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## SOUTH AFRICAN NOTES

By DR. H. J. RAUBENHEIMER,

Hon. Associate Editor.

## NEW ISSUES

### A NEW GREETINGS AEROGRAMME

A new Greetings Aerogramme has been delivered by the Government Printing Works. It has the same design as the preceding one but, in keeping with the recent trend in our philatelic matter, both the design and the inscriptions are presented in a bolder, clearer and more distinct type. The colours are deeper and the titles of the flora are markedly larger, for instance, the word KAFFERBOOM is 13 m.m. long in the previous issue, but 17 m.m. long in the new. The left vertical gummed strip is also longer. It now extends to the dotted line "Eerste vou — First fold" whereas the previous issues's was about 7 m.m. short of the dotted line.

It was printed on the Chambon machine on new cylinders prepared from new master negatives and new multipositives. An entirely new process was employed for this machine. It is called the offset gravure process, that is the imprint from the cylinder was made on to the same size rubber cylinder and then on to the paper. Furthermore, it was printed one up.

Four new cylinders were used: 12, green, 49, red, 47, blue and 1, gum, and 169,000 sheets were delivered. They cost 6c each.

### A NEW 1½c DEFINITIVE STAMP

Information has been received that the previous cylinders 225-226 have broken and that new ones have been prepared. It had been noticed that the Fouché stamps started with Cylinder numbers 249,250 while the preceding 5c stamp had the numbers 245,246. So 247,248 were missing. Enquiry confirmed that these had been used for a new 1½c stamp whose printing would only commence after the Fouché stamps were completed. Apart from the fact that the cylinder numbers would be 247, 248, and that the same multipositives had been used, no further information is as yet available as the stamps have not yet appeared.

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### FURTHER INFORMATION ON THE FOUCHÉ STAMPS

We have supplied a description of these stamps; and that was possible through the courtesy of the Philatelic Bureau and from information from the Government Printing Works. At the time of writing, the stamps had not yet appeared. There was only a series of colour trials and with the approved final ones included. It was extremely interesting to notice later how the cylinders "develop-

ed". The very first sheets printed and delivered showed features which gradually changed as time went on. We refer particularly to the varieties. Some gradually faded and vanished while others remained and still others appeared.

It may be opportune here to describe how varieties are determined when a new issue appears. Four sheets of each value and of each pane and, when necessary of each type of paper used, are chosen for examination. They must not be consecutive sheets, but must be far apart, preferably from different packets. If a "flaw" is constant it becomes a "variety" and is listed. What to list and record then becomes the next question. On the one hand comes the complaint from the "Specialist" that not enough varieties are mentioned — and, indeed, one could find literally dozens in each issue — and on the other there is the somewhat derogatory remark about "hunting for flyspots".

The practice followed is as follows: All constant varieties visible to the naked eye are recorded and reported to the S.A. Stamp Study Circle which publishes them. The more prominent ones, seldom more than ten, are published in the S.A. Philatelist. After a prolonged period and after a number of printings have been made, four sheets, as before, are examined and the most prominent varieties are recorded for the official catalogue's supplementary pages.

To return to the Fouché Stamps; now that the order has been completed it is possible to give the final list of constant varieties. The previously mentioned ones are found, with some of them diminishing to vanishing point.

There are some further particulars about these Fouché Stamps which will be found interesting. The 12½c value appeared on both Harrison and Swiss papers and when the two sheets are viewed next to each other, the difference is discernable to the eye. The Harrison paper (with its RSA watermark facing right and barely discernable) is somewhat darker than the Swiss paper (with its RSA watermark, tête-bêche, facing left and right and very distinct — even on the stamps). It has been found that, without the use of an ultra-violet lamp — the "black lamp" — it is just about impossible to determine the type of paper on the stamp itself. A goodly portion of margin has to be present, and even then there will have to be the two papers adjacent, as check pieces, to distinguish between them.

With the relatively small number of sheets of the 12½c value ordered and printed and

the sheets packed in packets it is understandable that some post offices would get only the one type of paper and not the other. A case in point was at the Witwatersrand that seemed to get only the Swiss paper. It led to the opinion that the Harrison paper was scarce, and a hunt was started for it. In point of fact, what happened was this: When printing of the 12½c was started it was thought that sufficient Harrison paper of that width was available for the whole printing, but some rolls were found defective about halfway through the printing, so the Swiss paper was used to complete the job. The number of sheets delivered was: Harrison 8,600, Swiss 9,100, so one can hardly say one is scarcer than the other.

There appears to have been a tremendous demand for the special first day covers. They sold very quickly and stocks ran out sooner than usual. A few days after the first day, 30c specimens were on sale in Pretoria at 65c. There were two special date stamps used, made necessary by the large number of covers bought. By the modern method of making more than one of a kind, these two date stamps are practically identical. Only careful measurements can show differences. The only difference between these two has been found in the "date tablet". The one is 16 m.m. long and the other is 16½ m.m.

## VARIETIES OF THE FOUCHÉ STAMPS

### 2½c value

#### Pane B

##### Row/No.

- 4/16 Tiny brown dot on the forehead above the eye.
- 4/17 Two brown dots in the hair at the temple.
- 5/16 Small brown and white mark above A of RSA.

#### Pane A

##### Row/No.

- 2/19 Horizontal brown line from the eye to the right edge of the stamp.
- 4/ 1 Brown spot on the collar.
- 5/13 White mark at the back of the head left of the ear.

### 12½c value

##### Row/No.

- 1/14 Black dot on neck.
- 2/10 Black dot at right edge of stamp half-way down.
- 3/19 Small black dot below the ear on the right.

## RECENT AIR MAIL DEVELOPMENTS

I. H. C. Godfrey

### SOUTH AFRICA — LESOTHO

In the March issue of the "South African Philatelist" it was reported that COMAIR (on behalf of **Lesotho Airways**) and **South African Airways** had established air mail services from Maseru to Jan Smuts Airport on 2.X.67 and 6.X.67, but that no mail had been carried in the reverse direction.

Both these airlines commenced to fly mail, at very short notice, from South Africa to Lesotho on February 26th and March 1st respectively. Very few items appear to have been flown on these inaugural flights and those seen are on plain covers with the "Comair" rubber stamp impression in purple, and official South African Airways envelopes.

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### LETTER TO THE EDITOR

Sir,

Your interesting account of the history of Stanley Gibbons Ltd. omits to mention the acquisition (when?) of the business of W. S. Lincoln, who claimed the title of "the oldest stamp dealer in the world".

Rather over 50 years ago I started serious (?) collecting with a fixed-leaf Lincoln album and catalogue — all in one quite manageable volume. In those days the incorporation of a simple whole world catalogue, with all illustrations reduced and some omitted was perfectly feasible. To youthful eyes it was a beautiful book, with an ornate red and gold cover typical of the period. Contemporaries may recall it.

Yours faithfully,  
S. C. Crowther-Smith

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The foregoing caused me to refer to my remaining school-boy album — a comprehensive, fixed leaf, sixth edition of The Strand Stamp Album, published by Stanley Gibbons, Ltd.

On the fly-leaf, in school-boy manuscript, my collection is listed as comprising Europe 350 stamps, Asia 141, Africa 241, America 180, Australasia 85 and dated the "17 Jan. 1907".

T. B. Berry

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## THE SIXTEEN BAR NUMERAL CANCELLERS OF THE ORANGE FREE STATE



As there appears to be considerable uncertainty about the exact period when these cancellers were in use the following table of material in my collection may be of interest to some of the collectors of Orange Free State numeral cancellers numbered one to nineteen.

In every case the specimen is either an envelope or a card and, except where a date stamp of receipt is indicated in the "Remarks" column, the original message (itself dated) is still present. Where there is more than one example, the earliest and the latest date of the specimens in the collection have been recorded.

In some cases A. C. Fenn's dates of use as given on page 2 of his **Orange Free State Postal and other Markings, 1956**, have been pushed back a little. There is no doubt that the canceller numbered 9 was used at both Jagersfontein and Jacobsdal, and that canceller no. 17 for Ladybrand was used as late as 1901.

As the list is mainly concerned with establishing the period of use of these numeral cancellers, very little attention has been given

to the type of dated postmarks, except for an occasional reference to Fenn's grouping.

Unfortunately it has not been possible to obtain any letter or card on which the canceller bearing number 15 has been used. Nor has an entire turned up bearing the canceller numbered 16 and the postmark Wepener, although I have an example of this combination on piece. This is, of course, not as conclusive evidence for proving that 16 was used at both Brandfort and Wepener as there is in this collection to show that number 9 was used at Jagersfontein as well as Jacobsdal. So far it has not been possible to find an entire bearing V.R.I. stamps with the numeral canceller No. 18 to show that Ficksburg continued to use this canceller during the S.A. War, but there is one for No. 17 (Ladybrand) dated 7 March 1901.

It is also curious that so few entires should have been found on which the numeral cancellers occur in coloured inks. Among the loose stamps bearing these numeral cancellers, one has turned up in purple both for Winburg (No. 2) and Fauresmith (No. 4) which are

CANCELLERS USED ON ENTIRES

No.	Place	Date of Postmark	Colour of Numeral Cancellor	Fenn's Year	Remarks
1	Bloemfontein	{ 1 Nov. 1883	Black		Letter
		{ 26 Aug. 1886	Black		Card
		{ 25 Nov. 1886	Purple		Received 29 Nov. 1886
		{ 9 Dec. 1886	Purple		Received 13 Dec. 1886
2	Winburg	{ 30 Dec. 1886	Blue		Received 4 Jan. 1887
		{ 20 Jul. 1888	Red		Card
		{ 18 June 1894	Black		Received 20 June 1894
3	Harrismith	{ 14 Nov. 1894	Black		Card
		{ 30 Mar. 1888	Black		Received 10 Apr. 1888
4	Fauresmith	{ 1 Feb. 1889?	Black		Received 6? Feb. 1889?
		{ 22 Feb. 1885	Black	1888	Letter
5	Smithfield	{ 23 Oct. 1891	Black		Letter
		{ 2 Aug. 1890	Red		Letter
		{ 15 Oct. 1886	Black	1887	Letter
6	Kroonstad	{ 12 Oct. 1893	Black		Letter
		{ 3 Dec. 1888	Black	1889	Letter
7	Bethulie	{ 17 June 1889	Black		Letter
		{ 3? Feb. 1887	Black	1888	Card
8	Boshof	{ 29 Aug. 1889	Black		Letter
		{ 28 May 1883	Black	1889	Letter
		{ 24 Aug. 1892	Black		Letter
9	Jagersfontein	{ 2 Apr. 1884	Blue		Letter
		{ 2 Jan. 1885	Black	1891	Letter
		{ 3 Aug.? 1891?	Black		Letter
9	Jacobsdal	{ 5 Jan. 1891	Black		Letter
		{ 21 Sep. 1893	Black		Letter
10	Philippolis	{ 19 Feb. 1884	Black	1884	Letter
		{ 10 July 1891	{ Black numeral Purple Fenn F1 postmark		Letter
11	Bethlehem	{ 20 Oct. 1877	Black	1886	Received 2 Nov. 1877
		{ 23 Sep. 1888	Black		Letter
12	Rouxville	{ 5 Nov. 1886	Black		Letter
		{ 5 Sep.? 1891	Black		Letter
13	Zand Rivier	27 Jan. 1888	Black	1890	Card
14	Edenburg	{ 4 Mar. 1889	Black	1889	Letter
		{ 9 June 1891	Black		Letter
15	Bethany	No examples			
16	Brandfort	29 Aug. 1888	Black		Letter
17	Ladybrand	{ 24 Aug. 1888	Black	1888	Card
		{ 21 Aug. 1892	Black		Received 24? Aug. 1892
		{ *7 Mar. 1901	Black		Card
18	Ficksburg	25 May 1894	Black Fenn Fla postmark	1895	Received ? 1894
19	Reddersburg	{ 22 Aug. 1892	Black	1891	Received 26 Aug. 1892
		{ 5 Oct. 1892	Black		17? Oct. 1892
		{ ? = Postmark not clear			
		{ * During the war			

not listed by Fenn.

No entires earlier than 20 October 1877, Bethlehem, No. 11 have been found, but in the collection there are a few parts of combination covers bearing Cape and Free State stamps for letters transmitted from Bloemfontein to Cape Town bearing numeral cancellers numbered one for both these places, and Cape of Good Hope post marks dated between February and July 1875. Bloemfontein was therefore using the numeral canceller number one as early as 1875.

As the entires are not philatelic mail but ordinary letters and post cards transmitted to firms and private persons in Cape Town, Port Elizabeth, Potchefstroom, Barkly West and Bethulie, the stamps themselves are of little significance. Among the loose specimens however, there is a fairly good cross section of the stamps issued between 1868 and 1900

which have been cancelled by means of numeral cancellers, as well as examples of fiscal and telegraph stamps so cancelled. There are also a few examples of the post war issue when Cape stamps were overprinted Orange River Colony. Much, however, still remains to be done to obtain a clear picture of when and how these numeral cancellers were used in the Orange Free State.

ANNA H. SMITH

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**REVIEW**  
**STAMPS OF THE**  
**ORANGE FREE STATE**  
**PART I — THE REPUBLICAN ERA,**  
**1854 — 1900**

by G. D. BUCKLEY and  
W. B. MARRIOTT

*Obtainable from B. H. Poyner, 76 Second Cross Road, Twickenham, Middlesex, England. Price 63/-, postage extra.*

"In 1953 a small band of enthusiasts founded the O.F.S. Study Circle with the object of studying the stamp, cancellations and Postal History, and of publishing an authoritative handbook". This extract from the preface of the above publication provides the key to the enterprise, determination and research that have culminated in the appearance of the first of three books that will eventually comprise the definitive study of this fascinating philatelic entity.

The authors emphasise that they are merely the spokesmen for the 65 past and present members of the study circle, all of whom have

contributed in some measure to the success of their undertaking. This, then is abundant evidence of what may be achieved through the co-operation of those with parallel interests, when their energies are pooled and proper co-ordination directs their efforts. This is a lesson that deserves to be studied and applied nearer home.

Part I devotes the major portion to the definitive issue of 1868 onwards, and to the subsequent provisional overprints. These latter provide scope for a tremendous amount of study and research, and some 150 pages of text and illustrations indicate the extent to which these have been studied. Every previously made statement has been verified if it were true, or rejected, if the evidence has been against it. The result is that many hitherto unrecorded varieties have been listed, whilst some catalogued items, apparently, do not exist or have been wrongly described in the past.

The remaining 75 pages are devoted to "cinderellas" of our hobby, the official or local "Franks", the Revenue Issues, the Telegraph Stamps and the Postal Stationary. The two chapters which deal with the well-known "Commando Briefs" and "R.D.M." (Rijderde Dienst Macht = Mounted Police Force) franks and possibly the highlights of this outstanding publication.

The treatment accorded to the sections on Revenues, Telegraph Issues and Postal Stationery is as complete and thorough as could be wished. Sideline collectors will find in these chapters all the information on the O.F.S. that they could possibly need.

It should be mentioned that no attempt had been made to deal with the Postal History or the cancellations of the period. These will be covered in a further volume which is being devoted to their study.

To illustrate the text approximately 70 pages of photographic illustrations accompany it. No expense has been spared in this direction and this undoubtedly enhances the book's value as a work of reference.

To those who were responsible for the completion and production, we in the Republic owe a particular vote of thanks. Their effort deserves every support, and it is to be hoped that collectors in this country show their appreciation by taking the first opportunity to acquire a work that is a notable addition to any philatelist's library.

J. M.W.

**OBITUARIES****ERNEST HUNT**

SEPTEMBER 9, 1877 — APRIL 1, 1968

We regret to have to announce the death of the late Mr. Ernest Hunt which took place on Monday, April 1st, 1968, after a long illness most cheerfully borne.

Ernest Hunt was born in London and became interested in stamps at an early age, an interest which he sustained with ever-increasing vigour right up to his death.

He came to South Africa in 1904 to join the business founded by his father. It was then a bicycle business which paved the way for Mr. Hunt to become one of South Africa's wealthiest car magnates.

He took an early lead in sporting activities, especially cycling in which he soon became an early pioneer, later acquiring the status of Life President of the Rand Roads Cycling Club. Other interests included billiards and snooker and he was an intimate friend of many of the "greats" of the century.

Nevertheless his great love was always stamp-collecting and over a period of some 80 years he amassed an amazing assembly of collections, the most famous of which was his World Collection to 1933 which at the time of his death lacked but a few items for completion.

On the formation, in 1950, of the Expert Committee of the Philatelic Federation of Southern Africa he became a founder member and only resigned from the Committee when ill-health forced him to leave Johannesburg and retire to the North Coast of Natal recently.

For his services to South African Philately over many years he was elected to the Southern African Roll of Distinguished Philatelists in 1952 and was chairman of the Unipex Executive Committee in 1960. His unstinted efforts in this position contributed very largely to the success of this great International Exhibition.

He donated a notable trophy to the Philatelic Society of Johannesburg in 1956 to encourage the serious study of Philately among members of that Society of which he was an Honorary Life member.

He served as a member of the Executive Committee of the Philatelic Federation of Southern Africa from its re-suscitation after the war until his retirement to the North Coast and was always available to give freely of his advice and counsel.

Mr. Hunt's passing will leave a gap in Southern African Philately which will not be easily filled and our sincerest sympathy is extended to his widow, son and daughters, whose great loss is shared by all those many who were proud and privileged to call him friend.

C. E. D. E.

**SIR QUINTIN BRAND**

Air Vice-Marshal Sir Quintin Brand, K.B.E., D.S.O., M.C., D.F.C., died at Umtali (Rhodesia) on 7 March at the age of 74. With General Sir Pierre van Ryneveld he made the first flight from England to the Cape in 1920. The flight was adventurous for they crashed in Sudan and again in Rhodesia, and it was in their third aircraft, supplied by the South African Government, that they completed their journey. No public mail was carried but four letters from British Ministers to General Smuts and three to the Governor General were flown.

*"The Aero Field"***THE WINDHOEK AIRMAIL DISASTER**

Captain M. F. Stern reports that he was fortunate in getting a charred cover from the Boeing 707 disaster at Windhoek. This was returned to the sender under cover from the Postmaster, Windhoek with slip reading: - 'Sir/s; Madam, The accompanying postal article/s was/were included in the mail despatches which were despatched with flight SA 228 (BOEING: "PRETORIA") and accordingly damaged in the crash in which aforementioned aircraft was destroyed near J. G. Strydom Airport on April 20, 1968. I regret the condition in which this article has to be delivered to you. Yours faithfully, Postmaster. Windhoek'.

**BOOKS ON FORGERIES**

Arising out of a request for the name and address of the publishers, we are now able to inform that "Album Weeds", by the Rev. R. B. Earee, in an eight volume series may be obtained from Messrs. H. L. Luidquist Publications, Inc., 153 Waverley Place, New York, N.Y. 10014.

**COMMONWEALTH NOTES**

By J. WOODGATE

**Canada:** The 300th Anniversary of the voyage of the "Nonsuch", a vessel engaged in the early fur trade, will be represented on a 5c stamp on the 5th June.

**Cayman Islands:** A human Rights issue is due on the 3rd June.

**Fiji:** The 40th Anniversary of the landing of Kingsford Smith, the airman, will be commemorated by a set on the 5th June.

**Gibraltar:** A 2d and a 4d stamp will be issued on 17th June for the 20th Anniversary of the World Health Organization. It is unusual to find such a modest issue these days.

**Malta:** A set of 3 stamps to commemorate the 12th Malta International Trade Fair will be issued on the 1st June. The values are 4d, 8d and 3/-.

**Papua and New Guinea:** On the 26th June a set is to be issued for Free Elections and Human Rights.

**Zambia:** A single stamp will be issued for the Zambian Trade Fair on the 29th June.

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**£1,100 FOR PENNY BLACK**

The famous copy of the Penny Black used from Bath on May 2nd, 1840, realised £1,100 when sold by Robson Lowe on March 6th. It was bought by a private collector, Mr. Arnold Wills of Uppingham, Rutland.

The stamp was one of two examples known used on May 2nd and formerly belonged to the late Major Adrian Hopkins of Bath.

The Penny Black was issued on May 1st, 1840, but was not valid for postage until May 6th.

*"Philatelic Magazine"*

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**THE AIRMAIL ENTIRE TRUTH**

We have had the pleasure of viewing a copy of "The Air Mail Entire Truth". It is a four page news letter, pertaining to Aerogrammes and airpost stationery, published 3 times a year at 25c per copy and contains a comprehensive listing of up to date Airmail information. The local representative is Mr. H. W. H. Lee, 3 Morosson Flats, 12th Ave., Boston Estate, Bellville, Cape, from whom further particulars may be obtained.

**THE DEATH OF THE DANDY ROLL**

By F. MARCUS ARMAN

This somewhat macabre title has been used to introduce the obituary notice of the security device used by paper manufacturers when making paper for postage stamps over the last one hundred and twenty seven years, i.e., since 1840.

It was by means of the Dandy Roll that watermarks were literally "built into" the structure of the stamp paper at an early stage in its making. With the introduction of all phosphor lined stamps in the new U.K. definitive series introduced in 1967 this security device was abandoned. Because of the recent technological improvements, such as the electronically operated machines which count and record the number of sheets of paper made available to the printers, watermarks became an unnecessary extra.

The abandonment of this particular security device in 1967 was as revolutionary a step as that taken in 1880 when control marks were omitted from the new stamps of that time, the first fruits of the consolidated contract which the House of de la Rue won in competition with other security printing firms. The technical advances of that era similarly made control an unnecessary security refinement.

Between July 1860 and 1880 the marks were imprinted at Somerset House on sheets of stamp paper before the paper was made available to the firm printing the stamps and they indicated the denomination of stamps for which particular batches of paper were to be used. Each sheet of paper was stamped twice at the right upper and left lower corners and the contractors were debited with the cost of each sheet at the total value of the stamps to be printed on it. Accountability was the essence of these arrangements. The hazard that stamps might be printed without authority was something plainly to be avoided — as indeed it still is.

These control marks must not be confused with the marginal control letters and/or numbers which appeared on sheets of G.B. stamps until late in 1947 when they too were abandoned.

To return to our obituary of the Dandy Rolls, about to be destroyed, they are some seven feet long, two feet in diameter and made of wire mesh on which the repeat watermark motive is slightly raised.

Paper making is much the same by both hand and machine processes. Stamp paper

today is made from wood pulp. Until recently esparto grass was used. Other types of paper are made from rags or similar fibrous material. The selected material is pulped in water — one part solid to 99 parts liquid and it is this mixture which is fed onto the wire mesh bed of the paper making machinery. The essence of the process lies in the agitation and draining of the pulp so as to produce a fibrous felt which after further processing becomes the paper we use for stamps as well as for innumerable other purposes. In the course of this processing, while the pulp is still wet the Dandy Roll patterns restrict the felting of the fibres momentarily leaving behind the built in familiar “watermarks.”

*Acknowledgement:*  
“*The Australian Stamp Monthly*”

## PAPER

### HOW IT IS PRODUCED

By WALDER C. HANSEN

Stamp collecting would be non-existent but for paper, that is paper as we know it today. Primitive man first learned to substitute crude pictures for speech; these pictures gradually came to serve for objects denoted by the same sound as the thing depicted.

Long before man learned to use brush and palette, events were recorded on stone, metal sheets and leather, aided by stylus and graving tool.

Later he was privileged to use papyrus, manufactured in Egypt since the first dynasty, and obtained from fibres of the great marsh-reeds. This royal material was most expensive and reserved for princess and the priestly caste, lesser lights had to draw and write on calcareous slivers or potsherds.

With the invention of papers made from common materials, learning started to spread, until the ordinary man found the purchase of books within his means. Thus, printed matter became the backbone of learning with newspapers and periodicals absorbing huge quantities of paper.

The production of postage stamps has no doubt added to the world shortage of paper and since they depend on this product for their printing I propose to deal with its manufacture and the ingredients used, a combination of the age-long craftsmanship of Great Britain and the forceful progress of our cousins in the United States of America.

Paper is made by breaking down vegetable

matter and “felting” the cellulose fibres into a sheet. Many types of material may be used: cotton and linen rags, usually obtained from textile factories and rag dealers; wood, which has to be treated to remove all resinous and foreign matter; esparto, a grass from North Africa and Spain, and a host of other chemicals in the form of additives.

### Rag Paper

The rags used by a paper mill are usually the off-cuts of collars, shirt tails and other garments or selected cotton and linen clothing from dealers in left-off wearing apparels. These are brought into the mill in bales where they are hand-sorted by women, who cut off any buttons, hooks, pieces of elastic, nylon or anything detrimental to the process of manufacture.

The sorted rags then go through a “willow duster”, a cylindrical drum to which spikes are attached. After dusting, the materials pass into the chopper where they are cut into very small pieces. After a final dusting they are transported to huge rotary boilers, after which the washing liquor is drained out and the mulchy rags dug out and passed on to the breakers. The breaker is similar to a huge tile-lined cement bath containing a large cylindrical roller fitted with metal blades running lengthwise along one side. If the mulch contains coloured rags a bleach is added to ensure a good, even, white pulp. In the breaker the pulp is beaten for several hours, according to the type of paper required and resembles snowy white porridge.

When the pulp is completely broken down to the fibrous state it is pumped into a large vat, called a “stuff chest”, where it is mixed with more water in order to rid the fibre of every single bit of dirt and grit. By this time the pulp consists of approximately 99 per cent water and only 1 per cent fibre. The fibrous mulch now passes through the “breast box”, from which it is delivered in a soggy sheet on to meshed wire to be carried over suction boxes where the water content is further reduced before the paper is taken through the drying cylinders and finally through the large calender rolls where the finish or gloss of the paper depends on the number of calender rolls used.

To strengthen the paper and give it a hard surface it is passed through a bath of gelatine after which it is dried on revolving drums,

Continued on Page 132



### GEDENKPOSSEËLS VIR DIE INHULDIGING VAN DIE TWEDE STAATSPRESIDENT

(met toestemming van „Historia”)

Op 31 Mei 1961, die groot dag van republiekwording van Suid-Afrika, het 'n nuwe stel posseëls vir daaglikse gebruik verskyn. Behoudens kleiner verskille en verbetering in ontwerp en kleur, is hierdie tipe seëls nog altyd in omloop. Die eerste Staatspresident van die Republiek van Suid-Afrika is in Pretoria ingesweer en dit is toepaslik beskou om ter herdenking van hierdie geleentheid 'n spesiale stempel te laat maak vir gebruik op daardie dag in Pretoria. Op hierdie stempel is die president se wapen afgebeeld en dit meld die woorde „Republiek van Suid-Afrika” en die datum.

Toe 10 April 1968 as die datum vasgestel is waarop die tweede president, mnr. J. J. Fouché, ingesweer sou word, is gevoel dat ook nou weer die gebeurtenis op posseëlgebied weerspieël behoort te word. 'n Heeltemal nuwe stel gebruikseëls sou nie aan die vereistes van die praktyk voldoen nie. Daarenteen sou die gebruik van net 'n spesiale stempel 'n bietjie karige indruk maak teenoor die oorvloedigheid wat sewe jaar gelede plaasgevind het. Die poskantoor het tot die gevolgtrekking gekom dat die juiste beleid sou wees om besondere herinneringseëls uit te gee en om 'n spesiale stempel te gebruik op die dag van inswering. 'n Stel besondere seëls in Suid-Afrika bestaan gewoonlik uit twee waardes, 2½c en 12½c, en dit is ook nou die beste geag om aan hierdie gewoonte vas te hou.

Van staanspoor af is duidelik besef dat, hoewel die seëls weer betrekking het op 'n vooraanstaande staatspersoon, hulle in geen

opsig ooreenkoms met die ontwerpe van die Verwoerd-herinneringseëls moet vertoon nie. Die posseël-advieskomitee het aanvanklik gedink aan 'n portret op een seël en die presidentswapen op die ander. Die poskantoor het egter voorkeur gegee aan 'n portret op albei seëls en bowendien is die vereiste gestel dat albei seëls vertikaal sal wees.

Dit was dus wenslik dat 'n aantal goeie portrette van die aangewese staatspresident gemaak word en die komitee het aanbeveel om weer dr. I. Henkel vir hierdie doel te nader. Dr. Henkel is 'n erkende portretskilder van amptelike persone. Hy het o.a. die portrette van die Transvaalse administrateurs gemaak, wat nou in die Provinsiale Administrasiegebou in Pretoria hang. Dit was hy wat die portrette vir die Verwoerdseëls geteken het, waarby hy baie ervaring opgedoen het van wat vir 'n goeie posseël-ontwerp vereis word. Hy is op hoogte van die effek, en die gevare wat hulle kan voordoen wanneer 'n portret soveel keer verklein word tot die afmeting van 'n posseëlbeeld. Bowendien is hy in Pretoria woonagtig en kon hy by die hand wees as sy mening by die vervaardigingsproses in die staatsdrukkery benodig sou wees.

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SEËLS — MET DIE KLEM OP NEDERLAND,  
SUID-AFRIKA EN REPUBLIEKSE  
SILINDERBLOKKE.

Dr. Henkel het drie portrette van mnr. Fouché gemaak. Hiervan is die portret en profiel onmiddellik deur die advieskomitee aanvaar. Uit die orige twee portrette is spoedig 'n keuse gemaak. Maar selfs hierdie portret het nogal moeilikhede opgelewer wat eers nadat 'n aantal veranderinge aangebring is, o.a. in die skaduwees, verbeter het. Van die twee portrette bly die een wat op die 2½c seël afgebeeld is verreweg die beste.

Wat die letters en syfers betref is ook nou weer van die beginsel uitgegaan van hoe minder en rustiger, hoe beter. Die letters R S A en die waardesyfers is in wit gehou teen 'n gekleurde agtergrond. Hoewel hulle aanvanklik bo-aan geplaas was, is hulle op albei seëls na die onderkant verskuif. Bo staan nou in klein letters die datum van inswering: 10 IV 1968, waarby die maand volgens gewoonte in Romeinse syfers aangedui is. Die kleure sepiabruin en blou-grys is 'n bietjie sterker en spreker as wat die aanvanklike kleure was. Ook nou is geen omraming van die beeld gebruik nie; die kleure loop van die seël deur na die volgende een. Ten slotte is nadruklik besluit om geen naam of handtekening aan die portret toe te voeg nie. Almal weet wie die persoon is en waarvoor die seëls uitgegee word en vir die buiteland gee die eersdedag-kovert alle benodigde inligting. Internasionaal raak dit meer en meer in onbruik om die naam by 'n portret op posseëls te plaas: wanneer mens onbekend is met die persoon en die geleentheid, is daar vir die werklik belanggestelde ruimskoote moontlikhede om dit op te soek. W. F. van Reenen, die ervare tekenaar van die staatsdrukkery, is weer verantwoordelik vir die tegniese ontwerp.

Op die eersdedag-kovert staan die volledig versierde wapen van die staatspresident, met die letters S. P. Dit is opvallend dat die nommer „7” baie kleiner is as op die vorige amptelike herinneringskoerverte. Daar is gevoel dat die nommer te veel 'n prominente plek ingeneem het en hierdie kleiner syferafmeting sal in die toekomst so bly.

Die ontwerp van die besondere stempel in Kaapstad is baie rustig gehou. Behalwe die datum dui dit net die inhuldiging van die tweede staatspresident aan. Tradisiegetrou het die Poskantoor ook nou weer 'n kaartjie by die kovert uitgereik. Hierop staan teen 'n sagte rooi agtergrond die portret van die staatspresident en die datum. Op die agterkant is in Afrikaans en Engels 'n kort lewensbeskrywing van mnr. Fouché.

In alle opsigte maak die seëls 'n rustige en statige indruk, 'n voorkoms wat toepaslik is vir die doel waarvoor hulle uitgegee is.

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SOEK U IETS van die Kaap (driehoek), O.V.S., vroeë Rhodesië, Basoetoland- en Swasielandse drukfoute, Kanada, Nieu-Seeiland, G.Brittanje, BWI-eilande, Italiaanse State, versameling Oos-Duitsland, ens.? Ja? Dan kry u stellig wat u soek deur middel van STAMP DEALS, Posbus 2272, Johannesburg.

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POSBUS 702 — BLOEMFONTEIN

Continued from Page 129

reeled and transported to the slitting machine. The cut paper is stacked in boxes and passed to the hand-sorters where each sheet is examined for faults before being counted and guillotined to the required size.

### Wood Paper

Although rag pulp is still used in the manufacture of stamp paper, the limited supply of this commodity caused paper mills to look for a cheaper material. In or about 1860, it was discovered that various vegetable fibres, notably those of esparto grass and certain kinds of wood, such as spruces, fir, hemlock, aspen and poplar, could be turned to good account in paper making, either separately or mixed with one another or with rag pulp.

Wood, being plentiful, therefore came into general use and now constitutes by far the major portion of all pulp. Paper mills receive the logs in four to ten feet lengths where the first process on arriving is to debark the timber. This is done by passing the logs through a machine in which knives tear off the bark and external knots until the log is smooth like a peeled potato. Next comes the breaking up of the log, the exact nature of this operation depending on the treatment to which the wood after being ground will be subjected.

### Mechanical Pulp

There are two kinds of woodpulp — mechanical and chemical. The former has little interest to stamp collectors as it is not used in worthwhile quantities for stamp paper. However, in order to obtain this pulp the logs are shuttled back and forth across the face of a huge grinder over which water is continuously flowing. The pulp thus obtained is very fine and devoid of the long, cellulose fibres so necessary for good “felting”. Mechanical pulp therefore yields a brittle and easily torn, but cheap, paper, suitable mainly for newsprint.

### Chemical Pulp

A superior type of paper is made from chemical pulp, the treatment of which is different and more costly. The logs are first cut into small chunks and boiled in a “digester” — a big steel tank — with certain chemicals. Here it is cooked under pressure for several hours and constantly agitated by “live” steam during the period of digestion. When the cooking is finished the result is a mass of brownish wood fibres needing treatment by a bleaching process.

Only about half the wood used in this method comes out as pulp, the other half having been carried away by the chemical solution. However, the remaining pulp possesses very good felting or matting qualities and it is herein that its great value lies. Approximately 75 per cent of chemical wood is used in the manufacture of stamp paper. The finishing process for chemical pulp follows closely that of rag pulp.

### Esparto

For several hundred miles through Morocco, Algeria and Tunisia the traveller can see large tufts of reed-like grass climbing over the foothills of the Atlas Mountains as far as the desolate fringes of the Sahara.

These ragged tufts, dry and withered at the edges, with green shoots pushing up in the centre, represent “the green wealth of North Africa” and have a history of over 2,000 years. They are today one of the most valuable uncultivated crops in the world. From them are made fine paper suitable for most purposes, including stamp printing.

Esparto grass well justifies its name of *Stima tenassima* for its roots tenaciously grip the stony soil, enabling it to reach a height of four feet forming a wild cluster up to ten feet in circumference.

A variety of esparto — *spartum* of Pliny — was used by Hannibal’s army for ropes, and in the middle ages the Spanish navy adopted such ropes because of their great strength and ability to float on water. The same grasses also found favour in household uses, for baskets, mats, carpets, sandals, etc., but it was not until just over a century ago that the most important use of esparto was discovered.

It was found that the leaves contained from 35 to 40 per cent of cellulose, thus providing a new material for the manufacture of high quality paper. Land which was hitherto largely unproductive suddenly became valuable. The grass was introduced into Great Britain in

1857 and only a decade later its import had become a flourishing trade.

### Esparto Pulp

The grass has to be picked so that the root is undisturbed. To achieve this the labourer holds in his left hand a stick about 18 inches long, grasps a handful of leaves with his right, wraps them around the stick and then jerks strongly with both hands whilst standing on the root area. The harvest is carried by camel or truck to the yards where it is baled for shipment to various parts of the world; most of that imported to Britain is treated in Scotland.

The process of turning grass into pulp is similar to that employed for rag; except for the obnoxious smell given off by esparto whilst cooking, it is delightful to the paper maker and the fibres have first-class felting quality. The bleached pulp is usually mixed with chemical wood fibres in the proportion of four to one of esparto, the latter imparting strength and surfacing quality to the wood. Our current photogravure papers are composed of 70 per cent chemical wood and 30 per cent esparto.

### Additives

Many and varied are the techniques used to produce surfaces compatible with the required printing mediums and all can be met by the paper mills when supplied with specification data from the printing houses — clay, gelatine, resin, alum, french chalk and a multitude of other extenders could be named — each and every one of them having a specific job to enhance the beauty of the finished product.

### Watermarks

One aspect of papermaking still to be dealt with because of its philatelic interest is the "Art of the Dandy Roll Marker". In the watermark we see a survival of that element of fancy without which philately would be very dull indeed. Of course, watermarking has its practical uses in security printing as a guard against forgery. To the keen stamp collector, however, it serves as a mark of identification and classification and if found inverted or reversed becomes a sheer delight to its owner.

The stages in the creation of a watermark vary according to its particular characteristics but will follow, roughly, this sequence: a drawn design is created by a special artist who will render it without the distortion which

takes place when it is placed on a curved surface. The shape must be calculated to a nicety so that the watermark on the dry paper will exactly reproduce the original design.

The next stage is the making of a master die. This is entirely a hand operation, for it is in effect "drawing in wire". With simple tools the craftsman coaxes the soft wire into the configurations of the prepared design. The wire drawing is then fixed to a brass plate to form the master die which in turn, is pressed into beeswax. The impression thus obtained is impregnated with a graphite powder to prevent stickiness. In this way a number of identical impressions are produced to form a base for an electrolytic deposit obtained by immersing the beeswax mould in a copper sulphate bath.

The product of this process is a shell or number of identical shells which can be soldered on to the wire gauze of a roller. When it is understood that the "bits", i.e., each individual design that forms the watermarks, have to stand in fractional relief, it can be appreciated that the height of the bits is of prime importance. Too high and they would cut through the paper, which is at its tenderest when wet during manufacture, instead of merely bruising it. The roll on which the shell is mounted is generally made of woven stout wiremesh. Others, however, are made of wires threaded through a framework of the roll.

*Reprinted by kind permission of the Editor of the "Australian Stamp Monthly". Acknowledgement "The Stamp Lover".*

## BRITAIN TO BOOST STAMP EXPORTS

The post office is to launch an export drive . . . selling special issues of British stamps. And it aims to turn the sales of stamps into a multimillion-pound export trade.

A marketing team is being prepared to boost sales, states a report in the current issue of "Courier", the official journal of the Post Office.

It states that it will be headed by Mr. Graham Damp, a marketing expert on loan from Shell-Mex and B.P. to the G.P.O.

Mr. Damp, who has spent some time looking at the North American market, declares that stamp sales there could be a "tremendous dollar-earner."

The journal states that this is the first time the Post Office has made a serious bid to break into the international stamp market in a big way.

*Acknowledgement "Rand Daily Mail"*

## WANTS, OFFERS & EXCHANGE

(3½c per word per insertion with a  
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**WHOLESALE!!** Mint stamps of Thailand. L. W. Ding, Thasala, Nakornsrithammaraj, Thailand, Far East.

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**COMMONWEALTH FIRST DAY COVERS** and stamps sent on approval. Bok Philatelists, Box 3321, Cape Town.

**SHIPS — MERCHANT AND MILITARY:** I have rare cancellations and covers with postmarks of the whole world. Dr. Zappalà, Via Colle del Pino, 95126 Catania, Italy.

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**GENESIS** of the British South Africa Company's Postage Stamps and Postal Services, by V. F. Ellenberger, as supplied as a supplement to the S.A. Philatelist, June, 1967. A limited number of extra copies available at 20c, post free. Business Manager, S.A. Philatelist, P.O. Box 375, Johannesburg.

**G. B. LINE-ENGRAVED:** Wanted, fair plating copies (unplated) of 1d. black and perforated 2d. Blues: Send offers to Commander C. E. D. Enoch, 3 Cussonia, 7 Lynnburn Road, Lynnwood Manor, Pretoria.

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**ANGLO-BOER WAR PHILATELIC SOCIETY,** quarterly magazine with exchange packet in U.K. Subscription R1.50 (15/-) yearly. Secretary, J. H. Rathbone, "Allways", Rudheath, Northwich, Cheshire, U.K.

**FOR WORLD STAMP NEWS,** market commentary, new issues, postmark studies, book reviews, etc., etc., read: **PHILATELIC MAGAZINE,** published every two weeks by HARRIS Publications Ltd. of London. Annual sub. — One year 47/6 post paid (6.00 U.S. Dollars); Three years 130/- post paid (16.00 U.S. Dollars). **PHILATELIC TRADER,** one year 25/- post paid (3.00 U.S. Dollars); Three years 65/- post paid (8.00 U.S. Dollars). Agent in South Africa: D.C.D. Castle, P.O. Box 970, Pietermaritzburg.

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**SOUTH AFRICAN COLLECTORS' SOCIETY** for the Union Collector—magazine, exchange packet. Subscription 15/- (2 dollars) year. Write Hon. Secretary, W. A. Page, 138 Chastilian Road, Dartford, Kent, England.

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## WANTS, OFFERS & EXCHANGE

(Continued)

**WORLD WIDE APPROVALS**, interesting, colourful: Universal Stamp Service, P.O. Box 17027, Groenkloof, Pretoria.

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**WORLD WAR covers** used at S.A. Army post offices in Egypt. Send particulars to J. H. E. Gilbert, Morven, West Close, Middleton-on-Sea, Sussex, England.

## AN AUCTION HOUSE AT WORK

### How to make the Best of Your Collection at an Auction

By GORDON ROSE

Buying and selling stamps by public auction still seems to many collectors to be an occupation for the well-to-do and the expert. This is not so. Even the three international auction houses in London sell many lots under £5 — and accept many small collections valued at around £10.

Let us see how they work. Primarily, an auctioneer is not an owner of stamps. He earns his livelihood by receiving one person's stamps and selling them to another person. In between those first and last limits there are several factors in which you — as the vendor or seller of a collection — may aid the auctioneer to make more money **FOR YOU**.

The scheme of things begins when you decide to sell your stamps in a collection, an assembly or a selection — or even a single rarity — and take them, preferably by appointment, to the auction house of your choice. You will be received politely and treated courteously. You will be advised on the possibility of its value when sold — or how best it can be sold — without charge.

If you decide not to proceed with the transaction you are free to walk out with your stamps with politeness unimpaired.

Should the professional expert express the opinion that your treasures are so low in value that they would not be worth the attention of his firm, he will still be courteous — and may well suggest another house or a provincial auctioneer.

But the assessment is favourable. Yes, the house will sell on your behalf. Now what? You are not called upon to sign anything. Nor to make even a verbal agreement on any aspect of the disposal of your stamps. In fact, the

auction expert you meet will do the signing — a receipt for your property which will be fully insured against all risks while in the custody of the house. Further, you will be given a copy of the auctioneer's terms of sale stating what percentage of the realisation he will take for his work.

You can, if you wish, still withdraw.

As all established houses of high repute charge more or less the same commission and work in the same manner there is nothing to be gained from trying to "shop around" to discover an auctioneer who will promise a high yield and charge a low commission. Reputable houses just do not do that.

Naturally, the more valuable your collection the less percentage of valuation can be charged — just as in buying a stamp from a dealer he will charge threepence for picking a used 3d. from a drawer and, let us say, nine shillings for selecting a used 10s. His labour in each case is the same. So it is with the auction house. For the "labour" of the auctioneer's staff between seller and buyer is what most of his commission is spent on.

Let me give you an example: on an individual lot that realises up to £50 an inclusive commission will be 20 per cent; if the lot brings in between £500 and £1,000 the commission will be 12½ per cent; should it realise over £1,000 the rate will be but 10 per cent.

What is this "labour" costing these percentages?

It comprises, in the main, the breaking of the collection into suitable lots, describing those lots, photographing the better stamps, having printing blocks made from the photographs, having the descriptions set in type, and the printing of the sale catalogue with its descriptions and illustrations, followed by its despatch by post to all parts of the world where it reaches the attention of keen collectors and dealers who **WANT TO BUY**.

Without doing more than hand over your stamps, the auction house has brought them to the close attention of some 10,000 possible purchasers!

And it has not cost you a penny . . .

What it has cost the auctioneer is no one's business — except his accountant's — especially if you are dealing with a house that illustrates its catalogues with colour. For the cost of colour block-making is fabulous.

King-pin in the whole routine is the describer: the man or woman who looks at your stamps and describes them in the exact number of words that will draw attention to their finer points, their scarcity, their condition — and not neglecting to point out where there

are faults or weaknesses, for buyers who never see the stamps on viewing days pay their money for the trust they place in the auctioneer's integrity in all matters.

It is here that YOU can provide considerable aid in making your collection an even better buying proposition.

This lies in the manner in which you prepare it for the auction house. Even a brief study of auction catalogues will show that these king-pin describers attach great importance to dates. Whether of adhesive stamps or postal history covers, date order by year, month and even the day are of prime importance — particularly in flown airmail covers.

In your collection, perhaps when giving a display, it is often more effective to show a later before an earlier item. Sometimes, stamps of various issues and dates set together will emphasise a point — or point a contrast that makes your collection and display much more vivid to your viewers. But in deciding to sell it by auction it is wiser to forget the stamp club viewer and think of the date order so that the busy describer is not allowed to overlook an important, but not obviously valuable, piece because it is out of place.

The value of your stamps will also lie in watermarks and perforations. These should be noted beside stamps that have such significant differences. Shades you will call attention to in like manner — but do not prepare to argue if the auctioneer's expert with the knowledge of several thousand fine stamps and shades — as well as the best possible light — should ignore your rare shade and describe it as the normal!

Is a stamp Type I, or II, or III? Is it from a scarce plate? Is it a proof or an imperforate reprint? Does it bear an uncommon cancellation — perhaps one of only two known? Is it emergency printing?

Let us not extend the questioning. As the owner and expert on your collection you should not only know the answers but indicate beside such extra-special stamps their particular claim to fame and the describer's attention.

One thing that will be discussed when first you take your collection to an auction house — preferably by appointment, if I may repeat a point — is that of the date when it will be sold. Do not walk out because that date will be some four months ahead. Auctions have to be arranged well in advance to allow the catalogue to be prepared and circulated and the buyers to send bids from the farthest parts of the world.

Nor is the auctioneer a money-lender. He does not provide instant cash to the full value of your collection, although in many instances

he will make an advance of a good proportion of his estimated valuation on an attractive property.

You see, there is no mystery in selling stamps by auction. In fact, collectors wishing to dispose of portions or whole £100,000 collections are not better served anywhere.

Whatever your collection and whatever its auction result you will know it was offered to the widest circle of buyers who between their bids determined the price THEY would pay.

*Acknowledgement: "Stamp Collecting"*

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### CRISIS

Politicians, financiers and speculators have brought the Western world to the verge of chaos. Never in the present century has the prospect seemed so uncertain, the future so vague and critical. Even the beginnings of the two world wars did not lead to such general bewilderment.

Everywhere people seem to have lost confidence in paper currency and have been rushing to put their fortunes into gold, silver, diamonds and — stamps. One need only look at recent realisations in the London auctions to see how stamp prices have soared upwards since the pound was devalued last November. It may seem a curious paradox that people are changing their large pieces of paper into must smaller pieces of paper as a hedge against inflation.

It is not only the classic issues of government postage stamps that are affected by the upward surge; local postage stamps, telegraph stamps, fiscals, phantoms and other categories are all being swept ahead by the widespread desire to find a stable "currency".

Collectors of Cinderella material are in a fortunate position. Quite apart from financial aspects, those philatelists have long been enjoying the fascination provided by these one-time neglected groups. Study of Cinderella issues has never been so keen as it now is. New facts are being brought to light all the time as more and more people realise how much they have been missing by not paying attention to Cinderellas.

*Acknowledgement "The Cinderella Philatelist"*

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It is announced that A. L. Michael has appointed Chairman of S.G., in succession to F. T. Smith who has resigned from this post. Mr. Smith will remain a Director, and Mr. Michael will combine the offices of Chairman and Managing Director.

# SOCIETY NEWS

## THE ROYAL PHILATELIC SOCIETY OF RHODESIA

**March:** The Annual General meeting was well attended at which the formal business was quickly and smoothly disposed of.

The following office bearers were elected for the ensuing year: Chairman: Mr. W. H. Turnbull; Vice-Chairman: Mr. J. Lazarus; Hon.-Secretary: Mr. F. C. Fromentin; Hon.-Treasurer: Mr. J. P. Atkinson; Hon. Auditor: Mr. I. J. Tylee; Committee Members: Mrs. A. F. D. Pegge, Dr. A. Haward and Mr. J. E. Creewel, with Mr. J. R. Strong maintaining the Society's liaison with the Post Master General.

**Society Trophies:** The award of the Porter Cup was made to Dr. Mavros for his outstanding exhibit of Greece and the Society Cup to Mr. J. Strong for invaluable services rendered to the Society in recent years.

Members were entertained to two excellent exhibits: National Costumes sent from Cape Town by Mrs. M. Bergman and Colour Trials of the early Southern Rhodesian issues presented by Dr. Haward after which a very satisfactory auction, in all respects, wound up a pleasant evening.

## BELLVILLE PHILATELIC SOCIETY

**March:** Mrs. Ubaghs exhibited and spoke on a specialised exhibit of "Rhodesia Post-Independence" Stamps, which included missing and misplaced perfs, colour shifts and off-sets among other varieties. The material displayed was very comprehensive and well set out.

After tea Mr. Lee gave a very informative talk on the arrangement of material and pages for exhibition purposes and demonstrated various aspects with specially mounted pages.

An auction in aid of Club Funds concluded a pleasant evening.

## EAST RAND PHILATELIC SOCIETY

**February:** The 48th Annual General Meeting was well attended at which the following office bearers were elected for 1968.

President: Mr. H. Behrendt; Vice-President: Mr. M. M. Weiner; Hon. Sec./Treasurer: Mr. H. Godwin; Committee Members: Messrs. J. Botha, A. L. Charles, S. Legator, H. Whiting. Delegate to Federation:- Mr. S. Legator.

The Sam Legator Trophy was won for the second successive year by Mr. J. Botha, this time with his exhibit of "United Nations". The Hinko Suklje Award, presented for the first time this year, was won by Mr. C. Waner with his collection of "Olympic Games Miniature Sheets". Selections from both exhibits were again viewed.

## SOCIETY OF ISRAEL PHILATELY

**March:** The meeting opened up with the usual philatelic reports and the showing of various covers relating to the Six Day War period. In addition Mr. Miller showed an interesting study of the Sixty Agura Nature Conservation indicating seven different progressive stages of a flaw in the Arabic S on the second left tab stamp in the perforated sheetlet. This flaw starts as a tiny degree spec and after seven stages becomes a large kidney shaped flaw with a spot extending above the G in the preceding stamp.

Mr. Leo Buchen then displayed Army Post Offices and Prisoners of War Mail of the War of Independence 1948 — 1949. The display was, as usual, well written up and mounted and the excellent accompanying paper is attached.

A hearty vote of thanks was extended to Mr. Buchen after which a very successful auction concluded the meeting.

## PHILATELIC SOCIETY OF THE WESTERN RAND

**February:** At the Annual General Meeting the following office bearers were elected:

Chairman: Mr. E. J. Sharpe; Vice-Chairman: Mr. W. S. Yelland; Sec./Treasurer: Mrs. I. P. Rowlinson; Committee Members: Messrs.: S. J. Vermaak, J. T. Burrell and W. R. Switzer. Delegate to Federation: Mr. J. T. Burrell; Alternate delegate to Federation: Mr. E. J. Sharpe.

The Society wishes to notify a change of address to P.O. Box 397, Krugersdorp, Transvaal.

## THE PHILATELIC SOCIETY OF JOHANNESBURG

**March:** Both meetings were well attended. On the 12th, the Pretoria Society visited us at which meeting the following exhibits were shown: the Netherlands, the last issue of William III and the first issue of Wilhelmina, by Mr. Slagt who gave a short introductory talk on the history of that period. Commander Enoch read a paper so complex that it could have been in code, but, after seeing his beautiful line-engraved 1d and 2d, I am sure some members felt encouraged to try and understand their plating and even collect a few. Mr. Havenha brought us back to earth, or should I say sea, with a collection of fish on stamps. Finally, their President, Mr. Weinstein, showed a variety of foreign stamps all bearing Jerusalem and Palestine postmarks. Thank you Pretoria, we enjoyed it.

The second meeting opened with a short talk from the P.R.O. on the new programme and Mr. Oppenheim gave a talk on forged postmarks. Mr. Tilney said he hoped that substitution in exchange packets was now a thing of the past, the matter having been finally settled. The two exhibits were by two members who came all the way from Krugersdorp. Mr. Yelland showed a most interesting exhibit of World Wars I and II on cover, with so much pathos attached one

felt that the covers could tell their own story. Mr. Burrell brought along some of his South African abnormalities; misplaced perfs., missing perf., colour shifts, interrupted printed, etc. etc. "Printers' waste" it may be, but great fun.

### PORT ELIZABETH PHILATELIC SOCIETY

**March 19th:** The display given by Mr. J. Aldis, covered the Queen Elizabeth issues of certain West Indian islands, Ascension Island and various issues of the Protectorates. Items of interest in the West Indian section included the Statehood overprints of St. Lucia and Grenada and the first stamps of the newly independent Anguilla.

The issues of the Protectorates were represented by the decimal overprints, which included the Bechuanaland one rand type one and the three types of the 3½c/4d (including varieties), and the independence overprints in the case of Lesotho and Botswana. Many items were in plate blocks of four and there were a number of varieties.

The usual auction concluded the proceedings.

### CAPE SOCIETY OF PALESTINE-ISRAEL PHILATELY

**March:** "All Members Night, at which members are able to exhibit not only their Israel stamps but any items they collect, was a great success. Eight members exhibited as follows:-  
Dr. H. Gottschalk: Interim period Israel;  
Mr. S. Goldstein: Beginners collection of Great Britain;  
Mr. R. Birkan: Scarcer Airmal covers;  
Dr. M. Peisach: Australia, George VI;  
Master I. Kasimov: Pages from general collection;  
Mr. H. Grunewald: Selection from British Africa;  
Mr. R. Jaidel: Issues of Egypt prepared for Palestine;  
Mr. X Piat: Poland and United States.

The exhibitors spoke on the exhibits and helpful comments were added by some members present.

### ROYAL PHILATELIC SOCIETY OF CAPE TOWN

**March 14th:** The first exhibit of the evening was Mr. A. Leslie Leon's collection of Natal. The display showed a very representative selection of this former British Colony, including very many items of interest and terminating with a comprehensive Postal History selection.

The second part of the evening was given over to short displays by four members, Capt. M. F. Stern. The "Pacific" section of his well-known collection of "Maps and Explorations." Mr. R. F. Putzel — New Issues including the United Nations "Jigsaw Puzzle" Mr. D. G. Crocker — Early Great Britain on cover and Zanzibar. Mention be made of the extremely wide variety of the spelling of the Zanzibar overprint. Mr. J. Wannerton — "World War II

Naval Covers".

**March 28th:** Mr. J. Creewel's extremely interesting selection of "Danish Locals", accompanied by an explanatory paper, afforded members great interest and pleasure.

Mr. Freyman's collection of "Imperial Russia" was tabled by Mr. E. Blum, who spoke briefly on the exhibit. Items of interest included pre-stamp covers, a selection of Numeral Post marks, The Romanov Essays.

All in all a most pleasant and enjoyable evening.

### GERMISTON PHILATELIC SOCIETY

**April 17th:** A rather poor attendance of members greeted the Pretoria Railway Society representatives who braved the wet weather to travel over to Germiston.

Our Vice-President, Mr. T. J. B. Curle welcomed the visitors of whom Commander Enoch displayed a selection of his Great Britain line-engraved collection, Mr. Van Eyk, the Charity Issues of the Netherlands from 1923 to 1957 and Mr. E. Walker a number of sheets of the Transvaal, Natal, O.F.S., and Cape Inter-provincial Issues, each exhibit being accompanied by an introductory paper.

All the exhibits were much admired and were suitably acknowledged.

### THE SOUTH AFRICAN STAMP STUDY CIRCLE

**April:** The members agreed to hold a meeting at ELPEX 68 on Thursday 17th October, as this "free" evening had been offered by the ELPEX Committee. Members were asked to prepare items for discussion, and to donate material for an auction.

Among some interesting covers on display, there was a letter to a South African prisoner of war of the 1939 war. It had the usual censor's label resealing the envelope, but the stamps had been cancelled by a rubber stamp showing the Union coat of arms with letter B below. Members were told that this was the censor's mark — the letter 'B' indicating usage at Cape Town. Our informant had himself been a censor, so he should know!!

Other items were covers from M.M.S. Vanguard during the 1947 Royal visit, various "crash covers" and a "Post Interprovincial" Orange River Colony stamp with "shipping postmaster" cancellation. There were some King's Head stamps on piece, with no postal cancellation, but "defaced" with a rubber stamp reading "CONSIGNEES LETTER" in block capitals. Any information on this item would be welcomed.

### GRAHAMSTOWN PHILATELIC SOCIETY

**March:** Mr. Lightfoot and Dr. Chutter joined forces to display the stamp of British Bechuanaland and Bechuanaland Protectorate. The exhibit was accompanied by an introduction by Dr. Chutter wherein many interesting aspects were brought out but unfortunately there was

no postal history material on display.

**April:** Messrs. Van Wijk-Smith and Rex Reynolds lead a discussion on how to exhibit a collection.

This was most interesting and two schools of thought soon became apparent. Firstly there were those who felt that provided that the stamps and covers shown were of sufficient interest the way in which they were presented was not of very great importance. To others presentation was of very great importance, though the Society was obviously far from unanimity on this question of what is good presentation.

Three members of the Society recently talked about stamps and displayed small collections to the boys at Kingswood Prep. The evening seemed to be enjoyed by the boys and several were possibly stimulated to start collecting.

### THE O.F.S. PHILATELIC SOCIETY

**March:** There was only the average attendance. New issues were tabled by Mr. and Mrs. Marincowitz, Messrs. Meyburgh, Scott and Roux.

The main exhibit of the evening was provided by Dr. de Kock, being a semi-specialised collection of HUNGARY 1867-1962. An excellent study of various printings, watermarks and perforations covered the early stages. Numerous covers and postcards about 1872 were shown and miniature sheets were fully represented. Overprints used during the Hungarian revolution were prominent, with a colourful array of the more recent issues concluding the exhibit.

Mr. Meyburgh's FORGERIES followed. Before the items were viewed, the exhibitor gave a talk on Forgeries, Bogus stamps and re-prints. All items were accompanied by the respective certificates issued by the various expert committees indicating whether the items were indeed forgeries or genuine. Where possible, both were shown. The dangers of obtaining forged items were also dealt with, and all in all, this provided one of the most informative shows seen by the Society for many a meeting.

### PRETORIA PHILATELIC SOCIETY

**April:** The meeting comprised the Allan Cup competition for which three entries were received:- Mr. C. Slagt's collection of the South African Animal Series, Mr. W. K. Seeba, the stamps of Iceland from June 17th 1944 up to the present and Dr. W. J. Schiff, of Japan, 1896-1954. The result, by popular vote, was a win by a narrow margin for Mr. Seeba thereby terminating a very interesting evening.

### AFRIKAANSE PHILATELISTIESE VERENIGING VAN PRETORIA

**April:** Hierdie maand het ons besoek gehad van die Pretoriase Spoorweg Filatelistiese Vereniging. Daar was vier uitstallers, wat elkeen vooraf 'n besonder interessante verduideliking gegee het oor wat hulle gaan vertoon. Dr. J. Sherel het sy versameling voetbalkampioenskappe uitgestal. 'n Pragtige versameling waar-

van party seëls baie skaars is. Vervolgens stal mnr. D. Reynders 'n versameling Nyassaland: kompleet, kleurryk en aantreklik. Mnr. E. Walker het sy versameling interprovinsiale seëls saamgebring. Dis moeilik om die hoër waardes te verkry en die stempels moet duidelik wees wat betref die plek en die datum. Ten slotte, die versameling vankommt. C. Enoch, klassieke seëls van Groot-Brittanje: slegs 'n klein deeltjie uit 'n totaal van vyftig albums! Dit is filatelie op sy beste: baie gespesialiseer in drukke, plaatnummers, tipes, kleure en watermerke. Dit moet 'n versameling wees wat op internasionale peil staan. Dit was 'n besonder genoeëlike aand.

### PRETORIA RAILWAY PHILATELIC SOCIETY

**April:** The meeting was entertained to, and members enjoyed Dr. P. Hack's showing of his Sudan and Tristan da Cunha collections. The former included among many other items the first issues of the Egyptian overprinted stamps while the latter all issues in both mint and used condition as well as booklets and some very nice covers posted on the Island.

### EXPERT COMMITTEE

The next meeting of the Expert Committee of the Philatelic Federation of Southern Africa will be held on Saturday, 15 June, 1968.

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