

The South African Philatelist

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UNION NOTES

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

The 7th Printing of the 1d. Animal Series— Imprinted Cyl. No. 89.

Through the courtesy of the Publicity Officer, G.P.O., Pretoria, we are able to confirm the suggestion, made in our December Notes, that a new drawing had been made for this Printing and consequently a new Master Negative and Multipositive were used.

Further, we also received the following particulars:

The multipositive used for Pane B was a specially made one and not a "cut down" one of twelve rows.

The printing was made in Double Die format, Pane A being on the right hand side, and Pane B on the left, viewed at the delivery end as the sheets come off the printing machine, and with the image in the upright position.

338,700 sheets of Pane A were issued, and 341,900 of Pane B.

The ordinary Double Die eleven row perforator was used to perforate the sheets, except that six rows of pins were removed from the left hand side to accommodate the Smaller Pane B.

The 1d. Pane 89A Issue.

In our December Notes, we gave a description of Pane B, a portion of the 7th Printing of the 1d. Animal Series. Its companion, Pane A, illustrated, has now become available—it has the following characteristics:—



Printed from a Redrawn Design in sheet format of 240 (20 x 12) stamps from a cross-mesh screened Double Die Cylinder, the cylinder number, 89A, being inscribed on the bottom margin of the sheet, below stamp 11 of row 20. Single line broken bars, of the same colour as the stamps, occupy the top and bottom margins, and appear to have been set over a shaded background. Two four-figure red sheet serial numbers appear twice on the right vertical margin, opposite rows 4 and 5, and 15 and 16; this margin also has an elongated oval blob in the same colour as the stamps, opposite Row 19. The four marginal arrows, of the solid pre-manufactured type are set over a faint background which appears screened. The sheet is perforated by an eleven row multiple perforator, the perforations extending through the top and bottom margins, while the side margins are imperforate, except for one hole.

The printing is of a pleasing, well defined nature, similar to that of its companion pane, and is made on thickish paper bearing the Arms Watermark. The shade of the stamps is again brick-red but of a darker shade than that of Pane B.

The following cylinder flaws are recorded in the regions of the four corners and arrows—

Row:

- 1-1. Marginal dot above SU of SUID, Th +A1.
- 1-7. Dot between R and I of AFRIKA. Th A4.
- 1-12. Dot below SU of SUID, Th A3, and two dots below I of SUID. Th B2.
- 2-1. Small elongated smudge in curve of animal's right horn. Th B2.
- 2-2. Dot above ST of POSTAGE. Th F4/5.
- 2-7. Smudge below NU of REVENUE. Th D2.
- 2-12. Dot above A of POSTAGE. Th F5.
- 10-1. Faint dot below OS of POSTAGE. Th G2.
- 10-2. Tiny dot below ID of SUID. Th B2.
- 11-1. Dot on Animal's neck, level with eye. Th C 5/6.
- 19-1. Dot in curve of animal's right horn. Th B2.
- 19-6. Dot to the left of the tip of animal's left horn. Th B3.
- 19-7. Dot below hyphen of SUID-AFRIKA. Th A3.
- 20-1. Dot below I of SUID, Th B2 and dot to the top-right of d of 1d. Th E2.
- 20-2. Dot on animal, over ST of POSTAGE, Th D4, and two dots on left margin, left with top of animal's right horn. Th B1.
- 20-12. Dot in top left corner of gutter margin.

When commenting upon this Issue, Mr. G. N. Gilbert has kindly submitted a complete list of the flaws found on both 89A and B panes. Unfortunately, lack of space does not permit their inclusion, but should any reader be intersted, the list may be had on loan upon applying to the Editor.

Christmas Stamps.

The 1960 issue of the Union's Christmas stamps, illustrated herunder, went on sale in the early part of November, and remained available until the 24th December, 1960.

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 both sheets and booklet form. The proceeds from their sale go to support the



Sunshine Homes in which children who have been in contact with tuberculosis are cared for.

The design, in blue and red, depicts a child facing the "Cross of Lorraine" with his hands folded behind him, and holding on a leash a small white animal resembling a sheep. The stamps are prepared unilingually with Christmas Greetings in the top right corner and 1960 in the opposite one above SOUTH AFRICA.

The sheets, viewed in the position they come off the printing press, are printed in tête-bêche format of 120 (20 x 6) stamps alternately in English and Afrikaans, the three left rows facing left, and the other three right. Marginal arrows are absent, while the right margin contains a printer's guide mark, in the form of a short red line, opposite rows 18 and 19, and also two four-figure red sheet serial numbers. The perforation has been carried out with an eleven row multiple perforator, the top and bottom margins being perforated through.

The booklets are made up in panes of six stamps, and according to the number included are sold at face value.

Union Study Circle.

Enthusiastic discussion took place on the recent issues of the 1d. Cyl. 89 A/B, and the 1d. Coil-sheets, relevant aspects of which are included elsewhere in these Notes.

One result of the deliberation upon the 1d. Coil-sheets may interest readers: It was considered that those sheets bearing only one set of five-figure black sheet numbers are the outcome of an interrupted uniform division of the coil-web into sheets of twenty rows—the interruption being caused by some condition such as a miscalculation by the individual responsible for the division of the web, or a deletion of a faulty portion of the web etc.

Mr. C. H. Lotz gave a ready method of distinguishing between Panes B of the 1d. printings from Cyls. No. 3 and No. 105 respectively.

Each of these panes contains marginal single-line broken bars only, there being no

inscribed cylinder numbers, and resource has consequently to be made mainly to recorded cylinder flaws to determine the printings.

Mr. Lotz pointed out that the extreme left end of the single-line broken bar assembly on the sheet's **bottom** margin ends in an inclined angle in the Cyl. No. 3 printings, whereas this termination is a right angle in Cyl. No. 105 issue.

Attention was drawn to the faint brick-red horizontal line running between the second and third bars of the marginal four broken bars of the 1d. Cyl. No. 97 printing, this line being more prominent on the sheets' top margin than the bottom.

It was considered that two sets of two marginal bars each were assembled and used to make up the consolidated four marginal bars, and that the faint horizontal line in question indicated the junction line between the two sets.

The Currency of the Union's Present Issues.

The Johannesburg "Star," of the 22nd November, reports that a member of the Institute of Bankers, speaking at a conference of accountants and auditors, said that Revenue stamps on cheques would be 1½ cents, but the present 2d. stamps would be valid for one year after D-Day. This applied to other stamps as well.

Our attempts to obtain information from official sources on the life of the Union's current stamps after D-Day have been without avail, thus far.

Specimen Item of the Union's Stamps, Overprinted for use Abroad.

Selected Union issues of the 1d., 3d., 6d. and 1/- denominations were overprinted, as an emergency war measure, for use in Kenya, Tanganyika and Uganda.

Mr. Jack Burrell, of Krugersdorp, has shown us a mint block of four of the 1/- value, U.H.B. No. 50, belonging to this overprinted series, and bearing the word SPECIMEN, 26 mm. in length and 3 mm. high, formed in block letters, and applied by means of a rubber stamp in purple ink diagonally across each stamp—a very desirable item for a K.U.T. collector.

The 3d. Animal Stamp in "Sheet and a Half" format.

Information previously promulgated of a printing to be made of the 3rd Animal

stamp in a "Sheet and a Half" format, similar in form to that of the 1d. Cyl. 89 A/B, has been officially amended. There will be no such printing, we are told.

Incidentally, we are informed that no Official photo-proofs will be available of the converted sterling/Rand/Cent stamps, to be issued on the 14th February, 1961.

Philatelic Agency—Change of Designation.

Several readers have been good enough to call our attention to a change of title of the Philatelic Agency, Pretoria, into PHILATELIC BUREAU, PRETORIA.

A new movable-date canceller was brought into use on the 17th November, and consists of two concentric circles, 23 mm. and 34 mm. in diameter respectively, enclosing a bilingual inscription "Philatelic Bureau, Pretoria," the date occupying a horizontal position within the inner circle.

A feature of the canceller is a vacant space provided between the lettering on its circumference for cancelling the stamps and allowing the full inscription to fall clearly on the cover.

The Fourth Definitive Series.

A Bulletin issued by the Publicity Branch, G.P.O., Pretoria, gives the following details:

The Fourth Definitive Series of the South African Stamps will be placed on sale at all post offices as from the 14th February, 1961. The denomination of each stamp will be shown in the new decimal currency, but these will NOT be overprinted stamps. Designs of nine of the existing "animal" series and four of the recent Union Festival Commemorative issue will be used for these stamps. The arrangement of the designs and other details are as follows:

Denomination	Design	Size in m.m.	Stamps per sheet
½c	Warthog	20.25 x 24.2	200
1c	Black Wildebees	20.25 x 24.2	200
1½c	Leopard	20.25 x 24.2	200
2c	Zebra	20.25 x 24.2	200
2½c	Prime Ministers' Profile	40.5 x 24.2	100
3½c	Union Flag	40.5 x 24.2	100
5c	Lion	30.2 x 24.2	100
7½c	Coat-of-Arms	40.5 x 24.2	100
10c	Symbolic Wheel	40.5 x 24.2	100
12½c	Springbok	30.2 x 24.2	100
20c	Gemsbok	24.2 x 30.2	100
50c	Giraffe	24.2 x 30.2	100
R1.00	Sable Antelope	24.2 x 30.2	100

The colours and formats will be the same as those used for the animal and festival issues of these designs. The wording on each stamp will be in English and Afrikaans.

A later official bulletin states that the 12½c was omitted from the first Bulletin sent out. For convenience in printing the 12½c details are included with the others.

First-Day Covers.

Envelopes for use as first-day or commemorative covers will NOT be provided by the Post Office. Covers for registration or datestamping on the first day of issue may be handed in at large post offices in the cities or at the local post office in other places up to 3 p.m. on the 14th February, 1961.

Orders for the servicing of first-day covers from persons outside the Union of South Africa should be sent to the Philatelic Bureau, c/o Publicity Branch, G.P.O., Pretoria, and should reach that address not later than the 10th February, 1961. Such orders must be accompanied by addressed envelopes not wider than 4", and a remittance to cover the cost of the stamps to be affixed to the envelopes.

POSTMARK CORNER

Adhesive Labels used for Payment of Postage.

Commenting on the above note, appearing in our November Number, Mr. D. Allison, of Rosebank, Cape, writes to the effect that he feels sure that the word BETAAL is not an error for he has labels from twelve offices of various dates between 1948 and 1960, and all have this spelling. On Paid Post-Marks, BETAAL seems to be displacing BETAALD generally, though the latter is still very common.

Rubber Cachet to mark Unclaimed Registered Articles.

Mr. Sylvester L. Crozet, of Germiston, has submitted an impression of an apparently new rubber Cachet which is applied to registered items when these are not collected after the dispatch of the original advice note. The cachet, set up in type by our printers, is illustrated here: (next column).

Parcel Labels Franking Registered Cover.

Referring to Mr. David Allison's comment on Parcel Labels used for franking a Registered Cover, appearing in our October Number, Mr. Ken Lydall writes to the effect

<p>DUPLIKAAT DUPLICATE.....</p> <p>TRIPLIKAAT TRIPPLICATE.....</p> <p>FINAAL FINAL.....</p>

that registered letters have recently come into his possession where the postage has been paid by means of adhesive parcel labels from franking machines used in the bigger post offices. The examples he has are from the Rissik Street Post Office while Dr. Kark reports items franked at Hillbrow Post Office.

These labels are illustrated on p. 314 of the Union Handbook, Vol 1, and incidentally the inscription on the earlier type of labels had the wording "Pakketpos—Parcel Post" while the more recent ones have "Posgeld—Postage" substituted. Also, the first labels had the word "Paid" only under the amount, while the later ones have PAID—BETAAL.

Mr. Lydall would like to know the date on which this method of franking registered mail began.

Meter Franks.

Continuing his letter, Mr. Lydall points out that NEOPOST franks now have the letters NB in the bottom left corner. The originals of this type with the Flying Springbok motif had a plain N; the next thousand had NA, and presumably the present NB heralds in the third thousand.

The number of the machine connected with these observations is "8".

Antarctic Post.

As was forecast in our December issue, the chartered relief ship **Polarhav** left Cape Town on 7th December for the Union's Antarctic Station in Queen Maud Land. It has also been announced that the Union is to have its own vessel for visiting its Antarctic and various sub-Antarctic stations, and it is hoped that the vessel will be ready for next season's reliefs. In between such southerly trips the ship will be employed on general oceanographical work, probably mainly in adjacent parts of the Indian Ocean.

On the 13th December the ship arrived off Bouvet Island but the news did not

suggest that any actual landing was made.

A later report states that the ship arrived at the base at 9 p.m. on Monday, 26th December, 1960.

Union Handbook/Catalogue.

The printers have stated that without fail copies of the new Jubilee edition will be ready this month for distribution to all prepaid subscribers.

AIR MAIL NOTES

By **I. H. C. Godfrey**

Aerogrammes: Union of South Africa. 6d. "Greetings" Air Letters.

The illuminated sheet, which was first placed on sale at all South African Post Offices on 10th December, 1958, was still available for the 1960/1 Christmas season; it does not seem to have been reprinted. The sheet exists with all texts in English first. As the issue will become obsolete in February, 1961 it is unlikely that the companion "Afrikaans First" version will appear.

* * * *

Alitalia Airlines First DC-8 Jet Service to Europe. Johannesburg-Rome, via Salisbury, Nairobi and Athens.

Italy's Airline ALITALIA issued souvenir envelopes to commemorate its first Jet service between Africa and Europe, which was inaugurated from Rome on 8th November, 1960. The first plane left Johannesburg on the return flight on 9th November. Covers carried on the southbound flight depict a native African scene in green, with appropriate inscriptions, but no cachets were applied. They are postmarked: Rome 8.11.1960 and backstamped Johannesburg 9.XI.60.

On the first return flight, covers were postmarked Johannesburg 9.XI.60 and backstamped Rome 10.11.-960. These bear a futuristic design in yellow, showing assegais, elephant tusks and other African symbols. An oval cachet in green is inscribed "First Flight / DC-8 JET / ALITALIA / 9.11.1960 / JOHANNESBURG-ROME" in English only.

No identifiable mail has been reported as having been flown from Salisbury, Southern Rhodesia.

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OBITUARIES

K. ALEXANDER

We regret to have to report the death on 15th November of Mr. K. Alexander, Past President and one of the few Hon. Life Members of the Cape Town Royal.

Ken. was the oldest member in terms of membership having joined the Society in 1914. He was a prolific collector of anything collectable including stamps, coins, match boxes, medals and badges. He will be sadly missed by the Royal Philatelic Society who enjoyed each year an exhibit by Mr. Alexander which he invariably showed under the heading of "Bits and Pieces." He leaves a wife to whom go the condolences of all the Philatelists who knew him.

* * * *

PERCY C. BISHOP

It is with sincere regrets that I have to mention of the passing of an old stalwart of the Society, P. C. Bishop. Although not known to many of us newer members P.C.B. was a very keen worker for the hobby. He came to this country early in 1920 as editor of the Natal Advertiser, a post he held until his retirement, just before World War II. During that period he was a very active member of your Society having sat in many committees and as one of your Presidents. He was elected as an Honorary Life Member in 1930. On leaving the Union he presented to the Society a handsome Silver Bowl for competition amongst members. This is known as the P. C. Bishop Trophy and today is awarded to the best exhibit of the year for British Empire Stamps. To his relatives we extend our heartfelt sympathies. His passing is a great loss to the Hobby.—(Hon. Sec., P.S. of Natal).

The death is reported in the press of P. C. Bishop, at the age of 92. He was a very active journalist by profession, and had been elected R.D.P. in England for his philatelic journalism before he came to Durban in 1920. His activities were many and amongst things other than his regular journalistic work he found time to be president of Durban Rotary and a Durban City Councillor.

He kept up his interest in philately throughout, especially organisation work, and was elected to our Roll of Honour in 1948. A photograph and biography appears in the S.A.Ph. Vol. 30, 1954 p. 101. It may be

mentioned that he still kept up his interest in philately after he retired and went back to England—Stamps and Posts of Lonely islands being one of his favourites and only a few months ago we had a letter from him about the posts of the islands lying S.E. and S.W. of South Africa.—(J.H.H.P.).

* * * *

CAPT. CHAS. EMERSON HUSTON

A Tribute.

A cable from London conveyed the sad news that Capt. Chas. Emerson Huston died at his home in Barrow-on-Soar, on November 30th at the age of 71.

Over a fairly short period of years Capt. Huston specialised in the stamps of the Cape of Good Hope and at the time of his demise the collection was possibly the finest of its kind in the world.

South African philatelists will remember that the collection won the Grand Prix at the 1952 Cape Town International Philatelic Exhibition; later, in 1956, at the International Philatelic Exhibition in New York it gained a special award as the best British Empire exhibit.

All the time Capt. Huston, although a sickly man, was adding to and improving his collection and his last achievement, which might be described as his masterpiece, was completed only shortly before his passing.

This was the reconstruction of a plate of 120 pairs of the triangular 4d. blue stamp printed by Perkins Bacon of London in 1853-54.

All South African philatelists extend sincere condolences to his widow and the members of his family.

It is understood that Messrs. Stanley Gibbons are attending to the disposal of the collection.

—ERNEST HUNT.

CENTRAL AFRICAN FEDERATION

The Commonwealth Stamp Coy. report a constant flaw in the Kariba Dam 3d. A break in the shading of the river in the Gorge gives the appearance of a clear channel right through in the river, whereas normally there is no such clear way. It occurs on No. 5 of Row 4.

CONGO

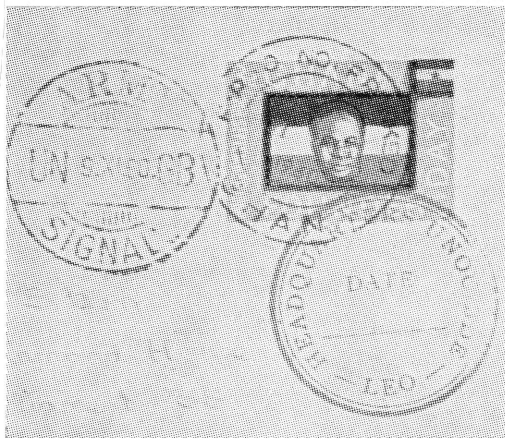
Ghana Brigade Mail.

Through the good offices of Capt. M. F. Stern and of the "Cape Argus" we are able to give the following information and illustration about the Ghana Army Post in the Congo.

Capt. Stern writes: I can supply these particulars through the courtesy of Capt. M. Weiner, Brigade Signal officer, H.Q. Ghana Infantry Brigade, Luluoborg.

Ghana has no Field Postal Unit but the Brigade signal troops look after mail in the Congo in addition to its normal tasks. Incoming mails accumulate in Accra and are usually forwarded by air twice weekly. They are franked G.F.P.O. 1 before being sent off.

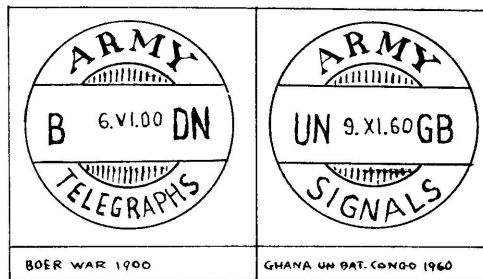
Mail from soldiers to Ghana goes unstamped and unfranked.



Mail from the Congo to points outside Ghana pays normal rates, in Ghana stamps sold in the Congo. They are sometimes franked with the Brigade Stamp (Unoc Bde-Leo) in purple. In addition there is the Army Signals date stamp bearing the letters UN and GB (United Nations—Ghana Brigade). The stamp is also cancelled "F.P.O. No. 1 Franked/Ghana." (In the illustration there does not appear to be any numeral "1".—Ed.). Such letters are forwarded through Ghana. The dates are: Army Signals mark, 9.XI.60; F.P.O. mark (applied in Ghana), 11 NO 1960. The cover arrived in Cape Town on Nov. 18th.

* * * *

To illustrate the origin of the Army Signals mark Mr. C. F. Hegardt of Cape



Town has sent us the two drawings shown. Whether there was also an "Army Signals" mark (additional to the "Army Telegraphs") used in the 1899-1902 war, we are uncertain. There were certainly "Army Signals" marks of similar type used in World Wars I and II.

Actually the origin of this type of mark can be traced further back. In his "Philately of the Anglo-Boer War" Rich, in a footnote on p. 194 says that in the U.S.A. this type of marking is generally known as the "Swiss type" because they are most widely known in early use in Switzerland.

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

"THE UNION SPECIALIST"

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UNO

Two stamps, 4c and 8c were due for release on 9th December, honouring the International Bank for Reconstruction and Development.

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THE SNIP

By Celia Robin, Ermelo

Alan leapt from the two-seater and walked back pretending to examine the parking.

Well he knew that everything was in order where all too few cars were parked in the huge space at the back of the country Railway Station, but it gave him an excuse to admire anew the elegant little model. His heart rejoiced. Never before had he known such delirious joy as when old Wilks put the keys of the car into his hand, making him the owner. Not even when he had got his degree and sensed thro' the graduation ceremony his widowed mother's pride; not even when he had received his recent teaching appointment to a city school.

Those were pleasures earned, to be taken in his stride, so to speak. But the possession of the car was something different, something exciting, something soul-stirring!

But following close on the heels of his joy, came, like a wet blanket, the reminder of his guilt.

It was maddening, and he was quite prepared to admit now the rightness of his grandmother's teaching, which he had rather doubted as a boy—the grey-haired, straight-laced grandmother of the high-necked blouses and billowy skirts, who had said, oozing rectitude: "don't think, if you take something that doesn't belong to you, it will make you happy; it won't; it will only land you in deeper trouble." Assuredly she was right if by the deeper trouble she meant **conscience pricks**.

For that "still, small voice" rose above all the tumult of joy.

"And yet," he maintained, "it would have been a positive sin to forego such a snip"—a snip occasioned by old Wilks' sudden trip abroad.

"To anyone who knows something about a car," he continued, "to anyone who knows that finicky old bachelor, £400 is . . . is a give-away."

And he recalled his battle with temptation.

Means of his own he had none; in fact, part of his salary was already pledged to repay his education loan.

On putting some of his mother's letters into her bureau, since she was away for the

week-end, he had caught sight of her stamp album, the very album she had shown old Wilks, also a keen philatelist, a few weeks ago. He had approved of her collection, and offered £400 for it.

But, "it is not for sale," she had said.

Long had Alan pondered the problem; long had he battled with temptation—he knew nothing about stamps. In the end, believing that his mother, herself, would get an enormous amount of pleasure out of the car, he had yielded.

Having the car, he'd be able to come home for week-ends, there'd be jaunts to the city for her, outings for both of them. Truly the car seemed to be the gateway to a deal of pleasure. On that note he had taken the album across to old Wilks and swapped it for the car.

Now he had to face the music.

Even as he dallied, the whistle blew and the train steamed in. Alan ran to the platform and followed the carriage from which his mother had waved.

"Hullo, Alan, how are you?" She was as friendly as ever. "Take these things" and she proceeded to hand him thro' the window her suitcase, some flowers and a basket. There was a magazine on Philately, which she had doubtless read on the journey, in the basket. He winced. It was as if an icy wind cut across his genial warmth, and his grandmother's prediction of deeper trouble echoed on the waft.

Quite soon his mother joined him on the platform.

"You take the flowers, Mom, I have a car here for you."

Collecting the suitcase and basket he led the way to the back of the station.

"Oh" she cried, catching sight of the two-seater, "how charming of Mr. Wilks to lend us his car!"

And climbing in and settling herself, she repeated "how very charming of the old gentleman."

"Is everything alright, Alan?"

"Quite alright. Had a good time, Mom? You look better. It does you good to get away for a bit." He started the car.

"I always say you spend too much time indoors huddled over those stamps of yours."

"Oh, Alan," she cried, "I'm so excited, I can hardly wait to tell you. Something so

wonderful has happened, you'll hardly believe it.

You remember that stamp I pasted in last week? The one with the defective perforations?"

"Oh, that one!" He seemed very intent on something in the road as he drove along.

"I didn't think at the time it was so valuable. You often smile and look askance at my stamp-friends, but it must have been providence who led me to the counter that day. I was apparently one of the very few lucky ones to get hold of a stamp; the issue was withdrawn soon after. I see in this latest magazine that it is selling for £400. Can you believe it? I told you we'd be rich one day!"

◆

AUCTION NEWS

Robson Lowe has recently sold the collection of Hong Kong and Treaty Ports formed by Mr. G. F. Burghard of New York for £16,000. This collection was awarded gold medals at both London 1960 and Unipex, at the latter winning also the Cape Town Royal Philatelic Society's special award for the best British Commonwealth collection.

H. R. Harmer Inc. (New York) obtained over \$71,000 (as against their expected \$65,000) for the Milton Holmes U.S.A. collection. The star item was an unused 1869 3c with the flags inverted which fetched \$6,000.

John Wicks, Durban. The main item at the November Sale was the collection of Great Britain formed by the late C. Selwyn Smith who for so many years acted as Secretary of the Natal Philatelic Society. This great study of British stamps and postal history was of interest both to the specialist and to the ordinary collector by reason of its completeness and the splendid manner in which it is written up.

Some of the outstanding prices realised were:—

The Franking System 1740-1840 (80 entires and fronts)	£20 0 0
Postmarks of Great Britain from 1673 (57 pages)	£25 0 0
Penny Posts (53 pages com- mencing with 7 Dockwra type entires)	£30 0 0
1844 Postmarks (85 pages with maps of all countries)	£30 0 0

1844 Postmarks of London In- land Office and London dis- trict	£17 10 0
Maltese Cross Cancellations on the 1d. and 2d.	£42 0 0
Reconstructed sheet of the 2d. Blue, Plate 3	£30 0 0
Some 200 surface printed stamps of 1855-1884	£25 10 0

This was quite a notable occasion, but it is understood that the majority of the lots were purchased for Rhodesia.

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FRANCE

The Minister of Posts and Telecommunications has announced the following issues:

- 24 October, 0.30 NF in honour of Madame de Staël.
- 5 November, 0.15 NF dedicated to Gen. Estienne, born in 1860.
- 5 November, 0.20 NF for Marc Sangnier, writer and social educationalist.
- 14 November, 0.30 and 0.50 NF stamps as propaganda for nature protection.
- 14 November 14, 0.20 NF commemorating 20th anniversary of the Order of Liberation.
- 21 November, 0.30 NF honouring André Honnorat, politician, specially interested in social work.

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RECTANGULARS. POSTMARKS.

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

References from new customers please.

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STOBOROUGH CROFT,
WINCHESTER, ENGLAND.

THE POSTAGE STAMPS OF PALESTINE 1917—1948

By **Wilfrid Kark**

(Continued from page 213 of December, 1960, issue).

Lithographed Issue—(Continued).

Because of a tendency to curl during rouletting, extra pressure was exercised and, consequently, the top sheet of each stack became ribbed; since the rouletting process was done across one direction first and then at right angles to this at a second procedure, both vertical and horizontal ribbing occur and occasionally both occur on the same sheets.

It may be difficult, or impossible, to distinguish between the first issue of the surcharged value on ungummed paper and the later issue from which the gum may have been removed; specimens bearing the control numbers are, of course, beyond any doubt; the presence of quartz-like particles are significant; and on used copies, the earlier issue would be defined by cancellation dates between February 16th and March 4th, 1918.

There are some well recognised errors in these lithograph stamps, for example the error "millilmes" and the partly missing Arabic surcharge are both rarities; particularly the former.

The process of printing by lithography includes the making of "transfers" from one "stone" plate to another; such transfers may involve alterations in the details of the design. In the printing of the 1 piastre, 4 transfers, D, G, B, and F have been discovered; for the surcharge, Hoexter and Lachman (1) record that 8 transfers were prepared. Recent research by Dorfman (2) has thrown new light on these transfers.

An anecdote, worthy of the telling, concerns the complimentary gifts of the early issues. King George of England asked for the first block to be sent to him; and there was also a request for specimens by the Sultan of Egypt. Col. Warren sent complimentary blocks to them and also to the Prince of Wales, British Ministers, the Commanding Officers, and all his personal friends.

The Sultan of Egypt was not satisfied with blocks of 4, but wanted whole sheets of each issue, despite the fact that some were out of print. An amusing correspon-

dence ensued: on November 14th, 1918, his A.D.C. requested from the D.A.P.S. reprints of out-of-stock issues so as to gratify the Sultan's wishes. Col. Warren objected; he claimed that reproductions of out-of-date sheets would meet with the disapproval of the Home Authorities and would be condemned by the whole philatelic world; he stated in his letter to the A.D.C. that the Sultan had already had complimentaries in excess of those sent to His Majesty the King, the Prince of Wales, and so on. However, the Sultan was very persistent; he invited the C. in C., Gen. Bols, to dine at the palace, and there pressed his request. Gen. Bols promised to help, and he wrote to Warren accordingly, saying "it would be Politic to do so just now." Warren felt compelled to comply; he withdrew a sheet from his own collection and sent it to the Sultan.

Typographed Issue.

The two values 1 piastre and 5 mls., could not meet the demands of the growing service. A set of 11 denominations was ordered from the Board of Inland Revenue, Somerset House, London. The same design as was used for the former issue was typographically reproduced in sheets of 240, in 2 panes of 10 rows of 12 stamps, one above the other, separated by a row of gutters with coloured bars; the whole sheet was surrounded by a solid-coloured jubilee line. White wove paper with Royal Cypher watermark in column was used. It was comb perforate, 15 x 14, from right to left. The plates were built up of a block of 24 units (1-24) and a block of 96 units (25-120) for the top pane; the block of 96 was repeated in positions 121-216, and another block of 24 in the position 217-240.

On July 16th, 1918, the values 1, 2 and 4 mls., and 2 and 5 piastres, were issued. The size of the design, 19 x 23 mm., was found to be unsatisfactory for perforating, and therefore the size of subsequent issues was reduced to 18 x 21½ mm.

The following were the dates of the issue of the remaining values:—

September 25, 1918 5 mls.
 November 9, 1918 1 piastre.
 December 17, 1918 3 mls., 9 & 10 piastres.
 December 27, 1918 20 piastres.

This typographed issue was used in Palestine, Transjordan, Syria, Lebanon and Cilicia.

There were many printings of this issue, and there are at least two distinct colours for each value. There are considerable numbers of plate flaws; the 9 piastres has been described as having a re-entry; but Hirst (3) has recently refuted this and has argued that there is a doubly printed stamp in the position No. 120, and that its rarity is due to early repair of the plate. The 1 piastre has occasionally been found with an inverted watermark; and there are a number of other well-established varieties.

By the end of 1918, the 2 piastres appeared with rough perforations; later, by the end of 1919, the values from 1 ml. to 5 piastres had such perforation.

The stamps were withdrawn from sale from August 31st, 1920, and we demonetised on May 1st, 1922.

Civil (Mandate) Administration.

Civil authorities, with Sir Herbert Samuel as the first High Commissioner, took over the administration on July 1st, 1920.

Colonel F. Warren appreciated that the E.E.F. stamp would become unsuitable with the advent of a Civil Authority; and he wrote to G.H.Q. to this effect on October 2nd, 1919.

He suggested that until a new issue was ready, the E.E.F. stamps be overprinted "Palestine." Brig. Gen. Wavell of G.H.Q. was in a quandary as to which department, War Office or Foreign Office, to send this suggestion; so he decided that the use of the E.E.F. stamps should continue until the political situation became clearer.

On July 14th, 1920, Sir Herbert Samuel wrote to the newly appointed Postmaster General of Palestine, Major W. Hudson, advising him that, pending the issue of definitives for Palestine, the E.E.F. set bearing a trilingual overprint of "Palestine" in English, Arabic and Hebrew, should be used; he further ordered that the initials aleph yod, the abbreviation for Eretz Israel, were to follow the Hebrew word "Palastina."

This aroused protests from Jews, as the land had never been called "Palastina" in

Hebrew, and also from the Arabs who regarded the initials "EI" in Hebrew as a political concession to the Jews. The Arabs sought a Court injunction to restrain the Govt. from using the Hebrew initials, and they also asked for the addition of the letters "SJ" (for Southern Syria) after the Arabic "Falastin." The Court rejected this petition.

The First Overprint

The first overprint was done by the Greek Orthodox Convent, Jerusalem. A trial overprint was made with the Hebrew line giving the letters Aleph Yod first instead of at the end of the line as on the issued stamp; only a few sets of this trial overprint are known and they are extremely valuable.

On the 1 piastre stamp the overprint is in silver, and on all other values it is in black. The Arabic is 8 mm. long, the English 14 $\frac{3}{4}$ mm., and the Hebrew is 13 $\frac{3}{4}$ mm. long. Rough perforations have been found on values from 1 ml.-5 piastres; misplaced overprints, horizontal or vertical, occur; plate varieties, apart from those found on the unoverprinted issue, occur on the new printings of the typograph stamps, and are peculiar to this issue.

There were two settings; both were set up from printers type and multiplied to build up the overprinting plates. All values from 1 ml.—20 piastres, excepting the 1 piastre, exist of setting 1 with a perforation of 15 x 14; of the 2nd setting all values, including the 1 piastre, exist with perforation 15 x 14 and the 2, 3 and 5 mls. are found with perforation 14.

All the values of the first setting were issued on September 1st, 1920; the 1 piastre, setting 2 also appeared on this date; the dates of issue of the other values of the 2nd setting are not known.

(To be continued).

EXCHANGES WANTED

(1) Professor Michael Reichardt of Box 14, Varpalota, Hungary, wishes to receive stamps of Africa in exchange for stamps of Central Europe, mint, used or on F.D.C.'s.

(2) Mrs. Sylvia Morley, of 136 Place Leroux, Ste. Rose, Quebec, Canada, has an extensive world-wide collection and some 2,000 duplicates, mint and used, which she would like to exchange for stamps of Southern Africa.

A THIRD ISSUE IN THE $\frac{1}{2}$ ^D SPRINGBOK'S HEAD CROSS-HATCHED GROUP

By S. J. Hagger

We are pleased to have confirmation from Mr. M. J. Rall of Heidelberg, Cape Province, who has just broken up a complete sheet of it, that there was, as had been rumoured from time to time, a third issue of half-penny Springbok stamps of the Cross-hatched Group.

There can be no doubt about this, as the arrows on the sheet in question, although of a similar type, differ in size or in the distances to the edges of the adjoining stamps, from those of the two issues already listed in the Union Handbook/Catalogue.

The arrow on the bottom margin is a very small one indeed, and the distances in millimetres (measured from the frame of the stamp to the outside edge of the arrow) for each of the three issues are set out in the table below for comparison.

Arrow	Plate XV	Plate XVA	New Discovery
Top	7	7	7
Left	7	7 $\frac{1}{2}$	7 $\frac{1}{2}$
Right	8	8	6
Bottom	7	7	6

Although the exterior part of the design is similar to that of the other two issues, in that roughly the same amount of cross-hatching shows in the top and bottom bars, the interiors are quite different and would enable any stamp on the sheet to be distinguished from one from those of the other two issues. The buck's head and horns have the same solid outline as those of Plate XVA, but the horizontal lines of the background are much darker and more clearly defined, with the result that the head merges into the background instead of standing out from it.

A check of the varieties shows that the interior cylinder originated from the same multipositive as Plates XVA to XXII but must have represented the first use of it, because on Row 1/3 the line running downward from the tip of the right horn is scarcely visible, whereas in all the other issues it is clearly defined. Further, on Row

3/4 the "fly on the nose" is present but there is only a white patch near the base of the left ear; a retouching of this almost certainly created the well-known "bush-tick" variety.

Both of the exterior multipositive varieties are present, i.e. the smudge near the top right corner of Row 9/12, and another one to the right of the lower end of the left hand bar of row 14/1. This almost certainly indicates only a third use of this multipositive because that on Row 9/12 is not present in either of the other two cross-hatched issues, while both persisted from issues XVA to XXI.

This apparent contradiction in the occurrence of the interior and exterior multipositive varieties has certainly created a problem for the compilers of the next Handbook/Catalogue, who will have to decide just where this newly reported issue fits in. They will probably not be quite as profuse as we are in our congratulations and thanks to Mr. Rall.

CORRESPONDENCE

The Editor,
South African Philatelist.
Sir,

SOUTH AFRICAN AIRGRAPHS

Mr. R. D. Allen's article published in the October-November issues has entailed considerable research into this interesting phase of wartime postal history, and his discoveries make most interesting reading. His check-list appears to be complete, and I have only one criticism to offer.

Christmas Greetings Airgraph forms were sold over the Post Office counters, without any verses printed on them. The three types of processed forms described by Mr. Allen with additional verses are, therefore in effect, unofficial—the extra printing having been done privately, or in some instances semo-officially for use by certain Military or Air Force Units. Some large commercial firms, and quite a number of individuals adapted the Christmas Greetings forms to express their sentiments in printed verses or with illustrations. Yours etc.—I. H. C. GODFREY, Box 2838, Johannesburg.

PORTRAIT GALLERY

XXVI

Of the ten men who enter the Portrait Gallery this time by far the most interesting are Niels Finsen and King Lancelot II of Poland, whose stamps are illustrated herewith.

Niels Ryberg Finsen was born of Icelandic parents in the Faroe Islands on December 15, 1860, and it is strange that Denmark rather than Iceland has honoured his centenary, specially as young Niels spent his schooldays in Reykyavik. It was doubtless the strong contrasts between light and darkness in that island of the Far North that first turned him to the study of light, particularly in its effect on living organisms. He graduated as Doctor of Medicine at Copenhagen in 1890, and after serving three years as prosecutor resigned to concentrate on the study of light and its reactions. Two years later he began publishing the results of his researches, showing how blue and violet and ultra-violet rays could play a large part in the cure of such diseases as lupus. His best-known work: "On the Employment in Medicine of Concentrated Chemical Rays" came out in 1896, and at once brought him fame. The same year, through the generosity of two wealthy Danes, supplemented by a Government loan, Finsen was able to found his Light Institute at Copenhagen, where 200 patients could be treated daily. By 1910 it could be recorded that 98% of those treated were healed.

Finsen was awarded in 1903 the Nobel Prize of 100,000 crowns, of which he donated half to the Institute and bequeathed to it the other half also after the death of his heirs. His outstanding achievements are the more remarkable in that from the age of 23 he was a semi-invalid and had to direct his Institute from his home. He died on September 24, 1904, when barely 44. The Finsen Lamp is his abiding memorial.

Of a very different order was Lancelot II of Poland, whose rather grim effigy confronts us on our second illustration. The varieties of his name, by the way, are almost endless, some of them being Ladislaus, Laszlo, Lancelot, Wladislaus and Wladislaw. This has led to considerable confusion in the catalogues. In Gibbons, for instance, Lancelot I appears as "St. Launcelot" on Hungary 520 (at times the kingdoms of

Hungary and Poland were merged) and as "St. Ladislas" on Hungary 618, whilst this effigy of Lancelot II is described as "King Wladyslaw"!



But by whatever name we call him, this man was a redoubtable figure. Born in 1350, he lived to be 84, a great age for those days. He was one of the 12 sons of Olgierd, Grand-duke of Lithuania, whom he succeeded in 1377. The Teutonic Order of Knights was then extremely powerful, and Jagiello, as Lancelot was generally called, was at continual feud with them. An unprincipled pagan in his early years, he murdered his uncle Kiegstut, Ruler of Samogitia, to further his ambitions, and offered his hand to Jadwiga the young Queen of Poland on condition that she shared her throne with him. Jadwiga promptly jilted her fiancé William of Austria and married Jagiello on February 18, 1386, three days after he had professed conversion to Christianity. He thus became King of Poland. He was as forthright a "Christian" as he had been a pagan, at once proceeding to "convert" Lithuania. "At Vilna on February 17, 1387, a stately concourse of noble and prelates, headed by the King, proceeded to the grove of secular oaks beneath which stood the statue of Perkunos and other idols, and in the presence of an immense multitude hewed down the oaks, destroyed the idols, extinguished the sacred fire, and elevated the Cross on the desecrated heathen altars, 30,000 Lithuanians receiving Christian Baptism." The Ruler of Ruthenia was the next to submit to Polish domination, and then the Princes (Hospodars) of Wallachia and Moldavia. For a while Jagiello recognised Lithuanian independence, but at the Battle of Grünwald, 1410, which this set of three commemorates, the two territories were joined under Jagiello, thus dealing a staggering blow to the

Teutonic Knights and making Poland a leading power in Europe, a position she maintained for 200 years. Jagiello's sons by his fourth wife, Lancelot (Bulgaria SG 361) and Casimir, both became Kings of Poland. This stamp, with the heraldic devices of the principalities Jagiello brought under his sway, is packed with interest. A colourful, if controversial, character!

The other eight must have only brief mention, in catalogue order. Here is the bewigged Finn Johan Gadolin, born in 1760, with the name, gadolinium, of the element named after him, and its atomic weight. Here is another Finn, with a wise, kindly face, the writer Nortamo, born just a century ago, and yet another President of the newly constituted Black Republics, Maurice Yameogo of Upper Volta:

And thick and fast they came at last,
And more and more and more.

Here is a further excellent engraving by F. Gall, in the series of prominent Hungarians, this time of the novelist Ferenc Mora. Next, a statue of the Italian explorer Vittorio Bottego, in honour of his centenary. Then, one of the most extraordinary portraits of all time, from Portugal. We are asked to believe that this depicts Padre Cruz, dead these hundred years, after a painting by Barata, but it is hard to credit that this is not one of Arthur Rackham's best efforts at portraying a gnome. Here are all the fixings—the pointy ears, the great beak of a nose, the malicious grin, the hairless cranium—if ever there was a pukka kobold, this is it!

Last, two more Russians, General Cherniakovsky, complete with one of his battles, and the statesman V. M. Sverdlov, trying to look intellectual!

—W. LOXLEY CHAMINGS.

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REVIEWS AND SHORT NOTICES

"Simplified" Catalogue. Stanley Gibbons.
Price 22/6 net, postage 2/4d.

There is obviously a demand for this type of catalogue as last year's large edition sold out in three months. But how it grows in size—it will soon take its place in a weight lifting competition! It now lists 102,800 stamps, with 16,200 illustrations and this without going into details of perforations and watermarks; where there are such varieties only the cheapest one is listed.

It should appeal mainly to beginners and to the ever-growing host of thematic collectors, but it is a very handy book of reference for more advanced collectors wishing to keep in touch with the stamps of countries which are not their main interest.

Stamp Collecting by Stanley Phillips. 7th Ed. Stanley Gibbons, 391 Strand, London W.C.2. Price 21/- net.

This is a fully revised and brought up-to-date edition of what has long been recognised as one of, if not **the**, most comprehensive guide to stamp collecting.

Practically every phase of the hobby is dealt with, and in a most interesting and readable manner. You can use it on occasions as an encyclopaedia of Philately, but we can also recommend it for half-an-hour's reading every night; if you are at all interested in stamps you will find it a pleasant and useful change from a "thriller."

Muddara Toratura.

We have received a copy of this "Stamp Review," which is the only philatelic magazine published in Ceylon. It is all in the official language—Sinhalese—and, as the editor says (in English), "you will probably not understand a word of it, but you will be able to see that it is a philatelic publication." It is published at P.O. Box 8, 99 North Coast Road, Trincomalee.

Philatelic Societies Year Book. Published by the B.P.A. at 3 Berners St., London W1, Price 2/-.

A useful compendium giving particulars about practically every philatelic Society, general and specialist, in Great Britain, and of a number of affiliated societies overseas, including six in South Africa. There is also a list of Dealer Members of the B.P.A.

The Post Office Tree at Mossel Bay.

In *Africana Notes and News* for June, 1960, there appears an informative, illustrated article on the above tree by Sylvester L. Crozet. The landing of the Portuguese navigator Joao da Nova in 1501 at the "Bay of Herdsmen," as Mossel Bay was then called, is described as is also the finding of a letter which had been left hanging in the tree; for it was from this episode that the tree obtained the name by which it is known to-day.

A botanical description of this land-mark, which is now 480 years old, as well as its dimensions are recorded.

The tree was proclaimed an Historical Monument in September 1938 and its care is now entrusted to the Town Council of Mossel Bay which has set aside an extensive area for the preservation of this link with the past.

Copies of the issue in which the article appears are obtainable from the Director, *Africana Museum*, Public Library, Johannesburg, at 5/- each.

German Colonies by Dr. Ey.

The Waltham Stamp Co. of 152 Finchley Road, London NW3 announce a new edition of this work practically double the size of the first edition. The number to be printed is limited. Price £3-15s., post free.

Fine Arts Philatelist.

We have been sent Vol. 6, No. 4 of this publication for review. This bulletin is published by the Fine Art unit of the American Topical Association at 915 Nelson Drive, Muskogee, Oklahoma, U.S.A. It contains a wealth of information about stamps, persons, places and things—all such as could come under the heading Fine Arts.

Stamp Collectors' Annual. Harris Publications Ltd., 27 Maiden Lane, Strand, London W.C.2. Price 3/6d.

This little volume follows its predecessors in having a number of interesting articles on a variety of subjects, among which may be mentioned—stamps of the XVII Olympiad, East African Anniversary, World Refugee Year, Currency Guide, Sarawak, Collecting Postmarks is Fun, etc., etc. In the "Best Designs of 1960" the Canadian stamp featuring Adam Dollard, Sieur des Ormeaux is put as No. 1. Two other commonwealth items are put amongst the first ten—the 1d. Norfolk Is. flower stamps and the Australian 8d. Tiger Cat.

A list of the philatelic publications, revised and up to date is given; this was omitted last year.

BASUTOLAND

Quthing—No. 433.

Since the finding of the Teyateyaneng numeral No. 688 "killer" cancellation a short while back, there only appeared to be one more to discover, viz. Quthing.

Butha Buthe and Qacha's Nek may have been allocated a number, but it is thought unlikely, as these Post Offices opened some time later. For a while it was thought that the number 407 was indeed Quthing owing to the recognition of a Quthing resident's writing on a piece with this cancellation, but a short while ago, Dr. Harvey Pirie found a cover which proved that this number was Matatiele.

Recently, Mr. John Wicks and I visited Morija, and had the opportunity of going through a large quantity of old letters which the Revd. A. Brutsch had found in Durban, and had brought up to sort out and sell for the owner.

Amongst them was a cover with a Queen Victoria embossed 1d. cancelled with a "killer" No. 433, and with the Quthing single ring datestamp April 24th, 1908. It was addressed to Paleallong, P.O. Fairview, East Griqualand. It is backstamped Matatiele and Fairview. It can therefore be taken as proved that Quthing's number is 433.

While on the subject of Basutoland, the writer was told by the Comptroller of Posts that there had been no new Agencies opened or closed during the past twelve months.

Decimalised Provisionals.

He was also shown the list of stamps which are to be issued on February 14th—decimalisation day. These are to be the present Pictorial set **overprinted** as follows: ½c, 1c, 2c, 2½c, 3½c, 5c, 10c, 12½c, 25c, 50c and R1. **Total cost R2.12.** Two postage due labels of 1c and 5c—costing 6c the two. Postcards, 2c each (non-pictorial). Aerogrammes, 5c each. Registered envelopes: Small, 7½c; and large, 8½c each. All orders for first day covers must reach the Senior Postmaster, Maseru not later than February 14th, 1961. Each order must be accompanied by a self addressed envelope and with stiffening.

—G. N. GILBERT.

SWAZILAND

EARLY HISTORICAL COVER

In a press report recently I saw a note about two scrap books kept by Lord Baden Powell, which had come into the possession of the South African Public Library in Cape Town. One of these relates to his experiences while serving on the Swaziland Commission of 1889 on the staff of Sir Francis de Winton, the chief British Commissioner on that joint British-Z.A.R. Commission.

In this press report mention was made of a cover in this scrap book addressed to Capt. Baden Powell, C.M.G. (as he then was). Thinking, from the brief description given, that it might be a 3rd example of the official post to destinations outside of Swaziland, which operated in 1887-89. (See my booklet "The Stamps and Postal History of Swaziland and the New Republic" p. 12 and the "South African Philatelist," Vol. 36, 1960 p. 105). I wrote to Mr. D. H. Varley, the Chief Librarian, asking for further details and I am much indebted to him for information and for the photograph here reproduced.

It will be noted that the final part of Capt. Baden Powell's address is "Somewhere in Swaziland."

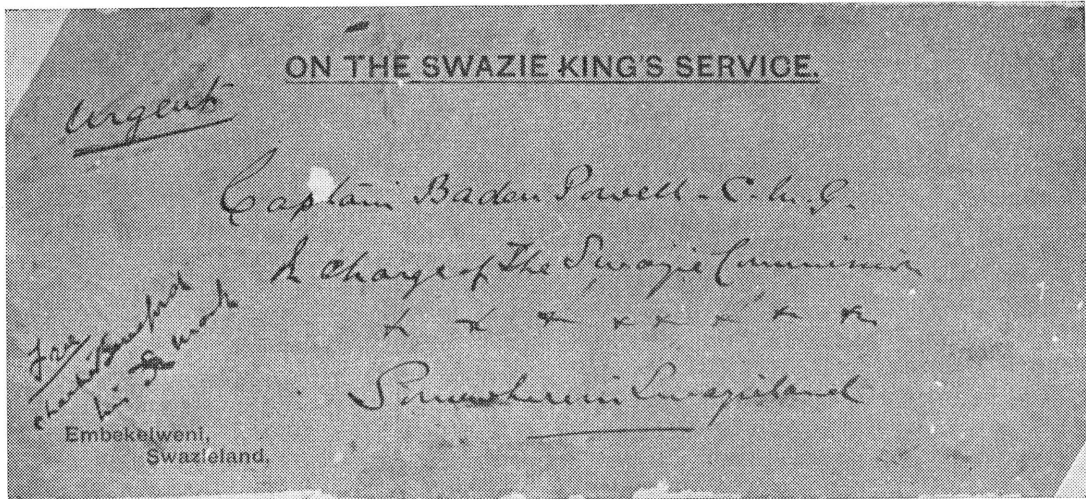
The inscription "Free/Charlie Beresford/His X mark" is explained elsewhere in the scrap book; it appears to have been part of a joke between "Offy" Shepstone and Baden Powell—Lord Charles Beresford being the nickname given to a diminutive native office boy on Shepstone's staff.

The "front" unfortunately gives no clue to its exact date of "posting," but it may be taken that it was before the end of 1889. The Commission's work had presumably finished by then as its findings were confirmed by the Swazi "King-in-Counsel" in December of that year.

It may safely be claimed therefore that this is the earliest example recorded of an "internal mail" in Swaziland.

Prior to 18th October, 1889, there were no postage stamps in use in Swaziland; after that date Z.A.R. stamps overprinted "Swaziland" were available. As an official letter, however, on the Swazie King's Service, it probably would not have required any stamps, hence it's being marked "Free" by Charlie Beresford!

—J. H. HARVEY PIRIE.



The "cover" is not actually a full cover, merely the "front of a blue foolscap envelope measuring 9 in. x 4 in. The top heading "On the Swazie King's Service" and the address "Embekelweni / Swaziland," are printed; the rest is all written in ink, in the handwriting of Theophilus Shepstone, who was Resident Adviser to the Swazi King from 1886 to 1889.

NETHERLANDS—CHILD WELFARE

A set of 5 stamps, valid for postal use from 14th Nov. to 13th Jan., featured children in the picturesque costumes of five places in the Yssellake area. The values (in cents) with the respective surcharges were: 4+4, 6+4, 8+4, 12+9 and 30+9.

STAMPS AND CRIME

Shanahan-Dublin.

A "Sapa-Reuter" report states that Paul Singer, Managing Director of Shanahan's, has been found guilty on charges of fraud, amounting to £956,624 and has been sentenced to 14 years' imprisonment.

Mr. Justice Hall said Singer had shown no mercy to the investors in his Company and could expect none from the court.

Dates of Issue of Stamps.

How these can provide evidence of fraud was shown recently in a Johannesburg case. Apparently the dates of certain receipts were in question and Mr. J. Booysen of the Government Printing Works was called to give evidence as to the date of issue of the stamps on the receipt.

He showed conclusively that the stamps had been printed on a certain date and that this was later than the cancelling dates of them on the receipts by periods varying from seven to two months. Ergo, the dates on the receipts could not be correct.

Even in New Zealand!

"Stamp News" reports that three directors of Stamp Investments (N.Z.) Ltd. were gaoled for periods of from one to three years for misappropriation, false pretences and conspiracy in connection with buying and selling stamps. Apparently some £82,000 had been entrusted to the Company by investors, but the directors paid

themselves substantial amounts from this money.

U.S.A.

- 11 January: Sixth "Credo" stamps (4c) Patrick Henry's "Give me Liberty or give me Death."
- 26 January: 4c and 8c stamps featuring Mahatma Gandhi in the Champions of Liberty series.
- 31 January: 4c for Range Conservation
- 3 February: 4 c, Horace Greeley in the Famous Americans series.

UNRECORDED CAPE NUMERAL CANCELLATION

Mr. D. T. Carter writes in "Stamp Collecting" that he has found a clear strike of the 9-bar oval numeral canceller (Jurgens Type 42, Fig. 66) on a pair of De La Rue triangulars, S.G. 18, the numeral being No. 8, but unfortunately there is no accompanying place-date stamp. Can anyone supply this?

No 8 is not listed by Jurgens at all, even amongst those with places of usage unknown. Nor is it recorded in any of the supplementary lists published from time to time in this magazine.

It is also interesting in being on triangulars, as such occurrences are seldom seen.

The South African Philatelist

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SOCIETY NEWS

PORT ELIZABETH P.S.

20/9/1960: Mr. Harmer—Pot Pourri. Mr. Harmer tabled a number of sheets from various countries which has the distinction of showing rarely seen items of the pre-1900 issues. His exhibit was mainly concentrated on British Empire stamps and their condition was absolutely flawless.

4/10/1960: Mr. Collins—Great Britain. Showed a very fine collection of Great Britain and he, like so many of our exhibitors, was particularly strong in the earlier issues. He gave a short talk on his collection and was suitably thanked by Mr. G. K. Forbes.

18/10/1960: There was a larger attendance than usual. Mr. Forbes provided a unique and fascinating exhibit, which he called "throw outs." This indeed was a fitting name, for no highbrow philatelist would permit into his collection the items shown. Few of the items would appear in the catalogue. A detailed description is impossible, as there was such an unrelated mixture of hundreds of cutouts, fiscals, forgeries, peculiar cancellations and what-nots, from the whole world. The best description was that of the country yokel, who after staring long and intently at the giraffe asserted "there ain't no such thing." After that Mr. Forbes shocked us back to reality with a large collection of Free French overprints. There were many printing errors. The usual auction completed an altogether satisfying evening.

1/11/1960: An excellent attendance in spite of powerful outside distractions. Mr. Keefe put on British Victorians. That was a real treat. Numerous Penny Black excellent margins. Most interesting was a Mulready front with S.G. 3(b) well tied. The interest was enhanced by the fact that the cover was addressed to "Lord Byron, House of Lords, Westminster." All the penny reds were there with the notorious exception of Plate 77. All the 12 numbered Maltese crosses were there, as well as a cover cancelled in Nassau, Bahamas. 2d. Blues were there in profusion—without white lines, ivory heads and S.G. 6 pale blue. We saw the 1867 £5, and the 1883 and 1887 £1. There were 10 sheets of mint stamps, outstanding among which were two panes of S.G. 206.

SOCIETY OF ISRAEL PHILATELY (JOHANNESBURG)

September meeting. Due to a bereavement Mr. Wacks was unable to proceed with the film evening. Mr. Boris Glassman stepped into the breach and displayed a cross section of mint issues of Israel which was awarded a Bronze Medal at UNIPEX. The exhibit was most interesting and it was a pity that the attendance was so poor.

P.S. OF NATAL (DURBAN)

November. The first meeting of the month held at Forest House brought together the usual forty members. On this occasion we were honoured with a visit from the President of Federation and President of the Royal Cape Town Society, Mr. Versino. At the beginning of the meeting there was a fair Auction which kept our Auctioneer, Mr. Ray Walsh, on his toes to complete all the items in the allotted period. The business side of the meeting did not take too long finishing up with a breezy talk from Mr. Versino who touched on quite a few subjects finally ending up with an invitation to any and all members of the Natal Society to visit Cape Town next October for the National Philatelic Exhibition. He looked forward to quite a few exhibits from the Natal Society. The Exhibit of the evening was displayed by Mr. L. Bevis. He exhibited a portion of his Flora Exhibition which attracted a lot of attention. Dr. Morris in proposing the vote of thanks said how surprised he was at the number of stamps that depicted some flora that was used in the preparation of medicine. He congratulated Mr. Bevis in getting together such a fine collection.

The second meeting was held on 17th November in the usual meeting place. There was the usual turn out and during evening several items changed hands.

ROYAL PHILATELIC SOCIETY OF CAPE TOWN

November 8: Some 30 members went over to Paarl to pay their annual visit to the Paarl Philatelic Society. The following showed: Mrs. Bergman, "Covers"; Mrs. H. Jeidel, "Congo"; Miss S. Savidge, "Ships on Stamps"; Mrs. I. Hall, "Waterfalls on Stamps"; Miss R. Polchett, "Queen Elizabeth" (thematic); Mr. Figov, "Southern Rhodesia"; Mr. R. Jeidel, "League of Nations"; Mr. R. F. Putzell, "German States"; Mr. A. G. Versino, "G.B. Line Engraved Stamps"; Mr. R. F. Putzell, "Zepelin Mails"; Mr. F. Archer, "Roman States"; Mr. M. Shifrin, "Q.E. stamps with varieties"; Mr. Momen, "Ghana"; Mr. W. G. Combrink, "Argentine: Proofs and Essays." Paarl put up a really unforgettable spread for the visitors.

November 10: Mr. N. C. Combrink showed selected Boer War items and gave a particularly fine talk on these items which were chiefly British mails. He was followed by Mr. J. S. Malan, who showed yet another section of his fine Unions, including several airmail covers. Here again members were able to hear a fine talk, which led to discussion.

November 24: This was Ladies' Night when the Simenhoff Cup was competed for. There were the following exhibits: "Islands" by Miss G. Hoffmann; "Children on Stamps" (the only thematic exhibit and a good one) by Mrs. Bergman; "Through the Years" (issues 1935 to 1960) by Miss Sheelah

Savidge; "Monaco" by Mrs. Hilda Jeidel (a very complete collection). The standard of the exhibits was very high, and the final decision went to Miss Hoffmann, who is to be congratulated on her showing.—M.F.S.

THEMATIC STAMP CLUB (CAPE TOWN)

November 14: This was indeed a novel evening as the motif was "Black Africa" and proved most interesting, especially the talks. The following was shown: Mr. Simson, "French Equatorial Africa"; Mrs. H. Jeidel, "Liberia"; Mr. R. F. Putzell, "Somalia"; Mr. R. F. Putzell, "French Colonies" (past Colonies); Mr. E. Atlas, "Ethiopia"; Mr. Hurter, "Ghana"; Mr. Jeidel, "Ghana"; Dr. Vautier, "Miniature sheets of African States and Egypt"; Mr. R. C. Steinbauer, "Madagascar"; Mr. K. Cameron, "North Rhodesia" (this may be a future prophesy); Capt. M. F. Stern, "New Issues 1959 to 1960 of African States."

November 28: The Club were indeed privileged to view two collections of Mr. Nico Combrink, "Agriculture," and "Petroleum." It is quite a pleasure to see such fine thematic exhibits, which are beautifully set out. There were many additions since they were last shown. —M.F.S.

AFRIKAANSE FILATELISTEVERENIGING (JOHANNESBURG)

Sake het met die jongste byeenkoms op **Vrydag 4 deser**, nie na verwagting verloop nie. Ongelukkig is twee van die uitstallers van die Wesrand ter elfde ure verhoed om aanwesig te wees met die gevolg dat hulle vereniging swakker as gewoonlik verteenwoordig was, terwyl dit op die skouers van mnre. Keet en Smith gerus het om die naam van die Wesrandse vereniging hoog te hou.

Mnr. Keet het 'n buitengewone vertoning van die Unie se Kers- en ander liefdadigheidseëls gelewer, 'n versameling wat netjies en paslik toegelig is met die ampelike pospapier en reklamestukke. Alhoewel genoemde seëls nie posseëls is nie, is daar 'n toenemende belangstelling in hulle. Versamelaars reken dat die Unie nog eendag jaarliks Kersseëls met posgeldigheid sal uitreik en dat die huidige reeks dan 'n noodsaaklikheid as voorlopers sal word.

Die tweede uitstalling is deur mnre. O. B. Smith gehou, en wel oor seëlboekies van Koningin Elizabeth. Dit is 'n klein maar interessante versameling wat heelwat aandag getrek het. Ook die versameling van hierdie soort materiaal wen vinnig veld. Mnr. Smith het 'n gebied met wyd uitgestrekte moontlikhede betree en hy sal genoeg hê om nooit ledig te wees nie.—S.J.V.

PRETORIA PHILATELIC SOCIETY

On **November 7th** the annual competition for the Lecky Watson Cup (ex Certificate of Merit) was held. The attendance at this meeting was much higher than usual, with nine visitors present.

The Lecky Watson Cup was presented for the first time on this evening by Mrs. May Dayson, on behalf of Mrs. Curtis, a niece of the late Mr. L. Watson, after whom the cup is named. There were no less than six entries for this fine trophy. Three judges were appointed, namely Commander Enoch, Dr. Reisner and Mr. F. Ferguson. Lots were drawn for the competitors to lay down their collections. The first to table his exhibit was Mr. D. J. C. Reynders, who tabled a collection of Southern Rhodesia from 1890. Second was Mr. R. N. Castignani, who exhibited Italian Airmails from 1917 to 1948. Third was Mr. J. H. Self, who tabled a collection termed "Trials and Errors of the Union of South Africa," from 1910 to 1932. Fourthly, we had a collection by Mr. L. J. Dodd, who tabled the Revenue Stamps of the Transvaal. Fifth was Mr. W. Impey, who exhibited American, Washington and Franklin Heads on stamps. Last on this programme was Dr. T. B. Berry, who tabled a cross-section of Unions from 1910 to 1960.

Time was the main factor on this occasion, as each exhibit was allowed fifteen minutes for scrutiny. The judges had a most difficult task as, not only were the exhibits of a high standard, but time was running out too fast to enable them to study each exhibit at their leisure. Members present had much to think and talk about. Commander Enoch announced that the winner was Mr. L. J. Dodd, for his outstanding piece of work on the Revenue Stamps of the Transvaal. Mr. Dodd is well-known for his collection and has made a deep study of this subject. He is a worthy winner. Dr. T. B. Berry was a very close second. —D.J.C.R.

O.F.S. PHILATELIC SOCIETY

October — President's Cup Competition. A spate of interesting collections were entered and judging was no easy matter.

The thirteen members and five visitors present gave great thought and attention to the task ahead of them, and the awarding of the cup to Mr. A. L. Meyburgh for his "Philatelic Terms" was acclaimed by all present. Mrs. J. P. G. Eksteen, wife of our President, made the award.

The following exhibits were shown:—

- (1) United States of America (with a thematic slant)—J. W. Hodgson.
- (2) South West Africa—G. H. van Rooyen.
- (3) Philatelic Terms—A. L. Meyburgh.
- (4) Scouts on Stamps—Junior M. Mountfort.
- (5) Huts on Stamps—M. Sacks.
- (6) Ghana—H. E. Roux.
- (7) United Nations—H. E. Roux.
- (8) Australia—D. H. MacDonald.
- (9) Miniature Sheets—A. L. Meyburgh.

All these (with the exception of Nos. 1 and 5) were straight collections, each tastefully displayed and each studded with "gems" which added to the pride of the exhibitor and the pleasure of the viewer.

A few words about Nos. 1 and 5. Mr. Hodgson's was indeed an unusual approach to the stamps of this country, for it showed inter alia, the life of various Presidents, beauty spots, and a 13-page history of the "Stars and Stripes." Mr. Sack's "Huts" showed a great deal of research, and each page was tastefully illustrated by sketches which detailed points of interest concerning the hut in question. This collection showed how primitively we lived thousands of years ago, and indeed just how primitively some races still live today. —A.H.S.

GERMISTON PHILATELIC SOCIETY

November 16. Again the attendance was good — some twenty-one members being present.

The evening proved most interesting, no less than six members providing displays. Ann Parkin tabled a portion of her collection of Mocambique while Mr. R. Bompas exhibited Library Terms on Stamps. Mr. Hesselbarth displayed his collection of Queen Elizabeth II and Mr. I. S. Burniston showed his collection of South West Africa. Mr. Drake provided an interesting item in Universal Postal Union issues while Mr. S. L. Crozet created keen interest in his collection of Some Unusual South African Postmarks.

Mr. Stolk, Hon. Sales Packet Superintendent, appealed to members to return Sales Packets without delay as some members were keeping the packets for a longer period than necessary. —S.L.C.

P.S. OF JOHANNESBURG

8th November. Prof. Watt displayed the Postal History of Indonesia collection which won a Silver award at Unipex. A magnificent display and the members were dumfounded with amazement that such a collection could have been assembled by one person.

Mr. Yelland shewed his collection of South African Air Letter sheets. This included some items of considerable rarity and, considering that he had not been long in this particular field, was a great credit to him.

28th November. Cdr. Enoch gave his farewell display, as he is very soon leaving Johannesburg for the "Bundu." It was entitled "A Fit of the Blues," consisting mainly of a highly specialised collection of the early British 2d. Blues. Almost every Plate was shown, some of them of great rarity. In his introductory remarks these were mentioned, but there were so many that when his audience came to look at the sheets, they could only remember a fraction of them. There was no one capable of talking intelligently on the technical side of the display, but every one was agreed that this was an example of assiduous research and specialisation at a very high level.

SOUTH AFRICAN STAMP COLLECTORS SOCIETY (Great Britain)

At the A.G.M. Mr. R. D. Allen, Snr., was elected Chairman for the ensuing year. At their exhibition the main theme was all printings of the pictorial definitives, including a complete display of the Darmstadt Trials.

ANGLO-BOER WAR P.S.

This Society, now in its fourth year, has some fifty members who are interested in the varied aspects of Boer War Philately. Members receive free a quarterly magazine of some 20 pages, have a Society library to draw on and have arranged several meetings (for U.K. members, so far) for discussion and informal display purposes. Officials for 1961 are: Dr. J. H. Harvey Pirie (President), Lt. Col. H. Poulter (Chairman), and Messrs. C. Lomax, C. E. Sherwood, F. d. K. Stephens, N. Snowden and J. H. Rathbone (Hon. Sec./Treas.). Annual subscription is 10 shillings (payable to Hon. Treas.) whose address is "Allways," Rudheath, Northwich, Ches., England.

AEROPHILATELIC CONGRESS AND EXHIBITION

An International Aerophilatelic Exhibition and Congress will be held at The Hague, Holland, August 4-14, 1961, under the auspices of the Netherlands Society of Aerophilatelists (The Flying Dutchman). It promises to be something really big. Prospectus No. 1 obtainable from Linnaluslaan 27, Haarlem, Holland.

MOROKULIEN

Has any one heard of this as a new stamp issuing territory? Probably not, as it has not so far issued its own stamps, but has its own postmarks, both those of fixed office and of Travelling P.O.'s.

The story of it is told by E. M. Larsen in "T.P.O.," Nov.-Dec. issue. A "state" of 4½ acres was founded jointly by Norway and Sweden on their boundary in connection with the International Refugee Year. This was in October, 1959, and a postal service has been operating, with some intermissions, since then, Norwegian or Swedish stamps, or a mixed franking of them being accepted. Up to December 1959 some 600,000 letters had been mailed.