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The South African Philatelist

VOLUME 27 — 1951

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THE

SOUTH AFRICAN PHILATELIST

PROPRIETORS AND PUBLISHERS:

The Philatelic Federation of Southern Africa

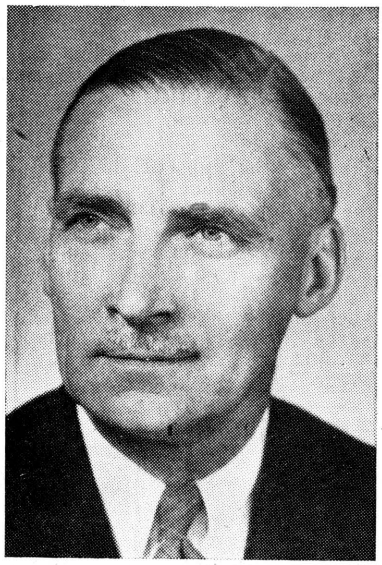
Honorary Editor: Dr. J. H. HARVEY PIRIE
Business Manager: Mr. L. BUCHEN
P.O. Box 4012, Johannesburg.

Subscription: Eight Shillings per annum, post free to any part of the World.

Vol. 27 No. 1 JANUARY, 1951 Whole No. 310

A MESSAGE

Since my election to the Presidency of the Philatelic Federation of Southern Africa I have been receiving warm congratulations from my fellowmen in all walks of life and I am consequently the more aware and appreciative of the high honour which was done me during Congress in Johannesburg.



There is no doubt that the affairs of the Federation have been conducted in the past on a high level of efficiency and in the best interests of all Federated Societies and it will be my earnest endeavour to uphold the dignity of office and to emulate the high degree of good service rendered by my predecesors.

I am looking forward to the continuance of sincere support and co-operation of all Federated Societies and, in wishing them a year of prosperity and happy philatelic associations, I look forward to welcoming delegates and visitors to Bloemfontein in May next year on the occasion of the 1951 Federation Congress and Exhibition, further details of which will be made known in due course.

Sincerely,

C. A. LARSEN.

U.P.U. CONVENTION

5th JULY, 1947.

(Reprinted with permission from the South African Postal Authorities.)

Article 106 of the Convention — Detailed Regulations, reads:

Postage Stamps and "Postage Paid" Impressions.

1. The postage stamps representing the basic rates of the Union or their equivalents in the currency of each country are printed in the following colours:
   - in blue, the stamp representing the postage on an unregistered single-rate letter;
   - in red, the stamp representing the postage on an unregistered postcard;
   - in green, the stamp representing the postage on an unregistered single-rate printed paperl
2. Impressions produced by postal franking machines must be bright red in colour, whatever the value represented by them.
3. Postage stamps and impressions of postal franking machines must include, as far as possible in Roman characters, an indication of the country of origin, and mention their postage value according to the table of equivalents adopted. The number of monetary units or fractions of the unit used to express this value is indicated in Arabic figures.
4. As regards printed papers prepaid by means of impressions obtained from the printing press, or by any other process (Article 50 of the Convention), the indication of the country of origin and the amount prepad and the indication "Taxe percue" (Charge collected), **"Port payé"** (Postage paid) or a similar expression. This expression may be in French or in the language of the country of origin; it may also be in abridged form, e.g., "T.P.", or "P.P." In every case, the indication used must be encircled or heavily underlined.
5. Commemorative stamps or charity stamps, for which a supplementary charge is to be paid independently of their postage value, must be produced in such a way as to leave no doubt about the latter.
6. Postage stamps may be distinctively perforated by means of a punch, subject to the conditions prescribed by the Administration issuing them.

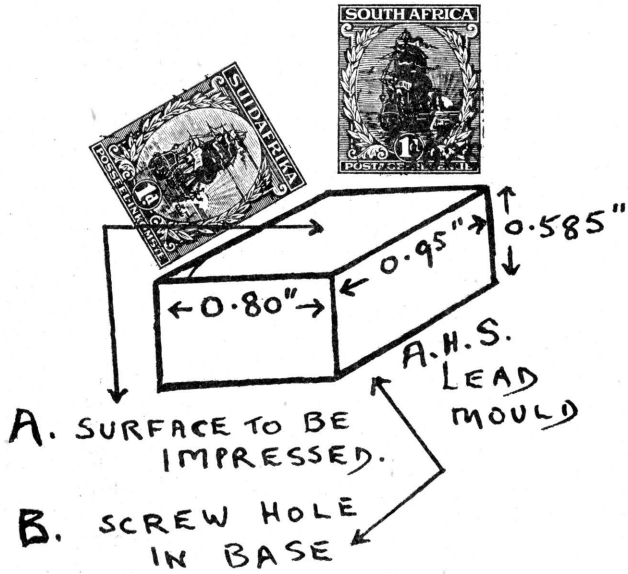
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Union Notes

SUB-EDITOR: Mr. W. N. Sheffield,
Box 99, Cleveland, Transvaal.

The Dimensions of the Lead Moulds used in the Production of the ½d., 1d. and 6d. Electrotyped Pictorial Stamps

The accompanying sketch with two 1d. stamps affixed has been submitted by Mr. A. H. Sydow of Cape Town to illustrate the dimensions of the lead mould used for making the vignettes of the ½d. Springbok Head, the 1d. Van Riebeeck Ship and the 6d. Orange Tree electrotyped pictorial stamps.



The dimensions of each lead mould were, as shown in the sketch reproduced to exact size, 0.80 inches by 0.95 inches by 0.585 inches. Impressions were on the upper surface of each one and the screw holes were effected in the base of each. For the issue sheets, 240 vignette moulds and 240 frame design moulds were used for each of the three denominations, but for the ½d. and 1d. booklet plates 264 moulds were required for each plate. As generally known, the stamps were initially printed by Messrs. Waterlow & Sons, Limited in London, and afterwards by the Union Government Printer in Pretoria.

Mr. Sydow also mentions that the same size mould was used for the electrotyped frame plates of the 1927/28 Union Postage Due stamps printed by the Government Printer in Pretoria and catalogued in Gibbons as D17 to D21. In this case however, there were only 120 moulds per plate, or more correctly, 120 moulds for each one of the four frame plates. He adds that he has discovered that the method of making the electrotyped plates for the pictorials differed from the method of making the electrotyped plates for the postage dues and further information on the point will be given in due course.

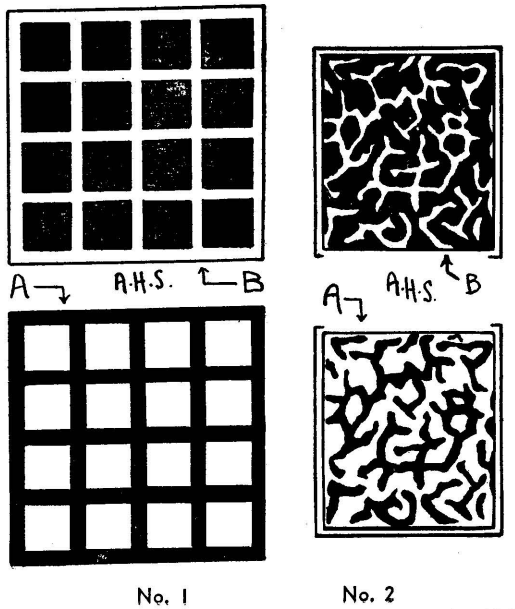
The Cross-lined and Irregular Grained Screens used in the Production of the Union Stamps

In answer to an enquiry from a reader who wishes to clear up a point regarding screens, Mr. A. H. Sydow gives the following notes and sketches illustrating the difference between the "cross-lined screen" and the "irregular grained screen" as used in the production of the Union stamps.

In sketch No. 1, the portion marked "B" represents an enlargement of a cross-lined screen and shows the white lines and black squares (opaque black) as they appear in miniature on the actual glass screen plate measuring approximately three feet square. The size of the mesh cut on this type of screen may vary from the comparatively coarse grade of 160 to the inch, to the finer and probably more frequently used design of 200 lines to the inch.

The portion marked "A" in the same sketch represents an enlargement of the mesh design printed by direct contact on the carbon tissue sheet by the action of a powerful electric light projected on to the screen plate "B." The process is much the same as the well known method of using a photographic printing frame for the making of a contact print from a negative and, in the case of the screen, takes about twelve minutes to complete.

The action of the light passing through the lines cut into the opaque surface of the glass causes the mesh design to be printed on the carbon tissue and at the same time all particles of the gelatine coating on the tissue, to which the light has penetrated through the lines, become hardened against the dissolving action of water. Therefore, when the copper cylinder is later covered with the sheet of carbon tissue and then subjected to the water treatment and



No. 1 No. 2

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acid etching processes, the lines of the mesh design remain as a series of minute ridges on the surface of the metal to act as doctor blade rests.

The black lines in the sketch are therefore the screen lines enclosing the white squares or blanks which eventually received the print of the stamp design from the diapositive. On the copper cylinder, these white squares will represent the etched portion of the design in intaglio and the black lines, the unetched portions of the metal which form the doctor blade rests. (See also page 185 of the December 1949 issue of the South African Philatelist).

In sketch No. 2, the portion marked "B" represents an enlargement of an irregular grained screen showing the irregular "whites" and "blacks" as they appear in miniature on the actual glass screen plate. Portion "A" in the same sketch represents en enlargement of a print of the irregular grained screen on the carbon tissue sheet carried out in the same manner as for the cross-lined screen. Here again, the irregular "blacks" on the tissue have become hardened by the action of light and will subsequently remain on the surface of the copper cylinder in the form of irregular unetched ridges to act as doctor blade rests. The irregular "whites" on the tissue—which have not been affected by the light through the screen—will, in the following process, receive the design printed by contact from the diapositive and then act as the medium for the transfer of the images to the cylinder.

New "Officials"

Following the reports in our October and December numbers of the issue of new 1d., 2d. and 1/- "Officials" bearing a larger type of overprint, Mr. J. Robertson of the Robertson Stamp Co. records the appearance, towards the end of November, of the 6d., 2/6 and 10/- denominations with a similar type of overprint. This completes the six values listed under RECENT PRINTINGS in November as having been overprinted OFFICIAL/OFFISIEËL on a flat bed machine from NEW PROCESS BLOCKS.

Mr. Robertson also furnishes the interesting information that prior to the use of the new process block—a stereotype—for the current 2d. "Officials," about a dozen or so sheets were overprinted from the old forme previously employed for 1½d. "Officials." These, it was subsequently learned, were part of a consignment requisitioned by the Department of Transport and in the normal course of events were used up on official business. The first knowledge of the matter came from overseas when a used speciment was sent back with an enquiry as to when they were issued and the answer is contained in these notes. As far as is known there are no mint copies and quite probably not many of the used variety.

Constant Flaw on Current 6d. Pictorial

A correspondent records a short white vertical mark near the centre of the tree on Stamp No. 6—Row 17 of the current 6d. all-screened issue. It is a constant flaw, easily visible and though not previously recorder, has evidently been present since the printing (Cylinders 6930/6) appeared in January 1950.

New Printings of the 1d. Pictorial Stamps

Since the issue of the all-screened 1d pictorial, printed from cylinders numbered 76 Internal and 14 External and recorded in the October "Notes", two further printings have appeared, one from cylinders 70 Internal and 88 External and the other from cylinders 70 Internal and 14 External. They were issued in the order given.

Like the 76/14 printing, the other two are also all-screened and from a cursory glance there is really very little to distinguish between the three of them. On closer inspection however, the combination of the 70/14 cylinders has produced a stamp with better definition than the other two and so has apparantly been selected in preference to the 76/14 or 70/88 combinations. It is understood that the number of sheets printed from the 76/14 cylinders was under 12,000, and from the 70/88 cylinders, 30,000. The number printed from the 70/14 set-up is given as in the region of 250,000 sheets, but these figures are subject to official confirmation.

As already mentioned, the general appearance of the stamps in the three printings is much the same and the watermark, perforations and cyclometer numbers recorded for the 76/14 issue in October are unchanged. The carmine frame colour is also about the same shade in each printing, but the sepia tone of the headplate on the 76/14 stamp has given way to a blackish or grey-black shade in the second and third printings. The marginal arrow on the "88" sheets are also very similar to those on the "14" production and there are very few flaws present to assist identification. But despite these factors there are certain features and small blemishes which enable the corner blocks and the arrow blocks of the three printings to be distinguished from one another and a list of these will be prepared for the February notes.

New "Double Image" Variety on the Current 2d. Postage Due Stamps.

In the November 1948 issue of the "South African Philatelist" we published some notes submitted by Mr. A. H. Sydow of Cape Town on the 2d. Postage Due "Double Image" variety catalogued as D26/Va on page 99 of the Union Standard Catalogue.

The variety takes the form of a comparatively thicker figure "2", a thicker pence symbol "d" and an elliptical shaped stop on one stamp of each sheet and Mr. Sydow explains that it emanated from a DOUBLE IMAGE on the numeral diapositive which in turn emanated from a double exposure via the Step and Repeat Camera. The plate-holder, he explains, was very likely moved horizontally during the process of preparing the diapositive from the master negative and a double exposure produced a slightly heavier figure of value (2d.) on this particular stamp.

These stamps (S.G. D26) were produced in 1940 and now, curiously enough, a similar variety has just recently come to light on the current 2d. Postage Due stamps first recorded as being in use in our May 1949 issue. But in this case, instead of one stamp with a heavier

(Continued on next page)

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AIR MAIL NOTES

SOUTHERN RHODESIA

A new weekly airmail service was inaugurated by **East African Airways** ,using "Dakota" aircraft, on 30th August, 1950 between Salisbury and Nairobi, via Fort Jameson, N.R. and Mbeya, T.T.

This was the first occasion on which mails have been carried non-stop between Southern Rhodesia and Fort Jameson, the route hitherto having been ither via Nyasaland or Lusaka. Mails are now delivered in just over two hours compared with over a week by surface.

UNION OF SOUTH AFRICA — GREAT BRITAIN

British Overseas Airways.

Flying Boat Service. On 11th May, 1948 BOAC commenced a new airmal service from Vaaldam to Southampton, via the Victoria Falls, Lake Victoria, Khartoum, Luxor, Alexandria and Augusta, using **"Solent"** flying-boats. Covers posted to Johannesburg on the evening of 10th May addressed to Alexandria were backstamped on the 15th.

The last despatch over this route was made on 9th November, 1950 when BOAC introduced an accelerated service via West Africa.

"Hermes" Service. On 10th November, 1950 BOAC started to operate a thrice-weekly airmail service from Palmietfontein to London via Livingstone, Brazzaville, Kano and Tripoli using Handley Page "Hermes" aircraft, and completing the journey in 32 hours 10 min. compared with the more direct service operated by South African Airwayys which now only takes 25½ hours.

The first plane to carry mails left Palmietfontein at 7 a.m. on Friday, 10th November and reached London at 2.10 p.m. on Saturday. First Flight covers do not appear to have been delivered to addressees until after the weekend and those seen bear a backstamp of 13th November.

— I. H. C. GODFREY.

(Continued from previous page)

numeral, there is a complete block of four each showing a comparatively thicker "2", a heavier "D" and an elliptical stop. The four stamps are in the 5th and 6th positions of Rows 5 and 6 in the bottom left hand pane of sixty, or the 5th and 6th positions of Rows 15 and 16 of a full sheet of stamps as printed. (They are distributed in quarter sheet panes of sixty stamps.)

There is no difficulty in recognising the four stamps in their position on the pane and detached single specimens can be readily picked out by the elliptical shaped appearance of the stop under the pence symbol "D". The variety shows up to advantage in a large piece of twelve or more stamps, thereby indicating that the master negative used for the making of the diapositive consisted of a block of four units, and it is undoubtedly the most excellent example of a DOUBLE IMAGE that has yet come to hand from the rotogravure process of stamp rinting.

THE FEMININE ANGLE

With shining rapture on his face,
While Father Time crept on apace,
He sat so quietly and still,
And of deep pleasure drank his fill.

Like one as in a dream quite dazed
At a large book he gazed and gazed,
Which at a page lay open wide,
But seemed a blank to me inside!

Then suddenly this statue stirred,
But did not speak a single word,
Then grasped with regal air so grand
Some eyebrow pluckers in his hand!

Then in those tweezers firm and tight,
He held a small thing to the light,
And to his other hand did pass
A miniature magnifying glass.

From every angle still he'd stare
At this small object in the glare,
While from his lips in highest glee,
Flowed sounds of love and ecstasy!

He seemed unfriendly and uncouth,
Till on me slowly dawned the truth—
He was no cute contortionist,
But just a fond philatelist!

Johannesburg. MARGARET CAMERON.

QUEEN VICTORIA

There are still hundreds of collectors whose main interest lies in the early and middle issues of British Colonials. These collectors are still the backbone of Philately, and for 20 years we have catered for them. These older issues can still be obtained at a reasonable price, and our books contain a fine range. A bank or business reference (preferably English) will bring you an interesting selection.

H. A. L. HUGHES & CO.

28 NELSON HOUSE, PARK RD., PETERBOROUGH, ENGLAND.

FINLAND

The Postal Administration issued on 27 November a 20m stamp in blue, bearing the effigy of the President of the Republic, J. K. Paasikivi. The occasion was his 80th birthday.

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P.B.A. **WARREN SMITH** P.T.S.
103, HIGH STREET, BEDFORD, ENG.

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U. P. U.

ALL MINTS UNLESS, OTHERWISE STATED.

3	Albania	13/6	
1	Belgian Congo	1/6	
4	Chile	3/-	
3	Cuba	2/6	
4	Dom. Rep.	2/9	
1	Finland	1/3	
7	Germany. Berlin	14/6	
4	Iceland	3/-	
4	Indonesia Rep.	7/6	
2	Israel	4/-	
1	Lichtenstein	1/6	
3	Mexico	2/9	
5	Palestine	5/9	
3	Poland	3/6	
2	San Marino	10/6	
3	Spanish Morocco	6d.	
4	Turkey	4/6	
3	Austria	1/-	
5	Bolivia	2/6	
7	Colombia	4/6	
3	Czech.	3/6	
2	Dutch Antilles	5/6	
3	France	2/-	
1	Greece	1/-	
3	Ifni	6/6	
4	Merdeka	7/6	
1	Italy, used	6d.	
4	Luxemburg	6/6	
4	New Hebrides	5/-	
5	Paraguay	11/6	
4	Portugal	5/6	
3	Spain	2/6	
5	Sweden, used	1/6	
3	U.S.A.	5/6	
8	Bahawalpur II	2/6	
1	Brazil	1/-	
3	Costa Rica	2/9	
1	Denmark, m. or u.	9d.	
3	Egypt	6/6	
2	Germany	1/6	
2	Holland	3/6	
3	Iraq	3/6	
4	Djakarta	7/6	
5	Japan	3/6	
7	Monaco	10/6	
3	Norway	1/6	
3	Phillippines	2/-	
2	Rumania	4/6	
2	Span. Africa	3/6	
3	Swiss	3/6	
8	Venezuela	17/6	

Others, including Min. Sheets, in stock.

C.W.O. — Post Free — Subject unsold.

A. Lichtenstein

B.P.A.

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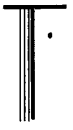
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Mint triangular blocks of four.

1863



1d. carmine	£55
4d. dark blue	£75
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1/- emerald	£225

All other Capes in stock.

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B.P.A.

FAIRWAYS, MONA CRESCENT
NEWLANDS C.P. SOUTH AFRICA.

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PHILATELIC LIBRARIES
— THEIR AIMS AND FUNCTIONS —

By D. SLATER-KINGHORN.

(A Paper Read Before the 12th Philatelic Congress of Southern Africa and Given a Congress Award)

Numerous articles on libraries and the interest displayed in literature have appeared in philatelic periodicals over a large number of years, some tending to be obscure in meaning or in conflict on certain points. The majority, however, are in agreement that a regrettable lack of interest is shown by philatelists in literature pertaining to their hobby, one result of which is a negligible demand on the libraries of stamp societies. These libraries have on occasion been described as moribund and compared to a morgue — a matter for concern if true; whereas on the other hand it has been maintained that they should be one of the principal features of societies. The main theme of the articles consequently has consisted of an appeal, motivated by a desire to benefit philately and collectors alike, for a greater interest in philatelic literature.

In my short life as member of an active society, during which I was appointed co-librarian, I have viewed many exhibits of a high standard, both from beginners and seasoned collectors, and I cannot avoid the feeling that the authors of such articles, in their endeavours to arouse greater interest, are prone to forget certain ameliorating factors and aspects of stamp collecting. It is little to be wondered at that collectors have been stated to be complacent and self-satisfied. Whatever the result of their efforts, some of the writers see no apparent improvement and others, rightly in their opinion, have described the post of librarian as a sinecure.

This article accordingly is prompted by a desire to arrive at a true assessment of the value, importance and functions of libraries in philatelic societies, and to advance some reasons for this apparent lack of interest in literature. My purpose is to urge librarians to spare no effort in improving their charges, despite any feelings of disappointment they may experience in the seeming lack of response which may create the impression that their labours are a waste of time.

Philatelic literature was first published in 1861 and today comprises books, magazines, catalogues and monographs. The quantity issued has ever increased, so much so that as far back as 1903, possibly earlier, it was known and subsequently proved time and again, that the amount of literature published for stamp collectors exceeds that on any other hobby. It is usually of a high standard, of excellent quality and well fitted for its purpose of increasing knowledge and of promoting the study of stamps.

Philatelic literature not only aids the collector but also widens his knowledge of the world and awakens his interest in matters previously unknown to him. I think we have all had the experience of reading an article on a new subject which has aroused interest and prompted further study. In this manner a whole vista of unknown and interesting facts have come within our ken.

The mainspring of philately is very small pieces of paper called stamps. This statement, the possible cause of amusement, is deliberatly made for from the possession and examination of these stamps has arisen the horde of collectors who have uncovered historical data and much information of interest. In turn these collectors have brought into being the numerous and ever increasing number of stamp societies throughout the world.

These societies cater for the collector and enable him to meet others similarly inclined, to view a variety of collections and in this way encourage him to pursue his hobby in a sense of companionship on common ground. He is also afforded greater opportunity of acquiring stamps and of widening his knowledge of philately. The societies, in order to fulfil their purpose, have officers to carry out the various duties. Certain societies actually provide a new issue service whilst the majority have Exchange Packet systems and many maintain libraries. At this stage a true valuation can be formed of the utility and importance of the library.

It is evident that the library cannot be regarded as the most important feature of a society. If it were, how could we reconcile the fact with the alleged lack of interest in literature? No! To my mind the library is a complement of the whole society and should function as such, with the sole purpose of contributing to the efforts of the society to operate efficiently and successfully. The surest barometer of this success, of course, is the patronage of collectors and a steady recruitemnt of members.

In the early life of a society the formation and development of a library are usually a slow process, the causes of which are easy to find. Members, particularly if they are beginners, wish to retain any literature they may otherwise donate, and the society in its early struggles is not able to set aside sufficient funds, if any, to develop a library.

Mention should here be made of societies, some well developed, which hav no library whatever, accounted for in many cases by difficulties of accommodation. Members of these societies have, probably due to the encouragment of other members or to the possession of sufficient literature, produced collections worthy of exhibition at meetings. The absence of a library has seemed in no way to have retarded the progress of these societies but it may possibly be found, on investigation, that not all members are adequately catered for and that some can-

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not achieve a higher standard of collecting owing to lack of knowledge.

In the progressive stages of a society the library gradually assumes a greater significance occasioned by the increase in membership and material required, until it is found expedient to appoint one or more librarians and not to combine the job with some other post. In fact, it is advisable to appoint this officer as early as possible as an energetic librarian can imbue a library with greater potentiality and increase its service to members. The importance of the library, however, should not be overemphasised, particularly at meetings, as its service is essentially one behind the scenes. The librarian should be heard as such at meetings only to read items of interest and announce new acquisitions, etc., provided the society does not already issue a pamphlet giving this information.

Literature is usually donated or purchased by societies from funds allocated for the purpose within the ambit of their exchequer, having due regard to demands in other directions. The librarian must here play his part as, after making public what material is available, he should so place the material in the library that it is effectively displayed and easily procured.

The tracing of material in a library is a matter of resource on the part of a librarian. Consideration should here be given to the fact that the incumbent of the post may change frequently and it is essential that a lucid and well defined system should be adopted so that successors in office could immediately take up the reins without having to overhaul, or conduct an investigation into, what is housed in the library.

It is again emphasized that a vital part of a librarian's duties is to anticipate popular requirements and to know exactly what material he has available. Members are prone to consult him with a view to obtaining literature on some particular subject and unless he is able to trace relevant material in a few minutes he cannot be said to function efficiently.

It is suggested that he should maintain at least three records, one a register of numbered material, one in which the indexing and cross-indexing of literature is maintained and which should be available to members for scrutiny, and the last a book in which to record items issued. The last record also serves a useful purpose in that a statistical record of borrowings could automatically be made available.

The records mentioned could of course be in book and/or card form. The system followed will to a large extent depend on the size of the library and its layout, together with the personal preference of the librarian or committee For my purposes I favour the use of loose-leaf book records, which are easy to handle.

It is sound practice to indicate on each item of literature the name of the society, the number allocated and, if donated, that fact together with the date and name of the donor. The record of numbers should be so divided as to provide a series, following consecutively, for each branch of literature, as for example, catalogues, monographs, magazines and booklets. A duplication of numbers may confuse successors in office and should be avoided.

The result is that literature of the same type is housed together and, as the library expands, the different groups could be accommodated in definite shelves or sections without detracting in any way from the efficiency of the library. If it be found that the numbers for a particular branch are insufficient, a further series is easy of allocation and the same type of material thus kept together.

The arrangement mentioned would apply to societies which have progressed to a certain degree, hence I shall now mention in passing, societies which have grown to such an extent that they may be regarded as institutions, with libraries comparable to public ones. Owing to the vast amount of material available more complex records are necessary on lines similar to those of public libraries. Where this position obtains, it would be advisable to examine the various public systems with a view to selecting the most suitable or possibly a modified version of various systems.

The manner in which to retain stamp magazines in a society library is a vexed question as there are conflicting opinions and procedures. Societies usually subscribe to a number of magazines which are intended to keep members informed on current topics of interest and are circulated amongst members. The problem of the disposal of these magazines arises when this purpose has been served.

It will be admitted that the magazines cater for no useful purpose if they are merely kept stacked without any semblance of order. It is advisable, therefore, that they be bound in some manner so that the contents are made available in a simplifid way.

The simplest method, which does not entail a large amount of work, is to bind the magazines with indexes issued by the publishers. There are, however, two other methods of indexing available. The first consists of a composite index of all issues of each magazine and the second of a composite index of all publications. Efforts have been made to produce one or other of these indexes with varying success and the results have been published from time to time. Several articles have appeared on the subject and they bear witness to the tremendous amount of work and effort involved. There are also inherent difficulties connected with the job as, owing to the human factor, it is difficult for succeeding individuals to follow the same method consistently, and the production of the final composite index has been stated to be well nigh impossible.

The index method is well suited to a society where the material is available at all times and may be scrutinised at leisure. Where, however, a society meets at specified intervals with the library available only during the hours of the meetings, literature is usually loaned to members to take away. In these circumstances members do not have the time to peruse the indexes and, if they desire articles on some particular country or topic, they would probably be appalled at the bound volumes which they would have to take away with them. A further disadvantage of the index method is that societies would probably have to incur heavy disbursements in purchasing all magazines re-

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ferred to, some of which may be difficult and expensive to obtain.

Fortunately, there is another method of housing magazine articles which has been proved to be successful and is well suited to meet the requirements of the average society. It is based on the principle of the scrapbook maintaind by many collectors and has been in use, in one form or other, by some societies.

The magazines are broken up and as far as possible all allied material is kept together and indexed, so that members are spared the laborious search involved in the index methods previously mentioned. As librarian of a prominent society I have, with permission, bound the articles in file cover booklets in such a way that articles could be added or removed by the librarian in charge. These booklets have been produced under countries of issues, for example, one each for Canada, Canadian Provinces, Natal, Transvaal and so on, and the articles placed therein as far as possible in chronological order of issue of stamps. Where an article covers a number of countries it would be placed in a general booklet, such as Thematic collecting, British Colonies and the like, and suitably cross indexed. The booklets are allocated a series of numbers in the register, appear in the index under the names of the countris involvd, etc., and if they become bulky, it is a simple matter to create sections, so labelled, under the same numbers.

The advantages of this system are self-evident as members can easily obtain the magazine articles on one country in a small number of booklets and experience little difficulty in conveying them from meetings. If the booklets contained all articles already published — a goal to aim for but which in practice would usually fall far short of achievement — the boon to specialists and philately in general would be tremendous. For example, specialists tackling any problem could continue where others have left off, after satisfying themselves regarding previous findings and, in the process, be saved a great deal of time and unnecessary research. The booklets should also serve a useful function in providing information for short papers, which are often a feature in the programmes of societies.

The booklets have one serious disadvantage in that a person could never be certain that all material published has been included, a shortcoming, however, which would apply to the majority of systems.

The initial dismemberment of magazines and preparation of booklets is a gargantuan task, particularly where societies have on hand a large quantity of magazines, but once the accumulation has been disposed of, it is a fairly simple matter to keep abreast of current issues. I cannot over-emphasize the magnitude of the undertaking, and consider that a factor contributing to this onerous task is the manner in which many publishers set up and lay out the pages of magazines.

It is essential that, for binding purposes, pages should have adequate margins. Some publishers have a propensity to combine varieties with new issue items and a common failing is the placing of an article on one side of a page with one on another topic or a continuation of some other article on the reverse side. It would take some time to write out the matter on one page, let alone numerous pages — I know, for I have tried it! I was permitted discretion in my task and have perforce found it necessary in some cases to sacrifice the less interesting articles. I have done so, somewhat concerned I may say, but in certain instances have redeemed the position by appeals for duplicate magazines, with gratifying response.

Perhaps a word of advice may not be out of place at this stage to any librarian who is undertaking the preparation of booklets. It will be found that, in view of the donation of past magazines, duplication of articles and of work may occur, and it would be useful to maintain a record for reference purposes of magazines broken up and items sacrificed.

The difficulties mentioned could be overcome if publishers were to redesign the layout of magazines. There may, of course, be certain technical objections but I feel that, to achieve a greater object than originally envisaged, some solution of the objections to the present method of publication could be found, even if only by a modification of the positions of advertisements.

It is admittedly a task placing material into booklets in some sort of chronological order, necessitating the frequent use of catalogues, and in many cases articles have had to be scanned to determine their correct positions. This work could be simplified if publishers would indicate in the heading the name of the country and issue of stamps under consideration.

I have thus far dealt with the purpose and mechanics of philatelic libraries and now wish to comment on the interest displayed in them. Here I am possibly in contradiction to the majority of writers and as a basis will endeavour to illustrate my argument by a corollary. I take what I consider sufficient exercise for my purposes, I smoke and indulge in various vices and would in all probability be regarded by purists as underexercised and overindulged. I am, in short, an average healthy being. Say that I now desire to become a pugilist — I would naturally take increased exercise and observe the restraints necessary to that calling.

It is similarly so with stamp collectors. An analysis of members would show that there are advanced philatelists, from whom one would expect a constant interest until the contents of the library pertaining to their subjects had been exhausted, and the general collector and beginner, whose requirements would usually be covered sufficiently by catalogues and whose patronage consequently would be of a sporadic nature. It is also to be remembered that most philatelists have other priority interests so that only limited time can be given to philatelic reading.

It is of course desirable that every collector should eventually become a specialist in one or other direction but it will be agreed from a practical point of view that many, from disinclination or lack of capital, will never attain this status but will confine their interests to some form of general or schematic collecting. This type of collector will, with the specialist play his part in the life of a society but he

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cannot be expected to take as lively an interest in the library. There are, too, those collectors who have their own libraries and subscribe to sundry magazines, a fact proved by the appeal for philatelic literature previously mentioned.

It will be of interest to furnish some practical information on the operations of the library with which I am concerned. With an average of 40 to 45 members at meetings held bimonthly approximately three to four items out of some 400 are issued per meeting and, after giving consideration to the various factors influencing the demand from members, I feel that the result is satisfactory. The call for current magazines before they are broken up is constant, and regular circulation is maintained until the publications are outdated by three to four months.

My experience has led me to the conclusion that the negative patronage of many libraries is due not so much as is alleged to lack of interest but might possibly be ascribed to inactive supervision and more so to the paucity and incompleteness of material available. It has been my lot that in expanding the resources of the library, increased interest has followed and I have had to disappoint members through items already being in circulation. My duties have also on occasions absorbed all my spare time before and during meetings.

It naturally follows that I should advocate to librarians the improvement of their charges to the utmost extent possible, even in the face of apparent lack of interest. In doing so these officers will enhance their portion of the service given by societies and — who knows? — their efforts may at some time be a factor contributing to a turning point in the life of a society. The more complete a library, the greater is its influence for development in the right direction.

May I conclude on the note that completion, as in collections, should be the theme and policy of all societies and, although in practically every case we shall fail to reach this ideal, it is a goal to aim for. There will always be the feeling of satisfaction that, in putting forward every effort toward that end, we shall have usefully contributed to the objective in undertaking the responsible task of society librarian.

KENYA T.P.O.'s

The full story of the T.P.O.'s on the Uganda Railway of Kenya has still to be written. I can only give here such fragments of information as have been recorded, with one little bit of fresh knowledge which has been culled personally.

Constructional period 1896-1901

In "T.P.O." Vol 3, 1949, p. 135 Dr. W. E. Flood reports a series of postmarks (four on covers, several incomplete on loose stamps) used in 1900 — 1903, i.e. during the latter part of the constructional period and a little while thereafter. Two of the marks are definitely of Indian type, which is not surprising as the line was built mainly by Indian staff.

One mark is a single-circle one of 26 mm. diam. with "T.P.O./Set No...../Date." T.P.O. may be followed by "IN" or "OUT" or may have nothing after it. The Set Nos. recorded are Nos. 1 and 2.

The other mark of Indian type is a similar sized mark with "Experimental P.O. / E.A.P." round the periphery, the date being in two lines in the centre. There is not definite proof, however, that this mark was connected with the railway, although it seems to be probable.

The third type of mark has the wording "Railhead/Mombasa." This occurs in two varieties (a) a single-circle mark of 22 mm. diam. (bb) a 'squared circle' of a type known as an early Mombasa mark.

1919. My little bit of additional knowledge is to the effect that what is recorded above about the first mark (with "Set No.) cannot be the whole story. I have a loose stamp with sufficient of a mark of this type to identify it definitely; the point is that the stamp is the provisional 4c on 6c (S.G.62) and this stamp was issued in 1919. The actual date of the mark is not seen, but at any rate it brings the usage of this type of mark up to a much later date than recorded by Flood.

1921 — 1924. In "T.P.O." Vol 3 1949, p. 88 Mr. N. Hill records three types of marks indicative of T.P.O.'s in action at that period, but when they started, when they stopped (if they have stopped), and the stretches over which they all operated, are points still to be ascertained.

These marks are:—

(a) A double-circle mark of 28 mm. diam., with "Sorting Car" between the circles and the date in two lines in the centre.

(b) Similar, but with wording "S Carriage."

In both varieties there is an Index above the date, those known being N1, N2, N4 and NO1, NO 2, NO 3, NO 4 and NO 5.

(c) This is a double-lined 28 mm. circle with round the periphery "Nairobi Nakuru/Sorting Carriage 2", date in centre in two lines. It is understood this ceased operations on 1 May, 1924, but it is not known when it started, nor if there was a No. 1. J. H. HARVEY PIRIE.

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THE "BECHUANALANDS"

Supplement No. 1

by A. A. Jurgens

There is very little opportunity to find further information in connecction with the postal history of British Bechuanaland or of the Bechuanaland Protectorate. The only records which have come to light have already been made use of in my publication The "Bechuanalands" but the discovery of a PITSANI date stamp dated Oct. 15, 1898 showing the words "SOUTH AFRICA" at the bottom has given me the idea that at last the riddle of the inclusion of these two words on Bechuanaland date stamps has been solved or is on the point of being solved.

Whilst I was busy with the Postal History of the "Bechuanalands" Mr. H. R. Holmes of London, who is a well informed student in these matters, wrote and told me that he had seen a date stamp of Pitsani with S.A. at the bottom but that he did not note the date. I replied telling him that I could not include this town with those already known, viz., Francestown and Lobatsi because unless the date of usage was before 1910 it did not come into the period I was dealing with.

The addition of the words SOUTH AFRICA or S. AFRICA on Bechuanaland date stamps was unknown prior to Union in 1910 but after this date most date stamps were so marked i.e. in regard to Cape Post Offices and the annexed territory of British Bechuanaland, also some of the Rhodesian Post Offices.

Many theories as to why the words S. AFRICA appeared on the date stamps of Francestown and Lobatsi were put forward but nothing definite was established. I approached Professor I. Shapera of the Cape Town University and asked whether he could give any explanation; his reply is given on page 62 of the "Bechuanalands."

Now that Pitsani has definitely been found to have used this date stamp in 1898 as well as the Four Figure Numeral Defacer (Killer) No. 1014, as shown here under Fig. 1, we have only to look at the map of Bechuanaland to see that Lobatsi, Pitsani and Francestown are all in direct line with the railway from Mafeking to Bulawayo.



Fig. I

At this period these three towns were the most important on the route to Bulawayo where Rhodes intended building the railway line.

Pitsani, as we know came into the limelight as being the place from where Dr. Jameson made his illfated entry into the Transvaal, Lobatsi was the first important stop after Mafeking and Francestown was then the capital of the Tati District.

In 1895, the Bamangwato Chief, Khama, in company with Bathoeng, Chief of the Bangwaketsi and Sebele, Chief of the Bakwena tribes went to London to interview Mr. Chamberlain, Secretary of State for the Colonies, with the object of protesting against their country being placed under the control of the Chartered Company.

Mr. Chamberlain agreed to their request on condition that these Chiefs ceded a strip of land not exceeding 10 miles in width for the building of the railway to Bulawayo. This request was acceded to and the land handed over to the Chartered Company (Rhodes).

After this agreement had been completed the three Chiefs named had no further right or control and as the towns mentioned, Lobatsi Pitsani and Francestown all came within the 10 miles limit it can safely be assumed that the B.S.A. Company considered that they had the right to include the words South Africa on the date stamps.

It should be noted that from Francestown this mark is to be found mainly on stamps of the British South African Company (large Arms), only rarely on those of British Bechuanaland or the Bechuanaland Protectorate. At Pitsani and Lobatsi, on the other hand, stamps of British Bechuanaland or of the Protectorate were used showing this postmark, although it is possible that occasionally stamps of the B.S.A. Company might have passed through unnoticed.

From this we can infer that, although the Chartered Company controlled the 10 miles strip, the Bechuanaland Protectorate Postal services, which were at that time administered by the Cape Colony Post Office, retained the Postal control.

The only objector to the railway being extended from Mafeking to Bulawayo was the South African Republic Government.

Another argument which can be brought up in favour of the suggestion now put forward as to why the words S. Africa appear on these three date stamps being due to the fact that the Chartered Company had obtained control of the ten-mile strip from Mafeking to Francestown is the fact that it is only those towns on the route mentioned and no other town in the Protectorate, that appear to have used this date stamp prior to 1910.

Further opinion on this subject is invited and will be appreciated through the medium of the **South African Philatelist.**

NEW ZEALAND

From several quarters comes the information that this Dominion is to have no more Postage Due stamps. Several of the main post offices are using ordinary postage stamps in their place for a trial period of three months. If no difficulties arise, there will be no further printing of "Dues."

Also, on 11 December, a 12 fr. stamp in green ultra portrait of Mme. Récamier, another famous authoress.

HUNGARY

A new issue of nine air stamps appeared on 29 October, values 20 filler to forint.

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MORE IMPORTANT COLONIAL COMMEMORATIVE ISSUES.

Booking Lists are now open for the following:
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Tonga: 50th Anniversary, ½d. to 1/- (6), m., 2/6; Used 3/-
Also booking for:
West Indies: University College commems, 28 stamps for 14 Cols. Mint, 9/6; Used 11/6
Tonga: Queen's Birthday (3), Mint, 1/8; Used 2/6
Malta: Princess Elizabeth (3), Mint, 1/7; Used 1/9
St. Kitts: Anguilla (6), Mint, 2/7; Used 3/-

Recent Colonial Issues:

New Zealand: 1950 Health pair, Mint, 6d.; Used 6d.
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Australia: Centenary 2½d. pairs, Mint, 6d.; Used 6d.
Canada: 1949 Heads (original types) set of 5 m. 1/6
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Cayman Is.: new pictorials, ½d. to 1/- (u, 4/3) 3/9
Complete set to 10/- (used 27/3) 23/9
Gibraltar: Constitution commem. (4) 2/3
Ireland: 1950 Holy Year (3) m. or u. 1/6
Mauritius: new pictorials, set to 1 R (u. 5/9) 5/-
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Niue: 1950 picts. ½d. to 1/- (used 4/3) 4/-
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ARGENTINE, 1939 679/686 U.P.U. mint 42/-
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SOCIETY NEWS

FEDERATED SOCIETIES

NAME AND ADDRESS:	MEETINGS:
Cape Town P.S., Box 1973	2nd and 4th Thursdays, 8 p.m., Mountain Club Rooms, Yorkshire Ho., Strand St.
Copperbelt P.S., c/o No. 12 7th Ave., Nkana, N. Rhodesia	
E. London P.S., c/o Box 450	2nd Fridays, 7.45 p.m., Colosseum Theatre Tea Rooms
E. Rand P.S., c/o Box 155, Brakpan	3rd Tuesdays, 8 p.m., Regent Hotel, Benoni.
Grahamstown P.S., c/o. R. Q. Tarr, Kingswood Col.	2nd Thursdays, 8 p.m., 120 Hight Street.
Jewish Guild Phil. Section, Von Brandis Street, Johannesburg	Last Thursdays, 8 p.m., Jewish Guild.
Johannesburg, P.S. of, Box 4967	2nd Tuesdays and 4th Mondays, 7.45 p.m., Public Library.
Maritzburg, P.S. of, Box 256, Pietermaritzburg	2nd. Wednesday, Room 4, Polytechnic, 5th Street.
Mashonaland, P.S., Box 74, Salisbury	1st and 3rd Wednesdays, 7.30 p.m., Durban Camera Club, 319 Smith Street.
Natal, P.S. of, Box 588, Durban	3rd Wednesdays, Goldfields Hotel, Pietersburg, at 8 p.m.
N. Transvaal P.S., c/o Miss v. Niekerk, P.O. Rita	
Nyasaland P.S., c/o Limbe Trading Co., Limbe	Free State Technical College, 7.30 p.m., 4th Fridays.
O.F.S. & Basutoland P.S., Box 702, Bloemfontein	1st & 3rd Tuesdays, 7.45 p.m., Room 3, City Hall Basement.
Port Elizabeth P.S., c/o 13 Trafalgar Square	1st & 3rd Mondays, 8 p.m., Technical College.
Pretoria P.S., Box 514	2nd Wednesdays, 7.30 p.m., Railway Recreation Club
Pretoria Railway P.S., Railway Recreation Club, Berea Park	3rd Thursday of every month, 8 p.m., Savoy Hotel, Roodepoort.
Rhodesia, P.S. of, Box 803, Bulawayo	2nd Mondays, 7.30 p.m., Board Room, New Era Press
Roodepoort Stamp Club, c/o 82 Kruger Ave., Selwyn, Florida	1st Wednesdays, 8 p.m., Technical College.
Springs P.S., c/o No. 25, 5th St., New Township, Springs	
Vereeniging Stamp Club, Box 196	1st Wednesdays, 8 p.m., Royal Hotel, Krugersdorp.
W. Rand Stamp Club, c/o U 184, W. Rand Consol. Mines	

NORTHERN TRANSVAAL PHILATELIC SOCIETY

At the November meeting, the delegate to Congress, Miss E. van Niekerk, gave the very interesting report on Congress.

Many of the resolutions passed at Congress, were discussed by the members and many gained fresh knowledge about the activities of other Societis and the problems and difficulties of Societies.

Our delegate gave a very vivid description of some of the exhibits, that were at the exhibition and members all wished that they could have seen those very interesting stamps.

We do hope that we will have the honour of visits from the members of the Rand and Pretoria and other Societies, who would show us some of their fine collections.

We are all such young collectors and need the help of older collectors.

So, please come over and help us when you can — we would appreciate it very much.

Our next meeting will take place on the 3rd Wednesday of January, 1951.

GRAHAMSTOWN PHILATELIC SOCIETY

November, 9th: The chief interest of the evening centred around the display of Dr. R. G. Tame of his stamps of India, and the Indian States and Provinces. Here we saw sheet after sheet of stamps ancient and modern, some of them attractive and colourful, others drab and monotonous as so many key-type stamps can be. It was a fine display, and Dr. Tame was accorded a hearty vote of thanks.

December, 7th: The programme for the first quarter of 1951 was drawn up: **February 8th:** Annual General Meeting, and Quiz. **March, 8th:** "Crown Colonies in Southern Africa" by Mr. Maurice Fletcher. **April, 12th:** "Canadians", by Dr. C. G. A. Cory.

Mr. Eric Carr then held the attention of the meeting with his display of the stamps of "Barbados." What these sheets lacked in quantity they more than made up for in quality. The stamps were all in very fine condition, and Dr. Cory from the chair thanked Mr. Carr sincerely for his instructive display. R. Q. T.

PHILATELIC SOCIETY OF JOHANNESBURG

On 12th December, the only meeting of the month, Mr. W. Redford displayed his collection of Seychelles, which recently won an award at the London International.

The collection opened with a fine lot of Mauritius used in Seychelles (cancellation B64), also some used in Rodriguez (B 65) although these do not strictly come under Seychelles. Then followed a complete set of Die Proofs of the first issue, and proofs of other later issues were sen latr on. There was a magnificent lot of the scarce surcharges, some in blocks as well as in singles.

Almost the only stamps lacking were some comparatively modern values in used condition. As the exhibitor explained these are easily obtainable in mint, but not readily in **good** used condition, and unless he could get them in fine condition he would not put them in his collection.

CAPE TOWN PHILATELIC SOCIETY

What more seasonable fare for the Christmas Season than **Turkey** — and it was a feast of philatelic Turkey (the country, not the bird) that Mr. Edgar Solomon spread before the appreciative eyes of the Cape Town members at their eve of Christmas gathering on December 14th. Covering the gamut of issues from the local lithographs of 1863 to the very latest pictorials his collection could be best described as an advanced general, rather than

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Collectors' Wants & Offers

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Wanted: German South West Africa Special Items, Specimens, Covers, etc.— L. Buchen, P.O. Box 4012, Johannesburg.

a highly specialised one. It embraced not only the stamps of the Ottoman post office itself, but those that had been overprinted at various times for Cilicia, Iraq, etc. The average condition of the specimens was good throughout, the majority of the postmarks being light, but clear. Although suffering from an indisposition Mr. Solomon presented his display in person, interlarding his commentary with a number of personal anecdotes to explain his choice of this not particularly popular country. At the same time he gave some interesting sidelights on the character and meteoric career of the "Grey Wolf," Mustapha Kemal, Attaturk, the founder of modern Turkey, all of which contributed to a most enjayyoble evening.

EAST LONDON PHILATELIC SOCIETY

The attendance at the December meeting, which is usually very well attended, was small and the lady members brought cakes which made a really social occasion of the evening.

Recent Canadian new issues were passed round and two displays were given by Mr. J. V. Jensen, who showed his latest pages of artistically illustrated stamps and by Mr. T. A. Harper, who as usual showed some fine old classical stamps.

The suggestions submitted to the special subcommittee for the re-issue of the Union Handbook were read to the meeting and the Chairman complimented the local committee members, who had prepared so comprehensive a report. Mr. Watson felt that if every society were so thorough in preparing such detailed reports, the new Union catalogue would be a splendid production.

Mr. C. P. Durkin proposed that our society again take its share in raising funds for a popular cause and it was unanimously agreed that our Society again organise a sale of stamps by tender in aid of S.A.N.T.A. funds. Mrs. Alabaster kindly agreed to organise the scheme and it is hoped to raise at least £50 in aid of these deserving funds.

Suggestions were called for brightening meetings and the idea was put forth that the best displays throughout the year might be rewarded by the donation of cups.

A pleasing and memorable feature of the meeting was a unanimous resolution, electing Messrs. C. H. Thornton, Andrew Watson and C. Hampson as honorary life members of the society. Tributes were paid to their sustained interest and loyalty over a period of many years. Mr. Watson, who was the only member present at the meeting, said he was very touched by the honour and he felt sure that his old friends, who were absent through illness, would feel likewise. — J. P. S.

PRETORIA PHILATELIC SOCIETY

On 20th Nov. the Johannesburg Society visited and Messers. Enoch, Redford, Schubart and Michelson showed respectively Dominica, St. Helena, Sweden and Latvia.

On 4th Dec. Messrs. Burrell and Sheffield demonstrated printing methods by means of coloured slides.

Sir,

THE HUMBLE HALFPENNY.

Being intrigued by the measurements given by Mr. Chantler in his article in your August issue, I have been measuring halfpenny stamps by the score.

Two (one of six and the other of eight) blocks postmarked November, 1946, and April, 1947, showed by measurement strange results. They conflict with Mr. Chantler's statement that no change in size took place — except in roll stamps (June, 1941) — until October, 1947. The stamps in these blocks measured by microscope, varied between 18.35 and 18.40 mm. and 22.20 and 22.38 mm.

Naturally, my first thought was of the shrinkage of the stamp caused by soaking them off. But an experiment has made me doubt it.

My experiment was very simple. I stuck a complete row longways of 10 penny stamps on to paper, let them dry thoroughly and then to exaggerate the shrinkage, I soaked them off in very hot water. The measurement — colour to colour — of the 10 stamps before being stuck on was exactly 24,000 mm. (without microscope) and after drying 239.25mm. The percentage shrinkage was therefore 0.3 per cent.

Compare this with say 0.15mm. and 22.50mm., a shrinkage of 0.7 per cent. or 0.30mm. and 22.5 mm., a shrinkage of 1.3 per cent.

There appears to be some discrepancy in referring to „pre-October, 1947" as all being 18.5 x 22.5 or the measurements are merely guides to show that the "pre-October, 1947" were larger than later issues.

Incidentally only x40 was used in the microscope — any stronger power showed up the stamp surface as a jungle of green streamers.

Perhaps one of your readers could explain.

Yours, etc.,
STUART D. McCALLUM.

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REVIEWS

Stanley Gibbons' Supplement to their 1950 Part II Priced Catalogue. Price 1/6 nett, postage 2d. Stanley Gibbons Ltd., 391 Strand, London, W.C.2.

The publishers find that the European part is a very popular section of their Foreign Catalogue and have decided to keep the basic 1950 catalogue in print, bringing it up-to-date by supplements.

This, the first supplement, contains fifteen months' new stamps and there are in addition, many price alterations most of which have not been previously published.

Imperial Airways. A history and priced check list of the Empire Air Mails. Compiled by N. C. Baldwin. Francis J. Field, Ltd., Sutton Coldfield, England. Price 7/6, postage 3d.

A chronological listing of the mail services on the three main trunk ways of Imperial Airways, and also of their subsidiary services, from the embryo Cairo-Basra line of 1927 to the time of the absorption of the Company in the B.O.A.C.

Very well illustrated by over 150 maps, photographs, illustrations of postmarks, cachets.

An indispensible volume for students of air-mail history and aero-philatelists.

International Stamp Dealers' Directory. 3rd Ed| 1950-51. Harris Publications Ltd., 445 Strand, London, W.C.2. Price 5/-.

A valuable compendium for stamp dealers, with a lot of useful information for collectors also. You can find here lists of dealers (general and specialist) in Britain and throughout the world; sources of supply of stamps the world over; export and import regulations; directories of auctioneers and of philatelic journals; currency guide. There are also several little articles of general philatelic interest, amongst which may be mentioned an amusing one by Mrs. Cawood of Salisbury, on the "Trials of a Dealer in Darkest Africa."

The Postage Stamps of Great Britain, 1840-1853. 2nd. Ed., completely rewritten and revised, by J. B. Seymour. The Royal Philatelic Society of London, 41 Devonshire Place, W.1. Price £1.

Mr. Seymour's original work has become a classic, although he never intended it to do more than supplement the work of earlier writers. It has long been out of print and there have been numerous additions to our knowledge of the line-engraved issues since it was written.

The text of this edition was completed by Mr. Seymour shortly before his death and it has many new illustrations from drawings made by himself with all his accustomed brilliance and accuracy. There is a good index and bibliography.

It will take hunting with a very fine tooth-comb to find new material to add to this phase of British philately.

The Postal History of the Port Philip District, 1835-1851. By J. R. W. Purves. Published by the Royal Philatelic Society of Victoria, Melbourne. Price 21/6 (Aust.) Post free.

The writer is very well known for his studies of various Australian stamps, but he has now broken out in a new line with this, the **first** published on this aspect of Australiana.

We have here some 80 pages of a fascinating story of old covers with their postmarks, postal routes, rates, ships, history, etc. It is presented in attractive readable form and the author's reputation as a philatelist guarantees its accuracy.

It is very well illustrated; the numerous pictures of complete covers, although considerably reduced in size from the originals, are wonderfully clear.

An important point made by the writer is that when studying this kind of material a knowledge of the postal rates is all important. Such knowledge is all important in the spotting of "fakes," especially genuine old covers which have had stamps cleverly added and "postmarked." The fakers very often slip up by not knowing what the correct postal rate was.

Altogether a book that one can enjoy reading.

Handbook of the Private Local Posts, by E. F. Hurt and L. N. and M. Williams. Fritz Billig, 168-39 Highland Ave., Jamaica 3, N.Y. Price 5 dollars.

This is a completely revised edition of the similar work published by the authors in sections in England, 1942-47.

It has been added to considerably and is fully illustrated with pricings now in American currency. As before it omits consideration of most posts which can be considered as "extras" of official services, or which are already sufficiently well documented. Readers will therefore not find included the British Railway stamps, U.S.A. locals, Russian Zemstvos, Egyptian interpostals, or German locals. Otherwise there is a mass of interesting information.

U.P.U. Album.

We are much indebted to our Postmaster-General for a copy of an album issued by Universal Postal Union containing all the stamps issued by the various countries belonging to that body on the occasion of the 75th anniversary (1949) of the foundation of the Union.

The stamps in it are truly in mint condition as they are simply slipped into cellophane pockets as in a stamp stock book, but all the countries' names are printed (in French) below the respective pockets.

There are sixty sheets in all, only a space for Albania being missing, as that country did not give advice of its intention to issue stamps in time for provision to be made for them n the album.

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"1d. K.G.V. Australian Commonwealth Stamps" by D. M. Neil. Price **7/6.** Reg. Post 6d. extra.

"K.G.V. 1½d. Die 22" by Gordon Wood M.D. (London). Price **5/6.** Reg. Post 6d. extra.

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Stamps with a Story

By W. LOXLEY-CHAMINGS.

(Cont. from page 172 of November issue)

Momotombo Volcano, Nicaragua S.G.162. For years the controversy between the Nicaraguan and Panamanian schemes for the big canal raged. The protagonists of the latter argued that the former would cost more and was subject to destruction by volcano, a consideration much accentuated by the Martinique eruption in 1901. Nicaragua retorted that there were no active volcanoes near the proposed route. Unfortunately they had just issued this stamp, and Phillippe Bunau-Varilla, a French engineer, bought 90 of them — one for each Senator — and posted them three days before the final vote was to be taken, with the legend: "Postage stamp from the Republic of Nicaragua."

The Panama scheme won by four votes!

James Cook, Niue S.G.49. The exploits of this intrepid navigator have figured on many stamps, culminating in the splendid set issued by Cook Islands in August 1949. He surveyed the coasts of Newfoundland and Labrador and was present at the capture of Quebec 1762, but most of his later voyages were in Oceania, where he discovered New Caledonia, the Sandwich and many other islands. Turned back by ice in an attempt to explore the Behring Straits he returned to Hawaii, where he was killed in an attack by natives. Of commanding presence, he was characterised by sagacity, perseverance and kindliness.

Borgund, Stav Church, Norway S.G.260. "One of the best-known and most typical specimens of a form of ecclesiastical architecture peculiar to Norway." Stav Churches are made of wood in a quaint style all their own — the stamp shows it admirably. The ousides were painted with pitch or Stockholm tar, giving them usually a deep rich brown colouring. The majority date from the 11th and 12th centuries, and of the 300 that once existed only about 20 are left to-day.

The Sea of Galilee, Palestine S.G.101. The stamp hardly does justice to this lovely lake, "a burnished mirror set in a framework of rounded hills and rugged mountains, which rise and roll upward and backward to where the Hermon hangs the picture against the blue vault of heaven." (Thomson). Jesus chose this as a strategic point for His life and teaching, for an enormous population centred upon it, and the people on the whole were more open-minded than the Judeans. Fishing was the big industry and some of the first disciples were fishermen. The towns round the lake have mostly sunk to ruin, and Tiberias is to-day the only place of any size.

Luis Sanchez Cerro, Peru S.G.523. Cerro was elected President of Peru in 1931, and this stamp, an excellent portrait, was issued without his knowledge on December 8, 1932, though the law forbids the portrayal of any living person. 100,000 were issued to the postal systems of Lima and Callao. On seeing it Cerro at once ordered its withdrawal, which was effected on the 11th, so that the stamps had a life of only three days, in which time 29,641 had been sold. On the following 30th of April Cerro was assassinated. Some of the remaining stock was later overprinted "Defensa Nacional" and used as a tax stamp on all parcels, but this has not achieved catalogue status.

Yosemite Valley, Vernal Falls, Philippines, S.G.148. This stamp is inscribed "Pagsanjan Falls," a cascade of some 200 feet on Luzon Island, and a well-known resort. It would seem that the artist, not having a view of the falls, used a picture of the Vernal Falls, Yosemite, trusting to luck that the error would not be discovered! Soon after the stamp was issued a Chicago collector recognised the picture and on hearing of the mistake the Governor-General of the Philippines wirelessed to Washington and the stamp (and presumably the artist) was suppressed. The Vernal Falls are in fact far more impressive than the Pagsanjan, having a sheer drop of over 400 feet. A further mistake in this stamp was to print it in hideous orange. The falls are famous for their afternoon rainbows and the water changes from green to purple-gray as it descends, finally, as the engraving shows, disappearing in a cloud of spray.

Tadeusz Kosciuszko, Poland S.G.500. As a boy he showed such proficiency in school subjects, including music, that he was sent at State expense to Versailles, Brest and Paris for further training. In 1777 sailed with the French fleet to aid North America in the War of Independence and rose under Washington to be Brigadier-General. Back in Poland he reorganised the Army and fought gallantly against Russia. The cowardice of King Stanislaus robbed Poland of many of the fruits of his victories, and he resigned. In the 1794 insurrection he was made Generalissimo and Dictator and again defeated Russia, but this time Prussia robbed Poland of independence. His later life was spent in England, America and France. Death was due to a fall from his horse.

Marie Curie, Poland S.G.585 I. The greatest woman physicist of all time. Born at Varsovic in Poland she came to Paris for further study and there met Pierre Curie, already a physicist of note. After their marriage they pursued their studies into radio-activity together, with such skill and devotion that they shared the Nobel Prize for Chemistry in 1903. Pierre was accidentally killed in a Paris street on April 19, 1906 but Marie continued her work alone, winning many further honours. Her daughter Irene has followed closely in her footsteps, for in 1935 she and her husband M. Juliot shared the Nobel Chemistry Prize for researches into radio-activity.

Brites. de Almeida, Portugal S.G.735. The baker's wife at Aljubarrota, a small village about 70 miles North of Lisbon, where in 1387 the battle was fought which for 200 years delivered Portugal from the threat of Spanish domination. Popular legend relates that she seized her husband's bread-shovel, rushed into the fray, and laid out Spaniards by the dozen, in witness whereof a bread-shovel still figures in the arms of Aljubarotta!

(to be continued)

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THE

SOUTH AFRICAN PHILATELIST

PROPRIETORS AND PUBLISHERS :

The Philatelic Federation of Southern Africa

Honorary Editor: Dr. J. H. HARVEY PIRIE
Business Manager: Mr. J. NATHANSON
P.O. Box 4012, Johannesburg.

Subscription: Eight Shillings per annum, post free to any part of the World.

Vol. 27. No. 2. FEBRUARY, 1951. Whole No. 311.

EDITORIAL

"THE SOUTH AFRICAN PHILATELIST"

At the Congress held in October last the perennial subject of trying to make this magazine more attractive for the general collector was brought up for discussion. It was generally agreed that as a specialist magazine, especially for Union collectors, it was doing good work, had established itself as authoritative, and had an excellent reputation both at home and abroad.

But there are many collectors who are not specialists; they find specialized articles frankly rather boring and they are not subscribers to the magazine, even though they may belong to a philatelic society which is one of its owners, as a member society of the Philatelic Federation.

The difficulties inherent in combining specialized and general philately in a monthly magazine were fully recognised. It was agreed that the specialized character of the South African Philatelist could not be sacrificed; it was founded to provide a medium for the publication of such research work and that is still its main raison d'etre. Nevertheless it was felt that an all-out effort should be made to make it more attractive to the general collector and reader.

A sub-committee of the "owners" has met and it is proposed to put the following programme in force from our April issue onwards:

(1) An increase in the standard size from 16 to 20 pages. This will permit of more reading matter of a non-specialized nature being included. Whether such an increase in size can be constantly maintained depends, of course, on the requisite amount of copy being available. There is little fear at present of specialized material being in short supply; what is needed is more articles dealing with aspects of philately other than Union specialities.

An appeal is therefore made to readers of papers at society meetings to submit them for publication. Also for anyone else with an urge to write, and anything of interest to communicate, to send it along. Don't be shy and don't be selfish — share your knowledge with others.

(2) An increase in the number of copies of the magazine printed each month. Some increase in our monthly quota was due in any case, as at present each month's printing is being practically entirely sold out, which does not look as if the magazine was altogether unpopular. It was decided, however, to be bold and to increase the numbers printed each month by 50 per cent. Even if at first this increased number is not entirely sold it is hoped that the improved quality will soon result in more readers and increased circulation. This should appeal to our advertisers.

The deciding factor for success or otherwise in this policy will be an adequate supply of general, non-specialized, reading matter and so we end by appealing again to South African collectors to help us.

JOHANNESBURG NATIONAL PHILATELIC EXHIBITION.

In response to several enquiries how some collections came to be shown but were not mentioned in the catalogue, the Exhibition Committee wishes to report that there were three such collections shown **hors concours** (i.e. not for competition, but because they were considered of sufficient interest), but their availability was not known in time for inclusion in the catalogue. They were (a) A miscellaneous collection belonging to Mr. E. Kehr of New York. Part of his famous Egypt collection was expected, but it did not materialize. (b) A collection of the then current stamps of the world presented to delegates to the 1947 U.P.U. Convention, shewn by Dr. Alec. Kaplan. (c) Part of Mr. D. B. Armstrong's "Lonely Islands" collection, viz., Pitcairn Island.

A CORRECTION.

In the advertisement of the "S.A. Philatelic Exchange Club" on p. 189 of our December issue it states that this club has been made over by Mr. and Mrs. John P. Shingler to Mr. Arnold C. Gerard of 18 Strand Street, Port Elizabeth. The name of the new operator of the Club should have been **Arnold C. Geard.** Our apologies are tendered for this mistake.

SUDAN.

The long expected pictorial set is now definitely expected about the middle of this year. There will be 17 denominations and all will also be overprinted "SG" for official use.

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Waxed Moustache Variety on Dies I and II of the Rhodesian Admirals

By Arthur V. Jacobs.

There are numerous Collectors and Specialists of the Stamps of the British South Africa Coy., latterly called Rhodesia. The reason why this country is so popular is due to the fact that the average Collector finds it most interesting and fascinating as there is still a great deal to be done in the way of research. From time to time new varieties come to light; such a one and unusual at that, is the new variety known as the "Waxed Moustache."

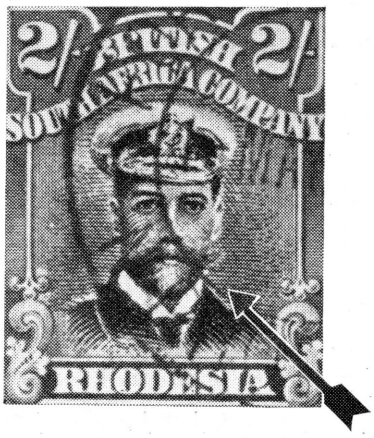


Fig. 1.



Fig 2.

How such a major variety has passed notice for 30 years is incomprehensible. It is most peculiar that so many years have passed since these stamps were issued, but it was only at the beginning of 1950 that Mr. E. Sinton of Newcastle discovered this variety and exhibited it at the London International Stamp Exhibition in May of last year. Suffice to say it created great interest amongst us specialists, as also in the Rhodesian Study Circle under the direction of its founder Mr. W. G. Nodder.

In this article I intend to give all the information which has so far come to light and in this direction I have to thank Mr. Nodder for certain information which he has passed on to me.

The Waxed Moustache is to all intents and purposes a straight line running from the right side of the mouth directly under the moustache; in fact, one could almost say that the dark under portion of the moustache tapers away into a straight line which disappears into the shading on the right hand side of the face. I find that on different stamps it varies in thickness and length; it is definitely most pronounced and noticeable on the 2/- Die I and 2/6 Die II, see illustrations 1 and 2. In these two stamps the straight line can be seen with the naked eye. It is I believe a head plate variety and has so far been found in the following values:—

Of Die I Perf. 14—6d. and 2/- Values, Perf. 15 4d., 6d. and 2/- values.

In the Die II Perf. 14—4d., 5d., 8d. and 10d. Values and in Perf. 15 the 10d. and 2/6 values. I cannot find it on the 3d. values so one can only assume that it appears on all values from the 3d. upwards, and I would appreciate if any collector finds this variety on any other value than those mentioned, that he would kindly let me know. There is a slight controversy going on as to the exact position of the stamp having the Waxed Moustache. Some collectors in England state it is on the 34th Stamp, which is directly under the stamp bearing the Printer's Guide Line or secret mark, but to this I cannot agree. This guide line is on the left hand side of the 24th Stamp whereas the variety is the 37th being under the 27th Stamp which has the guide line on the right hand side. It appears directly under the dot of the dot and dash viz.— As the length of the dash varies and is in some instances 7.5mm. long it goes into the 26th stamp, so one must look under the stamp where the guide line begins. To prove my assertion I have a block of 2/- Die I where the guide line starts on the 23rd stamp and neither the 23rd or 34th stamp has the Moustache variety. So far as I make out it seems to me that in connection with the Die II Variety it appears on Plate 5, but as it is quite likely that it may appear on other plates, any information in this direction would be appreciated. In illustration 3 I have had photographed various blocks showing the printers guide line and if you look immediately under it you will find the stamp hav-

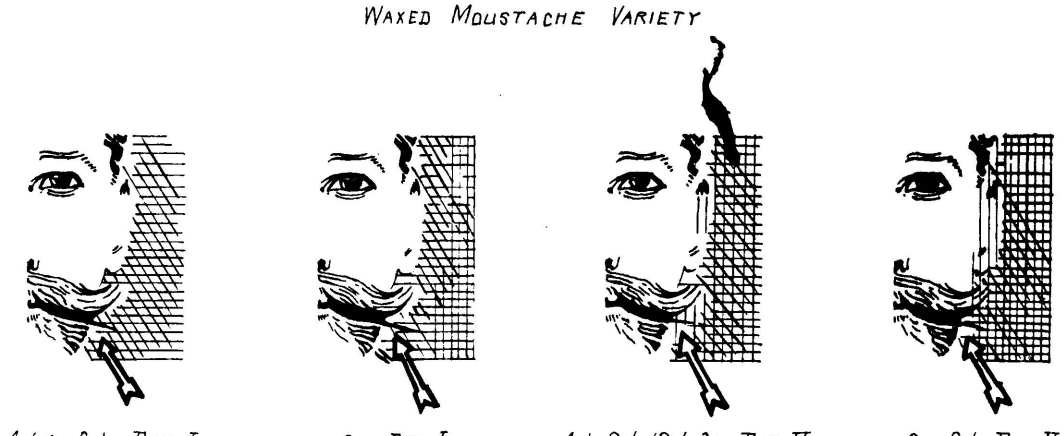
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Fig. 3.

ing the Waxed Moustache (Fig. 3), I am also showing sketches of various values giving an enlarged view of the Waxed Moustache—so that it can be easily discerned when you start looking for it (Fig. 4). I have discussed with a few specialists the fact that this variety appears on both dies I and II and we have come to the conclusion that the same Headplate was used and that master Die I was retouched to make it master Die II because of the similarity of the variety and the secret mark or guide line. One of the reasons that brings me to this way of thinking is because when I referred to my "specimen" sets of the Admiral issue, I find that they include both dies I and II and assume they were issued at the same time. This waxed moustache variety does not appear in Die III and I assume that it was erased.

There is still a great deal more research to be made in connection with this variety and I am almost certain that we will come to the conclusion that the same Headplate was used and that the master Die I was retouched by hand to make it Die II.



This Waxed Moustache Variety occurs only in Dies I and II on the 37th stamp which is directly under the stamp showing the Guide Line.

Fig. 4.

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"Woodblock" Reprints

At the Philatelic Congress of Southern Afrcia held in Johannesburg in October, 1950, the President of the Federation, Dr. J. H. Harvey Pirie referred to the decision of the Federation Committee to issue a Certificate to all those who had been elected to the Roll of Honour in place of a gold plaque as originally proposed.

Further that each Certificate would bear a print of the One Penny or Fourpence woodblock stamps which were made from the original plates in the South African Museum.

I immediately drew the President's attention to the fact that the prints in question which the Federation had asked me to supply were not those which had been made from the original blocks, and the President then made the necessary correction by stating that the prints supplied by me were only fac-similes.

After going carefully into the matter and taking into consideration the numerous applications I have received from philatelists who were present at Congress it appears that there are still some people who are under the impression that the prints supplied by me for the certificates were made from the original woodblock plates.

I think therefore that it would be advisable in order to prevent any unfavourable criticism and misunderstanding that the matter be made perfectly clear and placed on record by publication in the "South African Philatelist."

There are to-day only seventeen sheets in existence which were printed in colour from the original plates and a full account of this printing together with a record of its distribution appeared in the "South African Philatelist" on page 53 of May 1941. As several subsequent alterations and additions appeared in later issues of the journal it is advisable to again give publicity to the position as it exists to-day.

On page 53, referred to above, the number of sheets are given as 14 but it was then assumed that the Royal Philatelic Society, London, would destroy the three sheets of the 1940 printing when they received the three sheets from the 1941 printing instead, however permission was asked to retain the 1940 prints as well, and this request was granted, and full publicity was given in the London Philatelist as to why there were now seventeen sheets in existence instead of fourteen as previously stated.

The stamps on the presentation cards issued by me in singles, or pairs of the One Penny and Fourpence are all direct prints from the original plates and they were cut from spoilt sheets before being destroyed.

THE FAC-SIMILES OF THE WOODBLOCKS

When the Cape Times printed my "Handstruck Letter Stamps and Postmarks of the Cape of Good Hope" they prepared a plate of the One Penny and Fourpence Stamps for illustrating this book. This plate was made from a print of the 1d. and 4d. printed from the original woodblock plates, in black, and the prints under discussion now were made from this Cape Times plate, so that they are only fac-similes and of no more value than the many illustrations we see to-day in the various London stamp sales catalogues.

There can be no confusion between those prints made by me in colour from the original plates in 1940-41 and these fac-similes made from the Cape Times plate because the former were all printed on a thick creamy wove paper whilst the latter are printed on a semi-glossy porous paper and the colours are also different from those of the 1940-41 printing.

My object in using this semi-glossy porous paper was simply because I had to use an old letter press for doing the printing and I found this sort of paper more suitable for producing good results.

A. A. JURGENS.

SOME RECENT AUCTION PRICES.

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500R (S.G. 61) £230.

1925-27 £20 at £52 10s. and £75 at £190.

Robson Lowe.

G.S.W.A. Covers and postcards (21) 1903-07, £70 10s.

Gibraltar 1903 £1 mint at £18 10s.

Leeward Is. 1897 Jubilee set to 5/- mint, £18.

Mauritius 1924 50R at £11.

Sierra Leone £5 1912-16 at £37 10s. and 1921-28 at £34; Wilberforce set, mint and used, each £34.

UNITED NATIONS STAMPS.

According to "Linn's Weekly" the United Nations General Assembly has approved the plan to establish a U.N. Postal Administration and it will have its own special stamps. The U.S. Post Office Dept. will operate the U.N. post office at headquarters; the U.N. Postal Administration will supply the stamps and reimburse the U.S. for its postal services. In addition, a separate agency will be set up for the sale of U.N. stamps to collectors. The new administration is set up as from 1 Jan., 1951 but it is not expected to be in full operation until July; the postal address will be "United Nations, N.Y."

(Concluded from page 24)

on mint copies before now. Hence it must be assumed that specimens bearing the defect had to await normal postal use and then soaking in water, to remove cover pieces, before showing up and proving that some extraneous matter such as gum had been present to prevent the ink reaching the surface of the paper.

Mr. Lilley's theory can be best proved by finding a mint copy with possibly shiny gum streaks on the face and then deliberately washing it to see if the white marks show up.

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Z.A.R. £5 STAMP.

In our last May issue we noted some remarks about this stamp by Mr. Stephen G. Rich. In the Nov. "Collectors Club Philatelist" he now records having acquired one of these stamps with "Monster", which is the Netherlands equivalent of "Specimen". This is in black in 10 point Scotch Roman type, upper and lower case. A useful acquisition for an expert committee, and it may be stated that a similar specimen is available in Johannesburg.

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Union Notes

SUB-EDITOR: Mr. W. N. Sheffield,
Box 99, Clevoland, Transvaal.

The "Double Image" Varieties on the 2d. Postage Due Rotogravure Stamps of 1940 and 1949.

Writing in connection with the notes on these varieties published last month, Mr. A. H. Sydow of Cape Town has contributed the accompanying sketches illustrating, in an enlarged form, the differences between the normal and "Double Image" numerals found on certain stamps of two fairly widely separated issues of the 2d. rotogravure postage due stamps.

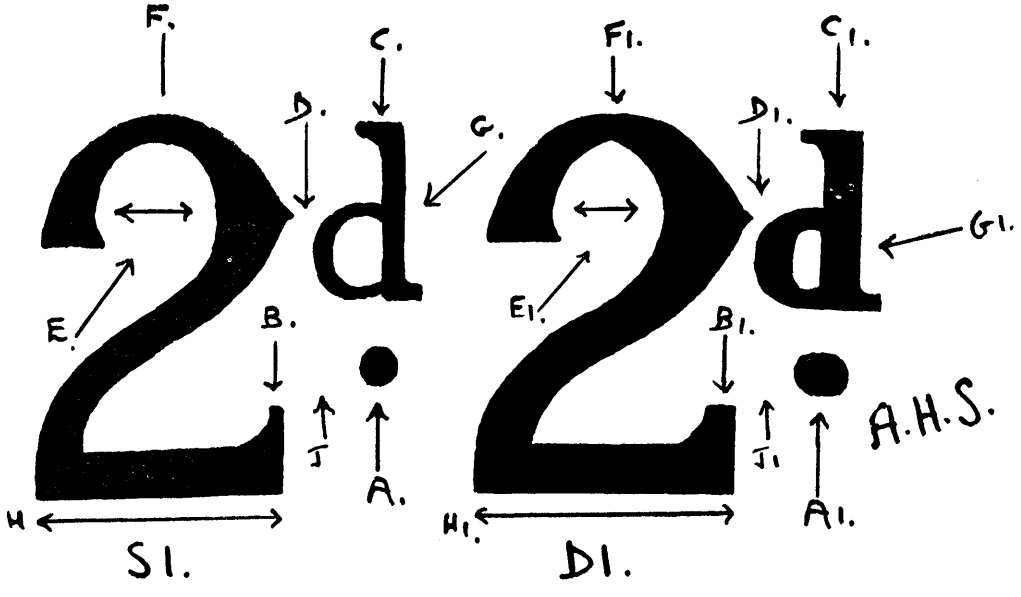
Sketch No. 1 shows the normal numeral on the left and on the right, the "Double Image" variety found on one stamp per sheet of the 1940 issue. It occurred in the position Row 5 — No. 6 on the sheet of 240 stamps — i.e., in the top left hand pane — and is from that particular printing in which the numerals were cross-lined screened and the frames unscreened (S.G.—D26). The stamps of this issue are easily distinguished under a magnifying glass by the mesh appearance of the numerals and the diagonal white lines visible in parts of the frames. The inscription SUIDAFRIKA on the stamps is without hyphen.

The symbol "S1" in the sketch denotes "single image" and "D1" the "double image." In the latter, it will be seen that the numeral "2", "d" and the "stop" are all enlarged in a longitudinal direction as a result of the slight movement and double exposure which must have occurred at one stage in the operation of the "Step and Repeat" camera. The amount of enlargement on the actual stamp is by no means pronounced and unless studied with a little care, specimens can be quite easily passed over. In this regard, the elliptical shaped "stop" and thick downstroke of the "d" are the best features for quickly identifying copies. The item is numbered D26/Va on page 99 of the Union Standard Catalogue.

It should be noted that since the variety only appears once on each sheet of 240 stamps it is evident that a SINGLE MASTER NEGATIVE was employed in the "Step and Repeat" camera for making this particular diapositive.

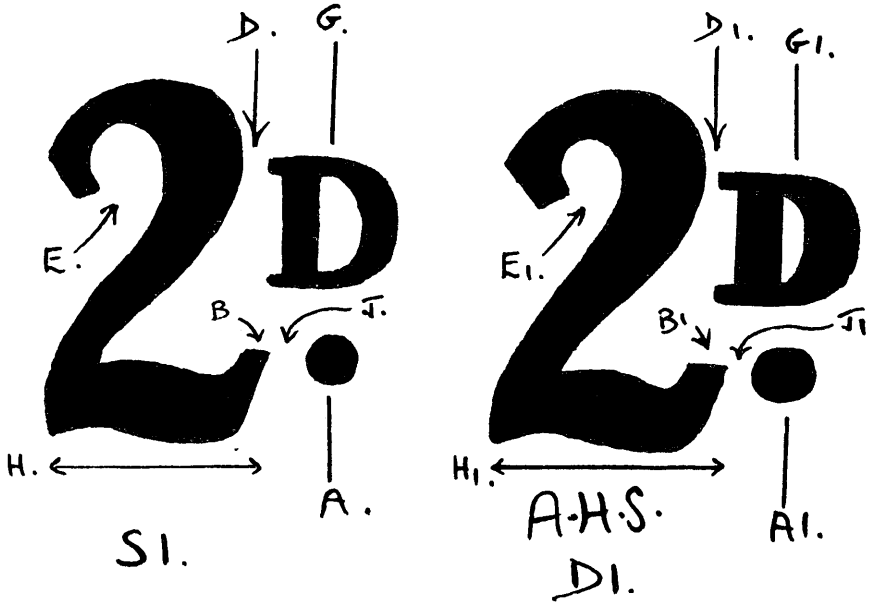
Sketch No. 2 shows the normal numeral compared with the "Double Image" variety found on a **block of four** stamps per sheet of the 1949 issue. It appears on the 5th and 6th stamps of Rows 15 and 16 in a full sheet of twenty rows by twelve, or since the distribution of postage dues generally takes place in panes of 60 stamps, in the same positions of Rows 5 and 6 of the bottom left hand pane. The numerals and also the frames of the stamps of this issue were produced from cross-lined screened carbon tissue and the inscription SUIDAFRIKA in the design is without hyphen.

As in the first sketch, the letters "S1" and "D1" denote single and double images as found on the normal and variety specimens respectively, and the enlargement of the "2", "D" and "stop" in "D1" is clearly illustrated. The elliptical "stop" and reduced spacing within the "D"



Sketch No. 1.

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Sketch No. 2.

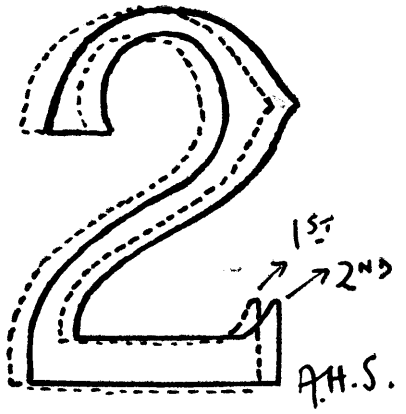
make the item easily recognisable either as a single or a block and since it appears on the sheet in the form of a block of four, it is apparent that in the production of the diapositive for this issue a FOUR-SET MASTER NEGATIVE was employed in the "Step and Repeat" camera.

Sketch No. 3 shows the numeral only and the form the two images would take as a result of the double exposure of the master negative and the slight longitudinal movement of the diapositive in between the two. The letters in the sketches signify the following features for comparison between the normal stamp and the variety copies.

"A"—Stop, single.	"A1"—Stop, double.
"B"—Narrow serif.	"B1"—Wide serif.
"C"—Narrow serif.	"C1"—Wide serif.
"D"—Wide spacing between "2" and "d", or "D".	"D1"—Narrow spacing between "2" and "d", or "D".
"E"—Wider space in top curve of "2".	"E1"—Narrow spacing in top curve of "2".
"F"—Circular spacing in curve "2".	"F1"—Gothic shaped spacing in curve of "2".
"G" — Wide spacing within the "D".	"G1"—Narrow spacing within the "D".
"H"—Shorter base of "2".	"H1"—Longer base of "2".
"J"—Wider space between serif and stop.	"J1"—Narrower space between serif and stop.

Line Flaws on the Current ½d. Roll Stamps.

Mr. T. F. Allpass of Germiston records the presence of two well defined line flaws on adjoining stamps in the current all-green roll



Sketch No. 3.

issue. One line, on the SUID-AFRIKA inscribed stamp, runs vertically from the shoulder of the Buck to the top of the oval and the other, on the English inscribed stamp immediately below, in a slanting line between the horns and continue from the head of the Buck to the top of the oval.

The Three All-Screened 1d. Pictorial Printings of 1950.

As recorded in our January number, three different printings of the 1d. pictorial stamp appeared within short intervals of one another during the period September, October and November last year. The cylinder numbers in chronological order were:—

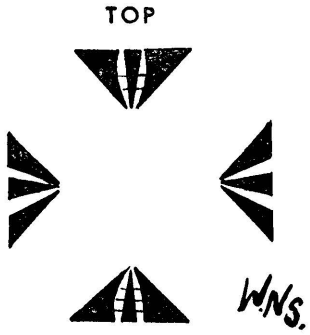
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(1) 76 Internal and 14 External.
(2) 70 Internal and 88 External.
(3) 70 Internal and 14 External.

and each was of the all-screened type—i.e., vignettes and frames produced from cross-lined screened cylinders.

In each case the cylinder numbers were printed on the margin in the bottom right hand corner of the sheets and therefore with these particular blocks in one's possession there is no difficulty at all in separating one printing from the other. The rest of the stamps in the three issues are, however, very similar to one another and therefore in order to provide some additional means of identifying them it was proposed to publish a list of small printing characteristics which might at least assist in recognising the corner and margial arrow blocks. Further examination of a number of sheets has now shown that the minute blemishes, which it was considered would have served the purpose, are not always sufficiently prominent on the stamps to be reckoned as constant distinguishing features and so pending an opportunity for further study of the matter the list has had to be left in abeyance for the time being.

The marginal arrows on the 76/14 printing are identical with those on the 70/14 sheets —



MARGINAL ARROWS
Id. PICTORIAL - CYL. Nos. 70/88

the same cylinder (No. 14) was used for the frames of both —, but in the case of the 70/88 stamps, though the four arrows are similar to those in the same positions in the other two printings, there is a small but distinct change in the appearance of those set at the top and bottom of the sheet. This is shown in the accompanying sketch and can be compared with that of the 76/14 arrows, which incidently was inadvertently published one-quarter of a turn out of position in our November 1950 notes.

Creased Paper Variety on 2d. Postage Due Stamps.

A "Creased Paper" variety has been noted on the current 2d. postage due stamps by Mr. J. W. Schubart of Johannesburg and Mr. W. Yelland of Krugersdorp.

It occurs on the stamps located in the 12th vertical column of what would be a complete sheet of these stamps, but since they are distributed in quarter sheet panes of 60, then the variety should be looked for at the right hand end of the rows in the right hand top and bottom panes.

It shows up in the form of "white cracks" running across portions of the value numeral "2" and pence symbol "D" and is a variety resulting from a series of short diagonal paper creases which have formed, and are visible, on the gummed side of the stamps.

Toned Paper Variety in the 1½d. "Small Mine" Stamps.

Mr. B. Attwell of East London has shown us a block of the 1½d. "Small Mine" stamps printed on a heavy toned paper. It is from a sheet of the THIRD PRINTING (Cyls. 5 Int. & 33 Ext.—1947/1948) and the cream like colour of the paper distinctly evident in Mr. Attwell's specimens has not been previously recorded.

Georgian Series "White Streak" Varieties.

A puzzling variety which keeps cropping up from time to time on various values of the 1913 King's Head series is in the form of short white vertical streaks ranging in length from an ⅛ to about ⅜ of an inch. A 1½d. specimen recently received from Mr. Norman Welsford of Carolina, Transvaal, with an enquiry as to its cause is shown with three others in the accompanying photograph and readers who have probably come across this variety will no doubt be interested in the explanation given to us by Mr. R. T. Lilley of Johannesburg.



Firstly, Mr. Lilley points out, the streaks never seem to cover exactly the same portion of the design on any two stamps and secondly, they have not yet been seen, or at any rate recorded, on a mint stamp. Therefore he offers the opinion that in the process of gumming certain rolls of paper there were occasions when the reverse side also received some of the liquid adhesive and an examination of some of the marks indicates that this may have occurred as a result of fine spots of gum being thrown off by a rotating part of the machine and falling on the printing side of the paper.

The presence of the gum evidently had no immediate effect on the subsequent printing of the design or the marks would have been noted

(Continued on page 20)

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REVIEWS

The Danube Steam Navigation Company. by E. F. Hurt and Denwood N. Kelly. Published by The American Philatelic Society, Inc., P.O. Box 800, State College, Pa. Price $2.50.

Although largely based on information previously published, the authors have unquestionably added a large number of hitherto unknown facts to the history of the stamps of The Danube Steam Navigation Company or Erste K.K. pr. Donau Dampfschiffahrt Gesellschaft.

Very richly illustrated, the book deals not only with the stamps of the D.S.N.C. but also with the historical background that led to the formation of the company and the area in which it operated. The various issues, their reprints and forgeries, are fully described and a number of pages with reproductions of practically all postal markings used by the D.S.N.C. are also included.

Although the stamps are private in character, in spite of the fact that they were issued with the sanction of the Imperial Austrian Post Office, their use over a very large area, comprising several different countries, places them in a unique class of their own. And if there are not too many among the philatelic fraternity who are collectors of the stamps of the D.S.N.C. this publication will undoubtedly be of great value to those who are interested in the stamps of the countries which, at one time, were served by this great enterprise. L.B.

STANLEY GIBBONS' SIMPLIFIED STAMP CATALOGUE, 16th ed., 1951. Price 15/- plus postage 1/5. Stanley Gibbons Ltd., 391 Strand, London, W.C.2.

Many general collectors will welcome this volume as it is now the only whole world catalogue published in Britain in a single volume.

This is made possible by the omission of differences of watermark and perforation shades, errors and minor varieties. In spite of this pruning it lists over 78,000 stamps and has over 10,000 illustrations.

The pricing has been well revised; naturally the prices given are those of the cheapest variety, in cases where there may be other varieties of shade, perforation, etc.

An ideal catalogue for the junior general collector or for thematic collectors.

THE ARCHER PLATES (92-101) of the British 1841 Penny Red, Die I, Alphabet I. 2nd Ed. by Dr. C. Gardiner-Hill. Published by R. C. Alcock Ltd., 11 Regent St., Cheltenham, England. Price 5/-.

This booklet gives the characters and positions of all the re-entries and constant marks on this difficult group of stamps and makes the plating of them possible. It will also be helpful in spotting the clever forgeries which exist. There are no actual illustrations but the publishers have for sale natural size photographs of the stamps here described.

HARMER'S "RESUME" and ROBSON LOWE'S "REVIEW" for 1949-50.

These two booklets may be mentioned together, not for purposes of comparison, which would indeed be odious, but because they deal with similar subjects — the work of large organisations, in London, New York and Sydney in the first mentioned, and in London, Bournemouth and Philadelphia in the second.

A mere glance through reveals the magnitude of the work done in a year, all connected with these little bits of paper — stamps. They are both most readable and interesting, with numerous illustrations, especially of star items dealt with during the period under consideration; some of these are in colour, most beautifully done.

Although Auctions are the principal theme, other aspects of the work of the two organisations are touched on — private treaty sales, insurance, valuation, philatelic publications, etc.

KENYA.

Mr. W. Tunstall reports that the foreign postage rate has gone up to 40c. and the registration fee from 30c. to 40c. The post office issued a special Christmas Greeting air letter form, with 68,000 as a first printing, but a second 10,000 was needed.

Collectors' Wants & Offers

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

Collections and rarities especially Unions wanted for cash. Kindly contact John Mendelssohn, P.O. Box 1607, Johannesburg.

Wholesaler requires regular supplies of Basutoland, Bechuanaland, Nyasaland, Swaziland in large or small quantities. Send or write by air mail.
B. Savitz, 69, Greenvale Road, London, S.E. 9, England.

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

25% over Gibbons Catalogue prices offered for a superb used copy of Sierra Leone, S.G.51, 52, 53, 86a, 94, 95, 109, 146a, 147, 147a.
William Redford, P.O. Box 1182, Johannesburg.

UNION postal stationary (post cards, etc.) active service airletters, stamp booklets, mint and used wanted. — DR. MURRAY, Kuilsrivier.

Wanted: German South West Africa Special Items, Specimens, Covers, etc.— L. Buchen, P.O. Box 4012, Johannesburg.

Will give for 100-500 mixed better stamps of Southern Africa same amount Germany since 1945—G. THOMAS, Berlin Reinickendorf West Scharnweberstrasse 29a.

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"CAPE" RECORDS—SCHOFIELD SALE.

At the sale of the Cape collection belonging to the late Mr. J. W. K. Schofield of Johannesburg by Messrs. H. R. Harmer Ltd., on 15 January, several records for Cape triangulars were set up.

The large-margined 1d. pale milky-blue "Woodblock" error of colour, for which £1,000 was the estimated amount expected, actually fetched £1,200, the highest price for a single stamp at a London auction for many years, and the "highest ever" for a Cape stamp. The 4d. deep bright blue Woodblock in an exceptionally pronounced shade and with large margins on all sides, reached £230, whilst two outstanding 1d. vermilion Woodblocks each made £155.

Mr. Schofield, be it said, paid £500 in 1935 for the stamp which fetched £1,200.

The unissued 1d. deep carmine red, watermark Crown CC of 1863 fetched £550 against a catalogue value of £400. This stamp went to a South African philatelist, but most of the other rarities went to British buyers. The total brought in by the collection was £9,118.

"L'UNION POSTALE".

We are advised by our G.P.O. Publicity Officer that the price of this magazine, published by the International Bureau of the U.P.U. at Berne, is being maintained for 1951 at 9 Swiss francs per annum (i.e. approx. 15/-). It is the official journal of the U.P.U. and contains articles of interest on the postal services of various countries of the world as well as information relating to new stamp issues.

NYASALAND.

Whitfield King's Bulletin reports that the Crown Agents have announced that the forthcoming Diamond Jubilee set will contain a 2d. denomination and not 1½d. as previously announced.

NEW ZEALAND CANTERBURY CENTENNIAL.

We are indebted to Mr. H. D. Mullon for 1st Day souvenir covers, notes about the special issue of stamps and about Canterbury in general.

Five special stamps were issued in connection with the celebrations of the centennial of the founding of Canterbury. These celebrations included an International Philatelic Exhibition.

The stamps are:—

1d., featuring Christchurch Cathedral.

2d., with the Memorial to the Pioneer Women of Canterbury as the main feature of the design. This memorial is on the crest of the hills between the port of Lyttleton and the Canterbury Plains.

3d., shows the statue of J. R. Godley, who, with E. G. Wakefield, brought about the settlement of the colony.

6d., Canterbury University College buildings in Christchurch.

1/- City and Port of Timaru, in the south of the Province of Canterbury.

U.S.A.

Thanks to Mr. George R. Rankin of Milwaukee for a special commemorative first-day cover (22 Nov., 1950) with the 3c National Capital Sesquicentennial stamp.

BUY GUM OR NO GUM — BY GUM!

So runs the heading of an article in "Stamps" by L. Bertram Curtis, who states that he has experienced the gum headache as a collector and as a dealer.

He says there are only two arguments in favour of retaining the gum on stamps. (a) It is necessary for the identification of a few, mainly 19th century, stamps. Well, by all means keep the gum on these few. (b) Gum enhances the value of stamps. True, as things are at present, but this is merely a matter of custom and there is no really valid reason why it should be retained.

Against keeping the gum on mint stamps he adduces eight potent reasons. It is a nuisance, and in many cases, a danger, but we need not go into these in detail as collectors in this country have already expressed their opinion against gum, at any rate in theory. But, as Mr. Curtis pertinently asks, which dealer and which collector will be the first pioneer to soak the gum off his entire stock or collection?

ZULULAND.

"The Philatelist" for Dec., 1950 has an article by Robson Lowe on the cancellations of Zululand. The foundation for this was obtained in the collection of the late Bertram McGowan. Ten different types are figured, mainly from the period when the country was a separate British Colony, but overlapping into the period when it was a Province of Natal, i.e. from the beginning of 1898.

ISRAEL

A 500 pruta stamp was issued in December. This features two camels drinking in the Negev desert and it completes the first definite series of Israeli stamps.

The Philatelic Services Department announces the issue in January of Official Stamps. They will be used on the official mail of Government Offices, but may be obtained by collectors from the Philatelic Services, Hakirya. There are four values, 5, 15, 30 and 40 pruta, of the same design as the coinage stamps, but with the Hebrew overprint "Bul Sherut" (Official Stamp).

FRANCE

The postal authorities report the issue on 25th November of (a) an 8 fr. stamp in bistre and brown-violet, featuring the Chateau of Chateaudun in the Valley of the Loire (b) a 15 fr. stamp on blue, honouring Mme. de Sévigné, famous authoress.

Also, on 11 December, a 12 fr. stamp in green with a portrait of Mme. Récamier, another famous authoress.

COMING EVENTS.

Stanley Gibbons announce the publication on 1 March of a new Part III catalogue of foreign countries. It is intended in future that the "big" catalogue will be in three volumes — Part 1, British Empire; Part II, Europe and Colonies; Part III, Rest of the World.

Robson Lowe will offer the magnificent "J. B. Seymour" collection of Great Britain, 19th century portion, on April 11-12 and June 6-7. Catalogues in preparation.

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ASCENSION, 3/- S.G.8 mint 40/-
BRITISH COLUMBIA, 10c., S.G. 30 mint .... 4 .... 180/-
CANADA, 8c., S.G.R.9, unused 60/-
CAYMAN ISLANDS, 10/-, S.G.52a, mint 55/-
GIBRALTAR, £1, S.G. 84, mint 80/-
KENYA, 20r, S.G. 58, mint 120/-
LEEWARD ISLANDS, 10/-, S.G. 84, mint 40/-
MAURITIUS, 50r., S.G. 224, mint, 320/-
NATAL, 5/-, S.G. 169, mint 21/-
NEVIS, 2½d., S.G. 24, unused 25/-
2½d., S.G. 27, mint 27/6
4d., S.G. 27, fine used 22/-
ST. HELENA, 10/-, S.G. 123 mint, 200/-
SIERRA LEONE, £1, S.G. 180 mint, 480/-
TURKS ISLANDS:
1d., S.G. 5, unused 10/-
½d. on 1/-, S.G. 9, mint 22/6
4d. on 6d., S.G. 42, mint 40/-
6d., S.G. 51, mint 40/-
1/-, S.G. 52, mint 90/-
ZANZIBAR, 10r., S.G. 239, mint 100/-

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2 Austria 1937, Flowers, mint 1/6
10 Austria 1948, mint 4/6
4 Belgium 1950, mint 1/6
25 Chile, Flora and Fauna, mint 7/6
6 Colombia 1949, Orchids, mint 4/6
7 Colombia, 1950, U.P.U., mint 3/9
3 Finland, 1949 at 2/6, 1950 .... 2/6
5 Hungary, 1950, mint 4/6
4 Netherlands 1949 (used 1/6), mint 2/6
1 Philippines, mint .... 9d.
1 Brazil, Orchid, used .... 6d.
4 Spain, 1950, mint 1/-
4 Switzerland, 1943 to 1949 mint, each 4/6
Switzerland, fine used, each set 2/6
5 Turkey, 1950 .... 3/9

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Watermark Variations of the Union 4d. Triangular Recessed Printed Stamps.

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

On page 27 of the handbook by the late J. Ritchie, the "Adhesive Postage Stamps of the Union of South Africa", it is stated **inter alia** that:—

"Sheets printed with watermark inverted are not distinguishable owing to the base to base printing of the stamps. A variety which would be distinguishable would be a sheet with watermark sideways, but has not been reported and is unlikely to occur as the sheets are not square."

The Union triangular stamps were recessed-printed from curved intaglio steel plates by Bradbury, Wilkinson and Company Limited.

Two steel plates were used: one 120-set plate (60 pairs) for the English inscribed stamps. Each 120-set printed sheet comprised 6 pairs of stamps vertically and 10 pairs horizontally when it was held in a position which showed the multiple springbok head watermarks thereof in normal upright positions.

Each sheet of 120 units (60 pairs) exhibited 60 guide dots. These guide dots are not readily visible to the naked eye; in fact, generally it is imperative to use a magnifier in order to clearly discern them. These guide dots were printed from minute hollows or recesses which were made in the surface of the steel plates before the stamp design impressions were imparted thereto under pressure by the 2-set steel transfer rollers. Each transfer roller held two stamp design impressions base to base. For the purpose of this paper one set is designated E1 and E2 and the other A1 and A2.

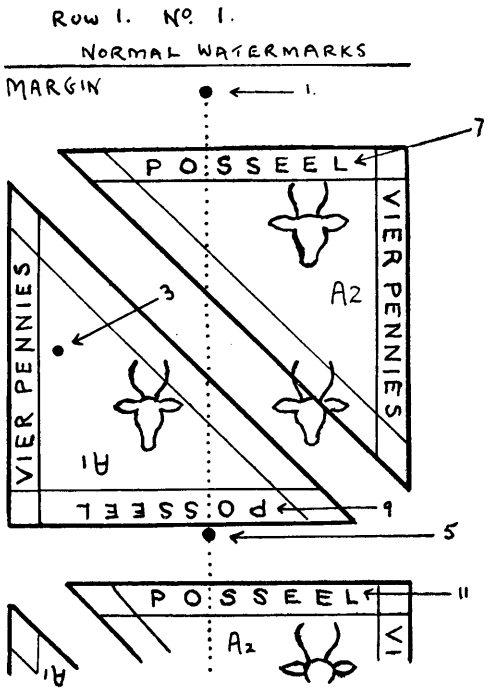


Fig. 1.

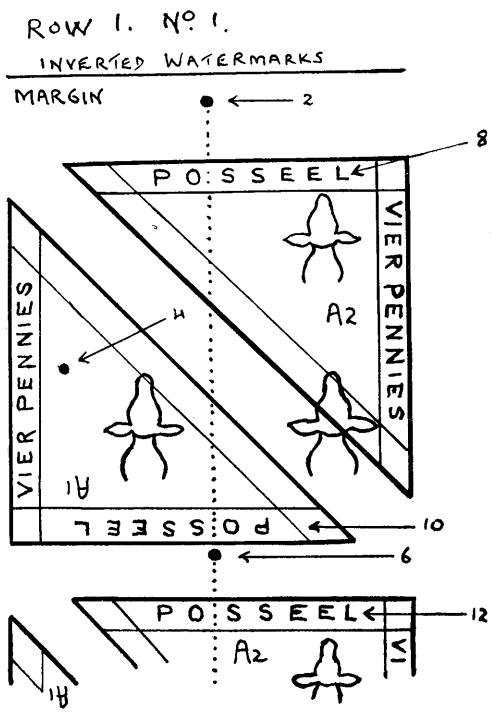


Fig. 2.

On the printed stamps certain Transfer Roller characteristics can be distinguished, to wit:—

(1) On the English inscribed stamps—

Sub-type E1—Guide dot about ½mm. above the "O" and "S" of "Postage". Vide also "O" and "S" of "Posseel" anent A1 **ut infra.**

Sub-type E2—No guide dot above the "O" and "S" as afore, but,

Sub-type E2—Guide dot about 6½mm. above "O" and "S" of "Postage" on the top margin only. Vide also "O" and "S" of "Posseel" anent A2 **ut infra.**

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(2) On the Afrikaans inscribed stamps:—

Sub-type A1—Guide dot about ¾mm. above the "O" and "S" of "Posseel" marked Nos. 5 and 6 on Sketches Nos. 1 and 2.

Sub-type A2—No guide above the "O" and "S" as afore, but

Sub-type A2—Guide dot about 6mm. above "O" and "S" of "Posseel" on the top margin only marked Nos. 1 and 2 on Sketches Nos. 1 and 2.

Sub-type A1—White dash about 1mm. below left limb of the first "NN' of "Pennies" marked Nos. 3 and 4 on Sketches Nos. 1 and 2.

Sub-type A1—White dash contiguous to arm immediately above elbow resting on the anchor, marked No. 13 on Sketch No. 3 of the emblematical figure of "Hope".

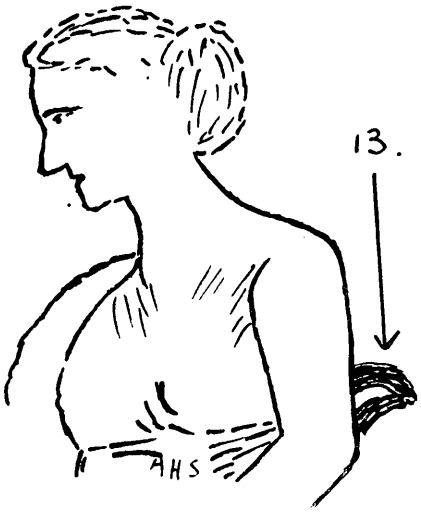


Fig. 3.

Sub-type A2—Very slight blur or weakness on curved line of colour above first "N" of "Pennies".

From the afore-described Transfer Roller characteristics and the watermark positional summary hereunder it will be discerned that contrary to the statement **ut supra** excerpted from Ritchie's Handbook, all sheets, blocks pairs and singles printed with watermarks inverted **are distinguishable** from those printed on normally watermarked paper:—

(A) **Normal Watermarks.**

1. Horns pointing to "Posseel" Nos. 7 and 11 on Sketch No. 1—all A2 stamps. Row 1 No. 1 on Sketch No. 4.
2. Noses pointing to "Posseel" No. 9 on Sketch No. 1—All A1 stamps. Row 1 No. 1 on Sketch No. 4. Note position of Guide Dot No. 5 on Sketch No. 1.

(B) **Inverted Watermarks.**

1. Noses pointing to "Posseel" Nos. 8 and 12 on Sketch No. 2—all A2 stamps. Row 1 No. 1 on Sketch on No. 4.
2. Horns pointing to "Posseel" No. 1 on Sketch No. 1.—All A1 stamps. Row 1 No. 1 on Sketch No. 4. Note position of Guide Dot No. 6 on Sketch No. 2.

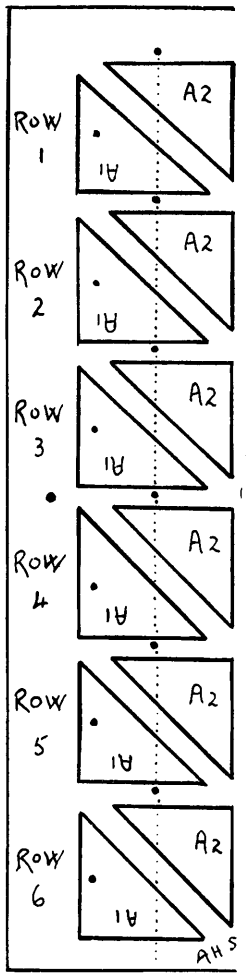


Fig. 4.

Sketch No. 4 shows the position of six A1 and six A2 stamps of the first vertical row of a sheet and the positions of the six guide dots of the said vertical row. Thus a 120-set of Afrikaans inscribed stamps will comprise—

(a) 60 A2 stamps with guide dots 6mm. above the "O" and "S" of "Posseel".

(b) 50 A1 stamps with guide dots ¾mm. above the "O" and "S" of "Posseel".

(c) 10 A1 stamps without guide dots above the "O" and "S" of "Posseel" — all from horizontal row No. 6 contiguous to the bottom margin.

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HUNGARY.

The spate of new stamps continues. On 2 Dec. there were issued ten stamps featuring various Sports, half of them being for air post. On 10 Dec., three stamps for the centenary of the death of Joseph Bem. Also a stamp sheet with a 2 forints stamp for the 23rd Stamp Day.

ITALY.

From 27 March to 2 April there will be held in Florence a Philatelic Exhibition celebrating the centenary of the stamps of Tuscany. The actual exhibition will be limited to Tuscan stamps, but there are to be during the period, historical pageants showing the development of postal services, the 26th Italian Philatelic Congress and a re-union of philatelic dealers. To make the exhibition more interesting to visitors, however, there will also be included a showing of the philatelic publications of all countries.

GREAT BRITAIN.

Current 1d. Imperf. Messrs. Whitfield King have acquired two blocks of 18 of these stamps, from the top three rows of a sheet which was bought over the counter of a North Country P.O. about six months ago. Each block has twelve completely imperf. and six imperf. on three sides, the bottom of the blocks being perforated normally.

Postal Stationery. Mr. F. Hounsell Dammers, President of the Postal History Society, after 50 years of collecting, has completed the typescript of a comprehensive work on this subject. Literature on the earlier issues is fairly extensive, but the later issues have never been dealt with except in a fragmentary way. Interest in postal stationery is definitely on the up-grade and it is proposed to publish this work under the auspices of the P.H. Society; it will cover some 200 foolscap sheets and the cost will be from two to three guineas, depending on the number of copies wanted.

EXCHANGE WANTED.

Mr. Eric Bloch is specialising in 1935 Silver Jubilees and would like to contact anyone with varieties to exchange or sell. Seychelles 'Extra Flagstaffs' specially wanted. (Other people are specially wanting these too! Ed.) His address is 15 Esmond Road, Bedford Park, London, W.4.

PHILATELIC LIBRARIES.

Mr. R. F. Kennedy, Johannesburg City Library, reports that he and members of his staff have read Mr. Slater-Kinghorn's articles in our January issue with interest. They think it very sensible and the suggested handling of material very suitable for a society receiving comparatively small numbers of periodicals, as in his case, although it would be too time-consuming for dealing with a large number.

GREENLAND.

In his "Scandinavian Newsletter—No. 2" Capt. K. Jahr, who is a dealer in Scotland specialising in Scandinavian stamps, gives a check list of the post-offices in Greenland. There are no less than twenty-seven of them with another three recently closed down. Probably few people realized there were anything like so many in this supposedly barren part of the world.

INDIAN STAMPS USED IN ZANZIBAR.

An Indian P.O. was opened in Zanzibar in 1868, but closed down after a few months because of the "unpleasant relations to which it seems to give rise with foreign Consuls". So says Mr. N. Snowden in an article in the issue of the "Philatelic Magazine" for 8 December, 1950. Definite information seems to be quite lacking as to the cancellation(s) used in this short-lived post, so mail from it cannot yet be recognised.

It is otherwise, however, with the Indian P.O. which operated from 1875 to 1895. The unoverprinted Indian stamps used during this period can readily be recognised by the postmarks, but there were some 13 or 14 of them in use at one time or another. They are described and figured in this article. After 1895 Indian stamps were overprinted "ZANZIBAR" but unoverprinted ones can be found for quite a considerable period after that date.

TRISTAN DA CUNHA.

It is stated that the fishing company now operating there is putting a new vessel into operation and that there will be something like a reguler fortnightly service. Tristan will then no longer warrent the name "The Lonely Isle", and if it gets its issue of stamps, as seems highly probable, there will be plenty of opportunities for collectors to obtain them — perhaps even first-day covers. But alas — the romance of the Tristan mail will have gone.

BELGIUM.

A set of seven charity semi-postals was issued in December and this to be on sale till the end of February. The four lowest values feature flowers, the other three sanatoria.

BECHUANALAND.

Commenting on the printing of the 2d. released on 24-10-50, the "Stamp Magazine" says " . . . the shade does differ slightly, being a dull reddish-brown very similar to the 1945 printing, but compared with the original printing rather distinct. Though only one shade of this 2d. stamp has ever been catalogued, it is also true that each printing has dfifered slightly from the rest, they fall through into two groups. It is worth noting that there are stamps differing less which have been recognised."

MALTA.

The visit of H.R.H. Princess Elizabeth to the island very recently led to the issue of three stamps on 1 December. Values are 1d. green, 3d. ultramarine and 1/- black. They feature the Princess (a rather disappointing photograph, incidentally), the Royal Cypher and the George Cross.

ZANZIBAR.

It is rumoured that a new set of stamps is to be issued this year but no details are yet available as to the designs or exact date.

CANADA.

Messrs. Whitfield King report a new $1 stamp as due out on 1 February. It typifies fish resources and shows a fisherman in an open boat hauling in his net. The stamp will be overprinted "G" for official use.

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MORE IMPORTANT COLONIAL COMMEMORATIVE ISSUES.

Booking Lists are now open for the following:
Nyasaland: Diamond Jubilee commem. Set of 4, 1½d., 3d., 6d. and 5/-. Mint, **7/-;** Used **8/-**
Virgin Is.: Legislative Council commem. set of 4, 6, 12, 32c & 1 dol. 20c. , Mint, **8/-;** Used **9/-**
Tonga: 50th Anniversary, ½d. to 1/- (6), m., **2/6;** Used **3/-**
Also booking for:
West Indies: University College commems, 28 stamps for 14 Cols. Mint, **9/6;** Used **11/6**
Tonga: Queen's Birthday (3), Mint, **1/8;** Used **2/6**
Malta: Princess Elizabeth (3), Mint, **1/7;** Used **1/9**
St. Kitts: Anguilla (6), Mint, **2/7;** Used **3/-**

Recent Colonial Issues:
New Zealand: 1950 Health pair, Mint, **6d.;** Used **6d.**
Canterbury Anniversary set, Mint, **2/6;** Used **2/6**
Australia: Centenary 2½d. pairs, Mint, **6d.;** Used **6d.**
Canada: 1949 Heads (original types) set of 5 m. **1/6**
do., Coils, 1 and 3c. mint ..... **9d.**
Revised design, set of 5 ..... **1/4**
Do., coils, 1, 2, 3 and 4c. **1/-**
New 10c. at **1/-;** new 50c. **5/6**
Cayman Is.: new pictorials, ½d. to 1/- (u, **4/3**) **3/9**
Complete set to 10/- (used **27/3**) **23/9**
Gibraltar: Constitution commem. (4) **2/3**
Ireland: 1950, Holy Year (3) m. or u. **1/6**
Mauritius: new pictorials, set to 1 R (u. **5/9**) **5/-**
Complete set to 10 Rs. (used **40/9**) **35/9**
Niue: 1950 picts. ½d. to 1/- (used **4/3**) **4/-**
Complete set to 3/- (used **11/-**) **10/-**
N. Borneo: 1950 picts. 1 to 50c. (11) **(u. 5/-)** **4/3**
Complete set to 10 dol. (used **60/-**) **55/3**
Turks Is.: 1950 set to 1/- (used **3/9**) **3/4**
Complete set to 10/- (used **28/9**) **25/-**
Blocks pro rata. **Postages extra.**
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1864. 5c. imperf. on ribbed, S.G. 37 used, **£30**

BULGARIA.
1881. 5 st. background inverted, superb, used **£200**

BRIT. GUIANA.
1862 4c. S.G. 125, the rare type, roulettes all round and superb used **£90**

BARBADOS.
1875. 4d. Die Proof in black **£30**

BADEN.
1862. 12 kr. bisected on cover, superb **£225**

CANADA.
1857. 7½d. superb mint with major re-entry **£250**

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1857. 2d. A used block of 20 ..... **£350**

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1855-8 4d. blue on white paper, SG 6a, a magnificent used copy with good margins and major re-entry through PENCE **£30**

1855-8 6d. slate-lilac on white paper, SG7, a good unused copy with major re-entries in POSTAGE and PENCE, extremely rare, **£85**

1855-8 4d. blue rouletted, SG 10, a fine large-margined used copy in full deep colour, **£16**

1863-4 6d. bright mauve, SG 20, a large-margined copy used on a small piece, of an exceptionally deep rich shade, from the first printing **£25**

We have the finest stock in England of Cape Triangulars — blocks, pairs, singles, re-entries, covers — and shall be pleased to receive enquiries from collectors for selections or single items. References will be appreciated.

H. E. WINGFIELD

392, STRAND, LONDON, W.C.2, ENGLAND.

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SOCIETY NEWS

WEST RAND STAMP CLUB.

The 12th Annual General Meeting was held on the 10th January, in the S.A. Club. The usual meeting night being too near the Festive Season and owing to change of night the lounge was not available. The following Committee was elected for the ensuing year: Chairman: Mr. E. J. Sharpe; Vice-Chairman: Dr. T. B. Berry; Secretary-Treasurer: Mr. W. S. Yelland; Committee Members: Messrs. J. T. Burrell, N. Basson and C. F. Louw. Junior representative: Master J. Saloman. Publicity Officer: Mr. N. B. Edwards.

The Club passed a unanimous vote of thanks to Mr. J. T. Burrell, the retiring chairman. He had been in the Chair for the past 10 years, rendering invaluable service and being a tower of strength to the Club. His knowledge of philatelic matter is positively amazing. We succeeded in retaining the services of Mr. Burrell on the Committee. The Club is indeed fortunate in having such a member. An active member of several Societies Mr. Burrell was attending as many as five meetings a week. Our former Chairman hopes to settle down to some quiet collecting, or does he?

Members demonstrated various methods of "writing up". There were some weird and wonderful contraptions on view. The meeting closed at 10 p.m. after the "drinks" had been on Mr. Burrell

N.B.E.

PORT ELIZABETH PHILATELIC SOCIETY.

At the last meeting of 1950, Dec. 19th, Mr. Bulbring was in the chair and was responsible for the evening. He tabled a number of pages of German stamps from booklets and automatic machines. These stamps were very interesting.

In 1910 the government introduced booklets for the convenience of the public. There were strips of different values joined together and tête bêche in horizontal and vertical pairs, each pair having one stamp upside down. In the books were sometimes blank spaces which were used for slogans or adverts. Later on the coil stamps were introduced in the automatics.

The stamps on display were a cross-section from 1910-1950. One booklet of 1926-7 consisted of airmails on sale for winter help. There was the Typo and Recess printing and some of the Russian Zone. A few pages of Nederlands were also displayed but without going into perforation or details. One interesting cover was an airmail of the flight from Holland to South Africa in 1946. These stamps, which had the heads of the three princesses portrayed, were for child welfare. Mr. Bülbring gave a very interesting talk on his display.

Members were pleased to welcome the Rev. L. Chamings, who was on a visit from Johannesburg. He was asked by Mr. Forbes to reply to Mr. Bülbring, which he did, and proposed a hearty vote of thanks to the President, on behalf of the members, for a very enjoyable evening.

The meeting closed after a very small auction.

The first meeting of the year opened on Tuesday, the 16th Jan., 1951. Mr. Bülbring in the chair, presided over a smaller attendance than usual, there being only 19 members present.

The evening was in the hands of Mr. A. B. Clark and Mr. L. F. Addis-Smith. Mr. Clark displayed first day covers of U.S.A. and Canada, and also tabled Commemorative stamps of U.S.A. from 1893 to present time.

Mr. Addis-Smith displayed Sudan from 1897-8, 1902-1911, and 1927-48. There was the rare complete issue of General Gordon 1935 which was of great interest to members. The Golden Jubilee of 1948, Legislative Assembly of the same year, and 1936-48 Official. These were all complete. Mr. Addis-Smith also tabled Airmail 1931-1935.

On view were the overprints issued in 1935, 1938 and again in 1950, he then gave an interesting talk on his display.

Both members fully deserved the hearty vote of thanks accorded them by the meeting. There was a very welcome visitor to the meeting, Mr. Loxley-Chamings of Johannesburg whom we were pleased to have in our midst.

The meeting terminated at 9.45 p.m. L.E.C.

THE EAST LONDON PHILATELIC SOCIETY.

Owing to the very unseasonable weather the attendance at this meeting was very small — there being only 21 present, including visitors.

However, business was discussed, special attention being givven to the question of cups or medals for the best displays during 1951.

Members were reminded of their donations of stamps towards the S.A.N.T.A. Fund. These stamps will be catalogued and advertised in a circular to stamp collectors throughout the Union.

New Swiss stamps with Butterflies on them were an item of interest brought to the meeting by Mr. Danner.

Displays were given by Mr. Hellman of Israel and of Unions by Mr. Andrew Watson.

Mr. Danner suitably thanked Mr. Hellman saying that stamps of this type took the imagination back 2,000 years to the mythical history of those bygone days and would be of interest to archaeologists delving into the early history of mankind.

Mr. Watson's display of Unions was limited to fifty pages and covered the George V series with many interesting varieties and shades.

Discussion took place in regard to the Junior Society, which would commence its meetings after the re-opening of schools late in January.

U.C.S.

PHILATELIC SOCIETY OF JOHANNESBURG.

At the first January meeting Mr. J. Michelson showed his fine collection of the stamps of Latvia, which, incidentally, was awarded a silver-gilt plaque at the recent exhibition. The collection demonstrated very well the postal history of this country under the many different regimes it has been. Mr. Michelson read short notes summarising the postal history from pre-stamp times and the character of the stamps. It is hoped to have these published in somewhat extended form soon.

The second meeting was a variety show, any member feeling inclined showing ten sheets of his own choice; truly there was some variety too. Space forbids more than just a mention of the fare purveyed by eight exhibitors: J. Hagger: Shades of the Union ½d. to 6d., a simplified specialization; M. Jacks: a mint collection of Sudan 1897-1950; E. Hunt: weird and wonderful Indian States; E. L. Stern: a selection of beautiful U.P.U. issues; W. N. Sheffield: Complete sheets showing the five printings of the small Union 1½d.; J. Kupferman: selection of world postal stationery (this is increasing in popularity — get in on the ground floor while the going is good.); E. Schaiowitz: first three overprinted issues of S.W.A., Dr. Harvey Pirie; French and German posts in Zanzibar.

K.G. VI CATALOGUE

The Commonwealth Stamp Coy. announce the issue of their new K.G. VI Catalogue, which they claim, although simple will be complete, authoritative and containing all the information which even advanced collectors would want. The edition is limited and early application is advised. Price 6/6, plus 4d. for postage.

XMAS AND NEW YEAR GREETINGS.

The Editor wishes to acknowledge Greeting Cards from: J. F. Babb, Ontario; Editor "Sea Poster", California; Robson Lowe; O.F.S. and Basutoland Philatelic Society; S. African Collectors' Society (C. E. Sherwood); Whitfield King & Co.; B. H. Homan, Jr., New York; W. Tunstall, Kenya; Ramsay Stewart, Edinburgh,

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THE

SOUTH AFRICAN PHILATELIST

PROPRIETORS AND PUBLISHERS:

The Philatelic Federation of Southern Africa

Honorary Editor: Dr. J. H. HARVEY PIRIE
Business Manager: Mr. J. NATHANSON } P.O. Box 375, Johannesburg.

Subscription: Eight Shillings per annum, post free to any part of the World.

Vol. 27. No. 3. MARCH, 1951. Whole No. 312.

EDITOR'S CORNER

GOLD MEDAL AWARDS AT PHILATELIC EXHIBITIONS.

A comment in **Stamp Collecting** says "The South African Philatelic Congress, unlike others we could name, is not afraid of 'sticking its neck out' (vulg.) in matters which are of real concern to collectors. Readers will remember their courageous advice last year to destroy the gum on the back of mint stamps, and this year they have recommended that the scope of 'Gold Medal Countries' should be radically altered."

It then goes on to say that widening of the range of countries which would be eligible for gold awards is definitely desirable; they would include the Australian Commonwealth, the Union of South Africa and a few others which have hitherto not been allowed.

But they would bar "Thematic" collections, which may be pleasant and the technique needed for them significant — but it is not philately.

Without necessarily holding a brief for thematic collections, we would just like to ask the writer of the above comment (we suspect the Editor!) "What is Philately"? It might further be suggested that he read the editorial in the Nov. issue of "The Collectors' Club Philatelist" from which it would seem that anything which humanizes the view that 'the stamp is the thing', might be properly included in a definition of 'philately'.

The booklet of instructions to judges at the recent Australian National Exhibition has material apropos to this difficult subject. These were written by J. R. W. Purves and have been largely reprinted in **Stamps** of 6 January.

The writer is all for judging each exhibit on its merits and giving it a corresponding award, not bothering about whether it is first, second or third in its particular group of classification.

The factors to be taken into account (and they are all discussed fully) will vary with the type of collection, some being more important than others in certain cases, some of no account in some cases but essential in others.

His final word is to avoid giving too much weight either to a single aspect of attraction or a single aspect of demerit. Be critical but don't be precious.

CHANGE OF ADDRESS.

The address of the Philatelic Federation of Southern Africa and of the "South African Philatelist" will in future be P.O. Box 375, Johannesburg. Will advertisers, exchange magazines, secretaries of affiliated societies and other correspondents please note.

Up till now we have been dependent on our officials using either their own P.O. boxes (or the boxes of their employers!) and with staff changes this has meant changes in box numbers for our address. Now we have obtained **our own** box and there should be no further changes.

THE UNION'S NEW STAMPS.

In view of conflicting reports which are appearing in certain philatelic publications concerning the proposed new issue of postage stamps for the Union of South Africa, the "South African Philatelist" has been authorised by the Postmaster-General of the Union of South Africa to state that any publicity given the matter, other than that based on his official statement at the Johannesburg Philatelic Congress in October last, regarding the need for and advance release of the 4½d., 9d. and 1/3 denominations of the proposed new series, are premature and unauthorised.

As is generally known a competition was arranged for designs for a new series of stamps and whilst a number of entries received for the competition gained prizes there was not a sufficient number of suitable designs from which a complete new series of stamps could be selected.

The Committee which is responsible for the new designs, is still busy with the adaptation of these designs which are considered suitable as well as the procurement of such additional designs as may be necessary to complete the new series.

Timely notice will, as usual, be given by the Publicity Section of the Post Office of the dates on which the new stamps will be released and details of the new designs will also be made available for publication so soon as they have finally been approved.

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Union Notes

SUB-EDITOR: Mr. W. N. Sheffield,
Box 99, Clevoland, Transvaal.

RECENT PRINTINGS.

The Publicity Officer of the Department of Posts and Telegraphs has kindly supplied the following information covering the period since the previous list dated 26.9.50 (published in our November 1950 issue) — to the 4.1.1951.

Ordinary Pictorial Stamps.

½d.—Job No. 5134 contd. On an order for 1,000,000 sheets x 240, a further 74,972 sheets were delivered bringing the total up to 444,292 sheets. Cylinder Nos. 11A Interior and 11B Exterior as before.

1d.—Job No. 2810 contd. The final date for delivery of sheets from Cylinders 6A Interior and 6B Exterior was the 8.8.50.

On the same Job No. and order for 750,000 sheets x 240, a further 6,017 sheets were delivered from cylinders 76 Interior and 14 Exterior increasing the number produced from these cylinders to 185,518 sheets. (On this Job No., see also next paragraph). Final deliveries on 28.9.50 and total number of sheets, 770,367.

Job No. 4980. On an order for 1,000,000 sheets x 240, the following quantities amounting to 216,034 sheets were delivered from three sets of cylinders — date of first delivery, 17.10.50.

(a) 57,750 sheets from old cylinders 76 Interior and 14 Exterior. Final date of delivery 7.11.50 and with this additional number the grand total from the 76/14 combination amounted to 243,267 sheets.

(b) 27,500 sheets from new cylinders 70 Interior and 88 Exterior. First date of delivery 9.11.50 and final date 14.11.50.

(c) 130,784 sheets from the combination of 70 Interior and 14 Exterior. First date of delivery, 16.11.50.

2d. — Job No. 12995 contd. On an order for 1,000,000 sheets x 240 a total of 763,590 sheets have been delivered to date. Cylinders 6927 Interior and 50 Exterior as before.

3d.—Job No. 1883. On an order for 150,000 sheets x 120, deliveries during the period 30.11.50 to date amounted to 27,750 sheets. Cylinders 44A Interior and 44B Exterior. (As previously employed for the production of 23,630 sheets recorded in our June 1949 issue. Total to date= 51,380 sheets.)

Roll Stamps.

1d.—Job No. 1885 contd. Additional quantities of 60 rolls x 1,012 stamps and 2,300 rolls x 506 stamps have been delivered since the information given in November 1950, bringing the totals on this Job No. up to 1,440 rolls and 3,900 rolls respectively. Same one colour cylinder, No. 24, as before.

Air Letter Cards.

6d.—Job No. 2989. On an order for 4,000,000 air letter cards, 849,600 have been delivered to date. First delivery 17.10.50 and Cylinder No. 18 as before.

Job No. 32359. Air Letter Cards to the number of 14,400 were supplied by the Postmaster General and overprinted SWAZILAND on the same forms as before. Delivered 28.11.50.

Pictorial Post Cards.

1d.—Job No. 1882. On an order for 2,720,000 pictorial post cards, 301,440 have been delivered to date. Cylinders 85 (pictures) and 88 (stamps) as before. First delivery 28.11.50.

"Official" Stamps.

Job No. 8318. The following quantities were supplied by the Postmaster-General and overprinted OFFICIAL—OFFISEEL on a flat bed machine from the same process blocks as before. (Large overprint — see Nov. 1950 "S.A.P."). Deliveries of the 1d., 1½d., 2d. and 6d. values on the 5.12.5 and the other denominations on the 7.12.50.

1d.—300 sheets x 240: 1½d.—300 sheets x 240.
2d.—500 sheets x 240: 6d.—200 sheets x 240.
1/—300 sheets x 120: 2/6—300 sheets x 60.
5/—100 sheets x 60: 10/—100 sheets x 60.

Customs Stamps.

Job No. 8316. The following quantities were supplied by the Postmaster-General and overprinted DOUANE from New Process Blocks on a flat bed machine. Date of delivery 4.12.50.

½d.—1,000 sheets x 240: 1d.—1,000 sheets x 240.
2d.—1,000 sheets x 240: 6d. 1,000 sheets x 240.
1/—1,000 sheets x 120.

Frame Flaws on Current 1d. and 3d. Postage Due Stamps.

Mr. W. Yelland of Krugersdorp, Transvaal, records three small varieties on two se tenant stamps in the current 1d. and 3d. postage due stamps. The same exterior cylinder (No. 33) is employed for both values and the flaws occur in the top left hand corner pane on stamps No. 1 of rows 8 and 9. They are as follows:

Row 8/No. 1—White flaw in frame under second "A" of AFRICA.

Row 9/No. 1—(a) White dot between "TE" and "B" of TE BETAAL. (b) Small white marks at foot of "P" and centre of "O" of POSTAGE.

Shade Changes in the Current 2d., 3d. and 6d. Pictorial Stamps.

The colour of the frame portion of the 6d. orange tree screened stamp (Cylinders 6930 Interior and 6 Exterior) has gone through a marked change during recent months and the red-orange appearance of the first stamps of this printing has given way to a distinctly **brown-orange** shade.

In recording this change, Mr. C. E. Sherwood of Manchester, England, also mentions that the small 2d. stamp, S.G. 134, has been appearing on sale with a reddish tinge to the violet of the frame, and that the 3d. screened stamp, S.G. 117, has turned up again in a deeper shade.

Sheets of the small 2d. stamp with both the centres and frames printed in a distinctly darker shade have been noted on general sale during January and February this year and in the case of the new batch of 3d. screened stamps (See the "Recent Printings" information in this issue) Mr. Sam Legator of Brakpan records that the sky portion of the design on some copies is

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sufficiently lacking in shading to give a cloudless appearance. A similar variety of a "White Sky" was recorded on copies of the 10/- value in October. 1949.

New Printing Flaws on the 6d. Stamps.

Mr. C. E. Sherwood has noted the appearance of two new varieties on stamps of the current 6d. pictorial with the brown-orange coloured frames. Both are constant, are easily identified without the aid of a magnifier and occur in the positions listed below. They are evidently of fairly recent origin for they were not present on sheets of the original 6d. screened stamps.

Row 7/Stamp 11—Green spot on shad,ng of vignette at lower left of tree.

Row 10/Stamp 12—"Green Bough" on right hand side of tree immediately beneath foliage.

The "White Streak" Varieties in the Georgian Series.

Following last month's notes on this subject it is of interest to record that Mr. R. T. Lilley's theory of the defects being due to gum streaks has now been proved correct.

Soon after writing about this variety a few weeks ago, a pair of the 1d. King's Head mint stamps turned up with one of them showing distinct shiny marks on the surface of the design. The application of a water moistened brush immediately revealed the white streaks and it can be stated that the defect has now been found present on a mint stamp with original gum.

Some further information and specimens received from Mr. Lilley on this interesting matter brings to light similar vertical streaks on a used copy of the 4 annas India stamp (S.G. 174) and irregularly shaped white blobs on three others namely,—1d. Great Britain (S.G. 174), ½d. Jamaica (S.G. 107) and a 15 cent Mauritius (S.G. 126) — all of which he is of the opinion are attributable to the same cause, i.e., loose spots of gum scattered on the surface during the gumming process. He stresses that all examples of this variety have, so far, only appeared on De La Rue productions.

New Issue of 1½d. Small Mine "Official" Stamps.

The information contained under the heading of "Recent Printings" in the present notes mentions the issue of 1½d. "Officials" with overprints from the new process blocks. Examination of copies obtained from the Philatelic Agency of the Department of Posts and Telegraphs in Pretoria shows the same large type of overprint as that in use on the current small 2d. "Official" stamps and the spacing of 14½mm. is also the same. As in the case of the 2d., the overprints OFFISIEEL (on the left) and OFFICIAL (on the right of each stamp) both read downwards and the sheets used for the 1½d. value are those bearing the marginal imprints "Cylinder No. 6391 A" and "Cylinder No. 6931 B". Supplies are available at the Philatelic Agency, G.P.O., Pretoria.

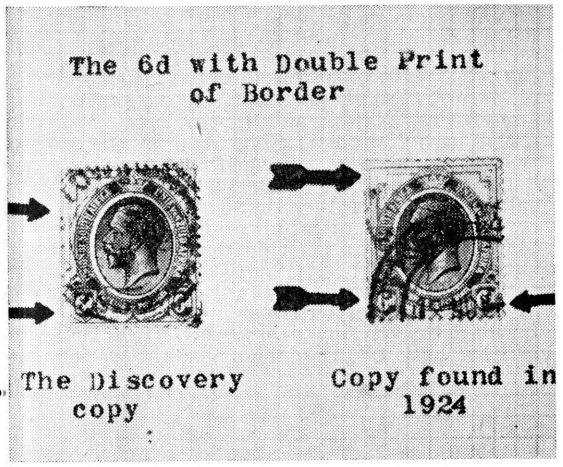
Sheets of the same "Small Mine" printing, with the cylinder numbers on the margins, were last issued with "Official" overprints in December 1949. On that occasion however, the stamps were overprinted with small type, the OFFICIAL is on the left and OFFISIEEL on the right of each stamp, and both read **upwards.** (See February 1950 "Union Notes".)

Printings of the "76/14" and "70/88" 1d. Pictorial Stamps.

It should be noted from the "Recent Printings" information that the figures on page 3 of our January 1951 issue dealing with the numbers printed from the above combinations of cylinders require correcting and should now read, 243,267 sheets from the 76/14 cylinders and 27,500 sheets from the 70/88 set-up. The final figures for the 70/14 combination are not yet to hand.

Double Print Variety in the Frame Plate of the 6d. King's Head Issue.

This variety, the existence of which was first published in the Collectors Club Philatelist, New York in 1926 is also recorded in H. E. Lobdell's treatise "The De La Rue Georgians of South Africa" (Published by The Collectors Club, Inc. in 1944), has apparently never received the prominence it deserves and in mentioning this point, and also the fact that it has not yet been catalogued or illustrated, Mr. Stephen G. Rich of Verona, New Jersey, U.S.A. has submitted the accompanying photographs of the two copies in his possession.



The first, bearing a Simonstown cancellation dated 1916, was discovered by him in 1922 and the second came to light in a sales packet during 1924. The enlargements clearly show the doubling of the figure of value in both tablets and also the letters designating the country of origin, and for those who have not got a copy of Mr. Lobdell's book at hand the following description, as given therein by Mr. Rich, will assist in identifying this little known variety.

"The doubling extends to the entire lower corner half of the frame on both copies, and includes the entire oval band bearing the names of the country. It is not visible on the crown at the top, nor on the upper corner parts of the design. The displacement is about one-third mm. to the right; taking the partial impression as the doubling. This is in contrast to the downward displacement of 1 mm. for the partial impression of the ½d." (Double print rarity.)

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"The origin of the doubling is not clear but the small displacement would indicate that it probably came about through a flapping of the paper as it came off the plate. It is definitely not a 'slur', nor can it be ascribed to any effect of plate wear."

Mr. Rich continues: "The wear of electrotypes does not give any such apparent doubling of part of the lines. Instead, wear results in outlines rather than solid white lines, or in a rounding off of all printing parts, e.g., blunted corners. In these 6d. doubles the white letters of 'UNION' and 'AFRIKA', as well as parts of other words in the dark ovals, show as white parts of letters doubled."

In his letter on the subject Mr. Rich mentions that he is of the opinion that this variety



is of considerable rarity and it will be interesting to hear if other Union specialists have specimens in their collections and also if the variety has at any time been noted on stamps other than the 6d. denomination.

Watermark Varieties on the King's Head and De La Rue Postage Due Stamps.

Writing in connection with the watermark variety on the 3d. De La Rue postage due stamp (S.G. D4) mentioned in our July 1950 notes, Mr. Stephen G. Rich records that in addition to the 3d. postage due he has found a similar form of divided watermark on copies of the ½d., 2d., 3d. (orange and black) and 6d. Union King's Head stamps.

His postage due copy is unused and came into his possession as early as 1936, but the 2d. is a much more recent acquirement and was found in a large lot of unused copies which he was going through last July. Mr. Rich has always designated this variety as the "Double Overlapping Watermark" to distinguish it from the other two forms which he aptly terms "Vertically Overlapping" and "Horizontally Overlapping". He adds that he has yet to find one of the "doubly overlapping" varieties on a booklet pane stamp or on a coil stamp.

New Standard Catalogue of Union Stamps.

Draft copies of the various sections are now coming to hand from the many enthusiasts who are assisting in the compiling of the new catalogue and the members of the committee are holding frequent discussions on the numerous points to be covered.

The proposal to try and get the book published in time for the Tercentenary Exhibition in Cape Town next April (1952) is undoubtedly one that will require the best efforts of all concerned and contributors who may still have material outstanding are kindly asked to send it to the Hon. Secretary, P.O. Box 333, Brakpan, Transvaal, South Africa, at their earliest convenience.

New Issue of the 1d. Pictorial Stamp with many Improved Features.

As we go to Press we learn from the Publicity Officer of the Department of Posts and Telegraphs of the issue of a redrawn 1d. pictorial stamp produced from a new multopositive and cylinders Nos. 6925 Interior and 36 Exterior.

The new stamp embodies several prominent features all of which admirably lend themselves to the rotogravure process of stamp printing and which, in combination, have resulted in a clear well defined and much more pleasing reproduction of this ever popular design. Its format is smaller, being approximately 17½ x 21½ mm. as against the previous size of 18 x 22 mm. and in consequence the gutter width is now nearly 3 mm. The official intimation prepared for publication in the "South African Philatelist" is as follows:—

"The cylinders used for the printing of the current one-penny postage stamp have become worn and have been replaced by two new cylinders numbered 6925 (interior) and 36 (exterior), respectively.

It has been decided to improve the printing of the stamp and with this end in view the following minor alterations have been incorporated in the new cylinders;—

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(1) The number of shaded lines in the border has been reduced from 69 in the old to 53 in the new design.
(2) The thin sky shading lines of the old design have been replaced by a flat toned sky effect of much bolder grey lines.
(3) The horizon is well defined in the new design, whereas it was practically non-existing in the old design.
(5) The sea is drawn in a heavier tone in the new design than the old.
(5) The drawing of the ship, although identical, has been drawn bolder, leaving out some fine detail.
(6) The sun's rays have been simplified and drawn bolder, the darker shading of the sky between the rays have been omitted in the new design.
(7) As the new stamp is being printed with a screen, the screen-less guide lines of the old design can now be deleted.
(8) There is a very slight difference in the style of the lettering of the new design.
(9) The Cape promontory has been drawn in solid grey instead of the ruled effect of the old design."

The colours of the new issue are black and carmine and both the vignettes and frames were produced through a cross-lined screen .Each sheet bears the usual multiple Springbok's Head Watermark (upright), has four marginal arrows and four cyclometer numerals printed in red on the top and bottom halves of the right hand margin. (Incidently, these watermarks are of a different type to those in use up until quite recently on the machine).

The cylinder numbers are printed on the right hand margin opposite Nos. 19 and 20 rows, but even without this block for identification no collector will have the slightest difficulty in distinguishing the stamps of this printing from any of its predecessors. It is undoubtedly an outstanding improvement for which the Department is to be continued.

STAMPS STOLEN.

We regret to learn that Mr. Jno. Lewis of P.O. Box 1078, Bloemfontein has had three albums of a collection of K.G.VI stamps stolen also two Duplicate books containing a variety of stamps. The albums were a Godden's Burleigh in dark blue leather, a Rapkin'5s black and green leather bound, and a spring back cover. It is impossible to list all the stamps stolen but a list of some of the more important items follows and it is suggested that anyone being offered such items should make certain, as far as possible, that the offerer has come by them legitimately. If in any doubt, communicate with Mr. Lewis in the hope that the theft may be traced.

Australia, 167a, 168a, 168b, 176a, 177a, 178a, 224d.
Barbados, 249. Burma, 1-18.
Ceylon, 387a, 394, 394a.
Egypt, 333a, Eire, 102-104, 111-125.
Gibraltar, 124ab. Grenada, 163c.
Iraq, 98b, 106b, 110a, 111a,. 120-139, O 111, O 156.
Jamaica, 123a. Leeward Is., complete K.G VI.
Kedah, 71. New Guinea, 212-225.
New Zealand, 577-590b.
Sudan, 75a, 76a, 77a.
Transjordan, 1930 to 1946 complete.

These are from the albums. In the duplicate books the more important items are:
Barbados, 13. Bahawalpur, O 7.
Bermuda, 112, 114. Fiji, 258.
Cape, 4d. triangular, sideways wmk.
Canada, 20 and 20a used.
Jamaica, 104-106. Mauritius, Full set Silver Jubilee covers.
St. Helena, Two complete sets 114-123.
Union, 24a, 29 (about 8 specimens), D7.
1d. and 2d. joined paper.
Block of 8 with twisted ship (25 Vg.)
All stamps mint unless otherwise indicated. S.G. numbers except in the case of the last item.

Collectors' Wants & Offers

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

Wanted: German South West Africa Special Items, Specimens, Covers, etc.— L. Buchen, P.O. Box 4012, Johannesburg.

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I break up my advanced collections of: Nigeria, Nyasaland, Ascension, Zanzibar, Swaziland, Kenya, Gambia, Gold Coast, S.W.A. and O.F.S. (mostly mint). Be first and send Want List and reference (no dealers) to: E. J. BRIERLY, Morkel St., Somerset West.

NICARAGUA U.P.U. SET.

This finally appeared on 23 November, 1950 and has given rise to many headaches among dealers and collectors alike. The entire set consists of 5 ordinary postage stamps, 7 air stamps and 6 Official Airs. Each of these is also reproduced in a souvenir sheet of four. The face value of the stamps plus sheets is $15.50 in U.S. currency, but anyone getting it at that figure will be extremely lucky as the edition was limited to 15,000 sets of the stamps and 3.750 sets of the sheets.

Would it be uncharitable to hope that the Nicaraguan authorities also suffer from headaches over this colossal ramp?

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SHORT NOTICES.

Messrs. R. C. Alcock, Ltd., who have long been known in Cheltenham as specialist dealers in British stamps and postal history, have now opened a London office at 52 Brook Street, Mayfair, Londoon W.1. Although continuing their specialized lines in British philately here, they will also be dealing in choice items of Colonal and Foregn countres.

Philatelia Fennica. We have received a copy of what appears to be a first number of a monthly magazine run by a Union of the philatelic societies in Finland. It is very nicely got up, but we advisedly say only what it "appears to be". With the exception of one article in German — a summary of German philately in 1950—it is all in Finnish and a knowledge of that language is unfortunately not included in our make-up.

National War Memorial Health Foundation. In conneceiton with the Million-Pound appeal referred to in our December issue, we are informed that the Northern Transvaal Region, 126 Van der Walt Street, Pretoria, has set up a committee to collect and sell stamps for the funds of the Foundation. They will do all the work if you will send the stamps. The stamps may be mint or used, anything off your correspondence will be welcome, no matter how common it may seem to be. Old collections in exercise books or hoards in boot boxes will give assistance to a deserving cause and stamped envelopes from soldiers serving abroad are stated to be particularly welcome.

The Junior Collector. This little magazine, the official organ of the Junior Stamp Collectors' Exchange Club (Secretary's address is 68 Central Road, Kimberley) hints in its latest issue at difficulties in keeping the club and magazine going. This is unfortunate, but the root trouble seems to lie in the fact that Juniors will grow up and unless there is an active replacement of "seniors" from below, both as ordinary members and as officials, the position will not improve.

Ramsay Stewart, Philately House, 61 Frederick Street, Edinburgh, seems to have boundless energy. In addition to housing 150,000 volumes on stamp collecting (the collection of the late Mr. F. H. Vallancey being the basis of this), publishing the "Stamp Collectors' Guide to Philatelic Literature" and the "Stamp Collectors' Bulletin", he has now acquired Scotland's only stamp paper "Stamp News". The first number of the new series should be appearing soon. How he must burn the midnight oil!

FESTIVAL OF BRITAIN.

This opens on 3rd May and two special stamps will be issued for the occasion, a 2½d. and a 4d., both of large size.

Special Souvenir Envelopes, suitable for First-Day covers, are already being advertised. One which has been approved by the Festival's Souvenir Committee, is being handled by H. E. Wingfield for the U.K. and by the Festivals' Stamp Shop for the rest of the world. This shows the Festival symbol in red and blue on an orange coloured outline Map of Britain.

Another(issued by the B.P.A. and the Philatelic Traders' Society has a smaller Festival symbol (a helmeted head surmounting a four pointed star) with a larger tower of Big Ben and the Boadicea statue at the end of Westminster Bridge.

Doubtless there will be others.

The 3rd of May will also see the appearance of the colour changes, ½d. orange, 1d. blue, 1½d. green, 2d. brown and 2½d. red.

BELGIUM AND BELGIAN CONGO.

Mons. G. Lefebvre reports and sends specimens of the seven anti-tuberculosis semi-postals issued on 20 December and to remain on sale until the end of February.

These are four small sized stamps showing national flora in natural colours, the flowers selected being **Gentiana pneumonanthe, Eriophorum vaginatum, Digitalis purpurea** and **Limonium vulgare.** (Botanists will know these better, perhaps, than most philatelists).

Then there are three larger sized stamps each featuring a different sanatorium for tuberculosis.

The Secretary for the Colonies reports the issue shortly of a 1.50 fr. stamp in red and olive-green which will complete the Native Arts and Masks. There will be one for the Congo and a similar one for Ruanda-Urundi.

RAND EASTER SHOW.

There will be a post office here with the usual special cancellation. A new feature will be that "Official" Stamps will be on sale.

"CAPEX".

Final prospectuses of the Canadian International Philatelic Exhibition, which opens in Toronto on 21 Sept., 1951 may now be obtained from 70 Bloor Street, W., Toronto, and intending exhibitors should apply for entry forms soon.

It is noted that in the Competitive Section there is to be a special award for the best collection of Canadian stamps (with or without the Provinces) exhibited by any philatelist **not** a citizen of, or resident in, Canada.

Prospective visitors from South Africa are advised to get in touch with the B.O.A.C. if they think of going by air.

KOREA.

Perhaps there have been numerous provisionals here in accordance with the kaleidoscopic changes of sides in power. The "N.Y. Times" is quoted by "Meekel's Weekly" as reporting (a) Looting of stamps in Seoul by the North Koreans and overprinting of them; (b) Issuing of three stamps by the Rhee Government when in possession of Seoul; these were (1) shewing picture of White Mountains in N. Korea as symbolic of an eventual unified Korea (2) a portrait of President Rhee within a laurel wreath of the U.N. (3) with flags of the U.N. and Korea flanking a globe with map of the Korean peninsula.

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Stamps with a Story

By W. LOXLEY-CHAMINGS.

(Contd. from page 16 of January issue.)

Bartholomew Diaz de Novaes, Portugal, S.G. 971. A triumph of stark portraiture. In 1488 he was the first European to round the Cape of Good Hope, so named by his king, John II, because he hoped to find beyond it that road to India of which adventurous spirits all over the road were dreaming. Diaz named it Cabo Tormentoso, the Cape of Storms, and turned back, leaving it for another adventurer, Vasco da Gama (50c.) to follow up the discovery and push on to India. Diaz later accompanied Cabral ($1) on the voyage that resulted in the discovery of Brazil, though he himself perished in a storm off the African coast.

Castries, Innskilling Monument, St. Lucia S.G. 22. Subscribed for by past and present officers and men of the Royal Inniskilling Fusiliers and unveiled by Captain C. M. Knox Little, Commander of N.M.S. Danae, in 1932. It commemorates the heroic capture of St. Lucia from the French by the Inniskillings, May 26, 1796. Against heavy fire they stormed Morne Fortuné, the key position commanding Castries Harbour on the North West coast.

Vailima, Stevenson's Tomb, Samoa S.G. 186. On the summit of Vaea Hill, above Robert Louis Stevenson's old home at Vailima, with dense forest round. The bronze plate on the left bears his famous lines:

Under the wide and starry sky
Dig the grave and let me lie.
Glad did I live and gladly die,
And I laid me down with a will.

This be the verse you grave for me:
Here he lies where he longed to be;
Home is the sailor, home from sea,
And the hunter home from the hill.

Or at least that is what it should bear, but by an almost incredible blunder the penultimate line reads: "Home is the sailor, home from **the** sea."

Robert Louis Stevenson, Samoa S.G. 198. All his life he fought gallantly with ill-health, and wrote, often in pain and weakness, essays, stories and poems of rare literary merit and charm. In France he met and loved a Californian lady, followed her to America and married her the next year. He spent the last years of his short but colourful life in Samoa, which figures in much of his later work.

James Brooke, Sarawak S.G.1. A romantic career. After seeing service in India, on a voyage to China he was struck with the need for suppressing savagery and piracy in the East Indies and for developing their resources. After succeeding to a great estate in the West of England he bought, equipped and tested the yacht "Royalist" and sailing to Borneo offered his services to the Rajah in his struggle against the Dyaks of Sarawak. For his help he was made Rajah of Sarawak, a post he held for 27 years, though his last days were spent on the estate at Burrator, Devon, bought for him by public subscription. His son and grandson succeeded him as Rajahs.

Ferdinand II of the Two Sicilies, Sicily SG5. Son of Francis I, the fourth Ferdinand of Sicily and fifth of Naples. On his succession he published an edict promising impartial justice, but his rule was marked by gross tyranny, and four local insurrections, suppressed with such barbarity as to earn him the sobriquet of "King Bomba", were followed by a general rising in 1848 which dragged from him the promise of a constitution. He survived an attempt on his life in 1857 but died two years later "unwept, unhonoured and unsung". "Naturally shrewd, but badly educated, grossly superstitious and inordinately vain," as witness the shape of the postmark.

Freetown Harbour, Sierra Leone, SG 180. An impressive picture of the approach to Freetown the capital of Sierra Leone, "the Mountains of the Lion", so named from the thunder that often rolls among the hills. Freetown owes its name to the settlement of freed slaves there, first from the American war of 1782 and then from various parts through the action of the Society for the Abolition of Slavery, from which sprang the Sierra Leone Company.

Charles George Gordon, Sudan SG 60. A great Christian soldier and administrator who after giving distinguished service in the far east was sent by Britain with the consent of the Egyptian Government to Sudan to suppress the slave traffic and evacuate any British and Egyptian nationals who wished to leave, owing to the Mahdi's rebellion. He was beleaguered in Khartoum, and an expedition sent for his relief arrived two days after he had been murdered. This portrait is from a painting in the palace outside which he met his death.

Khartoum, Sudan SG 66. At the Battle of Omdurman on Friday September 2, 1898, Khartoum was recovered from the Khalifa, and two days later Kitchener, now Sirdar of Egypt, held a simple Memorial Service for Gordon, murdered thirteen years before, on the site of his death, the ruined Government House. The stamp shows the Union Jack and the Khedival flag flying, the Sirdar in the centre facing four chaplains, Presbyterian, Anglican, Roman Catholic and Wesleyan Methodist. The last is the Rev. Owen Spencer Watkins, who now (1949) lives in England. Several Officers Commanding at the battle are seen behind the Sirdar. The building has since been restored and is the Residence of the Governor-General.

Abu-'l-ala al Ma'arri, Syria SG 276. Has been called "The Arabian Milton". Born at Ma'arat en-Numan, Syria, of the South Arabian tribe of Tanukh. His father died in his infancy, and he lost his sight at four through smallpox, but his relatives sent him to first-class tutors at Aleppo, Antioch and Tripoli, and at 21 he returned to his birth-place, where he received an annual pension of 30 dinars. He owes to the splendid translations of Henry Baerlein and others what Omar Khayyam owes to Fitzgerald. His verse is less cynical than Omar's but

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tinged with philosophical pessimism. A specimen:

Long have I tarried where the waters fall
From undeciphered caverns of the main,
And I have searched, and I have searched in vain,
Where I could drown the sorrows of my soul.

Beersheba, Turkey, SG 940. This stamp and the three others in the set would, and doubtless did, delight John Buchan. They were prepared by Turkey during the 1914-18 war for use in Egypt, which she confidently expected to conquer. Each accordingly, besides a scene from Palestine or Sinai, incorporates in its design the Sphinx and Pyramids. But Egypt was not taken, and it was not till 1920 that the stamps were issued, when the Sphinx and Pyramids were blacked out. A few stamps without overprint leaked out, but are extremely rare. A handful of buildings much as those seen in the background is all that is left of a once flourishing town, which is 27 miles South East of Gaza. The name means "the well of the covenant," commemorating the pact made between Abraham and Abimelech. Two ancient wells are still open, the larger 44½ feet deep.

Mississippi River, St. Louis, United States, SG 481. This scene is full of the romance of the great river that virtually divides the country into two parts, and the inimitable writings of Mark Twain spring to mind. An old-fashioned river-steamer such as he describes is moored to the wharf below the bridge, and nearly a dozen others are dimly descried plying up and down the river. The bridge shown is Eads Bridge, the first to span the mighty river so far from its spring. It is 2,225 feet long. St. Louis is a centre of both industry and learning. It has two universities.

Thomas Jefferson, United States, SG 523. The most striking figure of all the founders of the American Republic. Six feet two inches high, slim and erect, with ruddy, delicate skin and deep hazel eyes, an expert musician, a good dancer, proficient in all manly exercises. In character frank, earnest, cordial and sympathetic. Phenomenally successful as a lawyer, he built up a great estate, and his mansion at Monticello was for fifty years the most distinguished seat of hospitality in America. He never purchased slaves and worked hard for their betterment. President for two terms, 1801-9, but refused nomination for a third. During his term the Louisiana Purchase was effected. Died on the same day as his predecessor John Adams, the 50th Anniversary of the Republic.

Pocahontas, United States, SG 534. Daughter of Powhatan, Chief of the Indians who captured Captain John Smith, leader of an expedition to Virginia in 1607. At her intercession his life was spared. She married another colonist, John Rolfe, in 1613, and with him visited England in 1616, where she became immensely popular. When about to return to Virginia with her husband she contracted smallpox and died at Gravesend. Her dying wish was that her small son be brought up as an Englishman. **This stamp is from a painting from life now** owned by Peter Elwin, Boston Hall, near Aylsham, Norfolk, England. See "Pocahontas," by David Garnett (Chatto & Windus).

Benjamin Franklin, United States, SG 755. An amazing man, printer, journalist, diplomat, statesman, humanist. Of a Northants family, born at Boston, Mass., of parents who never knew illness and lived to be octogenarians. The youngest of ten and the youngest son of youngest sons for five generations he himself was 84 when he died. One of the most sagacious of the framers of the American Constitution he became a notable figure in the embassies and councils of Europe, and his life is a romance of colourful events.

William Penn, United States, SG 893. Son of an Admiral serving under Cromwell and Charles II, who knighted him. Always an advocate of freedom of thought and religion, he turned Quaker. Expelled by his father, though they were reconciled later, and several times imprisoned. Made Trustee of the Colony of West Jersey and later granted land in America by Charles II, he called this land Sylvania, but the King insisted that it should be Pennsylvania. He showed himself a wise lawmaker and administrator, specially in his relations with the Indians. This portrait, though attractive, displeased the Friends because it shows him in armour. His sons were not popular, and by request Pennsylvania eventually became a Crown Colony, and finally of course an American State.

James Edward Oglethorpe, United States, SG 895. Son of Sir Theophilus Oglethorpe of Godalming, Surrey. Was Aide-de-Camp to Prince Eugene and served with distinction in the campaign against Turkey in 1716-7, particularly at the capture of Belgrade, rising to the rank of General. His chief distinction however, was the conception and execution of a plan for a colony for the oppressed Protestants of Europe in Georgia, America. In his wise administration of this colony in turbulent times he had for a period Charles Wesley as Secretary and his brother John as Chaplain. Returning to his estate in Essex he did much to improve the lot of prisoners, specially debtors.

THE END.

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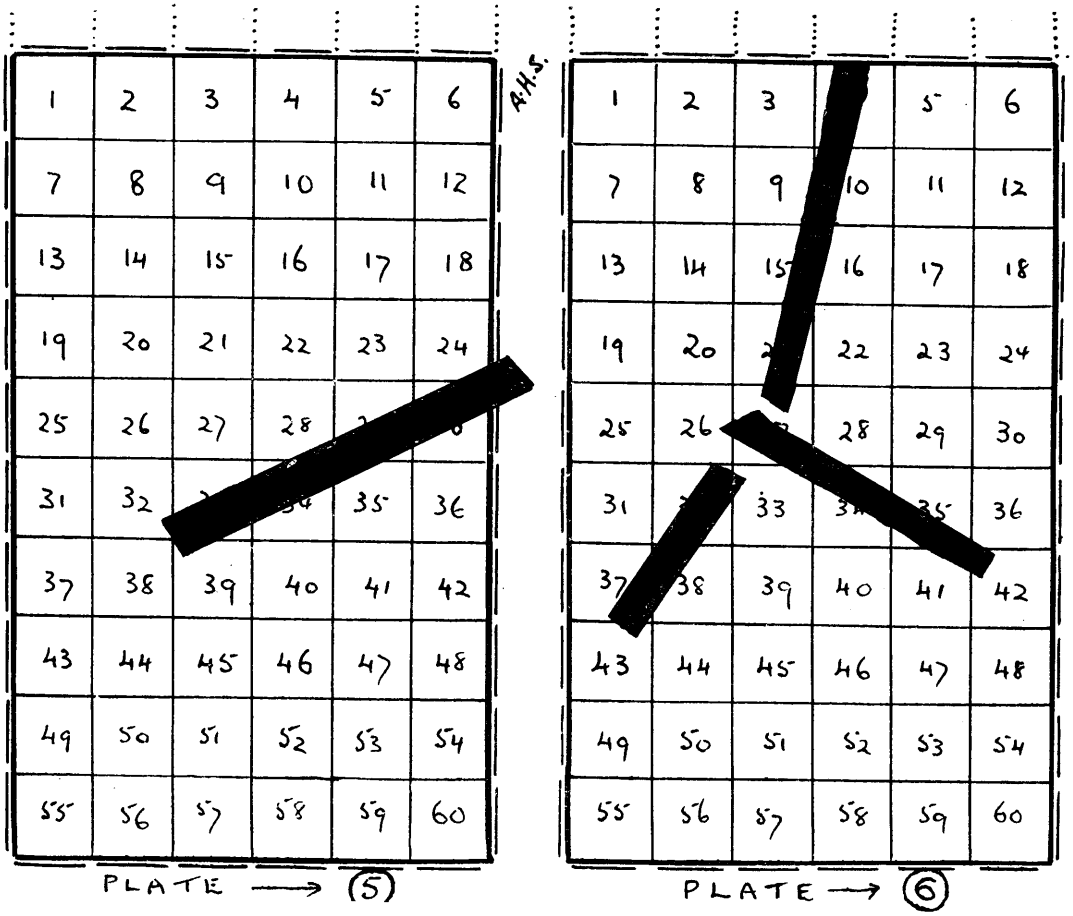
We have to acknowledge receipt of two first-day covers with the stamps mentioned in our January issue.

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UNION GEORGIAN STAMPS REPAIRED PAPER VARIETIES.

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

The paragraph quoted hereunder was excerpted from page 36 of that excellent contribution to the philatelic bibliography of the Union of South Africa by Dean H. E. Lobdell of the Massachusett's Institute of Technology, namely "The De La Rue Georgians of South Africa."



"REPAIRED PAPER": A variety caused by the patching of a torn sheet with the result that the printed impression of one or more stamps falls upon each side of a tear. Mr. Sydow has this variety, which is rare, in three panes of the ½d., one with control 5 and two with control 6, and in a strip of five of the 1½d."

In response to written requests by two overseas readers of the "South African Philatelist" I have set out in diagramatic form the positions of the several strips of paper adhesively affixed to the torn portions of two 60-set strips of Gorgian stamps of the ½d. denomination which were letterpress printed by Thos. De La Rue and Company Limited from the 240-set en epargne plates Nos. 5 and 6.

In addition to the afore-mentioned two lower right-hand panes of ½d. stamps, my Union Collection also houses a 60-set top left-hand pane from plate 6; a top right-hand pane of 60 units from plate 5; a 6-set ½d. denominated booklet pane; a 1½d. denominated vertical strip of five units; a block of 8 two-penny denominated stamps. Incidentally it may be mentioned here that Simenhoff has catalogued these ½d., 1½d. and 2d. denominated "repaired paper" varieties in the first supplement to the South African Standard Catalogue".

The several strips of paper utilidsed for patching the torn sheets (vide the diagrams **ut supra)** were affixed to the gummed sides of the printed sheets of stamps before the latter were subjected to the process of comb-perforation and consequently the affixed strips of paper and their concomitant torn sheets of printed stamps were perforated pari passu. Close examination revealed that these affixed strips of paper were not watermarked at all.

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SOCIETY NEWS

CAPE TOWN PHILATELIC SOCIETY.

Wind and weather were responsible for a below-the average attendance when Mr. D. Harris showed his representative collection of Newfoundland stamps on January 11th. The earlier issues, in single copies, were remarkable for their excellent condition, whilst the middle issues, including the "Tourist" set merit special attention. A specialised study of the 3 cent stamp of 1890, which was "saved from the sea" attracted attention, as did some **imperforate** pairs of the later issues. Strongest of all was, however, the air mail section containing, among other desirable items, the "De Pinedo" and "Miss Columbia" overprints on flown covers and the "DO-X" in mint blocks, as well as the rare **inverted overprint;** a valuable and philatelically interesting display which rewarded those members who had braved the elements to see it.

25/1/51.

The modern stamps of Austria, though they include few rarities, number among them some of the finest examples of the stamp engraver's and printer's arts. This was strikingly demonstrated in the collection which Mr. R. Putzel presented for the delectation of the meeting on January 25th. Commencing just before the "Anschluss" it embraced every stamp issued since that date, not only by the Austrian and Austro-German administrations, but also by the occupying Powers. All were in exceptional condition. Included were a number of little known souvenir postmarks, flown covers and out-of-the-way items that added not a little to the attraction of the display. Mr. Putzel, in a very comprehensive paper, explained the origin and use of these special cancellations and the circumstances under which the more recent Austrian issues have been made available to philatelists preferentially to the general public.

8/2/51.

The resignation of the popular Hon. Secretary, Mr. F. S. L. Burns, who is leaving for N. Rhodesia, was accepted with regret at the meeting of February 8th. Appreciation of his past good services and best wishes for his future were voiced by Mr. A. Jacob, from the Chair and unanimously endorsed. Mr. Nathan was appointed in his stead.

Mr. Douglas Armstrong provided the evening's display with his collection of the former Italian colonies in North and East Africa. The British stamps overprinted "M.E.F." (Middle East Forces) for Eritrea,, Cyrenaica and Tripolitania and "E.A.F." (East African Forces) under Military authority in 1942-43, followed by the "B.M.A." and "B.A." overprints applied by the African Territories Administration, were supplemented by skeleton collections of the earlier issues made under either the Italian or Turkish regimes. Stamps showing town postmarks, on or off cover, were a strong feature of the display, which also included a complete range of those issued by the British Administration of the Aegean Islands between 1945 and 1947. The exhibitor prefaced his display by sketching in bold outline the political and philatelic background to the successive issues and explained the essential differences between the "Cairo" and "London" printings. Of special interest for South African philatelists was a complete set of stamps of Italian East Africa overprinted "MOGADISCIO IN BRITISH OCCUPATION" by the Union troops when they seized the capital of Italian Somaliland, the issue of which was vetoed, however, by the Higher Command. The thanks of the meeting were expressed by Messrs. W. G. Combrink and Douglas Roth, in eulogistic terms. D.B.A.

EAST RAND PHILATELIC SOCIETY.

The 31st Annual General Meeting of the above Society was held on Tuesday the 16th January.

Mr. Jack Shephard was re-elected President while Mr. I. Slomowitz was elected Vice-President.

The additional members of the committee are: Messrs. A. Dickens and S. Legator.

The President read his annual report for the preceding 15 months and thanked the members for their support.

Mr. H. Suklie exhibited part of his collection of King George VI stamps. All the specimens were in mint blocks of four.

Mr. Shepherd was re-elected as the Society's delegate to Federation meetings.

The usual monthly meeting of the above Society was held on Tuesday, the 20th February.

Mr. Sam Legator exhibited Union Penny Printings and explained to the members how the various Printings could be distinguished from one another.

Mr. Suklje, on behalf of the members, proposed a vote of thanks to the exhibitor J.A.G.

PHILATELIC SOCIETY OF JOHANNESBURG.

13/2/51.

Annual General Meeting. The usual reports from the Secretary, Treasurer and Exchange Superintendent were submitted, all departments showing the society to be in a flourishing condition. At the election of office-bearers for 1951 Mr. Marcel Jecks was made President; Mr. E. Hunt, Vice-President; Mr. B. Grossman, re-elected Hon. Secretary; Mr. E. Schaiowitz, Hon. Treasurer; Messrs. A. J. Nathanson and L. F. Strong, Hon. Exchange Superintendents; Mr. I. Isaacs, Hon. Publicity Officer; Elected Members of Committee, Messrs. L. Buchen, B. Joseph, H. Schwartz and W. N. Sheffield.

The "Lang" cup, for the best work done for the society during the preceding year, was awarded to

The society adopted a new constitution, modelled Mr. E. Hunt.

on the type recommended by the Federation.

After formal business the retiring President, Cdr. Enoch, showed his British Guiana collection; this had made great strides since he last exhibited it and he pointed out how, by collecting a not very popular country, it was possible to obtain even rarities at quite low prices.

26/2/51.

Mr. Mann showed his collection of Italy. He gave a short talk on the exhibit. The exhibit was practically complete from the 1925 issues, but the earlier issues were also well represented. All the air mails, commemoratives and charity issues were exhibited. The stamps were in mint condition, all perfect specimens. There were complete sheets of both values of the Balboa Transatlantic flight. The exhibit made a beautiful show.

Mr. L. Buchen spoke on the exhibit and proposed the vote of thanks which was heartily seconded by the members.

Mr. Buchen pointed out the excellent manner in which the exhibit was mounted and presented.

PRETORIA PHILATELIC SOCIETY.

At the bi-monthly meeting held on the 15th January, this Society was privileged to have a visit from Mr. Ferreira, Publicity Officer, and Mr. Grobler, Publicity Agent, of the Department of Posts and Telegraphs. Mr. Ferreira read a paper on the stamp issues of the Union of South Africa and followed it with a display of the exhibit of his Department, which was awarded a silver plaque at the Spanish International Exhibition in 1950. Both the paper and the exhibit were much enjoyed by the meeting.

On the 5th February, the Society held its Annual General Meeting, when the Committee for the ensuing year was elected as follows: President, Mr. F. C. Ferguson; Vice-President, Mr. W. H. Bottomley; Secretary, Mr. H. Endemann; Treasurer, Mr. C. S. J. Gouws; Exchange Superintendent, Mr. W. Impey assisted by Mr. de Jager; Librarian, Mr. D. Slater Kinghorn; other office bearers and Committee members: Dr. H. Reisener, Miss J. Taylor, Miss B. J. Versfeld, Mr. B. D. G. Gain, Mr. J. J. Coombe Martin, Mr. E. C. Wright. The meeting closed with enthusiastic votes of thanks to the retiring Committee, to whom the Society was indebted for its continued progress.

At the following meeting, held on the 19th February, the Vice-President, Mr. W. H. Bottomley, presided in the absence of the President. He contributed an interesting review of his recent overseas visit when he attended the 1950 London International Stamp Exhibition as well as some of the functions run in conjunction with it. Details of the highlights and general arrangements for the Exhibition were given, and specimens were shown of its notices, cards, photographs, etc. Mr. Bottomley described several exhibits, including that of Postal History, which started from 14th century postage marks and included every postal development up to the present day, as well as many original dies and other material never previously exhibited. The meeting found this eye-witness story of the Exhibition interesting and instructive, and Mr. Bottomley was warmly thanked for it. The Exhibit of the evening was the Society's own highly specialised Union Collection, which was well organised and written up by the curator, Dr. H. Reisener. Even confirmed Union collectors amongst the members found the display of absorbing interest and the Acting President suitably expressed appreciation of the opportunity of seeing it.

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WEST RAND STAMP CLUB.

The last meeting was attended by 7 members and 3 visitors, a very disappointing attendance. After the business had been attended to, Mr. Edwards was bullied into showing his New Zealands.

Mr. Burrell said he had never seen so many stamps with adverts on the backs. There were a fine lot of "Health" Stamps, he was sorry, however that the "laughing boys" were absent. Mr. Burrell thanked Mr. Edwards on behalf of visitors and members. The meeting closed at 10 p.m. on the usual happy note. N.B.E.

THE PHILATELIC SOCIETY OF RHODESIA.

After passing through a period of comparative inactivity, the Society opened the year with an extremely successful meeting on January 3rd. Although the attendance was not larger than usual, members enjoyed an evening of discussion and exchange. This latter feature, which has been a regular item on the agenda for some time, has been growing in popularity, and it is hoped that it will become even more popular in the future. Mr. Rendsburg displayed "Switzerland".

The February meeting, the Annual General Meeting, was devoted entirely to business. After presentation of the Chairman's, Hon. Secretary's and Hon. Exchange Superintendent's Reports, the Balance Sheet was placed before the Meeting. It was gratifying to note that, after a period of two years, the Society was able to record a small surplus.

With 79 members, including Honorary Members now on the register, the Society is growing in strength. Although 12 new members were enrolled during the year, a number who have left the country were taken off the books.

The Exchange Department is in a very healthy state — new books are coming in at a gratifying rate, and from the sales that are recorded, it would appear that the right type of material is at last being circulated.

The Committee for the ensuing year is constituted as follows: Chairman, Mr. J. E. Creewel; Vice-Chairman, Mr. G. C. Whitehead; Hon. Secretary, Mr. W. J. Norman; Hon. Ex. Supt., Mr. J. Lazarus; and Mrs. Wallace, Messrs. B. L. R. Fox and H. Rendsburg.

Following on the election of officers, discussion took place on the programme for the coming year. While final arrangements are left in the hands of the Committee, they will have the nucleus of a very entertaining programme before them.

The annual award of the "Porter Cup" was made by the donor, Mr. F. W. Porter, to Mr. A. Fitzstephens, Jnr., whose collection of 'Union Varieties' was adjudged, by popular vote, the most outstanding display during the year. In his address, Mr. Porter expressed the hope that the competition would arouse more enthusiasm in the future, as the number of entries so far, had not been very encouraging.

Situated as we are, our Society is entirely dependent on its town members for exhibits, but with the ever increasing number of visitors to Southern Rhodesia, it is hoped that all philatelists who come up will visit the Society and afford us the pleasure of a 'foreign' display.

EAST LONDON PHILATELIC SOCIETY.

The February Meeting of the Society was quite well attended and two interesting stamp displays were given.

Mr. W. Bentley, for the first time, showed his general collection and many attractive and interesting modern sets were on display.

The second display was provided by Mrs. Makin, who showed a fine lot of Barbados stamps and Cayman Islands.

A number of stamps donated to the cause of S.A.N.T.A. were handed in and soon members will receive details of the stamps available for this worthy cause.

The highlight of the evening was a most interesting paper prepared by Mr. S. D. Macallum on the Channel Islands Wartime Issues. The collection was displayed and each issue was fully described. The Secretary read the paper in Mr. Macullum's absence and a hearty vote of thanks was moved to him and to the other members for their displays.

A sheet of the New Union Airmail Cachets: a very attractive First Day Cover of the U.P.U. issue of Israel and several other items were passed round among members.

A further discussion took place in regard to the rules of the monthly exhibitions and it was realised that the judges should pay special attention to the various classes by each exhibitor.

The meeting concluded with an auction. U.C.S.

NYASALAND DIAMOND JUBILEE ISSUE, MAY 15th, 1951.

Mr. T. McMicking writes that the following points have been finalised in regard to the Diamond Jubilee Stamp issue; this cancels all previous announcements by him.

(1) The denominations of this issue will be 2d., 3d., 6d. and 5/-.

(2) Orders for Jubilee Stamps may be placed with the Postmaster, ZOMBA, forthwith, but no order will be released until the 15th May. Jubilee stamps will of course be on sale at all Post Offices on the 15th May.

(3) Letters specifically marked "FIRST DAY COVER" posted on the 15th May at offices other than ZOMBA will be imprinted with the local office date stamp away from the postage stamp and forwarded, under cover, to the Postmaster, ZOMBA, for processing with a special cachet. The Postmaster, ZOMBA, will afford similar treatment to First Day Covers posted at his Office.

(4) The African Book Centre is arranging printing of "FIRST DAY COVER" envelopes, also their publicity with publishing houses in South and East Africa and the Rhodesias.

SOME RECENT AUCTION SALES.

Robson Lowe.

Basutoland.—61 stamps used in period 1884-93, £12.

Gold Coast.—80 different cancellations (on 395 stamps valued at £10), £26.

Seychelles.—6d. and 9d. Mauritius, 1869 cover, B64, £32. 1896, 18c on 45c., double surcharge, £28. 1896 36c. on 45c. double surcharge, £35.

H. R. Harmer.

Ascension.—3d. and 6d., "broken mast", £4 10s.

Falkland Is.—Centenary set, £42.

Jamaica.—Silver Jubilees with extra flagstaff, £10 10s.

Kenya.—£1, 1938-49, block of 4, £84.

N. Nigeria.—£25, 1904 (S.G.19), £500.

G. Britain.—1d. black on cover used 2 May, 1840, £240.

REVIEW.

The Stamp Collectors' Annual, 1951. Edited by Tom Morgan. Harris Publications, Ltd., 445 Strand, London W.C.2. Price 2/6.

As usual this Annual has a number of useful articles, such as A World Currency Guide, official exchange rates; outstanding philatelic books of the past year; a directory of the world's philatelic periodicals; active philatelic societies throughout the British Commonwealth; British exchange clubs and a "Who's Who" of British collectors.

In addition there are special articles, most readable, outstanding ones being: Posted on the High Seas, a description of the various ways in which mails posted on board ship are dealt; Best designs of 1950; Influence of Maori Art on New Zealand stamps; Occupation postmarks of the Channel Islands; Red Cross stamps of the World, a check list compiled by the American Red Cross comprising nearly a thousand stamps from 105 stamp-issuing governments; a check list of the U.P.U. 75th anniversary stamps.

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"POWDER AND PAINT MAKE A WOMAN SEEM WHAT SHE AINT"

by

D. H. KIRCHNER.

We have, no doubt, all heard of and seen stamps which show more than the designers intended them to show.

Call to mind the Serbian stamp of 1904, the Coronation issue and Centenary of the Karageovich Dynasty, which when held upside down shows a third head clearly within the design of the two heads. This is supposed to be the death mask of King Alexander I, who was murdered.

In the 1937 issue of Austria depicting a nosegay with the signs of the Zodiac in the panels the outline of the right side of the largest rose shows the head, eyes, nose and moustache of Hitler.

Turn the Prussian stamp of 1861 upside down and in the space between the eagle's head and the upright wings on each side will be seen two gentlemen, or not as the case may be, in an argumentative posture. Rather small I must admit but still there they are.

Be rude and turn the Iceland stamp of 1938 showing the Great Geyser upside down too. Do you see a face on the left with a white flowing beard and mane? With a little imagination one can see the outline of King Neptune on the right with beard and flowing mane as well. Almost tête-bêche isn't it?

Have you had enough? Well there are some more. There is the ghostly knight of Schellenburg found on the 1937 issue of Lichtenstein. Look at the full length of the outline of the left portion of the wall of the ruined castle, and there you have it.

Then again take the Hayti stamp of 1881. This can be said to be truly "double-faced". The forehead, eye, nose, mouth and chin outlined at the back of the real head, made up by the folds of the headdress, are supposed to be those of the wife of the then President.

How about coming a little nearer home? Take the 1d. Huguenot issue stamp and turn it upside down. There were protestations from the Catholics about the description of the design which appeared in the popular press. Have you done this. Well what about the nice little sailing boat there?

Can anyone say on which South African stamp a skull can be seen accidentally included in the design? Yes, there it is in the stone at the foot of the wagon wheel and at the base of the chain shown in the 1938, 1d. of the Government Voortrekker issue.

Quite a hobby looking for "Ghost Stamps"!

CORRESPONDENCE

Hon. Editor, "S.A. Philatelist."

Sir,

I must apologise for referring at this late stage to the article "Some Master Negative and Diapositive Indications of the First Union 1d. Rotogravure Stamps — Die 1" by Mr. A. Hilton Sydow, which appeared in "The S.A. Philatelist" of October 1949, but I put it aside till I could give it the careful study it deserved, and it was only recently that I "got round to it."

Mr. Sydow mentions a blemish — a small indentation on left-hand frame line adjacent to the extremity of one of the ornamental leaves — on the Second English Stamp — E2 of the Master Design; but he does not refer to one on the First Afrikaans Stamp — A1 — which appears on both Master Negatives, and must similarly originate from the Master Design. On this First Afrikaans Stamp — A1 — the horizontal line in the bottom of the left-hand "Reversed Question Mark" embellishment is very faint or does not show at all.

The chief significance of Mr. Sydow's discovery is that it makes it possible to classify any pair of Die 1 stamps, which is not too heavily over-linked or postmarked, according to whether it emanated from Frame Plates No. 1 to 6 or from Frame Plate No. 7. I found that the easiest way to do this is to check the Afrikaans stamps, proceeding as follows: Look in the bottom of the left-hand "Question Mark", — if the horizontal line is faint, or missing altogether, the stamp is — A1 —, and it will have either a small white patch to the right of the right-hand "Question Mark" (Plates 1—6) or a small white patch above the tip of the leaf immediately below it (Plate 7). Similarly, if the line is normal the stamp is A2, and it will show the thinning in the bottom of the frame below "IN" of "inkomste" (Plates 1—6) or the white patch to the right of the two lower right-hand leaves (Plate 7). It is only in case of doubt or for confirmation that one need look for the tiny break at "eight-o'clock" in the inner oval frame line which distinguishes the English Stamp — E2 — of Frame Plates 1—6 from Plate 7.

Checked in this way it will be seen that the Die 1 stamps without watermark, both with and without gum, were not printed from any Frame Plates 1 to 7, — some confirmation of the statement that they were "Made in Germany". Unfortunately, the pair of Die 1 stamps with trefoil watermark in my collection is heavily over-inked and the test here is inconclusive.

Yours, etc.,

S. J. HAGGER.

Alberton.

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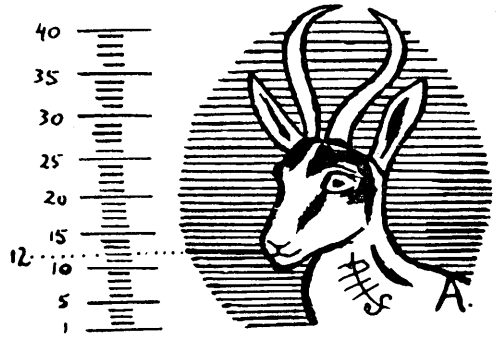
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PROPRIETORS AND PUBLISHERS:
The Philatelic Federation of Southern Africa
Honorary Editor: Dr. J. H. HARVEY PIRIE
Business Manager: Mr. J. NATHANSON
P.O. Box 375, Johannesburg.
Subscription: Eight Shillings per annum, post free to any part of the World.
Vol. 27. No. 4. APRIL, 1951. Whole No. 313.

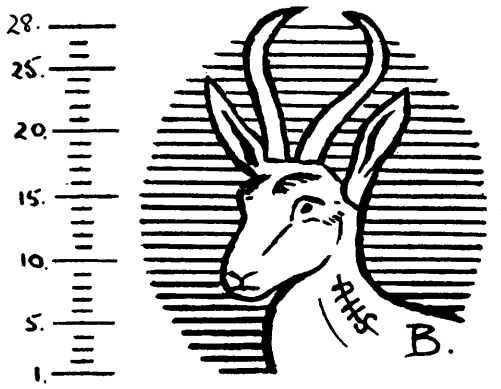
Union Notes
SUB-EDITOR: Mr. W. N. Sheffield,
Box 99, Cleveland, Transvaal.

The Two Types of the ½d. Springbok Head Vignette.

The accompanying sketches submitted by Mr. A. H. Sydow of Cape Town illustrate the principal change in the vignette design of the redrawn ½d. stamp issued in 1937.

In sketch "A", the background to the Springbok's Head is depicted as consisting of 40 lines and is the type found on the first anhyphenated





½d. rotogravure stamps — S.G. 42 — and also on the **first** hyphenated issue of 1936 — S.G. 54. In addition, Mr. Sydow points out, the typographed springbok head vignette on the S.G. 30 stamps shows the same background of 40 lines but with the slight difference that Line No. 12 is not as thick as it is in the rotogravure issue.

Sketch "B" shows the redrawn vignette of 1937 and the number of background lines reduced to 28. This is the design which appeared on the **second** hyphenated issue — S.G. 64 (previously No. 55) — and is present on the current ½d. screened stamps.

The "Cross-hatched" Design on the ½d. Bi-coloured Roll Stamps of 1948.

Mr. J. W. Schubart of Johannesburg has drawn attention to the fact that the "cross-hatching" feature which appeared on the frame portion of the ½d. pictorial stamps issued in sheets towards the end of 1947 was also present on the ½d. bi-coloured roll stamps of 1948.

This "cross-hatching" characteristic was first recorded and illustrated in the April 1948 copy of "Gibbons Stamp Monthly" and took the form of criss-crossing of the white lines in the top and bottom horizontal bars, and indications of the same feature in the heavy coloured vertical bars of the frame design. The white lines are incorporated in the original artist's sketch for the purpose of producing "Doctor Blade" rests on the stamp printing cylinder and the adoption of a mesh pattern showed a departure from the previous policy of simply drawing a series of parallel lines running obliquely across the toned portions of the design.

In his article "The Humble Half-penny", published in the April 1950 number of "Gibbons Stamp Monthly" (Reprinted in this magazine in August 1950), Mr. S. C. Chantler mentions the presence of this characteristic on the roll stamps in Group 6, but the variety is apparently not so well known in the roll issue as it is in the sheet form. A strip which Mr. Schubart obtained from a roll machine in 1948 distinctly shows the cross-hatching effects in the top and bottom bars and, in addition, the stamps exhibit similar features to those pertaining to the sheet copies.

The "cross-hatched" issue in sheet form gave way very early in 1948 to the first of the ½d. screened-frame stamps and the bi-coloured rolls of the same year were also on sale for a comparatively short time before being displaced by a return to the mono-coloured roll stamps.

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Changes in Machine Cancellations.

Two covers submitted by Mr. U. M. Milunsky of Johannesburg show the following new features in the way of Union postmarks.

(a) A Bloemfontein machine cancellation with the letter "B" in place of the usual hour of the day.

(b) A Cape Town machine cancellation with four short parallel horizontal lines immediately to the left of the date circle and to the left of these horizontal lines the slogan DON'T WASTE PETROL/MOENIE PETROL MORS NIE. The same slogan apears again immediately to the right of the date circle.

A third example received from Cape Town by the Editor shows the four short horizontal lines referred to in (b) but instead of an intervening slogan the space is filled with five wavy lines. There are possibly other examples which may be of interest to readers.

Van Riebeeck Tercentenary Commemorative Stamps.

The March copy of the Philatelic Bulletin issued by the Publicity Officer of the Department of Posts and Telegraphs contains the following information concerning a set of five stamps for the Tercentenary celebrations next year.

"The Postmaster-General announces that a special series of postage stamps, of the denominations ½d., 1d., 2d., 4½d. and 1/- will be issued in April, 1952 to commemorate the Van Riebeeck Festival."

"Particulars of the designs and the period of sale are not yet available but these will be announced in due course."

Official Information on Recent Issues of Union Stamps.

The March Bulletin also contains the following information on recent stamp changes.

(a) Sheets of the 1½d. postage stamps printed from cylinders numbered 6931A (interior and 6931B (exterior), have now been overprinted "Official—Offisieel". The new large type of overprint has been used.

(b) Sheets of the half-penny postage stamps printed from cylinders numbered 7020A and 11B have been overprinted "Official—Offisieel" (small type).

(c) A new cylinder, number 17, is now used for the printing of the current 3d. pictorial stamp.

(d) The latest 5/- "Official—Offisieel" overprinted stamps have the word "Official" on the right side and the Afrikaans word "Offisieel" on the left side of the stamp. The order of the words has therefore been reversed.

(e) The following is a list of printings of the current one-penny postage stamp since August, 1950. The "screened" process was used throughout.

Delivery date	Cylinders.
1.9.50	Interior 76; Exterior 14.
9.11.50	Interior 70; Exterior 88.
16.11.50	Interior 70; Exterior 14.
22.2.51	Interior 6925; Exterior 36.

(NOTE.—The foregoing Bulletin includes a notice which reads:—

"Requests for the Philatelic Bulletin have now become so numerous that it is no longer practicable to forward copies to private individuals. It has therefore been decided that future copies will be supplied only to the press, including philatelic journals, philatelic societies, bona fide postage stamp dealers and Diplomatic Representatives.")

The New 1d. Pictorial Stamps from Cylinders 6925 and 36.

Mr. A. H. Sydow records that the redrawn 1d. postage stamps were placed on sale to the public at the Maitland East Post Office on the 3rd March 1951 and at Caledon Square Post Office, Cape Town on the 5th March. These dates coincide with the general appearance of the stamp on the Reef.

In the notes published on this new stamp in last month's issue the following corrections should be made to two printer's errors which appeared on page 37:—

(a) In the tenth paragraph down and the sentence which reads: "(Incidently, these watermarks are of a different type to those in use up until quite recently on the machine)."

The word **watermarks** should be changed to "numerals".

(b) The concluding word "continued" in the eleventh (final) paragraph should be changed to "congratulated."

Pictorial Post Card Varieties.

Mr. W. G. Rall of Kingwilliamstown records the recent purchase of a packet of 1d. pictorial post cards some of which exhibited the impressed stamps in various stages of albino printings. Some of the cards had passed through the machine without any sign of a one-penny stamp at all and on others the gradual decrease in the intensity of the shading of the sea and sky around the ship, and at the sides of the laurel leaves, indicated that there had been a temporary reduction in the pressure of the cylinder on the paper at some period during the printing process.

Small Flaw on Current 10/- Stamp.

The existence of a small flaw on one of the current 10/- stamps has been noted by Dr. G. I. Faerber of Germiston.

It occurs in the position of Row 6, Stamp No. 1 and shows up as a short white mark through the top of the "R" in SUID-AFRIKA. A close examination will reveal a distinct break in the top line forming the "R".

The New Single Cylinder 3d. Stamp.

As recorded under Official Information in the present notes, the 3d. stamps are now being printed from a single cylinder — No. 17 — and the first sheets made their appearance on the post office counters during the second week of March.

There is no change in the Groote Schuur design present on the last two printings — S.G. 59 and S.G. 117 — and it would appear that the original artists' sketches of the vignette and frame of those issues have simply been combined to produce a new multopositive for a single cylinder printing.

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Like the 44A/44B issue, the stamps are all-screened but produced from a cross-lined screen instead of the irregular grained screen used for the former printing. The difference between the two types — the one with **irregular** screening and the other with a distinct **mesh** pattern — can be easily identified under a strong magnifying glass.

The language setting has been altered and the first stamp on the sheet is now inscribed in English. And as in the case of the new 1d. stamp, the numerals employed for numbering the sheets on the right hand margin are of a different type to those previously in use, but still consist of four figures and are printed in red.

The size of the four marginal arrows is the same as on the 44A/44B sheets, but the white lines usually drawn across the prongs exhibit different patterns. The colour of the new stamp is a darker blue than its predecessor and with its much better definition and considerably improved general appearance, no great difficulty will be experienced in distinguishing it from the two-cylinder production.

The cylinder number "17" is printed in the bottom corner of the right hand margin opposite the sixth stamp in the 20th row.

Rand Easter Show Post Office Cancelling Stamps.

A notice received from the Publicity Officer of the Department of Posts and Telegraphs stated that the two revolving steel date stamps used at the 1950 Rand Show would be used again this year. Specimens of the impressions were illustrated in our May 1950 issue.

History of Bloemfontein Philatelic Societies

The Bloemfontein Philatelic Exhibition to be held in the Clarendon Hall, Bloemfontein, on May 9th, 10th and 11th, 1951, will take place just fifty years after the formation of the first Philatelic Society in (Bloemfontein) that town and it is therefore just and due that the Philatelic Federation should have accepted the invitation to hold its 1951 Congress in the Centre City.

Old files reveal that the first attempt to form a Society in Bloemfontein was made on the 27th February, 1901 at a preliminary meeting attended by Rev. G. Hilliard, Messrs. W. Wagner, F. Carter, J. C. Kampfraath, C. L. Dutton and H. Summersby. It was decided to call another meeting on March the 5th and at this meeting the same individuals formed "The Bloemfontein Philatelic Society" and Mr. J. C. Muller was elected chairman. Rules and regulations were drawn up and His Honour Major Hamilton Gould-Adams, C.B., C.M.G., Deputy Administrator of the Orange River Colony was elected President. The Society existed precariously for some years but eventually ceased to function.

Next philatelic phase commenced on May 2nd, 1907 when Messrs. F. Carter (Chairman), J. W. Harding, A. Bronks, A. E. Hauscombe, W. Hoole, O. Horak, A. W. F. Blacker, W. Palotta, W. Hornby and H. M. Navor decided to resuscitate the Bloemfontein Philatelic Society which recovered strongly there being no less than 17 meetings in 13 months. Then an injection of renewed vigour in April 1909 brought back Sir Hamilton Gould-Adams as Patron and the Honourable A. Falck, Post Master General of the Orange River Colony, as Vice-Patron while Mr. F. Carter continued as President.

Hereabouts the Society held its first Junior Competition divided into two sections, boys under 12 and boys over 12 and just in case they see their names in print the winners were Masters A. Kannemeyer, W. Patterson, J. Marshall, Farquharson brothers, R. A. and Eric, and L. O'Brien.

And then in June, 1910, comes news of the first copy of a Philatelic Journal for South Africa born to the Johannesburg United Philatelic Society and tabled at the meeting under the chairmanship of Thos. W. Harding. It was acclaimed an excellent production and the Secretary, W. W. Hornby, was instructed to pledge to the publishers the Society's support and to remit a donation of £1 10s. 6d. towards the cost of printing. April 1912 saw the Society once again on the wane but it appears that Francis Carter, the indomitable, was not going to capitulate and in June 1914 with the assistance of some new blood in the persons of Messrs. J. Hubbard, J. Ginsberg, F. Stephen, E. C. Hanson and G. Lawrence the Society was again given a new lease of life during which many interesting meetings were held until the outbreak of the first Great War put Philately off the map as the last meeting for many years was held on October 20th, 1914.

It was not until September 1933 that another attempt was made to resuscitate organised Philately in Bloemfontein and the O.F.S. and Basutoland Philatelic Society which came into being

THE O.F.S. & BASUTOLAND PHILATELIC SOCIETY.

Bloemfontein Philatelic Exhibition

(non competitive)

CLARENDON HALL, BLOEMFONTEIN.
WEDNESDAY, THURSDAY AND FRIDAY,
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Collections for exhibitions are invited and should reach the undersigned not later than May 5th, 1951, although advice of collections being sent should reach us by April 30th, 1951. The Committee reserves the right to exhibit only a portion of any collections submitted if display space becomes limited. Collections for exhibit will be fully covered by insurance while in the possession of the Society.

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Exhibition Committee,
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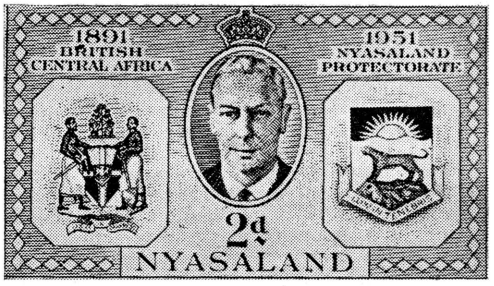
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then as the result of the enthusiasm of Francis Carter again, supported by Messrs. W. Dickie-Clark, J. B. Levy, S. Levitt, John Lewis, F. Mattei and H. G. Ulyate has, we are pleased to report, continuously been in existence and is functioning as such to this very day. On the occasion of his 80th birthday in 1938, Francis Carter was made an honorary life member of the Society.

There have no doubt been many lean years — years during which only the enthusiasm of a very few have kept the flickering flame of philately alive in Bloemfontein but thanks to them we have now a Society which is stronger than ever and which we hope will become even stronger as the result of the Congress being held here and the Bloemfontein Philatelic Exhibition.

NYASALAND DIAMOND JUBILEE ISSUE, MAY 15th, 1951.

The Public Relations Officer, Zomba, has sent us an illustration of the design of these stamps which will be put on sale on 15 May and remain on sale for three months. All four stamps will be of the same design and bicoloured, the 2d. being red and black, the 3d. blue and black, the 6d. violet and black and the 5/- dark blue and black. The design is by Mr. C. D. Twynam, well known as a collector in Nyasaland.



The panel on the left shows the old arms of the British Central Africa Protectorate which were designed and drawn by the first Commissioner and Consul-General, Sir Harry Johnston. The crest shows a coffee tree in full bearing and was an indication of the importance placed on Coffee as one of the main products of the country. Coffee, however, failed to live up to the first promises, and Tea and Tobacco are now the main exports of Nyasaland. These first Arms were used on the first issue of Nyasaland stamps, and it may be noted that the point of the shield rests on the position of Nyasaland in the map of Africa. The design was changed to the conventional panel with the King's head in the reign of Edward VII. The current designs are all pictorials.

The panel on the right of the issue shows the present Arms of the Protectorate, which were granted by Royal Charter in 1914.

Special envelopes for First Day covers are obtainable through the African Book Centre in Blantyre, and the stamps can be ordered from the Postmaster-General at Zomba, or bought from any post office in Nyasaland.

Incidentally it may be mentioned that a 1d. Postage Due stamp has been issued, the country's first and only postage due stamp.

EXCHANGE WANTED.

Mr. Peter Behnke, a student of architecture, wishes for an exchange correspondent. He gives his address as "West Berlin, Berlin NW 40, Schloss Bellevue, Germany.

KENYA RE-TOUCHES.

We are indebted to the Robertson Stamp Co., Johannesburg, for the following note:

The current 50c. Kenya has been in the news of late by reason of the discovery of a re-touch to the dot at the bottom left. In looking through our stock we have found another variety which we consider just as interesting.

Kenya K.G. VI 50c.. Perf. 13 x 12½, Frame Plate 2, Centre Plate 3A: The 4th stamp in the 9th row (stamp No. 84 on the sheet) shows a re-touch to the lines of shading under "N" of Uganda.

Stamps from the same position show a defect in the lines of shading. This almost certainly from the same Plate is obviously the defect which occasioned the above-mentioned retouch.

In this issue the Frames of the 5c., 10c., 50c., 1/- and 3/- are materially the same. It may not be generally recognised, however, that there are actually three types. In the 10c., 1/- and 3/- values the frame has no lines of shading inside the thick lines bordering the value tablet and "Uganda". With the 5c. value the frame has lines extending into the vignette but these lines appear to be cut short around the value tablet and only just visible under "Uganda". The frame of the 50c. has stronger lines under "Uganda" and the lines by the value tablet extend further to the right.

I want to buy Union issues from Interprovincials to date, mint and used, including booklets, Boer War covers, etc., and should be pleased to receive offers with full details of price, condition, quantities, etc.

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Great Britain.

FIRST UNION 1d. ROTOGRAVURE.

Mr. G. N. Gilbert writes:

With reference to Mr. S. J. Hagger's letter in your current issue regarding the small marks by which the die 1 penny stamps can be identified he could have found the description of these, together with illustrations of both in my article on the Rotogravure stamps of S.A., in the August number of the S.A.P. 1934.

In that issue I also showed the slight bulge in the O of South Africa on every even English stamp, which occurs in the first hyphenated issue-plate 10.

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Tonga: Queen's Birthday (3), Mint, **1/8**; Used **2/6**
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Postal History and Stamps of Latvia

By

J. MICHELSON.

(Notes accompanying a display before the Philatelic Society of Johannesburg.)

The three Provinces of Kurland, Livonia and Latgale, which in the year 1918 became the independant Republic of Latvia, were prior to that date Provinces of the Tsarist Russian Empire (at least from the year 1795 onwards), and as such made use of the Imperial Russian Mail Services. No distinguishing Postmarks were applied and only by the Town Postmarks can one trace their origin. Those most frequently found were of course those of the bigger towns, namely Riga, Libau, Mitau and Windau. All those towns had very thriving business houses and mail was forwarded from there to all parts of Europe and even further afield. Pre-adhesive covers appear to be plentiful, but when it comes to the early stamps these are not so easily found cancelled with those postmarks. No doubt most of them repose in the collections of Russian Specialists.

In 1916 all three Provinces were occupied by German forces and until the special postal district for the occupied areas was created current German stamps of the "Germania" type were in use. Towards the end of that year those stamps were overprinted "Postgebiet Ober Osten" and remained in use in the postal district of the three Provinces and also of parts of Estonia and Lithuania.

The Latvian Republic was declared on 18th November, 1918, although the greater part of the territory was still in enemy hands. White Russian, Bolshevist and German troops were all holding parts of the country rightfully belonging to the Latvian Republic, which had been recognised by England and France. The first Latvian stamps made their appearance within a month of the independence declaration and were printed on the reverse side of German military maps. Of the occupying forces only that of Colonel Bermondt-Avaloff went to the trouble of overprinting Latvian and Russian stamps for the use of the army and the puppet government which they had created in their area. As Postal facilities were practically non-existent these stamps are very scarce genuinely used. In any case these stamps had a very short life, as in March 1919 this army was defeated and the area around Mitau, which they had occupied was re-united with Latvia. From that period until 1940 Latvia issued quite a few sets and with the exception of a period in 1933, when four charity Airmail sets of a highly speculative nature were issued, all stamps issued were definitely of necessity. Philatelically speaking this country has kept its nose clean and allows much scope for the specialist (if he can obtain the materials).

In 1940 the Soviet forces marched into Latvia and by rigging the elections the Government was forced to apply to join the Soviet as a member state. Immediately a special set of stamps was issued with a new coat of arms and inscription "Latvian Socialist Republic". Russian Stamps were also valid for postage and mixed franking was the order of the day. This continued until the 1st July, 1941, when German troops in their turn occupied Latvia, and for a short period the German Hitler stamps were added to the mixed franking of mail, already in use. A special set commemorating the German occupation was created by overprinting Russian Stamps with the date of the German entry. Once again a Postal District was created by the German forces, this time by the name of "Ostland", and German stamps overprinted with same were introduced.

These stamps lasted until September 1944 when once again the Russian forces in turn defeated the Germans. This time Russia annexed Latvia completely and this was the end of the Latvian Postal System. Russian Stamps are now in use, but a few postmarks which I have seen still refer to the Latvian S.S.R.

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

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Offering unused Gibbons Facile Album — mint panes 1910 Commemorative — Huguenot blocks on piece — S.A. Philatelists 1947 onwards, Gibbons Monthly's.—G. MURRAY, Schweizerreneke.

ISRAEL.

There was issued on 22 March a 40 pruta stamp commemorating the fortieth anniversary of Tel Aviv. It features a memorial tablet which was unveiled on that date.

Three stamps are to be issued commemorating the 50th anniversary of the Jewish National Fund, 15, 25 and 50 pruta.

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CURACAO

S.G. No.	Mint	S.G. No.	Mint
112/122	28/6	126a/134	35/-
154	20/-	175/182	180/-
201/215	150/-	220/223	50/-

Used S.G. 201/215 .... 55/- Used.

NETHERLAND INDIES

S.G. No.	Mint	Used	S.G. No.	Mint	Used
197/199	10/-	11/-	219/225	60/1	—
226/230	17/6	17/6	237/240	8/6	—
242	18/-	20/-	243/245	75/-	12/6
246/249	10/-	—	251/254	7/6	—
280/283	7/-	4/6	290/293	12/-	10/-
294/298	7/6	6/-	M.1/M.7	160/-	—

SURINAME

S.G. No.	Mint	S.G. No.	Used.
213/234	65/-	259	30/-
246/249	6/-	261	140/-

We have a comprehensive stock of Netherlands and Colonies and shall be pleased to forward selections of single stamps or sets of any period. References will be appreciated.

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The package that's clearly marked—
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SOUTH AFRICAN RAILWAYS

CP2

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Die Proofs of the De La Rue Georgian Postage Stamps and Postage Due Labels of the Union of South Africa

by A. Hilton Sydow, A.S.A.A., C.A.(S.A.).

This list is compiled from the collections of Dr. T. B. Davie, Principal and Vice Chancellor of the University of Cape Town; Mr. C. G. Howell of Johannesburg; the writer; and from the handbook entitled the "De La Rue Georgians of South Africa" by Mr. H. E. Lobdell, Dean of the Institute of Technology, Cambridge, Massachusetts, U.S.A. I am indebted to and I thank Dr. Davie, Mr. Howell and Dean H. E. Lobdell.

The 2½d. Commemorative Stamp of 1910.

The 2½d. commemorative stamps of 1910 were recessed printed on multiple quatrefoil (or rosette) watermarked paper from an electrotyped intaglio plate derived via 120 lead moulds from an intaglio Master Die of steel. The plate contained 120 intaglio images marshalled in ten horizontal rows of twelve units each. The number of hitherto known die proofs in black and in colour derived from this Master Die and from a rejected Master Die are listed ut infra.

The First Permanent Issue of 1913/26.

The first permanent issue consisted of fourteen values, namely:

(a) **The monocoloured stamps — 6 — from combined head and frame plates.** ½d. green; 1d. red; 1½d. chestnut; 2d. purple; 1/- orange-yellow; and 1/3 violet.

(b) **The bicoloured stamps. 8 plus 1 from separate head and separate plates.** 2½d. blue and blue; 3d. black and orange-red; 3d. blue and blue; 4d. orange-yellow and olive-green; 6d. black and violet; 2/6 purple and green; 5/- purple and blue; 10/- deep blue and olive-green; and £1 green and red.

These stamps were letterpress-printed on paper watermarked "Springbok Head Simple" from electrotyped en epargne plates derived via lead moulds from en epargne Master Head and Frame Dies of steel. The Master Head Die was engraved en epargne by David Turner. Each plate contained 240 images in rilievo arranged in four panels of 60 units each in ten horizontal rows of six. The number of hitherto known die proofs in black and in colour are listed ut infra.

The Postage Due Set.

The first postage due issue, in bicolour, consisted of seven values, namely:

(c) ½d. black and green; 1d. black and red; 2d. black and violet; 3d. black and blue; 5d. black and sepia; 6d. black and grey; 1/- red and black.

The frames of these dues were letterpress-printed on "Springbok Head Simple" watermarked paper from electrotyped en epargne plates derived from an en epargne engraved Master Frame Die via lead moulds. The numerals or figures of value were letterpress-printed from stereotyped plates derived from Caslon No. 31 Ornamental Type Numerals as Masters. Each plate contained 120 images in rilievo arranged in two panels of 60 units each in ten horizontal rows of six. The number of hitherto known die proofs in black and in colour are listed ut infra.

The Die Proof Impressions in Colour and in Black.

In a letter to the writer, Messrs. Thos. De La Rue and Company Limited stated that all Die Proofs in colour were pulled directly from the Master Dies and not from the 240-set printing plates used anent the postage stamps nor from the 120-set printing plates used anent the postage due labels. Vide lists under Category (C) Nos. 1 and 2 and Category (D) Nos. 1a—7a ut infra.

The Die Proofs in black on white glazed cards were also pulled directly from the Master Dies. From a perusal of the items listed under Category (B) ut infra, it will be perceived that the expressions "BEFORE HARDENING", "AFTER HARDENING" and "AFTER STRIKING" have been found stamped on various Die Proof Cards. The expression "BEFORE STRIKING", however, has not hitherto been observed on any Union Die Proof. It may be mentioned that the latter expression has been seen on K.G.V. Die Proofs of Trinidad and Tobago and Dominica.

In the said letter to the writer Messrs. De La Rue and Co. Ltd. stated that the expressions "AFTER HARDENING" and "BEFORE STRIKING" are synonymous.

A Die Proof with the stamped expression "BEFORE HARDENING" signifies that its impression was derived from a Master Die in softened steel.

A Die Proof with the stamped expression "AFTER HARDENING", or "BEFORE STRIKING", signifies that its impression was derived from a Master Die in hardened steel, but before striking any lead mould.

A Die Proof with the stamped expression "AFTER STRIKING" signifies that its impression was derived from a Master Die in hardened steel, but after striking a lead mould or moulds.

Striking the Leads.

The records of Messrs. Thos. De La Rue and Company show that the striking of the leads anent the monocoloured stamps are as follows:

1d. denomination — November 26th, 1912 — 240 leads struck. (Compare date of Die Proof uit infra — "22 Nov. 12").

(Note: The Die Proof noted ut infra with the date 16/11/18 was very likely taken in connection with the new 1d. Booklet Plate). See Category (B) 2a, 2b and 2d.

2d. denomination — March 20th, 1913 — 240 leads struck. (Compare date of Die Proof uit infra — "18 Mar. 13").

Note: The Die Proof noted ut infra with the

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date 22/9/21 was very likely taken in connection with the new 2d. Booklet Plate). See Category (B) 4c.

(A) The 2½d. Commerorative Postage Stamp with three-quarter face portrait of H.M. King George V, recessed printed by Thos. De La Rue and Company Limited.

List of known Die Proofs. (The adopted design).

(a) In black on white glazed card measuring 3 x 2.75 inches. (Dean H. E. Lobdell). (A. H. Sydow).
(Note: These cards were distributed to the press in advance of the issue).
(b) In bright ultramarine. (Dr. T. B. Davie).
(c) In black-blue on unwatermarked paper. (A. H. Sydow).
(d) In the issued colour—deep blue. (Dr. T. B. Davie).
(e) In black marked 18.7.8. (should be 18.7.10). (Dr. T. B. Davie).
(f) In black. (Dr. T. B. Davie).

Artist's Mock-up Study anent 2½d. Commemorative. (The rejected design).

(a) Mock-up made by altering two proofs pulled in blue of an early "trial" or "rejected" die, to wit: From one proof of the two lower corner shields, containing the arms of the Orange Free State and of the Transvaal respectively, were cut out and trimmed to shape. The cut-out shields were pasted on the other proof, further in from the corners but covering almost completely the respective shields on the uncut proof. The uncut proof holding the two pasted-on shields was then hand-painted as follows:—
1. The four segments of the broad oval riband surrounding the name of the country in English and Dutch were painted over in dark blue (solid colour) in order to obliterate the names of the four provinces which had been engraved upon these segments in the Master Die.
2. Ribands were painted in, in dark blue, below the shields in each of the four corners, that is, those at the top and the pasted-on pair at the bottom.
3. The names of the four provinces were painted in, in white, on these ribands.

This Mock-up is affixed to a "stout card" bearing ms. inscriptions reading: "This design /names under shields/4.7.10.
(A. H. Sydow).

(B). Postage Stamps with the McKennal profile portrait of H.M. King George V., letterpress-printed by Thos. De La Rue and Company Limited.

List of known Die Proofs in black on white glazed cards each one measuring 3.6 by 2.4 ins.

(1) **The ½d. Denomination—Completed Head and Frame.**
(a) With date 7/1/13 (ms. in black ink in upper left corner). BEFORE/HARDENING stamped in black in upper right corner. (Dean H. E. Lobdell).
(b) With date 7/1/13 (ms. in black ink in upper left corner). BEFORE/HARDENING stamped in black in upper right corner. (Dr. T. B. Davie).
(c) With date "1 AUG. 13" stamped in blue in upper left corner. AFTER/STRIKING stamped in black in upper right corner. With date and initials, namely, 1.8.13 and A.D.H. (ms. in ink). (C. G. Howell).
(d) With date "June 10th" and initials E.M. or E.Y. or similar in pencil ms. in lower left corner. AFTER/STRIKING stamped in black in lower left corner. (C. G. Howell).

(2) **The 1d. Denomination—Completed Head and Frame.**
(a) With date "22 Nov. 12" stamped in blue in upper left corner. BEFORE/HARDENING stamped in black in upper right corner. (Dean H. E. Lobdell).
(b) With date "22 Nov. 12" stamped in blue in upper left corner. BEFORE/HARDENING stamped in black in upper right corner. (Dr. T. B. Davie).
(c) With date 16/11/19 and initials (ms. in ink in lower right corner). AFTER/STRIKING stamped in black in lower left corner. (C. G. Howell).
(d) With date "22 Nov. 12" stamped in blue in upper left corner. BEFORE/HARDENING stamped in black in upper right corner. (A. H. Sydow).

(3) **The 1½d. Denomination — Completed Head and Frame.**
(a) With date "23/6/20" (ms. in black pencil in lower right corner. BEFORE/HARDENING stamped in black in lower left corner. (Dean H. E. Lobdell).
(b) With date "23/6/20" (ms. in black pencil vin lower right corner. BEFORE/HARDENING stamped in black in lower left corner. (Dr. T. B. Davie).
(c) With date "2/2/21" and initials "W.H." (ms. in ink in lower right corner. AFTER/STRIKING stamped in black in lower left corner. (A. H. Sydow).

(To be continued.)

BASUTOLAND AND BECHUANALAND.

The Commonwealth Stamp Co.'s February Courier, under the heading "Shades", says "Basutoland has one or two nice shades, but collectors have a little difficulty in sorting them out, and the same applies to Bechuanaland. No. 7 (presumably the numbering in their own K.G. VI catalogue) of the latter is an up and coming stamp, by the way, and don't overlook the two 4d. stamps of Basutoland. They are quite distinct and should have been recognized before."

BELGIAN CONGO "SHEETS".

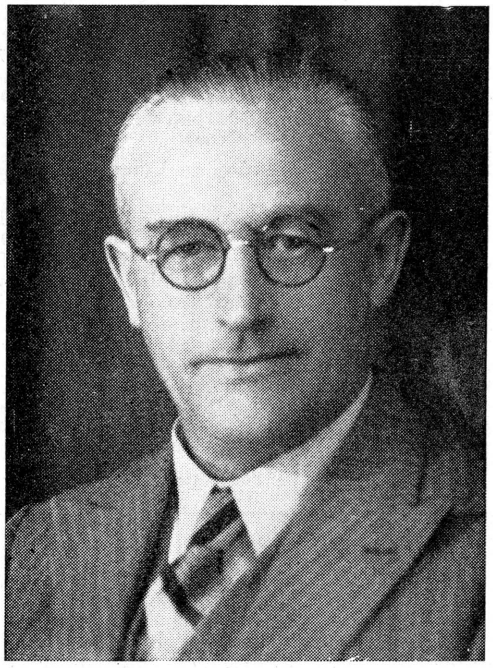
"Stamp Collecting" reports that they have been asked by Belgian collectors' organisations to state that values of the current stamps printed in miniature sheet form with an inscription purporting to be in honour of the 75th U.P.U. anniversary, are a private speculation and are under the F.I.P. ban. The various "sheets" have a "face" value of 17.15 fr. and a surtax of 1,200 fr., something in itself sufficient to warn one off them.

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ROLL OF HONOUR

A. E. BASDEN, M.B.E., F.R.P.S.L.

Albert Edward Basden was born at Reading, England, in 1880, educated at Greyfriars School and came to South Africa in 1901. During the 1914-1918 war he held a senior position at Defence Headquarters and was awarded the M.B.E. for his services. He joined the Standard Building Society in 1923 and took a prominent part in social welfare movements in Pretoria. He was chairman of the Juvenile Affairs Board for many years and was one of the most active supporters of a scheme which led to the establishment of the Girls' Training Hostel. For a time he was also vice-chairman of the Pretoria Technical College. He was a Rotarian for many years both in Pretoria and in Durban, where he had retired after giving up active work in Pretoria.



As a philatelist he was one of the really big figures in South Africa, attaining prominence not only through his first-class research work but for the unsparing efforts he put into the organising side of philately.

Whilst resident in Pretoria he was very prominently associated with the local Philatelic Society, having been its President for more than one term, and was also a prime mover in bringing about the union of the various philatelic societies in Southern Africa into a Federation and in getting them started on research work. He served the Federation well in such capacities as Chairman of its Permanent Executive Committee and as first editor of its journal "The South African Philatelist."

His research work in those days was largely on Transvaal stamps and Transvaal postal history, reflected in a number of articles in the "S.A. Philatelist" and in his joint work with J. H. Curle, published by the Royal Philatelic Society in 1940 and awarded the Crawford medal.

After his retiral from Pretoria to Durban he continued his activities with the Philatelic Society of Natal, and became senior editor of the Catalogue of the Stamps of the Union of South Africa, sponsored through that society on behalf of the Philatelic Federation.

He was elected to the Roll of Honour of Distinguished South African Philatelists at the Congress held in East London in 1948. He had, of course, been really due for this honour for a number of years, but as a member of the committee of election he had always been averse to his name being put forward. At the same Congress he was awarded the Skinner Cup for the best work done for philately since the preceding Congress; this work being the bringing out of the Union Catalogue. The Congress was, alas, the last occasion on which most of his many philatelist friends were to see him as he died about three months after attending it.

SATURDAY AFTERNOON.

He prowled around in quiet rage,
Like any lion in a cage,
With downcast eyes and puckered brow,
I thought "What IS the matter now!"

I wondered if his stocks and shares
Had changed to sudden shocks and snares!
If his new car had proved a dud,
Or p'raps he'd lost his evening stud!

Outside I saw the teaming rain
Beat wildly on the window-pane,,
And knew between each thunder clap,
That watching sport was off the map!

I tried to conjure up a scheme,
While heavy silence reigned supreme,
Whereby he'd drop a hint to me,
Explaining all the tragedy!

I vaguely knew that he had penned
A special letter to a friend
In London Town, and asked to get
Some stamps that would complete a set.

At last as evening shadows fell,
Reluctantly he deigned to tell
How he'd been badly tricked by fate—
His U.P. U's were two weeks late!

MARGARET CAMERON,
Johannesburg.

THE FIRST CHRISTMAS CARD.

In their last issues of 1950 both "The Stamp Collectors' Fortnightly" and "The Stamp Lover" feature on their front covers reproductions of the first known Christmas Card. The coming of the 1d. Black in 1840 was probably responsible for the charming idea of sending special greetings to friends.

This first card published in England was issued from Summerly's Home, Treasury Office, 12 Old Bond St., London in 1846. The design was drawn by J. C. Horsley, R.A.

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1889 S.G. 14, do., framed in black, used £22

Also many other rare and medium items in stock.

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COLLECTORS MAKE THOSE EXTRA £££££££ TO ENABLE YOU TO BETTER YOUR COLLECTION.

WANTED TO BUY IN LARGE QUANTITIES the following stamps:

South Africa 2d., 3d., 4d., 6d., 1/-, 2/6, 5/-, 10/- current singles.

U.P.U. Victory Royal Visit, Voortrekker Natal Settlers.
S.W.A. ½d. to 1/- current singles.

T.V.L., Cape of Good Hope, O.F.S., Natal, low values such as Edwards Hope Sitting and Standing, etc., etc.

All quantities but not less than 100 per item. All stamps to be clean taken off paper, and counted in 100's or 500's. Good prices offered.

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SYDNEY JACOBS

165 Cape Road ——— Port Elizabeth.

A BRITISH COMMONWEALTH NEW ISSUE SERVICE.

●

The New Issue Service undertakes to supply regularly all newly issued stamps in perfect mint condition as soon as they are received from the issuing country or through the London headquarters of the Crown Agents for the Colonies. Stamps are supplied at a small percentage over face value, and for this reason a deposit is required which has to be maintained after each distribution.

The Service is divided into four groups, supplying stamps from the lowest to (1) 5/-, (2) 10/-, (3) £1, (4) over £1.

Certain unpopular countries or groups may be excluded altogether.

Not only is the David Field Service a trouble-free way of keeping a collection up-to-date, but it is a profitable investment. Many stamps to-day are worth several times their original cost.

An unique feature of this service is the annual bonus scheme which is distributed before Christmas in the form of Gift Vouchers.

Send for Brochure.

●

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ENGLAND. ....Established 1884

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Union Stamp Review

By
T. I. FERREIRA,
Post Office Publicity Officer.
(Notes accompanying a display given to the Pretoria Philatelic Society.)

I have been requested by your Society to tell you something about the part taken by the Post Office in the production of postage stamps and I thought its function could best be illustrated by showing you copies of the different designs. and plate or die proofs submitted by various printers and designers. Some of you have, no doubt, already seen a number, if not all, of the various designs, but the great majority have not had the opportunity. There is little that the Post Office can tell the expert philatelist; it is usually the other way round, the philatelist tells the Post Office how to appreciate its own wares. If I succeed therefore in adding one little item to your store of knowledge of stamps I shall regard it as an evening well spent.

When new issues of stamps or alterations in designs are contemplated, a Stamp Committee is formed to discuss the details, such as design, colour, and the purpose for which the stamps are required, for instance, prepayment of postage on inland, overseas or air-mail letters. The committee usually consists of the Under Secretary, Posts, the Government Printer and two other members from outside. At present Dr. Harvey Pirie, editor, the "South African Philatelist", and Mr. Anton Hendrikz, the curator of the Johannesburg Art Gallery, are members of this committee.

Commencing from the time of the Union of the four Colonies on 31st May, 1910, I will endeavour to give a summary of the main events in the production of postage stamps.

POSTAGE STAMPS OF THE UNION OF SOUTH AFRICA.

General.

Important changes in the Postal Administration were necessary in order to unify the various postal laws, regulations, facilities and arrangements, and not the least was the provision of Union Adhesive Postage Stamps to take the place of those in use in their four colonies.

Union Commemoration Stamp.

It was fitting that the Union of the four Colonies should be celebrated postally by the issue of a commemoration stamp. The 2½d. denomination was chosen because it represented the Universal Postal Union unit of postage on letters, and Mr. H. S. Wilkinson who, at the time of Union was Distributor of Stamps, Pretoria, produced a very beautiful design consisting of a picture of the Head of His Majesty King George V in the centre with the words "Union of South Africa" above and "Unie van Zuid-afrika" 1910, below, the whole surmounted with a Crown. In shields, one at each of the four corners, are the Arms of the Cape of Good Hope, Natal, Orange Free State and Transvaal. The postage value is denoted in medallions on the left and right side of the stamp, surmounted respectively by the words "Postage" and "Postzegel".

The watermark is in the form of multiple rosettes, the colour of the stamp is blue. The printing (direct from steel plates) was performed by Messrs. De La Rue and Co. of London, which firm was also responsible for engraving the plates.

These commemoration stamps were available for sale to the public on the 4th November 1910, the date of opening of the first Union Parliament, and their use postally was continued until the general issue of Union Stamps was brought about in 1913. Two stages in the design of the stamp are shown in my exhibit, and philatelists can see the alterations made on the original.

Stamps of former Colonies made interchangeable throughout Union.

Large stocks of the stamps of the four Colonies were on hand at the time of Union, and in order that they might be used up it was decided that they would be interchangeable and available for use throughout the Union. The existing stocks held by the four Colonies were assembled at Pretoria and afterwards issued to Postmasters. without regard to territory. The Treasury authority for this action is quoted in:

Government Notice No. 349 dated the 15th August 1910, published by the Department of Finance.

Interchangeability of Colonial Stamps for Union Postal and Revenue purposes.

It is hereby notified for general information that until further notice postage and revenue stamps which were in authorised use on the 30th May, 1910, in the four Colonies incorporated in the Union of South Africa are now recognised as available throughout the Union and their use is no longer limited within the territorial boundaries of the original Colonies of issue.

In due course postage and revenue stamps for the Union will be issued, when suitable arrangements will be made for the withdrawal of the separate issues.

Nothing in this notice contained shall be taken as affecting the tariffs of stamp charges and duties in force in the four Colonies prior to Union, which, until altered by Parliament or other competent authority, remain in operation within the territorial limits to which they have hitherto applied."

Stamps of former Colonies not demonetized.

Notwithstanding the statement in the above quoted notice that suitable arrangements would be made for the withdrawal of the old colonial stamps after the issue of Union Stamps, it may be remarked that such Colonial stamps were not demonetized till the end of 1937 and were available for postage purposes up till 31st December of that year. On the eve of the issue of the Union Stamps Postmasters were informed that the supply of certain stocks were exhausted.

First Permanent Issue. 1913. King's Head.

A further advantage occurred through the decision to use up the old stamps of the various colonies in that adequate time was allowed for consideration of the many details necessary in connection with the projected issue of Union

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stamps. In order that the new stamps should be a credit to the newly formed Union, the Government held a competition for the purpose of obtaining the most suitable designs. A copy of the Government Notice in this connection is reproduced:—

"Competitive designs are invited for a new series of postage stamps which it is the intention to issue in connection with the Union of South Africa. The series will comprise eleven separate designs, one for each of the following denominations, namely, ½d., 1d., 2d., 2½d., 3d., 4d., 6d., 1/-, 2/6, 5/- & 10/-. A premium of £10 is offered for the design selected as being the best in the case of each of these postal values. All designs sent in must be for an upright stamp and drawn or reduced to about the size of the present postage stamps in the various Provinces. They must show the following:—

1. The King's head and crown.
2. The words "Union of South Africa" and Unie van Zuid Afrika."
3. The denomination in figures.
4. The words "Postage" and "Postzegel".

Any characteristic figures or features specially suitable to represent some aspect of South Africa may be included. The designs submitted need not be in colours, but those for ½d., 1d., & 2½d. must be suitable for reproduction in green, red, and blue respectively. The Government's decision will be final as regards the selection of designs and the award of prizes under the competition. Competitors are permitted to compete for one or more designs. The competition closes on the 31st March, 1911.

The competition attracted a large number of entries, some being from England and Europe. Prizes were awarded to Mrs. G. Brunton, Johannesburg, Messrs. the Cape Times, Ltd., Cape Town, Mr. Karls Greger, Leigh on Sea, England, Mr. C. P. Immelman, Paarl, Mr. D. McKay, North Finchley, London, and Mr. E. A. Nicolay, Cape Town. It is a significant fact, however, that not any of the designs were adopted **in toto.**

Description of first issue of Union Stamps, and date of issue.

A general description of the new Union Stamps, brought into use on the 1st September, 1913, is as follows:—

"The stamps are of the upright variety and of the ordinary size. They contain the King's effigy in an oval frame surmounted by a crown, with the inscription 'Union of South Africa', on the left and 'Unie van Zuid Afrika' on the right. The value is shewn in shields in the two bottom corners with the words 'Postage' and 'Postzegel' on the left and right respectively.

The ½d. and 1d. values are available additionally for revenue purposes, and this is denoted by the words 'Revenue' and 'Inkomst' at the bottom of the stamps."

Printing.

The stamps were surface printed with single fugitive ink by Messrs. De La Rue and Co., London, on white unsurfaced paper watermarked with a single Springbok's head. The sheets consist of 240 stamps divided into four panes of 60 stamps.

Colours.

The colours adopted for the new stamps were as follows:—

½d. Green.
1d. Red.
2d. Dull purple.
2½d. Blue.
3d. Orange with black centre.
4d. Green with Yellow centre.
6d. Violet with black centre.
1/- Orange yellow.
2/6 Green with purple centre.
5/- Pale blue with purple centre.
10/- Olive green with blue centre.

£1 Stamp. Union issue.

It was not until July 1916 that the Union issue of the £1 denomination stamp was made available, the reason being that it was desired to use up the large stocks of that denomination taken over from the Colonies. The new stamp was similar in design to those of the Union issue, the colours being red with green centre. These stamps were only issued to a limited number of offices, and were mostly used in accounting for Customs charges on parcels and detained packets, telegrams, and cablegrams, etc., but when the system was altered and those items were accounted for in cash, the £1 stamp was no longer required, and it was not reprinted nor reproduced in later issues.

1½d. and 1s. 3d. Stamps.

Changes in the postage and/or telegraphic rates have a distinct bearing on the denominations of postage stamps. On the 10th May, 1920, the inland rate of postage was raised to 1½d per ounce, and the minimum charge for an inland telegram was increased to 1s. 3d. There were no single stamps to meet these charges and complaints were received that it was necessary "to give two licks where one should be sufficient". The Department was, therefore, obliged to issue stamps of 1½d. and 1s. 3d. denominations, the former being of a chestnut or reddish brown colour, and the latter violet. These stamps were similar in design to those of the other denominations, and they came into use on the 23rd August, 1920 and the 1st October, 1920 respectively. They were printed by Messrs. De La Rue and Co., London, and were made up into sheets of 240 stamps divided into panes of 60.

(To be continued.)

SOME RECENT AUCTION PRICES.

H. R. Harmer.

Falkland Is.—S. Georgia prov. £19.
Kenya — £20 of 1925-27, £57 10s.
Natal — Die Proof, head of K.E. VII, before hardening, £3 10s.
Cape — A "Briefstock," £21.
Seychelles — 3c. on 36c., double surcharge, £27.
G. Britain — Booklet of Sept., '49 with 6 imperf. 2½d., £320.

Robson Lowe.

Ceylon 4d. of 1857 (S.G.9) used, £195.
Do. pair on front with 1d. of 1862, £1,100.
8d. of 1857 (S.G.13) used, £150.
2d. bottle green (S.G. 77), used, £110.

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Belgian Congo Army P.O.'s in World War I

Having one or two specimens of Belgian Congo Army Postmarks of the period when Congo forces were fighting in German East Africa, but knowing nothing about the service in general, I had occasion to write to Mr. G. Lefebvre, formerly our correspondent in the Congo, now in the Colonial Office, Brussels.

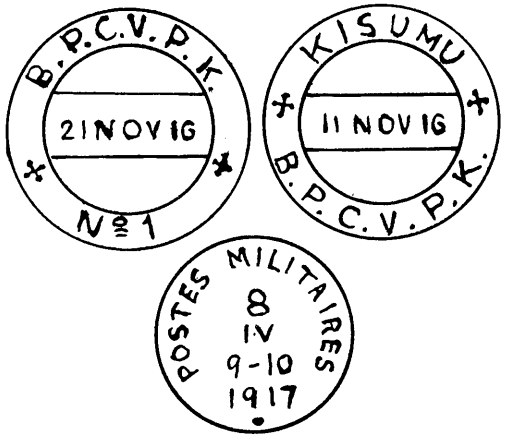
He has very kindly sent me an extract from a work by M. André de Cock, Conservator of the Postal Museum and editor of **Le Philateliste Belge** on the postal markings of Belgian Congo. In this extensive book all the postal markings of the country are described, including those of the armed forces which invaded and captured parts of Berman East Africa.

I have thought that a short summary of these might be of interest to readers, especially to South Africans as Congo and S. African forces were associated in that campaign.

(1) The first reference is to marks of various German civil post offices, particularly of towns in the western part of the territory, which are to be found on army correspondence. These need not be detailed here.

(2) Coming to the marks of the actual postal service associated with the armed forces, the following types are to be met with:—

(a) A double-circle mark which was used during the whole of the first phase of the campaign, i.e. up to the time of the capture of Mahenge in 1917, and during the second phase at various places throughout the territory. The letters 'B.P.C. V.P.K.' stand for 'Bureau de Poste Veld Post Kantoor'). The numbers run from 1 to 20 and the place of usage of the majority has been identified.



(b) A special one with a place name is that of Kisumu. This place is, of course, in B.E.A. and during the war was the terminus of the Uganda Railway on the Victoria Nyanza. Doubtless supplies for the Congo forces were shipped across the lake from here; hence the necessity of Congo personnel and a P.O.

(c) A third type is a single-circle one. This was used by troops on the move during the whole of the campaign and its use continued till Sept., 1921 at Kigoma for telegraphic purposes.

(3) A special mark, which although not strictly a 'war-mark', may be referred to as it is a real curiosity and probably few have ever heard of it, much less seen it.

This is a private postmark of the Sultan of Ruanda. The German authorities had this made specially for him and allowed him to frank his own correspondence with D.O.A. stamps and to cancel them with his own obliterator. The mark took the form of a double-lined circle about 40 mm. diameter with the head of an ox in the centre, while round the periphery was the legend "Juhi Mssinga, Sultan von Ruanda/Nyanza Deutsch Ostafrika."

During the early stage of the occupation of Ruanda by the Belgian Congo forces the Sultan continued to use his private mark on the overprinted Belgian Congo stamps, but this privilege was withdrawn in August, 1917.

(4) There is then reference to the occasional occurrenc of the postmarks of the British forces on Congo stamps, especially of Indian Army P.O.'s Nos. 320 and 338; also to various censors' marks and to post offices set up in Tanganyika after the cessation of hostilities.

J. H. HARVEY PIRIE.

(Concluded from page 67.)

PHILATELIC SOCIETY OF JOHANNESBURG.

At the meeting held on March 13th the Philatelic Society of Pretoria paid an official visit to Johannesburg Society and provided some fine exhibits.

Mr. Peacock showed an exhibit of pre-stamp covers and paquebot marks. The exhibit included Postmarks, Naval censor marks and many other items of interest. Prior to the exhibit Mr. Endeman read a paper on it giving the history of early British Posts. Mr. I. Isaacs spoke on the exhibit.

Mr. Coombe-Martin showed various early colonial issues and also Great Britain. The exhibit included Canada early issues, Ceylon pence issues, some fine Cape Triangulars and many Australian states. There was also a sheet of 40 of the Great Britain 10/- George VI dark-blue in mint condition and the Falkland Island Centenary set. There were numerous covers. Mr. Lilley spoke on the exhibit.

Mr. Newlands showed South African War covers, Orange Free State stamps, some fine Zululand stamps, and the South African local issues of Vryburg, Rustenburg, Wolmaransstad and Lydenburg. There were also some Rhodesian currency stamps. Mr. Schubart spoke on this exhibit.

Major von Bloemestein showed war covers of the Second World War. The exhibit included a full range of Army Post Office covers and Field Post Office covers. Dr. Harvey-Pirie spoke on this exhibit.

Dr. Reisener showed the Pretoria Society's own collection of Unions. There was a full range of all the issued stamps including most of the varieties. The famous "44b" and "58" were both included.

Mr. Sheffield spoke on the exhibit. I.I.

PHILIPPINES.

The Bureau of Posts announced the issue in January of a set of three stamps in connection with their peace fund campaign. The stamps have a symbolical design and are of 3, 6, and 18 centavo denominations. The issue was held up, but it is now definitely announced as appearing on 31 March.

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1d.		73	6d.	2½d.		52	5/-
2½d.		76	2/6	3d.		53	5/3
3d.		77	2/6	6d.		54	11/6
8d.		78	4/-	1/-		55	16/-
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2½d.		12a	3/-	15m.		52	3/3
4d.		13	3/-	2p.		53	1/3
6d.		14	7/6	2½p.		53b	3/9
1/-		15	7/6	3p.		54	5/-
2/6		16	8/9	3½p.		55	7/6
10/-		18	25/-	5p.		57	7/6
4d.		36	3/-	7½p.		57b	12/6
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Buried Stamps of German East Africa

By

G. HOFFMANN-GIESECKE.

It is known that during World War I the former German Colony of East Africa was entirely cut off from the home-country. Nothwithstanding the difficult conditions caused by the war the post-traffic continued. As stamps were already lacking awhile the postals of German East Africa in 1915-16 were freed by payment cash-down. Such pieces are of special interest for collectors of colonial stamps. In 1916 the Postal Administration stopped this circumstantial proceeding and charged the Missionary printing office of Wuga near Wilhelmstal with the production of provisional stamps. The printing office undertook to carry out the order as well as possible sketching of the designs. With regard to the technical possibilities the designs presented were very simple. It was planned to issue stamps in the following values:

2½, 4, 7½, 15, 20, 30, 45 Heller and 1 Rupie. For the low values up to 15 Heller only the value should appear above and below, the centre-piece being the inscription "Deutsch-Ostafrika", the higher values from 20 Heller up should show the heraldic eagle of the Reich in the middle.

Actually only the values 2½ Heller violet-brown, 7½ Heller crimson, both in normal size and the 1 Rupie pink high-rectangular were executed. These stamps of the 1st printing had been prepared for emission and reached the post-office of Morogoro. But, before they came into circulation the printing was stopped because, surprisingly, new stamps arrived in in March 1914 with the German steamer "Marie" which forced the blockade and landed at Sudi Bay.





The 2½ Heller and 7½ Heller are printed in book-printing and in sheets of 10 x 10 pieces, the 1 Rupie in sheets of 5 x 4 pieces. Caused by a shortage of printing type for the composition two types were printed. Type I showing a straight foot of the "2" and straight flag of the "7". Type II undulating foot of the "2" and wavy flag of the "7". The stamps can be found se tenant so that they can be collected in pairs. Type I is printed on 60 pieces of the sheet, Type II on 40 pieces of the sheet. The stamps are not all rouletted, only a part is rouletted 13, and they are not gummed. The numbers printed were:

2½ Heller, 100,000.
7½ Heller, 300,000.
1 Rupie, 10,000.

Towards the end of 1916 the Germans buried the stock of these Wuga-Provisionals, together with other postal documents, in a steel box lest they should fall into the hands of the approaching South African troops. In the course of five years' time the stamps suffered by the humidity of the soil, so that a great number lost their colour, got foxy, or anyhow meanlooking, and were no longer fit for collections. It was only in 1921 that the British discovered the hiding-place, dug out the stock and handed it over to Germany. In August 1921 it arrived in Berlin. About a quarter of the still useful pieces were officially sold in May 1922, the quantities being:

2½ Heller, 9,919.
7½ Heller, 18,910.
1 Rupie, 470.

Faultless pieces of the 1 Rupie are extremely rare. Fine copies in fresh colours fetch a higher price.

In short, these stamps are catalogued as an official makeshift issue, prepared but not put into circulation.

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"CAPEX".

The editor has been appointed official representative in South Africa for the Canadian International Exhibition to be held in Toronto September 21-29. He has copies of the Prospectus and Entry Forms available for anyone considering sending an exhibit. It is hoped that South Africa will keep up the good record it established at the London Exhibition last year. Entry forms must be in by 1 July, 1951.

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SOCIETY NEWS

FEDERATED SOCIETIES

NAME AND ADDRESS:	MEETINGS:
Cape Town P.S., Box 1973	2nd and 4th Thursdays, 8 p.m., Mountain Club Rooms, Yorkshire Ho., Strand St.
Copperbelt P.S., c/o No. 12 7th Ave., Nkana, N. Rhodesia	2nd Fridays, 7.45 p.m., Colosseum Theatre Tea Rooms
E. London P.S., c/o Box 450	3rd Tuesdays, 8 p.m., Regent Hotel, Benoni.
E. Rand P.S., c/o Box 155, Brakpan	2nd Thursdays, 8 p.m., 120 Hight Street.
Grahamstown P.S., c/o. R. Q. Tarr, Kingswood Col.	
Jewish Guild Phil. Section, Von Brandis Street, Johannesburg	Last Thursdays, 8 p.m., Jewish Guild.
Johannesburg, P.S. of, Box 4967	2nd Tuesdays and 4th Mondays, 7.45 p.m., Public Library.
Maritzburg, P.S. of, Box 256, Pietermaritzburg	2nd. Wednesday, Room 4, Polytechnic, 5th Street.
Mashonaland, P.S., Box 74, Salisbury	1st and 3rd Wednesdays, 7.30 p.m., Durban Camera Club, 319 Smith Street.
Natal, P.S. of, Box 588, Durban	3rd Mondays, Goldfields Hotel, Pietersburg, at 8 p.m.
N. Transvaal P.S., c/o Miss v. Niekerk, P.O. Rita	
Nyasaland P.S., c/o Limbe Trading Co., Limbe	Free State Technical College, 7.30 p.m., 4th Fridays.
O.F.S. & Basutoland P.S., Box 702, Bloemfontein	1st & 3rd Tuesdays, 7.45 p.m., Room 3, City Hall Basement.
Port Elizabeth P.S., c/o 13 Trafalgar Square	1st & 3rd Mondays, 8 p.m., Technical College.
Pretoria P.S., Box 514	2nd Wednesdays, 7.30 p.m., Railway Recreation Club
Pretoria Railway P.S., Railway Recreation Club, Berea Park	1st Weds., Presbyterian Hall, 5th Ave., Bulawayo.
Rhodesia, P.S. of, Box 803, Bulawayo	3rd Thursday of every month, 8 p.m., Savoy Hotel, Roodepoort.
Roodepoort Stamp Club, c/o 82 Kruger Ave., Selwyn, Florida	
Springs P.S., c/o No. 25, 5th St., New Township, Springs	2nd Mondays, 7.30 p.m., Board Room, New Era Press
Vereeniging Stamp Club, Box 48	2nd Wednesdays, 8 p.m., Technical College.
W. Rand Stamp Club, c/o. 55, 4th Street, District Township, Krugersdorp	1st Wednesdays, 8 p.m., Royal Hotel, Krugersdorp.

PRETORIA PHILATELIC SOCIETY.

On the 5th March Mr. W. Newlands read a paper which he called "Selections", in explanation of a display of 125 sheets taken at random from his extensive specialised collection of postal history of the Boer War and early 1900's period. There were many rare items seldom seen and the exhibit not only provided a veritable feast of good things to look at but whetted hopes of seeing the rest of the collection. Among other things there were scarce T.P.O. postmarks of 1899-1902; F.P.O. and other cancellations recalling the history of uprisings in the Transvaal and Cape; rare varieties of Boer War issues of Rustenburg, Pietersburg, Vryburg and Schweizer Reineke; several scarce items of the re-occupation issue overprinted by the British Army for use by civilians; siege cards; rare P.O.W. letters — and many other interesting rarities. Both the paper and the well documented display were of a high standard and Mr. Newlands was warmly thanked for presenting them to the Society.

At the second meeting, held on the 19th March, members were invited to take part in a quizz prepared by Messrs. Bottomley, Dodd and von Blommestein. The questions were not easy and the fact that even the knowledgeables could not achieve a score above 73 per cent. of the possible marks, was a source of comfort to the "rabbits".

Then followed the display of two unusual collections. Dr. T. B. Berry showed an exhibit of Union of South Africa proofs and colour trials and the De La Rue Georgians, complete with controls. There were many items hitherto seldom seen among the proofs, die proofs, colour trials, stamps designed and printed but never issued, the trial printings made in Germany by the manufacturers of the printing press now in use in the Government Printing Works, to mention only a few. Dr. Berry commenced this high-standard collection less than two years ago and he was complimented on its scope and the excellence of the mounting and writing up.

To Mr. G. J. de Swardt the Society owed the opportunity of seeing for the first time a complete collection of all issues of the Voortrekker and Monument commemoration stamps. His exhibit, mounted on special large sheets included stamps in sheets and blocks, many types of official covers, all known errors in the various issues, the 1938 issue on self addressed official cover for every postmark used on all the specified routes of the wagon trek. Many of the covers were signed by persons prominently identified with the Trek and various celebrations. A unique, monumental collection in more ways than one!

Mnr. W. Impey was 'n baanbreker toe hy mnr. de Swardt namens die vergadering in Afrikaans bedank het vir die vertoning van hierdie buitengewone uitstalling. Hy wys daarop aan dat dit die eerste keer is dat 'n versameling in Afrikaans opgeskrywe voor die vereniging gelê is, en dit kan as aanmoedigend beskou word vir die baie Afrikaanssprekendes onder posseël-versamelaars. Mnr. Impey het melding gemaak van die voltalligheid van hierdie unieke versameling, wat hy persoonlik met uitstekende ywer behaal het.

(This exhibit was written up in Afrikaans — the first so done that had been shown before the Society. Mr. Impey therefore expressed his appreciation of the exhibit in Afrikaans.—Ed.) B.J.V.

VEREENIGING PHILATELIC SOCIETY.

At the monthly meeting of the Vereeniging Philatelic Club held at the Technical College on Wednesday, 14th March, Mr. B. J. Plowright gave a most interesting talk on the stamps of the Bahamas, afterwards displaying a portion of his collection. Mr. Theron showed a collection of his South African cylinder numbers.

Interesting short talks and displays were given by Mr. Vic Shipton on "Advertising on Stamps", Dr. Coen Oosthuizen on "The Printing of Stamps", and Mr. H. J. Gregory on how the picture of a volcano on a one-centavo Nicaraguan stamp was the means of altering the Panama Canal route from Nicaragua to Panama. H.J.G.

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ORANGE FREE STATE & BASUTOLAND PHILATELIC SOCIETY.

At the November meeting, Mr. C. A. Larsen gave a brief report on the Congress and Exhibition which had taken place the previous month at Johannesburg. Dr. Freund congratulated Mr. Larsen on his appointment as President of the Philatelic Federation for the present period. The evening's display was in lighter vein and pleased the crowd of Juniors present, very much. It consisted of some more of Dr. Freund's thematic collections which he seems to be able to build up in endless succession. In particular, his streamlined collection of "Pin-up girls on stamps", presenting various pages with "Goya — Nudes" and similar luscious beauties, made one forget, that a collection of officially issued postage stamps was concerned. Another collection presented in a humourous write-up "Motor-cars on Stamps", from old crocks to sleeky super-models.

There was no meeting in December. At the January meeting, a brief resumé of arrangements in preparation for the Congress to be held in Bloemfontein was given by members of the provisional Exhibition-Committee. The definite date was fixed for the 9th to 11th May, 1951. Mr. A. G. Denne displayed "New Issues" of the last few months. Mr. J. Lewis gave his usual "Philatelic Tit-Bits" from the philatelic press. A "20 Questions" Quiz was won, surprisingly by a Junior, Master I. Simmons, and by a Lady, Miss Haddad, who both put the many advanced collectors present to shame. Mr. Denne gave in conclusion a very fine display of British Empire Stamps of territories beginning with the letters A and B.

At the February meeting, an auction sale was held in aid of the Exhibition Fund. Items were generously contributed by Mr. J. Price and Mr. A. H. Scott. The main item on the evening's programme was an excellent display of Union stamps by Mr. C. Kachelhoffer. Although this collection has been started only 1½ years ago, it is a well-specialised collection, giving a splendid array especially of the early typographed and rotogravure printings, which are very elusive. Many of the major flaws and errors were shown in various stages of development.

GRAHAMSTOWN PHILATELIC SOCIETY.

The first meeting of the year took the form of the Annual General Meeting. The chief business of the evening was the election of office-bearers. Mr. Maurice Fletcher was unanimously elected President, with Mr. Eric Pote as Vice-President.

The following officers were re-elected: Dr. R. G. Tame, Sales Superintendent; Mr. Tom Drury, Librarian; and Mr. R. Q. Tarr, Secretary-Treasurer.

After normal business had been attended to, the evening was rouned off with an interesting Quiz, with the secretary acting as Quiz-master. R.Q.T.

CAPETOWN PHILATELIC SOCIETY.

"Members' Night" exhibition on February 22nd drew fewer entries than might have been reasonably expected. In the words of the immortal George Robey, however, "what was there, was good!" Outstanding from the point of philatelic value was a page of Cape "Woodblocks" contained in Mr. Roth's display, all in exceptionally fine condition and including the 4d. "retouched corner" and both the errors of colour. Mr. Anderson showed a most comprehensive collection of souvenirs of the Royal Tour of South Africa (1947), possibly unique and containing everything **except stamps.**

A small, but interesting collection of flown covers dating back to 1931 came from Mr. Nathan, among them one that had travelled from England to Australia and back by air.

An intensive study of the George VI issue of Nyasaland, tracing the evolution of the designs and demonstrating the difference between stamps taken from the left and right-hand panes of the sheets was put up by Mr. Combrink, who gave an informative commentary upon the method of production.

Last, but by no means least, came a most attractively written-up and illustrated selection of recent stamp issues from many lands presented by Mr. Solomon, who proved too modest to boost his own wares. The thanks of the meeting to these public-spirited exhibitors was ably proposed by Mr. E. Blum. D.B.A.

PHILATELIC SOCIETY OF NATAL.

The 39th Annual Meeting was held on Wednesday, 7th March, at the Alamein, Durban. The President, Mr. W. F. Ovens on opening the proceedings welcomed the attendance of 53 and gave a special welcome to Mr. Jack Burrell of Krugersdorp.

The President's and the Sales Packet Superintendent's reports made interesting reading. In his report the President outlined the Society's activities during the year. The report showed that the membership was 243 against 245 and that we lost two members by death, namely Messrs. Plows and Esnouf. There had been some outstanding exhibits during the period and thanks for their displays were extended to the exhibitors. Competitions had been one of the features of our meetings and had been much enjoyed.

We had had a welcome visit from the Maritzburg Society. There had been additions to our philatelic library which was perhaps one of the finest in the country. Members were urged to use the library more. The 12th Congress of the Federation had been held at Johannesburg in October and our Society had been ably represented. The vexed question of the 2/6 capitation fee had been discussed and for the present it remained at that figure, but the matter would certainly receive further attention. As current subscriptions were only sufficient to pay half our yearly expenditure it was urged that members continue to support our Sales Packet service We had managed to keep expenditure below income in spite of the longer period and subscriptions not having been increased in proportion.

The report gave special thanks to many willing and hard-working members such as Messrs. L. Bevis, J. Lyle and W. H. Winde. We were greatly indebted, too, to Mr. Winde for giving the use of his office for committee meetings and to the Camera Club whose clubroom we used at a nominal rental. The Secretary, Mr. C. Selwyn Smith, had been forced to relinquish office on account of serious illness and it was hoped his recovery would become and remain complete; appreciation was expressed for the splendid work he had done during his terms of office.

The Sales Packet Superintendent, Mr. L. Bosse, reflected in his report a most successful, in fact, a record period, and sales had amounted to £1,023 8s. 11d. while, at the same time, working costs had actually been reduced. He exhorted members to put only good material into their books, to price reasonably and to make the passage of packets from member to member as expeditious as possible. Delay caused extra work and irritation to all concerned.

During the meeting Mr. Jack Burrell tendered greetings from the Catalogue Sub-committee and reported progress. Later he gave an interesting and informative talk on the printing of the Union's stamps, his address being supplemented by lantern slides illustrating the process.

The officers for 1951 are: President, Mr. R. H. Brown; Vice-Presidents. Messrs. Ovens, Milner, Palmer, L. Bevis, Lyle and Simpson; Secretary and Treasurer, K. I. Bevis; Committee, Messrs. Bolton, Middleton, Robinson, Williams and Winde. Mr. J. Lyle won both the P. C. Bishop and the Winde Cups and the runner-up was L. Bevis, both were congratulated. V.F.M.

WEST RAND STAMP CLUB.

The March meeting of the Club was held in the Royal Hotel, Krugersdorp, on 7th March, 1951. At this meeting the Club was short of two able members, Mr. Burrell and Mr. Edwards who were both away on annual leave.

The usual routine business was discussed and special attention was also given to the following: First the question of a donation of stamps to the National War Memorial Health Foundation from which a letter has been received. All members were urged to make a liberal donation of their duplicates, etc., towards this Fund.

Second the question of a trophy to be awarded each year for the best exhibit by a member during the year. It has been felt for some time that many of our members have been hiding their light under a bushel and that some incentive to exhibit might bring to light some of the collections which are not generally exhibited. The secretary promised to look into the financial side of this before any definite decision was made.

During the evening one of the junior members Master J. Solomon, exhibited his collection of U.S.A. commemoratives in blocks and on covers. This collection which won an award last year at the National Philatelic Exhibition has never failed to be a source of interest to the Club and is really a fine piece of work for a junior member. The exhibit was ably commented upon by Mr. Vermaak who concluded by suggesting that the exhibitor now go back and try to get some of the earlier covers as well as those to come in the future. E.J.S.

Concluded on page 62.)

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33rd PHILATELIC CONGRESS OF GREAT BRITAIN.

The Ipswich Philatelic Society are this year acting as hosts for Congress, which is to be held in Felixstowe, on the coast twelve miles from Ipswich, May 29th to June 1st. Lack of suitable hotel and other accommodation prevented the Congress being held in Ipswich itself. Congress headquarters will be at the Spa Pavilion, Felixstowe, where the general meetings will take place and papers will be discussed. Study circles are to be held in the various hotels. The banquet is to be held at the Felix Hotel.

As usual a special postmark is to be in use at the Congress Post Office and souvenir covers have been prepared, price 3d. each or 2/6 per dozen. These are printed in four colours and are available from the Local Organising Secretary, Mr. G. W. Dalton, who will also arrange (for the sum of 6d. each) for covers to be posted to any inland address, bearing the Festival stamps and the special Congress cancellation.

The Congress Year Book is also in preparation and this will be of great interest to both regular Congress goers and those who wonder what Congress is all about. It gives details of Congress activities, its aims and objects, together with articles of interest by leading British Philatelists. These are in the form of papers to be put before Congress, and which are to be discussed there. In addition, the Year Book contains an article on Great Britain stamp design by Antony Walker (the Editor of "Stamp Collecting"), and another on the New Issues of 1950 by Stanley Phillips. Copies of the Year Book (price 7/6) will be available from Mr. G. W. Dalton, at Walnut Tree Cottage, Witnesham, near Ipswich.

Any South African philatelist in England at the date of this Congress should attend if at all possible. He will be assured of a good time. But communicate with the Secretary first.—Ed.

REVIEWS

Stanley Gibbons' priced Catalogue of Foreign Countries. Part III, America, Asia and Africa (excluding Colonies of European States). 1951 Ed., 755 pages. Price 17/6, postage 11d.

This marks a return of S.G. catalogue to three volumes, instead of the eight of the immediate post-war years. It replaces their former small sections III, IV, V and VIII, and also includes the Syrian group of countries formerly in Part VI.

There has been a very thorough price revision and many textual alterations and additions. Most noticeable, perhaps, is the inclusion of the multitudinous issues which have taken place in China of recent years.

The Commonwealth Catalogue of K.G. VI Postage Stamps, published by the Commonwealth Stamp Co., Liverpool.

We have received a copy of this catalogue, but, by the same post, a letter from the publishers asking us not to review it. They say this might merely result in their receiving more orders, which they cannot fill as they are completely sold out although they printed some eight times the number originally planned.

In the circumstances all we will say is that the catalogue, whether good or not, is obviously popular.

The publishers hope to bring out a new and revised edition in about six months' time.

"GHOST FACES".

Mr. A. Lichtenstein, of Bloemfontein, writes: "Mr. D. H. Kirchner's charming little article about "Powder and Paint" on page 48 of your March issue, brings to mind another stamp (or rather set of stamps) showing some (rather funny) "ghost faces", viz. the Mark values of the Bavaria 1911 Birthday Homage issue — designed by that famous Bavarian artist, von Kaulbach. Just take a good look at the garlands on either side of the Prince Regent's portrait. Separated by the ribbons you will find a whole assortment of faces taken from all ranks of the populace, apparently wishing their beloved Prince "many happy returns". Some folks maintain that this was an intended joke by von Kaulbach (who was a personal friend of the Prince), — others that the engraver had a finger in the pie. Incidentally, these unexpected "birthday callers" were discovered by philatelists immediately the stamps were placed on sale, and were the subject of much good-natured comment, at the time. Rumour has it that nobody enjoyed the joke more than the Prince Regent himself."

SHORT NOTICES.

Post Office Progress 1947-50.

We have received from the Union P.M.G. a copy of this Report on the activities of the Post Office. It is usually an annual affair, but for reasons of economy and other contributory factors there have been no reports since the one issued relating to the financial year 1946-47.

There is much of general interest in it, but nothing really appealing particularly to philatelists.

Hong Kong Air Post History.

Under this title Messrs. Francis J. Field, Ltd., of Sutton Coldfield have issued a well illustrated 8-page leaflet which is a priced check list of all known items coming under the title, from 1929 to 1950.

Society for Japanese Philately.

The International Society for Japanese Philately is now the name of the former International Japanese Philatelic Specialists Study Circle.

It issues a Bulletin about eight times yearly, dealing with the stamps of Japan, Japanese occupations, Manchukuo, Inner Mongolia, Korea and the Ryuku Islands. Anyone interested in becoming a member should write to the secretary, Mrs. Conway Zirkle, 2307 Secane Road, Secane, Penna., U.S.A.

White Nile T.P.O.'s.

Mr. J. F. Dight deals very fully in the Oct.-Dec. issue of "The Philatelic Journal of Great Britain" with the Travelling Post Offices of the White Nile system of the Southern Sudan. A sketch map shows the routes covered by the river boats with these post offices and there are illustrations of the various postmarks employed.

La Philatélie, Parisienne.

H. Thiaude, of 24 Rue de 4-Septembre, Paris, have started republication of this little magazine, after a break of 20 years. It is a house organ, mainly concerned with what they have for sale and with additions or changes to their yearly catalogue of the stamps of France and Colonies. It has an article on how to determine the value of French stamps 1849-1900.

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THE
SOUTH AFRICAN PHILATELIST

PROPRIETORS AND PUBLISHERS:

The Philatelic Federation of Southern Africa

Honorary Editor: Dr. J. H. HARVEY PIRIE
Business Manager: Mr. J. NATHANSON
P.O. Box 375, Johannesburg.

Subscription: Eight Shillings per annum, post free to any part of the World.

Vol. 27. No. 5. MAY, 1951. Whole No. 314

PHILATELIC FEDERATION OF SOUTHERN AFRICA.

Congress and Exhibition.

The 13th Congress will be held in Bloemfontein under the Presidency of Mr. C. A. Larsen, in the Clarendon Hall, 9-11 May.

Coincidentally with Congress the O.F.S. and Basutoland Philatelic Society are staging an Exhibition in the Hall. This year is the 50th Anniversary of the founding of the first philatelic society in Bloemfontein, so it is very fitting that these functions should be taking place there.

The Exhibition is being opened by the Divisional Controller of Posts at 10.30 a.m., and the Congress at 2.30 p.m., by His Worship the Mayor of Bloemfontein.

The Exhibition is a non-competitive one, but it is understood that it will be little, if any, smaller than the Johannesburg show of last year and the quality also promisess to be excellent. An outstanding item will be the complete world famous Mafeking collection belonging to Dr. Freund.

1952 INTERNATIONAL EXHIBITIONS.

The year 1952 is to see rather a spate of International Philatelic Exhibitions, at least three being now scheduled.

(1) **Cape Town,** in association with the celebrations of the Tercentenary of the landing of Van Riebeeck to establish the first permanent European settlement in South Africa.

The Exhibition will be held in the Old Drill Hall, and open daily from 26 March to 5 April, inclusive.

(2) **Monaco.** At a recent meeting, held in Paris, of numerous Government officials, stamp collectors, printers and dealers there was born "Reinatex" or, in plain language "Queen of Exhibitions", to be held in Monaco in April, 1952. We are indebted to Mr. Tom Morgan, Editor of the "Philatelic Magazine" who was present as representative of the United Kingdom for particulars.

The Exhibition does not appear to be in connection with any particular anniversary or occasion, but the Monaco authorities seem to be prepared to go all out to make it one of the outstanding exhibitions of all time and are prepared to spend 20 million francs on it (some £20,000). It is understood that there will be no entrance fee for exhibits, no admission fees nor will it be necessary to buy special stamps to get into the exhibition.

We sincerely trust that the authorities concerned will manage to shift the date a little bit — say to May — so that it does not clash with Capetown. If both are held in April it will mean that exhibits and visitors will be practically barred from participating in both exhibitions.

This might tell severely on Capetown and we would suggest that the Monaco authorities give this point consideration.

(3) **Utrecht**—"Itep" 28 June to 6 July.

To celebrate the centenary of the first Netherlands postage stamps an international philatelic exhibition will be held in the Beatrix and Irene halls of the Royal Netherlands Industries Fair, Utrecht. The Chairman of the P.O. Museum, Mnr. T. P. van Houwelingen, will be the active organiser, although Mnr. Hofman, Chief Director of Posts is actually Chairman of the ITEP-Executive Committee.

The Union Postal Authorities have been asked to send an official exhibit, also to bring the exhibition to the notice of collectors in South Africa, who, they hope, will contribute to the success of ITEP by sending entries.

We gladly give this first intimation and doubtless will have further details in due course. There should be ample time to send exhibits entered for Capetown to ITEP also.

GREAT BRITAIN.

It has been announced that the special Festival of Britain stamps will not be overprinted for use in the Post Offices abroad, such as those in Morocco and the Persian Gulf.

A MISTAKE.

We regret that in Messrs. Robson Lowe's front page cover advertisement of our March issue a mistake was made in the name of one of the collections which had been sold — it was made to appear as "C. F. Hendy-Marshall" but should have been, of course, "C. F. Dendy-Marshall."

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Die Proofs of the De La Rue Georgian Postage Stamps and Postage Due Labels of the Union of South Africa

by A. Hilton Sydow, A.S.A.A., C.A.(S.A.).

(Continued from page 57 of April issue.)

(4) **The 2d. Denomination—Completed Head and Frame.** .....

(a) With date 7/1/13 (ms. in black ink) in upper left corner. BEFORE/HARDENING stamped in black in upper right corner. (Dean H. E. Lobdell).

(b) With date 7/1/13 (ms. in black ink) in upper left corner. BEFORE/HARDENING stamped in black in upper right corner. (Dr. T. B. Davie).

(c) With date "18 Mar 13" stamped in blue in upper left corner. AFTER/HARDENING stamped in black in upper right corner. With initials A.D.H. (ms. in ink) in lower right corner. (A. H. Sydow).

(d) With date "22/9/21" and initials W.H. (ms. in ink) in lower right corner. AFTER/STRIKING stamped in black in lower left corner. (A. H. Sydow).

(5) **The 2½d. Denomination—Completed Frame.**

(a) With date "28 Nov. 12" stamped in blue in upper left corner. BEFORE/HARDENING stamped in black in upper right corner. (Dean H. E. Lobdell).

(b) With date "28 Nov. 12" stamped in blue in upper left corner. BEFORE/HARDENING stamped in black in upper right corner. (Dr. T. B. Davie).

(c) With date "28 Nov. 12" stamped in blue in upper left corner. BEFORE/HARDENING stamped in black in upper right corner. (A. H. Sydow).

(6) **The 3d. Denomination—Completed Frame.**

(a) With date "19 Jun 13" stamped in blue in upper left corner. Distance from bottom extremity of "1" of "13" to top left apex of die impression—12mm. (Dean H. E. Lobdell).

(b) With date "19 Jun 13" stamped in blue in upper left corner. Distance from bottom extremity of "1" and "13" to top left apex of die impression—14mm. (A. H. Sydow).

(c) With date "19 Jun 13" stamped in blue in upper left corner. (Dr. T. B. Davie).

(7) **The 4d. Denomination—Completed Frame.**

(a) With date "19 Jun 13" stamped in blue in upper left corner. Distance from bottom extremity of "1" of "13" to top left apex of die impression—10½mm. (Dean H. E. Lobdell).

(b) With date "19 Jun 13" stamped in blue in upper left corner. Distance from bottom extremity of "1" of "13" to top left apex of die impression—12 mm. (A. H. Sydow).

(c) With date "19 Jun 13" stamped in blue in upper left corner. (Dr. T. B. Davie).

(8) **The 6d. Denomination—Completed Frame.**

(a) With date "19 Jun 13" stamped in blue in upper left corner. Distance from bottom extremity of "1" of "13" to top left apex of die impression—13½mm. (Dean H. E. Lobdell).

(b) With date "19 Jun 13" stamped in blue in upper left corner. Distance from bottom extremity of "1" of "13" to top left apex of die impression—9mm. (A. H. Sydow).

(c) With date "19 Jun 13" stamped in blue in upper left corner. (Dr. T. B. Davie).

(9) **The 1/- Denomination—Completed Head and Frame.** .....

(a) With date "15 Mar 13" stamped in blue in upper left corner. BEFORE/HARDENING stamped in black in upper right corner. (Dean H. E. Lobdell).

(b) With date "15 Mar 13" stamped in blue in upper left corner. BEFORE/HARDENING stamped in black in upper right corner. (Dr. T. B. Davie).

(10) **The 1/3 Denomination—Completed Head and Frame.** .....

(a) With date "23/6/20" (ms. in black pencil) in lower right corner. BEFORE/HARDENING stamped in black in lower left corner. (Dean H. E. Lobdell).

(b) With date "23/6/20" (ms. in black pencil) in lower right corner. BEFORE/HARDENING stamped in black in lower left corner. (Dr. T. B. Davie).

(c) With date "2/7/20" and initials M.S.P. (ms. in pencil) in lower right corner. AFTER/STRIKING stamped in black in lower left corner. (A. H. Sydow).

(11) **The 2/6 Denomination—Completed Frame.**

(a) With date "19 Jun 13" in blue in upper left corner. (Dean H. E. Lobdell).

(b) As "a" afore. (Dr. T. B. Davie).

(c) As "a" afore. (A. H. Sydow).

(12) **The 5/- Denomination—Completed Frame.**

(a) With date "19 Jun 13" in blue in upper left corner. (Dean H. E. Lobdell).

(b) As "a" afore. (Dr. T. B. Davie).

(c) As "a" afore. (A. H. Sydow).

(13) **The 10/- Denomination—Completed Frame.**

(a) With date "19 Jun 13" in blue in upper left corner. (Dean H. E. Lobdell).

(b) As "a" afore. (Dr. T. B. Davie).

(c) As "a" afore. (A. H. Sydow).

(14) **The £1 Denomination—Completed Frame.**

(a) Without any date or notation. (Dr. T. B. Davie).

(15) **The Undenominated Working Die—Completed Head with Unfinished Frame.**

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(a) With date "28 Oct 12" stamped in blue in upper left corner. BEFORE/HARDENING stamped in black in upper right corner. (Dean H. E. Lobdell).

Note: No figure of value nor the words "POSTAGE", "POSTZEGEL", "REVENUE" and "INKOMST" were engraved on this die.

(16) **The Undenominated Working Die—Completed Head and Frame.**

(a) With date "28 Oct 12" stamped in blue in upper left corner. BEFORE/HARDENING stamped in black in upper right corner. (Dr. T. B. Davie).

(17) **The Rejected McKennal Head Die.**

(a) In black with pencil ms. "Q1" and "U of Sth Africa". (Dr. T. B. Davie).

(18) **The Accepted McKennal Head Die.**

(a) With date "2.12.12" and initials "A.D. H." (ms. in ink) in lower right corner. With date "2 Dec. 12" stamped in blue in upper right corner. AFTER/STRIKING stamped in black in upper right corner. (Dr. T. B. Davie).

(C) Postage Stamps with the McKennal profile Portrait of H.M. King George V., letterpress-printed by Thos. De La Rue and Company Limited.

List of known Die Proofs in Colour on paper watermarked "Springbok Head Simple".

(1) **The 1d. Denomination—Monocoloured.**
(i) Grey (ii) Brown (iii) Light Brown (iv) Sage Green, (v) Mauve.

(2) The 2½d. Denomination—Bicoloured.
(i) Black & Orange (ii) Blue & Blue (iii) Black & Violet (iv) Black and Brown (v) Purple & Blue (vi) Purple & Green (vii) Green & Orange (viii) Brown & Orange.

(D) Postage Due Stamps Letterpress-printed by Thos. De La Rue and Company Limited.

1. List of known Die Proofs in black on white glazed cards each one measuring 3.6 by 2.4 inches. FRAMES ONLY.
   (a) With date 18/1/13 (ms. in ink). BEFORE/HARDENING stamped in black. (Dr. T. B. Davie).
   (b) With date "27 Jan 13" stamped in blue in upper lift corner. (A. H. Sydow).
2. List of known Die Proofs in colour on paper watermarked "Springbok Head Simple" (together with figure of value 3d. in black and in red).
   (a) 1. Frame in green with numeral 3d. in black.
   2. Frame in red with numeral 3d. in black.
   3. Frame in purple with numeral 3d. in black.
   4. Frame in blue with numeral 3d. in black.
   5. Frame in brown with numeral 3d. in black.
   6. Frame in grey with numeral 3d. 3d. in black. black.
   7. Frame in black with numeral 3d. in red.

(E) Artist's Mock-up Study anent K.G.V. Definitives. .....

A 2½d. denominated frame in green and of a design differing only slightly from the adopted one with a K.G.V Head in blue cut off from some other stamp and pasted in. Mounted on unglazed card measuring 4 by 3 inches. Marked "F" in ink in upper left corner; July 8th 12 in ink in upper right corner, and "Colour of Head and Border reversed in Design" in ink across the bottom of the card. (Dr. T. B. Davie).

(F) Unadopted K.G.V. Definitive Designs.

(a) ½d. in green—imperforate and unmounted. The head differs in many details from the "Rejected McKennal Head Die" and the "Accepted McKennal Head Die" — See 17a and 18a ut supra. The frame shows leaf sprays in lieu of the words "POSTAGE" and "POSTZEGEL" and folded scrolls in lieu of the words "REVENUE" and "INKOMST." (Dr. T. B. Davie).

(b) 1d. in red — imperforate and mounted. This stamp is mounted in a recess in square of thick white unglazed cardboard measuring 3 x 3 inches and is marked "Q" in upper left corner and "Oct 2nd 12" in upper right corner, both ms. in ink. The frame and the head thereof are identical with those for the ½d. in green as "a" afore except for the value, viz., 1d. in place of ½d. (Dr. T. B. Davie).

PICTURE POST CARDS.

We learn from the "EMCO Monthly Jonrnal", via "Mekeel's Weekly", that 1950 marked the 70th anniversary of the first appearance of Picture Postcards. These were made by Alfons Adolph, official photographer to the King of Bavaria, and featured his royal patron. These cards now form a part of Germany's Postal History in the Berlin Reichspostmuseum. The photographs were copied on to a stone slab and the final printing done on a hand press. This idea soon spread and as the inventor did not file a patent, picture postcards rapidly made their appearance all over Germany and elsewhere.

U.S.A.

We may be short of copy soon with the drying up of the spate of commemoratives from the land of the Almighty Dollar to be chronicled. We have seen somewhere that the P.M.G. says it is because of the need to conserve material and manpower.

Only four are envisaged this year (1) The last Encampment of the United Confederate Veterans; (2) Centenary of the Settlement of Nevada; (3) 75th Anniversary of Statehood of Colorado; (4) Anniversary of the American Chemical Society.

Perhaps, however, we may be able to make up on the Phillipine Arms series, mentioned in our April issue. With 50 provinces and at least 4 cities, a 3-value set for each would run to 162 stamps! The second of this series, City of Cebu, appear on 27 April.

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Union Notes

SUB-EDITOR: Mr. W. N. Sheffield,
Box 99, Clevedand, Transvaal.

Double Print Variety in the Frame Plate of the 6d. King's Head Issue.

Mr. Stephen G. Rich's photographs and notes on the frame plate double print variety published in our March issue, have brought forward two interesting letters the first of which we give below in full:

Hon. Editor, "S.A. Philatelist."
Sir,

I was most interested to read Mr. Stephen G. Rich's remarks on the above variety in last month's "Union Notes". Early in 1922 while a junior member of the East Rand Philatelic Society, I was shown one of these double prints in a 10/- used copy, by Mr. Biccard Jeppe, a senior member who specialised in Unions. He called it a "re-entry", which of course it is not, and asked me to keep a look out for others. Not long afterwards one of my school fellows was selling a batch of these used 10/- stamps at 9d. each — they were coming off cables even then — and I found that about a dozen of them showed this double print. Needless to say I bought most of these, and keeping the best one for my collection, "swapped" the others to Mr. Jeppe. Soon after that I found a used copy of the 6d. value which I still own. Later Mr. C. E. Done, another Union specialist in the East Rand Society showed me an unused copy of the 2/6 value having this double print. Although since then I have examined all the King's Head stamps that have passed through my hands it was only during the past three years or so that I found two more used copies of the 6d. value, which again I "swapped". Very recently I saw a used block of four half-crown stamps showing a very faint trace of double printing.

Of the two of these stamps in my collection the 6d. is a good example and compares well with those illustrated; on the 10/- stamp it is only the figures of value which show the double printing. This variety only seems to occur in the paler shades, i.e. lightly inked stamps, and I think confirms that it is caused by a flapping of the paper which would not show on the stamps were the plate properly inked. I egree with Mr. Rich that this variety is of considerable rarity, more so than the "white streaks" also found in the used stamps of this issue, and of which there are several examples in my collection. Incidentally Mr. Lilley is to be congratulated on having solved the puzzle of the origin of this latter variety.

Yours, etc.,
S. J. HAGGER.

The second letter received from a collector in Durban, Mr. J. S. Lennie (Jnr.), is dated 20.3.51 and shows that this comparatively rare variety is well worth while keeping a lookout for and may still be found in the ordinary circulating packets of the present day. He writes:

"While looking through an exchange packet of stamps this evening I obtained a copy of the 6d. King's Head Double Print variety as described in the March issue of the "South African Philatelist". It is practically identical to the second copy described by Mr. Rich and the doubling is clearly visible in both value tablets. The postmark I take to be SEP. 75—10 A.M. and only PSTAD which I take to be KAAP-STAD. The year on the postmark is 15."

New Postage Stamp Booklets.

The Publicity Officer of the Department of Posts and Telegraphs, Pretoria, announces the issue of a new postage stamp booklet costing 3/6 to replace the 3/- booklet. It contains two panes of six stamps of the ½d., 1d. and 2d. denominations and details of the cylinders used in their production are given as follows:

½d. Interior — No. 6912.
Exterior — No. 58.
1d. Interior — No. 55.
Exterior — No. 38.
2d. Interior — No. 6934.
Exterior — No. 64.

An examination of the stamps shows them to be of the all-screened type (cross-lined screen) and the design on the ½d. and 2d. items are the same as those found on the current sheet copies — i.e. 11A/11B and 6927/50 respectively. In the case of the 1d. however, the redrawn design issued in February this year and now appearing on the sheet copies of this value, has not been used for the new booklet



stamps and apart from the deeper colouring of the headplate and frame, those stamps examined showed a distinct similarity to those of the 76/14 and 70/14 printings.

The watermarks and perforations are the same as on the sheets and except for the 1d. value the colours, given below, are also very much the same.

½d.—Black and dark green.
1d.—Bluish black and crimson.
2d.—Slate-blue and purple.

Each pane has a blank marginal piece on the edge furthest away from the stitching which

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binds them together, thereby indicating that if the original 240-set multopositives were used for the printing of the sheets then certain columns of the stamp images were blacked out with bitumen paint prior to commencing the etching process on the cylinders.

The six panes are bound together with thin blank interleaving and soft card covers on which postal information has been printed in English and Afrikaans.

Change in the 2d. Postage Due Stamp.

Mr. S. J. Hagger of Alberton records the appearance during April of the 2d. Postage Due stamp with SUID-AFRIKA hyphenated in place of the unhyphenated form of the previous issue.

The general design remains unchanged and though the numeral appears to be an exact replica of the one on the previous issue, there is no information at the moment as to whether the old numeral cylinder has been combined with a new frame cylinder to produce the new printing. This, it will be remembered, was the procedure adopted with the 1d. and 3d. hyphenated postage dues which came into use in May 1950.

The frame colour of the new stamp is bright violet as compared with the dull violet of its predecessor and a block of six taken from the right hand portion of a sheet shows a cyclometer number of **five** numerals (printed in black), so indicating that the stamps were produced on the larger of the two machines in use at the Government Printing Works.

Of the four postage due stamps — 1d., 2d., 3d. and 6d. — at present in general use, the 6d. is now the only one with SUIDAFRIKA in its unhyphenated form.

Date of Issue of the "D26" 2d. Postage Due Stamp.

In our January (1951) notes on the 2d. postage due "Double Image" variety it is stated that the "D26" stamps were produced in 1950. Mr. R. B. Cronwright of Germiston has since pointed out that some used copies in his possession show cancellation dates two and three years earlier than this and one copy of the "Double Image" variety bears a portion of the postmark GERMISTON and the date "4 OCT. 36".

"Why Horizontal Pairs?"

A question that most collectors have probably asked themselves at one time or another has been submitted by Mr. R. E. Stott of Oldham, England who wishes to know why it is generally considered advisable to collect the Union bilingual stamps in horizontal rather than vertical pairs, even though the latter items may be quoted at a much lower price.

So far, we have not yet been able to obtain a solid and concrete answer to the question, but in discussing the matter with interested collectors the following points have been mentioned and are gathered together here for the benefit of others who may have been similarly puzzled by this practice of collecting the Union's stamps.

The general consensus of opinion is that the custom — for such it is — started off with the advent of the ½d., 1d. and 6d. 240-set pictorial values in May 1926 and since the shape and size of the issue lent itself to the mounting of horizontal pairs rather than the vertical pairs, the practice of setting them out in horizontal form appears to have been generally adopted by the collectors of the day.

From a practical point of view their selection was undoubtedly right for since one normally reads from left to right, rather than from top to bottom (or vice versa) and a horizontal pair also coincides with the natural setting of one's eyes, it follows that the designs, bilingual inscriptions and formats each and all combined towards this most balanced method of mounting.

By the time the 120-set oblong shaped pictorial stamps appeared in March 1927, the custom of collecting this series in horizontal pairs had evidently become sufficiently well established to continue the policy for though the change to a larger and oblong format did not lend itself quite so comfortably to the horizontal method of mounting, the difference was certainly not sufficient to cause any desire to modify the fashion that had then naturally developed.

And so it was probably not until the arrival of the Silver Jubilee issue in May 1935 with its comparatively large oblong format that collectors begun to question the advisibility of collecting **all** the Union's stamps in horizontal pairs. The difficulty of mounting these stamps in their horizontal form is known to all who have tried it and despite the additional fact that a vertical pair of the Jubilees, and stamps of a similar size, form a physically stronger pair for remaining in an unsevered condition, there is no doubt at all but that the general body of Union collectors of the time automatically decided that the policy adopted in the earlier years had grown to the stage where it had to continue and consequently any considerations of common sense were relegated to the background in favour of philatelic custom.

Whether they were right or wrong must remain a matter of opinion, but if it comes to a question of comparative value in postally used pairs of such large commemoratives as the Jubilees' then the horizontal setting will be found considerably scarcer than those in the vertical format. This is because post office counter clerks and the public generally, break up mint sheets and use stamps purely for postal purposes and assuming the stamps are usually handled with the designs lying in a normal viewing position, it follows that oblong stamps — and especially those with an unusually large format — can be most quickly detached for use on letters by tearing down through the vertical perforations rather than along the horizontal gutters. The small number of used horizontal pairs of the oblong -shaped 3d., 4d., 1/- and the higher values of the pictorial stamps which one normally sees in the post in comparison with vertical pairs of the same denominations, is fairly striking proof of this point.

But mint or used, the decision as to which of the two formats it is considered best to collect must — as wit all other phases of the hobby— be left entirely to each individual. Philatelically, a used vertical pair with a light clear cancellation showing the date of use and uossibly the name of the post office, gives infinitely more information — and satisfaction — then a horizontal pair bearing some postal markings which tell one nothing at all. It must follow then that the best policy is to collect any pair — either

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vertical or horizontal format — which may be considered most suitable for building up one's philatelic interest in the collection and filling up gaps which would otherwise remain blanks.

And in conclusion, here is a little story on this subject as told by a Johannesburg stamp dealer. His window display at one time included some mint sets of the Union ½d. and 1d. Silver Jubilee stamps in both horizontal and vertical pairs, and following the usual policy the set of vertical pairs was priced at about two-thirds the cost of the horizontal set. Came the day when a customer who had evidently been studying the two different settings and their respective prices appeared suddenly to find a solution to his immediate problem and without further thought on the matter, quickly walked into the shop and innocently asked for **"two** mint sets of the ½d. and 1d. Jubilee **vertical pairs—in blocks!"**

"Sorry," came the quick reply, "but we have only got **horizontal pairs in blocks."**

SCREENED PRINTINGS OF THE UNION PICTORIAL STAMPS.

In our October 1950 notes we gave a list of the all-screened pictorial stamps which had been issued up to that time with the cylinder numbers printed on the margin of the sheets.

The following table brings the list up to date and also includes those printings in which either the vignettes or the frames, or both, were produced from screened cylinders the numbers of which were not printed on the sheet margins. The accompanying dates gave the approximate time the particular issues first appeared on sale.

½d. Denomination—Screened Frames only.
1. ..... 48 (Int.) & 6933 (Ext.)—Jan. 1948.
2. ..... 25 25 (Int.) & 6912 (Ext.)—May 1948 (180-set.)
3. ..... 86 (Int.) & 82 (Ext.)—July 1948

Vignette & Frames Screened.
4. ..... 7020A (Int.) & 7020B (Ext.)—Jan. 1949.
5. ..... 7020A (Int.) & 11B (Ext.)—April 1949.
6. ..... 11A (Int.) & 11B (Ext.)—Jan. 1950.

Screened single cylinder for roll stamps.
R1. ..... No. 6911—Feb. 1943.
R2. ..... No. 39—May 1948.
R3. ..... No. 6045—Oct. 1948.

1d. Denomination—Vignettes & Frames Screened.
1. ..... 76 (Int.) & 14 (Ext.)—Sept. 1950.
2. ..... 70 (Int.) & 88 (Ext.)—Nov. 1950.
3. ..... 70 (Ext.) & 14 (Ext.)—Nov. 1950.
4. ..... 6925 (Int.) & 36 (Ext.)—Feb. 1951.

Screened single cylinder for roll stamps.
R1. ..... No. 16—Sept. 1943.
R2. ..... No. 24—Nov. 1948.

1½d. Denomination—Vignettes & Frames Screened.
1. ..... Cylinders not recorded—Aug. 1941.
2. ..... 31 (Int.) & 6924 (Ext.)—Aug. 1941.
3. ..... 5 (Int.) & 33 (Ext.)—Dec. 1947.
4. ..... 28 (Int.) & 6 (Ext.)—April 1947 (Bantams).
5. ..... 6919A (Int.) & 6919B (Ext.)—July 1948.
6. ..... 6931A (Int.) & 6931B (Ext.)—Feb. 1949.

2d. Denomination—Screened Vignettes only.
1. ..... 6913 (Int.) & 10 (Ext.)—March 1945.
2. ..... 1913 (Int.) & 64 (Ext.)—Feb. 1946.
3. ..... 8 (Int.) & 21 (Ext.)—

Vignettes & Frames Screened.
..... 37 (Int.) & 2 (Ext.)—March 1950.
5. ..... 6927 (Int.) & 50 (Ext.)—April 1950.

3d. Denomination—Vignettes Screened only.
1. ..... 55 (Int.) & 30 (Ext.)—Feb. 1940.

Vignettes & Frames Screened.
2. ..... 44A (Int.) & 44B (Ext.)—April 1949.

Screened single cylinder for sheets.
3. ..... No. 17—March 1951.

6d. Denomination—Vignettes & Frames Screened.
1. ..... 6930 (Int.) & 6 (Ext.)—Jan. 1950.

1/- Denomination—Vignettes & Frames Screened.
1. ..... 6926 (Int.) & 6935 (Ext.)—Jan. 1950.

2/6 Denomination—Vignettes & Frames Screened.
1. ..... 6919 (Int.) & 17 (Ext.)—Aug. 1949.

5/- Denomination—Vignettes & Frames Screened.
1. ..... 36 (Int.) & 6925 (Ext.)—Aug. 1949.

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UNION SPECIALIST ITEMS

King's Head: 6d. "VID" error, pair with normal, mint, **15/-.** 5/- fine used strip with gutter margin, **20/-.** 10/- fine used, **10/-.** £1 used (S.G. 24a) **70/-.**
4d. Triangle, Afrikaans, private perf. mint pair at **7/6.**
Pretoria Ptg. Booklet strip of 3 (S.G. 30b) mint at **50/-.**
Airmail 1925 cpl. mint set of four at **45/-.**
Rotary Printings.
½d. Roll strip of 8, E-E and A-A (S.G. 42a) mint, for **20/-.**
½d. booklet sheet (S.G. 54a) inverted wmk., with sheet number at left, block of six, mint, at **17/6.**
½d. plate 2, "Cobweb between horns", 3 distinctly different printings, the three mint blocks of 4 at **21/-.**
Postage Due 1/- London fine used at **63/-.**
Ditto, vertical pair for **£6 6s.**
Pretoria rouletted ½d., 1d., 1½d., complete mint sheet of 60 of each value (180 stamps). Pr. **£15.**

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SHORT NOTICES.

Glossary of Philatelic Terms.

The Blandford Press, of 16 West Central St., London W.C.1., announces that it will publish on 29 May, on behalf of the Philatelic Congress of Great Britain, this rewritten and much enlarged Glossary. The original, issued by Congress in 1933, has long been out of print. The price will be 6/- ordinary, or 8/6 for full cloth binding.

Introduction to Stamps.

The same firm will bring out early in April a volume under the above title by Dr. J. L. Grumbridge, Chairman of the Council of the B.P.A. This is designed to appeal to the adult beginner and in this respect will be very different from most books for beginners. Price 8/6 full cloth binding.

U.N. Stamps.

According to Mr. Kent B. Stiles in his stamp column in the "New York Times", the United Nations stamps are to be released about 1 July, but how high the denominations are to run has yet to be decided. They are to be used exclusively on mail from U.N. headquarters. There will be no flooding of the market with them and the intention is to restrict releases to stamps in keeping with the dignity and prestige of the organisation. Designs are not yet finally approved but they will represent in symbolic or pictorial form the aims and activities of U.N. As we have already mentioned the U.N. postal service will be operated on their behalf by the P.O. Department of the U.S.A.

"Union Postale."

We are advised by this magazine, the monthly organ of the U.P.U. (through the Postal Publicity Officer, Pretoria), that it is now prepared to accept commercial advertisements, including those of stamp dealers, philatelic societies, etc.

The magazine has articles of interest on postal services throughout the world as well as information relating to issues of stamps. These are partly in French, but in many other languages as well.

Details of rates, etc. can be obtained from the Rene Thonney Publicity Office, Lausanne, Switzerland, but as an example we might just state that a quarter-page advertisement (space about half as big again as a quarter-page of this magazine) for one insertion would cost 55 Swiss francs (about £4 10s.) for one insertion and 300 Swiss francs (say £25) for twelve insertions.

Stanley Gibbons' Catalogue. Part II, Europe Supplement, 2nd. Ed. Price 1/6 net, postage 2d.

This Supplement appeared originally in Oct., 1950, but despite three reprintings has been sold out. As a new edition of the basic catalogue cannot appear until sometime fairly early in 1952, this supplement has been brought up to date by inclusion of six months more new issues. Price changes made to those in the catalogue and the first supplement are, of course, also included.

Bright & Son.

Mr. H. R. Vaughan, manager of the old-established firm of Bright & Son, 167 Strand, London, announces that he has now formed an independent firm which has purchased the offices and foreign stamp stockbooks of the old firm. Most of the former staff will be carrying on with him and his special one-country albums will remain a specialised service.

AIR MAIL NOTES.

New Route—Johannesburg to Great Britain, via Israel.

Commencing with the Airmail services which left Johannesburg (Palmietfontein) and London on 31st March, 1951, Khartoum was omitted as a point of call on all North and Southbound services of **South African Airways**, the new route being via Nairobi, Lydda and Rome and the overall time for the journey being 28 hours.

Cyprus. The South African Airways' "Constellation" which left London on 2nd April was unable to land at Lydda owing to the Airport being fog-bound, and had to make an unscheduled stop at Cyprus before proceeding to Nairobi. This was the first occasion that Cyprus has been used as a stopping place since the "Springbok" Service started. I. H. C. GODFREY.

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RHODESIAS & NYASALAND.

The Rhodesian Study Circle Bulletins Nos. 11 and 12 (Dec., 1950 and March, 1951) are simply bulging with information about these territories. Much of it is Postal History, including both old history and events of to-day — postal history in the making.

There are postmarks, both old but not previously recorded, and new ones; postal rates in B.C.A., recently dug out by Mr. Twyanm; Barotseland's first air mail services (1939); postal slogans of the Rhodesias and Nyasaland.

A number of little-known or undescribed Admiral varieties from Mr. Livermore's collection, e.g. 6d. Die II with three lines on left wing of King's collar and also marks on the peak of the cap (these are illustrated); collar with smudges, possibly result of engraver's attempt to remove the three lines mentioned.

The "Waxed Moustache" variety as described by Mr. A. V. Jacob in our February issue was located by him stamp No. 37. Mr. Deal puts it on No. 34. As Mr. Jacob has gone over to London we hope he will have an opportunity of investigating this discrepancy himself.

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FRANCE.

An extensive printing programme for 1951 has been announced by the Minister of Posts. There are to be some nine definitives, nine commemorative or propaganda stamps and nine semi-postals.

France has honoured many of her great men and women on stamps but one, perhaps her greatest historical character, has not so far been thus commemorated. The highest value of the semi-postals, a 20 plus 10 fr. stamp, will this year fill this blank as it will feature a portrait of the Emperor Napoleon I.

"L'Officiel de la Philatelie" has an article on the 5 Fr. stamp of the French Empire. It characterises it as France's rarest stamp in superb condition, although it is quite common in poor or even in fair condition.

March 10 saw the appearance of a 12fr. plus 3fr. stamp in honour of the Day of the Stamp; it features the interior of a railway postal sorting van. On 17 March a 15fr. stamp was issued, with a portrait of M. Jules Ferry, prominent politician in the third Republic from 1879 to 1885.

FRENCH COLONIAL PROOFS AND ESSAYS.

Mr. Joseph H. Burka, of 25 Rue Bois-le-vent, Paris-XVI is in a position to supply these and would like to get in touch with anyone interested. He would like to purchase or exchange literature dealing with any proofs or essays, also to exchange those of French Colonies for those of other countries.

MORE IMPORTANT COLONIAL COMMEMORATIVE ISSUES.

Booking Lists are now open for the following:
Nyasaland: Diamond Jubilee commem. Set of 4, 1½d., 3d., 6d. and 5/-. Mint, 7/-; Used 8/-
Virgin Is.: Legislative Council commem. set of 4, 6, 12, 32c & 1 dol. 20c. , Mint, 8/-; Used 9/-
Tonga: 50th Anniversary, ½d. to 1/- (6), m., 2/6; Used 3/-
Also booking for:
West Indies: University College commems, 28 stamps for 14 Cols. Mint, 9/6; Used 11/6
Tonga: Queen's Birthday (3), Mint, 1/8; Used 2/6
Malta: Princess Elizabeth (3), Mint, 1/7; Used 1/9
St. Kitts: Anguilla (6), Mint, 2/7; Used 3/-

Recent Colonial Issues:
New Zealand: 1950 Health pair, Mint, 6d.; Used 6d.
Canterbury Anniversary set, Mint, 2/6; Used 2/6
Australia: Centenary 2½d. pairs, Mint, 6d.; Used 6d.
Canada: 1949 Heads (original types) set of 5 m. 1/6
do., Coils, 1 and 3c. mint ..... 9d.
Revised design, set of 5 ..... 1/4
Do., coils, 1, 2, 3 and 4c. 1/-
New 10c. at 1/-; new 50c. 5/6
Cayman Is.: new pictorials, ½d. to 1/- (u, 4/3) 3/9
Complete set to 10/- (used 27/3) 23/9
Gibraltar: Constitution commem. (4) 2/3
Ireland: 1950 Holy Year (3) m. or u. 1/6
Mauritius: new pictorials, set to 1 R (u. 5/9) 5/-
Complete set to 10 Rs. (used 40/9) 35/9
Niue: 1950 picts. ½d. to 1/- (used 4/3) 4/-
Complete set to 3/- (used 11/-) 10/-
N. Borneo: 1950 picts. 1 to 50c. (11) (u. 5/-) 4/3
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Turks Is.: 1950 set to 1/- (used 3/9) 3/4
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S.W.A. ½d. to 1/- current singles.

T.V.L., Cape of Good Hope, O.F.S., Natal, low values such as Edwards Hope Sitting and Standing, etc., etc.

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Union Stamp Review

By
T. I. FERREIRA,
Post Office Publicity Officer.

(Cont. from page 61, April issue.)

Amusing Incident in connection with use of 1½d. Stamps.

An interesting and somewhat amusing incident in connection with the raising of the unit of postage to 1½d. per ounce is quoted by Mr. J. Ritchie in his book entitled "The Adhesive Postage Stamps of the Union of South Africa" which may be mentioned here—

"On the 10th May 1920 the postage rate on letters was increased from 1d. to 1½d. per ounce . . . It was not, however, until some months later that stamps of this new value were placed on sale, and in the meantime a ½d. stamp had to be used to make up the additional postage on letters. Some letters bearing a 1d. and a bisected 1d. stamp to make up the 1½d. were, however, passed through the post, but the bisected 1d. stamp was most decidedly never authorised. Some Postmaster, in ignorance, may have passed letters stamped in this way, but the vast majority of those letters were surcharged at double the deficiency. There was no shortage of ½d. stamps, and the bisected 1d. was a 'try on' by philatelists."

1½d. Stamp available for Revenue Purposes.

The 1½d. stamp was available for revenue purposes in addition to postage purposes, and an indication to that effect was embodied at the base of the stamp.

Inland Postage rate increase to 2d. in 1921.

As from the 1st June 1921 the unitary rate of postage for inland letters was increased to 2d. per ounce, but this did not necessitate the issue of a new stamp, there being already one of the 2d. denomination in the Union issue. On the other hand the 1½d. denomination issued in August the previous year was rendered unnecessary, but continued to be sold.

The "Tete-beche" variety of 1½d. Stamp.

Further it was found that the contractors, Messrs. De La Rue and Co., London, had a large quantity of this denomination printed "Tete-beche", i.e. in long rows or strips with the stamps in each row or strip in reversed position to those adjoining, ready for making up into rolls. Additional rolls of this denomination were not required, due to the increase in the inland postage rate, nevertheless it was decided to accept the stamps and issue them for ordinary postage purposes. The last issue of this particular type of 1½d. stamp (Tete-beche and ordinary) was made in October 1925, and thereafter the denomination became obsolete.

Oversea Postage increased to 3d.

Change of Colour of 3d. Stamps.

On the 4th October, 1922, the international postage rate was increased from 2½d. to 3d. and as a distinctive colour for a stamp representing this international unit is prescribed in the Universal Postal Union Convention, it was necessary for the Union issue to conform thereto, in consequence of which the colour of the 3d. stamp was changed from Orange with black centre to blue. The new stamp was first issued on the 4th October, 1922, and the printing, watermark, and make up were similar in all other respects to the remaining denominations. The use of the old two-coloured stamps was discontinued when the new stamps were issued.

Second Permanent Issue 1926.

On the 1st January, 1926 the inland rate of postage for letters was reduced to 1d. per ounce, which is the lowest rate the public of South Africa have enjoyed, inasmuch as when penny postage was previously in operation the unit of weight was half an ounce.

This notable event was marked by the issue of the first three items of a new Pictorial set of Union Stamps to replace those of the "King's Head" issue, viz., ½d., 1d., and 4d. As with the "Kings Head" issue the Government held a competition in order to secure the best designs for the new stamp. Government Gazette Notice of the 7th Judy 1922 refers:

No. 1060. 4th July, 1922

Competition for Designs for New Postage Stamps for the Union of South Africa.

"Competitive designs are hereby invited for a new series of postage stamps for the Union of South Africa.

The series may comprise twelve separate designs, one for each of the following denominations, viz., ½d., 1d., 2d., 3d., 4d., 6d., 1/-, 1/3, 2/6, 5/-, 10/-, and £1.

A premium of £10 is offered for the design selected as being the best in the case of each of these postal values.

Designs sent in should be drawn or reduced to approximately the size of the present postage stamps. For the higher denominations they may be of a somewhat larger size. They must show:—

(1) A design, pictorial or otherwise, definitely associated with the Union of South Africa.
(2) The words "Union of South Africa" or "South Africa" or "Unie van Suidafrika" or "Suidafrika" the intention being to print one stamp in English and the next in Dutch, because of the overcrowding of the very limited space available which would take place if all the wording on the stamp appeared in two languages.
(3) The denomination in figures.
(4) The words 'Postage' or 'Posseël'. In the case of the ½d. and 1d. denominations the words 'Postage', 'Revenue' or 'Posseël', "Inkomste" must be shown."

The designs submitted need not be in colours, but those for the ½d., 1d., and 3d. stamps must be suitable for reproduction in green, red, and blue respectively.

The Government's decision will be final as regards the selection of designs and the award of prizes.

The prize designs will become the absolute property of the Government. Any design for which a prize has not been awarded may on the same conditions be purchased by the Gov-

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ernment at a price to be agreed upon, but in any case not to exceed £10.

The designs should be enclosed in registered covers addressed to the Postmaster General of the Union of South Africa, Pretoria, and marked outside 'Competitive Designs for Union Postage Stamps'."

The Government Gazette of the 3rd November, 1922 notified the result of the competition and the awards made, as follows:

Messrs. Waterlow and Sons, Ltd. — Three prizes.

Messrs. De La Rue & Co., Ltd.—Three prizes.

Messrs. Bradbury, Wilkinson & Co., Ltd.—Two prizes.

W. Johnston—One prize.

There were no awards for three denominations.

Reason which influenced the issue of Pictorial Stamps.

The change from the "King's Head" issue to the pictorial stamps is interesting, and it came about as the result of a strong desire that the Union postage stamps should be more South African in character, which could only be achieved by representing, on the various denominations, some symbol or phase of South African life, conditions, activities or scenery. The designs selected were therefore as follows:—

½d. Springbok's Head.

1d. Ship, probably representing the "Dromedaris" from which Van Riebeeck landed at the Cape.

2d. Union Buildings.

3d. Groot Schuur.

4d. Triangular stamp with design of female figure of "Hope" sitting upon an anchor which rests upon a rock.

(This design is that of the Cape of Good Hope triangular stamp issued in 1853.)

6d. Orange Tree.

1/- Gnus in motion. Probably taken from the Natal Coat of Arms.

2/6 Ox wagon at outspan.

10/- Cape Town, with Table Mountain in background.

1s. 3d. and £1 Stamps not Included.

It is noteworthy that stamps value at 1s. 3d. and £1 were not included in the new series the former probably because of the large stocks on hand, and the latter because it had been decided to discontinue this variety.

Stamps not Bilingual. Printed alternately in English and Afrikaans.

The stamps of this new issue are not bilingual, as were those of the "King's Head" issue, being printed wholly in English or Afrikaans alternately. This is the first time since the Anglo-Boer War that postage stamps have been printed solely in Afrikaans.

Printing.

All the denominations were printed from steel plates with single fugitive ink. The work was performed partly by Messrs. Waterlow & Sons, partly by Messrs. Bradbury, Wilkinson & Co., who also prepared the necessary plates.

Special Feature of the 4d. Triangular Stamp.

Of special interest is the revival, in the first issue of pictorial stamps, of the design and triangular shape of the first fourpenny stamp issued in the Cape Colony in 1853. These new stamps were first available in uncut sheets, and also singly, in the office of the High Commissioner, London, on the 2nd January, 1926. The sheets were entirely in English or in Afrikaans, and not mixed alternately as were the stamps of the other denominations.

They were first supplied to Postmasters in South Africa at the beginning of January, 1926, in packets of 60 single stamps in English or Afrikaans as desired, specially cut and made up by the printers. Thus they had to be sold to the public in the form of single stamps. Later, however, on the 15th April, 1926 to be precise, uncut sheets of 120 stamps were available for sale in the Union.

What the intention was behind the issue of these triangular stamps cannot be stated, but a strange feature developed in that the stamps were not very popular with the public. Whether or not the unusual nature of the stamps in being imperforate, or their unusual shape, weighed with the public, is not known, but it is significant that in just over two years from the date of the first issue the triangular stamps were replaced by a new issue of the normal flat oblong size and dimensions of the majority of the pictorial issue.

The new 4d. issue embodies a kaffir kraal as the main distinctive feature, and it is printed in brown. The shape conforms to that of most of the new pictorial issue (the ½d., 1d., and 6d. varieties being the exceptions) and the stamps are made up in sheets of 120 stamps, printed in English and Afrikaans alternately. The same watermark is used, i.e. a Springbok's Head. Messrs. Bradbury, Wilkinson & Co., New Malden, Surrey were the printers. The stamps were first issued on the 21st March, 1928. This new issue replaced the unpopular 4d. triangular stamp, and Postmasters were instructed to use the latter for accounting purposes, in order that the stock should soon be exhausted.

Decision that Stamps be printed in South Africa.

Shortly after the orders had been placed for the printing of the new pictorial stamps in England, it was decided that future printings and new issues should be executed in South Africa by the Government Printer. In this connection, therefore, Messrs. Waterlow & Sons, London, one of the contractors, transferred the plates of the ½d., 1d., and 6d. varieties to the Government Printer after the initial quantity of sheets had been absorbed. It is interesting to recall that Messrs. Waterlow & Sons printed the following quantities of stamps of the pictorial issue prior to transferring the plates to the Government Printer, Pretoria:

½d. variety: 353,000 Sheets of 240 stamps.
1d. variety: 303,000 Sheets of 240 stamps.
6d. variety: 17,093 Sheets of 240 stamps.

Various printings were made in Pretoria from those plates, the first of the 1d. varieties being delivered on the 29th November, 1926, and the ½d. and 6d. varieties at the end of February, 1927. Later the Government Printer produced further issues by means of the new Gravure process.

It does not appear that the plates for the other varieties prepared and printed by Messrs. Bradbury, Wilkinson & Co., New Malden, Surrey, were transferred to the Government Printer, nevertheless the latter took over the work and produced stamps of the values previously

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supplied by Messrs. Bradbury, Wilkinson, & Co. They are held by the Government Printer in trust for the Government.

First Delivery of Stamps from New Process.

The first delivery by the Government Printer of stamps produced from the Gravure process was made in March 1930, and consisted of the 1d. variety. This was followed in September of the same year by the ½d. demomination. Other values followed at intervals as required.

(To be continued.)

Collectors' Wants & Offers

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

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

Wanted: German South West Africa Special Items, Specimens, Covers, etc.—L. BUCHEN, P.O. Box 4012, Johannesburg.

Beginners and medium collectors — try our approval service.—BENONI STAMP SHOP, Box 485, Benoni.

50% over Gibbons Catalogue price offered for a superb Mint and Used copy of Seychelles, S.G. 52A.—WILLIAM REDFORD, P.O. Box 1182, Johannesburg.

Wholesaler requires regular supplies of Basutoland, Bechuanaland, Nyasaland, Swaziland in large or small quantities. Send or write by air mail.—B. SAVITZ, 69, Greenvale Road, London, S.E. 9, England.

American Magazine Subscription Catalogue Free—SOPER EXCHANGE, Cranford, New Jersey, U.S.A.

WANTED. Mint George VI "Specimen" Sets. Send your quotation and details to B. GLASSMAN, P.O. Box 10, Johannesburg.

WANTED: Plate number and imprint blocks of Australia, fine material of Switzerland, either in exchange or to buy—B. SEELIG, P.O. Box 5521, Johannesburg.

PHILATELIC SOCIETY OF RHODESIA.

The Chairman writes that as they are a comparatively small society, at any rate so far as town members who can attend regularly are concerned, it would be very much appreciated if any philatelic visitors to Bulawayo could give them a "show" so as to have some more variety at their meetings.

Their meetings are on the 1st Wednesday of each month in the evening. Possible visitors might communicate with the Hon. Secretary beforehand at P.O. Box 803, or they could get the chairman, Mr. J. E. Crewell during office hours at Phone 2828.

METER FRANKS

By R. AXER.

SOUTH WEST AFRICA AND NORTHERN RHODESIA.

South West Africa.

During the past year considerable progress has been made in the use of meter machines in S.W.A.

The old "Francotyp" type has been withdrawn and replaced by a standard Neopost type as well as by the use of the Union Neopost type 3, and Union U.M.V. type 6 (Harris Catalogue), tables suitably amended to the new country of issue.

A curious variety has arisen: Instead of the Town name and Country appearing in the Town mark in N2 and N4 the English and Afrikaans version of the country only, was used. This has since been corrected in N4.







Northern Rhodesia.

This is a new country to take up the use of meter franking. I regret I have not yet received a specimen sufficiently clear to photograph, but the accompanying sketch gives a fairly good idea of the features of the frank.

Following is a complete list of all users in the two territories as far as is known:

Francotyp.

F1, Metje & Ziegler, Windhoek, 1d. ccld.

F2 Landbank, Windhoek, 1d. ccld..

Neopost (Union type 3):

N1 S. Cohen & Co., Windhoek, 1½d., 2d.

S.W.A. Type:

N2 A. Wutow & Co., S.W.A., Suidwes-Afrika, 1d., 1½d., 3d., 6d., 1/-.

N3 Metje & Ziegler, Windhoek, ½d., 1d., 1½d.

N4 Metje & Ziegler, S.W.A., Suidwes-Afrika, 1½d.

N4 Metje & Ziegler, Luderitz, S.W.A., 1½d., 2d., 3d., 6d., 1/-.

N5 M. Pukowitz, Windhoek, 2d.

Universal M.V. (Union Type 6):

U1 Farmers' Co-op. Union, Windhoek, 2d.

N1 African Explosives & Chemical Industries, Ndola, 2d.

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AUSTRALIAN COLLECTORS

1951 Commonwealth Specialists' Catalogue by Orlo-Smith. Price **5/-**. Reg .Post, 6d. extra.

"Kangaroo Issues of Australian Stamps," by Maj. H. Dormer-Legge, T.D. Price **10/6.** Registered Post 6d. extra.

"Line Engraved Issues of 1914 and the Essays, Die and Plate Proofs of the Georgian 1d." by Major H. Dormer-Legge, T.D. Price **10/6.** Registered Post 6d. extra.

"1d. K.G.V. Australian Commonwealth Stamps" by D. M. Neil. Price **7/6.** Reg. Post 6d. extra.

"K.G.V. 1½d. Die *22*" by Gordon Wood M.D. (London). Price **5/6.** Reg. Post 6d. extra.

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1d.	73	6d.	2½d.	52	5/-
2½d.	76	2/6	3d.	53	5/3
3d.	77	2/6	6d.	54	11/6
8d.	78	4/-	1/-	55	16/-
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2/-	80	10/6	2/6	57	37/6
5/-	95	20/-	10/-	58	240/-
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S. NIGERIA.			**SUDAN**		
½d.	S.G. 10	9d.	3m.	S.G. 49	4/-
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2d.	12	2/6	10m.	51	7/6
2½d.	12a	3/-	15m.	52	3/3
4d.	13	3/-	2p.	53	1/3
6d.	14	7/6	2½p.	53b	3/9
1/-	15	7/6	3p.	54	5/-
2/6	16	8/9	3½p.	55	7/6
10/-	18	25/-	5p.	57	7/6
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●

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SOCIETY NEWS

FEDERATED SOCIETIES

NAME AND ADDRESS:	MEETINGS:
Cape Town P.S., Box 1973	2nd and 4th Thursdays, 8 p.m., Mountain Club Rooms, Yorkshire Ho., Strand St.
Copperbelt P.S., c/o No. 12 7th Ave., Nkana, N. Rhodesia	2nd Fridays, 7.45 p.m., Colosseum Theatre Tea Rooms
E. London P.S., c/o Box 450	3rd Tuesdays, 8 p.m., Regent Hotel, Benoni.
E. Rand P.S., c/o Box 155, Brakpan	2nd Thursdays, 8 p.m., 1 Thompson Street.
Grahamstown P.S., c/o. R. Q. Tarr, Kingswood Col.	
Jewish Guild Phil. Section, Von Brandis Street, Johannesburg	Last Thursdays, 8 p.m., Jewish Guild.
Johannesburg, P.S. of, Box 4967	2nd Tuesdays and 4th Mondays, 7.45 p.m., Public Library.
Mashonaland, P.S., Box 74, Salisbury	2nd. Wednesday, Room 4, Polytechnic, 5th Street.
Natal, P.S. of, Box 588, Durban	1st and 3rd Wednesdays, 7.30 p.m., Durban Camera Club, 319 Smith Street.
N. Transvaal P.S., c/o Miss v. Niekerk, P.O. Rita	3rd Mondays, Goldfields Hotel, Pietersburg, at 8 p.m.
Nyasaland P.S., c/o Limbe Trading Co., Limbe	Free State Technical College, 7.30 p.m., 4th Fridays.
O.F.S. & Basutoland P.S., Box 702, Bloemfontein	1st & 3rd Tuesdays, 7.45 p.m., Room 3, City Hall Basement.
Port Elizabeth P.S., c/o 13 Trafalgar Square	1st & 3rd Mondays, 8 p.m., Technical College.
Pretoria P.S., Box 514	2nd Wednesdays, 7.30 p.m., Railway Recreation Club
Pretoria Railway P.S., Railway Recreation Club, Berea Park	1st Weds., Presbyterian Hall, 5th Ave., Bulawayo.
Rhodesia, P.S. of, Box 803, Bulawayo	3rd Thursday of every month, 8 p.m., Savoy Hotel, Roodepoort.
Roodepoort Stamp Club, c/o 82 Kruger Ave., Selwyn, Florida	2nd Mondays, 7.30 p.m., Board Room, New Era Press
Springs P.S., c/o No. 25, 5th St., New Township, Springs	At times announced during term-time.
University of Cape Town P.S., c/o. University of Cape Town, Rondebosch, Cape.	2nd Wednesdays, 8 p.m., Technical College.
Vereeniging Stamp Club, Box 48	1st Wednesdays, 8 p.m., Royal Hotel, Krugersdorp.
W. Rand Stamp Club, c/o. 55, 4th Street, District Township, Krugersdorp	

PORT ELIZABETH PHILATELIC SOCIETY.

February.

The Annual General Meeting was held on February 20th.

Mr. Bulbring was re-elected as President; Mr. G. K. Forbes and Mr. T. M. Winsley, Vice-Presidents; Mr. G. P. Smith, Hon. Secretary; Exchange Superintendent, Mr. D. Watson and Mr. G. P. Smith, jointly; Press Correspondent—Mrs. L. E. Campton; Hon. Auditor, Mr. J. McMillan; Auctioneer Staff, Mr. Berrington, Mr. G. P. Smith, and Auctioneers Mr. G. K. Forbes and Mr. T. M. Winsley.

A suggestion was put forward that a box be provided to collect stamps from members for the National Health Fund Appeal.

Mr. Bulbring spoke to members, and asked them to support the S.A. Philatelist. The President said that with the idea of forming a Junior Club amongst the students of whom many were interested, he was getting in touch with the headmaster of a local School.

Members were asked to encourage and bring along anyone interested in the Society, with the idea of getting them to join.

The Syllabus for 1951 was approved. It was decided to draw up the Syllabus for 1952 in October. This would give members who wished to display, plenty of time to study their collections and make an early choice; also to write up their subject and prepare a talk, which would make the evening more interesting.

The new constitution and Bye-laws were handed out to all present.

March.

There was only a small attendance at the meeting on Tuesday, March 20th. Mr. Berneaud showed a small part of his collection. The main items being pages of Zanzibar and Burma; the Zanzibar issues starting in 1937, the sets of Burma in 1937, overprints of India. There was one page of Tanganyika, of great interest as it was the large Giraffe issue with the rare 15 and 25 Rupees. All the sets were used.

Mr. Berneaud then gave an interesting talk, and warned members about the forgeries of Burma. He said there were only two reprints, and the difference was the watermarks. During one part of the war the price of Burma stamps soared, but when overrun by the Japs the price fell, to revive again after the war, but at the present time they give of very little value. The limit to which Mr. Berneaud collected Zanzibar was 10 Rupees, as this part of his collection was not his main interest.

Mr. Bulbring thanked Mr. Berneaud for an interesting evening, and a hearty vote of thanks was accorded to him by the members.

April.

Mr. Bulbring presided over rather a smaller gathering than usual when the meeting opened on Tuesday the 17th April.

It was with deep regret we have to announce the passing away of one of our oldest members, Mr. J. McMillan. He had been a member for 30 years, and Hon. Auditor for many years. The President asked members to stand in silence as a mark of respect.

The evening was in the hands of Mr. Van Dyker, who showed his collection of K. George VI. These, except for a very few items, were mint. Each of the Colonies were neatly written up with the area, population, capital town or city, chief exports and when discovered or ceded to Great Britain.

On one page were seventeen Silver Jubilee £1 stamps of Great Britain used, and another had nineteen and a block of four of the £1 now obsolete, also used. These two pages and one of Australian Silver Jubilees were the only used ones on display.

The collection was mounted on black paper.

Mr. Van Dyker gave a talk and said he was quite prepared to answer any questions.

Mr. G. K. Forbes and Mr. G. Bulbring were chosen as delegates for the Congress at Bloemfontein.

Mr. Bulbring called on Mr. Berneaud to reply and to tender a vote of thanks, and the meeting closed at 9.45 p.m. L.E.C.

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THE EAST LONDON PHILATELIC SOCIETY.

There was a good attendance of members and guests at the March meeting when Mr. J. P. Shingler took the chair in the absence of the President, Mr. Andrew Watson, owing to ill health.

The members stood in silence in memory of the late Mr. C. N. Blaker, a foundation member of the Society, who was much loved in the City and also in memory of Mrs. W. J. Gillespie, the wife of a keen local collector.

A reply was received from the Secretary of the S.A. Mint and after a discussion it was decided to order silver medals in leather pouches for the best displays throughout the year.

For the first time for some months, two new members were elected, one being a young lady member who had come up from the Junior Society.

A report was received from country friends that a few 1d. pictorial post cards had been found without stamps.

Arrangements were made for the holding, at the end of April, of the Annual Dinner of the Society and Bon Voyage was expressed by the meeting to Mr. T. A. Harper, our senior foundation member, who is proceeding on an overseas trip. Mr. Harper read a very fine paper on forgeries and gave a display of these interesting imitations, which well illustrated his talk. It was agreed that this good paper be sent to the "S.A. Philatelist" for publication.

A report was received from the special S.A.N.T.A. Committee to the effect that a meeting had been held, the stamps valued and that a list would shortly be circulated calling for bids for the various lots which have been made available through the generosity of members.

The Rev. H. Pluddemann displayed his collection of War Time issues of Germany and the finely executed designs were much admired; Mr. J. V. Jensen thanked Mr. Pluddemann for the enjoyable display.

Mr. Leon Hellman gave a display of the stamps of U.S.A. which were extremely well written up and many stamps were accompanied by photographs and full historical details. Mrs. Winder expressed the appreciation of the meeting for this display and remarked that it was of real educational value.

A very pleasant meeting was brought to a close with an auction of various stamps and accessories.

U.C.S.

EAST RAND PHILATELIC SOCIETY.

The meeting on Tuesday, the 20th March was very successful, as a large number of visitors from Pretoria and Springs attended. Mr. Ferreira, the Post Office Publicity Officer, exhibited the essays and proofs which had been discovered in the Union Archives.

J.A.G.

PHILATELIC SOCIETY OF JOHANNESBURG.

10 April.

Mr. E. Schaiowitz showed his thematic collection of "Music and Musicians" which was awarded a bronze plaque at the 1950 Exhibition in Johannesburg. He read an interesting paper showing a wide knowledge of the subject matter of the collection.

The exhibit included many fine stamps with portraits of musicians and composers, as well as stamps with actual music on them. There were also stamps issued in honour of musicians and music festivals.

Many countries were represented and much information was afforded in the beautiful writing up.

23 April.

Mr. Gordon Brown was due to have exhibited his Burma collection, but in his unavoidable absence Mr. I. Isaacs showed his thematic collection of stamps illustrating famous quotations from English authors. This collection started from a chance remark about high value Kenya stamps being possibly available for sending human beings by post — "It isn't the weight which counts but the quality" (?author), but strangely enough there was no £100 Kenya stamp illustrating this quotation!

One does not know whether most to admire Mr. Isaac's literary knowledge or his ingeniousness in finding stamps to illustrate his quotations, which ranged from Chaucer to Bernard Shaw. Some of the quotations were a bit high-brow for many of the members but two were low-brow enough to be appreciated by all! One was illustrated by a Greek stamp featuring Pygmalion for a quotation from Shaw, the other a German stamp with head of Hitler for a quotation from Shakespeare. Can readers guess the quotations?

PHLIATELIC SECTION — JEWISH GUILD.

At the Annual General Meeting the following were elected office bearers: Chairman, Mr. B. Joseph; Vice-Chairman, Mr. A. J. Nathanson; Hon. Sec., Mr. U. M. Milunsky; Committee members, Messrs. W. Mann, B. Glassman, I. Isaacs, with J. M. Rich as ex-officio member.

Recent meetings have been chiefly occupied with informal exhibits and exchange activities.

CAPE TOWN PHILATELIC SOCIETY.

On April 12th a delegation from the Society were the guests of the Philatelic Society of the University of Cape Town on their Home ground. Exhibits provided by the visitors covered a wide field of philatelic interests and were much appreciated by the joint gathering. They embraced New Zealand pictorials and a selection of littleknown Meter Marks (shown by Mr. Axer), the "Pro Juventute" issues of Switzerland (Mr. Kagenson), a nice lot of Natal (Mr. Cameron), some choice items from Mr. Mummery's Egyptian collections, including the "Port Fuad" set complete, "Union" errors (Mr. Hansen), Swiss commemoratives on cover (Dr. Vautier), a single stamp collection of Seychelles and Maldives (Mr. Nathan), Nyasaland blocks (Mr. Combrink), stamps illustrating the story of the "Mutiny on the Bounty" (Mr. Armstrong) and a representative display of Czecho-Slovakia and Poland (Mr. Enslin). The visitors were welcomed by Mr. M. C. B. Hotz, chairman of the University Society, who referred to the close association existing between the two societies. Messrs. Kagenson and Vautier spoke on behalf of the visitors. In the tea recess by request, Mr. D. B. Armstrong gave an impromptu talk on the educational aspect of Philately. D.B.A.

PHILATELIC SOCIETY OF NATAL.

The April meeting, held on the 4th, was fairly well attended and in the absence of the President, Mr. H. R. Brown, Mr. W. F. Ovens presided. The meeting heard with deep regret of the recent death of two of our members, namely, Mr. A. H. May of Doonside and Dr. R. B. Denison of Maritzburg, and paid tribute to their memory with a silent pause in the proceedings.

Correspondence was read concerning the Congress and attendant exhibition to be held at Bloemfontein in May, and entry forms were made available to those wishing to exhibit. Mr. J. Lyle being on a well earned holiday, we did not hear his usual reading of interesting and sometimes controversial items from current Stamp Magazines; instead, there was a general discussion. Mr. Hudd spoke of the new Union stamps that he had heard were soon to make their appearance. Mr. Robinow drew attention to a press report in connection with the King's collection, and it was suggested that the Federation to approach the S.A. Broadcasting Corporation with a view to having broadcast a talk on the Union stamps similar to one given over the air in Great Britain. After discussion of a suggestion to acquire the Gaumont British roll of film, "Postage Stamps in the Making", with its complementary lecture, it was agreed to purchase the film.

There was lively discussion on an item that had been referred to in the monthly letter. This was the matter of the proposed fund to help towards the establishment of permanent club amenities and the acquisition, some day, of our own club-room. In 1947 it was agreed to increase the subscriptions from 10/- to 15/- for town members so that a good foundation could be given to the proposed fund: donations, too, had been received from time to time and members had begun to speculate on the progress made and the amount of the accumulated collections. Mr. Ovens introduced the subject outlining the Society's intentions and the history of the proposed fund. Because of several unforeseen items of expenditure, however, such as the increase of capitation fees to the Federation and the later closing of our financial year, which stretched our last year into fifteen months without a counterbalancing increase in subscriptions for that period, the collections had necessarily been used as income and to help pay our way. Mr. Hudd spoke on the matter suggesting the circularising of members and a special general meeting. Messrs. Williams, Milner, Palmer and others also contributed to the debate. When, however, it was shown that the original resolution had failed specifically to earmark the amounts for the proper purpose it was decided to leave the matter in abeyance for the present.

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During a general discussion Mr. N. D. Williams introduced the subject of the increased capitation fee to the Federation. He suggested that the Society resign membership and questioned the advantages of belonging to the Federation. Mr. Ovens stated that the advantages of membership were not entirely nebulous and recapitulated the benefits, both theoretical and practical. Mr. Milner Palmer explained the general attitude which was that the large increase had been accepted in the first place as a matter of urgency to save the "S.A. Philatelist" from extinction. It had been understood that when this publication was soundly established and solvent a reduction of capitation fee would be automatic. It was not right that we be placed in such a position that we could not recognise our own hardworking officials adequately. A resolution was being forwarded to Congress on the matter and he submitted it to the meeting. The meeting approved of the resolution.

Mr. R. F. Robinow, a newcomer in the exhibition field, showed a good selection of his foreign collection which attracted attention and very favourable comment. Mr. Robinow explained that he was often reluctant to fill gaps in his collection as completion often helped to rob issues of interest. This was a novel and interesting viewpoint. Mr. Ovens thanked Mr. Robinow for showing the collection and also acted as auctioneer at the usual auction. After refreshments at 9.50 p.m. the meeting closed.

V.F.M.

WEST RAND STAMP CLUB.

It was agreed at the last meeting to support the National War Memorial Fund. Members will bring their contributions (in stamps) to the next meeting, when they will be offered by auction. The proceeds, in cash and kind, will be forwarded to the Fund H.Q.

The Club will send a combined Union Exhibit to the Bloemfontein Exhibition.

Mr. W. Yelland showed his Union Postage Dues. This proved to be "one out of the bag", including, as it does Inter-Provincials, off-sets, missing dots, misplaced figures and what have you. On behalf of visitors and members, Mr. Simpkins thanked Mr. Yelland. He said he thought due was due for the dues. As this collection is to become a "reference" collection, its value would be appreciated by Union collectors.

Visitors are assured of a big welcome. How about it, you neighbouring Clubs and Societies? First Wednesday, Royal Hotel, Krugersdorp. Mr. Simpkins will exhibit his O.V.S.-O.R.C. collection. This is worth seeing.

N.B.E.

PRETORIA PHILATELIC SOCIETY.

This Society's programme for the meeting held on the 2nd April provided double fare in the way of two contributions each of papers read and exhibits shown. Mr. D. Slater-Kinghorn presented a paper on "Cover Collecting", which, although a bye-path followed seriously by only a minority of philatelists, is of great importance in recording data of postal practice and usage, and often the dates and reasons for the issues of new stamps. Mr. Kinghorn dealt with the collector's problems of mounting, writing up, housing and presenting his entires and contended that it was a field in which it was well worth experimenting with several possibilities.

Mr. I. Greenbaum followed with a paper on the stamps in the Royal Collection of His Majesty King George VI. Initeresting facts of the way the stamps are written up, housed, their value and how some of them were acquired by King George V were given. Although no stamp collection could claim to be as complete in all variations of colour, printing, watermarks, perforations, papers, etc., as in the King's collection, it was stated that there are nevertheless some gaps which may never be filled (e.g. the 1 cent British Guiana of 1856).

The exhibits consisted of one of Mr. A. H. de Villiers whose mint collection of the Union of South Africa stamps was so complete that it filled most viewers with envy; Mr. Greenbaum's exhibit was of South African Airmails 1911-1940: a comprehensive collection of covers; he was complimented on the excellent mounting and writing up.

For the papers and the exhibits there was much appreciation and appropriate votes of thanks were passed.

At the meeting held on the 16th April the President, Mr. R. C. Ferguson, made reference to the recent demise of Dr. Robert Broom, for many years a valued and active member of this Society. Mr. Ferguson asked the meeting to stand in silence for a few moments in token of regret, and sympathy with Dr. Broom's family. He said that Dr. Broom's contributions at many of the Society's meetings, by way of talks and exhibits, were always the result of research of a high order and the Society had counted itself as privileged to have the membership and co-operation of so authoritative a philatelist.

Mr. W. Impey contributed a paper on, and a fine exhibit of, stamps of the United States of America. He selected for comment the issues of the first 25 years of the 20th century, which were practically complete in his collection, and some of the late 19th century issues. He referred to the splendid means these stamps provided for studying the historical, industrial, commercial, transport and other developments of the United States, even if the commemorative issues of late were so prolific as to reduce collectors to despair. Of outstanding interest were the complete Columbia Exposition issue, the 1898 Omaha issue (against which there was an outcry as the higher values had no practical use), and the first Memorial stamps (for General Grant). Mr. Impey was suitably thanked for his contributions which were enjoyed by a well attended gathering.

Other business reported on by the President and others included the result of a special auction evening held on the 17th April when there was keen competition for the purchase of philatelic items from the estate of the late Mr. H. B. Hawke; the arrangements for representation of this Society at the Congress in Bloemfontein, May 1951; the Exchange Superintendent's revision of the present circuits for circulating Sales Packets, and arrangements for the Philatelic Bowls Day to be held on the 3rd May on the Rand—organised by Mr. F. C. Ferguson.

B.J.V.

TRANSVAAL & WESTERN T.P.O.'s 1940-1950.

In the Oct. 1950 issue of this magazine, p. 166, the writer gave a list of the postmarks in use on these two T.P.O.'s as at the end of 1948.

There were also listed 4 Transvaal T.P.O. marks which had been recorded as in use sometime between 1940 and 1948. A slight correction should be made in the description of one of these four, viz., the bilingual mark—"T.P.O. North R.P.K. Noord". should read "T.P.O. North R.P. Noord".

Since the publication of these notes the Postal Administration's Historian has very kindly supplied me with pulls of all the cancellers used in these two T.P.O.'s.

Transvaal T.P.O. .....

The 4 marks which I had not seen personally but which I listed as recorded by Mr. Norman Hill, were there are right, but there were also 6 others not previously recorded, so I give them to make the list absolutely (I hope) complete:—

(1) "T.P.O. NORTH 1", 29mm.
(2) "T.P.O. NORTH/2", 26mm.
(3) "TRANSVAAL/T.P.O. NORTH 6", 33mm.
(4) "TRANSVAAL/T.P.O. SOUTH 1", 33mm.
(5) "TRANSVAAL/T.P.O. SOUTH 2", 33mm.
(6) "TRANSVAAL T.P.O. SOUTH 18", 28mm

Western T.P.O.

Only one additional mark has to be recorded here; its existence, as used in 1949, was brought to my notice by Mr. D. Allison of Cape Town, before I received word of it from official sources.

(1) Similar to No. 2 in my list of Oct., 1950, but with the number "7".

J. HARVEY PIRIE.

FINLAND.

Three semi-postals (7 plus 2, 12 plus 3 and 20 plus 5 marks were issued on 17 March for the benefit of the Finnish Red Cross.

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OBITUARY

ROBERT BROOM.

We regret to report the death last month, at the age of 84, of Dr. Robert Broom, F.R.S., internationally known and much honoured as a phalaentologist, first of all for his work on the Mesozoic reptilian fossils of the Karroo, more latterly for his brilliant discoveries and descriptions of ape-man fossils in the Transvaal. These have thrown greater light on the problem of the origin of man than the work of any other single individual. A noteworthy statement made by him not very long ago was that he had been convinced by his studies that the evolution of man was definitely a planned affair and not just an accidental development.

A stamp collector for seventy-five years, but during the past ten he had also become a philatelist, using the term in the sense of one who seriously studies stamps. A. E. Basden interested him in old Transvaal stamps and, with the plates ready to hand in his place of work, the Transvaal Museum, he undertook the plating of a number of issues. In a field which had been thought to be practically worked out, he not only succeeded in plating several issues which had not been done before, but further proved that panes had been used for printing, which had previously been denied by the recognised authorities. That came from applying to his hobby the same scientific method and meticulous attention to detail which characterised his life's work.

A kindly soul, though with a whimsical sense of humour which often, even in the gravest of grave scientific meetings, would impel him to throw in some bombshell statement — just to make his audience sit up and think! We shall miss him, but we salute his memory. His work on the old Transvaal stamps is recorded in articles in this magazine in 1945, '46 and '48. „mdcsH5cmfwyp

WHITFIELD KING'S "STAMP ROOM".

A recent B.B.C. broadcast by Richard Dimbley gave an account of Messrs. Whitfield King's famous room in the residence built across the street from the business premises put up by the founder of the firm. This room, some 15 feet x 13 feet is papered entirely with unused postage stamps. It required something over 60,000 to complete the mosaic. A large proportion of the stamps, it is true, are well known reprints of early Europeans. This work was done in 1892, but the stamps are so well preserved that they still look as if the "papering" had been done within the last year or two.

AUSTRALIA.

Because of changes in postal rates the 2d. and 3d. have had to be altered in colour; the 3d. red appeared on 28 Feb., and the 2d. green on 28 March.

Forthcoming issues are 2½d. brown, date not yet announced; a Canberra Jubilee set on 1 May, comprising two threepennies printed se-tenant (red), a 5½d. blue and a 1/6 brown. On 2 July there will be two more threepennies commemorating the establishment of the State of Victoria and the Discovery of Gold; these will also be in se-tenant pairs.

NATAL

S.G. No.		Mint s. d.	Used. s. d.
11	9 1d. rose-red, unused	35 0	20 0
10	3d. blue, unused	25 0	—
11	3d. blue, unused	37 6	—
12	3d. blue	27 6	4 0
15	1d. rose-red	22 6	12 6
18	1d. lake, unused	15 0	—
19	1d. carmine-red	22 6	6 0
21	1d. rose	—	7 6
23	6d. lilac	—	6 0
24	6d. violet	7 6	—
25	1/- green, unused	35 0	10 0
26	1d. rose, unused	90 0	—
28b	3d. blue	—	45 0
29	6d. lilac	—	30 0
30	6d. violet	—	22 6
31	1/- green	—	500 0
32	1d. rose, unused	100 0	—
33	1d. bright red	—	25 0
34a	3d. blue	—	75 0
34b	3d. blue	—	40 0
35	6d. lilac	—	17 6
36	6d. violet	—	20 0
37	1/- green	—	150 0
38	1d. rose	—	60 0
40b	3d. blue	—	180 0
42	6d. violet	—	40 0
46b	3d. blue	—	120 0
48	6d. violet	—	30 0
50	1d. rose, unused	20 0	—
51	1d. bright red	85 0	—
52	3d. blue, unused	140 0	—
53	3d. blue, unused	75 0	—
54	3d. blue	70 0	7 6
55	6d. violet	35 0	—
59	1/- green	20 0	6 6
60	1d. bright red	12 6	4 0
61	3d. bright blue	15 0	7 6
62	6d. mauve, unused	30 0	8 6
68	3d. blue	—	12 6
69	4d. brown	—	5 0
71	5/- maroon	—	12 6
72	5/- rose	20 0	10 0
73	5/- carmine	12 6	8 6
74	4d. brown	130 0	10 0
77	1d. bright red, unused	45 0	—
81	1d. rose, unused	12 6	—
82	1d. yellow, unused	15 0	—
83	6d. violet, unused	12 6	5 0
84	1/- green	20 0	4 6
87	6d. violet	—	140 0
88	½d./1d. rose	7 6	—
89	½d./1d. rose	7 6	—
90	½d./1d. yellow	7 6	—
92	1d./6d. rose	25 0	—
92a	½d./1d. yellow	170 0	—
100	3d. blue	12 6	—
104	2d./3d. grey	9 6	4 6
107	1/- orange	3 0	4 6
108	2½d./wd. brown	8 6	5 6
109a	PENGE error	42 0	—

H. E. WINGFIELD

392 STRAND, LONDON, W.C.2, ENGLAND.

Phone TEMple Bar 4136.

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NETHERLANDS.

The usual Child Welfare set was on sale at all post offices in Holland from 13th November to 30th December, 1950. The designs are well known by this time, but for those who desire particulars for writing up their collections, the following information gained partly from the November issue of "Mijn Stokpaardje" and partly from the stamps themselves, may be of use:

The stamps are printed in rotogravure from designs by Mrs. Lotte Ruting, who is a teacher at the Commercial Art School in Amsterdam, on unwatermarked paper, perforated 13 x 12. The stamps will have currency until December 31st, 1951.

In order to promote sales a mobile post office tours through the country touching at 80 towns and villages on its route. All correspondence bearing Child Welfare Stamps is cancelled with a special postmark depicting the Mobile Post Office within a frame, with "Autopostkantoor" across the top and "13th Nov./T.M. 30 Dec. 1950" across the bottom.

In the same magazine, mention is made of a new value in the postage due series, viz. 85 cts.

From the January issue of the same magazine it is gathered that the Netherlands Postal Museum, The Hague, has opened an exhibition of selected postage, postage due, official and newspaper stamps from Austria, France, Great Britain, Germany, Italy, Russia, Belgium, Switzerland, Portugal, Roumania and Lichtenstein under the name of "Europe up to 1940".

The stamps chosen for exhibition range from the interesting first issues, through those indicating the political upheaval following on the 1914-1918 war, to those more stylised stamps of 1930 and the pictorials of the 40's.

In an article in the September issue of the "Nederlandsch Maandblad voor Philatelie" concerning "Armenwet" stamps a certain Mr. L. H. Wilde, whose father was for many years secretary of the "Poor Board" at The Hague, states that the specialist's catalogue explanation concerning the use of these stamps (an explanation probably quite widely accepted) viz., that they were made available to civic bodies concerned with charity, so-called "Poor Boards", for franking their correspondence, is not correct. He goes on to say that the "Poor Boards" did receive these stamps but as the Boards were official, not civic bodies, they made use of official envelopes and enjoyed free postage. The overprinted stamps received by them were distributed to such civic bodies as the various deaconess institutes, R.C. poor boards, the institute known as "Armenzorg", Queen Emma Fund, etc., for their correspondence with the official "Poor Boards". The "Poor Boards" therefore received back in used condition the stamps distributed by them and were required to surender them to the Department of Interior. It is not mentioned how these stamps eventually became available to collectors: possibly in the same way as present day high values do: viz., by public auction. In Holland, as in a number of countries in Europe, bulk postage is accounted for by placing high values on a special form — acknowledgement of payment of postage, one might term it — and from time to time these are sold publicly. J.W.S.

SOUTH AFRICA.

According to "Stamp Collecting" rumour is very busy in South Africa about the forthcoming new stamps. So far as the "South African Philatelist" has noted it is not nearly so busy as it has been for the past few months in "Stamp Collecting".

On the same page of the issue of 10 March, under the heading "New South African — Official" it states that the South African Government has announced that the first value of the new pictorial set is due very soon, and may be during the current month (March). It did not appear in March.

It then goes on to say that the South African P.M.G. has stated categorically that the issue will appear in due course. That can be accepted as true and not as rumour (the lying jade!); Vide statement on p. 33 of our March issue.

In our March issue there was chronicled on page 36 the issue of a redrawn 1d. stamp with many improved features, which were listed.



The accompanying illustration shows a pair of these stamps.

SOME RECENT AUCTION PRICES.

Robson Lowe.

Cape. 1855, vertical block of 4 mint 1/- dark green, £67 10s.

1863, block of 4 mint 1/- pale emerald, £100.

Niger Coast. Four 1/- on 2d., black surcharge, three of type I, one of type II, £310.

German E. Africa, block of 12 "Missionaries", 1 Rupie, £34.

H. R. Harmer.

Australia, 1932 K.G.V., 2d. forgery. Two used on cover, £42.

Zanzibar, 200 R. (S.G. 245), £67 10s.

Sets of "Extra Flagstaffs" (No. 49 on sheet). Bechuanaland, £10 10s.; Falklands, £36; Gambia, £16; Gibraltar, £16; Gold Coast, £11; Hong Kong, £10 10s.; Jamaica, £9; Malta, £20; Seychelles, £46; Sierra Leone, £11; Swaziland, £9 9s.; Trinidad, £10 10s.

BRITISH SOMALILAND.

The permanent issue has been overprinted in new currency, cents and shillings, to bring it into line with Zanzibar, Kenya, etc.

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WHAT IS PHILATELY?

Mr. Douglas B. Armstrong writes from Cape Town:—

Your March editorial raises a nice point. In its simplest and basic form the term Phil-ately connotes an appreciation of something upon which there is nothing more to pay i.e. a postage stamp, which itself represents a receipt for money paid. By practice and usage, however, it has come to be accepted as implying something more than the mere accumulation of stamps. The Philatelist is usually regarded as a cut above the common, or garden Stamp Collector; the inference being that he is a **student** of stamps. Thus Philately and Stamp Collecting are not necessarily synonymous and a person may own a considerable collection without qualifying as a Philatelist. (In fact this is only too oten the case!)

To the Philatelist "the stamp's the thing" — to the Thematic Stamp Collector the **Theme** comes first and the stamp is incidental to it. That is not to say that the two cannot be, and often are complementary. Surely, however, it must be obvious that the two different forms of collecting call for different techniques and for this reason cannot properly be judged by the same standards. In the view of many Thematic Stamp Collecting, though indisputably an off-shoot of Philately is in a class by itself, like Air Mail collecting and Postal History. To paraphrase Kipling, "It's pretty, but is it Philately?"

HAWAIIAN "MISSIONARIES".

Do you collect these? They are rather expensive stamps, especially the 2c, which runs to four or five thousand pounds. The price, however, may fall; up till recently only sixteen copies were known, but some one rummaging through old stock in a Hawaii printing plant has discovered twelve more of them.

But one of the new twelve uncovered is likely to be even more expensive still for it has the numeral "2" in the centre inverted.

AIR MAIL DEVELOPMENTS.

Messrs. Francis J. Field report that a conference was held at Cairo in January between the International Air Transport Association and the U.P.U. A post-office and special postmark were provided for the meeting.

In Africa the only bit of news mentioned is that the K.L.M. made their first stop at Brazzacille, French Equatorial Africa, on their Johannesburg service on 15 Nov., 1950 the first return flight leaving on 21 November.

CANADA.

There will be four new stamps issued in connection with "Capex", but unlike most First-Days at exhibitions they will not appear on the opening day of the exhibition, 21 September, but on Monday, 24 September.

The stamps will be of 4, 5, 7 and 15 cents denominations. They will depict the old and the new. The 4c. will have an old woodburning locomotive and the modern diesel train; the 5c. mail steamers of 1851 and 1951; the 7c., an 1851 stage coach and a North Star air liner; or the 15c., as a concession to philatelists, there will be a reproduction of the beaver used on the first threepenny Canadian stamp.

"Stamp Collecting" reports having received warning from a good source that forgeries of the "G" (Official) overprint are in circulation. Be sure to order yours from a source than can be trusted.

Messrs. Whitfield King report the early appearance of a 3c. stamp with a portrait of Mr. Mackenzie King, and a 4c. with another former Prime Minister, Sir Robert Borden.

ZANZIBAR.

Mr. J. W. Halstead, in the March "London Philatelist", has a very full listing of the postmarks of Zanzibar and Pemba, illustrated by 58 drawings of them. They are all from specimens which he has actually seen except for two or three which are taken from Robson Lowe's "India used Abroed". He states, however, that it is quite possible that there are still more existing, especially of the earlier period of Zanzibar's postal history.

VIRGIN ISLANDS.

The 3c. "University" stamp, which for some unexplained reason was not put on sale when all the others of this series were issued in the various West Indian colonies, was put on sale locally on 10 April. Stamps which had been bought from the Crown Agents and sent out to be posted had been refused by the postal authorities.

DENMARK.

The centenary of the first Danish stamps has been celebrated by the issue on 1 April of two stamps, 15 ore and 25 ore. They feature the so-called "Ball Post". This was an egg-shaped iron box slung on a horse drawn chassis, in use in 1851; it had only a small door openable by keys kept at the post offices along the route. This was to prevent highway robbery.

SWAZILAND.

New printings of the 2d., 4d., 1/- and 10/- were released on 25 January and the "Stamp Magazine" takes the opportunity to comment on the catalogue listings of these stamps.

The 2d. is listed by the Commonwealth as yellow-brown in '43 and fawn in '45. This is regarded as somewhere near the mark and definitely better than S.G.'s brown. The latest printing is near the fawn of '45 although not quite identical with it.

The 4d. shows no change.

The 1/-, like the obsolete 1/- of Barbados, has undergone quite a change through the years and there is more brown than ever in the latest printing. Why Gibbons, after listing two of Barbados, do not list an olive and a brown-olive of Swaziland, is a mystery.

The 10/- up till now has been listed as sepia, but after seeing the latest release it is clear that it is really sepia, while the previous printings have a slight olive tone which is foreign to real sepia.

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THE
SOUTH AFRICAN PHILATELIST
PROPRIETORS AND PUBLISHERS:
The Philatelic Federation of Southern Africa
Honorary Editor: Dr. J. H. HARVEY PIRIE
Business Manager: Mr. J. NATHANSON
P.O. Box 375, Johannesburg.
Subscription: Eight Shillings per annum, post free to any part of the World.
Vol. 27, No. 6. JUNE, 1951. Whole No. 315.

Thirteenth Annual Congress and Exhibition

Held at Bloemfontein on May 9-11, this is now but a happy memory. All those attending agreed that if they had any lingering superstition about 13 being an unlucky number it was dispelled by the exceedingly pleasant atmosphere of the whole of the meeting — business, philatelic and social alike.

Congress. Formally opened by His Worship the Mayor of Bloemfontein in a neat speech, and later in the day he entertained delegates at a cocktail party. A detailed report of the business is not given here, merely a reference to some of the outstanding items; full minutes will be sent to the constituent societies in due course.

Amendments to the constitution of the Federation occupied a good part of the time. New arrangements for the levying of societies' fees and for the numbers and voting powers of delegates were amicably settled and it is hoped that all constituent societies will now feel that they form the crew of a happy ship.

The Thematic and Group Stamp Collectors Club of Southern Africa was admitted to membership; it is understood that they propose changing their name to something which is not quite such a jaw breaker.

The Expert Committee, authorised to get under way at last Congress, reported that it was now ready to start work. Conditions re sending in of stamps for expertising are now available.

The Union Handbook Committee reported considerable progress with the preparation of the new Catalogue-Handbook. This will be approximately twice the size of its predecessor; the committee is fairly confident that it will get the work out in time for the International Exhibition in March-April, 1952, but it is obvious that it is going to be a close thing to manage ths.

Two names were added to the Roll of Honour of Distinguished South African Philatelists — hearty congratulations to the recipients of this honour. They were (1) George K. Forbes of Port Elizabeth, elected for his outstanding work for many years to keep the flag of philately flying in his home town, and (2) Sam Legator of Benoni, also responsible for a long time for good work in connection with the East Rand Society, and, more recently, for his work on stamps of the Union.

The Skinner Cup, awarded to the person considered to have done the best work for philately during the preceding twelvemonth was awarded to Jack Burrell of Krugersdorp, for his lantern displays illustrating the manufacture of Union stamps; these were given at a number of societies throughout the country.

The invitation of the Cape Town Philatelic Society to hold the next Congress during the period of the International Exhibition (26 March —5th April, 1952) was accepted and Mr. Arthur V. Jacob of Cape Town was elected President of the Federation for the period up to the close of the Congress. Tentative suggestions were made for Congresses at Bulawayo in 1953 and Durban in 1954.

Two papers read at Congress were (1) "Errors — Real and Imaginary" by A. I. Mackenzie, and (2) "The Growth and Vigour of Philatelic Societies" by C. E. D. Enoch. It is hoped to publish these at an early date in this magazine.

Exhibition. For a comparatively small society like the host of Congress, the Orange Free State and Basutoland Philatelic Society, the exhibition was outstandingly good. It was non-competitive, provided partly by local members, partly by collectors from other centres, and was a judicious mixture meant to appeal both to advanced and medium collectors and also to the general public.

The setting in the Clarendon Hall was admirable and a brochure not only listed the exhibits and the exhibitors but had some nice articles.

The exhibition was under the distinguished patronage of the Hon. the Administrator of the O.F.S., Mr. J. J. Fouché and the official opening was performed by the Divisional Controller of the Posts and Telegraphs Department.

Pride of place in it must be given to Dr. K. Freund's Mafeking collection, the whole of which was on show. This is a collection in the world-beating class, containing as it does practically everything it is possible to have in the way of the stamps and the postal history of the siege. All the rarities are there and most of them in numbers which are not duplicated anywhere else. It is magnificently illustrated by photographs, etc. and may be said to be a first class Africana collection as well as a philatelic one.

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More will not be said here as it is expected that Dr. Freund's series of articles on these stamps will soon be re-started in the South African Philatelist.

Another local member, G. N. Gilbert, had a fine postal history show of Basutoland; it is hoped to reproduce an article on this which was printed in the exhibition brochure.

There were three exhibits by Junior collectors, Masters P. Ussher, J. Champion and L. Scott; that by the first mentioned being specially noteworthy for its artistic mounting.

Space unfortunately makes it impossible to refer to other fine exhibits from both local and other collectors. Southern Africa was of course well represented among them but there were almost as many featuring other countries throughout the world.

The Postal Authorities provided a post office at the Exhibition with a special canceller, of the same type as that used at the Johannesburg Exhibition in October last, and illustrated in our Oct., 1950 number. They again also had "Official" stamps on sale and good business was done with these on the souvenir envelopes sold by the Society.

Social. Mention must be made again of the delightful social atmosphere of the whole Congress and for this Con. Larsen and his good lady, Mrs. Larsen, were mainly responsible. Time was found for short visits to see over the City Hall, the Appellate Court, the old original Raadsaal and for trips to the Observatory and the Game Reserve on Naval Hill, to Mazelspoort Pleasure Resort on the Modder River and to the National Women's Memorial. Last, but not least, was the dinner given by the President, Mr. C. A. Larsen, in the Bloemfontein Club. Mention must also be made of the good publicity given to the exhibition by the local Press.

ABYSSINIA.

Sets and still more sets seem now to be the established custom here, four new ones being foreshadowed in the next few months including 2 of the definitive issue and 6 postage dues. Commemorating sets for the Coronation anniversary and the Abaye Bridge.

We were inclined to take up this country as a new one to collect, but its present trend is strangling our enthusiasm.

NETHERLANDS.

Two new issues have recently arrived from the Netherlands, the first of which, issued on 3rd October, 1950, is in commemoration of the three hundred and seventy-fifth anniversary of the founding of the University of Leiden and features two people closely connected therewith.

Janus Dousa, the latinised name of Jonker Johannes van der Does, is depicted on the 10 cent stamp while the 20 cent bears the portrait of Jan van Hout. Van der Does was, together with his close friend, Van Hout, a leading figure in the struggle against Spain. He was also first Curator of the University while van Hout was secretary of the College of Curators.

The two stamps were designed by R. J. Drayer and printed in rotogravure by Joh. Enschedé and Sons of Haarlem on paper watermarked with circles. The perforation is 12½ x 12, comb, and the stamps were issued in sheets 10 x 20 with validity for postage until 31st December, 1951.

The second new set is the annual Child Welfare issue which made its appearance on the 13th November. The set, which is described below, arrived on an attractive souvenir cover bearing the date-stamp of the Philatelic Service at The Hague. The stamps are:

2 cent * 3 cent: Child and bees. Red-brown.
5 cent * 3 cent. Boy with rooster. Olive green.
6 cent * 4 cent. Girl and birds. Deep-green.
10 cent * 5 cent. Girl and fish. Purple.
20 cent * 7 cent. Girl with butterfly and frog. Cobalt blue.

The designs are contained within a heavy border (through which the perforations run) which sets off each subject very effectively.

Unobtrusively a 40 cent value, in magenta, of the Queen Juliana series has made its appearance. It is noted that while it is not listed in the Gibbons, part II, 1950, it has been taken up in the recently published supplement where its date of issue is given as 1949. It is possible that it has thus far not been seen as supplies of the various denominations of the Queen Julianas were supplied to post offices only when stocks of the older issue were exhausted.

J.W.S.

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THE FIRST AIR MAIL.

It is generally accepted that the first official carriage of mail by a heavier-than-air machine was by H. Piquet at Allahabad, India, on 16 Feb., 1911 during the period of the United Provinces Exhibition there.

In the "Airpost Journal" a claim is put forward for a flight made by Fred J. Wiseman one day earlier between Petaluma and Santa Rosa, California. That he carried private greeting messages seems to be established, but not that he carried letters franked by U.S. stamps, such letters being postmarked at one or other end of the flight; much less that there was any Post Office authorization of the flight as a mail carrier. Till that is shewn the Allahabad flight would seem to stand as the first carriage of mail by aeroplane.

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Union Notes

SUB-EDITOR: Mr. W. N. Sheffield,
Box 99, Cleveland, Transvaal.

The Publicity Officer of the Department of Posts and Telegraphs has kindly supplied the following information covering the period from 4.1.1951 to 4.4.1951. For the previous list see our March 1951 issue.

Ordinary Pictorial Stamps.

½d.—Job No. 5134 contd. On an order for 1,000,000 sheets x 240, a further 54,990 sheets were delivered bringing the total on this order up to 499,282 sheets. Cylinders 11A (Interior) and 11B (Exterior) as before.

1d.—Job No. 4981 contd. (Printed in error as Job No. 4980 in our March issue). A further 130,950 sheets x 240 were delivered from cylinders 70 (Internal) and 14 (External) bringing the total from this combination up to 261,734 sheets. Final date of delivery, 13.2.51.

—Redrawn Issue. Cylinders 6925 (Interior) and 36 (Exterior). First delivery 22.2.1951 and a total of 203,000 sheets delivered to date.

2d.—Job No. 12995 contd. A further 138,250 sheets x 240 have been printed bringing the total delivered to date on this Job No. to 901,840 sheets. Same cylinders as before, 6927 (Interior) and 50 (Exterior).

3d.—Job No. 1883 contd. On an order for 150,000 sheets x 120, a further 3,500 sheets were printed from cylinders 44A (Interior) and 44b (Exterior) making a total on this Job No. of 31,250 sheets. Final date of delivery 16.1.1951 and grand total from these cylinders now amounts to 54,880 sheets.

— Single Cylinder Issue. Produced from cylinder No. 17. First date of delivery 3.3.1951 and 124,140 sheets x 120 delivered up to the 20.3.1951. (Total 3d. sheets on this Job No.=155,390).

1/—Job No. 8860. On an order for 120,000 sheets x 120, 38,500 sheets have been delivered. Date of first delivery 20.2.1951 and same cylinders as before — 6926 (Interior) and 6935 (Exterior).

Booklets.

3/6—Job No. 701. On an order for 240,000 (booklets) of ½d., 1d. and 2d. postage stamps, 96,000 have been delivered. Date of first delivery 13.3.1951. New cylinders (180 stamps per sheet).

½d.—6912 Interior, 58 Exterior.

1d.—55 Interior, 38 Exterior.

2d.—6934 Interior, 64 Exterior.

Roll Stamps.

½d.—Job No. 10070. No additions to information given in March.

1d.—Job No. 1885 contd. On an order for (a) 6,000 rolls x 1012 stamps and (b) 6,000 rolls x 506 stamps, the numbers delivered to date amount to (a) 3,104 rolls and (b) 7,479 rolls. Printed from one colour cylinder No. 24, as before.

Postage Due Stamps.

2d.—Job No. 8859. On an order for 25,000 sheets x 60, the number delivered between 20.2.1951 and 22.2.1951 amounted to 38,000 sheets. Same cylinders as before, 53 (Interior) and 33 (Exterior).

Air Letter Cards.

6d.—Job No. 2989. On an order for 4,000,000 air letter cards, 2,212,800 have been delivered to date. First delivery 17.10.1950 and cylinder No. 18 as before.

Pictorial Post Cards.

1d.—Job No. 1882. On an order for 2,720,000 post cards, 832,640 have been delivered to date. Same cylinders as before—85 (Pictures) and 88 (Stamps). First delivery 28.11.1950.

"Official" Stamps.

Job No. 12256. The following quantities were supplied by the Postmaster-General and overprinted OFFICIAL—OFFISIEEL on a flat bed machine from the same process blocks as before (Large type overprint), and delivered on 15.3.1951.

½d.—500 sheets x 240: 1d.—500 sheets x 240.
1½d.—1,000 sheets x 240: 2d.—1,500 sheets x 240
6d.—500 sheets x 240: 1/—500 sheets x 120.
2/6—500 sheets x 60; 5/—500 sheets x 60.
10/—500 sheets x 60.

Return of the 6d. All-Screened Pictorial Stamp to a Red-Orange Shade.

During the last three or four months the 6d. pictorial stamp has been on sale with the frame portion of the design printed in a distinctly brown-orange shade, but in the early part of May, Dr. G. I. Faerber of Germiston noted that it had reappeared in the red-orange shade — the colour in which it was originally issued in January 1950.

The same cylinders have been used again—6930 Interior and 6 Exterior—but these latest sheets have a **five-numeral** cyclometer number printed in black on the right hand margin instead of the more usual four-numeral number in red.

Transvaal "Double Print" Variety.

The notes published in our March issue dealing with the "Double Print" variety on the Union 6d. King's Head stamp — recorded by Mr. Stephen G. Rich of Verona, New Jersey, U.S.A.—has brought to light an excellent example of double printing on a Transvaal 3d. King's Head stamp (S.G. 264).

The item is a mint copy in the collection of Mr. Earnest Hunt of Johannesburg and the accompanying enlarged photograph shows the



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doubling of all letters in TRANSVAAL, POSTAGE and REVENUE, and also of several other portions of the frame design. The doubling feature, it should be noted, is similar in its appearance to that found on the Union stamp and in each case lies in a position to the right hand side of the letters and those portions of the design affected. Both of these King's Head issues were produced by the same firm, Messrs. De La Rue & Co.

In his remarks on the subject, Mr. Rich stated that the origin of the doubling on the Union 6d. stamp was not clear, but the small displacement of about one-third mm. would indicate that it probably came about through a flapping of the paper as it came off the plate. He was of the opinion that it was definitely not a "slur" nor could it be ascribed to any effect of plate wear.

This variety is undoubtedly an interesting one and after this latest discovery it would appear to be well worth looking out for on King's Head stamps other than the Union issue.

Union Handbook and Catalogue.

The best news received in the month of May was the report of the Handbook Committee to Congress that great progress had been made in the compiling of the Union Handbook and Catalogue and the Committee was now in a position to accept prepaid subscriptions for a De Luxe leather bound edition of this combined work.

It is proposed to publish the book at about the same time as the "Van Riebeeck Tercentenary Festival" in Cape Town early next year and the De Luxe edition will be limited to 300 copies — the number coinciding with the number of years since Van Riebeeck landed at the Cape. It was agreed at the Philatelic Congress held at Bloemfontein during May to offer this special edition at the prepaid price of Three Guineas per copy and since the number will be definitely limited to 300 it will be necessary to treat all applications in strict rotation.

Prepaid orders should be sent to the Hon. Secretary, Handbook Committee, P.O. Box 333, Brakpan, Transvaal, South Africa.

"Unions" at the Bloemfontein Stamp Exhibition

There were a number of interesting Union items on view at the well staged, bright and attractive exhibition presented by the Orange Free State and Basutoland Philatelic Society in Bloemfontein during Congress week.

Mr. J. B. Levy's exhibit of "Union Rarities" included a mint pair of 1d. Van Riebeeck ship stamps with the watermark sideways. This unique item came from a pane of six of the London printed Waterlow booklet stamps and only about half a dozen copies have so far been recorded in the possession of collectors in this part of the world.

Another particularly interesting item was a mint pair of the King's Head 1½d. stamps with a clear indication of a double impression in certain portions of the design. The feature was apparent on both stamps and showed up principally as a duplication of the vertical frame lines and the profile of the King's face. Though by no means in the same class as the rare "Double Print" ½d. variety, this 1½d. specimen is none-the-less of the same type and has apparently, so far, proved just as infrequent in its occurrence.

Other special pieces on show in Mr. Levy's excellent display were specimens of the ½d. and 1d. colour trials, the 1d. pictorial with no watermark, a partially printed block of ½d. rotogravure stamps taken from a sheet purchased in the normal way from one of the post offices, a section of a sheet of ½d. Georgians with repaired paper and a strip of the 4d. Kaffir Kraal issue with a joined paper.

Mr. C. E. Kachelhoffer showed an interesting lot of Unions and incidently proved just what could be done by an ardent collector in the short space of eighteen months. His selection of the King's Head issue, London pictorials, postal stationery and a number of the more important varieties in all denominations of the rotogravures made a very fine show indeed. Incidently, one of the more elusive items noted in his frames was a block of eight of the 2d. Small War series with the rouletting omitted.

Mr. D. H. Kirchner's attractive display of the Union Commemoratives brought out both the philatelic and historical side of these stamps to advantage and made them of particular interest to the specialist and layman alike. His detailed study of the various issues with accompanying photographs, covers, stamp cut-outs, and hand-drawn sketches illustrating particular features in the designs, covered a wide and interesting field and made one really envious for an opportunity to take the album pages, one by one, and enjoy them at leisure.

Varieties on the Current 4d. and 1/- Pictorials.

During our visit to the Bloemfontein Exhibition, Mr. C. E. Kachelhoffer drew attention to three varieties which he displayed as occurring on current issues, and though evidently in existance for some considerable time, have not been previously recorded in this magazine. They are given below.

4d.—"Monkey in Tree"—Row 2 No. 2. A small brown coloured flaw just below the foliage in the tree nearest to the left hand side of the stamp.

4d.—Brown spot on rafter of the Native hut situated on the right hand side of the stamp. Row 19 No. 4.

1/—"Retouch" at the junction of the horizontal and vertical frame lines in the top left hand corner of the stamp — Row 20 No. 5. (Printing 6926 Int. and 6935 Ext.).

It may be mentioned here that the above variety on the current 1/- was also present on the same stamp in the unscreened printing with the brown marginal arrows (Vignette cylinder No. 14 and frame cylinder No. 6027). It does not appear on the first of the hyphenate series printed from cylinders No. 6925 Interior and No. 38 Exterior.

Screened Printings of the Union Pictorial Stamps.

In last month's list of those pictorial stamps for which screen-cylinders had been employed for printing either the vignettes or frames, or both, the 10/- value with its screened vignette was inadvertently left out and is given here so that it may be added at the foot of page 74 of the May issue.

10/- Denomination—Vignettes Screened only.

1.—6918 (Int.) and 6934 (Ext.).—Aug. 1939.

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Hyphenated 2d. Postage Due Stamps.

Apropos of our notes on this new stamp in the May issue, Dr. G. I. Faerber, Germiston, has shown us a block taken from the bottom left hand pane of a sheet and it includes the four "Double Image" varieties described in detail in the January and February numbers. Its interest, of course, lies in the fact that this unusual variety has now appeared with SUID-AFRIKA in the hyphenate form, whereas in the previous printing the stamps were inscribed SUIDAFRIKA, i.e. without the hyphen, and by reason of this dual frame setting the variety enlists even more attention than when first discovered.

It may be noted that in the "Recent Printings" information given this month it is stated that this issue of the 2d. postage due is from the same cylinders as before. This is quite correct in the sense that the same numeral cylinder—No. 53 — has been used again and also the same frame cylinder as that used for the hphenate 1d. and 3d. postage dues has been employed for the new 2d.

Incidently, a printer's error crept into the text on page 73 of last month's issue and the date "1950", given as the year the "D26" postage due stamps were produced, should be corrected to read "1940".

New ½d. and 1d. "Officials".

We are advised by the Publicity Officer of the G.P.O. in Pretoria that sheets of the ½d. postage stamps printed from cylinders 11A and 11B have been overprinted "Official—Offisieel" in large type, and also that sheets of the one-penny postage stamps printed from cylinders Nos. 76 and 14 have been overprinted in the same manner.

The type of overprint on the 1d. value and the spacing of OFFICIAL—OFFISIEEL is 10 mm., the same as on the previous 1d. "Officials". produced on the 6A/6B sheets — recorded in our October 1950 Notes, but there need be no difficulty in distinguishing between the two for the 76/14 stamps are all-screened whereas the 6A/6B printing was non-screened.

Details of the new ½d. "Officials" will be given next month.

NORTHERN RHODESIA.

Mr. R. F. Pearce of Kitwe, makes the following comments in "Stamp Collecting" on the Commonwealth K.G. VI Catalogue shade listings of N. Rhodesia, not in any carping spirit,

1d. Both the brown and the deep chocolate brown are still on sale locally.

1½d. The recognised of brownish-yellow and buff-yellow as distinct shade variations is questionable. There are often variations in one and the same sheet, due to difference in inking.

2d. Same applies here to the two shades listed.

3d. The ultramarine and the bright ultramarine are really distinct.

5/-. Here two distinct shades seem to have been missed. The early (prior to 1941) shade was a blue-purple, the later a red-purple.

Postage Dues. When the surface rate went up to 2d. there was need for a 1d. Postage Due and 2d's were bisected in quite a number of offices. It is understood such action was official, although written instructions have not been seen.

CAPE TOWN INTERNATIONAL—1952.

The first number of "Philately in South Africa" appeared just too late for us to make notice of it last month. There will be at least a couple more issues dealing with the exhibition before that actually takes place on 26 March—5 April, 1952.

This number gives the Classification of Entries which may be sent in and provisional Entry Forms. We have heard a good deal of criticism about the classification; such things, of course, never please everybody but we are informed by the Hon. Organiser that it may be modified or added to depending on the entries which are received.

The brochure includes several articles: Early S.A. Posts and Stamps, by A. A. Jurgens (to be continued); A Report from S. Rhodesia, by R. Coleman; Union Stamps in 1950, by R. Axer and The Stamp Market in S. Africa, by E. Blum.

It is a good bob's worth; every copy sold helps the exhibition funds and lots of these are needed for an International cannot be run on nothing.

Make your entries soon and book your accommodation early in Cape Town for the crowd there for the Van Riebeeck celebrations will be enormous. The Hon. Organiser, P.O. Box 558, will help you, if need be, in securing accommodation.

Collectors' Wants & Offers

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

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

Wanted: German South West Africa Special Items, Specimens, Covers, etc.—L. BUCHEN, P.O. Box 4012, Johannesburg.

Beginners and medium collectors — try our approval service.—BENONI STAMP SHOP, Box 485, Benoni.

50% over Gibbons Catalogue price offered for a superb Mint and Used copy of Seychelles, S.G. 52A.—WILLIAM REDFORD, P.O. Box 1182, Johannesburg.

Wholesaler requires regular supplies of Basutoland, Bechuanaland, Nyasaland, Swaziland in large or small quantities. Send or write by air mail.—B. SAVITZ, 69, Greenvale Road, London, S.E. 9, England.

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3	Malta, Princess Elizabeth	2/3
4	Nyasaland, Diamond Jubilee	7/9
3	San Marino, Red Cross	4/6
8	Seychelles, Postage Dues	2/9
8	Somaliland, Currency Opts.	4/6
14	Sudan 1936, Post and Official	3/6
3	Turkey 1951 Air, Congress	4/6

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ROUMANIA. 1862. 3 par. on laid, used Certif. S.G.19 £150
ST. CHRISTOPHER. 1885. ½d. on half 1d. surcharge inv. certif. S.G. 22b £14
SAN MARINO. 1894. 1L. used. S.G.34 ..... £3
ST LUCIA. 1860. 6d. A mint marginal pr. S.G.3 £40
SARDINIA. 1853. 40c. mint. S.G.10 ..... £12
SCINDE. 1852. ½d. S.G. S.1 used £10
SERBIA. 1866. 2p. A mint sheet of 12. S.G.4 ..... £50
SOUTH AUSTRALIA. 1868. 10d. in black on 9d. A mint pair. S.G.79 ..... £25
SICILY. 1859. 1Cr. Russet-brown, unused. S.G. 2a £75
SHANGHAI. 1866. 8c. An imperf. block of 4. S.G.40a £25
SPAIN. 1865. 12c. perf. 14, frame inv. used. S.G.171 ..... £60
TASMANIA. 1856. 2d. A record used copy. S.G.20 £45
TRINIDAD. 1860. 1d. dull red. A mint block of 30. S.G.23 ..... £30
TURKS IS. 1867. 6d. Die Proof in black £22
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WESTERN AUSTRALIA. 1857. 2d. used. S.G.15 ..... £15
U.S.A. 1867. 12c. Grill 11 by 13. A used block of 4. S.G.174 ..... £75
FR. ZANZIBAR. 1893. 3a. on 30c., 3 inverted, mint in pair with normal. The only known copy, signed Gilbert £100
ZULULAND. 1894. £1 used. S.G.28 ..... £6

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Roll of Honour

ADRIAN ALBERT JURGENS.

(This short biographical notice is compiled from notes supplied by the subject of it, but the language is a little less picturesque than the original and not quite so reminiscent of that of the buccaneers from whom it is felt he must be descended.)

A.A. says he was born on the farm Lewenvoet, now part of the Tamboer's Kloof district of Cape Town, on 1st April, 1886, but he had no say in the choice of date. Educated at St. Mary's Convent School, Cape Town; the Boy's High School, French Hoek; and the South African College. As a boy always up to mischief. (Query: Has he grown up yet? To many he is still known as "Boy Jurgens"). A favourite pastime was to catch snakes and then to let them loose either in the convent garden or in the middle of Adderley Street. That they were always harmless species, such as mole snakes, was of little comfort to those who couldn't tell the difference between them and deadly cobras!

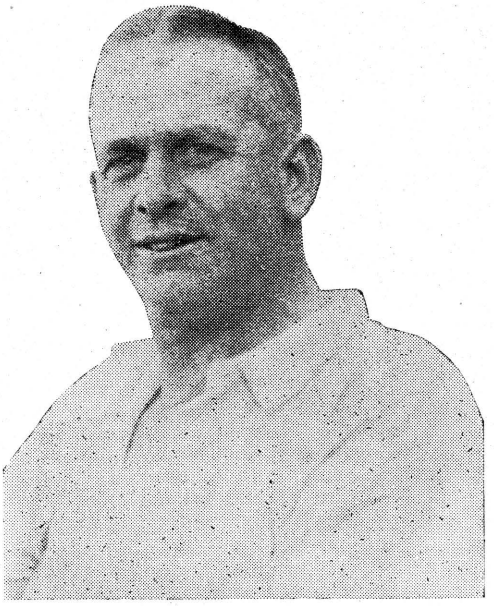
Outdoor hobbies were Shooting Sea Fishing, Yachting, Photography and Mountaineering (Rock Climbing). Indulging in these he had many adventures.

He claims to have shot one large black-maned lion, but his best shot was getting his own left arm when riding a horse which had never before been bridled or saddled as a hunter. Sea-fishing in 1906 he was wrecked some fourteen miles off Robben Island, but after 2½ hours' clinging to a spar in icy water he was rescued by the "John Paterson", Cape Town's famous port tug. Another time he was seized by a large octopus when gathering red bait on a half submerged reef in Smitswinkel Bay. He had a fight for life, but got free leaving Mr. Octopus minus two tentacles. Next to fishing, mountaineering was his chief interest and in 16 years of it he climbed every known route on Table Mountain and some that were unknown. In addition he ascended practically every range and peak in the Western Province, including several first ascents.

He spent the best part of his life in a commercial institution in Cape Town, then took to building so that he could enjoy God's fresh air better; ended up a Master Builder and is now a retired one with a small bank balance!

Married Louise Alice Maud Ross in 1918; they had one daughter, Barbara, but lost her at the age of 17 as a result of an accident.

And now for his philatelic activities. He became interested in stamp collecting about the age of five and at that period thought nothing of swopping Cape triangulars for Guatemalan 'pollies" and such like. As a youngster, however, he ultimately got together a very fine collection, including such items as 'Woodblocks' in blocks of four and both the errors; a strip of three Z.A.R. showing the 'Transvral' error; first issue of Natal, etc. In fact he says he has never really had such good straightforward stamps since. This collection was stolen in 1906 and gave him such a sickener that he dropped collecting till 1921.



Then his wife, who was a keen general collector, persuaded him to sart again. When he did, he concentrated on postal history and this has been his line ever since. He joined the Cape Town Philatelic Society about 1932 and soon afterwards became its Hon. Secretary, a post he held till 1942.

His Cape and Bechuanaland postal history collections are world famous and he has published large books based on these collections. He has other Southern African items as well, some of which have been dealt with in articles any may yet lead to more books.

Philatelic awards in South Africa include practically everything he could get — Congress award for paper read at Congress; numerous awards (mostly 'firsts') at various exhibitions, Skinner Cup, and finally, election to the Roll of Honour of Distinguished South African Philatelists.

Overseas the Royal Philatelic Society of London awarded him the Crawford Medal for his Cape book and promoted him to the Fellowship of the Society a considerable time before he would automatically have come up for promotion from Membership. He was the only South African invited to be a Judge at the New York International Exhibition in 1947, but was unable to accept this honour.

EARLY PHILATELIC SOCIETY.

Mr. John Lewis of Bloemfontein has just brought to light some postcards bearing the rubber stamp mark of the "South African Philatelic Society/Box 59/Standerton, Transvaal", also similar marks of "J. A. Van Rooy/Teleg. Inspector/Box59/Standerton". They are all dated in 1898. Does any reader know if this was a Philatelic Society in the sense that we understand the term to-day, or was it, perhaps, something more in the nature of an Exchange Club?

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Some Die Proofs of the De La Rue Edwardian Postage Stamps and Postage Due Labels of the Transvaal, (and also of the Union of South Africa.)

by A. Hilton Sydow, A.S.A.A., C.A.(S.A.).

The Postage Stamp Issue.

The Edwardian Postage Stamp issue by the Transvaal as a Self-governing Colony consisted of the following denominations:

(A).—The Bicoloured Stamps of 1902/03 printed on Crown C A Simple paper (S.G. 244-259) and of 1904/09 printed on Crown C A Multiple paper. (S.G. 260-272).

½d. black and green; 1d. black and carmine; 2d. black and purple; 2½d. black and blue; 3d. black and sage-green; 4d. black and brown; 6d. black and orange; 1/- black and sage-green; 1/- black and red-brown; 2/- black and brown; 2/- black and yellow; 2/6 magenta and black; 5/- black and purple on yellow; 10/- black and purple on red; £1 green and violet; £5 orange-brown and violet. **Note:** The "black" centres or heads of this issue vary from grey, bluish-grey, grey-black to black.

The stamps mentioned afore were printed from a common head plate and separate frame plates.

(B).—The Monocolured Stamps of 1905/09 printed on Crown C A Multiple paper (S.G. 273-276) from:—

(a) Combined Head and Frame Plates: ½d. green—Plate No. 1 and Plate No. 2; 1d. scarlet Plates Nos. 1, 2, 3 and 4.

(b) Common Head Plate and Separate Frame Plates: 2d. purple and purple; 2½d. blue and blue.

These stamps were letterpress-printed by Thomas De La Rue and Company Limited of 110 Bunhill Row, London, England, from electrotyped en epargne plates derived via lead moulds from en epargne Master Head and Frame Dies of steel. Each stamp inter alia depicted a profile portrait of H.M. King Edward VII adapted from a special portrait prepared by the artist Emil Fuchs, A.R.A., for use on the then new stamps of Great Britain and Ireland. The Master Head Die was engraved en epargne by David Turner. Each plate contained 240 cliches in rilievo arranged in four panels of 60 units each in ten horizontal rows of six, The number of die proofs in black and in colour listed ut infra are housed in my Union Collection.

The Postage Due Set.

The postage due issue comprised seven denominations, namely:—

(a) **In Bicolour:** ½d. black and green; 1d. black and scarlet; 3d. black and blue; 5d. black and violet; 6d. black and red-brown; 1/- scarlet and black.

(b) **In Monocolour:** 2d. brown-orange.

The frames of these postage due labels were letterpress-printed from a common electrotyped en epargne frame plate derived from an en epargne engraved Master Frame Die via lead moulds. The numerals or figures of value were letterpress-printed from stereotyped plates derived from Caslon No. 31 Ornamental Type Numerals as Masters. Each plate contained 120 images in rilievo arranged in two panels of 60 units each in ten horizontal rows of six. The number of die proofs in black listed ut infra are housed in my Union Collection.

The Die Proof Impressions in Black and in Colour.

The Die Proofs in black on white glazed cards were pulled directly from the Master Dies and not from the 240-set postage stamp printing plates nor from the 120-set printing plates of the postage due labels.

List of Die Proofs in black on white glazed cards each one measuring 3.6 by 2.4 inches

(1) **Completed profile Head within inner "pearled" oval surrounded by outer oval in line.** See for example the printed 2/6 stamp with magenta head within black frame.
   (a) With date 28 AUG. 01 stamped in blue in upper left corner. BEFORE/HARDENING stamped in black in upper right corner.
   (b) With date 29 AUG. 01 stamped in blue in upper left corner. AFTER/HARDENING stamped in black in upper right corner. With initials J.H.V. and date 298.01 (ms. in ink).

(2) **Completed profile Head within inner "pearled" oval but without outer lined oval.**
   (a) With date 14 JUN. 07 stamped in blue in upper right corner.

(3) **The ½d. Denomination — Completed Head and Frame.** As S.G. 273.
   (a) With date 21 JUN. 05 stamped in blue in upper left corner. BEFORE/HARDENING stamped in black in upper right corner.
   (b) With date 23 JUN. 05 stamped in blue in upper left corner. AFTER/HARDENING stamped in black in upper right corner. With initials G.C.G. (ms. in ink) in lower right corner.
   (c) With date 14 MAR. 11 stamped in blue in upper left corner. AFTER/STRIKING stamped in black in upper right corner. With initials ADH and date 14/3/11 (ms. in ink) in lower right corner. **(NOTE THE DATE—14 MAR. 11).**

(4) **The 1d. Denomination—Completed Head and Frame.** As S.G. 274.
   (a) With date 21 JUN 05 stamped in blue in upper left corner. BEFORE/HARDENING stamped in black in upper right corner.
   (b) With date 28 JUN. 05 stamped in blue immediately above the Die Impression. AFTER/HARDENING stamped in black in upper right corner. With initials GCG (ms. in black) in lower right corner.

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(c) With date 14 MAR. 11 stamped in blue in upper left corner. AFTER/STRIKING stamped in black in upper right corner. With initials ADH and date 14/3/11 (ms. in enk) in lower right corner. **(Note the date—14 Mar. 11).**

(5) **The 2/- Denomination—Completed Frame.**
(a) With date 23 AUG. 01 stamped in blue in upper left corner.

(6) **The 2/6 Denomination—Completed Frame.**
(a) Without date.

(7) **The Completed Postage Due Frame.**
(a) With date 1 NOV. 06 stamped in blue in upper left corner. BEFORE/HARDENING stamped in black in upper right corner.

(8) **The Completed Postage Due Frame with the numerical "2", the pence symbol "d" and a stop.**
(a) With date 2 NOV. 06 stamped in blue in upper left corner. BEFORE/HARDENING stamped in black in upper right corner.

List of Die Proofs in colour on paper watermarked "Crown C A Simple". These proofs were pulled directly from the Master Dies and not from the 240-set printing plates.

(1) Head in green and frame in purple—colour of the issued £1 stamp.
(2) Head in blue and frame in blue—colour of the issued 2½d. stamp.
(3) Head in brown-orange and frame in purple —not adopted.
(4) Head in purple and frame in brown-orange —not adopted.

Edwardian Die Proofs of the Union of South Africa.

From the list of afore-described Die Proofs in black on glazed white cards it will be discerned that two of them, namely the ½d. (S.G. 273) of category 3c and the 1d. (S.G. 274) of category 4c, were each dated the 14th March 1911 by an official of Thomas De La Rue and Company Limited whose initials were "A.D.H." Incidentally it may be mentioned here that certain Union D.L.R. Georgian Die Proofs were also dated and initialed by this official — vide the "South African Philatelist" for April 1951 —page 57. Also, each one of the said two Edwardian Die Proofs bears the stamped expression "AFTER/STRIKING". In a letter to the writer Messrs. Thomas De La Rue and Company Limited stated that the term "STRIKING" was used in connection with the preparation of lead moulds anent the construction of letterpress plates and that proofs from the relative dies were taken after striking the leads. Such proofs were stamped with the expression "AFTER/STRIKING".

These two Edwardian Die Proofs thus accord prima facie evidence that Messrs. De La Rue prepared certain 240-set printing plates via lead moulds for printing Transvaal Edwardian ½d. and 1d. postage stamps to the order of the Union Government of South Africa. It must be borne in mind that these two Die Proofs are dated the "14th March 1911" and it must also be borne in mind that the Self-governing Colony of the Transvaal had ceased to exist on the evening of the 30th May 1910. The Transvaal was incorporated in the Union of South Africa on the 31st May 1910.

These two Edwardian Die Proofs can be linked up with a statement which appears on page 10 of the "Adhesive Postage Stamps of the Union of South Africa" by the late J. Ritchie to the effect that:

> "Some of the Transvaal King's head stamps were reprinted shortly before the new issue (i.e. the Union Georgians) eventuated, to tide over any temporary shortage (of pre-Union Edwardians) — the bracketted insertions are mine.

A further concatenation is found in the "Standard Catalogue of the Postage Stamps of the Union of South Africa"; on page 5 thereof Mr. Simenhoff wrote:—

> "Thus from August 18, 1910 to September 1st, 1913, a period of slightly over three years, the stamps of the Cape of Good Hope, Natal, Transvaal and the Orange River Colony were available for use anywhere in the Union: and to eke out the full period **supplies of certain of the stamps of the Transvaal were obtained."**

From the foregoing it will be noted that it is not stated by the Handbook of the late J. Ritchie nor by the Catalogue of Mr. Simenhoff as to whether ½d. 1d., and any other denominated Transvaal stamps were obtained by the Union Government. So in order to obtain conclusive evidence that the Union Government of South Africa did in fact order and purchase Transvaal inscribed Edwardian postage stamps from Thomas De La Rue and Company Limited during the year 1911. I wrote to the Publicity Officer of the Department of Posts and Telegraphs of the Union of South Africa, Mr. T. I. Ferreira. Mr. Ferreira replied as follows:—

> "Your desire to make your proposed article as complete as possible is fully appreciated, but I regret that as the ordering and distribution of stamps, during the period under review, was handled by the Treasury, I am unable to throw any light on the matter. Any Post Office records which might have had a bearing on the case are no longer available."

So for the time being I have designated these two Die Proofs as "Edwardian Die Proofs of the Union of South Africa."

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REVIEW

The Postage Stamps of Denmark 1851-1951. By J. Schmidt-Andersen. English translation by Roland King-Farlow. Published by the Royal Danish Post Office; English edition obtainable from Messrs. Robson Lowe, London at 36/-.

Magnificent is the only adjective that can adequately describe this volume prepared in commemoration of the centenary of Danish postage stamps. It is a book of almost 300 pages, 11½ in. x 8 in., on art paper and beautifully printed and finished. There is one lovely colour plate of the 4 R.B.S. shades of the 1854 printing and innumerable illustrations in black and white.

The subject matter is confined to the adhesive stamps issued by the Government and little is said about cancellations unless they happen to have a direct bearing on stamps themselves. There are reproductions of preparatory artists' sketches, of essays and proofs, of most of the stamps and of the more important varieties.

Although much has been written about Danish stamps, and a bibliography of the more important works is given, the author says the picture is not yet complete in all its details and hopes that others may add the finishing touches. There cannot be many still lacking.

This work goes right up to the 1951 commemoratives mentioned in our last issue. There were great celebrations then, both in Copenhagen and Aarhus, with special cancellations for mail transferred from models of the old ball-post wagons to helicopters, symbolic of the century postal developments.

A classic and de luxe volume which all serious collectors of Danish stamps must have.

SOME RECENT AUCTION PRICES.

Robson Lowe.

Stephen Rich's "Philately of the Anglo-Boer War", 75/-.

Netherlands 1852, 15c. orange-yellow, block of 4 used, £60.

Netherlands 1891-95 5g. lake and bronze-green, block of 4 mint, £44.

H. R. Harmer.

Cape. Pair 1d. "rouletted" (Royal certificate states "Insufficient information for opinion), £26.

Block of three 4d. "Perforated" (similar Royal Certificate), £26.

Pairs of S.G. 6 and 8 on cover, £29.

Natal. 1857 6d. green on piece, £60.

1857 9d. blue on piece, £32.

1857 1/- buff, two on entire, £33.

Orange River Colony. 6-vol. specialised collection, £650.

VOOYS COMPILING REVISED STAMP MAGAZINE DIRECTORY.

Daniel W. Vooys, editor of the Philatelic Literature Review, P.O. Box 300, Canajoharie, New York, U.S.A., is compiling a second edition of his Directory of Current Stamp Periodicals of the World. The first edition appeared in 1947 and gave information on more than 200 publications appearing in some thirty countries.

RHODESIAN FIELD FORCE, 1900.

It is a matter of history that the B.S.A. Company were seriously concerned about the unprotected state of Rhodesia in 1900, being apprehensive both with regard to the Boers and to a possible native rising.

A force of 5,000 was sent there through Beira, but there was much sickness among them and much indecision as to what to do with them. It was finally decided that they should make a descent on Pietersburg, but they never got further than Tuli and from there went to Mafeking. As a distinct Force it was dispersed at the end of 1900.

It has long been a mystery what the postal arrangements and markings, if any, were. This has now been cleared up by Major Adrian Hopkins in an article in Bulletin No. 55 published by the Postal History Society. He has brought to light two covers from members of the Field Force, endorsed by the senders, but beyond this there are no special Army P.O. or other postal markings, merely Rhodesian civil P.O. marks. It would seem therefore that this Force had no Army P.O. accompanying it.

ISRAEL.

The Postal Department announces the appearance in May of (a) an 80 pruta stamp on the occasion of the launching of the drive for Independence Bonds, and (b) of 15 and 40 pruta stamps commemorating the third anniversary of the proclamation of the State of Israel.

AUSTRALIA.

On 1st May there were due for issue three stamps commemorating the 50th Anniversary of the Commonwealth Federation. These two 3d. stamps, issued se tenant, feature Sir Henry Parkes, the "Father of Federation", and Sir Edmund Barton, first Prime Minister. A 5½d. shews K.G.V (then Duke of York) opening the first Federal Parliament.

Issuing two different stamps se tenant seems to be becoming quite a habit in Australia. Query—is it a good thing?

GREAT BRITAIN.

The Festival of Britain stamps and the various colour changes in the ordinary series went on sale on 3 May, but the F.O.B. itself only opened on 4 May and that is the earliest date of the special cancellations at the Festival Exhibition P.O.

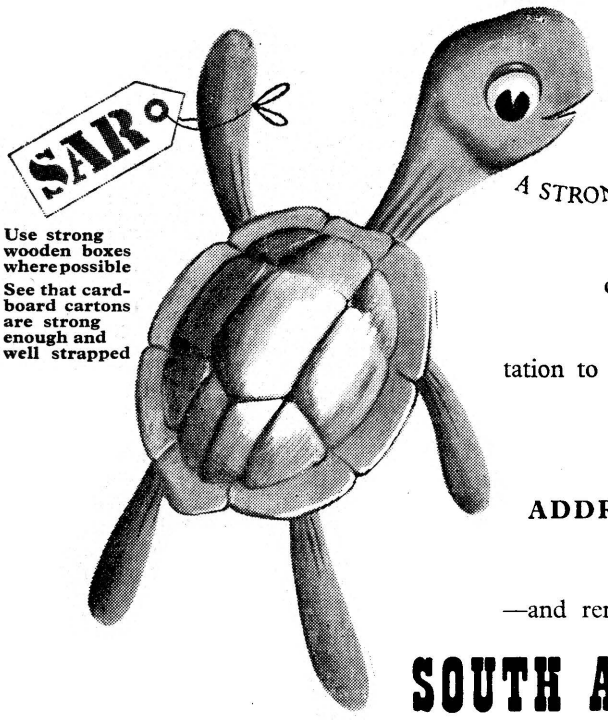
NETHERLANDS.

We are indebted to some unknown friend for a lovely postcard from Eindhoven, which had been celebrating the golden jubilee of the Philips electric bulb firm. The card travelled by special flight from Eindhoven to Schipol Amsterdam and then on here by air. There are two special postmarks, one of them in English.

THE WILD AND WOOLLY WEST.

The April number of the "American Philatelist" is a special Western number containing a series of articles dealing with the postal history of the territories west of the Mississipi during the middle and later years of the 19th century. Reminiscent of Hopalong Cassidy and his friends!

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CAPE OF GOOD HOPE 1893. 1d. Table Mountain. Mint imperf. block 4	15	0	0
KENYA 1903-4. 20r. S.G. 15. Mint block 4	80	0	0
KENYA 1921-22. 50r. S.G. 77 mint corner block 4	200	0	0
MAURITIUS 1899. 15c. on 36c. Error. Bar of surcharge omitted. S.G. 135a mint	10	0	0
MAURITIUS 1913-23. 1or Blue green olive back. S.G. 204a mint	35	0	0
MAURITIUS 1924. 50r. S.G. 224. Overprinted Specimen	2	0	0
MOROCCO 1907-12. 15c. on 1½d. Error. "1" of 15 omitted. S.G. 84a mint in pair with normal	63	0	0
MOROCCO 1948. 1p. 20c. Surcharge double. S.G. 164a mint	65	0	0
NATAL 1895. ½d. on 6d. Surcharge double one vertical. S.G. 114L Mint	15	0	0
RHODESIA 1891. ½d. on 6d. S.G. 14 complete mint sheet of 60 showing complete setting of 30 twice	90	0	0
Price of half sheet with complete setting	45	0	0
RHODESIA 1891. 2d. on 6d. S.G. mint block 30	80	0	0
RHODESIA 1898-1908. 4d. mint pair imperf. between S.G. 82a	14	0	0
RHODESIA 1898-1908. 2/6 mint pair imperf. between S.G. 85a	17	10	0
RHODESIA 1898-1908. 2/6 do. do. but block 4	35	0	0
RHODESIA 1898-1908. £2 S.G. 91 mint 60/-. Mint block 4	12	0	0
RHODESIA 1917. ½d. on 1d. mint block 4 with inverted o'print S.G. 208a one stamp letters NY spaced as S.G. 280c	70	0	0
SOUTH AFRICA 1915. Postage Due 1/-. S.G. D7. Mint	2	5	0
SOUTH AFRICA 1915. do in mint block 4, very rare	12	10	0
SOUTH WEST AFRICA 1923. £1 S.G. 12 (pair £10) mint block 4	20	0	0
SOUTH WEST AFRICA 1923-4. £1 S.G. 27 (pair £6) mint block 4	12	0	0
SOUTH WEST AFRICA 1923. Postage Due 1d. S.G. D13, mint pair, great rarity	120	0	0
TANGANYIKA 1927. 5c—75c. set 9, very rare Die Proofs in black without centres	60	0	0

All prices include Registered Air Postage. I shall be very pleased to forward any of the above items for inspection. I have one of the finest stocks of Great Britain and British Colonials, including Rarities. Errors, Proofs, Specimen stamps, etc. Want Lists will receive promt attention and I shall be very pleased to forward selections of fine stamps on approval. References for new customers will be appreciated.

HARRY NISSEN

65, VICTORIA ST., LONDON, S.W.1., ENGLAND.

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NEWFOUNDLAND

By

D. HARRIS.

(Notes accompanying an exhibit to the Cape Town Philatelic Society.)

Although I have shown most of these stamps on a previous occasion, I trust you will find interest in my exhibition.

Newfoundland (or Newland as it was known for a number of years) is the oldest colony under the British flag. It is now a province of Canada, having passed through very hard times in recent years. It has been dependent on its fishing industry and also on timber logging, and in times of depression has not been able to balance its budget. A commission was sent over by the British Government some years ago, and after passing through troubled times, a referendum was held; this was in favour of federation with Canada. So soon the stamps of Newfoundland will be no more issued.

You will see that throughout Newfoundland has been very loyal to the Crown, and its stamps portray the ruling royal family of the day, in various forms. The Kings and Queens are shown as young princes or princesses, and then as the Kings and Queens. The prince and princesses of the day are also prominently shown on the various issues. You will also notice that the postmasters are very good advertising agents; the stamps frequently show the industries and beauty spots. Also you will notice many issues, repeated in different colours and printing, making Newfoundland a very interesting country to collect.

And now a brief summary of the stamps.

The first issues of stamps show the royal crown and heraldic flowers of the United Kingdom, and there are 3 issues thereof. 1857: 1860 and 1861-2. Unfortunately in the two earlier printings I cannot show very many; these stamps are rare and difficult to obtain. In the 1860 issue of the 1/- only 100 stamps were printed in all.

1866 shows the 12 and 24 cents of Queen Victoria with the Prince Consort — most husbands are rated as second to their wives, but to judge by the value of these stamps the Prince Consort was only third. The cod fish and seal are shown — the mainstay of the fishing industry of the colony; the used item of 3 cents is interesting as showing the cork cancellation.

1868-73 issue shows the Prince of Wales (later Edward 7th) and again Queen Victoria. The 1880 issue is similar but in different colours, and the same applies to the 1887 issue.

1890, another issue showing the Queen in various shades, the pink shade is due to a consignment being recovered from the sea, the pink being due to the action of the salt water.

The next issue of interest is the Cabot commemoratives of June 1897 and commemorates the 400th year of the discovery of Newfoundland by Jean Cabot, and you will notice the 1c green showing Queen Victoria, as it was the year of her reign of 60 years.

The issue of Oct., 1897 shows the 3 cent previous issue overprinted one cent in different types of overprint.

The issue of 1897-1918 shows Queen Victoria, King Edward 7th and Queen Alexandra as Prince and Princess of Wales, and also their son Prince Edward — afterwards Edward 8th and also Duke of York — later George 5th with his wife Queen Mary, now the Queen mother.

15th August 1910 saw the John Guy tercentenary issue to mark the colonisation by Sir John Guy in 1610 with the help of merchants of Bristol and London. The 2 cent stamp shows the arms of the colony itself granted by James I in 1637, and not the arms of merchants who financed this expedition. A number of imperfs. are shown in this issue. In 1911 a few stamps were re-issued in this series.

On 19 June 1911 came the Coronation issue of George 5th showing the whole of the Royal Family.

2 Jan., 1919: the Caribou issue to commemorate the Newfoundland contingent in the 1914 war. Each stamp has inscribed the name of a battle in which this contingent took part.

The issues of 1923 to 1938 are varied — the usual issues made by a country, but as you will see in various shades and printings; either the Royal Family or a publicity set — good business methods. The exception is the 3 cents provisional of 1929.

The next set of interest is the Sir Humphrey Gilbert set issued 1933 which commemorates the 350th anniversary of the annexture of Newfoundland to the crown of Britain.

From then on we have the usual silver jubilee, coronation and other modern sets which do not call for much comment, except that in the long coronation set a number of perfs. have been found, and also pairs with and without watermark.

In Airmails I should say that Newfoundland is the premier country for collectors. The transatlantic flight was the dream of aviators in the days of early aviation, and so we have many flights across the Atlantic with relative issue of stamps.

The first issue of airmails was in April 1919 the 3 cent caribou being overprinted first transatlantic airpost April 1919. This is known as the Hawker, and I think is the most valuable of airmail stamps. It was issued to Hawker & Grieves in their attempt to win the £10,000 prize for the first successful airflight across the Atlantic. Unfortunately they did not succeed and they came down into the sea. I regret I have no copy to show.

In June 1919 an issue was made for Allcock and Brown and other projected flights. It was overprinted "Transatlantic airpost 1919 One dollar." over the 15c. Cabot issue. Allcock and Brown completed their flight.

In November 1921 an issue 'Airmail to Halifax' was made on the 35 cents Cabot issue, but after many attempts the flights were abandoned

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and the letters sent to Halifax by ordinary mail. There are varieties in this issue — no stop etc.

In May 1927 Commander de Pinedo attempted a flight in his seaplane from Newfoundland to Rome. Within a few hundred miles of land his plane developed engine trouble, and he was forced to descend on the sea from where he was towed to the Azores, and there he resumed his flight by easy stages and eventually reached Rome. A de Pinedo cover is shown.

The next issue is the Columbia cover. The surcharge on this stamp was made in blocks of four (not on full sheets) and only one stamp was sold to each person, and the post office clerk affixed the stamp to the envelope, but I understand there are a few blocks of 4 known. The flight was successful. September 1930.

In 1931 Newfoundland issued regular airmail stamps 15 cents, 50 cents and one dollar, and these are shown as singles and in pairs and blocks.

In May 1932 the regular one dollar issue was overprinted to mark the Dornier DO-X flight from Newfoundland to Germany and is shown both mint and on cover, and particular attention is drawn to the surcharge inverted on this stamp — quite a rarity.

In 1933 a further issue of airmails were made, known as the Labrador issue, and later on in the year the 75 cent stamp was overprinted for use on the General Balboa flight from Chicago to Rome. This was the return flight.

This concludes the exhibit.

POSTAL STATIONERY USED ABROAD.

An article in a recent number of "Stamps" draws attention to what might be an interesting sideline in collecting. Most people know about and prize specimens of the adhesive stamps of their favourite countries "used abroad", but few are even aware of the use of the reply halves abroad of the International Reply Postal Cards of their own country.

These can be legitimately used through the mails from any U.P.U. country.

Unfortunately this is a sideline not open at present to Union collectors, for although we had Reply Postcards for inland use issued in 1913 and 1917, we have not even got these now and have never had such items for foreign use.

The fore-runners of the Union had such cards but for some reason or other they have not been considered necessary in our postal service.

Many countries still have them and one was recently received by the editor with the information that the sender was trying to collect examples of the cards of his own country used in every country in the U.P.U. One of the snags in his collecting, he said, was that the postal clerks in many places did not seem to be aware of the U.P.U. regulation permitting such "use abroad" and the cards often came back to him surcharged "T" i.e. they were taxed as not having postage pre-paid. Such marking spoilt the cards from his point of view of collecting.

BASUTOLAND.

The first issue for this year of the "Philatelic Magazine" has a very readable article on Basutoland. We would only join issue with the writer on one point, viz., where he says there are quite a few post offices and then gives a list of 14 which he believes to be complete. Actually one of these, Zastron, is in the O.F.S. and not in Basutoland at all. The latest Supplement to the Union Post Office Guide gives a list of 45 offices in Basutoland. It is true that some of these are only Agencies, which may not have cancelling stamps of their own, but there are certainly more than 13 operating at present which have cancelling stamps. And, if one is after postmark collecting there are quite a few offices with marks in the past but now closed down.

DR. ROBERT PAGANINI.

Aero Philatelist Par Excellence.

On April 23, some twenty-six years after adhesive postage stamps had been thought of, St. Gallen in Switzerland was honoured with a new arrival, named Robert Paganini, later to become the world-famous Doctor. He gained his chemist's diploma in 1888, and became in turn assistant chemist at the Polytechnic Institute of Zurich, chemist at Basle, and then Director of the Swiss-French Malting Co. From 1911 he began the study of political economy and kindred subjects, and of air mail and air traffic history. It was in the realm of the latter subjects that he was to specialise. Over the space of thirty-three years he gathered together 5,000 documents, leaflets, pamphlets and press-clippings, which formed a unique collection of air records. The results of his labours he dedicated to aero-philatelists in his monumental work "Les Grandes Archives de la Poste Aerienne", which is safe in the library of the Universal Postal Union at Berne.

Such a personality could not have passed his life unrecognised. Dr. Paganini was a member of twenty-nine aero-philatelic societies, having had honorary presidency or honorary membership of twenty-five conferred upon him.

He lived to the grand age of eighty-four, the last momentous incident of his life occurring on December 6, 1950. One feels that in the years to come, the name of Dr. Robert Paganini will always be synonumous throughout the world with everything which is right and meritorious in aerophilately. J.C.W.F.

MAURITIUS.

It is stated that a recently issued stamp which has lines of latitude and longitude on it, is at least one degree out. It puts Port Louis out in the Indian Ocean.

SEYCHELLES.

A set of eight Postage Due stamps has been issued, 2, 3, 6, 9, 15, 18, 20 and 30 cents. This is the first time there has been Postage Due stamps.

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The Handstruck Letter Stamps and Postmarks of the Cape of Good Hope

SUPPLEMENT No. 2.

By A. A. JURGENS.

The various designs used are fully illustrated in the above work on pages 65 to 70 and the first published list will be found on pages 109 to 113.

Following are the new numbers found; the majority are in the Thick-Bar type of canceller, but those which I have not seen personally or do not know the type of canceller (beyond the number) are marked with an asterisk.

Supplement No. 1 of the above appeared in the "South African Philatelist" of April, 1946 (page 48).

I have been able to allocate numbers of the numeral defacing stamp of 1864 ("Killers") to the Post Offices in which they were used; the majority however I have only been able to identify as having been used in the Cape Colony.

Number	Name of Town	Other Numbers: Remarks.
21	French Hoek	
33	Used in the Cape	
46	Used in Natal	
84	North End, Port Elizabeth	1899.
94	Used in the Cape	
103	Piquetberg Road	Not No. 193 as stated in Supplement No. 1.
140	Cape Colony	
145	Queenstown	Also used in Colesberg. This number is also known in the 14-Bar variety. (Fig. 78 Type 54).
181	Used in the Cape	Also used in Geluk, Bechuanaland.
212	Used in the Cape	
249	Used in the Cape	
254	Thorngrove (1893)	Also used No. 511 in 1897.
266	Schoongezicht (1890)	Also used at Mission Siding
277	Morija, Basutoland	(Gilbert).
294	Used in the Cape	
298	Yellow Wood Trees	1892
338	Used in the Cape	
352	Used in the Cape	
361	Haaspoort, Cape	1892
407	Quthing, Basutoland	(Gilbert). Also used at Matatiele (Cape) 1897.
468	Used in the Cape	
469	Used in the Cape	
511	Thorngrove	1897. See No. 354 above.
525	Used in the Cape	
544	Used in the Cape	
553	Used in the Cape	
595	Used in the Cape	
611	Longdens	1897.
636	Used in Bechuanaland	
771	Halesowen Siding	1892.
780	Used in the Cape	1892.
825	Tuli, Rhodesia	
829	Used in Rhodesia	*
833	Used in Nyasaland	*
836	Used in Bechuanaland	*
851-872	Used in Nyasaland	*(Dann). See "S.A. Ph." 1940, p. 163.
863	Zomba, Nyasaland	*(Pirie).
864	Tshinde, B.C.A.	1894.
868	Used in the Cape	
872	Deep Bay, Nyasaland	*
874	Zomba, Nyasaland	*(Twynam).
882	Used in the Cape	
903	Used in Nyasaland	*
912	Used in the Cape	
915	Used in Rhodesia	*(Dann).
919	Used in Rhodesia	*(Dann).

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Number	Name of Town	Other Numbers: Remarks.
921	Used in Rhodesia	
924	Used in the Cape	*(Dann).
941	Salisbury, Rhodesia	*(Dann).
942	Used in Rhodesia	*
951	Gwelo, Rhodesia	*(Dann).
952	Plumtree, Rhodesia	*(Dann).
953	Umtali, Rhodesia	*(Dann).
954	Used in Rhodesia	*(Dann).
957	Used in Rhodesia	*(Dann).
963	Used in Rhodesia	*(Dann).
968	Used in the Cape	
969	Lusikisiki, Pondoland	May really be 696.
985	Used in Nyasaland	*(Twynam).
986	Zomba, Nyasaland	*(Twynam).
987	Zomba, Nyasaland	*(Twynam).
995	Used in the Cape	*(Twynam).
1014	Pitsani, Bechuanaland	*
1112	Kimberley Station	*1902 (Pennycuick).

A correction. The No. used at the P.O. Kloof Street, Gardens, Cape Town is 968, not 896 as previously recorded.

I cannot vouch personally for the correctness or otherwise of the numbers discovered by Dann, Twynam and Gilbert, as I have not seen them, but I record them here because they are in the same running as those used in Cape Colony. The late Mr. Dann gives No. 827 as having been used in Nyasaland, but I have traced it as used in Salisbury, Rhodesia. It is quite possible, however, that it might have been re-issued to Nyasaland; such re-issuing was fairly common in the Cape.

(To be continued.)

SHORT NOTICES.

How I toured the World on Nothing, by Walter Buchler, 101, Leeside Crescent, London, N.W. 11, England. Price 3/9.

A practical course in Journalism and Press Photography, writing articles for newspapers and magazines and so paying your way and a little more to anywhere and everywhere. The writer was not, apparently a stamp collector—what an opportunity missed!

Scale Model Aircraft Building, by V. J. G. Woodason. Published by the author mentioned above. Price 4/11.

This, so far as we can judge, appears to be a very full and well illustrated manual of how to make model planes. Nothing to do with stamp collecting — might we suggest the making of miniature model first-flight covers?

Directory of the World's Post Offices. Published by the U.P.U., Berne. Price 45 Swiss Francs.

Worth almost that as paper, one might think. A huge volume of 1,700 pages, replacing the last edition which was in 1937. It lists every post office in the world as known at the time of final editing. Hardly necessary, perhaps, as a philatelic reference book, it might be at times of considerable interest and value to collectors. We have **not** a copy so you must apply to Berne, not to Box 375, Johannesburg, if you wish to consult it.

Harry Wennbergers Frimarcksaffar AB, Drottinggatan 82, Stockholm.

A catalogue of stamps offered by this sixty-year old establishment, strongest perhaps in Scandinavian and European stamps but with quiteg ood selections of others. In Swedish but quite easily understandable by any collector.

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PHILATELISTS AT PLAY.

Mr. Ferguson, President of the Pretoria Philatelic Society, feeling that philatelists should get together socially sometimes quite apart from stamps, arranged a Bowls Tournament on 3rd May with thhe co-operation of Dr. Alec Kaplan and the Delville Bowling Club, Germiston.

Eight teams assembled for a full days' play, two from the Pretoria Society, one from the Pretoria Railway Society, two from Postal Officials in Pretoria, and one each from the Johannesburg Society, the East Rand Society and the Philatelic Federation.

The day was most enjoyable and the hope was expressed that something of the kind might become an annual event. Broadly speaking the Pretoria teams walked over the Reef, and the "Postals A" were the champions of the day.

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SOCIETY NEWS

U.C.T. PHILATELIC SOCIETY.

Wednesday, 21st March:

Mr. E. J. Riseborough showed us some of his Germans. It was almost a pity that the writing-up was so good, as it caused almost as much interest as the stamps. Mr. Riseborough had employed a Gothic style of writing.

A quiz arranged by the secretary was won by Mr. R. D. Cherry, followed by Mr. M. Holz. The prizes were donated by Mr. G. Lincow.

Thursday, 12th April:

The Cape Town P.S. paid us a visit and brought along with them a display of much higher standard than those we are able to produce ourselves.

In fact there were ten small displays. Countries represented included Union of S. Africa (Mr. Dekenah and Mr. Axer), Egypt (Mr. Mummery), Switzerland (Mr. Kaganson), Denmark (Mr. Hansen), Pitcairn Is. (Mr. Armstrong), Seychelles (Mr. Nathan), Nyasaland and Czechoslovakia. An unusual note was struck by Mr. Axer with his meter marks. Mr. Kaganson briefly described the exhibits.

While we waited for tea, Mr. Armstrong gave us a short talk on the Educational Value, or lack of it, of Stamp-collecting.

It was much regretted, by himself as well as by the rest of us, that our Principal, Dr. Davie, was unable to attend. D.A.

EAST LONDON PHILATELIC SOCIETY.

The 42nd Annual General Meeting took place at the Colosseum tea-rooms on Friday, April 13th. Twenty-four members were present and some visitors. The President, Mr. Watson, was absent owing to having had a serious operation. Messages of sympathy were expressed. There was an election of new officers for the coming year: President, Mr. J. P. Shingler; Vice-President, Mr. Hellman; Hon. Secretary, Mr. Turner (from the Grahamstown Philatelic Society); Hon. Treasurer, Mr. Williams; Librarian, Mr. H. Harper; Distributors of Periodicals, Mr. N. Clark and Mr. Wendler; Auditor, Mr. McCallum; Auctioneer, Mr. Jensen; Reporter, Mrs. R. Alabaster; Members of the Committee, Mr. A. Watson, Mr. Danner and Mr. Kruger. Mr. Thornton was elected our Philatelic Adviser.

There were some covers shown of Philatelic interest. Mr. Jensen produced an unusual centenary cover from Denmark with No. 2 in S.G. Catalogue printed and enlarged on the left of the envelope. This stamp is quoted as No. 1 in the Danish catalogue. A most intriguing cover was shown of Austrian stamps sent by Balloon post with a beautiful postmark. Mr. Pluddeman brought a German cover with two stamps depicting the famous Swiss scientist Leonard Euler and Wilhelm Piech, President of the Soviet zone of Germany.

After business had been concluded Mr. Hellman read a most comprehensive paper on "The Thematic Collection", displaying items to demonstrate his arguments. The paper made members feel that whatever their financial state might be there was scope for the most interesting and showy collections.

Mr. Danner showed a beautiful written up collection of Swiss classics about which he gave a few words of explanation.

The evening concluded with refreshments and a spirited auction conducted by Mr. Jensen. Many items changed hands and a job lot of South African stamps was sold in aid of S.A.N.T.A. funds.

The meeting held on Friday May 11th was very well attended. A new secretary was nominated owing to Mr. Turner's sudden transfer to Port Elizabeth. Mr. Gillespie volunteered to take Mr. Turner's place until the end of the year. Many matters of Philatelic interest were discussed and shown. Amongst these was a Danish cover brought by Mr. Jensen showing the first helicopter flight over 100 years ago. Festival of Britain stamps were shown, also the change of colours in the present issue of Great Britain; Israeli stamps from Mr. Hellman and Palestine 1st Day Cover (new city); a Philatelic Cover of the Exhibition at Bloemfontein; Haiti Stamps from Mr. McCallum, and a cover of the Australian Commonwealth Jubilee.

The medals had just been received ready to be engraved for those who win the display competition at the end of the year.

A report on the annual dinner was given and also on the S.A.N.T.A. Fund which is being raised by voluntary contributions of philatelic items and tenders quoted for these items by those interested.

Mr. Shingler, the President, read a most interesting paper on "Health Stamps for the Union". It was unanimously agreed that there was a crying need for something of this sort. He displayed many pages of health stamps of other countries which had raised large sums of money in this way in ever increasing amounts.

A display of Great Britain stamps was given by Mrs. Alabaster from 1840-1940. Mr. Clark gave a vote of thanks. An auction of stamps was held later in the evening. R.A.

GRAHAMSTOWN PHILATELIC SOCIETY.

March 8th: .....

The President, Mr. Maurice Fletcher, welcomed Mr. E. W. Tanner to membership of the society. The programme for the second quarter of the year was drawn up:

April 12th: Dr. Cory—"Canadians".

May 10th: Mr. Fletcher—"Central and East Africans".

June 14th: Mr. Bradley—"Australia and New Zealand".

Sincere regret was expressed at the illness of two stalwarts of the Society, Mr. Eric Carr and Mr. J. Motyer, and the secretary was directed to write to them expressing the hope that they would soon regain their health.

Mr. Maurice Fletcher then displayed his attractive collection of stamps of the Crown Colonies in South Africa. The stamps were in very fine condition and were attractively displayed on black square-lined sheets.

April 12th:

The chief interest of the evening lay in the display by Dr. Cory of his "Canadians". Dr. Cory explained apologetically that he had only recently become interested in Canadians, yet his sheets were creditably well filled, especially on the modern side. In conclusion he produced the Canadians of Mr. Motyer, whom illness prevented from attending, and displayed pages well filled with early Canadians, many of which were rarities.

Dr. Tame reported that the third stamp packet had started on its rounds. R.Q.T.

PHILATELIC SOCIETY OF JOHANNESBURG.

At the meeting held on May 8th, 1951, Mr. W. Oppenheim provided the exhibit. This consisted of a selection of sheets from his classical French collection as well as some sheets from his modern collection of various countries.

The classical French issues were particularly fine. They included some rarities of the earliest Republican and Empire Issies mostly in fine used condition. The rare 5 francs lilac of the 1862 issue was well represented in fine used condition. The imperforate issues were shown in condition seldom seen in collections.

Amongst the modern issues shown by Mr. W. Oppenheim were the different issues of the £1 value King George VI Bermuda including several of the rare shade.

Mr. Oppenheim included some sheets in his collection to illustrate amusing questions, showing a keen sense of humour in adopting the particular stamps to the text of his question. He entitled this part of the exhibit "Do You Know?"

Mr. L. Buchen spoke on the exhibit particularly praising the classical French issues.

At the Meeting of May 28th.

Mr. L. Buchen exhibited South-West Africa stamps of the German regime.

He read a paper on the exhibit entitled "a brief survey of German South-West Africa."

The exhibit included a complete collection of the overprinted and yacht stamps in mint and used condition. In addition there were numerous covers with German stamps used in South-West Africa. There were several items of stamps with the "wanderstempel" cancellation. A very rare item was a cover franked with the 50 pf. first overprint. This stamp was not issued in the territory and very few exist used. There was also a flown cover of May 1914 in connection with the Windhoek Exhibition. There was also a complete sheet of the 3 mark value issued in Berlin in 1919 and never used. There were numerous field cards and sea-posts. Altogether the exhibit was a comprehensive one with numerous rarities seldom seen at Society meetings.

Mr. W. Oppenheim spoke on the exhibit. He pointed out how difficult it was to get some of the items.

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PRETORIA PHILATELIC SOCIETY.

At the bi-monthly meeting, held on the 7th May and presided over by the President, Mr. F. C. Ferguson, three five-minute readings were contributed. Mr. Obermeyer read an article on forgeries and methods adopted to counter them. He also exhibited some of the Transvaal forgeries referred to in his article.

Mr. H. Endeman read an article on the F.I.P.'s second list of counterfeit stamps, and Miss Versfeld one on a whimsical search for a new stamp catalogue.

The meeting concluded with a fine exhibit by Mr. Budd of the stamps of Portugal.

The annual Allan Cup Competition took place at the subsequent meeting, held on the 21st May. In the unavoidable absence of the President and Vice-President, the meeting was presided over by Major von Blommestein.

The competition for the Allan Cup is usually judged by popular vote and on this occasion members had to decide which of six exhibits merited the award of the trophy. Mr. A. Goldberg was duly declared the winner for the presentation and layout of his Union of South Africa exhibit, with Mr. B. Castignani (who showed British Islands, Geo. VI mint), as runner up.

The meeting heard with interest the report of the Society's delegates to the 13th Congress of the Federation of Philatelic Societies, recently held in Bloemfontein, in which their appreciation was expressed for a particularly pleasant and successful event. B.J.V.

JEWISH GUILD PHILATELIC SECTION.

Mr. W. Oppenheim exhibited some fine U.S.A. stamps as well as some modern Luxemburg covers at the meeting held on May 17th. There was a larger attendance of members and visitors than usual and they all appreciated the exhibit.

The Exhibit included early issues of U.S.A. in fine used condition including many rarities. Amongst other stamps shown were the Columbus set nearly complete in used condition as well as the other early commemoratives. There were modern issues shown in mint blocks and miniature sheets.

The Luxemburg covers included the balloon flight of 1926 as well as recent issues on first day covers many of which had been flown.

Mr. B. Glassman spoke in the U.S.A. exhibit and Mr. Isaacs spoke on the Luxemburg issue.

ORANGE FREE STATE & BASUTOLAND PHILATELIC SOCIETY.

At the March meeting, a fair crowd of members, visitors and Juniors was present. The first half hour was, as usual, an informal one, being taken up with swapping, examining of exchange packets and philatelic chatting. After the formal business had been dispensed with, which included the final decisions in regard to the forthcoming Congress and Exhibition, an auction sale for Exhibition funds was held. Mr. A. G. Denne gave his monthly display of "New Issues", and Mr. J. Lewis his "Tit-Bits from the Philatelic Press". The subject for the evening's displays was "U.S.A.", and two fine displays of the States were given by Mr. Hodgson and Mr. Brown. The types of the two collections were in interesting contrast: While Mr. Hodgson's stamps laid the accent on pictorial attraction, Mr. Brown gave an interesting historical essay on the United States with the aid of its stamps.

At the April meeting, the regular monthly features of the programme formed the first part of the evening. Of particular interest was Mr. Lewis's "Philatelic News Service", which among other items gave approximate figures of the number of stamps and their face value issued yearly: approximately 2,500 stamps altogether per year at a face value of a little over £100.—A "20 Questions" Quiz was won by Mr. Denne. Brief and interesting displays were given by Mr. J. B. Levy, Mr. J. Price and Dr. Freund.

FRANCE.

On 9 April there was issued a 25 fr. stamp featuring two hands holding a shuttle, the thread from which was twisted into the words "Industrie Textile", which the stamp honours.

PORT ELIZABETH PHILATELIC SOCIETY.

At the meeting on Tuesday the 14th of May, Mr. Bulbring congratulated Mr. G. K. Forbes on the great honour of his name being placed on the Roll of Distinguished Philatelists of South Africa.

Mr. Ingham was responsible for the evening but was unable to attend in person. He had earlier in the day, given his papers to Mr. Bulbring who deputised for him, and tabled his collection of Kenya, Uganda and Tanganyika. The issues were both mint and used, and were neatly spaced and all mounted on black paper. Most of the sets were complete, including the high values.

Comments were passed on the very high values, and Mr. Forbes said that in areas where gold and precious stones were found, the high values were used, not all was postage, but part was insurance.

Gold being heavy and valuable was sent through the post, and sometimes £100 in stamps was placed on the parcel.

The Giraffe sets both large and small, were well represented and all members were interested. Several pages of specimen stamps were on view.

One member read out extracts explaining why the different perforations were made.

Mr. Forbes gave a brief summary of his visit to Bloemfontein Congress and said that he had enjoyed being there, and seeing so many of his old friends.

A vote of thanks to Mr. Ingham and Mr. Bulbring was accorded and the evening closed at 10 p.m. L.E.C.

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Well-centered, mint or fine used.
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WEST RAND STAMP CLUB.

By the time these notes appear in print, our June meeting will be over. This is a pity, because Dr. T. E. Berry will have shown his Union (unhyphenated Afrikaans) Pictorials. It is a pity this could not have been made known in the S.A.P. sooner. Steps have been taken to rectify this, viz., Mr. Bertie Simpkins has been prevailed upon to show his very fine complete collection of Oranje Vrij Staat and Orange River Colony at the July meeting.

At the last meeting (May) business took so much time that the exhibit of the evening had to be cancelled.

Mr. J. T. Burrell conducted an auction of stamps, the proceeds will be forwarded to National Health Foundation.

Meetings are held on the 1st Wednesday in the upstairs lounge of the Royal Hotel, Krugersdorp. N.B.E.

NYASALAND POSTAGE DUES.

Mr. Twynam writes to say the little note slipped in about these at the end of the intimation about the Diamond Jubilee set, last month, is not quite accurate. Actually there are five values, 1d., 2d., 3d., 4d. and 6d.; they were introduced without notice, almost clandestinely, on 1 July, 1950. They are printed by De La Rue in panes of 60.

STUDY YOUR COUNTRY'S STAMPS

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THE MACCABIAH STAMP OF ISRAEL

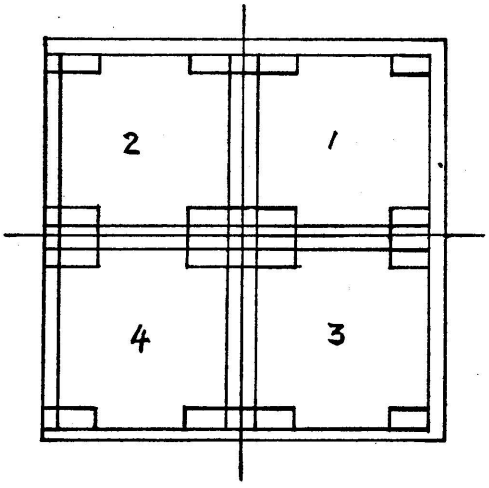
by L. BUCHEN.

To commemorate the Third Maccabiah (Jewish Olympic Games) which were held at the Ramat Gan Stadium, Tel Aviv, from 27th September to 10th October, 1950, the Postal Authorities of Israel issued one stamp of 80 Pruta (1,000 Pruta—£1). The stamp, measuring 37 x 22½ mm., has as it central motif a sprinter with the background of a racing track and was designed by A. Games of London who, it will be remembered, was also responsible for the design of one of the four stamps issued in Great Britain in conjunction with the World Olympic Games held there during July 1948. The bi-coloured stamp — olive and black, was printed by Messrs. Lewin-Epstein Ltd., Bat Yam, Israel, by photolithography on unwatermarked paper and is comb-perforated 14. The plate number is 24 and appears over the second stamp from the right in the top row of each pane.



The stamp was printed in sheets of 200, consisting of four panes of 50 stamps arranged in 10 horizontal rows of 5 stamps each. Adjacent to the bottom row of stamps of each pane is a row of ornamental tabs, each of the size of the actual stamp and bearing the inscription "The Third Maccabiah 1950" in Hebrew and English. The upper, right and left sheet margins have a width of appr. 20 mm. but that of the bottom margin is only appr. 5 mm. and this applies also to the margins of each pane.

Very interesting perf. combinations are created by the fact that the perforation goes only through the left margin of the **printer's sheet** and **not** through the upper, right and bottom margins, but is continuous where the margins of the four panes meet in the centre of the printer's sheet. The accompanying sketch shows that the following stamps with margins attached are required if all possible perf. combinations are to be obtained: Right top and bottom corners of all four panes and left top and bottom corners of panes No. 1 and 3. The right top corners which should be in horizontal pairs to show the plate number, have the following cobninations: No. 1 right and top margins imperf., No. 2 top margin imperf., No. 3 right margin imperf., No. 4 both margins perforated. The following combinations appear in the right bottom corners: No. 1 right margin imperf., No. 2 both margins perforated, No. 3 right and bottom margins imperf.., No. 4 bottom margin imperf. The left top corners of panes No. 1 and 2 are identical and show imperforated top margins, those of panes No. 3 and 4 which are also identical, have both margins perforated. The left bottom corners which are identical in panes No. 1 and 2 and 3 and 4 respectively, show perforations of both margins in panes No. 1 and 2 and imperforated bottom margins in panes No. 3 and 4.



It appears that subsequent issues of stamps of the same size were printed by the same method and should therefore show the same combinations unless the setting of the perforation machines is altered if that is possible.

I want to buy Union issues from Interprovincials to date, mint and used, including booklets, Boer War covers, etc., and should be pleased to receive offers with full details of price, condition, quantities, etc.

C. E. SHERWOOD, P.T.S.

105 Marford Crescent, Sale, Manchester

Great Britain.

BELGIUM.

M. Gabriel Lefebvre reports the following issues:

In February a blue 20c. stamp, featuring a heraldic lion with a large "20" over it. Quite a new pattern.

A set of three semi-postals, the surtax being for the Reconstruction Fund of UNESCO and of the Belgian Council of the European Movement. On sale from 27 March till 31 May but valid for use until Sept., 1952.

(a) An 80c. plus 20c., green, featuring a chemist in his laboratory.
(b) 2.50 fr. plus 50c., red-violet representing primary teaching in a Congo school.
(c) 4 fr. plus 2 fr., blue, girl with dove allegorical of peace.

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THE
SOUTH AFRICAN PHILATELIST

PROPRIETORS AND PUBLISHERS:

The Philatelic Federation of Southern Africa

Honorary Editor: Dr. J. H. HARVEY PIRIE
Business Manager: Mr. J. NATHANSON
P.O. Box 375, Johannesburg.

Subscription: Eight Shillings per annum, post free to any part of the World.

Vol. 27, No. 7. JULY, 1951. Whole No. 316.

MOURIR, AUGMENTER OU S'ADAPTER?

Thus writes the Editor of "L'Officiel de la Philatélie" in discussing the future of his magazine at the beginning of its sixth year of existence. To die, increase prices or modify the character of the magazine are the alternatives facing him because of the rises in the price of paper and printing, taxation and general cost of living. He does not wish his paper to die; increasing prices has already been tried twice and has resulted in a fall of circulation; so the only thing left is to "adapt himself" by modifying the magazine. Its size has been cut down and the articles are now so few and short that it is little more than a chronicle of new issues, although a very good one in that respect.

He states that the same problem is facing all his confreres of the philatelic press. This certainly is the case with the "South African Philatelist", as our readers have been made aware. The plan adopted by it a few months back was a bold one, viz., to aim at increasing the circulation by increasing the size of the magazine through the inclusion of more reading matter of not too specialized a nature.

The plan so far looks promising. There has been an increase in circulation of over 10%, but of course there has also been an increase in printing costs. Whether we are going to come out without bankruptcy remains to be seen. It may become necessary to consider raising prices (to readers, to advertisers, or to both). We are not anxious to do either, but if the devil drives, it might come to that as an alternative to dying or to going back to our old size of 16 pages instead of 20.

UNION GOVERNMENT POLICY.

Following is an extract from "Hansard" of 24-4-51, reporting discussion in the Senate on policy of the Minister of Posts and Telegraphs. We fancy most, if not all, collectors agree:

"THE MINISTER:

The work of replacing the present series of stamps with a new series is being proceeded with and a competition was held a few months ago which gave artists the opportunity of drawing designs of a true South African nature for the new stamps. The standard of the designs which were submitted were however disappointing and the special committee which was appointed to consider the designs could not get enough suitable subjects for the contemplated series. Further efforts are being made to obtain suitable designs. Perhaps Hon. Senators may also assist in that by suggesting designs."

SENATOR CLARKSON (former Minister):

"I know the Post Office has looked askance at the sale of special issues of stamps. It is a fine revenue-producing facility and I have no objection — and I do not think anybody would have any objection — to the issue of a special stamp to commemorate the Van Riebeeck Tercentenary, but I would appeal to the Hon. the Minister to see that the policy which has been adopted in the past continues and that only in the case of a special event such as this should there be a special issue. We should not cheapen it simply to get money. There is a little State in Europe which exists on the proceeds of the different stamps which they issue every year. The profit which they make helps them to carry on. But we do not want that in South Africa."

(Next month we hope to have some further extracts of speeches made by Senators on stamp designs.—Ed.)

ANTARCTICA.

Rumour hath it that the French are setting up meteorological stations on Kerguelen and on Amsterdam Island, of the St. Paul and Amsterdam group in the Indian Ocean a bit north of Kerguelen. If this be true there will be a whole ring of sub-Antarctic stations sending out daily reports and as our local weather seems to be governed by Antarctic high and low pressure zones we may be still better equipped for forecasts.

In addition to these possible French stations there are now the Argentines in the South Orkneys, South Africa in Tristan da Cunha and Marion Island and Australia in Heard and Maquarrie Islands. Incidentally (of course) this means more of interest to postmark fans as well as to meteorologists and farmers.

THEFT OF STAMPS.

A Pretoria resident has been found guilty of stealing stamps which he had been given an opportunity of examining in the Post Office Publicity Department. They were ½d. and 1d. coil stamps in blocks of four, a condition in which they are not ordinarily available or sold. He had removed them and put ordinary stamps in their place. He was fined £50 or three months' imprisonment, and three months suspended for three years.

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Union Notes

SUB-EDITOR: Mr. W. N. Sheffield,
Box 99, Clevoland, Transvaal.

Shade Changes in the Current 10/- Postage Stamps.

The following classification of the three main shade changes which have taken place during recent years in the 10/- pictorial postage stamp (S.G. 64b), has been submitted by Mr. A. H. Sydow of Cape Town.

(1) Original Issue:
Vignettes, Blue-Mazarine.
Frames, Sepia.
(2) First Variation:
Vignettes, Ultramarine.
Frames, Sepia.
(3) Second Variation:
Vignettes, Ultramarine.
Frames, Black-grey.

Mr. Sydow designates the colour of the first issue as "Mazarine" and considers it is a true mazarine-blue for it contains no red. He adds that the ultramarine of the later issues contain a percentage of red.

Additions to the ½d. and 1d. "Official" Series.

Following on last month's report that the sheets of the one-penny postage stamps printed from cylinders Nos. 76 and 14 had been overprinted OFFICIAL—OFFISIEEL in large type, we have recently received a further advice to the effect that sheets of the same denomination, produced from cylinders Nos. 70 and 14, have also been overprinted in the same manner.

The same stereotype has been used for both printings so that apart from the cylinder number block, and a slight difference in the general appearance of the stamps, there is really little or nothing to distinguish the one issue of these two lots of "Officials" from the other.

Several examples of smudged overprints have been noted on stamps in the 11th and 12th row of both printings and in some cases, one or more letters of the type, exhibit a very clear double impression. This characvteristic, however, is not constant and is only mentioned here because of its occurrence in various forms on quite a number of copies.

The overprints both read downwards, are spaced 10 mm. apart and OFFICIAL is on the right hand side of the stamp.

The new issue of ½d. "Officials" with the large type overprints on stamps produced from cylinders Nos. 11A and 11B, and reported in our June number, show the same features as those mentioned for the 1d. value, i.e., spacing, 10mm.; OFFICIAL on the right and both overprints reading downwards.

History of the "Smoke Trail" Variety on the 1d. Pictorial.

A reader is interested in knowing the date the "Smoke Trail" variety first appeared on the 5th stamp in the second row of the 1d. denomination and which, of course, disappeared with the advent of the redrawn issue in February this year.

This flaw, which takes the form of a black smudge across the sky on the right hand side of the oval and at the top of the sun's rays, is a multopositive defect and was first noted on those 1d. sheets which appeared about August 1947 with the language setting changed. In the previous printing — "Plate 15" — and also its predecessors in the rotogravure series, No. 1 stamp on the sheet was inscribed in Afrikaans, but in the new printing, produced from cylinders Nos. 5 Interior and 2 Exterior, the first stamp on the sheet was in English.



The flaw continued to appear on subsequent printings which included the 6/A and 6/B non-screened stamps and the all-screened issues from cylinders Nos. 76/14; 70/88 and 70/14. It is not present on sheets of the redrawn 1d. Stamps produced from cylinders 6925 Interior and 36 Exterior, which came into general use in March of this year.

Minor Characteristic on the Current 2d. Postage Due Stamps.

Discussing the new hyphenate 2d. postage due stamps recorded in our May and June issues, Mr. A. H. Sydow mentions that they were



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noted in Cape Town on about the 7th May. He points out that in addition to the block of four "Double Image" varieties, found in the lower left hand pane, there are also some minor numeral characteristics which appear on both the hyphenate and anhyphenate issues in the following positions and are indicated in his accompanying sketch.

1. Black dot Row 3 No. 4.
2. Black dot Row 9 No. 5.
3. Black dot Row 5 No. 1.
4. Two minute black dots Row 9 No. 3.
5. Black dot Row 10 No. 2.
6. Black dot Row 9 No. 2.

Printing Flaws on the Current 2d. Postage Stamps.

A reader in Cape Town, "I. T. Rhenius", notes the following three flaws on copies of the current 2d. pictorial stamps. (Cyls. 6927/50).

Row 3 No. 17—White mark on right hand frame.

Row 9 No. 16—"Moon" (White spot) in sky.

Row 2 No. 2—Dot on right of left hand tower.

Our correspondent points out that the stamp bearing the white mark on the frame (Row 3 No. 17) is next to the one previously recorded with the broken "d" (Row 3 No. 16), so that if desired the two varieties may be exhibited in a horizontal pair.

He also adds that 2d. "Officials" with the large overprint are now appearing on sheets bearing the "Smoking Chimney" variety, i.e., the curved line flaw shooting upwards from the left hand chimney on the 20th stamp of the 2nd row.

Query Regarding the Large Photo-Vignette 2d. Pictorial Stamps.

Referring to Mr. A. Lichtenstein's article "Notes on the Large Photo-Vignette 2d. Union Pictorial", published in the June 1950 issue of the "South African Philatelist", a correspondent has asked if there were any of the "Group E" sheets with red numerals instead of black. He has two sheets with red numerals (sheet numbers) which he cannot classify and is wondering if they are possibly a sub-division of "Group E".

"Group E" is the printing which appeared with the "thinned frame line below TH and D-A on all stamps of first three vertical rows", and was produced on the auxiliary machine registering five black numerals for the sheet numbers. Up to the present, it has always been understood that the **defective frame-line** printing was peculiar to those sheets with the five-numeral black numbers, and though the same cylinders may have been employed for printing sheets on the machine generally associated with **four-numeral** red (or) black sheet numbers ,there has, so far, been no record of such sheets appearing with the defective frame-line under TH and D-A. It would be of interest to have confirmation, or otherwise, on this point.

Varieties on Current Issues—½d., 3d., 5/- and 10/-.

A Bloemfontein reader records the following constant varieties on postage stamps in current issue.

½d. All-green roll stamps —"Bearded Buck". A white mark under the chin of the Buck on an English inscribed stamp.

3d. Cylinder 17—

Row 15 No. 2—Blue spot near tree.

Row 15 No. 3—"Rope" in branch of tree.

Row 17 No. 2—"Aeroplane".

5/- Unscreened—Row 9 No. 1 — "Broken bucket."

10/- Row 17 No. 5—Deep scratch which starts from the "P" of POSTAGE on the 5th stamp and cuts down on a slant through the bottom margin into the "S" in SUID of the stamp underneath (No. 5) and runs through to No. 4 Row 18.

Collectors' Wants & Offers

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

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

Wanted: German South West Africa Special Items, Specimens, Covers, etc.—L. BUCHEN, P.O. Box 4012, Johannesburg.

Beginners and medium collectors — try our approval service.—BENONI STAMP SHOP, Box 485, Benoni.

50% over Gibbons Catalogue price offered for a superb Mint and Used copy of Seychelles, S.G. 52A.—WILLIAM REDFORD, P.O. Box 1182, Johannesburg.

Wholesaler requires regular supplies of Basutoland, Bechuanaland, Nyasaland, Swaziland in large or small quantities. Send or write by air mail.—B. SAVITZ, 69, Greenvale Road, London, S.E. 9, England.

WANTED. Mint George VI "Specimen" Sets. Send your quotation and details to B. GLASSMAN, P.O. Box 10, Johannesburg.

INFORMATION ON TAP. Philatelic press-cuttings to your choice of Subject and Country from 3d. each; any journal can be excluded. Minimum subscription 10/9. — CLIFFORD DE KUSEL, 38 London Road, Stroud, Glos., England.

JUNIOR AND MEDIUM COLLECTORS—try our approval service.—WESTERN TRANSVAAL STAMP SHOP, P.O. Box 149, Klerksdorp.

WANTED URGENTLY Union Postal Stationery and Booklets (especially Nos. 1 & 20, 1948).—Dr. MURRAY, Kuilsriver.

Required Switzerland. All issues mint used and Covers for cash or exchange for Geo. VI. B. JOSEPH, P.O. Box 375, Johannesburg

Falkland Islands Specialist Material Covers and Post Marks wanted.—E. L. STERN, P.O. Box 7818, Johannesburg.

Obsolete Air Letter Sheets of Union, South West, Basutoland, Bechuanaland and Swaziland.—N. PERONIUS, Box 887, Windhoek.

WANTED.

TWO SPECIAL ROYAL VISIT COVERS.—Firstly, one envelope addressed to a Minister in Attendance on the Royal Train. Secondly, one addressed to one of the Administrators on the Royal Train during the passing through of the individual territory. Please quote or send on approval to JOHN SINGLER, Box 82, East London, C.P.

PHILIPPINES.

On 19 June three stamps bearing the Coat-of-Arms of the city of Zamboanga were released. These were the third in this series of stamps.

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AIR LETTERS OF THE BRITISH COMMONWEALTH COLONIAL ISSUES

By W. L. MORTON.

(**NOTE.** The following article by Mr. Morton, President of the Glasgow Philatelic Society, etc., etc., and a well-known authority on or. Air Postal Stationery, has already been published in "Stamp Collecting" with a warning that copyright is reserved in all countries.

When Mr. Morton sent us the text about three months ago his accompanying letter said "I shall be glad to let you have publication rights in South Africa, if it is of interest." We consider it of very much interest as dealing with a popular line of collecting at the moment, and that in view of the author's letter we are not guilty of the plagiarism our contemporary warns against.)

The general set-up of Colonial Air Letters is based on the design of the G.B. blank form introduced in 1942 and generally known as "The British Empire Standard Form". This is rather a misnomer as while the British Commonwealth issues have possibly used this as a standard about the only feature which is more or less maintained is the size of the folded form and even this has been subject to variation. The arrangement of the printed matter also varies from the original design but it can be shown that there are definite types of layout. Layouts which at first glance appear similar do have type setting variations and these enable the grouping together of issues as coming from the one press. McCorquodale & Co. have printed the Colonial issues on unwatermarked lightweight textured greyish paper, and while I have not yet been able to confirm them as the printers of the blue paper issue it would appear that these also come from the same printer.

To enable a comparison of the Colonial Forms with the 1942 G.B. issue it will not be out of place to mention the main features of the G.B. issue.

The form consisted of a single sheet which was folded once vertically and once horizontally to produce a folded form of approximately 5in. x 4in. The front and back (or reverse) of the folded form has a stipple over the original paper. Each form has two sealing flaps. On the front at the top right hand corner there is a dotted space for the adhesive stamp. On the opposite left hand corner a coloured panel with 'BY AIR MAIL' in uncoloured letters. Underneath there are the instructions regarding enclosures (hereafter called enclosure instructions) underlined with a short line. The enclosure instructions took three lines. In the address space there are four dotted lines as writing guides. On the reverse underneath "Senders name and address" are three dotted guide writing lines.

Before proceeding to list the Colonial issues into types, it will clarify the position to enumerate the Colonies (excluding Protectorates and Mandated Territories) which have issued impressed stamp Air Letter Forms. These are — ADEN, BAHAMAS, BARBADOS, BERMUDA, BRITISH GUIANA, CYPRUS, FIJI, GAMBIA, GOLD COAST, GRENADA, HONG KONG, JAMAICA, NIGERIA, NORTHERN RHODESIA, SIERRE LEONE, and TRINIDAD & TOBAGO.

Examination of the issues from these Colonies shows they can be grouped by the variation in the enclosure instructions setting, thus showing which issues have come off the same press. There are other constant features. The enclosure instructions come in two types, the first in three lines and a later printing in four lines, while some Colonies have had a complete change of paper.

Apart from the lettering and settings the impressed stamp design on Air Letters has been noted to be the impression in the colour and design of the current adhesive stamp where existing but as postage on Air Letters has in some instances involved reduced rates no stamp of the value required existed in the adhesive series in which case a K.G. VI Head type was used. These are not all of the same design as will be seen by comparing the stamps on the Air Letter issues of Aden, Bahamas, Bermuda and Hong Kong.

For convenience the Air Letters are sectionalised as follows:—

Section 1 — Three line "Enclosure Instructions".

Section 2 — Four line "Enclosure Instructions".

Section 3 — Blue Paper Issues.

Section 1. There are four different settings of forms in this section and the Colonies may be grouped as follows—

Group 1. Aden, Bermuda (1948 issue), Cyprus (1947 issue), Fiji, Gold Coast, Hong Kong, Jamaica, Nigeria, Northern Rhodesia, Sierre Leone, Trinidad & Tobago.

Group 2. Gambia (1950 issue), Gold Coast.

Group 3. Bahamas, Bermuda (1945 issues).

Group 4. British Guiana, Cyprus (1946 issue), Gambia (1945 issue).

The separation into the above groups is determined among other features by the relative position of the word 'MAIL' to 'WILL BE' immediately above it. The position of each group will be seen to be as follows:—

	WILL BE
Group 1	MAIL
Group 2	MAIL
Group 3	MAIL
Group 4	MAIL

If individual letters are examined and compared it will be noted there are slight differences in the shapes in the groups. Compare the letters 'A' 'R' 'S' 'T' and 'Y'.

To assist further in separating into the groups it will be immediately noted that the

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address guide lines in Group 4 are solid and the unstippled edges where the sealing flaps fix are right angled, whereas others are at an angle of about 60 degrees.

Compare also the dotted lines above the wording 'Second Fold Here' and it will be seen that in Group 3 this line goes right across the sheet whereas in Group 1 it stops short and the 'T' of 'To Open . . .' has the cross bar of the 'T' in line with the last dot while in Group 2 the 'T' horizontal is well above the last dot.

If the distance across the first line of the enclosure instruction is measured it will be found to be 37 mm. in all except Group 3 where the distance is 38.5 mm.

So far nothing has been said about the colour or composition of the stipple nor the paper colour variations. The paper is grey varying from green-grey to blue-grey through various slate grey shadings, while the stipple consisting of small colour dots very closely spaced, varies from bluish to greenish. The lettering also varies from blue to black in varying hues with one distinctly green lettered form. The stamp colouring when that of the adhesive, differs in hue and may vary in colour between individual forms of the same issue.

The following points are also of note in Group 1.

The design of stamp of Aden and Bermuda is basically the same.

The blank frame of Bermuda has a curved top.

The Hong Kong form has the name Hong Kong printed centrally at top of the form. I have not been able to find out why this should be done.

The Nigeria Inland form of 1d. value has at the bottom 'For use within Nigeria only'.

Section 2 — Group 5. Barbados is the only Colony in this section but the issue is exactly the same as the May 1949 G.B. issue. Apart from the enclosure instructions being in 4 lines the word AIR LETTER is now in sloping letters.

Section 3—Group 6. So far only Cyprus and Hong Kong has had a blue paper issue. The enclosure instruction setting etc. is as for the Barbados issue on grey paper. In this blue paper issue there is no stipple and the paper is watermarked IMPERIAL AIR MAIL in two lines with IMPERIAL curved at the top and AIR MAIL horizontally underneath. Between and immediately above the 'M' of MAIL is the letter 'B' or 'C' and above that the Alex Pirie & Sons Ltd. well known Gateway trademark. On copies seen the watermark reads correctly when looked at from the inside of the form and held with the long side of the sheet horizontally. It will be appreciated that depending the way the paper is cut a vertical watermark is possible and if printed on the opposite side of the paper then a reversed watermark.

The letter appearing in the watermark is the papermaker's identification of the year of making the paper. 'B' watermark is 1949, 'C' is 1950 etc., etc.

There is now no border to the stamp since the paper is not stippled and the lettering is in blue with the stamp coloured.

Apart from the stamp the form is a duplicate of the G.B. issue of 9th February 1950 with the same watermark and it may be that we are now to see this form standardised for the Colonies.

In the table which follows, I wish to acknowledge the help and assistance from two Glasgow enthusiasts, Messrs. E. Bulger and T. Sharpe and I hope readers in a position to do so will communicate with me and so complete the missing data.

TABLE OF ALL COLONIAL AIR STAMPS BEARING IMPRESSED STAMPS.

	ADEN	BAHAMAS		BARBADOS	BERMUDA	
Group Number	1	3	3	5	3	1
Date of Issue	31.1.49	1.11.43	—.—.45	21.11.49	2.7.45	—.—.48
Design of Stamp	K.G.VI Head	K.G.VI Head	K.G.VI Head	Pictorial	K.G.VI Head	K.G.VI Head
Colour of Stamp	Deep Blue	Red	Orange	Magenta	Black	Black
Value of Stamp	6 annas	7d.	7d.	6d.	6d.	6d.
Width of Stamp Frame	24.5 m.m.	No frame	20.5 mm.	24.5 mm.	22 mm.	24 mm. (curved top)
Colour of Paper	Grey	Greyish White	Greyish White	Grey	White	Greenish Grey
Watermark of Paper	Nil	Nil	Nil	Nil	Nil	Nil
Colour of Stipple	Bluish	Grey	Grey	Bluish	Grey	Grey
Address Lines	Dotted	Dotted	Dotted	Dotted	Dotted	Dotted

	BRITISH GUIANA				CYPRUS	
Group Number	4	4	4	4	1	6
Date of Issue	—.—.44	—.—.48	—.—.—	7.10.46	—.—.47	15.6.50
Design of Stamp	Pictorial	Pictorial	Pictorial	Pictorial	Pictorial	Pictorial
Colour of Stamp	Orange	Orange	Light Blue	Blue Grey	Blue Grey	Dark Grey
Value of Stamp	12 cents	12 cents	6 cents	4½ piastres	4½ piastres	4½ piastres
Width of Stamp Frame	33 mm.	35 mm.	27 mm.	33.5 mm.	35 mm.	Nil
Colour of Paper	Grey	Greenish Grey	Grey	Greyish White	Greyish White	Blue
Watermark of Paper	Nil	Nil	Nil	Nil	Nil	Imperial Air Mail "B"
Colour of Stipple	Blue	Blue	Deep Blue	Bluish	Bluish	Nil
Address Lines	Solid	Solid	Solid	Solid	Dotted	Dotted

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	FIJI		GAMBIA	GAMBIA	GOLD COAST	
Group Number	1	1	4	2	1	2
Date of Issue	—.—.48	—.—.—	—.—.49	—.—.50	1.7.48	—.—.50
Design of Stamp	K.G.VI Head	K.G.VI Head	Pictorial	Pictorial	Pictorial	Pictorial
Colour of Stamp	Magenta	Blue	Magenta	Magenta	Orange	Orange
Value of Stamp	7d.	3d.	6d.	6d.	6d.	6d.
Width of Stamp Frame	24 mm.	24.5 mm.	33.5 mm.	36 mm.	24 mm.	25.5 mm.
Colour of Paper	Light Grey	Grey	Greyish White	Greenish Grey	Light Grey	Grey
Watermark of Paper	Nil	Nil	Nil	Nil	Nil	Nil
Colour of Stipple	Bluish	Bluish	Deep Blue	Bluish	Bluish	Bluish
Address Lines	Dotted	Dotted	Solid	Dotted	Dotted	Dotted

	GRENADA	HONG KONG		JAMAICA	NIGERIA	
Group Number	4	1	6	1	1	1
Date of Issue	14.1.49	—.10.48	—.—.—	21.7.—.7	15.12.48	1.10.49
Design of Stamp	Pictorial	K.G.VI Head	K.G.VI Head	Pictorial	K.G.VI Head	K.G.VI Head
Colour of Stamp	Magenta	Orange	Orange	Magenta	Brown Purple	Magenta
Value of Stamp	6d.	40 cents	40 cents	6d.	6d.	1d.
Width of Stamp Frame	33.5 mm	24 mm.	Nil	36 mm.	24.5 mm.	24.5 mm.
Colour of Paper	Greenish Grey	Grey	Blue	Greenish Grey	Grey	Grey
Watermark of Paper	Nil	Nil	Imperia Air Mail "B" and "C"	Nil	Nil	Nil
Colour of Stipple	Bluish	Bluish	Nil	Bluish	Bluish	Green
Address Lines	Solid	Dotted	Dotted	Dotted	Dotted	Dotted

	N. RHODESIA	S. LEONE	TRIN. & TOB.
Group Number	1	1	1
Date of Issue	4.6.49	3.7.50	—.—.—
Design of Stamp	K.G.VI Head	Pictorial	Pictorial
Colour of Stamp	Magenta	Grey	Mauve
Value of Stamp	6d.	6d.	12 cents
Width of Stamp Frame	24 mm.	43.5 mm.	42.5 mm.
Colour of Paper	Grey	Grey	Grey
Watermark of Paper	Nil	Nil	Nil
Colour of Stipple	Greenish Grey	Bluish	Bluish
Address Lines	Dotted	Dotted	Dotted

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REVIEWS

Introduction to Stamps by J. L. Grumbridge. Blandford Press, 16 West Central St., London, W.C.1. Price 8/6 net.

This work, by the well-known collector and writer, the Chairman of the Council of the B.P.A., aims at being both elementary and mature and it can be said that it achieves its object very well. It is intended for the adult beginner rather than for the junior beginner, but it can be read and studied with advantage and pleasure by any collector, even one quite a long way removed from the beginner class.

The author, as an experienced collector himself, has left almost no aspect of stamp collecting and its various side-lines untouched and the book is chock full of little tips and interesting bits of information given in a pleasant readable manner without any attempt at being didactic or forcing his own opinions down your throat and pooh-poohing anyone else's views.

A Glossary of Philatelic Terms. Compiled for The Philatelic Congress of Great Britain under the editorship of H. T. Graham. Published by the Blandford Press. Price, Ordinary edition 6/-, Library edition 8/6.

The last edition of this Glossary was published in 1933, but has long been out of print. The compilers are to be heartily congratulated on the present work; there are many additions and amendments to the old one and it is hard to think of any philatelic term which is not included and defined or described. A whole Part II has been added dealing with technical terms relating to scientific methods as applied to philately, microscopic, photographic, ultra-violet and X-rays; this has been compiled by W. H. S. Cheavin, who has done so much to introduce X-Ray photography into philately.

This is a book which should be in the hands of every philatelist who likes to be exact in the use of the many technical terms which must come into his everyday vocabulary, and which are so often wrongly used in the whole or in part.

In the foreword it states that perfection is an ideal, but it is not always attainable; and that many of the definitions may be open to criticism or their phraseology be open to improvement. May we, without being carping, draw attention to one which is not quite correct? "Provincials (Inter-Provincials)" are defined as "Stamps of the South African Provinces used outside the Province of issue after the formation of the Union of South Africa in 1910." Surely, stamps used in the Province of original issue during the period of roughly 1910-13, were equally "Interprovincials".

Philatelic Congress of Great Britain — Year Book 1951. This little book deals with the local doings in Ipswich and Felixstowe at the 33rd Congress held in the town in May. There are also five interesting papers: (1) New Issues of 1950, by Stanley Phillips; (2) Modern British Stamp Design, which the author, Antony Walker, modestly calls "An attempted Critical Study"; (3) Philately and Postal History: What is their Relationship?, by M. Hannay Meredith. The answer is that there is an indissoluble bond which should dovetail them into a perfect blend; (4) Stamp Collecting — Can its status be improved?, by Brigadier F. M. Montresor. Very provocative in its ideas and no short cut is recommended; (5) Pity My Simplicity, by Francis Granville. A plea for a return to sanity in the world of philately and to call a halt to the headlong rush in the commercialisation of the pastime.

SOME NEW ISSUES.

The following brief notes are taken from Messrs. Whitfield King's recent Press Notes:—

Australia. In addition to the previously announced stamps honouring the 50th anniversary of the Commonwealth there is to be a 1/6 denomination featuring the Parliament House in Canberra.

Canada. The two stamps featuring Sir Robert Borden and Mr. Mackenzie King are the forerunners of a series which will depict all former Prime Ministers whose portraits have not previously appeared on stamps.

Czechoslovakia. Issued or about to be issued are (a) Two in honour of youth in the mining industry; (b) Four air mail stamps showing different spas with aircraft flying above; (c) Three showing various recreation centres for workers; (d) Four honouring musicians Smetana and Dvorak; (e) Four commemorating the 30th anniversary of the Ccech Communist Party; (f) Two commemorating agriculture. (This sounds like stamp issuing running amok).

Dominica. The new definitive issue was due to appear on 1 June.

Egypt. A 10 mills stamp in limited numbers in honour of the King's wedding; followed a few days later by a miniature sheet of the same stamp in even smaller numbers.

Ethiopia. A set honouring the memory of Ras Makkoneen, the general who defeated the Italians in 1896 at Adowa.

Germany. Three stamps in Western Berlin, two of them commemorating the Bell of Freedom and one honouring the centenary of the death of Lortzing, the composer. Two stamps in the Eastern Zone honour the visit of President Bierut of Poland.

Iceland. Two stamps in connection with the 175th Anniversary of postal services in the island.

Israel. 15 and 40 pruta stamps commemorating the 3rd anniversary of the proclamation of the State.

Italy. A set of three in connection with the athletic games held at Florence in May. Apparently a very limited issue and very speculative.

Malta. 1d., 3d. and 1/- to be issued commemorating the 7th centenary of the Scapular.

Monaco. Set of 12 to be issued commemorating Holy Year.

Russia. (a) Two with portraits of the writer, Furmanov; (b) Two commemorating the Stockholm Peace Appeal.

St. Lucia. Reconstruction of Castries commemorative to be issued on 19 June.

Switzerland. Five semi-postals due on 21 June for the 1951 Federal Festival. The lowest denomination shows the Arms of Zurich, the others various national games and pastimes.

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The Handstruck Letter Stamps and Postmarks of the Cape of Good Hope

Supplement No. 2.

By A. A. JURGENS.

(Contd. from page 105 of June issue.)

The circular date stamp of 22mm. with stop at bottom (Fig. 132, p. 73) has been found showing the initials V.W. after the name of the town, viz., "MODDERFONTEIN V.W." I am unable to trace this but it is just possible that there might have been a Post Office or Postal Agency by that name in the Victoria West District but there is no reference to it in the Post Office Guide, the date on the postmark I have is unfortunately obscure.

I have seen in one of Dr. K. Pennycuick's exhibits at the recent Johannesburg National Exhibition a similar postmark of date in 1905, but in this instance the lettering is "MODDERFONTEIN G.W." This matter must await further clearing up.

Since Instalment No. 1 appeared in the **South African Philatelist** Vol. 22, No. 4 (April 1946) a few more types of postal markings have been discovered; they are as follows:—

The Poste Restante.

A circular stamp similar to that shown on page 85 (Fig. 209) but with smaller lettering, 2½ to 2¾mm. The date on the specimen seen is MY.1. 06 as shown under Fig. 209a. (Type 133).



Fig. 209a. (Type 133).



Fig. 132a (Type 132a).

Walfish Bay.

Date stamps from Walfish Bay are very scarce and those which have so far been seen are cancelling stamps of the Cape of Good Hope King Edward VII issue but I have now discovered the Date Stamp shown here in Fig 132a. Type 92, page 73.

This is an entirely new type of Cape date stamp; instead of a round or square stop at the bottom it shows a dash. The date as seen here is 1898 and the stamp is a 2½d. Cape (S.G. No. 61a). As this stamp was issued in May, 1896 it is possible that earlier dates of usage might yet be found. Dr. Pennycuick has a similar mark in his collection, also on a Cape Victorian stamp, but unfortunately the date on it is not clear.

It is quite wrong to come to conclusions in regards the use of any type of cancellation found on stamps from the known date of issue of the stamps themselves because a stamp issued in 1888 might just as well have been used in 1900. The 2½d. Cape referred to here and which was issued in May 1896 was still, to my knowledge, obtainable at the Post Offices in Cape Town in 1908. In fact at the time of Union in 1910 when the large 2½d. Commemorative stamp of South Africa (S.G. No. 1) was issued these old "Hope seated" 2½d. stamps were still available and specimens are known to have been used in Johannesburg and Natal during the inter-provincial period.

The date stamp which is shown here is the earliest so far recorded for use at Walfish Bay so that any reader who has a specimen showing an earlier date should, in the interest of philately publish full particulars in our journal for record.

Re-Directed Letters.

During the early days of the Cape Postal Service it was mostly the General Post Office which used special handstamps for various purposes as shown on pages 96 and 97. The country Post Offices in the majority of cases had these marks shown in manuscript by the postmaster but since the publication of "The Handstruck Letter Stamps and Postmarks of the Cape of Good Hope" it has been discovered that special handstamps for Missent and Re-directed Letters were also in use in Port Elizabeth.

The use of the marks described above cannot have been much earlier than 1905 or 1906 in so far as Port Elizabeth was concerned whereas in Cape Town they were in use in the seventies.

The two "OFFICIALLY DIRECTED" marks shown here Fig. 278b and 278c, Cape Town and Port Elizabeth respectively, are both of the same type and they have both been found on letters dated 1906 and as this is the earliest date seen I have taken it that they were brought into use about that period.



Fig. 278b.

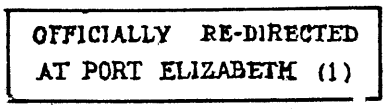


Fig. 278c.

Missent Letters.

In this case the same explanation as that given in the preceeding paragraph applies to the illustration shown here under Fig. 253b. and the earliest date so far seen is also 1906.

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Fig. 253b.

AN INTERESTING DISCOVERY.

Some time ago Mr. J. W. H. Gregory of Cape Town showed me a postcard which was posted at Somerset West, Cape, on the 19th Oct. 1895. The stamp is cancelled with the Griqualand Defacing (Fig. 305, page 100). It will be noticed at the top of page 101 I mention that No. 5 is still unindentified.

This postcard shows the stamp defaced with this No. 5 and there is no question about it having come from Somerset West as I have since seen two other postcards as well as a letter similarly cancelled which I should think is definite proof that the Post Office at Somerset West did make use of this defacer.

Nothing definite however can be said about this because the defacer No. 5 recovered from some post office in Griqualand might have been issued to Somerset West officially owing to a possible shortage of stamping implements in the stock at the G.P.O. Cape Town, or it could just as well have been used unofficially by the postmaster who may have come into possession of it in the same way as No. 1 of the same type was used by the Charge Clerk at the G.P.O., Cape Town as will be found fully described on page 101.

The post card shows the G.P.O. date stamp (OC..21.95) which proves that it did go through the Head Office but there is no mark or other indication to show that the defacement was objected to.

So far as is known this is the first instance where this obsolete type of Griqualand defacer had been used to deface stamps on letters in the Cape Colony but it is quite possible that others may come to light.

It must be understood however that after 1880 when Griqualand was annexed to the Cape Colony, this type of defacing stamp was retained for use by offices having them, until such time as the issue of new defacing stamps was made. Kimberley No. 1 (Fig. 305) was withdrawn early in 1882 and the type shown in Fig. 309 (page 101) was used for some considerable time afterwards.

Mr. Robson Lowe informed me that No. 5 of this type (201) was used by the Post Office at Douglas but I hardly think that this can be correct unless this office used two numbers, because in my own collection I have about 6 covers all posted at Douglas and these are all stamped with type 201 No. 8 and in addition to this I have seen, in other collections, several others.

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RUANDA AND URUNDI.

The May-June issue of "Le Philateliste Belge" has an article by Dr. H. Avidon on The True History of the Ruanda and Urundi Surcharges of 1916. These were issued under the authority of General Tombeur, Commandant of the Belgian troops in occupied German territory. The article is stated to be only a preliminary notice, but there is sufficient new and previously unpublished material in it to make it advisable for anyone interested in these stamps not to miss this article.

AUSTRALIA—SOUTH AMERICA

First Air-Mail.

We are indebted to the Office of the High Commissioner for Australia for the following story, compiled by V. Stratford, of the first experimental air-mail from Sydney to Valparaiso:—

On his recent survey flight from Sydney, New South Wales, Australia, to Valparaiso, Chile, Australian airman Captain Patrick Gordon Taylor carried a special freight of air mail letters which will be eagerly sought by philatelists throughout the world.

Two bags of mail, containing about 3,000 letters, and weighing 100 lbs., were loaded on to the Catalina flying-boat FRIGATE BIRD II in which Captain Taylor and a crew of four made the historic south Pacific flight.

The General Post Office, Sydney, franked the letters with a special cancelling design embodying an outline map of Australia and route sketch across the Pacific.

The flight began at the flying-base, Rose Bay, on March 13, and terminated there on April 21.

On his 8,000 miles outward flight Captain Taylor touched down and made surveys at Noumea (New Caledonia), Suva (Fiji), Samoa, Aitutaki, Tahiti, Mangareva (Gambier Group), Easter Island and Valparaiso.

The flight proved that adequate bases exist in the south Pacific to make an Australian-South America airline practicable, using either flying-boats, or land planes.

The Australian Government sponsored Captain Taylor's flight. Sections of the South Pacific had been flown previously, but Taylor's flight was the first ever made by the one aircraft over the whole distance.

NYASALAND.

In "Stamp Collecting" of 25 May there is a list of various retouches found on the recently issued Jubilee set. The most noteworthy is on the 2d. and 6d. where the second and sometimes the third horizontal lines in the top left corner are more or less strongly retouched, but there are also others on one or more values.

Bertram W. H. Poole has a very interesting article in the "American Philatelist" on the "Cheque Stamps". It gives the full story of why those provisional tokens (as they were called by the then postmaster) were issued, and describes how they can be plated by means of the combination of letters and numbers impressed on the back.

NETHERLANDS.

New issues from Holland consist of a new Definitive set for the International Court of Justice at The Hague which differs from previous sets in that it consists of stamps specially designed for the purpose and not of current ordinary issues overprinted. Two designs have been used—

(a) For the 2c. and 4c.—The Palace of Peace.
(b) 6c., 10c., 20c., 25c. and 1 gulden — Profile portrait of Queen Juliana.

The 2c. and 4c. are printed in photogravure while the others are recess-printed, the designs being the work of S. Hartz and J. van Krimpen.

The second set was the Summer Charity Issue which was put on sale on the 15th May, this year and depicts a number of castles which form part of Holland's most worthwhile scenic attractions. The stamps are little masterpieces of the engraver's art, forming a set which is one of the finest issued by the country for many years.

The values are

2c. plus 2c. violet Castle Hillenraad.
5c. plus 3c. vermilion, Castle Bergh.
6c. plus 4c. sepia, Castle Hermen.
10c. plus 5c. green, Castle Rechteren.
20c. plus 5c. blue, Castle Moermond.

The 2ct. and 6ct. values are of horizontal and the others vertical format, printed on unwatermarked paper. From "Mijn Stokpaardje", May issue, it is learnt that the engravers responsible were W. Z. van Dyk for the 2c., 5c. and 10c.; J. Slaphorst for the 6c. and C. A. Mechelse for the 20c. The printers, as usual are J. Enschedé and Sons of Haarlem and the stamps which will be on sale until 14th July, are for postage until 31st December, 1952.

J.W.S.

BRITISH WATERMARK VARIETY.

Mr. Kenneth E. Hammond in the 28 April number of "Stamps" brings out the importance of examining every copy of even the most common stamps if you want to find something new.

Going over a lot of some 844 copies of the British 1d. of 1912-13, a stamp which for almost 40 years has remained listed at the nominal price of 1d., he found a specimen in which the crown above one of the script lettering combinations was totally missing.

A description of the specimen was sent to Messrs. Stanley Gibbons, who replied that it was unknown to them, that they would like to examine it, and that if they confirmed his finding they would consider mentioning the fact in G.S.M. to see if the variety was known to any other collector. The stamp is being sent to them, and there the matter rests for the moment.

UNION METER ERROR.

Mr. Werner Simon records in "Stamps" a very unusual error in the Hasler meter H1 used in Johannesburg. Inverted dates, townmarks and slogans are known from several countries, but this is an inverted franking die, except for the value (which is inserted separately in the die). The only other recorded example occurred in France on meter B0305.

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June, 1951.

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U.S.A.—NORTH vs. SOUTH.

There has almost been another civil war in the U.S.A., although only a philatelic one this time. The occasion has been the ill-feeling engendered in the South because of the issue of the commemorative stamp on 30 May for the "United Confederate Veterans Last Encampment.

Apparently to avoid any imputation of favouritism the design of the stamp was made identical with the one issued on 29 August, 1949 in honour of the final encampment of the "Grand Army of the Republic", i.e. the Northern Army, changing only the name, the hat-badge, and the colour.

But the Southerners do not like this "second-hand" stamp. They point out that the veteran is wearing a G.A.R. hat which the Confederates did not adopt and the cap worn by the young soldier is that of a type never used by Confederate soldiers. The stamp is therefore historically all wrong; they are the more aggrieved because they had a historically and artistically good design prepared by August Dietz, the well known authority on Confederatg history and philately, and also an admired artist.

POSTAL AUCTIONS IN SOUTH AFRICA

ANNOUNCING my FIRST POSTAL AUCTION AUGUST 15th.

COLLECTORS in the Union should find many interesting lots in my first sale and are invited to send for a free Catalogue which will be ready early in July.

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THE KING'S COLLECTION.

The Dropmore Press, of 9 Great James St., London W.C.1, announce the publication shortly by gracious permission of His Majesty, of a work describing the Royal collection by Sir John Wilson Bt., Keeper of the King's Collection.

Sir John has been at work on this for over four years; its compilation has innvolved many technical problems and also the cataloguing of nearly a quarter of a million stamps. It will be illustrated with numerous monochrome and coloured plates and, of course, magnificently bound.

The price will only be Sixty Guineas (Yes, we mean Sixty, not Six!). This does seem to be a lot of money,, for a catalogue of stamps one will never see — or, at most, a very few of them. Nevertheless considered simply as an investment it will probably be gilt-edged, like the book itself.

Prospectuses will be available in September and obtainable from the Dropmore Press so — as they say — to compile a rota of philatelists **and collectors of fine books** (bold type are ours) to ensure the even distribution of so rare a volume.

UNION GEORGIAN DIE PROOFS.

Mr. Lancelot A. B. Sharpe, England, writes:

"Apropos of Mr. Sydow's article on the Georgian De la Rue dieproofs it may interest you to know that I also possess the Die Proof of the 2½d. Commemoration A (a), i.e. on glazed Card 3 x 2.75 inches. You may also care to know that I have a Card 8in. x 4¾in. NOW ON SALE, bearing a speciment stamp of the 2½ (in large block letters).

Also I have a Dieproof of the 1½ as apparently produced for stationery since the words POSTAGE — POSTZEGEL are omitted. (Approx. 3 3/5in. x 2 2/5in.)

I have also Die Proofs of the ½d., 1d. and 1/- all cut out on thin card as of 2½ frame only— a Head only — and a frame with blank value tablets and no inscription other than UNION OF SOUTH AFRICA — UNIE VAN ZUID AFRIKA."

And Mr. J. A. V. Peters from Wales:—

With reference to the article by Mr. A. Hilton Sydow commenciig in the April 1951 issue of the "South African Philatelist", on the "Die Proofs of the De La Rue Georgian Stamps", your readers may be interested to know of the existence of Die Proofs in black of both ½d. and 1d. values stamped "Before Striking". Details of these items, which are in my collection, are as follows:—

Both in black on white glazed cards measuring 3.6 x 2.4 ins., and stamped "Before/Striking" in bottom left hand corner, in black.

½d. value. Initials "M.S.P." and dated "21/1/21" both in M.S. in black.

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FRANCE.

On April 28 there was released a 15 fr. stamp bearing the effigy of Jean-Baptiste de La Salle, founder in 1679 of the Christian Brothers' Schools Society. One notable feature at the schools founded was the use of French in place of Latin as the main vehicle of teaching.

2nd June saw the release of six semi-postals, honouring respectively A. de Musset, Delacroix, Gay-Lussac, Surcouf, Talleyrand and Napoleon I.

On 8th June there appeared a 12 fr. stamp commemorating the progress of Veterinary Science in the 19th century. It features portraits of Nocard, Boulet and Chauveau.

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ROUMANIA. 1862. 3 par. on laid, used Certif. S.G.19 £150
ST. CHRISTOPHER. 1885. ½d. on half 1d. surcharge inv. certif. S.G. 22b £14
SAN MARINO. 1894. 1L. used. S.G.34 ..... £3
ST LUCIA. 1860. 6d. A mint marginal pr. S.G.3 £40
SARDINIA. 1853. 40c. mint. S.G.10 ..... £12
SCINDE. 1852. ½d. S.G. S.1 used £10
SERBIA. 1866. 2p. A mint sheet of 12. S.G.4 ..... £50
SOUTH AUSTRALIA. 1868. 10d. in black on 9d. A mint pair. S.G.79 ..... £25
SICILY. 1859. 1Cr. Russet-brown, unused. S.G. 2a £75
SHANGHAI. 1866. 8c. An imperf. block of 4. S.G.40a £25
SPAIN. 1865. 12c. perf. 14, frame inv. used. S.G.171 ..... £60
TASMANIA. 1856. 2d. A record used copy. S.G.20 £45
TRINIDAD. 1860. 1d. dull red. A mint block of 30. S.G.23 ..... £30
TURKS IS. 1867. 6d. Die Proof in black £22
VIRGIN IS. 1888. 4d. on 1/-, surcharge double, mint. S.G. 42a £75
WESTERN AUSTRALIA. 1857. 2d. used. S.G.15 ..... £15
U.S.A. 1867. 12c. Grill 11 by 13. A used block of 4. S.G.174 ..... £75
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13 Mozambique, Fishes, remarkable set 8/6
5 Netherlands, Charity, Castles 2/6
1 Saar 1951, "Tag der Briefmarke" 2/6
8 Seychelles, Postage Dues 2/9
5 Swiss National Fete 1951 (Sports) 4/-
2 Vatican, "Assumption of Virgin Mary" 2/6

HINGES, best English make "Paramount", Standard size, 1/6 per packet of 1,000.

NETT, C.W.O., POSTFREE.

A. Lichtenstein

B.P.A.

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UNION STAMP REVIEW

By T. I. FERREIRA,
Post Office Publicity Officer.

(Contd. from page 80, May issue.)

3d. Stamp. Change of colour.

The 3d. stamp, which in the "King's Head" issue was printed in blue, was, for some unknown reason at first printed in red and black in the pictorial issue. As this denomination represents the unit of postage for letters in the International service it has to conform to the colour prescribed in the Universal Postal Union Convention, and accordingly in October, 1933 it was changed to blue.

Abolition of the 1s. 3d. variety.

The 1s. 3d. denomination which was introduced specially to meet the unitary rate for telegrams became exhausted in February 1930, and it was decided not to reprint that denomination.

Re-introduction of the 1½d. postage stamp.

In view of the development of the internal air mail services in South Africa, as well as the rapid advance of the air services between the countries of the British Commonwealth of Nations, and also of the pending reduction in the charges for all first class mail matter which, as from the 1st April, 1937, would be sent by air within the British Commonwealth, it was deemed advisable to introduce a further stamp into the Union series of postage stamps which would meet the unitary rate of 1½d. per half ounce in weight.

Steps were accordingly taken, and a new stamp of the 1½d. value was printed by the Government Printer, which was available for sale to the public on the 12th November, 1936. Details of the make up, and a description of the stamp are as follows:

Colours: Green and gold.
Watermark: Springbok's head.
Printed: Gravure process.
Made up into sheets of 120 stamps.
Description:

On a green background at the top of the stamp appear the words "South Africa" or the Afrikaans equivalent "Suid-Afrika". The main pictorial design shows the headgear, engine-room and waste dump of a gold mine. In the background in gold appear representations of the tall buildings of Johannesburg, whilst monoplanes are depicted in flight. The value is shown on a white ground in the centre at the bottom, and the word "Postage" or "Posseël" above the figures indicates the purpose for which the stamp was issued. On each side thereof in the foreground are two cornucopias out of which flow the fruits of the land, indicative of the fertility of the soil, which is represented by ploughed furrows. In the high field left and right are representations of flying Springboks, the symbolic sign of the South African Airways, each surrounded by a crown in miniature.

STAMPS IN ROLLS.

Rolls of Stamps. King's Head Issue.

In order to meet the requirements of stamp vending machines situated outside post offices or elsewhere in convenient places, as well as, the needs of business houses where hand machines for affixing postage stamps to letters are used, stamps of certain denominations of the "King's Head" issue were printed and made up in the form of rolls by Messrs. De La Rue and Co., of London, and were originally supplied as shown:—

Denomination	Number of stamps in roll	First issued
½d.	500	11th August, 1914.
½d.	1,200	1st September, 1913.
1d.	500	8th August, 1914.
1d.	1,200	13th February, 1914.
1½d.	500	25th March, 1920.
1½d.	1,200	15th November, 1920.
2d.	500	7th October, 1921.
2d.	1,200	7th October, 1921.

Naturally the majority of these rolls were used in Post Office machines, but it was inconvenient so to use the 1½d. denomination, and the rolls of such stamps were only sold over the counter between the 15th November, 1920 and June, 1921. The reason for the short life of this denomination was the increase in the inland postage rate to 2d. per ounce. The 2d. stamp was therefore issued in rolls to meet the demand for a stamp corresponding to the unit of weight for letters, whilst the rolls of the 1½d. variety were issued to Postmasters for use in accounting for various postal charges etc. in order to use them up.

On the 1st January 1926, however, the unit rate for inland letters was again reduced to 1d. per ounce, and this action rendered the use of the 2d. stamp in rolls unnecessary. In order to dispose of the surplus, Postmasters were instructed to use them for accounting purposes.

Pictorial Issue.

In 1926 pictorial stamps of the ½d. and 1d. varieties were made up into rolls by Messrs. Waterlow and Sons, Ltd., who supplied the following quantities:—

½d. x 500 stamps—8,250 rolls.
1d. x 500 stamps—8,250 rolls.
½d. x 1,200 stamps—2,050 rolls.
1d. x 1,200 stamps—2,050 rolls.

Rolls supplied by the Government Printer.

Later the production of these items was taken over by the Government Printer. On the 8th November, 1927 the Government Printer is recorded as having delivered the first lot of 1d. stamps in rolls of 1,200, and supplies of the ½d. and 1d. were further delivered as required until March 1930. These were printed from the plates supplied by the previous contractor. From that date, however, rolls of the pictorial variety containing 500 or 1,200 tsamps of the ½d., 1d., or 2d. denominations produced by the new Gravure process have been supplied.

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INTERNATIONAL EXHIBITIONS.

Although the Post Office does not take an active part in philately, we are sometimes requested to participate in International Exhibitions. The most recent effort of the Post Office for display at the Spanish Postage Centenary Exhibition in Madrid in October last year is available here tonight for the critical survey of philatelists.

I will read to you the following letter sent to the Postmaster-General by the Director-General of Posts in Spain:

"I have the honour to address this communication to you to express my gratitude to the Postal Administration of the Union of South Africa for your outstanding contribution to the Commemorative Exhibition of the Centenary of the Spanish postage stamp. Furthermore, I have pleasure in transmitting to you, for your Administration, as a souvenir of our concourse, the silver medal of the Centenary of the Spanish postage stamp, as also a book with the commemorative series.

Reiterating our gratitude for your valuable collaboration, please accept, Mr. Postmaster-General my best wishes for the prosperity of your Administration, together with the expression of my own high esteem."

NEW ISSUE.

Before I conclude you would probably like to know something about the proposed new issue of stamps. I am authorised to say that the response from the public for designs has been very disappointing. Only 12 prizes have been awarded out of a possible 24. The Stamp Committee has made selections from the designs put forward but a certain amount of brushing up has to be done and trial photographs have to be taken by the Government Printer which are resubmitted to the Stamp Committee to judge their suitability. As you will see from the numerous designs, submitted by Waterlow & Sons, Bradbury Wilkinson & Co. Ltd., Thos. de la Rue and Perkins Bacon & Co. in respect of the pictorial and previous issues, there is a great amount of work and time involved in finalising the designs before the printing can be undertaken. The Department is anxious to obtain delivery of the new 4½d., 9d. and 1s. 3d. denominations as they are required mainly for the purposes of prepayment of postage on letters to foreign countries, air-mail letters to Great Britain and payment of charges on telegrams respectively, and I can assure you that no unnecessary delay is taking place in bringing the matter to finality. We have already seen descriptions of the new designs in overseas publications and were informed that the new stamps were on sale. The so-called "inside information" on which the article was written, was not obtained from Post Office officials and cannot be regarded as an authoritative statement. The designs are subject to amendment by the Stamp Committee at various stages and you will appreciate that any information which is given before finality is reached cannot be reliable.. It may be of interest to you to know what the British Post Office does in this respect and I quote an article from the "Pretoria News" of the 11th January:

"Subject to The King's approval, the British Post Office is to issue special stamps to commemorate the Festival of Britain. Their design will not be disclosed until the day before they appear."

COLONIAL PERF. CHANGES NOT A RACKET.

In a recent number of the "Stamp Mirror" a writer more or less accused the Crown Agents or the Colonial Office of working a racket with the frequent changes of perforations in British Colonial stamps. The paper's "Expert" now replies to this. He says the bodies just mentioned can never, after the Silver Wedding infliction, absolve themselves from the charge of looking to stamp collectors for financial aid, but in the case of perforations he considers that neither they nor the printers are guilty of any manipulation, extortion or any other type of jiggery-pokery.

In the first place orders from the Crown Agents to the printers merely state that stamps should be suitably perforated to ensure easy separation — but not more than that!

If there are any culprits therefore it must be the printers, but according to "Our Expert" the many variations in perforations are due to commercial necessity and not to any desire to fleece the collector who wants to have every perf. variety. Factors which make changes necessary are the following:—

(a) There are many different sizes of stamps. Normally the printers have one machine for each size, but it often happens that there is a rush order for various stamps of that size and some of them simply have to be perforated on other machines. Examples given.

(b) A machine may get worn out and be replaced by one with a different perforation gauge.

(c) What machine is used is entirely at the discretion of the works manager and will depend on the programme on hand. It may not be convenient to use the usual machine so some other is employed.

(d) Variations in paper demand different machines. If a paper is hard the perf. holes need to be close together; if it is soft and raggy then wider spacing is preferable otherwise there would be a tendency for the stamps to fall apart in handling.

Ergo perf. changes seem to be inevitable. If we are foolish enough to want to collect them all then we must just resign ourselves to it and foot the bill accordingly.

AS OTHERS SEE US.

Mr. W. L. Simon, of Hermanus, sends as the September issue of the Monthly Bulletin published by Théodore Champion of Paris. Under the heading South Africa it has the following (translation):—

"Rumour has it that the Prime Minister of this country, Dr. Malan, has in view a new name for the currency. The pound will become the Kruger, the name of the former President of the Transvaal and it will be divided decimally.

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The new stamps will bear the portrait of President Kruger."

We live and (we hope) learn. A decimal system of coinage is certainly being talked about, but whether it will be based on "Krugers" or not, **is** only rumour. As for the Kruger stamps, it is curious that the Postal Department knows nothing about them.

Linn's Weekly has a short note headed "General Public Can Use South African Officials". It states that these official stamps heretofore restricted in their use to departments of the government can now be purchased and used by the general public in the same manner as the regular issues . . . This decision will have a decided effect on the catalogue value in used condition of stamps of this category.

This statement is based on word coming from a correspondent in Cape Town.

Their correspondent must be a relative of Rip van Winkel and it is time he woke up. "Official" stamps have been purchasable and usable by the general public for many years.

Queen Anne is dead, as Mr. McCallum of East London remarks in drawing attention to the fact that one of the advertisers in our October issue states that he has no George IV stamps We cannot argue with Mr. McCallum; we might argue that our advertiser's statement is perfectly true, but we prefer instead to apologise to Mr. O. Kornfeld for making him state the obvious, instead of merely stressing the point that he does not deal in George VI stamps.

PERKINS BACON AND COMPANY.

The following notes are summarised from a paper read before the Sydney Philatelic Club by Mr. H. S. Porter, and published in the "Australian Stamp Journal" of Feb., 1951.

The founder of this firm, born in Massachusetts in 1786, was responsible for a number of inventions in connection with high class printing. Three of these were especially important for the production of postage stamps, when the need for same arose. Firstly, the "D" roller copper plate printing press, still used a century later. Next, he invented a method of duplicating based on the discovery that steel could be engraved when a comparatively soft substance and then transformed by heat into a very hard one. An original engraved die, after hardening could be used to make many impressions on a soft roller which, in its turn, could be hardened. It may be asked, postage stamps not having been yet invented, what nature of printing would justify the skill and outlay this process entailed? The answer was bank notes.

His third important invention was the "engine lathe", a device for mechanically engraving designs of so complicated, yet perfect, a nature that duplication by hand was impossible — thus preventing forgery.

The State of Massachusetts passed a law that only notes made by the Perkins process could be used in that State. Following on this initial success, Jacob Perkins sailed for England in 1819 to compete for the printing of notes for the Bank of England. In this he failed, but he built up an extensive business with other British banks, each of which issued its own notes in those days.

In 1921 he took his son-in-law Joshua Bacon into partnership. Jacob Perkins died in 1849, Joshua Bacon in 1863 when the latter's son Jacob Perkins Bacon became managing director of the firm.

In 1839 the Act establishing uniform penny postage was passed but it was still undecided as to the method whereby the penny should be shown as pre-paid. The Treasury advertised for suggestions and more than 2,600 were received, but Perkins Bacon did not submit any proposal. Nevertheless they were approached by the Government and as a result were given the order for the first adhesive postage stamps, which were issued on 6 May, 1840.

The quantity of stamps needed increased by leaps and bounds — in 1845 six presses were on this work and by 1879, when the printing passed into other hands, there were thirty-eight. Of the 1d. alone for the United Kingdom they produced 20,699,858,040 stamps.

After printing the world's first stamps the firm produced many more for British Colonies and Foreign countries. Perhaps the most famous are various "Chalon" heads of Queen Victoria and the Cape Triangulars, but the 1868 Turks Islanders were the last of intaglio stamps. Cheaper surface printing drove stamp engraving to the wall and we do not hear of Perkins Bacon as stamp printers again till about 1901.

In 1936 certain dealers, acting jointly, bought up the assets of Perkins Bacon and Co. and they destroyed all plates and dies which they thought could be a danger from the point of view of reprinting. The archives of the firm were acquired by the Royal Philatelic Society of London; these have still to be fully studied.

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INTERNATIONAL EXHIBITIONS.

London, 1950. The final report has been issued. It contains various hints about the arrangements which should be used for future exhibitions. It is noteworthy that financially it came out with a slight profit and this is going into a Trust Fund for the general advancement of philately.

"ITEP". The 2nd Bulletin of this exhibition at Utrecht in June-July, 1952 has arrived. It gives provisional rules and entry forms and we will be glad to forward a copy to anyone contemplating sending an exhibit.

WANTED: INDIAN NATIVE STATES

Well-centred, mint or fine used.
One copy only of each:—
Bundi, S.G. 11, Barwani, S.G. 10.
Charkhari, S.G. 44, 48.
Datia, S.G. 32, 35, 41.
Kishengarh, S.G. 71. Poonch, S.G. 1a (or 2).
50% over catalogue for all except the Poonch.

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BOX 5317 ——— JOHANNESBURG.

SHORT NOTICES.

Press Cuttings Agency. We observed not long ago a note in a philatelic magazine saying it seemed curious that no one started a special press-cutting agency for stamp collectors, as there seemed to be ample scope for one. Well, one has started, as readers can see from Mr. de Kusel's advertisement in our Collectors' Wants and Offers Column. There are at least 30 philatelic journals in the English language and no collector can be expected to take in or read through all these.

But if he wants to get everything written about any aspect or aspects of his pet subjects — countries, errors, themes, postmarks or what you will — such a service is now available to him. Full particulars from the advertiser on request.

"Die Luftpost". A small monthly review of general air-post news recently started, in Germany, by Kurt Dahmann, Konstanzer Strasse 9, Berlin-Wilmersdorf.

The "B.W.I. Philatelist". This little quarterly published by E. F. Anguilar, Box 406, Kingston, Jamaica, is suffering from the same complaint as most magazines; the price has had to be raised from 5/- to 7/- per annum. The March '51 number contains a full account of U.S. posts in Jamaica during World War II; some new discoveries of Jamaican postmarks and some general West Indian notes.

E. E. Yates collections. Messrs. Robson Lowe report that they are offering the following collections for sale by private treaty up to the end of June, after which date any unsold will be put up for auction later. Numbers of volumes in brackets. Greece (40), Greek Islands (10), Greece used Abroad (2), Ionian Islands (13), Abyssinia and Djibuti (13).

Messrs. H. R. Harmer have also sent out a list of collections for sale by private treaty. Among them are the Faberge collection of Russian Locals; Penny Blacks completely plated and the "Buccleuch" block of 48 of the Twopenny Blue; S.W.A. sets of Die Proofs; Newfoundland in 3 vols., and unused sets of Basutoland and the unissued Swaziland "Officials". There are believed to be only four sets of the latter in existence.

"CosmosPost". A monthly revue published (in French) in connection with the Cosmopolitan Correspondence & Stamp Collectors Club, by William Paret, Schaan, Liechtenstein.

Robertson Stamp Co. (Pty.) Ltd., Johannesburg. Mr. R. T. Lilley has severed his connection with this Company as from 1 June. He is paying a short visit to Britain and will make an announcement on his return.

The Thematic and Group Stamp Collectors' Club of Southern Africa. This Club was holding a Special General Meeting on 25 June for the purpose of changing its name to "The Thematic Stamp Club", the old name having been found too long and cumbersome.

GREAT BRITAIN.

The two special Festival stamps of 2½d. and 4d. values, have been well received as definitely good symbols of the purpose of the exhibition.

The new high value stamps, which appeared at the same time, although they are not Festival Commemoratives, mark a new departure in British stamps as the 2/6 and the 5/- may be said to be almost the first "pictorials". The former features Nelson's flagship "Victory" and the latter the "White Cliffs of Dover." The 10/- and the £1 values are remarkably dignified efforts, the first showing St. George slaying the Dragon, and the second the Royal Arms supported by the Lion and the Unicorn.

QUEEN VICTORIA

There are still hundreds of collectors whose main interest lies in the early and middle issues of British Colonials. These collectors are still the backbone of Philately, and for 20 years we have catered for them. These older issues can still be obtained at a reasonable price, and our books contain a fine range. A bank or business reference (preferably English) will bring you an interesting selection.

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RELIGIOUS STAMPS.

Cardinal Spellman, of New York, in address on the Canadian Broadcasting Corporation's "Stamp Club" programme recently, revealed that the Vatican City issue of 1929 led him to specialise as a collector of stamps of a religious nature. Prior to that time he had been interested since his students in stamps which taught history, geography and culture. He believed in stamp collecting as it made men think accurately, and remember; it demanded concentrated study, encouraged research and promoted international friendship.

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CORRESPONDENCE

COLLECTING "ARROW BLOCKS"

Sir,

In the days before cylinder numbers were imprinted on the Union pictorial stamps, it was the fashion among Union collectors to include in their collections the four arrow blocks. Some made up miniature sheets containing the arrow blocks and corners. This had the added advantage of showing the language setting. Arrows were very important indications of the various printings.

But now that each sheet bears the cylinder number, is there any virtue at all in collecting arrow blocks? I suggest that they should not be included in the new Union catalogue. I think that if one has a corner block of each printing showing the cylinder number, that is all that should be expected from the most advanced Union specialist.

The views of other readers and your editorial staff would be appreciated.

Yours,

I. T. RHENIUS.

MACHINE POSTMARKS.

Sir,

With reference to your note on machine postmarks on page 50 of your April number there are one or two remarks I would like to make.

Between 17.15 16-xi 1950 and 9.30 17-xi 1950, the Cape Town "A" and "C" machines exchanged slogans, the "A" getting "Don't Waste Petrol". At the same time a more important change was made. Instead of sitting neatly in the right-hand corner of the envelope, the postmark now spread itself right across the top of the envelope. Five (not four) straight lines also appeared to the right of the slogan. (Owing to faulty inking the top line frequently did not appear). Between 13.30 14-I 1951 and 9.30 16-I 1951, the petrol slogan was removed and five wavy lines substituted. The five straight lines still appeared, but the top one hardly ever showed as the inking got worse. This latter is still in use. The above applies **only** to the "A" machine.

Last year, as was noted in the "S.A.P.", some towns had IIII instead of IV on their machine cancellations. This year there are more. I have seen the following (all are black postmarks):—

IIII in 1950 and in 1951: Caledon, Johannesburg (some machines), Kokstad, Mafeking.

IV in 1950, IIII in 1951: Middelburg, Cape, Paarl, Worcester.

? in 1950, IIII in 1951: Dundee, Potgietersrust.

In addition, some Johannesburg Paids (those with a solid red rectangle **after** the date) show IIII.

The above are all from machines which produce an impression right across the envelope. I have seen none on the other type and none on handstamps.

Most wavy lines from Great Britain are made so that the middle portion can be removed and replaced by some such inscription as "½d./PAID." This feature has now appeared on some S.A. postmarks (all those I have seen are non-continuous). I have noted five towns.

Pretoria (only on those with no letter at bottom of datestamp, and only in the fortnight or so before Christmas 1950).

Pietermaritzburg (regularly since August 1950).

Vereeniging.

Klerksdorp.

Maseru. (I find it most convenient to include S.W.A. and the Protectorates with the Union for postmark purposes).

I have not seen any Paid postmarks from these machines, but it is perhaps noteworthy. that the middle part of the Pietermaritzburg wavy lines is sometimes upside down, so that it must be removed and replaced sometimes.

Trusting that these notes are of interest,

Yours,

DAVID ALLISON.

I want to buy Union issues from Interprovincials to date, mint and used, including booklets, Boer War covers, etc., and should be pleased to receive offers with full details of price, condition, quantities, etc.

C. E. SHERWOOD, P.T.S.

105 Marford Crescent, Sale, Manchester

Great Britain.

SOME RECENT AUCTION PRICES.

H. R. Harmer.

Natal: £5 mint (S.G. 144), £42. £1 10s. part o.g. (S.G. 162), £42.

Transvaal: £5, part o.g. (S.G. 259), £23.

Basutoland: 2d. "Official", used on piece, £26.

Nyasaland: 1903-04, 2/6 imperf. mint. £18.

Union: 1911 first flight postcard, Kenilworth-Muizenberg, £7 10s.

3/- booklet of 1920, £7.

1925 Airs, set of Proofs, £34. 9d., pair imperf. between stamp and margin, £15.

1943 ½d. coil horizontal pair, £22. Ditto, 1d., £23.

Ruanda-Urundi. 1916 set of 8 large Kigoma O'-pt. £31. Ditto, small O'pt. £29.

Robson Lowe.

The Seymour Collection of Great Britain fetched big prices, especially the cancellations. A block of four 1d. black, plate XI, on cover went to £680.

Falkland Is. Centenary set mint, £42 10s.

Vancouver. 1865, 5c. rose used, £165.

Newfoundland. 1857, 8d. bisected on cover, £165.

Do. 1860, 1/- orange vermilion used, £190.

Dominica. 1886, One Penny on 6d. used, £255.

Gibraltar. 1889. 10c. error, value omitted, £210.

Transvaal. ½d., 2d. and 4d. "V.I.R." errors, mint, £31 each.

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SOCIETY NEWS

WEST RAND STAMP CLUB.

At the June meeting, the Club's business was soon disposed of.

Mr. J. T. Burrell then surprised us all, by producing the "Skinner" Cup, which had been presented to him at Bloemfontein for his outstanding service to philately.

That the Philatelic Federation of Southern Africa should see fit to award their coveted floating trophy to Mr. Burrell is indeed an honour and speaks for itself. Members of the West Rand Club, along with many others take this opportunity of heartily congratulating Mr. Burrell. May he long continue to serve Philately!

Dr. T. E. Berry then exhibited his "unhyphenated" Union Pictorials. Everything "unhyphenated" was on view. Mr. W. Yelland, an authority on the subject, told the club just what he thought of this very fine showing and thanked Dr. Berry. Mr. Burrell congratulated Dr. Berry, who, he said, knew nothing about stamps 18 months ago. A very fine effort.

At the July meeting Mr. Bertie Simpkins will show his O.V.S.—O.R.C. collection.

This exhibit was scheduled for May but was unfortunately cancelled.

Mr. N. Basson will exhibit "Egypt" at the August meeting.

After tea and biscuits, the meeting closed at 10.30 p.m. N.B.E.

CAPE TOWN PHILATELIC SOCIETY.

It is always a delight to listen to one who is a master of his subject. So it proved, when Mr. L. Simenhoff, one of the foremost authorities on Union stamps held his audience spell-bound for the best part of an hour, on April 26th, discoursing on the Booklet and Roll Printings of South African stamps from 1913 down to the present day. Dealing in detail with the make-up of the plates and methods of printing, including the incidence of the **tete-beche** varieties, he drew attention also to the relative rarity of certain booklets, notably numbers 20 and 21, some of which were realising to-day as much as £10 and upwards in auction. The lecture was illustrated by a comprehensive display of booklet panes, reconstructed sheets, "specimen" stamps and varieties in brilliant array.

Voicing the thanks of the meeting Mr. Alexander succeeded in drawing the lecturer into some fascinating reminiscences of "the good old days", when booklets, now rare, could be picked up by the enterprising philatelist who made a round of post offices in the Peninsula, from which it would appear that many bargains were obtained at that time by those "in the know". In the absence of the President, Overseas, the Chair was taken by the Vice-President, Dr. Vautier. D.B.A.

PHILATELIC SOCIETY OF NATAL.

At the June meeting the President, Mr. H. R. Brown, welcomed 33 members and visitors including Miss Berson and Mr. Davenport of Salisbury and Mr. Davis of the U.K.

Mr. J. Lyle read interesting and topical articles from various philatelic publications. He also conducted a competition comprising 12 questions on British Empire and foreign stamps in the proportion of 3 to 1 which, after the fighting off of a tie between Mr. N. D. Williams and Mr. D. Lamble, was won by Mr. Lamble. The latter gentleman immediately donated his prize to a fund which is being raised to aid Cape Town in its ambitious undertaking in 1952. Finally, Mr. Lyle conducted the auction.

During the evening Mr. J. C. Ferguson exhibited a collection of Russia. He gave a short talk introducing his collection which was of over two hundred pages. He divided it into four sections, namely: Imperial Russia: stamps of the Kerensky period; the U.S.S.R. regime and finally, the stamps of the Russian Levant, Siberia, Russian China and General Wrangel's Russian Refugee Post. The exhibitor first became interested in Russian stamps when he was stationed in the far north of Manchuria during the first world war. In those days the stamps were Russian overprinted "Kitai" (China) and some of these were in the collection as were also the currency-cum-postage stamps which took the place of copper coinage fast disappearing at that time. 1917. The display, which was entered for the Winde cup, was so unusual a departure from those normally seen that members were greatly interested and appreciative; Mr. Ferguson was warmly congratulated on his enterprise and thanked for his showing.

A report from the Natal Society's delegates to the recent Congress at Bloemfontein was presented to the meeting. The report was comprehensive but, although space forbids expansion here, we take the greatest pleasure in quoting their appreciation of the hospitality they enjoyed in Bloemfontein. Their hosts, the O.F.S. and Basutoland Philatelic Society, arranged visits to the Michigan Observatory on Naval Hill, Mazelspoort, and several places of great historic interest. They also visited the Archives where they saw the original invoice for the first Orange Free State stamps which were costing 1/- per thousand. A happy dinner party at the Bloemfontein Club concluded the visit and the delegates express their warmest thanks to the host society and to the President, Mr. C. A. Larsen, and his charming wife and daughter who worked so hard to make the Congress a great success and their stay in Bloemfontein so enjoyable.

Mr. G. Milner Palmer spoke of the Cape Town society's great project in staging an international exhibition in 1952 and showed that, as the cost would be in the region of £6,000, it was incumbent on all South African Philatelic societies to give a helping hand in the raising of funds so that the burden could be shared. Various methods of collecting for a fund were suggested and most of them will, no doubt, come into operation.

The meeting approved of the Congress delegates having accepted that the 1954 Congress be held in Durban. Mr. Milner Palmer referred to a series of interesting articles in "Stamp Mirror" written by P. C. Bishop on the early days of the Natal Society: he also referred to the new scale of fees to the Federation and to the new hand-book. Mr. Lyle proposed a vote of thanks to our delegates to Congress and the meeting closed at 10.15 p.m.

V.F.M.

PRETORIA PHILATELIC SOCIETY.

4th June, 1951.

The Society had the pleasure of welcoming members of the Johannesburg Philatelic Society to this meeting, which was presided over by the President, Mr. F. C. Ferguson. The main feature of the evening was a talk by Mr. Oppenheim, which he prefaced with congratulations to the Pretoria Society on its well attended and interesting meetings. In this connection he referred with appreciation to these meetings which provided him and many other soldiers and airmen with a welcome counter attraction to army and camp life during the last war.

Mr. Oppenheim spoke in the main on his recent philatelic experiences overseas — of the enthusiasm for the hobby everywhere, taste of a high order being noticeable; of there being generally more interest in used stamps, including covers and postmarks, rather than mint stamps; of George VI used stamps being strongly collected in Britain; of the open-air Stamp Exchange he witnessed in Holland, where modern European stamps are especially popular; of auctions sponsored by the State in Austria (where by the way he saw no South African Union stamps). His impression was that philatelically our country was insignificant with European collectors, perhaps because their market very rarely offered any good material — the stamps he found were only the most common, in singles, and used.

The talk was illustrated by an exhibit to please every taste: there were classics of France and well printed modern issues; two sections entitled "Do you know?" and "Stamps you seldom see"; covers with recent commemoratives produced in the Vienna State Printing Works, magnificent in design, colour and craftsmanship, and a book illustrating the very high standard of stamp production by the Austrian Government. It was an excellent exhibit and warm thanks were expressed to Mr. Oppenheimer for it and his bright informative talk which everyone enjoyed.

The Chairman thanked the Johannesburg members for their attendance. He also expressed regret that Major van Blommestein was leaving Pretoria, and thanked him for his valued services. He would be greatly missed.

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18th June, 1951.

Both the President and Vice-President being unable to attend this meeting, the chair was taken by Mr. J. Coombe-Martin.

A paper was read by Mr. Endemann on Cancellations, which stressed the fact that these often provide much more interest and information than the stamps with which most collectors are mainly concerned. The merits and values of stamps are often enhanced and influenced by their cancellations.

The evening's exhibit, by Mr. N. L. Watson, was of Geo. V items and selections from various foreign countries for the period 1933-37. Of special note were Canadians complete with plate numbers, and the George VI Coronation set in blocks of 4, with the printers' name. It was a pleasantly varied exhibit on which Mr. Watson was complimented — the outstanding writing up method used being particularly commented on.

This Society, as is by now well known, is fortunate in having an enthusiastic, methodical Librarian, and a splendid Library. It is pleasing to record that an increasing number of members are making use of the available books and current journals. B.J.V.

ROODEPOORT STAMP CLUB.

May.

Present 6 members and one visitor, a brave turnout considering weather.

After the minutes and general, Mr. Henderson showed a general collection of the British Empire and the sideline U. Here he showed some uncommon U.P.U.'s. Very well written up and much enjoyed by all present. The exhibitors for June will be Mr. Jack Burrell, Great Britain; Mr. Fred Barnard, side line, W.

The meeting ended at 9.45 p.m.

June.

Present 16 members and 4 visitors. Definitely the best turnout this year. Mr. Barnard brought along Dominee Theron to whom a cordial welcome was extended by the Chairman, with the wish that he would glean some little knowledge from our meetings.

The exhibitors for July will be: Main: Mr. N. Basson, Canada. Sideline: Letter X, Mr. Rossouw, Xmas Stamps. Mr. Sharpe contributed notes of the month read by Mr. Jack Barrill. The Quiz by Mr. Burrell, was won by Mr. Bob Oliver.

Mr. Burrell's "Great Britain" were greatly appreciated by all. It was the first time most of the meeting had seen a "Mulready Cover" outside a catalogue.

The £1 P.U.C. of 1929 in both mint and used caused quite a stir as did some very nice copies of the £1 Royal Silver Wedding. Another item of interest was the 3d violet Olympic Games Stamp with the centre of the 3d. shaped like a claw.

Mr. Oliver's well turned out remarks were echoed by all present.

Mr. Barnard's side-line consisted mainly of Wurttemburg Women Welding and Ox-Wagon in that order.

To round off a good evening a pair of 44B's donated by Mr. Bob Oliver to the Health Foundation were auctioned, Mr. Henderson getting the prize item for £3 10s. H.D.

PHILATELIC SOCIETY OF JOHANNESBURG.

At the meeting of June 12th members of the West Rand Stamp Club were visitors to the Society and provided some fine exhibits.

Mr. Basson showed King George VI portion of Canada. These included all items in fine condition. There were mint blocks, constructed miniature sheets and booklet panes as well as some rare varieties.

Mr B. Glassman spoke on this exhibit.

Dr. Berry showed the unhyphenated Union Pictorials. The exhibit included several varieties including the tete-beche ½d., 1d. and 2d. values. There were numerous colour proofs, colour trials, essays and specimen stamps, as well as some original drawings. Numerous large blocks were included.

Dr. A. Kanlan spoke on the exhibit.

Mr. Henderson showed Northern Rhodesia and Basutoland King George VI items. All the stamps were in fine condition and the collection was well written up.

Mr. Schubart spoke on this exhibit.

Mr. Daniels showed a thematic collection entitled "Books and Authors". He showed stamps and combinations of stamps illustrating well known books. Some were most amusing and ingenious. Thus "Victoria 4.30" by Cecil Roberts was evidenced by a stamp of Victoria, a 4 ore Denmark and a 30 ore Denmark.

Mr. I. Isaacs spoke on the exhibit.

Mr. B. J. Simpkins showed a portion of his Orange Free State collection. This included several imprint varieties, postal stationery, telegraph stamps, large mint blocks and large used blocks.

Dr. J. Harvey Pirie spoke on the exhibit.

Mr. Sharpe showed Cook Islands. This was a mint collection from the earliest to the most recent issues.

Mr. Frankland spoke on this exhibit.

Mr. J. Solomon showed U.S.A. Commemoratives. This was an almost complete collection.

Mr. W. Oppenheim spoke on the exhibit.

A hearty vote of thanks was passed to the exhibitors.

At the meeting held on June 25th Dr. J. H. Harvey Pirie tabled an almost complete collection of the U.P.U. 15th Anniversary issues of the World. Dr. Pirie in a talk before tabling the exhibition explained that the bulk of the collection had been put together by the U.P.U. authorities for presentation to the various postal authorities of the U.P.U. members. Dr. Pirie had received his set from the Postmaster-General with his compliments. Since the presentation however, certain other countries had issued sets and he had acquired most of them to add to the presentation sets.

The presentation sets were all in beautifully got-up cardboard sheets with transparent slips arranged in alphabetical order according to French nomenclature.

Altogether about 180 sheets of different countries were shown. Many were beautifully printed and the whole collection made a fine show of colours.

Mr. W. Oppenheim spoke on the exhibit.

SWAZILAND.

A Long-overlooked Error.

A feature in the method of drawing the letter "W" in the name SWAZILAND in the K.G. V and K.G. VI stamps of the Protectorate has been brought to our notice by Mr. R. B. Cronwright of Germiston.



He notes that what are normally accepted as the down-strokes in the forming of the letter "W" are drawn with a thin line and the up-strokes with a heavy line, which is just the reverse to the general practice, and since all the other letters in the name have followed the usual form of a heavy downstroke and a thin up-stroke, it would appear that an error has crept into the design which has probably escaped the notice of a number of collectors.

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THE
SOUTH AFRICAN PHILATELIST
PROPRIETORS AND PUBLISHERS :
The Philatelic Federation of Southern Africa
Honorary Editor: Dr. J. H. HARVEY PIRIE
Business Manager: Mr. J. NATHANSON
P.O. Box 375, Johannesburg.
Subscription: Eight Shillings per annum, post free to any part of the World.
Vol. 27. No. 8. AUGUST, 1951. Whole No. 317.

BASUTOLAND

A FEW HISTORICAL NOTES, PARTICULARLY ON ITS POSTAL SERVICES

By G. N. GILBERT.

(Reprinted from the Catalogue of the Exhibition held by the O.F.S. and Basutoland Philatelic Society, 9-11 May.)

Basutoland, that small, oval-shaped country tucked away in the folds of the Drakensberg — and only 11,716 miles in extent — has had a stormy history from its earliest days, even before the first French Settlers came there as missionaries in 1833. There have been tribal wars and wars between the Basutos and the Whites, both Dutch and English, which persisted right up to the Anglo-Boer War in 1889.

In 1848, Sir Harry Smith proclaimed Basutoland a Sovereignty, but after several setbacks, and the defeat of the British troops, this was abandoned and a Convention was entered into between the British Government and the Orange Free State in 1854.

In 1858 war broke out between the Basuto and the Free State and, in 1860, Moshesh, the Basuto Chief, appealed to Queen Victoria for British protection.

It was not, however, until 1868 that Basutoland was proclaimed a Protectorate.

Shortly after this, 1871, Basutoland was annexed to the Cape of Good Hope, but again this did not last long, and in 1883 the Cape relinquished control, and the British Government took over once more.

When and where the first Post Offices were opened is not known. Unfortunately there seem to be practically no official records of what, at that time, must have been a very important event in the lives of the inhabitants.

By dint of searching through books and brochures on Basutoland, and by questioning several old residents and officials in the service, the following facts have come to light, which give some idea of the date when the first postal services started.

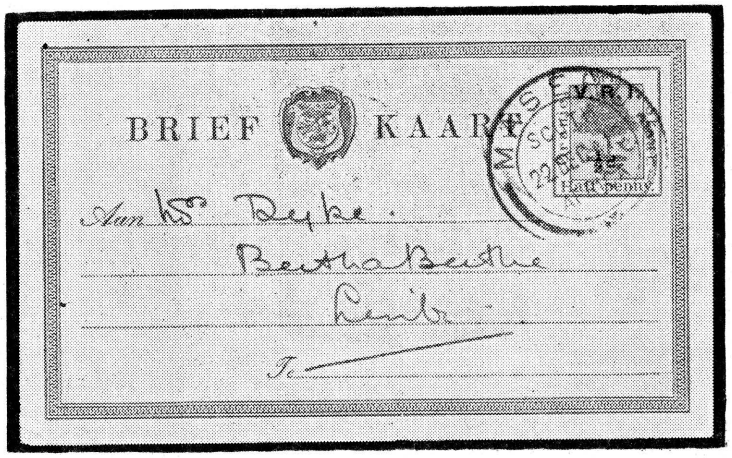
For instance, the first mention of any postal service appeared in a brochure printed in 1911.

Under the date July 1st, 1870, appears the following:—

"The Government's postcart starts running between Maseru and Aliwal North, Leribe and Mohaleshoek".

This date can, however, be questioned, as further on in this brochure it mentions the visit of Sir Henry Barkley to Basutoland in March, 1870.

Other records including Sir Godfrey Lagden's book, give the date of Sir Henry's visit as March, 1871, so it is likely that the date of the first postcart was also 1871.



At this date there were certainly no actual post offices in existence as this interesting and amusing little item appears in Sir Godfrey Lagden's book, viz.:

"Mr. Griffiths, who was the Governor's Agent in Basutoland after the Annexation in 1871, reporting on his first year's work showed, among other statistics — 41 Native Police at a total annual cost of £402, **and one Postmaster at £6.**

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It is obvious that no post office could be worked at an annual cost of £6, and this item probably refers to a Native supervisor of the postcart.

Government files show that in 1875 the sum of £235 was spent on postal services.

This steadily increased, being £896 in 1895, £1,619 in 1898, and £3,992 in 1907-8.

Today the average annual income from the postal services is in the vicinity of £25,000.

It is almost certain that the first post office to be opened was at Maseru, as this was chosen as the seat of Government in 1869. The date is unknown, but it was probably about the 1880's, perhaps a year or two earlier.

It is known that in 1882 the Rev. A. Mabille, a missionary at Morija, started the Morija Book Depot, and appealed to the Government for a post office to be opened there to cope with the ever-increasing business.

His daughter, Miss F. Mabille, was the first postmistress there and she is still alive, although of great age.



In a recent interview, she said that she thought the post office opened there about the end of 1882, and that it was one of the first to be opened.

She had a very small salary, and out of that she had to pay an assistant.

The mails were most irregular and frequently she had to go down to the post office in the early hours of the morning to deal with the postcart.

Prior to the start of the postcart service in 1870-1, letters addressed to residents in Basutoland were sent to Cape agencies and forwarded on by pack horse or mule.

An interesting example of this is a photograph of a letter from Dr. David Livingstone, dated 1843, to the Rev. Dyke at Thaba Bossiu, via Colesberg. This is shown in the Basutoland collection exhibited, and the original has been sent to the Grahamstown Museum.

Even after the first post offices were opened, the mail still went by postcart to Aliwal North, as the Maseru railway was not opened until September, 1905.

During the Anglo-Boer War, this route to Aliwal North was closed and mails were sent by express runners or riders over the Griqualand East mountains via Quthing.

Stamps Used in Basutoland.

Until 1910 and the Union of South Africa, the stamps used in the territory were those of the Cape.

When the cross-bar cancellers were introduced to the Cape, certain numbers were allocated to the Basutoland post offices. Several of these have been identified, viz.: Morija No. 277, Maseru No. 281, Mafeteng No. 156, Hlotse Heights (Leribe) No. 317, Quthing No. 407, and Mohaleshoek No. 210. Another, No. 868, is probably Teyateyaneng, but this has still to be definitely proved.

After the Union of South Africa and the issue of the Union's stamps, these were valid for postage in Basutoland, together with any of the four Provinces' stamps, and Griqualand West, until December 1st, 1933, when the first definitive issue of Basutoland's stamps appeared.

A British Q.V. 1d. lilac has recently been seen postmarked at Leribe in 1901. British



stamps are well known used in the Colonies and Republics during the Anglo-Boer War, but this appears to be the first record of one used in Basutoland.

Airmail in Basutoland. .....

The first official airmail service was inaugurated on June 2nd, 1950, when the Drakensberg Air Services (Pty.) Ltd. started operating between Ladysmith, Natal and Mokhotlong and Maseru.

The only other known occasion when letters were carried by air in Basutoland occurred on May 26th, 1934. Dr. Vollet, of Quthing, received an urgent call to Maseru and chartered a plane to take him there. The then acting Assistant Commissioner in Quthing, Mr. D. W. How, took the opportunity of sending a letter to the Resident Commissioner in Maseru by this plane, and this letter is filed in the Government offices there.

One other letter was carried on this flight, viz., one from Mrs. Franklin to her daughter at St. Anne's School, Hilton Road, which was posted by Dr. Vollet in Maseru on his arrival.

A few more interesting facts:—

The present Quthing was known as Moyeni, and is still known by that name by the Natives.

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There are three spellings of the present Mohaleshoek. The old one, recently discovered, MOHALIS HOEK, which is not the correct spelling, as the Chief's name from whom the place got its name was MOHALE, the present day and correct spelling, MOHALESHOEK, and MOHALIESHOEK which appeared on a registration cachet used at the office.

The present Teyateyaneng was formerly known as Advance Post, and was also the Magistracy for Berea.

Leribe, as such, is on the site of the P.E.M.S. Mission, and is about six miles from the present Camp, which is for Postal purposes and probably for the ease of pronunciation for the Europeans known as Leribe, but which is rightly in Sesuto "Hlotse Heights", sometimes also spelt Thlotse Heights.

My acknowledgements and thanks are due to the numerous friends who have assisted me in compiling these notes, particularly to Mrs. A. Jacot-Guillarmod of Mamathes, the Senior Postmaster of Maseru, Mr. Williams, the Rev. Brutsch of Leribe, and Dr. Dyke.

Union Notes

SUB-EDITOR: Mr. W. N. Sheffield, Box 99, Clevoland, Transvaal.

Notes on the 1d. Monocoloured Roll Stamps.

The following notes with their accompanying sketches featuring characteristics in the two printings of the 1d. all-red roll stamps have been received from Mr. A. H. Sydow of Cape Town.

Category I. Monocoloured roll stamps printed from screened Cylinder No. 16.

These stamps were produced from a 240-sheet diapositive which for reference purposes may be classified as Diapositive No. 1. The stamps are slightly smaller in size than those subsequently printed from Cylinder No. 24 — a point of interest not previously recorded in the "South African Philatelist."

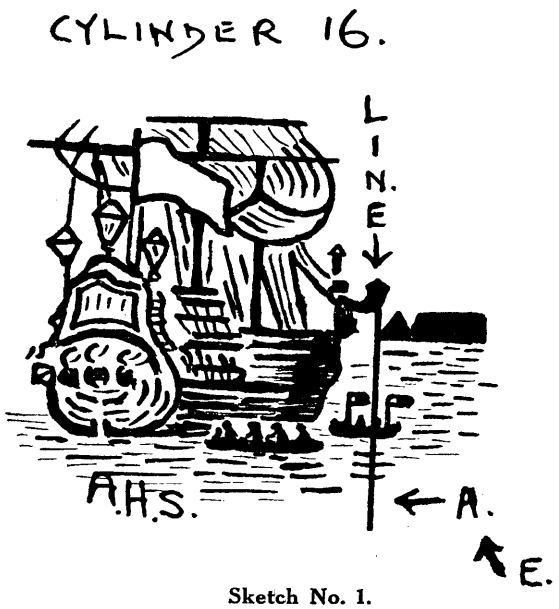
Cylinder No. 16 consisted of 264 images, i.e., 22 horizontal rows of 12 each and it was etched from:—

(a) 240 images from a 240-set screened carbon tissue derived from 240-set Diapositive No. I (20 x 12).

and

(b) An additional 24 images consisting of 2 horizontal rows of 12 each also derived from 240-set Diapositive No. 1. These two rows have been identified as emanating from horizontal rows Nos. 3 and 4 of the diapositive.

The accompanying sketch No. 1 depicts a portion of a Van Riebeeck's Ship (identified as from horizontal row No. 3 — vertical row unknown) and shows what may be termed a "vertical line flaw", marked "A" on the sketch. It appears on an English inscribed stamp (indicated as "E" in the sketch) and extends downwards from the ship's forelamp, touching the base of the Devils Peak and then right through to the floral embellishments.



Sketch No. 1.

It will be understood that because of the absence of a full sheet it is impossible to determine the vertical position on a strip of roll stamps, but since the "line flaw" marked "A" on the sketch appears three times on a strip of 24 stamps the relative horizontal rows in which it recurs during the printing process can be readily seen from Table "A" set out herewith.

TABLE "A" Horizontal Row No.	TABLE "B" Horizontal Row No.
1	1—"D"
2	2
3—"A"	3
4—"—"	4
5	5
6	6—"E1" & "E2"
7	7
8	8
8	9
9	10
10	11
11	12
12	13
13	14
14	15
15	16
17	17—"B"
18	18—"C"
19	19
20	20
21—(3—"A")	21
22—(4—"—")	22
1	1—"D"
2	2
3—"A"	3
4—"—"	4

Hence, in a strip of 22 stamps — the lineal length of which is equal to the circumference of the printing cylinder — the stamp with the line flaw marked "A" and its attached stamp, indi-

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cated in the TABLE by the hyphen mark "—", appears twice, — first as Nos. 3 and 4 and secondly as Nos. 21 and 22. (See also Mr. Sydow's sketches on page 170 of our November 1950 issue.) It is also worthy of particular note that the horizontal perforation gutter between Horizontal Row No. 1 and Horizontal Row No. 22 is very much narrower than between the other horizontal rows in the strip. This narrow gutter is due to separate etching of the 24-set Carbon Tissue Sheet (2 rows) below the already etched 240-set Carbon Tissue Sheet. This narrow gutter does not occur on the strips of roll stamps emanating from Cylinder No. 24.

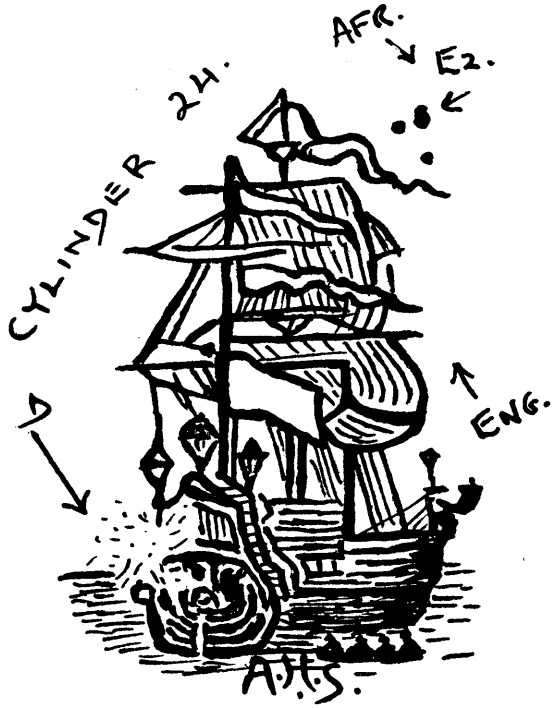
Category II. Monocoloured roll stamps printed from Screened Cylinder No. 24.

These stamps were produced from a 264-set diapositive classified here as Diapositive No. 2. The stamps are slightly larger than those from Cylinder No. 16 — about a ¼ mm. in length and ¼ mm. in width.

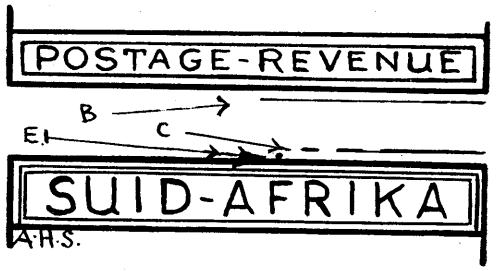
Cylinder No. 24 consisted of 264 images arranged in 22 rows of 12 units each, but unlike No. 16, they were etched from a 264-set Carbon Tissue Sheet derived from a 264-set Diapositive.

In Sketch No. 2 an "atom bomb" marked "D" is depicted bursting at the rear of the Van Riebeeck Ship and this flaw appears on an English inscribed stamp. The sketch also shows "three dots" marked "E2" which appear on an Afrikaans inscribed stamp and on this same item there is a small flaw in the shape of a dot just above the "F" of AFRIKA and marked "E1" on Sketch No. 3.

On Sketch No. 3 will also be seen a thin horizontal line marked "B" under the word



Sketch No. 2.



Sketch No. 3.

REVENUE on an English inscribed stamp, and on the lower attached Afrikaans item there is a portion of a horizontal line, indicated as "C", immediately above the letters "RIKA" of the word SUID-AFRIKA. These flaws are all constant and as will be observed from TABLE "B" each one occurs once per vertical strip of 22 stamps from Cylinder No. 24. There is no narrow horizontal perforation gutter as in the case of Cylinder No. 16.

It will be understood that the sheet position, or diapositive position of any flaw or characteristic, cannot be determined by the mere examination of a vertical strip of stamps from Cylinder No. 24 because the number of images on the cylinder is 264 (22 rows x 12), which covered the whole of the cylinder's periphery and also that no complete sheets are available for inspection. The TABLE therefore shows the positions of a vertical strip of stamps from Cylinder No. 24 and that each flaw depicted in the sketches appears on this strip once per 22 horizontal rows and **not** twice as in the case of a strip from Cylinder No. 16.

Exchange of Postage Stamps.

We have received the following communication, dated July, 1951, from the Publicity Officer of the Department of Posts and Telegraphs, Pretoria.

Postage stamp dealers and collectors of South African postage stamps are reminded that the Department does not re-purchase stamps from the public for cash. Current postage stamps of one denomination may, however, be exchanged for stamps of other denominations at any Post Office on payment of a commission of 5 per cent., with a minimum charge of 6d. All stamps exchanged must be suitable for re-sale to the public in the normal manner.

Since the establishment of the Philatelic Agency at Pretoria large quantities of special issues of Union stamps which had already been withdrawn from public sale, have been received from dealers for exchange for current or future issues of stamps. As a special concession these stamps were accepted for exchange despite the fact that they could no longer be sold or utilised for any purpose by the Department.

It has been decided to revert to the normal procedure and the existing practice of accepting stamps, other than the current series, for exchange purposes will be terminated on the 31st December, 1951, after which date only **current stamps of the Union will be accepted in terms of paragraph one above.**

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Retouch Variety on the 4d. Larger War Issue.

A retouch of a portion of the "O" in SOUTH AFRICA on one of the 4d. Large War Effort stamps has been noted by Mr. R. T. Lilley of Johannesbprg.

The variety occurs on the first stamp of the bottom (sixth) row and shows up as a white patch in the right leg of the "O". The stamp immediately above also exhibits a variety in the form of a printing flaw which in appearance is not unlike a portion of a capital letter "A". Its position is near the top edge of the stamp directly above the SUID of SUID-AFRIKA and like the "retouch" mentioned above, will be found in both the chestnut (orange-brown) and red-brown shades of the stamp.

Joined Paper Variety Found in Sheet of the Current 1d. Postage Stamps.

Mr. L. O. Bosse of Durban records recently purchasing a block of eight of the current 1d. redrawn postage stamps (Cyls. 6925/36) with joined paper and mentions that he saw the rest of the stamps of the sheet and that the join extended across the full width of the sheet and incidently included the two side marginal arrows.

Mr. Bosse, like ourselves, was under the impression that the joins in the rolls of paper now used for printing the Union's stamps were always clearly coloured on both sides with a broad red mark in order to bring the sheet to the notice of the checking staff in the Government Printing Works and so allow of the variety being withdrawn from circulation. We have no knowledge of this policy having being changed and it would appear as if this is one of the rare instances nowadays when a join with no identifying mark has managed to pass through the various processes unnoticed.

Large Overprint on 5/- "Officials".

We are informed by the Publicity Officer of the Department of Posts and Telegraphs that 5/- "Official" stamps have been issued with the large type of overprint.

The stamps are of the unscreened printing (Cyls. 6929/41) which have been in circulation since 1933 with the words OFFICIAL on the right and OFFISIEEL on the left hand side of the stamp — both reading down — the main change from the previous issue is in the larger overprint.

Current ½d. Postage Due Stamps.

Referring to our note on page 73 of the May issue regarding the postage due stamps at present in general use in the Union, Mr. B. L. Cairncross of George, C.P. draws attention to the fact that the ½d. with capital "D" and in the unhyphenated form, is still in use in that area. This value should therefore be added to the other four to make the current set of five consisting of the ½d., 1d., 2d., 3d. and 6d. Of these, the ½d. and 6d. have still to appear in the hyphenated form.

Pictorial Post Card Variety.

Mr. F. G. Froelich of Johannesburg records the local appearance of some 1d. pictorial post card stamps in which the sun's rays and the general background around the Van Riebeeck

Union Handbook and Catalogue.

Readers are reminded that if they wish to secure a copy of the De Luxe edition of the new Handbook/Catalogue to be published at the same time as the Van Riebeeck Tercentenary Celebrations in Cape Town next April they should make application without delay.

Only 300 of these De Luxe pre-paid subscription copies, at three guineas, will be printed to commemorate the 300 years since the landing of Van Riebeeck at the Cape and each copy will be numbered and contain a full list of the subscribers.

The list is filling up rapidly and applications, together with remittance for £3 3s. 0d. should be sent now to Mr. Sam Legator, Hon. Sec., Handbook/Catalogue Committee, P.O. Box 333, Brakpan, South Africa.

Ship on the impressed stamp is missing. This variety, and others of a similar nature, were noted in our April number as having shown up in the Kingwilliamstown district.

Collectors' Wants & Offers

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

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

Wanted: German South West Africa Special Items, Specimens, Covers, etc.—L. BUCHEN, P.O. Box 4012, Johannesburg.

Beginners and medium collectors — try our approval service.—BENONI STAMP SHOP, Box 485, Benoni.

50% over Gibbons Catalogue price offered for a superb Mint and Used copy of Seychelles, S.G. 52A.—WILLIAM REDFORD, P.O. Box 1182, Johannesburg.

Wholesaler requires regular supplies of Basutoland, Bechuanaland, Nyasaland, Swaziland in large or small quantities. Send or write by air mail.—B. SAVITZ, 69, Greenvale Road, London, S.E. 9, England.

WANTED. Mint George VI "Specimen" Sets. Send your quotation and details to B. GLASSMAN, P.O. Box 10, Johannesburg.

INFORMATION ON TAP. Philatelic press-cuttings to your choice of Subject and Country from 3d. each; any journal can be excluded. Minimum subscription 10/9. CLIFFORD DE KUSEL, 38 London Road, Stroud, Glos., England.

WANTED URGENTLY Union Postal Stationery and Booklets (especially Nos. 1 & 20, 1948).—Dr. MURRAY, Kuilsriver.

Required Switzerland. All issues mint used and Covers for cash or exchange for Geo. VI. B. JOSEPH, P.O. Box 375, Johannesburg.

Falkland Islands Specialist Material Covers and Post Marks wanted.—E. L. STERN, P.O. Box 7818, Johannesburg.

WANTED to Purchase Union Booklets, especially George the 5th, also all mint values of this issue from ½d. to 20/-.—DOMINION STAMP CO., 141, Longmarket Street, Capetown.

STUDY YOUR COUNTRY'S STAMPS

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Ingenious and Novel Ideas for Commemorative Stamps

(With grateful acknowledgements to the President of the Union Senate and to the Government Printer.)

It is not unusual for the uninitiated to poke fun at Philatelists — sometimes because they do not know better and at others because they have a real sense of humour — for instance **Punch** when it published a picture of the indignant lady returning to an astonised Dealer some stamps she had purchased as a birthday gift for her husband "because on one of them the head was upside down"! But it is not often that we find so august a body as the Senate indulging in a bit of fun on such a serious matter as the stamps of this country. The following extracts from Hansard show that some of the members of the Senate are certainly not devoid of a sense of humour (even if some may think it a perverted sense) or of a knowledge of Philately. Senator Ballinger has all the gifts of a skilful and resourceful designer of stamps; Senator Browne's suggestion would lend very strong support to that large body of Philatelists which prefers stamps with original gum! Let us hear what they had to say:—

Senator Ballinger: . . . "The last thing I want to refer to, Mr. President, is the Minister's invitation to us to consider stamps, and giving designs for stamps to commemorate 1952, which is a great year in the history of South Africa, but I would like to commemorate it in another way. My opinion is that we are seeing the decline of the Nationalist Government and we ought to commemorate that Government in the remaining years that it is going to be in office. I want to suggest to the Minister that we could do it by means of a special issue of stamps. Moreover they will be very valuable in the near future because we shall never have a purified Nationalist Government again. I think we might easily start with the halfpenny stamp and we might make it with white and black spots on it and that might commemorate "apartheid" which, of course, will never be operative. And then we might have a carmine stamp. We might make that a penny stamp and that could easily commemorate the tearing up of the Constitution with Dr. Donges in the centre of it. Then we might have another one with blue and purple patches which might be a twopenny stamp, with a Cabinet Minister making a speech. That would be a wonderful commemoration, I think. Then we might consider other stamps which might be of value, for instance a ninepenny stamp which we would like to have for our airmail instead of having to put two or three on to them as we do at the present time. We might have a ninepenny stamp which could depict Senator Verwoerd being guillotined; that would be a very appropriate one in view of the fact that we are going to be guillotined on the next stages of some of the Bills which are to come before this House. Well there are again quite a number of others that I could suggest but I would just conclude by suggesting a one shilling green and gold stamp which could have a replica of Mr. Havenga remitting the Income Tax; it would be a great day indeed if we got that kind of stamp. I do not think I ought to depart from this without commemorating our present Minister of Posts and Telegraphs and for him we have an orange ten shilling stamp. It would be very nice to see such a stamp with a little photograph of him in the centre of it — the Minister of Posts and Telegraphs up in the clouds or something like that. And finally a one pound stamp, a greyish one, with Dr. Malan making promises. There are some suggestions for stamps. I hope the Minister will take note of them because, as I have said, we ought to commemorate the passing of the purified Nationalist Government of South Africa into oblivion."

Senator Browne: "Nor, Sir, do I think we should take up a lot of serious time with the suggestion of the Honourable Senator Ballinger in regard to stamps. You cannot have "apartheid" in stamps. You cannot have a black stamp for a white man and a white man for a black stamp, and a Black-and-white for a Scotsman. You cannot have anything like that, Sir. But, where I think we might do some good, Mr. President, is to have "apartheid" in the flavouring of the gum-arabic on the back of the stamp. Now, for instance, those stamps sold to us would be flavoured with 'Boerewors', and to the Indians they would be flavoured with curry or something like that, and I suggest those for the Native to be flavoured with "Twala". It will not only mean that we have 'apartheid' in our stamps, but I think it will add to the sale and everything that adds to the sales, Sir, adds to the profit of the country and the popularity of his Majesty's Government in the country, and that is a thing I like to see augmented. There is only one thing we might do with the stamps. It follows a suggestion which was made by the Honourable Senator Viljoen — I think it was— Yes. You know the old saying, Sir — "Die blank koop net die guinea stamp," by Robbie Burns. We might have a Guinea stamp, Sir, merely showing the "Golden Fleece". As I am reminded, it would also help the taxpayer to remember how he is being fleeced by the Post Office."

Senator Jackson: "Mr. President, I am sure the Honourable the Minister is greatly indebted to the Honourable Senator Ballinger for his suggestion with regard to Commemoration Stamps. He omitted one Commemoration Stamp, and that is a rubber stamp depicting Government Senators with the inscription: 'Ons bedank die Minister' . . . . The Minister then proceeded to reply to the various members and Senator Jackson put the question:

"What about his suggestion about stamps, Senator Browne's suggestion?

The Minister of Posts and Telegrahps: "Yes, well that will receive consideration."

Senator Browne: "Hear, Hear!"

(?) BECHUANALAND T.P.O.'s.

Mr. Norman Hill records in "T.P.O." a letter from the late Mr. H. C. Dann stating that in 1939 the Postmaster-General of S. Rhodesia found in Salisbury four Bechuanaland handstamps recording respectively "Palapye Station 1 B.P.", "Palla", "Shoshong Road/Bech.d Rly", and "Macloutsie Station/B.P.". Mr. Dann thought these were used on the mail train on letters collected at these stations; hence their discovery at Salisbury. If this view is correct, they might be entitled to be regarded as T.P.O. marks.

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The Earliest Cape Bisect

Messrs. H. S. Wingfield & Co. have sent us a photograph (here reproduced) of what appears to be the earlist example of a Cape Bisect, some two to three years ante-dating any previously recorded. The cover has been authenticated by the Expert Committee of the Royal Philatelic Society. Here follow some notes sent accompanying the photograph:—

"Previously it has generally been thought that the reason for bisecting was due to the shortage of stamps in the period 1860-61, and that whilst officially these bisects were not recognised, they were passed without comment by the Post Office. Mr. A. A. Jurgens has stated in his classic work that there was no evidence to shew that bisected Cape of Good Hope stamps existed before 1861.

This cover, however, shews a single and bisect se-tenant of the 1855-8 4d. blue on white paper clearly dated on front and reverse with the circular 'Cape Packet Devonport MR 10 1858',



and in addition the 'Seaford MR 12 1858' c.d.s.; in addition there is a large handstamped '6d.' Unfortunately there is no date stamp giving the origin or date of despatch from the Cape, but one can assume an average time of about five weeks at this period, which would place its despatch about the first week of February 1858. The original supply of 6d. stamps was received in the Colony on the 13th February 1858, and issued to the public on the 18/19th February in Cape Town."

The photograph was sent on to Mr. A. A. Jurgens for his inspection and comment. Here it is:—

"This letter cover submitted by H. E. Wingfield & Co., opens up quite a new and interesting chapter in the Postal History of the Cape of Good Hope, and the old saying 'we are never too old to learn' is amply proved by it. I can say however that the practice of bisecting did not stop, as suggested, when stamps were in plentiful supply, but was indulged in by Postmasters and Postal Agents whenever they happened to be short of any particular denomination.

The cover definitely proves that bisecting of the triangular stamp was thought of (according to the photograph) two or three years earlier than the shortage of the 1d. and 4d. stamps in 1860, and it likewise proves that it was not this particular shortage which caused the postal officials to resort to bisecting.

When however I was busy with my research which covered a very considerable period and which included every government department as well as most of the private institutions in the Colony I came across many instances where bisected stamps had been used and in most of such cases someone had removed the whole stamp and left the bisected portion on the cover, but not once did I find anything of this nature dated earlier than 1860, hence the reason for my having come to the conclusion that it was the shortage in 1860-61 which made it necessary for the printing of the woodblocks that prompted the bisecting of stamps in the Cape Colony.

There is however a very confusing point about this cover, viz.: the "6d." charge mark which, if the photograph is the original size measures approximately 33 mm.

I have referred to the works on British Postmarks by J. C. Hendy, Alcock & Holland, and Robson Lowe but nowhere do I see any such charge mark illustrated or evidence of it having been used in Great Britain.

It is definitely not a Cape mark. The only official charge marks to be used at the Cape came into use long after the date shown here (1858).

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Postmasters and Postal Agents in the Colony were instructed, that when a letter was understamped to the amount of postage required they had to leave the stamp or stamps on such letter uncancelled and mark the letter in manuscript at one and one half the original cost of postage which was then collected on delivery. This was later increased to double the original amount of postage.

The only handstruck charge mark which has come to my notice ever to be used at the Cape prior to the establishment of a Charge Office at the G.P.O. at Cape Town, was one which was used unofficially, bu the Postmaster at Swellendam, and judging from what I have seen he used one of the octagonal Letter stamps of 1849 from which one of the digits had been filed off leaving only a figure "6)). It is very probable that in this case he used the number allocated in 1849 to Caledon, which was No. 26, and that he filed off the "2". Caledon is not far from Swellendam.

Apart from this, what makes me think that this might have happened is the fact that I have seen several impressions of this "6" mark used from Swellendam and in some cases portion of the octagonal frame shows according to the force with which the blow was struck.

There is another puzzling point about this cover. I have in my collection a cover sent from Potchefstroom, Transvaal to England in 1868, it is stamped with a 6d. C.G.H. (S.G. No. 25) and it shows the large Potchefstroom Z.A.R. (H.P.K.) Letter Stamp of 1864, dated Jun. 15. 1868, the Cape Town Cape Colony Circle dated July 2, the Cape Packet Devonport (exactly the same as that which is shown tying the bisected stamp) dated Aug. 8, Bristol Aug 9, and Shrewsbury Aug 10, 1868. This cover is inscribed in manuscript "Paid 1/9" which I presume to be the postage from Potchefstroom to the border town in the Cape Colony. The 6d. C.G.H. stamp was left uncancelled and the letter was stamped with the Devonport charge mark 2/- enclosed in a circle measuring 23½ mm.

Now in 1868, the postage to the United Kingdom had been increased to 1/- the half ounce and as only a 6d. stamp had been affixed to the letter the Cape Post Office ignored this altogether and double the amount of postage (2/-) was collected on delivery.

On this cover under discussion the Cape Post Office cancelled the bisected stamp which according to the postal regulations at the time made the Post Office liable for that amount so that it does seem queer that although the full amount of postage as in operation at the time "6" had been paid and presumably accepted by the Cape Post Office that an additional charge of 6d. should again have been made presumably on delivery because with the conclusion of the postal arrangements of 1857, between Great Britain and the Cape and vice versa, which established a uniform rate of postage at 6d. the half ounce or fraction thereof the old charge for delivery was dropped.

I hope that someone, such as our friend Mr. Robson Lowe who is an authority on British postal procedure will take this matter up, as he will no doubt be able to study the original cover which is most intriguing and which has also established the fact that Cape triangular stamps **were** used in bisected form at least two years before the 1860-1861 shortage."

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STEVENSON'S CAPE TRIANGULARS.

A two-page supplement with corrections and additions has been issued to "The Triangular Stamps of the Cape of Good Hope" by D. Alan Stevenson, published last year by H. R. Harmer Ltd.

U.S.A.

Thanks to Mr. George R. Rankin, Milwaukee for a first day cover with the much discussed 3c. United Confederate Veterans' stamp.

We wondered if the U.S.A. would stick to its earlier expressed programme of only 4 (or was it 5?) commemoratives. Now we know that it has not, for an extra one is being slipped in to commemorate the 250th anniversary of the Landing of Antoine Cadillac at Detroit.

UNITED NATIONS' STAMPS.

Contradictory reports are appearing in the philatelic press about the issue of these. Some state they will appear in September, others that the issue will be staggered across several months, the latter idea being explained as a co-operative gesture to first day cover fans. Reports seem to agree as to numbers 11 postage, 1c. to $1 and 4 airmail, 6, 10, 15 and 25 cents. Designs will be symbolical of the U.N. work and apparently five languages are to be used on them (? altogether or separately).

GREAT BRITAIN.

Four of the postage due stamps, which have been unchanged since 1914, have appeared in new colours to line up with the changes in the postage stamps. The ½d. is changed from green to orange, the 1d. red to blue, the 4d. grey-green to light blue; also the 1/- from blue to bistre-brown to avoid confusion with the new 1d. and 4d. colours ("Stamp Mirror").

UNUSUAL BASUTOLAND POSTMARK.

A writer in "Stamps" records a cover from Maseru with postmark there of 19 April 1951. It has also 3 circular postmarks "Virginia" with dates 20, 24 and 25 April. He has received regular mail from Basutoland for years, but has never seen this cancellation before.

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ERRORS—REAL AND IMAGINARY

by
A. I. MACKENZIE.
(Paper read at Congress in Bloemfontein, May 1951.)

Reading an article in a stamp magazine recently, I found that Great Britain about produces more than 20,000,000 postage stamps a day, Sundays excluded. This works out to a total of some 6,500,000,000 stamps a year. This is only one country. In the United States for instance, orders for special issues are generally for 115,000,000 stamps per issue. As there are at least four special issues per year in the United States, these orders alone amount to over 400,000,000 stamps a year. To this total must be added the ordinary everyday postage of that huge country, and this total must run into hundreds of millions of stamps per year.

How many collectors have ever paused to consider what these astronomical figures really mean? Judging by the enthusiasm shown by collectors when a mistake, or variety, shows up, very few have ever given the question a second thought.

When considering stamps one must never lose sight of the fact that a stamp is essentially a cheap, mass-produced article. If it were not, the postage system as we know it today would simply not exist. Another point to remember is this: In stamp-printing, time is the essence of the contract and owing to the large orders placed, the job must, of necessity, be a rushed one. Under the circumstances it is not at all surprising that errors do crop up; it would not be human if it were otherwise. Recognising this point the question immediately arises: "What constitutes an error or a mistake?" It is on this point where so many collectors are themselves at fault.

There are, of course, various kinds of errors. One is the historical error, generally committed by the artist, quite unintentionally. One of the most recent of this kind is to be found in the new issue of the red 4 cent Barbados stamp. Here a portrait of Nelson is shown, in which he has lost an arm but still has both eyes. In actual fact Nelson lost his eye first, in the year 1794 and subsequently his arm in the year 1797. Had the artist been better acquainted with his history, such a mistage would not have occurred. This can be called a genuine mistake. It is a mistake of fact, and that, after all, is the definition of a mistake. A similar mistake is shown in an American stamp. Here Columbus is seen coming ashore with a telescope under his arm. The artist apparently did not know that the telescope was only invented after Columbus had died.

Another mistake was made by a cartographer who was weak in geography. In fact he made two mistakes. In the Fijian map stamps the 180th meridian has been omitted, as well as the third island of the group, Kadavu, the 180 square miles of mountain ridge with an extinct volcano at one end.

A second class of mistake is that made during the actual printing of the stamp. Most of these mistakes are due either to carelessness, such as inverted centres, or to misunderstood instructions, such as printinug stamps in wrong colours. Owing to the very close check now being made during the various stages of stamp printing, these two types of errors are becoming scarcer. However they do still occur.

What causes incorrectly placed centres? In order to answer this question it is necessary to understand something about stamp printing.

Taking the South African penny as an example, we find that the printing of this stamp is done in two stages. Two cylinders are made, the one printing the red portion of the stamp, and the second printing the black portions of the stamp. In areas where neither of these colours are to be found the result is white. These cylinders are attached to the press in two different positions, each cylinder being fed from its own ink reservoir and each cylinder having its own het off rollers. From this it will be seen that the positions they occupy in the press are all important. Placing them in their exact positions is a highly skilled art carried out by men with years of experience behind them. Inaccurately placed cylinders lead to flaws. In modern presses these cylinders are adjusted by the turning of a wheel, and in the United States they are kept in position by a ray of light passing through two holes in the cylinders. As soon as this ray of light is interrupted the press stops because the cylinders are out of alignment.

If the centre of the penny stamp were placed upside down on the press the result would be an inverted centre. Recently a U.S.A. stamp with an inverted centre was sold in Australia for £175. As these mistakes are so obvious they seldom occur.

Stamps printed in their wrong colours are generally the result of rushed work. When the printing of one value has been completed, the cylinders are removed and replaced by cylinders of the new value. At the same time the ink reservoirs of the press are cleaned and new ink inserted. The rollers are also removed and replaced by clean ones. If through some oversight, the wrong ink or wrong cylinders are used, the result is an error. This does not happen very often.

Another class of mistake referred to by collectors is the damaged or broken letter. At the outset let it be said that this is not a mistake. This may be referred to as the first of the series of imagininary mistakes so popular among collectors. What actually happens is this.

In stamp printing the original design must, for technical reasons, be not more than nine times, and not less than six times the size of the finished article. The 1945 Israeli stamps were drawn 8 times the size of the actual stamp. A design is drawn, and if type letters are to be employed, the required lines are set up in type and a proof pulled. This proof is pasted on to the design. Should some of the letters used be imperfect, the compositor, who must record the time he spends on the job, has not the time to hunt for perfect letters. He will only change badly-battered letters. Should the letter have a minor flaw, this will be revealed in the finished stamp.ê This cannot be called an error. The

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stamp. This cannot be called an error. The than the finished article, is because, by reducing the drawing to the required size, minor flaws are hidden. If the misguided enthusiast has the time and patience to critically examine a stamp through a microscope he will discover these so-called flaws. Having done this, he announces to the world that he has made a find. But has he? If the same enthusiast were to take a painting by one or other of the old masters, and subject that to the same treatment, how many "mistakes" would he discover, and what would be his reception in the world's art centres? After all, we must retain a sense of proportion.

It is in the field of colour that the "variety specialist" finds his happiest hunting ground. The fact that probably over 90 per cent. of his "discoveries" are not varieties at all, but due to technical difficulties over some of which man has no control whatsoever, does not perturb him in the least. He is wrapped up in his own world of make-belief, and is completely divorced from reality. Let us, therefore, examine this question of colour in some detail.

Printing is not really a trade. It is a collection of trades, each working towards a common goal. One of these trades is process work, and another is machine-minding.

In printing, colour is broken down into three primaries, red, yellow and blue. They are called primaries, because, in printing, it is impossible to reduce them to any simpler substances. It is possible by utilising these three colours in combination, to obtain practically any other colour desired.

From what sources are these three colours derived? They are obtained from three different sources, animal, vegetable and coal-tar by-products. For instance a primary blue may be obtained from each source, but in each case the blue will be of a different shade.

Furthermore there are three different printing processes. Letterpress, that is printing from a raised surface, lithography, that is printing from a plane surfaec; this is based on the fact that oil and water do not mix; and intaglio, or under the surface printing. When it is realised that each process requires its own ink, each with separate properties, it may be realised how complicated colour work really is.

When we come to colour mixing, we must know the proportions of the elementary colours used before we can decide what to call the new colours. Take, for instance, a mixture of yellow and blue, the result will be a green. But what green? The answer to that depends entirely upon the proportions of yellow and blue used. If equal proportions of a true yellow and a true blue are used, the result will be a true green. If, however, 60 per cent. yellow and 40 per cent. blue are used the result will be a lighter green. If the proportions are reversed, the result will be a darker green. So unless the collector knows what proportions of primary colours have been used in order to obtain secondary colours, and obviously the collector does not know this, the yard-stick at its best can only be pure guesswork. When it is realised that if yellow and blue were mixed in equal proportions for all three processes, the result would be three different greens, the nature of the guesswork indulged in can be better imagined than described.

I mentioned earlier that in some instances, varieties are caused by factors over which man has no control. I will now enlarge upon that point. Printing presses today are made of steel. Steel is an inherently springy substance, that is why it is chosen. If cast iron were used, there would be no "give" in the machine in order to absorb vibration, and the result would be a broken machine. This spring in printing presses has one important practical result as far as the stamp printer is concerned, viz., it makes it impossible for him to print a sheet of stamps in a uniform colour throughout. This is because the steel rollers, on which the printing cylinders are attached, are constantly jumping up and down during the run. The faster the press is running the worse the trouble is. This jump is very small indeed, but it is there, and it follows that when the cylinders jump apart the stamps under the impression cylinder at that instant will print in a lighter colour than the stamps under the impression cylinder, when the impression cylinder jumps back. That this does happen to a practical extent, is borne out by the fact that several collectors have been puzzled over the variations in colour in a single sheet of stamps. Here is the cause, and this is what I mean when I say that there are technical difficulties in printing over which man has no control.

When it is realised that the average thickness of a film of ink on a sheet of paper is only two microns, and that a micron is one thousandth part of a millimetre, it will be realised how slight the movement of the cylinder need be in order that the result shows up on the sheet.

To those collectors who are fond of magnifying their stamps it will come as no surprise to be told that the stamp is broken up into a series of small dots. This is again done for technical reasons. If a sheet of copper, and a large number of stamps are printed from copper cylinders, were to be smeared with ink, and an attempt made to print from it, the result would be a smudge. So, in printing, the smoothness of the surface of the plate is broken up by means of a screen. This screen consists of two sheets of glass, each of which has a certain number of very fine lines ruled on it. There are 200-line screens, 300, 400 and 500-line screens. These sheets are cemented together in such a way that the lines, which are black cross each other at right-angles. The result is that there are as many as 25,000 dots to the square inch. The light from the arc lamps, passing from the subject being photographed to the sensitised plate, is made to pass through this screen, the result being that the image which the plate receives is broken up into a series of are, strictly speaking, no continuous lines, but small dots. From this it will be seen that there only a series of dots. This is one answer to the broken line enthusiast.

Another answer is this. During the process of etching the plate, it sometimes happens that the acid is allowed to eat its way underneath a dot on a plate. This dot is then weakened, and when later subjected to pressure in the printing press, it breaks off. This gives rise to

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a black dot. A white dot may be formed during printing in this way: In a long run, if the cylinders are not changed often enough, the ink in the cells slowly oxidises and hardens. This gradually closes the cell until at last it is level with the surface of the cylinder. When this stage is reached the result is a white dot. In fact if a series of sheets were examined the various stages can be traced in the stamps, the colour gradually becoming lighter in the cell affected.

Perhaps some collectors may be interested to learn something about torn perforations. Perforations are produced by a perforating blade, either incorporated into the press, or applied separately after the stamps have been printed. The cutting edge of this blade, instead of being the usual knife edge, is a series of needles, each of a uniform diameter. When cutting, these needle points wear rapidly, as there are few substances which blunt steel faster than paper. When these points become blunted, they no longer pierce the paper neatly, but tear it, hence the birth of another kind of variety. Incidentally, when these bits of paper are torn off, in the form of fluffs, they fly all over the press-room. A suction pump, placed below the blades minimises this trouble, but nevertheless some of the fluff settles on the plates and rollers. This results in another type of white spot. As this matter is outside human control, it should not be called a variety.

Other factors which influence the final result of the stamp are these:

The type of printing press employed; whether it is fast running, medium or slow running, as these each call for a separate grade of ink. The condition of the press, its age; the material from which the cylinders are made; the amount of packing and make-ready employed; the time of the year; the grade of paper used; the humidity of the atmosphere; the amount of wear each cylinder is subjected to; the rate at which the ink is allowed to leave the ink-reservoirs; the number of distributing rollers on the machine; the condition of the rollers, and the various chemicals used.

While mistakes will always be with us, let us at least retain a sense of proportion and discrimination between the real and the imaginary.

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BRITISH USED IN NATAL.

Robson Lowe reports in "The Philatelist" the finding of 3 Q.V. ½d. postcards of 1888 and 1889 issues used internally in Natal in 1891, 1903 and 1904 respectively. British postal stationery was available to the armed forces during the Anglo-Boer War, but these have no such connection. Can anyone suggest a reason for their use, or was it just a freak passing by the postal authorities?

SOME NEW ISSUES.

Messrs. Whitfield King & Co. report the following as issued or about to appear:

Australia. Two 3d. stamps se tenant on 2nd July. One commemorating the Gold Centenary and showing a portrait of Edward Hammond Hargreaves; the other in honour of 100 years of responsible government in Victoria and showing a bas-relief of Charles Joseph Latrobe, the first Governor of the Colony.

Belgium. Two air mail stamps, 6fr. and 7fr., on sale from June 18-30. Issued in the form of a triptych, the centre being a perforated label without franking value. The strip (issue limited to 40,000 copies sold at 50fr.

Falkland Islands. A complete new pictorial series, ½d. to £1 is to be issued.

Italy. Two stamps, 20 and 50 lire, to be issued shortly in connection with the restoration of the Abbey of Monte Cassino.

Kenya. Foreshadowed are new denominations 25c. and 40c.; altered colours, 10c., 15c., and 30c.

N. Rhodesia. Also foreshadowed: ½d. brown, 1d. green, 3d. red and new values 4½d. blue and 9d. purple rose, all in same design as current low values.

Sudan. The new pictorial set is announced for issue on 1 September. There will be 17 values, 1m. to 50p. and all will also be perf. S.G. for official use.

Vatican. Four stamps, 6, 10, 60 and 115 lire issued in connection with the beatification of the late Pope Pius X which took place on 3 June.

SOME RECENT AUCTION PRICES.

Robson Lowe.
Vancouver: 5c. (S.G. 11) used, £165.
Canada: 7½ (S.G. 22a), mint, £160.
10d. (S.G. 21), mint, £140.
Set 1897 Jubilees in mint blocks of 4, £500.
Newfoundland: 2d. (S.G. 2), used, £125.
1/- (S.G. 15), used, £190.
2c. (S.G. 25) used on cover with bisect of same, £175.
Nova Scotia: 1/- (S.G. 7), used, £175.
Sierra Leone: Centenary set, mint, £34.
Seychelles: Pair of Mauritius 4d. (1863-73) on cover to Reunion with B64 pmk., £23.

H. R. Harmer.
Cameroons: S.G. 3D mint, £25.
Cape 1/- 1855-58 deep dark green block of 4 unused, £115.
Natal: 1895 ½d. on 6d., complete sheet of 120, £3 7s. 6d.
K.E. £5 'specimen', £3 3s. 0d.
K.E. £20 'specimen', £7.
Egypt: 1926 Port Fuad set of 4 unused, £42.
Union: 2d. (S.G. 44b) block of 4 mint, £12 10s.
S. Georgia: 2½d. Provisional £18 10s.

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The First-Entries and the Re-Entries of the First ½d. Rotogravure Booklet Stamps of the Union of South Africa

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

The first ½d. denominated booklet stamps printed at the Union Government Printing Works in Pretoria by the rotary photogravure or rotogravure process were issued together with their 1d. denominated kinsmen, initially during August, 1930.

Each booklet contained four 6-set (2 x 3) panes of the 1d. denomination and two 6-set (2 x 3) panes of the ½d. denomination and was sold over the counter for half-a-crown.

The ½d. stamps were bicoloured and were printed from two copper-faced cylinders, one for the frame design and the other for the vignette designs. Each vignette portrayed the familiar "Springbok Head". Each cylinder held 180 images in intaglio on its periphery in twenty horizontal rows of nine units each.

The Frame Cylinder held 180 images — 90 English inscribed and 90 Afrikaans inscribed. The Vignette Cylinder also held 180 images.

Table "A"		Sub-Carb. Tissue Sheet "A"	Sub-Carb. Tissue Sheet "B"		Sub-Carb. Tissue Sheet "C"	
Nos.	1	2 3 4	5 6 7		9 10 11	12
Nos.		2 3 4	8 7 9		9 10 11	
Row 1		E A E	∀ Ǝ ∀		A E A	
" 2		A E A	Ǝ ∀ Ǝ		E A E	
to						
Row 19		E A E	∀ Ǝ ∀		A E A	
" 20		A E A	Ǝ ∀ Ǝ		E A E	

Table "B"		Sub-Carb. Tissue Sheet "D"	Sub-Carb. Tissue Sheet "E"		Sub-Carb. Tissue Sheet "F"	
Nos.	1	2 3 4	5 6 7	8	9 10 11	
Nos.		2 3 4	8 7 9		9 10 11	
Row 1		V V V	Λ Λ Λ		V V V	
" 2		V V V	Λ Λ Λ		V V V	
to						
Row 19		V V V	Λ Λ Λ		V V V	
" 20		V V V	Λ Λ Λ		V V V	

Squeegeeing the Frame Sub-Carbon Tissue Sheets — Table "A".

The Frame Diapositive which was prepared and originally used for printing the carbon tissue sheets anent the first ½d. rotogravure coil stamps of the Union was again brought into use in connection with the manufacture of the Union's first ½d. denominated rotogravure booklet stamps. This Diapositive contained 240 frame images arranged in 20 horizontal rows of 12 units. See Table "A" Nos. 1 to 12. The said Diapositive was printed in contact with a sensitised carbon tissue sheet and imparted to it

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240 frame images. From this printed carbon tissue sheet 240-set there were cut in vertical format three strips each of which held 60 (20 x 3) frame images.

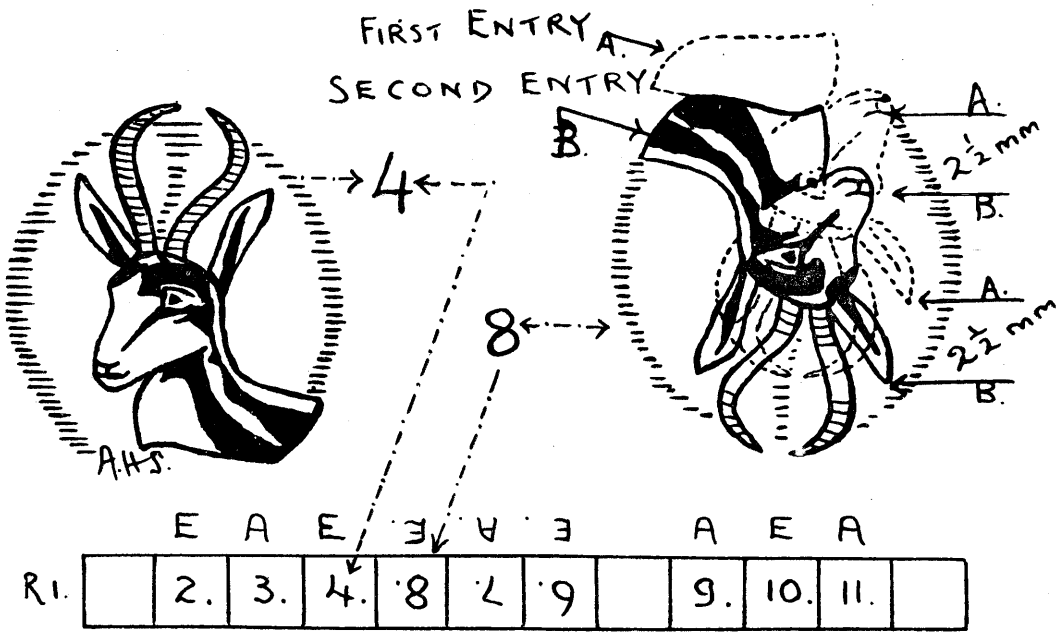
For the purpose of description these strips are designated as sub-carbon tissue sheets "A", "B" and "C" respectively. Firstly, the printed sub-carbon tissue sheet "A" was squeegeed on to the frame cylinder with its 60 (vertical rows 2, 3 and 4) images in upright on the frame cylinder on an area contiguous to the area occupied by the said "A" images but with its 60 (vertical rows 6, 7 and 8) "B" images in upside down positions and horizontally têtes-bêche to the "A" images. Thirdly, the sub-carbon tissue sheet "C" was squeegeed on to the frame cylinder with its 60 (vertical rows 9, 10 and 11) "C" images in upright positions. Thus 180 Frame first-entries were etched. See Table "A".

Squeegeeing the Vignette Sub-Carbon Tissue Sheets — Table "B".

The Vignette Diapositive which was prepared and used originally for printing the carbon tissue sheets for the first ½d. rotogravure coil stamps was brought into use again anent the first ½d. rotogravure booklet stamps. This Vignette Diapositive contained 240 images marshalled in 20 horizontal rows of 12 units each. See Table "B" Nos. 1 to 12. The said Diapositive was printed in contact with a sensitised carbon tissue sheet. From this printed carbon tissue sheet which thus received and held 240 Vignette images there were cut in vertical format three strips each of which held 60 (20 x 3) vignette images. For the purpose of description these are designated as sub-carbon tissue sheets "D", "E" and "F" respectively. Firstly, the printed sub-carbon tissue sheet "D" was squeegeed on to the vignette cylinder with its 60 (vertical rows 2, 3 and 4) "D" images in the upright positions. Secondly, the printed sub-carbon tissue sheet "E" was squeegeed on to the vignette cylinder on an area adjacent to the area occupied by the "D" images but with its 60 (vertical rows 6, 7 and 8) "E" images in upside-down positions and horizontally têtes-bêche to the "D" images. **See Sketch No. 1** which shows unit 4 tête-bêche to unit 8. Thirdly, the sub-carbon tissue sheet "F" was squeegeed on to the vignette cylinder with its 60 (vertical rows 9, 10 and 11) "F" images in upright positions. Thus 180 Vignette first-entries were etched. See Table "B".

Errors of Alignment.

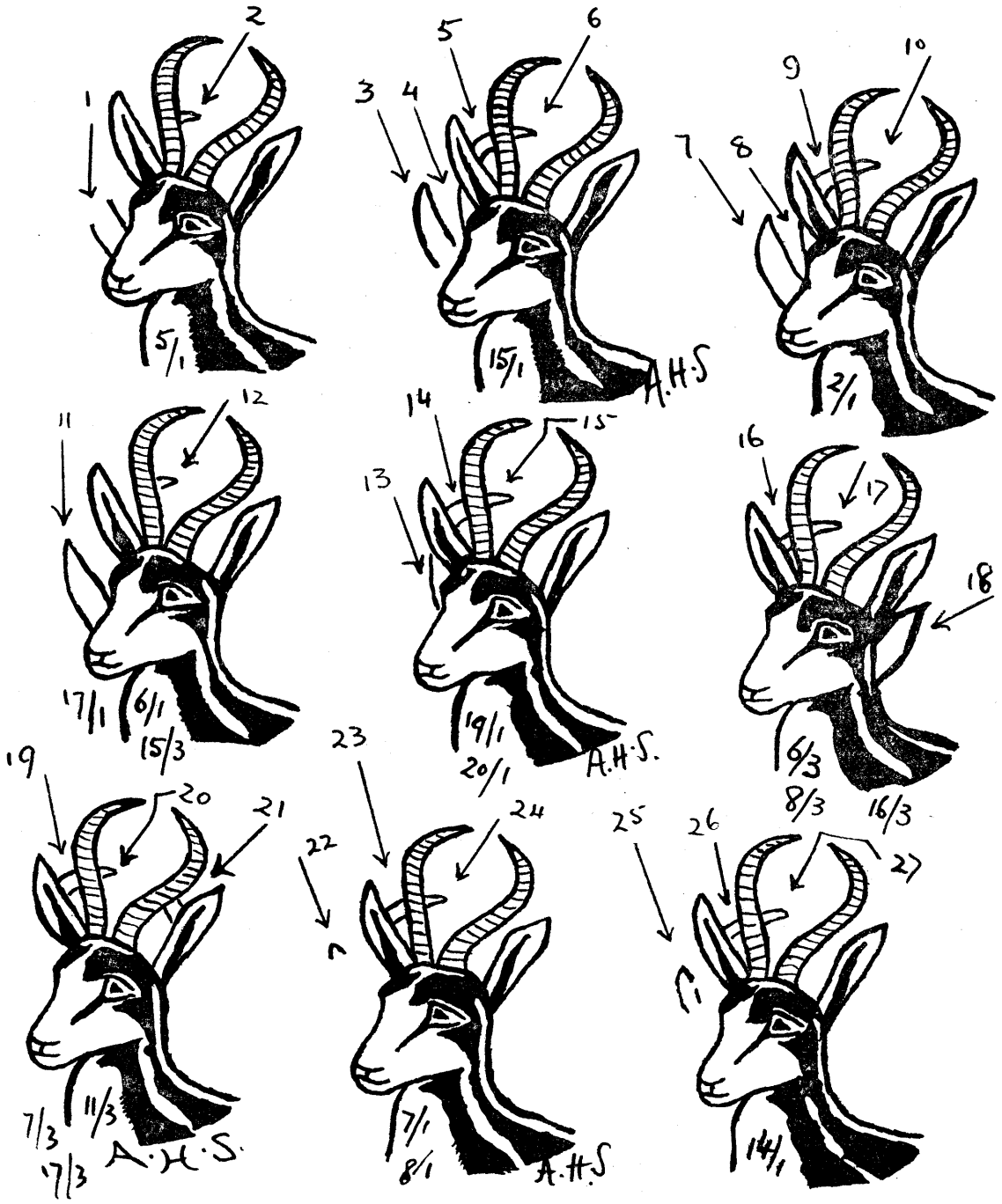
After the 180 Vignette images had been entered and etched on the vignette cylinder it was discovered that the 60 (vertical rows 6, 7 and 8) "E" images derived from sub-carbon tissue sheet "E" had been entered (first entries) approximately 2½ mm. out of horizontal alignment and therefore out of register with their correlative frame images on the frame cylinder. **See Sketch No. 1** which depicts a "first entry" in dotted line unit 8 out of alignment with unit 4. Subsequently all the upside-down "E" images were removed from the periphery of the vignette cylinder by a grinding machine with the exception of a certain number of instances where the machine failed to grind off portions of the horns and ears of the "Springbok Head" vignette images. Thus on a certain number of the vignettes on my 180-set reconstructed sheet portions of these FIRST ENTRIES, namely, ears and portions of ears and horns and portions of horns are still visible. See **Sketch No. 2** which depicts all the FIRST ENTRY VARIE-



Sketch No. 1.

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TIES numbered 1 to 27 and their individual positions on the vignettes of vertical rows 6, 7 and 8 (which emanated from sub-carbon tissue sheet "E") when viewed as a strip of 60 units in normal reading posture and not upside down. Thus 2/1 means — Row 2 No. 1 (the same position as the inverted "V" with a "stop" on Table "B".



Sketch No. 2.

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The Re-Entries.

The original Vignette 240-set Diapositive was again printed in contact with a second sheet of carbon tissue. From this second 240-set printed carbon tissue sheet there was a strip in vertical format which contained 60 (20 x 3) vignette images which is now designated as sub-carbon tissue sheet "G". This sheet was then squeegeed and etched on to the vignette cylinder with its 60 (vertical rows 6, 7 and 8) "G" images upside down and horizontally têtes-bêche to the "D" images and in the area previously occupied by the **removed** (not totally) 60 (vertical rows 6, 7 and 8) "E" images, but 2½ mm. higher in horizontal alignment and in register with their correlative frame images. See **Sketch No. 1** which depicts unit 8 as a RE-ENTRY upon a former unit 8 as a FIRST ENTRY in dotted line and tête-bêche to unit 4 as a FIRST ENTRY.

On my reconstructed 180-set sheet all "D" and all "F" vignette images and all portions of "E" vignette images are FIRST ENTRIES, but all "G" vignette images are RE-ENTRIES.

Incidentally it may be mentioned that on SKETCH No. 1 unit 4 represents a "normal watermarked subject" whilst unit 8 represents an "inverted watermarked subject."

It may also be mentioned that the first ½d. and 1d. rotogravure booklet stamps of the Union of South Africa were not screened.

A VALUABLE COLLECTION OF UNION STAMPS LOST.

Dr. T. B. Berry early last month lost or had stolen whilst in Pretoria a very valuable, and in part almost irreplaceable, collection of Union stamps housed in an "Exetor' 'album with green Rexine cover.

Collectors are asked to be on the outlook for any items that may be offered for sale and to report to Dr. Berry (P.O. Box 31, P.O. Bryanston, District Johannesburg) or to the nearest police station.

The collection was a highly specialised one of the Union unhyphenated issues, containing amongst other items: Marginal pairs exhibiting the difference between the London and Pretoria type printings; Miniature sheets of the Pretoria typo printings; Errors in perforation of the Pretoria typo printings; the first Roto printing in pairs and blocks, including errors; a block of 8 of the 2d. blue and violet (S.G. 44b); strips of tête-bêche rotos in ½d., 1d. and 2d. values and blocks showing joined paper varieties in values from ½d. to 1/-. These are some of the outstanding items, but there were many more.

MISCELLANEOUS HANDSTAMPS.

Dr. Gordon Ward has had an interesting list in recent numbers of the "Stamp Collector's Fortnightly" of marks occurring mainly on mail in transit.

Among these are (a) one from the English West Country endorsed "Damaged by Snails"; (b) a South African one marked "Part I Gone Away. Vertrek." (c) "Purifie au Lazaret: Malte" (Disinfected at Malta, 1845). (d) "Postage Stamp Lost in Transit" (in French and English —from Norway).

BRITISH P.O.W. AIR LETTER CARDS.

Why these are rare, at any rate so far as P.O.W.'s in Japanese hands are concerned is explained by a correspondent in the Aero-Field. He says:—

In our P.O.W. days cigarette paper was almost unobtainable and we had to improvise as much as possible. Many of us acquired the art of splitting Air Letter Cards into three sheets and it is pretty safe to say that at least 10% of all cards received were used as cigarette papers.

As regards cards sent by P.O.W.'s; the maximum number allowed by the Japanese was five during the whole period of 3½ years, i.e. Feb. 15, 1942 to Sept., 1946.

PROOFS OF G.E.A. "MISSIONARIES".

Mr. Herbert S. Magney records in "Stamps" his discovery in 1946, when he was manager of the Wuga Mission Press, Tanganyika, of a sheet of proofs of the stamps printed there in 1916, although never actually issued for use.

CANADA.

A collection of 19th century Canadian stamps was recently auctioned by H. R. Harmer in New York for just under $30,000. This collection was largely formed from English sources and was sold for a South African beneficiary. Many fine items fetched well over catalogue prices, e.g. 1851 3d. Beaver on laid paper, $47.50; 3d. of 1851-55 on wove paper, $44; 10d. of 1855, $150; 17c. block of eight, $600; Large cents, watermarked 2c. green, $105.

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QUEENSLAND. 1868. 2d imperf. used. S.G. 87a £15
ROUMANIA. 1862. 3 par. on laid, used Certif. S.G.19 £150
ST. CHRISTOPHER. 1885. ½d. on half 1d. surcharge inv. certif. S.G. 22b £14
SAN MARINO. 1894. 1L. used. S.G.34 ..... £3
ST LUCIA. 1860. 6d. A mint marginal pr. S.G.3 £40
SARDINIA. 1853. 40c. mint. S.G.10 ..... £12
SCINDE. 1852. ½d. S.G. S.1 used £10
SERBIA. 1866. 2p. A mint sheet of 12. S.G.4 ..... £50
SOUTH AUSTRALIA. 1868. 10d. in black on 9d. A mint pair. S.G.79 ..... £25
SICILY. 1859. 1Cr. Russet-brown, unused. S.G. 2a £75
SHANGHAI. 1866. 8c. An imperf. block of 4. S.G.40a £25
SPAIN. 1865. 12c. perf. 14, frame inv. used. S.G.171 ..... £60
TASMANIA. 1856. 2d. A record used copy. S.G.20 £45
TRINIDAD. 1860. 1d. dull red. A mint block of 30. S.G.23 ..... £30
TURKS IS. 1867. 6d. Die Proof in black £22
VIRGIN IS. 1888. 4d. on 1/-, surcharge double, mint. S.G. 42a £75
WESTERN AUSTRALIA. 1857. 2d. used. S.G.15 ..... £15
U.S.A. 1867. 12c. Grill 11 by 13. A used block of 4. S.G.174 ..... £75
FR. ZANZIBAR. 1893. 3a. on 30c., 3 inverted, mint in pair with normal. The only known copy, signed Gilbert £100
ZULULAND. 1894. £1 used. S.G.28 ..... £6

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SOCIETY NEWS

WEST RAND STAMP CLUB.

The July meeting was attended by 12 members, a splendid effort for mid-winter.

Business over, Mr. B. Simpkins gave a short address before exhibiting his O.V.S.-O.R.C. collection. Only those who have seen it could appreciate the time and trouble taken to present it in such detail.

Col. E. Hardiman (an old Free Stater), in thanking Mr. Simpkins, said he had Free State history at his finger tips and recalled when some of the stamps on exhibit, were issued. The O.R.C. collection, he said, was complete. The Club passed a unanimous vote of thanks to Mr. Simpkins.

The Chairman, Mr. E. J. Sharpe expressed the Club's sincere regret Dr. T. E. Berry had suffered in the loss of his unhyphenated Union Pictorials (Pretoria Printings). One and all hoped the loss would soon be recovered. Dr. Berry is offering a substantial reward for their recovery.

Mr. J. T. Burrell will show his "New Zealand" at the September meeting.

Please note meeting commence at 7.45 p.m. instead of at 8 p.m. as previously. N.B.E.

U.C.T. PHILATELIC SOCIETY.

Monday, 14th May: The main item on the programme was a very well received selection of King George VI, a joint effort by Messrs. Peisach and Hotz. Incidentally there was what appears to be a record attendance at this meeting; 17 members were present.

Tuesday, 6th June: A very wet and stormy night prevented all but six members from turning up. The Secretary provided the display — a few sheets of Italy and France, and some revenue stamps which were a bit out of the usual as a display. D.A.

EAST LONDON PHILATELIC SOCIETY.

June 8th.

A good attendance. The President extended a warm welcome to the visitors and informed members of the good news that Mr. Watson was making progress after his operation. Items of Philatelic interest were shown. The Rev. Pluddeman brought the new 3/6 Union booklet and some covers from the Soviet Union. Mr. Clark showed some covers from Japan and Mr. Shingler, Harmer's Brochure. A Swiss 1951 National Charity Fete Cover was displayed by Mr. Danner. Matters in general were discussed including arrangements for the Philatelic stand at the Hobbies' Exhibition to be held later in the month Messrs. Belgrove and Snell kindly agreed to lend glass for the frames. It was suggested that all magazines not needed by Senior members should be handed over to the Junior Society. Mr. Shingler conducted a Quiz and Mr. Kruger displayed his King Gerge VI collection complete with the exception of 163c Grenada mint. The display was much appreciated, and Mr. Kruger was ably thanked by Mr. Gillespie.

13 July:

A very well attended meeting with several visitors. A special welcome was given to Mr. Watson who attended after a long absence due to illness. We are sorry to lose Mr. Danner who has been transferred to Johannesburg. Mr. King from England was proposed as a new member. Items of Philatelic interest were shown. A Danish centenary cover, U.S.A. Cover, block of 2d. South African officials beautifully postmarked. Blocks of U.S.A. Veterans, Austrian Cover, New South African 2d. postage dues showing the thicker "two". Discussion regarding the Junior Society. Mr. Jensen and Mr. Hellman and others spoke regarding the Hobbies' Exhibition suggesting that a committee be formed to look after the Society's rights in that connection, particularly of the stand relegated to Philately, Mr. Hellman wanting the commercial stands to be on one side and the Hobbies' stands on the other. A report on the Bloemfontein Congress was given and cuttings from newspapers shown. Mr. Shingler spoke of the prices given by English dealers for stamps in comparison with South African dealers. Mrs. Alabaster read a paper on "The Penny Black and its History." £30 11s. 3d. was raised by voluntary contributions of stamps sold by tender and a cheque has been handed to S.A.N.T.A. for that amount. Display of a beautiful collection of Rhodesian stamps was given by Mr. Durkin. He was heartily thanked by Mr. Hellman.

PHILATELIC SOCIETY OF JOHANNESBURG.

At the meeting held on July 10th the members of the Philatelic Section of the Jewish Guild were visitors to the Society and provided the exhibits.

Mr. I. Isaacs introduced the exhibits. Mr. B. Glassman showed a selection of King George VI. He read a paper on his exhibit. The exhibit included Commonwealth occupation of Japan — B.C.O.A. overprints on Australia with varieties of paper and overprint. It also included Bermuda rare varieties of the 10/- and £1 values and Leeward Islands scarce varieties of the £1 value. He also showed booklets and booklet panes.

Mr. W. Sheffield spoke on the exhibit.

Mr. L. Buchen showed Belgium commemoratives and Charities. The exhibit included miniature sheets and all the various "Orval" sets. This exhibit made a very beautiful show and the stamps were mounted in a way to set them off to the best advantage.

Mr. L. Froelich spoke on the exhibit.

Mr. I. Isaacs showed "Scadta" issues of Columbia Airmails. The exhibit included many flown covers and consular overprints.

Commander C. E. B. Enoch spoke on the exhibit.

At the meeting of July 23, 1951, Mr. Lambert showed a fine exhibit of airmails. He introduced his exhibit with a few notes explaining how he began to collect airmails.

His collection was divided into groups, British Empire, French Empire, Holland and Colonies, Belgium, France and also Europe and Egypt. His was a very large exhibit. Most of the items were fine used. He explained he showed mint only when he couldn't get used

Amongst the rarer varieties were the Surinam Dornier X flight special stamps. The rare 50 francs France; the German Flight and Pan American Flight sets, the Zeppelin Egypt and the Papua varieties.

CAPE TOWN PHILATELIC SOCIETY.

The 40th Annual General Meeting took place on the 22nd May. Thirty members were present and some visitors. Dr. Vautier, the Vice-President, took the Chair in the absence of the President, Mr. A. V. Jacob, who is overseas. The following were elected Office Bearers for the year 1951-52: President, Mr. A. V. Jacob; Vice-President, Dr. P. L. Vautier; Hon. Secretary, Mr. A. J. Nathan; Hon. Treasurer, Hr. H. L. Rivers; Hon. Librarian, Mr. W. G. Combrinck; Hon. Exchange Superintendent, Mr. C. R. V. Soloman; Members of the Committee, Messrs. G. C. Mummery, D. Roth, J. Enslin and R. F. Chapman.

June 14th.

Judging took place for the Jacob Cup, when Mr. Simenoff exhibited a portion of his specialised Union Collection, Mr. Combrink showed "Roumania", and Mr. Putzel "Modern Austria", these exhibits having been chosen by the Committee as the best of the year in respect of general interest. presentation, choice of specimens and writing up. By popular vote Mr. Combrink was declared the winner, and Mrs. Nathan presented the Cup. A letter was read from the President, Mr. A. V. Jacob, received from Switzerland, in which he expressed his great pleasure in having been re-elected President for the year 1951/52.

June 28th.

The Vice-President said that he was particularly pleased to see so many Members present considering that there were no street lights throughout Cape Town due to the coal shortage.

Members stood for one minute in memory of the late Mr. Edgar Soloman who died on the 17th June. It was announced that Mr. Folechie, the caretaker at Yorkshire House for many years, had recently passed away.

The display for the evening was provided by Mr K Alexander who showed a part of his collection of "Miniature Sheets". Many countries were represented and several scarce items were included. A vote of thanks was proposed by Mr. Putzel (who is also a keen collector of "Miniature Sheets"), and was seconded by Mr. Mummery.

12th July.

The exhibit for the evening was provided by Mr. Douglas Roth who showed covers illustrating the history of French postage from 1695 until 1849. and then stamps on cover from 1849 until 1862. The display illustrated the various methods of transportation and accountancy of the French Post Office and included examples of the many different types of postal markings in use in France during the period. Examples were also shown of the revolutionary calendar brought in in 1792 and used for

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13 years, covers originating in the East and N. Africa which had been disinfected before delivery, campaign covers, and covers stamped and post-marked in French P.O.'s abroad.

The thanks of the Society for such an exceptionally interesting display and talk were expressed by M. Haimet, the French Consul, and were seconded by Mr. Schonegevel. A.J.N.

PHILATELIC SOCIETY OF NATAL.

The July meeting was held on the 4th and the President, Mr. H. R. Brown, presided: there were 35 members present, a notable absentee being Mr. Joe Lyle who was reported to be ill. The meeting heard this with regret and Mr. L. Bevis would convey to Mr. Lyle the society's sincere wishes for his early recovery.

The President raised the matter of assistance to the Cape Society in its drive to raise funds for the exhibition next year. There had been a cash donation while many members had offered to donate the proceeds of the sales of stamps, booklets and other items of philatelic interest.

Mr. A. S. Maskell, who had been elected an Hon. Life Member at the last annual general meeting and who had been away for some months, attended the meeting and thanked the society for the honour they had conferred on him; he regretted not having had an earlier opportunity to do this personally.

In the absence of Mr. Lyle, Mr. L. Bevis read articles of interest from various magazines. From "Stamp Mirror" he read and commented on one of a series of articles by Mr. P. C. Bishop which referred to earlier days in the history of our society. The meeting was appreciative and the reader was suitably thanked. Certificates of awards to the winners and runners-up of the Bishop and Winde trophies were then presented to the successful competitors by the President.

Mr. D. Lamble conducted the evening's competition which was won by Mr. C. Lamble who, as is usual, will conduct the competition at the next meeting. The exhibit of the evening was composed of a few leaves from each of eight members and, as it can be assumed they would select their favourite pages, the result was a great success and naturally much examined and discussed by the members present. Mr. Milner Palmer exhibited Switzerland; Mr. Whysall, Iceland and Falklands, and Dependencies; Mr. Fergusson, China; Mr. Ovens, Holland; Mr. Black, Canada; Mr. Leak, Princess Elizabeth; Mr. Maskell, German war issues; and Mr. K. I. Bevis a mixed lot from Australia, Canada, Iraq and Colombia. The exhibitors were thanked by Mr. C. Selwyn Smith whom we are glad to see with us again after his recent severe illness.

During a successful auction conducted by Mr. Maskell several items donated for sale in favour of the Cape fund fetched £2 2s. 6d. V.F.M.

ORANGE FREE STATE & BASUTOLAND PHILATELIC SOCIETY.

At the May meeting, the Chairman, Mr. C. A. Larsen, thanked all those responsible for the success of the Bloemfontein Congress and Exhibition which were staged earlier during the month. He particularly singled out those "back-stage boys" who did all "the dirty work" behind the scenes without being in the limelight, like Mr. A. H. Scott, Mr. A. J. Denne and Mr. J. Lewis. Three new members were enrolled during the evening. After the formal business two displays were given which were both out of the ordinary: one consisted of a magnificent collection of the stamps of Denmark, shown by Mr. Larsen, with a particularly outstanding section of the earlier stamps. The other collection belonged to a "Philumanist", Mr. J. B. Levy, who with his highly original array of Matchbox-labels showed, for a change, what can be done in another field of collecting.

There was a good attendance at the June meeting with many "new faces". The acting chairman, Dr. K. Freund, gave a brief review of the happenings at Congress, while Mr. A. H. Scott spoke briefly on the financial side of it, which was reasonably satisfactory and showed that with some final straining here and there things could be balanced. One new member was enrolled. Dr. Denne tabled "New Issues of the month", while Mr. Lewis gave his interesting "Philatelic News Report". A "20 Questions Quiz" was again won by Master I. Simons who appears to be a real philatelic "Quiz Kid". The display of the evening was given by Mr. A. Lichtenstein who showed his "2½d. collection". It was not so "tuppence ha'penny" at all, but consisted of an absolutely complete assemblage of all the 2½d. values ever issued in the British Empire with some good rarities amongst them. The evening concluded with an interesting and informative talk by Mr. Mackenzie on "The various causes of the variety of Shades." K.F.

I want to buy Union issues from Interprovincials to date, mint and used, including booklets, Boer War covers, etc., and should be pleased to receive offers with full details of price, condition, quantities, etc.

C. E. SHERWOOD, P.T.S.

105 Marford Crescent, Sale, Manchester

Great Britain.

COOKING HIS GOOSE!

I thought since Time was on the wing,
I'd do a spot of gardening,
While there he sprawled in comfort neat,
With pipe and slippers all complete.

When it came round to half-past three,
I fancied then a cup of tea,
So to the kitchen quickly hove,
But saw him standing at the stove!

I tiptoed quietly away,
And thought "How kind he is today!
I must not spoil his secret plan,
Although he's using my new pan!"

For half an hour I sat around,
My hopes then dwindling to the ground;
In vain I waited still to hear
The clink of china in my ear!

At last my saddened hungry state
Then spurred me to investigate —

.....

Now we belong to alien camps —
For he was gaily cooking stamps!

MARGARET CAMERON.

Johannesburg.

FRANCE.

On 23 June there was issued a 30fr. stamp showing a view of Arbois (Jura), as one of the current series.

FOR TWENTY YEARS

We have been sending out **fine Approval Books** of British Colonials, and have built up a solid reputation for quality and reasonable prices.

A new customer is always welcome and will, we think, be agreeably surprised by the clean and neat appearance of our approval books. Every stamp correctly numbered by Gibbons. Let us know what country, or countries, you are interested in, and whether mint or used, or both, are required.

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THE

SOUTH AFRICAN PHILATELIST

PROPRIETORS AND PUBLISHERS:

The Philatelic Federation of Southern Africa

Honorary Editor: Dr. J. H. HARVEY PIRIE
Business Manager: Mr. J. NATHANSON
} P.O. Box 375, Johannesburg.

Subscription: Eight Shillings per annum, post free to any part of the World.

Vol. 27. No. 9. SEPTEMBER, 1951. Whole No. 318.

Union Notes

SUB-EDITOR: Mr. W. N. Sheffield,
Box 99, Clevoland, Transvaal.

RECENT PRINTINGS.

The Publicity Officer of the Department of Posts and Telegraphs has kindly supplied the following information covering the period from 4.4.1951 to 10.7.1951. For the previous list see our June, 1951 issue.

Ordinary Pictorial Stamps.

½d.—Job No. 5134 contd. No addition to previous list.

1d.—Job No. 4981 contd. A further 341,000 sheets have been printed from the new cylinders 6925 (Interior) and 36 (Exterior) bringing the total of this redrawn issue up to 544,000 sheets x 240.

2d.—Job No. 12995 contd. An additional 135,000 sheets x 240 have been printed from the same cylinders as before, 6927 (Interior) and 50 (Exterior). Total number of sheets on this Job No. equals 1,036,840.

—Job No. 475. On an order for one million sheets; 171,750 x 240 have been delivered to date from the same cylinders as before (6927 Int. and 50 Ext.). First date of delivery, 14.6.51.

6d. — Job No. 8861. On an order for 20,000 sheets x 240, the total delivered to date amounted to 23,930 sheets. Same cylinders as before (6930 Int. and 6 Ext.). First date of delivery 17.4.51 and final date 19.4.51.

1/- — Job No. 8860 contd. An additional 20,400 sheets have been delivered on this Job No. bringing the total up to 58,900 sheets x 120. Same cylinders as before (6926 Int. and 6935 Ext.).

Booklets.

3/6 — Job No. 701 contd. On an order for 240,000 booklets of ½d., 1d. and 2d. postage stamps, 244,800 have been delivered. Cylinders as before: (180 stamps per sheet). Final date of delivery 2.5.51.

½d.—6912 Interior, 58 Exterior.
1d. — 55 Interior, 38 Exterior.
2d. — 6934 Interior, 64 Exterior.

Roll Stamps.

1d. — Job No. 478. On an order for (a) 8,000 rolls x 506 and (b) 5,000 rolls x 1012 stamps, the numbers delivered to date amount to (a) 1,038 rolls and (b) 724 rolls. Cylinder No. 24, as before (One colour). (Number of stamps per sheet =264).

Air Letter Cards.

6d. — The information given on the 4.4.51 (June issue) should be amended to read as follows:

Job No. 2989. On an order for 4,000,000 air letter cards, 1,632,600 were delivered from one colour cylinder No. 18: final date of delivery 22.2.51. New Printing Chambon Machine; 580,200 were delivered up to the 4.4.51. Date of first delivery 22.2.51.

— The information as at the 10.7.5- records the New Printing Chambon Machine production as 1,902,000 air letter cards.

Pictorial Post Cards.

1d. — Job No. 1882 contd. On an order for 2,720,000 post cards, 1,335,680 have been delivered from the same cylinders as before — 85 (Pictures) and 88 (Stamps) — and 1,363,200 are recorded as a New Printing Chambon Machine production. The first date of delivery for the latter is given as 10.5.51.

Overprinted for Use in S.W.A.

Registered Envelopes—A total of 14,419 were supplied by the Postmaster-General and overprinted S.W.A. with the same forme as used on the previous occasion. Date of delivery 15.5.51.

STOP PRESS

CAPETOWN INTERNATIONAL.

Arthur V. Jacob has been putting in some fine work for the Exhibition while overseas. A note received from him on the point of sailing (he is due back in Capetown on 12th September) reports:—

(1) H.M. The King will show some parts of his collection. These will be brought by Sir John Wilson, Keeper of the King's stamps, who will be Chairman of the Jury. Another member of the Jury will be Mr. H. R. Holmes, Curator of the Tapling collection and well known as an expert on many African countries.

(2) Mr. Frank Godden, Mr. Andre Coch, and Mnr. J. L. van Dieten have agreed to act as Commissioners for the Exhibition in Britain, Belgium and the Netherlands respectively.

(3) Mr. H. R. Harmer and Mr. Guthrie are expected to come out, also quite probably a number of other exhibitors and dealers.

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6d. Air Letter Cards.—A total of 54,000 were supplied by the Postmaster-General and overprinted S.W.A. with the same forme as used on the previous occasion. Date of delivery 12.6.51.

Overprinted for Free Forces Mail.

1½d. Air Letters. — A total of 21,600 were supplied by the Postmaster-General and overprinted "Free Forces Mail". Date of delivery 15.5.51.

Customs Stamps.

½d. — A total of 1,500 sheets x 240 were supplied by the Postmaster-General and overprinted DOUANE with the same process blocks as before.

* * * * *

Inverted Watermark on 5/- Rotogravure Issue.

Mr. M. J. Rall of Kingwilliamstown has shown us a mint pair of 5/- pictorial rotogravure stamps (S.G. 64) with an inverted watermark which he recently acquired from a friend in England.

No particulars are available as to the original date of purchase, but the black and pale-green shade of the item gives the impression that it probably formed part of the December 1941 printing. This is the first we have heard of an inverted watermark on these stamps and it would be interesting to know if any other readers have come across this variety on the 5/- demomination.

Road Safety Campaign Slogans.

A new series of slogans, all bearing on the Road Safety Campaign, made their appearance on machine cancelled postal matter throughout the Union towards the end of July. Three of the four types so far noted have been received by Dr. J. F. Fick of Bremersdorp, Swaziland, from Pretoria, Johannesburg and Cape Town and are as follows:

(1) ROAD SAFETY DEPENDS ON YOU
PADVEILIGHEID HANG VAN U AF
PRETORIA 26.VII.1951.

(2) BE ALERT—AVOID ROAD ACCIDENTS
WEES WAKKER—VERMY PADONGELUKKE
JOHANNESBURG 27. VII. 51.

(3) SAFE DRIVING SAVES LIVES
VEILIGE BESTUUR RED LEWENS
CAPE TOWN 1. VIII. 1951.

A letter from Mr. B. L. Cairncross of George, C.P. also records the "Road Safety Depends on You" slogan (No. 1) from Pretoria and he mentions that the earliest date so far noted is the 22. VII. 1951. He also records the Cape Town slogan mentioned above, with date 17. VII. 1951.

One other, which arrived from Port Elizabeth addressed to the Editor and dated 25. VII. 1951 reads:

(4) CAREFUL DRIVING SAVES LIVES
VERSIGTIGE BESTUUR SPAAR LEWENS
PORT ELIZABETH 25. VII. 1951.

Mixed English and Afrikaans Inscriptions on Union Revenue Stamps.

A letter received from Mr. A. H. Sydow of Cape Town a little while ago mentioned an unusual feature which had appeared on some of the Union revenue stamps and which Mr. R. Axer had brought to his notice.

Normally, the revenue stamps, like the ordinary pictorials used for postage, are printed alternately with English and Afrikaans inscriptions and a "Bilingual pair" shows:

1. Head plate with the inscription UNION OF SOUTH AFRICA, and Frame plate with the inscription REVENUE.
2. Head plate with the inscription UNIE VAN SUID-AFRIKA, and Frame plate with the inscription INKOMSTE.

But in the case of the 6d. and 5/- revenue stamps on sale during the early part of the year an adjoining pair showed the mixed English-Afrikaans and Afrikaans English inscriptions printed as follows:

1. Head plate with the inscription UNION OF SOUTH AFRICA, and Frame plate with the inscription INKOMSTE.
2. Head plate with the inscription UNIE VAN SUID-AFRIKA, and Frame plate with the inscription REVENUE.

This error of bilingual inscriptions on each stamp has since been corrected and those on sale today have been printed with the usual uniligual inscriptions on each, but in discussing the matter, Mr. Sydow points out that the error is by no means a new one on the revenue stamps and an examination of a number, used on old Bills of Exchange and Insurance Policies has enabled him to compile the following summary:

Unilingual Inscriptions.

6d.—1947	UNIE VAN SUID-AFRIKA (Head) INKOMSTE (Frame)	UNION OF SOUTH AFRICA (Head) REVENUE (Frame)
2/6—1948	Ditto.	Ditto.
3/—1948	Ditto.	Ditto.

Bilingual Inscriptions

6d.—1950	UNIE VAN SUID-AFRIKA (Head) REVENUE (Frame)	UNION OF SOUTH AFRICA (Head) INKOMSTE (Frame)
1/6—1947	Ditto.	Ditto.
3/—1950	Ditto.	Ditto.
5/—1948	Ditto.	Ditto.

The dates, of course, were taken from the papers to which the stamps were attached.

Change in the Pictorial Post Card Stamps.

A new series of 1d. pictorial post cards now on sale at most post offices throughout the Union shows the impressed stamps printed in a much lighter shade of carmine than in the previous issue. In addition, a number of the stamps show very little of the sunrays and shaded sky in the area around the ship and the lack of colour in this portion gives a somewhat albino impression.

A list of this series will be given later.

Marginal Arrow Flaws on Current 2d. and 6d. Stamps.

Correspondents have drawn attention to a fairly constant defect in the printing of one of the marginal arrows on the current 2d. and 6d. sheets.

In the case of the 2d. denomination it occurs on the arrow at the centre of the top horizontal margin and in addition to both side prongs being rather badly printed, the middle prong is practically missing altogether.

In the 6d. value the defect occurs on the left hand marginal arrow and in this case the middle

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and lower prongs are affected to the extent of being only partly printed and in some instances very nearly entirely missing.

Examination of a number of sheets shows that the extent of the flaw varies considerably in the particular arrows of both denominations.

Screened 5/-.

Mr. S. Legator reports that, contrary to general opinion, the screened 5/- stamp is again available at various post offices. It is also obtainable at the Philatelic Agency, Pretoria.

Rhodesian Field Force, 1900

The note about the postal arrangements of this Force in our June issue has elicited a reply from Mr. C. P. Bathurst of Salisbury, S. Rhodesia and he has submitted for inspection several covers from a member of that Force.

Before describing these covers it will be well, however, just to amplify slightly the note about the Force in general. It was made up of Imperial Yeomanry, Australians and New Zealanders; there were no actual Rhodesian units in it, as most of the available Rhodesians had previously enlisted in the Rhodesian Regiment which had been raised in 1899 by Lt.-Col. Plumer.

The Force was assembled at Marandellas; there they were drafted into brigades, the 1st reaching Bulawayo by 12th June and the 2nd on 4th Judy. Both Brigades reached Tuli by mid-July, whence they made their way to Mafeking to strengthen Baden-Powell's command, and where some of them were in action in August. After this they appear to have been employed on patrol work, although maintaining an observation post at Tuli, until dispersed at the end of 1900.

The two covers described by Major Adrian Hopkins from members of the R.F.F. were posted respectively in Marandellas and in Salisbury, in August, 1900, franked with 1d. Rhodesian stamps and with civil post-office cancellations.

The covers submitted by Mr. Bathurst are of a somewhat later vintage in 1900; all are addressed to one and the same addressee in Salisbury and come, according to the endorsements on them from "R. Grey, Lt.-Col. Comdg. 2nd Bgde. R.F.F.'

Lt.-Col Grey (afterwards Sir Raleigh Grey) was originally in the Inniskilling Dragoons but had been seconded to the Bechuanaland Border Police and during his period of service with them had taken part in the Jameson Raid. At the time of the raising of the R.F.F. he was General Manager of the United Rhodesia Gold fields Co.

Now for the actual covers:—

(1) Cover with endorsement "No stamps procurable, collect Salisbury". The postmark is a double circle 26 mm. mark with wording "Field Post Office B.O./British Army. S.Africa", with an asterisk above the date, SP 17 00 and vertical dashes between the upper and the lower lettering. This mark has been identified as that of the Base Post Office which accompanied Robert's headquarters and has been recorded as being in Pretoria from Aug. 20 to Sept. 12, 1900, so it was presumably in or near Pretoria on the 17th September.

(2) Cover endorsed "On Active Service—No stamps". The postmark is a 27 mm. one with the same wording as No. (1), but with only a suggestion of an asterisk above the date, which is DE 7 00. Between the upper and the lower lettering are small square dots. This mark has so far only been identified from the Base Post-office in Cape Town during the period April-July, 1900, but in this case it has practically certainly been applied in Cape Town as there is a civil Capetown/Cape Colony mark of the same date as the Army Base P.O.

(3) Cover endorsed "No stamps available", but there are actually two British 6d. stamps (Why?). They are cancelled by a single-circle mark "Army P.O.—43/S. Africa" of date DE 15 00. This office has been recorded as in Bloemfontein from June, 1900 to Jan. 1901.

There are three other covers in the same handwriting and to the same addressee, but none of them have any sender's endorsement, so perhaps should not come into consideration especially as only the first of them comes within the period of existence of the R.F.F.

(a) Franked with 4 British 1d. stamps, postmarked with double-circle Field Post Office mark No. 39, of date DE 24 00. This cover incidentally also has a double-triangle "Passed/Press/Censor" mark with no locality; this is a very early usage of a Censor mark. The location of F.P.O. at that date has not been recorded.

(b) and (c) Two covers, each franked with 3 British 1d. stamps, and postmarked in March, 1901. One has the F.P.O. No. 12 mark, the other F.P.O. No. 32 mark, the location of neither being recorded at that period.

The recording of these covers from Lt.-Col. Grey adds a little more to our knowledge about the R.F.F. There appears to be no definite evidence so far that this Force had an A.P.O. accompanying or attached to it, but I do not feel that we can conclude finally and with certainty that there never was any A.P.O. with the R.F.F.

The two covers described by Major Hopkins are from what might be called the bases of the Force, at a date when the R.F.F. two Brigades were at Tuli or in the Mafeking area Any attached P.O. that there might have been would probably, therefore, have been with one or other of the Brigades.

The three covers from Lt.-Col Grey, coming apparently from Pretoria, Cape Town and Bloemfontein respectively, make one wonder whether he was actually with his Brigade (or perhaps, rather whether his Brigade was with him) at the dates and places of the posting of these covers. If he was separated from his Brigade, the possibility of its having its own Army P.O. is not excluded.

J. H. HARVEY PIRIE.

KENYA, UGANDA, TANGANYIKA.

A collector who has recently acquired a copy of the K.G. V 5c. "short rope" of the very scarce 13¾ x 11¾ perf. (S.G. No. 111a), wishes to hear from anyone else in Southern Africa who has a copy or copies; he does not know of any others personally. Answers to J.T.B., Box 303, Krugersdorp.

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Roll of Honour

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

Archibald Hilton Sydow, Incorporated Accountant (Eng.), Chartered Accountant (S.A.). Chartered Accountant (S.R.). Born in Cape Town on 6th September, 1895. Educated at Maitland Public School, South African College High School, and Metropolitan Commercial College, Cape Town.

Associate of Cape Society of Accountants and Auditors since 1920 — Inter and Final Exams with Distinction. Associate of the Society of Incorporated Accountants and Auditors of England since 1924. Honours Inter, and Final Exams. Fellow of the Institute of Accountants of South Africa since 1932, and Examiner thereto in Accountancy, Auditing and Law 1932-1934. Associate of the Rhodesia Society of Accountants. Associated with the well-known firm of E. R. Syfret & Co. in Cape Town, Johannesburg and South West Africa, 1914 to 1929. In practice as Public Accountant and Auditor since 1929.



Together with Louis Simenhoff commenced stamp collecting in 1908 when both attended the Maitland Public School. Sold general collection in 1915. Commenced specialised Union Collection as a result of a chance meeting with Simenhoff in Adderley Street, Cape Town during 1931. Member of Cape Town Philatelic Society since 1931; of the South African Collectors' Society in England, and of the Cape Town Thematic Club. From November 1935 onward wrote sixty-nine monographs (some still unpublished) and numerous notes for the "South African Philatelist" anent the stamps of the Union of South Africa, the South African Protectorates, Belgian Congo, Newfoundland and Transjordan; one paper conjointly with Mr. B. L. Cairncross, two with Mr. W. N. Sheffield and one with Dr. J. Harvey Pirie which gained a South African Congress Award. Some of these articles were reprinted in England in the "World Stamp Digest," "Stamp Collecting", "The Stamp Magazine" (W.S. Digest Section) and the "Aero Field". A portion of one article was reprinted in the "Essay-Proof Journal in the United States of America. Was awarded the "Skinner Cup" by Congress in 1949 for Union Philatelic research.

Assisted Mr. H. E. Lobdell, Dean of the Massachusetts Institute of Technology, Cambridge, U.S.A., anent his book the "De La Rue Georgians of South Africa". Assisted Lt.-Col. L. Simenhof and the late A. E. Basden anent the "Standard Catalogue of Stamps of the Union of South Africa" Owns a specialised collection of the stamps of the Union of South Africa and contiguous territories together with collections of selected groups of the stamps of Newfoundland, Transjordan, Tonga, West Indies, Brunei, Falkland Islands, Bermuda, Shanghai Municipality, Greece, Kedah, Sudan, New Zealand and Transvaal Queen's Hands.

Hitherto philatelic studies have been devoted to diverse methods of stamp production, especially the stamps of the Union of South Africa. The predilection for these studies was engendered in 1931-1932 chiefly by the wishes expressed and the encouragement received by the late Sir George Cory, the eminent South African Historian. When he gave his first exhibition at the Cape Town Society Sir George was present and said to him: "I should like you to make a thorough study of the Union issues especially anent their dies, plates and printing technique." He has continued to follow out this advice.

Was Chairman and Captain of the Maitland Billiards Club and also the Broadway Billiards Club from 1936 to 1940 when these clubs competed in the Western Province Billiards and Snooker Leagues. Foundation Member and Skip of the Maitland Bowling Club. Also played for the Liesbeek Park and Woodstock Bowling Clubs in the W.P. District Bowling Leagues. Played cricket for the Maitland Cricket Club for many years from 1919 onwards. Played soccer for the Hibernian A.F.C. and rugby for the Metropolitan R.F.C.

Breeds poultry, ducks, muscovies and geese anent studies in Mendelism, Heredity, Sex-linkage and Auto-colour sexing of day old chicks. Member of the Cape Town and Peninsula Poultry Club. Is a keen gardener, a voracious reader of English Literature and is passionately fond of operatic music.

Another of his pastimes is Chess, which he regards as one of the few games where the element of luck is totally absent, it is purely a matter of skill.

In his spare time he studies Uncial Biblical Manuscripts in Koine Greek and Massoretic Hebrew.

Elected to the Roll of Distinguished Philatelists in 1949.

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NEVIS. 1861. 1/- on blued, mint. S.G.4 ..... £35
N.S. WALES. 1855. 5d. imperf. used. S.G.114 ..... £45
QUEENSLAND. 1868. 2d imperf. used. S.G. 87a £15
ROUMANIA. 1862. 3 par. on laid, used Certif. S.G.19 £150
ST. CHRISTOPHER. 1885. ½d. on half 1d. surcharge inv. certif. S.G. 22b £14
SAN MARINO. 1894. 1L. used. S.G.34 ..... £3
ST LUCIA. 1860. 6d. A mint marginal pr. S.G.3 £40
SARDINIA. 1853. 40c. mint. S.G.10 ..... £12
SCINDE. 1852. ½d. S.G. S.1 used £10
SERBIA. 1866. 2p. A mint sheet of 12. S.G.4 ..... £50
SOUTH AUSTRALIA. 1868. 10d. in black on 9d. A mint pair. S.G.79 ..... £25
SICILY. 1859. 1Cr. Russet-brown, unused. S.G. 2a £75
SHANGHAI. 1866. 8c. An imperf. block of 4. S.G.40a £25
SPAIN. 1865. 12c. perf. 14, frame inv. used. S.G.171 ..... £60
TASMANIA. 1856. 2d. A record used copy. S.G.20 £45
TRINIDAD. 1860. 1d. dull red. A mint block of 30. S.G.23 ..... £30
TURKS IS. 1867. 6d. Die Proof in black £22
VIRGIN IS. 1888. 4d. on 1/-, surcharge double, mint. S.G. 42a £75
WESTERN AUSTRALIA. 1857. 2d. used. S.G.15 ..... £15
U.S.A. 1867. 12c. Grill 11 by 13. A used block of 4. S.G.174 ..... £75
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THE GROWTH and VIGOUR OF PHILATELIC SOCIETIES

by C E. D. ENOCH.

(A paper read at the Congress in Bloemfontein, May, 1951.)

Mr. President, Ladies and Gentlemen,

During the past few years there has been noticable a number of very alarming manifestations among most Philatelic Societies in Southern Africa.

None of these tendencies is of itself very serious, at least, not as yet; but taken together they may well prove the death-knell of organised Philately as we know it!

Briefly these symptoms may be enumerated thus:—

(i) A marked tendency for the management of Philatelic Societies to be left to what I might describe as "the same old gang of stalwarts."

(ii) An increasing diffidence on the part of members to show their treasures, usually on the score that "they are not good enough."

(iii) A corresponding reliance on "the old gang" to fill the Society's programme to too great an extent.

(iv) An alarming increase in the proportion of members who all collect the same thing — usually Union, Southern Rhodesia and/or King George VI Issues, these latter usually mint only.

(v) A corresponding reluctance to break fresh ground and collect something different, especially classics or foreign, and

(vi) A disturbing decrease in the percentage of members of Philatelic Societies to Collectors as a whole.

With your permission I propose to deal with each of the symptoms separately and then to make a general summary of the position as a whole together with my recommendations for the cure of these fell diseases which are gradually but surely undermining organised philately.

With regard to the first point I need only refer you to your own Society. In nearly every Society we find the same persons forming the Committee year after year with only an occasional change of office to vary the monotony. Somewhat naturally this solidly entrenched Committee finds itself conservative in its outlook and opposed to radical change.

Occasionally in the face of criticism it allows the infusion of a little fresh blood; but this fresh blood is analysed before admission to make sure that it will not attempt any revolutionary changes and that it will always be outvoted by the remainder of the "old gang" in the event of any "serious" trouble.

This "Committee Caucus" is largely the cause of symptom No. 2. The "old gang" are usually composed of the more serious philatelists as opposed to stamp-collectors and often but not invariably are better endowed with this world's goods than the majority of their fellow members. This gives rise to what I might call an inferiority complex among the ordinary members who feel that, usually for financial reasons, they cannot compete philatelically with the "old gang". That this is fallacious is only too often proved when one of the "sheep" is finally persuaded by a harassed Secretary to fill the breach and promptly tables a display which may be and probably is financially not worth 10 per cent. of the more usual exhibit, but which is often philatelically of infinitely greater interest, showing philatelic research and study strongly ousting the first place from the unlimited cheque-signing ability of the other.

The automatic corollary whereby the seasons' displays are largely composed of exhibits from the old gang lead to worse than monopoly — to monotony and the eventual discouragement of the beginner and medium collector. These two classes of collectors are the advanced philatelists of tomorrow and it is from among them that every Society should look to the future whereas in fact they form the majority of the absentees from meetings and the annual crop of resignations.

Disease No. 4 is a much more difficult one to cure, feeding as it does on personal preference and patriotic prejudice on the one hand and philatelic laziness on the other. I am fully aware of the fact that the general tendency is for the British to collect Imperial stamps, for French to collect France and Colonies, for the Americans to collect U.S. and for we South Africans to collect Union's, etc. But it should be no more than a tendency whereas here in Southern Africa it has become almost a sine qua non. The parrot-like cry goes up "But you can't get any foreign stamps from the dealers here." Of course not if there is no demand for them. But the dealer is not a fool and knows that he can only make his living by supplying the demand. If the average collector asks for foreign stamps from his dealer, the latter will soon start stocking them when he sees that the demand is sufficient to pay him for his trouble, so that argument against collecting foreign stamps is stupid and cannot in fact hold water.

I think that trouble No. 5 may be answered in two ways. Firstly by reference to my remarks on No. 4, but mainly by the example of some of the old gang. You are all I think, only too painfully aware of the fact that I collect British Guiana ..... a country which I admit is philatelically one of the most difficult in the world to collect to any point of finality. Many of you laughed at me for a fool when I started collecting this country just four years ago! Without wishing in any way to blow my own trumpet I think I may safely claim to have made a pretty fair attempt and that most of the early scoffers are now not so sure of my folly or for that matter, their derision! Yet my annual income has never exceeded £1,200, so that cheque-signing is hardly to blame for my collection! There are many other countries just as philatelically difficult and I should add, interesting as British Guiana. I, myself, am just about to start collecting Siam and possibly Shanghai. I challenge any and all of you to try the same stunt. Do it as a side-line, what I should call a second choice collection and see if in one or two years it does not oust your George VI or Unions from first place!

The last point is little short of tragic. Since 1939 the number of stamp-collectors has more than trebled. Has any Society ever doubled its

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membership in that time? I very much doubt it! The reasons are fortunately not far to seek. Membership of the average Society is not made sufficiently attractive and the Societies themselves do not undertake any publicity nor any real drive for membership.

Now, Mr. President, Ladies and Gentlemen, I have dealt with the diagnosis, and I must hurry along with, if not a panacea, at least some physic which will alleviate all our troubles and possibly cure some of them. But I must warn you that a cure is not possible without the full co-operation of the patient, in this case the Philatelic Societies themselves.

In view of the foregoing remarks I would like to make the following recommendations to all Philatelic Societies in Southern Africa with a view to their frank discussion both in Committee and in General Meeting.

The first suggestions I have to make are that all Societies should incorporate in their Constitution the following proviso: namely (i) that no member other than the Secretary and the Treasurer (for obvious reasons) shall be a member of Committee for more than 3 consecutive years after which he shall not be eligible for membership until at least 1, or if desired 2, years have elapsed since his ceasing to be a member of Committee and (ii) that at least one-third of the incoming Committee in any year shall be composed of Members who were not members of Committee during the past year.

Further suggestions for the consideration of Philatelic Societies that I would offer are: (iii) that no member shall show an exhibit of any country or section of a country or group of countries or issue or thematic collections until at least three years have elapsed since that member last showed that country, section, group, etc. (iv) that no country, section of a country, group of countries or issues or thematic collection on a particular theme shall be included in a Society's syllabus until at least two years have elapsed since that country, section, group, etc., was last exhibited, (v) that all Societies shall offer 3 prizes or trophies to be competed for annually to be awarded for the following displays:

(a) British Empire.

(b) Foreign.

(c) Philatelic Research and/or Study.

These prizes or trophies should be awarded by ballot at the end of each season. In the case of the 3rd of the suggested awards, an evening could be set aside for multiple displays by several members who have been making researches or studies in the hobby during the past year. The prohibition on re-exhibiting within 3 years would also apply to research collections.

(vi) A special novice prize should be awarded each year to the member who has never exhibited his collection to the Society previously, giving the best display in each season. (vii) All Societies should make a real effort to obtain the co-operation of the non-philatelic Press. The suggested ways in which this co-operation could be obtained are (a) by means of press reports of Society Meetings — one-third to half a column would be ample, (b) by advertising dates of forthcoming meetings and in particular, the displays to be given and the name of the member responsible and (c) by the regular weekly publication of a Philatelic Column giving Society news, news of Philatelic Interest and a regular feature on a different rarity each week. My journalistic friends will readily appreciate my meaning.

And lastly, but by no means the least important, I would stress the absolute necessity for all Societies to support to the utmost the Philatelic Federation of Southern Africa. Anything really worth having must be paid for, and a well organised, successful and prosperous hobby is something of inestimable benefit not only to Philatelists but to Stamp Collectors and Stamp Dealers alike. A Society subscription of as much as one guinea only means 1/9 per month i.e. less than 1d. per day — the present Capitation Fee to the Federation is only 2½d. per month. Not very much really is it? If Societies would go all out for increased membership and keep their old members at the same time, the Capitation Fee could soon be reduced to 1/- or 1d. a month — a much better bargain than many collectors get for very much more!

In conclusion, Mr. President, Ladies and Gentlemen, I must apologise for taking up so much of your time at Congress but my defence must be that the subject matter of my remarks is of such vital urgency that the time taken has not been wasted.

I shall be happy to answer any questions which delegates may care to put, and must thank you for your forbearance and the opportunity given to me to air my views on a matter which is causing many of us no little concern.

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TRISTAN DA CUNHA RUMOURS.

Rumours about stamps for Tristan are nearly as numerous as those about the new Union issue.

Some time ago it was said that designs for a definitive issue had been approved and that they might be expected any day. The latest rumour is that instead of this, they are going to have St. Helena stamps with an overprint.

This may be possible, because officially the island is a dependency of St. Helena, although there are actually no direct communications between the two islands. Ascension, another dependency of St. Helena, originally had overprinted stamps, although now it has its own. Well, we must just wait and see.

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PRE-STAMP COVERS AND PAQUEBOTS

by
D. J. PEACOCK, A.M.I.C.E., M.I.M.E., A.M.I.W.E., M.I.H.E.

(A paper read before the Pretoria Philatelic Society.)

Before a proper system of posts was introduced in England in 1482, the method usually employed for the safe transmission of the King's and State documents was to entrust them to a professional runner.

These men were selected for their integrity, physical fitness, etc. as they were often entrustd with very highly important documents of State, the safety of which not only depended on their skill, but demanded a certain amount of bravery, as in those days journeys were attended by many dangers.

This form of conveyance was found to be too slow, and in 1482 we find that orders were given to accelerate the passags of news or other messages, and relays of horses were set along various routes so that the King's Messengers were assured of a fresh mount about every twenty miles. This method remained in general use until gradually superceded first by the mail coach, then by the railways, and on to the air services.

Nothing definite however appears to have been done to improve the posts on an organised basis until Henry VIII appointed Brian Tuke as Master of Posts in 1512, and we are told that he made many improvements and took a personal part in the delivery of the letters as they were all handed to him on arrival in London, where he personally sorted them before handing on to the messengers for delivery.

As we all know, the state and conditions of the roads in Britain at that period were appalling and travel in coaches was hazardous and wheeled traffic was slow. I doubt very much if any of the roads in South Africa have ever been like what they were in Britain during that period, and it was only by the bravery of the messengers that the mails or messages were ever delivered. They, the mounted messengers, rode and enjoyed the years of unrivalled popularity; details of some of their amazing rides, handed down, speak well of their powers of endurance both of the riders and mounts, and also of the methods employed to keep the men and mounts on the road to serve their country — even though it were for a simple letter or a document of State.

We are told that these messengers of the 15th and 16th century were a "power of their own" and could claim privileges far in excess of that of the ordinary man in the street — they could demand fresh mounts, right of way through private property, and even demand the Town Gates being opened to them in the event of their being "after hours" — a privilege enjoyed by no men but themselves. Even when they were employed on unrecognised routes where fresh mounts and post houses were not made available, they could demand one from a townsman and woe betide him if none were forthcoming.

Various regulations were made during the reign of Queen Elizabeth and James I, but as the posts had fallen into bad hands and evil repute nothing was done to put the posts of Britain on a sound footing until 1654. The Commonwealth then promulgated an Act of Parliament "An Ordinance touching the Office and Postage of Letters, Inland and Foreign" giving one, a said John Manley, various privileges for the conveyance of mails under certain conditions. (A copy of this is exhibited).

This was followed in 1656 by a further Act, "An Act for the Setling of the Postage of England, Scotland and Ireland" in which various charges for letters were set out, together with other instructions (also exhibited).

On the restoration of the Monarchy in 1650, Henry Bishop was appointed Post Master General and Farmer of the Posts agreeing to pay, and I say "pay" and not "receive", for the office £21,500 a year for seven years.

Bishop introduced date stamps which showed the day and month on which the letter passed through the post, an invention which helped to deter the unauthorised letter carrier.

Some of the marks are shown on the Ship Letters from the West Indies in a few I am tabling for your inspection. It will be seen however, that these marks are dated in the 1700's although they were in use, in various types, from 1660 to about 1800.

Bishop's appointment did not last very long, for he resigned in 1663.

In 1680, William Dockwra improved on Bishop's invention making it serve the purpose of the 1d. stamp in connection with a Penny Post he had set up in the City of London. This post was very efficient, and in some parts of the city there were eight to ten deliveries of mail a day. Dockwra was not permitted to continue this post for very long as the Duke of York saw an infringement of his rights and perhaps a little more ready cash for his income. A case was brought against Dockwra, who was fined and deprived of his invention.

This part was, however, continued as a branch of State Monopoly under the title of the London Penny Post and the form of Dockwra's stamp adopted by it continued in use on London letters until 1794.

Reforms were tried for the improvements in the carriage of the mails, some of which were good, and some bad. John Palmer improved on the speed of the carriage, doubling up from 4 m.p.h. to 8 m.p.h.. This incidentally lost him his post in Government service, although eventually he received a pension and a grant.

Rates on letters went up and in the evidence given at a Commission set up in 1836, it was asserted that only one-fifth of the correspondence was conveyed by Government means, the other four-fifths other ways, cheaper I expect!! In 1840 the Penny Post was introduced again and Rowland Hill's reforms coincided with the railway era — speed — more speed —. This put the mail coaches out of action and from then the post office with it's modern efficiency has gone ahead, not only in the postal services, but now embracing telegraphs — wireless —

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cables — telephones and numerous other saving devices.

Stampless Covers.

It will be seen from the covers that the practice of franking mail by members of Parliament was in vogue until 1840 in Britain. All covers had to be personally signed by a Member of Parliament, either of the House of Commons or of the Lords. This was then stamped with the Official FREE cancelling date stamp.

This privilege appears to be in vogue to-day by Members of the Houses of Assembly and Senate at Cape Town, as letters from them, when in Cape Town appear to be franked in an identical manner to that lost long ago by their brethren in London!!!

Packet Services or Paqueots.

All around the seven seas, ships of many nations ply their trade — with trade — must be letters — some of commerce, some of private information, state letters, love letters, etc. but all must be sent across the seas — and how — why and when. In the early days, ships of sail would gather at some island or port and advertise their departure for a certain place or places, goods would be shipped and also letters given to the Captain of the ship for postage at the end of his journey or at some of his ports of call. On old letters, one will always find the name of the ship and Captain endorsed on the letter sheet, sometimes the amount paid for the privilege also endorsed on it. On arrival at the port of call, this mail was handed over to the postal authorities and the mail lettters franked with the name of the port — usually with the words "SHIP LRE" or "SHIP LETTER" after it. On arrival at its destination the letter would be marked with the arrival or postmark or "Bishop's Mark", in the 18th century. So we see that there was certainly something really being done to safeguard correspondence, even in those days.

Paquebot marks of to-day are usually seen on letters written on board a ship while at sea and posted on board. On arrival at a port the post box is cleared by a member of the crew and handed over to the postal authorities of the port, where the post mark of the port is applied, usually with the word "PAQUEBOT" appearing in the date stamp or a separate mark applied to the envelope. Various examples of this occur on the South African Coast. Cape Town usually applies a circular cancellation with Paquebot included — while Port Elizabeth, East London, etc. have a separate "Paquebot" mark alongside the circular date stamp.

Some shipping companies instead of leaving the cancellation of the stamps to the postal authorities, cancel them with the name of the ship (in the case of the German ships before the 1939 War — a number or letter). The Postal Authorities also take good care to put their marks on as well, including "Paquebot" and unless the whole or portion of the envelope is kept, it is sometimes difficult to find out if the stamps are the stamps of the country in which they have been used, or of a country other than that in which they have been posted at the first port of call.

During the late war the port name on cancelling devices was removed, this no doubt for censorship purposes, but if one had been in the habit of collecting these items it was sometimes possible to identify the port of call from the lettering, both size and shape, of the remaining portion of the cancelling device — i.e. Paquebot.

Letters received from H.M. Ships received various cancellations during the war, including "FLEET POST OFFICE", "MARITIME MAIL", "PAQUEBOT", etc., some of which I am exhibiting.

Now the speed of travel is continually increasing, by the use of fast mail planes, it will be interesting to see what the future holds for the collector of these items. Will it come that special cancelling devices will be used for mail written on a plane, while in flight, and posted at its arrival of the first aerodrome on the route served?

U.S.A.

On 14th July there was issued a 3c. stamp commemorating the centenary of settlement (by Mormons) in Nevada.

Collectors' Wants & Offers

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

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

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Wanted: German South West Africa Special Items, Specimens, Covers, etc.—L. BUCHEN, P.O. Box 4012, Johannesburg.

WANTED. Mint George VI "Specimen" Sets. Send your quotation and details to B. GLASSMAN, P.O. Box 10, Johannesburg.

WANTED URGENTLY Union Postal Stationery and Booklets (especially Nos. 1 & 20, 1948).—Dr. MURRAY, Kuilsriver.

Required Switzerland. All issues mint used and Covers for cash or exchange for Geo. VI. B. JOSEPH, P.O. Box 375, Johannesburg

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●

ARTIST'S SKETCH

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(4) At Drill-Hall post office where International Stamp Exhibition will be on. (Special date stamp).

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SOCIETY NEWS

PRETORIA PHILATELIC SOCIETY.

On the suggestion of the President, Mr. F. C. Ferguson, the meeting held on the 2nd July, 1951, took the form of what he termed a "philatelic joustle": members were invited to speak briefly on a few sheets of their favourite stamps and, if possible, to exhibit them. The result was that the meeting enjoyed a variety of bright and interesting vignettes.

Dr. H. J. Raubenheimer spoke on stamps as a branch of Africana which interested him. They included the 1880 South African war emissions, the now rare 1887 Natal New Republics, and S.A. Republics. Mr. P. Smits like best his old O.F.S. stamps some of the S.W.A. current ones depicting scenery with which he was familiar, and certain Netherlands issues. Mr. L. B. McLachlan's special love was Railways in stamps, as his fine thematic collection on the subject showed. Mr. W. Kriste liked centenary issues of first stamps — especially of Mauritius P.O., Mexico, Brazil, and Switzerland. Dr. P. Hack's choice was the stamps he collected at all the ports of call between the Union and the Mediterranean during his war service on a hospital ship, and Miss Versfeld's favourites were all the issues concerning the late Queen Astrid of the Belgians whom she had had the honour of seeing shortly before her tragic death. Mr. A. P. Obermeyer's greatest interest was the old S.A. Republic stamps, some of which he showed. The meeting liked this novel type of surprise programme so much that another was asked for.

The second bi-monthly meeting, held on the 16th July (Mr. F. C. Ferguson in the chair), was devoted to a talk by Dr. H. Reisener on the "Historical Aspect of the Union's Stamps". It was a complete summary of the issues from 1910 to 1950 and provided a competent review of all the philatelic developments of that period. It concluded with reference to the use of Union stamps outside the Union during the last war. Dr. Reisener was warmly thanked for the considerable trouble taken in preparing his comprehensive paper. B.J.V.

WEST RAND STAMP CLUB.

The August meeting was attended by one visitor and 11 members. After business (and tea) Mr. N. Basson showed his modern "Egypt". As usual, with Mr. Basson's exhibits, neatness and writing up, left nothing to be desired.

Mr. Yelland thanked Mr. Basson and said the exhibit recalled other days, especially to those who had been "Up North". Egypt's familiar land marks were known to so many and these, depicted on most of the stamps, give them a character all their own.

By the time these notes appear in print, Mr. Burrell's exhibit of New Zealand, will have been a thing of the past, unless the eagerly awaited visit from the Johannesburg Society materialise.

As a gentle reminder, our meetings start at 7.45 p.m. at the Royal Hotel, Krugersdorp. N.B.E.

PHILATELIC SOCIETY OF JOHANNESBURG.

At the meeting held on August 14th the exhibit was provided by Mr. C. G. Kupferman who showed a fine collection of the stamps of Holland.

He introduced the exhibit by a paper in which he outlined the postal history of Holland.

The exhibit included some fine items of the early issues in beautifully used condition.

There were essays, flown covers, early issues on cover and many rarities. The exhibit showed a complete range of the stamps of the country from the earliest issues to the most recent. There were many of the rarities and some fine used blocks of high values.

Mr. Kupferman introduced a novel note into his exhibit by illustrating the "arms" issue of 1925 with pictures showing the characteristics of the different Provinces including national dress, agricultural and industrial scenes etc. The pictures were beautifully coloured and, as Mr. Kupferman said, showed his combined interest in philately and painting.

Mr. L. Buchen spoke on the collection proposing the vote of thanks which was heartily accorded by the members.

During the evening there was a "quiz" arranged by Mr. B. Glassman. This was won by Commander Enoch.

At the meeting held on August 27th Mr. J. W. Schubart showed "Australia".

He read a short paper on the exhibit.

The exhibit consisted of a fine mint selection from the earliest to the latest issues with a large emphasis on imprint blocks. The George VI section included the rarities with all varieties of all 3d. values. All the commemorative issues and airmails were included.

The coil issues were also shown.

Mr. Seelig spoke on the exhibit.

During the evening there was a competition for which many members entered. This was an exhibit of a stamp or stamps to illustrate a well-known proverb. The competition was won by Mr. M. Jecks.

PORT ELIZABETH PHILATELIC SOCIETY.

Mr. Bulbring was in the chair when the meeting opened on Tuesday, 17th July.

There were not so many members present as usual, due no doubt to the inclement weather. The evening was jointly in the hands of Mr. Harmer and Mr. Fowler.

Mr. Harmer tabled about eighty pages of The British Empire, dating from 1840 to the present day, ranging from Great Britain, early issues to the Virgin Isles King George VI.

There was a page of Penny Blacks with Maltese Cross, red and black and a page of 2d. blue 1840-41. Another page of 1841, Red and Blue including pairs and strips. There were two pages of mixed British Empire, early issues including the 17 cents blue of Canada (S.G. 42) and two other pages of Canada. One page of Cape Triangulars with S.G. 8 Carmine, 13a yellow-green and 21 Emerald Green.

Kenya and Uganda issue of 1922 and four pages of Natal from 1859. Southern and Northern Rhodesia were represented, also S.A. Airmails and Voortrekkers both mint and used.

There were some obsolete old perfs. and colour changes. Mr. Harmer had taken great care in setting out and writing up, and all members enjoyed scrutinising the display.

Mr. Fowler only tabled a small part of his collection, and they were the U.P.U. foreign issues all complete, these were very neatly mounted, and we do hope to see more of his collection in the near future.

A hearty vote of thanks was accorded to both members and the evening closed at 9.45 p.m. L.E.C.

ROODEPOORT PHILATELIC SOCIETY.

19 July Meeting. Nine members and four visitors present. Mr. Bloomfield blossomed into being a full club member from being merely a regular visitor. Mr. Digger Sharpe read notes on items of interest, which we would like to have more frequently.

Mr. Bob Oliver conducted a Quiz, absurdly simple from his point of view, but very different according to the quizees. No more simple quizzes, please, Mr. Oliver.

The main exhibit was Mr. Basson's K.G. VI Canada from the Coronation to the present day, in singles, blocks and imprint blocks. This was written up in Mr. Basson's inimitable neat style and was a lesson indeed for the juniors present. H.D.

CAPE TOWN PHILATELIC SOCIETY.

26th July.

Under the title of "Educational," Mr. Simenhoff displayed a selection from his very extensive thematic collection. He exhibited sheets which showed almost every approach to thematic collecting and his write-up was not only illustrated with stamps but also with cut-outs from journals and magazines, many of them in colour. Examples of animals on stamps, literature, heraldry, charity, famous people, etc., put up in one display demonstrated very effectively the enormous possibilities which are open to the thematic collector and the educational value of the formation of a thematic collection.

9th August.

The display for the evening was provided by Mr. A. M. Jones who showed his collection of "Sarawak", and in a most interesting and informative talk outlined the history of this little known Colony under the rule of its three white Rajas. Sir James Brooke, Sir Charles Brooke, and Sir Charles Vyner Brooke. Examples were shown of the first stamp issued in 1869 which was printed by Maclure, Macdonald & Co., of Glasgow, and is the only stamp to bear a likeness of Sir James Brooke. The collection covered all issues up to the present day with the exception of the overprints during the Japanese occupation, and the B.M.A. overprints. Cession to Great Britain took place in 1946 and in due course a pictorial issue was produced.

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REVIEWS

Stamps of Great Britain. The Line Engraved Issues — 1841 Penny Red, Die I, Alphabet I, Plates 102-131. By Dr. C. Gardiner-Hill. Published by R. C. Alcock, Ltd., 11 Regent Street, Cheltenham, England.

The old line-engraved stamps of Great Britain are gradually all being plated. It was an one time thought it would be impossible to plate the Penny Reds, but this is now being done and this booklet is a section of the work being tackled by Dr. Gardiner-Hill.

Realising that illustrations are in some ways even more valuable for plating purposes than descriptions of the constant varieties, the publishers have had prepared a series of photographs of the various rows of the plates. The "A" row is now ready, 12 whole plate phtographs AA to AL at 50/- for the set or 4/6 for any one photograph separately. A sample copy of the AA stamp shows that they supplement the text admirably.

The World's Rarest Group of Stamps. A description of the "Curle" Collection of the stamps of the Transvaal. By J. H. Harvey Pirie and William Redford. Published by the Africana Museum, Johannesburg, price 2/6.

Of all the many countries that have issued postage stamps at one time or another the most interesting and the most intriguing philatelically is the Transvaal.

What a wealth of study for investigation is still awaiting the researcher amongst those original issues of what is now merely a Province of the Union.

Yet how woefully few residents of the Transvaal who are keen and vigilant collectors give a thought to the philatelic diamond field that awaits their sorting and panning of this ground so replete with the very rarest of the rare philatelic gems.

Why is it that the stamps of the Transvaal are so neglected today by both the ordinary collector and the student?

This question has been asked many times and the answers have been varied and unsatisfying. Some say it is because there is little variety in the few issues that comprise the whole emissions under 'Transvaal'. But many countries' old issues of stamps could be blackballed for this very reason, and surely variety, as applied to pictorial design, is not a sine qua non of the real philatelist. Others say that the lack of popularity is due to the difficulty of identifying the various printings and papers. Conceded, there is this difficulty but again the real philatelist looks for, searches for, pines for difficult problems to tackle and to solve — otherwise there would be no such thing as philately in the scientific sense. Difficulties in our hobby should be an attraction not a deterren.t A third reason is given that the first issues of the Transvaal are most elusive ,seldom offered by dealers and therefore it would take a long time and a diligent search to acquire a reasonable collection. Another reason given is that the stamp market many years back was flooded with forgeries and reprints — Agreed! and this was the main reason why Transvaal stamps years ago came into disrepute and have been more or less under a cloud ever since. But there is nothing to frighten the merest novice amongst the many forgeries of those first issues, they are easily and positively identifiable.

Two ardent lovers of the stamps of the Transvaal, J. H. Curle and A. E. Basden realised this antipathy towards their own philatelic favourites and in an effort to overome or reduce this unpopularity they produced an outstanding work "Transvaal Postage Stamps".

Both these gentlement are gone but their work remains to kindle some sparks of the fire of enthusiasm for their own erstwhile loves. Basden's collection of these stamps was disposed of some years ago to a local collector and the Curle collection, acknowledged as the finest and most comprehensive of its kind in the world, is now in our Africana Museum available to all and sundry to see, admire and covet. Comparatively few have been to see this immensely valuable collection and not many of those who have seen it knew what they were looking at as there was no one to tell them and no explanatory information available. Now this latter defect has been remedied.

This publication is in reality an epitome of the Curle-Basden book mentioned above and gives in digest form the story of the first Transvaal Stamps sent to this country from Germany in 1869 and through the various local printings of the stamps by M. J. Viljoen, Pretoria, J. F. Borrius, Potchefstroom, P. Davis & Son, Pietermaritzburg and for the Stamp Commission, Pretoria and so through the first and second British Occupations to the finale of the Transvaal stamps with the Edwardian issues. Examples of all issues are in the Curle Collection.

There is a wealth of information compressed in these few pages concisely and coherently which can be confidently recommended to the man-in-the-street anl also to both the philatelic neophyte and the expert. There is much of interest to learn here of one of the Rarest Collections of Stamps in the world which it is our good fortune to have been left to us by that great traveller-author-philatelist J. H. Curle.

Our warm thanks are due to the authors for having put this information within the reach, physically and intellectually, of everyone and this new publication should enjoy a wide circulation.

It is obtainable from the Africana Museum, City Library, Johannesburg. E.H.

Reports for Collectors of (German) Colonial Stamps. Edited by Dr. Eduard Ey and published by Erich Haide (24a) Balje ueber Stade, British Zone, Germany. No. 2 — English translation, 1949.

One would have assumed that the vast literature published on German colonial stamps has by now fully covered everything that ever existed. It appears, however, that this is not the case and that new discoveries are continuously being made.

Dr. Ey, who recently published a new handbook of the stamps of the former German colo-

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nies and their cancellations, which was reviewed in this magazine a few months ago, has since issued reports on new facts which have come to light after his book was completed. These reports, of which three have been published so far, contain a mass of very valuable information for collectors of German Colonials and are to be considered supplements to his handbook. Much is lost in the English translation, which consists of roneoed fullscap sheets, as it lacks the illustrations which are apparently included in the **printed** German issue.

SHORT NOTICES.

The Junior Collector. This, the official organ of the Union Stamp Collectors' Exchange Club, is now appearing as a nicely roneoed quarterly and has not of interesting short articles and lists of stamp news for junior collectors. The Club is a well worth while one for any young collector to belong to; communicate with 68 Central Road, Beaconsfield, Kimberley.

The Thematic Magazine. Organ of the Thematic Club, Cape Town and formerly (This is only Vol. I. No. 3) the "Thematic Bulletin" is growing up. This number has a good check list of recent thematic issues and a discussion on that hardy perennial, gum. A thematic collection would appear to be an ideal one to start on with removing the gum from the stamps, but as usual one writer says he is only waiting for the "other fellow' to make a start.

Air Mails of South Africa. The July issue of the "Aero Field", in view of the Capetown International Exhibition and renewed interest in the subject, has reprinted and brought up to date an article on South African Airmails which appeared in their pages five years ago. It is a good short summary with some nice illustrations.

The Australian Stamp Journal. We note with regret that this little magazine, the house organ of Messrs. J. H. Smyth (Pty.) Ltd., has ceased publication after a life of about 40 years, owing to the very greatly increased cost of printing and other difficulties of publication.

Cuban Tobacco. The Cuban Ministry of Agriculture have sent us a small catalogue with illustrations in colour and descriptive text of 10 stamps which have been issued from 1899-1948 with allegorical designs of cigars and leaf tobacco. Here is a soothing subject for a thematic collector.

H. R. Harmer, Ltd. Another season of sales ended on 17th July, the total for the season amounting to £275,000, passing the quarter million mark fo the 5th year in succession. Overseas buying has been very brisk (285 postal bidders in one sale) with increased competition from U.S.A., South America, South Africa and Australia.

A Pageant of Philately.

The Thematic Stamp Club of Capetown had a very successful show in Argus House from 16th to 28th July. It was originally intended to be for one week only, but there were so many requests from the public that it was kept open for a second week. Almost every facet of philately, stamp collecting and postal history was on display and the Club is to be congratulated on its success.

Afrikaanse Filatelistiese Vereniging.

This recently formed Philatelic Society in Johannesburg meets on the evenings of the 1st Friday of each month, 7.30 p.m., at Room 91, Public Library. All visitors welcomed.

UNION BANTAM WAR

"A" Prices are for marginal pairs or strips, "B" for either Corner, Sheet Number or Arrow Blocks of 4 or 6).

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½d. light green, green margins (slogan)	1/6	4/6
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6d orange (shades) narrow self margins	2/6	6/9
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4d. greyish green, self slogan margins	2/-	5/6
4d. deep blue-green, violet margins	2/6	7/6
6d. orange (shades) narrow self margins	2/6	6/9
6d. orange (shades) wide self margins	2/9	7/6
6d. orange (shades) violet numeral margs.	2/6	7/6
1/- brown/deep brown, narrow margins	5/6	12/6
1/- brown/deep brown, wide margins	6/6	15/-
1/3 olive-sepia, slogan margins	5/6	15/-
1/3 olive-black, white (blank) margins	7/6	25/-

Nett, postfrees, c.w.o.

Selections of Control and/or Position Blocks of the K.H. and Pictorial issues gladly sent on Approval, to interested Collectors, on request. New clients please furnish usual references.

A. Lichtenstein

B.P.A.

BOX 576 **BLOEMFONTEIN.**

ISRAEL.

The Postal Department announces the issue of an 80 pruta stamp bearing a portrait of Dr. Theodor Herzl, founder of the Zionist movement, in August during the session of the 23rd Zionist Congress in Jerusalem.

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PHILATELIC FEDERATION OF SOUTHERN AFRICA EXPERT COMMITTEE.

This Committee, authorized by the Federation, has already started operating. Its Executive which for convenience of meeting, is composed of persons resident in or near Johannesburg, but there are a number of Consultant Members resident throughout South Africa and chosen for their expert knowledge of various territories. The Executive consists of Cdr. Enoch, Messrs. E. Hunt and C. Legator, Drs. A. Kaplan and Harvey Pirie, Messrs. W. Redford, W. N. Sheffield and J. Shepherd.

The Committee will receive stamps only on the following terms and conditions, and the submission of stamps to the Expert Committee will be deemed to imply the sender's acceptance of these terms and conditions unreservedly:—

1. All material submitted is at sender's risk throughout.
2. The Committee will only give opinions on the stamps of Southern Africa, i.e. the mainland south of the equator and the islands corresponding, excluding Mauritius.
3. Senders will be required to state precisely what information is sought, and the Committee's fee will have regard to the value of the material and the time spent upon it. For a simple opinion as to identity and genuineness the fee will be as set out below, and must be prepaid, plus the cost of return by registered mail. The fee for other requirements may be more or less than, or the same as, that set out below, but it will normally be impracticable to quote such fees in advance.
   Returned material will not be marked for transmission by air mail unless this is requested and prepaid by the sender.
4. Scale of fees for members of affiliated societies only.
   For an opinion as to identity and genuineness including the Committee's Certificate and a photograph:—
   5/- where the latest Gibbons quotation does not exceed £25;
   7/6 where it exceeds £25 but does not exceed £50;
   10/- where it exceeds £50 or is an unquoted item.
   These fees are increased 50 per cent. where there is an overprint or surcharge. These fees are per stamp and no reduction will be allowed for pairs, blocks, etc., or multiple inquiries.
   Where the opinion given is that the item is not genuine, no photograph will be provided and the charge will be 2/6 per stamp or 3/9 where there is an overprint or surcharge.
   Where the Committee are not prepared to formulate an opinion, no photograph will be provided and the charge will be 1/-.
   The above charges do not include return postage.
5. Scale of fees for non-members of affiliated societies:—
   For all classes the charges will be as in paragraph 4 above, but increased 50 per cent. This does not include return postage.
6. Senders claiming to be entitled to the reduced scale of fees must provide written confirmation by a responsible officer that the sender is a member in good standing of an affiliated society.
7. The Expert Committee has the right to take and retain for record photographs of any material submitted and may reproduce any such photographs free of charge in any publication of the Federation. Such publication will not disclose the identity of the sender without permission to do so.
8. **It is to be clearly understood that any Certificate given by the Expert Committee is only a record of their OPINION and does not convey any guarantee or warranty. No responsibility is accepted for any consequence of the issue of these Opinions.**
9. All communications for the Expert Committee are to be addressed to the Secretary, P.O. Box 375, Johannesburg, and are not to be sent to any individual by name.

CORRESPONDENCE

"ERRORS—REAL AND IMAGINARY."

Dear Sir,

Being one of those who was present when Mr. Mackenzie's paper was read to Congress in Bloemfontein recently, I would like to record my reason for disagreeing with many of his contentions.

In his paper he sets out to debunk the collecting of the numerous spots etc. — as he says — so dear to the collector's heart, and calls these "errors" mere figments of the imagination.

I fully agree with him that the majority of such spots, flymarks, and damaged plates are not "errors" — nor do I think that the majority of stamp collectors regard them as errors.

They are, as Mr. Mackenzie explains, due to various causes in the modern bulk method of stamp production, and are better classed as flaws. But what he apparently fails to appreciate is the fact that these flaws, flymarks or whatever you like to call them, have a very definite place in philately, viz. in the plating and identification of various printings, and if collected wth this in view, are of more than passng interest.

I would suggest that without these "flymarks" etc., many of the old classic issues of the world — to say nothing of the various Rotogravure issue of the Union — could never have been plated.

I must own that I am quite unrepentant, and collect every flaw that I notice in the various issues as they come out, and these are kept for reference, and if of sufficient interest, are included in my collection together with the control and arrow blocks as showing the individual characteristics of that printing.

I am frequently asked to plate certain blocks of stamps in collectors' albums, and many of these I am able to identify by some such small and insignificant flaw.

A case in point is the recent discovery that there were two printings of the E control sheets, and that the one without the "broken mast" variety was actually the headplate used for the first A and B1 control sheets. The proof was really two minute dots — but they did their job. I feel that Mr. Mackenzie's paper would have been far more useful if he had recognised that there was some use for these "figments of the imagination", and had merely deprecated the irresponsible collecting of every spot at sometimes enhanced prices, merely because it was a spot. When he mentioned the various causes for the various shades which we get today, I think he could have gone a bit further, and I would be entirely with him in damning the present-day shade racket, and the granting of many of them catalogue status, usually at vastly enhanced prices.

Not only are shades due to the changing of ink in the containers, and the refilling of same, but even climatic conditions have a lot to do with it.

It is well known that many of the much sought after shades today are those which have "weathered" in the Colony in which they have been stocked for some time.

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The gum in particular seems to be affected in moist hot climates, which in turn alters the shade.

You therefore have a shade which to-day is catalogued in many of the earlier K.G. VI values at very high prices.

I may be a heretic on this subject, but it seems completely farcical. You can also get a fine shade by exposing a stamp to bright light for some time. Why not ask pounds for that too?

In my opinion this shade business to-day is likely to do more harm to the hobby than all your collecting of spots and dots.

I trust that Mr. Mackenzie will take my remarks in the spirit in which they are made, and if he or anyone else wants to shoot me — here I am!

Yours faithfully,
G. N. GILBERT.

BENONI STAMP SHOP

BOX 485 — BENONI.

Bahawalpur U.P.U. imperf. set	£10	10	0
B.W.I. University, complete mint		17	6
Gt. Britain, £1 Queen S.G. 185 used	£10	0	0
Gt. Britain £1 Edward S.G. 266, used	£4	10	0
Gt. Britain, S.G. 440, Essay, pair	£15	0	0
Gt. Britain, S.G. 441, Proof, pair	£15	0	0
O.F.S. "Iostage" S.G. 252a (creased)	£4	0	0
S. Africa S.G. 58, mint, pair	£3	0	0
Silver Weddings complete mint	£75	0	0
Coronations, complete mint	£3	0	0
Victories, complete used	£3	15	0

SWAZILAND.

Dr. H. J. R. Way informs us that the P.O. at Mbabane has just received large stocks from Pretoria of the 1d. stamp with the old perforation 13¼ x 13.

Whether this is a matter of old stocks in London or in Pretoria being used up, or whether the printers have gone back to this gauge is not known.

Some of the 1½d. in the old perforation have also been on sale recently, but the latest stocks to be received from Pretoria have been in the 13¼ x 14 perf.

ORIGINAL GUM.

The campaign against gum seems to be gathering strength. Mr. A. J. Knight in the "West End Philatelist" asks if any protagonist of gum has experience of the effect of humid heat on gum. He gives his experience: "Mint" North Borneo stamps acquired in the colony, with not a vestige of gum remaining on them; stamps bought in Seychelles, almost always have to have gum or paste applied before they will stick on a cover; similarly in New Guinea. To be sure of getting British tropical colonials with full gum they must be obtained from the Crown agents; in other words, such stamps have never seen the colonies they represent. Those persons stipulating "full gum" would appear therefore to be primarily concerned with the commercial aspect.

ERNEST HUNT MEDAL.

Mr. Ernest Hunt, a member of the Philatelic Society of Johannesburg, has very generously offered to that Society, a medal, the primary object of which is to stimulate interest in philately in Southern Africa.

Awards of the Medal will be in the hands of the Committee of the Philatelic Society of Johannesburg but such awards will **not** be confined to members of that Society.

It is to be awarded for the best original article or series of articles published in the "South African Philatelist" or as a separate book or brochure on any aspect of philately by any philatelist resident in Africa south of the Equator. The article, articles, book or brochure need not necessarily deal with a South African subject. The award may be given annually for the best article, articles, book or brochure published during the preceding twelve months but such award will be made only provided that, in the opinion of the adjudicators, there has been a publication during the preceding period of sufficient merit.

It is proposed to make the first award at the time of the Tercentenary International Philatelic Exhibition in Cape Town for which purpose publications from the beginning of 1951 will be eligible for consideration.

NEW ZEALAND.

Mr. R. Axer reports that this year's health stamps, to be issued in October, will have Yachting as their main feature. There will be a 2d. red, with 1½d. for postage and a ½d. for health; this change has been necessitated by the introduction of a commercial paper rate of 1½d. for which many more stamps will be required than for printed papers at 1d. There will also be the usual 3d., a grey-green.

UNITED NATIONS STAMPS.

The fifteen (eleven ordinary and four air-mail) stamps to be issued in September-October are being printed partly by De La Rue of London and partly by Enschede & Sons of Haarlem. Five languages will be used on the borders to spell the word "United Nations".

EXCHANGE WANTED.

Mr. M. C. Binkhuijsen, a Hollander living in Egypt (address 9 Sh. el Kamal Muhammed (Flat 4), Zamalek, Cairo) wishes to exchange used stamps. He is interested in practically all countries and could send in exchange stamps of Morocco, Egypt, Jordan, Syria, Lebanon, Iraq, Iran, Turkey, Netherlands, Indonesia and others.

SOME RECENT AUCTIONS.

H. R. Harmer.

Nyasaland. 3/- (S.G. 49) Var. imperf. and Inv. Wmk., £31.
Nyasaland £10 (S.G. 52) Var. imperf. £42.
Rhodesia £1 (S.G. 179), mint, £24.
Sierra Leone £1 Wilberforce used, £29.
Union £1 (S.G. 29) part o.g. £6 15/-.
Transvaal K.E. £5 (S.G. 259), used, £10.

Robson Lowe.

Austria 1851 30k. Newspaper stamp, £31.
St. Helena, 15/- mint, £21.
Switzerland, 1843 Double Geneva, £250.

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THE
SOUTH AFRICAN PHILATELIST
PROPRIETORS AND PUBLISHERS :
The Philatelic Federation of Southern Africa
Honorary Editor: Dr. J. H. HARVEY PIRIE
Business Manager: Mr. J. NATHANSON
P.O. Box 375, Johannesburg.
Subscription: Eight Shillings per annum, post free to any part of the World.
Vol. 27. No. 10. OCTOBER, 1951. Whole No. 319.

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

Inverted Watermark on 5/- Rotogravure Issue.

Mr. J. Mendelssohn of Johannesburg mentions that the 5/- pictorial rotogravure stamp (S.G. 64) with the inverted watermark, recorded in last month's "Notes", is from an early printing of the true green, miscalled myrtle green in the Union Catalogue. It is fairly well known among Union specialists and was printed at the same time as the first unhyphenated rotos when no particular care was taken to see that the watermark was upright. Like the 5/-, the 2/6 value (S.G. 49) also exists in an early printing with inverted matermark.

Writing from Cape Town, Mr. R. Axer confirms the foregoing by recording that when in that city early in 1934 he purchased a pair of the first 5/- Rotogravure stamps and in addition to the Broken Jukskei flaw, this first issue also had the watermark inverted.

Operator's Mark on Jubilee Line of King's Head Stamp.

An inquiry received by Mr. W. Kriste of Pretoria from an Australian correspondent as to the significance of the white dot in the "Jubilee" line of the 2d. Plate I, George V purple stamp, illustrated herewith, has been answered by Mr. A. H. Sydow of Cape Town.

The stamp comes from the position of No. 2 in Row 1 and has a broken "d" in the left hand value tablet and also a flaw on the "O" of POSTAGE. Mr. Sydow mentions that the so-called broken "d" is not a constant flaw and is of no philatelic significance. The same applies to the flaw on POSTAGE for they are of the type one so often meets with in letter-press printing.

Regarding the rounded mark in the jubilee line — and incidently he notes that there is also a diagonal white mark on the jubilee line above Stamp No. 1 of Row - and again above Stamp No. 1 of Plate II — Mr. Sydow considers that these marks are generally made by the man who actually operates the machine and in most cases represent a change of operator. They are of no importance in a study of the series.



New Series of 1d. Pictorial Postcards.

We are indebted to Mr. Sam Legator of Brakpan for the following information and list of views on the new series of thirty-two 1d. pictorial postcards now on sale at post offices throughout the Union, They are printed in a shade of brown and as recorded last month, the impressed stamps are in a much lighter tone of carmine. The titles of the photographs on the cards are set in smaller type than the previous issue, which incidentally depicted a completely different set of South African scenes and was printed in a shade of maroon.

This issue has been printed on a new machine having a sheet size of 8 cards; there are thus 4 cylinders, each one printing 8 cards, giving a full series of 32 cards each with a different view.

Ex Cylinder 1.:
(1) Wilge River—Wilgerivier, Harrismith.
(2) Nationale Krugerwildtuin—Kruger National Park.
(3) Kruger National Park—Nationale Krugerwildtuin.
(4) Rhodes Gedenkteken—Kaap Rhodes Memorial—Cape.
(5) Nationale Krugerwildtuin—Kruger National Park.
(6) Nationale Park—National Park, Drakensberg.
(7) Near Naby Eshowe, Natal.
(8) National Park—Nationale Park, Drakensberg.

Ex Cylinder2.:
(1) "Golden Gate", Bethlehem.
(2) Commissioner Street/Straat, Johannesburg.

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(3) "The Sentinels", Duivels Kloof.
(4) Near Chunies Poort—Naby Chuniespoort, North/Noord Transvaal.
(5) Chuniespoort—Chunies Poort, Noord/North Transvaal.
(6) Goudmyn—Gold Mine, Johannesburg.
(7) Die Stadsaal—The City Hall, Pietermaritzburg.
(8) Vaalrivier—Vaal River, Parys, O.V.S.—Parys, O.F.S.

Ex Cylinder 3.:
(1) Howickvalle—Howick Falls, Natal.
(2) Die Ou Meul—Kaap, The Old Mill—Cape.
(3) Op Modderrivier—On Modder River, Bloemfontein.
(4) Nationale Park—National Park, Draakensberg.
(5) The "Raadsaal"—Die Raadsaal, Bloemfontein.
(6) Homestead—Opstal, Cape—Kaap.
(7) Govt. House—Goew. Huis, Pretoria.
(8) Marina Beach—Marinastrand, Natal.

Ex Cylinder 4.:
(1) Skaapboerdery—Sheep Farming, Harrismith.
(2) Op Tafelberg—Kaap, On Table Mountain, Cape.
(3) Uniegebou—Union Buildings, Pretoria.
(4) Dist. Haenertsberg, Noord/North Transvaal.
(5) Hermanus, Cape—Kaap.
(6) Yachting Sport—Cape, Seilsport—Kaap.
(7) The Falls—Die Valle, Waterval Boven.
(8) Kruger National Park—Nationale Krugerwildtuin.

Creased Paper Variety on Recent ½d. Stamp.

Mr. John Lewis of Bloemfontein has sent in particulars of an interesting and intriguing creased paper variety on a recently used ½d. stamp.

As shown in the accompanying photograph the crease has resulted in a diagonal white line running from the top to the bottom of the stamp and separating the Springbok's Head into nearly two equal portions by a gap about ½mm. wide.



Mr. Lewis states that it was found among some used Union's during the latter part of August this year and that from comparison with other copies of the ½d. value he is of the opinion that it came from cylinders Nos. 7020a and 11B.

Screened 5/- Stamps.

We understand from an inquiry at the Philatelic Agency in Pretoria that the reappearance of the 5/- screened stamps at various post offices during August — "S.A.P." page 151 — was the result of a small quantity of these sheets turning up as part of a routine issue by the Stores Department. It would appear that there has been no recent printing of the 5/- stamps from the screened cylinders Nos. 36 and 6925 and the number of sheets which came to light from stock was comparatively small.

Varieties on the Current 3d. Postage Due Stamps.

Two interesting varieties, noted by Mr. W. Yelland of Krugersdorp, appear on stamps of the current 3d. postage due issue.

The first shows a vertical white line running from the top to the bottom of the pence symbol "D" and was mentioned in our July 1950 Notes as the "Split D" variety. It occurs in the top left hand corner pane of the full sheet in the position of Row 7, Stamp 5.

The second, which has become known as the "Swallow" variety, because it has all the appearance of that bird in flight, occurs on the white background adjoining the numeral "3" in the bottom right hand pane (i.e. one-quarter sheet) of 60 stamps. In the "pane" form, it is in Row 6, Stamp 2.

It is worthy of note that the "Split D" variety also occurred in the same position in the unhyphenated issue — the predecessor of the present stamp and in use from about September 1948 until the early part of 1950.

"Ghost" Arrows on the Sheet Margins of the Current 4d. Stamps.

The reappearance of "Ghost" arrows on the side margins of the current 4d. postage stamp sheets has been noted by Mr. Sam Legator of Brakpan and Mr. R. B. Cartwright of Germiston.

These arrows are additional to those normally printed at the centres of the margins and i the present instance will be found opposite Row No. 17. They range in intensity from faint to very clear impressions on different sheets and the explanation for their presence will be found fully described in our "Notes" of July 1949.

Darker Frame Shade on Current 1d. Postage Due Stamp.

It has been noted that the frame shade of the 1d. postage due stamp now being used in Johannesburg is distinctly darker than that seen on this same stamp during the earlier part of the year.

UNION CATALOGUE.

Some, but not very many, of the De Luxe edition of 300 copies of this catalogue are still available. Order, with subscription of Three Guineas, from Mr. Sam Legator, P.O. Box 333, Brakpan, Transvaal.

EGYPT.

Three stamps — 10, 30 and 32 mill., were due for issue on 5th October on the occasion of the First Mediterranean Games held in Cairo.

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MADAGASCAR INLAND POSTS.

Mr. E. F. Hurt writes in "Philately" on these posts of the period before 1900. According to him even the early French issues had no usage within the island as there was no organised official postal service except at Antananarivo and ports such as Nossi Bé and these latter were only concerned with the dispatch of mail overseas.

The British Inland Mail was a misnomer as, like the British Consular Mail, it was only concerned with the dispatch of letters for further forwarding, mainly through Durban, where Natal stamps were affixed. But as early as 1875 the Norwegian Missionary Society has organised a regular postal service within the island which was available to the public and official departments as well as for the Missions.

In 1894 the Norwegian Missionary Society issued stamps in two currencies — sterling for the convenience of British traders, the British Consulate and British missions, and in local currency for others. The sterling stamps were for 1/3rd and 1d., and the local currency stamps of 5 vari and 1 era, 5 vari, being of equivalent value respectively to the sterling stamps. The pence issues were very little used and are of considerable rarity to-day. The local currency stamps had at least three printings during their five years validity, but few even of these have been preserved.

The article has some good illustrations of stamps and covers.

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Well-centred, mint or fine used.

One copy only of each:—

Bundi, S.G. 11, Barwani, S.G. 10.
Charkhari, S.G. 44, 48.
Datia, S.G. 32, 35, 41.
Kishengarh, S.G. 71. Poonch, S.G. 1a (or 2).
50% over catalogue for all except the Poonch.

E. HUNT,

BOX 5317 ———— JOHANNESBURG.

NURSE CLARA LOUISE MAASS.

Cuba has already (24 Aug., 1951) issued a stamp in connection with the 50th anniversary of the conquest of Yellow Fever, specially honouring this nurse of the United States Army Nurse Corps. She was one of a band of volunteers for the tests in Havanna which conclusively settled the cause and method of transmission of Yellow Fever and thus gave medical science the clue which has since saved countless lives. But she sacrificed her life in so doing.

It is now being proposed that a similar stamp should be issued by the U.S.A.

GOLD COAST.

The Crown Agents have announced that of some 500 designs submitted in a competition announced nearly a year ago, not one has been considered suitable for printing. As a result the idea of a set to commemorate the new constitution has been dropped.

SOUTH KOREA.

"Mekeel's Weekly Stamp News" states that a set of 32 stamps is to be issued shortly in honour of the 16 nations which have sent troops there to take part in the war against Communist aggression. Designs will feature the flags of the United Nations, Korea and the country honoured. South Africa will be one of the 16 countries thus honoured.

ANTARCTIC NOTES.

Heard Island. An article in a recent number of "Stamps" gives an account of the work of the postmaster on this island with its Australian Met. Station. The staff is relieved about once a year by an Australian naval vessel. Last year the postmaster, who is also medical officer, naturalist, messing and amenities officer, handled some 250 letters etc., for the staff and another 4,000 of philatelic mail, all wanting the special postmark.

Marion Isdand. H.M.S.A.S. "Transvaal" leaves Durban on 19 October with several experts who will investigate various aspects of the island's potentialities. There is not the same rush of philatelic mail for here, as the island has no postmark of its own. It is understood that one of the Met. Staff is also acting postmaster; he may or may not apply an official Marion Island cachet on mail, but it is not a postmark and does not cancel stamps.

Kerguelen. The French authorities of Madagascar have opened a post office here. It is reported that the postmark reads "Archipel/Kerguelen", but we have not actually seen a specimen.

Antarctica Argentina. Argentina has redrawn her 1-peso stamp to include a section of Antarctica with its apex at the South Pole, indicating territory which she says is rightfully hers. The Falkland Islands are also, of course, coloured as being Argentinian. The polar territory claimed has for long been claimed by Britain, and it has recently also been claimed by Chile. Argentina has one post office in the S. Orkneys and at least three in the S. Shetlands and Graham Land viz. Melchior, Deception Is., and Base San Martin. The last-named is said to be the most southerly permanent station in the world.

TRISTAN DA CUNHA.

The Crown Agents have at last definitely announced that Tristan da Cunha is to have an official postal service and that the stamps to be put on sale will be the whole current St. Helena set (½d. to 10/-) overprinted with the name of the island in black.

According to "Stamp Collecting" the stamps have been ready and waiting on the island since last December, but their issue has been delayed until the new steamer belonging to the Tristan Development Scheme is ready to commence more regular runs betwen Cap Town and the Island.

NEW UNION METER FRANK.

Mr. R. Axer reports that in July a new type of Meter Franking machine was introduced — the "Simplex" M.V. ½d. to 11½d. Design is similar to the U of Universal but with the letter "S" in bottom left corner

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SOMETHING DIFFERENT

by

J. E. CREWELL.

(Notes accompanying an exhibit given to the Philatelic Society of Rhodesia.)

The display which I am going to place before you to-night is neither a general collection, nor a specialised collection of any particular country, but a motley collection of sheets taken from my albums. I might have called the exhibit "Stamps with a Story", or even "Reminiscences," the idea having come to me while I was browsing over my stamps one evening, but as the main theme was to provide "Something Different", I decided to leave it at that. You will observe that my entire paper is written in the first person, but I am quite sure that some of the sentiments expressed have beset you all at one time or another.

For instance, like myself, many of you who started collecting at a youthful age, aspired to at least one, perhaps more, triangular Capes — they were regarded as the acme of any collectors' ambitions. The few I have were treasured possessions until, with more experience, I found that they were comparatively inexpensive items, and not especially good copies either.

In those days too, a large and brightly coloured stamp — the larger and brighter, the better — was something of an acquisition, and a set such as the Nyassa Company issue of 1921, gave one a certain amount of prestige amongst one's schoolmates.

On the other hand, colour was not always so important, for such peculiar and unattractive labels as were some of the earlier French Colonials, liberally stuck on the covers of packets of "25 Assorted Stamps for 3d." were a rare treasure if they were not duplicated in every other collection.

Being a South African, I was told I owed it to my country to collect South African stamps. For what could make collecting easier than to be able to go into a Post Office and buy a specimen of each stamp as it was issued? That was all very well until someone presented me with a page of the more common errors in the ½d. and 1d. stamps — "dots and dashes" in abundance. With that as an example, I decided that patriotism, for once, was not a paying proposition, and thereafter I confined my collection of Union Stamps to a straightforward 'Gibbons' collection.

My first experience of buying stamps from "approvals" resulted from an advertisement in an English periodical "Send for my approval selections and obtain a magnificent free casket containing tweezers (that don't grip), magnifying glass (that you can't see through), watermark detector (that I didn't know how to use) and perforation gauge (that I really wasn't interested in anyway). Of course the main object was to obtain the "free casket", but my conscience prompted me to select a "fine" set of Guatemala, for which I think I paid 9d.

In the course of time one makes mistakes, and I must admit to many, but not all of them have had unfortunate consequences — for instance, unaware of the fact that the S.W.A. Silver Jubilee stamps were bi-lingual, I ordered a set of pairs, mint and used, from the P.O. at Windhoek. The face value (in pairs) is only 2/-, but the current catalogue value is well over £10.

The inevitable "shark" crosses one's path in philately no less than it does in other spheres of life, and the incident called to mind in this connection occurred in Zanzibar. I was travelling up that way in 1937, and no sooner had the boat anchored, than it was overrun with swarms of individuals selling silks, ivory, curios — and stamps, the Sultan's Silver Jubilee issue. These, I was assured, had been sold out within a month of issue (December 1936, and it was then April 1937), and the price of 2.50 was a real bargain. Being of a somewhat cautious nature, I decided to wait, and on going ashore, found that I could still purchase unlimited quantities at the P.O. at the face value, 1.05 per set.

In the course of my service in Italy during the war, I picked up a set of the Channel Islands stamp — the full set, of which, by some unknown chance, I still retain three specimens. On my return to the Union in December 1944, I very proudly showed them to friends at a meeting in Johannesburg, and asked if anyone knew anything about them. I was met with much derisive laughter and such comments as "They must have seen you coming" and "specially printed for you, old boy," and so, thinking that I had been 'had' after all, for surely they would have been known about if they were genuine, I gradually disposed of them.

I was really not in the fortunate position of many, who, in their army travels, were able to get in early and pick up all sorts of interesting bits and pieces, but in Tunisia I did make one visitation upon a somewhat derelict P.O., still functioning in a sort of haphazard fashion, and acquired a reasonable selection of current Tunisian stamps. It was from that country, too, and from Algeria, that the first of the Victory stamps were issued.

In Cairo I visited a number of stamp dealers, but decided that the prices were far too high, even for the privilege of patronising their select establishments, so instead I went to the P.O. and lined up with a hundred and one dirty yelling, gesticulating and not altogether pleasant individuals. On reaching the counter, and asking for one stamp of each value, I was told that philatelists were specially catered for at the third door on the right. There I was asked if I required a set mint or used — a mint set, in a nice cellophane envelope, was handed to me (no extra charge for the envelope), but had I required a used set, I learned that they would have been cancelled 'to order'.

Being a secretary has its perks (no aspersions — any allusions being purely coincidental), and an interesting item which came my way was a photographic copy of what was claimed to be the first adhesive stamp, invented by one John Chalmers some years before the advent of the 'Penny Black'. The descendants of this John

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Chalmers have staked their claim more than once, but I fear have received no recognition.

Luck in our Lotteries may be against me, but I have fared better philatelically. The basis of my New Hebrides collection, a mint set of the English and French issues of 1938, was won in a raffle in Johannesburg. The set was sent out to the Society in their New Issue Service, and as there were no bidders when it was put up for auction, the set was raffled in accordance with their usual custom.

First Day covers were, at one time, quite a rage — to a certain extent, they still find favour with many philatelists, though I feel that the first day cover has now been over-commercialised with specially prepared envelopes, etc. But what of the "sunset" cover, posted on the last day of issue? Some enthusiasts tried it out but the vogue did not catch on.

The Voortrekker celebrations held in Pretoria, Dec., 1949, bring to mind previous commemorative issues, dated as far back as 1933, and the special arrangements made by the P.O. for mail to be carried on the Great Trek in 1938, with special cancellations at the historical places en route.

I have a small item which forms the subject of a controversy, not yet finally settled, as far as I can see, for it cropped up only recently in the "S.A. Philatelist". At the time, I submitted it to the postal authorities in Beira, and received the reply you will see; but you will also note the comments made by the editor of the S.A.P.

I suppose one is ever hopeful of making a rare find, and for that reason, with each new acquisition, out comes the magnifying glass and all the paraphernalia — how many of you have had any luck? I can't claim to any really big discovery, but in the current issue of Mocambique, I have found a reversed $ — a small variety, but one which I have not seen recorded in any philatelic publication to date.

I cannot conclude without reference to my old favourite "The Silver Wedding Issue". The specimen I am showing is known to you all. The only reason I have brought it out, and why I am rather proud of it, is the postmark. It came on a letter in the ordinary mail from London, and in view of all that has been said to the discredit of the British P.O., and some of the horrible cancellations we have seen, I consider it a "rare" specimen indeed.

You will also notice that the cover is endorsed "Opened by Customs" for at that particular time the export of postage stamps, unused, was forbidden.

COCOS-KEELING ISLANDS.

These coral atolls in the Indian Ocean, some 600 miles from Java, have so far had no stamps nor any regular postal service, and they have till recently been ruled by the Clunies-Ross family since 1825 although annexed to the Straits Settlements in 1878.

The British Government recently transferred control to Australia, which wishes to use the islands as an intermediate station on an Australian-South African air service; so presumably they will soon be getting their own stamps or Commonwealth stamps overprinted.

SHORT NOTICES.

Robson Lowe Ltd.

Last season's sales totalled just over £200,000, an increase of £41,522 over the previous year. This figure was made up of £68,605 at British Empire Specialized stamp sales; £23,205 at Foreign Ditto; £53,594 Great Britain Ditto; £46,236 at Bournemouth sales and £8,504 at Postal History Auctions. Private treaty and retail sales in the same period amounted to £58,261, an increase of over £11,000.

"Itep". We have received Bull. No. 3 of this International Exhibition at Utrecht in 1952. This gives the full classification for Entries. We note. that all British Dominions, Colonies, Protectorates and Mandates come into one and the same group — all right if every entry is judged on its merits, but rough on smaller countries if they are competing against the big ones. Thematic collections are only by invitation and not for competition.

S. Rhodesia. July 13-16, 1953 have been fixed on as the probable dates for the Philatelic Federation's Congress in that year, and the Philatelic Exhibition in Bulawayo. All part of Rhodesia's Centenary celebrations. We hear also that a new philatelic society has started in Umtali. Durban hasn't even given us a provisional date for the 1954 Congress. Time they were getting a move on!

Posseëlversameling. This little book by Oom Nico which was advertised in our August issue, is we think, the first work to be published in Afrikaans on philately. It is meant for beginning collectors and appears to meet the case excellently. Obtainable from the A.P.B. Boekhandel, 76a Joubert Street, Johannesburg, price 4/9 post free.

H. R. Harmer.

Some very fine collections, mainly but not entirely of British Commonwealth stamps, covers and cancellations, are up for auction in October and November. See our adversisement for fuller details.

Robson Lowe.

The third portion of the J. D. Seymour collection of Great Britain is being auctioned on 7 November. Penny Blacks are the star item, but there are numerous small lots of these and other early issues which should be attractive to those wishing to fill blankes in their collections.

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CORRESPONDENCE

HORIZONTAL PAIRS.

The Editor,

Sir,

Your answer to Mr. Stott concerning horizontal pairs, as printed in "Union Notes" in the May number of S.A. Philatelist, is, in my opinion, unsatisfactory. In attempting to walk a tightrope between tradition and good sense, you have failed to point out the most significant factor of all.

If one collects mint copies, one has the opportunity to purchase singles or twins, and, if twins, in either vertical or horizontal combination. But, if one collects used copies, the decision is contingent upon the prevailing practice not of collectors but of correspondents.

I personally have little patience with the collector of mint "virgins". The purpose of a postage stamp is to transport postage, and not to be a pretty (?) picture. If you want mints, go ahead and collect 'em, but, don't flourish them under my nose as "postage" material. They are no more postage than a seed is a tree, or a prospector's note book a gold mine.

In postage service, stamps turn up in all sorts of combinations: clean and dirty, whole and mutilated, in pairs and singly. Take an impartial sampling of post office transactions, and you will find that fairly clean, whole, singles (not twins) predominate. That beine the case, the aim of the collector of Union postage stamps should be, above all, to acquire a collection of representative postal practice. Twins are not regular practice, therefore twins should not be the standard of collecting. Twins are a variety, and should be considered as such.

If it should be found in postal practice that vertical combinations occur the more frequently (and I think they will, because senders tear them off that way), then the standard should be vertical pairs for philatelists (i.e., collectors of used stamps, as distinct from collectors of postal art, who really should wear antiseptic gloves and avoid crowds!)

I don't care what mint collectors prescribe as their own fashion. They can take it vertically or horizontally, whichever way they wish — and undoubtedly they will continue to do so long after I'm dead. But I insist that they lay off trying to tell me what I should do in developing a collection representative of what goes through the post office.

What are we? — a gaggle of geese to be scared by a horizontal-twin rattle shaken by dealers? or independent thinkers, collecting what **we** like because **we** like it., and because our collections represent not only the services of a great modern governmental servic to the people, but also the practices of the people themselves?

Yours etc.,

O. L. HARVEY.

Maryland, U.S.A.

STUDY YOUR COUNTRIES STAMPS

Sir,

UNION ½d. HYPHENATED REDRAWN SERIES.

With reference to the list of this series, as given in the notes "The Tabulated Summaries of the Union of S.A. Pictorial Issues ½d. to 10/- (1926 to 1950)" edited by P. D. Haigh and published by the South African Collectors' Society of Great Britain and by comparison with the data given in the S.A. Philatelist (April 1949) of the Summary of Printing changes in the ½d. Redrawn Secies" (1941-1949), it is apparent there is no agreement between the two series in regard to the issues during 1947.

Thus the British list mentions a specific cylinder 48/6933 size 18 mm. in which the first stamp of the sheet is stated to be in English. The S.A. Philatelist does not indicate this cylinder printing and gives the first change in size and language progression as occurring only much later in the same year—November, 1947.

Could any of the Union Collectors help in the identification of this unreported cylinder?

Further in connection with the identification of cylnders, it would be much appreciated if in the new Union (Van Riebeeck) Catalogue, towards the compilation of which many eminent Union Specialists are now so unstintly devoting so much of their valuable time, an additional guide of marginal cylinder or printing-process signs (besides arrows) could be provided so as to assist newcomers like myself who may be hampered either by a paucity of material or by the lack of readily available literature.

While the earlier material of this series appears to be practically non-obtainable, examination of more recent material reveals the existence of two constant marginal guides:—

(1) Plate 8—green poached egg right bottom corner.
(2) Plates 11 and 12—2 small green dots in left hand bottom corner persisting throughout an amazing variety of shade changes.

No doubt these identification marks have been recorded before, but their tabulation where applicable should prove both immensely useful and popular.

Yours etc.,

G. I. FAERBER.

UNION REVENUE STAMPS.

With much pleasure I notice an article in your issue of September 1951, with reference to Union Revenue Stamps; based on a letter received from Mr. A. H. Sydow.

Is it possible that at long last more interest is being taken in this fascinating sideline of the Union stamps, which incidentally is within reach of the mddle income group?

On reading the last paragraph of the article to which I refer, it would appear that the fact that the Revenue stamps, from the issue of 1931 onwards bear the year of issue below the King's Head in minute figures has not been emphasized, a point which adds much interest to these stamps. This, incidentally was brought to my notice by the late Dr. Robert Broom who was such an extraordinary observer of the minutiae in anything that interested him.

Yours etc.,

LEONARD J. DODD.

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Handbook / Catalogue

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SAN MARINO. 1894. 1L. used. S.G.34 ..... £3
ST LUCIA. 1860. 6d. A mint marginal pr. S.G.3 £40
SARDINIA. 1853. 40c. mint. S.G.10 ..... £12
SCINDE. 1852. ½d. S.G. S.1 used £10
SERBIA. 1866. 2p. A mint sheet of 12. S.G.4 ..... £50
SOUTH AUSTRALIA. 1868. 10d. in black on 9d. A mint pair. S.G.79 ..... £25
SICILY. 1859. 1Cr. Russet-brown, unused. S.G. 2a £75
SHANGHAI. 1866. 8c. An imperf. block of 4. S.G.40a £25
SPAIN. 1865. 12c. perf. 14, frame inv. used. S.G.171 ..... £60
TASMANIA. 1856. 2d. A record used copy. S.G.20 £45
TRINIDAD. 1860. 1d. dull red. A mint block of 30. S.G.23 ..... £30
TURKS IS. 1867. 6d. Die Proof in black £22
VIRGIN IS. 1888. 4d. on 1/-, surcharge double, mint. S.G. 42a £75
WESTERN AUSTRALIA. 1857. 2d. used. S.G.15 ..... £15
U.S.A. 1867. 12c. Grill 11 by 13. A used block of 4. S.G.174 ..... £75
FR. ZANZIBAR. 1893. 3a. on 30c., 3 inverted, mint in pair with normal. The only known copy, signed Gilbert £100
ZULULAND. 1894. £1 used. S.G.28 ..... £6

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1952 EXHIBITION AND CONGRESS.

As most of our readers are probably aware by this time, but memories need jogging sometimes, The Cape Town International Exhibition opens on Wednesday, March 26th, 1952 and remains open till Saturday, April 5th|

The Philatelic Congress of Southern Africa will be held on March 27th and 28th, continuing if necessary, on Sat.,, Martch 29th, but it is hoped, and expected, that this will not be necessary.

In addition to the Commissioners mentioned in our last issue, we are now informed that Messrs. Guilio Bolaffi of Turin and Edgar Morhmann of Hamburg are acting respectively for Italy and Germany.

The Netherlands, French and Belgian Governments have signified their intention of sending out official exhibits. There will probably also be one from the British postal authorities, additional of course to the selection from the Royal Collection being brought by Sir John Wilson.

The Exhibition Committee has been appointed sole concessionaire for the issue of the Official Tercentenary Cover, which will bear the official emblem, etc. Quite possibly there will be two different covers, which will be on sale at the Foreshore (where the general exhibition is to be) as well as at the Philatelic Exhibition itself.

Entries of proposed exhibits up-to-date are very satisfactory, including quite a number of overseas, but the Committee are most anxious that anyone proposing to exhibit should send in their Provisional Entry Forms very soon now. They must know at an early date how to apportion their frames.

Accommodation in Cape Town during the period of the celebrations and the Exhibition is going to be a difficult problem. If intending visitors have not already fixed up and if they wish assistance in the matter they should write at once to the Hon. Organiser, P.O. Box 558, Cape Town.

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SWITZERLAND.

The National Philatelic Exhibition "Lunaba" being held in Lucerne 29 Stp. to 7 Oct. is having a Miniature Sheet of 40c. denomination, but it is being sold for Frs. 3.

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Boy Scouts and Stamps

by W. KRISTE.
(Pretoria Railway Philatelic Society.)

A short while ago I read an article in one of the overseas philatelic journals, wherein the writer stated that he had found the collecting of all George VI issues becoming too vast, and he intended looking around for one or two countries, preferably foreign, from which he might be able to build up fairly reasonable collections. I do not fully agree with him even though he is backed up by a large number of collectors. Rather would I suggest that he turn to a thematic collection, choosing a subject that will prove interesting and at the same time will form a fairly substantial general collection.

On paging through a catalogue I was struck by the number of stamps which have been issued depicting Boy Scouts or the Boy Scout Movement, and a collection of Boy Scout stamps of the World affords a study of great interest and fascination and is in itself a general collection in miniature. It is really a collection of designs rather than the varieties, errors, etc. of the specialist but the survey is world wide and according to my list a large number of countries have issued stamps either depicting Scounts or referring to the Scouting movement in some form or other.

Before passing on to a list and description of Scouting stamps a short history of this very fine world wide movement, and of the organiser will not come amiss. The Boy Scouts movement was originated by the late Lord Baden-Powell during 1908 after he had toyed with the idea for a number of years. He first conceived the idea in 1897 when he applied Scout training ideas to the young soldiers in the 5th Dragoon Guards, and during the siege of Mafeking, the responsibilities shouldered by the young boys led Baden-Powell to go further into the position of Scouting.

Inside two years the Boy Scout Organisation had spread through England, Ireland, Scotland and Wales to New Zealand, a large number of British Colonies and to Chile, the first foreign country to form a Scout Troop, and the total membership at that time was roughly 100,000 By 1912 the movement was world wide, such countries as U.S.A., Russia, China and Japan having fallen for the idea in a very big way. The first census of Scouts taken in 1932 showed that there were over a million in 32 different countries and by 1939 this figure had increased to almost 3½ million.

To start my collection of Boy Scout stamps I would have the stamp showing General Baden-Powell as depicted on one of the Mafeking Siege stamps. This stamp, a 3d. blue, designed by Captain Greener, shows the head and shoulders of Baden-Powell — affectionately known as "B.-P." to all Boy Scouts and Girl Guides. The other stamp of this set shows the young Sergeant Major Goodyear with his bicycle. Goodyear was in charge of the Cadets who did such wonderful work during the siege — in fact, when B.-P. remonstrated with Goodyear for carrying a message through heavy gunfire, the reply he got was that he could cycle so fast that enemy bullets would not catch him! It was such instances that brought to B.-P.'s notice to what uses boys could be put — in fact, the origin of the Boy Scout Movement. Both these stamps will be found in two sizes and these will prove to be the most expensive of the Boy Scout collection.

In 1918 Czecho-Slovakia became a Republic and the first two Republican stamps were a 10H. Blue and 20H. Red. The first postal deliveries of the new Republic were undertaken by the Boy Scouts, hence the inclusion of these two stamps in the collection. During 1919 Siam overprinted stamps for the purpose of raising money for the Scout Funds. Three different overprints were used, the first, being a Tiger's head and Siamese characters, on six stamps. Later a further 5 stamps were similarly overprinted but with the addition of the words "Scout Fund" added in English and then in 1920 another 7 stamps were overprinted the same. The Tiger's head overprint was to denote the "Wild Tiger Corps", the name given to the Boy Scout Movement in that Country.

Actually the Boy Scout Movement was not shown on stamps until 1925 when Hungary produced a set of stamps covering outdoor life, among which is a 1000 Koruna stamp showing a Scout Bugler. Four years later Russia issued 2 stamps for the all-Russia Gathering of Pioneers. Although Scouting had been abolished from Russia in 1932 the Bugler shown on these stamps is wearing a Scout Uniform and for a number of years after their issue, Stanley Gibbons in the Standard Catalogue quoted a Scout, though today he is referred to as a Pioneer.

In 1931 Roumania entered the field when a Boy Scout Exhibition was staged and a set of stamps was issued in aid of the Scout Fund. This set comprised 5 stamps all showing Scouting activities. The following year a finely printed set of six stamps was issued by the same country for their National Jamboree while at the same time that minute European Principality, Liechtenstein issued a set of three Stamps for the Youth Fund, the 30r. plus 10r. stamp showing two boy Scouts in the frame.

In 1933, the fourth Scout World Jamboree held at Godollo in Hungary brought forth a set of five stamps depicting the leaping white stag of Hungary, this being also the badge of the Jamboree at Maraia and surplus stocks of the 1932 issue were overprinted, the 3 lower values in black and the other 3 in gold, with the words "Mamaia 1934" and the arms of Constanza.

To mark the 5th Anniversary of the accession of King Carol in 1934, a new idea was born, when Roumania issued stamps to commemorate the event and as King Carol was very keen on Scouting the motif of this issue was Scouts; and Scout Funds benefitted from the sales. This happened each year for a number of years but actually the last Scout stamps as such were issued in 1936, which year saw the last of O.E.T.R. to which body the Scout movement was affiliated, as O.E.T.R. was disbanded.

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"Straja Tariis", the National Youth Movement took its place and as in other Communist controlled countries, Scouts were banned and all future stamps were issued bearing the words "Straja Tarii" and naturally do not fall under Boy Scout Stamps.

Then came the Fifth world Jamboree held at the picturesquely named Vogelenzang, in Holland when 30,000 Scouts of 31 nations gathered to form one of the biggest Jamborees ever held. Holland issued a commemorative set of three stamps, while the Dutch Indies also put out a set of two. 1938 saw two further countries issue Scout stamps, Turkey and Lithuania. One stamp of a set of six issued by the former showed Scout Buglers, while Lithuania overprinted the set of four stamps which had been issued for the first National Olympic Fund. The sale of the overprinted stamps was in aid of Boy Scout and Girl Guide National Camp Fund.

The next issue was purely feminine when in 1939 at Godollo, Hungary, the Girl Guide First Peace Parliament or "I Pax Ting" was held and to commemorate this event the Hungarian authorities issued a beautifully designed and printed set of four stamps. Both 1940 and 1941 saw Hungary issue sets of Air Mail stamps in aid of the Admiral Horthy Fund, and one stamp in each set shows a Scout, the 1940 stamp showing a Scout flying a kite and the 1941 shows an Air Scout with a model plane. In 1942 Bulgaria also showed her appreciation of Boy Scouts by issuing two stamps in a series of five, depicting Scouts.

The New Zealand Health Stamps of 1944 are the next on the list and these show Princess Elizabeth in the uniform of a Sea Ranger and Princess Margaret as a Guide Patrol Leader. In 1946, Turkey issued a set of eight stamps to levy a compulsory tax for Charity and one stamp of this set, the 40K, shows a boy scout.

The end of World War II saw the delayed World Jamboree held in France during 1947 and this was called the "Jamboree de la Paix", the Peace Jamboree. Here 30,000 Scouts of 42 nations congregated and to commemorate this event, the French Post Office issued a 5 franc stamp. 1948 saw three issues of Scout stamps, the Philippines, where a set of two stamps, both perforate and imperforate were issued to commemorate the 25th Anniversary of the Founding of the Boy Scout Movement in the Islands, followed by America, with the stamp commemorating Juliette Gordon Low, the Founder of the U.S. Girl Guides, and Australia with a 2½d. stamp issued in honour of the Pan-Pacific Jamboree.

The list is by no means complete as in 1949 Japan entered with one stamp to commemorate a National Scout Rally, Holland with her annual Summer Charity set depicted the Scouts on two stamps of the 1949 series, while in the same year Nicaragua in their "Sports" set showed Scouts on the 2 cents postage and 2 cordobas Air Mail Stamps. The last stamp that I have on my list is the U.S.A. 3 cent brown stamp issued last year in hour of the National Scout Jamboree held at Valley Forge.

I hope that this short article has been of some interest to collectors, who have been or still are Scouts, as well as non-Scouts.

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The Transfer Roller Dies of the Union 2d. Pictorial Stamps Rotary Recessed-Printed by Bradbury, Wilkinson & Co., Limited.

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

The original twopenny bicoloured pictorial postage stamps of the Union of South Africa were recessed-printed on rotary machines from curved line-engraved intaglio steel plates by Bradbury, Wilkinson and Company Limited of New Malden, Surrey, England.

The frames of these 2d. stamps were inscribed in English and in Afrikaans alternately throughout the sheet. The frame-enclosed vignettes common to both inscribed languages displayed the Pretoria Union Buildings.

The said twopenny stamps which received their premiere during March 1927 were printed on the familiar "Springbok Head" multiple watermarked paper from 240-set plates and from 120-set plates.

Two separate Master Dies were engraved on steel for the frames of this denomination, namely, one for the English inscribed stamps and the other for the Afrikaans inscribed ones. Apart from their text matter certain lines of design on the frames of the English inscribed stamps differed from those on the frames of their Afrikaans confreres. On the English stamps **nine** thin horizontal lines formed the frame inside the two broader horizontal lines in the vicinity of the bottom left-hand corner whilst on the Afrikaans stamps **ten** thin horizontal lines formed the frame inside the two broader lines in the area near the bottom left-hand corner; the ninth and the tenth lines were engraved closer to each other than the other ones. These two Master Dies were used also for the manufacture of the frame plate for the ten shillings denomination.

The frame plates of the twopenny denominations were prepared as follows:—

(I) Master or Primary Die No. 1 of Softened Steel. "Frame" with "South Africa" engraved hereon negative, lines of design intaglio. Hardened and taken up by

(II) Master or Primary Die No. 2 of Softened Steel "Frame" with "Suidafrika" engraved hereon negative, lines of design intaglio. Hardened and taken up by

(III) Softened Steel Transfer Roller
1e—First impression from Primary Die No. 1.
2e—Second impression from Primary Die No. 1.
1a—First impression from Primary Die No. 2.
2a—Second impression from Primary Die No. 2.
"Frames", "South Africa" and "Suidafrika" hereon positive and in relievo. Hardened and taken up by

(IV) Secondary Die No. 1 Softened Steel (from 1e). "10/-" and "Postage" engraved hereon negative. Now called the "E" Die. Lines of design intaglio. Hardened and taken up by

(V) Secondary Die No. 2 Softened Steel (from 1a). "10/-" and "Posseel" engraved hereon negative. Now called the "A" die. lines of design intaglio. Hardened and taken up by

(VI) Softened and Steel Transfer Roller
E1—First impression from Secondary Die No. 1.
A1—First impression from Secondary Die No. 2.
A2—Second impression from Secondary Die No. 2.
E2—Second impression from Secondary Die No. 1.
Hardened and taken up by the 120-set printing plate for the 10/- denomination.

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(VII) Secondary Die No. 3 Softened Steel. from 2e). "2d." and "Postage" engraved hereon negative. Now called the "E" Die. lines of design intaglio. Hardened and taken up by

(VIII) Secondary Die No. 4 Softened Steel. (from 2a). "2d." and "Posseel" engraved hereon negative. Now called the "A" Die. lines of design intaglio. Hardened and taken up by

(IX) Softened Steel Transver Roller (No. 1.)
E1—First impression from Secondary Die No. 3.
A1—First impression from Secondary Die No. 4.
A2—Second impression from Secondary Die No. 4.
E2—Second impression from Secondary Die No. 3.
"Frames", "South Africa," "Suidafrika", "Postage", "Posseel", and "2d." and "2d." hereon as depicted in **Sketch No. 1.** Hard ened and transferred to 240-set Frame Printing Plate in 4 panels of 60 units each. **Frame Plate No. 1.**

(X) Softened Steel Transfer Roller (No. 2).
E1—Third impression from Secondary Die No. 3.
A1—Third impression from Secondary Die No. 4.
A2—Fourth impression from Secondary Die No. 4.
E2—Fourth impression from Secondary Die No. 3.
"Frames", "South Africa", "Suidafrika", "Postage", "Posseel", and "2d." and "2d." hereon positive and in relievo. Four units hereon as depicted in **Sketch No. 2.** Hardened and transferred to 120-set Frame Printing Plates in 2 panels of 60 units each. **Frame Plate No. 2** and **Frame Plate No. 3.**

(XI) The negative and intaglio frame designs on the 240-set **Frame Plate No. 1** were obtained by means of 60 (fourfold) transfers under mechanical pressure from the 4-st **Transfer Roller No. 1.**

(XII) The negative and intaglio frame designs on the 120-set **Frame Plates No. 2 and No. 3** were obtained by means of 30 (fourfold) transfer under pressure from the 4-set **Transfer Roller No. 2.**

In a letter to the writer by Bradbury, Wilkinson & Company Limited it is stated that—

"Our plates are prepared by the transfer process, that is to say, a replica of the original die is rolled into the steel printing-plate by a steel roller under great presspure."

Of course, the phrase "a replica of the original die" should read "replicas of the original dies" when applied to the Union 8d. pictorials with their alteration of language inscriptions throughout the sheet.

Variations in Frame and Vignette Dimensions.

(a) Frame Plate No. 1 rolled in from Transfer No. 1.

The frames of the stamps printed from the No. 1 Frame Plate of 240 units measured 28mm x 22mm. The vertical perforation gutters between E1 over the A2 and the A1 over the E2 stamps throughout the sheet measured 2½ mm. See Sketch No. 1. The horizontal perforation gutters between the E1/A1 and the A2/E2 stamps throughout the sheet measured 3 mm. in width.

The vignettes printed from the No. 1 Vignette Plate of 240 units measured 15mm. from the extremity of the pinnacle of the left dome to that of the right dome.

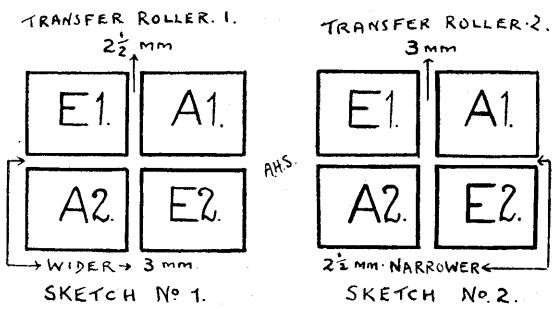
(b) Frame Plates Nos. 2 and 3 rolled in from Transfer Roller No. 2.

The frames of the stamps derived from the No. 2 and the No. 3 Frame Plates of 120 units each measured 27½ mm. x 22¼ mm. The vertical perforation gutters between the E1 over the A2 and the A1 over the E2 stamps throughout the sheet measured 3mm. See Sketch No. 2. The horizontal perforation gutters between the E1/A1 and the A2/E2 stamps throughout the sheet measured 2½mm. in width.

The vignettes printed from the No. 2 and the No. 3 Vignette Plates of 120 units each measured 14½ mm. from the extremity of the one pinnacle to that of the other.

The measurements given under the above (a) and (b) categories are to the nearest ½ mm.

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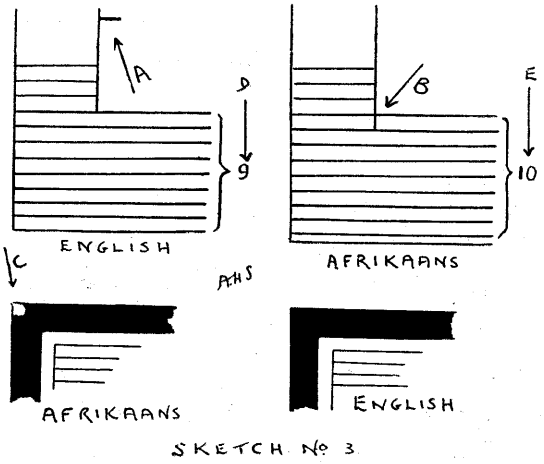


Master Die Characteristics.

The characteristics depicted in Sketch No. 3 appeared on all the English inscribed and the Afrikaans inscribed frames of the stamps printed from Frame Plates Nos. 1, 2 and 3 irrespective of lengthwise and widthwise measurement variation.

(a) English inscribed frames.

A projection arrowed "A" and nine thin horizontal frame lines arrowed "D" near bottom left corner.



SKETCH Nº 3

(b) Afrikaans inscribed frames.

Projection of vertical frame line arrowed "B", and ten thin horizontal frame lines arrowed "E" near bottom left corner. A white space arrowed "C" on the top left corner.

FEMININE FRUSTRATION.

I planned an evening all my own,
To chat upon the telephone,
To listen to a lovely play,
And potter round in many a way!

But all my plans went to the wall —
He thought he'd stay in after all!
And said with charm to melt a stone,
"You might be lonely on your own!"

He cleared the table for himself,
Then from his cupboard's secret shelf
Produced stamp albums, boxes, glue,
And all the strangest gadgets, too!

So there he sat with jaunty air,
Like any schoolboy at a fair,
But when I ventured a remark,
He looked as angry as a shark!

At intervals I heard him speak,
But what he said was so much Greek!
And very soon it dawned on me,
'Twas just a stamp soliloquy!

I then decided from this bore,
To seek some comfort right next door.
I threw him an unwanted kiss,
And left him to his world of bliss!

MARGARET CAMERON.

PHILIPPINES.

August 26 saw the issue of three stamps with the City of Iloilo Coat-of-Arms. The date is also the 55th anniversary of the beginning of the revolution against Spanish rule.

PHILIPINES

To be issued on 29 Sept. a new 50c. Air Letter Sheet, coincidentally with the 50th anniversary of the ratification of Philippine Independence.

Collectors' Wants & Offers

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

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

Wanted: German South West Africa Special Items, Specimens, Covers, etc.—L. BUCHEN, P.O. Box 4012, Johannesburg.

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

50% over Gibbons Catalogue price offered for a superb Mint and Used copy of Seychelles, S.G. 52A.—WILLIAM REDFORD, P.O. Box 1182, Johannesburg.

Required Switzerland. All issues mint used and Covers for cash or exchange for Geo. VI. B. JOSEPH, P.O. Box 375, Johannesburg

Falkland Islands Specialist Material Covers and Post Marks wanted.—E. L. STERN, P.O. Box 7818, Johannesburg.

GEORGE VI WANTED (Mint Only). Specimen sets of the following African Colonies: Bechuanaland 1938 issue, Gambia 1938 issue, Gold Coast, 1938 issue, Northern Rhodesia, 1938 issue, Nyasaland 1945 issue, St. Helena 1938 issue, Seychelles, 1938 issue, Somaliland, 1942 issue. Speciment sets of all Coronation and Victory Issues. Send details and quotations to B. GLASSMAN, P.O. Box 10, Johannesburg.

WANTED: Latvia any out of the way items, proofs, colour trials, forgeries, varieties, also collections and kiloware.—J. MICHELSON, Box 9314, Johannesburg.

WANTED: Booklets, Post Cards, Registered Envelopes and Airletter Cards, unused and used of Union only.—Dr. MURRAY, Kuilsriver.

ISRAEL.

Messrs. Whitfield King report the issue of three new air stamps as due in September, of 5, 15 and 40 pruta values.

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AUSTRALIAN STAMPS OVERPRINTED "B.C.O.F."

by B. GLASSMAN.

(Read at a meeting of the Philatelic Society of Johannesburg).

This issue of stamps is perhaps one of the most misunderstood of all Commonwealth issues of recent times. This was not a set issued to obtain money or mulct the collector but was issued to prevent an illegality! During 1946 Australian troops in Japan, with plenty of money and no means of legally transmitting any back home, started to purchase the current Australian stamps on sale at base camps and then sending these to relatives at home to cash at the post office. All the loss entailed was the 10 per cent. commission deducted by the post office for handling.

It was through this financial loophole that the Military Authorities decided to have the Australian stamps over-printed and only sold in limited quantities. These new stamps were to be valid for use only in Japan and some surrounding islands. This method accomplished what the authorities intended in that no more stamps were sent back for 'cashing in'. Unfortunately the Military Authorities would not entertain the idea of selling to dealers and in no time many troops caught on and started to sell these stamps to dealers at prices far in excess of the face value, thus creating a greater loophole than before.

The first issue appeared on the 11th October, 1946 and consisted of three values viz.: ½d., 1d. and 3d. Preliminary printings of all three values appeared with a red overprint whilst a gold overprint appeared on the 3d. value. These were trials although a few escaped and have appeared on the market in very small quantities. All copies are in mint condition and no used copies are known to exist. The issued values appeared with a very thin overprint in a very dull grey black. Three days later these stamps were withdrawn from sale. Used satmps showing these dates are very scarce and command high prices.

Eight months later on the 8th May, 1947, these stamps were again issued together with further values, i.e., 6d., 1/-, 2/- and 5/-. The overprint used was the same as that for the three values issued in 1946. "B.C.O.F. JAPAN 1946". It is not known why the year was not changed although it is thought that in order to prevent the earlier issue from forgery the same year was used.

It is quite easy to differentiate the two printings as in this printing the overprint on the ½d. is much thicker whilst on the 1d. and 3d. the overprint is a bright glossy black. The other values all have a thin overprint. Subsequent printings of the 6d., 1/- and 2/- have thicker overprints whilst the 5/- appeared on the thin paper. The printing was undertaken by the Hiroshima Printing Works under the order of the British Command Base.

Many flaws such as malformed letters, figures, partial overprints, plate flaws, missing stops and raised 9's exist on nearly all printings giving collectors a wonderful field for study and plating.

These stamps were on sale for quite a time, only being withdrawn on February 12th, 1949 when they were not only carefully burnt under strict observation but also demonetised on the same day. No leakages occurred and every stamp unsold was burnt.

The official list of the number of stamps sold as supplied by the authorities is as follows: ½d., 189,670; 1d., 378,750; 3d., 891,643; 6d., 136,133; 1/-, 131,055; 2/-, 62,651; and 5/-, 32,508. Included in the figure for the 5/- value are both papers. It is known that about 8,000 of the thin paper variety were overprinted and no doubt all the 5/- values that were burnt consisted of this variety so that the number available for collectors must be far short of this figure. It is thus seen that the number of complete sets with both 5/- values cannot exceed 8,000 as a maximum.

SECOND POSTAL AUCTION

November 28, 1951.

I am still able to include lots of good single stamps on country collections.

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LEVANT, Beirut Provisional.

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D. C. D. CASTLE,

COOPER STREET, GREYTOWN, NATAL.

NEW REPUBLIC AND SEYCHELLES.

These two territories are grouped here, not because there is any postal connection between them, but because an article on each happens to be in the July number of the "London Philatelist."

Mr. C. A. Stonehill writes on the Cinderella of Southern African countries — the "New Republic . . . Used and Abused." In a well documented article he brings forward very convincing evidence that there was a genuine need for the stamps of medium and high value — gold parcels being the main explanation. He does not question that while some of them may have been, and probably were, made for collectors, others were actually and properly used, not merely the 1d. and 2d., which some maintain were the only ones really postally used. He describes and illustrates some ten different types of cancellations, but three of them are probably fiscal, not postal.

Seychelles stamps and Postal History are dealt with very interestingly by Mr. H. V. Farmer and there is a lot of information not generally well known, especially about the provisional issues

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SOUTH WEST AFRICA

1935 Silver Jubilee, mint or used, sets 35/-
1937 Coronation, mint or used at face 5/-
1938 Voortrekkers, the two mint sets 20/-
1941. Large wars, mint, all in pairs 12/6
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1938. K.L.M. special flight covers with both 1938 Voortrekker sets cancelled Pretoria and Amsterdam 20/-
1941. Large wars, all in pairs, mint, better colours 12/6
1943. Bantam wars, mint, all in pairs and trips including pairs 1/3's 12/6
1945. Victories S.A. and overprints, mint 6/-
1947. African royal visits complete mint 5/-

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G. J. de SWARDT

P.O. Box 281, Pretoria.

SOUTH AFRICA

INTER-PROVINCIAL

POSTMARKS

A four volume collection of some 2,750 items written up for Exhibition purposes, being a study of the distribution of the stamps of Cape, Natal, O.R.C. and Transvaal over the Union of South Africa 1910-13, with a very wide range of cancellations and dates.

The collection is replete with high values, there being over 100 of 5/-, 10/-, and £1 stamps, and among the many fine covers is a combination cover shewing "Shipping Postmaster Cape Town." There are virtually no duplicates.

The whole forms a collection of material which is becoming increasingly elusive, and is probably an entity impossible to duplicate.

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½d. 1949 Ptg. with 5 black Nos., mint block 4/6
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1d. Pl. 8, St. Elmo's Light on E and A, both wmks, 4 pairs 7/6
1d. Pl. 8, line through KA, both wmks., 2 used pairs 3/6
1d. Pl. 8, broken H, both wmks., 2 used pairs 3/6
1d. Pl. 9, normal wmk., blue centres, used pair 2/6
1d. Cyl 6a/b, "Balloon" variety, in mint block 3/6
1d. do. fire in rigging, and retouched ship, bl. 4/6
1½d. large mine, Pl. 1, broken chimney, mint pr. 5/6
1½d. do, Pl. 2, ladder', used pair 3/6
1½d. medium mine, Pl. 2, gold blob in tower, mint pair 1/6
1½d. do., Pl. 2, dot in 1½d., mint pair 1/6
2d. roto., Pl. 3, aeroplane at left, used pair 3/6
1d. Roto. Pl. 7, "rigging on fire" (dragon), used pair 2/6
1d. Pl. 8 "hight diver", both wmks., 2 used prs. 4/6
6d. current Cyl., chestnut, fallen leaf, mint pr. 4/6

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A. Lichtenstein

B.P.A.

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THE COMMONWEALTH CATALOGUE OF K.G. VI STAMPS

We are glad to be able to announce that the 1952 edition of the Commonwealth Catalogue will be published Oct. 31st and advance orders prove how satisfied collectors were with the previous edition.

Of particular interest to South African collectors, is the fact that the South African list has been completely revised and we think that even an advanced collector will find the list of interest whilst the ordinary collector will be impressed by the simplicity of the list in question; of all lists for that matter, for clarity has been the guiding point.

The question of prices (real prices) has not been overlooked, and we think we can claim with all honesty that no collector of K.G. VI stamps can afford to go without a copy of the "Commonwealth." Just ask any user of the last edition, and don't forget that the new edition is completely revised and brought up to date.

A word of warning. Last time hundreds ordered too late, so do not delay a day longer than necessary.

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SOCIETY NEWS

FEDERATED SOCIETIES

NAME AND ADDRESS:	MEETINGS:
Cape Town P.S., Box 1973	2nd and 4th Thursdays, 8 p.m., Mountain Club Rooms, Yorkshire Ho., Strand St.
Copperbelt P.S., c/o No. 12 7th Ave., Nkana, N. Rhodesia	2nd Fridays, 7.45 p.m., Colosseum Theatre Tea Rooms
E. London P.S., c/o Box 450	3rd Tuesdays, 8 p.m., Regent Hotel, Benoni.
E. Rand P.S., c/o Box 155, Brakpan	2nd Thursdays, 8 p.m., 1 Thompson Street.
Grahamstown P.S., c/o. R. Q. Tarr, Kingswood Col.	
Jewish Guild Phil. Section, Von Brandis Street, Johannesburg	Last Thursdays, 8 p.m., Jewish Guild.
Johannesburg, P.S. of, Box 4967	2nd Tuesdays and 4th Mondays, 7.45 p.m., Public Library.
Mashonaland, P.S., Box 74, Salisbury	2nd. Wednesday, Room 4, Polytechnic, 5th Street.
Natal, P.S. of, Box 588, Durban	1st and 3rd Wednesdays, 7.30 p.m., Durban Camera Club, 319 Smith Street.
N. Transvaal P.S., c/o Miss v. Niekerk, P.O. Rita	3rd Mondays, Goldfields Hotel, Pietersburg, at 8 p.m.
Nyasaland P.S., c/o Limbe Trading Co., Limbe	Free State Technical College, 7.30 p.m., 4th Fridays.
O.F.S. & Basutoland P.S., Box 702, Bloemfontein	1st & 3rd Tuesdays, 7.45 p.m., Room 3, City Hall Basement.
Port Elizabeth P.S., c/o 13 Trafalgar Square	1st & 3rd Mondays, 8 p.m., Technical College.
Pretoria P.S., Box 514	
Pretoria Railway P.S., Railway Recreation Club, Berea Park	2nd Wednesdays, 7.30 p.m., Railway Recreation Club
Rhodesia, P.S. of, Box 803, Bulawayo	1st Weds., Presbyterian Hall, 5th Ave., Bulawayo.
Roodepoort Stamp Club, c/o 82 Kruger Ave., Selwyn, Florida	3rd Thursday of every month, 8 p.m., Savoy Hotel, Roodepoort.
	2nd Mondays, 7.30 p.m., Board Room, New Era Press
Springs P.S., P.O. Box 688, Springs.	At times announced during term-time.
University of Cape Town P.S., c/o. University of Cape Town, Rondebosch, Cape.	2nd Wednesdays, 8 p.m., Technical College.
Vereeniging Stamp Club, Box 48	
W. Rand Stamp Club, c/o. 55, 4th Street, District Township, Krugersdorp	1st Wednesdays, 8 p.m., Royal Hotel, Krugersdorp.

PHILATELIC SOCIETY OF JOHANNESBURG.

At the meeting held on September 11th the exhibit was provided by Mr. F. G. Frohlich who showed a thematic collection of Art which he called "Invita Minerva." He introduced the exhibit with a short lecture on the subject giving a history of art as illustrated by his exhibit. There were numerous stamps shown illustrating Hellenic Art, Greco-Roman Art, Italian Art, Japanese Art and Modern Art. The exhibit was illustrated by beautiful etchings and postcards and was beautifully written up. There is no doubt that Mr. Froelich has a very expert knowledge of the subject.

Commander C. E. D. Enoch spoke on the collection and proposed the vote of thanks.

During the evening there was a quiz arranged by Commander Enoch and which was won by Mr. Frankland.

There was also the first meeting of the Brains Trust, the members of which are Commander Enoch, Mr. Sheffield and Mr. Oppenheim and during the evening they answered several questions by members on different aspects of philately.

At the meeting of September 24th, Rev. Loxley Chamings showed French stamps of famous people and famous places. The exhibit was beautifully illustrated with maps and pictures. Everp person shown on the stamps and every place shown were given their history and description. It was a wonderful thematic collection.

Mr. Loxley Chamings gave a talk on his exhibit which was of great interest. He described the exhibit as "Faces and Places".

Mr. W. Oppenheim spoke on the exhibit and proposed the vote of thanks.

During the evening there was a competition entitled "My Favourite Stamp and Why." This was won by Mr. Duchen.

PHILATELIC SOCIETY OF NATAL.

The August meeting held on Wednesday, 1st, was well attended there being 42 members and visitors present. Many members have felt for some time that the formal monthly meetings, as opposed to the social and exchange evenings, offered little opportunity or time for members to meet and to have informal discussion on matters of general interest. The innovation, therefore, of opening the club-house doors at 7 o'clock — the meeting proper not starting till 8 o'clock — was observed with interest and, as it appeared to be welcomed and appreciated by those who attended early, it appears to have been justified.

Many of our members have visited other centres, and attended meetings during their visits, and they have said that our own meetings are as interesting as any and more interesting than most. But there have been faint criticisms from some directions that our meetings could be made more attractive. Suggestions for improvement are always welcomed but, of course, it is realised by those responsible for the arrangements at meetings that one man's meat is another man's poison and that all members do not have identical ideas of what comprises "interest". However, the wish to make the meetings enjoyable to all and, in fact, to make membership of the society itself interesting and enjoyable is the main aim of those who wish to serve the society. From time to time changes and variations of the agenda matter will be tried with a view to pleasing as many as possible.

Seven new members were accepted and elected while there were no resignations during the month. Thus, our membership has increased by eleven during the last two months. Matters discussed included the G.P.O., Philatelic Section, circular referring to the repurchase and exchange of stamps; the Thematic Group's recent exhibition and its historic value; the forthcoming Capetown celebrations and the efforts being made to assist the Capetown society. Mr. J. R. Simpson was presented with certificates due to him for past exhibits and Mr. Lyle, back with us again, read interesting articles from philatelic magazines and asked members to give in their ideas of how to brighten up the meetings.

The "quiz' was conducted by Mr. C. Lamble and

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was won by Mr. F. Appleby who is making a habit of winning! He donated his prize to the Cape Town fund and details were given of other amounts in cash and kind that had been donated since the last meeting.

Mr. F. Kotze exhibited his collection of Rhodesian double-heads and Union commemoratives together with the small war issues, the latter containing practically all the known varieties. It was an outstanding exhibit and attracted keen attention: Mr. G. Malcolm in speaking proposed a hearty vote of thanks to Mr. Kotze who replied. To stimulate their interest Mr. E. V. Lawrence brought seven boys who are members of a stamp club that he encourages at Hillary The boys were fascinated by the exhibit and its layout.

After the auction of a fairly large selection of stamps, most of which had been donated to the Cape Town Fund, tea was taken and the meeting closed at 10.20 p.m. V.F.M.

JEWISH GUILD PHILATELIC SECTION.

At the meeting held on July 26th, Mr. I. Isaacs showed a collection of flown covers of the Pan-American Airways from earliest flights to the more recent.

Mr. Lambert spoke on the exhibit and proposed the vote of thanks.

At the meeting of August 30th, Mr. B. Glassman showed specimen stamps of George VI. Most of the colonies were represented and Mr. Glassman's collection is almost complete. The exhibit made a very fine show.

Mr. Glassman also showed some recent issues of George VI and some recent foreigns.

Mr. Lambert spoke on the exhibit and proposed the vote of thanks.

All stamp collectors are heartily welcome to attend the meetings of this section which are held on the last Thursday of each month.

PORT ELIZABETH PHILATELIC SOCIETY.

There were twenty members and five visitors present when the meeting opened on Tuesday, 21st Aug., with Mr. Bulbring in the chair. It was with deep regret the President announced the passing of one of our old members, Mr. J. Fowler, and all present stood in silence as a mark of respect.

It was Visitors' night and Mr. Eric Carr, Mr. E. C. Pote and Mr. M. C. Fletcher of Grahamstown, Mr. Berry of Uitenhage, and Mr. Plowman of Cape Town, were present. Mr. E. C. Pote displayed Tanganyika 1915-16 Mafia set, complete plus one value inverted, this is a rare stamp. Also 1917-22 overprint G.E.A. both sets were complete. Also S.A. from the First Issue to the present time complete, there was a selection of Bechuanaland and Ascension.

Mr. M. C. Fletcher displayed S.A. and S.W.A.; Mr. H. Hannibal tabled Cape Triangulars; Mr. D. Watson, Sierra Leone complete K.E. VII with all the scarce items in blocks of four.

Mr. G. K. Forbes tabled U.S.A. and Canada, all scarce items. There were some very fine stamps on view and all who scrutinized them had an enjoyable time.

Mr. G. Bulbring thanked the visitors for their grand display. In reply, Mr. M. C. Fletcher said they had really come from Grahamstown as visitors and not really to display their collections. Mr. Eric Carr said that the Grahamstown Philatelic Society was to hold an Exhibition from the 1st to the 6th of October. It is hoped that a large number of visitors from other branches will attend. After refreshments were served the meeting closed at 10 o'clock p.m. L.E.C.

ROODEPOORT PHILATELIC SOCIETY.

August Meeting.

Present twelve members and four visitors. Dr. Bleksley was welcomed and we hope he will become a regular member. Domine Theron has signed membership forms and will become a full member next month.

After the minutes were read and confirmed and everyone had a hand in the notes of the month, it was decided that Master Crocker would show his G.B.'s in October and Mr. Bloomfield to show Canada in November leaving next month open for a swop evening.

Mr. Henderson provided the Quiz which was most enlightening and at the same time exhausting. It was won, after an hour of deliberation, and much guess work by Mr. Bob Oliver.

The main exhibit for the evening was Mr. Barnard's Post-War Germany, which according to himself was by no means complete, nevertheless it was a very interesting exhibit much enjoyed by all. The postal cancellations of the Leipzig Fair were very attractive.

Mr. Henderson made an appropriate speech of thanks which we all heartily endorsed. H.D.

EAST LONDON PHILATELIC SOCIETY.

August 10.

A very well attended meeting. Mr. Shingler gave a very hearty welcome to visitors and to three new members. Discussion was held on the Hobbies Exhibition stand for next year and a meeting will be held to decide where the Philatelic section will be shown.

Matters of Philatelic interest. Festival of Britain Stamps. German New issues. South African 4d. "Monkey Takes to the Trees". Mr. Jensen showed a Danish air-letter in English sent by the P.O. to advertise their new issues, also a beautiful new Danish Catalogue published in English. East German stamps on cover were brought showing the portrait of Mao Tse-tung.

Mr. Thornton told members that an article in Stamp Collecting of June 22 was most interesting for all philatelists to read.

A new kind of magnifying glass was shown round in the shape of a cone. Very easy to use as there was no focusing necessary.

Mr. Jensen gave an interesting talk on how to obtain stamps, how to house the commoner values and also the better ones. He was thankel by the President.

A Quiz (very difficult!) was arranged by Mr. Shingler. Mr. Watson won by guessing three out of ten.

Mr. Rall of Kingwilliams Town displayed a lovely collection of Union Stamps almost complete with varieties and blocks of four mint and used. A joy to see. He was very ably thanked by Mr. Clark.

THE CAPE TOWN PHILATELIC SOCIETY.

August 23.

The University of Cape Town Philatelic Society were our guests for the evening and in accordance with the tradition on these occasions the visitors provided the display. Twelve members contributed to a composite exhibit showing stamps of many countries and in each case the mounting, choice of good specimens, and writing up, was of a high standard. The Falkland Islands exhibit of Mr. Lincow deserves special mention.

Mr. Hotz, President of the U.C.T.P.S., thanked the Society for their hospitality, and then told Members about the Festival of Arts Exhibition at Messrs. Stuttafords at which the University had put up a philatelic display which included Dr. Davies's collection of Union die proofs.

A vote of thanks was proposed by Mr. Nathan and seconded by Mr. Mummery.

Mr. K. Alexander conducted an auction of stamps the proceeds of which will be added to the funds for the forthcoming International Philatelic Exhibition.

13 September.

The Vice-President welcomed the visitors and also welcomed the President, Mr. A. V. Jacob, who had just returned from a trip to England and the Continent. He also congratulated him on his election as a Fellow of the Royal Philatelic Society.

The evening's display was provided by Mr. Blum who showed a complete non-specialised collection of the Union of South Africa; most issues were shown in blocks of four and a few major varieties were exhibited. In a paper entitled, "What to collect in the Union", Mr. Blum answered the many questions which are often put to him in reference to the building up of a Union Collection both in regards to the choice of specimens and the method of display in the album. His own exhibit ably illustrated the various points which he stressed.

A vote of thanks to Mr. Blum was proposed by Mr. Simenhoff and was seconded by Mr. Nathan.

The Vice-President then asked Mr. Jacob to speak about philatelic matters overseas and he gave a most interesting account of his successful visits to collectors and dealers in England, Holland, France, Belgium and Italy to gain support for the forthcoming International Philatelic Exhibition. He announced that Sir John Wilson had obtained the permission of His Mapesty to exhibit a portion of the Royal Collection and that he, Sir John, would be

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Chairman of the Jury. Another member of the Jury would be Mr. R. H. Holmes, the Curator of the Tapling Collection. Mr. Frank Godden, M. André Cock and Mnr. J. L. van Dieten, had agreed to act a Commissioners for the Exhibition in England, Belgium and Holland.

Mr. Schonegevel then conducted an Auction and £13 11s. 0d. was raised in aid of Exhibition Funds; an auction of lots on behalf of Members was also held. A.J.N.

BOER CENSOR MARKS 1900.

In his "Philately of the Anglo-Boer War," Rich states that covers to Britishers held as prisoners by the Boers have not been seen and if any such exist, they are great rarities.

In our issue of February, 1943, Mh. Lancelot A. B. Sharpe recorded five and now Mr. N. Snowden, Manchester, records two more. Both were sent to a private of the Gloucester Regt. (still alive, at 76). One is endorsed by him as "Received at Waterval, nr. Pretoria, 12-4-1900." It has a double triangle "Passed Press Censor" mark (probably applied in Durban) and a mark which according to the ex-soldier was a Boer Censor mark at the P.O.W. Camp. It is practically certainly an office mark of the Commandant of the guard and may very likely have been used as a censoring mark prior to the introduction of the mark described on the next cover.

It is double oval, with outer border double lined, size about 50mm. x 30mm. In black. At top is "Waterval . . . ." (2nd word undecipherable), at bottom "Commandant van de Wacht", large stars between top and bottom lettering, date in centre 12 Apr. 1900.

The second letter addressed to the same soldier at "The Racecourse, Pretoria" is similarly endorsed by him as "Recd. May 11th at Waterval" nr. Pretoria" and also has the double triangle "Passed Press Censor" mark. The Boer censor mark in this case, however, in purple, is the first one described by Mr. Sharpe, viz. a rectangular double-lined box with built-out corners, about 40 mm. x 15mm. in size. Wording inside in two lines "Brieven Censuur/Waterval krijgsgevangenis."

Does anyone know if the first mark described was actually used as a censoring mark, or was it merely an office stamp?

Mr. Snowden has an article in the 31st August number of the "Philatelic Magazine" entitled "A Second Boer War Miscellany." This contains a large number of records of new dates and places of usage of various British Army P.O. cancellations.

CHINA.

According to news reports Communist China has been voted out of the U.P.U. at a recent meeting of that body, by 10 votes to 6 with 3 abstaining.

GREAT BRITAIN.

A temporary shortage of Postage Dues at Bury St. Edmunds P.O. led to the creation of provisionals, by handstamping 1d. postage stamps with a "Postage/Due" overprint in lino-Bold Bodoni capitals. Only nineteen mint copies and one used on cover are known.

Stamp Mirror.

REVIEWS

Standard Catalogue of Postage Stamps of the World. Part II. Foreign Countries. Whitfield King & Co., Ipswich, England. 49th Ed., 1951-52. Price 16/6.

This well-known catalogue is now published in two parts, I, British Empire and II Foreign. Even with this split Part II now has nearly 1,100 pages, 8,000 illustrations and lists over 75,000 stamps. Seing that this is a "simple life" catalogue, omitting minor degrees of differences in design, shade, perforation, etc., one can visualise what a world collection can be like even if one has never, and isn't likely ever to have, seen one.

There have been a lot of additions and revisions to the last edition, the most extensive, perhaps, being in the People's Republic of China. There has also been considerable price revision although many items are still not priced either because of instability, difficulties of exchange, etc. Prices given are the publisher's selling prices, provided the stamps are in stock, but they are subject to alteration without notice.

It should be mentioned also that the publishers, as stamp dealers, do go in for perf. and shade variety, etc. even though such are intentionally omitted from this catalogue.

Encyclopaedia of British Empire Postage Stamps. Vol. III. **Asia.** Robson Lowe, Ltd., 50 Pall Mall, London S.W.1. Price 42/-.

The volume is on the same lines as its two predecessors, but if anything it strikes one as being even fuller. There is all the information one ordinarily expects in a stamp catalogue, except perhaps the most highly specialised ones, but in addition, a colossal amount of other information which can mostly be summarized under the heading of postal history. Under stamps directly, one is told about pre-adhesive handstamps, as well as getting information about adhesives — numbers printed, plate numbers, proofs, specimens, forgeries and valuations for blocks and for stamps on cover, etc., etc. Under postal history might come the mass of information about postal routes, post offices, postmarks used abroad, air flights, postal stationery etc., etc.

Altogether a mine of information for anyone and everyone interested in the stamps of past or present British possessions in Asia.

One of few countries with very little about postmarks is Ceylon; it is stated, "Here there is much scope for investigation for, to the best of our knowledge, the subject has not been studied.

SOUTH AFRICA'S FIRST P.O.

The August issue of "Philately" has a photograph by Mr. Douglas Roth of the milkwood tree in Mossel Bay, still in fine condition. A tablet on the tree reads: So far back as A.D. 1500, Pedro de Ataide placed in this tree a letter containing a record of a disaster to a Portuguese fleet en route for India. This letter was found by Jo Ae De Nova who had put in with his ship to Mossel Bay for water. De Nova built a hermitage within a few yards of this tree close to which was a spring of water.

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SPEED AND EVER MORE SPEED.

We have been shown the whole mail carried by the De Havilland "Comet" the jet airliner which recently flew from London to Johannesburg in 14 hours, 42 minutes. It consisted of **one** letter from Sir Geoffrey de Havilland to Mr. J. Davidson, the company's S. African manager. The cover has stamps to the volue of 1/-, these being cancelled with the postmark of Harpsfield, Hatfield, Herts., where it was posted a few minutes after 5 p.m. on 17th July; it bears the cachet of the Airport Supervisor at Palmietfontein, dated 18-7-1951 endorsed with his signature and the time, 13.01 hours, in manuscript. Its actual time in transit was 17 hours, 40 minues. As there will not likely be any more jetplane flights for some time, this may remain a record for at least some months — perhaps even till an atom-plane comes along.

U.S.A.

Thanks are due to Mr. George R. Rankin of Milwaukee for firt ray covers of:—

3c. Nevada Settlement Centenary, 14 July.

3c. Landing of Cadillac at Detroit in 1701. 24 July.

3c. 75th Anniversary Colorado Statehood. 1 August.

FALKLAND ISLANDS.

The Crown Agents have announced the forthcoming issue of a full new pictorial set of 14 stamps, ½d. to £1. The £1 will show the hulk of the "Great Britain", now a coal depot in Port Stanley, once the first iron steamship to cross the North Atlantic. How are the mighty fallen!

EAST GERMANY.

The Eastern (Russian controlled) zone of Germany has issued a set of three stamps inscribed "Deutsche-Chinesische Freundschaft" a propaganda set designed to emphasize the world-wide scope of Communism. Two values show a saint-like portrait of Mao Tse-tung, the third shows a group of Cerman and Chinese Communists fraternising.

G.E.A. MIDLAND T.P.O.

Dr. K. Pennycuick has an article in the current number of the "West End Philatelist" on the working of the "Mittelland Bahnpost" between Daressalaam and Kigoma. Dr. Ey has quite recently shewn that there were a great many more Train numbers than those previously rcorded by Kohl and by Friedmann; this is to be dealt with in the next issue of the Magazine.

AFRICA

We have some excellent approval books of all British Colonies in Africa, which we shall be glad to send to interested collectors against English references.

Please state countries in which interested. Fine copies only are mounted, and our prices are reasonable.

We have also some fine books of West Indies, and other Colonials. We also specialise in Great Britain, of which we have a fine stock.

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NATAL.

"The Queen in Tears."

In the "Collectors Club Philatelist" S.G.R. (Stephen G. Rich) suggests the possibility that the variety of the 1d. Natal issues 1859 to 1864 and surcharges up to 1877 with tear drop under the left eye, may not be a re-entry as has been described (although it is not clear if this term is used in its modern restricted sense, or used as a synonym for a double transfer. He suggests the possibility that it may be a position dot normally hidden in the stamp design. Slightly vertical displacement would allow the dot to appear on the cheek instead of being in what he thinks is its normal place — on or near the pupil of the eye. His material is insufficient to allow this to be more than a hypothesis at present. What is needed is knowledge of how far and in what directions subjects 110 and 170 on the plate (the two showing this variety) are displaced.

WESTERN SAMOA.

The New Zealand official Philatelic Bulletin announces that the current Western Samoa stamps, which have been in use since 1935, are to be replaced by a new set of pictorials. The designs have been approved and Messrs. Bradbury, Wilkinson and Co. have been instructed to proceed with the printing, but the stamps will not be put on sale before next year.

AUSTRALIA.

In our June issue the issue of three stamps in honour of the Jubilee of the Commonwealth was announced. These were two 3d. stamps featuring Sir Henry Parkes and Sir Edmund Barton, and a 5½d. shewing the opening of the first Federal Parliament. It appears there was also a fourth stamp, which was not reported in the notice received. This is a 1/6 denomination shewing the Parliament House at Canberra. All four were due for issue on 1st May.

KENYA.

Mr. W. Tunstall reports some changes about to take place in the stamps of Kenya, Uganda and Tanganyika, although the new ones will not appear before 1952.

There will be two new values, a 25c. of the Dhow design like the present 5c. and a 40c. with cranes as in the current 1c. The 10c., 15c. and 30c. are to have their colours changed.

Also, at the end of this year all K.G. V issues and the issue overprinted on Unions will be demonetized.

WATERMARKS AND X-RAYS.

Mr. H. S. Cheavin in the "Stamp Magazine" shows how X-rays, especially the soft or Grenz rays can bring out a photograph of a watermark which may be otherwise very difficult to detect. Incidentally he gives a warning about the use of Benzene instead of Benzine in the commonly employed method of showing up watermarks. These are two quite different substances chemically and Benzene will dissolve many of the modern coal tar colours used in printing stamps.

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THE
SOUTH AFRICAN PHILATELIST
PROPRIETORS AND PUBLISHERS:
The Philatelic Federation of Southern Africa
Honorary Editor: Dr. J. H. HARVEY PIRIE
Business Manager: Mr. J. NATHANSON
P.O. Box 375, Johannesburg.
Subscription: Eight Shillings per annum, post free to any part of the World.
Vol. 27. No. 11. NOVEMBER, 1951. Whole No. 320.

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

Characteristics of the 1d. Monocoloured Roll Stamps.

Mr. A. H. Sydow's notes and sketches on the 1d. monocoloured roll stamps, which we published in our August 1951 issue, have brought to light some interesting information on the subject from Mr. A. J. Hagger of Alberton who writes as follows:—

Category I.

In my collection there are three short strips of stamps from Cylinder No. 16, each showing the narrow horizontal perforation gutter described; and on all three, two stamps, one above and the other below this gutter, are slightly darker in colour than the remaining stamps of each strip. Now some of the bicoloured roll stamps also have this peculiarity of a pair of stamps in every vertical strip of 22 being lighter or paler in vignettes or frames than the remainder; and it is generally agreed that in each case these indicate the 21st and 22nd rows of the cylinder. I submit, therefore, that this narrow perforation gutter is between the 21st and 22nd rows of Cylinder No. 16, and not the 1st and 22nd as stated. If I am correct then the narrow gutter is due to separate etching of two 12-set Carbon Tissue Sheets (each 1 row), and not one 24-set of two rows.

Category II.

While I agree that, as no complete sheets of stamps from Cylinder No. 24 are available for inspection, it is not possible to determine which vertical row of the Diapositive any strips of stamps is from, I do, however, maintain that as far as 11 vertical rows are concerned, provided the strip consist of 22 stamps, one can say positively from which horizontal row of the Diapositive each stamp comes.

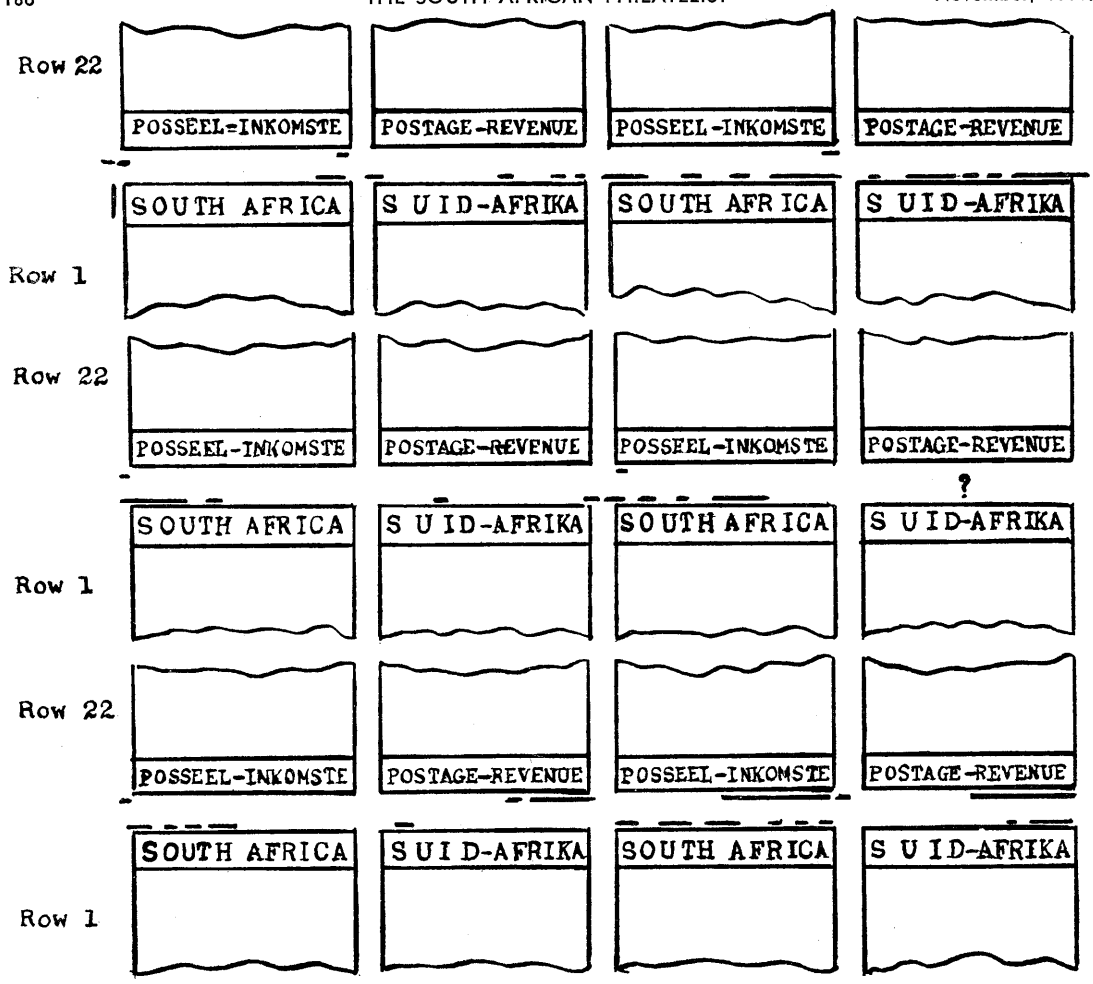
Some time ago I noticed that in the horizontal gutter between one pair (repeated in every twenty-two rows) in every roll of these stamps I examined, there were traces in some form or another of a thin interrupted line above "South Africa" or "Suid-Afrika" accompanied sometimes by traces of another line below "Posseel-Inkomste" or "Postage-Revenue" (such a pair from one of the strips was illustrated in Sketch No. 3 in the August notes). Later while looking for these I found that the first stamp of every roll I opened **always** had this line at the top.

After diligent search and being a general nuisance to collector friends and business associates, I have managed to accumulate 11 different pairs, the twelfth unfortunately still eludes me. Accompanying this is a rough sketch of the eleven gutters, arranged in the order in which I think they appear on the Diapositive, from which I think it will be agreed that these all form part of two interrupted lines, the bottom one stretching right across the cylinder.

For many years rolls of the roto stamps have comprised multiples of 22, and an examination of the sheets, in the cases where they were subsequently sold in that form, shows in every case a mark in both margins indicating the junction of the 22nd and 1st horizontal rows, and a cyclometer number once in every eleven rows. In making up the rolls, therefore, if the method employed was to cut through the continuous sheet between these marks and the cyclometer number noted, a simple calculation would have indicated the number at which the next cut had to be made, and so counting would have been eliminated. I contend that a similar procedure is followed in making up rolls from Cylinder No. 24, which being derived from a 22 row Diapositive, would even more naturally have the pointers at the junction of the 22nd and 1st rows. If you will agree with me thus far, then the first stamp in each roll is from the 1st horizontal row of the Diapositivee and as it has the "lines" herein described and illustrated above it, these "lines" are in the gutter between the 22nd and 1st horizontal rows on the Cylinder. Table "B" should then be amended so that — "B" becomes 22, — "C" becomes 1, and so on, and any strip in which the "line(s)" occur can be numbered in the same way.

With some diffidence I offer the following theory to account for the presence of the "lines". As this was the first, or one of the first cylinders to be etched from a 22 row diapositive, the Carbon Tissue Sheet was trimmed too close at the top and the bottom, with the result that when it is wrapped around the cylinder the ends did not quite meet. Whatever substance was used to close this gap, however, allowed some of the acid to penetrate in places along the edges of the Carbon Tissue Sheet and so

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etched the "lines", which it should be noted are screened similarly to the stamps.

If any reader has the twelfth strip or failing that the pair only, it would be appreciated if he would lend this to the Editor so that an illustration of it can be included in these "Notes" in due course.

"Free Forces Mail" Air Letter Card from Korea.

We have been shown one of the 1½d. Air Letter Cards overprinted "Free Forces Mail", which recently arrived in Johannesburg from Korea, but without any form of postmark on either the front or the back of the folded sheet.

The card is one of the 1½d. green-tinted type, originally issued about August 1948 principally for internal use and bearing a three-halfpenny stamp printed in a deep claret colour. In its modified form for the use of the Union forces in Korea, it has four blue horizontal bars overprinted across the lower part of the impressed 1½d. stamp and the words:

FREE FORCES MAIL
POSVRY VANAF MAGTE

printed in blue letters immediately above the top line ruled for the name of the addressee.

In addition, a "Flying Springbok" blue airmail label, similar to that available at post offices for use on air mail letters, is printed on the front of the card and the information on the back of the original production giving the conditions requiring the payment of extra postage — in English and Afrikaans—, is deleted by means of a broad blue bar ⅛in. wide.

The information published under the heading of "Recent Printings" in our September issue gave the number of these 1½d. Letter Cards overprinted "Free Forces Mail" as 21,600.

Use of the Lower-case Letter "u" with Capitals on Union Stamps.

Mr. W. L. Paddon of Johannesburg has drawn attention to the practice over many years of using the small, or lower-case letter "u" in conjunction with capitals for the inscriptions on a number of the Union's stamps, and cites the following examples:—

1926—½d., 1d. and 6d. Typographed Issue.
1929—4d. and 1/- Air-mail Stamps.
1933/36—½d., 1d. and 3d. Voortrekker Memorial Fund Issue.
1935—½d., 1d., 3d. and 6d. Silver Jubilee.

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1938—1½d. Voortrekker Centenary Memorial Fund.
1938—1½d. Voortrekker Commemoration.
1943—1/3 War Effort.
1945—1d., 2d. and 3d. Victory Issue.
1949—1½d. Natal Settlers.
1951—1d. Redrawn Van Riebeeck Ship Stamp.
1943/47—½d., 1d., 2d. and 3d. "Bantam" Postage Due Stamps.

He considers that in the printing of "South Africa" and "Suid-Afrika" on the large and miniature 6d. War Effort stamps, the small "u" has been correctly placed with the other lower-case letters employed for these particular inscriptions.

Road Safety Campaign Slogans.

Mr. David Allison of Mowbray, Cape, has sent in the following notes on the new Road Safety Slogans which have recently appeared on letters posted in some of the larger towns and cities of the Union.

"With reference to your note on road safety slogans on p. 150 of your September issue, the following will, I hope, be of interest.

Apparently there is no intention of introducing them at all generally, for a note in the "Cape Times" of 30/5/51 states that 'stamps on mail' posted in the **nine** main centres of the Union will soon be cancelled with a number of road safety slogans.' I have recovered the six places (five slogans) given here. I have seen none on Paids. The continuous ones have the slogans spaced in the usual way, and in the case of the non-continuous ones the English is always on top. The dates given are the first I have seen; dates in brackets, the last I have seen on which the wavy lines were in use.

Cape Town "A" machine (non -continuous) Safe Driving Saves Lives. 14.00 14-VII 1951 (17.15 13-VII 1951).

East London "A" machine (non-continuous) Road Safety Depends on You. 18.00 16-VII 1951 (8.00 13-VII 1951).

Johannesburg (continuous), oblong datestamp: Be alert—avoid road accidents. 12 VII 1951—3:30 (26 VI 51—17.30).

Kimberley (continuous) Courtesy Promotes Road Safety 16 VII 51—16:00 (10 VII 51—12:15).

Port Elizabeth "A" machine (non-continuous): Careful Driving Saves Lives. 17.00 17—VII 1951 (17.00 11—VII 1951).

Pretoria "A" machine (non-continuous): Road Safety Depends on You. 14.00 11—VII 1951 (17 ? 02—VII 1951). This exists both with a rather worn datestamp and with a new one replacing it.

There have (as always) been several other changes in machine postmarks recently. Perhaps I may be permitted briefly to summarise the story of the Cape Town "A" machine from where I left off on page 126 of your July issue: So as not to be too tedious I will omit the dates:

The state with 5 wavy lines and 5 straight lines described in the July 'S.A.P.' had a horribly worn datestamp in really disgraceful condition. This was replaced by a new one — a great improvement. (A similar change took place on the "B" machine about the same time). This state lasted less than a month for the five straight lines later disappeared and the machine became a conventional non-continuous one again. At the same time a different wavy lines 'block' was inserted — the lines are spaced differently. The use of a road safety slogan with this machine has been noted above.

In addition to those places I mentioned in July as using IIII for IV there are at least two others: Butterworth and Heidelberg Tvl."

White Streak Varieties.

Our February and March issues this year included some notes on the vertical white streaks which have appeared from time to time on used copies of the Union Georgian series and Mr. Norman Welsford of Carolina, Transvaal, has shown us an example of this variety on a copy of a 1d. Australian used stamp.

As explained in the March notes, the white lines are undoubtedly due to streaks of gum gathering to the printing surface of the stamp paper prior to the actual production of the stamps and a mint specimen, on which the white markings appeared after washing off the shiny gum streaks, is shown in the accompanying photograph.



Mr. Welsford's item serves to confirm that the defect occurs on stamps of several other countries and Australia can now be added to the list.

Notes on the Current 3/6 Booklets.

A letter received from Mr. A. O. Kerr of Johannesburg records that there are two perforation varieties in the panes of the current 3/6 booklets. In one type, the perforation run completely across the right hand margin of each pane whereas in the second type they do not extend for more than one hole beyond the

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end vertical column of perforations, and the remainder of the margin is blank.

There is also a variation in the language setting of the stamps on those panes with a blank right hand margin, which Mr. R. B. Cronwright of Germiston has noted. He points out that in some cases the first stamp of the pane of each denomination is inscribed in English and in others it is in Afrikaans, and he also mentions that a booklet in his possession has a **black five-figure** serial number printed on the right hand margin of each of the six panes.

Current 2d. Stamp Varieties.

The "Smoking Chimney" variety, which has been recorded on stamp 20, second row, of the small 2d. pictorial issue (S.G. 134), has been noted by Mr. H. W. James of Cradock as only very faintly visible on the stamps of those sheets now on sale at post offices.

He also mentions the "hook" shaped mark at the left of the left hand tower on stamp 15, top row, which has remained constant throughout the various shades so far produced from these same cylinders, Nos. 6927 Interior and 50 Exterior.

Inverted Watermark on 5/- Rotogravure Issue.

Mr. L. Simenhoff of Cape Town confirms that the 5/- rotogravure stamp with inverted watermark, mentioned in our September notes, was an early issue It appeared about 1934 and he records having had several copies in his collection at that time.

Messrs. W. E. Tetlow of Dumfries, Scotland and H. J. Burbin of Surrey, England, have also written to say they have copies of this stamp in their possession, dates of usage being 1935 and 1936.

Change in Sheet Serial Numbers on Current 6d. Stamps.

The five-figure black serial numbers noted on the sheet margins of the 6d. stamps during the 1st few months have given way to four-figure red numbers again. A correspondent in Durban recorded the change at a post office in that area during September and we have since learned that these stamps, with red numerals in the margin, are now on sale at various parts of the Witwatersrand. The cylinder numbers, 6930 Interior and Exterior, are the same as before.

LUNDY ISLAND LOCALS.

"Stamp Collecting's" roving representative has an interesting article in the Special Canadian number of S.C. There once was a British P.O. on the island but it closed down in 1927; since then all mail to and from the island has been handled by the proprietor. At first it was transported by boat, now it all goes by private plane.

The writer is emphatically of opinion that the issue of the local stamps is completely justified and certainly everything seems to be done not in any way to interfere with the privileges of the British post office. For example the local stamps must be affixed on the opposite side of covers to the British stamps required for further transmission; if they are at the same side the cover or parcel is refused. He concludes "they are genuinely issued stamps, catalogue or no catalogue, and one hundred per cent. collectable."

CAPETOWN INTERNATIONAL STAMP EXHIBITION.

The Royal Philatelic Society has donated a specimen of their special Gold Medal given to International Exhibitions. It is being left to the jury to decide to whom and for what particular reason or reasons it shall be awarded. .

The Exhibition Committee has been granted by the van Riebeeck Festival Executive the sole rights of publication and distribution of the Special Commemorative Covers for the Festival; there will be two of these, one in English and one in Afrikaans. They will also have sole rights for the special Stamp Exhibition cover.

Following is a list, dated 8th October, 1951, of donations so far received towards the cost of the Exhibition. It takes a lot of money to run an international exhibition and the Committee is anxious to receive further donations, awards or guarantees. All contributors' names will be published in the Bulletins and in the Exhibition Catalogue.

	£	s.	d.
Donations received in Cash and from Auctions, and Sweepstakes up to date	494	0	0
The following have either paid or promised:			
Cape Town Philatelic Society	262	10	0
Mr. Jacob, Arthur V., Cape Town	250	0	0
Dr. Kaplan, Alec, Germiston	100	0	0
Mr. Petroulis, George, Cape Town	100	0	0
Mr. Mummery, C. G., Cape Town	30	0	0
Mr. Blum, E., Cape Town	50	0	0
Mr. Atlas, E. B., Cape Town	27	10	0
Mr. Enslin, J. P. R., Cape Town	21	0	0
Mr. Combrink, W. G., Cape Town	20	0	0
Mr. Kaganson, Sam, Cape Town	20	0	0
Mr. Ackerman, Gus., Cape Town	50	0	0
Mr. Hughes, L. W., Cape Town	5	0	0
Mr. Vallance, W., Cape Town	25	0	0
Col. Morgan Johnson, J, Cape Town	20	0	0
Messrs. Harmer, H.R. (Pty.), Ltd., London	26	5	0
Mr. Roth, Douglas, Cape Town	25	0	0
Mr. Schonegevel, C. J., Cape Town	15	0	0
Mr. T. K. Parsons, West Wickham, Kent	5	0	0
Mr. Hunt, Ernest, Johannesburg	50	0	0
Messrs. Robson Lowe Ltd., London	26	5	0
Messrs. Lea & Co., J. E., Exchange Street, Manchester	25	0	0
Messrs. Wingfield & Co., H. E., London	25	0	0
Messrs. Nissen & Co., Ltd., Chas., London	10	10	0

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S.G.1; 2; 6; 7

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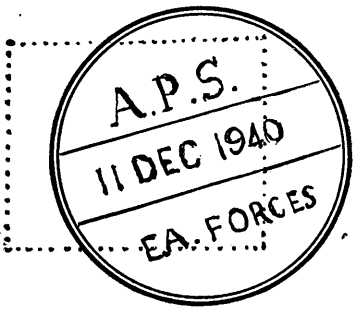
NEW EAST AFRICAN ARMY P.O. AND CENSOR MARKS.

Army Postmark.

It may seem a little surprising that a completely new type of Army postmark used in East Africa should come to light only now, a full ten years after its period of usage, but Jack Burrell has been lucky enough to find one.

In the "S.A. Philatelist" of July, 1945, with a supplement in the April, 1946 number the writer described and figured five temporary Army postmarks used in 1940 or early 1941 before the introduction of the definitive type ("E.A./A.P.O. (number)") about the beginning of 1941.

The specimen here recorded must fall into the group of temporary marks, making their number now six. It occurs on a Kenya, Uganda, Tanganyika 5c. stamp (S.G. No. 132). It is in violet, from a rubber stamp; incomplete, but fortunately enough of it present to make reconstruction practically a certainty. The full diameter of the mark is —mm.



The accompanying drawing shews the outline of the stamp in dotted lines. What is on the stamp is quite clear; what is not on the stamp is a hypothetical reconstruction, but I think it may reasonably be taken as correct, as the style of wording is in keeping with others of the temporary marks.

If it be accepted as correct then the top and bottom lettering would stand for "Army Postal Services"/E.A. Forces". The year of the date is put as probably 1940 because the latest date recorded for any of the temporary marks is 30 June, 1941.

Will readers keep their eyes open for further specimensof this mark, especially for a complete one?

Censor Mark.

In the two articles mentioned above no fewer than thirty-seven varieties of Censor marks are listed, but a new one has just come to the writer's way.

It is on a cover addressed to England but with a South African A.P.O. mark (A.P.O.—U—M.P.K./4) of date 14-IV-41.

The mark, which is in red, is a double-lined circle of 32 mm. diameter. Almost filling up the periphery is "Deputy Chief Field Censor", but with a five-pointed star at the bottom. In the centre is "East/Africa/No. 4" in three lines.

J. H. HARVEY PIRIE.

NEWS FROM RHODESIA.

Rhodes' Centenary Celebrations, 1953.

It was officially announced that a special issue of stamps will be made in 1953, to commemorate the centenary of the birth of Cecil John Rhodes. The set will comprise five values —½d., 1d., 2d., 4½d. and 1/-.

Comment: The whole question of the Commemorative Stamps has been discussed by a special sub-committee of the Main Celebrations Committee. Representatives of the Philatelic Society of Rhodesia and the Mashonaland Philatelic Society are members of this Sub-Committee, following invitations received from the Organising Secretary, when the proposal was first mooted. No designs have yet been selected, but this question will form the subject of further discussions.

Further comment by J. E. C. Although this proposal has been known to me for some time, and I asked for permission to give you a preliminary announcement, I was asked to maintain strict 'confidence' until an official announcement was made.

First Rhodesian Stamp Exhibition.

Arrangements have been concluded with the General Manager of the Rhodes' Centenary Exhibition, for the First Rhodesian Stamp Exhibition, from 13th—18th July, 1953. While the Main Exhibition will be open from April—August, it is hoped that all philatelists who are able to pay a visit to Rhodesia in that year, will arrange to visit Bulawayo during the period of the Stamp Exhibition.

The Philatelic Society of Rhodesia, in addition to organising the Stamp Exhibition, will also undertake to arrange accommodation for visiting philatelists, and full details will be given later.

The scope of the exhibition will feature the Central African Territories, supported by the surrounding territories, and other countries, where collections are available, will also be included. Exhibits will be "by invitation" only.

Postage Due Labels.

Without any official notice, Postage Due Labels came into use on or about 1st October. They are those used by the British P.O, overprinted "Southern Rhodesia", of ½d., 1d., 2d., 3d., 4d. and 1/- denominations.

BREAKING UP

a superb collection of 1935 Silver Jubilees in complete mint sets; Geo. VI in short and full mint sets; Mauritius Coronation mint in full, half and quarter sheets, blocks; Mauritius 1 Rupee 1935 Silver Jubilee mint; First Day Covers; F.D.C. Mauritius to Reunion Airmail; F.D.C. Mauritius to France Airmail; complete collection mint Free French. This fine collection is too large to give in detail but stamped addressed envelope with your enquiry will bring you prices from:

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1904. £1. S.G. 30, mint £7

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●

P. O. V. WARREN

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CORRESPONDENCE

The Editor,
South African Philatelist.

Sir,

ERRORS—REAL AND IMAGINARY.

It is very seldom that I attempt to enter the field of Philatelic Correspondence; in fact I have not done so for some years but, having read the letter from Mr. G. N. Gilbert on the above subject in the September "South African Philatelist", I felt I must reply.

Firstly, I thoroughly enjoyed Mr. A. MacKenzie's article in the August issue. I thought he had gone to a great deal of trouble and gave an interesting paper.

Being of an artistic temperament and well versed in colour technology, I would like to add to those who collect shades and are doubtful as to the correct colours to put when writing up their collections — in all cases the predominant colour is the last one mentioned, viz.: yellow and blue, with more **blue** than yellow is termed a greenish **blue;** vice versa, with more **yellow** than blue is a bluish **green.** That applies to the rest of the colours. However, I have no intention of going into a long discourse on this.

I wish to tackle Mr. Gilbert, not on fly-marks, these do not interest me, but his remarks on colour varieties which he terms "present day shade racket" and which he would like to see damned.

For many years I have been a collector of the B.S.A. Co.'s "Rhodesia" and I amassed a large collection, mint and used. My happiest time was when I dealt with the "Double Heads" and "Admirals". I revelled in the long list of colour varieties that these issues provided. It was a magnificent display and they were not "weathered" neither had they been treated to sunlight, etc.

The keen specialist collects mint and used copies of every shade possible. The used copies are placed with the mint of their respective shade, thereby having a definite check on genuine used copies. Those not conforming to the mint are scrutinised to see if they have been subjected to light or "doctored". If nothing doubtful can be found they are placed on one side against the time when the collector might be fortunate in securing a mint copy of the same shade. It is essential that colour varieties should be collected and chronicled thus placing them on record. To omit them from a collection means an incomplete job.

At present, I have a nice collection of Southern Rhodesia. Here again, Mr.. Gilbert might chide me, as my 1924 issue contains shades of every denomination in the issue. There are no "weathered" copies.

I am entering my Southern Rhodesia collection at the International Stamp Exhibition at Cape Town next year and am hoping the jury will see fit to put the 1924 issue on show in its entirety. This should provide a definite instruction to the stamp world generally of what a galaxy of colour there is in this issue and which, to my mind, compares very favourably with the "Double Heads" and "Admirals".

Mr. Gilbert deplores the wonderful financial advances some of these colour varieties have made. I would like to point out that these prices, like everything else, are governed by rarity. I am confident that the experts in such firms as Messrs. Harmers, Robson Lowe, Gibbons, etc., know sufficient to be able to detect a "weathered" stamp from the general colour variety. Hence the remarkable advance of the Gt. Britain Silver Jubilee S.G. 456a, Prussian Blue, which, at the last catalogue valuation, is quoted at £150 mint and £160 used; The Gambia S.G. 138, 3/- Aniline Violet approximately £50 etc., etc.

I have proved that the collecting of genuine colour varieties is essential to completing a record of certain issues and I fail to see why Mr. Gilbert should call this action farcial.

Personally, I have not the slightest interest in fly marks and dots, but I am not antagonistic to Mr. Gilbert because he is interested in them. When he attacks other members of the hobby for collecting what he does not, I think is losing much that provides happiness in it. It has often been said "when a hobby ceases to provide happiness, it is a hobby no longer."

There are many sections in stamp collecting to-day; the latest being the Thematic. I have to admit that one of the most enjoyable evenings I have spent at our Society meetings was recently when a member exhibited a Thematic collection of places of interest in various parts of the world. I was amazed at the beautiful works of the artists responsible and it will be a long while before I forget it. I am sure it gave the collector a great dal of pleasure and will continue to do so.

Finally, let me state, give the other fellow credit for his collection. You might not like it, but he does; do not try to damn other people's efforts, it is just not done.

B. L. R. FOX.

Bulawayo.

The Editor,
South African Philatelist,
Johannesburg.

Sir,

ERRORS—REAL AND IMAGINARY.

Though I have had a lot to do with stamp collectors for many years, never have I ceased to wonder at the intolerance displayed by far too many towards the stamps and methods of collecting, which do not just happen to be their own cup of tea.

Sometimes this intolerance manifests itself in a form of cattiness, which is supposed (quite wrongly) to be a weakness only of the fair sex. Let me give an instance of what I mean.

A Mr. MacKenzie has recently been holding forth at some length regarding those fools of collectors, who take notice of shades and other philatelic varieties. In has stepped a Mr. Gilbert to criticise him for running down the flaws too much, and not running down shades half enough. Now one can excuse Mr. MacKenzie somewhat, for however he may try to impress us regarding his knowledge of printing (and he most certainly does try to impress us) he has

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been much more successful in impressing upon us the fact that he knows precisely nothing about philately. But there is not the same reason for excusing Mr. Gilbert, for it is clear that he knows plenty about stamp collecting.

This being the case, he will surely not object to it being pointed out, that several of the arguments which he uses against Mr. MacKenzie, can be used against him, by those who wish to justify their partiality for shades. Mr. Gilbert does not like shades apparently, but it is this intolerance which has already been referred to, which prevented him seeing for himself that obvious truth.

He refers in his letter which appeared in the September "South African Philatelist" to shades which have been catalogued merely because they have been "weathered" in a moist hot climate. As far as the "Commonwealth Catalogue of K.G. VI Stamps" is concerned this is simply not true. Moreover such is the care taken before a shade is listed, that it never will be true either, for the utmost care is taken that a shade must have a pedigree before it is even considered. By a pedigree I mean that not only must the particular printing to which the stamp belongs be known, but other copies from unimpeachable sources must be available for checking up. As a matter of fact our own reference collection must be considered about complete, and every shade, in it, which has been catalogued, came direct either from the Crown Agents, or a Commonwealth post office.

Thus fakes and changlings have no chance of inclusion, and in this connection a certain individual tried not only to fake a stamp, but its pedigree as well. He doctored a stamp and then claimed that it came from a single sheet which had been received direct from the Crown Agents. Two collectors produced copies, and one, with the permission of the Crown Agents was sent to the printers, for whilst a certain magazine had fallen for the fake, the writer of this letter felt suspicious. The printers not only denounced the stamp, but also mentioned how the "shade" had been obtained. The guilty party was lagged on another charge and he will not trouble us for some time.

And now a final point. Certain interests have carefully fostered the impression that shade collecting is a relatively new phase of the hobby, which has been foisted on collectors by unscrupulous dealers, so that they can sell more stamps; whilst perforation varieties are being deliberately manufactured by printers (they can hardly saddle dealers with that one) for the same purpose. And as for catalogue compilers they are loading their catalogues with shades etc. to keep their particular pot boiling.

Of course, they say, it is different with a grand old classics. There was no monkey business attached to their emission (they conveniently overlook mentioning how much monkey business there has been since, making a full stamp grow where a mere half existed before) but what are the facts. Were there no shades or perforation varieties in the old days and if any did exist (by accident of course) were they ignored by dealers and catalogue compilers? Let us take a look at Gibbons Part 1 and we will start with South Africa itself.

Cape of Good Hope 1861 4d. pale milky-blue, pale grey-blue, pale bright-blue (sic), deep bright-blue, blue. **1864-5** 4d. pale blue, blue, ultramarine, deep blue. **Bahamas 1863-80.** 1d bro.wnlake, carmine-lake, rose-red, red, vermillion. **Trinidad 1863-75 6d.** emerald-green, deep green, yellow-green, apple-green, blue-green. Now for perforations. **Barbados** Type 1 imperf., Perf. 14, Perf. 12½, Perf. 14-16, Perf. 14½-15½, and as this little lot was not enough apparently for those "collecting-and-selling-for-love" days, the perforations were further split up into groups of pin perf. clean cut perf., rough perf., etc. Scores more instances could be quoted regarding all these varieties which were sold and catalogued before most of the dealers to-day were born.

What would be said by certain interests if similar antics were indulged in to-day by that section of the stamp trade which deals in pretty-pretties, and gumpaps?

Actually there is nothing new about present philatelic tastes, apart from a consciousness of quality, but one thing is certain, never were collector's interests better protected by press and trade alike than they are right now.

Yours, etc.,
F. E. METCALFE,
(Commonwealth Stamp Coy.)
Liverpool.

The Editor,
S.A. Philatelist.
Dear Sir,

GRIQUALAND WEST NUMERAL CANCELLATIONS.

The Griqualand West "numeral in diamond" cancellation mark is well known and Mr. A. A. Jurgens lists Nos. 1, 2, 3, 4, 5, 6, 8 and 10, with the comment that 6 may be 9. Of these numbers the places of usage of 2, 5, and 10 are so far unindentified.

To this list I can now add another one, No. 11. This turned up a few days ago in a wholesale stock of 1d. Capes, Hope seated (S.G. No. 49 or 49a).

This discovery suggests that even higher numbers may yet be found and it would seem very unlikely that No. 7, for instance, does not exist.

Yours, etc.,
K. PENNICUICK.

CAPE TRIANGULAR REMAINDERS.

The September "London Philatelist" draws attention to the need for some co-ordination of the statements, rumours, etc., of the quantity of remainders of these famous stamps. There is still a very general impression that there was only about one sheet of each, an impression repeated in the latest big work by A. Stevenson.

Jurgens has given information which puts the number of "remainders" from all sources as at least four sheets of each value.

But there have been other finds and stories of big purchases so it is obviously time all the information available should be examined and correlated.

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BELGIUM AND BELGIAN CONGO.

Dr. Gabriel Levebvre sends the following notes about new issues, together with a number of specimens of them.

New Belgian Stamps.

(a) The new set started with the 20 centimes blue heraldic Lion of a new pattern, it has been completed by the following values:

5 centimes pale violet, 10c. orange, 20c. lilac, 25c. green, 40c. ochre, 50c. light blue, 60c. violet-carmine, 65c. ochre-brown, 80c. light green, 90c. dark blue, and 1 franc carmine.

(b) Four stamps with the picture of King Leopold III in uniform of General, were issued before his abdication:

(1) in a frame, and looking to the right: 1 franc 20 cent. brown; 2 frs. 50c. orange.
(2) without any frame, and looking to the left: 3 frs. sepia, 6 frs. rosy.
(c) Two airmail stamps: representing a big plane in flight above the country: 6 francs in light brown chocolate, plane flying to the right; 7 francs in grey blue, plane flying to the left.

During my visit to England and Scotland, in June and July last, there was issued a triptique of 2 airmail stamps printed in copperplate: 6 frs. representing in blue a glider, and a 7frs. in red-orange showing a sportplane type "Tipsy",—and in the centre to make the triptique a central vignette in typography in dark blue honouring the Belgian Aero-Club. The whole piece cost 50 francs, the difference of 37 francs being to the benefit of the Aero-Club for its 50th Anniversary.

(d) New set with surtax for the benefit of the Committee for the "National Monument to the Political Prisoner" (Belgians arrested during this last war by the Germans for political reasons): 3 stamps:

1, 75fr. plus 25 centimes surtax: shows the Monument without its stand (socle), face view, in sepia,

4 frs. plus 2 frs.: the Fort of Breendonck (old military Fort where the Germans imprisoned political prisoners and Jews; sky-blue upon blue-grey;

8 frs. plus 4 frs.: the Monument upon its stand, side view, green-olive.

Before closing I'll add that it was announced in a paper that new stamps with the picture of King Bauduin would be issued before the end of this year.

New Belgian Congo Stamps:

2 pieces completing the "Anti-Slavery" Set": 1,50 franc representing Cardinal Lavigerie, lilac grey, 3 francs representing Capt. Baron F. Dhanis, sepia brown.

FIJI.

The new issue of Health Stamps are reported to be in very short supply.

U.S.A.

We are indebted to Mr. George R. Rankin of Milwaukee for a first-day cover with the 3c. stamps honouring the Diamond Jubilee of the American Chemical Society (4 Sept| 1951), also for mint specimens of the 3c. commemorating the landing of Cadillac at Detroit in 1701.

SHORT NOTICES.

International Associated Hobbies.

This body has received its charter and been incorporated in the State of Oklahoma. Its main object is to assist its members in acquiring knowledge in various hobbies, to cultivate friendship among hobbyists and to enable them to affiliate with members of similar societies in other countries. Philately heads their list of hobbies, but there are many others. Anyone interested should communicate with Mrs. C. S. (Mildred) Buxton, 2252 East 8th Street, Tulsa 4, Oklahoma, U.S.A.

Journal of the Rhodesian Study Circle.

The September number, edited by Mr. W. G. Nodden, contains as usual much detailed information about new postmarks. World War II Censor Marks, minor varieties, etc., etc. Special note is made of "Essays" of the "Rhodesian" overprint, small arms, from Mr. A. V. Jacob's collection.

Editor of "Stamp Collecting."

After 5½ years Major Anthony Walker is giving up the editorship to resume a career broken by war in 1939. He has certainly made it a live journal during his period of office and his striking (in more senses than one, perhaps) commentaries will be missed. He is being succeeded by Mr. K. F. Chapman who, for the past three years have been editing "Philately" for the B.P.A.

Auction of Union Stamps.

Mr. C. E. Sherwood, of 105 Marford Crescent, Sale, Manchester is having an auction of Union Stamps on 30 November. Catalogues available by air at 6d. prepaid. Lots for inclusion may be sent, of not less than 10/- value; they should be fully described, commission charged being 12½ per cent, with 1/6 to cover return postage of unsold items. Reserve prices must be clearly indicated.

TRISTAN DA CUNHA.

There has just been a Radio announcement that the Development Company's new steamer "Isolda" has made one trip to the island and back; and that on her next trip the new overprinted St. Helena stamps will be taken there. So they may be expected to be issued very soon now.

UNUSUAL BASUTOLAND POSTMARK.

The explanation of this cover referred to in our August issue having a "Virginia" postmark, would seem to be that it was addressed to Virginia, U.S.A., but had either been missent to Virginia, a town in the O.F.S., or the sender had omitted U.S.A. from the address when it would naturally go to Virginia, O.F.S.

EXCHANGE WANTED.

Mr. William W. Wattenberg of 4060 Pasadena, Detroit 4, Mich., U.S.A. wishes to get in touch with some South African collectors to arrange exchanges.

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NEW LINES AND SPECIAL OFFERS:

2 Germany, Wuppertal Stamp Exhibition, cpl., 1/6
2 Germany, Lubeck Marienkirche, cpl. 1/6
14 Heligoland 1867/75, gar. genuine Reprints, cat. as originals over £17 ..... 12/6
25 Chile 1948, "Hottentotsgod" and other History objects, in sheet, cpl. 8/6
5 Belgium, Q.E. Medical Institute, cpl. 5/9
4 Czech 1951 Sports, cpl. 2/6
4 Czech 1951 Airmail, cpl. 8/6
15 Mocambique Fish (new supply) 9/6
4 Sweden, Polhem Birentenarz, cpl. 3/6
3 Russia, 800 years Moscow 1/6
12 Japan, 6 diff. recent Nat. Parks set, cpl. 7/6

Nett, C.W.O., Post Free.

A. Lichtenstein

B.P.A.

BOX 576 **BLOEMFONTEIN.**

MINT	Peace	U.P.U.'s	University
Antiqua	9d.	4/-	1/-
Bahamas	9d.	4/-	—
Barbados	9d.	4/-	2/6
British Guiana	9d.	4/-	9d.
British Honduras	9d.	5/-	1/-
Bermuda	9d.	4/-	—
Cayman	9d.	4/-	—
Dominica	9d.	4/-	1/-
Grenada	9d.	4/-	1/-
Jamaica	8d.	2/-	10½d.
Leeward Islands	9d.	4/-	1/-
Montserrat	9d.	4/-	1/-
St. Kitts	9d.	4/-	1/-
St. Lucia	9d.	4/-	1/3
St. Vincent	9d.	4/-	1/3
Trinidad	9d.	4/-	1/-
Turs Island	9d.	4/-	—
Virgin Islands	9d.	4/-	—

C.W.O. PLUS POSTAGE.

:o:

E. F. AGUILAR,

P.T.S., A.P.S., B.N.S., etc.

P.O. BOX 406, KINGSTON, JAMAICA, B.W.I.

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Denmark: 1937 D.Mill compl. booklet 21/-
Denmark: 1946 3 high values m. 10/6; u. 1/3
Greenland: 1938/46 9v. ..... m. 3/10
Greenland: 1950 8v. ..... m. 5/-
Finland: 1931 Granberg, m., 13/9; ..... u. 14/-
Finland: 1938 Post 4v. m., 3/3; ..... u. 1/4
Norway: 1930 North Cape 3v. ..... m. 30/-
Norway: 1940 4 high values ..... m. 11/6
Norway: 1946 4 high values ..... m. 11/3
Iceland: 1933 Charity 4v., m., 4/4 ..... u. 4/4
Iceland: 1934/6 Air 6v., m., 10/-; ..... u. 9/-
Sweden: 1936 Post 15v. ..... u. 4/6
Sweden: 1942 Swans, m., 37/6 ..... u. 9/-

10-page pricelist of Scandinavian stamps, 3d. (sh. 1/- airmail); SCANDINAVIAN NEWSLETTER, 4d. (8d. airmail). Exchange club for SCANDINAVIAN MATERIAL with a circuit in AFRICA. Details on request from the "Scandinavian Only" dealer:

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CAPT. K. JAHR, P.T.S.,

2, PRIORY AVE., LINCLUDEN, DUMFRIES, SCOTLAND.

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Classification of certain Transjordan Stamps recessed printed from flat and from curved line-engraved plates (with special reference to steel plate "stretch")—by A. HILTON SYDOW, A.S.A.A., C.A. (S.A.)

For approximately twenty years from the beginning of November 1927 each one of the two regular issues of postage stamps of Transjordan portrayed a full-faced likeness of H.H. the Emir Abdullah which was adapted from a photograph taken by the well-known London Court photographers, namely, C. van Dyk Limited. These postage stamps together with certain postage due labels were printed successively by Perkins, Bacon and Company Limited, Perkins Bacon Limited and Bradbury, Wilkinson and Company Limited, as listed below:—

In Categories "A", "B" and "C" the abbreviations used and their significances are as follows: S.G. 18, 19, 22, 23 and D7 represent the illustrations in the Stanley Gibbons' British Empire Catalogues; P1—Perkins, Bacon and Company Limited; P2—Perkins Bacon Limited; BW—Bradbury, Wilkinson and Company Limited; DLR—Thos. De La Rue and Company Limited.

CATEGORY "A"—POSTAGE STAMPS. (1).

S.G.18—	1.		—	14	—	P1	—			nil.
S.G.22—	1a.		—	14	—	P1	—		1m.	red-brown
. . —		1b.	—	13½ x 13	—	P2	—		1m.	do.
. . —		1c.	—	12	—	BW	—		1m.	do.
S.G.18—	2.		—	14	—	P1	—		2m.	greenish-blue
S.G.22—	2a.		—	14	—	P1	—		2m.	do.
. . —		2b.	—	13½ x 13	—	P2	—		2m.	bluish-green
. . —		2c.	—	12	—	BW	—		2m.	do.
S.G.18—	3.		—	14	—	P1	—		3m.	carmine-pink
S.G.22—	3a.		—	14	—	P1	—		3m.	do.
. . —	3a.		—	14	—	P1	—		3m.	green
. . —		3b.	—	13½ x 13	—	P2	—		3m.	do.
. . —		3c.	—	12	—	BW	—		3m.	do.
. . —		3c.	—	12	—	BW	—		3m.	carmine-pink
S.G.18—	4.		—	14	—	P1	—		4m.	green
S.G.22—	4a.		—	14	—	P1	—		4m.	green
. . —	4a.		—	14	—	P1	—		4m.	carmine-pink
. . —		4b.	—	13½ x 13	—	P2	—		4m.	do.
. . —		4c.	—	12	—	BW	—		4m.	do.
. . —		4c.	—	12	—	BW	—		4m.	green
S.G.18—	5.		—	14	—	P1	—		5m.	orange
S.G.22—	5a.		—	14	—	P1	—		5m.	orange
. . —	5aa.		—	13½ x 14	—	P1	—		5m.	do. (DLR).
. . —		5b.	—	13½ x 13	—	P2	—		5m.	do.
. . —		5c.	—	12	—	BW	—		5m.	do.
S.G.18—	6.		—	14	—	P1	—		10m.	scarlet
S.G.22—	6a.		—	14	—	P1	—		10m.	do.
. . —		6c.	—	12	—	BW	—		10m.	vermilion
. . —		6c.	—	12	—	BW	—		10m.	violet
. . —		6b.	—	13½ x 13	—	P2	—		10m.	scarlet
S.G.18—	7.		—	14	—	P1	—		15m.	blue
S.G.22—	7a.		—	14	—	P1	—		15m.	do.
. . —	7aa.		—	13½ x 14	—	P1	—		15m.	do. (DLR).
. . —		7b.	—	13½ x 13	—	P2	—		15m.	do.
. . —		7c.	—	12	—	BW	—		15m.	do.
. . —		7c.	—	12	—	BW	—		15m.	olive-green
. . —		8c.	—	12	—	BW	—		12m.	scarlet
S.G.18—	9.		—	14	—	P1	—		20m.	olive-green
S.G.22—	9a.		—	14	—	P1	—		20m.	do.
. . —		9b.	—	13½ x 13	—	P2	—		20m.	do.
. . —		9c.	—	12	—	BW	—		20m.	do.
. . —		9c.	—	12	—	BW	—		20m.	blue.

CATEGORY "B"—POSTAGE DUE LABELS.

S.G.D7—	1.		—	14	—	P1	—	2 —	1m.	red-brown
. . —		1c.	—	12	—	BW		—	1m.	do.
. . —	2.		—	14	—	P1	—	2 —	1m.	orange-yellow
. . —		2c.	—	12	—	BW		—	2m.	do.
. . —	3.		—	14	—	P1	—	2 —	4m.	green
. . —		3c.	—	12	—	BW		—	4m.	do.
. . —	4.		—	14	—	P1	—	2 —	10m.	scarlet
. . —		4c.	—	12	—	BW		—	10m.	carmine
. . —	5.		—	14	—	P1	—	2 —	20m.	olive-green
. . —	6.		—	14	—	P1	—	2 —	50m.	blue.

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CATEGORY "C"—POSTAGE STAMPS (2).

S.G.19—	1.			—	14	—	P1	—	50m.	purple
S.G.23—		1a.		—	14	—	P1	—	50m.	do.
. . —			1b.	—	13½	—	P2	—	50m.	do.
. . —			1c.	—	12	—	BW	—	50m.	do.
S.G.19—	2.			—	14	—	P1	—	90m.	bistre
S.G.23—		2a.		—	14	—	P1	—	90m.	do.
. . —			2c.	—	12	—	BW	—	90m.	do.
S.G.19—	3.			—	14	—	P1	—	100m.	blue
S.G.23—		3a.		—	14	—	P1	—	100m.	do.
. . —			3c.	—	12	—	BW	—	100m.	do.
S.G.19—	4.			—	14	—	P1	—	200m.	violet
S.G.23—		4a.		—	14	—	P1	—	200m.	do.
. . —			4c.	—	12	—	BW	—	200m.	do.
S.G.19—	5.			—	14	—	P1	—	500m.	brown
S.G.23—		5a.		—	14	—	P1	—	500m.	do.
. . —			5c.	—	12	—	BW	—	500m.	do.
S.G.19—	6.			—	14	—	P1	—	1,000m.	slate-grey
S.G.23—		7a.		—	14	—	P1	—	£P1—	do.
. . —			7c.	—	12	—	BW	—	£P1—	do.

The Master Dies of all the postage stamps and postage due labels of the various denominations mentioned in this monograph were engraved en creux and negative by Perkins, Bacon and Company Limited.

The stamps of the denominations numbered 2 to 9 in Category "A" and 1 to 6 in Category "C" were printed from flat line-engraved steel plates by PERKINS, BACON AND COMPANY LIMITED, of Southwark Bridge Road, London, and were perforated to the gauge of 14. The stamps were inscribed in English and Arabic and the figures of value were shown fourfold — twice in the former and twice in the latter language. They were issued initially in November 1937, with the exception of the 500 and 1,000 mills which were issued early in 1929.

The denominations numbered 1a. to 9a. in Category "A", 1 to 6 in Category "B" and 1a. to 7a. in Category "C" were likewise printed from flat line-engraved plates of steel and perforated to the gauge of 14 by PERKINS, BACON AND COMPANY LIMITED. The 5m. and the 15m. denominations numbered 5aa and 7aa respectively in Category "A" were perforated to the gauge of 13½ x 14 by THOS. DE LA RUE AND COMPANY LIMITED and were prepared by them in roll or coil form for certain stamp vending machines. The firm of Perkins, Bacon and Company Limited was placed in liquidation in the second half of 1936 and was succeeded by the new firm of printers registered as Perkins, Bacon Limited, a subsidiary limited liability company floated by W. W. Sprague and Company Limited of London, England. The designs, S.G. 22 and 23, of the denominations numbered 1a to 9a and 1a to 7a in Categories "A" and "C" respectively, differed from those of their predecessors, namely designs S.G. 18 and 19, in that their figures of value were shown two-fold — once in English and once in Arabic — on each stamp in lieu of the fourfold — twice in English and twice in Arabic — primal insertions. The stamps of the said second design were issued firstly in June 1930 with the exception of the 1m. which was issued originally in February 1934 together with 3m. and 4m. denominations in reciprocated colours. From about the end of 1936 these stamps were printed and perforated to the gauge of 14 by PERKINS, BACON LIMITED. During 1938 and 1939 the stamps printed by this firm were perforated to the gauge of 13½ x 13 and their various denominations are numbered 1b to 9b in Category "A" and 1b in Category "C".

In May 1941 the plant and premises of Perkins, Bacon Limited in Fye Foot Lane, London, were destroyed by enemy action, and the Transjordan plates were rendered useless. The steel Master Dies, luckily remained safe and sound in the premises of the Crown Agents for the Colonies and were handed subsequently to the well-known firm of Bradbury, Wilkinson and Company Limited. Thus, new printing plates were manufactured by the latter firm from Master Dies of the postage stamps and postage due labels engraved by Perkins, Bacon and Company Limited.

The denominations numbered 1c. to 9c., 1c. to 4c., and 1c. to 7c. in Categories "A", "B" and "C", respectively, were printed from curved steel plates by BRADBURY, WILKINSON AND COMPANY LIMITED and perforated to the gauge of 12. These stamps and postal due labels were issued primarily in January 1943, i.e., the 1m. to 15m., but the 20m. to £P 1 denominations in 1944.

RETOUCHES TO MASTER (SECONDARY) DIES.

The portrait depicted on certain of the stamps of the second design, S.G. 22, was retouched by strengthening the lines of design on the forehead and left cheek of the Emir, and adding lines of shading on the right cheek. The denominations which emanated from the retouched die were 2m., 5m., 10m., 15m. and 20m., printed firstly by Perkins, Bacon and Company Limited in 1930 and finally in 1947 by Bradbury, Wilkinson and Company Limited.

VARIATIONS IN SIZES OF STAMPS.

The primary and secondary Master Dies of steel of all the denominations of the Postage Stamps and Postage Due Labels enumerated in Categories "A", "B" and "C" afore were enfraved by Perkins, Bacon and Company Limited, but their correlative steel transfer rollers and steel plates were manufactured firstly by Per-

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kins, Bacon and Company Limited and their successors Perkins, Bacon Limited, and finally by Bradbury, Wilkinson and Company Limited. The method of plate-making adopted by the said three concerns was the familiar one, namely, primary Master Die to primary Transfer Roller to Secondary Master Dies to secondary Transfer Rollers to Flat Plates. The "Perkins-Bacon" concerns utilised the flat plates on flat-bed machines for printing purposes. The "Bradbury-Wilkinson" concern, however, curved the flat plates rolled in by them for affixation to their rotary printing machines.

The stamps in my collection showed dimensional variations. The measurements of the postage stamps and postage due labels printed by Perkins, Bacon and Company Limited and Perkins, Bacon Limited on dampened "Crown C.A. Script" paper from **flat plates** affixed to flat-bed machines were as follows:—

(1) Designs S.G. 18 and 22—Postage Stamps—17½ x 21¼ mm.
(2) Design S.G. D7 — Postage Dues — 17½ x 21¼ mm.
(3) Designs S.G. 19 and 23—Postage Stamps—19½ x 23¾ mm.

The measurements of the postage stamps and postage due labels printed by Bradbury, Wilkinson and Company Limited on dry "Crown C.A. Script" paper in the web from **curved plates** affixed to rotary machines were as follows:—

(1) Design S.G. 22—Postage Stamps—18 x 21½ mm.
(2) Design S.G. D7—Postage Dues—18 x 21½ mm.
(3) Design S.G. 23—Postage Stamps—20 x 24 mm.

From the foregoing figures it will be observed that the postage stamps and postage due labels printed by Bradbury, Wilkinson and Company Limited are slightly larger in size than those printed by the "Perkins-Bacon" Companies. Incidentally it is interesting to record certain differences in sizes in connection with the stamps of Great Britain which depicted the profile portrait of King George V on the Britannia and Sea-horses vignettes of the 2/6, 5/- and 10/- denominations, viz.—

(1) printed by Waterlow Brothers and Layton Limited—22mm. hieh.
(2) printed by Thos De La Rue and Company Limited—22mm. high.
(3) printed by Bradbury, Wilkinson & Company Limited—23mm. high.
(4) printed by Waterlow and Sons Limited — 23mm. high.

(The Master Dies were engraved by the Royal Mint).

The stamps printed by the first and second named concerns were slightly smaller in size and emanated from **flat** line-engraved plates whilst those printed by the third and fourth named concerns were slightly larger in size and emanated from **curved** line-engraved plates. On the contrary it is interesting to record that the 2 cent stamps of Ceylon which depicted the three-quarter face portrait of King George VI and the vignette "Tapping rubber" showed no variation in size although printed by two separate concerns. The Master Dies, frame and vignette, were engraved by Thos. De La Rue and Company Limited. From these dies several plates were made by them for their rotary printing machines. Subsequently these Master Dies were handed to Bradbury, Wilkinson and Company Limited and a number of plates were made by them also for rotary printing. The measurements of the Ceylon stamps in my collection which emanated from **curved** line-graved plates are as follows:—

(1) printed by Thos. De La Rue and Company Limited—22½ x 35¾ mm.
(2) printed by Bradbury, Wilkinson and Company Ltd.—22½ x 35¾ mm.

Variations in size have also been observed anent the stamps of Newfoundland. The following measurements were taken from items in my collection, namely, (a) 1c. depicting the "Cod-fish Catch" and (b) 7c. with the portrait of H.M. Queen Mary—

(1a) printed by Perkins, Bacon and Company Limited—20¼ x 27 mm.
(2a) printed by Waterlow and Sons Limited—20¾ x 27 mm.
(1b) printed by Perkins, Bacon Limited — 20¼ x 27 mm.
(2b) printed by Waterlow and Sons Limited — 21 x 27 mm.

The "Perkins-Bacon" Newfoundland 1a. and 1b. were printed from **flat** line-engraved plates whilst the "Waterlow" Newfoundlands were printed from **curved** line-engraved plates, 2a. and 2b. The Master Dies for 1a. and 2a. were engraved by Perkins, Bacon and Company Limited and those in respect of 1b. and 2b by Perkins, Bacon Limited.

Lastly, examples of variations in sizes have been noted also anent certain stamps of Kedah, Tonga, Brunei and Bermuda which were printed by Thos. De La Rue and Company Limited from flat and from curved line-engraved plates respectively before and after the installation of their rotary printing machines.

The 10/- Grenada stamp (S.G. 163) printed by the wet process and flat plate is about 1 mm. narrower than the 10/- Grenada stamp printed by the dry process and curved plate.

It will thus be remarked that with the exception of the 1 mil. red-brown stamp and the 20m. and 50m. postage dues each one of the postage due labels and "Emir Abdullah" postage stamps provides an instance of an "x" denominated stamp begotten from an "x" denominated secondary Master Die printed in two sizes on paper and via certain plates and machines as follows:—

(a) dampened "Crown C.A. Script" paper from **flat** plates on a flatbed machine—smaller size. (Called "Wet" printing).
(b) dry "Crown C.A. Script" paper in the web from **curved** plates on a rotary machine—larger size. (Called "Dry" printing.)

At first I concluded that such size variation was due solely to paper shrinkage anent the "Wet" printing process and to paper stretch anent the "Dry" printing process. In 1944 when I wrote to Bradbury, Wilkinson and Company Limited in connection with size variation observed in our Union 2d. London prints, they replied that:—

"as only one die was engraved and therefore I can only imagine that the difference in

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size which you have found has been caused by the paper stretching or shrinking."

Subsequently I opined that an additional factor was bound up in the causation of size variation which I termed "steel plate stretch". When, par exemple, a flat steel plate is curved or bent in cylindrical form the phenomenon of expansion or stretch enters the process of curvature and culminates on the convex surface of the curved plate. Consequently a stamp printed from a design entered on a flat line-engraved plate is smaller in size than one printed from the same design on a curved line-engraved plate: the design in both instances emanating from the same Master Die.

In 1949 I wrote a letter to Bradbury, Wilkinson and Company Limited in which, inter alia, I ventured to opine that the differences in sizes which I found anent the stamps of Transjordan were due to steel plate "stretch". From this eminent printing firm I received the following reply:—

"I should judge that you are correct as to the slight difference in size of the Transjordan stamps. Perkins, Bacon Limited printed these from flat plates, whereas we produced them from curved ones, and I think that this would account for the slight increase in size."

In this article the word "size" is used for the size of a design on a printed stamp, and not for the size of stamp from perforated edge to edge, lengthwise and widthwise.

REVIEWS

The Codrington Correspondence, by Robson Lowe. Published by Robson Lowe, Ltd., London. Price 21/-, postage 1/-.

This is a scholarly work by Mr. Robson Lowe, dealing with a find of correspondence covering the period 1743—1851 in the Codrington house at Dodington. This family was connected with the West Indies from 1649 onwards, firstly in Barbados, later in Antigua and Barbuda. The latter island was held in feudal fief for over two centuries, its history being up till now practically unknown.

The correspondence covers a century of exciting history — wars with France and America, waning of the powers of the great plantations, negro insurrections and abolition of slavery.

For the postal historian there is a wealth of detailed information, much of it new, about West Indien handstruck stamps. In Antigua, for example, the previous earliest known was in 1787; now there are five different recorded prior to that year.

In British Ship Letter marks there is almost as much that is new, including one for Hubberstone, a small village near Milford Haven; the only recorded example of ship letter for this village.

The chapter on the complicated subject of postal rates is described by the writer as more attractive than a crossword puzzle. It contains "an abundance of evidence, a mass of theory, and a modicum of fact". Plenty of problems still to solve.

The Glucksborg Line on Stamps. Published in Denmark. On sale from the Publishing and Distributing Coy. Ltd., 167 Strand, London, W.C.2. Price 6/-.

Here is a new idea for a thematic collection, especially for anyone specially interested in Denmark. This booklet gives, in English as well as in Danish, a history of the Royal House of Glucksborg. Members of this include not only the Danish Royal Family, but through marriage, etc., members of the royal houses of Great Britain, Greece, Roumania, Norway, Belgium and the last of the Romanoffs in Russia.

Starting with King Christian IX of Denmark, he and all those royalties in whom his blood runs, are to be found featured on stamps of the countries mentioned. Illustrations of all these are given, as well as short biographies of the various personages.

Catalogue Thiaude. The stamps of France, also Andorra, Levant States, Morocco and Sarre. H. Thiaude, 24 Rue du 4 Septembre, Paris 2e. Price 150 francs.

A very comprehensive catalogue, now in its 36th edition. Being a highly specialised catalogue of the motherland in particular there are lots of details given which are not to be found in more general catalogues, e.g. Coins-Datés, Millésimes, Pre-cancels, R.F. overprints of 1944, etc. Numerous price alterations from the last edition make it reflect the present day French market prices.

Stanley Gibbons' Catalogue, Part I. British Empire 1952 Edition. (Complete). Published by Stanley Gibbons Ltd., 391 Strand, London, W.C.2. Price 15/- nett.

We think this volume really does not need "reviewing". Everyone interested in stamps of the British Commonwealth gets it as a matter of course, but perhaps all who want this edition will not be able to get it as paper shortage has once again curtailed the number printed. It has now grown to 672 pages and the editor foreshadows that it may become necessary to cut down many of the illustrations, especially in the long colonial sets, where the text runs to a fraction of the size taken up by the pictures.

There are numerous price alterations in this edition, hardly surprising seeing that sixteen months have elapsed since the last one. In Canada and South Africa there are notable rises. Generally speaking many of the earlier issues are rising while there has been some recession in the middle issues and the commemoratives in which there was a good deal of speculation during the war years. There are quite a few rises in K.G. VI issues, especially the earlier ones. Silver Wedding high values are now priced, although the publishers still do not deal in them.

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FORGERIES.

"The American Philatelist" states that information is to hand from the Federation Internationale de Philatelie about three recent emissions of counterfeit stamps:

Italy. The overprinted 9th Italian Philatelic Congress series (S.G. Nos. C20a to C 20d.). Execution coarse and should not be dangerous.

Israel. Counterfeits of the 250, 500 and 1,000 mils. Have a darker general appearance than the genuine; the inscriptions and the value are of a lighter type.

Roumania. Fakes of the first (1858/68) issue have recently appeared in Switzerland. Both stamps and/or postmarks are dangerous and special care should be exercised in purchasing this issue.

GERMANY.

Western Zone. At a national exhibition held in Wuppenthal on 14-18 Sept. there were due for issue two semi-postals featuring four stamps used in the old states in 1851.

The Wurtemburg Stamp Club is also holding an exhibition specially for young collectors in October, to show their co-operation throughout the whole world.

West Berlin. Three further values, 5, 20 and 40 pf., have been issued in the Berlin Freedom Ball series.

Eastern Zone. Four bicoloured stamps, 12, 24 30 and 50 pf. were issued in connection with the recent "World Youth Festival".

U.S.A. AND U.N.O.

The decision to have fewer special stamp issues is having the effect of cutting the sales at the Philatelic Agency in Washington by about 1½ million dollars as compared with the previous year and nearly 3 million dollars as compared with the year before, which was the peak year with 30 new stamps and sales of over 4 million dollars.

This may be made up to some extent, not by the Post Office, but by stationery dealers, in so far as getting money out of collectors' pockets is concerned. The American philatelic press is full of advertisements of special commemorative envelopes for the issue of U.N. stamps.

October 24th has been chosen as the date of issue of the first U.N. stamps, 1, 1½, 3, 5, 25 cent and 1 dollar values. The others are expected in November.

It is understood the U.N. stamps will also be available in Paris at the meeting of the General Assembly to be held there in November.

SHIPPING POSTMASTER, CAPE TOWN.

Mr. E. Lauder, of Glasgow writes:—

"With reference to the article by Pirie and Sydow in the Jan., 1949 "S.A. Philatelist" on maritime Postmarks, I enclose a photograph of a "Shipping Postmaster/Cape Town" mark in my collection.

This type does not appear to have been recorded yet. It is a double-circle, outer circle double lined with "Shipping Postmaster" at the top, "Cape Town" at the bottom, and Maltese Crosses between the upper and lower lettering. It is worth noting for two other reasons:

(a) The early date, 20 Sept. 1910, which I believe is the earliest recorded.

(b) The mark is in red, and it cancels a block of six C.G.H. 2½d. blue stamps (S.G. 73). Could it be on account of the blue stamps that the mark was applied in red instead of the more usual blue?"

(This mark is definitely the earliest yet recorded of the Shipping Postmaster marks, the previous earliest being 2 Aug., 1911. It is in general character similar to the mark illustrated on Fig. 5 in the article mentioned, but without the Fig. 3 below the date and with Maltese crosses between the upper and the lower lettering.

Most marks of that period seem to have been in blue but whether red ink was kept specially for cancelling blue stamps is speculative. The photograph submitted is an enlargement, but from comparison with the size of the postage stamps, the overall diameter of the mark would appear to be 40 mm., like that of others of the period.—Ed.)

KOREA.

According to the "Stamp Mirror" the issue of the thirty-two flag stamps has been delayed by difficulties of paper supplies. Apparently 40,000 sets are to be printed; of these 20,000 will be, sent to the member states of U.N. whose flags are to be represented, the other 20,000 remaining in Korea.

Shall we have our supply on official sale here?

GREAT BRITAIN.

In view of the recent changes in the minimum rate for inland printed papers the composition of stamp booklets has been altered.

The new 2/6 books will contain 6 stamps at 2½d., 6 at 1½d., 3 at 1d., and 6 at ½d. 5/- books will contain 18 at 2½d., the other values same as in the 2/6 booklet. These new booklets will be available about next March.

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The collection is replete with high values, there being over 100 of 5/-, 10/-, and £1 stamps, and among the many fine covers is a combination cover shewing "Shipping Postmaster Cape Town." There are virtually no duplicates.

The whole forms a collection of material which is becoming increasingly elusive, and is probably an entity impossible to duplicate.

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2. On date of issue Windhoek, .W.A.
3. On Tercentenary landing date of Van Riebeeck (6th April, 1952) at Van R'ebeeck Post Office, Festival Grounds, Cape Town (Special Dafestamp).

4.4 At Drill-Hall Post Office where International Stamp Exhibition will be on (Special Datestamp).

★

G. J. de SWARDT
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SOCIETY NEWS

UNIVERSITY OF CAPETOWN PHILATELIC SOCIETY.

Thurs. 2/8/51.

The main item on the programme was the display of some of Mr. R. D. Cherry's stamps, mostly mint George VI, but a few foreigns were present as well.

A minor amendment to the constitution was passed, providing that as a general rule the secretary should not take the chair in the Chairman's absence.

Arrangements for the displays in connection with the University Arts Festival and at the Cape Town Philatelic Society's meeting on 23/8/51 were discussed.

A large number of stamps raised under our scheme were divided amongst members.

Thurs. 20/9/51.

Our Annual General Meeting, but unfortunately with a very small attendance.

The Chairman and Treasurer spoke on their reports. The society has had a satisfactory year, even if its expenditure has been very high, as a permanent home (in the shape of a cupboard) for our library has been obtained and quite a few volumes of "Stamp Collecting" and the "S.A. Philatelist" bound. The librarian also gave a short report.

The 1952 committee was then elected. Mr. M. C. B. Hotz was re-elected chairman, Mr. D. Allison, secretary, and Mr. G. Rincow, treasurer. A change was made in the post of librarian; Mr. M. Peisach, who resigned from the committee owing to pressure of work, has rendered great service to our Society. Miss R. Ganz took his place, and Mr. I. D. Huskisson remains as additional member. D.A.

EAST RAND PHILATELIC SOCIETY.

18 September.

In th absence of the President, Mr. J. Shepherd, Mr. I. Slomowitz took the Chair.

The exhibit of the evening consisted of part of the British Empire King George VI collection by Mr. Slomowitz. Mr. Clement, on behalf of the members, thanked the exhibitor. J.A.G.

ORANGE FREE STATE AND BASUTOLAND PHILATELIC SOCIETY.

Due to inclement weather, the July meeting had not the usually large attendance. Those present were treated to a fine display of colourful stamps of Switzerland by Mr. A. H. Scott. Some of the stamps had interesting pictorial cancellations.

At the August meeting, members turned up in force again. Recent new issues were tabled by Mr. A. J. Denne, and the "Philatelic News" was reported by Mr. J. Lewis. A "20 Questions" Quiz was won in grand style by Mr. C. E. Kachelhoffer (acting postmaster of Bloemfontein(, who seemed to have telephatic powers. While all other members were "at sea", he answered the first question in "5", while he finished the second question put forward with a lucky first shot. The quiz-master, badly beaten, then gave up. Two displays were given under the heading "Egypt". The first one, by Mr. Denne, consisted of a well-arranged straightforward collection, which was practically complete in the pictorial issues of the last thirty years. Mr. C. A. Larsen gave a display of different style, concentrating more on the earlier issues of Egypt. The two contrasting displays supplemented each other very well. Members have been asked to bring "parallel" collections along when a main display is given, i.e. to show their own collections of the same subject as the scheduled display. This will lead to some instructive comparisons and to interesting displays of contrasting variety. K.F.

PHILATELIC SOCIETY OF NATAL.

September 5.

There was a good attendance—forty-five. After the formal opening the meeting then paused out of respect for a recently deceased older member. Mr. A. Law.

The President spoke of the general desire that meetings should be interesting and entertaining: if any member could suggest improvements his suggestions would be welcomed. Mr. W. F. Ovens congratulated the committee on the excellent and varied fare already provided on our programmes and said that the interest stimulated could only result in increased interest and good attendances. Mr. Milner Palmer spoke of the proposed thematic exhibition to be held later in the year and urged members to come forward to help supplement the material which had already been offered. On the other hand Mr. J. R. Simpson suggested that exhibits, other than thematic Collections, should be accepted but he was in favour of the exhibition and asked that it be proceeded with. Mr. L. Bevis then explained that the necessary accommodation for the exhibition could be obtained in the Art Gallery in the City Hall towards the end of November which was the best period from several points of view. A letter was read by the secretary, Mr. K. I. Bevis, from Messrs. Whitfield, King and Co. in which this firm gladly permitted us to use any article in their "Bulletin" provided suitable acknowledgment was made.

Mr. Lyle read an interesting article on the different types of paper used in the printing of stamps and exhibited for view specimens of the printing on the various papers. The meeting was greatly appreciative and Mr. Lyle was suitably thanked. Mr. Appleby was the conductor of the evening's competition, firing 12 questions at his audience, and Mr. N. D. Williams was the winner with 8 points. He promptly donated his prize to the Cape Town fund. Mrs. J. Lockwood of Witbank had donated a packet of stamps for disposal in aid of the same fund. The packet realised the sum of £2 10s. 0d. and the winner was, stragely enough, Mr. President! In addition the auction, largely composed of donated items by Messrs. Winde, Simpson, Milner Palmer, Spence, Bawden and Miss Woodroffe, was well supported and provided further support for the fund which, during the evening, grew by £7 0s. 9d. Mr. Chamberlain donated stamps in aid of St. John's Eye Hospital and these realised 7/6.

Mr. Lyle gave an excellent and interesting exhibit of George VI pictorials and this aroused great interest. He stated that the exhibit was 93 per cent. complete. Mr. Ovens, in thanking Mr. Lyle, voiced the great appreciation of the members.

October 3rd.

There were forty members present when the President, Mr. H. R. Brown, opened the meeting at 7.40 p.m., and he extended a welcome to Dr. Lucas Young of the Maritzburg society. Before proceeding with the business the meeting stood in silence as a mark of respect to our late member and friend, Mr. A. Bannister, who had recently passed away.

With the correspondence was a letter in French from a collector in Belgium which was "Greek" till Dr. Young kindly translated. Mr. Rutter undertook to reply to the correspondent. A letter from the Federation appealed to members who intended visiting Cape Town during the forthcoming celebrations to make early arrangements for their accommodation if they wished to avoid disappointment. There was some discussion as several members, in addition to delegates, proposed making the journey.

At this stage further Maritzburg visitors arrived to join their advance guard, Dr. Young. They were Prof. A. F. Hattersley and Mr. R. Morton, President and Secretary respectively of the Maritzburg society and they thereupon took over the meeting.

Mr. Hattersley gave the meeting an outline of how he and his colleagues intended to entertain us. He then proceeded to give a humorously critical address on the use of heraldry in stamp design. While giving much interesting information on the use of various crests and badges that had been used by many countries in their designs he made those present realise that he had a comprehensive knowledge of his subject and had undertaken considerable research. So, in presenting many handsome and admirably designed stamps he yet poked gentle fun at the designers. He pointed out anachronisms and other signs of absent-mindedness in both the originals and the stamp designs, and exposed the pitfalls that lie in wait for the unwary designer or artist. The professor displayed to illustrate his criticisms. His talk, taking us well off the beaten track, was listened to intently by the meeting.

Unfortunately Mr. R. Morton's contribution to our entertainment was more in the nature of a shock attack! He presented 34 mounted stamps and asked for a description of the colour of each stamp as listed by Stanley Gibbons. Refreshments were served while members thought in terms of pinks and scarlets and roses and reds. The food did nothing to help the majority and Mr. Rutter was most successful with 13 correct colours. In future we shall prefer to have notice of such questions so that the womenfolk can attend to help!

Then, to conclude, Dr. Lucas Young gave the meeting his "Miscellany" describing the many and

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various letters in unusual ways: He showed covers of the pre-post days and early Norwegian-Spitzbergen postings; he delved into the history of the Airmail referring to the first British airmail and the inauguration of the service between Nyasaland and the southern territories. He also referred to other extraordinary methods of transport such as polar flights, Arctic post back in the nineties, glider and balloon flights and illustrated them with specimens which must be very rare today.

Mr. Justice Durham spoke in appreciation of the entertainment and instruction derived from the contributions of the Maritzburg members and moved a hearty vote of thanks which was endorsed with applause. There was a fair amount of material for auction including items donated for the Cape Town fund and the meeting closed at 10.30. V.F.M.

PRETORIA PHILATELIC SOCIETY.

On the 3rd September the Society was visited by the President and other representatives of the East Rand Philatelic Society. They entertained the meeting with a generous variety of philatelic fare: Mr. Jack Shepherd spoke on and showed selections of his early Cape Triangulars, which included the famous Crawford colour trials, woodblocks, proofs, entires, etc., among which were several great rarities; Mr. Sam Legator read a paper and showed an exhibit of the stamps of Israel, which must be unique for its completeness. Considering that only the British Mandate Administration period (from 1947) was covered, the extent of the issues astonished all who were not aware of Israel's considerable activity in stamp production — often under great difficulties and for the main purpose of raising money to buy land; Mr. E. N. Rigg's excellent Austrian collection of air and charity stamps (1899-1950) was especially strong in the modern issues, which show enviable perfection in design and printing craft; Mr. Gilmour's exhibit of Canada stamps dated from 1859 up to the present day also included rarities seldom seen, and his kindness in sending the collection although unable to come himself, was appreciated.

Mr. Legator also gave an account of the progress of work on the Union Handbook, now proceeding under great pressure as publication early in 1952 is aimed at by the responsible committee.

The President of the Pretoria Society, Mr. F. C. Ferguson and several members commented on the various exhibits and thanked the visitors very warmly for coming and for the much appreciated treats they had contributed to a most successful meeting.

At the second bi-monthly meeting, held on the 17th September, the guests of honour were Mr. W. N. Sheffield and Mr. S. J. Haggar from the Johannesburg Philatelic Society. Mr. Sheffield showed his collection of the Union War Issues, complete in sheets and blocks for every issue. Although he did not commend this as a good way to collect stamps, this collection had been found of the greatest assistance in writing up the Union Catalogue, and it had served as a source of reference to many collectors.

In thanking Mr. Sheffield for giving the Pretoria Society the opportunity of seeing this exceptional exhibit, Mr. Newlands and others expressed the hope that it would never be broken up into a more conventional form; it should be retained intact for its research value.

The meeting closed after a short auction had been conducted by Dr. Reisener. B.J.V.

PORT ELIZABETH PHILATELIC SOCIETY.

Mr. Bulbring was in the chair when the meeting opened on Tues., 17th Sept. The President told members that Mr. Winsley has taken over the post of Treasurer as from Oct. 1st to relieve Mr. Smith who had numerous duties to perform. Mr. Forbes was absent as he is on his travels. Mr. Bulbring was responsible for the evening and he tabled his rare and valuable Old Prussian collection. These stamps were of vital interest and were keenly scrutinized, as it was the first time most members had seen them.

The collection was complete, except for a very few shades. They were first issued in 1850 by the State Printing Works in Berlin, and were followed by the same set on unwatermarked paper.

Also unwatermarked, of course, was the Parcel Post stamp printed on Gold-Beaters Skin, the stamp was printed on th back of the paper and the design shewn through. These stamps were not sold over the counter but used by the Government for Parcel Post only. There was the set with the Prussian Eagle, and some in Prussian blue printed by the North German Federal Union; these had a short life. Mr. Bulbring gave an interesting talk and said each post-office was allotted a number to use, so that it was possible to know from which post-office the stamp was issued.

Mr. Bulbring well deserved the hearty vote of thanks accorded to him. There was the usual raffle for two stamps and after refreshments the meeting terminated at about 9.30 p.m. L.E.C.

ROODEPOORT PHILATELIC SOCIETY.

September 20.

It was decided at the previous meeting that the September meeting would be a Swop night. The attendance was very poor, only 8 members and 5 visitors being present. Amongst the visitors we welcomed Messrs. Innes and Stodeley and Masters Van der Berg and Simpson.

After the ordinary business it was decided that Master Crocker would show his Great Britain in October.

The Quiz. was rather on the easy side but only our chairman, Mr. Henderson, got a 50 per cent pass.

The applications for membership of Dominee Theron and Dr. Bleksley were accepted.

After coffee everyone got down to the real business of the evening and we trust that everybody went home with some useful additions to their collections. H.D.

CAPE TOWN PHILATELIC SOCIETY.

27th September.

Mr. Jurgens provided the exhibit for the evening when he showed his specialised collection of Stellaland, British Bechuanaland and Bechuanaland Protectorate. Many rare stamps were exhibited including several stamps overprinted "Specimen".

A vote of thanks was proposed by Mr. Alexander and was seconded by Mr. Atlas.

Mr. Jacob gave details of the organisation for the International Exhibition and said that in the near future he would ask Members to volunteer their services to assist in the formation of Committees to take charge of the various exhibition arrangements. He announced that in place of the meeting to be held on the 25th October there would be an Auction Sale in and of funds for the Exhibition.

Mr. Combrink also spoke in reference to the Exhibition and gave a summary of the work that would have to be done in order to have all the exhibits mounted and set up in the Drill Hall in the very short time that would be available immediately prior to the opening of the Exhibition.

11th October.

The display for the evening was provided by Monsieur E. Haimet, who showed stamps of the Balkan States and Asia Minor which he had collected whilst travelling in those parts of Europe. Stamps were shown covering the period 1939-43 from Albania, Serbia, Greece, Turkey, Rumania and Bulgaria, and there were also Italian occupationals of Zante, Cephalonia and Corfu. Other stamps of historical interest were those issued which had Syrian stamps with French surcharges until the reunion with Turkey in 1938 when Turkish stamps were used; stamps of Lattaqué under French occupation in 1931-33, and Alouittes under French occupation in 1925-28. M. Haimet gave a most interesting talk about his exhibit and described many incidents in obtaining stamps in their countries of origin.

A vote of thanks was proposed by Mr. Blum and was seconded by Mr. Mummery.

An auction conducted by Mr. Blum raised £3 15s. 0d. for Exhibition Funds. A.J.N.

WEST RAND STAMP CLUB.

At the September meeting business was disposed of as quickly as possible, the Chairman, Mr. Sharpe, evacuated the chair in favour of Commander Enoch, and the visit from Johannesburg was "on". Commander Enoch introduced the exhibitors of the evening. Mr. Swartz, he said, would show Rhodesia (B.S.A.), Mr. Buchen, S.W.A. and Mr. Glasman K.G. VI. Each of these gentlemen gave a short address before tabling their respective exhibits.

Mr. Swartz started the ball rolling with a very fine display of B.S.A. One has to see this beautiful collection to appreciate the time it must have cost to collect it. The arrangement left nothing to be desired.

Mr. Buchen followed with S.W.A., or rather, German South West Africa. The exhibit opened with stamps of Germany, the proof being the cancellations. For various reasons the P.O.'s were moved

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from place to place. Cancellations proving this too. Then came the German Overprints for use in the Colony. This was followed by stamps printed for the Colony. Up to the time of occupation with a few covers "On Active Service" of the 1914 period. Injustice would be done if mention were not made of the "Registered" Post Card. The amount of research put into this work is known only to Mr. Buchen.

Mr. Glassman then tabled his K.G. VI. Well — Mr. Glassman — where did you get them all? Space does not permit of detail, but one would be well advised to see this collection when it is next exhibited. (Not forgetting the "Fishing" page).

Mr. Edwards thanked Mr. Swartz, Mr. Yelland thanked Mr. Buchen and Mr. Burrell thanked Mr. Glassman. These gentlemen condensed their remarks, but each could have filled a "Sunday Times" with ease. If our visitors were put to any inconvenience by coming all this way, they can take compensation from the fact that the evening was thoroughly enjoyed by the Club.

Mr. Sharpe said it had been a grand evening and thank you Johannesburg.

At the October meeting Mr. Burrell will show New Zealand and in November we expect a visit from the Jewish Guild. Please note, meeting commence at 7.45 p.m. N.B.E.

PHILATELIC SOCIETY OF JOHANNESBURG.

On 9th October Dr. von Vorendorff shewed his fine collection of German states with particular emphasis on the stamps of Thurn and Taxis. Almost all specimens had good margins and only the greatest rarities were missing.

Mr. E. Hunt spoke on the exhibit and thanked the exhibitor on behalf of the audience who had enjoyed the display so much.

At the meeting held on October 22nd, the exhibit was Brazil by Mr. E. Hunt. Mr. Hunt was unable to be present but his exhibit was tabled and a paper prepared by him was read by Commander C. E. D. Enoch.

The exhibit was a fine one with some fine specimens of the "Bull's Eyes"; including some on cover.

There were also the so-called "Goats Eyes" and "Cats Eyes" issues. There were some pre-stamp covers.

There were mint as well as fine used specimens and there were numerous blocks. Several different kinds of forgeries were included in the exhibit and these were described in the paper. Dr. A. Kaplan spoke on the exhibit.

THE PHILATELIC SOCIETY OF RHODESIA.

Although little news of its activities has appeared in the Press in recent months, the Society has been far from dormant. In fact, it can quite confidently be stated that the tempo of our affairs is on the "up and up".

Commencing with the June Meeting, a completely reorganised Agenda was presented to members. Formal business has been reduced to a minimum and "Minutes" have been dispensed with. These are confirmed at Committee Meetings, but are available at the Ordinary Meetings, should any member wish to read them. Correspondence is carefully sifted, and only that calculated to be of particular interest, is placed before the meeting.

This leaves time for "Extracts from the Philatelic Press," a feature principally conducted by the Chairman and Secretary, but now being supported by an ever-increasing number of contributions from members; a paper, or a competition, or a "secondary" display, before tea is served. The "featured" display takes place after tea.

It is the rule, rather than the exception, nowadays, that meetings break up with the hour on reaching eleven, and the number of new members enrolled in the past four months, bears testimony to the popularity of this innovation.

Informal discussion takes place during the tea interval, and auction and exchange, when necessary, after the main display.

To give a brief resumffi of our Programme since June:

June Meeting: A paper by Mr. B. L. R. Fox on "The Finance of Philately"; this very contentious subject promoted quite a heated discussion, and the conclusions reached, without doubt, deplored the speculative aspect of present-day philately. Mr. Lazarus displayed a portion of his mint collection of George VI issues.

July Meeting: A competition by Mr. Creewel featuring 'factual errors' in the designs of stamps — real 'brain-ticklers', with the invariable 'catch-question'. Although the percentage of correct answers was not very high, the fun was considerable. Two small countries were exhibited — "Aden" by Mr. Norman, and "Malta" by Mr. Birsen, who also read a few notes on his display.

August Meeting: This was a "Pro-Foreign" evening, with a display by Mr. Creewel, championing the cause of a foreign collection. Need it be said that there was heated opposition from the Empire enthusiasts?

September Meeting: Although the featured exhibit was "Germany" by Mr. Dowdell, a new and most interesting subject for many, his thunder was stolen by a display of the complete collection of the U.P.U. Commemoratives. This magnificent collection had been presented to the Society by the Assistant Postmaster-General of Southern Rhodesia — a most valuable addition to the Society's collection.

Collectors' Wants & Offers

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

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

Wanted: German South West Africa Special Items, Specimens, Covers, etc.—L. BUCHEN, P.O. Box 4012, Johannesburg.

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

50% over Gibbons Catalogue price offered for a superb Mint and Used copy of Seychelles, S.G. 52A.—WILLIAM REDFORD, P.O. Box 1182, Johannesburg.

Required Switzerland. All issues mint used and Covers for cash or exchange for Geo. VI. B. JOSEPH, P.O. Box 375, Johannesburg

Falkland Islands Specialist Material Covers and Post Marks wanted.—E. L. STERN, P.O. Box 7818, Johannesburg.

GEORGE VI WANTED (Mint Only). Specimen sets of the following African Colonies: Bechuanaland 1938 issue, Gambia 1938 issue, Gold Coast, 1938 issue, Northern Rhodesia, 1938 issue, Nyasaland 1945 issue, St. Helena 1938 issue, Seychelles, 1938 issue, Somaliland, 1942 issue. Speciment sets of all Coronation and Victory Issues. Send details and quotations to B. GLASSMAN, P.O. Box 10, Johannesburg.

WANTED: Latvia any out of the way items, proofs, colour trials, forgeries, varieties, also collections and kiloware.—J. MICHELSON, Box 9314, Johannesburg.

WANTED: Booklets, Post Cards, Registered Envelopes and Airletter Cards, unused and used of Union only.—Dr. MURRAY, Kuilsriver.

CANADA.

Postal officials are stated not to be satisfied with the special 4c. stamp issued in connection with the Royal Visit. Princess Elizabeth is said to look too wistful and the Duke of Edinburgh seems to be frowning. We can only wait and see.

ADEN.

The overprints in 'shillings' and 'cents' on the stamps of Aden and its associated states were due for issue on 1 October.

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BASUTOLAND POST OFFICES.

With reference to the short notes under Basutoland on page 103 of the June issue, the writer in the Philatelic Magazine is certainly very far out in his numbers of operating Post Offices and Agencies in Basutoland.

In case this may catch his eye, and as there are, I know, quite a few interested in this country, I am giving a list of Post Offices and Agencies which are working today, together with a list of Agencies which have operated but has since been closed.

The whole total comes to 64, of which ten have been closed, and at least one other is, I think in the process of beine shut down. I have cancelled stamps from 61 of these, only missing three of the older closed agencies, which so far have eluded me.

In the list given below, the main Post Offices which do all the postal work, including Savings Banks are in heavier type, the balance being post and telephone and/or telegraph offices or agencies.

Botsabelo Asylum
Bokong
Butha Buthe
Corn Exchange
Jonathans
Khabos
Kolonyama
Kubung
Lebihan Falls
Lejones (I think is being closed)
Leribe
Lesobeng
Linakong
Mafeteng
Majara
Makhoas
Mamathes
Mapoteng
Marakabeis
Maseru
Maseru Location
Mashai
Mekading
Mofokas
Mohales Hoek
Mohatlanes
Mohlalefis
Mokhotlong
Morija
Morunyaneng
Peka
Phamong
Pitseng
Qacha's Nek
Quthing
Rankakalas
Roma Mission
St. Rodrique Mission
Sebapala
Seforong
Sehapas
Sehlabathebe
Sehonghong
Sekakes
Setleketsing (post dealt with at Tlalis now).
Teyateyaneng
Thaba Bosigo
Thabana Morena
Thaba Seka
Thakabannas
Tlalis
Tlokoeng
Tsime
Tsoelike

Postal Agencies since closed.

Khetisas
Khukhune
Kueneng
Makoalis
Matsaile
Mount Morosi
Qalo
Thabaneng
Thlotse Heights (now Leribe).
Tsoloane.

G. N. GILBERT.

STAMP FRAUD IN CANADA.

Mr. Douglas Roth has been asked by the Canadian Government to obtain publication in South Africa of the following facts:

Robert N. Preston, Montreal, Canada.

Robert N. Preston whose correct name is John Stephen Wood was arrested on the 4th June, 1951 in connection with obtaining postage stamps on approval. He was charged with fraud, to which he pleaded guilty, and on the 15th June was sentenced to two years in the penitentiary. After Preston's arrest a considerable quantity of stamps were recovered by the Police and turned over to the Inspection Division of the Post Office Department, Ottawa for return to owners where possible. Any South African dealers or collectors who may have sent stamps to this man are invited to get in touch with the above Dept. giving full details together with the SCOTT catalogue numbers when the Post Office Department will make every endeavour to return them.

SOME RECENT AUCTION PRICES.

Robson Lowe.

Australia. 1915-28 £1 chestnut and brt. blue, mint, £14.
Do. £2 black and rose, mint, £18.
Rhodesia. £1, perf. 15 (S.G. 322), used, £7.
St. Helena. 15/- (S.G. 113), £21.
Great Britain 1d. black on cover, used 6/5/40, £42 10s. 0d.
Great Britain 1d. red, block of 12, Plate 40, £38.
Great Britain 1865 Proof of 1d., plate 66 in black (the so-called Royal Reprint), block of 8, £67 10s. 0d.

H. R. Harmer.

Italian Somaliland. Set of 8 opt'd. "British Occupation", £5.
Muscat. Olympic Games 1 R on 1/-, surcharge double (S.G. 30a), £42.
S.W.A. Voortrekker 1d. plus ½d., double O'pt. £16.
S.W.A. Voortrekker 2d., plus 1d., double O'pt., £16.
S. Rhodesia. 5/- printed on gummed side .S.G. 17a), £35.
S. Rhodesia. 3d. pair imperf. horizontally (S.G. 30a), £37.
Cape 1/- (S.G. 8a) block of 4, £84.
Sierra Leone, Wilberforce £1 mint, £25.

WANT LISTS.

During 50 years of fair trading, we have accumulated a comprehensive stock of British Colonial and Foreign Stamps — especially strong in Australasia, British West Indies, France and Colonies and King George VI issues of all Colonies.

A Want List by any Standard Catalogue, will receive prompt and careful attention. New clients, kindly send trade references.

BRIDGER & KAY, LIMITED,

86, Strand, London, W.C.2.
England.

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Van Riebeeck Tercentenary Commemorative Stamps

A sudden decision has been taken to release information about these stamps now instead of waiting till March. The Postal Authorities have kindly given us advance copy, so we have held up publication for a few days rather than be a month late with the information.

Each stamp will measure 24.2 by 40.5 millimetres.



1d. Upright.
Postage and Revenue.
Design: Maria le la Quellerie, first wife of Jan van Riebeeck.



4½d. Upright. Postage only.
Design: Jan van Riebeeck. Drawing based on the portrait by Dirck Craey which is at present held in the Ryksmuseum, Amsterdam.



½d. Horizontal. Postage and Revenue Design:

(a) Official Seal as used by Van Riebeeck at the Cape. The drawing is based on a wax impression on a document despatched by Jan van Riebeeck from the Cape on the 25th of June, 1657 and now held in the State Archives in The Hague.
(b) V.O.C. Monogram of the Dutch East India Company.



2d. Horizontal. Postage only.
Design: Historical depiction of the arrival of Van Riebeeck's ships at the Cape with Table Mountain in the background.



1/- Horizontal. Postage only.
Design: The landing of Van Riebeeck at the Cape. Based on the painting by Charles Bell and reproduced by permission of the Board of Trustees, South African Public Library, Cape Town.

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THE
SOUTH AFRICAN PHILATELIST
PROPRIETORS AND PUBLISHERS:
The Philatelic Federation of Southern Africa
Honorary Editor: Dr. J. H. HARVEY PIRIE
Business Manager: Mr. J. NATHANSON
P.O. Box 375, Johannesburg.
Subscription: Eight Shillings per annum, post free to any part of the World.
Vol. 27. No. 12. DECEMBER, 1951. Whole No. 321.

Editorial

"SATISE—SADIPU"

These are the short names now adopted for the Cape Town Van Riebeeck Tercentenary Stamp Exhibition. They are derived from the initial letters of "South African Tercentenary International Stamp Exhibition" and "Suid-Afrikaanse Driehonderdjarige Internasionale Posseëluitstalling."

The special significance for stamp collectors will be gathered from an intimation on another page.

It has been intimated that His Excellency the Governor-General has graciously consented to open the Exhibition on 26 March, and that he will unveil His Majesty, the King's exhibit in the Court of Honour.

Mrs. Ernest Hunt of Johannesburg has donated a special Championship Award to be given for the best exhibit of Cape Triangulars.

The entrance hall of the exhibition is to be given over to a display of the early Postal History of Southern Africa, arranged by Mr. A. A. Jurgens.

Souvenir Poster stamps at 1/- per sheet are now obtainable from Box 558, Cape Town. Special **Exhibition Commemorative Covers** will soon be ready and information about them will be published as early as possible.

The Union Postal Administration has been extremely co-operative over philatelic matters connected with the Tercentenary Festival as a whole, and with the Exhibition in particular.

Elsewhere in this issue is a Bulletin from them, dealing with everything in the way of stamps, special cancellations, and commemorative envelopes (except the special exhibition ones referred to above).

It should be noted that mail orders for the various services offered will be dealt with at four different points, viz.:

Postmaster, Cape Town.
Publicity Section, G.P.O., Pretoria.
Director of Posts and Telegraphs, Windhoek, S.W.A.

Organisers of SATISE—SADIPU, P.O. Box 558, Cape Town, each centre with their own peculiarities. Readers are therefore, for their own sakes, and to assist in the smooth working of the postal arrangements, asked to study the Bulletin very carefully in sending orders.

THE CHRISTMAS STAMP OF FRIENDSHIP

We seal the stamp of friendship,
With Christmas hearts aglow,
And may it stand with honour,
Amid Time's ebb and flow.

It's like a torch in darkness,
That cannot dim nor fade,
A flame that will not falter,
In sunshine or in shade.

As on Life's road we travel.,
Its friendly flame we see,
And pray its light keeps shining
Through all the years to be.

As loving thoughts we're sending
Across the ocean wide,
We seal the stamp of friendship,
This happy Christmastide.

MARGARET CAMERON.
Johannesburg.

To all our Readers and Advertisers
A Merry Xmas
and
Good Philatelic Hunting in 1952

S.W.A. VARIETY.

Mr. Edson K. Rice writes from California: "Being interesteed in the S.W.A. "Broken S" variety on the 2d. Bantam reported by Mr. R. Jaacks in your September, 1950 issue, I started hunting to see if I had this variety.

"I did not find it, but I did find what appears to be another 'broken S' variety on stamp No. 1, row 16 of the numbered sheet. The 'S' appears to be broken and looks more like a "5" than an 'S'. Am sending the specimen for inspection."

(The specimen is as Mr. Rice describes and there has quite possibly been a break, but the appearance seems to be partly due at any rate to heavy over-inking.—Ed.).

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Union Notes

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

RECENT PRINTINGS.

The Publicity Officer of the Department of Posts and Telegraphs has kindly supplied the following information covering the period from the 10.7.1951 to the 11.10.1951. For the previous list see our September 1951 issue.

Ordinary Pictorial Stamps.

½d.—Job No. 5134 contd. No addition to previous list. Total delivered to date, 499,282 sheets. Cylinders 11A Interior and 11B Exterior.

1d.—Job No. 4981 contd. A further 123,250 sheets x 240 delivered from Cylinders 6925 (Int.) and 36 (Ext.) bringing the total of the redrawn issue, on this Job No., up to 667,250 sheets. Final date of delivery 7.8.1951.

—Job No. 474. On an order for 1,000,000 sheets, 239,112 x 240 were delivered up to the 11.10.1951 Cylinders 6925 (Int.) and 36 (Ext.) as before. Date of first delivery, 7.8.1951.

2d.—Job No. 475 contd. An additional 360,737 sheets x 240 have been delivered from the same cylinders as before (6937 Int. and 50 Ext.). Total on this Job No. to date, 478,487 sheets.

6d.—Job No. 4898. On an order for 24,000 sheets x 240 a total of 28,457 were delivered from the same cylinders, 6930 Int. and 6 Exterior. Date of first delivery 14.8.1951 and final delivery on the 16.8.1951.

Roll Stamps.

1d.—Job No. 478, contd. On an order for (a) 8,000 rolls x 506 and (b) 5,000 rolls x 1,012 stamps, the numbers delivered to date amount to (a) 3,953 rolls and (b) 1,303 rolls. Cylinder No. 24 as before. (One colour). Number of stamps per sheet—264.

Air Letter Cards.

6d.—Job No. 2989 contd. Total delivered from the New Printing Chambon Machine on this Job No. 2,845,200. Final date of delivery 6.9.1951.

— Job No. 3911. On an order for 4,000,000 cards, 907,200 were delivered to date from one colour cylinder No. 18. First date of delivery 13.9.1951.

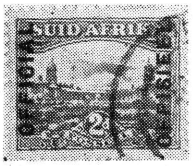
Pictorial Post Cards.

1d.—Job No. 1882 contd. An additional 146,240 post cards have been delivered from the New Printing Chambon Machine bringing the total on this machine up to 1,509,440 cards.

Small 2d. "Official"—Overprint Variety.

We are indebted to Mr. C. E. Sherwood of Manchester, England for the loan of a copy of the "Small" 2d. stamp (21½ x 17¼ mm) overprinted OFFICIAL—OFFISIEEL with type similar to that used for the "Small Mine" 1½d. "Officials".

As recorded in our January "Notes" of this year, some of these stamps turned up on mail matter addressed to England and following enquiries into their origin it was learned that several sheets of the "Small" 2d. stamps had been overprinted for official use from the old forme instead of from the new stereotype process blocks which had been prepared for the "Officials". They had subsequently been used up by one of the Government Departments in Pretoria in the normal course of official business and there is no record of any mint copies being in existence.



Mr. Sherwood mentions in his letter that the copy in his possession, which we illustrate here, was discovered in England by Mr. H. J. Burkin.

1951 Christmas Stamps.

The new Christmas Stamps — the 23rd year of issue — appeared on sale at post offices throughout the Union on November 5th and will remain on sale until the 24th December. They are sold at 1d. each solely for the purpose of collecting funds for the prevention of tuberculosis and have no postal value. The design is by Miss Nerine Desmond.



They were printed at the Government Printing Works, Pretoria on paper watermarked with the multiple Springbok's Head and delivered in sheets of 120 (6 rows of 20) and booklet form. Colours, ultramarine and claret. The policy of setting the three top rows of the sheet tête-bêche to the lower three, has not been followed this year and also the margins are entirely free from slogans and arrows. The 1950 issue was produced with arrows on the margins of the sheets but no slogans.

Road Safety Campaign Slogans.

Mr. B. L. Cairncross of George, Cape Province, reports that another Road Safety Slogan has made its appearance and is being used in Durban. The earlist date he has seen is 24 x 51 and it reads as follows: PRACTISE ROAD SAFETY DAILY — BEOEFEN PADVEILIGHEID DAELIKS.

(Union Notes have had to be abridged this month.—Ed.)

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SATISE

(SOUTH AFRICAN TERCENTENARY INTERNATIONAL STAMP EXHIBITION)

EXHIBITION POSTAGE STAMPS

1d. and 2d. Van Riebeeck stamps overprinted "SATISE" and "SADIPU" respectively. Obtainable only at the Exhibition P.O., 26th March—5th April, or by mail order from SATISE Organisers, P.O. Box 558, Cape Town.

OFFICIAL FESTIVAL COMMEMORATIVE ENVELOPES

In English or in Afrikaans, obtainable only from SATISE Organisers, P.O. Box 558, Cape Town.

SPECIAL EXHIBITION COMMEMORATIVE ENVELOPES

Prices, etc., not yet ready, but details will be available soon. Also obtainable from SATISE Organisers, P.O. Box 558, Cape Town.

For Full Details see the POST OFFICE BULLETIN elsewhere in this issue.

(SUID-AFRIKAANSE DRIEHONDERDJARIGE INTERNASIONALE POSSEËLUITSTALLING)

SADIPU

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Post Office Bulletin

VAN RIEBEECK TERCENTENARY COMMEMORATIVE POSTAGE STAMPS.

A special series of postage stamps of the denominations ½d., 1d., 2d., 4½d. and 1/-, will be issued in 1952 to commemorate the Tercentenary of the landing of Jan van Riebeeck at the Cape.

The first day of issue of the stamps will be 14th March, 1952.

The wording on each stamp will be in Afrikaans and English and each of the five denominations will be printed in sheets of 120 staps.

A complete set, consisting of one stamp of each value, will cost 1/8.

Particulars of the designs of the stamps are not yet available but will be announced in a later bulletin.

VAN RIEBEECK POST OFFICE.

A Post Office designated "Van Riebeeck" will be opened in the Exhibition Hall of the Van Riebeeck Festival Fair, Cape Town, on the 14th March, 1952, and mail matter posted there will be postmarked with a date-stamp bearing the name "Van Riebeeck".

The office will close to the public on the 5th April, 1952.

COMMEMORATIVE DATE-STAMP.

In addition to the "Van Riebeeck" date-stamp mentioned above, a special date-stamp of symbolic design with the fixed date "6.4.52" to commemorate the date of landing of Van Riebeeck, will be available.

Ordinary mail matter to be postmarked with this date-stamp must be posted before 4 p.m. on the 5th April, 1952, in the special posting box which will be provided at the Van Riebeeck Post Office.

Articles for registration will be accepted over the counter at the Van Riebeeck Post Office up to 4 p.m. on the 5th April, 1952.

SERVICING OF PLAIN, OR PRIVATELY PRINTED, COVERS, AND SUPPLY OF STAMPS.

Inland Orders:

Orders originating in the Union of South Africa, South West Africa, Basutoland, Bechuanaland Protectorate and Swaziland for the servicing of plain, or privately printed, covers, and/or the supply of mint stamps, must be addressed to

THE POSTMASTER (PHILATELIC),
CAPE TOWN,

and posted so as to reach his office by the 7th March, 1952.

Remittances must be by means of money order or postal order made payable to the Postmaster, Cape Town. Those in respect of orders for mint postage stamps must include an amount for return postage and registration. **Cheques will not be accepted.**

Orders from Outside the Union.

Orders from outside the Union for the servicing of plain or privately printed covers, and/or the supply of mint stamps, must be addressed to

THE PHILATELIC AGENCY,
PUBLICITY SECTION,
GENERAL POST OFFICE,
PRETORIA,
UNION OF SOUTH AFRICA.

Remittances must be by means of International Money Order, Bank Draft or British Postal Order made payable to the Philatelic Agency or the Postmaster-General, Pretoria. Those in respect of orders for mint postage stamps must include an amount for return postage and registration. **Foreign Bank Notes, foreign coin or foreign postal orders will not be accepted.**

NOTE. Envelopes for use as "First Day" or "Commemorative" covers will **not** be provided by the Post Office or purchased from outside sources on behalf of applicants. Persons desirous of having plain or privately printed covers serviced must, therefore, forward their own addressed envelopes.

Requests for more than one particular postmark on an envelope will not be entertained.

SOUTH WEST AFRICA.

Supplies of the five denominations of the Van Riebeeck postage stamps will be overprinted "SWA" for use in South West Africa.

Orders for these stamps **must be forwarded direct to**

THE DIRECTOR OF POSTS AND
TELEGRAPHS,
WINDHOEK,
SOUTH WEST AFRICA,

who will undertake to affix stamps to "First Day" covers, provided such covers are supplied, properly addressed, and reach his office by the 7th March, 1952.

Stocks of stamps overprinted "SWA" will not be held at Post Offices in the Union of South Africa or by the Philatelic Agency, General Post Office, Pretoria.

DESPATCH OF MINT STAMPS AND/OR SERVICED COVERS.

Every effort will be made to deal as expeditionsly as possible with orders, in the rotation in which they are received.

AN APPEAL.

It would assist the Post Office if the public would kindly

(a) send separate orders for each of the postmarkings desired;

(b) ensure that envelopes for use as "First Day" or "Commemorative" covers are large enough to accommodate the number of stamps required (foolscap envelopes of a size **not less than** 9in. x 4in. are preferred as each of the postage stamps will measure approximately 1½in. x 1in.), and

(c) **Send in their orders as early as possible.**

In view of the large number of orders expected and consequent volume of work involved, delay in treatment will be unavoidable. The public is, therefore, requested to co-operate with the Post Office in this connection by anticipating a delay and withholding any enquiries or reminders relating to their orders until the beginning of June, 1952.

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INTERNATIONAL STAMP EXHIBITION.

On the 26th March, 1952, a Post Office will be opened in the old Drill Hall, Cape Town, where an International Stamp Exhibition will be held.

Mail matter posted at the Exhibition will be postmarked with a date-stamp bearing the wording:—

"Internasionale Posseëluitstalling, Kaapstad—International Stamp Exhibition, Cape Town."

The Exhibition will close on the 5th April, 1952.

For this event the 1d. and 2d. denominations of the Van Riebeeck postage stamps will be overprinted as follows:

1d. denomination: "SATISE."

2d. denomination: "SADIPU".

("SATISE" and "SADIPU" are derived from the initial letters of "South African Tercentenary International Stamp Exhibition" and "Suid-Afrikaanse Driehonderdjarige Internasionale Posseëluitstalling.")

These overprinted stamps will be on sale **only** at the International Stamp Exhibition Post Office during the period 26th March to 5th April, 1952, both dates inclusive, and **mail orders** for such stamps must be addressed to

THE ORGANISERS,
S.A.T.I.S.E.,
P.O. Box 558, CAPE TOWN,

to whom relevant remittances in the form of money orders or postal orders should be made payable.

An "International Stamp Exhibition" commemorative cover is being issued by the organisers of the Stamp Exhibition and information relating thereto will be published by the organisers.

VAN RIEBEECK FESTIVAL OFFICIAL COMMEMORATIVE ENVELOPE.

At the request of the Van Riebeeck Festival Committee, the organisers of the International Stamp Exhibition are issuing an official Tercentenary commemorative envelope.

The envelope is to commemorate the Festival Fair generally and will be available separately in English and Afrikaans. It will be colourfully designed and depict the growth and development of the Nation over the period of 300 years.

These envelopes, to which complete sets of the special series of Van Riebeeck postage stamps will be affixed, may be obtained from the organisers of the Stamp Exhibition at a cost of 2/6 each.

Orders must be addressed as follows:

(a) For covers to be serviced with a full set of stamps on the first day of issue, i.e. on the 14th March, 1952:
THE ORGANISERS,
S.A.T.I.S.E. (FIRST DAY),
P.O. Box 558, CAPE TOWN.

(b) For covers to be postmarked on the 6th April, 1952, with the special commemorative date-stamp of symbolic design:
THE ORGANISERS,
S.A.T.I.S.E. (Commemorative),
P.O. Box 558, Cape Town.

Remittances must be by means of money order or postal order made payable to "The Organisers, S.A.T.I.S.E., Cape Town.

CANADA.

The 4c. stamp with the heads of Princess Elizabeth and Prince Philip has arrived. We must agree with the generally expressed opinion that it is disappointing; the Princess is too serious and the Prince is definitely frowning.

Attendance at the Toronto International Stamp Exhibition — CAPEX — seems to have been very small, although the material to be seen was magnificent. The publicity committee is being blamed for falling down on its job.

The official catalogue of CAPEX has arrived and with it the list of awards.

The Grand Prix goes to Gerald E. Wellburn for his collection of British Columbia and the prize for the best B.N.A. entry from a non-Canadian exhibitor, to L. Gerald Firth of Pittsburgh, Pa., for his general Canadian exhibit.

So far as we are aware there were only 3 entries from South Africa and all have been fortunate enough to obtain awards: Hervey W. Jones, a silver-gilt for his Nova Scotia, and Messrs. A. V. Jacob and J. H. Pirie, bronze awards for their Rhodesian and Antarctic exhibits respectively.

A post-office accompanied the train on which the Princess Elizabeth and her husband crossed Canada. Its special postmark was a double-circle one with "Royal Train" at the top, the two words being separated by a crown; "Post Office" inside "Royal Train"; date in two lines in the centre — e.g. 18 x/51 and two maple leaves with long stalks below the date and just above "Canada" round the circumference at the bottom; three parellel lines separating the top and the bottom lettering.

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	Mint	Used
Bahamas Eleuthera set	60/–	75/–
Bermuda Perots	1/3	1/6
B.H. St. Geo. Cays	3/–	3/6
Jamaica Constitution set	23/6	30/–
St. Kitts Anguilla	3/6	4/–
Turks Island 1948 set	40/–	50/–
Virgin Island Leg. set	8/6	9/–

New issues mint 12½%; used 25%; F.D.C. 33 1/3%.

———:o:———

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Finland: 1938 Post 4v. m., 3/3; ..... u. 1/4
Norway: 1930 North Cape 3v. ..... m. 30/-
Norway: 1940 4 high values ..... m. 11/6
Norway: 1946 4 high values ..... m. 11/3
Iceland: 1933 Charity 4v., m., 4/4 ..... u. 4/4
Iceland: 1934/6 Air 6v., m., 10/-; ..... u. 9/-
Sweden: 1936 Post 15v. ..... u. 4/6
Sweden: 1942 Swans, m., 37/6 ..... u. 9/-

10-page pricelist of Scandinavian stamps, 3d. (sh. 1/- airmail); SCANDINAVIAN NEWSLETTER, 4d. (8d. airmail). Exchange club for SCANDINAVIAN MATERIAL with a circuit in AFRICA. Details on request from the "Scandinavian Only" dealer:

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CHRISTMAS SEALS

(Charity Stamps)

(This article has been prepared by the Union Catalogue Committee and its collaborators.

It is being printed here (a) because it is a suitable subject for our December issue, (b) because it may be taken as a sample of the character of the New Catalogue, of which it will constitute Section 33 practically as it is printed here, although lay-out rather different. Readers will thus be able to judge to some extent what the new Catalogue will be like:—Editor).

FOREWORD:

Although not valid for prepayment of postage, the Union Christmas Seals have some relation to postage stamps:

(1) They are handled officially, their distribution, sale and accounting all being undertaken by the Union Postal authorities;

(2) Since 1932, they are printed by the Government Printer in the same printing process as the postage stamps;

(3) Several issues have been printed on postage stamp paper with the "Springbok" watermark;

(4) They are considered to be probable antecedents of a future "semi-postal" issue.

The Christmas Seals were introduced into South Africa by Mrs. Maja (Egil) Christiansen, a Danish lady in 1929. Since then, they are a yearly issue and are sold at One Penny each by all Post Offices in South Africa, the sales period being about 6 weeks. For the first nine years, this period was from the 15th November to the 31st December; since 1938, however, the period started on various days in the first half of November, but always closed on the 24th December. The proceeds go to the "Christmas Stamp Fund" with the Head Office in Durban, Natal, and are primarily for the erection and maintenance of Children's Tuberculosis Sanatoria

The 1929 and 1930 issues were printed by lithography by John Singleton-Williams Ltd., Durban. The 1931 issue was printed in screened photogravure by Robinson & Co. Ltd., Durban. Since 1932, all issues were printed in screened rotogravure by the Government Printer, Pretoria, on plain wove paper.

Watermarks: Some issues exist on paper watermarked "Multiple Springbok's Head", .ie. on normal postage stamp paper, viz.: 1933 (with and without watermark), 1948 (sheets with watermark, seals from booklets with and without watermark), and 1950 (seals from both, sheets and booklets, with watermark). The watermark appears "sideways." The 1933 issue shows it right, while the 1948 and 1950 issues exist with the watermark right as well as left.

Arrangement of Sheets: 1929 and 1930: 240 seals arranged in twelve horizontal rows of 20, divided by a vertical "gutter" into two panes of 120 seals each. A blue cross in left and right margins between rows 6 and 7 indicates half sheets. **From 1931 onwards** the seals were printed in the same size and manner as the 1/- Union Postage Stamps, i.e. in sheets of 120 (6 by 20). Except for the 1935 issue, however, the lay-out of the subjects was vertical. In 1935 and from 1939 on, all sheets had the first three rows of 20 printed tête-bêche to the other three rows.

DESIGNS AND INSCRIPTIONS: The majority of the designs were obtained by yearly competition open to the general public. Every design incorporates the "Anti-Tuberculosis Cross."

The seals of 1929, 1931, 1933 to 1935, 1946 to 1948 were bilingual. In the 1929 issue however, seals inscribed "English-Afrikaans alternate with seals inscribed Afrikaans-English. The 1930 issue is similar, but additional words "SOUTH AFRICA" and "SUID-AFRIKA" alternate with every seal. In all other issues, English and Afrikaans inscribed designs alternate. These latter, as well as the 1929-1930 issues, should be collected in pairs.

The year of issue does not appear in the 1929 and 1931 issues, all other issues show it. The "1d." value was only embodied in the design since 1933.

The country name is omitted in the issues of 1929, 1931, 1946 to 1949. The 1930 and 1932 issues spell "SUIDAFRIKA" in one word, since 1933 "SUID-AFRIKA" appears hyphenated.

The Afrikaans version for "CHRISTMAS" was changed several times: 1929 "KERSFEES"; 1950: the unusual "KRISMIS"; 1931-1943: "KERSMIS"; 1944-1950 "KERSFEES" again.

The only further inscriptions to be found on seals are: 1935 issue: "PREVENTORIUM" (referring to design); 1949: "FIGHT TB"—"BESTRY TB".

Marginal Inscriptions: In 1943 the long narrow sheet margins were inscribed in capital letters: "RED DIE KIND VAN TERING — KOOP KERSSEELS — SAVE THE CHILD FROM TUBERCULOSIS — BUY CHRISTMAS STAMPS". These slogans were printed alternately in red and black. From 1944 to 1948, the long narrow sheet margins were similarly inscribed, but only the slogans "KOOP KERSSEELS" — "BUY CHRISTMAS STAMPS" were in capital letters, the whole inscription was mono-coloured, and a remarkable error appeared in the word "Tuberculosis" which was wrongly spelled "Tubercolosis."

Slogan Seals: Characteristic for the issues from 1943 to 1948 were also stamp-sized Slogan Seals, printed on the left-hand and right-hand vertical sheet margins which appeared blank in the issues of other years. The design of the Slogan Seals consists of a large "Anti-Tuberculosis Cross" surrounded by the same slogans which appear in the horizontal marginal inscriptions. **In 1943 Slogan Seals:** The "Cross" is in the centre of the design; English and Afrikaans inscriptions alternate vertically; the Seals appear in "bi-sected" form only. One vertical half having been trimmed off before distribution. **1944 to 1948 Slogan Seals: The** "Cross" appears on a deep-shaded elevation in the right half of the design; Afrikaans seals form one vertical margin row, English seals the other vertical margin row; the English seals show also the remarkable spelling error "Tubercolosis."—In contrast to the main set-up of the sheets, there is no tête-bêche set-up in the vertical rows of the Slogan Seals, so that all Slogan Seals exist in "se-tenant" as well as in "tête-bêche attachment to Christmas Seals.

Perforations, Arrows, Sheet Numbers: The 1929 and 1930 sheets are rouletted "6", all subsequent issues are perforated "14". **Arrows:** indicating quarter-sheets (as on ordinary Postage Stamp sheets) exist in the 1936, 1937 and 1950 issues, while the 1942, 1943 and 1946 issues show half-sheet arrows only. **Sheet numbers:** twice per sheet, on narrow horizontal margins, exist on all issues from 1931 onwards. The sheet numbers have appeared in three different colours, as follows:

1931 to 1943 Black.
1938 to 1942 Blue.
1943 to 1950 Red.

Booklets: From 1934 on,, the Christmas Seals were sold also in booklet form. The booklets were produced in the Government Printing Works and contained panes of six seals. In 1934, 6d. and 1/- booklets were introduced, in the following years 2/6, 5/- and 10/- booklets were added for sale. The booklet covers were printed in bright colours, every denomination showing a different colour arrangement. Until 1948, every cover front displayed a reproduction of the appertaining Christmas Seal or its main features.

Quantities: The quantities issued or sold have no bearing on the scarcity of some of the issues, particularly of the earlier ones, as only a small percentage has been preserved for collecting purposes. "Remainders" were principally destroyed by the Post Office authorities in Pretoria, except for a limited quantity of more recent issues kept by the Head Office of the "Christmas Stamp Fund." The quantity actually sold in the first year — 1929 — was 188,730 seals; sales figures increased gradually every year; in 1950, 10,800,000 seals were sold.

1929. "Christmas Landscape".—Without year of issue and without name of country. Design supplied by Printers, John Singleton-Williams Ltd., Durban. Lithography. Bilingual seals, but inscriptions "CHRISTMAS—KERSFEES" and "KERSFEES—CHRISTMAS" alternate. No watermark. Rouletted 6. Period of issue: 15.11. to 31.12.1929.

X.1. Dark Blue and Pale Blue.

(a) Deep Ultramarine and Pale Ultramarine.

1930. "Christmas Landscape".—Similar to 1929 issue, but inscribed "1930". Inscriptions "SOUTH AFRICA" and "SUIDAFRICA" alternate. Afrikaans version for "CHRISTMAS" :"KRISMIS". No watermark. Rouletted 6. Period of issue: 15.11. to 31.12.1930.

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X2. Deep Indigo and Grey-Blue.
(a) Pale Indigo and Grey-Blue.
(b) Gutter Tête-bêche.

1931. "Angel kindling Star."—Without year of issue and without name of country. Designed by Betty Walpole. Printed by Robinson & Co. Ltd., Durban. Screened Rotogravure. Bilingual Seals. Afrikaans version for "CHRISTMAS": "KERSMIS". No watermark. Perf. 14. Period of issue: 15.11. to 31.12.1931.

X.3. Blue and Pale Blue.

1932. "Child pointing at Bethlehem Star."—With year of issue and names of country. Designed by Sylvia Baxter. English and Afrikaans seals alternate. No watermark. Perf. 14. Period of issue: 15.11. to 31.12.1932.

X.4. Carmine and Black.

1933. "Nurse guarding 4 Children."—With year of issue and names of country. Designed by Victor Cohue. Bilingual seals. "SUID-AFRIKA" (hyphenated). With watermark "Multiple Springbok Head" right and without. Perf. 14. Period of issue: 15.11. to 31.12.1933.

X.5. Dull Green and Brick-Red (shades), no watermark.
(a) Dull Green and Brick-Red, with watermark.

1934. "Sick Boy stretching for Sun".—With year of issue and names of country. Designed by Denise Chapman. Bilingual seals. No watermark. Perf. 14. Period of issue: 15.11. to 31.12.1934.

X.6. Grey, Black and Orange.
Ba. Booklet Pane of Six.



1935. "Preventorium, Pietermaritzburg."—With year of issue and names of country. Inscribed "PREVENTORIUM." Design ("Bird's-eye View") supplied by National Executive Committee. Bilingual seals, Afrikaans version first. No watermarks. Perf. 14. Period of issue: 15.11. to 31.12.1935.

X.7. Blue Green and Brick-Red.
Ta. Horizontal Tête-Bêche pair.
Ba. Booklet Pane of Six.

1936. "Boy and Girl with Key of Health."—With year of issue and names of country. Designed by Mary Ayliff. English and Afrikaans seals alternate. Sheet Arrows. No watermark. Perf. 14. Period of issue: 14.11 to 31.12.1936.

X.8. Deep Orange and Black.
Ba. Booklet Pane of six.

1937. "Girl with Candle".—With year of issue and names of country. Designed by Judy Knowling. English and Afrikaans seals alternate Sheet Arrows. No watermark. Perf. 14. Period of issue: 15.11. to 31.12.1937.

X.9. Scarlet and Black.
Ba. Booklet Pane of six.

1938. "Anti-Tuberculosis Cross and Two Candles."—With year of issue and names of country. Designed by Sheila Lake. English and Afrikaans seals alternate. No watermarks. Perf. 14. Period of issue: 12.11. to 24.12.1938.

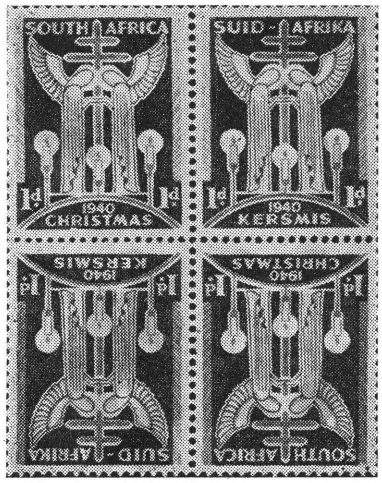
X.10. Orange, Fawn and Deep Brown (shades)
Ba. Booklet Pane of six.

1939. "Exuberant Child".—With year of issue and names of country. Designed by Olive Silburn. English and Afrikaans seals alternate. No watermark. Perf. 14. Period of issue: 11.11. to 24.12.1939.

X1 1. Orange and Blue Green.
Ta. Vertical Tête-Bêche pair.
Ba. Booklet Pane of six.

1940. "Two Angels and Three Candles."—With year of issue and names of country. Designed by Edith K. Burgess. English and Afrikaans seals alternate. No watermark. Perf. 14. Period of issue: 11.11. to 24.12.1940.

X.12. Pale Ultramarine and Orange-Red (shades).
Ta. Vertical Tête-Bêche pair.
Ba. Booklet Pane of six.



1941. "Burning Candle."—With year of issue and names of country. Designed by Edith K. Burgess. English and Afrikaans seals alternate. No watermark. Perf. 14. Period of issue: 3.11. to 24.12.1941. (seven weeks).

X.13. Orange and Bottle-Green.
Ta. Vertical Tête-bêche pair.
Ba. Booklet Pane of six.

1942. "Nun and Sick Child."—With year of issue and names of country. Designed by Anna Joubert. English and Afrikaans seals alternate. Sheet Arrows (top and bottom)ê No watermark. Perf. 14. Period of issue: 10.11. to 24.12.1942.

X.14. Bottle-Green and Orange (shades).
Ta. Vertical Tête-bêche pair.
Ba. Booklet Pane of six.

1943. "Couple gazing at Cross".—With year of issue and names of country. Designed by Colette Booysen. English and Afrikaans seals alternate. Sheet Arrows. Marginal Slogans and bi-sected Slogan Seals. Red Sheet numbers. No watermark. Perf. 14. Period of issue: 8.11. to 24.12. 1943.

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X.15. Black and Carmine.
Ma. With inscriptional margin attached.
Mb. With bi-sected Slogan Seal se-tenant or tête-bêche.
Ta. Vertical Tête-bêche pair.
Ba. Booklet Pane of six.

1944. "Dove and Anti-Tuberculosis Cross."—With year of issue and names of country. Designed by C. D. Meares. English and Afrikaans seals alternate. Afrikaans version for "CHRISTMAS": "KERSFEES" again. With blue marginal slogans and Slogan Seals, but exists also with plain margins. No watermark. Perf. 14. Period of issue: 6.11. to 24.12.1944.

X.16. Pale and Deep Blue and Pale and Deep Orange.
Ma. With plain sheet margin attached.
Mb. With inscriptional margin attached.
Mc. With blue Slogan Seal se-tenant or tête-bêche.
Ta. Vertical Tête-bêche pair.
Ba. Booklet Pane of six.

1945. "Five Children Dancing."—With year of issue and names of country. Designed by Frank Lowden. English and Afrikaans seals alternate. No watermark. Perf. 14. Period of issue: 5.11. to 24.12.1945.

X.17. Black, Brick-Red and Orange (shades).
Ma. With inscriptional margin attached.
Mb. With black Slogan Seal se-tenant or tête-bêche.
Ta. Vertical Tête-bêche pair.
Ba. Booklet Pane of six.

1946. "Angel Kneeling in Prayer."—With year of issue, but without name of country. Designed by L. Viljoen. Bilingual seals, Afrikaans version first. With green Marginal Slogans and Slogan Seals. Sheet Arrows (top and bottom). No Watermark. Perf. 14. Period of issue: 4.11. to 24.12.1946.

X.18. Emerald and Scarlet.
Ma. With inscriptional margin attached.
Mb. With emerald Slogan se-tenant or tête-bêche.
Ta. Vertical Tête-bêche.
Ba. Booklet Pane of six.

1947. "Boy, Girl and Dove."—With year of issue, but without name of country. Designed by L. Viljoen. Bilingual seals, English first. With violet Marginal Slogans and Slogan Seals, but exists also with plain margins. No watermark. Perf. 14. Period of issue: 12.11. to 24.12.1947.

X.19. Purple, Violet and Orange (shades).
Ma. With plain sheet margin attached.
Mb. With inscriptional margin attached.
Mc. With violet Slogan Seals se-tenant or tête-bêche.
Ta. Vertical tête-bêche pair.
Ba. Booklet Pane of six.

1948. "Girl running into outstretched Arms."—With year of issue, but without name of country. Designed by G. S. Wilson. Bilingual seals, English version first. With violet Marginal Slogans and Slogan Seals. With watermark "Multile Springbok Head" left and right, and without watermark. Perf. 14. Period of issue: 12.11. to 24.12.1948.

X.20. Violet, Pale and Deep Orange (with watermark).
Ma. With inscriptional margin attached.
Mb. With violet Slogan Seals se-tenant or tête-bêche.
Ta. Vertical Tête-bêche pair.
Ba. Booklet Pane of six, with watermark.
Bb. Booklet Pane of six, without watermark.

1949. "Six Children dancing."—With year of issue, but without name of country. Inscribed "FIGHT TB" — "BESTRY TB". Designed by E. G. Collins. English and Afrikaans seals alternate. Plain sheet margins. No watermark. Perf. 14. Period of issue: 7.11. to 24.12.1949.

X.21. Light Green and Vermilion.
Ta. Vertical Tête-bêche pair.
Ba. Booklet Pane of six.



1950. "A Sunshine Home".—With year of issue and names of country. Design: Reproduction of a photograph taken of the Entrance of the Preventorium, Pietermaritzburg, submitted by the National Executive Committee. English and Afrikaans seals alternate. Watermark "Multiple Springbok Head" left and right, and without watermark. Perf. 14. Period of issue: 12.11. to 24.12.48.

X.22. Dull Green and Orange (partly superimposed).
(a) Deep impression (green shade prevalent).
(b) Bright impression (orange prevalent).
Ta. Vertical Tête-bêche pair.
Ba. Booklet Pane of six.

REVIEW.

Bridging the Pacific, by John C. W. Field. A priced chronology of Projected, Attempted, and Successful Pacific Flights, 1919-1951. Published by Frances J. Field, Ltd., Sutton Coldfield, England. Price 7/6 plus 3d. postage.

This is a companion booklet to the firm's earlier published "Bridging the Atlantic." Short inter-island flights are not included, but there is a separate listing of trans-Tasmanian sea flights. The booklet is very well illustrated with maps, illustrations of covers and cachets and will be indispensable for all those interested in Pacific air mails.

EXCHANGE WANTED.

Mr. Charles N. Pinkham, Box 123, Damariscotta, U.S.A., as a collector himself and also because he runs a boy's club, would like to exchange used Union stamps for used stamps of the U.S.A.

PHILIPPINES.

New issues here are becoming about as common as in the U.S.A. and the U.S.S.R. The latest is a set of three appearing on 24 October in honour of United Nations Day.

SWAZILAND.

Mr. B. Attwell of East London reports that the latest current Union Air Letter Cards (variety with Afrikaans first) have been overprinted "Swaziland" in red on the stamps.

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CANTONMENT AND SIMILAR POSTMARKS USED IN THE O.R.C. AND TRANSVAAL, 1902—1910

by W. NEWLANDS.

As a collector of "Boer War" Army P.O. cancellations I noted from time to time postwar postmarks that contained the words "Army" or "Cantonment" in the description and placed these aside for further study. When however, I came across a Transvaal 1d. K.E. dated 1906 with the words "Field Post Office 1" I decided that it was time to get busy and find out the whys and wherefores of these interesting postal cancellations.

At the Bloemfontein Exhibition I promised the Editor of the "S.A. Philatelist" that I would submit an article on these cancellations, but did not think that so much time would be required in looking up old Post Office Guides and Postmaster-Generals' reports but at last I have completed this work and give hereunder all the information I have gleaned from these sources. All these Post Offices, whether the name contains the words "Army", "Cantonment" or "Field", were run by the ordinary civil post office authorities of the Colonies and are not Army postal services. The reading of the various Postmaster General's Reports makes this absolutely clear. In the P.M.G.'s Report for 1903/4 mention is made of the fact that several temporary post offices were opened for the Transvaal Bisley at Booysens and the Whitsuntide Volunteer Manoeuvres at Frederikstad and the report concludes with the information that revenue from these temporary post offices more than covered the cost of establishing them. The report further mentions the fact that the temporary post office for Frederikstad Manoeuvres was established in a tentand that this might have accounted for the disappointing revenue from this post office. The O.R.C. Postmaster General's Report for 1906/7 reports that a temporary post office was established for the Army Manoeuvres held at Waterworks 15th to 24th September, 1906, and that it was under the control of the Postmaster of Tempe due to his knowledge of what the Military required. In 1908/9 the Postmaster General reported that there was a large falling off in the Savings Bank balances at King's Hill (Harrismith) and Tempe (Bloemfontein) due to the departure of the troops from these stations. From these few extracts it is clear that all these post offices, whether at an Army Station or of the Field type, were under the control of the Postmasters General of the two Provinces.

The postmarks can be roughly divided into three groups for each of the Provinces.

In group one I have placed the postmarks of the permanent army camps before they received permanent names i.e. Harrismith Army, Bloemfontein Army and Pretoria Cantonments.

In group two I have placed the camps with more permanent names i.e. King's Hill (for Harrismith Army), Tempe (for Bloemfontein Army) and Roberts Heights (for Pretoria Cantonments). The offices at Potchefstroom, Middelburg, Transvaal, and Standarton are included under this group because they have kept the same wording throughout.

In group three I have grouped all the temporary post offices as detailed hereunder:—

In the Transvaal:

Whitsuntide 1904. Volunteer Manoeuvres at Frederikstad.
April, 1905. Volunteer Camp at Irene.
September, 1905. Army Manoeuvres at Greylingstad: 4 Field Post Offices.
April, 1906. Volunteer Camp at Klipriviersberg.
September, 1906. Army Manoeuvres at Bronkhorstspruit. 3 Field Post Offices.
— 1907 (presumed to be April). Volunteer Camp at Canada Junction.
— 1907. Military Tournament at Johannesburg
— 1909. Military Tournament at Johannesburg (Wanderers).

In the O.R.C.:

15th to 24th September, 1906. Army Manoeuvres at Waterworks.

Excluding the temporary post offices opened for the various Bisley meetings at Booysens no other temporary post offices are mentioned as being established in either the Transvaal or O.R.C. during the period covered by the Postmaster Generals' reports i.e. 1903 to 1910, so I think one can take the above list as complete.

Dealing with the postmarks of group one I cannot trace any opening date for Pretoria Cantonments or Bloemfontein Army, but the O.R.C. Postmaster General's report for 1904/5 states that a post office was opened at Harrismith in May, 1904, known as "Harrismith Army."

Group 1.

Harrismith Army.

Type 1. Double circle postmark with date in centre, outer circle 26 mm., inner 16mm. diameters. Wording around: '—P.O.—HARRISMITH ARMY—O.R.C.' Date reads from 'O' of 'PO' to 'AR' of Army. Earliest date: 22 JAN /a05. Latest date: 13/OCT/e06.

Type 2. Double circle type all as last described but amended working reads: 'HARRISMITH—ARMY—O.R.C.—' with date reading from 'H' of Harrismith to 'MY' of Army. This is a very much scarcer postmark than Type 1 and appears to have been the first type used. The only date I have seen that shows clearly is 14 APL/c05, although I have two others on piece showing only the '05'.

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Bloemfontein Army.

Type 1. Double circle type all as described for Type 1 of Harrismith, except that instead of a dash after 'O' of PO there is a 'stop'. Dates: 6—MAY/a04 and 25 OCT/004.

Due to the relatively short period this type was in use it is scarce.

Pretoria Cantonment.

Type 1. Double circle type with date in centre, outer circle 26 mm. inner 17 mm. diameters. Wording around: 'CANTONMENT B.O.x PRETORIA x'. Date reads from the cross before to the cross after Cantonment. Date: 3—MAY 1904.

I have only come across one instance of this postmark (the one in my collection). In going through the Transvaal Postmaster General's Reports for 1903/4 and 1904/5 no mention is made of a post office with this name. In 1903/4 the opening of the Roberts Heights B.O. is mentioned along with the Cantonment post offices for Potchefstroom, Middelburg and Standerton. The report for June 1903 does not mention any of these as being open. It would therefore appear that the Pretoria Cantonment postmark is very scarce and was probably only in use for about 9 months when it was replaced with a canceller reading "Roberts Heights".

I now come to group two and for easy reference will deal with them in the same order as I have dealt with group one.

Group II.

King's Hill.

Type 1. Single circle type 27 mm. diameter. Wording around in large sans-serif type reads: 'KINGS HILL O R C' Date in centre in two lines 1 NO/1906.

Earliest date: 1 NO 1906. Latest date: 4 MR 1907. This type replaced the Type 1 type of "Harrismith Army."

Type 2. Double circle type, 26 mm. outer, 16½ mm. inner diameter. Wording around reads: 'KINGS HILL—O.R.C.—' Date in centre in one line. Earliest date: 19 MAR/c07. Latest date: 3—OCT/e07.

From details of the next type it will be obvious that this type continued in use until early 1910.

Type 3. All as described for Type 2, except that there is no 'O.R.C.' at the foot. I have this type used on ½d. K.E. Transvaal stamp on a piece of postcard and have two similar pieces for Tempe also having the 'O.R.C.' omitted so it appears that after Union came into being in May 1910 the O.R.C. was omitted from the Kings Hill (and Tempe) postmarks.

The postmark with only Kings Hill in the double circle and the date in the centre looks top heavy and as the troops had by this time left Kings Hill it seems to be a scarce type.

Tempe.

Type 1. All as described for Type 1 of Kings Hill. The only example I have seen was shown to me by Dr. J. Harvey Pirie. Date FE/15 1906. Note that in the Kings Hill type the day of the month always precedes the month and that in the Tempe type the month comes first then the day date.

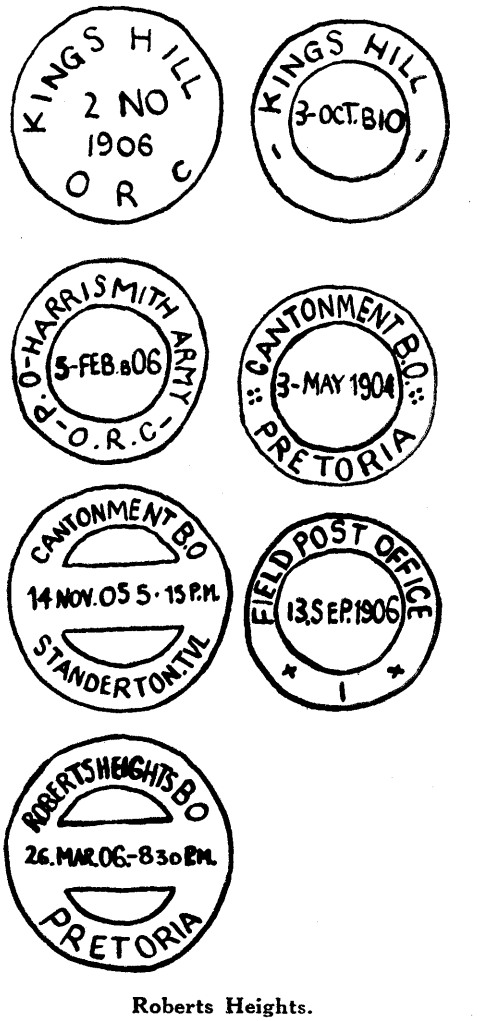
Type 2. Double circle type all described for Type 2 Kings Hill with wording around reading: 'P.O. TEMPE—O.R.C.—' Date in one line in centre.

Earliest date: 21 JUN/a05. Latest date: 25 FEB/h07.

Type 3. All as last described but letter before year omitted. Earliest date: 16 APR—07. Latest date: —6/APR—09.

Type 4. All as described for Type 3 Kings Hill (Reads only P.O. Tempe). Dates: 30 SEP. e10 and 3—OCT. e10.

As for the similar Kings Hill type these are all used on ½d. K.E. Transvaal stamps on Postcards.



Roberts Heights.

Type 1. 30 mm. diameter single circle type with closed chords of inner circle under wording at top and bottom and date running between closed portions of chords from outer edge to outer edge of circle. Wording reads: 'ROBERTS HEIGHTS BO' at top and 'Pretoria' at bottom. Date in centre with time shown in full viz. '8.30 A.M.'

Earliest date: '26 MAR.06—8.30 A.M.
Latest date: '14 APR.06—3.45 P.M.

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I have an earlier date on cover but unfortunately only the year and time has recorded clearly: ' — 05.—9.30 A.M. Back stamp (Cradock) also indistinct but shows 'AU' so the earliest date would be AU. 1905.

Type 2. Double circle type, 26 mm. outer, 17 mm. inner diameter. Date in centre. Wording reads: 'ROBERTS HEIGHTS B.O.' at top and 'Pretoria' at bottom. Date: 30 APR. 1906.

Type 3. All as for Type 2 Roberts Heights, but has no stop after 'B' of 'BO'. Date: 26 JUL. 1911. (ex Dr. J. Harvey Pirie).

Type 4. Double circle type as last two, 26½ mm. outer, 17 mm. inner diameters. Wording around reads: 'ROBERTS HEIGHTS B O' at top and 'Pretoria' at bottom. Date: 1—OTC. Dio.

Middelburg, Transvaal.

Type 1. Double circle type, 26½ mm. outer, 17 mm. inner diameter. Wording reads: "CANTONMENT B.O. MIDDELBURG x TVL x' Earliest date: 7 MAR. 1904. Latest date: 11 SEP. 1906.

Type 2. Double circle type all as for Type 1 with amended wording reading: 'CANTONMENT B.O. MIDDELBURG. TVL xTx'. Earliest date: 1—DEC. 1904. Latest date: 19 SEP. 1906.

This type 2 wase evidently used at the Telegraph Office hence the additional 'T' but I have examples with this cancellation on cover.

Potchefstroom.

Type 1. Double circle type, 26 mm. outer, 17 mm. inner diameter. Wording reads: 'CANTONMENT. POTCHEFSTROOM x". Date in centre runs from 'N' of 'Cantonment' to 'ST' of Potchefstroom. Earlist date: 13.JUL.1903. Latest date: 3—FEB.1906.

Type 2. Type similar to Type 1, but 25 mm. outer and 16½ mm. inner diameter and wording reading: 'x CANTONMENT x POTCHEFSTROOM'. Date in centre runs between the two crosses with year abbreviated and small letter before year date. Earlist date: —JUL. P.04. Latest date: ——4.OCT.P.10.

Type 3. As for Type 1, but 26 mm. outer and 16 mm. inner diameter and wording reading: 'CANTONMENT. POTCHEFSTROOM .T.' Earliest date: 27.APR.04. Latest date: 5—JUL. 05.

This type was evidently used at the Telegraph Office (hence the 'T') but I have examles on cover.

Standerton.

Type 1. Double circle type with 26 mm. outer and 17 mm. inner diameter and wording reading: 'x CANTONMENT B.O x STANDERTON TVL.' Dates run between the crosses. Earliest date: 15.FEB.1904. Latest date: —0. AUG.—1905.

Type 2. 29½ mm. single circle type with chords all as described for ROBERTS HEIGHTS Type 1. Wording at top: 'CANTONMENT B.O.', at bottom: 'STANDERTON. TVL.' Earliest date: 2—JAN.05 10.45 A.M. Latest date: 7—JAN.07. 5.15 P.M.

Type 3. All as for Type 2 except that last 'T' in Cantonment has short down stroke. This is constant over about 10 different items in my collection. Earliest date: 24.APR.06 5.15 P.M. Latest date: 28.SEPT.08. 8.30 P.M.

Group III.

I now come to group three which includes all the Temporary Post Offices for Volunte,r Camps and Manoeuvres, Army Manoeuvres and the Military Tournaments. So far I have been successful in obtaining only one postmark out of a possible 14 if only one is allowed for each event where the reports do not specifically state that more than one temporary post office was opened for such event. There is thus plenty of scope for research and collectors having covers and stamps of the period are requested to help fill in gaps, so that the complete picture can be known. The details of the one I have in my collection are as follows; it was used during the Army Manoeuvres at Bronkhortsspruit in Sept. 1906.

Type 1. Double circle postmark, 25 mm. outside and 16½ mm. inner diameter. Wording reads: 'FIELD POST OFFICE x 1 x' with date in centre. Dates: 2 pieces each dated: 13.SEP. 1906.

Presumably the other two post offices were numbered 2 and 3 for 1906 and presumably the same working with 1, 2, 3 and 4 for the 1905 Greylingstad Manoeuvres. Although it is disappointing not being able to give more details of the postmarks of this group there is at least the satisfaction of knowing what should exist.

In conclusion I wish to point out that Tempe, Potchefstroom Cantonments, and Roberts Heights all continue as Post Offices today, but the scope of this paper has been limited to the Colonial period with the slight overlap into Union times during the period of the inter-provincials. The period between 1912 and 1950 will no doubt be covered by some Union postmark enthusiast.

SUPERB NEW HANDBOOK-CATALOGUE

At the executive meeting of the Philatelic Federation, held on the 26th October, the Handbook Sub-Committee tabled the first pulls of three pages of the new Catalogue. The wealth of detail, the quality of the paper, the type and the beautiful reproduction of the blocks amazed those who were fortunate to be present and SUPERB was the general consensus of opinion.

Mr. Sam Legator reported that the demand for the Handbook had been terrific and he had received enquiries from England, Australia, Canada and the United States as well as from European countries. The retail price of the book has been fixed at 22/6 and orders can be placed with the Federation or with bona fide dealers. Members of the affiliated societies of the Federation will be able to purchase the book through their particular Society at a special price. Only a limited edition is being printed and the Handbook Sub-committee advises the placing of orders without delay.

Incidently the De Luxe edition of 300 copies is very nearly sold out and any reader who would still like to purchase this item should lose no more time and send his Three Guineas to Mr. Sam Legator, P.O. Box 333, Brakpan, South Africa.

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GERMAN SOUTH-WEST AFRICA

by L. BUCHEN.

This vast territory, stretching from the Orange River in the south to Angola in the north, was considered in the early eighties to be a desolate stretch of desert or semi-desert in which none of the great powers evinced the slightest interest. Britain, having occupied Walvis Bay in 1876, the only usable harbour, was apparently content with her new acquisition and took no interest in the development of the enormous hinterland. She even refused a request by the German Government to take over the protection of some German Missionaries, who had been active in this area since 1805.

In 1883 Luderitz, a merchant from Bremen, settled in this territory, realising its value for extensive cattle ranching. On his request Germany officially extended her protection to him and his possessions on 24th April 1884 and with a flag hoisting ceremony at Luderitzbucht on 7th August 1884 South West Africa became a German possession.

The German Authorities for the newly acquired colony established themselves at first at Otyimbingue and the first Post Office started functioning there on 7th July 1888, nearly four years later. The Native population, sonsisting mainly of Hereros and Hottentots were apparently not very pleased with their new masters and frequent rebellions and disturbances forced the Germans to move the seat of Government several times, taking the Post Office with them. They found refuge in Walvis Bay from November 1888 to July 1889 but had to leave Otyimbingue again on 6th September of that year, moving at first to Garinuab and then to Tsaobis. They were only able to return to Otyimbingue during March 1890 and finally moved to Windhoek, where the Post Office was reopened on 7th December 1891 .The first cancellor of Otyimbingue was used all the time, wherever the Post Office moved to and was also in use in Windhoek until March 1892.

This leads to the most interesting part of the postal history of this country viz. its cancellations. It must be a unique occurrence for a cancellor with a certain place name to have been used in other places and it seems that the German Postal Authorities found it convenient to repeat this procedure with some modifications, when the rapidly expanding postal system made it difficult to provide the required cancellers simultaneously with the opening of the new Post Offices. For this purpose cancellers which could be spared elsewhere or were prepared for Post Offices which never opened their doors, had the place name removed and were successively used at various new postal establishments by having the new name either written in by hand or added by means of an ordinary rubber stamp. Some of the new Post Offices were provided with a canceller that was prepared without a place name altogether and these so-called "Wanderstempel" or "Wandering cancellers" provide a feature unknown in the postal history of any other country. Five types are known to exist one of which was a blank canceller, prepared without a place name. The other four were provided by the first canceller of Otyimbingue and those of Hasis, Uhabis and Okongava, the last named being the canceller of a Post Office which was never opened. They were used at the following places:—

I. Originally bearing the name "Otyimbingue", used at:

Okahandja	12. 8.1895— 1.12.1895.
Rossing	16. 6.1898— 9. 8.1898.
Khanrivier	10. 8.1898—28. 4.1899.
Jakalswater	21. 3.1899— 4. 1.1900.
Aus	Oct. 1906—21.12.1906.
Brackwasser	1. 1.1907—16. 4.1907.
Kuibis	20. 7.1907—18. 8.1907.

II. Canceller without a place name, used at:

Otavi	Oct. 1899— 3. 2.1900.
Hatsamas	1. 3.1900— 1. 6.1900.
Kapenousseu	1.10.1901—31. 5.1903.
Nauchas	1.11.1903—13. 1.1904.
Okahandja	31. 1.1904—15. 3.1904.
Waterberg	7.11.1904— 1.12.1904.
Okowakuatjiwi	23. 1.1907—Sept. 1907
Otjihavera	25.11.1907—20. 1.1908.
Fieldpost No. 3	.....1914/1915 but not used.

III. Originally bearing the name "Hasis", used at:

Hasis	6. 4.1900—17.12.1900.
Hasuur	13.10.1903—June 1904.
Epukiro	29. 6.1905—Dec. 1906.
Osona	27.11.1907— 3. 2.1908

IV. Originally bearing the name "Okongava," used at:

Gochas	6.11.1903— 2. 7.1904.
Abbabis	8. 8.1904— 4.12.1904.
Kalkfontein	22. 5.1906—Dec. 1906.
Gochaganas	6.12.1907—Apr. 1908.
Seeheim	1. 6.1908—15. 6.1908.
Fieldpost No. 1	? — 9. 7.1915.

V. Originally bearing the name "Uhabis," used at:

Fieldpost Station	Dec. 1903—Feb. 1904.
Gochas	Dec. 1905—Feb. 1906.
Otjiwarongo	26. 4.1906—Nov. 1906.
Fieldpost No. 2	1914— 1915.

(from Friedemann's Handbook.)

It happened, of course, that due to one reason or another, officials omitted to write in or stamp the name of the Post Office when using one of these wander cancellers and such items are naturally quite rare. To provide further variety, there exist cancellations entirely by hand and worn out official seals were also used as cancellers in the same way as the wanderstempel. To make this chapter even more interesting there are also cancellations where the year was omitted altogether or written in by hand. It may be added that Railway-, Sea- and Fieldpost Offices provide another rich field of very interesting cancellations which ended with the occupation of South West Africa by Union Forces during the First World War. A number of German cancellers with suitable alterations were still in use for some time after the occupation.

South West Africa used at first stamps of Germany. The use of these stamps commenced

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on 7th July 1888 with the opening of the first Post Office at Otyimbingue, and was permissible until 31st October 1901, although the first definite issue for the territory appeared during March or May 1897. Stamps of Germany used before March 1897 thus represent real forerunners and are naturally not found too frequently.

The first definite issue consists of contemporary German stamps bearing diagonally the overprint "Deutsch-Suedwest-Afrika", with a hyphen between each of these three words. On the 20th July 1898 the overprint was changed by omitting the hyphen between the words "Suedwest" and "Afrika" and during January 1901 stamps of the ship design, bearing a picture of the Imperial yacht "Hohenzollern" and common to all German colonies, were introduced. These stamps were in use until the final surrender on 9th July, 1915, bringing to a close one of the most interesting chapters in the vast field of our hobby.

SHORT NOTICES.

H. R. Harmer's 26th Annual Résumé of their 1950-1951 season contains as usual much of interest for philatelists. An article "Whither Philately?" speaks confidently of the future; even if lack of money means we can never again have large collections like those of Ferrari, Hind, Tapling and Duveen (to mention but a few). The increasing multitude of moderate and small collectors more than makes up for these giants of old.

The hobby is increasingly popular and it is a safe one from a financial point of view, in peace and still more so in war.

A review of the firm's work in their London, New York and Sydney houses shows that all are flourishing and the prospects for 1951-52 are rosy. There are numerous notes and illustrations of the star items sold during the past season and details are given about their auction and private treaty sales.

International Philatelic Federation.

At its Congress held at Copenhagen in June the F.I.P. stressed the following points.

(a) Charity and Commemorative issues to be as few as possible. A number of governments have already fallen into line in this respect, but there are still some sinners.

(b) Surtaxes, if any, to be indicated on the stamps, as well as the postal face value.

(c) Commemorative sets to be as few as possible in number and only to be of low values.

(d) Remainders not to be sold.

(e) Issues to be on sale at all post-offices, an exception being made for special issues on behalf of philatelic exhibitions.

(f) Miniature sheets to be abolished.

Australian Stamp Monthly The Editor of this magazine, Mr. P. Collas, who has been editor since 1935, besides being acting editor of "Philately from Australia", author of several books on philately, judge at various exhibitions, and altogether a very prominent philatelist in Australia, is resigning his position. He has been appointed to the position of Philatelic Officer, Central Office, Postmaster-General's Department, and in this position he can be expected to do a great deal for the collectors of Australian stamps.

The Philatelic Journal of Great Britain, July-August number has a reprint of Mr. D. Slater-Kinghorn's article on "Philatelic Libraries — their Aims and Functions", which appeared in our January issue.

There is also an article on the Union Coronation issue by "Allan Hardy" Jnr. with a description of the various hemispheres and numerous illustrations.

In the **Philatelic Trader** "Pinferf" in his market commentary says he is most surprised that the pricing of the Union (S.G. 61) Die I 6d. in the new Gibbons remains at the modest figure of 8/6. He says it is a scarce, much underpriced stamp and should be very nearly in the same class as S.G. 44b (now at £8), and is certainly scarcer than S.G. 58 at 90/-.

In S. Rhodesia both S.G. 21a and 24a (8d. and 1/- perf. 11½) have moved up a little but they are really in the minor rarity class in used condition. Another stamp almost impossible to find used is the 1d. (S.G. 2b), although reasonably common mint.

Collectors' Wants & Offers

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

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

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

50% over Gibbons Catalogue price offered for a superb Mint and Used copy of Seychelles, S.G. 52A.—WILLIAM REDFORD, P.O. Box 1182, Johannesburg.

Required Switzerland. All issues mint used and Covers for cash or exchange for Geo. VI. B. JOSEPH, P.O. Box 375, Johannesburg

Falkland Islands Specialist Material Covers and Post Marks wanted.—E. L. STERN, P.O. Box 7818, Johannesburg.

WANTED: Latvia any out of the way items, proofs, colour trials, forgeries, varieties, also collections and kiloware.—J. MICHELSON, Box 9314, Johannesburg.

WANTED: Booklets, Post Cards, Registered Envelopes and Airletter Cards, unused and used of Union only.—Dr. MURRAY, Kuilsriver.

German South West Africa and ex-Colonies, Approvals, Wants Lists filled.—B. CHALLEN, P.O. Box 2, Wilderness, C.P.

Wanted: German South West Africa Special Items, Specimens, Covers, etc.—L. BUCHEN, P.O. Box 4012, Johannesburg.

"A.P.O.—U—M.P.K. No. 34". Wanted two copies of this South African Army P.O., one for collection in the Africana Museum, one for my private collection.—EDITOR.

GREAT BRITAIN 1858. Sets Catalogued. £4 16s. 0d. Special offer £3 post free. Order now etc., Cash with order.—A. N. HARDWICK, C/o. P.O. Retreat, C.P.

WANTED—Covers of Parliamentary Tour 1924.—NORMAN HILL (Schoolmaster), South Grove School, Rotherham England.

STAMPS.—Want lists invited for any country; specialitiss Union, S.W.A., British Africa.—LACY'S, 211 Long Street, Capetown.

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1853 1d. brown-red on slightly blued paper, a fine used block of 4 of this scarce shade, slightly cut top corner, otherwise margins all round; extremely rare. **£105.**

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1858 6d. slate-lilac on blued paper, S.G. 7a, a superb mint copy with good even margins, R.P.S. certif., **£60.**

1858 1/- briight yellow-green, S.G. 8, superb mint with good margins, **£37 10s. 0d.**

1863-4 1/- bright emerald-green, S.G. 21, a mint marginal copy, v. fine, **£30.**

TRANSVAAL

1905-9 1d. scarlet, a fine used copy with error of wmk., cabled anchor, S.G. 274a, R.P.S. certif. **£35.**

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SOCIETY NEWS

PRETORIA PHILATELIC SOCIETY.

The Society held its annual Certificate of Merit competition at the meeting held on the 2nd October, 1951. The award went to Mr. W. Newlands for his very fine Zululand exhibit, complete in every respect including all issues, mint and used, specimens, covers,, postal stationery, and postmarks. Mr. Newlands was congratulated on his unique exhibit and members appreciated the opportunity of seeing it.

The Society heard with interest of the recent formation of the "Afrikaanse Filatelistetiese Vereniging van Pretoria". A welcome and good wishes to this new local body were expressed.

The bi-monthly meeting held on the 15th October, was specially well attended, the attraction being a talk and exhibit by the Rev. Loxley-Chamings, an old friend and very popular visitor. In a bright and characteristic description of his exhibit, Mr. Chamings said about 2,400 people now figured on postage stamps in single portraits, and of these he possessed all but 15. He entertained the meeting with selections from the France section of his collection, depicting famous people and places, from Gregory (6th Century) to Leclerc (1946). The stamps were shown with descriptive "blurbs", and "stickers" advertising French cities. Attention was also drawn to the high quality of engraving in the stamps of that country. Mr. Chamings was warmly thanked for coming to Pretoria specially to delight the Society with his unconventional exhibit and the attractive way of presenting it.

Among other visitors welcomed to the meeting by the President were Mr. and Mrs. Andrew Watson, who brought greetings from the East London Philatelic Society, and these were cordially reciprocated.

B.J.V.

PORT ELIZABETH PHILATELIC SOCIETY.

On Tuesday the 16th October the evening was in the hands of Mr. G. K. Forbes and Mr. Geard. Mr. Forbes displayed his wonderful collection of Australia and New Zealand; the first page was Tasmania of 1853, then pages of Victoria, Western Australia, New South Wales and South Australia followed. There were four blue 1/- stamps of W. Australia all of different shades. The Swan set of 1954-60 with some forgeries. The 1884 and 1896 issues both overprints with block of four. The S. Australian set printed in London from 1855-59 and 1876-77, with O.S. on surface and one had the O.S. inverted.

1887-96 in values of 2/6, 5/-, 15/-, and £1 plus one page of specimen 10/-, 50/- and £3. One gem was a 6d. N.S.W. an error, the Wales was spelt Walls. and one stamp of Victoria had the head printed on both sides, upright on front and sideways on the back. These first issues were printed by Thomas Ham. Several pages of oddments of New Zealand all used and rare specimens, also the 1906 set to commemorate the New Zealand exhibition held in Auckland. So many of the stamps worthy of mention with different shades and frames that one hardly knows which to mention, but the Departmentals of Australia cannot be overlooked as they are very rare and not priced. Mr. Forbes is to be congratulated on his fine collection.

Mr. Geard tabled Hungary from 1915, oone set of 1948 had portraits of writers from 1869-1935. There was also the 1916 coronation of King Carl IV. The issue of 1919 entry of National Army into Buda-Pest, 1921 Madonna and Child, 1927 issue of St. Stephen, 1934 Cardinal Pazmany, 1936 Ancient Buda, 1941 Admiral Horthy and many others. All these sets were mint, very well written up and nicely spaced. The two members well deserved the hearty vote of thanks accorded to them. The meeting closed at 10 p.m.

L.E.C.

WEST RAND STAMP CLUB.

It is regretted that the Publicity Officer was not at the 143rd Monthly Meeting of the above Club.

It is rumoured around Krugersdorp that Mr. J. T. Burrel showed New Zealand, "Ancient and Modern" and that it was a pretty good show too. So sorry Mr. Burrel, justice will be done in the near future.

For the November meeting we are to have the honour of a visit from Mr. Hagger, who will show his London and Pretoria Pictorials. Enough for me to say it is Mr. Hagger's.

Though our Club is a small one, we certainly have fine meetings.

Welcome at 7.45 p.m., 1st Wednesday each month at the Royal Hotel, Krugersdorp.

N.B.E.

EAST LONDON PHILATELIC SOCIETY.

The President, Mr. Shingler opened the September meeting on a note of regret at the passing of Mr. C. Kumming overseas and all members stood in silence as a mark of respect. There was a good attendance and five visitors were welcomed. Mr. Shingler gave a short account of his Philatelic activities and contacts during his tour of Rhodesia and Natal. Mr. Harper was welcomed back from his trip overseas and gave a short talk on his philatelic exploration. Three new members were elected and the following items of interest were displayed. Mr. Lacy—Block of 6 current S.A. 2d. with d of 2d. broken. Mr. Hellman — a cover of overprinted British Stamps and also blocks of four of the latest U.S.A. issues. The Rev. Pluddeman—a cover of the 3rd Festival of German Youth (Soviet Zone).

Mr. Durkin read a paper on the Rhodesian issues of 1890-1925 which made very interesting listening. He was thanked by Mr. Shingler on behalf of the members.

There was a quizz of 10 questions which Mr. T. H. Harper won with 5½ points. Mr. Clark displayed a very lovely 20th century New Zealand collection. Mr. H. Harper thanked him for attaining such a fine standard in only 2½ years of collecting.

R.A.

ORANGE FREE STATE AND BASUTOLAND PHILATELIC SOCIETY.

At the September meeting, the regular features consisting of an auction of stamp lots, "New Issues" by Mr. A. G. Denne, and a "20 Questions Quiz", occupied the first half of the evening's programme. Mr. C. E. Kachelhoffer was again the winner of the quiz, and it was decided that he should provide the next month's Quiz, in order to make quite sure that at least once he will not carry off the prize. Mr. P. Smits gave a very attractive display of O.F.S. issues. The merit of this collection is its artistic and clear write-up, presenting in pleasant style the history and reason for every issue. Mr. Smits prefaced the display with a talk on O.F.S. postal history. Mr. A. I. Mackenzie gave a highly instructive talk on the "Manufacture of Paper", which was well received. Mr. Mackenzie managed to make the subject very interesting indeed, and concentrated on postage stamp paper and paper problems which concern mainly the philatelist. An interesting discussion followed to which Mr. Mackenzie expertly replied.

At the October meeting, Mr. Denne tabled many new issues which had come out during the past month. Part of thes new issues were sold to members in the following auction. The Quiz was won by three members in a dead heat. Dr. K. Freund gave then a talk on Union Christmas Seals, reporting and explaining various tit-bits about them, which were very interesting and not generally known. He followed this up with a display specially prepared for his talk, which illustrated the points raised and also showed other interesting items, as for instance the first Xmas stamp ever issued in the world and another one showing the portrait oof the originator of the Xmas stamp idea. Dr. J. R. Mellet gave a display of German stamps, which was remarkably extensive, considering that he joined the ranks of stamp collectors only a few months ago. A large section dealt with the early German States. Mr. A. H. Scott proposed a vote of thanks for Dr. Freund's talk and display, while Dr. Freund spoke on Dr. Mellet's exhibit.

JOHANNESBURG PHILATELIC SOCIETY.

At the meeting held on November 13th the evening was devoted to an auction of stamps on behalf of the Cape Town Tercentenary Exhibition. Numerous ietems changed hands at good prices.

At the meeting of November 26th, the exhibit was Sweden by Mr. R. Buchen.

The exhibit included most of the commemorative issues in mint condition as well as some fine used items. There were the early Postal Union Commemoratives included, also early coil issues.

Mr. Froelich spoke on the exhibit which was much appreciated.

Prior to the exhibit Dr. J. H. Harvey Pirie read a paper on the forged overprints on the first "Swaziland" stamps. The paper was based on his own research work.

Dr. Pirie was asked several questions on his paper and there was an interesting discussion.

I.I.

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ROODEPOORT PHILATELIC SOCIETY.

October Meeting.

Present 9 members and our permanent visitor, Mrs. Vermaak, our Secretary's good wife.

Stamp news of the month included remarks on Canada's Royal Visit stamp. The showing of a screened block of 5-'s with cylinder number. In some Australia new issues the strangest was the 1/0½.

Mr. Rosseau had to resign owing to the press of business and exhibited the sideline "Y" viz., 6 varieties of the Pietersburg 1/- the stamps all being of a yellow shade.

The main exhibit was Great Britain shown by Master Crocker. This young collector of G.B. has got off to a flying start and his collection was much appreciate i by all of us.

The November exhibit will be Mr. Bloomfield's "Canada" and Mr. Keet will show the sideline "Z"

It has been decided that we will hold our December meet ng on the 13th December and so avoid holding it during the holiday season.

The meeting will be in the nature of a Quiz and swop night. H.D.

CAPE TOWN PHILATELIC SOCIETY.

25th October.

In place of an Ordinary Meeting of the Society, a Public Auction of stamps was held to raise funds for the forthcoming International Philatelic Exhibition. Mr. Schonegevel was the auctioneer and he disposed of all the Lots for the sum of £137 which was considered most satisfactory.

8th November.

Mr. Arhtur V. Jacob was in the Chair, and there were 33 members and 5 visitors present. Although this evening was reserved for Ladies' Night we were disappointed that very little support was forthcoming from our Lady members, in fact Mrs. Hotz was their only representative to whom we are most grateful for bringing along part of her King George V and King George VI collection, which is particularly strong in the stamps of S.W. Africa. However, some of our stalwarts had brought a few sheets and we had a very good evening's display. Mr. Douglas Roth showed some pre-stamp covers of the Cape including a letter addressed to Jan van Riebeeck, Mr. A. M. Jones showed "Zululand", Mr. C. R. V. Solomon showed a selection of modern issues, and Major Wellsford exhibited sheets of the Australian ½d. Orange showing the major re-touches. A.J.N.

NETHERLANDS.

This country has quite a lengthy programme for 1952 for, apart from the usual Child Welfare and Summer Charity sets, special stamps are to be issued for the commemoration of the 100th Anniversary of the Netherlands' first stamp and the 100th year of the existence of the State Telegraphs, plus stamps for the van Riebeeck festival and the 50th Anniversary of the State Mines.

It is rumoured that in connection with the Van Riebeeck celebrations a special flight from Culemborg, the birthplace of Van Riebeeck, to Cape Town is more than likely.

In conjunction with the centenary celebrations referred to previously, a miniature sheet of four stamps is also contemplated.

What will give collectors of Netherlands stamps a big headache is the issue of two stamps with face value of 15 gulden and 20 gulden respectively. Holland's currency regulations are such that mint high values are not easily come by and now Ossa is piled on Pelion by these "whoppers", the highest ever issued by our Netherlands friends in their own country.

The 25 gulden value is not unknown, as the Netherlands Indies in its time has issued stamps of this denomination, but whether it is necessary is probably a matter of opinion. Air mail postage at the rate of so much per half ounce soon mounts to a considerable sum if the article is at all bulky, but whether the number of articles posted requiring the payment of £2 10s. 0d. is so large that the printing of a stamp of this value is justified the postal authorities alone know. The designs chosen for the two stamps are attractive.

The Child Welfare Stamps for this year were issued on the 11th November with special cancellations for **sets** posteed at The Hague.

The designs were chosen under the supervision of the Special Committee appointed by by the Post and Telegraph Authorities to see that they conformed to aesthetic standards. There are five values each depicting a child from Holland's various economic spheres — Shipping, Farming, Heavy Industry, Structural Engineering and City Workers.

The stamps are printed in rotogravure on unwatermarked paper of large upright format and demonstrate again that the printers, Enschedé and Sons of Haarlem, are masters of their craft. J.W.S.

BECHUANALAND VARIETY.

Mr. C. Bathurst of Salisbury, S. Rhodesia, writes:

"In the 'S.A. Philatelist' of 1949, pp. 53-56 Mr. Allpass reports having a K.E. VII Bechuanaland 1d. stamp (S.G. 68) with the error PROTEOTORATE for PROTECTORATE and he concludes it ias a clever forgery.

"It occurred to me to look through my K.E. VII and K.G. V 1d. stamps and I came across one of the latter issue (S.G. 74) with a similar 'error'. I admit it is not a perfect "O" but it is certainly more of an 'O' than a 'C'. I can guarantee its authenticity because it has been in my collection ever since I took it off the cover on which it came to me."

(Mr. Bathurst has sent the stamp for inspection. It appears to us that the letter "C" in which the space between the two ends has been completely filled in with ink on the outer side but not quite completely on the inside, but thus transforming it into an "O". That it is derived from a "C" is however clear; the two sides of the other "O's" in the overprint are almost straight vertically, whereas in this "O" the side bulges and is curved all the way, just as in the "C" of BECHUANALAND.—Ed.)

IMOSA

A Thematic International.

It was bound to come sooner or later, now it is sooner, at Saarbrücken 29 March—8 April, 1952. This will clash with SATISE at Capetown, but if any enthusiast wishes to enter we can send him a prospectus (in French or German). It is true that the exhibition does not call itself a Thematic one; in French it would appear to come under the heading of "Philatélie Constructive" and in German of "Motivbriefmarken-Ausstellung", but the classes are definitely "Thematic."

POLAND.

The issue of two double-head stamps about 15th Nov. has been announced from Warsaw. The designs of the two, 45 g. and 90 g. will be the same, featuring the two famous musicians F. Chopin and S. Moniuseko.

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