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THE SOUTH AFRICAN PHILATELIST

VOLUME 33 1957

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THE

SOUTH AFRICAN PHILATELIST

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EDITORIAL CHANGES

The Publications Committee of the Philatelic Federation of Southern Africa announces that from January 1957 the editorial work on the "South African Philatelist" will be conducted by an Editorial Board consisting of Dr. J. H. Harvey Pirie (Chairman), Mr. J. E. Frankland, Dr. T. B. Berry and Mr. W. N. Sheffield.

This is an extension of the arrangements already in operation for some time whereby the Union Notes and liaison with the Union Handbook have been under the especial care of Sub-Editors. Dr. Berry, who has conducted the Union Notes since Mr. Sheffield left on his protracted visit overseas, will continue to do so, while Mr. Sheffield will collate material relating to the Handbook and compile Supplements for publication. Mr. Frankland, who has acted as General Editor during the recent indisposition of Dr. Pirie, continues as Associate Editor.

The Business Management, under Mr. J. Michelson, continues unaffected.

UNION NOTES

Hon. Associate Editor: Dr. T. B. BERRY, Box 31, Bryanston, Transvaal.

The Ghost Arrow.

An enquiry has been received concerning the origin of the "Ghost Arrow".

The condition takes the form of an indistinct and underinked arrow, occurring in positions not usually occupied by an arrow, on either the right or the left and/or both, vertical margins of certain sheets of stamps. The item is catalogued in Volume I of the Handbook as 47C, Cc, Cd, of the twopenny series, and in Volume II as 47C, Ce, in which edition it is also illustrated on page 37.

Through the kind, and appreciated, co-operation of the Publicity Officer, Philatelic Agency, G.P.O., Pretoria, we are informed that the "Ghost Arrow" is the resultant effect of an arrow which had been too deeply etched on a previously used cylinder with the result that when the cylinder was ground down preparatory to being replated and used again for a subsequent printing, the arrow (or arrows) was not completely removed. Therefore, the relic (or relics) of the previous arrow exists in unconventional positions on the newly prepared cylinder with the result that these impressions picked up ink to print the image of an arrow in subdued form, and so to bestow upon the sheet of stamps the extra arrow or arrows which due to its mysterious nature have earned for themselves the appropriate name of "Ghost Arrows."

Incidentally, it may be of interest to note that the depth of etching on a printing cylinder varies between .002 in. and .003 in., and that in the preparation of a cylinder for re-etching and printing, as much as .014 in. of metal is ground off its surface. The copper cylinder is then replated with copper in order to bring it back to its correct size, when it is etched, and after the etching is completed and tested, the surface is chromium plated to about .0002 in. thickness.

Each cylinder bears a number and retains this number throughout its period of usage, irrespective of what etching it is used for. Up to the present time, none of the original cylinders has been scrapped or replaced.

At one period during the printing of the stamps of the Union, the number which the cylinder bore was purposely etched on to its printing surface in such a manner as to appear on the sheet of stamps, thus giving rise to the "Cylinder Number" item which many collectors favoured.

On browsing through the two volumes of the Handbook, the re-employment of the same cylinder for different etchings may be observed, two examples of which, among others, are noted hereunder:

Item No. 50, 1/- Plate III, printed from Internal Cylinder No. 6925.
Item No. 52, 5/- Plate II, printed from External Cylinder No. 6925.
Item No. 49A, 6d. Plate IV, printed from Internal Cylinder No. 6919.
Item No. 51, 2/6 Plate II, printed from Internal Cylinder No. 6919.

"Douane" Overprint on 1d. Black Wildebeest Stamp.

Referring to our November Notes, Mr. I. Dekenah, of Klerksdorp, states that the overprint was applied to the 1d. stamp printed from Cylinder No. 12.

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The Unhyphenated Rotogravure Arrows.

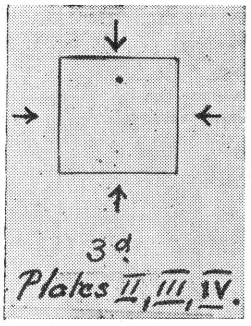
The ½d., 1d. and 2d. arrows of the Unhyphenated Rotogravure Printing are on record. It would therefore seem appropriate to record also the arrows of the remaining values of the series.

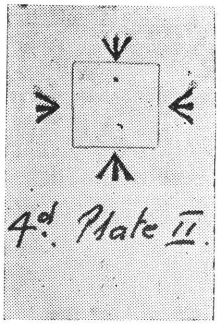
The 3d. Value.

Plate I printing bore no arrows, but each sheet contained the Control Letter "A" accompanied by a four-figure sheet number in black, twice on its right margin.



Plates II, III and IV bore the same marginal arrows, but they are in red in the case of Plate II, and in blue in Plates III and IV printings.

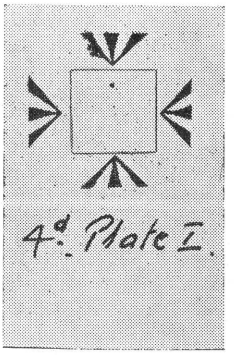


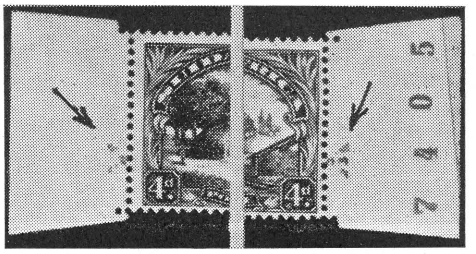


The 4d. Value.

Plate I printing bore large solid arrows, the two upper prongs of the left arrow exhibiting smudges in some issues.

In Plate II printing, the arrows are solid but smaller than those of Plate I. This printing also contained two "Ghost Arrows", one on each of the right and left margins of the sheet and situated opposiste the 17th horizontal row of stamps.





The 6d. Value.

Plate I printing was devoid of arrows, but four-figure sheet numbers appeared twice on the right margin of the sheet.

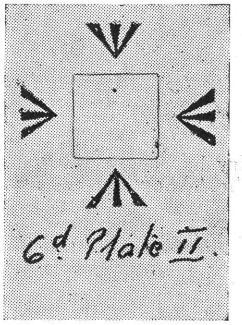
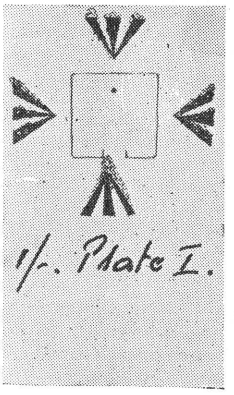
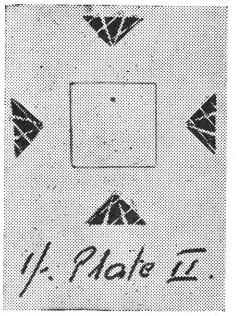


Plate II printing bore four broad arrows in addition to the sheet numbers.





The 1/- Value.

In Plate I printing, the arrows are solid, but smudgy, while those of Plate II are serrated.

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The 2/6 Value.

This value completed the series with printings from one plate which were devoid of arrows, but four-figure sheet numbers appeared in black, blue and red, twice on the right hand margin of the sheet.

The cataloguing of these arrows was made possible through the co-operation of Messrs. Sam Legator and G. N. Gilbert who placed material at our disposal and to whom we extend our sincere appreciation.

½d. Plate VIII.

Replying to Dr. Gordon Ward's enquiry contained in our November Notes, concerning the ½d. Plate VIII variety, Mr. G. N. Gilbert, of Westminster, writes that he possesses this flaw in a corner pair of stamps in the steel-blue colour which is undoubtedly Plate X printing. Examination under a glass, however, shows the flaw to be more of a slight sideways smudge, and is different in appearance to the Plate VIII flaws. He possesses also a top strip of the ½d. Plate X printing which does not contain this characteristic, thereby proving that it is not constant but pertains only to a particular batch of sheets.

The 4d. Orange River Colony Flaw.

Referring to Mr. A. L. Pettit's enquiry concerning the 4d. O.R.C. Broken Spandrel characteristic, as enumerated in our October issue, Mr. A. G. M. Batten, of London, informs us that he possesses this flaw but in the 4d., S.G. 258 item. He regrets that, as he possesses only a pair, he is not able to indicate its sheet position.

Maybe some member of the O.F.S. Study Circle will oblige?

The 1956 Christmas Stamp.

The following information concerning the 'theme' of the 1956 Christmas Stamp was kindly supplied by the Head Office of the Christmas Stamp Fund, Durban. It was received too late for inclusion in the announcement of the stamp in our December Notes and is presented now:

"The 'theme' of the 1956 Design, by using the Christmas Tree in symbolic form as the main feature of the design, the Cross and asymmetrical composition of the red border are balanced to compose the whole. The Star radiates goodwill and defines the outer edge of the stamp. As far as any further symbolism is concerned, the designer (Mr. G. E. LONDT) says there was nothing definite in his mind except to form a bold design with economy of form and colour. He also mentions that there may be many who could consider each star as representative of something, but their disposition was only dictated by the composition of the whole."

The South African Collectors Society.

An organisation known as the South African Collectors Society exists in Britain. Its membership comprises collectors of, and those who are interested in, the stamps of the Union. Its activities are many and varied, and in this respect, the London Group of the Society organised the Third All Union Exhibition in conjunction with the Society's Annual General Meeting in London on the 29th September 1956.

Information reaching the Union tells of a most successful undertaking at which our Mr. Sheffield had the good fortune to be present. The Exhibition comprised close on 500 sheets, the specialised section this year being devoted to the 1d. definitive issue bearing the van Riebeeck ship design. The attendance was good, the interest keen, and the friendly and pleasant atmosphere that prevailed throughout the day made it a most enjoyable occasion for everyone. We join in the acclamation, and offer our sincere congratulations to all those who were responsible for sponsoring the undertaking. Well done!

It is a great pity that no similar organisation as the S.A.C.S., or even a Union Study Circle exists in this country for the organised investigation and the dissemination of knowledge of the stamps of the Union, in the collecting of which so many individuals are interested, find great pleasure, and excel. Is the reason due to our favourable climate of long hours of sunshine, whereby, after the completion of the day's work, the remaining hours may be spent in outdoor relaxation, thus resulting in short evenings for the pursuit of our hobby, or is it the case of "a prophet having no honour in his own country"?

Surely something can be done to supply this long overdue requirement?

Information Required Please.

The current issue of "The Springbok" contains a short article on DOCTOR BLADE SCRATCHES. These are described as being caused by a little piece of grit or something similar getting caught by the doctor blade while scraping the surplus ink from the cylinder. The scratches run almost vertically on the sheet, vary in length, and are not constant. The article contains an enquiry which we pass on to readers, namely: Should doctor blade scratches be catalogued? Should they be reported? or should they be ignored completely?

In this connection, we also would like to know: What about "ink splashes" or "ink smudges"? Should they be collectable items? What do you think?

Apropos Doctor Blade Scratches, Mr. J. R. E. Mentzell, of Pietersburg, submits a large block of the current 1d. stamps, a portion of which is illustrated here,



where a fairly heavy ink line runs **horizontally** across the stamps in the 5th Row of the sheet. The line is doubled in the left hand side, and extends right across the sheet to the last but one stamp in the row, merging into a single line and becoming fainter until it is no longer visible on the last stamp in the row. The flaw appears in only one sheet in a batch of about 1,000, and the sheet number is 0755.

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Mr. Mentzell will be glad to know if a similar flaw has been observed by anyone else, and also to receive a possible explanation of its origin.

Mr. I. Dekenah, of Klerksdorp, referring to the change of shade of the Leopard's Head, 1½d. stamp, as reported in our Notes of March 1955, wishes to know if this dark shade is common or rare, for he has been seeking this variety for some time but without success.

Maybe some reader is in a position to assist Mr. Dekenah?

Mr. R. D. Allen, Snr., of London, writes to say that he has acquired a block of four 1d. stamps of Plate XV printing on unwatermarked paper. This item was commented upon in our Notes of September and November 1955, and we would be glad to know of any other similar items in the possession of collectors so as to be able to form some idea of the extent to which the roll of paper escaped being watermarked.

The 4d. Plate 2, London Pictorial Printing.

The Union Handbook, Volume I, page 66, lists a Plate 2 printing for each of Group II and Group III emissions of the 4d. London Pictorial stamps, and also tells how to determine Plate 2 printings by its characteristic "one thinner horizontal line below 'd'" in the right numeral value-tablet on all the Afrikaans inscribed stamps. Thus, two separate and distinct printings are recorded from Plate I and Plate 2, and collectors have been in the habit of looking upon these as such during the past thirty years.

Mr. J. Mendelssohn, of Johannesburg, has disturbed this orderly and time-honoured arrangement by exhibiting for our inspection a block of twelve 4d. London Pictorial stamps from Group III printing, U.H.B. 27C, in which specimen the upper stamps exhibit the normal horizontal line below "d", indicative of Plate I printing, while the stamps from the lower half possess the "thinner line below 'd'," indicative of Plate 2 printing. In other words, the block of 12 stamps apparently contains a combination of Plate 1 and Plate 2 printings — an alarming typographical phenomenon.

It is difficult to account for this condition with any certainty due particularly to the sparse supply of material. The specimen which is a used, lightly cancelled item in good condition, has been examined by more than one observer, and any possibility of a "diligently" joined paper, or a forgery, may be ruled out. A possible explanation has been suggested that Plate 2 never existed as a separate and distinct **Plate,** and instead it was a **worn** Plate 1 which gave the characteristic printings which are accepted as having come from Plate 2. If this is the case, it is a remarkable coincidence that the wear of Plate 1 should have been apparently selective in nature, in that the plate wore at only a particular place (line below the "d") on all, and on only, the Afrikaans inscribed stamps which comprise half the sheet.

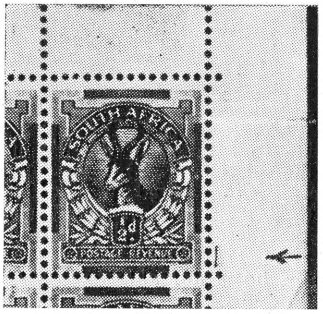
Overinking of portions of Plate 2 has also been suggested, and there may be other explanations, but the fact remains that Mr. Mendelssohn's "discovery" has confronted all Union Collectors with a problem of far-reaching effect, and one which we trust will be followed up by one and all by making a close examination of his or her 4d. London Pictorial material with a view to assisting in the solution of a major problem, the first of the New Year.

Mr. Mendelssohn is to be commended on his keen powers of observation, and congratulated upon his "discovery".

MARGINAL FLAW OF THE ½d. PLATE III PRINTING

By S. J. HAGGER

I have noticed a very curious variety in the ½d., Plate III, top right hand corner, which I have since been able to check, and find that it is constant. There is the trace of the frame of a stamp appearing in the right hand margin of the first horizintal row, as illustrated in the accompanying photograph.



Specialist collectors of the postage stamps of the Union are familiar with the trace of an extra stamp which appeared in the side margin of the sheets of the 4d. Pictorial stamp which appeared in 1937, and was in use for a number of years. This was caused by the curling over at the edge of the opaque material which had been used to mask the extra stamps on the multipositive, thus allowing the unwanted corner to be transferred to the carbon tissue, and in due course to be etched on the printing cylinder. The reason for the extra stamps was, of course, quite obvious; a two image master negative had been used in the preparation of the multipositive, and in order to have Afrikaans and English on alternate stamps, the negative was reproduced three times in the odd and four in the even rows, thus leaving ten extra stamps on each side to be masked before the multipositive could be used.

This explanation does not, however, hold in the present case as there is no doubt that a four image master negative was used in the preparation of the frame multipositive of the ½d. Unhyphenate Roto. stamp. One cannot see any reason for there being more than the required twelve frames in any horizontal row, and can only suppose, therefore, that it was done by mistake. It must be remembered that at the time this multipositive was being prepared the printing of postage stamps by the Rotogravure process at Pretoria was in its infancy, in fact it could easily have been among the first multipositives made there from a four image master negative.

I suggest that the operator of the step-and-repeat camera lost his count when reproducing

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the first horizontal row of master negatives. For this, although the negative had to appear **six times,** being the first row, it had to be moved to the right **five** times only after being positioned at the top left corner. If he did move it a sixth time, quick thinking by the operator would have brought the conclusion that there was no need to waste the multipositive as the extra frames could easily be masked, and he would have completed the work in the normal manner.

Whatever the cause, however, it is interesting to reflect that it was only by this the last time the multipositive, or that portion of it anyway, was used, that the edge of part of the masking material had curled back. Thus, in the nick of time, was the extra frame exposed, to face us with as vexing a problem as any that the Roto. stamp-printing process has so far placed before us.

REVIEWS

The Postage Stamp: its History and Recognition by L. N. & M. Williams No. A 374 of the Pelican series.

This compendium of 250 pages of text has just made its first appearance and proves to be an encyclopaedic work on the hobby of immense interest. The first part, "The Story of Stamps", after recounting the origins of stamp collecting, discusses some of the fascinations of the pursuit, gives philatelic biographies of several of the great figures of the past (not forgetting some of the rogues) and should leave no newcomer in want of a particular aspect of collecting that may appeal to him. The second part, "Starting in Stamps", helps the newcomer over many of the little difficulties where he might, unaided, go wrong; and the third part, "The Classification of Stamps", goes over the entire field and indicates some of the possible avenues down which the specialist may happily wander. The work concludes with a competently compiled glossary of philatelic terms, a short bibliography, and a copious index. Some interesting illustrations are included.

The authors are well known to existing philatelists, being perhaps the most prolific philatelic journalists of our time, and this work is an astonishing display of their erudition over all aspects of philately. We have, however, noted a few points which they would do well to correct before the second edition (the need for which we confidently forecast) is printed. In Chapter 5, discussing over-large stamps, mention is made of the surcharged fiscals of Fernando Po (SG 59/62) and the Ecuador commemoratives of the U.S.A. Constitution (SG 563/76), but the jumbo stamps of the Madagascar Consular Mail, which are much bigger, are ignored. In Chapter 7 the authors propound the curious theory that certain kinds of error seem to be associated with certain printing methods even where there is no obvious relevance. Unfortunately for the development of this notion, they proceed to reveal that they have never heard of the watermark errors on the Seychelles issue of 1952 (SG 158a et seq.) or of the Southern Rhodesia error printed on the gummed side (SG 27a), the existence of which rather demolishes the theory! A little further on it is stated that **all** examples of the Transvaal 1d. with anchor watermark (SG 274a) are postmarked Johannesburg: in fact both Johannesburg and Middelburg postmarks are known. Chapter 20 deals with Philately in Fiction, but strangely ignores that most entertaining book "Excellent Intentions" by Richard Hull (No. 708 in the Penguin series). Chapter 28 is somewhat out of date in its advice on the mounting of mint stamps. It would have been most useful advice to the novice to tell him that it is now possible to mount mint stamps **and** keep them in "unmounted mint" condition by using Hawid strips or cellulose holders such as "Crystal-Mount". Finally, Chapter 36 concludes with a paragraph on the Official stamps of Basutoland which is such a mass of inaccuracies that the only factually correct statement in the entire paragraph is that they were not on sale to the public! We recommend the authors to read our own publication, "Basutoland" by G. N. Gilbert, where they will find the correct information.

This may appear a rather long catalogue of corrigenda, but the work as a whole is so good that the few blemishes stick out like the proverbial sore thumb, and when they are corrected the book will be one that can be confidently recommended to all as a sound and well-balanced presentation of the whole subject of philately.

Stanley Gibbons' Simplified Stamp Catalogue — 1957 edition.

It is more and more frightening a task to list the stamps of the world in one volume, and this valiant survivor in the field is now extended to 1,661 pages of listing in double columns to present its ruthlessly condensed version of world philately. Needless to say, this has only been achieved by dint of dropping any form of variation by way of watermark, perforation, printing method, shade, redrawing, paper, or overprint. Just what this implies can be envisaged from the fact that in the Union list the Official stamps, inadequately covered by 81 entries in the "big" Gibbons, are pruned to 16 items and even such a major difference as the hyphenation of SUID-AFRIKA is disregarded. Whether it is worth while going on fighting what must be eventually a losing battle against the mass of new issues is a question which must be left to the customers, and they still buy the book in increasing numbers. By the time this edition appeared (it was delayed by a fire in the printing works) its predecessor had been out of print for some six months and a record printing was virtually absorbed in the advance orders. So for the time being the implacable demand must dictate terms to the publishers however faint the heart of the editor quailing before the year's chronicle of fresh material!

Philatelic Societies' Year Book — 1956/7 edition.

This annual publication has now been reissued by the British Philatelic Association. It lists all affiliated Societies and (in the United Kingdom) many which are not affiliated, with such particulars as to addresses, officers, and programmes as they provided for publication. The preambles contain some interesting comment on how to run a Society Meeting and what to shew at it.

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CAPE COLONY

THE NUMERAL BAR DEFACING CANCELLERS OF 1864

By C. R. REYNOLDS

In his book, Jurgens mentions that it is quite impossible for one man to complete a list of the numbers of these "killers" in his life time; this is quite true. But, if all collectors of Cape stamps will keep an eye open for new material, and unrecorded numbers, and submit this information to the Editor of the "S.A.Ph.," then this list might some day reach completion.

These "killers", although scorned by some Philatelists, because they are so unsightly as defacers, and more often than not spoil otherwise fine stamps are never-the-less most interesting; they are very widely distributed, and provide information about remote, and far-flung Post Offices, and Postal Agencies. A large majority of them are very common, but there are many decidedly rare numbers (especially on cover) of which but a few exist, or have been found at any rate.

The following notes and numbers are additional information in regard to these numeral bar defaces.

A. Newly recorded Numbers, complete with Place of Usage.

225. Jurgens gives this as **Smithvale.** I have two specimens of it clearly used at **Entlambe;** on one the date is Feb. 16, 91, the date is not available on the other.

299. **Keiskama Hoek.** Thick bar defacer, mark on 1d. red stamp on piece, date 4 April, 1891.

428. Jurgens records this as used in the Cape. I have a cover dated MR. 27. 93 from Campbell.

713. Unrecorded. Lang Kuil. 1d. red Hope Sitting — on piece. Date 31 MR.?

781. Unrecorded. Nieuwoudtville. On Cover dated 21 APRIL 1900.

786. Unrecorded. Spreeufontein on piece dated 4 AP. 1892.

1071. Unrecorded Mqanduli. On Cover, thin bar numeral. 8 AUG. 1900.

B. Numbers previously unrecorded, but places of usage not known.

43. On loose 1d. red King Edward O.F.S. stamp.

49. On loose stamp used in Cape.

64. On loose stamp used in Cape.

88. On loose stamp 1d. red K.E. O.F.S. stamp.

257. On loose stamp used in Cape.

263. On stamp on piece with letters ITZ . . . OP showing. Might be SPITZKOP. Pirie records 179 as Spitzkop.

264. Recorded as used in Cape. Stamp on piece and three letters . . . MBU. showing; might be QUMBU.

The following numbers, are all on loose Cape stamps (singles or pairs), so one can only say: "Used in Cape".

351, 403, 414, 443, 510, 547, 564, 599, 750, 838, 1348.

C. Name of office on piece, but number completely undecipherable.

? **Durban Road.**

?-31. **Nquamakwe.**

998 or 866. Beaufort West. On Cover, and piece.

Jurgens records Beaufort West as 866 and 998 as "Cape". This is a typical case of the difficulty presented by the numbers 6, 8 and 9; six and nine seem to be quite interchangeable and it is never clear whether 8 is standing upright or on its head. In a case such as this the one man's guess is as good as the other man's interpretation!

Griqualand West.

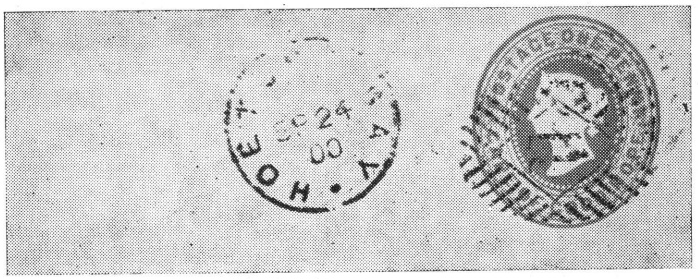
On page 100 of his book, Jurgens mentions that BARKLY might be a later name of DIAMOND FIELDS, but in a Government Gazette I have come across information which disproves this. Dated 28 May 1874, the Gazette publishes a list of Post Offices alphabetically arranged, with the days and hours, at which the mails for those offices closed at Cape Town.

The alternative names by which some towns, and P.O.'s were known, is given in brackets e.g.:—

Aliwal (Mossel Bay).
Bennetsville (Klapmuts).
Boontjies Rivier (Zuurberg), etc., etc.
So also is given:
Diamond Fields.
Klipdrift (Barkly).
Du Toits Pan.
New Rush (Kimberley).

From this it would appear that Barkly was formerly known as Klipdrift, and not as Diamond Fields.

A most interesting cover, formerly belonging to Mr. L. Simenhoff, bears a Griqualand West postmark of Jurgens Type 201 (which is recorded with numbers 1 to 10) used at **Hoetjes Bay**



in the Cape with a number 11. The 11-mark cancels a Q.V. 1d. pink stamp embossed on envelope. The place-date stamp has is very clearly dated SP 24 00, the cover being addressed to Messrs. J. C. Juta & Co., Booksellers, Cape Town.

Pirie mentions a similar postmark No. 5 as being used at Somerset West; No. 5 being unidentified so far as usage in Griqualand West is concerned.

Is it not possible, that these unidentified Griqualand West type postmarks, were directly to

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Post Offices in the Cape Colony? This seems to be a logical conclusion from the above evidence, and from the fact that after so many years only four out of the ten (now 11) numbers have been identified as to place of usage in Griqualand West.

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BIRTH PANGS OF A SPELLING
By A. SORGDRAGER

When the area formerly known as the Dutch East Indies was still under Dutch rule, High Dutch was recognised as an official language and High Dutch was used on the stamps.

During the Second World War, the Dutch East Indies were occupied by the Japanese and during those years the unrest started which culminated in the birth of the Republic of Indonesia. Malay is now the official language and is used on the stamps of the republic. It is, however, very interesting to note the different spellings of the words of Dutch origin used on the stamps.

Prof. van Selms of the University of Pretoria some years ago scored quite as "scoop" when he got hold of an Arabic script with "Afrikaans" words. This script was found in the Dutch East Indies and it is fascinating to note, on the Indonesia stamps, the "Afrikaans" trends.

At first the Japanese merely overprinted the Dutch East Indian stamps with Japanese characters (1942) but by 1943 several sets of "Greater East", "Java" and "Sumatra" stamps were issued by the occupiers. After the war, the nationalist government which tried to overthrow the Dutch rule, overprinted these Dutch East Indies and Japanese Occupation stamps with **Repoebelik** Indonesia. The oe-vowel is interesting. In High Dutch the u of a word like "republiek" is much sharper than in Afrikaans. This softer, rounder vowel is also used by the Indonesians and in those very first overprinted stamps they tried to put it into writing. **Repoeblik** did not last very long, however. The Dutch blockaded Indonesia and during those months the so called "highly coloured portrait and pictorial stamps" were printed in Vienna at the instigation of private parties. At first we find **Repoeblik** on them and then **Republik.** We also find the Afrikaans "pos" instead of the High Dutch "post." I refer to the Pos Udara and Pos Udara Expres issues printed in Vienna. During those months pres. Sukarno was widely known in the Indonesian press as pres. Soekarno but on the Viennese stamps he was already described as Sukarno. As far as I can find, the word "roepiah" was not used on those stamps, only R, but later on, on issues printed in Indonesia itself, "roepiah" was used. It seems as if "rupiah" was first used on the Building Series (1949) when Dutch rule had temporarily returned to Indonesia.

After the Viennese stamps, and before the return of Dutch rule, quite a few series were issued in Indonesia and printed in the country itself. While neither Gibbons nor the Dutch catalogues list the Viennese stamps (being produced in dubious circumstances), the Indonesian printed sets are listed in Gibbons. The Dutch catalogues, however, ignore them as The Hague did not recognise the government that ordered them.

On those Indonesian printed stamps, however, one finds some very interesting words. One finds that the Declaration of Independence was published on 17 "Agoestoes" 1945. In 1946 also, various designs were depicted in a set of stamps commemorating different happenings in different towns. E.g. Bandoeng Maret, 1946; Soerabaja Nopember 1945; Djakarta, 18.9.1945.

Today the oe-vowels have all been changed to u: Bandung, Surabaia, etc. In 1950 the Declaration of Independence again justified a set but now the date is given as 17 "Agustus." The dj-sound for the Dutch j has, however, stayed. Not only is there still Djakarta on the Pekan Olahraga Nasional set of 1951 but also Djambore on the Djambore Nasional set of 1955. The p for the Dutch f has also stayed for we find the Koperensi Asia-Afrika set o f1955 and the Konperensi Mahasiswa Asia Afrika set of 1956.

What is especially interesting to us, is the dj-sound. The Cape Malays are very well known for that sound in words like "Januarie", etc. which they pronounce "Djanuarie." Afrikaans speaking Europeans very rarely use the sound, however, and it would therefore seem peculiar to the Malays.

"Nasional" is also interesting. In High Dutch the spelling is, of course, "nationaal" but like the Afrikaners, the Indonesians prefer the more phonetic s. The same goes for "konperensi" from "conferentie".

Because Malay is now used on the Indonesian stamps, it is always interesting to find "Afrikaans" words on them. In 1946 there was the "Fonds" Kemerdekaan set, in 1951 the "Olympiade" set, and "Proklamasi" on the Independence set of 1955.

A most interesting word is "Orang" on the Untuk Orang **2** Buto set of 1956. "Orang" is a human, "oetang" (utang) is an ape. And there we find the origin of our "oerang-oetang" or urang-utan.

Indonesian stamps are not really widely collected in South Africa but they are, on the whole, beautifully designed and afford a lot of pleasure.

New French Series.

France is issuing a set of six stamps in honour of distinguished foreigners who have made significant contributions to French culture. They are Petrarch 8f, Rousseau 15f, Chopin 20f, Lully 12f, Franklin 18f, Van Gogh 30f. Petrarch and Lully were Italians, Rousseau was Swiss, Chopin was Polish, Franklin was American and Van Gogh was Dutch.

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Travelling Post Offices of Southern Africa

By J. H. HARVEY PIRIE

This article is intended mainly to illustrate, by drawings to scale, the postmarks of the various Travelling Post Offices which have operated at one time or another over the railway systems of Southern Africa.

The history of these services has already been covered fairly well in articles by the writer published in the "South African Philatelist" Vol. 16, 1940, p.186; Vol. 17, 1941, p.32; Vol. 26, 1950, pp. 88 and 166; Vol. 31, 1955, p.88; and by one in collaboration with Mr. W. Newlands, dealing particularly with T.P.O.'s in the O.F.S. and O.R.C. Vol. 32, 1956, p.168.

Short descriptions of the postmarks were given in these articles but only a few were actually illustrated. This communication shows all the main types of marks which have been seen or recorded; being to scale they speak for themselves and, except in a few cases, only very brief notes are given about them.

In most cases, although definitely not in all, if, say, an UP mark is illustrated, then it may be taken that there is a similar companion DOWN mark, and of course **vice versa.** Readers may find that they have, say a DOWN mark different from any here illustrated, but may find that there is an UP shown which is otherwise identical.

'Up' and 'Down', it should be noted, on T.P.O. marks are used as in railway parlance **i.e.** they signify travelling 'towards' or 'away from' railway headquarters of the particular section of line concerned.

A word about 'Index Letters' which are to be seen on many of the older single-circle Cape marks (ordinary P.O.'s as well as T.P.O.'s). It has been supposed that they were indicative of different postal clerks using the particular canceller, but this is not so. A. A. Jurgens (S.A. Philatelist Sept., 1944, p. 102) has shown that these letters indicated time-periods, which periods might vary from half-an-hour in the larger offices to five or six hours in smaller ones. Omission of an idex letter might sometimes be due to negligence but, in general, absence was also indicative of a time-period.

Lists have been published for several large offices showing what time-periods the letters stood for, but no such lists are known for the T.P.O.'s. In the circumstances there seems to be no point in noting the various letters recorded and all that is here said about them is "Index letters present or not present", or words to that effect.

So far as is known letters could be posted on all the T.P.O.'s; an extra fee being charged at first, but that was soon done away with. The main work done, however, was the sorting of mail so as to speed up delivery on arrival and it appears to have been usually postmarked on the T.P.O.; marks are therefore much commoner as backstamp or transit marks than actually cancelling postage stamps.

CAPE OF GOOD HOPE

The first service started in 1883, on the main line which was then being steadily pushed northward from Cape Town. At that date it had only reached Victoria West Road (now Hutchinson); as there were no other services the designation of the Travelling Post Office, and of its postmark, was simply T.P.O. or Travelling P.O. By 1885 the railway and the service extended to De Aar and Kimberley and by 1891 to Fourteen Streams. Railway headquarters being Cape Town, 'Up' on postmark signified travelling towards Cape Town and 'Down' travelling away from it.

The Notes following are numbered as the illustrations on the accompanying Plate:—

1. The earliest mark so far recorded, 29 JA 84.

2-9. Various varieties of the T.P.O. mark. Index letters may or may not be present. A variety like No. 2 is known with 'Down' only 15 mm. across, instead of 18 mm. as in the illustration. The usage of these varieties seems largely to have overlapped — possibly they were used on the trains of different days.

Types 1, 2 and 6 seem to be fairly common in 1885 and some have a stop after 'O' as well as after 'T' and 'P'. In the date the day sometimes comes first, sometimes the month. Minor errors are known, such as inversion of one or both numerals in the year, or they may be sideways. The earliest date seen of Type 4 or 9 is 21 NO 88.

10. Northern T.P.O. Used from 1890 till ? over the section De Aar to Kimberley, or possibly on to Fourteen Streams. A very scarce mark of which only the 'Up' has been recorded.

11-14. Western T.P.O. was the name given to the section between Cape Town and De Aar and this name persisted until 1950. Various single-circle types in use from 1890 till 1899, with or without Index Letters and with differences in the size of the lettering, wording arrangement, and the use of the full title or only W.T.P.O. The original undifferentiated T.P.O. mark continued in use to some extent over this section until at least 1894.

15. A special Western T.P.O. mark for registered mail (R.L.S. = Registered Letter Section). This is the only specimen recorded; it is a 'cut-out' but showing part of the embossed stamp of a registered nevelope, so it may be taken as certainly used on the T.P.O.

16. Double-circle mark, the date of the earliest seen being 27 May 99. In this type the 'Up' or 'Down' (DN) comes at the end of the date line across the centre. Nos. 2, 3, 4, 5, 6 and 7 have been recorded. This type remained in use at least as late as 1939.

16a. A scarce type of Western with "UP 1" at the bottom. Only No. 1 known. The few specimens recorded have dates in 1900 or 1903. The mark illustrated is peculiar in the Dutch 'MEI' in place of the usual 'MAY'.

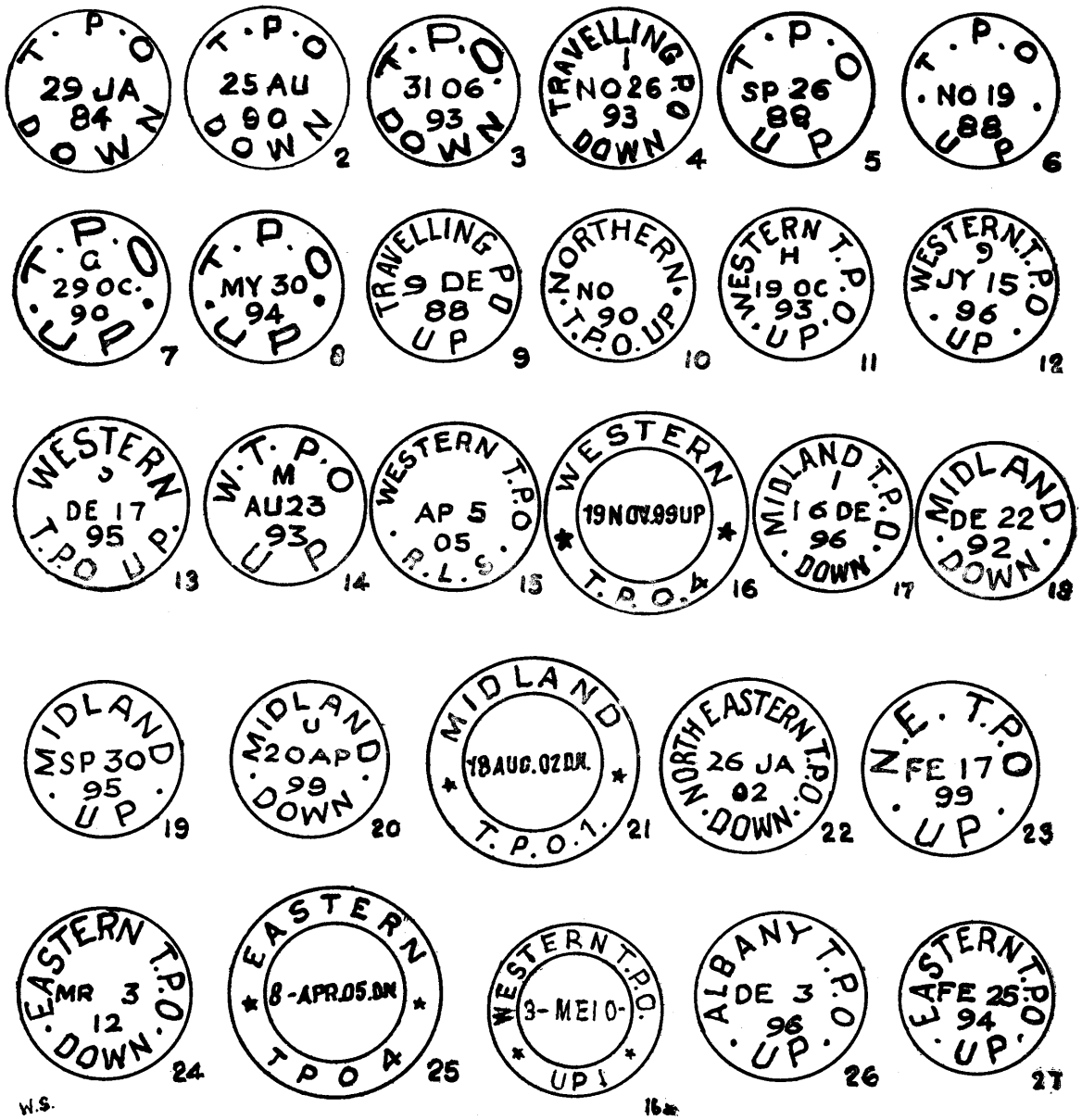
16b. A type with "WESTERN T.P.O./CAPE COLONY", date 9 Nov. 07 UP. This unique specimen has only just been found by Mr. C. R. Reynolds; it is illustrated separately as it was only seen after the Plate had been made.

The MIDLAND T.P.O., running between Port Elizabeth and De Aar, was started in

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T.P.O. MARKS OF SOUTHERN AFRICA.

CAPE OF GOOD HOPE.



1 2 3 4 5 6 7 8 9 10 11 12 13 14 15 16 17 18 19 20 21 22 23 24 25 26 27

W.S. 16a

1890 and operated until 1914; headquarters Port Elizabeth.

17-20. Marks in 1890 and 1891 are mostly in red, the only coloured ones in all this series. Some marks have 'Midland T.P.O.', others only 'Midland', but the usages of these two varieties seems to overlap considerably. Index letters may or may not be present and sometimes the indices are numerals in place of letters. There are quite a few minor varieties, **e.g.** circles 22 or 23 mm. in diameter; spacing between upper and lower letterings varying somewhat; day or month coming first in the

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date; varieties in character of the numerals in the date and the numerals sometimes sideways or inverted.

21. Double-circle type ,the earliest noted has date 21 NOV 00. Nos. 1, 2, 3, 4, 5, 6 and 7 have been recorded. No. 5 differs from all the others in being only 27.5 mm. in diameter as against 29.5; also in the date-line the 'D' or 'DN' is rounder instead of being long and thin, and there are no stops after 'D' and 'N' which, curiously enough, there are in the others.

22-23. Marks of the North-Eastern T.P.O. which operated from 1897 till 1914 over the section Rosmead Junction — De Aar. This duplicated part of the run of the Midland T.P.O., but the van was attached to a different train from the Midland one. 'Up' was running in the direction of De Aar, 'Down' in the reverse direction.

Type 22 marks are much less commonly seen than those of Type 23.

24, 25 and 27. The Eastern T.P.O. operated 'Up' from Queenstown (after 1902 from East London) to Rosmead Junction. Official information has stated that the service started in 1897, but the mark illustrated (No. 27) is very clearly 1894. As there are two other postmarks on the cover with 1894, this can hardly be an error of date, so it must be presumed that the official information has slipped up. The service closed down in 1914. Numbers on the double-circle type (No. 25) noted are 1, 2, 4, 5 and 7.

26. The mark of the short-lived Albany T.P.O. which operated for only about a year (1896-97) between Grahamstown and Alicedale Junction on the main Port Elizabeth line. Only 'Up' marks — towards Grahamstown — have been recorded and they are scarce.

The Cape had one other short-lived (1893-97) service which operated between Uitenhage and Zwartkops or Port Elizabeth, servicing the Graaff Reinet line, but as no marks of this T.P.O. have been recorded they cannot be illustrated.

(To be continued).

Important Philatelic Merger.

Robson Lowe Ltd. announce that as from 1 December 1956 the firm of P. L. Pemberton & Son Ltd. will be merged into their organization, and Mr. A. L. Pemberton will join the Board of Robson Lowe Ltd. and their associated companies.

The Pemberton publication "The Philatelic Journal of Great Britain" will not be discontinued, but in future will be a quarterly while the Robson Lowe journal "The Philatelist" continues as a monthly.

HUNGARY

Special Offer of complete or short sets from this topical country. Mostly outsize stamps, beautifully printed, and of great thematic interest. M. means "mint", U. are usually c.t.o.

1938	St. Stephen 900th Anniversary (10)	U.	1/6
1944/47	Red Cross & Blood Donors Fund (4)	U.	1/9
1945	Reconstruction (7)	M.	9d.
1946	Dove with Letter (14)	M.	1/6
1947/50	Airmails (6)	U.	1/-
1948	Inventors & Writers (7)	M.	1/6
	Insurrection Centenary (6)	U.	1/-
1950/55	Sports & Childrens Day (8)	U.	2/6
1950	Youth & Party Congress (5)	U.	1/6
	Five Year Plan (6)	U.	1/-
1950/51	Flowers (8)	U.	4/6
1951	Domestic Animals (8) complete	U.	3/6
1951/55	Budapest Buildings (11)	U.	1/6
1951	Flowers (5) complete	M.	6/6
1952	Army Day (4)	U.	1/-
	Helsinki Olympic Games complete	M.	8/6
	Airmail Triangles Birds (6)	U.	1/9
	Airmail Triangles Birds (11) complete	M.	12/6
1953	Costumes (and Lassies) (8) complete	U.	5/6
1953	Costumes (and Lassies) (8) complete	M.	15/6
	Day of the Stamp (2) complete	M.	8/6
	Woodland Animals (10) complete	U.	4/6
	Sports (10) complete	M.	14/6
	Rakoczi (5) complete	U.	3/6
	Wembley Soccer Victory (1) complete	M.	4/6
1954	Bugs & Beetles (10) complete	U.	4/6
	Famous Hungarians (7)	U.	1/-
	Famous Hungarians (11) complete	M.	8/6
	Fruits (gorgeous colours) (8) cpl.	U.	4/6
	Fruits (gorgeous colours) (8) cpl.	M.	10/6
	Child Welfare (5)	U.	1/-
	Airmails, very large (8) complete	U.	4/6
1955	Trades & Occupations (20)	U.	5/6
	Transportation (7) complete	U.	4/6
	Transportation (7) complete	M.	8/6
	Winter Sports (8) complete	U.	4/6
	Winter Sports (8) complete	M.	10/6
1956	Hungarian Dogs (8) complete	U.	4/6
	Hungarian Dogs (8) complete	M.	10/6
	Olympic Games Melbourne (8) complete	M.	10/6

Nett, postfree, c.w.o., subject unsold.

A. LICHTENSTEIN
BOX 576, BLOEMFONTEIN.

(Note: If you prefer to buy stamps priced singly, ask for my Hungarian Approval selections. References please, from new customers).

Fine Arts Philatelist.

We have received a recent issue of this American publication, which seems to be a mine of useful information for the thematelist. The address is 915 Nelson Drive, Muskogee, Oklahoma, but the price is not disclosed.

Australian Antarctica.

A 2/- stamp is to be issued in February or March for use in Australia for about three months, and subsequently being regarded as a definitive issue in Australian Antarctica. Supplies will initially be taken out by the 1957/8 relief expeditions.

YUGOSLAVIA

In September there appeared a series of nine stamps featuring the fauna of the Adriatic Sea. In value they range from 10 to 100 din. Seven of the nine are fish, the other two being respectively a nautilus and a rock-lobster. A good set for the thematelists.

CAPE OF GOOD HOPE
TRIANGULARS.
RECTANGULARS. POSTMARKS.

Extensive selections of the above are always available, as well as interesting covers and Postal History material.

References from new customers, please.

F. W. COLLINS.
STOBOROUGH CROFT, WINCHESTER, ENGLAND.

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WANTED

Collectors, interested in Union Philately, to join South African Collectors' Society. Must be prepared to meet their commitments and pay debts. Subscription 15/- ($2.25) a year includes magazine "The Springbok".

—,———

C. E. SHERWOOD,
"The Union Specialist,"
105, Marford Crescent, Sale, Cheshire, U.K.

The scheme inaugurated by Mr. Winsley at the Port Elizabeth Congress for at least 15 philatelists to make personal donations of £10 or more to our Publications Fund has been well supported, but we still need a few more to make up the minimum quota. The Federation Treasurer, P.O. Box 375, Johannesburg, will be glad to hear from all promised and intending participants early in the New Year.

The Philatelic Agency, Pretoria.

The Agency operates as part of the Publicity Officer's Department, and is now housed in Room 11, East Wing, Somerset House, Vermeulen Street, Pretoria. It is the official channel for overseas orders of Union stamps &c. but gives equally efficient service to Union collectors either calling personally or dealing through the post.

The following stock is at present available:—

Third Definitive issue (animals) all denominations.

Second Definitive issue: the 1½d. (goldmine), 4½d. (merino ram), 1/6 (aloes) and 5/- (wagon outspanned) ONLY are still available.

Booklets: the 6d. ("razor-blade") booklets ONLY are still available.

Pictorial postcards: set of 32 5/4.

Franked inland letter cards: 2d. each.

Franked Air Letter sheets: 6d. each.

Registration envelopes, prefranked with the 6d. registration fee: 9d. each.

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WARREN SMITH,
1 Arundel St., Strand,
London W.C.2 England.

SOCIETY NEWS

THEMATIC STAMP CLUB.

November 12th. Mr. C. Mummery showed his collection of "Egypt", which also included a number of sheets laid out thematically giving the history of the recent Royal House, and also points of interest in Egypt.

November 26th. This was All Members evening when the following was exhibited: Mrs. H. Jeidel "U.N.O.": F. Sinnott "Rhodesia": K. Cameron "Tanno Touva": F. Putzell "Luxembourg (modern)": C. Mummery "Miniature Sheets of Switzerland".

ROYAL PHILATELIC SOCIETY OF CAPE TOWN.

November 8th. Messrs. F. Archer and S. C. Raddall demonstrated and illustrated, with a fine talk, "Production of Stamps by Lithography."

November 22nd. Exhibitor of the evening was Mr. M. M. Alkaly who showed "Germany from 1945 to date", this being a fully comprehensive exhibit.

PHILATELIC SOCIETY OF JOHANNESBURG

On **13 November** we had two displays:— Commander C. E. D. Enoch shewed "Asiatic Number Ones", and the time is not too far distant when this Number One collection will be shewn not in Continents but in individual countries and a full display it will be in each case. The second exhibit of the evening was Mr. Markowitz's "Austrian Charities".

The **26 November** displays were:— "Errors in design, No. 2" by Mr. A. Brasch and "Union Postal Markings" shewn by Mr. K. Lydall. The "Errors" exhibit had been seen by many members at its previous shewing, but has since been rewritten and considerably enlarged. "Union Postal Markings" was a maiden shewing.

On **28 November** our President led a contingent to the Krugersdorp Town Hall where the West Rand Stamp Club were hosts. It was an All-African evening, and the following were the displays:—

Union Postal Markings — K. Lydall. British Somaliland — W. Oppenheim. Mozambique Company, used — P. Seligmann. Tunisia — S. Boss. African Number Ones — C. E. D. Enoch.

PRETORIA RAILWAY PHILATELIC SOCIETY

The usual monthly meeting of the Society was held in the Railway Recreation Club on **Wednesday, 14th November,** and was attended by 16 members and 4 visitors.

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The exhibit for the evening was tabled by Dr. C. Been who entertained us with a very fine exhibit of postally used covers and mint stamps of the Rhodesias and Nyasaland. Mr. Slater-Kinghorn commenting stated that Dr. Been had presented his collection in accordance with the modern trend of depicting the postal history of a country through the medium of covers containing postmarks from all parts of the country. The covers were in very good condition, the postmarks being clear and clean, and many of the covers depicted stamps of the Rhodesias postally used in Nyasaland and vice versa.

On **Tuesday, 20th November,** a party of 9 members of our society paid an annual visit to the East Rand Philatelic Society. Five exhibits were put on including "Zululand" by Mr. Newlands, "Australia" by Dr. Peisach, "Maximum Cards" by Mr. Capell, "Centenaries" by Mr. Kriste and "Italian Airmails" by Mr. Castignani. The visit was most enjoyable and our party was well entertained by our old friends of the E.R.P.S. whom we are looking forward to seeing on a return visit in March next year.

At the last informal meeting members were entertained by a very fine collection of maximum cards from all parts of the world that were shown by Mr. Capell.

P. M. J. McGREGOR.

PHILATELIC SOCIETY OF NATAL

The discussion set down for the evening was "Postal Cancellations" with the principal speakers being Mr. S. Maskell and Mr. J. H. Wicks. Mr. Maskell opened up by saying that he had always tried to get his collection together in used condition and when he received stamps that were obviously cancelled to order he had no hesitation in putting these into his collection. These cancelled to order copies gave one a chance of getting together a reasonably good used collection. To bring home his point of view Mr. Maskell exhibited various cancellations and asked members which they preferred to have in their collections. Mr. Maskell said that provided this practice was not overdone and that the stamp actually served its postal obligation although it was cancelled to order, then there was no harm done in including the stamps in one's collection.

Mr. Wicks said that he condemned this practise of cancelling stamps to order. He said that if one was going to collect used stamps than one must collect them with full dates of cancellation and if possible with the name of the town. Much of the cancelled to order stamps only had a very small portion of a circle in one corner and this meant nothing to the more serious collector. Under these conditions Mr. Wicks said that if one was going to collect at all then it was best to collect mint stamps. After this the discussion was open to the meeting. Mr. Walsh fully supported Mr. Wicks in regards to the postmarks. Stamps showing the full date and the place name were of great assistance in research work. Mr. Clark said that if one had to have all used stamps showing the date and place then most collectors would have to discard the best part of their collection or give up stamp collecting. Mr. Davidson said that it was not always possible for a member to have all the expert knowledge and the necessary books but by coming to these meetings and this type of discussion a collector gained a great deal of knowledge from others.

The first exhibit was a thematic one for the Maynard trophy and was shown by Mr. W. H. Winde "Fraternity in Stamps". This consisted of about forty album leaves dealing with freemasonry on stamps.

The next exhibit was the stamps of "Old Germany" exhibited by Mr. Maskell. Here was another very fine collection containing many scarce items and the best part of them postally used. The second meeting held on the **21st** only attracted 12 members, however they all seemed to enjoy themselves looking through surplus material brought along for disposal.

GERMISTON PHILATELIC SOCIETY

Report of Meeting held at the Volkskas Bank Buildings on **Wednesday the 17th October, 1956,** at which we were hosts to the Afrikaanse Filateliste Vereniging of Johannesburg.

Mr. S. J. Vermaak introduced the members of his Society and then gave the first exhibit, a representative collection of New Zealand, without the Health Issues, followed by Mr. M. V. Mioch with a large display of Indonesian stamps. The final exhibit was a collection of airmails by Mr. W. Lambert.

Mr. S. J. Hagger thanked Mr. S. J. Vermaak and the other members of the Afrikaanse Filateliste Vereniging for coming out to Germiston and wished them all success.

At the monthly meeting on **Wednesday, 21 November, 1956.** Mr. J. Burrell, of Krugersdorp, was the guest and exhibitor for the evening; he had brought along his collection of Kenya stamps. Before tabling the various sheets, Mr. Burrell gave a talk on the various items he had in his collection, explaining in detail the main points of interest.

In view of the holidays during December, it was agreed that the meeting to be held during that month would take place on the second Wednesday instead of on the usual third Wednesday.

EAST LONDON PHILATELIC SOCIETY

September. This meeting commenced on a sad note when the President made reference to the passing of Andrew Watson, Honorary Life Member of the Society, also President of the Society for two years. Mr. Shingler paid tribute to his sterling qualities and his life-long interest in the hobby and to the encouragement he gave to collectors of all ages. Members stood in silence to his memory and also to that of Mr. D. B. Albrightson, a country member.

The highlight of the meeting was Mr. Robson Lowe's tape recorded lecture (with slides) on the "Chalon Head".

October. The monthly competitive Exhibits on Early India by Mr. T. A. Harper, early U.S.A. by Mr. Leo Hellman and the Union and Australian stamps were of a high standard.

Through the co-operation of Mr. C. Selwyn Smith, whose Thematic collection of Music on Stamps had been displayed at the Port Elizabeth Exhibition, members were able to see this outstanding collection.

The President announced that the Federation had accepted our invitation for Congress to be held in East London to commemorate the Golden Jubilee of the Society in 1959.

J.P.S.

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THE

SOUTH AFRICAN PHILATELIST

PROPRIETORS AND PUBLISHERS:

The Philatelic Federation of Southern Africa

Editorial Board: Dr. J. H. HARVEY PIRIE (Chairman), J. E. FRANKLAND, Dr. T. B. BERRY, W. N. SHEFFIELD, P.O. Box 375, Johannesburg.

Business Manager: Mr. J. MICHELSON, P.O. Box 375, Johannesburg.

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UNION NOTES

Hon. Associate Editor: Dr. T. B. BERRY, Box 31, Bryanston, Transvaal.

RECENT PRINTINGS

The Publicity Officer, Department of Posts and Telegraphs, has kindly supplied the following information concerning the period 24.7.56 to 30.10.56. For the previous list, see our November issue.

ANIMAL SERIES, POSTAGE STAMPS

1d.—Job No. 134892 contd. On an order for 1,000,000 sheets of 240 stamps per sheet, an initial delivery of 19,500 sheets was made on the 6.3.56, the total delivery to date being 718,730 sheets. Same Double Die cylinder No. 3.

On the same Job No., **but from the old cylinder No. 12,** an initial delivery of 36,000 was made on the 20.3.56, the total delivery to date being 211,000 sheets.

2d.—Job No. 132269 contd. On an order for 1,000,000 sheets of 240 stamps per sheet, an initial delivery of 19,000 sheets was made on the 20.12.55, the total delivery to date being 508,790 sheets. Same Double Die Cylinder No. 20.

On the same Job Number, **but from the old cylinder No. 56**, an initial delivery of 25,000 sheets was made on the 19.6.56, the total delivery to date being 195,647 sheets.

3d.—Job No. 691 contd. On an order for 200,000 sheets of 120 stamps per sheet an initial delivery of 29,500 sheets was made on the 19.8.56, the total delivery to date being 69,600 sheets. Same cylinders, Nos. 16 Interior, and 107 Exterior.

4d.—Job No. 692 contd. On an order for 110,000 sheets of 120 stamps per sheet, an initial delivery of 6,000 sheets was made on the 29.5.56, the total delivery to date being 48,380 sheets. Same cylinders, Nos. 53 Interior and 93 Exterior.

6d.—Job No. 693 contd. On an order for 112,000 sheets of 120 stamps per sheet, an initial delivery of 15,500 sheets was made on the 14.8.56, the total delivery to date being 20,950 sheets. Same cylinders, Nos. 1 Interior, and 121 Exterior.

1/6.—Job No. 137091 contd. On an order for 63,000 sheets of 120 stamps per sheet, an initial delivery of 8,500 sheets was made on the 31.7.56, the total delivery to the date of final delivery, 7.8.56, being 57,,383 sheets. Same cylinders, Nos. 21 Interior, and 78 Exterior.

5/-.—Job No. 137092. On an order for 12,000 sheets of 60 stamps per sheet, 12,500 sheets were delivered on the 7.8.56, the final date of delivery. Same cylinders, Nos. 118 Interior and 4 Exterior.

PICTURE POSTCARDS

1½d.—Job No. 132268 contd. On an order for 2,720,000 cards, an initial delivery of 40,320 cards was made on the 22.5.56, the total delivery to date being 1,885,440 cards. Chambon Printing Machine but new cylinder for stamps.

ROLL STAMPS.

1d.—Job No. 129844 contd. On an order for 20,000 rolls of 506 stamps per roll ,an initial delivery of 600 rolls was made on the 10.11.55, the total delivery to date being 10,500 rolls. Same cylinder No. 27.

The same job No., on an order for 10,000 rolls of 1,012 stamps per roll, a total delivery of 6,300 rolls has been made to date. Same cylinder, No. 27.

CUSTOMS STAMPS

½d.—Job No. 5414. On an order for 5,000 sheets of 240 stamps per sheet, 5,000 sheets were delivered on the 16.10.56 as having been reprinted DOUANE from the same process blocks on a flat bed machine.

1d.—The same Job No.: On an order for 3,000 sheets of 240 stamps per sheet, 3,000 sheets were delivered on the 16.10.56 as having been reprinted DOUANE from the same process blocks on a flat-bed machine.

THIRD PRINTING OF THE 1d. ANIMAL STAMP.

A new printing — the third — of the 1d. Animal Series has been made from a new Double Die Cylinder No. 105—the emission having not been recorded at the time of rinting. We are now informed that the printing was initially made on the 28th August, 1956; the number of sheets printed to date is 305,324 — and that the same multipositive was used as for the previous printing.

The emission follows the style of the second printing from Cylinder No. 3, described in our Notes of October, 1955, in that the format is a two-pane sheet of 480 stamps, **issued** in panes of 240 stamps. The top and bottom margins carry the one-bar and the double-bar design respectively, and the vertical margins are devoid of smudges. The stamps and the bars are of a lighter brick-red shade than

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those of the previous printing, but the other general features such as the design, bilingual inscription, watermark, perforation, marginal arows, and fine mesh screening are all unchanged. In fact, the two printings are very similar and have no distinguishing factors except their respective plate flaws.

The Multipositive Flaws, common to the printings from Cylinders No. 3 and No. 105, and also the more prominent Plate Flaws which may be employed as determining factors of the respective printings, are enumerated hereunder:

MULTIPOSITIVE FLAWS.

A. Single-bar sheet.

Row

2— 6, Irregular line in top right-hand corner.
3— 6, Scratch between "FR" of AFRIKA.
12— 9, Inclined line through "INKOMSTE and REVENUE".
17— 5, Dot above "IN" in INKOMSTE.

B. Double-bar sheet.

1— 6, Dot below hyphen of SUID-AFRIKA.
1—10, Dot below last "A" of AFRICA.
1—12, Inclined line through hair on forehead of animal.
2— 7, Dot near top of "D" in SUID.
2—10, Heavy mark between mane and neck of animal.
3—11, Diagonal mark protruding from foot of "d" of symbol of value.
4— 2, Smudge below "S" of SUID.
17—12, Dotted line from hair to nose of animal.

PLATE FLAWS OF CYLINDER No. 105 PRINTING.

A. Single-bar sheet.

1— 4, Dot under hyphen of "SUID-AFRIKA."
4— 4, Curved scratch on first "A" of AFRIKA.
7— 1, Dot between "O" and "S" of POSGELD.
9— 1, Dot before "S" of SUID.
16 and 17—12, Inclined line on right margin, passing through the sheet number **on late printings only.** — a ready means of distinguishing this printing.
20— 3, Dot between "F" and "R" of AFRICA.

B. Double-bar sheet.

3— 9, Stroke from top of frame to second "A" of AFRIKA.
5— 7, Horizontal stroke between "1" of 1d. and "S" of SOUTH.
5—11, Dot above "S" of SUID.
8—12, Inclined line running through and above "SOUTH".
10—11, Dot on right-hand frame, 1/3 down.
12— 7 and 8, Inclined line in gutter.
12—11, Break in "S" of SUID.
15—12, Three close dots on curve of left horn.
16— 7, Blob below "S" of SUID.
18—12, "Bite" out of left frame.
20— 1, Dot in upper left corner, and prominent irregular smudges over SOUTH.
20— 2, Inclined scratch on left portion of stamp. The above flaws afford a ready means of identifying this printing.
20— 4, Stroke above "U" of SOUTH.

PLATE FLAWS OF CYLINDER No. 3 PRINTING

In our April Notes, page 58, we enumerated a few of the plate flaws of Cylinder No. 3 printing. To these we add a few more hereunder, but Mr. Eric Walker, realising the fact that the stamps of the two printings can be distinguished only by their flaws, has meticulously tabulated about a hundred of the constant flaws of Cylinder No. 3 Printing, and has placed them at our disposal. Unfortunately, lack of space prohibits recording them all in these notes, but should any reader be interested, we will be glad to make a list available, on loan.

A. Single-bar sheet.

Row

1— 1, Dot in left horn.
1— 2, Dot in curve of horn below "D" of SUID.
2—10, Dot over "O" in POSGELD.
10— 1, Dot in front of "S" of SOUTH, and dot below "UE" of REVENUE.
10— 9, Two dots over "I" in AFRICA, and two dots between "TH" of SOUTH.
11— 2, Dot right side of "d" of 1d.
20— 1, Dot between "FR" of AFRIKA, and two dots to right of ear.
20— 2, Dot below "UI" of SUID.
20— 7, Dot above horn, below "D" of SUID.
20—11, Dot left of horn, below "R" of AFRIKA.
20—12, Dot above "1" of 1d. and one dot on edge of left frame of stamp.

B. Double-bar sheet.

1— 2, Dot in curve of horn, below "ID" of SUID.
1— 7, Smudge on right-hand border of frame opposite ear.
2—12, Dot below "D" of SUID-AFRIKA.
11— 1, Dot between animal's nose and "d" of 1d.
11—11, Smudge on throat above "GE" of POSTAGE.
20— 1, Dot on left-hand margin of frame between "REVENUE" and "1d."
20— 6, Small dot under first "A" of AFRICA.
20— 7, Dot under "SU" of SUID, left-hand side of horn.
20—10, Dot in curve of horn below "D" of SUID.
20—12, Dot below "K" of AFRIKA; dot to the left of horn under "S" of SUID; dot to the left of "1" of 1d.

The flaws from the corners of the sheet and in the neighbourhood of the arrows have been especially enumerated here with a view to assist in the plating of the printing or to aid those collectors who form miniature sheets.

We express our appreciation to Messrs. G. N. Gilbert and Eric Walker for their assistance in determining the printings and in tabulating the flaws; also to the Publicity Office, Philatelic Section, G.P.O., Pretoria, for making the required material available when we "annexed" his office for two whole days during the Xmas week.

THE 1D. ROLL STAMP MULTIPOSITIVE

While investigating the new issue of the penny stamp, we took the opportunity of determining the multipositive which had been used for the printing of the 1d. Animal Series Roll Stamps, which had puzzled many collectors.

The same multipositive was used to print both the first issue of the penny stamp in sheet-form from cylinder No. 12 and the 1d. Roll

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stamps. This was possible in that the multipositive comprised 22 horizontal rows and the first two rows were blacked out for the sheet printing, while the complete multipositive of 22 rows was used for the roll stamp printing. Thus the roll stamp printing started with Row No. 1, while the sheet with Row No. 3 of the same multipositive.

Incidently, we were further informed that the multipositives of all the denominations of the Animal Series, ½d. to 10/-, consist of 22 horizontal rows; the rows which are not required in excess of 20, which comprise the number of rows on a sheet, are blacked out, and the arrows in the form of a celluloid onset are placed at the required positions on the multipositive prior to taking the imprint on the carbon tissue.

BOOKLETS AND ROLLS

The following extracts were taken from early records of the Post Office and are presented by virtue of their present-day interest:

Ex Postmaster-General's Report (Cape Colony) 1905.

"Trial consignment of Stamp Booklets ordered, each containing thirty 1d. stamps. Sold to the public at 2/7 each."

Similar sale conditions pertained to the Transvaal Booklet, but the Natal Booklet which was sold at 2/6 each, contained one penny stamp which was defaced by an overprint "NOT FOR USE", to account for the penny premium charged for each booklet.

Ex Postmaster-General's Report (Union).

"1911: Automatic Stamp (vending) Machines installed at Cape Town, Johannesburg and Pretoria.

1914: Automatic stamp machines installed at Port Elizabeth and Claremont.

1913: 1st September, Booklets each containing twelve ½d. and twenty-four 1d. stamps placed on sale at face value.

Roll stamps: In rolls of 1,200 ½d. or 1d. at face value plus 3d. per roll.

1914: Rolls of 500 ½d. or 1d. also available at face, plus 2d. per roll.

In consequence of the foregoing, the date of issue of the first booklet which is stated as "1919" on page 167 of Volume I of the Handbook, requires amending to read "1913", and similarly, the first two paragraphs dealing with Roll Stamps on page 157, should be altered to include the 1d. value in its proper sequence.

THE 2d. UNHYPHENATED ROTOGRAVURE STAMP

In an attempt to conform to a request to record the dates of issue of plate-printings comprising the 2d. Unhyphenated Rotogravure Series, we were graciously permitted, through the courtesy of the officials concerned, to inspect a Record Book retained at the Government Printing Works. This book houses a "sample" pair of block of stamps of the first printing only of the various printings as they are made, along with an entry recording the relative cylinder numbers and the date of the printing.

Unfortunately, the cylinder numbers had not been recorded for the 2d. Unhyphenated Rotogravure Series, and we were consequently confronted with the necessity of allocating the Plate Printings according to the **shade** of a pair of stamps when viewed under artificial light and without the aid of plate flaws or arrows. We were reluctant to do so, and tabulate instead only the "Date of Printing" as affixed authentically to the various "sample" pairs:

April 1931; February 1933; February 1934; August 1937; November 1937; November 1931 —the Booklet printing and indicated by a tête-bêche pair; the Roll-stamp printing was not recorded.

We would emphasize that in this series, as in many others, the date recorded in the Catalogue may not correspond with the "date of printing" for there may have been a time-lag between the "date of printing" and the "date of issue" due to the fact that after the sheets (stamps) have been printed, they are sent to the Controller of Stores where they are stored, and from which source they are issued to Post Offices etc. as and when required.

Before departing from this topic, we feel one more item needs clarifying. It is the 2d. catalogued as "38a—sepia and dull mauve, 1936-7", and is reproduced hereunder:



Mystery appears to surround this item. Its existence is by no means unknown as it figures in some collections. Its shade is correctly described, and it definitely belongs to Plate 1/A printing for its frame contains the plate flaws of Exterior Cylinder 1a printing, BUT its vignette is a printing entirely on its own, and appears to be too small for the frame as may be observed by the uncoloured areas at each vertical edge of the vignette.

Legend relates it as a colour proof submitted for approval before the actual printing of Plate I was commenced; also, as the first printing of Plate I, but due to the under-sized vignette, the printing was abandoned and a new centre-cylinder was made to print the series. But, whatever the item is, the allotted date of "1936-7" is incorrect as it is a Plate I printing of 1931 vintage.

We trust some information will be forthcoming to elucidate another of the Union's philatelic mysteries.

NOW YOU KNOW!

We are grateful to Mr. G. N. Gilbert of Westminster for the following comments in response to inquiries made in our December Notes. He writes:

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"(a) Re Mr. Selfe's query concerning the missing shading in the top row of the Bantam 1½d., I have the complete strips of the top and bottom of the two printings, and the shading is missing or partly so in the top right-hand corners of both the printings. It is not as marked as is the case with the ½d., and some stamps show less shading than others."

"(b) Re Mr. Harper's variety on the 6d. Bantam, row 3 No. 6. This is a very marked flaw and is constant."

"(c) Re the St. Elmo's Light in Plate VIII, rows 6/3 and 17/3, the fact that these flaws occur exactly eleven stamps apart in the sheet is very difficult to explain, especially when you find the same occurring in rows 2/3 and 13/3. In this printing a similar red spot is also found in the bottom margin under stamp No. 3, but I have not the material to say whether this shows up again on row 9/3, which one would expect it to do if it followed the same rotation — alowing for the space of two stamps taken up by the margin. Perhaps somebody can confirm or otherwise."

THE GHOST ARROW

Referring to the causerie on THE GHOST ARROW appearing in our January Notes, we have since been informed that the Ghost Arrow may also be formed by the "undried" ink of a sheet arrow leaving its impression on the "draw roller" which in turn transfers this imprint onto the margin of the sheet as it passes through the printing machine. Further, purple and orange-shade inks, which are slower drying, are particularly prone to this condition, and it is somewhat difficult to explain why the side arrows of the sheet more frequently leave their impression than the top and bottom arrows.

Through the courtesy of Mr. C. Clement, of Port Elizabeth, we have had the pleasure of viewing a ½d. Large War Effort Stamp, U.H.B. No. 80, exhibiting a joined-paper variety and illustrated hereunder:



It is a most interesting item in that the variety is uncatalogued, and to our knowledge hitherto not reported; also the gum to form the join of the paper is applied to the "face" or the ungummed side of the paper only, and is of a distinctive light brown colour.

Mr. Clement is to be congratulated on his good fortune in acquiring an item of this description.

Incidently we reproduce another interesting example of a paper-join purchased on a London auction.



The item consists of a complete strip of the 2dd. hyphenated stamp, Plate XII printing, and possesses a paper join, the join being indicated by a two-inch wide mark in red, probably applied by a roller, on both the gummed and ungummed sides of the paper.

Previously, paper-joins bore no distinctive mark, and in consequence many "paper-join" items escaped the alert eyes of the checkers at the Government Printing Works. To overcome this condition, the paper makers were requested to mark the joins in the above manner which not only assisted the checking process, but also made it well-nigh impossible for a join to pass undetected.

This method of marking a join was altered some three years ago in that the gum side only of the paper is now marked by the broad red band, and also red pieces of paper, about ½ inch wide by 2½ inches long, are inserted into the reel of paper, at and to mark the joins, as the paper is wound into the reel in which form it is delivered.

ERRATA

Mr. C. Clement, of Port Elizabeth, correctly points out that the following amendments should be applied to Volume II of the Handbook:

On page 51, Item 45EVd should read "Broken I of AFRIKA" instead of "Broken K".

At the top of page 54, "46" should read "46A".

A SMUTS HISTORICAL ITEM

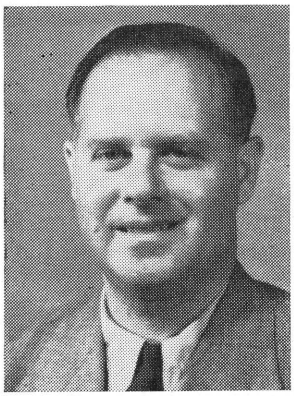
Under the heading "Philatelical Reminder of a Great Statesman" G. Harcourt describes and illustrates in 'Sanders' Philatelic Journal' of April, 1956, a cover addressed to Gen. Smuts during the E. African campaign in Nov., 1916.

This came from a captain in the Belgian forces in Muansa and has several interesting postmarks including the obsolete German mark "Muanza" and the transit mark of the Belgian Field P.O. in Kisumu.

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ROLL OF HONOUR

DR. K. FREUND



Born at Dortmund, Germany, in 1905. Studied Law at the Universities of Munster, Frankfurt, Vienna, Heidelberg, Paris (Sorbonne) and Erlangen. Received Dr. of Law degree at the last-mentioned University in 1931, for thesis on a problem concerning German Labour Law. Passed the Final Law Examination at the Justiz-Ministerium, Berlin, in 1932. Became a barrister at the Supreme Court for Westphalia in Hamm in April 1932. After a year of a successful law practice was struck off the roll with the advent of Hitler and was taken into custody by Gestapo. Settled in South Africa in November 1933 and established himself in business in Bloemfontein.

Has collected stamps from early boyhood and took up philately again in 1935, joining the O.F.S. & B. Philatelic Society. Has been a committee member of this society ever since and held various offices, including the one of Presidency. Is a member of several other philatelic societies, in particular of the "Royal" in London.

Specializes in the stamps of the Siege of Mafeking of which he has a collection in 12 albums, probably about the best of its kind in the world. He has written numerous articles on Mafeking stamps and on various other subjects in the "S.A. Philatelist" and oversea periodicals. He was one of the collaborators of the Union Handbook, Vol. I and was inscribed on the S.A. Roll of Distinguished Philatelists in 1949.

He has many other side-line collections, in particular thematic collections with original subjects, ranging from "Espionage Forgeries" to his well-known collection in lighter vein, "Pin-ups on stamps". Is Co-founder and Editor of the popular "O.F.S. Philatelic Magazine" which has run now for more than a year.

Was always journalistically inclined and used to write humorous short stories for German newspapers in his High School days. He also won a Literary Award open to German journalists in 1927.

He is keen on sport and won the Bronze Efficiency Medal of the "Reichs-Ausschuss für Leibesübungen", Berlin, for good all-round sport (Athletics, Swimming, Gymnastics), in 1930. Nowadays he concentrates on Tennis, being a regular member of a league-tennis team in Bloemfontein.

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A. LICHTENSTEIN
(B.P.A.)

Box 576, BLOEMFONTEIN.

O.F.S.
V.R.I. 3rd SETTING — THICK V's

I can now finally state that there is no sub-setting "D", as has often been stated. I have acquired a **complete sheet** of the 1d. value and it shows the following interesting details:—

The four panes were, as usual, printed one at a time. Starting with the top right pane this shows 7 thick V's, viz., stamps Nos. 5, 17, 23, 39, 45, 47 and 48, all the V's being perfect.

Next the bottom right pane — on this the 47th stamp shows signs of bad wear of the thick V.

Now I must assume that the top left pane was the next to be printed, and here in place of a thick V on stamp No. 47 is an ordinary thin V of the same fount as all the other thin V's on the sheet.

Finally the bottom left pane shows the same features as the top left.

This sheet therefore proves that the 7 thick V's were the original "A" sub-setting, and the 6 thick V's (No. 47 now being a thin V) a late stage of sub-setting "A" and not a new sub-setting "D" as presumed heretofore.

A. CECIL FENN,
F.R.P.S.L.

Uno. 3c and 8c stamps were reported as due for issue on 28 January, honouring the World Meteorological Organization.

Caspary Sales. H. R. Harmer, Inc. report that the 6th sale, consisting of the 2nd part of the U.S.A. general issues, 1861-1888, fetched $155,497. Quality was the main determining factor in prices. The 7th sale at the end of January is of Italian States.

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REVIEWS

Sieger Katalog der Flugpost der neuen Deutschen Lufthansa 1956.

This catalogue of the new German Lutfhansa flights is published by H. W. Sieger who is well known as the publisher of a catalogue of Zeppelin flights. The new Lufthansa flights began in August 1954 and the catalogue contains an almost full list of internal and external flights up to September 1956. The 28 pages are well illustrated shewing special covers and cachets used on the different flights. It is, of course, written in German; but it is very easy to follow even without a knowledge of that language. Prices are given in German marks and they seem to represent fair market values, though some of the Transatlantic flights seem to be quoted at lower prices than those at which they are usually offered. The catalogue may be obtained from P. C. Rickenback, 152 Finchley Road, London N.W.3 at a price of 3/6. Aerophilatelists will find the catalogue most useful as the listing includes flights both to and from West Germany. I.

Stanley Gibbons Two Reigns Postage Stamp Catalogue — 1957 edition.

This catalogue is a development from the sectional catalogue first published after the War to cater for the requirements of collectors who only took King George VI issues, and now covers all issues from that group to date. The original KGVI catalogue was no more than a selected reprint from the Gibbons Part I catalogue, omitting the text which was of no concern to KGVI collectors, and was usually published very soon after the annual Part I had come out, so that little in the way of price changes or later additions could be included. With the QEII issues the policy has changed: considerably more information is incorporated, and in future it is intended to publish Part I about the beginning of September, with the "Two Reigns" appearing about the beginning of December. The gap of three months between publications will actually enable the Editor to bring the second version some six months nearer being up to date as the time lag for production of the smaller work is less.

The catalogue is offered in three styles: limp cover, bound in board, and interleaved (case bound). The latter will be particularly useful for collectors who like to make copious notes in their catalogues.

The most remarkable feature of the new edition is that it appears simultaneously with Gibbons' announcement of a new price policy for mint stamps available on "face plus" terms, and is supposed to incorporate the new price structure (though we notice several instances where by oversight the old prices still remain). ½d. and ½d. stamps are now sold at 400% of face, 1d. stamps at 300%, 1½d. stamps at 267%, 2d. and 3d. stamps at 200%, scaling off to 1/6 stamps at 133% and £1 upwards at 125%.

The additional information provided about QEII stamps consists of numbers issued (where known in respect of completed issues), Sheet make-up, Plate numbers, and dates of reprintings (even where there is no alteration in shade or perforation requiring a separate listing), imprints, and booklet issues. In a very few instances (there might reasonably be many more) shades are recorded which have not been incorporated in the Part I catalogue, and this accounts for some of the weirder oddities of numbering found in Part I in the modern issues. There is, however, a felt want in the failure to improve on the KGVI listings and we feel that, for example, the pre-war and post-war printings of the Brunei 6 cents black (SG 58) should have been separated, as they differ even in format size.

Perforation changes are listed in separate blocks, which is not only much easier reading than the method used in Part I, but in many instances has the advantage of preserving the correct chronology.

There are marked inconsistencies in the manner of listing the chalky paper postage dues which in recent years have appeared in several colonies. In the Northern Rhodesia list the entry is simply dubbed "OC" without any distinction: for Gold Coast and Malta a fresh block of numbers is allocated to them: for Barbados, Basutoland, British Guiana, Hong Kong, St Lucia, Trinidad, and Zanzibar they are shewn as variants for existing numbers: and, to make matters worse, some of the last group are those marked "OC" in Part I. Some editorial tidying up is indicated here, and we would strongly recommend following the treatment of Gold Coast and Malta throughout the lists in **both** catalogues.

There is a note in obsolete wording at the end of the St Kitts list which has no counterpart in the other Leewards lists (all should have a correct note) and 93a in the Leewards list should immediately precede 94a. The present status of Sudan might also form the subject of a footnote with advantage.

In the general idea and presentation of the catalogue there is an evident desire to please and cater for the modern specialist and as the divergences from the Part I version increase so much the more does this catalogue become necessary to him. That it is obviously more conservative than its only serious competitor is not necessarily a disadvantage — for example, it has in consequence listed far fewer dubious items of the type which responsible philatelists eschew. If the editor can gradually spare the time to rewrite his KGVI section on the lines of the more recent issues this will indeed be an important work of reference.

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RECTANGULARS. POSTMARKS.

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References from new customers, please.

F. W. COLLINS,
STOBOROUGH CROFT, WINCHESTER,
ENGLAND.

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THE "MYSTERY" EDWARDIAN PORTRAIT

By J. E. FRANKLAND

In the South African Philatelist of May 1956, I drew attention to some new discoveries in the use of the two Edwardian portraits in the issues of Southern Nigeria. Additional information has since come to hand and is recorded below. Further contributions to the list will be welcomed.

Attention was directed to the fact that all Specimen stamps of the ½d. Universal Colours issue (SG 31) have the old portrait, and I put forward as a probability that the first printings of this stamp in 1907 also had the old portrait, while later printings had the new portrait. This has now been confirmed, both mint and used examples having been seen with the old portrait.

In the previous series, it was mentioned that the 2d. with pale vignette (SG 22a) always has the new portrait. The other 2d. (SG 22) has also been seen with the new portrait, although in this shade the old portrait is much commoner.

Mention was made of the other uses of the "new" portrait on the 4d. orange of Great Britain and the first ½d. of Orange River Colony. I am indebted to Nr. F. G. Froehlich of Johannesburg for pointing out certain features in the latter which suggest that this is, in fact, yet another die from the same master: unfortunately the illustration to the article was from a poorly printed example and it will be desirable to examine clearer examples before reaching a definite conclusion.

In the meantime the "new" portrait has turned up again in a context which, although of great interest, does not contribute to the chronology.

I recently acquired three essays in black for



2c, 5c and 6c stamps of Ceylon, using the standard frame (SG Types 45 and 48) instead of the distinctive designs in fact issued for these denominations. These all have the "new" portrait, whereas the "old" portrait always appears on the issued stamps.

My difficulty is to ascertain the date of production of these essays. It might have been supposed that they antedate the issued stamps — the use of distinctive designs being an arrière pensée — but this is disproved by the fact that whereas the De La Rue master die of the "common" frame (SG Types 45 and 48) was proofed Before Hardening on 12 January 1903, the 5c design was similarly proofed on 29 September 1902, which is much earlier. (The 2c and 6c were proofed on 3 March 1903 and 2 March 1903 respectively). Both 5c and 6c were redesigned in 1907, still without using the "common" frame. At what stage did someone make these essays? Were they perhaps precursors of the 1907 alterations, or do they belong to an earlier stage in the proceedings?

Expert Committee Certificates.

Editorial comment in "Stamp Collecting" of 2 November 1956 covers various aspects of this subject. Apparently some dealers have been complaining that some collectors have so little knowledge, or, at least, confidence in their judgement, that they want a certificate with any item priced at more than a pound or so. It may, of course, hold up a deal for a month or two while the desired certificate is obtained, but a dealer who knows his stuff should have few rejections: the collector who is wise enough to know the limitations of his own expertise may be in a minority, but he is to be commended for his prudence, and with some issues, unless he really has acquired the experience, the assistance of the experts may be invaluable. It is, of course, assumed that the collector will pay for his certificates: it would be unreasonable to expect the dealer to pay except where what he offered as good turns out otherwise.

So far so good, but the grouse continues, with editorial approval, to deprecate addenda to certificates which comment on the condition of the item, e.g. drawing attention to a crease or warning that the "variety" is but a fortuitous freak and not a constant item. It has evidently not been appreciated that such comment may be of much more value to the collector than the bald statement that the item is genuine, and may save him from paying too much for an item which, although in itself genuine, has blemishes or other features **of which the collector might be quite unaware** but which materially affect what should be adjudged a fair price for the item.

It has always been the practice of the Expert Committee of the Philatelic Federation of Southern Africa to make such comment in any case where it appears to be desirable.

Not so long ago we were shewn a stamp by a local dealer accompanied by an overseas certificate which did **not** comment on its condition. It was genuine, as certified, but two corners were very weak and had been artificially strengthened, which reduce the value of the stamp to about 2½% of what it would have been if perfectly sound. The Editor of "Stamp Collecting" should have heard this dealer's comments on the "experts who couldn't spot a serious defect like that" when he might appreciate that there are good reasons for these addenda, even if they do annoy those who hoped to "get away with it".

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O.V.S. COMMANDO BRIEF

Since the publication of my article on these stamps and their places and dates of usage, in the "S.A. Philatelist", October, 1955, p.182, the following nine marks have come to light, giving 3 extra towns of usage (marked with an asterisk) and 8 extra dates.

They are:—

Jacobsdal — 20 Nov., 99 (Day inverted).
*Norvals Pont — Nov. 24, 99.
Aliwal North — Feb. 10, 00.
*Warrenton — Feb. 8, 00.
*Newcastle — 15 Feb., 00.
Stormberg Junction — Feb. 19, 00.
Colesberg — Feb. 4, 00.
Kroonstad — 31 Mar., 00.
Springfontein — Nov. 8, 99.

The first two in the list are in my own collection, the last two in that of Mr. K. Sargeant, while the other five are reported by Dr. K. Freund.

A. CECIL FENN.

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RUSSIA

There has been the not unusual spate of stamps issued in October, 1956. Firstly there were seven stamps publicising agriculture in the U.S.S.R., and also nine stamps showing famous men of nine different countries; these included Benj. Franklin and G. B. Shaw.

A single stamp with a map of the Antarctic commemorated the work of the Russian Antarctic Expedition.

Two stamps marked "Builder's Day" and three more were honouring famous Russians.

SOUTH AFRICAN COLLECTORS' SOCIETY.

With a view to increasing the membership appreciably the Society is making a special offer of subscription rates for 1957.

To every member joining during that period, a subscription of 25/- for the year is offered, which will include, in addition to membership and receipt of the bi-monthly magazine "The Sringbok", a copy of Part I of the Union Handbook/Catalogue.

As this work is an essential to the Union collector it is hoped that this bargain offer will not go unrewarded and subscriptions at this advantageous rate should be posted to the Secretary, Mr. C. E. Sherwood, 105 Marford Crescent, Sale, Cheshire, U.K., without delay.

It is well known that this Society is the only one providing facilities exclusively for the collector of Unions.

WANTED

Collectors, interested in Union Philately, to join South African Collectors' Society. Must be prepared to meet their commitments and pay debts. Subscription 15/- ($2.25) a year includes magazine "The Springbok".

C. E. SHERWOOD,
"The Union Specialist,"
105, Marford Crescent, Sale, Cheshire, U.K.

U.S.A.

A 3c Children's stamp was issued on 15 December, the theme being Friendship is the key to world peace.

Six commemoratives are listed for 1957:— 11 Jan. 200th anniversary of the birth of Alex. Hamilton, first Secretary of the Treasury; 15 Jan. honouring those who helped fight Polio; later issues honour the Coast and Geodetic Survey, the 50th anniversary of the admission of Oklahoma to tatehood, the school teachers of America and another of the Wild Life series. It will be surprising if this list is not added to later.

It is interesting to note that the St Kitts-Nevis postal authorities are also issuing a Hamilton commemorative, Hamilton having been born at Charles Town on the island of Nevis.

A "FINLANDIA 56" BOGUS STAMP

There was a special stamp issue and cancellation in connection with the international exhibition at Helsinki, but the committee thereof wishes to warn collectors about a "special stamp" stated to have been used on a steamer excursion in connection with the exhibition.

This was a purely private speculative job and has no claim to be called a "special issue". The margins of the real exhibition stamp were overprinted with the name of the steamer "J. L. Runeberg" and covers with such items were posted in the steamer's post fofice.

They have since then been advertised for sale in philatelic papers. The "Finlandia 56" committee wishes to warn collectors that such covers have no official standing whatsoever.

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TWO DIES OF THE ARMS TYPE OF MOZAMBIQUE COMPANY?

By P. C. SELIGMANN

Recent examination of a number of stamps of Mozambique Company (Gibbons type 2) has disclosed variations in the design which appear to indicate the existence of two dies of this issue. No mention of this has been found in any of the available philatelic literature, and as the differences described below could be due to an extensive reworking of the original die and plates, the two types will be referred to as "State A" and "State B". The illustrations and the accompanying table show the more prominent differences; many other minor variations are to be found.

State A has so far only been found on chalky paper, perf. 11½, and no mint specimen has been seen; the stamps are postmarked **28 Mai 95 Beira** in the case of the 20, 75, 200 and 1,000 reis, while the 80, 100 and 500 reis bear the postmark **15 Jan 96 Sena.** No other denominations have so far been encountered. These facts immediately give rise to some interesting questions. In the first place, neither Gibbons' nor Ferreira's catalogue lists the 75 and 500 reis in this paper and perforation, the 80 reis being listed in Gibbons but not in Ferreira. Furthermore, while Gibbons gives the date of issue of this set merely as 1894-7, Ferriera specifically states that the stamps were not issued perforated 11½ until 1902. The cancellation dates therefore definitely indicate that Gibbons' date of issue is more likely to be correct, while the comparative scarcity, especially in the mint state, of stamps of State A (about 1 in 20 of all used examples of this design examined) adds support to the argument that State A is the earliest condition of a design which proved sufficiently popular to warrant numerous further printings for which a new die was needed. The coincidence of dates makes it seem likely, though not certain, that the stamps were cancelled to order and if this is so there does exist the possibility that the dates in the postmarks are not the actual dates on which the stamps were cancelled, which would perhaps invalidate the above conclusion.

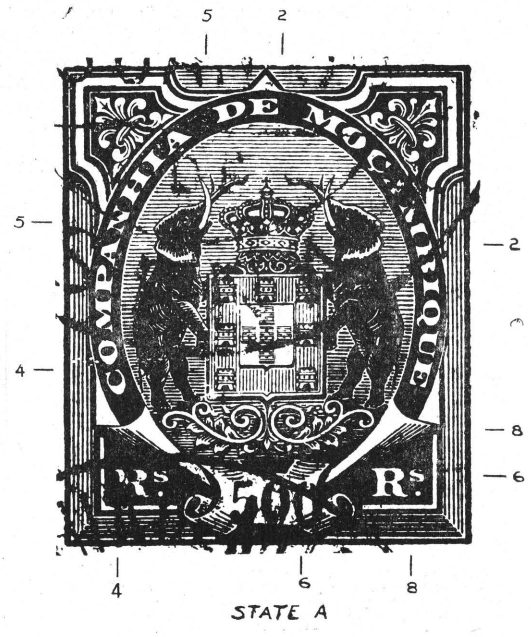
All other stamps examined proved to be state B, including the 1898 overprints and some examples of the same paper and perforation as State A. It is altogether a cleaner production, particularly with regard to the lines of shading in the background of the central portion of the design which are smooth and uniformly spaced. The earliest cancellation which the author has seen is 1897.

This note is intended only to bring to light a variety which has apparently passed undetected for some sixty years. Considerable further study and information are called for before any more definite conclusinos can be drawn, and the author will be grateful for any enlightenment.

The numbered points refer to the intersections of the numbered lines in the figures.

State A

1. The roundels (dots) on the central cross appear rectangular and ill-defined.
2. The right-hand diamond in the base of the crown has only three sides.
3. The shading in the elephant's armpit consists of a short, bold, horizontal line.
4. The letter "C" of "Companhia" has a distinct lower serif.
5. A short line of shading appears in the elephant's mouth.
6. Five lines of shading on each side of value tablet.
7. Left hand stroke of "A" is thick, and triangular dot is small.
8. There are five clearly defined lines of shading in the scroll.
9. The shading in the ornament is bold and has two clear points.



STATE A



STATE B

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State B

1. The roundels are clearer and of distinctly round shape.
2. The diamond is complete.
3. Shading consists of a dot and a thin diagonal line.
4. Letter has no serif.
5. No shading in elephant's mouth.
6. Three, four or five lines of shading.
7. Left hand stroke is thin, and dot is larger.
8. There are three or four lines, of which the uppermost is ill-defined and tapers off towards the edge of the scroll.
9. There is a single, light line of shading.

MINIATURE SHEETS

Prefatory Remarks to a Display to the Philatelic Society of Johannesburg, by Anna H. Smith

Mr. Chairman, Ladies and Gentlemen,

Permit me to start with a quotation from the 1941 edition of **Stamp Collecting for All** by Stanley Phillips. I am reading from Chapter XIII "Stamp Collecting for Women". The chapter, by the way, has entirely disappeared in the 1952 edition.

"Now stamp collecting is a very suitable hobby for women. It calls for no heavy manual work. The need for delicate handling and artistic arrangement, the attraction of miniature beauty and vivid colour contrasts, these must make a strong appeal to the ladies, who are adepts in the skilful use of their fingers and have a keen appreciation of colour and beauty" . . . "It is for women to show us how postage stamps may be used for decorative purposes, not, I beg, in the old-fashioned way of pasting them, or fragments of them, on to dinner-plates to form patterns more or less beautiful. If, however, you select stamps notable for their charm, interest, or colour, arrange them artistically on card or paper — again with such decoration as your own instinct recommends — and use these as the basis for **passe-partout** framing or for making letter-weights, etc."

I do not propose showing you decorated soup plates, stamp pictures or even letter-weights this evening, but you will no doubt think I have not progressed very far along the road of true philately, as I am displaying miniature sheets, which are very much **démodé.**

It is the British philatelist who frowns most on miniature sheets — presumably following Stanley Gibbons' lead, who ceased listing them at the end of 1937. Whitfield King, however, in 1941, found that there was sufficient interest to justify a separate section of "Miniature Sheets" in his trade lists. The United States dealer Scott lists them as well as the important French, German and Swiss catalogues. In passing it may be mentioned that the information accompanying my stamps is based mainly on the catalogues of Yvert and Tellier (French), Scott, and Zumstein (Swiss). The paucity of literature on the subject is most surprising in view of the fact that as long ago as 1920 Luxembourg issued a miniature sheet (the 15 centimes, deep carmine, of the Grand Duchess Charlotte first in sheets of 5 stamps and later 25).

Belgium, it seems, started the practice (or is it racket?) of issuing miniature sheets on the occasion of a philatelic exhibition in 1924 at the Brussels Exhibition with a sheet of four 5 franc stamps. France followed in May 1925 with a miniature sheet of one stamp for the Paris International Philatelic Exhibition. Since this date miniature sheets have been issued for most international and many national philatelic exhibitions. Except for our own JIPEX (which some philatelists may not consider true miniature sheets), Great Britain and the Commonwealth countries do not appear to have issued special miniature sheets.

In the Introduction to the 1938 edition of **Foreign Countries** Stanley Gibbons makes the following statement:

Wants, Offers & Exchange

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

NATAL, St. HELENA, GAMBIA, SEYCHELLES, SIERRA LEONE, O.F.S. I am now breaking up fine Collections including some modern. Douglas Roth, Mona Crescent, Newlands, Cape.

WANTED: Any Cape of Good Hope. Rectangular stamps with inverted wmk: One Penny (Gibbons No. 23). Used singly on cover, also in superb blocks or strips of four. — C. R. REYNOLDS, Box 105, Beaufort West.

NEW ISSUES and current Colonials at Penny in 1/- on Face. List Free. — PRIOR, 44, Warminster Road, Bath, England.

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

SWITZERLAND — Specialist and out of the ordinary items required. Write giving details and prices to B. JOSEPH, P.O. Box 9232, Johannesburg.

WORLDWIDE EXCHANGE. Details free on request. — INTERNATIONAL STAMP LAND, P.O.B. 24, Sheungwan, Hong Kong.

SPORTS STAMPS — Breaking up world wide collection Sports Stamps. Mint Sets, miniature sheets, covers from 1887 to 1951 available. Write P.O. Box 1336, Bloemfontein.

PRIVATE COLLECTION of Mint British African Colonies and Great Britain for sale. Guaranteed perfect condition. Prepared to accept reasonable cash offer. Apply DUNCAN, P.O. Noordhoek, Cape.

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"Another growing evil is the practice of issuing one or more stamps in miniature sheets on special occasions. Owing to their size it is practically impossible to use these sheets for postage and it is therefore questionable whether they should be included in a catalogue of **postage** stamps. Issued in limited quantities, they are often the medium of speculation and thus introduce an unwholesome element into the hobby. As, however, many of them are issued in connection with philatelic exhibitions, collectors must put their own house in order and cease to promote such special issues before they are in a position to criticise other emissions of the same kind." (p.ix)

To show how little philatelists have put their house in order during the intervening years since this was written, I am showing only miniature sheets associated with philatelic occasions, such as stamp days, centenaries, philatelic exhibitions and charities for postal officials (e.g. Romania and Croatia).

Although no description of the term known to me is satisfactory, I'll try my hand at defining a miniature sheet. "Sheet — to give it its widest definition philatelically — is understood to be a piece of paper bearing some stamps as it comes from the press. The word "miniature" is derived from the mediaeval Latin "miniare" to rubricate or illuminate a manuscript. As these pictures were usually small, and because of some pseudo-etymological association with the Latin "minor" and "minus", miniature came to mean a small portrait, and later anything small. It is used in this sense in the term miniature sheet, which is a single stamp or small block — 25 seems to be the maximum — with exaggerated margins. Miniature sheets are rather like those precious books Tennyson makes Merlin describe to Vivien as:

"But every page having an ample marge
And every marge enclosing in the midst
A square of text (read "stamp") that looks
a little blot
The text no larger than the limbs of fleas."
(Tennyson, "Merlin and Vivien", 1.669-672).

These little philatelic "blots" are frequently issued on special occasions as souvenirs — hence the name "souvenir sheets" used by the Americans.

Most definitions add that these miniature or souvenir sheets are usually speculative issues with little true postal value and that the purist avoids them. R. J. Sutton, among others, says this in the text of **Practical Philately,** and then, abandoning his own advice, chooses miniature sheets for the illustration on the dust jacket of his book!

So, carrying out of the spirit of our hobby, which allows every collector to do much as he pleases, collecting bogus issues, fakes — and miniature sheets, I am tonight showing you a little philatelic nonsense in the hope of bringing you some light entertainment.

The Indian Philatelist. We have received a copy of this magazine, published in Calcutta, which is still in its first volume. It has an interesting biography of Jal Cooper, the Bombay stamp dealer, who was recently given the "International Award for Philatelic achievements" by the American Philatelic Society.

LIST OF POST OFFICE CANCELLATIONS USED IN NATAL BY THE Z.A.R. FORCES
1899 — 1900

By J. D. ROSSOUW

At the request of various collectors I have compiled the following list from my collection and notes.

A. DOUBLE BORDER oval rubber canceller in violet, unless otherwise stated:—
1. Charlestown, / Date / Z.A.R.
2. Veld-Post, Z.A.R. / Date / Charlestown.
3. Charlestown, / Date.
4. Dannhauser, / Date / Z.A.R. (Red).
5. Veld-Post, Z.A.R. / Date / Dannhauser.
6. Elandslaagte / Date / Z.A.R.
7. Elandslaagte / Date. (The letters Z.A.R. and lower portion of frame missing from 12/1/00 onwards.)
8. Hattingspruit, / Date / Z.A.R.
9. Ingagane / Date / Z.A.R.
10. Ingogo, / Date / Z.A.R.
11. Ingogo, / Date.
12. Keerstation, / Date / Z.A.R.
13. Veld-Post, Z.A.R. / Date / Keerstation.
14. Modderspruit / Date / Natal Lager, Z.A.R.
15. Natal Lager, Z.A.R. / Date / Modderspruit.
16. Mount Prospect / Date / Z.A.R.
17. Veld-Post, Z.A.R. / Date / Mount Prospect.
18. Waschbank, / Date / Z.A.R.
19. Wesselnsnek, / Date / Z.A.R. (This should be Wesselsnek).

B. METAL CIRCLE cancellers in black, unless otherwise stated:—
1. Dannhauser. Single circle (violet).
2. Dundee. Single circle (violet for first day, 22/10/99, cancellations only).
3. Dundee. Double circle.
4. Good Hope. Double circle.
5. Good Hope. Single circle.
6. Hattingspruit. Single circle (Violet).
7. Hoofdlager. Double circle.
8. Ingogo Rail. Double circle.
9. Nqutu Zululand. Double circle.
10. Van Reenan. Double circle.

C. MOVABLE RUBBER cancellers in violet unless otherwise stated:—
1. Charlestown / V.P.K. Z.A.R.
2. Charlestown / P. Z.A.R. (blue).
3. Colenso, Date.
4. Telgr. Ktr / Elandslaagte / Date.
5. Veldpost Z.A.R. / Glencoe, / Date.
6. Veldpost / Glencoe, / Date.
7. P.K. Z.A.R. / Glencoe / Date.
8. Hoofdlager / Ladysmith / Date.
9. Hoofdlager / Ladysmith / Date. (In fancy style).
10. P.K. Newcastle Date.
11. P.K. NewCastle. / Date.
12. P.K. Newcastle / Z.A.R. / Date. (Z.A.R. between large asterisks).
13. P.K. / NewCastle / Z.A.R. / Date.
14. P.K. Newcastle Z.A.R. Date.
15. P.K. NewCastle. / Z.A.R. / Date. (Z.A.R. between small asterisks).
16. P.K. / NewCastle. / Date.
17. Veldpost, Z.A.R. / NewCastle. / Date.
18. Newcastle / Date.
19. Modderspruit / Date.
20. Waschbank.

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SOUTH AFRICAN SEALS FOR THE BLIND
A CHECK LIST

By **Drs. J. W. Harris** and **K. Freund**

(Reprinted from the O.F.S. Philatelic Magazine, May number).

The "Blind" Seals of South Africa are no less worthy of being collected by Union specialists than the better known Christmas ("Tuberculosis") and "Easter" ("Cripple") seals. They are after all also "mail" matter which, though not pre-paying postage, is supposed to be stuck on envelopes. The Postmaster-General has in each case granted permission for the sale of these "stamps", as they are called on the booklet covers.

They are certainly very interesting and colourful, and we are therefore surprised that no record of them has been kept or appeared anywhere yet. As is usually the case of similar seals of large institutions, not even the head offices of the institutions seem to have bothered to keep any records of their seals. It remains therefore with the much maligned philatelists to bring their records up to date in this regard, just as it has been done in the case of the Christmas seals.

In the following, we are giving for the first time a check list of those few items which we managed to collate so far. We shall be pleased to hear of any additional items which could be included in this list.

---

(1) **1941.** — Issued by the **Worcester School for the Blind** (Section of the Deaf and Blind Institute, Worcester). — 1d. Jubilee Labels.

Design: Child's Head with closed eyes in circle. — English wording: "School for the Blind. Jubilee 1891-1941. Deaf and Blind Institute Worcester". — Afrikaans wording: "Skool vir Blindes. Jubileum 1891-1941. Dowe en Blinde Instituut Worcester". — Two value tablets "1d." in bottom corners.

Colours: Green, orange, white and black.

Panes of 6 Labels, with the following unusual set-up: **3 Afrikaans Labels form the top row, 3 English Labels form the bottom row of a pane.**

Perf. 10. — Narrow margins surrounding the pane.

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(2) **1954.** — Issued by the **S.A. National Council of the Blind.** — Silver Jubilee Labels. — Date of issue announced as 23.8.1954, but we have a cover from Worcester datestamped 20.7.1954.

Design: The famous painting **"Hope"**, by G. F. Watts (1817-1904) which hangs at the Tate Gallery, London. — "Hope", blindfolded and with a lyre in her hand, sitting on the globe in the dim twilight of the world, "strives to get all the music possible out of the last remaining strings". — This beautiful allegory is the masterpiece of an artist who sought in all his works to "appeal to the imagination and the heart, and kindle all that is best and noblest in humanity".

Colour: Chocolate-brown.

Wording: "Silver Jubilee" — "Silwer Jubileum" — "1929-1954", and Name of the Council.

Panes of 6 unilingual Labels each **(separate English** and **Afrikaans panes).** A pane of each language contained in a 1/- booklet.

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AIR MAIL NOTES

By I. H. C. GODFREY

AIR LETTER/AEROGRAMMES

Union of South Africa: A hitherto unrecorded Aerogramme form has come to the notice of the writer and this was apparently first used as long ago as September, 1953. The sheet is almost identical to the current Union issue, which was also brought into use that year, but instead of being on blue paper it is greenish-grey and has a space, surrounded by simulated perforations, for an adhesive stamp. All printing is in grey.

At the bottom of the address panel are the words, in Afrikaans and English "Printed under Government Printer's Copyright Authority No. 1162 of 9/4/53" and Afrikaans preceeds English in all texts on the sheet. This form is still in use by a large Banking concern and is solely utilised, apparently, for advising their overseas branches of currency drafts which have been drawn.

Although unofficial, interest is added to this item by the fact that authority to print private Air Letter/Aerogramme sheets was withdrawn by the Government when the first unfranked issue was placed on sale at the principal Union Post Offices in 1955.

Kenya, Uganda and Tanganyika. It is understood that an illuminated Air Letter sheet is being issued for the festive season 1956/7 but at the time of writing specimens have not arrived.

NEW AIR MAIL SERVICE — JOHANNESBURG — KHARTOUM — LONDON

4th December, 1956 . . A **South African Airways** Douglas DC7B left Jan Smuts Airport at 3.40 p.m. on Tuesday, 4th December, and reached London Airport at 1.15 p.m the following day on a new scheduled 21-hour flight, with one stop only — at Khartoum. **South African Airways'** covers have been seen bearing Jan Smuts Airport postmark of the 4th December but apparently none received London backstamps. The plane was piloted by Cat. Ken Jones, A.F.C.

The return flight was accomplished in the record time of 18 hours 25 minutes, but, according to the pilot this time could have been bettered by half an hour .

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British Overseas Airways will introduce their long-heralded **"Britannia"** turbo-prop (The "Whispering Giant") aircraft on the London—Johannesburg service as from February 1st, 1957 but the actual flight schedules have not yet been announced. The operating Company will be issuing commemorative covers as souvenirs of the first south and north-bound flights.

BLUE (AIR MAIL) PILLAR BOXES

Coinciding with the opening of the Express Air Service to London on December 4th, 1956, the Postal Authorities erected South Africa's first Air Mail pillar-box (blue) in the heart of Johannesburg's business centre the same day. Mail posted in this particular box is now conveyed direct to Jan Smuts Air Port, instead of via the local G.P.O., thereby effecting an appreciable saving of time.

This innovation is, paradoxically, a retrogressive step in Air Post History as more than a quarter of a century ago — on June 23rd, 1930 — similar blue pillar-boxes were installed in London and on that date Great Britain used her first regular airmail postmark. Some eight years later — August 1st, 1938 — these blue pillar-boxes were demolished as being redundant, for at that time ALL first-class mail was sent by air as the normal means of transport to destinations within the British Empire and Commonwealth at the ordinary rate of postage.

A MAYFLOWER MONOPOLY

Most of our readers will be aware that about mid-1957 a replica of the "Mayflower" sails for America from Southampton and Plymouth, as did the original with the Pilgrim Fathers in 1620. The vessel is to be presented to the American people.

She will carry mail and the British P.O. has sanctioned a special postmark. There has been considerable outcry however in the British Philatelic Press when it became known that to get this special cancellation one had to buy special covers, and these could only be obtained from one particular firm of stamp dealers at a price about 18 times the face value of the stamps required on the covers.

THE V.R.I. THICK V SETTING VARIETIES
(Concluded)
By S. G. LAURENCE

(Reprinted by permission from the O.F.S. Study Circle Bulletin).

Finally we come to the last Sub setting "C". That the same type as for sub setting B was used is apparent by the same damaged type being found, but its rearrangement was haphazard.

The quantity of stamps receiving Sub Setting B overprint would seem to have been sufficient to last several months, at least I have found no dated postmark on an undoubtedly Sub Setting C variety prior to 1001.

SUB-SETTING C

To save repetition, I am recording in the 1st state only below, the constant varieties, **within the Sub-Setting,** in capital letters.

1st State 1d. Value.

THICK "V". Position Nos. 30, 37, 43, 54 and 58.

THICK "V" AND DAMAGED LEFT SERIF. Position No. 12.

TOPS OF "V" AND "R" DAMAGED. Position No. 2.

BROKEN RIGHT ARM TO "V" AND level and larger stop after "V". Nosition No. 6.

SHAVED TOP TO "R". Position No. 17.

Large thick comma after "I". Position No. 28.

Clipped and pointed serif to "R". Position Nos. 38.

SHAVED FOOT OF "V". Position No. 39.

CLIPPED SERIF TO "R" AND SLIGHTLY CURVED LEFT ARM TO "V". Position No. 40.

Wide space between "V" and "R". Position No. 41 (left hand panes only).

NOTCH IN RIGHT ARM TO "V". Position No. 48.

NOTCH IN "I". Position No. 60.

2nd State. 1d. Value.

This differs from the first state in that the level stop after "V" (No. 6) is replaced by a raised stop, but there is now a level stop after "I" (No. 14). Further, the varieties in positions 28 and 41 mentioned above have been corrected, but now the stop after "R" (No. 2) and the stop after "I" (Nos. 5 and 49) have sometimes not printed; the "R" (No. 39) has become faulty; also the top of "I" is sometimes slightly battered. (No. 51).

3rd State. 1d. Value.

This state differs from the preceding one in that the stop after "I" (No. 14) has been corrected, also the "R" (No. 38) and "I" (No. 51); the serif to "R" (No. 18) has become clipped; sometimes there is a comma after "I" (No. 21), the stop after "R" (No. 42) does not always print; and furthermore there is no left serif to "V" (No. 55).

4th State. 1d. Value.

Very similar to the third state except that:—

1. Sometimes the loop to "R" is broken and top part of "I" is missing. (No. 5).
2. Slight break in right arm to "V" (No. 14) (left hand panes).
3. The top serif to "I" is almost missing (No. 37).

5th State. 1d., 2d. and 3d. Values.

Similar to the previous states except that on the penny value there is no tail to "d" (No. 33). On the 3d. value the bottom loop to "3" is shaved (No. 23), whilst on all three values the "I" (No. 37) with the top serif almost missing has been replaced by an inverted "1", and "R" and "I" (No. 39) are damaged at the foot.

Upon checking the above with my listing of varieties on pages 66/70, it will be seen that all varieties known by me to have occurred in this Sub-Setting have been accounted for with the exception of the following. If any reader has a pane showing any of these varieties or any varieties which I have not mentioned, I will be pleased to hear from him.

1. Thick "V" and small top serif to "I" 1d. value.
2. No stop after "I" (Position No. 4) 1d. value.
3. Small comma after "I" (Position No. 52) 1d. value.
4. Thick "V" and no stop after "R" 1d. value.
5. Thick "V" and no stop after "R" and "I" 1d. value.

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SOCIETY NEWS

THE PHILATELIC SOCIETY OF JOHANNESBURG

11th December. We were overjoyed to have back with us our good friend, Mr. Sheffield, who gave us a most interesting report on his journeys overseas, and the many philatelic meetings he had enjoyed, noting with glee not only that the stamps of the Union have a wide and eager following in England, but also that our experts on them are treated with an equally eager hospitality. And we had four displays of ten pages each on this Members' Evening which made up in outstanding quality and interest for the rather disappointing number of displays. First prize went by public vote to Dr. Kaplan's fine array of "Great Britain Pennies". Mr. Seligmann came second with his "Mozambiques", but Mr. Buchen's "Israel Field Posts and Prisoner-of-War Items", and Commander Enoch's witty "Ten Little Nigger Boys" came close on the heels of the winners.

W.H.

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PRETORIA PHILATELIC SOCIETY

5 November, 1956. Commander Enoch, ably assisted by Dr. von Varendorff, came over from Johannesburg to entertain us on this occasion. He commenced his programme with an intriguing quiz which was won by his companion, Dr. von Varendorff; Mr. Wright, of the local members, being second. Thereafter Commander Enoch read a very interesting paper on his exhibit which was "Asia — Number Ones". The exhibit was brimful of interest and we learned a lot of little known things about Philately.

19 November, 1956. Ds. Berry and Reisener entertained us on this evening. Dr. Berry exhibited Pretoria Printings from the London Plates of the Union Typographical Issue. Dr. Berry's exhibit covered a large number of printings and printing flaws. There were miniature sheets, panes, offsets and perforation errors in abundance and the whole exhibit was right up to Dr. Berry's standard. He apologized for its incompleteness, but with the wealth of material shewn nobody took his apology very seriously.

Dr. Reisener gave a very interesting talk on the "Inflationary Period in Europe after the 1914-1918 war". The talk was illustrated by an exhibit of German stamps, stamps from German States, the Saar and other European countries.

3 December, 1956. This was President's night. He had arranged a surprise exhibit, was let down at the very last minute, and had to call on the following three stalwarts who rallied round magnificently.

1. Mr. Newlands — who shewed part of his wife's "Switzerland" from 1930 to date and which included the Pro Juventute issues complete.
2. Mr. Bottomley — who shewed two complete countries, the "United Nations" and "Pitcairn Islands".
3. Mr. E. C. Wright — who brought his collection of "Newfoundland" and some lovely St Vincent "Queens".

Obituary.

It is with deep regret that we have to record the deaths of Baron von Ahlefeldt, an Honorary Life member, in East London on 28 November, 1956, and Dr. Wasserstein in an air crash in San Salvador on 12 December, 1956.

E. MANVILLE-FORD.

THE PHILATELIC SOCIETY OF NATAL

December, 1956. The first meeting held on 5th December attracted a fair attendance. The exhibit of the evening was a non-competitive one displayde by Mr. Appleby and consisted of a selection taken from his collection and called through the Alphabet. It was indeed a very well written up and set out exhibit.

The second meeting was held on the **20th** again only a few members turned out no doubt due to the weather which was threatening and

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a storm breaking over the town during the late evening. However the few who were there managed to obtain a few items for their collections. We hope that in the New Year more members will make use of this evening.

Natal Centenary Exhibition

The Philatelic Society of Natal will be holding an Exhibition in the Natal Provincial Hall, Acutt Street, Durban on June, 3rd, 4th, 5th, 1957 to commemorate the Centenary of the Natal Postage Stamp.

GERMISTON PHILATELIC SOCIETY

12th December, 1956. The last meeting of the year was largely devoted to discussing the programme for the next year, with the view of eliciting members' needs. Emphasis was placed on the need to encourage novices, and the Chairman, Mr. S. J. Hagger, offered a prize for the best exhibit by a novice. After some discussion, it was agreed to hold future meetings on the third Thursday of each month instead of Wednesdays, as that day appeared to clash with other activities.

The exhibitor for the evening was Mr. B. Eilers, who tabled the Bavarian section of his vast collection of Germany. Though lacking in a few of the earlier items, mainly paper varieties, the collection was most comprehensive.

R.F.G.B.

EAST LONDON PHILATELIC SOCIETY

The November meeting was fairly well attended and the showings of the Competitive Display covered Israel, Transvaal, Basutoland and India.

The President gave the meeting details of the preliminary decisions made in connection with Congress and the National Exhibition to be held in East London in 1959, the year of the Society's Golden Jubilee.

The December meeting as usual was not well attended owing to the clash of dates of various Christmas functions. Mr. Harper provided a fine display of Continental Imperf Issues and also of Cape Triangulars.

Farewell was taken of Mr. J. V. Jensen, who is making his home in Durban in the New Year. The President paid very well deserved tributes to Mr. Jensen's active membership of the Society over a period of 12 years, in particular of his presidency of the Society and Chairmanship of the National Exhibition Committee in 1948 when East London's Centenary was celebrated and Congress was held here. Mr. Jensen stated how much he had enjoyed belonging to the Society and the friendships he had made and looked forward to similar associations in Natal.

Mr. Feros showed some interesting Union varieties and the competitive Display for the year was concluded.

J.P.S.



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PORT ELIZABETH PHILATELIC SOCIETY

18th September, 1956:

Mrs. C. Smits astonished members with a magnificent display of "Zoology on Stamps". Each page was a complete little work of art, with a nice balance between the stamps themselves and the write-up.

6th October, 1956:

No meeting. P.E.N.A.P.E.X., however, provided our members with ample entertainment!

16th October, 1956:

Master Charles Deacon was presented with the cup he had won at PENAPEX for the best display in the Junior Competitive Exhibition. After tea Mr. Pearson tabled all the Q.E. issues emanating from African territories. A delightful exhibit, proving that the art of tasteful printing is not yet dead.

6th November, 1956:

Mr. F. W. A. Knight displayed his "U.S.A." and "Netherlands", both of which were mounted on specially printed sheets. Practically complete, these exhibits were noteworthy for their fine copies of most of the early issues.

20th November, 1956:

A welcome visitor was Mr. W. N. Sheffield, who brought with him good wishes from Unions enthusiasts overseas. A short but spirited symposium was held, the topic being "The advantages and disadvantages of the 'Planned' Album".

4th December, 1956:

President's "At Home." Mr. Berg tabled his delightful display of "Horses on Stamps (and Labels!)", and this, together with plenty of informal and animated discussion, afforded us a most enjoyable and relaxed evening's entertainment for the last meeting of the year.

THEMATIC STAMP CLUB (CAPE TOWN)

December 10. Capt. M. F. Stern, the President, exhibited his collection of Israel, which included the precursors and first day covers.

M.F.S.

ROYAL PHILATELIC SOCIETY OF CAPE TOWN

In view of the festive season, we only had one meeting in December, on the **13th,** when our President, Mr. W. G. Combrink, presented an extremely interesting collection of Tasmanian Pictorials. Before giving a talk on his stamps, Mr. Combrink explained that his main reason for this collection was the similarity in the course of production of these stamps and those of earlier South African, in as much as they were initially printed in London and subsequently in the relative country. The workmanship of the latter was decidedly inferior to that of London printers. For instance, with the London printings the watermark was always in position and the perforations constant, whereas the local printings were not.

J.H.

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THE
SOUTH AFRICAN PHILATELIST

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UNION NOTES

Hon. Associate Editor: Dr. T. B. BERRY, Box 31, Bryanston, Transvaal.

Gelatine Flaws

A series of excellent articles, entitled "Fundamentals of Philately," by Messrs L. N. and M. Williams, appear in the July to October issues of **The American Philatelist.** The articles deal with the various procedures comprising the gravure process of intaglio printing, are clearly and concisely written by obvious experts, and make not only interesting, but essential, reading for anyone who is interested in the production of stamps by this method.

Attention is drawn to technical errors which show up as flaws in the completed stamp. In this respect, frequent references are made to these flaws occurring, among others, on the stamps of the Union, two of the best known of which are referred to here:





(a) The "Phantom Ladder" flaw of the 6d. issue, listed in the Union Handbook as No. 49Vc, is stated to have been caused by the accidental thinning of the gelatine of the carbon tissue, for example, by a slight gouge resulting thereby in local over-etching of parts of the horizontal lines of the background in the affected area.

(b) The "Broken Yoke-pin" flaw of the 5/- stamp, catalogued in the Handbook as No. 52Vd, is claimed to have been caused by a gelatine shift — that is, a portion of the gelatine of the carbon tissue breaking away from one part and being deposited on another part of the design, resulting thereby in unwanted colour appearing on the stamp at the place from which the gelatine was removed, and an absence of colour at the place where the gelatine is deposited.

Applying this description of a gelatine shift to the Broken Yoke-pin flaw, the authors state that the place from which the gelatine was removed can be seen in the form of a coloured (black) mark immediately above the left-hand figure of value, and this piece of gelatine lodged on the cylinder coincident with the yoke-pin, filling what was a depression in the gelatine, and so resulting in a seeming break in the design — the broken yoke-pin.

This description of the Broken Yoke-pin flaw appears to express a theory directly opposed to that held by Mr. A. Hilton Sydow in his article entitled "Gelatine Shifts Portrayed on Certain Rotogravure Stamps of The Union of South Africa and Southern Rhodesia," published in the October 1950 issue of the S.A. Philatelist. Therein the author states: It sometimes happens that during the procedure of stripping paper bases from gelatine resists certain portions of the stamp design images in the gelatine are dislodged from the copper surfaces and inedvertently removed, displaced and etched some distance away from their desired and correct locations anent the design. For the purpose of this causerie they are termed "Gelatine Shifts." The article then continues to deal with the Broken Yoke-pin flaw, and reads inter alia: In all instances where the frame and vignette were printed more or less in register the broken portion of the yoke-pin which is a "gelatine shift" is found located in the left-hand value tablet immediately above numeral "5" of 5/-.

Thus if our reading of the text is correct, it indicates that the portion of the gelatine corresponding to the yoke-pin broke away from its original position, leaving an uncoloured area indicative of a broken yoke-pin, and assumed a new position above the "5" or 5/- indicated by a black mark — the transposed Broken Yoke-pin.

As flaws due to a "Gelatine Shift" are by no means uncommon items of the stamps of the Union, we have reproduced at length two authentic but apparently diametrically opposed opinions on this condition with a view to eliciting such information as may dispel any erroneous ideas and eliminate confusion in the minds of collectors.

Which is correct, or have you some other theories on the "Gelatine Shift" flaws?

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Some Characteristics of the Hyphenated Rotogravure 2d. Stamp

Two plate characteristics of the Hyphenated Rotogravure Twopenny Stamp have been responsible for much friendly discussion among those who are concerned over the printing of this issue. These characteristics, illustrated here, are:—

(a) The figure "2" touching the enclosing circle, catalogued as Plate V printing on page 133 of Volume I of the Handbook, and



(b) The "Thinned inner top frame (Plate VIIc)," catalogued as 47cV1 on page 135 of Volume I, but amended to read "Broken frame (Plate VIIIb)" in Volume II of the Handbook.



An explanation of these conditions was sought from the Government Printer, through the courtesy of the Publicity Officer, Philatelic Section, G.P.O. Pretoria, who replied that both these plate characteristics were caused by the doctor blade dipping into the relative recesses on the printing cylinder and dragging the ink out of them.

The following explanatory notes will elaborate the condition: The blade which removes the surplus ink from the surface of the printing cylinder is a thin, flexible, sharp steel strip, backed by a stouter strip and secured in a stout steel clamp forming the base, by means of which the complete assembly, known as the Doctor Blade, is fixed into the printing machine. The blade is ground to a snug fit to the surface of the printing cylinder, and exerts pressure on the latter by means of springs — thereby fulfilling its scavenging action by leaving ink only in the recesses on the surface of the printing cylinder.

The doctor-blade has a reciprocating action across the surface of the revolving printing cylinder, and in the case of **screened** printing, it may be set parallel to the long axis of the printing cylinder as the "ridges" of the etched recesses of the design act as "doctor-blade rests" and form a guide to it in its movement across the cylinder.

In the case of **Screenless** printing, the above doctor-blade rests do not exist, and so to prevent the blade dropping into the recesses etched into the printing cylinder, the doctor-blade (among other considerations) has to be set at a particular angle to the long axis of the printing cylinder, the angle varying with the size of the stamps which are being printed. If a very sharp blade is used, or if the angle of the blade is such that it could dip into any etched portion of the design, ink would be dragged out of that recess.

Such a set of conditions pertained and resulted in the plate characteristics under consideration: The frame portion of the stamps were printed by screenless gravure. The angle of the doctor-blade happened to be set at just that particular angle where it could dip into and remove the ink from particular recesses in the cylinder, thus resulting in uninked portions of the printing cylinder which showed up as "the 2 touching the circle" and the apparent "broken inner frame line." There was nothing wrong with the actual etching of the cylinder, or with the multipositive, nor was a worn cylinder used.

Incidentally, our inquiry bore further fruit in that we were kindly supplied with information concerning other aspects of the 2d. Hyphenated Stamp:

Many students of this stamp are concerned over the multipositive which had been used to print the 2d. Hyphenated Issue bearing the photographic vignette and catalogued as Plates V to VIII in the Handbook. Grave doubt existed if the same multipositive could have been used in the preparation of the emissions from Plates V, VI, and VIII due to the fact that the "2" of Plate V printing touches the enclosing circle. This doubtful condition has been cleared up, and we are able to state, that the same multipositive was used, not only for the preparation of Plates V, VI, and VII, but also for that of Plate VIII, in consequence of which the following multipositive flaws, among others, may be recorded for these four printings:

Row

3 — 2, A very tiny purple dot in the sky under "RI" of AFRICA. Does not show up well in Plate VIII printing.

4 — 6, A faint purple dot in sky, just left of and over the left hand tower. Does not show up well in the late printings from Plate VII.

6 — 2, Dot in right leg of first 'A' of AFRIKA.

10 — 6, Tiny dot over "I" of AFRIKA.

18 — 2, Small white spot in top right-hand corner of frame.

Further information was also sought concerning the number of sets of cylinders which had been used for the printings of Plate VII, and in response thereto, we were informed that only one set of cylinders, Nos. 8/21, had been used to print all the emissions from Plate VII of the 2d. stamp.

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This statement is not in accordance with the revised listing given in Volume II of the Handbook, but we feel sure, now that this further information has become available, the cataloguing of the 2d. Plate VII will be investigated anew.

LISTING OF SHEET NUMBERS.

Referring to Mr. M. J. Rall's comment, contained in our Notes of July 1956, that only sheet-number pairs be catalogued which assist to distinguish printings, Mr. C. Clement, of Port Elizabeth, writes that he is in agreement with Mr. Rall, particularly in the case of short-lived Commemorative Issues where the collection of sheet-number pairs is justified only by convention, but he feels that in the case of the Animal Series, "Sheet Numbers" should be catalogued in more detail than at present. All the large format denominations have changed from 5-figure black numbers to 4-figure red (the 4½d. still is to change) and with this change in numbers there has often been other significant change: e.g. Multiple-beat perforator instead of single-line comb; change of shade; disappearance and/or appearance of varieties etc. In years to come, the sheet numbers may have to be relied upon in determining these changes whereas control or arrow blocks will not help.

Continuing, Mr. Clement pleads for the more extensive cataloguing of plate flaws and "fly-specks" as a means of distinguishing the various printings, particularly of the early (and scarce) material, and in support of his contention, reports that the 3d. Rhino stamp, Row 6/2, has a constant flaw in the form of a white break in the bottom frame below the second 'A' of AFRIKA.

PLATE FLAWS OF THE 1d. CYLINDER 105 PRINTING.

Due to the co-oeration, which we acknowledge most gratefully, of Messrs. G. N. Gilbert, Eric Walker, and C. Clement, we are in a position to supply, on application, a list of the constant plate flaws of the 1d. Cylinder No. 105 printing.

INFORMATION REQUIRED, PLEASE.

Mr. A. J. Brown, of London, commenting on the ½d. Typographed Roll Stamp, writes:

I was interested to read the account of the discovery by Mr. Malan of the London roll stamp with inverted watermark (Union Notes, June 1956). Besides the inverted watermark, however, what interested me was the date of this pair — 27th December 1933, and the mention that these were purchased at Durban in 1933. I recently came across a number of used pairs of London rolls (with normal watermark), all with 1931 dates. It is evident therefore that a supply of these was available in vending machines long after the Pretoria printings had been made for roll machines. Unfortunately I have never come across any Pretoria vertical pairs definitely identifiable as from rolls; can you tell me whether they exist with machine guillotined perforations like the London rolls? Or were they like the 1930 rotogravure rolls that followed, which as far as I know were only separated by hand? In which case how can anyone tell that they are from rolls?

Mr. J. H. H. Chamberlain, of Durban, would be grateful for information concerning the status and purpose of the overprint "R" appearing on some of the Q.E. II Northern Rhodesia stamps. He is in possession of a ½d. item (S.G. 53) bearing this overprint on the lower panel and enquires what the purpose of a ½d. denomination would be if the "R" does indicate "Revenue."

Messrs. J. Sanders (Philatelist) Ltd., of Southampton, would be glad to receive information concerning the printing flaw running through the right hand numeral "3" of the stamp illustrated:



The flaw has not previously been recorded, nor are we able to trace a similar item in the collections of our immediate associates. It is probably a non-constant flaw but please check your collections with a view to assisting in this matter.

THE 1957 CONGRESS AND EXHIBITION

The Philatelic Federation of Southern Africa will hold its next Congress at Paarl from October 23rd to the 26th. The Paarl Philatelic Society will be the Host Society and will stage a National Exhibition from the 22nd to the 31st October in conjunction with the event. No details are available at present but we understand preliminary arrangements are well in hand with a view, we are sure, of making the occasion most successful and an outstanding event in Paarl's Tercentenary Celebrations.

Meanwhile, readers should look to their collections and the planning of a combined family and philatelic holiday in one of the most beautiful and attractive areas of the Cape Western Province. Enquiries of whatever nature may be addressed to The Exhibition Committee, Paarl National Philatelic Exhibition, P.O. Box 60, Paarl.

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REVIEWS

The Transatlantic Mail by Frank Staff. Published by Adlard Coles Ltd., 7 Brunswick Place, Southampton, England, price 47/6 post free.

This book of 158 pages of text is a monumental record of research into the Postal History of the North Atlantic routes right back to the early 17th Century. It is primarily concerned with the Canadian and American mails to and from Great Britain, and touches only on the early period of the West Indies mails, which are rather closely connected. As the author says himself, the later history of the West Indies mails is sufficient for another book; and if he will in due course be persuaded to write it, it will be another most valuable contribution to the literature of Postal History. The South American mails are outside the scope of the book altogether.

The author has been careful not to perpetuate incorrect information previously published and wisely deals where possible by reference to the contemporary public announcements and letters on file in the archives. These are generally reproduced verbatim and in many instances illustrated. The earliest is a Proclamation issued by Queen Elizabeth in 1591, the wording (and spelling) of which is a delight.

A very full record of the vessels concerned, classified under their services, with subsequent history, must have entailed immense labour to construct. The services to and from Germany and France are also covered so far as they impinge on the main subject. In addition to two maps there are many illustrations throughout the book and two copious indices conclude the work.

This is a major work of great importance in a subject which is only now receiving the study and research it deserves, and this publication is sure to prove a great encouragement to those collectors who were meditating embarking on maritime postal history, but wondered how and where to begin.

Bermuda — The Handstruck Stamps and Cancellations — by M. H. Ludington. Published by Robson Lowe Ltd., 50 Pall Mall, London S.W.1, price 16/- post free.

This 40-page book deals in a very capable way with the Postal History of Bermuda (of Perot fame) in relation to the postal markings in use from the earliest times to the present day. It is profusely illustrated, with a good map indicating the source of all marks, and a supplement, which runs out into the back cover (which unfolds for the purpose) giving the author's valuations of the items listed, and a useful summary of types and a check list of the Post Offices. The quotations are necessarily tentative, but clearly indicate the much enlarged interest nowadays taken in Postal History as such.

The book has been developed from a series of articles published in 1939, with, of course, the addition of much information since discovered, and the edition is limited to 500 copies.

Anglo-Boer War specialists will find pages 32 and 38 of interest.

German Philatelic Review — Vol. 4 No. 2 dated August 1956 — published by Peter C. Rickenback, 152 Finchley Road, London, N.W.3 at 3/6.

In spite of the last war the German "philatelic group" (that is, the German States, the kingdom, republic, and subsequent components of Germany, the overseas colonies, agencies, and the military occupations) has not undergone any setback: on the contrary, there has been a marked widening of interest through so many allied forces and later civilians becoming interested in these issues and continuing to develop their collections after returning home. This circumstance has led to the publication of this work, which is in English, and contains a wide variety of good specialist articles with excellent and copious illustrations on art paper. Some of these articles are translations of research work recently published elsewhere; others are written primarily for the Review. In this particular issue there are articles on the Inflation postmarks, Plebiscite issues and postmarks of Marienwerder, German soldiers' letters pre-1914, and the latest research on the 1945 issues of Saxony (Eastern Zone). A publication of this high standard is a most valuable guide to the English speaking collector and will greatly enhance his specialized knowledge of the stamps and postal history of Germany.

J. v. V.

Jornal Filatelico — published monthly by Alberto Armando Pereira, Av. Antonio Augusto de Aguiar 13, Lisbon, price 10/- per annum.

United Nations Philatelist — published monthly by A. Terins, 1948 Second Avenue, New York 29, U.S.A., price $3 per annum.

It is not often that we have the pleasure of welcoming new contemporaries and it must be many a long day since we had this pleasure in respect of two publications in the same issue.

The Portuguese paper is attractively prepared with good illustrations and already has an impressive display of "small ads" which may interest overseas readers on the lookout for philatelic contacts.

The American paper is also well got up and will prove a valuable help to collectors of the United Nations stamps, which appear to be suddenly booming at the present time.



Whether you live in the **Arctic** or on the **Equator**, you can still **take part in our AUCTIONS** from your **own armchair** — our own special postal bidding system helps you to make successful bids. **Send NOW for illustrated cat. (9d. by airmail).** Our auctions are held every three weeks and the yearly subscription by airmail is only 8/-. All types of material included in our sales — early and modern — Br. Col. and Foreign.



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'Stamped' His Way Round The World

By ELIZABETH MANNING

When Brigadier P. J. Parsons, of the Salvation Army, retired some 12 years ago, he had only his pension and some used stamps that he had paid little attention to, but which paved the way for him to travel round the world three times and to acquire a handsome fortune through gaining a deep knowledge of philately.

When he retired, he was amazed to find through a casual acquaintance who had gone through his collection of stamps, that it was of value, and he and his wife were highly delighted when it fetched £1,120. With the money they bought a seaside cottage in Sydney. When his wife died five years ago, feeling lonely and lost without her, he sold the cottage for £4,000, and has since then travelled round the world three times. During his travels, he acquired a knowledge of stamps, and collected all that he felt would prove profitable: his collection is now valued at more than £10,000.

Brigadier Parsons, now aged 77, has led a varied and colourful life. His father had earmarked him for a university career followed by a profession, but he had different views, and, at the age of 14, ran away from school and joined the British Army. He left that, after a while, to become in turn, a policeman, cow-puncher, railway mender, telephone engineer, clerk, manager of a departmental store and an army chaplain.





Talking of stamps reminds us that at this time of the year, Easter Stamps are on sale at post offices, at schools, on the streets and in many of the larger shops. What organisation is at the back of the sale of these stamps, and for what purpose are they sold? This goes back to the year 1937 when Lord Nuffield, after a first-hand survey by Professor Girdlestone, gave £10,000 towards the development of orthopaedic services in South Africa. This handsome sum of money was used to establish the framework of "Cripple Care" in this country and it is no exaggeration to say that this gift advanced, by many decades, the progress of orthopaedic services and the treatment of the disabled in the Union and South West Africa, for this gave birth to the National Council for the Care of Cripples in South Africa.

The money given by Lord Nuffield was a splendid gift, but services begun must be maintained, and, equally important, expanded, thus the National Council decided to hold a campaign, a fund-raising campaign, every Easter, to assist in this vital work and the first was held in 1944 and brought in £6,760; the 1956 campaign realised £35,178. (How gratifying it is to notice the amazing climb this fund has made within the comparatively short space of 12 years). Who has to be thanked for this? The public, of course, who have come forward in the most magnificent way every year to give their contribution to a cause they realise is one of the most worthy for it is to help cripples to help themselves.

It is the dream of the National Council to spread a network of hospitals and clinics all over the Union so that even the tiniest dorps and the remotest rural areas are able, when occasion arises, to have these facilities, the facilities that may mean life instead of death, and a strong, sound body instead of a maimed, disfigured one.

Easter Stamps this year will be sold as from 1st March—14th March, and sales will continue for several weeks. They cost a penny each and are sold in booklets of 12. Will you help to 'stamp' goodwill and good health throughout the length and breadth of the country by supporting this magnificent national effort?

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27, Maiden Lane, Strand, W.C.2, England.

Change of address.

Evidently Johannesburg is not the only place where old buildings are giving place to new, and Harris Publications Ltd., of London are the latest victims of the housebreakers, having had to move to new premises at 27 Maiden Lane, Strand, London, W.C.2.

Correspondents.

Mr. Georg Jahreis, Höhenringweg 28, Stuttgart, Germany is looking for overseas correspondents for himself and friends and even publishes a breezy little 6-page journal "Der Jungsammler" to further this object. He is particularly interested in encouraging junior collectors to establish contacts with collectors in other countries.

FANTASTIC ERROR IN DESIGN.

Errors in design are no novelty but Italy's 25 lire stamp issued in May to mark the 50th anniversary of the Simplon Tunnel, must be about an all-time record for errors. The stamp shows a horse-drawn coach, which never travelled over the Simplon pass; the train has a steam locomotive, though actually it was electrified from the outset; two tunnels are shown, but the 2nd only came into use 17 years later; the trains keep to the left, but the one on the stamp is on the wrong line.

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Travelling Post Offices of Southern Africa

By J. H. HARVEY PIRIE

(Continued from page 10 of January issue)

O.V.S. and Z.A.R.

In May, 1894 the Cape T.P.O. services were extended northwards into the two Republican territories by an inter-state service operating from Norvals Pont to Johannesburg.

The initial arrangement was that Cape postal officials worked the section from Norvals Pont to Bloemfontein and Z.A.R. officials the section Bloemfontein-Johannesburg.

From 1 Jan., 1895 the Z.A.R. took over the working of the whole service from Norvals Pont to Johannesburg, but in 1899 they limited their distributing service to between Kroonstad and Johannesburg. Presumably the O.V.S. took over the remainder, but as to this there is no official information available.

A fuller account of these, and of the O.R.C. services, is given in a paper by W. Newlands and the writer, in the "S.A. Ph." of Sept., 1956, p. 168.

28. Mark probably introduced by the O.V.S. postal authorities when the Z.A.R. gave up distributing mail in 1899. There is a companion R.P.K. ZUID mark known but both are very scarce, Usage lasted a little while after the outbreak of the Anglo-Boer War in 1899.

29. The mark used on the Cape-operated section from May to December, 1894. I have not seen any companion 'Southern' mark, but the 'Northern', although rare, is known on mail going southwards as well as on mail going northwards, so it is possible there was no 'Southern' mark. 'Northern' may merely have been indicative of a northern extension of the Cape services, not an indication of direction of travel. (Since this was written, however, C. A. Fenn, in his booklet "O.F.S. Postal Markings" reports a "Southern" mark — MM. 1ba, p. 43).

30-32. Marks of the Z.A.R.-operated services 1894-99. Fairly common both as transit marks and cancelling stamps (O.V.S. or Z.A.R.) stamps. 'Terug' (Back and 'Heen' (Away) are equivalent to 'Up' and 'Down' as Johannesburg was railway headquarters.

In Types 30 and 31 the date may or may not have a small capital letter before the year figures. In Type 32 (only known with 'Heen') the lettering is smaller and there are fancy marks in place of asterisks between the upper and lower letterings.

BRITISH ARMY T.P.O.'s

During the Anglo-Boer War period the British Army operated T.P.O.'s over various railway routes in 1901 and 1902.

33. On the run between Pretoria and Komatipoort. There was also (not illustrated) an East No. 2 on the same run.

34. The EASTERN T.P.O. replaced the earlier 'East No. 1' and 'East No. 2'. Marks with Index Letters A, B, and C have the date in a single-line; those with D, as illustrated, have the date in two lines. (Note. Index letters in these Army marks very likely do indicate different operators, not time-periods as in the old Cape civil marks).

35. MIDLAND T.P.O. which ran between Germiston, or Pretoria, and Naauwpoort where it linked up with the Cape civil T.P.O.'s. Index letters A, B and C.

36. NORTHERN T.P.O. operating between Pretoria and Pietersburg, index letters A and B. A scarce mark.

37. WESTERN T.P.O. operating between Klerksdorp and Johannesburg, very scarce. No Index Letters. Short vertical dashes, in place of the usual dots, after T, P, and O.

In all these Army marks the day or the month may come first in the date.

O.R.C. and TRANSVAAL

Civil T.P.O. services re-started north of the Orange River in September, 1902. In addition to the ordinary (probably 6 days a-week) service there was a T.P.O. on the express once-a-week train run in connection with the European mail boat.

38. A mark fairly commonly seen cancelling O.R.C. stamps but not so far recorded as a transit mark on cover. Nos. 1, 2 and 3 known. The companion 'South' mark has only been recorded from one specimen.

38a. A much scarcer type, only one specimen each of it and of the companion 'North' being known.

40-44. Various types of the Transvaal T.P.O. marks, of which Nos. 1, 2, 3 and 4 have been recorded; also of the special 'European Mail' marks. 'Up' marks of all are very much commoner than 'Down', the few 'Downs' I have seen being cancelling Transvaal K.E. stamps, whereas the 'Ups' are all transit marks on cover. ('Down marks probably occurred mainly on mail going overseas, hence comparative scarcity here). The Registered mark is a transit one on a registered letter from the U.S.A. to Johannesburg. There are not the usual dots after T and P but this may be due simply to light application of the mark.

NATAL

39. A one-way service between Germiston and Newcastle for sorting the European mail, although local mail was picked up to some extent en route. It was in operation from 1893 to 1899 and again from 1902 till about 1910.

A fuller account may be found in the "S.A. Ph." of May, 1955, p. 88.

CAPE OF GOOD HOPE

TRIANGULARS.

RECTANGULARS. POSTMARKS.

Extensive selections of the above are always available, as well as interesting covers and Postal History material.

References from new customers, please.

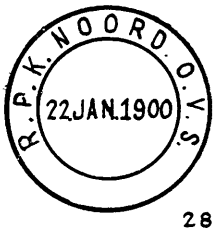
F. W. COLLINS,

STOBOROUGH CROFT, WINCHESTER, ENGLAND.

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T.P.O. MARKS OF SOUTHERN AFRICA

O.V.S.



28



29

Z. A. R.



30



31



32

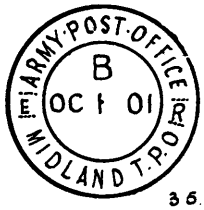
BRITISH ARMY



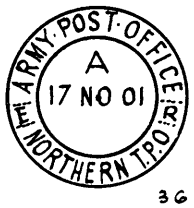
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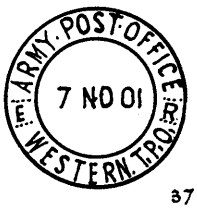
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35

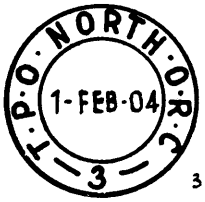


36



37

O. R. C.



38



38a

NATAL

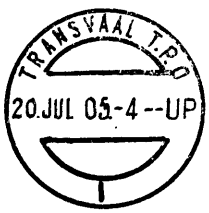


39

TRANSVAAL



40



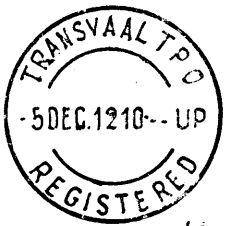
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A.W.D.

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THE DELIGHT AND REWARD OF DISCOVERY.

By the late Clarence W. Brazer, D.Sc.

Stamp collectors who read philatelic literature eventually learn most of what is now known about the stamps as issued and used, and as catalogued. Those with an inquiring mind, by which the aged are kept young in spirit, have two sources of further historical information about their stamps. Both of these most interesting wide open fields of study have many opportunities for the student to discover unknown facts about stamps. There are still many virgin territories for pioneer research in each of these philatelic areas, that are a delight to the real philatelist in search of thrills from discovering some things heretofore unrecorded and probably unknown to others. The first of these fields, chronologically in the life of a stamp, is the inception or birth of the design of a stamp as shown by its essays, trial colour proofs and normal colour proofs printed prior to printing of the stamps. Also the experimental proofs made to try improvement of the stamp during the period of issue or by patented ideas to prevent reuse of the stamp for postage or revenue. These are entrancing! The other field which is now popular is at the final end of the stamp's use, as shown by postal markings on the stamp on covers. This paper is about the first field.

The study of progress die essays shows us how the artist gradually improves his engraving. These essays are rare and more valuable than proofs, as they are nearly unique as only made to show the engraver the progress made prior to their printing, and cannot again be printed after further engraving. Trial colours printed before being numbered, especially die prints, provide a fine opportunity to find unfinished essays. Hence unfinished die essays are worth finding, and a rich reward as well as establishing an expert's reputation when exhibited and published.

Any branch of philately is interesting to one who wants to know, as long as there is anything to be learned and found by study, especially if not previously published. Many proofs still exist in full sheets or large blocks. Thus the sharp eye has a field to study the individual positions on the plates as made by hand and thus variable, such as guide lines and position dots, shifts and multiple transfers and re-entry or re-engraving of certain positions on the plate. These are especially attractive with bi-colour revenue proofs as position dots, etc. generally appear for both colours. From these studies, stamps may be found to match the proofs and complete the plating, providing the student his greatest delight and reputation.

When the stamp engraving in finally completed and approved, the design may not be altered or added to. It becomes the certified standard with which any variations or counterfeits are to be compared. Generally the contracting stamp producers, prior to 1894, then added a die number and their name as an imprint under the design. The die is then hardened and cannot be changed with an engraving burin. Thus any die print without a die number or imprint should be studied by comparison with one so imprinted or known to be a late print to ascertain whether it is an unfinished essay and more valuable than the finished and approved engraving from which proofs may be printed as long as the die exists.

(Reprinted, by permission, from the Essay-Proof Journal, October 1956 issue).

V.R.I. OP'TS ON O.F.S. THICK "V" WITH LEVEL STOPS

In our December, 1956 issue, page 215 a paper was published by Mr. S. G. Laurence, under the title "A Rare Setting". He there describes the occurrence of thick V's, 2½d. on 3d., with stops level.

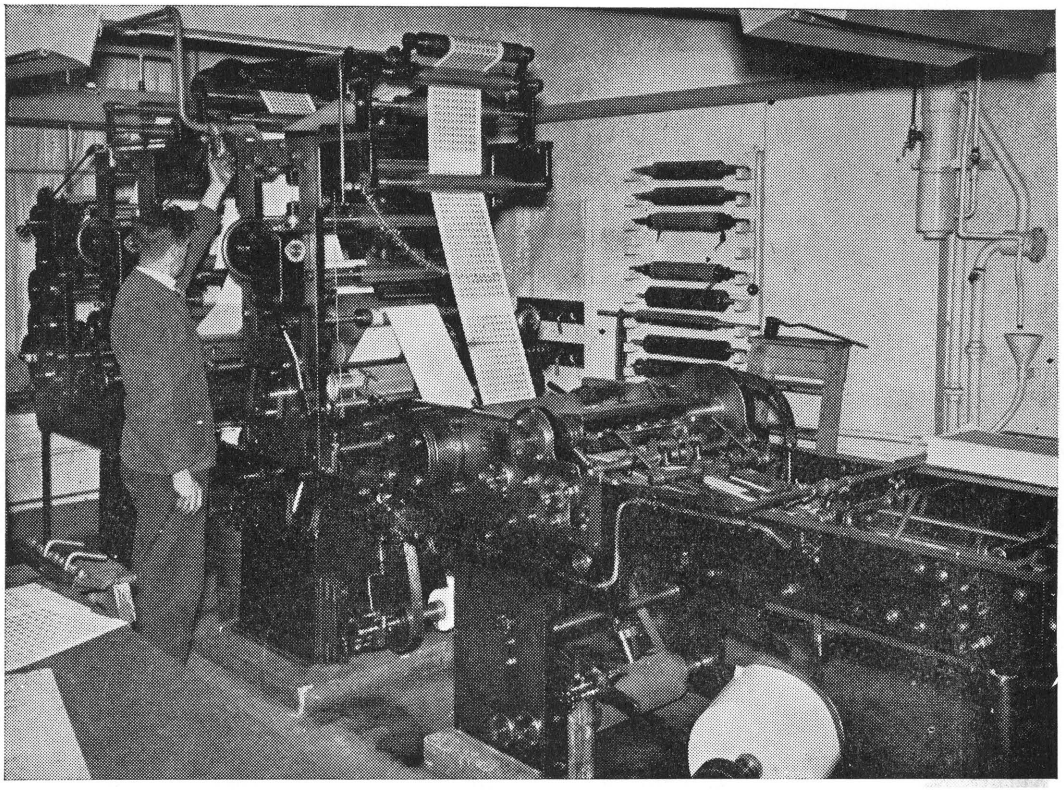


Mr. Laurence now sends a photo of the block of nine, showing one thick V and another stamp with the shaven top to the R. This block has been passed by the Royal's Expert Committee as genuine, but with the qualification that it probably was "a clandestine or unofficial subsequent printing". He does not entirely agree with this finding and pertinently asks "On the evidence supplied how can it be proved that the printing was unofficial; or for that matter disprove it?"

In his accompanying letter he states that since writing his original article he has seen Dr. Moseley's collection in the British Museum and has found in it a pair of the V.R.I.'s 2½d. on 3d., both with level stops and one of them with a thick V. They are used on piece, apparently from a registered cover.

There are now 4 of these thick V's known with level stops; if a complete pane received this overprint, then 2 more may be in existence, if all have survived.

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THE PRINTING OF POSTAGE STAMPS IN THE NETHERLANDS.

In 1866 the Netherlands Postal Services decided to entrust the printing of postage stamps and other securities to Joh. Enschedé en Zonen Grafische Inrichting N.V. of Haarlem. This arrangement has continued unchanged and for some 90 years, therefore, all Dutch postage stamps have been produced by this printing works.

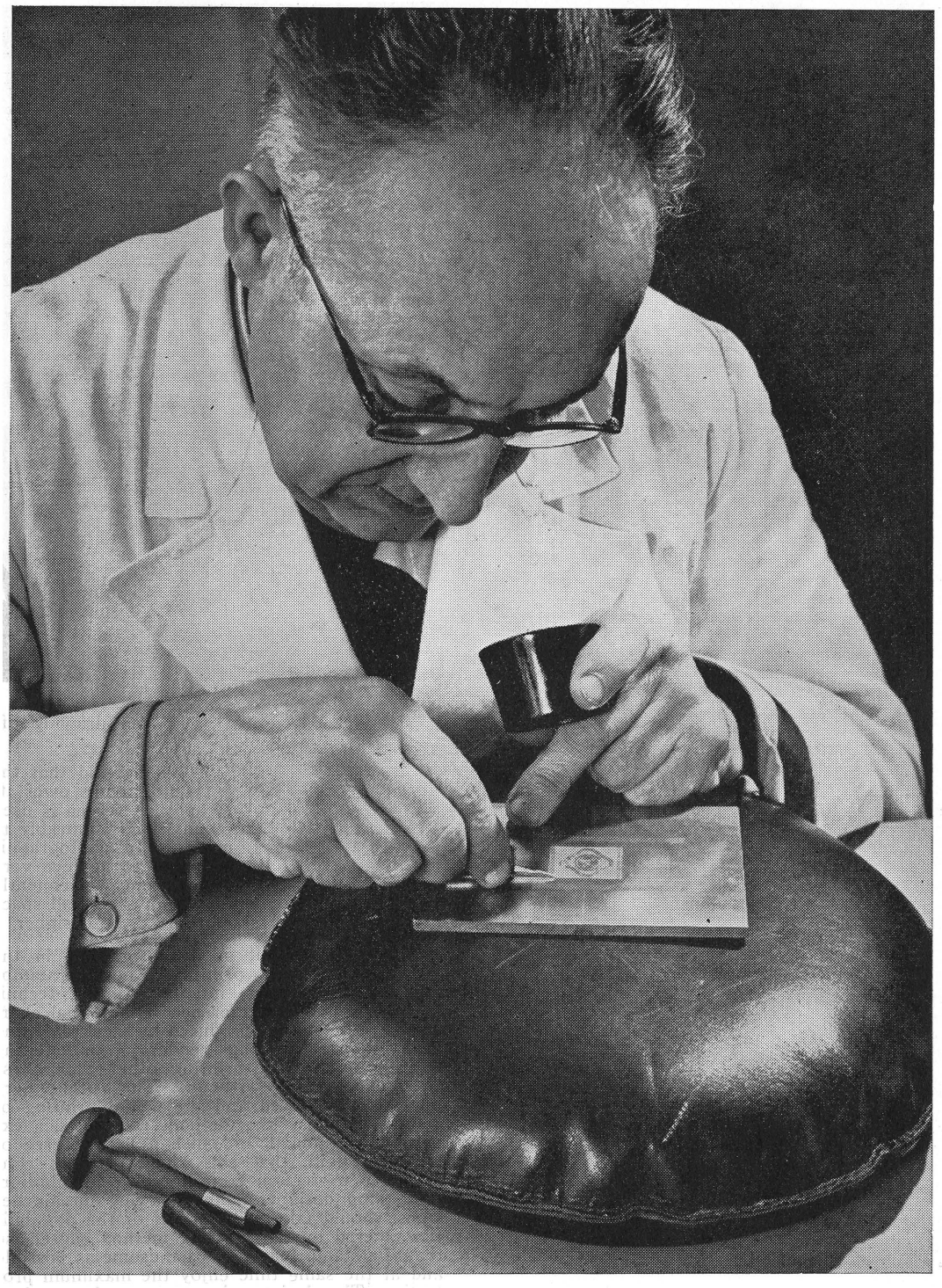
During this period printing techniques have naturally undergone continual development. Although this applies to all printing techniques, it is only natural that the printing of securities in general and postage stamps in particular should have become increasingly specialized in the course of time, and it has gradually been found that the photogravure and steel plate printing methods are to be preferred for this type of work. Both of these techniques come under what is known as intaglio printing but they have very characteristic differences. This does not mean that other printing methods have been entirely discontinued for the production of postage stamps. In certain cases, namely when the design is particularly suitable, stamps are also printed in offset.

Steel plate printing is always clearly recognizable to the practised eye on account of the hard lines and sharp delineation of the image. The plate is usually made by reproducing a single steel-engraved or etched drawing of a stamp.

On the other hand it could be said that the impression cylinder for photogravure owes its origin largely to photography. A screen is used and the whole process lends itself admirably to the reproduction of images of a photographic nature, whereby it is possible to achieve very great differences of shade, and consequently extremely warm colours, within the small space which the postage stamp offers the designer.

It is not without good reason that in the specialization in the printing of postage stamps and other securities, intaglio printing techniques have gained preference. The special character of the stamps produced by steel plate and photogravure printing renders counterfeiting by any method of printing other than these two exceedingly difficult. The preliminary operations involved and the actual printing of stamps by these two methods require such expensive equipment and such a high degree of technical skill, that this alone provides considerable protection from forgery. In addition, the stamp designer, when drawing up his designs, should take full account of the possibilities offered by the printing method chosen, so that the stamp may be as handsome as possible and at the same time enjoy the maximum protection. The designer is consequently required to possess a thorough knowledge of the printing technique employed. Moreover, if account is taken of the fact that in a very small space he has to combine an aesthetically acceptable

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Engraving the matrix die for United Nations S.G.3.

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picture with a number of indications which must inevitably appear on a postage stamp, such as the name of the country and the denomination, it becomes obvious that the designing of a stamp which is meritorious in all respects is itself no simple matter.

When, in addition, the printing of stamps in several colours is undertaken and one considers that these colours have to be fitted together with extreme accuracy (the technical term for this is "registering"), and that furthermore the gumming and perforation must be of a high standard, it becomes plain even to the layman that the production of postage stamps in sheets of 50, 100, or more calls for a high degree of versatile craftsmanship.

The better the craftsmanship, the more handsome the stamp and the less will be the chance of counterfeiting. Since the steel plate method nevertheless provides a relatively greater measure of security than the photogravure system, it is frequently used for the printing of the high denominations.

There would perhaps be a great deal to be said in favour of printing all postage stamps by the steel plate method were it not for the fact that this method is extremely expensive and that the photogravure process employs presses which attain very high speeds, so that large impressions can be run off in a reasonably short time. Here again it can be seen that the technique goes hand in hand with the demand, which is steadily growing as a result of the constant increase in postal traffic. Photogravure presses have been developed specially for stamp printing which can simultaneously print several colours and perforate the sheets — all this being done at a very high speed; they are consequently particularly suitable for running very large impressions.

Apart from the printing and the preparation of the designs and printing material, a great deal naturally takes place before the stamps ordered by the postal authorities can finally be sold to the public at the post-office counters.

On the premises of Joh. Enschedé en Zonen the Netherlands Postal Services have established a supervisory organization whose task it is to issue the blank paper for the stamps to the various departments of the printing works and to collect the finished stamps. A careful check is, of course, maintained to ensure that the number of stamps received tallies with the quantity of paper issued, due allowance naturally being made for any paper spoilt as a result of defects during the printing process.

This supervisory organization is also responsible for the distribution of the stamps to the Dutch post offices. In addition, the Chief Inspector of the Netherlands Postal Services undertakes the supervision of the manufacture of stamps for foreign countries in return for a modest fee.

Among the countries for which the Haarlem firm has printed postage stamps in recent years are Indonesia, Luxemburg, the Belgian Congo, Guatemala and Portugal, while it has also had the honour of printing a large quantity of stamps for the postal service of the United Nations.

Joh. Enschedé en Zonen carry out their own regular supervision during the manufacture of the stamps and check after each operation. The firm has a large staff of inspectors for this purpose.

The final phase of the production process is the preparation of the stamps for dispatch; the department whose responsibility this is carries out a final inspection of the quality (colour consistency, perforation, etc.) and the stamps are carefully counted for the last time.

MERELY EXPANSION

By S. J. HAGGER.

In an article, "The Two (?) Dies of The Union 1d. Ship Type", which appeared in "The S.A. Philatelist" for August, 1956, Mr. B. Powell ably summarizes the information which has been published on this subject over a long period of years. I have not heard of any other articles on the subject, and feel sure that he has mentioned them all; which brings us to the very curious position, that all those who were prepared to write on the subject believed, or were quite prepared to accept, that the differences in the appearance of the ship vignettes of the Union 1d. Typo. stamps were brought about by the use of more than one die.

Although this article appeared some months ago, nothing more has appeared in print, so I am presenting the other point of view in order that the matter should not go by default.

As a student of long standing, I naturally read the various articles mentioned as they appeared, and in the beginning was prepared to believe that there were probably two dies; but a study of that by Mr. Wareham convinced me that the differences in the appearance of the ship vignettes were caused by factors in the actual printing of the stamps. In other words, that the same centre plate would, in some circumstances, print vignettes classed as Die "A" by the various authors, in others Die "B", and in a third, the intermediate Die "C".

Since then, from time to time, I have given the matter considerable thought, and have arrived at the following conclusion:

On the centre plates, the white spaces, which separate the horizontal lines in each vignette, are so minute that in printing, any one, or a combination of two or three factors, cause these lines to expand, and thereby almost completely fill in the gaps between them. This alters the whole appearance of the vignettes.

One of these factors is wear, and this is very fully dealt with in the third-last paragraph of the letter which Mr. Powell received from The Royal Mint, and which is reproduced in his article. This factor, however, with all deference to those who should know, is not, I think, the most important one. If it were, I am sure one or more of the writers on the subject would have discovered, from a study of the dates on the postmarks of used stamps, or the flaws indicating wear of the plate, that their Die "A" predominated in the early printings from each plate, Die "B" in the latter.

As they did not do this, we must lay the blame on the other two factors, namely, inking, and the pressure brought to bear on the plate as it came in contact with the paper. The printing press being a mechanical device, it would be impossible to regulate it in any way so as to keep these two absolutely constant. Too much ink would cause expansion of the lines,

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as would increased tension or thicker paper. The effect of an increase in pressure is clearly shown in the accompanying illustration of some stamps from my collection.



In this case, the increased pressure was brought about by the intrusion of a piece of loose paper, and was greater than could probably have occurred normally; but it is obvious I think, that, had the loose paper been directly under one vignette, there would have been a clear case of Die "A" and Die "B" "se tenant".

This theory has the merit also that it can account for the intermediate Die "C", which was a very real stumbling block to the previous writers on the subject. However, satisfactory to me as it might be, it did not seem capable of proof; and so there the matter rested until fairly recently, when I thought of something that seemed well worth following up.

In centre plate 2 of the Pretoria printings, there were a number of constant flaws and cracks in the vignettes. These persisted for a long time, and could be traced through different stages of development. For this reason, large numbers of them were saved, and are thus available for comparison. If in this way, I could show the same, or different stages of the same flaw or crack in each of the two (or three) types of vignettes, my case would be proved; because of the great odds against exactly the same flaw or crack appearing in the vignettes of both of two different centre plates, which would have to be the case if the differing appearance of the vignettes was brought about by the use of different dies or plates.

Fortunately, I have succeeded in finding a couple of such examples, and I would suggest to Mr. Powell that he now goes to work on the same lines. If his 1d. Typo. material is insufficient, he should compare what he has with that of his friends. He should find at least a few examples, and the more he finds, the more I am sure he will be convinced, as I am, that The Great Mystery is no mystery at all.

THE "B.E." O.F.S. POSTMARK.

In the December of the O.F.S. Study Circle Bulletin still another suggestion has been made by Mr. Marriott as to the significance of the well known Bloemfontein postmark "B.E.", boxed in a 9-bar vertical oval.

This postmark occurrs mainly on ½d. and 1d. stamps, and when on piece, nearly always on a fragment of a newspaper wrapper. Newspapers, when this postmark was in use, were probably sent from the printers to the post-office, in bulk, wrapped, addressed and stamped, and it is suggested that the mark indicated "Bulk Express".

AUSTRALIA

A 2/- stamp is to be issued in February or March with a map illustrative of "Australian Antarctic Territory" and the stamp will be inscribed with these words. Initially it will be on sale at all post offices in Australia for at least three months and after this it will remain current as the first of a projected series for permanent use in Australian Antarctica.

A new 4d., portraying H.M. the Queen, will be issued in March and will replace the 4d. Koala which has been in use for 19 years. Another 4d. is to appear in April to commemorate the centenary of Responsible Government in S. Australia.

10d. and 1/7d. stamps are foreshadowed, such values being required by recent postal rate changes.

TRANS-ANTARCTICA

Official covers of the British trans-antarctic expedition going from Shackleton Base on the Weddell Sea via the South Pole to Scott Base on the Ross Sea are now being advertised for sale with a full set of the special overprinted Falkland Islands Dependencies stamps. The stamps cost 1/0½ but the serviced cover covers 19/9. This seems to be a bit stiff!

FRANCE

The Ministry of Posts announces the issue in the last three months of 1956, of the following commemorative stamps:—

27 October. A 12 fr. in memory of Parmentier, military pharmacist (1737-1813).

10 November. Six stamps honouring various distinguished foreigners: Petrarch, Lulli, J. J. Rousseau, Franklin, Chopin and Van Gogh. (See earlier note about these in our January issue).

24 November. A 30 fr. stamp in memory of P. de Coubertin, who was mainly responsible for the resuscitation of the Olympic Games.

10 December. Two stamps with surcharges for the benefit of the Red Cross.

A LIST OF THE NUMBERS OF CYLINDERS USED FOR PRINTING THE VARIOUS UNION ROTOGRAVURE STAMPS, AS FAR AS RECORDS ARE AVAILABLE.

By G. N. Gilbert.

We are lead to understand from the Authorities, that once a cylinder has received a number, that number remains for record purposes throughout its life, whether or not several re-etchings have taken place for different issues.

Some numbers recur quite frequently, while others do not, and there are several blanks in the numerical order for which no cylinder can be traced. It is possible that some of these numbers were in use in the early days for the printings of which we have no record.

The writer considers that a tabulated list of numbers so far recorded may be of interest for reference purposes, and this is submitted below. It is quite possible that the list is incomplete, and readers are invited to record any other numbers which have been missed, so that as complete a record as possible may be compiled.

Note. No cylinders used for airletter cards etc. are included.

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FOR THOSE IN THE "KNOW"

SHANAHANS STAMP AUCTIONS

(MONTHLY SALES — WITH SPECIAL SAFE POSTAL BIDDING FACILITIES)

●

Please enquire about the Shanahan **"Double Barrel Plan"** which enables you to get lots **much cheaper** and under certain circumstances **for nothing**

GET ON OUR CATALOGUE MAILING LIST FREE.

●

39, UPPER GT. GEORGE'S STREET,
DUN LAOCHAIRE,
DUBLIN, EIRE.

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Cylinder Numbers Exterior or Interior.	Issues which were printed from either exterior or interior cylinders bearing these numbers.
1.	1949 U.P.U. 1½d. 1954 O.F.S. Centenary 2d. Animal 6d.
2.	1947 1d. (Pl XVI). 1950 2d. (Pl VIII).
3.	1948 1d. (Pl XX). 1952 2/6 (Pl III). 1953 1/- (Pl VI). Animal 1d. (double-die cyl). 1946 Victory 1d.
4.	Animal 5/-.
5.	1938 Voortrekker 1½d. + 1½d. 1939 ½d. roll. 1947 1d. (Pl XVI). 1947 1½d. (Pl VI) 1954 2/6. (Pl IV).
6.	1938 1d. booklet. 1940 1d. (Pl XV). 1948 1½d. Bantam (Pl VII). 1950 6d. (Pl VI). Animal 10/-.
7.	1940 1½d. booklet. 1941 Large War ½d. 1942 Bantam War 2d.
8.	1938 ½d. booklet. 1946 2d. (Pl VII). 1954 5/- (Pl III).
9.	1937 Razorblade booklet 1d. 1938 Voortrekker ½d. + ½d.
10.	1938 ½d. booklet. 1945 2d. (Pl V). 1947 Royal Visit 1d.
11.	O.F.S. Centenary 4½d.
11A 11B.	1949 ½d. (Pl XXI).
12.	1949 Third Voortrekker 1d. Animal 1d. (first issue). 1938 Postage due 6d.
13.	1938 Postage due 1d.
14.	1948 1/- (Pl IV). 1950 1d. (Pl XXII). 1955 Covenant Commem. 2d.
15.	1937 3d. (Pl I). 1940 1½d. (Pl II). 1941 Large War 1½d.
16.	1938 Razorblade booklet ½d. 1939 ½d. (Pl IX — if exists). 1940 1½d. booklet. 1943 1d. roll. Animal 3d.
17.	1940 1d. (Pl XV). 1947 Royal Visit 3d. 1949 2/6 (Pl II). 1952 3d. (Pl VII Covenant Commem. 2d.
18.	1952 2d. (Pl X).
19.	1936 4d. (Pl II). Cape Centenary 1d.

There appears to be something wrong here. According to the Handbook Pl II of the 4d. was printed from Cyl. 19, but all the records in the S.A. Philatelist up to April 1941 give the cylinder number as 61.

The first reference to Cyl. 19 is given in the November 1947 issue. Apparently there have been only three cylinders used for the 4d. denomination, viz 61, 19 and 103.

Is it possible therefore that 61 is Pl I, and 19 Pl II? The time, from 1932 to 1941 seems too long for Pl I which is a very scarce item.

20.	1937 1d. (Pl XII). Voortrekker Commem. 1½d. Animal 2d. (double-die).
21.	1937 ½d. roll. 1941 ½d. (Pl XII). 1946 2d. (Pl VII). 1949 3rd Voortrekker 1½d. 1953 Aloe 1/6. Animal 1/6. 1946 Victory 1d.
22.	1937 Coronation 1d. 1938 1/- (Pl II). 1939 2nd Voortrekker 3d.
23.	1937 1d. roll. Animal 2/6.
24.	1937 1d. roll. 1948 Monocolour 1d. roll.
25.	1937 Coronation 1/-. 1938 1d. (Pl XIII). 1939 ½d. (Pl X). 1948 ½d. (Pl XVII). 1949 U.P.U. 3d.
26.	1937 Coronation 1½d. 1937 ½d. (Pl VI).
27.	1937 2/6. (Pl 1). 1952 2d. (Pl XI). van Riebeeck 1/-. 1955 Animal roll 1d.
28.	1948 Bantam 1½d. 1938 Postage due 2d.
29.	1933 Voortrekker 3d. + 1½d. 1939 2d. (Pl IV). 1941 Large War 2d. 1947 ½d. (Pl XV). 1948 1d. (Pl XIX). 1949 Natal Settlers 1½d.
30.	1937 ½d. (Pl IV). 1937 ½d. roll. 1940 3d. (Pl V). Huguenot 1½d. 1952 2d. (Pl X). van Riebeeck 1d. 1953 1/3 buck.
30A.	1937 Coronation 1d.
31.	1938 ½d. (Pl VII). 1938 Voortrekker Commemorative 1½d. 1941 1½d. (Pl V). 1949 U.P.U. ½d. 1951 ½d. (Pl XXII).
32.	1937 Coronation 3d. 1954 6d. (Pl VII).
33.	1947 1½d. (Pl VI). 1950/3 Postage due 1d. to 6d.
34.	1937 2d. (Pl III).
35.	1937 1d. booklet. 1939 1d. (Pl XIV).
36.	1939 Huguenot 1d. 1948 1d. (Pl XVI). 1949 5/- (Pl II). 1950 1d. (Pl XXV). 1952 van Riebeeck 2d. Animal 1½d.
37.	1941 Large War 4d. 1942 Airmail War 1/3. 1950 2d. (Pl VIII).
38.	1937 1d. booklet. 1939 1/- (Pl III). 1949 Voortrekker 3d. 1951 1d. booklet. Animal 1/3.
39.	1943 Bantam War 2d. 1947 ½d. roll. Royal Visit 2d. 1948 ½d. roll monocolour. 1938 Postage dues ½d. to 6d. 1950 Postage due 1d.
40.	1941 Large War 6d. 1942 Bantam War ½d.
41.	1937 5/- (Pl IV).
42.	1937 2d. (Pl III).
43.	1933 Voortrekker 3d. + 1½d. 1939 2d. (Pl IV). 1941 Large War 1/-. Bantam War 1½d. (Pl II).
44.	1952 van Riebeeck 4½d. Animal 10/-. 1953 Postage due 2d.
44A 44B.	1949 3d. (Pl VI).
45.	1937 ½d. booklet. 1947 ½d. (Pl XVIb).

(To be continued).

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A Harrismith Philatelic Society. The O.F.S. Philatelic Magazine has discovered a fully fledged Philatelic Society in Harrismith. The Bloemfontein Society has arranged a meeting with them in Senekal, after which we may hear more of the new Society.

AN 1857 ADVERTISEMENT.

The City Librarian, Germiston, has sent us the following advertisement which appeared in the "Cape Monthly Magazine", Vol. I, Feb., 1857.

Cheap Pianaforte Music

"A Printed Catalogue, with prices, may be had gratis, on application, and will be sent free, on receipt of a Blue Stamp, to pay postage. W. Brittain's, Booksellers, 44 St. George's Street." Good old 4d. Triangular!

PHILIPPINE GIRL SCOUT CAMP AND STAMP.

A world Girl Scout Camp was held in January-February, 1957, celebrating the Baden-Powell centenary.

Special 5c stamps, perf. and imperf., were issued on 19 January.

CANADA.

Canada is spreading itself to an unusual extent this year, with a programme of ten stamps for 1957. In March there will be four stamps illustrating different forms of outdoor recreation; the set will be something new in the country's philatelic history because the four different designs, skiing, fishing, swimming and hunting, all of 5c denomination, will be printed on the same pane of 50. They will be purchaseable in blocks of 4, showing all the designs.

In April there will be another 5c of the Wildlife Conservation series, this time featuring a bird, the Loon.

In June a 5c will honour the explorer David Thompson.

A U.P.U. Congress is being held for the first time in Canada in August; two stamps, 5c and 15c, and a special 10c Aerogramme will be issued.

A Commonwealth Mining Congress will have a special stamp and the work of the United Nations Children's Fund will be similarly honoured.

AUSTRALIA.

1838 Letter Sheets. The P.M.G.'s Department has issued a pamphlet reminding us how New South Wales anticipated in 1838 Britain's prepayment of postage by stamps — although they were not adhesive in type.

Mr. Raymond, P.M.G. of New South Wales was closely following Rowland Hill's advocacy of greatly reduced postal charges and the idea of having postage fees prepaid instead of being collected from the recipient.

In 1838 he obtained authority to have half sheets of paper stamped with an impression of the Post Office Seal, embossed but not coloured. These were sold to the public for prepaying postal carriage. Later, envelopes were similarly embossed. The use of such sheets and envelopes was discontinued when adhesive stamps were issued in 1850.

S. G. INCREASED PRICES.

Stanley Gibbons announce that they have increased their prices for unused current issues. In general the prices have not been raised since the time of World War I; there was only a small net profit then and now the prices have become quite uneconomic. If this is really the case, which seems highly probable, such rises will probably become general throughout the trade.

Their New Issue Service will remain at 20% over face value.

AUSTRALIA.

The official "Philatelic Bulletin" of 21-12-56 contains, inter alia illustrations of 54 different commemorative postmarks of the XVI olympiad. Somewhat overdoing it, surely?

A 1d. POST OFFICE MAURITIUS ON THE MARKET.

Sir Ernest de Silva, a Colombo collector, has given his unused 1d. Post Office Mauritius to the Young Men's Buddhist Association. This is one of two known unused specimens, and the Association has sent it to H. R. Harmer Ltd., London, where it will be auctioned on 25th March.

MALTA.

The Elizabethan issue of Malta is now complete, seventeen values, ½d. to £1. With two exceptions they all feature monuments or buildings, plus of course, the Queen's Head and a Crown; altogether they make a very dignified set.

The two exceptional stamps show Roosevelt's Scroll and the King's Scroll, both of them tributes to the endurance and bravery of the Maltese people under very severe war conditions; the King's Scroll intimates the award of the George Cross to the island collectively.

FRANCE

On 12 January there appeared a 15 fr. stamp featuring a pigeon, and dedicated to those carriers of mails in circumstances where no other method of transport was available.

SOCIETY NEWS

PRETORIA PHILATELIC SOCIETY.

January 7th. Unfortunately on this evening we were unable to meet at the Technical College and had to hold our meeting in a room at the Tilsim Hotel. Mr. Impey shewed us his Portuguese East Africa and prefaced his exhibit with an interesting paper. It is amazing how few of us collect the stamps of our nearest neighbours.

January 21st. Mr. Weinstein on this occasion gave a fascinating talk on the Postal History of the Holy Land. He illustrated his talk by tabling some grand covers and pieces and it was obvious to all just how wide and varied is the scope of the philately of this part of the world.

E. M. F.

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THE PHILATELIC SOCIETY OF JOHANNESBURG

January 8. A large crowd saw an exhibit which is unique on this continent — Mr. E. Hunt's "Sperati Forgeries". Unfortunately, its owner could not be present to display them, but Commander Enoch read the extremely informative paper he had prepared; and showed about three fifths of the collection, and also displayed alongside the forged stamps, some genuine examples from Mr. Hunt's world collection. The history of the forgeries proved as interesting as their quality and resultant dangerousnesses, and everyone was agreed that the B.P.A., by taking over the complete stock of the master forger, and supplying clearly marked samples of his work, had done philately a service which was of the utmost importance, provided, as was the case here, an expert committee had access to the samples and could compare stamps offered for certificates with them. There are only about half a dozen complete collections in the world, and one speaker stressed very rightly that Mr. Hunt had not only added one more service to the many he had rendered organised philately in South Africa, but that he must have purchased the valuable collection with just that intention — to enable the Expert Committee of the Philatelic Federation to do their difficult work even better.

And finally very good News from our esteemed member, Mrs. F. Redford: We shall obtain, as a gift, the quartz lamp which belonged to her late husband, and, at last, be in a position to offer our members so essential a service as that of helping them check on the worth of their rarities. The lamp will be handed to us by the gracious donor at the Annual General Meeting, and it will be taken care of by a Committee member, so that it is available at most, if not all ordinary meetings of the Society. Very many and sincere thanks, Mrs. Redford!

ROYAL PHILATELIC SOCIETY OF CAPE TOWN.

January 10th. Mr. E. B. Lye showed "Imperforates of New South Wales". This fine collection included unused Sydney views; with few exceptions full plated sheets; early worn plates and a pair, blue, on cover with the 2d. lilac; the later imperforates plated; examples of cancellations; the Jeffryes forgeries.

January 24th. This was the evening for the judging for the Jacob Cup for 1956. The Committee selected three exhibits, namely "Gold Coast" by Mr. J. F. Hurter, "Local Issues of the Boer War" by Mr. J. D. Rossouw, and "Rhodesia" by Mr. N. H. Griffen. The Cup went to Mr. J. F. Hurter.

M. F. S.

THE THEMATIC STAMP CLUB.

January 28th. This was the opening evening of the year and there was a very big attendance of members and visitors from the Royal Philatelic Society of Cape Town. It was an "All Members" evening and the boards were filled to capacity, indeed a number of exhibitors had to stand down. The following were shown: Mrs. H. M. Scott "First Day Covers of Australia"; Miss R. Polchett "Queen Elizabeth II (thematic)"; Mr. L. Simenhoff, F.R.P.S.L., "Israeli Maximum Cards, Edward VIII (thematic), Royal Tour"; Mr. J. F. Hurter "Gold Coast"; Dr. P. L. Vautier "Covers from all parts of the World"; Mr. F. Archer (visitor) "Art and Artists on Stamps"; Mr. H. J. de Wet "World War II in the field and after (thematic)"; Mr. R. F. Putzell "East Germany"; Mr. C. R. V. Solomon "Health and Discovery of New Zealand (thematic)" and "Tristan da Cunha (thematic)".

M. F. S.

PRETORIA RAILWAY PHILATELIC SOCIETY.

9th January. Mr. Bill Kriste set the philatelic ball rolling this year with a very fine exhibit of Denmark which, although not complete, proved to be most interesting. Mr. Kriste also read a short paper on the history of the Kingdom of Denmark and commented briefly on the stamps issued by that country. The two dies of the Caravel issue and the three dies of the King Christian issue were well represented.

The January meeting was the last meeting that our old friend and hard worker in the Society's interests, Dr. Max Peisach, will attend for some time as he is leaving shortly to further his studies overseas. The chairman on behalf of the Society wished him "bon voyage" and success in his studies. While Dr. Peisach is away Mr. P. K. Brown will take over the duties of librarian.

P. M. J. McG.

GERMISTON PHILATELIC SOCIETY.

Report on ordinary meeting held on **Thursday the 17th. January, 1957.**

Owing to some misunderstanding our usual premises were not available for our monthly meeting; however, Mr. R. F. G. Bompas came to our rescue and the meeting started at 8.15 p.m. in the reading-room of the Germiston Library.

The balance of the evening was taken up with short exhibits by members who had been previously invited to table ten sheets or so of their collections. Mr. N. S. Hesselbarth, Unions; Mr. B. Eilers, Danzig; Mr. R. F. G. Bompas, Egypt; Miss F. E. Millsap, Canadians and Australians; and Mr. I. S. Burniston, Mozambique.

I. S. B.

THE EAST LONDON PHILATELIC SOCIETY.

The Forty-eighth Annual General Meeting took place in the Museum Hall on Friday 18th January 1957.

In his annual report the retiring President, Mr. J. P. Shingler said he was very pleased to state that in all departments steady progress had been maintained.

The President's Cup for Competitive Displays was won by Mr. James F. Paviour, an honorary life member of the Society.

Mr. Paviour gave a representative display of the stamps he had shown during the course of last year.

The President also reported that preliminary plans had been made for the organisation of the Society's Golden Jubilee in 1959 when the Congress would be held in East London, and also the National Exhibition.

J. P. S.

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THE
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The Philatelic Federation of Southern Africa
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UNION NOTES

Hon. Associate Editor: Dr. T. B. BERRY, Box 31, Bryanston, Transvaal.

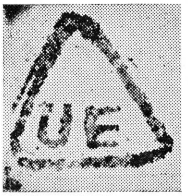
"Homemade" Cancellers

In our Notes of December 1956 we illustrated and described the 2½d. Commemorative Stamp bearing a "UNION overprint", and sought information concerning the item. Silence reigned until very recently when Mr. W. F. Tilney, of Johannesburg, supplied the answer by exhibiting for our inspection the illustrated block of four 2½d. stamps "overprinted UNIONDALE" twice per stamp, thus indicating that the "UNION" of the previous enquiry is part of a Uniondale parcel cancellation.



Enquiries instituted at the office of the Publicity Officer, G.P.O., Pretoria, failed to elicit any information concerning this canceller being an official issue. It was suggested that it is a "Homemade" product, assembled by a postal official at the office concerned from rubber symbols of the nature of the school-boy rubber printing sets, and that it was used for parcel cancellations.

It appears that these "Homemade Cancellers" were by no means unknown in the Postal Service in the early years of the century when several Post Office officials manufactured their own "pet" cancellers to be used upon parcels — the officially supplied metal canceller being considered incapable of leaving a clear imprint on the "soft" parcel, or liable to damage the contents of a parcel.



We illustrate another example of these "Homemade Cancellers," the imprint consisting of "UE" enclosed in a triangle. This conceller was carved out of wood by E. Jones, Postmaster at Uitenhage, in 1901, and was used at that post office for 30 years. Yes — to as recently as early 1930, and it would be interesting to know if any of our collectors of Postmarks possess this cancellation or know the history connected with it.

The canceller now reposes among a wealth of other most interesting and priceless historical material, locked away in storage in the vaults of the Post Office instead of being on display to be studied and admired by not only philatelists and the residents of this country but also by our visitors from overseas.

Please Mr. Postmaster General, may we not have a philatelic museum someday — soon?

Gelatine Flaws

Referring to our comment on Gelatine Flaws appearing in the March issue of the S.A. Philatelist, Mr. G. N. Gilbert, of Westminster, writes to the effect that he considers the Williams Brothers' explanation the correct one.

Collectors are inclined to consider the pin on the yoke as having been broken off and deposited above the "5/-", while, in effect, the opposite is the case. Where the broken pin appears, there must be a deficiency of gelatine to allow the etching process to produce the recess in the cylinder in order to take the ink to portray the pin, while on the other hand the loose portion of gelatine which was removed, floated into another position and covered the recess which normally would have formed the pin. Mr. Sydow may have meant to infer this, but his text rather leaves one to

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think that the pin was broken off and appeared above the figure of value.

Commenting upon the existence of further examples of Gelatine Flaws, Mr. Gilbert cites the Gelatine Flaw on the frame line of the 2d. stamp, Row 17/3, U.H.B. 38Vd. Here it is obvious that a portion of the soft gelatine was "nicked" up leaving a hollow for the etching process and causing the dark spot. This portion of gelatine was then folded over covering the frame line and resulting in the white break in the line.

It does not always follow that the removed portion of gelatine remained on the same stamp or even on the plate, as it could easily have been washed off in the developing process. On the other hand, the removed portion might be lodged several stamps away and cause some of the white marks we find on the stamps. Under this category, flaws of the ½d., Unhyphenated Printing, Plates I to III, may be considered to be due to a gelatine disturbance, such as:

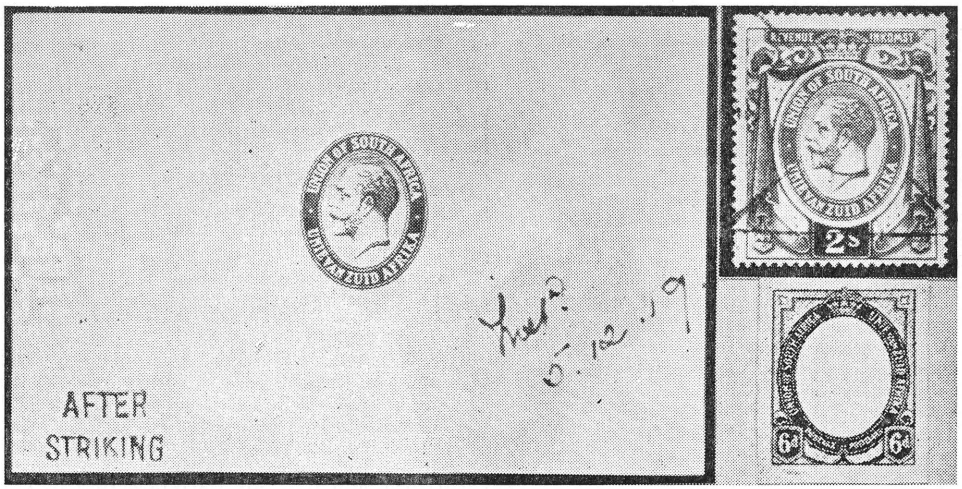
The "Barb in the ear" flaw, Row 10—7,

The "Hooked horn" flaw, Row 16—8, and

The "Dollar Sign" flaw, Row 10—9.

Die Proof of Revenue Stamps

We have been privileged to view a Union item which has remained unrecorded for some forty years and of which only two examples are stated to exist.



It is a Die Proof of the Vignette portion of the First Issue in 1913 of the Union's Revenue stamps which were surface printed by Messrs. De La Rue & Co., London. The design comprises the familiar McKennal Head of King George V impressed in black upon a white glazed card, 3.6in. by 2.4in., which card also bears the relative printer's inscriptions in its left and right hand lower corners.

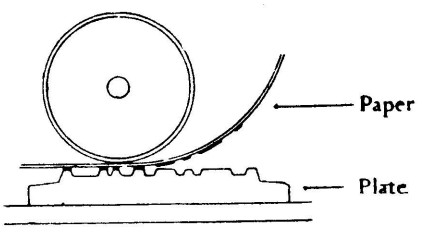
The specimen is exhibited along with a Revenue Stamp of the series, and when compared with a photograph of a Die Proof of the Frame portion of the stamps of the First Definitive Issue (1913-1922) which also were printed by Messrs. De La Rue at the same time as the Revenue Stamps, it will be observed that the design of the vignette of the Revenue Stamps embodies the inscription, Union of South Africa, in English and Netherlands above and below the King's head, whereas in the Definitive Issue, the inscriptions are contained in the frame portion of the stamp — the vignette consisting of the image of the King's head only.

Revenue stamps may be one of the Cinderella issues of the Union, but nevertheless the consideration of their Die Proofs, if not the stamps also, affords an interesting study of the two emissions which are so closely related in their origin.

Stamp Printing

Inspired by an excellent booklet entitled POSTAGE STAMPS, edited by Messrs. L. N. and M. Williams (one of the many from the prolific pen of the Williams Brothers), we feel Union Collectors may be interested in a similar brief summary of the three printing methods depicted therein but with particular reference to the stamps of the Union.

1. **Typography**



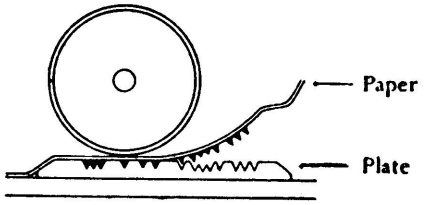
Typography sometimes called surface printing by philatelists, and known to printers as letterpress or relief printing, is the printing technique wherein the designs on the printing surface of the plate stand out, and the ink rests on the raised surfaces which are pressed in contact with the paper, as illustrated diagrammatically. In stamps printed by this method, the

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design is lightly pressed into the paper and can often be seen showing through very slightly on the backs of unused specimens.

The following, among others, are the Union issues which have been printed by typography: The King's Head Series, The London and Pretoria Pictorials of the ½d., 1d., and 6d. values, The 1929 Air Mail set, and the Postage Dues, Group I, Group V, and the figure of value of Group VI.

2. **Line-engraving and photogravure printing.**

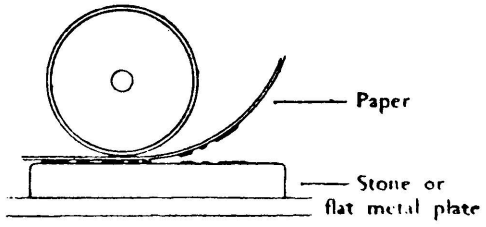


Line-engraving or recess-printing, known to printers as intaglio printing, is the technique wherein the design is engraved by hand on a soft steel die which is then hardened and, after several processes, used to build up a complete printing plate. The lines of the engraving are cut in the plate, and when it is inked the colour sinks into the lines. When a sheet of paper is pressed against the plate, the ink is transferred to the paper and stands up from the surface in tiny ridges, as illustrated diagrammatically.

Photogravure, a more modern process, is similar to line-engraving except that the design, instead of being engraved by hand, is transferred to the plate photographically.

The 4d. Triangular, and the London Pictorial 2d. to 10/- values are line-engraved or recess-printed, while photogravure printing embraces, among others, the Unhyphenated and Hyphenated Rotos, the Commemoratives, the Small and Large Wars, and the Postage Due Issues from Group VI onwards except the figure of value of Group VI.

3. **Lithography**



Lithography means printing from stone, and lithographic stamps are printed from a stone or metal surface which is flat, and the printing process is sometimes called planography. Specimens produced in this way have a perfectly flat back and front.

Union stamps printed by lithography are, among others, the First Issue (1925) Air Stamps, Group II (rouletted) and Group III (perforated) Postage Due stamps.

The stamps of the Union and other similar requirements are now printed by photogravure or as the technique is more commonly termed by local collectors, rotogravure, at the Government Printing Works, Pretoria, where two rotary machines do duty. These may be distinguished by their characteristics — the larger but slow machine is capable of printing in three colours, carries a single-row or comb perforator, and registers five-figure black sheet numbers, while the smaller but faster machine prints in two colours, its perforator is the multiple-row or eleven-row perforator type, and its sheet numbers consist of four-figure red numerals.

Both the above mentioned perforators are of the built-in type, in that they are incorporated in a particular printing machine and perforate the sheets of stamps during the actual printing process. Thus, the sheets come off the machine printed and perforated.

It is interesting to note that a third type of perforating device exists at the Government Printing Works. Named the Grover Perforator, it is an independent piece of machinery into which the reel of printed stamps in the form of a continuous strip was placed, and then fed through the perforator from which it emerged perforated and cut into sheets if required. This perforator did duty on some of the early printings, when among others, it perforated the "gutter margin sheets" of Group III of the Postage Due Stamps (S.A.H. D11-D16), and the ½d and 1d. Gutter Margin Sheets from which the First Hyphenated Roll Stamps were formed (S.A.H. R125 and R135).

The Perforator is not in use nowadays, and we trust that the Government Printer will not recommend its destruction, but will retain it as an Historic Exhibit for the Post Office's Philatelic Museum, for although it may be a derelict of the past, there is hardly a collection of Union Stamps in existence today which does not possess a memento or two of the work of the Grover Perforator, namely, the Missing Perforation Hole variety of the Postage Due Stamps, S.A.H., D11 to D16, variety Vd., and the Missing Perforation Holes Variety of the ½d. Gutter Margin Sheet, S.A.H., R125 Ve.

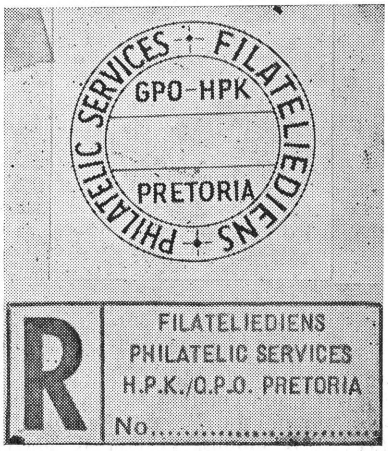
New Canceller at the Philatelic Agency.



Through the courtesy of the Publicity Officer, we are able to state that the Post Office Canceller and its Registration Stamp which did duty at the Philatelic Agency, G.P.O., Pretoria, for a number of years on communications addressed to correspondents in all parts of the world, are about to be changed to a more imposing set.

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The imprint of the old canceller of the familiar "three star brand" is illustrated along with its successor, and like its half-brother, the



½d. Springbok stamp, will be sadly missed although it will be admitted that the latter is the more appropriate.

Errata

Mr. Eric Walker, of Pretoria, correctly points out that "Row 4/3" appearing in items D44Vc, D45Vd, D45aVc, D46Ve, and D47Vb on pages 156 and 157 of Volume II of the Handbook, should be amended to read Row 14/9.

ONLY ONE PLATE USED FOR PRINTING THE 4d. LONDON PICTORIAL STAMP

The announcement in our "Notes" for January, of the discovery by Mr. J. Mendelssohn of a used block of 12 of the Union 4d. London Printing pictorial stamps, on which half and only half, of the Afrikaans inscribed stamps have the characteristic which would have led to their being classified as being from Plate 2, has brought the following comment from Mr. S. J. Hagger of Alberton, who writes:

"As Union collectors had never previously known of the two types of Afrikaans inscribed stamps being found in the same block, they were, I think, perfectly justified in assuming that those which exhibited the much thinner line under "4d." in the right hand tablet were printed from a second plate. This assumption however, raised two questions. In the first place, why should it have been necessary to prepare a second plate, seeing that one centre and one frame plate sufficed for printing each of the other values, with the exception of the 2d., and in which the number of stamps printed would, in the lower values, have been equal to that of the 4d.? Secondly, why should the same Afrikaans inscribed Die have been used again, seeing that it had developed such an obvious defect?

Mr. Mendelssohn's discovery disposes of these two queries, because we can now accept without question that there was only one plate, and ascribe the thinning of the line in the value tablet to wear. The reader will naturally ask how wear could occur in exactly the same place in every Afrikaans inscribed image on the plate. The explanation I offer for this is that there was, after all, a defect in the engraving of the Die, such that when transferred to the plate it left a weakness in the line, which, although it gave no sign in the early stages, after a time wear showed at this point. Now whether you accept my theory to account for the disappearance of this line in the value tablet or not, you will I think agree with me when I say that **this phenomenon almost certainly started in the bottom and worked up to the top of the plate.**

I make this rather startling statement for two reasons. Although it has not been mentioned previously, Mr. Mendelssohn's block has a small piece of the sheet margin at the top, quite sufficient to prove therefore that it is from the first four horizontal rows of the sheet. In the two Afrikaans inscribed stamps in the first row, and the one in the second, the line under "4d." in the right value tablet is normal; in the two in the third, and one in the fourth row, it is thin. In the top row of the sheet of stamps before cutting into the two panes, there would be, starting from the left, six stamps, the gutter then six more stamps, beginning in each case with an English inscribed one. The newly discovered block is, therefore, from vertical rows 2-4, 4-6, 8-10 or 10-12. So far I have only examined a top left and a top right corner pair of 4d. stamps of this group, i.e. vertical rows 1 and 2 or 7 and 8, and 5 and 6 or 11 and 12 respectively and in both pairs the Afrikaans stamp had the thin line in the value tablet. On this evidence alone, therefore, the odds are 50-50 that in the end the wear was present at the top of all the even numbered vertical rows. Of course the greater the proportion of stamps known to be from the top horizontal row examined from now on, and found to show the wear, the greater will these odds become.

My contention is further supported by a second factor. Since the discovery by Dr. Berry, a couple of years ago, that the "unworn" stamps existed with Group 11 perforation, although many collectors have sought them, as far as I know no one has found an inscriptional pair of them. Another way of saying that the "unworn" stamps are non-existent, or in much smaller proportion in the bottom row of the 4d. stamps of Group 11.

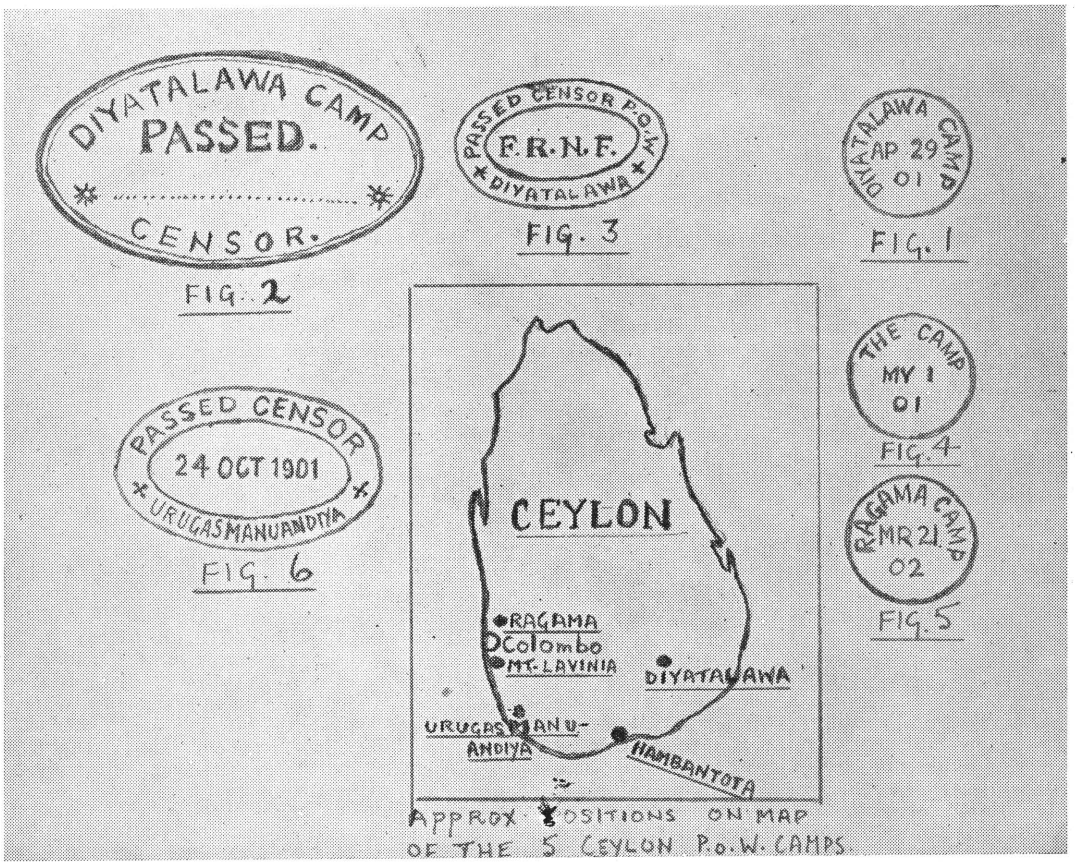
May I conclude by echoing your congratulations to Mr. Mendelssohn and supporting your request to all Union collectors to make a close examination of their 4d. London Pictorial material. By so doing they will assist in solving, what you rightly call a major problem.

EVERYBODY'S
Buying it —
"SPRINGBOK HALFPENNY"
By Dr. GORDON WARD, F.R.P.S.L.
All about this popular stamp from the first to the last.
5/3 (80 cents) postage paid.
C. E. SHERWOOD,
105, Marford Crescent, Sale, Cheshire, G.B.

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"P.O.W. CAMPS IN CEYLON, 1900-1902"

By J. H. RATHBONE.



Very little seems to have been recorded concerning the Prisoner-of-War Camps established in Ceylon during the Anglo-Boer War. Those collectors who like to write up their postal history items appear to have come up against almost a "blind spot" in this particular section of philately. It is now possible to give some further details of the various camps and also the censorship etc. connected with the prisoners' mail.

DIYATALAWA CAMP

The first batch of prisoners of war arrived on the 9th August, 1900, and subsequently others followed until some 5,000 had landed in Ceylon. Diyatalawa, (Province of Uva, about 140 miles along the main Colombo-Bandarawela road) was the site selected for the prisoners camp. Later, it was found necessary to establish smaller camps in other parts of the island (see later). Lt. Col. A. C. F. Vincent was appointed "Commandant, Prisoners of War in Ceylon".

All letters, parcels and newspapers which arrived for the prisoners were sent to the Commandant's Office and at once handed over to the Censor whose office adjoined that of the Commandant. Letters bearing the stamp of a Censor in South Africa were normally passed at once to the addressees. The outgoing letters etc. (usually franked by postage stamps of Ceylon, and in open envelopes) were brought to the Censor's office, from the Camp Post Office in a locked box. If "passed" they were then closed, stamped with the Censor's stamp and forwarded. This camp's post office had its own postmark, a handstamp, which is found cancelling stamps on outgoing mail and also as a backstamp on some of the incoming mail. (see Fig. 1). This measures 21 mm. in diameter and is often found in a blurred state.

The incoming mail for the first five months or so as, apparently, rather small. At this time there was only one Censor (assisted by officers of the Camp) dealing with the P.O.W. mail. In the early months of 1900 however, two additional Censors arrived. By then as many as 30,000 letters per month were being handled — though a considerable portion of these had already passed the censor in South Africa. Outgoing letters with which the Camp Censors could not deal were forwarded in bags through the Colonial Secretary's Office to G.O.C. Natal,

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and "Staff Officer, P.O.W.'s." Cape Town, respectively, to be dealt with in South Africa. Later still, the number of Censors was again increased, until by June, 1902 there were seven, and all were assisted in the censoring of letters etc. (written in several languages) by Camp Officers. It would, otherwise, have been impossible to get through the work.

These Camp's Censors' marks are an interesting group, A large double-bordered oval type appears to have been used first. This measures 62 x 35 mm. (see Fig. 2). The space for signature has been left blank on every mark seen by the writer, with one exception. This showed manuscript initials and was on a cover, postmarked at the Camp, dated 6th Sept., 1900. Later, use was made of Censors' marks incorporating the initials of individual censors. Three of these, each 34 x 21 mm., show either "O.H.", "E.J.B." or "F.R.N.F." (see Fig. 3). There are also other very similar double-oval censors' marks of this camp. These too measure 34 x 21 mm., and show the initials "K.A.R.N.", "A.D.R." and "A.C." These latter three probably became Censors at Diyatalawa at a later period in the Camp's existence. The writer has not seen their marks on mail with 1900 or 1901 dates. Incidentally, the lettering of the **initials** in their handstamps is "sans-serif".

So far, the writer is only able to supply one surname — "F. R. N. **Findlay**" — of the Diyatalawa Camp Censors. Purple (or violet) ink seems to have been solely used for Censors' marking on all the mail connected with these Ceylon Camps.

RAGAMA CAMP

The foreign, i.e. the non-Boer, P.O.W's. at Diyatalawa having given the Camp authorities a considerable amount of trouble, it was decided to remove them to a separate camp. This was located at Ragama (Western Province) about nine miles from Colombo (along the Colombo-Negombo road and on the railway line to Kandy). Ragama was the site of an immigrant cooly depot, and three of the cooly camps, separated from the others, were selected for the accommodation of recalcitrant prisoners. The Camp was opened on 8th Jan., 1901. In a report by the Medical Officer in charge of these Ceylon Camps, the Ragama Camp is mentioned as capable of housing 300 men.

Two special postmarks were in use at Ragama Camp — both 20 mm. single circles. These are found cancelling postage stamps and as backstamps. (see Figs. 4 and 5). One Censor's stamp only seems to have been needed. and the mark is identical to Fig. 2 but reading "Ragama Camp".

MOUNT LAVINIA

On 17th December, 1900, a convalescent camp for P.O.W's. was opened at Mount Lavinia (Western Province) on the sea coast, about 7 miles from Colombo (on the Colombo—Galle road). This, eventually, provided accommodation for 150 men. Those recovering from enteric fever were sent there to recuperate. After about a month's residence they usually became quite well and were then sent back to the larger camps to make room for others. In addition to the convalescents, old, feeble, and debilitated prisoners were sent to this camp for a change.

No special camp postmark or censor's mark appears to have been used here. Censorship of the mail seems to have been carried out at Diyatalawa Camp. The postmark of Galkissa (civil) P.O. is found on some covers connected with this camp.

URUGASMANUANDIYA CAMP

This camp arose out of a movement amongst some of the P.O.W's. at Diyatalawa to volunteer for service in India under the British Government. To avoid complications, these 176 volunteers were removed to a new camp at Urugasmanuandiya (Southern Province), 50 miles south of Colombo (along the Colombo-Galle road) and 5 miles from Kosgoda railway station. The camp opened on 10th Sept., 1901, for the accommodation of prisoners on parole. There having been difficulty in utilising their services in India, these men were allowed to remain on parole at this camp. Other well-disposed prisoners were, at intervals, sent down on parole until the numbers reached 369. The men were housed in 8 of the vacant huts which had been erected for the use of the Ceylon Volunteers during the annual camps of instruction.

"The Camp" postmark, as Fig. 4, is also recorded as being used on outgoing mail from this camp as well as Ragama. Until sufficient material is available it is difficult to say if this postmark was used at both camps concurrently. It is possible that it was first used at Ragama and then handed over when Urugasmanuandiya opened some 8 months later — the former camp then utilising the "Ragama Camp" postmark. The Censor's mark of this camp was a double oval, 43 x 25 mm. (see Fig. 6).

HAMBANTOTA CAMP

On the 19th Sept., 1901, a parole camp was opened at Hambantota (Southern Province) on the coast, about 148 miles south of Colombo (along the main road to Galle-Matara-Hambantota). A part of the old disused jail buildings was utilised for this camp which was intended for those Boer officers who wished to avail themselves of the opportunity for a change. Also allowed there were well behaved Burghers who, on medical recommendation, stood in need of a change to the sea-side (and for whom there was no room at Mount Lavinia).

This camp was originally able to take 60 men, but, eventually, accommodation for 40 more became available by the erection of two temporary buildings.

There does not appear to have been a Post Office within this camp, but the mail connected with it was subject to censorship by the Camp Censor. The censor's mark is a double oval, 37 x 24 mm., in purple ink.

CENSORS SEALS

As collectors of these Ceylon Camp items will know, a fair number of covers are found which have been opened and then re-sealed

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with a censor's seal. In every instance within the writer's experience this has been a large seal of pink paper bearing the words "Opened under Martial Law" beneath a large crown centred between "E.R." (i.e. as illtn. 10—7 in Rich's book "Philately of the Anglo-Boer War") Judging from the positions of backstamps on covers bearing these seals it is quite reasonable to assume that they (the seals) were used by the Censors at the Ceylon Camps. Covers addressed to prisoners in Ceylon are sometimes found with a camp postmark, used as a backstamp on arrival, partly or completely covered by a censor's seal.

Incidentally, one of this particular type of seal, on a cover addressed to Diyatalawa, is recorded as having the words "Boer Camp 1" printed in the right hand top corner. ("S.A.P." July, 1956).

* * *

Covers exist which were sent from one camp to another and these often show the postmarks and/or Censor's marks of both camps. Similar items are known without any postmark, and having merely a censor's mark (the latter, apparently, also cancelling the postage stamp).

On some covers, addressed to Ragama Camp or Mount Lavinia the Diyatalawa censor's mark is found — probably due to the fact that, for reasons already stated, there was some interchange of prisoners between the camps concerned.

S. G. Rich, in his book, mentions and illustrates (page 186) a dated s/c. postmark of "Diyatalawa", found on the P.O.W. mail, with letters at the bottom as "H O & G R K". These letters in the, frequently blurred, postmark were not clear to Rich on the covers he had seen. The present writer is of the opinion, from inspection of several covers, that the letters are "M.O. & S. BK." (Money Order & Savings Bank?) — not necessarily a **Camp** postmark.

Before leaving the subject of this Ceylon P.O.W. mail, collectors may like to know that, under instructions from the Secretary of State for the Colonies, the censoring of letters etc., was finally discontinued on the 17th July, 1902. After that date the Censors were employed in collecting particulars of each prisoner for the purpose of a Census of P.O.W's.

* * *

The writer is grateful to several collectors, and in particular to the Office of the High Commissioner for Ceylon, London, for helpful information relating to the P.O.W. Camps in Ceylon, all of which helped to make possible the writing of the above notes.

TRISTAN DA CUNHA

Since 1st Feb., 1957 Postage Due stamps have been on sale, 1d., 2d., 3d., 4d. and 5d. How did they get on before without them?

We have received a cover from the island, with postmark dated 17 JA, 57 and a cachet in the form of a rectangle 60 x 30 mm. with inscription in small block capitals "Visit of H.R.H./The Duke of Edinburgh/Tristan da Cunha January 1957". There is a Crown above the inscription.

CORRECTION

In the "List of Post Office Cancellations used in Natal by the Z.A.R. Forces 1899-1900" by J. D. Rossouw, published on page 24 of our February 1957 issue, two unfortunate errors crept in. Items 11 & 15 should have had commas after the letters P K and not full stops as given in the text. Our apologies to the author for this departure from his original script!

POST OFFICE PROGRESS

This is the title of the Annual Report presented by the Postmaster General which has just appeared for the period 1955/6. There is much in this book to interest the philatelist, directly or indirectly, and the voluminous statistical tables appended to the Report are presented in a very illuminating way. The overall story is of continuous expansion, the number of employees having risen for the first time time to over 40,000 and the number of articles of mail matter handled to almost one thousand million. Compared with the astronomical figures quoted in that table it is perhaps somewhat of an anticlimax to find that during the year 74 suggestions were submitted by the staff, of which 8 were adopted. We wonder why one of the thousands of counter clerks who every day experience the unfilled need for 8d. postage stamps and 4d. postage due stamps does not earn himself or herself a pecuniary award by voicing this need to higher authority!

NEWS FROM EUROPE

Mr. Joachim Dill, of Martin Luther Strasse 28, Bad Neustadt, West Germany corresponds with us most assiduously to keep us advised of developments and we are greatly obliged to him for his valuable assistance. His latest news is as follows:—

On 7 March West Germany issued a 20 pfg commemorative to celebrate the 725th anniversary of the freedom of the city of Spandau, now a suburban area of Berlin more recently in the news as the prison home of the "War Criminals" and the "Berlin Airlift" airfield. The design is copied from a 19th century engraving shewing the old bridge at Spandau. The total printing is 2 million stamps. A special first day cancellation is of interesting design, the central motif being a machicolated turret. Airmail specialists will be interested in the first flight from Copenhagen to Tokio via the North Pole undertaken by Scandinavian Air Services. Mail posted in Vienna to connect with this flight was provided by the Austrian Post Office with a special cachet.

From aviation to ballooning! A special balloon ascent from Olten in Switzerland is taking place in March in aid of a fund to maintain Hungarian refugee children in Swiss schools. Special cards were put on sale at Olten by the Ballongruppe Mittelland at 2, 5 and 10 francs. In the meantime on 22 February 1957 the West German Post Office put out another commemorative celebrating the centenary of the birth of Heinrich Hertz, a physicist celebrated for his research into electric waves.

UNION POSTAL STATIONERY

Mr. J. Robertson of P.O. Box 5826, Johannesburg, has available some complete sets of 32 of the current 1½d. printed postcard (UHB PC 50) all used. He will be pleased to send a set to any of our readers who sends him 6d. for postage, mentioning this paragraph.

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RHODESIA & NYASALAND

Mr. R. H. A. Farquharson of Umtali kindly sends us the photograph of an extraordinary piece he recently acquired of the current 1d. stamp. A paper fold diagonally across the sheet has apparently failed to open when passing through the press and perforator, with the odd result shewn. It survived all the usual checks and was only noticed when the sheet of stamps affected was put into use for mailing. This is the first major variety of the kind on record for the new Federated Territory and we had quite expected when it came it would be yet another "imperf. between".

A LIST OF THE NUMBERS OF CYLINDERS USED FOR PRINTING THE VARIOUS UNION ROTOGRAVURE STAMPS, AS FAR AS RECORDS ARE AVAILABLE

By G. N. GILBERT.

(Continued from page 42, March 1957 issue)

Cylinder Numbers Exterior or Interior.	Issues which were printed from either exterior or interior cylinders bearing these numbers.
46.	1942 Bantam War 1/-. 1952 2d. (Pl XI).
47.	1953 4½d. Ram. Animal 4½d.
48.	1947 ½d. (Pl XVIa). 1948 Royal Silver Wedding. 1954 1d. (Pl XXVII).
49.	1946 ½d. (Pl XIII).
50.	1939 1d. (Pl XIV). 1941 Large War 3d. 1950 2d. (Pl IX). 1945 Postage due 1d.
51.	1937 ½d. (Pl V). 1952/3 2/6 (Pl III).
51A 51B.	1937 6d. (Pl III).
52.	1937 ½d. (Pl V). 1938, 1d. (Pl XIII). 1939 Huguenot ½d.
53.	1938 6d. (Pl IV). 1953 1d. (Pl XXVI). Animal 4d.
54.	1937 Coronation ½d. 1942 Bantam War 4d. 1947 ½d roll. 1953 1d. (Pl XXVI). 1954 1d. (Pl XXVII).
55.	1937 Coronation 1d. 1940 3d. (Pl V). 1951 1d. booklet.
56.	Animal 2d. 1952 Postage due 6d.
58.	1940 1d. booklet. 1951 ½d. booklet.
60.	1941 ½d. (Pl XII). 1947 1d. (Pl XVII). 1949 U.P.U. ½d.
61.	1937 4d. (Pl ?) (Shown in Handbook as 19. Pl II).
62.	1938 1½d. (Pl I). Voortrekker Commem. 1d. 1940 1½d. (Pl II).
64.	1946 2d. (Pl VI). 1948 1½d. booklet. 1951 2d. booklet.
66.	1933 Voortrekker ½d. + ½d. 1953 1/- (Pl VI). 1953 Coronation 2d. Cape Centenary 4d. Animal 2/6. 1941 1½d. (Pl ? deleted from Handbook but reported in S.A.P. March and June 1941.
68.	1953 1/6 Aloe.
69.	1948 1d. booklet.
70.	1950 ½d. (Pl XXII). 1950 1d .(Pl XXIII).
72.	1953 5/- (Pl III).
74.	Pretoria Centenary 3d.
76.	1950 1d. (Pl XXII). 1953 4½d. Ram. Animal 4½d.
78.	Animal 1/6.
81.	1948 ½d. booklet.
82.	1948 ½d. (Pl XVIII).

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FOR THOSE IN THE "KNOW"

SHANAHANS STAMP AUCTIONS

(MONTHLY SALES — WITH SPECIAL
SAFE POSTAL BIDDING FACILITIES)

Please enquire about
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GET ON OUR CATALOGUE MAILING LIST FREE.

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DUBLIN, EIRE.

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Cylinder Numbers Exterior or Interior.	Issues which were printed from either exterior or interior cylinders bearing these numbers.
84.	Animal ½d.
85.	1954 6d. (Pl VII).
86.	1948 ½d. (Pl XVIII). Cape Centenary 4d.
88.	1948 ½d. booklet. 1950 1d. (Pl XXIII).
89.	1948 1d. booklet.
90.	Cape Centenary 4d.
93.	Animal 4d.
94.	Animal 1/-.
97.	1953 1d. roll monocolour.
98.	1953 Coronation 2d.
103.	1952 4d. (Pl III).
104.	O.F.S. Centenary 4½d. Animal 1/-.
105.	1956 Animal 1d. (double-die).
106.	Animal 1/3. Cape Centenary 4d.
107.	Animal 3d. Cape Centenary 1d.
118.	Animal 5/-.
119.	Pretoria Centenary 6d.
121.	Animal 6d.
6027.	1948 1/- (Pl IV).
6045.	1948 ½d. roll monocolour.
6911.	1943 ½d. roll monocolour.
6912.	1947 ½d. (Pl XIV). Royal Visit 2d. 1948 ½d. (Pl XVII). 1951 ½d. booklet.
6913.	1945 2d. (Pl V). 1947 Royal Visit 1d.
6914.	1937 3d. (Pl I). 1939 3d. (Pl II).
6916.	1942 Bantam War 6d. 1947 ½d. (Pl XV).
6917.	1933 Voortrekker 1d. + ½d.
6918.	1938 Voortrekker 1d. + 1d. 1939 10/- (Pl I).
6919.	1938 6d. (Pl IV). 1949 2/6 (Pl II).
6919A 6919B.	1948 1½d. (Pl VIII).
6920.	1937 ½d. razorblade booklet. 1939 ½d. (Pl IX) if existing. 1939 Huguenot 1½d. 1940 1d. booklet. 1948 1½d. booklet.
6921.	1950 Postage due 3d.
6922.	1933 Voortrekker 1d. + ½d. 1937 ½d. booklet. 1941 1d. Large War. 1942 Bantam War 1d. 1946 Victory 3d.
6923.	Royal Silver Wedding 3d. 1952 van Riebeeck ½d.
6924.	1941 1½d. (Pl V).
6925.	1933 Voortrekker 2d. + 1d. 1939 1/- (Pl III). 1949 5/- (Pl II). 1950 1d. (Pl XXV).
6926.	1938 1/- (Pl II). 1938 Voortrekker ½d. + ½d. 1950 1/- (Pl V).
6927.	1937 1/- (Pl I). 1938 Voortrekker 1d. + 1d.
6928.	1946 Victory 3d.
6929.	1937 5/- (Pl I).
6930.	1938 1d. booklet. 1940 1½d. (Pl III). 1943 Postage Due 3d. 1949 6d. (Pl IV).
6931.	1942 Bantam War 2d.
6931A 6931B.	1949 1½d. (Pl IX).
6932.	1938 ½d. (Pl VII). Voortrekker Commemorative 1d.
6933.	1938 1½d. (Pl I). 1939 Huguenot ½d. + ½d. 1939 ½d. (Pl VIII). 1947 ½d. (Pl XVIa).
6934.	1937 ½d. (Pl VI). 1938 Voortrekker 1½d. + 1½d. 1939 10/- (Pl I). 1951 2d. booklet.
6935.	1938 Postage Due 3d. 1946 6d. (Pl V). 1950 1/- (Pl V).
6936.	1933 Voortrekker ½d. + ½d. 1944 Bantam War 1d.
7014.	1933 Voortrekker 2d. + 1d. 1939 Huguenot 1d. + 1d. 1939 ½d. (Pl VIII). Bantam War 3d.
7015.	1937 1d. booklet. 1945 Postage Due ½d.
7016.	1937 ½d. (Pl IV).
7017.	1937 2/6 (Pl I).
7018.	1952 van Riebeeck ½d.
7019.	1939 ½d. (Pl X). Bantam War 1½d. 1946 Victory 2d. 1947 ½d. (Pl XIV). 1948 1d. (Pl XIX).
7020.	1937 1/- (Pl I). 1940 ½d. roll. 1948 1d. (Pl XX).
7020A 7020B.	1948 ½d. (Pl XIX).
7021.	1943 Postage Due 2d. 1949 Natal Settlers 1½d.
7022.	1937 1d. (Pl XII).
7023.	1933 Voortrekker 1d. + ½d. 1946 Victory 2d.

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MOZAMBIQUE WAR TAX STAMPS OF 1916—18

By BORIS GLASSMAN

(Notes accompanying display to the Philatelic Society of Johannesburg)

During the past few years it has become a custom for the retiring President to give his display in, shall I say, a light hearted philatelic manner. To-night I am going to break this custom and am reverting back to the philatelic display. I am, however, carrying on the custom of displaying a subject not previously shown anywhere. That means that I cannot display King George VI, which I have done so many times. My display for to-night is a section of my new collection Mozambique, which is still in its embryo stage. The section being "The War Tax Stamps of Mozambique and their subsequent use as postage stamps".

This collection consists of basically two stamps, namely the 1 centavo and 5 centavos. The designs, which are fully explained on the first page of the exhibit, are to my mind one of the finest designs for their purpose. Had the modern methods of printing been available forty years ago, they would have been really outstanding. However, they had to be printed in South Africa and there is the answer.

The original intention of this issue was for war tax only; the 1c being an obligatory tax on all mail matter and the 5c on all telegrams and parcels. These specific stamps had to be used and it was of no use to attach stamps of the normal series in place of these stamps — although additional money was paid the recipient was taxed double upon receipt, if no war tax stamps were on the mail matter concerned.

Two printers were involved in the printing of these stamps. The first issue, either imperf. or rouletted was done by Hortors Ltd. of Johannesburg, and although not an outstanding printing job there are no varieties other than the rouletted vertically by imperforate horizontally variety in the 5 centavos stamp. The shades are numerous and always vary from light to dark.

The second printing is a different matter altogether, especially the 5 centavos, which abounds with varieties and errors. This printing was done by The Argus Printing and Publishing Co. Ltd., also of Johannesburg, better known to us today as "The Star Offices and Works". This was made in the early part of 1918 and it is from this printing and subsequent printings that the war tax stamps were subsequently overprinted or surcharged for postal use as ordinary stamps when shortages in the relevant denominations occurred. The majority of the varieties are shown in the exhibit. These stamps were not used as postage stamps until after the war with the exception of the provisional postage dues which were issued in September, 1918.

The war tax was abolished immediately upon the cessation of hostilities and as explained above remainders were used in subsequent years for postal purposes.

The overprinting of the stamps was carried out at the printing works of the Government Gazette in Lourenco Marques, and aside from the very few errors the overprinting was a first class job considering the rush and inexperience. The sheets were, except in the case of the 2 escudo overprint, broken up into panes of 25 and overprinted per pane, the printer not having a large enough press to take a full sheet. Thus it is impossible to obtain a full sheet of 100 stamps of any of the overprints except the 2 escudos, but only panes of 25. By the end of 1921 a new machine had been purchased and it was possible to overprint a full sheet at a time.

SOUTH AFRICAN SEALS FOR THE BLIND
A CHECK LIST

By **Drs. J. W. Harris** and **K. Freund**

(Reprinted from the O.F.S. Philatelic Magazine, May number).

(Continued from page 25, February 1957 issue)

(3) **1956.** — Issued by the **Deaf and Blind Institute, Worcester.** — Jubilee Labels.

Design: Head and shoulders of a rather grim looking young man who appears to be blind, in large oval. Above head, the **Coat of Arms** of the Institute, the figures "1881-1956", and Worcester" in a ribbon. — Name of the Institute (in English and Afrikaans) in the double-outlined frame of the oval. Circular ornamental patterns filling out the corners of the label.

Colours: Black and yellow.

Panes of 6 **bilingual** labels. 1/- Booklets contain 2 panes.

Rouletted.

Note in particular the Foundation year: "1881", while the 1941 Label gave the foundation year as "1891" (see above), although the latter year may refer to the Blind School of the Institute only.

(4) **1948. — Southern Rhodesia "Blind" Label.** — Issued as a 1d. **Christmas Label** by the **Order of St. John.**

Design: Much detailed and ornamental pattern. Main feature: **A mounted Knight of St. John.** — Value tablet "1d." in left bottom.

Wording: "Southern Rhodesia, Christmas, Help St. John Prevent Blindness".

Colours: Green, yellow, black, red and white. Perf. 12.

STAMPS ARE BIG MONEY

This is easily gathered from **H. R. Harmer's "Annual Resumé"** and **Robson Lowe's** "Review," both for the season 1955-56. These publications are not just dull Annual Reports with nothing but figures, balance sheets, etc.; they are both interesting stories of the activities of two big philatelic organisations, with numerous illustrations of the more important items handled by them.

To quote just a few figures, it may be said that both firms had record seasons; in England the turnover in each case topped £300,000. In New York, H. R. Harmer Inc. had sales more than their total for the two previous seasons together, almost $1¾ m. Four sales of the fabulous Caspary collection were responsible for this enormous increase. Incidentally, it may be noted that the Caspary sale of U.S.A. general issues fetched almost $300,000 and the Italian States over $250,000.

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THE UNHYPHENATED ½D.

By A. J. BROWN.

It will be remembered that Volume II of the Handbook Catalogue included a completely new tabulation of the printings of this stamp. It might be thought that whatever inaccuracies there might be in the description of other issues of the ½d., the unhyphenated were then finally determined.

In Volume I of the Handbook, the printing from the first head and first frame cylinder combination, with marginal arrows illustrated as "Plate I", was described as having "white patches" on the head cylinder on the stamps from rows 1/12, 4/11 and 9/5. In Volume II, however, this was stated to exist only with "no white patches or retouches on any stamp"; and the printing with the white patches was described as coming from the combination of first head and **second** frame cylinders, known as Plate II, and having marginal arrows illustrated as "Plate II".

Since the new listing of Plate I was stated to have been made "as a result of further research", it must be assumed that the Editors are quite satisfied that such a printing does definitely exist, i.e., with Plate I arrows and without the white patches on stamps from rows 1/12, 4/11 and 9/5. If this is so, then it seems odd that the conception that a printing with Plate I arrows and the white patches existed ever arose. G. N. Gilbert stated in his study of the plate flaws of the unhyphenated ½d. around 1934 that the Plate I printing did have these white patches. Moreover, although this may have been an oversight, no alteration was made in Vol. II to the catalogue number of the basic stamp of the first Official overprint (O. 17), given as 36, which under the new listing becomes the Plate I printing without the white flaws. It will be seen however that two varieties of the O. 17 are listed, the worn shading on row 9/5 (O. 17Bb), and the white patch on the throat, (O. 17Bc). There are obvious inconsistencies here. Did Plate I exist both with and without the white patches, or was the Handbook wrong in this instance? Did the first Official overprint, O.17, have these white patches, or not?

The answer to the last question is quite certain; the Official overprints with Plate I arrows do have the white patches on rows 4/11 and 9/5, as the writer has examples and has seen others.

The existence or otherwise of Plate II printings with these white flaws can be determined from, for example, blocks of four stamps from rows 3 and 4, stamps 11 and 12. On row 3/12 of Plate II, the green line flaw through the right frame is present; on the same stamp from Plate I this flaw is absent. A block from these positions from Plate II will therefore show the white patch on the throat on row 4/11 in combination with the green line through the right frame on row 3/12; a similar block from Plate I will show the same white patch on row 4/11 without the green line on row 3/12. Such blocks do in fact exist, the writer having that from Plate I, and having seen one from the same position from Plate II.

The writer is quite satisfied that an additional printing should be added to those of the unhyphenated ½d. in any future supplement or new edition of the Handbook Catalogue, i.e., a printing from head and frame cylinders I, with Plate I arrows, showing the white patches on rows 1/12, 4/11 and 9/5. No doubt the Editors of the Handbook catalogue have the necessary material available to confirm that this is so, and the writer would be interested to have their comments.

Addendum.

Since writing the above article, the author has obtained a complete sheet of 240 stamps of the printing — with S.W.A. overprint unfortunately — with Plate I arrows, and this confirms again that the "white patch in front of the buck's neck" on Row 4/11, and the "worn shading between the horns" on Row 9/5 definitely occur in conjunction with the first frame cylinder.

THE 2d. PHOTO-VIGNETTE HYPHENATED ROTOGRAVURE STAMPS, WITH PARTICULAR REFERENCE TO PLATE VII.

by

G. N. GILBERT and DR. T. B. BERRY

The 2d. Photo-vignette issues, viz. Plates V to VIII, are one of the most interesting series of the Union stamps, and present many problems, in particular those pertaining to the series listed in Vol. II of the Union Handbook as Plates VIIa, VIIb, and VIIc. In order to determine these, a close study of complete sheets of the various printings along with tabulated material from collections, was made. Diverse flaws which could not be consolidated, presented themselves; changes of multipositive which would not hold in practice, appeared to be necessary; plate flaws which appeared as by magic disappeared in similar manner without progress resulting; in short, the authors realised they were chasing a mirage and in doing so they were getting deeper into the mire. They therefore decided to attack the problem from a different angle, namely to assemble all the authentic information pertaining to the printing it was possible to obtain, and then to reconcile the emissions actually made with this information. For this purpose, recourse was made to the kindly help of the Publicity Officer, Philatelic Section, G.P.O., The Government Printer, and the records of printings as contained in the S.A. Philatelist.

THE AUTHENTIC DATA

The following aspects comprise the data which are of an official or authentic nature and comprise the basis of this investigation.

1. **The Multipositive.**

One multipositive, and one only, was used in the preparation of all the printings from Plates V, VI, VII, and VIII, despite the fact that in Plate V, the "2" of the figure of value merges into the white circle, while in the following printings it is separated from the white circle except in a few isolated cases. This characteristic of Plate V proved a stumbling block to any consolidation of the plates of the photo-vignette series for some time but has happily been cleared up now by the timely explanation of the Government Printer, that the merging of the "2" is due to the action of the Doctor-blade coinciding with and dropping into the particular recess in the surface of the printing cylinder, thereby rob-

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bing it of its ink. This phenomenon has been dealt with more fully in a recent issue of the S.A. Philatelist.

Thus it will be conceded that the distinguishing characteristic of Plate V which appeared to exclude it from a common multipositive now falls away and, in accordance with the statement that the same multipositive had been used in the preparation of Plates V to VIII, the authors have been able to trace the following multipositive flaws of the exterior cylinder common to the printings under consideration, viz:—

Row 3, No. 2. A very tiny purple dot in sky under "RI" of AFRICA, Plates V to VIIc.

Row 4, No. 6. Purple dot in sky just left of and over left hand tower. Starts faintly in Plate V, shows up clearly in printings VIIa and b. No sign in Plate VIIc, but again faintly in Plate VIII.

Row 6, No. 2. Dot in right leg of first "A" of AFRIKA, Plates V to VIII.

Row 8, No. 6. Dot in left hand outer frame-line, Plates VIIa to VIII.

Row 10, No. 6. Tiny dot over "I" of AFRIKA, Plates V to VIII.

Row 11, No. 1. Two tiny marks in top right corner just under the stop after the last "A" of AFRIKA, Plates VIIa to VIII.

Row 13, No. 1. Dot in left hand outer frame line near bottom, Plates VIIa to VIII.

Row 18, No. 2. White spot in top right corner, Plates V to VIII.

Row 20, No. 6. Tiny purple dot just left to the right-hand tower, Plates VIIa to VIII.

2. **Plate VII Cylinders.**

The authors were informed that only one set of cylinders, viz, No. 8 Interior, and No. 21 Exterior, was used to produce all the printings listed by the Handbook under Plates VIIa (8621), VIIb (8/unknown), and VIIv (8/unknown). In this respect, official records were consulted in which "specimens" of the first sheets "pulled" from a new cylinder or set of cylinders are kept, together with the dates. There was surprisingly a gap in the records which jumped from Plate VI to Plate VIII, and there was no record of Plate VII at all. This printing had apparently been missed as the responsible official was on leave when the printing was made, but it was emphasised that had a further printing been made from another set of cylinders, it was certain that the record of this would not have been missed for a second time. Thus it may be rightly assumed that only one set of cylinders, 8/21, was used to print all the emissions from Plate VII.

As a check to the above the following date were extracted from the records of the S.A. Philatelist:—

ANALYSIS OF THE LIFE AND WORK DONE BY THE RESPECTIVE CYLINDERS USED FOR THE PRINTING OF PLATES V, VI, VII, AND VIII, 2d. STAMPS.

Plate	Cyl. Nos.	Number of sheets ordered	Number of sheets printed.	Period over which printing extended.	Number of Printings.
V	6913/10	35,000	53,725	7/8/45 to 22/11/45	2
VI	6913/64	1,500,000	198,453	7/8/46 to 17/10/46	3
VII	8/21	1,500,000	505,984	5/11/46 to 15/9/47	3
VIII	2/37	60,000	60,000	14/3/50 to 21/3/50	1

NOTE: 1. There is a gap of nearly 3½ years between emissions from Plates VII and VIII, various commemorative and war issues making their appearance in this period.

2. The period over which printing extended was approximately three months each in the case of Plates V and VI, one year in the case of Plate VII, and one week for Plate VIII.

3. It will be observed that there were only three printings to comprise Plate VII — all from the same cylinders (8/21) and extending over a period of about one year, during which period about half a million sheets were printed — not an excessive number, for under normal circumstances about one million sheets are officially expected from a set of cylinders.

3. **The Ghost Arrows.**

A set of conditions, colloquially known as "Ghost Arrows" and which were first ascribed to remains of old arrows which had not been entirely removed when the cylinder was cleaned off and re-etched for the making of Plate VII, warranted the acceptance of only one set of cylinders doing duty for all the Plate VII emissions, as these were later officially stated to be impressions picked up by the draw roller.

These ghost arrows take the form of extra arrows occurring opposite Row 1, on one or both vertical margins of some sheets of Plate VII printings and not on others, and are of varying intensity, but their position opposite Row 1 does not conform with the position of the Ghost Arrows of the 4d. and 6d. printings as these occur opposite Row 17.

An explanation of this condition was sought from the Publicity Officer who kindly replied in effect as follows:—

The etching of the arrows and the stamp (2d.) used to be done at the same time. It was then discovered that by doing this, the etching of the arrows became too deep with the result that the ink could not dry fast enough. It was necessary therefore to miss the main draw roller just above the printing cylinder and to thread the web under a much smaller roller a little further on in the machine. The deeply etched arrows were still setting off on this roller, but as there was no other alternative the web was kept in that position. The arrow was setting off on this smaller roller, the circumference of which is approximately 22.68 cms. and it will be found that the ghost arrow is that distance away from the main centre arrow.

The reason why the impression of the ghost arrow varied in different sheets was that the ink on the small roller was drying at various

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speeds, i.e. the drier the ink on the roller the lighter was the ghost arrow.

4. **The Broken Inner Frame Printing.**

One of the printings from Plate VII appeared with black cyclometer numbers and the characteristic broken inner frame in stamps of the first two vertical rows. The condition is listed as Plate VIIb printing from cylinders 8/unknown, and is stated to be the result of a worn cylinder.

The Broken Frame effect has now been established as being due to the scavenging effect of the Doctor blade, which, due to the angle at which it was set, was able to drop into the particular recess on the cylinder, and produce the effect of a broken frame. Thus, this printing may now be considered to be no other than one of the three printings from Plate VII, Cylinders 8/21.

CONCLUSION.

The authors present their findings which are in accordance with accepted facts and official records:

1. That the same multipositive was used throughout for the preparation of Plates V to VIII.
2. That only one set of cylinders, Nos. 8/21, was used for the three printings comprising Plate VII emissions.
3. That they would suggest the amending of Volume II of the Handbook, page 56 to read "Plate VII, Cyls. 8/21, Printings a, b, c".
4. That the differences found in the various printings catalogued as Plates VIIa, VIIb and VIIc, are due to printing causes and/or to minor damage to the set of cylinders between printings. These are considered hereunder:

CHARACTERISTICS OF THE INDIVIDUAL PLATES COMPRISING PLATE VII PRINTINGS.

The authors feel that before closing their dissertation some comment should be made on the plate characteristics of the Plate VII printings.

(a) **Plate VIIa.**

The sheets reputed to be of Plate VIIa printing vary greatly in shade from a dull mauve, similar to the shade of Plate VI printings to a vivid lilac mauve.

Frame Flaws.

Row 1, No. 5. A tiny dot in the top right corner near the inner frame line and just under the stop after the last "A" in AFRIKA.

Row 2, No. 2. A tiny dot in the bottom right corner of stamp.

Row 6, No. 6. Broken inner frame-line below "AF" of AFRIKA.

Row 17, No. '. A dent in the right outer frame-line just below centre.

Row 19, No. 2. A tiny nick out of the left hand outer frameline just above the middle.

Row 20, No. 3. A similar nick as the above.

Vignette Flaws.

Row 1, No. 2. A curved mark in the sky just right of lefthand tower.

A fine scratch which extends down through Row 1, No. 2 to Row 3, No. 3. This starts on the top stamp just right of the right-hand tower, slants slightly to come out just to the left of the same tower on Row 3, No. 2.

Both these flaws occur in all the Plate VII printings and would indicate the same interior cylinder having been used.

(b) **Plate VIIb.**

Sheets reputed to be Plate VIIb printing bear red or black sheet numbers.

Frame Flaws.

NOTE: None of the preceding frame flaws recur but the following are present:

Row 2, No. 2. A blob in the top outer frameline over "D" of SUID.

Row 18, No. 6. Two purple dots almost merging into each other just right of the lefthand tower, clear in the black numbered sheets but fainter in those with the red numbers. This flaw is evidently that named by Mr. Lichtenstein as the "parachutist".

Margins. 1. Broken bottom tip to the right-hand arrow, with a heavy blob above and a smaller one below.

2. A tiny dot in the bottom righthand margin opposite Row 20, No. 6.

Vignette Flaws.

With the exception of the two flaws mentioned in the first list, no further characteristic flaws were found.

(c) **Plate VIIc.**

Sheets reputed to be Plate VIIc printings:

Frame Flaws.

NOTE: None of the preceding frame flaws recur but the following are present:

Row 2, No. 1. A small white break in the inner righthand frameline, near middle.

Row 19, No. 6. A tiny dot in top margin over "R" of AFRICA.

Row 20, No. 6. A tiny dot in top margin over "D-A" of SUID-AFRIKA. This latter flaw does not show up in any of the preceding printings but does appear in Plate VIII printing, so it is probably a spot which was picked up by the multipositive between this printing and the making of the cylinders of Plate VIII.

Vignette Flaws.

None with the exception of the two already mentioned.

COMMENT.

It will be observed that although three Plate VII printings were made from the same cylinders, none of the frame-plate flaws are common to these printings, while on the other hand new frame-plate flaws occur in each printing. The authors are entirely at a loss to explain this phenomenon, which condition it is assumed caused the Catalogue Committee to consider that "unknown" exterior cylinders had been used for the printings from Plates VIIb and VIIc. They would gladly welcome any suggestions or comments which would offer a solution to this intriguing condition.

ACKNOWLEDGEMENT.

Sincere thanks is expressed to Messrs. Sheffield and Lichtenstein for the loan of material, and grateful appreciation is extended to the officials of the Publicity Bureau and the Government Printing Works who gave up so much of their time and patiently went out of their way to be of assistance in this matter.

PHILATELIC CONGRESS OF GREAT BRITAIN

This year's congress meeting will be held in Harrogate from 14th to 17th May. Enquiries from prospective visitors, etc., should be made to the Congress Secretary, Mr. Fred Myers, 127 Ley Lane, Leeds, 12.

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MISS ROSE TITFORD

The indefatigable and efficient secretary of the "Royal" Expert Committee for so many years recently resigned her post there, and it is now announced that she has joined the Firm of H. E. Wingfield & Co., of 392 Strand, London W.C.2. Her first appearance in her new role will be to represent this well known firm at "Stampex" in London.

ISRAELI INTERNATIONAL EXHIBITION

An International Stamp Exhibition "TABIL" will be held in Tel-Aviv, Sept. 17-23, 1957. It will be under the rulings of the F.I.P.; there will be the usual special stamps, covers, and cancellations. Frames for exhibitors will be free. Further details later. Address, P.O. Box 681, Tel-Aviv.

ISRAEL

Three stamps of a "Defence Series" are to be issued shortly; their values in pruta being 80 plus 20, 150 plus 50 and 350 plus 50. The surcharges go towards the defence of the State.

LEO BUCHEN

Congratulations to Mr. L. Buchen for being honoured, even if somewhat belatedly, by "Stamps" reproducing his photograph in the act of receiving the American Philatelic Society's award of distinction at the TEPPEX dinner in Pretoria, Nov., 1955. This award was for his showing of German South West Africa, which was considered by the Jury to be the most distinctive one in the exhibition.

COMMEMORATIVE STAMPS AND POSTMARKS

International Scout Jamboree. This is being held at Sutton Park, England, early in August; it is the Scout's Jubilee and also commemorates the centenary of the birth of Lord Baden Powell.

Britain will issue a special set of stamps and Messrs. Francis J. Field Ltd., will soon be advertising special covers and servicing thereof.

British Health Congress. Is being held at Folkestone, Kent, 30 April—3rd May. The Royal Society of Health, 90 Buckingham Palace Road, London, S.W.1, is servicing special covers at 1/- each, plus postage: These will get a special postmark on the opening day of Congress.

Fine Arts Philatelist. The Sept.-Oct. 1956 number of this Bulletin of the Fine Arts Unit of the American Topical Association starts a Check List of all the painters, sculptors and architects mentioned in the current issue of the "Master Work". Very useful for thematic collectors in this field.

SMITHSONIAN INSTITUTION

This building, in Washington, D.C., houses amongst other things the U.S. National Postage Stamp Collection. It has started issuing "News Letters", dealing mainly with new additions to the collection.

We have received no fewer than seven of these issued during the month of January, 1957.

INDIA

Sometime this year it is intended to issue a set of stamps commemorating the centenary of the 1st War of Independence, as the unhappy events of 1857 are now termed.

SAAR

This territory passed to German control on 1st January; Its French stamps will however remain current for a few months, but the new set of 21 German stamps was ready for sale at the beginning of the year. They are inscribed "Deutsches Bundespost—Saarland". The Saar and West Germany each had also a special commemorative for the occasion.

SOCIETY NEWS

GERMISTON PHILATELIC SOCIETY.

There was a very good attendance on **20th February, 1957,** for the Annual General Meeting. The following Officials were elected for the new year:

President: Mr. L. J. Picton, Vice-President: Dr. J. J. van Niekerk, Secretary/Treasurer: Mr. I. S. Burniston, Auctioneer: Mr. W. S. Deverell, Librarian: Mr. R. F. G. Bompas, Committee Members: Mr. S. J. Hagger (ex officio), Dr. A. Kaplan, Mr. B. Eilers.

At this meeting it was decided that in future all meetings would be held at the Public Library, Germiston, on the third Wednesday of each month. After all of the usual business had been completed the members and visitors present were treated to a very fine display of Union stamps tabled by the retiring President, Mr. S. J. Hagger. Dr. Alec Kaplan spoke on the exhibit and conveyed the thanks of all present to Mr. S. J. Hagger for tabling such a fine collection of mint Unions.

I. S. B.

EAST LONDON PHILATELIC SOCIETY.

The highlight of our February meeting was the display of two albums by Mr. W. Lambert of the Johannesburg Philatelic Society. Mr. Lambert is a thematic collector and we saw some very unusual items of Air Stamps.

Mr. C. P. Durkin displayed some very fine items of Malta and St. Helena.

Mr. Geo. Feros showed a very fine item comprising a ¼ sheet of the Union penny unhyphenated with missing centres and partly missing centres.

J. P. S.

THE PHILATELIC SOCIETY OF THE WESTERN RAND.

The Annual General Meeting was held at Krugersdorp Town Hall on **Wednesday 27th, 1957,** at 8 p.m.

The outgoing Chairman, Mr. Yelland, in his report, stated that the attendance had dropped off slightly during the year under review. He also stated that once again several members had been fortunate to procure recognition at various exhibitions held in the Union.

Office Bearers for 1957

Chairman: Mr. W. S. Yelland, Vice-Chairman: Mr. S. Vermaak, Hon. Secretary: Mr. O. C. Kylander, Committee Members: Messrs. Bruwer, Edwards and Smith, Delegates to Federation: Mr. O. C. Kylander, Alternate Delegate to Federation and Congress: Mr. W. S. Yelland.

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Mr. Yelland, the new Chairman, announced the winner of the "P.S.W.R." Cup for 1956. This went to Mr. Bruwer for his collection of Unions. The runners up were Mr. Henderson and Mr. Vermaak.

O. C. K.

PRETORIA PHILATELIC SOCIETY.

The Annual General Meeting was held on **4th February.** The Hawke Award for 1956 went to one of our staunchest and most active members, whose support in every respect goes back well-nigh thirty years, Mr. E. C. Wright. It was indeed a popular award.

After the election of office bearers for 1957 we were privileged to view a selection of Mr. Slater-Kinghorn's Great Britain 1d. blacks and 2d. blues, and some very choice British Colonials, including better class material on cover. This was an eleventh-hour exhibit as the Society's collection was unavoidably not available for display.

The following is the list of office-bearers for 1957:—

President: Mr. F. C. Ferguson, Vice-President: Mr. D. Slater-Kinghorn, Honorary Secretary: Mr. R. N. Castignani, Honorary Treasurer: Mr. C. S. J. Gouws, Honorary Exchange Superintendent: Mr. W. Impey, Honorary Librarian: Miss J. R. Taylor, Honorary Auctioneer: Mr. W. Newlands, Honorary Curator: Dr. T. B. Berry, Honorary Correspondent: Mr. J. M. Weinstein, Committee Members: Messrs. E. Manville-Ford, E. C. Wright and J. M. Weinstein, Delegates to Federation: Messrs. F. C. Ferguson, D. Slater-Kinghorn and Dr. T. B. Berry.

18th February, 1957. Members were privileged to hear a most interesting paper on the Belgian Congo, presented by Mr. V. G. Chowles, who followed this with a display of the early and modern issues of this country.

J. M. W.

THEMATIC STAMP CLUB.

February 11. The thematic collection of Mrs. C. Smits of Port Elizabeth "Zoology on Stamps" was shown. This was set out correctly according to zoological classification and well written-up.

M. F. S.

ROYAL PHILATELIC SOCIETY OF CAPE TOWN.

On **14th February** we thoroughly enjoyed Mr. Simenhoff's comprehensive collection of "The Holy Land". Through the medium of a paper read by Mr. Simenhoff in support of his display, not only the history of the State was traced, but also the postal history. It was quite a revelation to see the extent of material wealth and facts this member was able to present. The evening was indeed a pleasurable one.

On **28th February** the Annual General Meeting took place.

Election of Office Bearers.

President: Mr. W. G. Combrink, Vice-President: Dr. P. L. Vautier, Hon. Secretary: Mrs. J. Hall, Hon. Treasurer: Mr. I. E. Hall, Hon. Exchange Supt.: Mr. C. R. V. Solomon, Hon. Librarian: Mr. A. G. Versino, Committee Members: Mr. R. Putzel, Mr. F. L. Archer, Mr. H. R. Savage, Mr. R. F. Chapman.

J. H.

GRAHAMSTOWN PHILATELIC SOCIETY.

The Annual General Meeting was held on **Thursday, 14th February,** and the following officials were elected:—

Dr. E. McC. Callan, President; Mr. R. A. Brown, Hon. Secretary/Treasurer (P.O. Box 94); Mr. H. H. Smith, Hon. Exchange Superintendent; Mr. A. D. Lofting, Hon. Auctioneer.

There has been plenty of variety at the last four meetings. In August we had the privilege of seeing Advocate O'Hagan's magnificent collection of Unions and Southern Rhodesia — mint used, singles and blocks. In September Dr. Cory showed his well-known "Bits and pieces", which contains something for everybody.

In October Mr. Tarr exhibited his small but extremely attractive "Fish on stamps." Mr. Tarr interprets the term "Fish" widely to include certain other aquatic animals, such as lobsters, turtles and seals, and also includes "Fishing and fishing vessels on stamps." Discussion followed on zoological classification and on the thematic stamps issued by the Spanish African colonies. At the last meeting of the year in November we saw Mr. Lightfoot's virtually complete collection of Northern Rhodesia. This display was much enhanced by the owner's interesting commentary on how the stamps came to be produced and the various ways in which he acquired them.

PORT ELIZABETH PHILATELIC SOCIETY

January 15th, 1957. A fascinating display by Mr. G. Bulbring of his German Booklet and Coiled Stamps ranging from the earliest issues, 1910, to the present day.

February 5th, 1957. History was made at this meeting when a new member exhibited on the night of his admission. The Exhibitor was Mr. M. L. N. Gunning, who tabled a most interesting collection of Covers of Southern Africa.

February 19th, 1957. The 45th Annual General Meeting of the Port Elizabeth Philatelic Society. The following Office Bearers were elected:—

President: Mr. W. Pavitt; Vice-Presidents: Dr. J. W. Harris and Mr. G. Monaghan; Secretary: Mr. G. E. Smukler; Treasurer: Miss J. McSporran; Exchange Superintendent: Mr. E. Baer; Committee: Messrs. D. Berg, G. Bulbring, A. J. Fisher, G. K. Forbes, R. W. Pearson, J. F. Slabbert and P. Smits.

THE PHILATELIC SOCIETY OF RHODESIA

6th February, 1957. The Annual General Meeting started at 8 p.m. with an Exhibit by Mr. Godfrey of Johannesburg entitled "Airmail History of Rhodesia and Nyasaland". The collection was specially brought up from Johannesburg by Mr. Creewel. The following officers were elected for 1957:

Chairman: Mr. J. Dowdell; Vice-Chairman: Mr. J. Creewel; Hon. Treasurer and Superintendent: Mr. J. Lazarus; Hon. Sec.: Mr. H. Rendsburg; Committee Members: Mrs. Wallace, Messrs. de Fossard and Fitzstephens.

The Porter Cup was presented to Mr. Fitzstephens for his collection of S.W. Africa. Runner-up was Mr. H. Rendsburg with U.S.A. Airmails.

H. R.

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THE

SOUTH AFRICAN PHILATELIST

PROPRIETORS AND PUBLISHERS:

The Philatelic Federation of Southern Africa

Editorial Board: Dr. J. H. HARVEY PIRIE (Chairman), J. E. FRANKLAND, Dr. T. B. BERRY, W. N. SHEFFIELD, P.O. Box 375, Johannesburg.

Business Manager: Mr. J. MICHELSON, P.O. Box 375, Johannesburg.

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UNION NOTES

Hon. Associate Editor: Dr. T. B. BERRY, Box 31, Bryanston, Transvaal.

RECENT PRINTINGS

The Publicity Officer, Department of Posts and Telegraphs, has kindly supplied the following information concerning the period 30.10.56 to 31.1.57. For the previous list, see our February issue.

Animal Series Postage Stamps

1d. — Job No. 134892 contd. On an order for 1,000,000 sheets of 240 stamps per sheet, an initial delivery of 19,500 sheets was made on the 6.3.56, the total delivery to date being 448,532 sheets instead of the number previously stated.

On the same job No., but from the old single die cylinder No. 12, an initial delivery of 36,000 sheets was made on the 20.3.56, the total delivery to date being 457,313 sheets.

On the same job No., but from a new double die cylinder No. 105, an initial delivery of 8,500 sheets was made on the 4.9.56, a total delivery was made on the 6.12.56 of 270,198 sheets.

1d. — Job No. 5413. On an order for 2,000,000 sheets of 240 stamps per sheet, an initial delivery of 9,000 sheets was made on the 10.1.57, the total delivery to date being 208,000 sheets. Same double die cylinder No. 105.

On the same job No., but from the old double die cylinder No. 3, 4,500 sheets were delivered on the 29.1.57, the total delivery to date being 56,500 sheets.

2d. — Job No. 132269 contd. On an order for 1,000,000 sheets of 240 stamps per sheet, an initial delivery of 19,000 sheets was made on the 20.12.55, the total delivery to date being 640,290 sheets. Same double die cylinder No. 20.

On the same job No., but from old single die cylinder No. 56, an initial delivery of 25,000 sheets was made on the 19.6.56, the total delivery being 273,482 sheets.

3d. — Job No. 691 contd. On an order for 200,000 sheets of 120 stamps per sheet, an initial delivery of 29,500 sheets was made on the 9.8.56, the total delivery to date being 104,185 sheets. Same cylinders, No. 16 Interior, and 107 Exterior.

4d. — Job No. 692 contd. On an order for 110,000 sheets of 120 stamps per sheet, an initial delivery of 6,000 sheets was made on the 29.5.56, the total delivery to date being 85,265 sheets. Same cylinders, No. 53 Interior, and 93 Exterior.

6d. — Job No. 693 contd. On an order for 112,000 sheets of 120 stamps per sheet, an initial delivery of 15,500 sheets was made on the 14.8.56, the total delivery to date being 57,710 sheets. Same cylinders, No. 1 Interior, and 121 Exterior.

Roll Stamps

1d. — Job No. 129,844 contd. On an order for 20,000 rolls of 506 stamps per roll, an initial delivery of 600 rolls was made on the 10.11.56, the total delivery to date being 13,900 rolls. Same cylinder No. 27.

On the same job No., on an order for 10,000 rolls of 1,012 stamps per roll, a total delivery of 8,100 rolls has been made to date. Same cylinder No. 27.

Picture postcardds

1½d. — Job No. 132,268 contd. On an order for 2,720,000 cards, an initial delivery of 40,320 cards was made on the 20.5.56, the total delivery on the 21.1.57 being 2,806,080 cards. Chambon printing machine, but new cylinder for stamp.

Air Letter Cards

6d. — Job No. 132,274 contd. On an order for 8,000,000 cards, an initial delivery of 72,000 was made on the 1.3.56, the total delivered to date being 5,950,200 cards. Same cylinders, Chambon printing machine.

Ghost Printing Phenomena

Ghost Arrows: Referring to our recent Notes, Mr. M. J. Rall, of Heidelberg, Cape, draws attention to a Ghost Arrow occurring in the 1d. Plate VI printing.



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We append a description of the item which consists of a portion of an arrow in black, situated about 11 m.m. above the normal marginal arrow and nearer to the vertical edge of the stamps than the sheet arrow. The Ghost Arrow consists of unbroken lines whereas the sheet arrow of Plate VI is composed of dots, which condition indicates that the former is the impression of the relic of an arrow which had not been completely cleared off a previously used printing cylinder. It is constant in nature, and those Union collectors who are fortunate enough to possess the right-hand marginal arrow of the 1d. Plate VI printing, will find one of the earliest of the Union's Ghost Arrows, if not the earliest, present among their stamps.

Ghost Sheet Numbers: Akin to arrows are sheet numbers in that they are also printed on the margin of a sheet of stamps and are liable to the same vicissitudes.

Mr. C. E. Sherwood, of Manchester, and Mr. I. Dekenah, of Klerksdorp, are among those who have drawn our attention to a printing characteristic which may be aptly described as "Ghost Sheet Numbers" and which consists of extra sheet numbers appearing in a subdued form on the margin of the sheet. The appearance is not uncommon, the red sheet numbers being more common than the black as the printers red ink dries slower than the black.

Ghost Sheet Numbers are produced in a manner similar to the type of Ghost Arrow which is the result of a roller picking up the impression of the undried ink from a recently printed sheet-number, as the sheet passes through the printing machine, and imparts this number once per revolution on the sheet margin at a position not normally occupied by a sheet-number.

Through the courtesy of the Publicity Officer, G.P.O., Pretoria, we are informed that the Cut-adjusting Roller, which is the roller which adjusts the cut of the sheet, is the responsible one, and that its diameter is 2.84 inches. Consequently, the Ghost Sheet Number will appear twice on a sheet about 8.9 ins. distant from and in the rear of the off-setting sheet number, remembering that the sheet travels through the printing machine with its bottom margin leading, and that it comes off the machine "backwards".

It may be of interest to note that the sheet number is the first item to be printed on the paper which will ultimately become a sheet of stamps, the frame portion of the stamps is the next, and lastly the vignette to complete the printing.

Ghost Slogans: Following upon the foregoing, it is perhaps appropriate that we should have received an enquiry concerning a printing characteristic which has come to be known as "Ghost Slogans". The condition consists of extra slogans appearing in a subdued form on the sheet margins of the second, and to a greater extent on those of the third printing of the 6d. War Effort (Bantam) issue, S.A.H. No. 95, examples of which are illustrated.

Ghost Slogans are the impressions of the remains of sheet slogans which had not been completely cleaned off a previously used printing cylinder. As found in the 6d. Bantam issue, their origin is most interesting while their character is intriguing. These aspects are dealt with in an excellent article by Mr. G. N. Gilbert, appearing in the S.A. Philatelist of September





1945, the perusal of which we heartily recommend.

Union Rarities

Recently we have been privileged to view two rare Union items, — the King's Head issue 1d. Monocoloured and the 2½d. Bicoloured Die Proofs, printed on paper watermarked Springbok head, imperforate, and unmounted.

The black and white photographic illustrations do not do these shy items justice but serve the purpose of conveying some idea of their general outline. The 1d. value is printed in five different colours, while the 2½d. is catalogued as existing in nine colour combinations.

Admittedly, these items are not a definite issue, but its Die Proofs, nor can they be compared to the world's rarities such as the 1850 and 1856 British Guianas etc., or to come nearer home, to the 1861 Cape Triangular woodblock change-of-colour, but their year of issue, 1913, is a mere yesterday compared to the classical years of 1840 to 1860. It will be interesting to forecast their value in the fullness of time.

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Incidentally, it has been stated that the Union's scarcest stamp of a Definitive Issue nature is the London Recess printed 2/6 value, **perf 14 x 13½**, and more so the Inscription pair or block, S.A.H., 30A and 30Aca. What do you think?

The opinion of readers on this subject, and maybe to list the items in their order of "elusiveness", would be welcome.

Information Required Please

Dr. J. W. Harris, of Port Elizabeth, writes that he has just obtained a Zuid-Afrikaanse Republiek postcard with the 1 Penny impressed stamp current at that time, cancelled "Johannesburg 5-12-1898." On the other side is a vignette of "The Hospital," the main entrance of which is obviously the General Hospital of today. On this picture-side the legends are all in English, the publication being by Gallo Epstein & Co.

Obviously the official postal stationery was used for private printing. This is a practice that is still current in some European countries and it is interesting to note that 60 years ago this was to be found in the Transvaal.

Dr. Harris would be obliged if any specialist in Zuid-Afrikaanse Republiek Postal Stationery could inform him if any other vignette besides "The Hospital" exists, and whether any other firm besides the above mentioned also used the official postcards for private printings.

Information is sought concerning the illustrated pair of the 1/- value of the issue of 1887 (S.G. type 4), entitled BRITISH BECHUANALAND/POSTAGE AND REVENUE, in the unappropriated Die of Great Britain, Surcharged £5 in large numerals.



The stamps have evidently been used for fiscal purposes. The date of cancellation appears to be 6 JUNE 1918 or 1919. By this period the territory had become the "Bechuanaland Protectorate", the postage stamps then being used were the Great Britain issue of King George V, with an overprint reading BECHUANALAND PROTECTORATE. The highest value thus treated is five shillings.

It is surmised that the surcharge was applied locally because were it printed by De La Rue & Co. the word "Postage" would have been obliterated, especially if the value was not required for postal use, as was probably the case.

An oversea contributor will be glad to know if anyone has ever obtained the 2d. Roll Stamp, catalogued as R11, from a stamp vending machine, and if so, when and where?

There is no doubt that these stamps were designed for sale in stamp vending machines but from enquiries instituted through the Publicity Officer, no record can be found of the installation or conversion of stamp vending machines capable of their disposal.

Evidently, the 2d. Roll Stamps were sold over the counter only, but should any reader be in a position to supply any information to the contrary, a communication will be gratefully received.

Mr. Irving Hirsch, of Brooklyn, New York, reports that he possesses a 2½d., 1910 Commemorative Stamp in which the second "O" of "Good" of "Cape of Good Hope" is in thicker white with a tail running upward to the margin of the insignia. He would be grateful to any reader of the S.A. Philatelist, to which he is also a subscriber, if he or she could give him an explanation of this plate flaw or tell him if it is constant.

The "Eleventh Row" Flaw

We refer to an enquiry appearing in our Notes of December 1956, concerning certain



flaws which are constant and occur always in the same vertical row on the sheet and separated eleven rows — half a cylinder revolution — apart, examples of which flaws, among others, are:

St. Elmo's Light (illustrated), a red dot on the English stamp, Row 6/3, and also on the Afrikaans stamp, Row 17/3, U.H.B., 37L Vb, Vc.

The "Red Spot in Sea", Row 2/3, and Row 13/3, on the English and Afrikaans stamps respectively, U.H.B. 37L Ve, Vf.

Enquiries addressed to the Government Printer through the Publicity Officer elicited the reply that no record of these flaws can be traced and that they were probably caused by accidental injury to the delicate surface of the printing cylinder by a tool or instrument, such as a calliper, being passed over the surface of the cylinder to determine its diameter during the process of its preparation, would "indent" the surface at opposite ends of a diameter (eleven rows apart on the circumference of the printing cylinder). These "indents" or depressions in the cylinder, if sufficiently deep so as

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to escape being completely ground out during the further process of finishing off the cylinder, will pick up ink during the printing process and leave their imprint.

Flaw on 3d. Value 1949 Voortrekker Issue

The O.F.S. Philatelic Magazine, March 1957 issue, prints a reply by Mr. A. Lichtenstein, of Bloemfontein, to the enquiry appearing in our March Notes concerning the above printing flaw.

Mr. Lichtenstein states that he has inspected several sheets of this value, both the S.A. issue and the overprinted S.W.A. issue, for this printing flaw but without success. It may therefore be presumed that this flaw is definitely not constant.

Master Negative Flaw on 1/6 Animal Stamp

Mr. Eric Walker, of Pretoria, draws attention to a tiny brown dot occurring in the gutter margin at the top of the 1/6 Gemsbok stamps. This dot, very faint and shy in the black sheet-number printing but more distinct in the red-sheet-number printing (the second printing), is positioned above and between "HA" of SOUTH AFRICA, and about ½ m.m. above the top margin of the stamp. It may be found on all the stamps of the sheet and is evidently a master negative characteristic.

Erratum

On page 224 of Volume I of the Handbook, it is stated that the third printing of the 6d. Bantam Issue, U.H.B. 95, was made by cylinder No. 6916. This does not appear to be in accordance with the published information, for in the January 1945 issue of the S.A. Philatelist, it is reported that a new cylinder No. "74" was used for the printing of the 6d. War Postage Stamps. Upon checking this statement with factors which bear upon the Third Printing of this stamp, it would appear that the number of the cylinder given in the Catalogue is not correct. Maybe the Catalogue Committee will investigate the matter.

Philatelic Award

We extend our hearty congratulations to Mr. A. E. Wilkinson, of Enniskerry, Ireland, a keen student of the stamps of the Union and a frequent contributor to this and other journals, on having been awarded the Philatelic Society of Ireland's Bronze Medal for the best display of the year (1956). The exhibit comprised "Retouches on the stamps of South Africa," a very noteworthy exhibit which included the "untouched" tems in support of the "retouched" specimens.

Many Union collectors resident in this country would be glad to view this exhibit which is unique. Can this not be arranged, Paarl Philatelic Society, please?

Images on the War Effort Stamps

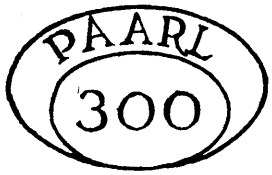
Enquiries have recently been received concerning the pictures of persons depicted on the "War Effort" postage stamps. On referring the matter to the Publicity Officer, G.P.O., Pretoria, we have been informed that the photographs or sketches do not portray any particular person, as far as is known to the Department, but were used to provide the Government Printer's Artist with material on which to base the original designs.

The origins of the material, as stated by the Government Printer, were as follows for the various values comprising the series:

½d. — An Artists' sketch; 1d., 1½d., 2d. — sketches by a war-artist; 3d. — a photograph; 4d. and 6d. — sketches provided by the Mobile Printing Unit of the Defence Force; 1/- and 1/3 — sketches by an artist; 4d. — (Bantam Size), A Photograph.

Paarl National Philatelic Exhibition

We reproduce a replica (except the "300") of the old Paarl oval date stamp which did duty in the bygone days, and now with the addition, it will indicate, some three hundred years later, the hallmark of what portends to be the Philatelic highlight of the year — The Paarl National Philatelic Exhibition.



The Exhibition which is to be held in the D.R. Church Hall, Noorder Paarl, from the 23rd to the 30th October, 1957, will be divided into two main sections, viz. "By Invitation" and "Competitive". We understand that the hard-working organising committee have met with a generous response to their invitations, which fact ensures that visitors to the exhibition will enjoy the unique privilege of viewing priceless and handpicked material.

The Competitive Section also is confined to exhibits of countries and territories in Southern Africa only, and comprises various grouping, such as, specialised and/or research collections of any of these countries so as to represent either the whole or a substantial portion of that country's issue; specialised or research collections of a more limited nature; specialised treatment or study of a stamp or stamps; postmarks, commemoratives, airmails, etc.; and thematic subjects.

The field is generous, and readers who have collections which fall within these categories are urged to support the Exhibition and in such manner ensure its success.

Further information concerning the Exhibition, the rules, and also the official entry forms may be obtained from societies affiliated to Federation, or direct from the Exhibition Committee, P.O. Box 60, Paarl. Entries close on the 15th August, so there remains only some three months in which to obtain that one extra item, or to rearrange that one page of stamps which acts may make the difference between being awarded a gold or a silver diploma.

R. T. LILLEY

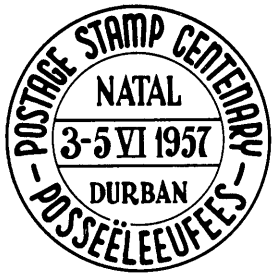
We regret to learn that "Ralph" does not intend to take up business again in Johannesburg, although he expects to pay a visit shortly to wind up his affairs. He is settling down at The Dingle, Sandford Orleigh, Newton Abbot, Devon.

FRANCE

On 16th March, the Day of the Stamp, there was issued a 12 fr. plus 3 fr. stamp, featuring an old time sailing vessel, in honour of the Maritime Postal Service.

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NATAL POSTAGE STAMP CENTENARY



We illustrate an imprint of the Special Canceller which the Postmaster-General has granted the Natal Philatelic Society to use in connection with their Philatelic Exhibition to be held in commemoration of the issue of Natal's First Stamp.

Our good wishes go to the Natal Philatelic Society for a successful and enjoyable undertaking.

INTERNATIONAL STAMP EXHIBITION

Johannesburg 1960

On 31 May 1960 the Union of South Africa will celebrate the Golden Jubilee of its existence.

In honour of the occasion the Philatelic Society of Johannesburg, with the support of the Afrikaanse Filatelistevereniging, purpose holding an International Stamp Exhibition in Johannesburg, giving it the short title of "UNIPEX".

Details are naturally not yet settled but the Exhibition will probably be held from 31 May (Union Day) to 9 June, and will be fully International in character.

The Postmaster-General has already announced that there will be a Commemorative issue for the Jubilee, and UNIPEX will probably be granted a special Post Office and Cancellation so that there should be no lack of philatelic souvenirs of the occasion.

Further details of plans will be issued from time to time.

J. H. HARVEY PIRIE,
Chairman, Publicity Sub-Committee.

EVERYBODY'S
Buying it —
"SPRINGBOK HALFPENNY"
By Dr. GORDON WARD, F.R.P.S.L.
All about this popular stamp from the first to the last.
5/3 (80 cents) postage paid.
C. E. SHERWOOD,
105, Marford Crescent, Sale, Cheshire, G.B.

THE ESTABLISHMENT AND EXTENSION OF PENNY POSTAGE IN THE CAPE COLONY

By C. R. REYNOLDS.

Mankind by nature is, and has always been, a gregarious animal, and the one desire ever present and manifest in this law of nature has been his innate love of being together; and when close contact has been impossible in fact, the spiritual contact has been maintained by verbal message, by messages throbbed on drums from distant hills, or by writing — and letter writing is half as old as time itself. But it has not always been the cheap and efficiently organised system upon which our complex commercial life depends today.

As far back as 1680 William Dockwra privately set up the first local Penny Post in London, and there were as many as eight deliveries daily. The first concession by the Government in the Cape Colony was in 1854, when soldiers (but not commissioned ranks) were allowed to post letters to England at a reduced rate of one penny, whereas the ordinary rate was sixpence for half an ounce. Such privileged letters by other ranks had to be endorsed by their Commanding Officer, and had to bear the name, number and rank of the sender, as well as the name of his regiment — army procedure which rings a not unfamiliar bell!

It would appear that passage to any address in the Colony was "Free" for all ranks, but that officers' letters required sixpence for half an ounce to England. During the adhesive period the soldier's "Penny Letter" is the first instance in which Parliament saw fit to introduce this cheap rate, thus enabling soldiers stationed at far-flung outposts to write home at a rate which would not bite too deeply into the King's Shilling.

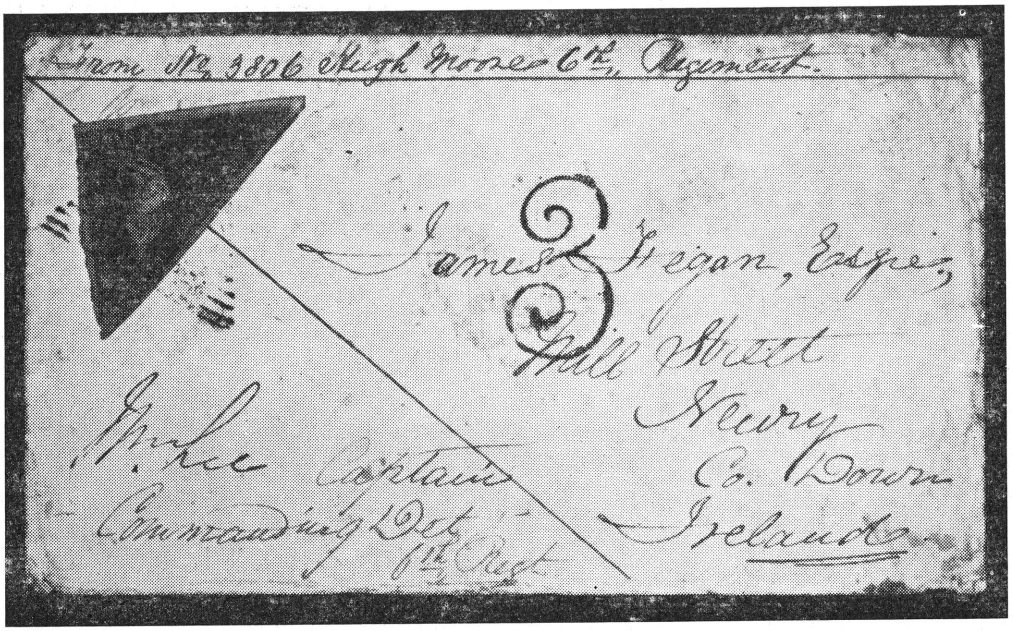
There is no evidence to show that any other privileged rate was allowed by the Government until a Local Penny Post was established within the municipal Boundaries of Cape Town during September 1860. As from the 15th September letters up to half ounce required only one penny, and not four pence. Here follow extracts from the Proclamation:—

"Whereas, by the 7th section of the Ordinance No. 1, bearing date the 7th day of January, 1846, the Governor is empowered to establish offices for posting, and delivering letters within the limits of any town in the Colony, as such limits shall be by him fixed; and to fix the rate of postage to be charged, and paid, for such town delivery, I do hereby proclaim and make known etc. etc.

"I appoint the General Post Office in Cape Town to be a receiving, and delivering office for, and within the limits of the Cape Town Municipality. . . . And further, that I do fix the rate of postage chargeable, and payable upon all letters posted within these said limits, and posted for delivery therein, as follows, namely:— On every letter not exceeding half an ounce, one penny. On every letter exceeding half an ounce, but not one ounce, two pence . . . The Cape Town Penny Post deliveries will be three in each day, Sundays excepted, namely:—

The first to commence at 9¼ a.m.
The second to commence at 1½ p.m.
The third to commence at 3½ p.m. etc.

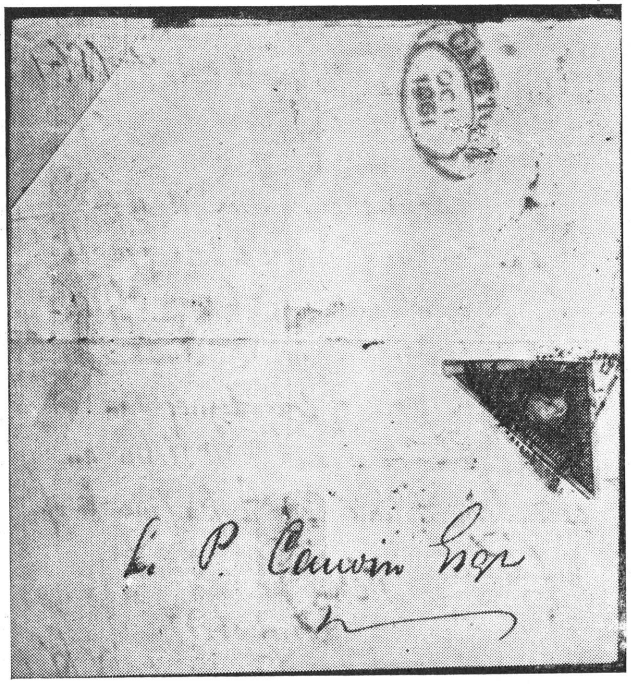
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And, lastly, I do hereby fix, and appoint, the fifteenth day of September next, as the day from, and on which this Proclamation shall come into operation and effect."

The exact reason for this progressive step is not known. Whether it was a concession in keeping with rates in England, and other parts of the world, or whether, in addition, it was to encourage people to make use of the Post Office instead of delivering local letters by hand, is difficult to decide. Certainly fourpence seemed a heavy demand on the purse for delivering a letter from, say, Mowbray to the City. Even today, if there were no telephones, one would be inclined to send Jim Fish, or the office boy, to deliver a letter if the postage were the equivalent of 1/6 for half an ounce!

Jurgens, in his book, does make mention of the Penny Post in the Cape Colony, but, like all the writers on the Cape, he has not dealt very fully with this most interesting aspect of Cape Postal History. The fact that covers bear-



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WAR PROPAGANDA STAMPS

The interest for War Propaganda Stamps is rising daily inspired by the works of two prominent philatelist, who put down their research in these booklets:—

"Forged Stamps of 2 World Wars," by L. N. and W. Williams 6/-

"Gezähnte Kriegspropaganda," by J. Hosang (in German) 12/6

(Both booklets can be delivered from stock)

I specialise in this historically highly interesting sideline of Philately, and can often offer even those items which are already in short supply and may disappear from the market completely within a short time.

GERMAN ANTI-BRITISH PROPAGANDA

King George VI ½d. to 3d. (6) with David's Star (S.G. 462-67) 35/-

Silver Jubilee (S.G.453) with Stalin "Jewish War" 20/-

Coronation (S.G.461) inscription "Teheran" 30/-

Complete set of 8. Special price, 75/-.

These stamps should also be of interest to K.G. VI collectors.

BRITISH WAR PROPAGANDA

1943 Hitler 3pf., 4pf., 6pf., 8pf. (4) complete 30/-

Hitler 3pf. on Ley card, dropped by R.A.F. over Luxemburg 35/-

Himmler 6pf., type I wide lines (Michel 475) ..... **Price on request**

Himmler 6pf., type II narrow lines (Michel 150) 150/-

Poland Frank 20gr. sepia (Michel 120) 90/-

France, 10 vals., Iris, Pétain, Mercury 55/-

Ditto, short set of 5 ..... 17/6

30c. Pétain with Laval's shadow 10/-

AMERICAN WAR PROPAGANDA

Hitler Death Mask 12pf., genuine rare first print 45/-

Hitler, single copy in miniature sheet 15/-

Hitler 12pf. red, perf. 11½, original first rare print 45/-

AUSTRIA

My new price list is out with about 1,500 prices for sets and singles, mint and used, for Austria, Levant, Bosnia, etc.

GERMANY

My price list contains over 2,000 prices on 8 pages for stamps 1870-1956, including occupations, Saar, etc.

Collectors of these two countries will find ample information in the lists as well as in my Newsletters, which will be sent at the same time.

Here is just one comment in the Philatelic Press about one of my Newsletters:—

"What a nicely-produced and neat affair it is! One gains the impression immediately on picking up this list that its publisher is a man of method and efficiency, who can put his hand on any item in his stock without a moment's hesitation, and who knows his speciality inside out. As an example of how a retail list can and should be turned out if it is to do its work really well, this production stands high among those we would recommend for study."

MANO KATZ

8a Richmond Mansions, London, S.W.5

Telephone: FREmantle 9315

inging a penny triangular stamp only (or, for that matter, a penny rectangular stamp during their early years), are very rare, has not been appreciated by collectors, probably because they do not possess any, or know anything about the Local Penny Post.

Also, Jurgens has not accurately recorded the dates on which the Local Penny Post was extended. One gains the impression that only by 1876 (see page 106 of his book) was the privileged rate extended to places like Claremont and Mowbray. This is wrong. A notice from the Cape Town G.P.O. dated 19th January, 1864 reads:—

"From, and after the 1st February next the Rates of Postage upon letters posted at any one for any other Post Office mentioned in the subjoined list will be reduced to the following scale:— On every letter not exceeding half an ounce, one penny . . . . List of places between which letters may be sent at the reduced Rates of Postage from the 1st February, 1864 . . . Cape Town, Claremont, Diep River (Rathfielders), Green Point, Mowbray, Plumstead, Papendorp (Woodstock), Rondebosch, Wynberg, Montagu Bridge and Robben Island." Jurgens, for example, mentions Robben Island as being included only by 1878!

On the 28th November, 1864 the Penny Post was extended to the following places beyond the local Municipal boundaries:— Cape Town, Bellville, D'Urban, Eerste Rivier, Somerset West (Hottentots Holland), Stellenbosch, Bennettsville, Paarl and Wellington. From this point onwards the Penny Postage gradually crept further afield so that by 1876 it had extended to Constable, Matjesfontein and other towns. On the 23rd April, 1861 a notice had appeared in the Government Gazette announcing the same privilege of Penny Postage for Port Elizabeth as from the 1st May, 1861. The expansion of Penny Postage from Port Elizabeth followed very much the same pattern as that in Cape Town.

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Another very interesting development in the extension of Penny Postage in the Cape Colony was the establishment of local Penny Posts between the field-cornetcies. An Order of the House of Assembly, published on the 1st June, 1874, reads:—

"The tenth section of the Postage Act of 1874 is hereby repealed, and in lieu thereby: Be it enacted that it shall be lawful for the Governor from time to time, as local circumstances will permit, to authorise the establishment of penny posts between any one, or more field-cornetcies, and any other field-cornetcy, in the same division, under such rules, and regulations. as he shall deem necessary."

These Divisional or Field-Cornets' Posts were being, and had been, established all over the country. The following is an example of the Civil Commissioner of Oudtshoorn calling for Tenders for Field-Cornets Posts:—

"Tenders will be received by the Civil Commissioner for Oudtshoorn until Friday, 7th November, 1873 for the conveyance, either on horseback, or by foot messenger for the undermentioned Divisional Posts once a fortnight during the year 1874.

1st From the P.O. at Oudtshoorn to the residence of the Assistant Field Cornet for the time being of the Ward Cango, and back to the P.O. at Oudtshoorn, etc. . . .

And 4th. From the P.O. at Meirings Poort (which is today De Rust) to the residence of the Field Corent for the time being of Upper Olifants River, via the residence of . . . etc. and back to the P.O. at Meirings Poort."

Therefore, although there was no penny postage from Oudtshoorn to Cape Town at that time, there was a Local Divisional Penny Post operating in the Oudtshoorn area, and of course the same development was taking place in other parts of the Colony. The fact that Penny Postage came to the Cape in a rather haphazard sort of way accounts for why certain correspondence from some parts of the country during the same period bears fourpenny or threepenny stamps where Penny Postage had not yet been established.

Newspapers and other mail matter were also affected by the cheap rate.

. . . "In lieu of the rates of postage mentinoed in the fifth section of the Postal Rates Act of 1868 there shall be substituted the following, that is to say:—

On all book packets, patterns and samples as in the said section mentioned, not exceeding in weight two ounces, one penny; etc." . . .

Newspapers had, of course, been carried for one penny much earlier than 1874 when this new Act came into force.

From the above it will be seen how the Penny Postage developed in the Cape Colony, from Local Penny Post in Cape Town until Universal Penny Postage had been established. How then does one account for the extreme rarity of these covers? Firstly, most Soldiers' Letters found their way overseas, and in all probability the soldier of a hundred years ago was not an avid correspondent. On the other hand, the local letters did not leave the country. Apart from the usual percentage of destroyed letters, stamps were probably soaked off covers for sale to dealers, and even as collectors of earlier generations had no qualms about severing blocks of stamps because a single copy was all that they required for their collections (!), so they probably soaked many a single triangle from covers, little realising what they were doing. However, if all these things had not happened in our world of stamps, on what pedestal would the great rarities of today have found themselves?

From the "South African Advertiser and Mail", February 16 1861.

"Valentine's Day was duly observed by the youth of both sexes in Cape Town on Thursday last. By means of the Penny Post the delivery of the Valentines was comparatively easy, and as many as 748 letters were thus circulated during the day . . ."

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DEARTH

It seems that philatelic authors have run out of what it takes! This applies to both sorts, the super-specialist sharing his discoveries with his specialist contemporaries by way of a book or through the editor of a magazine, and the others who are concerned with finding their bearings in the flood of stamp lore. "Papers" are becoming rare: and so arises another serious problem for those who go to print about our hobby. There are plenty of philatelic journals and periodicals: perhaps too many; but then it is only natural not to want to commit suicide. The most notable countries and issues, that is, those which interest the greatest number of collectors, have been picked over ad nauseam: postal history, platings, shades, perforations, varieties, cancellations &c. Of course there are other subjects, quite a lot of them, and some if not actually the "classics" are nevertheless quite respectable. But it seems no one will undertake to put such studies on paper. Is it the desire to keep the chosen field so secret that one's philatelic neighbours are kept guessing what one is up to? or a reluctance to publish work which others may improve and enlarge upon? Both are wrong, but how is one to change this prejudice or put confidence into the timorous? Except for the few rare star performers who are still able to produce "papers" the majority of philatelic journals exhibit a growing poverty in articles or new studies. The tendency seems to be to devote more and more space, sometimes up to three-quarters of the text, in a despairing commentary on new issues — as is probably well known the enterprising postal administrations do not neglect, on the occasion of each new issue, to push out blurbs about them. Nine out of ten editors thus become servile copyists, perhaps, let it be admitted, in the process pleasing a certain number of readers, especially of the thematic persuasion, but there is a deadly sameness about these descriptions, can you wonder at it? After all, one cannot soar into flights of fancy by announcing that Victor Hugo was a pork butcher born in 1830, when everyone knows he wasn't and he was was born in 1802 anyway! So it is easiest to fill up the pages with new issue news, and whither are we heading? Is this to be an apologia in advance in case we too are obliged, by force of circumstance (or other peoples' inertia) to present now and again an issue not quite in conformity with the standards to which our gentle readers are accustomed?

A contradiction, you say? We are wielding paradoxes? There are constant moans that there are no philatelic readers, the books put out at personal expense by philatelists are not purchased, the number of subscribers to philatelic journals decreases yearly: and why? the answer is there, just above. Commercial journals and some house organs even pay their contributors: not much, but still they pay. If the number of subscribers goes on down, if the cultural level of philately is reduced to that of the collector working on the slenderest budget (here, of course, is the strongest appeal of "thematics") then the journal must also cut its budget — and its one time quality will fly out of the window. And as books cost more and more to print . . . is our posterity to be illiter ate?

(Reprinted, by permission, from "Le Philatéliste Belge", issue of March-April 1957).

CORRESPONDENCE

To the Editor,
South African Philatelist,
P.O. Box 375, Johannesburg, South Africa.

JUDGING THEMATICS

MARCH 19 1957

Sir,

The several articles on this subject during 1956, and the elaborate point scales therein proposed, have given me much thought as well as considerable dismay.

This was caused primarily by experience at the Fipex International Philatelic Exhibition in New York in May 1956. I was a member of the Board of Judges there; in fact, I was on the sub-board which handled in first instance the major section which included thematic showings (Section 7).

We of the Section 7 sub-board recommended to the entire Board a list of awards which was accepted with only the change of eliminating any awards to two of the non-thematic showings in this section. Of the eighty or so showings, no thematic exhibit was in the running for the Section Cup.

But, judging the thematic and general collections by the same criteria, and attempting to the best of our ability to make the levels of award mean the same in Section 7 as elsewhere in the exhibition, we did come up with:

In the highest rank given after the section award, two exhibits got silver-gilt medals: a thematic by Mr. Ira Seebacher, "Sports on Stamps" and a non-topical by Mr. Charles F. Meroni, "Covers of the World." It is our belief that these were both of as nearly possible the same merit as other silver-gilt winning exhibits throughout the exhibition. If the catalogue of the show would indicate otherwise, it need be said that supposedly philatelically superior collections thus awarded were shown only in part, only by a small section or by selected pages.

In the silver medals, the thematics and non-thematics got exactly the same number of awards.

On the bronze medals, thematics did less well in proportion.

The plain fact emerged to us who were on the Board of Judges: that a really adequately done thematic collection can stand up against competition on the basis used for any other branch of philately, provided it is well enough done. Likewise, it became clear to us that most thematic collectors do not as yet take their philately with sufficiently deep interest and understanding. They tend to hide the stamps amid too much pictorial or descriptive matter about the theme.

But my main burden here is to state that in my judgment the application with care and impartiality of the criteria, point scales, etc used for judging other collections, is ample for all judging of thematics. In fairness, I should add that this claim for a special method is nothing new. The precancel collectors, the postal history

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people, and the air mail philatelists, have all wanted such special consideration when their department of the hobby was young. I have seen them all come to thrive with even an excess of high awards, when they emerged into being judged by the same criteria as any other branches of philately.

STEPHEN G. RICH.

Verona, New Jersey.

Helicopter Mail

Our indefatigable German correspondent, Mr. Joachim Dill, kindly sends us an example of the mail carried on the inaugural flight by helicopter from Brussels to Paris. There is a special cachet Bruxelles-Paris/lere liaison/Sabena/3-3-1957/Helipost/1ste verbinding/Brussel-Parijs.

BRITISH UNPERFORATED

Stamp printing in G.B. is getting a bad name for the frequent appearance of imperforate stamps which should have been perforate. These things, and the prices they fetch, get a furore of publicity in the lay press while philatelists are doubtful (about some of them, at any rate) as to whether they are legitimately issued and deserving of catalogue rank.

The official postal statements describes the items as "unperforated". We regard this as a good term for describing stamps which have no perforations by error, as distinct from specimens without perforation by design.

By the same reasoning "imperf. between" should be "unperf. between", but we doubt if this will catch on.

EIRE

Commemoratives will be issued shortly (probably in May) honouring John Redmond and Tomas O. Criomhthain.

Redmond was a follower of Parnell and later leader of the Irish Party in the British Parliament; the stamps for him will be 3d. and 1/3d.

Criomhthain (Thomas O'Crohan) was an uneducated fisherman whose life was spent among the Gaelic-speaking community of the Blasket islands off the coast of Derry. He was persuaded in his old age to write of the life of the inhabitants of these islands and his book has become a classic of its kind and translated into various tongues. His stamps will be 2d. and 5d.

U.N.O.

In December 1956 there was issued the first number of the "United Nations Philatelist", which is to appear monthly, subscription $3 per year. It will deal with all stamps issued by U.N.O., as well as stamps of many countries issued in honour of the U.N. or its Agencies.

Wouldn't it be fine if U.N.O. looked after the peace of the world as well as it deals with its philately?

AUSTRALIA

Philatelic news items just released are:—

1. Cocos Islands P.O. is to have two ("1" and "2") new cancellers inscribed "Cocos (Keeling) Islands Aust" and "Indian Ocean". The last addition will prevent confusion with another island of the same name.

2. Two new stamps to be issued early in March will be a 1/7d. value, occasioned by recent postal rates changes, and a 10d., specially to meet the new "Certified Mail" service.

GRIQUALAND WEST & CAPE POSTMARKS

Griqualand West (a) In 1872 there was introduced into G.W. a killer different from any previously used in the Cape. It is illustrated in Jurgen's book on Cape markings, p. 100, Fig. 304. (A circular arrangement of lines with a square blank centre). In 1873 the markings he shows as Figs. 305 and 306 were introduced (these are 2 varieties of lines in a vertical oval arrangement enclosing a number in a diamond shaped box).

Jurgens states that the Fig. 304 mark was always used in conjunction with the Cape oval place-date stamp of 1853.

Mr. C. R. Reynolds has submitted a specimen of this mark used as a killer at Piquetberg, Cape in April 1875. This usage seems to fall into line with the use of oval marks of the Fig. 305 type of G.W. in the Cape.

In this connection see "S.A. Ph." May 1956 p. 90, and Jan. 1957 p. 6 for records of such usage at Somerset West and Hoetjes Bay, but it is earlier than either of these and supports the suggestion of Reynolds in the latter article that G.W. types of marks may have been issued directly to same Cape P.O's.

(b) Another interesting item submitted for inspection by Reynolds is a Fig. 305 type of mark, No. 1 with the place-date stamp of "De Beers N.R." of date Oct. 12, 1873. This "De Beers New Rush" post office mark is a known one, but has not hitherto been recorded as used in conjunction with any specific numeral postmark.

Actually No. 1 of the 305 type has only been seen so far with a "Kimberley" place-date stamp. It is interesting to note that Reynolds has 3 such specimens, and that one of them is dated Oct. 9, 1873 — only three days different from his mark with De Beers N.R. What does this signify?

(c) A third specimen sent by Reynolds for inspection is a cover with a Cape stamp cancelled with the vertical barred oval killer and boxed number in the centre. The number is 232 and the canceller has been used in conjunction with the plate-date stamp "Barkly/G.W." of date Jan. 19, '89.

Jurgens gives 232 as used at Barkly West and at Rawsonville. Are Barkly and Barkly West one and the same post office? And why is a Barkly G.W. mark in use in 1889, nine years after the annexation of G.W. to Cape Colony?

Cape Oval Killers with boxed Numerals. Dr. T. B. Berry has produced some new items from a boyhood collection. Unfortunately they are all loose stamps (He wouldn't cut them off covers to-day!) so that all that can be said about them is that they are new records of numbers "Used in Cape," but identification of the places of usage must await further finding of covers.

The numbers are 173, 292, 509, 541, 840 and 1012.

ISRAEL

Two stamp issues announced for April are (a) a bi-coloured 250 pruta stamp in honour of Memorial Day and the 9th anniversary of the proclamation of the State of Israel, (b) a multicoloured 400 pruta stamp commemorating the 50th anniversary of the "Bezalel" National Museum in Jerusalem.

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REVIEWS

Neuer Ganzsachen-Katalog Part II

The second Part, containing the old German States from Baden to the Thurn & Taxis issues, including Heligoland, has just appeared. It is nearly 20 years since the previous publication and in the meantime research by specialists has been conducted very extensively: not only new investigations, but also the collation of previously scattered information, have contributed to this work on a group which, though difficult, is of absorbing interest. This new publication is a sine qua non for any serious collector of old German postal stationery.

The text runs to 64 pages, and the book is excellently printed with first class illustrations in profusion throughout. It is of interest to mention that prices are not quoted for "cut-outs" from postal stationery; apparently the fully-fledged collector eschews anything short of an entire for the model collection. A very useful feature is that in many instances the numbers issued are chronicled (the answers being often astonishingly small) and this is a most helpful guide to the value and relative rarity of many items in which there is hardly a "market" for want of offers.

The catalogue is not for sale as such but is available free to members of the Berliner Ganzsachensammler-Verein which organizes the publication of the series on a subscription basis. The latter varies according to the value of the publication, and this work is available for a subscription of DM 5.50 (about 9/-) from Werner Hauenstein, Müllerstrasse 47A, Berlin N 65.

J. v. V.

Müller, Deutschland-Spezial Katalog, 6th Edition, 1957

Specialization in only one country is gaining popularity, and for that reason a Collector needs the guidance of a Specialist Catalogue. The Specialist in German issues, who had up to 1938, the Michel Specialist Catalogue, has been neglected in recent years and this has evoked a new Publisher and a new approach. Mr. J. Müller has managed to produce a Catalogue which one will find extremely hard to beat. In the present edition it contains over 500 pages and is not only a Catalogue and Price List, but also a Handbook, which in its thorough treatment and arrangement cannot be equalled.

Part I starts with the Old German States. These stamps are highly specialized in their treatment and an additional column prices items on Entires, which are the dream of every Collector of that field. Postal Cancellations are not listed, as they would in themselves occupy many volumes. A further extremely well treated subject is that of the Inflation period with pricing for single items, blocks strips, mixed frankings etc. on Entires. Publishers promise still further exhaustive treatment later of this very interesting period in German Philatelic History.

The Plebiscite areas are complemented by a listing of all Post Offices. The "Inselpost" stamps have a section of their own and one doubts as to whether anything new can be added to the extensive research done on these stamps. The presently very popular Propaganda and Espionage stamps, and the stamps of the various Camp-posts and Local Issues at the conclusion of hostilities, are also not forgotten.

The German Colonies and Postal Offices abroad are listed, but all the research in that sphere seems to be concluded, and nothing new appears to have been added.

Part II deals with the issues from 1945. All the issues are treated with a high degree of specialization. They contain enlarged photographs of parts of the design and various tables etc. The Local issues of the Russian Zone have been singled out for specially elaborate treatment. In Part III a start has been made on listing and pricing Postal Cancellations, which are becoming very popular amongst collectors in Germany. The Prices in the Catalogue are, as is the custom, subject to a rebate, to bring them in line with market prices. The Publisher suggests 20% discount but in some instances 30—40% would be nearer the mark. The Catalogue costs 15/6 post free. It is printed on a good paper and the illustrations are very clear. Available from Harris Publications Ltd., 27 Maiden House, London W.C.2.

J. v. V.

PHILATELY, POSTAL HISTORY AND THEMATELY

We will have to have these terms re-defined for us soon, otherwise we will simply not know where we are or what we are.

In June of last year an article appeared in the "London Philatelist" protesting against the term 'postal history' being hopelessly abused by every Tom Rueson, Dickinson and Harrison to denote the collecting of what is known in the vulgar tongue as 'postmarks', i.e. blobs of cancelling ink that bear dates. This is leading to Postmarking to Order, with every exhibition, conference and meeting having its own postmark, although the amount of **genuine** correspondence posted at these gatherings is very small.

The article finishes up 'Let us admit that this is not postal **history.** Let us have sanity postmarks, not Sanitary Congresses: sanity not inanity.

The "Philatelic Magazine" of 25-1-57 makes editorial comment on a writing by W. H. S. Cheavin in which he would appear to condemn the postal historians for wielding too much power in philately by studying pre-adhesive stamp material. (This is real postal history — not mere postmark collecting!)

However, he considers that "Thematics" has done more than anything else to rescue stamp collecting from the postal history fanatics.

But isn't Themately soon to swallow Philately holus bolus? We have heard it stated that if you collect all the stamps of one country, that is Thematic collecting — the particular country concerned is your Theme.

U.N.O.

Two stamps, 3c and 8c values, have been issued in honour of the Emergency Force serving in Egypt. We should like to see the various units of the Force entitled to use these stamps. Some of these units already have their own special cancellers.

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NEPAL JOINS U.P.U.

Nepal has had postage stamps for a good many years, but up till now they have only had local franking value and mails for outside its boundaries had to have additional Indian stamps, which could be purchased at the Indian Embassy in Katmandu. They have now joined the U.P.U. however and their stamps have world-wide validity. The U.P.U. is now indeed very nearly universal — there are only a few very small bits of territory not embraced by it. It might be a good thing if it were taken over by the U.N.O., or, alternatively, if it took over U.N.O.

AFRICAN CENSOR MARKS WORLD WAR I

Two additions can be made to the lists in the "S.A. Philatelist" 1955, pp. 141 and

(a) A mark like No. 8 of the Censor Marks combined with Free Postal Franks p. 141, but is the large P.C. in a circle **without** the wording "Post Free/Prisoners of War".

(b) East African marks No. 4 on p. 155. The wording in this octagonal mark can now be given completely; it is "Opened by Censor Under/Martial Law". There is an Indian F.P.O. No. 71 of date 24 MA. 16.

J. HUNTER.

AUSTRALIA — S.G. Nos. 196—199 HISTORY OF THE DESIGN

The following notes about the Australian Imperial Forces personnel featured on these stamps has been sent us by Mr. R. Gomersall, of the General Motors Stamp Club, New York.

Mr. Gomersall recently visited this country and still retains his interest in us. He received his information from Mr. Reilly, the designer of the picture on the stamps.

World War II inspired a July 1940 issue of four stamps, the figures representing the Navy, Army and Air Force with the head and shoulders of an Australian Nurse in the background. These figures formed a simple but effective design based on a magazine cover by Virgil Reilly.

The figures were taken from real life, including the Nurse, for whom Reilly's wife acted as model. The three service men models were killed during the war. First to fall was the airman. He was Squadron Leader Arthur Hicks, who died of injuries received in an aircraft accident in England in June 1941.

The naval rating, Leading Seaman Charles Bruce, was the gun-layer on the British transport liner "Ceramic" which sank in the Atlantic with all hands. The soldier, Reilly's eldest son, Gavan, was killed in a Japanese ambush near Buna Mission in 1941.

Travelling Post Offices of Southern Africa

By J. H. HARVEY PIRIE

(Continued from page 35 of March issue)

UNION OF SOUTH AFRICA

In 1910 the following T.P.O.'s were in operation:- Western, Midland, Eastern, North Eastern, Orange Free State and Transvaal.

In 1913 with the setting-up of Ocean Post Offices on the Union Castle mail boats the fast weekly 'European Mail' services were taken off the Western, O.F.S. and Transvaal runs. They were re-started again in 1914 with the outbreak of World War I and withdrawal of the Ocean P.O.'s. At the same time, however, the Midland, Eastern and North Eastern services were withdrawn as an economy measure and they were never re-introduced.

In 1919 the O.F.S. service was stopped, the Transvaal T.P.O. then working the whole run between De Aar and Johannesburg. The Western remained in operation between Cape Town and De Aar and this was the state of affairs till the whole service between Cape Town and Johannesburg **via** Bloemfontein ceased in 1950.

No marks of the O.F.S. T.P.O. for the period 1910-1919 have been recorded and there is a paucity of records of the Transvaal and Western offices from 1910 to 1939, so there may still be types in use over these years to be found.

45. The first introduced (1899) double-circle type. (See No. 16) Nos. 2, 3, 4, 5, 6 and 7 are known, and some of these numbers remained in use till 1950.
46. A type with no number, known both 'Up' and 'Down'.
47. No. 3, the earliest noted bilingual type, but note the "T.P.K." This was corrected later to "R.P.K." (See 47a). Known both 'Up' and 'Down'. All the Western marks gradually became bilingual, with the possible exception of No. 5, which has not been so recorded.
48. No. 1. Similar to it is No. 6.
49. No. 4.
50. No. 7. Similar to it is No. 2.
51. A type in use from at least 1925 to 1950. There have been recorded of North, Nos. 1, 2, 5 and 6, and of South, Nos. 2, 3, 4, 5 and 6.
52. Only 'South 1' has been seen of this type.
53. The only Transvaal T.P.O. noted with any attempt at bilingualism, and it is not very good "R.P. Noord". Presumably it is No. 4. No other 'North 4' has been recorded and the only 'South 4' is of Type 51.
54. Only No. 1 South recorded in this type. In use from at least 1939 to 1950. The only mark known with the words "South Africa", but one of several Transvaal T.P.O. marks which do not incorporate the word "Transvaal".
55. 'South 3' (1936-50) and 'North 2 and 3' known of this type.
56. Several sizes of this type recorded: North 7 of 28 mm., North 9 of 30 mm., South 7 of 28 mm. and the lettering rather smaller, South 8 of 27 mm., and South 9 of 25 mm.
57. The only one recorded of this lop-sided type.
58. The only one recorded of this type, but it should be noted that the drawing is not quite correct — the letters should be thinner and taller (3 mm. instead of 2.5 mm. as shown).
59. T.P.O. North 1. No corresponding 'South' known.
60. No number. No corresponding 'South' known.
61. No number. No corresponding 'North' known.

I am indebted to the late Mr. J. W. Schubart and to Mr. A. W. Duigan for the drawings of these postmarks.

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T.P.O. MARKS OF SOUTHERN AFRICA.

UNION OF SOUTH AFRICA 1914-50

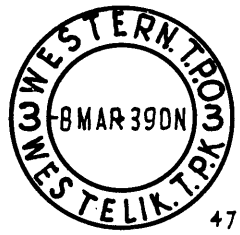
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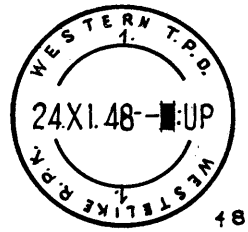
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48



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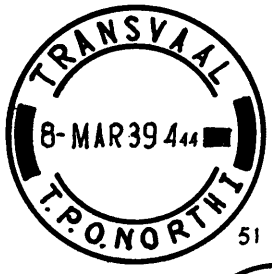


47a

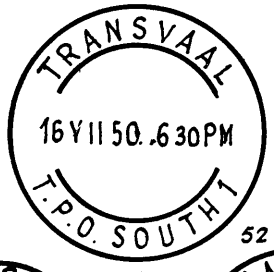


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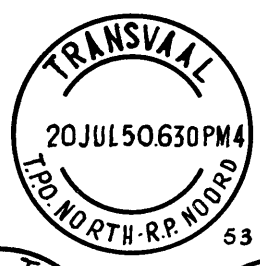
(TRANSVAAL SECTION: DE AAR - JOHANNESBURG.)



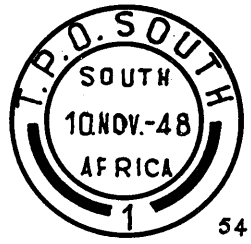
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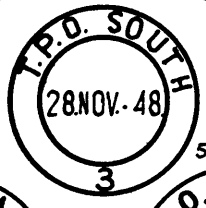
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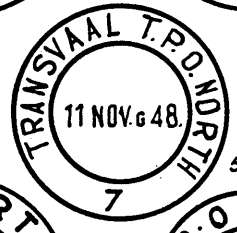
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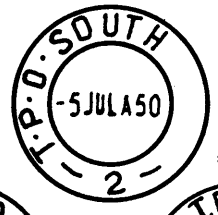
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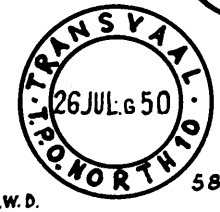
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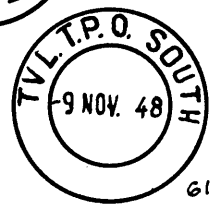
58



59



60



61

A.W.D.

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MAURITIUS 1d. "POST OFFICE"

This unused example recently auctioned at Harmer's (See our March issue p. 43) went for £4,500. The runner up in the bidding was a South African; perhaps we will still get a Mauritius "Post Office" here some day yet.

SINAI — GAZA

An interesting philatelic record from this area is being advertised by Israel dealers — a defence stamp cancelled at Gaza. Facsimiles of the last day postmark of the Egyptian post office there, and of the first day of the Israel post office are also available.

There may yet be more philatelic items from this troubled area, but we hope not too many.

39th PHILATELIC CONGRESS OF GREAT BRITAIN

This is being held in Harrogate on 14th—17th May. The programme is an attractive one, both as regards the papers and philatelic meetings and the social side of the Congress.

GOUGH ISLAND

A mail arrived in Johannesburg on 10 April; it had the island's postmark of 30 JA 57.

It has been announced in the press that the staff on the island had been reduced to two, the leader Mr. J. J. v.d. Merwe who had remained over from the earlier British Survey party, and Mr. B. E. Brockensha. They were all that were left through illness, the last casualty having been taken off by the Royal yacht Britannia when the Duke of Edinburgh visiter the island.

A party of 10 is leaving by H.M.S.A.S. "Transvaal" early in May to man the meteorological station for the International Geophysical Year (1957-58) starting in July.

CASPARY 7th SALE

This sale at the end of January consisted of the greater part of the collection of Italian States. It realized altogether $263,000. The thrills of the auction was three blocks of 20 each of the 1851 Sardinias, which had cost the owner less than $1,000 in 1917; they fetched $50,500! The 20c blue brought in $21,000, a new high record for the Caspary sales, all three blocks went to an Italian dealer.

FRANCE

On 26 January a 500fr. stamp was issued featuring a "Caravelle", new type of commercial aeroplane to be put on service by Air-France.

During the year some 47 new stamps are forecast. Are they aiming at a world record for new issues?

An 18fr. stamp appeared on 16th February honouring Victor Schoelcher, journalist and anti-slavery reformer of the early nineteenth century.

"Philatelist International". Still another new philatelic magazine — it is the bi-monthly organ of the Philatelist International Exchange Club by D. K. Laskari, Pervin Mansion, Plot 69, Sion, Bombay 22, India. Membership of the Club, inclusive of the journal, 7/6 a year. No. 1 has several small articles, but the bulk of it is the membership list, with their special interests.

EGYPT — POUND VALUES — SPECIAL

1939 Farouk, dark blue, plus light blue (2) for **10/6**
1947 Farouk, Field Marshal **7/6**
1952 Farouk, King of Egypt & Sudan o/pt. **10/6**
1953 Farouk, Bars o/pt. **12/6**
1948 Farouk, PALESTINE o/pt. **21/-**
1957 Farouk, PALESTINE and BARS o/pt. **22/6**
1953 Nefertiti singles @ 5/6, blocks of 4 at **22/6**

C.W.O., Post Free.

Approval Selections of Egypt, with representative ranges of all but the difficult early issues, now available for inspection, on approval. Also PALESTINE and ISRAEL.

READING GLASSES

Just the accessory you have been searching and waiting for: 4-inch very powerful lens, in chromium-plate rim, with 4½" wooden handle. I consider this to be the best and most useful glass on the market.

Price 47/6 Post Free.

A. LICHTENSTEIN
(B.P.A.)

BOX 576 — BLOEMFONTEIN

CAPE OF GOOD HOPE
TRIANGULARS.
RECTANGULARS. POSTMARKS.

Extensive selections of the above are always available, as well as interesting covers and Postal History material.

References from new customers, please.

F. W. COLLINS,
STOBOROUGH CROFT, WINCHESTER, ENGLAND.

SOCIETY NEWS

PRETORIA PHILATELIC SOCIETY

18 March 1957. Mr. J. Slagt, one of the darker horses in our midst, came forward with one of the most interesting exhibits of its kind we have seen for years. He showed a complete collection of pre-1900 Netherlands Postal Stationery. It was a very well presented show and in it were superb examples of the early postal and letter cards. Following on the Stationery exhibit, Mr. Slagt tabled his Dutch East Indies adhesives which provided another enjoyable section to view. His exhibits were preceded by a very clear and detailed account of the stationery shown which revealed a profound knowledge of his subject and the results of the necessary research.

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Mr. W. Newlands then entertained us with his daughter's collections of Belgium, that country with which the Netherlands is so bound in many more ways than one. The exhibit comprised a selection of the adhesives from the early issues to the moderns as well as a fine array of postal and official stationery. Full credit is due to Miss Newlands for her collection and for the manner in which it is arranged and displayed. To this must be added the members' thanks for a display from a country which is very rarely seen at our meetings.

J. M. W.

THE PHILATELIC SOCIETY OF RHODESIA

March 6th. The exhibit was Mr. Creewel's collection of "Danish Local Postage Stamps" — a first class collection, which was preceded by a few remarks on the functions of "Local Posts" generally. He also conducted a Quiz — perhaps a little too difficult by our standards, which was won by Mrs. Wallace.

H. R.

GERMISTON PHILATELIC SOCIETY

One of the best, if not the Very Best, meetings of the above Society, was held at the Public Library, Germiston, on **Wednesday the 20th March, 1957,** at which nineteen of our members and three Germiston visitors were present to entertain seven members of the East Rand Philatelic Society who had come over from Benoni to exhibit that evening.

Mr. L. J. Picton welcomed Mr. Feinstein the President of the East Rand Society, who in turn introduced the other members of his team of Philatelists.

The stamp collections tabled for exhibit were as follows:

1. Old Transvaal stamps and covers depicting the Birth and Growth of South Africa, by Mr. Feinstein.
2. Austria and Union First Day covers by Mr. Bognor, Junior.
3. A Thematic collection called "The Glory of the Sea", by Mr. MacArthur.
4. Mint Q.E. II issues to date, by Mr. Waner.

Dr. J. J. van Niekerk, on behalf of all present, conveyed the thanks of the Germiston Society to the East Rand Society, for the excellent exhibits tabled and for helping to make the evening such a great success.

I. S. B.

PORT ELIZABETH PHILATELIC SOCIETY

19th February. Annual General Meeting. The President, Mr. D. Berg, was able to give members in his speech details of a successful year, highlighted by Congress and "Penapex" Exhibition in October last. He stressed the fine co-operative spirit shown by members which had resulted in the delightful proceedings during Congress week. The incoming Committee is composed as follows:

President: A. F. W. Pavitt.

Vice Presidents: Dr. J. W. Harris & G. Monagham.

Secretary: G. E. Smukler.

Treasurer: Miss E. J. McSporran.

Exchange Superintendent: E. Baer assisted by A. J. Fisher.

Auctioneers: R. W. Pearson, P. Smit, J. F. Slabbert.

Librarian: G. K. Forbes.

Press Correspondent: G. Bülbring.

5th March. First evening of the year for Juniors. Proceedings included show and judging of Junior Collections with prize distribution, a Quiz and displays by Mrs. Douglas — "Ships on Stamps" and Mr. Smits — Orange Free State.

G. E. S.

PAARLSE POSSEËLVERSAMELAARS-VERENIGING

Op die jaarlikse vergadering gehou op **12 Maart** was die opkoms besonder goed. Die volgende is gekies op die bestuur vir die volgende jaar: N. C. Combrink, Voorsitter; J. D. Rossouw, Vise-voorsitter; Murray, Sekretaris; Mev. C. Joubert, J. G. le Roux en S. J. Morrell. Die aftredende Voorsitter, mnr. J. D. Rossouw, het gewag gemaak van die Uniale Filatelistiese Uitstalling wat alhier gehou sal word op 23 tot 30 Oktober, 1957.

By dieselfde vergadering het die kompetisie om die Veka wissel trofee ook plaasgevind. Die trofee is verower deur mnr. J. G. le Roux met 'n puik Vrystaatse versameling. Die ander mededingers was mnr. A. J. Erasmus van Pretoria met 'n baie mooi Kanadese versameling en mnr. P. Seligmann, van Johannesburg, met 'n baie mooi inskrywing van Mosambiek maatskappy.

EAST LONDON PHILATELIC SOCIETY

March. This proved most enjoyable by reason of two very fine displays, one by our Founder member, Mr. T. A. Harper who showed in wonderful condition the early stamps of the Transvaal and O.F.S. Mr. Harper displayed a most representative showing of these early issues and the postmarks were of special interest.

It was a real privilege to see Mr. L. Buchen's S.W.A. collection, preceded by a most interesting and informative talk. A number of the items were covers and postmarks never seen or heard of by ordinary collectors. Both these stamp collectors were thanked most heartily for their really special displays.

J. P. S.

UNIVERSITY OF CAPE TOWN PHILATELIC SOCIETY

March 21st. The first meeting of the year was held in the "Union" when various business matters were discussed and "Maps on Stamps" exhibited. This was the collection shown last year and proved of interest to the new members present. This was followed by a quiz and a distribution of stamps.

M. F. S.

ROYAL PHILATELIC SOCIETY OF CAPE TOWN

March 14th. A record crowd came to view Mr. E. Hunt's "Sperati Forgeries". What made this even more interesting was the fact that also sent down were originals in order to compare the real with the reproduction. An interesting short paper accompanied the exhibition. Mr. Blum gave a talk after the showing, as also did Mr. Wilson. The Society was indeed fortunate in being able to see even this small part of the Sperati Book and it certainly

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made many a member consider what proportion of his or her treasures might be bogus.

March 28th. Mr. Putzell showed "Germany through two World Wars". He is a real student of his stamps and showed only a very small section of his Germany. The theme was an excellent one and covered the field, which included a Turkey cover of 1872, the early German Colonies, the occupations 1914 to 1918, Dantzig, the inflation period, plebiscites, occupations 1938 to 1946, the rare Sudentenland covers, and the Afrika Corps stamps, both perf. and imperf. He followed with a most instructive talk and showed his knowledge of his subject and the stamps.

M. F. S.

THE THEMATIC STAMP CLUB

March 11th. Advocate Rousseau sent down his collection "Transport on Stamps" for exhibition. This was viewed by a very large number of members and visitors and proved of unusual interest. This collection was arranged a few years ago and still is quite one of the best set out. This was the second of the "country" showings, and is being followed by six thematic collections from Durban.

March 25th. The Annual General Meeting resulted in the election of the following officers for 1957:- President, Capt. M. F. Stern; Vice-President, Mr. G. Petroulis; Hon. Secretary, Mrs. F. Mitchell-Baker; Hon.-Treasurer, Mr. A. Simson; Hon. Librarian, Mr. R. F. Chapman; Hon. Exchange Superintendent, Dr. R. C. v.d. Merwe; Hon. Editor of the Thematic Magazine, Capt. M. F. Stern; Members of Committee: Messrs W. G. Combrink, F. L. Archer, J. P. Enslin and F. Sinnot (ex officio). The Club has shown a large increase in membership and also showed a good financial balance for the year 1956. After the business part of the composite collection of the Club was shown: Sections shown were Famous People (L. Bevis), Architecture (K. Cameron), Postal History of the Cape of Good Hope (the late A. A. Jurgens), Horses on Stamps (Mrs. D. Flint), Mythology, Paintings, Flags, Churches, Sport, Arms, Birds, Ships, Flowers, Falls on Stamps (Geo. Petroulis).

M. F. S.

PRETORIA RAILWAY PHILATELIC SOCIETY

The usual monthly meeting of the Society was held in the Railway Recreation Club on **Wednesday, 13th March** and was attended by 18 members and 6 visitors. It was a pleasure to see so many of the wives of our members at the meeting and we hope that they will grace many more of our meetings during the year.

Miss Jean Taylor entertained us with a really outstanding exhibit of thematic collections. Among the 12 subjects that she covered were animals, birds, butterflies, fish, transport, red cross, royal weddings, children, flowers and stamps-on-stamps. The display was most colourful and pleasing to the eye and catered in some way or other for the tastes of everyone. Mr. Castignani in commenting on the exhibit said that Jean had stated to him that she had not written it up because "any . . . fool can see what they are!" The beautiful designs were certainly very self-explanatory and both Mr. Castignani and Mr. Newlands thanked Jean on behalf of the Society for having entertained us with such a delightful exhibit which had obviously taken much time and patience to prepare.

P. M. J. M.

PRETORIA PHILATELIC SOCIETY

4 March 1957. A well attended meeting saw the display of three attractive and varied exhibits. Mr. Manville-Ford, our chief exponent of general collecting, displayed a collection of the Union of South Africa which was unique in our eyes as it consisted of a collection based entirely on the Stanley Gibbons catalogue. A Union display along these lines cannot be recalled in the Society and Mr. Ford is to be congratulated on his unusual spirit of enterprise. Though not complete, the display was made to appear attractive and it did underline the argument that simplified collecting has distinct advantages over specialization. A paper introducing the exhibit helped to explain the exhibitor's viewpoint and added to the enjoyment of his fare.

Mr. Gouws then exhibited a selection of his "Birds on stamps" which he prefaced with a very humorous talk on the birds themselves. Needless to say, there was plenty to enthrall the thematic collectors and those who appreciate the finely produced and printed adhesives that have become so popular of late.

Mr. W. Newlands then produced a surprise exhibit of a portion of his Nyasaland collection, including a choice selection of the "cheque" stamps. Here was something special for the admirer of select material.

Visit to the Philatelic Society of Johannesburg, 12 March 1957.

A strong delegation headed by our President, Mr. Ferguson paid our annual visit to the Golden City and we were received with traditional friendliness and warm hospitality. Those who exhibited were as follows:—

1. Mr. V. G. Chowles "Belgian Congo". His well prepared and interesting paper on the exhibit was read by Mr. Slater-Kinghorn.
2. Miss J. Taylor "Flowers & Children on stamps".
3. Mr. D. Coetser "Russia".
4. Mr. E. C. Wright "British Colonials".
5. Mr. J. M. Weinstein "Palestine fore-runners".

THE PHILATELIC SOCIETY OF JOHANNESBURG

As we had expected, the first meeting of the last month, on **12th March,** was a bumper event again. In fact, the visiting contingent from the Pretoria Society was so strong this time, that it amounted to a third of the whole gathering, and that we shall have to organise all our reserves when we return the compliments on September 16. The displays were of similar abundance: a fruity paper accompanying the first exhibit, of "Belgian Congo", by Mr. Chowles, and read for him by the indefatigable Mr. Slater-Kinghorn; Mr. D. Coetzer followed with a display of "Russia", Miss J. Taylor with two thematic collections, "Children" and "Flowers", both equally strong in lovely designs; then came Mr. E. C. Wright with some fine specimen stamps in a display of "British Colonials"; and the "Fore-runners of Palestine", by Mr. M. Weinstein, an outstanding collection of rare Turkish cancellations on the stamps of the European agencies, concluded the most interesting evening.

Nearly as many people turned out for the second meeting. There was only one display, the weird but most interesting "Mozambique Air Labels" by Mr. Isaacs.

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THE
SOUTH AFRICAN PHILATELIST
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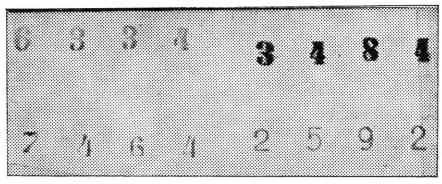
Vol. 33. No. 6. JUNE, 1957 Whole No. 386

UNION NOTES

Hon. Associate Editor: Dr. T. B. BERRY, Box 31, Bryanston, Transvaal.

Various Cyclometer Numerals

In response to enquiries concerning various types of red sheet numbers appearing recently on the margins of certain Union stamps, we illustrate four types selected at random from a Post Office stock.



Their difference appears to be of no great consequence except to indicate that the digits of the numbering apparatus were cleaned during the periodical "wash and brush up" of the printing machine or were replaced by a fresh set held in reserve.

An enquiry, concerning the odd thickness of certain digits in cyclometer numbers, addressed to the Government Printer through the kind services of the Publicity Officer, G.P.O., Pretoria, elicited the reply that a possible explanation might be that the ink fountain had not been adjusted correctly. This would cause an irregular flow of ink which would come into contact with the numbering machines, this causing odd-looking digits.

It may be appropriate at this stage to observe that when printing single sheets of stamps (240 format), the machine carries one cyclometer so placed that it registers the sheet number twice per sheet on its right vertical margin before changing over to the next number, but when printing from a double-die cylinder which produces simultaneously two sheets of stamps (480 format), as in the recent issues of the 1d. and 2d. Animal stamps, the machine carries two cyclometers, the second one of which is built into the body of the machine so as to be in a position to register the sheet numbers on the right margin of the **left** hand sheet. The two instruments are geared to print the respective sheet numbers simultaneously at the same position on the two sheets and are also synchronised to print the same numbers on each of the pair of sheets.

The single bar and the double bar sheets of the 1d. and 2d. values of the double-die printing of the Animal series come off the printing machine at the same time and bear the same sheet numbers, and it would therefore appear an easy matter to collect the two panes bearing the same sheet number, particularly as such a large number are printed, but as the one-bar and the two-bar panes are stacked separately at the office of the Controller of Stores and are issued from this source to various post offices, the chances of finding two similarly numbered sheets in one post office, or even in two or more different post-offices, are extremely remote. However, there are collectors who are continually engaged on this quest, and one day someone will be rewarded for such is the incentive and joy of stamp collecting.

Gelatine Flaws

Concerning the study of the Gelatine Shift which is assumed to be the cause of the Broken Yoke-pin flaw, as described in our March Notes, Mr. R. P. Jonas, of London, writes that while hesitating to contradict such experts as Messrs. Williams Brothers and Sydow, he cannot subscribe to either of their theories. He feels that it would be quite beyond the bounds of possibility for a piece of gelatine **exactly** the size of the missing yoke-pin to be dislodged and then fitted neatly in to cover the pin. That this did not happen is proved by examination of an enlargement of the stamp in question, it will be seen that the missing pin has round it a faintly lighter area, proving that a much larger piece of gelatine was superimposed and protected the cylinder from etching, or gave added protection.

Mr. Jonas advances the theory that the Broken Yoke-pin flaw is a **multipositive** gelatine shift. The place from which the gelatine was removed then gets exposed on the carbon tissue and permits light on the stamp, while the area to which it is displaced, permits dark to the extent of the intended image only.

This is certainly an interesting new theory pertaining to a condition which has resulted in much healthy discussion of an item contained in most collections, the determination of which

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condition we hope will be finalized now that the subject has been mooted and the experts have become interested.

Doctor Blade Flaws

In the same letter, Mr. R. P. Jonas also submits for our inspection an interesting flaw of the Silver Jubilee 1d., Second printing and illustrated hereunder.



This flaw consists of a strong vertical black line stretching from the King's mouth on stamp 3 of Row 13 to approximately the same position on stamp 3 of Row 14. It is suggested that the appearance of this very noticeable flaw led to the second printing being stopped and the head-plate cleaned (or a new one made) for the third printing.

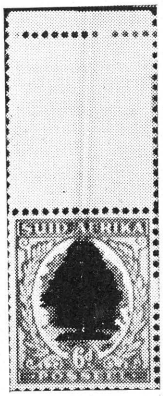
Mr. Jonas would be glad to know if this flaw is constant and if any reader could throw further light on this item.

While awaiting these replies we would suggest that the item is a Doctor-blade Flaw due to the fact that the "line" is not truly vertical but inclined slightly to the right in accordance with the manner a mark would be made by the Doctor-blade in moving to the right over a revolving printing base. What do you think?

Periodically, contributors to these Notes have commented on Doctor-blade flaws. It may be appropriate at this stage to summarise these flaws in a general manner.

A Doctor-blade flaw is caused by some defect pertaining to the long flexible blade whose purpose it is to remove the surplus ink from the printing cylinder in the gravure printing process. These flaws may be divided into two main classes, viz., vertical and horizontal flaws, both relative to the direction in which the stamps are printed from the bottom to the top margin of the sheet.

Vertical Doctor-blade flaws may be coloured or uncoloured. The former is the result of injury to the delicate doctor blade — a nick out of its edge caused by a particle of grit or an impurity in the ink, will allow ink to escape through this aperature and inscribe a line slightly out of the vertical on the printing base. These flaws are non-constant and vary in length and duration. The latter type of this category, illustrated in the 6d. item, consists of a piece



of fluff or other absorbent foreign body, being picked up by the Doctor-blade and becoming wedged between it and the printing base, scavenges an excessive amount of ink from the printing cylinder. Its path which is also slightly out of the vertical, is marked by an uncoloured line surrounded by a darkened halo due to the extra ink welling up around it during its path of travel.

Horizontal Doctor-blade flaws, two examples of which are illustrated, are coloured and are





caused by vibration of the Doctor-blade, thereby allowing ink to pass beneath it and so mark the printing base. They are non-constant in

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nature and vary in magnitude depending upon the amount of ink which has been allowed to escape.

"Ghost" Number on the 1d. Cylinder No. 3

Enquiries have been received as to whether a "Ghost Number 3" appears on the margin of the 1d. printing from Cylinder No. 3.

We have inspected a large number of sheets of this printing and have made enquiries concerning this item but without avail. Should any reader be in a position to advise us to the contrary, we will be grateful of the information.

THE 2d. PHOTO VIGNETTE HYPHENATED ROTOGRAVURE STAMPS — AN ADDENDUM

The authors of this article which appeared in our April issue, inform us that they have now arrived at a possible explanation of the manner in which certain plate flaws of the 2d., Plate VII printing, appeared and then at a later stage disappeared — a phenomenon over which they and several readers were concerned.

It was felt that some subsequent treatment may have been carried out on the printing cylinders concerned, and in order to determine this, the aid of the Government Printer, through the kind offices of the Publicity Officer, was sought. A reply was received that sometimes a printing cylinder is "re-chromed" after the completion of a printing, while on occasions, the cylinder may be "fine-etched". In the matter under consideration, no record exists, nor can it be recalled whether the cylinders had been so treated but they may have been.

The authors feel that an after-treatment of the printing cylinder of a nature as the above, is a reasonable and an acceptable explanation of a set of conditions under which the plate flaws of the 2d., Plate VII printing, appeared and disappeared in a manner which not only baffled previous observers, but also led to the assumption that new cylinders must have been employed to complete the various printings of this issue. Consequently they feel justified in their conclusion that only one set of cylinders, Nos. 8/21, was used for the three printings of the 2d. Plate VII emissions.

In his reply the Government Printer gave a short account of the processes of "re-chroming" and "fine-etching" a cylinder, namely:

A cylinder to be rechromed is placed in the chromium-plating bath and the current is reversed (passed in the opposite direction through the bath) so as to remove all traces of any existing chromium plating. When this is completed, the current is passed in the normal manner and the process of chromium-plating the copper cylinder carried out.

A cylinder to be fine-etched has firstly to be freed of its existing chromium-plating, after which the surface of the cylinder is carefully covered with an acid resist in such a manner that the acid resist covers the high portions of the cylinder only and does not extend into the etched recesses. The cylinder is then subjected to an etching process after which the acid resist is removed and the cylinder chromium plated.

Incidentally, it will be recalled that certain cylinders were fine-etched during the printing of "The Darmstadt Trials" — a corrective measure introduced during the infancy of the gravure printing process of the stamps of the Union, and although it may not have been mentioned during the intervening years, the fact that a "rejuvenating process" is still in vogue, may supply observers with a clue in determining other plate flaws of a "Scarlet Pimpernel" character.

"Tomato" Shade in the Animal Penny Stamp

Mr. J. Robertson, of Johannesburg, has shown us a portion of a sheet of the current 1d. stamps which he recently purchased over the counter at a local post office, printed in a colour similar in appearance to that of a well known brand of tomato sauce. It is a distinctive shade in this series which we have not seen before, and according to the cylinder-flaw markings on some of the stamps, the item was produced from the left hand pane of Cylinder No. 3 — the second printing of the 1d. stamps.

While on the topic of ink-mixing, the property resulting in the many shades in which the stamps of the Union are printed, visitors to the Port Elizabeth National Exhibition held during October 1956, will recall seeing Mr. C. Clement's exhibit of the 1/- Kudu stamp showing slight shadowing of the lettering which a little wishful thinking may describe as a possible "double-print". The official explanation of this condition from the Government Printer, is that sometimes when the ink-container on the printing machine is filled again, the remaining ink and that added do not mix properly immediately. The ink is therefore thin in areas for infinitesimal periods of tme and the result is a slight blurring which gives the appearance of "doubling".

This item is also reported upon by Mr. C. E. Sherwood, of Sale, in his April Bulletin.

½d. Coil Stamps

A correspondent enquires whether new ½d. Warthog Coil Stamps will be printed to replace the present monocolour ½d. Coil stamps when exhausted.

We have no official information on the subject but we would hardly imagine that this printing will be undertaken in view of the fact that there seems little use for this value nowadays, and also, we are informed, that a stamp vending machine at the Pretoria Post Office, has been altered to dispense two ½d. Coil stamps for each penny coin inserted — possibly to assist in using up the existing stock of ½d. Coils.

Errata

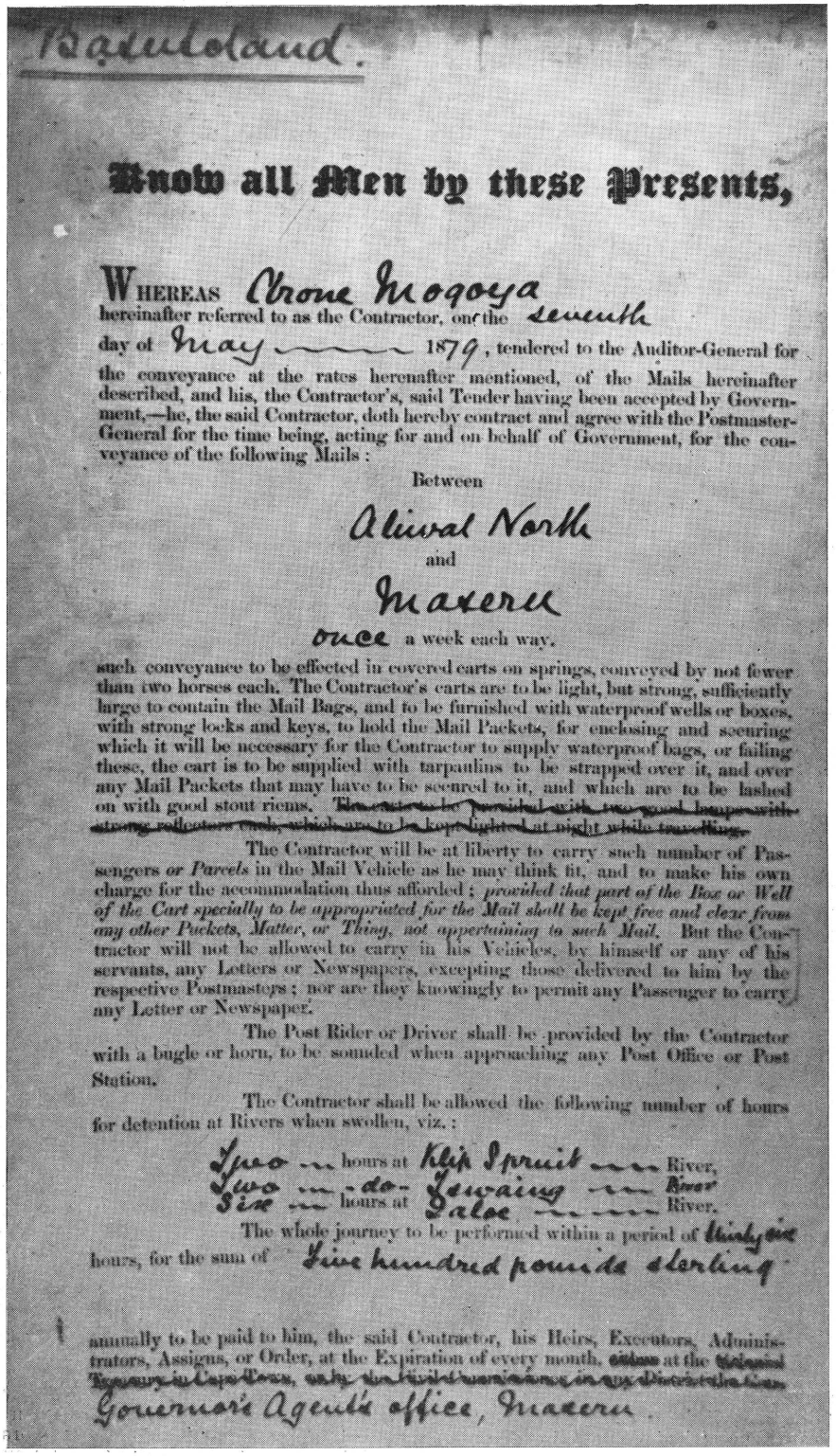
Mr. J. E. Frankland, of Johannesburg, correctly points out that the Postage Due Variety, "Stop after Due", catalogued in Volume I of the Handbook, as D8Vb, D9Vb, and D10Vb, should read Row 8/5 instead of Row 8/6.

Basutoland Postal Contract

We have been privileged to view a certified copy, dated 7th July 1879, of the Postal Contract entered into on the 7th May 1879 between Arone Mogoya and the Postmaster General for the conveyance of Mail between Aliwal North and Maseru (Basutoland) once a week each way for an annual payment of five hundred pounds sterling.

Certain specifications, among others, are laid down as to the type of cart which should be used, the safe and waterproof storage of the mail matter therein, and the minimum number and quality of the horses to be harnessed.

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Basutoland.

Know all Men by these Presents,

WHEREAS Crone Mogoya hereinafter referred to as the Contractor, on the seventh day of May 1879, tendered to the Auditor-General for the conveyance at the rates hereinafter mentioned, of the Mails hereinafter described, and his, the Contractor's, said Tender having been accepted by Government,—he, the said Contractor, doth hereby contract and agree with the Postmaster-General for the time being, acting for and on behalf of Government, for the conveyance of the following Mails:

Between

Aliwal North

and

Maseru

once a week each way.

such conveyance to be effected in covered carts on springs, conveyed by not fewer than two horses each. The Contractor's carts are to be light, but strong, sufficiently large to contain the Mail Bags, and to be furnished with waterproof wells or boxes, with strong locks and keys, to hold the Mail Packets, for enclosing and securing which it will be necessary for the Contractor to supply waterproof bags, or failing these, the cart is to be supplied with tarpaulins to be strapped over it, and over any Mail Packets that may have to be secured to it, and which are to be lashed on with good stout riems. ~~The carts to be furnished with two good lamps with strong reflectors each, which are to be kept lighted at night while travelling.~~

The Contractor will be at liberty to carry such number of Passengers *or Parcels* in the Mail Vehicle as he may think fit, and to make his own charge for the accommodation thus afforded; *provided that part of the Box or Well of the Cart specially to be appropriated for the Mail shall be kept free and clear from any other Packets, Matter, or Thing, not appertaining to such Mail.* But the Contractor will not be allowed to carry in his Vehicles, by himself or any of his servants, any Letters or Newspapers, excepting those delivered to him by the respective Postmasters; nor are they knowingly to permit any Passenger to carry any Letter or Newspaper.

The Post Rider or Driver shall be provided by the Contractor with a bugle or horn, to be sounded when approaching any Post Office or Post Station.

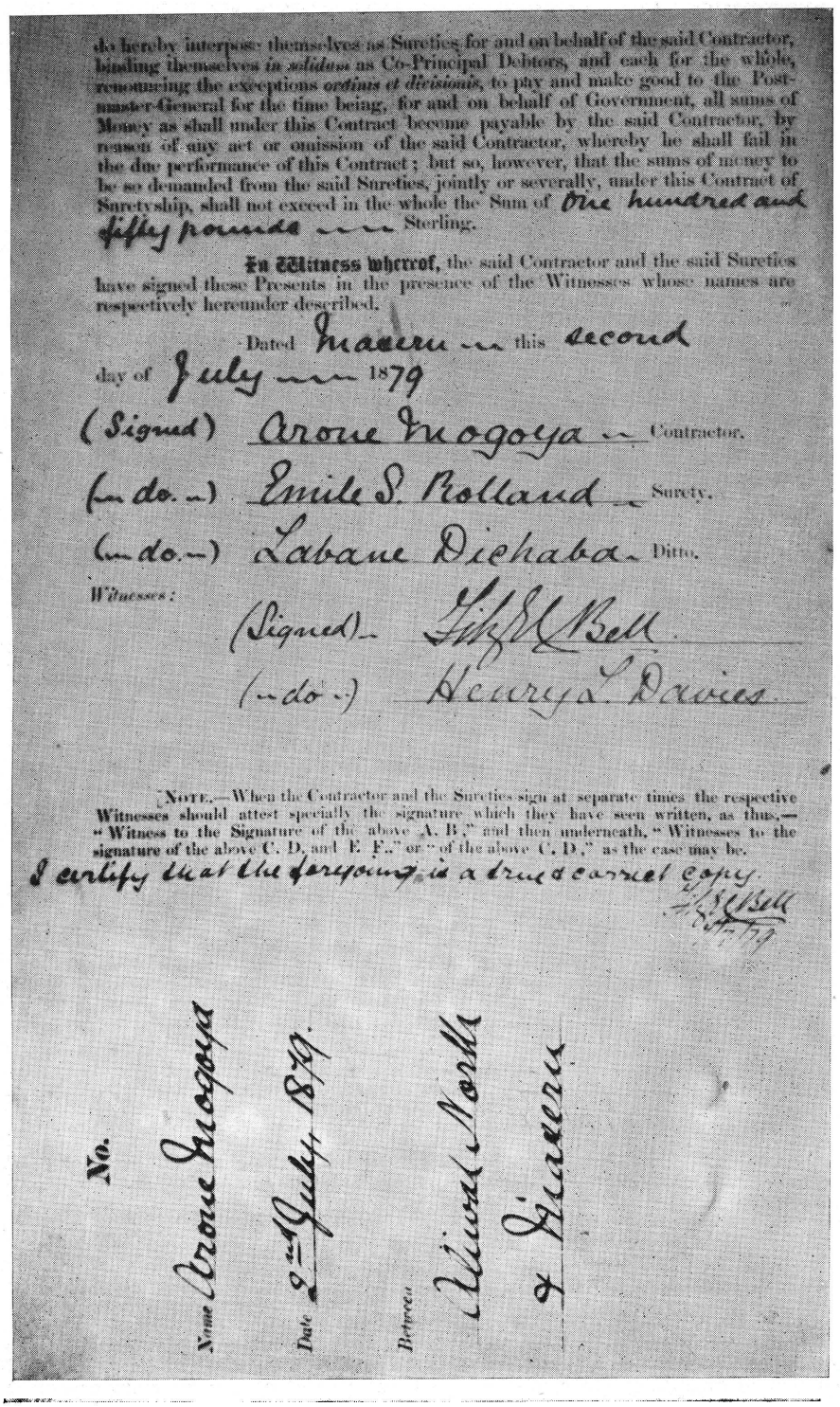
The Contractor shall be allowed the following number of hours for detention at Rivers when swollen, viz.:

Two hours at Klip Spruit River,
Two hours at do- Leuraing River
Six hours at Caledon River.

The whole journey to be performed within a period of thirty six hours, for the sum of Five hundred pounds sterling

annually to be paid to him, the said Contractor, his Heirs, Executors, Administrators, Assigns, or Order, at the Expiration of every month, ~~either at the Colonial Treasury in Cape Town, or by the Civil Commissioner in any District to be~~ Governor's Agent's office, Maseru.

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do hereby interpose themselves as Sureties for and on behalf of the said Contractor, binding themselves *in solidum* as Co-Principal Debtors, and each for the whole, renouncing the exceptions *ordinis et divisionis*, to pay and make good to the Postmaster-General for the time being, for and on behalf of Government, all sums of Money as shall under this Contract become payable by the said Contractor, by reason of any act or omission of the said Contractor, whereby he shall fail in the due performance of this Contract; but so, however, that the sums of money to be so demanded from the said Sureties, jointly or severally, under this Contract of Suretyship, shall not exceed in the whole the Sum of One hundred and fifty pounds ~~~ Sterling.

In Witness whereof, the said Contractor and the said Sureties have signed these Presents in the presence of the Witnesses whose names are respectively hereunder described.

Dated Maseru ~~ this second day of July ~~~ 1879

(Signed) Arone Inogoya ~~ Contractor.

(~ do. ~) Emile S. Rolland ~ Surety.

(~ do. ~) Labane Diehaba ~ Ditto.

Witnesses:

(Signed) ~ Fitz R. Bell.

(~ do. ~) Henry L. Davies.

NOTE.—When the Contractor and the Sureties sign at separate times the respective Witnesses should attest specially the signature which they have seen written, as thus,—"Witness to the Signature of the above A. B." and then underneath, "Witnesses to the signature of the above C. D. and E. F." or "of the above C. D." as the case may be.

I certify that the foregoing is a true & correct copy.
F. R. Bell
Dec 1879

No.
Name Arone Inogoya
Date 2nd July 879.
Between Chiefs Natives
& Queens

Permission is granted for the conveyance of passengers and goods by private arrangement with the Contractor, but dire penalties are prescribed for the unauthorized conveyance by himself, his servants or passengers of any Letters or Newspapers except those delivered to him by the respective Postmasters.

The scheduled time for the journey was thirty-six hours with allowances in times from two to six hours respectively for detention at three specified rivers when swollen. The late arrival of the mail was looked upon with disfavour, and penalties for delay ranging from 2/6 for the first half hour up to £2 for two and a half hours, and 10/- for every half hour thereafter, are detailed.

The contract consists of an impressive four page document printed on blue paper, the front and last pages of which are illustrated and sets out in detail what acts are expected and required for the due and faithful fulfilment of the undertaking, and includes a solemn warning to the Contractor that any "sins of omission or commission" may cause the cancellation of the contract and/or the imposition of a penalty not exceeding £150 for which surety two signatures were required.

This contract supersedes that of the first conveyance of the mail by horseback, and to be fully appreciated the reader is referred to the booklet entitled "Basutoland — Some Historical Notes with special reference to Postal Matters", editored by G. N. Gilbert, and published by The Philatelic Federation of Southern Africa.

Joined Paper, Revenue Stamps

The collecting of Revenue Stamps is practised on a large scale overseas, particularly in America, where societies with this object in view exist and relative catalogues are compiled. The same happy state of afairs does not exist in South Africa, for some unaccountable reason, but nevertheless Revenues are slowly finding their place into the Philatelic sun of S. Africa.

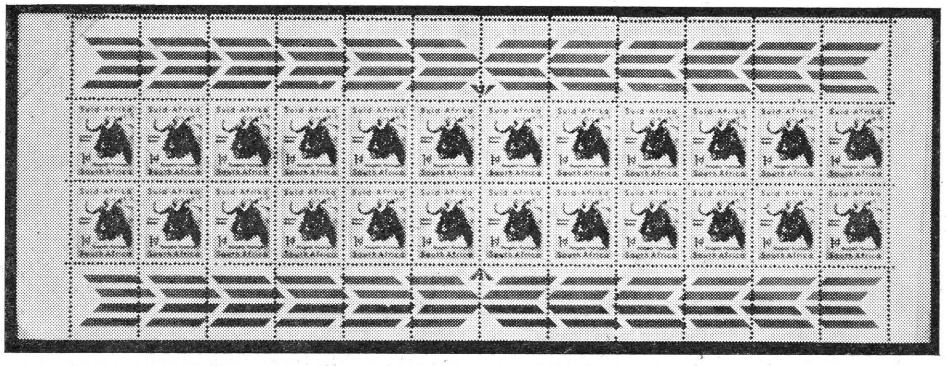
The most recent addition to the register of the Revenue stamps of the Union is the Joined Paper variety of which Mr. A. Lichtenstein, of Bloemfontein, has submitted, for our inspection, a pair and a block of four (mint) of the 2d. value of the First Rotogravure printing carried out by the Government Printer at Pretoria in 1931 — a most desirable item and unrecorded previously.

The Unhyphenated Halfpenny Stamp

In complimenting Mr. A. J. Brown on his article concerning the unhyphenated ½d. stamp, published in our April issue, we are pleased to report that several observers have intimated their support of Mr. Brown's contention that a printing does exist of the ½d., Plate I, wherein there is a white patch on stamp Row 4/11, and no green line through the right frame on stamp Row 3/12.

The evidence appears conclusive and thus an additional printing from Head and Frame Cylinders I, with Plate I arrows, showing white patches on stamps of Rows 1/12, 4/11, and 9/5, and without the green marginal line on stamp Row 3/12, should be added to the listings of this stamp in the Handbook .

Will the Catalogue Committee please take note for your future requirements, and congratulations are extended to Mr. Brown.



Fourth Printing of the 1d. Animal Stamp

We are indebted to Mr. Eric Walker, of Pretoria, for calling our attention to a new printing of the 1d. Animal Series, and for conscientiously compiling a comprehensive list of the constant cylinder flaws.

We understand that circumstances which necessitated the occurrence of this new printing so soon after the previous one from Cylinder 105, were caused by a temporary shortage of large size paper at the Printing Works, and the failure of Cylinder No. 12 which had been called into commission in an attempt to complete an order for the printing of 2,000,000 sheets of the 1d. stamp. After printing some 25,000 sheets, Cylinder No. 12 showed signs of breaking up when the printing process was terminated and a new single die Cylinder No. 97 was manufactured before the printing could continue on single width paper.

The emission made its appearance early in May and consists of a 240 sheet format, the top and bottom margins of which carry a four-bar design, as illustrated, in the same light brick-red shade as the stamps, while solid marginal arrows are placed at their conventional positions, one on each margin of the sheet.

Unlike the printing from Cylinder No. 12, the new sheet carries no cylinder number, but the other general features such as the design, bilingual inscription, watermark, perforation, sheet numbers, and fine cross-mesh screening are all

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unchanged. In fact, if one were to ignore the top and bottom marginal markings, there would be no means of determining the printing except by its cylinder flaws.

1d. Cylinder No. 97 Flaws

Due to lack of space, we are able to record only a few cylinder flaws, and have selected those in the neighbourhood of the arrows and corners of the sheet so as to assist those readers who form miniature sheets or collect corners. Should a complete recording be desired, the list, extending to some 3 pages, may be obtained on loan upon request.

Row
1—4, Dot between 'SU' of SUID.
1—6, Dot above 'IN' of INKOMSTE.
1—7, Dot above second 'A' in AFRIKA and below "NU" of REVENUE.
1—12, Dot below animal's left horn.
2—3, Smudge mark between "1" and "d" of the figure of value.
2—6, Inclined line from centre of curve of right horn to base of 'D' of SUID.
2—7, Dot on right margin of stamp below second 'A' of AFRIKA, and dot on the right bottom corner of stamp.
2—12, Dot above 'E' of POSGELD.
10—1, Dotted line from left margin of stamp to tip of horn.
19—2, Dot between 'TH' of SOUTH.
19—7, Dot on left margin opposite horn.
19—11, Dot between 'SU' of SUID, and on top margin above hyphen of SUID-AFRIKA.
19—12, Dot below first 'A' of AFRIKA.
20—11, Dot above first 'A', and between 'FR' of AFRIKA.
20—12, Dot below curve of right horn, above "TE" of INKOMSTE.

"R" Overprint on Q.E. II N. Rhodesian Stamps

Referring to the enquiry appearing in our March Notes concerning the above overprint, Mr. C. D. Twynan, of Nyasaland, has been good enough to supply the following information.

When the Federation of Rhodesia and Nyasaland came into being on 1st July 1954, all Postal matters came under Federal Control but Revenue remained a Territorial matter. In all three states certain stamps did duty for both Postage and Revenue.

This, of course, meant that there was no means of telling what proportion of stamps sold should be credited to Territorial revenues, which knowledge was essential. Northern Rhodesia and Nyasaland had to overprint locally a quantity of their stamps of certain values to turn them into Revenue only stamps. Northern Rhodesia did this by a large capital "R", while Nyasaland overprinted the word REVENUE in small capitals.

For a short while some of the overprinted stamps got through as postage, but such use was never officially sanctioned. Both Territories issued special Revenue sets in new designs as soon as possible, Nyasaland on 1st March 1955.

PAARL NATIONAL EXHIBITION — 23 OCTOBER 1957.

The Exhibition is being arranged to appeal to every type of philatelist or stamp collector, and the entry rules have been so framed to encourage the smaller collector. There is no competition of one entry against the other, any entry which is judged by the Jury to be entitled to a reward will receive such an award. On the other hand the position may arise that no entry in some sections may qualify for a prize.

This exhibition is not designed for philatelists only but has also been arranged with an eye on the man in the street. If you are someone who does not know what a philatelist means, do not worry, just come along and you will find plenty to interest you. If, on the other hand, you are an expert, you will find some of the classical rarities of Southern African collectors exhibited.

Don't be afraid of the exhibition if you are a beginner or just an ordinary stamp collector. There will be plenty of scope for you and many things to interest you.

It is hoped to arrange the exhibits tastefully, common stamps will be laid side by side with the more expensive rarities, contrasted by frames of thematic collections to demonstrate the less serious side of the hobby.

The main theme of the invitation section will be the development of postal history leading up to the Union of South Africa. The pre-Cape postal historical exhibit of the five mother states of the Union viz.: Portugal, Netherlands, France, Britain, and Germany will be arranged by the P.H.S. of England under the supervision of Mr. Robson Lowe. The Cape will be represented by a section of the wellknown Jurgens collection, whereas the O.F.S. section will be in the capable hands of the O.F.S. Study Circle of Great Britain. For Natal, Transvaal and some of the former protectorates we have been extremely fortunate in the co-operation of Mrs. G. H. Hunt, Dr. Pirie and Mr. Newlands.

The exhibit showing the postal history of the Union of South Africa is being arranged for us by the South African Collectors Society in England.

In the thematic invitation section there will be famous collections from the United States, England and Europe.

All that is now required frfom the South African collectors is to support our competitive section. We can assure you that more than the average number of pages will be shown of each entry. The D.R. Church Hall, Noorder Paarl is one of the most spacious church halls and with its cubicles all along three walls it lends itself to a tasteful arrangement.

J. D. R.

CORRESPONDENCE

19 Glen Street,
Port Elizabeth.
6/4/57.

The Editor,
Union Notes,
The S.A. Philatelist,
P.O. Box 31,
Bryanston.

Sir,

It is appropriate that on the 305th anniversary of the landing of Jan van Riebeeck I should be reading in the Union Notes of the S.A. Philatelist the story of "Homemade Cancellers" and your appeal for a Philatelic Museum. One's thoughts naturally turn to all aspects of our country's history, and who can deny the fascination and the importance of our postal services.

Repeated references in your columns to the assistance given philatelists by P.O. officials make heart-warming reading, but this is not enough. It is now time that the postal administration should gracefully admit in some tangible

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way its debt to philatelists, who spend thousands of pounds every year buying stamps and postal stationery for their collections. The establishing of a philatelic museum is the most realistic way in which the appreciation of the authorities can be shown.

Such a move cannot but rouse the interest of all philatelists and the general public, and act as a stimulus to this hobby that is so profitable to the P.O. A true case of casting one's bread upon the waters . . . .

One feels that Pretoria would be the obvious city in which to establish such a museum. The Government Printer is nearby, and there are in the environs of the city a large number of experienced philatelists who would, I feel sure, be only too keen to assist in sorting, classifying and annotating material. A vision arises of small "one-topic" exhibits, sets of slides and recorded talks on items displayed in the museum being made available on loan to societies.

There is no time like the present, Mr. Editor, so please use all your persuasiveness to press for a museum before even more historical items pass into the limbo of surmise and conjecture.

Yours, etc.,

C. CLEMENT.

895 Schoeman Street,
Arcadia,
Pretoria.
15th April 1957.

The Editor,
South African Philatelist,
P.O. Box 375,
Johannesburg.

Dear Sir,

Your April number, in the section "Union Notes" contained a short paragraph at the end of the article "Homemade Cancellers", which I fear will not attract more than a passing glance from your readers. I refer to an appeal for a Philatelic Museum.

I remember with regret, the reply I received some 12 months ago from a collector in Cape Town, in answer to an enquiry about the method of manufacture of the early revenue stamps of that Colony. His words, in answer, were 'The old postal cancelling devices etc. used in the Cape were sold some years ago by the Post Office, as junk, at one of their sales.

I feel that if there were a Museum in existence a number of items would be donated from time to time, and thus rescued from "Junk sales" or oblivion.

Yours faithfully,
LEONARD J. DODD.

The Editor,
South African Philatelist.

Dear Sir,

THEMATELY AND PHILATELY

As an old-fashioned philatelist who has also indulged to a small extent in themately I have wondered what is to be the future relationship of these two branches of stamp collecting. Thematic collecting, topical collecting, or constructive philately — call it what you will — though Themately is a convenient one-word descriptive term, has advanced a long way from its first beginnings, though I do not think it has yet reached finality of form and there is not so far complete agreement amongst the various exponents as to what that form should be.

According to the Code laid down for exhibitions by the International Federation for Constructive Philately (FIPCO), the following types of collections would appear **not** to be considered as **thematic** collections:—

(1) Chronological collections arranged in order of year of issue or of country.

(2) Collections composed of stamps issued for a special purpose, e.g. Swiss Pro Juventute or Pro Patria collections, U.P.U. or Centenary stamps, etc.

(3) Collections of Maxima-philately.

To a collector not completely wedded to the thematic idea the barring of special purpose stamps as in (2) above, has always seemed very curious.

Apparently the American Topical Association also thinks their exclusion is unjustifiable.

This Association has issued a Press Release of a book entitled "Postal History on Stamps", which is to run to 300 pages (their biggest publishing effort). This is going to list not only all issues pertaining to Stamps on Stamps, Stamp Centenaries, Stamp Anniversaries, Philatelic Exhibitions, U.P.U., Postal Union Congresses, etc., but will also price them as singles, mint and used, with commemorative cancellations, on F.D. or special covers, etc.

The book is also to include full philatelic information as to date of issue, type of printing, perforation, watermarks, overprints and varieties. In fact it is apparently going to include not only everything barred by FIPCO in (2) above, but pretty well everything that an ordinary common or garden philatelist would include in his collection.

It must be remembered, however, that the FIPCO Code has, in addition to the Group A which is all that we have considered so far, a Group B which consists of SPECIAL STUDY COLLECTIONS **which bear a likeness to** THEMATIC COLLECTIONS. Such collections may be shown at Thematic Exhibitions, but they must be judged separately from Group A, the "true Blue", thematic collections.

Collections falling into Category (2) above, although debarred from Group A, may be considered in Group B. Thus they nearly, although not quite, fall into line with the American Topical Association.

With regard to Category (1) above, the FIPCO Code allows them also to be dealt with in Group B, stating:—

"There may be included Country collections set out after design or motif illustrations, which cover several or more thematic groups, and are written up in accordance with country or chronological order, etc."

For the life of me I cannot see any essential difference between this type of collection and that of any ordinary philatelist's collection of a country.

Supposing — just supposing — that FIPCO merged their Groups A and B, and further, stated unambiguously that any country may be considered a basic theme for a thematic collection, where would we stand then? So far as I can see I should say that then about 99% of the collections of to-day could be considered as 'philatelic' or 'thematic', whichever the owner pleased.

Of course there would be a lot of silly argument "Has philately swallowed themately or has themately swallowed philately"? I do

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not know which party would win, nor do I care; in the long run much unnecessary wrangling would cease.

HOPEFUL.

(Readers may be interested to compare these notes with those of Mr. S. G. Rich, whose letter appeared in our May number, and who reaches similar conclusions by other considerations. — Ed.).



UNLISTED TRANSVAAL VARIETIES OF S.G. 213.

by E. HUNT.

Running short of half-penny and one penny stamps seems to have been a habit of the old Transvaal Republican postal authorities. It happened in 1893 when large quantities of the current 2d. and 6d. stamps were suitably overprinted. This position recurred in July-August 1895 resulting in the call for two other provisional issues; this time the one shilling green (S.G. 211) was surcharged "Halve Penny" in two lines and the 2½d. mauve (S.G. 179) did service for the 'penny' needs.

The "Halve Penny" provisional (S.G. 213) has a constant variety in the overprint which has been ignored by Gibbons. The shilling stamp, in line with the other values of the 1895 issue, is printed in sheets of 60 viz. six rows of ten stamps. The overprint is 'Halve Penny' in two lines in red above a double line cancelling the shilling value. The distance between the base of the letters of the overprint to the top of the cancelling bars is 3 m.m. for five of the rows = 50 stamps but the fifth row has wider spacing, 4¼ m.m.

From this it will be realised that the wider spaced stamps are five times scarcer than the normals. This wider spacing applies equally to the catalogued varieties — the inverted and double surcharges, so actually there are three varieties which should be eligible for catalogue status.

This wider spaced variety was known to A. E. Basden many years ago and there are examples of all three types in his extensive Transvaal collection.

Gibbons lists the wider spacing in the overprints of the two provisional issues of 1893, so it would seem that this particular similar variety has been overlooked.

TABIL
INTERNATIONAL STAMP EXHIBITION
17th—23rd SEPTEMBER, 1957.
ISRAEL

The FIRST INTERNATIONAL STAMP EXHIBITION to be held in the STATE OF ISRAEL will take place in TEL-AVIV from the 17th to the 23rd SEPTEMBER, 1957. The Exhibition is directed by the Rules of the FÉDÉRATION INTERNATIONALE DE PHILATÉLIE. The Patron-of-Honour is the President of the State of Israel, Mr. ITZAH BEN ZVI.

The Annual Congress of the Fédération Internationale de Philatélie will be held in conjunction with the Exhibition from WEDNESDAY, 18th SEPTEMBER, to FRIDAY, the 20th SEPTEMBER, 1957.

The highlights will include a reception at which all delegates and their wives will be received by the President, and other entertainment includes banquets and receptions by the Minister of Posts and Mayors of Jerusalem and Tel-Aviv and the President of the Union of Israel Philatelic Societies.

A comprehensive programme, which includes attractive tours and visits to historical sites, is being sponsored by the Exhibition Committee.

A special series of stamps to commemorate the Exhibition will be issued by the Ministry of Posts and first day covers will also be available.

Mr. SAM LEGATOR has been appointed by "TABIL" as Commissioner for Southern Africa.

Registration for participation in the Exhibition, in the first instance, should be submitted to him direct at P.O. Box 133, Brakpan, Transvaal, not later than **May 31st, 1957.**

Prospective exhibitors should note that frames will be supplied free of charge. The number of frames which will be allocated, are to be decided by the Examination Committee, after all entries have been submitted.

The Provisional List of the Members of the Jury are as follows:—

AGAH AKKAN, Turkey.
SIEGFRIED ASHER, Israel.
LUCIEN BERTHELOT, F.I.P. Switzerland.
JOSEPH BUEHLER, Switzerland.
LEON DUBUS, France.
OTTO HOFFMANN, Israel.
JAACOV KLEIN, Israel.
HARRY L. LINDQUIST, U.S.A.
GEORG MENZINSKY, Sweden.
MIRKO VERNER, Jugoslavia.
MOSHE PERZELAN, Israel.
LOUIS SCHRENK, Hungary.
JARLE O. STENSDAL, Norway.
CARLOS PINTO TRINCAO, Portugal.
R. VAN DER AUWER, Belgium.
ARTHUR WIENER, Israel.
SIR JOHN WILSON, Bart., Great Britain.

Messrs. Peltours Limited, Security Buildings. 95 Commissioner Street, Johannesburg, South Africa, have been appointed Agents for Tabil in South Africa, and any enquiries for the transport of collections, etc., to Israel can be made direct to them.

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OBITUARY

MAJOR J. MILLIGAN

The Philatelic Society of Johannesburg has lost still another of its "Old Brigade" through the death of Major J. Milligan in April. He was in his eighties.

He was known personally to very few of the younger members of the Society as an accident (fracture of a femur, which refused to heal) seventeen years ago kept him confined to the house for practically the whole time since it occurred.

Before World War II he was a stalwart member of the Society, serving as President in 1934; a few years ago he was elected to Honorary Life Membership.

He was a general collector, but his favourite countries were Canada and Newfoundland, in which he had specialized to a considerable degree.

In the days of the middle twenties the Johannesburg United Philatelic Society (as it then was) was not in a very flourishing condition. Meetings were held in an office basement in Fox Street and the quorum for a meeting was seven. But even this small number was not always attainable and it was no uncommon thing for either or both the major and Dick Redford (both of whom lived in town in those days) to be rung up with a plea "Please come round and make up a quorum". Times change! Our sympathies go out to Mrs. Milligan and his son and daughter.

GERMANY

Our correspondent, Mr. Joachim Dill of Bad Neustadt, kindly sends us an example of a most unusual commemorative postmark reading (16) Frankfurt (Main)/28.4.1957/Nationaltagung/der /Baha'i/Haziratulquds/in Deutschland u. Österreich. The occasion was a meeting of a missionary sect of Islam.

H. R. Harmer Ltd.

Readers may like to have advance information regarding the prices of certain lots at the sale on 15 April of Mrs. Ida Rothschild's Cape collection.

A beautiful triangular shaped block of four of the 1d. brick-red on deeply blued paper, fine used with large margins, fetched £130.

A letter sheet carrying a 4d. deep blue, cancelled by the SMITHFIELD BETAALD mark, addressed to Cradock, fetched £160.

An unused strip of four of the 6d. pale rose-lilac with large margins fetched £100. A fine used strip of three with large margins except at right fetched £165.

A triangular shaped unused block of four of the 1/- deep dark green with reasonable margins fetched £130.

The "woodblocks" did not include any of the errors of colour, but the 1d. brick-red unused in fair condition fetched £380 and a strip of four of which only the middle two were sound fetched £270. Among the 4d., one in pale bright blue with rather dirty cancellation fetched £100, while a rather nicer looking deep bright blue on piece fetched £270. (Another with a much worse cancellation fetched £105, which illustrates the importance of fine condition in this group). The pale milky blue, retouched corner in pair with normal, not very fine, fetched £250.

Among the De La Rue triangulars, a block of six 4d. dark blue with full sheet margin and fine cancellations fetched £130. An immense block of sixteen, but mercilessly obliterated with heavy canceller plus pen strokes, fetched £110. A brilliant triangular shaped block of four of the 1/- bright emerald-green, fine unused, fetched £180.

KENYA

Mr. W. Tunstall of Uplands kindly sends us an example of the new KUT Greetings Air Letter Form. This has a two colour lithographed embellishment of an enfoliated "Greetings" at the top, with a lion, two camelopards and five elephants and a view of Kilimanjaro(?). They were put on sale without previous notice in April.

MAURITIUS 'POST OFFICE'

The unused 1d. 'Post Office' Mauritius sold recently at auction by Messrs. H. R. Harmer fetched £4,500, a British auction record for a single stamp.

The auctioneers report that an optimistic collector in South Africa sent in a bid for £1,000; but, naturally enough perhaps, they have not reported that the runner-up in the sale was another South African collector. At this rate we may yet find one of these rarities coming here, near to its homeland.

RARE AFRICAN ITEM

What Robson Lowe calls best African item which was put up in his Postal History auction of 17 April.

This was an 1887 cover from the New Republic to Emil Tamsen, Waterberg (Northern Transvaal); it had a pair of 1d. blue on green N.R. stamps with the oval Vryheid cancellation, a 2d. Z.A.R. stamp postmarked with the numeral II in three concentric circles (known to be a Utrecht mark), and an F.H.B. Express "Te Betalen" ½d. with Waterberg cancellation. An unusual triple combination!

CAPE OF GOOD HOPE

TRIANGULARS.

RECTANGULARS. POSTMARKS.

Extensive selections of the above are always available, as well as interesting covers and Postal History material.

References from new customers, please.

F. W. COLLINS,

STOBOROUGH CROFT, WINCHESTER, ENGLAND.

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"TABIL"

EXPOSITION INTERNATIONALE DE TIMBRES-POSTE
INTERNATIONAL STAMP EXHIBITION

TEL-AVIV
ISRAEL
17-23. 9. 1957

"Tabil" International Stamp Exhibition

is directed by the rules of the "Fédération Internationale de Philatélie" (F.I.P.). The Patronage of Honour has been graciously accepted by the President of Israel, Mr. Itzhak Ben-Zvi.

Post Office and Special Stamp Issue

A Post Office branch in the Exhibition Buildings will be open to the general public, using a special obliteration stamp. To commemorate the Exhibition a series of stamps will be issued by the Israel Postal Authorities, which will be on sale during the Exhibition period only. A First Day Cover will also be issued.

THE HOLY LAND AWAITS **YOUR** ENTRY

Provisional Entry Forms and Full Information From:

SAM LEGATOR,

BOX 133, — — — — — **BRAKPAN.**

COMMISSIONER FOR SOUTH AFRICA

Wants, Offers & Exchange

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

WANTED, and For Sale, stamps of all countries (Wholesale). — GEO. F. ROWE, 11, Barmouth Road, London, S.W.18.

NEW ISSUES and current Colonials at Penny in 1/- on Face. List Free. — PRIOR, 44, Warminster Road, Bath, England.

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

SWITZERLAND — Specialist and out of the ordinary items required. Write giving details and prices to B. JOSEPH, P.O. Box 9232, Johannesburg.

WANTED FOR WORLD COLLECTION one copy each used or unused Western Hungary, Michel 8, 55, 56, 57, 58 — ten times catalogue for genuines. ERNEST HUNT, P.O. Box 5317, Johannesburg.

EXCHANGE United States Stamps for South Africa. — D. CHAMBERS, 4535 East Lake Road, Erie, Pa., U.S.A.

SPAIN AND COLONIES for South Africa, British Empire, Portugese Colonies. — APARICIO, Plazadelcuadro, Santander, Spain.

ANNUAL STOCKTAKING CLEARANCE SALE

To facilitate Annual Stocktaking, I am offering Special Discounts of from 25% to 50% off my normal selling prices, on redundant Approval Selections — regular customers receive preference, but new clients are welcome to participate in this offer. Please state your interests — and references, from new customers.

Collectors Stock Albums

Popular "UNIVERSAL" stock-books — screw-peg binder, stout manilla leaves, size 8¼ x 9¼", each with ten strips, linen-hinged. Prices: 10-page album @ 21/-, 15-page ditto 32/6, extra leaves 17/6 per dozen, all postfree, c.w.o.

Boy Scout Golden Jubilee Jamboree:

Booking Souvenir First Day and Royal Visit covers, with the complete sets of G.B. Scout issue, at 4/6 per cover, postfree, c.w.o.

A. LICHTENSTEIN

(B.P.A.)

Licensed Stamp Dealer,

BOX 576 — BLOEMFONTEIN

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The Philatelic Magazine

(Established 1875)

is your illustrated guide to world collecting!

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WARREN SMITH,
1 Arundel St., Strand,
London W.C.2 England.

Union 45Vh. 1935 1d. Plate XI variety "SUID" block showing grey sheet nos. ..... 3s. 0d.
Union 45Vh. 1935 1d. Plate XI variety "SUID" block showing black sheet nos. ..... 3s. 0d.
37L. Vg. 1930 1d. Roto Die 2, variety "line under SO" pair .... 7s. 6d.
R17. 1941 ½d. roll, grey and light blue green vert. pair .... 3s. 6d.
A sample extract from "Union Gnus" (35 cents) a year. 2s. 6d.

All mint, available from:

C. E. SHERWOOD,
"The Union Specialist",
105, Marford Crescent, Sale, Cheshire, G.B.

THE STORY BEHIND OUR STAMPS

Adapted, by permission, with the original illustrations, from a feature article in "Die Vaderland", issue of 15 March 1957.

Our ordinary postage stamps may seem insignificant little things in themselves: but we need a great many of them, and the Government Printer in Pretoria now has as one of his jobs the small matter of making us some 800 million stamps every year, in fourteen denominations.

To see how it is done, we have first to penetrate the intensive security precautions guarding the stamp printing section of the Government Printing Works. A large, heavy door bars the entrance and the would-be visitor has to exhibit his hardly won permit for scrutiny through a peep-hole before he is allowed to set foot in the sanctum.

The first step in stamp production is for an artist to make up the intended design much larger than life. Here is the well known Rhinoceros 3d. stamp in the artist's hands, ready for photographing.

Now, we make our stamps in sheets, and one photograph does not get us very far. But by using a device known as the "step and repeat" camera, the one photograph is transferred over and over again in miniature on a single glass plate, known as the multipositive (actually a series of negatives of the original negative) each image being automatically spaced out as it is intended to have them on the finished sheet. Careful scrutiny of the multipositive is made to (try to) eliminate any of the flaws in which the Union specialist delights. If a minor flaw is found, it can be retouched out by hand, a very delicate piece of work.

Having achieved our multipositive and as far as possible made it flawless, we must next take a 'print' from it (which will be negative again) through a fine screen on to gelatine-coated carbon tissue. The screening process (as is used for our own photographic illustrations) is to enable gradations of tone to be faithfully reproduced when printing.

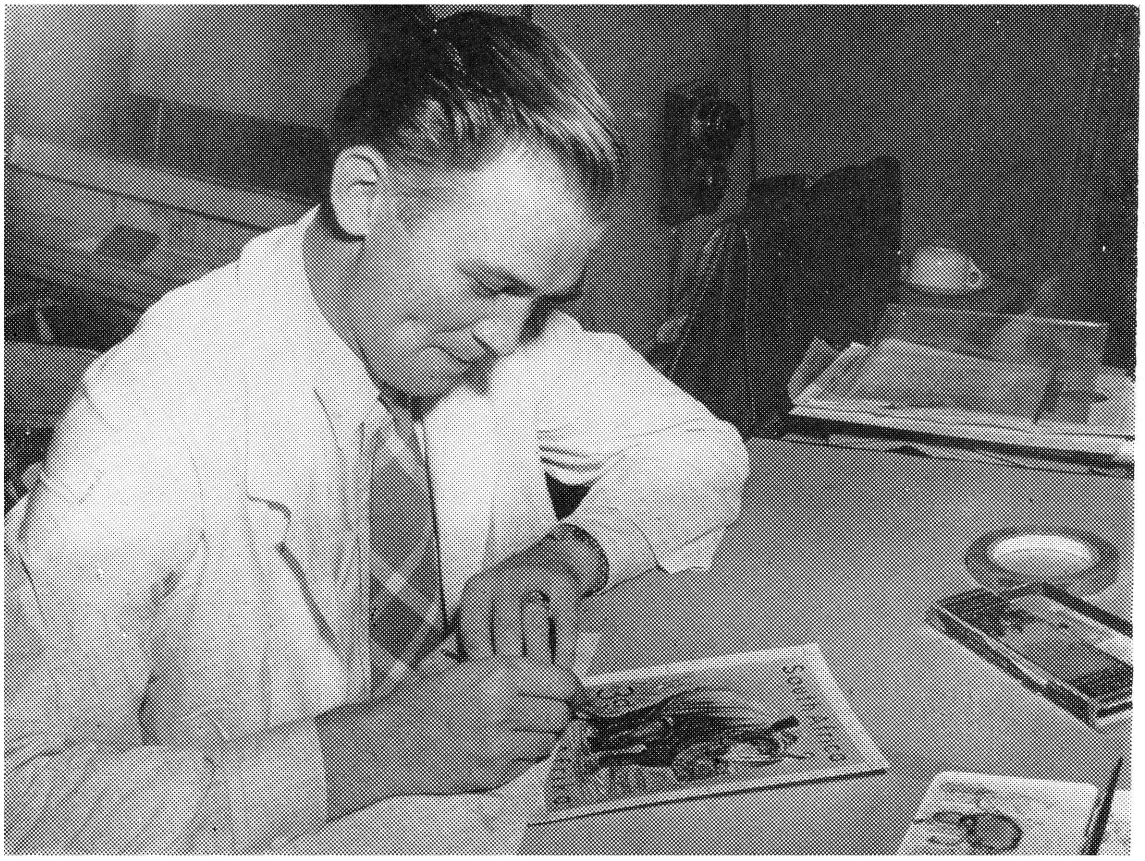
Our third illustration is of the process of wrapping the tissue round a smooth copper cylinder. This is also a delicate operation, as it has to be perfectly aligned without any damage to the tissue which carries the stamp images. In making our 'print' the action of exposure created a chemical change in the gelatine corresponding with the plain parts of the design.

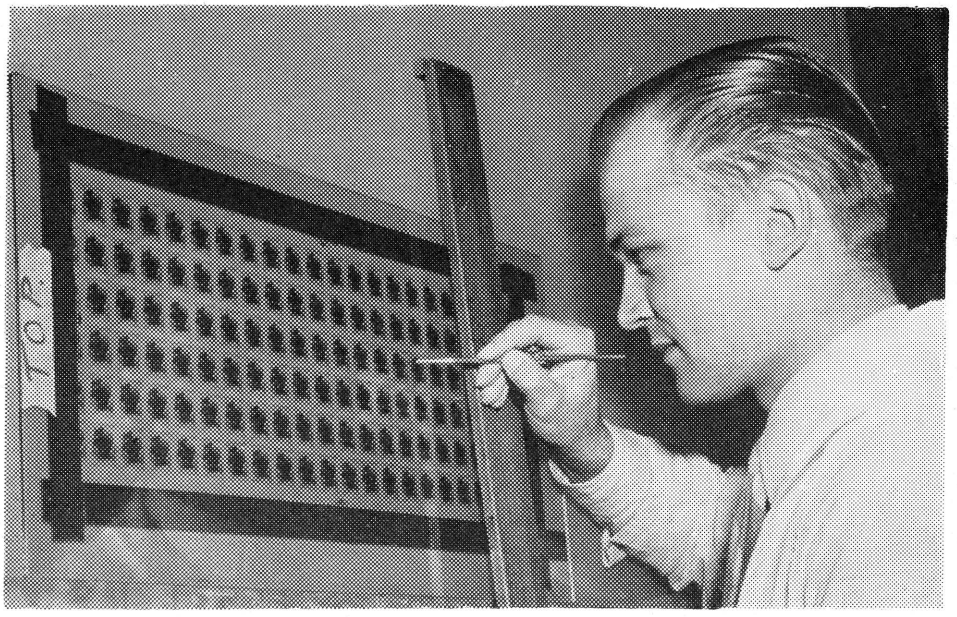
Having achieved the transfer to the cylinder without disaster, the coated cylinder is next given a hot water bath, where the untreated portion of gelatine, corresponding with the actual stamp design, melts away and leaves the copper surface beneath exposed, while the plain parts of the design remain protected. When this coated cylinder is now transferred to an acid bath, the design is etched in to a depth of about three-thousandths of an inch. When the desired etching is completed, a rinse off clears the remaining gelatine and our cylinder is ready for use.

That is, it would be if we were only intending to print off a few sheets from our cylinder. We have used a copper cylinder because this metal gives the best results in etching, but it does not make a very durable surface when our purpose is to make stamps in millions. To get the advantage of a copper etching without its liability to wear the next step is to chromium plate the cylinder: the thinnest coating of chromium will enormously increase the wearing properties of the cylinder, and if we are lucky we may be able to run as many as five million sheets from it before significant wear occurs. All the time of course we must keep the closest watch for any "trouble" and our fourth illustration is of one of the many inspections to verify that all is well.

From our chromium plated cylinder we can proceed to run off sheets of stamps at high speed, and our fifth picture is of the "receiving end" of the big machine, where the finished sheets come off the continuous roll of paper and are guillotined into the separate post office sheets — here again, of course, meticulous inspection takes place for anything which will not do for issue.

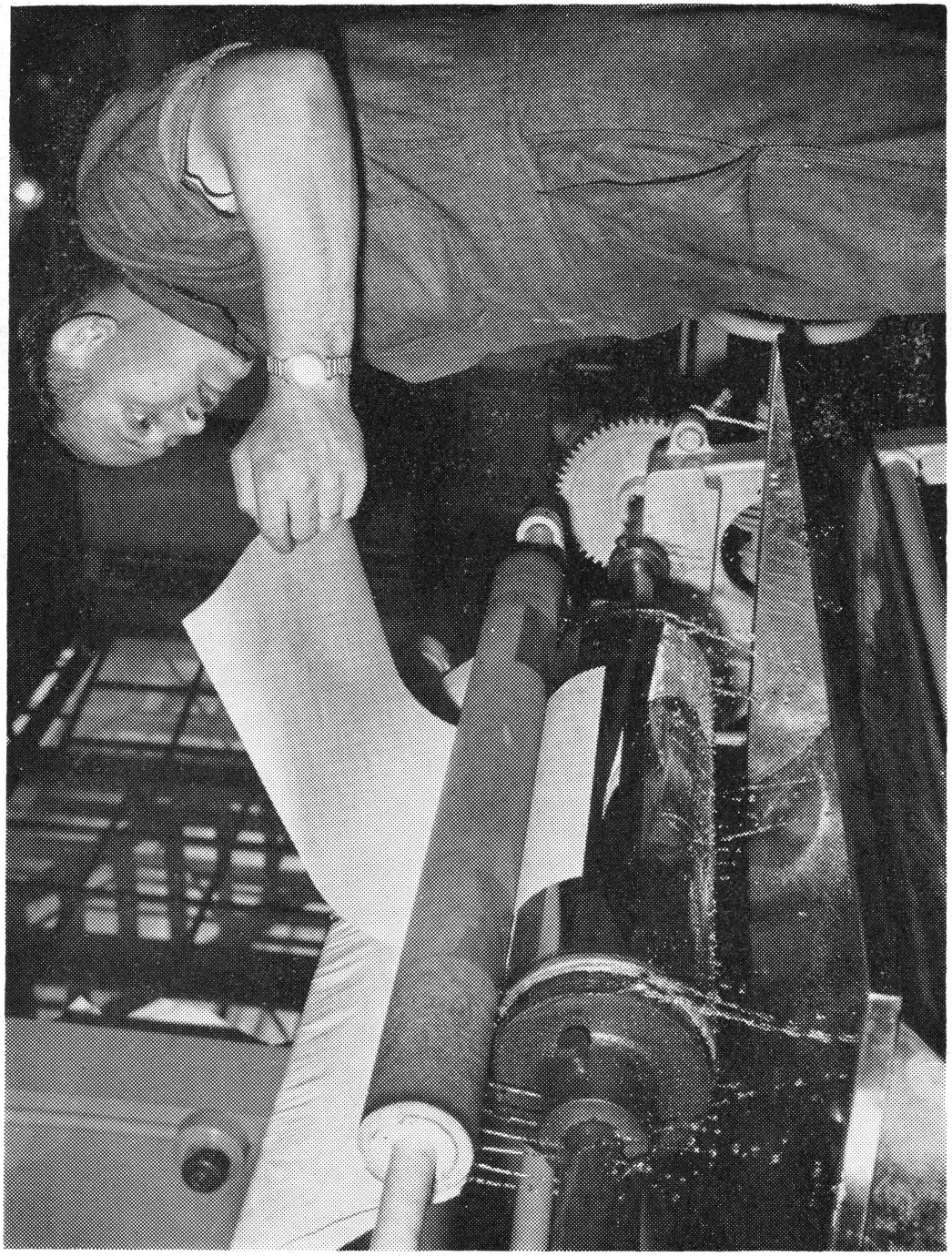
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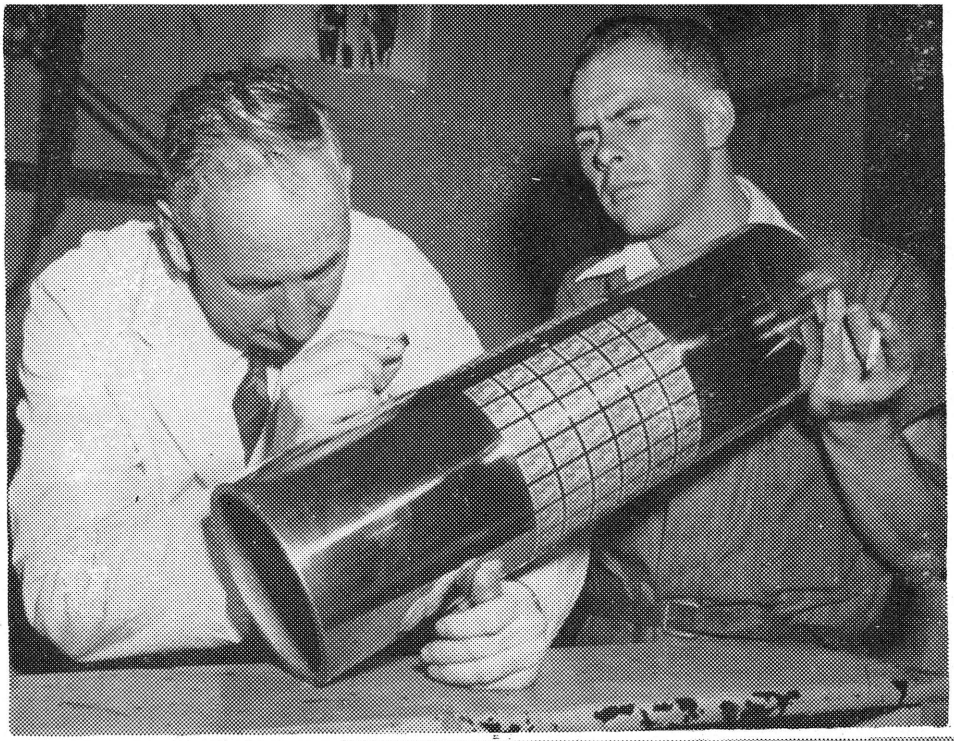


(Other illustrations on pages 90 and 91)

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SOCIETY NEWS

PRETORIA PHILATELIC SOCIETY

RECENT ACTIVITIES. The meeting held on **1st April** was set aside for a visit from the East Rand Philatelic Society, but evidently owing to some misunderstanding in Benoni our expected visitors did not make the journey. As this was quite unforeseen no programme could be provided and the members engaged in impromptu discussion.

The meeting held on the **15th April** enabled members to view the collection of Mrs. Peter Smits of Port Elizabeth "Birds and Animals on Stamps". The exhibit was tabled by Mr. Newlands who read Mrs. Smits' very interesting paper on her subject. The collection was very attractively arranged and well written up and was thoroughly enjoyed and appreciated by those present. At this meeting the Society's good wishes and bon voyage were extended to Dr. Reisener who is proceeding on a six months' trip to Europe.

J.W.

THE THEMATIC STAMP CLUB (CAPE TOWN)

April 8th. This was an All Members Night, when the following was shown:— Mrs. H. M. Scott "New Zealand Commemorative and Health Covers"; Mrs. C. F. Mitchell-Baker "Crowning Glory" (Thematic subject on hair styles); also her new thematic subject "African Place Names", an interesting departure from the usual; F. L. Archer "Great Britain, stamps, covers and postal stationery"; Capt. M. F. Stern "Indo-China, Vietnam, Laos and Cambodia". In general a varied and interesting selection.

M. F. S.

ROYAL PHILATELIC SOCIETY OF CAPE TOWN

On the **11th April** we had the pleasure of seeing Mr. Fred Archer's complete collection of the "Vatican City". Such completeness of a philatelic subject is not often possible; furthermore, the true beauty of the stamps and the artistic excellence of Mr. Archer's presentation, all add to the joy of viewing such an exhibit.

On **25th April** the first opportunity of the new year was offered to members to exhibit either a small extract from a bigger collection or just some select sheets on a special subject which could not be shown as a comprehensive collestion. The following members presented exhibits as under:—

Mr. R. Putzel — Israel — precursors and errors to 1949.

Mr. B. Green — Newfoundland commemoratives.

Mr. A. G. Versino — Unions — booklets and commemoratives.

Mr. Milton Stern — Publicity sheets issued by the Australian postal authorities, as well as some old Cape ships' covers.

Michael Wannenburgh — Unions, etc., and the diversity of subjects added to the enjoyment.

OBITUARY. We have only just heard that Mr. F. Langeveld passed away on the 10th February last, and we have conveyed to the widow our feeling of sympathy on behalf of all our members.

J. H.

GERMISTON PHILATELIC SOCIETY

17 April 1957. This meeting took the form of a Members' and Ladies' evening as all members had been invited to bring along their ladies to this special Social evening. There were twenty members present to welcome our eight guests, who after the usual formal business had been concluded, were able to view the various exhibits of stamps provided by several collectors. Members had been asked to bring along ten sheets or so of some of their stamps, and the following members tabled collections.

1. History on stamps; "The story of the Mutiny on the Bounty", a Thematic collection of Pitcairn Islands shown on eight sheets; together with a short description given on each sheet, giving the main points of this well known historical fact. By Mrs. S. Burniston.

2. Kruger Park on stamps; another Thematic collection consisting of the current South African Animal issue from the ½d. to the 10/- denomination, each stamp displayed on a separate sheet together with a free-hand drawing of the animal depicted on the stamp. This collection was tabled by one of our Junior collectors, Miss Jane Burniston.

3. Another Thematic collection by another of our Junior members, Master John Picton, Angola stamps depicting animals and birds, a very colourful display.

4. Lastly, a short display of the stamps of Natal, tabled by our President, Mr. L. J. Picton.

Mr. S. J. Hagger conveyed the thanks of all present to the four members who had displayed their collections, and congratulated them on their fine effort, special thanks being due to our two Junior Members who had done so well with their first effort in Thematic collecting.

Dr. Alec Kaplan who had just recently completed fifty years as a stamp collector, gave a most interesting short talk on "Highlights of fifty years collecting". Our President, Mr. L. J. Picton, on behalf of our members, thanked Dr. Kaplan for his entertaining talk, and presented to him a Certificate from the Germiston Philatelic Society, in recognition of his services to philately.

I. S. B.

PRETORIA RAILWAY PHILATELIC SOCIETY

10 April 1957. The big attraction of the evening was a very fine exhibit of maximum cards which had been put on by Mr. R. H. Capell. Mr. Castignani, in commenting on the display, stated that it was one that showed quality and taste, was most colourful and the cards and stamps were beautifully matched giving a wonderful display that it was a real pleasure to see. Mr. Newlands echoed Mr. Castignani's praise when thanking Mr. Capell on behalf of the members present for having supplied a show that was out of the ordinary and thoroughly enjoyed by all.

We are pleased to announce that a philatelic column will be published in the Pretoria News every Thursday commencing in May and it is hoped that this column will prove of interest not only to local philatelists but to the general public and as a result thereof that a few more may be recruited to our ranks. We are indebted to the Pretoria News for their co-operation in this new philatelic venture in the city.

P. M. J. McG.

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THE

SOUTH AFRICAN PHILATELIST

PROPRIETORS AND PUBLISHERS:

The Philatelic Federation of Southern Africa

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UNION NOTES

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Recent Printings

The Publicity Officer, Department of Posts and Telegraphs, has kindly supplied the following information concerning the period 31.1.57 to 1.5.57. For the previous list see our May issue.

Animal Series Postage Stamps

1d. — Job No. 5413 contd. On an order for 2,000,000 sheets of 240 stamps per sheet, an initial delivery of 9,000 sheets was made on the 10.1.57, the total delivery to 29.1.57 being 208,002 sheets. Same double die cylinder No. 105.

On the same Job No., but from the old double die cylinder No. 3, 4,5000 sheets were delivered on the 29.1.57, the total delivery to 26.2.57, being 120,425 sheets.

On the same Job No., but from the old singlle die cylinder No. 12, 25,500 sheets were delivered on the 28.2.57, the total delivery to 18.4.57 being 312,857 sheets.

On the same Job No., but from a new single die cylinder No. 97, 9,500 sheets were delivered on theon the 18.4.57, the total delivery to date being 49,001 sheets.

1½d. — Job No. 11483. On an order for 20,000 sheets of 240 stamps per sheet, a total of 30,337 sheets were delivered on the 26.3.57. Same cylinder No. 36.

2d. — Job No. 132269 contd. On an order for 1,000,000 sheets of 240 stamps per sheet, an initial delivery of 19,000 sheets was made on the 20.12.55, the total delivery to 26.2.57 being 888,636 sheets. Same double die cylinder No. 20.

3d. — Job No. 691 contd. On an order for 200,000 sheets of 120 stamps per sheet, an initial delivery of 29,500 sheets was made on the 9.8.56, the total delivery to date being 140,467 sheets. Same cylinders No. 16 Interior, and 107 Exterior.

4d. — Job No. 692 contd. On an order for 110,000 sheets of 120 stamps per sheet, an initial delivery of 6.000 sheets was made on the 29.5.56, the total delivery to date being 102,265 sheets. Same cylinders No. 53 Interior and 93 Exterior.

6d. — Job No. 693 contd. On an order for 112,000 sheets of 120 stamps per sheet, an initial delivery of 15,500 sheets was made on the 14.8.56, the total delivery to 26.3.57 being 113,764. Same cylinders No. 1 Interior, and 121 Exterior.

Roll Stamps

1d. — Job No. 129844 contd. On an order for 20,000 Rolls of 506 stamps per roll, an initial delivery of 600 rolls was made on the 10.11.56, the total delivery to date being 16,200 rolls. Same Cylinder No. 27.

Picture Post Cards

1½d. Job No. 12533. On an order for 2,720,000 cards, an initial delivery of 236,160 cards was made on the 30.4.57. Chambon printing machine and same cylinders.

Air Letter Cards

6d. Job No. 132274 contd. On an order for 8,000,000 cards, an initial delivery of 72,000 cards was made on the 1.3.56, the total delivered to date being 7,717,200 cards. Chambon printing machine, and same cylinders.

South West Africa

6d. Job No. 13823. On an order for 8,000 sheets of 120 stamps per sheet, 6,620 sheets were delivered on the 12.3.57. New Cylinder No. 35.

1/6. Job No. 13824. On an order for 5,000 sheets of 120 stamps per sheet, 5,000 sheets were delivered on the 19.3.57. New cylinder No. 90.

S.W.A. Roll Stamps

1d. Job No. 13775. On an order for 300 rolls of 1012 stamps per roll, an initial delivery of 260 rolls was made on the 12.3.57. New Cylinder No. 112.

2d. Roll Stamp

Referring to the enquiry contained in our May Notes, concerning the sale of the 2d. Roto. Roll Stamp, Mr. C. E. Kachelhoffer, of Bloemfontein, states that during the period of 43 years he was employed in the Postal Service, he cannot recall a stamp vending machine having been used for the disposal of these 2d. stamps, and is prepared to believe that they were sold over the counter only.

Mr. Kachelhoffer's wide experience of postal matters over a lengthy period, may be taken as authoritative on the subject, and appears to be in agreement with the general opinion of collectors.

Continuing, Mr. Kachelhoffer refers to the images on the Union's War Effort Stamps, also reported upon in our May Notes, and states that the image on the 1½d. stamp is that of Lt. Bob Kershaw, and further, that he has a signed photograph pertaining to this stamp in his possession. The nurse depicted on the 1d.

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stamp was painted by Neville Lewis, and the 3d. stamp contains the likeness of a lady clerk in the Postmaster General's office at that time but he cannot recall her name.

Basutoland Revenue Cancelled Postally

Mr. G. N. Gilbert, of Westminster, writes that recently he was shown a block of thirty-six Cape of Good Hope Queen Victoria Revenue stamps overprinted "BASUTOLAND", and cancelled in black ink with the ordinary postal ring cancellor of "Teyateyaneng" which was in use at the date shown on these stamps, namely 1 July 1899. The owner weakened and parted with a pair, which we illustrate.



Mr. Gilbert observes that at first sight these stamps appear to have been cancelled to order, but feels it is doubtful if this custom of present day practice was in vogue as early as 1899, and also, what object would there have been in cancelling to order such a large number. He would be grateful for any explanation or suggestion pertaining to the condition as enquiries made to the Postal Authorities at Maseru failed to aid him.

Zuid-Afrikaanse Republiek Postal Stationery

Referring to Dr. J. W. Harris' enquiry appearing in our May Notes, Mr. L. Dodd, of Pretoria, regrets that he is not able to offer any helpful information, but points out that "Gallo" in the name of the firm should read "Sallo", and in support thereof, produced for our inspection an advertisement Cardboard Perforation Gauge, measuring 3 ins. by 5 ins., and inscribed with the address of the firm whose business was the sale of stamps, as Sallo Epstein & Co., Marlborough House, 128 Commissioner Street, Johannesburg.

Maybe some of our readers who collected stamps in those good old days when Proofs, Arrow block and Control items were to be had for a little more than the asking, visited these premises.

While on the topic of these present day elusive items, Mr. C. Clement, of Port Elizabeth, writes, in response to our inquiry concerning the Union's scarcest item, that he cannot speak on this aspect, but he has found that the marginal pieces of the typographed PRETORIA 6d., are the "very devil to get" in spite of the fact that he has offered several times their catalogue price. He suggests a rise in the catalogue price might put some blocks on the market . . . . !

½d. K.H. Doubly Printed

The classical example of the Doubly Printed ½d. Georgian Union Stamp is catalogued on pages 21 and 32 of Vol. I of the Handbook.

Mr. R. D. Allen, of London, has submitted for our inspection an enlarged photograph, a portion of which is illustrated, of a strip of four



½d. stamps which when shown at a recent exhibition in London, were considered to show traces of double printing. The "doubling" appears to be localised at certain areas along the right portion of the stamps (indicated by arrows) while the areas occupied by the word "inkomste", and also the right margin of the stamps, appear underinked.

We would be pleased to receive an expression of opinion on the condition, and if any reader would like to examine the photograph of the four stamps, it may be had upon application.

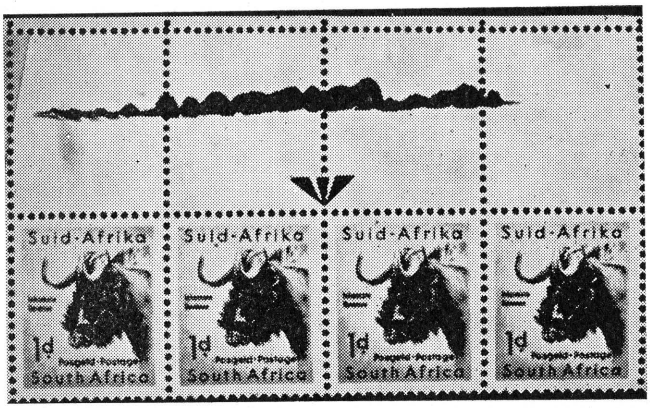
Marginal Smudge 1d. Cylinder No. 12

Full marks go to Mr. C. Clement, of Port Elizabeth, for being the first to draw our attention to a marginal smudge the cause of which undoubtedly sounded the death knell of the 1d. Cylinder No. 12.

This cylinder, the last of the penny series to bear a cylinder number in its lower right corner, was brought into commission on the 26.8.54, and having printed some 312,857 sheets, was discarded in April 1957 when it showed signs of disintegrating. The copper-shell covering the steel core of the printing cylinder blistered slightly but sufficiently to foul the doctor blade with the result that a smudge, illustrated, appeared on the top margin of the sheet above the arrow.

Certain interesting factors pertain to the form of the smudge. Its lower border is not horizontal but is inclined to coincide with the angle at

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which the doctor blade was set, while the size of the smudge appears to be progressive. In five consecutively printed sheets obtained from a particular Post Office, its length varied from 63 m.m. to 65 m.m., while we are informed that a smudge measuring about 80 m.m. has been obtained from another Post Office. Also its outline is not constant in that some smudges carry a "halo" — all factors pertaining to the further destruction of the cylinder by the doctor-blade, or may be the doctor blade suffered also.

Multipositive Flaws, 1d. Cylinders No. 12 and 97

We are grateful to Mr. G. N. Gilbert, of Westminster, for supplying the following multipositive flaws common to the 1d. printings from Cylinders No. 12 and 97. These two printings were prepared from the same 22 row multipositive, and we are informed that the 1d. Animal Roll Stamps were also prepared from this multipositive, but in spite of a diligent search on a reconstructed 22 x 12 row Roll sheet, we were not able to pick up these multipositive flaws on the Roll stamps, in fact the roll stamps appear particularly free of flaws. Could a possible explanation be that the 1d. Roll stamps were printed **before** the first definitive issue from Cylinder No. 12, and that the multipositive flaws found on the printings from Cyls. 12 and 97 are thus acquired multipositive flaws?

Multipositive Flaws, 1d. Cyls. 12 and 97.

Rows
- 5—2, Two tiny dots above "U" of SUID, near top margin of stamp.
- 16—7, Dot opposite top of "I" of 1d.
- 17—11, Dots above second "A" of AFRIKA.
- 18—2, Dot below "E" of REVENUE, midway between 1d. and INKOMSTE.
- 18—11, Dot below "S" of SUID, clearer in Cyl. 12 printing.

Natal Postage Stamp Centenary

We illustrate the "sticker", issued by the Natal Philatelic Society, in conjunction with the commemoration of the Centenary of the issue of the first postage stamp in Natal. Neatly designed in black on a salmon-pink background, the "sticker" measures 4.75 m.m. by 3 m.m., and is printed in sheets of 20 (4 x 5) on gummed and unwatermarked paper, perforated 11 x 11. We acknowledge with thanks the receipt of a sheet of these stickers.



Ghost Slogans of the 6d. Bantam Stamps

We touched on this subject in our May Notes but Mr. R. L. Lawrence of London has set us a conundrum in connection with the matter. He wants to know why the marginal "Ghost Slogans" which showed up on the printings of the 6d. Bantam stamp do not also appear on the 2d. and 1/- printings, although the same slogan cylinder was used apparently for these printings.

We would suggest the following explanation, and in order to follow more easily the manner in which the cylinders were used, we would request the reader to be clear on one point, namely, that the printing of the Bantam stamps was carried out with a combination of two cylinders — one to print the marginal slogan markings and another to print the stamp themselves.

From the Union Catalogue, and also from the records compiled by the S.A. Philatelist, we observe that:

Slogan cylinder No. 1 was used to print the:

1½d., First Printing, with stamp Cyl. No. 7019, Double roulette, August 1942.

6d., First Printing, with stamp Cyl. No. 6916, October 1942.

1/-, First Printing, with stamp Cyl. No. 46, November 1942.

1½d., Second Printing, with stamp Cyl. No. 7019, Single roulette, December 1942.

2d., First Printing, with stamp Cyl. No. 7, February 1943.

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1½d., Third Printing, with stamp Cyl. No. 43, Double roulette, March 1943.

2d., Second Printing, with stamp Cyl. No. 7, June 1943.

Slogan cylinder No. 1 was then cleaned off and re-etched from a new multi-positive (with the marginal slogans set further out from the stamps and the top slogan language — setting reversed) to form slogan cylinder No. 2, on which portions of the previous deeply etched slogans appear on the side margins of the sheet, mainly on the left margin. This

Slogan Cylinder No. 2 was used to print the:

6d. second printing, with stamp Cyl. No. 6916 **only.**

A new slogan cylinder (uncatalogued in the Handbook, and let it be named "Slogan Cylinder No. 2A") was now prepared from the same multipositive as was used for slogan cylinder No. 2, and

Slogan Cylinder No. 2A was used to print the:

2d., First printing, wiwth stamp Cyl. No. 6931, January 1944.

2d., Second printing, with stamp Cyl. No. 6931, June 1944.

1/-, Second printing, with stamp Cyl. No. 46, August 1944.

2d., Third printing, with stamp Cyl. No. 6931, July 1944.

2d., First printing, with stamp Cyl. No. 39, July 1944.

Meanwhile slogan cylinder No. 2, which had previously been used for only the second printing of the 6d., was again cleaned off, but this time the cylinder was etched to print the **stamps** of the third printing of the 6d., and was numbered No. 74. (This cylinder number is not catalogued, see our May notes). In the preparation of this cylinder, the old slogan marks were again not entirely removed, and along with the previous ones, showed up as double "ghost slogans" when this cylinder (No. 74) was used to print the stamps of the third printing of the 6d., along with slogan cylinder No. 3 which printed the marginal numerals and slogans in violet and which was also used for the fourth printing of the 2d., with stamp cylinder No. 39.

Thus the above suggestions would account for:

(a) the similarity of the flaws on the printings from Slogan Cylinders No. 2 and No. 2A, they being multipositive flaws, and

(b) the explanation why the marginal ghost slogans which show up in orange in the printings of the 6d., do not also occur in the printings of the 2d. and 1/- — in other words, the reason is, briefly, that a different slogan cylinder (No. 2A) prepared from the same multipositive (as No. 2) was used.

We gratefully acknowledge valuable assistance received from Mr. G. N. Gilbert in the preparation of this summary.

Paarl National Philatelic Exhibition and Congress

We understand that Congress arrangements are well in hand and progressing favourably. The Western Province Philatelists are looking forward to entertaining their colleagues from the North and elsewhere in the true Cape tradition.

The XIXth Annual Philatelic Congress will assemble in the Board Room of the PAARL AFRICAN TRUST COMPANY and will be officially opened by His Worship, the Mayor of Paarl, at 10 a.m. on Wednesday the 23rd October.

At five o'clock that afternoon, the Administrator of the Cape, The Hon. Mr. P. J. Olivier, will open the National Philatelic Exhibition which is being staged in the Noorder Paarl Church Hall. This will be followed by a Reception to the Delegates and other friends at the beautiful farm of Mr. and Mrs. J. G. le Roux.

On the next afternoon, one of the highlights of Congress Week will be a visit to the cellars of the K.W.V. After a tour of the winery, which is the largest in the world, delegates will be entertained by the General Manager and Directors of K.W.V. We feel sure that this will be a function in the participation of which all visitors will consider themselves more than amply rewarded for having waited 300 years, like Paarl itself!

On Friday, the 25th (if work does not unduly interfere with pleasure — you have been warned!) a bus tour will be undertaken to the Afrikaans university town of Stellenbosch where lunch will be taken with that town's "Dons and Deans". On the way back, tea will be served at one of the Cape's historic Dutch-style houses in the Grootdrakenstein Valley.

In the evening a finger supper will be served at the Bowls Club when the prizes will be handed to those exhibitors who have been able to satisfy the Judges, thereby bringing to a close a highly commendable programme of entertainment, compiled in a manner characteristic of the hospitality of the Cape and to the credit of our Congress Hosts, the Paarl Philatelic Society.

Reverting to the Exhibition, we are informed, as we go to press, that it has been decided to add St. Helena and Tristan da Cuhna to the list of those countries scheduled under Item C, Section I, of the Exhibition Catalogue, and that specialised and/or Research collections of these countries will be accepted for Exhibition and Competitive purposes.

Basutoland and Swaziland Interprovincials

Referring to the cataloguing of the Basutoland and Swaziland Interprovincials on page 303, Vol. I, of the Handbook, Mr. E. E. Oldaker, of London, reports that his collection houses the following items on cover and clearly postmarked:

(a) Transvaal used in Swaziland, 1d. Red (S.G. 274), cancelled HLATIKULU, 22 Feb. 1911, and

(b) Cape used in Basutoland, 1d. Red (S.G. 71), cancelled LEBIBE, 8 May 1911.

Mr. Oldaker will be grateful to know if these items have been recorded previously, and if they may be considered rarities?

Typographical Errors

On page 77 of our June Notes, the word "permits" appear in the 6th and 7th lines from the bottom of the second column of text. The word "permits" should read "PRINTS". The "Printer's Devil" again!

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THE 4d. NATIVE HUTS PRINTINGS OF THE UNION STAMPS

By G. N. GILBERT

According to the Union Handbook, only three different cylinders have been used for these printings, which extended from 1932 to 1953.

The number of the cylinder used for the first rotogravure 4d. printings is unknown, and the number of sheets issued of this first printing is also not recorded.

The second cylinder recorded in the Handbook is No. 19, issued in 1936 and the third No. 103, issued in 1952.

If however, the reports of printings published in the South African Philatelist, and issued by the Department of Posts and Telegraphs, are studied, the first mention of the 4d. is in the S.A. Philatelist for October 1937, which records that 31850 sheets of the 4d. were distributed from **"old** cylinder 61".

From then on, the official reports of printings in the S.A. Philatelist issues of April 1938, August 1938, June 1939, September 1940, and June 1941, all show the cylinder number used for the 4d. printings as "old cylinder 61".

The first mention of Cylinder 19 is in the S.A. Philatelist for November 1947, which records that 11,000 sheets were delivered from "old cylinder 19".

This discrepancy led the writer to study the stamps of the various printings to ascertain if there were any signs to suggest that there had been ,in fact, four different cylinders used and not three, as shown in the Handbook.

No such signs could be found, and it was strongly suspected that as 61 upside down reads 19, a mistake had been made in the recording of these printings.

Through the courtesy of the Officials of the Department of Posts and Telegraphs, the dates of all the 4d. pprintings from their record book were made available.

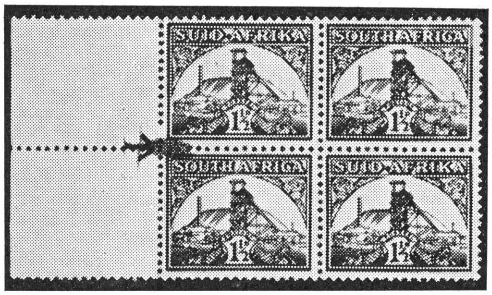
The first of the rotogravure 4d. printings was in October 1932, followed by further printings in December 1934, and April 1936. Up to this date, no official reports of printings had been made available to the S.A. Philatelist, and unfortunately Printing Works records did not give the number of the cylinder used, nor the number of sheets printed from these first three printings, but as the first official report in the S.A. Philatelist for October 1937 mentioned **"old** cylinder 61", it can be assumed that the April 1936 printings were from a new cylinder 61, and that there were only two printings from the first unknown cylinder.

This would all tie up with the scarcity of the material from the first printings today.

The official records showed six further printings up to 1941, and then there was a gap until September 1947, the War Commemoratives having taken the place of the definitives to a great extent during this period.

Again unfortunately the records did not help with the cylinder numbers, but the theory that the number 61 was 19 reversed or vice versa was put to the officials, and this was actually confirmed to the writer in a letter dated the 20th April 1957 which stated, inter alia, "the number of the cylinder is 19, not 61 as stated in the records. The error occurred through the number, which is on the end of the cylinder, having been read upside down."

So the cylinder numbers shown in the Handbook are correct, and it is only regretted that investigations did not bring to light the number of the first cylinder used for the 4d. rotogravure stamps.



AN UNRECORDED PRINTING IN THE 1½d. "SMALL MINE" SERIES

By W. N. SHEFFIELD

The arrow block of the 1½d. "Small Mine" stamps illustrated herewith was recently received by the Philatelic Federation of Southern Africa Expert Committee for a decision as to its genuineness.

As shown in the photograph, the stamps are similar to those listed on page 128 of the Union Handbook/Catalogue as the "Medium Format", but the arrow is definitely of a design that can be said to be "right out of the blue". It is a type which, to the best of our knowledge, has not been previously recorded on any printings of the 1½d. "Small Mine" stamps, and for that matter is different to anything we have so far seen on any of the Union rotogravure issues.

That it is a genuine piece from a sheet printed in the Government Printing Works, Pretoria, there can be no doubt from the close examination the block has been subjected to, but at just what date, or stage, it appeared in the transition from the 1½d. "Large Mine" to that of the "Small Mine" series, is at present a complete mystery, not only to the Union specialists who have so far seen the item, but also to the officials in the Post Office Publicity Department and the staff in the Government Printing Works.

A reference to pages 128 and 129 of the Union Handbook/Catalogue will show that none of the five sets of arrows depicted as having appeared on the medium format sheets, has any resemblance to the one on the block sent in for expertizing and a search by the staff in the Printing Works has so far failed to reveal any record of production or issue.

Inspection of the piece clearly discloses the language setting to be the same as Plates V and VI, but though the **colours** are very similar to those of Plate V, the **screening** is definitely not that known as the "waffle plate" type, but rather of the same texture as Plate VI. Any small flaws, or flecks, on the four stamps, that might be present as a result of the printing process, do not appear on any arrow block in the same position on the sheets of the five Plates listed in the Handbook and indeed, everything points to the fact that at least an

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Exterior Cylinder different to any of the others, was employed for a printing of the 1½d. "Small Mine" stamps that up until now has remained unknown.

A senior member of the Printing Works staff, who examined the block, was of the opinion that the arrow had been engraved by hand on the cylinder after completion of the image etching process, and also that the large blob of ink at the tip of the arrow was the result of the engraving tool cutting too deeply into the metal at this point and thereby forming a small "ravine" into which an excess of ink would accumulate and overflow onto the paper when printing. That a tool had been used was also indicated by the two scratches at the prongs of the arrow caused by minute jaggedness at these points and incidentally the green colour throughout the arrow is very uneven with no sign of a screen having been employed.

Altogether a most interesting item, emphasizing once again that there is always something new to be found in "Unions", and if any reader can throw further light on this intriguing discovery the information will be most welcome.

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RHODESIA AND NYASALAND

Mr. C. A. Frost reports that the Federation is to have special cancellers on the occasion of the Queen mother's visit to the territories. Two post offices in each of the three will be provided with these, reading "Royal Visit 2nd to 17th July, 1957, Rhodesia and Nyasaland. Covers will also be stamped with the date on which the Queen mother first arrives in that particular territory.

THE NATAL POSTAGE STAMP CENTENARY

By F. G. FROEHLICH

Before the first "official" Postmaster for Natal, Francis Spring, was appointed in 1851 and when Natal was still a district of the Cape of Good Hope colony, people there for "oversea letters" depended on the services of the small coasting vessels which sailed only as Cargo permitted and for Overberg mail on a system of mail-carrying by a regular mounted horseman, inaugurated by D. D. Buchanan (Proprietor of the Natal Witness at Pietermaritzburg), and taken over, in 1850, by the Government. On the 1st February 1852 an "ordinance for regulating the conveyance and Postage of letters" became effective. For every prepaid letter between places within the district (Inland-Postage for Natal) not exceeding ½ oz., 3d. was charged — and 4d. for lletters not prepaid — Natal stamps not yet having been issued and Cape Triangulars apparently not valid in this district of the Cape of Good Hope (only in 1856 was Natal created a distinct and separate Colony and on the 5th November Pietermaritzburg was elevated to the rank of Capital), the 3d. Postage had to be handed in in cash.

The H. H. Hurst specialised collection of Natal Postage Stamps in Durban contains several early letters stamped PREPAID in red, the CASH payment of 3d. being PEN-INSERTED in red ink and other covers, where the town name and the prepaid Postage have both been entered handwritten, using red ink.

Postage stamps of the value of Three-pence, Six-pence, Nine-pence and One shilling became available on the 1st June 1857 at the Post Offices of Pietermaritzburg and Durban only, the stamps also to be sold, as soon as practicable, at the various Branch Post Offices throughout the colony. The first Postage Stamps of Natal were thought to have been embossed in plain relief on coloured wove paper by Messrs. P. Davis & Son, Pietermaritzburg, but further investigations, as reported by Mr. Wicks, give a different source of supply. The stamps were struck off from dies in the possession of the Distributor of Stamps and were the same as those stamping legal documents. On the 6th July 1859 Lieutenant Governor Scott wrote:— "They are a clumsy substitute for the "usual postage stamps and are prepared with difficulty."

Natal Number one is the 3d. Rose (Pink) although there was afterwards a lower value, an embossed one penny blue, to pay postage for letters sent by any soldier, seaman or marine, in Her Majesty's Service, provided that when a letter was sent it carried the signature of the Commanding Officer. This blue stamp was also used to pay Postage on Newspapers.

Engraved Stamps, showing the CHALON portrait of the Queen, were printed in 1859/60 by PERKINS BACON & Co., on paper without watermark and also on paper showing a small star watermark.

In 1863 Stamps of the same design were now printed by DE LA RUE & Co., at first again on paper without watermark, but as from 1864 with watermark Crown CC. In 1867 a one shilling stamp was issued, showing the Queen in Profile, the Portrait now being in the style of a Coin-relief.

In accordance with a Government Proclamation dated 23rd August 1869, all stamps available for postal purposes had henceforth to bear a distinctive mark in order to prevent the confusion which had arisen in the indiscriminate use by the public of certain stamps for both Inland Revenue and postal employment. In 1869 the current 1d., 3d., 6d. and 1/- stamps were overprinted locally with the word POSTAGE and as from 1870 stamps came complete with overprint from DE LA RUE. Later on, owing to shortages, overprints were again applied locally, including one by which the 1/- fiscal stamp of 1870 (purple brown, watermark Crown CC) was changed into a postage stamp. At the same time the first stamps with the word POSTAGE embodied in the design came into use.

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A third group of stamps shows the Queen's profile to the left, within different frames for the various values. On the 2½d. stamp of 1891 the size of the head was considerably reduced.

In 1902 came the stamps of the new reign, showing the head of King Edward VII. All stamps, up to £20 were Postage AND Revenue stamps. In 1908 the 6d. stamp and all values from 2/- to £1 were issued in changed colours and these new postage stamps were now inscribed POSTAGE — POSTAGE.

The fact that Natal postage stamps have freely been used for Revenue purposes is one more of many reasons for the unpopularity of most of the earlier South African stamps. With regard to the first issue of Natal I do not think that contemporary collectors knew that the stamps had been made from fiscal dies. Anybody coming across one or the other of the few that were about could not have taken these little bits of coloured paper, once removed from letters, for anything else but waste. The stamps are very photogenic, like ugly people, who also very often are, and with proper lighting the embossing shows up much better in a photograph than in the originals.

The Centenary and Exhibition — 1957

No commemorative stamp was issued by the Postmaster General. The Philatelic Society of Natal however distributed free of charge a pink label which, although looking rather austere, is the nearest printed reproduction to the embossed original. The correct date of the Centenary, the first day of June, fell on one of Durban's busiest Saturdays. The exhibition started on Monday June 3rd lasting till the evening of June 5th. A special canceller, showing these dates, was used at the special Post Office in the foyer of the Natal Provincial Building, Acutt Str. The event was sponsored by the Philatelic Society of Natal and Mr. J. H. Wicks, Chairman of the Exhibition Committee, introduced Mr. G. H. Hill, the Postmaster of Durban, who performed the official opening. It was the intention of the Natal Society to present to the public as many aspects of Philately as possible and the show was therefore not limited to the stamps or postal history of Natal. On the contrary, there was only one collection of Natal Postage stamps and one of Postmarks used in the various Post Offices in Natal. A collection of the stamps of Zululand and a study of the Postal history of the Anglo-Boer War, showing covers used in Natal during the Republican Invasion, completed the picture of the "Dead Country" Natal. One Cape and two Union Collections, one of stamps of the first first Definitive issue and one of the 1st Air Mail Flights concluded the display of "REAL" Philately. How real one can make it was proved by Jean De Sperati, whose masterpieces were also on view.

The Thematic half of the Exhibition was made up by seven individual collections and one combined display sent in by the Thematic Society, Cape Town. In addition to the stamp exhibits some coins were on view, but Natal never had a coinage of her own nor an issue of Government Notes. Unfortunately no Postal Stationary had been displayed, a vital part of philatelic records of any country, which is apparently also lacking in the Natal collection at the Durban Museum.

INTERNATIONAL GEOPHYSICAL YEAR IN ANTARCTICA

The working of this world-wide co-ordinated study of natural phenomena starts officially on 1st July, 1957 and goes on till the end of 1958. Good measure for a Year!

Scientists of 44 nations are taking part in this study which goes on all over the world; preliminary work and the equipping of various stations has been going on in some respects ever since 1955.

The most interesting — in fact, practically the only part of the I.G.Y. with a philatelic bearing is the extensive work being done in various scientific fields in Antarctica. At least eleven nations are taking part in this scheme and this has meant the issue of quite a few special stamps, and the preparation of numerous cancellers for the Post Offices which have to be provided at the various stations ashore and also on many of the ships taking the expeditions to the Antarctic. As numerous covers and cachets have been, or will be, provided, it can be seen that there is to be no lack of philatelic records of the I.G.Y. in the Antarctic.

The accompanying sketch map shows the approximate position of the stations already occupied by, or to be operated by, the parties of the eleven nations concerned.

Short notes are given of philatelic features — so far as they are known — of the various countries' expeditions.

1. SOUTH AFRICA.

In addition to special work to be carried out in the Union itself, a party of ten has been sent to Gough Island for meteorological and other work. It had been hoped to have a station on Bouvet Island but a reconnaissance in 1955 showed that it was not a practicable proposition. The work at the older stations on Tristan da Cunha and on Marion Island is also to be extended. The Gough Island party was taken to the island towards the end of May, 1957. Covers have come back with the same postmark as was used during the British Survey Party's stay there dated 27 May 1057. There is no cachet of any kind, however, on the covers.

2. GREAT BRITAIN.

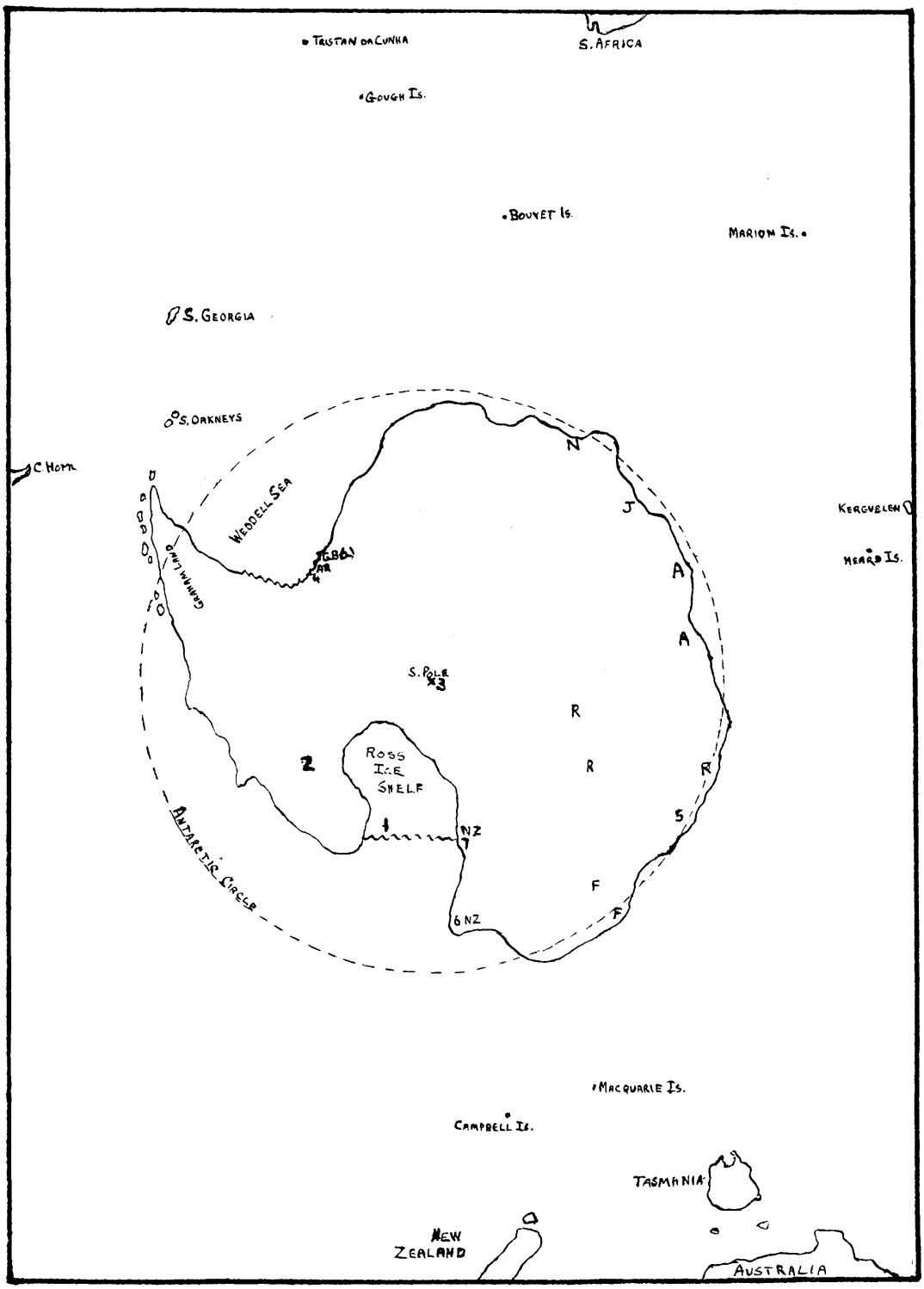
(a) On Grahamland and on the adjacent South Shetland islands there has been a lot of detailed geographical survey work going on for the past few years, with a number of stations which have been providing interesting postal cancellations. The number of stations taking part in the I.G.Y. has been variously stated as from 6 to 10, but whatever the number it is probable that they will come from the following list:—

Deception Is., Admiralty Bay, Port Lockroy, Hope Bay, Anvers Is., Base O, Base W, Half Moon Bay, Argentine Islands, Marguerite Bay.

Four Falkland Is. Dependencies stamps (½d., 2½d., 3d. and 6d.) of the 1954 Antarctic Ship series were overprinted on 31-1-56 with "Trans-Antarctic/Expedition 1955-1958" (See (b) below). Covers from the first six of the list above have been seen with the Trans-Antarctic stamps, also from Signy Island, S. Orkneys and from South Georgia, so possibly these are to be regarded as I.G.Y. stations.

(b) "Shackleton" at the head of the Weddell Sea is the name which has been given to the base from whence the Commonwealth Trans-

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Antarctic Expedition under the leadership of Dr. V. E. Fuchs starts off on its 2,000 mile journey to the Ross Sea **via** the South Pole.

Covers have been seen with the special Trans-Antarctic stamps cancelled by a 30 mm. double circle mark with only "Shackleton" and stars opposite the central one-line date 30 Jan. 1956, which is understood to be the first day in the camp.

(c) In the neighbourhood of Shackleton, but separate, is the British Royal Society's station, which is believed to be officially named "Halley" (for the astronomer). A cover with three un-overprinted F.I.D. 1d. stamps has these cancelled wiwth a single circle mark with "International Geophysical Year Expedition" and the date in one line across the centre 29 Feb. 1956, a first day cover.

Also in the same neighbourhood are Argentine and U.S.A. stations. These are considered anon.

3. ARGENTINA.

As is well known both the Argentine and Chile have made territorial claims to the area which Britain calls the Falkland Islands Dependencies.

For some years Argentina has had stations with Post Offices named as follows:— Decepcion, Melchior, Tenente Camara (Bahia Luna), Almirante Brown, Base Gen. San Martin, Esperanza, Orcadas del Sud, and a recently opened one at the head of the Weddell Sea, General Belgrano. From 4 to 8 stations have been stated as participating in the I.G.Y.; presumably some of those in the list given.

4. CHILE.

Chile has had stations named Decepcion, O'Higgins, Arturo Pratt and Gabriél Videla. From 2 to 6 have been stated as participating and some of those just mentioned may provide them.

5. U.S.A.

The general title for the whole of the U.S.A. effort is "Operation Deepfreeze" divided into I, II, and III, covering approximately 1956, 1957 and 1958. The late Admiral Byrd was in overall control up to the time of his death and he actually took part in Deepfreeze I, including a flight over the Pole. At least a dozen ships are taking part in the Operation, from ice-breakers to oil tankers and the scientific staff at the various stations runs to about 150.

At least seven stations have been or are being established; these are shown on the map by numbers, as follows:— 1. Little America (on the Ross Sce Shelf), 2. Byrd Station, 3. Pole Station, 4. Weddell Sea (in same area as Shackledon and Gen. Belgrano stations), 5. Knox Base, 6. Cape Adare (with a New Zealand station), 7. McMurdo Sound (wiwth a New Zealand station — Scott Base — nearby).

Covers have been seen from Nos. 1, 2 and 3 of the above list, also from various ships, and from U.S. Navy 17046, which is the Operation's Base in New Zealand.

The U.S.A. has not issued any special stamps, but a number of the station post offices have both machine and hand cancellers and a number of the ships have their own post offices. Taking into consideration the numerous cachets that have been made, the combinations and permutations of cachets, ship cancellations, and station cancellations will give an enormous number of possible U.S.A. covers.

Working round Antarctica clockwise from the Weddell Sea we come to the following countries' stations:—

6. NORWAY. (N)

Very little information is available about this country's expedition, but it seems that they do not wish to handle any philatelic maill.

7. JAPAN. (J)

The Japanese base is situated on the Prince Harald Coast of Queen Maud Land. A special cover has been seen, with an inscription "Japan Antarctic Research Expedition I", which is (?) repeated in Japanese. The cancellation, in red, has a Japanese inscription round the top, under that is the date, 30-1-1957, then a number of penguins, at the bottom another Japanese statement and "Prince Harald Antarctica".

8. AUSTRALIA (A)

Australia has issued a 2/- stamp inscribed "Australian Antarctic Territory" which features a map and a party raising a flag. The stamp however is valid for use in Australia as well as in the Antarctic.

There are two stations. (1) The western one is at **Mawson** which has actually been in operation as part of A.N.A.R.E. (Australian National Antarctic Research Expedition) for about four years (2) Some 300 miles eastward a station has been set up in the Vestfold Hills, named **Davis,** after an earlier Australian Antarctic explorer. This should be a very interesting area as air flights have shown ice-free lakes there. A cover from it has a single-circle postmark reading "Davis/A.N.A.R.E." at the top and below "Aust. Antarctic Terr."; the date, in one line across the centre is 14 JA 57.

9. U.S.S.R. (R)

Russia has named its base **Mirny,** after the ship of the Russian Admiral Bellingshausen who made a circum-polar voyage to the Antarctic in 1819. It is purposed also to have two stations in the interior, the farther south one to be at or near the "Pole of Inaccessibility" **i.e.** the spot furthest from any point which has already been reached.

A special 10k stamp has been issued with a map bearing red flags indicating the sites of the three stations.

Covers have arrived, one apparently sent by air (there is a direction which appears to be "Moscow-Antarctica/Par Avion" (so far as we can read the Russian). Another seems to have come from the ship "OB", which was one of those taking the actual landing parties and their stores. It is understood that the OB is to make a circum-polar tour doing oceanographical work.

10. FRANCE (F).

Passing by the U.S.A. Knox Base we come to Adelie Land where France has set up a base on the coast and has another station inland.

Special stamps with Antarctic motifs were issued in 1956 for the T.A.A.F. (Terres Australes et Antarctiques Francaises, including Kerguelen, St. Paul & Amsterdam Is, as well as Adelie Land). Covers from the last mentioned with stamps cancelled 9-1-1957.

11. NEW ZEALAND (N.Z.).

Four special stamps (3d., 4d., 8d. and 1/6d.) have been issued for use in the Ross Dependency and they are only valid there. New Zealand has two stations (1) At Cape Adare

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along with a U.S.A. station — no covers have been reported so far from there. (2) The other is near McMurdo Sound at the western end of the Ross Ice barrier. This has been named the Scott Base and is the terminal point for the Trans-Antarctic Expedition. Sir Edmund Hillary, of Mt. Everest fame, is in command there and his task is to lay out depots of Food, etc., between there and the S. Pole for Dr. Fuchs' party to pick up in the latter half of their crossing from Shackleton Base on the Weddell Sea.

An official souvenir cover has the postmark "Scott Base/Ross Dependency" with date 11 JA 57. The cachet in colour has "Trans-Antarctic Expedition/1956-58/Scott Base" and an Emperor Penguin standing on an ice-floe.

There have been rumours of expeditions being sent by Germany and by Spain, but no authentic information anent them is available.

J. H. HARVEY PIRIE.

THE ROLL OF HONOUR OF DISTINGUISHED PHILATELISTS

Dr. ALEC KAPLAN

Dr. Alec Kaplan started stamp collecting in 1906 and has maintained a keen and active interest in the hobby since then. On arriving in Johannesburg in 1908, he joined the Johannesburg United Philatelic Society, and has been a member since then and next year hopes to celebrate his Golden Jubilee as a member of this Society.

He was first elected on to the Committee in 1920 and has served on the Committee on and off for a period of about 25 years. In 1923 he was appointed as the Official Delegate of the Society, to the International Stamp Exhibition and the Tenth Philatelic Congress of Great Britain held in London. There through the aid of the late Fred J. Melville he learned the intricacies of judging at International Exhibitions.

It was at this Exhibition that he had the honour of being presented to his late Majesty King George V.

Returning to South Africa in 1925, he again took an active interest in Society and Philatelic matters and served on the jury together with Fred J. Melville, E. Tamsen, J. H. Chamberlain and others at the International Philatelic Exhibition held at Durban in 1928.

From that time on, until 1956, he served on all other South African National and International Exhibitions as a member of the Jury and in 1948 he was appointed the Chairman of the Jury at the National Exhibition held at East London.

In organised Philately he has served for many years on the Executive of the Philatelic Federation of Southern Africa. He has been Vice President for three periods and President in 1952/1953.

He has also been the Chairman at different times of the Philatelic Society of Johannesburg, the Germiston Philatelic Society and the Philatelic Section of the Jewish Guild.

Although he has collected most countries in Europe, North America, Africa and the Middle East, his chief interests have always been the stamps of Southern Africa and European Classics. He has amassed many study collections and has had high International and National Awards for his collections of Palestine, Southern Rhodesian, Holland and France, amongst others.

His research work has been embodied in more than 100 articles in the World Philatelic Press. During 1927, 1928 and 1929 he contributed weekly philatelic columns to the Rand Daily Mail and during 1937 and 1938 weekly articles to the same newspaper. Also during 1938 and 1939 he wrote weekly philatelic columns to the Daily Express. During 1951 and 1952 he acted as Chairman of the Editors of the Handbook/Catalogue of the stamps of the Union of South Africa.

From the Philatelic Society of Johannesburg he received the F. J. H. Lang Cup of Merit for 1947/1948. In 1953 at the Bulawayo Congress he was awarded the Skinner Cup and in 1956 he received the Legator Cup from the East Rand Philatelic Society. In 1957 he received the Scroll of Honour from the Germiston Philatelic Society.

At the Philatelic Congress in 1948 held at Port Elizabeth he was elected to the Roll of Honour of Distinguished Philatelists.

Besides collecting stamps, he is a keen coin collector, has written several articles on South African Coins and in 1951 he published the "Catalogue of Coins of South Africa". Amongst other hobbies, he collects English First Editions, early South African Maps, Antiques and numerous side line collections. He is a keen bowler and collects bowling club badges.

968 Pretorius Street,
Arcadia,
Pretoria.
22/4/57.

The Editor,
S.A. Philatelist.
Dear Sir,

With reference to the article by J. H. Rathbone in the April issue of the S.A. Philatelist please note that URUGASMAN**H**ANDIYA is the correct spelling of the Camp name. I have a very clear strike of the Censor mark and there is no doubt about the 'H' even though I have often seen the spelling of this Camp name with 'U' instead of the 'H' when it is referred to in articles.

My cover has a camp postmark I have not previously seen described and I also have a loose Ceylon stamp with the postmark, the description of which is given below:

Size: as for Diyatalawa Camp (fig. 1 of Article).

Wording around: Urugascamp (appears to be one word — not two).

Date: FE17/02.

I shall be pleased if this information can be published to bring Mr. Rathbone's excellent article up to date.

Yours faithfully,
W. NEWLANDS.

BOER P.O.W.'s IN CEYLON

Mr. Rathbone's article in the S.A. Philatelist of April, 1957, p. 49 reminded Jack Burrell that in his town, Krugersdorp, there was living Mr. F. R. N. Findlay, who had been the Chief Censor at Diyatalawa Camp. Thinking that it

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would be of interest for me to meet him, I was put in touch and we foregathered one morning at Mr. Findlay's house, where Mrs. Findlay kindly dispensed morning tea while we chatted.

There was present also a Mr. L. M. K. Edmeads who had been a P.O.W. in the camp during Mr. Findlay's term of office. He is now a "retired gentleman of leisure" living in Krugersdorp.

"URUGAS . . . ." Camp. Having in mind Mr. Newlands' note about the spelling of the name of this camp (See page 103) the first question I put (without giving any indication of why I was putting it) was "How did you pronounce the name of the camp beginning 'Urugasman'? Both gentlemen replied without any hesitation, "UrugasmanHandiya", the "H" sound being perfectly cclear. I then told them why I had put the question and said "Presumably it was spelled with an "H" and not a "U" before the "andiya" and the answer was "Unquestionably".

Being rather a doubting Thomas, and as all of the few censor marks I had seen appeared to have a "U" and not an "H", I asked Mr. Findlay if he happened to have the word in, say, any kind of official printed notice. Unfortunately he could not produce anything of the kind, explaining that his duties had kept him fully occupied at Diyatalawa and that he had not been at any of the other camps and had little communication with any of them.

My conversation, however, satisfies me that the name should be spelt with an "H". I can only suggest further that the marks giving rise to the idea of a "U" in place of an "H" came from a handstamp that was either badly made or was worn. Alternatively it might have been poorly impressed, but then it probably would not always have been one and the same letter affected.

Diyatalawa Camp.

This was by far the largest P.O.W. camp in Ceylon, fairly high up in the hills, with a pleasant and healthy climate. Judging from Mr. Findlay's photographs it was in lovely scenery, though it may be doubted if that appealed much to prisoners!

Censor. Mr. Rathbone has already identifiifed the initials F.R.N.F. seen in Censor's marks, Mr. Findlay identifies "O.H." as those of Mr. O. Hansen and "E.J.B." as those of Mr. E. J. Baumann.

The other three sets of initials "K.A.R.N.", "A.D.R." and "A.C." were probably, according to Mr. Rathbone, those of censors coming in at a later date. Mr. Findlay agrees; he cannot identify to whom the initials belong, but as he explained, he was not at the camp for the whole period it was functioning.

Size of Mail. Mr. Rathbone mentions 30,000 letters a month being handled by the censors. This is quite believable after a glance at the accompanying photograph of Mr. Findlay's office with the peon looking at a mail he has just brought in for censoring.



Miscellaneous Notes.

The Postmaster at the camp was one Mr. John F .Faure and although he had an office stamp with his name on it, there was apparently no occasion for this mark to come the way of philatelists.

Mr. Edmeads informed me that there three Rugby Football teams in the camp called respectively "Franchise", "Suzerainty" and "Independence". They competed for a magnificent ebony-wood cup, turned and carved by a German P.O.W. It stood about 18 inches high. He thinks it was brought back to South Africa and is now in the Bloemfontein National Museum, but would like to know if it really is there.

As has been the case in many camps there was local paper currency in the shape of "Good-Fors" which were only valid for spending by P.O.W.'s at the Camp Store.

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Two newspapers were published in the camp, one called "The Barbed Wire Budget" and the other "De Krijgsgevangene — The Captive".

Ragama Camp.

Mr. Rathbone says this was a camp started for foreign (non-Boer) P.O.W.'s who had been giving trouble to the authorities. Mr. Edmeads (and he had been in a position to know) told me there had also been some Boer P.O.W.'s sent there, irreconcilables and such like who were trouble makers, also some who had made attempts to escape but had been recapturued.

J. H. HARVEY PIRIE.

CAPE OF GOOD HOPE

TRIANGULARS.

RECTANGULARS. POSTMARKS.

Extensive selections of the above are always available, as well as interesting covers and Postal History material.

References from new customers, please.

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REVIEWS

The Postage Stamps of Great Britain, Part Four by K. M. Beaumont & J. B. M. Stanton price 31/7 post free from the Royal Philatelic Society, 41 Devonshire Place, London W.1. (A limited de luxe edition is offered at £2/12/6).

This volume follows its three predecessors, the last of which brought us to the end of the King Edward VII issues, and covers the issues of King George V. Whereas, however, the previous volumes were, at least to some extent, revisions of the work of J. B. Seymour previously published by the "Royal", this volume is entirely new ground and the authors have endeavoured to be as complete as possible, rather than miss some feature in this first major textbook of the period.

Unhappily, perhaps, they have chosen to cover the ground one denomination at a time, which was a useful approach to the complexities of the Edwardians, but rather defeats itself in the Georgians which lend themselves much more happily to treatment in sets more or less on the lines of the standard catalogue listings; once the tangle of the issues at the outset of the reign has been disposed of, and this is the concern only of the ½d. and 1d. denominations, the adopted approach is to be deprecated and reaches its most absurd at the points where the occasional commemoratives cross one's path. This may, incidentally, account for such omissions as the SPECIMEN overprint on the Harrison 1/- (SG 449) and the 2d. and 3d. of the same set, which happen to be of particular interest to students of Specimens. The comparative lucidity of Chapter 16, in which all denominations of coil and booklet issues are treated together, speaks for itself.

In addition to the main text, there are five appendices, one of which, on the use of the quartz lamp, is a most admirable article and can be read with advantage by many without particular regard to these issues. It is gradually becoming generally understood that the quartz lamp is invaluable in distinguishing issues hitherto notorious for the difficulty of their shades — not only the Georgians and Edwardians of Great Britain but also such issues as the Rhodesian Double Heads, for example — and makes possible sound identifications in many instances where previously the student would be inclined to trust the (all too fallacious) discernment of a known specialist.

The last consists of the very entertaining correspondence to and from the designer G. W. Eve (the interpolations from Seymour Bennett are a particular delight) and rounds off the work most happily.

The authors have been able to use the incomparable reference material housed in the Royal collection and in the Adams and Field collections and have thus been able to throw light on many previous obscurities especially in the difficult early issues. Throughout there is extensive reference to the preparatory material which hardly exists outside the collections mentioned and it is of immense help and interest to have this recorded in this volume, in many instances accompanied by illustrations of the inaccessible items. Some interesting results include the discovery that the great improvement

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to the designs achieved by making the background to the head solid, which first appeared in the Harrison photogravure issue, had been anticipated but disregarded in the much earlier Motley process essays — yet another instance of the infallibility with which the official mind always seems to pick the less satisfactory designs from those submitted!

A further set of illustrations very capably describes the "re-entries" on the high denominations: this was a felt want not previously satisfied by any of the catalogues. Mention might have been made of the distinctive appearance of the original perforation on the Wembley 1924 stamps — the minute holes are readily discernible — and that this perforation is significantly rarer than the later normal perforation. To sum up, this is a worthy successor to the other volumes in the series, and will doubtless stimulate interest in a period recently somewhat neglected.

The True Book about Stamp Collecting by Russell Bennett, price 7/6 from Frederick Muller Ltd., 110 Fleet Street, London E.C.4.

This is a recent addition to a series of some four dozen books for young people on a variety of subjects and represents a readable approach to stamp collecting by way of themately. Several suggestions for themes are taken in turn and explored in an informative way, with a final chapter containing advice on the choice of albums, writing-up styles, &c., most of which is thoroughly commendable.

The author is firmly committed to the idea that the thematic approach is the most suitable for the young collector, and expounds this thesis in, admittedly, convincing terms!

ADMIRAL BYRD

Reference must be made to the death of Admiral Byrd on 11 March. For philatelists his death has an added meaning, as his Antarctic expeditions, five of them, brought many pioneer covers to their albums, in addition to the special stamps issued in connection with his second expedition in 1933.

He was the first man to fly over both poles and he was actually in overall charge of the present American Operation Deepfreeze, the biggest ever expedition taking part in the International Geophysical Year's work. It is partcularly sad that he was not able to see this through to a conclusion.

We are indebted to our German correspondent, Mr. Joachim Dill, for three most interesting covers.

The first of these should have reached us long since, as it was sent on the inaugural flight by SABENA from Brussels to Bucarest on 13 March 1957, with the usual directions for return, which would have brought it to us about a week later if they had been complied with by the Roumanian Post Office in terms of their U.P.U. obligations. Instead, it was sent **some six weeks later** back to the Brussels office of SABENA, whence it has by kindness of the SABENA organization been at last transmitted to us. If the same has happened to many other philatelic souvenirs of this occasion, no doubt the uninformed individual responsible will have had the red hammer on his knuckles by now!

The second, from East Berlin, shews a slogan postmark of 31 May "Kleine Atomwaffen in Deutschland" (Ban atomic weapons in Germany); while the third commemorates a specialized Thematic Exhibition "Flora and Philately" associated with a horticultural exhibition in Cologne. The stamp has a somewhat formalized design of a tulip and a posthorn.

The S.A. Philatelist by air.

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S. AFRICAN COVER DESIGNER

Covers designed by Mr. H. J. de Wet of Cape Town for various special South African stamps and occasions are probably known to a number of our readers as things of beauty and craftsmanship.

"Stamp Collecting" reports a recent **tour de force** on his part in connection with the visit of the Duke of Edinburgh to Tristan da Cunha. He was asked by radiotelegraph from the island 36 hours bgfore a ship was due to sail, to design, print and send a supply of covers. He did it — produced a design, had envelopes made from hand-made paper, and 140 printed from a line block, in time to catch the ship.

To save correspondence please note that Mr. de Wet has none of the covers left.

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PANAMA "POPES"

The project of an American syndicate to prepare 259 stamps depicting all the Popes down the ages, the profits being divided between the promoters and the Panama Government, has flopped. Twelve of the stamps were actually printed but sales were very small, not nearly enough to pay costs of printing, advertising, etc., instead of bringing in profits of millions.

Strangely enough the low sales have made these few a philatelic success and they are already selling at over face value. But the promoters of the scheme get no benefit thereby.

SOCIETY NOTES

PRETORIA PHILATELIC SOCIETY

6th May. The annual Allen Cup Competition was held and it attracted three entries, as follows:—

(1) Mr. J. Slagt — Netherlands pre 1900.
(2) Mr. D. P. Coetser — Russia.
(3) Mr. J. M. Weinstein — Israel Commemoratives, 1948-1953.

After viewing these all-foreign exhibits the remaining members then voted and the collection of Israel Commemoratives was declared the winning one for 1957, with the collection of Russia being chosen as runner-up.

20th May. The Pretoria Railway Philatelic Society paid us their annual visit and the following were the collections that were displayed for our enjoyment:—

(1) Dr. C. Been's Federation of Rhodesia and Nyasaland, with the emphasis on the postmarks from the countries concerned.
(2) Mr. P. Roux's Israel exhibit which won the Cecil Trophy at the Railway Society's last meeting.
(3) Mr. D. Brown's Antigua, Bermuda and Dominica from George VI to date.
(4) Mr. W. Kriste's Denmark.

The programme was a distinctly balanced one and the exhibits all contained items that were of great interest and beauty. Altogether it was a most pleasant evening's entertainment and our thanks are extended to our neighbours for providing the fare that made the evening.

J. M. W.

PRETORIA RAILWAY PHILATELIC SOCIETY

Wednesday 8th May. The big attraction of the evening was the Cecil Trophy Competition which drew a total of four entries, two of which we are pleased to say were received from country members. The exhibits displayed included Mr. J. Kriste's "Argentine Covers". Miss C. Woodroffe's thematic collection "My Travels in Stamps", Mr. P. Roux's "Stamps of Israel" and Mr. D. Brown's "Selection from the West Indies". Our heartiest congratulations are extended to Mr. Pierre Roux on being this year's winner of the Cecil Trophy with his very fine Israel collection and to Miss C. Woodroffe on being the runner up. Also our thanks are extended to the other two entrants whose collectons were of a high order and a pleasure to see.

J. M. J. McG.

THE PHILATELIC SOCIETY OF JOHANNESBURG

Our 400th meeting, on **14th May,** had a very gratifying attendance, and nobody could say the exhibits were not worth it. Mr. B. Joseph showed some more of his many "Switzerland", this time mainly earlies, some lovely first issues and some even better looking forgeries (meticulously marked as such, of course); and Mr. W. S. Yelland regaled Union collectors and astounded non-Union collectors by his extensive study of the booklets and coil stamps of South Africa, some of which are now already passing into the rarity class. And most pleased must have been Mr. Grabowski who won the competition's first prize, a finely postmarked British Postal Union Pound.

The following meeting, on **27th May,** however, was disappointing as regards numbers, and this all the more so since again the displays were of abiding interest. Mr. H. Markowitz who has shown us the other occupied Zones of Germany previously, finished up with a wellnigh complete array of the French Zone and the issues for Berlin, very costly stamps and sheets in the first half, and very beautiful stamps in the second; and Mr. G. D. B. Williams had sent his "Rhodesian Postmarks" in for showing, along with a paper which showed how much original research this comparatively small display had entailed, and also, how much more he and others would still find to do.

ROYAL PHILATELIC SOCIETY OF CAPE TOWN

May 9th. Mr. H. R. Savage entertained members to a most unique evening when he presented his "Union Pictorials without Tears". Most collectors have been used to seeing sheet after sheet of mint Unions, but on this occasion shown were used blocks of four of the Union Pictorials, plated according to the Handbook. Few realise how difficult the gathering of such a collection can be. In addition the mounting was excellent.

May 23rd. This was the evening of the Kaganson Cup (Thematics). Two exhibits were shown for this competition, "United Nations" by Mrs. Hilda Jeidel, and "Men at War" by Mr. F. L. Archer. Mr. Archer's collection won the Cup for 1957. This covered the story of War as depicted on stamps of the World.

M. F. S.

THEMATIC STAMP CLUB

May 13th. This was the first of the showing of a number of Durban exhibits, "Music on Stamps", belonging to Mr. Selwyn Smith, the President of the Natal Society. Magnificently written up and complete in all facets, covering Musicians, their Music, Instruments, librettists, patrons etc. There was a record gathering to see this exhibit which attracted so much attention that the President was asked to give an interview in connection with same over the Radio.

May 27th. On this evening a further guest evening was the showing of "Famous Men" belonging to Mr. R. A. Gilzean also of Durban. This was a clear exposition of such men that have made history. Again the members turned out with visitors to see yet another fine exhibit. The Club has cause to be thankful to Durban for sending down these interesting exhibits.

M. F. S.

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UNIVERSITY OF CAPE TOWN PHILATELIC SOCIETY

May 7th. Mr. Lederer showed his collection of South America, which showed the beginnings of future care and a fine collection.

May 25th. At this meeting no less than 3 new members attended showing the gradual interest taken by students. First Mr. Katz showed his collection of Queen Elizabeth II. In this he showed the foundation to a very pleasing collection. The Hon. Secretary then presented a paper on "Sperati — the Master Forger".

M. F. S.

GERMISTON PHILATELIC SOCIETY

Wednesday, 15 April 1957. A short talk was given by Mr. John P. Frew, the Studio Manager of E. S. & A. Robinson, on how it had come about that he had been asked by the Government Authorities to design the Peace stamps issued for the Union of South Africa and South West Africa. Mr. Frew first of all outlined the history of his war time service and then continued with his record of how he set about to design the various stamps, his very first attempt at stamp designing.

I. S. B.

THE O.F.S. & BASUTOLAND PHILATELIC SOCIETY

April Meeting: Mr. A. H. Scott exhibited his simplified "Swiss" — these were mounted on printed loose-leaves, and to quote Mr. Scott — "The answer to the collector who has not the time or the ability to write up a collection."

In addition to the definitives, commemoratives etc., the collection was fairly well represented in issues from the League of Nations offices officials and postage dues.

An interesting display of "Queens" by Mr. H. E .Roux, covered all the "Queen Elizabeth II" definitive issues to date, and included all the Aden colour and perf. changes, as well as the Southern and Northern Rhodesia and Nyasaland issues before Federation.

A display of covers was the surprise item of the evening given by Mr. A. L. Meyburgh. This display was again shown at the Museum Congress, and a full write-up appears below on the article covering the Society's exhibit there.

Museum Congress

Some 40 delegates from Southern Africa and Federation attended the Museum Congress at Bloemfontein during the second week in May.

At the request of Dr. Hoffman, Director of the local Museum, the Society provided various displays on Tuesday evening the 7th May, as entertainment for all attending delegates. These displays were very well received, especially by those delegates whose interests included philately.

The following is a short account of the exhibits which were shown:

Oranje Vrij Staat by Mr. John Price.

This exhibit was of a very high standard, showing many major varieties. A block of **15 Commando Brief Labels** in imperf. condition was one of the many outstanding items. Other interesting items included the 1/-, 5/-, 10/- and £1 Post Noot (Postal Orders) and no less than four copies of the "Iostage for Postage" errors.

Pre-stamp and Early Covers by Mr. A. L. Meyburgh.

Mr. Meyburgh again showed a collection of covers reaching the high standard that we have come to expect of him. His exhibit included many rare and interesting items, among others there were numerous pre-stamp covers, three copies of the famous "Tin Can Mail", and excellent copies of both the Mulready and South Kingston envelopes, and ending with several more recent covers of extreme interest.

Netherlands by Mr. A. H. Scott.

A very fine collection of Netherlands ranging from 1852 to 1956 was shown, with many fine items among the earlier issues. This collection was mounted in a special album, which added to an attractive presentation. Although not complete among the early issues, it was most pleasing to note the very few gaps still to be filled.

Union of South Africa by Mr. C. E. Kachelhoffer.

Many must have been pleasantly surprised at this really excellent presentation. Although space only permitted a cross section of this collection, it nevertheless contained any amount of rare and interesting items. Among these were the MacKay, Immelman, Harrison essays, the Darmstad Trials, Waterlow proofs, 2nd Airmail plate proofs and design and coloured essays of the first 1/3 stamp (Springbok), that caught the eye. Other items of particular interest was a card with first Airmail set autographed by the P.M.G. at the time, as well as an English and Dutch commemoration card of the 2½d. Union Commemoration of 1910. This display ended with covers of the current Animal series bearing excellent drawings of each animal depicted.

Anglo-Boer War Covers by Mr. A. L. Meyburgh.

This very fine collection needs no introduction and created much interest. Among some of the more outstanding items was a cover of the siege of Ladysmith, a copy of the "Mafeking News", No. 10, dated 14th November 1899 and finally an envelope addressed to Major Huneberg, Box 411, Pretoria, stamped with no less than 54 ½d. Transvaal stamps overprinted E.R.I., all perfectly cancelled.

Covers of Pretoria Centenary by Mr. G. H. van Rooyen.

Mr. van Rooyen produced a collection of covers which proved most interesting. Each envelope was made up of photographs of various historical importance pertaining to Presidents Kruger and Pretorius. In addition to these covers, Mr. van Rooyen had envelopes addressed to each of the various Cabinet Ministers since 1948 and autographed by them mounted opposite a photograph of each of the Minister in question.

Thus an interesting evening came to a close, with the interests of Philately, we feel sure, having had yet another most welcome boost.

PORT ELIZABETH PHILATELIC SOCIETY

2nd April. Three displays were given during the evening: Mr. F. W. A. Knight — Bechuanaland, Basutoland and Swaziland.

Dr. J. W. Harris' "Sanitary Fair Commission" Stamps of the U.S.A. — the precursors of Red Cross Stamps — accompanied by a talk, and finally — Mr. G. K. Forbes with his latest craze of "Cut Outs" and "Throw Outs".

16th April. Mr. J. F. Slabbert, one of our younger members, showed a rather nice lot of the Belgian Congo and U.S.A. Commemoratives. Some special interesting items were provided by other members.

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THE
SOUTH AFRICAN PHILATELIST
PROPRIETORS AND PUBLISHERS :
The Philatelic Federation of Southern Africa
Editorial Board: Dr. J. H. HARVEY PIRIE (Chairman), J. E. FRANKLAND, Dr. T. B. BERRY, W. N. SHEFFIELD, P.O. Box 375, Johannesburg.
Business Manager: Mr. J. MICHELSON, P.O. Box 375, Johannesburg.

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UNION NOTES

Hon. Associate Editor: Dr. T. B. BERRY, Box 31, Bryanston, Transvaal.

Union Rarities

It is indeed gratifying to have received several replies to the enquiry appearing in our May Notes concerning the Union's scarcest item, which response may be taken as not only an indication of the interest which still pertains to the stamps of the Union but also as an act of appreciation of the effort of those individuals who month after month attempt to make Union Notes interesting. The Notes are prepared for the entertainment and benefit of all, and readers are at liberty, by contributing articles or comments, to assist in making Union Notes take the form they would wish them to have.

More than one reader considered the Union's scarcest item to be in the nature of that one item which is earnestly desired but has still to be obtained in spite of diligent search. This definition is very true and pertains to any collection, mighty or lowly.

An oversea contributor agrees that the London Pictorial recess printed 2/6 item, perf. 14 x 13½, may occupy the premier place, or even the perf. 14 item, fine used, but he feels these items are closely followed by the King's Head £1 item, U.H.B. 15a, in correct postally used condition.

Another reader writes to the effect that being in possession of the 2/6, perf. 14 x 13½ item (inscriptional pair), he considers it less scarce than the Group II, 5/- item, U.H.B. 31A — not yet acquired, and that he would also include the following in the category under consideration:- The Unhyphenated ½d. Plate III, U.H.B. 36E, and the "Waffle Plate" 1½d., Plate V, U.H.B. 46C — which latter item is in his opinion a really elusive item, less frequently seen in collections or in Dealer's Stock than the 5/- U.H.B. 31A item, but catalogued at a very much lower figure.

A subscriber to the S.A.P. writes from the Cape that the arrow blocks of the early rotogravure printings are generally considered the scarcest items but he questions whether this classification is a correct reflection of the position for he feels that the "arrow-racket" is somewhat overdone.

He maintains that a constant plate flaw (cylinder flaw) of a size discernible to the naked eye, or any other good **proving piece of a printing** should have the same status and value as an arrow pair or block, for after all an arrow is only a proving "dot" on a sheet of stamps. There are four arrows per sheet and only one each of a particular proving flaw, and yet higher prices are asked and paid for an item of a similar nature but in relatively freer supply. Are collectors not blindly pursuing a custom the creation of which they themselves and in competition with one another, are responsible for?

Paquebot Marks

We are grateful to Mr. R. D. Allen, of London, for placing at the disposal of collectors of these interesting postal cancellations the following information which he has received from the Publicity Officer, G.P.O., Pretoria, in reply to his request concerning the Shipping and Paquebot marks of today:— CAPETOWN: Two date stamps (numbered 1 and 2), engraved "Shipping/Sheeps/P.M. Cape Town/Kaapstad." One date stamp is engraved "Cape Town/Kaapstad Paquebot"; one sleeve is engraved "Paquebot" and used in conjunction with a machine date stamp.

PORT ELIZABETH and EAST LONDON: No special date stamp in use. Mail matter posted in the Purser's box receives the cachet "Paquebot".

DURBAN: Only one date stamp in use, engraved "Durban Paquebot".

Only letters posted in the Purser's letter box which ships are at sea and outside South African waters are postmarked with a special "Paquebot" date stamp. During the time that ships are in port the letter box is closed.

The date stamps engraved "Shipping/Sheeps/PM Cape Town/Kaapstad" are used by postal officials when boarding ships at Cape Town, when required, for all transactions undertaken by the Post Office. In this case letters are required to be registered and handed in at this temporary office.

Images on the War Effort Stamps

Referring to our May Notes concerning the Images on the War Effort Stamps, Mr. C. E. Sherwood, of Sale, draws our attention to an article by Mr. Lichtenstein, of Bloemfontein, which appeared in the September 1955 issue of the O.F.S. Philatelic Magazine, wherein the author states that the image on the 1d. stamp was a South African Nurse by the name of Miss

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Parker, now Mrs. Ginsberg of Durban North. In the following issue of the magazine, the name was corrected by Dr. J. W. Harris to Miss Barbara Palmer, saying that he had her photograph. The article also states that the 1½d. stamp depicts the portrait of Lieutenant (later Captain) R. H. C. Kershaw, D.S.O., also a South African.

Continuing, Mr. Sherwood gives some interesting information concerning the 2d. stamp, for in his collection he has a card which bears a pair of the 2d. Bantam Stamps and autographed by Leading Signalman C. Peters, No. 68020, S.A.N.F.(V). Several years later a collector on the South Coast of England sold him some South African items including this card saying that he had served with this sailor at one time in H.M.S. "Neptune", based on Simonstown, Cape. By quite a co-incidence this collector came to live in Sale where Mr. Sherwood resides, joined the local Society and there they met.

Surely this is a very small world!

½d. Coil Stamps

We now find that the information published in our June Notes concerning a stamp vending machine having been converted to dispense two ½d. Coil Stamps for each penny coin inserted is not quite correct. What has actually happened is that a ½d. stamp vending machine was altered to sell 1d. Coil Stamps for each penny coin inserted.

Marginal Smudge 1d. Cylinder No. 12

In our July Notes we reported the presence of the marginal smudge on the 1d. Cylinder No. 12, and indicated that its size was progressive. Reports have come to hand that smudges of various sizes have been found, but Mr. C. Clement, of Port Elizabeth, appears to be leading the field thus far for he writes that his collection houses the smudge in the following lengths, measured in millimeters: 4, 33, 48, 49, 52, 66, 84 and 91.5.

Can any reader equal or improve on this?

The smaller size smudges appear to be the scarcer, because either the sheets containing the smaller smudges were by chance sent to postal areas in which their presence was not noticed and/or not reported upon as yet, or the copper shell of the cylinder tore rapidly once it had started.

Mr. T. Dekenah, of Klerksdorp, reports that he has obtained some sheets of the 1d. Cylinder No. 12 printing which show ghost cyclonometer numbers very distinctly, and contain "blind" perforations between rows 6 and 7. Also, he has examined two sheets each bearing a smudge, about 25 m.m. in length, in the right margin, and of the same colour as the stamps.

This smudge has not been reported previously and maybe it indicates the "knockout blow" which put "finis" to Cylinder No. 12.

Doctor Blade Flaw on 1d. Jubilee Stamp

Referring to Mr. R. P. Jonas' enquiry in our June Notes, concerning the illustrated flaw on the 1d. value of the Second Printing of the Union Jubilee Stamps, Mr. G. N. Gilbert, of Westminster, considers that the inclination of the scratch tends, as suggested, to point to a doctor blade flaw, but in this case, he considers that the damage to the cylinder is so deep as to make the flaw constant on sheets printed subsequent to the damage to the cylinder.

Mr. Gilbert states that he possess this flaw in a mint block with the extended "1" of 1910 on Row 13 No. 1; and also on a used item. The mint block was obtained at his local post office while the used copy is postmarked Cape Town, and the flaw in both cases is identical with the one illustrated.

The flaw would therefore appear to be an acquired cylinder flaw, constant in nature after its inception, and not catalogued.

The Pretoria Typhographed 6d. Stamp

Although Mr. G. N. Gilbert is pretty "hot" at answering philatelic enquiries, he also, at times, requires information.

He writes that he possess two left arrow blocks of the 6d. which are undoubtedly Pretoria Typographed Printings. In one block of the larger oranges variety, there is a dark mark or thickening of the lines of shading below and to the left of the tree, while this mark does not appear in the normal oranges block.

Mr. Gilbert will be glad to know if any reader possesses similar blocks showing the presence or absence of this mark, for if it can be ascertained that these marks are constant, an inference may be drawn that two different headplates had been used for the printing of this item.

The enquiry is an interesting one for many observers are of the opinion that more plates than the ones which are recorded had been used to complete the Pretoria Typographed printings but proof thereof is lacking.

We believe that "certain" plates which had been used for the Pretoria Typographed printings are in the custody of the Post Office — in storage. If these could be inspected an answer to many a philatelic problem would be forthcoming but until a Philatelic Museum is established, visitors from abroad and those interested in the philatelic history of the Union are denied the pleasure of viewing or the opportunity of studying our stamps — a condition which many other countries make it their business proudly to offer and encourage.

Underpaid Airmail

A Johannesburg newspaper, "The Star," of the 5th June, reports that the Postmaster Genearl told the Cape Chamber of Industries that an experimental scheme introduced on February 1, 1956, for dealing with underpaid airmail for overseas has been successful nad will continue.

When airmail is understamped, the Post Office adds the deficient postage and sends the mail on by air instead of by surface mail. It then writes to the senders giving details of underpaid items and asks for stamps to the value of the deficiency.

We heartily endorse the sentiments expressed over this most acceptable service rendered by the Post Office, and have only one regret that upon requesting the gift, for our collection and for record purposes, of the particular form which is used to notify the sender of underpaid items, we were informed that it was regretted that our request could not be acceded to as all forms are returnable and are required for audit purposes.

Alas! but maybe one of these forms will be on view one day in the Post Office's Philatelic Museum?

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Medical Congress Postal Cancellation

Through the courtesy of the Publicity Officer, G.P.O., Pretoria, we are privileged to illustrate an impression of the special date stamp which will be used at the forthcoming Medical Congress to be held at Durban during 16—21 September 1957.



At present, we have received no information concerning the servicing of special covers.

Exchanges Required

Mr. Daniel S. Franklin, 107 Westchester Avenue, Thorwood, New York, U.S.A., writes that he has been seriously collecting South Africa and forerunners for about two years now, and finds it increasingly fascinating. He would be more than grateful if he could contact some collector who might be interested in stamps of other countries, and who would be willing to exchange Interprovincials, varieties, and a few of the official stamps that he still needs, for stamps outside of those from South Africa.

British Bechuanaland Postage and Revenue

Mr. Stephen G. Rich, of Verona, New Jersey, submits the following interesting comment on the illustrated pair of British Bechuanaland 1/- Unappropriated Die with a large overprint £5, appearing in our May Notes.

He states that he has a fiscally used copy, identical with those pictured. The cancellation is similar and is a double oval, with double outer line, in purple. The year date is not on the stamp and the wording at top as far as visible is "O.C.B.P."; at bottom "N'GAN" (the start of a word), preceeded by some blank space.

Mr. Rich has applied the usual microscope and side light test to discover if the surcharge is under or over the cancellation. Beyond any question, under 20 diameters, the cancellation shows on top at two points where it crosses the surcharge. This precludes any suspicion of forgery.

He also possesses the 1/- item without any surcharge, fiscally used in the Protectorate in February 1915. Thus the 1918 or 1919 date of the reported £5 pair does not seem unreasonable.

Continuing, Mr. Rich writes that obviously some of the British Bechuanaland remainders turned over to the Protectorate service when British Bechuanaland was annexed to the Cape in November 1895, escaped being used, even thus late, and suggests that our correspondent would appear to have confused the two lands, without having been aware of the extent to which the British Bechuanaland remainders, both postal and revenue, were in use for many years in the Protectorate. A side light on this is the fact that when Baden-Powell's aides made the Mafeking overprints, during the siege, they secured British Bechuanaland stamps of several values from the Protectorate Head Post Office in the beseiged town, for conversion as Siege stamps.

Interview with the Postmaster General

Arising out of a resolution submitted to Congress at Port Elizabeth in October 1956, the Executive Committee in pursuing the matter further at its meetings in Johannesburg during January and June 1957, appointed a delegation to interview the Postmaster General.

This meeting took place at Pretoria on the 2nd July when matters pertaining to the philatelic aspect of the stamps of the Union were discussed under four headings each of which was presented in the form of a request, viz.:—

1. That greater consideration be exercised in the final determination of the design and the colours used for the printing of the Union's stamps.
2. That an advisory committee, including 2 or 3 philatelists competent to discuss the design of stamps, be consulted concerning the preparation of future stamps.
3. That the re-introduction of Cylinder Numbers on sheets of stamps be considered by the Postal Authorities.
4. That provision be made for establishing a Philatelic Museum by the department in future Postal developments, and that during the intervening period, the preservation of current and of obsolute philatelic material in existence, be undertaken.

We understand that the deputation received a cordial reception. The discussion which ensued was of a particularly frank and encouraging nature, both sides ventilating all aspects of the particular matter under consideration.

As is the nature of meetings of this description, no immediate decision is usually given, but we have every confidence that Federation will pursue the matter to a satisfactory and happy conclusion.

SOUTHERN AFRICAN CENSOR MARKINGS 1914—1918

Markings additional to those listed by me in "The South African Philatelist" 1955, pp. 140 and 155, with an addendum in the 1956 volume, p. 72, keep turning up. Here are some more:—

South Africa

(a) A double-line circle of 30 mm. diameter with "Passed/Censor" and "21" in the centre; on a cover from New York to Johannesburg. There is a Censor's Seal similar to No. 6 described on p. 155 as described above, but the lettering and the numerals of 21 are slightly different in character.

(b) On a cover from Hamburg to a P.O.W. in Pietermaritzburg. There is a German mark with two circles of 30 and 18 mm. diameter; between the circles in "Auslandstelle Emmerich" and in the centre "Frei-gegeben". There are two censor's seals (1) Salmon coloured paper 75 x 48 mm. with "Passed by Censor" (2) 87 x 55 mm. with "Opened By / Censor — P.W. 76". There is no clue to where these labels were used.

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Mozambique and South Africa

On a postcard from Beira to Johannesburg. (a) A double-circle mark, outer one 26 mm. diameter. Between the circles is "Passou Pela/ Censura" and "Beira" in the centre. (b) A double-line circle of 30 mm. diameter with "Passed/Censor" peripherally and "21/1" in the centre.

East Africa

The octagonal censor mark described as No. 4 on p. 155 of the S.A.Ph. as mentioned above was not quite complete. Another better specimen has now been seen and it is clear that the wording is "Opened by Censor / Under / Martial Law". This specimen is on a postcard with an Indian F.P.O. No. 71 postmark.

J. HUNTER.

ANOTHER TRANSVAAL T.P.O. MARK

In my recent article "Travelling P.O. of Southern Africa" in the March 1957 issue of the S.A. Philatelist, Figs. 42 & 43 on page 35 illustrate two types of the "European Mail" marks.

The larger one (Fig. 43) has a 30 mm. circle with lettering 3½ mm. tall. I have both UP and DOWN marks shewing dates in 1904: "DOWN" is spelt in full. The smaller one (Fig. 42) has a 27-28 mm. circle with lettering 2-2½ mm. tall. I have two examples of the UP mark dated 1907 and 1909, but at the time of writing the article had no DOWN mark. DOWN marks are in general much scarcer than UP marks.

By the kindness of Mr. J. E. Frankland, I have now been able to fill the gap through his discovery of two stamps (off cover) both shewing the corresponding DOWN mark dated 19 March 1906. From the two stamps it is possible to reconstruct the details of the mark and it is noted that "DN" is used as an abbreviation for DOWN on this mark.

Now we know definitely that both sizes of the European Mail marks had their UPs and DOWNs in the Transvaal Edwardian period.

J. H. HARVEY PIRIE.

The Commissioner for TABIL for Southern Africa, Mr. Sam Legator, P.O. Box 133, Brakpan, has a supply of TABIL Philatelic Labels and, should any collector wish to have some, they are available free on request accompanied by a stamped, addressed envelope.

SOUTH AFRICA

Union 45B. 1948. 1d. ex Plate 19. Mint 10/-
R.17. 1941. ½ Grey/Light Blue, Green Coil. Mint 5/-

B18. 1941 Drifoot Booklet complete 40/-

Blocks or Stamps Pro Rata. Postage Paid.

C. E. SHERWOOD,
"The Union Specialist",
105, Marford Crescent, Sale, Cheshire, G.B.

Herm Locals

Mr. A. G. Wood, Tenant of Herm, kindly sends particulars of the new set of five Herm Locals featuring Neolithic Man, the presumed first inhabitant of this Channel Island. The island has no British Post Office, but the Tenant has arranged postal facilities to and from Guernsey, the charge for which is franked by local stamps on the backs of envelopes. Outward mail is franked by British stamps from Guernsey, where these are postmarked. In an attempt to prevent undesirable abuse, arrangements have been made to market the stamps on terms which will avoid any sale under face value. The stamps are lithographed (the 6d. and 1/- in two colours) and rouletted.

European Items

We have an unusually heavy month's news from our busy German correspondent, Mr. Joachim Dill of Bad Neustadt.

Austria has been celebrating the fiftieth anniversary of her Postal Bus service with a special 1 schilling stamp and three mobile exhibitions, each with its built in travelling post office and special canceller. In what appears to be strenuous competition with the Melbourne Olympic Games, it seems that no fewer than 45 different cancellations can be collected from this tripartite tour.

The death has occurred of Ferdinand Lorber, veteran Austrian stamp designer and engraver at the age of 73. In addition to his Austrian work — including the 10 sc. Dollfuss, 1947-9 "Famous Austrians", Renner, "Stille nacht, heilige nacht", Johann Strauss, U.P.U., Hugo Wolf, the charming 1953 Christmas Tree, and several Charity issues — he worked on several issues of Lichtenstein and also Germany of the post-anschluss period.

The new issues of West Germany bid fair to rival the 1948 Americans for their frequency, though the quality is superior. On 15 June a 20 pfg stamp appeared to commemorate the millenary of the abbey and town of Aschaffenburg. On 22 June the first "celebrated man of Berlin history" was Savigny. 23 June was "Europe Day", rating a special postmark at Berlin-Neukölln. Incidentally, the latest general slogan postmark is "Help protect by joining the A.R.P.". On 24 June the University of Freiburg celebrated its 500th anniversary with a special 10 pfg stamp. On 25 June we have the "Navigation Day" stamp of 15 pfg to celebrate the jubilee of the North German Lloyd line. After a few days rest we turn on 3 July to the 350th anniversary of the Justus Liebeg High School in Giessen (10 pfg) and on 6 July the International Building Exhibition in Berlin had a 20 pfg commemorative.

Meanwhile in the Soviet Zone the Thüringen town of Sonneberg has been holding a stamp exhibition. This is the "Toy-Town" of Germany and the postmark incorporates a very spirited rocking horse rocking itself "right out of the picture".

FRANCE

Two stamps were issued on 1st June (a) An 8 fr stamp of the ordinary tourist series, featuring the town of Quesnoy (b) a 12 fr commemorative on the occasion of the 150th anniversary of the founding of the 'Cour des Comptes' (Official Audit Office).

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REPRESENTATIVES OF THE R.P.S.L. IN S. AFRICA

"The Royal" has what it calls 'Special Representatives' in various countries where it has a number of Members or Fellows. These may be called on for opinions or advice in such matters, for example, as applications for membership by one who is unknown to any member of the Society in London.

Up till now the Society has only had one Special Representative in South Africa, viz., Major N. Welsford. As he is now living out in the country the Society feels it should be represented more centrally and has asked Mr. E. Hunt and Dr. Harvey Pirie also to act as their Special Representatives. Needless to say both of these gentlemen have expressed their willingness to serve.

U.N.O. and U.S.A.

U.N.O. We all know that Americans are good at coining new words for what was once the English language and possibly some American on the staff of U.N.O. is responsible for the latest one to have come across. A Press Release of 1 May announces the "Exhaustration" of the supply of the 3-cent Human Rights Day stamp issued 20-12-56. The only thing that makes us doubt whether it was an American who was responsible is that the new word is longer than the old-fashioned "Exhaustion" we are accustomed to; a shorter, snappier word would have been more in keeping with usual practice.

U.S.A. On 10th June a 3-cent commemorative was issued which served a double purpose. It was for the 350th anniversary of the founding of Jamestown Va., the first permanent English settlement within the limits of what is now the United States. It also celebrates the International Naval Review (the first ever to have been honoured with a special stamp) being held in the Atlantic waters off Virginia.

CAPE OF GOOD HOPE

TRIANGULARS.

RECTANGULARS. POSTMARKS.

Extensive selections of the above are always available, as well as interesting covers and Postal History material.

References from new customers, please.

F. W. COLLINS,

STOBOROUGH CROFT, WINCHESTER, ENGLAND.

PAKISTAN

Two stamps, a 1½a and a 12a, were issued on 10th May to commemorate the centenary of the Indian Mutiny.

The Stamp Collectors League, of G.P.O. Box 295, Lahore is now issuing a small monthly magazine "The Stamp Collector", price Rs.3 (5s.) per annum.

SOME FORTHCOMING ISSUES

Scout Jamboree. G.B. is issuing 3 stamps — 2½d., 4d. and 1/3d. for the Jubilee Jamboree to be held at Sutton Park, 1-12 August. 35,000 Scouts from 82 nations will take part. A special commemorative postmark will be used at the Jamboree P.O.

Swaziland. The 3d. was released by the Crown Agents in February with frame in rose or rose-carmine in place of the former rose-red. Probably not on sale in the territory yet.

United Europe. More stamps are expected this year and this time probably each participating country will choose its own design. Details not yet available.

FRANCE

A 30 fr. stamp was issued on 23 March featuring the national manufacture of Sèvres China.

The Postal Administration reports the issue on 27 April of a 12 fr. stamp featuring some of the outstanding pieces of architecture in Vzès, a town associated among other things with the author Racine.

TANGIER'S SWAN SONG

Last year it was agreed that the international status of the city of Tangier should come to an end and that it should become an integral part of the Shereefian Empire of Morocco. As part of the change the British and Spanish P.O.'s are to close down.

As the British P.O. started in 1857, it was agreed that it should be allowed to function till the end of April and so celebrate its centenary. It is going out in a blaze of glory, a full set (½d. to 10/-) of its already overprinted (British) stamps being further overprinted, to read "Tangier/1857-1957." There will also be special commemorative postmarks during the month.

U.S.A.

Apparently the P.M.G. wishes to raise the internal basic rate to 4c as he is short of cash! The 'Stamp Collectors Fortnightly', quoting from a 'Daily Telegraph's' 'Letter from America' says the U.S.A. Post Office is far behind that of G.B. in promptness and efficiency of mail handling.

It easily takes two or three days to have a letter delivered within the same State as that of the writer of it; in G.B. they are incensed if a letter posted in London before 4 p.m. is not on the breakfast table of the addressee in Glasgow next morning.

There is no such thing as 'first delivery', even in New York city, since there is only one per day, and that may be at any time from 9.30 to 10.30 a.m.

New commemoratives are one for the Steel Industry which was due for issue on 22 May; one for the Teachers of America to appear on 1 July, and one for the 350th anniversary of the founding of Jamestown and the International Naval Review June 8-17.

WEST INDIES

The "B.W.I. Philatelist" was very indignant over the Trinidad 1c or 2c provisional. On sale for one day only and only at the Port of Spain P.O. These were quite unnecessary limitations. Also the supposed limitation of not more than 2 sheets to any one person was not adhered to.

Stamps for the new Federation are expected early next year. It is rumoured that the Cayman Islands are not going to join up, so **perhaps** their stamps will **remain in use.**

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GREAT BRITAIN

Empire Games — 1958. Three stamps, 2½d., 4d., and 1s. 3d. are already in preparation for the Empire Games to be held in Cardiff in July, 1958, from the 18th to the 26th.

ARMENIA & MT. ARARAT

Chambers Stamp Journal has an article (taken largely from the Australian **Stamp News)** with the heading "Nonexistant Country Honours Nonexistant Mountain".

It begins with the bald statement "Noah couldn't have parked his Ark on Mt. Ararat, because there's no such place". There is no such single mountain as "Mt. Ararat"; there are, as the Book of Genesis states, "the mountains of Ararat" of which the highest peak has been featured on some stamps, etc., wrongly, as Mt. Ararat.

Armenia is an area coming really under three powers — Persia, Turkey and Russia. The largest is that which is now one of the Socialist Soviet Republics. It was formerly part of Trans-Caucasian Russia but was temporarily independent after the 1917 revolution, and it was during the 1920-23 period that various stamps, including some listed in catalogues as featuring "Mt. Ararat", were issued. Since then stamps of the U.S.S.R. have been used.

CASPARY SALES

This, the 9th sale, held on 14-15 May, of British West Indies stamps, realized slightly over £32,000. Two Bermuda "Perot Pastmasters" fetched £1,500 and £1,860 respectively; a British Guiana 4c black on blue cut square on piece, ran to £2,500; a Trinidad Lady McLeod 5c used fetched £570.

DEUTSCHE BUNDESREPUBLIK

All in complete sets, at well below current rates.

1949	Centenary of First German Stamps	7/6
	Helfer der Menschheit	7/6
1950	Johan Sebastian Bach Bicentenary	3/6
	Luebeck Seventh Centenary	5/6
1951	Wuppertal Philatelic Exhibition	3/6
	Helfer der Menschheit	5/6
1952	Youth Hostels	2/6
	Helfer der Menschheit	5/–
1953	Munich Transport Exhibition	2/6
	Frankfurt-am-Main Exhibition "Ifraba"	2/6
	Helfer der Menschheit	4/6
1954	Helfer der Menschheit	3/6
1955	Helfer der Menschheit	3/6
	Lufthansa	2/6
1956	Helfer der Menschheit	3/–

BERLIN — WESTERN SECTOR

1950	Philharmonic Orchestra	5/6
1951	Day of the Stamp	2/6
1952	Olympic Games	3/6
	Famous Berliners	5/6
1953	K. W. Gedaechtniskirche	7/6

Most other special issues — not listed above — are in stock, and selections with stamps priced singly are available for inspection, on request. New clients: references, please.

A. LICHTENSTEIN

(B.P.A.)

BOX 576 — BLOEMFONTEIN

COLLECTORS CLUB — NEW YORK

Owing to various circumstances this Club, the leading one in America, has found it necessary to close its membership and limit its acceptance of any more resident members, although it has a 5-storey building.

The Club publishes a wealth of philatelic information in its bi-monthly journal, the "Collectors Club Philatelist", but this has only a limited circulation and it has been decided to increase the printing quota considerably so that there will not be so many disappointed would-be readers.

ORGANISED PHILATELY

The Year Book of the Philatelic Congress of Great Britain, for the Harrogate meeting in May, contains among other things three papers presented to Congress.

It is evident from the titles of these (we have no space to go further than the titles at the moment) that the future of philately is worrying collectors in G.B., as elsewhere. The three are:—

(1) To-day and the next Decade — Will Cancellations lead collecting? By Ewart Gerrish.

(2) The significance of Study Circles to-day. By W. B. Marriott.

(3) The outcome of Thematic Philately. By Ernest Trory.

NEW ZEALAND

On 14 May there was due to appear a 3d. stamp honouring Dr. Sir Truby King, founder of the Plunket Society which supervises the health of all N.Z. children from birth to school leaving age. The Society was named for Lady Plunket, first patron when it was founded in 1907.

Wants, Offers & Exchange

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

WANTED, and For Sale, stamps of all countries (Wholesale). — GEO. F. ROWE, 11, Barmouth Road, London, S.W.18.

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

SWITZERLAND — Specialist and out of the ordinary items required. Write giving details and prices to B. JOSEPH, P.O. Box 9232, Johannesburg.

EXCHANGE United States Stamps for South Africa. — D. CHAMBERS, 4535 East Lake Road, Erie, Pa., U.S.A.

WANTED: Union Collection, preferably specialized; also single items. J. MALAN, Merindol, Cumming Street, Wellington.

WANTED: Union of South Africa for Cash. Unhyphenated Rotogravure arrows. ½d. Plates 1 (offer £20) 2B and 3. 1d. Plates 5, 7A and 9. 2d. Plates 1B, 2A. 3. — C. R. REYNOLDS, "Grantham", Beaufort West.

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AIRMAIL NEWS

by Capt. M. F. Stern

Visit of the Bristol Britannia G-ANBE to Cape Town. The B.O.A.C. "Whispering Giant" paid a visit to Cape Town on an inaugural flight before commencing the London to Johannesburg service. A special flight was made over the South-Western Cape and visitors taken on January 12th. Each person flown received a special pre-inaugural flight certificate. Actually two flights were made, the first being at 11.00 hrs. The plane was commanded by Capt. A. S. M. Rendall.

First "Britannia" Regular service between U.K. and South Africa. The plane G-ANBI left London at 12.00 hrs. on February 1st., 1957 via Rome/Khartoum/Nairobi/Johannesburg returning by the reverse route and arriving in London at 09.16 hours on February 4th, having completed a journey of 12,426 miles. The second "Britannia" registration letters G-ANBD left London at 12.10 hours on February 2nd 1957, the route being London/Rome/Khartoum/Nairobi/Salisbury/Johannesburg, returning by the reverse route and arriving in London at 11.24 hours on February 5th, 1957. Special commemorative covers were issued by B.O.A.C. and serviced at the different points.

Walter Mittelholzer Commemorative Flights. DC-7 planes of Swissair were chartered by the Efficiency Club of Zurich. The first flight was during January 1957 and the plane arrived in Cape Town on Monday, January 14th, 1957, after stops at Nairobi, Madagascar, Lourenco Marques, Johannesburg and returned on the 17th for Zurich via the West Coast. The original propellor of the plane of Capt. Mittelholzer of 30 years previously was handed over to the City of Cape Town. Mails were carried on board and mail despatched from Cape Town, receiving the Bordpost marking. The plane was the HB-IBI.

The second flight, actually the commemorative flight, arrived in Cape Town on February 18th at 18.15. Again mails were accepted on board and received the special Bord Post HB-IBZ circular cachet, being backstamped Zurich 20.III. 57—9. A mail of some 12,000 letters contained in four bags, posted in Switzerland, cancelled with a commemorative 'frank, were stamped in addition Cape Town 18.11.57—18.15 and taken back on the same plane to Zurich. These were not backstamped there. In addition to normal covers (many from France, Liechtenstein, etc.,) there were special commemorative covers of Swissair.

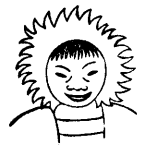
New West Coast Service of South African Airways. Mails were conveyed on the first flight Johannesburg/Leopoldville/Kano/Algiers/Amsterdam/London on April 2nd. This was the first direct connection with Amsterdam. The DC-7B left at 11.15 a.m. arriving at Amsterdam the 3rd at 9.10 a.m. Covers were backstamped Amsterdam Central Station 4.IV.1957. Covers to Leopoldville were backstamped on enclosing official letter 3.4.57. The express service left April 6th at 3.30 p.m. and arrived in London (with only a stop at Kano) at 11.30 a.m. on the 7th. No special cancellation was applied in the Union.

Scandanavian Airlines Polar Flight Copenhagen, Stockholm to Tokyo. Covers flown on this regular service were received flown both ways. Special covers were issued by S.A.S. and four different cancellations utilised. Covers were back stamped Tokyo 26.II.57—8.10, Copenhagen etc. 24.2.57 and Oslo (on return) 28.2.57.

New Zealand. Issued February 15th, 1957 was a special aerogramme for the 75th anniversary of N.Z. first lamb export trade.

EIRE

Four stamps will be issued, probably in May, for the centenaries of the births of John Redmond and of Thomas O'Crohan. The former will latter (a fisherman writer in Gaelic) will be be honoured by 3d. and 1/3 stamps, whilst the commemorated on 2d. and 3d. stamps.



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WARREN SMITH,

1 Arundel St., Strand,

London W.C.2 England.

R. D. P.

At the Philatelic Congress of Great Britain meeting in Harrogate 14-17 May, the following four philatelists were added to the Roll of Distinguished Philatelists:—

(1) Sydney R. Turner (Great Britain). Has notable collections of Turkey and of La Guiaro also of certain parts of British philately. Author of several books and numerous articles.

(2) Leon Dubus (France). Owns one of the truly great collections of France and Colonies. also has various other specialized collections.

(3) Max Johl (U.S.A.). Outstanding research worker on 20th century U.S.A. stamps.

(4) Georg M. Menzinsky (Sweden). Has a great collection of the stamps of Sweden and has done much original work on them.

Saar. Commemoratives are not flourishing under the new regime — the 'Day of the Stamp' and the 'Red Cross' issues have been dropped; there is, however, to be a 15 fr about the end of May for the centenary of the town of Merzig.

Incidentally, the Saar Handbook which has been in preparation for nearly 5 years, is about to be published. It will be in 10 parts, at 7/6d. each, but only subscriptions for the whole ten will be accepted.

U.S.A. Three commemoratives are announced: Centennial of the Steel Industry, 22 May; Oklahoma's fifty years of statehood, 14 June; School Teachers, 1 July. All stamps will be 3c.

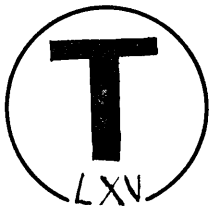
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UNION POSTAGE DUE MARKS

By

J. H. HARVEY PIRIE AND KENNETH E. W. LYDALL

This little study started by one of us (P) recently receiving from Major N. Welsford a Swaziland Unstamped cover sent from Mbabane to Piggs Peak. This cover had a "T" mark (the generic term for these marks among postal officials), a drawing of which is shown as Type 1 in the accompanying illustration. Major Welsford evidently thought it was an unusual type of marking and so, at first, did the recipient.



1

First thought was that it might be a new type of Postage Due mark introduced in Swaziland when that territory recently took over from the Union the running of its postal services. In this instance, however, first thoughts were **not** best, for a look through P's Swaziland collection showed this identical mark to have been in use at Mbabane at least as far back as 1932, when the postal services were operated by the Union Postal Administration.

This finding made it clear to us that the LXV mark was really a Union one, and that its use in Mbabane at the present time was merely because (as Mr. Crafford, the Swaziland Controller of Posts, confirmed) the marker happened to be left there when the Swaziland Postal Authorities took over from the Union Administration, and its use has been continued to the present time.

Then the hunt for more material began and a study, so far as we could take it, of Postage Due marks of the Union in general. For convenience of description we have pooled all the material available, only referring to individual ownership by an initial occasionally where it seemed desirable. The following material has been available, and we give the initials used at times for reference:—

(1) Swaziland collection and some Union material belonging to J. H. Harvey Pirie (P).

(2) Union collection of postmarks belonging to Kenneth E. W. Lydall (L).

(3) Collection of Johannesburg postmarks belonging to the Philatelic Society of Johannesburg (J). The greater part of this collection was assembled in 1936 and was on show at JIPEX. Through the kind offices of the then Postmaster in Johannesburg, Mr. McGuffog, it included a complete set of every postal marking then in use there, but there was also a fairly extensive range of markings from 1887 to 1936, and additions have been made since 1936.

(4) Collection of used Union Postage Due stamps, both loose and on cover, belonging to Mr. W. Newlands (N).

(5) Records in the Publicity Section of the G.P.O., Pretoria (U).

Mr. J. J. v.d. Watt, Publicity Officer, was good enough to answer some general queries we put to him about Postage Due markings and also to dig out some records about T-stamps, although he stated that records about the handstamps were almost non-existent.

The Postage Due on letters, etc. which are unstamped or under-stamped has to be collected either from the addressee or, in the case of undeliverable items, from the sender. This "taxing" is done under regulations laid down by the U.P.U., and hence the universal use of "T" (the initial of the French word "Taxe") either in M/S or in the form of a handstamp marking, in Postage Due taxing marks. It is directed that this marking should be applied in the middle of the upper part of the front of the letter; if the amount due is not part of the handstamp, it should be written in very legible figures beside the T-stamp.

The application of the T-mark and the indication of the amount to be collected is the responsibility of the Administration of origin or, in the case of redirection or non-delivery, of the redirecting Administration. Every item not bearing a T-mark is considered as duly prepaid and treated accordingly, unless there is an obvious error.

Inland letters are to be marked with the amount due in the currency of the country of posting; those for abroad in (gold) francs and/or centimes.

Before going on to describe the various types of T-marks we have seen, when and where they were used, etc., let us clear the air by stating that they are not infrequent in manuscript — black or red ink, black pencil, or blue pencil — also that both the T and the amount due may be in pencil, or the T may be from a handstamp and the amount in M/S, or, vice versa, the T in M/S and the amount from a handstamp. Generally speaking, so far as we can make out, only the larger P.O.'s have a complete battery of handstamps with both T's and a range of values.

The marks are considered in the numerical order of the illustrations.

GROUP I. Types 1 to 4.

This Group consists of marks with a T inside a circle or an oval and a numeral underneath the T. The marks all belong to offices in either the Transvaal or the Orange Free State, but it is noticeable that the numerals of the

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Transvaal offices are all in Roman figures while those in the O.F.S. are in Arabic figures.

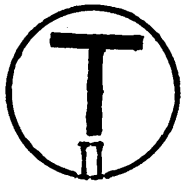
We came to the conclusion that the numbers on these marks were probably serial numbers given when the handstamps were made, and served as a means of checking on the offices to which they were issued. Mr. v.d. Watt stated that he could find no documentary evidence as to the significance of the numbers, but agreed with our view about them as, he said, there seemed to be no other reasonable explanation of the numbering.

Types 1 and 2.

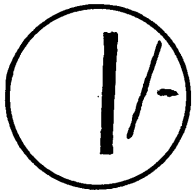
The following List shows the known numbers of these types, their places of usage, size, and earliest known date of usage.

Numbers for which no sizes of the circles are given come from the Union P.O. records (U). We have not seen actual specimens of these marks.

Number	Place of Usage	Earliest record of usage	Size in m.m.	Notes
II	Pretoria	1905	23	(1)
V	Standerton	1908	24	
XIX	Johannesburg	1936	20	
XXI	Ottoshoop & Johannesburg	1917	20	(2)
XXIII	Johannesburg	1936	20	
XXVI	Johannesburg	1936	20	
XXXI	Pilgrims Rest	1916		
XXXIV	Lichtenburg	1917		
XLVII	Piet Retief	1920		
XLVIII	Potgietersrust	1920 to 1957	22½	(U. & L.)
LII	Nigel	1918		
LIII	Nylstroom	1919		
LIV	Pietersburg	1919		(3)
LV	Premier Mine	1919		(4)
LVI	Lake Chrissie	1920		
LXIII	Louis Trichardt	1919 to 1956	25½	(U. & L.)
LXV	Mbabane	1956	26½	(5)
LXXI	Sabie	1956	24	
LXXII	Johannesburg	1936	25	
LXXIV	Witbank	1956	25½	
LXXV	Pretoria Sta. B.O.	1956	25½	(6)



2



17

Notes.

(1) Type 2 is only known with the number II; it was originally known to us from a specimen as used at the present time in Pretoria and given us by Mr. v.d. Watt. It was considered worthy of being called a separate type as the number apparently did not cut the circle as was the case with all the others. Earllier specimens since seen do, however, show the circle cut; the present condition is probably due to flattening through long use.

The 1905 specimen is on a letter from Pretoria marked "Registered" but it had not been handed over the P.O. counter and has only 2d. in stamps. It has a boxed mark "Posted out of Course/2" and alongside the T/11 mark has an 8d. mark of Type 17, the 8 being in somewhat fancy type.

(2) This number XXI is reported in the U records as issued to, or at any rate, in use at Ottoshoop in 1917; it was also amongst the J marks in 1936. Transfer of such a numbered mark was probably a not uncommon occurrence; it is well known, for example, from Jurgens' records of old Cape numeral postmarks.

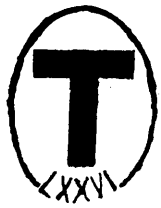
(3) This office had three other stamps (a) "Contains communication of the nature of a letter". (b) "Closed against inspection". (c) "More to pay above . . . . ozs.". Each of these also had the number LIV.

(4) Also had a mark "MORE TO PAY/ ABOVE . . . . OZS./LV" in a box.

(5) "The cause of all the trouble"! for the purpose of this article Mbabane can be considered as in the Transvaal. The mark LXV may quite easily have been issued to it in pre-Union days whe nthe postal services were run by the Transvaal Colony; even when they were run by the Union it was in connection with Transvaal services.

(6) Also had a boxed mark "MORE TO PAY/ ABOVE . . . . OZS./LXXV".

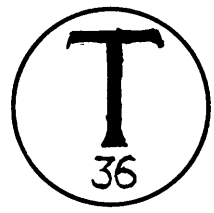
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3.

Type 3.

A 'T' 15 m.m. in an oval of 28 x 20 mm. cut at the bottom by the number LXXVI. Only one example of this type has been seen. It is in the J collection as one of the marks in use at Johannesburg in 1936.



4.

Type 4.

Circles with a T and a number in Arabic numerals underneath it. The marks with no size given are from the U records; those with place of usage queried are from the L collection, the marks having been available only as cut-outs with the place of use not noted. All are from places in the O.F.S.

Number	Place of Usage	Earliest record of usage	Size in m.m.	Notes
16	?	1956	26	
17	Harrismith	1956	26	
23	?	1956	26	
36	Reitz	1956	26	
37	?	1956	26	
41	Frankfort	1956	26	
42	?	1956	26	
43	Ladybrand	1920		
45	Bethulie	1954	26	(1)
46	Kroonstad	1921		
57	Odendaalsrust	1918 (U), 1950 (N)	26	
58	Kopjes	1916		

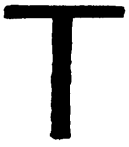
Note.

The number is indistinct; it might be 15.

With this Group of T-marks (Types 1 to 4) the amount to be collected is sometimes indicated in M/S in or alongside the impressed T-mark, or it may be indicated by another impressed mark such as one of Type 13 or Type 17, for example.

GROUP II. Types 5 to 8.

This group of marks consists of the letter T only, either bare or inside a circle or oval. As in the case of the Group I marks the amount of Tax to be collected may be indicated in M/S or by another type of impressed mark.



5

Type 5.

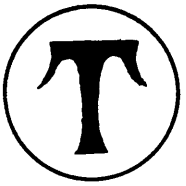
A bare T. Several examples of various sized letters, of which the following may be noted:—

(a) A 'T' 15 mm. high on postcard from Capetown, 1910 (N). There is also a 1d. as figured in Type 21.

(b) Letter 12 mm. high. Oncover from East London to Sweden, 1916 (P). There is also the mark figured as Type 19.

(c) A 17 mm. high T in use at Duivelskloof 1956 (L).

(d) A heavy T 12 mm. high on a soldier's letter to England in 1901, inscribed "Stamps unobtainable. On Active Service." The T is quite likely a South African mark, but there is also a 24 mm. high 1d. with F.B. under it — probably a London, Foreign Branch, mark.

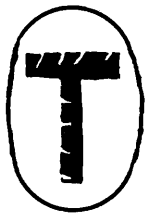


6.

Type 6.

A fancy T 14 mm. high in a 24 mm. circle (J. 1936).

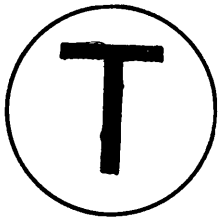
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7.

Type 7.

T in an oval. Three examples, all about 17 mm. high in an oval about 26-27 mm. x 19-20 mm. from Johannesburg 1936, Capetown 1952, Messina, 1956. A fourth example, 16 mm. T in an oval 25 x 19 mm. from Tzaneen 1956 (L). The oval is broken at the bottom, as if it had been a Type 3 mark with the number removed.



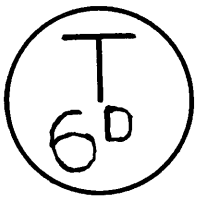
8

Type 8.

T in a circle; varying sizes of both the T and the circle.

(a) 15 mm. T in a 23-24 mm. circle, 1900. On a P.O.W. cover from Ceylon to Johannesburg. But there are also Capetown marks so it is difficult to locate the place of application. Also has a Type 17 3d. mark.

(b) A 14.5 mm. T in a 24 mm. circle, the T being intermediate in character between those of Types 6 and 8 as illustrated. Used at Durban at the special P.O. of the International Philatelic Exhibition of 1928. In red. Types 13 and 24 marks also present.



13



24

(c) 15 mm. T's in 25 mm. circles at Bethulie in 1954 and Dundee, 1955.

(d) A 17 mm. high T in a 28 mm. circle, Acornhoek 1956. Cover has also a value mark of Type 13.

GROUP III. Types 9 and 10.

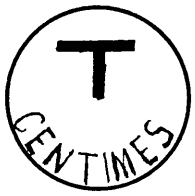
T and CENTIMES, but no number, in Octagon or Circle.



9

Type 9.

A regular Octagon of 20-21 mm. in diameter. Three varieties, with slight differences in the size of the T's and of the letters in the word "centimes". In the J 1936 collection. We have not seen any specimens actually on cover, but it may be remembered that all such would have gone abroad and are therefore not so readily obtainable.



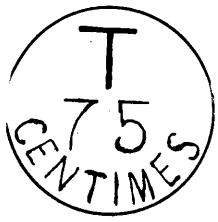
10

Type 10.

A circle of 24 mm. diameter. Also in the J collection, and only the one variety. Again no specimens known on cover.

GROUP IV. **Types 11 and 12.**

"T/(number)/CENTIMES" in a circle or octagon. In the J 1936 collection. Used for mail going abroad; only one actual example seen on cover (Type 12).



11.

Type 11. A circle of 27-28 mm. in diameter. The T's vary in height from 6 to 9 mm. and the height of the letters in the word "centimes" from 3 to 3½ mm. Values 15, 25, 75 and 120 Centimes.

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12

Type 12. A regular octagon of 20-21 mm. in diameter. Variations in the height of the T's from 5½ to 7 mm., and in the height of the letters in the word "centimes" from 2 to 2½ mm.

Values 5, 10, 20, 30, 35, 40, 50, 60, 65, 70, 80, 85, 90 and 100 centimes.

One pre-Union specimen of 10 centimes known on a cover from Johannesburg in 1907 (See later).

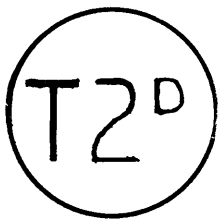
GROUP V. **Types 13, 14, 15 and 16.**

This Group consists of marks with a T and a value in pence or shillings, all inside a circle.

Figure 13 — see opposite.

Type 13. T above the value, in a circle. The circles vary in size from 22 to 29 mm, and there is also variation in the size and thickness of the value numeral. Values:— 1d., 1½d., 2d., 3d., 4d., 5d., 6d., 7d., 8d., 1/-, 2/-. This appears to be a pretty common and widely distributed type and specimens have been seen from a goodly number of places. All the above noted values are in the J 1936 collection except the 7d. and 8d., but several examples of these two have been seen from other places.

Earliest noted is a 2d. from Durban, 1928. We have seen (L) a T/1d. altered in blue pencil M/S to T/1s.; also (N) the 1/- value altered to 2/- and to 4/-. A 4d. has been noted (L) in bright violet from Somerset East and a 1d. from Mbabane in mauve, both 1957.

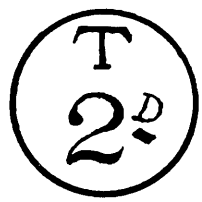


14

Type 14.

This type consists of a 28 mm. circle with a T and a value in pence alongside it. Only two examples have been noted so far:— a 2d. from Cape Town and a 4d. from Germiston 1956, in red. (See Type 18 which is somewhat similar).

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15

Type 15.

This might have been listed as a variety or sub-type of Type 13, as, like that type, it consists of a T and a value in pence underneath it. Only two values have been seen, 1d. and 2d.

1d., seen from Port Elizabeth in 1937 and 1957, has the 'T' 5 mm. high and the '1' of 1d. is 10 mm. high with the figure slanting; the 'd' and the stroke under it are also slanting. The circle is 23-24 mm. in diameter; one recent example has been seen in violet.

The 2d. in 25 mm. circle is common from Pretoria 1949-57 (N); the 2 has a curly tail and it, the 'd' and the stroke under the 'd' are all slanting. A slightly different 2d. has been noted on a 1932 cover from Tristan da Cunha to Johannesburg; but the mark has probably been applied at Cape Town. The circle is of 26 mm. diameter, but otherwise the mark is similar to those noted later from Pretoria.

(To be continued).

THE 3 ELEMENTS OF PHILATELY

In the March "Airpost Journal" Earl P. L. Appelbaum describes the three elements of philately. These are (1) unused stamps for their freshness and showing of the appearance of stamps at their time of printing (2) used stamps to show the way a stamp serves its prime purpose by the cancellations and places of usage, changes in colour from use, pairs and blocks that make up postal rate combinations (3) stamps on covers — these should not clutter up an album unnecessarily and should only be employed if they definitely tell a story about routes, postal rates or (perhaps by a cachet) have something that tells a story.

A collection that doesn't tell a story is doomed from the start and the three basic elements are essentials; otherwise the collection is an uninteresting accumulation such as, unfortunately, thousands of collectors have amassed in the mistaken idea that they were budding philatelists.

FRANCE

Stamps honouring four distinguished scientists and inventors were announced for 13 April: 8 fr, G. Planté, electrical apparatus; 12 fr. Béclère, medical radiology; 18 fr, Terrillon, sterilising apparatus; 30 fr, Oehmichen, helicopter pioneer.

Australia. The "Flying Doctor" 7d. will be issued in August or September; it will not be a commemorative but part of the regular series, as 7d. is the basic interval rate. There will be official 1st day covers at 1/- each.

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ISRAEL

(Paper presented to The Philatelic Society of Johannesburg on 24 June 1957)

By J. H. BRUWER

My exhibit is a general collection of Israel. Starting with the postal history of Palestine, when that country formed part of the Ottoman Empire. Besides the one af Turkey, which controlled the country, Austria, France, Italy, Germany and Russia opened Post Offices in certain towns to assist their subjects residing in Palestine; these Post Offices were in operation until the First World War 1914—1918.

The Egyptian Expeditionary Force (E.E.F.) of the British Army crossed the Southern border of Palestine on 9th February, 1917 and the occupation of Palestine by the E.E.F. was completed at the end of 1918. The area occupied by the E.E.F. was placed under three "Occupied Enemy Territory Administrations" viz. "O.E.T. South", "O.E.T. North" and "O.E.T. East". O.E.T. South what was, after 1st July, 1920 known officially as Palestine, this area now consists of Israel, that part of the State of Jordan west of the River Jordan and the Gaza Strip.

On 1st July, 1920, all postal services were placed under Civil Administration under the British High Commissioner. The existing stamps issued by the E.E.F. were overprinted "Palestine". In 1927 a Pictorial Issue was made.

In the spring of 1947, a Special Assembly of the United Nations was convened, at the request of the British Government, to consider the future of Palestine. A special Commission was appointed, which visited the country, and recommended the division of Western Palestine into the areas now consisting of Israel, the State of Jordan west of the River Jordan and the Gaza Strip.

It was generally known that the British Mandate of Palestine would terminate on the 15th May, 1948 and it was contemplated to use the Mandate stamps, overprinted "U.N. COMMISSION" in English, Hebrew and Arabic. Owing to the suddenness of the emergency it was not possible to put this scheme into operation. Instead of arranging a gradual take-over of the Postal Organization of the country by the new Jewish State, the Postmaster General at Jerusalem issued a directive on the 13th April, 1948, notifying the suspension of postal services and closing of Post Offices at dates between 15th April and 5th May, 1948.

To prevent complete disruption of postal services, the Jewish Agency and National Council issued a directive that all employees in the Jewish sectors of the country remain at their posts, and that stamps of the K.K.L. (Jewish Charity Labels) or of the Kover Hayishuv (Community Tax) and provisional postmarks of the "People's Administration" would be supplied. These stamps were overprinted "DOAR", and were used until the first issue of stamps by the new State of Israel on 16.5.1948. This issue was inscribed "DOAR IVRI" meaning Hebrew Post, because the New State did not have a name as yet. The first issue to be inscribed with the name "Israel" was the First Festival Issue on 26 September, 1948.

Two Commemorative Issues have been made every year, one to commemorate the "Day of Independence" and the other to commemorate the "Jewish New Year".

Four definitive issues have been made since the establishment of the State of Israel:— 1. "First Coinage Issue" 16.5.1948 to 30.4.1950. 2. "Second Coinage Issue" from 18.12.1949 to 15.6.1951. 3. "Third Coinage Issue" from Sept. 1950. 4. "The Tribes Set" issued on 8.11.1955 and 10.1.1956 and 5.6.1956.

INDIA

More Philatelic Periodicals. We have received two Nos. 1 of new journals (a) "Philatelist International" which is the bi-monthly journal of the P. I. Exchange Club, edited by D. K. Laskari, Pervin Mansion, Plot 69, Sion, Bombay 22. In addition to particulars about the Club there are some short articles of general interest. (b) Somewhat simiilar in type is "Dauk Ticket" the monthly organ of the International Stamp Club, 19 Chuvringhee Road, Calcutta 13.

Decimals. It was originally intended to overprint the anna stamps with the new decimal coinage, but this idea has been dropped and they will remain on sale till the supply is exhausted.

British P.O.'s in Persian Gulf. British stamps with overprints in the new coinage ("Naya Paise") for use in various Persian Gulf ports, were released on 1 April. Kuwait is sticking to the old anna overprints and it seems likely that it will have a definitve issue soon.

CASPARY 8th SALE

This sale, the last of the first half of the series, comprised American Carriers and Locals, fetched in all $165,000. The star item, the only known example of "Beckman's City Post" made a record for a Carrier, with $11,000.

BRITISH P.O. GOES INTO THE STAMP TRADE

The P.M.G. announces that the P.O. is to provide an experimental "First-Day Cover" service for the special 2½d., 4d. and 1/3d. stamps to be issued for the World Scout Jamboree at Sutton Coldfield on 1 August.

We feel the conditions laid down are rather too complicated for the scheme to be a success. Applications must be for not less than 60 covers and they have to be made on special forms. Also the covers are limited to 3 sizes. The only good point is that the charge is 2/- per cover with 1/9½d. face value stamps.

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REVIEW

New South Wales Philatelic Annual — 1956. Price 2/6d. Published by The Philatelic Society of New South Wales, Box 601, G.P.O., Sydney.

This is the 9th number of the Society's Annual; they regret that publication is later than usual (for reasons not disconnected with high printing costs).

In the first place they announce that a National Philatelic Exhibition ANPEX will be held in Sydney in February 1959, but they are already making preparations for it.

There are some 10 short articles, covering many phases of philately; it is noteworthy that only one deals with modern aspects of collecting and the author thereof says that in Australia there does not appear to be any definite trend in collecting and there is a healthy tendency towards research in various directions, particularly amongst their junior members.

Here are the titles of some of the articles of fairly wide interest:— "South Australia (Stamps & Postal History); An introduction to German Shipmarks; Thailand; Stamps called Locals (By the late J. W. Dovey, F.R.P.S.L., uncompleted).

SOCIETY NEWS

EAST LONDON PHILATELIC SOCIETY

April. The highlight of the evening was a display of his collection of Switzerland by Mr. B. Joseph of Johannesburg. The very representative display of this popular country was preceded by a very interesting and instructive talk.

Mr. Harper in returning thanks commented on the large number of proof and colour trials and also on the forgeries on show.

May. The Display of the evening was given by Mr. J. P. Shingler, who showed some 70 odd pages of Greece. The middle issues were well represented and there was a fair showing of the early imperf. issues.

June. In the absence of the President and Vice-Presidient Mr. C. P. Durkin took the chair, and an enjoyable meeting was spent reviewing Union Stamps and also the displays in the monthly competition.

J. P. S.

UNIVERSITY OF CAPE TOWN, PHILATELIC SOCIETY

June 12th. This had a new feature in that an informal discussion was held on "My best buy". This proved at times quite amusing as well as instructive. This was followed by a display of the late Dr. Davies' collection of "Israel", which was presented to the University. Then came the usual Quiz, which is always popular.

M. F. S.

THEMATIC STAMP CLUB

June 10th. Another rare treat was had by the members as Mr. L. Bevis sent down his collection of "Botany on Stamps", and this fine collection was really a focus of attention to a very large turn out of members and visitors. The guest evenings are proving a big draw but in addition members turn up to meetings even in the cold and wet evenings. Mr. L. Bevis is a member of the Club and has been responsible for the sending of these Durban exhibits. Another five are due before the end of September.

M. F. S.

PORT ELIZABETH PHILATELIC SOCIETY

7th May, 1957. An enjoyable quiz was ably conducted by Mr. G. K. Forbes — 34 questions — the winning team securing 16 points.

Dr. Harris showed the rare "Oudja" Red Cross Surcharges of French Morocco. A discussion whether the Society should award prizes for competitive displays, proved useful, but no final decision was reached.

21st May, 1957. Mr. Peter Smits delighted members with two displays: (a) The history and life of the 3d. ultramarine stamp of the O.F.S. (b) Astronomy and such allied sciences as Radio, Television, Physics etc. on stamps. Both collections gained considerably by introductary remarks from the owner.

GRAHAMSTOWN PHILATELIC SOCIETY

The last four meetings have offered members considerable variety. The following have given exhibits: March, West Indies (Mr. Keeble) and Cape Triangulars (Mr. Lofting); April, Union of South Africa (Mr. Pettit); May, Austria, Italy and Switzerland (Mr. Smith); June, O.F.S. and Transvaal (Mr. Pitcher).

PRETORIA PHILATELIC SOCIETY

3rd June. On the occasion of Vice-President's Evening, we were entertained to exhibits from Dr. Berry, Mr. Ferguson and Mr. Slater-Kinghorn himself. We were able to see the Society's collection of Union Inter-Provincials as they have been re-arranged by Dr. Berry, and a most attractive presentation is the result. Mr. Ferguson brought along his collection of "Our Royal Family" which has been appreciably enlarged since we last viewed it. It maintains its distinctive and most presentable character. Mr. Slater-Kinghorn provided the "piece de resistance" when he tabled a selection of his Great Britain 1d. blacks and 2d. blues, on and off cover. Added to his classical pages were a selection which comprised sets and issues which had some particular appeal to their owner — and which were most attractive to peruse. Shall we have another "modern" collector in our midst soon? Hope not!

17th June. The annual Certificate of Merit for Thematic Collections Competition was held and a most interesting and attractive range of entries was received. The following were the exhibitors and their subjects:—

1. Mr. A. Goldberg — Foreign Universal Postal Union issues.
2. Dr. P. Catzel — Children on Stamps.
3. Dr. P. Keller — Animals on Stamps.
4. Mr. W. Kriste — Postage Stamp Centenaries.

As an evening's entertainment it left absolutely nothing to be desired, and for that we are especially indebted to those who competed, for a first-rate programme of fare. The judges had an unenviable task in deciding to whom to award the Winner's Certificate, and it was eventually Mr. Kriste's "Postage Stamp Centenaries" which received their vote. Our congratulations are extended to Bill for his success, and also to Dr. Catzel for his exhibit which was honourably mentioned as runner-up.

J. M. W.

THE O.F.S. & BASUTOLAND PHILATELIC SOCIETY

May. At our last meeting, three interesting exhibits were shown to the members, and the President expressed the appreciation of all

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members present, when at the conclusion of the meeting, he thanked the exhibitors.

Mr. MacDonald showed a selected collection of mint Australia, most of which had been obtained from correspondents. He included in his collection, stamps from the earliest issues, excluding however variations in watermark and perforations (which cannot be readily appreciated at such a display), but included current unwatermarked varieties — not yet catalogued. He also showed blocks of coils showing a smaller perforation at the corner of each stamp, presumably to facilitate the separation of stamps for use. Coil-joins also drew special attention.

A specialized collection of Union War issues and the 1½d. Mine-dump was exhibited by Mr. M. Sacks. The miniature sheets of war bantams were most interesting, as were the 1½d. stamps, reflecting plates, large printings, medium format including the waffle-plate, as well as the bantam issue.

Mr. Sacks' second exhibit was of Lithuania — a country not highly catalogued, and certainly one not often seen by members. The collection was a comprehensive one — from the foundation of the republic after World War I until the country's annexation by the U.S.S.R., and its subsequent extinction. Many of the stamps are now exceedingly hard to come by, and members were specially interested in the covers displayed, and in the earlier issues printed on ordinary wrapping paper.

GERMISTON PHILATELIC SOCIETY

Wed., June the 19th., was bitterly cold and members might have been forgiven for staying at home by the fireside — it was, therefore, particularly gratifying to see such a fine turnout to meet our visiting friends from the Philatelic Society of Johannesburg. Those who turned out were not disappointed. The Johannesburg team, led by Mr. and Mrs. P. C. Seligmann, gave us a fine and varied exhibition, made the more interesting by short introductory papers.

Mr. R. F. G. Bompas, Mr. S. J. Hagger and Mr. L. J. Picton briefly expressed our thanks to the visitors. We pay a return visit to Johannesburg in September.

I. S. B.

THE PHILATELIC SOCIETY OF JOHANNESBURG

In spite of the weather, the June meetings were again well attended. They have obviously become an intsitution which is missed only when the car does not want to start, or the umbrella has been mislaid. The 402nd Meeting, on **June 11th,** unfortunately did not provide the full fare which had lured so many, for Dr. von Varendorff was unable to show his "Cyprus and Malta", having been called suddenly away to Vryheid, where his father had passed away. We offer our valued member our deepest sympathy in his bereavement, and hope soon to arrange another evening to see his exhibit. But the evening was not lost, far from it: our indefatigable and bubbling Mr. W. Oppenheim not only showed more of his collections instead, but also resolutely took over the whole evening, giving us his News of the Month, and conducting the auction — with the same zest and success which he brought to his exhibit. This was not only of the "Classic Issues of Austria", as promised, but also of the good-looking and costly issues of U.N.O., complete with miniature sheets and the special issues. However, the many fine pages of intriguing town cancellations from Austria were the caviar of the evening, and many viewers agreed with the exhibitor that you won't find many sections in the catalogue which still offer better material for study.

June 24 saw the annual visit of our good friends, the members of the West Rand Society. They came in strength, as they always do, and they had something fine to show, as they always do. Mr. J. H. Bruwer, this infant prodigy among the collectors on the Rand, had an outstanding general collection of "Israel", with the first issue strongly represented; and this was the first time that the Society saw more than just one period and section of this country which is so popular now. There was something of everything, from the fore-runners to the present colourful emissions. Mr. J. Burrell whom we can always rely upon for interesting and valuable displays, showed all the "Union Airmails", and he had them all, even those first experimental flights! And then came a large collection of "India", shown by Mr. O. C. Kylander, and this, too, was a most interesting exhibit, showing the modern issues in **profusion**. Thank you very much, Messrs. West-Rand!

The Special General Meeting of that evening was a matter of minutes: the meeting agreed, without discussion, and unanimously, to the amendment to the Constitution allowing Junior Members at the reduced fee of 6 shillings per year to remain in that status, even after the age of 21, if they are students.

PRETORIA RAILWAY PHILATELIC

The Society's monthly meeting was held in the Railway Recreation Club on **Wednesday 12th June** and was attended by 19 members and 2 visitors. An outstanding exhibit comprising Nyasaland, Malta, Gambia, St. Helena, Heligoland and Newfoundland was provided by Mr. E. C. Wright and was greatly enjoyed by all present. Commenting on the display Mr. Slater-Kinghorn stated that it was most colourful and interesting and contained some very fine classical items, particularly in St. Helena. These observations were fully endorsed by Mr. Newlands who drew attention to the very fine condition of the stamps and both members thanked Mr. Wright for the enjoyment which his exhibit had provided.

P. M. J. McG.

THE PHILATELIC SOCIETY OF RHODESIA

June. We saw a first rate display of Mr. King's Belgian Congo for the Porter Cup. I wish Mr. King could have seen our faces when we saw a 99% complete collection. Many thanks for the exhibit on behalf of the members present, Mr. Dick!

We received a few Federal 1d. stamps over the counter and found them to be on chalky paper; this may be in future the permanent paper of this stamp. One can detect this paper by placing the old one against it and hold them together at 45 deg. against the lamp. The chalky one does not reflect the light. I heard that the £1 is also on chalky paper, but most of the members are satisfied with any copy!

H. R.

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THE
SOUTH AFRICAN PHILATELIST

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Vol. 33. No. 9. SEPTEMBER, 1957 Whole No. 389

UNION NOTES

Hon. Associate Editor: Dr. T. B. BERRY, Box 31, Bryanston, Transvaal.

Comment upon Post Office Stocks

It appears to be the usual practice for Post Offices to receive their monthly stock of stamps about the 15th of each month. Mr. C. Clement, of Port Elizabeth, taking advantage of a break in his labours during the recent school holiday period, "called upon" several post offices in his area about the 18th July, and we have pleasure in passing on his observations:

(a) Recent issues of the 1d. Wildebeest printing from Cylinder No. 12 do not bear the "smudge" on the top margin of the sheet — evidently a supply from the bottom of the pile.

Incidently several names have been applied to the form this smudge presents — these varying from Mr. A. Lichtenstein's "Drakensberg (mountain) Range" to the "Rocky Coast of Africa" with the doctor blade smudges representing the waves breaking on the coast!

(b) The most recent issue of the 2d. Zebra stamp, single bar, is of a very pale shade, while the 3rd, **thin** red sheet numbers, is of a definitely darker blue shade.

(c) The 1/- Kudu has at long last re-appeared with **thin** red sheet numbers, while the 2/6 Inyala stamp has also re-appeared with 5 figure black sheet numbers, and this might be a new printing as the shade is different. The green no longer has a yellow tint to it — it is now a pale cool green.

The Control of Colour

The stamps of the Union are notorious for the very many shades of the particular colour in which they make their appearance. Some shades of the printing are catalogued, others are not, and those which are, are frequently based on no standard colour-chart but rather on the colour-interpreting ability of a particular individual or individuals, irrespective of their degree of colour blindness. These shades are again translated by collectors as specimens are obtained, and their appearance reported to add to the ever-growing "snowball" of shades.

This is a condition over which all Union collectors are perplexed and with which condition we are fully in sympathy, for on occasions, when we have been harassed with a request to inform an enquirer the various shades in which the 1d. Black Wildebeest stamp has appeared, we have realised the significance of the enquiry and the persisting unsatisfactory condition which caused it. In consequence, we would appeal to authors to base their colour descriptions upon some standard and recognised colour chart, and the Government Printer please to be more consistent in the preparation of his colours.

The latter request may not be as easy a matter to conform to as it appears, and in order to give some idea of the perplexities which exist in this respect, we reproduce an article entitled "The Control of Colour," which was published in the "Philatelic Magazine", Vol. 65, No. 10, May 1957, the author being Mr. A. I. Mackenzie, of Bloemfontein, whose frequent articles on the various aspects of "Printing" appearing in the O.F.S. Philatelic Magazine and the S.A. Philatelist, have been enjoyed by so many readers.

"Colour control in the printing industry is a matter that is becoming of increasing importance as the years go by. This is not difficult to understand when it is realised that the reading public is becoming increasingly colour conscious.

A large proportion of all printing done today is done in colour. This applies to packed food stuffs particularly. Actually, it was because grocers complained of colour variations on packets of the same brand that research was started on this question to find out (a) what causes is, and (b) how to overcome it.

Now this question is of interest to stamp collectors as well. All stamp collectors are only too familiar with shades. They crop up with every printing and if they could be overcome, well, some would regret it but I am sure the majority of stamp collectors would welcome it. For one thing, stamp collecting would be come far cheaper.

What causes colours to vary? The answer is: several factors. For instance, a job printed on day shift will have one colour, whereas the same job, printed on night shift will have another. So the question of lighting is problem number one.

Then the age of the operator has to be taken into account. A blue-green to a man of 20 may be a completely different colour to a man of 50, or even a short-sighted man, and a long sighted person would have a different view on

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the matter. So the human element, particularly eyesight plays an important role.

The conditions of the machine is another important point. For instance, the same job printed on two machines, one brand new and the other an old machine, cauld easily give two different results.

Other points of a more technical nature are, the rate of ink flow, from the fountain of the machine, on to the rollers and then from there on to the paper. The make ready of the machine; the speed at which the machine is running; vibration; humidity; temperature and the conditioning of the paper. It all adds up to inconsistency of colour. How can these problems be overcome?

The main trouble is human eyesight. So scientists have stepped in and tackled the problem. So far they have not come up with the final answer, but by harnessing the aid of electronic science, it seems as if the road ahead has been sign posted.

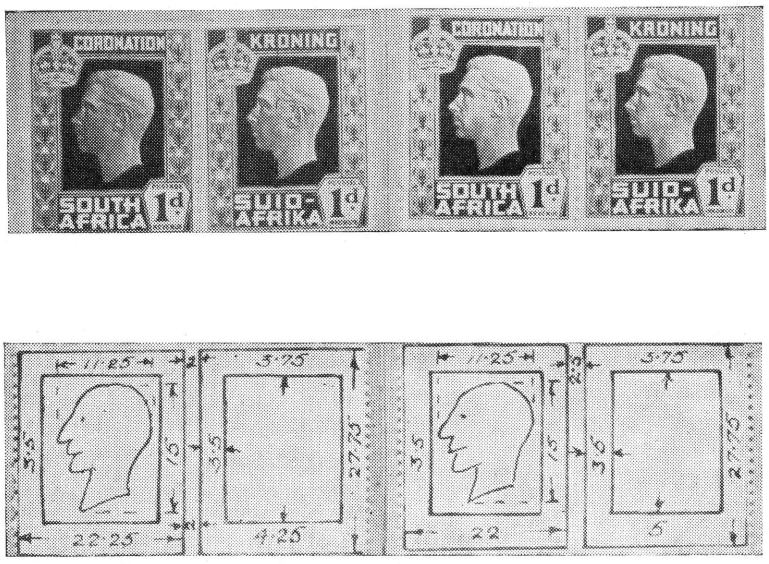
By using electronic apparatus, the results have shown vast improvement. Colour variation has been arrested to a large degree, but it has yet not been overcome. Electronic equipment is, however, both expensive and complicated. If the cost of stamp printing exceeds the economic limit, then obviously a halt will have to be called.

Nevertheless, I am of the opinion that within the next decade a vast improvement will become apparent, and electronic equipment will be largely responsible for this most desirable state of affairs."

The story behind our stamps, as represented in a Union Collection

In the June issue of the S.A. Philatelist, the reader was permitted, by means of an adapted article from "Die Vaderland" to peep behind the scenes at the Government Printing Works and view certain aspects of the various processes which go towards the successful preparation of the stamps of the Union. These processes are accepted by the Government Printer as normally pertaining to the daily routine of a concern whose principal purpose it is to meet the Union's annual requirement of some 800 million "bits of paper just large enough to bear the stamp, and covered at the back with a glutinous wash", to quote the words Rowland Hill used a century ago, but to the enquiring mind of the philatelic student, the "bits of coloured paper" mean more than the purpose of prepaying postage. Among other aspects, he is interested in the making of the stamp, the origin of its design, the method of printing, and the errors pertaining to the stamp. And so, in the pursuit of his hobby, he endeavours to gather such items as he is able to procure which will tell in his own words the story behind the stamps in his collection.

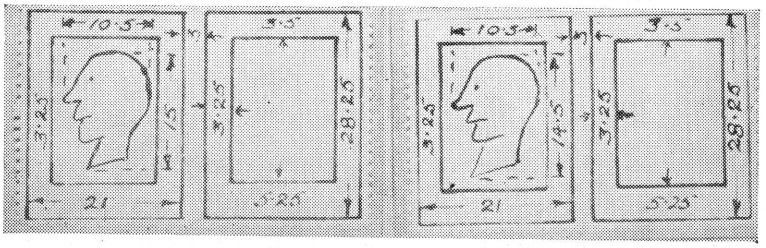
For the purpose in mind, stamps belonging to a comparatively recent period in the philatelic history of the Union have been selected, and by means of reproductions, an endeavour has been made to illustrate, in some small way, the care and consideration which the design of a stamp may receive before being finally adopted.



Reproduction No. 1 illustrates a series of four official photoproofs, representative of the 1937 King George VI Coronation Issue, and attached below each photoproof is a sketch, made by the owner, illustrating in millimeters the dimensional changes which the design underwent before finality was reached. The accepted design shows a reduction in size of the image of the King's Head, a reduced frame border a narrower but longer stamp, and an increase in the width of the gutter margin between the stamps which factors ultimately resulted in a "neater" looking stamp.

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Reproduction No. 2 illustrates two photo-proofs accompanied by photos of their relative stamps of the 1938 Voortrekker Issue. It will be observed that in the accepted designs, the frames of the two stamps have been interchanged, thereby accentuating the interest of the theme embodied in the stamp, and rendering the design generally less "heavy".

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We want to buy flown covers (from pioneer flights), documents, labels, semi-officials, postcards etc. up to any reasonable amount.
FRANCIS J. FIELD LTD.,
Sutton Coldfield, England.
Publishers of "The Aero Field".

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Reproduction No. 3 illustrates photoproofs, accompanied by the relative stamps of the 1939 Huguenot Commemorative Issue. Two designs had been submitted for the penny stamp. The smaller design was altered in respect of its value tablets, the sun's rays, and the encircling floral arrangement, and was delegated to the 1d. Series, while the larger design had its numerical value and purpose amended, and was promoted to the 1½d. postage series. These alterations resulted in a better balanced design of the 1d. stamp, and permitted an economy in paper by delegating the smaller stamp to the greater requirement.

Multipositive Flaws 1d. Plates XXV to XXVII

Mr. G. N. Gilbert, of Westminster, records the following Multipositive Flaws of the last three printings of the 1d. "ship" printings from cylinders 6925/36, 54/53, and 54/48.

Row

2—3, A slanting red line through the left hand leaves, starting from the horizon and running down to the margin of the stamp.

5—5, A tiny white spot at the bottom of the down stroke of 'R' in AFRICA.

7—7, Red line in bottom gutter beneath 'EN' of REVENUE.

8—5, Red dot on outside left margin, just above the middle of stamp.

10—3, Minute red dot in top margin over hyphen.

11—1, Red dot in "O" of SOUTH.

11—8, Tiny red dot in first 'S' of POSSEEL.

12—10, White spot under 'PO' of POSTAGE.

13—9, Tiny red dot in top of "1" of 1d.

15—3, Break in the white line over 'H' of SOUTH.

17—12, Break in the white line under 'K' of INKOMSTE.

18—10, Headplate multipositive — a thickening of one line of shading in the sky just under and to the left of the lower yardarm.

19—2, Red dot in gutter margin under 'EE' of POSSEEL.

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Multipositive Flaws 1d. Cylinders 12 and 97.

Further to the multipositive flaws of the 1d. Animal Series printed from Cylinders 12 and 97, recorded in our July Notes, Mr. J. H. Bruwer, of Krugersdorp, submits the following:

Row
1—3, "Extended hair" on nose of animal.
1—10, Tiny dot between "I" and "C" of AFRICA.
3—3, Tiny dot behind tip of right horn.
3—4, Oblique line from lower arc of "S" of SOUTH to tip of right horn. Distinct on Cyl. 97 and faint on Cyl. 12 printings.
4—7, Small blob midway between value tablet and REVENUE.
7—11, Small dot below "U" of SUID.
10—12, Small dot between 'H' and 'A' of SOUTH AFRICA.
11—8, Dot on end of hair on nose, opposite INKOMSTE.
14—8, Dot beneath "I" of SUID.

SOUTH AFRICA

Union 44A. ½d. plate 12 (3 printings) each 2/-d.
44Ha. ½d. plate 21, rough centres ..... 2/6d.
45. 1d. plate 14 .... 2/6d.
45B. 1d. plate 19 .... 10/-d.

All mints, blocks pro rata.

C. E. SHERWOOD,
105, Marford Crescent, Sale, Cheshire, G.B.

THE FIRST UN-HYPHENATE ½d. ROTOGRAVURE STAMPS.

by G. N. GILBERT

In the April number of the South African Philatelist, a short article by Mr. A. J. Brown is published, in which he queries the correctness of the new tabulation of these printings as shown in the Handbook Supplement.

The writer, after studying all the material in his possession, and referring back to his own articles in the July issue of 1934 in the South African Philatelist, is of the opinion that Mr. Brown is correct and that the Handbook Supplement is wrong.

The writer proposes to lay out the various printings according to material in his possession, and to tabulate the varieties that he is himself able to confirm.

Other varieties given in the Handbook and Supplement which it is not possible definitely to confirm are not included.

Plate I.

Interior Cylinder 1. Exterior Cylinder 1.

This first printing of the Rotogravure ½d. did not, at first, show the signs of shading wear which developed later, viz the lack of shading near the eye of the buck on 1-12, and the shading between the horns on 9-5, but it did quite definitely show the white patch on 4-11.

There are quite a few individual plate characteristics which only appear in this first frameplate cylinder, and do not show up in the next printing, and subsequent printings.

These are — Green marks in top left corner on 1—4.

Tiny green dot in gutter between stamps 10/11 row 1 near middle.

Broken line of shading in bottom left corner, about four green lines of shading up.

Green spot in top right corner 19-12.

There are many others, but these are mentioned just to prove Plate I and the fact that the white patch on 4-11 does appear on sheets with these flaws.

Plate II.

Interior Cylinder I. Exterior Cylinder II.

In this printing the flaws mentioned above do not appear with the exception of the white patch on 4-11, and signs of wear in the headplate shading is now apparent on 1-12, which is now a white spot near the eye, and on 9-5, between the horns — a white patch with a tiny black dot in the middle.

At this stage these are all un-retouched.

Individual frameplate flaws pertaining to Exterior Cylinder II and which appear in Plates II, IIa, b and c.

Green dot in bottom right corner, 1-8.

Small green dot in gutter between stamps 11/12, row 1.

Green line in the left outside margin opposite Row 3.

Green dash through R in Africa, 3-2.

Green line out from Revenue to margin, 3-12.

White patch on 4-11.



Dollar flaw, 10-9.

Green line slanting up in bottom left corner, 18-8, etc., etc.

Then comes

Plate IIa.

From same cylinders as Plate II.

In this printing, which of course shows all the characteristics of Exterior Cylinder II listed under Plate II, the white spots and patches have been retouched.

On 1-12, a few fine scratchy marks can be seen under a glass near the eye.

On 4-11 the large white patch is shaded out with a series of handmade lines, and

On 9-5, the shading between the horns is similarly dealt with and with very obvious handmade lines.

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The printings which follow, viz Plate IIb and IIc, and which have been labelled the "cleaned plate" and "splintered horn" printings, all show these spots retouched.

Plate III.

Interior Cylinder II, Exterior Cylinder III.

The retouched white patches do not appear in this printing and with the exception of a few characteristic plate flaws and of course a few multipositive flaws, the printing is clean and free from many blemishes.

The most outstanding plate flaw is the large green L shaped mark below the top bar on 11-3.

The outstanding multipositive flaws are:—

1—12, "Snail" on bucks breast. (Headplate).
5—8, Green arrow shaped flaw in top left corner.
15—8, Green blob in bottom bar.
16—8, Dash on tip of horn (gelatine flaw. Headplate).

One or two alterations and additions will be necessary to the lists of flaws etc.

Under Plate I vc Line across buck's nose. **Multipositive flaw** must be removed, as this is a plate and not a multipositive.

Add. vJ. White patch on bucks neck. 4-11.
vk. Blob on bottom bar. Multipositive 15-8.

Under Plate II. vg. remove "multipositive flaw" as above.

Add. Vo. Blob in bottom bar. Multipositive. 15-8.

Under Plates II a, b and c.
Alteration and addition as above.

Under Plate III.
Remove Vj entirely.

Add. In place of Vj — blob in bottom bar, Multipositive 15—8.
VI. Dash on tip of horn (gelatine flaw Headplate multipositive flaw).
Vm. Joined paper.

The item Vg, black smudge right of buck's head cannot be constant as it does not show up in positional blocks in the writer's possession.

For the 41st Medical Congress in Durban, from 16 to 21 September 1957, there will **not** be a special stamp to commemorate the Congress. But a special commemorative Envelope in 2 colours, with a design of a "Stirlitzia" and a Doctor's emblem, also an attractive artistic sticker will be available. The cost of the Envelope plus sticker will be 6d. each, postage extra. There will be a Sub-Post Office in the Congress Hall and a special Canceller will be used. (See our August issue for particulars). A Medical Hobbies Fair will also be held in conjunction with the Congress and an attractive catalogue will be on sale at 1/- a copy. Anybody who wishes to have envelopes serviced may send their Orders to Mrs. B. Bevis, 114 Wood Road, Montclair, Durban, or Dr. Maurice Cohen, 82 Medical Centre, Field Street, Durban, together with the necessary remittance.

SOUTH AFRICAN COLLECTORS SOCIETY
(LONDON GROUP)

Please note that on and after Monday, 17th June, 1957, my address will be:—

138, CHASTILIAN ROAD, DARTFORD, KENT.

W. A. PAGE,
Hon. Secretary.

BASUTOLAND BISECTS

Mr. Hofman has shown us a couple of bisects, one diagonally, the other horizontally, of the 1d. K.G. V Jubilee issue.

Each half has "½d." in M/S (black ink).

The postmarks are Mohaleshoek and Morija, both of the same date 31 Dec. '35.

We do not think they are likely to attain catalogue rank, as, so far as we know, they were never authorized or, for that matter, necessary by reason of any failure in the supply of ½d. stamps at the time.

BASUTOLAND AND SWAZILAND INTERPROVINCIALS

In the July issue Mr. E. E. Oldaker asks about these stamps. One of his queries (S.G. 274 Transvaal used in Swaziland) is already answered in the reference which he gives — the Union Handbook Vol. 1, p. 303. This particular stamp is given there along with various others as used in Swaziland. We can only say, as is also already stated, that all Basutoland and Swaziland Interprovincials are scarce to rare.

Unfortunately no list of Basutoland Interprovincials has yet been compiled. Can Mr. Gilbert help us with that?

TRISTAN DA CUNHA

Mr. Allan Crawford has just shown us a cover from Tristan with a Q.E. Coronation 3d. stamp which has a postmark dated No. 26/28. He had not noticed it earlier.

NEW REPUBLIC POSTAL STATIONERY

Mr. B. S. Challen, of The Wilderness, C.P., submits a New Republic item of great interest, as being only the 3rd specimen recorded. This is an envelope with a stamp impressed directly on it.

According to the account in Pirie's "Stamps and Postal Histories of Swaziland and of the New Republic" five sizes of envelopes so stamped are catalogued in Robson Lowe's Encyclopaedia; Mr. Challen's specimen measures 145 x 93 mm. on white paper, and in this respect is identical with the only two used specimens so far recorded.

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The stamp, a 2d. in violet, has the date 4 JAN 87, like all known used or unused specimens; it is cancelled with a Type 2 red postmark dated 6 JAN 87. Addressed to Pretoria, the cover also bears a 2d. Z.A.R. stamp cancelled by a Utrecht place-date stamp of JA 7.

Mr. Challen also sends for inspection 2 Natal Edwardian stamps with two vertical lines of perforation additional to the normal all round perforation. One is a ½d. stamps with the lines of perforation 9 mm. apart, the other a 1d. with the extra perforations 12 mm. apart. Has any one any comments?

NOTES ON A COVER WITH CACHET OF O.V.S. POSTMEESTER-GENERAAL.

By DR. K. FREUND

The cover is a so-called "Retreat" cover falling in the period when the Boer forces retreated out of the O.F.S. and the occupied sections of Natal.

During this time, the normal outlets for mail from the O.F.S. were stopped except in the easterly direction. Lourenco Marques became the main postal outlet.

This cover was sent off on **Feb. 21,** 00, from **Colesberg** — was then **censored** in **Bloemfontein** on **Feb. 25** — there is a Bloemfontein postmark **partly covered up** by the back flap (!) which had been steamed off by the Censor and then stuck back again — in addition the **O.V.S. Postmeester-Generaal** at this stage applied also his **Cachet** which in this case must be considered a **Censor mark** — the cover went then by rail to Lourenco Marques (the usual route, although the cover does not show a L.M. mark), catching a ship to **Durban** (Durban postmark of 9th March on the back of the cover) — from there it went along the coastal route to its **Cape Town** destination.

This type of cover is quite scarce and only a few have been reported with the Cachet of the O.V.S. Postmeester-Generaal. I have actually seen only four so far.

There are **two** types of Cachets of the O.V.S. Postmeester-Generaal in existence: One in a double border **circle** of 38 mm, the second one in a single line **oblong,** 36 x 26 mm. This specimen is of course the second type.

The following Cachets of the O.V.S. P.M. Generaal have come to light so far, as far as I know:

(1) **Mr. J. D. Rossouw,** of Paarl, has an example of each type I and II in his collection.

(2) **Mr. A. C. Fenn** in his recent booklet on "O.F.S. Postal Markings" illustrates both types, calling them however "fiscal markings" without realizing that in cases similar to this they must be considered to be **Censor marks.**

(3) **S. G. Rich** in his book "Philately of the Anglo-Boer War" (p. 64) briefly mentions a mark like the one on this cover, but he expresses the rather vague opinion that it "authenticates the additional Bloemfontein postmark".

(4) **Cmdr. E. G. Brown** also describes in the "South African Philatelist", 1956, p. 129, a Cachet like this, stating that he has "no idea what purpose it was meant to serve."

I may point out that practically all the aforementioned Cachet-impressions are in **blue,** while this is in **black,** which in my opinion makes it a still scarcer and more desirable item.

Paarl Philatelic Exhibition

SPECIAL COVER

COVERS will be served free of charge.
PRICE 6d. each plus postage.

Communicate with

THE SECRETARY,
P.O. Box 60,
PAARL, C.P.

A GIFT FOR POSTERITY IN DURBAN

Mr. C. A. Frost has sent us a cutting from a Durban paper in connection with a gift made to posterity in Durban. It states:—

Mr. Harold Dugard Bowker, a retired solicitor and former registrar of the Supreme Court, Johannesburg, has presented the staff of Durban Old House Museum with a small, sealed package which may not be opened for 100 years.

Mr. Bowker said the parcel contained about 200 stamps, most of them blocks of current South African, Rhodesian, Nyasaland, Australian and Canadian issues.

"None of them cost me very much — the most expensive is an unused 10s. South African stamp. I calculate that in 100 years' time they will be worth much more", he said. The gift is a small token of my gratitude to Durban for the pleasant years I have spent here."

Mr. Bowker is a grandson of William Bowker, a famous 1820 settler, and a cousin of Mr. T. B. Bowker, M.P. for Albany.

We hope the Editor of the "South African Philatelist" of 2057 will remember this important happening and that he will receive an invitation to be present at the opening ceremony.

CAPE OF GOOD HOPE

TRIANGULARS.
RECTANGULARS. POSTMARKS.

Extensive selections of the above are always available, as well as interesting covers and Postal History material.

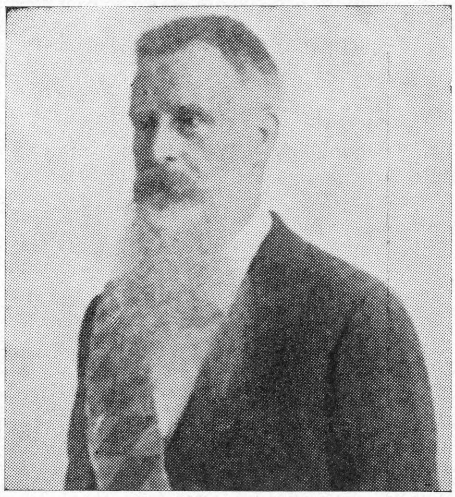
References from new customers, please.

F. W. COLLINS,
STOBOROUGH CROFT, WINCHESTER,
ENGLAND.

FRANCE

Two stamps which appeared some little time ago, but which we were not aware of earlier, were:— (a) A 30 fr on 20 June honouring the Public Works of France; its crowded contents feature buildings, tall cranes, railways, etc. (b) A 12 fr on 6 July representing the port of Brest.

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EMIL TAMSEN

Another old timer of our stamp world, a real stalwart of philately in this country until a few years back, who earned for himself a reputation that spread far beyond our borders, Emil Tamsen died in Pretoria at the age of 96 on July 30th. Born in Schleswig-Holstein it is recorded that he was a stamp collector before coming to Pretoria in April, 1880.

Those who remember this quiet spoken man with the flowing beard who lived for so long in Nylstroom are, alas, few in number to-day.

It is some thirty years ago since my wife and I first met him, but we had corresponded for some time before this.

He was then living alone with his wife on a farm a few miles to the west of Nylstroom. I was making a supreme effort to fill the huge number of blanks in my world collection. Tamsen was not in affluent circumstances, his farming operations I am afraid were not bringing in much revenue, and in any case his heart certainly was not in farming.

He had been collecting, studying and dealing in stamps, particularly all South African issues, for so many years then and to meet his pressing needs he had offered me his complete world collections, mint and used, housed in 9 large Schaubek and Senff albums. We came to terms and I was well started on my objective and also had much material for the specialised collections that followed.

Tamsen was not content to have one example of each issue there were pairs, small blocks and large blocks. Some of these are still on hand.

He was certainly a student of philately and on the Rolls of Distinguished Philatelists both here and in Great Britain, but a few of the rarities in those collections were not beyond suspicion. However my deal was an extremely fair one to me and I sincerely hope that the transaction was equally so to Tamsen and that we were mutually helpful.

Tamsen was the outstanding expert on New Republic and Pietersburg issues. There is little doubt that he was mainly responsible for bringing to light the many varieties and errors in these ephemeral emissions and through him they received full catalogue status. There is no question that both New Republic and Pietersburg are authentic and accepted Government issues but stamp collectors, in the mass, have not rushed to acquire the limited supply on the market. They certainly lack attractiveness in appearance but many of them are really rare. Surprisingly enough more attention appears to be given to these issues now than during the time Tamsen was striving to popularise them.

In my archives I have quite a number of letters, covers, cuttings etc. referring to Tamsen, evidence that he had correspondents in very many parts of the world, of course in Great Britain and U.S.A., but also Austria, Germany, Egypt, Reunion, Seychelles, Madagascar, etc., etc.

His must have been by far the biggest mixed post-bag in Nylstroom.

He loved to tell the story of his six-months honeymoon trip by ox-waggons into the practically unexplored regions north of Nylstroom. He recalled shooting crocodiles in the Limpopo River while his bride was bathing. They went on into what is now Southern Rhodesia, causing much astonishment to the natives and were ultimately turned back by Lobengula.

Some three years ago Dr. Harvey Pirie, my wife and I motored out to Nylstroom to visit Mr. and Mrs. Tamsen. He was as sprightly as ever but his eyesight was failing badly and, in consequence, he was compelled, much to his sorrow, to give up his life's hobby. This was fated to be the last time any of us saw the genial Emil.

Besides being for so long the doyen of South African postage stamps he was for seventy years a keen and active Freemason and founder of the first masonic lodge in Nylstroom.

To Mrs. Tamsen, her six children, her many grand-children and great-grand-children all South African philatelists associate themselves with us in extending to them our deep and sincere sympathy.

ERNEST HUNT.

In addition to what E. Hunt has written about Tamsen it must not be forgotten that we owe a great deal of our knowledge to him about the old Z.A.R. stamps.

Curle & Basden put it "His name, where Transvaal stamps are concerned, deserves mention next to Yardley's." Actually the work of these two investigators was largely complementary, the one to the other. Yardley's work was mainly a detailed study of the individual stamps, while Tamsen, given the opportunity of examining Government Archives, and seeing official documents mostly long since destroyed, was able to reconstruct the Transvaal's early postal history, about which we would otherwise have been woefully ignorant.

He was a pioneer in his business and a pioneer in South African philately. With his passing the greatest South African philatelist has gone and there can never be another like him, as conditions have so completely changed since his active days.

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Can you imagine anything like a repetition of this story which Tamsen used to tell? One day in Pretoria the P.M.G. Jeppe went into the office of Viljoen, Treasurer-General and also the stamp printer (probably the worst on record according to Curle & Basden). Printing was going on before an open window; in came a whirlwind and blew into the street a number of printed sheets which had been lying about the room to dry. Both Jeppe and Viljoen rushed out and were able to rescue the sheets; they had to scrape the dirt off them with their pocket knives, but the sheets were not wasted — they went into circulation.

Tamsen was the first Vice-President of both the Pretoria and the Johannesburg Philatelic Societies; this was away back in the 1890's and it is pleasant to know that his eminence as a philatelist was recognised thus early in his career both locally and in many countries overseas. None of his family had any interest in stamps, but his extensive philatelic library, particularly strong in early periodicals, was purchased some years ago by the Johannesburg Public Library.

Frater grandissimus, Ave atque Vale.

J. H. HARVEY PIRIE.

WORLD SCOUT JAMBOREE

We have to thank Messrs Francis J. Field Ltd., of Sutton Coldfield for a handsome commemorative envelope of the Jubilee Jamboree, which was held almost next door to them. The cover bears the three special stamps (2½d., 4d. and 1/3d.) issued for the occasion, cancelled with the special postmark 1-12 Aug., also the local postmark of 1 Aug.

We have not so far seen the experimental P.O. official covers, referred to in last month's issue under the heading "British P.O. goes into the stamp Trade."

TYPES OF SETTING AND PRINTINGS OF THE MAFEKING SIEGE STAMPS

By DR. K. FREUND

All the Mafeking siege stamps listed as SG 1 to 10 were overprinted with a fixed forme-setting of 6 types right through. Each type in the row exhibits certain minute characteristics. I have confirmed this by direct information from several siege authorities, including the late siege postmaster, and I have in my own collection large blocks of nearly every denomination, shewing the setting in complete rows of six stamps.

The first four stamps in the row are "with comma" and the last two have no comma after Mafeking.

The individual details about the six types were published by J. R. F. Turner in 1900 and have since been repeated in "S.A. Provisional War Stamps" by B. W. H. Poole (1906) and in S. G. Rich's book on Anglo-Boer War Philately.

These publications have been studied by forgers who have even gone so far as to try to imitate some of the types of setting by purposely cutting the stated minute characteristics into the letter types they managed to obtain. However, these fakes of the damaged lettering can be recognized by the expert eye, as they are too clean-cut with clear edges and roundings, whereas the genuine characteristics have certain identifiable shapes of jaggedness.

Fortunately, I have discovered several further characteristics on each of the six types of setting, and the presence of these is an effective indication of genuineness. I have thought it wiser not to publish particulars of these, lest these too be imitated!

SG 11 was overprinted on panes five stamps wide, and type 6 of the setting will not be found on this issue as it was removed from the forme before overprinting took place.

It should be appreciated that there were not two, but three or four printings of every denomination of the surcharge with "fancy" lettering. The early state, with lettering virtually undamaged, occurs on SG 1 and 3 only. First printings of other denominations exhibit damaged lettering. The various printings exhibit variations in the distance between the two lines of overprint, gradual progressive damage to the lettering, and these combined with the characteristics of the actual surcharge enable all the printings to be identified. I may mention in particular the two defective "d", namely, with damaged curve and with damaged foot. These turn up in every row of six, but in varying positions. The reason is that the new denominations were reset every time there was a new printing, and new printings were necessitated several times. As a result the defective "d" were not always in the same places. Knowledge of the various arrangements and their sequence is an invaluable safeguard against even the best executed forgery.

In closing, I may mention that the type 2 comma sometimes prints very faintly, giving the appearance of a faint full stop. This should not be confused with any of the real full stops from positions 5 and 6.

NORWAY

On 1st July celebrated her taking part in the I.G.Y. by issuing three polar stamps, a 25 ore picturing Jan Mayen Island, a 35 ore with map of Spitzbergen, and a 65 ore featuring Queen Maud Land in a map of Antarctic.

Rumours that they would not handle first day covers were not quite correct. The Philatelic Agency did not handle first day covers, such services being left to an unofficial agency, but supplied stamps and handled stamped covers sent them.

The Philatelic Magazine

(Established 1875)

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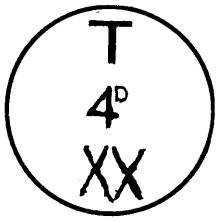
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UNION POSTAGE DUE MARKS

By J. H. HARVEY PIRIE
& K. E. W. LYDALL

(Continued from page 121, August 1957 issue)



16.

Type 16.

A 28 mm. circle with T/4d./XX arranged vertically inside it. Johannesburg, 1951 and 1952 (N).

A mark which can probably be considered as of this type is a similar sized circle with T/1d./X in vertical arrangement. On a cover from S. Rhodesia to Johannesburg 1956.

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The Viscount — really two albums in one, as this album holds at least 200 leaves, having extra large 2" springs. Gold embossed, extra stout covers nearly ¼" thick, bound in leather cloth that can be wiped with a damp cloth. Complete with 100 Cartridge leaves, 11⅛ x 9¾, printed in faint grey quadrille. The covers are in black, red or green. Extra leaves **7/-** per 100, interleaving **3/-** per 100. .... **39/6**

The Barclay Classic — this famous album of many years' standing. Strong spring-back cover complete with 100 leaves, 11⅛ x 9¾, printed in faint grey quadrille. Covers bound in green, maroon, red and brown. **26/9**

The Viscount Jet. Same cover but with 50 Jet leaves interleaved, 11⅛ x 9¾. Extra leaves **10/-** per 100, interleaving **3/-** per 100. .... **39/6**

Barclay Jet. Same album but with 50 Jet leaves interleaved, 11⅛ x 9¾. Extra leaves **10/-** per 100, interleaving **3/-** per 100. .... **26/9**

Dealer's Counter Stock Books. This is a full sized springback dealer's counter stock book with ten manilla linen hinged leaves, each with 11 strips, approximately 11⅛ x 9¾. Extra leaves **9/-** per dozen, **50/-** per 100. .... **25/-**

Pocket Stock Books. Size 6 x 4 transparent strips, interleaved, gold embossed. **2/6**

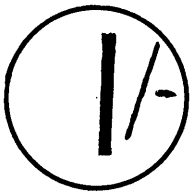
POSTAGE AND PACKING on albums or stock books is **4/-** for the pair. Pocket Stock Book **6d.** Sent to any part of the world.

Remember, with every album or stock book you buy you get **one identical one entirely free.** In other words, you get **two for the price of one.** If you do not require the two, get your friends to join and so enable you to buy an album for half price. Ask for your copy of 'Gateway to Philately', free to all.

MARTIN MILLS STAMPS & ALBUM CO.,
Lusanga, Rhyl, N.Wales, Britain.

Enquiry of the Publicity Department of the G.P.O. elicited the information that the Stores Department had no knowledge of any recent issue of this type of mark.

The opinion was expressed that they were probably "hang-overs" from the time when numbered marks such as Types 1, 2, 3 and 4 were issued, although they were of different design. No conclusive decision could be given, however.



17.

GROUP VI. A miscellaneous gathering, Types 17 to 25.

Type 17.

Figures of value in pence or shillings, inside a circle (NOTE The 1/- in the illustration should be more to the left, so that the whole is centred.

J. 1936 collection has ½d., 2½d., and 7d. in 27-28 mm. circles, the figures all being about 15 mm. high; and 8d., 10d. and 1/- in 24 mm. circles, with the figures 14 mm. high.

Other specimens are:— 2d. in a 24-25 mm. circle, Johannesburg 1902; 3d. in a 25 mm. circle, 1900, on a P.O.W. cover from Ceylon to Johannesburg — the letter appears to have been landed at Cape Town and the mark was probably applied there, though it may have been at Johannesburg; 8d. Pretoria 1905 — this is in a 24 mm. circle and the 8 and the 'd' are both of slightly fancy type; it has already been referred to under Type 2.

10d. in a 26 mm. circle, the figure being 16 mm. high. Ladysmith 1900. This mark is on a cover posted to England during the siege. In M/S, presumably by the writer of the letter, is "Stamps unobtainable. Original postage to be charged only. Vide Natal Field Force Orders." In spite of this the Taxe mark was applied; in London, however, it was blacked out by an "F.B." mark (presumably Foreign Branch, London), and a "London/Paid/X" was applied, and no Tax charged to the recipient.

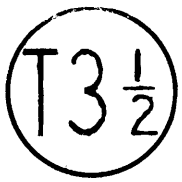
7d. (of similar size and character to the J 1936 one) on cover from England to Pretoria 1933.

All marks of this type seen on cover have accompanying T-marks either in M/S or in one or other of the described marks without an attached value.

Type 18.

A circle of 22-23 mm. with T and 3½ alongside of each other (J. 1936). Query. Does it stand for 3½ pence? The only example seen of this type.

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18.



19.

Type 19.

A regular octagon 21 mm. diameter with an 8.5 mm. high T above 20.c., with figures 4-5 mm. high. This is on a cover from East London to Sweden in 1916; there is also a bare T as mentioned under Type 5 (b).



20.

Type 20.

A rectangle 22-23 mm. x 13 mm. with corners bevelled. It encloses a T 8½ mm. high. Several specimens ranging in dates from 1915 to 1948 (N and P). These are all on covers either to or from S.W.A. and it is presumed this is really an S.W.A. mark, quite possibly going back originally to G.S.W.A. days.

(To be continued)

CANADA

For the Congress of the U.P.U. which opened at Ottawa on Aug. 14th two special stamps were to be issued, one a small-sized 5c and the other a large-sized 15c stamp. Both of them illustrate, among other things, the "Post Horn" a device recognised the world over as indicative of the interchange of mail.

AUSTRALIA

The 7d. stamp honouring the "Royal Flying Doctor Service of Australia" was issued on 21st August. This service now operates over about two-thirds of the continent from twelve bases.

The design of the stamp is an ingenious one. It pictures a winged caduceus, combining the symbols of medicine and speed; the shadow of this is projected upon an outline map of Australia to form the outline of an aeroplane. The stamp will not be a short-term commemorative but will continue in use indefinitely as part of the regular postage series; its use being probably mainly for the basic internal airmail rate.

A 2/- stamp is to be issued soon in connection with the inauguration of "round the world" air services. These are to follow on Quantas Empire Airways have been granted facilities to fly accross the U.S.A.

U.S.A.

Independence Day saw the issue of a 4c commemorative featuring the "Stars and Stripes" in full glory of Colour. Word has come of two more commemoratives to appear soon. One is to mark the 350th anniversary of the building of the first American ship to be used for international trade. The other honours the 200th anniversary of the birth of the Marquis de La Fayette.

AUCTION SALES

The 1956-57 Auction Season in London and New York is over and the 1957-58 season just about to start. The season just closed has, as usual, been a highly satisfactory one for the auctioneers.

Messrs H. R. Harmer report a turnover of £339,650 in London, the third year in succession in which over three hundred thousand pounds have been realised; their New York house for the second successive season netted over 1½ million dollars, helped very materially, of course, by the five "Caspary" sales. In both places a number of big sales are announced for the coming season.

We have not yet seen Robson Lowe's summary of results for the past season, but judging from their programme announced for the remaining months of this year things are booming there too. They have already on hand material for sixteen days and it will be necessary to have two-day sales in some cases to provide accommodation for those who want to sell before Christmas. The sales announced have a great variety of material.

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TWO HAND-STRUCK SPECIMENS — WHERE WERE THEY USED?

By J. E. FRANKLAND



Specialists in the stamps of Rhodesia will be familiar with the type of hand-struck Specimen which appears on several denominations current around the turn of the century: in fact, for a "Specimen", it is comparatively common, and even blocks of four, which are very rare in most Specimens, can be found without difficulty. Evidently quite a lot of Rhodesian Specimens were made at this time, over and above what may have been produced for circulation to U.P.U. members through Berne. So many different types of Rhodesian Specimen exist that collectors have apparently hitherto regarded this type as just one more Specimen peculiar to Rhodesian issues.

If so, it is now time for further thought, in the light of a collection of Specimen stamps, mainly of the Edwardian era, which I acquired some little time ago. For in this collection the earliest items are annotated as having been sent out from the G.P.O. London (**not** Berne) and these earliest items are all either the orthodox Specimen stamps (mainly De La Rue printed overprints) or have this identical hand-struck Specimen, previously thought to be known only on Rhodesian issues. The stamps bearing this hand-struck Specimen are, with few exceptions, issues which were not overprinted or perforated by the issuing authority before despatch to Berne, and come from no less than ten other places.

My own conclusion, provisionally, is that this hand-struck Specimen was applied at the G.P.O. London to invalidate such stamps as were included in the consignment which had not already been marked. This implies that large quantities of the Rhodesian issues of the time (though not before or since) were made into Specimens also at the G.P.O. London, presumably as a favour at the time of their entry into the U.P.U. in 1900.

Mr. Marcus Samuel, the well known authority on Specimens, has suggested as an alternative hypothesis that the handstamp may have been used in Rhodesia not only to make their own Specimen stamps, but also to invalidate any exemplars received from other territories without marking. I am reluctant to follow this supposition for two reasons: the collection in question clearly starts in 1903, whereas the official B.S.A. Company collection would naturally start in 1900 with admission to the U.P.U., and other stamps in the collection, which were distributed from Berne without any marking, have all been carefully handstamped Specimen **with a different handstamp** (indeed in a few cases through excess of zeal it has been applied to stamps already marked Specimen by the originators!). There is no doubt about the circumstances of use of this second handstamp as it is unknown outside this particular collection. Moreover, it was in use right from the start, and appears, for example, on Leeward Islands SG 17, 18 and 19, which were distributed unmarked through Berne.

That no other examples are on record is not an argument either way, as Specimen stamps are very rarely marketed from British sources, and for all we know many other examples may be hidden in closely guarded official collections. Can anyone throw light on the problem?

ISRAEL

In honour of "TABIL", the International Stamp Exhibition being held in Tel-Aviv from 17 to 23 September, there are being issued four triangular stamps of denominations of 100, 200, 300 and 400 pruta. The special Exhibition Stamp Sheet contains one of each of these four values arranged into a square with a descriptive tab adjacent to each stamp.

Our German correspondent, Mr. Joachim Dill, of Bad Neustadt, sends us an example of a special canceller used in Berlin on 6 July to celebrate the tenth birthday of the Society for German-Soviet Friendship.

On 30 July the first of a new series of definitives was issued in the Western Zone. This is a 40 pfg stamp shewing Charlottenburg Castle. It was originally planned to have a new 30 pfg stamp also on that day, but this has been postponed.

Meanwhile yet another commemorative has appeared (do they really need definitives at all?), a 25 pfg stamp for the Congress of the East German Culture Council in Berlin. This stamp shews a portrait of Uta von Naumburg, one of the founders of Naumburg Cathedral.

The Western Zone Minister of Posts has forecast the formation soon of a European Postal Union in which inland postage rates will be made uniform and the stamp in this denomintion of any member country will be valid for postage throughout the Union, possibly leading to a uniform issue of stamps. The inland rate is to apply to all mail for any destination in the Union. This will be an interesting development from the uniform **design** of the Europa stamp which is now familiar.

REVIEW

Fun with Stamps by Dianne Doubtfire & Kay Horowicz — Hutchinsons, 9/6.

This new book is an introduction to stamp collecting for young people, and much of its content has appeared in similar books already published. This book, however, has one quality which is by contrast conspicuously absent in so many of the others, and that is the remarkable **freshness** of its approach. The text is further embellished by some excellent drawings by Artur Horowicz. Although the book is in English, it was printed in the Netherlands and has been very carefully prepared: in fact the only misprint we observed is in the appendix designed to help the novice to place unfamiliar stamps in their correct countries.

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FRANCE

June saw the usual flow, on the 15th, of six stamps, each with a surcharge for the benefit of the French Red Cross. The series featured various celebrated French personages:— Joinville (1224-1317), crusader and biographer of Saint roi Louis; Palissy (1510-1590), artisan and scientist; Quentin de la Tour (1704-1788), portrait painter; Lamennais (1782-1854), a Breton mystic and polemical writer; George Sand (1804-1876), pseudonyme of Aurore Dupin, the only grande romancière of the 19th century; Jules Guesde (1845-1922), Socialist doctrinaire and man of action.

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

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EXCHANGE United States Stamps for South Africa. — D. CHAMBERS, 4535 East Lake Road, Erie, Pa., U.S.A.

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PHILATELIC Penpal Club — S. African Exchangers wanted for Worldwide contacts. Yearly listing, Magazine 7/-. Send particulars, subscription: AFRIKA, Box 3573, Cape Town.

PRETORIA PHILATELIC SOCIETY

1st July. Members were privileged to be entertained by the President of the Philatelic Federation of Southern Africa, Mr. J. D. Rossouw of Paarl. While in Pretoria on other business he took the opportunity of paying us an official visit for which we are especially grateful. Before exhibiting what he had brought along for display, Mr. Rossouw gave a detailed account of the arrangements for Congress in Paarl in October and for the Philatelic Exhibition which is being held simultaneously. Those who will be fortunate enough to be in Paarl at the time are assured of a most entertaining and interesting few days as the guests of the Paarl Philatelic Society.

Thereupon Mr. Rossouw said a few words on the pages he brought along and as usual he had some interesting philatelic sidelights to recount. The Postal History of the Anglo-Boer War is a subject on which Mr. Rossouw is one of the recognized authorities and we were able to see a large number of his more interesting and unusual items, particularly his strong selection of invasion covers. What we saw is only a small portion of his collection but it was sufficient to excite the keenest interest of all who were present, besides the envy of some of us who would be more than willing to own certain selected covers for our particular fancies. Truly a grand show, and our thanks again, Mr. President!

15th July. A discussion on the subject. "Is it reasonable to compare mint issues with used stamps in organized competitions, such as the Allan Cup Competition?" commenced the evening. Mr. Newlands, Dr. Reisener and Mr. Wright put forward their respective points of view after which lively discussion took place from the floor. At the conclusion it was generally agreed that the above was not true in the specific case of the Allan Cup Competition, in terms of its rules, but that in general competition it is reasonable to compare mint with used stamps as the latter have no especial handicap to overcome in open competition.

The exhibit for the evening was provided by Mr. Joseph of Johannesburg who brought along a small selection from his collection of Switzerland which he preceded with a very informative paper on the stamps of that country. His exhibit ranged from pre-stamp covers to the moderns and was particularly strong in essays, proofs and colour trials. Altogether, it was an excellent showing and our thanks are due to Mr. Joseph for having made the journey from Johannesburg for our benefit at not quite the warmest time of the year.

Obituary.

It is with deep regret that we have to record the death of one of our Honorary Life Members, Mr. Peter Henderson. Although one of our oldest members both in service and anno domini, he was one of the stalwarts upon whom we could always rely for active support in regular attendance, even until very recently. Our sympathies go to his family.

J. M. W.

THE O.F.S. AND BASUTOLAND PHILATELIC SOCIETY

June Meeting:

In spite of the cold weather, a good number of members attended, and their effort was not without reward, for three most interesting exhibits were displayed.

The first consisted of Mr. Meyburgh's **"Miniature Sheets"**, issued over the last twenty years to celebrate famous events or personages. They were all there — East Germany to Guatemala, and Hungary to Honduras — even to the wedding of King Farouk to Queen Narriman in 1951; and the Little Entente in 1937 of Roumania, Czechoslovakia and Yugoslavia. The whole exhibit was beautifully written up in Mr. Meyburgh's inimitable copper-plate hand.

The second exhibit was indeed something of a privilege to behold, seeing as it included some pre-stamp covers such as had not even been seen by many renown O.F.S. collectors. These covers were tabled by Dr. Freund who had obtained them ex the Jurgens collection. One cover (thought to be the only one in existence) was postmarked "Winburg Betaald" and also

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bears a red oval postmark of Swellendam dated August 1858. Another cover was postmarked Vredefort, 20 May and Bloemfontein 26 May 1864, and addressed to the Master of the Supreme Court, Cape Town. Three other covers bore what are probably the first types of numerical post-marks ever used, as well as oval Cape Colony postmarks of 1874-1876.

The final exhibit belonged to Mr. Castignani, of Pretoria, one of the stalwards of the Pretoria Society, and members were most fortunate in seeing this part of a wonderful collection. Presented, were photo-proofs as well as used and mint stamps from the 1929 Union Air-mails to the Silver Wedding issue. Most interesting indeed were the photo-proofs or rejected designs of the van Riebeeck issue, and of the 3d., 4½d., and 1/3 values of 1953. Members were left stone-cold as to how Mr. Castignani came by all this material, but their hearts warmed at the sight thereof.

THEMATIC STAMP CLUB

June 24th. This was the popular All Members' Evening and the following were shown to a good meeting:— "Birds" by Mrs. H. M. Scott; "Odds and Ends" by Mr. F. L. Archer; "West Berlin" by Mr. R. Putzell; "Australian Commemoratives" by Mr. B. Green; "Miniature Sheets" by Mr. G. Petroulis.

July 22nd. Another exhibit was shown to a very well attended meeting, this being that of Mrs. B. Bevis of Durban "History of U.S.A. on Stamps". As would be expected it was fully representative and written up clearly. The big event was the presence at the meeting of Mr. G. Dreyer, the Netherlands designer of stamps. He gave a talk on his work, which was ably translated by Mr. Dyker of K.L.M. who accompanied him. Mr. Dreyer autographed sheets for members and gave out stamps which he had designed, among which was the Van Riebeeck stamp and the Whaling ship on the recent ships set. It is not often that a Society can meet in person the designers of stamps and those who missed this, really omitted a chance in a thousand. Capt. Stern, the President, who had just arrived back from a visit to S.W.A., Rhodesia, Belgian Congo, Ruanda Urindi, and Uganda, showed complete sets of these countries, including those of French Equatorial Africa (also visited), as also the set of New Hebrides for issue September 3rd. and other philatelic items of recent date acquired, all of which were of interest.

Kindly note that the box number is P.O. Box 3654, Cape Town.

M. F. S.

ROYAL PHILATELIC SOCIETY OF CAPE TOWN

June 13th. An excellent show of Covers was put on by Mr. C. M. Pillans, which was particularly appreciated. Mr. Pillans has a unique collection of covers, many of which are never seen by the ordinary philatelist.

June 27th. Mr. E. Blum, who is really a specialist, gave a very complete talk on "Cape Triangulars and Postal History" and showed an extensive and outstanding collection which traced the history of the white civilisation of the Cape of Good Hope. This collection was that of the late Dr. Lionel B. Goldschmidt, assisted by the late Mr. Jurgens.

M. F. S.

July Review.

It is a pity that I cannot do justice here to the exhibit of 11th July when Mr. W. G. Combrink presented a subject entitled "500 Years of Venetian Post". Let me assure those members who could not be there to see it, that it was their loss. Stipulating "500 Years" was indeed no over statement — there was actually a letter dated 1362 sent from Turkey to Venezia.

Mr. Combrink, a classic collector in the true sense of the word, gave an extremely interesting exposition of the geography and history of Lombardy/Venezia. As to a little geography — which present-day visitor to Venice, could even dream that the birth of that Mecca of art lovers, was in debris washed down from the Alps through the ages. As is usual when he displays, Mr. Combrink left members very satisfied with what they had seen and heard at the meeting.

On the 25th July, we had a further opportunity of seeing more material from Mr. H. J. de Wet's comprehensive and extensive collection of "Themes of Historical Events on Covers". This member has devoted many, many hours to this fine topic of his. The vast exhibit displayed a man's great love for both the historical value and artistic beauty of what he has so carefully prepared.

All the milestones in South African history have been featured by Mr. de Wet, in the preparation of beautiful and fine commemorative covers.

In addition to other facts of general interest, Mr. de Wet told the intriguing story om his last-minute efforts — under great pressure of valuable time, which sometimes entailed working right through the night — in the preparation of some of these covers.

As a grand finale, Mr. de Wet showed his work on special covers in respect of the First Gough Island Exploratory Expedition, the Marion Island Expedition and the recent visi of H.R.H. Prince Phillip.

Letters of thanks from a number of V.I.P.'s, including H.M. Queen Elizabeth and Prince Phillip, as well as members of other Royal Houses, who had been presented with covers specially prepared by hand by Mr. de Wet, added to the interest.

J. H.

PRETORIA RAILWAY PHILATELIC SOCIETY

July 1957. At the commencement of the meeting all members stood as a mark of respect to the memory of Peter Henderson, an old and well loved member of the Society whose cheerful countenance at our meetings and spirited bidding at our stamp auctions will be sorely missed — requiescat in pacem.

An outstanding exhibit was provided by Mr. Willie Newlands and our Society was privileged to see a preview of his collection of stamps used by the South African Railways or its predecessors. Mr. Slater-Kinghorn commenting on the display stated that it showed a very great knowledge of the subject which must have involved considerable investigation and research, and was of particular interest to a Railway Society.

Dr. Reisener commented on the wide range of postally used stamps from the Cape, Transvaal, Natal and O.F.S. which included many overprints and stencils and he thanked Mr. New-

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lands on behalf of the Society for the most interesting talk which he had given before displaying his collection and for the outstanding quality of his exhibit, sentiments which were fully endorsed by Mr. Eric Walker.

P. M. J. McG.

PORT ELIZABETH PHILATELIC SOCIETY

Owing to unforeseen circumstances one meeting only was held during **June,** this taking place on the **18th.** In opening proceedings, the President, Mr. A. F. W. Pavitt, asked those present to rise in memory of the late Mr. T. M. Winsley, who had recently passed away after a severe illness of several months duration.

Besides the official business and our normal auction the evening yielded a very pleasant surprise in the form of very fine and interesting display by Mr. W. J. Deacon. The field covered included a very excellent range of Unions (mostly mint), British African Territories, Great Britain Control Letters and Figures, U.S.A. etc. Mr. C. Clement warmly thanked the exhibition on behalf of the Society.

2nd July, 1957. Despite a very cold night there was a good attendance of visitors and members. Dr. Harris was in the chair. Members displayed their "three favourite sheets". The range was wide, from classics to moderns, British Empire and foreign. Surprisingly there were not many thematics. Each exhibitor had to explain his choice. This revealed the numerous motivations that prompt stamp collecting and this was a particular interesting aspect of the evening. Our veteran, Mr. Forbes, concluded this part of the meeting with congratulations to the exhibitors on the good standard of their displays.

EAST RAND PHILATELIC SOCIETY

February. The Germiston Society paid the E.R.P.S. their annual visit, three of their members exhibiting. Mr. Bompass tabled Library Terms, illustrated on stamps. Mr. Burniston tabled Australia K.G. VI and last, Mr. Hagger exhibited his famous Union ½d. and 1d. Pictorial issue. To this Society we extend once again our sincere thanks.

March. Here again it was our members evening and well enjoyed by all who were present. A few sheets were tabled by three members, namely, Mr. Rigg — Great Britain from 1840 to 1948 inclusive, Mr. MacArthur — Glory of the Sea, and Mr. Bogner Jun. — Austria mint.

April. This was an enjoyable meeting, for there were a few interesting points put forward with regards to our Calendar for 1957, and to change our meetings slightly. Congratulations to Mr. Sam Legator, who was appointed Israeli Commissioner for South Africa.

May. Exhibits for the Sam Legator Trophy. First Mr. Rigg's Austrian Collection, a very fine display. Second was Nyasaland covers, "Stamps of Nyasaland" used in Southern Rhodesia, by Mr. Bogner, Jnr.

J. B.

EAST LONDON PHILATELIC SOCIETY

The **July** meeting was important because arrangements were made for the Triangular Meeting of the Port Elizabeth, Grahamstown and East London Societies to be held in East London on Saturday, 20th July. It was also arranged to hold a full Executive meeting so that the special committees could be organised in time for the 1959 Hobbies and Congress in East London.

The President, Mr. Jack Joseph, announced the fact that he is leaving East London for Johannesburg next month. Mr. J. P. Shingler expressed genuine regret on behalf of all the members that Mr. Joseph would be leaving East London and that his services as President would be lost to the Society. He said that Mr. Joseph had always been a very keen worker in the Society, having managed the circulation of the Magazines and being one of the first Exchange Superintendents of the Packet Section.

In replying Mr. Joseph said he would continue as a member of the Society and no doubt would be visiting East London from time to time and would always be happy to renew his friendships in the Fighting Port.

The President reported that there had been quite a good response by members for stamps at the Hobbies Exhibition and there had been sufficient helpers to erect and dismantle the Exhibits.

The following were the prize winners:—

(1) Mr. Geo. Feros — Inter Provincials and Special Union items.
(2) Mr. C. P. Durkin — Rhodesian Double Heads.
(3) Mr. J. P. Shingler — Thematic Display of Charity Stamps.

Dr. F. Drusinsky treated members to a further display of his very uncommon Boer War Covers. Most of these items had not been seen by members and so were of added interest to those who are following the developments of the Doctor's large and varied collection of Boer War Issues.

J. P. S.

Eight members of the Port Elizabeth Philatelic Society and Mr. Pettit of the Grahamstown Philatleic Society attended the Triangular meeting at the Museum Lecture Hall at East London on **Saturday evening July 20th,** when members enjoyed some really fine displays.

Mr. George Forbes brought up a display by Mr. Gustav Bülbring who was unable to be present. This display was a very special one of German Colonies and very unusual items were shown, one in particular being unissued printing in 1916 of German East African stamps.

Mr. Forbes showed early Swiss stamps from 1845.

Mr. Smukler displayed his thematic collection of Musicians and Musical Instruments. He also showed the fascinating stamps of Israel.

Mr. Slabbert was right up-to-date with a very representative display of the Netherlands — Commemoratives and Charity stamps.

Mr. Pearson showed Australian Commemoratives in imprint blocks from 1927, and also some of the African Colonies of the present reign.

For East London Dr. Drusinsky made a further showing of some uncommon Boer War items, while the U.S.A. Presidential stamps were shown by Mr. Hellman, who presided at the meeting.

The visitors were all thanked for their kind co-operation in making the long journey to show their excellent stamps, and a pleasant evening ended at 10.15 p.m.

J. P. S.

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THE
SOUTH AFRICAN PHILATELIST
PROPRIETORS AND PUBLISHERS:
The Philatelic Federation of Southern Africa
Editorial Board: Dr. J. H. HARVEY PIRIE (Chairman), J. E. FRANKLAND, Dr. T. B. BERRY, W. N. SHEFFIELD, P.O. Box 375, Johannesburg.
Business Manager: Mr. J. MICHELSON, P.O. Box 375, Johannesburg.

Vol. 33. No. 10. OCTOBER, 1957 Whole No. 390

UNION NOTES

Hon. Associate Editor: Dr. T. B. BERRY, Box 31, Bryanston, Transvaal.

Recent Printings

The Publicity Officer, Department of Posts and Telegraphs, has kindly supplied the following information concerning the period 1.5.57 to 30.7.57. For the previous list see our July issue.

Animal Series Postage Stamps

1d. — Job No. 5413 contd. On an order for 2,000,000 sheets of 240 stamps per sheet, an initial delivery of 9,000 sheets was made on the 10.1.57, the total delivery to 29.1.57 being 208,002 sheets. Same double die cylinder No. 105.

On the same Job No., but from the old double die cylinder No. 3, 4,500 sheets were delivered on 29.1.57, the total delivery to 26.2.57 being 120,425 sheets.

On the same Job No., but from the old single die cylinder No. 12, 25,500 sheets were delivered on the 28.2.57, the total delivery to 18.4.57 being 312,857 sheets.

On the same Job No., but from a new single die cylinder No. 97, 9,500 sheets were delivered on the 18.4.57, the total delivery to date being 371,740 sheets.

2d. — Job No. 12532. On an order for 1,000,000 sheets of 240 stamps per sheet, an initial delivery of 10,500 sheets was made on the 4.7.57, the total delivery to date being 184,500 sheets. Same single die Cylinder No. 56.

3d. — Job No. 691 contd. On an order for 200,000 sheets of 120 stamps per sheet, an initial delivery of 29,500 sheets was made on the 9 8.56, the total delivery to 4.6.57 being 198,200 sheets. Same cylinders No. 16 Interior and 107 Exterior.

4d. — Job No. 692 contd. On an order for 110,000 sheets of 120 stamps per sheet, an initial delivery of 6,000 sheets was made on the 29.5.56, the total delivery to 2.5.57 being 121,510 sheets. Same Cylinders No. 53 Interior and 93 Exterior.

1/-. — Job No. 12905. On an order for 150,000 sheets of 120 stamps per sheet, 4,500 sheets were delivered on 4.6.57, the total delivery being 36,662 sheets. Same Cylinders No. 94 Interior, and 104 Exterior.

2/6. — Job No. 12906. On an order for 50,000 sheets of 60 stamps per sheet, 19,000 sheets were delivered on 13.6.57, the total delivery to 18.6.57 being 60,622 sheets. Same Cylinders No. 66 Interior and 23 Exterior.

10/-. — Job No. 12907. On an order for 15,000 sheets of 60 stamps per sheet, 19,000 sheets were delivered on 11.6.57. Same Cylinders No. 44 Interior, and 6 Exterior.

Roll Stamps

1d. — Job No. 129,844 contd. On an order for 20,000 Rolls of 506 stamps per roll an initial delivery of 600 was made on the 10.11.55, the total delivery to date being 22,200 rolls. Same Cylinder No. 27.

On the same job no. On an order of 10,000 Rolls of 1012 stamps per roll, a delivery of 8,160 rolls was made. Same Cylinder No. 27.

Picture Post Cards

1½d. — Job No. 12533 contd. On an order for 2,720,000 cards, an initial delivery of 236,160 cards was made on the 30.4.57, the total delivery as at 30.7.57 being 1,331,760 cards. Same Cylinder Chambon Printing machine.

Air Letter Cards

6d. — Job No. 132274 contd. On an order for 8,000,000 cards, an initial delivery of 72,000 cards was made on the 1.3.56, the final delivery on 25.6.57 being 8,248,800 cards. Same Cylinders, Chambon Printing machine.

Postage Due

1d. — Job No. 18119. On an order for 10,000 sheets of 60 stamps per sheet, 12,500 sheets were delivered on the 13.6.57. Same Cylinders No. 39 Interior, 33 Exterior.

2d. — Job No. 18120. On an order for 45,000 sheets of 60 stamps per sheet, 41,600 sheets were delivered on the 18.6.57. New interior Cylinder No. 85, same exterior cylinder No. 33.

3d. — Job No. 18121. On an order for 4,000 sheets of 60 stamps per sheet, 6,800 sheets were delivered on the 13.6.57. Same Cylinders, No. 100 Interior and 33 Exterior.

Customs Stamps

½d. — Job No. 17887. On an order for 8,000 sheets of 240 stamps per sheet, 4,900 sheets were delivered on the 13.6.57, the final delivery of 8,000 sheets being made on the 18.6.57, the sheets having been overprinted DOUANE from the same process blocks on a flat-bed machine.

South West Africa

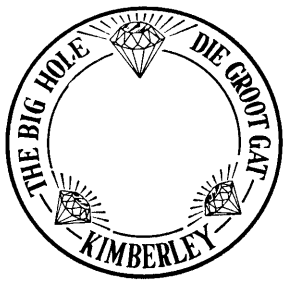
2d. — Job No. 13776. On an order for 100,000 sheets of 120 stamps per sheet, 4,500 sheets were delivered on the 14.5.57, the final delivery of 104,285 sheets being made on the 22.5.57. Same Cylinder No. 30.

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It will thus be observed from the foregoing, that there has been a new printing of the 1d., from Cylinder No. 97, and also of the 2d. Postage Due, from new interior cylinder No. 85.

"Big Hole" Date Stamp

Through the courtesy of the Publicity Officer, G.P.O., Pretoria, we illustrate an imprint of a date stamp to be brought into use on the 3rd September at the "Big Hole", the relic of the old diamond mine at Kimberley.



The date stamp is of the revolving type thereby allowing an alteration in the date within a stationary or fixed frame. The design consists of three diamonds set at the edge of the inner circle, symbolic indications of the diamond industry and of the "Big Hole" mine respectively, while the frame contains — "The Big Hole — Die Groot Gat — Kimberley".

The date stamp will be used at the "Big Hole" where the owners of the property, Messrs De Beer's Consolidated Mines, have arranged for souvenir postcards to be sold, among other amenities such as an observation post, conveniently placed seats where the tourist may spend a pleasant half hour, and organized visits to various departments connected with diamond mining. The postcards, as well as ordinary letters, to which the necessary postage stamps have been affixed, may be posted in a special post box at the site. This box will be cleared daily by the post office, and letters and postcards posted therein will be postmarked with the special date stamp.

We feel we may be permitted to depart momently from our purpose and to peep very briefly into the past — if only to determine the connection between diamonds and stamps.

In 1866 a child picked up a glittering stone — subsequently identified as a diamond — on the banks of the Orange River and used it as a toy.

In 1860 the Free State Government sold the farm "Vooruitzicht" for £50 to Johannes Nicolaas de Beer, after whom De Beer's Mining Company was later to be named; within ten years diamonds were being discovered along the banks of the Vaal River.

By 1871, prospectors were digging claims on De Beer's farm, and in consequence of the influx of claim seekers. De Beer accepted an offer of £6,300 — a princely sum in those days — for his property and left the neighbourhood.

Out of these humble beginnings a chain of events had begun which was destined to alter significantly the future of Southern Africa. Of the various diamond mines which came into existence around what is now the City of Kimberley, the "Big Hole" is all that remains today of the one time Kimberley mine. The "Big Hole", popularly referred to as such throughout the world, is situated within a few minutes walk of the centre of the City of Kimberley and is the largest man-made hole in the world.

During its life time as an open-workings diamond mine from 1871 to 1914 when it was abandoned for economic reasons and difficulties caused by seepage of water, 25,000,000 tons of earth yielding 14,504,375 carats of diamonds (equivalent to three tons) valued at £47,139,842 were recovered from the mine.

Some of the mechanical effort, over and above the personal, financial and international, necessary to acquire these results may be gauged from the following figures: The mine is 3,601 feet deep; the crater itself is 1,200 feet deep and the depth of water in it is 700 feet. The distance across the mine from north to south is 1,520 feet and from east to west 1,490 feet. The circumference is 1,600 yards and and the area is 38 acres.

Paarl National Philatelic Exhibition

We are happy to illustrate an imprint of the date stamp which will be used on the occasion of the forthcoming Paarl National Philatelic Exhibition. It is of the fixed date, non-revolving type, oval in design and contains the numeral "300", the latter two items being symbolic of the old Paarl date stamp which did duty in the bygone days.



Commemorative covers will be serviced and franked with this special date stamp during the period of the Exhibition, 23rd to 26th October, at, we understand, a fee of 6d. per cover. Communications in this respect should be addressed the Secretary, Exhibition Committee, P.O. Box 60, Paarl.

Canceller vs. Date Stamp

We have been hauled of the philatelic coals for the incorrect use of the terms "Canceller" and "Date Stamp" and there are others who have erred as well!!

A canceller is primarily an appliance so to deface postage stamps as to render their re-use extremely unlikely difficult, or impossible, and secondly an indication of the place of origin. Examples are the home-made cancellers, instruments designed for marking stamps on parcels of a delicate nature so as not to injure their contents etc.

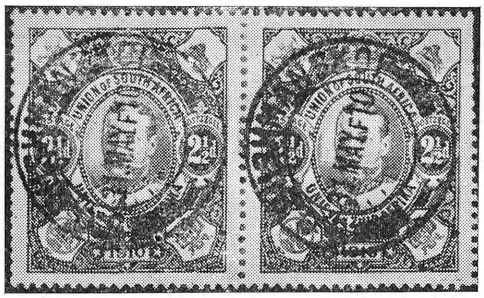
A date stamp conforms with the above specification but in addition, imprints the date of posting.

Two general types of date stamps exist. A revolving date stamp wherein the date may be altered daily as required, and comprises the instruments used for general routine business at post offices, while a fixed date stamp is, as its name implies, an instrument where-in the date is not altered and is generally used for commemorative purposes and such like.

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The 2½d. Commemorative Issue

A good deal of correspondence has appeared in these columns during recent months in regard to the actual time of cancellation on the day of issue — the 4th November 1910 — of the 2½d. Commemorative Issue, but the items submitted by Mr. M. M. Wood, of Johannesburg, and illustrated here, would seem to beat all others, if the post mark is genuine.



The cancellation reads as follows: "S.O. BUSHMANSKOP, 31 MAY F 10." We understand that the stamps were found on a cover which was used for normal postal requirements and that the original owner was not a philatelist.

It would be interesting to know when supplies of this issue were received in the Union! What do you think!

Comment on Union Items

We have received the following interesting comments from various contributors and have pleasure in passing them on. The individuals write:

That his collection houses 2½d. Commemorative Stamps bearing the day of issue, 4th November 1910, and postmarked NEW BETHESDA, PEARSTON, and MIDDLEBURG, TRANSVAAL.

It is pleasing to receive these advices, for only by recording such contributions may a complete record of this cancellation be formed.

That he presented for our inspection an example of the £1 King's Head Stamp, U.H.B. No. 15, printed in a particularly deep and shiny shade of green and red, and suggests that this shade should be catalogued.

We have seen this shade before, and can support the description of the colours which make a very striking stamp.

That he would like to know how such items as Essays, Proofs, Artists Drawings etc., become available, for it appears that the ordinary collector can buy them only at a premium from various sources. Who are the people who buy them in the first instance?

That he is perturbed over the manner in which the shades of Union stamps are determined and catalogued — particularly the rare and highly priced items. He has recently been offered the ½d. King's Head Mossy Green stamp, U.H.B. No. 2g, and the 2d. Dark Plum, U.H.B. No. 5d, at a high price, and on consulting his collection, he found that he already possessed items apparently corresponding in shade to the proffered wares which he had obtained for a matter of a few shillings.

This experience again emphasizes the importance of linking the shades of our stamps with some standard colourmeter or tintometer.

That he remarks upon the discrepancy in prices of various Union items and cites, as an example, the 1d. Pretoria Typhographed stamp with misplaced perforation through the centre of the stamp, U.H.B. 34 Pi. He had been offered a block of four for £12/10/-, and since then had noticed a block of four being offered for sale by auction at an upset price of £7.

Price is a matter of supply and demand subject to the qualifying effect of an up-to-date catalogue and adherence to its prices, within reason, by collectors who, if they depart from these prices (and they may do so) have only themselves to blame for establishing inflated values.

That on Page 30 of the Supplement, the ½d. Blurred Frame is catalogued as pertaining to Plate III only, and it is suggested that this variety may be found in all plates of this printing.

That on Page 100 of the Supplement, item R9 Vf has been deleted and another substituted. He feels that the "Curl on buck's shoulder" or as it is often termed "Snail on buck's breast" is a multipositive flaw and should be catalogued.

Catalogue committee please note.

That the handling charges on rail letters have been increased to 4d., and handling charges on late-fee letters handed in at aerodromes to 6d. from August 1st.

That on all printings of the 1/6 Gemsbok stamp there is a minute dot in the gutter above the middle of every stamp about ¼ m.m. above the frame line.

It is suggested that this dot must have been present on the original drawing from which the master negative was made.

Basutoland Postal Agencies

Mr. G. N. Gilbert, of Westminster, submits these notes for those who wish to keep up to date with the various Post Offices and Agencies in this territory.

The following are additions to the list given in the Basutoland Postal History Booklet:

Sehonghong has been elevated from an Agency to a full Post Office, while the new Agencies are, St. Martin's Mission, Sebalabala, Alvynskop, and Makoacs, Mphakis and Mpharane will open as Agencies in the near future.

Retirements

We understand that Mr. Dicks, Under-Secretary Department of Posts and Telegraphs, is about to proceed on leave prior to his retirement.

For many years philatelists have looked upon him as a friend and his presence at various official interviews has been a source of encouragement to those who came to look for something from the P.M.G.

We wish Mr. Dicks good luck and good health in his well-earned retirement and trust that the introduction he received into philately during his official duties may prompt him to consider our hobby as a possible means of being a pleasant and entertaining past time.

It would be nice to meet him on an equal footing!

While on this theme, we feel we cannot allow Mr. W. N. Sheffield also to enter his retirement "unheralded and unsung."

After a life-time of faithful and honourable service in the field of electricity, Mr. Sheffield quits "sparks" to enter, with Mrs. Sheffield,

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upon what we trust will be a lengthy period of good health and happy occupation in firstly determining what stamps, and duplicates, he possesses from the very large stock hurriedly put-by during days of less leisure, and then to further still more the interests of philately — if it is possible to do more for our hobby than he has already done, often at a sacrifice in personal health and domestic activities.

Philately looks forward to his association now in a full time capacity, and as a start, "How about undertaking the formation and conduct of a Union Study Circle, Bill"?

CORRESPONDENCE

835 Turk Street,
San Francisco 1, Calif.,
August 6, 1957.

The Editor,
The South African Philatelist,
P.O. Box 375,
Johannesburg, South Africa.

Dear Sir,

The July number of the S.A. Philatelist, which arrived today, illustrates a strip of Geo. V ½d. stamps from a photograph submitted by Mr. R. D. Allen. It is stated that these are considered to show traces of double printing.

The illustration shows a very evident doubling of the WHITE letters forming the word "UNIE". There also appears to be a partial doubling of the white "½d" in the right value tablets.

A true double impression increases the inked area over that shown by the normal stamp. This is shown very plainly by the illustration on page 32 of Vol. I of the Handbook. It is even more evident in the stamps themselves of which one copy is in my collection.

Since the inked areas of the stamps illustrated are less than those of normal stamps, the doubling must have been produced in some way other than by a double impression. They appear to me to be another example of the so-called "Georgian Double Strikes" concerning which I made some remarks in the June 1955 issue of your publication.

With kind regards,

Sincerely yours,
DONALD D. SMYTHE.

SOUTH AFRICA

Union 44A. ½d. plate 12 (3 printings) each 2/-d.
44Ha. ½d. plate 21, rough centres ..... 2/6d.
45. 1d. plate 14 .... 2/6d.
45B. 1d. plate 19 .... 10/-d.

All mints, blocks pro rata.

C. E. SHERWOOD,
105, Marford Crescent, Sale, Cheshire, G.B.

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Kenya 1938 50c S.G.137a Rope not joined to sail .... Mint Cat £10 **Price £6-10-0**
50c as last but in positional centre ..... pr Cat £10 Plus **Price £7-10-0**

Collectors are reminded that I carry exceptionally fine stocks of Specialised Unions, Empire George V, and George VI, both mint and used at most reasonable and highly competitive prices, as well as a fine stock of Choice Cape Triangulars.

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WANTED, and For Sale, stamps of all countries (Wholesale). — GEO. F. ROWE, 11, Barmouth Road, London, S.W.18.

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

SWITZERLAND — Specialist and out of the ordinary items required. Write giving details and prices to B. JOSEPH, P.O. Box 9232, Johannesburg.

LABELS, stickers, exhibition stamps, etc. Send me your duplicates and I will send you an equal number of mine. — R. T. LILLEY, The Dingle, Sandford Orleigh, Newton Abbot, Devon, England.

EXCHANGERS WANTED for Worldwide Correspondence Club. Profitable contacts obtainable. Yearly listing, Magazine 7/-. Send for particulars: AFRIKA, Box 3573, Cape Town.

WANTED Anglo-Boer War covers. PEARSON, 61, Dulverton Road, Ruislip, Middlesex, England.

WANTED FOR CASH. Good collections any kind except Geo. VI. Also Transvaal 1st type and early covers of any country. — DOUGLAS ROTH, Newlands, C.P.

GOOD USED Unions for Sale. M. J. RALL, Dassieklip, Heidelberg, C.P. — Also has rarer mint controls to exchange for similar items.

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AN INTERESTING REPEATED FLAW IN THE ½d. MONOCOLOURED ROLL STAMP — CYLINDER NO. 6911.

by S. J. HAGGER





"In the August, 1951 number, you published some notes supplied by Mr. A. H. Sydow of Cape Town, on the 1d. monocoloured roll stamps. In these attention was drawn to a flaw consisting of a line extending downward from the ship's forelamp, which occurred twice in one of the vertical rows, due to the fact that horizontal rows 3 and 4 of the multipositive, in which latter row the flaw occurs, were used again to etch rows 21 and 22 on the cylinder No. 16.

Not long after that, when I was examining a number of pairs and short strips of the corresponding ½d. monocoloured roll stamps from cylinder No. 6911, it became obvious to me that here too a flaw must have repeated, due to a similar method of etching having been employed.

On all these pairs, or strips, one of the English inscribed stamps had a line running obliquely downwards from the left of the bar at the top of the stamp, and passing close to the tip of the springbok's ear and muzzle; but a dissimilarity in the Afrikaans inscribed stamp below it divided the pieces into two different categories. In the first of these pairs, which we will call "A" the Afrikaans stamp always had two minor flaws consisting of a small white blob below "S" of SUID-, and an equally small green blob near the top right corner, and in addition, the width of the gutter between the stamps was slightly less than normal, indicating, of course, that this must be the pair from Rows 21 and 22 of the cylinder. In the other, "B" pairs, there were no flaws on the Afrikaans stamp, and the gutter was of normal width, and these would have come from Rows 3 and 4.

Although it seemed to me that there could be no other explanation for this phenomenon but that outlined above, only the finding of an unbroken strip containing both pairs would be conclusive proof that my theory was the correct one, and I therefore delayed "writing up" the discovery till this strip could be found. Since then I have examined every strip of these stamps that has passed through my hands and have at last found one on which the flaw occurs twice. You can imagine my surprise however, to discover that pair "B" is **above** pair "A" with two stamps intervening, and it was therefore not rows 3 and 4, but rows 17 and 18 of the multipositive that were used to produce the 21st and 22nd rows.

I think I am right in saying that in the few previous instances where these repeating flaws in the roll stamps produced from a 20 row multipositive have enabled the two re-used rows to be identified, these have proved to be numbers 3 and 4, except for one case when it was 2 and 3. This new discovery is thus of importance as being the first example of any of the lower rows of the multipositive having been re-used."

The next issue of ½d. monocoloured roll stamps had regular screening and were printed from cylinder No. 39. This cylinder must also have originated from the same multipositive as the previous irregular screened issue, because one of the vertical rows has the flaw described above on stamp No. 17; but as the flaw does not repeat on either of stamps Nos. 21 or 22, horizontal row No. 17 of the multipositive cannot have been one of those re-used to etch rows 21 and 22 on cylinder No. 39."

The Philatelic Magazine

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THE FIRST BOY SCOUT AND HIS CADET CORPS

The Boy on the 1d. Blue Mafeking Stamp

By Dr. K. FREUND

(Reprinted from "The O.F.S. Philatelic Magazine", August, 1957)

Warner Goodyear was 12 years old when the shadow of a Siege with all its hardships fell upon him, his family and the citizens of Mafeking. But he was such an efficient, courageous boy that it was not long before the great Colonel Baden-Powell, the gallant Commander in charge of the invested town, recognised the excellent "Scout Leader" qualities of this youngster. Young Warner showed all the characteristics of a good "Scout": Loyalty, Unselfishness, Enthusiasm, Inventiveness and Courage.

To tell the truth, Goodyear and his gang of boys were about the only ones who treated the Siege more as a game. As one of these Scouts once wrote to me: They were full of playful nonsense and just loved the excitement of doing errands and other duties while shells were whistling around.

None the less, they took their responsibilities seriously, doing "good deeds", not every day, but every moment, and executing "man-sized jobs" under the most dangerous conditions. They were the true protagonists, the "kernel", of the future world-wide movement of Boy Scouts.

CAPT. GOODYEAR, HIS FATHER

In praising Warner Goodyear, one must not forget that he had inherited all his "Scout" qualities from a remarkable father of striking character, whom the son idolized and in whose footsteps he tried to follow.

Capt. Charles Goodyear was a true "King of Mafeking", having been one of the first residents of this place, and later its first Mayor. He was a well-known Army Officer. In earlier times, he had joined Col. Warren's expedition, was then the first Officer to join the Bechuanaland Border Force, and at the beginning of the Siege was placed by Baden-Powell in command of the Cape Boy Contingent which did some excellent exploits against the enemy. In one of these Capt. Goodyear was severely wounded.

THE FORMATION OF THE CADET CORPS

When the Boer forces started to surround Mafeking and an attack on the town was imminent, Baden-Powell mustered all the available man-power to take up the stand.

Alas, there was only a small handful to withstand the large Boer forces. Altogether 700 trained men, police and volunteers could be placed by Baden-Powell at strategical Outposts and Forts at the surrounding flat outskirts of the town.

In addition, there were some 300 town males of all shapes and varying degrees of fitness. Many of them were "white collar" workers who had never seen a rifle in their lives who at the beginning were hopelessly at sea when they had to learn to drill and to shoot. Baden-Powell remarked once that it was "not much fun to face an enemy who meant to kill you, when you have never learned to shoot!"

The whole place of Mafeking to be defended was about 5 miles around and contained 600 white women and roughly 7,000 Natives.

Gradually, the man-power position got even worse, some of the men getting killed, many others wounded. The duties of fighting and keeping night-watch on look-outs became harder for the rest.

THIS IS WHERE THE BOYS CAME IN

You know what boys are: They had been careering about the deserted streets like March Hares, anyway. While all ordinary, decent citizens kept lawfully underground, in dug-out bomb-shelters, as the General Orders demanded, the boys could never be kept underground for long, but hopped and teared around as boys would do. The wilder the bombing and shelling, the greater fun it was for them.

At Baden-Powell's instigation, his Chief Staff Officer Major Lord Edward Cecil, got together all boys of the place, from 9 years upward, and formed them into a cadet corps.

Now, their exuberant activity could be harnessed into some useful duties which so far had been carried out by men: Delivering military orders and messages from and to the Forts, keeping look-out, acting as orderlies, and delivering civilian mail among the population which was scattered through the town and not allowed to move about at most times. In particular, no civilian was allowed to visit the outposts, and no soldier was permitted to go back into town, for long periods, except by special permit. Letter-writing was therefore

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the only means of communication among the poor Mafekingians.

All these aforementioned duties were taken over by the boys of the new Cadet Corps which released men to go and strengthen the firing-line.

SCOUT UNIFORM

The boys were put into Khaki Uniform, and wore either a forage cap or a "smasher" hat and a yellow "pugaree". The hat was not unlike the Boy Scout's hat worn to-day, but it was usually turned up on one side.

Boys who were appointed messengers or postmen received a despatch pouch. None of the boys was armed.

DRILLING AND SCOUTING

The corps drilled regularly under Major Lord Edward Cecil. Warner Goodyear was made their leader and appointed a **Sergeant-Major.** The boys were a very smart bunch and kept a proud bearing at all times, fully conscious of their responsibility and importance.

Baden-Powell frequently watched the drilling with great satisfaction and asked himself: **Why cannot all boys be like that?** Then and there he made his resolution to form a civilian corps of Scouts on similar lines as soon as the war was over.

B.P. himself taught the boys **wood-work, camping** and **hiking** whenever he could manage. When the boys were off-duty, for instance on Sundays, he arranged **Competitions** which in type were very similar to competitions still familiar to the Boy Scouts of to-day. Here is for instance one which I am taking from the "Mafeking Mail, Special Siege Slip" No. 130, April 29, 1900:

> **"Cadet Competition.** — The rules of the above will be as follows:
>
> Each cadet will receive a letter on the Recreation Ground. He will carry it to the Staff Officer; route via Carrington Street. He will then receive a verbal answer and return to the Recreation Ground to the sender and repeat the verbal message to him in a loud, clear tone of voice.
>
> Timekeepers: ....."

DUTIES

The boys had to carry out their jobs frequently under heavy shell fire, but bravely carried on, although it meant risks to their lives every time.

Here is a typical incident which Baden-Powell reports in his book "Scouting for Boys": "I said to one of these boys on one occasion, when he came in through rather a heavy fire: 'You will get hit one of these days riding about like that when shells are flying'. And he replied: 'I pedal so quick, Sir, they'd never catch me'."

CASUALTY

However, one boy named Brown who had come into the town as a refugee just before the siege started and was attached to the messenger corps, actually was killed towards the end of the siege. This was the only casualty among the boys, except for minor mishaps and scratches.

WATCH-DUTY

As far as the types of jobs are concerned, some boys took over on the **look-out post** at the top of Minchin's building. Here they kept watch for the firing of the great Boer cannon which was poised at the town and at them, at point-blank range. Their duty was to sound the alarm bell in time for everyone in town to take cover.

A special General Order concerning this Warning Bell was issued on January 3, 1900:

"The big bell will ring as a warning that the gun is loaded. If this is not followed by a certain number of deliberate strokes on the bell it means that the gun is pointed away from the town. TWO deliberate strokes on the bell, following the ringing of the bell as above, means that the gun is pointed on the town, central or south. SIX deliberate strokes, following the ringing of the bell, means that the gun is pointed on the northern point of the town..."

THE POSTAL SERVICE

The majority of the boys however became mail carriers. This local mail service, as already stated, was of great importance for everybody, as at most times it was the only means of communication between relatives, friends etc. to tell each other that they were still "alive and kicking". It kept up the morale of the fighting men and the population and helped winning through gloriously against heavy odds.

The postal service conducted by the boys went through various stages, from early experimental beginnings to a smooth-running, well-arranged scheme.

The charge per letter in the Service "between Outposts and Town" was 3d., — in the "Inner Town" Service 1d. per ½ ounce.

The revenue thus obtained served to pay for the **upkeep of the donkeys** (see Donkey Corps later on), for the **purchase of Bicycles and their repairs** (see Bicycle Corps), for **boxes, bags** and other **running expenses.**

As this local post was at first not considered of sufficient importance for official funds, the cash was first met by a cash fee for each letter carried.

But this scheme of collecting a cash fee for every letter and thus leaving the whole financial management of the local post in the hands of the cadets, proved a dismal **failure.** Firstly there was the sad fact that most of the poor chaps had rarely sufficient money on hand to give ready **change** when the necessity arose. Another point was that many boys were just over 9 years old and not fully experienced yet in the intricacies of **arithmetic.** However keen these young chaps were and however hard they tried, it is sad to relate that in most cases their cash figures did not want to balance.

The local mail service was therefore absorbed into the general postal system as far as the financial side was concerned. Special **stamps** for this local service were provided, one bearing Baden-Powell's image (3d. stamp), the other one showing the leader of the Boys' Corps, **Warner Goodyear** (1d. stamp).

DONKEY CORPS

Now at the beginning, the Cadet Corps was supplied with Donkeys which had been captured from the Boers. Boys who had to cover the great distances to the Outposts, mounted these Donkeys and became proud "horsemen" (or better, "Donkeymen").

But this did not last for long, as gradually one Donkey after the other was requisitioned by the army and disappeared into the **soup**

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kitchen. The poor creatures had to be killed for food. Conditions had become so austere that there was no wastage as far as this "operation" was concerned, and the following crude, but true account may be of interest:

The mane and tail were used for stuffing pillows and mattresses in the hospital (Victoria Hospital). The shoes were melted down for shells. The flesh became sausages. The skin and hoofs and head were boiled for hours and ultimately became a kind of brawn. The bones were used in soup.

With the Donkeys gone, there was no Donkey Corps any more.

BICYCLE CORPS

The boys now had to look for substitutes which were less perishable and less liable to attract epicurian demands.

They agreed on **Bicycles** to carry them on their "beats" to and from the Outposts. The purchase and upkeep of these bikes made large inroads on the debit side of the postal system. But they proved to be the most satisfactory means to make the local mail service a very efficient one.

WARNER GOODYEAR POSES FOR THE STAMP DESIGN

The Bicycle, in fact, became the symbol of the Mafeking Cadet Corps, and when Warner Goodyear was unanimously considered as the obvious choice to be immortalized on the 1d. stamp, his Bicycle certainly had to appear on it, too.

Incidentally, it was never expected that members of the garrison would affix this 1d. stamp with Goodyear (and the 3d. stamps with Baden-Powell) on letters going out to other parts of the world, but this is what happened. If it would have been foreseen, Troop-Leader Goodyear would never have appeared on a stamp, as this was the prerogative of the Queen and other members of the Royal family.

Anyway, Goodyear was chosen as a worthy stamp subject representing all those brave boys under him, and a photograph had to be taken of him in preparation for the stamp design. The whole party which turned up in one of Mafeking's deserted streets to take the "still" and the whole preparations must have resembled the shooting of a film scene by a modern film company. There were Capt. H. Greener (the designer of the B.P. stamp) and Lord Edward Cecil, ready with expert advice on how to pose on the bicycle. Mr. D. Taylor who was the printer of the 1d. and the 3d. "blue" stamps, was in charge of the "shooting" operation. As the photo technique was not enough advanced yet to take an "action photo", i.e. a snap while Goodyear was actually in motion on his bicycle, he was advised to put the down pedal resting on a stone, while he himself, half sitting, half standing, had to pretend as if he were riding a dispatch. A rather unsteady position.

Everything was ready for the great moment, Mr. D. Taylor lifted his hand, Warner Goodyear put on his beste winning smile, when — crash — bang — a heavy enemy shell blasted into the ground within a very short distance from where the peaceful group was concentrating on artistic work. The whole show was upset. Goodyear tumbled down with his bicycle, not so much as a consequence of the blast, but losing his balance on account of the unexpected, sudden commotion. He picked himself up, dusted himself and prepared to take up his former position again, when further shells started to crackle left and right.

The photographic party decided that the neighbourhood was rather unhealthy and postponed the performance for some other time. Another photographic session met with no serious interference and was successful. The result can be seen on the 1d. "blue" stamp.

CADETS BECOME SCOUTS AFTER THE WAR

Before the Siege was raised, Sergt. Maj. Warner Goodyear was made a Lieutenant. After the Relief, the boys of school age returned to school and formed the School Cadets. The older boys joined the Bechuanaland Rifles. All of them however kept together, and calling themselves **"The Scouts"** went out **camping** and **scouting** whenever opportunity offered.

Baden-Powell returned to England in 1903, becoming Inspector-General of Cavalry and after 2 years Commander of a northern Territorial Division. During that command, he started the Boy Scout movement which grew so quickly that it became impossible for him to carry out satisfactorily both his military duty and that of Chief Scout. He reluctantly resigned therefore from the Army and his life career to devote himself fully to the Boy Scout ideal.

The **first Boy Scout, Warner Goodyear,** however died in 1913 at the early age of 26. Lord Baden-Powell wrote about him: "Goodyear's memorial will be of permanent value, since it will record the case of a boy who in serving his country with bravery and distinction, showed that the right boy can be trusted with responsibility just as well as any man, and has just as fine a sense of duty."

(With grateful acknowledgement to the following Siege personalities for information supplied: **Mr. J. V. Howat,** the late Siege Postmaster; **Col. H Greener,** the late military postmaster and Chief Paymaster of the Siege; **Major** (now **General Sir) Alexander Godley,** advisor in Siege postal matters; **Mr. Henry Hammond,** a Cadet of the Mafeking Messenger Corps; and last but not least, **Lord Baden-Powell** who was gracious enough to correspond with the writer in 1939).

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REVIEWS

Cape Triangular Stamps by Eric Rosenthal and Eliezer Blum, published by A. A. Balkema, Union House, Queen Victoria Street, Cape Town, price 12/6.

This book is, frankly, a sad disappointment. It aims at a high standard of book production: the effect is spoiled by many errors due to careless and uninformed proof-reading. It embodies an ingenious way of providing colour illustrations: but most are crooked, and excess adhesive has spread where it was not wanted and has joined pages which should be separate. Altogether, a shilling spent on buying the September 1953 (Cape Centenary) issue of the South African Philatelist (still available) would probably prove a better purchase, wanting only the priced check-list to be fully comparable.

The text consists of an account of the history of the Cape Triangular from the antiquarian's point of view (by the first author) and several shorter notes on various philatelic aspects (by the second author). Neither portion is anything like a comprehensive treatise — this is not to be expected of a 48-page book — but within the set limitation they provide a readable account of the facets of the subject which most appeal to present-day readers whose interests cover Africana and Philately.

We are, naturally, mainly concerned with the second half of the book, which comprises a short introductory chapter, followed by a detailed list of the issues with suggested prices, notes on forgeries and, of course, also forged "postmarks". The author rightly stresses the importance of condition in the valuation of stamps, and warns of the prevalence of faked items which are generally much more dangerous than the total forgeries. It seems rather invidious to mention one particular Expert Committee when there are at least two others which most knowledgeable collectors would prefer to consult about Capes, and the wording of this section is rather unhappy in suggesting that the one named will provide a certificate of authenticity for **any** Triangular on payment of a small fee.

The detailed list of the issues, including proofs and specimens, contains a valuable attempt to indicate for each item the premium which should apply for pairs, blocks of four, and used on cover. We do not agree with the author, however, in suggesting that sideways watermarks are met with frequently and rate only 50% premium. It is only recently that Gibbons have been persuaded of the existence of sideways watermarks on all denominations of both Perkins Bacon and De La Rue Triangulars, and they are in fact quite elusive and should be reckoned rather to rate about 200% premium. The odd examples of displacement of watermark, which can produce stamps shewing no watermark, or, not mentioned by the author, sideways, two watermarks on one stamp, are very rare and their value would be conjectural, not, as the author puts it, "speculative". We are also surprised that he should trot out the hoary myth about the rouletted stamps being supposed to have been made by the Standard Bank. This nonsense did at one time appear in Gibbons (it is not there now) and it was pretty effectively exploded by Jurgens who pointed out that at the time of the roulette there was, in fact, no such thing as the Standard Bank! On the subject of the roulettes, the author goes on to say "singles" (he presumably means **off cover)** "are also very valuable if it can be established that rouletting is genuine". It might have been kinder to warn prospective treasure hunters that the rouletted stamps off cover **cannot** be established to be genuine and are not worth a premium. At the top of page 39 the expression "tête-bêche" is used where the author apparently meant to write "se tenant": **all** pairs of the triangulars are tête-bêche. The book concludes with an account of the Spiro and Panelli forgeries, and might with advantage have devoted more space to a warning about repaired and rebacked stamps, pen marks removed, false "postmarks" applied, corners and margins grafted on etc., which are more likely to deceive the undiscerning and those, both dealers and collectors, who are over-gullible in their approach to Capes.

It should also have been mentioned that penmarks are not **necessarily** fiscal markings. They may in fact be early postmarks, the study of which has been made much more difficult by reason of the assiduity with which fakers have removed them in the belief that they were "improving" fiscally used stamps!

Stanley Gibbons' Postage Stamp Catalogue Part III (Foreign Countries in America, Asia and Africa) 1958 Edition.

Present plans provide for a new edition of this part of Gibbons every **two** years and the 1958 "blue" Gibbons will be welcome as its predecessor has been out of print for well over a year. The contents are a little changed this time, as it has been decided to drop Egypt, Iraq and Transjordan **entirely** from the Part I Catalogue, and in future their issues will be found **only** in Part III. The sole surviving duplication in Parts I and III now occurs in the lists of Burma and Anglo-Egyptian Sudan — presumably in due course these too will vanish from the pages of Part I; it seems a pity that the Japanese issues which have never had any shadow of a right to be in Part I should still remain there when these legitimate instances of dual status are disposed of so summarily.

The major revision of text comes in the lists of Brazil, which have been much improved (particularly in the later 19th century issues) by supplementary illustrations of the differences between types. Far East Asia, which has suffered from the dearth of reliable information and the evident prevalence of malpractices, is gradually taking better shape and the lists of China and Korea have particularly improved.

Price changes, mostly increases, are general and extensive. The prices in the Israel list are, for the moment, realistic. United Nations issues also exhibit some startling increases in places. Both have been further revised in a subsequent issue of "Gibbons Monthly". What may be no more than a passing interest in Scout stamps is reflected in even such remote corners as the 1920 Scouts stamps of Siam (some six-fold increases). Other price changes have obviously been inspired by the Caspary sales realizations and many of the extreme rarities amongst the "classics" have risen.

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Revision, other than as mentioned above, seems to have been almost entirely confined to prices, which is a pity, for there are editorial oversights whose perpetuation detracts from the virtue of the publication: for example, in the note below Iraq SG O128, how can a note on the prices of "Cloud" flaws apply to the Official stamps **in which the flaws do not occur?** Similarly, the note below Columbia SG 655 should refer to the **½c.** lithographed stamp.

Our German correspondent, Mr. Joachim Dill of Bad Neustadt, sends us examples of the latest German new issues: the centenary of the birth of Albert Ballin, founder of the famous Hamburg-Amerika shipping line, was celebrated on 15 August by a 20 pfg portrait stamp; while on 23 August a new 10 pfg stamp appeared in about the oddest design yet seen, the lattice pattern of a TV screen when warming up. In the meantime, glider flying has apparently been solving its financial problems by the organization of mail-carrying flights, each of course with a multitude of fancy cachets in various colours. Some of these promotions have had an unhappy time waiting for the right weather: one flight arranged for the Sonneberg Philatelic Exhibition in June was held up until 3 September!

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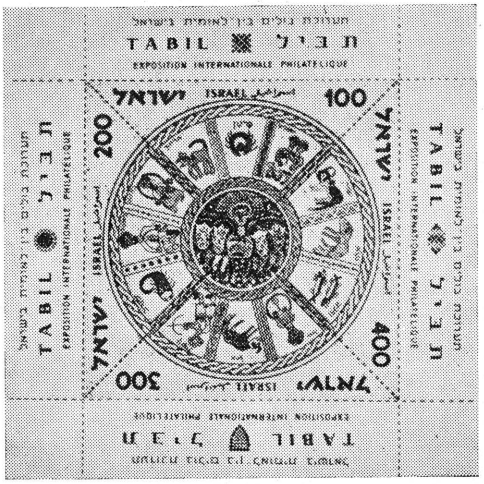
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UNION POSTAGE DUE MARKS

By J. H. HARVEY PIRIE
& K. E. W. LYDALL

(Continued from page 135, September 1957 issue)



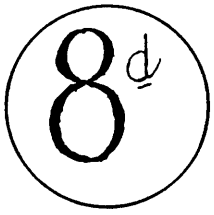
21.

Type 21.

A bare figure of value without any T.

(a) 1d. 22 mm. high, on postcard from Cape Town to Germiston, 1910. There is also a separate bare T as described under Type 5a.

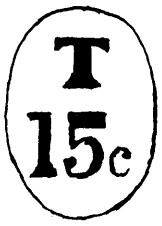
(b) 1½d. (1½d.) also 22 mm. high on cover from Tristan da Cunha to Johannesburg 1949. Mark presumably applied at Cape Town. There is also a T in an oval similar to those described as Type 7.



25.

Type 22.

Also a bare figure of value. 8d. 18-19 mm. high, described as a separate type because it is a rather fancy type of figure and quite different from the rather crude figures of Type 21. Cape Town 1952. The cover also has a separate T in an oval of Type 7.



23.

Type 23.

This mark has a T 6 mm. high above 15 c 9 mm. high, in a fine lined oval 28.5 x 20 mm. There is also a mark of similar size and style with T/3d. They are on a cover from Durban in 1906, bearing a penny Natal stamp. The cover was originally sent to another address in Durban, then it was re-addressed to Budapest,

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A very nice mint collection of Yugoslavia, a few older ones, otherwise nearly complete from 1935—57, 618 stamps, Cat. value about £43.0.0 for £31.0.0 all mounted on sheets.

And many many other items. Send us your want-lists in Michel or Gibbons Numbers.

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Hungary, without any additional stamps. It ultimately came back to Durban as "insufficiently addressed."

There is als a large "30" in a circle, which is probably a Hungarian mark, as on the back of the cover there are three 10 filler Postage Due Hungarian stamps cancelled in Budapest.



24

Type 24.

T and a value in pence in an oval.

(a) A local Johannesburg letter of 1907 with a 1d. embossed stamp, but apparently understamped, so taxed 2d. The oval mark is a very thick-lined one and the 2d. is also coarse. The size of the oval is 27 x 22 mm.

(b) T/1d. in an oval 27 x 19 mm., on cover from Tristan da Cunha 1936, probably applied at Cape Town. The cover has 1½d. in British stamps and the T-mark is crossed with two lines in ink and in M/S "Surcharge cancelled". The thickness of the oval is about intermediate between that of the illustration of this type and the illustration of the oval of Type 23.

(c) A T/1d. mark, practically identical with (b), Durban 1928.

(d) The T/3d. mentioned as accompanying the Type 23 mark should also be noted here.

(e) T/4d. in an oval 30 x 20 mm., moderately thick-lined, Durban 1952.

(f) T/4d. in an oval, thin lined like Type 23, Duffs Road Sta. 1956.

(g) T/8d. in an oval 35 x 20 mm., moderately thick-lined, Cape Town 1952. In violet.

(To be continued)

CAPE OF GOOD HOPE

TRIANGULARS.

RECTANGULARS. POSTMARKS.

Extensive selections of the above are always available, as well as interesting covers and Postal History material.

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(Record price paid in London).

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½d. K.H. P1 7, normal wmk., set of 4 marginal centre blocks £2 2 0
½d. K.H. P1. 7, normal wmk., sheet centre block £1 10 0
2½d. K.H. dull blue, Control block 25/-, corner block blank £1 1 0
3d. K.H. black & orange, set of 4 Control blocks £5 5 0
3d. K.H. black & orange, set of 4 marginal centre blocks £4 4 0
3d. K.H. black & orange, double gutter sheet centre block £3 3 0
3d. K.H. black & orange, horizontal or vertical gutter blocks £2 2 0
3d. K.H. deep bright blue, set of 4 Control blocks £5 5 0
3d. K.H. deep bright blue, set of 4 marginal centre blocks £4 4 0
3d. K.H. deep bright blue, double gutter block from sheet centre £3 3 0
3d. K.H. deep bright blue, missing Jubilee line in gutter block £2 12 6
3d. K.H. deep bright blue, horizontal or vertical gutter blocks £2 2 0
3d. K.H. deep bright blue, "K flaw" (row 5 No. 9) in block £1 5 0
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1/- Gnus P1. 3, o/ptd. 7oc., black Sheet Nos.	63/–	50/–	21/–	22/6
Union Large War Issue.				
½d. bright green	12/6	12/6	4/6	4/6
deep bright green, yellow paper, grey Nos.	17/6	17/6	8/6	7/6
deep blue-green	15/–	15/–	6/6	7/6
pale blue-green	20/–	20/–	8/6	8/6
1d. bright **or** dull carmine (either shade)	12/6	12/6	4/6	5/6
1½d. deep myrtle, cream paper	15/–	15/–	5/6	6/6
dull myrtle, white paper	18/6	18/6	6/6	7/6
2d. bright violet	17/6	17/6	6/6	7/6
duplicate Sheet Nos., strips of 4 or 6	—	—	12/6	—
3d. bright blue	21/–	21/–	7/6	10/6
4d. bright chestnut	—	—	—	17/6
pale reddish brown	42/–	42/–	12/6	15/–
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1/- dark chocolate, only odd arrow, corner and Sheet No. blocks @ 17/6 each.

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A. LICHTENSTEIN,

Licensed Stamp Dealer,

BOX 576, BLOEMFONTEIN.

CANADA

On 5 September a 5c stamp in black appeared as part of the "primary industries" series. This was a "Mining" stamp featuring a miner underground working a pneumatic drill.

SOCIETY NEWS

ORANGE FREE STATE AND BASUTOLAND PHILATELIC SOCIETY

July Meeting. There was only one exhibit. Mr. J. D. Rossouw of Paarl, President of the Philatelic Federation of Southern Africa, and a member of our Society entrusted to us for exhibition some two hundred of his famous **"Anglo-Boer War Covers".** Among the many and varied interesting items were the following:— Envelope with cancellation "PosKantoor Lager Noorder Grens". (This Post Office served the Republican Forces, which were stationed on the Rhodesian border). Several Mafeking siege covers (one with a strip of four Baden-Powell stamps and one "Bicycle" stamp); Ladysmith siege cover with postal cancellation "Ladysmith Siege Post Office"; Several Patriotic covers, one of which was addressed to President Paul Kruger. Others depicted the relief of Kimberley; the narrow escape of President Steyn at Reitz; General de Wet as "The Flying Dutchman," etc.; Envelopes addressed to Baron Kitchener of Khartoum K.C.B., K.C.M.G. (cancelled 6.7.1901); Lord Roberts (cancelled 28.5.1900); President S. J. P. Kruger (cancelled 18.2.1902) and General Louis Botha (cancelled at Ermelo on 2.5.1901).

There was a large attendance and the members and visitors were greatly impressed with the exhibit. Our appreciation and thanks are due to Mr. Rossouw from having privileged us to view this collection.

GERMISTON PHILATELIC SOCIETY

July, 1957. Four exhibits were tabled by members who had not displayed their collections before. Mr. W. S. Deverell was in the chair and Mr. S. J. Hagger spoke on the exhibits.

August, 1957. A nearly full attendance of members at our first attempt at arranging a "Stamp Exchange" evening.

I. S. B.

PRETORIA PHILATELIC SOCIETY

5th August. A discussion on the question of collecting foreign stamps as opposed to British Empire issues opened the evening's programme. Commander Enoch, on a visit from Johannesburg, propounded the advantages of those countries not appearing in the red Gibbon's catalogue and his points were well presented and received a very sympathetic hearing. Mr. Slater-Kinghorn then took up the cudgels on behalf of the Empire collectors and was equally convincing in his arguments. The views of the members were then put forward by Drs.

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Broughton & Keller, the final outcome being a slight swing towards the advantages offered from collecting foreign countries' issues.

Commander Enoch then read a short paper on "European Number Ones", explaining that this covered over 100 years of stamp issuing. In fact, the most recent Number One to appear was in 1945. Then followed his exhibit of the above stamps which made an extremely interesting and varied covering as it did all the first issues of all the countries of Europe. A most attractive selection of "Penny Blacks" highlighted the exhibit. The sincere thanks of the members were proffered to Commander Enoch for his evening's effort and for having made the trip from Johannesburg for our benefit.

19th August. The evening commenced with a discussion on the relative merits of the different ways of mounting stamps, mint and used, (a) together, (b) on black paper, (c) white frame on black paper. Mrs. Betzler, Dr. Keller and Messrs Slagt, Wright and Slater-Kinghorn spoke on the various aspects, it being generally agreed that mounting mint stamps on black paper could be harmful to the adhesives. For used it was agreed that it was essentially a matter of personal preference.

Then we were shewn a selection of ten to twenty pages by each of the following, illustrating the various methods of mounting and presentation:—

(1) Mrs. Betzler — used and mint "Berlin".

(2) Dr. Keller — Poland — its early postal history, and the German occupation issues.

(3) Mr. J. Slagt — the coins and stamps issued in the Transvaal from Republic days to today.

This was a most unusual and surprising exhibit which received especially favourable comment. A paper on the pages shewn was also read by Mr. Slagt.

(4) Mr. Impey — Great Britain overprinted for Muscat, Bahrain and Kuwait.

Mr. Impey also read a paper detailing some of the points of interest concerning the countries shewn.

(5) Mr. Slater-Kinghorn — a selection of his British Colonial items.

Altogether, it was a stimulating programme which made the evening particularly enjoyable for all who were present.

J. M. W.

THE EAST LONDON PHILATELIC SOCIETY

The **August meeting** was the annual meeting for Junior Collectors in East London, and there was quite a fair attendance of school lads and lasses.

Some very fine displays indeed were shown and all present enjoved studying them. The winners were as follows:—

Section 1 — Saul Teukolsky — prize, packet of stampsp.

Section 2 — Edwin Main — Magnifying Glass.

Section 3 — Barry van der Vyver — Album.

Section 4 — John Franklin — Album.

Owing to the transfer from East London of Mr. J. Joseph, Mr. H. T. Harper was elected President of the Society, Mr. C. P. Durkin Vice-President and Mr. J. F. Paviour was elected to the Executive Committee.

J. P. S.

THE PHILATELIC SOCIETY OF NATAL

Sept. 4th. Mrs. Bevis gave a most interesting talk on "Christianity on Stamps" while Mr. Bevis showed slides of the stamps depicting the scenes corresponding with the talk. We then came to the Exhibits for the "Winde Cup". The first exhibit was Mr. J. Michelson's collection of Latvia, which included some scarce and interesting items. The next Exhibit was Mr. Selwyn-Smith's collection of Switzerland; this too was a very interesting collection.

B. M. B.

PRETORIA RAILWAY PHILATELIC SOCIETY

August meeting. The premier trophy of the Society, the Been Cup, was competed for. The five collections entered for the Cup were as varied as one could imagine, each being outstanding in its own light, so those present enjoyed themselves immensely. The order in which the entries were exhibited was first, Mr. D. Slater-Kinghorn's "Early Covers and postmarks of Great Britain", in which he displayed numerous pre-stamp covers from different parts of England and Scotland as well as beautiful strips and blocks on piece of penny blacks and twopenny blues etc. Secondly, an exhibit received from Mr. John Hodgson of Bloemfontein, covering the Universal Postal Union issues, was tabled. This has been mounted in alphabetical order, and by doing so, the foreign sets intermingled with the British Empire, make a pleasing collection. Thirdly, our old friend, "Pop" Brown showed a portion of his George VI collection, which included many of the perforation and colour varieties and some of the "hard to get" issues.

The fourth exhibit was Dr. J. Sherel's "Olympic Games", which was complete, beautifully written up and well presented. Until one sees a complete collection of stamps which commemorates the Olympic Games, one does not realise how large and interesting it is. Lastly Pierre Roux showed his South African Official stamps in which he has many of the major varieties as well as the various printings of the stamps and the different overprints and set up of the overprints.

The judges had a difficult task to decide the winning entry the eventual winner being Mr. Slater-Kinghorn, who is heartily congratulated on his success. One pleasing point was the entry received from one of our Country members, and it is to be hoped that others will follow suit.

W. K.

ROYAL PHILATELIC SOCIETY OF CAPE TOWN

August 8th. This was the evening when the Simenhoff Cup for the Ladies was competed for. There were three competitors, Mrs. H. Jeidel "Israel", Miss A. Archer "Greece" and Miss R. Eisenberg "German States". Mrs. Jeidel's collection was complete in general issues and won the Cup. Miss Archer is one of the junior members and had a pleasant display and was a worthy runner-up.

August 22nd. Two exhibits were shown namely "Canada" by Mr. E. O'Brien and "Modern Trieste" by Mr. R. Putzel. Both these gentlemen are keen philatelists and their showings were of great interest.

M. F. S.

THEMATIC STAMP CLUB, CAPE TOWN

August 12th. Two thematic exhibits were shown; the first being that of "Fraternity on Stamps" by Mr. W. H. Winde of Durban, which dealt with British and Dominion Masons on stamps, being beautifuly written up, and is the

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beginning of a complete collection dealing with this subject; the second exhibit was by Mr. F. L. Archer "War on Stamps", being stamps in connection with World Wars, this written up in an easily read and connected manner.

August 26th. Again two exhibits were exhibited; firstly that of Mr. G. Milner Palmer of Durban "Sweet and Chocolate Industry on Stamps", being a full writing up of the raw materials used in the manufacture of the commodities — something new in the themes which are presented; and secondly "Animals on Stamps" by Mrs. H. M. Scott. Mrs. Scott wrote this up in a very clear manner and it was fairly complete in regard to the stamps themselves. This is the third Zoology collection this year and each has shown a different and refreshing manner of approach.

M. F. S.

SOCIETY OF ISRAEL PHILATELY

At the first Annual General Meeting held during January, the following Committee was elected:—

Chairman: Mr. L. Buchen.
Vice Chairman: Mr. I. A. Miller.
Hon. Treasurer: Mr. S. Samuels.
Hon. Secretary: Mrs. A. Coleman.
Hon. Publicity Officer: Dr. A. Kaplan.
Committee: Messrs D. Wacks, H. A. Hoffman, V. Hirsch, J. Algy, S. Hirschman and S. Legator.

Meetings are held monthly on the last Thursday of each month at 8 p.m. at the Zionist Centre, Cor. Banket and De Villiers Streets, Johannesburg. All those interested in any aspect of philately of Palestine and Israel are always welcome. At each Meeting a member gives a display and reads a paper. The following displays have taken place:—

January. The Travelling Post Offices of Israel by Mr. L. Buchen.

February. Symposium on how to go about collecting stamps.

March. Die Ou Testament — a thematic display by Mr. J. H. Bruwer of Krugersdorp.

April. Stamp Booklets of Israel by Mr. E. Schatzman.

May. Independence Day Stamps and film of Israel's National Independence Day by Mr. S. Samuels.

June. The Menorah — a thematic display — by Master R. Coleman.

July. The Postal History of Gaza and the Sinai Campaign by Mr. I. A. Miller.

August. Palestine Forerunners by Mr. J. M. Wainstein of Pretoria.

I. A. M.

THE PHILATELIC SOCIETY OF JOHANNESBURG

What excellent material we do have among our membership, was proved once more by both **July meetings**, each of which, inspite of the weather, drew more than 40 people. No less than eleven exhibits came together on 9th July for the Members' Evening and the "Ten Sheets per Member", and the popular vote had a hard time choosing between them, until, at last, three countries in the "green catalogue" ran away with the prizes, "Prussia" (Mr. Iourdan), "Baden" (Mr. Hoenigsberg), and "Portugal" (Dr. v. Varendorff). Once again, the classics had it. And even the forged classics scored well, Mr. Rudolph's most interesting small lot of rarities, called, "Something for Everybody", which looked so nice, so nice, and were so false, so false . . .

The meeting of **22nd July** was even better and something we shall not so easily forget. In fact, it was possibly too much caviar, and some of us got indigestion — at least from jealousy. Mr. L. Buchen showed the finest collection there is in the country of the stamps and, especially the postmarks, of German South-West Africa, with an unbelievable variety of that strange "Wanderstempel", one of which, Otyimbingue, wandered to so many post offices that it was, for some time, even domiciled in (British) Walvis Bay. You remember he won the "American Certificate" at TEPPEX with this show; but he has been so successful enlarging it since that it was quite unrecognisable.

Mr. D. Slater-Kinghorn had warned us that we had seen his "British Empire Items" only some months earlier. But we had known better, and made the same experience with his exhibit: it had grown by a lot of beautiful prestamp covers of Britain, and there was an early Mauritius on cover of such dimensions and purity that we can't have overlooked that at the previous showing. Besides, what is wrong with seeing such "items" twice a year?

Incidentally, we spent a very entertaining evening, too, on **5th July,** when some members visited the Afrikaanse sister society; their members enjoyed our three exhibits, Mr. Sheffield's sheets of Unions, Mr. Boss's French Algeria, and Mr. Lilley's "Labels" very much.

At the first meeting, on **August 13th,** Mr. J. E. Frankland showed us what he modestly merely called "Mind Edwardians", was in fact quite likely to be the outstanding display of the whole year, a show not only worth being given the whole evening but one which would have drawn attention as one of the major portions of an international exhibition anywhere. Here was an exhibit not only brimful with examples of the greatest rarity and of immaculate condition but, to give only one example from its many sections, there were "specimens" in pairs and triplets which officially should not exist as such! All the Society's six large frames were needed to show sample pages of under half the complete collection, and there was hardly a page which did not show a copy from a printing of under 10,000. The most astounding further example might have been the Chamba 12a, of which only 3,120 copies were issued, at which is still catalogued at 4/-! This aspect of total inadequacy of catalogue quotations and, incidentally, the neglect of so highly interesting a philatelic territory was amply discussed in the talk which Mr. Frankland gave. But perhaps this general neglect is explained by the fact that such a specialized collection has to specialize necessarily in nearly one hundred countries at the same time, and to traverse no less forbidding a space in time; for the first Edwardian stamp was issued by New Brunswick in 1860, and the latest to-date, in 1944, by New Zealand!

That the visitors from the East Rand Society brought us an offering of that quality to which we are accustomed from them, with their three exhibits of **26th August,** is an understatement. Mr. Legator's "Selection of Cape, O.F.S., Pietersburg, Mafeking, New Republic and Natal" was as full as its title was long; and Mr. McArthur's "Australia" and Mr. Wainer's "Israel" made this rich dish even

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THE
SOUTH AFRICAN PHILATELIST
PROPRIETORS AND PUBLISHERS:
The Philatelic Federation of Southern Africa
Editorial Board: Dr. J. H. HARVEY PIRIE (Chairman), J. E. FRANKLAND, Dr. T. B. BERRY, W. N. SHEFFIELD, P.O. Box 375, Johannesburg.
Business Manager: Mr. J. MICHELSON, P.O. Box 375, Johannesburg.

Vol. 33. No. 11. NOVEMBER, 1957 Whole No. 391

UNION NOTES

Hon. Associate Editor: Dr. T. B. BERRY, Box 31, Bryanston, Transvaal.

The Third Printing of the 2d. Stamp of the Third Definitive Series.

A new printing, the third, illustrated by two upper left corners, of the 2d. Animal Stamps made its appearance at the Philatelic Agency Pretoria, during September, and follows the general features of its predecessor in design, language setting, bilingual inscription, sheet and pane format, sheet numbers and arrows, watermark, perforation and fine cross-mesh screening.

The emission is printed from double-die Cylinder No. 92 in a slightly lighter shade of violet than the previous issue, the same multipositive having been used for the two issues. The sheet format is 480, consisting of two panes of 240 (20 x 12) stamps each. The left and right hand panes carry respectively single and double bars on their top and bottom margins: their marginal bars bear the distinguishing mark of the third printing, in that they are broken instead of being continuous as in the 1955 contemporary printing. The left vertical margin of the left pane and the right vertical margin of the right pane have been guillotined down evidently again to remove a marginal smudge.

New paper, of different texture, has been used for the printing. It is thicker than usual and of a very light cream shade. The impression of the printed stamps appears "flat", and in consequence the printing may be assessed as "not a good one". The watermark which is of the Multiple Springbok's Head, Upright, is not clearly defined, and in this respect we make so bold as to predict many "broken watermarks" or even "missing watermarks". Happy hunting!!

The arrows are of the solid, premanufactured type, and are similar to those of the second printing except that in the new printing the arrows are of a much darker shade, their screen effect is not so apparent, and the apices of the arms of the right marginal arrow of the single bar sheets meet in the third printing (Cyl. 92) but do not in the second printing (Cyl. 20), as illustrated.

Cylinder flaws of the small "fly-spot" category are numerous but lack of space unfortunately





prohibits their recording. We append, however, the multipositive flaws which are common to both the second and the third printings, viz.:

Single Bar Sheet, Cylinders 20 and 92.

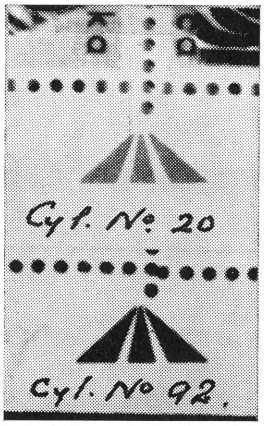
Row
1—1. Dot over 'S' of SOUTH.
2—12. Dot between 'T' and 'H' of SOUTH.
9—11. Dot at 11 o'clock to 'S' of SOUTH.
18—1. Tiny dot below 'O' of POSGELD.
19—2. Small smudge below 'G' of POSTAGE, almost on the animal's nose.
20—2. Smudge above 'd' of 2d.

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20—11. Smudge at animal's right nostril (frosted breath!)

Double Bar Sheet Cylinders 20 and 92.

5—12. Tiny dot above 'U' of SUID, on stamp margin.
6—10. Spot on animal's muzzle.
8—9. Dot above first 'A' of AFRICA, near animal's jaw.
8—11. Dot above "RI" of AFRIKA.
15—8. Smudge at 7 o'clock to "d" of 2d.



New Postal Slogan.

Mr. B. L. Cairncross, of George, Cape, reports the appearance of a new postal slogan, reading in double lines,

"GOEIE VOEDING — GOEIE TANDE
GOOD FOOD — GOOD TEETH" the accompanying cancellation being "JOHANNESBURG — 24.VIII. 1957 - 11.00"

This slogan appears to be in general use at the Johannesburg Post Office just at present.

1d. Plate XIV.

Mr. M. J. Rall, of Heidelberg, Cape, draws our attention to the hitherto unrecorded fact that the sheet numbers of the 1d. Plate XIV issue appear in both black and red inks. Over to you — Catalogue Committee!

Douane.

Mr. S. J. Hagger, of Alberton, submits the illustrated "Customs Paid" imprint.



Packets containing printed advertising matter are liable to Customs Duty, and senders of such packets may, if they so desire, assess the duty and prepay it by affixing to the packets postage stamps of the Union overprinted DOUANE.

Evidently this type of canceller is now being used on postal matter to which the prescribed Custom Duty stamps have not been affixed by the sender.

A Re-issue of the 2/6 and 10/- Animal Stamps.

Stamps, resembling the first printing of the 2/6 and 10/- Animal issue and bearing black sheet numbers, have been on sale at various post offices during September.

These issues indicate a further printing of these values as reported in our October Notes. The same cylinder flaws are present on the sheets we were privileged to examine, while the shade of the 10/- value appears the same as before but it differs slightly in the case of the 2/6 stamp.

1d. Ship Diagrams.

The S.A. Collectors Society, London, has hit upon a novel idea of offering blank diagrams of the 1d. ship stamp, illustrated, for sale at 2/- per 25 plus 6d. postage, in aid of funds required for their forthcoming exhibition.



Collectors of Union stamps will find these inexpensive and multipurpose diagrams invaluable for recording, in a clear and concise manner, the flaws or any other particulars pertaining to the stamp, either English or Afrikaans inscribed, and by their purchase they will not only assist themselves but will be contributing to a worthy cause.

We commend this effort to the attention of readers; orders should be sent direct to Mr. R. J. Lawrence, 36 Woodleigh Gardens, Streatham, London S.W.16.

UNION OF S.A.

I can fill "Want Lists" for the Commonwealth, Gibbons, Scott or Union catalogues.

Prices quoted in sterling, dollars or your currency as you prefer.

Write now to

C. E. SHERWOOD

"The Union Specialist"

105 Marford Crescent, Sale, Cheshire, G.B.

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Express Delivery.

It was recently reported in the lay press that a Shetland Pony, with stamps totalling six shillings stuck on its hindquarters, was "put in the post" in a village in Leicestershire, England, and delivered five miles away. The owner had discovered from the Post Office regulations that almost anything can be sent at 1/- a mile plus an extra shilling for "exceptional express delivery charge", and by using the Post Office he saved at least £1 in delivery charges on his pony.

The Union is not to be found lacking in this respect for the Post Office Regulations make provision for the express delivery of living animals, bicycles and liquids.

Living animals may be sent if in secure receptacles, while dogs, provided with collar and chain, may be led by Express Messengers at double the ordinary mileage charge i.e. 1/- per mile. Bicycles are accepted at ordinary mileage rates for delivery, at sender's risk, within two miles of the office at which they are handed in.

We will be glad to record the experiences of any reader who has availed himself of these postal facilities.

½d. K.H. Doubly Printed.

Mr. K. S. Sargeant, of Southampton, England, writes: On page 94 of the S.A.P. for July 1957, is illustrated and described a so-called double-print.

My experience and my memory of the writings of other philatelists has led me to believe that this sort of "doubling" is merely a "Kiss-print" or "shift."

It is generally caused by a "bubble" of air either side (not both) of the paper during the actual printing. The paper hits the printing surface momentarily just as the bubble of air is squeezed out, causing a Kiss-print. When the plate is flat and the paper is curved around a cylinder, the leading edge or the trailing edge may have this tendency to "flap" about.

Another cause may be a shudder in the printing press, perhaps through age, or the requisite nuts and bolts not being securely fastened.

The Key-Plate types of the Empire show this shift-print at one side or the other for several Colonies. Generally they are ignored but sometimes a dealer will place a £5 price-tag against a 1d. stamp and say "Rare — Double Print". Such dealers and stamps are best ignored.

Information Required, please.

We would be pleased to receive information concerning the following enquiries submitted by **corres**pondents:

A photograph is illustrated of an unrecorded "Mock Up", which apparently was taken of one of the submitted designs for the Union's 1910 Commemorative Issue.

Could a reader throw any light on the design, and who was the competitor?

How did the condition of the combined Double and Single Rouletting of the 1½d. Small War-Effort Issue, U.H.B., 91Vd., occur?

The ½d. Economy strip, catalogued on Page 30 of the Supplement as B8, Bd, and illustrated on page 109, comprises Rows 6, 7 and 8 of the relative Booklet Sheet.

Do the other two strips of the ½d. comprising Rows 2, 3 and 4, and Rows 9, 10 and 11, also exist as Economy strips as in the corresponding 1d. Booklet Issue?



The Philatelic Agency announces the following arrangements for the inauguration of South African Airways' direct service to Australia on 25th November, 1957. To commemorate the first flight, souvenir envelopes are being designed by South African Airways. Orders for these souvenir envelopes should be sent to:

Philatelic Services,
Post Office Publicity Branch,
G.P.O., PRETORIA,
accompanied by a letter furnishing the following information:

Name: Mr./Mrs./Miss .....

Address: .....

.....

.....

BLOCK LETTERS PLEASE.

Number of covers required: .....

Amount of remittance: .....

A specially designed date stamp will be used and, unless otherwise requested, two 1/3 stamps of the animal series (the Springbok) will be affixed to each cover.

All envelopes will bear the address of the South African Airways representative in Perth, Australia, but will be returned to South Africa for delivery to applicants. The cost of each envelope, including servicing, will be 2/6 for air mail postage, plus 2d. for return postage. Return postage to countries which are not members of the Commonwealth or African Postal Union, is 4½d.

Every order must be accompanied by a postal or money order or bank draft to cover the cost of the required number of envelopes at 2/8 each (2/10½, approximately 45 cents United States currency, for non-Commonwealth or non-African Postal Union countries), and should be made payable to the Postmaster-General, Pretoria. Applicants who wish to have their envelopes returned to them by registered mail, must add an additional sixpence (7 cents U.S.A.). Cheques and foreign banknotes or coins will **not** be accepted.

Applications should reach the Post Office Publicity Branch at Pretoria as early as possible but not later than the 16th November, 1957.

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Christmas Stamps

The 1957 issue of the Union Christmas stamps goes on sale at all Post Offices on the 4th November and will remain on sale until the 24th December.

They are made up in both sheet and booklet form, and the proceeds of their sale at one penny each go to support the Sunshine Homes in which children are cared for who have been in contact with tuberculosis. It should be noted that these stamps are printed for use as seals on mail matter and have no value for the pre-payment of postage.





The design, in red and green, depicts a happy Father Xmas bearing a banner of Xmas greetings. The Cross of Lorraine appears in the right back-ground while the year of issue, 1957, is printed in the bottom right corner and above it, along the right vertical margin of the stamp, appears the name of the country, South Africa. The inscriptions are unilingual, and in accordance with the policy of previous years, the figure of value has been omitted. The Welfare Organisation Number, "WO 728," appears at the top of the left vertical margin of the stamp.

The sheets are printed in tête-bêche format of 120 stamps (6 x 20) alternating English and Afrikaans, on unwatermarked paper. The three rows on the left are inverted while the three on the right are upright.

The booklets are made up of panes of six stamps, and are sold at 6d., 1/-, 2/6, 5/- and 10/- each.

SPECIAL OFFER OF COMPLETE MINT SHEETS

VIRGIN Islands 1d. Type I, 1887/9, wmk. Crown CA, 24 stps,	£7	10	0
Afghanistan Type 43, 2 pouls red, imperforate, 25 stps.	£1	2	6
Switzerland Pro Juventute 1953, incl. T-B etc. varieties (24)	£2	2	6
Japan 1956 Philatelic Week ("spirit of sleep") 10 stamps		5	6
Japan 1955 Philatelic Week ("girl with flute") 10 stamps		5	6
Israel 1954 airmail 10 pruta greenish, (tabs. and all) (25)		17	6
Israel 1955 Children 5, 10, 25, 30 pruta (tabs. and all) (4 sheets)	£4	10	0
Monaco 1957 Princess Caroline 2, 3, 1, 5, 15 frs. (5 sheets)	£2	2	6
Latvia 1918 Type I, on German Mil. Maps. perf. or Imperf. (228)	£3	17	6
Russia 1917 Currency Stamp 1 kop. SG 176 (100 stps.)	£1	10	0
Russia 1909-16 with chalk lines, 2k — 70k (10 sheets of 100)	£2	17	6
Russia 1923 2, 3, 10 rub. and 50 rub. 1922 (4 sheets of 100)	£4	15	0
Germany 1919/23 Inflation issues, 119 diff. sheets	£7	10	0
Germany 1919/23 Inflation issues, incl. flat and rotary plates etc., 138 sheets	£9	2	6

NET POSTPAID. CASH WITH ORDER.

A. LICHTENSTEIN

(B.P.A.)

BOX 576 — BLOEMFONTEIN.

We regret that the top 4 prices in the Union Pictorials (K.U.T. overprints) section of our October Advertisement were displaced one line.

FRANCE

On 31 August an 18 fr. stamp was issued in honour of minister Leo Lagrange who, in 1936, was responsible for greatly encouraging and expanding the inter-university sporting meetings which had been instigated in 1923. Lagrange was killed in the French campaign of 1940.

"EUROPA" STAMPS

The Netherlands issue of these stamps on 16 September has already been noted. It has now been ascertained that the other countries aiming at "United Europe" have also taking part in the issue; they are Luxemburg, Belgium, France, West Germany and Italy.

Luxemburg has a set of three, of 2, 3 and 4 francs denominations. The design is a tower as seen from near the bottom, looking up; across it, half way up, is "Europa" and over the top, in a blaze of light is "Paris."

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REVIEWS

Stanley Gibbons Postage Stamp Catalogue Part I — British Commonwealth, 1958 edition, price 21/-.

Not the least of the innovations appearing with this edition is the provision of a handsome dust jacket featuring, besides the inevitable penny black and Cape triangular, the Gibbons bête noire of yesteryear, the £1 Silver Wedding stamp! Noteworthy changes have occurred inside also. The former truncated lists of Egypt, Iraq and Transjordan have now vanished, being embodied from now on only in the Part III volume. Contrariwise, all the Irish issues now appear in Part I. Burma and Sudan still remain in truncated form, but are presumably next in line for the executioner. Would that the Editor would deal as summarily with the wrongly inserted Japanese issues which still disfigure this volume!

The Falkland Islands list has been thoroughly overhauled and is now much improved. Further progress has also been made with a much more elaborate project, the rewriting of the list of Victoria, and this has now reached a point where all the later numbers have been moved back to fit. We also welcome the decision to revert to quarter perforations in the Kenya List, a change which may profitably be extended to many other modern issues, where the perforation is very often more or less dead on a quarter and therefore can only so be expressed without confusion.

The entire volume (except, oddly enough, in Great Britain itself) embodies the new Gibbons price policy which was foreshadowed in last year's sectional catalogue of modern issues, and the price changes are even more numerous than is customary. Once again, unfortunately, preoccupation with these movements seems to have inhibited other revision which, by many users, would be more appreciated. Such mishaps as the transposition of the initial figures in the second and third lines of the note under Gwalior SG 63; or the reference to Type 9 instead of 8 in the heading above Niue SG 31; can be forgiven on their first appearance but should not be repeated indefinitely.

Independently of the alteration in the size of the "plus" in "face plus", there have been several major upward movements in prices and the discerning will notice that many "sleepers" are at last stirring and making that first move into the long deferred light of appreciation, a welcome sight to those who conduct their investment collecting not by following the vogue of the moment, but by serious study of relative rarity and undervaluation.

The Commonwealth Catalogue of Queen Elizabeth Stamps, 1958 edition.

This thriving youngster amongst the catalogues is growing apace and now consists of over 80 pages. It is astonishingly up to date, and by incorporating known projected issues even includes some that have not yet happened! It incorporates sideways and inverted watermarks, shades, and a very comprehensive list of varieties, in which respect it fills a felt want for the modern collector. Special sections deal with booklets and the Plate number blocks of Canada, but the similar listings of New Zealand, South Africa and South West Africa given in the previous edition have been dropped — PMG please note!

Wants, Offers & Exchange

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

WANTED, and For Sale, stamps of all countries (Wholesale). — GEO. F. ROWE, 11, Barmouth Road, London, S.W.18.

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

SWITZERLAND — Specialist and out of the ordinary items required. Write giving details and prices to B. JOSEPH, P.O. Box 9232, Johannesburg.

LABELS, stickers, exhibition stamps, etc. Send me your duplicates and I will send you an equal number of mine. — R. T. LILLEY, The Dingle, Sandford Orleigh, Newton Abbot, Devon, England.

PHILATELY. — Thematic sets for sale, including Ships, Red Cross, Famous Men, Flowers, Maps, Castles, Industries, Birds, Sport, Animals, Religion, Panorama, Aviation, Irish Christmas Seals, etc. Also Coronations, British Colonials, World Packets, and Special Countries. Price List sent on application. Apply:- Mrs. D. DUNSTONE, P.O. Box 93, Pinetown, Natal.

WANTED FOR CASH. Good collections any kind except Geo. VI. Also Transvaal 1st type and early covers of any country. — DOUGLAS ROTH, Newlands, C.P.

GOOD USED Unions for Sale. M. J. RALL, Dassieklip, Heidelberg, C.P. — Also has rarer mint controls to exchange for similar items.

SUPERB MINT HIGH VALUE COLONIALS

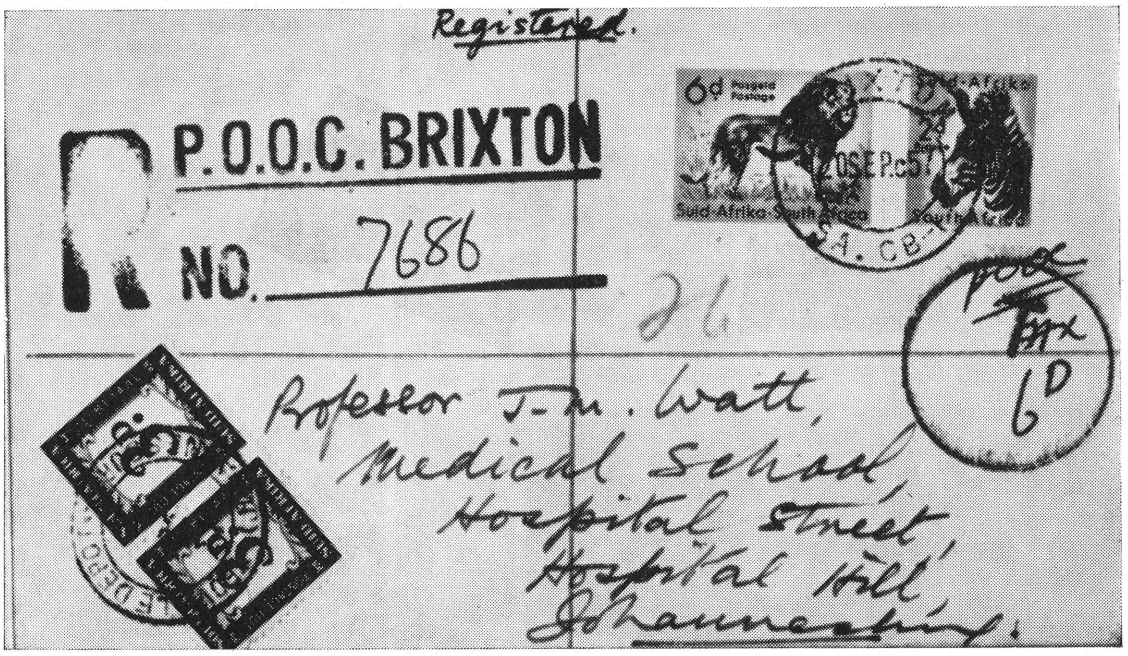
Special offers from stock

Brit. Solomon Is. 1925 10/- Script C.A. S.G. 52 @ £5 ..... £2 12 6
Ceylon 1912-25 5 rupees. Dic II S.G. 324c. Cat. £9 ..... £4 15 0
Ceylon 1912-25 10 rupees. S.G. 325 ..... £1 17 6
Dominica 1922-27 5/- S.G. 86 ..... 17 6
Dominica 1922-27 £1 S.G. 87 ..... £4 5 0
Fiji 1911 K. Edw. VII 5/- S.G. 203 ..... £1 2 6
Gilbert & Ellice 1922-27 10/- S.G. 35. Scarce £1 15 0
Grenada. 1913-21 10/- S.G. 101 ..... £1 15 0
Grenada. Script C.A. 10/-. S.G. 121 ..... 17 6
Malta 1926 2/- "POSTAGE" ovpt. S.G. 153 ..... £1 2 6
Nigeria 1936 £1 S.G. 45 Cat. £6 ..... £3 0 0
St. Vincent 1904-11 K. Edw. VII 5/- S.G. 93 £1 7 6
Sierra Leone 1933 Wilberforce 5/- S.G. 178 ..... £3 10 0
Sierra Leone 1933 Wilberforce 10/- S.G. 179 £5 0 0
South Africa K. Geo. V. 10/- S.G. 23 ..... £1 17 6
South Africa 1927-28 5/-. S.G. 38 Pair £2 7 6

Any item on approval against Cash of References.
N.B. We are reserving these particular stamps for S. African customers and we shall be glad to receive your want list of similar Colonials.
General selections sent on approval if desired.

GEO. C. GINN & CO.,
(Stamp Dealers for 75 years)
115 MOORGATE, LONDON E.C.2,
ENGLAND.

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CIRCULATION BRANCHES, JOHANNESBURG

By JOHN MITCHELL WATT

Recently at a meeting of the Johannesburg Philatelic Society Dr. J. H. Harvey Pirie showed me and others an unusual postmark identical with the one illustrated except for the date. The puzzling feature was "SA.CB—1" in the lower half of the Brixton postmark. This set me out on an interesting little research, the results of which are given below. The cover illustrated differs in some particulars from Dr. Harvey Pirie's and so I am using it as the basis of this article because it illustrates additional points.

This registered letter was "posted out of course" at Brixton by being placed in the pillar box instead of being handed over the counter. At Brixton it received three markings:—

(a) postmarks in black on the stamps and on the reverse, reading Brixton/20 Sep..c57/ SA.CB—1,

(b) by rubber stamp in violet

R POOC/Brixton, / No. 7686

the number being in manuscript,

(c) T

in violet, to which has been added in manuscript POOC/AX/6D.

From Brixton the cover was passed to Yeoville depot for service and delivery, as the mail for Hospital Hill is delivered from that depot. Yeoville added 2 x 3d. postage due stamps and cancelled them with the YEOVILLE Depot/ (Johannesburg) canceller, the postman collecting the fee on delivery of the item. This arrangement is to obviate double accounting.

"SA.CB—1" in the Brixton cancellation stands for **Sirkulasie-afdeling. Circulation Branch — No. 1 canceller.** This is one of five such branches in Johannesburg (1) G.P.O. Jeppe Street, (2) Brixton, (3) Saxonwold, (4) Kensington and (5) Rosettenville. Each of these collects mail from other post offices, sub-post offices and pillar boxes in its area and sorts them into mail bags for distribution without further handling. Thus, if the item illustrated had been the only one from Brixton for Yeoville Depot on 21 September 1957, it would have been sealed in its own mail bag.

The intention behind these Sirkulasieafdelings —Circulation Branches is facilitation of the handling of mail and celerity in its transmission.

GREAT BRITAIN

New postal rates came into force on 1st October. Practically everything has been raised, the basic letter rate, for instance, from 2½d. for 2 ozs. goes to 3d. for 1 oz. Alas, for the good old days of "Penny Postage."

There will be a special 4d. for the Inter-Parliamentary Union Conference in September. The design will be that of the current 4d., but with "Forty-sixth Parliamentary Conference" inscribed at the sides.

The "Regionals" are progressing but there is still quite a lot of work to be done on them.

The entry of the British P.O. for the first time into the servicing of covers on special occasions (at the World Scout Jamboree on 1st August) seems to have been very successful, according to a report given in "Stamp Collecting" by its Editor.

A little over half-a-million covers were handled. A special machine was developed for sticking on the stamps and, as three values were affixed, this must have saved an enormous amount of labour.

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CLASSICAL RARITIES

BAHAMAS 1859 1d. Lake No. 2. mint corner block of 4 with large margins £15
1861 1d. Lake perf. 11-12 S.G. 7. mint block of 4 IMPERF. BETWEEN £150
1862. 1d. Carmine Lake S.G. 8. but IMPERF PAIR. Very rare £45
1862. 1d. Carmine Lake perf. 11-12 x 11 S.G. 12. mint block of 4 with margin, VERY RARE £175
4d. Dull Rose S.G. 10 mint IMPERF ovprted "Cancelled" £26
4d. perf. 13, Mint block of 4 S.G. 18. The only known multiple of this stamp £450
6d. perf. 13. Mint block of 4 S.G. 19a. The only known multiple of this stamp £350

BARBADOS 1878, Large Numeral 1d. on half 5/- Rose (reading down) Unsevered pair
S.G. 86a used £50
As above, but unsevered pair of Type B. & Type A. Fine used. VERY RARE £175

BERMUDA 1865. 6d. Dull Purple S.G. 6. mint but IMPERF £45
1874 3d. on 1/- Fine used S.G. 13b. £25

BR. COLUMBIA 1865. 10c Blue superb used with Post Office Vancouver Pmk £45
As above but not so fine £35

BR. EAST AFRICA 1890. 1 anna on 2d. S.G. 2. FINE MINT BLOCK OF 4 .... £40
1897. 2½ annas on 1 anna S.G. 86 mint but DOUBLE OPRT. £50

J. E. LEA

446 STRAND, LONDON, W.C.2.
6 ALBERT SQUARE, MANCHESTER, 2.
Bankers:— District Bank Ltd., MANCHESTER, 2.
Telephone COVent Garden 1944 BLAckfrairs 2929.



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FLOOD WARNING

By KILROY

(Reprinted, by permission, from "Philately from Australia," June 1957 issue.)

"Full of strange shapes, of habits and of forms, varying in subjects as the eye doth roll to every varied object in his glance."

(Love's Labour's Lost A5. Sc2)

"And the mazed world, by their increase, now knows not which is which."

(Midsummer Night's Dream A2. Sc1)

These pungent passages came to my mind on the occasion of reading two paragraphs in philatelic journals of widely different appeal.

The first was a pertinent editorial in the "London Philatelist" on the subject of nomenclature as applied to Thematic collecting, the second was the advance news of the type of issue of "Postage Stamps" to be inflicted on the philatelic public on the occasion of the marriage in the State of Monaco.

Although, like Voltaire, I will defend the right of every collector to collect what he likes, whilst reserving to myself the right to disagree with his choice, I feel that the time has come when something of a plea should be put forth in the name of philatelic sanity.

Some of the older school of philatelists will no doubt recall to mind the dear, dead days when the primary purpose of postage stamps was, as the very name implies, to provide an easy and convenient method of prepaying the necessary fee for the carriage of a letter. Issues were restricted to such values as were necessary, and changes, in the shape of provisionals or new values, were only made when a change of either postal rate, or more infrequently (except perhaps in South and Central America) on a change of ruler.

Then in 1892 someone in America remembered that 500 years previously an obscure sea captain from Genoa, one C. Colon, had arrived on their shores with considerably less fuss than almost any starlet at almost any airport.

It is from this no doubt well-meaning effort of our transatlantic cousins that our present day troubles stem.

It is also true to say that for some years at any rate, countries were decently slow to follow this example, and then usually with some justification. Having a somewhat cynical mind, I suggest that this was because the hobby of stamp collecting was by no means so universal in its appeal as it is now. However, we all know what the cumulative results have been. We all know on the slightest provocation, and sometimes without even any provocation at all, far too many countries produce more and more stamps commemorating anything or anybody until one wonders where it will all end.

Almost any B.Econ. will tell you the reason: Demand and supply; and it is at this point that we must mention the insidious interloper into the ranks of philately; the Thematic collector, for he is, I feel sure, one of the primary causes for our winter of discontent. On the face of it, he (or she) is a harmless enough and usually pleasant person, kind to children and animals, and a good husband (or wife). But, he collects the subject matter of a stamp rather than the stamp itself. It may be he is passionately interested in lepidoptera, or botany, or railway trains or ships, or a hundred and one other subjects, but his aim is to get as large a collection of different subjects bearing on his particular theme as possible.

Harmless enough, you will say. Quite so. But, and it is a very big But, as the demand for this type of stamp increases, so will the supply, for stamp-issuing countries are not slow to realise the increase in revenue which will accrue to their coffers by obligingly pandering to these collectors, and who can blame them? It is just another commercial transaction on a national scale. Apart from supplying a demand, it also enables countries to boost the charms of their tourist resorts at little cost to themselves, and still more does it help to advertise their goods. In parenthesis, it must surely be the only case in which the man in the street actually buys tourist brochures, for these are usually given away by the country which hopes to attract the tourist.

Of course, such advertising has been normal for a good many years now, and, to be fair, some of the subjects illustrated on stamps have no doubt added to our store of knowledge of far-away places; but this does not excuse the veritable flood of weekly (it seems like) issues which continue to pour unchecked from certain countries, all of which are eagerly absorbed by the avid collectors, and all of which can have little or no justification if you apply the basic principles I mentioned earlier.

It may be argued, since there arealways two sides to any disputatious matter (and sometimes more), that this type of collecting interests people who cannot afford the early issues, or who cannot be bothered with the minutiae of philately: true, but it also has the effect of sickening the average general collector who, appalled at the continual flow of new issues, either gives up the hobby in disgust, or severely restricts his own collecting. All of this will eventually have repercussions on the market, and who knows — someday some countries will remember the old tale of the Golden Goose.

Indeed there are signs for those who can read them that a swing in the other direction may not be so far away as one might think. For instance, it is remarkable how many erstwhile collectors of "stamps" are now interesting themselves in postal history; and how many are taking an intelligent interest in the postal markings and cancellations as opposed to the actual stamp itself — these are pointers, or straws in the wind if you prefer it, and show that basically, many collectors are still interested in the legitimate use of postage stamps.

Incidentally, one of my friends is quite convinced that the flood of new issues emanating from certain countries behind what can be called the "Perforated Curtain" has the dastardly aim of cheapening the investments of the Capitalist countries, and eventually rendering them worthless by filling our collections with worthless paper. Far fetched isn't it? And now you must excuse me — I must go and see if my new Hungarian Zoological issue has arrived.

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CAPE OF GOOD HOPE NUMERAL BAR DEFACERS

(1) **Kingwilliamstown No. 4.** On pp. 64-65 of his book on Cape postmarks, Jurgens describes and illustrates a No. 4 which is unique amongst Cape marks in character, and although it cancels a "Hope seated" he says it is possibly not a Cape mark at all.



I can now put this doubt at rest, having been fortunate enough to find two of these marks on piece and a third accompanied by a place-date stamp of Kingwilliamstown of 27 April, '94. Nos. 4 of "ordinary" size (6-8 mm.) are well known from here, but, as the illustration shows, this measures 12 mm., quite an outsize among these thick-bar numeral defacers. Jurgens has classified it (provisionally) in his Group 1 of these marks, the ovals with nine bars; it has two bars at either end and five at the sides, ordinarily there are three at each end and three at the sides.

(2) **More unrecorded numbers.** I have come across some 27 more numbers which have not previously been recorded. They are all, unfortunately, on loose stamps so it is not possible to state the places of their usage. They can only go in the category "Used in the Cape". Here is a list of them in numerical order:

165	170	198	286	316	408
413	504	506	510	583	605
626	651	652	680	685	706
716	735	747	801	811	1021
1041	1097	1148			

(3) **No. 230.** This number is recorded by Jurgens as used at both Britstown and Graaff-Reinet. I can locate it at a third place of usage, having it on an entire with the postmark of Grahamstown — 28 Aug., 1882.

C. R. REYNOLDS.

AUSTRALIA

Two Christmas stamps, of 3½d. and 4d. denominations, will be issued in November. The designs will be symbolic of the spiritual significance of the season, depicting a child at prayer and the star of Bethlehem.

The Australian War Memorial at Canberra will be depicted on two stamps to be issued early in 1958. Both will be of 5½d. denomination, but the designs will be different in form; the central design will show the courtyard of the Memorial, on one stamp there will be symbolic figures of a sailor and an airman, on the other the figures will be those of a soldier and a servicewoman.

NEW ZEALAND

The two 1957 Health stamps went on sale on 25 September. One, a 2d. plus 1d. will show a life-saving team going into action; the other, 3d. plus 1d., features a beach scene with children.

BRITISH EMPIRE & FOREIGN

ISRAEL First Coins cpl. MINT	£70	0	0
FR. COLONIES, Bastille set, Surface & Air, 128 cpl. MINT	£15	0	0
FR. COLONIES West Indies Tercentenary complete MINT:	£3	10	0
CAPE TRIANGULAR: Collection of 56 including 2 Woodblocks: Clean lot Cat. about £900. .... Nett	£175	0	0
Specialized Lots of French Liberation, Italian Liberation, France Parcel Post, Algerian Parcel Post, Etc.			
BRITISH EMPIRE COLLECTIONS: Many good Geo. V sets & single items.			
GEORGE VI: From collection, many sets MINT sacrificed at face value.			
VRYBURG: set of 4 used complete, with Phil. Fed. certificate:	£12	10	0
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CAPE OF GOOD HOPE

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RECTANGULARS. POSTMARKS.

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References from new customers, please.

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ENGLAND.

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THE 1895 NATAL ½d. ON 6d. AND ITS VARIETIES

By J. E. FRANKLAND

Collectors seeing the long list of varieties on this issue as given in the Gibbons Catalogue may wonder just how these appear on the sheet, and whether the Catalogue pricings are mutually consistent (they aren't!).

The setting was sufficient to print 5 (V) by 12 (H) and was repeated four times to do the sheet of 240. Any variety indicated by its position on the upper part will therefore be found also in the corresponding position 5, 10 and 15 rows below.

Normal stamps (SG 114) occur on No. 6 of all rows, on No. 7 and 9 of all rows except the first, and on No. 10 of rows 2, 3, 4. They also occur in position 5/3. Total 17 per setting. Stamps with the second upright of H defective (incorrectly described as "Ealf" in Gibbons) (SG 114a) occur in position 5/10. Total 1 per setting. Stamps with no tail to the y (Pennv) (SG 114b) are **only** found in association with the long P or the long T & A, the former on 4/2 and the latter on 4/4. These should correctly be catalogued as varieties da and ia. Total 1 of each kind per setting.

Damaged 1 in Half (not noted in Gibbons) occurs in association with the long P on 1/8. This should be listed as variety db. Total 1 per setting. No stop after POSTAGE (SG 114c) and Comma after POSTAGE **only** occur in association with long P T and A and the catalogue is misleading in its footnote. It would be better to list the varieties as ka and kb. Total 1 per setting without stop and 2 per setting with comma. Long P (SG 114d) has already been noted above with two other varieties. It is also found without them on 1/1, 1/2, 1/5, 2/2, 2/4. Total 5 per setting.

Long T (SG 114e) occurs on 1/9, 2/12, 4/11, 5/2, 5/11, 5/12. Total 6 per setting.

Long A (SG 114f) occurs on 1/7, 1/10, 5/1. Total 3 per setting.

Long P and T (SG 114g) occurs on 2/11, 3/2, 3/8, 3/11, 3/12, 4/12. Total 6 per setting.

Long P and A (SG 114th) occurs on 1/3, 1/4, 1/12, 2/3, 2/8, 3/4, 4/1. Total 7 per setting.

Long T and A (SG 114i) has been mentioned above. **Without** the Pennv variety it is found on 2/1, 2/5, 3/3, 3/5, 5/4. Total 5 per setting.

Long P T and A (SG 114k) has also been mentioned above in association with the missing stop (on 3/1) and the comma (on 4/3 and 4/5). It is also found with normal stop on 1/11, 4/8, 5/5, 5/8. Total 4 per setting.

The following summary will indicate the correct relative scarcity of the items.

	per setting
114 (entirely normal)	17
114a (damaged H)	1
114b (Pennv) see da & ia below	
114c (no stop) see ka below	
114d (long P, otherwise normal)	5
da (with Pennv)	1
db, (damaged 1)	1
114e (long T, otherwise normal)	6
114f (long A, otherwise normal)	3
114g (long P & T, otherwise normal)	6
114h (long P & A, otherwise normal)	7
114i (long T & A, otherwise normal)	5
ia (with Pennv)	1
114k (long P T & A, otherwise normal)	4
ka (no stop)	1
kb (comma)	2
	60

Footnote: when you have found all the varieties, you may be interested to check how many have the **watermark reversed,** and then see if you can find them so, **as well as** with normal watermark!

The Philatelic Magazine

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CORRESPONDENCE

Cumming Street,
Wellington.
10th Sept. 1957.

The Editor,
S.A. Philatelist.
Dear Sir,

SOUTH WEST AFRICA

Looking through back numbers of the "S.A. Philatelist" I could not help noticing how seldom there is any reference to this territory. When I approached the editor with a request for more news and views about S.W.A. stamps I was told that he would be pleased to publish any contribution, but very little information, if any, is ever supplied for inclusion. This is indeed a sad state of affairs — so what about it, you S.W.A. collectors! Meanwhile I am accepting the challenge to make an attempt to start the ball rolling — so here goes.

It may not be generally known that there is a very efficient Philatelic Department organised by the Director of Posts and Telegraphs at Windhoek which gives similar service to that rendered by our own Publicity Office in Pretoria. Arrows, cylinder numbers etc. are supplied as requested. What a glorious opportunity for the collector who wants to specialise in some country! Incidentally, the stamps are printed in Pretoria by the same process as Union of S.A. stamps. So far the original cylinder numbers are still obtainable, but the 6d. and 1/6 have also been printed from new cylinders which will be put on sale when original stocks are exhausted.

Most collectors will no doubt like to start their collections with a display of the German stamps issued in the territory, followed by Union stamps used there during the occupation period. The various makeshift postmarks, pen cancellations, censor markings etc. can form an absorbing study. Unfortunately this kind of material is not too plentiful, but with S.W.A. at a temperary discount it may be possible to buy at reasonable prices while the slump lasts.

The King's Head stamps with overprints form another happy hunting ground for the specialist — what with missing stops, missing letters etc. The general collector need not be daunted, however. He can confine himself to "Gibbons" and also find enough variety to whet his appetite. The Union Specialist will realize that many of the varieties, plate nos. etc. found on Union stamps can also be found on S.W.A. stamps.

Until such time as a handbook is published it is difficult to know just what to look out for. This is where we can help one another by letting the S.A.P. know on which plate nos. or printings the various overprints occur.

In the later overprints on London pictorials some are also obtainable in both perforations (14 and 14 x 13½) but more information is wanted so that collectors can know what to look for. The 1929 Air Stamps with the different types of ovp. and varieties such as the "Short i", "missing clouds" etc. form another interesting group. Here can also be found such varieties as missing stops, "double strike" overprints etc.

The Pretoria Typo ½d., 1d., and 6d. with S.W.A. ovp. give rise to more uncatalogued varieties such as ovp. right in the centre of the stamp, ovp. right on the perforations etc., in addition to the numerous known varieties on the stamps themselves. Even the double perforation in the 1d. value is there. The 1d. with ovp. at the top seems to be always on plate 1 whereas the ovp. at bottom is on plate 2. The ½d. I have only found on plate 2 thus far.

Although not mentioned by Gibbons the ovp. on the 1d. Roto can be found at the top of the stamp as well as at the bottom, but the former appears to be much scarcer than the latter. The ovp. is found on plate 1 ("A" control) as well as on plate 6.

The ovp. on the 2d. and 1d. Voortrekker stamp can also be found both at top and bottom of the stamp. Earlier ovpts. are at the top whereas the later ones are always at the bottom.

The mere mention of the "Bantam" overprints opens up another wide field to be explored. Please, one of you specialists, let us know on which printings of each value the overprints can be found; also what else can be looked out for in addition to the catalogued varieties.

Although a bit late, a check list of plate numbers of the first (1931) Pictorial issue may even now be useful; as for the present issue: how about some specialist letting us have a list of the more prominent flaws such as are regularly supplied by certain Union specialists.

Perhaps there are some S.W.A. collectors who feel they cannot supply much information but have problems they would like solved. No doubt somebody can supply just what you want to know, if only you will sit down and write to the S.A.P.

Yours etc.,

J. MALAN.

TABIL

Exposition Internationale De Timbres - Poste. List of South African Awards.

Israel: Sam Legator, Benoni. Silver-Bronze.

Poland: A. R. Kleiner, Johannesburg. Silver-Bronze.

Brazil: Mrs. Gertrude H. Hunt, Johannesburg. Silver-Gilt.

U.S.A.: L. Hellman, East London. Bronze.

Cape of Good Hope: C. Reynolds, Beaufort West. Silver-Gilt.

Union of South Africa. Sam Legator, Benoni. Silver.

Swaziland: Dr. J. H. Harvey Pirie, Johannesburg. Silver.

South West Africa: L. Abrams, Johannesburg. Silver.

South West Africa: L. Buchen, Johannesburg. Silver.

Gold Coast: Mrs. Gertrude H. Hunt, Johannesburg. Silver.

George VI Issues: B. Glassman, Johannesburg. Silver.

Union of South Africa: W. N. Sheffield, Germiston. Diploma.

African Airmails: Capt. M. F. Stern, Cape Town. Silver-Gilt.

THEMATIC COLLECTIONS

L. Feinstein, Johannesburg. Silver-Gilt.
J. H. Bruwer, Krugersdorp. Diploma.

PHILATELIC LITERATURE

"THE SOUTH AFRICAN PHILATELIST". Silver Medal.
"HANDBOOK/CATALOGUE VOLS. I and II". Silver Medal.

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THE DONKIN HILL — MAIN STREET, PORT ELIZABETH

by Dr. J. W. HARRIS

With the growth of Port Elizabeth it was found necessary to open a new post office in Main Street, despite the fact that the General Post Office was in Market Square right in the business centre of the city. An office was opened in Garlick's Department Store in Main Street a few hundred yards from the General Post Office in 1937. This was a small glassed off enclosure at the further end of the Men's Department on the ground floor of the store. It was staffed by one lady clerk.

Mail in the nearby pillar-box was sent to the central post office where it was cancelled. For registered articles, however, a canceller "Port Elizabeth Main Street/Hoofstraat" and a printed registration label were provided.

Business grew rapidly, and with it the number of the staff, which despite expansion of the enclosure was very cramped. New premises were urgently required by 1954. Moreover, Garlicks itself required the space for its own needs.

In Donkin Street just off Main Street the Government found suitable premises for the proposed new post office. Some hundred odd years ago the government of that day granted land for the building of a Mechanics' Hall on condition that the land be used only for that purpose. This idea of "improving" the workers was imported from Britain, where such institutes were found to improve the degraded conditions of the workers of those times suffering from the consequences of the Industrial Revolution. With the spread of education such amenities, at least in South Africa, were no longer required. For many years the Mechanics' Hall in Donkin Street was not used for the purposes for which it had been built. The present government on investigating the position found that there were only three surviving persons who nominally were members of the Mechanics' Institute. The government demanded the return of the land, as the conditions on which this was granted were no longer fulfilled. Thus one of the most valuable sites of Port Elizabeth fell in to the lap of the government, who decided to use the premises as a post office to replace the one at Garlick's. Suitable alterations were made for the purpose.

This post office was opened on 25 November 1954. It was provided with a new canceller, appropriately called "Donkin Hill." Registered letters, however, continued to have the "Main Street/Hoofstraat" registered label. So we have the unique position of a post office using a registered label with a different name from that of the canceller. I doubt if any South African collector of postmarks has noticed the peculiarity. My attention was actually drawn to this by a continental correspondent who had trouble with his post office because the label and postmark did not correspond on his letters from me. When the stock of this "Main Street" label was near exhaustion the usual rubber stamped registration cachet with "Donkin Hill" was supplied. Covers with this cachet must be extremely rare, as soon after it was put into use the new printed "Donkin Hill" labels arrived at the beginning of August 1957. So now label and postmark are similar in name and collectors will be deprived of a charming item. It seems that in 1954 a stock of the "Main Street" label was sent to the post office in Garlicks just before it moved to "Donkin Hill" — a supply which lasted over three years.

UNION POSTAGE DUE MARKS

By J. H. HARVEY PIRIE

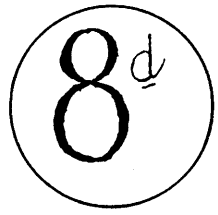
& K. E. W. LYDALL

(Continued from page 152, October 1957 issue)

(We illustrate Type 22, which was inadvertently omitted last month).



22.



25.

Type 25.

For this specimen we are indebted to Mr. G. D. B. Williams, as also for the cover with the Type 23 mark. It is incomplete and only on piece, but it is shown here as being the earliest so far recorded Natal postage due mark we have. It is part of a fine-drawn 8d. in a circle estimated at about 27 mm. in diameter. The piece has four 1d. Queen Victoria Natal stamps, cancelled with a Greytown postmark dated Feb., 17 '98.

Coloured Marks

Most marks, whether they be in M/S or from handstamps, are in black. M/S pencil marks have been noted in blue and in indelible purple and ink marks in red. Various coloured handstamp marks have been noted under the different types; they are here grouped together for convenient reference:—

Type 8 (b). T in a circle. In red. Durban 1928.

Type 13. T/4d. in a circle. In red. Benoni 1956.

Type 13. T/4d. in a circle. In bright violet. Somerset East 1957.

Type 13. T/1d. in a circle. In mauve. Mbabane 1957.

Type 14. T/1d. in a circle. In violet. Port Elizabeth 1956.

Type 14. T/4d. in a circle. In red. Germiston 1956.

Type 24(g). T/8d. in an oval. In violet. Cape Town 1952.

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Marks other than "T's" or simple Numbers or Values

Various handstamped marks, or cachets, indicative of non-payment or underpayment of postage, are to be found in addition to T-marks, numerals or figures of value.

1 to 4. These are taken from Jurgens' book on the Handstamps and Postmarks of the Cape, and are the only ones we know of in literature. They are, of course, pre-Union.

1. Old "To Pay" marks as used away back in the pre-adhesive stamp days. Both boxed and unboxed types.
2. Boxed "Unstamped" marks of two varieties.
3. "Insufficiently Prepaid". Unboxed.
4. "Returned for/(amount in M/S)/Postage". Boxed.

5 to 8. Marks already noted under Types 1 and 2. These are peculiar in that they have as an integral part the number allotted to the T-mark of the particular post office.

5. Rectangular box 60 x 10 mm. with "Posted out of Course/2" Pretoria 1905.
6. "Contains communication of the nature of a letter LIV". Pietersburg.
7. "Closed against inspection LIV". Pietersburg.
8. "More to pay/Above . . . . Ozs./(Roman Number)". Premier Mine and Pretoria Station.

9 to 16. Various marks noted on Union covers:

9. "Contains communication of the nature of a letter". Boxed.
10. "Closed against Inspection". Boxed, two different sized varieties.
11. "Unpaid/Onbetaal". Two different sizes.
12. "Onbetaal/Unpaid". Boxed.
13. "More to Pay/Meer te Betalen/Above . . . . Ozs./Boven . . . . Ons". Boxed.
14. "Meer te Betaal/More to Pay/Bo/Over/Ons/Oz." Boxed and Unboxed.
15. "Surcharged owing to/Insufficient Postage/Please advise Sender." Boxed.
16. "Onreëlmatig Gepos / Posted out of Course". (The cover was marked registered. but it had not been handed over the counter).

PRE-UNION MARKS

We have naturally been interested in pre-Union marks of the four Provinces to see if we could trace back the origins of the Union marks. We have not seen very many, but three of the marks (Nos. 23, 24 and 25) of those illustrated are actually of pre-Union vintage. Another (No. 20) comes from S.W.A. and is not actually a Union mark at all. Here follow some notes about marks of the four pre-Union Provinces compiled from a few specimens together with the little we could find in literature. As already noted practically the only notes in literature are those of Jurgens on the Cape.

Cape of Good Hope. On pp. 94-96 of his book on the Handstamps and Postmarks of the Cape Jurgens gives quite a lot of information and also illustrates some 15 types of marks. The only notable omission is the absence of dates of times of introduction of the various types of marks and of the methods of dealing with unpaid or insufficiently prepaid letters. For example, he describes the following procedure, but gives no clue as to when it was in force:— "Insufficiently franked letters were sent to a special Postal Charge Department where they received a special 'Charge Clerk' date-stamp". He adds "This was not always strictly observed, however, as often the covers only got an M/S marking.

The amount to be taxed was impressed on the letter, but official handstamps for this purpose were only issued to the larger and more important offices. Elsewhere the marking had to be in M/S.

Some of the marks he illustrates are similar to, though not quite identical with, our Types 8, 17, 21 and 22. They may, perhaps, be regarded as Forerunners of present-day types.

There are others of which we have not come across anything which we could say resembles them. For example, there are "T's" or "T/10" inside a hexagon with an "L" underneath it (This is reminiscent of British marks); also an oval mark with "T/2d./CT".

Marks which are described under our Type headings and which **may** be Cape pre-Union marks (although some are not quite certain) are Type 5 (a) and (d), Type 8(a), Type 17, 3d. on a P.O.W. cover from Ceylon.

Orange Free State. So far we have seen no actual specimens of pre-Union Postage Due marks from this territory.

In A. Cecil Fenn's recently published booklet "O.F.S. Postal and other Markings" there are illustrations of a number of types, including some which are suggestive of our Types 5, 7, 9, 13 and 14 although not quite identical with them. Unfortunately no dates are given with them so it is not possible to say whether they belong to the O.F.S. proper or to the O.R.C. period.

Transvaal. No published records found of any Postage Due marks, but in our notes of Types there are four pre-Union marks.

(1) Type 12. A "T/10/Centimes" is noted as occurring on a letter sent from Johannesburg to England in 1907. The mark is almost indistinguishable from the mark of this value in the J 1936 collection, although the "T" is just a trifle thicker. Possibly all the marks of this type came into use in pre-Union days.

The cover has another interesting mark on it; the cover is franked with a **British** 1d. K.E. stamp only and there is a boxed mark 75 x 23 mm. with the wording "POSTAGE . . . . EPAID/IN/TRANSVAAL STAMPS" "NOT PR" would just fill up the space in which the letters have not printed and would make sense. To have gone to the trouble of having such a handstamp made suggests that such an occurrence was fairly common, and it may be that it was a kind of hangover from Anglo-Boer War times when the use of British stamps in South Africa was common. (2) and (3) Type 17. An 8d. of a rather fancy type used at Pretoria in 1905; it is on a cover with a Type 2 mark (q.v.) which must also be considered as a pre-Union one although its use extended well into Union times.

(4) Type 24(a). The mark illustrated as our Type 24 (a thick T/2d. in an oval) was used at Johannesburg in 1907.

Natal. As in the case of the Transvaal we have found no published information referring to Postage Due marks in Natal, but thanks to Mr. G. D. B. Williams we have been able to obtain a couple of pre-Union marks from that Colony.

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(1) The oldest mark we have seen, illustrated as Type 25, although the original is not quite complete and is only on piece. The piece has three Q.V. Natal 1d. stamps with the postmark of Greytown dated FE 17 98.

(2) The mark illustrated as Type 23, and along with it a mark of similar size and pattern with "T/3d.". The cover bearing these was posted in Durban in Sept. 1906. See under Type 23.

CAPE COLONY OCEAN POST OFFICE

Mr. Stephen G. Rich, of Verona, N.J., has been "tidying up" some accumulated material, and has sent us some items of interest, mainly as regards dates, about the different types of the Cape Colony, Ocean Post Office postmarks. We are not, however, publishing his notes just in the form sent us, as we have also some other little bits of information from various sources, and have considered it to be easier for reference if all these bits and pieces were combined into one whole.

Firstly it may be said that Jurgens is very disappointing in the description of these marks given in his book on the Handstruck Letter Stamps and Postmarks of the Cape on p. 99. It is very brief, not all correct, and far from being complete. He does not mention when this Ocean P.O. started functioning, but from other sources we know that it was at the beginning of 1894 when a contract between the Cape Administration and the Union-Castle Steamship Line for the carriage of mails between England and the Cape came into operation.

(1) The first type of postmark was a 22 mm. single-circle one, the lettering being just under 3 mm. high. The wording was split, with "Cape Colony" at the top and "Ocean Post Office" at the bottom. In the centre was the date in two lines (as, for example, MR 3/02) and, usually, but not always, what has been termed variously an index, a key, or a control letter. There is something more to be said about these anon.

Jurgens gives the earliest date seen for this mark as 1895; Mr. Rich has found one on a 1½d. postal card which is clearly AP 11 94 and puts this forward as an early unrecorded mark.

Actually if he had sent in his report a year ago it would have been the earliest recorded, but he has overlooked the note by Mr. Robt. S. Gordon, Vermont in the "S.A. Ph." of July, 1956 p. 129 of a postcard with this mark dated MR 21 94. It is further described as being something near a "First Day Cover".

But even this specimen of Mr. Gordon's is not now the earliest known for since his note was published the writer has acquired a loose 2½d. stamp with a very clear mark dated FE 14 94 and with "Index" letter E. It is a pity it is not an entire!

As regards "Index" letters Mr. Wm. Stewart, Manchester records these as being A to H both inclusive and K to N both inclusive. The writer can add J and O so that only I is needed to make the list continuous from A to O. What is the significance of these letters? Jurgens has shown in an article entitled "The Index letters used in the Date stamps of the Cape Colony" published in the "S.A. Ph." 1944, p. 102 that throughout the Cape generally these letters did not signify different postal clerks (as used to be imagined), but time-periods of cancellation. These varied from half-an-hour to (at smaller offices) four or five hours; schedules of these time-periods for various offices have been routed out.

Mr. Stewart pertinently remarks that the time of posting or cancellation would not seem to be of much significance aboard ship. We can only suggest that they were put there simply because it was the general custom with Cape marks.

Mr. Rich records the use of this type of mark as late as 1907, but its use certainly overlaps the usage of some of the other types — perhaps on different ships.

(2) A similar mark, but with a 23 mm. circle, would appear to be a scarce one. Neither Mr. Rich nor Mr. Stewart mention it; the writer has only one specimen which is dated 21 AU 94 and has Index letter J.

(3) Next comes a similarly arranged mark with circle **ca** 24 mm., but the height of the lettering is almost 4 mm. Mr. Rich has this type with dates in 1903 and 1908, with either no key letter, or a C; Mr. Stewart has specimens dated 1902 and 1904, with letter C; the writer has specimens of AP 04, no index letter, and of AP 11, index letter C; on a third specimen the date is undecipherable and the index letter might be a C or an O. The puzzle is not helped by the arrival postmark on the back of the cover, which is FE 91; this is an obvious error as the stamp is a K.E. 1d., and there were so such stamps in 1891.

(4) The next, and last, change in these Ocean Post Office marks was a 23 mm. circle with the wording arranged differently. The letters are 3 mm. high but the wording, instead of being split, runs continuously round the periphery of the circle. There are no longer "Index Letters" but the time is indicated as a.m. or p.m. I have this type with the earliest date as NOV 05, Stewart has it 1906 to 1909, whilst Rich has a copy with date as late as 1911. Four records of the time are all 8 p.m. Just how long this type remained in use cannot be said definitely, but it certainly cannot be later than 1914.

In 1912 a completely new type of "Ocean" mark came into use; this was a 32 mm. double circle mark with the wording "Union of S. Africa/Ocean P.O." between the circles and a number under the central date.

In Sept. 1913 still another type appeared, a 27 mm. double-circle mark with "United Kingdom & S. Africa Sea P.O. (number)" between the circles.

The P.O.s on the mail boats were withdrawn on the outbreak of World War I in 1914 and have never since been resumed.

J. H. HARVEY PIRIE.

MARION ISLAND

It has been officially announced that an automatic ionosphere recording station has been set up as part of S. Africa's I.G.Y. supermeteorological work. It is hoped that the data obtained, from an area where no previous records have been made, will help improve long-distance radio communications.

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SOCIETY NEWS

PRETORIA RAILWAY PHILATELIC SOCIETY

The **September** meeting of the Society was held as usual in the Recreation Club, Berea Park, on **11th** instant, and drew an attendance of 25. The main attraction was, of course, the annual visit from the East Rand Society. Only a small contingent braved the rainy weather but they brought along two outstanding exhibits which were enjoyed to the full by the appreciative meeting. Mr. Sam Legator showed his collection of Cape Triangulars which surely must be one of the best in the country. Included in the collection were some beautiful proofs, the like of which I had not seen before, woodblocks in fine condition and a number of Triangulars on cover. This was a real sight for sore eyes. Then the evergreen Bill Sheffield tabled his collection of used Unions. His pages of Kings heads giving all shades in singles, pairs and blocks of four — this, mind you, including a page of ten bobs and another of the pound stamps — were amazing, while the various early postage dues were of a high standard. One thing which I remarked was the fact that there were no "killer" cancellations (so common in the earlier South African issues) in Bill's exhibit.

W. K.

THE THEMATIC STAMP CLUB

September 9th. The last of the Durban thematic exhibits were shown, namely that of Mrs. L. Bevis, "Saints on Stamps". This fine collection showed real research and fine setting out, being divided under the headings "Tidings of Great Joy (The Birth of Christ)", "The Gospel in Stamps", "Saints & Martyrs", "The Holy Bible". The whole was written up with quotations from the Holy Testament. At the same time Mr. K. M. Cameron showed yet another of his many collections, this time that of "British India". This was up to his usual high standard as a philatelist. There was a record number attending.

September 23rd. The evening was devoted to the holding of an Auction which raised over £18 for the Paarl Tercentenary national Philatelic Exhibition.

M. F. S.

ROYAL PHILATELIC SOCIETY OF CAPE TOWN

September 12th. Mr. H. Rosselaar showed "The Numerical Cancellations of the Netherlands." He showed much expert material, and also gave an interesting talk.

September 26th. This was one of those interesting "double" evenings, when Mr. R. Eskell showed "Norway — Early Post Horn and Locals" and Mr. A. G. Versino "Great Britain — Low Values". Both exhibits were of great interst. The local stamps of Norway are seldom shown and Mr. Versino's setting-out of his stamps was a revelation. Both exhibitors showed true philatelic knowledge and research.

M. F. S.

UNIVERSITY OF CAPE TOWN PHILATELIC SOCIETY

June 12th. The late Dr. T. B. Davies' collection of the 1938 and Queen Elizabeth Coronation stamps was exhibited. These specialized sections of Unions (now in the custody of Mr. M. Hotz, until such time as a suitable repository is found in Cape Town) take their place with those of the late Mr. Jurgens' Capes. Few people realize the great amount of research put into these issues of the Unions of Dr. Davies.

August 29th. Annual General Meeting: the following office bearers were elected:— Chairman, Mr. P. D. Freedman; Hon. Secretary, Mr. J. Simmons; Hon. Treasurer, Mr. R. Lederer; Hon. Librarian, Mr. J. Brown.

October 1st. Mr .G. Lincow exhibited "Switzerland", "Falkland Islands Dependencies" and "The unofficial Essay for Tristan da Cunha". The writing up of the Falklands was a real treat.

M. F. S.

THE PHILATELIC SOCIETY OF JOHANNESBURG

There were more than 40 members and guests at the meeting of **September 10,** when we were happy to welcome back Mr. Isaacs, from a prolonged leave and again enjoyed his spicy news of the month, including a page from a magazine of 2057, full of advertisements of genuinely flown and therefore very expensive covers of the inter-planetary service. Mr. Oppenheim, of course, also helped, as usual, not only as a brisk auctioneer but also with the generous display of colourful and not always necessary new issues from all over Europe.

Two fine displays followed, first that of Mr. H. Schwartz, "St. Helena", with some beautiful and carefully selected old issues and a sprinkling of moderns; and then Mr. B. Seelig's "France".

On the following **Monday, 16th September,** our annual visit to the Pretoria Society took place, and a strong contingent, led by the President, Mr. Seligmann, presented four collections, Dr. Harvey Pirie's "S.A. Paquebot marks", Commander Enoch's "Prince Edward Island", Mr. Glassman's "Mozambique War Stamps" and Mr. Boss's inexhaustible "French Colonies, Indo-China" this time.

On **September 23,** the Germiston Society paid us their annual visit to which we had looked for with justified anticipation. Not only were we regaled with four varied exhibits, but the visitors turned up in such strength that members and guests equalled in numbers, and only the Chairman's casting vote gave the members a majority of one. Mr. B. Eilers started with a representative display of "Norway", Mr. I. S. Burniston followed with modern "Canada", Mr. L. P. Picton with about half of his astounding collection of "G.B. Line-Engraved"; and every Rand Society's stalwart, Mr. S. J. Hagger concluded with some more treasures from his "Unions".

EAST LONDON PHILATELIC SOCIETY

Once again members complained of the weather on the night of our **September** meeting, and it seems as though it is just as difficult to order good weather for our meetings as it is to find well centred copies of the 1938 Union Voortrekker Issue.

A discussion took place on the monthly Competitive Displays. It was decided that the Executive should investigate the possibility of changing the form of the Competition.

A display of Thematic Stamps by members brought a pleasant evening to a close.

J. P. S.

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THE
SOUTH AFRICAN PHILATELIST
PROPRIETORS AND PUBLISHERS:
The Philatelic Federation of Southern Africa
Editorial Board: Dr. J. H. HARVEY PIRIE (Chairman), J. E. FRANKLAND, Dr. T. B. BERRY, W. N. SHEFFIELD, P.O. Box 375, Johannesburg.
Business Manager: Mr. J. MICHELSON, P.O. Box 375, Johannesburg.

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UNION NOTES

Hon. Associate Editor: Dr. T. B. BERRY, Box 31, Bryanston, Transvaal.

Congress Notes

Union Collectors are unanimous in their opinion and loud in their acclamation that the recent Congress and Exhibition staged under the auspices of the Paarl Philatelic Society at their beautiful town situated in the Berg River Valley, were most successful and memorable events. Full accounts of these appear elsewhere, and it is our purpose to record under these Notes only items of a Union flavour.

The "sputnik" of the astral heights of Congress was the election of a Union Collector, Mr. W. N. Sheffield, to the position of President of the Philatelic Federation of Southern Africa for the year 1958.

Union collectors also filled some of the lesser satellitic positions by the election of Messrs. Sam Legator, G. N. Gilbert, and Leo Hellman as Vice-presidents of the Transvaal, O.F.S., and the Cape respectively.

A Congress award for literary contributions for the preceding year was made, among others, to Union Collector G. N. Gilbert, while the name of S. J. Hagger, a Union stalwart, was added to the Roll of Honour of Distinguished Philatelists — a well deserved honour.

Union collectors supported the Exhibition in a loyal manner. Their exhibits were all of a high standard, and a brief description of some of the non-thematic entries appears hereunder:

Mr. J. P. Roux showed a comprehensive and specialised collection in three albums of the stamps of the Union's Third Definite Issue — the Animal Series. The exhibit was attractively arranged and represented the complete series with varieties and shades, pre- and post-cylinder number-issues, and positional blocks of all values.

Not content with this very fine effort, the same exhibitor submitted two albums of the "Official" stamps of the Union of South Africa, extending from the early issues to the recent and last stereotype overprints. Although not complete, the exhibit showed a specialised study of the process-block overprint of the ½d., 1d. and 6d. values, the two "broken C" varieties and their retouches.

These exhibits gained a Bronze and a Participation award respectively.

Mr. H. R. Savage submitted an extensive exhibit of the Pictorial Definitives of the Union of South Africa, ranging over the years 1926 to 1954 — attractively arranged and probably unique in that the exhibit consisted almost entirely of used blocks of four stamps.

The Definitive Issues commencing with the London and Pretoria Typos and including the Unhyphenated and Hyphenated Rotos, along with their respective Booklet and Roll stamps, and the "official" overprints, illustrate the manner in which the designs were amended and redrawn many times during the 28 years they were on sale, but nevertheless always retaining their original characteristics.

Bronze Award.

Mr. E. Walker sent along two albums of Union "Official" stamps, comprising 152 pages of attractive material ranging from the first issue of the overprinted 2d. King's Head stamp, supported by an Expert Committee's Certificate, and extending to the concluding stereotype overprints when the "Official" issue was withdrawn in 1955. A study of the "Broken C" and its retouches were well represented.

Certificate of Merit award.

A rather unusual exhibit in the form of an unbroken sheet of the 1d. Plate VIII issue, overprinted "Official" was submitted by Mr. J. P. Dreyer to illustrate the shifted overprint extending throughout the complete length of the sheet. The flaws on the basic stamp were set out in detail, a useful record for plating purposes, while the exhibit was supported by a short descriptive paper.

Certificate of Participation Award.

Mr. R. N. Castignani's collection of Photo Proofs and Press photographs, supported by their respective definitive issues, extended over a large section of the stamps of the Union, and made a striking and neatly arranged exhibit.

Certificate of Participation Award.

Mr. Geo. Feros submitted a complete collection of the Darmstadt Trials and Proofs of the Head Plate, Frame Plate, and the complete stamp, while the Dummy Cigarette Duty Bonds were represented on the different papers and in various colours.

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Certificate of Merit Award.

Mr. J. Keet's picturesque array of Union Xmas Seals was most striking, and in their attractive arrangement, made an enticing appeal to even the most casual observer to participate in their purchase and so assist in the good cause for which they were designed. The collection covered the complete series from 1932 up to date with many of the varieties.

Certificate of Participation Award.

Dr. T. B. Berry's Union exhibit of some 170 pages, depicting a detailed study of the London and Pretoria printings during the years 1926—1929, and including the relative Essays, Proofs, Specimens, and the Coils and Booklets, "Official" and Postage Due Stamps, and the Postal Stationery of the period, made a most striking display.

Gold Award.

A specialized collection of the Third Definitive Issue, the Animal Series, of the Union was presented in a very able manner by Mr. J. H. Bruwer, and afforded a detailed study of the issue with all the cylinder flaws of the different printings so plated as to identify the various later printings.

Bronze Award.

Under the title of Interprovincial Stamps of the Union of South Africa, Mr. Geo. Feros submitted an extensive collection of these items under four main headings:— Those stamps cancelled up to the 1st September 1913, the Interprovincial stamps up to the 31st September 1937, the Interprovincial stamps posted at sea on German Boats, and Union stamps used in Swaziland. A very fine effort.

Bronze Award.

Mr. C. R. Reynolds' collection was a pleasing exhibit. It represented a cross-section of the stamps of the Union from 1910 to the current animal issue, and although not rich in the Unions varieties, it contained many Die and Plate Proofs, Errors and Varieties, all desirable and interesting items.

Bronze Award.

Mr. W. Yelland exhibited a comprehensive collection of the Coils and Booklet Stamps of the Union, extending from the King's Head Issue to up to date. The Coils were shown with joins, plate flaws, varieties and in their reconstructed sheet-form, while the Booklets were arranged in their panes, their rare covers, and the re-constructed sheets exhibited the flaws of the multipositive common to also the definitive issues. A fine exhibit.

Bronze Award.

Mr. G. J. de Swardt's exhibit of the Voortrekker issues caught the eye of ever so many visitors to the Exhibition — collectors and non-collectors alike. It represented the series in many miniature sheets, blocks and varieties accompanied by an appropriate individual description.

Certificate of Participation Award.

The Court of Honour included an Invitation Exhibit by Mr. A. E. Wilkinson, the well known Union Collector of Ireland. His exhibit which was awarded a first prize at a recent Dublin Exhibition, showed, in reconstructed sheet form of used stamps, the flaws of the 2d. issue, and also a detailed study of the "Eleventh-row or Repetition flaw" which occupies three different sheet positions and also three different positions on the stamp — occuring six times in all on the sheet. A magnificent piece of research which attracted attention, particularly among the more advanced Union Collectors.

Cylinder Numbers

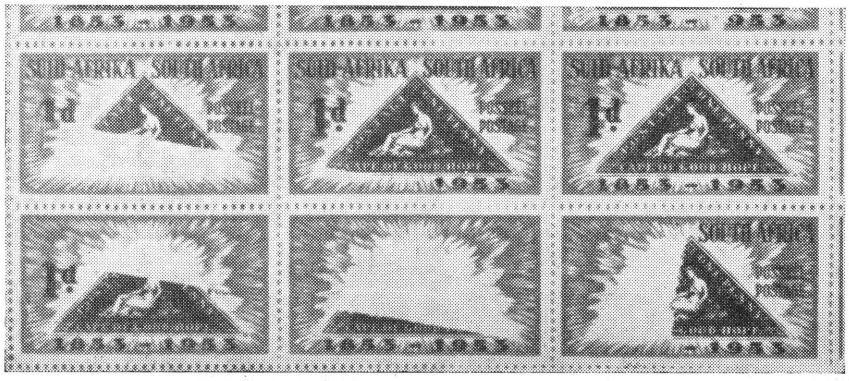
Among the Society Motions presented to Congress for consideration, was one submitted by the Paarl Philatelic Society "that cylinder numbers be re-introduced."

After a certain amount of discussion had taken place, the G.P.O. Publicity Officer informed Congress that due to previous representation, the Postmaster General had agreed to the re-introduction of cylinder numbers on the printings of Union stamps.

The information was received with acclamation, and Union Collectors may now look forward to adding cylinder number blocks to their collections in due course.

Interrupted Printing

During an interlude in the business of Congress, Mr. Leo Hellman, of East London, entertained certain members by exhibiting a most interesting Union item, illustrated hereunder:



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with a special date-stamp engraved "Table Mountain — Cape Town." This date-stamp is worn and replacement has become necessary.

On the 2nd January, 1958, the new date-stamp, engraved "Tafelberg Kaapstad — Table Mountain Cape Town," will be brought into use, and through the courtesy of the Publicity Officer, G.P.O., we illustrate a photo-copy of the new date-stamp.

SOUTHERN AFRICAN POSTMARKS

Mr. J. B. Levy, of Bloemfontein, writes:

Some twenty years ago I started collecting postmarks of the different Post Offices in Southern Africa. Circumstances prevented me from keeping up the interest in this particular field, until recently.

I have been fascinated by the changes which have taken place since I first started collecting. In the past few years numbers of new Post Offices have been opened, and many have closed down.

The spelling of many places has been changed from English to Afrikaans, but I have not noticed any which has been changed from Afrikaans to English! To give a few instances: Bushmanskop has become Boesmanskop, Saltpan has become Soutpan, White River has become Wit Rivier. Orange Mouth is now Oranjemund. There are many more too numerous to mention.

In some instances the postmark consists of both the Afrikaans and English version, i.e. Cape Town — Kaapstad. East London — Oos Londen, etc.

Some of the names given to Post Offices are most amusing, when translated from Afrikaans to English. I am wondering who is responsible for naming the offices, and what prompted him (or them) to use these names. Here are a few. Bobbejaanstert (Monkey tail). Pisanghoek (Banana Corner). Wag-'n-bietjie (Wait a bit), and many others.

There are so many facets to Postmark collecting. Some cities and towns have many different types of Postmark which are used every day. At Conferences, Exhibitions, Shows, etc., special postmarks are used, and some of these have become very scarce, as they were only in use for a day or two.

This side of the hobby has intrigued me a great deal, and I am surprised that more collectors have not taken to it.

The postmarks of some of the smaller offices are very difficult to obtain, and I get quite a thrill when I find one new to my collection. Up to the present, I have over 2,500 different postmarks, which do not include S.W.A. or Rhodesia, of which there are also a large number.

I trust that these few observations may prove of interest to collectors, and be the means of inducing others to take up the collecting of postmarks.

The item consisted of a complete sheet of the 1d. Cape Centenary stamps, purchased at an East London Post Office, in which five stamps in the bottom left corner of the sheet show the effect of interrupted printing due to the inclusion of a foreign body — probably a strip of paper.

Mr. Hellman is to be congratulated on his good fortune in possessing such a desirable item.

The 2½d. Commemorative Stamp

Referring to the request appearing in our October Notes for information concerning the date of issue of the 2½d. Commemorative stamp, Mr. J. H. H. Chamberlain, of Durban, drawing upon his evergreen memory of interesting postal events, writes that he can recall, while on duty at the Malvern (Natal) office which was at that time conducted by the Railways, that the Postmaster (Durban) sent his office a supply of these stamps together with a printed card announcing this issue as from the 4th November 1910: this card bore an overprinted "SPECIMEN" on the stamp itself, and although he bespoke the item for himself, it was unfortunately stolen from its place opposite the counter about a week afterwards.

Mr. Chamberlain affirms that the issue was made on the 4th November 1910, and first day covers, received or transmitted, were postmarked with that date stamp.

Swaziland Q.E. II Stamps.

We have been requested to enquire if there has been a change of colour of the Swaziland Q.E. II stamps, and if so, what values?

If any reader is able to supply this information, it will be gratefully received and transmitted through these Notes.

Toned Paper

Several contributors have drawn our attention to the prevalence of "toned paper" in recent Union issues, and have enquired whether a printing on this paper should be collected as a variety.

We are of the opinion that due to the present extensive printings on toned paper, it would appear that the **normal** supply of paper to the Government Printing Works is at the moment "toned" and in consequence this paper should be regarded as the type in general use and not a variety. Conversely, should a printing appear on "white paper", this emission may be claimed to be unusual and thus a variety in the same manner as toned paper qualified as a variety when the normal supply was "white".

An interesting consideration is that the texture and "toning" of the paper may affect the colour of the stamps. The recent printing (the third) of the 2/6 value with five-figure black sheet numbers, was made on their pure white paper, and is of a different shade to the previous printing on toned paper. In our November Notes, we also drew attention to the change of shade of the recent printing of the 2d. value which was printed on toned paper of thick texture.

These conditions open up a wide field of many aspects and varieties — too vast for cataloguing purposes but brimful of interest.

Table Mountain Date Stamp

All mail posted in the special box at the upper cable station on Table Mountain (Cape Town), has for many years been postmarked

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P.O. Box 29,
Franschhoek,
Cape.
26th Sep. 1957.

The Editor,
S.A. Philatelist.
Dear Sir,

On the 18th Feb. 1938 a 1½d. air mail service was introduced from the Union to India.

I have a first day cover dated Cape Town 18th Feb. 1938 and back stamped Allahabad 1st March 1938. Ten days in all for travel. Surface mail B.I.S.S. Company which touched at African ports as far as Mombassa. Alternate ships called at the Seychelles and either Mamagoa or Purabunda in India. The average voyage was 18-19 days. Can any of your readers give me the history of this service and why and when it was discontinued.

The Allahabad back stamp is circular and reads:—

ALLAHABAD
DELY
I MARCH 38
8-A.M.
WINDOW.

Reference ½d. hypenated 44j. I have two strips rows 15-20 stamp 12 and the following flaws appear constant.

Smear over interior cylinder 31.

Smear in right margin opposite stamp 17/12.

Small dot in top left corner guttering between stamps 19 and 20/12.

Yours faithfully,
D. M. RAWBONE.

FOR SALE

U. 023. 1d. Official Varieties

Pair showing stop after offisiëel .... 12/6d.

Block showing stop after offisiëel .... 15/0d.

Block showing short 'L' and stop on Afrikaans 20/0d.

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RECTANGULARS. POSTMARKS.

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References from new customers, please.

F. W. COLLINS,

STOBOROUGH CROFT, WINCHESTER,
ENGLAND.

REVIEWS

Airgraphs by N. C. Baldwin, Concise Facts (with Check Lists) about a Unique Wartime Experiment, Published by Francis J. Field Ltd. Sutton Coldfield, England, Price 2/-.

This little pamphlet describes briefly how Airgraphs came to be introduced during the Second World War. It also describes the method of processing of airgraphs and there is a useful check list giving the dates of first despatches from different parts of the World to Great Britain. There is also a short description of the U.S.A. "V Mail" which was a similar system to airgraphs.

The writer points out that the airgraph scheme was born of necessity during a critical stage of the war. Italy's entry into the war on June 10th 1940 closed the Mediterranean and interrupted both the African and Australian air mail services by preventing the operation of the London — Cairo section.

The British Post Office had, as early as 1932, considered a scheme whereby letters written on a special form could be photographed in miniature on to a film, flown to their destination and then reproduced on bromide paper at the receiving end. This scheme had, however, been rejected but during the war emergency was revived and put into use.

The airgraph system required the public to write their letters on special airgraph forms which were available at Post Offices. The postage stamp was placed at the back and the forms handed in at the post office. They were then photographed in miniature on film and the films were sent to the destination. At the destination the films were reproduced in readable size and the photographs were delivered to the addresses in special envelopes.

The original forms were kept for some time in case the films were lost.

The first airgraphs were dispatched to Great Britain from members of the forces in the Middle East on 21st April 1941.

The airgraph system obviously meant a great saving of space and in the opinion of the writer of this review it is a great pity that the system was abolished on July 31st 1945.

The Pamphlet is a useful guide to the airgraph collector. There are numerous illustrations of the Special Christmas Greeting Airgraphs. There are suggestions on how to classify a collection of airgraphs and the unused original forms. As the writer points out, however, few unused original forms have been preserved so that these are comparatively rare.

The author does not mention that on some occasions airgraph forms, instead of being processed, were delivered intact. These unprocessed airgraph forms must be very rare but through the kindness of Mr. J. E. Frankland, one of the members of the Editorial Board of the South African Philatelist, the writer of this review has one in his collection, a Christmas Greetings form of 1943 sent from England to Mr. Frankland when he was a member of the Forces.

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The author of this pamphlet has written a very useful history of the airgraph system and is to be congratulated on turning out an attractive booklet which should encourage aerophilatelists to turn their attention to this branch of the hobby, if they have not already been interested in it.

I. I.

Philatelic Societies' Year Book 1957/8. Price 1/6 from the British Philatelic Association, 3 Berners Street, London W.1.

This annual publication brings into a convenient size of booklet a veritable mass of information about Societies and their officials, addresses, and programmes. It also lists many study circles and specialist societies, British Exchange circuits, Federations and Member Dealers.

United Nations Postage Stamps. Price 85 cents, from United Nations (Official Publication), or 6/- from United Nations Postal Administration Branch Office, 14/15 Stratford Place, London W.1.

The immense popularity of United Nations stamps, particularly in the United States, is well known, and can only be increased by the appearance of such an informative book as this official publication. Besides including a detailed catalogue of United Nations stamps and postal stationery, the book covers the history of the United Nations postal administration and the fullest particulars of the designing and printing of the various issues. It is very attractively produced and copiously illustrated.

The tipster slips!

One of our American contemporaries, which shall be nameless in its shame, must recently have had a very red-faced staff. The publication is one of those which provide readers with a "tipster service" and in a recent issue the author of this material came out with a typical recommendation to buy the Great Britain Scouts stamps. Not content with this, he extends his exhortation to the overprinted issues of overseas agencies, and asks his readers to be careful not to overlook **the overprints for Tangier!** We had thought that the closure of the British Post Office in Tangier had been, if anything, overpublicized by the special Centenary overprint, with its notorious hyphen variety: perhaps, however, this tipster disdains to **read** the philatelic press?

1960

Hard on the heels of the initial publicity for our own UNIPEX comes the announcement of another 1960 International Exhibition in London. The provisional dates are 9-16 July, which is conveniently later than UNIPEX. We are authorized to announce that the sponsors of UNIPEX will make special arrangements to transfer any exhibit intended for both Exhibitions from Johannesburg to London safely in time for the second showing. The London Exhibition will be sponsored by the "Royal" and the B.P.A. jointly.

Germany

We are indebted to our German correspondent, Mr. Joachim Dill for two covers of which the first was sent on the inaugural KLM flight from Amsterdam to Houston, Texas, on 3 September. The second carries the new Preservation of Wild Life stamps, a lily on the 10 pfg and a perky robin on the 20 pfg, both very well designed stamps.

TABIL

In our last issue we included a note of the awards to South African exhibitors at Tabil, which was received just as we went to press. We can now add our gratification that the **South African Philatelist** and the **Union Handbook/Catalogue** were both the recipients of **Silver Awards.** That this was no formal honour is shewn by the fact that in the literature class there were comparatively few awards, mostly of lower status.

S.A. PHILATELIST PRESS DAY

Will contributors and advertisers please note that we go to press on the 15th of the month? Material received after that date may be too late for inclusion in the next issue.

ANTARCTICA

Belgium and Germany can now definitely be added to the countries sending expeditions to the Antarctic for the I.G.Y.

Belgium is issuing a 5 and 2.50 Fr stamp featuring five Huskies in front of an encampment, but the situation of this has not so far been announced. The surcharge will help to finance the de Gerlache expedition currently in the Antarctic.

The German expedition planning to set out next year, is termed a private one which intends to set up a permanent station west of Queen Maud Land i.e. somewhere in the neighbourhood of the Norwegian and Japanese bases (See sketch map on p. 101 of our July issue). They will deal with philatelic mail, with special cachets and cancellations to go towards funds for the expedition.

The **Airpost Journal** has published a Check List of Antarctic flights made since 1954, mainly of course in connection with the I.G.Y. expeditions.

The U.S.A. tops the list by a long way, with 3 flights from the 1954-55 Navy Expedition; 8 in connection with Operation Deepfreeze I, 1955-56; and 18 from Operation Deepfreeze II 1956-57. Other countries only total 6 altogether.

FREEDOM OF THE PRESS

Linn's Weekly reports that the **Philatelic Literature Review** has had a suit filed against it for libel by **Mr. Fritz Billig** who took exception to remarks made in the **Review** about one of his publications.

This raises the question "Must a Review always be favourable or may a reviewer say what he thinks to be true?"

There is of course always the fear by a publisher that if he publishes an unfavourable review he may lose an advertiser. But if a reviewer cannot say what he really thinks about a book, catalogue, or other publication, we consider it is time to stop reviewing altogether.

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PEOPLE TO PEOPLE

Throughout the world there is a universal desire for peace, and early last Fall a programme was launched that can very well realize this objective within our lifetime — and you can play an important part in its development.

The programme, which was launched by President Eisenhower at a White House Conference, has tremendous possibilities, yet is quite simple in operation. Briefly, the aim of the program, as stated by Frederic W. Ecker, President of the Metropolitan Life Insurance Co. and Chairman of the Insurance Committee of the People-to-People Program, is "to enlist the friendship-making and opinion-moulding capacities of individual Americans in all walks of life in order that they and individuals in other countries may become mutually better acquainted. The end in view is to make friends and thus build — to insure if you will — the road to enduring peace. Wars are not fought between friends."

As a result of the Conference, 42 leaders in industry and cultural activities were appointed to head committees in their respective fields.

Through these committees two-way relations will be established between individual Americans and citizens of other countries, so that friendship and understanding will flow in both directions. We wish to emphasize the fact that these contacts are all between individuals who have full control of the activities and without any government influence or sponsorship.

The Hobbies Group, headed by H. L. Lindquist, has set up over 60 individual committees, which are divided into four general classifications:

1. **Acquiring Things.**
2. **Doing Things.**
3. **Making Things.**
4. **Learning Things.**

Stamp Collecting will, of course, play a very important part in the Programme, and if collectors will enter into the project enthusiastically, they can take a leading part in the wonderful crusade to advance the Brotherhood of Man.

The very act of collecting stamps creates an interest in and knowledge of other countries and the people who inhabit them. Fortunately, also, stamp collectors are well organized with local stamp clubs, national societies and international exhibitions, so that they can easily enter into friendly correspondence and exchange.

The National Federation of Stamp Clubs, with a membership of over 200,000 individuals, endorsed the project and scores of clubs have contacted counterpart groups in other countries. We invite the readers of this publication to send their names and addresses to the Chairman of the Stamp Collecting Committee, Bernard Davis, of the National Philatelic Museum, Broad and Diamond Streets, Philadelphia 22, Pennsylvania, who will send additional information and, if desired, place them in touch with individual collectors in the United States, which may lead to interesting contacts and lifelong friendships.

XIXth CONGRESS PHILATELIC FEDERATION OF SOUTHERN AFRICA PAARL, 23-25 OCT., 1957.

The following Notes do not purport to be a verbatim report of the Congress doings (Delegates and Societies will receive Official Minutes in due course) merely a short, reasonably accurate, and it is hoped also reasonably interesting, account of the meeting, by one who was there.

The Paarl Congress and its concomitant National Exhibition are now things of the past but, let it be said at once, that this first occurrence away from one of the larger centres has been in every way an outstanding success. Mr. J. D. Rossouw and the Paarl Philatelic Society are to be most heartily congratulated on their grand organization.

In the opening ceremony by the Mayor, Mr. Galloway, he of course stressed the fact that Congress was being held contemporaneously with the celebration of the 300th anniversary of the discovery and settlement of Paarl, the "pearl" of the Berg Valley.

A list of awards was read of South African winners at the Tabil International Exhibition in Israel — quite an impressive one. Regret was expressed that a number of the exhibits shown at Tel Aviv were due to have been shown at Paarl but they did not arrive back in time. When they were sent over it was with an assurance that they would arrive back in ample time, but something seems to have gone wrong with the arrangements.

The Presidential address by Mr. Rossouw dealt mainly with the philatelic events in Southern Africa of the past twelve months. He put forward a suggestion that, to cut down administrative expenses, meetings of the Executive Committee might be held in a more central place, possibly Bloemfontein. This will, no doubt, be considered by the incoming Executive.

Papers read before Congress.

(1) "Controls of the adhesive postage stamps of Siam", by Comdr. C. E. D. Enoch. These Controls form a practically unique group in as much as they are not applied by the stamp printers, and also because they are almost all on the back of the stamps. The ordinary catalogues make little or no mention of them and they are a **terra incognita** to most collectors. Nevertheless it was clear to his listeners that the Commander had done quite a bit of original research on his subject, on which he was congratulated.

(2) "Plating of the Shifted Overprint 'Offisiëel — Official' on the 1d. stamp, 1933 — Group VIII, Type III", by J. P. Dreyer. This short paper was read at a later stage, as it had been mislaid. It is a study of a complete sheet of this overprint, showing that the descriptions on pp. 264-5 of the Union Handbook of Double Overprints are not quite correct.

Expert Committee Report.

The work of this Committee, which has been extended to cover the world, is slowly but steadily increasing in amount, there were ten meetings during the year. The Committee feels particularly that more Cape material should be submitted to them in view of its popularity, and at the same time, of the amount of "dud"

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material which is around.

Publications Committee Report.

The Union Handbooks, Vols. 1 and 2, are still selling, although not in large numbers now. Every copy sold now, however, represents sheer profit, as all publication expenses have been paid off.

The Basutoland Booklet is now completely sold out.

The Booklet on Swaziland and New Republic is going slowly and the costs of printing have not yet been completely covered.

The "South African Philatelist" looks like having another year in the red as the bankers would say. Generous donations from one or two Societies have kept matters from being worse than they are, but it is realised that this is no way of carrying on. At the last meeting of the Executive it was decided that as from the beginning of 1958 a new process of printing would be adopted whereby it was hoped to effect a saving of £150 a year. The Philatelic Society of Natal had put up a proposition to do the printing in Durban, where it was considered to be cheaper, but this was withdrawn when they heard of this new process. They also said they various ideas for increasing the circulation; these had not been stated in detail, and we would still be glad to hear them.

Executive Committee Report.

This report and the Financial Statement were presented and adopted without discussion. Two new Member Societies have been admitted, the Fish Hoek Philatelic Society and the Society of Israel Philately (Johannesburg). One Society (Ladysmith and Colenso), has ceased operations through lack of support and its membership has ceased.

Changes to the Constitution.

Several changes were made, mainly of minor import, but one of considerable interest. This was to the effect that Congress was definitely recognised as the supreme authority of the Federation although between Congresses the management of affairs was in the hands of the Executive Committee. While Congress is in session however the powers given to the Executive could be exercised by Congress itself. It is further laid down that Congress may **make recommendations** to the incoming Executive; if for any reason the Executive finds it inadvisable to fulfil a recommendation to it, it is to be understood that as soon as is practicable the member societies shall be informed of the decision and the reasons for coming to that decision.

Control Numbers on Union stamp sheets.
There was a motion on the agenda that Control Numbers should be reintroduuced, but it was withdrawn on information being received from Mr. v.d. Walt, the P.O. Publicity Officer, that the matter had already been attended to.

Philatelic Museum. A motion that the Government should be asked to establish a Central Philatelic Museum to house philatelic relics and information was unanimously agreed to.

Roll of Honour. The only nominee for election to the Roll of Honour of Distinguished South African Philatelists was **Mr. S. J. Hagger** of Germiston. He has been a collector for 40 years, passing through all phases from schoolboy collecting to having a specialized and extensive knowledge of Union stamps. He was unanimously elected.

Congress stood in silence for a few moments in tribute to the memories of two deceased members on the Roll, Emil Tamsen and Andrew Watson.

Skinner Cup. This floating trophy, an award given annually to the person considered to have done the best work for philately during the preceding twelve months, was awarded to **Mr. Ernest Hunt.** The announcement was received with acclamation and it came as a very fitting climax to celebrations a few weeks previously of Mr. Hunt's 80th birthday. Many happy returns to him!

Congress Awards. These are given for papers considered sufficiently worthy, which are either read at Congress or have been published in the "South African Philatelist" since the preceding Congress. This year's recipients were:—

(1) J. E. Frankland. "Mystery Edwardian Portrait". This was only a comparatively short article, but it was in continuation of one ("Edwardian Portraits of S. Nigeria") published in the preceding year, but which was not considered for an award in that year because it was known that a sequel was to follow.

(2) G. N. Gilbert. Three articles on Union stamps. (a) Numbers of Cylinders used for the various printings of rotogravure stamps, (b) Various printings of the 4d. Native Huts stamp, (c) The first unhyphenated ½d. rotogravure.

(3) J. H. Rathbone. "P.O.W. Camps in Ceylon 1900-1903."

(4) C. E. D. Enoch. "The Controls of the Adhesive postage stamps of Siam."

Election of Office Bearers. The following were elected for the ensuing season:—

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Vice-Presidents: Cape: L. Hellman; O.F.S.:

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G. N. Gilbert; Natal: C. A. Whysall; Transvaal: S. Legator; Rhodesia: J. Davenport.

Secretary / Treas. & Business Manager: J. Michelson.

Future Congresses.

1958 Germiston, under the auspices of the local Phil. Soc. Date probably about 10th October.

1959 East London, probably about Easter time, to correspond with the Jubilee of the local Philatelic Society.

1960 Johannesburg at the time of the International Phil. Exhibition — UNIPEX — celebrating the Jubilee of Union, May 31st.

1961 A tentative application has been received from Cape Town.

Social Events. These were heard described by various delegates as First Class, Tip-Top, or A1. In fact, the only criticism was that they were so numerous and appealing that there was hardly any time left to see the exhibition. Apart from purely private hospitality they included a tea-party given by the Mayor of Paarl; a visit to Mr. J. G. le Roux's beautiful farm "Vendome", Huguenot, ending up with a luscious buffet supper; Bus tour to Franschhoek and Stellenbosch with tea at Groot Drakenstein and a cocktail party given by the Mayor of Stellenbosch; a tour round Paarl Mountain and Wild Flower garden; Visit to the K.W.V. Cellars, holding what is claimed to be the largest stock of wine in the world. Lastly a buffet supper at the Bowls Club, with a fine view of the 'Mardi Gras' procession of floats through the town. And so to bed well-nigh . . . ?

PAARL NATIONAL PHILATELIC EXHIBITION, 1957. AWARDS.

Gold:

A. Cecil Fenn: Orange Free State.
W. Newlands: O.V.S. and O.R.C.
W. Newlands: Zululand.

Dr. T. Berry: The First Pictorial Stamps of the Union of South Africa.

G. N. Gilbert: Postal History of Basutoland.
J. D. Rossouw: Posgeskiedenis van die Tweede Vryheidsoorlog.

Silver-plus.

G. H. Hunt (Mrs.): New Republic. (With felicitations from the Jury).

Silver-plus (Thematic Section).

Dr. and Mrs. J. Chiat: Biology on Stamps (High commended) (with felicitations from Jury).

J. Keet: Scouting on stamps (Very highly commended) — RECOMMENDED FOR A.T.A.

Silver.

J. G. le Roux: O.V.S.
G. H. Hunt (Mrs.): Griqualand West.
W. Newlands: St. Helena.
G. Bulbring: South West Africa.
W. G. J. Combrink: George VI Nyasaland.
W. Newlands: The Railways of South Africa and Stamps & Cancellations with "Railway" Flavour.
N. C. Combrink: Ovaalstempels van die Kaap van Goeie Hoop.
N. C. Combrink: Die Tweede Vryheidsoorlog van 1898 tot 1902.
I. H. C. Godfrey: (Airletter Sheets & Precursors of Southern Africa, Air Posts of the Rhodesias and Nyasaland).

Silver (Thematic Section).

N. C. Combrink: Die Perd op Possëels.
J. Keet: Zoology on Stamps.
L. Simenhoff: Zoology.
L. Simenhoff: Botany.

Bronze.

Dr. J. Sheryl: Sports and Games on Stamps (with felicitations from the Jury).
J. S. Burger: Suid-wes Afrika.
C. R. Reynolds: Union of South Africa.
J. le R. Enslin: Bechuanaland.
J. H. Bruwer: The Third Definitive Issue of South Africa (Animal Series).
Geo. Feros: Interprovincial stamps of South Africa, Cape, Natal, Transvaal and O.F.S. stamps used in all provinces.
W. S. Yelland: Coils and Booklets.
J. G. le Roux: Die Britse Militêre Poskantoorstempels en die Gebruik van Britse Possëels in Transvaal.
J. P. Roux: The Third Definitive issue (animal series) of the Union of South Africa.
H. R. Savage: The pictorial Definitives of the Union of South Africa, 1926—1954.
G. H. Hunt (Mrs.): Pietersburg.
J. G. le Roux: Posgeskiedenis Kaap voor Sëeltydperk.
J. H. Harvey Pirie: T.P.O. Marks of Union and its predecessors: T.P.O.'s of Southern Africa.
J. H. Rathbone: Boer War postmarks, censorship, etc.
W. G. J. Combrink: The Nyasaland Field Forces Post.
E. C. Wright: O.F.S. Postal Stationery.
E. C. Wright: Southern Africa Postal Stationery.

Bronze (Thematic Section).

P. Hack: Stamps of Medical & Nursing Interest.
J. W. Hodgson: Philatelic Autographs.
J. W. Bruwer: Ons Land Suid-Afrika.
F. L. Archer: Masters and Masterpieces (Art).
L. Simenhoff: Literature & Philately.
H. J. C. de Wet: Milestones in S.A. History.

(Note: Reports on the Exhibition, supplementary to what appears in "Union Notes" in this issue, are expected for publication in our January 1958 issue).

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THE UNION ANIMAL 1d. COIL STAMPS

By G. N. GILBERT

In spite of the fact that it is known that the same multipositive was used to produce the cylinder for the first Animal 1d. coils as that used to make both sheet-cylinders 12 and 97, no signs of multipositive flaws could be found in their correct vertical row positions.

The writer recently bought some complete coils, and on checking the first twenty two stamps taken from these coils with a sheet of Cylinder 12, not a trace could be found of any of the known sheet multipositives.

One tiny flaw however struck a chord in the writer's memory, and he started to search the sheet for this, and eventually found it on stamp No. 1 in the fifth horizontal row in the sheet.

This flaw consists of a dot just above and almost touching the top of R in Revenue.

The coil which contained this flaw was marked on the outside wrapper as being vertical row 12, and this multipositive was found on vertical row 1 of the sheet.

This gave the writer a hint, and some of the more prominent known sheet multipositives were searched for in other coil rows.

As the work proceeded, the pattern became clear. In every case it was found that the vertical coil row number was the reverse of the vertical sheet row, and it became obvious that all the coils had been wrongly numbered, vertical row 12 being sheet row 1, 11 being 2, 10 being 3, and so on, in other words — completely reversed. The question arises — why did this happen?

Without actually seeing the process in operation it is difficult to state a reason.

The coil sheet is one continuous long web, and the rows are split vertically coming off the machine and are wound on to spindles gum side up.

It would appear that the answer lies in the manner in which the coils are removed from these spindles, i.e., if the first removed is the one on the right, this would be actually row 12, but probably would get marked No. 1.

It cannot be a question of the reversal of the sheet, as this must leave the machine face up as is the case of the ordinary sheets. However, doubtless we shall receive more information on this point in due course.

A further complication arose when the writer had remounted his strips into the correct sheet order, as it was found that the coils did not all start with the same sheet row number.

Out of sixteen coils purchased over a long period, ten of these started with extra row 22, the second stamp in the strip being row 1 of the sheet.

Three others started with extra rows 21, 22, the third stamp being sheet row 1.

Two started with sheet row 1, and one with sheet row 2.

From this it is apparent that there is no guarantee that a coil will start with the same row in every case, but the majority seem to start with one or the other of the extra rows.

Those collectors of these coils who have purchased their strips from the Philatelic Agency will probably find that their strips start anywhere.

This can be understood as collectors do not all take merely a strip of twenty two stamps from an opened coil. Some take twenty four, and others more, so a late comer wanting a strip of twenty two, will get a strip starting lower down in the sheet position.

The only way to locate the actual sheet position of any stamp in a coil is by flaws, and to this end the writer has made lists of (a) the multipositive flaws occurring in the coils and in both cylinders 12 and 97 of the sheets, (b) multipositive flaws found only in the coils and Cylinder 97 sheets, and (c) the individual coil cylinder flaws.

It became necessary to make two multipositive lists, as during this study it was found that quite a few of these flaws appeared in the coils and in the Cylinder 97 sheets, but did not show up in the Cylinder 12 sheets.

This is probably due to flaws acquired by the multipositive after making the Cylinder 12, and before the cylinder was made for the coils and later still, the cylinder for the 97 sheets.

According to dates given by the authorities, Cylinder 12 must have been made before October 1954, the date given for the first issue of the sheets, while the coil cylinder was later, the date given for the issue of the coil stamps being December 1954.

The writer must warn readers that many of the multipositive flaws are extremely difficult to pick up in the coils, owing mainly perhaps to the coarse screening, and also to a slight overexposure when making the coil cylinder.

It is suggested that those collectors who wish to get their strips to correspond with the correct sheet position, should first reverse the order in which they have mounted them, and then try to pick up some of the more prominent flaws from the appended lists.

Once these are located, it is easy to work out the correct sheet position and also the two added rows.

It may be said — why all this palaver? After all we collectors have bought our twelve vertical strips from the Post Office, as marked by the Printing Works, and so have the complete coil layout.

They may argue that, as the old saying is, "a rose by any other name would smell as sweet", whether it be rows 12 or 1, but then according to non-collectors most stamp collectors are daft, and this sort of thing happens to be the writer's particular form of madness.

Surely it is just this "tracking down" of things and trying to formulate a reason therefore that gives the "spice" to specialized collecting — not the added fun perhaps of proving the Post Office wrong occasionally!

The writer concludes by wishing other coil collectors "good hunting" and trusts that it will not take them so long to "put their house in order" as it has taken him to ferret all this out.

The Multipositive flaws of the 1d. Animal Coil stamps and Sheet Cylinders 12 and 97.

Note. The first numbers on the left in these lists represent the actual vertical sheet rows, while those in brackets give the numbers placed on the coil wrappers by the Pinting Works.

Row 1. (12).

Sheet horizontal row 5 No. 1 Dot slightly above and to right of the top of R in Revenue.

Row 2. (11).

Sheet horizontal row 5 No. 2. Faint signs of

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the tiny dots in top left margin and tiny extra dot below hyphen Posgeld-Postage.

Row 2. (11).
Sheet horizontal row 18 No. 2. Dark spot between 1d. and Revenue.

Row 3. (10).
Sheet horizontal row 13 No. 3. Dot to the left of the first A in Afrika, near first leg of the A (very faint in coils).

Row 4. (9).
Sheet horizontal row 3 No. 4. Faint signs of the slanting scratch through horn on left, near tip.

Row 5. (8).
Sheet horizontal row 11 No. 5. Tiny dot under the horn on left near the bushy hairs.

Row 6. (7).
Sheet horizontal row 8 No. 6. Dot over a in Postage, midway between the neck and chin of the Wildebeest.

Row 6. (7).
Sheet horizontal row 14 No. 6. Tiny dot just left of the top of 1d.

Row 7. (6).
Sheet horizontal row 4 No. 7. Dot almost midway between 1d. and nu in Revenue.

Row 7. (6).
Sheet horizontal row 13 No. 7. Dot over a in Postage.

Row 7. (6).
Sheet horizontal row 16 No. 7. Darkish patch just left of the 1d. (faint in coils).

Row 7. (6).
Sheet horizontal row 18 No. 7. Dot by horn on left.

Row 8. (5).
Sheet horizontal row 11 No. 8. Tiny dot level with Inkomste near bristles on face.

Row 8. (5).
Sheet horizontal row 14 No. 8. Dot under i in Suid. (faint in coils).

Row 9. (14).
Sheet horizontal row 9 No. 9. Faint dot over in in Inkomste

Row 9. (14).
Sheet horizontal row 14 No. 9. Two tiny dots, one just right of the d in 1d., and the other above P in Posgeld.

Row 10. (3).
Sheet horizontal row 18 No. 10. Tiny dot above horn on left level with d in Suid vertically (in Cyl. 12 sheets there are two dots one plainer to the left of this M.P. spot).

Row 10. (3).
Sheet horizontal row 20 No. 10. Mark under first A in Afrika near tip of horn.

Row 11. (2).
Sheet horizontal row 7 No. 11. Minute dot under U in Suid.

Row 11. (2).
Sheet horizontal row 16 No. 11. Signs of a dot under i in Suid (faint in coils).

Row 11. (2).
Sheet horizontal row 17 No. 11. Mark over last a in Afrika.

Row 11. (2).
Sheet horizontal row 18 No. 11. Dot under S in Suid.

Row 12. (1).
Sheet horizontal row 20 No. 12. Minute dot under the s in Gosgeld (wants strong glass for coils).

Multipositive flaws that occur only in the 1d. Animal Coils and in Cylinder 97 sheets.

No. 1. (12).
Sheet horizontal row 10 No. 1 Spot left of left horn near left margin.
Sheet horizontal row 15 No. 1. Faint spot right of right leg of u in Suid.

No. 2. (11).
Sheet horizontal row 5 No. 2. Minute dot right of 1 of 1d.
Sheet horizontal row 13 No. 2. Dot at bottom of last e in Revenue rather like a tail to the e.

No. 3. (10).
Sheet horizontal row 3 No. 3. Dot in top margin over last a in Afrika, and dot under en of Revenue.
Sheet horizontal row 5 No. 3. Stop after last e in Revenue.
Sheet horizontal row 10 No. 3. Dot under os in Posgeld.
Sheet horizontal row 12 No. 3. Faint dot to the right of the first A in Afrika.
Sheet horizontal row 14 No. 3. Dot close to the tip of horn on left.

No. 4. (9).
Sheet horizontal row 13 No. 4. Tiny dot near neck over ag of Postage.

No. 5. (8).
Sheet horizontal row 4 No. 5. Tiny dot almost level with top of head to the left of the top of horn on right.

No. 6. (7).
Sheet horizontal row 1 No. 6. Dot over In of Inkomste.
Sheet horizontal row 5 No. 6. Dot on top edge of the white strip on neck.
Sheet horizontal row 9 No. 6. Dark spot on top of mane under ka in Afrika.
Sheet horizontal row 13 No. 6. Tiny dot near bristles opposite Inkomste-Revenue.

No. 7. (6).
Sheet horizontal row 2 No. 7. Heavy dot on mane near right margin.
Sheet horizontal row 7 No. 7. Tiny dot on top margin just left of and above i in Suid. (See note below).
Sheet horizontal row 19 No. 7. Tiny dot under l in Posgeld.

No. 8. (5).
Sheet horizontal row 12 No. 8. Tiny dot over d in Posgeld.

No. 9. (4).
Sheet horizontal row 5 No. 9. Faint dot to the right of an slightly above the d in Suid.

No. 10. (3).
Sheet horizontal row 14 No .10. Dot between om in Inkomste and the horn on left.
Sheet horizontal row 16 No. 10. Tiny dot under ue of Revenue.

No. 11. (2).
Sheet horizontal row 14 No. 11. Tiny dot between Su in Suid, near bottom of u.

No. 12. (1).
Sheet horizontal row 20 No. 12. Dot between neck and jaw, over ag in Postage.

Note. Coil No. 7. (6). The flaw shown as a tiny dot on top margin in row 7 No. 7 wants amplifying, as in the coil there is a distinct dot in the gutter margin which is **not** the multipositive dot mentioned. This will be found just below **on** the margin, and is fainter in coils.

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Individual Cylinder flaws of the 1d. Animal Coil stamps.

The numbers shown below under each of the vertical Coil strips correspond with the horizontal sheet row positions, with the exception of the two added rows.

Coil No. 1 (12).

No. 22. Dot under Re of Revenue.
No. 2. Tiny dots above and below the horn on left, and dot under beard above sof Postage.
No. 3. Dot under id of Suid midway between horn and head.
No. 4. Dots everywhere — under i of Suid, A of Afrika, above and near edge of horn on left, below the same horn, and above P in Postage etc.
No. 5. Dot about midway in the curve formed by the horn on left and dot near head under fr in Afrika.
No. 6. Heavy dot in margin left of S in South.
No. 7. Dot just right of i in Suid, and tiny dots under mouth above eld of Posgeld.
No. 12. Two dots, on and above the horn on left, and a slightly larger dot under the same horn. Tiny dot left of the stop under the d of 1d.
No. 13. Dot on the bare patch on nose.
No. 14. Dot to the right of e in Inkomste.
No. 17. Dot in right margin level with Postage.
No. 19. Dot in neck over and to the right of the last a in Africa.
No. 21. Dot over the k in Afrika in gutter. Dot near top of horn on right, and not to the left of the horn on left.

Coil No. 2. (11).

No. 22. Dot close to tip of the horn on, left. Dot midway between 1d. and Revenue.
No. 1. Dots over e of Posgeld and over P of Postage.
No. 4. Dot in top gutter margin over last a in Afrika.
No. 5. Dot just left of bottom of 1 in 1d.
No. 6. Dot under and to left of S in Suid.
No. 7. Dot to left of I in Inkomste, and over ko of Inkomste.
No. 8. Dot in the middle of d of Suid.
No. 9. Dot under r in Afrika.
No. 13. Dot just right of and above e in Inkomste.
No. 20. Dot over d in Posgeld.

Coil No. 3. (10).

No. 22. Faint dot above P in Postage near beard, and tiny dot to right of the foot of f in Afrika.
No. 1. Dot left of the tip of the horn on right.
No. 4. Dots in a row left of the nose opposite bottom bristles.

Row 5. Dot under horn on left, and dot near the lower face bristles.

No. 6. Dot between fr in Afrika, and dot above o in South.
No. 9. Two dots near tip of horn on left.
No. 10. Faint stroke down from left margin opposite Inkomste to the 1d.
No. 11. Mark like a short stroke on top of the head under f in Afrika.
No. 15. Dot right of the top of d in 1d.
No. 20. Tiny dot right of and below last e in Revenue.

Coil 4. (9).

No. 1. Dot near top of first A in Afrika, and dot in left gutter margin opposite horn.
No. 2. Dot above horn on left, close to head.
No. 4. As above but a little further out.
No. 7. Dot in top left corner.
No. 8. Mark just under and to left of S in Suid.
No. 12. Dot between the end of Revenue and face of Wildebeest.
No. 14. Small dot between fr in Afrika.
No. 17. Dot close up under horn on left.
No. 19. Dot in top gutter margin over fr in Afrika.
No. 21. Dot in top gutter margin over ri in Afrika, and very faint hairline over d of 1d. Tiny dot under hyphen, Posgeld-Postage.

Coil 5. (8).

No. 1. Dot just left of the horn on left and almost touching.
No. 3. Minute dot under hyphen Suid-Afrika.
No. 7. Dot on right edge of neck, touching margin and level with eye.
No. 9. Dot under u in Revenue, nearer to Revenue than to the 1d.
No. 12. Dot over 1d.
No. 18. Faint scratch through Af in Afrika, slanting down to the bottom of the f.
No. 20. Dot in top gutter margin over ri in Afrika.
No. 21. Scratch from below the d in 1d. up to the nose. (See note at foot of this list).

Coil 6. (7).

No. 22. Dot on tip of horn on left, and tiny dot near the horn on right.
No. 5. Dot to the left of the horn on left, and tiny dot in the curve above the same horn.
No. 6. Dot in top gutter margin over Su in Suid.

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No. 10. Dot under a in Postage.

No. 12. Dot on the tip of the lower left face bristles.

No. 17. Dot to the left of the face bristles above nose.

No. 19. Tiny dot just right of the d in Suid.

No. 20. Tiny dot just under neck.

Coil 7. (6).

No. 4. Dot over ag in Postage.

No. 5. Dot left of the tip of the horn on left, and dot under d in Suid.

No. 6. Dot over So in South, and clump of tiny dots near neck. Dot under horn on left, and dot under k in Afrika.

No. 7. Dot under ri in Afrika. Dot in left margin opposite Inkomste.

No. 8. Two dots under Revenue.

No. 9. Heavy dot between legs of A in Afrika.

No. 11. Dot over ag in Postage.

No. 13. Dot between id in Suid.

No. 15. Dot over ge in Posgeld.

No. 18. Dot over first A in Afrika.

No. 20. Dot in right gutter margin level with bottom of last a in Afrika.

(To be continued)

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BOX 576 — BLOEMFONTEIN

SOCIETY NEWS

ROYAL PHILATELIC SOCIETY OF CAPE TOWN

On **12th September** we saw an exceptional exhibit by Mr. H. Roselaar, who presented "Numeral Cancellations of the Netherlands". Mr. Roselaar has kindly agreed to his notes on the subject, being circularised among our members.

On the **26th November** we had one of those popular dual evenings when Mr. R. Eskell showed "Norway — Early Post Horn and Locals", while Mr. A. G. Versino presented "Great Britain — Low Values".

Mr. Eskell's exhibit, only a small part of an extensive collection, was much appreciated and members listened avidly to what the exhibitor had to say about his stamps.

Mr. Versino showed a cross-section of the stamps of Great Britain from ½d. to 3d. which he presented in a rather novel manner. He had a basic sheet featuring each value for each reign, showing an example of each type of stamp, each design (no varieties). His talk was most enlightening and greatly appreciated.

J. H.

THEMATIC STAMP CLUB

October 14th. Mr. L. Simenhoff, F.R.P.S.L., showed a new collection of his, namely, "Literature on Stamps". This had been prepared for the Paarl Exhibition (where it gained a Bronze Award). Mr. Simenhoff pointed out that this was not complete but nevertheless it was a fine showing and written up as usual with care and giving all relevant matter. This is a wide subject as practically every country has issued stamps honouring poets and writers, many of them obscure and on which information is difficult to obtain.

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October 28th. On this evening the composite exhibits of FIPCO and A.T.A. were shown. A record crowd turned out, there being no less than 71 present, to view this fine collection taken from leading thematic collectors in the U.S.A., Canada, Germany, Saar, Denmark, Switzerland, and Czeckoslovakia, covering many subjects. Some were magnificently written up and complete. Members took note of several of the outstanding collections and this should improve the standard. It has however commented that there were a number of fine collections in the Union which could easily compete overseas.

M. F. S.

FISH HOEK PHILATELIC SOCIETY

October 7th. The guest exhibitor on this occasion was Miss A. Archer, one of the junior members of the Royal Cape Town, who showed her collection of Greece. This covered the whole field and was well written up philatelically, and in addition great care had been taken only to show fine specimens. It is a fine start to what will one day possibly be one of the well known collections. She has certainly set a fine standard for other junior collectors.

M. F. S.

THE O.F.S. AND BASUTOLAND PHILATELIC SOCIETY

On **Friday, 27th September 1957,** the first display of the evening was Mr. J. W. Hodgson's "U.P.U.'s" — a collection of the stamps issued throughout the world to commemorate the 75th Anniversary of the founding of that organization. The exhibit was neatly written-up and there were some 400 stamps (out of a total of some 582) on show in strict alphabetic order.

The second exhibit was tabled by Mr. C. E. Kachelhoffer, who showed a selection of his Union collection, mounted very attractively and well written-up. The stamps ranged from the waffle plate (medium 1½d.) plate V to 10/- (Groot Constantia) with many fine items, viz. large 1½d. Gold Mine with **mine dump shade missing** and **joined paper:** miniature sheet of plate IV 1/- **(brown arrows)** and the unscreened 5/- issue with inverted and normal watermarks, with **broken yoke-pin** and the broken **yokes,** which are rarely seen.

GERMISTON PHILATELIC SOCIETY

September. — The average attendance at our monthly meetings for the nine months of this year has been twenty-two members out of a total membership of forty members which includes a few Country Members. This gives us an average of over 55% which is a figure to be proud of, and it certainly shows that our meetings are of interest to our members. At the September meeting there were twenty-four members and six visitors present to view the display tabled by the Hon. Secretary/Treasurer, who had chosen his collection of used Q.E. issues, from 1952 to date.

16th October, 1957. Our visitors, the Afrikaanse Filateliste Vereniging of Johannesburg, were under the leadership of Mr. Lambert, and tabled three exhibits. Holland by Dr. W. P. van der Merwe, who had travelled all the way from Viljoenskroon in the O.F.S. to visit the Germiston Society; followed by Mr. Achterhoff with his display of modern France, and lastly, Mr. Lambert with his up-to-date collection of air-mails.

I. S. B.

PHILATELIC SOCIETY OF THE WESTERN RAND

Thursday, 17th October. We were hosts to the Pretoria Philatelic Society. A most enjoyable evening was spent by those present, the visitors putting up a number of interesting and varied exhibits. By way of introduction to his collection of Union coils and booklets Dr. T. B. Berry spoke briefly on the differences and uses of these stamps; he lamented the fact that the authorities had discontinued issuing booklets but felt that they would again be issued in the near future. Comment was passed on the beautiful lay-out of the pages.

Mr. R. M. Castignani then exhibited his award-winning (Been Cup) collection of Italian Air Mails, covering Italy and San Marino. Of special interest were the beautiful designs and colours which made up the various issues of these two countries.

A collection of Russian issues covering the period 1855-1939 was put up by Mr. D. Coetser. Russia is still a rather neglected country, philatelically speaking, and this proved to be a most enlightening exhibition. The outstanding sets of this collection depicted some of Russia's greatest architectural achievements and public buildings.

An exhibit of Union postmarks by Mr. Impey focussed attention on the wide variety of postmarks used by the various post offices at different times. For a while the monopoly enjoyed by stamps was broken as members gave themselves up to the study of shapes, sizes and varieties of postal cancellations.

The last exhibit viewed (that of Mr. D. Slater-Kinghorn) was of British Empire items, and included a number of English 19th century issues going right back to copies of the first 1d. Blacks of 1840. The writing-up of this fine collection was of a particularly high standard.

O. C. K.

PORT ELIZABETH PHILATELIC SOCIETY

The second meeting of the year for Junior Collectors on the **6th August,** proved to be exceedingly popular — young and old enjoying to the full the varied fare provided. The young people had brought their collections for judging and well deserved prizes were awarded in different age groups. Mr. D. Berg, in giving the impressions of the judges, praised the high standard reached by most of the young collectors but also pointed out weaknesses and faults which needed elimination. Mr. G. E. Smukler showed sheets from his collections — Unions, Israel and Music and gave a very instructive talk on stamp collecting. He was assisted by displays from Mr. A. J. Fisher, Mr. P. Smits with his enchanting thematic collection on Astronomy and Master Deacon had brought along his prize winning displays from "Penapex" "New Foundland" and other sheets.

20th August. The main event of the evening was a splendid display by one of our veterans, Mr. H. Deschamps, who delighted all with an amazing array of British Empire Stamps ranging from the classic to modern issues; the countries represented encircling the Globe.

3rd September. Our Lady Members are to be highly congratulated on the manner in which they entertained us both philatelically and

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gastronomically. Excellent fare was provided by the exhibits, where honours were shared by Mrs. R. Smukler — Stamps from countries A to M; Mrs. G. Pamensky — Covers of South Africa & Australia; Miss J. McSporran — Turkish Issues & Mrs. J. Pearson, chiefly first day covers of Union of South Africa. We are looking forward to another Ladies' Evening next year.

17th September. Mr. A. J. Fisher — one of our keenest members had gone to great trouble in bringing together a very representable exhibit of the post-war issues of Germany. All Zones were well represented and the material attracted much attention and created great interest among members, many of whom were set speculating how they could use these stamps for thematic collections. Comment was also made on the fine designs and good printing of the latest issues — a noteable advance from the low ebb of the immediate post-war years.

1st October. We all knew that an interesting evening would be awaiting us with Mr. C. Clement scheduled to show us some of his Union Varieties, Errors and Flaws. We were not disappointed and greatly enjoyed the neatly mounted and well annotated sheets which graced the tables. Particularly gratifying were the explanatory remarks by Mr. Clement and the stimulating discussion which followed, showing that many members take a lively interest in Union Stamps.

THE PHILATELIC SOCIETY OF JOHANNESBURG

In spite of the drain of collections and attendances which the Paarl meeting meant in October, our two meetings again topped 40 present. At the first meeting, on **October 8th,** eight ten-sheet-displays were shown, ranging over the whole territory of collecting: Mr. Kupferman showed "Postal Stationery", Mr. Rudolph "Multi-coloured Rubbish", Commander Enoch "Rodriguez", Mr. Glassman "Pictorials of Portugal and her colonies", Mr. Oppenheim "Flight Covers and Olympics", Mr. Stern "Edwardian Falkland Islands", Mr. Lydall "Gambia", and Dr. v. Varendorff "Ceylon" — the three prizes going, for once, to collections from the red catalogue, Messrs Lydall, Stern and v. Varendorff being the winners.

October 28th had two large and choice exhibits, Mr. S. M. Boss showing some more of his thirty-volume collection of mint French Colonials, an assortment, this time, which contained even such strange French possessions as German Togo and the Saar (and what lovely stamps, quite apart from the present continental craze for their quotations, are these Saar stamps!); and Captain M. F. Stern had sent up from Cape Town sixty sheets of his "African Air Mails", which he modestly called his "third string" — the two better ones being at TABIL and Paarl — and for which he had provided a highly interesting paper. Well, if what we were shown was really his third choice, it was no wonder that his first choice had received one of the above-mentioned Silver-Gilts in Israel!

PRETORIA PHILATELIC SOCIETY

3 September 1957. The annual Certificate of Merit Competition was held and a rather disappointing number of entries were received for this award. They were from the collections of two of our real stalwarts, Messrs E. C. Wright and W. Newlands. Mr. Wright shewed his "Zanzibar" collection, whilst Mr. Newlands' entry was in the form of his "C.S.A.R." and "N.G.R." overprints on the stamps of the Transvaal and Natal. Both entries proved most interesting and the judges' vote for the better collection went to Mr. Newlands who once again became the winner of the Society's premier award of the year.

16 September 1957. Perhaps the highlight of our philatelic calendar took place this evening when our friends from the Philatelic Society of Johannesburg paid us their annual visit. As usual, a strong contingent made the journey from the Golden City and the following were the exhibits and exhibitors, who were ably led and introduced by their Chairman, Mr. Seligmann.

(1) Dr. Harvey Pirie — who shewed an intensely interesting study of the Maritime postmarks of South Africa. The exhibit was preceded by a very lucid and informative paper which not only proved of so much interest but explained very simply the rather unusual nature of his material and its origin. Here was a show that really taught us all something we knew nothing about until now.

(2) Mr. S. Boss who brought along an excellent selection of the stamps of Indo-China.

(3) Commander Enoch, whose exhibit and paper were not of the customary length and duration expected of him, but this was due to his choice of subject which was Prince Edward Island. The material shewn was excellent and the paper was presented in his inimitable and entertaining way.

(4) Mr. B. Glassman, who read a lengthy paper on the "War Tax stamps of Mozambique 1916—1920" which was written many years ago by the late Emil Tamsen. The paper was followed by an exhibit by Mr. Glassman of the stamps in question which, although not quite in our usual line, made an interesting display and was well presented.

7 October 1957. Before the programme proper began Mr. F. C. Ferguson, our Chairman, was presented with his Certificate of Life Membership by one of our other life members, Mr. L. J. Dodd. A welcome was also extended to a collector from Holland who was presently in Pretoria and shortly returning to his home land — an unusual diversion.

Miss B. J. Versfeld, by kind permission of the Director of the Transvaal Museum, then read a paper on an exhibit of Transvaal Republic fiscal stamps which was specially prepared by the Republican authorities for a stamp display in Paris in 1899. The story made fascinating telling and the eight pages of stamps with their French descriptions were an interesting sidelight on the postal and political history of those days.

Mr. L. J. Dodd then read a paper on the Revenue Stamps of the Transvaal and their successors which, as we know, is a field in which he is an acknowledged authority. His exhibit covered the period from the 1859s to date and was a very interesting display of adhesive stamps of a type not collected by many but which, nevertheless, is of great interest when shewn and explained by one who knows his subject.

J. M. W.

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