

The SOUTH AFRICAN PHILATELIST

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Union Notes

No reports from the Government Printer about new issues and new printings have been published since the August, 1938, issue because none have been received. Under the new arrangements made with the P.O. Controller of Propaganda, however, Union specialists will be glad to learn that such information has been promised through his department, and here follows a list filling in the printings made from 7th July of last year to 25th April of this year.

Voortrekker stamps:

- 2d.+1d.: 5,500 sheets of 120, 23 Aug. Old cylinders, 7,014 int., and 6,925 ext.
3d.+1½d.: 5,000 sheets of 120, 23 Aug. Old cylinders, 43 int., and 29 ext., but this printing was delivered in half sheets as the lower half of the ext. cylinder was damaged soon after the printing was started.

Voortrekker Centenary stamps:

- ½d.+½d. 52,200 sheets of 120, 20 Oct. to 24 Nov. New cylinders, 9 int., and 6,926 ext.
1d.+1d.: 10,200 sheets of 120, 11 Oct. to 29 Nov. New cylinders, 6,918 int., and 6,927 ext.
1½d.+1½d.: 25,500 sheets of 120, 29 Sept. to 4 Nov. New cylinders, 6,934 int., and 5 ext.
3d.+3d.: 18,500 sheets of 120, 11 Oct. to 2 Nov. New cylinder, No. 22.

Voortrekker Commemorative stamps:

- 1d.: 203,650 sheets of 120, 2 Nov. to 20 Dec. New cylinders, 62 int., and 6,932 ext.
1½d.: 45,200 sheets of 120, 1 Nov. to 8 Nov. New cylinders, 31 int., and 20 ext.

Voortrekker stamps overprinted "S.W.A.":

The sheets for these were supplied from the Postmaster-General's stocks, the overprinting being done on a flat-bed machine. A new forme was used. 500 sheets of each of the Centenary and Commemorative denomina-

tions were overprinted on 9 Dec., and a further overprinting was done of the Commemoratives on 12 Jan., 1,500 sheets of the 1d. and 500 sheets of the 1½d.

Ordinary Postage stamps:

- ½d.: 61,000 sheets of 240, 9 to 23 Feb. New cylinders, 6,933 int., and 7,014 ext.
181,150 sheets of 240, 23 to 27 Feb. New cylinders, 6,920 int., and 16 ext.
29,500 sheets of 240, 25 Apr. New cylinders, 25 int., and 7,019 ext. This printing is unfinished at date of report.
1d.: 507,800 sheets of 240, delivery finished 4 Jan. Old cylinders, 52 int., and 25 ext. (This was the completion of the order stated in our August issue as having been started on 30th May, 1939.)
A further 109,000 sheets from the same cylinders were delivered on 17 Jan. 228,000 sheets on 23 Mar., from new cylinders, 35 int., and 50 ext. (This printing being continued at date of report.)
1½d.: 111,800 sheets of 120, 16 to 28 Aug. Old cylinders, 6,933 int., and 62 ext.
2d.: 44,700 sheets of 120, 1 Nov. to 9 Feb. New cylinders, 29 int., and 43 ext. Hyphen in SUID-AFRIKA. A further 30,500 sheets on 6th March.
3d.: 58,850 sheets of 120 on 8-12 Dec., and a further 42,500 sheets on 27 Mar. Old cylinders, 6,914 int., and 15 ext.
4d.: 25,500 sheets of 120 on 27 Mar. Old cylinder No. 61.
6d.: 19,650 sheets of 240, 4 Jan. to 9 Feb. Old cylinders, 6,919 int., and 53 ext.
1s.: 43,500 sheets of 120, 9 Feb. New cylinders, 6,925 int., and 38 ext. Design slightly altered in left hand scroll and with hyphen in SUID-AFRIKA. A further 48,000 sheets between 9 Feb. and 2 Mar. (These stamps are now on sale. Ed.)
2s. 6d.: 3,950 sheets of 120 on 4 Jan. Old cylinders, 27 int., and 7,017 ext. Sheets cut in half for issuing.
5s.: 2,750 sheets of 120 on 4 Jan. Old cylinders, 6,929 int., and 41 ext. Sheets cut in half for issuing.

"Official" stamps:

500 sheets (120 stamps per sheet) of each of the three denominations, 1½d., 2d., and 6d., overprinted "Official—Offisiesel" on 12 Jan. from the same formes as used previously.

Roll stamps:

½d.: 500 rolls, 500 x 500 x 500 and 800 rolls, 944 x 1,000 x 500 between 17 Jan. and 23 Mar. Old cylinders, 21 int., and 30 ext.
1d.: 1,300 rolls, 1,004 x 500 x 500 and 1,600 rolls, 600 x 1,000 x 1,000 plus 157 sheets (flat) of 240 stamps. Old cylinders 23 int., and 24 ext. Method of printing of both values of roll stamps the same as for previous issues.

Postage Due stamps:

1d.: Sheets of 240. 2,400 x 602,800 x 60. 7 Mar. Old ext. cylinder, No. 39. Interior overprinted by letterpress.
2d.: Sheets of 240. 8,000 x 609,000 x 60. 7 Mar. Old cylinders, 28 int., and 29 ext.

Stamp Booklets:

2s. 6d. booklets each containing 12 x ½d. stamps and 24 x 1d. stamps. 240,000 booklets on order, the order having been partly filled since 23 Feb., but still under completion. The ½d. stamps are printed in sheets of 180 from old cylinders, 8 int., and 10 ext. The 1d. stamps similarly from old cylinders, 6 int., and 6,930 ext. Method of printing as for previous issues.

MORE UNION COMMEMORATIVES.

We are officially informed that there are to be issued soon three semi-postal stamps (1d., 2d. and 3d.) to raise funds for a memorial to the Huguenots. They will be on sale for three months, but will not replace the ordinary stamps. Designs and further particulars are promised. The object is a very worthy one, but we regret very much this further appeal to stamp collectors. It looks like becoming a permanent bad habit.

PHILATELIC BROADCASTS.

The Rev. W. Loxley Chamings has been giving philatelic radio talks from the Grahams-town station. His next one will be on the last Thursday of this month.

ALBANIA.

Messrs. Whitfield King and Co. announce in their Bulletin that the eleven current stamps of the 1930 issue have been overprinted "Mbledhja Kushtetuese 12-IV-1939 XVII". Unfortunately they do not state just what these mystic words mean.

SLOVAKIA.

Various Czechoslovakia stamps have been overprinted "Slovensky Stat/1939".

REVIEWS

THE POSTAGE STAMPS OF FIJI. 1878-1902.

By J. R. W. PURVES.

This work, which bears no publisher's name or price, is a reprint of serial articles which have appeared in the *London Philatelist*. As it was sent us for review by Messrs. Sefi, Pemberton and Co., Ltd., we presume that they have been responsible for the re-issue in book form.

Criticism is beyond us—one would have to be a very advanced student of these stamps to review or criticise this work. All one who is not a specialist of this country can say is that Mr. Purves has dealt exceedingly fully with the stamps of Fiji issued between the dates mentioned. As he says in his introduction, "Fiji is revealed as a really BIG country, worthy of the attention of any serious student." It is a gold-mine in its wide interest, which is far from confined to the stamps themselves. He admits that at first the stamps gave him a headache, with their apparently unceasing confusion of shades, papers and perforations. Now order has been established, and the specialist (with this work at his elbow) should be able accurately to allot any single stamp to its correct printing.

The writer's researches have revealed, for the first time, the various printing techniques involved. In addition to this detailed study of the stamps, he deals with the fascinating subjects of postmarks, postal markings, postal rates, and postal routes.

No claim is laid to completion. The text shows that there are still avenues open for investigation.

AN AMERICAN CATALOGUE OF STAMPS OF THE BRITISH EMPIRE.

We have received from the Kenmore Stamp Co., of Kenmore, N.Y., U.S.A., a firm which deals only in British Empire stamps, a copy of the 2nd edition of their Price List of stamps of the British Commonwealth of Nations.

This price list gives the actual prices at which they sell their stamps, there being no discounts, whatever the size of the order. So far as we have checked up on their figures these prices represent fair market values. Both mint and used stamps are priced, and they claim to be able to supply 90 per cent. of the mint stamps listed and about 70 per cent. of those priced in used condition.

Australia and Rhodesia have been specialised in this edition of their catalogue.

Blocks of four with imprints or plate numbers are charged at a uniform rate of 5 singles.

Except in the case of the two specialized countries, the only illustrations are those of the stamps issued during the current reign, but the descriptions are sufficiently full to prevent there being any difficulty in identifications.

The price is one dollar.

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<p style="text-align: center;">BRITISH SOMALILAND.</p> <p>Error BRIT SH On 1a, in pair, S.G. 15, mint .. 18/- On 2a, in pair, S.G. 16, mint .. 25/-</p> <p>Error, Inverted. 3 rupees, mint 160/-</p> <p>O.H.M.S. single CA. 1a, used 5/- 1a, no stop after M in used pair 63/- 2a, mint or used 25/-</p>	<p style="text-align: center;">NIGERIA.</p> <p>1936. George V. Pictorial set, ½d. to 20/-, complete mint (12) . 60/-</p>
<p style="text-align: center;">BRITISH CENTRAL AFRICA.</p> <p>1895, no wmk. Set, 1d. to 20/- (series), overprinted “Specimen” 42/-</p> <p>1896, cc. £10, orange, overprinted “Specimen” 50/-</p>	<p style="text-align: center;">NIGER COAST.</p> <p>1893. One Shilling in black, on 2d., mint horizontal pair, one stamp with double surcharge, unique £125</p>
	<p style="text-align: center;">ZANZIBAR.</p> <p>1895. 2a, dull blue, overprint double, mint 40/-</p>
	<p style="text-align: center;">TRANS-JORDAN.</p> <p>1933. The rare pictorial set, 1m to £1, mint (14) £12</p>

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Air Mail Notes

By
I. H. C. GODFREY.

UNION OF SOUTH AFRICA. EMPIRE AIR MAIL SCHEME.

A further important development in the process of bringing all British Territories into the "All Up" mail scheme, was inaugurated in the Union on January 5, 1939, when the air postal rates to the British West African Colonies of Gambia, Gold Coast, Sierra Leone, and Nigeria were reduced from 1s. to 6d. per half ounce (postcards 3d.).

On the same date, the authorities made reductions in the rates of postage to countries outside of the Empire, grouping these under their respective Continents, and applying flat airmail rates for the sake of simplicity, viz.:

Europe, 1s. per $\frac{3}{4}$ oz.

Asia, 1s. 6d.

North America:

U.S.A., 1s.

Elsewhere, 1s. 6d.

South America, 4s.

Africa:

North and West, 1s. 3d.

East, 9d.

Covers posted to British West Africa on January 5 were backstamped in transit at Khartoum "7. Jan. 39 — 5.45 pm."

ACCIDENT TO FLYING-BOAT "CHALLENGER." 1.5.39.

Early in the morning of Monday, May 1, the Imperial Airways' flying-boat "Challenger," southbound, crashed on alighting at Lumbe (the airport for Mocambique Island, P.E.A.), two of the crew unfortunately losing their lives. A relief plane, "Canopus," was immediately sent to the scene of the accident to pick up the injured passengers, and mails. Sixty-seven mail bags consigned to Southern Africa were found to have suffered severe damage by being submerged, and the letters and packages were eventually sorted at Durban. Mails discharged at Lourenco Marques for the Transvaal and Free State, being uppermost in the mail compartment of the plane, were only slightly damaged in comparison with those for Natal and the Cape. No official cachets were applied to mutilated covers, except at Durban where a hand-struck purple stamp was applied reading:

FLYING BOAT CORRESPONDENCE
DAMAGED BY SEAWATER

VLIEGBOOT KORRESPONDENSIE
DEUR SEEWATER BESKADIG

The mails involved were those which left the terminal points of the Imperial Airways' routes on the following dates:

Sydney, Australia, April 17.
Hongkong, April 21.
Southampton, England, April 26.

"RESERVE AIRMAIL ROUTE": AUSTRALIA TO AFRICA.

The Australian Government has chartered an American flying-boat, "Gaba," to undertake a survey flight from the West Coast of Australia to the East Coast of Africa, across the Indian Ocean, some time between June 10 and August 1 this year. The object of the flight is ostensibly to establish an alternative air route to England, which could be used in cases of emergency, but this short cut will probably form an important chain in a fast round-the-world air service in a few years' time.

The idea of the "Reserve Route" is by no means new; in fact, it has constantly been advocated since 1936 by Mr. C. G. Grey, the well-known Editor of *The Aeroplane*, who gives credit to Mr. C. L. K. Foot as being the originator of the scheme, and in a recent editorial Mr. Grey has some scathing remarks to make about the lack of enterprise displayed by British Civil Aviation.

It seems that those who have had control of the Empire's air links during the past decade have stultified the normal development of Empire communications and, in this instance again, they have missed a great opportunity. It appears to us out here in South Africa as being strange that an American flying-boat, owned by an American, should be chosen by the Commonwealth Government to survey this all important Empire link, and we imagine our fellow-patriots in the Antipodes feel likewise. Surely something is radically wrong with the organisation of *Imperial Airways*, in whom so much faith has been placed by the Dominions and Colonies, when we see small countries like Holland beating us "at the post" in the development of civil aviation? A great opportunity was missed a couple of years ago, when QANTAS was taking delivery of the Imperial Airways' new flying-boats, of surveying this "Reserve Route." Whilst not wishing to be unduly critical, and realising that rearmament in Great Britain naturally tends to hinder civil aviation, we cannot help but feel that closer Empire links are essential to Empire Defence; and that, if Pan American Airways have been able to maintain a regular trans-Pacific air service since 1935, covering 8,750 miles (2,400 miles non-stop on one stage), Imperial Airways should, long before this, have ventured on trans-Oceanic flights of greater distances than the mere 529 miles separating Australia from the Dutch East Indies. Also it should be remarked that Germany and France have for years operated regular services across the South Atlantic (a non-stop distance of roughly 1,700 miles), and although Great Britain has been intending for a very long time to compete, not even a survey flight has yet been made.

The projected flight across the Indian Ocean will be in charge of Capt. P. G. Taylor and Mr. R. Archbold, the owner of the machine, and it will be partly subsidised by Great Britain, who will contribute £3,500 towards the cost. Additional funds are to be raised by the Commonwealth Post Offices, who are issuing a special five shilling airmail stamp to prepay postage on the large souvenir mail which the "Guba" is expected to carry.

Unless the plans are subsequently altered, the flight will be made in easy stages, and a few days will be spent at each port of call:

	Miles.
Onslow, Western Australia—Cocos Is.	1,230
Cocos Is.—Diego Garcia (Chagos Is.)	1,472
Diego Garcia—Seychelles	1,022
Seychelles—Mombasa, Kenya	950
Total	4,674

AN INTERNATIONAL COMPETITION FOR PHILATELIC RESEARCH.

The editor of our excellent contemporary, *Les Annales de Philatelie*, has bewailed for some years the lack of original research work in philately in many countries.

A Parisian philatelic Maecenas, in conjunction with Prof. Renaut d'Oultrre-Seille, is sponsoring an international competition for philatelic studies dealing with unpublished subjects.

Intending competitors must first of all submit the titles or subjects of their studies to Prof. Renaut (38, Rue de Lourmel, Paris, XVe.) and only such as are approved of will be actually admitted to the competition. Offers should be sent in before 30th October, 1939.

Manuscripts, if agreed to, may be in French, German, English, Spanish, Dutch, or Portuguese; they should be of a length not less than eight quarto pages (25 lines) and preferably not more than 15 pages, and may be accompanied by illustrations. These must be sent in before 1st February, 1940.

Not only must the paper be previously unpublished, but the subject must be one which has not been written up to any extent.

The jury will be composed of eminent writers and specialists, and will award prizes (1st, 500 francs) at its discretion, according

to the number and quality of the papers submitted.

Les Annales de Philatelie will have the first right of publishing prize-winning papers, and will do its own translation, if necessary.

Papers dealing with stamps, enñires, cancellations or postal markings are most desirable, but postal history, airposts or other postal subjects are not excluded.

It is to be hoped that some South African writers will enter for this competition. The important regulations are given above, but anyone interested can obtain the full details on application to the Editor, *South African Philatelist*.

THE STAMP CENTENARY EXHIBITION

In addition to the information given in last month's issue, it should be noted by intending South African exhibitors that it will not be necessary for them to send the whole of a big specialized collection for examination by the jury. Arrangements will be made whereby they can have it examined locally either by one of the Exhibition judges, if one is available, or by a specially appointed assessor, who will report on the collection as a whole. The exhibitor will be told which parts of his collection to send, and the jury will make their award on these sections, plus the assessor's report. This plan should make things easier for both exhibitors and jury.

It should be noted also that there are to be what amount to separate exhibitions of Aero-philately, Postal History, and Junior Collections. Each of these sections have their own committees and their own judges.

Although exhibits do not require to be in London until about a fortnight before the opening day, it is most important that intending exhibitors should make their entries NOW in order that the planning can be done. There is not "heaps of time available" if the Executive Committee is to be given a fair chance to do its job properly.

May we add that financial assistance in the way of donations or guarantees will be welcomed either from individuals or philatelic societies?

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The "Occupational" Postmarks of the Mandated Territory of South-West Africa

By L. SIMENHOFF, B.A., F.R.P.S.L.

(Continued from page 73 of May issue).

KABUS.

N.E. of Keetmanshoop. Occupied 19th April, 1915. From 1916 to 1918 it was a Post and Telegraph Agency, and mails were sent to Keetmanshoop. In August, 1917, a convalescent home for German military prisoners was established there.

Occ. No. 39.—Old German die. Type ? In black.

KALKFELD RAIL.

Station north of Omaruru. Postal Order and Telegraph Agency, 1916-1923. From 1916 to 1919 mails were sent via Windhuk, and from 1920 to 1923, via Omaruru.

Occ. No. 40.—Violet rubber cachet. Type 33. Diameter $27\frac{1}{2}$ mm., but irregular.

KALKFELD.

According to Post Office Guides, Kalkfeld was a Postal, Telegraph and Telephone, Money Order, Savings Bank, and Postal Order Office from February, 1922, to 1923. I have genuine cachets dated 1920 and 1921, however.

Occ. No. 41.—German metal die. Type 6, cachet in black.

KALKFONTEIN NORTH.

Situated N.E. of Mariental. From 1916 to 1920 it was a Post and Telegraph Agency, and mails were conveyed by *Camel Post*, viz., from 1916-1919 via Gibeon, and via Mariental during 1920. From 1921 to 1923 its status was that of Postal, Telegraph and Telephone, Money Order, Savings Bank, and Postal Order Office.

N.B. In January, 1923, the name was changed to HOFMEYR, S.W.A.

Occ. No. 42.—Old German die of Kalkfontein (Süd) altered. Type 6. Diameter 28 mm. (a) in violet, rubber (?) cachet; (b) in black (scarcer), metal die cachet.

Occ. No. 43.—Circular die. Metal ? Diameter $26\frac{2}{7}$ mm. Single circled cachet in black with word HOFMEYR at top, the letters
25
S.W.A. below, and date JAN in centre.

This postmark is very rare.

KALKFONTEIN.

Occupied 14th April, 1915.

Kalkfontein does not appear in the P.O. Guides for 1916-1918, but stamps bearing its postmark (Type 19 cachet) are to be found with various dates from 1916 to 1921.

Occ. No. 44.—Metal die. Type 19. Diameters $31\frac{2}{21}$ mm.

KALKFONTEIN RAIL.

Postal Order and Telegraph Agency from 1916 to 1923. Mails sent via Keetmanshoop 1916-1918, and via Kalkfontein South, 1919-1923.

KALKFONTEIN SOUTH.

Postal, Telegraph and Telephone, Money Order, Savings Bank, and Postal Order Office from 1919 to 1923.

Occ. No. 46.—Metal die. Type 19a, i.e., similar to Type 19, but letters S.W.A. in lower band.

Occ. No. 47.—Metal die. Type 31. Diameter 27 mm.

KALKRAND RAIL.

Post and Telegraph Agency, 1916 to May, 1917. Mails sent via Gibeon.

Occ. No. 48.—Probably Type 33. Rare.

KANUS.

Post and Telegraph Agency, 1916-1920. Mails sent via Keetmanshoop 1916-1918, and via Kalkfontein South during 1919 and 1920. In November, 1917, it became an internment camp for German civilians from the Protectorate, and from the Pietermaritzburg (Natal) camp.

Occ. No. 49.—German die. Type 11. Diameter 27 mm.

KAPPS FARM.

Postal Order, Telegraph and Telephone Agency, 1917 and 1918. Post and Telegraph and Telephone Agency, 1919-1921. Mails via Windhuk (1917-20), Windhoek (1921).

Occ. No. 50.—German die. Type ?

KARIBIB.

Occupied 6th May, 1915. Army headquarters. Post and Telegraph and Telephone Office during 1916 and 1917. From 1918 to 1923 its status was that of Postal, Telegraph and Telephone, Money Order, Savings Bank, and Postal Order Office. From 1916 to 1919 mails were sent via Windhuk.

Occ. No. 51.—Emergency F.P.O. Cachet No. 41. Type 4.

Occ. No. 52.—German die. Type 11. Diameter 27 mm.

Occ. No. 53.—German die. Type 18. Diameter 29 mm. Ten vertical bars per sector.

Occ. No. 54.—Metal die. Type 19. Diameters 31/21 mm.

N.B. Nos. 52-54 were used contemporaneously from 1916 onwards.

A rubber handstamp (in violet) with word KARIBIB (44 mm. x 6 mm.) was probably applied to registration matter.

KEETMANSHOOP.

Occupied 19th April, 1915. Army base. During 1916 and 1917 it was a Post and Telegraph and Telephone Office. From 1918 to 1923 its status was that of Postal, Telegraph and Telephone, Money Order, Savings Bank, and Postal Order Office.

Occ. No. 55.—Army base P.O. cachet No. 8. Probably Type 1.

Occ. No. 56.—Metal die. Type 21. Diameter 30 mm. 1915-1923, in black.

Occ. No. 57.—Metal die. Type 19. Diameters 31/21 mm. 1920-23, in black.

KEETMANSHOOP RAIL.

Telephone Office only during 1916. No postmark.

KIERIES WEST.

From 1921-1923, Postal Order Agency. Mails sent via Keetmanshoop.

Occ. No. 58.—Rubber die. Type ? 29 mm.

KLEIN KAR(R)AS RAIL.

Post and Telegraph Agency 1916-22. In January, 1923, it became a Postal Order, Tele-

graph and Telephone Agency. From 1916 to 1918 mails were sent via Keetmanshoop and from 1919 to 1922, via Kalkfontein South. In 1922 spelling altered from *Karras* to *Karas*.

Occ. No. 59.—Violet rubber cachet. Type 32, but word *Kleinkaras* confined to top part of circle. Diameter 27 mm.

KLEIN WINDHUK.

Garden suburb of Windhuk. Postal Order and Telegraph Agency, 1916-23. Mails via Windhuk (1916-20), Windhoek (1921-23).

Occ. No. 60.—In manuscript ? 1916.

Occ. No. 61.—Rubber cachet (violet). Type 32. Diameter 26 mm.

KLIPDAM (S.W.A.).

From 1918 to 1921 a Telephone Call office for Government work only. April, 1922 to 1923, Post and Telegraph and Telephone Agency. Mails via Keetmanshoop.

Occ. No. 62.—?

KOES.

Telephone Call office for Government work only (1918-20). No postmark.

(To be continued).

STRAITS SETTLEMENTS—NEW DIES.

The *Stamp Magazine* reports the discovery of a change of die for some of the K.G. VI stamps of Straits Settlements. The change is due to a change-over from double printing to single printing for some if not for all, of the monocoloured values. All the original values were printed from two plates; the 2c., 4c., and 5c. are now known from single plates, but it is possible that the various other single-colour values may be found similarly changed.

The change is readily seen in the constant relative positions of the centre and the frame. There are various other small differences which will serve to identify single stamps; one very readily detected is that in the single plate printing there is a white line separating the foliage of the palm trees from the frame, whereas in the double plate printing the foliage merges into the frame.

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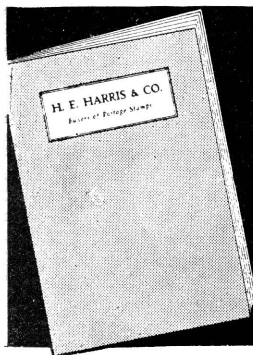
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Covers from Philatelic Congresses and Exhibitions, and a few others

By H. F. SCHROEDER

(Concluded from page 69 of May issue).

I now come to those cards and covers which I have selected at random from my 2,000 odd specimens. You are all familiar, no doubt, with the King Farouk marriage stamp, but I doubt whether you have seen the actual commemorative cover, postmarked at the Royal Palace. We have since learnt that this happy Royal couple have been presented with a daughter.

There are a series of cards and covers in my collection in connection with visits of world figures to different European cities. We have Mussolini visiting Hitler, and Hitler visiting Mussolini. Then follows the visit of the Hungarian Regent, Admiral Horthy to Herr Hitler. There are many covers of these visits, but the three I have brought will convey to you how the countries concerned commemorated these vents.

Then there is the "Anschluss." Most philatelists are acquainted with the stamps and postmarks issued during those stirring times, and by glancing at the card these memories will be amply refreshed.

Now we turn our attention to the Far East, not actually the Sino-Japanese "incident," but to Hong Kong. Owing to the enormous number of refugees from China, Hong Kong found itself running short of their 5 cent stamps. This was aggravated by a supply of stamps being received from Britain stuck together through the consignment arriving wet. To overcome the temporary shortage, the 5 cent duty stamps were used, and it will be seen that my "watch dog" in Hong Kong did not fail me.

One does not often get an opportunity of getting a postcard from two differently named towns, without the card having to leave the P.O. of either place. Radium was discovered in Cameron Bay, in the N.W.T. of Canada. Owing to the sudden rise of importance of this town, it was decided to rename Cameron Bay Port Radium. Thus on November 30, the P.O. was Cameron Bay, and on December 1, it was Port Radium. My Canadian friend arranged that one of my cards should be postmarked accordingly, and it will be seen that both these postmarks appear on the same card.

How many of you have received, or even seen mail from the Maldive Islands? For 2½ years I have endeavoured to contact someone in those islands, but without success. Eventually my Ceylon correspondent managed it for me. If I had the time, I could give you an interesting history of these islands, as my friend has sent me cuttings, photos, and other

items of interest concerning these islands, which, by the way, fall under the jurisdiction of the Ceylon Government.

Sport is receiving world wide recognition by means of the postage stamp. Most countries of the world have issues illustrating or commemorating Olympiads, etc. One of the latest additions has been the Republic of Panama, which country, incidentally, issues a special set of stamps on the very slightest pretext. To commemorate the Central American Olympic Games, held in Panama early in the year, a special miniature was issued. This miniature, as will be seen from the cover exhibited, illustrates all the games competed in, and the names of the different Central American countries that participated. As I have just mentioned, Panama issues stamps on every pretext, and so we have a special set, complete with cachet, commemorating the 25th anniversary of the establishment of a Fire Brigade, also the inauguration of a girl's college at Santiago. Here again a cachet was found necessary, and although there was no new issue of stamps, three existing values were overprinted.

Canada is a country that indulges in special flights on a very large scale, and any new service that is inaugurated is well advertised beforehand, for the special benefit of cover collectors. Very neat and attractive cachets are provided, and anybody interested in a specialised form of cover collecting is advised to concentrate on the Canadian issues. I am pleased to say that I have a great number of these, which would make a display of its own. However, I have one particular card which I consider as unique, in so far that only three covers were carried on this particular trip, and mine was the only one from outside of Canada. Here is a short extract from a Canadian newspaper about it:

"Unique among souvenirs marking the opening of 'Sky Harbour,' Huron County's new airport at Goderich, are three letters carried from the port during the celebration and mailed from Hamilton.

"When the 'planes were leaving Goderich at the conclusion of the recent air meet, two letters and a card were handed to Captain E. H. Taylor, instructor of the Hamilton Club, who had thrilled the crowd during the meet with his stunting, using a Tiger Moth 'plane.

"As no special air service was put into operation from Goderich, the letters were re-

mailed at Hamilton, arriving here through the regular train service mails. The three pieces of mail were autographed by Captain Taylor, showing that they had been carried at the time of the opening of the airport. One piece of mail was dispatched to H. F. Schroder in South Africa, the others to R. Lautenslager and R. G. Buckingham, Kincardine."

My last exhibit is that of the Winter Relief issue of Austria. The stamps themselves are masterpieces of the designer's art, but what I consider of even greater interest is the special postmark used by the postal authorities. The design is unique, and embodies the wording: "Tag der Briefmarke," the stamps having been issued on the "Day of the Stamp," which, last year, was held on 5th December.

A careful study of the cards and covers I have placed before you will reveal that every form of conveyance has brought my collection to me, and every type of franking, cachet, and etiquette has been used. It is for this particular reason that I prefer my form of collecting to that of the average philatelist. My covers are "alive." They have actually come from the countries of origin, and have left these when a new milestone in their history is reached. They have been sent me by people I have never seen and yet who show that a spirit still prevails in this anxious world, of goodwill and co-operation.

NEW ZEALAND.

To celebrate its jubilee (50th anniversary) the Philatelic Society of New Zealand has issued a monumental handbook on the postage stamps of New Zealand. We understand it is a work of some 500 pages, with about 40 plates of illustrations, but hope to have fuller details shortly.

WHY IS A STAMP LIKE A WOMAN?

Here are a few reasons given by Mr. K. F. Herrman in *Sunny Days*, the organ of the British Guiana Hobby Club:

Both are things of beauty and a joy forever. A little moisture can ruin either very easily. Each is a good hobby for any husband.

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32 STRAND, LONDON, W.C.2.

Geldhof's "Stamps of the Orange Free State"— Some Criticisms and Additional Information

By A. E. BASDEN.

[The following notes by Mr. Basden were written in the form of a personal letter to Mr. Geldhof. A copy of the letter was sent to the "South African Philatelist," with the covering note: "If you have publication in mind, you may blue pencil to any length you think fit." The criticism appears to be so reasonable and the additional information so valuable that the notes are here reproduced almost in full.—Editor.]

I like your book on the stamps of the Orange Free State very much, and I want to congratulate you very heartily on its production. I wanted to write to you long ago, but I have been very busy indeed, for some considerable time, writing a book on the stamps of Transvaal in collaboration with Mr. J. Herbert Curle, and doing other philatelic duties which together prevented me from settling down and writing to you. I have not only wanted to write of my own accord, but many philatelic friends have asked me to write to you—partly in appreciation of your splendid work and partly to add out of my own experience some little knowledge that might be useful to you in future additional notes to your book. Being a keen philatelist I feel sure you will be only too glad to pick up additional information and will not object to a little gentle criticism. As I shall soon be living in a glass house myself, you will appreciate that I am the last one to throw stones!

I feel sure that you will accept this in typical friendly philatelic spirit: it is all meant to be helpful.

The first thing that strikes the eye on the opening page (p. 3) is the wording on the Arms of the Republic: you make it "Gildos in Heid." Where you got this from I can't imagine. The wording should be "Geduld en Moed," which, being translated, means "Patience and Courage."

On the same page you say "The entire philatelic history of the country covers a period of only 42 years, beginning in 1868." I should like to suggest to you that the postal history commenced a great deal earlier, and pre-stamp covers are not to be overlooked or despised. The adhesive stamp history began in 1868.

Bottom of page 9. (Difficulty of obtaining proof of the actual first issue of stamps on 1 Jan., 1868.) This is to be understood, as the stamps were for the earlier years cancelled with a "Killer" and not a "dater." I

have a cover with the only O.F.S. bisect known, dated 1868, and a combination cover (with stamp of Cape) dated 1871. Pre-stamp covers I have of 1853 and 1856.

Page 12. The "4" surcharge. You write "the printer was forced to use four different fonts for the surcharges, thus giving rise to four distinct varieties. A fifth is mentioned by some of the earlier catalogues, but this was declared by Mr. de Raay to be a forgery." But strangely enough you reproduce as Type a a surcharge very similar to the aforesaid fifth variety. You omit to illustrate Gibbons Type a. The one you illustrate as Type a is Gibbons Type d; and to reiterate, the one you illustrate as Type d resembles the fifth type. Now, I hold the fifth type to be genuine. I have only one copy (used), but this I discovered amongst a large batch of unsorted O.F.S. which I once had the good fortune to purchase—just as originally accumulated in the rough. Since then I have never doubted the 5th variety. Are you sure of your Type a? I ask this question, because I have no "4" in my collection corresponding with it (I notice Scott reverses Types a and d as compared with Gibbons, but your illustrated Type d does not agree with either). Incidentally, you mention Type d as being the smallest (i.e., agreeing with Type a of Gibbons), but you illustrate a "4" as Type d that is visibly taller than your illustration of Type a!

You say that pairs and blocks of this stamp are unknown. I have seen pairs and strips of three, but do not possess any myself.

Page 13. You refer to the five shilling stamp as being scarce "in its pristine state," whereas it is quite common.

Page 16.—1d. surcharge. I am glad you quote de Raay regarding the varying d's as well as the varying 1's, because there are certainly several varieties of the former as well as of the latter.

Unfortunately Scott (and you) also give the five types of the 3d. surcharge in a different order to Gibbons, which is very unsatisfactory and confusing.

Your Type 1 is Gibbons Type 4,

Your Type 4 is Gibbons Type 5,

Your Type 5 is Gibbons Type 1.

It would be beneficial if we could get these catalogues to correspond.

I have a specimen of the dropped d you mention, but I also have broken figures (your Types 1 and 3), and longer stroke to the d, your Type 1. Your Type 5 is also to be found

with a short second bar, in addition to the normal bar: I have two copies of this.

On Page 18 you say "that while on other stamps the spelling 'Half' is 'halve,' in this case the inscription read 'Half penny.'" You are wrong in saying this, as all the definitives read "Half penny"—the surcharges read "Halve penny."

Page 18. There are distinct shades of the 2d. mauve, very clear and distinguishable, the duller shades being the scarcer.

Coming to the 2d. surcharge on "Drie pence" (page 19), you make a curious mistake in stating that "The wide 2 variety is the common one." The catalogues are quite correct and I'm afraid you are at fault. I have specimens of the inverted surcharge, as well as two specimens of double surcharge, but whether the latter (which is not catalogued) was due to double printing or are just "spring-backs" it is impossible to say. I think the curly tail variety should be catalogued, as the figure 2 is utterly distinct and from a different font. The figure 2 is also found without the stroke to the tail, both in the wide and narrow figures.

A further variety of the 1d. on the 3d. which you do not mention is the raised d—I have two specimens—and of course there is the rare variety of double surcharge, the one being the spaced 1d. Apart from these there are minor varieties of type.

The 2½d. on 3d.—Page 21. Of the 10 varieties you mention I have not come across 1, 2, 3, 5, 6, 7, 8, 9, or 10. I have something resembling 9. A good variety not mentioned is the very large period. I have also period split into two—like a colon.

Large ½d. surcharge on 3d.: Page 24, re method used to produce doubles. I must agree with Africa III. and de Raay against you, viz.: that these were produced by hand-stamp, for the simple reason that the extra surcharge is seldom upright, but nearly always slanting and sometimes almost diagonal. The triples that I have only show one surcharge distinct (presumably the final one applied), and the other two either faint or incomplete, such as having the figure 2 of the fraction missing.

(To be continued).

GREAT BRITAIN.

New issues: Ninepenny, 10d., and 1s. values of the new K.G. VI issue appeared last month. The design is the same as that of the 7d. and 8d., but the colours are stronger.

Centenary stamps: The Postmaster-General has announced that there will be four commemorative stamps to celebrate the centennial of the introduction of stamps next year. The values will be ½d., 1d., 1½d., and 2d. Designs for these have been invited from about thirty artists.

IMPORTANT ANNOUNCEMENT

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begs to announce the purchase of the world famous collection formed by

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President of the Royal Philatelic Society, London.

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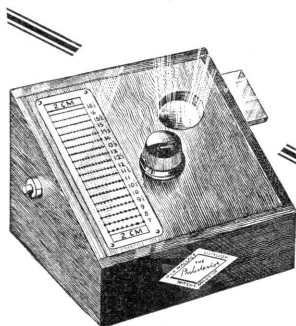
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COLLECTORS' WANTS AND OFFERS

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"Specimen Stamps."—Great Britain, British Colonial and Foreign wanted.
Saul A. Klagsbrun, P.O. Box 846, Pretoria.

Orange Free State.—Approval selections wanted. Must be fine, well-centred copies.
William Redford, Box 7012, Johannesburg.

Transvaal in particular and old Southern Africans generally, wanted by:
A. E. Basden, Box 238, Pretoria.

Society News

EAST LONDON PHILATELIC SOCIETY.

President, Jas. Paviour; Hon. Secretary, S. F. Fowler, P.O. Box 168. Meetings, First Thursdays, Colosseum Tea Lounge, at 8 p.m.

The annual general meeting held on the 6th April was well attended.

A long discussion took place over the resolution of Congress to form itself into the Federation of Philatelic Societies of Southern Africa, and ultimately it was agreed unanimously to support the resolution of the Philatelic Society of Natal.

The election of officers took place, and resulted in the following appointments:

President, Mr. Jas. Paviour.

Vice-President, Mr. D. S. Ritter.

Hon. Secretary and Treasurer, Mr. S. F. Fowler (re-elected).

Committee, the President, Vice-President, Secretary and Treasurer, Messrs. T. A. Harper, C. H. Thornton, and J. P. Shingler.

Press Correspondent, Mr. J. P. Shingler.

The retiring President, Mr. W. S. Hoal, was elected a Life Member of the Society, and sincere tributes were paid to his good services, and the hope expressed that his health would improve.

Mr. Hoal, who was present, expressed his appreciation, and said he would endeavour to attend meetings whenever he was able.

Light refreshments were served, our only active lady member, Mrs. Watts, acting as hostess.

Mr. Geoffrey Thornton then gave a most interesting and comprehensive display of stamps on which various types of ships and sailing craft appeared.

The attendance at this meeting augurs well for the future, and it appears that the decision to hold the meetings in the very centre of the town is a wise one.

J.P.S.

THE PHILATELIC SOCIETY OF RHODESIA.

President, N. Rose; Hon. Secretary, S. A. Rowe, P.O. Box 601, Bulawayo. Meetings, 1st Tuesdays, Vacuum Oil Company's Offices, Mutual Buildings, 8.15 p.m.

Just too late for inclusion last month the President, Mr. N. Rose, wrote that "What with the excessive rains, elections, and general unsettled conditions, meetings have of late been so quiet as not to be worth reporting."

Recently, however, they have awakened from their spell of hibernation as is shown by the following report of an open meeting called by the Society:

"The meeting was called with the idea of widening the activities of the society and

bringing together in their mutual interest all those who collect stamps, whether beginners, general, or special collectors.

Mr. N. Rose, President of the Society, presided, and briefly outlined its activities. He explained that there was an idea abroad that members of the Philatelic Society were all too 'high-brow' for the average collector, a myth which he hoped to explode. It was the object of the society to foster interest in stamps wherever that interest was to be found and with that object in mind, the society was considering having meetings to cater especially for the average general collector.

A general discussion followed, and it was finally agreed unanimously that those present would attend the next meeting of the society, when the evening would be devoted to stamps, with a minimum of business. Several of those present signified their desire to become members."

It is recorded with much regret that they have lost two of their most active members, both past Presidents of the Society.

Mr. Douglas H. Burn died suddenly early in April. He had been at a meeting of the Society less than a week before, and had then appeared to be in good health and most cheerful. His philatelic interests were mainly in Bechuanaland and Niger Coast.

Mr. B. L. R. Fox, who specialized in Rhodesia, has retired from the Railway service on pension, and is going to live in England.

At the May meeting, the President in the chair, some 30 members and visitors attended.

Letters asking for exchange correspondence were placed on the table.

The Chairman bade a very hearty welcome to the great number of visitors, and expressed the hope not only that they would enjoy the evening but that their interest in stamps and philatelic matters would be stimulated, and that they would strengthen the Society by becoming members. The evening had been arranged especially for the visitors, and purely business matters would not be discussed.

Mr. F. W. Porter next gave a short but most instructive address on the mounting of stamps, illustrated by a beautifully mounted set of Malta, which evoked warm praise.

This was followed by a general discussion on the merits and demerits of squared and ready printed albums.

Mr. Stephenson proposed a vote of thanks to Mr. Porter for his very interesting address, and this was seconded and passed unanimously.

Several interesting, as well as some of the more common stamps, were put up for auction, and some keen bidding followed. A number of pieces changed hands in this way.

Selected pages from the Society's collection of mint Rhodesians were laid out on the table, and attracted considerable attention, especially the higher values B.S.A. Company stamps. Mr. Preston, one of the visitors, also had a remarkable collection of British Colonials on view, which would have taken several even-

ings to properly appreciate. Many laudatory remarks were passed at the quality and range of his material.

The following applications for membership were submitted: D. A. Allan, I. Isaaacson, J. Ginsberg, E. Hewson Silcock, A. Clegg, A. Morgan, and E. R. Lancaster.

Their election was proposed by Mr. Rowe, seconded by Mr. Swire Thompson, and passed unanimously.

LAVRON.

PHILATELIC SOCIETY OF JOHANNESBURG.

President, J. W. K. Schofield; *Hon. Sec.*, F. E. Ingham, Box 4967. *Meetings*, 2nd Tuesdays, Sanlam Buildings, 29, Loveday Street, 7.45 p.m.

At the April meeting, Dr. J. Harvey Pirie was in the chair. Although the attendance was smaller than usual, those present all seemed to enjoy the evening very much, particularly in view of Mr. Mark Rose's interesting and rather enlightening exhibit of American Commemoratives, and his lively and humorous comments about the stamps shown. Actually Mr. Rose's paper is well worth reading, so that it will be published more or less in full in a subsequent issue of the *South African Philatelist*.

Three new members were elected to the Society, namely, Messrs. G. N. Gilbert, J. Shepherd, and C. J. Scholtz.

A request for co-operation from all societies was read from the Royal Philatelic Society in connection with the 1940 Exhibition to take place, beginning the 6th May, in London, to commemorate the 100th anniversary of the adhesive postage stamp. This Society voted to support the Royal Philatelic Society in this effort.

Among the items auctioned at this meeting were the new Great Britain 7d. and 8d.; the new stamp of Eire commemorating the 150th anniversary of the signing of the Constitution of the U.S.A.; a very pretty set of Gibraltar up to and including the £1 value, and a New Zealand 5s. official.

Some members' offerings were auctioned, and went at bargain prices. These comprised mostly stamps of Montenegro and Spain.

At this meeting the members took decisions with regard to the various resolutions considered by the last Congress in Capetown, so as to put this Society's preferences in regard to the various resolutions on record.

At the May meeting Dr. Pirie was again in the chair in view of the protracted absence from Johannesburg of our President.

It was announced that this Society had decided to give a gold medal to the Royal Philatelic Society, to be awarded as they see fit at the Centenary Exhibition, which will take place in London next May.

It was also announced that this Society would be the guests of the East Rand Society on May 11.

Among the new issues auctioned were the last South-West Africa Voortrekker sets, and also a beautiful long set of the Somaliland Protectorate from $\frac{1}{2}$ anna to 5 rupees, and another British set recently issued by Cyprus.

One of the items of interest circulated among those present was a cover from Tristan da Cunha bearing St. Helena stamps.

Mr. J. W. Hughes was elected a member of this Society.

Again there were a few inexpensive members' offerings auctioned, which went at bargain prices.

It was announced that the June meeting, which will be held on the 13th, will be the annual general meeting, when the election of officers for the following fiscal year will take place. All members are urged to be present at that meeting, when the Society's collection will be exhibited.

Everybody agreed that the three exhibits tabled and papers read provided a most gratifying evening. Mr. I. Isaacs tabled a very representative collection of Newfoundland, and introduced this with some very interesting and instructive historical and philatelic facts about Newfoundland. Especially should be mentioned in his exhibit several fine Trans-Atlantic covers. The companion second exhibit of the evening was presented by Mr. A. F. Johnstone, and consisted of a fine display of the stamps of Nova Scotia.

Mr. B. Simpkins showed a very nice collection of Orange Free State stamps, all picked as regards condition, and including among them some remarkably fine specimens of the early numeral postmarks.

As usual, Mr. Godfrey tabled several items of especial interest to airmail collectors. Most of these consisted of covers salvaged from planes wrecked or burned, and were accompanied by interesting accounts of the particular flights in question and with illustrations of the planes carrying these "crash" covers.

H.E.B.

EAST RAND PHILATELIC SOCIETY.

President, H. Suklje; *Hon. Sec.*, J. Doyle, 41 Rose Deep, Germiston. *Meetings*, 2nd Thursday, Hotel Cecil, Benoni.

At the May meeting members of the Johannesburg Society were the guests and provided the evening's entertainment.

After the welcome and the preliminary business, items of interest were shown. Mr. Reckling, new Holland issue; Mr. Smithers, Trans-Canada First Flight covers; and Mr. Suklje, new 9d., 10d., and 1s. Great Britain.

Dr. Harvey Pirie then took the chair on behalf of the visitors, apologies having been received for the absence of the President and Vice-President due to illness and vacation leave.

Mr. Smithers was the first exhibitor, and he showed a collection of modern Australia. This commenced with the 1d. and 2d. issue of May, 1937, and all the succeeding issues, including the 5s., 10s., and £1. This was a mint

collection and all the items were in pairs or blocks with marginal inscription.

Mr. Houbert then exhibited a very fine collection of Transvaal. The first issues were well represented, mint and used. There were many interesting varieties, Double and Inverted surcharges and overprints, E.R.I. and V.R.I. no-stop varieties and a Penny Commemorative overprinted V.R.I. 3d. The exhibit concluded with the two King Edward VII issues in blocks of four.

The next exhibitor was Mr. Isaacs. Prior to showing his Newfoundlands he read a most interesting paper on the country and its issues. This collection was very comprehensive, including the Cabot set, the 1911 Coronation issue, the Caribou set, the three Publicity sets, all the Air Mail sets, and the Sir Humphrey Gilbert set, all mint and complete. It then concluded with a DO-X cover and some interesting Internal First Flight Covers.

The last exhibit of the evening was provided by Dr. Harvey Pirie. This was a collection of Bechuanaland. Apart from the straight-forward collection, there were some very interesting varieties. There was the Cape Penny black with a double overprint, one in red and one in black; the "ritish" error, the "B" in the overprint missing, no dots to the "i" in the overprint, the "o" in Protectorate missing, and more such items. Among the covers there was a Union 1d., a 4d. G.B. bisect, and the Military Overprint for the 1885 expedition used in 1895. The last were the specimen stamps. On many of these the overprint "Specimen" was blacked-out, something which has not been seen before, and for which no one could give any explanation.

All the exhibits were thoroughly enjoyed by everyone, and after a pleasant tea interval the meeting came to an end after the Chairman expressed a sincere vote of thanks and appreciation to the members of the Johannesburg Society, and to which Dr. Harvey Pirie suitably replied.

H.S.

PHILATELIC SOCIETY OF NATAL.

President, H. H. Hurst; *Hon. Secretary*, Mrs. Gwen Reed, P.O. Box 588, Durban. *Meetings*, 1st Wednesdays, Durban Publicity Bureau, West Street.

The May meeting took place on Wednesday, the 3rd of that month, and, by kind permission of the Mayor, was held in the Mayor's Parlour, City Hall.

There were present 84 members and visitors.

The meeting took the form of a special invitation night. Members had sent in the names and addresses of friends interested in stamp collecting, and probable members, and invitations were issued to these individuals.

Hundreds of people in Durban are collecting stamps in dilettante fashion, with no real appreciation for the finer points of the hobby. To convert them from stamp collectors to

philatelists was one of the objects of this special meeting.

The ordinary business was suspended. Six new members were duly elected, and eleven proposals for membership were received during the evening, the final elections to come up at the June meeting.

Mr. Percy C. Bishop, a past president of the Society, contributed an address entitled: "Philately, the Supreme Hobby." He embodied in this some reminiscences of the earlier days of philately, and, coming to present-day methods of collecting and the prevalence of specialisation, he strongly urged new recruits to the hobby to start as general collectors for the sake of the educational value of a study of world issues. In this way a sound knowledge was gained of all variations of printing, paper, watermark and perforation, many of which were peculiar to particular countries or groups.

In connection with frauds, forgeries and fakes, he recalled the days when, even in Great Britain, there was no actual law against stamp forgery. At that time a small firm of stamp dealers in the heart of the city of London displayed in their shop window a sign reading: "We are suppliers of forged and faked stamps to the nobility and gentry. Fakes in great variety on show within." That state of affairs was carried on with impunity until one day the British authorities awoke to the fact that governments as well as philatelists could be defrauded by the counterfeiter of stamps. It was pointed out to them that a clever forgery of the one shilling green British stamp had probably cheated the Treasury out of large sums of money. Thereafter the forging of postage stamps, whether current or obsolete, became very definitely a criminal offence, and the partners in that small city stamp shop were arrested and sentenced to varying terms of hard labour.

Mr. Bishop made a strong point of the necessity to join a philatelic society if one wanted to make any real headway with one's hobby. He spoke of the early history of the Philatelic Society of Natal, and eulogised its many achievements in the way of pioneer work for the philately of Southern Africa.

A debate took place on the age-old controversy, "Used vs. Unused," Mr. H. de Terrason championing the cause of the "Used," and Mr. V. B. Crockett the "Unused." Members and visitors took part in the debate which followed.

The second half of the programme was taken up with the display of the specialised collection of the stamps of Natal formed by the President, Mr. H. H. Hurst. The *pièce de resistance* was his exceedingly fine tete-beche pair of the 3d. embossed, and coming to more modern stamps a recent addition was a used block of four of the 1908-9 £1 purple and black on red with the "Parcels, Durban" dated cancellation.

G.R.

ORANGE FREE STATE AND BASUTOLAND PHILATELIC SOCIETY.

President, F. Carter; *Hon. Secretary*, O. J. Carey, Box 702, Bloemfontein. *Meetings*, 2nd Fridays, Public Library, Bloemfontein, 8 p.m.

At the May meeting, Mrs. I. Bogeman, who had been overseas on holiday for several months, was welcomed back to the Society by the Chairman, Mr. J. Levy.

As the Secretary, Mr. F. Knight, had been transferred to Mafeking, Mr. Carey was elected to carry on the secretaryship till the end of the year.

Mr. J. Levy displayed his comprehensive collection of Newfoundland stamps. All the stamps were in excellent condition, and except for a few of the earlier issues, the collection, according to catalogue, was complete. Several entires featured in the collection. It was a great pity that the attendance was not larger as the display certainly deserved to be seen by all keen philatelists in Bloemfontein.

PRETORIA PHILATELIC SOCIETY.

President, A. E. Basden; *Hon. Sec.*, H. A. Wager, P.O. Box 514; *Meetings*, 1st and 3rd Mondays, Technical College, 8 p.m.

May 1.—Mr. Hawke pointed out the interesting matter on air mails to be found in the Aerofield magazines which were available for members.

An auction sale of stamps was the feature of the evening. About 150 lots had been prepared and these were placed on view during the interval. Mr. Hawke acted as auctioneer and a fair number of lots were disposed of.

May 15.—Mr. Giovanetti read a short but interesting paper on stampless covers of S.W.A., dealing chiefly with the time of the German occupation. They were mostly letters from soldiers in the field. A fine display of covers accompanied the paper.

Mr. Baxter gave a short talk on a large number of new issues. He then went on to give a brief summary of the interesting history of Sarawak as ruled by white Rajahs. He also described the chief issues of the stamps of that country.

Mr. Obermeyer tabled his fine collection of the stamps of the Transvaal.

H.A.W.

PORT ELIZABETH PHILATELIC SOCIETY.

President, G. K. Forbes; *Hon. Secretary*, C. W. Sheffield, c/o P.O. Box 88, Port Elizabeth. *Meetings*: Nearest Tuesday to 15th of month.

The Annual General Meeting was held on 16th May, and was well attended. The Secretary's report revealed that the past year had been a most successful one, both as far as membership was concerned and financially. The former was now 47, and it is hoped that the coming twelve months will see the half-

century passed. Philately in these parts seems to be taking a turn for the better; meetings are being well attended, and the hobby rapidly becoming an attraction for enthusiasts. At present the Society's membership roll is the highest since its foundation, and its financial position is sound.

A note of regret is recorded in the transfer of our esteemed Exchange Superintendent, Mr. C. A. Larsen, to Bloemfontein. Mr. Larsen was an indefatigable and tireless Superintendent, and the present flourishing position of our Packet Department is entirely due to his efforts. In Mr. E. C. Slatem, however, we have a worthy successor, and all communications in respect to this Department should be addressed to 73, Havelock Street, Port Elizabeth.

A most interesting syllabus has been drawn up for the ensuing year, one of the items mentioned being an exhibition of the Quartz Lamp and a lecture thereon by an expert.

The Election of Officers resulted in re-election of most of the principals, but the old "Standing" Committee was replaced by an entirely new set of five young members, who no doubt will make things hum before long. We are indeed looking forward to a lively time in the near future.

There was no display at this meeting, the agenda being too lengthy for this customary item.

*Have you started
to enjoy*

**WAYSIDE
MIXTURE?**

*If not, you
are missing
something!*

●
A PRODUCT OF JOHN CHAPMAN
