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Philatelist

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VOL 55 NO 9

SEPTEMBER 1979

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Philatelist

Vol 55 No 9 — September 1979 — Heelno 653

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Published by The Philatelic Federation of Southern Africa, P O Box 375, Johannesburg 2000

Uitgegee deur die Filateliese Federasie van Suider-Afrika, Posbus 375, Johannesburg 2000

Intekening/Subscription: S.A. - R5,00 (incl GST)
U.K. - £3,50
Elsewhere - US \$7,50

Single copy price: 50c (Incl GST)

THE S A PHILATELIST MANAGEMENT AND EDITORIAL BOARD/ REDAKSIE- EN BESTUURSKOMITEE:

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Johannesburg is now a world auction venue

THE STANLEY GIBBONS AUCTION held on 2 August 1979 — the fourth international stamp auction arranged in South Africa by Stanley Gibbons — firmly established Johannesburg as a world auction venue.

Since 1975, when Stanley Gibbons pioneered international auctions in the Republic, the leading auction houses of Robson Lowe and Sotheby Parke Bernet have also conducted successful sales in Johannesburg.

Last month's Gibbons auction realised a total of R200 000. The sale was attended by 300 collectors, of which over 90 bid.

Top price of R16 000 was paid by an overseas buyer for a mint block of four of the 1917 Rhodesia ½d on 1d surcharge with the surcharge inverted.

The highest price paid by a local collector bidding from the floor was R9 000, for the 1910-13 Rhodesia £1 error of colour. The estimate was R6 000. In general early items from Zimbabwe Rhodesia attracted keen bidding and a number of postal history items were sold for double the estimated values.

Other highlights of the sale were —

| | |
|---|--------|
| Falkland Islands 1933 Centenary set ½d to £1, mint | R5 600 |
| Gibraltar 1925-32 £5 mint | R6 000 |
| Great Britain 1913 Waterlow £1 mint | R6 000 |
| Malta 1919 10/- (SG 96) mint | R5 500 |
| Natal 1904-08 £1 10s mint, est R1 300 | R2 300 |
| Orange Free State 1875 combination cover | R1 700 |
| Nyasaland 1913-18 £10 mint | R4 600 |
| South Africa £1 pale olive-green and red, used pair | R3 200 |
| SA 1930-45 ½d tête-bêche block of 4 | R2 300 |
| SWA 1923 Group I overprint ½d to £1, mint | R4 600 |
| SWA 1923 Group II £1 block of 4 mint, incl no stop after Afrika variety | R8 000 |

The sale of Sotheby Parke Bernet held in Johannesburg a few days later, on 8 August, realised a total of R166 175. Again the interest was focused on early Rhodesia, the top price being R17 000 for a horizontal mint strip of three of the 1905 Victoria Falls issue imperf vertically. This was bought by a local collector, outbidding competition at more than double the prior estimate.

High points of the sale were —

| | |
|--|---------|
| Rhodesia ½d Double Heads imperf block of 6 | R10 800 |
| Rhodesia Admirals Die III perf 15 2d to 5/- in mint blocks of four | R11 000 |
| Rhodesia Double Heads 7/6 (SG 162 shade) mint block of four | R 8 500 |
| Mafeking 1d (SG 1) used on first day cover | R 2 300 |
| Mafeking large format 3d deep blue on cover | R 4 400 |
| Falkland Islands 1933 specimen set | R 3 100 |
| Nysaland KGV1 definitives in sheets | R 2 650 |
| SWA 1923 £1 type II mint block of four | R 3 600 |

Malawi Stamp Study Circle — A study group has been formed by the BLantyre Philatelic Society to record the country's philately and postal history since independence, and already Mr Peter Knowles has made his illustrated list of postmarks available to the group.

Readers interested in participating in the activities of the study group may contact the convenor, Rev Peter Garland, PO Box 1, Chilema, Zomba, Malawi.

How to decide

"WHAT should I collect" or "What could I collect" are questions frequently put to seasoned collectors by newcomers to our hobby.

Hundreds of members of philatelic societies have possibly given as many varying replies — for the very simple reason that everyone has his own and personal judgement on what is collectable, and what is not quite as collectable.

We are doing the questioner a disservice by answering this question.

We should rather reply to the question "How do I decide what to collect?", for this is the question a newcomer is really seeking a solution to.

By telling him or her how to go about deciding what he or she personally wishes to collect, we can lead the newcomer into the fields of philatelic discovery.

A few basic guidelines will help the new collector to find a satisfying collecting field. We suggest the following steps towards such a decision:

- Browse through catalogues.
- Spend some time looking around a good stamp shop.
- Visit philatelic society meetings, and see what is going on.
- Page through philatelic magazines and books of a society library.
- Talk to other collectors about what they collect, and why.
- Identify your own interest in a country, or an aspect of history, or a subject, and see whether you wish to tie up this interest with your interest in stamp collecting.

Once a new collector has reached an own, personal decision about what to collect, nothing is going to stop him or her!

— The Editor/Die Redakteur

Mystery man provides philatelic fun

COLLECTORS derive endless fun from errors on stamps and similar (see a book review published in this issue) and Mr T G L Lawson of Halfway House has brought one of the latest philatelic errors to our attention.

Canada on 3 May 1979 issued stamps to honour the authors Frederick Philip Grove and Emile Nelligan. The stamps depict scenes from their works and the FDC features an artist's impression of the two writers.

At the FDC launching ceremony in Winnipeg guests realised that while Nelligan's picture on the FDC was right, the person pictured as Grove was not Grove.

This wrong picture came from a biography on Grove. After the book was published a decade ago, it was discovered that the wrong picture had been used on the cover. The publishing company promised to correct it when the book went to a second printing, which it did not.

Not needing any permission to use the picture for an artist's rendering, the Canada Post Office did not discover the publisher's error until after the FDC was issued.

The FDC will not be reprinted — and to this day it is not known who the man on the book and on the FDC is.

'Rhodesia' resists removal

READERS will be aware of the removal of "Rhodesia" from all postmarks of Zimbabwe Rhodesia, as outlined in the article by Mr H P G Miller of Salisbury in our last issue (*The SA Philatelist* August 1979 p206).

After submitting this very topical article Mr Miller sent some illustrations and addenda by registered post from Salisbury. His letters were registered at Mount Pleasant, a suburban post office of Salisbury, and duly received all appropriate backstamps.

This information on the removal of "Rhodesia" was incorporated into the article.

But we were slightly amused when looking at the envelopes containing Mr Miller's information.

On the back, struck in violet, was a single circle mark reading "Salisbury" at the top, the "RI" and the date across the centre, and around the bottom "Rhodesia"! The dates are 13 June and 3 July (illustrated).

How to fox foxing of your stamps

by J Malan

OVER THE YEARS much has been written in *The SA Philatelist* about the problem of foxing or rust in stamps.

Various chemical ways of fighting the menace have been suggested. Unfortunately none of these are practicable for the average collector living in moist climates such as in the coastal regions.

Some other ways of protecting one's stamps are —

1. Keep the album in a cool, airy room. Air conditioning would be ideal.
2. Place silica gel in the cabinet. This is only effective if the silica gel is periodically dried in a warm oven.
3. Take the albums out and handle them frequently. Nothing is more likely to start rust than stamps which are left stored for long periods.
4. Mount stamps in mounting strips, without the use of hinges.

In addition to these hints I have found another method of protecting stamps: use only the very best quality album leaves. These may be had either as linen hinged or for ring albums.

The cheaper album pages very often start rusting before the stamps do, and it quickly spreads to the stamps. Better quality leaves will remain unaffected after long periods.

Young correspondents — Jean Paquette (17), of 2264 Montée Gagnon, Blainville, Quebec, Canada J7E 4H5, has been interested in stamps since he was 10 years old and would like to correspond with South African collectors of the same age. He can correspond in English, French, Spanish and German.

Rhodesia reprint — A reprint of the 5c definitive (fourth definitive series) was issued on 16 May 1979. The sheet numbers were 125101 to 166700, A and B panes. According to my records the previous 5c reprint ran to sheet 125 000, which makes an apparent difference of 100 sheets. — **Darrel Dale**

Norwex 80 — An international stamp exhibition, Norwex 80, will be held at Oslo from 13 to 22 June 1980. Information may be obtained from Norwex 80, The General Secretariat, Postboks 1043 Sentrum, Oslo 1, Norway.

TWO NEW DEFINITIVE REPRINTS

by **Natie Becker**

4 Cent reprinted in January

A REPRINT ADVICE, dated 17 April 1979, from the Director of Philatelic Services records that a new printing of the 4 cent definitive was printed on 18 January 1979. 30 000 sheets were ordered from the Government Printer in Pretoria and it was expected that 31 900 would be delivered. The job number was 549137 and the requisition number was 9234/1.2.5.1.

On 12 October 1978 100 000 sheets of the 4 cent interim series were printed with the 'voting' overprint alternating in each of the three official languages of the territory. The printing of 18 January 1979 has no overprint.

The design, inscriptions, paper, stamp format and arrows of the printing of 18 January 1979 are identical to the printing described on page 7 of *Newsletter 28* of October 1977.

Sheet format — Vertical, measuring 344 mm down by 281 mm across. There are 100 stamps per sheet in 10 rows of 10 stamps each. The sheets are printed in two panes marked A and B. The size of the paper used for the printing was 630 mm by 406 mm.

Printing technique — Lithography with 5 plates numbered in white figures on the colour patches, which measure 12 mm across and approximately 5 mm down. These colour patches are all in the bottom margin of the panes, 294 on blue below stamp 2, 295 on red below stamp 3, 296 on yellow below stamp 4 and 297 on black and 298 on grey for the background immediately below, both under stamp 5. The pane letter A is in the left margin at the bottom of the first stamp in row 10. The B pane is similarly indicated. Below stamp 1 of row 10 and to the left of the colour patches are two dates with the post office emblem on the left. The date at the top reads 1973-09-01 which is the date of the first printing of the current 4 cent definitive, and the bottom date reads 1979-01-18 which is the date of the present printing.

Printing press number 759 was used. All the printing plates were prepared from the standing master negatives and the standing multi negative (lithography).

Perforations — These were done on the Walter Kroll machine with a gauge of 12,5 by 12,5. Both pane A and pane B are perforated through on the left and right margins with the top and bottom margins imperforate. An extra perforation hole is present at the top and bottom of each row of vertical perforations.

Varieties:

Multi-positive flaws panes A and B

- Row 2/7 - Left leg of 'K' in flowers' name broken — on pane A the break is less prominent than on pane B.
 - Row 5/2 - Feint curling red line 4 mm left of right frame line and 11 mm below top frame line.
 - Row 8/1 - Black spot 8,5 mm right of left frame line and 2 mm above bottom frame line.
 - Row 9/1 - Feint grey sloping lines, one starting 6 mm from bottom on the left frame line and the other just left of the bottom centre rock.
 - Row 9/5 - Two feint diagonal lines on the petals of the flower at the bottom right corner.
 - Row 10/7 - Tiny black spot above 'N' in Findlay.
- Pane A:**
- Row 3/4 - Tiny black spot 8,5 mm to right of left frame line and 13 mm below top frame line.
 - Row 4/1 - Tiny grey spot 4,5 mm right of left frame line and 1,5 mm above bottom frame line.
 - Row 4/3 - Small horizontal mark below white line under 'S' in SWA.
 - Row 4/5 - Tiny black spot 9 mm left of right frame line and 8 mm above bottom frame line.
 - Row 6/4 - Tiny red spot 8,5 mm right of left frame line and 1,5 mm above bottom frame line.
 - Row 7/4 - Black spot below 'Y' in Findlay.
 - Row 9/8 - Tiny white dot below and to right of 'A' in SWA.
 - Row 9/9 - Tiny black dot with tail in top centre of top flower.
 - Row 10/3 - Tiny white dot below white line under 'S' in SWA.
 - Row 10/7 - Tiny white deformity at top left of 'A' in SWA.
 - Row 10/8 - Tiny blue spot 6 mm right to left frame line and 2 mm above bottom frame line.

Pane B:

- Row 2/4 - Tiny black spot 6,5 mm right of left frame line and 2 mm above bottom frame line.
- Row 2/6 - Tiny white dot above top stone on left.
- Row 3/10 - Red dot on rock 5 mm right of left frame line and 15 mm below top frame line.
- Row 5/8 - Tiny white spot in top loop of 'S' in SWA.
- Row 6/1 - Black curve on right frame line 6 mm from bottom frame line.

Note — As the lithography printing process was used, varieties as listed under panes A and B could be removed when the printing plates and rubber blankets were wiped periodically.

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First reprint of Protea

THE FIRST REPRINT of the 10c Protea definitive was done on 26 April 1979, according to a printing advice from Philatelic Services dated 15 June 1979. The job number is 0250379 and the requisition number is 9230/1.2.5.1. A total of 310 000 sheets was ordered and expected to be delivered.

All the printing details and data as recorded for the original printing on pages 119 and 121 of *The SA Philatelist* (Vol 53 No. 5 of May 1977) and the appendix to newsletter number 187 of the SA Stamp Study Circle (April 1977) are the same except for the following information.

Sheet numbers On both panes A and B the sheet numbers and the added 1 are on the left margin opposite row 10 with the added 1 (indicating 1st reprint) on the bottom margin. The distance between the sheet numbers and the left frame line on A and B panes varies.

Register control marks These are in the same positions as in the original printing but each colour is 30 mm long and not 25 mm as previously described.

Arrows and marginal bars On pane A the left broken line of marginal bars on the left margin are a lighter brown. On pane B the right broken line of marginal bars on the right margin are a lighter brown.

Date of printing 79.04.26 on the left margin with the last two digits opposite row 9.

Perforations The second extra hole found when the De la Rue Giori internal rotary perforator is used, is on pane B with sheet numbers not divisible by 4. It appears on the top and bottom margins between rows 3 and 4 on the sheets that were examined.

Black cylinder 742 In the original printing stamp 10 in row 9 of pane B had the letters "ATA" missing in the word ARISTATA in the bottom gutter margin. The cylinder has been re-etched

and the complete word now appears on this stamp. The "R" in the word has a small break at the top where the horizontal line in the letter joins the upright.

New registered envelopes

NEW SMALL and large registered envelopes have come into use. The measurements are:- small approximately 163 mm across and 114 mm down, large approximately 221 mm across and 110 mm down. On the envelopes examined the Afrikaans inscriptions appear first on the large format and the English is first on the small ones. The small ones are printed in a light blue and have the printers' name DRG STATIONERY under the flap. The large envelopes in dark blue were printed by KNOXPRINT, their name also appearing under the flap.

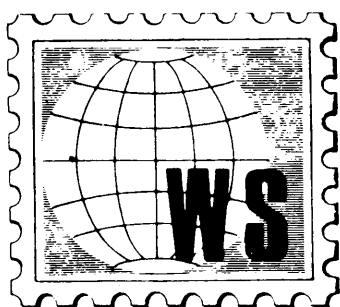
A major difference between these envelopes and their predecessors is that the post office emblem appears centrally situated above the horizontal registration line on the side where the stamp and the addressee's name appear.

LESOTHO

Reptiles are in demand

A REPRINT has appeared of the Lesotho Reptiles issue. The original issue was on Basuto Hat watermarked paper, but the second printing was rendered necessary in view of the large orders received once the designs were announced.

The second printing was quite large, and the Philatelic Bureau in Maseru received 920 sheets of each value (50 stamps per sheet). The second printing is on unwatermarked paper, with a different gum, and the colours are fairly well matched, though the browns are somewhat more reddish. — Rev A Brutsch



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POSTMARKS AND CACHETS OF THE HOUSES OF PARLIAMENT

by Ian J Shapiro

PART II

The cachets

AS MENTIONED at the start of the article, I wished to consider the postmarks and official cachets of the House of Parliament as two separate entities. It is now appropriate to begin our discussion of the fascinating Parliamentary cachets.

A cachet may be described as a distinctive strike, applied in this case at the Houses of Parliament, on all outgoing mail on official business. The cachets which were used at the South African Legislature until 1961 indicated the official who was posting the item. Cachets provided indicated, and indeed still do, the place or origin of the mail – either the House of Assembly or Senate. Different coloured inks are used to differentiate between the two. All mail bearing a cachet does not require pre-payment of postage if on official business.

Only certain Parliamentary officials are able to post mail free, and the Treasury of the Cape of Good Hope provided the permission, at various intervals, for further officials to frank their letters and documents on the public service. In 1896 the Treasury informed the Clerk of the House of Assembly that Rev H C V Leibrandt, Joint Parliamentary Librarian and Keeper of the Archives, had been granted the franking privilege. Similar permission was granted to Mr Flint, librarian of the Joint Parliament, in March 1909.

If any official cachets were used on mail emanating from the Cape Parliament, I have yet to see them. I have however seen an oval strike with “House of Assembly” at the top and “Cape of Good Hope” at the bottom with the date in the centre, used only on documents, circa 1894. A A Jurgens, in his work on the *Handstruck Letter Stamps and Postmarks of the Cape*, refers to a “double lined Oval Hand Stamp, measuring 35 by 20mm, with the words PARLIAMENTARY SERVICE at the top, and HOUSE OF ASSEMBLY at the bottom. In the centre appears the signature of the Clerk of the House.” The description of the cachet tallies with those used during the Union period. I should certainly like to see an impression of this strike.

Union of South Africa

There is definite official reference to the Parliamentary franks in 1910, the year in which the Union of South Africa was born. (The members of the Union Parliament met in what was formerly the Cape Houses of Parliament). In a letter dated 24 November 1910 from the Acting Postmaster-General, the House of Assembly’s Clerk was informed that “in accordance with your telephonic request of 16th instant, I forward herewith a rubber hand-franking stamp for use in your Department. Kindly acknowledge receipt.”

Fig C1a, seen in purple on a cover dated 1941 has “House of Assembly” in the outer circle, “Volksraad” at the bottom, and “Cape Town/Official Free/Offisiele Vry/Kaapstad” in the centre. The cachet measures 55 mm across and is 35 mm in height. I believe that the “franking-stamp” referred to is fig C1,

which I have seen on cover dated August 1913, and again on cover dated August 1937. It is an oval cachet with a crown above it. “House of Assembly” is at the top, “Official Free” in the centre, and “Cape Town” at the bottom. Impressions were in purple ink. The diameter of the outer circle is 49 mm.

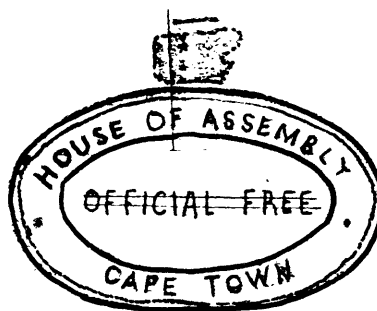


Fig C1

The Clerk of the Senate was also provided with an official franking stamp. The first Clerk of the Union Senate was E M O Clough, CMG, who occupied the position from 7.11.1910 — 13.12.1929. The cachet that he affixed to his official correspondence was oval and very similar to the one described by Jurgens, which had been used in the Cape Colony’s Parliament. The word “Parliamentary Service” appear at the top, Mr Clough’s signature in the middle, and “Union of South Africa” at the bottom.

With the assistance of the Clerk of the Papers, a search in the Parliamentary Buildings was initiated in order to find the original cachets. Determination often leads to success, and Clough’s rubber stamps were discovered. Two similar stamps were found, and from subsequent information I established that a second one was made for Mr Clough to take along with him on the 1924 Special Empire Parliamentary Tour Train, as he personally organised the tour and accompanied the delegates. The other franker remained in the Senate. The original one (fig C2) had an outer diameter of 49 mm, and an inner diameter of 37 mm. It was a rubber cachet. The second cachet (fig C3), a metal one, had an outer diameter of 47 mm, and an inner of 34 mm. From impressions seen on telegrams sent by Clough from the Parliamentary Tour Train, the rubber cachet was used. The two “Clough cachets”, were naturally withdrawn when Mr Clough no longer occupied the post of Clerk of the Senate.



Fig C2



Fig C3

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| ** | 95 | 3d + 1 1/2d S.A. o/p S.W.A., o/p dropped to middle | 45.00 |
| ** | 115 | top marginal blk. of 4, blurred inscr. & comet var. | 40.00 |
| ** | 154-65 | 1954 definitives 1d-10/-, 12v | 50.00 |
| * | 154-65 | Ditto but lightly mounted | 35.00 |
| Rhodesia & Nyassaland | | | |
| * | 1-15 | Q.E. II 1st defs. + coils, 18v | R65.00 |
| o | 1-15 | Ditto but used 16v | 65.00 |
| * | 1-49 | comp. collection, very lightly mounted, 49v | 150.00 |
| o | 14 | 10/-, superb used | 20.00 |
| o | 15 | £1, superb used | 40.00 |
| o | 30 | 10/-, superb used | 12.00 |
| * | 18-31 | Q.E. II 2nd defs., 14v | 45.00 |
| ** | 32-37 | Kariba 3d-5/-, 6v | 25.00 |
| ** | 32-37 | Kariba 3d-5/-, lightly hinged, 6v | 17.50 |

Terms: All items are offered for sale on approval against cash, subject unsold. Prices inclusive of G.S.T. unless otherwise stated.

* Mint, ** Unmounted mint, o Used

Reference: Stanley Gibbons

Morocco Agencies

| | | | |
|----|--------|------------------------|---------|
| * | 54 | o/p on 5/- seahorse | R175.00 |
| * | 50 | o/p on 2/6 seahorse | 175.00 |
| ** | 176-77 | Silver Wedding | 45.00 |
| * | 200 | 3F o/p on 2/6 seahorse | 40.00 |
| * | 201 | 6F o/p on 5/- seahorse | 150.00 |
| * | 216-26 | 5c-8F o/p on G.B. | 115.00 |
| * | 225 | 3F o/p on 2/6 seahorse | 35.00 |
| * | 226 | 6F o/p on 5/- seahorse | 80.00 |
| ** | 255-56 | Tangier silver wedding | 45.00 |
| ** | 61-62 | Bahrain silver wedding | 45.00 |
| ** | 74-75 | Kuwait silver wedding | 45.00 |

Germany

All items lightly mounted unless otherwise stated.

S.G. numbers; Michel numbers in brackets

| | | | | |
|----|--------------|----------|---|---------|
| o | Ms. 925a | (Bl.12) | 1946 Philatelic Exhibition spec., 1st day cancel | R100.00 |
| * | 1033-34 | (111-12) | 1949 Parliament | 85.00 |
| * | 1039-42 | (117-20) | 1949 Relief Fund | 105.00 |
| * | 1043-44 | (121-22) | 1950 Bach | 100.00 |
| * | 1065-66 | (139-40) | 1951 St. Mary's Church | 125.00 |
| * | 1067-68 | (141-42) | 1951 Philatelic Exhibition | 75.00 |
| * | 1069-72 | (143-46) | 1951 Relief Fund | 110.00 |
| ** | | | Ditto but unmounted, 3 top values with value tablet | 150.00 |
| * | 1073 | (147) | 1951 Röntgen | 75.00 |
| o | 1076 | (150) | 1952 Otto gas engine | 12.00 |
| * | 1077 | (151) | 1952 National Museum | 18.00 |
| * | 1080-81 | (153-4) | 1952 Youth Hostels | 32.50 |
| * | 1089 | (163) | 1953 Science Museum | 25.00 |
| * | 1097-98 | (171-72) | 1953 International Philatelic Exhibition | 40.00 |
| o | | | Ditto but fine used | 40.00 |
| * | 1099-102 | (173-76) | 1953 Relief Fund | 62.50 |
| o | 102 | (176) | 1953 30-10 Nansen, very fine | 45.00 |
| o | 1131-34 | (205-8) | 1955 Lufthansa, very fine | 15.00 |
| ** | 1136 | (210) | 1955 Schiller | 18.00 |
| * | 1143-44 | (217-18) | 1955 West Europa Stamp Exhibition | 15.00 |
| * | 1148-51 | (222-25) | 1955 Relief Fund | 27.50 |
| ** | Booklet (17) | | 1972 Olympia Booklet | 17.50 |

Vatican City

| | | | | |
|----|--------|----------|---------------------------------------|--------|
| ** | 76-79 | (90-83) | Coronation gutter pairs, very scarce | R50.00 |
| ** | 139-47 | (149-57) | 1949 scarce 13 1/2 x 14 perf. | 150.00 |
| ** | 139-50 | (149-60) | 1949 scarce 14 x 13 1/4 perf., superb | 75.00 |

Italy

| | | | | |
|----|-----|-------|---------------|---------|
| ** | 669 | (704) | 1946 100 lira | R175.00 |
|----|-----|-------|---------------|---------|

New Catalogues

| | | |
|--|--|--------------|
| | The South African Stamp Colour Catalogue 1980 | R11.00 + Tax |
| | Includes: S.A., S.W.A., Rhodesias & Homelands | |
| | Stanley Gibbons, Part I Br. Commonwealth | R25.00 + Tax |
| | Collect British Stamps, 24th Edition Summer 1979 | R2.55 + Tax |

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* Mint, ** Unmounted mint, o Used

Reference: Stanley Gibbons

Southern Rhodesia

| | | |
|------|---|--------|
| **/* | 1953 Q.E. II defs. 1/2d-£1, £1 unmounted, 14v | R80.00 |
| ** | 1953 Q.E. II defs. 1/2d-£1, superb used, 14v | 100.00 |

Great Britain

| | | | |
|----|---------|--|---------|
| ** | 207 | 5d QV, DIE I | R275.00 |
| o | 409 | 5/- DE LA RUE, superb used | 150.00 |
| o | 415a-17 | 2/6-10/- Bradbury Wilkinson, fine used, 3v | 140.00 |
| o | 417 | 10/- Bradbury Wilkinson, superb used | 175.00 |
| ** | 430-31 | British Empire Exhibition, 2v | 30.00 |
| * | 476 | 2/6 brown bottom marginal, lightly mounted | 100.00 |
| ** | 476-78b | 2/6-£1, inc. 2/6 brown & 10/- dark, 6v | 60.00 |
| ** | 493-4 | S.W., superb, 2v | 135.00 |

Canada

| | | | |
|----|-------|-------------------------------------|---------|
| ** | 195 | 20c Quebec Tercentenary | R175.00 |
| ** | 318 | 6c o/p Ottawa conference | 12.00 |
| ** | 318 | 6c o/p Ottawa conference, unmounted | 17.00 |
| * | 401-7 | 8c \$1 + air, 7v | 80.00 |
| ** | 407 | \$1, superb | 90.00 |

Antigua

| | | | |
|----|-------|-------------------|--------|
| ** | 58-60 | 2/- to 5/- GV, 3v | R45.00 |
|----|-------|-------------------|--------|

St. Helena

| | | | |
|----|-----|--|---------|
| ** | 99b | 1 1/2d GV deep carmine red, fine used | R150.00 |
| ** | 135 | 3d GVI ultra marine | 30.00 |
| * | 135 | 3d GVI ultra marine but slightly mounted | 20.00 |

Terms: All items are offered for sale on approval against cash, subject unsold. Prices inclusive of G.S.T. unless otherwise stated.

* Mint, ** Unmounted mint, o Used

Reference: Stanley Gibbons



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Parliamentary Service

Owen Clough was succeeded by Capt Maurice John Green, who was in office from 1.1.1930 — 30.6.1941. Capt Green was provided with his own Parliamentary Service cachet (fig C4). At this stage I should mention that "Parliamentary Service" refers to the South African Parliamentary Service as a whole, and not to any particular service performed. The single ring Green cachet measures 60 mm by 37,5 mm with the signature of Maurice J Green in the centre. It has a Crown at the top. The wording is the same as the previous cachets.



Fig C4

Capt Green's successor as Clerk of the Senate was S F du Toit, who held office from 1941 — 1946. He too must have had an official rubber stamp, but I have not seen it.

On 1.4.1946 J F Knoll began his term of office as the Senate's Clerk, which concluded on 31.12.1950. The Knoll cachet (fig C5) measures 55 mm by 35 mm, and also has a Crown above it. It consists of a narrow inner circle, fractionally away from the outer ridge. J F Knoll's signature is in the middle of the cachet. Above it the wording "PARLEMENTSDIENS/OFFISIEËL VRY" appear. "OFFICIAL FREE/PARLIAMENTARY SERVICE" are below the autograph. It is interesting to note that Afrikaans features in the official cachets for the first time.



Fig C5

W T Wood followed Mr Knoll as Clerk of the Senate on 1.1.1951. In 1961 on the attainment of Republican status by South Africa, the post of Clerk of the Senate was replaced by a Secretary of the Senate, and W T Wood had the honour of occupying it until 1970.

Wood's cachet (fig C6) was rectangular and was the last to be used with an authorising signature incorporated into it. It measures 66 mm by 34 mm, "Parlementsdiens" appears in the top section, "Offisieël Vry/signature Official Free" in the central section, and "Parliamentary Service" in the bottom sector. Usage of the cachet after 1961 has not been observed.

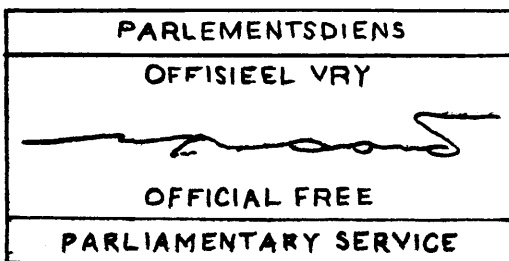


Fig C6

Before elaborating further on the Assembly and Senate cachets, I wish to mention the Commonwealth Parliamentary Association. In 1911 the Empire Parliamentary Association was founded, with South Africa as a founding member. The Clerk of the Union Senate was automatically Secretary of the South African Branch, and therefore the office of the Association was in the Houses of Parliament. In 1949 "Empire" was changed to "Commonwealth" Parliamentary Association (CPA). A special Official Free cachet was provided for franking CPA mail. (figs C7a, b). The cachet has a Crown above the rectangular box. In later years the Crown was removed. The cachet measures 50 mm by 30 mm; "Commonwealth Parliamentary Association" is in the upper section, "Official Free/Offisieël Vry/Cape Town-Kaapstad" in the middle, and "Parlementêre Vereniging van die Statebond" appears in the lower section.

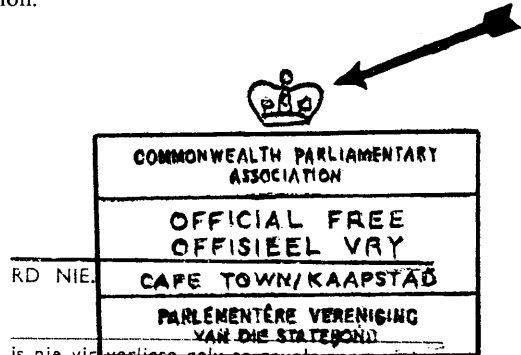


Fig C7a

is nie vir gebruik gelyk as gevolg van onjuiste
ging of nie-aflewering van telegramme. aan-



Fig C7b

The House of Assembly had its own Official Free cachet, (fig C8) which I have noticed on covers from the 1940's. It measures 50 mm by 34 mm, "House of Assembly" is at the top, followed by "Cape Town/Official Free/Offisieël Vry/Kaapstad" and "Volksraad" at the bottom.

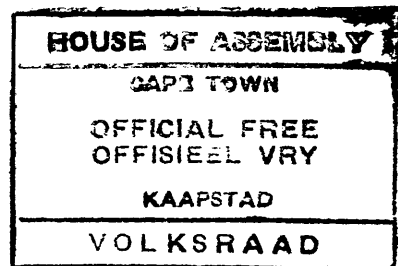


Fig C8

Boxed cachet

I have a similar boxed cachet (fig C9) with the same wording as the previously mentioned one, on cover dated 10.IV.57. It has a Crown above it and the dimensions are 50mm by 30mm. The letters are slightly smaller than those of fig. C8.

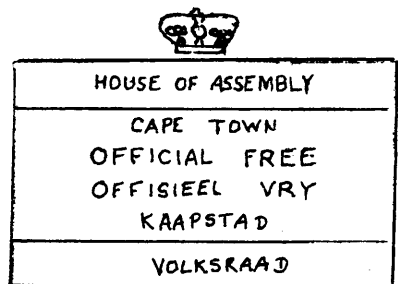


Fig C9

A large rectangular cachet (fig C10) with only the word "House of Assembly Cape Town, Volksraad Kaapstad" has also been in use. Most impressions of Assembly cachets (1961 – present) are in green ink, although purple ones do exist. Today purple signifies Parliamentary Library.

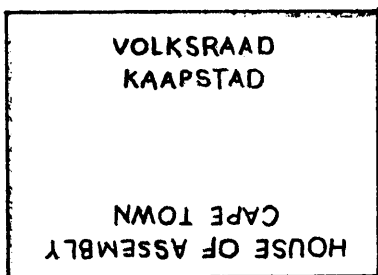


Fig C10

A further boxed cachet, still in use, (fig C11), has been seen on covers from as early as 1961. Similar double boxed rectangular cachets stating "The Senate/ Cape Town, Official"; "Die Senaat/ Kaapstad, Amptelik", and "Parliament/ Cape Town, Official"; "Parliament/ Kaapstad, Offisiele", are in use. These two Senate cachets are always impressed in red. (fig C12, C13).

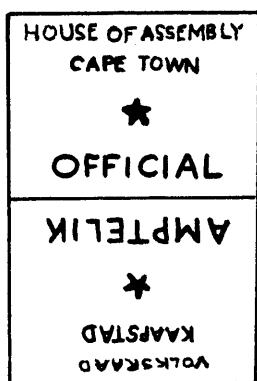


Fig C11



Fig C12

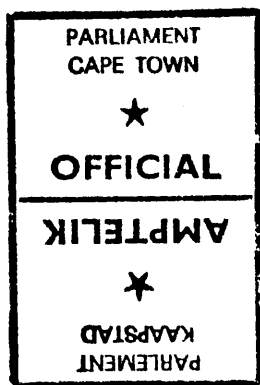


Fig C13

Members of Parliament and Senators are able to post their official mail free, provided that their signatures appear on the specially provided covers.

The Parliamentary Postmaster has his own cachet too. Fig C14 was possibly introduced in 1975 and was replaced in 1977 by fig. C15. The Postmaster has always been a responsible official, and it is interesting to read the following letter dated 9 July 1914 from the Clerk of the House of Assembly to the Postmaster-General, in which Gys R Hofmeyr wrote:

"It is a great pleasure to be again able to place on record the thorough satisfaction of all the members with the way Mr Young has discharged his duties of sessional Postmaster. I hope you will find it convenient to continue to allow Parliament to have the advantage of the services of this able and courteous officer on future occasions."

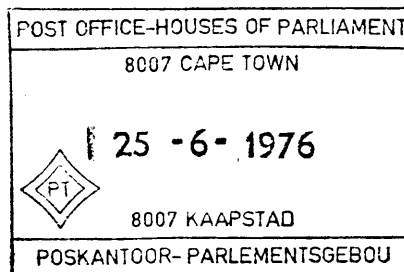


Fig C14

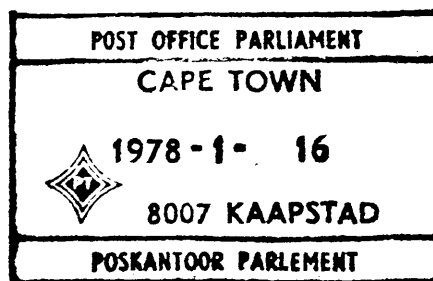


Fig C15

I am sure that the same tribute can be paid to all Parliament's Postmasters. I have been unable to find the names of Postmasters prior to 1906, but a full list from that date onwards appears below;

| | | | |
|-----------|--------------|-----------|----------------|
| 1906-1907 | E Brockman | 1952-1954 | R Jacobs |
| 1908-1914 | E Young | 1954-1959 | G von Moltke |
| 1914 | J Wiese | 1960 | J van Dorp |
| 1915-1923 | J Brink | 1961 | G C von Moltke |
| 1924-1939 | D van Tonder | 1962 | H de Beer |
| 1940 | G Slabber | 1963-1969 | G Olivier |
| 1940-1943 | L Roos | 1970-1972 | M Swart |
| 1944-1948 | D Goubrechts | 1973-1975 | M A Coetzee |
| 1949-1951 | R Combrink | 1976- | N Sproule |

And so we finally come to the end of the saga of the Parliamentary Postmarks and Official Cachets. I wish to offer my sincerest thanks to the Speaker; Secretary to Parliament, Mr J J H Victor; Clerk of the Papers, Mr P D van der Westhuizen; Chief Librarian J C Quinton and his staff; Postmasters Coetzee and Sproule and all the MP's and parliamentary officials, who have been so helpful, kind and friendly. Their assistance has certainly enabled a fuller picture of the subject.

In conclusion I should like to make an appeal to you, the philatelist. Should you have any relevant dates and cachets that can provide further information on the development and history of the Parliamentary mails, I am sure that the Hon Editor would be delighted to hear from you.

An example of the first datestamp fig P2, dated B/JY8/92 has been shown to us. – Editor.

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THE SOUTH AFRICAN POSTMARK SOCIETY NEWSLETTER
NO. 2, JULY/AUGUST 1969.

THE DEATH OF A HOBBY?

by Robson Lowe

HAVING READ THE ADVICE to investors in stamps in the financial columns of the *Daily Telegraph*, our depression was doubled by the presentation of *Stamp Collecting for Profit* by Peter and Mary Harrison. What is happening to this splendid hobby of ours? Should we as simple stamp collectors buy only what we believe will have gone up in value in three months? Are we to avoid buying what we want for our joy and pleasure because it is not a good investment?

We know that business has never been better. We know that more people are buying stamps today than ever before, but only a small proportion of the new buyers are true collectors who are buying just what they want. The others are buying because "collectables are better than money". Stamps that would fetch no more than £100 in saner times are realising £2,000 because some market tipster has pointed out to those who have more money than taste that this stamp has improved in value every year, the tipster being ignorant of the numbers printed and the number of true collectors who want the stamp, for true supply and honest demand creates a fair market value.

Can you imagine what may happen when the restriction on dividends is removed and the investors in stamps want to realise their philatelic investment? The investors who have bought the truly beautiful classics and covers, the joy of the true collector, will find that they may lose only half their capital, and the collectors will rejoice because once more they will be able to afford those lovelies that for some years have been realising more than their stamp budgets will allow.

But what about the investor who has acquired at prices varying from £125 to £2000, eighty mint copies of the same stamp? We know of one who solemnly plods on his dreary path and every month or so buys another well-centred, fresh example of the same stamp. His expenditure has been around £60 000. The present retail value is around £160 000. But what will the value be if he drops dead and his holding comes on the market? Investors follow fashions and when one big holding is sold others also hasten to sell before it is too late.

Over a long life we have enjoyed stamp collecting with its science - philately, and the humanity of postal history. From these discretions we have reaped entertainment, pleasure, joy, excitement, happiness - call it what you will, the dividends have been something tangible which no form of taxation can diminish. If we gave away some treasure because there was a more suitable owner, gained a double profit in the pleasure it brought the new owner.

So here is another investment tip for the true collector (wasted advice because he or he is already aware of the fact). Buy what

gives you pleasure whenever you can afford it. You will keep it and love it and what someone else pays for its, after you are dead or have to sell, will be immaterial to you. Your reward came during the period when you were the custodian. If the financial return is not great, maybe your philatelic taste was so advanced that your successors do not appreciate it, but this is a remote possibility if you have been generous with your knowledge and stimulated others to share your pleasures. Although you will not care, the financial return may be great and your heirs benefit accordingly.

We started off to review a small neat volume of 104 pages in which there are chapters headed "Getting Started as a Collector/Investor" (10 pages), "Stamps to Buy" (5 pages), "Selling" (5 pages), "Comparative Values 1840-1974", and "Business Guide Lines" (14 pages). The latter deals with the complex subjects of Capital Gains Tax (two lines) and V.A.T. (10¹/₄ pages). The information offered is enough to depress one's ambitions to become a professional philatelist (plus 15% V.A.T.!).

The remaining seventy pages are full of useful information succinctly presented - "The Care of Stamps", "How to Arrange your Stamps", "Forgeries & Errors", "Accessories", "Philatelic Terms", etc. In these parts the work is as excellent as the balance is deplorable.

St. Mark had a phase for it (viii 36).

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| 2. 7 | ,90 | 2.21 | ,35 |
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Students designed Year of Child Stamps

by Cedric Roché

FOUR STAMPS to commemorate the International Year of the Child were issued on 7 June 1979. The four values are 4c, 15c, 20c & 25c. The stamps were designed by students of Bophuthatswana and were placed on scale for three months.

DATA COMMON TO ALL VALUES

Paper — The stamps were printed on unwatermarked, non-phosphorised Harrison paper with PVA gum.

Sheet format — Horizontal, measuring 630mm across by 376mm down. There were four unidentified panes on the printing plate in a format of 2 across x 2 down. Each pane measures 285 mm across by 181 mm down, and has twenty-five stamps in five rows of five stamps each.

Stamp format — Horizontal, measuring 47,8 mm across by 30,2 mm down.

Stamp design — The inscriptions are *Bophuthatswana* vertically in black on a white panel on the right-hand side; INTERNASIONALE JAAR VAN DIE KIND 1979 vertically in black on a white panel on the left-hand side of the 4c and 25c values and INTERNATIONAL YEAR OF THE CHILD 1979 similarly on the 15c and 20c values. The figure of value is in white in the top right-hand corner. The emblem of the International Year of the Child is in the top left-hand corner.

Perforation — This was done on the two-row Grover appliance with a gauge of 14 x 14. The sheets were guillotined in half to 630mm by 188mm before being perforated. The sheets were fed into the perforator with the left-hand margin going in first and thus remaining imperforate. All other margins are perforated through. The imperforate left-hand margin was subsequently quillotined off so that all the panes are perforated identically.

DATA FOR EACH DENOMINATION

4c

Design — Sunrise, by Hendrick Sebapo, a twenty-four year old student at the Hebron Training College for teachers. The artist's name appears in tiny black print at the bottom right.

Printing technique — Lithographed by the Government Printer, Pretoria, with five plates numbered 173 in blue, 174 in yellow, 175 in red, 176 in black and 172 in dull gold. The plate numbers are shown together with the printing date on the left-hand margin: BPT and 1979-06-07 are opposite the first row, 173 opposite the second row, 174 opposite the third row, 175 opposite the fourth row and 176 and 172 opposite the fifth row.

Varieties:

Pane 1:

- Row 1/4: Tiny red circle in V of VAN
- Row 1/5: Tiny black dot in left margin opposite JAAR
- Row 2/1: Two yellow dots on 'h' of Bophuthatswana
- Row 2/2: Tiny red dot in first 'a' of Bophuthatswana
- Row 2/3: Tiny red dot at top of emblem
- Row 5/1: Very tiny red dot above 's' of Bophuthatswana

Pane 2:

- Row 1/1: Tiny red dot above 79, in emblem and in 'o' of Bophuthatswana
- Row 1/3: Large number of tiny black dots in right panel

Row 2/4: Tiny red dot below first 9 of 1979 and in right bottom margin

Row 2/5: Two tiny red dots on margin left of 'o' of Bophuthatswana

Row 4/3: Tiny black line above K of KIND

Row 5/2: Red dot above second 9 of 1979

Row 5/4: Red dot in bottom margin at left

Pane 3:

Row 1/1: Red dot in left sheet margin below '07'

Row 1/4: Tiny red dot in right panel above 'B'

Row 3/5: Yellow dot at bottom of right panel

Pane 4:

Row 1/1: Tiny red dot in top sheet margin above 1979

Row 2/1: Tiny blue dot in margin above 4c

Row 3/1: ditto

Row 4/2: Tiny red dot to right of L of INTERNASIONALE

Row 5/2: Tiny black dot in second 9 of 1979

15c

Design — Playing with clay animals, by Daisy Morapedi, a twenty-one year old student at the Moretele Training Institution for teachers.

Printing technique — Lithography, with five plates numbered 177 in blue, 178 in yellow, 179 in red, 180 in black and 172 in dull gold. The other details are as for the 4c.

Varieties:

Pane 1:

Row 4/1: Thin blue scratch below C of CHILD

Pane 2:

Row 5/1: Tiny nick in gold border below the I of INTERNATIONAL and a tiny pink dot in the water near left corner

Pane 3:

NIL

Pane 4:

Row 5/3: Two blue dots below 's' of Bophuthatswana

20c

Design — Face of man and drum, by Peter Tladi, an eighteen year old student at the Hebron Training College for Teachers.

Printing technique — Lithography, with five plates numbered 181 in blue, 182 in yellow, 183 in red, 184 in black and 172 in dull gold.

Varieties:

Pane 1:

- Row 3/1: Black semi-circle in 182 colour block right of 182
- Row 3/3: Line of five black dots above R of INTERNATIONAL
- Row 3/5: Blue blotches between head and TLADI

Pane 2:

Row 3/1: Small black semi-circle in 182 colour block at top left

Row 5/1: Tiny nick in gold border below I of INTERNATIONAL

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Pane 3:

Row 5/1: Pink dot on left side of drum

Pane 4:

Row 1/1: Yellow scratch at bottom of neck

Row 1/2: Black dot on Y of YEAR

Row 3/1: Tiny black dot in 8 of 182 colour block

Row 5/5: Blue scratch above 'Peter'

25c

Design – Old man with son and donkey, by Hendrick Sebapo, a student at the Hebron Training College for teachers.*Printing technique* – Lithography, with five plates numbered 185 in blue, 186 in yellow, 187 in red, 188 in black and 172 in dull gold.*Varieties:***Pane 1:**

Row 1/1: Red dot above hill in middle

Pane 2:

Row 5/1: Tiny nick in gold border below I of INTERNASIONALE

Pane 3:

Row 4/1: Red dot in sky to right of man

Row 5/3: Red dot in middle of sky

Row 5/4: Tiny red dot in front of boy's face

Pane 4:

Row 3/5: Green circle on sack on donkey

Row 4/3: Two black dots in base of 'B' of Bophuthatswana

Row 5/3: Two black dots in D of KIND

DATESTAMP

Designed by Hantie de Klerk, this is circular in format. In the centre is MONTSHIWA and below this the date in a semi-circle, 1979-06-07. In the top half is the emblem of the International Year of the Child. Inscribed round the bottom circumference is INTERNATIONAL YEAR OF THE CHILD.

COMMEMORATIVE ENVELOPE

No 1.8 designed by Miles Pelo, 29 000 printed.

COLLECTOR SHEET

No 1.8a designed by Hantie de Klerk, 16 000 printed.

HEAVYWEIGHT CONTENDERS FACE TO FACE

by Cedric Roché

TWO 15c STAMPS to commemorate the world heavyweight title elimination contest held in Mmabatho on 2 June 1979 were released on the same day. The two stamps, one with a portrait of Kallie Knoetze and the other with a portrait of John Tate, were designed by A H Barrett. The stamps were placed on sale for 3 months.

DATA FOR EACH DENOMINATION*Design* — **15c Kallie Knoetze:** The stamp shows the upper half of Kallie Knoetze wearing boxing gloves and facing to the right. The inscriptions are all in black and are BOPHUTHATSWANA vertically on the left, 15c horizontally in the top left corner, KALLIE KNOETZE horizontally in small figures across the boxing gloves on the right and a tiny 1979 in the bottom left corner.**15c John Tate:** The stamp shows the upper half of John Tate wearing boxing gloves and facing left. The inscriptions are in black and are BOPHUTHATSWANA vertically on the right, 15c horizontally in the top right corner, JOHN TATE horizontally in small figures across the boxing gloves on the left and a tiny 1979 in the bottom right corner.

The two stamps are arranged se-tenant in the sheets, with the boxers facing each other which gives the appearance that they are fighting each other.

DATA COMMON TO BOTH VALUES*Paper* — The stamps were printed on unwatermarked, non-phosphorised Harrison paper with PVA gum.*Sheet format* — Vertical, measuring 386mm across and 60mm down. There were eight unidentified panes on the printing plate in a format of 2 across x 4 down. Each pane measures 182mm across by 144mm down. A pane of stamps has 25 stamps in five rows by five stamps each.*Stamp format* — Horizontal, measuring 30,2 mm across by 23,9 mm down. The two stamps are se-tenant with the Knoetze stamp being the first in the sheet.*Perforation* — This was done on the two-row Grover appliance with a gauge of 14 x 14. The sheets were guillotined in half to 630 mm x 195 mm before being perforated. The sheets were fed into the perforator with the bottom margin going in first and thus remaining imperforate. All other margins are perforated through. The imperforate bottom margin was subsequently guillotined off so that all panes are perforated identically.*Printing technique* — Lithographed by the Government Printer, Pretoria, with four plates numbered 203 in blue, 204 in

yellow, 205 in red and 206 in black. The plate numbers are shown together with the printing date and PO emblem on the left-hand margin: Emblem, BPT and 1979-06-02 are opposite the first row, 203 opposite the second row, 204 opposite the third row, 205 opposite the fourth row and 206 opposite the fifth row.

*Varieties:***Pane 1:**

Row 1/1 (KK) Black scratch on neck

Row 1/3 (KK) Small black scratch on chest

Row 1/4 (JT) Two vertical black scratches on the right-hand glove

Pane 2:

Row 5/1 (KK) Small pink dot near elbow

Pane 3:

NIL

Pane 4:

Row 1/1 (KK) Small pink dot above 1979

Pane 5:

Row 4/2 (KK) Scratch across head

Row 4/5 (JT) With scratch on glove above 'TATE'

Pane 6:

NIL

Pane 7:

Row 1/5 (KK) Small brown dot, between P & H of BOPHUTHATSWANA

Row 2/1 (KK) Green dot on chest

Pane 8:

NIL

DATESTAMP

Designed by Gerhard Mynhardt, this is square in format. It is in the form of a stylised boxing ring seen from above. In the centre is a boxing glove extending to the top. Below is MONTSHIWA and below this the date 1979-06-02. A small 9S (9S because this was a special addition to the previously announced program) appears at the top right.

COMMEMORATIVE ENVELOPE

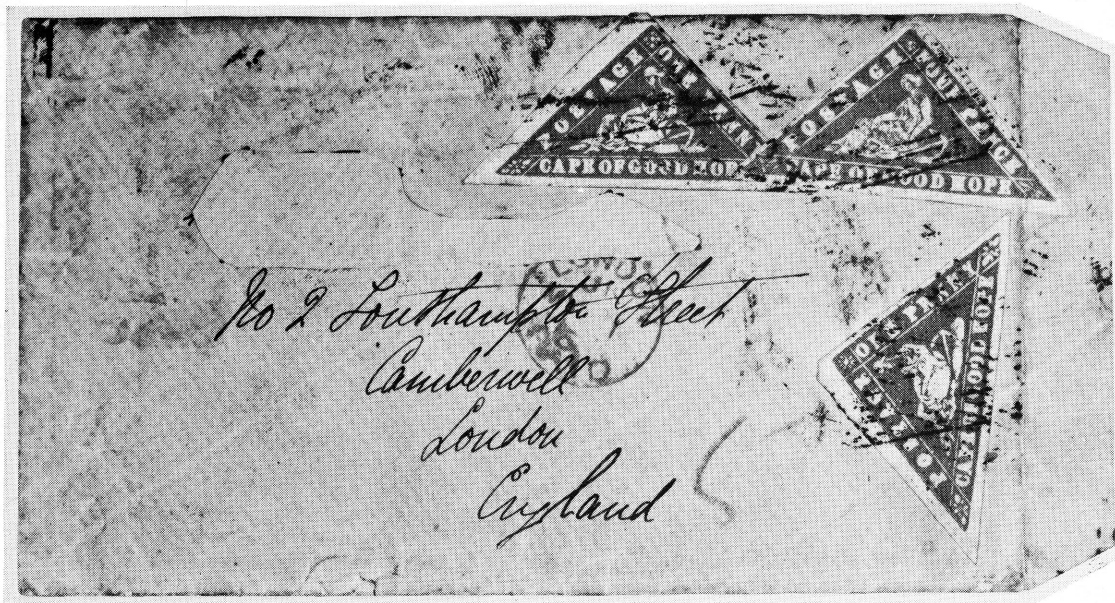
No. 1.7S designed by Gerhard Mynhardt, 33 000 printed.

COLLECTOR SHEET

No 1.7a S designed by Gerhard Mynhardt, 18 000 printed.

SIR HENRY TUCKER'S CAPE OF GOOD HOPE

AT AUCTION NOVEMBER 20TH 1979



"I do think that the results are extremely satisfactory."
"Your firm has done very well indeed in the sale of the items to date and I am very pleased."

Following the successful disposal in London and New York of his wonderful collection of Bermuda for over £530,000 Sir Henry Tucker, K.B.E., J.P., F.R.P.S.L., has instructed Harmers of London to sell his outstanding collection of the stamps and covers of the Cape of Good Hope.

Naturally the triangular issues are predominant with an exceptional group of the 'woodblocks' including both values unused, both errors of colour, used copies of the 1d. with a block of four and pair, the 4d. retouched corner in a pair with normal, four covers, one bearing the 4d. and two 1d. values, etc.

Other rarities include a mint block of thirty-six of the 1855-58 4d. blue and a pair of the 1863-64 1d. with Crown 'C.C.' watermark. Among the covers are the unofficially rouletted 6d. rose-lilac, soldiers letters and other outstanding pieces.

However there are many more modest pieces among the 250 lots.

Sale Date: 20th Nov. 1979.

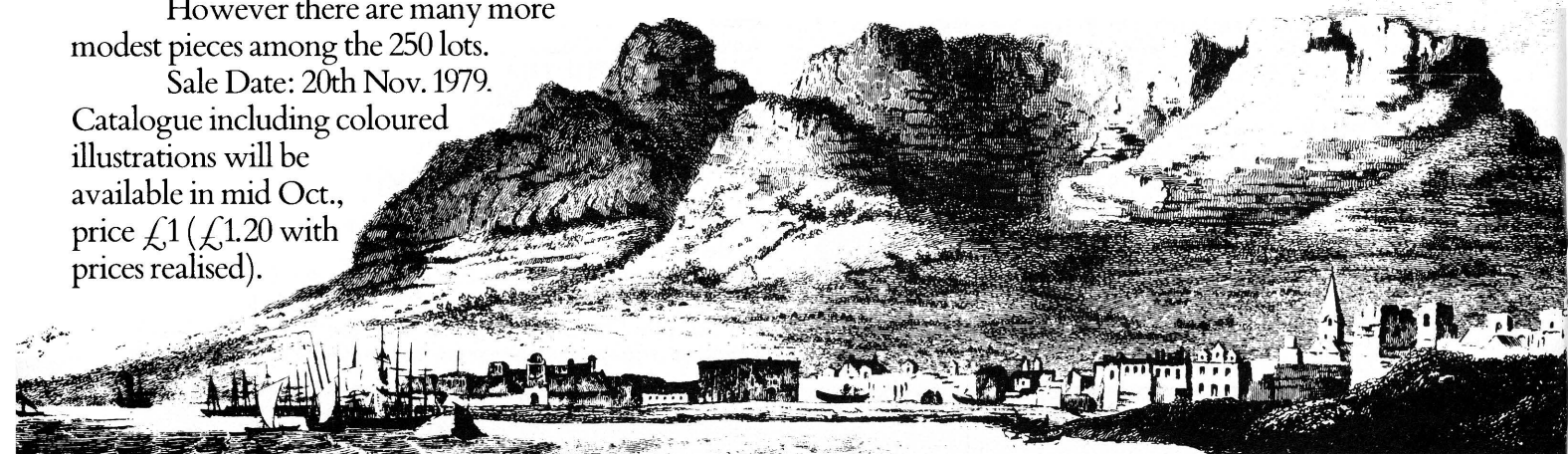
Catalogue including coloured illustrations will be available in mid Oct., price £1 (£1.20 with prices realised).



Error of Colour



Watermark Crown 'C.C.'



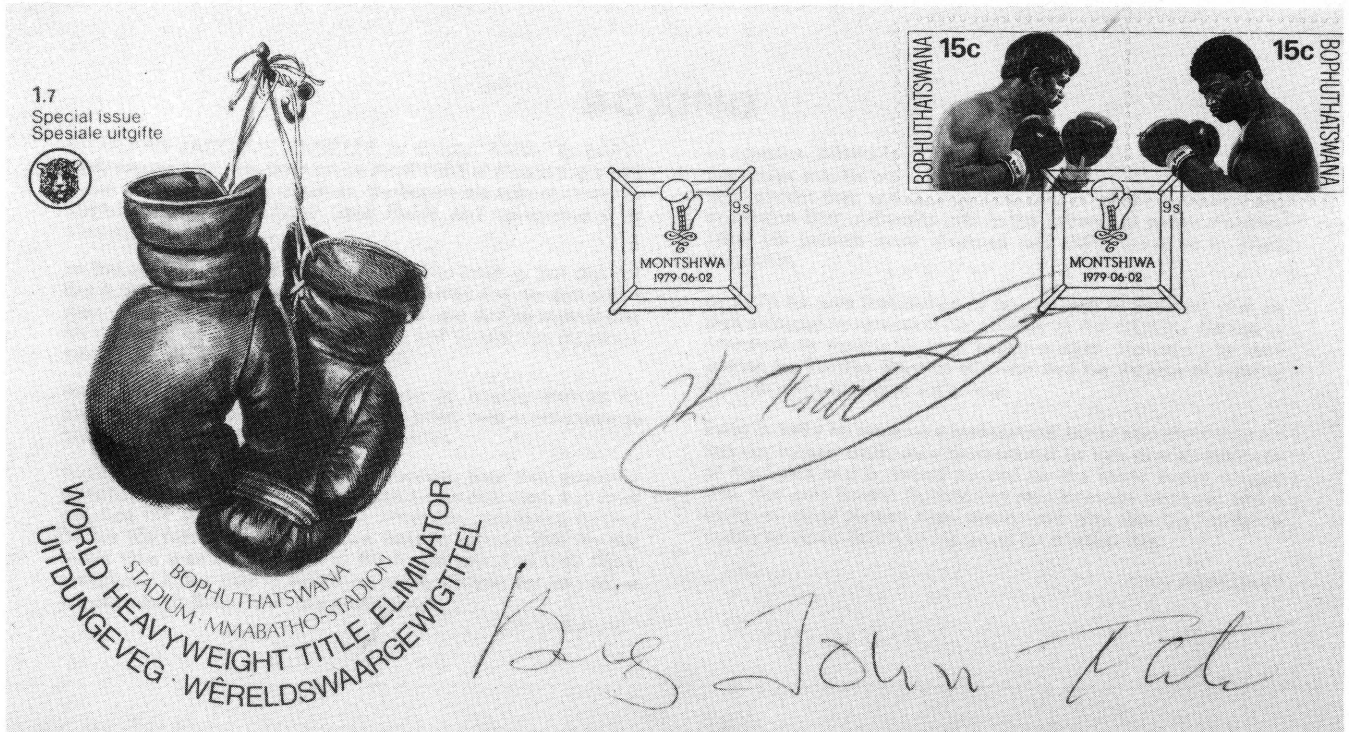
HARMERS of LONDON

STAMP AUCTIONEERS LIMITED

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HARMERS INTERNATIONAL LONDON NEW YORK SAN FRANCISCO SYDNEY

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Bokskoevert-smousery staan onder verdenking

BEDENKINGS oor 'n smousery van Bophuthatswana-bokskoeverte met die handtekeninge van die twee bokkers daarop, is uitgespreek in *Beeld* (26 Julie 1979).

Top-sportskrywer Arrie Joubert vertel in die berig dat 'n "seëlhandelaar" van Bedfordview sulke koeverte met die handtekeninge daarop aanbied teen "slegs" R27,50 stuk, en dat hierdie prys 'n wins van 5 500 persent verteenwoordig op 'n item wat die Poskantoor teen 50c verkoop het.

Volgens die berig sê die handelaar in 'n verkoopsbrosjyre dat net 300 van die koeverte deur die bokkers Kallie Knoetze en John Tate onderteken is, maar hiervan is 200 al verkoop: "Bestel dadelik. Hierdie koevert is 'n wenner en 'n moet vir die versamelaar en belegger".

Joubert kwoteer u Redakteur dat die koeverte met die handtekeninge maar net 'n kuriositeit is, sonder katalogus-

plek, en meld dat mnr Herman Steyn, direkteur van Filateliedienste, bevestig het dat die koevert geen rariteit is nie.

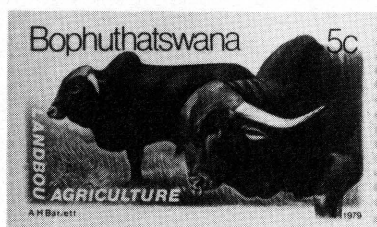
So 'n ondertekende koevert (nie afkomstig van die handelaar nie) is deur *Beeld* geïllustreer. Ons illustreer nog so 'n koevert: nie afkomstig van die handelaar nie, maar van 'n ander sportskrywer wat 'n hele klomp het.

Miskien moet ons meer helderheid oor die saak bring. Die posisie is die volgende —

- Die seëls is goeie versamelstukke, verkieslik in horisontale pare.
- Die amptelike EDK, genommer 1,7 het katalogus-status.
- Amptelike EDKs met die handtekeninge op is interessant, maar het nie katalogus-status nie. So iets is ten beste 'n kuriositeit.
- Die koevert met die handtekeninge daarop is selfs as kuriositeit nie seldsaam nie, soos mnr Steyn gesê het. Ons verstaan by 'n duisend koeverte is deur die bokkers geteken.
- Versamelaars van boks-seëls of sportseëls het lankal gesorg dat hulle as kuriosa so 'n getekende koevert kry, sonder die tussenkoms van 'n "handelaar".

Enige leser wat so 'n koevert van die handelaar gekoop het, teen 'n opslag van 5 500 persent, is welkom om die koevert aanstaande jaar te probeer verkoop — en te kyk wat hy daarvoor sou kry.

Tswana stamps portray farming



BOPHUTHATSWANA will issue a set of four stamps on 25 October to portray agricultural development. The country has an agricultural development corporation (Agricor), which is bent on achieving managerial change in ancient tribal systems of land tenure. The values are —

5c - beef, prize bulls

15c - cotton, picking cotton at Taung

20c - maize, an inspector checking growth at Ditsobotla

25c - fish, netting at the Klipvoor Dam, Moretele.



The Rhodesian Scene

by Dannie Swart

POST OFFICE COMES OUT TOPS

CONTRARY to expectations the PTC in Zimbabwe-Rhodesia has come out tops and produced a comprehensive listing entitled "Removal of Rhodesia from Metal Date Stamps" in the country. The information covered is set out under the following headings:

OFFICE
CIRCULATION BRANCH
STAMP CANCELLING MACHINES
POSTAGE PAID IN CASH
ROLLER CANCELLER
COUNTER DATE STAMPS USED ON MAIL MATTER
PRIVATE BAGS SECTION

The list covers 187 post offices and agencies (which in itself is a useful spot of information), with additional entries for activities at Bulawayo, Salisbury and Gwelo.

The official list shows that Hunters Road was the first of the altered cancellers brought into use on 29 January 1979 and the last to be amended was the handstamp for the postal agency at Basera on 11 June 1979.

One of the short-lived altered cancellers will have been that for the post and telegraph agency at Sote Source which closed permanently on 31 May 1979 and according to the listing had "Rhodesia" removed from its hand-stamp only on 3 March 1979. The postmark of this agency has always been a hard one to find so it will be interesting to see how many of these strikes come to light once all the dust has settled.

The PTC also confirms that a cleaning up operation is still in progress, in which residual traces of the original name will be removed, vide the "SIA" which was visible on the Salisbury mechanised canceller for some time.

The Mashonaland Philatelic Society in Salisbury as also the Royal Philatelic Society of Rhodesia in Bulawayo thank all members and interested parties who contributed information on the alteration of the cancellers as this detailed data, gleaned the hard way, certainly supplements in some measure the PTC's official record. My due acknowledgement also to the newsletter of Mashonaland Philatelic Society for the latest information.



The Union stamp variety in a block (stamp on left).

Error noted after 70 years

A CONSTANT VARIETY of the Union of South Africa's first stamp has been discovered by Mr F Crooks of Glenmore, Durban — almost 70 years after the issue of the stamp in 1910.

Mr Crooks says it is clear that the last A of AFRIKA has its second leg descending right on to the frame line which surrounds the name lettering. It is a long-legged A.

This variety is found on the stamp in row 1, number 8, and appears to be constant. Mr Crooks has found four copies amongst 350 inspected, including a positional block.

He has not been able to find any reference to this variety, Mr Crooks says, and he was sure collectors would spot it easily. The variety is prominent.

Mr Crooks has shown both mint and used examples of the Union 2½d stamp with the long-leg A variety.



Two more examples of the stamp variety.

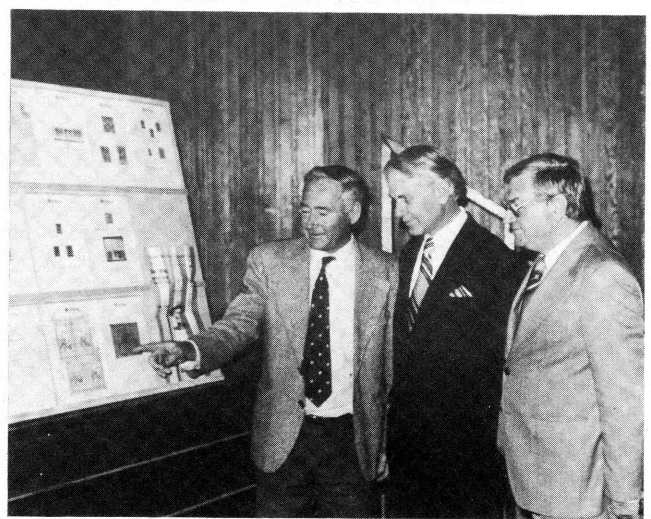


The error on Row 1/8.

Aeroneous Assumption

At a Transvaal meeting of the Aerophilatelic Society, held at Ken Lydall's home, chairman Jack Burrell described his recent visit to the postal sorting section at the GPO in Pretoria, paying special attention to details of the chute which actually sprays out the sorted mail from the sorting section into mail bags across a two metre gap.

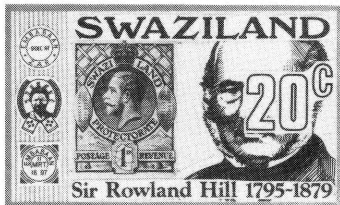
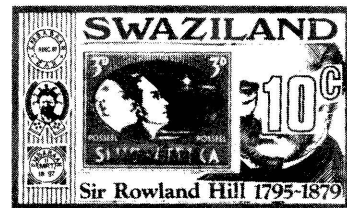
Jonas Michelson asked Jack if he was now going to claim that all mail from Pretoria is aerophilatelic because it had flown during sorting, and Harry Birkhead stated that all this mail should be cacheted with the stamp 'airborne division'. — Colin Plen



Federation President Harry Birkhead (left) has visited 14 high schools in the Germiston area to introduce principals, teachers and pupils alike to stamp collecting. At the Hoër Handelskool Op't Hof the staff and the 400 pupils were treated to a slide show and a viewing of Harry's Mafeking Siege stamps. Looking on is Herman Steyn, director of Philatelic Services (centre) and Johan Rossouw, public relations officer of the City of Germiston. (Photo: Germiston Advocate)

SWAZILAND

Special issues feature stamps on stamps



SWAZILAND'S two current special issues feature stamps on stamps, and money on stamps.

The stamps on stamps set (death centenary of Sir Rowland Hill) was issued on 17 July, with the 10c value depicting the SA Victory issue overprint for Swaziland (and not an old Transvaal stamp overprinted, as previously announced.)

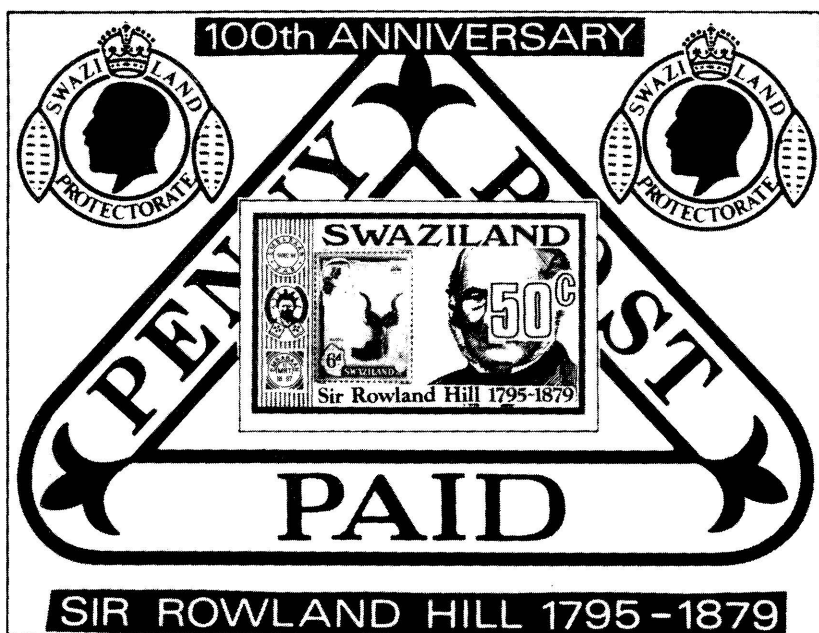
The ZAR postmarks for Embabaan (double circle and squared circle) feature on the commemorative stamps.

The 20c stamp reproduces the Swaziland KG V 1d and the 25c reproduces the Independence 25c of 1968. A 50c stamp is contained in a souvenir sheet and shows the QE II 6d definitive of 1956. The sheet had an own official FDC at 60c while the normal FDC for the other three stamps cost 65c.

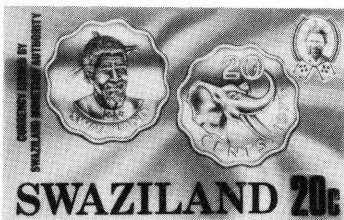
The money on stamps issue was due on 6 September, five years after the introduction of Swaziland's own currency of Emalangeni (= Rand). There are five values:

- 5c - 5c coin
- 10c - 10c coin
- 20c - 20c coin
- 50c - 50c coin
- E1 - E1 coin.

The FDC at E1,95 was available from the Swaziland Stamp Bureau, PO Box 555, Mbabane.



... and money on stamps



Sotheby's

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FOR THE RECORD !!!

Some prices realized on our 8 August sale



LOT 338a R1 300

| | |
|---|---------|
| Ascension — 1922 Ovpts on St Helena, Specimens (Lot 24) | R 460 |
| Mafeking — S.G. 1 on Cover used First Day (Lot 52) | R2 300 |
| Ditto — 3d Blue Baden Powell on Cover (Lot 69) | R4 400 |
| Cayman Islands — 1933 Centenary Set (Lot 72) | R1 100 |
| Falkland Islands — 1933 Centenary Set, Specimens (Lot 86) | R3 100 |
| Natal — £1-10-0 S.G. 143 Mint (Lot 108) | R 600 |
| N. Rhodesia — 1925 K.G.V. Set Excl. 3/- (Lot 113) | R 340 |
| Rhodesia — 1905 1/- Falls Strip of Three Imperf vertically between (Lot 195) .. | R17 000 |
| Ditto — 1910 ½d Double Heads Imperf Block of Six (Lot 205) | R10 800 |
| Ditto — 1910 7/6 'Reckitt's Blue' Block of Four (Lot 237) | R8 500 |
| Sierra Leone — 1933 Wilberforce Set (Lot 283) | R1 750 |
| S.A. £1 Kings Head S.G. 17a Block of Four (Lot 320) | R4 800 |
| S.A. — 1d Ship Part Imperf Block of 20 (Lot 339) | R2 150 |
| S.A. — 1927 London Pictorials Specimens (Lot 347) | R1 050 |
| S.A. — Ditto 10/- used Block of 24 (Lot 365) | R2 600 |
| S.A. — 1963 Transkei 2½c Green Colour omitted (Lot 410) | R 680 |
| S.W.A. 1923 £1 Ovpt S.G. 15 Block of Four (Lot 430) | R3 600 |

Our next sale of postage stamps and postal history material, including some original finds of correspondence, will take place in Johannesburg on Friday 19th October 1979.

GOOD SELECTION G.B., RHODESIA ETC.
PLUS SOME FINE WORLD POSTAL STATIONERY

FURTHER DETAILS IN THE NEXT ISSUE OF THE SA PHILATELIST

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“DIE KATTE VAN STEYN”

deur Arie Bakker

AS 'N MENS 'n seëluitstalling besoek, sal jy eerste 'n katalogus raadpleeg om te kyk wat jy wil gaan sien.

Party groot uitstallings maak dit amper onmoontlik om alles te sien en dus moet jy ongelukkig 'n deel uitlos, veral as jy nie elke dag aan die kyk kan bestee nie en ook nog moet toustaan om nuwe uitgawes en eerstedagkoeverte te bekom.

Jy besluit dus om 'n keuselysie te maak van wat jy beslis moet sien en terwyl jy soek na die nommers in die saal val jou oog in die verbygaan dán op hierdie, dán op daardie interessante uitstallings en voor jy dit weet, bestee jy jou tyd aan wat jy eers as nie so belangrik waardeer het nie. Maar goed — jy besluit, dan kom ons môre maar terug.

Tjekboekversamelings is een van my voorliefdes. Dis vir my 'n raaisel waarom party mense beswaar het teen dié soort versamelings. Ons gaan wel na museums — veral in die buiteland — om dinge te sien wat 'n private persoon nooit kan bekostig nie — en ons geniet dit baie. Maar as dit oor posseëls gaan, kruip die gedagte oor geld vorentoe en raak party filateliste verward. Is dit afguns? Is dit die gedagte in jou agterkop — dit sal ek nooit kan bekostig nie?

Afgunstige gevoel

Sou 'n versamelaar van skilderstukke ook so 'n afgunstige gevoel kry as hy na 'n museum gaan om ou meesters te bewonder? Moenie begeer nie! Nee, gelukkig is daar tjekboekversamelaars wat die kennis het en die geld om 'n ander filatelist met swak finansies te laat meegeniet van wat eintlik in 'n posmuseum sou tuishoort, maar daar nooit sal uitkom nie. Hoe sou ons ander die geleentheid kry om die seldsaamhede te sien?

Teen die tyd dat ek oortuig is hoe min ek van seëls weet, gaan ek na die jeugafdeling, want die jeug staan ook boaan my keuselysie. Dis vir my een van die belangrike aspekte van 'n uitstalling, want hier lê ons toekoms vir kultuur en beskawing, en ek wil weet hoe versamel die jeug — hoe dink hulle — waarheen gaan hulle belangstelling uit. Partykeer sien jy in die aanbieding van hul seëls dat daar 'n groot filatelist aan die kom is.

Jammer, soms sien jy Pa se beursie en sy kennis, maar in die jeugafdeling is dit nie die geldwaarde wat tel nie, maar wat hulle gedoen het met die seëls wat op hulle pad gekom het.

Jy herken die gebore filatelist baie vinnig en dis 'n plesier om te sien hoe die jong loot van filateliese Suid-Afrika ontspruit. As die jare kom en as daar goeie leiding sal wees, kan die ou garde nou al weet dat die opvolgers daar is.

Dit sou interessant wees om die pryse wat op 'n nasionale uitstalling in die toekoms gewen word te klassifiseer na leeftydsgroepe. Net om 'n statistiek op te bou.

Daar is nou al onder die meerderjariges wat 'n jaar terug nog in die jeugafdeling uitgestal het, maar die meeste van ons kyk dit verby.

Met so 'n statistiek is daar 'n moontlikheid om te weet of ons jeugverenigings vrugte afwerp en om te bepaal hoe die filateliste-piramide in Suid-Afrika volgens leeftyd opgebou is.

Hoe lank nog

Suid-Afrika huisves uitstaande versamelings, party van wêreldfaam, maar mens vra jouself wel af: hoe lank sal SA onder die voorste filatelistelande van die wêreld beskou kan bly? So 'n statistiek sou nie alleen 'n antwoord op hierdie vraag gee nie, maar ook stimulerend werk op die filateliste wat hul kragte aan filateliese jeugwerk toewy.

Dis vir my altyd oulik om te sien wat die kinders self gedoen het. Hier word duidelik wat die element van ontwikkeling en opvoeding is as 'n kind seëls bymekaar maak en hulle bestudeer.

Dis kostelik om die erns te sien waarmee die byskrifte versorg is, veral as hulle verder gaan as die oorskryf van 'n katalogus.

By DISA 79 was daar 'n jong dame (13 jaar sê die katalogus) wat huisdiere uitgestal het. In die kort omskrywing van haar uitstalling lees ek in die katalogus:

Ek versamel net die seëls waar diere duidelik herkenbaar is en ongelukkig beperk dit my moontlikhede baie, *maar nou kan ek die soorte se naam uitken.*

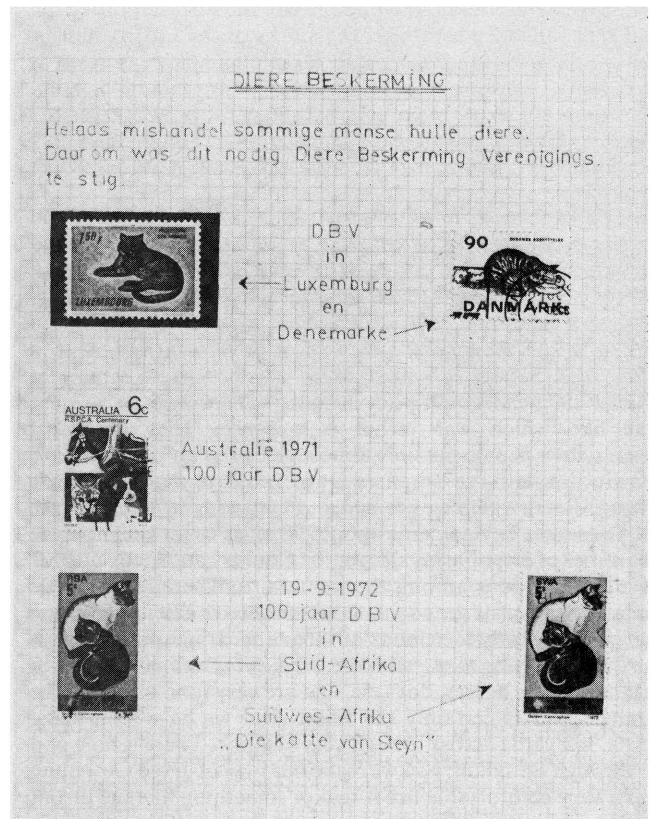
Dit was maar net een raam, waarin veral die honde en katte 'n belangrike rol gespeel het, maar sy het mooi al die soortname van die diere bygeskryf. By die katte was daar Persiese katte, Angora-katte, Siamese katte en dan was daar 'n blad met seëls onder die titel Dierebeskerming. Daar was ook SA en SWA se DBV-SPCA-seëls van 1972. Maar die katte se naam!

Verstaan u my plesier om daar te lees: “Die Katte van Steyn”.

So weet ons dan nou dat daar 'n nuwe soort kat in Suidelike Afrika ontdek is en wat my betref sal ek nooit meer 'n ander naam gebruik nie.

Destyds was daar nogal polemieë oor die ontwerp van hierdie DBV-seëls en *The SA Philatelist* het selfs illustrasies geplaas van die onaanvaarde kat-ontwerpe van Kobus Esterhuysen.

In Maart 1976 het *The SA Philatelist* ons vertel dat ons Ereredakteur Joh Groenewald sy vrye tyd bestee om met bruin Birmese katte te boer (arme katte!) en dis miskien 'n blink gedagte as Joh se katte eendag kan kruis met die katte van Steyn. Dan kan hulle mekaar beter krap in die kolomme van *The SA Philatelist*. Ek stel voor dat ons die nasate dan vernoem na die uitvindster van die nuwe soort, nl Elizabeth Sterkenburg.



Die 13-jarige Elizabeth Sterkenburg se katalogusblad met “die katte van Steyn”.

Balls and parties at Burghersdorp

by Aubrey H Scott

THIS EARLY BASUTOLAND item is an 1852 campaign letter from Lt William Henry Grimston, 2nd — Foot Queen's (Royal West Surrey Regt) written to his mother some two weeks before the Basuto King Mosheshoe asked for peace terms.

The Army List of 1854 confirms the writer's presence in South Africa both in the Kaffir War of 1851-2 and in the Orange River Expedition of 1852-3.

The front of the letter reads: "Per Mail Steamer Paid
Mrs. Grimston
Kil(?)wick
Barnsley (crossed out)
Yorkshire England."

It is rated I/- in black with "8" in red manuscript and bears a General Post Office Cape Town handstamp and is backstamped. "Driffield JA 25 1853 A."

The contents of the letter are of historical interest and read as
"Camp on the Caledon River,
Moshesh's Country.
December 2nd 1852.

"Dear Mamma,

Many thanks for your long letter received last month, also one from Pater which arrived yesterday & now for an account of our travels. We left Fort Hare on the 11th November in a drenching thunderstorm and as we had the rearguard that day we did not get into camp till 3 the next morning as the Totty Waggon drivers were all tipsy so we had 21 hours march the first day by way I suppose of a little training after being shut up in the Fort for 10 months.

"We of course eat as we went along and had two hours sleep at Lushington before going on the next day, we then passed Elands Post and went on about 20 miles a day till we came to Whittlesea and Shiloh, the place where the war first broke out and the walls of which bear the marks of the Caffirs bullets; halting there for two days we trekked along, marching along at five every morning & getting into Camp about 3 every afternoon till we arrived at a standing camp at Burgerhers Dorp, a very nice town inhabited by boers & though it has only been built for five years far surpasses King Wms. Town or Beaufort.

"The Dutchmen were very civil indeed and gave Balls and Parties every evening so you may be sure we made the best of our weeks stay there and great fun we had dancing with the Dutch young ladies for they could only speak a few words of English but danced away with great glee they would come poking about the tents for they never saw an encampment in their lives before & while sitting at discourse a great fat Dutchman's head would poke in to see what the inside of a tent was like which was rather a nuisance. They are most insensitive people possible almost as bad as an Irishman. We remained a week at Burghers Dorp and then marched to the Orange River which we crossed and arrived here yesterday the 1st December having come about 250 miles or more. There are quantities of Boer Farms all over the Country and herds of Deer of all descriptions among the mountains. There is very little grass as the locusts are so numerous they have eaten everything and we frequently see clouds of them appearing quite black in the distance flying along with the wind, every animal appears to eat them cows, horses, dogs etc. and are very fond of them. The Orange river is certainly the finest river we have seen being about 300 yards across though very shallow. There is no wood all through the country so we make our fires of dried Cow dung and a very comfortable fire it makes something like the turf of the "Ould Country". The Boers use nothing else. They only gave us two hours notice about the post going out so excuse this scrawl as I want to write as much as I can. By the way they say

we are going to Natal as soon as this business with Moshesh is over to be quartered there and hope it may be there as I believe it is the second best place in the country; if so we shall probably stay there for two of 3 years at least.

"I find the work of Adjutant not so easy as I thought particularly with such a fidgety Major as ours as he keeps me galloping about all day. We are encamped in a perfect swamp after the rains of last night which is rather unpleasant at all times. Here comes the dreaded Postman so with love to all I remain yr. affectionate son. (sgd.) W.H. Grimston Queens.

"Hope for more time the next mail."



The front of the campaign letter sent by Lt William Henry Grimston of the 2nd Foot Queen's

POSTMARKS THAT PERPLEX

THERE ARE quite a number of postal offices in South African designated as "telegraph offices" — meaning that one can send a telegram, but that mail facilities normally do not exist.

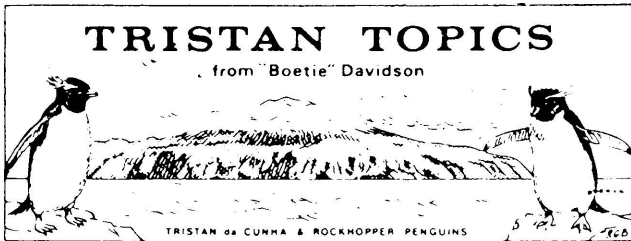
Yet occasionally one finds mail postmarked with the "telegraph datestamp" of an office officially listed as a telegraph office. This has perplexed Mr Ralph F Putzel of Cape Town (PO Box 20, Bergvliet 7864), who is working on his massive encyclopaedia of Union and RSA postmarks.

Mr Putzel has decided to include the datestamps of "telegraph offices" where these have definitely been found on cover or part cover (as distinguished from stamps only, which may have come off telegrams).

In the case of Cape Point, which has never been anything but a telegraph office in official lists, numerous instances of cancelled mail, mostly postcards, have been found. A similar office, Cathkin Park, has yielded a large part of a cover with 2½c in stamps (then normal letter rate) cancelled with its circular mark on 13 September 1968.

Other marks found on mail are those of "Cape Town TO" and of Cape St Francis.

Mr Putzel has invited readers who have postal material from telegraph offices to contact him.



Don't disregard that Type V cachet

Tristan postal historians are so prone to disregard the common Type V cachet — it had a long reign and is probably the easiest of all the cachets to acquire — yet that era is one of the most interesting in Tristan's recent history, and some of the covers with the Type V cachet are amongst the most interesting, some even being unique!

On 17 March 1939 the Danish ship *Monsunen* visited Tristan, and very little is known of that visit, except that recently two covers (one illustrated herewith) appeared on the philatelic scene. The illustration is of a stampless cover addressed to Copenhagen, endorsed with a "50" in manuscript, and endorsed with a "50" in manuscript,

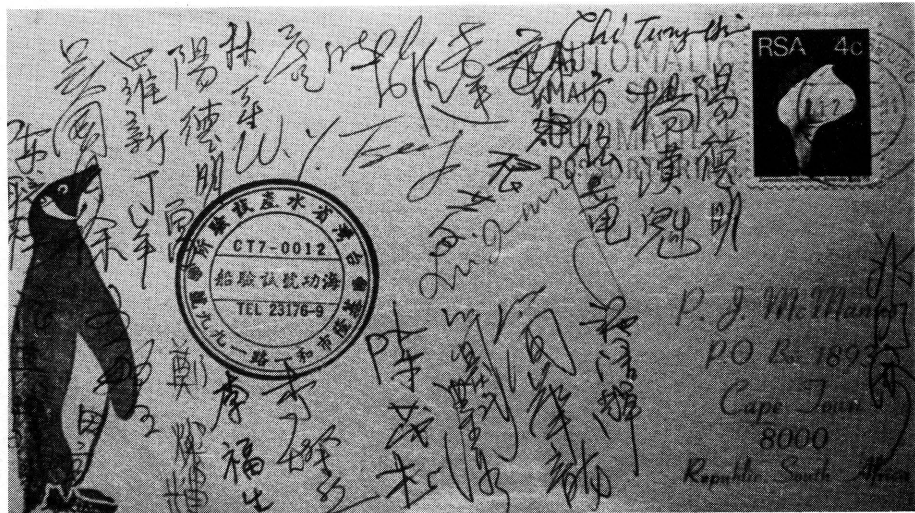
and this taxation was implemented on arrival in Denmark with a Danish 50 öre postage due stamp tied to the cover with a postmark which regrettably is not legible.

The cover bears no other evidence of postal processing. It can only be presumed that this cover was carried overseas aboard the *Monsunen* itself, because otherwise it would probably have travelled via Cape Town, the usual route for virtually all Tristan mail, and thus have borne evidence of postal processing from Cape Town.

Just another international imprint embedded in the sands of Tristan time . . .



First Taiwanese Antarctica expedition — only eleven covers remain



THERE HAVE BEEN two Taiwanese expeditions to Antarctica, the first in January/February 1977 and the second a year later. On both occasions the voyage was made in the small 700 ton vessel the *Hail Kung*, and the intention of both voyages was to catch *Euphausia superba*, commonly known as krill, which feeds on plankton, and whales feed on the krill. The first voyage lasted six weeks, during which period 135 metric tons of krill was caught.

With regard to covers from the second trip — the number of covers made is not known, and they were posted on the return voyage at Lyttelton, New Zealand, on 21 February 1978.

The sequelae are the most interesting from a postal history point of view. We know that eleven covers exist from the first expedition, but surely there must be many more covers, particularly as the crew members (twenty persons), the research scientists (fourteen) and the three newspaper reporters who

were all aboard the *Hai Kung* must have written letters home to their families, and these therefore are genuine, non-philatelic covers from this first expedition. But we also know that in Taiwan the interest is not in postal history covers, but in the actual postage stamps on the covers. Therefore when letters arrived from this expedition the stamps were torn off the covers, and consequently there are only eleven covers documenting this first ever trip by the Taiwanese to the Antarctic!

When the *Hai Kung* was in Cape Town on the first expedition a Cape Town philatelist had eleven covers signed by the crew, and when the ship returned to Cape Town, a reporter with the expedition who had to rush off to Johannesburg took all the covers with him, and posted them in Johannesburg — hence the postmark on the illustrated cover and ten others (Johannesburg 21-2-77).

Seël beeld posgeskiedenis uit

Europa

DIE EUROPASEËLS wat op 2 Mei in Nederland verskyn het, het as onderwerp die geskiedenis van die pos- en telekommunikasiedienste. Een seël gee uitdrukking aan filatelie (55c): keuse uit seëls wat in Nederland verskyn het, met 'n vergrootglas. Vir versamelaars van die tema seëls op seëls is dit 'n baie welkome aanwinst. Die tweede seël, 75c, vertoon 'n skip op see, 'n seinsleutel en "Scheveningen radio". Dit gedenk die 75-jarige bestaan van die staats-kusradiostasie in Ymuiden. Die eerstedagkoewert beeld radiotekens op 'n see van posseëls af. Ook die stempel suggereer die draadloos en seëls.

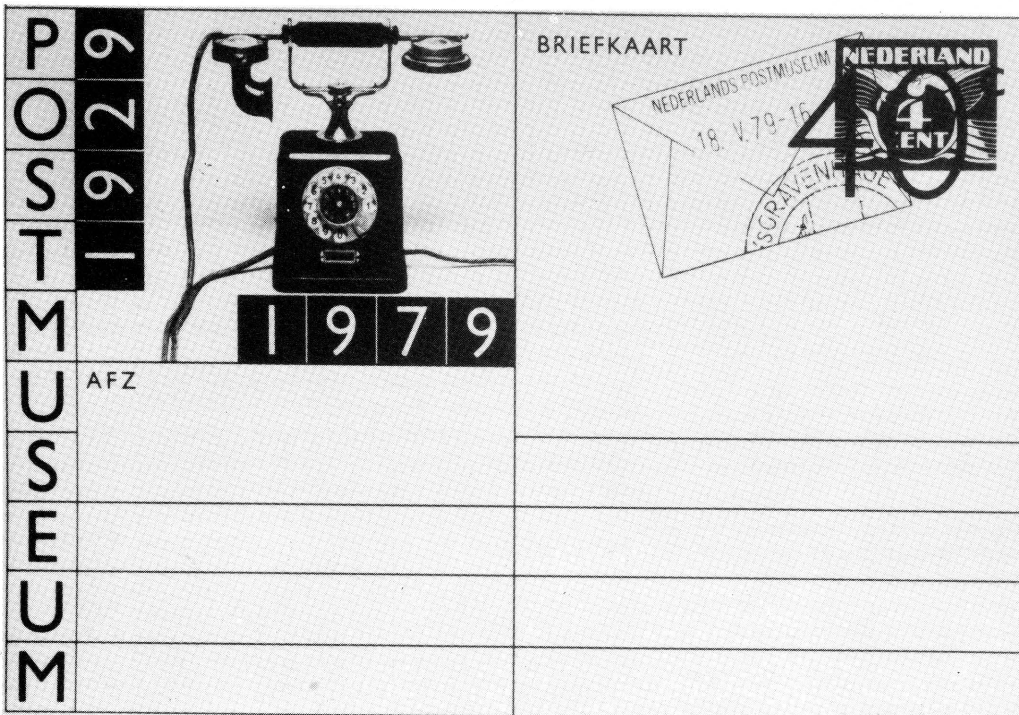


Die Europaseëls van 2 Mei.

Nederlandse Postmuseum

Dit was 'n oulike gedagte om vir die 50-jarige bestaan van die Nederlandse Postmuseum 'n herinneringsposkaart van 40c uit te gee. Op die kaart staan 'n ou telefoon, 1929-1979, opdruk van 40c op 4c en 'n spesiale stempel wat die agterkant van 'n brief voorstel: Nederlands Postmuseum, 18 V 79 -16, 's-Gravenhage.

Die Nederlandse Postmuseum het 'n baie uitgebreide versameling van materiaal van die pos- en telegraafbedryf, en het deur middel van skenkings in die besit gekom van een van die grootste posseëlversamelings in die wêreld. Die *Nederlandse Maandblad voor Philatelie* het 'n uitgawe spesiaal aan die



Die herinneringsposkaart van 40c uitgegee vir die 50-jarige bestaan van die Nederlandse Postmuseum.

Postmuseum gewy en elke inskrywer het een van hierdie poskaarte as geskenk ontvang!

Kamers van Koophandel

Op 5 Junie het 'n posseël van 45c vir die Kamers van Koophandel en Fabrieke verskyn. Daardie kamers is in 1803 deur Napoleon ingestel om die bedryfslewe te bevorder. In 1804, nou 175 jaar gelede, kom die kamer van Maastricht, een van die oudstes. Vandag is daar 36 kamers, wat op 'n landkaart op die posseël aangedui is. 'n Feestelike eerstedag-koewert vermeld in oranjerooi, wit en blou Kamers van Koophandel. Die seëls is dusdanig ontwerp, dat dit lyk asof hulle op die koewert omhoogstaan. Hoewel afstempeling in Maastricht toepaslik sou gewees het, is die koewert tog weer, soos alle Nederlandse eerstedagkoewerte, afgestempel in 's-Gravenhage. By ons is die beleid om sulke spesiale afstempelings soveel as moontlik op die betrokke plek te laat plaasvind.



Die posseël uitgereik ter ere aan die Kamers van Koophandel en Fabrieke.

Seilspport

Die Nederlandse Antille het op 16 Mei vier seëls laat verskyn betreffende die seilspport: die 12e internasionale seilregatta by die eiland Bonaire. Die waardes is 15 + 5c (gestileerde seilboot), 35 + 10c (seilbote op see), 40 + 15c (seilboot teen 'n wêreldkaart) en 55 + 25c (seilboot met gestileerde voël en

embleem). Die seëls is veelkleurig in die welbekende helder tinte wat in die Antille deurgaans gebruik word. Behalwe die seëls was daar ook 'n soeweniervelletjie. Vir sowel die seëls as die velletjie was daar 'n afsonderlike eerstedagkoevert.

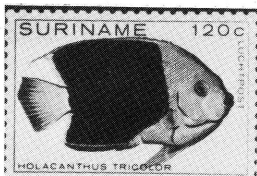
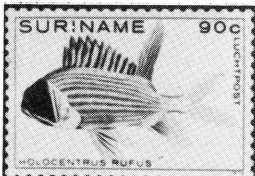
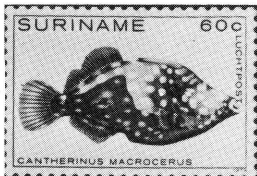
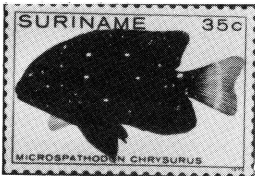
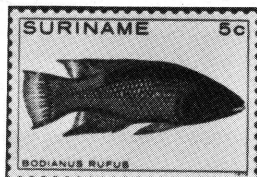
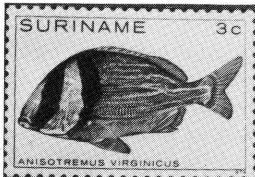
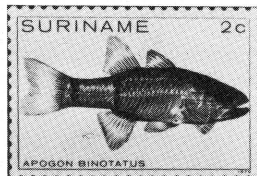
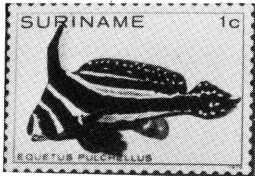


Die vier seilspport-seëls van die Nederlandse Antille.



Visse

In Suriname het agt posseëls verskyn met visse, wat as opmerklik suksesvol beskou kan word. Die visse is veelkleurig teen 'n neutrale agtergrond. Die waardes is 1, 2, 3, 5 en 35c, met 60, 90 en 120c vir lugpos. Ook hier was eerstedagkoevert, afgestempel op 30 Mei 1979. Daar was 'n afsonderlike koevert vir die laer waardes en vir die hoër lugposwaardes. — N



Super auction — David Feldman's international auction in Zurich will last five days and the catalogue totals 600 pages. The auction starts on 24 September and includes thousands of items from all over the world, for instance 760 lots of Norway.

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THOSE U.S.A. REPRINTS OF 1935

by Herman Herst (Jr)

A LETTER in *The SA Philatelist* (November 1978) from T G L Lawson, of Johannesburg, inquires about the “doings” of a Mr Farley who “ran off” some imperforate sheets of US commemorative stamps for his colleagues.

The request for information points up a most interesting story, perhaps the first time that stamp collecting made the front pages of American papers every day over a long period.

James A Farley was Postmaster General, appointed by the late Franklin D Roosevelt during his first term as President, FDR having taken office in 1933.

Farley changed postal procedures in many ways, not the least of which was the issuance of numerous commemorative stamps. He knew the sales that would result from collectors. In 1934 a set of ten stamps was issued for the National Parks.

A small number of sheets of this issue, as well as a number of other issues, such as those for the Chicago World Fair of 1933, the Mothers Day, Wisconsin, and still others were given to a few friends in unfinished condition. They were in large uncut sheets, mostly imperforate, mostly without gum. The recipients were told, it was later charged, to put them away and forget about them, and they would be worth money “in years to come”.

One fortunate “friend” disregarded the suggestion, and while having dinner with friends one night he heard a remark that a youngster of one of the servants had started collecting stamps, and remarked that he had a gift that might be of interest. It turned out to be a complete uncut imperforate sheet of 200 of the 3c Mothers Day stamp of 1934.

No takers at 10 000 dollars

The father of the youngster, more interested in what he could get for the stamps than in advancing his son’s collection, took it to the nearest stamp dealer, and sold it for an undisclosed price. The stamp dealer did not waste any time in rushing off to New York City with it, where he showed it to a few dealers, asking 10 000 dollars for it. He found no takers.

But news of the sheet’s existence resulted in some questions being asked. FDR had been President for three years; Republicans had sought for some issue they could make political hay with, and when the President’s political foes heard of the Farley gift, they believed they had it. Philatelists were up in arms as well. Stamp magazines were bombarded with letters from collectors asking for the same privilege Farley’s friends had, the opportunity to have imperforate stamps.

A Congressional investigation asked Farley to make two lists, of the beneficiaries of his generosity, and another of the stamps involved. Farley’s defense was ingenious; the Post Office, nor the Government has lost anything. He had paid the face value of all of the stamps to the Post Office. The “explanation” made the collectors of the country even more furious. They wanted to know why they could not also pay the face value and get imperforates.

A faulty memory

Farley’s memory was faulty, without any discredit to him, for as he made the gifts, he probably did not think too much about it. He remembered most of the names, but he was able to recall only 20 different stamps of the 1933-1934 period that he had presented. Actually, as it turned out later, there were 22.

Philately was divided as to what should be done. There had been a precedent. When the Columbian stamps of 1893

appeared, one set of sheets in imperforate condition had been prepared, and a very limited number of sets had been presented to friends of the Postmaster General. The Scott catalogue ever since has recognised their existence with a footnote, merely mentioning their existence. They are so rare that we do not ever recall having seen a set come up at auction. The only set presently known to our knowledge is a set of horizontal imperforate pairs in the famed Miller Collection of stamps belonging to the New York Public Library, now taken off public view because of the theft of some of its greatest rarities, amounting to R1 000 000, a few years ago.

Other collectors demanded that the stamps be reprinted, and put on sale at the Philatelic Agency in Washington to be sold at face value to all collectors who wished to purchase them.

Farley saw in the latter alternative the possibility of pleasing Congress and collectors, and at the same time bringing a lot of money to the Post Office. It was the very worst year of the depression, and the postal deficit was growing.

A sensational sale

He announced that all twenty of the commemorative stamps, in exactly the same condition in which he had prepared the “unfinished” ones, would go on sale at face value on 15 March 1935 and that sale would continue for three months. As can be imagined, the sale was a sensation. Well over two million dollars was taken in. Although collectors could buy as few as one stamp of each, most chose to buy the huge uncut sheets, one of which (the 3c Newburgh of 1933) came in sheets of 400 stamps.

In some of the cases, specially where the reprints consisted of perforated stamps, singles and even blocks were useless to prove beyond a doubt that they were the Farley reprints, since merely soaking the gum off the earlier, regularly issued stamps would give the very same item. In these cases, gutter pairs and blocks, or pairs and blocks with a guideline between the stamps served to prove that they came from the imprints.

For almost twenty years, the Farley reprints sold at moderate prices. Speculators and investors had bought so many that the market was never short of them. In the past ten years however, things have changed. Today a complete set of the 20 uncut sheets would bring close to 2 000 dollars even though when originally sold, the face value was less than one-tenth of that. Plate number blocks, arrow blocks, and the necessary gutter and “cross gutter” blocks now bring very high prices.

Forgotten to tell Congress

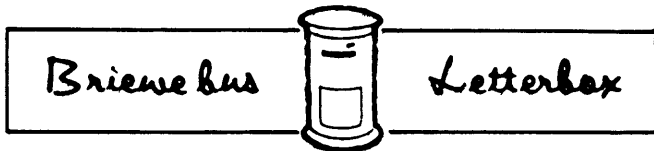
A year or two after the stamps had been withdrawn from sale, some of the original gift stamps came on the market, and it was noted that they had gum on the back. Farley had forgotten to tell Congress, indeed if he had ever known it, that not all of the stamps were without gum. The Post Office Department, to keep faith with collectors, announced that anyone sending in a sheet of any of the stamps he had bought in 1935 could have them gummed, free, and returned.

Few collectors knew of the announcement, and even fewer took advantage of it. Farley reprints with gum exist therefore, but since the catalogue wisely decided to make no mention of the fact, a completely different market never did ensue.

A few dealers, finding the gummed imperforate or perforated reprints in a collection, have attempted to get higher prices for them, but to a great extent, the presence of the gum has been ignored. Today, perhaps not one in a hundred collectors has even heard that some of the Farley stamps exist with gum.

A year or two after the sale of the reprints had been ended, the 21st and 22nd type of the original Farley gift sheets came on the market. By then the furore had died down. Collectors were bored with the whole story. The Republicans had milked the issue to its utmost, and they were searching for other, and more important issues.

Again, not one in a hundred collectors today realizes that there were 22 Farley reprints, and not 20. The Scott catalogue recognises these stamps as varieties of the basic stamp, and mentions them, without a price, under the regular listings for the 1c and 3c Chicago World’s Fair stamp of 1932.



Grootfontein
9246
Voorbeeld:
54169669 BV Kmdt G C R Opperman
Regiment Groot Karoo
HK-Kompanie
Veldposkantoor (of VPK) 2
Grootfontein
9246

Please do not standardise postmarks

DEAR SIR — In the past few months I have become interested in the postmarks of South Africa and am surprised to see the large variety of hand and machine cancellers in use throughout the country.

As a newcomer to the field of postmark collecting I find this variety extremely interesting and stimulating. Here I refer to differences in design and size and also the variety of cancellers and other marks applied to mail by the Post Office. This is a trend that I hope our postal authorities will continue to follow because it makes this aspect of philately so much more worth one's while.

May I therefore use your columns to appeal to our Post Office not to standardise postmarks as this could lead to a great reduction in interest in the hobby. As any philatelist will agree, philately is kept alive by the hunt for various items. Standardisation will reduce the joy of the hunt, and the interest shown in the subject. And what hunter can deny the immense satisfaction of sitting back after a hunt to recount the trials and tribulations of success.

I shall be pleased to hear whether other postmark collectors share my views. As far as I am concerned, three cheers to those Post Office officials responsible for designing the very interesting variety of postmarks to be found at post offices throughout our country.

Neville Gomm, Auckland Park

Veldposkantoor doen sy bes

MENEER — Ek lewer graag kommentaar op mnr D H van Eeden se kritiek op die Veldposdiens in *The SA Philatelist* van April 1979.

Hoewel ek die reeks artikels oor die geskiedenis van 11 Veldposeenheid op spesiale versoek geskryf het met die doel voor oë om ter sake inligting oor ons bedrywighede aan belangstellendes oor te dra, en nie om kommentaar oor die doeltreffendheid van die posverspreidingsstelsel uit te lok nie, het ek nogtans met spyt en teleurstelling kennis geneem van die probleme en ongerief wat mnr Van Eeden en sy seun moes verduur.

Ons probeer ons uiterste bes om onder moeilike omstandighede so 'n doeltreffende diens te lewer as wat menslik moontlik is en ofskoon dit nie die funksie van die Veldposkantoor is om toe te sien dat lede van die SA Weermag of hulle korrespondente van die korrekte posadres voorsien word nie, is dit vanselfsprekend in ons belang en in die belang van elke ouer tuis en elke man in die veld, dat geen of so min moontlik haakplekke opduik. Ek is daarom bly dat die Veldposkantoor op Grootfontein dan ook in hierdie geval van hulp kon wees en dat die seun daarna sy pos gereeld kon ontvang.

Dit bly my egter verbaas dat daar na soveel jare wat ons troepe aan die SWA/Angola grens het, nog steeds verwarring oor posadresse kan bestaan, veral as in gedagte gehou word dat besonderhede van die korrekte posadres al meer as een geleentheid deur die media bekend gemaak is.

Volledigheidshalwe verstrek ek weer eens die korrekte posadres hierna:

NOMMER:

RANG:

NAAM:

Eenheid

Sub-eenheid (indien van toepassing)

Veldposkantoor 2

Die VPK op Grootfontein sal in samewerking met die verskillende eenheidsvertegenwoordigers in die Veldregisterkantoor (101 VRK), die pos na die betrokke afgeleë posseksie versend, waar dit dan deur die eenheidsposordonnans afgehaal en self binne eenheidslyne versprei word.

Dat daar nog van tyd tot tyd probleme ontstaan, sal ek glad nie betwis nie. 'n Ketting is per slot van sake net so sterk soos sy swakste skakel en die mens bly nou maar eenmaal feilbaar.

Dit is en bly egter jammer dat mnr Van Eeden en sy seun onnodig ongerief moes verduur en in die eerste plek rede tot klage gehad het. Graag teken ek namens die SA Weermag verskoning aan en wil die versekering gee dat die hele kwessie van voorligting ten opsigte van posadresse en die nasending van posstukke, weer eens pertinent met hoër militêre gesag opgeneem is. — Kmdt G C R Opperman, Bevelvoerder: 11 Veldposeenheid.

VERKOOPREKORD — Die Harmers-groep het in sy afgelope jaar 'n totale omset van £8 600 000 met seëlveiling behaal. Hiervan het die Londense veilinghuis £4 031 000 opgelewer, ruim 60 persent meer as die vorige jaar.

Een versameling, dié van sir Henry Tucker van Bermuda, het in 'n reeks veilinge in Londen en New York meer as £500 000 behaal. Sir Henry se Kaap die Goeie Hoop, wat verlede jaar deur Stanley Gibbons in Johannesburg uitgestal is, word op 20 November in Londen opgeveil.

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| | Navigators | R 375 |
| CANADA | SG 433, Fisherman unmounted corner imprint block of 4 | R 600 |
| GB | SG 401, 5/- Waterlow Seahorse | R1 100 |
| | SG 403, £1 Green Seahorse (centred high) | R5 500 |
| | SG 438, PVC £1, unmounted | R3 000 |
| | SG 450-52, reengraved Seahorses (5/- um) | R2 400 |
| | SG 476-478b, 2/6- £1 unmounted | R 800 |
| | SG 494, £1 Wedding, corner block of 4 | R 600 |
| | SG 509-512 2/6- £1 unmounted | R 290 |
| | SG 536-539 2/6- £1 Waterlow | R 250 |
| ST HELENA | SG 114-123, centenary set | R 750 |
| SOUTH AFRICA | SG 3-17, 1/2- £1 Kings Heads | R2 100 |
| | SG 17a, £1 olive green, unmounted marginal | R2 100 |

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Question-box Vraebus

Is it slate blue or steel blue?

Mr W G Campbell Paterson, of Dennesig, writes —

I cannot make out from the catalogue which old Cape triangulars I have. For instance, how does one tell what is carmine red, brick red, brownish red, or pale blue, slate blue, steel blue etc? Apart from the colours such as these mentioned there seem to be various shades.

Reply

Even experts who have studied the classic triangulars of the Cape for years are sometimes reluctant to express hasty opinions, because fading or exposure to sunlight could have affected the original colour pigments.

Condition is as important when it comes to Cape triangulars. These stamps were cut from sheets with scissors and stamps with sharp points and good margins are prized today.

We suggest that you contact your nearest philatelic society (see the Rendezvous column published in *The SA Philatelist* every other month) and view the Cape triangulars in comparison when these are displayed at a society meeting.

Farthing is new SG boss

MR JOHN FARTHING has been appointed Managing Director of Stanley Gibbons Limited with effect from 1 July 1979.

A Director of Stanley Gibbons Limited for many years, John Farthing has been essentially concerned with Gibbons' successful Specialist and Rare Stamp Department at Romano House, 399 Strand, London, WC2, and with the group's expansion overseas. This includes overseas auctions and international exhibitions in South Africa, the Far East and Australasia. He has also been instrumental in setting up the new Australian stamp company which opened in Melbourne in August and of which he is a director.

Mr Farthing has worked in the stamp trade for 24 years, joining the company then owned by A L 'Mick' Michael which became part of Gibbons in 1962. Last year he was appointed a Director of Stanley Gibbons Auctions and also Stanley Gibbons International Ltd, the parent company, which became part of Letraset International earlier this year.

Mr Farthing, a regular visitor to South Africa for ten years, pioneered the holding of international stamp auctions in Johannesburg in 1975.

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by A G M Batten RDPSA

HERE IS A RATHER pleasing postcard from my collection. The franking is printed on the card as to One Halfpenny in the usual dark green, supplemented, to make up the correct overseas postage for a postcard to Europe, by the light green halfpenny stamp of Edward VII.

The name and address are typed in blue; the manuscript note to the left and the words "retour Bloemfontein" are in red while the "Abgereist/Parti" (Gone Away) label is in black printed on mauve. The manuscript at the top is in purplish indelible pencil. And, of course, the cancellations are in black. All this colour and the long journey to Austria and back for a total postage of One Penny.



It will be seen from the illustration that this postcard was posted at Bloemfontein on 14 May 1907 and that it arrived at Meran, Austria, on 3 June 1907. However, evidently Mr Fritz Schaller had gone away from the Hotel Starkenof.

So the local Post Office attached their 'Gone Away' label in both German and French and, for good measure, this was repeated at the top of the card in indelible pencil. Very helpfully, to the left, is a red ink indication which in fact runs over the mauve label saying 'Parti sans address'; followed by an initial which extends to the mauve label itself. In the same red ink there is an instruction 'retour Bloemfontein'.

On returning to Bloemfontein the postcard received the current 'Poste Restante' marking of "P.O. - BFN - O-R-C.", and presumably it was returned to the sender at the Imperial Hotel, Bloemfontein.

One more interesting thing. Note the first 'n' in 'Halfpenny' on the stamp printed directly on the post card. The first vertical is much longer than it should be!

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Stamps of Cape

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Stamps of OFS

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Stamps of Natal

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2½d used in Tvl

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1/- used in OFS

1/- used in Tvl

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2/- used in OFS

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REVIEW

A model for prospective authors

POSTED IN GIBRALTAR by W Hine-Haycock. Published by Robson-Lowe Ltd, 50 Pall Mall, London, England SW1Y 5JZ at £12.50.

Brigadier Hine-Haycock has produced a splendid book on the postal history and philately of Gibraltar. Since the postal history of Gibraltar must of necessity involve aspects of the postal history of Spain, the book begins with a brief outline of the political history of Gibraltar, a survey of its philatelic history and a detailed study of the Spanish overland mail routes and their handstamps.

This is followed by detailed descriptions of the 19th century handstamps. This section is lavishly illustrated, often with entire stamps. Great Britain stamps used in Gibraltar are well dealt with and are of interest to the GB collector as well. A valuable series of tables summarises the 18th and 19th century postal rates. There is a magnificent chapter on the essays, proofs and specimens, which summarises the material known to exist.

The issued postage stamps are very well dealt with as are coils, postage dues, registration, postal stationery, aérophilately and censorship. A most welcome chapter deals with the fakes, forgeries and reproductions and the means of identifying them. This work should be in all society libraries where it would serve as a model for prospective authors. All in all this is a must for collectors of Gibraltar and all devotees of postal history. — C Roché

A comedy of errors

ERRORS IN POSTAGE STAMP DESIGN, by D E G Irvine and M Seshold, published at £9.50 by the National Philatelic Society at 1 Whitehall Place, London SW1A 2HE, UK.

ERRORS on stamps have always intrigued collectors, and this 188 page book offers a compendium of intriguing and often breath-taking information.

The subject matter is divided into sections for spelling and grammatical errors, errors in identification, denomination errors, misstatements, errors in portrayal of subject, anachronisms, impossible compositions, commemoration of non-events, diplomatic errors, intentional errors and mistakes on other philatelic items.

The book reads like a thriller, except that it is a line by line exposé of mismanagement, and it reveals how amateur detectives in the form of philatelists with their scrutinising eyes have unearthed truth and mistruth.

We all smile about the old Transvaal stamp showing the oxwagon with two shafts instead of a disselboom, and we concur with the old Volksraad's views about this one. Yet we would be surprised to note how many other South African stamps feature in this book (surprised, or happy, because South Africa's name comes up ever so often?).

This hardcover book is recommended. — JG

Valuable guide on Bhopal issues

BHOPAL – NOTES ON PLATING THE "PRIMITIVES" by J Barefoot, 85 Saltergate, Chesterfield S40 1JS, Derbyshire, England. Price £2.

This is an interesting specialised study of the plating of the stamp issues of Bhopal from 1884-1903. Actual size illustrations of the complete sheets are given with the various plate characteristics on the facing pages. Printed in A4 format, this 22 page booklet will be invaluable for plating and studying these issues. — C Roché

First three handbooks to hand

EUROPEAN PHILATELY — A series of occasional papers on the postage stamps, revenues and postal history of Europe. Edited by J Barefoot, 85 Saltergate, Chesterfield S40 1JS, Derbyshire, England.

The first three handbooks in this series are now to hand:
Number 1: Great Britain Revenues (£2.95)

This 172 page spiral bound catalogue lists and prices the revenue stamps of GB including Channel Islands and Isle of Man. The prices quoted are for issued stamps whether used or lightly mounted mint, whichever is the most common. This should interest all collectors of revenues as well as those looking for a new collecting field.

Number 2: Belgium Numeral Cancels 1849-1866 (£2)

This 29 page spiral bound booklet identifies the place of use of the numeral 'bar' cancels, numbers 1 to 207. The 'Bureaux de distribution', Railway TPO and 'numeral in lozenge of dots' cancellations are all listed with their place of usage. A useful addition to the library of both the Belgium and the postmark collector.

Number 3: Basle Police Revenues (£1.25)

This 24 page spiral bound booklet deals with a little known section of Swiss philately. Basle police stamps were issued as receipts for foreigners and for import or export permits. Other special stamps have also been issued. This catalogue illustrates and prices complete sheets as well as singles. A low priced addition to the library of both Swiss and revenue collectors. — C Roché

American independence in 100 countries

THE BICENTENNIAL OF AMERICAN Independence Commemorated on Foreign Stamps, ATA Handbook No 97, describes stamps issued by more than 100 different postal administrations. An extensive study of these stamps was made by members of the American Unit of ATA, edited by Donald Brenke, and just released by ATA.

The book is available at \$5 from American Topical Association, 3308 No 50th St, Milwaukee, WIS 53216, USA.

In other magazines

THE MARCH/APRIL ISSUE of *The Post Office Stone*, journal of the Postmark and Postal History Society of SA, contains a list of members and their collecting interests (8 pages) and a 6 page article on the postal history of Port Alfred, by Prof Nic Heideman.

There are the usual short reports on a meeting of members in Cape Town, old posting boxes, forged postcards of German SWA, Walvis Bay, datestamp erasures, new five-digit registration labels, Beacon Bay post office, Pietermaritzburg rubber registration cachet, and the RSA postmark for the Essen stamp fair in 1978 postally used.

The February 1979 issue of *The Transvaal Philatelist*, journal of the Transvaal Study Circle, reproduces a paper published by Mr Emil Tamsen in 1933 on the notorious reprints of the Transvaal stamps, and contains a pen-sketch of Mr Tamsen.

A feature details the history of 19 Transvaal towns and villages, and notes on Schweizer Reneke, bisected stamps, the Otto 1d plate, New Republic, Rustenburg and the Queen's Head issue are recorded.

Seëruil gevra — C Heere, Lengweg 15, Poortugaal, Nederland, will graag posvars Nederlandse seëls ruil teen posvars seëls van Suid-Afrika en nooi belangstellendes om met hom te korrespondeer.

Society News - Onderonies

POST OFFICE TREE PHILATELIC SOCIETY

The meeting scheduled for 11 June had to be postponed on account of bad weather, and was held on 9 July, which was little better from the weather point of view. Mrs Sylvia Whaits, chairman of the society, had a fine display of stamps of Tristan da Cunha. She has a comprehensive collection, depicting every aspect of the island's history, industries and flora and fauna. She chatted about the points of special interest, and members were amused at the information that potatoes were used until 1946 as currency, four potatoes equalling one penny. One very big stamp depicted the visit of the great liner Queen Elizabeth 2 to the island on 8 February 1979.

Mr Borrie Brown of Oudtshoorn brought a collection of philatelic exhibition covers on 23 sheets, the earliest of which was issued in 1928 for the Durban exhibition. — **Eve Merchant**

SOUTH AFRICAN STAMP STUDY CIRCLE

July — Thirty members and four visitors were welcomed by the president, Mr Sam Hertzikowitz.

Franco Frescura notified the meeting that the Wanderers Philatelic Society was to run an annual open competition in memory of the late Mr Stan Dench, which would be open to individual novices belonging to any Witwatersrand society, the trophy to be won outright each year.

Considerable discussion took place over the "drunken perforations" in the "A" pane reprint of the 3 cent Protea definitive and it was decided that it was timely for an expert from the Government Printer's department to be invited to speak to the circle on perforators for the benefit of all members.

Numerous interesting items were shown, including a Johannesburg Hobbies Exhibition cover bearing a CDS of 11 October 1932. John Driver showed a used example of the rare retouched variety of the 1d Ship stamp with the white patch on the hull and Mr Mephius produced a splendid "phooey" item with "In Memorium" superimposed on the American Sky Laboratory stamp.

The main programme feature was a demonstration by Mr J L du Plessis on RSA postal stationery and postmarks concerned with the postal routes of Roodepoort and Krugersdorp from January 1977 to the present. Items exhibited included envelopes, aerograms, registered pieces, commemorative cards and envelopes and special cancellations. The delightful exhibit showed what could be done at low cost but with much work, was of historical interest, well illustrated and complete.

A vote of thanks was paid by Mary Bromfield. — **Sam Wayburne**

PORT ELIZABETH PHILATELIC SOCIETY

June 19 — Twenty-eight members and seven visitors attended the meeting, where Mr Alan Raw displayed Swaziland. This was a very nice collection and Mr Deryck Archer gave a vote of thanks.

The second half was taken over by a talk on postal history by Mr T J Strachan Snr. This was a very informative talk and with covers to show what it was all about. It proved to be an excellent and interesting evening.

3 July — We had a large turn-out for this evening as this was our bumper auction night. This auction took all evening with only a short break for tea. It was a very successful evening and over R1 100 of material was sold.

On 30 June it was the quadrangular meeting at Grahamstown, where Grahamstown were the hosts to Port Elizabeth, East London, Queenstown and a member from King William's Town. It will change to a quintagonal meeting for the next one as a new society from King William's Town will be included.

The was a visit from Angus Springthorpe of Johannesburg who presented a trophy to be awarded for the best display at these meetings and only two exhibits per society are allowed. — **Mike Sullivan**

AEROPHILATELIC SOCIETY

The Transvaal division of the Aerophilatelic Society met at Ken Lydall's home, in June. Previously all meetings of the group had been held on a Saturday afternoon but this was an experiment to try to obviate the absences of members who attend the myriads of other meetings which are all held on Saturday afternoons. The 14 cold members who attended agreed to revert to Saturday meetings without setting a regular date.

There was considerable discussion on pigeon post mail, with the Bophuthatswana pigeon post being shown by Jack Burrell, and on the DISA pigeon post cards which were recently received. An attempt was made to find a sequence for the serial numbers but it appeared that the numbering in both cases was simply done consecutively and not according to surnames or value of orders, as had been suspected.

It was pointed out by pigeon expert Harry Birkhead that in the Bophuthatswana pigeon post, one third of the pigeons were lost, but this was a normal loss figure in a long-distance pigeon 'send-out'. In the DISA post, all the pigeons were returned, as the distance was limited.

Jack Burrell, who acted as chairman, pointed out that Mr H Lee had put up an outstanding exhibition of aerophilatelic covers and stamps at the recent Lanseria Air Show. — **Colin Plen**

ROYAL PHILATELIC SOCIETY OF RHODESIA

June — This was attended by over 50 members and guests, and the president, Dr Mavros, announced that thanks to the efforts of Mr Paddy Doyle, an excellent new venue had been secured: the Ingutsheni Recreation Hall, which, despite its forbidding name, would be a great improvement on the present venue, and would be used as from August.

Two last-minute impromptu exhibits turned what looked like being a flop of an evening into an outstanding success.

Firstly, Mr H Tring showed a small but select display of outstanding rarities in immaculate condition from all countries. Mouths watered and minds were unable to assimilate these staggering items, and many people wondered how Harry, a modest collector, had acquired these gems. There were red faces when it turned out that they were all coloured reproductions, culled from auction catalogues and other publications. Beautifully presented, they were most deceptive, and a tribute to the printer's art.

Secondly, Mr T Merrigan, in his maiden display, dispelled any notion that he was a beginner with an exhibit of early and pre-stamp covers from Milan to Britain, which outlined the musical career of a humble military bandsman, who eventually rose to director of music. A fascinating exposition of routes, markings and all the other delicious ingredients of a true postal history study was dished up. This was truly a classic study, in which much personal, social, and general history was extracted: a most praiseworthy effort.

Dr Mavros suitably thanked the exhibitors for their widely differing but highly entertaining displays.

July — Our hon secretary, Mr Jewell, is still incapacitated following his accident, and we hope he recovers soon. Some 40 people saw two exhibits — Mr Knight, another first-timer, showing "Political and Postal History Covers" which contained several interesting items, and a colourful display of modern Canadian FDCs by the (s)Tring ensemble, Harry and Joan. Dr Mavros thanked the exhibitors for entertaining us, and an interesting discussion on the sweat box ensued. — **P Mann**

EAST RAND PHILATELIC SOCIETY

MAY — Our meeting was attended by 28 members and two visitors.

This was one of our "ten pages" nights; however, before that started there developed an interesting discussion on private covers which led to a further

discussion on the pros and cons of first-day covers with full sets of stamps exceeding the necessary postage.

The members who exhibited ten pages each were: Mr Wossler — Olympic Games, miniature sheets
Mr Van Riet — Japanese Occupied Netherland Ind.

Mr P van den Burg — Bechuanaland QE 2 1953
Mr Bakker — Switzerland, military post
Mr Olesen — Greenland/Sweden/Norway
Mr D Hunt — Isle of Man
Mr H Godwin — Mafia Island o/p and Nyasaland Field Force o/p, 1915/1916
Mr E Holden — 1st issue 1965 commems, GB.

— **B Taylor**

AFRIKAANSE FILATELIEVERENIGING VAN PRETORIA

Julie — Dit was beginnersaand en waarskynlik as gevolg van die verduideliking van die voorsitter wat nou eintlik met so 'n aand bedoel word, was die deelname goed en het dit 'n baie interessante aand geword.

Ds Van Schalkwyk het 'n aantal blaaie gewys met seëls van Suidwes-Afrika; mnr Steenkamp die SAL-lugbriewe; mev Greyling spesiale afstempelings op koeverte en datumstempelkaarte; mnr Briel Suid-Afrikaanse maksimumbriewe en mnr Hermanides, seëls van die Belgiese Kongo.

Juis deurdat hier baie variasie was, ook in die opstelling, was die uitstalling ook in sy geheel 'n sukses. Die versamelings was netjies en deurdag opgestel, waar nodig duidelik bygeskryf en oorspronklik in benadering. Dis merkwaardig hoe versamelaars tog altyd kans sien om weer nuwe terreine oop te maak. — **N**

ROYAL PHILATELIC SOCIETY OF CAPE TOWN

May — The first meeting of the month was a happy combination of Canada and the Cayman Islands. Mr Sam Kaganson exhibited his collection of Canadian George VI plate blocks. Some of the stamps pleasing as singles, were even more handsome to view in blocks. Also shown were Canadian stamps overprinted and perforated O.H.M.S. and later G for official use in the period 1949-1963.

Dr Brian Wilson's Cayman Islands exhibit was accompanied by an interesting talk on the location, history, government and population of the islands with details of the postal history and stamp issues. The Georgian issues of the Gaymans made a very fine show. Prominent among these was the 1932 centenary of the "Assembly of Justices and Vestery", one of the great British colonial commemorative issues of the "Thirties". Dr Wilson deserves credit for bringing together so excellent and detailed a collection in so short a period of time.

Mr Rudi Jeidel convened an evening of foreign exhibits at the second May meeting. Some unusual stamps and seldom encountered countries graced the boards.

June — "Official" Stamps of the Union of South Africa, Mr H E Japha's silver-gilt award exhibit at DISA, was viewed by the society on 11 June. The exhibitor delivered an authoritative address outlining the finer points of his magnificently researched collection. The second exhibit of a memorable evening was Mr Len van de Kar's George V Occupationals of South West Africa, 1914-1923.

Members were pleased to see Dr Harry Gottschalk recovered from his recent indisposition on 25 June, when he exhibited his superb collection of Palestine during the British occupation and mandate (1918-1948). The society was indeed privileged to view one of the finest specialized collections of Palestine in existence. — **G R Morris**

SWA STAMP STUDY GROUP

The 44th meeting of the society held on 23 June under the direction of our president, Ernest Hutchinson, was attended by 16 members.

Lou Abrams showed one of the original Rössing Wanderstempel cancellations. This was one of the

rarest examples, the rarest being Okahandja 1895.

Lou Abrams presented the display of part of his SWA airmail collection which won him the special award at DISA 79, and his accompanying commentary was most informative. Various first flight covers, many autographed by the pilots, were shown for internal flight schedules which commenced on 1 August 1931 — and also first flights from SWA to many parts of the world. Among all this exciting aerophilatelic material were:

- A cover from Karibib to London 22.6.1915 despatched by the SA Air Force shortly after capture of Karibib by General Botha, June 1915.
- RAF record non-stop flight from Cranwell to Walvis Bay on 6.2.1933 in the Fairey-Napier long range monoplane.
- Three sheets of mint of the 1930 issue, comprising the SA Airmails of 1929 with South Africa and Suid Afrika overprinted SWA.

Finally, a short film on SWA was shown and for those of us who have not visited this country, it brought the names and places so often discussed at meetings to life. The photography and commentary were very good.

Ernest Hutchinson thanked all those who were present for a most interesting meeting. — **Sidney Shapiro**

BELLVILLE PHILATELIC SOCIETY

July — At its July meeting the society had the privilege of being shown part of the Len van de Kar collection of Union King's Heads — trials, proofs, essays, stamps, booklets, aberrations. This magnificent collection, the finest in the world on this subject,

enthralled members as did Mr van de Kar's lively anecdotes about its acquisition over more than quarter of a century. — **Andries de Villiers**

PINELANDS STAMP CIRCLE

May — This was the sixth AGM of our Circle and was attended by 31 members and a visitor. The following were elected to the committee:

- President — Mr D Hawke
- Vice-president — Mr J T L Stinson
- Hon Secretary — Mrs M D Crawford
- Hon Treasurer — Mrs I F Sole
- Hon Exchange Superintendent — Mr M T Crawford
- Hon Junior Superintendent — Miss "Jeff" Jeffrey
- Hon Librarian — Mr J E Franklin
- Additional members — Mr G W Buckle, Mr L Cowell.

June — This was a special AGM held to discuss some amendments to our constitution.

Derek Lang exhibited his Silver Jubilee omnibus to the 28 members and 3 visitors. — **Marilyn Crawford**

POSTMARK AND POSTAL HISTORY SOCIETY

Johannesburg, 30 June — Twenty five members and four visitors, three of whom later joined the society, attended the 10th anniversary meeting.

In welcoming all present chairman Cedric Roché recalled the first meeting of the society at Dr Tom Berry's home 10 years ago, when he, Ken Lydall and Tom Meyer were among those present. All three of them were pleased to be at this meeting.

Franco Frescura had brought the first copies of the special 10th anniversary issue of our newsletter, "The Post Office Stone". All concerned with its production were congratulated on behalf of the

members by Bill Horne, from whom extra copies may be obtained at R3 (PO Box 4584, Johannesburg 2000).

John Driver described the various relief cancellers — the original skeleton type, the solid double circle type from about 1949 and the current "four cuts" type from about 1977 — and displayed examples.

Bill Horne augmented the exhibit with a selection of commercially used covers showing various uses of relief cancellations: on a telegram, registered letters and as exit, transit and arrival marks.

Jonas Michelson showed a cross-section of early Union postmarks as described by Reisener. In his talk he pointed out that during Union an average of 2½ special postmarks were used every year, while during the Republic it had increased to 10.

At the next meeting, on 29 September, John Driver will show a selection of slogan postmarks. — **Bill Horne**

BLANTYRE PHILATELIC SOCIETY

June — Our exhibition "Blantex", held at the French Cultural Centre, was a tremendous success, and the opening night was well attended by the invited guests.

July — Mike Wilkinson entertained us to his collection of Missionary Stamps of Uganda, which he explained in detail. He was thanked by Rev Peter Garland.

MASHONALAND PHILATELIC SOCIETY

June — There was a very good attendance for a cold meeting, and 60 members and 25 visitors saw an exhibit by Mrs J Saich entitled *The Story of Paintings*, which was an entry for the Goldblatt Cup (thematic).

July — Mr A J Raeside showed Malawi to the 57 members and 22 visitors attending, while our visitor from East London, Mrs Jeanne Hutchinson, exhibited South African postal slogans on piece.

Wants, Offers and exchange

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MAFEKING genuine overprints and Baden Powell varieties wanted. Particularly copies of SG15 and Baden Powell cracked plate. Write Murray, Box 623 Port Elizabeth 6000.

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WANTED EXCHANGE with South African Collectors for Stamps of Western Europe, Latin America, RSA and neighbouring states. Alex Wolfensberger, CP 5528, Sao Paulo, Brazil.

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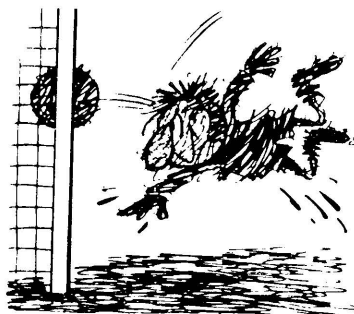
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| 1975 | Occupational Safety 4v. | R 2,00 |
| 1976 | Telephone Centenary 2v. | R 0,75 |
| 1976 | Wild Life (Animals) 4v. | R 1,75 |
| 1976 | Trees 4v. | R 1,40 |
| 1977 | Birds 6v. | R 1,50 |
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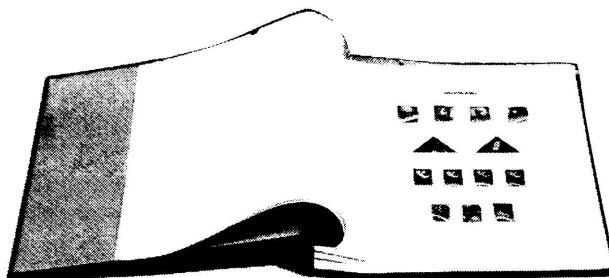
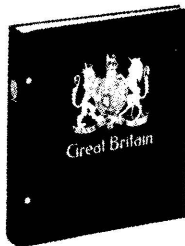
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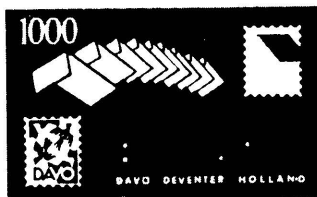
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