

The South African Philatelist

Proprietors and Publishers:

The Philatelic Federation of Southern Africa

Editorial Board: Dr. J. H. HARVEY PIRIE (Chairman), Dr. T. B. BERRY,
W. N. SHEFFIELD, assisted by S. L. CROZET.

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

Vol. 37. No. 12.

DECEMBER, 1961

Whole Number 440

SOUTH AFRICAN NOTES

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

Marginal Green Smudge of the 2½c Value.

Our November Notes drew attention to the marginal green smudge appearing on the bottom right corner of the 2½c sheet printed from Cylinders Nos. S 15 and S 18.

Further investigation of this characteristic has not only confirmed the previous observation that the printing on watermarked paper was made prior to that on the unwatermarked variety, but also that this flaw was of a progressive nature, in that, it started as a small green dot on the watermarked paper printing, developed into a faint broken green line, and then assumed the well-defined smudge in which form it appears at present in both the watermarked and unwatermarked-paper printings.

Should this process continue, the smudge will grow, and this condition should be borne in mind when examining sheets of the future printings.

Incidentally the green smudge on the watermarked paper printing is less common than its counterpart appearing on the unwatermarked, in fact this variety may be placed in the scarce category.

Suspected Break-up of the 10c Cylinder.

There have been three printings to date of the 10c value from Cyls. Nos. 101 and 114:

- (a) 31st May, 1961, on Arms watermarked paper and without sheet serial numbers.
- (b) July 1961, on similar paper, but with four figure red sheet serial numbers inscribed twice on its bottom margin.

- (c) October 1961, on similar paper and sheet number characteristics but with small, elongated brown smudges appearing on the sheet margins, and suggestive, in shape and character, of a possible break-up of the cylinder, through the chromium plating peeling off the core.

The marks appear on the right margin opposite Row 3; in the right corner of the sheet near stamp Row 5/20, and also on the bottom margin, below stamp Row 5/16. They are worthy of observing.

These are acquired cylinder flaws, and should not be confused with the small brown dot on the extreme right of the bottom margin which has been found in all printings to date.

Incidentally, this dot may change its position to the extreme left edge of the bottom margin, depending upon the position at which the sheet may be guillotined from the web.

The 1c Value.

Satisfactory determination of the printing process of the 1c value, Cyls. Nos. 25 and 265, still continues to evade observers, and an appeal is made for assistance in the matter.

(a) Several A and B panes, printed on both watermarked and unwatermarked paper, have been found among normally processed ones with their vertical margins cut at an angle, indicating that the panes, after having been printed in double die format, were subsequently divided by apparently an external guillotining device in a manner simulating that used for the separation of Panes A, B, C and D of the first printing of the 2½c denomination.

It is difficult to explain why the margins of some panes were cut at an angle while

others are not, and what conditions prevailed at the Printings Works under which watermarked and unwatermarked paper were apparently used at the same time.

(b) An opinion has been expressed that the information originally received that Pane A was positioned on the left of Pane B in the double-die printing process of the 1c value, and viewed as the sheets come off the printing press, is not correct.

Various tests by means of the measurement of the margins, alignment of the sheets etc., have failed to give a satisfactory answer, and thus it would appear that the only method of accurately determining this condition would be to view a "remnant arrow"—produced by the oblique guillotining of a sheet's vertical margin.

It has not been possible, as yet, to procure this characteristic, but should any reader possess the item, its loan for study purposes would be greatly appreciated.

Scratch Marks on the 12½c value.

Supposedly Doctor Blade scratch marks, similar to those on the 2½c value printed by the Albertina Machine, have been found on the 12½c denomination, Cyls. Nos. 118, 106 and 30.

Their origin is obscure, and it has been suggested that they may be the result of a "nicked" doctor-blade, or sedimentation of the ink, the particles of which collect below the thin doctor-blade and are drawn across the cylinder during its scavenging action.

A Warning!

At a recent meeting of the South African Study Circle members were urged to exercise care when purchasing "smudged" or "interrupted" printed items of the Republic stamps, particularly of the 2½c value, as a number of these "varieties" can be "home made."

3c Marginal Marks.

Our attention has been drawn to black "ghost" marks, of a screened nature, appearing recently in the spaces between the single line broken bars on the top margin of the 3c sheet, Cyls. Nos. S 16 and 21.

Their origin is unknown, but it has been suggested that they are the result of an insufficiently "cleaned" cylinder which had been used for the previous printing, the etching of which, having not been completely obliterated, was now able, due to

wear of the cylinder, to pick up a very thin film of black ink and so produce the "ghost" effect.

Christmas Stamps.

The 1961 issue of the Republic's Christmas Seals, illustrated hereunder, went on sale on the 6th November and will remain available until the 24th December, 1961.



The stamps, which are printed for use as seals on mail matter and have no value for the prepayment of postage, are made up in sheets and bookletform. The proceeds from their sale go to support Sunshine Homes in which children who have been in contact with tuberculosis are cared for.

The stamp design, in blue and red, depicts the "Cross of Lorraine" on its left aspect, the inscriptions "Christmas Greetings" at its top margin, and "South Africa 1961" on its lower right quarter. They are prepared unilingually.

The sheet format is horizontal, comprising six rows of 20 units each, totalling 120 units per sheet, but to decimalise the issue, the third and fourth horizontal rows contain an alternate "blank," there being ten "blanks" in each of these rows, with the result that the sheet consists of one hundred seals of a nominal value of 1c each. The "blanks," unilingually inscribed, are printed with a large exclamation mark in red, and a token acknowledgment "We thank you."

Two large and solid blue arrows, of a type not normally used in stamp production, are positioned midway on the top and bottom margins of the sheet, which are imperforate, while the side margins are perforated through. Four figure red sheet numbers occur twice on the bottom margin.

The stamp format is vertical, and the printing was made on unwatermarked paper, the gum of which is of a yellowish nature.

Union B 2 Booklet.

Referring to an entry on page 240 of the Union Golden Jubilee Catalogue, that no

unexploded copy of Booklet B 2 is known, Mr. C. E. Sherwood, of Sale, reports that at a recent Exhibition of the S.A. Collector's Society, at London, an item of this description was viewed.

The B 2 Booklet was not exploded, and contained one complete pane of the $\frac{1}{2}$ d. and 1d. value, a vertical pair of the 1d., plus the seven waxed interleaves.

Mr. E. B. Dane, of Warwickshire, is to be congratulated upon being the fortunate owner of this very desirable item.

AIR MAIL NOTES

(I. H. C. Godfrey)

AEROGRAMMES UNION OF SOUTH AFRICA

5 Cent "Greetings" Aerogramme—Provisional Issue (14 Feb. 1961).

Two major varieties of the surcharged 5c on 6d. sheets (Type I) have been reported:

- (a) The "5c", instead of being on the imprinted stamp, appears in the top centre of the gummed flap, completely off the face of the aerogramme. (Two copies known).
(b) Double surcharge. (Nine copies known).

2½ Cent Surcharged Provisional Issues (14 Feb. 1961).

Two different small (4 mm.) formes appear to have been used in surcharging the 3d. "Rhino" sheets, and not only the one illustrated in the May issue of the "Philatelist." At first it was thought that the differences were due to overinking. Subsequently, however, complete packets have been found in which the second Type is constant: the fraction is malformed, slopes upwards and touches the "c". (Illustration).

2½c

A Correction.

The date of issue of the Inland Air Letter I.A.L. 8, reported in the April issue of the "S.A. Philatelist" on p. 61, as being March 20th, 1961, should read March 18th.

REPUBLIC OF SOUTH AFRICA

Third Type of 5 cent Definitive "Baobab" Aerogramme—19 September, 1961.

The sheet has been reissued on "Titanian" blue paper, instead of on white, as in the

first two issues, giving the aerogramme an entirely different appearance. A blue overlay covers the face of the sheet. Two varieties exist:—

- (a) Due probably to a crack in the cylinder used for the overlay, a blue horizontal line appears about half way down the right hand margin of the imprinted stamp; a small blue mark below the "e" of "Aerogramme", and another on the back fold, all constant.
(b) Darker blue overlay in which the defects in Type (a) have been eliminated. This sheet was first reported towards the end of October.

"Cracked Cylinder" variety on Type II—5c "Baobab" aerogramme.

Identical flaws, as described under Type III (a) . . . Blue horizontal line half way down the right margin of the imprinted stamp; small blue marks below the "e" of "Aerogramme" and on the back fold . . . have been seen on the gray overlaid sheet which was issued on 31st May, 1961. Very few of these sheets seem to have been found up to the time of writing.

Second Type of 2½ cent Definitive "Groot Constantia" Aerogramme—19 September, 1961.

Identical to Type I issued on Republic Day—31st May 1961—but printed on "Titanian" blue paper WITHOUT OVERLAY. Consequently the imprinted stamp has no simulated perforations. Indications are that a very small printing was made as the issue was superseded in less than a month.

Third Type of 2½ cent Definitive "Groot Constantia" Aerogramme—16 October, 1961.

On "Titanian" blue paper, as Type II, but WITH BLUE OVERLAY. The imprinted stamp has simulated perforations and a pale blue vertical band emphasising the airmail label.

CHANGE IN DESIGN OF OVERSEAS AIR LETTER SHEETS

In April, 1960, South Africa changed the folding arrangement of its Aerogrammes from the earlier, cumbersome 3-fold type in use since 1941, to be more convenient 2-fold design as used in Great Britain and most countries in the world.

On July 13th last year the British Post Office experimented with a new design, the two printed sections of the sheet being reversed so that the "Sender's name and

Address" appeared in the upper, instead of the lower panel, and with the gummed flap at the bottom of the sheet. It was thought that the new arrangement would be more convenient for typewriter use.

After a year's trial, the experimental sheets seem to have met with public approval and, in consequence, as from September, 1961 all aerogrammes printed in Great Britain will be of the new design. It may be assumed that the change will also affect the sheets of the three High Commission Territories and, perhaps, South Africa will eventually follow suit.

JUBILEX 61

"REPORT OF THE JURY"

Approximately one hundred and sixty collections were entered in the competitive section under eleven groups including one for Juveniles. The number of exhibits is believed to be a record for a South African National Exhibition. The standard of the collections was high. As a result the Jubilex Committee was asked for a few more awards in some classes, which were readily forthcoming. Judging was strict, done carefully with full discussions when doubt arose. The awards were made on unanimous decisions by the Jury.

This body would like to convey its sincere thanks to Mr. H. R. Savage, who acted as its Secretary, for the marvellous assistance he rendered at every phase of its work and for the precise and accurate manner in which he attended to every detail. The Jury wishes also to thank the Exhibition Committee for the fine arrangements made for its comfort and especially the Chairman, Mr. A. G. Versino for his help.

The Jury met during four days and comfortably completed its task during that period. All members expressed their pleasure at the fine and harmonious spirit which prevailed throughout their deliberations.

If a criticism could be voiced about the collections submitted for judging it is perhaps the fact that some collectors had submitted the exact same collections as on previous occasions without any apparent additions. The Jury also felt that it would have liked to have had some means at its

disposal by which it could have made known to some exhibitors the shortcomings in their collections and it is hoped that those who did not receive the awards they expected, might find such weaknesses when critically examining their collections.

Mr. S. Legator had been invited to serve on the Jury but was regrettably unable to come, the Jury therefore consisted of eleven members only.—G. BULBRING, Chairman.

A VISITOR LOOKS AT JUBILEX

This year's National Philatelic Exhibition held in conjunction with 1961 Congress was staged at Cape Town, and celebrated the Golden Jubilee of the continuous existence of the Royal Philatelic Society of Cape Town.

Like all good things that come and go, this year's Exhibition was bound to please some and not others. If I may offer one small criticism, it is that the new (to me) arrangement of showing Exhibits in the alphabetical order of the owners' names instead of putting all entries of the same country together is a mistake. It renders it far too difficult for the average visitor to compare similar collections and to assess the reasons for different awards given to exhibits which appear to be alike when viewed at a considerable distance apart.

With regard to the stamps themselves, I was most impressed by the unusually high standard for a National Exhibition. Only finance could have prevented a much higher award being given to many Exhibits and forced a measure of competition for the higher awards made available to the Jury. A feature of the Exhibits was the high proportion of "foreign" collections when compared with previous Exhibitions, which have tended in the past to be very largely from the S.G. "Red" Catalogue.

With such a wealth of excellent material to choose from, it is impossible to pick out for notice every item that merits such distinction, and I can only apologise to the many omissions and blame "space" for them.

Starting with stamps from the "Red", I particularly liked a Cape cover with two singles of the 1d. on deeply blued and a 4d. on white used for the 6d. rate and a very fine block of 4 of the same 1d. used on

cover. A page of 4d. "Woodblocks" could also hardly fail to attract the eye of any philatelist. Another nice item was a "pre-stamp" cover from Potchefstroom to Graaff-Reinet dated October 3, 1865, while a vertical strip of 4 from the left of the sheet of the rare Mount Currie Express did not fail to excite my envy.

Among many Natal "Die Proofs" including values to £20, I saw a lovely used copy of the Q.V. 5/- marone with watermark sideways—a truly scarce item. There was a very fine show of India used in Aden with 124 postmark and an almost perfect copy of the Ceylon 6d. on blued with this postmark, which is the only known example. Talking of Ceylon, a Non-Competitive Exhibit included among many other lovely items, a mint block of 34 of the imperf. 2d. and the 36th stamp originally cut from the same sheet, and the largest known used block of any value—a block of 20 of the same denomination. Other rarities from this section of the Catalogue which I noticed, included such gems as Nyasaland 1907 2d. and 4d. MCA mint marginal copies showing the Jubilee line at right, B.C.A. First Issue £10 fine used and the 2d. bisect of 1895 on cover.

There were an unusually large number of entries from G.B., and these were replete with scarce and rare items, among which I noticed a mint marginal strip of 4 of the imperf. 1d. red-brown with full marginal inscription, Plate number 138 in Alphabet II, a pair of the 6d. Embossed with large margins and inverted watermark, P.B. from the 3rd state of Plate V in red-brown, the Union Jack re-entry from Plate 75, a series of mint blocks showing the dividing rosette from stamps printed with Alphabet III and a fine selection of the elusive "firms' underprints." A study of the 1d. lilac of 1881 was a remarkable piece of "original" research which fully deserved the Silver-Gilt Medal awarded to it.

Included in a "Thematic" collection I found some choice copies of early Mauritius, 2d. 1848, 1859 Lapirot and 1859 Greek Border, besides an unused copy of the rare New Brunswick 1/-.

Among the "foreigners" I was particularly impressed by a magnificent study of the 15c Italy of May 1863, which showed all the transfer varieties. Some remarkable specimens of early German States included among a wealth of material beautiful copies of the first issue Brunswick. German Colo-

nials included Kamerun S.G. 29, a used block of 6 and a used single and two used copies of the 5 marks S.G. 31.

A country not often seen at Exhibitions locally is Turkey, in fact I do not remember ever having seen an Exhibit before in South Africa, and this year we were treated to an extremely fine lot of the stamps of this very difficult country. The collection included many covers and scarce and interesting postmarks and was unlucky not to receive a far higher award. Another collection which deserved more interest than it aroused was a study of Roman States among which were many choice items such as covers and bisects. A country seldom exhibited here in South Africa is Monaco, and this year a very nice collection was on view. I particularly noticed the 1 and 5 franc values of the first issue and a very fine range of the Postal Stationery.

A good range of the difficult post-1939-45 war Polish Provisionals was also noted together with an unusual display of the German issues for German-occupied Europe.

A nice copy of the New York Postmaster and a pair of the 1847 X cents U.S.A. shared the highlight of a collection of that country with a mint block of S.G. 30a.

The forerunners of Israel were the excuse for another show of Turkish stamps, this time with Palestinian postmarks from a variety of different Post Offices.

A collection of "World Number Ones" was remarkable for the specialised studies of many of the stamps included, especially N.S.W. "Sydney Views," Victoria "Half-Lengths", Spain etc., and the wealth of rarities not usually seen outside International Exhibitions, and which included Sweden, Roumania and France "tête-bêche" among many other equally elusive items.

Two other countries seldom exhibited in this part of the world were Siam and Danish West Indies, the former including many great rarities and much original research, while the latter was noteworthy for the mint corner block of the Imperf issue of May 1866 from both Plate I and Plate II.

Last but by no means least, I was favourably impressed by an Exhibit of G.B. Air-Mail Stationery, including a 6d. sheet with "cut inverted," a collection of Canadian Semi-Official Air "Labels" including many "flown covers."

THEMATICS AT JUBILEX 61

(Continued from p. 199 of Nov. issue).

Several exhibitors were really interested to know how they could improve their collections and a few points can be given which will be possibly of interest. Some were fortunate to see a collection (Silver Award) from the U.S.A. dealing with "Signatures on Stamps." Here the genuine signatures had been obtained, which was no mean effort. In some cases philatelic information was very neatly given and briefly showing use of catalogues. As there are now many handbooks giving checklists, it is recommended that before starting on a theme or topic, it is just as well to have a fairly full checklist so that the topic can be reasonably covered or theme developed.

Printing was generally good but somewhat small in a few cases and no points were reduced where typing was utilised but a few additional points given where the printing was really of a high grade. Monotony in sheets, that is repetition in format should be avoided and stamps should not be overcrowded on a sheet. However one stamp on a sheet can look very "lonely." No points were taken off where several stamps of the same design were included except where a full set of the same stamp was given and other stamps of other countries showing the same topic could have been shown. It does happen that several stamps of the same design will assist to balance up a sheet or thus leave space there for a stamp of such topic which may turn up later. The idea of combining the stamps showing Nobel prize-winners with stamps showing their activities was a novel idea.

Different sizes of sheets should be avoided in a collection—it makes for an untidy appearance—and where possible headings and general appearance of sheets should be to a similar standard, leaving for variation on the sheet for setting up of the stamps and write-up. If dealing with a town or country, it is as well not to make too far an analogy between the stamp and subject, e.g. if showing an art gallery, then only stamps showing pictures in that gallery should be shown. Where also dealing with a country this should be on a broad basis and include even stamps of other countries which show a relationship with events in the country in question. Here a lack of knowledge of material is often shown and coverage can be very poor. In some cases unrelated material

was shown, which goes against knowledge of the subject. Two exhibitors had their themes well divided up into separate sections, and another exhibit showing people had such arranged in a pleasing manner under the groups to which such individuals belong.

It was pleasing to see that there were several newcomers this year in this section and although they may not have gained an award or only received a lower award, it is hoped that they may learn from the above what is really required in a thematic collection. Where "stickers" are not philatelic and a collection is overcrowded with such items, it detracts considerably in quite a few sections of the code. In one flower collection a very great deal of research was evident and a fine selection made of stamps to illustrate same, in fact there being almost a full coverage of stamps. There is little doubt that the work of judging this section becomes more difficult each year as collections improve and collectors begin to really understand what is meant by a topical or thematic collection. It is no easy matter to set up a thematic collection as those who have done so, have found out.

It is however of great interest when judging to see the development of the older collections. Some have advanced and others have remained static. It can be safely stated that collections no longer are just "mounted" but that care and attention is lavished more year by year on thematic collections, bringing them well within the philatelic fold. It is only hoped that those who were fortunate enough to have seen the collections at JUBILEX 61 will carry away with them some real idea of what constitutes a thematic collection. It is only a pity that they cannot always see the supporting material, as it is difficult to judge merely by seeing the sheets exhibited in the frames. There is however always the possibility of getting the exhibitors to send down their collections for viewing at Society or Club meetings. —M.F.S.

OBITUARY

We have just learned as we go to press of the sudden death of Mr. C. E. Kachelhofer of Bloemfontein. A former senior postal official, he became a keen Union collector and will be much missed in this branch of philately.

CONGRESS NOTES

The 23rd Congress of the Philatelic Federation of Southern Africa was held at Cape Town from 11th to 13th October, 1961, in the City Hall, and was very well attended, with most of the 27 affiliated Societies being represented.

REPORTS OF COMMITTEES:

Between Congresses the work of the Federation is handled by the Executive and various sub-committees, and the following matters of interest were reported:

- (1) **Publications:** Between 1,400 and 1,500 copies of the Golden Jubilee Edition of the Handbook had been sold, and it was expected that the issue would be sold out early in 1962. It was not intended to reprint the Handbook. The S.A. Philatelist had been self-supporting for the current year.
- (2) **Recorded Lectures and Slides:** Much progress has been made towards the early formation of a tape recorded library of lectures on philatelic subjects, accompanied by illustrated slides. These lectures and slides will be loaned to affiliated Societies.
- (3) **Philatelic Estates:** Congress wished the services of the various committee members, available to give advice on the best method of disposing of stamps etc. in an estate, to be more widely publicised.

AWARDS:

- (1) **W. E. Lea Cup:** Rules for this cup were approved and the cup was awarded for the first time to Mr. W. N. Sheffield for his outstanding services to philately as an editor of the Golden Jubilee edition of the Handbook/Catalogue.
- (2) **The Skinner Cup** was awarded to Mr. J. Michelson.
- (3) **Congress Award:** An award was made to Dr. W. Kark for his article published in the S.A. Philatelist on the early history of Palestine stamps.

NEW OFFICE-BEARERS FOR 1961/62:

President: Mr. A. Baer (Port Elizabeth); Vice-Presidents: Cape—Mr. I. Hall; Natal—Prof. A. G. Rooks; O.F.S.—Adv. J. P. G. Eksteen; Federation—Commander C. E. D. Enoch; Transvaal—Mr. J. Michelson; Secretary/Treasurer of Federation and Business Manager of the S.A. Philatelist: Mr. S. J. Vermaak.

CONGRESS MOTIONS:

Congress approved a number of motions recommending procedures for purchasing paper for postage stamps, the appointment of a "Stamp Selection Committee," the opening of philatelic counters in the larger urban centres, and for reversing the order in which machine cancellation marks, dates and slogans or bars appear on letters.

NEXT CONGRESS:

This will be held in October, 1962, at Port Elizabeth.

The retiring president, Mr. A. Versino, paid tribute to Mr. J. Michelson for his outstanding services to Federation during the past ten years as Secretary/Treasurer and Business Manager of the S.A. Philatelist, and presented him with a wrist watch on behalf of Federation as a token of appreciation.

At the end of the most successful year in our 31 years of stamp dealing, we send our Best Wishes for Christmas and the New Year to all our customers and other friends throughout the world.

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NETHERLANDS

This year's Child Welfare series, issued on 13 November, consists of 5 stamps, dealing with the theme "The Child and Folklore Feasts. They are: 4+4c, St. Nicolaus; 6+4c, Epiphany; 8+4c, Palm Sunday; 12+9c, Whitsuntide; 30+9c, Martinmas.

THE 1911 OFFICIAL AIRMAILS OF SOUTH AFRICA

Much prominence has been given to the Indian, British and U.S.A. Official Airmail flights of 1911, but not so much to those of South Africa made in the same year.

The African Aviation Syndicate, formed in England by Capt. Guy Livingstone, Mr. Compton Paterson and the South African airman Mr. E. F. Driver, came to Cape Town towards the end of 1911. The Syndicate got the consent of the Minister of Posts and Telegraphs to convey an aerial post between Kenilworth and Muizenberg (Cape Peninsula) during "Aviation Fortnight." Mr. Driver was one of the pilots in the 1911 British Coronation Airmail.

The mail was limited to special copyright postcards showing a Bleriot monoplane in flight over Cape Town with Table Mountain in the background, and were printed by Messrs. Whitehead, Morris & Co. S.A. Ltd. (Printers and Publishers in Cape Town). These cards were sold at one shilling each at post offices, railway bookstalls and firms in Cape Town, as well as the suburbs.

The first flight was on the evening of December 27, 1911 at 7.15 p.m. (due to bad weather it was delayed from the morning) from Kenilworth Racecourse to Oldham's Field, Muizenberg, the flight taking 7½ minutes in a Bleriot machine, similar to

that used by the French airman, Beaumont, in England. The return flight was made in 12 minutes, the plane reaching Kenilworth at 8.10 p.m.

A second flight was arranged for New Year's Day but bad weather made this flight only possible on Tuesday, January 2, 1912, when the plane left again with mail at 7.38 p.m. The plane landed at Muizenberg at 7.56 p.m., having carried out an 8 minute circular trip over Kenilworth. Due to darkness and poor weather, Mr. Driver started back to Kenilworth only on January 3 but heavy fog forced him back to Muizenberg after being in the air for 35 minutes. The fabric of the plane was damaged during the flight and the machine was towed back to Kenilworth by motor lorry. Mr. Driver went with the lorry and delivered the mail to the Kenilworth Post Office.

L. A. Wyndham gives the mails carried:

- (1) First flight Kenilworth—Muizenberg, December 27. 729 cards.
- (2) First return flight Muizenberg—Kenilworth, December 27. 210 cards.
- (3) Second flight Kenilworth—Muizenberg, January 2. 1,479 cards.
- (4) Second return flight Muizenberg — Kenilworth, January 3. 179 cards.



A special commemorative rubber cachet was utilised at the post offices at Kenilworth and Muizenberg, this having two concentric circles, inscribed in the outer circle "First South African Aerial Post" and horizontally across the centre of the inner circle "Kenilworth" or "Muizenberg" with date immediately below. It would thus be seen from the number of cards carried, that items (2) and (4) are the rarer items.

- (a) The first batch of mail on the second flight from Kenilworth bear date "27 Dec. 11," instead of "30 Dec. 11" (closing date of the mail). This was noticed and rectified.
- (b) The Vacuum Oil Company used the flight for advertising on December 27 by printing on the reverse of a few cards: "New Year Greetings from the Vacuum Oil Company. This card was carried on Pegasus (Petrol). Your car will fly if you use Pegasus." Very few of these cards exist today.
- (c) Unused cards are extremely rare.
- (d) A number of cards were autographed by Mr. Driver.
- (e) A card exists addressed to Mrs. Livingstone on the first flight and signed by all members of the Syndicate.

Our thanks are due to the Royal Philatelic Society of Cape Town for permission to use this article and the accompanying illustration from the catalogue of their recent Golden Jubilee Exhibition "Jubilex 1961."

UNION OF SOUTH AFRICA

I have a large stock of straightforward items and a rather smaller stock of Varieties, major and minor, Double Papers, Arrow Blocks and the like. It is up to you to make the first move!

C. E. SHERWOOD

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G.B.

U.N.O.

24 Oct. Two stamps of 4c and 11c denominations were issued honouring the Economic Commission for Africa. They feature the headquarters building of the Commission in Addis Ababa, Ethiopia.

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SOME NOTES ON THE PROVISIONAL REGISTRATION ENVELOPES OF THE REPUBLIC

By **BREY VERMAAK**

Pending the arrival of the regular definitive issue of registration envelopes for the Republic (I have a strong dislike of the hackneyed "Registered Envelope"), and at the same time putting to good use the fairly extensive stock of Union and Decimal envelopes, the surcharging and overprinting of such stock became a matter of urgent expediency.

So we have the envelopes of the Union surcharged "5c" for the Decimal Issue and by a subsequent process overprinted "Republic of—Republiek van" (and vice versa),

or the value and wording done in one printing.

The surcharges are in black ink whilst the overprinted wording is sometimes in grey.

Types I and II in both the small and the large envelopes are without the hyphen between English and Afrikaans wording of the overprint.

Measurements are here given in millimetres.

Should readers be aware of any other types and varieties, we would be glad of sight thereof for the sake of the record.

THE SMALL ENVELOPE

Type	Printing Processes	Printing type of the "5"	Height of the "5"	Measurement between "5" and "C"	Measurement of the overprinted wording	Ink	Varieties
I	1	Italic	4	—	$\frac{3}{4} \times 25\frac{1}{2}$	B	No stop after "KRY"
II	1	Italic	$4\frac{1}{2}$	—	$\frac{3}{4} \times 25\frac{1}{2}$	B	No stop after "KRY"
III	—	—	—	—	$1\frac{1}{4} \times 26$	B	
IV	—	—	—	—	$1\frac{1}{2} \times 26\frac{1}{2}$	B	Albino.
V	—	—	—	—	$1\frac{1}{2} \times 27$	G	Language transposition of both language settings.

Type II has so far been noted in the setting Afrikaans-first only, as also the varieties of types I and II. The "albino" is on the English-first envelope, with only the slightest trace of the overprint showing. Types III, IV and V are on the definitive of the Decimal Issue.

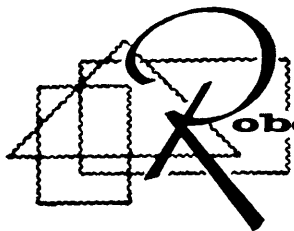
THE LARGE ENVELOPE

I	2	Italic	4	$\frac{1}{4}$	$\frac{3}{4} \times 25\frac{1}{2}$	G	
II	1	Italic	4	$\frac{1}{4}$	$\frac{3}{4} \times 25\frac{1}{2}$	B	
III	1	Gothic	$4\frac{1}{4}$	1	$1\frac{1}{2} \times 26\frac{1}{4}$	B	
IV	2	Bold	$4\frac{3}{4}$	$\frac{1}{4}$	$1\frac{1}{2} \times 26\frac{1}{4}$	B	Double surcharge; surcharge and overprint at times superimposed; overprint above surcharge.
V	2	Gothic	5	$\frac{1}{2}$	$1\frac{1}{2} \times 26\frac{1}{4}$	B	

Type I has so far been noted in the setting Afrikaans-first only and types II and III in English-first only.

THE RUBBER STAMPS

It is quite clear that there was no intention or instruction that philatelic postal stationery was to be "overprinted" with rubber stamps and consequently registration envelopes (and air letter forms) so treated with a divergence of rubber stamps in purple and black, have no right of existence and no philatelic status whatsoever.



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PHILATELIC SOCIETIES POTTED HISTORIES OF IN SOUTHERN AFRICA

By J. H. HARVEY PIRIE

(Continued from p. 211 of Nov. issue).

1955. Midlands Stamp Club (Gwelo, S. Rhodesia).

Constituted on 13 December, 1955, with Madame Claire Birsén as the first President. Meets on 2nd Wednesdays in the Youth Hall, but has occasional joint meetings with the Mashonaland Society. In 1959 had a special meeting and exhibition in Selukwe. The Hon. Sec./Treasurer is Miss M. Aberdeen, P.O. Box 139, Gwelo. (See S.A. Ph. Vol. 32, 1956, p. 54 and Vol 35, 1959, p. 202).

1956. Society of Israel Philately—Johannesburg.

Formed in July, 1956, with Mr. Leo Buchen as first Chairman. Affiliated with the Federation in June, 1957. (See S.A. Ph. Vol. 32, 1956, p. 190).

Ca. 1957. Ndola Stamp Club.

Particulars not received. (Referred to in article in the S.A. Ph., Vol. 35, 1959, p. 202).

1958. Pinelands Stamp Club—Cape Town.

Formed in January, 1958, with Mr. K. Cameron as first President. The society has been in recess since January, 1959, but hopes to come into operation again.

1959. Bethlehem Philatelic Society.

Formally constituted at a meeting on 31st August, 1959, with thirteen members present. First President, Mr. P. J. v. d. Merwe. Going strong and now has twenty-two members.

1960. Mafeking and Bechuanaland Philatelic Society.

Constituted on 24th February, 1960, with Mr. G. E. H. Jones of Mafeking as first Chairman and Mr. R. W. Brownlow of Lobatsi as Hon. Sec. The meetings are held alternately in Mafeking and Lobatsi. Affiliated with the Federation on 2nd September, 1960.

1960. Belleville Philatelic Society.

Formed in July, 1960, with Mr. J. Beunderman as first President. The Society meets on the 2nd Wednesdays at 8 p.m. in Blankenberg's Bldgs., Coronation Avenue, Belleville, C.P. (See S.A. Ph. Vol. 37, 1961, p. 196).

1960. Aerophilatelic Society of Southern Africa—Cape Town.

Formed on 8 August, 1960, with Mr. J. M. Weinstein as first President. Became affiliated to the Federation on 10th March, 1961. (See S.A. Ph. Vol. 36, 1960, p. 180).

1960. Hottentot Hollands Philatelic Society—Somerset West.

Formed in September by eight interested persons; now has a membership of 23. Meets every two months. Is about to adopt a formal constitution.

(THE END).

ANGLO-BOER WAR

EARLY CENSOR LABELS

A proverb says "it never rains but it pours." That seems to be the case with the finding of a previously unrecorded Z.A.R. Censor Label reported in our September issue p. 173; this was of interest also because it was on a cover posted in Johannesburg on the day of the outbreak of war, 11th October, 1899.

In our November issue p. 212 a second specimen of the label is recorded, this time on a cover from London which arrived in Johannesburg on 12th Oct., 1899. Now comes the "pouring rain."

The Hon. Sec. of the Anglo-Boer War Philatelic Society reports that two members of the Society have specimens of this seal, and Mr. C. E. Sherwood, records having just acquired one on a cover sent on 22-9-99 to Johannesburg but without any postmark giving date of arrival there.

Finally Dr. Gordon Ward states that he has a cover almost duplicating Mr. Froehlich's original specimen; it was posted in Johannesburg on 11.10.99 (and is therefore another F.D.C.) addressed to Pietermaritzburg, and has a Durban postmark of 25.10.99.

That now makes six specimens of this label known.

PORTRAIT GALLERY XXXVII

Of the dozen who now take their places in the Gallery one of the most interesting is Alonso de Ercilla y Zuniga, Spanish epic poet and soldier, who appears in a Chilean set of four bearing a premium in aid of the Earthquake Relief Fund. Born in Madrid in 1533 he lived a colourful life. "The pen is mightier than the sword," the saying goes. Here is one who could wield both to some purpose, and it was in fact his experience as a soldier that inspired him to write his best-known work. At the age of 21 he was sent to Chile to help quell the revolt of the Araucanians. He found this hardy people doughty foemen, and indeed it was their heroic resistance that forms the background of his most famous epic, "La Araucana," which appeared in 37 cantos between the years 1569 and 1590. This outstanding poem is often looked upon as the first work of real literary distinction to be produced in the New World. The date of the poet's death is uncertain, but it was shortly before the end of the century.

France gives us an excellent portrait, executed by Décaris, of the famous surgeon and dentist Pierre Fauchard, 1678-1761 (illustrated), resplendent in the full-bottomed wig of the period, holding up for us all to see a copy of his **magnum opus**, "Le Chirurgien Dentiste"—"The Surgeon Dentist." It is, by the way, almost as entertaining to hunt on French stamps for the names of designer and engraver as to track down the hidden dates on Canadian stamps. In this case the name "Décaris" is in minute letters just below "Postes" in the upper right-hand corner.



Two centenaries are celebrated this time, that of Vazquez de Mella, Spanish statesman and writer, 1861-1928, and George William Norris, American statesman, 1861-1944 (illustrated). He looks a typical hard-bitten

American citizen, with a deeply-lined face that is obviously ready to pucker into a kindly grin, and the caption alongside his name gives us no surprise, "Gentle Knight of Progressive Ideals." Above is a typical dam, but this is a very special one—no other than the Norris Dam built by the Tennessee Valley Authority. But we are running ahead too fast. After qualifying as a lawyer in Indiana and practising for some years in Nebraska he was elected to the United States House of Representatives in 1903 and ten years later became Senator, holding office for no less than thirty years, to within a few months of his death in fact. He led a long struggle for federal power control in the Tennessee Valley and piloted through an act creating the Valley Authority in 1933. It was this body that built the dam named in his honour and completed on March 4, 1936, bringing fertility and prosperity to an immense tract of land.

The other eight do not call for extended comment. There are two attractive portraits of Costa Rican lawyers, Augustin Gutierrez and Alberto Brenes; there is a revolutionary from North Viet-Nam, Ly-Tu-Trong; there are two of the protagonists in that sordid struggle for supremacy now being fought in the unhappy country of the Congo, Kasavubu and Tshombe; there are two much more pleasant and presentable leaders in the newly-formed Mali Republic, Mamadou Konate and Modibo Keita, and last there is another of those colourful Malayan potentates who have brightened up our Gallery of late. This time it is Sultan Yahya Petra (I give only a selection of his numerous names and titles), proclaimed Ruler of Kelantan on July 9 last year and installed with great pomp and circumstance on July 17 this year. Born in 1917, educated in Penang and England, he married in 1929 the Tengku Zainab, who has presented him with four daughters and a son. He has qualified for his high office by being in turn Private Secretary to the late Sultan, Assistant State Treasurer, Acting District Officer, and President of the Council of Religion and Malay Customs. A land of infinite variety and immense possibilities, this Malaya!

—W. LOXLEY CHAMINGS.

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CROWN AGENTS BULLETIN

The following Notes are taken from the November Bulletin and some other small pamphlets:—

Gambia. Four commemoratives, 2d., 3d., 6d. and 1/3d. have been issued for the Royal Visit.

Ghana. A special issue has been prepared, but this is not handled by the Crown Agents. From the territory's Agency in New York, however, it is learnt that there are three values, 3d., 1/3d. and 5/- and that they will only be on sale during the period of Her Majesty's visit, November 10-22.

Sierra Leone. Royal Visit commemoratives, 3d., 4d., 6d. and 1/3d. It is also announced that designs are being prepared for a complete new definitive issue.

St. Helena. The Bulletin has a short history, general and philatelic, of the island, also illustrations of the new definitive issue being released in December. There are 14 stamps, mostly depicting plants and marine life, but the 3d. has the Queen's head as it appears on the current U.K. coinage and the £1 has a portrait of Her Majesty holding Prince Andrew.

A note received from the Colonial office says that the St. Helena Administration issued on 12th October a set of stamps consisting of the 2, 5 7½ and 10 cents values of Tristan Da Cunha stamps overprinted "St. Helena, Tristan Relief," and surcharged respectively 3d., 6d., 9d. and 1/-. The overprinting and surcharging was carried out locally.

The issue was withdrawn from sale, and the remaining stocks destroyed on the 19th October, 1961.

Fiji. The changes in the current definitive issue were due for completion on 14th November.

Tanganyika becomes independent on 9th December, and there will then appear the "Uhuru na Umoja" (Freedom and Unity) issue of twelve values, 5 cents to 20/-. The themes of the stamps have been chosen to reflect various aspects of the country's programme for social and economic development but each also includes a burning torch, indicative of a ray of hope for all their fellowmen.

British Guiana. 3 stamps (5, 6 and 30c) on 23 October, for the History and Culture Week.

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ARGENTINA

INTERNATIONAL EXHIBITION

To celebrate the centenary of the first stamps carrying the name "Republica Argentina" and valid throughout the whole territory the local Federation of Philatelic Societies has decided to hold a full-fledged International Exhibition, with the provisional approval of the F.I.P. The date is not yet definitely fixed but further details, entry forms etc., can be obtained from "Argentina 1962," Casilla de Correo 3888, Buenos Aires, Argentina.

GAPE OF GOOD HOPE

TRIANGULARS.

RECTANGULARS. POSTMARKS.

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

References from new customers please.

F. W. COLLINS

STOBOROUGH CROFT,
WINCHESTER, ENGLAND.

U.S.A.

10 Oct. A 4c was issued with very short notice, commemorating the 50th anniversary of the Republic of China. It features Dr. Sun Yat-Sen.

6 Nov. Although the post office department turned down a proposal for a stamp commemorating the first airmail in 1911, a surprise was sprung by the sudden announcement of a Basketball 4c stamp. It is a double commemorative, marking the 70th anniversary of the game and the centenary of the birth of its inventor, Dr. James Naismith.

14 Feb., 1962. A 4c stamp will be issued in honour of the 50th anniversary of the statehood of Arizona.

SWITZERLAND

Issued on 18 September was a set of four stamps (3, 5, 10 and 20 Fr.) honouring the four evangelists, Matthew, Mark, Luke and John.

SWEDEN

On 9 December three stamps of 20, 40 and 50 öre were issued in commemoration of the 60th anniversary of the just distribution of Nobel prizes.

CANADA

12 October. A 5c stamp featuring Canada's remarkable natural resources. The design is two hands holding a five-spoke cogwheel (representing industry), while between the spokes are sketches indicative of water resources, agriculture, forestry, wild life and fisheries.

LONDON PRICES SOARING

Robson Lowe reports that prices at recent sales are still very much on the upgrade, especially for classics and fine material. A collection of Oldenburg, Hanover and Tuscany valued at £9,360 fetched £13,377; Dr. W. Byam's Egypt realised £25,392, exceeding the estimated value by approximately £4,000.

CORRESPONDENCE**S.W.A. PLACE NAMES**

Mr. D. Lamont Smith writes:—

I read with considerable interest the article by Mr. G. H. van Rooyen entitled "South West Africa Post Offices with native names and their meanings" in the October issue of the South African Philatelist.

I was particularly interested in the name ARAHOAB because I believe it throws some light on a curious item in my collection, which is a post-mark reading AR OAB, I had not known of the name Arahoab and I had assumed that my postmark emanated from Aroab and that, in some mysterious way, the type had become separated leaving a large gap between the letter "AR" and the letters "OAB." I now believe, however, that my postmark may have emanated from Arahoab and that, in some equally mysterious way, the letters "AH" have disappeared from the type.

I wonder if Mr. van Rooyen or any other of your readers can furnish an alternative explanation of my postmark.

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W. NEWLANDS

Writing from England Mr. Newlands reports that although he is back at work to some extent, he is still far from being quite fit.

One thing that troubles him quite a lot is writing letters and he asks that his many philatelic friends in South Africa will forgive him for being a poor correspondent at present. He has not forgotten them and sends his greetings, even if this be only a second hand way of doing so.

O.V.S. NUMERAL POSTMARKS

The following notes are taken from an article published in the December, 1960 Bulletin of the Orange Free State Study Circle. They are a mixture of comments by the Editor of the Bulletin, Mr. L. H. Lomax, and by Dr. Harvey Pirie on a paper by the latter in the S.A. Philatelist of October 1940, p. 147. They are considered worth reproduction as points were raised which have not yet been answered and which it is hoped some reader may be able to throw light on or amplify.

The outstanding numerical cancellations used in the O.F.S. are (1) **Horizontal oval grids**. These grids, around a circle with a letter or a number inside, were the earliest cancellations employed and they continued fairly generally in use until the middle nineties.

(1a) the earlier and commoner variety, with 16 thin bars.

(1b) the later with 11 thicker bars.

The numerals usually run about $6\frac{1}{2}$ or 7 mm. in height, but in the case of one specimen of No. 1 as much as 8 mm. and in the case of No. 2 as small as 5 mm. In the case of certain numbers (notably Nos. 1, 10, 25 and 29) numbers of different sizes and even somewhat different characters may be seen. Probably in such instances there has been replacement of a worn out number by a fresh one.

(1c). A third variety must, I think, be accepted for No. 11. In this, the circle is not continuous, but is represented by a series of dots, or rather short segments, each segment opposite its corresponding bar. I was lucky enough to come across several specimens of this variety, but all rather imperfect. One could not be certain even that the number was No. 11, though all showed some segmentation of the circle. Mr. Basden produced a similar indistinct specimen.

One was submitted to Messrs. Geldhof and Rich for an opinion, but their view was that it was a "stutter-double" due to motion of the device when the mark was being struck. I thought the dots and lines were too sharp to be accounted for in this way, but left the matter open for a better specimen to turn up.

It was not long before this occurred. Prof. J. J. Smith kindly let me look through his

collection, and there was a beautiful specimen, of which the accompanying photograph (not shown here) I think should be convincing.

(d) A possible fourth variety is one noted by Basden, a No. 3 in which there appears to be an outer line and the grid has not distinct lines, but uniform plain shading. As suggestions of an outer line may often be seen in heavily impressed specimens, I think this should only be accepted after confirmation.

(2) **Vertical Oval Grids**, similar to Cape Type 2.

Regarding marks of this type, Geldhof (10c cit. p. 54) writes: "The numeral cancellations found on the 1902 and later King's Heads issues, mainly on the multiple watermark stamps, contain the numeral or letter in a rectangular box within a vertical oval grid of heavy horizontal bars. These are established as being from the Cape of Good Hope, and the numerals are high, running into the thousands, and the usage belongs to the period of interprovincials, 1910 to 1913, when the stamps of all four former colonies were used indiscriminately through the Union of South Africa."

Evidence for the statement that these cancellations are "established as being from the Cape of Good Hope" is not given, and I propose to sustain the thesis that the statement is not warranted. I admit straight away that my evidence is not absolutely conclusive; as I have not so far been able to find any of the cancellations which I regard as truly O.F.S. cancellations on cover with locative date stamps. Until such are found, however, I think it is justifiable to argue from presumptive evidence, provided that one is not too dogmatic about the conclusions drawn therefrom.

I also admit that **some** of the cancellations of this type seen on Edwardian O.R.C. stamps are truly Cape cancellations of the interprovincial period, and I exclude from my argument any mark with a four figure number or any one in which the figures are "coarse" in character or are $6\frac{1}{2}$ mm. or more in height; these are all practically certainly Cape cancellations of interprovincial (or later) date.

SUPPORT OUR ADVERTISERS

UNION 1925 AIRMAIL STAMPS

The following notes on the production of these stamps were originally given to Mr. L. A. Wyndham by Mr. Myers of the Lithographic Department of the Cape Times Ltd.

A copy of the notes has been in the possession of Capt. M. F. Stern for many years; he has never made any use of them so far, but thinks the present time is a suitable one for publishing them.

"The first air mail stamp were produced in the following manner:

"A copper plate was engraved four times the size these were required for use. Copper plate impressions were taken and patched up into a group of four and transferred on to a lithographic stone. Black impressions were taken from this stone and mounted carefully on to a large card in groups of (?) A photographic negative was made to the required size of the stamp to be printed. This photographic reduction added greatly to the good result obtained.

"This negative is next printed down on a lithographic zinc plate. The plate is coated with a bichromated albumen solution and dried. The negative is placed in contact with the coated zinc plate and exposed to light in a special printing frame. The desired number of prints are obtained by repeating this process.

"This exposed plate is now an image consisting of insoluble albumen, the remainder of the coating or the parts unaffected by the light still being in the original soluble condition. Before this plate is developed it is coated with a thin film of special ink. This inked plate is now placed in water the unexposed portion of the coating being soluble this washes away leaving the ink image adhering to the exposed or insoluble portion of the plate, thus leaving a photo lithographic image ready for printing on a litho offset machine."

FRANCE

The postal administration reports the issue on 7th October of seven scenic stamps of values ranging from 0.15 to 1.00 NF. (1) The town of Saint Paul, with the maritime Alps as background, (2) Arcachon in the Gironde, bay with yachts, (3) Castle of Surry-sur-Loire, (4) town of Cognac, centre of manufacture of that liquor, (5) Dinan and the valley of the Rance, in Brittany, (6) the Hotel de Ville with a bronze stature by Rodin in foreground, (7) Medea, in Algeria, featuring Roman ruins.

CZECHOSLOVAKIA

A set of six stamps, 20 hellers to 2 crowns, was due for issue on 18 September; they feature the country's commonest agricultural crops.

Also a set of seven stamps advertising the International Philatelic Exhibition "Praga 1962." This was issued on 23 October and is only a beginning of the stamp boosting.

EAST LONDON P.S.

(Concluded from page 234)

November Meeting. Two new members were elected, and Messrs. T. A. Harper and J. P. Shingler displayed the early and middle issues of Greece respectively. These fascinating stamps provided an interesting display and Mr. Harper's first issues were particularly fine. Mr. Hellman gave his usual Stop Press News Talk, which is always of interest to members.

Mr. Hellman reported on the very fine exhibition of stamps at Jubilex where the Union Stamp Collections provided, in his opinion, the most comprehensive display of our country's stamps ever shown.

It was particularly pleasing to see our old friend, Mr. M. J. Rall, who used to visit us from King William's Town, receive the Grand Prix for his Unions.

Mr. Hellman paid tribute to the great hospitality provided by the Cape members and said Congress was a very happy affair.

The meeting concluded with a lively auction.
—J.P.S.

SOCIETY NEWS

O.F.S. PHILATELIC SOCIETY

September:

(1) Mr. A. L. Meyburg showed 100 pages from his Anglo-Boer War collection. This is now getting quite extensive and contains a number of fine items.

(2) Mr. J. B. Levy showed a selection of Canada which included a number of the earlier issues and a very full range of booklets.

(3) New items and acquisitions were displayed by Mr. A. H. de Villiers (Pony Express); Mr. C. van Ee (items of zoological interest); Mr. H. E. Roux (latest stamps from G.B. and a number of Commonwealth countries); Mr. A. L. Meyburgh (German 1st imperf. issue); Dr. van Zyl-Smit (S.A. Republic 12½c with black cyclometer numbers).

P.S. OF RHODESIA

October meeting. Some 29 members and seven visitors saw surprise sheets prepared by Mrs. Wallace and Messrs. Howes, Perry & Rendsburg. The total display was large and varied; on show were early issues of Ceylon, recent Katanga stamps, largest American stamps and numerous other items. The attendance — on the upward trend — was more encouraging and several members aired their views on the question of premises and teas, thus giving your Committee one or two points to work on.

PRETORIA P.S.

On **October 2nd** the Johannesburg Society came over in force led by Mr. Glassman. They brought along three exhibits. The first to exhibit was Dr. Harvey Pirie, who passed around to the members, in Plate form a collection of the 1961 Swaziland Overprints, in their various forms, which included also Postal Stationery and some of the rare items. Dr. Pirie also explained how it came about that there were so many printings of these stamps.

Next we had Mr. Stanley Boss, who tabled a collection of African Republics, all except the Republic of South Africa. Mr. Boss also showed a large map showing where all these Republics were situated, and also three new "cities" namely, Sharpeville, Cato Ridge and "Pampoenfontein." A rare map, perhaps the only one in South Africa, published in London by a newspaper.

The collection was a very colourful one in the various designs, although some looked very much like Jam Labels.

Dr. von Varendorff also tabled a collection of African States namely, Togoland from 1914 showing the various issues and overprints, and the Cameroons from 1915 to 1939.

KIMBERLY P.S.

3 October. Meeting of a general nature, each member bringing along some item of interest. Mr. Exley won a quiz which was held.

17 October. Mr. Awerbrick showed a selection of his British Empire classics, many of them new to most members. Of particular note was the uncatalogued TW8 Shillings overprint on 5/- orange of Rhodesia.

A competition for a large lot of stamps was won by Mr. Newdigate.

EAST LONDON P.S.

October meeting. The names of seven members who had obtained awards at "Jubilex" were announced. Among them were: Geo. Feros—Silver Medal plus felicitations (Union of South Africa); G. H. Immelman—Silver Medal plus felicitations (Cape Postal History); Master Saul Hillman—Silver Trophy (Ships on Stamps).

Thematic Cup Competition: This was won by Mr. J. P. Shingler who also gave a talk on the rapid developments of this branch of the hobby. An interesting discussion followed.

Exchange Club: Mr. H. E. Williams reported a claim had been lodged for a packet of stamps worth about R160.00, which had gone astray locally. This was the first insurance claim ever made by the Society.

A lively auction brought a pleasant meeting to a close. —J.P.S.

(Concluded on page 233)

EAST RAND P.S.

October meeting. A fairly good attendance, with two displays for the Sam Legator Trophy, namely, Mr. J. D. A. F. Van Niekerk showed Switzerland, and Miss H. Nochemowitz, Modern France.

A combined East Rand meeting is to be held on the 23rd November at the Regent Hotel, Benoni, and all collectors and their friends are most welcome to attend."

"THE ROYAL"—CAPE TOWN

October 26. As usual a "double" evening was held, the first exhibit on the boards being that of "Rhodesia" by Mr. J. G. Figov. This was a fine representative collection of Rhodesia showing all the issues with varieties and also postmarks. It was the first showing by this member and it proved how well new members can come to the fore.

The second exhibit was that of "Modern Italy and Trieste" by Mr. R. Putzel. This member really can state that he collects the world and there seems to be inexhaustible material with which he can interest mem-

bers of the Society. This was indeed a fine showing being mint issues and many of the rarer recent issues. Also shown were issues of the Italian Colonies.

Both exhibitors gave good talks on their subjects. An interesting item of the meetings is the "Scrap Book" edited by Mr. Putzel. In this discourse he gives highlights from recent publications and news. Another regular item of meetings is the showing by Capt. Stern of new issues — chiefly First Day Covers. —M.F.S.

THEMATIC STAMP CLUB

A pleasant evening was spent when Mr. R. F. Putzel showed "British Commonwealth and Protectorate Overprints." As usual members saw a fine lot of the mint issues, all well written up, and in addition were given an illuminating talk on the stamps displayed. Although the boards were filled, there might have been much more of Mr. Putzel's collection which could have been displayed. —M.F.S.

P.S. OF JOHANNESBURG

October. Only one meeting this month, the 10th being a holiday and the meeting-place not available.

Several delegates to the recent Congress and Exhibition in Cape Town reported how successful and pleasant all the business had been. Members of the Society did very well in gaining awards at Jubilex. These included two Special Awards—Mr. J. H. Bruwer, the Union Special Award and Mr. I. H. C. Godfrey, the American P.S. Award for the most distinctive collection—G.B. Aerogrammes. Two members won Gold Medals—Mr. G. M. Brown (Nyasaland) and Cdr. C. E. D. Enoch (World "No. Ones"). There were in addition four Silver Gilt, eight Silvers, 13 Bronze and seven Certificates of merit.

On the 27th Mr. Joseph showed part of his Union collection and Mr. Seelig a portion of his collection of Switzerland, after a very interesting talk thereon.

November 14: The Society's 500th meeting, celebrated by a dinner party at the Cranbrooke Hotel with some 170 members and their friends present.

The principal official guest was the Deputy Mayor, Councillor Keith J. Fleming, who proposed the toast of the Society in a most felicitous speech. This should have been replied to by Mr. Ernest Hunt, but he was unfortunately temporarily indisposed and unable to be present. Dr. Harvey Pirie replied in his place.

After dinner there was an entertainment of music, songs and amusing chatter. A very pleasant evening was had by all.

P.S. OF NATAL

October. At the first meeting, on the 4th, the sad news of the deaths of two old members was announced, Major N. Welsford and Mr. Joe Lyle. The former was a foundation member of the Society. (An obituary notice was published in the November issue of the S.A. Ph.). Mr. Lyle, although not a foundation member, was one of very old standing and had been the Society's Auctioneer for many years.

Mr. G. Milner-Palmer filled the evening with (a) Reading an article from the "Stamp Lover" on a thematic subject "Sweet Manufacture." He promised a display on the theme for the near future, but stated that no sweets would be supplied. (b) An exhibit of stamps of Switzerland.

The second meeting, on the 18th, was well attended and was entirely given up to swapping and an auction.

PRETORIA RAILWAY P.S.

The **October meeting** was a very small one with so many members away at Cape Town. Only one entry was received for the Thematic competition, viz. Mr. W. Kriste's "Stamp Centenaries," but the members present decided it was worthy of the Certificate of Merit.

Winners of awards at **Jubilex** have been announced. Mr. J. M. Weinstein received a Gold for his Palestine Forerunners, also the special "Royal" Medallion. Nine other members of the Society also received awards.

MIDLAND STAMP CLUB—GWELO

This enthusiastic band of collectors held another exhibition recently and we are indebted to Mr. J. Creewel for this note on it. He led a contingent from Bulawayo to the exhibition. The Mashonaland Society's delegation from Salisbury fell out at the last moment.

The exhibition, except for Juniors, was non-competitive. The idea behind it being mainly to show the less sophisticated members of the community what stamp collecting was all about. The stamps shown were straight from the owners' albums without any special preparation.

The range of material shown was remarkable and covered many countries and periods, from pre-stamp G.B. covers to the latest decimal overprints. Thematics were also plentiful, but pride of place must go to a selection of Vatican City for its superb mounting and writing-up.

The junior collections were divided into two lots—Straight countries and thematics; there were also two age groups, under 12 and from 12 to 16. The judges had a very difficult time in selecting the prize winners.

MAFEKING & BECHUANALAND P.S.

The Hon. Sec. notes that nothing appeared in our "Society News" about their 1st A.G.M. held on 17th May, about which he sent us a report. Our explanation is simple—we never received it. Perhaps their P.O. was too busy over decimal overprints to send it! We have now received another copy, together with later news.

Mr. G. E. H. Jones, the retiring chairman, stated in his report that the Society was flourishing and was also in good fettle financially. Membership had risen to 20 (and eight more have joined since). A junior section has been formed in Mafeking, with some 20 boys and girls.

For the ensuing year Mr. J. L. Harrison (Mafeking) was elected chairman and Mr. R. W. Brownlow (Box 64, Lobatsi) was re-elected Hon. Sec. Mr. V. M. Milunsky (Box 143, Mafeking) was appointed representative on the Federation Executive Committee.

Members attended Congress at Cape Town and Mr. Brownlow obtained two awards at Jubilex—the American Topical Association's Special Award (Sports) and a Silver Medal, with felicitations of the Jury, for his "Sports on Stamps."

Open meetings for the public have been given in both Mafeking and Lobatsi.

COPPERBELT P.S.

October. The 273rd meeting was a special one celebrating the Society's 25th anniversary. Mr. S. Kelly was in the chair. He has been Chairman since 1945, and is now also the only active foundation member. The opportunity was taken to present him with a cheque and to elect him an Honorary Life Member of the Society.

All members had been asked to exhibit five pages of stamps for competition and some 13 did so; Mr. Williams of Ndola had the difficult task of judging these, but ultimately gave pride of place to Mr. Kelly's exhibit of Russian, Polish and Latvian covers. Another competition, on Illustrated Philatelic Terms, was won by Mr. Shipley of Ndola.

Awards to members at "Jubilex" totalled two Silver, three Bronze and two Certificates of Merit. The two Silver awards both went to Juveniles—a silver cup to Miss J. Hartley and a silver trophy to Master M. Evans (with felicitations of the Jury).

Meetings are held on the fourth Thursday of each month in the Synagogue Hall, Kitwe, at 8.15. Visitors and new members always welcome.

GERMISTON P.S.

The October meeting was a visit from the Afrikaanse Filatelistevereniging. Mr. S. J. Vermaak showed selections of South Africa, both Union and Republic, while Mr. Lambert displayed Queen Elizabeth II African issues.

REVIEWS AND SHORT NOTICES

Union Animal Series. Published by the South African Study Circle, Box 31, Bryanston, Tvl., at 10c each.

This series of pamphlets dealing with the Union Third Definitive Issue (Animal Series) was reviewed in our October issue, p. 188.

We have now received a third pamphlet which, like the second also deals with the 1d. Black Wildebeest; there was so much to say about the various issues of this that it was impossible to get everything into one pamphlet, and probably there will be still another.

Aerophilatelic Competition.

Early this year the publishers of "The Aero Field" announced a competition for papers showing original research in any branch of aerophilately, with monetary prizes.

The results were announced at the Golden Jubilee Dinner held in Windsor on 9th September in celebration of the First U.K. Aero-Post. The first prize (£40) went to Mr. C. E. J. Lee for his "War Time Airmails of Australasia, and the second (£10) to Mr. Alec Davis for his "Mail Plane to Half the World." Four others were awarded Certificates of Merit.

Switzerland Catalogue 1962 Edition. Published by the Amateur Collector Ltd., 22 Westbury Rd., Woodside Park, London N12. Price U.K. 9/3 plus 8d. postage; retailed in S.A. at 13/0, post free.

This is edited by L. N. & M. Williams; there have been many additions since the last edition and nearly 3,000 price changes, mostly increases, only 332 reductions. It is the only catalogue in the world listing the "T" overprints.

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