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Vol. 22, No. 1. **JANUARY, 1946.** **Whole No. 250**

Union, S.W.A, Protectorates

We are indebted to the Post Office authorities for the following information in respect of quantities of stamps, etc., printed during the period 22nd August to 22nd November, 1945. For previous records see p. 109 of our October, 1945, issue.

(a) *War Postage Stamps*

½d.—Job 9,975: 133,000 sheets x 360 delivered subsequent to 20/8/45. Cylinder 40 as before.

(b) *Ordinary Pictorial Stamps*

2d.—Job 4,672: 20,000 sheets x 120 delivered on this order up to date. Cylinders as before.

(c) *Roll Stamps*

1d.—Job 3,651: 4,609 rolls x 1,012 and 3,806 rolls x 506 delivered to date. Cylinder as before.

(d) *Inland Pictorial Postcards*

1d.—Job 9,977: 2,513,280 delivered to date. Cylinders as before.

(e) *Air Letter Cards*

3d.—Job 10,048: No additional deliveries since last record.

6d.—Job 6,887: Deliveries from the new cylinder (No. 91) now total 838,200.

(f) *Victory Stamps*

1d.—Job 3,693: 201,848 sheets x 120 supplied between 20/9/45 and 23/10/45. Cylinders 21 Int. and 3 Ext., new.

2d.—Job 3,693: 176,000 sheets x 120 supplied subsequent to 31/10/45. Cylinders 7,019 Int. and 7,023 Ext., new.

3d.—Job 3,693: 52,174 sheets x 120 supplied between 25/10/45 and 8/11/45. Cylinders 6,922 Int. and 6,928 Ext., new.

(g) *Postage Due Stamps*

1d.—Job 4,674: 12,384 sheets x 60 supplied on 13/9/45. Cylinder as before.

(h) *South West Africa*

The following quantities, supplied by the P.M.G., were overprinted S.W.A. on a flat-bed machine:—

5,999 sheets x 240 of 2d. War Postage Stamps. Old formes.

38,400 Pictorial Postcards. New formes.

Also supplied by the P.M.G.:

499 sheets x 60 of S.W.A. postage stamps overprinted "Revenue-Inkomste from old formes.

The following Victory Stamps, all taken over from Job 3,693, were overprinted S.W.A. on a flat-bed machine from new formes:

1d.—5,999 sheets x 120.

2d.—11,999 sheets x 120.

3d.—3,999 sheets x 120.

(i) *Bechuanaland*

4,999 sheets x 120 of each of the three values of the Victory Stamps overprinted "Bechuanaland" on a flat-bed machine from new formes. The 2d. sheets were taken over from Job 3,693; the 1d. and 3d. sheets were supplied by the P.M.G.

(j) *Swaziland*

Quantities and other information as in the case of Bechuanaland, except that the overprint was "Swaziland.'

(k) *Basutoland*

9,999 sheets x 120 of each of the three values of Victory Stamps overprinted "Basutoland" on a flat-bed machine from new formes. The 2d. sheets were taken over from Job 3,693; the 1d. and 3d. sheets were supplied by the P.M.G.

Victory Stamps.

These stamps were issued with quite a lot of publicity from the ordinary press and with numerous queues for specimens on the day of issue.

The general philatelic opinion, however, is one of disappointment with their appearance. Artistically they are spoilt by having too much frame and too little picture; the size of the vignettes makes it impossible to do justice to the subjects.

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The flag and the ruins on the battlefield of the penny stamp are quite impossible. The 2d. is the best of the three, and the scene is quite a good South African peaceful one. But what are the couple gazing at in the 3d.? Certainly not at the Star of Hope, unless they both have a squint. At the last meeting of the Philatelic Society of Johannesburg a member quoted a dialogue between Petrucio and Katharina from "The Taming of the Shrew" as being appropriate:—

P.: Good Lord, how bright and goodly shines the moon!
K.: The moon! The sun, it is not moonlight now.
P.: Now by my mother's son, and that's myself,
It shall be moon, or star, or what I list
Or ere I journey to your father's house.
K.: Be it moon, or sun, or what you please:
And if you please to call it a rush-candle,
Henceforth I vow it shall be so for me.
P.: I say it is the moon.
K.: I know it is the moon.
P.: Nay, then you lie; it is the blessed sun.
K.: Then, God be bless'd, it is the blessed sun.

The Pretoria Philatelic Society considers that designs for stamps should be thrown wide open to competition (as is done in many countries) so as to ensure getting the most artistic designs possible. They are also of opinion that it should be possible to have stamps better finished technically. With machinery as good as that in use anywhere, our stamps do not compare well in appearance with, say, many that have been produced in Europe during the war years under very difficult conditions. An inspection of recent arrivals from the U.P.U. confirms this view.

There appear to be no major flaws in the issue, unless the frequent, if not complete, absence of a diaeresis over the second e of Posseël in the 1d. stamp can be so described, but Mr. C. Calitz notes the following minor defects as being constant on ten sheets examined:

1d.—Row 5, stamp 1: A white spot above the G of Postage. Row 11, stamp 2: A large white spot in front of South Africa.

2d.—Row 6, stamp 1: An arrow-shaped mark in left corner above Posseël. Row 18, stamp 3: A black spot in front of Suid-Afrika.

3d.—Row 3, stamp 3: White spot above bridge of man's nose. Row 14, last stamp: White blur between 3 and d. Row 18, stamp 1: Dark line over the woman's face.

Cancelling of Philatelic Mail.

A correspondent has submitted a sample cover (one of 6 he had posted) with blocks of four completely ruined by what looks like deliberately done excessively heavy cancellation, one mark on every stamp.

Could the P.M.G. not give a word of advice to his staff to treat what is obviously "philatelic mail" with a little more consideration? We know that in the past the official policy was averse to giving philatelists any consideration, but things have been changing. We are now given lots of information about stamps, and new issues are always well publicised beforehand. Apparently, therefore, the post office is alive to the value of publicity in selling stamps, and philatelists, both here and the world over, must contribute quite an appreciable amount to the Treasury. Could the P.O. not go a little further and see that the stamps are not ruined in process of use? Sales would go up, but if the present lack of care, if not deliberate ill-treatment, goes on, they will go down instead of up.

A New Union Catalogue.

Some considerable time ago a committee in Durban, under the chairmanship of Mr. Percy C. Bishop, started on the preparation of a new edition of the Natal Philatelic Society's Union Catalogue. On Mr. Bishop's departure his place was taken by Mr. A. E. Basden. Then it was learned that Mr. L. Simenhoff was contemplating a revised edition of his catalogue. It seemed a pity to have forces divided like this and so the Philatelic Federation stepped in and has agreed to sponsor a new catalogue, which is now well under way, with Messrs. Basden and Simenhoff as joint editors and a strong body of Union specialists collaborating.

Apart from the fact that all old Union catalogues are out of print, an up-to-date one is very desirable, and from what has been seen of the plans of this projected one it is felt that it will well meet the needs of the moderate specialist in Unions. More information about it should be available soon.

A Philatelic Congress.

Plans for the first post-war congress, to be held in Durban, are in preparation by the Natal Philatelic Society, and an early announcement on this may also be expected.

Collectors of REALLY FINE BRITISH COLONIALS should get into touch with me AT ONCE

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10	Belgium 1941 Winterhelp cpl.	15/0
9	,, 1942 Famous Belgians cpl.	17/6
7	,, 1945 Charity	3/6
5	Cuba 1942 Discovery of America	2/6
6	Ethiopia 1919 Zoo, 1-10 Dollar cat. 50/-	10/0
1	France 1940 New York (cat. 25/-)	10/6
4	,, 1940 War Relief (Generals)	12/6
3	,, Petain, 4-5 frs.	4/6
4	,, large Petain, Min. sheet	12/6
3	,, War, Navy & Air Force Relief	7/6
2	,, St. Denis & La Meile	4/6
2	,, Branly & Bugeaud	2/6
16	,, Iris, Hermes, Chain & Arms	4/6
3	Algiers and Tunis Victory cpl.	5/6
13	,, Marianne and Gallic Cock	8/6
4	Germany 1937, green Hitler sheet	7/6
3	,, 1943 Prof. Koch & Rosegger	3/9
4	,, 1943 Youth Training Brigade	3/6
3	,, 1943/44 Town Centenaries	4/6
4	,, 1944 Nazi Propaganda	5/6
2	,, 1944 Goldsmith's Anniversary	4/6
2	,, 1944 Innsbruck Bisley	1/6
2	,, 1944 Reich Labour Service	1/6
4	,, 1944 10 yrs. Mother & Child	3/6
5	Greece 1940/45, Gloria 1-20 dr.	2/0
6	,, 1942 airmail cpl. m. or u.	5/6
6	,, 1943 airmail cpl. m. at 2/6 u. at	3/6
8	,, 1942 airmail prov. on P. Dues	17/6
3	,, Child Welfare cpl. m. or u.	2/6
9	,, Pictorials, 2-200 dr. m. at 1/6, u. at	2/0
9	,, Pict. 500 - 5 Mill. dr, M at 2/0 u. at	2/6
5	,, various Charity o/pts.	1/0
4	,, 1944/5 "new Drachmai" o/p. cpl.	1/6
5	,, Postage Dues incl. prov.	3/6
10	Holland 1940 Queen Wilh. cpl. (cat. 98/-)	25/0
7	,, 1943 Symbols cpl. m.	3/6
10	,, 1944 Famous Admirals cpl. m.	5/6
5	,, 1944 Charity cpl. m.	4/6
21	Italy 1945 Liberation, with airs, etc., cpl.	12/6
16	Monaco 1933/44 arms & pict. to 50 frs.	25/0
4	,, 1945 Prince, 1.20 to 4 frs. m.	21/9
2	New Zealand 1944 Health "Peter Pan" m.	0/6
4	Russia 1944 Rimsky-Korsakov cpl. m.	10/6

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A. LICHTENSTEIN

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Collectors' Wants & Offers

(Twopence per word per insertion with minimum of 2/- per insertion).

Seychelles and Sierra Leone fine used copies wanted. Particularly Edward and George. High prices willingly paid.
William Redford, Box 7012, Johannesburg.

Transvaal, Griqualand West, O.F.S. covers and rarities wanted by
A. E. Basden, Killarney, Brickhill Road, Durban.

Wanted: Transvaal, Natal, Cape, O.F.S., Bechuanaland, Gambia, St. Helena, Egypt, France. Picked copies, rarities and varieties, also 9,000 items for world collection up to 1933 issues.
E. Hunt, Box 2437, Johannesburg.

For Service, promptness and satisfaction.
Benoni Stamp Shop, Box 485, Benoni. Phone 54-1692.

Pencancelled Cape Triangulars wanted for specialised collection high prices paid for fine copies.
Thiele, 455 West Street, Durban.

Mr. E. Tamsen, Box 13, Nylstroom, has still some blocks and controls, also entires of African countries to offer.

I offer my specialised collection of Great Britain, 1840 to 1944 (numbering 1144 of which 279 are mint). Cat. price, £393, for £100.
Particulars from E. J. Brierley, Morkel Street, Somerset West. Seen by appointment.

Liberia: Collections, sets, single stamps, etc., wanted for specialised collection.
Bennett, Box 733, Capetown.

Exchange desired with Collectors in all British Colonies. Offer Ceylon, all issues,, Jubilees, Coronations, Pictorials, etc.
C. M. Anthony, care of K. B. T. Perera, 35 Queen Street, Colombo, Ceylon.

EXCHANGE WANTED. — Can give Scandinavia and Switzerland.
Bengt Rooth, Folkungagatan 53, III, Stockholm 4, Sweden.

WANTED.—Union ½d. miniature unrouletted between. Particulars to
F. J. H. Kotze, 115 Smith Street, Durban.

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REGISTERED LETTER LABELS OF THE TANGANYIKA T.P.O's.

There are now quite a number of addicts to registered letter label collecting and the following notes on the labels of the Tanganyika T.P.O.s may be of interest to them.

There are two railway lines in Tanganyika —the Central line and the Tanga-Moshi line. The Central line extends from Dar-es-Salaam to Kigoma on Lake Tanganyika with a branch line going off from Tabora to Mwanza on Lake Victoria.

Post office cars are attached to the Dar-es-Salaam-Kigoma, Dar-es-Salaam-Mwanza and Tanga-Moshi trains. Registered and ordinary letters are accepted in these T.P.O.s, which are in operation at present.

On the Central line there are four labels in use, all of this type:

D.S.M.
———— T.P.O.
KIGOMA

No.....

The other three are DSM/MWANZA, TABORA/KIGOMA and TABORA/MWANZA.

The T.P.O. on the Tanga-Moshi line is called the Kilimanjaro T.P.O.

The date stamps in use on these T.P.O.s are marked UP or DOWN. In some countries this means services towards or away from railway headquarters; here it means literally a service running up inland from the coast, or down towards the coast.

I have some labels in my collection reading only T.P.O. No. 1 and T.P.O. No. 2. I think these types of labels are or were used on Central line T.P.O.s.

I also have a registered letter label reading Dar-es-Salaam R.L.O. No. —. R.L.O. means "Return Letter Office"; this type of label is used by the Post Office Department for undelivered registered letters.

Another registered label I have is worded:

FPO D.S. No.....

No.....

This label is marked with double numbers.

M. HABIB.

P.O. Box 584, Dar-es-Salaam.

★ ★ ★

NOTICES.

The Philatelic Foundation.

Under a charter from the State of New York there has recently been recognised "The Philatelic Foundation" which, broadly speaking, is intended to advance philately in all its branches by such means as maintaining a library and museum, forming reference collections, publishing monographs, books and articles, arranging exhibitions, etc., etc.

They have already set up an Expert Committee on lines similar to those of the Royal Philatelic Society in London, and the names of those serving on it are ample guarantee that it will be efficient.

Philatelic Literature Review.

We have received copies of this little magazine, published in New York. It is the official organ of the Philatelic Library Association, a non-profit organisation established to promote the use and study of philatelic literature of all kinds. It seems to meet a need as the membership of the Association is approaching the 1,000 mark.

Price List of Essays and Proofs.

Clarence W. Brazer of 415 Lexington Avenue, New York, has issued a price list of U.S.A. and B.N.A. Essays and Proofs which, according to the foregoing Review, is a makeshift list whilst a monumental historical catalogue is being prepared. Nevertheless, it contains much material and will be indispensable to all interested in this field. Dr. Brazer is the recognised authority on this subject and has been largely responsible for the growing interest which there is in it.

The Philatelic Exporter has advertisements by dealers all over the world, and should be most useful for dealers wishing to establish contacts in other countries.

The Gen has several interesting short articles on various issues of stamps, in addition to numerous stamp offers.

Publicidad Filatelica. Collectors of Spanish stamps, if they can read Spanish, will find this restarted publication of interest to them. It can be obtained from J. Majo Tocabens, Pelayo, I Tienda, Barcelona.

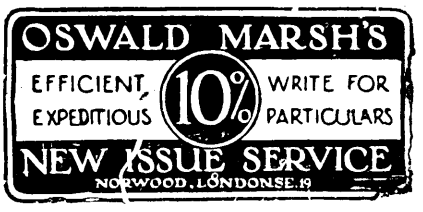
THE LAST NAZI STAMPS.

"Stamp Collecting reports that the very latest stamps issued in Germany arrived in Berlin from Vienna, where they had been printed, one day before the Russians encircled the city. They are said to have been on sale at the G.P.O. for about only one hour, and most were destroyed when the post office was burnt out.

There were two stamps, both of the same denomination, 12 and 38 pf., one showing the head and shoulders of an S.S. man carrying a flaming torch, the other an S.R. machine-gunner with a man carrying the Swastika flag in the background.

KENYA A.P.O.

Mr. W. Tunstall reports that the E.A. A.P.O. closed down about mid November.



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New Issue Service providing the collector with an easy and prompt means, at a reasonable cost, of keeping his collection up-to-date.

We will, on request, forward every new issue of any country (British and Colonial) in which you may be interested. Complete details of this service will be forwarded on request.

Want Lists, Special Offer Lists and Special Approval Books. You are invited to send in "Wants" Lists and the Company will endeavour to satisfy your requirements.

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We would suggest that you furnish us with a list of those countries in which you are particularly interested so that we can forward you selected item in approval books.

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Cape of Good Hope, Transvaal, Orange Free State and Union of South Africa.

"USED ABROAD"

By A. E. Basden, M.B.E., F.R.P.S.L.

(Notes accompanying a display before The Philatelic Society of Natal)

Under the heading "British Stamps Used Abroad," Gibbons presents a list of the stamps of Great Britain postally used in countries, foreign and colonial, beyond the confines of the British Isles; and British stamps with such "foreign" obliterations, under the term "used abroad" are much sought after by advanced collectors. It should be appreciated (but is seldom so among collectors in South Africa) that Gibbons, being a British firm (of world-wide reputation it is true) furnishes a specialist catalogue of the stamps of Great Britain, but does not do so of any other country: it is not their job for one thing, and the size of the catalogue would not permit of it for another. Wherefore it is desirable from time to time to remind ourselves that other countries, besides Great Britain, also have stamps used in other countries, both foreign and colonial, identifiable by their obliterations. Among them, e.g., recalled quickly to mind are France, Greece, India, Hong Kong, Transvaal, etc., and specialist catalogues and handbooks detailing such stamps and their obliterations are periodically issued.

Now we here, in South Africa, have been inclined to neglect our countries' stamps used abroad; in fact, many of our newer collectors appear never to have heard of them. Yet South Africa offers some interesting examples, viz.:

Cape—

Used in Griqualand West ...	*1872—1877
Used in Basutoland	*1881—1913
Used in Swaziland	1910—1913

Natal—

Used in Basutoland	1910—1913
Used in Swaziland	1910—1913

Transvaal—

Used in Natal	1881
Used in New Republic ...	*1885—1887
Used in Swaziland	1894—1913
Used in Rhodesia	1893
Used in Cape	1899—1902
Used in Natal	1899—1902

Orange Free State—

Used in Cape	1899—1902
Used in Natal	1899—1902
Used in Basutoland	1910—1913
Used in Swaziland	1910—1913

Union of South Africa—

Used in Basutoland	1913—1933
Used in Swaziland	1913—1933
Used in South-West Africa	1914—1923
Used in Tristan da Cunha ...	1927
Used in Egypt, Italy, Madagascar, etc.	1939—1945

* My earliest date.

Note:—Cape and Natal stamps were used by troops in other parts of South Africa during the Anglo-Boer War.

Catalogues, or check lists, of some of these, e.g., Transvaal and O.F.S., used in Cape or Natal during the Anglo-Boer War have been published from time to time; and recently a list has been compiled (for the new Union catalogue) of Union stamps used in Basutoland, Swaziland and South-West Africa; but, on the whole, our South African stamps "used abroad" have been sadly overlooked.

For your pleasure and interest (and, possibly, enlightenment) I am exhibiting selections from my collections of all those above mentioned; and would take this opportunity of urging on my fellow-members the desirability of taking a keen and intelligent interest in the less-known uses of the stamps of their country; and particularly not to ignore them because they do not happen to be listed in their favourite catalogue.

Knowledgable South African collectors will not fail to include "used abroad" in their collections.

Offers from Britain.

CHANNEL ISLANDS (Jersey). German Occupation issues. Arms of Jersey. Complete pair. Mint 2/6. Used 3/4. Pictorials. Complete set of 6. Mint 10/-. Used 13/6. Pictorials. Short set of 4 highest values. Mint 8/-.

CHANNEL ISLANDS (Guernsey). German occupation issue. Arms of Guernsey. Complete issue of 5 stamps. Mint 16/-. Used 15/6.

EIRE. "Young Ireland Movement" Commemorative issued Sept. 15th. The complete mint set of 2 values 1/-.

ITALY (Sicily). 1943 Allied Military Government issue (AMGOT). The complete mint set of 9 values, obsolete and scarce. 10/9.

JAMAICA. 1945 Constitution Commemorative, issued August 20th. The complete mint set of 7 values 1½d.—10/- 22/6. Short set of 6 mint values 1½d.—5/- 10/-.

NYASALAND. Attractive two-colour pictorials issued Sept. 1st. Complete mint set of 14 values ½d.—£1 54/6. Short sets, ½d—5/- (12) 16/-; ½d.—1/- (9) 4/3.

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At the present time we particularly wish to buy, in wholesale quantities, all kinds of SETS, PACKETS, and SINGLE STAMPS.

For our retail trade we also wish to buy smaller quantities of BETTER GRADE SETS.

We would therefore be pleased to have you send us immediately a detailed list of what you have for sale. Or, if you prefer, send a sample book. (Please *do not* send us stamps on consignment unless we specifically ask you to. Always send us first a list of offers.)

Please be sure to state the price and the quantity available of each item, and the name of the catalogue whose numbers you are using.

Favourable prices will be appreciated and—still more important—will enable us to send you larger and more frequent orders than would otherwise be possible.

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CAPE TOWN PHILATELIC SOCIETY

QUESTION TIME

A most interesting hour was spent at our meeting of the 25th October, when Messrs. L. Simenhoff, Mummery, Cameron, Rousseau and E. C. Solomon were selected to give their answers and opinions to certain questions put to them by Question-Master Kaganson.

The questions were wide and in some cases brought forward diverse opinions, and the general attitude of the members present was that it had been a most instructive and interesting innovation.

The following were the questions submitted and the general opinion expressed in reply:

(1) Are stamps dearer in Cape Town than elsewhere in the Union?

This was a reply to a similar question put forward at the Pretoria Society some time back, and the unanimous opinion was that stamps are no dearer here than elsewhere.

(2) Is the intense study of a group of stamps, resulting in long catalogue lists, detrimental to that group of stamps?

Here the opinions expressed varied, but the general idea was that there should be two catalogues, one for the general collector, omitting the various shades, perfs., varieties, etc., as these were considered detrimental to the beginner, and then a specialised catalogue for each country. Mr. Simenhoff stated that we must not forget that many catalogues were just a price list of a particular firm and that an intense study of the stamps of a country would bring forward many things not listed.

(3) Should the Union have a National Philatelic Bureau?

The general opinion was that such a Bureau would be welcomed by Philatelists and would keep prices down, but Mr. Mummery expressed a fear that it might incline to cater for the dot-dash collector.

(To be continued)

S. RHODESIA

Mrs. Cawood, of Salisbury, reports:

(a) The statement quoted in our October issue that the 2d. Falls stamp had reverted to perf. 12½ may apply to stocks held at Rhodesia House, London, but does not hold good as regards stocks in S. Rhodesia; these are still perf. 14.

(b) The Matabele 2d. with a slit in the base of the "2" noted in our September issue is a constant flaw in stamp 60 of one pane. In the same pane the "thick ear" flaw appears on stamp 8.

In another pane the "line on the blanket" variety is on stamp 60, and on this pane stamp 45 has what appears to be an inverted "9" for the "d" of 2d. A further variety of the "line on the blanket role," probably withdrawn, was one with a white spot about 3 mm. square on the figure.

There are numerous other inconstant flaws but from these constant ones it seems a fair assumption that the stamps were printed in two panes of 60.

(c) In connection with the purple postmark of Filabusi noted in our July issue, similar purple marks are known from Inyanga, Avondale, Heany Camp, Highlands, and, for a short period only, Salisbury.

An error recently seen on a current 2d. Falls stamp is a Gwelo postmark dated 18 Aug. 46.

Another is a block of 2d. Coronation Nyasaland with postmark dated 4.5.37.

S. Rhodesian specialists should not fail to read an article by W. G. Nodder in the "Philatelic Magazine" of October 19. Dealing with the first (Admiral) issue he first of all makes it clear that the head plate used for the bicoloured stamps is not Die II of Rhodesia as is sometimes believed. They are very similar but not identical.

For the single working plate stamps (½d., 1d., 1½d. and 3d.) he shows, by enlarged drawings, that four separate and distinct plates were made for these four stamps.

B.M.A. MALAYA

From "Stamp Collecting" we learn that Malaya stamps which were on issue in 1941 have now been overprinted "B.M.A. MALAYA," in two lines and are now on sale. "B.M.A.," it may be said, stands for British Military Administration. It is understood that the full series, from 1c to $5 have been overprinted and they are expected to be in use for about a couple of years.

U.S.A.

New records for first day covers are being set up and knocked down almost weekly. Here are some: 3c Roosevelt, 391,650; 3c Iwo Jima, 400,279; 2c Roosevelt, 426,142.

Pictures of the forthcoming Commems. for the Navy and for the Coastguard (due for issue on October 27 and November 10) are appearing in the latest received philatelic papers. The Navy stamp shows a lot of happy smiling sailor boys, but one paper describes it as "horrible—a bunch of gobs making a gob of a stamp."

A 3c stamp honouring the late Alfred E. Smith, four times Governor of New York State and the 1938 Democratic candidate for President, was due for release on 26th November.

F. D. Rooseveld Collection. Much of this famous collection is to be sold by auction, and Messrs. H. R. Harmer, Inc., have been entrusted with the sale, which will take place on 4 and 5 February, and the balance in early April.

It is understood that the President left instructions which items should go to a national collection, but that he wished most of it to be dispersed so that fellow collectors could share in the pleasure which he had enjoyed in his lifetime.

Stamps of 24 November contains a full story of the collection written by Mr. George B. Sloane, who examined and appraised it as part of the President's estate. We regret that lack of space does not allow of us quoting from this at length, especially as the Editor had the kindness to send us advanced copy.

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Special offers in the November issue will be:

Falkland Is. Dependancies 32 values mint 13/6, used on covers £1. New Zealand Health 1945 issue 2 values 4½d. used 5½d. Jamaica Constitution set 1945 issue mint 19/6, used 22/-. Australia Duke of Gloucester 3 values 1/-, used 1/3. Burma Military Administration complete set 16 values 37/6.

Subscription for 12 issues, one year, 2/-.

I am particularly in need of Free French sets, and low values stamps of any country up to half a million used for packets.

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EUROPEAN "OCCUPATION" ISSUES

Information about these is now gradually piling up. It is noteworthy that the Germans only issued stamps themselves in countries they intended to annex permanently: Alsace, Bohemia, Esthonia, Latvia, Lorraine, Luxembourg, Moravia, Poland and Ukraine. They issued none in France, Belgium, Holland, Denmark, Norway or the Channel Islands.

The issues in Czechoslovakia, or rather, in the Bohemia-Moravia Protectorate, as distinct from Slovakia, were the most prolific; there being some 17 different issues. Many were cultural and not at all warlike. The greatest rarity is the single stamp commemorating the "killer" Heydrich; it is a reproduction of his death mask and numbered copies were given to the "mourners" at the funeral.

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JOHANNESBURG

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SOCIETY NEWS

THE PHILATELIC SOCIETY OF JOHANNESBURG

President, Mr E. C. Sprighton; **Hon. Sec. (Acting),** P.O. Box 4967; **Meetings,** 2nd Tuesdays, Public Library, 7.45 p.m.

At the meeting held on December 11 the Pretoria Philatelic Society paid an official visit and the exhibits were provided by their members.

The president of the Pretoria Society, Lt.-Colonel Horne, introduced the exhibitors, who all introduced their exhibits by a few remarks.

Dr. Broom showed the 3d. Transvaal V.R. overprint and the 6d. Blue Transvaal overprint in all varieties. Dr. Broom has plated these stamps, and his exhibit showed the proper position of each variety.

Mr. Wilson showed the exhibit which won the Allen prize in Pretoria. It consisted of some sheets of Holland, Luxemburg, German States and Germany all beautifully mounted and written up.

Mr. Dodd showed Revenue stamps of the pre-Union South African Colonies. Interesting items were a block of four Transvaal with the signature of H. Rider Haggard (who was an official of the Transvaal Public Service), and a pair of Transvaal with the signature of Captain von Brandis, the first Landdrost of Johannesburg.

Mr. Wright showed stamps of the British West Indies. These included the centenary issues of Cayman Islands the Bahamas "Landfall" set and numerous specimens.

Dr. Fitzsimons showed issues of modern European during the German occupation period. Dr. Fitzsimons announced that the exhibit belonged to the Transvaal Museum, and the stamps had been obtained from the Universal Postal Union, Switzerland.

Dr. Broughton showed four small albums each of which had been presented to delegates at Postal Congresses. The albums were of the Union, Germany, Dutch East Indies and Egypt. I.I.

★

MASHONALAND PHILATELIC SOCIETY

Chairman, C. W. Lander; **Hon. Sec.,** I. W. Noar, P.O. Box 761, Salisbury; **Meetings,** Board Room of the Electric Supply Commission.

The sixth annual general meeting was held on 12th December, 1945, at 8 p.m., there being 21 members and one visitor present.

It was reported that 1945 started with few members, a shortage of stamps, and little enthusiasm, but it closed with a much better position. Fourteen new members joined during the year, the total being now 56, of whom 19 are country members. Four meetings were held during the year but it is hoped to have them monthly in 1946.

One hundred and seventeen exchange books are in circuit, having a value of £920.

Prospects for the future are bright, and if members will only attend meetings as regularly as possible, the Society should once again be really flourishing.

★

NYASALAND PHILATELIC SOCIETY

President, L. V. Booth; **Hon. Sec.,** Mr. Anson; **Meetings,** 2nd Mondays, Tobacco Auction Rooms, Limbe, 5 p.m.

There were 13 members, three juniors, and one visitor at the meeting held on 8th October, but owing to failure of the electricity supply it had to be adjourned to 10th October. Unfortunately the breakdown of the electricity supply still continued, and the meeting had to be adjourned after dealing with exchanges.

★

THE PHILATELIC SECTION OF THE JEWISH GUILD

Chairman, Mr. A. Gladstone; **Hon. Sec.,** Mr. I. Isaacs, 910 His Majesty's Buildings, Eloff Street, Johannesburg; **Meetings** last Thursdays, at the Jewish Guild Memorial Hall, Von Brandis Street, Johannesburg, at 8 p.m.

At the meeting held on 29th November Mr. H. Marcuson provided the exhibit.

He showed some sheets of his British Empire collection. The outstanding items of the exhibit were Centenary sets of Falklands, Cayman Islands, Antigua and St. Helena, Newfoundland airs including the "Balbao" stamp, Newfoundland Gilbert set, the Egypt wedding stamp, the Sudan Gordon set, and the Tanganyika giraffe set in all values and watermarks. Besides these the exhibit included New Guinea air mail sets, and several sheets of specimens. The complete Postal Union set of Great Britain was also included. Altogether it was a magnificent exhibit showing the choicest issues of the Empire during the last 20 years.

The section will be in recess for December, so the next meeting will be on Thursday, 31st January, 1946. All persons interested in stamps are welcome at the Guild meetings. I.I.

★

EAST LONDON PHILATELIC SOCIETY

President, A. Watson; **Hon. Secretary,** S. F. Fowler, P.O. Box 168, East London; **Meetings,** Colosseum Building, second Fridays at 7.45 p.m.

There was another good attendance at the December meeting, 24 members and four visitors gathering round the table.

There was a general discussion on several matters of interest, including the holding of an exhibition in 1948, the Union's Victory issue designs and the misprints of the 2d. Bantam illustrated in the "S.A. Philatelist. Several members expressed their doubts regarding the last, one retired postal official stressing the extreme improbability of such a number of imperfect sheets passing the several official checks.

New issues of Denmark, U.S.A., etc., were passed round for inspection, also the "United Nations" postmark on British stamps. The president took the opportunity of wishing all members and visitors a very happy Christmas and New Year.

A wonderful collection of Air Mail Etiquettes was then tabled by Mr. Currell, of St. Matthews, specimens from every country being included. This was a most unusual and attractive display and demonstrated still another of the many sidelines in our hobby.

Mr. Blackrock, one of our younger collectors, followed with a very fine and complete exhibit of his collections of Union Kenya, Northern and Southern Rhodesian. All very fine copies and well arranged, most sets being shown both mint and used.

After the usual refreshment interval, Mr. Jensen showed a further selection of his ornamental mounting designs, consisting of about thirty sheets, each bearing a complete set of pictorial stamps, surrounded by an appropriate drawing in black and white.

The portrait of Field Marshall J. C. Smuts on the sheet bearing the new Victory Issue, was particularly noticeable. T.A.H.

★

CAPE TOWN PHILATELIC SOCIETY

President, L. Simenhoff; **Hon. Secretary,** S. Kaganson, P.O. Box 1973; **Meetings,** 2nd and 4th Thursdays at Yorkshire Buildings, Strand Street, at 7.30 p.m.

Thursday, 8th November: One of the most interesting displays of the year was tabled at this meeting when Mr. C. G. Mummery showed his collection of Falkland Islands. The whole exhibit was beautifully set out and written up, and contained both mint and used stamps, and a large proportion of covers showing the various postmarks used throughout the Islands, including early postmarks of South Georgia and South Shetlands on the stamps of Falkland Islands.

Specimens of the early "Franks" were exhibited and the "Queens" were well represented in blocks, shades, covers and bisects.

One cover in particular was interesting as although the cover and the bisect thereon were considered by the B.P.A. to be genuine, the ½d. surcharge on the bisect was thought to be a forgery. There was also an unsevered pair of the ½d. surcharge on 1d., this item being also certified genuine by the B.P.A. The Edward and Geo. V issues included mint and used copies of all the high values. Another outstanding item was a copy of the scarce 1928 provisional, the 2½d. surcharge on 2nd. The 1933 Centenary was complete to the £1 and to the 2s. 6d. in used state.

A most interesting paper was read by Mr. Mummery, an extract of which we hope to publish.

Thursday, 22nd November: At this meeting we had the pleasure of viewing two exhibits, one by Mr. E. C.

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Solomon and a surprise exhibit by a visitor to the Cape, Mr. Liss, President of the Free State Society.

Mr. Solomon gave us some more of his A to Z collection, showing on this occasion Abyssinia and Iran. Both countries were fairly complete except for a few obscure items, the latter country being particularly topical in the light of present day events, more especially as stamps of Azerbaijan were also exhibited.

Mr. Solomon read an interesting paper on the stamps tabled.

Mr. Liss tabled his collection of "Fiscal Stamps" of the O.F.S. This unique collection of postal stamps used fiscally included the various V.R.I. varieties, and must have taken a tremendous amount of time and patience to complete.

At the conclusion of the displays, Mr. Davids took over and conducted a competition arranged by Mr. I. E. Hall. This proved most interesting and unusual in that members had to recognise stamps from the pictures exhibited (similar to a competition run by Gibbons many years ago). Mr. C. R. V. Solomon once again proved his versatility and was the winner.

B.L.C.

★

EAST RAND PHILATELIC SOCIETY

President: Lieut. J. A. B. van Wyk; **Hon. Secretary-Treasurer,** E. N. Rigg, 103 Kemston Avenue, Benoni; **Meetings,** 3rd Tuesdays, 8 p.m., Hotel Regent, Benoni.

There was a very good attendance at the November meeting, and a very enjoyable evening was spent; the evening's exhibitors were Miss Gillmore, who brought along two of her collections, namely, Australia, which was a straightforward collection in mint and used, and was practically complete, and Mauritius, also in mint and used, starting with the Queen's issue right up to George VI.

The competition for the evening, which was also arranged by Miss Gillmore, was won by Mrs. Shepherd.

Mr. Reckling exhibited his collection of pre-stamped covers mounted on large carboard sheets, the earliest being dated 1760.

The attendance at the December meeting was fair. After the formal business was concluded an auction sale was held for Christmas funds. The auction and donations realised £2 1s. 6d.

The evening's exhibits were provided by Mr. Rigg, first with America and the second Ceylon. Both these collections were straightforward, well written up and displayed.

★

THE PHILATELIC SOCIETY OF NATAL

President, Mr. W. H. Winde; **Hon. Sec.,** Mr. G. Milner Palmer, P.O. Box 588, Durban; **Meetings,** 1st and 3rd Wednesdays at 31 London Assurance House, 319 Smith Street (in room of the Durban Camera Club, top floor) 7.30 p.m.

Amongst the very large number of members and visitors present at the December meeting of the Society, it was pleasing to note the presence of Mr. Garth Greene through whose efforts the Society was founded some thirty-four years ago, the initial meeting having been held in 1911 in the Ladies' Waiting Room on Bellair Station (though why, as the chairman put it, the meeting should have been held by men in the ladies' waiting room is still not quite clear).

After the formal business, during which the names of no less than ten prospective members were submitted, an interesting "Brains Trust" programme was dealt with by Messrs. Basden, Bevis, Lyle and Palmer under the president, who acted as question-master. One question "How can one distinguish stamps printed on Chalky or Enamel-surface paper," rather stumped the "Trust," and no really satisfactory method was put forward. The other questions, however, gave no trouble, and the answers submitted by the Trust were generally accepted. In response to a query from the chair as to whether members desired a continuation of "The Brains Trust" programme, or whether they would prefer to revert to quiz programmes, it was unanimously decided to arrange for the two programmes to be held at alternate ordinary meetings.

The evergreen "Joe" (Mr. Lyle) again came to the rescue and put up a splendid exhibit of commemorative stamps. These had all been taken from his collection and specially mounted and written up for the meeting, and we hope other members will take a leaf out of Joe's book and when asked to table a display set about it with a willing spirit, instead of making excuses that their collection is not properly wrtten up or the arrangement is not suitable for public exhibition. Amongst such a wealth of interesting material it would be invidious to single out any particular item, though perhaps the most striking feature was the attractiveness of the designs, and, in most cases, the excellence of the printing of the stamps, compared to the miserable effort of the Government Printer in the latest Union Commemoratives. (By the way, can any reader tell the writer why the stamps are called a "Victory Issue," for, except by implication on the one penny stamp, there is nothing on any of the stamps to stress the fact that they are supposed to commemorate Victory. The motives as outlined on page 134 of the "S.A. Philatelist," will, I am sure, be lost on recipients overseas, particularly in the case of the 3d. wherein the two people are supposed to be gazing at a star in the evening sky with expressions suggesting their expectation of a lasting peace, whereas it could be just as easily misunderstood that they were gazing into murky darkness (the colour of the stamp couldn't be more dismal—but perhaps it is prophetic of the future).

Mr. Garth Greene in a breezy little speech expressed thanks to "Joe" for the excellence of the display he had put up for the enjoyment of members.

The usual auction followed, the many items submitted finding ready purchasers at bargain (and other) prices, and the meeting concluded with the usual tea and biscuits.

L.B.

★ ★ ★

GREAT BRITAIN

Very reluctant to have commemorative stamps, there is to be no Victory issue in Britain. Special postmarks are rather to the fore, however; the latest arrival is a rectangle with a globe in the centre, "United Nations" is curved over the globe and the length of the rectangle, with London and 1945 in the lower corners. Outside is the ordinary London date stamp.

Incidentally it may be mentioned that the "Victory Bells" postmark in use for a month after V-E day, was again brought out on V-J day, 15 Aug., and was in use for another month.

NEW ZEALAND

First day sales of the Peter Pan Health stamps smashed all records, 22 of the largest post offices selling over £20,000 worth as compared with just over £13,000 last year. The authorities should be pleased with the results and thankful that they took the advice of the Philatelic Societies on the matter of two colour printing.

The Victory issue of eleven values will be released as soon as supplies are received from London. The printing has been divided between three firms—Bradbury, Wilkinson & Co.; Harrison and Sons, and Waterlow and Sons.

ERIC G. COWELL.

GREECE SAID "NO"

On October 28, 1940, Italy demanded occupation bases in Greece. The reply was "No." To commemorate this Greece, on 28 October, 1945, issued two stamps, 20 and 40 dr., in which the word "OXI" (Greek for "No") is a prominent feature in the design.

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The
SOUTH AFRICAN PHILATELIST

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The Philatelic Federation of Southern Africa

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Vol. 22, No. 2. **FEBRUARY, 1946.** **Whole No. 251**

UNION NOTES.

Victory Stamps.

By the time these notes appear in print the sale of these stamps in the Union and S.W.A. will have ceased (end of January).

In the Protectorates the stamps are nominally on sale till 31st March, but we hear supplies are already nearly exhausted in spite of extra printings having been made.

The "Philatelic Magazine" of 30th November gives a description of a 2d. Union Victory stamp with postmark dated 9th November. Obviously this can only have been done by some postmaster disobeying the definite instructions given by the Union postal authorities to put these stamps on sale on 3rd December. Such specimens have no philatelic value.

Flaws. Mr. Calitz reports a flaw seen on a number of 1d. Afrikaans stamps—stamp 6 in 9th row; it is an irregular oval in brown, about 3 mm. long, over the base of the white V. Also a 3d. Afrikaans stamp in the first left-hand vertical row, with a blue line running from the temple to the cheek of the lady.

Our record last month of a flaw on the 1d., stamp 2 row 11, was a mistake; we hope next month to give the correct position.

Several observers have noted the flaw on the V of the 1d., stamp 6 row 9. It appears to be very constant and is really the only marked flaw in the whole issue.

Mr. Buchen has a half sheet of the 2d. with a white streak in the frames of all the stamps in the first left-hand vertical row. It is just to the right of the left-hand 2d.

Improved Air Service to Britain.

The Minister of Posts and Telegraphs has announced that from 30th January there will be two planes a week carrying mail, leaving Johannesburg on Wednesdays and Saturdays, arriving in England on Mondays and Fridays. With this doubled service air letters, will be carried by B.O.A.C. and Avro Yorks to Britain and Eire, but rate still remains 1s. 3d. per ½ oz.

Bantam and Other Flaws.

Mr. Calitz reports the ½d. (3rd stamp in 2nd row) with two blurred green marks above and behind the head of the right-hand soldier, also the 3rd stamp of the 7th row with a white line close to the right-hand edge of the stamp and running up almost from the "a" of Africa slightly into the stamp immediately above.

A 1s. 3d. has the foot of the R in Afrika blurred, and a 2s. 6d. has a blue line running horizontally from the top of the left-hand 6 to the centre of the stamp.

He also submits a postmark with a curious error. This is a machine mark in which the Afrikaans die has (correctly) Mosselbaai/4 I 46—8:00 whilst the English die has Mossel Bay/26 VIII 40—14:30.

There seems to have been a run on the overprinted Victory Stamps. S.W.A., Bechuanaland and Swaziland have all had extra printings made—quantities will be given later.

The P.O. Goes in for Philately.

It has been announced that the publicity section of the Post Office is preparing a complete collection of all South African postage stamps printed in the Union for display at the Philatelic Exhibition to be held in Cairo in February or March. Well, well, this is a change of heart—it isn't so very long ago since the official attitude towards philatelists was that they were an adjectival nuisance.

We regret to see the death reported of Mr. A. H. Harris, well known to philatelists in general as the editor of the "Philatelic Magazine." His interests lay in philatelic literature more than in stamps themselves, in which he did not deal, although he was the organiser of the annual London Stamp Trade Bourse. His own main contributions to literature were the "Standard Index to Philatelic Literature" and the "Catalogue of Meter Postage Stamps," but he was also responsible for many periodical publications.

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CAPE TOWN PHILATELIC SOCIETY
QUESTION TIME

(Concluded from page 8 of January issue)

(4) Can you suggest a better and easier method of distinguishing and standardising the colour of stamps?

In reply to this difficult question the opinions expressed were very interesting, but no one could give any specific idea as to how the various colours could be elucidated. The question of colour, and there are about 250 shades and intensities, is purely personal and depends on one's own reaction to light.

(5) Is Stamp Collecting an infectious disease?

The answers here were very amusing and almost developed into a discussion on infection and contagion, but all expressed the opinion that if the germ were present, stamp collecting was certainly infectious.

(6) Are too many members of Philatelic Societies more interested in the financial side of Philately than in the study side?

This question brought forward many varied and interesting replies, and the general opinion was that the average collector must buy and sell stamps in order to improve his own particular collection.

Mr. Rousseau in a very interesting reply, stated that a lot of collectors were inclined to lose sight of the fact that Philately was a hobby—something to turn to for relaxation after the day's work and worries.

Even the smallest collection contained a vast amount of instruction and information, and we should spend more time in the study of what we have—the story behind the stamp, and if we carried this out we would hate to part with any stamp we have.

(7) Has the modern loose leaf album come to stay?

Here there was no doubt that this album was the best means by which to show a collection as it enabled one to express one's own ideas.

(8) Can the stamp collector afford to be strictly moral?

The replies to this question caused much laughter; one member answering to the effect that being a lawyer he would not be believed in any case.

(9) Should the S.A.B.C. broadcast occasional stamp talks?

The most interesting feature revealed in reply to this question was that in America, where there are about 10,000,000 collectors, broadcasts on stamps were a regular feature on some programmes. It was doubtful, however, if there were sufficient numbers here to warrant such talks, and as one speaker put it, they would suffer the fate of most talks—the radio switched off.

Mr. Simenhoff, who had made a few broadcasts to schools, said much depended on the subject chosen and the manner in which the talks were put over the air B.L.C.

REVIEWS AND NOTICES.

Whitfield, King & Co.'s *Standard Catalogue*, British Empire Section (with Foreign Supplement), 1946 ed. Price 7s. 6d. plus postage.

The publishers, in view of the many changes there will be in the foreign section, have decided to defer the publication of the whole world catalogue and to have recourse to a Foreign Supplement to Part I—the British Empire section. Only a few of the stamps in the foreign section are priced, and these are the only ones the firm can supply.

It is probably unnecessary to remind anyone, except very recent collectors, that this is a "simple life" catalogue which omits listing of minor variations in shades, perfs. and designs. Within these limitations, the catalogue is an excellent one for the general collector and the prices are a fair reflection of the current market values. More advanced collectors are reminded, however, that the publishers do cater for them in the way of non-listed varieties and they invite enquiries.

Jamaica Philatelist. We have to thank the Jamaica Philatelic Society for sending us as usual their annual issue of this, their official organ. This year's number has numerous odds and ends of information about Jamaica stamps, including a check list of its K.G. VI stamps and a record of a newly-discovered ship letter pre-stamp mark from Montego Bay.

There are also articles on Numerical B.W.I. cancellations other than those of Jamaica itself and on the Postmarks of St. Vincent.

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NORTH BORNEO AND SARAWAK

Both of these territories, like Malaya, are having provisionals of their old stamps overprinted with B.M.A.

HONG KONG

The stamps now in use there were 1941 printings which were on their way there at the time of the Japanese occupation. They have been in storage meanwhile, some in South Africa, some in Australia.

EUROPE POST-LIBERATION ISSUES

"Gibbons' Stamp Monthly" has commenced a tentative list of the issues of Europe since liberation. It is not necessarily complete yet, and the stamps now listed may not all obtain permanent catalogue rank. No prices are given, because of confusion in exchange, barter and black market rates, also in view of the contradictory prices given in various European catalogues.

THE PROTECTORATES

"Stamp Collecting" states that the Crown Agents released a new printing of the *Swaziland* 2d. in November. This is brown in shade and readily distinguishable from the deep brown which came out in July, 1944. New printings in December were ½d., 2d., 6d. and 1s. of *Basutoland* and 2d. of *Bechuanaland*.

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Bahamas "Landfall," ½d.-2s., mint 15/6
Bahamas "Landfall," ½d.-5s., mint 38/6
Basutoland, K.G. VI, complete, fine used 23/6
Br. Solomon Is., K.G. VI, original 1938 issue, complete, mint 35/0
Burma, "Mily Admn" overprint, complete, mint 57/6
Burma, "Mily Admn" overprint, to 2R., mint .. 17/6
Burma, "Mily Admn" overprint, to 1R., mint .. 10/6
Channel Is. (3 Guernsey arms and 6 Jersey pictorials) mint 11/6
M.E.F., Cairo overprint, complete, mint 2/3
M.E.F., Cairo overprint, complete, fine used .. 3/0
M.E.F., London overprint, complete, mint 7/6
M.E.F., London overprint, complete, fine used .. 9/0
M.E.F. dues, complete, mint 2/0
E.A.F., complete, mint 4/6
E.A.F., complete, fine used 5/1
Jamaica Constitution, including both perfs. of 2d., complete, mint 23/6
Kenya on S.A., 4 values in pairs, complete, mint 3/4
Muscat, postage and service, complete, mint .. 50/0
Muscat, postage only, complete, mint 30/0
Nyasaland, K.G. VI 1938, without the first colours ¼d., 1d., 1½d., 2d., otherwise complete, mint. 65/0
Nyasaland, K.G. VI 1938, without the first colours ½d., 1d., 1½d., 2d., to 2s., mint 8/0
Swaziland, K.G. VI, first perf., complete, mint 35/0
Swaziland, K.G. VI, first perf., complete, fine used 35/0

All sets listed above can be supplied in blocks at pro rata prices.

VICTORY SETS

Basutoland, complete, mint 1/3
Basutoland, complete, fine used 1/5
Bechuanaland, complete, mint 1/5
Bechuanaland, complete, fine used 1/8
Swaziland, complete, mint 1/5
Swaziland, complete, fine used 1/8
S.W. Africa, complete, mint 1/5
S.W. Africa, complete, fine used 1/8
South Africa, complete, mint 1/5
South Africa, complete, fine used 1/8
All above are in horizontal pairs, blocks can be supplied pro rata.

SOUTH AFRICAN SETS

Silver Jubilee, complete, mint 32/6
Voortrekker, 1938, 6 pairs, complete, mint 11/6
Voortrekker, 1938, 6 pairs, complete, fine used .. 12/6
Huguenot, 1939, complete, mint 5/3
Huguenot, 1939, complete, fine used 6/6

SOUTH WEST AFRICAN SETS

Airmail, large overprint, complete, mint 2/9
Airmail, large overprint, complete, fine used 2/9
Airmail, small overprint, complete, mint 4/6
Voortrekker, 1938, 6 pairs, complete, mint 12/6
Voortrekker, 1938, 6 pairs, complete, fine used .. 16/6
Voortrekker, 1938, Government Commemorative values only, 2 pairs, mint 3/0
Voortrekker, 1938, Government Commemorative values only, 2 pairs, fine used 4/6
Huguenot, 1939, complete, mint 10/0
Huguenot, 1939, complete, fine used 12/6

All above S.A. and S.W.A. sets contain horizontal pairs (except S.W.A. airmails). Sets in blocks at pro rata prices.

1946 CATALOGUES

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THE PLATES OF THE GEORGE VI LEOPARD ISSUE OF NYASALAND

1st January, 1938 – 31st August, 1945

By C. W. TWYNAM

(Notes accompanying a demonstration given to the Nyasaland Philatelic Society)

Waterlow and Sons do not usually number their plates in the margin for all to see, as do some other firms, but it has gradually come to light that they have a very complete system of secret marks by which one can identify some, if not all, of the plates used. Unfortunately, in the case of the George VI leopard issue the stamps had been on sale for about five years before the importance of these marks was realised. They consist of central marks top and bottom in conjunction with guide lines in all corners.

Study of these shows that the standard Waterlow plate for this issue consists of two panes one above the other, while changes in the centre marks with guide lines remaining unchanged indicate the use of a fresh plate. Two sets of marks have been identified for all values up to the 9d. (single pane for second plates of ½d., and 6d.). For a small final printing of the ½d., 1d. and 2d. only put on sale in August, 1945, some of the original markings appeared again, but there were also some new special single panes.

Evidence that the Waterlow plate normally consists of two panes.—From the average sheet little can be learned; it is when one or more sides have wide margins that the secrets are revealed. From mosaics built up in this way it has been found that the standard arrangement up to the 9d. inclusive consists of two panes, upper and lower, with a gutter between equal to the depth of one cliché together with the spaces separating it from its neighbours above and below, in all 29 mm. (3+23+3).

There is always a mark of some sort at 13 mm. above the centre of the top row of clichés, and at the same distance below the bottom row. The top and bottom centre marks of a Post Office sheet frequently differ, but each does generally correspond to its "opposite number" on the other pane of the plate, i.e., the two outside marks are similar, and so are the two in the gutter. The mark may be a single dot or something more complicated, while there may be a second mark at 16 mm. This holds whether we are considering an upper or a lower pane. To decide to which pane a sheet actually belongs, the guide lines at the corners of the sheet must be examined.

As stated above, the gutter between the panes is 29 mm. deep. The guide line to separate the panes is in the centre of the gutter, 14½ mm. from the stamp above and the same distance from that below. The line, however, is not continuous and only prints at the corners, beyond the stamps—hence only stamps with wide margins will show it.

Thus, where the horizontal guide line comes 14½ mm. below the bottom row of stamps, a top pane is being examined; where it is 14½ mm. above the top row of stamps, the pane is a bottom one. It is invariably the edge with guide line at 14½ mm. which matches with the opposite pane of the Waterlow plate. Where both top and bottom guide lines *of the same sheet* are at 15 mm., the plate has only a single pane.

In almost all cases there are also vertical guide lines, which are always at 16 mm. beyond the stamps when present. These contribute no information and can be ignored.

It must be understood that these distances are measured from the corner of the stamp concerned to the intersection of the edge of the cliché prolonged with the guide line at right angles to it, also prolonged. (See diagram I.)

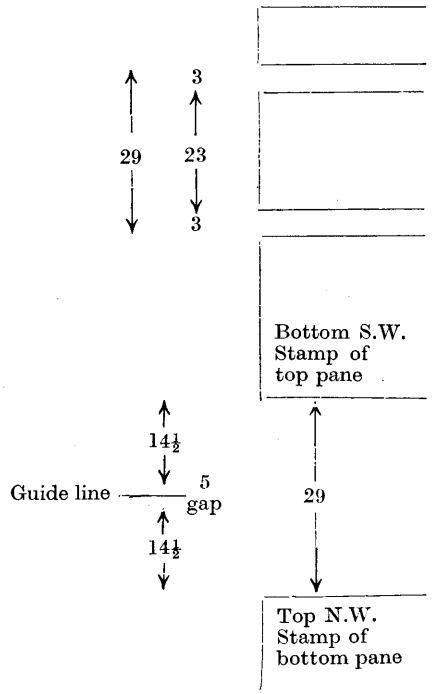

DIAGRAM I.

The guide lines themselves are never the full 13, 14½ or 16 mm. long from their point of intersection. It is the length of the gap, however, which gives the identification. For lines at 14½ mm. the gap between their ends and the vertical edge of the cliché prolonged is always the same, whether at top or bottom of the sheet, but lines at 13 mm. may or may not correspond as they come from the outer edges of the Waterlow plate. It is not necessary to have margins so wide as to show the guide lines intersecting; the length of the gap at

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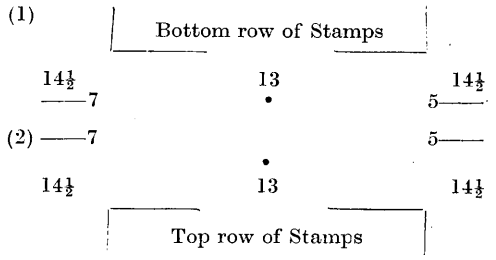
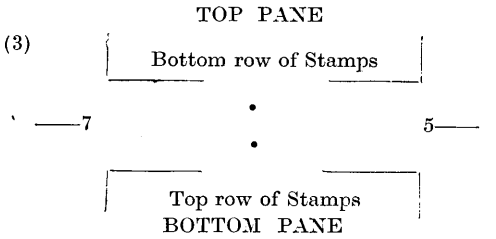
either side is enough to show whether one is dealing with the same line in different positions.

There being only one guide line between the panes, it will appear on sheets from either pane when the guillotine has not fallen exactly along the line, and given margins showing it in both positions, the combination of guide line and centre mark provides the means of matching the two panes, thus proving that the standard Waterlow plate was made up of two panes. (Though the bottom panes of the early 1½d. and 3d. have not yet been identified, the fact that the guide lines below the panes, which have been seen, are at 14½ mm., argues that their plates were double pane like all other values.)

For instance, with the lay-out below we can say that the two strips show the junction of the top and bottom panes of a single printer's plate.



Waterlow's actual plate being as below, with the guillotine intended to cut along the guide line passing between the two dots:



The guillotine may fall so badly out of place as to show a double set of marks. If the guide line passes between them, one mark belongs to each pane, but if the line runs through the mark nearest the stamp (i.e., is at 13 mm. instead of 14½ mm.) then the margin is at the outer edge of the Waterlow plate, and both marks belong to the same pane. Double guide lines which occasionally occur definitely indicate an outer edge.

Once a sheet has been identified as from top or bottom pane, it can be compared with similar panes, and changes in the centre marks will indicate panes from different plates. These changes in centre marks are dealt with below.

Evidence that Waterlow used more than one plate for each value.—When this study was begun in 1943, the centre marks were merely dots both in outer margins and between panes (for the ½d., 1½d., 2d. and 6d.) or dots with a cross at left in outer margins to show the marks; only the upper pane has been identified, and of that not all lines are known, so its lay-out is uncertain.

As the stamps were first issued five years earlier, it is possible that some plates had already been discarded, perhaps in the case of the 1d., but there is no evidence in proof.

Late in 1944 new printings began to appear which had probably been made about 1942. These have a horizontal line 4 mm. long in exact centre as a part of the mark for all values except ½d. and 6d. In the 1d., 4d. and 9d. the cross of the old mark still shows as a ghost, half erased, to the left of the new one. In the case of the ½d. and 6d. completely new single pane plates appear to have been made, both top and bottom guide lines being at 13 mm., thus indicating the absence of a gutter.

In a final small printing of the ½d., 1d. and 2d. put on sale only one month before the stamps were withdrawn the old markings reappear (½d. top pane only, 1d. both panes of cross and dot plate, 2d. old top pane and another new top pane with same guide lines but entirely different centre marks). That these were a new printing and not merely the balance of the earlier printing left in stock is proved by the fact that sheet serial numbers begin again from 0001 and have only four numerals instead of five.

Incidentally, it may be mentioned that in all values serial numbers had reverted to 00001, or 0001 for values in less demand, on the introduction of the 1944 printings.

It is therefore considered that a master plate was engraved for each value, transfers being taken from it as required. The guide lines and original centre marks were engraved on this master plate, the latter being changed when new plates were made. Various incidental scratches, especially noticeable on the 2d., which were on the early plates, still appear right to the end.

The final printings may have been made from the old plates brought back into use again, or fresh transfers may have been made, centre marks being left unaltered as the leopard set was becoming obsolete almost at once and no further printings would be required.

Assuming that fresh transfers were made, as seems reasonable in view of the new 2d. pane, the panes identified during the life of the issue are as follows:—

½d.	Up to 1944	2	June 1945	1	Aug. 1945	1
1d.	„	2	Mar. 1944	2	Jul. 1945	2
1½d.	„	1	Mar. 1945	2		
2d.	„	2	Jan. 1945	2	Jul. 1945	2
3d.	„	1	Dec. 1944	2		
4d.	„	2	Mar. 1944	2		
6d.	„	2	Jul. 1945	1		
9d.	„	2	Mar. 1945	2		

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Though the other panes of the original plates for the 1½d. and 3d. have not been seen, it is almost certain that they existed. It is the top pane, which has been found in each case. The figure 2 in the table above represents a double pane plate in all cases except the final printing of the 2d., in which there are two top panes.

Exceptionally wide right hand margins show a number occasionally in the colour of the stamp outside the NE vertical guide line. This comes on the bottom pane only and reads upwards. The same number has been found with different centre marks, so it also must appear on the master plate. It is probably the number of the plate in Waterlow's records. The number on the 1d. plate is 30606 and on the 2d. plate 30608.

The 1*s. Value*.—This seems to have been printed from single pane head and duty plates throughout its life. All guide lines are much further from the stamp (horizontals at 16 and verticals at 18 mm.). Centre marks are level with the guide lines. There were two printings, each of some 2,500 sheets, the second being on the white paper. The centre mark is a cross with arms 3 mm. long in the latter case; that of the first printing is not known, but guide lines are the same for both printings. There seem to have been no special marks of any sort for the head plate, guide lines and centre marks both being in the colour of the frame, with nothing superimposed.

The Leopards are now obsolete, and all remainders together with those of the old type high values were destroyed by burning during November, 1945. No more information is, therefore, likely to be forthcoming, except possibly from sheets in dealers' hands. But perhaps these notes may stimulate similar discoveries in other countries whose stamps are printed by Messrs. Waterlow & Sons. Gibbons Stamp Monthly for February and August, 1945, noted similar marks in the case of Malta, while the October number mentioned them for the Jamaica Constitution set.

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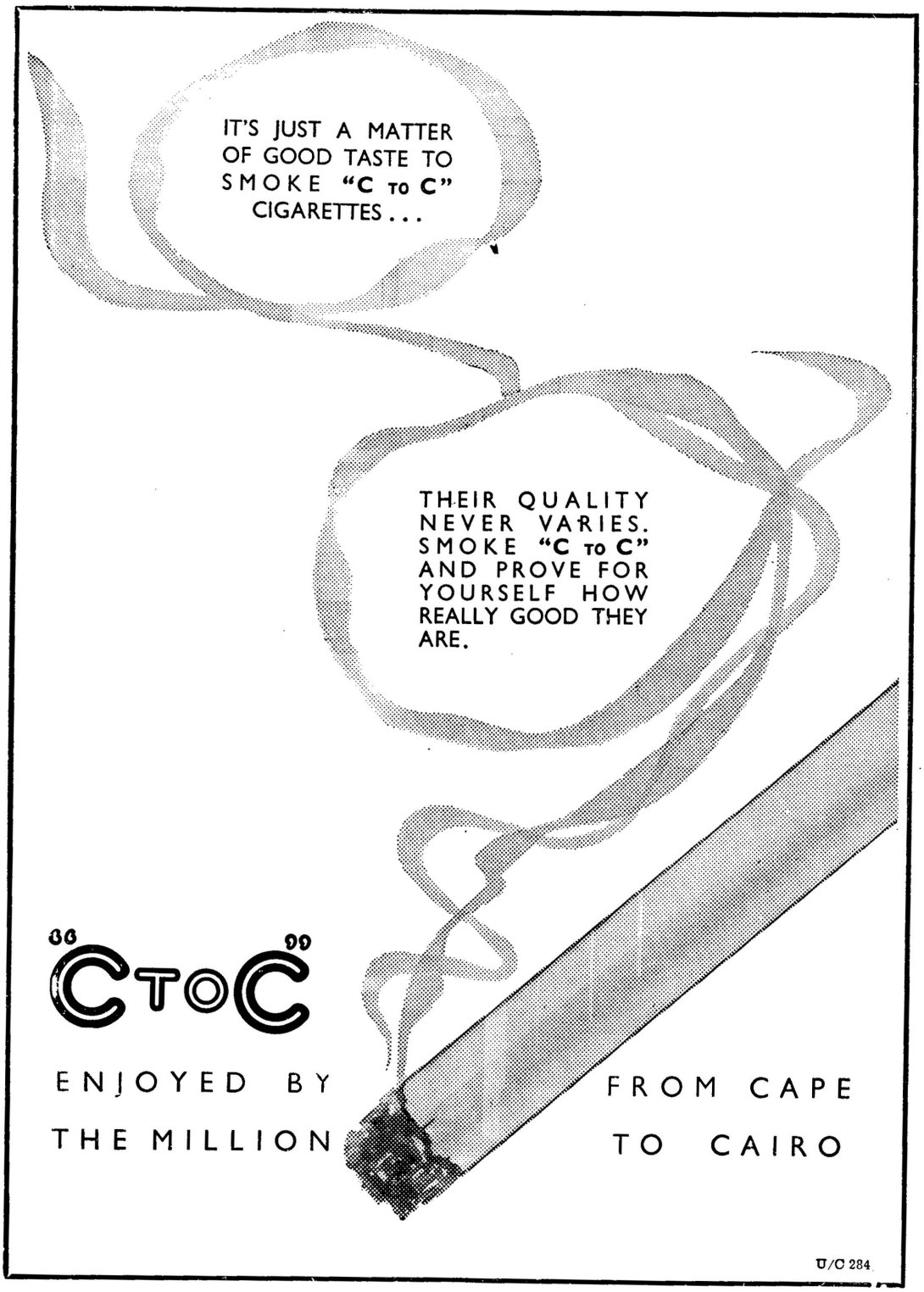

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Falklands Islands

(Paper read by C. G. MUMMERY at Cape Town Philatelic Society.)

The Falkland Islands, consisting of East and West Falkland and a number of smaller islands, are situated in the South Atlantic Ocean, three hundred miles east of Magellan Strait, near the tip of South America. They are low, rocky and treeless and are swept by fierce winds and pelted for three-fourths of the year by cold, drizzling rains. Forbidding as they are in appearance, however, the Falkland Islands form a highly prosperous colony. There is ample pasturage on which large flocks of sheep thrive, and whaling yields considerable profits.

Discovered in 1592 the Islands were owned first by France, then by Spain, and finally were acquired by Great Britain in 1771. With their Dependencies—South Georgia, South Orkneys, South Shetlands, the Sandwich Group and Graham Land—they form a Crown Colony, with its Capital at Port Stanley on East Falkland.

It will be remembered that in December, 1914, during the first Great War, a squadron of German warships under Admiral von Spee was overtaken and destroyed off the Falkland Islands by a British squadron under Admiral Sturdee.

Postal History.

Regular postage stamps were not issued in the Falkland Islands until 1878, but for ten years before that date two postal franks were used. These were not adhesive but were applied by hand-stamp on letters when they were handed in at the Post Office. The first frank was small and rectangular in shape—it was brought into use in 1868 and was struck in black. The second frank was larger and circular in shape, very similar to a postmark —it was brought into use in 1877 and was struck in red. Both franks were inscribed with the name of the Islands and the word "Paid," and each had a postal value of 6d., this being the rate per half ounce anywhere at the time.

Original covers bearing either of these franks are very rare (I had one offered me from London a short while ago at £50). Cut-outs are, however, comparatively common but, quite possibly, many of them are "reprints."

Unlike several other British Colonies, the Falkland Islands did not use the stamps of Great Britain before having their own distinctive issue.

The first adhesive stamps were issued on 19th June, 1878, and consisted of two values —a 1d. claret and a 6d. blue-green. These were followed by a 1s. bistre-brown later in the year, and by a 4d. grey-black in September, 1879. These stamps were all on very thin wove paper with a slightly greyish tint and had no watermark. The design common to all values shows the head of Queen Victoria facing to the right. The stamps were engraved and printed by Bradbury, Wilkinson & Co.

In February, 1884, a further printing of the 1d. and 4d. was issued, but on this occasion they were on watermarked paper (Crown C.A.). This paper had been specially made for stamps printed by De La Rue & Co., so that each stamp had one watermark but it did not exactly fit the Falkland Islands stamps, with the result that specimens are very frequently found with the watermark not well-centred.

In an attempt to rectify the position and reduce wastage when the next supply of the 1d. and 4d. stamps was required in 1886, the printers inserted the sheets sideways into the press, and this printing accordingly has the watermark sideways.

The sheets of all issues from 1878 to 1886 were perforated only between the stamps. Consequently stamps from the margins have one or two sides imperf. From 1889 onwards the sheets were perforated all round and the watermarks reverted to the upright position.

In January, 1891, the postage to Great Britain was reduced to 2½d. per half ounce. There being no ½d. or 2½d. stamps on hand at the time, permission was given to bisect the 1d. stamp and use each portion as ½d. At first the bisected stamps were used without being surcharged, but later on they were surcharged ½d. in black by means of a small hand-stamp. Many varieties occur, the surcharges being found sideways, inverted and even double. Permission to use the bisects was withdrawn officially in January, 1892, but specimens were allowed to pass through the post for several months afterwards.

From 1891 to 1904 new values were added to the current series and many shades exist, the scarcest being the 2½d. Prussian blue, which is now catalogued 80s. mint .

In 1904 the King Edward series appeared and these were superseded in 1912 by the first issue of King George V.

During March, 1923, the supply of penny stamps at South Georgia became exhausted and the Government representative took it upon himself to sanction the bisecting of some 2½d. stamps. This procedure was not authorised from Port Stanley and the item is not catalogued by Stanley Gibbons, but they make reference to it in their Catalogue.

In February, 1928, a shortage of half-penny and 2½d. stamps arose in South Georgia, and on this occasion official permission was given to surcharge 2d. stamps with 2½d. 1,179 stamps were surcharged and this provisional is one of Falkland Islands scare items.

In 1933 the Centenary of British occupation was marked by the issue of a handsome set of commemorative stamps. This set is artistic and well produced but its artistry and production were not appreciated by the Argentine Republic, which held that the Malvinas, as the Falkland Islands are known, were Argentine territory and illegally occupied by Britain. In consequence, Argentine refused to recognise the stamps and notified the Postal Union at Berne of their intention to regard as unfranked all letters addressed

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to the Argentine which were prepaid by the Centenary commemoratives. The Centenary series remained current until the end of 1933.

In 1935 there was the "Silver Jubilee" set, of which the 1s. value exists with the "double flagstaff" variety. This is a scare item, however, and so far I have not been able to get hold of one.

1937 saw the "Coronation" issue, and in January, 1938, the first definitive series of King George VI was issued. This comprised 12 values from ½d. to £1, and the set is a handsome one in pictorial design, on somewhat similar lines to the 1933 Centenary Set.

Lastly, we have the short sets overprinted in 1944 for use in the Dependencies, Graham Land, South Georgia, South Orkneys and South Shetlands. These have revived interest, in me at any rate, in the earlier postmarks of South Georgia and South Shetlands. There were no previous postmarks of Graham Land and South Orkneys.

★ ★ ★

INDIA—VICTORY STAMPS

We understand that two values, 1½ and 3½ annas, were issued on 2nd January and that two further values, 9 pies and 12 annas, will complete the set at a somewhat later date.

ARMY P.O.'s - REAL ALLIES

By J. H. HARVEY PIRIE

The following record, compiled from specimens coming from the East African, Madagascar, Middle East, North African and Italian theatres of war, is one of stamps of one country used in an Army P.O. of another country.

We know, from official information supplied by the Director of the South African Army Postal Service published in the November, 1945, issue of this magazine, that, in order to facilitate postal arrangements generally, it was an unwritten law that any postal items bearing postage stamps of British or Dominion Army Postal Services serving in the same area, would be accepted at any A.P.O. under their respective controls.

When troops from various countries are fighting together there are obviously many occasions when it is more convenient for an individual to use the P.O. of some unit other than his own. In the case of correspondence entitled to free postage it is probably impossible in most cases to identify such usage, but stamps had to be used for air post, registration and parcels; in some cases individuals used such stamps as they happened to have on them instead of buying fresh ones at the "foreign" post office.

Occasionally stamps of two or even more countries were used together to make up the necessary postal rate, giving us a form of "combination cover" of which some examples have already been recorded (see this magazine, Vol. 20, 1944, pp. 6, 34, 48 and 63).

Whether the "unwritten law" applied to P.O.s other than British and Dominion ones, I have no official information, but I understand, unofficially, that there was some difficulty, at any rate at South African offices, about the acceptance of the stamps of countries not on the sterling basis. But I have specimens even of such usage; some undoubtedly were "cancelling by complaisance," but it is made clear in the record where such was the case.

Some of the "cross cancelling" and "combination covers" undoubtedly did have a philatelic end in view, but by no means all, or perhaps even the majority. But, be that as it may, all examples here quoted are of stamps which genuinely performed work in prepaying postage, except where stated to the contrary.

The grouping in the following list is by the Army P.O.s of the various countries. Most of the stamps seen with such postmarks naturally are stamps of the country to which the A.P.O. belonged; the record is one of stamps of other countries showing such postmarks, either alone or in combination.

There are sure to be others, even from the theatres dealt with, and additional records would be welcomed. Similar occurrences from other theatres of war are outside the scope of this record. I have to express my indebtedness to Mrs. M. Cawood, Mr. T. A. Harper and Major J. Milligan for a number of the records.

1. *Great Britain* (numbered Field or Base P.O.s)

(a) Stamps of South Africa, Australia, New Zealand, India, Palestine, Sudan, Egypt (Army Post).

(b) In combination: Great Britain + South Africa, Great Britain + Australia, Great Britain + New Zealand, Great Britain + India, Great Britain + S. Rhodesia, Egypt (Army Post) + Egypt (ordinary).

2. *South Africa* (numbered A.P.O. - U - M.P.K.)

(a) Stamps of N. Rhodesia, S. Rhodesia, South West Africa, Basutoland, Bechuanaland, Swaziland, Kenya, Great Britain, U.S.A. (complaisance marking).

(b) In combination: South Africa + each of the first six countres just mentioned, South Africa + Great Britain, South Africa + New Zealand, South Africa + Australia, South Africa + Canada + U.S.A. (this made up a genuine postal rate), South Africa + Great Britain + U.S.A. (complaisance marking), South Africa + Great Britain + New Zealand, South Africa + U.S.A., South Africa + India, South Africa + Italy. In the case of the last three items, although all came through the post, the stamps other than the South African ones were in excess of the necessary postal rate. Stamps of Kenya + British Somaliland used in a South African A.P.O. were reported in 'Stamp Collecting" of 2nd October, 1943.

(To be continued)

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10	Belgium 1941 Winterhelp cpl.	15/0
9	,, 1942 Famous Belgians cpl.	17/6
7	,, 1945 Charity	3/6
5	Cuba 1942 Discovery of America	2/6
6	Ethiopia 1919 Zoo, 1-10 Dollar cat. 50/-	10/0
1	France 1940 New York (cat. 25/-)	10/6
4	,, 1940 War Relief (Generals)	12/6
3	,, Petain, 4-5 frs.	4/6
4	,, large Petain, Min. sheet	12/6
3	,, War, Navy & Air Force Relief	7/6
2	,, St. Denis & La Meile	4/6
2	,, Branly & Bugeaud	2/6
16	,, Iris, Hermes, Chain & Arms	4/6
3	Algiers and Tunis Victory cpl.	5/6
13	,, Marianne and Gallic Cock	8/6
4	Germany 1937, green Hitler sheet	7/6
3	,, 1943 Prof. Koch & Rosegger	3/9
4	,, 1943 Youth Training Brigade	3/6
3	,, 1943/44 Town Centenaries	4/6
4	,, 1944 Nazi Propaganda	5/6
2	,, 1944 Goldsmith's Anniversary	4/6
2	,, 1944 Innsbruck Bisley	1/6
2	,, 1944 Reich Labour Service	1/6
4	,, 1944 10 yrs. Mother & Child	3/6
5	Greece 1940/45, Gloria 1-20 dr.	2/0
6	,, 1942 airmail cpl. m. or u.	5/6
6	,, 1943 airmail cpl. m. at 2/6 u. at	3/6
8	,, 1942 airmail prov. on P. Dues	17/6
3	,, Child Welfare cpl. m. or u.	2/6
9	,, Pictorials, 2-200 dr. m. at 1/6, u. at	2/0
9	,, Pict. 500 - 5 Mill. dr, M at 2/0 u. at	2/6
5	,, various, Charity o/pts.	1/0
4	,, 1944/5 "new Drachmai" o/p. cpl.	1/6
5	,, Postage Dues incl. prov.	3/6
10	Holland 1940 Queen Wilh. cpl. (cat. 98/-)	45/0
7	,, 1943 Symbols cpl. m.	3/6
10	,, 1944 Famous Admirals cpl. m.	5/6
5	,, 1944 Charity cpl. m.	4/6
21	Italy 1945 Liberation, with airs, etc., cpl.	12/6
16	Monaco 1933/44 arms & pict. to 50 frs.	25/0
4	,, 1945 Prince, 1.20 to 4 frs. m.	2/9
2	New Zealand 1944 Health "Peter Pan" m.	0/6
4	Russia 1944 Rimsky-Korsakov cpl. m.	10/6

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TRANSVAAL LOCALS
WHY VOLKSRUST?

Can any reader say why Gibbons credits Volksrust with a local issue in March, 1902? The issue is described as five values of the tall fiscal Z.A.R. stamps (1d., 6d., 1s., 1s. 6d. and 2s. 6d.) overprinted V.R.I. in the same type as the postage stamps were overprinted with in Pretoria in June, 1900.

But was this a special overprinting for Volksrust? So far as the information given goes, it merely suggests that the five stamps were the normal fiscal stamps of the period and it is, to say the least, improbable, that that particular type was available in Volksrust wherewith to make a special overprinting. And, unless a special overprinting were made, is it correct to describe this as a local issue?

There was no question of any siege or complete isolation of Volksrust at this period, but it is quite possible that for some reason or another there was a temporary shortage of some values of the V.R.I. postage stamps and that, either on his own initiative or with authority from Pretoria, the postmaster temporarily allowed the use of these fiscal stamps for postal purposes. If that were the position, then a note to that effect would seem to be the correct description and not listing them as a separate local issue. Pricing mint specimens would also become the height of absurdity.

Gibbons must have some reason for listing them as a local issue, but a search through the only contemporary literature available (*Gibbons' Monthly Journal*, Vol XII, 1901-2 and Vol. XIII, 1902-3) gives no clue. Scott's catalogue once listed them, but has now ceased to do so.

Copies of the 1d. with what at all events appear to be postal cancellations, are not uncommon. I personally have one cancelled "P.O. Volksrust/1 Apr 1902," and another with the mark of the British F.P.O. No. 47 of 4 June—this P.O. has been located at Vryheid in February, 1902, but its later situation has not been identified. In G.S.M. Vol. XIII, p. 6, there is mention of a 1d. blue Transvaal fiscal on a soldier's letter cancelled at Newcastle, Natal, on February 28, 1902. I have not seen cancelled copies of the other denominations, nor any covers with these stamps.

The Royal Philatelic Society's "Africa," Vol. III, quotes *Gibbons' Monthly Journal*, Vol XII, as recording the five above mentioned fiscal stamps of the Z.A.R. overprinted V.R.I. with Volksrust postmarks of various dates in March and April, 1902, and stating that they had been used there for postage as the ordinary stamps were not available.

The note goes on to add that no further information as to the employment of these stamps at Volksrust had been obtained ("Africa," Vol. III, was published in 1906); at best they could only be regarded as postal fiscals and the use of such was by no means confined to Volksrust. In the absence of any official notice authorising the use of the stamps for postal purposes, they are not included in their reference list of Transvaal stamps.

This appears to be a reasonable conclusion. Neither Curle and Basden nor Rich, in their books, give any reasoned explanation for the listing of these stamps as a special local issue, the latter, indeed, obviously having doubts as to their claim to be so listed. Can any reader give a convincing reason why they should?

J. H. HARVEY PIRIE.

★ ★ ★

NATAL

Mr. Rice reports in "Stamp Collecting" a Natal S.G. No. 98 double surcharged 2½ in violet handstamp, the old value being cancelled in ink. The surcharging appears to be under the postmark. He asks if this has been recorded, and can it have been done officially.

WORLD UNION OF COLLECTORS

We have received a letter from this organisation (address P.O. Box 913, Milan, Italy), stated to have been founded in 1934 and now revived. They invite collectors to join, stating what they are interested in. Members will receive a two-monthly list of collectors' requests for exchange or sale, addresses of members being given.

BRAZIL

Dr. Mario de Sanatis sends a Cr. 1.20 stamp issued for the 3rd Inter-American Conference of Radio Communications. It is a square stamp, in grey, showing an outline of the Americas, a radio tower and part of Rio de Janeiro Bay.

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William Redford, Box 7012, Johannesburg.

Mr. A. E. Basden, Killarney, Brickhill Road, Durban, offers for sale two of his collections of stamps, viz., Transvaal, comprising about 10 vols., probably the most extensive and comprehensive in existence; and Orange Free State, about 5 vols., also most extensive and comprehensive. Many varieties and some unique items in both.
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E. Hunt, Box 2437, Johannesburg.

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Thiele, 455 West Street, Durban.

Mr. E. Tamsen, Box 13, Nylstroom, has still some blocks and controls, also entires of African countries to offer.

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X-RAYS and STAMPS

Mr. W. H. S. Cheavin, in a preliminary note in the "London Philatelist," reports what promises to be a momentous discovery in philatelic research. Photographing of stamps by X-rays produces results far superior to those obtained by ordinary photography with a lens or camera and for examination of papers, cancellations, etc., gives considerably more information than ultra-violet light.

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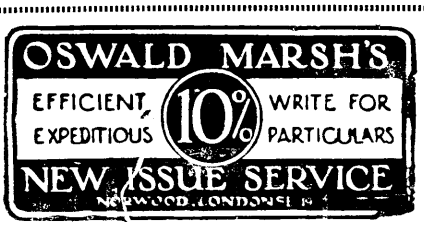

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SOCIETY NEWS

PRETORIA PHILATELIC SOCIETY.

President, Lt.-Col. G. Lance Horne; Hon. Secretary, H. A. Wager, P.O. Box 514; Meetings, 1st and 3rd Mondays, 8 p.m., Technical College.

December 3: Mr. A. P. Ravenscroft gave a detailed paper on the beginning and development of air-mail stamps. He described the trend of the designs with illuminating examples. These varied from birds, ancient mythology, airplane parts, etc., to complete airplanes. Outstanding events in aeronautics were commemorated on stamps. One Italian stamp showed that Da Vinci, the Italian inventor, had conceived the idea of airplanes in the 15th century. The paper showed a great deal of painstaking delving into stamp issues of all countries. An interesting discussion followed and it was pointed out that although nearly every country issued air stamps they were not compulsory for air mail but that ordinary stamps could also be used.

Prof. H. Wager showed stamps of Latvia, Estonia and Fiume.

December 18: The president described the visit of the Society to Johannesburg, and said that it had been a great success due to the exhibits taken over by Messrs. Broughton, Dodd, Wright, Wilson, and Dr. Broom. He pointed out that the Pretoria Philatelic Society should pride itself on having Dr. Broom as a member, a scientific research worker in philately, and he suggested that the work of Dr. Broom should be collated and published at the expense of the society.

The president mentioned with regret that this would be the last night of his presidency as he was returning home to Durban after many years at the "V" Buildings. Mr. Hawke and Mr. Bottomley voiced the feeling of the meeting in saying that the members had greatly enjoyed his year of office, and expressed their regret at his departure. A vote of thanks and good wishes was passed with acclamation.

At the invitation of the president several members showed items of interest: Mr. Wilson, the death-mask stamp of Serbia; Mr. Bottomley, some Republican stamps; Mr. Hawke, a Canadian Commemorative set; Mr. Wright, some Mulready envelopes; and Mr. Dodd, a unique example of a revenue stamp, divided into four used pieces.

The feature of the evening was an exhibit by Mr. C. Malcolm, a visiting member from Port Elizabeth. It was a wonderful display and included stamps of many countries. The attractive arrangement of the stamps was something new and was greatly admired by the members present.

January 7: Mr. H. N. B. Hawke read an extract on topical stamps relating to the war.

Short Papers. Mr. Wright gave a description of two locals, one from Alexandria in the U.S.A. and one from Alexandrie in Russia, and he commented on the coincidence of their close resemblance. Mr. Konya described the designs on the Hungarian stamps, one of which had been designed by himself. Mr. H. N. B. Hawke gave an account of the Voortrekker exploits of some Canadian heroes depicted on the Canada Commemorative set of 1908. Mr. Dodd showed a fiscal peculiarity and also a stamped envelope from a small village, The Downs, in N. Transvaal. He gave an interesting account of the way in which the mails reached the village.

Mr. Mummery tabled a wonderful collection of the Falklands beautifully mounted and written up. It was unique in that it was a complete collection.

January 21: Mr. H. N. B. Hawke read some philatelic extracts.

Mr. A. Konya read a paper on Chinese stamps. Having lived in China he was able to give some of his impressions of the Chinese in regard to philately. He described the ceremony of the installation of a new emperor. With the aid of some literary articles written when in China by his wife he described the meaning of the Dragon which appeared on all the early stamps of China. He pointed out how this dragon with the five claws permeated all phases of Chinese life. He described how the dragon was sometimes beheaded in public if he did not in a reasonable time answer to prayers and sacrifices. Mr. Konya was thanked for his paper, the speakers being Dr. Broom, Mr. Bottomley and the chairman.

Mr. Giovanetti showed his outstanding collection of S.W.A. The extent and writing up of the collection caused many members to have a feeling of despair concerning their own efforts in philately.

H.A.W.

★

THE PHILATELIC SOCIETY OF NATAL

President, Mr. W. H. Winde; Hon. Sec., Mr. G. Milner Palmer, P.O. Box 588, Durban; Meetings, 1st and 3rd Wednesdays at 31 London Assurance House, 319 Smith Street (in room of the Durban Camera Club, top floor) 7.30 p.m.

Owing to our first meeting this month falling on the 2nd January, and this being a public holiday, it was cancelled, and the meeting was held as usual on the third Wednesday of the month.

Unfortunately the attendance was not as large as usual and neither the president nor the hon. secretary were able to be present.

The display was an excellent one, the stamps on exhibition were those of Belgium; our friend "Joe" (Mr. Lyle) being the owner.

Commander C. E. D. Enoch, R.D., R.H.R. gave an address entitled "A Specialist looks at Belgium." He described all the extra stamps that are not catalogued, and spoke of varieties from the early days.

The auction was not as large as usual, but the lots offered were sold at bargain prices. (I wonder!)

R.F.S.

★

CAPE TOWN PHILATELIC SOCIETY

President, L. Simenhoff; Hon. Secretary, S. Kaganson, P.O. Box 1973; Meetings, 2nd and 4th Thursdays at Yorkshire Buildings, Strand Street, at 7.30 p.m.

Thursday, December 13: A departure from the usual routine took place, the whole evening being devoted to an auction.

Some 140 lots were offered for sale, and Mr. K. Alexander, the hon. auctioneer, had a busy evening.

A large number of the items sold were for the "Thank You Britain" Fund, and will considerably help the Society's effort in this direction.

Thursday, December 27.—At this meeting the display was open to all members.

Mrs. J. Hotz tabled some pages from her Geo. V collection, interesting here being the Wilberforce set of Sierra Leone and the St. Helena centenaries.

Prof. Smith, who received a special welcome back after his recent illness, gave us a few gems from his well known Free State collection, outstanding being a treble surcharge of the penny on fourpence. He also showed a strip of 6 pairs of the Union 1929 air mail 9d. imperf, at left-hand side.

A collection of various war issues was exhibited by Mr. Hansen, and Mr. Kaganson displayed a few sheets of Canada. Mr. E. C. Solomon chose some pages from his collection of the Seychelles, outstanding here being a forged double overprint inverted, which was at one time housed in the famous Ferrani collection.

At the conclusion of the displays and regular business of the meeting, Mrs. Hotz conducted a Quizz which was enjoyed by all.

B.L.C.

★

THE PHILATELIC SOCIETY OF JOHANNESBURG

President, Mr E. C. Sprighton; Hon. Sec. (Acting), P.O. Box 4967; Meetings, 2nd Tuesdays, Public Library, 7.45 p.m.

..At the meeting held on January 8, 1946, Mr. H. Marcuson showed a portion of his collection of British Empire. The exhibit consisted of some choice sheets of King George V and King George VI issues. The commemoratives of all the colonies were well represented and included the Antigua centenary, the Sierre Leone Wilberforce complete set, the Bahamas "Landfall" issue, the St. Helena set and the Cyprus set. Amongst other stamps shown were the Channel Islands issues, the Burma Military Administration and the rare Trengganu overprints.

A large part of the evening was taken up with an auction of stamps presented by members in aid of the "People of Britain" Fund. This realised £55, and some good items changed hands.

I.I.

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EAST LONDON PHILATELIC SOCIETY

President, A. Watson; **Hon. Secretary,** S. F. Fowler, P.O. Box 168, East London; **Meetings,** Colosseum Building, second Fridays at 7.45 p.m.

The January meeting was held on the evening of the 11th, 23 members and 12 visitors attending.

The usual routine business was soon dealt with, during which some excellent suggestions for future meetings were brought forward by Mr. Jensen, all of which will be made use of.

Among the many philatelic items passed round for inspection were the latest U.S.A., New Zealand, Holland Admirals and Symbols, Saudi Arabia, Amgot Italy and Austria, also a large photo of various Mafeking stamps and Siege Notes.

Two new members were proposed and duly elected.

An interesting address was given by Mr. A. L. Bayly (aged 91) on his experiences of stamp collecting as a junior clerk in London in 1870, 75 years ago! His reminiscences from the time of the Franco-German war to the present day held the attention of all his hearers. He did not believe in buying stamps, mentioning that his total purchases would probably not exceed £1.

Mr. A. Watson, the president, then tabled a number of sheets from his famous collection of the stamps of Great Britain and, as usual, provided a veritable philatelic feast.

This collection has been described many times, but it may not be out of place to mention again a few of the items which were shown.

There was a selection of pre-stamp covers dating back to the year 1600 or thereabouts, followed by a Mulready envelope used on day of issue and a few sheets of 1d. blacks and 2d. blue no lines, including both in unused state. A fine lot of the other line-engraved issues were there, also the later issues to the £5, many sheets of scarce and coloured postmarks, re-entries, used abroads, the seldom seen Stock Exchange forgery and many others.

The usual auction terminated a very enjoyable and successful meeting.

T.A.H.

★

PORT ELIZABETH PHILATELIC SOCIETY

President, G. K. Forbes; **Hon. Sec.,** Mr. D. G. Y. Malcolm, P.O. Box 458; **Meetings,** Room 8, City Hall Basement, at 7.45 p.m., 1st and 3rd Tuesdays.

The attendance at the meeting on January 15 was not quite so large as usual.

Mr. T. H. Nicholson was responsible for the evening and tabled over 50 pages of Cape triangles and Straits Settlements. The stamps were neatly and clearly written up, and the old Cape Triangles were well worth noting, as they included the wood blocks and subsequent issues.

The Straits Settlements sets were eagerly scrutinised as some rare and valuable stamps were displayed.

It was a busy evening for Mr. Nicholson as he was kept busy supplying members with sets of the Victory overprints, and also sets of Health stamps from New Zealand.

There were some books for sale from Mr. W. E. Shackle, of England, but members did not seem very keen.

We were pleased to welcome Mr. Carr, President of the Grahamstown Society, and we hope to see more of him before he returns home.

L.E.C.

★

THE ORANGE FREE STATE AND BASUTOLAND PHILATELIC SOCIETY

President, Mr. M. Liss; **Hon. Secretary,** Mr. R. G. Lyon, Box 702, Bloemfontein; **Meetings,** 3rd Fridays each month, Oranje Koffiehuis, Bloemfontein, 7.30 p.m.

At the December meeting, Mr. F. Carter gave a fine display of his "Great Britain" collection. The 1d. Black and other early issues were represented by many copies in excellent condition. The 1d. Red was shown in all plate numbers (except for No. 77). In a vote of thanks for the fine display, Mr. C. A. Larsen commented on the undiminished enthusiasm and youthful elasticity of Mr. Carter, who is doubtlessly the oldest active philatelist in the country.

Mr. C. A. Larsen was responsible for the exhibit at the January meeting, which he named "philatelic hotch-potch." It consisted of a scrap-book brimful of usual and unusual items which had come his way and which were well arranged in humorous vein.

The Society, having made regular contributions to war funds, is now raffling a unique cover in aid of the "Thank You, Britain Fund." It is a "First Day" cover, affixed with blocks of the Union Victory stamps, and autographed by the Prime Minister, Field Marshal Smuts. The worthy cause should induce every stamp collector to send his 1s. donations to the Society's secretary, which may enable him to become the proud possessor of such an attractive item.

K.F.

★ ★ ★

U.S.A.

P.M.G. Hannegan is reported in "Linn's Weekly" to be working on a plan to abolish all distinction, rate or otherwise, between air mail and surface mail. Mail will be sent whatever way is quickest at one uniform rate. This will probably mean the disapperance of special air mail stamps.

He has also instructed postal clerks to use only such cancellers as will produce clean, legible, but lightly inked postmarks.

Mr. John H. Engel, in "Mekeel's Weekly," describes U.S. 6c. airmail stamps overprinted "R.F." (in at least 11 different types). These were used by U.S. troops when in French Africa in the early days of their landing when France was neither an ally nor a full co-belligerant and the status of their postal service, after Vichy officials had been eliminated, was uncertain. The difficulty was met by the French authorities letting individual postmasters overprint the 6c. U.S. airmail stamps with R.F. in whatever manner they thought best. After a time the practice was cut out and they allowed unoverprinted stamps to be used.

The latest commemorative, issued on 29th December, is one for the centenary of the admission of Texas to statehood. One American philatelic paper describes it as being, for a change, beautiful in its simplicity and compares it to a woman with a finely tailored suit as against one who thinks that a beautiful dress consists of all the ribbons, pleats, tucks, flounces and other fluffy stuff that can be hung on her frame. That apparently is their opinion of some recent overcrowded stamps.

MALAYA

Mr. Magness, in a letter to "Mekeel's Weekly," reports that when the British military authorities re-opened the Post Office in Malaya on 27.9.45 letters were carried free until the stamps overprinted "B.M.A. Malaya" became available. "Stamp Collecting" figures a provisional surcharge for 2 annas made on envelopes in Rangoon. These were in use only for about one week after re-occupation on 16.6.45.

NO GREEK VICTORY STAMP

According to Mr. P. Drossos in "Stamp Collecting," Greece is not going to have a Victory stamp after all. They would only have issued one if the British P.O. had produced one. Is this a complaint or not?

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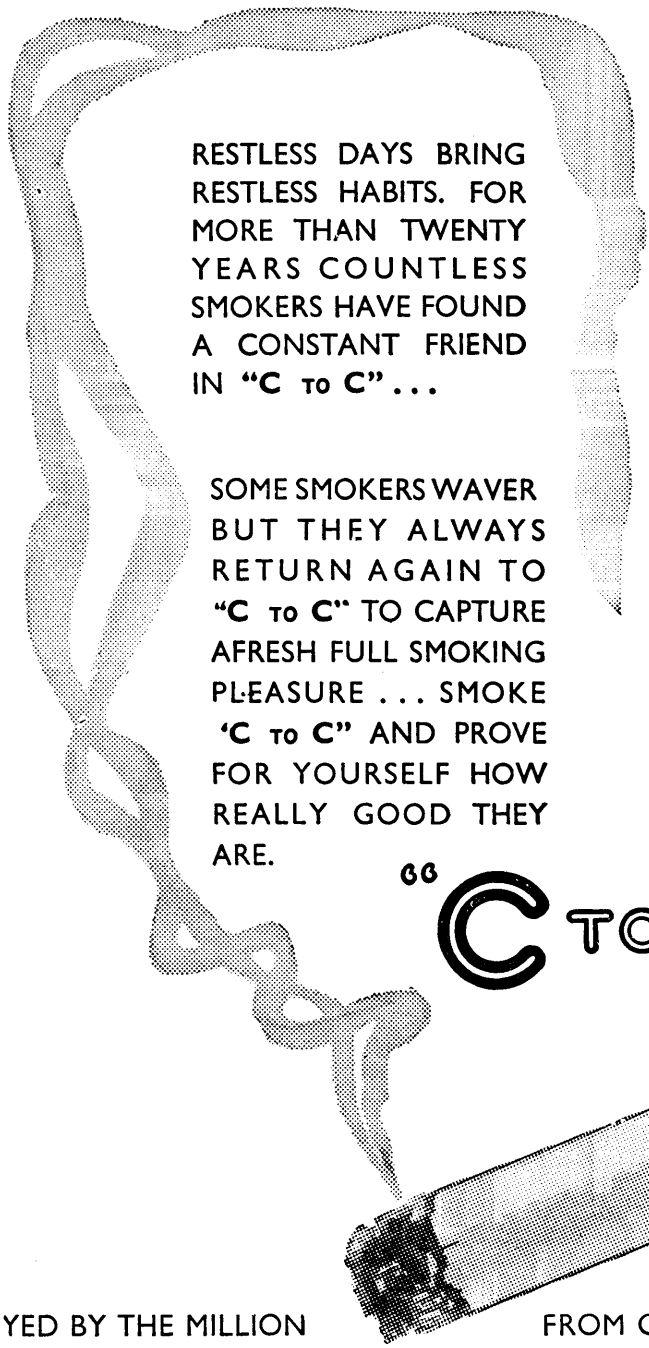

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The
SOUTH AFRICAN PHILATELIST

Proprietors and Publishers:

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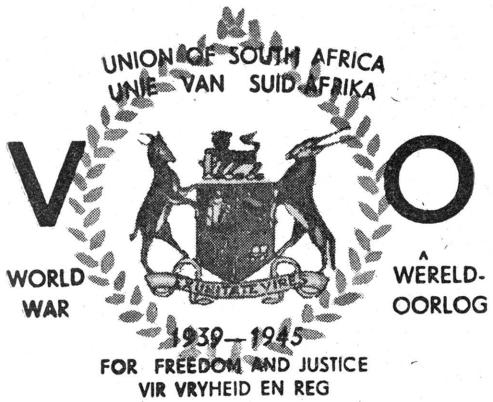
Vol. 22, No. 3. **MARCH, 1946.** **Whole No. 252**

Union, S.W.A, Protectorates

VICTORY STAMPS

Commemorative Cover

No official day-of-issue covers or cancellations were prepared in connection with these stamps and the only privately made cachet cover we have seen is a very beautiful one forwarded by Mr. A. A. Jurgens for inspection. This cover is one of a limited production of thirty, made by Mr. H. J. de Wet, of Messrs. Juta & Co., Cape Town, All of them were used in connection with victory stamps.



The wording is printed in black; the Union coat of arms is hand coloured in the correct colours, and the wreath is similarly hand painted in a light green. For the benefit of the uninitiated it may be stated that the Afrikaans for Victory is Oorwinning, hence the O.

Flaws

1d.—The white spot in front of South Africa noted in our January issue as occurring on stamp 2, of row 11, should have been stamp 2, in row 14. It has been noted in a few sheets but is not constant.

In some lightly printed sheets the brown shading in the centre is so faint that the base of the V is not discernible.

In some stamps, where the centre and frame plates have not registered quite exactly, the tops of the four letters of Postage, Revenue, Posseël and Inkomste (E, R, L and I) next to the central design are slightly truncated.

The flaw in stamp 6 of row 9 recorded in February still remains the only striking one.

2d.—Two small flaws, which appear to be present, at all events, in many sheets and have been recorded by several observers, are: (a) A "molehill" on top of the kopjie, stamp 2, row 1; (b) a small white spot about the centre of the left hand up slope of the kopjie, stamp 3, row 7.

Mr. Calitz has noted a mark in the form of vertical hairlines running through stamps 5 of rows 16, 17 and 18. Although present on various sheets he has seen, it is not a constant flaw.

Oversea Comment

"Pinperf" in the "Philatelic Trader" is considerably attracted by this issue. He considers, however, that the rotogravure process fails to bring out the finer points of designs. With recess printing they would have been superb, as the colour schemes are very attractive. He considers them all a good investment, but the overprinted stamps perhaps even more so than those of the Union.

RECENT PRINTINGS

The Post Office Controller of Stores has supplied the following information in respect of printings of stamps, etc., during the period 22nd November, 1945, to 10th January, 1946. For previous records see our January, 1946, issue, page 1.

(a) War Postage Stamps

½d.—Job 9,975: A total of 224,046 sheets delivered between 20/8/45 and 8/1/46. Cylinder 40 used throughout.

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(b) Ordinary Pictorial Stamps

2d.—Job 4,672: Delivery on this order for 35,000 sheets x 120 still stands at 20,000.

(c) Roll Stamps

1d.—Job 3,651: Deliveries on this order now stand at 5,509 rolls x 1012 and 4,006 x 506. Cylinder 16 as before.

(d) Victory Stamps

1d., 2d. and 3d.—Job 3,693: Deliveries up to 18/12/45 total: for 1d., 235,298 sheets; for 2d., 324,032 sheets; for 3d., 72,794 sheets. All sheets of 120. Cylinders throughout as recorded in January.

(e) Inland Pictorial Postcards

1d.—Job 9,977: Deliveries now total 2,699,520 cards. Clyinders 86 for stamps and 85 for pictures throughout.

(f) Air Letter Cards

3d.—Job 10,048. No additional deliveries since 17/7/45.

6d.—Job 6,887: Deliveries from cylinder 91 now amount to 1,371,000.

(g) South West Africa

The following quantities, supplied by the P.M.G., were overprinted S.W.A. from old formes on a flat-bed machine:

War Postage Stamps: ½d., 2,000 sheets x 360; 1d., 1,000 sheets x 360; 3d., 500 sheets x 360; 4d., 500 sheets x 360; 6d., 500 sheets x 240; 1s., 500 sheets x 240.

Victory Postage Stamps: 1d., 6,000 sheets x 120; 2d., 5,000 sheets x 120; 3d., 6,000 sheets x 120.

(h) Bechuanaland

The following quantities, supplied by the P.M.G., were overprinted Bechuanaland from old formes in a flat-bed machine.

Victory Postage Stamps: 2,000 sheets x 120 of each of the three denominations, 1d., 2d. and 3d.

(i) Swaziland

In this instance 4,000 sheets x 120 of each denomination of the Victory Postage Stamps were similarly supplied and overprinted Swaziland.

(Note: The overprinted "Victories" for S.W.A., Bechuanaland and Swaziland are additional to the quantities given in our January issue.—Ed.)

1/3 STAMP WITHDRAWN

The 1s. 3d. denomination was withdrawn from sale early last month, without warning. The reason for this is not clear, as a 1/3 rate is still in force for air mail to Britain. We have been promised an explanation by the P.M.G., but it had not arrived when we went to press.

STUDY YOUR COUNTRY'S STAMPS

Review

STANLEY GIBBONS' SIMPLIFIED STAMP CATALOGUE, 13th Edition, 1946. Price not mentioned.

This simplified whole-world catalogue lists over 66,000 stamps with thousands of illustrations. It is "simplified" inasmuch as it omits varieties of paper, perforation, shade and watermark, but in spite of this it runs to 1,216 pages of a size only a trifle smaller than their large catalogues.

As import licences were still not available when the catalogue was being prepared, for European countries, the war-time issues of enemy countries are not included, but the publishers hope to have a tentative list of such issues fairly soon.

Stamps that they have not yet been able to buy are not priced, and collectors are asked not to order such stamps yet as they cannot be supplied.

There are many price alterations since the previous issue, mostly upwards.

OBITUARIES

JOHN M. BEYERS

We regret to learn from Mr. A. A. Jurgens of the death of Mr. John M. Beyers of Pretoria. This took place so long ago as 9th July, 1945, but we have not hitherto been notified.

He was a member of the Pretoria Philatelic Society, and our readers will remember not infrequent short articles by him in our pages. As a member of the permanent staff of the Union Defence Force his professional interests were carried over to his philatelic interests, and most of his articles, which were always interesting and instructive, dealt with military history as portrayed on stamps.

"Johnnie" was kind-hearted, conscientious to the extreme, but not of the pushing sort, and his acts were always unostentatious. May his soul rest in peace.

A. F. BASSET HULL

We regret to see reported the death of Mr. Basset Hull, the distinguished Australian philatelist and writer. At the time of his death he was the "father" of the Royal Philatelic Society, having joined it (then the Philatelic Society, London) in 1887. He had earned practically every honour open to philatelists, his latest award having been the Royal's "Tapling" medal only last year.

NICHOLAS SANABRIA

From New York comes word of the passing of Mr. Nicholas Sanabria, leading American expert on air mails and air stamps. His air-post catalogue is everywhere regarded as a standard one.

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Pre-Adhesive Letter Stamps of the Orange Free State and Transvaal Republics -A New Free State Find

By A. A. JURGENS.

In the "South African Philatelist" for September, 1943 (page 100), an article on this subject appears, and in this I submitted illustrations of the only pre-adhesive stamp markings then known on letters emanating from these two Republics.

Just recently I came into possession of a cover sent from Winburg, O.V.S., in 1858. This letter was addressed to J. G. Blom, Swellendam, Kaapsche Kolonie (Cape Colony). On the face it is stamped with a letter stamp, in black, reading "Winburg Betaald." It is of the same size and design as the "Bloemfontein Betaald," illustrated on page 101, Fig. 1, in the above mentioned article.

The cover is further date-stamped (on back) Colesberg, July 30th, 1858; * Port Elizabeth (date obscure), 1858, and on the face Swellendam, August 10, 1858. These date-stamps are all of the oval (Cape) type of 1853 (Fig. 45, Type 25 A, Page 57, Handstruck Letter Stamps and Postmarks of the Cape of Good Hope).

In addition to this, the letter is stamped (on face) with a numeral †"6" (in black) indicating that there was 6d. to pay on the letter, which was the correct charge on an unstamped letter at the time, viz., the amount of postage (4d.) plus one-half (2d.): 6d.

All three of the oval date stamps mentioned above are impressed in red, and as the ink with which the numeral "6" was stamped does not match that of the "Winburg Betaald" stamp, this numeral may be assumed to have been stamped at Swellendam. (The postmaster at Swellendam at this time was noted for trying on all kinds of unofficial stamping of letters passing through his office.)

It should be remembered that the cover in the writer's possession, which is stamped with the "Bloemfontein Betaald" (Fig. 1, Page 101) is in addition franked with a fourpence blue Cape triangular stamp.

In my article referred to I stated: "I wish it to be understood, however, that I do not claim that these three handstamps constitute the complete pre-stamp markings of this country; it is quite possible that other towns besides Vredefort and Bloemfontein may have used letter stamps, but I have never seen any."

When I discovered the "Bloemfontein Betaald" it was the first of its kind, so far as recording in philatelic journals and writings are concerned, and I naturally hesitated even to assume that other Orange Free State towns might have used a similar stamp because Bloemfontein being the capital, might very well have been the one and only town at the period to have been supplied with a "Betaald" letter-stamp.

Mr. Stephen G. Rich, of Verona, New Jersey, U.S.A., has often in corresponding with me stressed the point that we can often arrive at acceptable and correct conclusions by making comparison with other countries, and he especially cited Poland. I could not at first bring myself to agree with him as I could not see what postal procedure in South Africa could possibly have to do with Poland, but I think now he is to a great extent right. Postal officials appear to have been "copy-cats" and my opinion has since been strongly in favour of what Mr. Rich has said. It was strengthened still more when I was told by Mr. Henry A. Meyer, of Evansville, Indiana, U.S.A., who, after having read my book on Cape of Good Hope letter-stamps, wrote to me saying: "I have already observed several points which will help me in my Hawaii work."

The value of comparison of postal markings can be illustrated in a very simple manner as follows:—

The finding of the letter-stamp (Fig. 5), General Post Office, Cape Town, does not necessarily imply that other towns in the Colony used a similar type of letter-stamp, but the finding of the Stellenbosch (Fig. 6) or that of Tulbagh (Fig. 10) would give one every right to assume that other towns might also have been issued with similar letter-stamps. (Of course, we know that in the Cape Colony this was the case.)

After having discovered the "Bloemfontein Betaald" and now the "Winburg Betaald," I should think that we are perfectly justified in coming to the conclusion that other O.F,S. towns might also have used them, and if Vredefort was important enough to have a dated stamp at the period of the "Bloemfontein Betaald" mark (see Fig. 2, Page 101, S.A.P. Sept., 1943), then I submit it is quite within reason to assume that this town also had a "Vredefort Betaald."

These O.F.S. "Betaald" letter-stamps can be compared with the Cape 1806 oval medallion and the later circles. Figures 5 to 23 (Handstruck Stamps of the C.G.H.) as they, through their inscription alone, "Betaald" appear to have only been impressed on letters the postage of which had been paid.

The two types, Figs. 2 and 3, on Page 101, S.A.P., September, 1943, are therefore nothing

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more than dated stamps, and they appear to have been used in conjunction with the "Betaald" type.

With regard to the Transvaal, I may say here that since September, 1943, I have seen many Transvaal covers from which the adhesive postage stamps had been removed, and all these covers were stamped with the small circular date stamp (Fig. 6, Page 125, S.A.P., September, 1943). From these I cannot be otherwise than in perfect agreement with Dr. J. H. Harvey Pirie, when he says in the S.A.P. for November, 1943, Page 125, par. 4:

> "No positive evidence seems to be forthcoming indicative of the use of this small Potchefstroom dater as a pre-adhesive "stamp" and unless and until such evidence is produced, I consider it should be regarded simply as a postmark."

In addition to the circular dater "Potchefstroom" mentioned above, I have also seen "Marico" and "Middelburg" in the same type and design.

The position therefore is this: Figures 2 and 3, Page 101, S.A.P. for September, 1943, have to a great extent now been proved to be "date-stamps," but let us not become confused in this matter. A "letter-stamp" is not a "date-stamp," nor is a "date-stamp" a "letter-stamp." The "letter-stamp" was only applied to a letter upon which the postage had been prepaid, and in such a case it took the place of the adhesive postage stamp of to-day. The date stamps are merely used to denote place and date of the despatch or receipt of a letter.

In correspondence with the Editor, he warned me of the danger of assuming too much when I said: "If Winburg could have a 'Betaald' stamp, then why not other O.F.S. towns?" I will therefore merely suggest that there may have been others, and ask that they be looked for if any opportunity occurs to go through old correspondence.

Taking into consideration what Mr. Stephen Rich has said about comparison of the usage of postal markings with those of other countries, we now come to the question as to what happened to letters posted in the O.F.S. and upon which postage had not been paid. I venture to suggest that it is quite within the realms of possibility that those O.F.S. towns which used a "Betaald" stamp might also have used one reading "Te Betaalen" (To Pay). We know that the Cape Colony used a "Post Paid" and a "To Pay" and the fact that we have not seen a "Bloemfontein Te Betaalen" certainly does not prove that such a stamp does not exist. Until the discovery of the "Bloemfontein Betaald" and now the "Winburg Betaald" nobody ever thought that such letter-stamps existed.

I admit I have no proof, but I feel that I am perfectly justified in making the suggestion that there may have been "Te Betaalen" stamps used.

I have seen early O.F.S. covers which had been inscribed in manuscript "Orange Free State postage paid" (both in Dutch and English), also "Betaald" and "Te Betaalen." (This procedure applies to the Cape also, both before and after the introduction of the "Post Paid" and "To Pay" letter-stamps.)

About the Transvaal I would not care to make a similar suggestion. The "Potchefstroom G.P.K. — Z.A.R.", Fig. 4, Page 123, S.A.P., Nov., 1943. I have, on the same page and journal as mentioned above stated that I have this letter-stamp (Fig. 4) on letters dated, 1864, 1865, 1866, 1867 and 1868, but I have never seen any but manuscript markings, "Betaald" or "Te Betaalen."

One cannot, however, press too far comparisons of the Transvaal of those early days with the Orange Free State.

The former Republic was backward, very backward, and letter-writing and post offices were not considered of as much importance as powder and shot. The O.F.S., on the other hand, under proclamation dated 1848, was placed under the sovereignty of the Queen of England, and although this British sovereignty was withdrawn in 1854, the six years of its existence certainly developed a more intellectual feeling amongst the inhabitants, not only in administrative matters but also in postal facilities. These placed this Republic a few steps ahead of its neighbour, the Transvaal.

---

* Why it was sent via Port Elizabeth is not known to the writer.

† This was not an official post office mark and should have been applied in manuscript.

★ ★ ★

NYASALAND.

INACCURACIES AND FLAWS

At a recent meeting of the Nyasaland Philatelic Society the new issue of stamps was in the dock. Apparently the stamps were produced with a number of departures from the original designs, some of them by no means meeting with approval.

Something is wrong with the 1d., although the report of the meeting does not specify exactly what. Anyway, the Society decided to write the Government that it would suffice to have a new portrait of the K.A.R. soldier, preferably a full length one similar to that on the Belgian Congo stamps.

A simple alteration is needed on the 3d. and 2s. values, and it is suggested that the two blocks should be removed from the pole held by the native, leaving only a pole of the original over-all length.

There are differences in the printing of the map stamps; the lat. 16 deg. and long. 40 deg. lines sometimes cross at a point on the coast, sometimes at miles inland. The former position is the correct one.

In the 5s. a hair-line about 7 mm. long running upwards from the top of the value circle in the centre of the stamp occurs on the right-hand stamp of the imprint pair of Plate No. 1, i.e., the sixth stamp in the bottom row. This flaw does not occur on the corresponding stamp of Plate No. 1a in either of its combinations with headplates 1A or 2A.

A portion of a sheet of 10s. stamps was shown with a difference in colouring. On some of the stamps the crimson was of a much darker shade than on others and was still wet.

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PLATES OF NYASALAND "LEOPARDS"

In the paper published last month by Mr. C. W. Twynam the following corrections should be made:

(1) In the second column, thirteenth line, the distance should be 13 mm. and not 15 mm.

(2) In column 4 after the ninth line some three lines of print have been omitted making nonsense of the paragraph. The following should be inserted between the present lines nine and ten:

> and plain dots between panes (for the 1d., 4d. and 9d.). No sheets of the 3d. have been seen with wide enough margins.

(3) The date of the intermediate printing of the 3d. (table at bottom of p. 17) should be April, not December.

★ ★ ★

A DURBAN QUIZ.

The following "Quiz" was held some time ago at a meeting of the Philatelic Society of Natal. The answers are given on page 38.

1. A country in the British Empire recently issued stamps bearing as the most prominent feature of the design the Royal Arms. What was the country and the value of the stamps?
2. How many issues of Southern Rhodesia depict the Victoria Falls?
3. Which of these men had their portraits on postage stamps—Francis Bacon, Walter Raleigh, Stalin, Anthony Eden, John Adams, James I, John Guy?
4. Which British African territory issued stamps on which native shields figured prominently?
5. On the 10d. air mail stamp of South West Africa the aeroplane depicted is a monoplane. Is this true or false to fact?
6. Which of the following buildings have appeared on postage stamps—Eton College, Tower of London, Buckingham Palace, Windsor Castle, H.M.S. St. Angelo?
7. Name the Colony that issued stamps depicting conch shells as a prominent feature of the design.
8. Which of the four provinces of the Union issued the earliest commemorative stamp?
9. Which country issued what is considered to be the world's rarest stamp?
10. Does a "forgery" differ from a "fake"?
11. On the 2½d. issue of the Union (first issue) the badges of the four provinces appear in the following order: Top left, Cape; top right, O.F.S.; bottom left, Transvaal; bottom right, Natal. Is this true or false?
12. Zebra and wildebeest appear together on the stamps of —— ?

UNION K.G. V £1 FORGERY

A King's head £1 stamp was recently submitted by a collector who sensed something wrong with it. It had been stuck down on a piece of brown paper with a smudged bit of postmark on the paper; the idea being apparently to suggest usage on a parcel. When floating it off, the stamp itself nearly separated into two, as if it had been printed on a joined paper—which, of course, could not have occurred in this stamp.

This type of forging was described some years back, but it may not be amiss to hoist the danger signal about it again. Here is the explanation of how it was done, described by Mr. A. Hilton Sydow:

A used £1 stamp was taken from a cable. It bears the "Pretoria" cancellation with the JUN date. It was punched with a five-point star, and for this reason the "year" is not shown. Hold it to the light and the punched star will be seen. The "punched star" stamps were used on cables. (See the "South African Philatelist," August, 1923, a paper by G. W. Reynolds on "Notes on Used High Values and Telegraphic Cancellations.") It will be noted that a portion of the profile head of H.M. King George V was punched out by the five-point star. The colour of the head is in green. Thus far the used £1 stamp is in order used on a cable. Now for the forgery.

A ½d. stamp of the Union, also King George V, was taken and the print of the green frame removed, probably chemically; but not of the green profile head. See portions of the green print faintly still on the paper of the removed frame. The green ½d. stamp with the frame removed was attached to the £1 stamp in such a manner as to show the ½d. profile through the star punched hole on the profile of the £1 stamp. Thus, as seen now, the profile of the combined stamps show blue-green and yellow-green lines of typographic print, but the two joined profiles are not in register. This is clear under a glass. But it may easily be palmed off to one whose eyesight is not too good. The used £1 stamp was thinned. The watermark of the "springbok simple" at the back is that of the ½d. stamp attached. The watermark of the £1 stamp is only seen with difficulty under a glass owing to the thinning. The perfs, of course, are 14 in both instances, but the one stamp is faultily affixed to the other, the top perfs are slightly out of register.

SUDAN

"Stamp Collecting" reprints from the "American Philatelist" an article by J. J. Ades on the 1941 surcharge of 4½ p. on 8 p. He describes four varieties per sheet, of which the first is the most important, the others being probably only printing defects. These varieties are (1) Numeral "1" of the fraction with no serif. (2) Fraction bar is two long dots instead of one continuous line. (3) Fraction bar in the form of a horizontal bracket. (4) A flat top to numeral "2" in the fraction.

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The absolutely complete set, including postage, airmail, express, airmail-express and coil stamps, with all obsolete values and colours. Complete mint set of 24, 28/-. Blocks pro rata (coil stamps in strips).

VICTORY STAMPS
India, complete mint set of 4 .. .. 2/6
Australia (expected end March) complete mint set of 3 .. .. 1/3
Blocks pro rata.

BURMA CIVIL ADMINISTRATION
New 1946 issue, old designs in new colours, 3p—10R, complete set of 15, mint 37/6
Short set to 1R, mint 5/9
Blocks pro rata.

EGYPT RECENT COMMEMORATIVES
1944 Fuad Memorial, mint or used 1/-
1945 Farouk Birthday, mint or used 1/-
1945 Ismael Memorial, mint or used 1/-
1945 Pan-Arab Conference, mint or used 2/3
1946 King of Hedjaz visit, mint or used 0/6
Mint blocks of all above pro rata.

FALKLAND DEPENDENCIES
The overprinted issue, complete collection of 32, now obsolete, mint 17/6
The new general issue, complete set of 8, mint 4/0
Blocks of both above issues pro rata.

NYASALAND
Obsolete K.G. VI issue. The final printing of the 6d., 5s. and 10s. values were in entirely new shades. We offer mint: 6d. deep violet at 10d. (blocks pro rata), 5s., bright green and red on thin yellow paper at 9s. 6d., 10s. blue-green and red on green at 19s.

UNION OF SOUTH AFRICA HIGH VALUES SUPERB USED.
10/- London printing, vertical pair 13/6, horizontal pair 25/-, block of 4 .. .. 52/6
2/6 Pretoria printing, vertical pair 1/3 horizontal pair 2/-, block of 4 .. .. 4/6
5/- Pretoria printing, vertical pair 3/-, horizontal pair 4/-, block of 4 .. .. 8/6
10/- Pretoria printing, vertical pair 8/-, horizontal pair 12/6, block of 4 .. .. .. 27/6
6d. large War Effort, horizontal pair 2/3, block of four 4/6
1/- large War Effort, horizontal pair 4/3, block of four 8/6
All above have neat clean letter postmarks.

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have sold thousands of pounds worth of stamps for collectors to collectors. Owing to the big demand for medium and better-class British Empire stamps we need more *sellers*. Full details upon request. The commission on stamps sold is only 10 per cent.

OBSOLETE COMMEMORATIVES
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Tonga, 1944 Jubilee, set of 5, complete, mint 2/9, blocks pro rata.
Zanzibar, 1944 Albusaid, set of 4, complete, mint 2/6, used 3/-; mint or used blocks pro rata.

Country cheques under £5 to include 6d. bank charge; please do not cross postal orders; postage 2d. extra on orders totalling 10/- or less; registration 4d. extra on orders totalling 40/- or less. All orders executed promptly. See last month's advertisement for prices of other investment sets and also of imported philatelic accessories.

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THE PHILATELIC FEDERATION OF SOUTHERN AFRICA.

Congress

The Philatelic Society of Natal intimates that the date of Congress has been fixed for October 5th to 7th, 1946. On Saturday, 5th, there will be a welcome to delegates and visitors. The Congress business will be on Sunday, 6th, and Monday, 7th, finishing in all probability, in time to catch the 3.40 p.m. train if desired.

In view of present conditions it has been decided not to stage a large-scale exhibition.

Constituent societies' attention is drawn to the rules regarding resolutions, notices of motion and matters for discussion published on page 85 of our issue for August, 1945. There, also, will be found rules re delegates, papers for competition, nominations for the Roll of Honour, etc.

The Natal Society (hon. sec., P.O. Box 588, Durban) would be glad to know as soon as possible from constituent societies the number of delegates who will attend so that they can make the necessary arrangements for entertainment.

Philatelists wishing to attend in a private capacity should also inform the Natal Society of their intention and all visitors to Durban are advised to book accommodation as early as they can.

Union Catalogue

The revised, up-to-date edition of the "Standard Catalogue of the Stamps of the Union of South Africa" is well in hand, and will shortly go to press. It is being published under the authority and aegis of the Philatelic Federation of Southern Africa.

This edition will be the most comprehensive of any book of stamps of the Union ever published: indeed, it will be more comprehensive than any hitherto published on the stamps of any country in Southern Africa, and possibly of any country in the world.

This book should come into the hands of every stamp collector in Southern Africa, as well as everyone abroad who is interested in the stamps of the Union; and the Federation is anxious that it be published at a popular price, so that it may be available to all. But its bulk is such that it cannot be printed and sold at a popular price.

To enable this to be done, the Federation seeks the co-operation of all stamp collectors societies and dealers (all of whom will benefit by the publication), requesting them to support the venture by donations toward the printing and publication, each one according to his means.

The Federation hopes that those able to do so will be generous with their donations, which will be acknowledged in the "S.A. Philatelist," and which should be sent to Dr. J. H. Harvey Pirie, 23 Victoria Street, Oaklands, Johannesburg, South Africa. — A. E. BASDEN, F.R.P.S.L., Chairman, Permanent Executive, Philatelic Federation of Southern Africa.

"South African Philatelist's" Jubilee

This should have been celebrated last year, but, frankly, we forgot about it. There was a war on, and all our thoughts were not on editing.

It is true, the "South African Philatelist" as such is not yet 25 years old: it only started under that name in February, 1923. But it started incorporating and as a direct continuation of: (a) "The Union Philatelist," of which No. 1 appeared in February, 1920 and the last issue (No. 7) in November-December, 1920; (b) "The Quarterly Review of Philately," whose No. 1 appeared in March, 1921 and its final issue (No. 7) in October, 1922.

Both (a) and (b) were published by Mr. J. Robertson, of Johannesburg, and he was also responsible for "The South African Philatelist" till it was taken over by the Philatelic Federation of Southern Africa in October, 1932.

★ ★ ★

INDIA VICTORY ISSUE

Thanks to Mr. J. P. Shingler, we have seen specimens of the victory issue. The stamps are of horizontal format, with the King and the value to the right; in the left is a globe with India showing in centre and a wreath around it. The globe has a sword vertically in front of it, with the tops of a V behind and "Victory/1945" in panels above.

The stamps were the 1½ a. and 3½ a. issued on 2nd January, others to follow.

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LATEST NEW ISSUES

3 Greece, Roosevelt Mourning, cpl. m. or u. 4/6
1 Egypt, Visit of King Ibn Saud, m. 0/6
2 New Zealand, 1945 Health cpl. m. .. 0/6
Scotts (U.S.A.) 1946 Catalogue, whole World 35/0

OTHER NEW SETS AND OFFERS:

5 Argentina & Brazil, latest commemos. 2/0
10 China Airmail 15c. to 5 Dollar cpl. 5/6
10 Vatican City, cpl. to 20 Lire 5/6
4 French North Africa, Liberation cpl. m. 5/6
12 1945 latest Commemos only, all mint 5/6
100 U.S.A. Commemos. only, all used .. 25/0
125 do do and airs, all used 37/6
150 do do. do do 63/0
(exceptional assortment and value)

MORE EUROPE UNDER HITLER:

1 Germany 1944, 11 Years Hitler .. 3/6
1 Germany Brandenburger Tor 4/9
1 Germany 10 years Braunes Band .. 4/3
2 Germany S.A. Exercises and Winter-help 2/6
2 Germany Pocket Watch and Stamp Day 3/6
10 Germany Hitler Heads 3 pf. to 80 pf. m. 3/6
2 Germany 1914/18 Brit. Govt. Forgeries 12/6
1 Holland 1942 Europ. Postal Union 1/0
2 France 1939, Lyon and Languedoc 1/3
4 France 1939/40 Intellectuals cpl. m. 3/6
2 France 1940 For our soldiers cpl. m. 2/6
2 France 1940 Red Cross cpl. m. .. 4/6
4 France 1940 National Relief cpl. m. 5/0
3 France 1940/41 War & Sea Victims cpl. m. 6/6
5 France 1941/42 Petain 40c. to 2.50 frs. m. 5/6
2 France 1941 Prisoners of War cpl. m. 3/9
4 France, Gounod, Mistral, Massenet, Blondel 4/6
4 France Cancer, Liner Pasteur, Mail Coach, etc. 3/6
3 France 1941 Pictorial High Values 5 frs. to 20 frs. 8/6
3 France 1941/45 Colonial Empire .. 4/6
2 France 1943 Prisoners of War Families 5/6
3 France 1942 Legion Tricolore 4/6
4 France 1944 Arms 5-20 frs. used .. 5/6
6 France 1944 Louis XIV, etc. cpl. m. 8/6
1 France 1943 Paris-Orleans m. 2/6
5 France 1944 Cathedrals cpl. m. .. 5/6

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CHANNEL ISLANDS (Jersey). German Occupation issues. Arms of Jersey. Complete pair. Mint 2/6. Used 3/4. Pictorials. Complete set of 6. Mint 10/-. Used 13/6. Pictorials. Short set of 4 highest values. Mint 8/-.

CHANNEL ISLANDS (Guernsey). German occupation issue. Arms of Guernsey. Complete issue of 5 stamps. Mint 16/-. Used 15/6.

EIRE. "Young Ireland Movement" Commemorative issued Sept. 15th. The complete mint set of 2 values 1/-.

ITALY (Sicily). 1943 Allied Military Government issue (AMGOT). The complete mint set of 9 values, obsolete and scarce. 10/9.

JAMAICA. 1945 Constitution Commemorative, issued August 20th. The complete mint set of 7 values 1½d.—10/- 22/6. Short set of 6 mint values 1½d.—5/- 10/-.

NYASALAND. Attractive two-colour pictorials issued Sept. 1st. Complete mint set of 14 values ½d.—£1 54/6. Short sets, ½d—5/- (12) 16/-; ½d.—1/- (9) 4/3.

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ARMY P.O.'s - REAL ALLIES

By J. H. HARVEY PIRIE

(Continued from p. 21 of our February issue)

A word may be added about the not uncommon use of stamps of the Rhodesias, S.W.A. and the Protectorates in South African offices. There were numerous individuals from these territories serving either as individuals or in units with the South African forces, and it is known that some of them took stamps of their home territories with them, while others had stamps sent by their relatives, or perhaps even by philatelic friends. Although the stamps could not be purchased at South African A.P.O.s, they were freely accepted as valid for franking.

3. *East Africa* (E.A./A.P.O. numbered)
   (a) Stamps of Great Britain, South Africa, N. Rhodesia, India, British Somaliland, Seychelles, Mauritius, British overprinted E.A.F.
   (b) In combination: Great Britain + Kenya, Tanganyika and Uganda, Great Britain + New Zealand, Kenya, Tanganyika and Uganda + N. Rhodesia.
4. *India* (numbered F.P.O.)
   (a) Stamps of Great Britain.
5. *United States of America*
   (a) Stamps of Great Britain (in Tunisia).
6. *Free French*
   (a) Stamps of Great Britain (in Tunisia).
7. *Poland*
   (a) Stamps of Great Britain (in Iraq and in Italy).
8. *Egypt* (Egypt/number/Postage Prepaid)

This category is not on a par with the others because the offices using these marks were not Egyptian P.O.s. According to the official information published in the November issue of this magazine all Army P.O.s were issued with these marks whilst operating in Egypt; they used Egyptian stamps on any items which had to be passed to the Egyptian civil post offices for delivery or onward transmission, but otherwise used their own stamps, although not their own cancellers. It will only be possible to identify the country of origin of the A.P.O.s using these marks if and when a list of the numbers issued to them becomes available. Meanwhile the list is given as being of some little interest even in its present state.

(a) Stamps of Great Britain, South Africa, Australia, New Zealand, India, Egypt (ordinary stamps).

(b) In combination: Great Britain + South Africa, Great Britain + Australia, South Africa + New Zealand, South Africa + Great Britain + Sudan, South Africa + Great Britain + India, Great Britain + New Zealand + South Africa + Egypt (ordinary stamps), Great Britain + South Africa + Australia + New Zealand + Egypt, Great Britain + New Zealand + South Africa + India + Egypt + Italy (the stamps of the last three countries unnecessary passengers), Great Britain + South Africa + Libya (the last a passenger).

The following four postmarks, emanating from Egypt, are mentioned in the hope that someone can identify the force to which they belong:

(1) A single circle mark, 26-27 mm. diam., with "F.P.O./ (date between lines) /E 611". On Egyptian Army Post stamps.

(2) Similar circle with "M.P.O./ (date between lines) /E 608". On an Egyptian air stamp.

(3) Similar to (2) but with "CAIRO" in place of "E 608". On Egyptian Army Post stamps.

(4) A single circle mark, 28 mm. diam., with "M.P.O./date/K.W.Z." One specimen on a stampless cover, another on one with mixed British and New Zealand stamps.

EGYPT and NEAR EAST.

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COSMOPHILE
POSTAGE STAMPS
CAIRO : Box 177 : EGYPT

QUIZ ANSWERS

Here are the answers to the questions set on page 34.

1. Great Britain, 1939, 2s. 6d. and 5s.
2. Six. Small Falls, large Falls, large Falls inscribed "Postage and Revenue," Silver Jubilee, Coronation and Golden Jubilee (4d.).
3. All. Bacon, James I and John Guy on Newfoundland stamps; Eden on Egyptian "Treaty" stamp; Adams on Pitcairn Is.; and Stalin on Russia.
4. Swaziland.
5. False. It should have been a biplane.
6. Eton College (Newfoundland, 1933); Windsor Castle (Jubilee issues); H.M.S. St. Angelo (Malta, 1938).
7. Cayman Is., 1935.
8. Transvaal, 1895, commemorating introduction of penny post.
9. British Guiana. One cent black on magenta of 1856.
10. Yes. A fake is a genuine stamp that has been tampered with; a forgery is more or less wholly manufactured.
11. False. The order is Cape, Natal, O.F.S., Transvaal.
12. South West Africa.

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GERMAN EAST AFRICA

1.*R Watermarked, Used.*

This stamp (S.G. 42) is priced mint only. Like 20 other German colonial stamps it is described by Munk in Kohl's Handbook, and also in Friedemann's work on the stamps of the Germany colonies and offices abroad as never having been sent to the colony, although it was sold over the "Colonial Counter" in Berlin, its sale commencing in April, 1916,

E. Mueller, in "Stamps," describes the finding of a used copy, and it appears that there are now at least four such specimens known.

It has been admitted by the German postal authorities that there were 1 R stamps amongst those which ran the blockade in the "Marie" in March, 1916, and the probable explanation of the occurrence of used 1 R watermarked stamps is that they reached the colony in this way. The dates of the issue of the stamp in Germany, the sailing of the "Marie" and those on the known used stamps are all compatible with this explanation.

★

FALKLAND ISLANDS DEPENDENCIES

"The Gen" and, later, other papers, report that the present four sets of eight stamps each are to be withdrawn and are to be replaced by a completely new single design for all four Dependencies. This design is a map of the Dependencies area printed in black on a white ground, with the main groups of the Dependencies shown and named.

★

Just before going to press we received from the Windsor Stamp Co. a set of the new issue, which has appeared unexpectedly early after the warning notice. The set (8 values ½d. to 1s.) are of uniform design, upright format, with "Falkland Islands Dependencies" top left, the King's head in vignette top right, the value and "Postage and Revenue" at the bottom. The central design is in black, a map of the Weddell quadrant of the Antarctic, with all the dependencies shown; although the type is small it is wonderfully clear and the whole effect is good.

The Windsor Stamp Co., by the way, issued a new catalogue for 1946, on February 12. It takes the place of their January Bulletin, and contains many offers of new issues and new stock.

★

MORE FLAG STAMPS

Czechoslovakia has issued a series of five Slovakia liberation commemoratives. Two of the five feature flags; on the 1.50 k. fly the flags of Russia, Britain, U.S.A. and Czechoslovakia, while the 4 k. shows a thumb-nail view of Turciansky Svaty Martin the cultural centre of Slovakia, and above the view a Russian and a Slovak soldier bearing the flags of their respective countries are shaking hands.

CATALOGUES

"Hermes," in "Stamp Collecting," has been discussing the Future of the Catalogue and the Catalogue of the Future. It is fairly obvious that although the present-day catalogues are excellent guides, their steady expansion will make changes imperative in order to obviate unwieldiness if for no other reason. His suggestions for reformation are:

(A) For the very youngest and inexperienced the letterpress and illustrations in a small album are sufficient.

(B) For the next stage a very much "simplified" catalogue is suitable. Such a catalogue does not yet exist, but would meet the needs of thousands who are just "feeling their feet."

(C) The more experienced collector would be catered for by catalogues of the present-day "simplified" type.

(D) For the specialist there will need to be sectionalised lists based on a key catalogue of, say, the "C" type augmented by the addition of indications regarding specialised lists and bibliographies.

★

INTERNATIONAL EXHIBITION NEW YORK, 1947

Plans are under way for holding an International Philatelic Exhibition in New York in May, 1947, to celebrate the 100th anniversary of the U.S. postage stamp.

★

THE U.P.U.

According to "The Stamp Collectors' Fortnightly," this Postal Union is now really very nearly universal. There are only three stamp-issuing territories not belonging to it, Manchukuo (or should it again be Manchuria ?), Nepal and Touva.

★

GREENLAND

A new issue came out about a year ago. Denmark is now asking who sponsored them, as the Danish Government knows nothing about them. Also, who made the drawings for them, as there are several errors in the designs. The sledge dog team, for instance, is of a Canadian type and not a Greenland one at all.

★

INDONESIA

Dutch stamps were overprinted by the Japanese, and then they issued their own stamps. Now both Dutch and Japanese stamps are being overprinted "Repoeblik Indonesia."

★

U.S.A.

The last of the Roosevelt stamps, the 5c, was issued on 30th January, the President's birthday. It features the globe and the Four Freedoms. Thanks to Mr. George H. Camp for a copy.

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TONGA.

A ROYAL CENTENARY

On December 4th, 1945, the Island Kingdom of Tonga celebrated the centenary of the accession to the throne oif Taufa'ahau, afterwards known as King George Tubou I.

Taufa'ahau was chosen by the chiefs of Tongatabu as the successor of the tu'i Kanokupolu, and though an infidel when the missionaries came, at once saw the superior benefits of Christianity, and under his influence his Kingdom, Haapai, became wholly Christian. When he became ruler of the northern group, Vavau, the people there also accepted the new religion. It was only in Tongatabu that strong opposition was offered, mainly for political reasons, but upon Taufa'ahau becoming King of all Tonga on December 4th, 1845, heathenism ceased altogether.

King George Tubou, whose portrait appears on certain of the postal issues of 1886-1895, reigned for 48 years, and was succeeded by his great-grandson George Taufa'ahau under the title of King Tubou II, or, as he is named in the stamp catalogues, George II. His portrait appears on certain stamps issued in 1895 with the better known portrait on the issues of 1897 and subsequent years. This ruler had as his wife the Princess Lavinia, and their Royal Wedding is philatelically recorded by the overprint "T—L 1 June 1899" on the 1d. black and scarlet stamp, whose design is the Ovava tree, Kana-kubolu.

King George II died on April 5th, 1913, and Princess Salote, a daughter of his first marriage, succeeded to the throne. The Princess was born on March 13th, 1900, and in 1917 married Prince Uiliami Tugi. The portrait of the young Queen appeared on stamps issued in 1920, and these beautiful stamps in their various shades and issues are very popular with all general collectors.

Queen Salote has already celebrated two anniversaries of her succession—the 20th in 1913, when three stamps were issued, and the 25th in 1944, when five stamps were issued. The designs of these two jubilee issues both include a majestic portrait of the Queen in her Royal Robes. So far there has been no announcement of any special issue or overprint to mark this centenary of the reigning House, but special celebrations were held at Nukualofa, the capital of the Kingdom. They were attended by His Excellency the Governor of Fiji, who is also His Brittanic Majesty's High Commissioner for the Western Pacific, and by representatives from Samoa.

This Island Kingdom made a substantial contribution to the war effort, and after Pearl Harbour its defence force was expanded to two battalions raised by voluntary enlistment. From a total population of 38,000 only a few were permitted to fight in the Solomons, but they achieved distinction and earned British and American decorations, including three Military Medals. The Island contributed to the purchase and equipment of fighter planes and directed its economy towards the war effort. To mark the occasion His Excellency invested Her Majesty with the insignia of Dame Grand Cross of the British Empire, thus raising Her Majesty to the highest rank in that Empire Order.

Tonga is an ideal Kingdom, every male over the age of 16 has the legal right to an area of land sufficient for his needs. Its people are a branch of the Polynesian race and are reputed to be, with the possible exception of the Marois and Samoans, the most intelligent and cultured of all who live in the Pacific Islands. Tonga is a British Protectorate, and for that reason its attractive postal issues are included in all catalogues with those of the British Empire Issues.

ERIC G. COWELL.

Collectors' Wants & Offers

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

Mr. A. E. Basden, Killarney, Brickhill Road, Durban, offers for sale two of his collections of stamps, viz., Transvaal, comprising about 10 vols., probably the most extensive and comprehensive in existence; and Orange Free State, about 5 vols., also most extensive and comprehensive. Many varieties and some unique items in both. Particulars from the owner.

Wanted: Transvaal, Natal, Cape, O.F.S., Bechuanaland, Gambia, St. Helena, Egypt, France. Picked copies, rarities and varieties, also 9,000 items for world collection up to 1933 issues. E. Hunt, Box 2437, Johannesburg.

EGYPT: All issues and mint or used sets wanted of the following:— S.G.: 168/170, 171/176, 177/178, 185/187, 203/204a, 217/218, 220, 221/224, 225/244, 245/249, 250/263, 295. Thiele, 455 West Street, Durban.

Mr. E. Tamsen, Box 13, Nylstroom, has still some blocks and controls, also entires of African countries to offer.

Liberia: Collections, sets, single stamps, etc., wanted for specialised collection. Bennett, Box 733, Capetown.

Wanted: Mint and used "Air Mail Letter Cards" with large 3d. imprinted stamps, including S.W.A. and other overprints. Francis J. Field, Publishers of "The Aero Field," Sutton Coldfield, England.

Exchange desired with collectors in all British Colonies. No commons, always *registered*, prompt reply. G. Logothetis, Mihail Voda 84, Athenes, Greece.

Beginners and medium collectors—try our approval service. Benoni Stamp Shop, Box 485, Benoni.

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ROOSEVELT STAMP COLLECTION

At the sale of the first portion of the late President's postage stamp collection, conducted by H. R. Harmer, Inc., 32-34 East 57th Street, New York, some amazing prices were realised. The total for the sale was $134,550 (£33,637) of which $52,955 was realised for proofs alone. The total of this portion of the collection—United States and Latin America—was nearly twice the amount of the valuation for the whole collection, the balance of which will be offered in April.

A personal collection entitled "Bouquets and Brickbats," comprising 52 envelopes, bearing complimentary and derogatory forms of address, realised $525. An air mail envelope from General MacArthur to the President, inscribed "First Letter from Freed Philippines, Censored, Douglas MacArthur, General, U.S.A.," brought $300. One hundred and twenty-six lots of unused sheets of stamps, 1929-1944, autographed by the President, sold for $26,850. Dieproofs of the 1918 air stamps and 1930 Zeppelin stamps together realised $5,000.

A block of six mounted on a sheet of the 1934 "Mothers of America" 3 cents, autographed by the President and his mother fell for $400. Three lots of proofs showing stamps in various stages of production realised $3,350, and a complete set of die-proofs of the 1912-1913 parcel post sold for $2,500. Similar sets of proofs of the Panama-Pacific, 1912-1913 issue, and of the 1932 Washington Bicentennial, together realised $2,200.

A specialised presentation collection of 967 stamps of Costa Rica brought $3,250, while a magnificent unused block of four of the 1843, 60 reis of Brazil, commonly termed "Bulls' Eyes," realised $1,600 (or ten times the catalogue value).

A crowd of 700 attended the sale and bids were received by post from many parts of the world. Collectors in Great Britain, however, were unable to take part in the sale owing to Government restrictions but are nevertheless able to purchase special souvenir catalogues containing messages from Mrs. Roosevelt and President Harry Truman.

★

SWEDISH POSTAL MUSEUM

The Swedish Postal Administration has acquired the philatelic library of some 15,000 items brought together by Mr. Nils Strandell (late co-editor of the "Nordisk Filatelistisk Tidskrift"). They are providing a reading room in their museum quarters where the public in general will be able to refer to the literature without any restrictions.

They wish to keep their library up-to-date and want to complete their files of the "South African Philatelist," which they did not receive during the war period. We are short ourselves of several issues, and if any reader can spare copies of the following numbers we will gladly refund cost and postage. Our shortfalls are: 1944, January, July and December; 1945, January and February.

The

SOUTH AFRICAN PHILATELIST

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SOCIETY NEWS

GRAHAMSTOWN PHILATELIC SOCIETY

President, Mr. Eric A. Carr; *Hon. Sec.,* Mr. S. C. Chantler, P.O. Box 169, Grahamstown; *Meetings,* third Wednesday in each month at 8 p.m. in Toc H Hall, High Street.

This small society held a very successful meeting in November when a new constitution for the Society was adopted. A display of members' collections of the Rhodesias was held, followed by sales of duplicates. No meeting was held in December.

The first meeting of the new year was held on Wednesday, 16th January, but owing to large numbers being on holiday the attendance was small, and it was impossible to have a "feature."

The next meeting will be held on 20th February when all members have been asked to bring their collections of Central Africa and Nyasaland. Members holding duplicates of these countries are asked to bring them for auction.

Philatelists visiting Grahamstown are cordially invited to attend our meetings, and the services of philatelic experts for a lecture or display will be gratefully accepted. S.C.C.

★

EAST RAND PHILATELIC SOCIETY

President: Lieut. J. A. B. van Wyk; **Hon. Secretary-Treasurer,** E. N. Rigg, 103 Kemston Avenue, Benoni; **Meetings,** 3rd Tuesdays, 8 p.m., Hotel Regent, Benoni.

At the January meeting the attendance was fair. Several members brought along stamps from their collections which they disliked most, and they had to give their reason for disliking them. The evening's exhibit was provided by Mr. Shepherd with Cape Triangulars, and a paper on their history. The exhibit was outstanding in every respect, with numerous shades.

At the meeting held in February the attendance was very good, including Mr. Lazarus, a visitor from East London.

The exhibit was again provided by Mr. Shepherd with his collection of Newfoundland; it was a splendid collection, with many varieties in mint and used condition. The used stamps included some fine examples which are most difficult to find in superb condition. The exhibit was practically complete with the exception of the greatest rarities.

★

JEWISH GUILD PHILATELIC SECTION

Chairman, Mr. A. Gladstone; **Hon. Sec.,** Mr. I. Isaacs, 910 His Majesty's Buildings, Eloff Street, Johannesburg; **Meetings** last Thursdays, at the Jewish Guild Memorial Hall, Von Brandis Street, Johannesburg, at 8 p.m.

At the meeting held on January 31st, the exhibits were provided by Dr. N. Hirschman. He showed two collections—Bechuanaland and East Africa.

The Bechuanaland collection contained some fine items, including the overprint on the 6d. Transvaal as well as some of the errors in the overprints on the Cape and British issues.

The East Africa exhibit included the "Mafia" issues for Tanganyika, as well as the "Giraffe" issues complete. It also included the complete issues of Kenya, Uganda and Tanganyika, including varieties of perforation.

All persons interested are cordially invited to the Guild meetings which are held on the last Thursday of each month. I.I.

★

NYASALAND PHILATELIC SOCIETY

President, L. V. Booth; **Hon. Sec.,** Mr. Anson; **Meetings,** 2nd Mondays, Tobacco Auction Rooms, Limbe, 5 p.m.

November: This meeting was concerned entirely with the new Nyasaland issue—inaccuracies and flaws. Points brought out are dealt with on another page.

December: At this meeting it was noted that the first obsolete Nyasaland stamps are tipped for a still further rise in price. A number of approval books were circulated.

★

PRETORIA PHILATELIC SOCIETY

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

February 4th: Annual general meeting. The reports of the outgoing officials reflected a very healthy state of affairs, despite the war years. There is an increasing demand for exchange packets, and better class British Colonials are much wanted. The library is being extended, and there is now shelf space at the meeting place. The Society's general stamp collection has been completely disposed of, and good progress has been made with a South African collection by the purchase of the one belonging to the late Mr. Roos.

Office-bearers for 1946 were elected, with a considerable infusion of "new blood" in its personnel.

February 1st: Mr. Bottomley gave a paper on British Empire Postage Dues. He explained how they saved the post office a lot of accounting work. The South African 1s. of 1914 was the highest priced "due" in the catalogue, there only having been 12,000 printed. He advocated collecting "Dues" on entire, as there were often interesting tax markings on the envelopes. J.J.W.

★

EAST LONDON PHILATELIC SOCIETY

President, A. Watson; **Hon. Secretary,** S. F. Fowler, P.O. Box 168, East London; **Meetings,** Colosseum Building, second Fridays at 7.45 p.m.

The February meeting showed a very good attendance of members, and in addition seven visitors were welcomed by the president.

Many philatelic items were produced for inspection, including the India Victory set, Burma Military Administration, new Eire and Czechoslovakia, etc.

Four new members were duly elected.

Mr. Durkin addressed the meeting regarding the appeal for donations of stamps to be sold on behalf of the "Help for Britain" Fund, and stressed the immediate and gratifying response which had resulted. Nearly fifty lots had already been received, and others were being donated daily. These include many valuable items, so without doubt, a splendid result will be achieved. Circulars giving particulars and full descriptions of the various lots will be distributed to prospective buyers very shortly.

After refreshments had been dealt with, the evening's exhibit was proceeded with. This took the form of a combined display by all members of two favourite sheets from their collections and, as might be expected, resulted in some very fine stamps being shown. It would occupy too much space to enumerate all the sheets on view, but the following might be worthy of mention in particular, although it should be mentioned that every sheet shown was of really outstanding merit:

Great Britain 1d. blacks & 2d. blues; and Ceylon.
Transvaal Wolmaransstad; and Transvaal 1878/80, Queens.
Northern Rhodesia; and Barbados Britannias.
Goya Spain (a free peep-show); and Greece Paris prints.
Union Commemoratives; and West Indians.
22 blue Triangular Capes on piece (probably unique).
Block of 4 1d. De la Rue triangular Capes, consisting of two pairs, skilfully but fraudulently joined together on the wrong sides. These were found in a selection sent to Mr. Thornton by Frank Godden, Ltd., and had been passed as a normal block. The block was fully described later in Godden's Gazette, etc., etc.

The meeting concluded with the usual auction, a good proportion of the lots offered finding new owners. T.A.H.

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THE PHILATELIC SOCIETY OF NATAL

President, Mr. W. H. Winde; **Hon. Sec.,** Mr. G. Milner Palmer, P.O. Box 588, Durban; **Meetings,** 1st and 3rd Wednesdays at 31 London Assurance House, 319 Smith Street (in room of the Durban Camera Club, top floor) 7.30 p.m.

Our February meeting was undoubtedly one of the most interesting held for some time, 66 members and visitors being present in spite of the rainy night. One, I think, can attribute this to the fact that members had been advised that Mr. A. E. Basden, M.B.E., would exhibit his stamps of Transvaal 1869/79 and give a short talk drawing the attention of the members to some of the most outstanding items. No one was disappointed, and in spite of the fact that the majority of collectors are interested in modern stamps it must have pleased Mr. Basden's heart considerably to see the amount of attention that was paid to his talk, and particularly the manner in which everyone examined his exhibit.

Mr. Lionel Bevis, our hard-working Immediate Vice-President, gave us another one of his most interesting slide competitions, which was enjoyed by all. The usual auction sale concluded a very instructive evening. The Society is working hard on the preliminaries in connection with the Congress in October, and further announcements will be published from time to time.

W.H.W.

★

CAPE TOWN PHILATELIC SOCIETY

President, L. Simenhoff; **Hon. Secretary,** S. Kaganson, P.O. Box 1973; **Meetings,** 2nd and 4th Thursdays at Yorkshire Buildings, Strand Street, at 7.30 p.m.

Thursday, 10th January: There was not quite as large an attendance as usual at this meeting, when Mr. C. Gelberg tabled a display of Southern Rhodesia. This was a complete collection, and particular attention had been given also to a collection of postmarks.

These started with Southern Rhodesian postmarks on stamps of the B.S.A. Company, and finished up with the halfpenny stamp of the Golden Jubilee issue used at all post offices in Southern Rhodesia.

The usual routine business of the meeting completed, the rest of the evening was devoted to auction.

Thursday, 24th January: At this meeting there was a good attendance to witness a display of Western Australia by one of the stalwarts of this Society, Mr. W. L. Ashmead.

This must be one of the finest collections of its kind in South Africa, and contained many unique and interesting items. Particular interest was given to a page of the series 1854, which displayed prints from the original die of Perkins Bacon from which the secondary roller was taken before the engraving was complete.

Other outstanding items were the twopenny of 1857 black-brown on Indian red printed on both sides, and the 1861 twopenny with PO of postage missing. This fine display was almost complete except for a few of the very elusive varieties.

The display was followed by an interesting Lantern Competition arranged by Mr. W. Hesse. Members were required to give the correct colours of the stamps shown on the screen, recognise items of interest, etc. Dr. Follen proved to be the winner.

B.L.C.

★

THE PHILATELIC SOCIETY OF JOHANNESBURG

President, Mr E. C. Sprighton; **Hon. Sec. (Acting),** P.O. Box 4967; **Meetings,** 2nd Tuesdays, Public Library, 7.45 p.m.

At the meeting held on February 12th, the Jewish Guild Philatelic Section paid an official visit to the Johannesburg Society, and provided the exhibits.

Dr. N. Hirschman showed Bechuanaland. The exhibit included the overprint on the 6d. Transvaal and some errors in the overprints on the Cape and Great Britain issues. The recently issued Victory set was included.

Mr. I. Isaacs showed flown covers of the Great Britain to Australia opening service of December, 1934. Various stages were shown, including Madagascan and South African acceptances.

Mr. L. Buchen showed a collection of the Saar including some rare commemoratives. The exhibit made a very fine show.

Mr. Gladstone showed issues of France from 1939. There were some beautifully designed issues amongst the charities and commemoratives. Some occupation issues were included as well as the Liberation issues.

Dr. Kaplan showed Gambia, including embossed issues all beautiful mint copies.

Mr. Sprighton thanked the Guild members for their exhibit.

During the evening an auction was held in aid of the Thanks to Britain Fund.

I.I.

★ ★ ★

EGYPTIAN PHILATELIC EXHIBITION

We have received, through the Publicity Officer of the G.P.O., a prospectus of Egypt's first philatelic exhibition, which is being held in Cairo under the auspices of the Philatelic Society of Egypt from 28th February to 8th March.

The special occasion is the 80th anniversary of the issue of Egypt's first postage stamp. Entries for competition had to be in by 10th January, before the prospectus was received, so there is no point now in giving details. Suffice it to say that there are many classes, many awards and many festivities in connection with the exhibition. Needless to say there will also be a special issue of stamps and special postmarks at the Exhibition post office.

In addition to the competitive exhibits there have been invited exhibits by Postal Administrations and, as noted last month, the Union Government is sending one of these.

Mr. J. P. Shingler, who has recently returned from "Up North" and is starting business as a philatelic dealer in East London, reports that there will be four stamps, of 1, 10, 17 and 22 mill. denominations, each with similar amounts of surtax; face value of the set is therefore 50 mill. x 50 mill. There will be a printing of 500,000 complete sets. There will also be 10,000 miniature sheets, each with all four stamps, half of them perforated, half imperforate; these will be sold at double face value.

Mr. Shingler also reports the single 10 mill. stamp issued in connection with the recent visit of King Ibn Saud of Saudi Arabia. This was issued on 10th January; it is a beautiful stamp in green with the flags of Egypt and Saudi Arabia.

"RELEASED BY CENSOR"

From various places it is being reported that letters held up by censors for weeks, months or years, are now being delivered. Many of these should be of philatelic interest.

FAKES AND FORGERIES

The "Philatelic Trader" issues a warning about unused Philippine remainders being offered at a fraction of face value, and the U.S.A. is being flooded with forged overprinted Honduran airmails emanating from Mexico. There have recently been arriving in Switzerland typographed counterfeit Turkish stamps of some 25 different denominations.

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South African Railways

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Proprietors and Publishers:

THE PHILATELIC FEDERATION OF SOUTHERN AFRICA

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Vol. 22, No. 4. **APRIL, 1946.** **Whole No. 253**

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MAY 29th. A SPECIALISED STAMP SALE
of GREAT BRITAIN including FINE LINE-ENGRAVED, EMBOSSED and SURFACE-PRINTED for sale by order of specialist collectors.

JUNE 5th. A SPECIALISED STAMP SALE
of BRITISH NORTH AMERICA, offered for sale by the order of a private collector.

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The
SOUTH AFRICAN PHILATELIST

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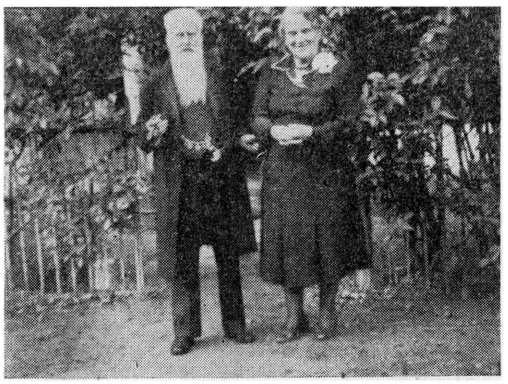
Vol. 22, No. 4. **APRIL, 1946.** **Whole No. 253**

CONGRATULATIONS
MR. AND MRS. EMIL TAMSEN

The heartiest congratulations of philatelists are due to the doyen of South African philately, Mr. Emil Tamsen, and to Mrs. Tamsen on the celebration of their diamond wedding on 17th March.



Born in Schleswig-Holstein, he came to South Africa in 1880, and Mrs. Tamsen came from Germany in the same year. After some early adventures in Natal, he moved to the Northern Transvaal and their honeymoon was a six-months waggon trip trading in what is now Southern Rhodesia. Turned back by Lobengula, they settled down to farming near Nylstroom.

Mr. Tamsen was a stamp collector before coming to South Africa, but here he was lucky in being afforded facilities for inspecting the Z.A.R. postal archives and thus laid the foundations of all our knowledge of the old Transvaal stamps.

He has written articles on the stamps of almost every South African stamp issuing territory, many of them basic to our knowledge thereof; his articles appearing in local, British, American and European journals.

He is the acknowledged Grand Old Man of South African philately, and this is recognised overseas by the fact that he is the one and only South African on the British Roll of Honour of Distinguished Philatelists, to which he was elected in 1920.

He is certainly "Grand," but it is perhaps a mistake to call him "old" for, although his years are not few, he is still alert and hearty. We look forward to still further philatelic communications from him, and we hope that he and Mrs. Tamsen will celebrate whatever jubilee of their wedding day it is that comes after the diamond one.

*

UNION NOTES

Mr. J. Britz has forwarded for inspection a block of 4 of the 5s. denomination. No. 1 of the top row of the sheet has a very prominent flaw taking the form of (a) several vertical white lines through the top half of the waggon, and (b) a large deep green smudge almost obliterating the front part of the waggon.

Mr. W. J. Rowe, in the "Philatelic Magazine," says he has "a strip of three 3d. blue (Women's Auxiliary Services) stamps as follows: Suid Afrika, South Africa, South Africa. Can you tell me if this is unusual?" He does not say whether they are of the large or small war effort series, but in either case it would appear to be an unusual occurrence. Have any of our readers seen anything similar?

The Minister of Posts and Telegraphs has stated that the contemplated reintroduction of internal airmails will take place on 1st May. There will be no extra rate charged, and any mail that can go by air will be sent as a matter of course by air.

The 1/3d. stamp. In reply to enquiry the P.M.G. states that supplies of this denomination have become exhausted, but it is to be reprinted.

Bloemfontein's Centenary. In connection with the celebration week of the city's centenary, the O.F.S. & Basutoland Philatelic Society issued a very nice commemorative envelope. Thanks for a copy.

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THE ERROR "MAFEKI BESIEG" ON S.G.10.

By DR. K. FREUND.

There have been occasional reports of an error of the Mafeking Siege stamp S.G. 10, consisting of *the last letter resp. letters missing in each line of the siege overprint.* Mr. C. H. Thornton wrote a little note on such an error in "The South African Philatelist" in December, 1936. He suggested that the error was probably caused "by a small strip of paper intervening during the process of printing."

Thanks to Dr. Harvey Pirie and Mr. Thornton, I came into possession of two specimens of this error, which enabled me to make a study of it, especially anent its cause. As the error is very interesting and pronounced, I would like to put here on record my findings which, I believe, will clarify its status:

The two copies I possess differ from each other in that the one shows only the G of MAFEKING and the D of BESIEGED missing, while the second copy has the last *two* letters in each line, NG and ED, missing and lacks also the usual fullstop after the surcharged value.

Both copies, however, have in common the so-called type of setting, which is No. 6. (For explanation: Mafeking stamps were overprinted in rows of 6 by a setting of 6 similar types. Each of the 6 types is distinguishable by certain minute characteristics.) The fact that the two mentioned copies represent type 6, means that they are both from the *last vertical row of stamps.*

This brings to mind two possible reasons why the last part of the letterings should have failed to print: One is Mr. Thornton's theory, namely, that some foreign matter, like a paper strip, may have come inadvertently between the printing type and some stamps of the last vertical row. The other possibility is that the pane of stamps, when inserted into the printing press, was accidentally doubled over on the righ-hand side in the last vertical stamp row.

A close examination of both copies reveals the interesting fact that there is a vertical *crease* in the paper of *both* copies, noticeable especially on the back of the stamps. This vertical crease is slightly slanting and borders just the points where the lettering in each case stops. The fact that it appears on both of the copies which I received from different sources, and that it "cuts off," so to say, the lettering, is in my opinion a conclusive proof that there was actually an accidental *fold-over* of the paper during the printing process, causing the part of the right-hand side, which was folded underneath, to miss the last part of the lettering.

The fold, running vertically with a slight slant towards right, made copies of the upper rows miss the last letter of each overprinted line, while in the rows lower down it penetrated a bit further into the stamp, causing it to miss the last two letters of each word and also the fullstop after the value.

The two copies I possess are evidently from one and the same pane. In fact, as only very few copies with this error have turned up so far, I take it that altogether only one pane had the accidental fold resulting in this particular error. The original pane consisted of 10 rows (of 12 stamps each), so that there are in my opinion at most only 10 copies in existence.

The authorities, either the printer or the postmaster, must have certainly noticed the small fold on the right-hand side. Whoever he was, he apparently straightened it out without much ado, and obviously no importance was attached to the fact that a few letters did not show.

Copies with faulty overprint (to which all catalogued errors belong) were in general never discarded, for the simple reason that they were *not* printer's waste at all, but actual stamps from already existing stocks which the military authorities had *bought up, paying* the original face value for them. The military authorities could certainly not be expected to waste good money, especially as every item had to be accounted for. Under the extraordinary seige conditions, "appearance" and "beauty" of a surcharged stamp did not matter so much, as long as the overprint was readable.

This fact, which concerns the status of all Mafeking errors alike, cannot be emphasised enough.

In contrast to the error described above, copies which have letters missing in one line only, especially of other demoninations, have nothing to do with the afore-mentioned cause. On all such copies, as far as I have inspected them, "chafing" and "wear in transit" seem to have caused some letters to become faint or to disappear (all mail to the outside world was smuggled through by native runners under trying conditions).

Mention must be made here also of certain copies of S.G. 3 and S.G. 4, which have a large part of the top lettering missing and which are dangerous forgeries. Obviously, the forger's illusion in these cases was: The less overprint, the less detection.

A distinctive feature of our error on S.G. 10 is the described *crease* in the paper. While in ordinary cases such a crease usually spoils the value of a stamp, it is here an interesting and most *essential* characteristic of the stamp.

There can be no doubt that this pronounced error is a genuine one with a "clean" record, and that it well deserves to receive catalogue status along with the other already listed errors.

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Offers from Britain.

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CHANNEL ISLANDS (Guernsey). German occupation issue. Arms of Guernsey. Complete issue of 5 stamps. Mint 16/-. Used 15/6.

EIRE. "Young Ireland Movement" Commemorative issued Sept. 15th. The complete mint set of 2 values 1/-.

ITALY (Sicily). 1943 Allied Military Government issue (AMGOT). The complete mint set of 9 values, obsolete and scarce. 10/9.

JAMAICA. 1945 Constitution Commemorative, issued August 20th. The complete mint set of 7 values 1½d.—10/- 22/6. Short set of 6 mint values 1½d.—5/- 10/-.

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The Letter Stamps and Postmarks of the Cape of Good Hope—From 1792 to 1910.

By A. A. JURGENS.

SUPPLEMENT No. I.

The Editor of the "South African Philatelist" has kindly consented to publish, from time to time, any new information which I have been able to gather in connection with the above-mentioned publication, and this will appear in the form of Supplements.

Those readers who are in possession of a copy of the above work are advised to attach these supplements thereto so as to bring their book up to date.

It might be some considerable time before a second supplement appears as it depends entirely upon the discovery of any new information.

In order to simplify matters I have decided to give all new Letters Stamps, Date Stamps and Postmarks the same number as the type they refer to, identifying them only by the addition of the letters (a), (b), (c) and so on. For example, take THE NEWSPAPER BRANCH—(N.P.B.) (page 90); it will be seen here that both new types found were in use before Types 144, 145 and 146, so consequently they are numbered Type 143a. and 143b. Figures 232a. and 232b.

Or, the NUMERAL DEFACING STAMP OF 1864. The newly discovered type with a stop after the last digit now becomes known as Fig. 63a. Type 39a.

Or, THE MONEY ORDER BRANCH (page 98). The combination date stamp used by the Port Elizabeth office becomes Figure 294a. Type 190a., and I trust this arrangement will make identification quite simple.

CORRECTIONS: Page 99. THE OCEAN POST OFFICE.

The 23 mm. circle, which is stated here to have been used from 1903, should read "The 25 mm. circle."

Dr. Harvey Pirie has now produced a specimen of the 23 mm. circle with the date of usuage 1898. This should now read:

22 mm. circle earliest date seen .. 1895
25 mm. circle earliest date seen .. 1903
23 mm. circle earliest date seen (Dr. Pirie) 1898

and the type shown as Fig. 295a Type 191a 1906

in the "Additions and Corrections" Slip.

THE NEWSPAPER BRANCH.

Two new examples of hand stamps used by this department have now been discovered, the earliest date of usage seen being 1877. Figs. 232a. and 232b.

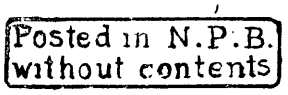

Fig. 232a. Type 143a.

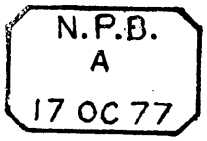

Fig. 232b. Type 143b.

Fig. 232a. was used upon printed matter where the newspaper or pamphlets whatever they might have been had become detached and lost from the outside cover. Fig. 232b. was used as an ordinary date stamp by this department (possibly the first to be used by this branch).

THE NUMERAL DEFACING STAMP OF 1864.

(The "Killer.")

This item showing a stop after the last digit was known to me before the publication of my book, but owing to the fact that only one such specimen had been seen by me I decided to wait until further evidence should turn up by which some definite proof of the mark immediately after the second "6" could be taken to represent a stop. Since then I have seen several of these all showing the stop in the same position, and I have also a complete cover showing this variety in my possession.

This No. 66 (with stop) was used at Willowmore, Cape, and the date on the cover mentioned above is 12.5.1894. It is shown here as Fig. 63a. Type 39a.

Fig. 63a. Type 39a.

THE MONEY ORDER OFFICE

Two new types of date stamps used by the Money Order Office have now been discovered, viz.,

(i) Used by the Port Elizabeth Post Office in 1899, which shows the Money Order (Branch) and the Savings Bank (Branch)

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combined by having the letters "M.O." and "S.B." at the bottom of the date stamp, Fig. 294a. Type 190a.

Fig. 294a. Type 190a.

(ii) The other date stamp used by this Branch is similar in size and shape to Fig. 293 Type 189 (page 98), only the wording follows the outside circular line of the design, viz., "M.O.O. BEACONSFIELD."

THE CIRCULAR DEFACING STAMP OF 1874.

Mr. J. W. H. Gregory of Cape Town has shown me a specimen with the number "5." This is on a stamp S.G. No. 37. The office of usage is not known.

THE 4-FIGURE NUMERAL OF 1896. Fig. 87 Type 63.

Examples of this defacing stamp have been seen showing the bars thick, similar to the 1864 (Thick Bar Variety) but as it is thought by the writer that this might be due to ink spread. or a worn stamping implement, and as no date of usage has so far been seen, this cannot be considered a new variety until evidence to prove it so turns up.

In regard to the Numeral Defacing Stamp of 1864 (Killer) and the 4-Figure Numeral of 1896, approximately 50 new numbers have been traced, and of these the office of usage of nearly one-half has been identified. A list of thee follow:

THE NUMERAL DEFACING STAMP OF 1864.

Page 63 (List page 109).

Explanation: T/B represents Thick Bar. Tn/B. Thin Bar. S/O Small Oval.

Number.	Name of Town.	Type.	Other Numbers : Remarks.
194	RUYTERBOSCH	T/B.	
236	ZUURBRAK	T/B.	
386	BEAUFORT	S/O.	First digit doubtful.
999	WYDERS RIVER	T/B.	This might also be 666.
854	BLANTYRE (B.S.A.) (1895)	T/B.	This is not really the 1864 type. (Thinner bars and wider spaced.)
829	CAPE	T/B.	
67	USED IN NATAL	T/B.	Also used at Part Nolloth.
889	CAPE	T/B.	
180	CAPE	T/B.	
354	TRAPPES VALLEY	T/B.	
997	MIDDELBURG (Cape)	T/B.	Also used No. 184.
795	BRANDWACHT	T/B.	
965	MOWBRAY	T/B.	
283	CAPE	T/B.	
969	BECHUANALAND	T/B.	This might also be 696.
896	BECHUANALAND	T/B.	Also used at Kloof Street Post Office, Cape Town.
255	BREEDE RIVER	T/B.	
500	BASHEE	T/B.	Also used at Ibisi.
573	CONSTANTIA	T/B.	
381	PRIESKA	T/B.	
724	NORVALS PONT	T/B.	
301	CATHCART	T/B.	
81	TOUWS RIVER	T/B.	Also used at Richmond.
734	CAPE	T/B.	
261	CAPE	Tn/B.	Also exists as T/B.
585	CAPE	T.B.	
664	CAPE	T.B.	
889	CAPE	T.B.	
912	CAPE	T.B.	
580	CAPE	T.B.	
334	CAPE	T.B.	
968	CAPE	T.B.	
970	CAPE	T.B.	
176	USED IN THE TRANSVAAL	T.B.	
606	CAPE	T.B.	
210	MOHALIESHOEK, BAS	Tn/B.	*Also used in the Cape Colony.
48	BYRNETOWN, NATAL	T/B.	

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Number.	Name of Town.	Type.	Other Numbers : Remarks.
52	USED IN NATAL	T/B.	Also used at Phisantefontein, Cape, but in Tn/B. type (52).
66	WILLOWMORE	T/B.	With Stop. Also used at Vosburg, but without stop.
201	BECHUANALAND	Tn/B.	
150	JAMESTOWN	T/B.	
239	PALMIETFONTEIN	T/B.	
193	PIQUETBERG ROAD	T/B.	

* It is possible that No. 210, which was used at Mohalieshoek, Basutoland, where we know that Cape Stamps were used, might, owing to my having seen several of these numbers on Cape Colony Stamps have been taken by me to have been used in the Cape Colony.

THE 4-FIGURE NUMERAL—Type 63.

The following are additional to those given on page 113.

Number.	Town.		
1340	Used at the Cape.	1213	USED IN THE ORANGE RIVER COLONY, and also used in the Cape Colony. This last might, however, be Interprovincial.
1348	do.		
1182	do.		
1329	do.		
1254	do.		
1349	Used at Burghersdorp.		

SLIP AT BACK OF BOOK—ADDITIONS AND CORRECTIONS.

No. 235. This should read "Number used by Post Office at 43 Strand Street and not 47, as stated.

No. 272. BUYSPOST: should read 782 and not 272 as stated.

PRE-ADHESIVE LETTER STAMPS IN VARIOUS COLOURS

It will no doubt be of interest to collectors of Cape of Good Hope Hand Struck Letter Stamps to know that the following are to be found in the colours given here, viz.:

Fig. 24. Type 9. In red.
Figs. 26 and 27. Types 11 and 12. In red (shades).
Fig. 32. Type 17. In red (shades).
Fig. 33. Type 18. In red, blue and purple.
Fig. 39. Type 20. In red. Fig. 40. Type 20a. In red.
Fig. 34. Type 19. In red.

POST OFFICE LETTER STAMPS.

Fig. 6. Red-brown. Fig. 10. In red (shades).
Fig. 11. In black, brown and orange.
Fig. 13. In several shades of red and red-dish-purple.
Fig. 18. In red, brown, orange and black.
Fig. 17. In blue, grey-black and black.
Fig. 23. In deep and pale green.

The last mentioned Letter Stamp, Fig. 23 (KOWIE), the deep and pale green is merely owing to stamping from a freshly inked pad and from a dry pad—the ink appears to be the same.

The above is a full list of all the colours so far seen and in the writers collection, and it is possible that other Letter Stamps shown in Figures 5 to 23 might have been used with coloured inks.

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10	Belgium 1941, Belgian Rulers cpl mint	12/6
10	Belgium 1941, St. Martin cpl. mint ..	12/6
3	Brasil 1943 Bulls Eyes cpl. mint ..	2/6
1	Denmark 1937 K.P.K. cpl. mint	1/0
12	Germany 1943 War Effort cpl. mint ..	10/6
13	Germany 1944 War Effort cpl. mint ..	12/6
16	German Occup. Luxemburg, o/p on Hindenburg, mint	18/6
4	Egypt 1946, Cairo Phil. Exch. cpl. mint	3/6
3	Italy 1930 Royal Wedding, mint ..	2/6
4	Italy 1943 Galileo, cpl. mint	1/6
14	Liberia 1915/21 Zoo, cpl. used	5/6
12	Nyassa 1921 surcharges cpl. mint ..	3/6
10	Switzerland 1938/43, large pict. used	3/6
1946	Gibbons Simplified Catalogue	13/6

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EAST AFRICAN ARMY P.O. AND CENSOR MARKS

In our issue of July, 1945, p. 76, a summary of the information then available on these marks was given, and it was optimistically (or pessimistically, whichever way one likes to look at it) stated that few more records seemed likely to turn up. This forecast was far from correct, for it is now possible fully to double the list then given. Messrs. W. Tunstall, I. H. C. Godfrey and H. J. Kirk are largely responsible for the additional information received.

A few additional records were given in our September issue, p. 104, and those interested are referred to these two papers as the numbering used in this communication is carried on from them.

Army Postmarks

A mistake was made in the September additional records in reporting the existence of Nos. 3, 4, 5 and 6 of the definitive type six, but we now have a definite record of No. 6 together with the following numbers not previously noted: Nos. 1, 24, 54, 70, 73 and 78.

Anent the six illustrated types of postmark, Mr. Tunstall makes the following comments:

Type 1 (a "dumb" mark, merely two concentric circles with the date in the centre) although used mostly very early, in 1939-41, has been seen as late as December, 1944, on a cover with a naval censor mark. The date in this instance, however, was in one line whereas in the early usage it was in two lines. (It is doubtful if these two usages are really of the same mark, although they are of the same general type. The 1939-41 usage was definitely an army one, but the later usage is probably a purely naval one. It has already been mentioned in "The Philatelist" by Mr. J. Goldup, who was at Kilindini with the R.N. on various occasions. The earliest use of it he reports is 26/11/42 and he regarded it as an army one with the E.A. A.P.O. . . . removed. He states further that when the Eastern Fleet headquarters was moved to Colombo in September, 1943, the mark went with it and a similar but somewhat different one was substituted at Kilindini. It seems probable that this is the mark noted by Mr. Tunstall.—J.H.H.P.)

Type 4: A new record is No. 2. It has "Registered" under the figure.

Type 6: One has been seen with the A.P.O. and number deliberately blacked out.

Mr. I. N. Sharp reports an E.A. A.P.O. 78 mark of date 25-1/45 on cover cancelling two Indian 4a stamps. The cover has also a 28 mm. circular mark with "Sea Base A.P.O." and an undecipherable number. Query: Is this an East African or a British mark from South East Asia Command?

Location of A.P.O.s

Mr. Godfrey is mainly responsible for the following list of locations. They are given as at May-August, 1941, but a few have locations given as at other dates. They all refer to offices using the definitive Type 6 mark.

No. 1, Mombasa. A very elusive mark and the office had something very "hush-hush" about it. No. 2, Nairobi, probably the commonest of all the numbers. No. 24, Dire Dawa, where it replaced No. 62 in August, 1941. No. 51 at P.O.W. Camp No. 365. No. 52 in Northern Rhodesia. No. 53 in Madagascar in 1942. No. 55 at Addis Ababa in July, 1942. No. 56 at Garissa, also at Thika in Kenya at one period. No. 58 at Dessie. No. 59 at a P.O.W. Camp, also in Madagascar in 1942. No. 60 at Addis Ababa. No. 61 at Marsabit. No. 62 at Dire Dawa. No. 63 at Negheli, closed in January, 1942, and in British Somaliland in 1944. No. 64 at Mega and also in Madagascar in 1942. No. 65 at Jigjigga, and in British Somaliland in 1944. No. 66 at Mombasa. No. 67 at Nanyuki. No. 69 at Gilgil. No. 70 at Borema. No. 71 at Berbera. No. 73 in Mauritius in 1944 and 1945. No. 74 at Mogadishu up to at least as late as February, 1944. No. 75 at Harar and later at Hargeisa and at Addis Ababa. No. 81 at Mombasa in 1943.

Censor's Seals

Only two varieties previously noted, now five more to be added.

(3) White paper about 75 x 32 mm. with "Opened by Censor" printed in black.

(4) White paper about 87 x 50 mm. with "Opened/By Examiner/E E (number in manuscript)" printed in black. On cover from Madagascar.

(5) White paper about 90 x 45 mm. with "Opened By Examiner/N/ (a number rubber stamped in violet)" printed in black. On cover posted in Nairobi.

(6) White paper about 115 x 50. Similar to No. 5, but has "P C 90" in small type towards the N.E. corner of the seal.

(7) Has hand-stamped "Opened By Censor" with a place name or a number or with both.

Censor Marks

The following already recorded marks have been seen in other colours: No. 2, grey-black; No. 3, in red; No. 5, in black, red or purple; No. 7 in violet; No. 9, in blue, and No. 14, also in violet.

Now follow new records:

16: Like No. 1, but with a line under the number. This line does not entirely close in the enclave, however, as in No. 2. In violet, red, purple or blue.

17: Like No. 3, but with "Goedgekeur deur Sensor" in one line instead of in two.

18: Like No. 4, but with no bottom line to the rectangle.

19: Like No. 5, but with the "E.A." in line with the number. In black on cover from Zomba, Nyasaland.

20: As No. 8, but without "E.A. Forces" in the surround and with "E.A. No. V/ (number)" in the centre.

21: Like No. 14, but size of rectangle is 47 x 27 mm. All in violet, but, as in No. 14, the second date is in a different type from the first.

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22: A cover with a No. 14 mark has in addition a 13 mm. circle with "0 7" inside. In violet.

23: A double circle, outer one double lined and 43 mm. in diam. "Military Censor" between the circles at the top and a 5-point star at the bottom. A large figure 11 in the centre.

24: A double circle, outer one 30 mm. in diam. "Passed Censor" between the circles and "E.A./Base" in the centre. In violet.

25: A cover with a No. 24 mark shows in addition a 13 mm. circle with "A 23" inside. In violet.

26: A double lined 25 mm. circle with "N/ Released/6." Violet, on covers from Nyeri and from Nairobi. A similar mark on a cover from Kampala, Uganda, but the number is 9.

27: A shield with crown on top. Inside is "Passed By/Censor/N/ (number)." In violet or blue-black.

28: A double lined double oval with "British Military Administration/Madagascar" between the lines and "Passed By/Censor/1" in the centre.

29: Double lined rectangle about 50 x 40 mm. with "Passed By/War/Department/Censor No. 2" in violet on cover from Mauritius.

30: Similar to No. 29 but size is about 35 x 33 mm. The censor's number is 3 and there is also a name in manuscript. Also in violet. Postmarks on these Mauritius covers are either E.A./A.P.O. 73 or 2.

31: A double lined rectangle 50 x 33 mm. with "Passed By/Base/Censor/E E (2 in manuscript)." Seen on covers with mark No. 27 and with mark No. 29.

32: This and the three following R.A.F. marks were possibly of widespread usage, but these are recorded as definitely in use in Kenya. A 25 mm. circle with "(crown)/Passed By/R.A.F./Censor/(number)." Associated with a mark "E.A., R.A.F./Postal Frank."

33: Associated with same postal frank, a rectangle 50 x 20 mm. with "(Eagle)/Passed By/R.A.F./Censor/(number)."

34: Like No. 33 but in a diamond shaped frame.

35: An upright triangle with apex truncated. Base 38 mm., height 34 mm. Inside "(Eagle)/ R.A.F./Censor/(number)." In blue.

36: A double lined double triangle, sides 38 mm. with "Passed By/Naval/Censor" between lines and initials in centre. In violet on cover with E.A. A.P.O. 2 postmark. Probably used for naval personnel on leave in Nairobi.

37: A double rectangle, outer one 45 x 24 mm. Between lines is "Passed/By Military Sub-Base/Censor/E.A. Forces." In centre is "No. 120." In violet. Across the mark in manuscript is "Censored," and a name. Where the letter came from or where it was censored, is rather a puzzle. It is marked "On Active Service," it is addressed to the Transvaal, the only postmark is an "Egypt/Postage Prepaid" one, No. 52.

J. H. HARVEY PIRIE.

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EGYPT: All issues and mint or used sets wanted of the following:— S.G.: 168/170, 171/176, 177, 178, 185/187, 203/204a, 217/218, 220, 221/224, 225/244, 245/249, 250/263, 295. Thiele, 455 West Street, Durban.

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NOTICES

Europe Since 1939: Vol. III, Belgian, Holland and Luxemburg. N.K. Musson & Co., 494 Fulham Road, London, S.W.6. Price 1s. 3d. net.

This is a fully illustrated and priced catalogue of all Belgian, Dutch and Luxemburg issues from 1940 to 1945. There are 192 of the first, 93 of the second and 83 of the third country. Almost all items are priced both mint and used, but it should be noted that the publishers are a publishing house only and do not themselves deal in stamps. They consider, however, that the prices they have given are a fair guide to market value.

Steps to Victory: Under this title Messrs. Francis J. Field, of Sutton Coldfield, England, have published a priced list of leaflets, folders, newspapers, etc., dropped from the air as propaganda.

These items vividly portray the psychology of the protagonists (both sides are included, although Allied material predominates) and would make colourful additions to any War Collection or as a speciality for a separate album.

★

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★

U.S.A.

The final stamp of the Armed Services series was issued on 26th February. It is a 3c blue, honouring the Merchant Navy and features a Liberty Ship Inloading cargo.

★

UNION CATALOGUE ACKNOWLEDGMENTS

As announced last month in the Federation Notices, the Hon. Editor is prepared to receive (preferably at his home address—23 Victoria Street, Oaklands, Johannesburg), donations towards the cost of publishing the forthcoming catalogue of the stamps of the Union. The following have been received, with thanks:

Mr. B. L. Cairncross, Pretoria	£1	1	0
Mr. Ackerman, Vrede	1	1	0
Mr. S. Legator, Brakpan	3	3	0
J. Mildenhall & Co., Johannesburg	5	5	0
Mr. D. Lamont Smith, Johannesburg	1	1	0
Mr. P. Loewenstein, Ladybrand ..	3	3	0
Mr. J. F. Fick, Bremersdorp	1	0	0

★

UNION VICTORY OVERPRRINTS

Mr. L. Marpole, writing in "Stamp Collecting," reports a constant variety of some values on the last stamp in the sheet. It consists of a doubling of the right-hand side of the "d" of the overprinted words. Basutoland, Bechuanaland and Swaziland, and is reminiscent of a similar variety in the last printing of the Bahamas Landfall set. Have any of our readers noted this?

GERMANY

"Gibbons Stamp Monthly" for February relists the Amgot issues. These were printings made in U.S.A. and in Britain prior to occupation and in Germany since then.

The British printings are readily distinguishable by the fine perforation (14 and 14½). The American and German printings are 11 or 11½ and not easily distinguishable by perforation alone. The printing processes and paper were different, but a minor design difference gives the easiest method of separating them. In the American series the spaces between the spandrel ornaments and the frame lines are filled in colour, whereas in the corresponding German printed values these spaces have white patches.

Local Posts: Apparently most towns and provinces are issuing their own stamps, although their use is not necessarily limited to the place of issue. A few recorded are Berlin with various bears, Dresden with a simple numeral design, Thuringia with a forest view, a posthorn and a portrait of Schiller, while in the French occupied zone some, but not all, have "Zone Francaise" at the top and "Briefpost" at the foot.

A General Issue: A 12pf stamp said to have been approved by the four occupying powers was issued in Berlin on 17 January. It is a plain numeral design, reminiscent of the stamps of the inflation period, with Deutsche in the top panel and Post in the lower one. This may be part of a fuller general issue.

J. P. SHINGLER,

STAMP DEALER,

5, Surrey Rd., Vincent, East London, C.P.

Wishes to inform old friends he has commenced dealing in stamps, and hopes to cater for the needs of junior and medium collectors.

Special! EGYPT: Just issued—28th February —80th Anniversary of postage stamps—4 values—mint 3/6; used 3/9 per set; King Farouk—used—13 mills—6d.; Pt 50—4/-; LEI—12/- picked copies. Modern Egypt; M.E.F. and E.A.F. Overprints. I can supply mint and used sets complete or single values separately.

SOUTH AFRIRCAN PHILATELIC ASSOCIATION. This Stamp Exchange Club of which I was appointed Exchange Supt. six months ago, was founded 25 years ago, and its members include some of the leading philatelists in the Union, S.W.A., and the Rhodesias. Monthly packets circulate regularly. I have a few vacancies for contributing members, who can supply better class British Colonials, Union & S.W.A. stamps. Details gladly supplied on request.

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JOHANNESBURG

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The Machine Postmarks of The Union of South Africa 1910-1942

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

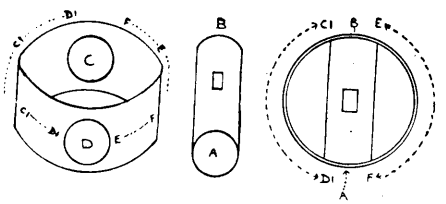
The cancelling apparatus of a machine consists of a metal ring and a metal cylinder approximately depicted in sketches 1 and 2 respectively.

On the periphery of the metal ring two sets of straight or wavy lines or two sets of slogans or advertisements are engraved negative in relief in positions indicated in plan-sketch 3, one set between C1 and D1 and the other between E and F.

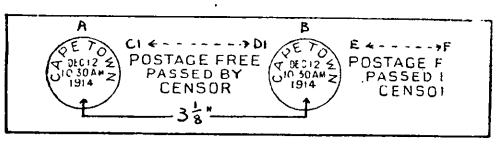
The cylinder is plugged into the ring through two holes shown as C and D in sketch 1 before affixation to the machine. The cylinder carries two date-stamps, one at each end, depicted as A and B in sketch 2. On each date-stamp the name of a town is engraved negative in relief, and minute cavities are made on each date-stamp for the insertion of transposable letters and numerals engraved negative in relief for printing representations of the town, hour, day, month and year on covers impinging the metal ring and the concomitant binary date-cylinder during its rotations when affixed to the machine.

Sketch 4 exhibits an impression of a rare Cape Town ring and cylinder cancellation, on which the two date-stamp impressions are marked A and B correlating to A and B on sketch 2, as well as two sets of impressions from the periphery of the ring marked C1——D1 and E——F correlating to C1——D1 and E——F on plan-sketch 3.

The term "ring" used afore must not be confused with the term "circle," which will be used subsequently in this monograph. The term "circle" will be employed apropos date-cylinder impressions of circles surrounding the town name and dates, vide A and B on sketch 4.



1. 2. 3.



4.

Sketch 4 shows a measurement of 3⅛ inches, i.e., the distance from the centre of date-cylinder impression A to the centre of date-cylinder impression B, which is half the measurement of the circumference of the ring which printed the impressions indicated as C1——D1 and E——F.

In addition to the 3⅛ inches measurement described afore, covers are found on which the distances between the centres of the date-stamp impressions measure 2½ inches and 4¼ inches. The 4¼in., 3⅛in. and 2½in. rings printed a continuous postmark across the top of an envelope, vide sketch 4. Another type of postmark consists of one impression on an ordinary envelope, but on a longer envelope two impressions may be found with an interval between the two. Anent this type Mr. G. Hockey stated that the intervals between the impressions differ, but one clear copy shows a measurement of 6⅜in. between the two impressions thereon. The 6⅜in. machine was first brought into use at Pretoria in 1926 and was shortly afterwards removed to Bloemfontein, thence transferred to Kimberley in 1928 and subsequently brought into use at Boksburg in 1938. Another type of machine which printed one impression per envelope was used firstly at Johannesburg in 1935. I have a cover which shows two clear impressions from this machine and the measurement of the interval between the two impressions is 5¾ inches. Impressions from these two machines show only one date-stamp impression together with one line or slogan impression as against the binary date and continuous line or slogan impressions of the 4¼in., 3⅛in. and 2½in. ones.

I do not know whether rings and concomitant plugged date-cylinders were used for impressions from the 6⅜in. and 5¾in. machines as I have not seen these machines in use. However, in the accompanying summaries, the different types of rings which have printed slogans, advertisements and lines for the past thirty-two years will be designated as the 4¼in., 3⅛in. and 2½in. machines and for the sake of convenience those which printed single impressions will be designated as the 6⅜in. and 5¾in. machines.

The method of differentiating the various types of machines as I have done afore was initiated by Mr. G. W. Hockey.

The 4¼in. machine was in use in Cape Town and Johannesburg at the date of the formation of the Union of South Africa, and in 1925 at Bloemfontein. The 3⅛in. machine was introduced subsequently to 1911. The 2½in. machine first came into use at Port Elizabeth

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in 1917. The 5⅜in. machine was introduced in 1935 at Johannesburg.

In the Central Post Office at Cape Town four machines are in use at present. One, a 3⅜in. machine, which has been in use for 30 years, together with three 2½in. machines. All these machines were manufactured by the Krag Maskin Fabrik A/S, Oslo, Norway. No information is available as to the names of the manufacturers of the 6⅜in., 5⅜in. and 4¼in. machines. As far as I have been able to ascertain, the rings and date-stamps cylinders were engraved by the Norwegian company mentioned prior to the war, but at present the engraving is done at the Pretoria Mint.

In the accompanying summaries I have used certain abbreviations and their significances are as follows:—

L—R signifies that the particular slogan is shown twice in a continuous impression, once to the left and once to the right of a date-stamp impression, viz.:—

POST EARLY IN THE DAY (DA TE) POST EARLY IN THE DAY
POS VROEG IN DIE DAG (STA MP) POS VROEG IN DIE DAG

The symbol / is used to show that the slogan is set in more than one line and the symbol // is used to show the position of a date-stamp between two sets of slogans:—

PROTECT/YOUR VELD//
BEWAAR/JOU VELD

for

PROTECT (DATE) BEWAAR
YOUR VELD (STAMP) JOU VELD

Further: (SL) Straight Line, (WL) Wavy Line, JH Johannesburg, CT Cape Town, DN Durban, PR Pretoria, PE Port Elizabeth, PMB Pietermaritzburg, EL East London, BFN Bloemfontein, BEN Benoni, BOK Boksburg, QT Queenstown, GT Grahamstown, OUD Oudtshoorn, KIM Kimberley, SPR Springs, GER Germiston, GER STN Germiston Station.

Anent Slogan No. 28 JH (15) means that this particular slogan, e.g., has been used in Johannesburg with 15 different Johannesburg date-stamps. Anent Slogan 8 a, JH (T) means that this slogan was used with the Johannesburg date-stamp, which showed no date but only an impression of the letters JH enclosed in an equilateral triangle. Anent Slogan 9, CT (Red) means that this slogan was impressed in red with a Cape Town date-stamp, which showed the word "PAID" in lieu of the date. This method of abbreviation is applied to all the slogans in the list which follows in order to show their usage in the chief cities and towns of the Union. Usage in the smaller towns will be found at the foot of the summary as only Slogans Nos. 28 and 31 have been employed.

I would refer my reader to previous monographs which have appeared in the "South African Philatelist" as follows:

Vol. 12, No. 5, Page 68, 1936: "South African Postal Slogans," by Mr. H. F. Werner.

Vol. 12, No. 12, Page 185, 1936 and Vol. 13, No. 1, Page 6: "South African Postal Slogans," by Mr. B. L. Cairncross and the present writer.

Vol. 13, No. 3, Page 34, 1937: "Slogan Postmarks from South Africa," by Mr. Stephen G. Rich.

I desire to pay tribute to the excellent book prepared in blue-print for private circulation by Mr. G. W. Hockey, entitled "Machine Postmarks of the Union of South Africa, 1921-1932." I also desire to thank my friend, Dr. A. C. Levenstein, for the many covers which he presented to me for inclusion in my collection and my friend, Mr. G. W. Hockey, for some rare items.

LIST OF SLOGANS AND ADVERTISEMENTS WITH YEARS OF USAGE

1. (8 SL) TRANSVAAL (8 SL) TRANSVAAL (8 SL) TRANSVAAL vertically set JH (1) 1910-11-12-13. Scarce. L—R.

2.a. (2 SL)/UNION OF SOUTH AFRICA/(4 SL)/UNIE VAN ZUID AFRIKA/(2 SL) JH (2) 1910-11-12-13. Scarce. L—R.

b. (1 SL)/UNION OF SOUTH AFRICA/(2 SL) UNIE VAN ZUID AFRIKA/(1 SL) CT (1) 1912, PE (1) 1913, DN (1) 1912-13-17. Scarce. DN date-stamps show Nos. 1, 2, 4 and 7. L—R.

3. POSTAGE FREE/PASSED BY/ CENSOR CT (1) 1914. Only one copy known, in collection of Mr. L. Simenhoff. L—R.

4. (SL)/PAQUETBOT/(SL) CT (7) 1915-22-23-27-29-32-33-34-35-36-40. Used in 1940 without date-stamp. L—R.

5.a. BUY UNION LOAN/CERTIFICATES //KOOP UNIE LENINGS/CERTIFIKATEN JH (1) 1919-20, PR (1) 1919-20, DN (1) 1920. Scarce.

b. BUY/UNION LOAN/CERTIFICATES// KOOP UNIE LENINGS/CERTIFIKATEN CT (1) 1920, JH (2) 1924-25, JH (T).

c. BUY UNION LOAN/CERTIFICATES// KOOP UNIE LENING/SERTIFIKATE JH (1) 1923.

d. BUY/UNION LOAN/CERTIFICATES// KOOP/UNIE LENING/SERTIFIKATE CT (1) 1923, DN (3) 1923-4-6-7, PR (2) 1923, PE (1) 1923-4-6-7, CT (T), DN (T), CT (Red 2), PE (Red 1).

e. BUY/UNION LOAN/CERTIFICATES// KOOP/UNIE LENING/SERTIFIKATE EL (1) 1923-5-7, PMB (1) 1924-6-7, GT (1) 1932, QT (1) 1932-4. Lettering taller than previous one.

f. —BUY—/UNION LOAN/CERTIFICATES//—KOOP—/UNIE LENING/SERTIFIKATE CT (1) 1924, CT (Red). Two types, (a) —BUY— and (b) BUY and differences in spacing of the Afrikaans letters.

g. BUY UNION LOAN/CERTIFICATES// KOOP UNIE LENINGS/CERTIFIKATEN JH (2) 1925-6-7, JH (T).

h. —BUY UNION LOAN—/—CERTIFICATES—//—KOOP UNIE LENING—/CERTIFIKATEN— PR (2) 1926-30, JH (1) 1930-31.

i. BUYUNIONLOANCERTIFICATES KOOPUNIELENINGSSERTIFIKATE JH (1) 1927-8. L—R.

j. KOOPUNIELENINGSERTIFIKATE BUYUNIONLOANCERTIFICATES JH (2) 1928-29-30. L—R.

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k. BUY UNION LOAN/CERTIFICATES// KOOP UNIE LENING/SERTIFIKATE JH (2) 1927.
l. BUY UNION LOAN CERTIFICATES// KOOP UNIE LENINGS/SERTIFIKATE JH (3) 1929-30.

6. ADDRESSYOUR MAIL/TO/PRIVATE BOX OR/STREET AND NUMBER (in rectangular box)// ADRES U MAIL/ NAAR/PRIVATE BUS OF/STRAAT EN NOMMER (in rectangular box) CT (1), CT (T). Short life; in use December, 1922, and January, 1923.

7.a. SUPPORT S.A. INDUSTRIES ONDERSTEUN S.A. INDUSTRIEE CT (1) 1923, DN (2) 1924, PR (2) 1923-4-5, JH (2) 1923-4 PE (2) 1923-4-5, EL (1) 1923-6-7. L—R.
b. SUPPORT S.A. INDUSTRIES ONDERSTEUN S.A. INDUSTRIEE CT (3 1924-5-6, DN (3) 1926-7, JH (5) 1925-6-7-8-9, CT (T), DN (T), JH (T). Error ONDERSTE .INDUSTRIEE JH 1927, in collection Mr. G. W. Hockey. Error in date-stamp, Durban. Feb.12.12.45PM 1927 and Durban, Feb.12.1.45PM 1927. L—R.
c. SUPPORT S.A. INDUSTRIES ONDERSTEUN S.A. NYWERHEDE PR (3) 1925-6-30, PMB (2) 1925-7-8, GT (1) 1932-33, PR (Red.) L—R.

Note: Each dash in this slogan should actually be three horizontal lines.

(Note: Final E of INDUSTREE with a diaeresis; this distinguishes it from 7b.)

(To be continued)

★ ★ ★

FALKLAND ISLAND DEPENDENCIES

Now that a single issue has appeared for the four Dependencies there will be a rush for the earlier overprinted issues. Used sets will be harder to obtain than mint, and Mr. J. C. Thompson, writing in the "Australian Stamp Monthly," says that some of the cancellations appearing on the British and Australian markets do not appear to be genuine.

The cancellation should be a single lined circle of 28 mm. diameter with Falkland Island Dependency round the rim, the name of the particular Dependency in one line in the centre with the date below it also in one line.

The cancellations thought to be faked are smudgy as if made with a rubber stamp and the ink is more of a purple (the genuine being a blue-black).

★

JASDAN

"The Gen" reports the advent of a new stamp issuing country in Jasdan, a feudatory state in Western India. It has an area of only 296 square miles and a population (1931) of 34,056. It's first stamp was issued in 1942, a 1a yellow green, showing a sun in a double-lined circle, with the value in English at the top and in native characters at the foot of the stamp.

Here is an opportunity to get one country complete!

AUSTRALIA

There have been centenary celebrations of the epoch-making exploration of northern Australia by Friedrich Leichardt and, in particular, his journey from Brisbane to Port Essington, which latter point was reached on 17th December, 1845. This is a small settlement near Port Darwin.

No special stamps were issued, but the Royal Geographical Society of Australia prepared a number of commemorative envelopes and a special hexagonal postmark was used at a temporary post office set up at the Society's offices, North Quay, Brisbane. This cancellation reads "Royal Geographical Society/ Brisbane Old/Leichardt Centenary 17 Dec 1945".

The three "Peace" stamps were released on 18th February. They are 2½d. (red) showing a seven-pointed star and laurel wreath, 3½d. (blue) with the dove of peace against a background of the Australian ensign, and 5½d. (green) featuring the angel of peace, the Southern Cross and allegorical figures of Peace and Industry.

The 2s. Kangaroo stamp has appeared from a re-engraved die with marked differences in the shape of the figure 2 and in the lettering.

★

EGYPT

There have been many complaints in the past about "the Egyptian stamp ramp." New issues galore on the least provocation, but that isn't the worst of it. Issues are often very limited in numbers, but neither dealers nor ordinary collectors can get their orders filled, and within a few hours of a new issue being released it is on sale in the streets of Cairo at three or four times its face value.

If Egypt were removed from Gibbons' Part I British dealers, at all events, would probably have little or nothing to do with Egyptian stamps. As it is at present, the "Philatelic Trader" announces that the Egyptian Government is permitting the British Philatelic Traders' Society to appoint agents in Egypt and separate allocations will be made to them.

THE PHILATELIC EXPORTER

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SOCIETY NEWS

THE PHILATELIC SOCIETY OF NATAL

President, Mr. W. H. Winde; **Hon. Sec.,** Mr. G. Milner Palmer, P.O. Box 588, Durban; **Meetings,** 1st and 3rd Wednesdays at 31 London Assurance House, 319 Smith Street (in room of the Durban Camera Club, top floor) 7.30 p.m.

The March meeting went off with the usual swing, and it is pleasing to see so many turn up these days. There were 55 members and visitors present in spite of the rain. The usual business having been concluded, Mr. H. Hanna introduced a somewhat novel and entertaining competition called "That's right, you're wrong"; this was well received, and all expressed the opinion that some more should be held on these lines. The idea was that "A" would make a statement as follows: "The first adhesive stamps for postal purposes ever issued were those of Great Britain, the famous Penny Blacks in 1840." "B" would say yes, that is what I thought you would say, what a lot of people think the same thing, but, of course, you are quite wrong. Actually the first postal adhesives issued were the famous Bullseyes of Brazil, which were issued just ten months before the Penny Blacks. It is surprising how few know this. "C" would say it's very amusing for me to hear all this tripe, have you ever heard of a place called Luxembourg, perhaps not, well I can say without any fear of contradiction that this little state actually issued stamps for the prepayment of postage in 1838. The members and visitors were then expected to write down whether A, B or C was correct, and a lot depends on how serious a manner A, B, C made their statements; it was surprising that only three had all their questions right out of six. Thereafter an exhibit was tabled by Mr. L. Bevis of his Congo, together with a paper on the stamps, which was well received by all. Prior to this meeting taking place, a special general meeting was held for the purpose of altering one of the rules, and also to consider a recommendation from the committee that Mr. H. de Terrasson be elected an Honorary Life Member. This was carried unanimously. Mr. de Terrasson has served the Society as President and has been a member of the committee for many years; of late he has not been able to go out at nights, but we all know that he has the interests of the members at heart and is to be thanked for the many years of service he has rendered the Society. As from next month competitions will be held for the P. C. Bishop Floating Trophy, and the first on the list is Mr. A. J. Cornelius with his famous Cape Triangles: this should be well worth seeing. W.H.W.

★

NYASALAND PHILATELIC SOCIETY

President, L. V. Booth; *Hon. Sec.,* Mr. Anson; *Meetings,* 2nd Mondays, Tobacco Auction Rooms, Limbe, 5 p.m.

The meetings held on 14th January and 11th February were both well attended.

At the former letters were read from correspondents in America, Holland, U.S.A., and Ireland wishing for exchanges. Notes were handed in from Mr. Twynam for circulation amongst members; these dealt with the early postmarks of Nyasaland, and members were requested to send the author any additional information they might have.

At the latter meeting there was again trouble with the electric light, and there was an early postponement.

At both, new members were elected, and considerable assortments of approval books were tabled for inspection.

★

THE PHILATELIC SOCIETY OF JOHANNESBURG

President, Mr. E. C. Sprighton; *Hon. Sec. (Acting),* P.O. Box 4967; *Meetings,* 2nd Tuesdays, Public Library, 7.45 p.m.

At the March meeting there was a very large turn-out in anticipation of the display by Mr. G. Carleton Jones of his Newfoundland collection. Members were not disappointed.

The exhibit started with a number of pre-stamp covers, and then in connection with the various issues of stamps an outstanding feature was the large number of essays and proofs shown.

The stamps themselves were not forgotten, there being a big lot of shades and varieties. The exhibit closed with a selection of trans-Atlantic flown covers, including such rarities as the Alcock, Hawke, Pinedo and Do-X flights.

As is usual with Mr. Carleton Jones' exhibits, the mounting and writing up was beautifully done. Major Welsford very ably proposed a vote of thanks, and in commenting on the display stated that although he had seen many fine displays in various parts of the world, this one would hold its own with any of them.

Prior to the exhibit there was a large auction of material for the Food for Britain Fund.

★

JEWISH GUILD PHILATELIC SECTION

Chairman, Mr. A. Gladstone; **Hon. Sec.,** Mr. I. Isaacs, 910 His Majesty's Buildings, Eloff Street, Johannesburg; **Meetings** last Thursdays, at the Jewish Guild Memorial Hall, Von Brandis Street, Johannesburg, at 8 p.m.

There were two exhibits at the meeting held on 28th February.

Mr. J. W. K. Schofield showed his fine collection of Greek Imperforates. The "Hermes" was shown in all the printings—Paris, Athens and Belgian. All were perfect specimens, including numerous used—some on cover.

Mr. L. Buchen showed modern Germany. The exhibit included numerous miniature sheets, all the commemorative issues and the air mails. A fine flown Zeppelin cover was included.

All collectors are welcome to the Guild meetings which are held on the last Thursday of every month.

I.I.

★

EAST LONDON PHILATELIC SOCIETY

President, A. Watson; *Hon. Sec.,* S. F. Fowler, Box 168, East London; *Meetings,* Colosseum Building, second Fridays, at 7.45 p.m.

Twenty-three members and eight visitors were present at the March meeting, on the evening of the 8th. Reports regarding various outstanding matters were received, while one new member was proposed and duly elected.

Many interesting philatelic items were produced for inspection, including new U.S.A. commemoratives, Belgian Congo Victory, a complete Vatican City set cancelled to order on a printed card, Colombia Air Mails, etc., etc. As a matter of interest, Mr. Harper passed round a copy of New South Wales 1d., S.G. 207, taken from a recent exchange packet. Gibbons gives the date of issue in the catalogue as "August 1871," whereas this stamp bears a very clear postmark "Sydney, May 17th 1871."

At the conclusion of the business Mr. Fowler exhibited his fine collection of Belgium and, after the usual refreshment interval, followed this up with an equally fine display of Holland.

Practically all the popular commemorative and charity sets of both these countries were shown complete, while there was a good representative lot of the middle and early issues. Altogether, these made most attractive displays and attracted much interest. Mr. Fowler was congratulated thereon by the President.

The usual auction followed, many lots being disposed of at satisfactory prices, and the meeting closed at about 10.15 p.m.

T.A.H.

★

PORT ELIZABETH PHILATELIC SOCIETY

President, G. K. Forbes; *Hon. Sec.,* D. G. T. Malcolm, P.O. Box 458, Port Elizabeth; *Meetings,* 1st and 3rd Tuesdays in City Hall Basement, at 7.45 p.m.

The meeting held in February was well attended, members suppressed a big disappointment by Mr. Wicks letting them down by failing to appear, as the display was to have been his, and members know that he has a fine collection.

Mr. Willson very kindly stepped into the breach and showed 47 pages of modern Germany. The issues were from 1933 to 1945, mostly Hitler sets. These

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were neatly mounted, and Mr. Willson deserved a hearty vote of thanks accorded to him.

The Society met again on 19th March, and Mr. G. K. Forbes tabled about 70 pages of the Society collection. This was the first time many members had seen these pages, which had been mounted and cared for by the late Mr. McGregor. There were some fine old postcards and first day covers.

Mr. and Mrs. Scott were welcome visitors, and as they are going overseas shortly, we wish them a pleasant journey.

The Great Britain pages of the Society collection were kindly given by Mr. Molsay.

There was the usual auction and keen bidding for the Burma set.

After a pleasant evening, the meeting closed at 9.30 p.m.

L.E.C.

★

PRETORIA PHILATELIC SOCIETY

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

4th March: First ordinary meeting of the month with the President in the chair took place in Technical College Council Chamber. After disposing of the general business, the President, acting as Question Master, put to a Forum consisting of Dr. Broughton, Mr. Obermeyer, Mr. Dodd and Mr. Wright such questions as "Should stamps be collected in mint condition only," to which the general opinion expressed was that it was a matter of personal taste what one should collect, but the collector should not overlook the fund of pertinent Postal history attached to used stamps. To the question of "Why the Union Post Offices sell pictorial stamps simultaneously with war issues," the Forum thought this was done to satisfy both political parties existant in the Union. The question as to whether the philatelic researches into the stamps of the Transvaal by Dr. Broom served any useful purpose goth the answer that it deserved definitely "Yes," as all knowledge is of some use, no matter how abstruce it may seem at the moment. The question as to whether it should be obligatory to state S.G. numbers in exchange booklets was thought to be a good one for the "high" value stamps but perhaps a waste of time for the "low" values, and it was also thought that this extra and sometimes highly specialised, work of cataloguing stamps may cause a slump in the supply of exchange booklets. The question as to why the printers of British and Colonial stamps were changed around about the beginning of this century was thought to have been the end of that period during which some of the most beautiful of stamps were produced by the slow but superlative recess-engraving process which had to give way to a cheaper and quicker mass production method of stamp printing.

18th March: This second meeting of the month was certainly a "red letter" evening with the President in the chair and a very fine attendance to welcome the visiting contingent from the Johannesburg Philatelic Society, headed by their President, whose exhibit of "Penny Blacks" and his plating of the plate 2 of these stamps was greatly admired, as was his method of writing up, which he told me was done on a home-made printing press. Mr. Sutcliffe's British African collection admirably showed what can be done with a small portion of the Empire, while Mr. Marcuson's selection of his British Empire collection showed the vastness of such a collection. Mr. Schubart's small but select collection of modern Holland once again brought home to us the beauty of the stamps that originate from a little country. The collection of Union mint of Mr. Buchen was complete from a S.G. catalogue point, and it attracted a good deal of attention, being a smaller and nearer to home portion of the Empire, forming a collection we would all do well to emulate. The last, and perhaps most amazing collection, was that of Dr. Harvey Pirie, who showed his collection of Antarctic Posts, and as Dr. Broom said in his thanks to Dr. Pirie, that this was perhaps the only one of its kind in the world, and was perhaps the only kind of collection to be expected from Dr. Pirie, who was not just an ordinary man himself, as he was perhaps the only living member of the crew of the Antarctic ship the "Scotia," who Dr. Broom first met some forty years ago when he was at Stellenbosch University. From these short notes it will easily be gathered that the evening was a great success, and if it were not for the distance that separated us from the Johannesburg Society we certainly should "get together" more often.

The President drew attention to the fact that the two meetings which are to take place during April will be at the Technical College, 7.45 p.m., Monday 1st and 15th, and not on the dates as previously mentioned in the half-yearly programme. The first meeting will be a "competition" evening with exhibits by Dr. Broughton and Dr. Fitzsimon, the second meeting will be given over to a paper by Mr. Ferguson and an exhibit by Mr. Wright.

J.W.

★ ★ ★

ROOSEVELT STAMP COLLECTION

The first portion of the late President's stamp collection, United States and Latin America, was sold at auction by H. R. Harmer, Inc., 32-34, East 57th Street, New York, on February 4 and 5. This portion realised £33,637, or nearly double the estimated philatelic value of the whole collection.

The balance of the collection is to be offered in New York on April 1 and 2, and comprises postage stamps of the British Empire and of the whole world, excluding those countries covered in the first sale.

Perhaps the most interesting country will be Hong Kong which was one of President Roosevelt's favourite groups. His interest in these issues is stated to date back to the finding of some of his Grandfather Delano's correspondence in the family attic. In this "find" were some original covers bearing stamps of the first two issues of Hong Kong. These are in the sale together with a few envelopes which were used for postage before stamps were introduced. In all there are 80 lots of Hong Kong.

As in the first portion, the collection is rich with die proofs, notably of Canada and France, and many Presentation Collections are also included.

President Roosevelt's specialised collection of Venezuela, which was presented to him by the Venezuela Philatelic Society, a token of appreciation of his services to humanity, comprises 106 lots, including many rare and valuable philatelic items and is especially strong in airmail issues.

It would be difficult to estimate what figure this section will realise, as buyers obviously place a high sentimental value on the property. A fair proportion of the crowd of 700 which attended the February sales were not philatelists at all but Roosevelt souvenir hunters.

Five items of the Russian collection comprise a personal gift from Maxim Litvinoff; the collection is practically complete from 1921 to 1934 and contains many unpriced and unlisted varieties.

There is to be a public exhibition in New York prior to the sale, and special catalogues containing a message from President Harry Truman are in preparation. Although collectors in Great Britain are not permitted to take part in the sale, owing to Government restrictions, they will nevertheless be able to buy these souvenir catalogues together with the list of the prices realised from H. R. Harmer's of Bond Street, the cost for the series being 15s.

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Vol. 22, No. 5. **MAY, 1946.** **Whole No. 254**

Editorial

UNION STAMPS

Major Tapp, a retired British regular army officer, writing in "The American Philatelist" on Overseas Post franked with U.S.A. stamps, seizes the opportunity to make some comparisons between the U.S. and the British postal departments. He regards the latter as years behind—no war commemoratives, no allied flags or slogans, no pictorial issues honouring the forces and, finally, nothing on a par with the U.S. office of designers.

Has this any moral for us? We think it has.

Opinion may be divided about commemoratives; Britain may have too few but many collectors think the U.S.A. has too many, and that stamps (or anything else, for that matter) which are just made for collectors cease to be interesting to collect. We think a happy mean might be found in this respect and South Africa is not far off it.

But there is a sting in the tail of the Major's remarks. A board of designers, or something on a par with it, is badly needed here. Our stamps are not all a credit to South Africa, either artistically or in technical production. Why?

A board of designers or the throwing open of designs to public competition might solve the artistic problem, or, on the other hand it might not. There are plenty of criticisms of the U.S.A. designs, for example. But, at any rate, it would be a "democratic" procedure (oh, that blessed word, which everyone interprets according to his own ideas) and, if they were not satisfied with the results, the critics would at least know whom to blame. They would not merely have "the Government" to rail at, that vague generalisation with neither a soul to damn nor a body to kick.

And what about the technical production of our stamps? It must be admitted that they do not compare too favourably in general appearance with the stamps of many countries. Again, why? Lack of experience in stamp printing can hardly now be put forward as an explanation. Nearly twenty years of stamp printing has certainly brought about an improvement technically but the results are not yet all that could be desired.

This is not merely philatelists' opinion; it is shared by non-collectors and was voiced last month in the Senate. Speaking on the operations of the Ministry of Posts and Telegraphs a Senator made a plea for cheaper postal rates in view of the big profits made by the Post Office and, at the same time, he said that our stamps compared unfavourably with those of other countries and should be improved. There is hope of something being done when our legislators are taking notice.

It may be that the rotogravure process is in itself to blame and that no great further improvement is possible with it. Also, there can be little doubt but that war difficulties have of late years hampered printing badly.

But, whatever the explanation or explanations may be, the fact remains that our stamps do not compare too favourably in appearance with those of many countries, and philatelists would like to see an improvement which would make them a better advertisement of South Africa.

South Africa is not the only country complaining. There has been bitter criticism by the Australian press of their stamps, not only of the Peace set, but of production in general. "The Melbourne Herald" says, "If our best artists are not interested in this kind of design then—unhappy confession—we will have to go abroad.

Per contra, there is nothing but praise everywhere for the New Zealand Peace issue and their yearly Health stamps have been the admiration of the world for many a day. It is noteworthy that although their stamps are nearly all designed by one local artist, they are recess printed from steel plates in England, the Peace set having been divided among three firms.

This gives point to the plea made by Mr. A. H. Sydow on another page for Royal Visit stamps to be printed in England. There is no keener student of our stamps than he is, but he wants them to be of the best, and recognises that at present they cannot be produced here of the A1 quality which they should have.

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THE CAPE "3" ON THREEPENCE OF 1880
A CORRECTION

A matter of importance which requires correction is the statement made on page 138 (last paragraph, first column) of my book "The Handstruck Letter Stamps and Postmarks of the Cape of Good Hope," which reads as follows:—

"The fact that the stamps were overprinted in panes of 60 had already been substantiated beyond all doubt as far back as 1910, when a man by the name of Vos (an employee of Saul Solomon & Co., who actually handled these stamps) declared definitely that not only were there not sufficient numerals of the same type available at the time but also that the printing press could not take the paper in the size of a complete sheet of 4 panes of 240 stamps. For this reason the stamps were split up into four panes of 60 stamps and each pane overprinted separately."

It now transpires that this statement cannot be accepted as wholly correct. In the course of correspondence with Mr. A. F. Lichtenstein of New York, the possessor of what is probably the most complete collection of Cape overprints, he very kindly sent me a sketch of a block of four of the "3" overprint showing a gutter margin between pair.

We know that the stamps of the Cape Colony were at that time printed in four panes of sixty stamps, each pane being separated by a gutter margin in the centre. In view of the fact that Mr. Lichtenstein's specimens show the gutter margin, this naturally upsets the theory that the sheets were split up into panes of 60 before the printing operation, and I can only conclude that some confusion must have arisen in regard to the word "pane" when the term "half sheet" was intended.

So far as the size of the printing press is concerned, I have taken the measurements of the Government Gazette printed by Saul Solomon at the time these overprints were made, and as this was the largest of any of the printings made by this firm it would have been impossible to have overprinted a complete sheet of 240 stamps in one operation, apart from the fact that it would have been easier to find 120 numerals "3" than it would have been to make up the 240 required for a complete sheet .

The story as told by Mr. Vos appears to be perfectly in order in regard to the shortage of "3"s, and also to the fact that the press could not take the full sheet of 240 stamps, but where somebody blundered was in using the word "pane" for "half sheet."

In my correspondence with Mr. Lichtenstein he asked me to write an account about this matter to both the "London Philatelist" and the "South African Philatelist," but as he (Mr. Lichtenstein) is the possessor of such a magnificent array of these overprints I thought it would be better if he wrote the article. He has promised to do so, and I can only hope that both magazines will in due course be favoured with a full account of these most interesting overprints from his able pen.

A. A. JURGENS.

★

NO 1946 CONGRESS?

We have received a brief note from the Hon. Secretary of the Philatelic Society of Natal stating that at a recent meeting their President, in conjunction with the President of the Philatelic Federation, suggested that the Congress scheduled for October, 1946, be postponed until 1947, owing to prevailing conditions.

It may be presumed that they have good and sufficient reasons for this suggestion, although they are not stated. But is "suggest" the operative word used or is their decision final?

If they really mean only "suggesting" postponement we presume the matter is open for discussion throughout the Federation. We feel sure many philatelists will be disappointed if there is no Congress this year. The date fixed upon was no doubt unsuitable, but could not some other date near that time be found?

Another point that may arise is this: if Durban does not sponsor Congress this year can they claim it in 1947? We are aware that at least one other Society has already tentatively suggested being the hosts for 1947 and their claim cannot be lightly brushed aside.

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Some Old Transvaal Stamps

4. The Sixpenny, V.R. Transvaal, Blue on Blue Paper.

By R. BROOM, F.R.S.

Of the stamps of the first British occupation the issue which has given rise to most difficulty is the Sixpenny Blue on blue paper. At present following the investigations of the greatest of Transvaal experts, Mr. R. B. Yardley, the catalogues recognise two issues—one on 20th March, 1878 and a second on 13th May, 1878. The first of these was one of 20,000 stamps concerning which Yardley says:—"Surcharged with a setting of eighty, in which all the surcharges of the right pane were of Type B1 [Roman], and those of the left pane were partly of Type B1 and partly of Type B2 [Italic]. The exact arrangements of the surcharges of the left pane is not yet known." The second issue was one of 34,720 stamps, concerning which Yardley says:—"Surcharged with a setting of eighty in which the surcharges of the first thirteen stamps of the right pane were of Type B1, and the remaining twenty-seven of Type B2. The surcharges of the left pane were probably all of Bype B."

From this one might readily conclude that the issues were satisfactorily known, except for the arrangement of the Types B1 and B2 on the left pane of the first issue. But the matter in doubt is whether there was not an earlier issue with only Type B1 on both panes. And Yardley has discussed this question at very considerable length. He points out that, "Mr. Pearce says that there were two deliveries of the sixpence on blue paper, namely, the 20,000 of March 20th, and the 34,720 of May 13th, 1878, and that the former was surcharged with Type B1 only, and the latter with Types B1 and B2 mixed. This view was adopted by the late Mr. Gordon Smith in his catalogue of the Tapling Collection."

Yardley figures a right pane with B1 and B2 Types mixed; and a right pane with only B1 Type. Pretty certainly the former is of the last issue, and the other of an earlier issue. But apparently no other complete panes are known, and the difficulty is to decide whether there were three issues.

The left-hand pane of what Yardley believed to be the 20th March issue, has both B1 and B2 Types. Yardley has identified Nos. 23, 24, 27, 31, 32, 34, 36, 37 and 40 as having B2 Type. I can add Nos. 17, 18, 20, 28 and 35 as also having Type B2. Further there seems to be no doubt that No. 16 has Type B1, so it appears as very highly probable that the pane has the top two rows all of B1 and the lower three rows all of B2 Types.

To settle the question of whether there was an issue before 20th March in which there was only Type B1 used, is more difficult. It can only be done by discovering panes with only B1, different from the right pane of the 20th March issue, and the left pane of the 13th May issue, or by finding identical stamps with three different types of overprint.

Yardley has tried to find three types of overprint on a stamp whose position on the plate can be definitely determined; but has failed to satisfy himself that more than two varieties exist. He says "I have examined a great number of these stamps with a view to ascertain if any one stamp on one of the panes (e.g., No. 36 of the right pane) existed with more than two varieties of the surcharge; so far in only one specimen have I found the least indication of a third variety. . . . This variation, however, is so slight . . . that I cannot consider it a sufficient indication of a third setting." And he further says, "I have not found any evidence which supports Mr. Pearce's theory, that in one printing all the surcharges were of Type B1, and "there is no evidence of any setting or delivery other than the two mentioned." He says, however, "I regret that the time at my disposal has not sufficed for the full investigation of the subject."

Having a large collection of these Sixpenny Blue on blue paper. I undertook plating these to see what results I might get. To plate these is a matter of the very greatest difficulty. A few are easy, but some if damaged or heavily post-marked are impossible to plate. Still the large majority can be plated with certainty.

Like Yardley, I tried to see if I could get three different printings of any of the plate numbers. The chief difficulty arises from the fact that most of the overprints are well printed. and flaws are rare. Still while some of my threes are not beyond doubt owing to having only one specimen of some of the varieties, other sets of three seem certain, each stamp having certainly a different overprint. Here are a few examples.

In R3, the 3rd setting as can be seen in Yardley's plate 150A and also in a specimen I have, has the point of the V above the front of the r, and the tail of the R is broken. In R3 of Yardley's Plate 147 the point of the V is above the hollow between the top of the r and its little rounded knob. In Plate 147 the overprint is rather heavily printed, and the condition of the tail of the R is not satisfactorily shown. I have, however, three specimens of R3 that are not of the 3rd setting. Two of these have the tail of the R passing upwards, and a little to the left: the other has the tail of the R

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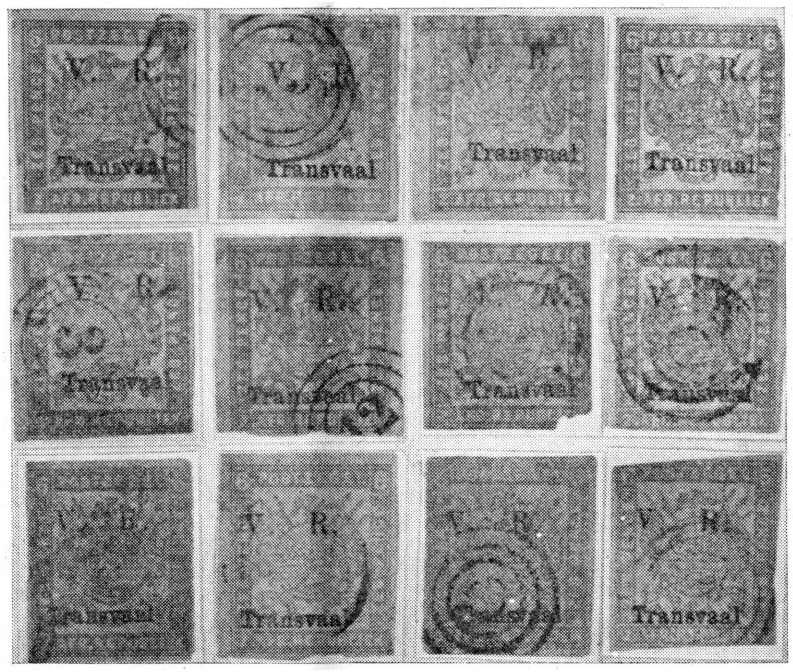
directed upwards and then distinctly to the right. I have thus I think certainly three printings of this R3.

Yardley figures for us R4 of two settings. These are I believe of the 1st and 3rd settings. I have two specimens of what I regard as the 1st setting. Another R4 has the top of the l of Transvaal damaged. This I regard as R4 of the 2nd setting.

That I have three different settings of R5 is I think quite certain. The third setting as seen in Yardley's plate 150A has the point of the V above the front of the r. I have one specimen of this stamp. In the other two settings the point of the V is above the front of the a. I have three specimens of the same R5 as is seen in Yardley's Plate 147. This is characterised by having the first a of Transvaal with the head directed downwards and slightly to the right. In a fourth specimen of R5 the V is also above the front of the a, but the a is differently shaped, having the head directed downwards and to the left.



R9 is a very easily indentifiable stamp owing to there being a notch on the right frame near the S of the ZES. As may be seen in Yardley's Plate 150A there are a number of ink blotches on the stamp. Yardley states (p. 506):—"In examining the specimens, blocks and planes of the Six Pence on blue paper, I noticed that some were very badly printed; in these the ink appeared to have become thick and full of dirt, producing great solid patches of colour on the stamps, while in other specimens the execution was clear and tolerably good." He noticed that these blotchy stamps belonged to the right pane with the mixed B1 and B2, and to the stamps of the left pane with only B1. A glance at Yardley's Plate 150A will at once show the condition of many of these stamps. Very few blotches are seen in the earlier issues. But Yardley is partly wrong in blaming the ink. The blotches are due to ink having stuck to, and apparently corroded the plates. These stamps in blue paper were the last 6d. stamps printed from the Otto plates, and we find many of the blotches still on the plates, proving beyond all doubt that Yardley's blotchy stamps of Plate 150A were of the last setting of the 6d. Blue on blue. That the blotches are due to hardened ink on the plate is confirmed by practically every stamp of the same number of this issue having the same blotches.

R9 of the last issue has the following blotches—a large blotch between the 6 and P, a small one above the wagon, and a little one above and between the Z and E of the left ZES. In Yardley's Plate 147 it will be seen that R9 has no blotches. But we have a third variety with only the blotch between the 6 and P of POST, though it is rather smaller than in R9 of the last issue. This third variety has the point of the V above the middle of the right side of the top of the T. In the other early issue the point of the V is above the right side of the top of the T. There are a number of other differences.

We can thus I think conclude with much probability that Yardley's Plate 147 is the

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right pane of the 1st issue, and the R9 with the smaller blotch between the 6 and the P a stamp of the 2nd issue, while the very blotchy stamp is certainly R9 of the 3rd issue.

R12 is another easily identifiable stamp. On the left side there is a dot between the P of PENCE and the flags, and on the right side a dot between the N and the flags. Here again we can easily identify three types. The stamp of the 3rd issue is a blotched stamp with a large blotch between 6 and P, and a small blotch below the front E of ZEGEL. I have three specimens of this stamp. Two have a third blotch on the flagstaff near the point of the eagle's right wing. The third does not show this blotch and it does not show on Yardley's Plate 150A. I have three stamps of the earlier issues. Two of those exactly agree with the R12 in Yardley's Plate 147. These I regard as belonging to the 1st issue. The third stamp differs in two important characters. The tail of the R in the stamps of the 1st issue is perfect. In this third specimen the tail is short, apparently broken, and bent to the left. The S of Transvaal is also damaged, and has its upper part much smaller than the lower.

In the Left Pane I have a number of sets of stamps of the three issues, but in most cases have no conclusive evidence as to which issue any one of these belongs.

L16 is an easily identifiable stamp. There is a little transverse white line between ZES and PENCE on the right side. All these varieties have the B1 overprint. What I consider to be L16 of the 1st issue has the tail of the R short—just about half the normal length. I have three stamps of what I believe to be L16 of the 2nd issue. Here the tail of the R is in perfect condition. In the collection of Mr. A. P. Obermeyer of Pretoria I found a specimen of L16 which I consider to belong to the 3rd issue. Here the right side of the V of V.R. is imperfect, and the right serif at the bottom of the r is directed considerably downwards.

L18 gives us three more varieties. The stamp of the 3rd issue is much blotched, and the tail of the R is a little folded towards the rest of the letter. In the stamp of the 1st issue the tail of the R is normal and there are no blotches. The L18 of the 2nd issue differs from the others in having V.R. of the Type B2. The second a of Transvaal has the top not turned down. This peculiar a can be found in a number of other stamps of the British occupation.

It seems unnecessary to give further evidence of there being three issues of the 6d. Blue on blue. The instances I have given seems to me quite conclusive. This evidence forces us to redate a number of the earlier issues.

The last or 3rd issue of the 6d. Blue on blue was unquestionably issued on 13th May, 1878, and it had the left pane entirely overprinted with B1 type. The right pane had No. 1 to No. 13 with Type B1 and Nos. 14 to 40 with Type B2.

The 2nd issue was delivered on 20th March, 1878. In this issue the left pane appears to have No. 1 to No. 16 with B1 type and Nos. 17 to 40 with B2 type. Right pane all B1.

The 1st issue was delivered on 24th January, 1878, less than two months before the 2nd issue. The issue had all the stamps of both panes overprinted with Type B1.

The two issues of the 6d. Blue on green must be the issues delivered on 27th November, 1877, and 31st August, 1877. And the issue that was delivered on 7th July must have been the 6d. Blue on rose paper. Yardley admits that if there were three issues of the Blue on blue the dating of the earlier issues must have been as I give it here.

Collectors' Wants & Offers

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

Wanted: Transvaal, Natal, Cape, O.F.S., Bechuanaland, Gambia, St. Helena, Egypt, France. Picked copies, rarities and varieties, also 9,000 items for world collection up to 1933 issues.
E. Hunt, Box 2437, Johannesburg.

Bechuanaland stamps wanted, all issues specially S.G. 3, 7, 8, 18, 19, 20, 25, 29, 48, 49, 83 to 87, 99 to 110 mint and used. High prices paid.
Reply: Box 260, Durban.

Liberia: Collections, sets, single stamps, etc., wanted for specialised collection.
Bennett, Box 733, Capetown.

Will exchange mint stamps of U.S.A. for mint stamps of the Union of South Africa and South Africa with a reliable collector.
Address: Peter Cermak, 129 Fenkel Road, Chagrin Falls, Ohio, U.S.A.

Exchange desired with collectors and dealers in all countries. Can supply one to thousand mint and used United States commemoratives, regular issues and airmails from 1920 to current issues. Send stamps of your country and by return receive United States postage and commemoratives of equal value. Better grades desired.
W. L. Bedard, 3420 Montclair Avenue, Detroit 14, Michigan, U.S.A.

Send 50-200 stamps from your country for like number of U.S.A. commemoratives, etc.
I. Sukoenig, 1815 Monroe Avenue, N.Y. 57, N.Y., U.S.A.

Control strips of Union and Transvaal also mint blocks, cards and envelopes of many African countries.
E. Tamsen, Box 13, Nylstroom.

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British Empire

All stamps unused

VICTORY SETS
(Shortly Expected)

11	New Zealand cpt	4/0
4	Cook Isl. cpt	1/8
4	Niue cpt	1/8
4	W. Samoa cpt	1/8
4	Burma cpt	10½d.

NEW ZEALAND

	Gibb.	our price
Gibb. 577/590 ..	14/8	9/6
„ 593/597 ..	9/11	4/3
„ 591/592 ..	1/2	1/0
„ 598 ..	1/6	1/3
„ 628/629 ..	4/0	3/0
„ 630/631 ..	2/0	1/0
„ 632/633 ..	1/0	0/6

CURRENT STAMPS

Cook Island cpt to 3/-	7/9
Western Samoa cpt to 3/-	8/6
Cook Niue Island	8/3
Gibraltar cpl to 20/-	47/6
Australia to 20/-	42/0
Swaziland cpt to 10/-	24/0

EGYPT RECENT COMMEMORATIVES

Fuad Memorial	1/0
Farouk Birthday	1/0
Ismael Memorial	1/0
Pan-Arab Conference	2/3
Philatelic Exhibition	2/3

AUSTRALIA

Gloucester 3 v.	1/6
Victory Set 3 v.	1/2

U.S.A. FLAGS

Complete set of 13 superb used 6/9
Blocks pro rata.

All British Empire blocks pro rata.
Cash with order: Post free.

Germany

All stamps unused

1	Hitler charity	7/6
6	German Post Federation	12/0
1	Hamburg's Derby	12/0
12	Hitler's head	2/6
7	Hitler's head large	2/3
2	Journal stamps	2/3
1	Berlin Grand Prix	9/0
1	10th anniv. of Winterh.	4/6
2	Vienna Grand Prix	3/6
1	55th Hitler's birthday	3/3
2	Poet Rosegger	1/5
2	Goldsmith Society	3/6
1	20 anniv. Nazi Movement	1/6
1	Hitler regime 11th anniversary	3/6
1	Fulda's foundation	1/5
1	Sports day stamp	0/3
1	Deutsches Reich	0/4
3	European Postal Congress	3/0
1	10 anniv. Nazi power	4/6
1	Deutsche Feldpost	1/6
3	25th anniv. of air mail	4/3
13	War scenes	7/6
4	Mothers Help Society	1/9
1	Brown Ribbon 44	4/0
11	Amgot (Allied Occupation)	2/3

Blocks pro rata.

Over 600 of different sets foreign issues. Please ask for countries: Austria, Belgian Congo, Belgium, Bohemia and Moravia, Bulgaria, Czecho-Slovakia, Danzig, Estonia, Finland, France, French Colonies, Germany, Greece, Hungary, Italy, etc.

Poland printed in Great Britain.

8	Polish Army in Great Britain	10/0
8	2-nd set	9/6
4	Monte Cassino	15/0
1	Warsaw Rising	7/6

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FRANCE 1940-1945

All stamps unused Blocks pro rata.

1940

2	Soldiers' Comfort	5/0
4	War Charities (Gibb. 17/-)	9/0
2	Red Cross	4/3
1	50 Fr. Guynemer	10/6
3	Relief Fund	2/3
1	War victims	1/0
4	National Relief	4/6
4	Marshal Petain	4/6
2	Prisoners of War	3/6
17	Provisional	9/0
1	Provisional 20fr. on 50fr.	30/0

1941

1	Poet Mistral	0/6
1	Petain Charity	0/6
1	Cancer Charity Fund	0/9
2	Winter Relief Fund	3/9
1	Beaune 5 Fr.	1/3
1	Arger 10 Fr.	2/3
1	Aigues-Mortes 20 Fr.	4/0
1	Liner Pasteur	0/6
1	Seamen's Fund	2/3
1	Overseas France	10d.
1	Large Petain 50 Fr.	9/0
15	Petain Portraits	7/9
12	Arms of France	16/0

1942

1	Massnet Comm.	0/9
1	Chabrier Comm.	1/2
1	Colonial propaganda	2/3
1	Jean de Vienne Comm.	2/0
1	La Perouse	2/3
1	Charity Air	2/0
4	Mercury	0/4
1	Stendhal Comm.	0/9
1	Blondel Comm.	0/9
1	Small Petain ovptd.	0/6
12	Arms of France	15/0
1	Arras 10 Fr.	1/9
4	Petain strip	10/6

1943

2	Legion Tricolore	4/0
4	Arms of France	9/0
5	Petain charity strip	25/0
1	Lavoisier	0/9
1	Lac Leric Pictorial	3/0
1	Air raid victims	1/3
2	P.O.W. Families	4/6
6	Famous Frenchmen	10/6
6	French costumes	12/0

1944

1	Branly Comm.	10d.
1	Adm. Tourville Comm.	2/3
1	Gounod Comm.	1/8
4	Arms of France	7/6
2	Petains birthday	3/6
1	Petains birthday	5/6
1	Mob. Postal Service	0/5
1	Beaune Monastery	3/6
6	Famous Frenchmen	7/0
1	Paris-Orleans	2/6
1	Chenonceaux Pict.	5/0
1	Claude Chappe	0/8
1	St. Denis	0/6
1	Gen. Bueaud	0/8
5	Cathedrals	4/6
10	Arc de Triomphe	14/6
7	Iris with torch	2/3
10	Arc de Triomphe ovptd.	2/3
1	Stamps day Comm.	0/9
1	Liberation Comm.	0/9
19	Cockerel & Marianne	24/0
4	Arms of France	1/0

1945

9	Marianne	2/0
2	Marianne large 150 Fr.	14/6
1	Sarah Bernhard	0/8
1	Anti T.B.C.	0/6
1	War Victim's Fund	2/0
1	Liberation day Comm.	0/9
1	Child's Fund	0/9
1	Louis XI	10d.
4	Devastated Towns	2/6
1	Oradour	0/8

——:0:——

5	Anti Bolschewik Cpt.	3/9

——:0:——

15	Cpt. set Free France	50/0

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SOCIETY NEWS

THE PHILATELIC SOCIETY OF JOHANNESBURG

President, Mr. E. C. Sprighton; *Hon. Sec. (Acting),* P.O. Box 4967; *Meetings,* 2nd Tuesdays, Public Library, 7.45 p.m.

The West Rand Stamp Club paid an official visit to the Johannesburg Society on April 9. After the official business had been completed, Mr. J. Burrell, President of the West Rand Stamp Club, took the chair and introduced the exhibitors.

The West Rand Stamp Club provided a fine show. Mr. Sharpe showed Australia. The exhibit included all the Commemoratives, most of them being in mint blocks. All were in beautiful condition and finely mounted. Mr. Ovens showed Eire. The collection was practically complete in mint specimens. The different printings of the overprinted issues were all included, as well as all the commemoratives.

The Rev. W. Loxley Chamings showed Italy. Mr. Chaming's manner of setting out the collection was in his usual interesting style. He used the geographical grouping instead of the usual chronological order. The exhibit included many rare items.

Mr. Colin Louw showed Unions. The exhibit included some rare items, amongst which were the unrouletted blocks of the 1d. and 1½d. "bantam" issue.

Mr. Bill Glover showed "a journey through France" illustrated by beautiful French Commemoratives. Each sheet had a map of France in the centre surrounded by stamps. The exhibit was a true work of art.

Mr. J. Burrell showed South African flown covers together with a preamble of air mail stamps showing the history of flight from earliest times. The exhibit included the Muizenberg Flight, Red Cross Flights, the 1925 and 1929 Air Service, Imperial Airways, and many others. The exhibit included the rare pamphlet dropped from the air during the Red Cross Flights of 1918.

Mr. Schubert spoke on the Australian exhibit, Mr. Ingham on the Union, Mr. Buchen on the Eire and Italian, Dr. Pirie on Mr. Glover's exhibit, and Mr. Isaacs on the Flown Covers.

The exhibit was much appreciate by all present. The Johannesburg Society's War Fund benefited from the usual auction. I.I.

★

CAPE TOWN PHILATELIC SOCIETY

President, L. Simenhoff; Hon. Secretary, S. Kagan-son, P.O. Box 1973; Meetings, 2nd and 4th Thursdays at Yorkshire Buildings, Strand Street, at 7.30 p.m.

Thursday, February 14: Mr. W. D. Vallance, well known for his collection of the Rhodesias, on this occasion gave us something new in a display of the stamps of Egypt and Sudan, and a very fine collection it proved to be. The early issues were fully represented, and many of these stamps being now very difficult to obtain, especially on cover, as shown by Mr. Vallance. The many Commemoratives of Egypt were well to the fore, and included such sets as the Aviation Congress, Railway Congress and U.P.U. sets all complete. The officials and postage dues were more or less complete and closed off the Egyptian section.

Sudanese stamps displayed included the Gordons and Palm Trees complete. Cdr. C. E. D. Enoch, who was in Cape Town at the time, moved a hearty vote of thanks in a very interesting speech, and complimented Mr. Vallance on his very fine display. Mr. Simenhoff seconded the vote, and then called on Mr. Alexander to conduct the auction, which brought the meeting to a close.

Thursday, February 28: At this meeting a pre-war custom was revived in that a "Scholars' Evening" was once again held. Being a week night there were not quite as many children present as there would have been had the meeting been held at a week-end, but nevertheless those who did attend enjoyed themselves, and this opinion was voiced by Miss J. Hollier in a neat speech at the end of the evening when she thanked members for the most enjoyable evening. Mr. Simenhoff opened the meeting, welcoming the children and parents, and then displayed a few pages of his "Educational Collection." Mr. E. C. Solomon showed a few sheets of Commemorative stamps.

While the judges were busy adjudicating the various collections displayed by our young visitors, two quizzes were held, one for juniors and one for seniors, the latter being won by Master M. Hotz and the former by Master M. Cohen, with the Davidson brothers a close second with the same number of marks. The senior display was won by Miss J. Hollier, the only girl contestant in this section, and three boys tied for second place. In the junior display Master M. Landman proved to be the winner.

At the conclusion the prizes, albums, books and stamps, were presented to the winners by Mrs. Cock, and each child also received a packet of stamps.

B.L.C.

★

EAST LONDON PHILATELIC SOCIETY

President, C. P. Durkin; *Hon. Sec.,* A. W. Stander, P.O. Box 694, East London; *Meetings,* 2nd Fridays, above Colosseum Theatre Tea Room, at 7.45 p.m.

At the annual general meeting in April, principal officers were elected as above.

Mr. S. F. Fowler, retiring hon. sec., deserves a rest after well and faithfully filling this office for nine consecutive years. Most visitors have met him during that period and many have received his help.

Seven members resigned during the past year, mainly because of change of residence.

These losses in number have been offset two or threefold by new members.

The financial position being adequate to meet normal expenditure, it was decided to reduce the yearly subscription to five shillings, hoping that this would be of assistance and encouragement to junior members.

Meetings in future are to be advertised as starting at 7.45 p.m. Business will start at 8 p.m., the odd fifteen minutes enabling everyone to associate and seat themselves.

Mr. Courlander, Librarian, made an appeal for greater use to be made of the Society's Library housed in Mr. Courlander's offices at 40 Cambridge Street.

Mr. C. P. Durkin, organiser of the sale of stamps for the P.O.B. Fund, announced that funds amounting to £86 had been received, and that when the remaining lots were sold it was hoped to realise over £90. Before the meeting ended, Mr. Durkin announced that as a result of the generosity of members and/or visitors, £100 had been reached. As the stamps were catalogued at £140, it is easy to valuate the spirit of the purchasers.

As always at an annual general meeting more discussions take place than usual, and the evening was well advanced before stamps were displayed.

As a result the display did not possibly attract the attention it deserved. Mr. Makin displayed West Indies. Old issues and modern issues were represented. Amongst the latter the 1932 Cayman Centenary caused quite a few members to break the tenth Commandment.

Now that the annual general meeting is finished, we hope in future to give more space in this report to stamp interests than to routine business.

The East London Junior Stamp Club now in existence for two years, under the protective wing of the Society, is again flourishing, after a short lull.

Twenty-three Juniors were present at the April meeting, when Mr. Jensen gave a display and talk.

It is hoped that the club will prove a successful nursery for future members of the senior Society.

N.C.C.

★

NYASALAND PHILATELIC SOCIETY

President, Mr. T. Bartlett; *Hon. Sec.,* Mr. McMicking; *Meetings,* 2nd Mondays, Tobacco Auction Rooms, Limbe, 5 p.m.

February 18: Various letters were read from persons wanting to exchange stamps.

Mr. Farquhar presented the Society with R. Curle's new book on stamp collecting, S.G.'s 1942 Simplified Catalogue, and a book on Canadian stamps.

A large assortment of approval books was handed in.

March 11: Election of office-bearers. Mr. T. Bartlett was elected chairman and Mr. McMicking was elected hon. sec. *pro tem* in place of Mr. Anson, who was shortly going on a trip overseas.

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JEWISH GUILD PHILATELIC SECTION

Chairman, Mr. H. Marcuson; *Hon. Sec.,* Mr. I. Isaacs, 910 His Majesty's Buildings, Eloff Street, Johannesburg; *Meetings,* last Thursdays, at the Jewish Guild Memorial Hall, Von Brandis Street, Johannesburg.

The meeting held on March 28, 1946 was the ninth annual general meeting of the Section.

The retiring chairman, Mr. A. Gladstone, reported that the Section had had a very successful year, and expressed his thanks to all members.

Election of officers for the ensuing year resulted in Mr. H. Marcuson being elected as chairman, Dr. A. Kaplan as vice-chairman, Mr. I. Isaacs as hon. secretary, and Dr. Hirschman, Mr. Buchen and Mr. Froelich as committee members. Mr. Gladstone is the ex-officio member.

There were two exhibits during the evening.

Dr. Hirschman showed his fine collection of Rhodesia, Northern Rhodesia and Southern Rhodesia. The exhibit included some very rare items, amongst which were all the imperforates, and the rare shades of the Double Heads.

Mr. Marcuson showed some choice sheets from his collection of Antigua, Virgin Islands and Leeward Islands. The ehibit included numerous blocks, including the Silver Jubilee issues. The Centenary issue of Antigua was complete.

There was the usual exchange and auction during the evening, and several items changed hands.

I.I.

★

PORT ELIZABETH PHILATELIC SOCIETY

President, G. K. Forbes; *Hon. Sec.,* D. G. T. Malcolm, P.O. Box 458, Port Elizabeth; *Meetings,* 1st and 3rd Tuesdays in City Hall Basement, at 7.45 p.m.

The attendance on Tuesday, 16th April, 1946, was not so large as usual.

Mr. Basil Jones was given a hearty welcome as this was his first appearance since his return.

A welcome was also given to Mr. Roberts, a visitor from England, and Mr. Miles, from Grahamstown. The latter was duly proposed for membership.

The display was a small portion from members' collections. This proved a very interesting programme. Many pages of Belgian Congo were tabled, and some of the large newspaper stamps of the U.S.A., also pages of Nieu and Cooks Islands in mint sets were worth mentioning.

Then again, the mint sets of Cayman Isles came in for some attention.

After the display was over, one hundred packets were put up for auction, and mostly sold. Some first day covers with the Australian Victory sets on were keenly bid for.

Two new members were admitted into membership.

Will all those interested please note that the third Tuesday in May is the annual general meeting, and all are welcome.

★

THE ORANGE FREE STATE AND BASUTOLAND PHILATELIC SOCIETY

President, Mr. M. Liss; Hon. Secretary, Mr. R. G. Lyon, Box 702, Bloemfontein; Meetings, 3rd Fridays each month, Oranje Koffiehuis, Bloemfontein, 7.30 p.m.

At the March meeting, the chairman, Mr. M. Liss, tabled some samples of the Souvenir envelopes which the Society is issuing and selling in connection with the Bloemfontein Centenary celebrations (March 27 to April 3, 1946).

An auction sale of several stamp lots was held, and one new member was enrolled.

The evening's display was given by Dr. K. Freund, who showed some more pages from his Mafeking Siege collection. The first part of this display consisted of 25 introductory pages, each showing some historic and interesting item in connection with the stamp issue. Special mention may be made of a "pre-stamp" cover with original letter, smuggled out by a native runner in February, 1900, before the introduction of the regular siege service, and of the original "1900" slug which was part of the Mafeking siege date canceller.

The second part of the exhibit consisted of a specialised study of the 1d. "Bicycle" stamp, showing on 50 pages the development of this stamp from the embryonic stages of essay, trial printing and plate proof to the later developments when the negative glass plates became worn and the film emulsion partly damaged. Shades, plate characteristics, constant minor varieties and forgeries were shown and ramified in excellent arrangement and write-up, and the whole study was rounded up with three reconstructed sheets representing the three plates issued, with all the minor varieties, etc., in their correct positions on the plates concerned.

Mr. C. A. Larsen, vice-president, in moving a unanimous vote of thanks to the exhibitor, commented at length on the magnificence of the exhibit, the quality of which had to be seen to be appreciated. He ventured to say that this display would win a high award on any World Philatelic Exhibition.

★

THE PHILATELIC SOCIETY OF NATAL

President, Mr. W. H. Winde; **Hon. Sec.,** Mr. G. Milner Palmer, P.O. Box 588, Durban; **Meetings,** 1st and 3rd Wednesdays at 31 London Assurance House, 319 Smith Street (in room of the Durban Camera Club, top floor) 7.30 p.m.

Our April meeting can indeed be considered a great success, over 77 members and visitors being present. The increase of membership has been most gratifying with the result that our attendances are becoming greater and greater. The Society will have to see about making more room for their comfort if this goes on. One can always find some up country visitors at every one of our meetings; we welcome them, but how much nicer it would be if they let us know where they come from so that due reference could be made. After the usual business, the President (Mr. W. H. Winde) had a particularly pleasing duty to perform on behalf of the Pretoria Philatelic Society, namely the presentation of an illuminated address to Lt. Col. Lance Horne for the stirling services rendered the Pretoria Philatelic Society and Philately in general. Having met him for the first time one can quite believe that his pleasing personality will be much missed by all his friends in Pretoria and Johannesburg. This is their loss but our gain, and we hope to hear much from him once he has settled down in his new sphere after some years of service. The high light of the evening was the collection of Cape Triangulars and Woodblocks exhibited by Mr. A. J. Cornelius, this being the first for the P. C. Bishop Cup. The result of 40 years of collecting gave us an outstanding and rare exhibit of the much sought after items. Well done, Mr. Cornelius, you must feel pleased at being able to realise your schoolboy ambition. The meeting closed with the usual auction, and it was generally conceded that a profitable evening had been passed.

W.H.W.

★

EAST RAND PHILATELIC SOCIETY

President, Capt. J. A. B. van Wyk; *Hon. Secretary,* E. N. Riff, 103 Kemston Avenue, Benoni.

At the March meeting the attendance was up to standard. Capt. van Wyk was congratulated on his promotion to captain.

Dr. Kaplan paid us a visit and provided the evening's exhibits, which were three countries in all: (1) Austria from the Republic first issue up to the present; the collection had many fine stamps, including the following issues: Dollfuss, Railway Centenary, Doctors, Heroes, Inventors, Mother's Day, Architects and various charity issues. (2) Gambia, starting with 1869 embossed Queens, 1898 Queens ½ to 3s., 1902 Edward VII ½ to 3s., 1912 George V ½ to 5s., 1922-27 Geo. V ½ to 10s., Silver Jubilee and Coronation 1938 Geo. VI issue. The third exhibit was Cayman Islands, starting 1901 Queens, 1901-07 Queens, 1907 Edward VII ½ to 1s., Geo. V 1912 ½ to 10s., 1917 overprints war stamps, 1921 ½ to 10s., 1932 Centenary issue ½ to 10s., 1935 ½ to 10s., 1938 Geo. VI ½ to 10s., 1943 ½ to 10s.

The April meeting was very successful both in the evening's exhibit provided by Mr. Legator and the increase of membership which no doubt could be increased if collectors on the East Rand were not so shy in coming to the meetings. Australian and New Zealand Victory stamps were passed round by members, also new American stamps that have been issued quite recently.

The exhibit by Mr. Legator was outstanding; it consisted of part of his Union of South Africa collection. Starting with Interprovincials, then several die proofs of Union stamps, 1913 "specimens," vari-

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ous high values with Controls, 1d. stamp bisected to repressed ½d. postage, 1d. and 2d. stamps no watermark, various perf. varieties, sheets that had been folded over during the printing, 2½d. stamp with watermark inverted, air mail stamp of the 1925 and 1929 issues, with several colour trials of the 1s. value, right-hand pane of the 1s. postage due. The whole collection had the varieties and flaws indicated by small arrows, which made the exhibit very interesting. E.J.R.

★

PRETORIA PHILATELIC SOCIETY

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

April 1st: Very appropriately the first meeting of the month on "All Fools Day" saw fools made of many of us who had a shot at the competition conducted by Messrs. Dodd and Hawke, of which the following is a resume. Bearing in mind that the questions refer to countries covered by the S.G. British Empire catalogue with the Indian States excluded. (Q1) Can you name five countries that have used the embossing method of stamp production? (Q2) which countries have used the following as watermarks in their stamps? Elephant's Head; Swan; Tortoise; and (beware the catch) Springbok's Head? (Q3) What country has the longest overprint? (Q4) For what reason were the 5s., 10s., £1 and £5 stamps of G.B. of 1867 issued? (Q5) What country has used square-holed perforations? (Q6) State an abnormality of one of the G.B. Silver Jubilee stamps? (Q7) Where besides the Cape Colony were stamps with anchor watermarks used? (Q8) What stamp issued during reign of Edward VII in one of the provinces of South Africa has the highest catalogue value, and what was its face value? (Q9) What stamp is overprinted BURBUDA? (Q10) We all know which was the smallest stamp ever issued, but which was the largest stamp? So much for the competition; answers will be given next month. The exhibition for the evening was provided by Dr. Broughton who tabled a wonderful collection of Philatelic Congress presentation sets of stamps in almost every conceivable method of mounting, varying from mere transparent envelopes to Morocco bound miniature albums.

April 15th: A letter from our last year's president, Col. Horne, was read in which he expressed his pleasure and thanks for the very fine illuminated address presented to him by the Society. The paper for the evening was by Mr. Ferguson who told us something about a recent visit to Mafeking where he had some interesting talks with the local Postmaster—whose Post Office had two counters, one for Union requirements and one for the needs of Bechuanaland—of how his Post Office was inundated with orders from all parts of the world for sets of our Victory stamps—how clients failed to include the ever necessary addressed envelopes, and if envelopes were sent they came without the all important cardboard stiffening to protect the stamps—of how he had to enroll additional staff and the troubles they brought in their wake due to their inexperience in postal work which made working overtime and even working weekends necessary. Mr. Ferguson went on to give us some instances of the fancies and foibles of collectors. He said that there was no such thing as a "typical collector," but that there are instead something like half a million people who seriously collect all kinds of stamps, which would seem to be a hopeless sort of task. There are of course lots of eccentric collectors, such as the hoarder who resents showing his collection to anyone, or the secret collector who for some reason or other wants his weakness kept from his family, or those wicked collectors who spend far more than they can afford and so depriving their families of necessities. There is also the collector who studies the market, keeping a keen eye on the £ s. d. side of the hobby, and there are those people who collect only the "classic issues" all that lovely old line engraved stuff of the 1840-1880 period which to-day costs a mint of money, so perhaps it would be better if we confined ourselves to the pictorial or artistic issues, or stamps portraying railways, or animals or something along these lines. But whatever we collect we will always find in stamp collecting a wonderful spirit of good fellowship, and it will always be found a real treat to get away from the daily round and attend a philatelic meeting where we can talk to the fellows who like the things we like, and indulge in a bit of "swapping" in every sense of the word. The exhibit of the evening was provided by Dr. Fitzsimons, who showed another lot of fine modern European issues, and the meeting was brought to a close with a very successful auction sale.

J.W.

★ ★ ★

DR. BROOM

In connection with the article on old Transvaal stamps elsewhere in this number, the writer states in a covering letter that he regards it as his most important one so far in this series. Though no new types are brought to light, he shows that Yardley's account of this particular issue is in error and that all the issues between 7/7/77 and Jan. '78 will have to be re-dated.

His arrangement, as compared with that given in Gibbons' Cat. is as follows:—

	S.G.	Broom
Blue on Rose	31/8/77	7/7/77 (16,080)
Blue on Green	27/11/77	31/8/77 (26,880)
Blue on Green	24/1/78	27/11/77 (17,920)
Blue on Blue	Not recognised	27/11/77 (14,800)
Blue on Blue	20/3/78	20/3/78 (20,000)
Blue on Blue	13/5/78	13/5/78 (34,720)

Recognising only two issues of the Blue on Blue, Gibbons' list goes astray on the placing of the three earlier issues. They recognise two printings of the Blue on Green; so does Dr. Broom, but the dates and quantities must be altered and what Dr. Broom now shows must have been the Blue on Rose of 7/7/77 they would presumably regard as a printing of the Blue on White (all Caps.).

This re-dating of printings, incidentally, makes the Blue on Rose a much rarer stamp than has hitherto been supposed. This will be dealt with in a later communication.

We have to offer our congratulations to Dr. Broom on other grounds as well, viz., on his famous publication (in conjunction with Dr. Schepers) on the fossil Ape-men of Southern Africa. Dr. Broom's pronouncements on our "missing links" have stirred the scientific world for some considerable time, and many of his friends have been looking forward to this publication. We, his fellow philatelists, offer him our heartiest congratulations and hope that his good work, both on anthropology and on the stamps of the Transvaal will continue. He will soon be due to receive our congratulations on attaining his 80th birthday. Long may he prosper.

★

UNION CATALOGUE ACKNOWLEDGMENTS

The following further sums have been received for the Federation's Catalogue Fund, with thanks:

Mr. E. Tamsen, Nylstroom	£1	1	0
Mr. F. Stevens, Chikwawa, Nyasaland	1	0	0
Mr. H. B. Marcuson, Johannesburg	3	3	0
Mr. D. Malcolm, Pietermaritzburg	2	2	0
Mr. R. Axer, Cape Town	1	0	0
Messrs. Geniality, Ltd., London	10	0	0
Baragwanath Hospital Stamp Group	4	4	0

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VICTORY ISSUES

Great Britain and 40 odd Crown Colonies will issue sets of Victory Stamps early in June. The sets will consist of 2 stamps of low denominations (no other particulars are known at present). The complete mint collection can be reserved on payment of a deposit of 30s. Delivery early in July. Order early and avoid disappointment.

BENONI STAMP SHOP,

Box 485. 93b Prince's Avenue, Benoni.

THE PHILATELIC EXPORTER

is the independent advertising circular of a group of well-known British, Colonial and Foreign Wholesalers, distributed throughout U.S.A., Canada, Australia, New Zealand, India, Egypt, Palestine, British West Indies, Malta, Gibraltar, etc. In Europe it is circulated throughout France, Holland, Belgium and Switzerland.

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CORRESPONDENCE

THE COMING ROYAL VISIT

Sir,—As a stamp collector I was indeed pleased when I saw the recent announcement of the forthcoming visit to the Union of South Africa by their Majesties King George VI and Queen Elizabeth, accompanied by the Royal Princesses.

His Majesty King George VI has followed the tradition of his father and has become one of the greatest stamp collectors of the British Commonwealth of Nations.

I feel sure that the Government of the Union of South Africa will take cognisance of the precedent set in 1939 by the Dominion of Canada. That great sister Dominion placed on sale a special issue of postage stamps, produced from intaglio steel plates, which commemorated the visit by Their Majesties to Canada during that year. The oldest British Colony followed suit, and in that same year issued a special postage stamp commemorative of the Royal Visit to Newfoundland. The said Newfoundland stamp was printed from intaglio steel plates produced by the well known British firm, Bradbury, Wilkinson and Co., Limited. I would propose a special issue of at least four postage stamps which will commemorate the Royal Visit to the Union of South Africa in the denominations of ½d., 1d., 2d., and 3d., and that each one of the said stamps be designed to show, inter alia, a portrait, respectively, of:

1. H.M. King George VI.
2. H.M. Queen Elizabeth.
3. H.R.H. Princess Elizabeth.
4. H.R.H. Princess Margaret Rose.

Further, that the said stamps be recessed-printed from intaglio steel plates in England by one or all of the four famous printing establishments, namely, Perkins, Bacon, Limited, Thos. De La Rue & Co., Limited, Bradbury, Wilkinson & Co., Limited, and Waterlow & Sons, Limited, but *not* by the rotogravure process in vogue at Pretoria. I would prefer the firm of Perkins, Bacon, Limited. For, was it not this firm that produced the famous "Penny Blacks," the first stamps of Great Britain and indeed of the world? Did not this firm produce the first stamps of Natal and of the Cape of Good Hope? Would not all stamp lovers of South Africa like to see the imprint of "Perkins, Bacon, Limited," on fine recessed-printed "Royal Visit" stamps of the Union of South Africa?

I reiterate that I should like to see fine recessed-printed "Royal Visit" stamps of the Union of South Africa, worthy of the great occasion which is scheduled to take place during February, 1947, and worthy to be included in the Blue Collection of the premier philatelist of the British Commonwealth of Nations.

I solicit the opinions of collectors through the medium of the "South African Philatelist," especially as regards the preferability of recessed-printed stamps in this connection.

I am, etc.,
A. HILTON SYDOW.

★ ★ ★

INDIA

The two remaining values (9p and 12a) of the Victory set have now reached this country. They are of the same design as the 1½a and 3½a chronicled last month. Thanks to G. Shantaram Prabhu for specimens, on cover postmarked 9 March.

CANADA

According to the "Philatelic Magazine" Canada is to have a set of Peace stamps, featuring the King in civilian clothes. Further details not yet available.

GREECE

Mr. P. J. Drossos, writing to the "Philatelic Magazine" reports a shortage of stamps through a strike in the stamp printing works.

From 24th December all philatelic sales were stopped and on 7th January all inland mail and foreign registered and air mail was sent without stamps, the covers being endorsed with a note of the fee paid for postage, etc.

ITALY

Mr. Hutton, in "Stamp Collecting," reports a shortage of postage stamps in this country and the use of various fiscal stamps for postal purposes.

Fine British Colonials:

Selections of the above are sent on approval to serious collectors against references.

Range 1. Early issues, which can be selected from at one-third of catalogue price.

Range 2. Modern issues (1900 on) in mint state, mostly at 50% off catalogue.

Range 3. Modern issues (1900 on) superb used, mostly at 50% off catalogue.

J. BIRD, 116, Highlands Heath, London, S.W.15, England

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EMPIRE PEACE STAMPS

Next month (June) will see the issue by Great Britain and about 40 Crown Colonies and Protectorates of sets of Peace stamps, each set comprising two low values. With the exception of Hong Kong the design of the Colonial sets will be the Houses of Parliament, London. Hong Kong's design will be Phoenix arising from the ashes. All the stamps will be bi-coloured. Peace sets are also due from New Zealand, Pacific Islands, Burma and S. Rhodesia. Supplies of most, probably all, sets will reach us by July and we are now accepting reservations for complete *mint* collections of *all* British Empire Peace stamps that have still to arrive, against a deposit of 25/- per complete mint collection, blocks, etc., pro rata. This is, we estimate, the approximate cost of all the stamps; any adjustments either way will be made after all the stamps have arrived.

Placing your order with us now will give you the stamps at a lower price than will be charged after they have arrived and also guarantees that you will receive from us *all* British Empire peace stamps, in mint condition.

The following Peace stamps are now in stock and are not included in the above offer. Prices are for complete sets.

Australia, mint, 1/3, blocks pro rata (Imprint blocks 6/3).

India, mint, 2/6, blocks pro rata. (No imprints on Indian sheets).

Basutoland, Bechuanaland, S. Africa, S.W. Africa and Swaziland (each set comprises three horizontal pairs), 1/5 per mint set, 1/8 per fine used set, per country, blocks pro rata.

A HONG KONG BARGAIN

We offer all values from 1c. to $1 K.G. VI pre-war printing, plus the new 20c. value. The values are 1c., 2c., 4c., 5c., 8c., 10c., 15c., 20c., 25c., 30c., 50c. and $1. The 4c., 5c., 10c., 30c., and 50c., are the scarce perf. 15 x 14, the 4c. not being catalogued with this perf. The $1 is in the obsolete colours purple and blue, now selling in Hong Kong at five times face value. Not including the 4c. and 20c. values the catalogue value of the set is approximately 40/- and our price per mint set as detailed above is 20/-, blocks pro rata. Note that new printings now being made are all perf. 14.

BMA MALAYA

Another special offer, due to our exceptional facilities for obtaining the difficult issues. Several values are now obsolete and the entire set is about to be replaced with new Civil Administration sets for Malaya and Singapore, which are now separate countries. The plums of this set are the 12c., 15c. with black overprint, and $5 green and red on green, the lastnamed being already a rare stamp. We offer:

Complete set 1c., 2c., 3c., 5c., 8c., 10c., 12c., 15c. (black overprint), 15c. (red overprint), 25c., 50c., $1, $2, $5 (green and red on green) and $5 (orange and purple on white), mint, for £8 12s. 6d.

As foregoing, but without the 15c. black overprint and $5 green and red on green, the set of 14, mint, for £1 12s. 6d., fine used for £2 2s. 6d.

Short mint sets of all values within the ranges mentioned below can be supplied at the prices quoted (the 15c. has red overprint):

1c. to $1 at 11/6, 1c. to 50c. at 7/6, 1c to 25c. at 5/6, 1c. to 15c. at 4/6.

The above prices hold good only until June 3rd.

Supplies of the elusive BMA issues of Borneo and Sarawak are expected to reach us during June.

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"CRYSTAL-MOUNT" is made for all sizes of stamps, in singles, pairs or blocks. It is as clear as glass and covers both the fronts and backs of stamps. It does not contract, so does not harm stamps as the pre-war transparent "pocket" often did. "Crystal-Mount" is made in the U.S.A. of the best quality 100 per cent. transparent cellulose. Samples of the various sizes, together with full details and prices, will be sent upon receipt of 6d. to cover cost and postage.

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UNION NOTES.

Victory Stamps:

The Minister of Posts and Telegraphs announces that the sales of these stamps were: 1d. 17,945,688; 2d. 21,778,762 and 3d. 4,632,068, representing £314,051 14s. 8d. Sales on oversea orders to dealers and private philatelists exceeded £21,500.

The following additional minor varieties have been reported by Dr. D. F. van Blerk, of Pilgrims Rest, but it cannot be stated whether they are constant or not:

1d.

Row 1, stamp 3. Dark brown spots between limbs of white V.

Row 1, stamp 5. Small red spot on R of Africa.

Row 5, stamp 2. White marks between F and R of Afrika.

2d.

Row 3, stamp 6. White spot below R of Afrika.

Row 13, stamp 2. White mark above S of Suid.

Row 15, stamp 4. White spot to right of oval.

Row 15, stamp 5. White spot at left of right-hand 2d.

Row 16, stamp 3. White spots on right rear ox and above D of Suid.

3d.

Row 2, stamp 1. White spot above P of first Posseël.

This flaw in the 3d. is also recorded by Mr. J. Ackerman, of Vrede, who also reports that the S.W.A. overprints are badly centred, veering to the left as they go down the sheet.

A writer in the "Stamp Collecting" reports in the 3d. a short line like a hyphen between the 3 and the D on the last stamp of row 14.

Bantams:

These stamps, says the Minister of Posts and Telegraphs, are not to be withdrawn but will continue to be sold till the present stocks are exhausted.

Stamp Paper :

Several readers have commented on the paper of the Victory Stamps and of some of the recent printings of the Bantams. Its texture might be called "short," an admirable trait in shortbread but not from a philatelist's point of view a good one when he wishes to keep stamps in pairs or blocks. They fall apart almost on looking at them, let alone handling them. Perhaps, of course, this is a recommendation for the average member of the public.

Special Postmark:

At the Johannesburg Agricultural Show a special post office was in operation, and it was probably the only one in the Union open all day on Good Friday. The mark is a double circle one with "AGRICULTURAL SHOW/ JOHANNESBURG". Thanks to the Robertson Stamp Co. for a copy.

Important Notice:

Distance itself means nothing at all in the present instance: what does matter, however, is the actual time it takes to cover that distance.

To get down to cases, though you are several times as far away from the most comprehensive stock of K.G. VI issues which exists in this country (which means the world) as are, say, the inhabitants of the north of Scotland, yet you are as near as they are, when the time it takes to deliver a letter is concerned.

Why we had your own "Victory" stamps on sale here in Liverpool within a couple of days or so of their issue; it only took a few days to enable us to offer the magnificent set from New Zealand; and now we can write our customers in Buenos Aires and we can get a reply almost the same week. So what? Just that we publish the most complete list of K.G. VI that exists. It contains over 500 offers of these fascinating stamps. Mint sets from a shilling to several pounds (one as good value as the other, you take your pick); elusive perf. varieties, and obsolete stamps. etc.; many you have searched in vain for and all priced rock bottom, as we are determined to get volume, particularly from customers in the Commonwealth.

We issue our list early each month and a florin will bring you a year's supply; you need not even send us two shillings; just a postcard and we will airmail you a copy at our expense and on receipt of an order for stamps, you will get them before you can say knife, for we never take more than 48 hours to dispatch an order, and most are off the day of receipt, and when we have all our staff back, all will be away the same day.

We especially desire to serve Commonwealth collectors with cheaply priced stamps; plus prompt dispatch and all the courtesy we can muster.

The Commonwealth Stamp Coy.,

21, Cumberland St., Liverpool 1: England.

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The Machine Postmarks of The Union of South Africa 1910-1942

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

(Continued from page 58 of April issue)

LIST OF SLOGANS AND ADVERTISEMENTS WITH YEARS OF USAGE

[**Correction:** The notes at the end of last month's instalment were misplaced.

The first "Each dash in this slogan should actually be three horizontal lines" referred to Slogan 5.h. and applies equally to Slogan 7.d. in this issue.

The second "Final E in INDUSTREE with a diaerisis: this distinguishes it from 7.b." referred to Slogan 7.a. The final E's in Slogans 7.f., 7.g., 7.i., 7.j. and 28 in this issue should similarly have a diaerisis.]

d. —SUPPORT S.A.—/—INDUSTRIES—// —ONDERSTEUN S.A. — / — INDUSTRIEE— JH (2) 1925-6. Error, SUPPORT S.A. INDUSTRES, JH, 1925, in collection of Mr. G. W. Hockey.

e. —SUPPORT— / SOUTH AFRICAN /— INDUSTRIES—// —ONDERSTEUN—/ SUIDAFRIKAANSE/—NYWERHEDE CT (3) 1926-7-9-30, CT (T), PR (1) 192?.

f. SUPPORT S.A. INDUSTRIES// ONDERSTEUN/S.A. INDUSTRIEE PE (1) 1927. Short life, in use Feb. and Mar., 1927.

g. SUPPORT/S.A./INDUSTRIES (in rectangular box) // ONDERSTEUN/S.A./ INDUSTRIEE (in rectangular box) CT (2) 1928-9-30-31, CT (Red).

h. ONDERSTEUNS.AINDUSTRIEE SUPPORT S.A. INDUSTRIES JH (1) 1928. L—R.

i. . SUPPORT . /SOUTH AFRICAN/ . INDUSTRIES .// . ONDERSTEUN . /SUID AFRIKAANSE/ . INDUSTRIEE . PE (1) 1928 (2½in. machine).

j. SUPPORT/SOUTH AFRICAN/INDUSTRIES // ONDERSTEUN / SUIDAFRIKAANSE/INDUSTRIEE PE (1) 1929-30-31-32 (2½in. machine).

k. SUPPORT S.A. INDUSTRIES ONDERSTEUN SA INDUSTRIEE JH (2) 1930. L—R.

l. SUPPORTSAINDUSTRIES ONDERSTEUNSAINDUSTRIEE JH (2) 1930-31. L—R.

8.a. POST EARLY IN THE DAY POS VROEG IN DIE DAG CT (1) 1923, DN (2) 1923-4-7, JH (5) 1923-4-5-7, PE (1) 1923-4, PR (3) 1923-4-6-9-30-35, EL (1) 1923-4, PMB (1) 1923-4-6-7-8-9, QT (2) 1928-35, GT (1) 1930-33-35, PR (Red), JH (T), PE (T). L—R.

b. POST EARLY IN THE DAY POS VROEG IN DIE DAG JH (2) 1923 (letters 4½ mm. high). L—R.

c. POST EARLY IN THE DAY POS VROEG IN DIE DAG JH (3) 1928-9, JH (T), DN (2) 1926,7 (letters 3½ mm. high). L—R.

d. . POST EARLY . / . IN THE DAY . // . POS VROEG . / . IN DIE DAG . BFN (2) 1928-9 (2½in. machine).

e. POST EARLY/IN THE DAY// POS VROEG/IN DIE DAG EL (5) 1929-32-33-4-5-6-8 (2½in. machine). Two date-stamps show the name Fast London. EL (red) (1).

9. BRITISH EMPIRE EXHIBITION 1924/ (4 wavy lines) LION (4 wavy lines)/ BRITSE RYKTENTOONSTELLING CT (2) 1923-24, JH (2) 1923-24, CT (red), JH (T). L—R.

10.a. BUY S. AFRICAN MADE GOODS/ KOOP S. AFRIKAANSE GOEDERE CT (3) 1925, JH (1) 1925, DN (3) 1925-6-7, CT (Red), CT (T), DN (T). L—R.

b. —BUY—/SOUTH AFRICAN/—MADE GOODS— (in rectangular box) // — KOOP — / SUIDAFRIKAANSE / —GOED— (in rectangular box) CT (2) 1926-7-8-9-30-31, CT (T), CT (Red) (2).

c. BUY S.AFRICAN / MADE GOODS // KOOP S.AFRIKAANSE/—GOEDERE— DN ((3) 1927-8-30-31-2-4.

11. AIR-MAIL SAVES TIME/ (Aeroplane) //LUGPOS BESPAAR TYD/ (Aeroplane) CT (4) 1925-29, CT (Red) 1925-30, DN (1) 1925, JH (1) 1929.

12.a. MAKE CAREERS / — FOR OUR — / JUVENILES//VERSKAF BEROEPE/ AAN ONS/—JEUG— CT (3) 1925-6-7-30-32, PR (1) 1926, JH (2) 1926-7-9, DN (1) 1926-31, PMB (1) 1926-8, PE (1) 1926-32-3-5-8, PE (T) PE (Red (2).

b. MAKE CAREERS / — FOR OUR — / JUVENILES//VERSKAF BEROEPE/— AAN—/ONS JEUG DN (1) 1927-32, JH (1) 1930, PR (1) 1926-7, EL (1) 1927, PMB (1) 1927-8-9, PE (1) 1927-30-31-2.

13. FRUIT/—FOR—/HEALTH//VRUGTE /—VIR—/GESONDHEID CT (3) 1926-7-8-30, JH (4) 1926-7-8-30, PR (2) 1926-7-8-9, CT (Red) (2), CT (T), JH (T). Error, VRUGTE VIP GESONDHEID, CT from 1927 onwards and CT, letters OCT inverted in date-stamp, 1929.

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14. CENSUS DAY/4th MAY// SENSUS DAG/4de MEI CT (2) 1926, JH (1) 1926, DN (1) 1926.

15. (line)/TOUR SOUTH/AFRICA/(line)// (line)/REIS IN/SUID-AFRIKA/(line) CT (3) 1927-31-2-3, JH (2) 1927-8-30, DN (1) 1927, PR (1) 1927, PE (1) 1927-8, OUD (1) 1938-9-40, CT (Red), JH (T), CT (T). Error, letters NOV inverted in date-stamp, DN in 1927.

16.a. USE C.O.D. PARCEL POST/ MAAK GEBRUIK VAN/POS K.B.A. STELSEL PR (1) 1926, BFN (1) 1926-7, BFN (Red), KIM (1) 1928-29-30-1-2-3-4, BOK (1) 1938-39 (6⅝in. machine). Error, whole impression from date cylinder inverted. One copy known, in collection of Mr. G. W. Hockey.

b. USE C.O.D./PARCEL POST// MAAK GEBRUIK VAN/POS K.B.A. STELSEL DN (3) 1927-8-9-30-1-2 (3¾in. machine).

17. STOP DONGAS KEER DIE SLOTE CT (2) 1929, DN (1) 1929, PR (1) 1930, JH (1) 1929, PE (1) 1930. L—R.

18. DO NOT / OVERSTOCK / —FARMS— MOENIE/PLASE/OORSTOK NIE BFN (1) 1929, CT (1) 1930, PE (1) 1929-30, JH (1) 1930, PMB (1) 1929-30.

19. PROTECT/YOUR/VELD // BEWAAR /JOU VELD BFN (1) 1930, PE (1) 1930, JH (1) 1929, PMB (1) 1929. Scarce.

20. BEWARE OF/EROSION// PASOP VIR /VERSPOELING EL (1) 1929-30, JH (1) 1929. Scarce.

21. (WL) / AIR POST / SAVES TIME / (WL)// (WL) / LUG-POS / BESPAAR TYD/(WL) PR (1) 1935. Only one copy known, in collection of Mr. G. W. Hockey.

22.a. HELP THE/JUBILEE/TUBERCULOSIS /—FUND—// STEUN DIE/JUBILEUM —/TUBERKULOSE—/—FONDS— EL (1) JH (1), PMB (1), PE (2), BFN (1), PR (2), JH (Red). All used in 1935.

b. HELP THE / JUBILEE / TUBERCULOSOS / — FUND — // STEUN DIE / JUBILEUM — / TUBERKULOSE— / — FONDS— CT (1) 1935, CT (Red). Letters smaller than in 22a. Error in date-stamp, CT (Red) shows —4JUN35.10— AM and —4JUN34.10—AM.

c. HELP THE JUBILEE / TUBERCULOSOS / — FUND — // STEUN DIE JUBILEUM — / TUBERKULOSE —/— FONDS— DN (1) 1935 (3¼in machine).

23. TELEPHONE/YOUR ORDERS/(WL)/(WL) TELEFONEER/U BESTELLINGS /(WL)/(WL) JH (2) 1936.

24. THE GOLDEN CITY/1886-JUBILEE-1936 DIE GOUDSTAD/1886-JUBILEUM-1936 JH (1) 1936, JH (Red).

25. USE THE /TELEPHONE/(WL)/(WL) GEBRUIK DIE / TELEFOON / (WL) / (WL) JH (2) 1936, JH (Red).

26.a. =REGISTER=/VALUABLE LETTERS / (WL) / (WL) = REGISTREER = / WAARDEVOLLE BRIEWE / (WL) / (WL) CT (6) 1937-8-42, CT (Red), JH (5) 1937-8.

b. =REGISTER=/VALUABLE LETTERS / (WL) / (WL) = REGISTREER = / WAARDEVOLLE BRIEWE / (WL) / (WL) JH (9) 1938-9-40-1-2. Lettering taller than in 26.a.

c. (WL)/REGISTER/(WL) — VALUABLE —/ (WL) / LETTERS / (WL) (WL) / REGISTREER / (WL) — W A A R D E-VOLLE— / (WL) / BRIEWE / (WL) JH (2) 1942.

27.a. SEND "GOOD NEWS"/=TELEGRAMS =/(WL)/(WL) STUUR „GOEIE NUUS" /= TELEGRAMME =/(WL)/(WL) CT (4) 1937-8, CT (Red) (2) 1937-8-9, JH (5) 1937-8, PR (2) 1937-8. Variety, 26.a. and 27.a. separately on one envelope; error in date-stamp, CT Red, 39AUG37 and 30SEP37.

b. SEND "GOOD NEWS"/=TELEGRAMS = / (WL) / (WL) STUUR "GOEIE NUUS" / = TELEGRAMME = / (WL) /(WL) JH (2) 1939-40-41. Letters taller than in 27.a.; also, 27.a., „GOEIE NUUS" and 27.b., "GOEIE NUUS."

28. =POST EARLY=/FOR QUICK DELIVERY/(WL)/(WL) =POS VROEG=/ VIR VROEE AFLEWERING/(WL)/ (WL) BFN (1) 1938-9-40-41-42, BFN (Red 1), CT (9) 1938-9-42, CT (Red 1), DN (2) 1938, EL (3) 1938-9-41, BEN (1) 1939-40-41, JH (15) 1938-9-42, JH (Red 1) GT (1) 1938-9-42, KIM (2) 1938-9-40-1, PE (3) 1938-9, SPR (2) 1939-42, PR (3) 1938-39, PMB (2) 1938-9, PMB (Red 1), QT (1) 1939; other towns, see Summary. During Oct., 1938, the CT date-stamp letters and numerals were mistransposed, e.g., Cape Town, 4OKT38. 4.30NM and Kaapstad, 40OCT39.4.30PM, and similarly in Mar. and May, 1939, e.g., Cape Town, 24MRT39.6.30NM and Kaapstad, 24MAR39.6.30PM. In this slogan CT and JH have two different dies each and DN first had "N" in "Aflewering" upside down). In the first CT one the word QU.CK is shown in 1939. In the JH ones the differences can be seen in the "R" in "FOR".

20. CUSTOMS DUTY PAID / INVOEREGTE BETAAL. L—R. CT (3) 1938 Used in 1941 without date-stamp.

30. — CENTENARY — / — PRETORIA —/ 1838-1938 — // EEUFEES — / — PRETORIA—/—1838-1938— PR (1) 1938. (Date-stamps show Voortrekker Monument.)

31. (WL/(WL)/— SEND —/— GREETINGS TELEGRAMS / (WL) / (WL) (WL) / (WL) / — STUUR — / GROETETELEGRAMME / (WL)/(WL) CT (10) 1939-40-1-2, CT (Red 3) (in November, 1939, this slogan appeared in blue ink, CT instead of in black), BFN (1) 1939-40, DN (3) 1939-40, EL (3) 1939-40, SPR (1) 1940, GT (1) 1939-40-1, JH (16) 1939-40-1-2, JH (Red 1), GER (1) 1941-2, KIM (2) 1939-40-1, GER STN (3) 1939-41, PE (4) 1939-40-1-2, PMB (3) 1939-40-1, PMB (Red 1), PR (2) 1939-40, QT

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(1) 1939-40-1-2; other towns, see Summary later.

32. (WL)/(WL)/V . . . —/(WL)/(WL) L—R. CT (5), JH (2), JH (Red 1), PMB (1) 1942 (2½in. machine); DN (Red 1), PE (Red 1), PR (Red 1), 1942 (3¼in. machine).

33. SEALED LIPS/(WL)/SAVE SHIPS// GEEN WORDGEREP / (WL) / IS'N SKIP GERED CT (4) 1942. Error in date-stamp, Kaapstad, 25.IX.43, Cape Town, 25.IX.42.

34. SUPPORT THE / + / RED CROSS // STEUN DIE/+/ROOIKRUIS CT (2), DN (1), BFN (1), JH (4), PE (1), PR (2), PMB (1), all used in 1942. Variety, CT cover, 33 overlapping 34.

35. DONT TALK/(WL)/ABOUT SHIPS// MOENIE KLETS/(WL)/OOR SKEPE NIE DN (1), PE (1), 1942.

36.a. THOUGHTLESS WORDS/(WL)/SINK SHIPS//'N ONBESONNE MOND/(WL) / BOORNSKIPINDIEGROND JH (2) 1942.

b. (WL) / THOUGHTLESS / (WL) / — WORDS— / (WL) / SINK SHIPS / (WL)//(WL)/'N ONBESONNE/(WL) MOND BOOR/(WL)/'N SKIP/(WL) /IN DIE GROND/(WL) JH (2) 1942.

37. (WL) / SPEND LESS / (WL) / (WL) /(WL)/SAVE MORE / (WL) // (WL) / SPANDEER MINDER / (WL) / (WL) /(WL)/SPAAR MEER/(WL) BFN (1), CT (2), DN (1), EL (2), JH (1), KIM (1), SPR (1), GER (1), PE (1), PMB (1), PR (1), CT (Red 2), all used in 1942. Other Towns — See Summary. Slogan 31 from Umtata 1942 shows one date-stamp undated. Slogan 31 from Germiston Station 1941 with "red paid date-stamp" used in black. With this slogan Germiston Station has used four different date-stamps and one "red paid."

Slogans, especially those which have the Afrikaans version in one space and English in the other, vary in positions relative to the date-stamps and may be discerned easily where the name CAPETOWN appears at one end and KAAPSTAD at the other end of a date-cylinder, because the date-cylinder can be plugged into the ring either end first. The following are examples of Slogan 28:—

(A)

(CAPETOWN)	POS VROEG	(KAAPSTAD)	POST EARLY
(D/STAMP)	VIR VROEE AFLEWERING	(D/STAMP)	FOR QUICK DELIVERY

(B)

(KAAPSTAD)	POS VROEG	(CAPETOWN)	POST EARLY
(D/STAMP)	VIR VROEE AFLEWERING	(D/STAMP)	FOR QUICK DELIVERY

The same may be discerned where a town has a unilingual name when the English dates appear in one date-stamp and the Afrikaans dates appear in the other date-stamp. Where the "24 hour system" is represented in numerals the clue may be found in some flaw in the name of the town in the date-stamps, e.g., STELLENBOSCH and STELLENBOSCH.

(To be continued)

AUSTRALIA

We are indebted to Mr. John H. Hawker, of Melbourne, for specimens of the three "Peace" stamps issued on 18th February on a commemorative envelope with a peace bell ringing.

The stamps do not appear to have been received with much enthusiasm by the Australian press in general, the criticism being that the designs are lacking in imagination, or that they are garish, vulgar and crudely executed.

The "Australian Stamp Journal," commenting on these views, thinks "the designs do not warrant such scathing criticism and that they certainly compare very favourably with those of the South African Victory issue." We fear this opinion will be generally shared here.

The "Australian Stamp Monthly" contents itself, so far, with saying the stamps do not come up to expectations. Incidentally, they were announced as to be on sale for approximately three months (from 18th February).

★

EGYPT

Mr. J. P. Shingler forwards a 25 mill air stamp (S.G. No. 323) which appears to be new shade, a mauve rather than the former purple.

E.A.F.

The 2s. 6d. Great Britain has appeared with this overprint, thus bringing the set into line with the M.E.F. overprints.

★

FALKLAND ISLANDS DEPENDENCIES

The new combined set has an interesting map variety which throws light on the method of printing. This variety is a break in the circle of 80 degrees S. lat. between the lines of 60 degrees and 70 degrees W. long. It occurs six times in each sheet, on stamps Nos. 4, 9, 24, 29, 44 and 49. This indicates that each litho plate of 60 stamps was made up from a six times repeated die comprising two rows of five stamps. A few other minor plate blemishes have been reported (an extra island in the top left corner, near S. Georgia, for instance, on stamp No. 29) but these are probably not constant varieties.

★

MAURITIUS

Four denominations of the current set bid fair to be really scarce items; these are the 2, 5, 10 and 12c perf. 15 x 14 as against the normal perf. 14. It is reported that only a very small printing of this perforation was made.

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CAPE STAMPLESS AND WOODBLOCK PROOFS BRING FABULOUS PRICES AT ROOSEVELT COLLECTION SALE

Mr. S. G. Rich has kindly sent us by air the following list of Cape items disposed of by H. R. Harmer, Inc., at their second Roosevelt stamp sale. The 31 Cape of Good Hope Stampless Covers, 1653 to 1853, which had been presented to the late President by Mr. A. A. Jurgens, of Cape Town, and Mr. Roosevelt's other Cape items, brought prices well above the market. As with almost everything in both the first and second Roosevelt sales, prices realised were from two to five times normal market for similar pieces.

The presentation cards of the 1940 plate proofs of the Cape Woodblocks, a block of six on each, also a gift of Mr. Jurgens to the late President, also brought a high price.

We give the auction catalogue numbers, brief description and prices realised, reckoning £1 = $4.00. The total for all Cape lots was £348.

		£	s.	d.
442	1653 cover to Van Riebeeck, carried by ship captain (no postal service to Cape then)	50	0	0
443	1792 cover to Cape with V O C 6 st in circle applied at Cape on arrival	22	10	0
444	Cover with "Post Office Seal" type mark ca. 1807	17	10	0
445	Cover with "Ship Letter Cape of Good Hope," crown in oval	11	5	0
446	Cover with circle type "General Post Office Capetown"	8	15	0
447	Cover with circle type Graaf-Reynett	7	10	0
448	Cover with circle type Simons Town	8	15	0
449	Cover with circle type Port Elizabeth	3	15	0
450	Cover with circle type Zwellendam	6	5	0
451	Cover with circle type Uitenhagen	5	0	0
452	Cover with circle type Clanwilliam	5	12	6
453	Cover with circle type Caledon	3	15	0
454	Cover with circle type SOMERSET and boxed "Post Paid"	5	12	6
455	Cover with circle type Bathurst, addressed to Lord Charles Somerset, Governor of Cape	13	2	6
456	Cover with circle type Cradock	5	0	0
457	Cover with circle type George	5	0	0
458	Cover with circle type Tulbagh	5	12	6
459	Cover with circle type Kowie	13	15	0
460	Cover with circle types of Cape Town General Post Office and Simonstown	6	17	6
461	Cover with circle types of George and Cape Town General Post Office	13	15	0
462	Cover with oval "Cape of Good Hope Post Office" dated, 1823	12	10	0
463	Cover with Cape Town Free, crowned circle, 1824	7	10	0
464	Cover to Cape with second type crowned circle "PoOffice General, Cape Town" 1829	11	5	0
465	Cover with boxed "Post Paid" only, 1830	5	12	6
466	Official cover with circle type Grahamstown and dated crowned circle Capetown and boxed "To Pay"	6	5	0
467	Cover with crowned oval of Capetown G.P.O., 1840	5	0	0
468	Cover (official) to Capetown with numeral 19 of Clanwilliam in Octagon	2	5	0
469	Cover with boxed "Prepaid" only, 1848	2	5	0
470	Cover with Capetown G.P.O. double circle, crown in centre, to England, 1853	8	15	0
471	Cover with oval Port Elizabeth Paid, the dated type, early date (Apr 13 1853)	5	12	6
472	The Jurgens presentation cards of the 1940 proofs of the Woodblocks, block of 6 each of the 2 values	43	15	0
515	Loose stamp, De La Rue triangle in brown, red, 1d., (Gibbons No. 18a, Scott No. 12), fine used copy with superb margins	20	0	0
516	Cape collection, 108 stamps 1855-1904	13	15	0
517	Mafeking cover, five different Mafeking stamps of Siege issues —one stamp has been removed and another on piece hinged in place	5	12	6
518	Mafeking cover, 1s. on 6d. Bech. Protectorate, to England, April 30, 1900 (Gibbons No. 15, Scott No. 175)	8	2	6

*

GREAT BRITAIN AND COLONIES

Channel Islands.

A writer in the "Philatelic Magazine" warns readers that there are many reprints being sold and that many so-called used specimens have faked postmarks. He has had whole sheets of such offered him. In the next issue, however, doubt is thrown upon the statement.

Incidentally, "The Gen" reports that these stamps have now been declared by the British Post Office as no longer valid for postage. This dates from 14th April.

Victory Stamps.

Just too late to appear in our last month's issue came the news that Britain was to have Victory stamps after all—probably two low values to be issued on 8th June, the day of the Victory Parade.

There are also to be two low values for some 40 colonies, one common design, bi-coloured, a view of the Houses of Parliament with the River Thames in the foreground.

Burma came out with a set of 4 on 15th April.

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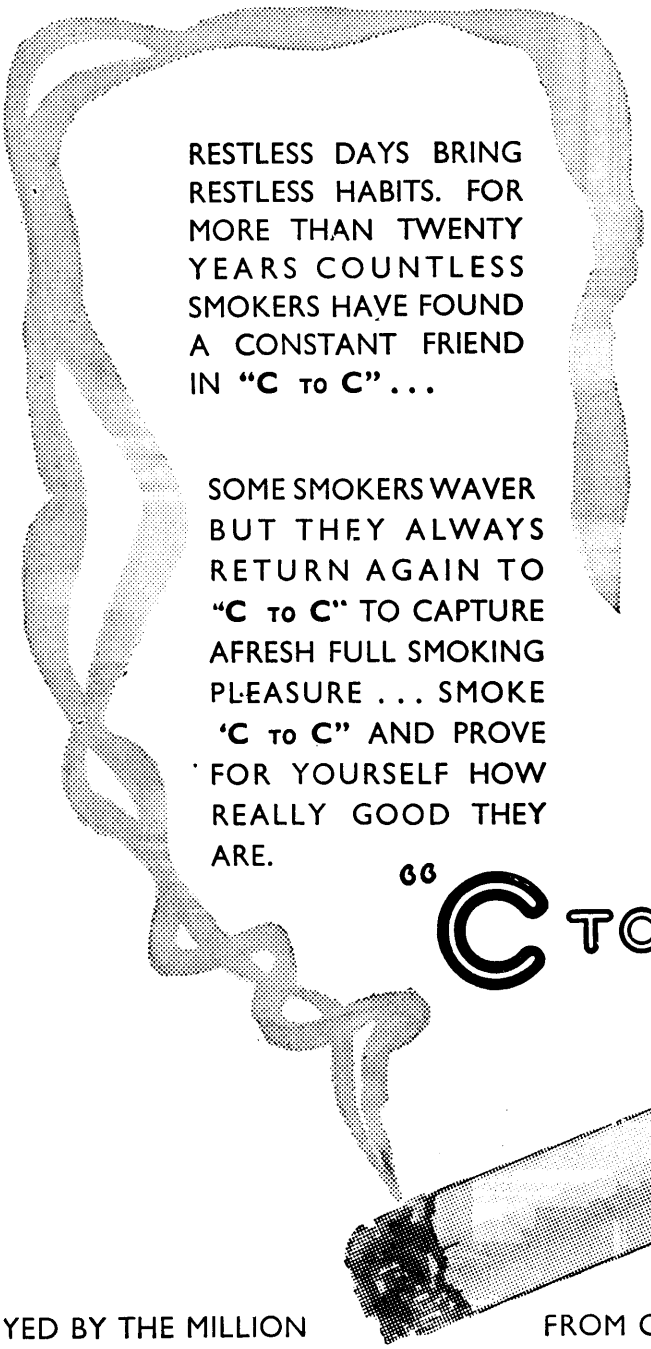

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"C TO C"

ENJOYED BY THE MILLION FROM CAPE TO CAIRO

U/C 287

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Proprietors and Publishers:

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The
SOUTH AFRICAN PHILATELIST

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The following further sums have been received for the Philatelic Federation's Catalogue Fund, with thanks:—

S.A. Philatelic Association	£1 1 0
Mr. John P. Shingler, East London	£1 1 0
Mr. J. T. Burrell, Krugersdorp ..	£1 1 0
Mr. C. F. Louw, Krugersdorp ..	£1 1 0

Just as we go to press comes the good news from the Catalogue Committee that a quotation for its printing has been accepted and that the M/S is going to the printers.

The Catalogue will be sold to the general public at 7/6 and to members of the Societies in the Federation (through Society secretaries) at 6/-.

Any profits made will go to Federation general funds, and if any excess be available from the voluntary subscriptions, the donors will be consulted as to the final disposal of their donations. The Catalogue fund is needed for immediate printers' charges.

*

UNION NOTES

Internal Air Mail Service.

This duly started on 1st May and there is now operating:

(a) Between Cape Town and Johannesburg two planes daily each way (Sundays excepted), also one each way via Port Elizabeth three times a week.

(b) One plane every week day each way between Cape Town and Durban and between Johannesburg and Durban.

(c) Twice a week a service between Johannesburg and Windhoek.

These services take all first-class mail without any extra fee and with no need to direct it "By Air." There is also a daily service between Johannesburg and S. Rhodesia (Bulawayo and Salisbury), half S. African and half Rhodesian planes. The rate by these is 2d. for the first ounce and 1½d. for each additional half-ounce.

Special Stamps for Royal Visit.

It was reported at the Pretoria Society's meeting on 20th May that three stamps would be issued on the occasion of the Royal visit next year. A 1d. with the King's head, 2d. with the King and Queen, and 3d. with the Princesses. Royal assent has been given for these and special photographs will be taken for them. We have not yet had official intimation of this, but presume it is correct as the announcement was given out to the press generally.

But where are the stamps to be printed and by what process?

"Bantams" Fading Out.

The 1s. and 6d. denominations have been exhaused at most, if not all, post offices; stocks of the lower values are still obtainable at most places.

SAVE MEAL AND BREAD/SPAAR MEEL EN BROOD. This slogan, induced by the shortage of cereals, came into use in the first half of May. It is in use in all the larger towns, perhaps in smaller ones as well; and is the first new slogan we have had for a year or two.

★

STAMPS EX SOUTHERN RHODESIA

Mr. P. Falk, of Gwelo, draws our attention to Government Notice No. 569 of 12.10.45 which withdraws the need for export permits on many articles for Northern Rhodesia, but still requires them for quite a number. Included are "Valuables, such as furs, antiques, works of art . . . and postage stamps."

We are not clear, however, whether export permit is required for countries other than Northern Rhodesia.

★

U.S.S.R.

Victory over Hitlerite Germany has been celebrated by an issue of five stamps, 30 k. (two colours) and 60 k. (three colours). Four show the Stalin medal; one of the 60's figures a soldier holding up a red flag with a portrait of Stalin on it.

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GREAT BRITAIN AND COLONIES

"The Gen" intimates that any subscriber can be put on their air mail list for 6s. sterling. The cost of mailing is 2s. 6d. per issue and they will frank envelopes with any denomination of stamps desired.

From their latest (May) issue we get the following information:

Changes.

The 2d. and 6d. Falkland Is. are no longer on sale.

The 2½d. St. Vincent is to appear in style and colour of the present 1s. and there are to be three new values, viz., 3½d., 2s. 6d. and 10s.

Bahamas has a new value 10d.; Barbados a 3d. blue (change of colour) and 8d. a new value; and Falklands a new value 1s. 3d.

Hong Kong had a new series of 15 values, 1c to $10, due to come out on 8th May; also coming a special pair of Peace stamps, 30c and $1 showing a Phoenix rising from the flames.

General Peace Issue. This issue of two denominations showing the British Houses of Parliament will take place for all colonies which have not had other special issues. The two Aden States and Zanzibar are an exception, however, they are to have two of the current stamps overprinted "Victory issue 8th June, 1946."

The total value of the issue will be about £1. It is not expected that any of the stamps can be on sale in their respective territories before mid-August, and the issue will probably be spread over at least two months.

There is no definite information yet as regards S. Rhodesia plans, but it is rumoured there is to be a special set of four stamps.

Bashi's "Stamp Mart" gives a list of the two values to be issued in each of the Colonies. We regret lack of space to reproduce it.

It has been announced that there will be 240 million of the 2½d. and 24 million of the 3d. British "Victories" printed and that they will be put on sale on 11th June.

Channel Islands. "Stamp Collecting" of 13th April gives a communication supplied by Mr. F. Martin, of the numbers of the various stamps issued in Jersey and Guernsey. Many of them are quite large.

★

OBITUARIES

Australian papers report the death in March of Mr. Stephen Orlo-Smith, one of Melbourne's leading stamp dealers. Prior to becoming a professional philatelist he was secretary of the Victoria Philatelic Society. He was well known as editor of a catalogue of Commonwealth stamps.

The "Aero-Field" reports from a correspondent in South Africa the death, about seven months ago in Natal, of Mr. E. F. Driver, the pioneer aviator who flew the Farman biplane from Hendon to Windsor and between Kenilworth and Muizenberg, both in 1911. He served in World War I in the Royal Flying Corps.

EXCHANGES WANTED

Miss Rene Hardy, of 46 Arnold Street, Birkby, Huddersfield, England, has for a number of years had pen friendships in various parts of the world and, getting so much enjoyment from them, has started the "Colonial and Dominions Corrie Club." There are already some 200 members. Friendship is the main object in view, but this can often be best started through hobby exchanges and stamps are high up on this list. On joining you will be put in contact with members with similar tastes in various parts of the world (not limited to the British Empire) and will also receive periodical news letters and an annual year book. Senior members' subscription 2/6 per annum, juniors (12 to 17 years) 1/- per year.

There was to be started in April at P.O. Box 77, Ramat-Gan, Palestine, the "World Exchange Union Star," a monthly review for the exchange of stamps, coins, etc., throughout the world. We have not yet seen a copy so cannot give terms for advertisements or notices, but expect to be able to do so on receipt of the first number.

Mr. James F. Babb, of 428 Dundas Street, Galt, Ontario, Canada, is the Canadian representative of the Society of Australian Specialists. He is also interested in British Africans and would like to get in personal touch with some collectors here for their mutual advantage.

G. Shantaram Prabhu, of Payyanur (N. Malabar), Southern India, wishes to exchange Indian stamps for Africans.

RARE OR COMMON STAMPS:

BASHI'S STAMP MART Monthly Magazine offers up-to-date prices for selling and buying RARE OR COMMON STAMPS.

I strongly recommend you to see a copy: cost 6d., or 6/- per annum, post free.

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226, Strand, London, W.C.2.

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FORTY-FOUR Colonies, including Hong Kong, will each issue two denominations of low values, within a short while .... the total face value will be in the region of 20s. Complete mint sets or individual items may be purchased from us at Sterling Face, plus 15%—postage and registration extra.

It is also known that many parts of the British Empire will issue this year, complete new sets and new values—these can also be supplied on the same basis as the "Peace."

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PHILATELY IN EUROPE

Philately in Europe is gradually getting back into its normal stride, judging by the reappearance of philatelic papers, old and new.

From Belgium we have had an announcement from "Le Philateliste Belge," a monthly published under the auspices of the Belgian Philatelic Society.

From Austria Drv. A. Beadnell, R.E., C.M.F., has sent us No. 3 of a new fortnightly, the "Neue Sammlerschau," a fortnightly for Austrian collectors. It deals mainly, but not entirely, with local philately.

Also from Austria comes word from the "Wiener Briefmarkenzeitung," carrying on although postal arrangements are still rather difficult. They publish at Vienna III, Salesianergasse 1 B.

From France we have received the old Monthly Bulletin of M. Theodore Champion, of 13, Rue Druot, Paris.

In a recently received number of the "Havre Philatélique" (France), consisting entirely of advertisements, we see a name familiar to many students of South African philately. It is that of Mirza Hadi, who describes himself as a specialist in the stamps of Persia, Transvaal, South Africa and Rhodesia. Yes, these countries have some nice stamps in which to specialise.

The "Annuaire International de la Philatélie" of 12, Rue de l'Arcade, Paris VIII, publishes not only its Annual dealing with world-wide philately, but also a monthly review "L'official de la Philatélie." These can both be recommended to serious collectors, especially those whose interests extend beyond British Empire stamps.

From Britain we are very pleased to see Mr. F. Hugh Vallancey once again publishing. He deals in many sorts of out-of-the-way philately, but is perhaps best known in connection with philatelic literature. His large stock in London was completely lost by enemy action, but fortunately his reference library and private collections at home were undamaged. He now operates from his home address, Heather Lodge, The Drive, Sidcup, Kent, and has started re-issue of his "V.P. Bulletin," but it is shortly to appear as the "Stamp Collectors' Guide to Literature." The subscription to this is only 1s. per annum, and Mr. Vallancey states that he is now only willing to deal with subscribers.

Mr. M. Martin of 19 King Street, Jersey, C.I., sends us a price list of his many Channel Islands items and of current British Colonials.

From Holland comes a bright little monthly, "Mijn Hobby." Netherlands and Colonies naturally have most attention in it, but it deals with philately in general. With No. 1 of Vol. 2 the title is changed to "Mijn Stokpaardje"—better Hollands but meaning the same. It is published at Hulst, Zld., Postbus 1, the subscription being f5 per annum.

TRISTAN DA CUNHA STAMPS LIKELY TO COME SOON

The mail which left Cape Town by the R.M.S. "Darro" on or about 14th October, duly arrived arrived there, and replies to correspondence sent by it reached South Africa about 9th May. This mail from the island still bore a naval censorship mark, dated 18th February and had no Tristan postmark. It may be noted, however, that a mail which reached England at the end of November had a Tristan postmark, the "maritime mail" mark and no censor's mark.

The Union meteorological trip to Marion and Gough Islands, mentioned in our December issue, is "off" for this year, but H.M.S.A. frigate "Transvaal"" has taken a civilian staff of three to Tristan, and word arrived here on 11th May that the party had been landed. The party has been warned to expect no ships or mails until their reliefs arrive next year.

The "Transvaal" is evacuating completely the members of the S.A. Air Force and of the Royal Navy, who have been on the island since before the end of the war—with wives and children, 28 persons in all.

In charge of the South African weather station is Mr. A. B. Crawford, now on his third trip to the island. He was there first in 1938 with the Christopherson expedition, when he made what is now the official chart of the island. His second stay was a longer one, during the war as a member of the S.A.A.F. Met. Section, of which he was in charge, so that he is not new to weather work there.

The "Transvaal" arrived back in Cape Town on 15/5/46, brining uncensored mail with Tristan "postmarks." This mark, although of the same type as before, appears to be from a new stamp; the outer circle is slightly larger than before (31 mm.) and the inner one is considerably larger, 20 mm. as against 17 mm. in the mark in use in 1938. This may be called Type VII mark. Covers also showed an endorsement "Tristan da Cunha/South Atlantic Ocean" in block capitals in a rectangular box 73 x 14 mm. One also had, on the back, "Tristan da Cunha" in small block capitals.

The most interesting piece of news, however, was a statement that Tristan is likely to have its own postage stamps at no very distant date. We hope to be able to give further details about this probable issue soon.

★

AUSTRIA

After the Allies moved into Austria there were overprinted ten stamps of the Hitler series in a very striking manner. The overprint was a series of vertical bars, almost obliterating the head and leaving clear only the value and a diagonal band with "OSTEPREICH" printed on it.

Now she has issued a set of ten values, 3 to 60g, reminiscent of the sort of stamp one used to associate with the Austria of old. On each value is a different design showing various beauty spots in the country. The six lowest denominations are small stamps, the other four larger.

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SOUTH AFRICAN ARMY POST OFFICES

Through the kind co-operation of the Director, S.A. Army Postal Service, we have been supplied with a list of the A.P.O.s, the periods they were in operation and the countries or places in which they were stationed.

The Directorate is entirely responsible for these data, but to round them off from a philatelic point of view, in setting out the list we have added (from specimens actually seen or reliably reported) a note about the postmark or post-marks employed by each office. These particulars are not necessarily complete and any additions to them will be welcomed.

Leaving aside for the moment the South African P.O.s which were set up in the United Kingdom (dealt with at the end of this article), it will be seen that the numbering of the P.O.s ran serially from 1 to 60, but Nos. 27, 43, 45, 47, 48, 49 and 52 to 59 (both inclusive) were never opened up. There were actually, therefore, only 46 A.P.O.s which used cancellers with the general type of marking, "A.P.O. — U — M.P.K. / (number)."

Five offices (Nos. 1, 18, 23, 29 and 50) had additional cancellers issued to them with a letter after the number. Those have been seen: there may, of course, be others not so far recorded.

Five offices were captured by the enemy, one at Sidi Rezegh, the others at Tobruk.

Six offices operated at one time or another in the Union or Northern Rhodesia; 20 in the East African Command (Kenya, Uganda, Tanganyika, Italian and British Somalilands, Abyssinia, Eritrea and Madagascar); and 35 with Middle East Forces, Central Mediterranean Force or British North African Force (in Syria, Palestine, Egypt with Libya and Cyrenaica, Tripolitania, Tunisia, Algeria, Morocco, Sicily and Italy).

The majority of the postmarks are of the types figured as "A" or "B". In these it will be seen that the top lettering (A.P.O. — U — M.P.K.) begins and ends below the level of the date. The size of "A" is 25-26 mm. and of "B" 28-30 mm. There are slight differences in the size of the letters but in the main they did not appear to be sufficiently significant to describe them as distinct types. One small group, however, from the size of the lettering did seem to warrant a separate classification, and it is figured as type "C".

A

B

C

D

E

F

All illustrations natural size and from actual specimens except "F," which is from a tracing.

In the type figured as "D" the top lettering commences and ends opposite the date line. In several instances there is a variety of this (not illustrated); the top lettering begins and ends a little higher than in the type figured, about the middle of the date line, and the lettering is of the size shown in the next type, "E." This variety is listed as "Da." In type "E" the top lettering begins and ends above the level of the date line.

Type "F" may definitely be called an error. It was made, possibly in a rush, for the P.O. which went with the Union troops in the Madagascar campaign. It was replaced after a few weeks by one of standard type. Curiously enough, a minor error occurs in the type "E" issued to this office later on—the stop which should be after the "M" is in front of it. The only other error reported, probably only a temporary one, is a very clear mark of date 21—X—40 with no "K" and no number.

It will be noticed in connection with the dates that some have Roman figures for the month and some the usual letter abbreviations: it has not been thought worth while listing which have which.

The list which follows gives (1) the number of the office, (2) its location(s), (3) period of its operation in the country or countries mentioned, the dates shown being the opening and closing dates for each place, (4) type of canceller(s) used, (5) any other special notes.

All marks in black, unless otherwise noted.

A.P.O. — U — M.P.K.

1. Pretoria 26/5/40 to 3/11/40, Durban 3/11/40 to —— (presumably still open at the end of March). Type A. Also 1A and 1C both of Type A. The base office for troops "up North" but of the millions of letters which passed through it few show its postmark. The marks are to be found on correspondence ori-

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ginating in the office itself and in some instances they occur as transit marks on other mail.

2. East Africa 1/6/40 to 3/2/41. Type A.

3. East Africa 18/6/40 to 12/6/41, Egypt 17/6/41 to 2/1/43, Italy 5/3/45 to 3/11/45. Type A.

4. East Africa 26/6/40 to 11/8/41. Type A.

5. East Africa 26/7/40 to 12/4/41, Egypt 12/6/42 to 11/4/44, Italy 24/4/44 to 11/2/46. Type B, later Types D and Da. Type B mark has been seen in violet.

6. East Africa 6/8/40 to 11/8/41, Egypt 17/3/42 to 23/6/42 when captured at Tobruk. Type B.

7. East Africa 24/8/40 to 2/6/41, Egypt 1/6/42 to 2/1/43, Italy 23/8/44 to 4/8/45. Type B.

8. N. Rhodesia (Broken Hill—important stopping place for traffic going up the "Great North Road" to Kenya) 1/7/40 to 19/7/41, Egypt 5/12/41 to 20/5/44, Syria 4/6/44 to 25/6/44, Italy 30/7/44 to 4/11/45. Type B.

9. Egypt 7/1/42 to 26/6/42, Italy 22/10/43 to 11/7/45. Type B.

10. East Africa 28/8/40 to 11/8/41; Egypt, Libya, Cyrenaica, Tripoli, Tunis and Sicily (moving with No. 3 Wing, S.A. Air Force) 26/11/42 to Oct. '43, Italy Oct. '43 to 27/9/45. Type B.

11. East Africa 17/9/40 to 11/8/41, Egypt 2/1/44 to 11/4/44, Italy 24/4/44 to 21/5/45. Types B and Da.

12. East Africa 25/11/40 to 11/8/41, Egypt 2/1/44 to 11/4/44, Italy 24/4/44 to 2/10/45. Type B.

13. East Africa 5/12/40 to 17/4/41, Egypt 4/5/41 to 24/4/44, Italy 6/5/44 to 28/5/45. Types B and Da.

14. East Africa 11/12/40 to 28/5/41, Egypt 20/5/42 to 8/11/42, Tripoli 1/4/43 to 9/4/44. Types A and B.

15. East Africa 11/12/40 to 11/8/41. Type B.

16. East Africa 1/2/41 to 11/8/41, Egypt 4/5/42 to June '43, Tripoli (attached No. 106 S.A. Gen. Hospital) June to Nov. '43, Italy 15/5/44 to 30/6/45. Type B.

17. East Africa Dec. '40 to 17/4/41, Egypt 4/5/41 to 23/11/41 when captured at Sidi Rezegh. Type B.

18. East Africa 16/2/41 to 7/3/41, Italy 10/10/43 to 17/3/45. Type B, also 18A of Type D.

19. East Africa 5/3/41 to 11/8/41. Type B.

20. Pretoria 2/11/40 to——(presumably still open at the end of March). The headquarters office, but, of course, nothing like all service letters posted locally received this stamp. Some received ordinary civil postmarks, some the mark of a special civilly operated office "Defence Headquarters / Pretoria" while the vast majority had no postmark, merely some unit or office stamp. , here, as elsewhere in the Union, Actually the mark may be found on a fair number of letters not originally posted in Pretoria but reaching there somehow for further transmission. Type B.

21. East Africa 8/3/41 to 11/8/41, Italy 21/2/44 to 12/8/45. Type B.

22. East Africa 8/4/41 to 11/8/41, Italy 4/4/44 to 4/8/45. Type B.

23. Italy 5/7/44 to 10/11/45. Type B, also 23A of Type E.

24. East Africa 16/4/41 to 11/8/41. Type B.

25. Served isolated U.D.F. units with the British North African Force in Algeria and Morocco (Rabat Sale) from 16/6/44 to 14/1/45. Type B.

26. Italy 13/3/45 to 15/10/45. Type B.

27. Never opened.

28. Egypt 13/5/41 to 12/6/44. Type B mark seen in violet as well as in black.

29. Egypt 28/5/41 to 25/2/46. Types A and B, also 29A of Type E.

30. Egypt 26/5/41 to 23/6/42 when captured at Tobruk. Type B.

31. Egypt 17/7/41 to 19/12/45. Type A.

32. Egypt 1/7/41 to 25/2/46. Type A.

33. Egypt 21/6/41 to 2/1/43. Type A.

34. Egypt 13/5/41 to 23/6/42 when captured at Tobrok. No specimen or record of the mark so far available.

35. Egypt 3/5/41 to 5/1/46. Type A.

36. Egypt 21/6/41 to 23/6/42 when captured at Tobruk. Type A.

37. Egypt 30/11/41 to 22/9/42, Italy 13/2/45 to 30/9/45. Types A and E.

38. Egypt 12/3/44 to 28/1/46. Type A.

39. Italy 11/5/44 to 22/7/45. Type A.

40. Egypt 24/9/41 to 12/2/46. Type A.

41. Italy 22/9/44 to 31/7/45. Type C.

42. Italy 13/12/44 to 31/8/45. Type C.

43. Never opened.

44. Palestine 10/3/44 to 12/3/44, Italy 1/4/44 to 24/4/44. Type C.

45. Never opened.

46. Ermelo, Transvaal 21/5/42 to 10/2/43. Type C.

47, 48 and 49. Never opened.

50. Took part in U.D.F. demonstrations, exhibits and exercises at Port Elizabeth 29/7/43 to 2/8/43, Cape Town 25/3/44 to 1/4/44, Durban 29/7/44 to 7/8/44 and Johannesburg 25/11/44 to 2/12/44. Type B, also 50A of Type A.

51. Madagascar 26/6/42 to 1/12/42. Originally Type F (error) then Type A. Although the Directorate makes no mention of it, we fancy this office must have been in East Africa at a much later date as we have a cover, endorsed as from Kisumu, with a mark of this office of Type E, the date being 18/VII/45.

52 to 59. Never opened.

60. Pietermaritzburg, Natal 18/1/43 to 26/2/43. Type A. These dates are as given officially but we actually have two specimens dated respectively 3/3/43 and 5/3/43.

SOUTH AFRICAN A.P.O.s IN THE UNITED KINGDOM

These offices were required mainly in connection with the repatriation of South African prisoners of war through Great Britain from Germany and elsewhere. The postal units were at first supplied by the British postal authorities with Field Post Office date-stamps of the type illustrated as "H" pending the prepara-

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G

H

tion of special South African daters of the type shown as "G".

After the latter were supplied,, however, the F.P.O. date stamps continued to be used; more were required than was at first thought would be necessary but the expense of cutting additional date stamps for the short period for which they would be used was not considered warranted.

As has been already recorded, these offices did not stock South African stamps but issued British ones when necessary. Actually the few covers we have seen which came to South Africa through one or other of these offices were all stampless, even those which came by air.

S.A. A.P.O. (UK) 1. Brighton 9/12/44 to 6/11/45. Postal matters concerning the H.Q. of the P.O.W. Reception Camp.

S.A. A.P.O. (UK) 2. Brighton 9/3/45 to 6/11/45. Additional to No. 1.

S.A. A.P.O. (UK) 3. Horsham 19/12/44 to 11/8/45. Non-European Reception Camp.

S.A. A.P.O. (UK) 4. At 33 Grand Arcade, Trafalgar Square, London W.C.1, 27/11/44 to 14/7/45 and then at ADM HQ 27 Princes Gate, Kensington, London S.W.7, till 28/11/45.

This office served South Africans on service with British Forces in the United Kingdom. All military mail addressed to (a) South Africa House, (b) S.A. Club, (c) S.A. Volunteer Service was dealt with here; it was also of service to ex-P.O.W.s on leave in London.

F.P.O. 419: Brighton 20/9/44 to 18/12/44 as additional dater in the H.Q. of the P.O.W. Reception Camp. Also Brighton 21/4/45 to 25/8/45 serving No. 3 Group of the P.O.W. Reception Camp.

F.P.O. 419 (a). Woodlands Camp, Great Missenden 30/8/44 to 18/9/44 serving the U.D.F. Repatriation Unit ex-P.O.W.s. Brighton 20/9/44 to 8/12/44 at H.Q., P.O.W. Reception Camp and Brighton 2/5/45 to 25/8/45 with No. 4 Group of the P.O.W. Reception Camp.

F.P.O. 151. Brighton 4/10/44 to 25/8/45 serving No. 1 Group of the P.O.W. Reception Camp.

F.P.O. 152. Brighton 4/10/44 to 25/8/45 with No. 2 Group of the P.O.W. Reception Camp.

F.P.O. 153. Horsham (Non-European Reception Camp) 1/11/44 to 18/12/44, Brighton 19/4/45 to 25/8/45 with No. 5 Group of the P.O.W. Reception Camp.

F.P.O. 153 (a). Preston Park, Brighton, 11/5/45 to 23/8/45 to serve No. 109 S.A. General Hospital.

REGISTRATION MARKS

No registered labels seem to have been used in the A.P.O.s but rubber stamp marks were commonly used to mark registered letters. These were all of one basic type, viz., a rectangle with a large "R" shut off by a vertical line in the left-hand end of the rectangle and the remainder divided by a horizontal line (except in two varieties) into two compartments. In the upper compartment was the number of the P.O., in the lower the serial number of the registered packet, this being always filled in in manuscript. The following varieties have been noted, the number of the A.P.O. given not being necessarily the only one with that particular variety of mark.

(1) A.P.O. 9, the 9 being in manuscript. (2) APO 5, all in type. (3) APO 16 /No., only the actual number being left to be filled in by hand. (4) S.A.A.P.O. 29. (5) A.P.O. 32. U. / No., again with the actual number only to be written in manuscript. (6) In this and the following variety there was no horizontal dividing line in the right-hand part of the rectangle. In three lines — Army Postal Service / A P O 10 / (number of article), the two lower lines being in manuscript. (7) In two lines — SAAPO 21 / No. . . . ., the 21 and the number of the article being in manuscript. (8) This variety, arranged usually like Var. (1) or (2), was entirely in manuscript, in indelible pencil or black ink.

Thanks are due to Mr. Roy Savage, of Kimberley, for several new recordings included in this list. Other recorders have been thanked in previous communications.

J. H. HARVEY PIRIE.

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This comprehensively illustrated and priced reference work, published in three parts, fulfils the catalogue needs of airmail collectors and opens up this most exciting of philatelic fields to the general philatelist.

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HOLLAND

A new series of National Help stamps was issued on 1st May. The values are 1½ + 3½, 2½ + 5, 5 + 10, 7½ + 15 and 12½ + 37½, all of one design—a lady (?Ceres) with a cornucopia. Thanks to "Mijn Hobby" for a first-day cover.

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JUST RECEIVED! BURMA PEACE SET, 4 values, fine used, 1/6 set; E.A.F., 2/6 mint, 3/3; fine used, 4/- each; EGYPT, new shades current air stamps, mint, 5 mills, 2d.; 10 mills, 3½d.; 25 mills, 7½d. each. New colour current 30 mill stamp, olive green, 9d. each.

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PEACE ISSUES, LATEST INFORMATION: There will be 96 stamps issued by Great Britain and 47 Crown Colonies and Protectorates with face value just over 20/-; my price is 24/6 post free. Delivery July and August.

As available in June or July, I shall deliver the following 34 stamps for 16/-, post free: New Zealand (11), N.Z. Dependencies (12), Australia (3), India (4) and Burma (4). Or complete set of 130 stamps, 40/- post free. *Price adjustments will be made on orders already booked.*

S.A. Philatelic Association—One of South Africa's largest Stamp Exchange Clubs—Details gladly supplied on request.

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Issued by the British P.O. during the German occupation. A historical souvenir of the war.
Set of Guernsey ½d., 1d. and 2½d., price 3/6
Set of Jersey Arms, ½d. and 1d., price .. 2/9
Set of Jersey Pictorials ½d. to 3d. 10/0
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Complete set Jersey & Guernsey 11 covers 30/0
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CORRESPONDENCE

The Editor,
South African Philatelist.

UNION STAMPS

Sir,—I was very pleased to read your editorial in the May issue regarding our South African rotogravure stamps, and also Mr. Sydow's letter on the same subject and his suggested issue for the Royal visit next year.

It is high time that the subject was ventilated, as our stamps are certainly not a credit nor an advertisement for this fine country.

Actually since the first King's Head issue in 1913 we have not had any outstanding designs, even the London printed Pictorial issue of 1926 could have been improved on, and when the same designs were taken for reproduction by Rotogravure, the result was far from inspiring.

What the Government Printers appear to ignore is the fact that Rotogravure is not just a cheap method of mass producing the same results as typography or recess printing, but that it requires a special technique of design.

Mass of detail and "fussiness" is hopeless with rotogravure. All the scrolls and fancy lettering, and minute detail merely make a washy mess in most cases. What is wanted is boldness of design, with the minimum of distractive detail.

I will give some examples of (1) the failures in our own stamps caused by the failure to recognise this principle, and (2) some outstanding examples of fine stamps produced by Rotogravure, where the design has been made to fit the process:—In our own stamps you can include practically all but I think one of the best (or worst) examples is the present War issue ½d., 3d., 4d. and 6d. All are more or less just coloured messes, and you have to look for the design or what the stamp really does represent. The present 2d. is the only one that tells you right away what it is meant to be and reproduces clearly. In the present Pictorial roto issue, the 1s. and the 5s. are the two that reproduce well by this process. The 4d. in this series is another example of the design of the stamp being lost in a mass of distracting detail, and giving a general brown washy appearance.

I sincerely hope that the present Pictorial 2d., of the Government Buildings, Pretoria, will be dropped. I think it is a ghastly thing.

Lastly I will mention the late lamented Victory set, and the least said here the better; I can only say that I think it was dreadful.

Now compare these I have mentioned with such issues as the current set of the Seychelles, printed by Rotogravure by Harrisons; the issue of King Edward the 8th, just a plain head on a shaded background; the British 1940 Centenary issue; the current issue of the Virgin Islands, etc., etc.

So far I have damned practically all our stamps, but if I may, I will just mention a few that I consider have reproduced well because their design suited the process:—

(1) The 1d. ship, when the headplate was well etched and the printing well executed, so that the ship stood out well. Latterly the headplate has tended to be washy and greyish and the stamp immediately becomes nondescript.
(2) The first bi-coloured 3d. of Groot Schuur.
(3) The first roto printings of the 1s. (Gnus).
(4) The 5s. (wagon).
(5) The Church of the Vow (the best of the Voortrekker issue).
(6) The Coronation issue (straightforward plain head).
(7) The 3d. Voortrekker Centenary (although here the colour went against the general appearance).
(8) And lastly the plain sailor's head of the War issue.

What I have written is of course entirely my own opinion, and probably many will disagree with me and proceed to tear me to pieces, still, if it provokes some reasoned discussion, it may lead to an improvement in our stamps, which is all that matters.

Yours, etc.,
G. N. GILBERT.

The Editor,
South African Philatelist.

A GREEK FIND (?)

Sir,—On going through the earlier issues of Greece I found something which might turn out a new "discovery." I should be very grateful if you could publish this letter so that perhaps one of your readers can solve what is to me a puzzle.

I am referring to the "Hermes" prints of Greece, in particular to the issues of 1886-88 and 1889-1895 (both imperforated, Belgian and Athens print). I have only a scanty knowledge in this field and also very few specimens to make a proper comparison. This, however, strikes me: On the values I have, viz.: 1, 5, 10 and 20 l nothing unusual can be observed. On my copy, however, of S.G. No. 122 (20 l on 25 l, blue Athens print) the following has been observed: With a magnifying glass clearly a white printed Roman "A D" can be seen on the left of the right-hand "25" at the bottom in the little blue space under the right half of the final vignette. It seems strange that the lower values of the same issue and design should not have the same printer's or engraver's mark and that Stanley Gibbons' Catalogue does not mention it. I should be very grateful indeed if anybody could tell me whether this mark is a common occurrence on all the 25 l respectively 20 l stamps of these issues.

Yours, etc.,
H. A. HOFMAN.

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To replenish our wholesale stocks we are constant buyers, in all parts of the world, of immense quantities of postage stamps, in both large and small individual lots.

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These perforation gauges are specially made for those requiring a reliable guaranteed accurate gauge. They are made in the form of a seven-inch rule and have a superb presentable finish. It is definitely a preferred gauge and thousands have been sold to satisfied clients including leading dealers and prominent philatelists. Have no doubt; it is THE gauge.

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West Indian Boxwood, 3s. each; ditto, with 90 mm. rule, 4s. each. Celluloid on Boxwood, 6s. each; ditto, with 90 mm. rule, 7s. each. "EBONIS," a patent black gauge with white markings, 15s. each. Elephant Ivory, 20s. each. The last two models include rule. All models range from 8 to 16 with ½ perfs. from 10. Postage 3d. Registration 3d. extra.

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KG VI ISSUES.

It's been our aim for many years to hold the most comprehensive range of stamps of the present reign in existence, and we know that we have succeeded. Another whim of ours is to only offer stamps of which we have sufficient to cover all likely demands during the currency of our list and as not one per cent. of the hundreds of orders which we dispatch each month go out incomplete, we have been as successful over our service as we have been over our stock.

All this is surely of supreme importance to oversea collectors who can only *afford* to order from the dealer who is most likely to send what they want.

We deal only in K.G. VI issues, and such is our confidence in their investment possibilities that all our not inconsiderable capital is locked up in these stamps, and come slumps or booms, we never lose a minute's sleep over their financial soundness. Yes, we know all about the digs they are given from certain quarters, but please believe us when we say that those attacks are anything but disinterested. They are only made by those who have axes to grind. Were there space, we could explain a lot on this point. Anyhow we have the stamps to offer and a postcard will bring you a copy of the most comprehensive list published of these fascination K.G. VI issues, for two shillings for a year's supply.

Here are a few offers, taken from that list, of sets which are absolutely complete: Ascension, perf. 13½ at 70/-; Bahamas (Nos. 149-60) at 52/-; Barbados (Nos. 248-56a) at 50/-; Bermuda (Nos. 110-21) at 110/-; Burma "MILY ADMN" at 42/6; Cayman (1938) at 42/6; Cyprus (151-63) at 52/6 (used at 50/-); Falkland (Nos. 98-109) at 65/-; Falkland Dep. (1944, 4 sets) at 20/-; Fiji (Nos. 249-66) at 85/- (used ditto); Jamaica (1938-41) at 28/-; St. Helena (1938-40) at 50/-; Seychelles (1938-41) at £10; Sierra Leone (1938-44) at 62/6. And so we could go on, but if you are just a collector with modest tastes and only want current sets to a shilling, or even the 3d., we will still be glad to cater for you, and all these sets for every country in the Commonwealth of British nations are shown in our list, as well as scores of obsolete stamps and all of the present reign. Just send that postcard and it will prove the finest step you ever made in building your collection.

P.S. We are anxious to buy a few mint horizontal pairs of South Africa 2d. blue and violet (No. 44b) and 2d. blue and violet (No. 58). We offer 5/- a pair for former and 2/6 a pair for latter.

The Commonwealth Stamp Coy.,

21, Cumberland St., Liverpool 1: England.

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KOREA

This country returns to the stamp album, after disappearing in 1904. There were a few crudely overprinted Japanese stamps put in use early this year, but a set has been announced for issue to 1 May with the national flag and a Korean family holding a torch of freedom as the designs.

U.S.A.

Atomic Bomb Censoring. In "Stamps" of 23rd February, Alan V. Hershey describes in detail the censoring arrangements made at Los Alamos, New Mexico, during the development of the atomic bombs there. This censorship was unique in the U.S.A. as it was the first time that censoring of post had been done with the continental limits of the country. Only entering mail was visibly censored; outgoing mail had to be left open and was sealed by the examiners.

Honourable Discharge Emblem Stamp. Issued on 9th May comes a 3c stamp featuring the emblem given on demobilisation and showing below it the caption "Honoring those who have served."

UNO's first proposed stamp. The "American Philatelist" reports that the Pitney-Bowes meter stamp makers have presented UNO with a meter stamp machine for use at "United Nations World City." If accepted for use it will be the first universal stamp.

Roosevelt Collection.

Mr. H. R. Harmer sent us a list of selected items with the prices they fetched. We only have space for two of these. He states that the total realisation at the two sales was £52,717; there were never less than 300 people at the sessions, many of them Roosevelt admirers rather than philatelists.

A faked sheet of Hitler stamps showing skull and cross-bones design printed in Switzerland and sent to widows and next-of-kin of German casualties by the Allies for propaganda purposes, and an underground newspaper "Frankfurter Zeitung" secretly printed and introduced by clandestine means into Germany together realised £415.

The sale of this world-famous collection closed with the offer of philatelic literature and it is interesting to note that a completely empty album inscribed "Franklin D. Roosevelt" brought £122!

Mr. S. G. Rich notifies us that in his list of the prices fetched by the Cape items, published in our last issue, a mistake was made over item 472 (Presentation cards of 1940 proofs of the Woodblocks). The price realised was £110 10s., not £43 15s. as stated. He wonders how Mr. Jurgens feels at his gift being *sold* at such a price!

★

CZECHOSLOVAKIA

There were due to be issued on 5th May two semi-postals and a souvenir sheet in memory of the first anniversary of regained freedom. They reproduce a famous painting of St. George fighting the dragon.

S.W.A.

Mr. C. Calitz, of Mossel Bay, submits an interesting variety of the 4d. triangular, perforated, Afrikaans overprint (S.G. No. 55). In addition to the normal perforation all round the stamp it has an additional line of perforation (14 holes in all) running parallel to the base of the stamp at the level of Hope's neck.

★

ARMY "CROSS CANCELLATIONS"

Referring to the article "Army P.O's—Real Allies'" in our February and March issue, the following additional records have been sent in of British F.P.O. marks on the stamps of other countries:

By Mr. J. F. Fick, Bremersdorp—on stamps of Bahram (opt. on India). This came from an R.A.F. Squadron.

By Col. Guy R. Crouch, England—on stamps of Gibraltar, Gambia and Gold Coast.

★

S. MARINO UNRRA STAMP

The little republic of San Marino has issued a gorgeous 100 L stamp, 2½ in. x 1½ in. with UNRRA on a globe in the sky; looking towards it a man and a woman resting at the foot of the background pile of rock, which is S. Marino. At the top is the inscription "Unus in Universo Animus" (one spirit throughout the world).

★

HUNGARY

There has appeared a set of eleven values with a common design, a workman with a hammer in his right hand and a broken chain dangling from the wrist. The inscription is "Magyar Posta" as in 1918-19, the "Kir." for Royal being dropped so this Kingdom without a King is apparently now a Republic.

★

MOZAMBIQUE

From Lourenco Marques comes word of a provisional 60c overprinted (very indistinctly) in red on the IE 75 (S.G. 372). Also a new set of Postage Dues for common use in all Portuguese colonies, there being no name of any particular colony on them.

★

POLISH ARMY IN ITALY

A set of four stamps, printed by the Italian Government Printing Works, has been issued for the Polish Corps and for Polish refugees in Italy. These may give catalogue makers some headaches in deciding whether or not to list them under "Poland." The Corps is said also to have issued another set of four.

★

HAITI

The Republic of Haiti has honoured Roosevelt's memory by the issue of two air stamps, 20 and 60c, in black with the design showing a mourning border round the President's portrait. The American philatelic press considers them as probably the finest Roosevelt stamps issued.

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REVIEWS AND NOTICES

STAMP COLLECTING, a new handbook, by Richard Curle. Gramol Publications, Ltd. London Price, three shillings and sixpence.

When I first read the title page I thought to myself that here must be another book reiterating what has been said over and over again about stamps and stamp collecting: it did not seem possible to say anything more in general, and this did not look like a specialist handbook detailing the results of latest research work.

But Mr. Richard Curle has achieved what might have been considered the impossible—he has written our story with a thrilling newness, freshness and imagination that revivifies the stamp world and rekindles our enthusiasm. There may be nothing new in the book—but he has a remarkably new way of telling it, and gives us the impression that we are reading and learning something new. And so we are, because his way of telling so illumines the story that we see lots of things as never before.

Primarily the book is a first-class guide to the intelligent beginner, but there is something in every page for the advancing and advanced collector. He tells what to collect and how to collect; and in a hundred or so pages covers the whole subject adequately and comprehensively.

There is such a lot of good horse sense that I can conscientiously recommend every beginner to read it, and even the advanced collector and specialist will pick up knowledge, hints and advice which he now probably thinks to himself he is not in need of. Read and see for yourself.

A.E.B.

Robson Lowe's REVIEW, 1944-1945, is an interesting record of their activities at 50 Pall Mall, London, and at Bournemouth. The booklet deals with outright sales for cash, private treaty and auction sales. The auction sales are general, specialised and postal history sales.

Associated activities are the Regent Stamp Co. (specialising in British Empire material), stamp exchange clubs and various publications.

Business continues to increase and there is no evidence of any falling off of interest or value in philately.

There are many fine illustrations of the most interesting material dealt with during the period under review.

Collectors' Wants & Offers

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

Beginners and medium collectors — try our approval service.
Benoni Stamp Shop, Box 485, Benoni.

Liberia: Collections, sets, single stamps, etc., wanted for specialised collection.
Bennett, Box 733, Capetown.

Exchange desired with collectors in all countries from the North Pole to the South Pole. Send 50 or 100 different varieties of your country and receive in return 50 or 100 different United States of EQUAL VALUE. No torn or damaged stamps given or wanted—only stamps off paper exchanged. We exchange value for value.
W. L. Bedard, Post Office Box 637, Detroit 31, Michigan, U.S.A.

Control strips of Union and Transvaal also mint blocks, cards and envelopes of many African countries.
E. Tamsen, Box 13, Nylstroom.

East African and Zanzibar mint and used stamps of King George V and VI, ready for sale at cheap prices. Approvals sent on request. Postage extra. Best chance for beginners. Interested should communicate immediately.
N. K. Dhanani, P.O. Box 105, Mwanza, T.T., B.E.A.

Bechuanaland stamps wanted, all issues specially S.G. 3, 7, 8, 18, 19, 20, 25, 29, 48, 49, 83 to 87, 99 to 110 mint and used. High prices paid.
Reply: Box 260, Durban.

Fine British Colonials:

Selections of the above are sent on approval to serious collectors against references.

Range 1. Early issues, which can be selected from at one-third of catalogue price.

Range 2. Modern issues (1900 on) in mint state, mostly at 50% off catalogue.

Range 3. Modern issues (1900 on) superb used, mostly at 50% off catalogue.

J. BIRD, 116, Highlands Heath, London, S.W.15, England

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DO YOU COLLECT STAMPS OR GUM?

This question is not so silly as it may seem at first sight. Collectors (or some of them, at any rate) at times pay an enormous price for gum, even if they are ostensibly paying it for a stamp.

A recent American publication dealing with stamps as an investment, quotes the case of the 10 c. U.S.A. stamp of 1847, listed by Scott at $500 with full original gum, while it is quoted "unused," i.e., without gum, at $150.

In other words, the gum is reckoned as worth $350, which is absurd, as old Euclid might have said. And what an invitation for the clever fellows who can re-gum such an "unused" stamp in a manner that will fool most collectors!

This may be an extreme case, but we are all familiar with milder examples of this solicitude for gum. Absolutely "mint" stamps are often quoted at, and fetch more than, unused ones with, say, a small thin spot in the gum, or with a trace of the mark of a hinge on the gum.

Why have we this strange convention attributing such added value to "original gum"?

It may be admitted, of course, that in a few cases something about the gum, such as its colour, is of diagnostic value in distinguishing one printing from another, but this only applies to a very small minority of stamps.

Gum on the back of a stamp is certainly a great convenience for sticking it on a letter, but apart from the few cases just referred to, what is its philatelic value? To the collector mounting his stamps in an album, isn't it really a beastly nuisance? It isn't seen and it always tends to make the stamps curl and so get creased and become unsightly.

And if this weren't enough, there are some gums which crack and the cracks extend into the paper and ruin the stamps, while there are others which change chemically and stain the stamps.

In years to come many stamps kept with gum on will be worthless. Could we not get rid of this stupid convention of paying for gum, and wash it off our unused stamps before mounting them? We would have better collections if we did.

★ ★ ★

GERMANY

A unified series for the whole of occupied Germany is reported as having been issued early in February. There are 19 values, ranging from 1 to 80 pf. The stamps are of different colours but all of one design, a plain numeral framed in a milled border and the inscription "Deutsche Post." This will presumably mean an end to the numerous local issues and soon, if not at once, to the AMGOT issues.

★

INDONESIA

There are now beginning to come to light, although some of them date back nearly a year, various Dutch East Indies and Japanese occupation of Java stamps overprinted "Repoeblik Indonesia" with bars obliterating the former country name.

THE STAMP GAME IN RUSSIA

Mr. R. A. Davies has a very interesting article under the above title in "Scott's Monthly Journal" for February. Some of the facts brought out are as follows:—

The number of Russian collectors is very large. The first and major dealer is the State, which sells stamps through three outlets.

(a) The post offices. Sales of complete sets here, especially of new issues, is limited so as not to encourage speculation. Proceeds of sales naturally benefit the post office funds.

(b) Retail stores managed by the State Union of Publishing Houses. This sells wholesale. All new issues can be obtained at a slightly higher than face cost and full or part sets of obsolete issues are also obtainable with, now and then, foreign stamps. Profits of sales here are earmarked for the benefit of orphan homes.

(c) A special Philatelic Agency for the sale of Soviet stamps abroad; their sale swells the Soviet's holding of foreign exchange.

There are also quite a number of private dealers.

The need for stamps inside the U.S.S.R. is enormous. The numerous new issues are not in the main connected with foreign selling possibilities but are educational.

Cancelling to Order: If this were not done "used" stamps would be almost unknown in collections for three reasons (1) Most letters are folded so that the stamps are used to keep them shut and the letters are opened by tearing the stamp across. (2) Most stamps have very poor gum; they are pasted on with horrible post office glue, which does keep them in place, but generally stains them badly—not one in ten can be soaked off clean. (3) Mail bags are always crammed full and are frequently changed many times en route with the result that the stamps become dusty, torn or are lost altogether.

Russian collectors are active and the Government is meeting them more than half-way. But so far the philatelic side has not been run very intelligently, and there is a thrilling field for research. There are numerous items of which the numbers issued are very small and there are lots which have never been catalogued at all.

★ ★ ★

AUSTRALIA

New Official Perforated Stamps: According to an Australian correspondent of "Linn's Weekly Stamp News," the Commonwealth has gone back to an older fashion in connection with its "official" stamps. Instead of perforating or imprinting them with the letters O.S., they are now using the perforated initials of each of the states making up the Commonwealth; this is probably far easier accounting with the individual states. It adds a big new field for Commonwealth collectors.

A Queensland Commemorative: There is to be issued soon a stamp honouring Sir T. Mitchell, who was the discoverer of the rich central Queensland pastoral lands.

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SOCIETY NEWS

PRETORIA PHILATELIC SOCIETY

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

4th May: This meeting was mainly given over to the Society's annual Allan Cup and the Pretoria Plaque Competitions. The entries that were received were of a very high standard, especially that of Mr. Fredericks who easily carried off the Allan Cup for 1946 with his really fine collection of stamps depicting maps under the title of "Stamp Cartography"; this once again showed what could be done with but a very few stamps if they were really properly written up. Mr. Wright was awarded the second prize for his "Outline collection of the stamps of the British Empire during the reign of Queen Victoria." The Pretoria Plaque certificate for the year went to Mr. Oppenheim who entered his "Postal History and Stamps of Austria." Here again the quality of what we saw would take a lot to better or even equal.

20th May: Again I have the pleasure of reporting that attendances and new members enrolled are on the "up and up" which augurs well for the success of philately as a hobby. The main feature for the evening was a talk and demonstration of the Society's "Analytical Quartz Lamp" given by Mr. J. Wilson.

The most striking and useful effect of ultra-violet rays in causing fluorescence found wide fields of application because many things that look alike to the unaided eye can at once be distinguished from each other by this aid—adulterations of wheat, butter and coffee to mention but three. Fluorescence is a valuable tool in museums—paintings, books, documents, ceramics, glassware, postage stamps and many objects that are often counterfeited, altered or repaired are shown-up for what they are. In the field of philately Mr. Wilson showed how fiscal cancellations cleaned off with Oxalic acid and touched up were easily revealed, and how oil faked watermarks glowed with an unmistakable fluorescence never shown by a genuine watermark. The characteristic fluorescence of different inks was demonstrated which had a practical use in helping to distinguish local printed stamps from those printed elsewhere, as was the case with the first Union pictorials; this was carried on a step when we were shown comparisons between three forged copies of the Newfoundland 5d. of the Perkins Bacon 1857-62 and a genuine stamp. A further spectacular comparison was provided when a forged £5 stamp of the Edwardian Transvaal issue was shown next to a genuine stamp.

J.W.

★

PORT ELIZABETH PHILATELIC SOCIETY

President, G. K. Forbes; *Hon. Sec.,* D. G. Y. Malcolm, P.O. Box 458, Port Elizabeth; *Meetings,* 1st and 3rd Tuesdays in City Hall Basement, at 7.45 p.m.

The annual general meeting was held in City Hall Basement on Tuesday, 21st May, and was well attended.

It was a pleasure to see Mr. Sheffield, as he is not able to attend the meetings as often as we would like.

Mr. Campbell has returned to Cradock, and will be greatly missed.

After the Secretary read the minutes and correspondence, and the balance sheets were dealt with, the officers left their chairs for fresh nominations, but most of them were returned unopposed.

The only changes being Mr. Harmer in place of Mr. Wicks as Vice-President, and Mr. Brassil in place of Mr. P. Smith on the Auction Committee.

We are pleased to say that three ladies have joined recently, and I sincerely hope more will follow.

The Syllabus for the year was then drawn up, and all members will receive a copy next meeting.

The President then thanked his colleagues for their loyal support, and the meeting closed at 9.45 p.m.

L.E.C.

THE PHILATELIC SOCIETY OF JOHANNESBURG

President, Mr. E. C. Sprighton; *Hon. Sec. (Acting),* P.O. Box 4967; *Meetings,* 2nd Tuesdays, Public Library, 7.45 p.m.

At the meeting held on May 14th the exhibit was provided by Dr. J. H. Harvey Pirie, who showed his unique collection of Antarctic stamps and covers. Dr. Pirie introduced his exhibit by a talk on the Antarctic posts. The exhibit included covers from Tristan Da Cunha from very early times showing different cancellations. Practically every mail from the Island since 1916 was represented. Many were carried by His Majesty's ships.

Amongst the other covers were some from Gough Island, Bouvet Island, Kerguelen, King Edward VII Land and Victoria Land.

Amongst the Antarctic expeditions represented by covers were Shackleton's, Scott's first and second, and Byrd's. Amongst stamps shown were Tierra del Fuego, Falkland Islands, King Edward VII Land and Victoria Land. The exhibit included covers from the Argentine meteorological station in South Orkneys.

Commander Enoch, who is well acquainted with the Antarctic, spoke on the exhibit. F.I.

★

CAPE TOWN PHILATELIC SOCIETY

President, L. Simenhoff; Hon. Secretary, S. Kagan-son, P.O. Box 1973; Meetings, 2nd and 4th Thursdays at Yorkshire Buildings, Strand Street, at 7.30 p.m.

Thursday, 28th February: Dr. Follen had the floor at this meeting and gave us one of his "Travel Displays," this time from Cairo to Cape Town via the West Coast. The Egyptian Aviation Congress set was the first item displayed, and the display ended up with a pre-postal cover of the Cape and a selection of Cape triangulars. En route stamps of the various West Coast countries were shown, Liberia, Gambia, Sierra Leone, Nigeria, etc., with trips across to St. Helena and Ascension and then back to S.W.A. when there were many interesting items including a 10s. German Eagle with no overprint used in S.W.A. Interesting here, too, was a Cape Hope seated used at Walfish Bay. A first flight cover of the 3d. and 10d. S.W.A. air mails was also a nice item in this section.

Dr. Follen in an interesting little chat took us all along with him on his journey, and explained many items displayed.

Thursday, April 11th: There was a large attendance of both members and visitors at this meeting when Mr. B. L. Cock gave us some more of his "Philatelic Medley." This proved to be as the title explained, varied and interesting. Among the fairly wide range of subjects displayed were a few pages dealing with Postal History, Explanation of Philatelic Terms, and a few pages dealing with "Medicine in Philately." Here were displayed stamps portraying Koch, Roentgen, Curie, etc., with short write ups on their various contributions to the science of medicine. This section was rounded off with the story of the Christmas stamps and a display of the Health Stamps of New Zealand. Other interesting pages displayed some of the more modern issues of the U.S.A. on first day covers.

Mr. Mummery occupied the chair at this meeting on account of the sad bereavement suffered by our President, Mr. Simenhoff, in the loss of his father.

Thursday, April 25th: The attendance was again up to standard at this meeting when one of the younger members of the Society, Mr. L. Hirschsohn, gave his first public display.

The subject was "Commemoratives of the British Empire," an interesting subject for collection and of very wide scope. The exhibitor certainly gave a very comprehensive display, all beautifully written up and arranged most artistically.

Many of the elusive commemoratives were shown in complete sets, Falklands, Cyprus, Wilberforce, etc., but one of the outstanding items were blocks of four of the 1919 New Zealand "Peace Issue" imperforate. This is very rare in this condition as only one sheet of each value is known to have been issued.

Thursday, May 9th: This was an "All Members" meeting, but the response was somewhat disappointing, and only one member who had not previously displayed, tabled some sheets. Mr. S. F. Rothon gave us a few pages from his British Empire collection. The outstanding feature of the exhibit was the ex-

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cellent manner in which it was written up—penmanship of the first order, neat, artistic and a real pleasure to look at. Mr. E. C. Solomon, although a frequent exhibitor, gave us something new from his "A to Z Collection," this time the letter "C" denoting, naturally, "Capes."

The sheets displayed were very interesting, and contained many outstanding items. One of the most interesting of all was a page of forgeries, one or two of which would defy detection by a great majority of collectors.

Another fine item was a strip of four of the B.P. issue of Mafeking on cover.

B.L.C.

★

JEWISH GUILD PHILATELIC SECTION

Chairman, Mr. H. Marcuson; *Hon. Sec.,* Mr. I. Isaacs, 910 His Majesty's Buildings, Eloff Street, Johannesburg; *Meetings,* last Thursdays, at the Jewish Guild Memorial Hall, Von Brandis Street, Johannesburg.

At the meeting held on April 25th, two exhibits were provided by Mr. J. Shepherd, who showed Sudan and Newfoundland. The Sudan exhibit was practically complete from early issues to the most modern. The rare Palm set was complete. Gordon commemoratives were included as well as all the air stamps.

The Newfoundland exhibit was strong in the early issues and almost complete in the moderns. The Coronation sets of 1910 and 1911, in both printings, the Caribou set, and the Gilbert set, were included amongst the commemoratives shown. Amongst the air mail stamps were the Alcock and Brown, Halifax, Dornier, Labrador and Balbo. The modern definitive issues were complete.

Dr. Kaplan spoke on the Sudan exhibit and Mr. Isaacs spoke on the Newfoundland exhibit.

I.I.

★ ★ ★

PRETORIA PHILATELIC SOCIETY
ANSWERS TO QUESTIONS

The answers to the 10 questions given in the Pretoria Society News column last month are as follows:—

1. Great Britain, Natal, Gambia, Heligoland and New Republic.
2. India, Burma, W. Australia, Tonga; Union, S. Rhodesia, Kenya, Bechuanaland, Basutoland and Swaziland.
3. Newfoundland with an opt. of 65 letters and numerals.
4. For the payment of postage and duty on parcels of tobacco from the Channel Is. by American companies.
5. Queensland.
6. Prussian blue error of colour in the 2½d.
7. Transvaal, Bechuanaland and Rhodesia.
8. The £20 Natal at £750.
9. Leeward Islands.
10. British Consular mail stamps of Madagascar.

★

NEWFOUNDLAND PROVISIONAL

Owing to a temporary shortage of the proper paper, the order for 2 c. stamps could not be filled and recourse was had to overprinting the 30 c. red airmail stamp with "TWO/CENTS." The number overprinted was small, with the result that speculators got busy and the whole stock was bought up on the day of issue. Some of the U.S.A. philatelic papers hint at a tie-up between the P.O. and speculators, as it is not the first time this sort of thing has occurred.

NEW ZEALAND

Mr. E. G. Cowell writes that the issue of the Peace Stamps was deferred to 1st April because difficulties concerned with local distribution made it impossible to ensure that they would be in the hands of all post offices on 1st March and this is a point on which the postal authorities strongly insist.

The Pictorial Issue.—As most collectors of New Zealand stamps are aware, the pictorial issue has been in current use since 1st May, 1935, when the attractive set was issued with the single watermark and recessed printed (except the 9d. value) on "Wiggins Teape" unsurfaced esparto or rag paper. The 9d. value alone was surfaced-printed on a rag paper. From 1936 onwards the various values were released with the multiple watermark on many grades of "Jones" unsurfaced paper—the 9d. value being produced surface-printed on "Jones" esparto paper. Since that re-issue date the various values have been released with many distinguishable shades, papers and perforations and this pictorial issue offers the painstaking collector a field of interesting study.

Further, during the period the printing has been entrusted to various firms in London and it has been ascertained that arising out of the London "blitz" the plates were transferred from one firm to another in order to assure supplies to the Dominion. These "blitzed" printings can readily be distinguished in many cases by colour, paper, perforations, plate numbers and general format. It is not difficult to assemble a collection of these "blitzed" printings.

When Japan entered the war and an invasion of New Zealand became a possibility, the postal department took the precaution of placing supplies of postage stamps in various places throughout the Dominion. During the last nine months these "secreted supplies" have been taken back into the normal stock and released to the post offices for sale. Hence the reappearance of such items as the 4d. in 14 line perf., the 6d. pale scarlet perf. 12½, the 8d. deep brown perf. 12, and even the 3s. perf. 12½—just to mention a few of the reported "finds."

Many collectors are making a special study of this issue and it is hoped that before long the results of the researches will be published for the information of collectors throughout the world.

★ ★ ★

NORWAY

Norway issued on 28th March a 15— stamp inscribed "Wings for Norway" honouring "Little Norway," the training camp for Norwegian airmen, which was located near Toronto. The design shows two pilots and has the coats-of-arms of Norway and Canada.

★

GREECE

Two stamps, 130 and 300 dr., appeared on 25th March with a portrait of the celebrated statesman Venizelos, whose death occurred ten years back.

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(Society report)

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RELEASED BY THE

South African Railways

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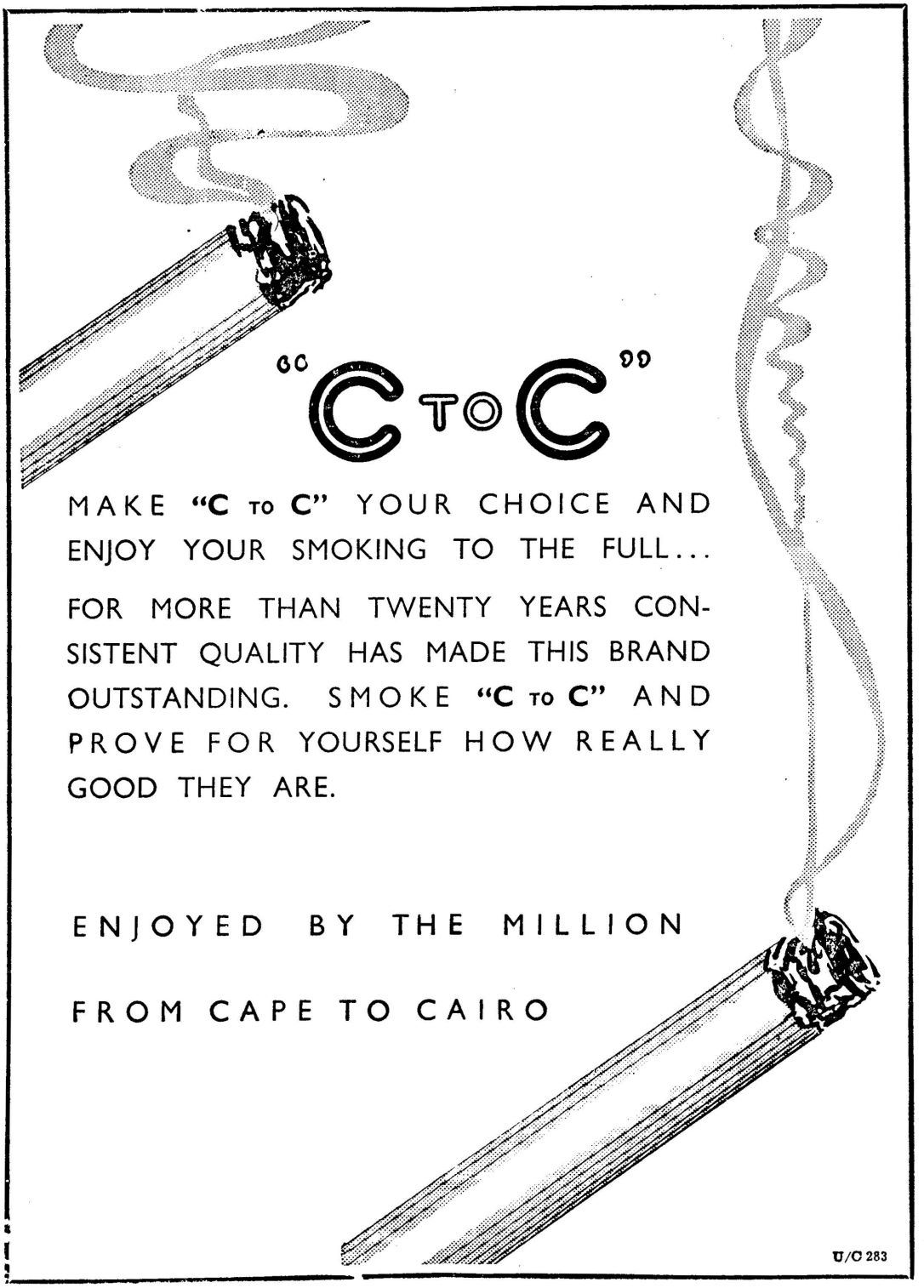

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Proprietors and Publishers:

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Vol. 22, No. 7. **JULY, 1946.** **Whole No. 256**

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Proprietors and Publishers:

The Philatelic Federation of Southern Africa

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Vol. 22, No. 7. **JULY, 1946.** **Whole No. 256**

Editorially Speaking

GOING TO PRESS

Our intention for long has been to get each monthly number out as near the beginning of the month as possible. Latterly, we know that we have failed rather badly in getting this good intention carried out; there are two main reasons for this, one of which can and will be put right, but the other is not so easily remedied.

The matter which can be put right is the unnecessary delay in sending in copy on the part (a) of advertisers, (b) of Society Secretaries. To get the magazine out anywhere reasonably near the first of each month it is essential that copy should be in the printers' hands by the 25th of the preceding month. As things are, advertisements and Society reports keep dropping in any time up to about the 5th or 6th of the month in which they are due to appear. We purpose in the future to apply the date line rigidly—so you have been warned!

Society Secretaries are asked, also, not to make their reports too long. Give only essentials and remember that such reports are meant for the reading of philatelists in general; they are not meant to serve as full minutes of the meetings, much of which is of interest only to local members.

The other reason for delay is the printers, and here we must walk warily. All printers these days are up to their necks in work, and the end of the month is always a specially busy time. It is of no use threatening to leave and go elsewhere—the answer would be to the effect: "O.K. We don't mind. We have more than enough to do as it is." All we can do is to go hat-in-hand and say: "Please, Mr. Printer, if we have all our copy in to you by the 25th for certain, will you try to let us have the proofs back by the 3rd or 4th of the next month?" This we purpose doing and will hope for the best.

SELLING STAMPS

Some time ago a reader asked us to "start a hare" on the subject of collectors selling stamps to dealers. He put forward the proposition that few ordinary collectors were au fait with market values and trends and were at a great disadvantage when they had to realise on their stamps.

Ordinary advertisements in the philatelic press were of little value in assessing a general collection and catalogues (which are all of dealers' selling prices) show considerable variations.

He goes on to say: "Why do American dealers make offers for material they are willing to buy, while British and South African dealers will not do so?" This statement seems to us somewhat too all-embracing as regards American dealers. Messrs. H. E. Harris & Co., for example, in a booklet describing their operations in general and their importing department in particular, state: "We are always on the look-out for new offers, and always interested in receiving your quotations . . . . if your merchandise and prices are satisfactory, you will find us a constant buyer." It would be interesting, however, to know the views of local dealers. Dealers, after all, are there to make a livelihood, not just for the benefit of collectors, and in practically all commerce it is usual for the seller to state his price first.

However, if stamp dealers found it to their advantage to give their buying prices, there can be little doubt but what the procedure would spread.

In recent writings on some phases of this subject we have seen 20 per cent. quoted as a reasonable margin between buying and selling prices. Do many dealers work on such a margin? One recent instance quoted showed that a dealer (assuming he was able to sell immediately at current market rates—which is, perhaps, an out-sized assumption) would have had profits of 31, 42, 59 and 125 per cent. on a series of purchases.

We can see many difficulties in the way of a dealer stating firm buying prices, but it would be interesting to have collectors' reasoned views as to the desirability of such a practice and dealers' views as to its practicability.

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UNION NOTES

Small Sized "Victories"

The Windsor Stamp Co. draws attention to a smaller size in the 3d. Victory stamp due to the perforation process. The 10th row measures from 22 to 23mm. as against the normal 24 mm.

Have others noted this in the 3d. and/or in the other denominations?

6d. Bantam Variety

Mr. Brown reports that at a recent meeting of the Pretoria Philatelic Society there was shown a vertical strip (with marginal 240 in violet) with top, bottom and side margins. On the top the bottom of the word "Certificates" was 7½mm. from the top frame line of the stamps, while at the bottom the words "Make" or "Dra" of the advertisements were printed on the stamps themselves, partly obliterating the words "South" or "Suid."

Overprinted "Victories"

At the meeting there were shown:—

(1) A vertical strip, 3-stamps wide, full depth of the sheet of the 3d. overprinted "Bechuanaland." The top row was without overprint; the 2nd to 20th rows had the overprint 4 mm. from the top frame line of the stamps, while the overprint occurred on the plain bottom margin 5 mm. below the perforations at the bottom of the lowest row of stamps.

(2) A vertical strip, 3-stamps wide and 10-stamps deep of the 3d. overprinted "Basutoland," the sheet number being 1911. In this the overprint was 5 mm. from the bottom frame line of the stamps, this being above the "South Africa" and "Suid-Afrika."

Catalogue Fund Acknowledgments

The following further sums are acknowledged with thanks:—

Mr. W. N. Sheffield, Johannesburg	£1	1	0
Dr. Neil R. Smuts, Johannesburg ..	2	2	0
Mr. G. K. Forbes, Port Elizabeth	1	1	0
Port Elizabeth Philatelic Society	1	1	0
J. A. Scrimgeour, Kirkwood ..	1	1	0

Last month it was stated that "any profits on the Catalogue would go to Federation general funds." This is incorrect, they will go to a special publications fund as a nucleus for future handbooks.

South African A.P.O.s—A Correction

In last month's article on South African Post Offices a slight mistake was made in connection with the offices in the United Kingdom. In the last line, col. 2, p. 87, the "H" should be "G" and on the second line, col. 1, p. 88, the "G" should be "H."

Durban Congress. The committee of the Philatelic Society of Natal informs us that there will definitely be no Congress meeting in Durban in October of this year.

★

SIERRA LEONE

The latest released printing of the 1½d. is of a much lighter mauve than any previous issue.

NOT PRIMARILY FOR POSTAL PURPOSES

Under this title Mr. L. J. McCauley, in "Stamps" of 9th March, deals with the problem of how philatelists should face up to some of the issues of these times.

He asks pointedly: Are semi-postals primarily for postal purposes? And what about the stamps of Pitcairn, S. Georgia and such-like sparsely populated islands? And what of many of the stamps of Liechtenstein? Then there is the flood of cancelled-to-order issues, the commemorative epidemic, the Free French wholesale distribution methods, etc. Is all this material primarily for postal purposes? We must be honest and answer "No." Should such stamps be excluded from catalogue listing? Or if not, why not?

Philatelists are becoming increasingly the victims of so-called "painless" taxation, but some day soon the geese that lay the golden eggs will be taxed to death. If they like it, that is their affair, but it is becoming apparent that an increasing number of collectors do NOT like it.

As a solution he proposes world co-operation amongst catalogue makers and: (1) No stamp should be listed unless it has been distributed to every major post office in the country of issue (legitimate errors excepted). This would put an end to speculation and sky-rocketing competition. (2) For a semi-postal to gain listing the percentage of contribution in relation to its postal value should be strictly controlled.

These suggestions are admirable, but we fear there are still too many mugs amongst collectors for them to come about just yet. But the time must come.

★

BRITISH COLONIAL NOTES

St. Lucia. The 8d. stamp issued, along with the 3s. and £1 stamps, on 8th February, was originally of a chestnut colour. A later printing has appeared of quite a different shade of brown, best described as chocolate.

Fiji. The 2d. green appearing in May proved to be perf. 12. This makes it likely that other colonial stamps of this format printed by De la Rue (Gibraltar, Montserrat, etc.,) may show a similar perforation.

Barbados. The 3d. brown supplies are exhausted and will be replaced by a blue when the "Victories" are finished and the 2½d. blue will be dropped. The latter is likely to be a very good item.

Newfoundland is expected to have a long set of "Victory" stamps.

Bechuanaland. The "Victories" of this Protectorate look like being by far the best of the Southern African Victory stamps; few British dealers got their full supplies.

South African stamps in general, which at one time could hardly be given away, are now very popular and a number of items are almost unobtainable and are fetching several times catalogue prices.

Commonwealth Stamp Coy.

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1	Austria, 1 plus 10 shg. Charity m.	5/6
11	Aden Kathiri, KGVI ½a. to 5rs. cpl. m.	18/6
11	Ditto Quaiti, KGVI ½a. to 5rs. cpl. m.	18/6
11	Ascension K.G.VI ½d. to 10/- m.	27/6
35	Belgium, various recent Charities. m.	10/6
10	Brazil, various recent large commemos, u.	3/6
12	Br. Somaliland, G.VI, ½a. to 5rs. m.	27/6
13	Ceylon G.VI, 2c. to 5rs., used	9/6
202	Coronation 1937, Empire cpl. mint	88/6
756	Ditto., in mint blocks of four	335/0
7	Greenland, 1o. to 1kr. mint	3/9
7	Ionian Isles, Ital. Occup. mint	1/6
21	Italy 1945 Liberation cpl. with airs, etc.	9/6
6	Jamaica Constitution cpl. mint	22/6
12	Mauritius G.VI 2c. to 10rs. cpl. m.	37/6
1	Palestine Pictorial £1 fine used	17/6
12	Sweden various recent commemos, u.	3/0
3	Tonga Jubilee, on Tin Can Mail cover cpl.	7/6

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RARE STAMP FIND

HIDDEN IN PALACE FOR 100 YEARS
8/- IN 1840 — NOW £5,000

A valuable find of rare early British stamps has just occurred at Dalkeith Palace, a Scottish ducal seat. It is assumed that they were purchased by the great-grandfather of the present Duke of Buccleuch.

A remarkable part sheet of 48 of one of the world's first stamps, the 2d. blue of 1840, was discovered in an old leather travelling writing set, on a table in the palace library. The block of stamps, comprising the bottom four rows of the sheet, is unused and in extremely fine condition and has remained hidden for over 100 years until discovered by Mr. Alexander Martin, the Duke's secretary, with 55 penny stamps of the less valuable red-brown issue of 1841. In the writing set, beside the stamps, was lying a quill pen, pencils, sealing wax and 21 embossed letter seals bearing the initial "B" surmounted by the ducal crown.

The two pieces have been handed to Messrs. H. R. Harmer, the Bond Street stamp auctioneers, and will be sold in the near future, either at auction or by private treaty. They may realise over £5,000 against an original price of 12s. 7d. An official of the firm said: "The block of 2d. stamps is probably the most valuable philatelic piece in so far as British stamps are concerned. An almost complete sheet—there were 240 stamps to the sheet—once existed in the late Lord Crawford's collection, but this was cut up many years ago. An unused block of four is to-day worth around £300."

The block of 2d. stamps has the side and bottom margins intact and the inscription beneath the bottom row reads: "PRICE 2d. Per Label. 2/- Per Row of 12. £2/-/- Per Sheet. Place the Labels ABOVE the Address and towards the RIGHT HAND SIDE of the letter. In Wetting the Back be careful not to remove the Cement."

Two different plates were employed for the production of the 2d. stamp and this block was printed from Plate 2, which went to press on the 21st July, 1940, the distribution to post offices commencing around the beginning of October of that year. Blocks of the stamp printed from Plate 2 are decidedly rarer than Plate 1.

Walter Francis became the fifth Duke of Buccleuch and seventh Duke of Queensberry in 1819 and was Lord Privy Seal from 1842 to 1846.

Information Supplied by Messrs. H. R. Harmer

Later.—The "Buccleuch" find has sold by private treaty for £6,300 to an English collector who wishes to remain anonymous. This block of 2d. blue stamps is without doubt the most valuable British philatelic piece extant and it is in the exclusive group of philatelic rarities—probably less than a dozen—worth more than £5,000.

★

GREAT BRITAIN

28th Philatelic Congress

This was held at Brighton on May 14 to 17, and from the number of delegates nominated to attend should have been a record in size. Our business manager, Mr. W. Redford, should have been there as a South African representative, but we understand he was delayed in New York and could not arrive in time.

We are indebted to Messrs. C. Drewe and Francis J. Field for souvenir envelopes showing the specially designed postmark. The Congress also had attractive miniature sheets of four stamps (views of Brighton) printed in four different colours, sold at 2s. 6d. per set of four. If any further mementos of the Congress were required, you could have a special registered label or covers sent by registered post from the Congress P.O.

Our congratulations to Messrs. H. C. V. Adams, Frank Godden and the Rev. J. Mursell, who were elected at Congress to the British Roll of Distinguished Philatelists.

Although not connected with the Congress, we may also offer here our congratulations to Messrs. B. Goodfellow, E. W. Mann and P. L. Pemberton on having been elected foreign corresponding members of the French Académie de Philatelie. This is a special honour as the Academie is a somewhat exclusive society, with membership limited to forty ordinary members, and it is only when a seat becomes vacant that a new member is elected — in secret. A similar procedure governs the election of foreign corresponding members.

Victory Stamps

These were duly issued on June 11. They are really more representative of peace and reconstruction than of victory, although the 2½d. has a pleasing V-effect through shades of blue of varying depth; it has outline drawings as a background of a road-roller, a dwelling house, a factory and a steamship. The 3d. features the dove of peace, a portion of a brick wall with builders' tools. Prosaic subjects, one might say, to appear on stamps, but both the ideas suggested and the effects produced are, we think, distinctly good.

We have to thank "The Gen," Mr. C. Drewe and Col. G. R. Crouch for first-day covers.

★

HUNGARY

Hungarian stamps are now really an "inflation" issue, the inscription being "Ezer. P," meaning "Thousand Pengoes." The figure of value, in pengoes, must therefore be multiplied by 1,000. They run up to 1,000 x 1,000.

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The Source of Supply

When we decided to book space in your own magazine, we were acting on the advice of an old South African collector who had recently come home to enjoy a well earned rest (Alas he didn't like what we call the sun and he is back again in Cape Town). On seeing our price-list he remarked that some Cape collectors he knew would give their back teeth for a chance to buy some of the items we were offering, at the prices we were charging and why didn't we offer "down south."

Well, here we are, offering you for two shillings a year's supply of our price list, or a specimen copy for a postcard request.

Now make no mistake about it. We claim to have a more comprehensive stock of K.G. VI stamps than any other firm either in Great Britain or any other country. In making this claim we have everything to lose and nothing to gain, if we are simply boosting. But we are not boosting, and already a number of South African collectors know this for the truth, for not only have we received a number of applications for our list, but we have dispatched to the extent of 100 per cent. the orders which resulted from the receipt of those lists; and incidentally mark that point 100 per cent. We only list stamps of which we have sufficient in stock to cover all likely orders and surely that is of great importance to those collectors who are sick and tired of ordering stamps, only to be told "Sorry we have sold out, what else do you want?" But there are times when orders exceed stock, when without peradventure back goes your cash by return of post, unless we are specifically instructed to the contrary.

Just one more point. We have been retailing stamps for over thirty years, though it is only recently that we entered the overseas field. We specialize in K.G. VI issues, and those South African collectors who do likewise are urged to give us a chance, but don't forget we cater for all classes; beginners as well as the most advanced specialists. All will find an abundance in our price-list.

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JOHANNESBURG

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The Machine Postmarks of The Union of South Africa 1910-1942

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

(Continued from page 79 of May issue)

Date-Cylinders.	Machines	$6\frac{3}{8}''$		$5\frac{3}{4}''$		$4\frac{1}{4}''$	$3\frac{1}{8}''$		$2\frac{1}{2}''$		$3\frac{1}{8}''$	
		Black.	Red.	Black.	Red.	Black.	Black.	Red.	Black.	Red.	Triangles Black	Total
Bloemfontein		1	1	—	—	2	—	—	5	2	—	11
Benoni		—	—	—	—	—	—	—	2	—	—	2
Brakpan		—	—	—	—	—	—	—	2	—	—	2
Boksburg		1	—	—	—	—	—	—	1	—	—	2
Cape Town		—	—	—	—	2	14	6	15	7	1	45
Durban		—	—	—	—	—	10	2	7	1	1	21
East London		—	—	—	—	—	2	—	10	1	—	13
Germiston Station		—	—	1	—	—	—	—	4	1	—	6
Grahamstown		—	—	—	—	—	1	—	1	—	—	2
Johannesburg		—	—	2	—	5	13	5	43	7	2	77
Kimberley		1	—	1	1	—	—	—	3	1	—	7
Kroonstad		—	—	—	—	—	—	—	2	—	—	2
Krugersdorp		—	—	—	—	—	1	—	1	1	—	3
Oudtshoorn		—	—	—	—	—	1	—	1	—	—	2
Pietermaritzburg		—	—	—	—	—	2	—	5	2	—	9
Port Elizabeth		—	—	—	—	—	6	2	9	—	1	18
Pretoria		1	—	1	—	—	9	2	12	1	1	27
Queenstown		—	—	—	—	—	2	—	1	—	—	3
Springs		—	—	—	—	—	—	—	2	—	—	2
Other Towns		—	—	—	—	—	—	—	42	7	—	49
		4	1	5	1	9	61	17	168	31	6	303

Details of Other Towns.—Aliwal North, Bethlehem, Cradock, *Dundee, Ermelo, Estcourt, Ficksburg, Florida, George, *Germiston, Graaff-Reinet, *Kingwilliamstown, Klerksdorp, Kokstad, Ladysmith N., Mafeking, Middelburg (Cape), Middelburg (Tvl), Mossel Bay, Nelspruit, Nigel, *Paquebot, *Paarl (Huguenot), Pietersburg, Potchefstroom, Potchefstroom Camp, Port Shepstone, Premier Camp, Randfontein, Roodepoort, Rustenburg, Senekal, Standerton, *Stellenbosch, Uitenhage, Umtata, Vereeniging, Vryburg, Vryheid, Windhoek, Witbank, *Worcester—42. Of the foregoing, those proefixed with an * include the $2\frac{1}{2}$ in. machine "red paid" cancellations—7.

For the $2\frac{1}{2}$ in. machines, separate date cylinders, *inter alia*, incorporating the words "PAID" and "BETAAL" or "BETAALD," are used for cancellation of mail matter handed over the counter for bulk postage. Anent the $6\frac{3}{8}$ in., $5\frac{3}{4}$ in. and $3\frac{1}{8}$ in. machines, no separate date-cylinders were used for this purpose, but the ordinary date-cylinders were employed with the words and value, e.g., "PAID $\frac{1}{2}$d." and "BET'LD $\frac{1}{2}$d," inserted in lieu of the dates. Mail matter franked with adhesive franks is cancelled in black. When, however, mail matter is handed over the counter and postage therefor paid in cash, no adhesives are required and such are cancelled in red.

Summary of Lettered Rings.	Type of Machine.	No. of Variations.	Benoni.	Bloemfontein.	Boksburg.	Cape Town.	Durban.	East London.	Grahamstown.	Johannesburg.	Kimberley.	Oudtshoorn.	Pietermaritzburg.	Port Elizabeth.	Pretoria.	Queenstown.	Germiston.	Springs.	Other Towns.	Total.
1. Transvaal	$4\frac{1}{4}$	1	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	1	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	1
2a. Union of South Africa	$4\frac{1}{4}$	1	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	1	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	1
2b. Union of South Africa	$3\frac{1}{8}$	1	—	—	—	1	1	—	—	—	—	—	—	1	—	—	—	—	—	3
3. Postage fp.b. Censor	$3\frac{1}{8}$	1	—	—	—	1	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	1
4. Paquebot	$3\frac{1}{8}$	1	—	—	—	1	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	1

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Summary of Lettered Rings.	Type of Machine.	No. of Variations.	Benoni.	Bloemfontein.	Boksburg.	Cape Town.	Durban.	East London.	Grahamstown.	Johannesburg.	Kimberley.	Oudtshoorn.	Pietermaritzburg.	Port Elizabeth.	Pretoria.	Queenstown.	Germiston.	Springs.	Other Towns.	Total.
5. Buy U.L. Certificates	3⅛	12	—	—	—	3	2	1	1	9	—	—	1	1	3	1	—	—	—	22
6. Address your mail	3⅛	1	—	—	—	1	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	1
7a. Support S.A. Industries	3⅛	10	—	—	—	4	2	1	1	6	—	—	1	2	3	—	—	—	—	20
7b. Support S.A. Industries	2½	2	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	2	—	—	—	—	—	2
8a. Post early in the day	3⅛	3	—	—	—	1	2	1	1	3	—	—	1	1	1	1	—	—	—	12
8b. Post early in the day	2½	2	—	1	—	—	—	1	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	2
9. British Empire Exhn.	3⅛	1	—	—	—	1	—	—	—	1	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	2
10. Buy S.A. made goods	3⅛	3	—	—	—	2	2	—	—	1	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	5
11. Air-mail saves time	3⅛	1	—	—	—	1	1	—	—	1	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	3
12. Make careers	3⅛	2	—	—	—	1	2	1	—	2	—	—	2	2	2	—	—	—	—	12
13. Fruit for health	3⅛	1	—	—	—	1	—	—	—	1	—	—	—	—	1	—	—	—	—	3
14. Census day 4th May	3⅛	1	—	—	—	1	1	—	—	1	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	3
14. Tour South Africa	3⅛	1	—	—	—	1	1	—	—	1	—	1	—	1	1	—	—	—	—	6
16a. Use C.O.D. parcel post	6⅜	1	—	1	1	—	—	—	—	—	1	—	—	—	1	—	—	—	—	4
16b. Use C.O.D. parcel post	3⅛	1	—	—	—	—	1	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	1
17. Stop Dongas	3⅛	1	—	—	—	1	1	—	—	1	—	—	—	1	1	—	—	—	—	5
18. Do not overstock farms	2½	1	—	1	—	1	—	—	—	1	—	—	1	1	—	—	—	—	—	5
19. Protect your veld	2½	1	—	1	—	—	—	—	—	1	—	—	1	1	—	—	—	—	—	4
20. Beware of erosion	2½	1	—	—	—	—	—	1	—	1	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	2
21. Air-post saves time	2½	1	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	1	—	—	—	—	1
22a. Help Jubilee T. Fund	2½	2	—	1	—	1	—	1	—	1	1	1	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	7
22b. Help Jubilee T. Fund	3⅛	1	—	—	—	—	1	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	1
23. Telphone your Orders	2½	1	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	1	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	1
24. Golden City Jubilee	2½	1	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	1	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	1
25. Use the Telephone	2½	1	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	1	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	1
26. Register valuable lttrs.	2½	3	—	—	—	1	—	—	—	3	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	4
27. Send good news t'grams	2½	2	—	—	—	1	—	—	—	2	—	—	—	—	1	—	—	—	—	4
28. Post early for Q.D.	2½	1	1	1	—	1	1	1	1	1	1	—	1	1	1	1	—	1	23	36
29. Customs duty paid	2½	1	—	—	—	1	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	1
30. Centenary Pretoria	2½	1	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	1	—	—	—	—	1
31. Send greetings t'grams	2½	1	—	1	—	1	1	1	1	1	1	—	1	1	1	1	1	1	14	27
32a. V . . . —	2½	1	—	—	—	1	—	—	—	1	—	—	1	—	—	—	—	—	—	3
32b. V . . . —	3⅛	1	—	—	—	—	1	—	—	—	—	—	—	1	1	—	—	—	—	3
33. Sealed lips saves ships	2½	1	—	—	—	1	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	1
34. Support the Red Cross	2½	1	—	1	—	1	1	—	—	1	—	—	1	1	1	—	—	—	—	7
35. Don't talk about ships	2½	1	—	—	—	—	1	—	—	—	—	—	—	1	—	—	—	—	—	2
36. Thoughtless words s.s.	2½	2	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	2	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	2
37. Spend less save more	2½	1	1	1	—	1	1	1	—	1	1	—	1	1	1	—	1	1	—	12
6⅜″ Machine		1		4																
4¼″ ,,		2		2																
3⅛″ ,,		43		104		75	2	9	1	32	23	10	5	48	4	1	13	20	22	4	2	3	37	
2½″ ,,		29	75	126	236																			236

OTHER TOWNS.

Details of No. 28.—Bethlehem, Brakpan, Cradock, Dundee, Estcourt, Ermelo, Graaff-Reinet, Kingwilliamstown, Klerksdorp, Kokstad, Kroonstad, Ladysmith Natal, Nelspruit, Paarl, Pietersburg, Potchefstroom, Rustenburg, Uitenhage, Umtata, Vereeniging, Vryburg, Vryheid, Witbank—23.

Details of No. 31.—Bethlehem, Brakpan, Ermelo, Germiston Stn., Klerksdorp, Ladysmith N, Pietersburg, Potchefstroom, Port Shepstone, Randfontein, Roodepoort, Stellenbosch, Umtata, Witbank—14.

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SUMMARY OF LINED RINGS.

	Type of Machine.	Bloemfontein.	Cape Town.	Durban.	East London.	Grahamstown.	Johannesburg.	Kimberley.	Pietermaritzburg.	Port Elizabeth.	Pretoria.	Germiston Station.	Queenstown.	Krugersdorp.	Other Towns.	Total.
1. 10 Liner—equal lengths—equal spacings	$3\frac{1}{8}$	—	—	*	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	1
2. 8 Liner—equal lengths—equal spacings	$4\frac{1}{4}$	*	*	—	—	—	*	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	3
3. 7 Wavy Liner	$5\frac{3}{4}$	—	—	—	—	—	*	*	—	—	—	*	—	—	—	3
4. 6 Wavy Liner	$5\frac{3}{4}$	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	*	—	—	—	—	1
5. 6 Liner (2 x 3) equal and unequal spacings	$3\frac{1}{8}$	—	—	*	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	1
6. 6 Liner—full lengths—equal spacings	$3\frac{1}{8}$	—	*	*	—	—	—	—	—	*	—	—	—	—	—	3
7. 5 Liner—equal lengths—equal spacings	$4\frac{1}{4}$	—	—	—	—	—	*	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	1
8. 5 Liner—full lengths—equal spacings	$3\frac{1}{8}$	—	—	—	—	—	*	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	1
9. 5 Liner—equal lengths—equal spacings	$3\frac{1}{8}$	—	*	*	*	*	*	—	*	*	*	—	*	—	—	9
10. 5 Wavy Liner	$3\frac{1}{8}$	—	*	*	—	—	—	—	—	—	*	—	—	*	—	4
11. 5 Wavy Liner	$2\frac{1}{2}$	*	*	*	*	*	*	*	*	*	*	—	*	*	*	51
12. 4 Liner (2 x 2) equal and unequal spacings	$3\frac{1}{8}$	—	*	—	—	—	*		—	—	—	—	—	—	—	2
13. 4 Liner—full lengths—equal spacings	$3\frac{1}{8}$	—	*	*	—	—	*	—	—	*	*	—	—	—	—	5
14. 4 Liner—equal lengths—equal spacings	$3\frac{1}{8}$	—	*	*	—	—	*	—	—	*	*	—	—	—	—	5
15. 4 Wavy Liner-2 waves concave	$3\frac{1}{8}$	—	*	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	1
16. 4 Wavy Liner-2 waves convex	$3\frac{1}{8}$	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	*	—	—	—	—	1
17. 4 Wavy Liner	$2\frac{1}{2}$	—	*	—	—	—	*	—	*	—	—	—	—	—	—	3
18. 4 Liner—equal lengths—equal spacings	$2\frac{1}{2}$	—	*	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	1
$5\frac{3}{4}''$ Machine 4																92
$4\frac{1}{4}''$,, 4			2	11	7	2	2	9	2	3	4	6	1	2	2	39	
$3\frac{1}{8}''$,, 29																
$2\frac{1}{2}''$,, 55—92																

OTHER TOWNS.

Details of No. 11.—Aliwal North, Benoni, Boksburg, Brakpan, Dundee, Estcourt, Ficksburg, Florida, George, Kokstad, Kroonstad, Ladysmith N., Kingwilliamstown, Klerksdorp, Mafeking, Middelburg (Cape), Middelburg (Tvl.), Mossel Bay, Nigel, Paarl (Huguenot), Paquebot, Port Shepstone, Potchefstroom Camp, Premier Camp, Oudtshoorn, Randfontein, Roodepoort, Rustenburg, Senekal, Standerton, Stellenbosch, Uitenhage, Umtata, Vereeniging, Vryburg, Vryheid, Windhoek, Witbank, Worcester—39.

In the foregoing summary, a " 4 Liner—equal lengths—equal spacings " means that cancelling impression consists of two sets of 4 parallel lines with equal distant spacing between the lines, one set to the right and one set to the left of a date-stamp. A " 5 Liner—full lengths—equal spacing " means that the cancelling impression consists of two sets of 5 parallel lines with equal distant spacing between the lines, but the lengths of the lines extend from the circumference of one date-stamp to the circumference of the other date-stamp, one set to the right and one set to the left of a date-stamp. A " 4 Liner (2 x 2) equal and unequal spacing " means that the cancelling impression consists of two sets of 4 parallel lines of equal lengths with the distance of spacing between the first and second lines equal to the distance of spacing between the third and fourth lines, but with the distance of spacing between the second and third lines equal to about half of the first two mentioned distances of spacing. An * signifies " used at," e.g., No. 18 was in use in Cape Town only.

Impressions of Nos. 2 and 9 from Cape Town have been found without the machine date-stamp impressions, but with hand date-stamps impressions applied in the positions which should have been occupied by the machine ones, viz :—No. 2 in Jan., 1912, and No. 9 during 1921 and 1922.

(To be continued.)

★ ★ ★

CROSS-BRED BANTAMS

Under this heading Mr. P. J. Minavalla in the "Stamp Collectors' Fortnightly" describes some constant varieties in the Union miniature war effort stamps. Most, if not all, have already been noted in our columns.

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ATTENTION **ATTENTION**

AIRMAIL STAMPS

All stamps unused **Blocks pro rata.**

2 Morocco 1945, 200 fr. face 62/6
5 Senegal 1944, ovptd. cpl. 37/6
2 Lebanon cpl. 12/6
83 All French Colonies cpl. Most attractive, colourful large size pictorials. Dealers in New York paid up to 100 dollars per set 130/0

8 Togo 1942 cpl. 40/0
8 Niger 1942 cpl. 52/6
8 Sudan 1942 cpl. 40/0
8 Guinea 1942 cpl. 37/6
8 Ivory Coast 1942 cpl. 52/6
8 Mauritania 1942 cpl. 40/0
8 Senegal 1942 .. .. 40/0
8 Reunion 1942 cpl. 50/0
8 Dahomey 1942 .. .. 40/0
All these French Colonial sets incl. 50 fr. limited issues. Paris prices double existing
13 Cameroons 1943 cpl. with two scarce v. 5fr. 10fr. 50/0
1 Indo-China 69 fr. blue 2/0
1 Senegal 1942 100 fr. cpl. 27/6
4 French Equatorial Africa 1944 cpl. 70/0
4 Oceanic Settlements 1944 .. .. .. 70/0
1 Algeria 1945 cpl. ovptd. R.F. 3/0
5 Ivory Coast 1940 cpl. 12/6
5 Dahomey 1940 cpl. 12/6
7 Madagascar 1943 .. .. 12/6
2 Guadeloupe Free France 1945 50 fr., 100 fr. 12/6
2 Guinea 50 fr., 100 fr. 12/6
2 Martinique 50 fr., 100 fr. 12/6
3 French Equatorial Africa 13/6
7 Madagascar cpl. 15/6
New Caledonia cpl. 15/6

FRANCE
I 1938 50 fr. Clement Ader & Flying Machine 45/0
I 1940 50 fr. Guynemer, normal paper 10/6
I 1940 50 fr. pale blue, thick paper .. 25/0
I 1942 violet 2/0

SPAIN 1940
24 The Pilar set; Yvert over £150 cpl. set perforated and not perforated. 1,000 stamps only. Our price £40

PORTUGAL
10 1937 Shield and Propeller 40/0

SLOVAKIA
9 1940 cpl. 17/6

BOHEMIA & MORAVIA
2 1940 cpl. 12/6

CROATIA
4 Charity Stamps 1941 cpl. 17/6

MONACO
6 1943 cpl. highest value 100 fr. London advert 90/- 60/0

ALBANIA
7 1930 cpl. cat. Gb. 49/4 .. .. 37/6

GERMANY
3 1943 cpl. 4/3
1 1942 cpl. 2/6

HUNGARY
4 1943 cpl. 9/0
1 1943 cpl. 2/0

SERBIA
5 1942 overprinted cpl. 15/0

GREECE
8 1938-42 ovptd. cpl. Yvert over 50/- 17/6
12 1942 cpl. 12/6
12 1943 ovptd. cpl. 12/6

RODI
1 1944 cpl. ovptd. Saggio not perforated, London price over £5 .. .. .. 40/0
4 1944 cpl. ovptd. Zumstein Cat. £6 .. 50/0

ITALY
5 1935 cpl. (Gibb. 8/4) 6/0
5 1936 cpl. (Gibb. 475-479, 6/7) 5/6
4 1934 cpl. (Gibb. 381-4, 20/6) 16/0
2 1933 cpl. (Gibb. 379-80, 2/3) 1/9

NETHERLANDS
1 1933 cpl. (Gibb. 247, 3/-) 1/6
1 1933 cpl. (Gibb. 247, 4/-) used 2/0
1 1935 cpl. (Gibb. 265) 3/0
1 1938 cpl. (Gibb. 300, 2/-) 1/6
1 1938 cpl. (Gibb. 300, 2/6) 1/9

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Look again at our advertisement in the May Number of the "S.A. Philatelist." Remember that our prices are lower than in New York, London, Paris. What you can't find in our shop, you can obtain from our firm in London.

POLAND (German Occupation)

4 v. 1940 Red Cross ovptd. cpl.	18/6
2 v. 1941 Ancient Monuments cpl.	4/6
18 v. 1941 Hitler's Head cpl.	25/0
3 v. 1942 Hitler's Head, Charit.	14/6
4 v. 1942 600 Lublin anniv. cpl.	6/0
5 v. 1942 Famous Germans cpl	8/0
3 v. 1943 Hitler's 54 anniv. cpl.	7/6
2 v. 1942 Ancient Monuments cpl.	9/0
1 v. 1942 Cracow cpl.	13/6
1 v. 1943 Nic. Copernicus 400 anniv.	3/0
3 v. 1942 Hitler's head, cpl.	3/0
5 v. 1943 3rd anniv. of German Nazi Party cpl.	9/0
3 v. Hitler's 55 anniv. cpl.	10/6
5 v. 1944 5th anniv. Gen. Gouv. cpl.	15/6
12 v. 1943 Polish stamps with swastika cpl.	12/6
1944 Block with Copernicus, 8 stamps	30/0

Very rare sets of Occupation Stamps overprinted by Polish Provisional Gov. with Soviet Star, Hammer and Sickle

5 v. 1945 Famous Germans overpr. cpl.	140/0
3 v. 1945 Ancient Monuments overpr. cpl.	110/0
1 v. 1945 Copernicus, overpr. cpl.	25/0

These stamps were in circulation in Poland for only a few days, being withdrawn after protest by Polish London Govt.

SLOVAKIA

3 v. 1941 Red Cross Stamps	20/0
3 v. 1941 Child's charity stamps	8/6
3 v. 1942 Youth Relief Fund	15/0
4 v. 1942 Philatelic Exhibition in Bratislawa	22/6
3 v. 1942 1st European Postal Congress comm.	7/6
6 v. 1942 150th anniv. of foundation of literary society	15/0
3 v. 1943 Child's Charity Stamp	2/0
3 v. 1943 Combatants Fund	30/0
4 v. 1943 Railway inauguration	16/0
4 v. 1943 Cultural Fund	20/0
3 v. 1944 L. Stur & M. Razus	1/3
8 v. 1944 Princes set	22/6
4. v. 1944 Sport set	5/6
6 v. 1944 Mgr Tiso (head)	21/0

Newspaper Stamps

3 v. 1943 Journal Stamp	3/0

Air Stamps

9 v. 1940 Tatra mountains and plane	17/6

Postage Due Stamps

2. v. 1940 Triangle stamps	2/9

BELGIUM

12 v. 1941 Abbeys reconstruction fund Orval)	20/0
10 v. 1941 Historic portraits	7/6
10 v. 1941 Winterhelp	7/6
9 v. 1942 Anti T.B.C. (Flamand scientists)	13/6
1 v. 1942 Prisoners of war help stamp	27/6
10 v. 1942 Winterhelp	8/6
2 v. 1943 Winterhelp	11/6
2 v. 1943 Prisoners of war help stamp	27/6
6 v. 1943 King Leopold III	5/0
6 v. 1943 5th set of Abbey Orval	14/6
8 v. 1943 3rd set St. Martin	15/0
2 v. 1943 Winterhelp	30/0
6 v. 1944 Van Dyk's Works	14/6
9 v. 1944 Prisoners of war children's help stamp	20/0
8 v. Anti T.B.C. stamp	10/6
3 v. 1944 Liberation set	22/6
4 v. 1944 Colis Postal	5/6
2 v. 1944 Charity set 1fr. & 30fr. red and blue	13/6
2 v. 1945 Charity stamp 1fr. & 9fr. red and blue	4/6
9 v. 1945 Charity set	15/0

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TRANSVAAL LOCALS.

WHY NOT SCHWEIZER RENEKE?

By

J. H. HARVEY PIRIE.

In the February issue I published a short note entitled "Why Volksrust," and it was hoped it might elicit some information as to when and why the revenue stamps used there have been given the status of a local issue.

None has been forthcoming. Mr. S. G. Rich has written: "My present judgment is that during a stamp shortage, the V.R.I. overprinted revenues were used in Volksrust, most likely on telegraph forms, and thus were postally cancelled. Once off piece, there was no distinguishing mark of telegraphic use. In the absence of knowledge of the existence of these revenues, the chronicler attributed the issue to Volksrust."

This is a very likely explanation but it is merely a reasoned opinion and is not based on ascertained fact. That is what one really wants.

Well, here is another opportunity for expressions of opinion or, perhaps, of elucidating new facts—this time in connection with the Schweizer Reneke issue.

Gibbon's Catalogue mentions the stamps overprinted "BESIEGED" at Schweizer Reneke in 1900, but states "This defacing of the stamps does not, in our opinion, constitute them a particular issue, such as those given in this Catalogue."

Rich, in his "Philately of the Anglo-Boer War," says he is convinced that the Schweizer Reneke stamps are as legitimate and definite an issue as those of Mafeking or of Vryburg, but he gives no particular reasons for his conviction.

Curle & Baslen express no specific opinion as to the status of the stamps, but they include them in their list of local issues and in their catalogue, so presumably regard them as "a particular issue."

The Royal Philatelic Society's "Africa," Part III, includes them in their Reference List. According to a note in the Appendix, page 710, this is done mainly on the authority of Col. Chamier's semi-official letter (see below), which could not be altogether disregarded. The recognition of the stamps as "a particular issue," although definite, is somewhat grudging. It reads: "But although the issue was probably as authentic in its inception as the other local war stamps, the majority of the specimens of the Schweizer Reneke stamps were probably disposed of, if they were not produced, in such circumstances as to deprive them, to a great extent, of philatelic interest."

But couldn't the same be said of many a recognised issue since those days?

The history of these stamps is well known and there is no argument about the facts; it is only on the question "Are they entitled to recognition as a particular issue?" that opinion is divided.

The main facts about the stamps can be checked up in *Gibbons' Monthly Journal* for April, 1901, in a letter from Col. Chamier (O.C. British troops in Schweizer Reneke during the seige). This is repeated in an article by E. Tamsen on Transvaal war stamps in the *Monthly Journal* of March, 1902, and again in "Africa," p. 532. Here is in brief the history of the stamps:—

On 19th August, 1900, the garrison was invested by a Boer force, and on 21st August communications with the outer world were cut off. Native runners were the only form of communication then available, and the O.C. found it necessary to limit the number of letters sent, and he ordered that they would only be sent if officially stamped.

Stamps were only procurable from the two local stores; they were all called in and afterwards issued, as required, at face value. The numbers issued were: Cape ½d., 529; 1d., 368; Transvaal ½d., 781; 1d., 1,572; 2d., 568 and 6d., 178. There were also four Cape 1d. stamps (issue with Table Mountain) and four Cape ½d. stamps "of an old pattern."

(Tamsen, in the article by him referred to, states there was nothing peculiar in so many Cape stamps being found in a Transvaal town as the storekeepers evidently kept them for franking their correspondence to the south via Vryburg, that being a much quicker route than the one via Klerksdorp, which would have been the normal Transvaal route.)

Chamier describes how he made up the handstamp "BESIEGED." with which he overprinted the stamps, from a collection of old letters found in the post office. He then states that the whole stock of stamps was exhausted before the end of September and no further issues were made although the final relief of the garrison did not occur till 9th January, 1901, adding: "The only genuine dates, therefore, would be August and September, 1900."

He states that quite 3,500 stamps were bought by his troops and many were forwarded on letters to their friends in all parts of the world; but he goes on to add that many possibly found their way back to one of the traders from whom they had originally been obtained, and mentions that this individual had a very large number within a few days of issue, and thinks that he obtained as much as £2 a set for them from the first relieving column which arrived on 22nd September, 1900.

So much for the main facts about these stamps, but there are a few other points deserving of mention. Gibbons describe the handstamp "BESIEGED" as being in violet; I have only seen it in black, and Rich says the same. This overprint was applied vertically at one side of the stamps, and, from the specimens seen, this may be either the right-hand or the left-hand side. Also, the overprint may be found reading either upwards or downwards—at all events I can vouch for its occurrence in either direction on the Cape ½d. and 1d., and on the Z.A.R. 1d.

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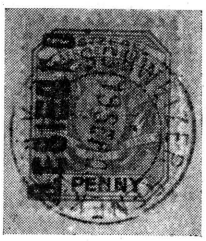

The note in Gibbons' Catalogue also indicates that they regard the Post Office obliterating stamp "SCHWEIZER RENEKE/ Z.A.R." as part of the overprint, and it must be admitted that the wording of Col. Chamier's letter gives some justification for this view. "Africa" deals with this point, stating that although it might be inferred from the letter that the impression of the circular post office stamp should be part of the surcharge, this apparently was not the case because all specimens seen had evidently been impressed with the circular stamp after they had been affixed to pieces of paper, including the only specimen known to the writer as having actually prepaid postage.

This particular envelope, addressed to Cardiff, South Wales (and delivered there on 19th October, 1900), is now in my possession, and there is no doubt about the post office obliterating stamp mark being partly on the stamp and partly on the envelope. Similarly with another cover I have addressed to an officer of the "Mounted Troops, Vryburg Column." True, this must be regarded as a "philatelic piece" for it bears, unnecessarily, all six Schweizer Reneke stamps; it is endorsed by Col. Chamier as from "Commdt, Schwke, 22-9-00, date of relieve" (*sic*). But these covers, as well as the various stamps known on piece (even if they were cancelled by favour) do show that the post office stamper was used as a canceller and not as making up part of the overprint.

On these facts do you feel inclined to range yourself for or against Gibbons in regarding the Schweizer Reneke stamps as "a particular issue"? I personally incline to the view of Yardley, the writer of the article in "Africa," in regarding them as being as much (or as little!) entitled to the status of "a local issue" as any of the other Anglo-Boer War local issues (and certainly much more entitled to that status than the "Volksrust" issue).

Two further extracts *may* help you to come to a decision.

(1) Tamsen, in his article referred to, states "The word "Besieged" reminds one of Mafeking; "V.R." or V.R.I." would have been better. Some surcharge was no doubt necessary for the S.A. Republic stamps, but such was not the case with those of Cape Colony.

(2) Yardley writes "The status of the stamps seems to depend very much on whether or not, only the unsurcharged stamps of the South African Republic and Cape Colony were in use at Schweizer Reneke at the commencement of the siege. If they were, then there would be no apparent reason for surcharging such stamps with the word 'Besieged' or otherwise. If however, it is a fact that before the commencement of the siege the stamps of the British Occupation surcharged 'V.R.I.' had been supplied to and issued at Schweizer Reneke for some time prior to the commencement of the siege, then there would be some ground, or at any rate, some excuse, for not using unsurcharged stamps of the South African Republic, especially having regard to the official notice issued by the British military authorities (this dealt with unauthorised overprinting on Z.A.R. stamps), and in such circumstances the Commandant might well consider that it was more correct to apply to the stamps the word 'Besieged' than an imitation of the surcharge 'V.R.I.' of the stamps prepared at headquarters."

Yardley apparently came to his decision to give these stamps the status of a local issue without having this desired information. If the information was not obtainable four years after the time of the siege it looks as if we were still in the same position as he was, and the information is scarcely likely to be forthcoming now.

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ESSAYS AND PROOFS OF CAPE TRIANGULARS

The "Essay Proof Journal" of April, 1946, has a lengthy article by Henry A. Meyer and Stephen G. Rich on the essays and the numerous proofs of the Cape Triangulars. In the same number is a catalogue listing of them by Dr. Clarence W. Brazer. Dr. Brazer's list is only of specimens he has actually seen, and some are mentioned in the article which do not find a place in the list.

This is the first time there has been anything like a complete account of these essays and proofs brought together in one place.

It is interesting to note that no proofs or essays of the "Woodblocks" are known of the period of issue, but the various "reprints" are here given as "proofs." Essay-proof usage accepts printings after issue and after demonetization as proofs although it is admitted that some special term should be devised for such late "proofs." "Reprints" is not an acceptable term, as that has come to mean a printing as much like the original stamp as possible, but made to sell to collectors and not made for postal use like a reissue.

★

NYASALAND PART PERF.

Mr. E. Booth reports in "Stamp Collecting" a full sheet of 60 Nyasaland 1½d. grey (S.G. 132 a) in which all stamps in the 6th row are imperforate on the right-hand margin and all in the top row imperforate along the top. As a result the top stamp in the sixth vertical row is perforated on two sides only, and the remainder on three sides, the fourth being imperforate.

The final printing of the 5s. (head) stamp should be a good item; the total printing is said not to have exceeded 9,000 copies.

Criticism of the design of the 1d. in the recent issue still continues fiercely; the soldier has a neck more like that of a giraffe than of any human being ever seen in Nyasaland. This stamp was not designed by Mr. Wilson, the designer of most of the issue.

(Concluded from page 116)

velt's collection, which was disposed of recently by his father.

On the 18th Mr. A. M. Jones was responsible for the display, and tabled one of the finest collections of O.F.S. seen in the Union for a very long time.

These stamps were in singles, pairs and blocks of 4, 6, 8, 10, 12, 18 and 24, and in one case of 30. There were 4d. blue of 1900 with the level and raised stops; one block of 24 was 4d. overprint on 6d. blue of 1902, another was 6d. blue surcharge E.R.I. Another specimen was overprint with arms for use on post cards, and many other rarities too numerous to mention.

The gem of the collection—S.G. 133, 5s. green of 1900, figure of value omitted—carried with it a guarantee and photo that it was a genuine copy and valued at £25.

Many of the stamps were uncatalogued. Mr. Forbes read a paper reviewing the origin of the O.F.S. postal service.

Mr. Nicholson auctioneered a number of packets and also some books from Stanley Gibbons.

One new member was welcomed.

L.E.C.

CHANNEL ISLANDS STAMPS

From information supplied by Mr. M. Martin, of Jersey, it should be clear that these stamps were issued by the British P.O. during the German occupation, not by the German authorities.

When stocks began to run low after the occupation the use of 2d. stamps bisected diagonally was authorised for use in Guernsey for penny postage and they were employed from 17/12/40 to 22/2/41. Four types of 2d. were so bisected—K.G. V. 1912-24 issue and K.G. VI. of 1934, 1937 and 1940 (Centenary) issues.

The Guernsey ½d., 1d. and 2½d. were printed by the Guernsey Press Co. and there are a number of distinguishable different printings.

The Jersey ½d. and 1d. coat-of-arms were printed locally by "The Evening Post" and three different coloured inks were used in the printings for each, giving rise to well marked shades.

The Jersey pictorials, ½d., 1d., 1½d., 2d., 2½d. and 3d. were designed by Edmund Blampied, Jersey's famous artist, but printed at the French Government Printing Works in Paris.

★

FRENCH COLONIAL "VICTORIES"

"Stamp Collecting" reports the issue between 8th May and 5th June of a special Victory air mail stamp for fifteen French Colonies.

★

TANNA TUVA

This country, a republic on the Siberia-China border (? one of the U.S.S.R.) has appeared in the philatelic news again, according to a short note by S. Serebrakian in "Stamps." It was a stamp issuing territory before the war, one of the very few not a member of the Universal Postal Union, but like many others was a war victim and unable to obtain its nice pictorial propagandist issues. Just come to light, however, is a stamp issued about three years ago, a locally printed large affair, 25 kop. denomination which appears to be a commemorative of independence showing the dates 1921-1943.

The stamps seem to have been typographed one by one in vertical strips of five, each stamp being perforated horizontally, making a kind of miniature sheet.

★

BAHAWALPUR

"The Gen" of June has a rather curious note—"This Indian State will issue a special peace stamp shortly. *Do not* buy this stamp as we are making a special announcement regarding it later."

★

BRAZIL

The latest commemorative, in use only from April 7 to 14, is a square diamond-shaped stamp in black, value Cr. 0.40 with a portrait of Admiral Saldanha da Gama. Special cancellations were applied at a post office in the Naval Club, Rio de Janeiro. Thanks to Dr. Mario de Sanctis for a specimen.

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W. L. Bedard, Post Office Box 637, Detroit 31, Michigan, U.S.A.

Control strips of Union and Transvaal also mint blocks, cards and envelopes of many African countries.
E. Tamsen, Box 13, Nylstroom.

Bechuanaland stamps wanted, all issues specially S.G. 3, 7, 8, 18, 19, 20, 25, 29, 48, 49, 83 to 87, 99 to 110 mint and used. High prices paid.
Reply: Box 260, Durban.

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E. Scott, Lendings, Startforth, Barnard Castle, Durham, England.

Stamps. Approvals to all applicants enclosing 2d. stamp.
C. Samuels, 6 Van der Walt Street, Steynsburg, C.P.

Exchange desired by medium collector; wishes African, especially Union. Can send Australian and few N.Z., Canada and Islands.
W. J. Greenfield, 105 Longueville Road, Lane Cove, N.S.W., Australia.

Wanted: Old Post Office Guides, especially Cape, Natal, O.F.S., Transvaal, to 1910. Magazines exchanged, philatelic and non-philatelic.
Paul A. Dorn, Los Angeles 36, California.

Wanted: Transvaal, Natal, Cape, O.F.S., Bechuanaland, Gambia, St. Helena, Egypt, France. Picked copies, rarities and varieties, also 9,000 items for world collection up to 1933 issues.
E. Hunt, Box 2437, Johannesburg.

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THE FLOWN-IN LEAFLETS OF CAPE TOWN, 1939-1945.

I see Messrs. Francis J. Field have published a list of leaflets, etc., dropped from the air as propaganda. "Flown" items have had an appeal since the early days of this flying age. The promise of special marks and comparative scarcity probably make it so. When I read of the propaganda showered on both sides during the war, I wondered whether collectors would get busy, and it seems they have.

Peaceful cities have also had their leaflets flown in to urge their citizens on to further the cause, and, living in Cape Town throughout the war, I collected and kept a record of this propaganda. Seeing streets littered with masses of paper, one wonders what interest there is in picking up and keeping this waste, but, the waste is soon swept up, the same day in fact, and then—Try and find a copy!

Here is a dated record. It is not philately, but it is of allied interest, and the leaflets make quite a show in an album:—

1. "This might have been a bomb" (red on yellow paper).
—Mayors' National Fund, 22.12.39.

2. "The Army's coming soon" (red on white paper).
—New Mechanised Army Tour, 18.11.40.

3. "The Army's here to-morrow" (green on white paper).
—New Mechanised Army Tour, 20.11.40.

4. (No copy. A heavy wind blew the leaflets to sea).
—New Mechanised Army Tour, 21.11.40.

5. "Buy British Goods" (black on orange paper). 21.12.40.

6. Railway Fete, Liesbeek Park (blue on pale blue paper).
— In aid of War Funds, 25.10.41.

7. "Target for To-night" (black on yellow paper).
—R.A.F. War Film, Colosseum, 5.12.41.

8. S.A.W.A.S. Sea-side Splash! (black on pink paper).
—Muizenberg, 23.12.41.

9. "War Weapons Week" (violet on white paper).
—Invest in War Bonds, 12.10.42.

10. "You may be killed if enemy planes raid Cape Town."
—Join Ack-Ack (red on printed Parliamentary paper, containing records from the House of Feb.-April, 1943), 12.6.43.

11. "Come to Liberty Cavalcade" (red on white paper).
—A War effort, 24.3.44.

12. "Have you a bat in the Belfry?" (black on green paper).
—Air Force Funds, 19.5.45.

13. "The Call of St. John" (black on four different coloured papers).
—The St. John Ambulance Association, 1.9.45.

In connection with "dropped leaflets," it may be of interest to recall one of the early examples of this in South Africa. Early in August, 1923, I think it was the 9th, I was fortunate to be one of the construction staff at Douglas, where the new Belmont-Douglas line was scheduled to be opened by General Smuts. He was unable to be present, but nevertheless some thousands of cards announcing the opening by the General were dropped by two De Havillands at Douglas that morning. I picked up a few on the veld and sent some to friends by post. They were white cards larger than visiting cards and printed on one side.

There occurred that tragic accident when two lads of the village lost their lives by the accidental discharge of a machine gun, while viewing the grounded planes. Incidentally, the young observer who handled the gun himself lost his life in an aeroplane accident a couple of years later.

This may not be the first instance of a "dropped leaflet" but it was definitely early.

G. W. HOCKEY.

[Mr. Hockey is presenting his collection of war leaflets to the Africana Museum, Johannesburg, where a general collection of the South African philately of World War II is being formed.—Ed.]

★ ★ ★

BOUVET ISLAND

The "Philatelic Magazine" of 19th April has a short article on this island's one issue of stamps. It is a Norwegian possession, lying some 1,350 miles S.W. of Cape Town. It was visited by Admiral Evans in H.M.S. "Milford" in February, 1934, with the consent of the Norwegian Government and their consul in Cape Town. The latter gave permission for Norwegian stamps to be overprinted "Bouvet Oya," and used to frank mail from the ship whilst in the island's territorial waters. The stamps were obtained partly from the Consul and partly from a dealer in Cape Town, the denominations being 5, 7, 10, 20 and 30 ore.

The mail with these stamps was accepted by the Cape Town postal authorities on the return of the "Milford," but a few weeks later the Norwegian Government announced that they had cancelled this Consul's permission and asked that the stamps be treated as a private issue.

Query. Does such a *post hoc* repudiation hold good?

The article concludes with the statement that the labels are a useless issue and only an attempt to part collectors from their money.

It may be agreed that the issue was of the nature of a stunt performance, but was it more so than many other issues are? The number of stamps overprinted was so small that it can hardly be regarded as a very serious attempt to fleece collectors.

There has been a bogus issue of Free Norwegian stamps overprinted "Bouvet Island Express Delivery." These are definitely an attempt to part collectors from their money.

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OBITUARY

We regret to announce the death of Mr. T. S. Leask last month at the age of 92.

Mr. Leask was born in Orksey, Scotland, but settled in the Transvaal in 1875. He was at one time an avid stamp collector and had, amongst other things, a fine collection of old Transvaals. He is perhaps best known to philatelists in general in connection with the local issue of overprinted stamps at Wolmaransstad in 1900; notes from him on these were published in our issue of May, 1944.

*

REGISTRATION LABELS

Are there any collectors of Union Registration Labels? Mr. J. A. Scrimgeour has just sent us an interesting error in a label from Uitenhage, in which there is an "L" in place of the "I."

*

U.S.A.

The latest commemoratives to arrive are the 3c Tennessee 150th Anniversary of Statehood, in purple. Thanks to Messrs. George H. Camp and W. L. Bedard for first-day special covers.

CHANNEL ISLANDS

JERSEY and GUERNSEY

Issued by the British P.O. during the German occupation. A historical souvenir of the war.
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Set of Jersey Arms, ½d. and 1d., price .. 2/9
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M. MARTIN

St. Aubin's Rd., Jersey, C.I., England

The

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CENTENARY INTERNATIONAL PHILATELIC EXHIBITION

We have received an advance programme of this exhibition, to be held in New York, 17th to 25th May, 1947.

It is to commemorate the 100th anniversary of Government issued stamps in the U.S.A. As Great Britain, Switzerland and Brazil were unable to celebrate internationally their respective hundredth anniversaries (1940 and 1943) they are being invited to participate officially; also Mauritius, to celebrate the centenary of its classic "Post Office" stamps.

In the classification for exhibits in Section 2 (British Empire) Canada, Australia and India have special sub-sections, so have Cape of Good Hope, Natal, and Transvaal, but apparently a Union or Rhodesian collection could only be entered under "Any other Colony in Africa."

★

NYASALAND F.F. POSTMARK

In connection with the articles which appeared in our February and October issues of 1944 on the postmarks of the Nyasaland Field Force, 1916-18, and in the "Philatelic Journal of Great Britain" of July-Sept., 1944, and Jan.-March, 1945, Mr. P. L. Pemberton records in the latter journal of Jan.-March, 1946, an interesting new specimen recently shown him.

In the first place the date is 19th March, 1915, much earlier than that of any previous record. Secondly, the name Nyasaland is spelled NAYA SALND with a wide space in the middle, big enough for another letter. The actual letters used are the same as those in the marks recorded by Mr. Pemberton and illustrated; there is, as usual, a wide A and in this case it is the first one. The initials F.F. are spaced a quarter of an inch apart and are not followed by a number.

Mr. H. C. Dann follows this up in the P.J.G.B. of April-June with the record of another mark with the same peculiar spacing of still earlier date, viz., 23rd November, 1914.

★

RESUMING BUSINESS

We are pleased to receive again the "West-End Philatelist," the monthly publication of D. Field, Ltd., stamp dealers of 7 Vigo Street, London W.1. This is now being edited by Arnold M. Strange. Publication was not suspended during the war, but was distinctly irregular. The firm's general business went and goes on.

Mr. Edmund M. Berry has resumed issue of his "Current Offers." He writes now, however, from 28 Queen's Road, Accrington, Lancashire, having just been released from the Army after 6½ years service. Mr. Berry was for 11 years manager of the Westminster Stamp Co., 32 Strand, London, and it was his boast that he held "probably the most complete stock of British Colonials in the world." No. 32 Strand is now only a hole in the ground, but he can still offer a goodly range of K.G. VI issues, and he hopes to re-start his new issue service soon.

BRITISH COLONIAL "VICTORIES"

Two stamps, each with the British Houses of Parliament with the King's head inset, will be issued for 43 colonies, etc., appearing at various dates from about mid-August onwards. They will be on sale till the end of the year or until stocks are exhausted, whichever is earlier. It is expected that there will an overprinting of the two British stamps for Tangier, but not for the Morocco Agencies in general.

There are also to be overprints of two low denominations for the two Aden States and for Zanzibar. Hong-Kong is having two special stamps (30c and $1) with the Phoenix arising, and Southern Rhodesia is to have a set of four—1d., 2d., 3d. and 6d.—but their designs and date of appearance are still not announced.

In the Colonial list two new names appear, viz., Malayan Union and Singapore.

★

UNITED NATIONS COMMEMORATIVE

Mexico appears to be the first country definitely to honour UNO with a set of stamps. These, ten of them, have an inscription reading, in Spanish, "The United Nations Organisation to Preserve the Peace of the World." The design has various nations' flags building up the letters ONU (Organizacion de Naciones Unides).

★

T.P.O. AND SEAPOST SOCIETY

"The Philatelist" states that this Society, founded in 1938, is resuming its activities. Its object is to produce, ultimately, through its Bulletin, a reference book giving world-wide information although specialising on the T.P.O's and Seaposts of Great Britain.

The President and Acting Hon. Sec., is Norman Hill of "Netherleigh," Old Wortley Road, Rotherham, Yorkshire; the subscription to the Society is 2s. 6d. Our readers may remember Mr. Norman Hill's communications on the air-mail etiquettes of Africa.

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SOCIETY NEWS

EAST LONDON PHILATELIC SOCIETY

President, C. P. Durkin; *Hon. Sec.*, A. W. Stander, P.O. Box 694, East London; *Meetings*, 2nd Fridays, above Colosseum Theatre Tea Room, at 7.45 p.m.

At the May meeting a small delegation was appointed to meet local authorities with a view to including a Stamp Exhibition in the E.L. Centenary celebrations.

Mrs. Alabaster showed a very fine example of a comprehensive collection of Great Britain. It ranged from a Mulready Cover to superbly used blocks and strips of 5s. and 10s. K.G. VI.

Penny Blacks, reds, and an ivory head were represented.

Of outstanding note was the fact that practically every postmark was superb.

Amongst the earlier postmarks were Ludlow 65, Glasgow 66, Edinburgh 67, and Bath 71.

Included in the modern stamps was the 1929 Postal Union Congress set, complete.

To bring the collection right up to date Victory Bells and United Nations postmarks were shown.

The next exhibitor, Mr. Paviour, led off with a Kingsford Smith Airmail—first flight Australia to England.

This was followed with a wide range of covers, mostly Australasian and U.S.A., consisting of airmails, first day, and commemoratives.

As most were on specially printed envelopes, no writing up was required.

Amongst other curiosities were a Tin Can Mail, and a letter from Coobey Pedy, Australia—the only underground P.O. in the world.

At a recent meeting of the E.L. Junior Stamp Club, prizes were offered for the largest number of sensible questions asked. The result was very gratifying. If it is not *lesc majesté*, I would like to quote one of the more amusing. "What's the name of the man that has a beard and moustache and no hair on the top of his head? He is usually found on British stamps, Ceylon and Cape of Good Hope."

June: The President announced that although not much progress had been made it was still confidently hoped that a Stamp Exhibition would be part of the East London Centenary celebrations.

Mr. T. A. Harper has written these monthly notes for the past two years. During that time he has on one or two occasions shown stamps at Society meetings, and with understandable modesty did not dilate on their merits in his report. It is therefore regrettable that at this meeting Mr. Harper should exhibit stamps and the present writer should not have the necessary knowledge properly to describe them.

Lovers of classical issues were heard muttering, "there's some jolly good stuff here." Amongst countries represented were: France, Holland, Hungary, German States, Roumania, Spain, Roman States, etc. Think of the imperf. issues 1850—1870 and you can visualise the calibre of stamps shown.

Apart from orthodox collecting Mr. Jensen has a speciality of his own— one; two stamps; or a set mounted on a background of conventional design, or with appropriate sketches. More examples were shown at the June meeting.

A competition on the lines suggested by Mr. Jensen's exhibit was adopted by the Junior Club, with avidity. Their entries (numerous and creditable) were shown at the senior meeting. Included in original designs was a sketch of a fan mounted with Japanese stamps, "a genuine flown cover"—a dog running with a stamped envelope in its mouth, and a sketch of storks carrying mail bags on each of which was mounted a stamp bearing baby or children portraits, one stork dropping his bag down the chimney of a house.

N.C.C.

THE PHILATELIC SOCIETY OF NATAL

President, Mr. W. H. Winde; **Hon. Sec.**, Mr. G. Milner Palmer, P.O. Box 588, Durban; **Meetings**, 1st and 3rd Wednesdays at 31 London Assurance House, 319 Smith Street (in room of the Durban Camera Club, top floor) 7.30 p.m.

May: The Society is to be congratulated on the manner in which new members are coming forward. It is also very pleasing to have the honour of welcoming so many visitors; among those we were particularly happy to welcome were Mr. Lane, our Post Master, accompanied by Mr. Hardy, an ex-Post Master. We trust that they will come more often and thereby see what good material is being designed by all countries with the exception of South Africa. A new visitor was Major G. H. Barker, who calls himself the vagabond from Southern France. To these and many others who spent a profitable evening we say "You are always welcome." It was also nice to see our old friend Mr. Percy Williams present; he has done so much for Philately, but unfortunately is not able to attend as often as he would like. The second series for the "Percy Bishop Trophy" brought to the notice another outstanding collection. This was of Germany 1872-1945, and Mr. A. S. Maskell is to be congratulated not only on the manner of his neat layout but the completeness of his war issues and on the many miniature sheets and interesting items that he exhibited. Mr. A. Adler thanked Mr. Maskell for the fine display and felt sure that all present enjoyed the exhibit; this was quite evident from the amount of interest shown. The meeting closed with the usual auction.

The June meeting of the Society was once again outstanding as regards attendance, and there is no doubt that if this situation continues we shall have to find larger premises. It is indeed pleasing to welcome so many visitors, but one can expect that with the coming season in Durban; perhaps they will bring some food besides their stamps to relieve the position of the acute shortage. After the usual business had been dealt with, we were given an outstanding display of Union Stamps by Mr. Hall Jones. This is the third for the Percy Bishop Cup, and one can only say that it was a most creditable effort on the part of Mr. Jones, taking into consideration the short time he has been collecting. His paper was enjoyed and the exhibit was very comprehensive in the way of varieties, etc. Mr. Basden ably thanked Mr. Jones for the manner of his set out and the trouble he had taken to show the various errors which were seen by many members for the first time. The meeting closed with the usual auction and opinion that an enjoyable evening had been passed.

W.H.W.

★

THE PHILATELIC SOCIETY OF JOHANNESBURG

President, L. Buchen; *Hon. Secretary*, J. H. Jenkins, P.O. Box 4967; *Meetings*, 2nd Tuesdays, Public Library, 7.45 p.m.

The meeting on the 11th June was the Annual General Meeting of the Society. The Hon. Secretary, Hon. Treasurer, Hon. Exchange Superintendent and the President all presented reports showing the satisfactory position of the Society.

The following committee was elected for the ensuing year: President, Mr. L. Buchen; Vice-President, Dr. A. Kaplan; Hon. Secretary, Mr. J. H. Jenkins; Hon. Treasurer, Mr. M. Jecks; Hon. Exchange Superintendent, Mr. J. W. Schubart; Hon. Publicity Officer, Mr. I. Isaacs; members of committee, Mr. W. Redford, Mr. F. Ingham, Mr. J. Burrell. In addition Mr. E. C. Sprighton, Mr. F. J. H. Lang, and Dr. J. H. Harvey Pirie are ex-officio members.

Before retiring from the presidential chair, Mr. Sprighton announced that the Executive had awarded the Lang Cup of merit for this year to Mr. I. Isaacs.

The exhibit for the evening was shown by Mr. H. Schwartz. He showed Northern and Southern Rhodesia. His exhibit included all the rare perforations of Southern Rhodesia. Mint and used items of each country were shown, including the rare 7s. 6d. Northern Rhodesia first issue.

Mr. Ingham spoke on the exhibit.

The auction for the evening was conducted by Mr. Mark Rose. The members wished him good luck on his imminent change of residence to the Natal Coast.

I.I.

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CAPE TOWN PHILATELIC SOCIETY

President, C. G. Mummery; *Hon. Secretary*, S. Kaganson, P.O. Box 1973; *Meetings*, 2nd and 4th Thursdays at Yorkshire Buildings, Strand Street, at 7.30 p.m.

23rd May: This was the thirty-fifth annual general meeting of the Society, with an attendance of fifty.

The report and financial statement showed that the Society's progress continues to be maintained, for the past year closed with a credit balance of £165, that figure being £80 more than the amount brought forward from the previous year.

The membership showed a nett increase of four.

No less than £450 was handed over to the Red Cross and other funds during the year, whilst a further £47, which was collected for the same purpose, is still on hand.

The outstanding feature of the report was a resumè of the transactions of the exchange section, as the following extracts from the Superintendent's report will illustrate: A total of 342 books were handed in during the year which enabled five new packets to be put into circulation each month; 46 per cent. of contents were sold; average sales to each of the 56 members of the exchange section reached £24; average life of each packet—from handing in to paying out—just under four months; gross sales amounted to £1,343 and the nett profit was £125.

This amazing success is due to the untiring efforts of the Superintendent (Mr. B. L. Cook) and his wife, who have handled the business on a really efficient basis; but the loyal co-operation of the members contributed to the success in no small measure.

There was one "weed" in the album, however, for one member, in forthright diction, deplored the fact that one item on the expenditure account showed that only four shillings had been spent on the library during the last two years—and he seemed to have the meeting with him. Suggestions were put forward that, owing to paper shortage, no really up-to-date literature, beyond magazines, was available. But as every collector does not necessarily restrict his activities to war issues and that even recent addicts to the cult show a preference for the old classics, it was premised that some of the older publications (classics in themselves) would be welcomed by many of the members.

The office-bearers elected for the ensuing year were: President, C. G. Mummery; Vice-President, K. Cameron; Hon. Sec., S. Kaganson; Hon. Treas., E. I. Hall; Hon. Librarian, D. Stevenson; Hon. Exchange Superintendent, B. L. Cock; committee, Mrs. I. Cock, W. D. Vallance, L. H. Rivers, and K. Alexander.

13th June: At this meeting Mr. Alexander provided a goodly showing of medals, tokens and such like. The war medals covered all the South African issues, which were complete with all bars. A wide range of other items were on view—from a Burger sovereign to the Burghersdorp Centenary issued just recently. The gold coins were a special feature in themselves as were also the sections devoted to dog licence tags. Mr. Alexander also put on the tables a number of sheets representative of the charity stamp issues of Switzerland, Luxemburg and Austria.

The full issues of the Channel Islands during enemy occupation were tabled by Mrs. Grant. This display included practically every stamp put on sale with all shade variations and bi-sects, and created a lot of envy on the part of those who had the pleasure of viewing it.

It was resolved that the Society should approach the authorities concerned with the object of ensuring that in the matters of design and printing the proposed issue to commemorate the visit of the Royal Family should be worthy of the occasion for which it is being issued.

The matter of providing a display—or an exhibition—of stamps during the period that the Royal party is in Cape Town was referred to the committee for report on the matter of ways and means.

G.H.P.

JEWISH GUILD PHILATELIC SECTION

Chairman, Mr. H. Marcuson; *Hon. Sec.*, Mr. I. Isaacs, 910 His Majesty's Buildings, Eloff Street, Johannesburg; *Meetings*, last Thursdays, at the Jewish Guild Memorial Hall, Von Brandis Street, Johannesburg.

At the meeting held on 28th May, the exhibitor was Mr. A. Gladstone, who showed a fine lot of the United States of America.

The exhibit included some fine used specimens of early issues while the later issues were almost complete in mint and used. The commemoratives included some used specimens of the Columbus issue which are getting more and more difficult to obtain.

Miniature sheets and imperforates were also shown.

The exhibit was very much appreciated by all the members present.

During the evening members expressed the wish that the design for the stamps to be issued in honour of the Royal Visit next year would be selected after public competition.

All philatelists are welcome to attend the meetings of the Jewish Guild Philatelic Section, which are held at the Jewish Guild, Von Brandis Street, on the last Thursday of each month.

I.I.

★

PRETORIA PHILATELIC SOCIETY

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

17th June: In spite of winter setting in in earnest, our attendances are still maintaining an "all time high." We also had a very fruitful crop of novelties. First in evidence, of course, were the newly arrived peace issue from Great Britain, many spoilt by excessively heavy cancellations. Mr. Bottomley showed another 1st day cover from the U.S.A. showing their "Honourable Discharge Emblem." The U.S.A. habit of wanting to lead the world in everything seems to be showing up in the number of new issues they are printing. Mr. Lucouw showed a 2d. small war issue which is definitely smaller than normal. Mr. Orkin showed a miniature sheet from France issued in aid of T.B. charity funds, and a booklet of stamps handed to the delegates at the 1945 Paris Labour Conference and also a South Africa 1d. pictorial from a coil machine where the head perforations have cut away the wording "South Africa." Mr. Giovanetti showed a cover that had taken 18 months to reach him from Switzerland and he also showed an illustrated brochure eminating from New Zealand and which I think could be very usefully copied by any country that issues new pictorial stamps, with copies of their peace issue together with a full description and photographic illustration of the scene that the stamp portrays. The paper for the evening was given by Mr. Rudd, who took for his subject the stamps of that little heroic George Cross Island in the Mediterranean, and he gave us a concise and informative history of the more peaceful days of Malta and its people. The exhibition was provided by Master Fine, who true to his name, showed us a "fine" beginning, and with a little guidance should work up a very "fine" collection indeed.

Mr. W. Oppenheim will give us a "Review of Philately" and he will also provide an exhibition of the stamps of British Somaliland on 15th July when the meeting will be held in the Board Room, No. 207, first floor, Compensation House, Schoeman Street, at 7.45 p.m.

The Society is holding an exhibition in "Jacaranda Week," October 21-23. At this, amongst items, the Publicity Officer of the G.P.O. is to read a paper on the International Postal Union.

★

PORT ELIZABETH PHILATELIC SOCIETY

President, G. K. Forbes; *Hon. Sec.*, D. G. Y. Malcolm, P.O. Box 458, Port Elizabeth; *Meetings*, 1st and 3rd Tuesdays in City Hall Basement, at 7.45 p.m.

At the meeting held on the 4th June, the members had the pleasure of welcoming Mr. L. B. Harmer, son of the stamp auctioneer of London and New York, who was passing through on his way to U.S.A. Mr. Harmer gave a very interesting account of Mr. Roose-

(Concluded on page 110)

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(Society report)

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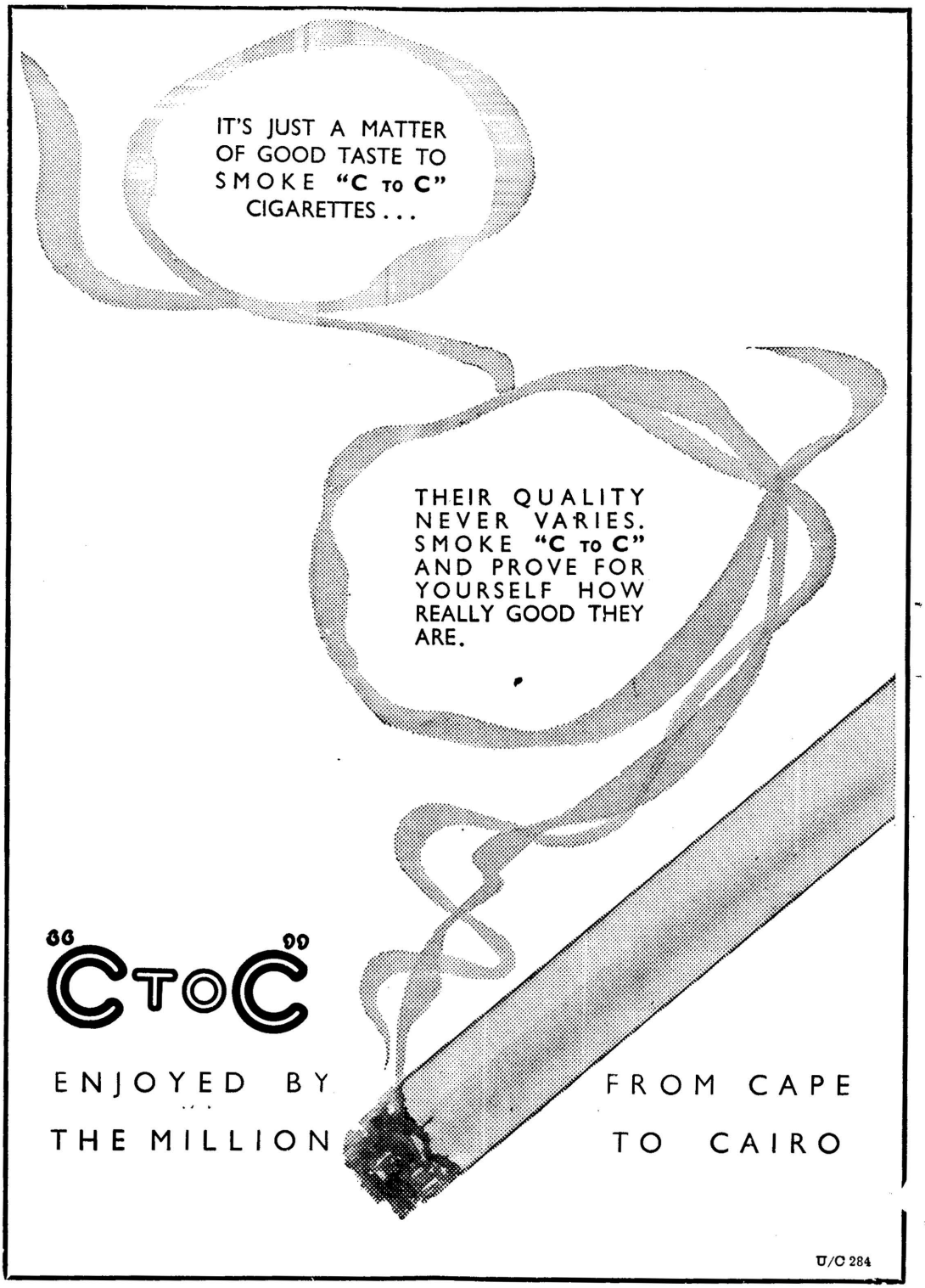

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THE PHILATELIC FEDERATION OF SOUTH AFRICA

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Vol. 22, No. 8. AUGUST, 1946. Whole No. 257

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The
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Proprietors and Publishers:

The Philatelic Federation of Southern Africa

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Vol. 22, No. 8. **AUGUST, 1946.** **Whole No. 257**

Union Notes

UNION STAMPS

The following open letter on the subject of the Union Stamps has been sent to the Hon. the Minister of Posts and Telegraphs by the President of the Philatelic Federation, and we publish it without any further comment at the moment:—

109 Killarney,
Brickhill Road, Durban,
12th July, 1946.

The Hon. the Minister of Posts
and Telegraphs,
Pretoria.

Sir,

The Philatelic Federation of Southern Africa is the recognised organised representative body of stamp-collectors from the Cape to Kenya, and its Congresses have been graced by the presence of your predecessor. This, Sir, by way of introduction.

The Executive Committee of the Federation has been urged to approach the Government on the matter of the postage stamps of the Union with particular reference to future issues, in the hope that they will be a credit to the Union, as it is felt that for long our stamps have not been a credit to the country nor a good advertisement for it. The recent "Victory" emission is a poor example of stamp production, and has brought about renewed protests against current procedure.

The Union is not peculiar in this matter of the quality of its stamps, for similar complaints have recently been made about the stamps of Australia and the U.S.A., and in the latter country the President of the American Philatelic Society has recently published an open letter through which he asks the postal administration to reconsider the whole question of the designing and printing of their stamps.

Personally, I do not think it is so much the matter of the actual printing, as far as South Africa is concerned, but the designing and processing; and that is probably the case also in the other countries mentioned.

In the matter of the designing of stamps, we should like respectfully to urge:

(1) the throwing open of designing new issues to public competition, as is done in many other countries;
(2) the appointment of a special committee to judge the essays;
(3) that the committee should not be a purely departmental or technical one, but should include, *inter alia*, a philatelist;
(4) that our individual stamps should be bi-lingual, instead of the usual practice of two unilingual stamps of each denomination.
(N.B.—The stamps of Belgium, Canada and Switzerland are examples of bi-lingual stamps, and no other country than South Africa follows the practice of separate unilingual stamps.)
(5) that if the method of production to be continued to be followed in the Union is the photogravure process (which admittedly does not compare with the intaglio process for beautiful printing production), then the designs to be adopted should be specially selected and adapted to that method.

The Executive Committee would be grateful if you would be kind enough to give due consideration to these representations, made on behalf of the great body of stamp-collectors in the country; and if you would be willing to receive a deputation from the Federation, which could put the matter in question before you in greater detail, one would be arranged to wait on you at such date and time as you may be pleased to direct.

I beg to inform you that this is being treated as an open letter to be published in due course in the "South African Philatelist," and I trust you will find no objection to this proposal.

I am, Sir,
Yours faithfully,
A. E. BASDEN,
President,

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3d. *Peace Variety.* Mr. E. M. Long in the "Philatelic Magazine" notes that on the third stamp of the third row there is a spot which looks like an extra star in the background; it is level with the eye of the man.

1/3 *Stamps Again on Sale.* Supplies of this stamp have been available at post offices for several weeks. The shade is rather darker than before and the margins of the sheets are plain, with no slogans. It is understood that this is not a new printing, but stocks returned from the closed-down Army Post Offices.

Victories. According to the Commonwealth Stamp Coy's monthly notes, all five of the Southern African Victory sets are going to be good property, likely to increase a good deal over present prices, but the Bechuanaland set is undoubtedly the best of the lot.

Shade Changes. The Robertson Stamp Coy., Johannesburg, reports the following changes in the pictorials:

2d. Now appearing in a very bright purple in place of the former dull shade.

3d. Back in the original blue, not the ultramarine it has recently been.

10s. Originally the centre was of a rather greenish blue, now it is quite different, being nearly if not quite an ultramarine.

Catalogue Fund. Acknowledgment with thanks:

Amounts previously acknowledged	£48	15	6
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CORRESPONDENCE

To the Editor,
South African Philatelist.
Dear Sir,—

This Library finds itself burdened with a large surplus of duplicate American stamp journals, such as "American Philatelist," "Linn's Weekly Stamp News," "Mekeel's Weekly Stamp News," "Scott's Monthly Journal," "Stamps," "Weekly Philatelic Gossip," etc., etc., of the past 10-15 years. The problem of storage space is becoming quite acute and we are faced with the necessity of taking drastic measures to solve it.

It occurs to us that there are many of your readers who would be glad to have this material for only the cost of posting it to them (12 c. per lb.—limit 52 c. per parcel); so we are asking you to publish this letter, offering to send free parcels of the above magazines to anyone sending us the cost of postage, payable either in desirable used or unused postage stamps from your part of the world, or South African stamp journals and other publications.

There is no catch in this offer—and the parcels will be franked with U.S. commemoratives, nicely cancelled. All we ask is that your readers bear in mind that, after all, we are bibliographically inclined philatelists (*sic*!) and will appreciate—and reciprocate in full—their philatelic courtesies!

Sincerely yours,
PAUL A. DORN,
Asst. Librarian,
The Philatelic Library, Los Angeles 36, California.

P.S.—Club Secretaries and Librarians—PLEASE NOTE!

★ ★ ★

BRITISH VICTORY STAMPS

We have to thank Messrs. Francis J. Field, Ltd., Geniality, Ltd., and "Stamp Collecting" for further first day covers with these stamps. They arrived too late for acknowledgment in our last issue.

Fine British Colonials:

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STAMP DEALER,

Norwich Union Building,

129, Oxford Street, East London, C.P.

Peace Issues:

Due to postwar difficulties, the issue of the Colonial Peace Stamps has been delayed and another month or more will elapse before they reach this country. Customers may rest assured that as soon as the complete sets are available, I shall distribute them. Next month watch for a pricelist of used Peace Issues.

Modern Egypt and European War Issues:

Please send for detailed pricelists of the wide range of stock on hand.

S.A. Philatelic Association:

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Peace Commemoratives

ALL PEACE STAMPS which have been and will be issued may be purchased from us at sterling face plue 15% (3s. in the £)—complete mint sets or individual items. Postage and registration extra.

It is also known that many parts of the British Empire will issue this year, complete new sets and new values—these can also be supplied on the same basis as the "Peace."

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THE FUTURE OF PHILATELY

Following is a summary of views expressed by Mr. W. Oppenheim in a talk on this subject given to the Pretoria Philatelic Society:

The speaker was of opinion that stamp collecting as a hobby was on the up-grade and that amazing transformations were due to take place. The early classics, because of scarcity, would be eclipsed by modern material more easily and cheaply come by, and as this changing philatelic fashion had only just begun it would surely bring in its wake some ticklish problems. He foresaw the urgent need for some central world organisation other than the U.P.U. which would control the future trends of stamp production. This body, through the medium of the press and stamp literature, would make collectors cognizant with such pertinent information as the printing of new issues, the probable withdrawal of stamps from circulation, colour changes, etc., it should control charity issues, keep down stamp speculation and the flooding of the market with never ending new issues and have some measure of control over the amazing "price ramps" in buying and selling, and the generally bad service offered by dealers. There must also be standardisation as far as colour and perforations were concerned. He also saw a great need for the spreading of the basic knowledge needed to form and house a collection, with lucid definitions, shades and varieties, and laid stress on the condition of stamps, particularly the condition of mints and the way they have been hinged, and rehinged; also the need for correct centering. Catalogues were becoming bigger and bigger and less and less complete, and the day was not far away when Gibbons and Scott would have to publish sectional catalogues dealing with a particular country only, in both a specialised as well as a simplified manner.

For those who intend to specialise he advocated a careful survey of the country to be collected taking into due considerations the value of its stamps, their rarity and the chances of achieving some sort of completion, the future of its stamps, whether to collect singles, pairs or blocks and in what condition, covers and postal stationery. He was also of the opinion that "sectional collecting" could easily get out of hand, to mention but one off-shoot "airmails" which are becoming a subject all on their own. The matter of machine cancellations (Query: Are "Meter Stamps" meant here?—Ed.) need not trouble us at all as he was perfectly sure no country in the world would be foolish enough to cut off the source of revenue it had in the sale of postage stamps. A lot of the popularity of the hobby lay in the fact that everyone could please himself as to what and how he collected and that there would also be collections where value and completeness transcended by artistic layout and philatelic knowledge displayed. He concluded that it was not difficult to forecast that all the "popular countries" had come to stay for a very long time, particularly as these countries are becoming aware of the vast field of interest they have opened up to the adherents of the hobby, and with some enforcement of the controls outlined above it was a hobby with an assured future.

BRITISH STAMPS
SOUTH AFRICAN CANCELLATIONS

British stamps with South African cancellations are of course quite familiar, even in peace time, in the form of Paquebot postmarks and "up North" during the war they were commonly seen with South African postmarks.

Mr. Howard J. Kirk, of Johannesburg, has brought to our notice, however, two other occurrences of this type of cancellation:

(1) Registered letters posted by serving personnel in the Royal Navy at the Fleet Mail Office in Durban had on them a single 3d. British stamp (the normal British registration fee). They were endorsed in pencil F.M.O. or F.M.O. Dbn./R (number) but the cancellation of the stamps was an ordinary Durban civil postmark.

(2) Before the inauguration of the Springbok Air Service between Britain and South Africa an arrangement was made between the British Ministry of Information and South African newspapers to send out photographs for press publication in an official bag to the High Commissioner's Office. The London offices of the newspapers had to pay air mail rates on these packages, but they did not pass through the post office as at that time there was no air service for ordinary commercial purposes. Under the postal regulations unused stamps must be cancelled by the receiver; this was done in the High Commissioner's Office, and we are indebted to it for these details.

Under this arrangement blocks of 20 or 24 1s. British stamps may be seen pen cancelled with a cross over each one, or with large rubber stamp marks, "High Commissioner's Office."

THE B.P.A.

The B.P.A. sends the following news item, under date 21.6.46:—

One thousand eight hundred and sixty pounds (£1,860) has within six days of an appeal for guarantors, been guaranteed to enable the British Philatelic Association to commence plans for enlarging their activities. This welcome news to all philatelists was given to members of a Council meeting at 3, Berners Street, on Thursday, June 20th, and all present agreed that this was most encouraging. The list is still open and it is certain that the target figure of £2,000 will be over-subscribed. This money will be financing such schemes as the Association's new magazine "Philately," shortly to be available to all interested in the hobby of stamp collecting and in making the services of the Expert Committee more readily available. Additonal services are being advanced in due course.

We have news from Stephen G. Rich of a magazine of the same name being started in St. Louis, Mo., U.S.A., about 5th August, but whether they are related or quite independent of each other we do not know.

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China	Liechtenstein	St. Thomas
Czecho.	Lithuania	Spain
Cape Verde	Luxemburg	Syria
Crete	Martinque	Span. Guinea
Danzig	Macao	Salvador
Dominican Rep.	Mongolia	Span. Morocco
Ecuador	Nicaragua	Tripolitania
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The Machine Postmarks of The Union of South Africa 1910-1942

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

(Continued from page 104 of May issue)

DATE STAMPS

(1) 6⅜in. Machine:

One date-stamp per impression. The date and town name enclosed within a circle of approximately 20 mm. in diameter. PRETORIA set at the top and thin arc at bottom. BLOEMFONTEIN almost around within the circle and thin arc at bottom. BOKSBURG at the top and symbol at bottom approximating a solid Victoria Cross. KIMBERLEY at the bottom and broad arc at top. All used only with Slogan 16a.

(2) 5¾in. Machine:

One date-stamp per impression. The date and town name enclosed within a circle of approximately 20—21 mm. in diameter. JOHANNESBURG at top with index figures 1 and 2 at bottom. PRETORIA at top. GERMISTON/STA. at top, P.O./P.K. at bottom. KIMBERLEY at top, 5 pointed solid star at bottom and thin arc at each side thereof. No slogans were used anent this machine.

(3) 4¼in. Machine:

(a) Two date-stamps per impression. The date and town name enclosed within a circle of approximately 23—24 mm. BLOEMFONTEIN at top. (1) CAPE TOWN at top; (2) CAPE TOWN at top, SOUTH AFRICA at bottom. (1) JOHANNESBURG at top; (2) JOHANNESBURG at top, TRANSVAAL at bottom; (3) JOHANNESBURG at top, SOUTH AFRICA at bottom.

(b) Two date-stamps per impression. The date and town name not enclosed. (1) JH'BURG, (2) JOHANNESBURG.

Hitherto I have not seen any covers with impressions from this type of machine emanating from Durban and Port Elizabeth.

(4) 3⅛in. Machine:

(a) Two date-stamps per impression. The date and town name enclosed within a circle, with one exception of Cape Town. In all date-stamps from this machine the name of CAPE TOWN is set in two words. (1) CAPE TOWN at top; (2) CAPE TOWN on the left, KAAPSTAD on the right (in one instance with a hyphen between the two names); (3) CAPE TOWN on top, KAAPSTAD at bottom (the height of the letters and the interstices between the letters vary considerably in date-stamps used at Cape Town); (4) CAPE TOWN on the left, SOUTH AFRICA on the right. In type (1) I have noticed the use of index figures, viz., 1, 4, 5, 6, 7, 8, 9, 10, 11.

(b) Two date-stamps per impression. The date and town name not enclosed. CAPE TOWN on left, hyphen, KAAPSTAD on the right.

(c) Two date-stamps per impression. The date and town name enclosed within a circle. DURBAN at top, with index Nos. 1, 2, 7, 4, and also with 5-pointed solid star. EAST LONDON at top and with 5-pointed solid star. Similarly PIETERMARITZBURG, PORT ELIZABETH and PRETORIA, also (1) PRETORIA at top with index Nos. 2 and 4, and (2) PRETORIA on the left, SOUTH AFRICA on the right, with index Nos. 2 and 4. GRAHAMSTOWN and QUEENSTOWN at top, with stars and index Nos.

(d) Two date-stamps per impression. The town name enclosed within concentric circles and the date within the inner circle. CAPE TOWN and KAAPSTAD, DURBAN and DURBAN with solid 5-pointed star, JOHANNESBURG, KRUGERSDORP, OUDTSHOORN, QUEENSTOWN and PORT ELIZABETH PAID and PORT ELIZABETH BETAALD, this town using it for "red paid" impressions only.

With the exception of the latter date-stamps of Port Elizabeth, no special date-stamps were used for "red-paid" impressions, but the date-stamps referred to afore were used with the substitution of PAID ½d. or 1d. as the case may be for the dates, and later on PAID and BET'LD.

(e) Two date-stamps per impression. The initials of the town only enclosed in an equilateral triangle. JH for Johannesburg, CT for Cape Town, DN for Durban, PE for Port Elizabeth and PR for Pretoria, the latter's triangle with an arc on each side. These cancellations were used for cancelling covers containing circulars in which instances there was no need to specify the dates.

(5) 2½in. Machines:

Two date-stamps per impression. The name enclosed within a circle. In all date-stamps the name of CAPETOWN is spelt in one word. The following are examples of the various settings:—

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(a)	(b)	(c)	(d)	(e)
CAPETOWN	EAST LONDON	EAST LONDON	EAST LONDON	PORT ELIZABETH
date	date	date	date	date
3	5 pointed	5 pointed	OOS LONDEN	
KAAPSTAD	star	star		

(a) Also Johannesburg.
(b) Also Pretoria, Bloemfontein, Port Elizabeth, Pietermaritzburg, and with large 5-pointed star, Pretoria, East London, Pietermaritzburg.
(c) Also Grahamstown, Queenstown, King Williams Town.
(e) Also Pretoria, Oudtshoorn, Bloemfontein, Germiston, Mafeking.

(f)	(g)	(h)	(i)	(j)
PRETORIA	WORCESTER	KROONSTAD	PREMIER	EAST LONDON
date	date	date	date	date
OVC	SVC	SVC	CAMP	OOS-LONDEN

OVC signifies an outlined approximate Victoria Cross. SVC a solid one.

(f) Also Aliwal North Aliwal-Noord, Benoni, Bethlehem, Boksburg, Brakpan, Bloemfontein, Capetown Kaapstad, Cradock, Dundee, Durban, Ermelo, Estcourt, Ficksburg, Florida, George, Graaff-Reinet, Kimberley, Klerksdorp, Kokstad, Krugersdorp, Ladysmith.N., Middelburg Cape, Middelburg.Kaap, Middelburg.Tvl., Mossel Bay, Mosselbaai, Nelspruit, Nigel, Paarl (Huguenot), Pietermaritzburg, Pietersburg, Potchefstroom, Port Elizabeth, Pretoria, Randfontein, Roodepoort, Rustenburg, Senekal, Springs, Standerton, Stellenbosch, Uitenhage, Umtata, Vereeniging, Vryburg, Vryheid, Windhoek, Witbank.
Also, but with crude squared OVC Brakpan, Capetown Kaapstad, Durban, Pietersburg, Port Shepstone, Pretoria.

(g) Also Kimberley.
(h) Also Pretoria, Port Elizabeth, Springs, Capetown Kaapstad.
(i) Also Potchefstroom Camp.

(k)		(l)	
JOHANNESBURG	JOHANNESBURG	EAST LONDON	OOS LONDEN
date	date	date	date
S.AFRICA	S.AFRIKA	1	1

(m)

CAPETOWN	KAAPSTAD
date	date
A	A

(m) Capetown Kaapstad—index letters A and B. Johannesburg—index letters A, B, C, D, E and F and numeral 3.

(n)	(o)		(p)
CAPETOWN	CAPETOWN	KAAPSTAD	JOHANNESBURG
date	date	date	date
KAAPSTAD			3

(q)	(r)	
CAPETOWN	JOHANNESBURG	JOHANNESBURG
date	1d. date	1d. date
KAAPSTAD	Paid	Betaald
	S.AFRICA	S.AFRIKA

(r) Paid and Betaald set in straight line, also Capetown Kaapstad.

(s)		(t)
JOHANNESBURG	JOHANNESBURG	BLOEMFONTEIN
1d. date	1d. date	date
Paid	Betaal	PAID
S.AFRICA	S.AFRIKA	

(s) Paid and Betaal set in curved line, Also Capetown Kaapstad, Pietermaritzburg.
(t) Also East London.

(u)		(v)	
JOHANNESBURG	JOHANNESBURG	EMPIRE EXHIBITION	RYKTENTOONSTELLING
date	date	date	date
PAID	BETAALD	JOHANNESBURG	JOHANNESBURG

(To be continued)

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STAMPS AND BACTERIA.

The question has been raised whether the licking of postage stamps is a possible or probable source of transmitting infectious bacteria. The "American Philatelist" reports on an investigation undertaken at the Jefferson Hospital, Philadelphia, to settle this matter.

Without going into details, the result of the study is that there is little or no danger in the common use of stamps playing any important role in transmitting infectious diseases.

So neither the public nor stamp collectors need lose any sleep o' nights worrying about this.

THE CHEAPEST BOOK IN STOCK

Mr. F. Hugh Vallancey in his "Guide to Literature" (formerly the V.P. Bulletin) states:

"The other day I was asked to name the cheapest book in stock. As Gladstone (or was it Joad) said—it all depends on what you mean by cheapest. After a while I came to the conclusion that the best value for the money is 'Transvaal Postage Stamps' by Curle and Basden, at 15/6, post free. It contains 154 pages, is bound in blue cloth, with 12 plates, 8 of which are in colour, at the end of the book. There are many other full page illustrations and photographs and the book weighs over 2 lbs. Can you beat it?"

SOME MIDDLE EAST ISSUES

Mr. John P. Shingler, of East London, sends the following information:—

Egypt—New Issue: On the 29th July there will be issued a new Commemorative Set on the occasion of the first meeting of the Arab Kings of the Pan-Arab Union. Values: Mills 10, 13, 17, 22, totalling face value 62 mills. Quantities: 300,000 copies of the 13 mills, and 500,000 each of the remaining three values. 4,000 pairs of miniature sheets, perforated and non-perforated, will also be issued. (Later information, however, is that the issue may be changed to seven stamps, each with an Arab ruler, and no miniature sheets.)

Incidentally, the 30-mills, dark slate, King Farouk head, is still current despite overseas journals' information to the contrary. This is from an absolutely reliable source.

Syria. He has submitted the so-called "Evacuation" set of four values, 10, 12.50, 25 and 50 p., each of which has an overprinted Arabic inscription enclosed in an oval border.

Lebanon. Also the Victory Set from this country. (Query: Victory over whom?) There are eight ordinary postage stamps, 7.50 to 100 p., all of one design, the Lebanese flag with a V to the left of it. This is being held aloft by an officer, of whom only the head and arm are seen, while behind him is a forest of rifles and bayonets, no doubt carried by his troops. Then there are eight air mail stamps, 15 to 150 p.; their design featuring soldiers in a sangar, and again there is a large V in red, but this time over the centre of the stamp.

FALKLAND ISLAND DEPENDENCIES

Argentina is reported as having sent a formal protest to the British Government about the design of the latest issue of stamps showing British territory in the Antarctic and intends to treat any letters with these stamps as unstamped. This is on a par with what she has occasionally done with Falkland Islands stamps.

It is also understood that the Argentinian claim to the Falkland Islands (and now, presumably to the Dependencies) is to be submitted to UNO.

METER MACHINE STICKERS

Mr. Herman G. Seeley raises an interesting problem in the "Emco Monthly Journal." Is a meter machine sticker a stamp . . . and if not, why not? This query applies to stickers such as are used in our larger post offices for parcels. These stickers prepay postage, they are printed by government authority and by a government employee on gummed paper and are put on packages like ordinary stamps. If it isn't a stamp, what is the line of demarcation which says a sticker printed under these conditions isn't, and why?

The only difference appears to be that the postage purchaser doesn't get a chance to taste the flavour of the gum as he does with the stamp he sticks on a letter.

TRISTAN DA CUNHA

In our June issue we mentioned the probability of Tristan having its own stamps soon. This was done on information received from Mr. A. B. Crawford, who, as almost an inhabitant of the island, had been interested in the possibility. Before leaving for the island he had called on the High Commissioner for the United Kingdom and on the Postmaster-General to broach the possibility. From the island he merely sent a short note to the effect that stamps were likely to be authorised very soon.

Since then we have heard from Mr. D. B. Armstrong, editor of "Stamp Collecting," that rumour is current in London that the control of the island is to be transferred from Great Britain to the Union of South Africa.

In view of the Union's setting up a permanent meteorological station there, in addition to the fact that most of the island's communications are with Cape Town, this, on the face of it, would seem quite a likely possibility.

Enquiry has been made at the High Commissioner's Office, mentioning Mr. Crawford's statement and the London rumour. The reply came "This Office is not in a position to add at the moment to the information you have already received from Mr. Crawford."

That may be regarded as a statement signifying that something is definitely a-cooking, but we must still wait a little for fuller confirmation and details. We are prepared, however, to lay odds on Tristan soon becoming a South African dependency with its own stamps. Any takers?

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The Proof of the Pudding....

Since we first introduced ourselves to Southern African collectors through the medium of their own magazine (which, if they will pardon us saying so does so much credit to all) many have tested our previous statements about the comprehensiveness of our stock and our desire (as well as our capacity) to give first class service (no three weeks to fill an order will do for us) and all these now know that we were not just emitting hot air. We have got the stamps, and with us, it's delivery on the nail.

Mind, we only specialize in commonwealth stamps of the present reign; in other words, K.G. VI stamps of the whole of the British Commonwealth of Nations, but your collection of these fascinating issues will have to be nigh on complete if you cannot find something in our stock which you have not yet got, and it's all spread out for you in our monthly pricelist.

On the other hand, if you are just taking up this most popular of all groups of stamps, we can be more useful than ever, for we list in extenso all current as well as the obsolete; sets to 3d.; sets to a 1/; sets to the top value . . . they are all there in that selfsame list of ours.

And as regards prices, well, we may have a de luxe stock, and we may give a de luxe service but that does not prevent us competing with anybody when it comes to what we charge for our stamps.

Our list costs 2/- a year and if your intentions are serious, we will be glad to send by airmail the first copy, and that alone will cost us more than what you pay for a whole year, as postage comes to half-a-crown; but we are serious; we want to do business with you and we will make it worth your while to come in.

When you think of K.G. VI Commonwealth stamps think of the

The Commonwealth Stamp Coy.,

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JOHANNESBURG

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Collectors' Wants & Offers

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Exchange desired with collectors in all countries from the North Pole to the South Pole. Send 50 or 100 different varieties of your country and receive in return 50 or 100 different United States of EQUAL VALUE. No torn or damaged stamps given or wanted—only stamps off paper exchanged. We exchange value for value.
W. L. Bedard, Post Office Box 637, Detroit 31, Michigan, U.S.A.

Control strips of Union and Transvaal also mint blocks, cards and envelopes of many African countries.
E. Tamsen, Box 13, Nylstroom.

Bechuanaland stamps wanted, all issues specially S.G. 3, 7, 8, 18, 19, 20, 25, 29, 48, 49, 83 to 87, 99 to 110 mint and used. High prices paid.
Reply: Box 260, Durban.

Wanted: Old Post Office Guides, especially Cape, Natal, O.F.S., Transvaal, to 1910. Magazines exchanged, philatelic and non-philatelic.
Paul A. Dorn, Los Angeles 36, California.

Collections: 500 different British Colonials 21/-; 1,000 60/-; 1,500 £6 10/-; 100 different French war issues 15/6; 200 £2 15/-. Postage extra.
F. G. Fifoot, P.T.S. 125 College Road, Moseley, Birmingham, England.

GERMAN OCCUPATION "LOCALS"

"Gibbons Stamp Monthly" states that many of the issues bearing town or district names, particularly in the Russian zone, although starting life as "locals," later on were franking correspondence to any point in Germany, and will, therefore, have to be given full catalogue rank as German issues. There are, or were, others, however, made without proper authority, which did not appear to have fulfilled any postal function or, at most, only a very local one. These will be rigorously excluded from their catalogue. German catalogues are rumoured to be under way again, and they will no doubt be helpful in sorting the sheep from the goats.

They are meanwhile continuing the monthly instalments of their tentative listing of wartime issues in enemy and occupied countries.

TRANSJORDAN

This country commences its independent career by transgressing, according to "Stamp Collecting." Its set of nine commemoratives (1—200 mills) has a common design of a dove with an olive branch flying over a map of Transjordan and, underneath, a hand holding a torch of liberty. There are 75,000 sets (750 being imperforate—for presentation purposes) with an extra 25,000 of the 1 millieme. They are like modern Syrian pictorials, about as well printed, and will be on sale from 25th May to 25th September.

★

A BELGIAN RAMP

Two airmail stamps were issued with a face value of Frs. 17.50 and each with a surtax of Frs. 62.50 which will be devoted to the erection of an American memorial at Bastogne in the Ardennes.

As if this weren't enough the stamps were to be sold by subscription at the price of Frs. 160 from 15-30 June; the issue was limited to 200,000 of each stamp and if this was not enough to go round allocations were to be cut.

Philatelists should take their share as citizens in subscribing to worthy objects, but how long are they to continue to allow themselves to be exploited in this shameful way just as philatelists?

As a counterblast it should be recorded that as part of an attempt to make everything cheaper postal rates were reduced and the ordinary stamps have received a "minus 10 per cent." overprint. As this is being done locally at each post office there should be an infinitude of varieties.

★

ASCENSION "USED ABROAD"

A writer in "Stamp Collecting" reports that at one stage in the war the supply of St. Helena stamps in St. Helena ran short and permission was given for the use of Ascension stamps (which are normally stocked there) on a mail from St. Helena to Ascension. They were postmarked indistinctly and instructions were given that they were to be mutilated as well. This latter instruction was not always carried out, however, and some escaped. The known stamps are ½d. perf. 13½, 1d. perf. 13, and 1s. perf. 13½ and all were so used on one day, viz., 29th October, 1944.

★

INDIAN STATES "VICTORIES"

Bahawalpur. Most of the philatelic papers now chronicle the forthcoming 1 a Victory stamp from here, featuring flags of Allied Nations. "The Gen" for July again advises against buying it, but does not yet say why not.

Hyderabad. Also a single 1 a issue. It features a warrior returning home, but as "Stamp Collecting" points out, it makes the Indian Army smile for Indian Sepoys do *not* return home carrying their rifles with them.

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MODERN ISSUES AT LOW PRICES:

12	Austria Rep. Pictorial, m.	1/0
37	Austria Hammer & Sickle, cpl. with Dues	10/6
12	Curacao & Surinam Pictorials	4/6
16	Czech War Heroes, cpl. m.	6/6
7	Ionian Islands, Italian Occupation	1/6
12	Italy, War Propaganda, cpl. . .	6/6
18	Italy, Military Post o/pts. . .	6/6
21	Italy, Liberation w/airs cpl. . .	7/6
19	Luxembourg, Charlotte to 20 frs.	8/6
3	San Marino, Coat-of-Arms, m.	2/0
14	San Marino, Pictorial o/ptd. . .	2/6
1	San Marino (UNO—you know!)	5/6
8	Trieste, Venezia Giulia on Italy	1/6
10	Vatican, Pope Pius, Pictorial m.	7/6
9	Vatican, Prisoner of War, 3 sets cpl.	3/6

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M. MARTIN

St. Aubin's Rd., Jersey, C.I., England

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UNION CENSOR MARKS AND SEALS. 1939-1945.

A study of Censors' marks and seals is now generally regarded as a legitimate part of "war philately," although, strictly speaking, censoring is not a postal function. The censors must and do work, however, in close conjunction with the postal authorities and, as the results of their work which interest us are seen on the "entires" which so often tell the philatelist more than stamps alone can do, it is not unfitting that censors' marks have become a philatelic side-line.

The censoring which took place here may be broadly divided into military and civil; there was, of course, also naval censoring, but that is another story, not dealt with in this communication.

Military censorship came directly under "Military Intelligence" while the civil side fell under a specially appointed Controller of Censorship and his staff. This post was held by Mr. H. J. Lenton, a former Postmaster-General and liaison between the two sides of censoring was no doubt effected by his having the military rank of Brigadier. There was a certain amount of overlap between the two sides and it is not uncommon to find military mail which had been subjected to civil censorship, both mail which had already had military censoring and mail which had not. Civilian mail possibly also had military censoring at times, on reaching an army base or field unit.

For most of the actual war period almost all military mail was censored in one form or another—official correspondence generally, if not perhaps always, excepted. This did not, of course, mean that it was all opened and read, but it was always liable to be. In the case of civil mail, both purely domestic and inwards or outwards foreign mail, it likewise was not always censored; what was examined may have been for some specific reason, or it may merely have been part of random selections.

MILITARY CENSORING

This took place both in the Union and "Up North." In the latter much of it was done by officers of units as part of their general duties but there were also certain special Base Censor's depots.

Unit or departmental cachets might, to some extent at all events, be regarded as censoring marks indicating the official character of the mail, also serving, of course, as franks entitling it to free postage. Their number is legion and they are not further considered here.

The following lists of marks, etc., are of items actually seen by the writer and make no claim to be complete; additional records will be welcomed.

1. The simplest form of censoring was an officer's signature and rank in manuscript, with or without the word "Censored."

2. Certain forms of personal mail, although not necessarily either in official envelopes or with any unit's cachet received markings, either in manuscript or by rubber stamp, such as "Official Free—Department of Defence," "Certified Official," "Certified Official Mail," "Educational Matter/Certified Official." These markings were usually but not always accompanied by an officer's signature and may be taken as equivalent to censoring.

3. At one period, whilst serving with the Middle East Forces, and possibly in other areas as well, our troops had a ration of "Privilege Envelopes" issued to them. These were bilingually printed and on them it was stated "The contents of this envelope will not be censored at the unit, but are liable to censorship at the base." The sender had to sign (without rank or unit) the following declaration on the envelope: "I certify on my honour that the contents of this letter are of a private and family nature only." Officially this envelope was Army Form A3078.

4. This is the commonest form of censor stamp seen on service letters both from inside and from outside the Union, and this type was used by base units and depots as well as by field units. There were two varieties (See Figs. "a" and "e") the main difference being that in 4a the "Goedgekeur deur Sensor" is in one line whereas in 4b it is in two lines. The marks are usually in violet but are occasionally seen in purple, red or black. The numbers seen range from 2 to 403 but according to official information this is of no significance as regards the total number in use as, for security reasons, they were not issued serially but in "staggered" numbers. The initials in the marks stand for "Mobile Field Force . . . Union Defence Force." The marks were often, but not always accompanied by a signature or initials in manuscript. (Figures next month.)

5. This mark (See Fig. "f") has been noted mainly on letters from Natal and the Cape Eastern area, also on letters posted on board ship between Durban and Suez. In purple or black. The numbers seen have all been two or three-figure ones. The initials in this case stand for "Union Defence Force . . . Unie Verdediging Mag."

6. (See Fig. "b"). Only one copy, in deep violet, of this mark has been seen, on a letter sent from a military hospital in Johannesburg to an addressee in the same town. The letter had been opened and sealed with a seal (See below) of Var. 4, the seal being tied to the cover not only by this mark but by a mark of Civil type 7 with the letter "F" indicative of it having been done in Pretoria.

Official information is that this mark, with "Passed by D.M.I. (D 7c)," was used at the Directorate of Military Information, Pretoria, the D 7c being the abbreviation used for the censorship section.

7. (See Fig. "c"). This and the following mark have already been listed under East African marks (See "South African Philatelist,"

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Vol. 21, 1945, page 77) but from their bilingual character may be taken as definitely used by South African authorities. Nos. O1 and O2 have been seen, in red, and may tie a military censor's seal of the type described below after Mark 15.

8. Similar to No. 7, but with Sub-Base and Onder Hoofsensor in place of Base and Hoofsensor.

9. This and the following belong to non-European units. A rectangle 50 x 28 mm., with, in three lines "Indian and Malay/Corps/Censored." In violet, with or without initials in manuscript.

10. In four lines "Passed by Censor/Palmietkuil North Recruit/Training Depot/N.M. Corps" (N.M., Native Military). In violet, with an officer's signature and rank in manuscript.

11. What may be mentioned as a South African mark, as it was used in South Africa although not by a South African unit. This occurs on R.A.F. mail posted in Durban and is a square 30 mm. sides with "(an eagle)/R.A.F./Censor/977" in four lines. In violet. It may be mentioned that there were R.A.F. personel in training at many other camps in the Union but most, if not all, of these others were mixed R.A.F. and S.A.A.F. camps and there was no special R.A.F. censoring at them.

12. A mark which may or may not be a South African one. It was in use in East Africa in, at least, the early part of 1942 and has been recorded as from there in the "South African Philatelist," of April, 1946, page 53, as No. 23. It is a double circle mark, outer circle double lined and of 43-44 mm. diameter. Between the circles is "Military Censor" at the top and a five-pointed star at the bottom. In the centre is a large figure 11. In violet. It has been noted with a South African officer's signature *on top* of the mark and with the South African A.P.O. No. 20 mark. But, as this office was situated in Pretoria and can be found on mail originating from a number of places other than Pretoria itself, it is not helpful as a locative factor.

13. This and the following unilingual marks may be South African but further information about them is desired. A single 75 mm. long line "Passed by Censor" in block capitals 4 mm. high. In black. Known on cover posted on an auxiliary cruiser going round the coast. The only other mark is a Paquetbot one of a type known to have been in use at a South African port.

14. On a specially printed postcard for P.O.W's. in Italy. Half of the back of the card has printed on it "Space not available for correspondence—card subject to withdrawal if used," and there is this additional rubber stamp mark in violet "To avoid delays in censorship please write short and clear letters." On the address side is the Italian Censor mark "Verificato per Censura" and also what is probably a British mark applied in Egypt, "Deputy Chief Censor" in a small double circle mark with a crown in the centre.

15. A mark which may be regarded as partly of the nature of a censoring mark but is probably really more a free franking mark. This is a circle of 35 mm. diameter with B.T.A. in block capitals inside. These initials stand for "British Troops in Africa." The mark is commonly seen, for instance, on correspondence from patients in certain hospitals which were mainly or entirely for British troops, also from certain Transit Camps. The same initials may sometimes be seen in manucript when the sender was not in a position to have the official stamp applied, e.g., a patient convalescing on a farm.

MILITARY SEAL

The only special military seal which has been seen in use for closing opened letters was employed in East Africa and has already been noted as from there in the September, 1945, issue of the "South African Philatelist." It is a white label about 90 x 24 mm. with "Opened By Base Censor/Deur Hoofsensor Geopen" printed in black in block capitals 3 mm. high. The seal is usually tied to the cover by marks of Types 7 or 8 described above.

J. H. HARVEY PIRIE.

(To be continued)

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These perforation gauges are specially made for those requiring a reliable guaranteed accurate gauge. They are made in the form of a seven-inch rule and have a superb presentable finish. It is definitely a preferred gauge and thousands have been sold to satisfied clients including leading dealers and prominent philatelists. Have no doubt; it is THE gauge.

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West Indian Boxwood, 3s. each; ditto, with 90 mm. rule, 4s. each. Celluloid on Boxwood, 6s. each; ditto, with 90 mm. rule, 7s. each. "EBONIS," a patent black gauge with white markings, 15s. each. Elephant Ivory, 20s. each. The last two models include rule. All models range from 8 to 16 with ½ perfs. from 10. Postage 3d. Registration 3d. extra.

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ABYSSINIA

Gibbons have satisfied themselves that the 1936 unissued Red Cross, which appeared last year overprinted with a V (and an Amharic inscription signifying victory), is a legitimate postal series, and have listed it in the monthly supplement to their catalogue.

There are five values: 5, 10, 25 and 50 c. and 1 t.

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REVIEWS AND NOTICES

Musson's Airmail Catalogue. Part I, Europe. Published by N. K. Musson & Co., 494 Fulham Road, London S.W. 6. 1946, Price 5/- (post free from the publishers 5/6).

This is the first part of a world-wide priced catalogue of airmail stamps; part II will be the Americas, and part III the rest of the world.

Its scope includes (a) all stamps officially designated by issuing authorities, and (b) any other stamps which commemorate some event of significance in the history of postal aviation. It does not include those which merely have an aeronautical flavour but were not issued as air mails or as commemorating any event of significance in actual postal aviation.

It is very well illustrated, although for economy of space, the pictures are all reduced to about three-quarters natural size.

The prices, both for mint and postally used specimens, are average prices in Britain at the time of going to press.

We notice that some 1946 issues are included, but whether the catalogue is complete for the war years we are not in a position to say. However, if not, that is a matter which can be rectified in later editions.

The set-up is very pleasing and we feel sure airmail collectors will be glad to have a catalogue including their country at a modest figure, for few now attempt to make a world-wide collection.

Buyers of the catalogue can obtain free from the publishers a companion pocket diary sized "Collection Record" which they will find very handy.

The British Philatelist.

We are glad to see this publication appearing again from 65 Victoria Street, London, S.W.1, after a lapse of two years, the hiatus being caused by the death of Mr. Charles Nissen.

Stanley Gibbons.

This firm is now re-united at 391 Strand. They had to move a considerable part of their business out of London to St. Albans in November, 1940, following on the destruction of a good part of their stocks in a safe deposit and their staff in London having to spend much of their time in air-raid shelters.

★

NYASALAND

"Stamp Collecting" reports that a fresh printing of all values has appeared on a paper rather thinner than in the original printing. The shade changes are very slight and the perforations are unchanged.

Unofficially we hear that the latest printing did not include the 1d., to which there has been so much objection about the length of the native's neck, and it seems likely that this stamp will be replaced by a new one when the Victory Set goes out.

AUSTRIA

In our June issue mention was made of a set of ten values, up to 60 g, of a pictorial issue. Mr. F. Prager, of Johannesburg, submits a 3 s stamp apparently belonging to the same series. He comments that this stamp may not be much used as most air mail letters from Austria, at the rate of 3 s for 65 grammes bear at most a 50 g stamp, and a hand-written endorsed "Taxe percue, 3.15 g. (Signature)."

Actually word has since arrived that some 11 additional values have been added to this landscape series, there being interpolated groschen values and schillings up to 5. They are said not to be very popular in their homeland, mainly, we gather, because there are no inscriptions indicating where or what the various scenes are.

SWITZERLAND

A set of four stamps came out on 15th June, the National Fete Day, which have a surtax for the aid of Swiss in foreign countries. The 5+5 features cheese manufacture, the 10+10 a typical Vaud chalet, the 20+10 an Appenzell farmhouse, and the 30+10 an Engadine house with old wall paintings.

MAURITIUS

A short commemorative series is foretold to mark the centenary of the famous Post Offices stamps issued in 1847.

SOUTHERN RHODESIA

There is still no official notice of the design or date of appearance of the Victory Set of 1d., 2d., 3d. and 6d.

MOZAMBIQUE

We have already chronicled the provisional 60 on 1.75 opt. in red capitals; now there has appeared a 10 on 15 opt. in black in lower-case type.

BURMA VICTORY STAMPS

The set of four issued on 2nd May is of large upright format, all with an outline map of Burma and the King's head in a medallion at top. Below, the designs differ. The 9 p. has the head and shoulders of a male Burman, the 1½ a. a Burma girl sitting below a parasol, the 2 a. a mythological animal, and the 3 a. 6 p. an "elephant a-hauling teak."

BRITISH PACIFIC ISLANDS:

VICTORY SETS: 11 NEW ZEALAND 6/-; 4 W. SAMOA 4 COOK IS.; 4 NIUE 2/- EACH SET; 3 AUSTRALIAN 1/3.
PICTORIALS: 10 W. SAMOA 10 COOK IS.; 10 NIUE ½d. to 3/- 10/6 EACH SET; 14 N.Z. ½d. to 3/- 13/6.
12 AUSTRALIAN ½d. to 2/- 8/-; FINE USED 2/6.
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SOCIETY NEWS

NYASALAND PHILATELIC SOCIETY

President, Mr. T. Bartlett; *Hon. Sec.,* Mr. McMicking; *Meetings,* 2nd Mondays, Tobacco Auction Rooms, Limbe, 5 p.m.

At the April meeting thirteen members were present. Under items of interest the question was asked how many stamps of the present issue of Malta contain the Maltese Cross. The answer is seven. Another query was "What is the 'Jones' paper used for New Zealand stamps?" Yet another—"How many times do '½d.' and '1d.' appear on the current Nyasaland issue?" This was answered correctly.

A discussion followed over the enormous number of letters received by the secretary from all over the world wanting correspondence and exchanges. It was agreed that he could not be expected to answer them all, but the letters would be tabled at each meeting and anyone might take on the responsibility of answering any particular item that appealed to him.

(We might suggest that any letters not taken on, be sent to us and we would consider publishing the names and addresses.—Ed.)

★

THE JEWISH GUILD PHILATELIC SECTION

Chairman, Mr. H. Marcuson; *Hon. Sec.,* Mr. I. Isaacs, 910 His Majesty's Buildings, Eloff Street, Johannesburg; *Meetings,* last Thursdays, at the Jewish Guild Memorial Hall, Von Brandis Street, Johannesburg.

At the meeting held on June 28, the exhibit was provided by Mr. W. Oppenheim who showed British Somaliland. His exhibit included an almost complete collection, including some specimens and errors. In many of the issues used as well as mint items were included. Both sets of King George VI were complete. The overprints included the missing "i" error.

Dr. Kaplan spoke on the collection.

During the evening many items changed hands. Mr. Buchen read some interesting notes from recent philatelic periodicals. There was a record attendance at the meeting, including some lady visitors. All persons interested are welcome to attend the meetings of the Guild Philatelic Section.

I.I.

★

THE PHILATELIC SOCIETY OF NATAL

President, Mr. W. H. Winde; **Hon. Sec.,** Mr. G. Milner Palmer, P.O. Box 588, Durban; **Meetings,** 1st and 3rd Wednesdays at 31 London Assurance House, 319 Smith Street (in room of the Durban Camera Club, top floor) 7.30 p.m.

The monthly meeting, held on July 3, was again an outstanding success; members and visitors being well over the 60 mark. The fourth exhibit in the "Percy P. Bishop" Cup took place. Mr. J. Jyle exhibiting his Australian collection, which created great interest not only on account of the material shown but because of the manner of the write up and setting out, which was very pleasing indeed and was remarked upon by Mr. A. S. Maskell, who proposed the vote of thanks. The President would be pleased if any visitors who would like to contact members would call and see him at No. 8 London Chambers when they are in Durban, so that they would have an opportunity of meeting some of the philatelists here.

★

PRETORIA PHILATELIC SOCIETY

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

July 1.—It was reported that the Society's printed syllabus and membership list would probably be ready for issue by the end of the month. The President told the meeting that the arrangements for the Jacaranda Week Exhibition at the Technical College were going well and smoothly. Our old friend "Gio" (Mr. W. J. Giovanetti) came to light with a very interesting and informative paper dealing with the Egyptian Seals for inter-postal use prior to their regular postal issues, and he also tabled a display of these seals that evoked considerable interest and discussion. The evening's proceedings were brought to a close with an auction sale.

July 15.—Dr. J. A. Broughton, of the Jacaranda Week Exhibition sub-committee, reported that they had decided that the exhibition would mainly be one illustrating the trends of stamp design rather than specialised collections as they were of the opinion that this type of exhibition would be the best suited to arouse public interest in what philatelists are and do. This evening we again had the pleasure of listening to Mr. W. Oppenheim, well known both in Pretoria and Johannesburg philatelic circles, expounding some of his progressive ideas in an all embracing review of the field of philately of which a resumé is given elsewhere.

August.—The first Monday being a public holiday the usual meeting will be held on Tuesday, 6th. On the 19th Dr. A. J. Broughton will deal with Belgian Charity issues.

J.J.W.

★

EAST RAND PHILATELIC SOCIETY

President, Capt. J. A. B. van Wyk; *Hon. Secretary,* E. N. Riff, 103 Kenston Avenue, Benoni.

June.—Attendance fair, and after items of interest had passed round and the news of the month had been given, Mr. Suklje exhibited another section of his George VI stamps. This was the sixth series that he has shown and the countries that were exhibited contained all the high values, the whole exhibit being in blocks of four, and this very nearly completes the series of these stamps.

July.—The evening's exhibit was provided by Mr. Gillmore; he has always pleaded that he has not much to display, but he sprung a surprise on us when he placed his Union of South Africa stamps down. This collection is one of the best seen lately, and included singles, pairs, and blocks of 4 in mint and used condition of all issues, including commemoratives and air mails. There were numerous varieties, inverted watermarks, and shades in all the issues. The collection was a credit to anyone having the excuse that he had nothing to show, and we would like to see more of this member's collections at our meetings.

E.N.R.

★

PORT ELIZABETH PHILATELIC SOCIETY

President, Mr. G. K. Forbes; *Hon. Sec.,* Mr. P. G. Smith, 13 Trafalgar Square, Port Elizabeth; *Meetings,* 1st and 3rd Tuesdays in Room 8, City Hall Basement, at 7.45 p.m.

The auction held on July 2 was on a large scale and some of the packets had to be held over. The second meeting was held on the 16th, and Mr. Forbes was in the chair.

Mr. Wicks was responsible and tabled 21 pages of Bechuanaland. He had neatly printed an interesting paper about the Protectorate from its earliest days. Some very fine specimens were shown, one worth mentioning was the 2d. of 1887, and another one face value £1 of 1888.

A warm welcome was given to Mr. C. Larsen, of Bloemfontein, once a member of the Port Elizabeth Society. After the meeting, Mr. Larsen showed us some pages of his S.W.A. collection. These pages had very few vacant places, and in most cases were complete; the entire collection was mounted on black paper, making the stamps stand out very clearly.

In an earlier issue, it was stated that Mr. Brassil was on the auction committee, and I would like to correct that. It was Mr. Basil Jones.

Mr. Malcolm, the secretary, has resigned, and Mr. P. G. Smith has taken over.

L.E.C.

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THE PHILATELIC SOCIETY OF JOHANNESBURG

President, Mr. L. Buchen; *Hon. Sec.*, Mr. J. H. Jenkins, P.O. Box 4967; *Meetings*, 2nd Tuesdays, Public Library, 7.45 p.m.

At the meeting held on July 9, Dr. A. Kaplan exhibited his Australians. This was a complete collection of all issues in fine mint condition. Numerous blocks showing imprints were included. There were also several first day covers as well as special air flight covers. The chief varieties were shown.

Commander Enoch spoke on the exhibit. During the evening there was an interesting quiz arranged by Dr. A. Kaplan. Two teams of three members each took part amongst much good natured bantering from the audience.

Many interesting items changed hands at the auction.

I.I.

★

EAST LONDON PHILATELIC SOCIETY

President, C. P. Durkin; *Hon. Sec.*, A. W. Stander, P.O. Box 694, East London; *Meetings*, 2nd Fridays, above Colosseum Theatre Tea Room, at 7.45 p.m.

July.—The idea of a Stamp Exhibition (to be held during the time of the East London Centenary celebrations) having been adopted in principle by the local committee, no unsurmountable obstacle should arise. Collectors are therefore given ample warning to arrange their 1948 holidays accordingly, when they will receive a hearty welcome from the East London Philatelic Society.

At this meeting Mrs. Watts displayed aeroplane stamps. This is not a misnomer for air stamps. Practically every stamp incorporated an aeroplane in the design or the overprint.

Many collections are not written up—Mrs. Watts first placed on the table ten pages of typed notes sketching the progress of air travel from Phaeton and Icarus to Wright Bros. and Lindbergh, and on to modern times. These sheets were illustrated with appropriate stamps.

Thereafter one was reminded of the Widows' Cruse that never failed. I did not count but think about 400 sheets were shown.

Mrs. Courlander and Makin then exhibited.

N.C.C.

★

ORANGE FREE STATE AND BASUTOLAND PHILATELIC SOCIETY

President, Mr. M. Liss; Hon. Secretary, Mr. R. G. Lyon, Box 702, Bloemfontein; Meetings, 3rd Fridays each month, Oranje Koffiehuis, Bloemfontein, 7.30 p.m.

April Meeting.—The attraction of the evening was a display of two "subject" collections in lighter vein, belonging to Mr. A. Lichtenstein and featuring "Animals" and "Ships" on stamps. Both collections made a good show and were of great interest, especially to the young visitors who attended the meeting.

May Meeting.—Mr. M. Liss received a vote of thanks for his sterling work in connection with the Bloemfontein Centenary covers, the sale of which realised a handsome sum for the "Thank you, Britain Fund." He was also responsible for a competition for a "First-Day Victory cover," autographed by Field-Marshal Smuts, also in aid of the mentioned fund. The winner of the competition was the Philatelic Society of Natal.

Mr. J. B. Levy gave two interesting displays. The first one, which he named "The old Curiosity Shop," contained many thrilling and weird items, as for instance: covers damaged in a plane crash, by ship's fire or by sea water, a document with the original signature of Cecil Rhodes, "miscarried" covers, etc. The second exhibit consisted of his fine "Newfoundland" collection, the feature of which was a flown "Do-X" cover, and, in general, the excellent condition of all the material shown.

Another attractive display was given by Mr. C. A. Larsen who presented and elucidated various "S.W. African out-of-the-way items," as for instance: S.W.A. Revenue stamps showing the same varieties and spacings of the overprint as can be found on the postage stamps of that period; a pair of the bantam war issue, one stamp showing the overprint out of position and shifted far to the left; a 1/- stamp of the same issue with inverted overprint.

June Meeting.—It was most gratifying to notice the many visitors and newcomers. The scheduled display could not take place, so Mr. Larsen again jumped into the breach and exhibited some fine collections which he had acquired from his late father.

July Meeting.—Again there were many visitors present, four of them being enrolled as members. After an auction sale of various stamp lots, Mr. Liss delighted the meeting with a practically complete array of the various "Free French issues." None of those colourful sets, many of which have "sky-rocketted" on the market, was missing.

K.F.

★ ★ ★

EXCHANGES

African Collectors' Exchange, P.O. Box 5403, Johannesburg. We have received a copy of "The Ace of Clubs," the official organ of this exchange club. It is a stencilled magazine appearing six times a year and is, frankly, a little difficult to read in places. An editorial states, however, that a photo-litho plant is on order for producing it. The organisation is stated to have been established over 20 years, and we gather there is a good world-wide membership. The subscription is 10s. per annum.

U.M.C., Casella Postale 913, Milan, Italy. This is also a World Union of Collectors with a bi-monthly magazine published in Italian, English and French, re-started after six years of inactivity. The list of members given in a sample copy received includes seven in South Africa, several of the names being familiar. Subscription 8s. per annum.

Italia International Club, Via Lipari 8, Milan, Italy, with a quarterly organ "The International Philatelist." Exchange of stamps, coins, curios—anything. Subscription 1 dollar U.S.A. or equivalent in mint stamps. Correspondence may be sent to P.O. Box 1344, Pretoria.

Numismat. Karel S. Haussman of Pardubice, Jirikova ul 692, Bohemia, is preparing a list of collectors—of coins, mainly, but also of stamps, plastic art, etc. Six numbers annually of exchange list. Subscription 2 dollars U.S.A. or equivalent.

Australia. Mr. W. G. Greenfield has four collectors in his family at 105 Longueville Road, Lane Cove, N.S.W., and wishes at least three African correspondents (one, but not all, in the Union) for exchange or would buy *unpicked* mixtures by the pound.

Belgium. (Sent on through the Department of Interior.) Mrs. Emilie Lemoire, of Rue de Bouchers 75, Brussels, is an ardent philatelist, but is of very scanty means. She would like to receive some stamps of Southern Africa.

★

INDIA

Several philatelic papers have illustrated "Azad Hind" (Free India) stamps made in Germany and in Burma for use when India was to be occupied by the "Indian National Army" organised by Subhas Chandra Bose.

A number of these have apparently recently come on the market. They must fall into the category of unissued stamps, but in view of the approaching independence of India they will be of interest to collectors of that country.

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"Mrs. Atway left for the coast
WEARING CRISP WHITE PIQUE . . ."
(Society report)

That is what travel by the S.A.R. will be like. White will stay white. Kiddies will stay pink and clean, "fit to be seen" throughout the trip. Every cranny in your coach will be c-l-e-a-n-. . . .

The S.A.R. planning department hasn't rested during the difficult years. From departmental chiefs downwards, all are after that smut that worried you.

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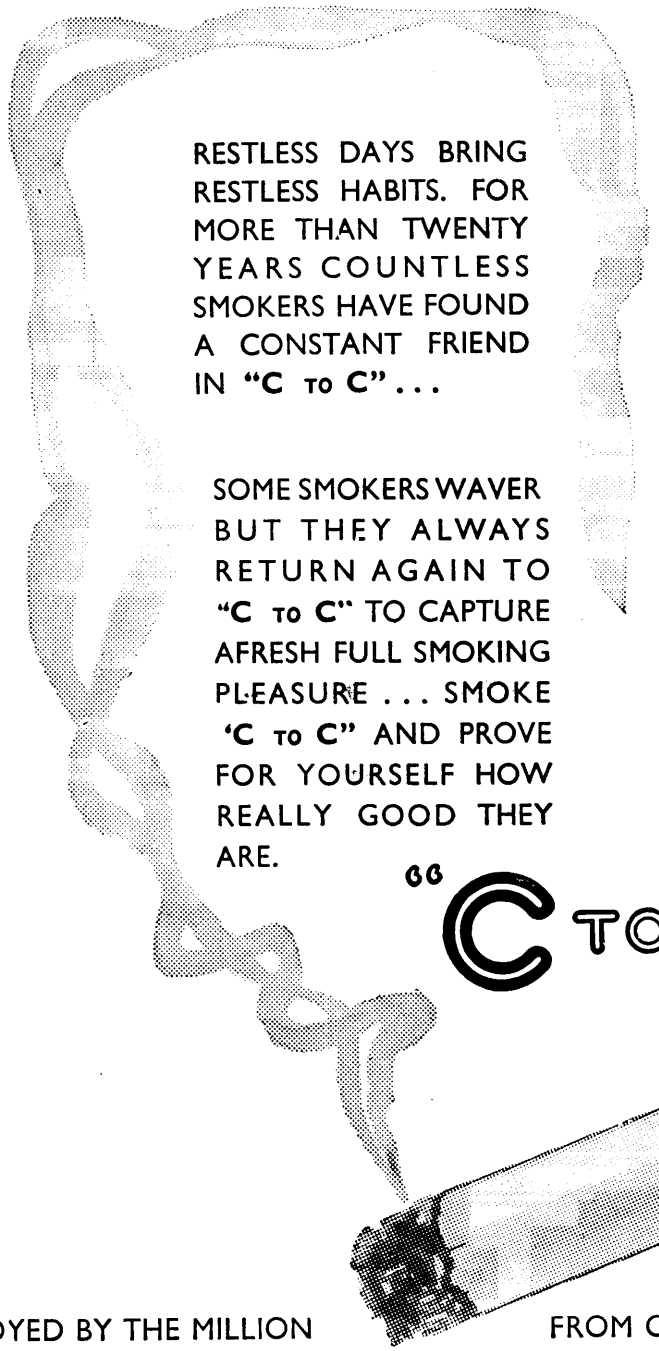

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ENJOYED BY THE MILLION FROM CAPE TO CAIRO

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Proprietors and Publishers:

THE PHILATELIC FEDERATION OF SOUTHERN AFRICA

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Vol. 22, No. 9. **SEPTEMBER, 1946.** **Whole No. 258**

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The
SOUTH AFRICAN PHILATELIST

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The Philatelic Federation of Southern Africa

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Subscription: Eight Shillings per annum, post free to any part of the World.

Vol. 22, No. 9. **SEPTEMBER, 1946.** **Whole No. 258**

EDITORIALLY SPEAKING

SELLING STAMPS

The "hare" started in our July issue has not brought out many hounds. In fact, no one, dealer or otherwise, has replied in writing. One dealer, however, has verbally stated why he did not as a general rule quote his buying prices. His statement was to the effect that would-be sellers might broadly be divided into two classes—those who knew their stamps and those who did not. With the former class he was quite prepared to make an offer, i.e., quote his buying price. As a rule, however, he seldom had to, as he found that the seller had usually made up his mind what his selling price was and stated it first. With regard to the second class, they usually had such exaggerated ideas of value that to quote his buying price right off simply resulted in scaring them off and making any business impossible. He found it better to allow them to state what they thought the stamps were worth and then gently to break the sad news to them what the real value was. In this way a compromise was sometimes arrived at and business done.

ARTICLES ON "FOREIGN" STAMPS

In another column will be found a letter from the Rev. W. Loxley Chamings which we hope will be read and acted on by some of our readers. It has been held over for some time till a suitable occasion for publication, and in the meantime we understand that Mr. Chamings has moved from Klerksdorp to the Transkei. He asks us to cater a little more for those collectors whose vision is not confined to the covers of the Red Gibbons but to remember that there is also a Green Gibbons. In other words, after fulfilling the primary purpose for which the "South African Philatelist" was taken over by the Philatelic Federation (providing a medium for the publication of specialised articles on the philately of South Africa), to cater for collectors of foreign stamps as well as for those of British Empire stamps. Editorially speaking, the answer to this is easy: we would like to, as we have no wish to be parochial in our outlook. . . .

It is no easy matter making a monthly paper of limited size both a specialised and a general magazine. So far as the latter phase is concerned, it has really three parts: (a) New issue news. At one time we published a full statement of all new issues; this had perforce to be given up during the war, as the information was simply not obtainable. It could be restarted, however, if a majority of our readers so desire. (b) "Shorts"—notes on some new issues or on anything of general interest. These are mainly culled from oversea journals, with acknowledgments. After giving preference to anything of special South African interest, we try to make these as diverse as possible. As a matter of interest we counted the "shorts" not dealing with any Southern African country in our last two numbers. In each there were 15 in all; in one eight and in the other nine of these dealt with foreign countries. (c) Longer non-specialised articles. These, we take it, are what Mr. Chamings is particularly concerned with, and here we admit that articles of general interest on foreign countries are few and far between. We regret this is so and we would only too willingly consider any such articles submitted for publication. Otherwise our answer is the same as that recently given by Mr. Stanley Phillips, editor of "Gibbons' Stamp Monthly" to critics complaining that he had too many articles dealing with stamp designs or with histories of stamp-issuing countries as compared with contributions dealing with stamps themselves, perforations, shades, varieties, etc. He admitted the impeachment but stated that he was in the hands of his authors unless he was prepared to sit down and write the articles himself, which we gather he was not. Neither are we, as both the inclination and the ability are lacking.

We shall be very pleased to hear from our readers on any aspect of this matter and shall endeavour to meet their wishes, short of writing everything ourselves.

★

ITALY

All current stamps are being overprinted "Repubblica Italiana" pending the preparation of a new series.

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UNION AND S.W.A. NOTES

UNION CATALOGUE

The following note has been received from the Philatelic Society of Natal anent the publication of the catalogue: —

This publication by the Philatelic Federation of Southern Africa is expected from our printers shortly, and wholesale orders may now be placed with Mr. G. Milner Palmer, P.O. Box 588, Durban. The published price will be 7s. 6d., and a discount of one-third will be allowed to Stamp Dealers and Booksellers, on orders of not less than 12 copies ex Durban. The book will not be retailed by the publishers, and members of the public should place their orders at their stamp or book shop.

The catalogue will be up-to-date, exhaustive, and well-illustrated, and will contain several features not previously given in any publication. A considerable sale is anticipated, and as every collector of the Union is anxiously waiting to secure his copy, orders will be executed in rotation.

Catalogue Fund.

Mr. Horace C. Adams in writing from California (with a donation of 10 dollars for the Catalogue Fund, and order for a copy), states that he is the possessor of a complete file of the "South African Philatelist," beginning with No. 1 of "The Union Philatelist." There are very few such complete files in existence—it is only recently that we managed to get a full one in our own office.

Air Mails of South Africa.

Under this heading the "Aero-Field" of July commences an article by N. C. Baldwin. The present contribution deals with the various flights and services from 1911 to 1938 and is a good short summary of them.

S.W.A. 1s. *Bantam Overprint*

Mr. A. Lichtenstein raises the interesting question whether or not there is a third type of overprint. We all know the two types, listed by Gibbons as Types 29 and 30, but Mr. Lichtenstein submits two pairs of current stamps with an overprint, probably introduced in 1945, which seems to be rather smaller than the small type 30 of S.G. Measurements give the heights of the S in the overprint as 2.5 mm. in Type 29, 2 mm. in Type 30 and 1.75 mm. in the (?) third type. We just received these specimens as we went to press and have not had time to follow up with examination on a larger number of stamps.

Will some of our readers please make observations and report on this matter?

6d. *Bantam Inverted Overprint*

Mr. H. C. Nöckler sends the following information from Omaruru:

"Seeing that the Bantams are slowly disappearing, it will surely be of interest to your readers to know that a few weeks ago another *inverted* S.W.A. overprint was sold over the counter before a philatelic expert noticed the misprint. This time it is the 6d. value, with the S.W.A. overprint inverted, a worthy follower of the 1s. inverted of which, as far as I can gather, about 50 pairs were rescued before being used on parcels and telegrams. Incidentally, this 1s. inverted S.W.A. can't be got even at £25 a pair now. What then of the few pairs of the 6d. that will be available for collectors? The best information I can get is that 10 pairs were sold in Windhoek, about 20 pairs are still available, and 8 pairs are inaccessible. Of the 20 pairs 2 are cancelled and were taken off parcels. The rest are scattered and here and there one might be found on parcels (condition questionable!) by a keen-eyed philatelist. That is all that remains of this sheet. Fortunately the control number of the sheet is available with one of the blocks, which at all events confirms the genuineness of the sheet.

In view of the fact that so few are available this is likely to be a very expensive item for the specialised collector, especially when overseas enquiries come in."

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Luxemburg (38)
Martinique (32)
Macao (95)
Nicaragua (57)
Port. Guinea (69)
Port. India (38)
Portugal (82)
Russia (Wrangel) (38)
Surinam (54)
St. Thomas (39)
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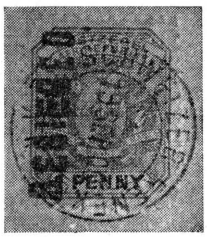
THE STATUS OF THE SCHWEIZER RENEKE STAMPS

By DR. K. FREUND.

Every serious student of South Africa's philatelic history will appreciate Dr. Pirie's efforts to bring more light and to initiate more elucidations on some of the "local" issues of the Anglo-Boer War. Although very interesting products of a stirring period in South Africa's history, some of them are still somewhat enigmatic after the passing of nearly half a century. In his article in the July number of this magazine (p. 108), Dr. Pirie presents the Schweizer Reneke stamps for discussion; these have been regarded with suspicion to even a greater extent than the Mafeking Siege stamps, their more famous predecessors which are now well-established classics.

Gibbons' catalogue, usually representing the standard opinion of British philately, does *not* recognise the Schweizer Reneke stamps as a *"particular"* issue. This term is, strictly speaking, not a normal philatelic one. It can imply here several meanings: Firstly it can mean that the overprint is sort of irrelevant and does not make the issue a "definite" one. It can also imply that the issue is just a "speculative" one. Or it can mean that the overprint was unnecessary and unauthorised, and the issue is therefore "not legitimate." All these three implications are, of course, linked with each other.

I admit I can add nothing to the actual facts already known and cited by Dr. Pirie, but I may be allowed to add some new angles in this problem:



I. *The overprint is not a mere "defacing."*

Stanley Gibbons base their negative attitude on the assumption that the overprint consists of the word BESIEGED, impressed with a hand-stamp in "violet," *as well as* of the impression of the Post Office obliterating stamp. Their way of thought is, as far as I understand it: The strange combination of the overprinted word BESIEGED with the date cancellation, purporting to be *also* part of the overprint, is unorthodox and constitutes a mere "defacing" of no philatelic consequence.

In my opinion, Stanley Gibbons and those sharing their view have either been misinformed or they have misinterpreted the original information given by Col. Chamier and reported soon thereafter by B. W. H. Poole ("South African Provisional War Stamps," 1901, pp. 54, 55). I think these original reports never *intended* to imply that the impression of the date canceller was meant to be part of the overprint. Here is what B. W. H. Poole—whom I miss in Dr. Pirie's citations—has to say (p. 55):

> ". . . All the stamps in the village were commandeered by the military authorities, and these were surcharged with the word "BESIEGED" in large letters in black . . . and *then* (the italics are mine) cancelled with the ordinary Z.A.R. date stamp."

Apparently this little word "then" has caused all the misunderstanding. It is an elastic expression and need not necessarily mean "immediately thereafter."

What must have happened is obviously this: Col. Chamier, as Dr. Pirie has cited in his article, made up the setting "BESIEGED" from a collection of old letters found in the post office. The word BESIEGED by itself was insufficient, as it would have implied in the case of the Transvaal stamps that the whole of Transvaal, and in the case of the Cape stamps that the whole of the Cape was being "besieged." Nevertheless, Col. Chamier did not make up an additional setting of the words SCHWEIZER RENEKE from the lot of types found, either because there was not sufficient type for that, or—what is more probable—because the lettering of this name was far too extensive to fit also into the small space of the stamp as an additional overprint. However, the dilemma was apparently solved by the consideration that *in any case, when the stamp would do its ultimate duty of franking and would receive the postal cancellation,* this cancellation would clearly show the *name* of the place being "besieged."

This is, in my opinion, what was actually meant in those original informations. The cancellation was certainly meant to supplement the overprint by giving the name of the besieged place. But for that purpose there was no necessity at all that it should lose its character as a cancellation.

The matter becomes quite clear, if one considers only the *daily change of date* in the canceller. Surely, there were not incessant daily printings for months on end! The quantity of stamps issued is far too small for such an assumption.

These considerations serve to prove that the original information could not have *meant* to imply that the cancellation was part of the overprint, even if their wording was not quite precise.

That also *in fact* the cancellation cannot be regarded as part of the overprint, has been proved in "Africa" (the R.P.S. work, part III) and by Dr. Pirie, by correctly pointing out that all known copies "on

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piece" (or on cover) clearly indicate that the cancellation has been applied *after* the stamp was affixed on the paper. Indeed, the circumference of the circular date stamp is altogether of such a size that parts of it *had* to extend in *all* cases the limits of the stamp space. Thus, for simple practical and technical reasons, it could *never* have been part of the overprint.

Incidentally, there can be no doubt that Stanley Gibbons' note referring to the "violet" shade of the overprint BESIEGED is obviously incorrect. All other authentic sources give the shade as "*black*," and I also have always seen the overprint in black only.

II. *The issue itself is not "speculative."*

There is, I think, no justification either in slighting the Schweizer Reneke stamps in their entirety for being a "speculative" issue. That many specimens were "probably" disposed of in a speculative manner, as it is suggested in "Africa," can surely not stigmatise the issue itself. Many desirable and rare objects are grabbed up by speculators, evidently without becoming something despicable through this fact.

Even if many copies appear to have been cancelled "to order," such fact can only minimise the value of those copies concerned. Col. Chamier tells us that many letters were sent to the outside world. There is really no reason to disbelieve this information, even if only very few entires have turned up so far and most of the covers do not seem to have been preserved. People always write letters, and it would be surprising if they should suddenly refrain from it for no apparent reason. The more so, when they are in the midst of extraordinary and troublesome conditions like in a siege. It is human nature that *just* in such conditions people should be more anxious than ever to avail themselves of any possible communication to the outside world and to let their friends and beloved ones know that they are safe. So why presume categorically that "probably" hardly any letters were sent and the issue was merely made with an eye to speculation?

It is notable that there was a complete absence of any of those modern machinations, like special "commemorative" postmarks (the old austere cancellation with the Z.A.R. mark was kept) or "first day" covers, or any other of those philatelic practices which are so popular and "quite in order" to-day, and which have no repercussions whatever on the stamp issues concerned.

III. *The overprint and the issue were "necessary."*

Col. Chamier informs us that the only means of communication to the outside world was by employing native runners. He therefore found it necessary to device some means of *restricting and checking the number of letters* sent from the beleaguered village which would enable the military authorities to have the sole control (see Poole, p. 54).

The special stamp issue was the solution which had to have a special designation for the purposes of control.

Col. Chamier chose the overprint "BESIEGED." This overprint was the more suitable as many of the stamps were "Z.A.R." issues and as also the cancellation which was kept for austerity reasons, contained the "Z.A.R." mark.

The arguments whether a "V.R." or "V.R.I." overprint would have been also suitable or more suitable, are idle in my opinion. The fact is that Col. Chamier preferred the word "BESIEGED," and in my opinion this overprint was necessary and met the case fully, because

(1) it expressed the "siege" character of the issue, marking it as a "limited" and "controlled" one and justifying any shortcomings;

(2) it gave an explanation and justification for the use of Z.A.R. stamps,

(3) and also for the use of a Z.A.R. cancellation;

(4) it would have been undesirable and undignified for a British *garrison* in particular to use plain Boer issues and cancellations;

(5) it was more fitting for a small Commandant to apply the uncompromising word "BESIEGED" than the letters "'V.R.I." which were in general the prerogative of the higher authorities (see also Yardley in "Africa," as quoted by Dr. Pirie).

IV. *The stamps are not mere "locals," but a "full, regular" issue.*

Summarising, I believe that the Schweizer Reneke stamps are indeed a "particular" issue, as they

(1) were "legitimately" issued by the authority in power,

(2) were "necessary" to meet and control the demand for the dispatch of siege letters,

(3) have done genuine postal duty, as Col. Chamier has assured us and Dr. Pirie can prove with actual examples,

(4) are different and distinguishable from other issues by a pronounced overprint "BESIEGED."

What more should be demanded from an issue in order that it can be called "particular"?

I would like to go even further and say that they are *more* than just a "local" issue as has been suggested. According to the "Glossary of Philatelic Terms" compiled for the Philatelic Congress of Great Britain and revised some years before the war, "locals" are stamps "whose *franking validity is limited* to a town, district or route in any country."

It lies in the nature of any siege letter that its destination should normally be the outside world *beyond* the surrounding enemy force. Dr. Pirie has indeed chronicled a Schweizer Reneke cover in his article, which was addressed and conveyed to South Wales, the affixed Schweizer Reneke stamp having apparently been valid without the require-

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ment of any additional franking (see also example of Mafeking siege covers).

This proves that the Schweizer Reneke stamps, though produced in a small place, were valid for postage on letters going "abroad" and have therefore in my opinion the full status of a regular "particular" issue.

★ ★ ★

BRITISH "VICTORIES"

These have not had a very favourable reception in the press, philatelic or ordinary. The colours and printing are generally conceded to be good, but few have kind words to say about the designs of either of them. American philatelic comment is even more outspoken, and "Linn's Weekly" suggests they are diabolic rather than symbolic and quite sufficient to start a war among stamp collectors.

Despite the criticisms, however, the demand for both values has been so great, that in order to keep them on sale till mid-August the total printings had to be increased to 300 million of the 2½d. and 42 million of the 3d.

A number of minor varieties have been described, perhaps the most noticeable one being a 3d. with seven berries instead of six on the olive branch. This occurs on stamp 71 and 115 of the sheet, but only, in either case, on certain plate numbered sheets, not on all.

★

BRITISH COLONIALS

Gambia is being brought into line with other W. African Colonies by having a 1s. 3d. stamp.

Bahamas. The forthcoming 10d. is to be orange-yellow in colour.

Kenya. There have been fresh printings of a number of values with slight shade changes and one marked change—the 1c black and chocolate-brown in place of the black and red-brown, which has been in service since 1942. No changes in paper or perforations fortunately.

Fiji. According to the Commonwealth Stamp Coy. this colony was the first to put its Victory set on sale (May 17), followed two days later by Gambia. They also state that, contrary to expectations, *Newfoundland* is not bringing out a Victory set.

Bahawalpur. Not a colony, but an independent Indian State, nevertheless, we may refer to its Victory issue here. A single stamp of 1½a in emerald and pearl-grey, printed by de la Rue. Its central design shows the flags of China, Britain, Bahawalpur, U.S.A., and U.S.S.R. It has inscriptions in English and Arabic. According to "The Gen" only 28 per cent. of dealers' orders were met (the issue is said to have been only 100,000). This possibility was envisaged, hence their previous advice not to order stamps; to ensure fair distribution they are supplying registered readers with one copy, and one only, at 2s. 6d.

REVIEWS AND NOTICES

"The Canada and Newfoundland Stampless Cover Catalogue," by Harry M. Konwiser and Frank W. Campbell. Published by Stephen G. Rich, Verona N.J., U.S.A. Price $2.00.

This is a record of all stampless covers of Canada and Newfoundland which the editors could compile with the help of a large number of collaborators; but there are sure to be many others in existence and the editors would welcome additional listings. They include all handstamps used in post offices on stampless covers up to October 5, 1875, as it was only on this date that prepayment of postage in Canada became compulsory. They avoid confusion by using the terms "stampless cover" and "mark" or "postmark." The term "prestamp cover" would rule out about half their material since it is of a period when stamped usage (often at the same offices on the same dates) also occurred.

The catalogue is excellently illustrated with the different types of marks. Anyone with stampless pre-October, 1875, Canadian covers should check up on this list; something that looks quite ordinary may be a new record or it may solve a problem, verify a doubtful listing or fill a puzzling gap in this record.

"The Philatelic Dictionary. English-French-German," by Dr. Eric Singer. Published by Robson Lowe, Ltd., 50 Pall Mall, London, S.W.1. Price 5/-.

An excellent companion to have, now that it is possible again to get and read again magazines and books in French or German, as well as in English. The dictionary is suitable for French or German readers as well as for English-speaking ones as it is in three sections, each one with the respective language coming first.

Its scope is limited to Countries, Numerals, Colours and general philatelic terms. The last part has endeavoured to give all essentials without omitting too much, but it is realized that it is impossible always to give an exact translation as the terms are often a matter of controversy even in one language.

It is felt that this is a useful beginning and we agree with this view, but ideas for improvement and additions will be welcomed. It may be said that Sir John Wilson, the Keeper of the King's Stamps, and several other prominent British philatelists gave help and constructive criticism before the work finally went to press; so its quality may be assured.

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UNION CENSOR MARKS AND SEALS. 1939-1945.

(*Continued from page* 129 *of August issue*)

CIVIL CENSORING

The head office for this was in Cape Town but there were also Censors in various other towns throughout the Union, the location of whom is referred to later.

Marks used by these censors which have been seen are:

(1) The earliest seen, of a temporary character, was used at Johannesburg in December, 1939. A single circle, approximately 25 mm. in diameter with "P.B.C. JHB" inside the circle. In red, on a cover from Lourenco Marques closed with a Var. (1) seal (See below).

(2) Another temporary type of marking, used in the George area in 1940, was simply a number (1, 2 and 3 known) in blue or red pencil. (See "S.A. Philatelist," Vol. 16, 1940, p. 189). This was later replaced by the next type.

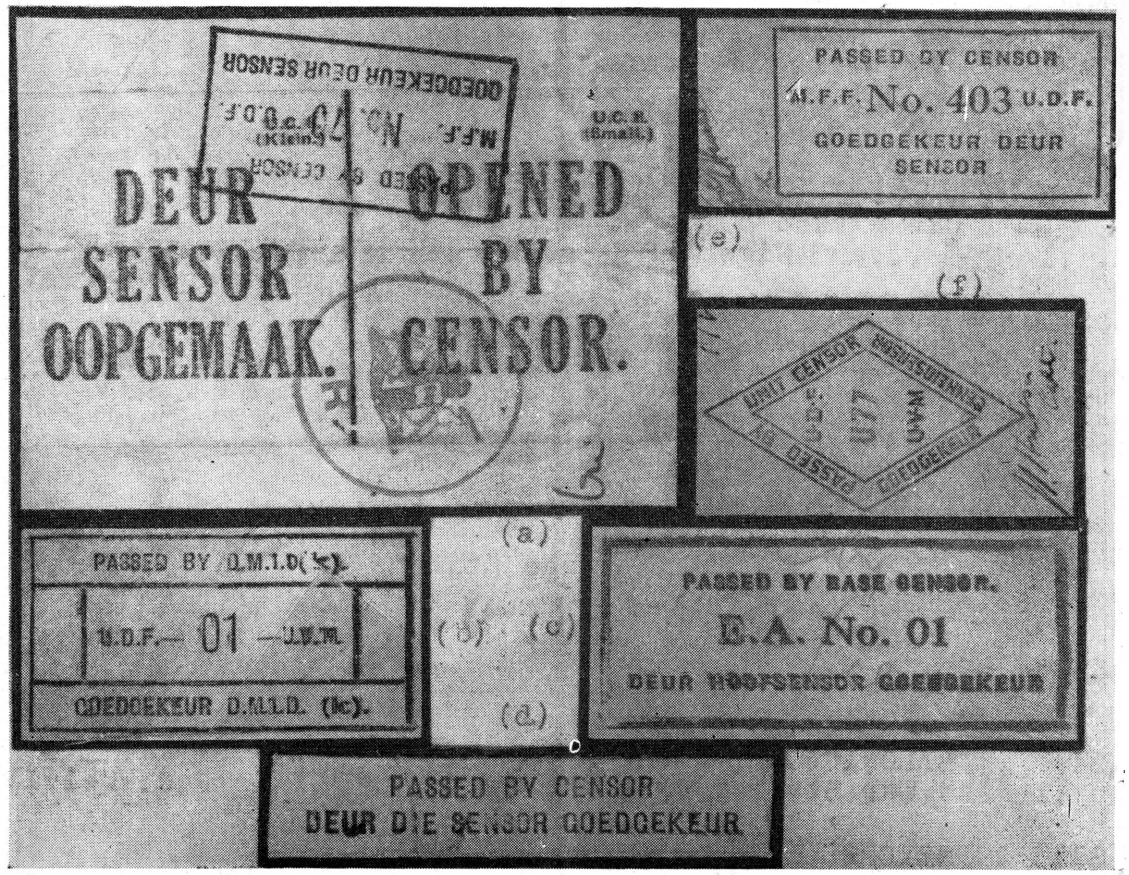
(3) (See Fig. "d"). A two-line mark in block capitals 3 mm. high, "Passed by Censor/ Deur Die Sensor Goedgekeur." Lines 35 and 57 mm. long; in purple or violet. Seen on letters to or from Internee and P.O.W. camps and on ordinary civilian internal or foreign letters, 1941 onwards.

(4) A rectangular box about 53 x 24 mm. with Passed By Censor/8/Goedgekeur Deur Sensor. In violet on a cablegram, December, 1939.

(5) a two-line mark, "Passed By Censor B / Deur Sensor B Goedgekeur," in block capitals 3½ mm. high, lines 60 and 82 mm. long. In violet on a letter from an Internment camp, 1940.

(6) A unilingual single-line mark, Passed By Censor, 50 mm. long in block capitals 4 mm. high, in violet or red. Seen both on military and on civilian letters from Cape Town area, 1940—1942.

At least two varieties, the difference lying in the closeness or otherwise of the letters, resulting in variation in the spaces between the words.



(a) Censor's Seal of Var. 4, tied with both a military censor mark of Type 4a and a civil mark—Coat-of-Arms/R in a circle.
(b) Military censor mark of Type 6.
(c) Military censor mark of Type 7.
(d) Civil censor mark of Type 3.
(e) Military censor mark of Type 4b.
(f) Military censor mark of Type 5.

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7. Early in 1942 there was introduced the practice of tying seals to covers with a hand-stamp consisting of the Union Coat-of-Arms with a letter underneath. The letters used ran serially from A to R (but with no I or Q); S and T were prepared and allocated but never actually brought into use.

In the case of J and R the mark occurs in two forms—one like all the rest (no circle), the other with a circle of 30 mm. diameter round the Arms and letter (See Fig. "a"). The marks occur in red-purple or in violet, principally the latter. They may be found on intra-Union correspondence as well as on letters to or from abroad and pencilled numbers or initials may be present on the seals, as they often were before the introduction of these marks.

The Chief Censor has kindly supplied the following list of places where the various letter indicators were used: A, E, M, P, and R at Cape Town; B at Johannesburg; C at Durban; D at Windhoek; F at Pretoria; G at Bloemfontein; H at De Aar; J at Port Elizabeth; K at East London; L at George; N at Pietermaritzburg; O at Kimberley.

Censoring seemed to fade out gradually after V-E day, but some letters from S.W.A. have been noted with seal and "D" mark right up to the end of 1945.

8. A mark somewhat similar to No. 7 has been noted on an official letter (not opened) from Lourenco Marques to a Portuguese Vice-Consul in the Union. This is a circle of 30 mm. diameter containing the Union Coat-of-Arms and "Released/A" under the Arms. In red-purple.

CIVIL SEALS

These labels for closing envelopes which had been opened were, as used in the Union, of one general pattern throughout, although at least seven varieties showing differences in detail can be distinguished.

They were all printed in red, on a white paper usually, although a few have been seen on a slightly buff-tinted paper. The labels were divided into two halves by a vertical line and the left half was printed in Afrikaans, the right half in English. The general arrangement of the wording on the labels was as follows: (a) in the top right corner of each half, "U.C.8." in small type; (b) "Unie Van Suid-Afrika" and "Union of South Africa" in one line in small (2 mm. high) block capitals; (c) "Deur Sensor Oopgemaak" and "Opened by Censor" in two or in three lines in larger Roman capitals.

Occasionally labels were divided vertically and only one half, Afrikaans or English, used. Not uncommonly (especially in 1941) labels had a pencil endorsement "Examined," and/or initials or a number; such endorsements might be entirely on the seal or they might tie it to the cover.

Varieties seen are:

(1) In use in 1939, 1940 and early 1941. A label about 90 x 45 mm. with the wording as described above as the general arrangement. Deur Sensor/Oopgemaak and Opened By/Censor in two lines, letters 7 mm. high.

(2) Introduced fairly early in 1940. Similar to No. 1 but with "(Groot)" and "(Large)" under U.C.8. Size of labels varies but is generally about 115 mm. by anything from 40 to 65 mm.

(3) Like No. 2 but with "(Klein)" and "(Small)" under U.C.8. Size of label about 85 x 45 mm.

(4) Introduced at least as early as April, 1942. In this and the following varieties the lines "Unie Van Suid-Afrika" and "Union of South Africa" are omitted. Otherwise like No. 3, but with Deur/Sensor/Oopgemaak and Opened/By/Censor in three lines. Size of label about 90 x 50 mm. (See Fig. "a").

(5) Like No. 4 but with the letters of Deur Sensor Oopgemaak and Opened By Censor only 5 mm. high. Size of label about 83 x 30 mm.

(6) Like No. 4 but with "U.C.8. (Medium)" in one line in each half. Deur Sensor/Oopgemaak and Opened By/Censor in two lines, letters 7 mm. high. Size of label about 115 x 28 mm.

(7) Like No. 4 but with U.C.8. (Groot) and U.C.8. (Large), each in two lines. There is also "G.P.-S." in the top left corner of the Afrikaans half of the label. Although called "large" the label is about the same size as the "small" one, No. 4, viz., 90 x 50 mm.

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The Machine Postmarks of The Union of South Africa 1910-1942

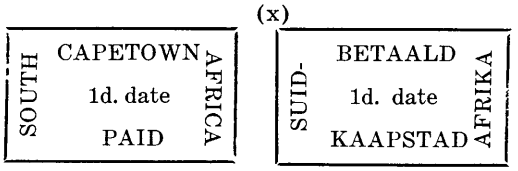
By A. HILTON SYDOW, A.S.A.A., C.A.(S.A.)

(Continued from page 123 of August issue)

EXAMPLES OF 2½ in. MACHINE SETTINGS (*Continued*).

(w)
VOORTREKKER
date
MONUMENT

(x)



(x) Also Johannesburg, Pretoria, Durban, Paarl, Stellenbosch, Worcester, King Williams Town, Dundee, Pietermaritzburg, Bloemfontein, Germiston, Krugersdorp, Kimberley, Germiston /Sta.PK. and Germiston Sta/P.O. I have several impressions from the Capetown one showing the date-stamps only without slogans or liners.

Anent the foregoing examples, in (a), (b), (h), (j), (k), (q), (r), (s) and (t) there are within the circle of the date-stamp two parallel lines above and below the date extending from one side of the circle to the other. Owing to continuous use these lines wear away almost completely in due course. Examples (r), (s), (t) and (x) in rectangular frames are from those date cylinders which are used only for the "red paid" impressions.

It would appear that the date-stamps at either end of a date-cylinder are capable of being removed and others replaced by some method or other. The following are examples of replacements of worn ones:—

(1) In 1939 a binary date-cylinder was in use at Germiston Station. The date-stamps showed the names GERMISTON/STA.P.O. and GERMISTON/STA.P.K. both enclosed within a circle. Half the circle and certain letters wore away of the first mentioned one. Another date-stamp was attached to the cylinder with the name engraved in taller letters and the cancellation then read GERMISTON STA.P.O. and GERMISTON/STA.P.K. Another replacement took place subsequently for 1940, the cancellation read GERMISTON/STA:POS and GERMISTON/STA.P.K. The first mentioned one again wore away as I have an impression showing GERMISTON/STA.P.K. and a date -5.X.40 only without the name. Prior to the last replacement one cancellation read GERMISTON/STA.P.K and GERMISTON/STA.P.K. P.O. is the English abbreviation for Post Office and P.K. the Afrikaans one for Pos Kantoor. All these changes are shown with Slogan 31.

(2) I have several impressions showing one of the WORCESTER date-stamps in full together with one showing only the date -9.IX.42 without name and circle.

(3) Another cancellation emanates from Kimberley showing the KIMBERLEY date-stamp with the outlined Victoria Cross together with the KIMBERLEY date-stamp showing the solid Victoria Cross.

The date impressions from the 2½″ machines show the numerical representation of a year in abbreviated form, e.g., .28, .37, .42, whilst those from the other machines show such in full, e.g., 1910, 1927, 1935, 1942.

The months are represented by abbreviations, numerals and Roman numerals, viz. :—

(*a*) 6⅜″, 5¾″, 4¼″, 3⅛″ and 2½″ machines—

JAN	FEB	MAR MRT	APR	MAY MEI	JUN	JUL	AUG	SEP	OCT OKT	NOV	DEC DES

(*b*) 6⅜″, 5¾″, 2½″ machines—

I	II	III	IV	V	VI	VII	VIII	IX	X	XI	XII

(*c*) 2½″ machines—red paids—

1	2	3	4	5	6	7	8	9	10	11	12

With certain exceptions, the numerals signifying the hours are qualified by the following symbols—
Latin—AM and PM, for Ante- and Post-meridian.
English—N for Noon.
Afrikaans—VM, M and NM, for Voormiddag, Middag and Namiddag.

The following are examples of the date-settings of the 4¼″ and 3⅛″ machines in three lines :—

JUL18 11.–AM 1914	NOV24 2.–PM 1922	MAY22 7.45AM 1923	MAY 1 12–N 1935	JAN28 PAID½d 1932	NOV11 12.5AM 1935

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One machine used in Johannesburg had the date-settings in two lines :—

2 SEP 13	13 MAY 17
10 PM	6.45 PM

The times on these date-stamps exhibit anything over the twelve hours, and are generally set to 15-minute intervals, e.g., 11.AM, 11.15AM, 11.30AM, 11.45AM, 12–N, etc. The earliest time representation that I have observed is 12.5AM and the latest 8.PM. The representation of 12 midnight is non-existent.

During 1938, the Afrikaans symbols were introduced anent the 3½″ machine to qualify the hour numerals, but the Afrikaans abbreviations for the months were brought into use at a later date. The following are examples of date-settings in pairs from a date-cylinder which had the name CAPETOWN at one end and KAAPSTAD at the other :—

C'town	K'stad	C'town	K'stad	C'town	K'stad	C'town	K'stad
NOV30	NOV30	MAY30	MAY30	DEC23	DES	FEB24	FEB24
PAID	PAID	6.30PM	6.30PM	6.30PM	6.30NM	12.–N	12.–M
1935	1935	1938	1938	1938	1938	1939	1939

During 1935, the Afrikaans version of " PAID," namely " BETAALD," was introduced in the abbreviated form of " BET'LD," and the following are examples of date-settings from a cylinder which had the names CAPETOWN AND KAAPSTAD, one at the top and one at the bottom at one end of the cylinder and the same at the other end thereof :—

APR16	APR16	JUN 8	JUN 8	DEC23	DES23
PAID½d	PAID½d	PAID	BET'LD	PAID½d	BET'LD½d
1935	1935	1935	1935	1942	1942

The 6⅜″ machine was brought into use in 1926 in Pretoria. After a short interval, it was transferred to Bloemfontein. In 1928 it was sent to Kimberley, from whence it transferred to Boksburg in 1938. The following are examples of date-settings from this machine in three lines :—

PR	BFN	BFN	BFNx	BFNx	KIM	BOK	BOK
20JUL	6 AM	25OCT	190CT	PAID½d	12FEB	6AUG	7MAR
6PM	14DEC	PAID½d	1926	12APR	4 PM	1938	1939
1926	1927	1926	PAID½d	1927	1934	11AM	12PM

Note the position of the word " PAID " in the Bloemfontein settings. The items marked BFNx are in the collection of Mr. G. Hockey. Note also the error 12PM in the Boksburg setting.

The 5¾″ machine date-settings are similar to the 6⅜″ machine's, but Roman numerals were used to represent the months anent the Johannesburg and Germiston machines, and also numerals to represent the time in accordance with the introduction of the " 24-hour system " of measuring time. The following are examples in three lines :—

PR	JH	JH	GER	KIM	KIM
3 DEC	14.00	10–VI	17.30	6 PM	16FEB
5PM	22–VI	17.45	2–VIII	5APR	6AM
1930	1935	1935	1937	1935	1937

The 2½″ machine came into use first in Port Elizabeth in 1927. Anent impressions from the "red paid " cylinders numerals only were used to represent the day, month and year in one line, viz. :—

½d 30.1.32 1d 19.9.28 20.12.35

The following are examples of date-settings from the 2½″ machines in black impressions from the Cape Town and East London machines. These date-cylinders have the name CAPETOWN at one end and KAAPSTAD at the other end, and, similarly, EAST LONDON and OOS-LONDEN. At each end the date is set in one line.

The following are examples in pairs :—

CT	19DEC34.6–PM	CT	21SEP39.12–N	CT—1DEC39.12–N
K	19DEC34.6–PM	K	21SEP39.12–N	K —1DES39.12–M

Note the third example shows the Afrikaans abbreviation and symbol.M, but in the third example hereunder, East London retained the N instead of the M under the Afrikaans version of its name.

CT—8FEB39.12.15AM	CT 18MAR39.2–PM	EL 20JUL42.12–N
K —8FEB39.12.15VM	K 18MRT39.2–NM	OL 20JUL42.12–N

During October, 1938, and during the whole of March and May, 1939, the Afrikaans abbreviations and symbols were inserted in the CAPETOWN end of the date-cylinder and the English ones in the KAAP-stad end thereof. The following are examples together with a similar variation from East London :—

CT 19OKT38.12.15NM	CT 17MEI39.5.15NM	EL 31OKT42.6PM
K 19OCT38.12.15PM	K 17MAY39.5.15PM	OL 31OCT42.6NM

Johannesburg has not heitherto used the Afrikaans VM, M and PM symbols. The following are examples from this city, together with one error of time symbol :—

JH 24JAN40.2 PM	JH 12FEB40.5.15N
JH 24JAN40.2 PM	JH FEB40.5.15PM

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In 1936, numerals were utilised to represent the time in accordance with the " 24-hour system " anent the 2½" machine, in one line, viz. :—

CT 30.I.40–0 : 15 CT 21.II.39–12 : 00 JH 16.X.36–17 : 15
K 30.I.40–0 : 15 K 21.II.39–12 : 00 JH 16.X.36–17 : 15

Examples of errors in settings :—

CT 15.IX.49.18 : 30 CT 11.XII.40.17 : 00 Worcester 30.XI.40.9 : 30
K 16. X.41.18 : 30 K 10.XI. 39.17 : 00 Worcester 30.X. 40.9 : 30
CT 25.IX.43 Umtata 18.V.42–17 ? 30 JH 30.VIII.40–27 : 45 & 23.VIII.40–28 : 00
K 25.IX.42 Umtata (blank) JH 30.VIII.40–27 : 45 & 23.VIII.40–28 : 00

Note the time setting in the two latter ones—27 : 45 and 28 : 00.

In the rectangular enclosed " red paids " from the 2½" machine two types of date-settings are used, each in one line, viz. :—

CT 30SEP37.1–PM CT ½d 30.X.39 Stellenbosch 1½d 30.XI.42
K 30SEP37.1–NM K ½d 30.X.39 and error Stellenbosch 1½d 30.IX.42

Examples of errors from the " red paid " impressions :—

CT—4JUN35.10–AM CT 39AUG37.1–PM CT—50KT37.1–NM
K —4JUN34.10–AM K 30SEP37.1–PM K —5OCT37.1–PM

The " 12-hour system " and the " 24-hour system " are used concurrently in all the big centres in the Union and the following is a summary of comparison :—

English ...	9–AM	10.30AM	12.–N	2–PM	4–PM	5.15PM	8–PM	12.15AM
Afrikaans ...	9–VM	10.30VM	12.–M	2–NM	4–NM	5.15NM	8–NM	12.15VM
Numeral ...	9 : 00	10.00	12 : 00	14 : 00	16 : 00	17 : 15	20 : 00	0 : 15

In connection with the " 24-hour system," the earliest representation of time that I have noted is 0 : 15, and the latest in Cape Town, 20 : 00, and in Johannesburg, 21 : 30.

I shall be glad if readers will inform our Hon. Editor of any items that may have been omitted from this monograph.

THE END.

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SARAWAK

A Centenary set was prepared for issue on 1.1.42, but Japanese occupation prevented this. The set consists of four values, 8, 15 and 50 c and $1 with a face value of a little over 4s. Orders were taken in late 1941 for sets, but payments were returned. Recently those who had ordered sets were told they could get them, but only in the small quantities made in the war-time printing. They were also put on sale without warning on 18th May in Sarawak; most of them were sold out on the day of issue. There were only 20,000 of the $1 denomination printed. Many of the inhabitants, although not collectors, bought sets as a souvenir of the three White Rajahs whose portraits appeared on the stamps. The set has been selling at as high as 35s., although there are recent advertisements at considerably less than this (one set only to each applicant). However, it is highly probable that there will be considerable appreciation.

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CORRESPONDENCE

UNION STAMPS

The following letter has been received by the President of the Philatelic Federation in reply to his letter which was published in our August issue:

Pretoria,
13th August, 1946.

Dear Sir,

With reference to your letter of the 12th July, I am directed by the Honourable the Minister to inform you that it is proposed to invite competitive designs when a new series of ordinary postage stamps is issued and to appoint a committee to consider the designs submitted. The question of appointing a philatelist to serve on the committee will be considered at the appropriate time.

The printing of individual bilingual stamps is favoured by my Minister, but it cannot unfortunately be stated at this stage whether this will be practicable.

Union postage stamps are produced by means of the photogravure process which is the only one practicable to the Government Printer. Designs adopted will, however, be specially selected and adapted to that method of printing.

My Minister also desires me to state that as he agrees with the views expressed by you an interview does not appear to be necessary.

Yours faithfully,

M. J. LAMPRECHT.
(Private Secretary).

Dear Mr. Editor,

Articles on Foreign Stamps

I don't believe in enjoying things without occasionally saying thanks to those who provide the enjoyment, so here's a word of appreciation for the feast of good things delivered to me month by month in "The South African Philatelist." I have never been busier than I am at present, but I make time to read almost the whole of it, and if I go on much longer I shall know something about the stamps of my own country! Thank you for the excellent fare you provide.

Having said this, I am going to venture on a suggestion or two. I am speaking here for myself, but I know I represent other collectors. The magazine is called "The South African Philatelist," and it is only fit and right that South Africa should have premier place, with perhaps the stamps of the British Empire taking second place, as undoubtedly many readers concentrate on this. But a reader of the magazine might almost be led to imagine that no stamps outside the Empire existed, or had any importance. In number after number there is no reference to any foreign issues, though these, especially of recent years, have been of intense interest and importance. Many collectors in this country, to take one example, are keenly interested in the stamps of the Netherlands, their ancestral home, but I do not recall an article on these for a long time. Many of us would welcome even an occasional article on this and other territories in Europe and elsewhere, whose issues have been of intense historical interest in the years of war. This exclusive interest in the stamps of a mere fraction of world philately always seems to me to be painfully parochial. Comparisons, they say, are odious, but it is not to the credit of my new country that in exchange packet after packet I get practically nothing but British, whereas in the "old country" the huge packets I used to get often contained at least half foreign, often to the value of £500 or more. I was able there to lay the foundation of my present collection, which is an eye-opener to those who have only grazed in over-stocked fields.

The financial side of philately has come to assume an unhealthy importance in recent days, but even from this point of view "foreigns" deserve attention. I cannot let a statement, made with the assurance of ignorance in a recent number of your magazine, that Empire stamps were a better investment than foreigns, go unchallenged. This is simply not true. For years now I have kept, for insurance purposes, a careful inventory of my stamps, and my foreigns have consistently shown a higher rate of appreciation than my British, and I have a representative collection of each. Here is the average yearly appreciation of a few of my foreign countries, including all their definitive stamps over a period of ten years (1934-1944) calculated as compound interest: Bulgaria 13.6 per cent., Danzig 14.5 per cent., Estonia 12.0 per cent., Germany 10.9 per cent., Liechtenstein 20.6 per cent., Saar 26.6 per cent. None of my Empire countries shows anything like these increments. But this is an "argumentum ad hominem," and on a pretty low scale at that, and my chief plea is—here is a part of philately of absorbing interest and scientific value. Let us preserve a better balance between one part and another, and let "The South African Philatelist" cater, now and then at least, for the many philatelists whose vision is not confined to the covers of the Red Gibbons!

With the best of wishes,

Yours very sincerely,

W. LOXLEY CHAMINGS.
97 Church Street, Klerksdorp.

Dear Mr. Editor,

A Greek Find(?)

In answer to Mr. A. H. Hofman, in your June issue, the initials "A.D." which he found on a 25 lepta Greek stamp of the "Second Hermes Head" type are those of the Belgian engraver of the plates, M. A. (?Albert) Doms, one of the chief engravers of the Belgian Government Printing Works at Malines. He was also re-

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sponsible for the 1869, 1875 and 1893 stamps of Belgium. The initials are reasonably clear on the Belgian printings, but owing to the inferior printing methods at Athens the initials are almost always full of ink in the Athens prints and unreadable.

The "Second Heads" issue of Greece is a very fascinating one, but has been neglected by collectors. P. L. Pemberton, who knows as much as anyone alive about the "First Heads," confessed to me that his knowledge about the "Second Heads" is very deficient, and has recommended it to me as a study worth doing. I am accumulating material, and shall be interested if any other of your readers have discovered anything about them, or are working on the subject.

Yours, etc.,

ANTHONY WALKER.

9 Hillside, Wimbledon,
London, S.W. 19.

The Editor, "S.A. Philatelist."

"Those Wicked Dealers!"

Dear Sir,—On page 120 of your August issue Mr. W. Oppenheim is reported as referring to "price ramps in buying and selling" and "the generally bad service offered by dealers." In view of the libel laws it would be as well if individuals would not make sweeping statements because of unpleasant experiences which they may have had with certain self-styled "dealers." In conversation Mr. Oppenheim claims that he has been misreported, but as the majority of your readers did not hear the talk given by Mr. Oppenheim at a meeting of the Pretoria Philatelic Society they can only go by the published report.

In boom times like the present stamp dealing is infested with people with no previous experience of dealing, and the aim of many of them appears to be to get as much as they can out of the business while the going is good, and then when things become quiet to "fold up their tents like the Arab and as silently steal away" leaving those who were foolish enough to deal with them to find out how they have been overcharged or landed with stamps of doubtful status. One does not find experienced philatelists dealing with such people, and surely their judgment should be a good guide to the less experienced.

As regards "poor service," it is not unknown for quasi-dealers once they have received money for goods to be in no hurry to execute orders, but the old-established well-known firms have not been built up by such methods. It is true that under present conditions of great demand and shortage of staff even old-established firms may not be able to answer all letters as quickly as they could in normal times, in fact, one of the world's leading firms states that a delay of three weeks must not be taken to mean that letters have gone astray. If well-known firms are not able to supply a large percentage of collectors' wants in popular stamps this is entirely due to the fact that the demand exceeds the supply. Such firms do not hoard stamps, either deliberately or by asking fantastic prices, and it is obvious that if their main source of supply—the acquisition of collections—dries up in times when collectors have plenty of money and do not need to sell their stamps the best will in the world will not make it possible for them to be able to supply all applicants with their needs.

Had Mr. Oppenheim spoken about the bad service *to* dealers he would have been on very safe ground. Business firms receive unpleasantly worded reminders if they are tardy in executing orders, but it is quite a common thing for Governments to keep dealers waiting for months for stamps ordered, and when they finally do send them to omit protective packing, with the result that large packages become creased and folded in transit. We wonder what collectors would say if dealers sent to them badly damaged stamps such as are frequently supplied to dealers by postal administrations!

Yours faithfully,

Robertson Stamp Co. (Pty.), Ltd.
J. ROBERTSON.
Director.

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Full details in:

'BASHI'S STAMP MART'

226, Strand, London, W.C.2.

CAPE 4d. BLACK

At a recent Robson Lowe auction £210 was paid for a used copy of the so-called Prince Consort mourning stamp. As a "Stamp Collecting" commentator remarks "One person at least thinks this stamp was genuinely issued."

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OBITUARIES

BENJAMIN GOODFELLOW

We regret to hear of the death, after a long illness, of Benjamin Goodfellow, almost the last of the Manchester philatelic giants of yesteryear. He occupied many prominent posts in philatelic circles; as a collector his name is perhaps best known in connection with his collections of New Zealand and of Norway. His desire always to know "how and why" led him also to form an incomparable collection of Re-entries. His various collections, amounting to some 200 volumes, is to be disposed of by auction or by private treaty by Messrs. H. R. Harmer.

FRANCIS CARTER

The death occurred in Bloemfontein, on the 16th August, 1946, of Mr. Francis Carter, who was a prominent member of the Orange Free State and Basutoland Philatelic Society.

Mr. Carter was a foundation member and president of the old Free State Philatelic Society, the forerunner of the present society, of which he was also a president for many years. In spite of his ripe age—he was in his 89th year—he was remarkably elastic and active and a frequent visitor of society meetings until a few months before his death.

Once referred to as the "doyen of pharmacy in the Union," he held various prominent positions in Free State Pharmacy, and he was also associated with Freemasonry in a prominent capacity.

Mr. Carter gave frequent displays and talks at society meetings and also at local schools. His special love were the stamps of Great Britain. He passed away, literally, with his beloved stamp albums on his death-bed.

★ ★ ★

PORTUGAL

On 3rd June there was issued a set of eight values, 10c to E 3.50, each depicting a famous castle, and there was also a special miniature sheet of four of the E 1.75 value, which was sold at post offices for E 12.50. The printing of this issue was done in Switzerland.

★

HUNGARY

We used to think the German inflation stamps of 1923 had set an all-time high level in denominations, with their milliards of marks, but Hungary has made them seem small beer with stamps running into trillions of pengos (although no one seems to be quite certain whether a trillion is a thousand or a million million. But what does it matter!). But the pengo has been wiped out and with the new stabilised currency there will no doubt be new stamps without so many O's in their denominations.

CZECHOSLOVAKIA

A set of seven air mail stamps is reported as having been issued on 4th July, but in the case of one value (24 Kes) it was used on 17th June on a special flight from Prague to New York. On this occasion, however, it was of a blue-green colour (in use for the one day only) whilst the permanent stamp is a dark red.

★

GERMANY

The biggest piece of news from here is that the four occupying powers have passed a law forbidding the sale, purchase or exchange of any stamps of the Nazi regime issued from 1933 to 1945.

The law also provides for the destruction of all official stocks.

An obvious result will, of course, be a big black market in Nazi stamps at prices which, in view of the penalties, will be high. There are already signs of this, especially in the buying up of Hitler heads.

Designs are said to have been adopted for a definite issue for general use in all Germany.

★

FRANCE

New issues are still abundant, but the policy of the new French Government seems to be to make the printings substantially larger, so the stamps should not be so difficult to obtain.

According to "Stamp Collecting," there are to be two stamps commemorating the Paris Peace Conference.

★

O.V.S. "GEREGISTREERD"

In the report of a meeting of the Cape Town Philatelic Society when Prof. Smith showed his Orange Free State collection, it is interesting to note that covers were shown with the mark "Geregistreerd" in a rectangle, thus demonstrating that this mark was sometimes used postally and was not always a fiscal cancellation. It would be still more valuable to know what stamps were thus cancelled, particularly if any of them were fiscal stamps. If they were it would prove that the fiscals were sometimes postally used, but whether this was authorised or not authorised is, of course, another question.

★

"RUST" ON STAMPS

In March, 1942, we published an article by Mr. E. E. Gagel on the cleaning of "rust" (really a fungal growth) on stamps. This involved the use of Chloramine-T. It was commented on favourably by other writers in 1943 and 1944, and has been quoted in overseas journals.

A writer in "Mekeel's Weekly" also speaks well of it, but claims even better (and safer) results from Chlordioxide, not only for cleaning "rust" but any kinds of non-greasy dirt on stamps. He advises only getting the solution of this gas in water in small quantities as it will not keep for more than a year at outside.

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A LETTER FROM ENGLAND

GENIALITY,
LIMITED,
Management.

Abford House,
Wilton Road,
London, S.W.1.

Dear Friend,

I hope by now that applicants for our FREE GIFT of G.B. Victory F.D.C. have now received their covers. Thousands of these specially designed covers were sent all over the world.

Our illustrated monthly magazine, "THE GEN," is also sent to thousands overseas. Everyone appreciates the fact that "THE GEN" is the ONLY philatelic magazine in the world sent per Air Mail since its inception. Besides containing the latest news from the Crown Agents every month, there are articles of general interest, market tips, a new issue guide, and hundreds of offers by Geniality, Limited.

The Cost of mailing "The Gen" is 2/6 sterling per copy, at present! We have now increased the scope of this popular Air Mail magazine, added more pages and generally improved it throughout. Unfortunately, we must increase the subscription rate, and accordingly rates are now

12/6 per annum. 35/- three years subscription.

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You are recommended to take out a three year subscription to ensure continuity of this up-to-date and progressive magazine. Why do other overseas publications quote "The Gen"? Because the news given is RELIABLE and because of our Air Mail service, the news is UP-TO-DATE.

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and are entirely at your service. In case of difficulty, apply to Head Office in London. An Air Mail letter brings you an Air Mail letter per return.

I hope we may be able to serve you—we can supply all current mint Colonial and Dominion issues, the Colonial Victory sets and other Victory issues, etc.

Don't forget our address—I can't see how you will really, you see it and WILL see it often enough.

Yours sincerely,
"THE GENIAL GENT."

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JOHANNESBURG

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SOCIETY NEWS

CAPE TOWN PHILATELIC SOCIETY

President, L. Simenhoff; *Hon. Secretary*, S. Kaganson, P.O. Box 1973; *Meetings*, 2nd and 4th Thursdays at Yorkshire Buildings, Strand Street, at 7.30 p.m.

21st June:

Mr. Mummery favoured the fifty members present with a splendid display of Cayman Islands and Papuas. The Caymans issues were represented by a wide range with a goodly showing of the stamps on tinted papers. The outstanding feature was the 1907 issues which were practically complete.

The Papuas were a particularly splendid lot—the only noticeable absentees being a couple of the earlier 2s. 6d. values. With this collection were shown first day coronation covers posted at each of the Post Offices then functioning in Papua.

He also showed a couple of dozen sheets of stamps illustrating the various portrait designs of King George V on Empire issues. In this case his Falkland Islands, 20s. Centenary, played a secondary role.

A demonstration of the powers of the Quartz Lamp recently acquired by the Society, was given by Mr. Kaganson when it was shown that the "cleaning" of ink cancelled stamps by present methods was a hopeless job. The lamp showed up original ink markings on "unused" (cleaned) specimens as plainly as though they had not been tampered with.

The names of ten proposed new members were announced.

11th July: The tables at this meeting were given over to Mr. Wyndham for the showing of a portion of his collection of airmail covers. Those shown were thoroughly representative of all flights pertaining to South Africa up to 1937, and many varieties of each of the early souvenir flights were to be seen. Even a reminder of the 1918 pigeon post was included. Mr. Wyndham mentioned that of the 400 odd letters that were flown on this occasion only five could now be traced.

South Africa has not been backward in the matter of airmails for the 1½d. airmail rate of 1937 constituted as prominent a milestone in postal history as did Rowland Hill's penny post of a century earlier.

The printing of the first South African airmail stamps was described, and a set of the exceedingly scarce large size proofs and imperfs prepared in this connection was included.

The theme for the meeting on 25th July was a display of King George VI issues by Mr. Plumbridge. This covered a fairly large range, and included items from practically every issuing country, with plenty of detail.

Efforts are being made to arrange for a display, by local collectors, for the private view of His Majesty King George when he visits the Union next year.

15th August: Professor Smith's collection of Free State issues was the cause of much envy on the part of those who had the privilege of seeing it. This collection, which has been materially augmented since it was first exhibited fifteen years ago, contained a bewildering number of overprints—single, double, treble, and inverted. In most cases there were many examples of each item—in fact it would be a much easier task to mention those missing than enumerate what was on the tables. Full panes were shown which included all the varieties that are such a feature of Free State overprints. Professor Smith was in a very humorous vein when he spoke on the hows and whys of collecting, but the main point that he emphasised was that he never set himself out to complete any set or issue, just bided his time, but when it came along it was none the less appreciated. His most prized item was a 2½d. surcharge with a Roman 1 and antique 2. He showed examples of covers whereon the stamps were cancelled by the word geregisteerd in a frame, thus proving that in some cases at any rate this cancellation did not come within the category of "fiscally used."

He also mentioned the origin of the coat of arms depicted on the old O.V.S. issues, which was in conflict with the views given in a recently published book on the stamps of the O.F.S.

Despite the unfavourable weather, there was a good attendance, and a brisk auction sale wound up the evening's entertainment.

G.H.G.

★

THE JEWISH GUILD PHILATELIC SECTION

Chairman, Mr. H. Marcuson; *Hon. Sec.*, Mr. I. Isaacs, 910 His Majesty's Buildings, Eloff Street, Johannesburg; *Meetings*, last Thursdays, at the Jewish Guild Memorial Hall, Von Brandis Street, Johannesburg.

There were two exhibits at the meeting held on July 25th.

Mr. B. Glassman showed several sheets from his collection, including several King George VI sets. There were sets of Ceylon, Trinidad, Fiji and Cyprus. He also showed several of the New Zealand Health sets as well as some modern foreign. Recent commemoratives of Belgium, France, Russia and U.S.A. were included. All stamps were in fine condition.

Mr. Klein also showed several sheets including New Zealand, U.S.A., Germany and Vatican City. All items were in fine condition.

The exhibits were very much appreciated.

During the evening several items changed hands.

I.I.

★

EAST LONDON PHILATELIC SOCIETY

President, C. P. Durkin; *Hon. Sec.*, A. W. Stander, P.O. Box 694, East London; *Meetings*, 2nd Fridays, above Colosseum Theatre Tea Room, at 7.45 p.m.

Most members present at the August meeting brought a few sheets to display, and as a result quality and variety were provided.

To list all, makes too long a report. I must risk making invidious distinctions and mention a few items to illustrate the scope.

Attractive were early Chileans, including a bi-sect on cover and some inverted centres, also 17 G.B. 2d. blues—without white lines—mostly with Maltese Cross cancellations. Included were Belgian Congo, Irish Free State overprints, New Zealand, Norway 1855-71, Nyasaland mint 1891, 2s. to £1, and other countries.

In July notes I wrote that visitors to the E.L. Stamp Exhibition in 1948 would receive a hearty welcome. A member of the Junior Stamp Club, after hearing Minutes read, once asked, "why always a hearty vote of thanks to exhibitors? Isn't there any other way of expressing it?" What can one say? By comparison anything else seems flat.

I am possibly disobeying the Editor's ruling to "stick to stamps," but I am sure all Secretaries will give "hearty thanks" to any reader who can suggest two or three equally expressive adjectives.

N.C.C.

★

EAST RAND PHILATELIC SOCIETY

President, Capt. J. A. B. van Wyk; *Hon. Secretary*, E. N. Riff, 103 Kemston Avenue, Benoni.

After the formal business of the August meeting, members had to rack their brains in a competition arranged by Mr. Rigg. In it portions of stamps were exposed and the country and value had to be given; the winner was Mr. Suklje.

The evening's exhibit was proveded by Mr. G. Carleton Jones, of Johannesburg, who brought over selected sheets from his Newfoundland collection, dealing with the early postal history, Essays, Die Proofs, and Plate Proofs, and letter postmarks dated as early as 1743. Considering the age of over 200 years all these exhibits were in excellent condition. The history of Die Proofs and Plate Proofs was very interesting, showing the various watermarks and the different stages that the stamps went through during the printing.

Members are reminded that the meeting on September 17, 1945, will be the annual general meeting.

E.N.R.

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THE PHILATELIC SOCIETY OF JOHANNESBURG

President, Mr. L. Buchen; *Hon. Sec.,* Mr. J. H. Jenkins, P.O. Box 4967; *Meetings,* 2nd Tuesdays, Public Library, 7.45 p.m.

Mr. F. J. H. Lang was the exhibitor at the meeting held on August 13th. Mr. Lang showed two collections—St. Helena and Malta.

His St. Helena exhibit included some very rare items. The King George V rare 15s. value was in a plate number pair and there was also a used item in the same value. The whole of the issue 1922-1927 was in plate numbered pairs. The centenary set was complete in imprint pairs. Numerous specimen sets were included, and the old issues were well represented in mint and fine used items.

The Malta collection was practically complete. Some fine used and mint early values were included. The rare 10s. black multiple Crown C.A. was included as well as postage dues in blocks and numerous sets of specimens.

Mr. H. Schwartz spoke on the St. Helena exhibit and commented on the fine condition of all the items shown. Mr. W. Oppenheim spoke on the Malta exhibit. A hearty vote of thanks was accorded to Mr. Lang.

During the evening there was an interesting quiz by members of the Baragwanath Stamp Club.

I.I.

★

PRETORIA PHILATELIC SOCIETY

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

August 6: This meeting was scheduled as a "swapping and auction" sale evening, so that beyond saying that a good bit of swapping did take place amidst a great deal of talking, which made the evening more of a success than we had expected, and with a fair amount of keen bidding at the auction sale, seems that these sociability evenings might be fostered.

August 19: Dr. A. J. Broughton (Jimmy to all oldsters) was very much in the lime light with an interesting description of his Belgium Charity Issues, but more important still, he is in charge of the subcommittee responsible for the forthcoming Jacaranda Week Philatelic Exhibition which we are staging in the main hall of the Technical College during October, and he has asked me to invite any member who thinks his collection worth exhibiting to get in touch with me immediately. We especially want collections which have a general appeal as we are hoping to make this exhibition of particular interest to the "general lay public" who we hope to enlighten as to why we have allowed ourselves to be bitten by the "Philatelic Bug."

Our Jacaranda Exhibition is scheduled to open its doors on Monday, 21st October, at 2.30 p.m., and to remain open daily until 10 p.m. up to and including Wednesday, 23rd October. The exhibits will be under glass, and special arrangements are being made to safeguard the exhibition at all times, and the arranging and displaying will be done by competent philatelists. So if you think your collection one that will attract and interest the varied audience we hope to have, please let me hear from you as soon as possible, so as to give the Exhibition Committee as much time as possible to select the very best possible exhibition.

Besides the exhibition we are also arranging a series of talks—after the official opening of the exhibition on Monday, we are to have a paper read by the Publicity Officer of the Postal Department on the work of the International Postal Union which should be very full of interest to all of us. On Tuesday it is our intention to give the younger members of the Society and the community a treat, and for this purpose two High School collectors are preparing a paper on the relation that Philately bears on education, which should be an attraction to all young collectors, and the members on duty this day will go all out to make the exhibition of real interest to our young visitors.

The last, but by no means least, will be a paper by a very well known artist of Pretoria, Mr. Walter W. Battiss, who is to speak to us on a highly contentious branch of philately, namely, stamp designing, and I can assure you that what Mr. Battiss will have to say will be anything but hackneyed. Well so much for our Jacaranda Week effort, it now only remains for you to support our efforts by sending in your stamps for exhibition and making sure you will be able to attend.

J.W.

★ ★ ★

U.S.A.

Scott Publications.

The head of the Scott firm, Mr. Rugh M. Clark, has been ill for some time and anxious to dispose of the business (which does not include the stamp and coin business—merely the publishing venture). It is now announced that it has been purchased by Mr. Gordon R. Harmer of the stamp auction firm of Harmer, Rooke and Co. Mr. Harmer has been assistant editor of Scott's Standard Catalogue since January, 1945, and now becomes editor-in-chief. No actual merger of Scott Publications with Harmer, Rooke & Co. is taking place, and Mr. Harmer will run the two firms separately in their respective fields.

The John N. Luff reference collection is not included in the transaction and has been presented by Mr. Clark to the Philatelic Foundation.

Iowa Centennial Commemorative.

On 3rd August there appeared a blue 3c stamp in honour of the 100th anniversary of the admission of Iowa to statehood. The central design is an outline map of the State on which is superimposed the State flag. This is flanked on either side by stalks of "corn" (mealies), Iowa's most distinctive output. For once the philatelic papers seem to approve of the design, as submitted in advance to them.

"Smithsonian" Centenary.

10th August saw the release of the stamp honouring this Institution founded in Washington "for the increase and diffusion of knowledge among men." It is interesting to remember that it was founded with money bequeathed to the United States by an Englishman, James Smithson, chemist and mineralogist. The stamp is a 3c maroon, featuring the buildings of the Institution.

★

BELGIUM "—10%"

It is not yet clear what stamps have received this curious overprint, but evidently quite a number of different values. Whitefield King & Co's Bulletin records it on the King Leopold 1.50, 2 and 5 f. of 1943, and on the same values of the 1944 issue with V and crown added, also of the 1945 Lion and V," both the Belgie-Belgique and Belgique-Belgie varieties.

★

EXCHANGE

Mr. Stanley A. Garrett, of 74 Valley Road, Bramhall, Cheshire, England, is interested in Mint G.B., Brit. Colonials and Foreign, and wishes to get in touch with collectors all over the world to exchange. Issues of 1939-46 particularly. All letters answered.

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"Children under 7 years of age travel free"—and father will also appreciate the fact that elder brothers and sisters up to 16 years travel at half fare. Possibly a normal business-like policy, but one that is of infinite value to the family man of South Africa.

Remember it . . ?

"Have you packed my spade AND my bucket ?"
"Will there be PIGS on granny's farm ?"
"Are there REALLY beds on trains ?"

Remember it ? There's not a man on the Railways who forgets the hopping excitement of that first train journey, prelude to all the joys of holiday time.
Every railwayman has experienced it all himself . . . and who wouldn't enjoy a job that enabled him to recapture for a few moments the happiness of youth. No wonder these thousands of child guests of the S.A.R. are so *gladly* welcomed.

Released by the

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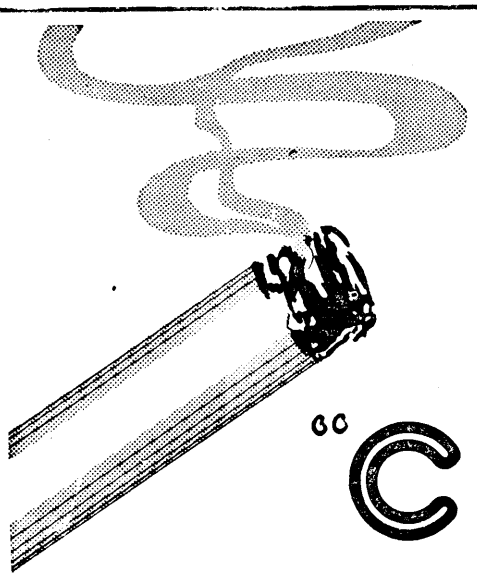

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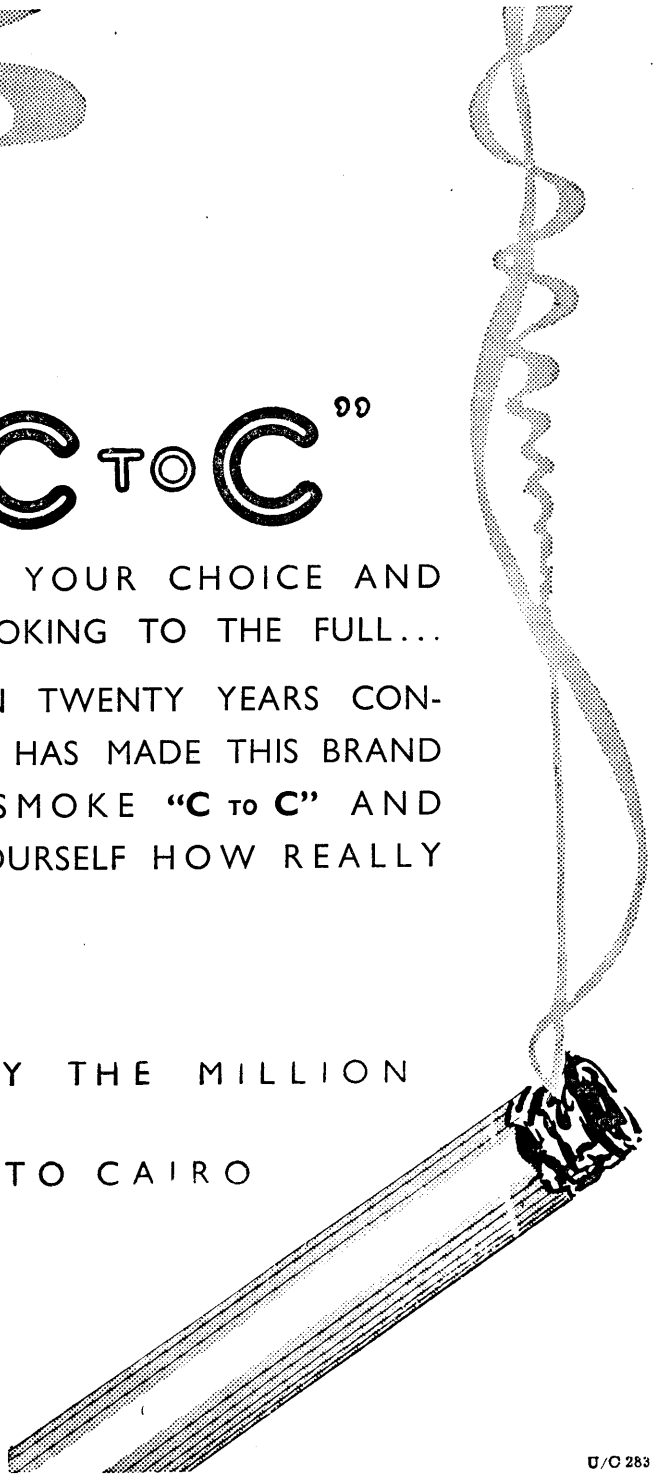

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THE SOUTH AFRICAN PHILATELIST

Proprietors and Publishers:

THE PHILATELIC FEDERATION OF SOUTHERN AFRICA

Price 9d. REGISTERED AT THE G.P.O. AS A NEWSPAPER. **Price 9d.**

Vol. 22, No. 10. **OCTOBER, 1946.** **Whole No. 259**

FACTS (as opposed to stamps)

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The
SOUTH AFRICAN PHILATELIST

Proprietors and Publishers:
The Philatelic Federation of Southern Africa

Honorary Editor: Dr. J. H. HARVEY PIRIE, - - - P.O. Box 7012, Johannesburg
Honorary Business Manager: WILLIAM REDFORD, Broadcast House, Commissioner Street, Johannesburg.
Subscription: Eight Shillings per annum, post free to any part of the World.

Vol. 22, No. 10. **OCTOBER, 1946.** **Whole No. 259**

Union Notes

Catalogue Fund: Acknowledged with thanks
R. O. Oliver Florida £1 1 0

New Type of Machine Canceller

About August 9 there was introduced into use in a number of towns a Universal D D single impression stamp cancelling machine. It is a type which has been noted as used on British letters. It gives a very neat mark, a circle about 21 mm. diameter with the place, time and date in clear, thin, sharp letters and figures. Separated from the circle by a space about 12 mm. wide comes a series of five wavy lines about 53 mm. long.

Philatelists should not complain about stamps with this cancellation, but whether the P.O. is equally happy over it is another question as the whole mark has only a length a little over half the ordinary business envelope and the stamp quite frequently is missed by the cancellation.

Bantam Varieties

At the September meeting of the Johannesburg Society, there were shown (a) 3d. joined paper variety and, (b) the 4d. with the top marginal slogan overlapping the stamps to quite an extent.

1d. Pictorial Booklet Stamps in Sheets

There were evidently a number of sheets in stock of the 1d. as printed for use in booklets which the P.O. could not use up for booklets, and this stock of sheets has now been put on ordinary sale. The sheets are of the ordinary 240 size but—going across the sheet—we see a blank space, three stamps, a gutter the width of a stamp, three stamps, another stamp-wide gutter and finally another three stamps.

A New Magazine

We have received a copy of "The Southern African Stamp Exchange Club Magazine." It is published by the Club, of 16 African Arcade, Pretoria, at 6d. a copy or as part of the club membership of 5s. 6d. per annum. Although addressed to all collectors the magazine obviously is appealing mainly to juniors, and has an introduction by the Hon. the Minister of Finance, Mr. Jan H. Hofmeyr, recommending it to them.

Royal Visit

The "Philatelic Trader" predicts an enormous demand for the special stamps, and they forecast the possibility of Royal Train cancellations and souvenir covers, which will be equally popular. Issues in Basutoland and S. Rhodesia are also on the cards, although nothing has yet been announced.

* * *

RHODESIAN AND NYASALAND POSTMARKS

Mr. W. G. Nodder in the June-July "Stamp Lover" has a well illustrated article on the postmarks of these territories. Actually this may be regarded as a supplement to the work of Mr. H. C. Dann in his "Romance of the Posts in Rhodesia," as it deals with marks in use since 1935, where Mr. Dann stops. It is very up-to-date, giving the various obliterations in use at the military camps and air force stations set up during the war.

POLISH WAR STAMPS

Mr. H. M. Smith has published through the British Stamp Co. of Camberley, England, a book containing every phase of Polish philately for the period 1939-45. It is well illustrated and will be indespensable for serious Polish collectors.

BASUTOLAND

Stop Press

At a meeting of the Cape Town Philatelic Society held on 25th September (report received too late for inclusion in "Society News") it was announced from a source which must be accepted as authoritative, although we are not at liberty to give it in detail, that Basutoland is to have a special issue of 1d., 2d., 3d. and 1s. stamps on the occasion of the Royal visit next year. Bechuanaland and Swaziland will probably be following suit, but it is not fully "official" yet, so far as they are concerned.

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BRITISH COLONIAL VICTORIES

According to "The Gen" those issued so far are: Figi Aug. 17; Gambia Aug. 19: Cayman Aug. 26; Hong-Kong Sep. 2; British Honduras Sep. 11.

The rate may be expected to speed up a bit.

AUCTION SEASON 1945-6

Messrs. H. R. Harmer report this has been a record season for them both in London and New York. In London they topped the £200,000 mark for the first time, and over £100,000 for private treaty transactions. In New York they also much exceeded any previous season; helped largely, of course, by the sum of nearly £70,000 for the Rooseveld collection.

They report that although American purchases in Britain have been on a smaller scale, South Africa has figured prominently as a bidder and buyer at London sales.

The coming season's prospects bid fair to rival or perhaps even exceed those of the past one.

KENYA

The "Philatelic Trader" reports that the provisionals on South African stamps are in short supply, especially fine used horizontal pairs, and should be very good items. Perforation varieties issued in war time are hard to get mint, although in used condition they are not so scarce; this is because many of them were only on sale in the country and were not obtainable through the Crown Agents. The real rarity of recent years, however, is the 50c with rope *not* joined to sail; this is worth more than double its present price.

CANADA

The new issue, due to have appeared on 16th September, consists of 8, 10, 14, 20 and 50 cents and $1.00 with 7c and 17c air-mail and 10c special delivery. Each has a different design, illustrative as a whole of Canada's basic industries and raw materials, with emphasis on the return to a peace-time basis. No change is being made for the present in the 1, 2, 3, 4 and 5 cent stamps which bear the King's portrait.

NEW REPUBLIC—BOGUS ISSUE

In "The Philatelist" for August, 1946, E. F. Hurt, under the heading "Mystery Stamps," includes what appears to be a bogus issue of New Republic stamps.

He records seven stamps, all of format 18 x 22 mm., perf. 11 on plain paper. The design has at top and bottom "NEUE REPUBLIK/IN SUDAFRICA"; at the sides the denomination is given, thus "TWO/PENCE." The values of the seven stamps are 1d., 2d., 3d., 5d. and 1, 5 and 10 skield (whatever skield may be!). In the pence varieties the central design shows, more or less correctly, the arms of the former Nieuwe Republiek; in the skield values the central design is a full-rigged three-masted ship. Some of the stamps have been apparently used with a double circle mark in black or carmine showing an ornate star design in the centre and Republik/Sudafrica between the circles.

The spelling on this issue is rather suggestive of a German origin.

MOZAMBIQUE

Mr. Virgilio Netto, who, incidentally, has changed his address to "C.T.T., Nampula, Mozambique," reports the issue of a $50 Assistencia Publica stamp. It is in brown, the design being a swan with a brood of young; this "stamp" has *compulsorily* to be put on inland letters on certain days in addition to the ordinary postal fee, it may voluntarily be added on other days or on foreign mail.

Query: In such circumstances does it rank as a semi-postal?

TANGANYIKA T.P.O'S

Harold G. D. Gisburn has an article in a recent "Philatelic Magazine" on the Travelling Post Offices operating in Tanganyika.

On the Tanga-Moshi-Arusha line there is the "Kilimanjaro T.P.O." put into commission on 27-2-29 and making a twice-weekly journey each way.

On the Central Railway there is (a) the weekly "Daressalaam-Tabora T.P.O.," Up or Down, (b) the "Tabora-Kigoma T.P.O.," and (c) the "Tabora-Mwanza T.P.O." The two latter also run once weekly each way and are marked UP or DOWN.

Fine British Colonials:

Selections of the above are sent on approval to serious collectors against references.

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Just received, new issue of 9 values, 7 cents to 1 dollar	14 6
War Effort (obsolete), 23 values complete, mint	£1 15 0
War Effort (obsolete), 23 values complete, fine used	17 6
Nos. 363/363a, 10 cents, 2 stamps, mint	2 0
No. 364, 13c, 1 stamp, mint	1 3

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N.B. Kindly note change of address in East London. This central office is opposite Woolworths.

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U.S.S.R.

"Linn's Weekly" quotes a statement from a Moscow newspaper that the Ministry of Communications is shortly going to put on sale albums containing every stamp printed during the last 25 years, including 200 issued during the war. Whether they will be sold at face value or at a premium is not stated. This may be a very nice proposition for anyone just wishing to start a Russian collection, but is a pretty devastating outlook for those who have collected these stamps with difficulty, and often considerable expense, during the past 25 years.

TRISTAN DA CUNHA

A mail arrived by the South Africa ship "Agulhas" about 13th September. The most interesting piece of philatelic news is that a petition has gone forward from the Island Council to the Colonial Office asking for an issue of stamps for Tristan da Cunha.

FRANCE

Thanks to M. Jacques Lafitte of the Office de Propaganda Philatélique for specimens of the three stamps issued in honour of the Paris Peace Conference. They are 3 fr. dark-green showing two hands above a globe letting loose the dove of peace; a 10 fr. grey-blue with a gentle lady fondling a dove; another 10 fr. in deep blue showing the Luxemburg Palace where the Conference is sitting.

NEW ZEALAND

Some Let Up For The Dealers.

Although the regulations forbidding the exchange of stamps overseas were relaxed in favour of the private collector a little more than a year ago, dealers have had no such privilege and all transactions have been the subject of import and export licences. Now (June 29th) an official statement by the Minister of Customs announces an amendment of the regulations to permit dealers to exchange stamps with persons or firms in overseas countries other than Germany, Japan, Bulgaria, Rumania, Hungary and Austria provided those persons or firms are not "enemy traders."

Applications by stamp dealers for permission to export stamps on an exchange basis will be made to the Collector of Customs at the port of intended shipment. The Collector of Customs has also been authorised to issue special licences to cover stamps imported by dealers on an exchange basis on the understanding that no remittance of funds will be involved.

This is certainly an important step towards a return to normal peacetime conditions and one from which the average collector will benefit because in a country like New Zealand the general collector has had great difficulties in obtaining material during the war years in order to maintain a representative collection,—E.G.C.

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Cape of Good Hope.	6d. slate lilac on blued paper SG.7a, A full margined mint copy, small age discolouration on top right margin, very fine. Cat. £40	£32 10
do.	1s. dark green SG. 8a. A superb mint pair, but of a distinct yellowish green shade, large margins all three sides. A desirable piece	£35 0
do.	1863-64. De la Rue. 1d. deep carmine red SG.18. a superb marginal corner pair, brilliant mint	£20 0
do.	De la Rue 1d. brownish red SG.18b, a superb mint pair, very fresh colour, full margins all round with Royal Certificate	£30 0
BAHAMAS	1s. blue green SG.55, a superb mint block of four with marginial inscription	£2 0
BERMUDA	One Penny on 1s. SG.17 unused, very fine	£1 15
DOMINICA	½d. on half 1d. SG.11, a superb used pair on piece	£1 0
JAMAICA	4d. red orange and 4d. red brown SG.22 and 22a. Superb mint copy of this very elusive stamp	£12 10
MAURITIUS	2d. blue, worn impression, diagonal lines only SG20 Cat. to £45. A fine four margined copy, good colour, used ..	£15 0
do.	1854. 4d. green, surcharge curved 4d. in words SG.35. A superb used copy, large margins and lightly postmarked	£12 0
do.	1858-59. No value expressed 4d. green SG.36. A superb used copy	£4 10
do.	1859. 1s. vermilion SG.43, superb used, fine full colour ..	£2 15
NEVIS	1876. 1s. pale green, SG.20. This stamp is exceptionally rare used	£5 0
ST. LUCIA	Two rare, much under catalogued stamps, both superb mint. 1882-86 6d. lilac	£10 0
	1s. orange brown	£15 0

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DAVID TURNER — ENGRAVER OF THE KING GEORGE V. PROFILE PORTRAIT DIES OF THE UNION OF SOUTH AFRICA, OF THE CROWN COLONIES, AND OF INDIA

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

The large uncrowned profile portrait of His Majesty King George V depicted on certain of the postage and fiscal stamps of the Union of South Africa and also depicted on the majority of the British Crown Colonies, was adapted from a profile portrait bust originally executed by the late Sir Bertram MacKennal, A.R.A., and which was designed by him especially for use anent the then new KGV coinage of the United Kingdom. He designed also the large crowned profile portrait bust from which was adapted the crowned profile portrait of H.M. King George V shown on the postage stamps of India. Likewise, he designed the Georgian crowned profile portrait engraved on the obverse of the Coronation Medal struck by the Royal Mint, a reproduction of which appeared in its actual size in the "Illustrated London News" of July 1, 1911. Sir Bertram MacKennal was born at Melbourne, Australia. He was resident in London during 1911.

Designs of at least three negative Master Dies were engraved en epargne from the MacKennal Portrait by David Turner in the atelier of Thos. De La Rue and Company, Limited, 110 Bunhill Row, London, namely:

1. Master Die A. for the crowned profile portrait on the stamps of India. (53-67).

2. Master Die B. for the uncrowned profile portrait on the stamps of the Union of South Africa. (2) and (3).

3. Master Die C. for the uncrowned profile portrait on the stamps of the following Crown Colonies: —

(a) Nyasaland Type—large key-plate for high values—MacKennal Head in oval medallion with pearled rim on shield surmounted by Crown.

Bermuda (15), Ceylon (53), Leeward Islands (13), Malta (15), Nyasaland (16), Mandated Territory of Tanganyika (7).

(b) Nyasaland Type—small key-plate for low values—MacKennal Head in oval medallion with pearled rim.

British Honduras (22), Ceylon (57), Jamaica (18), Nyasaland (15), St. Lucia (14), Straits Settlements (53), Mandated Territory of Tanganyika (6)

(c) Combined Head and Border Type—small key-plate for low values—MacKennal Head in oval medallion with pearled rim surmounted by Crown on floral embellished border inscribed "POSTAGE-POSTAGE" or "POSTAGE-REVENUE."

British Honduras (16)-(17), British Solomon Islands (3)-(4), Grenada (26), Malta (13)-(14), St. Lucia (13)-(16).

(d) Single Head Type—MacKennal Head in oval, but rim without pearls.

1. With large Somaliland Protectorate Border Plate (5).
2. With large E.A. and Uganda Proctect. Border Plate (5).
3. With large Kenya and Uganda Border Plate (7).
4. With large Antigua-Dominica-Montserrat (6-11-7) Border Plates.

(e) Combined Head and Border Type—MacKennal Head in various shaped medallions.

1. On small Bahamas undenominated combined plate (8).
2. On small Cyprus undenominated combined plates—(a) Octagonal Medallion (12), (b) Shield Medallion (13).
3. On small Gibraltar undenominated combined plate (10).
   On large Gibraltar undenominated combined plate (11).
4. On Gold Coast 1d. denominated plate (10).
5. On Malta 2d. denominated plate (18).

(f) Single Head Type—MacKennal Head in oval, but without pearls.

1. With small Malaya (Straits Settlements) denominated border plates (57).
2. With small Kenya and Uganda denominated border plates (6).
3. With small Straits Settlements denominated border plates (48-49-50-52).

(g) Combined Head and Border Type—MacKennal Head in combination with various vignettes.

1. Bermuda Commemoration (18)—with ship "Sea Venture."
2. Dominica (16)—with ship in harbour.
3. St. Kitts-Nevis (4)-(5)—with Columbus and with Medicinal Spring.
4. Trinidad and Tobago (27)—with Britania and ship.
5. Kenya, Uganda and Tanganyika (10)—with African lion and palms.

The foregoing numbers which are inserted in brackets represent the reference numbers which appear singularly below the stamp illustrations in the "Stanley Gibbons' Postage Stamp Catalogue—Part 1—British Empire-1940."

On the Union Georgian Postage Stamps the MacKennal uncrowned profile portrait of H.M. King George V is depicted in an oval medallion without a pearled rim. On the Union Georgian Fiscal Stamps, however, the uncrowned MacKennal profile portrait of the Monarch is shown in an oval medallion with

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a pearled rim which is elliptically surrounded by an oval band inscribed in white lettering with the names "UNION OF SOUTH AFRICA" at the top and "UNIE VAN ZUID AFRIKA" at the bottom.

In reply to a letter which I wrote and forwarded to the printers, and in which, inter alia, I sought confirmation of the fact that David Turner was the engraver of the Georgian profile portraits, Messrs. De La Rue and Company, Limited, very kindly wrote to me: "We confirm that Mr. David Turner was the engraver concerned."

Collectors' Wants & Offers

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Victory Sets of 47 Crown Colonies 23/6 cash with order.
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F. G. Fifoot, P.T.S. 125 College Road, Moseley, Birmingham, England.

S.G. GATALOGUES

Messrs. Stanley Gibbons, Ltd., announce that they had hoped to issue the next edition of their British Empire Catalogue before Christmas, but illness amongst staff and other delays will prevent publication till early in 1947.

Part II (Foreign Countries) is not likely to appear till autumn of next year.

A "Simplified" may appear in spring or early summer, 1947.

Attractive Sets of Foreign and Colonial Stamps

3	Argentine 1946, Roosevelt, etc., Commemos, Mint	1/0
7	Belgium, Coats-of-Arms Charity, M...	2/0
7	Belgium "Belsen" Charity M.	1/9
11	Burma, Jap. Occupn. Pict. incl. Prov. M.	4/6
24	Canada, War Effort cpl. fine used	22/6
3	Denmark 1941, Bering Bicent. cpl. used	1/0
12	Ethiopia 1919 Zoo set cpl. m. to 3 Th.	5/6
5	Finland 1945 Sports m. cpl.	3/6
2	French Somali, Golden Jub. cpl. m.	1/6
6	Germany 1934 Hindenburg Mem. cpl. used	1/6
6	Germany 1938 Nazi Officials m.	1/0
9	Hungary, Pict. Commemos cpl. m.	2/6
14	Hungary Russian Occupn. Prov. m.	2/6
13	Hungary, Postman on Horseback cpl. m.	2/6
3	Holland 1938 Jubilee cpl. used	1/0
3	Holland 1941 Rembrandt mint	1/0
5	Holland 1945 Child Welfare cpl. m.	1/6
5	Holland 1946 for "Bombed-Out" cpl. m.	2/6
5	Iran 1939 Royal Wedding cpl. m.	3/6
5	Italy 1937, Stradivarius, etc. u.	1/0
4	Italy Titus Livius, cpl. m.	2/0
13	Italy Republic, Monuments cpl. m.	2/6
1	Norway, "Wings for Norway" cpl. m.	1/0
1	Newfoundland 1946, 2c/30c Prov.	1/6
13	New Zealand 1940 Centenary cpl. fine used	18/6
4	North Borneo 1939 Pictorial m.	1/9
3	Poland 1938 Winter Relief cpl. m.	5/6
1	Poland 1939 large Legion Commemo. m.	2/6
1	Poland 1938 U.S.A. Constitution m.	4/5
6	Poland Warsaw before and after the war, cpl. m.	5/6
10	Port. Nyassa 1911 Pictorials m.	2/6
1	San Marino. 100 L. UNRRA cpl. m.	5/6
3	San Marino Stamp Day cpl. m.	1/0
7	Spanish Morocco Pict. mint	1/6
2	Sweden Red Cross cpl. used	0/6
4	Swiss "Ladies of Switzerland" used	1/9
2	Vatican, Artists mint	0/9
4	Vatican 1940 Pope and Arms, mint	1/0
10	Vatican, Prov. Surcharges on 1940 set m.	4/6

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A. LICHTENSTEIN

P.O. Box 576,

BLOEMFONTEIN, O.F.S.

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SEYCHELLES

Mr. H. F. Johnson in "Stamp Collecting" describes some retouches on the current 1R stamp. The most important one, easily visible to the naked eye, is on stamp 29 of the sheet over a blot below the letters LES. The others, not so obvious, are: On stamp 31 a horizontal scratch to the left of RUPEE and two vertical scratches extending from the right edge of the word, above the horizon; on stamp 53 a small spot about 5 mm. below LES; on stamp 54 three specks about 2 mm. below LES.

BRAZIL

INTERNATIONAL BRIDGE STAMP A CURIOUS SITUATION

For the inauguration of the International Bridge Uruguay-ana-Pasos de los Libres (between Brazil and Argentine), which was held on a day of October, 1945, the Brazilian Government to commemorate the happening was going to, and did, issue a commemorative stamp, value 40 centavos, printed in a light violet colour, showing the drawing of the International Bridge and the effigies of Augustin Justo on the left and Getulio Vargas on the right. But, as the dictatorial government of Vargas was overthrown by armed forces on October 29, 1945, the new provisorial government of Dr. J. Linhares, gave orders that these stamps, already distributed to all Post Office Agencies of Brazil, were not to be put into circulation.

In the meantime, some post office agents, violating the spirit of the law, had sold "International Bridge" stamps, and when the Government, headed by Dr. J. Linhares, in early November, 1945, gave orders that its circulation should be suspended, many mint and used copies were already in the hands of stamp dealers and collectors—of course, once in their hands, knowing the fact, they started to sell them as rare.

On the 30th of April, the new Government, headed by General Dutra, through the General Post Office Department, published a notice, declaring that, due to the fact of having lost its circulation opportunity and as the issue has already been recovered at the Treasury, it is declared "Annul" for postage use and that it could be sold to the public only for exclusive usage of collections.

Dr. Mario de Sanctis.

FIRST AEROPLANE MAIL

This is often supposed to be the London-Windsor service of September 9-16, 1911. An article in the August "Stamp Magazine" by L. N. and M. Williams records an earlier mail carried by Grahame White in a Bleriot monoplane (actually the machine used by Bleriot to cross the English Channel in 1909) on August 20, 1910, on a flight between Blackpool and Southport, Lanchashire. The postcards carried had only ordinary ½d. stamps and no special cachet; probably not more than a score of them have been preserved.

AUSTRIA

The first country to honour the anniversary of the founding of UNO (or, more correctly we are now told, but less pleasant sounding, UN) is Austria. They have overprinted in black the 30g showing a picture of the Wolfgangsee with a globe resting on a wreath and, below, "+20g." On the left is the date, 26 Juni 1945, and on the right 26 Juni 1946.

NAURU ISLAND

When the Island post office was reopened in November of last year the identical pre-war stamps of 1937 were reissued. Those "shiny paper" stamps are well remembered, and collectors thought something different would eventuate. Well here are the self same stamps in every detail, and it will only be a matter of the date of the post mark. It is understood that no change is contemplated until the ultimate ownership of the Island is determined by the world organisation from which we expect the solution of so many territorial problems.

—E. G. Cowell.

HUNGARY

On August 1st, 12 stamps appeared in the new currency of fillers and forints (100 fillers =1 forint, which is equivalent to 4-with-29-noughts-after-it pengoes of the old currency). The design on the filler values is a workman with machinery; on the forints a lady brandishing a sickle.

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Commando Brief

Although it is now nearly 50 years old, there is still not universal agreement as to the lineage of this Orange Free State stamp. Most of the major catalogue makers do not list it, being apparently of the opinion that it has no claim to be regarded as a legitimate postage stamp; the only exception I know of being Yvert & Tellier, who, up to 1936 at any rate (the latest edition I have seen), included it in their catalogue.

Recently, however, several writers have thrown down the gage as champions on its behalf and it, therefore, seems fitting to consider the pros and cons regarding the status of this item.

The Royal Philatelic Society's "Africa," Part III, 1906, does not include it in their reference list, so it may be assumed that the writers of the article in that work did not regard it as "a stamp."

B. W. H. Poole, in his "South African War Provisionals," 1901, says that at first it was regarded as a stamp to frank the correspondence of burghers on commando, but that it is now known that such letters went post free and, therefore, the "stamp" was superfluous and had no franking power whatsover. Further he says, "it has since been suggested that it was a private speculation on the part of an enterprising chemist who sent them to the front to be stuck on letters. They may thus be found duly postmarked on genuine correspondence."

F. J. Melville, who was nothing if not a critical writer, states in his Phantom Philately . . . "was printed by a chemist, A. F. Hochapfel, who states he was appointed field postmaster, Free State Boers, during the South African War in 1899. They were not issued as postage stamps but were intended to save the Commandants and Field Cornets the trouble of initialling letters sent by the burghers at the front to their relatives and friends. Although at one time marketed as a rare war stamp it is nothing more than a private speculation." He gives as references "Stamp Collectors' Fortnightly," Vol. VII, 1901-2, pages 44, 58 and 205. These are letters from, respectively:—

(a) "A Johannesburg Philatelist," who states that he was in Johannesburg at the time of issue and that philatelists there never for a moment accepted it as an official issue, but merely as a private speculation. His grounds for this view are that both in the Transvaal and the O.F.S. letters to and from the fighting line were allowed to pass post free; it was merely necessary for the sender to use on his missive the world "Velddienst." The report put about that the Commandant himself stamped the letters and that the "Commando Brief" saved him the trouble of doing so, was contrary to fact. All letters were postmarked whether they had stamps or not. Entires with postmarked Commando Brief labels prove nothing as to an official character of these labels; Chinese locals would have been just as efficacious, and unnecessary, in receiving a postmark and securing free postage.

(b) A brief note from "A Military Correspondent" stating that his collection of envelopes with Commando Brief stamps, mainly showed postmarks of Cape Colony civil post offices dated during October and November, 1899, "which showed that the issue must have been a general one and quite bona fide."

(c) This is a long letter from Mr. A. F. Hochapfel himself. It is obviously the course of most of the information given by Messrs. Hurt & Williams. (See later.)

Mr. Hochapfel states categorically that all letters sent by burghers in the field had to be initialled either by the field cornets or the commandant, and that when correspondence reached large dimensions these officers declined to sit for hours initialling letters. "A proposal was made to the chief commandant to authorise the issue of stamps to be affixed to letters, and thus save all officers concerned the trouble of initialling such letters." The stamps were ordered to be printed by Acting Commandant General Barend Greyling, and came into use on 15th October, 1899. He does not say where the stamps were printed nor how many were printed. "It will be seen," he goes on to say, "that the stamps are of official origin and were used to prove that the letters to which they were affixed came from the seat of war and were *therefore not subject to any fines*, which letters without postage stamps are subject to. They therefore were meant to *frank* the letters also.

He states that the postmarks most commonly found on Commando Brief stamps are those of places occupied by the force investing Kimberley. He does not state specifically that the stamps were issued to this particular force only, but this might reasonably be inferred from his further statement that burghers were often moved from one place to another; it happened, therefore, that the stamps were taken to other parts, and we find copies with the postmarks of various Natal offices and of nearly every post office in the Orange Free State, and of a good few in the Transvaal. Some reached Europe while the route via Delagoa Bay was still open, but, as no ordinary postage stamps were sold from the Field Post Offices, all such letters were fined if they had Commando Brief stamps only; they were duly forwarded, however.

The views of Poole and of Melville, written fairly soon after the issue of the Commando Brief, seem to be those most generally accepted to-day, but in recent years several writers have claimed a higher status for it. These are (1) A. E. Geldhof in his "Stamps of the Orange Free State," 1938, pp. 41-42 (A.E.G.). (2) Stephen G. Rich in "Philately of the Boer War," 1943, pp. 23-24 (S.G.R.), and, E. F. Hurt and L. N. and M. Williams in their "Priced Catalogue of Local Postage

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Stamps," 1945, Part 5, Appendix p. 141 (H. & W.).

A.E.G. calls it a stamp, S.G.R. a label, H. & W. a stamp or frank. Let us for the moment refer to it as a stamp, but without making any implications thereby as regards its status.

There is general agreement that the stamps were made at the suggestion or to the order of Mr. A. F. Hochapfel, a Bloemfontein chemist who was a postmaster on commando service. The main argument as to the legitimacy or otherwise of the stamps turns on whether he had them made as a private speculation or on orders from a Commando Commandant, or some official source. He has been accused of selling stamps to collectors; possibly he did, but that is no argument *per se* that the whole affair was a private one.

The reason or excuse for making the stamps is given by A.E.G. and by H. & W. as this: Serving burghers were allowed free postage on their letters provided the covers were initialled or signed by a Commandant; with the mail becoming large this became too great a task—hence the Commando Brief stamp to serve as a frank and save the time and trouble taken to initial the covers. "Johannesburg Philatelist," however, says the letters had merely to be marked "Veld-dient" to secure free postage.

S.G.R. traverses the initialling argument when he says that there is no evidence to substantiate the claim that burghers' mail had to be "franked by the Commandant." In so doing he seems to me to cut away the main argument in favour of the need for any such stamp. I agree with him that evidence substantiating the claim is lacking; I have never heard of any official instructions to this effect having been disclosed and no actual covers showing any such franking appear to have been recorded.

In my collection of Boer covers all are endorsed with such phrase as "Veld Dienst"; "In Velddienst," or "Op Commando Dienst" (all equivalent to "On Active Service"); one has in addition a Commando Brief stamp. One has initials and a number, and one has a name, but in both cases these are followed by the word "Afsender" (Sender), and there is no countersigning by anyone else. Only one cover gives any suggestion that superior authority was required to assure free postage to the letter; this is one which has in addition to "Op Commando Dienst," a rubber stamp mark "Landrost/O.V.S./Vrede" (Magistrate of Vrede) with initials inside it.

If the Commando Dienst stamp is to be given any sort of official status it appears to me that what is required is:

(a) Documentary or other reliable evidence that countersigning or initialling by a commandant was required in order to ensure free postage.

(b) Failing this the production of countersigned envelopes would be good presumptive evidence of the necessity.

(c) Satisfactory evidence that Mr. Hochapfel was officially asked or instructed to have the stamps made. So far we seem only to have his statement that they were officially ordered—and this is queried by others.

Mere statements of personal belief that the stamps had an official status are not enough. The only real argument in support of their official status put forward by any of the three protagonists favouring it, is that the stamps were in use over a wide area and very early in the war. The actual dates of usage recorded are October 24, 1899, to January 13, 1900, the war having started on October 11, 1899. In the words of S.G.R. "this may well make us critical of the attempt to show that it (the stamp) is unofficial or otherwise worthless." That we should be critical I agree, but it will take more than that argument to convince me of its official status.

Provided evidence is forthcoming that the stamp was officially ordered or authorised, what then would its status be? Well, even then I cannot see that it would rank as a postage stamp. There is no value expressed on it; no evidence that users of it had to pay for it, nor any that it actually prepaid postage. At most, it would seem merely to have been a convenience, taking the place of an officer's signature or initials indicating that the letter was entitled to free postage.

Another argument against the stamp being given any sort of full official recognition is the strong presumption, if not virtual certainty, that it was only "on issue" to one particular force of Free State burghers; any usage in other areas was only through the fortuitous happening of an individual have taken some of the stamps with him from "the area of issue."

H. & W.'s classification of them as "Locals" seems to have little or no justification; "locals" actually pay for postal carriage, these stamps did not.

Even if evidence is forthcoming that the stamps were a private venture by Mr. Hochapfel they may still be of considerable interest if it can be shown that countersigning of covers was a necessity and that the stamps were a convenience taking its place. Failing this, however, they would lose much of their interest and definitely fall into Melville's class of "nothing more than a private speculation."

So much for the pros and cons as to the status of the Commando Brief; now for some particulars about the stamps themselves:

They are typeset, printed in black on a yellow to orange surfaced paper. According to H. & W., the printing was done in Pretoria. (Can this be verified, as on the face of it Bloemfontein would seem to be more likely?) The total printing was 10,000. They were done in sheets of 20 from a horizontal forme of 5 and perf. 12. They record one variety, the left upright of the

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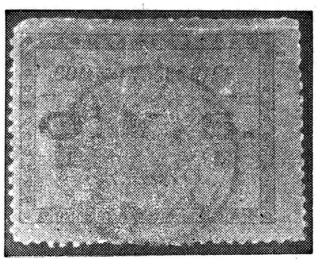
first M in COMMANDO being broken. From a full sheet in the possession of Mr. W. Redford of Johannesburg I can state that this variety occurs on stamps 2, 7, 12 and



17, i.e., on all the stamps of the 2nd vertical row of four. He also has a block showing double perforation the whole height of the sheet between vertical rows 1 and 2.

Places of Usage. S.G.R. records specimens showing postmarks of the civil Cape of Good Hope post offices at Palmietfontein, Lady Grey, Aliwal North, Barkly East, Barkly West and Modder River. H. & W. confirm several of these and add Spytfontein, Colesberg and Venterstad in Cape Colony, also Bloemfontein and Jacobsdal in the Free State. I can confirm the last two and add Brandfort in the O.F.S. from Mr. Redford's collection. With the exception of Bloemfontein and Brandfort all these places may be described as having been on the O.F.S.-Cape Colony front during the period of usage.

H. & W. state that with the exceptions of Modder River, Barkly East and Bloemfontein postmarked specimens are scarce to rare, and they add, "Very scarce, too, is "Kimberley Z.A.R." from a rubber handstamp. The postmarks from Natal, such as Dannhauser, Elandslaagte, Glencoe, Dundee and Hoofdlager Z.A.R. are all rare, also killers containing either the number 245 or 252 in a rectangle within an oval of 9 bars."

I wonder if the Kimberley mark they speak of should not really be "Hoofdlager Z.A.R. Kimberley." One specimen of this mark, from a rubber oval handstamp, has previously been recorded, although not on a Commando Brief stamp.

I have not personally seen any Commando Brief stamps with marks from the Natal front (on which Transvaal commandos mainly were engaged, although there were some from the O.V.S. as well), but Miss R. Leighton, writing me from Shropshire, England, records that in her small collection she has one on cover postmarked "Colenso 20 Jan 00" in one straight line, in purple. (This is a recorded mark from Colenso.) She also has one with the killer 252, which is given by Jurgens in his "Handstruck Letter Stamps and Postmarks of the Cape of Good Hope" as located at Barkly East. He has not located No. 245.

Miss Leighton has three specimens from Modder River, two of them sent to Jacobsdal, one of which, dated 25 Nov., 19, is addressed to "Mr. A. F. Hochapfel c/o Major Albrecht's Division near Jacobsdal, O.V.S." This seems to be pretty good presumptive evidence that Mr. Hochapfel actually was a field postmaster on commando.

Forgery. H. & W. record one forgery (rare) of the Commando Brief stamp. It is on coarse wove unsurfaced thin lemon-yellow paper, perf. 11½ and gummed. This appears to be lithographed. The lettering differs from the original, but the main points of difference are the absence of stops after Commando and Franco, and the square unrayed stops after O, V, and S.

SUMMARY

The story of the Commando Brief labels, as recorded, gives no justification for regarding them as stamps which prepaid postage. At most they were a convenience to save commandants the trouble of countersigning letters from burghers on commando service so that the letters got free postage.

The recorded details about the labels and their postmarks are given together with a few small additional notes.

Points on which authoritative information is desirable are: —

(1) Was there any order or regulation that countersigning or initialling by commandants of burghers' mail was necessary to ensure free postage. Actual evidence in the form of countersigned covers seems to be quite lacking.

(2) Did Mr. Hochapfel have the labels made on official instruction or as a private venture?

J. H. HARVEY PIRIE.

CORRESPONDENCE

Sir,—In your August issue of the "S.A. Philatelist" you printed a "Resumé" of a recent talk I made at the Pretoria meeting. Same was supplied by Mr. Wilson, Hon. Sec. of the Pretoria Philatelic Society, and in it the phrase "generally bad service by dealers" has been used.

May I state that I made no mention of such a fact whatsoever and that Mr. Wilson undoubtedly used this phrase by misunderstanding when preparing a summary for your magazine.

I have pointed this out to Mr. Wilson at once, and I would appreciate a correction as outlined above.

Yours, etc.,
W. OPPENHEIM.

(We gladly print this disclaimer, but must point out that we have to accept what Society secretaries send us about their meetings and cannot check up on their reports.—Ed.)

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HOLLAND

About the most interesting news from Holland is that concerning the new high values, 2½, 5 and 10 gulden, of the "Konynenburg" set. In a bulletin issued by the Postal authorities the following particulars were given:—

(a) The stamps may not be sold over the counter in a mint state. The official charged with their sale must see that the stamps are cancelled, is in fact required to do the cancellation himself, before handing over postal matter to the public.

(b) A record must be kept of the number of these stamps sold, to whom they were sold and for what purpose.

(c) Affixing stamps of a higher value than the postal charges for any particular item is allowed only on matter for internal postal use.

(d) The stamps are not available at the Philatelic counters.

The export of stamps is forbidden unless special permission is obtained from the Netherlands Bank. Letters thought to contain forbidden matter may be held back for examination.

The monthly "Myn Stokpaardje," from which the foregoing was gleaned, also contains much information on the stamps of Japanese-occupied territory and of the Indonesian overprints. They say that after six such accounts (made monthly) there is still much material to be described.

Judging by the illustrations of freak items, the overseas printers are in competition with our own source of such material. Even Bradbury, Wilkinson & Co. have produced stamps not free of the darlings of so-called specialists well known in this country.

The general impressing one gains from the perusal of this magazine is that the hobby is actively pursued and with a lively interest: an interest one often longs to see more in evidence in South Africa.

The figures published concerning the sale of Child Welfare stamps in December last show approximately two million sets to have been sold; this, compared with previous issues, is very high as some of the sets previously issued passed the million mark.

USED PEACE ISSUES

Wanted in large or small quantities also current and recent issues of Basutoland, Bechuanaland, N. Rhodesia, Nyasaland, S. Rhodesia, Swaziland and S.W. Africa.

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GREAT BRITAIN

Final deliveries of the 2½d. Peace stamp were made in August; stocks in hand will be sold out but no more will be printed. In all 300 million of the 2½d. and 42 million of the 3d. were printed.

It has been left to American Freemasons to discover that the King is a Past Grand Master of the United Grand Lodge of England; that the five symbols on the 3d. stamp are all important Masonic symbols; and that these two facts make the 3d. stamp a purely Masonic one—the only instance in which a civil government has so signally honoured a fraternal organisation.

BELGIUM

We are very pleased to see once again "Le Philateliste Belge," the scholarly monthly published by the Philatelic Society of Belgium, after a break of six years in its publication.

There were issued in July three sets of commemoratives, of three stamps each honouring famous Belgians. These are, respectively, Father Damien, the missionary to the leper settlement of Molokai; Francois Bovesse, liberal leader and governor of Namur, assassinated in 1944; and Emile Vandervelde, leader of the Belgian Labour Party.

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Guatemala (50)
Honduras Rep. (40)
Luxemburg (38)
Martinique (32)
Macao (95)
Nicaragua (57)
Poland (31)
Port. Guinea (69)
Port. India (38)
Portugal (82)
Russia (Wrangel) (38)
Surinam (54)
St. Thomas (39)
Syria (46)
San Marino (35)
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More Than Satisfied:

We are more than satisfied with the results we have obtained from advertising overseas and by the same mail as this we are booking more space in your own magazine.

We must, of course, give credit where it is due; your paper is a first-class medium, but at the same time, our stamps and their prices were apparently just what the doctor ordered, for we have had repeats from every customer who sent us an order and off hand we cannot recall a single instance where we did not receive an order after an application was made for our pricelist. We specialise in stamps of the present reign, and whereas we could enlarge our field, we much prefer to invest our own not inconsiderable capital in K.G. VI stamps to any others, and if we may be allowed to say so, our experience is wide enough for us to have a pretty shrewd idea what we are doing.

Many collectors have been buying these stamps from us since they started to come out in 1937, and to-day they can look back and say that not only have they had a lot of fun for nothing, but they could make a tidy profit as well over their outlay if they decided to sell. Now why don't you consider doing the same?

Ah, you will reply, it's too late now. Actually it's nothing of the kind, for 95 per cent. of stamps of the present reign can still be bought at current prices, and what you would pay to-day for obsolete items will look very cheap later on.

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SOCIETY NEWS

PORT ELIZABETH PHILATELIC SOCIETY

President, Mr. G. K. Forbes; *Hon. Sec.*, Mr. P. G. Smith, 13 Trafalgar Square, Port Elizabeth; *Meetings*, 1st and 3rd Tuesdays in Room 8, City Hall Basement, at 7.45 p.m.

August: The first meeting was presided over by Mr. Nicholson, who auctioned numerous packets which quickly changed hands.

The business meeting held on the 20th was well attended.

Mr. Fowler showed some 40 pages of his general collection, mostly being Canadian; these were both mint and used, some very fine specimens being shown, the airmails being specially worth noting.

Mr. Smith tabled about 30 pages, all mints and complete sets.

His Falkland Isles in blocks of four were of keen interest, and his old and new issues of Nyasaland, Gold Coast, and Indian Al-bus-aid also in blocks of four were well worth the time members spent over them.

After the correspondence had been attended to, Mr. Nicholson auctioned 43 packets.

September: The auction held on the first Tuesday was a small one, only 40 packets were sent in and were quickly sold.

The business meeting held on the 17th also had a small attendance. Mr. B. Jones was responsible and showed his full collection of Belgian Congo. A map and a printed paper about the different issues made the display more interesting. Worthy of mention were: The first set of 1886 and the issue of 1892 only used on parcels; that of 1909 when Belgium took over the Congo Free State; the 1916 set redesigned and printed in French and Flemish, also the Red Cross and Airmails. Mr. Archibald, of East London, was given a hearty welcome.

It is with deep regret we announce the passing away of one of our members, the Rev. J. W. Megathey, and members stood in silence as a token of respect.

The meeting ended with a small auction.

L.E.C.

★

ORANGE FREE STATE AND BASUTOLAND PHILATELIC SOCIETY

President, Mr. John Lewis; *Hon. Secretary*, Mr. R. G. Lyon, Box 702, Bloemfontein; *Meetings*, 3rd Fridays each month, Oranje Koffiehuis, Bloemfontein, 7.30 p.m.

The Society's annual general meeting was held on 20th September, with a very fair number of members present. The outgoing President, Mr. M. Liss, presented an illuminating review of the Society's past activities with some new ideas and suggestions for the future. He spoke also on the sad loss the society has suffered through the recent death of its oldest stalwart member, Mr. Francis Carter. The meeting rose in silent remembrance. Other office-bearers also presented their reports, which revealed an efficient handling of Society matters and a sound financial state of affairs. The following new committee was elected for the ensuing year:

President, Mr. John Lewis; Vice-president, Mr. M. Liss; Hon. Secretary-Treasurer, Mr. R. G. Lyon; Exchange Superintendent, Mr. A. J. Denne; Publicity Officer, Dr. K. Freund; Hon. Auditor, Mr. W. Dickie-Clark; Hon. Auctioneer, Mr. M. Liss; Committee members, Mr. F. B. Catell, Mr. C. A. Larsen, Mr. R. A. Brown.

After refreshments were served, a small auction sale of philatelic accessories and a few stamp lots was held.

The evening was concluded with an interesting numismatic display given by Mr. J. B. Levy, which consisted of complete sets of British "Maundy Money," ranging from sets handed out by Charles II up to the present reign. The exhibit was an eye-opener to the members, as it presented something "different" from the usual philatelic fare.

The new season of the Society will be opened on Friday, 18th October, when Dr. Freund will give an original talk and display on "Philatelic Terms" by special request of various new members.

★

THE JEWISH GUILD PHILATELIC SECTION

Chairman, Mr. H. Marcuson; *Hon. Sec.*, Mr. I. Isaacs, 910 His Majesty's Buildings, Eloff Street, Johannesburg; *Meetings*, last Thursdays, at the Jewish Guild Memorial Hall, Von Brandis Street, Johannesburg.

At the meeting held on 29th August Mr. Buchen exhibited a fine collection of Belgian stamps. These included most of the oval sets, including the rare first and third sets. There were numerous miniature sheets, including the Philatelic Exhibition. There were several of the old issues in fine used condition. Issues of World War II, as well as pre-war issues were included.

At the meeting held on 19th September Dr. A. Kaplan showed New Zealand. The exhibit was almost complete. All the Health issues were included, as well as the air commemoratives. There were several first day covers.

The next meeting of the Section will be held on 31st October. All stamp collectors will be welcomed.

I.I.

★

PRETORIA PHILATELIC SOCIETY

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

Monday, 2nd: Mr. H. E. Rudd dealt with an island very much in the news at present, namely, Cyprus. Historically the island seems to have been a proper storm centre; from its first conquest by Egypt about 1500 B.C. to its annexation by Britain after the 1914 World War it has passed through a long and eventful history, having many close links with the illustrious characters of those times, who all gave something to its mythology and literature, leaving it as one of the most beautiful little islands of the world.

Postage stamps were first introduced during the Turkish regime, whose regular issues were used for internal correspondence while the mail for abroad was in the hands of the Austrian Post Office at Larnaca using Austrian Levant issues. Letters were also conveyed between Cyprus and Smyrna by the Asia Minor Steamship Co., and the 1 and 2 piastres used are the greatest rarities of this island. In 1880 the civil government took over the post office and a supply of British stamps overprinted CYPRUS placed on issue; of these plates 193 and 196 are rare. The first definite issue printed by de la Rue went through all the various watermark changes common to all the Colonies, and here again we find one rarity: the ½ piastre green which, due to the similarity it bore to the 2 piastre blue, was overprinted ½ on either side of the stamp. The pictorial era began with the handsome set of 10 values issued in 1928 marking the 50th anniversary of British occupation. When this issue was withdrawn the "key-types" came back, but they were soon replaced by the 1934 pictorials and in their turn by the George VI pictorials. In this last set the 9 piastres shows the remains of the main portion of the fortifications of Famagusta, erected by the Lusiganans in 14 B.C. and known as the Othello Tower, reputed scene of the murder of Desdemona by Othello as recorded by Shakespeare.

The exhibition of the evening was a very fine display of the little known revenue stamps of South Africa for which collection Mr. Dodd is to be highly commended.

Monday, 16th: Mr. H. N. Cutler's talk and display of Voortrekker Centenary Celebration stamps was the feature of this evening's meeting, and a great deal of credit is due to him for his efforts in preserving for posterity the many interesting and historical items dealing with this colourful ceremony.

October promises to be a busy and memorable month for us—on Tuesday, 8th, we are to hear more about and see more of Dr. Broom's researches into Transvaal philatelic history. 21st October will see the opening of our Jacaranda Exhibition in the

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main hall of the Technical College, and which will remain open until Wednesday, 23rd, while in the evenings we are to have a series of philatelic talks, so it behoves all you collectors to bear these dates in mind and make the venue of our meetings your mecca for this month.

J.J.W.

★

CAPE TOWN PHILATELIC SOCIETY

President, L. Simenhoff; *Hon. Secretary,* S. Kaganson, P.O. Box 1973; *Meetings,* 2nd and 4th Thursdays at Yorkshire Buildings, Strand Street, at 7.30 p.m.

On the 30th September Mr. Simenhoff gave another of his periodical exhibitions of South African stamps—this time it was South-West African that had the stage. The pages on view commenced with a showing of a full range of the occupational stamps, i.e., the stamps used before a special issue for this mandated territory was made available. Cape and Union stamps in the main were then utilised and the tell tale markings are those of the date stamps of the offices then functioning in the territory.

Stamps of the other provinces are to be met with occasionally and this is explained by the fact that Walvis Bay was then a part of the Cape, and as such would be supplied with such stamps as were sent to other offices in the Union.

It is only natural to assume that such stamps could be employed as postage on matter posted at other offices in the vicinity. The stamps shown comprised Mr. Simenhoff's fourth attempt at collecting S.W.A. for he disposed of his earlier collections after they had reached sizeable proportions. His present effort was well up to the standard of collections put up for view at our meetings for it included all the issues of this country in very considerable variety.

Meeting 12/9/46: Mr. Rivers tabled another of his delightful displays—characterised as usual by exceptionally well drawn and descriptive settings. Tibet was, perhaps, the most fully represented and a fairly comprehensive collection, which even included samples of the locally manufactured papers on which the stamps were printed.

By the large number of forgeries shown—they actually outnumbered the genuine issues—this is hardly a country for the novice. A very instructive drawing of Nepal issues was productive of a lot of interest for it included all issues from 1881 to 1941, together with several tete-beche, recut and redrawn varieties. Quite an imposing array of the Peacock overprints on Burma followed. Amongst the other items on the table were Swaziland, commencing with "occupationals"; Bahwalpur, including the recently issued Victory stamp; Bussein; the Giraffe issue of G.E.A., etc., etc. He also showed the nucleus of a "ships" collection which should be very interesting when complete. Only forty members were present. The names of four applicants for membership were announced.

G.H.G.

★

EAST RAND PHILATELIC SOCIETY

President, Mr. J. Shepherd, P.O. Box 97, Brakpan; *Hon. Secretary,* E. N. Riff, 103 Kemston Avenue, Benoni.

The 27th annual general meeting was held on Tuesday, 17th September, 1946. The following members were elected office-bearers for the incoming year: President, Mr. J. Shepherd, P.O. Box 97, Brakpan; Vice-president, Mr. H. Suklje, 1 Somerset Avenue, Benoni; Secretary-Treasurer, Mr. E. W. Rigg, 103 Kemston Avenue, Benoni.

The members expressed their sympathy with Mr. Suklje on the death of his mother which took place recently.

Mr. Shepherd had an outstanding item of interest which consisted of a block of twelve South Africa one penny Victory stamps with S.W.A. inverted. This item was mentioned in the last "S.A. Philatelist."

Mr. J. Doyle provided the evening's exhibits; first was his collection of K.G. VI stamps, and second Nyassa.

Mrs. Merrick thanked Mr. Doyle on behalf of the society for providing the evening's exhibit, and that he has only collected the George VI since his release from the Army, he has a very nice collection, most of the sets included the high values.

The next monthly meeting of the Society has been postponed for one week, therefore the meeting will take place on Tuesday, 22nd October, 1946.

E.N.R.

★

THE PHILATELIC SOCIETY OF JOHANNESBURG

President, Mr. L. Buchen; *Hon. Sec.,* Mr. J. H. Jenkins, P.O. Box 4967; *Meetings,* 2nd Tuesdays, Public Library, 7.45 p.m.

There were two exhibits at the meeting held on 10th September.

Mr. J. H. Schubart showed modern Holland. These included issues of the Second World War and the post-war issues. The exhibit included some very beautiful designs. Miniature sets, blocks and covers were all included.

Dr. A. Kaplan showed the early Holland imperforates. They were all in beautiful condition, mint as well as used. The exhibit included essays. The very rare shades of these classical stamps were included in Dr. Kaplan's collection.

Mr. J. Robertson spoke on the exhibits, which were much appreciated by the members present.

I.I.

★

THE PHILATELIC SOCIETY OF NATAL

President, Mr. W. H. Winde; Hon. Sec., Mr. G. Milner Palmer, P.O. Box 588, Durban; Meetings, 1st and 3rd Wednesdays at 31 London Assurance House, 319 Smith Street (in room of the Durban Camera Club, top floor) 7.30 p.m.

August meeting held on the 7th was well attended, and Mr. Hall Jones kindly exhibited his collection of Egypt which must be considered very good, few items being missing; our thanks are due to Mr. Jones for putting up this exhibit at such short notice. Our old friend Mr. Hanna put over another of his humorous, but at the same time instructive competitions "That's right you're wrong," and was well received. The usual auction was held, and one does notice that there seems to be a shortage of material, or is it that they are all awaiting the new Catalogue?

September meeting proved once again that the Society is on the up-grade with regards to attendance. Mr. C. B. Riches exhibited his collection of Ceylon, and this forms the fifth and last in the present series for the "Percy C. Bishop" Trophy. This exhibit was an exceptionally fine one, and contained many rarities of the early issues. Comments on all sides were to the effect that all too seldom does one see material as Mr. Riches exhibited. Congratulations, Mr. Riches, on your outstanding display. It will be interesting to see how much the marks varied with each type of exhibit and who the lucky winner will be this year. Mr. Lyle gave us one of his colour competitions and these are always enjoyed, in spite of the fact that we are allowed to look at the stamps, it took a clever person to guess the right answer as regards the colour. Gibbons' catalogue was taken as the correct answer. The usual auction was held, and the evening closed with the feeling that we had all learned something new.

W.H.W.

★ ★ ★

EGYPT

Mr. J. P. Shingler forwards the 10 mill. issued on 9th August (500,000 printed) marking the transference of the Citadel in Cairo to the Egyptian forces. The stamp is in brown, showing the Citadel, with the Egyptian flag (green with white crescent and stars) behind it.

He also reports that the issue in honour of the Arab rulers meeting will probably have appeared in September. The design is expected to incorporate portraits of the heads of the seven Arab States, in national costume.

(Later information is that the issue has not appeared and, in fact, that it may not come out at all.)

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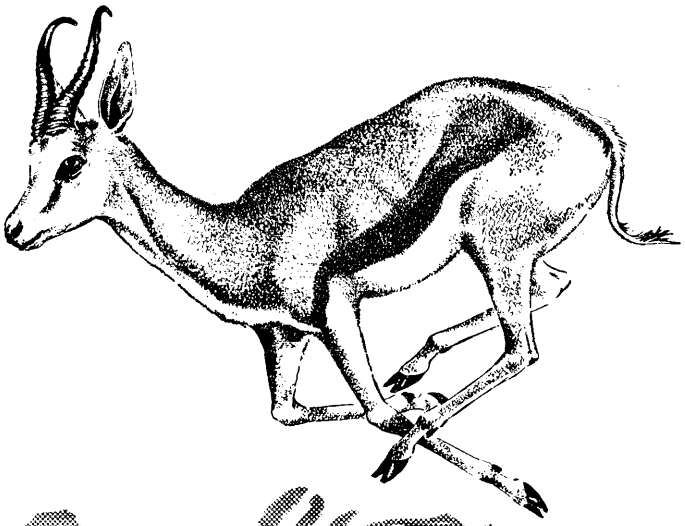

SPRINGBOK
CIGARETTES
THE NATIONAL SMOKE

U/S 302

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Proprietors and Publishers:

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The
SOUTH AFRICAN PHILATELIST

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Vol. 22, No. 11. **NOVEMBER, 1946.** **Whole No. 260**

Union, S.W.A, Protectorates

RECENT PRINTINGS

The last information on these was given in the March issue, covering the period 22-11-45 to 10-1-46. There has been unusual delay in receiving this information, and it has come in two batches, one covering the period 11-1-46 to 7-5-46, and the other from 8-5-46 to 15-8-46.

PERIOD 11-1-46 TO 7-5-46

(a) Pictorial Postage Stamps

2d.—Job 4672 continued: The total of 20,000 sheets x 120 from cylinders 6913 Int. and 10 Ext. stands as before. A further 24,953 sheets x 120 from cylinder 6913 Int. and a new Ext. cylinder, No. 64.

6d.—Job 10813: 43,465 sheets x 240 delivered between 2-4-46 and 9-4-46. Cylinders 6 Int. and 6935 Ext., both new.

1s.—Job 10813: 32,754 sheets x 120 on 19-3-46 on an order for 80,000 sheets. Cylinders, 6,925 Int. and 38 Ext., both old.

5s.—Job 13115: 8,660 sheets x 60 delivered on 21-3-46. Cylinders, 6929 Int. and 41 Ext., both old.

(b) Roll Stamps

1d.—Job 3651 continued: Deliveries on this order now standing at 10,609 rolls x 1,012 and 4,906 rolls x 506. Cylinder 16 as before.

(c) Inland Pictorial Postcards

1d. — Job 9977 continued: Deliveries now standing at 3,341,760 cards. Cylinders 86 and 85 as before.

(d) Air Letter Cards

6d.—Job 6887 continued: Deliveries from the new cylinder (No. 91) now total 2,021,544.

(e) Swaziland

Victory Postage Stamps supplied by the P.M.G. and overprinted "Swaziland" on a flat-bed machine from old formes. 2,600 sheets of 1d., 2,700 sheets of 2d. and 2,000 sheets of 3d. All in sheets x 120, delivered on 31-1-46.

(f) Bechuanaland

Victory Postage Stamps supplied by the P.M.G. and overprinted "Bechuanaland" on a flat-bed machine from old formes. 650 sheets x 120 of 1d. delivered on 31-4-46 and a further 400 sheets on 19-2-46. 500 sheets x 120 of the 2d. on 19-2-46.

(g) South West Africa

1d. War Postage Stamps, 1,000 sheets x 360 supplied by the P.M.G. and overprinted "S.W.A." on a flat-bed machine from old formes on 19-2-46.

Victory Postage Stamps similarly supplied and overprinted on 19-2-46. 1d., 600 sheets x 120, and 3d., 620 sheets x 120.

S.W.A. Postage Stamps supplied by the P.M.G. and overprinted "Revenue/Inkomste" on a flat-bed machine from old formes: 3d., 1,599 sheets x 60; 6d., 299 sheets by 60; 1s., 999 sheets x 60 and 500 sheets x 120; 2s. 6d., 99 sheets x 60; 5s., 49 sheets x 60; 10s., 49 sheets x 60; £1, 24 sheets x 60.

[The total quantities of overprinted "Victories," compiled from this and from our January and March lists, would appear to be, in sheets of 120.—S.W.A.: 1d., 12,599; 2d., 16,999; 3d., 10,619. Bechuanaland: 1d., 8,049; 2d., 7,499; 3d., 6,999. Swaziland: 1d., 11,599; 2d., 11,699; 3d., 10,999. Basutoland: 1d., 9,999; 2d., 9,999; 3d., 9,999.—Ed.]

PERIOD 8-5-46 TO 15-8-46

(a) Pictorial Postage Stamps

½d.—Job 560: 32,875 sheets x 240 at 1-8-46 on an order for 250,000 sheets. Cylinders 60 Int. and 49 Ext. as before.

2d.—Job 10,808: 32,000 sheets x 120 at 7-8-46 on an order for 1,500,000 sheets. Cylinders 6913 Int. and 64 Ext. as before.

1s.—Job 10,813 continued: Total deliveries on this order 81,354 sheets x 120 at 18-7-46. Cylinders as before.

2s. 6d.—Job 608: 24,000 sheets x 60 on 23-7-46. Cylinders 27 Int. and 7017 as before.

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10s. — Job 609: 3,900 sheets x 60 on 23-7-46. Cylinders 6918 Int. and 6934 Ext. as before.

(b) Roll Stamps

1d.—Job 3651 continued: Deliveries up to 13-6-46 now total 11,624 rolls x 1,012 and 5,392 rolls x 506. Cylinder as before.

1d.—Job 9979: 1,300 rolls x 506 on 9-7-46. Cylinder as before.

(c) Inland Pictorial Postcards

1d.—Job 8674: 902,400 cards delivered after 14-5-46 on an order for 2,720,000. Cylinders as before.

(d) Air Letter Cards

6d. — Job 6887 continued: Deliveries from cylinder 91 totalling 3,250,344.

(e) Official Stamps

Overprinting with "Official-Offisiëel" done on a flat-bed machine on stamps supplied by the P.M.G. New formes in the case of the 1½d., 2d., 1s. and 2s. 6d. denominations; old formes in the case of the 6d.: 1½d., 199 sheets x 120; 2d., 499 sheets x 120; 6d., 99 sheets x 240; 1s., 149 sheets x 120; 2s. 6d., 99 sheets x 60.

(f) Postage Due Stamps

1d.—11,826 sheets x 60 on 27-6-46. Cylinder 50 as before.

2d.—16,920 sheets x 60 on 27-6-46. Cylinder 7021 as before.

UNION CATALOGUE

On a recent visit to Durban it was learnt from Mr. Basden that the preparation of this is being badly held up by the printers. They have all the copy, but just seem to be unable to get on with it, having so much work on hand. It was hoped to have been published in October, but under present conditions it is impossible to give a likely date of appearance. This is most unfortunate as orders for copies and queries as to when it will appear are pouring in, but we seem to be completely at the mercy of the printers.

It would appear that the position is not quite clear to the public in regard to the sale of the new Union Catalogue, and we have been asked to make the following announcement:

The publishers, the Philatelic Federation of Southern Africa, have laid down that members of a Philatelic Society affiliated to the Federation will be entitled to purchase through the secretary of their Society one copy of this publication at a reduced price of 6s. All other persons desirous of obtaining a copy must purchase it (at 7s. 6d.) through one of the stamp dealers or booksellers who deal in philatelic literature.

Wholesale orders may be placed with Mr. G. Milner Palmer, P.O. Box 588, Durban, at 7s. 6d., less a discount of 33 1/3 per cent. for orders of not less than 12 copies ex Durban.

"OFFICIAL" STAMPS

Collectors of these should note from the list of recent printings that the 1½d., 2d., 1s. and 2s. 6d. have been overprinted from new formes, the 1½d. having been delivered on 16th July, all the others on 4th July.

½d. BOOKLET SHEETS

Following on the announcement in our previous issue that 1d. booklet sheets were on sale, we hear that similar sheets of the ½d. are now obtainable at some post offices, at any rate, if not everywhere.

UNION POSTAGE DUES

On another page we give another of Mr. Sydow's studies on the printing of Union stamps; this time a general paper on the classification of the postage due stamps. As usual, he has some quite new information to give us, e.g., the use of litho plates, two varieties of roto plates and the varieties of the 3d. from 1933 onwards. He will have more to say on a later occasion about the De La Rue issue of 1914-15.

SPECIAL AIR MAIL FLIGHT FROM AMSTERDAM

A flight was made by a K.L.M. plane on 6th October from Amsterdam to Johannesburg, where it arrived on 8th October. Mail was carried, in addition to passengers. The return flight left Johannesburg on 14th October, but mail was not carried from South Africa.

It is understood that this was by way of being an experimental flight prior to the setting up of a regular service at an early date.

We have to thank the editor of "Mijn Stokpaardjie" and Mnr. J. C. Schafer for specimens of a special envelope made for the flight. This has printed on it the Union Coat-of-Arms and under this "Bijzondere Vlucht/Nederland — Zuid-Afrika," also a rubber cachet showing an aeroplane and an ox-wagon, with the wording "Proefvlucht K.L.M./Amsterdam/6 Oct. 1946/Nederland — Zuid-Afrika."

* * *

EAST AFRICAN MYSTERY

Under this title "Stamp Collecting" refers to a mysterious set of stamps belonging to World War I period, which have cropped up again after not being heard of for 37 years.

They are stamps of the German "Hohenzollern" type but of larger format (4 cm. x 3 cm.), probably photolithographed, surcharged "G.E.A. / British / Occupation / (value in cents)." Five denominations are known, 3, 6, 12, 15 and 25 cents respectively. They have been recorded both in mint condition and used on covers. All known used specimens are cancelled with a F.P.O. mark dated 11th December, 1918, This rather suggests private enterprise.

Friedemann's standard work on Germa Colonials mentions these stamps, calling both the stamps and the post marks forgeries.

Can anyone throw further light on this mysterious issue?

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No. 310, Pf. 50, 4/-; No. 311, £1/8/6, both fine used.	
Cairo "Citadel" stamp, mint, 1/-, used	1/3
New Zealand: Peace issue, 11 values, fine used	6/0
Austria: 1945 "Uno" overprint, 1 value, scarce, mint	3/0
Hungary: 1945 Provisionals, complete set of 18 values, mint	2/3
France: 1943, National Relief Fund, sheet of 5 complete strips of 4 stamps (Cat. 62/6) per sheet, mint	25/0
Strip of 4 stamps, mint	4/6
Child Welfare, 83 values for 24 Colonies, complete mint set	77/6
Norway: Queen Maud set of 4 values, mint	3/0
S.A. Philatelic Association: Sell your duplicate stamps through this Postal Exchange Club.	

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The Universal Postal Union

By M. F. SWANEPOEL,
Publicity Officer, G.P.O.

(A paper read before the Pretoria Philatelic Exhibition, 21st October, 1946).

Legend has it that the Romans used to write secret messages on the head of a messenger after it had been clean-shaven. The messenger was left until the hair had begun to grow and was then sent to his destination. On arrival, his head was again shaven, and he knelt before the addressee to deliver his message.

In those days time was apparently no object, and the question of postage did not arise.

We read of the postal system of the ancient Persian Empire; post offices in China, as mentioned by Marco Polo in 1280, and an organised system of couriers in India in the 14th century.

The primary stage in the development of the post office was for the transmission of State despatches. In the secondary stage, the public were admitted to the use of the organisation—in the beginning as a favour, and later on payment.

Early in the 17th century the State in Great Britain maintained the main postal lines, both foreign and inland.

The invention of printing gave a stimulus to postal traffic but postage rates, which were based upon weight as well as distance, were very high.

Postage on mail matter addressed to foreign countries was built up on the sum of the various terminal and transit rates and thus, not only were the rates of each country different, but there were different rates to the same country, according to the route selected. For example, there were six different rates on letters from London to Constantinople, ranging from 8d. to 1s. 7d. for ¼ oz. The charge for a 1 oz. letter to Constantinople via France was 6s. 4d. The postage was paid sometimes by the sender, sometimes by the addressee and sometimes shared between them. Each mail was accompanied by a statement of account, in some cases of almost incrediable complexity, including a dozen or more separate calculations of debits or credits each on an entirely different basis; and as the mail had to be divided into as many different subdivisions and each separately weighed, some in ounces and some in grammes, it is not surprising that letters were often delayed while the calculations were being made.

Separate agreements were in existence between various countries which attempted to regulate the payments to be made on letters, newspapers, etc., but uniformity was entirely lacking.

Even in South Africa the lack of uniformity in postage rates was evident and on the 27th September, 1861, a Free State newspaper reported that it had always been the practice for the Postmaster-General of the Orange Free State to charge 1s. 6d. postage on a letter for Mooi River (now Potchefstroom), being 6d. for the Free State and 1s. for the South African Republic. For this sum the letters were supposed to be delivered free at Potchefstroom. A deputation discovered, however, that in addition to the 1s. 6d. paid in the Free State, the postmaster at Potchefstroom was charging another shilling, thus raising the postage on each letter between Bloemfontein and Potchefstroom —a distance of about 200 miles—to 2s. 6d.

The advent of the postage stamp in 1840 did not help to smooth out the difficulties, as postage stamps originally had only limited validity, restricted to particular territories, and letters could only be sent overseas by special arrangement. Letters from China, for example, bore Chinese stamps which paid postage to one of the Treaty ports, where Consular agents of the Powers concerned had to add other stamps—usually Hong-Kong or French—to frank the letters to their overseas destination.

Public opinion in Great Britain at the time was insisting upon a simplified rate for inland postage, particularly in view of the introduction of railway transport, and it was also declared that the international system, based as it was on similar lines to the inland service, was unsound and called for definite methods of reform. A similar state of confusion existed in other countries, with the result that the British post office and most of the other leading administrations in the world eagerly sought for ways and means to bring about a uniform system of conducting international postal business.

The opportunity came when, at the suggestion of the United States post office, the representatives of various governments met in Paris on the 11th May, 1863, to discuss what was considered the urgent need for reform in international postal relationship.

The meeting was attended by the representatives of fifteen governments. The deliberations lasted practically a month with an agenda containing 36 points for discussion, based on three fundamental questions:

(1) Uniformity of weights;
(2) Uniformity of rate; and
(3 Simplification of accounting.

The labours of this conference, unfortunately, bore no immediate fruit, most governments, particularly those controlling the larger postal services, found that in adopting various principles laid down, a considerable loss of revenue would result and, being still imbued with the idea that the most advantageous bargain to themselves should be obtained, they were naturally reluctant to make a change. The general demand for a change was, however, too strong to be put aside for long, and some five years later it fell to the lot of Dr. von Stephan, of the North German Postal Confederation, to put forward a sug-

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gestion which eventually led to the formation of the Universal Postal Union. In 1868 this gentleman published a project based on the deliberations and decisions arrived at at the Paris conference, for the formation of a Universal Postal Union. The next move was made by the Swiss Government, who invited the other governments of Europe, of the United States and of Egypt to send representatives to discuss Dr. Stephan's scheme at Berne.

This congress met in the Swiss capital on the 15th September, 1874, and on the 19th October signed the Act constituting the Universal Postal Union, the provisions of which were to come into force on the 1st July, 1875. This was the birth of the Union which exists to-day.

The provisions of the new convention entirely revolutionised the postal systems of the world and succeeded in laying down a firm foundation upon which common interests were amalgamated, and there was set up immediately machinery by means of which it became possible to organise and to transact postal business on a universal scale with no less facility than in the case of a domestic or inland service. The change was so great and the effect of the new system so beneficial to the public and to the Post Office alike that applications for adherence to the Union were very frequent until, within a very short time, practically every civilised country had become a member of the Union.

The Central Bureau of the Universal Postal Union, which was opened on the 15th September, 1875, is maintained in Berne and is placed under the supervision of the Swiss Postal Administration by way of liaison. The cost of maintaining the Bureau is shared jointly by member countries. Its functions include the assembling, co-ordinating, publishing and distributing of information of all kinds considered of interest to the postal services and to arbitrate on postal matters when called upon to do so by member countries. In addition, the Bureau undertakes the distribution of specimens of all new postage stamps issued, three complete sets of which are made available to every member country. The Bureau is also advised of the date on which postage stamps of previous issues cease to be valid.

(To be continued)

* * *

BETTER POSTMARKS

There are perennially here, as in many other countries, complaints not only about the quality of our stamps, but also about their cancellation. It is certainly very disappointing when one posts, say, special first day covers, to have the stamps ruined by hideous heavy cancellations. What can be done about it?

In some countries it is common to have stickers put on envelopes with a slogan "Philatelic Mail — Please cancel lightly," or words to that effect, and the postal authorities have instructed their employees to obey the appeal. In the case of Denmark, the P.O. even goes the length of issuing a little sketch plan of how to cancel 1, 2, 3, 4 or more stamps. In spite of these official instructions, we still see complaints from philatelists that the instructions are not obeyed.

The clamour for better postmarks leads in other cases to an evil at the other end of the scale "cancellation to order."

We cannot have it both ways and our suggestion as to a good practical solution which should be reasonably acceptable to both postal authorities and philatelists is that the P.O. should use only cancellers' which cannot be heavily over-inked or make such grossly thick marks that the stamp is scarcely visible under them. Switzerland, for instance, uses such cancellers and the very recently introduced machine canceller here is another good type.

In the latest number of the "Australian Stamp Monthly" it is reported that in Sydney a special posting box has been installed at the G.P.O. for "Philatelic Mail Only." Mail posted in this box will not be machine cancelled, but will be lightly cancelled by hand each day.

The B.P.A. report that they recently took up the matter with the British P.O. authorities. The latter advised that they could take no action, but advised collectors to put merely the requisite amount of postage on their envelopes. If they put 2s. 6d. worth of stamps on a two ounce letter, it meant hand cancellation and the temper of a post office clerk cannot be guaranteed at any time to be moderate. So there is another point of view-

★

THE "ROYAL'S" CUMULATIVE INDEX

A book without an index is a hopeless affair, but who can remember the indices of 50 years? The "Royal" has just issued to its members a most useful cumulative index of all articles which have appeared in "The London Philatelist, Vols. 1 to 53 (1892 to 1944). The compiler, Mr. R. King-Farlow, and the society are to be congratulated on this extremely useful aid to anyone wishing to discover what has been written on their particular subject under review. It covers a huge range of subjects.

★

ISLAND STAMPS

Another isolated island, in the Pacific some 1,000 miles north-east from Sydney, likely to have stamps of its own soon, is Norfolk Island, where the descendants of the mutineers of the "Bounty" were transferred in 1865 from Pitcairn Island. The first stamps used there were those of New South Wales; at present those of the Australian Commonwealth are employed.

According to "The Gen" the Isle of Man and the Channel Islands are agitating to have their own stamps instead of using those of Great Britain.

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CORRESPONDENCE

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

Sir,—I have just finished reading the letter from the Rev. Mr. Chamings and your editorial in the September issue, with considerable misgiving.

Surely it is quite evident that any collector who takes in "The South African Philatelist" does so for the single reason that it covers a **branch** of his philatelic interest? It has a purpose quite unique, which it fulfills admirably in most directions. It is a medium for the student of South African stamps, first and foremost, and any student of the stamps of other Empire or foreign countries is perfectly entitled to subscribe to other media as well. We all do! But the South African Philatelist should and **must** remain **purely South African in character.**

The paper's reputation among discerning philatelists all over the world stands deservedly high. I am amazed that a publication run by honorary executives can go on turning out, month after month, some of the finest research articles in a world of present-day philately. It is a paper of character among a host of two-a-penny-dreadfuls, and to my mind this character would be seriously threatened by any encroachment on its basic purpose. It is no good saying that part of its space should be given over to outside articles after the original specialised purpose has been fulfilled. That would be the first step away from the very character which is the basis of its reputation. And not only the paper but South African philately would lose by it.

With all due respect, the one blot in an otherwise perfect publication concerns those "space-filler" paragraphs that dish up second-hand information from overseas periodicals—which we have most of us read and which will certainly not be news to your overseas readers. Let your shorts be non-specialised notes from the Cape to Zambesi—I am sure an appeal to collectors or society secretaries will help. (And this does not mean more "fly-spot" news! Heaven preserve the Government Printer from having his deficiencies yet more shamelessly advertised.)

Good luck to Mr. Chamings and his foreign stamps. He is entitled to collect them—I do myself in certain restricted cases. But why try to boost them, when they are already, according to Mr. Chamings, paying such handsome dividends? Perhaps Mr. Chamings would like to see "The South African Philatelist" invaded by such enlightened articles as "Investment Topics—by I. Seek 'Em," or "Take care of your Bulgarian Bulls-eyes—The set is rumoured obsolete."

In which case, my dear sir, I shall not be able to sign myself

Your friend,
PATRICK RIORDAN.

In the deceased Estate Late Francis Carter No. 39229. Retired Chemist.

TENDERS FOR STAMP COLLECTION

Tenders are invited for the purchase of stamp collection and accumulations valued as per "Stanley Gibbons" catalogue at £2,350 approx.

Tenders must be in the hands of the undersigned not later than November 30th, 1946, and must be marked "Tenders for Stamp Collection."

The collection can be viewed by appointment at 36 Maitland Street, Bloemfontein.

The highest or any tender will not necessarily be accepted.

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NYASALAND VERY PALE YELLOW S.G. 195.

Mr. C. D. Twynam, whose studies of Nyasaland stamps are familiar to our readers, has an article in "Stamp Collecting" of 31 August on an interesting variety of the 3d. K.G. V (S.G. No. 105). This is on very pale yellow paper which is over-chalked. It is shown that only 30 sheets of this variety were issued in May, 1934, and the whole "Head" issue was withdrawn about a fortnight later and the remainder destroyed. The paper is similar to that of Mauritius 218a, Trengganu 57 and Virgin Islands 92b. It would appear to be an eminently collectable variety for specialists, whether it ever attains catalogue rank or not. There are other interesting details about it, for which the original article should be consulted.

*

BRITISH COLONIAL "VICTORIES"

"The Gen" reports the further issue of those of Barbados, 23rd September; Seychelles, 26th September; Sierra Leone, 1st October; Grenada, 4th October; Falkland Islands, Trinidad and Falkland Dependencies, all on 7th October. It confirms that the S. Rhodesian set (1d., 2d., 3d. and 6d.) will appear in October.

Incidentally, we must congratulate the publishers on the greatly improved character of their air mail issue. It was difficult to read earlier copies on account of the transparency of the paper, but this trouble is now completely overcome.

B.P.A's NEW JOURNAL "PHILATELY"

We have received No. 1 of "Philately," the journal of the British Philatelic Association, Ltd., which has just been launched and will be published in alternate months.

Judging by this number, "Philately" is not intended to compete seriously with existing philatelic magazines in the way of listing new issues or giving red-hot news. Articles on particular subjects are likely to be found; there is one, for instance, on collecting Belgian Congo and Ruanda.

The main object of the journal, we gather, however, is to further the interests of the B.P.A. members and associates. The Association is being reorganised and expanded to look after philatelic interests more actively than it has been possible to do in the past. The Association, it may be said, is open to both professional and amateur philatelists; the services of the Expert Committee are only available to members. Particulars of membership can be obtained from 3 Berner's Street, London W. 1.

EXCHANGE WANTED

Want Early Canadian and United States stamps in exchange for pre-Union South Africa issues. I will buy, if prices permit re-sale to dealers.

Want African Stamps, medium and common, in 1,000 lots, in exchange for Canadian issues.

Offer Newfoundland Stamps, for small British Colonies, and Native States pictorials. Basis, Gibbons.

R. S. MASON, Box 201 Richmond Hill, Ont., Canada.

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Classification of the Union Postage Due Labels

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

The "Post Office Guide" issued by the authority of the Postmaster-General of the Union of South Africa, and published annually, contains the following paragraph:

"POSTAGE DUE LABELS.—½d., 1d., 2d., 3d., and 6d. These are used only for bringing to account surcharges collected on unpaid and insufficiently-paid correspondence; they are not valid for postage. They may be obtained **for philatelic purposes** at any Post Office where a sufficient supply is available, but they **cannot be accepted in payment of surcharges.**"

The foregoing excerpted paragraph gives the official explanation of the uses of these labels and the fact that they may be obtained for philatelic purposes in mint condition, although very frequently collectors have been denied purchases over the counter of these labels by postal clerks nescient of the existence of the official provision relating to their sales in mint condition for philatelic purposes.

The postage due labels of the Union of South Africa cover a very interesting field for philatelic study, especially on account of the various plate manufacturing and printing processes, individually and in combination, that have been employed in connection with their production.

In response to a request by a reader of the "South African Philatelist" I have prepared the following classification of these labels, without quoting minutiae of plate characteristics, etc.

In the following summary the single letters used and their significance are:

F—Frame Plate or Cylinder; N—Numeral Plate or Cylinder; E—Electrotyped Plate; S—Stereotyped Plate; L—Lithographed Plate; Z—Zincotyped Plate; R1—Screenless Rotogravure Cylinder; R2—Screened Rotogravure Cylinder.

	Denomination.	½d.	1d.	1½d.	2d.	3d.	5d.	6d.	1/-
	Printer.	F N	F N	F N	F N	F N	F N	F N	F N
A.	De La Rue & Co.	1. E S	2. E S		3. E S	4. E S	5. E S	6. E S	7. E S
B.	De La Rue & Co.	8. E S	9. E S		10. E S	11. E S	12. E S	13. E S	14. E S
C.	De La Rue & Co.	15. E							
D.	Govern. Printer	16. L L	17. L L	18. L L					
E.	Govern. Printer	19. L L	20. L L	21. L L	22. L L	23. L L		24. L L	
F.	Govern. Printer	25. E S	26. E S		27. E Z	28. E S		29. E S	
G.	Govern. Printer	30. R1 Z			32. R1 Z				
H.	Govern. Printer		31. R1R1		33. R1R2	34. R1R1		35. R1R1	
I.	Govern. Printer		36. R2		38. R2	39. R2			

A.—Nos. 1—7. Labels inscribed "Transvaal Post Office' 'and "Postage Due," departmentally authorised for use in the Union of South Africa until the advent of those specified in the next category. Printed typographically by Thos. De La Rue & Co., Ltd., 110 Bunhill Row,

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London, from one common electrotyped plate for the frame designs in conjunction with seven steel-faced stereotyped plates for the numerals and symbols, on paper watermarked Multiple Crown C.A. manufactured by R. Turner & Co., Ltd. Perforated by a 14 x 14 gauged comb machine and printed in sheets of 120 units in two panels of 60 each but issued in 60-set sheets. **Frame Plate 1** for all the denominations. A **Numeral Plate 1** for each denomination, hereunder:

½d. black and green; 1d. black and red; 2d. orange and orange; 3d black and blue; 5d. black and violet; 6d. black and brown; 1s. scarlet and black.

B.—Nos. 8—14. Labels inscribed "Union of South Africa," "Unie van Zuid Afrika," Postage Due," and "Te Betalen." Printed typographically by Thos. De La Rue & Co., Ltd., 110 Bunhill Row, London, from one common electrotyped plate for the frame designs in conjunction with seven steel-faced stereotyped plates for the numerals and symbols, on paper watermarked Single Springbok Head manufactured by R. Turner & Co., Ltd. Perforated by a 14 x 14 gauged comb machine and printed in sheets of 120 units in two panels of 60 each but issued in 60-set sheets. **Frame Plate 1** for all the denominations. A **Numeral Plate 1** for each denomination, hereunder:

½d. black and green (19-3-15); 1d. black and scarlet (19-3-15); 2d. black and purple (12-12-14); 3d. black and blue (2-2-15); 5d. black and sepia (19-3-15); 6d. black and gray (19-3-15); 1s. scarlet and black (19-3-15).

(Note: The majority of the steel-faced stereotyped numeral plates manufactured by Thos. De La Rue & Co., Ltd., for the printing of the postage due stamps of certain of the Crown Colonies originated from the same Master Numeral Dies which were utilised for the manufacture of the Transvaal and Union numeral plates mentioned afore. In this connection I have assigned separate pages in my Union Collection for comparative study and I have included strips and blocks of postage dues of the following countries:

Union of South Africa: ½d., 1d., 2d., 3d., 5d., 6d., 1s.
Transvaal: ½d., 1d., 2d., 3d., 5d., 6d., 1s.
Trinidad: ½d., 1d., 2d., 3d., 4d., 5d., 6d., 8d. 1s.
British Honduras: 1c, 2c, 4c.
Northern Rhodesia: 1d., 2d., 3d., 4d.
Grenada: 1d., 2d., 3d.
Fiji: ½d., 1d., 2d., 3d., 4d.
Gold Coast: ½d., 1d., 2d., 3d.
Bechuanaland Prot.: ½d., 1d., 2d., etc., etc.

C.—No. 15. Union King's Head postage stamps, ½d. denomination, were used as Postage Dues during the period 12th May to 20th May, 1920. Vide the Simenhoff Catalogue. On 11th December, 1922, the Johannesburg and Fordsburg Post Offices ran short of ½d. post due labels and were authorised to use the ½d. Union King's Head postage stamps, for the purpose. The Union King's Heads were typographically printed by Thos. De La Rue & Co., Ltd., from electrotyped plates. Of course, these postage stamps can only be recognised as postage dues when on the original envelopes.

D.—Nos. 16—18. Labels inscribed "Union of South Africa," "Unie van Zuid Afrika," "Postage Due," and "Te Betalen," Surface printed by direct lithography at the Union Government Printing Works, Pretoria, from flat zinc plates, for both frame designs and numerals, on unwatermarked paper. Rouletted 7—8 by rouletting wheels on rod. Printed and issued in sheets of 60.

½d. black and green (6-6-22); 1d. black and red (3-10-22); 1½d. black and yellow-brown (3-6-22).

Frame Plate 1 for ½d., 1d. and 1½d. denominations. Coloured circle near centre of left margin about 11½mm. from edge of nearest stamp.

Frame Plate 2 for ½d., 1d. and 1½d. denominations. Without coloured circles. Lateral margins blank.

Frame Plate 3 for ½d., 1d. and 1½d. denominations. Coloured circle near centre of right margin about 15mm. from edge of nearest stamp.

Numeral Plates 1, 2 and 3 were used for all three denominations.

E.—Nos. 19—24. Labels inscribed "Union of South Africa," "Unie van Zuid Afrika," "Postage Due" and "Te Betalen." Surface printed by direct lithography at the Union Government Printing Works, Pretoria, from flat zinc plates, for both frame designs and numerals on unwatermarked paper manufactured by Samuel Jones & Co., Ltd. Perforated by a 14 x 14 gauged comb machine and printed in sheets of 120 units in two panels of 60 each but issued in 60 set sheets.

½d. black and green (1-11-22); 1d. black and red (16-5-23); 1½d. black and yellow-brown (12-1-24); 2d. black and purple (16-5-23); 3d. black and blue (3-7-26); 6d. black and gray (?-9-23).

Frame Plate 1 for ½d., 1d., 1½d., 2d. and 6d. denominations. (a) Small coloured ring about 1mm. in diameter opposite second horizontal row of stamps about 15½mm. from edge of nearest stamp—both margins. (b) Two large coloured dots, each about 3½mm. in diameter and both horizontally opposite sixth horizontal row of perforations respectively about 8mm. and 15mm. from edges of nearest stamps—both margins. (c) Vertical line or scratch 11mm. tall on right margin opposite fifth horizontal row of stamps about 20mm. from edge of nearest stamp. ((d) Small coloured ring 1mm. in diameter approximately, opposite ninth horizontal row of stamps about 15½mm. from edge of nearest stamp—both margins.

(To be continued)

NETHERLAND INDIES

"Stamp Collecting" reports the appearance in July of a 5c stamp printed in Australia on Crown over C of A water-marked paper. It was put in use in parts of the Indies, but not, apparently, in Java. The stamp is typographed and shows a view of a village "on stilts," a type of building common in the fishing villages of New Guinea and Borneo.

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CAPE OF GOOD HOPE "OFFICIAL" STAMPS

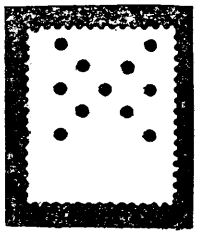
How many South African collectors are aware that the Cape once had "official" stamps? Probably very few, unless they have studied "The Postage Stamps of the Cape of Good Hope," by Gilbert J. Allis, where they are described on p. 115.

Gibbons do not mention them, but this is not to be wondered at as the stamps were made "official" by perforation, and Gibbons' general policy seems to be to ignore such stamps. True, in some instances they do just mention that such stamps exist but they very, very rarely actually list them.

One standard catalogue, however, does list these stamps, viz., the German one of Michel. This records as issued in 1904, the K.E. 1d., 4d., 1s. and 5s., also the 6d. of 1884-1900 (S.G. No. 52a), perforated with a large M, the perforation holes being fairly large. It is further stated that these stamps were used in the Government Stationery Department on foreign parcels and on official letters.

Allis' description is given as follows:—

"In 1906 the Cape Government Printing and Stationery Department adopted a system of perforating in connection with the stamps used by their department upon their foreign mail matter. The stamps so used were first passed through a machine and a device (as illustrated) consisting of eleven round holes,



in the form of two triangles, having their common apices meeting in the hole at the centre of the stamp, was punched out.

Definite information as to all the denominations of the stamps so treated is not available, but the following have been seen: 1d., 2d., 3d., 4d., 6d., 1s. and 5s." Presumably these values all refer to K.E. stamps although it is not specifically so stated.

It will be noted that the two descriptions differ slightly. From the illustration, made from a specimen in my possession, it is obvious that Allis' account and figuring of the perforation design is the correct one—it is not an H.

The perforating appears to have been done one stamp at a time. I judge this to have been the case because I have several values in blocks of four, and in no instance are the perforation designs in allignment either horizontally or vertically.

In my collection I have the K.E. 1d., 3d., 4d. 6d. and 1s., but I am moved to make this communication mainly to put on record that I also have single specimens of two other stamps similarly perforated, viz., the 2d. of 1894-98 (S.G. No. 60) and the 3d. of 1898-1902 (S.G. No. 68). These are not mentioned in either of the two publications referred to.

As regards the date of introduction of this perforation—1904 or 1906—Allis cannot be right in giving 1906 as the year. I have nine cancellations with the dates quite clearly showing as 04 and 05, the earliest date being 25 JU 04. It is still possible, of course, that the date of introduction might have been earlier than that given by Michel, viz., 1904, but it cannot have been later.

S. KASSAR.

★

GERMAN STAMPS FORGED BY ALLIES

As in World War I, German stamps were forged by the Allies for postal and propaganda purposes during World War II.

The Hitler head 12 pf. of 1941 was forged for mailing purposes, as extensive purchases would have raised suspicions. In some cases letters with the forged stamps were actually mailed; in others they were "postmarked" by the agent and dropped into individual letter boxes, thus giving the recipient the impression it had come through the post.

There was also a printing of a 12 pf. stamp with a skeleton head of Hitler, decorated with crosses and two gallows, but these, naturally, were not used for postal purposes. They were stuck on walls, dropped in letter boxes, and so on, with the idea of undermining civilian morale.

The plates used for printing these forgeries are understood to have been destroyed.

—H. R. Harmer.

NEW ISSUE SERVICES

"Ubique" in "Stamp Collecting" writes:—

If you feel like "bellyaching" (Army for grumbling) about your new issue service, read this and pipe down: A large stamp firm in Marseilles provides a new issue service at the following rates: France, face plus 30 per cent.; Monaco, face plus 50 per cent.; French Colonies, face plus 40 per cent.; Rest of the world, no guarantee, but "at to-day's best prices-" Feeling better?

INDIA

The 1a. 3p. bistre has been surcharged 3 pies in black, the overprint cancelling the original value. This is quite likely to be the last stamp of Imperial India and there will practically certainly be an "Independence" issue in the near future.

CAPE TRIANGULAR RARITY

Messrs. H. E. Wingfield of 392, Strand, London, have sent us a photograph of a cover with a pair of 1s. emerald green, De La Rue. This is believed to be the only known pair on cover.

[See page 182 for note of a cover shown by A. A. Jurgens at Cape Town.—Ed.]

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BRITISH COLONIALS

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PEACE sets of the BR. EMPIRE 96 stamps, face value 20/3d. Price 22/6d.

Full details in:

'BASHI'S STAMP MART'

226, Strand, London, W.C.2.

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NOTES ON HOLLAND

The following interesting items were culled from the magazine "Myn Stokpaardje":

The 12½ ct (Crow) and 30 ct (Triangular) Special Flights stamps were demonetised recently—no date given.

A sheet on which had been mounted the Symbols and Admirals set of the Netherlands, autographed by the members of the 82nd Airborne Division, and which had been presented to the late President Roosevelt, was acquired by Gimbels Stamp Department and disposed of by them to an anoymous buyer for 1,000 dollars. The paper adds that it does not believe that a price higher than this will, for the present at any rate, be paid for these stamps which in their day were the despair of speculators

Figures are given of the rapid expansion of the Netherlands Airways. Details of the routes are too lengthy to quote here, but as examples may serve the following: On liberation the K.L.M. had four machines at its disposal and now have 64. In 1939 they carried 440 passengers per day and to-day the number is 1,300.

In an article by G. P. Peelen on stamps of World War II it is stated that after the withdrawal of the Konynenburg Queen's Head series of 1940, sheets of these stamps in imperforate condition were sold by the Germans through the medium of the Dutch Nazis.

Much more information concerning the Jap occupation of the Ned. Indies is coming to hand and it should be possible in the near future to compile quite comprehensible (and comprehensible it is hoped) lists of these stamps.

USED PEACE ISSUES

Wanted in large or small quantities also current and recent issues of Basutoland, Bechuanaland, N. Rhodesia, Nyasaland, S. Rhodesia, Swaziland and S.W. Africa.

Send or quote at your lowest prices, will forward cash by Air.

If required can send Colonial sets and singles, also European War issues in exchange. Let me know your requirements.

B. SAVITZ,

Wholesale Stamp Dealer,

69 Greenvale Rd., Eltham, London, S.E.9.

Member B.P.A. London, P.T.S. London, S.D.A. Bolton.

AIR MAILS OF SOUTH AFRICA

The "Aero Field" has been publishing articles serially on this subject, and they have been reprinted as a pamphlet, obtainable from the publishers (Francis J. Field, Sutton Coldfield, England) at 1s. 3d. plus postage. This should provide a very needy summary of our knowledge of these air mails.

King George VI Issues

With thirty years' experience in stamp dealing behind us, to back up our opinion we say without hesitation that not only do the stamps of the present reign enjoy a greater popularity throughout the world than any other group of stamps has ever attained, but that from an investment point of view they are equally pre-eminent. Early in 1938, after careful consideration we decided to devote our attentions entirely to K.G. VI issues (we could never have got our present stock together otherwise, for precious few of the better obsolete stamps are to be obtained nowadays in any quantity) and we are more satisfied than ever that we did just the right thing, for we would rather have our capital in these stamps than any others.

Recently some misgivings were voiced when current mint stamps were being used for barter transactions; we felt a bit nervous ourselves, but there was no need for fashing; as the nett result of this wider distribution has been a greater demand than ever. The U.S.A. took a substantial quantity of these current stamps, and now collectors want the obsolete values. There are none to be had in quantities, so up go the prices and these are now much higher in America than they are in Great Britain, which accounts for the extensive enquiries we are receiving from "over there."

Collectors who already have good collections of K.G. VI stamps are in clover and those with blanks will be well advised to try and fill them as soon as they can; be they for current or obsolete stamps; many changes are in the offing, and such is the world wide demand for the stamps in question, that ordinary stamps becoming obsolete to-day, cost several times their face value in a very short time, and this is where we can help.

As many Dominion collectors know already we have a really superb stock; our prices are reasonable and our service cannot be better. We don't claim to be the biggest firm in the world; we just claim to have probably the best stock of K.G. VI stamps that you will find in a long march, and this stock is placed at your service by means of our price-list, which costs 2/- a year, or a specimen copy will be sent by air-mail to all serious collectors who apply by air letter.

The Commonwealth Stamp Coy.,

7, Leather Lane, Liverpool 2: England.

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Review

THE STAMPS OF NEW ZEALAND 1855-1946. Published by Pim & Co., Lewis Eady Building, 192 Queen Street, Auckland, New Zealand. Edited by Campbell Paterson. 93 pages. Art paper. 9¾ x 7¼. Fully Illustrated and priced. Direct from Publishers 8s. 6d. registered).

This is the second edition of a catalogue which has already done much to extend the interest in the stamps of the Dominion and to raise the status of philately in New Zealand. It is really a fine piece of work and possibly one of the finest single country catalogues to be offered to collectors for many years. The early issues and in fact every issue are treated exhaustively, and the write-up includes particulars of watermark, perforation, paper and date of issue. The Editorial introduction on "Stamp Collecting" is itself a fine guide to any collector who desires to collect on a more serious and advanced basis.

An appendix includes an illustrated article on the 1893 Advertisement Stamps with illustrations of the two settings, the Pigeon Posts of New Zealand, Details of Designers and Printers, a most illuminating and instructive article on papers and their identification, Re-entries of the pictorials of 1899-1907 and 1935-1945 fully illustrated, a most interesting article on the perforations of the 1935-45 pictorials, and finally a chart giving the Plate Numbers, Papers and Perforations of the 1935 Pictorial Issue.

The Editor has also placed a fair selling price on every known listed stamp, and the major varieties, and this service alone is of immense value to collectors. One cannot help feeling that this is a monumental work coming from one who is really an expert in the stamps of this great little Dominion of the South. New Zealand has for long been a favourite country with ever so many collectors the world over, but with this fine catalogue as a guide and adviser there will surely be many more who will desire to join the ranks.

E.G.C.

Collectors' Wants & Offers

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

Beginners and medium collectors — try our approval service.
Benoni Stamp Shop, Box 485, Benoni.

Exchange desired with collectors in all countries from the North Pole to the South Pole. Send 50 or 100 different varieties of your country and receive in return 50 or 100 different United States of EQUAL VALUE. No torn or damaged stamps given or wanted—. only stamps off paper exchanged. We exchange value for value.
W. L. Bedard, Post Office Box 637, Detroit 31, Michigan, U.S.A.

Victory Sets of 47 Crown Colonies 23/6 cash with order.
T. E. Karachiwalla, Box 275, Mombasa.

Wanted: Cayman Islands. Mint and fine used.
B. Simpkins, 47 Tulbagh Mansions, Hospital Hill, Johannesburg.

Offers wanted for mint and used large war issue Unions.
C. J. Dekema, P.O. Box 145, Germiston.

BRITISH COLONIALS

Barbados.—The new 8d. value was originally stated as going to be brown in colour. It is now stated that it will be pink.

Fiji.—The Commonwealth Stamp Co. reports that the first "Victory" cancellations were dated 17th September in error for 17th August. The mistake was fairly quickly spotted and the right cancellation was applied to envelopes already wrongly cancelled. Such covers with a double cancellation will not be very common.

Jamaica.—Sale of the Constitution set ceased on 19th August and the regular issue of 1938 is now on sale again, with the exception of the 2½d. value.

4,530 ITEMS NOW NEEDED

To complete world collection of normal issues up to and including 1933, mint or good used copies. Varieties not wanted. Want list of any country sent on application. The following are the countries most in need of assistance, figures in brackets represent the number of stamps required:—

Austria (40)
Belgium (72)
Bolivia (41)
Czecho (39)
Cape Verde (36)
Dominican Rep. (36)
Ecuador (75)
Far East Rep. (81)
Guatemala (50)
Honduras Rep. (40)
Luxemburg (38)
Martinique (32)
Macao (95)
Nicaragua (57)
Poland (31)
Port. Guinea (69)
Port. India (38)
Portugal (82)
Russia (Wrangel) (38)
Surinam (54)
St. Thomas (39)
Syria (46)
San Marino (35)
Spain (57)
Salvador (132)
Span. Morocco (42)
Tripolitania (57)
Turkey (69)
Timor (71)
Uruguay (52)
Venezuela (43)

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SOCIETY NEWS

CAPE TOWN PHILATELIC SOCIETY

President, L. Simenhoff; *Hon. Secretary,* S. Kaganson, P.O. Box 1973; *Meetings,* 2nd and 4th Thursdays at Yorkshire Buildings, Strand Street, at 7.30 p.m.

25.9.46: Owing to the absence of Mrs. Grant from town the scheduled display was not forthcoming, and our vice-president (Mr. K. Cameron) filled the breach with some pages from his Great Britain albums. The first few sheets were his line engraved items and some splendid examples were shown. As Mr. Cameron has been a collector for over forty years, he has had many opportunities of picking up the better class stuff. The remainder of the exhibit, whilst covering all the ground as detailed by S.G., exceeded that authority by including examples of the three different sizes of the K.G. V issue necessitated by perforation difficulties—a field open to G.B. enthusiasts but so rarely entered.

Mr. Cameron also read an extract from a letter recently received in which it was mentioned that the British Government had been persuaded to sanction not only the issue of 1d., 2d. and 3d. Royal visit stamps for Basutoland—and probably Bechuanaland and Swaziland as well—but also a shilling value. The issue for the Protectorates will be specially designed, not surcharged on Union stamps.

October 10: Mr. Jurgens gave another of his splendid displays of Capes. This time it was "Cape stamps on Covers"—about 500 in all—and the exhibitor claimed that every stamp and postmark issued up to the end of the nineteenth century was represented, and at least 95 per cent. were perfect copies. There was, I fancy, one absentee, i.e., that of the circular Cape Town Cape of Good Hope without inner or outer bars. He claims that the days of "finds" is not yet over for only a few days ago he bought, at what he considers to be one-twentieth of what he was prepared to pay, a couple of covers. The special interest of which lay in the fact that unpaid postage, at the rate of a rate and a half, was accounted for by affixing stamps to the latter value at the addressee's office and cancelling them with the date stamp—the forerunner of the postage due label?

There were many examples of bisects and fiscals, used without question for postages—and the origin of their discovery places their authenticity beyond doubt. In his search for copy Mr. Jurgens had access to many repositories, and his first find of a bisect rectangular was made among some old magisterial files at Colesberg. Actually it was the only stamp that was left. Since then, however, he has added a sufficiency of other examples to warrant the acceptance of rectangular bisects as almost a regular thing. Three or four dozen examples of the use of fiscals for postage during Aitchison's time as P.M.G., together with two notices requesting the public to refrain from using revenue stamps for the postage on letters were amongst the exhibits. It was not until French took over the P.O. Department that the practice was finally suppressed, for then any such case was treated as unpaid. Rightly or otherwise, evidence showed conclusively that revenue stamps were accepted for postage purposes up to about 1884. The range of the fiscals thus exhibited was a study in itself for it included every suitable fiscal stamp of the period.

There were so many perfect specimens in pairs, strips and blocks that the task of singling out the gem of the collection was beyond me, but I rather fancied a cover with a pair of pale emerald green 1s. triangles (21a). Mr. Jurgens, in his usual racy style, described his searching among old files and records with a breeziness that kept his audience more than interested.

As the weather was good for a change, there was a very good attendance.

It was announced that Jurgens' publication on Bechuanaland will be ready for distribution about the end of November.

G.H.G.

NYASALAND PHILATELIC SOCIETY

President, Mr. T. Bartlett; *Hon. Sec.,* Mr. McMicking; *Meetings,* 3rd Fridays, Tobacco Auction Rooms, Limbe, 5 p.m.

May 13: At this meeting the hon. sec. reported that he would not be able to attend for six months. Members agreed to take turns at acting for him. (Probably this explains the late arrival of these reports.—Ed.)

July 8: No meeting held in June. It was agreed that meetings in future would be held on the third Friday of each month instead of the second Monday.

An article was read on the brilliant 5s. Nyasaland stamp printed on thin yellow paper which appeared just before the issue became obsolete in August, 1944. This printing has not so far received catalogue listing. The second printing of the 10s. was also referred to; the surface in this case is noticeably glossy.

L.V.B.

*

THE JEWISH GUILD PHILATELIC SECTION

Chairman, Mr. H. Marcuson; *Hon. Sec.,* Mr. I. Isaacs, 910 His Majesty's Buildings, Eloff Street, Johannesburg; *Meetings,* last Thursdays, at the Jewish Guild Memorial Hall, Von Brandis Street, Johannesburg.

The Jewish Guild Annual for 1946 has just been published. It contains an article on the Philatelic Section with a list of most of its members and the countries they collect. The section came into existence in 1937, and since then it has had a very successful history. The list shows that between them the members of the Section collect practically every country and every variety of philatelic items.

I.I.

*

PORT ELIZABETH PHILATELIC SOCIETY

President, Mr. G. K. Forbes; *Hon. Sec.,* Mr. P. G. Smith, 13 Trafalgar Square, Port Elizabeth; *Meetings,* 1st and 3rd Tuesdays in Room 8, City Hall Basement, at 7.45 p.m.

The auction meeting held on the 1st Tuesday of October was a small one, and only a small number of packets were sent in, but these were all sold.

The business meeting held on the 15th was also much smaller than usual.

Mr. Forbes was in the chair.

Mr. Deschamps showed a part of his general collection, both mint and used. Two fine specimens of wood blocks Cape Triangular were worth mentioning, in fact, all the Triangulars were generally above the average, and altogether it was a splendid display of old and new issues.

Mr. Roberts had a large variety of Victory sets for sale. The Hong Kong issue was in great demand. Mr. Nicholson had the New Zealand Victory, also Holland Health sets for sale, and did brisk business.

There were three new members proposed.

L.E.C.

*

THE PHILATELIC SOCIETY OF JOHANNESBURG

President, Mr. L. Buchen; *Hon. Sec.,* Mr. J. H. Jenkins, P.O. Box 4967; *Meetings,* 2nd Tuesdays, Public Library, 7.45 p.m.

At the meeting held on October 8, the members of the East Rand Philatelic Society were guests, and they provided the exhibits. Mr. Suklje took the chair on behalf of the East Rand Society and introduced the exhibitors.

Mr. W. Gilmore showed a fine collection of Union stamps. It was a complete straight collection of mint stamps with some of the better known varieties. There were several used blocks in fine condition, and the £1 stamp was shown in fine used condition as well as mint.

Mr. J. Doyle showed two collections, George VI in almost complete mint sets, and Portuguese Nyasaland. The George VI included most of the rare values. The Portuguese Nyasa was practically complete. Mr. Ingham spoke on the George VI exhibit; Commander Enoch on the Portuguese Nyasa, and Dr. Kaplan on the Union.

The exhibitors were heartily thanked for a very enjoyable show.

I.I.

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EAST LONDON PHILATELIC SOCIETY

President, C. P. Durkin; *Hon. Sec.,* A. W. Stander, P.O. Box 694, East London; *Meetings,* 2nd Fridays, above Colosseum Theatre Tea Room, at 7.45 p.m.

September: Mr. Alexander, a visitor, displayed a wide range of modern Europeans. In a short address he stated that he collected these because he liked them. That is acceptably a fundamental reason for collecting, and however much one admires the classics there is certainly a great deal of live interest in modern issues.

The advertised display was Australian Commonwealth and pre-Commonwealth. I have always been told, and constantly read, that the pre-Commonwealth issues are not popular, yet almost every day I meet some collector who wants these stamps. The examples shown by Messrs. Harper, Paviour and Thorton whetted one's appetite. Full-faced Queensland issues were admired, and varieties of watermarks and stamps printed on both sides served to illustrate the interest than can be pursued.

For October members were asked to bring album sheets of stamps of the Rhodesias and Nyasaland. Eight or nine members contributed, and the popularity of these countries was once again amply demonstrated.

N.C.C.

★

ORANGE FREE STATE AND BASUTOLAND PHILATELIC SOCIETY

President, Mr. John Lewis; *Hon. Secretary,* Mr. R. G. Lyon, Box 702, Bloemfontein; *Meetings,* 3rd Fridays each month. Oranje Koffiehuis, Bloemfontein, 7.30 p.m.

At the October meeting, the following schedule of coming events was drawn up:

November: Mr. J. P. Smith, "Africa."
December: Mr. J. Lewis, "Union Postage Dues."
January: Dr. K. Freund, "Music on Stamps."
February: Mr. D. R. Shimmin, "Egypt."
March: Mr. C. A. Larsen "Portuguese Colonies."
April: Mr. R. A. Brown.
May: Junior competition.
June: Mr. J. P. Smith, "Asia."
July: Mr. R. G. Lyon, "Bechuanaland."
August: Mr. Gus Smith.
September: Annual meeting.

The customary auction sale was also held, this time of philatelic literature only. Mr. C. A. Larsen reported that he was scheduled to give a stamp lecture at the St. Andrew's Boys' School during the month.

The main item of the evening, which was the first one of the society's new session, was a talk by Dr. K. Freund on "Philatelic Terms," which had attracted many scholars of local schools to come to the meeting. The speaker gave a very original and vivid account of philatelic terminology, omitting facts commonly known already, but dealing with philatelic points of practical interest, which are usually neglected in philatelic handbooks. Numerous pages with picked contrasting items were passed round in illustration of the points made. The speaker and the audience were so engrossed in the subject that they became aware of the late hour only when lights were started to be switched off by the management of the place. Dr. Freund promised to continue his instructive talk at the next meeting.

★ ★ ★

EGYPT

Mr. J. P. Shingler reports the issue, on 1st October, with only three days' notice, of the current 30 m. green air-mail stamp overprinted in honour of the Regional Conference of Civil Aviation. The number issued was one million. A limited quantity were on creamy paper with yellowish gum, control number A 40; the majority being on sheets with control number A 41, paper and gum both white.

The Arab ruler's visit set was expected on 20th October, seven vales—1, 2, 3, 4, 5, 10 and 15 mill.

PRETORIA PHILATELIC EXHIBITION

As part of the Pretoria Publicity Association's "Jacaranda Week" celebrations, the local Philatelic Society arranged a very interesting 3-day exhibition in the Technical College Hall on October 21-23. The exhibition was meant to appeal to juniors and the public in general rather than to advanced collectors or specialists, although there was plenty even for these to see.

Following is a list of the main exhibits: Dr. Broughton, selections from a number of countries, both British Empire and foreign, including numerous "specimens"; Dr. Broom, Transvaal, including several reconstructed plates of "V.R. Transvaal" overprints; Mrs. Dyer, enlarged photographs of various Union issues; Mr. J. C. Fredericks, "Map Stamps," the 1946 winning collection for the Allen Cup; Mr. W. J. Giovanetti, Unions and S.W.A., both lots with rarieties making any collector's mouth water; Dr. Pirie, Philately of Southern and Eastern Africa in World War II, army postcards, censor marks and such like items; Mr. E. C. Sprighton, a reconstructed sheet of Penny Blacks; Mr. D. W. Sutcliffe, selections of a number of British African countries; Mr. E. C. Wright, an outline collection of Victorian British Empire stamps, based on Easton's book "British Postage Stamp Design," also several British Colonial countries; Mr. Jack Wilson, portions of his "Album of philatelic portraits of famous or infamous persons" (the 1945 Allen Cup winning collection.)

In the evenings, several papers were read, including one by a postal official on the work of the V.P.U., and one by Dr. Broom on the educative value of stamp collecting. He recommended stamp collecting in all schools, as being by far the best way of teaching history, geography and method.

The exhibition committee is to be congratulated on their effort. They evolved a very practical new method of mounting exhibits which will be described fully later.

★

BRAZIL

Dr. Mario de Sanctis reports that for the 5th Postal Union Congress of the Americas and Spain held in the first week of September, six commemoratives were issued. Three values Cr. $1.30, 1.70 and 2.20 for air mail, the design being a reproduction of the Radio Communication stamp of 1937; three others Cr. $2.00, 5.00 and 10.00, for ordinary post, feature the G.P.O. in Rio de Janeiro. The stamps were printed by Messrs. Waterlow & Sons.

On 29 July, the centenary of the birth of Princess Izabel, daughter of the Emperor Dom Pedro II, there appeared a commemorative stamp, 40c, in black with an effigy of the Princess. The background and other decorations imitate perfectly the 200r stamp of 1866 with the effigy of the Emperor. The Princess, be it said, is most remembered for signing the law abolishing negro slavery, during the period of her regency in 1888.

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GREECE

We are indebted to Mr. Kimon Catacalos, 10 Themistocleous Street, Athens, for specimens of stamps commemorating the return of King George, issued 29 September. They are the 1, 3, 8 and 100 Dr. (head of the King) overprinted in black figures within a circle (over the original figure of value) respectively 50, 250, 600 and 3,000. They also have overprinted at the foot of the stamp "1—9—1946," being the date of the Referendum. Five million of each of the three lowest denominations were issued, and just under two million of the high one.

Also a charity stamp issued on 19 September, the 1 Dr. (S.G., C 20) overprinted 50 Dr. in red.

Forthcoming issues are:—

(1) Two commemoratives of the statesman Pan Tsaldaris.
(2) A pictorial set of 8 for the return of the Dodecanese Islands.
(3) A Victory set of 8, featuring episodes from battles in Albania, at El Alamein and in Italy.

★

NEW ZEALAND

The ever popular health stamps for this year were due to appear in October. This year's issue of two stamps (1d. + 1d. and 2d. + 1d.) feature a soldier in battle dress helping a child over a stile, in a landscape littered with discarded defence relics. Incidentally, we believe the action must be regarded as purely symbolical, as there are said to be no stiles in New Zealand.

★

AUSTRALIA

The Commonwealth Postal Department has invited designs for a new regular series of stamps. The low values with extra halfpennies added on are likely to have these knocked off. Winning designs are to get £50, but we doubt very much if this will attract good work. Two philatelists, Messrs. J. R. W. Purvis and W. L. Russell, have been appointed on the Selection Board.

★

GERMAN BANK NOTES

The S.A. Red Cross has recently received an application for assistance from Berlin, and the writer enclosed two bank notes which he hoped might be of interest to some collector and raise some little amount for the Red Cross. One is a 100 mark note of 1909, and the other 1,000 mark note of 1910. Any offers for these?—money to go to the Red Cross.

★

HOLLAND CHARITY SET

September 16 saw the issue of a charity set of six demoninations of semi-postals, heads of the three Royal Princesses, Irene, Beatrix and Margariet, each figuring on two, with their names at the top and Nederland at the bottom, with the postal value plus surcharges in the bottom right corner.

EIRE

September 16th saw the issue of two stamps, 2½d. and 3d., in honour of C. S. Parnell and M. Davitt. The design shows a ploughman and cottage in the centre, the four corners bear the arms of the four Provinces of Ireland, at the top is Eire and at the bottom 1846-1946, while the side panels have Parnell and Davitt reading upwards and downwards respectively.

★

GUM ON STAMPS

Apropos of the remarks in our columns on this subject not long ago, it is interesting to read a front-page editorial in "Linn's Weekly Stamp News," taking the form of an open letter to Mr. Gordon Harmer, now in control of the American philatelists' bible, the Standard Scott Catalogue.

After stressing the damage already done to many stamps by gum and the likelihood of even greater damage in the near future—amounting in many cases to practically complete destruction of the stamps—Mr. Linn asks Mr. Harmer to use his influence to get rid of the fetish of original gum. He believes that a frank statement in the catalogue that gum is not necessary on unused stamps and that prices of unused stamps are prices for stamps without gum, would go far to remove the word gum from all philatelic printed matter and would be one of the most beneficial things that has come to our hobby for many years.

Concerted action by publishers, philatelic societies and other such bodies would, of course, help to get rid of this bugaboo which is gradually destroying many fine stamps.

★

KENYA

"Gibbons' Stamp Monthly" records releases in London on 10th June of new printings of the 1c., 5c., 10c., 20c., 50c., 1s., 2s. and 5s.

The 1c. has gradually assumed a deeper brown frame and is now verging on chocolate, differing considerably from the original red-brown, but the transition has been gradual. The frame-plate number is 2, below the 9th stamp, but the figure is a different one from that previously employed: it is now nearly 4 mm. high. The centre plate is a new one—5A, the number being below the 10th stamp. The 50c. has a new frame plate, 2, in combination with centre plates 2A and 2B. The plates of the other denominations are unchanged.

★

AN APPEAL

Mr. H. Davidson, schoolmaster at Shipcote School, Gateshead-on-Tyne, England, started a Philatelic Club among the senior boys of the school some three years ago. This has been very successful; the boys are keen, but they are suffering from a lack of material, i.e., not enough stamps. He would be very grateful for quantities of current stamps. We can heartily recommend this appeal to our readers.

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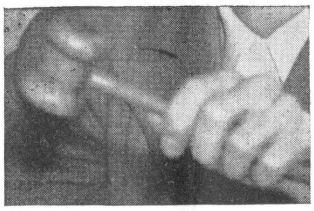

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The
SOUTH AFRICAN PHILATELIST

Proprietors and Publishers:

The Philatelic Federation of Southern Africa

Honorary Editor: Dr. J. H. HARVEY PIRIE, - - - P.O. Box 7012, Johannesburg

Honorary Business Manager: WILLIAM REDFORD, Broadcast House, Commissioner Street, Johannesburg.

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Vol. 22, No. 12. **DECEMBER, 1946.** **Whole No. 261**

UNION, S.W.A. AND PROTECTORATES

ISSUE OF "ROYAL VISIT" POSTAGE STAMPS.

The Postmaster-General of the Union of South Africa announces that a special series of postage stamps of 1d., 2d. and 3d. denominations will be issued to commemorate the visit to the Union of South Africa of the Royal Family.

The stamps, which will be printed alternately in English and Afrikaans, will be on sale at all post offices during the period 17th February to 24th April, 1947, both dates inclusive. The 1d. stamps will be in sheets of 240 and the 2d. and 3d. in sheets of 120.

Although "First Day" covers will not be issued by the Post Office, fully addressed envelopes, accompanied by the necessary remittances, which reach the Under-Secretary, Staff, Room 15, General Post Office, Pretoria, before the 17th February, 1947, will be stamped and posted on the first day of issue of the special series.

Similarly persons who, during the period of the tour, desire to obtain impressions of the Royal Tour date stamp on letters bearing stamps of the special issue, may send such letters under cover, to the address previously mentioned for further attention.

Supplies of the Royal Visit commemoration stamps will also be overprinted "S.W.A." for use in South West Africa. Orders may be forwarded direct to the Director of Posts and Telegraphs, Windhoek, South West Africa, who will also undertake to affix stamps to first day covers, provided such covers are supplied, properly marked and addressed and reach his office before the date of issue of the relative stamps.

"Stocks of stamps overprinted "S.W.A." will **not** be held by the Under-Secretary, Staff, Pretoria.

The penny stamp, which will be red with black inset, bears a picture of His Majesty the King dressed in naval uniform and the emblems of the four provinces of the Union of South Africa are embodied in the design.

The twopenny stamp, in variations of tones of violet, shows a picture of Their Majesties

the King and Queen. The only embellishments on this stamp are the Union Coat-of-Arms in the top left hand corner and protea flowers at the ends of the scroll at the base of the stamp.

The threepenny stamp will be printed in blue and shows a study of the Royal Princesses with an agave plant and springbok on either side of the picture.

Prospective applicants for first day postings are advised to send their covers in early.

There will also be a special series of 1d., 2d., 3d. and 1s. denominations of stamps for Basutoland, the Bechuanaland Protectorate and Swaziland to commemorate the Royal

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Visit. These, which will be printed by Messrs. Waterlow and Sons, Limited, England, will be uniform for the three territories. Full information about the designs and dates during which the series will be on sale will be released to the press by His Majesty's High Commissioner in the Union of South Africa as soon as it is available. Orders for these stamps should be addressed to the postmasters, Maseru, Mafeking and Mbabane respectively, and not to Pretoria.

We are officially informed that the 3d. stamps will not appear exactly as shown in the illustration. Since the release of the photographs the botanists have decided that the agave featured is an introduced American species and it will be replaced by an indigenous aloe. Let us hope it will not be quite so nearly appearing to be growing out of the springbok's back in Baron Munchausen fashion.

In response to special enquiry made, the P.O. Publicity Department states that it will greatly facilitate their coping with the rush they expect, if covers sent them to receive Royal Train P.O. cancellations have stamps already affixed.

They strongly urge, for collectors' sakes, that all covers sent them should be of standard size so as to obviate risk of damage to stamps and/or covers when letters are tied up with string into bundles for convenience of handling in the post.

The Protectorate issues will be on sale for the same period as those of the Union.

Further information is promised as to whether and how the Protectorate and Southern Rhodesian postal administrations will service covers for day of issue and/or for train cancellation.

★ ★ ★

HOLLAND

The latest stamps from Holland have been those depicting the three Princesses, and a very charming issue it is. Printed by the usual printers for the stamps of Holland, Messrs. Enschede & Son, on unwatermarked paper in sheets of 100 stamps, perforated 12½ x 12. The designs were executed and engraved by S. L. Hartz, while the lettering was the responsibility of J. van Krimpen.

The designs are from drawings by the artist done whilst in the presence of the Princesses and it was intended that the stamps should appear on Queen Wilhelmina's birthday, but the restlessness of the children caused delay in the finishing of the drawings.

The set is not intended to replace the usual annual set of Child Welfare stamps.

Postmark collectors have been well catered for recently, as special marks for various activities were provided by the postal authorities. These were for the world chess tournament held at Groningen on 12th August, the Netherlands Philatelic Day, with which was coupled a philatelic exhibition held at Utrecht on 7th and 8th September. Then there are the special mark provided for the flight to South Africa of the Vliegende Hollander and another for a special flight to the Dutch East Indies.

Interesting to read was the announcement of a possible introduction by a traders' association of an examination for aspiring stamp dealers in order that before a licence to trade is issued the candidate may demonstrate technical knowledge of the trade he wishes to pursue. Preparation for the examination should be by way of a course taken at a technical college.

Mention of the 5ct. stamp printed in Australia on paper watermarked Crown over C.A. was made in our last issue, but now news comes of a series of postage dues printed on the same paper by the same printer.

Various commemorative sets have been issued by the Indonesian Republic on unwatermarked paper of poor quality, ungummed and of crude design. The illustrations of these seen to date remind one very much of the issues of some of the Indian States.

We are indebted to the Netherlands philatelic magazine, "Mijn Stokpaardje," for the information given above.

Collectors' Wants & Offers

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

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W. L. Bedard, Post Office Box 637, Detroit 31, Michigan, U.S.A.

Wanted: Cayman Islands. Mint and fine used.
B. Simpkins, 47 Tulbagh Mansions, Hospital Hill, Johannesburg.

Offers wanted for mint and used large war issue Unions.
C. J. Dekema, P.O. Box 145, Germiston.

Control strips of Union and Transvaal also mint blocks, cards and envelopes of many African countries.
E. Tamsen, Box 13, Nylstroom.

For Sale.—Stamp Collection of Germany from 1872—1941, in special album. 832 items used and mint, including FD. cancellations and covers. Catalogue price £40. Selling price £20.
Peter Eichler, P.O. Box 11, Omaruru, S.W.A.

Australia 50 different, 2s. 6d. (postal note); 10 large Canadian pictorials, 1s. 6d.
C. A. Brown, Box 12, Lidiombe, N.S.W., Australia.

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Quantity, Quality, Value & Service

Frankly, we have been surprised at the response of oversea collectors to our advertisements. We have contented ourselves by writing in general terms; making no specific offers and simply asking for subscriptions to our price-list of KG VI stamps, the only group we sell.

Of course, we were aware how a good thing gets round; we knew that the more adventurous would "have a packet" and as they would find it all very worth their while; the news would soon spread and thus would our connection grow; well all this and more has actually happened and we are glad to be able to report that already a substantial portion of our trade is with collectors overseas, and you can depend upon it that it will not be our fault if this portion does not expand.

As already mentioned we deal only in KG VI issues, but we make the plain unambiguous claim that our stock of these stamps is second to none. This stock has taken years to get together (not just scrambled together because these blooming things sell so much better than all other stamps) and so much experience have we had with these stamps that our buyers have the complete satisfaction of knowing that our prices are based on value not flights of fancy; they are also based on *stamps we can supply.*

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Classification of the Union Postage Due Labels

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

(Continued from page 177 of the November issue).

GROUP E (Continued)

Frame Plate 2 for ½d., 1d., 1½d., and 2d. denominations. (a) Without coloured rings in lateral margins, but with a vertical coloured line about 82½mm. tall on right margin opposite first, second and third horizontal rows of stamps, approximately 21mm. from the edges of the three nearest stamps in vertical alignment. (b) Small coloured dots, one on the top margin and the other on the bottom margin, respectively above and below the central gutter margin which separates the 60-set panels.

Frame Plate 3 for 1d., 2d. and 6d. denominations. Top, Lateral and Bottom margins devoid of coloured dots or rings.

Frame Plate 4 for 3d. and 6d. denominations. Two coloured rings, each about 2mm. in diameter, 2½mm. vertically apart, one above the other, opposite sixth horizontal row of perforations, about 11mm. from edge of nearest stamp—both margins.

F.—Nos. 25—29. Labels inscribed "South Africa," "Suidafrika," "Postage," and "Te Betaal." Changes of inscriptions from Dutch to Afrikaans. Printed typographically at the Union Government Printing Works, Pretoria, from one common electrotyped plate for the frame designs manufactured at the Royal Mint in London, in conjunction with four stereotyped numeral plates set up at the Government Printing Works and one zincotyped numeral plate made at the latter establishment. Perforated by a 14 x 14 gauged comb machine. Printed on unwatermarked paper manufactured by Samuel Jones & Co., Ltd., in sheets of 120 units in two panels of 60 each but issued in 60-set sheets.

½d. black and green (1928); 1d. black and red (Feb. 1927); 2d. black and mauve (Sep. 1927); 3d. black and blue (1928); 6d. black and gray (July 1928).

Although four electrotyped frame plates were manufactured at the Royal Mint, it would appear that only one was used anent the five aforementioned denominations. The zincotyped numeral **Plate 1** was made for the 2d. denomination only. The numeral stereotyped plates were made up of transposable and horizontally 24-, 12- and 6-set cliches. During the lives of the ½d. and 1d. numeral plates the cliches which constituted these were dismantled and re-assembled subsequently in different horizontal positions. Thus the numeral plate usages can be stated as **Plates 1A and 1B** for the ½d denominations; **Plates 1A, 1B and 1C** for the 1d. denomination; **Plate 1** for the 3d. and **Plate 1** for the 6d. denominations.

G.—Nos. 30 and 32.

H.—Nos. 31 and 33—35. Labels inscribed "South Africa," "Suidafrika," "Postage" and "Te Betaal." Recessed printed by the rotary photogravure or rotogravure process at the Union Government Printing Works, Pretoria, from copper-faced iron cylinders, for both frame designs and numerals (the ½d. and certain 2d. numerals excepted), on paper manufactured by Samuel Jones & Co., Ltd., watermarked Springbok Head Multiple. Perforated in the web to the gauge of 14¾ x 14¼ by a multiple comb machine. Printed in the web but sheets guillotined 240-set therefrom and again guillotined from the latter as 60-set issue sheets. The numerals of the ½d. and certain of the 2d. denominations were printed typographically from flat zincotyped plates.

½d. black and green—**Frame Cylinder 1** and **Numeral Flat Plate 1** (or Rotogravure Cylinder 39 and Letterpress Plate 1).

1d. black and red—**Frame Cylinder 1** and **Numeral Cylinder 1** or (Rotogravure Cylinder 39 and Rotogravure Cylinder 13).

2d. black and purple—**Frame Cylinder 1** and **Numeral Flat Plate 1** (or Rotogravure Cylinder 39 and letterpress Plate 1).

2d. black and purple—**Frame Cylinder 1** and **Numeral Cylinder 1** (or Rotogravure Cylinder 39 and Rotogravure Cylinder 28).

3d. black and Prussian blue and

3d. blue and blue—**Frame Cylinder 1** and Numeral Cylinder 1 (or Rotogravure Cylinder 39 and Rotogravure Cylinder 6935).

6d. green and brown-ochre and

6d. green and orange—**Frame Cylinder 1** and **Numeral Cylinder 1** (or Rotogravure Cylinder 39 and Rotogravure Cylinder 12).

(Note: From 1933 onward the 3d. denomination has appeared as black and Prussian blue, deep blue and blue, deep ultramarine and ultramarine, and dull blue and chalky blue. On the sheets printed in ultramarine the majority of the "d" pence symbols appeared without their top serifs, and consequently it was thought that a new numeral cylinder was brought into use. In order to dispel all doubt I forwarded copies of the 3d. denomination in different nuances of colour to the Government Printer and solicited an explanation. The P.M.G. very kindly sent me the following reply:

"In reply to your letter of the 3rd ult. addressed to the G.P. I have to inform you that

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all three were printed from the same cylinder by means of the rotary photogravure process, but at different times with different colours and shades of ink. The absence of the serif of the 'd' in specimen No. 3 (i.e., the ultramarine one) is due to the fact that at a certain stage in the printing process, the ink became too thin resulting in loss of detail."

The common frame cylinder No. 39 and the numeral cylinders Nos. 12, 13 and 6935 were etched without the use of a screen. Numeral cylinder No. 28 was etched with the use of a screen.

I.—Nos. 36—39. Each label is bilingually inscribed, namely, "South Africa" at the top, "Suid-Afrika" at the bottom, "Postage Due" immediately above the figure of value and "Te Betaal" immediately below it. Recessed printed by the rotary photogravure or rotogravure process at the Union Government Printing Works, Pretoria, from copper-faced iron cylinders, on paper manufactured by Samuel Jones & Co., Ltd., and watermarked Springbok Head Multiple. Perforated in the web to the gauge of 14¾ x 14¼ by a multiple comb machine, and rouletted 7½ and 8 vertically by rouletting wheels on rod. Printed in the web but sheets guillotined 360-set therefrom and again guillotined from the latter as 60-set issue sheets. Each 360-set sheet contained 7 vertical rows of perforations and 12 vertical rows of roulettes and comprised:

(a) 120 units with left lateral perfs. and right lateral roulettes.

(b) 120 units with left lateral and right lateral roulettes.

(c) 120 units with left lateral roulettes and right lateral perfs.

1d. red (20-4-43); 2d. purple (24-8-43); 3d. deep blue (27-4-43). The postage dues mentioned in this category are also known as "Bantams" and "Miniatures." Thus far three denominations have been put into use and these stamps have been printed from three cylinders which were etched with the use of a screen ,namely, 1d. Cylinder 50, 2d. Cylinder 7021, 3d. Cylinder 6930.

AUSTRALIA

The three stamps (2½d., 3½d. and 1s.) commemorating the centenary of Sir Thomas Mitchell's exploration of Central Queensland were issued officially on 14th October, although quite a number appear to have been wrongfully sold some days before that date. The stamps feature Mitchell's head against a background of an outline map of Queensland and in the lower corners are sheep and cattle, emblematic of the ranching value of the territory.

Thanks to the Pacific Stamp Supply of 43 Bayview Crescent, Black Rock 39, Victoria, for a first-day cover.

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Some time ago we reported that the collection of British Africa made by Dr. E. Mosely had been presented to the British Museum. At the same time his duplicates were prepared for auction to cover the cost of making cabinets for the display of the collection and he offered to make the amount realised for these up to £500, if necessary.

Messrs. H. Harmer have reported that the sale of the duplicates brought in over £1,130. Congratulations, Dr. Mosely!

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1931 R. DUBLIN SOC. (1)
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1933 HOLY YEAR (2)
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Pre-Adhesive Letter Stamps of the Orange Free State and Transvaal Republics

By A. A. JURGENS.

In the March, 1946, number of this Journal, on page 32, there appeared my second article on this subject. On that occasion our Editor added to the title the words "A New Free State Find"; this time, I think, there might safely be added the words "Yet Another O.F.S. Find."

The history of the pre-adhesive stamp period of the Orange Free State Republic is slowly but surely beginning to reveal itself and we now have three "Betaald" (i.e. "Paid") letter stamps, viz., "BLOEMFONTEIN BETAALD," "WINBURG BETAALD" (Fig. 1) and the latest discovery "SMITHFIELD BETAALD (Fig. 2).

Fig. 1.

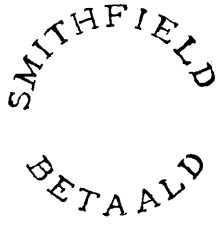

Fig. 2.

The first two mentioned handstamps measure 26 mm. in diameter, whilst the last-named, Smithfield, measures 28 mm.; the lettering is also correspondingly larger, measuring 3 mm. in height, whilst that of the two former measures 2½ mm.

It is not only the discovery of this entirely new letter stamp that has made me say the early postal history of the O.F.S. is beginning to reveal itself, but matters of great importance to philatelists have also come to light, viz., the way in which and the purposes for which the "Betaald" hand stamp were used, also the early use of the Cape of Good Hope triangular stamps in the Orange Free State.

O.F.S. PROCEDURE IN THE 1870-74 PERIOD

At this period letters posted in the O.F.S. were stamped with Cape Colony stamps when the letters were posted at a town in the O.F.S. on or very near the border, but if posted further inland then any such letter, if addressed to a place in the Cape Colony or overseas, required in addition to the Cape stamp a stamp of the O.F.S. to the amount of postage required to carry it to the border.

This has always been considered by philatelists as the correct procedure for the treatment of letters posted in the Orange Free State, but the discovery of several letters from Smithfield which had obviously had triangular Cape stamps on them, although they had been soaked off, made me suspicious as to whether this procedure had always prevailed.

A further find (see later in this article) proved definitely that Cape triangulars were used in the O.F.S.

Letters sent out of the O.F.S. and which had been conveyed via Griqualand (i.e., Kimberley) during the earlier days are by no means easy to find—in fact, they are rare. On the other hand, letters sent from towns in the O.F.S. to nearby places in the Cape Colony showing such postmarks as "Colesberg," "Aliwal North" or "Burghersdorp," whilst by no means plentiful, appear to be easier to find than those first mentioned.

It was not until 1st January, 1868, that adhesive postage stamps were first issued in the Orange Free State Republic, with the Transvaal Republic following in 1869.

By 1868 the triangular stamps of the Cape Colony had been replaced by the issue of the rectangular stamps, and we have hitherto thought that it was only these latter issues that were used by the O.F.S. and not the triangulars. This Smithfield find, however, proves how wrong we have been and that Cape triangular postage stamps **were actually used in the Free State.**

We usually find letters which had been sent from either the O.F.S. or the Transvaal to places within the Cape Colony stamped with either Transvaal or O.F.S. postage stamps to the value of 6d. in addition to a 4d. Cape stamp; if addressed overseas via Cape Colony, e.g., to the United Kingdom, then a 6d. Cape stamp had to be added.

The two Republican Governments kept stocks of Cape stamps in their post offices and these were mostly made up of the 4d. denominations, but later all denominations used in the Colony were sent to the Transvaal and O.F.S. and the sender of a letter could purchase these stamps at their face value.

SUPPLY OF CAPE RECTANGULARS TO THE O.F.S.

The way in which these Cape Colony postage stamps were supplied to the O.F.S. Government (and possibly to the Transvaal also) is rather amusing.

Some sort of mail contract appears to have been established between the O.F.S. and the Cape Colony by which a certain annual payment was due by the Colonial Post Office to

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the O.F.S. Government for the privilege of mail conveyance over and through the Orange Free State territory, but instead of the Cape Colony Government paying for this in cash, Cape postage stamps to the face value of the amount due were handed to the O.F.S. Government. These stamps were sold in the O.F.S. post offices at their face value, the gain on this transaction being entirely in favour of the Colonial Treasury.

The manner in which these Cape Colony stamps were used was as follows: Before 1874 there existed no postal convention between the Orange Free State and the Cape Colony, so that the sender of a letter, say, from Bloemfontein to Cape Town could only pay the postage on that letter from Bloemfontein to Aliwal North, or Colesberg, and if the postage from either of these two last-named places was not prepaid by means of Cape Colony postage stamps, the addressee was made to pay double the amount of postage on delivery.

dressed to Aliwal North in 1858 from which the Cape triangular had been soaked off. The mark of the triangular stamp was still there and of the hand stamp only "Smithfield" was on the cover—it was like the specimen illustrated (Fig.—). Then I came across a similar cover addressed to Port Elizabeth, stamp removed, but with part of the "Smithfield" mark left.

Later I was fortunate enough to find a cover addressed to Graaff-Reinet with the Cape triangular still in place, cancelled with the "Smithfield Betaald" mark (Fig. 3). This cover has the oval date stamp in red of Colesberg on the front and on the back, the oval date stamp in black of Graaff-Reinet with date MR—1860.

I also have a cover addressed to Colesberg (May, 1858) with the "Smithfield Betaald" mark in full but no evidence of any adhesive stamp having been put on. Also one sent to Smithfield in 1859 from Aliwal North; this

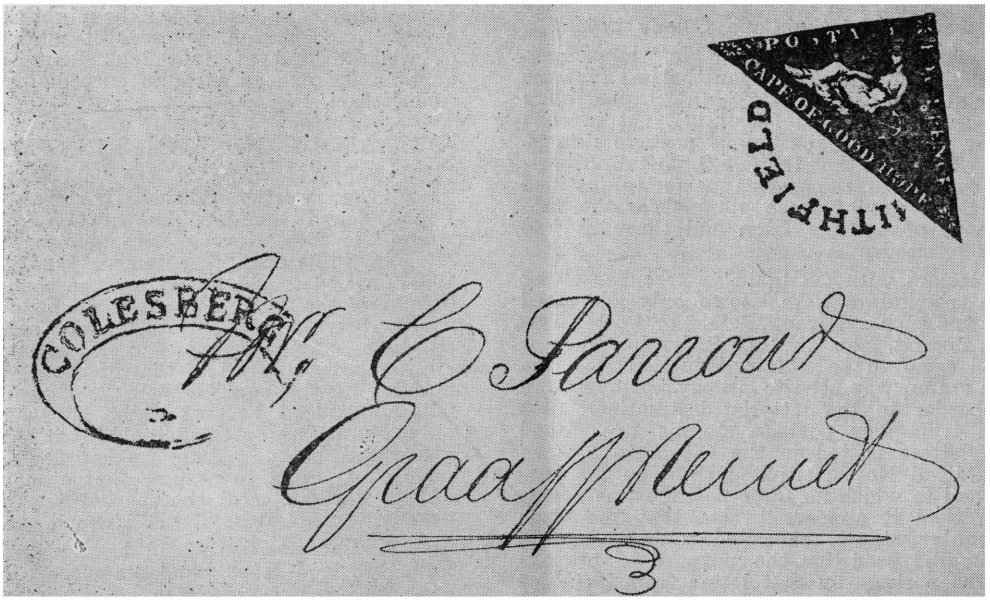

FIg 3.

To obviate this difficulty, therefore, the sender of the letter at Bloemfontein could purchase a fourpenny Cape Colony stamp which, before posting the letter, he affixed alongside of the 6d. O.F.S. stamp. The Bloemfontein postmaster would then deface the 6d. O.F.S. stamp only and upon arrival of the letter at either of the two border towns (Aliwal North or Colesberg) the postmaster there would deface the Cape stamp in exactly the same way in which he would have done had the letter been posted originally at his office.

O.F.S. PROCEDURE PRIOR TO 1868

As already mentioned, my first find of a "Smithfield Betaald" mark was on a cover addressed to Aliwal North in 1858 from which the Cape triangular had been soaked off. The mark of the triangular stamp was still there and of the hand stamp only "Smithfield" was on the cover—it was like the specimen illustrated (Fig.—). Then I came across a similar cover addressed to Port Elizabeth, stamp removed, but with part of the "Smithfield" mark left.

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I also have a cover addressed to Colesberg (May, 1858) with the "Smithfield Betaald" mark in full but no evidence of any adhesive stamp having been put on. Also one sent to Smithfield in 1859 from Aliwal North; this has the Aliwal North oval date stamp on the back and the "Smithfield Betaald" mark on the face, but no Cape adhesive stamp.

What is the interpretation of these findings?

A GRIQUALAND WEST ANALOGY

When Kimberley, situated in the territory then known as Griqualand West, came into the limelight through the discovery of diamonds, the ever growing population of diggers, traders and others demanded a postal service and the ordinary current rectangular postage stamps of the Cape Colony, the "Hope" seated type with the Crown C.C. watermark, were used with the full consent of the Cape Colony post office. I suggest, however,

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that the local surcharge on the 4d. in manuscript in red "1d." of 1874, as well as the 1d. overprinted "G.W." in black of 1877 were made for fiscal purposes (i.e., stamps on receipts), because at that period the price of postage in those parts was still 4d. the half ounce or fraction thereof.

We know that the Orange Free State Republic laid claim to that part of the Griqualand territory adjacent to its borders and that it was only after considerable negotiation and discussion that the territory in dispute was at last purchased by the Imperial Government for something in the vicinity of nine million pounds sterling.

Meanwhile (i.e., before the overprinted Cape stamps with the letter "G" were brought into use), ordinary Cape stamps (without any overprint) were used in the Griqualand territory and these stamps are to be found cancelled (in Kimberley) with the small and with the large triangular defacing stamps of the Cape of Good Hope, and the date stamps that were used were all of the Cape Colony type.

In view of this Griqualand West happening, and taking into consideration the fact that the Colonial post office paid the O.F.S. post office for services rendered (postally), not in cash but by means of Cape Colony postage stamps, I am of opinion that the O.F.S. postal authorities considered themselves perfectly justified in making use of these stamps for the prepayment of postage from and through Free State territory.

If letters with "Betaald" marks cancelling Cape triangulars were known only addressed to towns such as Graaff-Reinet or Port Elizabeth, distant from the O.F.S. border, then it would seem to be a fair deduction that the Cape stamp was used to prepay postage from the border to the latter's destination. But when triangular postage stamps are found upon letters posted in the O.F.S. to a town like Aliwal North, situated right on the border, and to which no Cape postage was necessary, then it appears to me that the Cape triangular stamp, cancelled with an O.F.S. mark, was used for the purpose of prepaying the postage on that letter from its place of origin to its destination. The "Smithfield Betaald" mark, which in itself would seem to be sufficient evidence, in so far as O.F.S. procedure was concerned, to satisfy the authorities that postage had been paid, was probably used to deface the triangular stamp owing to the lack of any other defacing device at the time.

POSSIBLE CONFUSION WITH BANK CANCELLATIONS

When a cover from which the stamp has been removed together with a cover with no adhesive stamp but showing a clear "Smithfield Betaald" mark came to light, a tracing was made of this "Smithfield Betaald" letter stamp (Fig. 3). On placing this to correspond with the portion remaining on the former cover it was found that only the word "Betaald" would have appeared on the stamp, the remaining portion of the impression, i.e., "Smithfield" remaining on the envelope.

I do not suppose that this is going to cause any serious trouble to collectors of Cape of Good Hope triangulars, because I certainly do not think that there will be many more such items in existence, if any at all apart from the one now in my collection.

We know that the various banks in the Cape Colony from 1st September, 1864, onwards cancelled triangular Cape stamps on cheques and promissory notes with a handstamp "PAID" and this is found in many different sizes and types.

So far as it has been possible to find out, it appears that only two banks in the Colony made use of hand stamps in Dutch, viz., "De Paarlsche Bank" and "De Wellingtonsche Bank," and that in addition to this both banks also used a "Betaald" hand stamp, so that if a collector should come across a triangular Cape stamp cancelled with the word "Betaald" in semi-circle, as in Figs. 1 or 2, he might think it a fiscal cancellation, whereas it might just as well be that of Smithfield, Bloemfontein or Winburg and as such an exceedingly rare cancellation.

"BETAALD" HAND STAMPS IN GENERAL

When first I wrote to the "old Huguenot Scot" (our worthy Editor), I stated, after I had found the first known O.F.S. letter stamp, the "Bloemfontein Betaald" (see "South African Philatelist," September, 1943, page 100), that we could safely assume that other towns in the O.F.S. might also have used similar markings on letters during their pre-adhesive stamp period, but I was coolly, bluntly but politely told that "I could assume nothing of the sort." Well, at that time I will admit that he was right. It was then only the "Bloemfontein Betaald" that had been discovered, but now from further findings we have every right to assume that other towns of any importance at that period must surely also have used this "Betaald" hand stamp.

A similar position could have arisen over Cape of Good Hope hand stamps.

We know that when post offices were established in the different drostdys of the Cape Colony by Lord Charles Somerset in 1816, a separate letter stamp (see Figs. 5 to 23, "Handstruck Letter Stamps and Postmarks of the Cape of Good Hope, 1792-1910, pages 25 and 26) was issued to each town.

Supposing, however, that this information was unknown to us (and it must be remembered that prior to 1938 this was unknown to us), and that someone found a letter stamp "General Post Office Cape Town" (Fig. 5, page 25, of the above mentioned publication), it would have been quite wrong to assume that other towns in the Cape Colony also used similar types because Cape Town, being the capital, could very well have been the only town to be so supplied. The same argument applies to my find of the "Bloemfontein Betaald," Bloemfontein being the capital of the

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O.F.S. So again I say our Editor was perfectly correct.

But now the whole position has been changed. Supposing that in regard to our knowledge of the Cape pre-stamp period as it was prior to 1938 a letter stamp of Tulbagh, Paarl or any other of the smaller towns had been found, it would then have been quite reasonable to have assumed that other towns, especially those of more importance, must have been issued with letter stamps as well.

In 1856-1858 there were other towns in the O.F.S. which could have claimed to have been of more importance than either Winburg or Smithfield, and if these two towns could have been issued with a "Betaald" letter stamp, then we have every right to assume that most or all of the O.F.S. towns at that time were likewise supplied.

Letter writing at this early date in both Republics was not a frequent occurrence, hence the great difficulty of finding evidence of their early postal markings to-day. Most of the correspondence was, no doubt, of an official nature and consequently passed through the post office free, so that it would have been unnecessary to stamp such correspondence "Betaald."

When we take as an example the great scarcity of Cape Colony pre-stamp markings on letters and take into consideration also

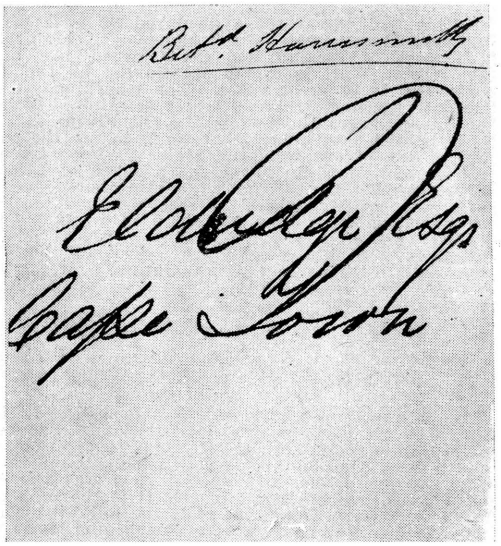

Fig. 4.

the much greater facilities for letter writing as compared with either the Transvaal or the O.F.S., then it is easy to understand why evidence of the early postal markings of these two republics is so very scarce to-day. It is doubtful whether the full postal history of these countries will ever be known to us.

MANUSCRIPT "BETAALD" MARKS

Although I have not seen a hand stamp "Harrismith Betaald," I have a letter inscribed as such in manuscript (Fig. 4) and I have also on several occasions seen covers showing "Bloemfontein Betaald" and on one occasion "Jacobsdal Betaald" in manuscript.

* * *

EXHIBITION DISPLAYS

It was mentioned last month that the Pretoria philatelists had devised a method of mounting the sheets of stamps at their recent exhibition which appears to be new. It is, at any rate, simple, neat and rapid and as such worthy of being widely known.

Frames and glass are, of course, necessary, but with this method the backing of the frames may be of whatever material is most readily obtainable so long as it is firm. It need not be easily penetrable by drawing pins, as has to be the case with many methods of mounting.

The essence of their method was to slip the corners of the sheets into little triangular pockets of white paper obtained by cutting off the corners of envelope.

At first they fixed the sheets to the backing of the frames by small strips of transparent cellulose tape over the pockets. Later they found it quicker and easier to get the sheets in good alignment by fixing them to the glass. This was done as follows:

On a sheet of white paper the size of the frame a plan was drawn of where the mounted sheets should be. The plan was then laid on a flat table, the sheet of glass (properly cleaned) put over it and the sheets of stamps affixed face down over the places marked in the plan below the glass. The glass sheet, with stamps, is then ready for fastening in the frame.

A theoretical objection was raised of the risk of damage to stamps if a glass sheet were to be broken in handling, but the risk does not appear to be any greater than in placing the glass over stamps affixed to the backing of the frames.

*

COLONIAL VICTORIES

The list of those territories in which Victory sets have been issued is slowly mounting, but in view of the delay in their release the Crown Agents have notified that sales in all colonies except Hong Kong may be continued until 31st March, 1947, or until stocks are exhausted, whichever is earlier. The Kenyas (20c. and 30c.) appeared on 11th November. Thanks to Mr. Habib, of Singida, Tanganyika, for a first-day cover.

The S. Rhodesia set did not appear in October; we shall expect it when we see it.

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SOCIETY NEWS

NYASALAND PHILATELIC SOCIETY

President, Mr. T. Bartlett; *Hon. Sec.,* Mr. McMicking; *Meetings,* 3rd Fridays, Tobacco Auction Rooms, Limbe, 5 p.m.

The September meeting was held on Friday, 20th, with fifteen members present, Mr. Booth (acting chairman) presiding. The meeting was concerned mainly with approval books.

★

THE JEWISH GUILD PHILATELIC SECTION

Chairman, Mr. H. Marcuson; *Hon. Sec.,* Mr. I. Isaacs, 910 His Majesty's Buildings, Eloff Street, Johannesburg; *Meetings,* last Thursdays, at the Jewish Guild Memorial Hall, Von Brandis Street, Johannesburg.

At the meeting of October 31st Mr. I. Isaacs showed an exhibit of flown covers. Several countries were represented, including the Union, S. Rhodesia, Great Britain, Australia, U.S.A., France, Switzerland, Siam and many others.

The Unions included a flown card of the Red Cross issue of 1918, and two flights from De Aar when the aerodrome there was opened. There was a rare Siam item shown as well as some of the Transatlantic flights.

Mr. Gladstone spoke on the exhibit.

I.I.

★

PRETORIA PHILATELIC SOCIETY

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

November 4th: Mr. Hawke gave a short resume dealing with the Jacaranda Week exhibition which we estimate was visited by about fifteen hundred people, showing that philately in the Capital was in a very healthy state. The exhibit for the evening was provided by Mr. Obermeyer, who tabled a fine lot of early issues of Holland.

November 18th: The paper for the evening was rather an unusual one by Mr. Orkin, and he dealt with the use of the postal services to convey military information and the measures adopted to counter this during war time. The conveyance of information through the post did at one time take the form of code messages; but the censor, aided by the physicist and his scientific apparatus, soon put an end to this method. The use of stamps to convey hidden messages has been discovered in a number of instances during both World Wars, and one or two illustrations will show clearly how necessary it is for military authorities to forbid the passing, even between collectors, of stamps during wartime. In the 1914 war a German agent was secretly landed in England, and by using a bicycle, travelled from port to port, from where he wrote letters to a cover address in Holland (incidentally known to the British Intelligence) enclosing in each letter a number of foreign stamps ostensibly for a small boy's collection. Each type of stamp meaning a different type of warship and their presence in any particular port was thus determined. A censor who knew something about stamp collecting realised that the type of stamp being sent, usually low values, could hardly be of much use even to a beginner, and a check-up soon revealed the scheme and put paid to this agent's career. One of the cleverest was the agent who by means of a pre-arranged code, placed his stamps on the envelope in a position carefully measured in millimeters from the left hand and top of the envelope. The military postal authorities took elaborate precautions to prevent troops from unwittingly sending out information of their whereabouts from which their battle order could be established. All in all this was quite a new light on the gentle and peaceful hobby of stamp collecting and it was very well received.

J.J.W.

THE PHILATELIC SOCIETY OF JOHANNESBURG

President, Mr. L. Buchen; *Hon. Sec.,* Mr. J. H. Jenkins, P.O. Box 4967; *Meetings,* 2nd Tuesdays, Public Library, 7.45 p.m.

There were two exhibits at the meeting held on November 12th.

Mr. L. Buchen showed a fine exhibit of the stamps of Danzig. There was an almost complete collection including the rarities of the 1920 issue. As well as mint items there were some fine used as well as a few flown covers.

Mr. F. Ingham showed stamps of British Africa. His exhibit included a complete straight collection of Unions including both the £1 items; there were also some fine used blocks of 4, and the 1925 Air Mail set were in blocks of 4 on first day covers. His exhibit included Southern and Northern Rhodesia mint and fine used, the Southern Rhodesia including the rare 1s. perf. 14; Basutoland, Bechuanaland, Kenya and Nyasaland were all represented. The Kenya exhibit included a fine used pair of 50 cents King George VI with short rope.

Mr. W. Oppenheim spoke on the Danzig exhibit and Mr. J. Burrell spoke on the Africans.

During the evening the members discussed the resolution concerning gum on mint stamps which is referred to elsewhere in this issue. The resolution was passed by 21 votes to 4, 6 members refraining from voting.

I.I.

★

PORT ELIZABETH PHILATELIC SOCIETY

President, Mr. G. K. Forbes; *Hon. Sec.,* Mr. P. G. Smith, 13 Trafalgar Square, Port Elizabeth; *Meetings,* 1st and 3rd Tuesdays in Room 8, City Hall Basement, at 7.45 p.m.

The auction held on the 8th was a great success and nearly £9 was taken. A hearty welcome was given to Mr. C. H. Thornton, of East London, who showed part of his collection. This was a pleasant surprise as Mr. Thornton is recognised as one of the leading collectors in the Union.

Mr. G. K. Forbes took the chair at the business meeting. Mr. Braybrooke displayed 20 pages from his general collection. The complete sets, both mint and used, of Belgian Red Cross issued just after the Great War, is worth mentioning as the 10F over 10F is of great value. The mourning set for the late Queen Astrid was keenly scrutinised. Others of interest were those from the Oil Rivers.

It is with deep regret that we announce the passing of one of our members, Major F. Perridge, and all present stood in silence as a token of respect.

Our member Mr. T. H. C. Nicholson is in hospital and was greatly missed at the meeting. He has always done more than his share of work for the Society and ever ready with his help and advice. Members wish him a speedy recovery and hope to have him with us in the near future.

L.E.C.

★

EAST RAND PHILATELIC SOCIETY

President, Mr. J. Shepherd, P.O. Box 97, Brakpan; *Hon. Secretary,* E. N. Riff, 103 Kemston Avenue, Benoni.

October meeting was very well attended, and after the Society's business was dealt with Mr. Shepherd provided the evening's exhibits. (1) Postage dues of South-West Africa; this collection had all the varieties and overprints; one special item was the one penny used, and from all reports it is the only one in the country. (2) Stamps from the following countries, Samoa, Falkland Islands, Gambia and Malta.

A very interesting discussion took place in regard to specialising.

November meeting. Several covers were passed round with the latest stamps and cancellations, including the Mitchell set from Australia, Canadian new issue, latest U.S.A. 7½c Air Mail, Austria U.N.O. overprint.

The evening's exhibit was displayed by Mr. Gutsche. (1) Various covers; (2) a complete set of Germany's war stamps printed during the last war; this included stamps from Poland, Luxemburg, Alsace-Lorraine and Germany. These stamps have all been very well printed, and the colours have been very neatly arranged. Mr. Gutsche also gave a short lecture on these stamps as regards the reasons for issue.

E.G.R.

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CAPE TOWN PHILATELIC SOCIETY

President, L. Simenhoff; *Hon. Secretary*, S. Kaganson, P.O. Box 1973; *Meetings*, 2nd and 4th Thursdays at Yorkshire Buildings, Strand Street, at 7.30 p.m.

On the 24th October members and visitors had another evening among old Capes when the Goldschmidt collection was on view. About 150 pages of this inimitable array were on the tables, all, with one exception, showing triangulars. Among so many "museum pieces" it was very difficult to pick out the winning page for one's interest was intensely held from the first sheet, showing a triangular block and a single of the so-called black triangular issue (Mr. Goldschmidt called them proofs), to the last. Outstanding pieces were a block of 6d. deep lilac, twenty-four shilling greens in one block, two pairs of the penny woodblock on a cover, a pale blue 4d. woodblock, the fourpence woodblock with retouched corner, a rouletted and an imperf. on same envelope, and a pair of the shilling, emerald, with red cancellation. These, however, were by no means all the star items. The only departure from the three corners was an embossed document dated 1837, the stamp of which was cancelled by the large triangular obliteration. The large block of the shilling green was also cancelled with a similar type of cancellation but it was pointed out that there was no weight limit for book packages and such like, and it was more than just possible that the twenty-four shillings represented the postage on a large parcel of books to England. There were several covers showing the stamps to have been cancelled by means of pen and ink. A unique sheet was one that showed a number of forgeries—one of which was a most convincing copy of the fourpenny blue which came back from the experts with a certificate (of forgery) signed by every member of the committee—a special item in itself.

The Goldschmidt collection is well known in South Africa and has already achieved Exhibition fame. The material in it was of very great help to Mr. Jurgens in the compilation of the data detailed in his recent publication on the earlier Cape Posts Services.

November 14th. The exhibitor listed for this date was unable to come to the meeting and his place was taken by Mr. Simenhoff, who showed several sections of his varied collections. Mr. Simenhoff, who by profession is a school principal, managed very well to carry his ideas of instruction into the philatelic arena. The display consisted of five different groups. A dozen different types of Tristan da Cunha markings were followed by educational sheets depicting geographical, fauna, scientists, etc., etc., subjects. A cover franked by a 6d. triangular cancelled by means of the roller obliterator; an old menu issued at the first annual dinner of the Society. Mr. Simenhoff is very catholic in his tastes philatelically, for he has long since graduated into the fly speck class so far as Union and S.W.A. issues are concerned.

Two new members were announced, and it was mentioned with very deep regret that one of our old members (Mr. J. A. Pearson) had passed on a few days earlier. G.H.G.

John P. Shingler,

POSTAGE STAMP DEALER,

27 Terminus St., East London, C.P.

EGYPT:

Arab Rulers' Set: The meeting of the Rulers of the Seven Arab States at the Royal Palace at Inchaes, Cairo, was commemorated in the long-delayed issue of seven stamps on the 9th November. Price per set, mint or used 1/9

Civil Air Congress: 1st October—30 Mills Air Stamp, overprinted Cairo 1946, and with Arabic inscription, Mint 1/0; used 1/3

Citadel Stamp: 9th August, 10 mills Mint 1/0; used 1/3

80th Postal Anniversary: 4 values Mint 3/0; used 3/6

King Farouk: Pt. 50—fine used 4/0 LEI, used 8/6

Current Air Set: 4 values, used 1/9

3 Obsolete Shades of same set, used 1/6

Write for free price lists of modern Egypt

Just Received: N.Z. 1946 Health Set, Mint 6d.; used 7d.

S.A. Philatelic Association: A Postal Exchange Club. Sell your better-class duplicates of British and Foreign stamps. Write for particulars.

BELGIUM

"Het Postzegel" reports that the 1.35fr. denomination of the Ostend-Dover set has been printed in two quite different types. There is a slight difference in colour, especially of the background but the main distinction lies in the size: one measures 21½ mm. x 18½ mm., the other 21¼ mm. x 17 mm. There are no such varieties in the other two denominations of the set.

FRANCE

Two new values in the present current series were issued about 22nd October. They were 15f. in red-violet with a view of Roc-Amdour and 20f. blue-grey showing the "Pointe de Raz" Cape Finisterre. Thanks to the Office de Propagande Philatelique for specimens.

Fine British Colonials:

Selections of the above are sent on approval to serious collectors against references.

Range 1. Early issues, which can be selected from at one-third of catalogue price.

Range 2. Modern issues (1900 on) in mint state, mostly at 50% off catalogue.

Range 3. Modern issues (1900 on) superb used, mostly at 50% off catalogue.

J. BIRD, 116, Highlands Heath, London, S.W.15, England

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The Universal Postal Union

By M. F. SWANEPOEL,
Publicity Officer, G.P.O.

(Continued from page 173 of the November issue).

There is not time, unfortunately, to deal with all the reforms in postal procedure, brought about by the Union, but mention must be made of some of the more important innovations which are of great interest, demonstrating as they do the tremendous part which the post office plays in the world to-day. So much is this so, in fact, that it would be difficult to contradict the assertion that the high standard of civilisation which has been reached in the last century is very largely due to the organised means of inter-communication between all nations under the aegis of the Universal Postal Union.

Since the signing of the first international convention a common regime has been accepted throughout the whole postal service. Freedom of transit by land, sea and air is guaranteed by every country to every other country; rates of postage are made more or less uniform—that is to say, each country makes a charge within a minimum and maximum range for each category of correspondence to other countries; no charges are collected in the country of origin from the sender of correspondence or in the country of destination from the addresse other than that prescribed by the regulations. The main principles were all settled and established at the original conference, but, of course, details have from time to time been subject to revision and subsequent improvement as the march of progress demanded. As Congress followed Congress, other important agreements were made, such as the conveyance of mails by air, the exchange of money orders and insured parcels, a parcel post agreement, the system of "express" delivery of correspondence, the exchange by post of gold, silver, jewels and other precious stones between countries whose laws do not forbid the transmission of such articles, the use of postcards of private manufacture, etc., until to-day we carry out, with a few exceptions, every phase of postal business with all countries of the world under international agreements which have ratified and have the force of law in the countries signatory to the Convention. Although it is primarily the function of the Postal Union to establish uniform systems as between all countries, there is a very important clause in the Convention under which they reserve to themselves the right to form separate agreements, and even restricted unions, provided, of course, that any agreements so made are not less favourable than the Convention itself. So in or about 1896 Sir Somerset French, who was then Postmaster-General of the Cape Colony, having in mind the tremendous amount of good derived from the Universal Postal Union, arrived at the opinion that if the whole civilised world could be formed, so to say, into one postal territory, there should be little difficulty in forming a restricted union in South Africa which would deal with inter-State relations much on the same line as international relations were regulated by the Universal Postal Union Treaty.

A conference of the permanent heads of postal departments in Natal, the Orange Free State, Cape Colony and the South African Republic was held in Cape Town in March, 1897, and after discussion the Convention was signed by the delegates on behalf of and was subsequently ratified by their respective governments. One of the main features of this agreement was the introduction of a uniform penny postage between the principal colonies and States of South Africa.

In 1935 the African Postal and Telecommunications Union was created as an extension to the international system, and all territories lying south of a line drawn across Africa from the Belgian Congo in the west to Kenya in the east were represented.

It is interesting to recall that at the Washington Conference in 1897, Great Britain raised the point as to whether freedom of action under the clause providing for separate agreements applied to reductions in rates of postage. The decision of the Conference was in favour of this move, and it resulted in the introduction, in 1897, of the Imperial penny postage scheme with its extension to the United States of America and to Egypt. The magazine post, with its concessions, between Canada (1907), Newfoundland (1909) and Great Britain was also inaugurated under the same provision in the Convention.

Eleven Congresses of the Universal Postal Union have so far been held: In Berne, 1874; Paris, 1878; Lisbon, 1885; Brussels, 1890; Vienna, 1891; Washington, 1897; Rome, 1906; Madrid, 1920; Stockholm, 1924; Cairo, 1929; and Buenos Aires, 1939. The next Congress will be held in Paris in May, 1947.

Members of the Postal Union are divided into seven classes. It is very interesting to note the divergencies in the postal and international importance in the various classes. For example, the first-class membership of the Union consists of Germany, the Argentine Republic, China, the United States of America; Spain, France, the United Kingdom of Great Britain and Northern Ireland; India, Australia, Canada, New Zealand, Italy, Japan, Poland, the Union of Soviet Socialist Republics, Turkey and the Union of South Africa.

Although little objection would be raised against any country wishing to become a first-class member, classification is mainly dependent upon the postal importance of member countries of the Union. South Africa, for instance, owing to its ocean mail contract, holds a very important position in so far as the transit of mails is concerned and is thus correctly aligned with first-class members.

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The contributions towards the expenses of the Central Office of the Union, the Berne Bureau, are based on the class of membership, but as the contribution is in any case very small, it is considered that the advantages of the higher status and other privileges, such as the supply of free copies of all publications issued by the Berne Bureau, are well worth the small difference in the charges incurred. The contribution, which is an annual one, varies to some extent according to the expenses of the Bureau for the year.

A word must be said about what actually takes place at a meeting of the Union; how the enormous amount of work is got through in the comparatively short space of time, and the procedure which prevails. The Convention lays down that each Conference, before concluding its business, must settle the date and venue of its next meeting. This is by no means an easy matter, as most of the European representatives come armed with invitations from their governments offering the hospitality of their countries and undertaking to provide the necessary accommodation and to be responsible for the executive work of the next conference. When this point has been settled, the selected administration is formally charged with the task of making all preparations. In order to ensure uniformity in procedure, the host country conducts its work through the Central Office at Berne and its first task, about 18 months prior to the meeting, is to send out invitations to all members, reminding them of the date and requesting them to send in any propositions which they may wish to submit for discussion.

(to be continued)

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GIBBONS CATALOGUES

Messrs. Stanley Gibbons have announced that Part II of their big catalogues will be issued in two sections. One will be "Europe and the Post Offices Abroad (not Colonies) of European Countries," the other "The Rest of the World." The European volume will follow, probably about May or June, the new Part I (British Empire) which is expected early in 1947. The "Rest of the World" section, they hope, will appear about the end of next year.

★

RHODESIA

The "London Philatelist" of September-October contains an interesting paper which was read by Mr. A. V. Jacob with a display of part of his Rhodesian collection to the "Royal" on 6th June.

We understand Mr. Jacob, a Cape Town resident, is exhibiting his collection at the New York International Exhibition in May, 1947. Good luck to him! From the published paper his collection must be a very fine one.

STUDY YOUR COUNTRY'S STAMPS

A WAR SECRET OF THE JERSEY DESIGN

When the British Post Offices in the Channel Islands had used up the stocks of British stamps in hand at the time of the German occupation, it became evident that the Post Offices could not carry on without stamps. When the German authorities were approached it was feared they would insist upon supplying us with German stamps overprinted with the Swastica, or even imposing their own designs, perhaps including a portrait of Hitler. We were therefore very pleased when permitted to have our own design.

Permission was only granted on the express condition that no mention of Great Britain or H.M. the King be used in any design. Finally it was agreed to use the Arms of Jersey and Guernsey on their respective stamps, with simply the name of the island and the value. Nothing beyond this was permitted.

These orders were duly carried out and the designs accepted. But what the Germans did not know was that this crest of the three leopards is the personal seal of the Sovereign himself as displayed on the Royal Standard, and only used by the islands with the permission of the King. In the Jersey design by Major N. V. L. Rybot, D.S.O., the joke was carried even further when he added at the four corners of his design the letter A in microscopic characters on the 1d. value and in the same place on the ½d. design AA at the top and BB at the bottom. The four A's mean "Ad Avernum Adolph Atrox" or in plain English "Go to Hell Atrocious Adolph." The two B's and two A's interpreted mean "Atrocious Adolph and Bloody Benito."

Luckily for all concerned, the Germans never found out the meaning of the letters, otherwise those responsible would have suffered severe punishment. These letters are so small that a clear impression is not to be found on every stamp, owing to ink blocking up the letters after the plates had been in use for some time, but clear impressions are obtainable.

On the 3d pictorial of the Jersey stamps the artist, Edmund Blampied, incorporated G.R. (found on each side of the value); this of course means George Rex, which the Germans also overlooked.

M. MARTIN.

★

DOMINICA

This country must be congratulated on its issue of two air-mail stamps, 10c. and 13c., celebrating the 450th anniversary of the founding of the capital city of the Republic. They are map stamps showing the position of the State in the Caribbean Sea; they are described as looking like large roll wall maps and probably the most attractive map stamps ever issued. We have only seen illustrations of them so far, but from these would not be inclined to quarrel with the description.

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REVIEWS AND NOTICES.

POSTAGE STAMPS OF SWEDEN. 1920-1945. By Georg Menzinsky. (Issued by the Royal Swedish General Post Office as Postal Museum Communication No. 23). Price, 3 Swedish crowns.

The Swedish Post Office is to be congratulated, both as regards its general contents and its get-up, which latter is of an exceedingly high standard. The translation into English was checked by the American Philatelic Foundation as regards the philatelic terms.

Part 1 deals with the stamps issued from 1920-38 when the printing was done in an American Stickney press; part 2 with the period 1938-45 with printing from the new Goebel press. The methods of production are fully covered.

There is a full listing of the stamps with descriptions and illustrations of the major types and of the major plate varieties. On the cultural side we find biographies of the personalities on the stamp, historical notes on buildings, etc., etc. The book ends with portraits of the designers of the stamps dealt with, and there is a good index.

Altogether a production of which any postal administration can be proud.

THE PHILATELIC ADVISER, published monthly by R. C. Alcock, 11 Regent Street, Cheltenham, England. Price 8/- per annum, post free.

We are very pleased to see this publication appearing again (October, 1946) after a long intermission. In the past it was always an interesting magazine, and if the standard of this new issue is kept up it promises to be even more so for the future.

Approximately half of it deals with British stamps and cancellations; the remainder with general news and articles on both British Colonial and Foreign stamps, etc. Details of new issues are not included, as they are adequately catered for in other philatelic papers.

This number has, inter alia, a first instalment of "an outline history of World War II in stamps and Postmarks" and a lavishly illustrated paper on British Fleet Mail offices 1945-46."

HARMER'S ANNUAL RESUME FOR 1945-46.

This résumé, dealing with both their London and New York houses, is a summary of a record season and a preview of a bumper one to come. The star items in the two countries are the "Buccleuch" Fund and the dispersal of the Roosevelt collection. The pamphlet also deals with their activities other than auctions —sale by private treaty, valuation, insurance and the like.

Readers should realise that their London auction catalogues are now arriving here, even by surface mail, in time for bids to be sent over by air. Opportunities to buy are therefore now available to anyone—and what a feast of fat things there are agoing! For example, in the London sale of 18th-19th November there were, to mention but one or of the great rarities, a set of Basutoland cials on cover, Natal £10 and £20, Nort Nigeria £25 and Straits Settlements 500 lars. The list of prices realised should very interesting.

THE STAMP DEALERS' HANDBOO This, the official year-book of the Phil telic Traders' Society, is published Harris Publications, Ltd., of 445 Stran London, at 3/-.

This handbook includes, amongst oth things, a list of the members of the Socie from places all over the world; a list of a drsses of direct sources of supply of stam (postmasters, etc.) both British Commo wealth and Foreign; a currency exchan table; and a directory of philatelic public tions. Lots of useful information, in fact.

HET POSTZEGEL, the monthly organ of t Flemish Stamp Collectors' Union, is pu lished in Flemish at Generaal Lemanla 20, Assebroek-Brugge, Belgium. Price

This is not a new publication, although w have not seen it before; it is now, howeve on our exchange list. The specimen copy se us (Aug.-Sept. issue) has an article on speci and propaganda postmarks; a U.S.A. lette notes on Belgian and Netherlands recent i sues; a new issue chronicle and short abstrac from philatelic magazines from all over t world.

ANGOLA

We have not previously been aware of stamp dealers in this territory, but hav cently received intimation from Sr. F. M. Romeiras that he has a business at C postal 58, Benguela and specialises in sta of Angola, Portugal and Belgian Congo.

★

GUM

A discussion took place at the Novemb meeting of the Philatelic Society of Johann burg on the subject of gum on stamps a the following resolution was passed:

"This Society has noted with dismay t many mint stamps have been ruined by retention on them of their original gum is accordingly of the opinion that phil would greatly benefit if the present placed on gum was entirely abolished an dealers and collectors would make no dist tion on the value they placed on perfect used stamps without gum and those wit ginal gum, and the Society is further o opinion that all perfect unused stamps, or without gum, should be classified as items."

This resolution was put to a vote an result was 21 for and 4 against, with 6 bers abstaining from voting.

In view of the importance of this m and the world-wide attention it is receivi present, it would be of interest to hav views of the Societies in the Federatio

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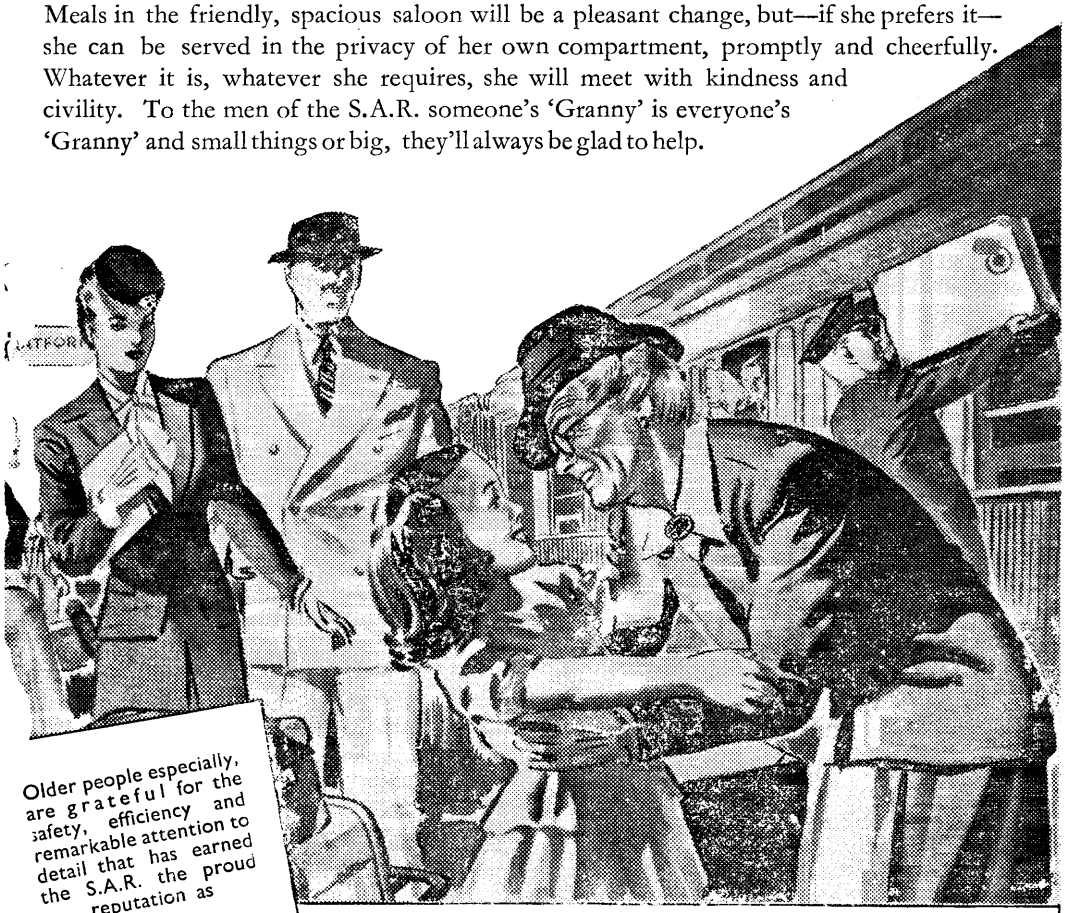
A THOUSAND MILES FOR A KISS!

and Granny would gladly travel twice as far!

Nowadays, distance need never be an obstacle, even when Granny is not quite as young as she used to be! The South African Railways will take her to her loved ones, *comfortably*, *safely* and *speedily*.

Reading, resting or sleeping, she can relax in the cushioned comfort of a bright, roomy compartment, while her train bridges great distances, smoothly and quickly. Meals in the friendly, spacious saloon will be a pleasant change, but—if she prefers it—she can be served in the privacy of her own compartment, promptly and cheerfully. Whatever it is, whatever she requires, she will meet with kindness and civility. To the men of the S.A.R. someone's 'Granny' is everyone's 'Granny' and small things or big, they'll always be glad to help.



Older people especially, are grateful for the safety, efficiency and remarkable attention to detail that has earned the S.A.R. the proud reputation as

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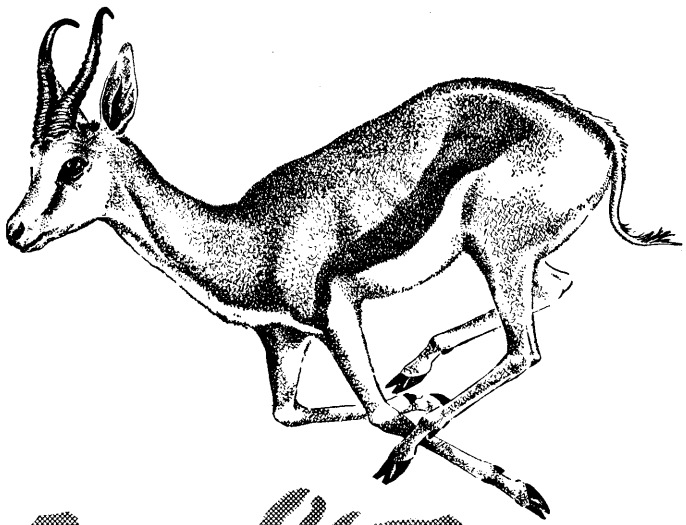

THE

SPRINGBOK

CIGARETTES

THE NATIONAL SMOKE

U/S 302

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