convention between Britain and The Transvaal, the formal transfer of the area from Swaziland to Transvaal ownership was agreed to.

Curiously enough in what is believed to be the first large scale (3 miles to the inch) map of Swaziland, made by Alastair Miller and published by Ed. Stanford, London in 1896, the Little Free State is shown, but still as a part of Swaziland.

A place near the Little Free State area, and also worthy of mention, is Mahamba. This is a store situated really practically right on the boundary line. For many years it figured as a Postal Agency in Swaziland; in the 1920's it was listed sometimes as being in Swaziland, sometimes as being in the Union. Now it is definitely recorded as being in the Union.

GENERAL HISTORY.

The genealogy of the Swazi Kings has been traced back to about 1550, with all their names and periods of reign. There are also a few records of Europeans penetrating from the coast into what is now Swaziland in similar early times, but it is unnecessary here to go back into such ancient history.

Present day history, so far as Europeans are concerned, began in 1860 with the granting by King Mswazi of some mining, grazing and trading rights, mainly to citizens of the Transvaal (South African Republic, or Z.A.R. for short). In 1875, his successor, King Mbandine, confirmed these concessions and continued granting more. It has been stated by some writers that for a case of gin almost anything could be obtained from Mbandine in the concession line, but this is vigorously denied by W. C. Penfold in an article published in the Johannesburg "Star" of 14 Nov., 1923. Mr. Penfold had been private secretary to Theophilus Shepstone (See a little further on) and certainly was in a position to know the truth. He states:—

"The prevailing idea that the gin case was the medium (for obtaining grants or concessions) is quite inaccurate. The notion that Umbandini was a drunkard is an equally mistaken one. The writer saw Umbandini continually from 1886 till his death and never once did he see him touch wine or spirits.

"Good, strong kaffir beer he drank in large quantities, which accounted for his fat — but nothing stronger."

Mbandine was undoubtedly a shrewd business man and became a rich one through his concession granting; over 500 concessions were sold by him. The trouble was, even at the time and worse later on, that there was very little in the way of written record as to the terms, extent, etc. of the concessions.

The tale of the Swaziland concessions is one of human greed and makes rather sordid reading — the constant mob of fortune hunters around the royal kraal at Embekelweni, the bribing of the entourage to obtain an interview with the King; the stories put up to obtain concessions, and the 'present' given him as a first step in payment. It is stated that Mbandine was drawing about £1,200 a month regularly as rental for his concessions, to say nothing of the initial payments made for them.

(To be continued.)

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KEY TO SOUTH AFRICAN POSTAGE DUES.

By Oswald L. Harvey.

(Reprinted by kind permission from "Stamps".)

For the convenience of general collectors, who find it difficult to classify South Africa postage due stamps, the following simple KEY has been prepared.

With each dated issue is given the corresponding catalogue numbers (omitting the code letters preceding them) as reported by: (S) Scott, general, Vol. I, 1952; (R) Robson Lowe Encyc., Vol. II, 1949; (G) Gibbons, general, Pt. I, Sec. A, 1949; (U) Handbook/Catalogue of South Africa Stamps, 1952.

Note particularly the Dutch spelling of the country name.

1943 Bantam size, 11 x 22 mm. (All other issues are about 18 x 22 mm.) — S30-33, R178-181, G31-34, U34-37 (Group VIII).

1914 ZUID-AFRIKA is 1¼ mm. high, perforated—S1-7, R20-27, G1-7, U1-7 (Group I).

Jun. 1922 ZUID AFRIKA is 1¼ mm. high, rouletted—S8-10, R30-32, G8-10 (Group II).

Aug. 1922 ZUID AFRIKA is 1 mm. high — S11-16, R33-38, G11-16, U11-21 (Groups III & IV).

1927 SUIDAFRIKA, small d in value, perf. 14 —S17-21, R73-77, G17-21, U22-26 (Group V).

1932 SUIDAFRIKA, small d in value, perf. 14½ x 14—S22-28, R102-108, G22-30, U27-33 (Groups VI & VII).

1948 SUIDAFRIKA, capital D in value — S34-38, R—, G—, U38-42 (Group IX).

1950 SUID-AFRIKA (Hyphenated) —S—, R—, G—, U44-47 (Group X).

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FALKLAND DEPENDENCIES.

The new Q.E. set of stamps for the Falkland Islands Dependencies — 15 values, ½d. to £1— will feature on each a ship connected with Antarctic exploration.

The "Philatelic Magazine" stigmatizes this as "Rapacious Exploitation." It must be admitted that although the choice of subjects for these stamps is a very suitable one, mail from these Dependencies (with the possible exception of South Georgia) is very largely philatelic in nature, and the necessity for so many stamps and especially running to such high values, seems very questionable.

It will hit particularly thematic collectors whose subject is "ships" — £2 2s. 11½d. for a complete set of the 15 stamps.

LOURENCO MARQUES EXHIBITION.

The 1st Philatelic Exhibition to be held in Lourenco Marques opened on 23 July and remains open till 2 August. It has been organised by the Clube Filatélico de Mocambique in honour of the centenary of Portuguese postage stamps and has H.E. the Governor-General as Honorary President.

The catalogue shows that there were 100 exhibits on display about half of them featuring Portugal and Colonies (or as the Portuguese term it "Portugal e Ultramar."

Judging is to take place during the last three days of the exhibition, instead of beforehand, which is the more usual procedure. There are about six exhibits from the Union. (There would probably have been more had longer notice been given and had it not clashed somewhat with the Bulawayo exhibition) and in view of this the Hon. Editor of this magazine was invited to serve on the Jury — the others are all local residents. Some 5 gold, 15 silver and 20 bronze medals, made in Lisbon, are available as awards.

Special stamps, postmarks and commemorative covers are the order of the day. We hope to give a further account in our next issue.

The two special stamps issued by the Postal Authorities, 1 and 3 escudos, follow the now almost traditional plan of celebrating stamp centenaries, by having "a stamp within a stamp". In this case however, they have given us full measure and running over; one of the first issue of Portugal is surrounded by 8 Mocambique stamps. They are in original colours, quite a Joseph coat, and although small the details come out marvellously well.

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L. T. KONG

P.O. BOX 100 ——— VEREENIGING.

NYASALAND.

The ½d., 2d. and 6d. Q.E. stamps are to be supplied with comb perforation for use in stamp vending machines, but they will also be available through the Crown Agents in sheet form.

"EXCHANGER" FINED.

In "Stamp Collecting" of 15 May is a report of an individual being fined £15 with £3 3s. costs after pleading guilty to a charge of theft by substitution in the packets of an exchange club of which he was a member.

The club's Secretary had had the individual under suspicion for some time as in four previous packets considerable substitution had taken place.

We have been asked by the Exchange Superintendent of one of our South African societies to make this matter known, which rather suggests that similar practices are suspected of occurring here. Such lawbreakers **can** be dealt with.

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STAMP DESIGNS OF BRITISH AFRICA

By M. N. MOORE.

Farming:

As the phrase, "we eat to live" still holds true, it is not surprising that most of the pictorial stamps of British Africa bear subjects relating to farming.

The earliest British Africa stamps bearing any relation to this subject, and the only ones of the IXth Century, are the Cape of Good Hope stamps issued in 1864, depicting Hope seated with a grape-vine branch and a ram, attributes of the colony. This design was issued in various colours, values and changes until 1898. The first stamp in this series of the XXth Century is the controversial orange tree design of the Orange Free State, overprinted with V.R.I. in March, 1900, and two years later with the E.R.I. overprint.

Thirty-two years later from Sierra Leone came a set of nine values from ½d. to 1s. depicting a rice field beneath the King's head. In 1933 a set was released from Sierra Leone to commemorate the Centenary of the Abolition of Slavery and the death of William Wilberforce, the 3d. blue depicting a Native fruitseller with pineapples, bananas, paw-paws and other tropical fruits in the basket on her head.

Bechuanaland, had in the previous year, issued a set of 12 values with various colours depicting cattle drinking, with a Baobab tree in the background, beneath King George V's head. In 1938 King Geodge VI's head replaced his father's.

The Union of South Africa 6d. definitive of 1926 depicted an orange tree in green and orange. A set issued with a surtax for the Voortrekker Centenary Memorial Fund included a ½d. and ½d. black and green stamp depicting a Voortrekker ploughing. The South African Victory set of 1945 also included a 2d. slate-blue and blue, depicting a man ploughing, symbolical of peace. Oddly enough the Van Riebeeck Tercentenary commemoratives do not depict anything related to farming, although Van Riebeeck was sent to the Cape to set up a victualling station.

On 1st May 1938 in a new definitive set for Sierra Leone, one of two designs which appeared on the 1½d., 2d., 5d., 6d., 1s. 3d., 5s., 10s., was rice harvesting. Nine days later a ½ anna green, 1 anna scarlet, 2 annas maroon & 3 annas bright-blue, depicted a black-headed sheep on a Somaliland set. The black headed sheep will be featured on the 1s. pale-blue of the Queen Elizabeth II set for the colony, which is in preparation.

In 1945 the 1½d. black and grey value and 6d. black and violet of Nyasaland depicted a tea estate, while the 4d. black and claret and 2/6 emerald and blue depicted tobacco.

In 1951 a 1 p. deep-blue and pale-blue of Sudan showed a group of Sudanese picking cotton. The 5 p., orange-brown and yellow-green, showed several Saluka farming. The 6 p., blue and black showed a Sudanese tapping gum.

October 15th, 1953, will be the date of issue of the 1d. brown and green depicting a tobacco planter and 3d. red and brown, an African farm worker from Southern Rhodesia. The 1d. green and chestnut brown to commemorate the Rhodes Centenary Celebrations, from the same colony depicts agricultural development.

The new Gambia Q.E. II definitives in preparation depict on ½d. sage and green and 6d. brown and purple, Palm wine tapping. The 1/- brown and green and 2/6 green and sepia of the same set show a woman farming.

The 1½d. emerald green of the Nigerian Q.E. II definitives depicts groundnuts, the 4d. black and smolt-blue, cocoa, 1/- black and lilac, timber, 5/- black and saturn red, Palm oil, and 10/- black and beech brown, hides and skins.

Buildings:

Buildings have been popular features with British African stamp designers and particularly with the South African stamp designers, from whom come the first buildings on British African stamps, depicted on the definitives of 1927. The Union Buildings on the 2d. (grey and purple), Groote Schuur on the 3d. (black and red) and African kraal featured on the 4d. (brown). The ½d. and ½d. black and green issued in the Voortrekker Memorial Fund set depicted the Church of the Vow in Pietermaritzburg. The 3d. and 3d. bright blue stamp issued in 1938 in the Voortrekker Memorial Fund Centenary featured the monument in a medallion in the centre of the stamp. To mark the 250th anniversary of the Landing of the Huguenots in South Africa, the "Old Vicarage", Paarl, was depicted on a ½d. and ½d. stamp (brown and green). A 1½d. and 1½d. blue-green and purple was also included in the set, showing a Huguenot dwelling in the Drakenstein Valley. To commemorate the Inauguration of the Voortrekker Monument, in 1949 a set of three stamps was issued, the 1½d. blue-green depicting the Voortrekker Monument, Pretoria.

The 1/- value of the set to mark the Centenary of the Abolition of Slavery and the death of William Wilberforce depicted the Government Buildings, Freetown (violet).

In 1935 to mark the 50th anniversary of the death of General Gordon, a series of excellent stamps was issued by the Sudan, the 2p. blue, 5p. orange-vermillion, and 10p. purple featuring the Gordon Memorial College, Khartoum.

The Gordon Memorial College was featured on a Sudan air stamp in 1950 (4p. brown and light-blue). In the same set the Suakin was also featured on the 6p. black and carmine, as well as the General Post Office, Khartoum (black and purple). In 1951 Stack Laboratory was depicted on the 10p. value, also of Sudan (black and green).

Gold Coast featured Christianborg Castle and the head of George V on a ten value set of 1928. Ten years later Christianborg appeared on thirteen values in slightly different formation with the head of George VI in two different designs.

In 1948 the 1d. value of a new definitive set depicted a different view of the Castle.

A 3d. blue stamp of the Nigerian 1936 pictorials featured a fishing village and on the 6d. purple-brown a Hobe minaret. A fishing village was also the subject on a Nyasaland 3d. (black and light-blue) and 2/- (emerald and maroon) issued in 1945.

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A large building (which I have been unable to identify) is the subject of the 3d. grey-blue and blue stamp issued by South West Africa in 1931. The 5/- sage-green and red-brown of the same set shows kaffir huts.

Air stamps for South West Africa issued at the same time show on the 3d., brown and blue, a monoplane over Windhoek, and 10d. black and brown-purple a biplane over Windhoek.

In 1940 to mark the British South Africa Company's Golden Jubilee, an attractive set of eight values was issued by Southern Rhodesia, on one of which, the 2d. green and bright violet was depicted Fort Victoria. The 1/- value shows beneath Queen Victoria's and King George VI's heads, Lobengula's Kraal and Government House, Salisbury (blue and green). I am going to take the liberty to include the Victoria Falls Bridge (4d. green and brown) in the same set in the series. The new Southern Rhodesian Q.E. II set, in preparation, depicts on the 1/- blue and violet, the Zimbabwe Ruins. The 10/- value of the Q.E. II set for Somaliland, which is also in preparation, depicts Taleh Fort (sepia and mauve).

Boats:

Designs depicting various types of boats are less common than any of the other designs mentioned so far.

The earliest example is a Sudanese postage due stamp issued in 1901 on the 2m. black and brown, 4m. brown and green, 10m. green and mauve, and the 20m. ultramarine and carmine. In 1927 they were issued with a change in watermark and paper, and again in 1948 with alterations in the Arabic script. A Sudanese air mail set was issued in 1950. The 2p. (black and blue green) depicted a dhow beneath the Blue Nile Bridge, Khartoum. The 3½p. (purple-brown and yellow-brown) showed a steamship and other small craft off Port Sudan while the 4½p. depicted a Nile Post Boat (black and utramarine). The Sudanese definitives of 1951 depicted on 3p. (brown and deep ultramarine) an Ambatch Canoe.

The South African 1d., definitive of 1926 depicted Van Riebeeck's ship (black and carmine). To mark the 100th anniversary of the arrival of the British Settlers in Natal, a 1½d. claret stamp was issued in 1949. It depicted the "Wanderer" entering Durban. In 1952 to commemorate the Van Riebeeck Tercentenary a set of five was issued of which the 2d. depicts the arrival of Van Riebeeck's ships (deep-violet).

The 1d. definitive of South West Africa issued in 1931 showed Vasco da Gama's ship off Cape Cross. (Scarlet and indigo).

In 1933 to commemorate the Centenary of the Abolition of Slavery, and the death of William Wilberforce an attractive set of thirteen values was issued in Sierra Leone, the 5d. green and chestnut featuring a Bullam Canoe. The £1 value of the same set shows a motor vessel in Freetown Harbour (violet and orange). The 6d. black and brown orange depicted punting near the Banana Islands.

A dhow on Lake Victoria was featured on Kenya 5c., black and green, 25c. black and scarlet, 50c. bright-purple and black, of the George VI set issued in 1938. In 1949 the 5c. was changed to brown and orange.

The ½d. green of Nigeria depicted a steamship alongside Apapa Wharf and on the 1½d. brown a tin dredger. Both were issued in 1936.

In 1945 the 1½d. black and chocolate, and the 9d. black and olive of Nyasaland, depicted a canoe on Lake Nyasa. In far more turbulent waters are surfboats shown on the 5/- purple and black of the Gold Coast issued in 1945.

The new Q.E. II definitives for Gambia depict on the 2½d. black and red and 2/- blue and rose, a Barra canoe. The 3d. blue and mauve and the 10/- blue and green of the same set show H.M.G.S. Lady Wright.

Wild Life:

British Africa abounds with wild life and accordingly the stamp designers of this section of the Commonwealth have made good use of the fact.

The ½d. to 5/- values of the Orange River Colony issued in 1902 featured beneath Edward VII's head a Springbok and a Gnu.

An elephant, being the subject of the Sierra Leone coat of arms, was depicted on the 3d. to £5 values of the same colony. In 1933 an African elephant was the subject of the 5/- value of the set to commemorate the Centenary of the Abolition of Slavery and the death of William Wilberforce.

In 1925 the first Northern Rhodesian stamps were issued with values from ½d. to £1 depicting beneath Gerge V's head, in a medallion above, giraffe and elephant. In 1938 George VI's head replaced his father's.

A Springbok was featured on the ½d. black and green of South Africa issued in 1926. The Springbok's head has been the watermark of South African stamps since 1913. In 1927 Gnus were featured on the 1/- brown and deep purple.

In 1931 the definitive pictorials of South West Africa included the Gom-pauw on the ½d. black and emerald, Eland on the 1/3 violet and yellow, and Zebra and Wildebeeste on the 2/6 carmine and grey.

The badge of the protectorate of Basutoland, a crocodile and mountains, was featured on the set of the protectorate (of 10 values from ½d. to 10/-), issued in 1933. In 1938 George VI's head replaced his father's.

Another protectorate, Nyasaland, issued a set of nine values (½d. to 1/-) depicting the badge of the protectorate, the subject of the badge being the controversial Cheetah standing on a boulder. The same design was repeated on the George VI set in 1938. This badge was the subject of the 1d. pictorial in 1947.

The Greater Kudu Antelope was the subject of the 4a. sepia, 6a. violet, 8a. grey, 12a. red orange, issued in 1938. In 1942 the King's portrait was altered from "portrait to left" to "full face". The colours remained the same. In 1951 owing to a currency change in the protectorate the values were changed.

In 1951 the 1m. black and orange of Sudan showed the Ibex. The 2m. of the same set depicted the Shoebill (black and bright blue), the 3m. Giraffe (black and yellow green), the 20 m. the Nile Lechwe (blue green and black).

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The ½d. value of the new Southern Rhodesian pictorials, in preparation depicts a Sable Antelope (plum and dark grey). The 1d. value of the Rhodes Centenary set, has as its subject, the development of agriculture, with Sable Antelope and a Cheetah in the foreground (deep green and chestnut brown). Also in preparation is a Somaliland set which includes a 35c. blue and 2/- sepia violet, featuring a Rock Pigeon. The 50c. sepia and carmine and 5/- sepia and green of the same set show the Martial Eagle.

For the British Africa collector, a thematic collection in the various subjects mentioned above can be an extremely interesting hobby. Although some of the stamps mentioned are of course rather rare to be included in a collection of this sort, if it is only to be a side-line, this should not deter those interested, for the bulk of the stamps mentioned can be bought very cheaply.

AUSTRALIA

The P.M.G. announces that the 1d. Q.E. stamp, of the same design as the 3d. issued on 17 June, will appear on 19 August.

There are to be 3 new denominations of Postage Dues, 7d., 2/- and 5/- issued on 26 August, and available to collectors through the Philatelic Sections of the Post Office. Similar to the present Postage Dues but in the case of the 2/- and 5/- the denominations will be in red against a white background. No further supplies of the 1½d. postage due will be printed.

A 3½d. commemorating the 25th anniversary of the official establishment of Young Farmers' Clubs will be issued on 3rd Sept. and will remain on sale for about one month. The stamp will be on sale at the opening of the Brighton Philatelic exhibition on the 3rd September, where a distinctive cancellation will be used.

GREAT BRITAIN.

The Board of Trade export and import control operated by the B.P.A. has ceased as from 30 June. Import and export of stamps is now treated in exactly the same manner as are other goods.

Three new values of the Q.E. definitives appeared on 6th July, the 5d., 8d., and 1/-. They are all of somewhat different design.

The death has been reported of Edmund Dulac, the designer of a number of recent British stamps.

CAPE TRIANGULARS CENTENARY.

As has already been announced, a display of Cape Triangular stamps together with some of the mother countries, will be held in the foyer of the Johannesburg Public Library for a fortnight.

There will be a special post office and cancellation. Two Commemorative covers have been prepared by the committee organising the display and one by the Afrikaanse Filatelistiese Vereniging.

The pair of the committee's envelopes will be serviced for 1/1, one with the 1d. commemorative stamp — unsealed — the other with the 4d. commemorative. They will receive the special postmark on 1st September.

Orders must reach Mr. S. J. Vermaak, Krugerlaan 82, Selwyn, Florida before 28th August. Postal Orders and cheques not to be crossed and country cheques to have extra 6d. commission.

HIGHER AND HIGHER

Goes the membership of the South African Collector's Society. Now over 200 strong, there are 39 in South Africa and 17 in the U.S.A. among them. Why do you not join to-day and receive the popular magazine "THE SPRINGBOK" — The subscription is only 10/- per annum. Details from:—

C. E. SHERWOOD,

105, Marford Crescent, Sale Manchester.

FRANCE.

The Postal Administration announces the issue of;

(a) On 6 June an 18 fr. violet and grey stamp in honour of Victor Hugo's "Hernani".

(b) On 13 June an 8 fr. stamp in sepia in memory of Marshal Leclerc.

(c) On 9 July six semi-postals, the surtax going to the Red Cross.

The stamps bear respectively portraits of Saint-Bernard, Rameau, Michelet, Olivier de Serres, Morge and Lvautey.

NEW ISSUES

	M	U
Aden:		
Q.E. II 5c.-1/-	3/7	4/2
5c.-5/-	11/5	13/6
5c-20/-	45/-	52/-
G.B. Morocco or Tangier:		
5d., 8d., 1/-	2/4	2/6
St. Helena:		
Q.E. II ½d.-1/-	3/10	4/5
½d.-5/-	12/4	14/5
½d.-10/-	23/6	27/6
Tonga:		
1953 1d.-1/-	4/6	5/3
1d.-5/-	12/3	14/6
1d.-£1	45/9	54/-
Norfolk Island:		
1953 3½d.-10d.	3/-	3/6
5/-	5/-	6/-

CORONATION STAMPS

Now available	M	U
Cr. Cols. and Malaya	13/-	15/9
Dominions	15/9	17/3
Great Britain	3/8	4/-
G.B. Agencies	15/-	18/-
Australia	2/9	3/-
Canada	6d.	6d.
Ceylon	2d.	3d.
S.W. Africa	3/-	3/6
S. Rhodesia	3/3	3/8
New Hebrides	4d.	5d.
New Zealand	3/5	3/9
N.Z. Dependencies	2/9	3/-
Tokelau Island	4d.	4d.
Bahrain or Kuwait	3/9	4/6
Muscat or Morocco	3/9	4/6

QUEEN ELIZABETH NEW ISSUES

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BRITISH COLONIAL NEW ISSUE SERVICE.

Mint 10% on face; Used 25%.

CORONATION ALBUMS.

Gibbons/Rapkin loose leaf 10/6
Frank Godden loose leaf 15/-
Darracott bound album 7/6
Postage extra please.
Letters: seamail 2½d.; airmail 1/3
Albums about 1/6; registration 6d. and I use Morocco stamps.

HAROLD STROUD (B.P.A.), 58 DARWEN STREET, BLACKBURN, ENGLAND

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SOCIETY NEWS

PRETORIA RAILWAY PHILATELIC SOCIETY.

The monthly meeting that took place at the usual venue on the 10th June, once again attracted a very good attendance, there being 37 members and 10 visitors present. This was very satisfactory when one considers that the cold weather has set in, and all who attended were well rewarded in that our very good old friend Mr. Coombe Martin once again pleased everyone with a very fine talk and exhibit. We have come to regard the exhibits of this gentleman as something that must not be missed and the general collection that he put up this time fully lived up to expectations. The general arrangement and condition of the stamps left nothing to be desired, and among the feast of classic and fairly modern stamps we noticed some perfect specimens of the Victorian era of Ceylon and Mauritius. The "Penny Blacks" and "Reds" of Great Britain and the "Cape Triangulars" were also in evidence and here again the margins and condition were impeccable. The interest that was shown by the members had to be seen to be believed, and I saw quite a number of those present going around several times. It follows therefore that when Messrs. E. C. Wright and Slater Kinghorn spoke on the exhibit they accorded the exhibitor no small measure of praise, and I feel sure that all who were privileged to be there fully endorsed the remarks of these gentlemen. In his reply Mr. Coombe Martin said what great pleasure it gave him to see such interest displayed and also promised to give us another treat in the near future. It only remains for me to add the thanks and congratulations of the Society to Mr. Coombe Martin for a splendid show. F.J.V.L.

PORT ELIZABETH PHILATELIC SOCIETY.

16th June.

A very pleasant meting was attended by a good number of members and two visitors. At the commencement two new members were admitted, various plans and matters of interest were discussed and other official business attended to.

A good auction followed and after tea interval, Mr. E. Baer showed his collection of the Netherlands. Although he had been assembling these stamps for only a few months, the exhibit was remarkably complete in the newer issues and very representative of the earlier stamps, including fine copies of the higher values. Mr. F. Knight proposed a vote of thanks for the display and the talk given by Mr. Baer, the meeting terminating after ten o'clock.

7th July.

The first "get together" of the second half of the year was exceedingly well supported by 29 members and 2 visitors. Mr. G. K. Forbes opened the proceedings after the President's welcoming remarks, by showing stamps of Mexico. He first gave a most interesting talk on this fascinating country and then went round the display tables pointing out special features and details of the stamps themselves. The Exhibit consisted of stamps from 1856 to about 1916 including many varieties (of which the early Mexican issues are so rich) of the regular stamps (Republican and Imperial), as well as stamps from the Civil Wars, besides Official and other interesting items. All present enjoyed the unusual fare.

The rest of the evening passed all too quickly with a very well supported and successful auction, which benefitted both Collectors and the Funds of the Society The meeting closed at about 10 p.m.

AFRIKAANSE FILATELISTIESE VERENIGING.

13 Junie: Die eerste proefnemende Saterdag-byeenkoms het slegs 'n geringe mate van sukses geniet, Saterdagmiddag is miskien nie 'n baie geskikte tyd om 'n posseëlvergadering te hou nie. Daar is te veel ander afleiding. Dit is vanselfsprekend dat sportmanne nie maklik hulle enigste tydjie vir sport sal afstaan nie, en boonop was dié middag 'n belangrike een vir rugbyliefhebbers.

Omdat ons glo dat die poging tog die moeite werd was, sal ons nog 'n slaggie probeer. Die 18 teenwoordiges het tot stemming oorgegaan en eenparig besluit dat met die proefneming voortgegaan word. Heelwat seëls was vir veil en ruil aangebied, en ruim 70 persent van die beskikbare materiaal het nuwe eienaars gevind.

Vir algemene inligting word bekend gemaak dat hierdie byeenkomste elke tweede Saterdag van die maand in kamer 91, Openbare Biblioteek, gehou sal word. Almal word vriendelik uitgenooi. Hoe meer opdaag, hoe meer materiaal sal daar wees en hoe makliker sal dit wees om gesogte stukke te bekom.

3 Julie: Nogeens 'n gesellige en suksesvolle byeenkoms.

Alhoewel die vergadering nie as 'n ruilaand geadverteer was nie, was daar tog heerlik tekere gegaan. Lid Lambert het ons weereens 'n idee van die gehalte en omvang van sy beroemde lugposversameling gegee. 'n Mens voel dat jy graag oor so 'n uitstalling sal wil uitwei, maar met die beperkte ruimte tot beskikking, sal daar tog nie reg aan so 'n puik vertoning kan gedoen word nie.

Die volgende persone het volle lidmaatskap verkry: Dr. W. G. Hesse, Johannesburg; mnr. J. D. Rossouw, Paarl; en mev. E. Parker, Orkney. S.J.V.

EAST LONDON PHILATELIC SOCIETY.

June Meeting: There was a good attendance of members and visitors and plans were discussed for the Society Stall at the Hobbies Unlimited Exhibition in the vast F.C.U. Hall from 6 to 13 July.

It was decided to display Coronation issues and as wide a range as possible of the stamps of the New Queen's reign. As well prominence was to be given to the display of stamps depicting members of the British Royal House.

All members joined in sending special greetings and flowers to Mrs. R. Alabaster, who is in hospital.

A number of First Day Coronation Covers were shewn and other covers from various parts of the world.

The Exchange Club Superintendent reported a marked improvement in the quicker circulation of stamp packets. This was in response to the appeal made at the previous meeting, when the Superintendents were empowered to remove the names from the circulation lists of dilatory members if the circumstances warranted such action.

Two interesting displays were given. Mr. O. Rippel showed some beautiful issues of Austria, while Mr. D. Forster displayed German commemoratives including the different issues of West and East post-war Germany. J.P.S.

THE PHILATELIC SOCIETY OF RHODESIA.

We were very pleased to welcome Mr. Arthur V. Jacob, his wife and daughters, from Cape Town, to our July metting.

After Society business had been disposed of, we heard the final details for Conference and the Stamp Exhibition. Mr. Fox and Mr. Porter were elected as the Society's delegates to Conference. Mr. Jacob was asked to comment on the Southern Rhodesia Rhodes Centenary Commemorative set. Unfortunately he did not have any copies with him, but described several varieties to us, and gave his opinion that for a firm of Waterlow's status the set was badly printed.

Mr. Porter put on a display of his stamps of Ascension, including some interesting covers bearing British stamps used in the Colony. Then Mr. Jacob, ably assisted by his daughters, put out a part of his world-famed collection of Rhodesia. This included forgeries, essays, proofs, colour trials, trials for duty plates, perforation and other varieties, "Gubulawayo" postmarks, and die proofs, as well as other interesting items. It was a captivating display, and couldn't really be fully digested in the time available, despite a commentary by Mr. Jacob.

The meeting closed with a vote of thanks to Mr. Porter by Mr. Whitehead, and to Mr. Jacob by Mr. Porter. P.H.

DIE PAARLSE POSSEELVERSAMELAARS-VERENIGING.

4 Februarie 1953.

Dit was die eerste vergadering van die jaar en die Voorsitter het lede hartlik verwelkom. Daar was 'n goeie bywoning.

Die hoogtepunt van die aand het aangebreek toe Mnr. Rossouw sy Boere-oorlog koeverte en posseëls uitgestal het. Hy het 'n boeiende praatjie oor die seëls gelewer, en deurgaans verwys na interessante eienaardighede op sekere van die stukke wat uitgestal was. Mnr. Morrell het Mnr. Rossouw baie hartlik bedank vir sy unieke uitstalling.

'n Wenk van Mnr. Rossouw aan almal is om koeverte van die 2de Wêreld-Oorlog sonder versuim en solank dit nog goedkoop is, aan te skaf.

Die volgende nuwe lede het aangesluit: Mnr. A. Singels, gewone lid en Mnr. J. Malherbe, studente lid.

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4 Maart 1953:
Hierdie vergadering was die 2de Jaarvergadering van die Vereniging en is redelik goed bygewoon.
Die Voorsitter het die Jaarverslag voorgelees en die Sekretaris die finansiele verslag wat deur die ere-ouditeur, Mnr. N. L. van Rensburg, opgestel is. Die vergadering het dit in orde gevind.
Die ou komitee is met uitsondering van Mr. J. J. du Toit herkies. In laasgenoemde plek is Mnr. Morrell as nuwe komitee lid gekies.
Daar is ook besluit om boekies aan te skaf waarin lede hul duplikaat seëls moet plak vir sirkulasie onder ander lede.

22 April 1953:
Hierdie vergadering was slegs deur 10 lede bygewoon. Die Voorsitter het gewag gemaak van die heengaan van een van ons ywerige lede naamlik Mev. Johnson en het hulde betoon aan die hulp wat sy aan hierdie Vereniging gegee het.
Mnre. Heather en Morrell wat verantwoordelik was vir die vertonings van die aand, het albei posseëls oor die V.S.A. gewys.
Daar was soos gewoonlik filateliese lektuur op die tafel en ook boekies waaruit lede kon posseëls koop.

13 Mei 1953:
By hierdie vergadering het ons die eer gehad om besoekers te hê van die Thematic Stamp Club in Kaapstad. Mnr. G. Petroulis het 'n uitstalling van kuns op posseëls gegee. Hy het 'n kort voorlesing oor die onderwerp gegee.
Mnr. Petroulis is 'n ywerige voorstaander van tematiese versameling en het met die vertoning weereens sy meesterskap in die rigting bewys. Die uitstalling was baie interessant en besonder goed opgestel met passende byskrifte.
Mnr. Rossouw het Mnr. Petroulis baie hartlik bedank vir sy puik uitstalling en ons waardering vir hul besoek en belangstelling uitgespreek.
Hierna het die Voorsitter melding gemaak van 'n nuusbrief van die Afrikaanse Vereniging van Johannesburg waarin hulle vra of ons gaan meedoen aan 'n kompetisie om die Rembrandt Wisseltrofee. Daar is besluit dat ons hulle moet vra om meer besonderhede.
'n Gesellige atmosfeer is verseker deur die bediening van ligte verversings deur Mev. Combrink.

PHILATELIC SOCIETY OF JOHANNESBURG.

At the meeting held on July 14th an exhibit of the stamps of Togoland was shown by Mr. S. M. Boss.

The exhibit included stamps of three different governments.

There were the stamps issued under the German Colonial Period, stamps of the Anglo-French Condominium and stamps of the French Government.

The condominium stamps included those issued by both the British and French authorities.

The overprints on stamps of Gold Coast issued by the British Authorities contained numerous varieties.

All the stamps shown were in fine mint condition and the exhibit was beautifully shown and written up.

Mr. W. Oppenheim spoke on the exhibit.

At the meeting held on July 27th the exhibits were provided by members of the Jewish Guild Philatelic Section which paid an official visit to the Society.

Mr. I. Isaacs showed flown covers and cards of the South African 1/25 Government Experimental Air Service. The exhibit included first flights and last flights of the service with some intermediate flights. Mr. Isaacs read a few notes on the exhibit.

Mr. L. Buchen showed Israeli commemorative stamps. This was a fine exhibit including mint and used blocks, miniature sheets, and stamps on card. There were numerous varieties and many stamps with "tablet" attached. The exhibit was a complete one from the first issue of the New Year of 1948.

Mr. Buchen read a few notes on the exhibit which was beautifully written up.

Mr. B. Glassman showed an exhibit of the stamps of Queen Elizabeth including all the Coronation issues. The exhibit was a complete exhibit of the issues of Queen Elizabeth to date.

The stamps were all fine mint and were mostly in blocks of 4. There were numerous plate numbered blocks.

Mr. Lydall spoke on the air mails; Dr. Harris, a Port Elizabeth visitor, spoke on the Israeli stamps; and Mr. Froehlich spoke on the Queen Elizabeth exhibit.

SOME RECENT AUCTION PRICES.

Robson Lowe:

U.S.A. Only known Die Proof of the first adhesive (3c. New York City Despatch Post), £90.

1857-61. 24c. used on cover, £25.

1863 Cover from British Columbia to England with Vancouver Paid handstamp and two U.S.A. stamps, £34.

Cape. 6d. slate-lilac bisected vertically, on piece with 1d., £130.

Pair 1d. Woodblocks, lovely colour and margins, used, £315.

4d. Deep bright blue woodblock, £145.

1d. pale milky blue error of colour, £550.

An exhibition was staged at 50 Pall Mall from May 26 to 29 and June 1-5, of stamps showing six Queens of England who have appeared on stamps of the British Empire. Thanks to Messrs. Robson Lowe for the exquisite catalogue of the exhibition.

H. R. Harmer:

Belgian Congo 5 fr. 1886 (S.G. 8), £9 9s.

Falkland Is. £1 (S.G. 90), £26.

Gambia 3/- (S.G. 139), £11.

Kenya 50 R. (S.G. 77), £30.

Their season closed with the 14 July sale. 41 sales in 1952-53 realised a total of £237,000; a figure very close to this was reached in their New York house, and some £25,000 in Sydney.

Oversea buying was strong from U.S.A., Switzerland and Italy, also from Canada for B.N.A. issues and from S. Africa for Southern African stamps. Australia and New Zealand were not strong buyers because of continued import restrictions.

General price levels showed little change, except for some weakness in the more speculative modern issues of which there is an ample supply. There is a general shortage of fine classic material, and middle and later issues are still easily absorbed. Altogether the season demonstrates the strength of the London market under changing economic conditions.

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MOUNT EVEREST STAMPS.

It is reported from India that a set of stamps, probably four denominations, will be issued soon to commemorate the conquest of Mount Everest. They will portray Hillary and Tensing, probably also incorporating views taken of the mountain by the Indian Air Force.

UNITED NATIONS

On U.N. Day, 24 October, there will be issued two "Technical Assistance" stamps of 3c. and 5c. denominations.

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Check List of O.V.S. & O.R.C. Post Offices and Agencies, etc.

PERIOD 1868 TO 1910

By W. NEWLANDS.

(Continued from page 132 of July issue)

Grade	Name	District	Date opened or year of P.M.G.'s report where first noted	Closed (where known)	Remarks.
PA*	Theron's Post	—			
PO*	Theunissen	—			
	Tienfontein Nek	RO	1-11-03		
RPA*	Tiger River	BM	15-6-05		
SO*	Tierton	VF	15-5-05		
	Tocedo	SE		30-4-04	
PA†	Trommel	W	1887	1-7-04	
PA*	Trompsburg	FA	1898		PO in 1910
RTO*	Trompsburg Rail	FA		31-10-06	
	Tweedegeluk	B	1-8-03		
	Tweefontein	LY	1-6-04		
SO*	Tweespruit	T			
	Tweespruit Camp	T			
RTO*	Tweespruit Rail	T		31-10-04	
	Tweespruit Station	T	1-6-04		See Tweespruit Rail
	Twistdam Farm	SP	1-9-03	30-6-04	
	Twistdam Farm	P	1-9-04	31-1-05	
PA*	Twistniekmeer	HN	1-6-08		
	Uitdraaipad	BM	15-11-03	28-2-05	
PA	Uitzicht	—			
PA†	Vaalbank	B	1875		
PA*	Vaalspruit	S	1899 Re-open 15-6-04	1-3-07	(Caledon River?)
PA*	van der Merwes Dam	—			
	van der Merwesfontein	HN	15-5-08		(v.d. Merwe Dam?)
	Van Dyks Kraal	LY	15-12-03		
	Vandyksvaal	LY	1-7-06	31-3-07	
	Veldtshoek	W	1-7-04	31-7-04	
PO*	Ventersburg	W	1893		
PA*	Ventersburg Road	W	1893		PO in 1910
SO*	Vergezicht	—			
PA*	Verkeerdevlei	BR	1895		
PA*	Verlijding	—			
PA*	Verkijkerskop	H	1-2-07		
	Verrekijkerskop	FF	15-11-05	15-10-06	
RSO*	Vet River	W			
PO*	Victor (ORC)	BO			
PA*	Vierfontein	K	1895 Re-open 1-9-04		PO in 1910
PA*	Viljoensdrift	HN			PO in 1910
PO*	Villiers	V			
PA*	Vinies Siding	—			
RSO*	Virginia	—			
PA	Virginia Siding	W	1895		
PA†	Vischgat	BY	1887		(Closed by 1889?)
PA*	Vlakfontein	P	1899		(Closed by 1889?)
PA†	Vogelstruiskooi	L	1887		(Closed by 1889?)
†	Volharding (?)	—	1867		Always coupled with ZANDRIVIER

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Grade	Name	District	Date opened or year of P.M.G.'s report where first noted	Closed (where known)	Remarks
PO*	Voorspoed	—			
PO*†	Vrede	V	1880		
PO*†‡	Vredefort	K	1883		
	Vredefort Road	VF			
	Vrolyksfontein	K	1-11-03	30-6-06	
	Vrolykspost	K		20-6-06	
PA*	Waaifontein	—			
PA	Waaihoek	V	1898		
	Waarfontein	HO	15-5-08		(Waatfontein?)
PA	Wagenmakersvlei	H	1893		
	Waschbank	B	25-5-05	30-11-05	
PA*	Waterkloof	B	1-12-05		(Philippolis?)
	Watervaal	BM		15-9-07	(Waterval)?
PA	Watervalwest	J	1899		
RSO*	Waterworks	B			
	Wegdraai	BO		31-10-06	
PA*	Welgelegen	W	1893		RSO in 1910.
PA	Welgelegen Siding	W	1899		
PA	Welkom	BE	1893	1895	
PA	Welkom 1	W	1898		
PA	Welkom 2	BE	1898		
PA*	Welkom	W	1-12-04		See Welkom 1.
PO*†	Wepener	WE	1875		Also spent "Wipener"
PO*	Westminster	T	1-6-04		
	Wildebeestespruit	T		9-10-07	
PA*†	Willoughby	S	1887		
SO*	Wilson's Post	FF	1-8-05		
PO*†‡	Winburg	W	1867		
RTO*	Winburg Rail	W			
PA	Winburg Road	W	1893		
SO*	Winkeldrift	VF	17-7-03		See Winkelsdrift.
PA*	Winkelpost	K		15-8-03	
PA*†	Winkelsdrift	K	1883		
	Witkop Collieries	K	15-1-07	30-6-07	
	Witlaagte	W	1-9-05		
PO*†	Witzieshoek	H	1875		SO in 1910.
PA	Wonderfontein	HO	1898		
	Wonderheuvel	VF	1-6-06	28-2-07	
	Wolvefontein	BO	1-1-06		
PA*	Wolvehoek	HN	1895		PO in 1910.
PA*	Wolvespruit	BO	1893		
PA	Wolvespruit Winkel	BO	15-9-03	30-6-04	See Wolvespruit.
PA*	Woodside	V	1893		SO in 1910.
	Woolwich	—			Jan. 1884.
	Zaailand	B		15-4-06	
PA	Zaaiplaats	K	1898		
PA	Zamenkomst	B	1899	31-5-04	(Ladybrand?)
PA*	Zandfontein	FF	1-7-03	15-9-05(?)	Open in 1910.
PA	Zand River	BM	1867		(Zand Rivier?)
PO*†	Zastron	RO	1882		
†	Zeitspan		1883		(Closed by 1899?)
SO*	Zeekoevlei	V			
PA	Zevenfontein	BO	1898 Re-opened 15-9-03	30-6-05	See Sevenfontein.
PA	Zoetvlei	HO	1898		
PA	Zoutpan	B	1893		See Saltpan.
PA*	Zoutpansdrift	BO	15-1-07		
PA†	Zuringkrans	BM	1887		(Zuringkranz)
SO*	Zuringkrantz	SE	1-3-04		See Zuringkrans.
	Zwartkuil	K		1-7-03	
PA	Zwartkop	BO	1898 Re-open 1-8-03	30-6-04	See Swartkop.

(To be continued.)

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

RECENT PRINTINGS.

The Publicity Officer of the Department of Posts and Telegraphs has kindly supplied the following information covering the period from 22.4.53 to 21.7.53 For the previous list see our July issue.

Ordinary Pictorial Postage Stamps.

1d.—Job No. 12478. On a new order for 1,000,000 sheets of 240 stamps per sheet, the first batch of 4,500 was delivered on the 11.6.53 and a total of 193,630 sheets to date. Produced from same cylinders as before, No. 54 Interior and 53 Exterior.

2d.—Job No. 5906. On a new order for 1,000,000 sheets of 240 stamps per sheet, 16,246 were delivered on the 30.6.53 and this is the total to date. Printed from cylinders No. 27 Interior and 18 Exterior, as before..

3d.—Job No. 12743. On a new order for 100,000 sheets of 120 stamps per sheet, the first 10,000 sheets were delivered on the 10.3.53 and a total of 31,400 to date. Printed from same one colour cylinders as before, No. 17.

Coronation Stamps.

2d.—Job No. 8396. On a order for 400,000 sheets of 120 stamps per sheet, total deliveries to date tmount to 394,787 sheets. Cylinder No. 98 was employed for the printing of 68,416 sheets during the period 28.4.53 to 5.5.53, and Cylinder No. 66 for the balance of 326,371 sheets between 5.5.53 and 16.6.63.

Centenary of Postage Stamps in South Africa.

1d.—Job No. 8394. On a order for 200,000 sheets of 120 stamps per sheet the first delivery of 18,000 was made on the 2.7.53 and 157,000 shees have been delivered to date. Printed from new cylinders No. 19 Interior and No. 107 Exterior.

4d.—Job No. 8395. On an order for 17,000 sheets of 120 stamps per sheet, the first batch of 3,000 shets was delivered on the 30.6,53 and a total of 19,200 sheets up to the final date of delivery on the 2.7.53. Printed from new cylinders No. 66 Interior and 86 Exterior.

4d. Row 20/4—Break in leg of figure of Hope. (Recorded by the Robertson Stamp Co.).

Air Letter Cards.

6d.—Job No. 4112 contd. On an order for 4,000,000 cards, an additional 732,000 have been printed on New Paper from a New Cylinder on the Chambon Machine. Date of first delivery, 12.5.53. Total cards to date on this Job No., 3,050,400.

Pictorial Post Cards.

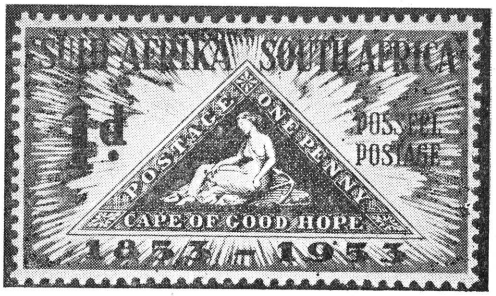
1d.—Job No. 4115 contd. On an order for 2,720,000 cards, 3,218,112 have been supplied up to the final delivery date of the 2.7.53.

Roll Stamps.

1d.—Job No. 4113 contd. On an order for 12,000 rolls of 506 stamps per roll, and 7,000 rolls of 1,012 stamps per roll, 3,873 of the former and 1,740 of the latter have now been delivered. Printed in sheets of 264 stamps per sheet from one colour cylinder No. 97.

CAPE TRIANGULAR CENTENNIALS.

The special issue of 1d. and 4d. postage stamps to commemorate the Centenary of the introduction of postage stamps in South Africa, duly appeared at all post offices throughout the Union on the 1st September 1953 and will remain on sale for a period of approximately three months.





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Printed by the rotogravure process at the Government Printing Works, Pretoria, the designs have as their central theme, replicas of the 1d. and 4d. three-cornered stamps issued on the 1st September, 1853. The 1d., with its background of rays of light is produced in the two colours, sepia (centre) and red, while the 4d. is portrayed with a spray of silver leaves (Leucadendron argentum) and printed with a deep blue centre and a background of light turquoise-blue. The striking colour of the latter may be considered by many as an unusual departure in the production of "Unions", but the two stamps with their well balanced designs and bold clear letters and figures, make a most attractive pair and will fittingly take their place as the nineteenth in the list of Union of South Africa Commemorative issues.

As shown in the accompanying photographs, both stamps are bi-lingually inscribed and with the dates 1853-1953 on each. They are for postal use only and the 1d. value is not intended for the additional purpose of paying revenue.

Printed in sheets of 120 stamps and separated into two panes of 60 (each 10 rows by 6) by a blank central gutter, they are similar in layout to the ½d., 2d. and 1/- Van Riebeeck stamps, but with the addition that marginal arrows have been printed in the central dividing gutter as well as at the top and bottom of the sheet. This policy is of recent adoption and first appeared on the S.W.A. Coronation issue and also the Union Coronation stamps, a sheet of which was illustrated in our July "Notes".

The numbers of the two mesh-type screened cylinders for each value will be found on the right hand margin of the sheets, opposite rows 9 and 10, and 19 and 20. They are printed in the same colours as the respective centre or background design. The issue appears to be particularly free from printing flaws and the two small varieties so far noted on the 1d. value are given in the following summary.

DESIGN.—Replicas of the 1853 three-cornered 1d. and 4d. postage stamps on a background of rays of light in the case of the 1d. and with a spray of silver leaves on the 4d. value.

Both set out in a horizontal format and inscribed in English and Afrikaans. Size, 37 x 21 mm.

BICOLOURED—1d. denomination, Sepia and Red: 4d., Deep blue and light Turquoise-blue. (Stanley Gibbons 1952 colour guide).

PERFORATION and WATERMARK—Perf. 15 x 14.—Wmk. Multiple Springbok Head, Upright.

CYLINDERS—1d. Interior No. 19 and Exterior No. 107; 4d. Interior 66 and Exterior 86. All fine mesh-type screened.

SHEET FORMAT—Printed in sheets of 120 stamps (20 rows x 6): divided into two panes of 60 by a horizontal imperforated gutter between the 10th and 11th rows. Arrows on top, middle and bottom margins. Cylinder numbers on right margin opposite rows 9 and 10 and also 19 and 20. Four figure red serial numbers printed twice on right hand margin of all sheets.

VARIETIES—1d. Row 5/2—Sepia spot joining top of "PO" of POSTAGE.

Row 9/10—Large sepia spot on bottom frame line below "53" of 1953.

4d. Row 20/4 — Break in leg of figure of Hope. (Recorded by the Robertson Stamp Co.)

NOTE.The official information regarding the number of sheets of Centenary stamps printed up to the 21.7.53 is given under the heading of RECENT PRINTINGS at the beginning of these "Notes".

Coronation Stamps.

Reports to hand during the latter part of August indicate that stocks of 2d. stamps in some post offices were replenished with the ordinary pictorial issue instead of Coronations, and it is also recorded that throughout the month certain post offices were selling guillotined sheets of 60 Coronation stamps instead of the normal two-pane sheets of 120.

Mr. P. T. Goodhead of Durban reports the presence of a broad dark blue mark extending to the right from the "1" in 1953 in the Cylinder No. 66 printing. The variety occurs in the 4th row and may be found on either the 8th or the 18th stamp.

New Denominations in Series of Existing Postage Stamps.

As we go to Press, and following on a report by the Robertson Stamp Co., Johannesburg, the Publicity Officer of the Department of Posts and Telegraphs has advised us that it has been decided to augment the existing series of postage stamps by the issue of three new stamps in the denominations of 4½d., 1/3 and 1/6.

They will become available at post offices in the Union during October, but there will be no fixed date for their appearance in any particular area and therefore no actual first day of issue, or the servicing of First Day Covers.

The designs and colours of the additional stamps are as follows:—

4½d. Merino Ram and Landscape. Purplish brown and yellow.

1/3 Springbok and Landscape. Reddish brown.

1/6 Aloes and Landscape. Reddish orange and dark green.

The size of the stamps will be 24.2 x 30.2 mm. and they will be produced in sheets of 120. Orders for supplies may be placed with the Philatelic Agency, G.P.O., Pretoria, in the usual manner.

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PERFS. 11, 11½ AND 12.

Complaints have been made that various large sized British Colonial stamps with these perforations are very difficult to get in perfect condition. They do not tear easily and corner perforations are very often damaged.

Could the Crown Agents see their way to approach the printers on this matter? Collectors would appreciate it very much if they could do anything in the matter.

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CENTENARY OF THE CAPE TRIANGULARS

1st September 1853-1953

In this month's special Cape Centenary number there are presented several articles under the writers' names, otherwise the fare consists of extracts from, or summaries of, various books or articles dealing with the famous Cape Triangulars. It is hoped that these may be of interest and use, particularly to those who have not ready access to the larger works concerned with these stamps.

Following is a list of the main writings consulted; the last one mentioned gives a fairly large bibliography which may be of service to those wishful to pursue their studies further.

(1) Allis, G. J. Cape of Good Hope: its Postal History and Postage Stamps, 1930. The first large scale study of these stamps.
(2) Bacon, E. D. Royal Philatelic Society's "Africa" Part I, 1895. Actually very little detail about the stamps.
(3) Brazer, C. W. Essay Proof Journal, 1946. A catalogue in unusual detail of all essays and proofs actually seen by the writer.
(4) Castle, M. P. London Philatelist, 1908. First good description of sharp and woolly printings and shades.
(5) Jurgens, A. A. S.A. Philatelist 1941. Corrections of Allis' list of flaws, etc. in the Woodblock stereos.
(6) Jurgens, A. A. Handstruck Letter Stamps of the Cape of Good Hope, etc. 1943. A storehouse of Postal History.
(7) Meyer & Rich, S. G. Essay Proof Journal 1946. Particulars concerning engraving dies, printing, essays and proofs.
(8) Pemberton, P. L. Phil. Jour. of Great Britain, 1925. Discovery of the three types of Fourpenny Woodblock clichés.
(9) Sefi, A. J. Phil. Jour. of Great Britain, 1923-24. Discovery of the two Dies of the 4d., 6d. and 1/- stamps.
(10) Stevenson, D. Alan. The Triangular Stamps of the Cape of Good Hope, 1950. The first really full scientific study of these stamps with much previous unknown or unrecorded information about them.

Considering the popularity of these stamps it it rather amazing that many decades passed before important details were discovered. M. P. Castle in 1908 wrote that these stamps "presented no great field for study". In saying this he was merely emphasising Sir Edward Bacon's declaration that these stamps were "of a remarkably simple matter, presenting no philatelic variations except those of shade arising from the varying printings and the change of printers. For this reason doubtless there has always been a remarkable absence in the philatelic journals of any articles dealing with these stamps."

What a change to-day in the outlook of Stevenson, who has added so much to our knowledge, but points out how much there is still to be ascertained!

SOME REMINISCENCES.

By the late A. A. JURGENS.

[Mr. Jurgens had promised me to write an article for this special number. After his death two drafts were sent me and part of what was obviously the second draft — though I am very doubtful if it was meant to be a final copy — is here published as a tribute to the memory of one who has done so much for Cape Postal History. I have termed it "Some Reminiscences", as I have cut out the first part, which was a short summary of the coming of stamps to the Cape; this was largely duplicating what is given in the section "Why Triangular Stamps"—Ed.]

Fifty years ago triangular stamps of the C.G.H. could be purchased from dealers in Cape Town at anything from 3d. each according to condition, and both local and overseas dealers only offered 10/- per 100 as can be seen from an advertisement which appeared in the Cape Argus of 3rd November, 1888.

Also at that period one could walk into almost any business house in Cape Town and find these triangulars still on their original covers filed away and still undisturbed by collectors; unfortunately at that time the bulk of the young budding philatelists thought more of the pollies of Guatemala or other pretty stamps of various South American States little dreaming how popular and valuable the old Cape triangulars would one day be.

When I think of all the lost opportunities I feel that had only our elders, who were not in any way stamp minded only taken an interest in stamp collecting many priceless pieces to-day would have been saved but perhaps then our stamps would not now be of such great value.

The old Jurgens' farm, "Leeuwenvoet" ("At the foot of the lion") had, in the old homestead what was then referred to as "the lumber room" a huge accumulation of old correspondence and as youngsters we used to play "housie housie" in an old sedan chair which stood in the entrance hall. As picture books were rare in those days we used to raid the lumber room and remove the triangular stamps from the letters to make pictures for our house and these stamps were pasted on the inside of the chair which was lined with a sort of wall paper.

This chair was eventually given to the Koopmans De Wet Museum, in Strand street, where it is to-day, but as it has been re-papered and the door locked I do not know whether the stamps were first removed or whether the new paper was pasted over them; if the latter then apart from the value of the chair as an antique the stamps would to-day be worth a small fortune.

I spent my June holidays with a schoolfriend on a farm in Caledon in 1899. The loft of the old homestead was crammed full of old letters, etc. We made one or two raids in search of

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stamps which were in the loft which had a "Brand Zolder," i.e. raw bricks set on bamboo reeds and plastered over with cow dung and clay so that each visit of ours sent a quantity of dust on to the furniture, etc., below.

Access to the loft was by way of the kitchen up a bamboo ladder and to stop us from going up there one of the old servants made a ghost and placed it in a darkened corner of the loft. Unknown to the two maids that we were in the loft, in order to have a better light, they placed two large dishes of milk next to the ladder to skim as this was in the days before there were such things as milk skimming machines and everything had to be done by hand.

When my friend and I reached the loft we were suddenly confronted by this ghost and both of us made a dash for the ladder but my friend missing his hold on the ladder landed twelve feet below slap into this large dish of milk. Both the maids not knowing what had happened disappeared and did not show up again for two days. The farm dogs enjoyed the good unskimmed milk.

I happened to hear of an old lady at Wellington, Cape, who had one of Shipley's hat boxes full of Cape triangulars so I went out to see her, but although she showed me the stamps she did not give me any.

This was in 1906, and I had taken up a billet in a Cape Town commercial house as a junior clerk at £5 per month so the following week-end I purchased at a wholesale chemist a cut glass decanter filled with lavender water (which cost me a month's salary) and in addition I had to put up at an hotel as there was no train back to Cape Town until the Monday morning.

I duly arrived at the old lady's house, made her a present of the decanter of lavender when she nearly kissed me but I never got a single stamp and arrived back at office on the Monday sadly disappointed and out of pocket to the extent of over £8.

A certain Cape Town man told everybody that he was collecting these stamps and intended giving them to the Nation so that the coming generation could one day see what stamps were used at the Cape; when he told the old lady this she said to him "My haartjie vat dit maar." (My darling you can have them) and he got the lot for nothing. Strange to say this same party took his collection to London some years later where he received something like £13,000 for the lot.

A certain Cape Town Attorney rented a small shop at the corner of Adderley Street and Longmarket Street, the shop itself was no more than 8ft. x 15ft. and he kept a young lady to buy and sell stamps as a sideline to augment his salary. He told his lady assistant that she was to pay 1/6 for blue and 2/6 for red triangulars and a certain price for purple and green ones but he never mentioned the demominations, only the four colours. One day after office he went to see what had been bought and sold and was shown a faust cigar box full of triangulars of all denominations which the lady had purchased from an old lady at the prices as arranged.

On going through this purchase he found a one penny blue woodblock and a fourpenny with the retouched corner — the two stamps purchased for 3/- and the same day this lucky man sold the 1d. blue for £100, but I do not remember what he got for the other.

Before I had made my research in connection with the 1864 Stamp Act, I knew nothing about the various documents which became liable for stamping under the Act so that when a certain Resident Magistrate in an up-country town who was a personal friend of mine allowed me to wade through hundreds of bound portfolios of letters received (which took me two or three days) I found three or four covers stamped with ordinary 4d. Perkins Bacon.

On the same shelves with the letters received there were the bound volumes of Civil Cases as well as Criminal cases. According to the Act, Powers to sue Promissory Notes etc. became liable to stamp duty and when my friend the Magistrate left this town on promotion his successor (not a collector) in glancing through one of the Civil Cases portfolios of September 1864 noticed that almost every paper had triangulars, 1d., 4d. and 6d. in singles, pairs and blocks and what is more 95 per cent of these stamps were not cancelled.

There were no one shilling stamps but most of the 1d. were De La Rue, the 6d. Perkins Bacon and the 4d., the scarce slate and steel blues; De La Rue. These stamps were then sold to the local collectors at ridiculously low prices — I believe 3/- for a pair of 1d., 5/- for a pair of 4d. and the 6d. at 5/- to 6/- each. I can personally vouch for this as I knew the person who purchased the bulk of this find and who ultimately sold them to a dealer in London.

Many think that the days for "finds" are past, but I still think that hidden away in remote corners there may yet be little accumulations just waiting to be unearthed.

WORK YET TO BE DONE.

By D. ALAN STEVENSON.

It is good that the "South African Philatelist" is to celebrate the centenary of the Cape triangulars which occupy a special place of honour among philatelists throughout the world and are deserving of a special niche in the social history of South Africa. It is strange to contrast the unassuming passage of letters bearing these tiny pieces of paper from primitive post offices by dusty tracks to far-distant farmsteds in Cape Colony 100 years ago with the delight with which thsee stamps are viewed now by collectors and with the excitement which certain rare examples occasion whenever they appear in international auction rooms. How sought-after and precious these charming coloured triangles have become!

Their shape and design originated entirely in South Africa at the hands of Charles Bell, the Surveyor-General of the Colony, a very capable artist who has left spirited pictures of the South Africa of his time. This centenary honours him also and it is not generally remembered that the first Cape triangular stamps were designed also by him — the figure of Hope rising from the reclining position of the triangulars to a seated position. But her final standing position in the stamps of 1893 was the work of another designer.

Many points about the triangulars remain still to be investigated. Quite a lot of facts are now known about the engraved issues which will assist the enthusiast to begin plating the 4d. To evolve the different settings of the stereotyped woodblocks seems much too difficult

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though not impossible perhaps if one patiently collects photographs. From the practical point of view the shades of the 4d. De La Rue triangular ought to receive a far more detailed study than has yet been attempted — identification of steel-blue and slate-blue shades is too much a matter of opinion and is often not convincing. Some other shades might prove to be scarcer and to have more justification for special notice.

There is no sign that the fascination of Cape triangulars grows less and one hopes that despite the financial pull of overseas markets, some fine collections of these charming stamps will remain in South Africa for the enjoyment and appreciation of future generations.

A NEW 1d. VARIETY.

By F. W. COLLINS.

I note that on page 108 of your June issue, you say that you will be making the September issue a special Cape Triangular Centenary Number. You remark that it will be almost impossible to have anything really new to say about these stamps so perhaps you may be inte,rested in the following:—

In his book of Cape Triangulars, Mr. D. A. Stevenson states that no constant variety had been discovered at the date of writing, on the 1d. plate. I am glad to say that I have now identified such a variety and a full report of the new discovery will be published in the August/September issue of the "London Philatelist." Mr. H. R. Holmes has said that he will be quite happy for me to report the matter to you also, in case you would like to remark on it in your centenary number.

The variety can be identified by three distinct marks on the plate, the most prominent being the scratch in the right hand corner. A drawing in the London Philatelist will show their exact position. The two stamps on which these marks are identical are a used copy of the De La Rue printing in deep carmine-red and an unused copy of the brownish red printing with watermark sideways, from the Schofield collection.

WHY TRIANGULAR STAMPS?

The story is told fully by Allis in chapter four of his work. It is given here shortened considerably in parts. The story starts:—

"It will, no doubt, be a matter of considerable interest and surprise to the philatelic world to know that had the original intention of the Cape Government been carried out, the grand old classic triangular stamps would never have come into existence, and the postage stamp history of the Cape of Good Hope would have become a very prosaic and matter-of-fact story, unadorned by any of the glamour and romance which, as events turned out, have lifted it above the ordinary and commonplace, and given it a permanent and increasingly important value in the estimation of all philatelists the world over, from the schoolboy to the savant."

The Ordinance legalizing the prepayment of postage rates by means of adhesive stamps was actually passed by the Legislative Council of the Colony in 1846 and the Royal Assent given thereto the same year.

Why then the lapse of seven years in giving effect to the Ordinance?

After enquiries in England by the then Surveyor-General as to the working of the recently established Penny Post, and as to the printing of adhesive stamps, a step forward was taken in May, 1848.

A despatch was sent to H.M. Secretary of State intimating that it was now proposed to put the 1846 Ordinance into operation and with the despatch was enclosed a communication to Messrs. Perkins, Bacon & Petch authorizing them to prepare the necessary dies and steel printing plates for stamps of two values, viz. 1d. and 2d., **"the design and size to be in every respect similar to that used in England, with the addition of the words 'CAPE OF GOOD HOPE', to encircle the head of the Queen, and with only such alteration as may be necessary to make it perfectly colonial."**

But this order was not destined to be carried out.

The Ordinance of 1864 provided specifically that the inland postal rate should be 4d. for each half-ounce or part thereof. Supplies of 4d. stamps had not been ordered because H.E. the Governor, Sir Harry Smith, was in favour of a uniform 1d. postage rate for inland letters under the half-ounce weight.

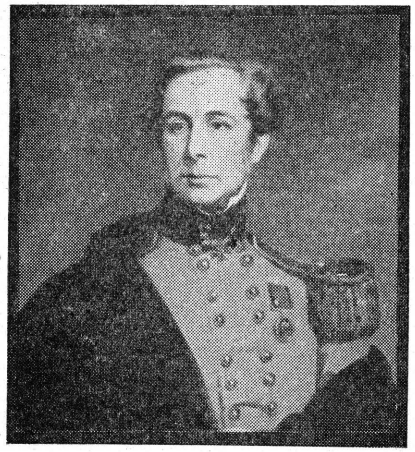


Sir Harry Smith.

When the draft Bill came before the Council to make the necessary alteration to the Ordinance there was much discussion, and when the further fact emerged that the quantity of stamps ordered would probably have been sufficient to last for 18 years, it was thrown out and the order to the stamp printers was cancelled.

No further action was taken for fully four years, but in July, 1852 the new Governor, Sir George Cathcart, appointed a Board of Enquiry to report on all questions relating to the postal system. Among many recommendations was the immediate introduction of postage stamps, which the Board characterized as 'a most desirable improvement which should be carried into effect at the earliest possible date.'

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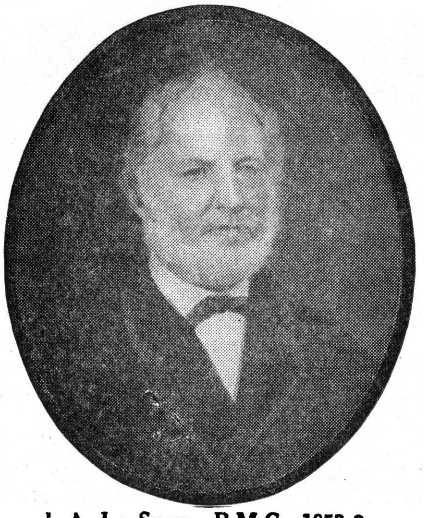
Sir George Cathcart.

"They further recommended that arrangements should be made for the immediate supply of 50,000 1d. and 100,000 4d. stamps (with subsequent monthly remittances of 5,000 and 10,000 respectively), the former for use on newspapers and the latter for prepayment of letter postage inland, both stamps to be of the same design, with the necessary alteration to denote the value, and of different colours."

The report continued:—

"In order to obviate errors in sorting letters or stamping, we would suggest the adoption of a device and shape so different from those of the English postage stamps as to catch the eye at a glance, and we would propose that of a triangle with the figure of 'HOPE' in the centre with the words 'POSTAGE' 'FOUR PENCE' 'CAPE OF GOOD HOPE' on the surrounding border, all on an engine turned field, as represented in the accompanying sketch by the Surveyor-General."

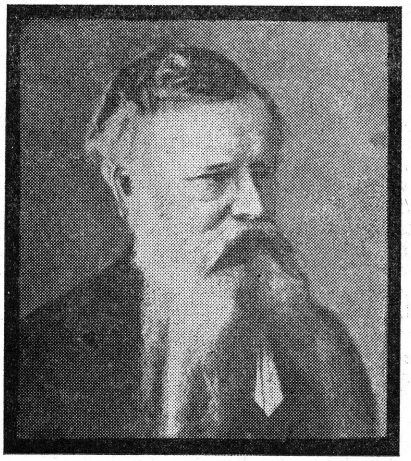
n Various other designs such as that hereunto annexed marked No. 2, might be suggested, but we are disposed to recommend the triangle as most convenient, economical and distinctive.



J. A. Le Sueur, P.M.G., 1852-3.

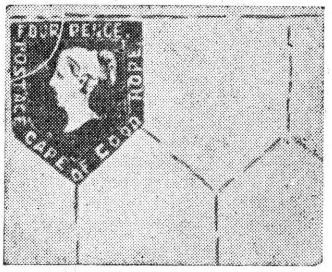
No time was lost in giving effect to these emphatic recommendations. The necessary order to Messrs. Perkins, Bacon & Co. was sent off within a week with a copy of the designs prepared by Mr. Charles Bell, who was by then the Surveyor-General. This design is still in the printers' files and a reproduction of it is shown in Allis' book; it shows both the adopted triangle and the alternative No. 2 design, of pentagonal shape, which was not adopted. These designs are also shown in Robson Lowe's Encyclopaedia and the accompanying illustration has been taken from his work.

This, then, is the story of how the Cape came to have its famous triangular stamps.



Charles Bell.





The essays of Charles Bell. Accepted triangular and rejected pentagonal designs.

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THE ENGRAVED STAMPS.

In the first instance the Triangulars were engraved by Messrs. Perkins Bacon & Co., but in 1862 the Crown Agents recommended that the printing be transferred to Messrs. De La Rue; the plates and special watermarked paper were handed over to the latter firm.

Stevenson remarks "It is impossible to form any conclusion now as to the reasons — strong personal feelings may have been involved — why the Crown Agents withdrew their custom from such an excellent firm as Perkins Bacon." But, anyway, the change was made.

The 6d. and 1/- plates were defaced at Messrs. De La Rue's on 27th October, 1863; those of the 1d. and 4d. on 7th, 8th and 10th July, 1865.

Triangular stamps, both engraved and Woodblocks, were not demonetized till 1st October, 1900. The reason why it was found necessary to do so at such a late date is dealt with in the Section concerned with Essays and Proofs.

The triangular stamps of the four denominations were arranged in pairs forming squares—so that the bases of the triangles were fairly close together and (more or less) parallel. In 1924 Séfi discovered that there were constant differences between the two stamps of each square pair in the 4d., 6d. and 1/- plates, and inferred therefrom that two different dies were employed for these three denominations. He described fully the differences between the two dies.

As regards the 1d. stamp he stated "The plate for this value was constructed from two dies, one of which was a reproduction of the other. Allis accepted this statement and added "all the one-penny stamps are therefore the same in detail."

It was left for Stevenson to discover that the two stamps which form the 1d. pairs **do** show constant differences, making it possible to identify a Die A and a Die B for the 1d. stamps, just as for the other three values.

In the case of the one-penny and four-penny stamps the channel between the two stamps of each square pair is slightly trumpet shaped, or, in other words, the bases are not just quite parallel, so that the space between the two is a fraction wider at one end than at the other. The wider end of the trumpet is always below the right-hand corner of the stamp which is Die A of both the 1d. and 4d. denominations of all printings. There are a number of small differences between the two Dies of each denomination; here are given only one leading feature for each denomination.

One-penny Dies. In Die B in the right-hand corner paralellogram or ornament there is a flaw which is lacking in Die A. The flaw looks like a small blot and it is constant except in some very clearly or lightly printed stamps. It must have been caused by a tiny projection in one of the two dies of the transfer roller.

Fourpence Dies. As described by Séfi, the outstanding difference is to be found in the upper right limb of the 'F', in 'FOUR'. In Die B there are two minute cuts meeting in a point; this flaw does not occur in Die A.

Sixpence Dies. The chief differences lie in the shape of the letters of the word 'SIXPENCE'. The most conspicuous is in the serifs of the middle line of the final 'E'. In Die A these are much smaller than in Die B; also the downstroke of the 'C' is thinner.

One-Shilling Dies. Here the most conspicuous differences are in the words 'ONE SHILLING'. In Die A the crossbar of the H is thicker and the base of the first downstroke of the last 'N' extends more to the right than to the left, whereas in Die B it extends equally on both sides.

No complete sheet of stamps is recorded as now in existence; Stevenson says the largest block noted in recent years is one of 33 stamps. All records, however, agree that the printing plates consisted of 15 horizontal rows of 8 pairs, making 240 stamps to the plate.

Complete plating of the 6d. and 1/- stamps is probably impossible to-day as few large blocks are available. Stevenson thinks, however, that it might be done in the case of the 1d. and 4d. In these two values many stamps with constant marks are identifiable and he himself describes a considerable number with re-entries and other constant marks.

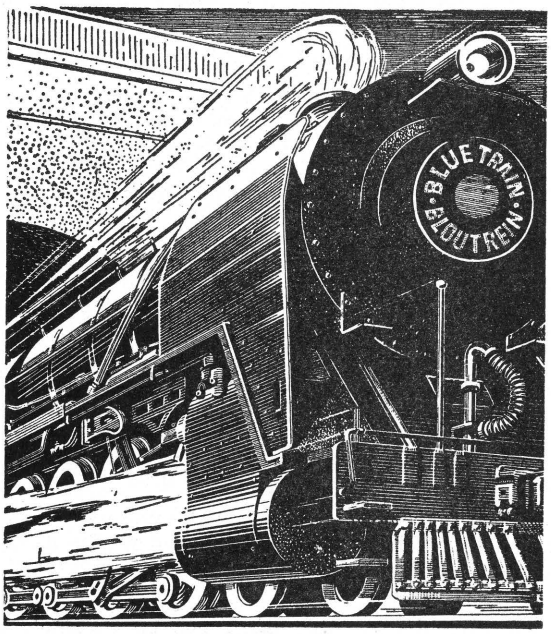
Here is a fine chance for the "fly-spot merchant". All that is necessary is to get together a few thousand stamps with as many strips and blocks as possible, and they need not all be 'superb' specimens. It may take you a lifetime to complete the job but it will be a veritable **magnum opus** when completed!

WHY SO POPULAR SO SOON?

At the commencement of 1864 the rectangular stamps of Messrs. De La Rue & Co. commenced to appear, and gradually replaced the triangular varieties as the stock of the different values became used up. The change in the design, as might be expected, did not pass without comment in the Philatelic press, and E. D. Bacon (later Sir Edward Bacon) quotes some pertinent remarks made by Mons. Moens in the "Timbre-Poste" for March, 1864, upon this subject. It is felt they are well worth reproducing here:—

"Some sincerely regret the old design, which had become almost classical. It reminds us that in the early days of collecting a Cape stamp was not only rare, but was the necessary ornament of a collection, which was only considered as having some value when it contained at least one specimen. To have his 'Cape' was to be equal with the amateur of pictures who had his Raphael, the bibliophile who had his Elzevir. What noble lord, protecting art without understanding it, would admit not having a Raphael? That in a catalogue was to have everything as peculiar estimation in which this stamp was held was owing solely to its shape, which was in strong contrast to the perpetual parallelogram of the greater part of its **confrères.** Let us recall, then, as far as we can, in searching our memories, the naive reflections that the sight of these eccentric stamps provoked every time that a schoolboy of fifteen or sixteen triumphantly displayed his album to the astonished eyes of his mama. Motherly consideration, put too often to the proof, patiently submitted to learned dissertation on each particular stamp, but having arrived at a certain page, the roles were almost inverted; the kind listener asks the name and

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NEW ZEALAND.

The Committee in Auckland responsible for the International Exhibition to be held there 16-22 July, 1955 has been busy with Bulletins recording their activities. This exhibition honours the Centenary of New Zealand stamps and of the Post Office, and it is now reported that there will be special stamps for the occasion, a Post Office exhibit and special postal facilities within the exhibition.

The exhibition Prospectus is expected to be issued in February, 1954.

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CAPE OF GOOD HOPE

1853 1d. Deep brick-red on deeply blued paper. A superb used pair £27 10

1853 1d. Brick red on slightly blued paper. A fine used block of four £30

1855 1d. Brick red on white paper. A very fine block of three with scarce Roller Cancellation £45

These are three items from a fine collection now being broken up. A selection, or a list of items available, will be sent on request. New customers are asked to give references, please.

F. W. COLLINS

STOBOROUGH CROFT, ST. CROSS,
WINCHESTER
ENGLAND.

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origin of a stamp of such **bizarre** design, and the scholar proudly replies 'Why it is a Cape'.

"The partisans of the old design have only this reason to produce in favour of retaining it in circulation — the habit of seeing the Cape represented by triangular stamps. This is a reason, in default of others, but it was not sufficient to retard a reform of which all the inhabitants of this Colony who have correspondence must feel the usefulness. There is nothing more inconvenient than these triangular stamps, for the room they take and for their application on letters. From these two points of view the square is infinitely the best."

Bacon adds "I entirely agree with these remarks of Mons. Moens, for there is no doubt that in the early days of collecting a three-cornered Cape stamp was looked upon by young beginners as the acme of a collection. At the same time, from a postal point of view, the shape was certainly a disadvantage."

PERKINS BACON OR DE LA RUE?

The question often arises — is a particular stamp a Perkins Bacon print or a De La Rue. What follows on this point is taken practically entirely from Stevenson's book.

He states disarmingly in his introduction that he has no magic formula for distinguishing them, but adds that to those who have seen a fair number of stamps which are identified correctly, only a small proportion of Fourpennies and a few of the other denominations will present difficulty. This difficulty cannot be overcome except by wide experience.

The students' difficulty in identification is shared by many professonals; few selections of triangulars do not include Perkins Bacon prints mis-named De La Rues, most frequently the 4d., then the 1d., and less often the 6d.

One distinguishing feature, which he states has been largely overlooked, is the glossiness of the De La Rue prints.

One **group** of stamps is, of course, readily placed; if a stamp is on blued paper then it is a Perkins Bacon issue. The blueing of the paper is due to the addition of potassium ferrocyanide into the inks. This was done to make the print fugitive, so that if cancellations were removed by other chemicals the print would be so effected as to show that the stamps had been tampered with. The blueing of the paper was not intended — that was an incidental by-product of the cyanide.

"For many years it has been customary for philatelic writers to divide Perkins Bacon printings of the 4d. stamp into two issues — 1853-55 on blued paper and 1855-61 on white paper — and even the blued paper issues of the 1d. and the 4d. are frequently separated into paper deeply blued and paper less blued on the back. The facts do not support the idea that either the 1d. or the 4d. Perkins Bacon stamps can be separated into these two compartments of extent of blueing, nor do issues of the 4d. on blued paper cease in 1855. From the beginning to end, 1853-61, the 4d. stamps of different printings were issued on paper blued more or less, and on white or toned paper perhaps from 1855 onwards."

"While stamps can be separated according to degree of blueing or greening, such intensities cannot be defined, and shades are unlimited. Frequently, toned papers are claimed as slightly blued and the only way to decide is to view a number of backs simultaneously. A stamp is not on blued paper unless the black is definitely blued — whatever the front may appear to be.

De La Rue used the same white or toned paper as did Perkins Bacon, the stocks having been transferred. It seems probable, however, that they received the plates before receiving the paper and that in the interim period they printed one sheet of the 1d. on paper watermarked Crown CC. These stamps were clear prints of a deep carmine colour. A pair of these was on show at the 1935 London Exhibition and a block of four is believed to be in existence. A specimen from the Schofield collection is understood to have been purchased by a South African Collector at £550.

Coming to the De La Rue printings on ordinary anchor-watermarked paper, Stevenson calls these the most interesting group at present, because so much remains to be discovered about them. Exact dates of issue of each denomination are not known, nor the date or precedence of the different shades. Dated covers of the periods 12 Jan., to 10 June, 1864 for the 4d. would settle most of the questions as to dates, but entires in these periods are rare. There is the further complication in that the 1d. and 4d. appeared in both sharp and flaky or woolly printings.

The Perkins Bacon printings can be found as sharp as some of the 1d. and 4d. De La Rues, but contrariwise Perkins Becon prints can be found woolly like some of the De La Rues.

The description of some as "woolly" implies that the engraving lines are indistinct or blurred and in extreme cases the engine-turned background is a uniform mass of colour.

"Flaky" prints show the ink lying in tiny solid areas, as if it had not penetrated a well-chalked paper surface. The difference between the sharp and the flaky printings has often been attributed to the plates being cleaned or dirty but this is not the proper explanation, which has largely to do with the surface of the paper.

Messrs. De La Rue at this period were working on the preparation of so-called safety papers, generally coating them with substances giving a smooth or polished surface which would show up any cleaning process used to remove obliterations.

But polishing a paper surface can be done mechanically instead of by applying chalk or other substances and Stevenson is of opinion that this was done in some way with the anchor-watermarked paper before De La Rue produced their flaky prints with fugitive inks. But whatever the process used, the woolly and flaky prints of De La Rue have a conspicuous sheen or glossiness and clearly the ink did not penetrate.

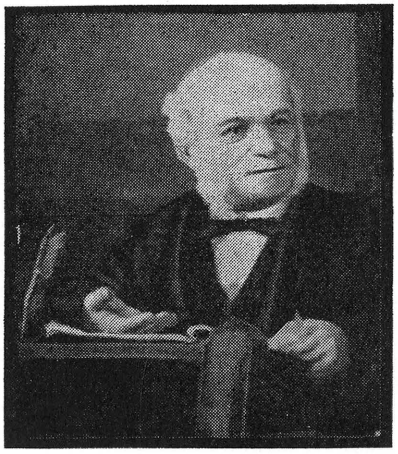
STUDY YOUR COUNTRY'S STAMPS

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THE WOODBLOCKS.

In January, 1861 the Cape Post Office found that they were running desperately short of 1d. and 4d. stamps through the apparent non-arrival of supplies ordered a year previously. Actually the stamps had arrived in June, 1860 and were lying in the Queen's Warehouse at the docks, but the bill of lading had gone astray somewhere. The postal authorities did not make further enquiries and decided to fill the urgent need by having provisionals made.

An order was given to Messrs. Saul Solomon & Co. to furnish 100,000 of each of the two values, by the stereotyping process, the machinery for which had just been installed. The necessary dies (triangular, like the Perkins Bacon stamps), one for each of the two values, were engraved on steel by Mr. J. G. Roberts and 64 stereous of each value were made from these. They were arranged in square pairs so as to give the same appearance as with the Perkins Bacon plates, and set on wooden blocks. Wooden frames held the blocks together for printing, earning for the stamps the name of 'WOODBLOCKS' — incorrect of course, as the printing surfaces were metal and not cuts in wood. But the name, once given, has stuck and it would now be pedantic to give them another name. The total numbers actually printed were 125,012 of the 1d. and 113,256 of the 4d., the first consignment being delivered by the printers on 23rd February, 1861.



Saul Solomon.

The stamps were rather crude imitations of the Perkins Bacon stamps and the Cape postal authorities apparently did not inform the P.M.G. in London of their first effort at stamp printing. As a result of this omission a letter was received to the effect that "letters are arriving from the Cape of Good Hope prepaid with postage stamps which, in the opinion of some officers of the Department, are probably forgeries". A speciment of one was sent, together with an ordinary Perkins Bacon, for comparison. On receiving an explanation, this storm in a teacup blew over.

Little was known about the printing of these stamps, or other details about the issue until 1911 when Sir Howard Gorges (then Permanent Secretary to the Union Department of Interior) published a series of articles on them in Gibbons' "Monthly Journal" with much new information revealing the inaccuracy of most previous official and other statements.

The story of them is well told by Allis, although there have been further additions to our knowledge since his day.

The original dies and printing plates are now preserved in the South African Museum, Cape Town, with a vertical cut defacing both the dies and each stereo.

It is clear now that there are no conspicuous constant flaws in the case of the 1d. woodblocks but the fourpennies show three types of moulds (first noted by P. L. Pemberton and figured by both Allis and Stevenson) and one exceptional stamp with a retouched corner, the stereo of which is **not** in the plates preserved in the Museum.

Errors. The position of the individual stereos in their frames was changed several times in the course of the various printings and, as a result of this two interesting 'errors' were produced.

(a) The partial tête-bêche. One or other of the 4d. pairs was set in the wrong position with a 90 degree turn so that the label with 'FOURPENCE' on one stamp adjoined the label of 'POSTAGE' of an adjoining square pair. Only one example of this partial tête-bêche is known to exist and it can easily be classified as the rarest Cape Triangular item. This item consists of two stamps set side by side in the form of one triangle with the apex upwards and the words inverted along the base — POSTAGE on the right and FOURPENCE on the left.

(b) Errors of colour. This mistake was brought about in the assembling of the stereos; one of the fourpenny stereos was set among the penny stereos, and one of the pennies among the fourpennies. Thus, when printed, one got a red 4d. and a blue 1d.

Before the mistake was noticed and the plates corrected there were issued 1194 of the 1d. blue errors and 1568 of the 4d. red. More of the 1d. blue have survived, however, than of the 4d. reds. This is probably to be accounted for by the stamps having been sold, and used, by colour rather than by looking at the value denoted on them Most of the 4d. reds were probably used (as supposed 1d. stamps) on newspapers, the wrappings of which were not preserved like letters.

Unused copies of these errors are very rare, there being recorded only two of each. In used state it is estimated that about 150 of the 1d. blue and about 100 of the 4d. red exist as singles; four examples of the 1d. blue attached to 4d. blue are known and five of the 4d. red attached to the ordinary 1d. red — two of the latter being in blocks of four, one on an entire. One of these blocks of four (from the Stevenson collection) recently fetched £1,450 at auction, a record for Capes.

A single 1d. pale milky blue from the Schofield collection fetched £1,200 at a Harmer auction, a record for a single Cape stamp.

Shades. The 1d. Woodblocks appeared in three distinct shades, known as vermilion, carmine and brick red, the first being the commonest. These shades are obvious enough in extremes, but many stamps seem to fall between the three classes.

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The 4d. occurs in a considerable variety of shades, the rarest being a very deep blue, with a bright blue probably coming next.

Late Proofs (often referred to as Reprints). As mentioned under the heading 'ESSAYS & PROOFS', printings were made from the Woodblock plates in 1883, 1927 and 1940-41.

Allis noted defects and conspicuous features in each stereo, using the 1927 proofs. Later Jurgens checked these lists and found that many of the supposed defects were really due to defects in the "pulls" and gave a list of corrections to Allis' supposed defects in the "S.A. Philatelist" 1941, p. 125.

As already noted also, the Woodblocks, and indeed all the triangulars, were demonetized in 1900 because a number of the 1883 proofs were found being used on letters.

ESSAYS AND PROOFS.

Stevenson and Meyer & Rich give full accounts of the method of Die making and printing of the triangulars, to which those interested in the technique may be referred. The latter authors also give a very comprehensive list of known proofs, which is supplemented by Brazer with a listing of all those he has personally seen.

There is only one known essay of the triangulars, that by Chas. Bell, which has already been referred to and illustrated in the section 'WHY TRIANGULAR STAMPS?'.

All the known contemporary Plate and Die Proofs of the ordinary triangulars are listed by Meyer & Rich, including the 4d. black on regular anchor-watermarked paper amongst them. There are also later Die Proofs ascribed to the period 1901-1929.

So far as the Woodblocks are concerned no essays and no contemporary proofs are known. Later proofs, however, which are perhaps more commonly known among philatelists in general as 'reprints', are well known.

The stand taken by Meyer & Rich is that generally now accepted by Essay-Proof specialists, viz., that printings after the period of regular usage and after demonetization are properly called (late) proofs. They regard 'reprints' as now having acquired the definite meaning of a further printing as much like the original stamp as possible, not for postal use like a reissue, but for sale to collectors.

Late proofs of the Woodblocks fall into three groups:—

(a) Those made in 1883 by Saul Solomon & Co. with official authorization. They were made for distribution to postal administrations in other countries, which had requested specimens for their official reference collections. They were not made for postal use and none were sold as stamps. Nevertheless considerable quantities found their way into philatelic hands and some were postally used and cancelled. As a result all triangular stamps, engraved and woodblocks alike, were demonetized in 1900.

(b) In 1927 further proofs, in black, were made in connection with the preparation of Allis' book. The story of these is given by Jurgens in his book.

(c) In 1940 and 1941 authorized proofs were made by Jurgens. These are in colour as well as in black.

THE MYSTERIOUS BLACK FOURPENNY.

A stamp which still remains, and probably will always remain, something of a mystery, is the black fourpenny. This stamp was first listed in A. Potiquet's catalogue published on 21 Dec., 1861, and in 1862 the famous Lallier album provided a space for it. It first came into prominence, however, as a result of a paper read by a Mr. Hermann Hirsch of Berlin at the first International Congress of Timbrophiles held in Paris in 1878.

Miss B. J. Versfeld gives a good account of Hirsch's elaborate story of how he obtained the stamp in the "S.A. Philatelist", 1949, p. 178. This story may just possibly be true but accompanying statements about the genesis of the black stamps are most fantastically imaginary. Hirsch described the stamp as one of 300 made at the Cape as a token of mourning for the Prince Consort. In the first place be it noted that Prince Albert died on 14-12-61, yet Potiquet had it listed on 21-12-61 and obviously he could not have rushed this variety into print in the space of seven days. Secondly, these black stamps obviously stemmed from the same plates as the normal stamps, as is noted anon; these plates were never out of England so they just could **not** have been made at the Cape. The idea of their being mourning stamps is now completely discarded.

Numbers known. When Allis wrote his book there seem to have been only four recorded specimens, Miss Versfeld gives five, with a possible sixth, but L.N. and M. Williams ("Stamps of Fame") list eight, giving the collections in which they are located.

Characters. The stamps, except for their colour, a jet black,, are exactly the same as the ordinary blue fourpennies. They are upon the same anchor-watermarked paper; three of the recorded eight are from the Die 4, the other five from Die B. Six of the eight are definitely unused and mostly with original gum; one, referred to later, has no gum. Two are described as used, but the 'postmarks' are very vague and it is very doubtful if they are real postal cancellations.

There is no record in official files of any black stamps ever having been ordered or made for official purposes, so the question remains — "What are they?"

Colour changelings? Emphatically 'No.'

It is common knowledge, of course, that blue fourpennies frequently show some blackish discolouration through what is often called 'oxidation', but is really 'sulphidation', but the true black fourpennies are of a uniform jet black.

It is actually the easiest thing in the world to make a 'black fourpenny'. Take a blue, wet it and expose it to sulphuretted hydrogen and it will turn a uniform jet black. **But,** treat it further with hydrogen peroxide and it returns to its pristine blue.

The black fourpenny mentioned as being without gum had been treated with hydrogen peroxide, but it remained black. Whatever the chemical composition of the black ink may have been it was not the same as the sulphide produced by the sulphiding of the blue ink. If therefore you are ever offered a black fourpenny request permission to treat it with hydrogen peroxide

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before making up your mind to buy! Talking of buying, one of the two recorded "used" specimens changed hands in 1946 at £210. As our contemporary "Stamp Collecting" remarked: "One person at least think the black fourpenny was genuinely used."

Considering opinion now is that the black fourpennies were at best trial colour proofs, or a trial of the plate in black for some purpose not stated, but presumably connected with the printer's work.

It is not beyond the realm of possibility that some specimens may have been shipped to the Cape and may even have been postally used.

ROULETTED STAMPS.

Gibbons list, as Varieties of the Perkins Bacon issues, all four values "Unofficially rouletted by the Standard Bank of South Africa, Cape Town," with the 1d. unpriced and the 4d., 6d. and 1/- used, at £75, £90 and £300 respectively.

This statement is open to question **as a matter of fact,** and is otherwise apt to be misleading, if considered unqualifiedly.

It is perfectly true that triangulars were never officially rouletted and no notice seems ever to have been issued either authorising, prohibiting or acknowledging the practice. It is difficult ndeed to see why it ever should have been prohibited — stamps had to be separated somehow and did it matter in the least whether this was done with a pair of scissors or by a rouletting wheel?

Actually triangulars of both the Perkins Bacon and the De La Rue printings are known rouletted. Most of them are fiscally used on documents; on original cover they are very rare. Jurgens records only one item, a De La Rue. seen in twenty years' research.

There is no doubt, of course, as to rouletting having been done by private individuals or firms for their own use, but the attributing of all the rouletting to the Standard Bank in Cape Town cannot be correct. The Standard Bank was only founded in 1862, in Port Elizabeth, and the Cape Town office only opened in 1863. Perkins Bacon handed over the printing to De La Rue in that year.

Roulettes vary from 7 to 15 per 20 mm., suggesting that the practice was done by a variety of different wheels and there is really no criterion on which to judge their authenticity. Any wide-margined stamp could be rouletted to-day and unless a specimen is well tied on cover whose general set-up seems to be otherwise in every respect genuine, Jurgens' blunt statement would seem to hold good viz., that such a stamp should not be considered as of any enhanced value over an ordinary stamp of the same kind.

"SPECIMEN" or "CANCELLED" STAMPS.

Such overprints are to be found on both Perkins Bacon and De La Rue prints, but more commonly on the latter, and 'Cancelled' is commoner than 'Specimen'. According to Stevenson such stamps may have been samples handed by the printers to their clients or agents as examples of their work, or they may have been issued by the Cape Government or by the Crown Agents to their own Departments or to the Postal Administrations of other countries. Still another possibility is that they were given to members of the Rowland Hill family by the printers, a practice which the printers followed with stamps of various Colonies.

A word of warning, however, about 'Cancelled' stamps. The banks in the Cape had various defacers for cancelling stamps on documents; some of these consisted of the word 'Cancelled', either by itself or as part of a larger design. Do not jump too hastily therefore to the conclusion that a triangular with a 'Cancelled' overprint is necessarily a "Specimen" stamp in the usually accepted meaning of such a term. The characteristics of these bank 'Cancelled' overprints vary considerably.

CAPE TRIANGULARS used as ORANGE FREE STATE STAMPS

The two outstanding happenings of the last six years connected with Cape Triangulars are (a) the publication of Stevenson's book with its wealth of new information about these stamps, and (b) the discovery that Cape Triangulars were used in the Orange Free State as stamps of that country before the issue of their own stamps in 1868.

The skeleton of the story proving this is as follows:—

(1) In the O.F.S. pre-stamp period use was made at first of 'Paid' Handstamps. The first one described was by A. A. Jurgens (S.A. Philatelist, 1943, p. 101) 'Bloemfontein Betaald.' Later, similar marks were reported from Winburg, Smithfield and Fauresmith.

(2) Then Jurgens (S.A. Philatelist, 1946, p. 192) reported finding a cover sent in 1858 from Smithfield to Aliwal North, just over the Cape border. This had a 4d. Cape Triangular stamp, cancelled with the 'Betaald' mark (presumably in the absence of any other canceller). No postage within the Cape being really necessary, he interpreted this as signifying that the Cape stamp was paying postage within the O.F.S.

(3) Dr. K. Freund (S.A. Philatelist, 1947, p. 24), when delving in the archives at Bloemfontein, found a letter from the Colonial Secretary, Cape Town, addressed to the President of the O.F.S. in May, 1856, which he quotes in full, but the substance of it is as follows: He complains that stamps affixed to letters and newspapers are often found on receipt in Cape Town not to be so defaced as to prevent the possibility of their being used again.

Another letter (quoted in the same article as the above) in Oct. 1856, dealt with the practice at the Smithfield P.O. of dividing 4d. postage stamps into four equal parts and affixing one quarter to a newspaper to cover the penny rate of postage on it. This action is termed "misappropriation" and the offer is made to supply Penny stamps.

These two letters officially confirm Jurgens' inference that the O.F.S. was using Cape stamps as O.F.S. stamps.

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(4) This report by Dr. Freund set Mr. Jurgens hunting and he was able to find two further items:—

(a) A cover sent from Bloemfontein to Cape Town in 1863 (S.A. Ph., 1947, p. 56). This has 4d. triangulars in each of the top corners, one cancelled with the 'Bloemfontein Betaald' mark, the other with a Cape triangular defacing mark. Obviously the one paid transmission to the O.F.S.-Cape border, the other transmission within the Cape Colony.

(b) A portion of a newspaper with a nicely cut 4d. quadrisect well tied with a 'Smithfield Betaald' mark. He tells (S.A. Philatelist, 1947, p. 58) how he probably had two such items in the past but, since they had been torn into quarters, not neatly cut, he discarded them as simply useless torn stamps. See illustration.

He comments that it was the Cape Govt. which complained about the quadrisecting, but surely if the O.F.S. had bought the stamps they had every right to use them as they thought fit.

In a further letter Dr. Freund points out that the O.F.S. Govt. obviously also thought they could do as they pleased with the stamps, for they did not instruct the Smithfield postmaster to stop the practice, merely sending him a copy of the letter without comment.

The Smithfield postmaster continued the practice, for the specimen found by Jurgens shows the date 28 June, 1864, nearly 8 years after the complaint by the Cape Colonial Secretary.

FORGERIES OF THE CAPE OF GOOD HOPE TRIANGULARS.

By JACK SHEPHERD.

The triangular stamps of the Cape of Good Hope have always been popular with collectors. Many millions were issued but their popularity made them desirable, and because of this stamp forgers got busy and supplied many forgeries to the benefit of themselves, and the detriment and confusion of the unwary.

In this article I have endeavoured to list some of these forgeries. My list is by no means complete| It is compiled from forgeries in the collection belonging to the Expert Committee of the Philatelic Federation, and my own collection, the nucleus of which came to me from Mr. H. R. Harmer, to whom I am deeply grateful.

The type letters are those which were adopted by Mr. Harmer in his descriptive covering notes and have been adhered to for the sake of convenience. An effort has also been made to list the various types of cancellations used.

THE ENGRAVED STAMPS.

The following Types are all forgeries of the London printed stamps.

One Penny Value:

Type "A": The second Cape Forgery, engraved by the Italian forger Panelli. Printed on thick white paper and impressed with an anchor "watermark". The work is very fine and can easily be mistaken for the genuine. A test is the appearance of the toes which are long and thin and quite unnatural and are out of proportion to the rest of the design. There is no outer frame line. The colour is carmine. Cancellation Type 2.

Type "C": The first Cape Forgery issued about 1886. This is the first of the Spiro Bros. forgeries Lithographed — Hamburg. The very earliest are in dull-reddish brown, and later issues are in bright red (shades). The stamps are surrounded by an outer frame line. The background is cross-hatched. The impression is crude and should not easily deceive anyone. The face is ugly, with a hard mouth. There is little or no chignon at the back of the head. The paper is white and there is no watermark. Cancellation Type 1.

Type "D": The Second Spiro Forgery. Printed from an entirely new plate, with much improved features, well formed letters and a far more solid background. The chignon is larger and the "O" is open at the top. The whole impression however is still crude. There is still the outer frameline and no watermark. Three distinct shades show small white dots opposite the forehead and knee. The first shade, which could be called red, is cancelled with Type 1. The second shade, a chocolate, is on bluish paper, and is cancelled with Type 3. The third shade, a dull brownish red, also on bluish paper, is cancelled with Type 4. A heavy, well inked later printing, apparently from the same plate, but with the "O" closed and not showing the dots opposite the forehead and knee, in deep brown-red and chocolate (shades) has cancellations Types 1, 3 and 5. A light reddish brown shade on white paper is cancelled with Type 15.

Type "E": This issue is Typographed by Fournier on white paper with the word "facsimile" in parallel lines on the back. The general appearance is not unlike the genuine stamp. There is no watermark, and no outer frame lines. The colour is brownish red and the letter "C" has a small coloured dot. The printing layout differs from the genuine and creates semi tête-bêche pairs.

Four Penny Value:

Type "A": Engraved by Panelli. Blue (shades) on thick toned paper with impressed anchor "watermark". As in the One Penny value the toes are an easy and immediate test, although the general appearance is comparable to the genuine. The Cancellation is Type 2.

Type "C": This is the First Spiro Type. On white paper, no watermark, with outer frame lines. It is the crude stamp detailed under the One Penny heading. It is easy to classify because of the cross-hatched background. The Cancellation is Type 1.

Type "D": The Second Spiro. This has a more solid background and usually has a small white dot opposite the forehead. On white paper there are two shades, a deep blue and a pale blue, both cancelled with Type 1. The letter "U" has a square-shaped base. Another shade, on a greenish blue paper has the cancellation Type 3.

Six Penny Value:

Type "A": Engraved by Panelli. With or without impressed anchor watermark. In three shades of slate-lilac. Cancellation Type 2.

Type "C": First Spiro Type. Letters of "Six Pence" badly formed. White paper. Lilac shade. Cancellation Type 1. Greyish shade on toned paper. Cancellation Type 1.

Type "G": Grey-lilac shade on thickish paper. Also Spiro with badly formed letters of "Six Pence". Cancellation Type 1.

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Type "D": Second Spiro Type. Remade Plate with well formed letters and different background. White paper. Shades. Grey-black, Cancellation Type 3. Purple-black, Cancellation Type 4. Black — thick paper — Cancellation Type 5. Purple-black (shades). Cancellation Type 1. Black, Cancellation Type 3. Blued paper. Purple-black, Cancellation Type 7. Black, Cancellation Type 1.

Type "E": Typographed by Fournier. Printed semi tête-bêche fashion. Marked with words "Fac-Simile" in parallel lines on back. Lilac on white paper. Cancellation Type 8.

Type "F": Somewhat similar to Spiro types but deep bright colour. "P" of "Hope" like inverted "J". Deep purple on white paper. Cancellation Type 9.

One Shilling Value:

Type "A": Engraved by Panelli. Watermarked with impressed anchor (inverted) on white paper. Yellow-green and dull-green. Cancellation Type 2.

Type "C": First Spiro Type. The word "shilling" in small letters. Made from "One Penny" Stone. On white paper. Yellow-green. Cancellation Type 1. Dark-green. Cancellation Type 1.

Type "G": On Toned paper. Dark green. Word "Shilling" badly formed. Cancellation Type 1.

Type "D": Second Spiro Type. Remade plate with well-formed letters and stippled background. White paper (shades). Cancellations Types 1, 4, 5, 10. Bluish paper (shades). Cancellations Types 3, 15.

Type "E": Typographed by Fournier. Marked with "Fac-Simile" in parallel lines on back. Green on white paper mint.

Type "F": Somewhat similar to Spiro Remade Plate. "P" of "Hope" like inverted "J". Deep green. On slightly yellowish paper. Cancellation Type 11.

WOODBLOCKS.

One Penny:

Type "A": First Woodblock Forgery, lithographed in Hamburg by Spiro. On slightly yellowish wove paper. Is of very crude design with outer frame line. There is no chignon at the back of the head. The entire background is solid. The apex ornament consists of a series of small white dots. The anchor has no flukes and does not touch the ground. It is unlikely to deceive anyone. The colour is brick red and the cancellations are Type 6 and Type 13.

Type "C": Printed in vermilion on white paper, this forgery is an improvement but is not dangerous as the design includes the word "facsimile" printed twice on the face of each copy. There are not outer frame linesê It is not cancelled.

Type "I": This third forgery is printed in carmine on white paper and could be dangerous if not carefully examined. The paper is not laid, and that is an easy test. The head is badly shaped, with little or no chignon at the back of the head. The design in the apex corner is comprised of nine small dots. The anchor has no fluke. The feet are very badly formed. There is no outer frame. The neck is one thin white line. The cancellation is Type 1.

Type "J": On crisp white paper and with a thick gum, printed in vermilion, could be dangerous to anyone not knowing the stamp. If turned sideways the head takes on the appearance of a question mark. The anchor has two sharp flukes and touches the ground, but the shaft protrudes beyond the head like an arrow. The cancellation is Type 14.

Four Pence:

Type "A": The first forgery is the Spiro, which was lithographed in Hamburg. It is on slightly yellowish wove paper in a grey blue shade. It is the same crude design as the One Penny, with the outer frame line. The cancellations are Types 3, 6, 12 and 13.

Type "C": This is the third forgery and is block printed by Fournier. It is on white paper with the word "facsimile" printed in parallel lines on the back. The design is crude, there are no outer frame lines, but the margins far exceed those possible on any of the original stamps. The head has no chignon at the back, but rather appears to be wearing a fireman's helmet. The left arm is much thicker than a normal sized arm. All the letters are badly formed. The anchor is too thick. The apex corner design is a jumble of small white lines. The forgery is not cancelled and is not dangerous.

Type "D": This forgery on a white semi-gloss laid paper can deceive if not closely examined. The "O" and "S" of "Postage' are solid. The apex ornament consists of four outer large white dots connected to a central large white dot, and four very small outer white dots. The final "E" of "Pence" is solid. The face is rather flat. The left arm is too thick. The anchor has flukes and is touching the ground. On certain copies the line under "Postage" is broken and forms two lines. In other copies this has apparently been repaired and the line is continuous. There are two shades, blue and deep blue, both cancelled with Type 2.

Type "E": This forgery is on a slightly yellowish paper, and is printed in a greenish blue. It is not dangerous as it has the word "facsimile" embodied in the design twice. The word "Four" is misspelt "Pour". It is not cancelled.

Type "F": Printed on crisp paper with thick gum, could be dangerous to anyone not knowing the stamp. If turned sideways the head takes on the appearance of a question mark. The anchor has two sharp flukes and touches the ground, but the shaft protrudes beyond the head like an arrow. The "F" has no lower arm and the second "E" of "Pence" has no centre arm. There are two shades, blue and deep blue, both cancelled with Type 14.

WOODBLOCK ERRORS OF COLOUR.

One Penny — Blue.

Type "A": The same as described under Type "J" of the One Penny. The colour is deep blue and the cancellation Type 14.

Four Pence — Red.

Type "B": Block printed by Fournier, as described under Type "C" of the Four Pence, with the word "facsimile" in parallel lines on the back. Uncancelled.

Type "A": The same as described under Type "F" of the Four Pence. The colour is vermilion and the cancellation Type 14.

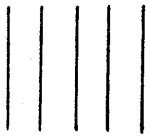
I have also seen several other forgeries which have not yet been identified under any of these headings.

If the foregoing notes prove of interest or assistance to collectors some useful purpose will have been served. Readers with additional items

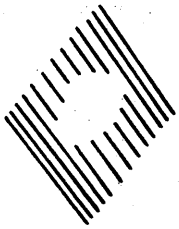
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TYPES OF CANCELLATIONS USED ON CAPE TRIANGULAR FORGERIES.

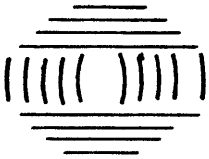
Type 1.



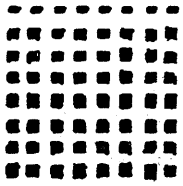
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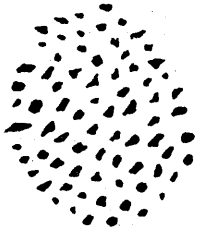
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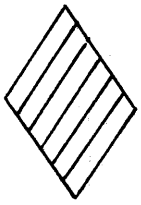
Type 13.



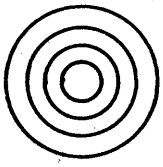
Type 4.



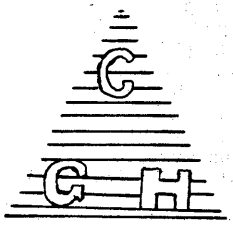
Type 5.



Type 6.



Type 14.



Type 7.



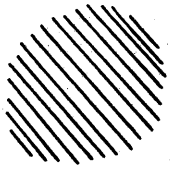
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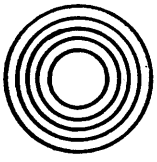
Type 9.



Type 15.



Type 10.



Type 11.



Type 12.





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not included in the list could assist tremendously in compiling a more complete record by forwarding the stamps, or a detailed description thereof, to the writer, care of the "S.A. Philatelist."

SOME "FINDS" OF TRIANGULARS.

Quoting Stevenson: The most remarkable "find" was described by C. J. Phillips in 1906 in "Fifty Years of Philately", which is the history of his firm of Stanley Gibbons Ltd. Some time in 1863 two sailors noticed sheets of stamps for sale in the windows of a chemist's shop in Plymouth and told the proprietor, Edward Stanley Gibbons, that they had stamps for sale. On the following day the men arrived with a kit-bag filled with stamps which they had won in a shilling raffle at a Cape Town bazaar. The thousands of stamps were all triangulars, both engraved and woodblocks, and included strips and blocks of eight. For this extraordinary lot, which would be of tremendous value at this date, the men were delighted to accept a five-pound note. And that was the first important step on the philatelic ladder by which Stanley Gibbons have climbed to such heights to-day!

In 1898 a London doctor found five sheets rolled up in an ordinance map among a collection of skeletons, dried grasses and books which he had bought from the executors of an old patient. There was a complete sheet each of the 1d., 4d. and 6d. De La Rues and 1/- dark green Perkins Bacon, also 192 emerald-green 1s. stamps uncut. He sold the lot to a dealer for £1,200; they were cut up — probably the last time complete sheets were so treated — and sold to collectors at £10 for a set of five.

But perhaps, as Jurgens thought to his last day, there may still be some "finds" to be unearthed. Whether they will be as good as that described by Dr. Freund in the next section, remains to be seen.

CAPE TRIANGULARS IN SHEETS. A SENSATIONAL FIND.

By Dr. K. FREUND.

Who says miracles do not happen any more? Just listen to this:

In February, I went down to Cape Town by car. I had just crossed the Great Karoo and had also left Laingsburg behind, when I noticed that the petrol meter was dangerously low. I began to blame myself for not having filled up at Laingsburg, but then spotted to my relief a small hamlet lying in the far distance to the left, off the National Road. A faint red speck there gave hopes for the existence of a petrol station. There was a small bumpy path leading off to the "dorpie". I turned in and after a considerable shake-up of the car and my own body I finally glided into the place which proudly called itself "Agterpoort". It consisted of not more than about a dozen sleepy homes, one of them a small "Privaat-Hotel". Next to this establishment there was indeed a shiny-new red petrol

SCHEDULE OF CANCELLATIONS USED ON THE CAPE TRIANGULAR FORGERIES.

Note.—The Stamp types A, C, D, etc. are those referred to in the accompanying Article as "A", "C", "D", etc.

Engraved Type	VARIETIES OF CANCELLATIONS (AS ILLUSTRATED)														
	1	2	3	4	5	6	7	8	9	10	11	12	13	14	15
1d.	C D	A	D	D	D										D
4d.	C	A	C												
6d.	C G D	A D	D	D	D		D	E	F						
1/-	C G D	A	D	D	D					D	F				D
Woodblock Type 1d.	I					A							A Not identified (Say J)		
4d.		D	A			A						A	A Not identified (Say F)		
Errors	Not identified														

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tank of the "pumping" type. It took me some time to locate the Native attendant and move him into action, but then I had soon stocked up again on petrol.

I was just turning to get back to the National Road without much further delay, when I noticed the weathered inscription "POSKANTOOR" on the house opposite. My philatelic hunting instinct got stirred. An old post office in this forsaken place was sure to turn up some obsolete and now scarce printings of Union stamps. For all I knew I might be lucky to pick up some of the rare 2d. printings or some "cross-hatched" Ha'pennies. I entered briskly, but found myself in a sort of a living room, in no way resembling a public office. Before I could withdraw, a bearded man in the sixties came in, puffing from a pipe. The conversation that developed was conducted partly in English and partly in Afrikaans.

After a friendly exchange of "Hellos", I asked him whether he was the postmaster. He shook his head and added that the "Oubaas", his father, had been the "posmeester"; but when he died during the "oorlog" in 1900, the "poskantoor" was closed down and since then letters had to be handed in and fetched at Laingsburg. I explained that the inscription outside had mislead me, to which he replied wistfully that in spite of occasional white-washing the hot Karoo sun brought always the old lettering back again. I laughed sheepishly, hinting that I only intended to buy some stamps and prepared to leave again, when the matter took a dramatic turn.

"Posseëls?" he asked. "You want some special ones? Daar is 'n klomp wat die Oubaas terug gelaat het."

I pricked up my ears. "What sort?" I enquired, raising my eyebrows hopefully.

"Well," said the good old greybeard, ':you knowd, ou Kaapse seils, van die driehoek soort."

"Cape Triangulars?" I shouted. "You mean three-cornered Capes?" I had to hold on to a chair. Visions came to my mind of that sensational find in the last century when two sailors brought a sack full of Cape Triangulars to Stanley Gibbons, making this firm prosperous and wealthy. Was history repeating itself, with me this time as the main beneficiary? Had I not been lucky once before with my "Mafeking" find?

I am happy to report that though there were no "sacks" full, my fondest expectataions were far surpassed and this find was again sensational enough. But let us relate the happenings step-by-step.

The old greybeard nodded and went on to explain that the "Oubaas", his father, had been more of the "stadig" sort ("slow"). He used to keep his old stocks of stamps for a long time, intending to return them at a later date to the Postmaster-General in Cape Town. But then it became finally so late that the old "skelm" was rather ashamed to return them, and having accounted and reckoned off for them anyway, the family tried to use them up on their own correspondence as far as possible. The demonetising of the Cape Triangulars in October, 1900, came as a real blow to them, as the stamps became then "waardeloos" ("valueless"). They put them aside with the intention to give them to some kids of the family who might like them for their peculiar shape. But one brother who was farming at Ceres had no children, and the offspring of another brother in the Rustenberg district in the Transvaal were "baie stout" ("very naughty") and not interested in such things. So he himself, a lonely bachelor, had kept them.

"Have you got them here? I mean — could I see the stamps?" I asked, biting my lips nervously.

"I think so," said the greybeard, puffing from his pile and motioning me to follow him. We went through the back door, over a narrow path along the house, through spider-infested bushes, up to a back-porch of an annexe and into a cool "kamer".

He stopped in front of an antique stinkwood desk which was probably of great interest and value, but I checked him rather brusquely when he started to reel off the history of this venerable piece of furniture. All I wanted was Cape Triangulars.

He rustled between some papers, takinug far too long for my liking, but at last he came out with a large roll of papers. The string holding it was knotted badly. Impatiently I came to his assistance and twenty fingers were fumbling and wriggling eagerly with the knot.

Then the greybeard produced a formidable pocket-knife and cut the string. The roll opened —and there, between various documents, deeds of sale and what have you, there they were —, sheets, whole sheets of them! I rubbed my eyes, real genuine Cape Triangulars! The old man had not exaggerated.

With shivering fingers I spread the treasure out and made a quick survey, and all denominations were represented. Here is a detailed list of the incredible items: **1d. value:** Two complete sheets of 240 in carmine-red; a third of a sheet (80 stamps) in brown-red; and an irregular block in the same shade of 38 stamps. — **4d. value:** Three complete sheets in dark blue; half a sheet (120 stamps) in a definite steel-blue; and five smaller irregular blocks (together 34 stamps) in dark blue. — **6d. value:** part of a sheet (irregular block of 52 stamps) in bright mauve. — **1/- value:** part of a sheet (irregular block of 36 stamps) in emerald.

Having studied the stamps, I cleared my throat, pale as a sheet. "Could I . . . could I buy the stamps?", I asked in a hoarse voice.

"You bet you can," the good old man said, "what could I do with the stuff any longer." He sat down, put on some steel-rimmed glasses and began to write and total figures on the margins of a newspaper, licking his pencil repeatedly.

"This will cost you £20 3s. 2d." he said at last, looking at me over the rim of his glasses which he had pushed down his nose. "You can forget about the three-and-twopence."

I did not bother to check him up. Fortunately I had enough cash on me, and I paid him excitedly and hastily, before he might change his mind.

But the incident was not closed yet and better things were still to come! Rolling my newly-acquired treasures carefully together, I asked rather as a matter of routine without expecting anything further, whether these were all the stamps he had.

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"Well, come to think of it," he said, "there are still the misprints."

"Mis- misprints?" I stammered. "What do you mean, mi- misprints?"

He explained that the "Oubaas" had often told him the story that in the early 1860's, not long after he had become "posmeester" of Agterpoort, stocks of stamps were supplied to him which looked "baie suspisieus" and not quite like the proper driehoekige issues. The colours were slightly different and the "uitwerking" of the secls was "baie grof" (very coarse), as if they had been printed from "houtsnee" ("woodcuts").

"Yes, yes, woodblocks," I interrupted eagerly and trying to control myself. "Yes?"

He continued that following an enquiry the "Oubaas" was told that the stamps had been printed as an emergency by some Kaapstad printers, Samuel & Co. or a similar Jewish name, and that they were quite alright.

"Where are the sheets?", I shouted, unable to control myself any longer. "I take them also!"

"Stadig, man," said the greybeard, rather sadly. "There are none. The "Oubaas" used to tell us that people in these parts did not like the look of them and thought they were "vervalsings" (forgeries). So fortunately he must have returned them to Kaapstad in time. Or maybe he managed to sell them after all. Anyway, he left none."

My face dropped in bitter disappointment. Sheets of Cape Woodblocks, that would have been something! Anyway, I consoled myself, I had managed to get all those De La Rue sheets and blocks.

"But you told me something about some misprints? What about them? Where are they?" My voice sounded probably more indignant than the friendly attitude of the good old man warranted.

"I was coming to that, seun," he said. "The Oubaas kept some 'kleurfoute', seëls in 'verkeerde kleure' (wrong colours). He told us that the Kaapstad printers made a 'snaaks' mistake in every 1d. and 4d. sheet. There was a blue 1d. stamp in every blue 4d. sheet, and a red 4d. stamp in every red 1d. sheet."

"Woodblock errors!" I gasped and swallowed hard.

The greybreard nodded. "The Oubaas cut the Errors out, each time together with a normal stamp, for "referensie", to prove that he himself had not tampered with the stamps and was not guilty of any 'bobbejaanstreek' (monkey-trick). He meant to return them to Kaapstad, but first mislaid them, then forgot about them and in the end kept them. In all, they amounted only to a few shillings."

While the old man was looking for them in the stinkwood desk, my knees were shivering. I upset a chair which fell down with great commotion. Then, from a cubby-hole of the desk, the old man produced triumphantly a cigarette tin. It contained some Kruger coins —, some campaign medals — and — — , neatly wrapped in tissue paper, the woodblock errors.!

Feverishly I unwrapped the thin paper and, like in a haze, spread out the precious rarities: Just as the old man had described, there were altogether eleven pairs, each time an error paired with a normal stamp. There were **seven blue pairs with the 1d. blue error,** and **four red pairs with the 4d. red error.** Only one blue pair was bady cut into, unfortunately the 1d. blue error being affected, but all the other pairs had been neatly cut out and had very fair margins throughout.

"You can see," the old man pointed out, "the colours are altogether wrong ("heeltemal verkeerd" were his actual words). The blue stamps look as if the printing ink had been mixed with chalk or milk."

"Never mind," I replied in a hoarse but determined voice. "I take them! If I may."

"Toemaar, ou seun," said the friendly old man, obviously amused about my excited and eccentric behaviour. "I won't charge you for them, you can have them as a 'bonsella' (present). They come to a few shillings, but you paid me enough."

"Thank you, baie dankie," I said, overcome with emotion. While I wrapped the eleven pairs of Woodblock errors with trembling hands back in their tissue paper, the old man gave me a good-natured pat on my arm.

After the one pat, several pats followed . . . It was strange . . . there was a continuous patting . . . until I awoke. I found myself in bed, my wife patting my pyjama sleeve. "You were snoring again like mad, Karl," she said reproachfully, "were you dreaming badly?"

It took me some time until I was able to respond. Cape Triangulars were still dancing like stars in front of my eyes. "The dream was quite satisfactory," I murmured, "only the awakening is rather tough." With a displeased yawn I turned round and fell asleep again, towards new philatelic adventures.

ALL TRIANGULARS.

By E. SCHAIOWITZ.

The issue in September 1853 of the first South African stamp was an historic event in the world of philately. It was not long before every collector (and there were already collectors in those days) aimed at obtaining one of those pretty triangular stamps. Throughout the history of stamp collecting these unusual stamps have vied with the Penny Black in popularity, and as the hobby progressed, so has the popularity of this stamp.

The reasons for the adoption of such an unusual design have been fully written about and discussed. Illiterate postmen and sorters; the influence of the 1851 diamond-shaped stamps of New Brunswick and Nova Scotia and many other reasons and explanations are offered. Whatever these may have been, stamp collectors should be eternally grateful for this quirk of official brilliant originality.

In this centenary year, it may not be amiss to trace and chronicle the many subsequent issues of triangular stamps, thereby proving that the innovators had shown the way to something evidently worth while. Forty-three countries have at some time or other issued triangular stamps. The six in the British Empire are shown first, then follow the rest.

1853: CAPE OF GOOD HOPE.
1857: NEWFOUNDLAND, also in its first issue.
1926: After nearly 70 years, the UNION became

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the first English speaking country to issue another triangular stamp. The 4d. grey was issued in that year so as to show something of the Cape in Union Stamps. All the other provinces had already been represented in the pictorials.

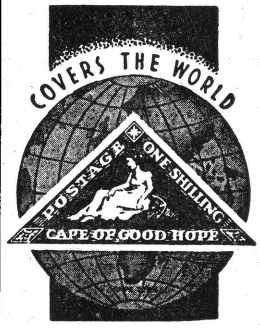
1926: SOUTH WEST AFRICA. The Union 4d. overprinted with this territory's name.
1935: The Indian State BHOPAL was the next to take the triangular path.
1943: The sixth and last country in the British Commonwealth is NEW ZELAND with its Health set of that year bearing the portraits of the two Royal Princesses.
1865: COLOMBIA was the first foreign country to favour the three-cornered design. It was again to the fore with such a set in 1869.
1876: NEW CALEDONIA issued its well-known hand stamped triangular.
1893: OBOCK came next and again in 1894.
1894: Closely following came DJIBOUTI with its first own set, apart from the French colonial types.
1894: A regular spate of triangulars appeared in this year. LIBERIA was the country next on the list. This country favoured the triangular design as no fewer than 7 other sets appeared in that design up to 1938.
1908: ECUADOR is next on the list, repeating the design in 1936.
1916: AUSTRIA — newspaper stamps.
1919: FIUME — also in 1920.
1920: ESTONIA — again in 1924/5.
1921: SALVADOR with one stamp in a set of 8.
1921: LATVIA — again in 1932.
1922: RUSSIA — one of the Rostov-on-Don Charity set.
1922: LITHUANIA — A set of 3 air stamps followed by numerous other sets of triangulars till 1933.
1924: NYASSA—A set of 9 Postage Dues.
1927: NORTH MONGOLIA (TOUVA) — Pictorial set.
1928: MOZAMBIQUE — Red Cross Set.
1929: GUATEMALA—Set of officials.
1929: URUGUAY — Parcel Post Stamps and again in 1933.
1930: SPAIN — Three in Columbus set of 7.
1930: ICELAND — One air stamp.
1931: PERU — Four in a Commemorative set of 7.
1931: BOLIVIA — Two sets in this year and again in 1938 and 1939.
1932: PARAGUAY—Graf Zeppelin Air Stamps and again in 1935.
1932: COSTA RICA—and again two sets in 1937.
1933: NETHERLANDS — Special Flights Air stamps and again in 1936.
1933: NETHERLANDS INDIES — the same as its mother country.
1935: MOCAMBIQUE COMPANY — and also in 1937.
1935: DOMINICAN REPUBLIC — and also in 1936 and 1939.
1937: CZECHOSLOVAKIA—Personal Delivery stamps and also in 1946.
1939: BOHEMIA AND MORAVIA — Personal Delivery Stamps.
1940: SLOVAKIA — Personal Delivery Stamps.
1945: ROUMANIA — Two air stamps and again in 1948.
1946: MONACO — President Roosevelt Commemorative and again in 1951. A further set of Postage Dues in 1953.
1947: NICARAGUA — Two sets in the same year. The idea came late but strongly.
1947: BRAZIL — Set of Charity Stamps.
1951: CHINA—One value showing a dove of peace.
1953: HUNGARY—A large set showing the birds of that country.

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LOURENCO MARQUES EXHIBITION.

This exhibition, organised by the Club Filatelico de Mocambique, in commemoration of the Centenary of Portuguese Stamps, was the first ever held in Lourenco Marques.

It passed off very well and undoubtedly served the purpose of popularising stamp collecting among the local inhabitants, judging by the attendances. Special stamps, covers and cancellation led to long queues on the opening day, many of these being possibly not real stamp collectors.

The first impression on entering the exhibition hall was "How very beautiful". The stamps were shown in cases with exquisite metal work, and there was a gay assemblage of flags around the hall. Closer examination showed, however, that the cases holding the stamps, although works of art in themselves, were not very suitable for stamp display; there was no glass in contact with the stamps and these had rather bad cockling towards the end of the exhibition. Attempts to mitigate this with sheets of cellophane were not entirely successful.

About half of the exhibits were of Portugal e Ultramar (Portugal and Colonies), varying considerably in degree of completeness, mode of display, evidence of expert knowledge, study, etc. The collection belonging to A. A. F. d'Almeida, of Lourenco Marques, was awarded a Gold Medal and the special gold plaque for a collection in this group.

Another very fine exhibit was that of A. Nadin de Carvalho, but as he was on the jury, it was shown hors concours, not in competition. The collection of R. G. de Barros Folgosa was also awarded a gold medal.

The collection of L. K. B. da Cruz had a remarkably fine lot of scarce early stamps of Portuguese India, and covers showing a combination of Portuguese India and British East India Company stamps.

Two or three collections showed early covers of the territory, post office documents, and the like, whilst the Postal Authorities had a fine selection of various postmarks from all parts of the territory.





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SOCIETY NEWS.

ORANGE FREE STATE AND BASUTOLAND PHILATELIC SOCIETY.

Owing to the unavoidable absence of the press correspondent, Mr. C. A. Larsen, from meetings, no report of this society has appeared for some time. Meetings however have taken place regularly, and the newly introduced "Monthly News Letters", edited by the society's very active secretary, Mr. H. J. Nel, and sent to all sister-societies, bear vivid testimony of the society's various activities.

The monthly display of "New Issues" by Mr. A. G. Denne and Mr. A. H. Scott, "Philatelic News Reports" by Mr. J. Lewis, Auction sales and Sweepstakes were regular features of the meetings.

Interesting displays were given by Mr. Scott ("Holland"), Mr. Larsen ("South West Afgrican Revenues"), Mr. Weil ("Portuguese Colonies"), Mr. Price ("Orange Free State"), and Mr. Meyburgh ("South African Covers"). A competition for the best "Coronation Displays" had many entries, and awards were given to Mr. Lewis for the best specialised collections of Union 2d. Coronations and to Mr. Scott for the best display of Coronation Covers.

The President, Dr. Freund, gave several talks on "Union Problems" which were received with great interest and have become a standing feature at meetings.

Dr. Freund provided also the lighter side of the programmes by displaying some more of his popular "Thematic collections". The subjects were: "Alcohol on stamps", "Masks on stamps," "Butterflies on stamps" and "Tobacco on stamps".

Talks on the technical side of stamp printing were given by Mr. A. I. Mackenzie.

Mention must also be made of the society's regular Window Display in a book shop in the main street of Bloemfontein where members in turn display pages from their collections, thus advertising our hobby to the general public.

AFRIKAANSE FILATELISTIESE VERENIGING.

Saterdag, 11 Julie: Alhoewel die opkoms nie aan verwagtings voldoen het nie, is daar blyke dat hierdie ruilgeleentheid later baie gewild gaan word. Daar was 'n hele paar nuwe gesigte — nogal 'n belowende teken. Eienaardig genoeg was daar dié keer ver te min stukke vir die veiling. Met die ruilery het dit goed gegaan.

Vrydag, 7 Augustus: Die hooftema met hierdie geleentheid was die voorsmakie wat mnr. Jack Hepherd ons gegee het, van sy uitstalling wat oor die Kaapse driehoeke sal gaan tydens die gesamentlike uitstalling met die viering van 'n eeu van posseëls op ons vasteland.

In Afrikaans het mnr. Shepherd gesê dat dit vir hom 'n voorreg is om deur die uitstallingskomitee genooi te word om die hoofrol op die uitstalling te speel, en dat hy met genoeë die vereniging vooraf kan wys waaroor sy vertoning sal gaan. Hierna het ons gas in Engels 'n baie kort oorsig gegee van wat ter tafel gestel sou word.

Daar was nou werklik alles en nog meer in die 80 blaaie (omtrent 'n helfte van die geheel), van die eerste nommer van die Perskins Bacon-drukke op diep gebloude papier, tot by die laaste verskynsel van de la Rue. Posfris en gebruik was ewe volop. Enkeles, pare en sommer groot stukke, was oral te sien. Buitengewone items soos kantstaande watermerke en plaatdefekte was goed verteenwoordig. Proewe, kleurproewe en herdrukke, waaronder sommige seldsames, het nie ontbreek nie. Die ewige vervalsings het ewe waardig tussen die egtes gepronk. Puik koeverte, een met 'n Oktober 1953 stempel, het die koevertversamelaars skeef laat opkyk.

Nee, die houtblok-drukke en kleurvergissings is nie vergete gebly nie. As 'n mens 'n mooi klompie van hulle saam sien, voel jy dit is nodig om 'n parte boekdeel oor hulle te skryf. As 'n mens egter nie veel ruimte tot jou beskikking het nie, kan jy maar sê: amen.

Aan die vriend Shepherd wil ons ons opregte gelukwense met 'n wonderlike en buitengewone prestasie oordra, en aan hom sê: dit was 'n voorreg om u tussen ons te hê.

Die vereniging se wedstryde om die Rembrandt Wisseltrofee sal nou eers in Desember in aanvang neem, en wel as volg: Desember — lede Schwartz (Rhodesië) en Schubart (Nederland); Januarie — Lambert (lugpos afdelings) en Schwartz (Egipte); en Februarie — dr. van der Merwe (Na-oorlogse Duitsland).

Dit is met genoeë dat die A.F.V. bekend kan maak dat sy Engels-Afrikaanse filatelistiese woordelys in November a.s. beskikbaar sal wees. Belangstellendes sal besonderhede van die sekretaris verkry.

Nuwe lede: mnr. P. C. Seligman, Johannesburg en die jongehere Joris de Vleeschauwer, Johannesburg en David Crocker, Florida. S.J.V.

PRETORIA PHILATELIC SOCIETY.

The metting held on the **7th July, 1953,** was presided over by Mr. L. G. Dodd, in the absence of Dr. T. Berry the Acting Chairman. It was a Philatelic Jostling evening, convened by Mr. Gouws, in which the following took part: Dr. B. Wasserstein who spoke on the new South African Coronation stamp, transposed panes in its different Cylinder printings, multipositive flaws, constant errors and shades. Several complete sheets were shown in illustration. Mr. W. Kriste presented a fine historical exhibit of Postage Stamp Centenaries, the replicas of many old classics rarely seen being a delight to the eye. Mr. J. Weinstein gave an interesting talk and good exhibit on the 'coin" stamps of Israel, the emergency issues, controls, etc. Part of Mr. Gouws' thematic zoo collection of birds and animals was also shown. Altogether a wide variety of good material which was much appreciated.

Mr. Orkin reported on having very recently met our President, Mr. F. C. Ferguson, on tour with his family in Geneva, and brought greetings from him.

On the **20th July** Dr. T. Berry presided and opened the meeting by calling on members to stand and he proposed a vote of condolence on the death of Mr. A. A. Jurgens, an ex-member of this Society. A certificate of Life Membership was then handed to Mr. N. L. Watson; Mr. Dodd was not present to receive his.

A resolution, proposed by Mr. Orkin, was adopted nem. con. asking that all possible steps be taken by the Federation immediately to impress upon the Government the necessity for retaining the famous Jurgens stamp collection in the Union of South Africa.

Mr. D. Slater Kinghorn entertained the meeting, at very short notice, with a quizz which showed up gaps in philatelic knowledge, but provided entertainment as well as stamps for prizes.

The meeting held on the **3rd August,** with Dr. T. Berry presiding, received an interesting verbal report from Dr. H. Reisener, this Society's delegate to the Federation Congress held in Bulawayo in July 1953. Mr. W. Oppenheim contributed a fine talk on stamps of the Netherlands, and showed these and other oddments of interest in a very fine exhibit. As usual, his attractive presentation of a subject was well received and suitable thanks were expressed.

The second bi-monthly meeting, **17th August, 1953,** marked the return of Mr. F. C. Ferguson, the President, from absence overseas. He received a warm welcome on resuming the chair, and, in acknowledging it, gave grateful thanks to Mr. Gain and Dr. Berry and others who had presided at different times on his behalf.

Arising from one of the items read by the Correspondent from Journals newly received, an animated discussion took place on the sometimes poor quality and condition of stamps offered for sale by some commercial sources in closed packets. Finality was not reached, however.

It being Ladies' Night, an annual event, the following contributed to the programme: Misses Dawn, Dierdre and Delwynne Newlands (Junior Members), placed on view interesting selections of Germany, Brunei, North Borneo, Labuan, Sarawak and the Belgian Congo. The standard and variety of the exhibits in every way same up to what this amazing family of collectors has trained the Society to expect! Mrs. Reisener gave a short paper on and showed a complete set of mint sheets of all the Queen Elizabeth II Coronation issues: a rare opportunity of seeing such a collection. Mrs. Keet tabled a unique exhibit of ancient and modern France, with outstandingly rare die proofs, essays, colour trials, covers and other treasures.

Having been warmly thanked for the high standard and variety of the fare they had provided for the meeting's entertainment, the ladies rounded off their evening as usual with a generous supply of delicious eats for tea.

Congratulations were expressed to the Cape Town Philatelic Society for now having the honour of calling itself ROYAL, and also for the financial success of its 1952 Philatelic Exhibition. B.J.V.

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PHILATELIC SOCIETY OF JOHANNESBURG.

At the meeting held on July 11th Mr. W. Lambert showed a selection of his Air Mail stamps. He showed a sheet or two from each country and the exhibit included stamps of most of the countries which had issued air mail stamps. Most of the stamps were in fine used condition and some flown covers were shown. There were also many varieties some of them extremely rare. The exhibit included the rare Timor overprints, and the rare cover flown from Belgium to the Congo in December 1930 with the 5 francs violet stamp which was used only that flight. Zeppelin stamps of Germany, Lichtenstein, Iceland and Finland were included as well as the Germany-Poland flight stamps with rare varieties. 155 countries wer represented.

Mr. Lambert read a few notes on his exhibit.

Mr. I. Isaacs expressed the thanks of the Society.

At the meeting held on July 24th Mr. W. Oppenheim showed a variety of stamps of great interest including G.B. £1 Postal Union in two shades, Falkland Islands for 1898 high values, Monaco, including rarities, Holland issues of 1852, several Switzerland on cover, Brazil first issues and others, Brazil miniature sets and several sheets of Belgian Congo including early issues. There was also a sheet containing 25 miniature sheets of 6 of the "Byrd" U.S.A. issue. There were numerous other items of interest. The exhibit was beautifully presented.

Commander C. E. B. Enoch proposed the vote of thanks.

THE PHILATELIC SOCIETY OF RHODESIA.

The **July** meeting was held at the Milton Junior School Library, and in spite of the notices having been sent out late over 20 members were present and a very enjoyable evening was spent.

After the minutes and correspondence had been dealt with the Chairman read out the names of one lady and six gentlemen applying for membership; they were all accepted and introduced to the members present.

Mr. B. L. R. Fox then addressed the meeting and thanked the Society for submitting his name to the Philatelic Federation of Southern Africa for election to the Roll of Distinguished Philatelists; he felt very proud of this high honour and appreciated the unanimous vote given him by the delegates of the Federation. He passed round the certificate presented to him by the President at the Congress.

In presenting his report on the proceedings of the Congress Mr. Fox stated that as everything passed with very little discussion there was practically nothing to comment on. He mentioned in connection with the report of the Union Handbook that a matter of 3,000 copies still remained to be disposed of, but it was mentioned that after a year 2,750 sopies had been sold, and as time went on this book being the most complete authority on the Union issues the sales would increase. He urged the members present to get their copies.

Mr. Creewel read his paper on "Thematic Collecting"; this paper was read at Congress for which he obtained an award.

In connection with the recent Philatelic Exhibition and Philatelic Federation of Southern Africa Congress Mr. Creewel read letters which had been received from the delegates who visited Bulawayo expressing their appreciation for what was done for their comfort, and accommodation, etc. This was very gratifying in view of the difficulties that had been experienced.

The Chairman expressed his thanks to all those who had assisted in making the Exhibition the success it was and stated that at the moment, although the accounts had not been completed, he assured the members that we would just about make a balance.

Several of the members were keen to have two meetings monthly; this was a healthy sign and the Chairman said the matter would be brought up at the next Committee meeting.

Mr. Prentice, our Secretary, provided a quiz competition consisting of 18 cards with stamps obliterated in parts, the competitors having to identify them. Much amusement was created by members who could not fathom the correct answers; the prize went to Mr. Goddard for 15 correct solutions.

The exhibit for the evening was in the hands of Mr. Fitzstephen who showed a nice and comprehensive collection of S.W.A.

The Chairman on behalf of the members present thanked Mr. Fitzstephen for his very interesting exhibit. B.L.R.F.

EAST RAND PHILATELIC SOCIETY.

July.

This meeting was fairly well attended seeing that we have several members on the sick list, and others are away at Congress in Rhodesia. The only exhibit we had tabled for the Legator trophy was one by Mrs. Wood, a collection of Costa Rica which was very interesting and a pleasant evening was spent seeing something off the beaten track.

August.

This meeting was the official visit from the Jewish Guild and there was a good attendance from the East Rand members. The visitors brought over four exhibits, all off the beaten track: (1) Mr. L. Buchen brought over his collection of German Colonies; (2) Mr. Michelson, part of his Estonia collection; (3) Then Dr. Kaplan tabled French Essays and proofs; (4) Finally Mr. Glassman showed dieproofs, essays and the issued stamps of French Equatorial Africa. All these exhibits were of a very high standard, and were greatly appreciated. Mr. Sheffield and Mr. Suklje thanked the exhibitors on behalf of the East Rand Members. E.N.R.

PORT ELIZABETH PHILATELIC SOCIETY.

21st July.

An attendance above the average plus three visitors can be recorded. A successful auction was followed by official business when matters concerning the Society's participation in the forthcoming Port Elizabeth Hobbies' Exhibition were discussed as well as a visit to the Grahamstown Philatelic Society. Two new members were enrolled. Mr. A. B. Clarke showed some interesting U.N.O. stamps and covers. After tea interval, Mr. L. W. Slabbert showed a nice lot of United States stamps which did him much credit. He was suitably thanked by Mr. G. K. Forbes.

Other activities of the Society during July were a visit to the local Main Post Office on the 9th. Members were taken in two groups on a tour of inspection by senior Officials of the Postal Department and were given an idea of the inner workings of the Post, viewing the arrival, sorting, cancelling etc., of mails. Our warm thanks are due to the Postmaster and other Officials for the help and co-operation extended to the Society; all taking part in the visits enjoyed them very much.

On **25th July** a team of 6 representatives travelled to Grahamstown to spend an evening with our sister Society there. The venture turned out to be very enjoyable and mutually satisfying to all concerned. Grahamstown Members attended in full force and were most interested in the various displays, ranging from Classical to modern issues, which we were able to provide. Our sincere thanks go to the Grahamstown President, Capt. K. Graham and his Society Members for the fine welcome they gave us in so very comfortable and congenial surroundings at the Settlers Club. It is hoped that Grahamstown will in the near future pay us a visit again, as such contacts certainly do much to further interest in Philately.

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FRANCE.

The Ministry of Posts announces the issue on 26th July of a 12fr. stamp commemorating the 50th anniversary of the Cycling Tour of France. The stamp depicts two cyclists.

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THE
SOUTH AFRICAN PHILATELIST

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EDITORIAL

THOSE COMMEMORATIVE POSTMARKS!

In our August issue and elsewhere in the present issue, we have made comment on the "Royal Tour' Postmarks of S. Rhodesia, stressing the fact that the vast majority of them were not made on the Royal Train but in a little back room in Salisbury.

Now we must refer to a somewhat similar thing having occurred in the Union in connection with the two special post-offices which were opened at the Cape Triangular Displays held in Cape Town and Johannesburg respectively.

The Postal Administration publicised the issue of the special stamps and the fact that there would be two special post-offices using commemorative cancellations; in addition they offered cto service first day covers for collectors who could not attend the post-offices and who sent them the necessary addressed covers and money to pay for the stamps.

This was done, but the covers for the Johannesburg special P.O. (which had to be sent, as per instructions, to the Publicity Dept., Pretoria) were cancelled in Pretoria, although receiving a Johannesburg date-stamp. Those sent to c/o. the Postmaster, Cape Town, for the special Cape Town mark, were cancelled in the G.P.O., Cape Town, not at the special P.O.

In the case of the Johannesburg P.O. the two markings can be distinguished: those actually done in Johannesburg have a letter such as 'A') before the '53', presumably a time mark, but those we have seen from Pretoria have no such letter. In the case of the Cape Town marks we do not know if there are any distinguishing characteristics.

We have had a talk with the Publicity Department on this subject; their point of view is that they had neither the staff nor the space to handle the extensive mail expected (and which materialised) and the procedure adopted was the only way of coping with the situation.

Well, we can see their point of view, but we would very much like to know what collectors think of it.

It is, of course, just a symptom of what has happened, and is happening, the world over, since stamps and cancellations ceased to be purely for postal purposes and have become on the one hand instruments of propaganda and, on the other, something to be collected.

Leaving aside the general question of "Are things just made to be collected worth while collecting?", do collectors like their hobby to be an exact one, or do they not worry very much about it?

We know we can speak for some collectors who, if they have a cover with the registration mark "Royal Train", like to know that the cover really came from the Royal Train P.O.; and, if they have a cover with a Johannesburg or a Cape Town Exhibition postmark, that these covers really came from the respective exhibitions.

But does the average collector in Pampoenfontein, Timbuktu, John O'Groats or Kalamazoo worry about it? He wants those particular marks and does he care very much whether they were applied at places other than those whose names appear on the marks?

If the latter point of view be that of the majority of collectors then we fancy such practices will continue and this part of philately will cease to be an exact science. This is progress and part of the price we must pay for the changed status of stamps and cancellations! Collectors could, of course, alter this state of affairs by not buying, but do they want to do so?

UNION NOTES

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

New Denomination in the Pictorial Series.

The three new pictorial postage stamps, which we announced last month would be available during October, appeared at some post offices on the 1st October. They are primarily intended to cover some of the higher postal charges which recently came into operation for both surface and air mail correspondence to countries outside the Union.

The designs are illustrated in the accompanying reproductions of the official photographic prints and show a Merino Ram and Landscape on the 4½d., a drawing of a Springbok on the 1/3, and Aloes in a rock setting on the 1/6 value.

The 4½d. is printed in the colours of slate-purple and yellow, the 1/3 in chocolate and the 1/6 in rose-red and dark green. All three denominations are bilingually inscribed and an entirely new feature in the production of the Union's stamps is the printing of the names SOUTH AFRICA and SUID-AFRIKA in different colours on each of the bicoloured stamps. Thus, on the 4½d., the letters and numerals forming the name SUID-AFRIKA and the value, are

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printed in white, whereas the English version SOUTH AFRICA and the value, at the bottom of the stamp, are in the yellow colour of the interior cylinder. Again, on the 1/6 stamp, the value and the letters SUID-AFRIKA are produced in dark green and SOUTH AFRICA is in rose-red. The inscriptions and numerals on the monocoloured 1/3 stamps are all in white.



The 120 stamps per sheet are set out in a similar form to that of the 3d., 4d., 1/- and next higher values of the current pictorials, i.e., horizontal format and 20 rows by 6 stamps per row. Each sheet has the usual four marginal arrows, all of the solid type illustrated on page 136 of



the Union Handbook, and with four-figure red serial numbers printed twice on the right hand side margin. The colours of the arrows are slate purple on the 4½d., chocolate on the 1/3 and dark green on the 1/6 value. It is of interest to note that the policy adopted in the production of the recent commemorative issues, whereby the 120 stamps per sheet were divided into two panes of 60 by a blank central gutter, has not been followed with these new pictorials.

Fine mesh-type screen cylinders have been employed in each case and the numbers are printed in their respective colours at the bottom of the right hand margin of the sheet, opposite the 19th and 20th rows of the 4½d. and 1/6, and the 20th row of the 1/3. They are as follows:—

4½d.—Interior 76: Exterior 47.
1/3—Single cylinder 30.
1/6—Interior 21: Exterior 68.

The stamps are all perforated 14 and the design measures approximately 27½ x 21½ mm. on the 4½d.; 27½ x 21¼ on the 1/3 and 27 x 21½ mm. on the 1/6. The watermark in each case is the multiple Springbok Head in an upright position. The one or two flaws so far observed are of a minute nature and if constant, will be recorded in due course.

Varieties on the Centenary Stamps.

We give below a list of the major and minor varieties which Mr. K. B. Braithwaite of Port Elizabeth has noted on the 1d. and the first printing of the 4d. Centenary stamps.

He mentions in his letter that the 1d. stamps are likely to be classed in two colours, namely (a) brown and dull red and (b) brown and orange-red.

1d. Denominations:

Row 1/No. 2—Two brown dots in margin above centre of stamp.
5/2—Brown spot between "P" and "O" of POSTAGE.
9/6—Brown spot below "53" of 1953.
11/6—Imperfect "5" in 1953.
13/2—Left arm of "T" in SOUTH broken.

Minor flaws are in the form of distinct breaks in both lines of the drapery fold across the breast in items 2/6, 3/1, 7/1, 14/2 and 15/1.

4d. Denomination: (First printing: Cyls. 66 and 86).

Row 2/No. 4—Frame line of reproduced stamp broken above "EL" of POSSEEL.
10/1—White blob between "S" and "T" of POSTAGE on the reproduced stamp.
20/4—Figure of Hope's leg broken at knee.

Minor flaws are as follows:
2/4—Blue dot left of 1853.
4/3—Blue dot on right frame lines of reproduced stamp.
5/6—Break in both lines or drapery fold across breast.
13/6—White dot under "A" of AFRICA.
14/1—Break in lines of drapery fold.
18/6—White dot over "5" in 1953.

Doctor blade lines also appear on some of the stamps.

Varying Shades in the Current 1d. Pictorial Stamps.

It may not have been generally noticed, but there have been at least six distinct shades of the 1d. pictorial stamps produced from Cylinders Nos. 54/53 since this printing first appeared in January 1953.

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A letter recently received from Mr. K. B. Braithwaite of Port Elizabeth mentions that sorting through hundreds of these stamps revealed only three pairs and less than ten singles of the colour which could be classified as **silver grey and carmine red** — the one which we believe happened to be the first batch from these particular cylinders. All the examples he came across were postmarked from the Rand or Durban, and dated between mid-April and early May.

We can verify that 1d. pictorials in the shade stated, were on sale in Johannesburg about the time mentioned, but also have copies of the same stamps which came from the Philatelic Agency in Pretoria early in February. Since then we have seen the stamp in several shades of grey-black and carmine the most prominent of which was probably the one on sale in July and August with greyish black centres and very deep crimson-carmine frames.

Subject to further information which may yet come to hand, and a possible correction on colour descriptions, we would list the series of shades in the following order of general use.

Silver grey and carmine-red.
Silver grey and bright carmine-red.
Grey-black and rose-carmine.
Black and rose-carmine.
Greyish black and deep crimson-carmine.
Grey-black and deep carmine-red.

Machine Cancellations.

The appearance of a particularly heavy barred cancellation of the type illustrated herewith, and shown to us by Mr. S. J. Hagger of Alberton, rather shocked the stamp collecting public of Johannesburg for a few days during September. It has since been ascertained that the machine in question was temporarily out of order and the defect was quickly rectified.



A new slogan, EET VERRYKTE BROOD/ EAT ENRICHED BREAD, in two lines, is recorded by Mr. B. L. Cairncross of George, Cape Province, who mentions that the earliest date he has seen is the 3. VIII. 53. It is also in use in East London and we illustrate an example received by Mr. B. Joseph of Johannesburg.

Missing Cylinder Number Variety on ½d. Pictorial Stamps.

The failure of the interior cylinder number "31" to appear in conjunction with the exterior cylinder number "70" on the right hand margin of a number of sheets of the ½d. pictorials was recently discovered in several different parts of the Union.

We illustrate an example shown to us by Mr. A. W. Duigan of Johannesburg and understand that copies were found on the Reef, at Pretoria and also down at East London



New Printing of 1d. "Officials".

As we go to Press we learn from the Philatelic Agency in Pretoria of the appearance of new 1d. pictorial "Officials" with the overprints on sheets of the 54/53 stamps.

Further particulars will be given next month, but in the meantime it may be mentioned that the shade appears to be similar to that which we classify in another paragraph of these "Notes", as greyish black and deep crimson-carmine.

Discovery of Similar "Cracked Plate" Marks on Stamps of the Coronation and Centenary Issues.

On several occasions during recent years we have read statements in overseas publications to the effect that the stamps of the Union of South Africa can prove one of the most interesting philatelic studies any collector could wish for. Sentiments which we, of course, have always entirely agreed with and have been fully confirmed by the ever increasing number of enthusiasts who have taken up the collecting of these intriguing stamps.

One of the principal reasons for their popularity is the vast field of fascinating investigation which immediately opens up to any one who casually starts sorting through a mixed batch

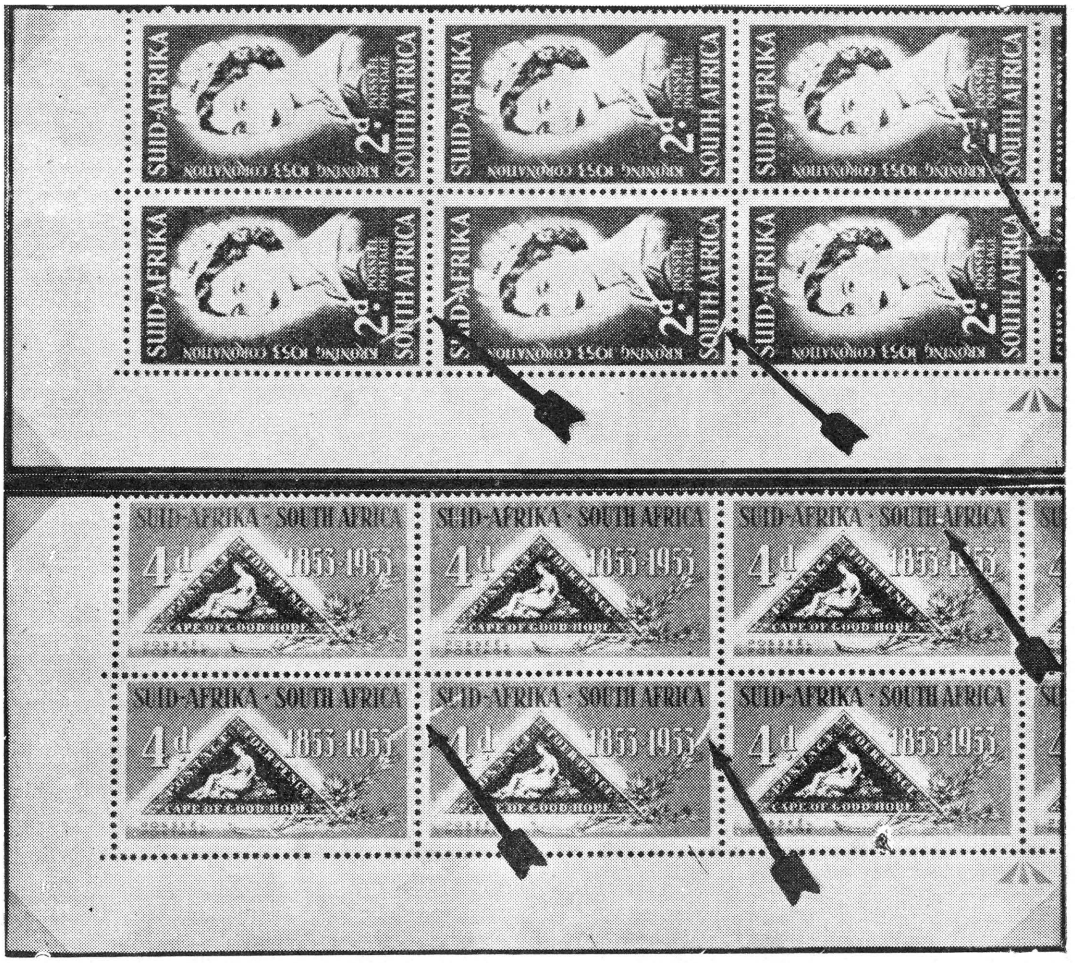
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of the lower denominations for after noting the bilingual pairs with their different language settings of English and Afrikaans, it is quickly realised that SUID-AFRIKA was at one time spelt as one word, i.e. without the hyphen. Then follows the discovery of the different printings in Typo, Recess and Rotogravure; the London, and later, the Pretoria printings from the same Typo plates; the unscreened rotogravure stamps with their "Doctor blade" lines embodied in the design; the partly screened stamps and then the all-screened stamps; the different types of marginal arrows used for distinguishing the different rotogravure printings, and in addition to the numerous other features, the many interesting printing varieties which assist in the identification of the Plates and undoubtedly lend themselves to the bulding up of a most admirable and prized collection.

From time to time, we have recorded easily identifiable varieties which in some printings of the ½d. denomination, appear on English inscribed stamps, and then later, on copies inscribed in Afrikaans, or vice versa. Also, in July, we discussed the reason for the interchange of the two panes on sheets of the Coronation stamps and the apparent transposition of the various flaws which showed up on that issue. And now, we have something entirely new in the production of "Unions" which Mr. R. T. Lilley of Johannesburg first brought to our attention soon after the Centenary commemoratives appeared on sale on September 1st. This is nothing more or less than the re-appearance on the 4d. Centenary stamp of the white marks which showed up on certain copies of the Coronation "98" printing and were locally known as the "Cracked Plate" varieties.

Our illustrations show these flaws on the two commemoratives and because of their distinct similarity it might appear, at first thought, that the "98" cylinder employed for the Coronation stamps, had been cleaned and then re-etched for the printing of the 4d. Centenary issue. This was not the case, however (despite the fact that the numbers "98" and "86" have an up-side-down relationship), for since the flaws on the stamps are white, the marks on the cylinder had no depth for carrying ink and therefore they could not have been in the form of scratches on the metal.

But they certainly could be the result of scratches on the glass screen plate employed for producing the mesh-type screen lines on



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the two different cylinders, and without going too deeply into the technical side of the matter, it can be stated that the process for creating the screening effect — which can be seen on the stamps of both issues with the aid of a magnifying glass — would also reproduce any heavy scratches which might be present on that particular part of the plate which had been used.

The marks are indicated by arrows in the photographs and it will be seen that in addition to the white streaks on two of the stamps, the hyphen variety in SOUTH AFRICA on the Centenary stamp, was also present as a small white flaw on a stamp located in a similar position on the Coronation sheets. This fact was pointed out to us by Mr. R. B. Cronwright of Germiston.

It is also of interest to note that when considered in the light in which the sheets are printed, the marks lie fairly closely to the same positions on the different stamps and the latter are, in both cases, adjacent to a gutter. In all copies we have so far seen, these particular flaws in the Coronation issue are on those stamps adjoining the centre gutter of the sheets, i.e., 11th and 12th columns when viewed with the design in a normal position; and in the case of the Centenary stamps, on rows 19 and 20 of the sheet. As explained in our July "Notes" however, it is quite possible with the two panes per sheet lay-out now being adopted for the commemorative issues, for these same flaws to show up in the 1st and 2nd columns of the Coronation sheets and in the 9th and 10th rows of the Centenary issue.

Incidently, we might mention that we have been unable, so far, to discover these "Cracked Plate" varieties on the new 4d. printing of the Centenary stamps which we announce in our next paragraph.

New Printing of the 4d. Centenary Stamps — Cylinders 106/90.

We learned from the Philatelic Agency in Pretoria of the appearance during the third week in September of new printing of the 4d. Centenary stamps from Cylinders 106 (Int.) and 90 (Ext.).

The colours are similar but duller than the first printing and the exterior is probably more of a light blue than turquoise blue. Otherwise, the size, perforation, watermark, sheet format and the form of the serial numbers, are all unchanged.

One very distinct innovation, however, is the appearance on the sheet margin of **eight** sets of cylinder numbers instead of the two given in the previous printing. These are now shown on both the left and right hand side margins and are opposite rows 1 and 2, 9 and 10, 11 and 12, and 19 and 20. In addition, the interior and exterior numbers, with their colours of deep blue and light blue, alternate in respect to their positions adjoining the odd and even-numbered rows.

This increase in the cylinder number pairs per sheet will undoubtedly assist in meeting the requirements of the general body of collectors, especially when the printing happens to be a limited one of this nature, and in regard to their different positions, we hardly think that even the super-specialist will ever desire to collect the variations in cylinder number pieces of any particular printing.

We have not yet had an opportunity of studying these new stamps for varieties, but it is noteworthy that the "Broken leg" flaw is no longer present. This is rather a pity, because from all reports that particular item appears to have captured the imagination of the public in general and like the "Cleft skull' of the 1935 Jubilee issue, will probably prove a popular piece for inclusion in any collection of Unions.

PHILATELIC FRANKING

We would like to recommend to our readers when writing to other collectors and dealers, especially to those abroad, to make the stamps they affix to their mail more interesting philatelically.

We know that some do pay attention to this, but a letter from one of our advertisers says that S.A. collectors as a whole do not do so. He states that on seventy letters received during the past two months, almost without exception they were franked with the ordinary small 2d. stamps. One certainly had a nice block of 4 Coronation stamps and a pair of ½d. coils to make up a 9d. rate.

He says "Why not use a pair of 4d. and a pair of ½d. 'Officials' for such a rate?" Various 'Officials' might be used — they are easily obtained from the Philatelic Bureau.

Both fellow collectors and dealers would much appreciate a little thought — and action — on this matter. Much variety could be given to your franking.

An article recommending such franking appeared in "Mckeel's Weekly" of 31 July.

NEW ISSUES.

	M	U
Nigeria		
½d. to 1/-	3/-	3/4
½d. to 2/6	5/9	6/8
½d. to 5/-	11/3	13/3
½d. to 10/-	22/6	26/6
½d. to £1	45/-	52/-
Southern Rhodesia		
½d. to 1/-	4/1	4/8
½d. to 2/6	9/-	10/8
½d. to 5/-	14/8	17/-
½d. to 10/-	25/9	30/-
½d. to £1	48/-	56/-
Aden		
5c. to 1/-	3/7	4/2
5c. to 10/-	22/8	26/9
5c. to 20/-	45/-	52/-

CORONATION STAMPS

	M	U
Cr. Cols. & Malaya (62)	14/-	17/-
Dominions (24)	17/6	19/-
Br. Agencies (16)	15/-	18/6
Complete as above	46/6	54/-
Great Britain	3/8	4/-

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Mint 10% on face; Used 25%.

NEW ISSUES.

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Nyasaland.		
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½d. to 2/6	9/2	10/8
½d. to 5/-	14/9	17/3
½d. to 10/-	26/-	30/6
½d. to £1	48/6	56/-
Br. Honduras.		
1c. to 25c.	3/10	4/4
1c. to 50c.	6/7	7/8
1c. to 1 dollar	12/-	14/3
1c. to 2 dollars	23/4	27/6
1c. to 5 dollars	51/6	59/6

Postage extra please.
Letters: seamail 2½d.; airmail 1/3 registration 6d: and I use Morocco stamps for the postage.

HAROLD STROUD (B.P.A.), **58 DARWEN STREET, BLACKBURN, ENGLAND**

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MUSICAL QUOTATIONS ON STAMPS

By
E. SCHAIOWITZ.

Among "thematic" collectors, the theme of "Musical Stamps" is very popular, and a great many articles have already appeared on the subject in general. From the point of view of the collector who happens to be something of a musician as well, the really interesting stamps in this theme are the ones which have some actual notes on them. Sometimes these notes are extracts from actual tunes, sometimes they are just notes, or what look like notes. In this article an attempt has been made to list stamps having the above characteristics, and to tell just a little about the music. The first portion of the article deals with such stamps generally, and is arranged alphabetically according to composer; the second portion deals with National Anthems and a few odds and ends and is arranged according to country.

ALABIEV: This composer appears on a Russian stamp issued in 1951 to commemorate the 100th anniversary of his death. There is a line of music on the stamp taken from one of the songs composed by him, "The Nightingale." This song became very widely known through prima donnas importing it into the "lesson scene" of Rossini's opera, the Barber of Seville.

BACH: In 1950 East Germany (Russian Zone) issued 4 stamps in connection with the Bach bi-centenary celebrations. The highest value in the set, 50 pf. plus 16, in blue shows 3 voices singing and has 4 notes in the bass-clef. These notes are a pun on Bach's name. In English notation the notes are respectively B flat, A, C and B. In German B flat is B, and B natural is H — the four notes in German thus reading "B A C H". The seeming anomaly for the B and H for B flat and B natural is an interesting piece of musical history.

BEETHOVEN: In 1952 the Saar issued a stamp with the portrait of this composer on it to commemorate the 50th anniversary of the Saar Conservatoire of Music. Two or three bars of music in the key of A. Major are shown. Most of the notes are covered by the lower part of the portrait, and for this reason and also because of the enormous output of music by this great Composer, the phrase has as yet not been identified with any particular work.

CHABRIER: This beautiful French stamp was issued in 1941 to commemorate the 100th anniversary of the Composer's birth. The Composer is shown holding an open score with other works of his in the background. The score is clearly marked "Gwendoline de E. Chabrier." The nine bars of music require examination under a strong lens when the perfect engraving work and the clear notation becomes apparent. They are the opening bars of the Composer's opera "Gwendoline" which work was, incidentally, turned down by the Paris Opera as being too Wagnerian in style.

DVORAK: Czechoslovakia issued a stamp in 1934 in memory of the 30th anniversary of the death of this composer. In addition to the portrait, the treble clef sign was shown at the top of each side margin and below each of them two notes. The four notes depicted form a well-known phrase from the First Movement of Dvorak's New World Symphony.

ENESCO: In 1946 Rumania issued a set of stamps in honour of the 25th anniversary of the Bucharest Philharmonic Orchestra which had been founded by Enesco, Rumanian national composer. Three of the values have a design of the Roman numerals XXV surrounded by a wreath. In the background round the margins and particularly in the corners can be seen indistinct music, but recognizable as extracts from Enesco's Rumanian Rhapsody. There is a miniature sheet not listed by Gibbons, containing 12 stamps from this set, and on which the name of the composition is clearly marked.

FIBICH: Two stamps bearing portraits of the Composer issued by Czechoslovakia in 1950 commemorate the 100th anniversary of his birth. The design of the two stamps is the same, and contains one bar of music in the bass clef and in the unusual time of 7/4. The works of this Composer are difficult to find and a Dictionary of some 10,000 themes has not helped to trace this peculiar bar of music. It is likely though, that it is an extract from one of Fibich's Melodramas — the recitative form of this type of work would account for the peculiar tempo.

GOMEZ: Was a Brazilian composer honoured by his country in 1936 on the 100th anniversary of his birth. Two stamps in the set each contain the opening nine bars of his opera "Ill Guarany". The felicity and clarity of the engraving makes this stamp a truly beautiful example of the engraver's skill.

KALLINIKOV: Together with the portrait of the Composer, there are shown a few flapping pages of music with different themes and in different tempos and keys. The extracts are for the present unrecognisable.

KIENZEL: This stamp was issued by Austria in 1951 to mark the 10th anniversary of the composer's death. There is a large musical quotation partly obscured by the head of the portrait. The music shown is an extract from the composer's opera "The Apostle". The stamp is printed by the recess process and the lengths of some of the notes are rather indistinct — minims and crotchets are not easily distinguishable.

MOZART: A set of 4 stamps was issued in 1941 in Bohemia-Moravia to mark the 150th anniversary of Mozart's death. The stamps had labels attached to them, on two of which is shown an extract of the composer's opera "Don Giovani". There appears to be an error in the quotation, a missing beat in the first bar both in the treble and bass.

RIMSKY-KORSAKOV: On two stamps of the 1944 Russian set commemorating the centenary of this composer's birth, the 60k. and 3r., there appears an open music book below the portrait. It is not possible to decipher any definite musical notes, but viewed under a strong lens the effect is clearly that of pages from a musical score.

SMETANA: On the 1934 stamp issued by Czechoslovakia to commemorate the 50th anniversary of this composer's death, a treble clef sign appears at the top of each side margin. Below each clef sign there are two notes, the four notes being a quotation from the Overture to his opera, The Bartered Bride.

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TCHAIKOVSKY: In the 1940 Russian set commemorating the 100th anniversary of his birth, three stamps contain musical quotations. The 20k. and 30k. values have the same phrase, three bars from the First Movement of the Composer's 4th Symphony, while the 60k. stamp shows three bars from his opera "Eugene Onegin."

Part 2.—National Anthems and Other Stamps with Music.

AUSTRIA: In 1933 on the occasion of the International Philatelic Exhibition in Vienna, one stamp was issued with a value of 50gr. plus a surcharge of a similar amount. The stamp has become known as the WIPA stamp, these initials appearing on the stamp and representing the German letters for the above Exhibition. The design is from a painting "The Honeymoon" by M. von Schwind, and contains a full line of music just below the central design, which has been identified as a bugle-call very much alike to a British regimental "Reveille". It is rather strange that something so essentially British should appear on an Austrian stamp, and the only possible explanation is that the quotation is derived from Haydn, from whom many of the British Army calls are also taken.

In 1949 Austria issued a "philatelic" stamp called "Day of the Stamp" showing a magnifying glass and some covers. Two of these covers have the WIPA stamp on them, one of which is under the lens. Close examination shows that the original musical quotation has been meticulously copied.

ARGENTINE: This country issued a miniature sheet in 1940 having a value of 5 centavos but sold for 1 peso, showing 4 bars of the country's National Anthem which was composed by Blas Parera. From the many errors in the music it would appear that the engraver was unfamiliar with the musical idiom. For example the treble clef sign has two dots after it which would be correct for the bass clef; the stems of some of the notes are on the right instead of on the left, and some of the bar lines are in the wrong place.

BOLIVIA: Six stamps dated 1845-1945 appeared early in 1946 commemorating the country's National Anthem. They bear the portrait of the composer Benedetto Vincenti, an Italian, and J. J. de Sanjines who wrote the words. The musical excerpt of 3 bars shown on the stamps contains no errors.

BRAZIL: This country's National Anthem was composed by da Silva in 1795 and in 1945 the 150th anniversary of the event was marked by the issue of one stamp showing the portrait of the composer over three lines of music. Many errors are contained in the quotation, and Mr. Ian T. Hamilton writing in "Stamp Collecting", November 1950 has this to say: "I can only account for these numerous errors by supposing that some part of the stamp at least was reproduced by the line-block process. Only by consideration of some mechanical process can so many errors be explained."

CHILE: In August 1947 Chile issued a stamp bearing the portraits of Eusebio Lillo and Ramon Carnicer, the author and composer respectively of its Anthem, and commemorating the 100th anniversary of its composition. Two bars of music are shown. Mr. Hamilton in his article referred to above discusses these bars and shows conclusively that they have no bearing whatsoever on the actual music, save for the key signature. His enquiry at official quarters resulted in a reply that the design of the notes on the stamp was faulty, but that the extract shown **was** part of the Chilean National Anthem.

CZECHOSLOVAKIA: In 1934 a set of two values was issued to commemorate this country's National Anthem. The stamp itself had no musical quotation, but only the opening words of the Anthem "Where is My Fatherland." Special souvenir sheets of 15 stamps were, however issued with the words and music of the first part of the Anthem in the margins above and below the stamps. This miniature sheet is by way of being a prize item and very difficult to get hold of.

FINLAND: The 1941 "mourning" stamp issued as a memorial to President Kallio has a musical extract on it, a few bars from the popular Finnish regimental march called "Porilaisten Marssi." The second bar is incorrect in that a dot after the first quaver and a quaver after the last crotchet are missing to complete the 4 crotchets.

DOMINICAN REPUBLIC: A set of 5 stamps all of the same design was issued in February 1946 showing the flag of the Republic above 4 bars of music of the National Anthem. The Anthem was composed in 1882 by Jose Reyes, and the issue had no commemorative significance. Here also the music contains a number of errors and some carelessness in the musical signs.

JUGOSLAVIA: On the 2 stamps issued in 1947 to commemorate the centenary of Serbian literature there is depicted a musical score across which lies the gusle, the Serbian national instrument. It is not possible to recognise any specific notes in the score.

LUXEMBOURG: A stamp issued in 1950 symbolising the arts shows a distinct musical quotation of two bars. There are a number of errors from the musical aspect and it would appear that the notes are not taken from any particular work, being merely symbolic.

POLAND: A beautiful set was issued by Italy in 1946 for the use of Polish refugees at Trani and Baretta and also for Polish military forces. Two values in the set of four portray the opening 4 bars of "Jeszke Polska" the Polish National Anthem, with the words shown underneath the music. Both were written by General Josef Wybicki at the time of the Napoleonic wards.

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REVIEWS

"Paquebot" and "Shipletter" Cancellations of the World 1894-1951. By Brigadier M. A. Studd. Robson Lowe, London. Price 20/-, postage 1/-.

This fills out and brings up-to-date Cockrill's "Ocean Mails", published 16 years ago. It deals with a group of cancellations which has a large following. Some 847 types are described, the vast majority being illustrated by drawings as well.

All maritime cancellations are not included, only Paquebot, and Ship Letter markings (or their equivalents) applied at ports to correspondence received from sea-going ships. This rules out the comparatively large group of markings such as "Posted on the High Seas", "Mailed at Sea", etc., applied on board ships.

He is to be congratulated, however, on having achieved a very fine bit of work in amassing the wealth of material here gathered together.

Stanley Gibbons' Catalogue 1954. Part III. Foreign Countries—America, Asia and Africa. 18/6. Postage 1/2.

It is about 2½ years since the last edition of the 'Blue' Gibbons appeared and there are numerous price alterations in this issue. There are very marked rises in Brazil. Israel, U.S.A., Uruguay and Shanghai. New headings are 'Libya' the Ryuku Islands and United Nations, and there have been considerable changes in the listings of Mexico and China, especially the modern issues, whilst Thailand (Siam) has had nearly all the surcharge varieties relegated to footnotes.

Stanley Gibbons' Catalogue, 1954. Part I. British Empire. 697 pages. Price 16/-, postage 1/1.

The 'Red' Gibbons appears once a year, so one hardly expects as many changes as in the other parts, which do not appear so often. Nevertheless there are quite a few revisions of listing in this edition, notably in some sections of Great Britain, and in Australia, New Zealand, Niger Coast, Bermuda and a number of Indian States.

Prices have been revised as usual. Some of the K.G. VI items in which there had been a lot of speculative buying are down, but many others are still rising.

General revision when type requires re-setting continues to bring varieties into the main list as 'a' or 'b' numbers. Such re-numbering may be a bit of a nuisance to collectors, but the publishers feel it must go on; they hope soon to publish tables reconciling old and new numberings.

LOURENCO MARQUES EXHIBITION.

(Portion of the report on the Exhibition omitted last month through lack of space.—Ed.).

Most of the collections in the section of "Portugal e Ultramar" came from Lourenco Marques itself, but quite a number from other places in Mocambique and a surprising number from Angola. There were only one or two from Portugal; more had been hoped for, but the fact of an almost contemporaneous exhibition being held in Lisbon, had prevented potential exhibitors from sending material. One exhibitor, however, F. Castel-Branco showed a rarity not heretofore catalogued, viz., a sheet of the 100 reis of 1895, key-type of Mozambique overprinted diagonally with "1195 Centario Antonio 1895". The top four rows of the sheet had the overprint correctly, but it was completely absent on the bottom three rows.

There were a few numismatic exhibits and Dr. Falcao Sacadura of Beira received a gold award for his extensive collection of coins, both of Portugal e Ultramar and foreign. Six "forigners" exhibiting were all fortunate enough to obtain awards: S. Legator, gold for Union and silver for Egypt and Israel; Messrs. Godfrey, Welsford, and Michelson, silver for Air Mails. Australia and Latvia (the last wrongly entered on the catalogue as Lithuania) respectively; Messrs. Brasch and Glassman, Bronze for Errors of Design and K.G. VI respectively. Dr. Harvey Pirie exhibited Swaziland and Antarctica, but being on the jury these were not shown competitively. He was kindly awarded a special prize, however, this being a toy model of an elderly gentleman with a magnifying glass sticking stamps into an album; it was entitled "Coca Cola", this being apparently a rather slangy Portuguese expression for "Looks and Licks". It was much appreciated by the recipient and by all who have seen it!

Taken all in all the Club is to be congratulated on their first philatelic show and it is sure to be a stimulus to philately in Mocambique. There is a rumour that the Club is to apply for membership of the Philatelic Federation of Southern Africa and it is to be hoped that rumour is not a lying jade. They will surely be welcomed into the brotherhood.

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SOME RECENT AUCTION PRICES.

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Do. £2 on bluish paper (S.G. 113c), £36.
Do. £1 error of colour (S.G. 166b), £42.
Do. 3/- (S.G. 250), £10/10/-.
Switzerland 4c. Vaud 1849 black and red, used, £330.
Kenya £1 perf. 12 x 13 (S.G. 143), £10/10/-.

Robson Lowe.

Turks. Is. 1881 2½d. Prov. Setting 1, £105.
Do. 1881 2½d. Setting IX, £190.
Do. 1894-95 Bisect 5d. on cover (two known), £60.
Barbados 1852-55 2d. bisected vertically on cover, £55.
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Cape S.G. 32, 1d. on 6d. error "Ienny", £2/10/-.
Do. S.G. 1, Pair used, £10/10/-.
O.R.C., S.G. 112, 1d. brown, £5.
Natal, S.G. 4 1857, on piece with MS cancellation, £7.
Rhodesia 5d. error of colour (S.G. 142), £4/5*-.

SHORT NOTICES.

Israel. The Ministry of Posts has sent us their Cat. No. 4 which has a 20-page listing of all postage stamps issued up to Dec., 1953. Copies may be obtained by sending 4 International Reply Coupons to the Philatelic Services, G.P.O., Jerusalem.

Mexico. Casa Ruiz-Perez, Azueta, 31-13, Mexico D.F. has sent us a specimen copy of one of the Auction Sales. These appear to list mostly Mexican and Latin American stamps, but with a fair lot of others.

Robson Lowe. A report on the activities of this firm for the twelvemonth ending 15-8-53 shows sales of over a quarter of a million pounds, a record for their activities in Britain. The British Empire market showed slight hardening in the proportion of realisation to valuation, although stamps of Great Britain showed a small depreciation because of several exceptionally large holdings coming on the market. The foreign market was stable and postal history showed an increase in popularity.

H. R. Harmer. A number of important sales are announced as occurring in the next two months. The Pilkington sale of Niger Coast scheduled for 2 November has been postponed. Owing to the extensive re-listing in the new Gibbons' catalogue, the collection will be renumbered and the sale date announced in due course. The sale of the Egyptian Palace collections will take place in Cairo on February 12-18.

Caritas. Under this heading we have received from Mr. F. G. Froehlich a pamphlet announcing an exhibition of Christmas Seals, Charity stamps and the like to be held in Copenhagen, 13th to 15th November. The occasion is the Jubilee of the Christmas Seal movement, started in Denmark 1904. There will be catalogues, miniature sheets, special envelopes, stamps and cancellations associated with the exhibition.

CAPE CENTENARY CELEBRATIONS.

In Johannesburg there was a ten-day display in the Public Library which was officially opened by Mr. Dick, Under Secretary for Posts. In the foyer the Africana Museum staged a fine display of the life and work of Charles Bell, designer of the Triangulars and it is hoped a fuller account of this will be published later.

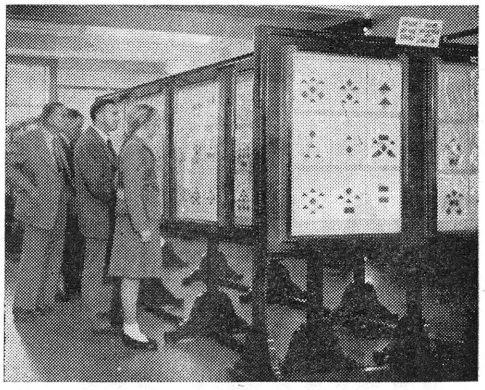
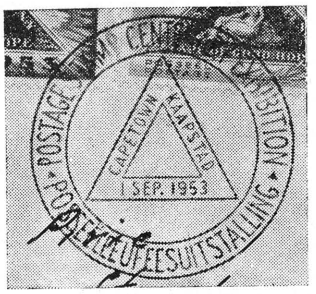


Photo: F. G. Froehlich.

In an upstairs room there was an excellent display of Cape Triangular stamps from Mr. Jack Sheppard's collection, together with cognate material shown by others. Here also was a special post office, where a roaring trade was done in the centenary stamps, commemorative covers and special cancellation.

A display was also given in Cape Town, opened by the P.M.G. and here also a special cancellation was in use at the one-day post office.



An illustration of this is shown herewith. The Johannesburg canceller differed from the Cape Town one in being a single-circle mark and there was no triangle in the centre, merely the date and 'Johannesburg' in two lines. See Editorial.

CORONATION CURIOSITY.

Linn's Weekly shows an illustration of 12 different Coronation stamps on a cover, but all cancelled with the same postmark. Can you guess how this could have happened, without there being any philatelic horseplay?

The stamps were one each of the various Malay States; but all used at Singapore, which would seem to prove that Singapore P.O. accepts the stamps of any of the Malay States.

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DIFFERENT!

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NEW GUINEA 1935 £2 & £5, S.G. 204 and 205. Super U.	£10 0 0
NEW ZEALAND 1906 Christchurch Set, S.G. 424/427	£4 0 0
1913 Auckland Set, S.G. 470/473	£5 10 0
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SWAZILAND—POSTAL HISTORY and STAMPS

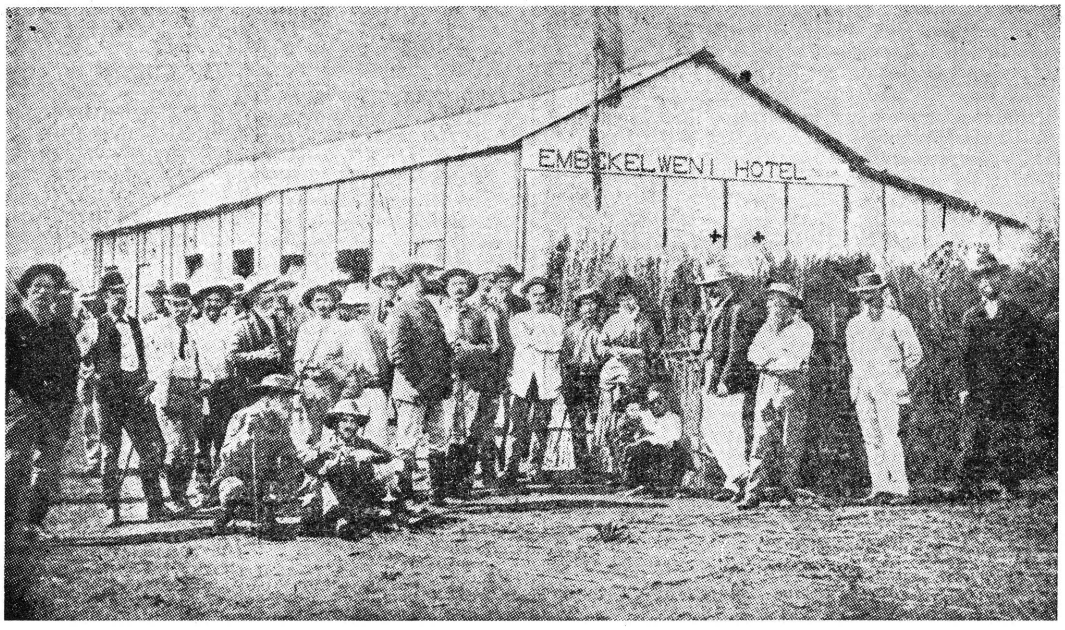
By
J. H. HARVEY PIRIE.

GENERAL HISTORY.

(Continued from page 144.)

There was always such a crowd around the Royal Kraal that one Thorburn built a hotel there about 1885 or 1886.

There was also accommodation elsewhere in Swaziland for concessionaires and would-be concessionaires. Messrs. Rogers, Bremer and Wallenstein started a store and hotel in 1885 at Mazini which was the nucleus of the township of Bremersdorp. At Embabaan Bombardier Wells opened a hostelry in 1888. This was handy on the trail from Steynsdorp to Embekelweni, along which there was also Grosvenor Darke's rest-house at Darkton.



Concessionaires outside Thorburn's Hotel. The crosses indicate "Offy" Shepstone and John Thorburn.
Photo: "The Star", 21-11-23.

Embabaan (now Mbabaue) had become a place of some importance with the discovery of alluvial tin there about 1886 and had become a small administrative post during the Z.A.R. Protectorate. Incidentally Louis Botha was Vrederechter (Justice of the Peace) there for a short period.

The name "Mbabane" means "Something that digs or crushes out hollows", it being so called from the stream which flows through the town.

Concessions covered almost anything and everything. Starting mainly with grazing, prospecting and mining rights, they went on to trading and the granting of monopolies covering printing, advertising, banking, importation of liquor and tobacco, rights to levy customs dues, to build railways and telegraph lines, and to control all survey and postal services, etc., etc. The limit was about reached when one individual obtained the sole right to sell further concessions!

Although a concession for the sole right to import liquor had been sold, gin running was actually an extensive and profitable enterprise. The main route followed by this trade was by lighter from Delagoa Bay up to Tembe Drift, thence by ox wagon to a camp in the Lebombo Range where there was what has been described as "a house built of gin cases". Gin, incidentally, at this period cost 20/- a case, the case containing five 1 gallon bottles. It was smuggled from there, also mainly by ox wagon, round the N.W. end of Swaziland to the Lake Chrissie area and from there distributed to Swaziland and the various diggings in the neighbouring Transvaal.

The King was actually acting illegally when

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he disposed of rights to land. According to immemorial native custom, which was all there was in the way of 'law', the land was the property of the tribe or nation. The King or Chief was merely trustee for the tribe and only a full gathering of the people had the right to dispose of it. Nevertheless the King sold grants and the concessionaires, probably in all good faith, regarded their grant as legally obtained.

The mineral and surface rights of practically the whole territory were sold and over the same ground different individuals might hold (a) grazing rights, (b) agricultural rights, (c) mineral rights, (d) township rights and (e) trading rights. The confusion was immense and the tangle has even to-day not been entirely sorted out.

Individual greed on the part of concessionaires became further complicated when some of the rights and concessions were bought in by the Z.A.R. Government. Amongst others they bought in October, 1888 the postal rights from one J. R. Harington for £12,000. They had long had a desire to incorporate Swaziland with the Transvaal as a step towards obtaining access to the seaboard, with a port either at St. Lucia Bay or Kosi Bay.

The concessionaires, perhaps not unnaturally, clamoured for better protection for their rights, although Sir Hercules Robinson, the then British High Commissioner at the Cape, is reported as having said that many of them, both British and Dutch, were "undesirables", and that it was essential that Swaziland should come under either Boer or British control.

In 1886 Mbandine actually asked to come under British protection, with the appointment of a British Resident, but the British Government turned down the request. Britain at this period was not really very interested in Swaziland except in a dog-in-the-manger kind of way, viz., to see that it did not fall entirely into the hands of the Z.A.R.

Failing to obtain British protection Mbandine turned to "Sometseu" (Sir Theophilus Shepstone of Natal fame) and asked him to appoint an adviser, which was done in December, 1886 in the person of his son Theophilus ("Offy"). Mr. Shepstone took over the King's various dealings with Whites and tried to get some order into the chaos of the grants and concessions. He had as his private secretary Mr. W. C. Penfold, already mentioned; naturally in trying to put the concession business on a more business like footing he was not very popular with the concessionaires, or with those trying to join their ranks.

The White interest holders, especially the mining concessionaires, had continued to press Mbandine for a charter of self-government in matters concerning solely Whites and, though at



Some of the "White Committee" outside Government Office. Left to right are: C. Swears, T. Shepstone, A. Meikle, W. Carter, N. Breytenbach, T. Rathbone, C. van Rooyen, W. C. Penfold, J. Thorburn.

Photo: Africana Museum.

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first reluctant so to limit his own authority, he granted such a charter in August, 1886, although reserving for himself the right to veto any enactment of which he did not approve.

Under this charter the registered concessionaires elected 15 members and the King nominated a further 5 to what was officially called "The Government Committee", but was commonly termed "The White Committee". It was during the 'reign' of this committee that **Stage 1** of Swaziland's postal history commenced (see later).

There is unfortunately no picture of King Mbandine available for reproduction as he would never consent to be photographed. Penfold reports that when it was pointed out to him that Cetawayo and other chiefs had been photographed, his reply was "Yes, and where are they, all dead."

Another story told of him is that one day when he was busy cooking some mixture in a great black pot, chewing some root and spitting it into the mess, "Offy" asked him what he was doing, the reply being "I am rain making". On being asked further if he really believed he could make rain, the reply came "My people all say so.

Under the White Committee a small police force was set up and a gaol built. Three Vrederechters (Justices of the Peace) were appointed to serve at out-stations — Piggs Peag and Forbes Reef in the north and Ferreira's (Hlatikulu district) in the south.

Forbes Reef and Piggs Peak, it may be mentioned, were both fairly extensive gold mining propositions. The former was discovered by Forbes when prospecting in 1881 and the latter by McLachlan a little later.

The running of affairs by the "White Committee" was not very successful. There was constant friction between the concessionaires and Shepstone as the King's adviser and there were also internatl native disturbances which disorganised both the control of the Committee and that of the King.

A climax was reached about the end of 1888 when the concessionaires demanded Shepstone's dismissal and Mr. Alastair Miller was appointed in his place. Shepstone, however, refused to accept his dismissal as it was signed by only three insignificant headmen. He claimed he had been appointed by the King and Council, but no Council was called to effect his dismissal. He made things difficult for his successor by refusing to hand over official records and removed them to some place where they could not be got at.

In 1889 a joint commission was sent by the British and Z.A.R. Governments to report on the state of affairs, with Sir Francis de Winton and General Joubert as the two chief Commissioners.

King Mbandine died in October of that year.

After Mbandine's death there were rumours of a rival claimant to his throne, other than the 'heir apparent' Ubunu. This would have meant the Swazis fighting among themselves and to avert this a Memorandum was addressed by Theophilus Shepstone as Resident Adviser and Agent for the Swazis to The Representatives of Her Britannic Majesty and to His Honour the President of the South African Republic.

This Memorandum pressed for an early carrying out of the traditional ceremonies associated with the appointment of a new Paramount Chief or King and it gives a vivid description of these. Briefly they involved the "crying" of the new candidate and his being "shewn" to the nation, which was done in September, 1890. At the "showing" he had to have all the trappings or symbols of Kingship which had been handed down for generations. These included a Tortoise Shell with a Skin over it as a throne; Two Assegais to be carried; A Wand to be stuck in the ground before him at the meeting with his people; A Copper ring worn on his arm and Black paint on his forehead as mourning for his predecessor, such adornment only to be worn by the King.

The report of the 1889 Commissioners was in general to the effect that further control of the Whites was necessary and accordingly a combined Commission, a Provisional Government in fact, was formed. This consisted at first of Col. R. S. R. Martin as the British representative and Mr. D. J. Esselen as that of the Z.A.R., but shortly afterwards Mr. Shepstone was added as representative of the Swazis.

(To be continued.)

NYASALAND.

The P.R.O. announces that the full set of Q.E. stamps, 15 values ½d. to 20s. were placed on sale on 1st September, the K.G. VI issue being withdrawn on 31st August. The set is a re-issue of the current stamps with a change of portrait and a few minor alterations in design. Some further details next month.



The NEW CENTRAL STAMP AUCTIONS

The GLOBE POSTAGE STAMP COMPANY proudly presents the above public auctions which will be held regularly in the comfortably furnished, well-lit basement of the Company's centrally situated, ground-floor premises.

The auctions will be conducted by an expert philatelist with long experience of values.

Philatelists throughout Africa are cordially invited to inscribe their names for regular gratis supply of full descriptive catalogues. Postal bids welcomed.

Material for sales also welcomed.

Auctioneer: R. H. LACY

BPA BRITISH PHILATELIC ASSOCIATION Trade Section

Gilbern Buildings,
Plein & Mostert Streets
(12 Mostert Street),
CAPE TOWN.

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EMPHASIS ON BEAUTY

SWITZERLAND:

NATIONAL FÊTE 1950, 1951, 1952, 1953, each set complete mint, Set 4/6
PRO JUVENTUTE 1950 or 1951 complete, Set 5/6
1952, Set 5/-
OLYMPIC GAMES, complete. Set 4/6
TREATY OF WESTPHALIA, or Telecommunications. Set 2/6
1953 Zurich Airport 1/-

LIECHTENSTEIN:

Hunting Sets 1946/50, 3 complete mint sets for 17/6
Masters Miniatures 1949/52, 10 different mint for 8/6

OTHER NOVELTIES:

Holland 1953 Red Cross, complete mint 2/6
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Selections of stamps priced, singly available, on request against references.

A. Lichtenstein

B.P.A.

Box 1117 ———— BLOEMFONTEIN

WANT LISTS WANTED

For many years I have concentrated on supplying just those odd stamps and items that people want to complete their sets or pages.

Whether you are a general collector, thematic collector or specialist I believe I can supply a good percentage of your needs. My stock is principally Empire issues and comprises a fine range of mint and used stamps and unusual items from the earliest issues to fairly modern stamps. I have very little in new and recent issues.

Everything supplied is subject to the customer's complete satisfaction and a cash refund would be made immediately if you should find anything to be not quite to your liking.

Gibbons' 1954 complete Empire catalogue is now available — price 17/6, registered book post 10d. extra.

R. T. LILLEY

(Over 30 years a stamp dealer).
504 Belfast Building — 29 Joubert Street, JOHANNESBURG.
Telephone: 23-9040. Office hours: 10 a.m.—5.30 p.m.

WANTED.
S.W.A. 1953 CORONATION SETS.

AFRICANS for the SPECIALIST

CAPE OF GOOD HOPE. Proof of 1d. Trigular in black £10
Ditto. 6d., fine margins, on compl. env. £12.10
KENYA. Specimen overprints, 1922-27:
£2 green and purple **£1**; purple and yellow £2
£4 black & magenta **£2.10**; £5 black & red £10
NATAL. 1902-3 "Specimen" of the £5 mauve and black (Cat. £50) £3
NIGER. 50 stamps of G.B. used in **Burutu, Akassa, Lokoja,** including some on entires but mostly on pieces. Fine collection with a Jebba cover and piece. Priced separately —or the lot £40
NIGERIA (N. & S.). An all-mint collection of 75 stamps, K.E.VII & K.G.V (Cat. £16/8/9) £8
K.G.V. "Specimens", ½d. to £1 (9) £2.10
NYASALAND. "Specimens", 1895 to £1 (9) £2
1896 to £1 (9) **£1.10**; 1897 to £1 (10) £1.10
1903-4 to £1 (9) £1.15
SOMALILAND. Collection of "Specimens" comprising K.E.VII (8), 1912 and 1921 high values, S. Jubs., Coronation & Officials £10.10
SIERRA LEONE. 1933 Wilberforce set perforated 'Specimen' £12.10
1921-8 £5 "Specimen" £6
S. RHODESIA. 1932 3d. Victoria Falls. A mint imperf. between pair (Cat. £50) £25
SUDAN. General Gordon set complete on First Day Cover £10
TRANSVAAL. 1895 three original Artists' Designs £12

DAVID FIELD LIMITED

7 VIGO STREET, LONDON, W.1.

CAPE OF GOOD HOPE

1864—1898. RECTANGULAR ISSUES.

An exceptionally fine collection of 428 stamps, unused and used. There are 18 5/- values, including S.G. 47 unused and used. Other special items are S.G. 25b, unused block of 4; S.G. 32 unused; S.G. 34b used; S.G. 37, used block of 4. A great attraction is the exceptional quality of the used pairs, strips and blocks, of which there are 34 pairs, 9 strips of 3 or more, 22 blocks of 4 and three blocks of 6. There are also many unused blocks and several unusual postmarks.

THE COLLECTION ..... £125.

F. W. COLLINS

STOBOROUGH CROFT, ST. CROSS,
WINCHESTER
ENGLAND.

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Check List of O.V.S. & O.R.C. Post Offices and Agencies, etc.

PERIOD 1868 TO 1910

By W. NEWLANDS.

(Continued from page 152 of August issue.)

POSTMARKS.

Colours:
B—Black; Bl.—Blue; R—Red; P—Purple;
Br.—Brown; V—Violet; M—Magenta.

16 Bar Numerals.
1. Bloemfontein B.
2. Winburg. Bl. B. P. Br. M. R.
3. Harrismith. B. Bl. Br. V. P.
3. Harrismith (?). B. Bl.
4. Fauresmith. B. Bl. Br. R.
5. Smithfield (1889). B. P.
6. Kroonstad (1889). B.
7. Bethulie (1888). B.
8. Boshof (1889). B. Br. Bl.
9. Jagersfontein (1891). B.
10. Philippolis (1884). B. P. V.
11. Bethlehem. B.
12. Rouxville. B. P. V.
13. B. Bl. Br. V. M.
14. Edenburg (1889). B.
15.
16. Brandfort. B.
17. Ladybrand (1890-91). B. P.
18. B. P. Br. Bl. Bl/B. Bright P.
19. Reddersburg (1891). B.
ONLY 6 and 9 have stops.
18 fairly common.

11 Bar Numerals.
1. Clocolan (?) B. R. Bl. P.
Bloemfontein V. Bl/B. R/Br.
1● (Dot clear and half size of numeral) R
8.
20. Brandfort. B.
21. Ladybrand 1899 (?)
Ventersburg B. Bl.
22. B.
23.
24. Heilbron. B. R. Br.
Bloemfontein (?). Bl. Bl/B.
25. Frankfort. B.
26. Bultfontein (1891). B.
27. Hoopstad. B. P.
28. B.
29. Senekal (1893) B. R.
30. B.
31.
36. (Might be 38). B.
45. B.
48. Holfontein
49. B.
51. B.
55. B.
56: P.
57. B.
60. P.

11 Bar "Letter" Cancellations.
A. Clocolan. B. R. P. V.
B.
C. Smithfield. B. Bl/B.
C. B.
D. B. Bl.
E.
F.
G. B.
H.
I. B. R.
J. B.
K. Rouxville. B.
L.
M. B. P.
N. B. P. Bl./B.
O. Jagersfontein 1882
Bushmanskop B. Bl.
P. P.
Q.
R. Bloemfontein. R. Br. P.
S.
T. B.
U. B.
V.
W. B.
X. B. Br.
Y. B.
Z.
X is most common.

6 Bar Numeral (Crude Type).
35. B.

O.R.C. Numbers in Triangle.

2—B.	31—B.
3—B.	33—B.
11—P.	36—B.
14—B.	37—B.
22—B.	48—B.
23—B.	54—B.
30—B.	

"Cape" Type Ovals with box and letters instead of Numerals.
B.E.—B.

Army Telegraphs.
B—U (Bethulie or Bultfontein).
B—FN (Bloemfontein).
B—DN.
HS—M (Harrismith).
HS—CO (Harrismith, probably Civilian Office, Type:—HS—**Co.**
H—N.
HN—X (Heilbron).
K—DN (Kroonstad).
N—F
R—R
SK—M (Senekal).
W—?
D—FN.
R—DN.

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"Cape" Type Numerals in Box, 9 Bar Ovals.
All in Black **unless** otherwise noted.
86 and 98 have stops.

Large Numerals.	Small Numerals.
4	17
6	23
7	32 P.
10	33
303	38 P.
1184	40
1193	42
1213	43
1278	50
1385	53
1392	57 P.
1396	60
1592.	63
	73
	79 P.
	80
	86 P & B.
	91
	96
	98
	103
	107
	112
	117
	119
	123
	125
	126

THE END.

SELDOM OFFERED.

Set of 15 K.G. VI S. Rhodesia used postage stamps, ½d. to 5/-, **10/-** per set, post free.

AND A NOVELTY!

50 different used Central Africa, being S. & North Rhodesia, Nyasaland, Bechuanaland and Kenya, inc. obsoletes, **10/-** per packet.

W. C. BROWN,

Box 944, Bulawayo, S.R.

JAMAICA.

A special 2½d. commemorative stamp will be issued on Nov. 25 when H.M. the Queen will be visiting the island for a few days, en route for Australia.

Special covers for the stamp, and first day cancellation may be ordered at 1/- each from E. F. Aquilar, Box 406, Kingston, Jamaica.

HIGH COMMISSION TERRITORIES CORONATION STAMPS.

Dr. H. O. Reisener reports on plate numbers and shades as follows:

Basutoland, 1a, 2a with slightly reddish tinge; 1B, 2B.

Bechuanaland, 1A, 3A slightly darker brown than 1B, 3B.

Swaziland, 1A, 2A with distinct yellowish tinge; 1A, 3A; 1A, 5A and 1B, 5B slightly lighter shade.

He also states that the sheets obtained direct from the Crown Agents have no sheet numbers at the top right hand corners.

He further reports that Kenya, N. Rhodesia and Nyasaland sheets show some marked differences in shades.

Gibbons Stamp Monthly for August confirms these numbers, with the addition of 1A, 2A; and 1A, 5A; for Bechuanaland, with of course, the corresponding 'B' numbers. The plates of 120 in all De La Rue printings consisted of two panes of 60, one 'A', the other 'B'.

New printings of a number of the lower values of the K.G. VI stamps are on order for all three territories.

S. RHODESIA.

We are indebted to Mrs. M. Cawood, Box 458, Salisbury for a special first day cover with a number of the Q.E. issue for S. Rhodesia. These are beautiful bi-coloured stamps, each with the Queen's head in a medallion, the other features being: ½d., Sable Antelope; 1d., Tobacco planter; 2d., Rhodes grave; 3d. Farm worker; 4d., Flame lily; 4½d., Victoria Falls (from the air); 6d., Baobab tree; 9d., Lion; 1/-, Zimbabwe ruins; 2/-, Birchenough Bridge; 2/6, Kariba Gorge; 5/-, African basketmaker; 10/-, Balancing rocks; £1, Coat of Arms. The only one we do not care for much is the lion, which, although gorgeously maned, is otherwise exceedingly tame and benign looking.

Train 'Postmark'. Although there is now no T.P.O. run by Rhodesia, as there was in the past, it is still possible to get a Train Postmark of a kind. Post a letter on the train with a 2d. stamp and it will reach you with a cachet in a rectangular box "T 4d. Posted on Train without Special Fee." The "4d." is entered in pencil and is collected from you by Postage Due Stamps.

CENTENARY SPECIAL.

Canada-United States Commemoratives 1944-1953 Superb, Mint, Unhinged Speciments, 3c.-5d.; 4c.-6d.; 5c.-7d.

In appreciation of your fine response to our May ad. we will include our Bonus Offer. a Souvenir Sheet of the U.S. Centenary. Gibbons 1092a, b FREE to the first 25 orders received.

FRANK E. HAMILTON,

Marne 17, Mich. U.S.A.

S. RHODESIA. ROYAL TRAIN POSTMARKS.

Continuing the notes in our August issue p. 140, where a cover from Room 4, Salisbury is described, we have now seen a **real** Royal Train cover, through the kindness of Mr. G. Kirchoffer. This was sent him by a friend in Gwelo, who had it marked on the train through the good offices of a Post Office Inspector.

This real train cover has the same mark as was used actually on the Royal Train in 1947. The base of the coat-of-arms is straight, 8mm. long, and with 3 bars across it. The letters "R" in Royal Train are wide (2.5 mm.).

The registration mark is in black, like the postmark, with the number machine typed.

What is not quite clear yet is "Were there two train post-offices?" — one on the Royal Train proper and one on the pilot train. If so, are the marks of the two distinguishable? See Editorial.

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SOCIETY NEWS.

PORT ELIZABETH PHILATELIC SOCIETY.

4th August, 1953:

Messrs. G. K. Forbes and G. Bülbring joined forces in showing miniature Sheets to a very good gathering of members. A wide range was on view, it attracted much attention and was full of interest to those who had perhaps not previously realised the fascination of this side-line of Philately. Dr. J. W. Harris, the Society's Delegate to the recently held Congress reported fully and ably on the Bulawayo Congress and Exhibition.

After tea, members proved their knowledge in a quizz set by Mr. G. Bülbring on the subject of nicknames for stamps — the winning team securing 18½ points out of a possible of 24. Before departing at 10.15 p.m. members took part in the usual auction.

18th August, 1953:

No doubt owing to unfavourable weather and illness of a number of "regulars" the attendance at the meeting was smaller than usual. Auction, conducted by Mr. Leale, occupied most of the time before tea interval. Official business was next disposed of. Mr. G. Bülbring then gave a talk on "Inks, Colours and Shades of Stamps" supported by charts, illustrations and examples of stamps illustrating the points made. Dr. Harris thanked the speaker, expressing the appreciation of members and visitors present.

Another activity of the Society during August has to be mentioned. Round Table No. 8 organised the first and very successful Port Elizabeth Hobbies Exhibition from August 10th to 15th inclusive, in which our Society participated. Our display of stamps was selected from sheets submitted by many members, particularl stress being laid on various types of mounting and write up. The two long tables allotted to the Society were viewed by a great many of the 15,000 visitors and much propaganda work was done for the benefit of the Hobby. Credit and sincere thanks must be given to the very fine team work of the Society's members in making this effort a success.

1st September, 1953:

New ground was broken on this evening Following up the interest created by the Stamp Display during the August Hobbies Exhibition, the meeting was devoted to Junior Stamp Collectors. The room was almost too small to hold the 22 girls and boys, interested parents and members. The President, Mr. G. Bülbring, welcomed especially the young folk and gave a short talk on important points of stamp collecting for beginners. Many of the young collectors had brought their albums and stamps and soon the room was clustered with small groups discussing the hobby with the older collectors. The interest and enthusiasm were great; the highlight of the evening being reached when a Cape Triangular Stamp and Catalogues were raffled free. It was really grand to see so many happy and excited young faces.

Some cool drinks and cakes (tea for the elders) appeared on the scene and, when bed-time came, everyone felt that a very good time had been had by all. It is planned to hold Junior Evenings of a similar type at least twice a year.

AFRIKAANSE FILATELISTIESE VERENIGING.

Saterdag 15 Augustus, was die geleentheid van ons derde Saterdag-byeenkoms. Die gewone klompie geesdriftiges was teenwoordig om te sien wat hulle in ruil aangebied sal word. In dié opsig was daar nogal heelwat bedrywigheid, maar die veilingstafels was maar kaal. Wat wel aangebied was, was gou deur gretige kopers opgepik.

Stadig maar seker wen hierdie byeenkomste veld. Versamelaars hou daarvan om oor allerlei dingetjies te gesels wanneer hulle saamtrek. Met gewone vergaderings het hulle altyd te doen met 'n voorsitter of president wat hulle aandag vereis. Maar hier bestaan nie so-iets nie en kan hulle lekker uitgesels en voorraadboeke deurblaai sonder om tot aandag geroep te word.

Daar is altyd iemand met wie 'n probleem bespreek kan word en bied hierdie samekoms dus altyd ook 'n leersame (en gesellige) uurtjie aan.

Soos te wagte was, het ons weer lekker in Roodepoort gekuier op **Woensdag, 26 Augustus.** Ons het hul geselskap gesellig gevind en hulle was ingenome met ons vertonings. Ons sien uit na die herontmoeting in November a.s.

Vrydag, 4 deser, het dit vir ons duidelik geword waarom ons broers daar uit die hoofstad so lank weggebly het — vir geen ander rede as om hulle mooi goedjies weg te steek nie! Ja, hulle het waarlik vergoed vir hul lank-uitgestelde besoek deur in sterkte op te daag, en daarby 'n verrassing te lewer met feitlik elke blad wat te voorskyn gebring was.

Eerste aan die beurt was mnr. J. F. Erasmus met die hoofdis, nl. die amptelike seëls van Kanada. Die seëls wat in hierdie groep tuishoort word nie orals uitgekrap nie. Dit kos durf en deursettingsvermoë om die gewones enigsins voltallig saam te skraap. U kan dus verstaan hoe verleë ons voor allerhande perforasie-soorte, soos dubbel- en veelvoudige slae, misslae en die produk van stukkende kamme gestaan het. Die bygedrukte seëls het ook nie aan interessante (en moeilike) soorte ontbreek nie. O.a. is daar jou werklik een waarvan daar slegs 20 kopieë bestaan! Voorwaar 'n mooi groepie. Pragtige uiteengesit, doeltreffend geïllustreer, netjies beskryf; aanspraakmaker op groot dinge! Tereg het die voorsitter mnr. Erasmus bedank nie alleen vir 'n mooi vertoning nie, maar ook vir 'n ware les wat hy ons geleer het.

Al fout wat ons met die uitgestalde seëls gevind het was die orde van die aanbieding. Mnr. Erasmus (voorsitter of nie voorsitter nie), moes laaste verskyn het. Posseëlvolkies kan mos so agterstevoor wees. As hulle eers aan die hoofdis versadig geraak het, dan peusel hulle net aan enigiets wat volg, en voer die geseiskap hulle so tussen happies terug na die grootgereg: met die gevolg dat die ander vertoners (mevr. Erasmus — die gesondheidseëls van Nieu-Seeland, mnr. de Swardt — die 2d. seëls van die Unie, en mevr. van Zyl — Kaapse driehoeke (!!) en die Mafeking besettingseëls (!)), nie hulle regmatige aandeel in aandag ontvang het nie. Elk 'n kort vertoninkie van hoë verdienstelikheid.

Mevr. Erasmus se versameling bestaan uit posfris en eerstedagse koeverte. Sy het alles behalwe die eerstedagse koeverte van die uitgawes van 1930, 1931 (die glimlaggende seun) en 1934, en sal bly wees om in aanraking te kom met enige persoon wat haar kan help om hierdie drie (of een van hulle) te bekom. Mnr. de Swardt het al die tweepennies (prentsoorte) gewys, asook 'n klompie variasies. En vir oulaas het mevr. van Zyl ons 'n kykie in die wêreld van die klassieke gegee. Sy begin met 'n omslag uit die Kaap (omstreeks 1830), dan 'n 1d. houtblokdruk, en 'n mooi verteenwoordigende klompie ander driehoeke. (Hierdie stukke moes eintlik op die groot uitstalling gewees het, maar het weens 'n misverstand agterweë gebly). Origens was daar 'n paar blaaie besettingseëls — vanselwers uiters moeilike klante.

'n Uiters geslaagde aand is afgesluit met 'n paar aankondigings en wedersydse gelukwense.

Vier nuwe aansoeke is goedgekeur: Mnr. M. C. Booysen, Sesdelaan 23, Thabazimbi (versamel Unie en algemeen), dr. G. I. Faerber, Tweedelaan 4, Germiston (spesialis — Unie, posfris), mnr. F. G. Froehlich, Investment-gebou, Commissionerstraat 97, Johannesburg (kuns — boukunde, ens. en 19de eeu Duitsland) — (Hierdie vriend doen fotografiese werk en kan alle bybehore verskaf. Stap daar in en noem A.F.V.), en die jongeheer Albert de Jong, Tweedelaan 44, Melville, Johannesburg (Nederland en kolonies).

S.J.V.

PRETORIA RAILWAY PHILATELIC SOCIETY.

The **August** meeting of the Society that was held at the usual venue on the 12th inst., attracted a really excellent attendance, there being a total of 46 members and visitors present when the meeting was called to order. Owing to the unavoidable absence of the President, Mr. MacLaughlan, the chair was taken by our worthy Vice-President, Mr. J. Howie, who after efficiently disposing of the business of the evening, thereupon handed over the meeting to Mr. W. Newlands, who gave the members a rare treat. This is something that we always expect when this gentleman exhibits, but on this occasion Mr. Newlands excelled himself. Not only did he give us an exhibit in keeping with his reputation but also conducted a quiz on South African stamps that proved to be of an extremely interesting and intricate nature. The questions were of a varied nature and the winner eventually proved to be Lieut. Richards, who fully deserved the prize. Here again Mr. Newlands not only organised the quiz but provided the prize as well. With regard to the exhibit the fact that it was a portion of the collection of "Free States" that gained a gold award at the Cape Town Exhibition speaks for itself, and I think that this collection is without a peer in its own particular class in the philatelic world. The enormous amount of research and hard work that

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Mr. Newlands has put into it fully deserves all the praise that has been accorded him, and it only remains for us to fully endorse all the remarks made by Dr. Reisener and Mr. Kennard, who expressed the appreciation and thanks for an extremely good show.

PHILATELIC SOCIETY OF THE WESTERN RAND.

The July meeting's attendance was very poor, most of the members were away and the weather not being of the best. The exhibit for the enening was brought along by Commander Enoch, namely Siam. While the exhibit was being shown Commander Enoch gave a very interesting talk on it, and those present certainly enjoyed the exhibit which was outstanding.

The **August** meeting held on the 26th was well attended as the Afrikaans Society was our guests for the evening. Once again the exhibits brought along by the visiting Society were excellent. Mr. Rossouw tabled his Union ½d., followed by Mr. Mioch with his early and modern Holland, Mr. Schubart tabled New Zealand, and Mr. Froehlich displayed a portion of his Art Collection based on Sculptors on Stamps. The feast and variety of displays was enjoyed by all. Dr. Berry thanked Mr. Rossouw for his Union Display. Mr. Keet thanked Mr. Mioch for his Holland display. Mr. Burrell spoke and thanked Mr. Schubart for his interesting New Zealand display, and Mr. Henderson thanked Mr. Froehlich for his Thematic display of Arts.

A hearty vote of thanks was given to Mr. Henderson for helping and providing with the refreshments and tea. J.K.

ORANGE FREE STATE AND BASUTOLAND PHILATELIC SOCIETY.

There was an exceptionally large attendance at the **August** meeting. Following a proposal outlined by the Committee, the meeting decided to hold a Junior Stamp Exhibition and Competition in March next year. Mr. G. N. Gilbert reported on the Bulawayo Congress and gave some interesting sidelights. He also read excerpts from his paper "Basutoland Postal History" which had received a Congress award. The President, Dr. Freund, congratulated Mr. Gilbert on his success and also on the honour of having been elected a Vice-President of the Federation. Mr. Scott displayed "New Issues of the Month", and Mr. Lewis gave his "Philatelic News Report". Three interesting displays were were the main features of the evening. Mr. Gilbert showed selected pages from his 'Basutoland" collection, outstanding among which were the exceedingly rare "Officials", a set of which recently fetched £1,000. Miss Searle displayed some colourful pages of "Fiji Islands" and of "Mauritius" in a pleasing arrangement and artistic write-up. Mr. Ebstein gave a representative exhibit of "Modern U.S.A. Commemoratives".

By special request and following an invitation, the Society took part in a "Hobby Show" which was held under the auspices of the Youth Congress of the Seventh-Day Adventists at the Bloemfontein Showgrounds. Some of the Hobbies displayed were a Numismatic Collection with a particularly strong section of Roman Coins, a Butterfly collection mounted in glass frames, small live Tropical Fish displayed in Aquaria (displayed by Mr. H. J. Nel of our Society), and various other types of hobbies. The main attraction however was undoubtedly the Stamp display by our Society which was prominently arranged in the centre of the Hall in large Glass Showcases. Those taking part in this successful display were: Mr. J. Price ("Orange Free State"), Mr. H. J. Nel ("Modern U.S.A. Commemoratives), and Dr. K. Freund, with three thematic collections the subject of which was specially chosen to be within the spirit of the Congress ("Chess on Stamps", "Folk-Dancing on Stamps", and "Butterflies on Stamps", with the display of original Butterflies nearby for comparison). More than a thousand visitors, many from overseas, inspected our stamp display.

The next meeting of the Society will take place on the 25th September, 1953, aud will be under the sign of the "Cape Triangular Centenary". Although the Society has unfortunatly no collector of Cape Triangulars in its ranks, two interesting displays will make up for that, namely by Mr. John Lewis "Specialised Display of the Cape Centenary Stamps") and by Dr. Freund ("Replicas of the Cape Triangular. on Stamp issues, Exhibition Labels, Cachets and in Cancellations").

GERMISTON PHILATELIC SOCIETY.

The first General Meeting was held on the **2nd February, 1953,** at which the following Executive members were elected:

President: Dr. A. Kaplan; Vice-President, Mr. S. J. Hagger; Secretary/Treasurer, Mr. E. Muller (at a later date this position was taken over by Mr. I. S. Burniston). Committee Members: Mr. S. Wilson, Mr. Hay, Mrs. Guthrie, Mr. Christophers, Mr. E. Muller. Exchange Superintendent, Librarian and Auctioneer, Mr. Christophers.

General meetings are held at the Volkskas Bank Buildings on the second Wednesday of every month at 7.45 p.m.

At the moment we have 29 senior members and 5 junior members. All of our meetings have been well attended and an average of 24 members at each meeting. Although most members have been a bit shy in displaying their stamp collections, the encouragement biven by Dr. Kaplan and Mr. Hagger has been greatly appreciated by all and we feel quite sure that within a few months there will be excellent collections displayed by all our members.

A report on our big meeting to be held on the 14th October, 1953, will be submitted as soon as possible after that date. I.S.B.

PHILATELIC SOCIETY OF JOHANNESBURG.

At the meeting held on **Sept. 8th,** Mr. Alex Nathanson showed a selection of his Barbados collection He showed all the Britannia Type, in mint and fine used. There were several large blocks of mint and the used were shown in great variety, some being on cover. There were numerous Essays and Die Proofs. The exhibit was beautifully written up and the stamps were all in perfect condition.

Mr. W. Redford spoke on the exhibit and proposed the vote of thanks.

At the meeting held on **Sept. 25th,** Dr. Von Varendorff showed Dutch Colonies, East Indies, Curacao and Surinam. There were numerous mint in perfect condition and a large variety of fine used, including early issues and high values. Several used were on cover. The selection of each colony was very representative and there were many varieties. There was a large variety of Postage Due stamps in all types. The exhibit was well written up and beautifully presented.

Mr. W. Oppenheim spoke on the exhibit and proposed the vote of thanks.

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KENYA 30 CENTS.

In "Stamp Collecting" of Aug. 31, Messrs. Morley and Kettle describe two printings, March, 1952 and March, 1953, of this stamp and illustrate profusely the differences between the two. They regard the printers (De La Rue & Co.) as incredibly meticulous in their standards. The minutest flaw seems to demand plate renovation, with the result that there are a host of retouches and suspected re-entries (although why the latter, they are unable to explain). There is so much detail in the article that Kenya specialists must refer to it directly.

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

"O.F.S. ½d. ON 3d."

It is truly amazing, in these days, when most "specialists" are trying to outdo the other man in the number of differences he can locate, to find someone attempting the opposite.

I refer, of course, to Mr. S. G. Laurence's article on the 1896 "½d." on 3d. Ultramarine O.F.S. stamps in the July 1953 issue of the S.A. Philatelist.

While agreeing with Mr. Laurence that many of the "½d." overprint impressions are weak and sometimes impossible to distinguish I do not agree that types (a) and (b) are similar and also that (e) and (f) are alike.

My contentions, I believe, are clearly borne out by the enclosed photograph of stamps with the seven different overprint types.

The difference in the serifs of the "1" in types (a) and (b) and also (e) and (f) are clearly seen. These are:—

(a) "1" has a downward sloping serif.
(b) "1" has a horizontal serif.

In (a) and (b) the "2" has an upright serif.

(e) "1" has a downward sloping serif.
(f) "1" has an upward sloping serif.

(In (e) and (f) the "2" has a canted serif.

Another feature which is **usually** present in type (b) but never in (a) is that the fraction line may run into the "d".

Types (c), (d) and (g) are, of course quite distinct and need no discussion.

I hope these few words and the photograph will help to dispel Mr. Laurence's doubts on the subject.

Yours, etc.,
PETER SMITS.



BRAZIL.

An International Exhibition (Brapex III) will be held in Sao Paulo, Brazil, 1-8 August, 1954, as part of the celebrations of the 4th Centenary of the founding of that city. Organising Secretary, P.O. Box 710, Sao Paulo.

NEW ZEALAND.

In connection with the Royal Visit there will be two stamps issued on 14 December — a few days prior to the arrival of the Royal party. There will be a 3d. portraying Her Majesty and a 4d. with the Queen and the Duke of Edinburgh.

This year's Health Stamps were due for issue on 7 October. They are 1½d. plus ½d. and 2d. plus 1d., with Brownies and Scouts respectively, and Morse code messages.

HIGHER AND HIGHER

Goes the membership of the South African Collector's Society. Now over 200 strong, there are 39 in South Africa and 17 in the U.S.A. among them. Why do you not join to-day and receive the popular magazine "THE SPRINGBOK" — The subscription is only 10/- per annum. Details from:—

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OBITUARIES.

We regret to see announced the deaths of the two following prominent professional philatelists: (1) Mr. C. F. Phillips, Chairman of Stanley Gibbons, Ltd. He was the elder son of Mr. C. J. Phillips, who purchased the business of Stanley Gibbons in 1890, and was for many years Chairman and Managing Director of the present limited company. (2) Dr. Herbert Munk, the creator and editor of that unrivalled reference work "Kohl's Briefmarken-Handbuch." He had completed it so far as countries with the initials (in German) A to K were concerned. Continuation of the work has since been taken up by other hands.

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THE
SOUTH AFRICAN PHILATELIST
PROPRIETORS AND PUBLISHERS :
The Philatelic Federation of Southern Africa
Honorary Editor: Dr. J. H. HARVEY PIRIE
Business Manager: Mr. J. MICHELSON.
P.O. Box 375, Johannesburg.
Subscription: Ten Shillings per annum, post free to any part of the world.
Vol. 29. No. 11. NOVEMBER, 1953. Whole No. 344.

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

Forgeries of the Union 1925 Air Mail Stamps.

We illustrate below a set of clever forgeries of the Union 1925 air mail stamps which Mr. Francis J. Field of Sutton Coldfield, England, recently presented to the Expert Committee of the Philatelic Federation of Southern Africa.

In his letter on the subject, Mr. Field mentions that he has been unable to get the facts of their history, but believes they came from a source which has been responsible for the appearance of many clever fakes of medium and high value modern stamps produced with the intention of marketing them as genuine to wholesalers and others. He adds that some people are of the opinion they were produced in France since the War.

The forgeries, as can be seen by comparison with the genuine 9d. stamp shown in the centre of the set of four, are remarkably good reproductions , but a close scrutiny quickly reveals a number of features which enables them to be detected for what they are.

Though something not entirely new in the field of Unions', forgeries of the nature discovered in this air mail set are of a pattern we were not previously aware of and to the best of our knowledge they represent the first serious attempt to counterfeit any of the comparatively higher priced Union issues.

In the following list we give some of the more prominent features peculiar to all four values of the forged set and the presence of any one of these characteristics will serve as a guide to distinguish the imitations from the genuine copies of these stamps.

(1) The forgeries are perforated 11½ instead of 12.

(2) The design is about ½mm. narrower in width and ¾mm. shorter in height than on the genuine stamp.

(3) The series of horizontal lines in the framework surrounding the aeroplane are drawn much finer on the forged stamps and in addition, their thickness and spacing varies, which is not the case in the original design. Also, the ends of these lines, on both sides of the stamp, show a marked unevenness in their length whereas on the genuine item they present a perfectly straight perpendicular line.



(4) The colours are either lighter or darker than the originals and under a Quartz Lamp the backs of the forged stamps each have a distinctive and different tint which shows up as brown on the 1d., green on the 3d., grey on the 6d. and lilac on the 9d. The backs of all four values in the genuine issue have a white appearance under the Quartz Lamp.

(5) A quick and easily observed feature of the spurious stamps is the spacing of the 2nd and 3rd horizontal lines under the word AFRIKA. On each value they will be found drawn fairly close together, whereas in the genuine printing they are spaced the same distance apart as that of the lines immediately above and below them.

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New Printing of the 1/- Pictorial Stamps.

A new printing of the "Gnus" 1/- pictorial stamp from cylinders Nos. 66 Interior and 3 Exterior appeared on sale during the first week of October.

The design and main features are similar to those of the previous printing from cylinders Nos. 6926/6935 but the colours of the centres and frames are in slightly deeper shades of brown and blue respectively. The marginal arrows on the new sheets have lost the blurred characteristic of the last printing and are now very much like those designated as Plate VI on page 143 of the Handbook.

Mr. Eric Walker of Pretoria notes that though the new stamps are perforated 14, as before, the holes are unmistakably larger in diameter, probably as the result of using a new set of perforating pins.

Incidentally, cylinder No. 66 is in the picture again after doing duty for the last two commemoratives and for those who would like some varieties in watermarks, the multiple Springbok Heads on the copies we saw had lost that clean-cut appearance one usually associates with the Union stamps and instead, a number in the margins looked very woebegone and others had developed beautiful goatee beards. Very probably not constant and simply due to a temporary abnormal condition during the manufacture of the roll of stamp paper.

Two Printings of the ½d. Pictorial Cross-hatched Stamps.

At the time of publication of the Union Handbook/Catalogue, early in 1952, only one printing of the ½d. Springbok unscreened cross-hatched stamps had been recorded and this was designated in the book as Plate XV.

Since then further information on the matter has come to hand and according to the article entitled "King Halfpenny" by S. J. Hagger and G. I. Faerber in the July number of the "South African Philatelist", there were two printings of this particular stamp.

The cylinder numbers of the one printing have been recorded as 6916/29 and the marginal arrows of this combination are depicted on page 107 of the Handbook as Plate XV. The cylinder numbers of the other printing have apparently never been listed, but certain features of the stamps are distinguishable and we are indebted to Dr. G. I. Faerber of Germiston for the opportunity of reproducing the marginal arrows of the unknown cylinders, which are illustrated in the Handbook Supplement No. 8 printed on another page of this issue.

New Printing of 1d. "Officials".

As reported last month, a new printing of the 1d. "Officials" became available towards the end of September with the overprints on sheets of the 54/53 stamps.

Both overprints are of the large stereotyped form — No. X in the Handbook—reading downwards, with OFFICIAL on the right and spaced 10 mm., all as before.

Dr. T. B. Berry of Bryanston, Transvaal, has submitted the following information on this latest printing:

A new issue of the 1d. Official stamp, the 7th of the present series, made its appearance during September — the 1d. basic stamp, Cylinders 54/53, being overprinted with the large or stereotype overprint by the same overprint quadrants as have been previously used.

The original "Broken C" of AFRICA appear in its retouched form in the position R 13/2 on the sheet, while the "2nd Broken C" which was retouched soon after it made its appearance, appears in the position R 1/12 with the retouch showing signs of deterioration.

The flaws determining the four overprint quadrants are unchanged.

Additional "Cracked Plate" Varieties on Current Stamps.

Further to our notes and illustrations on the "Cracked Plate" varieties mentioned last month, we have received reports to the effect that similar white marks are present on other stamps in current use.

Mr. J. W. Schubart of Johannesburg has recorded their appearance in the first and second rows of the new 1/3 issue and an examination of the top right hand corner block will show the long "crack" running through the figures of value "1/3" on stamp No. 5 to the "S" of SOUTH on stamp No. 6. But to coincide with the marks illustrated last month, the 1/3 stamps should be turned up-side-down and it will then be apparent that the shorter streak has been nearly all absorbed in the "R" of AFRICA on stamp No. 4.

Mr. R. T. Lilley of Johannesburg was the first to bring to our notice that the flaws were definitely present on the new 4d. Centenary stamps (Cyls. 106/90) and here again they appear on the right hand side of the sheet, but in this case, in rows 11 and 12. The shorter of the two prominent marks shows up under the figure of value "4" on stamp No. 5, row 11, and the long one runs across the bottom right hand corner of the same stamp. As with the 1/3 denomination however, these stamps should also be turned up-side-down for the varieties to coincide with those in our illustrations and the "hyphen" mark will then be evident just above the "P" in CAPE on stamp No. 4 of row 12.

The information of their occurrence on the 1d. Centenary stamps came from Mr. S. W. Burnard of Roodepoort, Transvaal, and here they appear in what may be termed their normal position on the left hand side of the sheet, but in rows 9 and 10. In this case the long mark runs across the top left corner of stamp No. 2 (through "SU" of SUID) of row 10 and the shorter variety strikes upwards from the "L" of POSSEEL on the same stamp. The "hyphen", on the sheets we have examined, is generally in, or around, the "H" of SOUTH on stamp No. 3 of row 9.

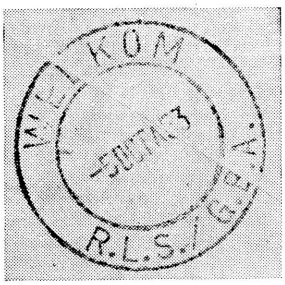
We also understand from Mr. Eric Walker of Pretoria that these particular varieties have been noted on copies of the new 1/- stamps printed from cylinders Nos. 66 and 3, but at the time of writing we have no knowledge of their exact position.

A letter received from Mr. G. N. Gilbert of Westminster, O.F.S., and printed on the next page, confirms the appearance of the flaws on the new 4d. Centenary issue and also gives the interesting information that they are present on the "66" printing of the Coronation stamps. Though not so clearly visible as on the "98" stamps, they are certainly there in a reversed position on the lower half of the sheet and can be traced on either the 10th or 20th stamps of rows Nos. 5 and 6. A latter letter received from Mr. Gilbert confirms the finding of the "cracks" on stamps Nos. 1 and 2 of row 10 in the 1d.

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Centenary commemorative.

It should be noted that for the reasons already explained last month and in our July "Notes", these white marks on the 1d. and 4d. Centenary stamps could quite possibly occur in positions exactly ten rows different to those recorded above.



Welkom's New Cancellation Mark.

Our accompanying illustration shows Welkom's new canceller with the letters "R.L.S." standing for Registered Letter Section. Dr. P. Koch of Welkom would like to know if this addition to the frank is used by other post offices.

CORRESPONDENCE

The Editor,
The S.A. Philatelist.

"CRACKED PLATE".

With reference to your notes in last month's issue regarding the so called "cracked plate" varieties, and the fact that so far this had not been found in the new printing of the 4d. Triangular Centenary, I can definitely vouch for the fact that it does, but in a different position, and upside down. The flaws appear in the new printing on Rows 1, Nos. 5 and 6 and Row 2 No. 4, in the **lower pane,** i.e. in a reversed position, and if these are held upside down against the old printings flaws it will be found that they entirely agree. The small white spot that occurred on row 19 No. 3 in the old printing, will now be faint, as the shading is faint.

The same thing happens exactly in the two printings of the Coronation.

In the 66 sheets the flaws which were found at the top of the 98 right or left hand pane now appear in the bottom rows, viz. on row 4 No. 9 for the small spot, and rows 5 and 6 Nos. 10 for the so called crack.

So it would appear to be definitely a screen flaw as suggested in your notes, and it certainly cannot be called a "cracked plate" any longer.

Yours etc.,
E. N. GILBERT.

AUSTRALIA.

New booklets with twelve 3½d. Q.E. stamps have been on sale since 8 July.

Aerogrammes, as Air Letter Forms are now termed, appeared on 29 July.

2½d. Q.E. Newspaper Wrappers have been available since 5 August.

Two stamps, each of 3½d. denomination, bearing portraits of David Collins and William Paterson, first Lieut. Governors respectively of the Southern and Northern sections of Tasmania appeared in September. These were issued as a pair within the same sheet. There was also a 2/- stamp depicting a view of Sullivan Cove, Hobart. These stamps commemorate the sesquicentenary of settlement in Tasmania.

A 3d. is announced for 11 November celebrating the centenary of the first Tasmanian stamp, the design to incorporate a reproduction of the first fourpenny stamp.

A special stamp will be issued in 1954 to commemorate the centenary of Western Australian stamps.

Preparations are being made for the issue of three stamps, 3½d., 7½d., and 2/- values, to celebrate the Royal Visit next year of H.M. the Queen and the Duke of Edinburgh.

PHILIPPINES.

The Bureau of Posts announces the issue on 5 October of a 5c. commemorating the visit of the President to Indonesia. The stamp features the meeting of the two Presidents.

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½d. to 1/-	4/1	4/8
½d. to 2/6	9/-	10/8
½d. to 5/-	14/8	17/-
½d. to 10/-	25/9	30/-
½d. to £1	48/-	56/-
Aden		
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5c. to 20/-	45/-	52/-

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AUSTRALIA.

By B. SEELIG.

(Notes read with a display, at a meeting of the Philatelic Society of Johannesburg.)

You will certainly not wish to hear a dry, boring lecture on Australian Postal history, or on the numbers of stamps issued of various sets, and that is why I shall rather tell you something to-night on the lighter aspects of my collecting of Australian stamps.

As we all know the first stamps of the Commonwealth of Australia were issued some 40 years ago, a short time if compared with stamps of other countries, printed and issued 100 and more years ago. But I cannot think of the stamps of any other country with a more hectic and exciting history than those of Australia. From the very beginning a vast army of collectors, philatelists and scientists examined, researched and X-rayed the early issues, and as a result a large number of varieties and errors of major and minor importance were discovered. Constant changes of dies and plates, first, second, third and sometimes preliminary printings, changes of watermarks, perforations and paper all made the study of Australian stamps rather fascinating and thrilling. May I interrupt myself and read now to you a little list:

Broken frame tail, leg, neck.
clipped tail, chopped neck, cracked limbs,
missing tongue, missing head, missing ears,
thickened ears, spotted chin.

This list has not been extracted from a Surgeon's diary or from a Hospital case book, but represents some of the illnesses that have been found by diagnosing Australian stamps. Where else can Medical students come across this wide variety, particularly those who are training for Surgery. It might be advisable to make collecting of Australian stamps compulsory at Medical training centres!

With the improvements in printing of stamps, opportunities to make fresh striking discoveries in so far unknown varieties necessarily decreased, and that is why a new field for the research collector had to be found. The paper used for the manufacture of stamps has been subjected to the most minute and scientific research, and it is amazing what persistence could achieve in this respect. I have always known that there are differences in paper, but I did not know that there is paper, normal paper, slightly thinner paper, thin paper, very thin paper, the same descriptions applying to thick paper, pelure paper. Now and then some finds of just a few sheets of stamps, printed on particularly thin or thick paper are made, and these stamps are sold at many times their normal value. I myself am the humble possessor of some of those "finds", although I must confess quite frankly, that in spite of my efforts I was unable to find any difference worth mentioning, if compared with normal printings. However since we indulge in a hobby, it is entirely up to the collector to go to any extreme. Whether he or she collects single used, mint stamps, or whether he or she puts pairs, blocks or whole sheets in his album, is left to him and the state of his bank balance.

A number of years ago, I, in common with some other fellow-collectors, became the victim of a mysterious illness, which I diagnosed as: Imprintblocitis. The symptoms of this rather unusual sickness were a ceaseless, uncontrollable urge and crave for stamps in blocks and pairs with the printer's name shown; the cure consisted in acquiring those stamps as rapidly and completely as possible. My condition improved to the same extent to which I could carry out my own prescription. Quite recently this strange illness disappeared as suddenly as it befell me, and as far as I understand I have to be grateful herefor to the Australian Postmaster-General. Amazing how our hobby creates the most unusual situations!

Imprint- and plate-number blocks have been very useful in the past so as to specify certain printings, dies and plates, but later on, as a result of a large number of collectors concentrating on those blocks, a great demand lead to prices going up out of all proportion. Since some months Australian stamps are available without imprints only. In my opinion this has been a very wise decision on the part of the Australian Postal Authorities, although they have been fiercely attacked by dealers and collectors for this change of policy. Here again a position has arisen that cannot be judged by normal collectors, sick and tired of their hobby, even of collecting Postal Stationery, Airmail labels etc., might decide to collect perforation holes only. My doctor, a very clever man, who by the way does not collect stamps himself, remarked recently that in his opinion stamp collecting is nothing else than a socially approved form of madness. I would rather not comment on this statement.

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The display you are going to see now consists of two sections of my Australian collection, firstly the old Kangaroo and King George V issues, and secondly the imprint and plate-number-block part. The remaining parts, such as King George VI, Commemoratives, Airmails, Officials etc. would make a display by itself, and particularly the King George VI section could no doubt be much better and more comprehensively displayed by our numerous specialists of that period. We all know about the immense difficulties in collecting the early Australian issues in fine used condition, particularly the higher values, and what you are going to see is the result of many years' efforts, after many thousands of copies have passed through my hands. As regards the imprint blocks, there are as you will see some blanks, which I have given up houe to fill, unless some of our collector friends present tonight, might perhaps have a spare copy of say the Sydney Bridge 5/- in block, or a strip of 3 will do, which he would let me have. I would not mind to pay full, or even double face value and still say: Thank you.

Mr. Chairman, Ladies and Gentlemen, I sometimes feel we take life and other matters much too seriously, perhaps even our own hobby, stamp-collecting. If I succeeded tonight with my little talk to make you sometimes laugh, smile or even grin, I shall be quite pleased.

JOHANNESBURG CAPE CENTENIAL DISPLAY.

The Committee in charge of this display are to be congratulated on having come out with a considerable profit, derived mainly from the sale and servicing of covers.

This was donated mainly to the Afrikaanse Filatelistiese Vereniging, as the society most concerned with the sponsoring of the display and as a young society requiring to build up some reserve against a possible rainy day. (Such days do occur, even in Johannesburg!)

A contribution was also handed over to the "South African Philatelist", as a gesture for the extra expense incurred over the special centenary number. For this the Editor and the Business Manager are truly grateful.

FRANCE.

Two new stamps in the current series were due for issue on 19 September, an 8fr. repreSeuting Célimène in Molière's Misanthrope and a 12 fr. of Figaro in Beaumarchais' Mariage de Figaro.

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O.F.S. STUDY CIRCLE.

Gold mines are not the only things of interest in the Orange Free State. There has been a very marked revival of interest in the stamps and postal history of the territory; this has been evidenced by the number of communications in our columns during the past few years.

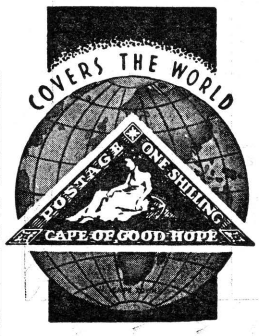
Now there has been formed in England an O.F.S. Study Circle with Mr. A. Cecil Fenn as President and S. G. Laurence as Hon. Sec. Both of these gentlemen have been recent contributors to the "S.A. Philatelist". The Annual Subscription is 10/6 and it may be paid to the Hon. Sec., whose address is 11 Beech Avenue, Horsforth, Yorkshire.

The Circle so far has members in England, America and South Africa; they would like to have more, especially among such as would be willing to act as collators in the various Study Sections which have been set up within the Circle. In the notice sent to us there is also a suggestion that there should be a South African member on the general Committee. Any volunteers?

If the programme of work outlined gets carried out we should someday have a really first-class Handbook on the O.F.S. and O.R.C.

BERMUDA.

Still another country to be added to the list of those issuing special stamps on the occasion of the Royal Visit to Australia. H.M. calls there en route and a 6d. stamp of the new definitive series will be given an inscription reading "Royal Visit 1953." Probably this will be engraved on the plate as was done in Kenya in 1952.



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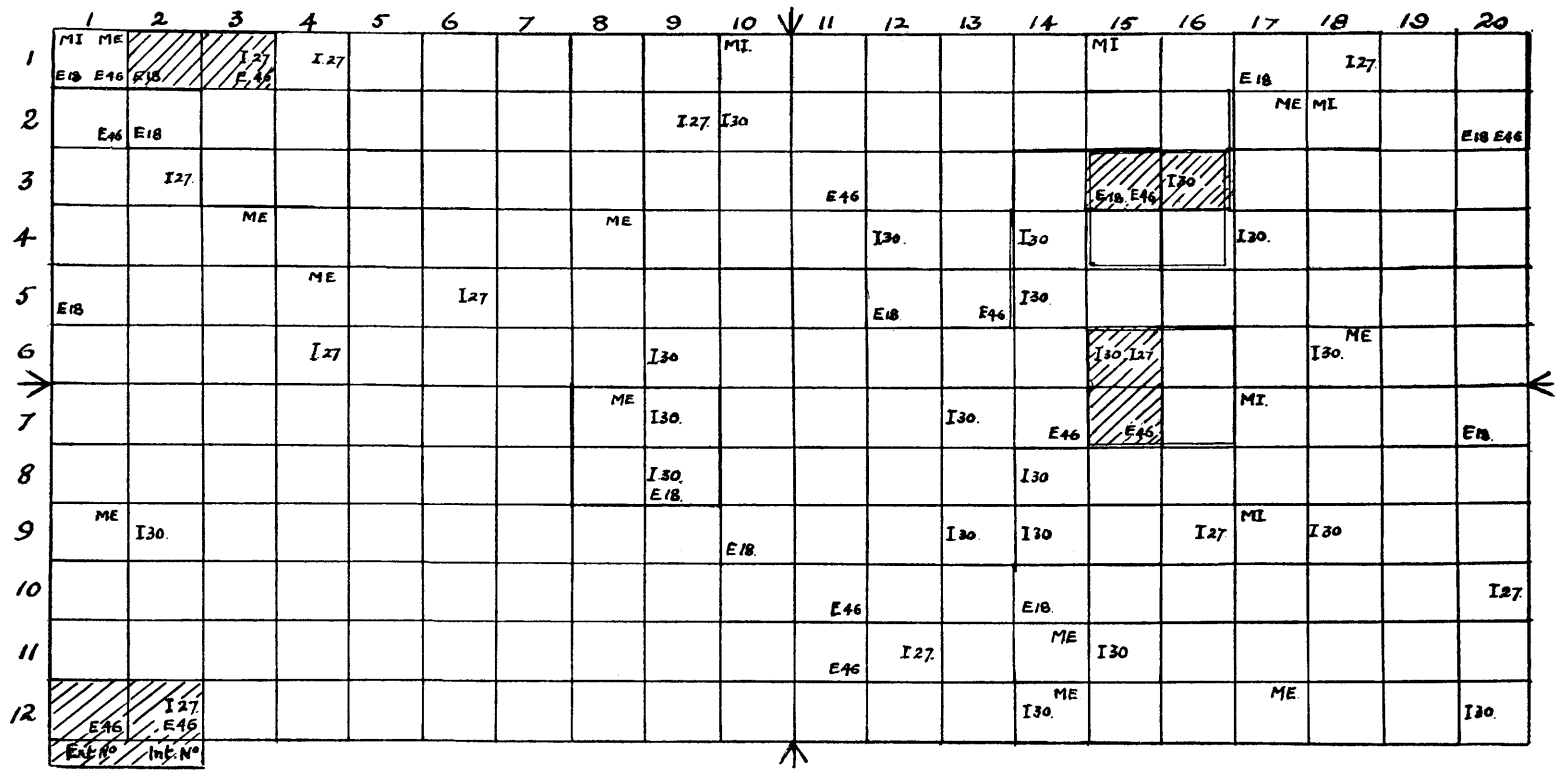
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PLATE IDENTIFICATION AS ILLUSTRATED BY THE THREE PLATES OF 1952 OF THE 2d. UNION OF SOUTH AFRICA STAMP.

By
Dr. T. B. DAVIE.



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Specialist collectors are not infrequently faced with the problem of the exact identification of stamps from different plates made from the same "master block". In the case of photogravure printings, the "master block" is the "multopositive" sheet built up from repetitions by the step and repeat camera of 1, 2, 4 (or more) photographs of the original design, interior (or centre or vignette) and exterior (or frame) multopositives being made separately.

Union specialists are at present particularly exercised in the exact identification of individual stamps and blocks from the three printings of the 2d. Union which appeargd towards the end of 1952. After a long run Plate IX (H./C. 47E) composed of cylinders 6927 (Int.) and 50 (Ext.), was replaced on the 21st October, 1952, by a new plate composed of cylinders 30 (Int.) and 18 (Ext.), both of which were from new multopositives as there were no errors or varieties in corresponding positions on the sheets of stamps of the old and the new printings. Also, the new sheets began with an Afrikaans stamp whereas the earlier printings had begun with an English stamp. Within five weeks (23.10.52-27.11.52) this plate (which will presumably be numbered X in the Handbook/Catalogue) was replaced by a completely new one composed of cylinders 27 (Int.) and 46 (Ext.). This new Plate XI (Cyls. 27/46) was very shortlived, being replaced after only two days of use (2.12.52-4-12-52) by a new plate (presumably XII in the H/C), composed of cylinders 27 (Int.) and 18 (Ext.), which has been in use continuously from that time to the present.

The three printings, one relatively shortlived (30/18), one very shortlived and therefore already rare (27/46), and one still going strong (27/18), are from cylinders made from the same internal and external multopositives and were necessitated apparently by some fault or failure in internal cylinder 30 and then by a further failure of external cylinder 46, leading to the constituting of the present plate from the undamaged internal cylinder 27 and external cylinder 18. All three printings commence with an Afrikaans stamp and all show a number of errors, varieties or flaws in common, while each printing also shows its individual or characteris-c flaws.

Multopositive errors (flaws, etc.) are common to all cylinders made from it and in the tabulated lists, compiled from already published articles and from my own observations, these are designated MI and ME and in the sheet chart they are, for convenience of reading, marked in this way across the upper third of the stamp-space.

Most errors, varieties or flaws included in the tabulated list are small insignificant dots, spots, blotches or scratches which, in my opinion, have very little or no significance unless by their presence or absence they help to identify not only the row and number of the stamps on which they occur but also the plate or printing of the stamp.

There is a tendency for dealers to offer and for collectors to purchase a number of blocks showing the same position-identifying feature in the different printings. In its most obvious form this is exemplified by the purchase of corner blocks or arrow blocks. It should, however, be appreciated that unless there are features in these arrows or in the corner stamps or their margins (e.g. cylinder numbers) which are peculiar to or characteristic of a particular plate or printing, then as corner blocks, etc., they have, for purposes of plate identification, no value above that of other, unindentifiable blocks.

It will be clear from the above that while multopositive flaws are the most valuable for identifying row and number of stamp, since being present on all printings they will be commoner than cylinder or plate flaws, they are at the same time of least value (in fact, of no value) for plate identification.

In the accompanying tables six internal and eleven external multopositive flaws are listed, each of which occur on all three printings; but, as is seen from the sheet chart, only two of them are an essential part of the three-flaw combinations which make for the complete plate identification of corresponding blocks of four stamps from each of the three plates.

To qualify for the designation of "cylinder" error, etc., the flaw or error must appear in the same place (row and stamp number) in every sheet printed from the cylinder in question. It is very rarely that this can be proved with certainty, but errors are usually taken as meriting this designation either if they occur in the printings from all plates of which that cylinder in question forms a part, or if they occur in a variety of sheets printed at various times from the same cylinder.

In the tabulated lists cylinder errors of both the above types are included. The twelve flaws noted as vignette, centre or internal cylinder errors, 127, in plates XI and XII (i.e., 27/46 and 27/18) and the twelve flaws listed as frame or external cylinder errors, E.18, in plates X and XII (i.e., 30/18 and 27/18) are examples of the cylinder error proved to be such by being found in printings from both the plates which include the same cylinder. The errors listed as I.30 and E.46 are only provisionally acceptable as "cylinder" errors. Although they have been found in two "sheets" of the two plates 30/18 and 27/46 there is no proof that they occur in **all** the sheets printed from these two plates (X and XI). Other collectors having access to full sheets of these two plates should check these lists carefully and all errors here listed which do not occur on other sheets from these plates should be removed from the list of cylinder errors and classed as plate or even sheet errors.

Plate errors are those resulting from flaws in the cylinders acquired during its use, but not present throughout the full period of its use. Sheet errors are those which result from flaws of very brief or temporary duration, the causes of which are removed with or without special human intervention shortly after they first arise.

Errors which are known to be of the plate or sheet types are not included in the attached list. They may be and often are of considerable intrinsic interest and when of this calibre they serve also for the positional identification of all stamps in the strips or blocks in which they occur; but they play no part in the general process of plate or printing identification with which we are concerned.

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To return to the three printings of our 2d. stamp, it will obviously be the desire of Union specialist collectors to have pairs, strips or blocks which can be identified with certainty as being corresponding items (as to row and number) from the three printings, and which can at the same time be allocated to one or other of the three printings.

For purposes of absolute plate identification of these three plates, a stamp or any pair, strip or block (of any size) must exhibit three differently designated flaws, two of which must be "cylinder" flaws (as defined above) from cylinders which in combination constitute one of the three plates. There are four sets of "cylinder" flaws or errors and two sets of multopositive errors. Absolute identification is therefore possible in the case of any stamp, pair, strip or block which has flaws from any three of the four cylinders or which has a multopositive flaw (of either frame or centre) and in addition flaws from two cylinders which together constitute a plate, e.g., 30 and 18, 27 and 46 and 27 and 18 (but not 30 and 46, 30 and 27 or 18 and 46).

Examination of the sheet chart in the light of the above will show that there is no single stamp which satisfies the conditions for absolute identifiability and that there are only three pairs (apart from the bottom left corner pair with attached margin containing the cylinder numbers) which possess recognisable flaws that lead to absolute positional and plate identification, viz., Row 1, Nos. 2, 3; Row 3, Nos. 15 and 16; and Rows 6 and 7, No. 15 (vertical pair). In any one of these pairs the presence or absence of one or other of the errors listed singly or in combination will make the "plating" certain. With the present list of errors as tabulated, no other pairs of stamps from the three printings are absolutely identifiable in all three printings and it is important to note, since all three of these pairs include either an I.30 or an E.46 flaw, that later investigation may show that one (or more) of these last named flaws is only a "plate" error, in which case the absolute identifiability of that pair will fall away.

The chart further shows that apart from the cylinder number block (left bottom corner with margins) and the five blocks of four which can be built around the identifiable pairs in the previous paragraph, there are only six other blocks of four which can be absolutely identified in all three printings, viz., Rows 1 and 2, Nos. 17 and 18; Rows 2 and 3, Nos. 1 and 2; Rows 3 and 4, Nos. 14 and -5; Rows 4 and 5, Nos. 12 and 13; Rows 7 and 8, Nos. 8 and 9; and Rows 10 and 11, Nos. 14 and 15. It is to be noted that only in three of these, viz., 1, 2/17, 18, 7, 8/8, 9 and 10, 11/14, 15, does a multopositive error play a part in the plate identification. It is also noteworthy that no single corner block of four (not even the bottom left corner block **without** its lower margin) is included in this list.

Of blocks of six there are not many, apart from the considerable number which can be built around the pairs and the blocks of four already described. Notable amongst these are Rows 1 and 2, Nos. 18, 19, 20; Rows 2 and 3, Nos. 9, 10, 11; Rows 6 and 7, Nos. 18, 19, 20 (this includes the right arrow block); Rows 10 and 11, Nos. 12, 13, 14; Rows 9, 10, 11, Nos. 13, 14; and Rows 10, 11, 12, Nos. 13, 14.

Until additional "cylinder" flaws are discovered and entered on the chart it would appear that there is one really large block of no less than sixty-six stamps, Rows 2 to 12, Nos. 3 to 8, which is completely barren as far as absolute identification is concerned, even though it contains no less than four multopositive errors and two "cylinder" flaws (both in group E.27).

Identification of plates by the colours or shades of the centres or frames of individual printings can sometimes be achieved, but is always a bit of a gamble and often impossible. In the case of the three Union 2d. printings, one of which is still current and therefore a completely unknown factor as to future shades, the most that can be said is that known copies of the two obsolete plates X and XI appeared in certain shades and that the shade may thus be additional confirmatory evidence when attempting the plating of a stamp or block.

Corner blocks and arrow blocks have become extremely popular pieces for specialist collectors and they certainly all have absolute positioning value. There is also plating value in the case of the cylinder-number corner block and in many of the arrow blocks, as is so admirably shown in the Handbook/Catalogue, in the numerous plates of the Union ½d. and 1d. rotogravure printings. But unless the arrows are distinctive or the stamps bear distinctive cylinder flaws then neither corner blocks nor arrow blocks have the additional value often ascribed to them. This is very well brought out in the case of these 2d. printings. The top left block of four can certainly be identified if it is from plate XI (27/46), but if it is not from this plate it is either from X (30/18) or XII (27/18) and there is no way of making sure. If, on the other hand, a block of six (either 2 x 3 or 3 x 2) had been taken from this corner, then complete plate identification would have been possible in all cases. Similarly the top right block of four cannot give plate identification in all cases, whereas the 2 x 3 block (Rows 1, 2, Nos. 18, 19, 20) can do so. The same arguments apply to the other corner blocks and to the arrow blocks. The arrows in these printings are associated with the cylinder of external or frame designs and are thus identical in Plates X and XII which both use external cylinder 18. The arrows of external cylinder 46 which was used in Plate XI differ in minor ways from those of Plates X and XII, particularly so in the case of the bottom marginal arrow. The variations in the other three positions are not easily distinguishable and thus serve little towards plate identification.

The information in this article on the absolute dentification of stamps from these three 2d. printings of 1952 will, I hope, be of use to stamp dealers as well as to specialist collectors. Any one who has sheets of all three plates for disposal should break them down in accordance with the chart and not as is more commonly done in blocks around the multopositive errors. The discerning collector will at all times be prepared to pay for strips or blocks which can be identified with certainty as belonging to a particular plate or printing and will not be satisfied with blocks, etc., which merely illustrate some constant error or flaw but which fail to identify the plate of origin.

(To be continued.)

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SOUTH AFRICA

Coronation 2d., mint block of four from Cylinder 98 ..... 2/6

Current 2d., mint block of four with Cylinders 46/7 ..... 10/-

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½d. S.G. 5 Pl. 5, Plate pair	£0 2 0
1d. S.G. 6. Pl. 7. Plate pair	£0 4 0
3d. S.G. 14, Pl. 1. Plate block of 6 with co-extensive Jubilee line	£6 0 0
1/- S.G. 19a. Pl. 1, Plate block of 6	£1 15 0
2/6 S.G. 21. Pl. 1, Plate block of 6 With Pl. number and one stamp variety "AN" not joined	£3 10 0
5/- S.G. 22, £2. S.G. 22a	£2 15 0
5/- S.G. 22a Pl. 1. Plate pair from each bottom right and left corners (very rare to find two plate pairs like this)	£20 0 0
10/- S.G. 23. Pl. 1. Plate pair	£10 0 0
£1 S.G. 24a	£15 0 0
1927/28:	
Set complete (S.G. 34-39)	£11 10 0
5/- S.G. 38—Inscriptional pair	£6 0 0
2/6 S.G. 37	£2 0 0
5/- S.G. 38	£4 0 0

BERMUDA 1873/75. 1d. on 3d. S.G. 16, fine used	£5 0 0
BRITISH HONDURAS $5 S.G. 93, fine used	£8 10 0
BRITISH SOLOMON ISLANDS 1922/31 10/- S.G. 52, fine used	£3 0 0
CANADA 1852/57 3d. S.G. 11a, fine used	£2 10 0
CAYMAN ISLANDS 1907. 1d. S.G. 19	£6 0 0
CYPRUS 18882. 30 par. S.G. 23	£4 10 0
GT. BRITAIN 1929. £1 S.G. 438	£7 0 0
KENYA 1903/04. R.10, S.G. 14	£4 10 0
MAURITIUS 1913/23. R.5. S.G. 203a	£2 10 0
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NIGER COAST. ½d. S.G. 11	£4 0 0
NYASALAND 1903/04. £1 S.G. 66	£5 10 0
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S. NIGERIA. 1904/08. £1, S.G. 30. superb plate copy	£7 10 0
S.W. AFRICA 1923/24. £1. C.G. 27	£6 0 0

ALL MINT EXCEPT AS STATED.

B. J. Hunter

56a, EAST STREET, BRIGHTON, SUSSEX, ENGLAND

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Handbook - Catalogue Union of South Africa

SUPPLEMENT No. 8.

Editors: Dr. Alec Kaplan, Sam Legator, William N. Sheffield.

SECTION 34.

QUEEN ELIZABETH II CORONATION.

A 2d. stamp, portraying a head and shoulders reproduction of Her Majesty, was issued on the 3rd June 1953 to commemorate the Coronation of Queen Elizabeth II.

(Note. Since the Coronation date, the 2nd June, was a public holiday, the Union commemorative stamp was not placed on sale until the following day, 3rd June, 1953).



Produced by the rotogravure process at the Government Printing Works, Pretoria, in sheets of 120 stamps, inscribed bilingually in English and Afrikaans and printed on paper bearing the multiple Springbok's Head watermark. Actual size of design, 21 x 37½mm., perforated 14 x 15 and issued in various shades of blue.

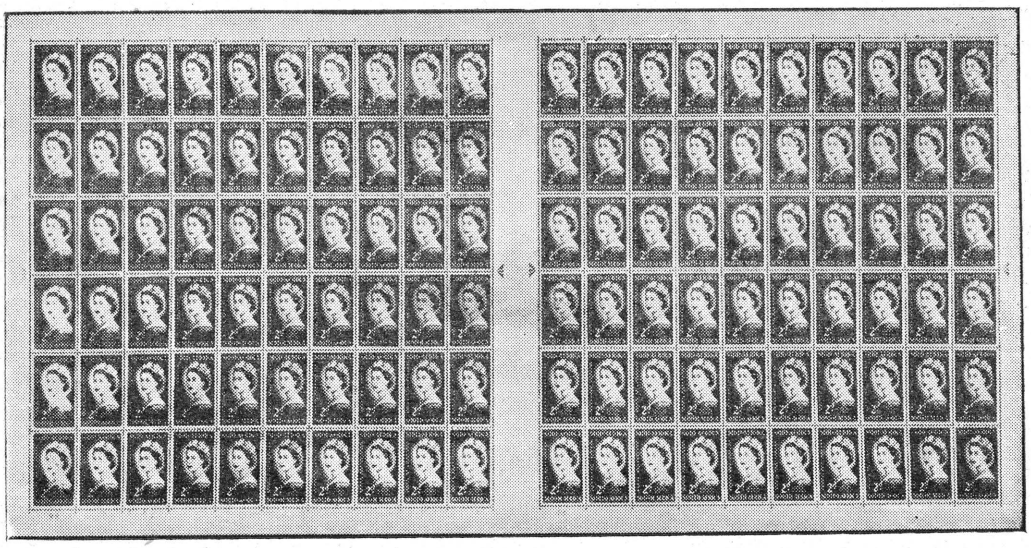
Two different cylinders were employed for these stamps, No. 98 for the first sheets printed and then No. 66 for those that followed. Both were cross-lined screened and produced from the same multo-positive. The numbers "98" or "66' appear on the bottom margin of the sheets under the 1st, and also the 11th stamp, of the row.

The 120 stamps per sheet are divided into two 60-stamp panes by a central gutter equal in width to that of a stamp, and, like the edging at the left and right hand ends of the sheet, have blue marginal arrows at the centre line for the guidance of officials in breaking up the sheets at the post office counters. Four-figure red serial numbers are printed twice on the bottom margin—once under each pane.

A particular feature, which first appeared with this issue, is the interchange of the panes of stamps in relation to their position at the left or right hand sides of a sheet. Thus, if the two panes on any particular sheet be designated, for convenience, as "X" on the left and "Y" on the right, the presence of small printing flaws on the stamps show that in certain batches of sheets from both the "98" and "66" printings, the "X" panes turned up on the right hand side instead of the left, and the "Y" panes vice versa.

This was simply due to the new policy of printing marginal arrows in every separating gutter — instead of every **alternate** gutter, as in the Van Riebeeck issue — and thereby making it immaterial whether the guillotine on the stamp printing machine was set to cut the ribbon of stamps into two-pane sheets at the gutters between "X" and "Y", or at those between "Y" and "X". Its only effect is in the locating of constant flaws, or varieties, which by reason of the interchange of panes on the sheet can sometimes appear on stamps belonging to the left hand vertical columns 1 to 10, and at other times — though actually still on the same stamps — in positions situated on the right hand side of the sheet under the columns numbered 11 to 20.

The stamps of both the "98" and "66' printings were available in the Union on the first day of issue, 3rd June 1953, and though withdrawn from sale to the public on the 31st August 1953, the remainders were not destroyed, but instead were used up at post offices for parcels, telegrams and internal accounting documents.



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The numbers printed were recorded in the official returns as:

68,416 sheets from Cylinder No. 98.
326,371 sheets from Cylinder No. 66.

OFFICIAL PROOFS.

Photographic print of single stamp.

QUEEN ELIZABETH II CORONATION.

1953 (3rd June) Perf. 14 x 15.
Wmk. upright.

Cat. No.
118 2d. Blue
(a) Deep blue
(b) Violet blue
(c) Bluish violet.

CONTROLS
Ca. Corner with cylinder No. "98)) in margin.
Cb. Corner with cylinder No. "66" in margin.
Cc. Marginal arrow **pair** (Cyl. No. 98 or 66).

VARIETIES.
(Note. Since the same variety can appear in two different positions on the sheets, the alternative stamp number is given in brackets. Multopositive flaws, denoted by (M), are present on the same stamps of both printings).

CYLINDER No. 98.

Va. Blue mark under lower lip and white diagonal line through "U" of SOUTH. Row 1/11 (1).
Vb. White dot to left of "K" of KRONING. Row 1/20 (10).
Vc. Blue mark above upper lip and also blue marks above left eye. Row 2/7 (17).
Vd. White diagonal line through "A" of AFRIKA and also a white diagonal line through "O" of SOUTH. Row 2/11 (1).
Ve. Blue mark under chin. (M). Row 2/17 (7).
Vf. White spot to left of head and also one to right of neck. Row 3/9 (19).
Vg. "Q" for "O" in Coronation. Row 3/9 (19).
Vh. Round mark on neck touching line of cheek. Row 4/7 (17).
Vi. White spot below centre arm and touching upright of letter "F" of AFRICA. (M). Row 4/9 (19).
Vj. White spot near "O" of CORONATION. Row 5/4 (14).
Vk. Blue spot at bottom left hand end of numeral "2". Row 5/5 (15).
Vl. Small blue dots around nose. Row 5/17. (7).
Vm. Blue dot in right leg of "O" of SOUTH. (M). Row 6/11 (1).

CYLINDER No. 66.

Vq. Small blue mark on upper lip under left eye. Row 1/2 (12).
Vr. Defective letters in POSSEEL and POSTAGE. Row 2/8 (18).
Vs. Blue mark under chin. (M). Row 2/17 (7).
Vt. White spot below centre arm and touching upright of letter "F" of AFRICA. (M). Row 4/9 (19).
Vu. Dark blue mark extending to right of the "1" in 1953. Row 4/18 (8).
Vv. Blue dot in right leg of "O" of SOUTH. (M). Row 6/11 (1).

SECTION 9.

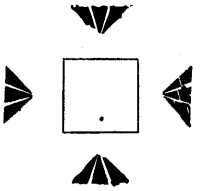
THE ROTOGRAVURE PRINTINGS
HYPHENATED.

Cat. No.		Pairs Mint		Used	
44C.	½d. **Additional Printing: Cross-hatch Issue**—Page 110. Under the text relating to "PLATE XV" add:— PLATE XV/A—Cylinder numbers unknown. And on the same page, under "CONTROLS", alter the text to read as follows:—				
	Ca. Marginal arrow (Pl. XV)	40	0	20	0
	Cb. Sheet number	40	0	20	0
	Cc. Marginal arrow (Pl. XV/A)	40	0	20	0

NOTE. Since publishing the Handbook, information has come to hand showing that there were two printings of the "Cross-hatched" stamps and that a different set of cylinders was used for each.

Each printing has its own particular characteristics, but since these have yet to be recorded in a manner that will allow the stamps of each to be easily distinguishable, they will both be catalogued under the same number—44C.

In the case of the marginal arrows, however, there is a difference in their general appearance which allows them to be classified as separate items and those of Plate XV/A are illustrated below for comparison with the type known as Plate XV and depicted on page 107 of the Handbook.



SECTION 11.

ROLL STAMPS.

The following list of BASIC STAMP numbers in the Handbook should be added to the respective "R" numbers catalogued in the Roll Stamp section.

Group 1 — King's Head.

R1. ½d. Handbook basic stamp number—2.
R2. 1d. ,, ,, ,, ,, —3
R3. 1½d. ,, ,, ,, ,, —4
R4. 2d. ,, ,, ,, ,, —5

Group 2 — Typo (London)

R5. ½d. ,, ,, ,, ,, —22
R6. 1d. ,, ,, ,, ,, —23

Group 3 — Typo (Pretoria)

R7. ½d. ,, ,, ,, ,, —33
R8. 1d. ,, ,, ,, ,, —34

Group 4 — Roto (Unhyphenated)

R9. ½d. ,, ,, ,, ,, —36
R10. 1d. ,, ,, ,, ,, —37 to 37I.
R10a. 1d. Handbook basic stamp number—37J
R.10b. 1d. Handbook basic stamp number—37L and 37M.
R10bS. 1d. Handbook basic stamp number 37L and 37M.
R11. 2d. Handbook basic stamp number—38 to 38D.

Group 5 — Roto (Hyphenated) (Bicoloured)

R12. ½d. Handbook basic stamp number—44
R12s. ½d. ,, ,, ,, ,, —44
R13. 1d. ,, ,, ,, ,, —45
R13s. 1d. ,, ,, ,, ,, —45
R14. ½d. ,, ,, ,, ,, —44A
R15. 1d. ,, ,, ,, ,, —45
R15s. 1d. ,, ,, ,, ,, —45
R14a. ½d. ,, ,, ,, ,, —44A
R17. ½d. ,, ,, ,, ,, —44B
R17s. ½d. ,, ,, ,, ,, —44B
R16. 1d. ,, ,, ,, ,, —45A
R16s. 1d. ,, ,, ,, ,, —45A
R.18. ½d. ,, ,, ,, ,, —44C

Group 6 — Roto (Hyphenated) (Monocoloured)

R19. ½d. Blue-green—Irregular screen — 18½ x 22 mm.
R20. 1d. Deep red—Coarse screen—18½ x 22½ mm.
R21. ½d. Dark blue-green—Fine screen—18½ x 22 mm.
R22. ½d. Light green—Irregular screen—18¾ x 22¼ mm.
R23. 1d. Red—Fine screen—Cylinder 24—18½ x 22½ mm.

SECTION 27.

OFFICIALS.

Cat. No. Basic No.
O.107 45D. 1d. Cyls. 54/53. Grey-black and deep carmine red. Type X overprint. October 1953.

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SOCIETY NEWS.

EAST RAND PHILATELIC SOCIETY.

At our meeting on the **15th September** the attendance was very poor. After the usual business was disposed of, the only exhibit of the evening was one of Austria and as there were not sufficient judges present the collection will have to be exhibited again.

At our meeting held on the **20th October** the attendance was more favourable and we were honoured with an official visit from Pretoria Railway Society. Mr. Sheffield of the East Rand Society exhibited some forgeries of the Union's first Air Mail stamps, and remarked that the ½d. Union current stamp has been issued with one plate number missing.

The Chairman had two pleasant duties to perform, firstly to present a replica of the Skinner Cup which had been awarded to Mr. Sam Legator, and secondly to present a block of Gambia stamps to Mr. Clement which he had won in a Johannesburg raffle. After the usual business had been cleared for the meeting, the Chairman handed the chair over to Mr. McLachlan of the Railway Society, in his remarks he briefly stated that the exhibits which they have brought over, were he hoped up to first grade standard. Mr. Roy first read a brief paper on what he had, and explained that though there has been a great controversy about the supposed Cape Triangular four penny Black, he was glad to be able to exhibit one of these, that had been genuinely posted. This rare stamp was passed around for inspection to satisfy everybody's curiosity. His main exhibit was a story of a little princess which he had arranged as a bed-time story for his children. It was a collection of stamps very nicely arranged giving all the dates and places that his princess had visited during her life up to the occasion of being crowned Queen Elizabeth in 1953. Mr. Brown exhibited stamps of Geo. VI of Great Britain that had been overprinted.

Mr. Kriste's exhibit was stamps of Geo. VI that had been overprinted in British Colonies and Dominions and Mr. McLachlan's exhibit was Centenary Stamps of the world including Covers, sheets, etc.

Messrs. Slomowitz and Sheffield thanked the exhibitors on behalf of the Society. E.N.R.

AFRIKAANSE FILATELISTIESE VERENIGING.

Vrydag, 2 Oktober: Ons gaste van die Pretoria Filatelic Society het op Vrydag, 2 deser, bewys dat die wêreld waarin die posseëlversamelaar verkeer geen perke het nie. Die ses vertonings waarop hulle ons vergas het was so ver uitmekaar soos die pole selfs, en was belaai met skitterende voorbeelde van oorspronklikheid met die keuse van onderwerpe en voorlegging.

Mnr. Slater-Kinghorn was eerste aan die beurt met 'n voorlesing oor die posgeskiedenis van Engeland. (Hy het almal verras met sy goeie Afrikaans). Sy versameling van eeue-oue datumstempels en ander vroeë koeverte is iets buitengewoons. 'n Mens verstaan dadelik waarom die versameling reeds 'n sertifikaat van verdienstelikheid verower het. Mnr. Crellin se uitstalling het ontwerpfoute behandel, en hieruit leer ons hoe „menslik" die mens tog maar is. Die foute wat sy uitstallingtjie openbaar, is nie die wat 'n mens met drukprosesse vereenselwig nie. maar wel van die ontwerpers wat hulle aan natuurlike en geskiedkundige afdwalings skuldig maak. — 'n Hoogs interessante versameling.

Mevr. Butler het 'n pragtige musiek-tema voorgelê; 'n reeksie wat baie kunstig vertoon en van goeie smaak getuig. Die vriend Castignone se fotos en seëls van die Unie is opspraakwekkend, al is dit aan die kort kant. Ons versamelaars van Unieseëls, veral die spesialiste, het lelik gewatertand oor die verskeie fotoproewe van aanvaarde en afgekeurde ontwerpe, en ons meen dat sy uitstalling puik vertoon het. Vervolgens het mnr. Gouws ons 'n klompie dieresoorte gewys — net genoeg vir elke letter van die alfabet, met 'n grappige rympie vir elk en, ten slotte, 'n reeks pospapier wat namens die vriend Wright in sy afwesigheid voorgelê was. Ons ken mnr. Wright as 'n versamelaar wat hom vir baie jare aan hierdie aspek van posseëlkunde gewy het. en vir hom moet dit dus baie aanmoedigend wees dat versamelaars stadigaan al meer pospapier-bewus word. Soos ook met sy uitstalling onder bespreking geblyk het, was daar buitengewone belangstelling. Aan mnr. Wright en die ander pospapier-versamelaars wil ons sê: Uitstal en nogmaals uitstal. Elke uitstalling sal 'n nuwe aanhanger meebring.

En aan die Pretoria Philatelic Society wil ons sê: Baie dankie vir 'n aangename aand, 'n goeie verskeidenheid vertonings en 'n mooi opkoms. Ons sien uit na die volgende kuier.

PORT ELIZABETH PHILATELIC SOCIETY.

The meeting held on **September 15th** followed the usual pattern. 28 members and 3 visitors attended. Special items were tabled by Mr. Forbes — Strips of Canadian Slot Machine Stamps — by Mr. D. Berg —interesting Pre-cancel cover from U.S.A.—as also Australian Young Farmers Stamps by Mr. Pearson.

A very bright and successful auction preceded official business and tea interval. The rest of the evening was very ably filled by an excellent display by our keen member, Mr. A. C. Leale. He treated us to some fine stamps such as Barbados, Falkland Islands, Malaya, African Territories, etc. The Stamps were well and attractively mounted and bore testimony to Mr. Leale's keen and enthusiastic collecting and afforded everybody much pleasure.

The meeting held on the **6th October** was a red letter day for the Society.

A ladies' evening was arranged for the wives and sweethearts of the members, which proved a huge success. a record number of members and lady visitors being present.

Unfortunately our worthy President, Mr. G. Bulbring, could not be present and Mr. G. K. Forbes presided and in extending a hearty welcome to the ladies stated it was very gratifying to see so many present.

Dr. J. W. Harris displayed his Swiss Pro Juventute collection, these issues had a special appeal to the ladies.

Dr. Harris also gave a most interesting talk on these stamps, explaining when they were first issued, the object of the surcharge, the manner in which the stamps were sold and the annual amounts thus collected for aiding the under privileged children and providing better health amongst the juveniles.

Tea and light refreshments were then served after which the usual auction was held.

A very pleasant and happy evening terminated at 10.20 p.m.

GERMISTON PHILATELIC SOCIETY.

The **October** meeting of the Society, held at the usual venue on the 14th inst., attracted a really excellent attendance, there being a total of 34 members and visitors present. The usual agenda for this meeting was dispensed with and the President, Dr. A. Kaplan immediately introduced our guest for the evening, Mr. Jack Shepherd who had come all the way from Brakpan to show his collection of Cape of Good Hope Triangulars. It was certainly a rare treat as this collection was full of interest to all. The exhibit was beautifully written up and the stamps were all in perfect condition. It follows therefore that when Dr. Kaplan and Mr. Hagger spoke on the exhibit they accorded the exhibitor no small measure of praise, and I feel sure that all who were privileged to be there fully endorsed the remarks of these gentlemen.

In his reply Mr. Jack Shepherd said what great pleasure it gave him to see such interest displayed by the members and he wished the Germiston Society the best of luck for the future. He also promised to give us another treat in the near future.

I.S.B.

PRETORIA RAILWAY PHILATELIC SOCIETY.

The Annual General Meeting took place on 9 September, with a fair attendance. All the reports submitted showed that the society was flourishing as regards membership, finance, exchanges and philately in general.

For the season 1953-54 the following office bearers were elected: President, L. B. McLachlan; Vice-President, V. Howie; Hon. Sec., W. Kriste; Assist. Hon. Sec., F. J. V. London; Hon. Treasurer, J. P. Roux; Exchange Superintendent and Assist., P. K. Brown and H. W. Troskie; Stamp Suptd., E. Walker; Librarian, A. E. Oliver; Hon. Auctioneer, D. Slater-Kinghorn; Delegates to Federation, Messrs. McLachlan, Roux and Walker.

PHILATELIC SOCIETY OF JOHANNESBURG.

At the meeting held on **Oct. 13th,** Mr. H. L. Kaplan showed a fine collection of Russian stamps, chiefly Tzarist issues though there were also many of the later issues. Most of the stamps were in fine mint condition but there were also many fine used.

The exhibit included several sheets of the local stamps, some very rare. There were also some prestamp covers. The exhibitor was unable to be present and Mr. Schaiowitz read a few notes to introduce the exhibit. Mr. L. Buchen spoke on the exhibit.

Mr. K. Alexander, a visitor from Cape Town, showed a collection of Princess Elizabeth stamps of all countries in large blocks, and also a collection of "stickers" including S.A. Christmas stamps

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and several war charity items. Mr. R. Lilley spoke on the exhibit.

At the meeting held on **October 26th,** Dr. Alec Kaplan showed Southern Rhodesia. He read some notes on his exhibit. His exhibit included some of the B.S.A. Company stamps issued during the period after Southern Rhodesia became a Crown Colony. This was the period analogous to the Union Interprovincial period. The exhibit included the 2nd Matabeleland Proofs and also some unaccepted designs. There were numerous die proofs and specimens. The exhibit included all shades of colours and there were numerous large blocks including imprint blocks. There was a complete sheet of the small 3d. Falls. The exhibit was beautifully mounted and written up and illustrated with numerous official photographs. There were some rare imperf. varieties.

Mr. Williams spoke on the exhibit.

PRETORIA PHILATELIC SOCIETY.

8th September 1953. The main matter of interest for the evening was the holding of the annual Certificate of Merit competition, for which there were four entries. The judges had a difficult task before deciding that the winning entry was that of Dr. D. Slater Kinghorn (early British covers and postmarks).

The meeting was interested to hear from one of the members, comments on price changes in the 1954 S.G. British Empire Catalogue. He reported especially on price advances in the classic issues.

Reference was made too to recent substantial increase in the Society's considerable library. The Librarian, in acknowledging votes of thanks for his much appreciated labour of love, repeated an earlier appeal for the return of a book on stamps of Switzerland, probably borrowed by a non-member.

21st September, 1953. Dr. T. Berry acted as Chairman and welcomed the visit of six representatives of the Johannesburg Philatelic Society. They brought very interesting material to show the meeting, namely Geo. VI issues perforated "specimen" (Mr. B. Glassman), Edward VII portrait stamps (Mr. Frankland), and German South West Africa and French Colonies (Mr. Buchen). All the exhibits and the explanatory remarks were enjoyed by the meeting and the visitors were suitably thanked.

A general discussion on the designs of the three definitive Union stamps issued on 1st October 1953 showed that these were by no means walcomed with open arms, designs and colours being for the most part strongly criticised as falling far short of what the Union's artists and stamp printer were capable of producing.

5th October, 1953. Mr. F. C. Ferguson, the President, presided and opened the meeting by referring to a pleasant visit to the Johannesburg Afrikaanse Filatelistiese meeting on the 2nd October. He thanked all who took part in the visit, especially Mr. Slater Kinghorn who contributed a paper in Afrikaans, and several who exhibited stamps.

Mr. E. C. Wright gave the meeting a fine treat by showing stamps of the Rhodesias and Nyasaland, which territories will soon cease to have their individual issues. This was a group of beautifully designed stamps which are popular with South African collectors. His "double heads" especially were of outstanding variety and condition. Mr. Wright was suitably thanked for this topical contribution.

19th October, 1953. Dr. T. Berry presided over the meeting, in the absence of Mr. Ferguson. At the outset members stood in silence as a mark of condolence in the death of one of its oldest members, Mr. C. E. van der Goes.

Dr. Wasserstein brought welcome greetings sent by the East London Philatelic Society, which he had recently visited.

The evening was then devoted to seeing a screened record of the flaws in the Union's stamp issues, shown, with commentary, by Dr. Reisener. He described these as being not errors in design but defects in printing due to broken, indented or worn plates, retouching, creased and joined paper, foreign matter, etc. The major recurrent flaws in all the issues were shown and as they were much magnified on the screen, an unusual opportunity occurred for specialists and novice Union collectors to have full knowledge as to (a) what to hunt for if you collect varieties; or more rarely, (b) what to avoid if you require unblemished specimens!

Dr. Reisener was complimented on his considerable research and labour that went into the production of his slides and interesting explanations.

B.J.V.

ORANGE FREE STATE AND BASUTOLAND PHILATELIC SOCIETY.

The September meeting was under the sign of the "Cape Triangular Centenary", and although the Society has no collector of Cape Triangulars in its ranks, there was plenty of interesting material to be seen. Mr. J. Lewis started off with a fine specialised display of the current Centenary stamps, showing all constant plate flaws. He also gave a second display, entitled "Coronation 1953" which was colourfully arranged. The President, Dr. Freund, then tabled an exhibit "Replicas of Cape Triangulars", which was very original and contained such items as "Jurgens Re-prints," all possible varieties of the Union and of the S.W.A. 4d. Triangulars, some in large sheet parts, various covers, Exhibition Labels and cancellations from Philatelic Congresses and Exhibitions, not often seen and all incorporating the Cape Triangulars, and of course a complete array of special covers issued in connection with the present Centenary stamps. Mr. C. E. Kachelhoffer was the only entrant in the "Triangular Centenary Competition, and gave a very fine display of First Day Covers. Two very representative collections, namely of "Cape Rectangulars" and of "O.F.S. stamps," which were sent in by Mr. G. N. Gilbert to be auctioned, were also tabled and found great interest.

Following a proposal by Mr. Kachelhoffer which was seconded by Prof. G. H. van Rooyen, of the University of the Orange Free State, the meeting decided unanimously to approach the Postal authorities for the issue of a commemorative stamp in respect of the Sandrivier Convention which was signed on 23rd February 1854 and the centenary of which will be celebrated next year. Many members spoke enthusiastically on this subject, pointing out that the other three provinces of the Union had been considered and honoured with special commemorative stamps (Natal with the 1820 Settlers' stamp, the Cape with the Cape Triangular Centenary stamps and the Van Riebeeck issue, and the Transvaal with the various Voortrekker Monument issues), while the Free State had so far been neglected. The Society's architect and artist, Mr. Norman, has agreed to supply a suitable design ("essay") in which he will incorporate the historical building where the Convention took place and which stands in St. George's Street, Bloemfontein. K.F.

PHILATELIC SOCIETY OF THE WESTERN RAND.

The meeting held on the **23rd September** in the Parish Hall, Roodepoort, was quite an enjoyable evening. In attendance were eight members and three visitors. Mr. Vermaak gave us a brief report of the Centenary Exhibition held in the Library at the beginning of September. We are proud to say that the Junior Collector who exhibited is a member of our club and we all wish him happy hunting in his hobby of stamps.

The main exhibit for the evening was tabled by Mr. Keet, consisting of a portion of his Zoology Collection, followed by the sideline, a prelude of the Queen Elizabeth series. Mr. Hill thanked Mr. Keet for his neat and interesting display, and Mr. Vermaak thanked Mr. Sharpe for his excellent start in the Queen Elizabeth series. J.K.

U.S.A.

The latest commemoratives are: (a) a 3c. honouring the American Bar Association, on Aug. 24. This Association was formed in 1878; the stamp illustrates past of a frieze on the walls of the Supreme Court in Washington.

(b) A 3c. issued on Sept. 14, is one of the 'Home of Theodore Roosevelt', Sagamore Hill, Oyster Bay, N.Y. (c) One honouring Future Farmers was due on Oct. 13, (d) one on Oct. 27 honouring the American Trucking Association. One Pennsylvania trucking firm objected to this stamp and applied to a Federal Court for an injunction to restrain the P.M.G. from proceeding with it, but the court denied the injunction.

(e) Announced for 11 Nov., is one honouring General George Patton, Jr., and the Armoured Forces of the U.S.A.

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NETHERLANDS.

We are indebted to the Netherlands Embassy for the following information:—

All postage stamps of lower denominations than 10 cents will be replaced by the so-called "digit" type, of which the 3 and 7c. have already appeared.

To replace the higher values with portrait of H.M. Queen Juliana, a new portrait has been prepared from a plastic engraving by S. L. Hartz. The issue will appear gradually, the 10c. having been announced for September.

The series of stamps for the International Court of Justice will be supplemented by 3, 5, 7 and 15 cents values, and the 4c. and 12c. stamps discontinued.

A 25c. denomination Air Mail stamp, for special flights only, is to be issued in the near future, taking the place of the 12½c. stamp previously used for this purpose.

Not since the overprint in gold on the 1943 issue to commemorate the European Post and Telegraph when a sheet of twenty stamps did not receive the overprint, has there been such a flutter among collectors as recently when a sheet of the Flood Relief Stamps with a defective overprint was discovered in a North Holland post office.

In this sheet one row of 10 stamps bears only the date at the top of the stamp, the next three rows of 10 have no overprint and the row after these has only the bottom half of the overprint. There are therefore only 10 vertical rows showing all the variations. One such row is illustrated in the August-September number of "Mijn Stokpaardje" to which we owe the information given above.





INDIA.

Mt. Everest Commemorative. We are indebted to Asiatic Hobbies of Asiatic Chambers, Ghatkonar for an illustration of the commemoratives of the Conquest of Everest, issued on 2nd October (Mahatma Ghandi's birthday). The design is common to the two values, 2 as. and 14 as.

AN O.F.S. COMMEMORATIVE?

The O.F.S. and Basutoland Philatelic Society has approached the Postal Authorities for the issue of a stamp in respect of the Sandrivier Convention which was signed on 23 February, 1854. They point out that the O.F.S. is the only Province which has not, so far, been honoured with a commemorative issue. Well, if we get it, those whose history of the O.F.S. is a little vague, will have a chance of repairing this defect.

The Editor,
South African Philatelist.

BASUTOLAND POSTAL HISTORY.

Sir,

I am writing this in the hopes that it will catch the eye of someone who collects the stamps of Basutoland, and who may be able to furnish me with some information regarding the early cancellations of Cape stamps used in the Territory. We know now that Maseru Post Office was opened on Jan. 1st 1872 and that at that time, they had to get their stamps from Aliwal North, and it was not until 1875 that full Post Office work was done at Maseru, such as the stocking of Postal Orders etc. So far I have not been able to find any proof of cancellations actually done in Maseru between 1872 and 1875, in fact the earliest I have seen have been about 1880.

It may be that in the first years of Maseru's life as Post Office mail was still dealt with as it was before, i.e., at Aliwal North and I am trying to establish whether or not cancelling was done in Maseru at this period.

If anyone has any stamp with a clear date used in Basutoland, and in particular at Maseru, prior to 1880 I shall be very grateful if they will get in touch with me at Box 15, Westminster, O.F.S. and give me full particulars.

This information is required for a Monograph which I am preparing on the Postal History of Basutoland.

Yours etc.,
G. N. GILBERT.

EIRE.

On 21st Sept. there were issued 2 stamps (3d. and 1/3) bearing a portrait of Robert Emmet, reproduced from the engraving by Brocas.

CAPE TRIANGULAR CENTENARY.

Congratulations to "Stamp Collecting" on their special Cape Centenary number. Like ourselves they borrowed quite extensively from D. Alan Stevenson's book, but went one better than us with a coloured plate of some of the gems from his collection. Mr. H. R. Harmer answers thirteen questions set him, in his inimitable manner. Mr. A. A. Jurgens had promised them a special article, but this, alas, was not to be. Following on the appearance of an article on U.S.A. Fancy Cork Cancellations, he had, however, previously sent them some notes on Cork Cancellations of the Cape; these they now publish, for, as they say, no special Cape number would be complete without something from A. A. J.

SOUTH AFRICA ESSAYS

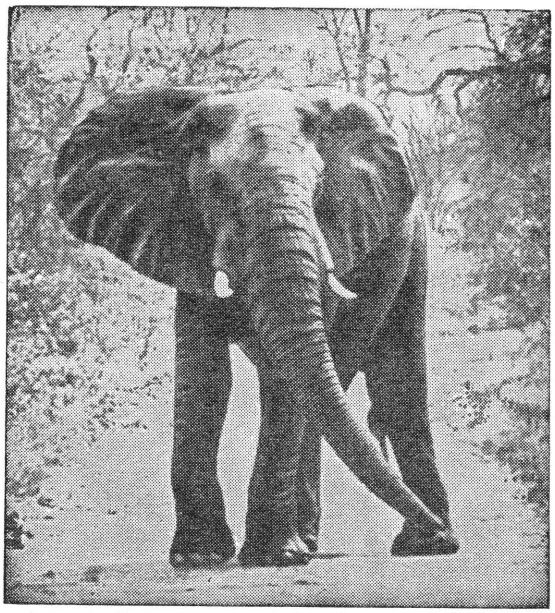
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8	1941 Occupation of Serbia, Dues, cpl.	5/6
7	1941 Occupation of Latvia, on Russia	5/6
5	1941 Occupation of Lithuania, on Russia	6/6
12	"Free India" liberation, perf. and imperf.	2/6
53	1943/45 Occupation of Slovenia, o/pts.	67/6
1	Hitler Death-Skull sheet of 4	12/6
1	1945 Holzhausen overprint, 12 pf.	5/6
1	1945 Hitler o/ptd. Oesterreich, the rare 3pf.	4/6
3	1945 Saxony-Dresden, 4, 6, 12pf. perf. 11½	2/6
12	1945 Finsterwalde, Sangerstadt, cpl.	2/6
1	1945 Dachau block, 5 diff. kinds, each	4/6
1	1946 Numerals, 6 or 8 pf. mottled print, each	7/6
2	1947/48 Leipzig Fair, Control o/pts., 5 different kinds, in sets of 2, each set	3/6
2	1948 Sower type 10pf., with Dealer's Day overprint, pair	2/-

C.W.O. — POSTFREE.

A. Lichtenstein

B.P.A.

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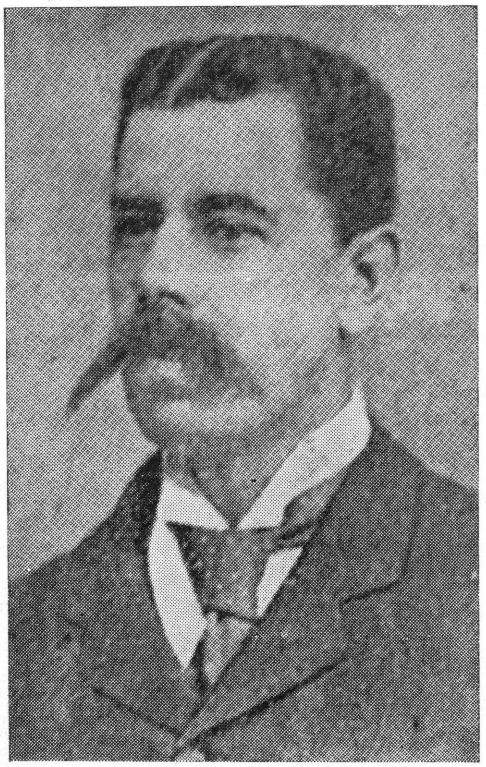
CHASE CAUDERON 49, LAUSANNE, SWITZERLAND.

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SWAZILAND—POSTAL HISTORY and STAMPS

By
J. H. HARVEY PIRIE.

(Continued from page 190 of October issue.)



Col. R. S. R. Martin.

Under the Condominium this Triumvirate controlled all the affairs of the Whites in Swaziland. The appointments were agreed to and confirmed by the Swazi nation in a Proclamation issued by the "King-in-Council" in Dec., 1889, supplemented by what is known as the Organic Proclamation of Sept., 1890.

This Organic Proclamation further provided for the setting up of a chief court to adjudicate upon matters concerning Whites and to enquire into the initial validity of disputed concessions and monopolies and further to confirm such validity. Conflicting commercal interests and political jealousies made the work of this court very difficult and the presiding judge closed it in 1893 for the confirmation of concessions. No doubt this court acted in all good faith but some of its work made matters more difficult when Swaziland became a British Protectorate and the Administration was trying to have at any rate the surface rights of land returned to the Swazis. Such concessions were contrary to native custom, as has already been stated, but some of the court's decisions had unfortunately



Mr. D. J. Esselen.

made them "legal" from the European point of view.

The Triumvirate bought as its headquarters a hotel which had beeu built by a Mr. Bremer on his farm not far from the Royal Kraal and where he had contemplated making a township. One of the conditions of sale was that the township shold be called Bremersdorp; this was agreed to and the township of Bremersdorp did develop. The accompanying plan is copied from an inset to the large-scale map by Alastair Miller, already referred to on page 144.

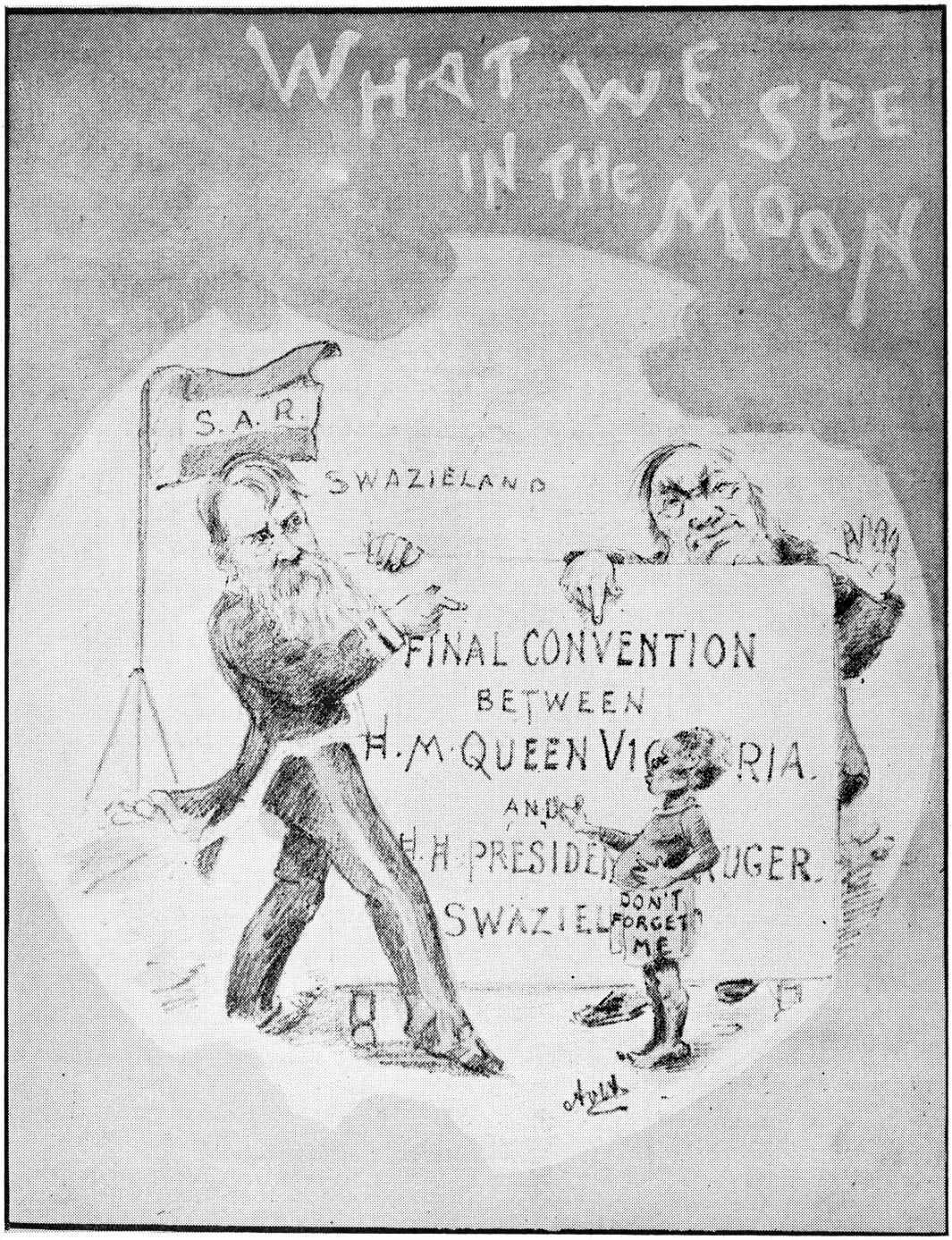
Mr. Esselen's private address in Bremersdorp was "Transvaalia" and Col. Martin's "The British Residency." Mr. Shepstone still kept on at "The Haunted House," Embekelweni.

Under the terms of the Joint Commission appointment it was made clear that the independence of the Swazi people was recognised, nevertheless the Queen Mother and the young King Ubundu were warned that the practice of "killing-off" which they had been indulging in since the death of Mbandini must cease.

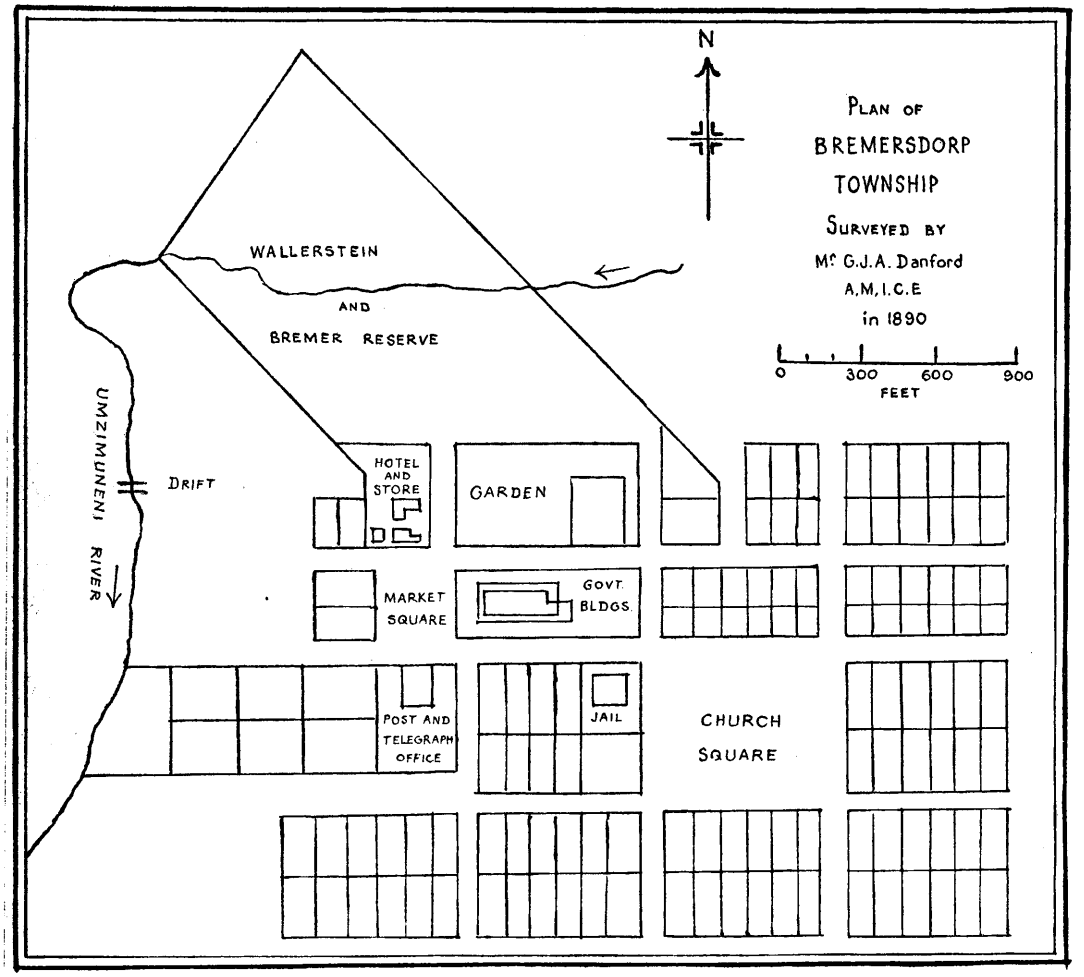
In the Condominium the Z.A.R. held, inter alia, the postal concession rights and **Stage 2** of Swaziland's postal history starts in 1889. (See Chapter 3).

They are recorded as having had their own flag, vertically half Oxford and half Cambridge

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blue with a Swaziland shield in the centre and two battle axes crossed in the top right-hand corner. Unfortunately no specimen of this flag seems to have survived nor is any actual reproduction of it available to give full details.

The flag is reported by Penfold in "The Star" of 14 Nov., 1923 as having been flown regularly at the Court House, flanked on either side by the Union Jack and the Vierkleur. It was also flown at the Native Office.

The Triumvirate Government proved to be not much more of a success than the White Committee although it did last a little longer. The political jealousies and conflicting commercial interests made it almost inevitable that administrative progress should be both difficult and to some extent ineffective. Also, the Swazis, in so far as they were concerned, soon recognised the position and played up to one faction or the other as they thought might be most advantageous for them.

In 1893 the British Government entered into another Convention with the Government of the Z.A.R. under which the latter was given power to acquire from the Swazi King and Council an Organic Proclamation giving them all rights of protection, legislation, jurisdiction and administration. This Proclamation, however, was never signed by the Swazi Chiefs, so in 1894 a fresh Convention between the two Governments was arrived at; by this the powers mentioned were authorised and confirmed, but it was clear that no power of annexation or incorporation was conferred on the Z.A.R. The Swazi nation never agreed to the Convention; they just had to accept the position willy-nilly. They even went the length of sending a deputation to London to protest, but with no effect.

A cartoon by A. van Wouw, published in a Johannesburg paper of this period, "The Moon" and reproduced through the kind offices of the Africana Museum, sums up the situation nicely. President Kruger and the British Commissioner, Sir Henry Loch, proud of their 'final convention' while little Swaziland plaintively says "Don't forget me."

As a result of the 1894 Convention Swaziland became a purely Z.A.R. Protectorate in February, 1895, with Mr. J. C. Krogh as Special Commissioner and Britain represented only by a Consul, Mr. J. Smuts.

(To be continued.)

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THE
SOUTH AFRICAN PHILATELIST

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UNION NOTES

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

Notes on Plating of Arrow Pairs of the 2d. Unhyphenated Union Roto Stamp.

Collectors frequently experience difficulty in allocating the arrow pairs of the above stamps to the Plates 1/A, 1/B, 11/A and 11/B listed on pages 92 and 93 of the Union Handbook, because of the fact that in the earlier I/A and II/A forms the small arrows are of similar size and shape and in the I/B and II/B stages, which have the large arrows etched over the smaller ones, there is also a distinct similarity in their appearance. In the case of Plate III, the arrows are larger than Plate II and since they are also more splayed, the arrow pairs of this particular printing are easily identified.

We are indebted to Mr. S. J. Hagger and Dr. T. B. Berry for submitting the following description of flaws on one or the other of the two stamps adjacent to each of the four arrows, which makes easy the allocation of the arrow pairs of these stamps to Plate I or II as follows:

Top Arrow:
Row 1/4. On Plate I only, this stamp has a break near the top of the left inner vertical frame.

Right Arrow:
Row 10/6. On all three plates there is a dot (multopositive) above the top frame line over "T" of South, but on Plate I only, there is a smaller dot over the adjacent letter "H", whereas on Plates II and III only, there is a dot below the white stop after "South Africa" near the top right corner.

Left Arrow:
Row 11/1. On Plate I only, there is a dot between "P" and "" of Postage.

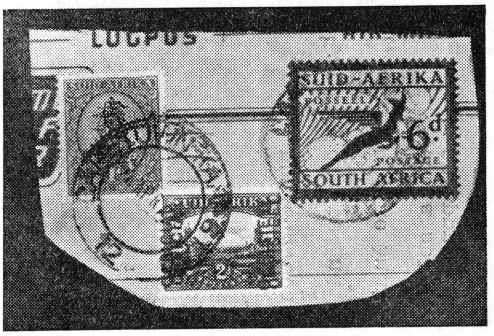
Bottom Arrow:
Row 20/3. On Plates I and II there is a dot in the inner white frame around the vignette directly above the right hand tower, but this dot is larger on Plate I than II, also in Plate I there is an elongated horizontal smudge in the bottom margin, 17 m.m. below the bottom frame line.

Row 20/4. On Plate I there is a dot in the colour of the frame in the vignette just below "S" of South and a dark smudge in the frame at right and one-third of the distance from the top; both are absent on Plate II.

Forged "Official" Overprint.

Last month we illustrated a set of forged 1925 Union air mail stamps which recently came to light in England and could quite easily be accepted as genuine by the large body of general collectors.

We now show in the accompanying photograph another type of Union forgery which is in the form of a double "Official" overprint on a copy of the current 2d. postage stamps.



The item, as will be seen, was used on an air mail letter and was added, in conjunction with the 1d. stamp, in payment of the extra 3d. postage required for sending a 6d. air mail letter card to the U.S.A. at the time the stamps were cancelled, i.e., 24th April, 1953.

We understand the piece was found in a mission lot in the States and was forward by Mr. Andrew Grantzok of Irvington, N.J., to Mr. John Mendelssohn of Johannesburg who kindly showed it to us. At first sight the overprint appears to be genuine enough, but a closer examination indicates that the work was never carried out in the Government Printing Department and we show it here as a reminder to Union collectors that any abnormal OFFICIAL/OFFISIEEL overprints should be carefully scrutinised before accepting them as genuine errors.

A Merry Christmas and good hunting in 1954 to all our readers.

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Christmas Stamps.

The 1953 Christmas Stamps became available throughout the Union on the 9th November and will remain on sale until the 24th December, 1953.

The design of a child in angel form carrying an Anti-tuberculosis Cross, is in rose-red and emerald green and like the issue of 1952, bears no figure of value. They are sold as seals at one penny each for the purpose of collecting funds for the prevention of tuberculosis and have no postal value.



They are produced at the Government Printing Works, Pretoria, on watermarked paper in sheets of 120 stamps and with four marginal arrows and serial numbers, in a similar manner to the ordinary postage stamps. This year's sheets have no slogans on the margins, but as usual, the three top rows of the sheet are tête-bêche to the bottom three rows for the purpose of making up into booklet form. These are made up in panes of six stamps to the values of 6d., 1/-, 2/6, 5/- and 10/-, with a coloured soft card cover at the front and back. Incidentally, we notice that the spelling error "Tubercolosis" on the outside of the back covers of all five types of booklets, and which we mentioned last December had not then been corrected, is still present on the new issue.

Cape Centennial Varieties.

Further to the lists of constant varieties present on the Cape Triangular Centenary Stamps which we recorded in our September and October issues, we give below an additional list that has come to hand from Mr. L. Buchen of Johannesburg; Mr. T. G. S. Beukes of Zuider Paarl, Cape; Mr. V. Dubowitz of Cape Town; Mr. W. Nel of Nylstroom, Transvaal; The Secretary's Monthly News Letter of the O.F.S. and Basutoland Philatelic Society (Listed by Mr. J. Lewis), and the Monthly Letter of the Philatelic Society of Natal.

1d. Denomination — Cylinder Nos. 19/107.

Row 2/2—Small break in right hand frame line of replica, near bottom corner.
3/2—Small spot on bottom frame line of replica just above the "1" of "1953".
3/6—Red spot on top of "1" of "1953".
8/6—Sepia spot above "P" of POSTAGE on replica.
10/1 and 10/2—White line running from second "E" of POSSEEL towards top of "SU" in SUID on adjoining stamp, No. 10/2. ("Cracked plate" variety).
10/2—White oblique line striking upwards from bottom of "L" of POSSEEL. ("Cracked plate" variety).
11/5—Top of "A" in POSTAGE broken.
14/6—Red shading above "T" of POSTAGE missing.
18/4—Large sepia spot in gutter below "53" of "1953". (Sometimes partly or wholly obliterated by a perforation hole).
19/3—Left leg of "A" in AFRIKA broken.
20/2—Broken "G" in POSTAGE giving an "S" appearance to the letter.

4d. Denomination—Cylinder Nos. 66/86.

Row 3/1—Blue dot above "I" of AFRIKA.
3/5—White dot between "I" and "C" of AFRICA.
6/1—Broken right hand frame line of replica (above "O" of FOUR).
7/6—Short oblique white mark at bottom of "N" in PENCE on replica.
15/2—Bluish blob near bottom frame line and below "E" of HOPE on replica.
19/3—White hyphen mark between SOUTH and AFRICA. ("Cracked plate" variety).
20/1 and 20/2—White oblique line running upwards from centre of the "3" in "1953" on stamp 20/1 and through SUID OF SUID-AFRIKA on stamp No. 20/2. ("Cracked plate" variety).
20/2—White line running obliquely upwards from bottom of "3" in "1953" ("Cracked plate" variety).

4d. Denomination—Cylinder Nos. 106/90.

Row 2/6—White spot under "19" of "1953".
4/4—Light blue spot on "K" of AFRIKA and bluish blob on right frame line replica above "F" of FOURPENCE.
7/3—Large whitish spot on second "A" of AFRIKA. (Near bottom of right hand leg).
10/6—White dot in area under the "3" of "1953".
11/5—White line striking upwards from bottom left hand corner of replica to the "4" of the value. ("Cracked plate" variety).
11/5 and 11/6—White line running across the bottom right hand corner of 11/5 to the whitish area bordering the left corner of the replica on No. 11/6. ("Cracked plate" variety).
12/4—White "hyphen" mark above "P" of CAPE in the replica. ("Cracked plate" variety).
17/3—Irregular whitish streak under "SU" of SUID.
17/4—White dot above "1" of "1953".
17/5—Defective "A" in CAPE on the replica.
20/1—Whitish blob between "S" and "T" of POSTAGE on the replica. (This variety was listed in our October notes as present on No. 10/1 of the

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4d. Centenary stamps produced from cylinders 66/86 and is evidently a multopositive flaw).

Mr. Nel and Mr. Buchen both draw attention to the variation in the width of the white margin surrounding the replica on some of the 4d. stamps and also that the figures and letter "d" of the value and dates on some copies show up with white "shadow" lines. This is simply due to the slight mis-alignment in the synchronised setting of the interior and exterior cylinders that can arise from time to time during the printing process and is rectified by hand adjustment.

Mr. Dubowitz notes that though the marginal arrows on the two printings of the 4d. are similar in general appearance, some of them have small characteristics which allows them to be identified as belonging to one or the other of the different cylinders, and it is proposed to give further particulars on this point at a later date.

Another feature of the two printings of the 4d. stamps worthy of mention is the remarkable difference in their appearance under a Quartz Lamp. In the first issue (66/86), the light blue portion of the design takes on a much more brilliant hue, something like bright blue, and the paper on which the stamps are printed remains white. In the second production, from cylinders Nos. 106/90, the light blue area becomes comparatively duller and the paper shows up in an apparently dull grey shade very much as if it had been impregnated with oil. By the use of a Lamp, any question that might arise as to which of the two printings an isolated copy of the 4d. denomination belonged to, could be very quickly decided.

It should be noted that for the reasons detailed in our July issue this year, it is quite possible for the varieties listed above, in both the 1d. and 4d. denominations, to be exactly plus or minus **ten rows** out in the numbered positions in which we have recorded them as having being present on the sheet.

New Commemorative Issue in February.

Just prior to going to Press news came through from the Robertson Stamp Co., Johannesburg, and was confirmed by the Publicity Officer of the Department of Posts and Telegraphs, that two special postage stamps of the values of 2d. and 4½d. would be issued on the 23rd February, 1954 to commemorate the centenary of the founding of the Orange Free State.

Though they will be printed in different colours, only one design will be used for the two denominations and this will consist of the Orange Free State coat-of-arms with a quill pen and a scroll bearing the dates 1854-1954, symbolising the signing of the Bloemfontein Convention on the 23rd February, 1854.

The stamps will be on sale at all post offices in the Union for approximately three months.

Commemorative Date-Stamp.

On the date of issue of the commemorative postage stamps, a date-stamp specially engraved for the occasion will be in use at the temporary post office to be opened at the festival camping site, Bloemfontein. The engraving shows a postage bugle, as used in the early days of the



mails services, the inscription "Bloemfonteinkonvensie — Convention 1854-1954" and the date 23 FEB.

First-Day Covers.

Envelopes for use as first-day covers will **not** be provided by the Post Office or purchased from outside sources on behalf of the public. Applicants must provide their own **addressed** envelopes. Orders for the servicing of envelopes, on which it is desired to have an impression of the special date-stamp on the 23rd February, 1954, must be accompanied by a postal or money order to cover the cost of the postage stamps to be affixed. Cheques will **not** be accepted. Orders from applicants **within the Union of South Africa** must be addressed to:

The Postmaster, (Philatelic)
BLOEMFONTEIN

and posted so as to reach his office before the 22nd February, 1954. As the stamps each measure 21 x 37 millimetres, applicants are advised to use envelopes measuring at least 6 in. by 3½ in. Requests for other postmarks, in addition to that of the commemorative date-stamp, on one envelope, will **not** be entertained.

Orders from Applicants outside the Union of South Africa.

Remittances for orders from persons outside the Union must be made by means of International Money Orders, Bank Drafts or British Postal Orders, made payable to the Postmaster-General and addressed to the Philatelic Agency, Publicity Section, G.P.O., Pretoria. Orders for unused ("mint") postage stamps must include an amount for return postage and registration. Foreign coins, foreign bank notes, or foreign postal orders and cheques will **not** be accepted.

Despatch of Orders.

Every effort will be made to despatch orders as soon as possible after that date of release of the stamps, but in view of the large number

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of orders expected and the consequent volume of work involved, delay in some cases will be unavoidable. Applicants are therefore requested to withhold any enquiries or reminders relating to their orders until the end of April, 1954.

O.V.S. COMMEMORATIVES.

Official Convention First Day Covers supplied and serviced at 1/3 each. Apply Secretary, O.F.S. & B. Philatelic Society, P.O. Box 702, Bloemfontein.

COLONIAL SECRETARY'S DESPATCH.

We have seen a copy of a despatch sent by the Brtish Colonial Secretary to all Crown Colonies and Protectorates, the East African High Commission and the High Commissioner for the Federation of Malaya.

It aims at bringing about uniform practices in connection with 'philatelic' services rendered by the various Postal Administrations of the territories concerned. The main instructions, summarised, are as follows:—

(1) The Crown Agents are only authorised to sell stamps to certain approved dealers resident in the United Kingdom or North America. Any one else can obtain stamps either from these approved dealers or from the Colonial Postal Administrations directly.

(2) Remittances for stamps must be either Bankers Drafts, Money Orders, or British Postal Orders made payable to the officer concerned by his official designation.

(3) Postal officers should refuse to affix stamps to letters or to cancel stamps not so affixed.

(4) Officers should refrain from taking stamps, at request, from some special portion of a sheet, or in any other way acting as agents for dealers or collectors. It is no part of their duty to assist in the manufacture of items of philatelic value.

(5) Stamped envelopes sent to a Postmaster for cancellation and posting back should be returned 'unserviced'. But there is no objection to envelopes bearing appropriate stamps, which have accompanied orders for unused stamps, being used for this purpose, and the stamps on them cancelled in the normal course.

(6) It is undesirable for any P.O. official to accept standing orders for the supply of new issues, printings, etc. Such arrangements are calculated to lead to irregularities and complaints.

(7) Postage Due Labels should not be sold over the counter, but blocks of them may be supplied to fill orders received by post.

(8) Supplies of stamps filling orders by post should be packed in such a way that they will not be damaged in transit, and they should not be in any way defective to start off with.

(9) In connection with the supply and servicing of 'First Day Covers', even if an Administration supplies such covers, it should not be proper for postal staff to be required to address such covers, to affix stamps to them or to make special arrangements for the cancellation of stamps on them.

(10) The rendering of special services to philatelists must not take precedence over the carrying out of the ordinary postal services for the public. Persons wishing 'first day covers' should therefore appoint their own local agents to act for them. If postal staffs are allowed to render special services to philatelists, it is not only liable to be to the detriment of their normal services to the public, but is also liable to expose them to the temptation of accepting inducements to render such services. It is very undesirable that postal staffs should be in such a position.

WANTED.

UNION OF SOUTH AFRICA.

CORNER BLOCKS OF 4
and
ARROW BLOCKS
of
½d. MINT.

Plates III, V, VIII, IX, XI, XII, XIII, XIV, XVIII as per Union Handbook/Catalogue, or larger pieces, urgently required for study purposes.

State price and send to

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(Walter Kirby Advtg.)

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UNIONS galore!

I am now busy sorting out a collection-cum-accumulation. Almost every period is well represented with particular strength in the stamps showing Official overprints. Eventually I hope to be able to send out mint and used selections to those customers already on my card-index. Other collectors are asked to provide the usual trade references or a selection can be sent against a deposit. Immediate attention can be given to orders for any of the items mentioned below. Want Lists will also get prompt attention. Ask for my detailed list of Unions. Prices are given for mint and used, singles, horizontal pairs, vertical pairs and strips.

Everything is offered subject to the buyers' complete satisfaction, and subject to being unsold.

Please add postage on orders value less than 20/-.

2½d. 1910 single 4/-, block of four	16/-
2d. S.G. 44b, pair (some constant varieties available)	120/-
½d. S.G. 54a, perf. 13½ x 14 (blocks available), pair	5/-
1d. S.G. 56b, perf. 13½ x 14 (blocks available), pair	7/6
½d. Cross-Hatch, pairs only	35/-
½d. Plate XXI, "Charcoal" centres, pair (blocks available)	1/-
½d. Plate XXI, "Charcoal" centre, but both Cylinder blocks of 6 (Cyls. 11A/11B)	10/-
1d. Plate X, Dented frame variety (Handbook No. 45Vf), pair	1/6
2d. S.G. 107, the elusive slate and violet shade, pair	1/6
3d. S.G. 117, irregular screen, pair	1/-
2d. Current Type Cylinder 46/27 block of four	10/-
2d. Postage Due, S.G. 19a, black and purple, single	5/-
½d. Official, mint strip of four, end stamp showing "Dropped Official," Handbook No. O4OV	4/-
1d. Mint strip of four with same variety, No. O41V	3/6
2d. Mint strip of three with same variety, No. O42aV	3/6
1d. Small type Official overprint; two mint Cylinder blocks 6A/6B. Rarer than you think	40/-
1½d. S.G. 026 showing Broken Chimney variety, pair	4/6
The collection contains quantities of Officials with varieties as listed in the Handbook and many not listed.	
1927 Postage Due Plate Proofs: green frame, pair	80/-
1927 Postage Due Plate Proofs: rose frame, pair	80/-
1927 Postage Due Plate Proofs: slate frame, pair	80/-
1925 Air Mail set in "Control" blocks of four, mint	240/-
Original Artist's sketch (not accepted) for the 1925 Air Set	100/-

ALL THE ABOVE ARE MINT.

Large War Issue: eight First Day Covers each bearing a pair of this issue except the 1/- which is a single stamp. All envelopes measure 6in. by 3½ in. A scarce item 20/-

Gibbons' "Two Reigns" Catalogue now available; **4/6**, postage **3d.** extra.

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JOHANNESBURG.

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ERRORS AND VARIETIES OF THE THREE 1952 PRINTINGS OF THE 2d. UNION OF SOUTH AFRICA STAMP.

By Dr. T. B. DAVIE.

(Continued from page 204 of November issue).

Symbol	Stamp Row & No.	Description and Location.	Multo-positive Int.	Multo-positive Ext.	Cylinders Internal 30	Cylinders Internal 27	Cylinders External 18	Cylinders External 46	Plates X 30/18	Plates XI 27/46	Plates XII 27/18
		Multopositive flaws of interiar, centre or vignette of design.									
M.I.	1/1	Dot in upper cloud below R. (A)	X	—	X	X	—	—	X	X	X
„	1/10	Dot to right of L. tower (E)	X	—	X	X	—	—	X	X	X
„	1/15	Dot to left of R. tower between the clouds (A)	X	—	X	X	—	—	X	X	X
„	2/18	Dot to right of left tower (A)	X	—	X	X	—	—	X	X	X
„	7/17	Smudge in cloud above centre of building (A)	X	—	X	X	—	—	X	X	X
„	9/17	Faint dot in cloud near top frame under R. (A).	X	—	X	X	—	—	X	X	X
		Multopositive flaws of Exterior or Frame of design.									
ME	1/1	Tiny dot between frame lines above K (A)	—	X	—	—	X	X	X	X	X
„	2/17	Mauve dot outside rt. frame level top of tower (E)	—	X	—	—	X	X	X	X	X
„	4/3	White fluffy top to F. (E)	—	X	—	—	X	X	X	X	X
„	4/8	Large smudge (bee swarm) centre of left frame (A)	—	X	—	—	X	X	X	X	X
„	5/4	Small dot inside frame lines below top R. stop (E)	—	X	—	—	X	X	X	X	X
„	6/18	Small dot in bottom right corner (A)	—	X	—	—	X	X	X	X	X
„	7/8	Dot in R of AFRICA (E)	—	X	—	—	X	X	X	X	X
„	9/1	Small dot in L. frame above lower L. corner (A)	—	X	—	—	X	X	X	X	X
„	11/14	Short oblique line to right of top right stop (E)	—	X	—	—	X	X	X	X	X
„	12/14	Smudge on nose of numeral 2 (A)	—	X	—	—	X	X	X	X	X
„	12/17	Dot in R. frame above lower R. corner (E)	—	X	—	—	X	X	X	X	X
		Internal cylinder 30, Flaws, etc.									
I.30	2/10	Dot above centre of building (A)	—	—	X	—	—	—	X	—	—
„	3/16	Dot in upper right of cloud above centre of building (E)	—	—	X	—	—	—	X	—	—
„	4/12	Dot in sky above and to left of L. tower (A)	—	—	X	—	—	—	X	—	—
„	4/14	Dot in centre of sky space between the towers (A)	—	—	X	—	—	—	X	—	—
„	5/14	Dot above trees to right of L. tower (E)	—	—	X	—	—	—	X	—	—
„	5/17	Dot on edge of cloud above centre of building (A)	—	—	X	—	—	—	X	—	—
„	6/9	Dot between R. tower and chimney (E)	—	—	X	—	—	—	X	—	—
„	6/15	Faint spot in cloud above centre of building (E)	—	—	X	—	—	—	X	—	—
„	6/18	Small dot in dip between clouds above right side of building (A)	—	—	X	—	—	—	X	—	—
„	7/9	Pale centre: extra cloud behind L. tower (A)	—	—	X	—	—	—	X	—	—
„	7/13	Large wedge of blue across lower part of L. frame (A).	—	—	X	—	—	—	X	—	—
„	8/9	Group of dots in sky to left of R. tower (E)	—	—	X	—	—	—	X	—	—

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Symbol	Stamp Row & No.	Description and Location.	Multo-positive Int.	Multo-positive Ext.	Cylinders Internal 30	Cylinders Internal 27	Cylinders External 18	Cylinders External 46	Plates X 30/18	Plates XI 27/46	Plates XII 27/18
I.30	8 & 9/14	Short thick blue line in gutter between stamps (N.B. may be cut out by perforation) (A/E)	—	—	X	—	—	—	X	—	—
,,	9/2	Small dot to right of top of L. tower (E)	—	—	X	—	—	—	X	—	—
,,	9/13	Dot to left of L. tower above chimney (A)	—	—	X	—	—	—	X	—	—
,,	9/18	Large dot to right of R. tower (E)	—	—	X	—	—	—	X	—	—
,,	11/15	Dot in centre of lower part of upper cloud (A)	—	—	X	—	—	—	X	—	—
,,	12/14	Two small dots to left of R. tower, in line of K (A)	—	—	X	—	—	—	X	—	—
,,	12/20	Dot to right of R. tower and another just above bldg. to right of centre (A)	—	—	X	—	—	—	X	—	—
		Internal Cylinder 27, Flaws, etc.									
I.27	1/3	Line (wireless aerial) between towers (A)	—	—	—	X	—	—	—	X	X
,,	1/4	Dark spot in shrubs above R end of POSTAGE scroll (E)	—	—	—	X	—	—	—	X	X
,,	1/18	Small dot above and to left of R. tower (E)	—	—	—	X	—	—	—	X	X
,,	2/9	Small dot to left of centre of sky (E)	—	—	—	X	—	—	—	X	X
,,	3/2	White spot between clouds to right of centre (E)	—	—	—	X	—	—	—	X	X
,,	5/6	Two dots in sky to left of centre (E)	—	—	—	X	—	—	—	X	X
,,	6/4	Dot in lower part of upper cloud to rt. of centre (A)	—	—	—	X	—	—	—	X	X
,,	6/15	Small dot near R. frame to right of R. tower (E)	—	—	—	X	—	—	—	X	X
,,	9/16	Thin wiggly line (snake) in sky to right of L. tower (E)	—	—	—	X	—	—	—	X	X
,,	10/20	Large cluster of spots to rt. of L. tower (A)	—	—	—	X	—	—	—	X	X
,,	11/12	Dot in small cloud over last separate tree above roof (E)	—	—	—	X	—	—	—	X	X
,,	12/2	Dot to right of R. tower (A)	—	—	—	X	—	—	—	X	X
		External Cylinder 18, Flaws, etc.									
E.18	1/1	Tiny dots about top R. corner (A)	—	—	—	—	X	—	X	—	X
,,	1/2	Tiny purple dots about top of L. tower (E)	—	—	—	—	X	—	X	—	X
,,	1/17	Small dot outside middle R. frame (A)	—	—	—	—	X	—	X	—	X
,,	2/2	Dot above top left stop (A)	—	—	—	—	X	—	X	—	X
,,	2/20	Tiny dot outside middle of top frame (A)	—	—	—	—	X	—	X	—	X
,,	3/15	Cluster small dots below top left stop (A)	—	—	—	—	X	—	X	—	X
,,	5/1	Scratch (locust) below top left stop (A)	—	—	—	—	X	—	X	—	X
,,	5/12	Short purple stroke to right of L. tower (E)	—	—	—	—	X	—	X	—	X
,,	7/20	Inner white frame blocked by dot below top left wedge (E)	—	—	—	—	X	—	X	—	X
,,	8/9	Dot in middle of outer part of R. frame (E)	—	—	—	—	X	—	X	—	X
,,	9/10	Small dot below top left stop (E)	—	—	—	—	X	—	X	—	X
,,	10/14	Dot and stroke in D of SUID (A)	—	—	—	—	X	—	X	—	X
		External Cylinder 46, Flaws, etc.									
E.46	1/1	Violet smudge left of L. tower and two on L. margin (A)	—	—	—	—	—	X	—	X	—
,,	1/3	Small dot outside lower part of L. frame (A)	—	—	—	—	—	X	—	X	—
,,	2/1	Four violet smudges on L. margin (E)	—	—	—	—	—	X	—	X	—

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Symbol	Stamp Row & No.	Description and Location.	Multo-positive Int.	Multo-positive Ext.	Cylinders 30	Cylinders 27	Cylinders 18	Plates X 46	Plates XI 30/18	Plates XII 27/18	
„	2/20	Small dot outside and to right of middle of top frame (A)	—	—	—	—	—	X	—	X	—
„	3/11	Dot in S of SUID (A)	—	—	—	—	—	X	—	X	—
„	3/15	Short line below top left stop (A)	—	—	—	—	—	X	—	X	—
„	5/13	Smudge outside lower frame beneath Ë of POSSEËL (A)	—	—	—	—	—	X	—	X	—
„	7/14	Spot below top left spot (E)	—	—	—	—	—	X	—	X	—
„	7/14 & 15	Violet smudge between stamps 14 and 15 at top (E-A)	—	—	—	—	—	X	—	X	—
„	10/11	Dot on nose of numeral 2 (E)	—	—	—	—	—	X	—	X	—
„	11/11	Spot in frame below point of L. wedge (A)	—	—	—	—	—	X	—	X	—
„	12/1	Extra mauve frame line at bottom (E)	—	—	—	—	—	X	—	X	—
„	12/2	Continuation of above line below L. lower corner (A)	—	—	—	—	—	X	—	X	—

KENYA.

The subjects of the new stamps for K.U.T. have been announced, but not yet the date of issue.

The £1 will have a large portrait of Her Majesty; the other value will have a small portrait, featuring the following subjects: 5c., Owen Falls Dam; 10c., Giraffe; 20c., Lion; 30c., Owen Falls Dam; 50c., Giraffe; 1/-, Lion; 2/- Mt. Kilimanjaro; 5/-, Elephants; 10/-, Royal Lodge, Sagana.

NYASALAND.

The Q.E. issue which appeared on 1 Sept. is largely an adaptation of the previous K.G. VI stamps, with, of course, a change in the vignette. Two new values have been added, 2½d. and 4½d. and the former 4d. has been dropped. A fishing village on the Lake appears in the new 4½d., somewhat similar to the previous 2/- value but the fisherman has a single-bladed instead of a double-bladed paddle. The new 2½d. has cotton grading as its motif.

AUSTRALIA-ANTARCTICA.

The P.M.G. announces that a P.O. is to be set up on the Antarctic Continent early next year, at which registration facilities and a special postmark will be available.

Collectors desiring covers posted at this office must send them fully addressed under separate cover to the Director, Posts and Telegraphs, G.P.O. Melbourne with bank draft or international money order to cover cost of Australian stamps which will have to be affixed. These must reach the Director by 1-1-54. The rate of postage from the Antarctic base is 3½d. for first oz. and 2½d. for each additional oz. to countries in the British Empire. To other countries 7½d. and 4½d. similarly.

MAURITIUS.

The new Q.E. set was due to appear on 3 November There were several new designs, but the majority are the same as the K.G. VI set with change of portrait.

Collectors' Wants & Offers

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

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

SOUTHERN NIGERIA. Full S.G. prices offered for superb used copies of S.G. 15, 17, and 28. — WILLIAM REDFORD, Box 1182, Johannesburg.

STAMPS.—Want lists invited for any country; specialities Union, S.W.A., British Africa. — LACY'S, Gillbern Buildings, cor. Plein and Mostert Streets, Cape Town.

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

1840-1890. For the stamps of any country in this period write DOUGLAS ROTH, Mona Crescent, Newlands, C.P. Phone 694282.

SEYCHELLES—Required for specialised collection: Panes of Provisionals, Covers and other interesting items.—A. R. KLEINER, 101 Westwoldway, Saxonwold, Johannesburg.

WANTED registered covers and slogan postmarks of Palestine from 1918-1948. — L. BUCHEN, P.O. Box 4012, Johannesburg. Phone 23-1658 office hours.

AUSTRALIA.—All new issues and First Day Covers including unusual items. Send direct for best Retail or Wholesale service.—A. M. GUTHRIE, Box E. 287, G.P.O., Perth, Western Australia.

FOR SALE.—Union mint collection, ordinary issues, all commemoratives, P.D. Officials. 2 Volumes Catalogue £150.—DR. MURRAY, Kuilsrivier, C.P.

GERMANY.—West-, East and Berlin. First Day Covers. Specially printed and cacheted Souvenir Covers. Available by subscription at lowest rates. — Particulars from J. MICHELSON, Box 9314, Johannesburg.

AUSTRIAN Collector wants Exchange.—WALTER RITT, Postamt 49, Fach 27, Vienna, Austria.

WANTED—Mint Union Controls. Have also some Mint Controls for exchange. Details to:—Dr. FAERBER, 4, Second Avenue, Lambton, Germiston, South Africa.

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A MUCH TRAVELLED COVER

By E. HUNT.

Here is a philatelic curiosity that I chanced upon recently when looking through some of the very large Transvaal collection that I acquired from the late A. E. Basden many years ago.

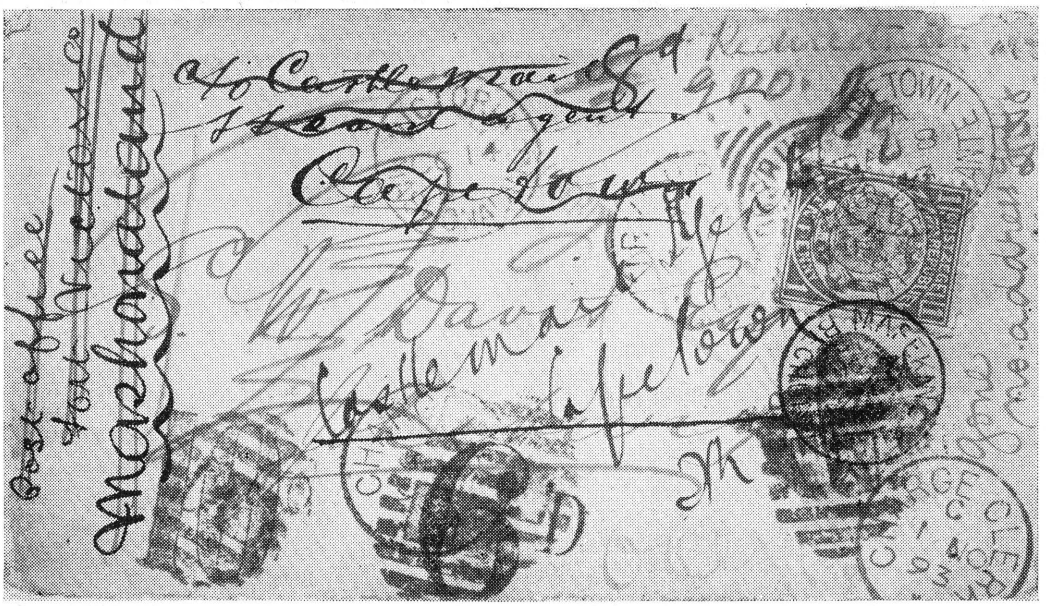
This envelope, with its contents, started on its adventures on 20 (?) July 1893 as vouched for by the square-shaped Johannesburg postmark on the then current 1d. stamp. It was addressed from the office of Charles Leonard, Attorney and Notary, Johannesburg to S. W. Davis Esq., Johannesburg. The first step is a re-direction (see the writing at the top right of the envelope in red pencil reading 'Redirection at G.P.O. Johannesburg'). This redirection would appear to be the address written obliquely in red ink across the addressee's name 'Castlemail Agent, Capetown' with '8d.' in the same ink at top of envelope crossed out by red pencil. Below this oblique address something is written by the same scribe which is undecipherable through the super imposing of several subsequent post-marks.

Then someone who feels that he, or she has a clue has written on the front in a paler shade of red ink 'over' and conforming with this instruction we find this 'someone' has written 'Mr. S. Davis, Maribogo Store Vryburg'. Vryburg was reached in this chase of the elusive S. W. D. on Nov. 6 as confirmed by the circular post-mark on the back.

For some unexplained reason the letter went to Mafeking on March 26 1894 as verified by the circular post-mark on the back but it was soon back in Vryburg as a circular post-mark reading 'Vryburg A MR 29 BE' on the front of the envelope confirms.

Then again for an unknown reason this letter returns to Mafeking on April 30 and this is the latest date decipherable..

But this record by no means exhausts the official cancellations, endorsements and post-marks. There are no less than four circular cancellations worded 'Charge Clerk' B or C, with dates, 1 No.; 3 No; 4 No; (2). What these signify I have no means of telling but they would appear to have some connection with the bold surcharges in black of 6d., 10d. and 1/- (the last



At the top of the envelope written in black ink appears in three lines 'c/o Castle Mail Strand Agents Capetown'. This address in its turn was crossed out with black ink. The missive reached Capetown as borne out by the circular 'Cape Town A postmark on the stamp, on Aug. 8. The next stage of the journey would be to Fort Victoria as on the left side of the front of the envelope is written in black ink in three lines 'Post Office, Fort Victoria Mashonaland.' This is confirmed by the circular postmark on the back, 'Victoria Au 24 Mashonaland". On the front again is a similar Victoria postmark but dated 'OC 14'.

On the right side of the front of the envelope is written in red ink, reading upwards 'Gone No address HHF' but whether this statement refers to the Victoria effort is not evident.

on the back) and another that is undecipherable.

There are also two post-marks on the back difficult to identify, one an oval in black appears to be of an undelivered letter office and the other is a large oblong Pretoria post-mark in blue the date of which cannot be made out but it must be prior to Aug. 24.

Well that is all there appears to be of evidence, leaving a problem for philatelic sleuths to solve, those experts with more profound knowledge of postal history than the writer possesses.

Did S. W. Davies ever receive his letter? If not how did this entire come into the possession of our late Transvaal specialist, A. E. Basden?

I have given it up.

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11	Egypt 1953, Farouk behind bars	5/6
20	Germany 1945 A.M. Post 1pf-1Mk., cpl.	7/6
16	Do. 1948 Posthorns O/pt. Carpet cpl.	3/6
16	Do. Do. Do. Ribbon cpl.	3/6
5	Holland 1949 Child Welfare, cpl.	2/6
5	Do. 1953 Red Cross, cpl.	2/6
10	Hungary, latest Giant Sports, cpl.	14/6
8	Do. beautiful "Ladies of Hungary", cpl.	10/6
3	Israel 1953 New Year, cpl.	2/–
4	Liberia 1953 United Nations, cpl.	3/6
5	Macau, beautiful flowers, set cpl.	1/6
15	Mocambique Co. 1916 o/pts., cpl.	4/6
13	Mozambique Co. 1937 Triangles, Zoo, etc.	3/6
7	Mozambique Co. Pres. Visit, cpl.	5/6
3	Mecklenburg 1945 Child Welfare, cpl.	5/6
11	Mecklenburg 1946 Reconstruction	2/–
2	New Zealand 1943 Health (Scouts & Guides)	8d.
4	North. Rhodesia ½d. perf 12½ x 14, Coil strip	2/6
8	Portugal 1953 Stamp Centenary, cpl.	15/6
4	Portugal 1953 Stamp Centenary, short set	2/6
10	Port. Guiana, Bugs and Beetles a "lousy" set cpl.	12/6
4	Russia 1948 Sports, cpl.	1/6
3	Ryuku Islands, Commems., cpl.	2/–

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IT'S ALL IN THE GAME—IV.

By W. LOXLEY CHAMINGS.

It is perhaps a sign of the times that I am continually asked by non-collectors: "Is collecting a good investment?" I reply usually that philately has brought me some of the best friends I have, that it has given me many hours of intense enjoyment, with never a hang-over, and (if I think the point will tell) has taught me most of what history and geography, to say nothing of gobbets of natural history and ethnology, I have picked up, so obviously it is a good investment. But some of my questioners still persist. "Yes," they say, condescending to my queer mentality, but what of the financial aspect? Does it give, as we have been told, a decent return in hard cash?" Now we may look superior at such a query, but it would be mere hypocrisy to pretend that this feature plays no part in the game of collecting. If, as the purists claim, a collector loses his amateur status the moment he buys a stamp as a speculation, how many of us really remain amateurs?

So I think our friends deserve an answer, and in order to give them facts and figures (for vague generalities will not suffice), I recently made a little investigation. I do not keep the familiar red, green and blue Gibbons catalogues, but as each new edition appears the obsolete one vanishes from my shelves. However I happen to have kept the first edition (1934) of the orange "Simplified" catalogue (and would I like to buy some items at its prices!), and a comparison of the quotations in this and in the current (1953) edition, 19 years later, gives a very good indication of how stamp values go up and down, for if here and there Gibbons is much above market value, in other directions he is far below, so it all levels up if you lump them together.

What emerges from such a comparison? First, that if you are rich or barmy enough to try to collect everything, your stamps will give you but a poor return, for the 43,000-odd postage stamps (I exclude dues and the like) listed in the 1934 edition, priced at about £64,000, are listed at only about £87,000 in the 1953 edition, an appreciation of only 35%, and a little simple arithmetic shows that this represents an average yearly gain of little over 1½%. My mercenary questioners would not think much of that! A further application of simple arithmetic shows that in order to yield an average yearly increase of 5%, the 1953 figure should be 152% above those of 1934. What territories achieve this and more? Here they are, in order of merit. (I exclude countries with less than 100 stamps listed in 1934, for a comparison of a few stamps can be grossly misleading).

First, Liechtenstein, with a total gain of 639%, or a yearly gain of over 11%.

I am glad this charming little Principality heads the list, for its stamps, like its scenery, are among the most attractive in the world, not least the recent cameos from the Prince's picture-gallery. No wonder a Liechtenstein Club has recently been formed in England. Mr. Beken, the Secretary recently lent me two books in German on the Principality's posts and stamps, and I have rarely read more interesting books of their kind. What if many issues had an eye to collectors? The same may be said of scores of other territories, British and Foreign, and we collectors are quite happy to help to keep the Principality's finances healthy, acquire some delightful stamps, and make a jolly good investment at the same time.

What other countries show 5% a year profit and over?

(2) Belgian Congo, with a total gain of 581%, i.e. a yearly gain of over 10½%.

() Estonia, with over 9½%.

(4) Czechoslovakia, with over 9%.

(5) Poland and Saar, with about 8%.

(7) Danzig, Iceland and Switzerland, with about 7½%.

(1) Belgium, Bulgaria, Egypt, France, Germany, Jugoslavia, Algeria, Portugal and Sierra Leone, with about 6%.

(19) Great Britain and the Netherlands, with about 5%.

The list gives rise to many reflections. I am glad, personally, that some of my favourite countries in Europe, with their fascinating and variegated stamps, have yielded such a good return for my modest outlay. It is obvious also that Empire stamps of the early and middle period, which I have always found insufferably dreary, are also a poor investment, for, apart from Great Britain, Sierra Leone is the only British territory that figures in the list, and that only because the Wilberforce issue was just in time to appear in the 1934 catalogue. The next Commonwealth countries in "order of merit" are New Zealand, with a profit of 4½% p.a., Barbados and Canada with 4, India and Newfoundland with 3½. Doubtless the more recent Empire issues would show a better return, but even these are often very uninspiring as stamps.

What of the other end of the list? It was surprising to find that the stamps of no less than 23 territories are priced to-day at less than they were 19 years ago! Among these are Saudi Arabia, 27% down (but who cares?), Samoa 24% down, New Guinea 23% down, Persia 10%, Transvaal 5%, and quite a few of the Spanish and Portuguese colonies. Some of the unpopular Central and South American States like Honduras, Nicaragua, Bolivia, Colombia and Ecuador are also down, but it is only right to add that many of their stamps fetch much better prices across the Atlantic.

To sum up, it would seem that to answer my questioner I must add to the "invisible" assets of philately the following coda: "But if you wish your stamps to show a handsome profit, **don't** try to collect the whole shoot, and **don't** collect the early and middle Empire issues. Collect almost any Europeans that take your fancy, with a couple of colonies like Algeria and the Congo (whose stamps are also beautiful for the most part), and if you wish to add some Empire material, get the modern issues as they appear."

INDIA.

On 1 Nov. there was issued a set of Telegraph Centenary stamps plus a miniature sheet with reproductions of early telegraph stamp in original colours at 1 Rupee. As many as seven printings were required to get all the colours in.

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SHORT NOTICES.

MACSA. We are indebted to the Maximum Card Society of America for a copy of the June-July issue of their Journal "Macsa"; this is a special number dedicated to the Coronation of Queen Elizabeth and the people of the British Commonwealth. It is full of pictures and text, all bearing more or less directly on the Coronation.

Swedish Centenary and Exhibition. Another centenary of stamps occurs in 1955 — Sweden. It is planned to have an International Exhibition in Stockholm, opening on 1 July, the centenary day of the emission of the first Swedish stamp. The Post Office and the Swedish Federation of Philatelists are collaborating in the organising of the exhibition. There will be special commemorative stamps. The Secretary-General is Mr. Sven Bäckström, Generalsposts-tyrelsel, Stockholm 1.

United Nations. The Chief of the Postal Administration reports the issue of 3c. embossed envelopes on 15 Sept.

They have also issued at 25c. a copy of a booklet fully descriptive of all stamps and postal stationery issued from 1951 onwards. Obtainable from the U.N. Sales and Circulations Section, N.Y. or from H.M. Stationery Office, London, postage 3c. extra.

"Royal" Publications. The Royal Philatelic Society, announces the publication of (a) "Perkins Bacon Records" by the late Percy De Worms, on 29 October, in two large volumes, at £6 6/- and (b) "The Half Lengths of Victoria", by J. R. W. Purves, with numerous illustrations. Edition limited to 120 numbered copies for sale, at £12 12/-.

Chambers Stamp Journal has reprinted the article in our issue by Mr. German, of Nairobi, giving his memories of a P.M.G.

"Bripex". The Brighton and District Philatelic Society (Australia) have sent us a copy of the Catalogue of their Exhibition held on 3-5 September. In addition to the list of exhibits it has an interesting article on the history of writing and the exchange of written messages; this goes back to some 3,500 years and continues to the present day.

Philately from Australia. This quarterly, published specifically for specialised Australasian philately is now being run jointly by the two Australian Royal Societies — the Royal Philatelic Society of Victoria and the Royal Sydney Philatelic Club, instead of only by the former, as heretofore.

Egyptian Palace Collections. Messrs. H. R. Harmer have issued a brochure giving a short summary of what will be sold in Cairo on Feb. 12-18. The first four days are given up to the Egyptian collections and the next two to various World collections. The special catalogue will be available about the end of November at 5/-.

NATAL.

The Phil. Journal of G.B. chronicles and illustrates a pair of 4d. stamps of 1891 with the surcharge "Twopence Halfpenny", one stamp having the surcharge inverted, thus forming a tête-bêche surcharge. This pair was originally in the Ferrari collection, which also contained a pair, one of which had the surcharge double.

It would seem that to account for these varieties the overprinting must have been in more than one operation.

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REVIEWS

The Aero Philatelist Annals. A quarterly published by Aero Philatelists, Inc., 1860 Broadway, New York 23, N.Y. Numbers (if available) $1.25 each.

No. 1 appeared in July, excellent get-up, 40 pages, with 28 illustrations of stamps, covers, and cancellations. Three special articles are: (a) The finding of a second Buffalo Balloon cover, considered the rarest U.S. air item. (b) Exhaustive study of the little known Honduras 1931 special airmail issue; (c) Review of the circumstances surrounding the issue and use of the Spanish airmail sets from 1926 to 1936.

The magazine will be issued free to members of Aero Philatelists Inc., the subscription to which is $5 annually.

Practical Philately, by R. J. Sutton. Hutchinson's Scientific and Technical Publications, Stratford Place, London W1: Price 15/-.

This book describes itself as a popularly written account of the art and science of philately as distinct from the mere recreation of stamp collecting. The author has previously compiled "A Stamp Collectors' Encyclopaedia" so he knows his onions well.

The 200 odd pages are simply chock full of information about practically every aspect of philately one can think of, with numerous line drawings and photographs. It is not one for the absolute beginner in stamp collecting; in fact, as the author says, he has attempted to avoid useless repitition of the elementary knowledge the average stamp collector will already possess. But for anyone bekond this stage, and taking his hobby as a serious study it can be most heartily recommended.

Commonwealth Catalogue 1954. The Commonwealth Stamp Co., 7 Leather Lane, Liverpool. Price not mentioned.

This new edition covers both K.G. VI and Q.E. stamps. There has been a lot of revision of the lists, in which a number of philatelists have taken part. There appears to be now no doubt as to the stability of K.G. VI stamps, although fears were expressed for a time that they might slump.

The prices given for stamps are what are believed to represent true market valuations, and they deal with lots of varieties and shades as well as "normals". Imprint blocks of Australia and of Canada are considered in an addendum.

A catalogue that can be recommended to every collector of these stamps, but judging from experience with previous editions, it will be advisable to get in early.

The Island of Herm and its Local Stamps, by W. Newport. Published by C. W. Newport, 122 Woodyates Road, London, S.E. 12. Price 2/3 post free.

Herm is a small island with a permanent population of about 40, but many visitors in summer. It lies about 3 miles from Guernsey and is one of the only two British isles running their own postal services; the other being Lundy, which has had stamps since 1929. Herm has only had "locals" since 1949 but this booklet lists already over 40 items. It describes the postal history prior to issue of locals, their genesis and teething troubles, the pigeon post, map stamps, coronation issue and pictorial issue. Altogether an interesting little story.

Catalogues of Spain and of **Spanish Colonies and ex-Colonies.** The Casa Filatélica Hervia of Mayor, 13, Madrid, have sent us these two catalogues, sold at 4 pesetas each.

They are fairly highly specialised priced catalogues, well illustrated. In the colonial volume Cuba and the Phillipines are carried on right up to date.

Le Spécialisé Berck 1954, 11th Ed. Published by Ed. Berck, 6 Place de la Madeleine, Paris 8e. Price: 250 fr.

This is a gilt-edged priced catalogue, metaphorically as well as literally. It deals purely with the stamps of France, except for a very short section on the general issue for the colonies.

So far as the stamps of France are concerned it is by far the most highly specialised catalogue we know of; the varieties described (given, a, b, . . . numbers) are legion, and in many cases are specially figured.

A magnificent work for anyone specialising in France.

Het ontwerpen van Postzegels (The designing of Postage Stamps). 78 pages and 46 illustrations 4.75 gulden (10/- approx.). Library and Documentation Service of the Department of Posts, Telegraphs and Telephones, The Hague.

This book is not a text-book on designing stamps but a most interesting treatise on design in general and its application to the production of good stamps in particular. The author shows that design is much more than the deliberate execution of a pre-determined subject; that historical background and the spirit of the age combined within the limitations imposed by size, method of execution (recess, typography, rotogravure etc.), and quality of paper, to produce the final product. The pitfalls awaiting the inexperienced, the advantages of certain printing methods over others in dealing with particular subjects are fully discussed and exemplified in the excellent illustrations contained in a separate section of he book.

The value of the book is further enhanced by the addition of an alphabetical list of designs of the stamps of the Netherlands from 1852-1952.

The specialist in the stamps of Holland should have this book, which the stamp lover will find it a most valuable addition to his philatelic library. J.W.S.

SWEDEN TOPS BRITISH GUIANA.

For 30 years British Guiana has had first place for the world's most expensive stamp, the 1c. magenta of 1856, which last changed hands at, it is understood, £10,000.

Now it has to take second place to Europe's rarest stamp the 3sk. Swedish error of colour of 1855 yellow instead of blue-green. Like the Guiana 1c., only one specimen is known. It was at one time in the collection of King Carol of Rumania; it is reported by the London "Daily Telegraph" to have been purchased by a Toronto collector for 36,000 dollars (approx. £12,720).

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O.V.S. ORIGINAL ARTIST'S SKETCH.

Mr. P. Smits has submitted the accompanying photograph, received from Mr. Leon W. Davis, of America.



It is described as being the original artist's sketch for the O.V.S. stamps. The blobs on the tree can hardly be confused with oranges; these were probably developed later as such by the engravers.

ROLL OF HONOUR OF DISTINGUISHED PHILATELISTS: SOUTH AFRICA.

*G. J. Allis
*A. J. Cohen.
*Sir H. L. Gorges.
*Saul A. Klagsbrun.
*G. Blockey.
*Chas. Hand.
*J. Herbert Curle.
*G. J. Houbert.
*J. Ritchie.
E. Tamsen.
L. Simenhoff.
*W. J. Harrington.
*L. A. Wyndham.
G. N. Gilbert.
C. H. Thornton.
*W. L. Ashmead.
*A. E. Basden.
*A. A. Jurgens.
P. C. Bishop.
J. H. Harvey Piric.
Wm. Redford.
A. Hilton Sydow.
N. Welsford.
G. K. Forbes.
Sam Legator.
E. Hunt.
Andrew Watson.
B. L. R. Fox.

The names are given in order of date of election to the Roll. Names of members deceased are marked with an asterisk.

NEW ZEALAND.

Delay in the issue of the new Q.E. stamps has caused a shortage of 1d. stamps and the ½d. K.G. VI is being surcharged "1d.". This will be on sale till the new definitives are available.

IN THE NEWS

Latest "Comet" and other jet-plane First and Record Flights; British Internal "Turbo-Jet" services; Belgian International Heliposts; England—New Zealand Air Race, etc.

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SOCIETY NEWS.

PHILATELIC SOCIETY OF JOHANNESBURG.

At the meeting held on November 8th Mr. J. E. Frankland showed his collection of British Somaliland. He introduced his exhibit with a paper giving a brief account of the postal history of the territory. and pointing out the small number of stamps of India overprinted for use in the territory.

The exhibit included a few pages of the various postmarks on India before the issue of definitive stamps, including one of the rare "Base Office Obbia."

The main collection was in fine mint condition including the 3 Rupees inverted and two examples of the missing stop in the "O.H.M.S." issues. The exhibit was well presented and written up.

Mr. W. Relford spoke on the exhibit.

At the meeting of November 23rd, Mr. H. Markovitz showed a fine collection of stamps of the Saar. It was practically complete in mint condition but there were several fine used and several covers some being flown. There were several mint blocks and also miniature sheets. The collection was well written up and beautifully pesented and the fine pictorials made a very colourful show.

Dr. Hesse spoke on the exhibit and pointed out several varieties.

At the same meeting some slides were shown illustrating the theme zoology on stamps. These slides were kindly lent by Mr. and Mrs. Bevis of Durban and were shown by Dr. Hesse and Mr. Seligman.

Mr. Froehlich spoke on this exhibit.

PHILATELIC SOCIETY OF THE WESTERN RAND.

The **October** meeting was held on Wednesday 28th in the Parish Hall, Roodepoort. After the usual business was completed, Mr. Vermaak tabled his display called "Madness on Philately". This theme consisted only of the 1d. and 4d. Cape Triangular Centenary Issue, with all its dots and varieties. This collection was very interesting in the manner in which it was written up, also the time and research put into it.

On behalf of the Club, Mr. Henderson thanked the Exhibitor for his outstanding display, and knowledge imparted to other members of the Club.

The sideline: "Children on Stamps" was tabled by Mr. Keet. Master David Crocker thanked the Exhibitor for his neat and well mounted display. J.K.

PRETORIA RAILWAY PHILATELIC SOCIETY.

The **October** monthly meeting attracted another very excellent attendance, there being 44 mambers and visitors present when the meeting opened. One pleasing feature of the meetings, is that the business side of the programme is reduced to an absolute minimum, thus allowing more time for papers, exhibits, etc.

Highlighting the evening was the visit paid us by Messrs. Michelson and Frankland of the Johannesburg Society, who very generously came over and gave the members a really excellent show. The first exhibit was that of Mr. Michelson who showed us his collection of Latvia. This included many scarce items and varieties and also gave some of the postal history of this country. The printing of stamps on maps and bank-notes proved very interesting, and the collection also demonstrated the many different perfs and range of colour and design. Fr. Frankland followed up by showing us his collection of "Morocco Agencies" and here again was an exhibit that was nicely displayed and proved a small yet concise collection that also contained many interesting items and errors. Messrs. Slater-Kinghorn and Kennard voiced the appreciation and thanks of the members in glowing terms and congratulated the two exhibitors on their excellent efforts. F.J.V.L.

AFRIKAANSE FILATELISTIESE VERENIGING.

Saterdag, 17 Oktober, het 'n nuwe hoogtepunt vir die Saterdag-byeenkomste gelewer. Die opkoms was bykans twee maal so groot as gewoonlik, met 6 splinternuwe gesigte. Te oordeel na die opgewondenheid en groot geesdrif wat onder die groepies te bespeur was, moes baie die hele aangeleentheid winsgewend gevind het. Geen wonder dat 'n aanwesige laat val het dat dit al hoe meer die indruk van 'n posseëlbeurs op die Vasteland begin skep. Die aanduidings is in ieder geval daar dat die idee stadigaan posvat en dat dit moontlik nog tot so-iets kan lei.

Vrydag, 6 November, was die Wes-Randiete weer aan die beurt. Die besoekende voorsitter, mnr. H. F. Henderson, was verniet bang dat sy lede se uitstallings sou afsteek teen wat ons met die geleentheid van ons besoek aan sy vereniging vertoon het. Die vyf uitstallings deur sy lede verskaf, was van goeie gehalte en het goed vergelyk met dié van ander besoekende spanne.

Eerste aan die beurt was die koningin Elizabeth uitgawes van mnr. „Digger" Sharpe. Hier het ons 'n voorsmakie gehad van wat op hierdie gebied te wagte kan wees. Die hoofvertoning vir die aand het tweede gevolg, nl. mnr. I. H. C. Godfrey se „Mylpale in die ontwikkeling van die lugpos" — stukke uit 'n beroemde versameling wat reeds verskeie hoë onderskeidings op nasionale en internasionale wedstryde behaal het. Onder andere het mnr. Godfrey gewys hoe lugvervoer die afstand om die wêreld laat inkrimp het. Verskeie koeverte toon watse vordering lugreis gedoen is. 'n Stuk uit die jaar 1937 staan onder die opskrif Om die wêreld in 100 dae. Ander koeverte het om die wêreld gereis in 31 dae (1939), 12 dae (1952), 8 dae (1952), 5 dae en drie dae (1953). Wat vir ons besonder interessant was, is 'n omslag (par ballon monté) en 'n poskaart (par ballon non monté) van die Parys ballonpos, 1870. Ons was baie verbaas om te sien dat daar in 1870 meer stukke per lug (ballon en duiwe) vervoer was as wat daar in 1920 was. Dit was met die beleëring van Parys tydens die Franko-Pruisiese oorlog, toe lugballonne vir die eerste keer in gebruik gebring is om met die buitewêreld in verbinding te kom. 'n Oeroue koerantuitknipsel gee 'n aanduiding van hoe sleg sake vir die Parysenaars moes gewees het. Voedselwaardes van November 1870 was o.a.: 'n gewone rot, 1 frank; 'n groot riool-rot, 1½ frank; en 'n kat, 20 frank! En dit in die dae toe 'n frank 'n frank was! Pragtig, mnr. Godfrey, en baie dankie.

Hierna het dr. T. B. Berry aan die beurt gekom met sy boeteseëls van die Unie. Sy versamelingtjie, wat reeds die Allan Cup van die Pretoria Philatelic Society verower het, behandel ook verskeie posregulasies en wys wat met stukke gebeur as hulle nie aan die regulasies voldoen nie. 'n Versameling vol oorspronklike, nastrewenswaardige idees. Dan volg die jongerlid, David Crocker, met sy vroeë Groot-Brittanje — 'n jong kêreltjie vol „ou" planne. Met 'n vasberade „hier is ek en hier bly ek tot ek kry wat ek wil hê," het David reeds 'n moeilike groep netjies agtermekaar. Tenslotte, 'n puik verhandeling oor Unie-seëls deur mnr. J. Keet. (David en mnr. Keet is natuurlik ook verbonde aan die A.F.V.). Mnr. Keet doen nie aanspraak daarop dat hy alles het nie, maar ons kan u verseker dat hy veel het wat andere na soek.

Verlede jaar het Wes-Rand 'n hoë peil geslaan, en ons het gewonder of daardie standaard met hulle tweede besoek gehandhaaf sal kan word. Telkens kom die mense vorendag met 'n hoop verrassings wat die vraag „waar kry hulle die goed?" afdwing. Dat hulle a.s. jaar weer sal verras, ly geen twyfel meer nie. Dankie Wes-Rand.

Onder handgeklap is 13 aansoeke om lidmaatskap goedgekeur. Hulle is: mevr. M. Nel, Vanderbijlpark; mnre. T. Kramer, Potchefstroom; B. Seelig, Johannesburg; E. F. A. Huth, Johannesburg; J. Michelson, Johannesburg; H. du Plessis, Johannesburg; E. Hunney, Johannesburg; B. Glassman, Johannesburg; en die jongehere Christiaan Opperman en Gideon Richter, albei van Florida en Donaald en Robert Schmidt, Johannesburg en Hendrik Kaasjager, Johannesburg.

Bedanking: Die vriend J. M. Hattingh se bedanking (vir sakeredes) is aangeneem. Ons hoop dat hy tog nog kansies sal kry om sy versameling voort te sit en dat ons hom weer sal sien.

Woordelys: Die filatelistiese woordelys wat deur die vereniging uitgegee word, sal hopelik aan die einde van November gereed wees. Die persone wat bestellings geplaas het sal hulle s'n per aangetekende pos ontvang. Vir dié wat nog nie bestel het nie, is dit nog nie te laat nie. S.J.V.

EAST RAND PHILATELIC SOCIETY.

At our November monthly meeting there was a fair attendance. We had four splendid exhibits for the Legator trophy, but the attraction did not seem to draw the members.

At our next monthly meeting there will be further exhibits for this trophy, so endeavour to attend and bring along any friends who are interested.

The first exhibit was by Mr. J. J. Fine; although a new Collector of Israel, he displayed a very fine collection of that country.

Mr. J. Clement exhibited a collection of Newfoundland which was practically complete. Mr. Legator came along with a surprise with his collection of Zanzibar.

Mr. Johnson first read a paper on his unique thematic collection of stamps of various countries explaining their currency, and how it was arrived at.

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A vote of thanks was given to the exhibitors on behalf of the members by Mr. Legator and Mr. Suklje. E.N.R.

A NEW SOCIETY.

We have just heard as we go to press that a new society has been formed in Northern Natal. It is to be known as the Ladysmith, Colenso and Districts Philatelic Society. We hope to have further details available about it shortly. Good luck to it.

According to "The Thematic Magazine" a stamp club has been formed at Wellington, C.P., but we have not heard any details directly.

PHOTOLITHOGRAPHY

By

A. I. MACKENZIE.

"A thing of beauty has a boy forever' '—I mean "A thing of beauty is a joy forever."

Looking at a display of Angola stamps at our last meeting set me thinking about the above quotation and other thoughts as well. Nobody will dispute the fact that these "fishes and flowers" stamps are superbly printed, nobody will deny that they are beautiful, nobody will deny that they are very good ambassadors for their country, nobody will deny that they are good stamps. In fact everybody who has seen them has not only been favourably impressed by them, but has also been looking forward to their next issue with considerable interest.

Probably several people have drawn comparisons between these stamps and our own stamps, and I would be surprised if the conclusions reached were flattering to the Union issues. Now why should this be? What has Angola got that we haven't got? — Nothing. It's just that they are using a better printing process than we are.

Now before we start an argument, let us suppose that this statement is correct and if it is so, why don't we use the process?

Well, we have already spent a large sum of money in setting up a photogravure process. In fact it was only 20 years ago that this was done, and to decide to switch now might cause an outcry on account of the expense involved. Furthermore, the process we are using at present, did at the time it was installed, offer a far wider safety margin from the security point of view than any other process. This however no longer applies. Photolithography today offers as great a security as any other known printing process.

Photogravure is the cheapest process for long runs, or, at any rate, it used to be but it may not be so today. Photolitho can give up to 3,000,000 copies per plate at 18,000 impressions per hour.

If Israel can use the photolitho process for the printing of both her stamps and paper money, and if several other countries use this method for the printing of their stamps, it would seem as if all the security requirements can be met by modern litho printing. That being the case it might be asked if South Africa should not seriously reconsider her position. By printing a series of issues of our natural resources — the series of the species of game in the Kruger National Park is an indication of what can be done — we could make far greater use of the publicity value of our stamps.

Now the critics will say that the Kruger Game Reserve series were printed by the intaglio process — and created a very favourable impression, so why should this process not be capable of producing an equally favourable impression with future issues? The answer to this of course is no reason at all. The process at present in use is quite capable of producing first-class work. Then if that is so, why change? After all we not only have the equipment but we also have a highly-trained staff. I quite agree.

However, the Government Printer also has a modern photolitho plant and a trained staff, so in effect there would be no difficulty in making the change.

It boils down to a question of comparison. Is the best work of photo intaglio superior to the best work of photolitho? Well, what do you think? Personally my view is that for the grade of paper used in stamp printing litho is the better process. Readers may have their own ideas.

CORONATION CURIOSITY.

In our October issue reference was made to a cover from Singapore with stamps of all the Malayan States. Mr. Van Rensburg writes from Durban that he has seen a cover with a combination of Singapore and Kelantan stamps, posted at Singapore. This further shows that the Singapore P.O. accepts stamps of any of the Malay States for prepayment of postage.

CANADA.

The Oil Industry 50c. stamp was replaced on 2nd November by one honouring the textile industry. It features an old-fashioned spinning wheel in front of a large bolt of folded cloth.

NEW ISSUES.

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Nigeria		
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½d. to 2/6	5/9	6/8
½d. to 5/-	11/3	13/3
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½d. to £1	45/-	52/-
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½d. to 1/-	4/1	4/8
½d. to 2/6	9/-	10/8
½d. to 5/-	14/8	17/-
½d. to 10/-	25/9	30/-
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5c. to 20/-	45/-	52/-

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½d. to 10/-	26/-	30/6
½d. to £1	48/6	56/-
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1c. to 50c.	6/7	7/8
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1c. to 2 dollars	23/4	27/6
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Nyasaland, S.G. 50a, 10/-, £2 5/-.
S. Africa, 1925 Air Set 26-29, mint, £2 10/-.

UNRECORDED B.B. POSTMARK.

Mr. A. E. Shepherd, of Gwelo, has sent in three specimens of 1/- Union King's Head stamps with portions of a postmark from which it is poshible to reconstruct largely what would appear to be a hitherto unrecorded British Bechuanaland postmark, viz. of "Morokwen".

The mark is a single-circle one of 25 mm. diameter with "Moro . . ." at the top and B.B. at the bottom, these being separated by large dots. There are also what could be the upright of the "K" and the final half of the "N". Date in two lines in the centre JA and MR, the years being 17 and 18; one specimen has also part of an indext letter about the date.

This is quite a well known type of postmark used in British Bechuanaland, but "Morokwen" is not listed in Jurgens' book (The Bechuanaland). It is given in the present day Union Postal Guide supplement as an office in the Vryburg area, so probably its use of a B.B. postmark in 1917-18 is just a hangover from the days when it was a British Bechuanaland post office.

The Philatelic Society of Natal.

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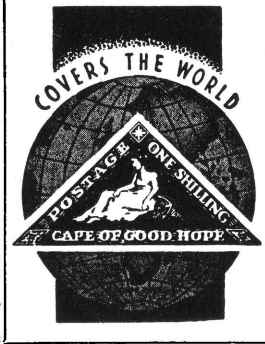
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SWAZILAND—POSTAL HISTORY and STAMPS

By
J. H. HARVEY PIRIE.

(Continued from page 216 of November issue.)

Britain's stepping out from the previous Triumvirate had been a gradual process, however, and postally speaking the handing over took place on Nov. 7th, 1894 when the overprinted stamps were withdrawn and only ordinary unoverprinted Z.A.R. stamps became valid. (See Chapter 4).

It is of some interest to note that a list drawn up in January, 1896 of persons with recognised Swaziland burghership contained some 120 names.

Stage 3 of Swaziland's postal history begins here (Chap. 4) and it lasted until the outbreak of the Anglo-Boer War in 1899.

When this war broke out the Z.A.R. administrative officials were withdrawn and during the period of hostilities there was practically no White control. For the time the Swazis reverted almost completely to their old tribal system of government and there was no check on the work of the witch doctor and the executioner. There is evidence that a few Vrederechters (Justices of the Peace) who were storekeepers remained in the country, but they did not carry out any of their official duties.

Swaziland was never a major theatre of operation during the war but the British raised a corps of irregulars known as Steinacker's Horse for service there. The main objectives for it appear to have been to raid and if possible to cut the Delagoa Bay — Pretoria railway line and to make nuisance raids into the Eastern Transvaal. From all the accounts the members of this corps appear to have been a pretty tough lot. They made nuisances of themselves all right and naturally there were reprisal raids by the Boers. Bremersdorp was Steinacker's headquarters; in one reprisal raid they were driven out and had to retire to the Lebombo Mountains, while Bremersdorp was practically completely burnt to the ground. This was very unfortunate from a postal history point of view as most of the records from which details of early postal history might have been obtained, perished.

The war years, 1899-1902, constitutes **Stage 4** of Swaziland's postal history, a stage with no postal services.

Following the Peace Treaty of Vereeniging a Special Commissioner, Mr. F. Enraght-Moody, was sent to Swaziland in August, 1902 by the British authorities. With him went a few officials and a considerable force of S.A. Constabulary and thus a commencement was made of an ordered government. They found only four Europeans resident in Bremersdorp; as there were practically no buildings, and as it had always been rather a malarial spot, they decided on Mbabane (or Embabaan as it was spelt at first) as the capital. By the Swaziland Order-in Council of 1903 control of Swaziland was vested in the Governor of the Transvaal Colony.



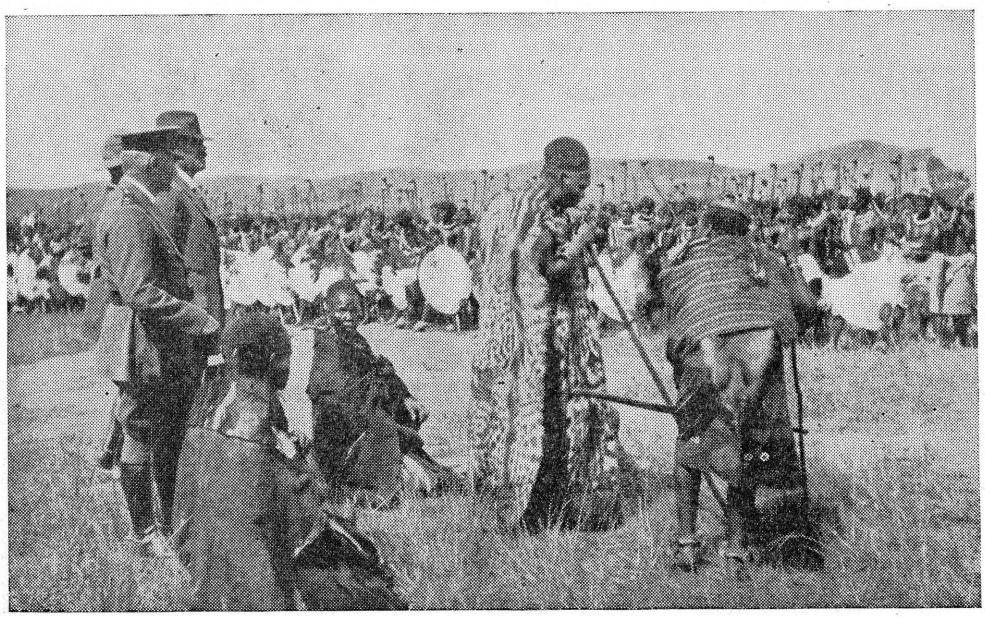
Bound for the **Incwala** Dance, 1st New Moon of the New Year.

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Mbandine's son, Ubunu or Ngwane, had died in 1899, after having been full Paramount Chief for about four years. His son, Sobhuza, was then only a boy of two or three and control of the Swazis was in the hands of his grandmother Labotsibeni, or Nabatsibene, a widow of Mbandeni, as Queen Regent. She was generally known as Ndhlovukazi "The Cow Elephent", on account of her huge bulk. She was a woman of extraordinary diplomatic ability and strength of character and the new Administration found in her at first such opposition that

During the period 1902-1910 the postal services of Swaziland were operated by the Transvaal Colony and this constitutes **Stage 5** of its postal history. (Chap. 5).

When in 1910 the Transvaal was merged into the Union of South Africa the postal services of the Protectorate were carried on by the Union postal administration and that remains the position up to the present time. This period from 1910 onwards can be divided into three stages, according to the stamps employed (Chap. 6 et seq.).



The Queen Regent at the installation of her grandson as Paramount Chief. Photo by courtesy of O. Tugwell's executors.

Stage 6. Interprovincial period when the progress. This obstinate distrust and resistance was, however, gradually broken down as the efficiency of control increased.

The Concession holders soon started to worry the new Administration, who found such a tangle of legal complications and incredible monopolies, that they appointed a Concession Commission to try to clear up matters. After two and a half years' work they came to the conclusion that the fundamental basis of most of the concessions was irregular in law (See back as to Bantu custom) but the earlier Concessions Court of 1890 had confirmed some 364 of them, thus making them 'legal', at any rate according to White-man's law. The eventual solution of all of them has even yet not been arrived at but expropriation was applied in many cases, especially as regards monopoly concessions which made decent administration impossible. This has been an expensive but otherwise satisfactory solution.

In 1907 a new Swaziland Proclamation was promulgated. Under this direct control was transferred from the Governor of the Transvaal to the High Commissioner for South Africa and this remains the position to the present day.

it was incapable for some time of making any stamps of any of the four colonies incorporated in the Union were on issue.

Stage 7. 1913-1933. Union stamps in use.

Stage 8. 1933 — present time. Definitive Swaziland stamps.

(To be continued.)

KENYA.

Mr. W. Turnstall reports that it has been officially announced in Nairobi that a special 30c. stamp will be issued to commemorate the visit of the Queen and the Duke of Edinburgh to Uganda next April. It will be the first of the general new set of Q.E. stamps, with a drawing of the Owen Falls Dam as it will appear when completed. The stamp will have the additional engraved inscription "Royal Visit, 1954" and will be on sale for one week from 28th April.

U.S.A.

20 Nov. A 3c. stamp commemorating the 300th anniversary of New York City. This pictures the early settlement at the tip of Manhattan by the Dutch — New Amsterdam as it was called then. Dimly in the background is the skyline of New York as it is to-day.

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