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SOUTH AFRICAN NOTES

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The 2½c Nurses Stamps.

Two printings of the 2½c South African Nursing Association's Commemorative Stamps were put on sale on the 12th October, 1964. Both were made in horizontal sheet format, Panes A and B, each comprising 5 rows x 20 stamps, on Arms Water-marked paper, the mark facing right. The sheets' left and right hand margins contained blue single line broken bars and are perforated through, while the top and bottom ones carry blue pre-manufactured, centrally placed, arrows and are imperforate except for the isolated perforation hole at the junction of the rows. An eleven row perforator was used for both printings.

One printing was made from cross-lined screened cylinders, Nos. S 15 blue and S 3 gold which denominations are registered along with the pane determining letter, A or B, on the sheets' left margin, opposite stamp 1 of Row 5. Four figure red sheet

numbers appear twice on the bottom margin of Pane B only, below stamps 1 and 2, and 12 and 13 of row 5.

The other printing was also made from cross-lined screened cylinders, Nos. S 7, gold, and S 14, blue, which are registered along with the pane determining letter, A or B, on the sheets' left margin, opposite stamps 1 of Row 5. Four figure red sheet numbers appear twice on the bottom margin of Pane B Only, Below Stamp No. 2, the last digit encroaching below stamp No. 3 on the sheets examined. Remnant portions of the Printer's guide marks, in the two contributing colours, appear on the bottom margin of Pane A, beneath stamp 10, indicating that Pane B was positioned on the left of A during the printing process.

The stamps, of vertical format, measuring 40.5 x 24.2 mm., are bilingually inscribed and depict the nurses' symbolic lamp in blue upon a diagonal coarse-mesh gold background. The numerals "50" in blue, are placed above the lamp and the figure of value, also in blue, below it.

The blue printing was made onto the gold back-ground for all portions of the stamp except that pertaining to the lamp for which an uncoloured area was reserved. Consequently any mis-alignment of the two cylinders may be found around the lamp which is of a light blue colour resembling that of the marginal arrows, whereas the blue of the other portions of the stamp appears deep or dull.

In general, the printing from Cyls. S 7 and S 14 may be distinguished from that from Cyls. S 15 and S 3 by the deeper shade of its gold background and by the presence of an almost consistent white outline, in varying degree, around the lamp.

Both printings appeared to be free of cylinder flaws, the only characteristic observed on the sheets examined being of the multipositive status namely, a tiny blue line at the base of O of OF, Rows 5-5 and 5-15 on Panes A and B of the S 15 and S 3 printing only, the arrangement of these flaws indicate the preparation of the carbon tissue in the Bouzart Printing Down Camera.



The 12½c Nurses' Stamp.

The 12½c South African Nursing Association's Commemorative stamp, printed on Arms Watermarked paper from screened cylinders in double die format, Panes A and B, was put on sale on the 12th October, 1964.

The sheet format is vertical, comprising 30 rows x 5 stamps. The top and bottom margins are perforated through and contain single line broken bars, while the left and right ones are imperforate except for a single perforation hole and contain centrally placed blue pre-manufactured arrows. The cylinder numbers, S 17 gold, S 16 blue, along with the pane designation letter, A or B, are printed on the bottom margin of each pane, below stamp 5 of row 20. Four figure red sheet numbers appear twice on the right margin of Pane B only, opposite rows 8 and 9, and 19 and 20.

The bilingually inscribed stamps are of horizontal format, measuring 24.2 x 40.5 mm., and depict a nurse holding the symbolic lamp with the numerals "50" in gold above it and the figure of value in the lower left corner. The inscriptions are in white upon a blue background and an eleven row perforator was used for the printing.

The following are some of the flaws observed:

PANE A. MULTIPOSITIVE FLAWS.

Row:—

- 1-5 and 11-5. Small blue dot on the left aspect of the Nurse's chest.
- 7-5 and 17-5. Tiny blue dot in 1 of REPUBLIEK.

PANE B.

- 1-5 and 11-5. Prominent blue dot below 5 of 50.

PANE A. CYLINDER FLAWS.

- 1-2. Small blue mark on top of 1 of 12.
- 1-5. Tiny blue dot on nurse's forehead.
- 2-2. Small blue dot on nurse's left arm.
- 4-1. Small blue dot left of flame of lamp.
- 12-3. Small blue dot left of flame of lamp.
- 13-2. Tiny blue dot above flame of lamp.
- 14-4. Prominent blue dot on nurse's veil.
- 20-5. Tiny blue dot on lower portion of 2 of 12.

PANE B.

- 1-2. Prominent white smudge above 1 of 12.
- 1-3. Small horizontal blue line left of flame.
- 4-4. Prominent blue dot on nurse's veil.
- 10-5. Prominent blue smudge above lamp.

There is a small horizontal blue line on the top margin of Pane B, above stamp 2 of row 1, and the printing carries many microscopic blue dots.

THE CASE OF THE MISSING HYPHEN

By Dr. H. J. Raubenheimer

(Being a paper read at the S.A. Stamp Circle meeting at Pretoria during Congress Week.)

A Bulletin of the Publicity Branch of the Post Office appeared in March, 1964, giving particulars of the two new postage stamps to be issued on the 8th of May, 1964. Of the values of 2½c and 12½c they were to commemorate the 75th anniversary of the South African Rugby Board. The Bulletin had illustrations of the two stamps and also of the two special date stamps which would be used at Cape Town and Johannesburg. The Post Office also issued official photographs of the stamps and the Philatelic Bureau had two enlarged photographs, like pictures, hanging on its wall.

The stamps duly made their appearance; they were examined, reported upon and were accepted with the usual acclaim. The only carping note, from Cape Town, I think, was this question: since one of the special date stamps was to be used in Johannesburg, what did Johannesburg do for, or even know of rugby seventy-five years ago in 1889 when it was then just a mining camp? But that is by the way!

There was something vaguely strange

about the 12½c stamp, and it was only after referring to other 12½c commemorative stamps such as the Red Cross stamp, that the oddness was spotted, and that was that the space between SUID and AFRIKA was smaller than usual, that the hyphen seemed cramped and was not like the pretty little ornamental hyphen that we would normally have expected. (Fig. 1).



Now curiosity was aroused and the matter was further investigated; a number of other official photographs and Bulletins were examined and the following interesting facts thereupon came to light:

(a) The hyphens on all the photographs were not uniform, they differed slightly in size and shape. (Fig. 2).

(b) Still more marked was this the case on the much smaller illustrations on the Bulletins.

(c) The surprising fact that these hyphens had been inserted in ink, by hand, and that those on the photographs could be just about completely erased with water,

(d) Specimens of the two Bulletins, the one in English and the other in Afrikaans, have been found both with and without the hyphen, (Figs. 3 and 4). The third Bulletin, in English only for overseas, has only been found without the hyphen.

(e) And finally, and most surprising of all, the picture photograph at the Bureau had been hanging there for weeks, without the hyphen, and nobody the wiser!

Now how did this all come about? Let us briefly recapitulate the sequence of events leading up to the issue of, say, a commemorative stamp. We start with the Essay (the artist's drawing), from which follow, for

each cylinder, the master negative, the multipositive, the carbon tissue and then the finished cylinder. Various colour combinations are tried, one of which is finally chosen and the printing of the stamps proceeds.

The Printing Works prepares beautiful photographs of the original Essay for the Post Office, and from these the Post Office makes the reproductions for its Bulletin. It follows, thus, that the original Essay had no hyphen—obviously an oversight. The photographs had already been delivered before the missing hyphen was discovered, but it was easy enough to insert the hyphens on them as well as on the Bulletins, but not so easily on a prepared cylinder. In fact, that would be almost impossible.

Indeed the whole process would have to be repeated from the essay stage—a hyphen inserted on the Essay and a new cylinder or cylinders prepared.

May we now venture into the realm of speculation. At what stage was the absence of the hyphen noticed? If it was before the master negative was made, then this story would be a moderately interesting one. But supposing that the absence of the hyphen was only discovered after the cylinders had been prepared ready for use, and even some sheets of stamps had been printed, then we would have quite a different position. Of course those sheets would be destroyed (wouldn't a collector like to have even one of those stamps!). Then also the colour trials would show the hyphen missing, and what a picture they would make! The possibility exists, too, that they would show different cylinder numbers from the final ones S 12 S 14.



Another interesting little feature in connection with these Rugby stamps could be mentioned here. Let us revert to the Bulletin again and study the illustration of the special date stamp that was to be used at Cape Town (Fig. 5). This was reproduced from an official photograph (Fig. 6). Look closely at the O of BOARD, it is identical on the two photographs, and under magnification it gives the distinct appearance



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of having been a U with the top loop closed to make an O. And yet, the date stamps used on all the covers seen so far show a normal O (Fig. 7). Obviously there were more than one dater used in Cape Town to handle the thousands of covers, and being hand-made there are small differences between them and which are noticeable.

But what became of the one with the "Closed U" of which the photographs were made? We could be on firmer ground than before in thinking what happened. The photograph is taken of the impression of the date stamp and the U could have been closed before photographing, while the brass dater itself could be satisfactorily altered—the U removed and an O inserted. But did this happen? It is doubtful if we will ever know.

It could, quite reasonably, be said that this whole paper is pure theorising and is largely wishful thinking. Admittedly there is no proof, because the Post Office or the Printing Works could, quite rightly, regard the whole thing as their own private affair, and we would be left with a pretty little teaser.

All in all, this is just the sort of thing that we in the Study Circle find so fascinating, and makes us regard the Printing Works and the Philatelic Bureau with such interest, curiosity and even affection.

A.P.O.-U.-M.P.K./2

The S. African Army Post Office marks of World War II are described in Pirie's "World War II Philately of Southern and Eastern Africa" pp. 9-12.

This lists the places and dates of usage, which were supplied to the writer by the Director of the Army Postal Services.

It is noted that in a few cases postmarks are known with dates later than the official date given. I can add No. 2 to this category. This number is recorded as used only in East Africa from 1/6/40 to 3/2/41, and to the best of my knowledge is was used only at Nairobi.

I have several specimens with dates later than 3/2/41 and am submitting one with date 28-VI-41. To show that it was still being used at Nairobi about that date I may quote a date cover still in my possession. This has 18-VI-41 and is addressed to Ngong, which is only a few miles outside Nairobi; this is backstamped Ngong the next day.

—W. TUNSTALL.

AIR MAIL NOTES

(I. H. C. Godfrey)

INTERNAL AIR SERVICES — SOUTHERN RHODESIA.

8th June, 1964: Salisbury - Ft. Victoria - Triangle - Chiredzi.

The Rhodesian Air Services inaugurated a regular airmail service on 8th June to link Salisbury with Triangle and Chiredzi in the Triangle and Hippo sugar areas of the lowveld, south east of Fort Victoria, using a de Havilland "Dove" aircraft daily from Monday to Friday. Approximate air distances are:

Salisbury - Ft. Victoria	160 miles.
Ft. Victoria - Triangle	85 miles.
Triangle - Chiredzi	55 miles.

On the first flight a very small mail indeed was carried, only eight covers being known posted in Salisbury to Triangle and Chiredzi and two on the return flight from each point. Each of these covers is authenticated by the pilot's signature (Capt. J. Swart).

(Acknowledgments to Capt. L. E. Creasy).

* * * *

B.O.A.C. "VC-10" JET SERVICE

Johannesburg to London. 22nd July, 1964.

An important milestone in South African airmail history was reached when the famous "Comet" Jets were withdrawn from service on BOAC's Trans-Africa route and superseded by the revolutionarily designed "VC-10" aircraft, with four rear-mounted Rolls-Royce engines, thus putting British civil aviation six years ahead of any other airline.

Ever since 1931 it has been customary for **British Overseas Airways** (and its predecessor **Imperial Airways**) to issue specially printed envelopes to commemorate important inaugural airmail flights, and to circularize the public regarding the servicing of covers. In the case of the "VC-10" flights, however, this old tradition was broken and, as little advance publicity was given to the collecting public, comparatively few authenticated souvenir covers are available.

The Johannesburg Post Office co-operated with the local Office of B.O.A.C. by servicing a limited number of plain airmail covers which were addressed to the Airways Terminal, London. These bear the postmark "JOHANNESBURG - 22 VII 64 - 13.30" and, on arrival, were backstamped "Aircraft/

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The new "VC-10" operates six services a week from Jan Smuts to London, via Rome or Frankfurt, the first flight calling at Salisbury, Nairobi and Rome en route.

* * * *

AEROGGRAMMES.

ZANZIBAR - 1964 "JAMHURI" overprints:

Two Aerogrammes of exceptional interest and to which no reference seems to have appeared in the overseas Philatelic press have been reported by our local Aerophilatelic Society member, Mr. Donald G. Cox, of Newcastle, Australia. These are the 25c and 50c Aerogramme sheets overprinted "JAMHURI 1964" in black, diagonally downwards from left to right across the imprinted stamp bearing the portrait of the deposed Sultan.

Postal clerks at the Zanzibar Post Office were authorised to deface the picture of the ex-Sultan, manually, in black ink by means of a cross, but this practice was not apparently normally carried out.

The sheets which have been reported were bought over the Post Office counter at Zanzibar by the Master of the "Straat Madura," the first ship to enter the harbour after the Revolution, on 25th January, 1964. A genuinely flown 25c sheet with the postmark of that date is known which can, therefore, be used as a model for detecting forged overprints which, very likely, will make their appearance.

A ZULULAND POSTMARK

The Natal Government Gazette of May 15th, 1888, contained a proclamation stating that the postal agreement entered into by the Governor of Natal and the Resident Commissioner of Zululand, had come into force on the first of that month. The Post Office of Entonjaneni district was supplied with a hand canceller reading "Post Office Entonjaneni" within a single circle measuring 30 mm. in diameter, with the first two words at the top and the name at the bottom of the circle, the date being placed horizontally across the centre.

I am interested to find the earliest recorded use of this canceller. In an article published in "Stamp Collecting" in 1952, Dr. K. Pennycuik stated that the canceller was in use from 1888 to 1891, but he has informed me that all his cancellations were dated

1889. In the Rich collection bequeathed to the Durban Museum, a cover dated August 19th, 1888, is stated to be "the earliest cover known." However, Mr. Paul A. Dorn, Jr., of Los Angeles, U.S.A., has a cover dated July 28th, 1888, of which he has very kindly sent me a photograph, whilst in my collection there is one even earlier bearing the date July 4th, 1888.

If any of your readers has proof of any earlier usage than the last date mentioned, it would be appreciated if information could be supplied through these columns.

—(A. LESLIE LEON).

PHILATELIC ESTATES

The work of this committee, under the chairmanship of Mr. Nigel Ford, was reported on at the August meeting of the Philatelic Federation Executive. Its usefulness may be judged from one particular case: The executor of an estate had been offered R160 for a collection, but feeling that this was not enough he asked the advice of the Estates Committee. This was given and followed by the executor and he obtained R1,600, exactly ten times the previous offer.

LEST WE FORGET

Editorial Note. Readers, the "S.A. Ph." bottom drawer is almost empty, fresh articles are badly needed.

Checking up on something written in 1911 a member of the Board thought "this is worth re-publishing just to compare the views of that date with those of today."

Do you like it? If you do not care for cold dishes warmed up again then help us out by writing something fresh; otherwise you are liable either to have a shorter magazine or more such re-published articles. Here follows the first of them:

SHOULD DAMAGED STAMPS BE COLLECTED?

(Pros. and Cons.)

The basis and objective of a collection of postage stamps is the acquisition of every known variety in the country decided upon. The condition of the specimens is a very important point, the collector rejecting all heavily post-marked stamps whenever there is a possibility of securing them in good condition. I think it is granted that a heavily-marked or badly-centred stamp is bet-

ter than none at all, and to a lesser degree the same remarks apply to damaged stamps.

Most collectors know what an eye-sore a blank space in their favourite country is, and surely it is more satisfactory to have it occupied by a damaged stamp until one in good condition can be obtained. I am not an advocate of collection damaged stamps as damaged stamps, but I certainly am of opinion that a damaged stamp is better than none at all. It seems to me that if one makes a point of rejecting all stamps that do not quite come up to the standard of perfection that one has set for oneself, half the enjoyment of collecting is done away with. Who does not know the satisfaction one feels in substituting for a badly marked or damaged specimen in one's collection a stamp in good condition that one has just secured? Can one imagine any collector deciding against the inclusion in his collection of a "Post Office" Mauritius because it is not quite perfect, on the ground that until he can get a copy that will pass his high standard he would rather see a blank space in his album? Surely what applies to these "rarae aves" applies equally well to lesser fry.

My honourable friend on the opposition benches will not deny that until one can get a £20 Rhodesian stamp, postally used, one used fiscally has to be put up with if one wishes to have the set complete.

My experience is that when mounting in my album a damaged stamp, the fact of its being damaged impresses itself strongly on me, so much so that when looking over approval sheets I find myself recollecting that "this stamp in my collection is creased," or "that one is short of a perforation," and so on.

Having secured the stamp of the requisite pitch of perfection, then by all means depose the damaged occupant of the space and try to palm it off on the next exchange sheet, or better still, destroy it.

—W. L. SIMON.

* * * *

In deciding whether damaged stamps should or should not be collected, one must consider to some extent why stamps are collected at all. There is no doubt that philately owes its existence and continued life principally to the variety and beauty of design and colouring which stamps present, and which give them in combination an interesting and attractive appearance. If stamps were designed, for instance, like postmarks, and were all of a uniform colour,

how many people would take the trouble to collect them? Commercialism has introduced more sordid motives into the hobby, but the reason for collecting which I have given above still continues to be the mainstay of philately.

If my premises be allowed, the unused stamp should take pride of place in one's album as the perfect specimen; failing that, a stamp as lightly post-marked as possible. (The question of pen-marked and fiscally-cancelled stamps I shall not touch upon, as being outside the scope of a paper dealing with postage stamps). Failing an unused or a lightly postmarked stamp, where should the line be drawn? Opinions may differ on this point, but I think few will dispute my contention that a stamp to be worthy of inclusion in a collection must at any rate be complete. No stamp minus a corner or some other part of its form should be admitted. A philatelist, it must be borne in mind, is a collector of stamps, not of torn scraps of paper. If mutilated stamps could all be put on one page by themselves, the effect would not be so bad, but interspersed with others they mar the appearance of a whole collection by their obtrusive ugliness. There is a prevalent idea that a blank space should be filled at any cost, if not with a good specimen, with a bad one, but a blank space is infinitely preferable to a specimen which is incomplete. One must except from this condemnation stamps with officially-punched holes, although I am personally of opinion that if all stamps so dealt with were tabooed by collectors, they would not be much loss.

The case against the stamp which is cut, but which has lost none of its original form, is even stronger. True, it retains its original appearance, and at first glance, and even on a casual examination, might seem irreproachable, but it is a fraud—a wolf masquerading in sheep's clothing—a hypocrite hiding its faults behind a plausible exterior. It should be rooted out uncompromisingly.

There is a considerable business done in repairing stamps, but to my mind a repaired stamp is a close relative to the forgery, and collectors should always be on their guard against being taken in by specimens which have undergone any sort of renovating process.

In my opinion, therefore, all stamps from which pieces are missing, or which are otherwise mutilated, should not be collected. I would also exclude stamps which,

though complete in form, are so heavily post-marked that the design cannot be distinguished. This, however, is a point which I do not expect all collectors will agree with me upon.

—C. C. WOOLLACOTT.

TRANSVAAL NUMERAL CANCELLATIONS

By C. S. Rosenberg and J. H. Harvey Pirie

The first extensive series of numeral cancellations consisted of a number inside three concentric circles. This came into use about 1874; the story of the series (Nos. 1 to 43), with the places of usage, is now pretty well-known. See "S.A. Philatelist," Vol. 17, 1941, p. 64—reprinted Vol. 38, 1962, pp. 48 and 64.

The next extensive series of numeral marks appeared in 1889 and continued in use, according to Curle and Basden (p. 94), on the 1895 issues. They state it was revived later and is known on a $\frac{1}{2}$ d. Edwardian stamp; this we have seen, but it is a modified form with the corner letters Z A R removed. They record that the numerals in the series run from 1 to 90, but do not say how many of these they have actually seen. They note the occurrence of occasional varieties such as marks without any numeral and a mark with the numeral 3 inverted.

No official list has been found of the places to which these numeral cancellations were issued. The present writers, who have a considerable number of them, have pooled their knowledge to produce this list of known marks. The majority are on loose stamps and so their places of usage cannot be identified. Some are on covers or post-cards with accompanying place-date postmarks or some other locative data and these are listed separately.

The normal mark is an equilateral triangle with sides 30 mm. long. In the three corners are the letters "Z, A, R," 3-3½ mm. high; in the centre a numeral 3½-4 mm. high and there are two thickish lines both above and below it. The variations in the size of the letters and numerals seem to be due mainly, if perhaps not entirely, to the heaviness or lightness of the striking of the mark. The marks in the vast majority of our

specimens are in black, but one specimen, No. 6 from Eureka Kaap Goudv has both the numeral mark and the single-circle place-date stamp in blue.

We can now record the following numerals as known: 1, 2, 3, 4, 5, 6, 7, 8, 10, 11, 12, 13, 14, 15, 16, 17, 20, 23, 25, 27, 28, 29, 30, 32, 34, 38, 39, 45, 46, 49, 50, 54, 58, 60, 63, 64, 65, 71, 73, 74, 76, 79, 84, 87, 88. A total of 45—just half the possible of 90.

Know Places of Usage.

No Number	Krugersdorp
"	Swaziland
1	Pretoria
2	Potchefstroom
3	(?) Johannesburg
4	Barberton
5	Boksburg
6	Eureka Kaap Goudv
10	Kaapsche Hoop
11	Krugersdorp
13	Lydenburg
15	Middelburg
17	Nylstroom
20	Utrecht
23	Zeerust
28	Belfast
50	Pilgrims Rest.

Notes.

(1) **No Number.** The marks with no number, as known from Krugersdorp and from Swaziland, are due to be written up more fully.

(2) **No. 3.** This has been allocated to Johannesburg, but with a query because conclusive proof of its usage there has not yet been obtained. The presumptive evidence which leads us to allocate it there is as follows:

Johannesburg Post Office dates from about the end of 1886 and during 1887 Johannesburg place-date postmarks (mainly small single-circle marks) are fairly common. Also again from early 1890 onwards, but they are conspicuously lacking in our collections with dates in 1888-89.

It is suggested that during these two years the triangular canceller with 3 numeral may have been used there.

We have Enschede stamps with this cancellation in considerable numbers, not only on singles but on multiples. This suggests that No. 3 canceller was in use at a post

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office using a lot of stamps and Johannesburg seems to fill the bill in this respect. It had grown rapidly and it is on record that in March, 1887, it was large enough to have 100 private boxes put in. (See S.A. Philatelist, Vol 12, 1936, p. 168).

(3) **No. 50.** Attributed to Pilgrims Rest from an 1893 cover. There is no doubt about the "5" but the "0" is a little doubtful.

BLACK BLOTS

The following countries have been assessed in the July issue of the "American Philatelist" with the numbers of the reasons for which they have been given.

Albania. 8-Stamp set (4 perf., 4 imperf.) plus 2 Souvenir Sheets for Tokyo Olympic Games. 1, Limited printing. 2, Unduly long set. 5, No direct relationship with the issuing country.

East Germany. Children's Day issue of 1 June. 1, Limited issue.

Guinea. Six high value airpost stamps. 3, Such high values unwarranted.

Monaco. 16-Stamp issue for 50th anniversary of Monte Carlo Air Rally. 2, Excessively long.

San Marino. 12-Stamp set for Tokyo Olympics. 2, Excessively long.

Sierra Leone. Map cut-out sets for N.Y. World's Fair, and as tribute to President Kennedy. 1, Limited printings.

Yemen. 8-Stamp set plus 2 Souvenir Sheets for the Tokyo Games. 1, Limited printing. 2, Unduly long. 5, No direct relationship with issuing country.

In the August issue the following issues are assessed:

Dubai. 9-Stamp set publicising N.Y. World's fair. Limited printing of excessively long set.

France. NOTE. Certain PHILATEC sheets (2 kinds) were compulsorily buyable when buying entrance tickets to the Exhibition. These were "black-blotted," but this assessment has since been withdrawn, and a special letter sent out to this effect. It appears that funds received from the sale of the PHILATEC sheets were entirely used by the postal administration to help defray the costs of the exhibition. Moreover the special sheets were on free sale for several months after the close of the show at face value in all post-offices.

Honduras. A 6-Stamp set and souvenir sheet overprinted "In Memoriam" for Kennedy; some of them further overprinted "Official" in red. Limited printing and oddities introduced.

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'n Filatelieburo bestaan in die poskantoor in Pretoria om in die spesiale behoeftes van seëlhandelaars en filateliste te voorsien. Slegs seëls van die Republiek van Suid-Afrika tans in gebruik word te koop aangebied.

Bestellings vir seëls moet geadresseer word aan die Filatelieburo, H.P.K., Pretoria, en moet vergesel gaan van poswissels, posorders of bankwissels, betaalbaar aan die Posmeester-generaal. Tjeks word nie aangenem nie. Die bedrag moet voldoende wees om die pos- en registrasie gelde te dek. Deposito-rekenings kan deur oorsese kliënte geopen word.

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Hungary. 1 Joint commem. for European skittles championship. Bottom row has tabs with Olympic rings and Tokyo Odely intentionally introduced.

* * * *

It is mentioned that two other International associations are merging their interests with the American Philatelic Society in the War Against Speculative Issues. They are the F.I.P. (International Philatelic Federation) and the A.I.J.P. (International Association of Philatelic Journalists).

REVIEWS AND SHORT NOTICES

Cornphila Zurich.

This stamp auction firm of Bahnhofstrasse 102, Zurich, Switzerland, is holding its 50th Auction on 2-7 November, 1964, and has sent us two copies of the sales catalogue. This is a huge affair of 8 x 10 inches with 92 pages of illustrations, quite a few of them in colour and 116 pages of text.

Catalogue prices are given (the catalogue used being mentioned) and what the item is expected to fetch.

Some 6,329 items are listed, considerably over half of them being European, but there is a fair range from other parts of the world.

Johannesburg Chamber of Commerce:

Annual Report, 1964.

You may wonder why this has been sent us for review although postal and telecommunication affairs seem to occupy quite a bit of the Chamber's time and fill a page of this 16-page booklet of almost quarto size.

We ceased wondering when we saw the outside of the booklet. They are just a mass of stamps in natural colours, reminiscent of the halves of the covers of "Gibbons Stamp Monthly."

We reckoned there must have been at least 200 stamps arranged and photographed and the job has been very well done.

When we saw from the Report that as Assistant Secretary of the Chamber is one M.M.W. we fancy that he must be the Deus ex Machina, who assembled the stamps for plate-making. He is well-known in Johannesburg as a keen philatelist.

Australian Covers.

We have received a small booklet from the Collector's Association, 37 Galway Terrace, Largs North, S. Australia. Price 1/6. It lists many stamps, F.D.C.s., Flights, etc. and

would appeal to anyone specializing in any way in Australia.

David Field Ltd. and The West End Philatelist.

Fred T. Buck, who trades under this name, is continuing in business as a stamp dealer, but is giving up publishing the magazine.

Sander's Philatelic Journal.

No. 115 of this magazine (Sept. '64), is the last. House-magazines with a mainly postal circulation are evidently becoming too expensive for dealers to run. Rising printing costs are the main cause of the trouble.

FALKLAND ISLANDS

On 8 December 4 stamps are to be issued in commemoration of the 50th anniversary of the battles for these islands. The first battle took place on I.XI.14 at Coronel Bay off the coast of Chile, where Britain lost H.M.S. Good Hope and H.M.S. Monmouth. Reinforcements were rushed out to the islands and they were refuelling there on 8.XII.14 when the Gefman squadron approached with the intention of destroying the port installations. The German Admiral, Graf von Spee, withdrew, the British followed and a 10-hour running battle ensued. Four of the German squadron of five were sunk, the Dresden escaped temporarily but she surrendered some months later.

The four stamps are to feature respectively: 2½d. H.M.S. Glasgow, 6d. H.M.S. Kent, 1/- H.M.S. Invincible, 2/- Falkland Islands Battle Memorial.

RECORD AUCTION PRICES

A CORRECTION

In our June issue, p. 114, it was stated that the sum of £234,545 for the Burrus collection of Switzerland was said to be a world record for any one-country sale.

This is not correct. H. R. Harmer, of New York, Inc., remind us that their six sales of the Caspary collection of U.S.A. held in 1955-57 realized \$1,208,861.50, almost double the total for the Burrus Swiss.

THE RHODESIAS

We have seen it stated that Southern Rhodesia will officially be known as "Rhodesia" from 24th October, the day on which Northern Rhodesia will become Zambia.

SOCIETY NEWS

MASHONALAND P.S.

August meeting. Fifty-two members and visitors present. Father Barr showed his fine collection of Vatican stamps.

Most of the material for auction was sold.

* * * *

The Society has issued a pamphlet stating that they are publishing a comprehensive Check-List of the Postage Stamps of the Rhodesias and Nyasaland up to the end of 1963.

Prominence is being given to varieties, many of which are listed for the first time. Sources of information are given in the text and in the extensive bibliography provided.

The volume will run to approximately 160 quarto pages, including several plates of illustrations and an index. The price should not exceed 25/- to British Commonwealth countries and 27/6d. to others. These figures include packing and postage.

It will help the Society in determining its publication requirements if anyone likely to be interested in obtaining a copy would indicate (entirely without obligation) their desire to the Hon. Secretary, Mashonaland Philatelic Society, P.O. Box 2735, Salisbury.

ROYAL P.S. OF RHODESIA

August meeting. Mr. S. J. Hagger, of Germiston showed us some more of his S. African collection. This time he dealt with the hyphenated rotogravures, the pictorial issues of 1935-53. These included varieties such as joined papers and perforation varieties, also what he termed printers waste—such as stamps with a missing colour or with no perforations at all.

September meeting. Mr. Carter gave a talk on "The roles of dealers, collector-dealers and pure, advanced collectors in Philately."

The meeting then saw Mr. Strong's collection of Postal History from 1667 to 1840. This included a Bishop Postmark of 18 Nov. 1667, a Dockwra type postmark of 1689 and various unpaid, paid, free, and mileage marks. The star item was an F.D.C. of 6 May, 1860, with a superb Plate 1A 1d. Black.

P.S. OF JOHANNESBURG

24 August. (1) Mr. W. Oppenheim showed selections from several of his many countries. These included Brazilian covers, Congo (both before and after independence), early U.S.A., and early Canadian.

(2) Mr. G. W. Lambert showed his used stamps of the various countries in the Rhodesian Federation. They were picked speci-

mens and well written up. A notable specimen was a N. Rhodesian with the "Missing Value Tablet" which he received on ordinary commercial mail.

8 September. A magnificent exhibit of Anglo-Boer War items was given by Mr. L. Feinstein. Only a few of the outstanding items can be mentioned, such as: a Z.A.R. cover posted in Natal on 11-10-99; a card from the O.V.S. consulate in Austria; siege covers from Ladysmith and Mafeking (none are known from Kimberley, but to make up for them some were shown from Kuruman), which few people know about.

ROYAL P.S. OF CAPE TOWN

13 August. Composite showing of British Commonwealth. (a) Mr. Berneaud, Ceylon, Q.V. and K.E. VII. (b) Mr. Figov, Rhodesias old and new. (c) Mr. Rowe, a number of colonies, but mainly New Zealand and especially the paper varieties.

27 August. Germany (a) 1871-1945, (b) 1945 to date, by Mr. Putzel. A very extensive showing, including booklets, Balloon flights, P.O.W. issues, Airmails and obliterations of headpieces by cork marks.

GERMISTON P.S.

16 September. Mr. Eilers tabled his issues of the various zones in Germany.

Mr. A. C. Rix showed a collection of Great Britain commemoratives and booklet stamps.

He also exhibited a small collection of commemorative issues of Australia. Both of latter two exhibits dated from 1953 onwards. —L.S.C.

SOCIETY OF ISRAEL PHILATELY

August meeting. Exhibit provided by Lou Abrams, who showed us "Maritime" Israel. This contained stamps, covers, special postmarks, press cuttings, all pleasantly written up.

AFRIKAANSE FILATELISTEVERENIGING

September 1964. Lede Thamm en Hattingh het met hulle uitstallings om die Vekawisselbeker gesorg dat die aanwesiges met ons byeenkoms van 16 deser heelwat te sien gekry het en ons kan getuig dat daar weer eens versamelings van hoë gehalte was.

Lid Hattingh se vastereekse van die V.S.A. is puik. Sy vroeë uitgawes is goed verteenwoordigend van die belangrikste kleurskaakeringe en as die relatiewe skaarste van kabinetstukke onder die vroeë emissies in gedagte gehou word, het hy daarin geslaag om redelik mooi stukke te bekom. Maar, net

soos met sy gedenkuitgawes, ontbreek hy hier ook die juwele.

Lid Thamm het ons vir die eerste maal iets van Estland laat sien en dit iets baie goed daarby. In 'n kort geselsie vooraf het hy gesê dat sy versameling nie net filatelies interessant is nie, maar ook geskiedkundig. Dit weerspieël die noodlot van 'n klein landjie wat hom in die magsfeer van twee grotes bevind het. Stellig ook 'n unieke omstandigheid is die feit dat vervalsings vanaf 1918 tot 1926 hier 'n algemene verskynsel was. Seëls van elke uitgawe van 1918 tot 1926 is vervals. As dit net die duers was, was dit nog verstaanbaar, maar dat selfs die gewone seëls vervals is, is nie so maklik verklaarbaar nie. Die vervalsings het nie opgehou voordat Estlandse seëls in 1926 'n netraster gekry het nie. Hy het verder gesê dat die tragedie wat hierdie land se lotsbestemming was, hom voor die gees kom elke keer as hy die versameling deurkyk: Estland het een-derde van sy bevolking deur vlug, dood en uitdelging verloor en gaan tans nog onder die Kommunistiese juk gebuk.

Die versameling begin met die seëls en stempels van die verskeie besetters en is in dié opsig baie interessant. Behalwe vir 'n paar van die groot seldsaamhede is dit kompleet. Dit bevat etlike geskiedkundige stukke. Lid Thamm se aanbieding is oorspronklik en innemend op swart blaaie met netjies wit byskrywings.

PRETORIA P.S.

3 August. The evening's entertainment was provided by "Cas" who brought along an exhibit from his rather large collection of the "Islands of the British Empire." The Two Reigns of Cyprus, Fiji, Tonga, Papua and New Guinea, Zanzibar and a small but rather interesting collection of "Errors and Varieties" was tabled. All the Islands exhibited were complete in shades, change of perms, overprints and all commemoratives in blocks of four. In Cyprus items like S.C. 177a and 177aa were portrayed, the overprints of the 1964 (5 May) U.N. Security Councils Resolution March 1964, on four of the Cyprus stamps in blocks of four. This set was issued in short supply and without warning. Tonga, the 1962 (7 Feb.) Centenary of the Emancipation overprinted on eight stamps of the definitive set was short lived and printed in short supply. The Tonga "Horror"—the 1963 (15 July) First Polynesian Gold Coinage Commemorative set caused quite an interest amongst the members as most of them had not seen it before. Zanzibar was up to date to the locally hand stamped set "Jamhuri 1964" followed by the 1964 (28 Feb.) overprinting by Bradbury Wilkinson. The new Zanzibar set issued as an emergency on June 21st was printed in Leipzig East Germany and was also displayed; this set is very gaudy and consists of much Chain Breaking and Flag Waving.

8 September. Competition for Certificates of Merit for Thematic collectors. Only one

entry and the judges decided it was not quite up to the Certificate standard. A collection of Madonna on stamps was displayed non competitively as it had previously won a certificate.

AFRIKAANSE PHILATELISTIESE VERENIGING VAN PRETORIA

September 1964. Vandat daar laas van ons gehoor is, het die volgende gebeurtenisse plaasgevind. Dr. J. W. Verwoerd het ons vergas deur 'n uitstalling van die Wêreldposunie van 1949 aan ons te vertoon op die aand van die 22ste Julie. Die netjiese versameling is posfris, volledig en in Frans, die internasionale taal van die posunie, bygeskryf. Daarbenewens het Dr. Verwoerd 'n klein versameling van Nederland ook uitgestal.

Met die junior-vergadering gehou op 14 Augustus het Z. de Swardt die prys gewen vir die junior kompetisie. Nico Dekker het tweede gekom, Hubart van der Spuy derde en Bennie Meyer die prys vir die beste vordering.

ORANGE FREE STATE P.S.

August meeting. The main exhibit was that by Mrs. H. Jeldel of Cape Town, entitled "Towards a United Europe; the Europa issues played a considerable part, together with covers and miniature sheets; also sports items.

Dr. J. Mellet showed a complete lot of Shakespeare commemoratives.

Mr. C. van Ee, just back from overseas, showed slides of tulips in Holland, shots of a stamp market and gave his views of a philatelic meeting which he attended.

P.S. OF NATAL

September meeting. This Society is in difficulties through no one being willing to take on the post of Secretary, and they have been without one for the past six months.

The highlight of the evening was a visit from a country member, Dr. Hansford, who showed two exhibits. The first was the stamps of Morocco, on which he gave a short talk. Its quality may be judged by the fact that Mr. Torres, in proposing a vote of thanks, said that although he had spent twelve years there, there were a number of stamps which he had never seen before. Dr. Hansford's record exhibits was of East Africa, and here again there were some rare items.

Mr. Kriste read an interesting paper on how to write up a stamp collection.



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AUSTRALIA

The full set of postage stamps will switch over to decimal coinage on 1st February, 1965. There will be no overprinting of existing issues. It is expected that existing designs will be adapted although new ones may follow later.

The current stamps in £.s.d. values will remain valid for about two years; then they will be demonetised; the first Australian stamps ever to be so. Even the States stamps are still valid.

The 5d. Xmas stamp was issued on October 21st, it depicts a child looking at a Nativity scene. A similar one was made for Norfolk Island.

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