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Philatelist

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JUNE PROGRAMME

IN BOURNEMOUTH

3/4
26

British Empire, Great Britain, Europe, general collections and covers.

POSTAL HISTORY AUCTION including a further example of the rare Jamaica (or West Indies) Bishopmark, a fine range of Great Britain with the **Roland Greenhill** collection of Buckinghamshire and the **R.G. Plint** collection of N.W. England, maritime with the scarce "MALTA/F", selections from original correspondence, 1924 cover from Pitcairn Island, etc.

IN LONDON

10

BRITISH AFRICA with an attractive selection of QV and KE VII Imperium essays and colour trials, fine sections of Ascension, Cape of Good Hope with Mafeking, Gold Coast, Lagos, Madagascar with covers, New Republic, Rhodesia, Seychelles, and Zanzibar. The sale is well represented throughout with essays, proofs and colour trials.

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BRITISH EMPIRE — fine sections of Canada with a good range of issued stamps and the **Roland Greenhill covers and cancellations**, **Ceylon with fine postal history, issued stamps including 1859 1/9d on cover and later issues with essays and proofs**, **Gibraltar, Hong Kong, Malaya States and Straits Settlements essays and proofs**, **Newfoundland, Sarawak with fine airmails and the second portion of the Lewis C Viney** Tasmania covers and cancellations.

23

EUROPE & OVERSEAS with Belgium, Greece (Large Hermes Heads), Italian States, Portugal with Colonies and Switzerland. Scandinavia features a further portion of the **Svend Yort** collection. Asia includes fine China, the **A J Petrie** Thailand, USA and Hawaii with the Interisland Numerals.

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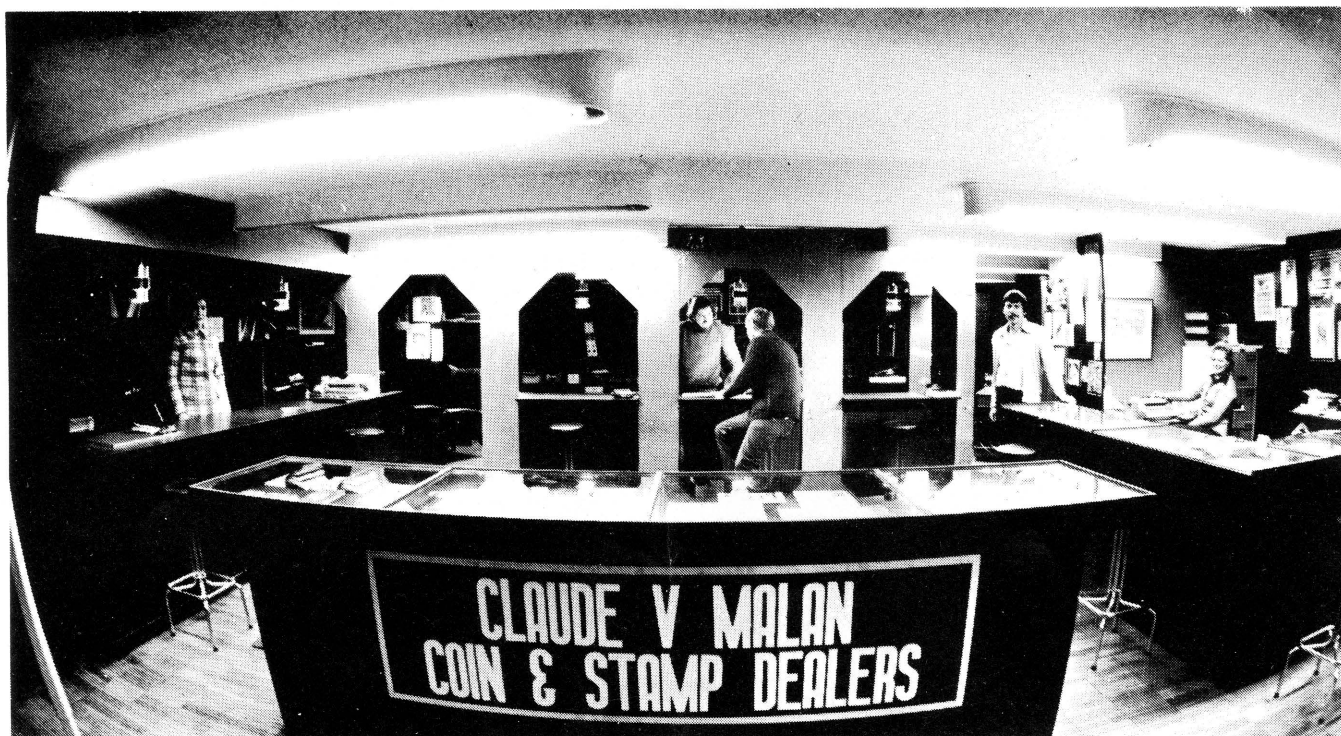
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New deal for imported exhibits

A SATISFACTORY new procedure for stamp collections from abroad to be shown at South African national exhibitions is in the offing. A similar procedure will in future apply to South African collections sent to international philatelic exhibitions.

This follows steps initiated by Federation President André Bezuidenhout MPC after it became known that Customs regulations had placed the Vrijstaat 81 national stamp exhibition in jeopardy by making the display of top collections from abroad virtually impossible.

(See "Red-tape snag hits OFS show" in *The SA Philatelist* of April, p 105).

To resolve the matter, Mr Bezuidenhout and an unofficial Federation delegation consisting of Past President Harry Birkhead and Honorary Editor Joh Groenewald flew to Cape Town to meet the Minister of Posts and Telecommunications, Mr Hennie Smit, and the Postmaster General, Mr Henry Bester.

"We were cordially received and had a pleasant meeting," Mr Buizenhout said later. "It was most gratifying to find such positive goodwill towards stamp collecting."

He said it appeared that the Post Office had made representations about the problems posed by Customs regulations, but to little avail. Mr Smit urged that some solution had to be found, by all concerned and Mr Bester undertook to urgently call an ad hoc committee together in a renewed attempt to resolve the matter.

For this Mr Bezuidenhout named as the Federation's representatives Mr Birkhead and Mr Danny Swart, the Federation's vice-president for territories outside the RSA. They shortly thereafter attended a meeting called by the Post Customs and Excise, the SA Reserve Bank, the directorate of

This meeting was also attended by representatives from Customs and Excise, the Sa Reserve Bank, the directorate of Inland Revenue, the Department of National Education and the Department of Foreign Affairs and Information.

At this all-party conference the proverbial gordian knot was cut by Mr Herman Steyn, director of Philatelic Services, who chaired the discussions. Full co-operation was established from all sides, and it was decided to work out a new procedure for the cross-border movement of collections for exhibiton purposes.

According to Mr Bezuidenhout Mr Steyn did a magnificent job and it is almost confirmed that top collections from abroad will now be seen at Vrijstaat 81 in Bloemfontein (14-18 July).

The new procedure currently being finalised has as its point of departure that stamp collecting is a cultural pursuit (Department of National Education) which fosters international contact (Department of Foreign Affairs and Information).

For international philatelic exhibitions where the director of Philatelic Services acts as the South African commissioner, the Post Office will serve as consultant to the other two departments. Collectors participating in such exhibition abroad will submit their collections (plus photostat copies thereof) to Philatelic Services, for receipt, checking and control.

Philatelic Services will then hand the collection to National Education, which will export it via Foreign Affairs channels to the South African embassy in the country concerned. The international exhibition committee will be able to receive the collection at that point, and must return it to the embassy

To foot of next page ►

Mr Steyn and us

IN the ten years since his appointment as South Africa's "boss of stamps" the Philatelic Federation of Southern Africa, its philatelic congresses, philatelic societies, hundreds of collectors and three Honorary Editors of this journal have often been at loggerheads with Mr Herman Steyn.

Mr Steyn, director of Philatelic Services and Intersapa, is a senior official of a state entity having a separate budget and intent on making money. A previous Postmaster General in fact publicly said he was so pleased about the money made from stamp collectors that he was "laughing all the way to the bank".

And in pursuing his money-making objective, Mr Steyn makes decisions, decision which often to us collectors seem to go against the grain of true philately. For true philately is the pursuit of integrity, of seeking the truth. When we detect a departure from the moral norm which we treasure as the spirit of philately, we object.

Mr Steyn prides himself on being a stamp collector for a long time, so he should know the needs and the mind of the collector. Often we have not been altogether sure to which ends this knowledge is applied. For, whilst talking as the champion of us stamp collectors against the injustice of "exploitation", Mr Steyn is not lax in devising new enticements for sale to collectors who simply want to keep up.

Of course we shall object to and question manifestations of official philately which arouse suspicion in conservative stamp collecting. Of this Mr Steyn may be assured: the market which pays his keep will accept what it approves, it will tolerate what is reasonable, and it will reject what goes against the grain.

There is another side to the coin. As the state's philatelic head he is in an unrivalled position to promote stamp collecting and his achievements in the interests of stamp collecting and philately are known to readers of *The South African Philatelist*. He pioneered RSA presence at overseas exhibitions, he improved the quality of stamp design, he put organised philately's idea for a foundation into practice, he publicises and promotes . . .

We as the stamp collectors of this country owe much to Mr Steyn, and for this we honour and respect him. But where he gives us reason for reservation, we in the interests of South African philately shall not hesitate in demonstrating it.

— The Editor/Die Redakteur

► From previous page

afterwards for transmission home.

For exhibits from abroad coming to South Africa, the local exhibition organising committee will apply to the Department of National Education, and that department will, as part of its work for cultural development, obtain the exhibit via the Department of Foreign Affairs and Information.

The foreign exhibitor will hand his collection in at the relevant South African embassy, which will send it to Pretoria, where the Department of National Education will hand the collection over to the exhibition organising committee.

The local exhibition committee will have to return the collection to the Department of National Education after the exhibition, and the exhibition committee will also have to guarantee to Customs and Excise that the "imported" collection is re-exported intact.

Quota system for commemoratives

A SALES quota of 10 new commemorative covers per customer has been instituted by the Post Office at all philatelic counters in the country, while dealers will have to order their supplies from Pretoria.

In a statement Philatelic Services and Intersapa say this is in view of the criticism from philatelists who allege that they are unable to obtain their requirements from local philatelic counters because some stamp dealers are making a practice of purchasing the complete stock on hand of particular items, to the detriment of the small collectors.

In future stamp dealers must obtain their requirements from Philatelic Services and Intersapa in Pretoria, and not at any post office where a philatelic counter is in operation.

The same will apply to philatelic societies which in the past have purchased their commemorative covers in bulk from post offices. They are now required to hand their orders, with payment, to their local postmaster in time to reach Pretoria at least two weeks before the date of issue of the cover concerned.

"Such orders will be executed without delay and returned to the postmaster for delivery to the society on the day of issue," the statement says.

All philatelic counters have been instructed to limit the sale of commemorative covers to 10 per customer. People who in the past bought more than ten covers and who wish to continue doing so, will also have to send their orders to Pretoria.

Essen datestamps



FIVE datestamp cards have been released by Philatelic Services and Intersapa in connection with South African participation at the Essen stamp fair in Germany from 15-19 November 1980.

The datestamp cards, which had not been announced beforehand, bear printed impressions of a special temporary postmark numbered as follows: RSA 36, SWA 8, Transkei 56, Bophuthatswana 22, Venda 53.

Each of the cards also bears a second impression of the printed "postmark". All these marks look rather alike.

Three new counters

Three new philatelic counters have been opened recently. They are at the post offices of —

Bellville — Mondays to Fridays, 14h00-16h00.

Boksburg — Mondays and Wednesdays, 14h00-16h30.

Empangeni — a fulltime counter.

SA National Gallery commemorated

by Natie Becker

THE South African National Gallery, a valuable national heritage, is one of the oldest and most important art museums in the country. It is situated in the old Gardens in the city centre of Cape Town.

The museum was established in 1871 at the initiative of the SA Fine Arts Association and became a government-aided institution in 1895. It moved to its present building in 1930. Today it houses a most comprehensive collection of South African works of art as well as a considerable collection of works of art from major European schools since the 15th century. It also offers an intensive programme of related educational and cultural activities.

To the establishment of the gallery in its present premises, four special postage stamps were issued on 3 November 1980. The denominations are 5c, 10c, 15c and 20c. At the same time a miniature sheet incorporating the four stamps as well as two commemorative envelopes were issued. The stamps were on sale for a period of two months.

TECHNICAL DATA RELATING TO ALL DENOMINATIONS

	5c	10c	15c	20c
Date of advice	20.10.80	20.10.80	20.10.80	20.10.80
Job number	2093225	2093225	2093225	2093225
Requisition number	1003/ 1.2.5.1	1003/ 1.2.5.1	1003/ 1.2.5.1	1003/ 1.2.5.1
Quantity of sheets ordered and expected	1 000 000	100 000	60 000	80 000
Expected date of printing	22.9.80	22.9.80	18.9.80	19.9.80
Master negatives	New	New	New	New
Multi negatives (lithography)	New	New	New	New
Litho plates —				
new tricolour blue	1322	1326	1330	1334
tricolour yellow	1323	1327	1331	1335
tricolour red	1324	1328	1332	1336
black	1325	1329	1333	1337
Printing press	759	758	758	758
Lay-out plate	2 rows of 2 unidentified sheets throughout			
Lay-out of sheet	5 rows of 5 stamps each throughout, with the 5c, 10c and 20c stamps being horizontal and the 15c being vertical			
Postage stamp size	The 5c, 10c and 20c stamps measure 47,8166 mm across by 30,255 mm down and the 15c has the same measurements in vertical shape.			

Perforations – The 5c was perforated on both the Bickel and Walter Kroll appliances and the 10c, 15c and 20c were all perforated on the Bickel perforator. The 5c, 10c and 20c have a perforation gauge of 14 across by 13,75 down whilst the 15c is the reverse. All sheets examined were perforated through all margins.

Paper – Harrison phosphorescent coated paper with matt surface and PVA gum. The sheets on which the 15c was printed measured 406 mm across by 630 mm down. In the other three denominations the sheets measured 630 mm across by 406 mm down and were cut to panes of 275 mm across by 181 mm down. The 15c panes are the same size but in vertical shape.

Printing process – Lithography process with 4 printing plates for each denomination. The plate numbers are shown down the left margin of the sheets in the 5c, 10c and 20c values in white figures on horizontal colour plates, which measure approximately 12 mm across by 5 mm down — blue is opposite row 2, yellow opposite row 3, red opposite row 4 and black opposite row 5. The post office emblem above the date 1980-11-03, all in black is opposite row 1.

The 15c panes have similar marginal notations in the bottom margin with the post office emblem and date below stamp 1, blue below stamp 2, yellow below stamp 3, red below stamp 4 and black below stamp 5.

The stamps were printed by the Government Printer in Pretoria.

Design – All the denominations have RSA and the value in the top right corner of the stamps. This information is printed in black on the 5c and 20c stamps and in white on the 10c and 15c denominations. The name of the artist, together with dates of birth and death appear above a frame enclosing SUID-AFRIKAANSE NASIONALE KUNSMUSEUM - KAAPSTAD. At each end of the frame is a decorative scroll. The artist's initials, G.M. (G Mynhardt) are in the left corner of the frame and "80" in the right corner. All this printing is in black and appears in the bottom gutter margin in the 5c, 10c and 20c stamps, but runs along the left horizontal gutter margin of the 15c stamp.

The following works of art are depicted:

5c stamp

Willem van de Velde, 1633-1707 "Marine with Shipping"

Willem van de Velde is recognized as one of the masters of marine painting of the 17th century Dutch School. In his works he captures the atmospheric qualities of the coast of Holland and minutely records details of the sailing vessels at sea in all weather conditions. This painting is a very fine example of his work.

10c stamp

George Stubbs, 1724-1806 "Firetail and his Trainer"

At a very early age Stubbs made anatomical studies of humans and animals. By 1760 he had become known as an

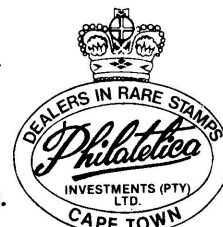
*A magnificent opportunity to acquire
a selection of superb philatelic material . . .*



Philatelica, Cape Town's friendly stamp dealer, will be holding an exclusive philatelic auction, comprising 1 200 lots, currently valued at over R500 000.

***This auction will be held at the Landdrost Hotel, Johannesburg
on Monday, 29th June, 1981 over 2 sessions.***

*Morning session: 11 am – 2 pm. Afternoon session: 6 pm – 9 pm.
Preview dates: Friday 26th; Saturday 27th; Sunday 28th June between 11 am – 6 pm.*



For your illustrated auction catalogue (No. 12), write to Philatelica P.O. Box 110 Rondebosch 7700.

animal painter and today he is regarded as the greatest painter of horses — a subject that commanded great popularity among the British public of the day. In this picture of “Firetail and his Trainer by the Rubbing Down House on Newmarket Heath” everything in the composition is simplified to focus all attention on the magnificent horse.

Varieties – The varieties seen on the sheets that were examined are listed below. As the lithography printing process was used the varieties could be removed when the printing plates and rubber blankets are periodically wiped during printing.

5 cent

Row 2/3 Small red spot immediately below 5c. Larger pale red spot 11,5 mm below top frame line and 19,5 mm left of right frame line.

Row 3/3 Tiny cluster of red spots 1 mm below right edge of “C” in 5c.

Row 4/3 Green spot 2 mm above bottom frame line above “L” in VELDE.

10 cent

Multi negative flaw — break at top of “O” NASIONALE.

10 cent

Row 1/5 Red spot below “A” in RSA.

Multi negative flaw — white spot in right leg of “n” in African in bottom gutter margin.

15 cent

Row 3/1 Minute break in centre horizontal line “b” of Gainsborough.

20 cent

No varieties worthy of recording.

15c stamp

Thomas Gainsborough, 1727-1788 “Lavinia”

Gainsborough was one of the most accomplished British portrait and landscape painters. Although the alternative title to this painting is “The Milk Maid”, the child depicted is undoubtedly Jack Hill, who frequently posed for Gainsborough’s “fancy pictures”. The work was exhibited at Thomas Macklin’s Poets Gallery under the title “Lavinia” as an illustration of an incident described in James Thomson’s poem, “Seasons”.

20c stamp

Pieter Post, 1608-1669 “Classical Landscape”

During the 17th and 18th century the ancient city of Rome with its ruins of classical architecture was thronged with artists from all over the world and an international school of landscape painting was established. Post is regarded as one of the most important exponents of 17th century Dutch classicism. This painting is a typical example of his use of ancient ruins and viaducts to evoke an atmosphere of antiquity in his landscapes.

DATESTAMP

G Mynhardt designed the datestamp. Kaapstad above Cape Town with the date 1980.11.03 below appear in the centre of an artist’s palette. To the left is a paint brush.

COMMEMORATIVE ENVELOPES

Two special commemorative envelopes were prepared and issued on the date of issue of the stamps.

A colour illustration of the museum by Heinrich Botha appears in the left bottom corner of the envelope with the stamps. At the top left of the illustration is the post office emblem with 3.25 in black, depicting the 25th commemorative in the series. At the top right is “VYFTIG JAAR” above “FIFTY YEARS”. At the bottom left in three lines is “SUID-AFRIKAANSE NASIONALE KUNSMUSEUM KAAPSTAD” and at the bottom right is “SOUTH AFRICAN NATIONAL GALLERY CAPE TOWN” also in three lines. At the top left of the envelope is a printed impression of the datestamp.

The commemorative cover with the miniature sheet depicts a painting by Alfred Sisley. His name, together with the years 1893-1899, appear immediately below the reproduction. Below this with a simple frame surround is printed in two lines “South African National Gallery Cape Town” above “Suid-Afrikaanse Nasionale Kunsmuseum Kaapstad”. (The date 1893 should have read 1839).

Below this is a coloured illustration of the museum with “Fifty Years” at the bottom left and “Vyftig Jaar” at the bottom right. The post office emblem, together with 56 appears on the right of the illustration. The designer of this envelope was G Mynhardt.

Although Sisley’s work was included in the first Impressionist exhibition held in Paris in 1874, he desired no break with the romantic landscape tradition and constantly turned to the painters of the Barbizon School for inspiration. Snow scenes are an important category of Sisley’s work and through the necessarily restricted palette that had to be used he displays a command of tonal qualities and an accuracy of observation.

The envelopes measure 229 mm across by 162 mm down. 145000 of the commemorative envelopes were printed and 110000 of those with the miniature sheet were printed.

MINIATURE SHEET

A miniature sheet with four stamps was issued at the same time. The 5c and 10c stamps are placed above the 15c and 20c. A decorative border in gold surrounds the four stamps. At the top centre of the border in a horizontal frame is the wording “South African National Gallery” above “Suid-Afrikaanse Nasionale Kunsmuseum”. In a similar frame in the bottom margin is “Cape Town” above “Kaapstad”. The years 1930 on the left and 1980 on the right are centrally situated in the left and right margins respectively. A tiny 8, indicating miniature sheet number 8, appears centrally situated at the top of the design in the bottom right margin.

20 October 1980 is the date of advice of the printing particulars. The job number is 2093730 and the requisition number is 1003/1.2.5.1. The expected date of printing was 17.9.80 and the quantity ordered was 230000 sheets. New master negatives and multi negatives (lithography) were prepared. There were five plates — tricolour blue, tricolour yellow, tricolour red, black and gold. The layout of the plate was 3 rows of 2 sheets each. The printing was done on two presses, namely 759 and 780 and the perforations were done on the Walter Kroll with a gauge of 14 across by 13,75 down. The paper is the same as was used for the sheets of each denomination.

Groter versekering

DAAR is goeie nuus vir die rondsenddienste van filatelisteverenigings — van 1 April 1981 is die maksimum versekerde bedrag vir pospakkette van R400 tot R1000 verhoog.

Die ou plafon van R400 het sedert 1960 gegeld.

Die versekeringsbedrag vir ’n pakkie met ’n waarde van R50 is 20c en vir ’n pakkie met ’n waarde van R1000 is dit R2.

New printings of Protea series

by **Natie Becker**

ACCORDING to philatelic particulars released there have been new printings of the following denominations in the Protea definitive series — 7c *Protea lorea*. 30c *Protea amplexicaulis* and 50c *Leucospermum cordifolium*.

The designs are identical to the earlier printings and were also done by the Government Printer in Pretoria.

The printing particulars referring to the latest printings only are listed below —

	7c	30c	50c
Date of advice	20.1.81	5.12.80	21.10.80
Job number	2750331	2872339	2750230
Requisition number	1057/1.2.5.11070/1.2.5.11058/1.2.5.1		
Quantity ordered and expected to be delivered	80 000	115 000	73 000
Date of printing	19.9.80	19.10.80	9.10.80
Master negatives		Standing	
Multi negatives (lithography)		Standing	
Plate numbers — new			
Tricolour blue	1310	1346	1316
Tricolour yellow	1311	1347	1317
Tricolour red	1312	1348	1318
Black	1313	1349	1319
Background	1314	1350	1321
RSA	green	pale buff	brown
	1315	1351	1320
	green	dark buff	brown
Layout of printing plate	1 row of 2 unidentified panes in each denomination		
Layout of stamps	10 rows of 10 vertical stamps per pane		
Stamp measurements	23,9083 mm across by 30,255 mm down		
Lithography printing press number	758	758	758
Paper	Harrison, phosphorescent coated with matt surface and PVA gum. The original sheets measured 630 mm across by 406 mm down and were cut down to panes measuring 275 mm across by 340 mm down.		
Perforator	Grover	Grover	Bickel
Perforation gauge per Instanta	14 across by 13,75 down	14 across by 13,75 down	14 across by 13,75 down

Perforations — In the three denominations all the sheets that were examined were perforated through all the margins.

Arrows — There are arrows centrally placed in each of the margins. The arrows are green on the 7c, buff on the 30c and deep brown on the 50c.

Printing technique — The lithography printing process was used throughout. The post office emblem above the issue date of the original printing which in turn is above the current date of printing, appears in the left margin opposite row "8", all printed in black, in all three denominations. The plate numbers are in white against their respective colours, which are shown in the left margin in horizontal rectangles measuring 12 mm across and 5 mm down. Blue, yellow and red are opposite row 9 and black and the colours used for the background and RSA are opposite row 10. In the case of the

50c the colour plate for the printing of RSA is in the centre opposite row 10.

Varieties — As the lithography printing process was used it is possible that the varieties listed could have disappeared when the printing plates or rubber inking blankets were wiped during the printing process.

7 cent

- Row 1/2 Tiny green dot just below top frame line on right stalk 8 mm left of right frame line.
Black spot below second "7" in 1977.
 - Row 1/3 Tiny green dot below "c" of 7c.
Tiny red dot 8 mm below top frame line and 7,5 mm left of right frame line.
 - Row 2/3 Minute black dot 9 mm below top frame line and 4 mm left of right frame line.
 - Row 3/1 Short faint sloping line below "c" in 7c.
 - Row 3/4 Horizontal row of tiny green spots below 7c.
 - Row 3/5 Horizontal row of tiny green spots below "R" of RSA.
 - Row 4/4 Tiny dark dot on rock above "O" of LOREA.
 - Row 4/7 Green spot left of 7c.
 - Row 5/6 Green spot 5 mm below top frame line and 5 mm left of right frame line.
 - Row 7/3 Large white patch 3 mm left of right frame line and 6 mm above bottom frame line.
 - Row 10/4 Tiny black dot below "c" of 7c.
 - Row 10/5 Minute black dot below "Y" in FINDLAY.
- Numerous other minute dots not worthy of recording.

30 cents

- Row 3/7 Brown dot in left gutter margin 5 mm above bottom frame line.
 - Row 7/2 Black spot inside top loop of "3" in 30c.
 - Row 7/7 Minute red dot just inside left frame 13 mm above bottom frame line.
- Red colour rectangle 1348 — bottom right hand corner has small portion missing.

50 cents

- Row 1/1 Feint vertical black line 5 mm left of right frame line and starting 4 mm above bottom frame line.
- Row 4/8 Tiny white dot to right of "A" in RSA.
- Row 8/8 Two tiny brown spots on left frame line 8 mm above bottom frame line.
- Row 9/3 White spot inside left frame line 10,5 mm below top frame line.
Sloping black dotted line inside right frame line 10 mm below top frame line.
- Row 10/1 Minute black spot inside right frame line 11 mm above bottom frame line.

Zimbabwe offices — The postal agency at Antelope Mine in the Kezi district, temporarily closed on 3 November 1978, reopened on 2 February 1981. On 3 February 1981 a new postal agency was opened at Sansaguru, while the Tafara agency, temporarily closed on 6 October 1980, is now regarded as closed permanently. — **Darrel Dale**

Zululand specimens — A Zululand 1883-93 set to 5/-, hand-stamped Specimen, was sold for £675 by Warwick & Warwick at auction in Bristol during January. A Bechuanaland 1887 £1 postmarked Mafeking 11 November 1902 realised £550.

First reprint of roll stamps

by Natie Becker

ADVICES received from Philatelic Services record that there have been reprints of the 1c, 2c and 5c roll stamps.

	1c	2c	5c
Date of advice	25.11.80	25.11.80	25.11.80
Job number	3054442	3054543	3054644
Requisition number	1106/ER	1107/ER	1108/ER
Quantity ordered and expected to be delivered — rolls of 500 stamps each	300	500	650
Expected date of printing	6.11.80	20.11.80	18.11.80
Reprint number	First	First	First
Master negative		Standing	
Multi positive (Gravure)		Standing	
Printing process	Gravure in all instances		
Cylinder number	G32 mixed brown G60 mixed blue G2 mixed olive		
Layout of cylinder	110 stamps per sheet in each value		
Layout of sheet	5 rows of vertical stamps each		
Size of stamp	23,9083 mm across by 30,225 mm down		
Printing press	840 in all instances		
Perforator	Built-in comb perforator		
Perforation gauge	Imperforate across by 13,75 down		
Paper	Harrison phosphorescent coated paper with matt surface and PVA gum. The paper roll used was 235 mm wide		
Printer	Government Printer, Pretoria		
Designer	Paul Bosman		
Numbers on back of every fifth stamp	Black	Red	Green

Each of the 1c and 5c rolls are enclosed in a wrapper on which is recorded S.W.A. at the top, followed by "500 1c SEËLS" with "AFLEWERING BOKANT VOOR" below and "WAARDE R500" at the bottom. The 2c rolls were enclosed in a wrapper which recorded information reading from top to bottom — "S.W.A." followed by "500 SEËLS TEEN 2c ELK" followed by "WAARDE R10" with "STAATSDRUKKER" at the bottom. The 1c had a yellow wrapper, the 2c a white wrapper and the 5c a green wrapper with all printing on the wrappers in black.

On the English wrappers the translations are:

1c and 5c: "S.W.A." above "500 1c (50) STAMPS" in turn above "DELIVER TOP IN FRONT" with "VALUE R5 (25)" below.

2c: "SWA" above "500 STAMPS AT 2c EACH" in turn above "VALUE R10" with "GOVERNMENT PRINTER" below.

Design — Identical in every respect to the original printing.
Varieties — None have been listed.

NEW 10 CENT AEROGRAMME

AN advice dated 3 February 1981 has been received from Philatelic Services in Pretoria, giving information referring to a reprint of the 10c aerogramme. The job number is 3376228 and the requisition number is 1133/ER. The expected date of printing is given as 12 January 1981 and the quantity ordered and expected to be delivered as 12 500 single sheets.

The standing master negatives and multi positives (gravure) were used. The cylinder numbers B11 (black), B13 (blue), B23 (orange) and B22 (gum) were used. The layout of the cylinder had two rows of three aerogrammes each. The printing was completed on the 840 machine. Sappi blue bond paper was used. It has a matt surface and is not phosphorescent coated. The gum is TAC. The width of the roll of paper that was used is 610 mm.

SA TO GET TOP SG EXHIBITION

AN exhibition which promises to surpass even the excellence of its 1978 effort is to be presented by Stanley Gibbons in South Africa in September as part of the 125th birthday celebrations of the company whose connections with South Africa stretches just as far back.

Speaking to *The SA Philatelist* in Johannesburg, David Morrison, local manager of SG, said that the exhibition would be held in Johannesburg and Cape Town and was designed to bring together philatelists from all parts of the globe and given collectors an opportunity of viewing world-renowned stamp collections which would not normally be seen in public.

Mr Morrison said that it would be a private exhibition and all those who will be taking part will do so by invitation only. The exhibition will feature some 50 exhibitors. It will consist of about 130 frames covering 2 500 pages and the emphasis will be on Southern Africa.

He said that many internationally known and famous collectors had already agreed to exhibit their stamps at this event.

The exhibition in South Africa will coincide with one to be held in London.

The last SG exhibition was held in South Africa in 1978 and attracted thousands of visitors. It is expected that this exhibition will surpass that of 1978.

The exhibition will be held in Johannesburg from 2-5 September and in Cape Town from 10-12 September.

Die wenners — Vanjaar se wenners van die twee hoof-trofee waarom lede van die Afrikaanstalige filatelisteverenigings meeding, is:

- Rembrandt-trofee (tematies) - Marnus Steyn (AFV), 'n Drukker se storie, en
- Veka-trofee (filatelies) - A van der Mey (AFP), Noord-Borneo.

Filatelisteverenigings kan in Afrikaans bygeskrewe versamelings wat klubwedstryde wen, vir hierdie jaarlikse kompetisie inskryf. Besonderhede is te kry van die Eresekretaris van die AFV, Posbus 32470, Braamfontein 2017.

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SOUTH AFRICA

	FDC R	U/M R	F/U R
1980 Diamonds	1,00	,70	,70
Wenning	1,00	,60	,60
M/S	2,00	1,00	1,00
1979 FAK	,50	,10	
Stellenbosch	1,00	,40	,40
Roses	2,00	1,30	
M/S		2,00	2,00
150th University	,60	,10	
Christmas	,60	,10	
Health	,60	,10	,10
Zulu War	2,50	1,00	
M/S		1,50	
Fuel	1,50	,35	,35
Stamp 50th	1,50	,40	,30
Tellurometer	1,50	,40	,30
1978 Tourism	3,00	2,50	
Vorster	1,50	,60	
Volschenk	3,00	2,50	2,00
M/S		3,00	3,00
Harbours	3,50	1,20	1,20
ISCOR	1,50	,60	,40
Murray	,50	,15	,10
Walvis Bay	2,50	,80	,60
1977 Flag	,75	,20	,10
Uranium	1,50	,60	,40
Metrication	1,50	,60	,40
Physical Ed	1,50	,60	,40
Court 100th	,60	,15	,10
Totius	,60	,15	,10
Wine	1,00	,75	
1976 Sports M/S		3,50	
Golf	1,50	,75	
Family Planning	,75	,20	
Ocean Mail	1,00	,60	
Polo	1,50	,75	
Hobhouse	,75	,20	
Conservation	3,50	3,00	
Mayer	2,50	3,00	
M/S		4,00	
Bowls Ovpt	2,50	,75	
Cricket	2,00	,75	
Bowls 2,00		,75	
1975 Satellite	2,50	,75	,50
Tourism	12,00	10,00	
Language Monument	1,50	,50	
Mail	4,00	,20	,10
1974 Africaners 100th	1,50(H/S)	,20	,10
Baines	2,00(M/S)		
M/S	5,50	1,80	
Smit	1,50	,20	
Diederich	6,00	1,60	
SASOL	5,50	1,50	

SOUTH WEST AFRICA

	FDC R	U/M R	F/U R
1980 Nature		1,50	1,50
Whales	3,00	2,50	2,50
M/S		4,00	
1979 Gems	2,00	1,75	1,75
Waterbirds	2,50	2,00	2,00
1978 Churches	2,75	2,00	2,00
M/S		3,00	
Bushmen	3,00	2,00	2,00
Animals	3,00	2,00	2,00
1977 Houses	3,00	2,50	2,50
M/S		3,00	4,00
Airport	1,50	,90	,90
OWAMBO	3,00	2,50	2,50
Desert	5,00	3,00	3,00
1976 Water & Electricity	2,00	1,50	1,50
Buildings	2,00	1,50	1,50
Conservation	3,00	2,40	
Castles	3,50	3,00	3,00
Rock Paintings	5,50	5,00	5,00
M/S		5,00	

	FDC R	U/M R	F/U R
1975 Schroder	8,00	7,00	
M/S		5,00	
Monuments	5,00	3,00	
Birds		10,00	
Dorslandtrek 100th		1,00	
1974 Diamonds		6,00	
Paintings		10,50	
Birds		18,00	
1973 Paintings		21,00	

TRANSKEI

	FDC R	U/M R	COLLEC- TORSTROLS SHEET	CON- TROLS
Collectors Sheet				
1980 Birds	1,50	1,00	1,50	6,00
Cycads	1,50	1,00	1,50	6,00
Rotary	,75	,30	,75	1,80
Fishing Flies	9,50	2,50	9,50	
1979 Child Health	1,50	1,20	1,50	7,20
Waterfalls	2,50	2,00	2,50	12,00
Water Resources	2,50	2,00	2,50	12,00
2nd President	2,00	1,00	2,00	6,00
Abakwetha	4,00	3,00	4,00	20,00
1978 Care of Cripples	2,50	1,80	2,50	12,00
Fruits	4,00	3,00	4,00	20,00
Weaving	6,00	4,00	6,00	25,00
Pipes	8,00	5,00	8,00	40,00
1977 Blind	8,00	3,50	8,00	25,00
Radio Transkei	7,00	2,40	7,00	20,00
Plants	20,00	12,00	15,00	
Airways	9,00	4,00	9,00	
1976 Definitives	8,00	8,00	60,00	65,00
Independence	10,00	7,50	10,00	60,00

VENDA

	FDC R	U/M R	Collectors Sheet	CON- TROLS R
1980 Tea	1,50	1,00	1,50	6,00
Wood Carvings	3,00	1,25	3,00	10,00
Definitives		6,75	15,00	50,00
Independence	3,00	2,00	3,00	25,00

BOPHUTHATSWANA

	FDC R	U/M R	Collectors Sheet	CON- TROLS R
1980 Birds	1,25		1,25	6,50
Wild Fruit	1,25	1,00	1,25	6,50
Antismoking	,50	,15	,50	,90
1979 Agriculture	2,50	2,00	2,50	12,00
Platinum	2,50	2,00	2,50	12,00
Y of C	2,50	2,00	2,50	12,00
Boxing	2,00	1,20	2,00	7,20
Beer	2,50	2,00	2,50	12,00
1978 Independence	2,00	1,00	2,00	6,00
Flight	1,50	1,25	1,50	7,50
Stone Works	4,00	3,00	4,00	20,00
Road Safety	4,00	3,00	4,00	20,00
Hypertension	6,00	3,00	6,00	24,00
1977 Independence	5,00	4,00	5,00	32,00
Definitives		7,00	35,00	45,00

EXHIBITION M/S

ELPEX 76	3,50	2,50
RAND 77	3,00	2,00
POTCH 78	3,00	2,00
DISA 79	3,00	

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World War II POW mail from South Africa

by Arthur Tabachnik

The main POW establishment in the Union of South Africa during World War II was sited at Premier Mine/Zonderwater. It consisted of 11 blocks, each divided into four camps. Each block held approximately 2000 inmates — all were Italians.

The Pietermaritzburg camp was sited off Durban Road on the outskirts of the city. It was a permanent camp for the Italians, but a transit camp for the Germans, who were awaiting transport to the US, Canada, India and Australia. A number of

Vichy French Indo-Chinese were also held here.

After the fall of Italy, the POWs were screened and large numbers were allowed out for employment. They proved very industrious and were in keen demand, especially by farmers. They earned approximately 1/- to 2/6 and their keep per day. Among them were numbers of skilled craftsmen who earned considerably more.

Transit camps were established in many areas and illustrations are shown of the camps recorded. Other camps were at Bultfontein, Krugersdorp, Alexanderfontein (near Kimberley), Cape Town and Venterstad (?). However, no covers have been seen.

The printing order numbers of each issue of Lettercards and Postcards, seen, are recorded here and it would be much appreciated, if any readers possessing other issues and those who have knowledge of other transit camps, would report them.

The Government Printer was responsible for the postcards and the *Cape Times* for the letter cards. They are marked "Franco di Bollo" (post free). It seems strange in the light of this evidence that these South African postal items have not gained recognition in any South African handbooks or literature.

• Acknowledgement: Messrs J Hagger RDPSA, D Slater-Kinghorn, T Radue and G Mgliavacca, author of *The Italian POWs and Internees in Africa*.

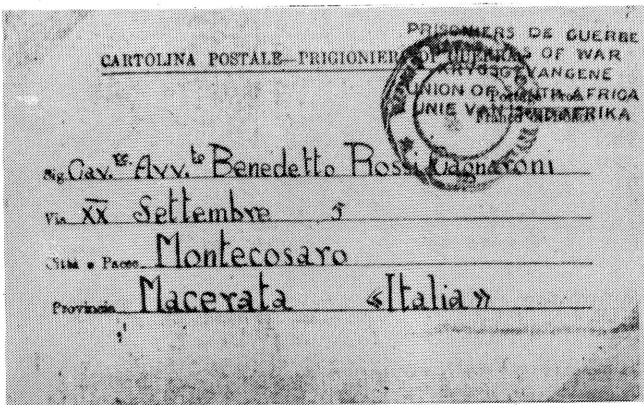


FIGURE A

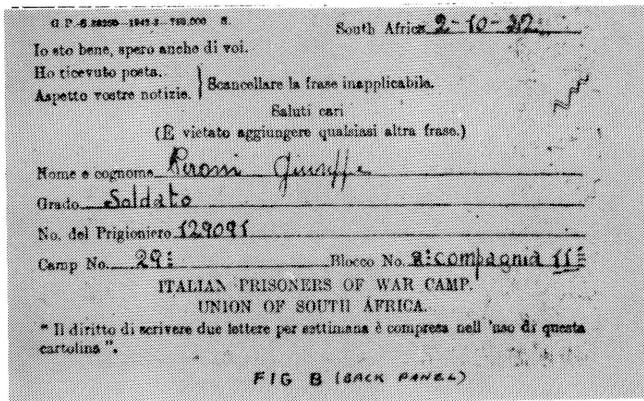


FIGURE B

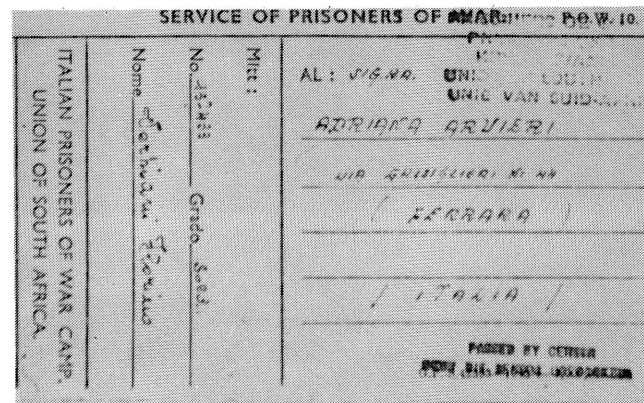


FIGURE C

MARKINGS ON COVERS

Fig A and B (back panel). First Postcard issued to POWs. Front is for address. On back are stock phrases, which could be used to appraise their next of kin of their general condition and also an address to which mail is to be sent in South Africa.

The cachet "Prisoner/Prisoner of War/Krygsgevangene/Union of S.A./Unie van S.A." is generally found on most POW mail.

Printing No of P/C G.P. 5.36250-1942-3.

Fig C. Front panel shows address and also that of sender. Back panel was for message. Note the cachet "Passed by sensor/Goedgekeur deur sensor", also found on most POW covers.

Printing No G.P. s.5.42593 1943-44.

Another smaller postcard with smaller lettering, but the same context, has been recorded. Printing No s.36855 1942-3.

Fig D and E. As will be noted, the context of these two letter cards are not altogether similar, as they come from different printings.

Print Order for D: C.T. Ltd M7373 L.711461 15.9.43.

Print Order for E: C.T. Ltd J 180794 3.42 M7337.

Fig F. Shows the Hospital record card of a POW who arrived in South Africa on 14/8/42 and was repatriated on 17/5/46.

Fig H. Incoming mail. All letters were censored in Egypt. Note the boxed cachet P/W MIDDLE EAST 51. Letter was sealed with a slip reading "Prisoner of War censorship, Middle East".

Fig I. Cachet of "Office of Camp Commandant/9.11.46/Premier Mine/Prisoner of War Camp".

Fig J and K. Covers of Durban and Pietermaritzburg camps with cachets.

Fig L and M. Markings of transit camps at Warmbaths and Weza (near Harding).

Fig N. This particular marking has been seen on only one cover.

P.O.W. 9

CORRISPONDENZA - PRIGIONIERI DI GUERRA

UN E VON DER PAUSE
FRANCO

Signature: *[Handwritten]*

Name: *[Handwritten]*

Strada: *[Handwritten]*

Città: *[Handwritten]*

Provincia: *[Handwritten]*

Paese: *[Handwritten]*

PROCESSED BY SENIOR
POST OFFICE SUPERVISOR

aggiungano altre indicazioni

Italian Prisoners of War Camp
Union of South Africa

No. del Prigioniero: *[Handwritten]*

Grado: *[Handwritten]*

Nome e Cognome: *[Handwritten]*

Tagliare lungo questa linea

FIGURE D

CASUALTIES.

Date of Capture: *16.11.41*

Place of Capture: *Cobruk*

If Wounded: *[Blank]*

Particulars of wounds and disposal: *[Blank]*

Place of Internment: *Alexandria 24.11.41*

Other important particulars: *Tr. Sussanin 5.5.H. - 14 209 Camp*

Subsequent Casualties: *15.8.42*

REPATRIATED TO ITALY
Em. P.S.A.I.D. Date: *17.5.46*
Arby: *X/4.74/663A.....*

From 310C. to S.A. 14.8.42

429-PMFO-159,000-2/41

FIGURE F

SOLDATO

PRIGIONIERO DI GUERRA

FERRO: GIOACCHETTI OBI

N. 115962. CAMPO. 4/1. BLOCCO: 1/2

SOUTH AFRICA

10844

FIGURE H

P.O.W. 9

CORRISPONDENZA - PRIGIONIERI DI GUERRA

POSTAGE FREE
FRANCO DI BOLLO

Strada: *[Handwritten]*

Città: *[Handwritten]*

Provincia: *[Handwritten]*

Paese: *[Handwritten]*

PROCESSED BY SENIOR
POST OFFICE SUPERVISOR

Italian Prisoners of War Camp
Union of South Africa

No. del Prigioniero: *[Handwritten]*

Grado: *[Handwritten]*

Nome e Cognome: *[Handwritten]*

TagLIA QUI

FIGURE E

CHIEF PAYMASTER
P.O.W. CAMP.

ZONDERWATER

(SOUTH AFRICA)

9-11-1941

PRISONER OF WAR CAMP

FIGURE I

ID.V.S.M. - O.H.M.S.

Adres/Address (1): *A. Lichtenstein Ltd., Post 576*

Adres/Address (2): *[Blank]*

PRISONER OF WAR CAMP

18-1-1945

PIETERMANTZOUK

KRYGSEVANGEN

ONBRUIK PAPIER SPAARSAAM - USE PAPER SPARINGLY

FIGURE J

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POW mail from SA

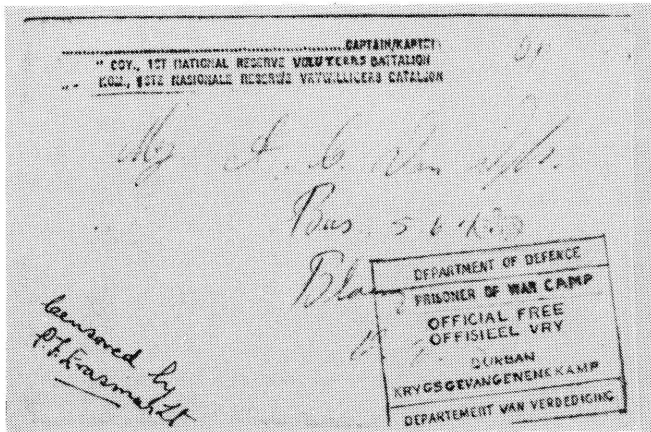


FIGURE K

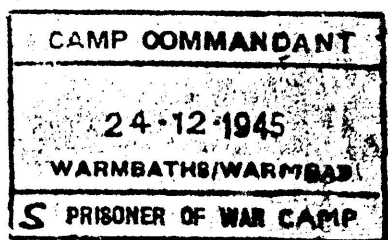


FIGURE L

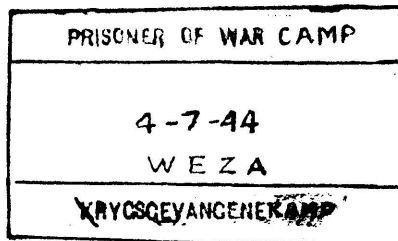


FIGURE M

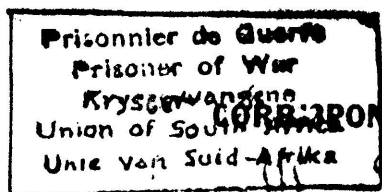


FIGURE N

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Hoe Zimbabwe-posowerheid sy amptenare se foute uitwis

deur Penny Black

MET die komende einde van die Rhodesiese sage op 18 April 1980 het ek en my broer dit goed gedink om met 'n vriend in Rhodesië te reël om vir ons elkeen 'n paar laastedagkoeverte te maak. Ons het die vriend mooi ingelig oor presies wat ons wou gehad het.

Enkele dae later het die briewe, met volledige stelle van die Rhodesiese vaste reeks op, geregistreer en aan ons adresse ge-pos, in Pretoria aangekom. Ons was taamlik opgewonde oor die koeverte. Hulle was mooi.

By nadere ondersoek het dit egter geblyk dat daar net een probleem was — die datumstempel op die koeverte was almal 17 Maart in plaas van 17 April 1980.

Onsteltenis! Die teenblaai van die registrasie het egter almal die 18e se datumstempel gehad.

Ons het die koeverte teruggestuur na Zimbabwe en die vriend versoek om die posmeester in Salisbury te vra om die briewe te endosseer as synde ge-pos op 17 April 1980 en nie op 17 Maart nie.

Ná 'n lang vertraging word ons meegedeel dat die posmeester nie bereid is om aan ons versoek te voldoen nie. Hy is egter bereid om nuwe koeverte aan ons uit te reik. Daar is egter 'n voorwaarde. Die oorspronklike koeverte, tesame met die regi-

strasiebewyse, moet ingehandig en deur die poskantoor in ontvangs geneem word. Dus — geen bewys van foute nie!

Vier maande ná die groot gebeurtenis — dis nou die gebeurtenis van 18 April 1980 — ontvang ons die nuwe koeverte. Wat 'n verskil! Korrek afgestempel is hulle wel, maar hulle is nie geregistreer nie en het ook nie deur die normale poskanale gekom nie.

Die werklike rede vir die groot vertraging in die lewering van die nuwe koeverte, so is ons meegedeel, is die gevolg daarvan dat die poskantoor in Salisbury nie oor volledige stelle van die "ou" Rhodesiese vaste reeks beskik het nie, en dat daar dwarsoor die land by ander poskantore gesoek en navraag gedoen moes word om die stelle wat ons aangevra het, volledig te kry.

Wat die aangeleentheid interessant maak, is die vraag hoeveel posstukke is op 17 April 1980 by die betrokke poskantoor in Salisbury ge-pos met as datumstempel 17 Maart. Is dit later reggestel?

Hoewel teleurgesteld met wat ons uiteindelik ontvang het, kan 'n mens moontlik verstaan dat die nuwe bewind in Zimbabwe ook wat sy posterye betref, nie kan toelaat dat enige voorbeeld bestaan oor die onbeholpenheid van amptenare nie.

In February we described the philately and postal history of present-day Seychelles. This month we have a contribution from Mr Leslie W Harris, the veteran stamp dealer of Victoria, Seychelles.

The tale of the sick Italian dealer

by Leslie W Harris

"WELL, Joe," I remarked, "you have arrived at precisely the right moment. Actually I was thinking of you just as you walked in."

Knowing that he was on time for our appointment, Joe made a polite, non-committal reply. "Yes," I went on, "I was thinking of a stamp episode I will tell you about. I hope it won't bore you."

Actually, I had been mulling over in my mind the well-known stamp lore story of two sailors off a boat from South Africa selling a sack of Cape of Good Hope triangular stamps to a small marine store dealer by name of Stanley Gibbons in Plymouth, England, more than a hundred years ago.

The fact that Joe Groenewald had a connection with Stanley Gibbons plus the fact that the Cape stamps figure in this episode was undoubtedly the reason why it had sprung to my mind at this particular time.

"Some years back," I said to Joe, "while on leave in the United Kingdom, walking through some slum-like streets which then surrounded the cathedral of the city I was staying in, I saw a small marine store dealer's premises — a junk shop."

What attracted my attention was a card with stamps for sale. Entering the shop, I asked whether those stamps were for sale.

"They are," replied the assistant, "but the boss has them and he is not here."

"OK," I said, "I could come back another time."

"Wait a minute," the man responded. "I'll close the shop and we can go and see the boss." He shut up the shop without further ado, and I walked with him through streets which became dingy, almost sinister. I began to wonder about the wisdom of coming on this quest at all.

"Here we are then," broke in my guide and we went through a very dark entrance, up some stairs and into a wretched, bare

room with so little light as to strain the eyesight.

There, lying stretched out on his back, was a more than middle-aged man, an Italian. I'm no doctor but to me he had the appearance of a very sick man and the possibility of infection crossed my mind.

"Comme va?" I said, thinking it would cheer him up to hear his own language. After that I spoke in English: "Your man tells me you've got some stamps for sale"

"Si", the man said. Reaching under his mattress he produced a book, some 300 by 200 mm and 30 mm thick. In his book, correctly mounted on hinges, was a really uncommon collection of British Colonial stamps.

"How much the lot?" I asked. "Well," said the sick man, "I don't want to sell them all because having stamps in the shop brings other customers who then come to visit me like yourself," he said as if in afterthought.

"But if you are willing to pay £12 you can take four stamps."

I gave him the money and I took four stamps. I remember there were good items from Malta, Gibraltar and Cyprus and the shilling CGH triangular green which was cut rather too thin.

As soon as I got where I was staying, which was 4 or 5 km away, I examined the stamps which I had carried with me in my wallet. I had got my £12 worth and more, but where there was a slight defect on any stamp it had been cork-marked over with an imitation postmark. This intrigued me and I wondered whether the "boss" had done this or if he had bought them like that unknowingly.

I returned to find out, but I never did. About a fortnight later I walked into the junk shop. The same assistant was there.

"Can I see the boss?" I asked.

"No, he replied. "He's dead".



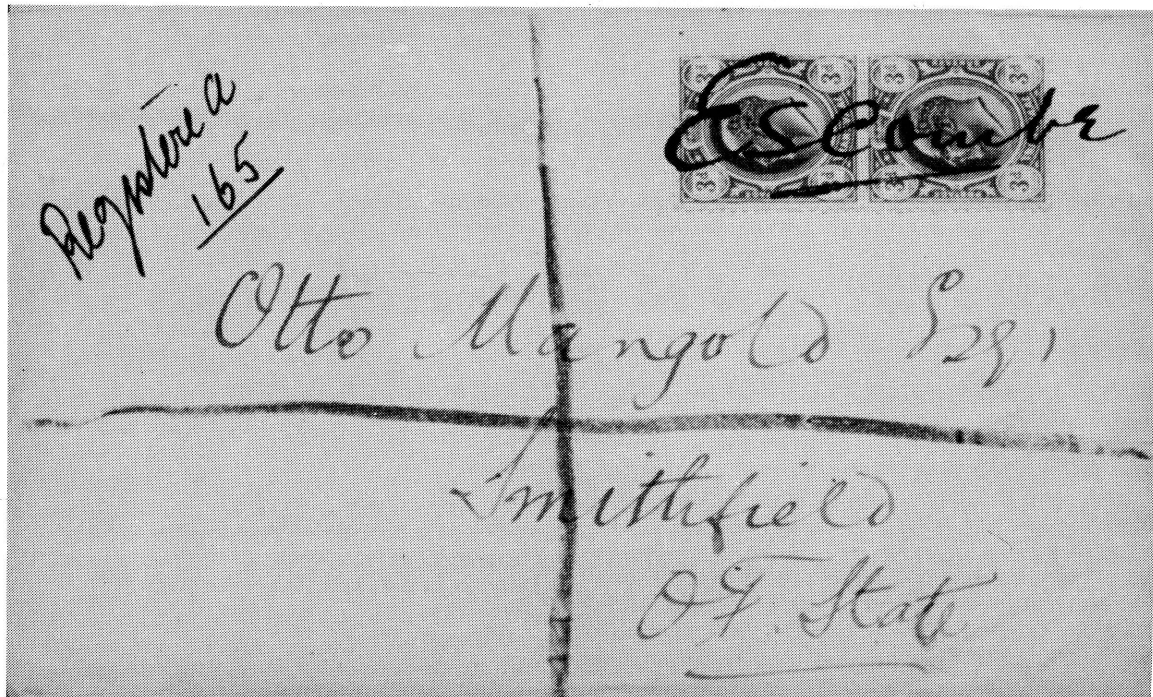
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Stanley Gibbons' pricing, 1955-80

by Dr D G Mordant

A TOTAL of 1958 items listed and priced in the 1955 SG Simplified Stamp Catalogue have been compared with their prices in the 1980 SG Stamps of the World catalogue. Of this number 1142 items are unused and 816 are used. All items priced at £10 or more in the 1955 catalogue have been included in this survey, provided that their listing has been retained in the 1980 catalogue.

The 1958 items were cumulatively priced in the 1955 catalogue at £124 469. In the 1980 catalogue their cumulative prices were £2 774 345. This represents an increase of 22,3 times in 25 years, or a compound growth of 13,22 per cent per annum over a 25-year period.

The 1142 unused items were cumulatively priced in the 1955 catalogue at £77 185. In the 1980 catalogue their cumulative prices were £1 922 388. This represents an increase of 24,9 times in 25 years, or a compound growth of 13,72 per cent per annum over a 25-year period.

The 816 used items were cumulatively priced in the 1955 catalogue at £47 284. In the 1980 catalogue their cumulative

prices were £851 957. This represents an increase of 18 times in 25 years, or a compound growth of 12,26 per cent per annum over a 25-year period.

The purchasing power of the South African currency (the rand) has declined at a compound rate of 5,52 per cent per annum over this twenty-five year period. (Source: South African Mutual Life Assurance Society).

To determine an index as to how prices have moved over the 1955-1980 period, it was decided to use a comprehensive basic catalogue covering the whole world. In their 1980 Stamps of the World catalogue, Stanley Gibbons claim that "it is the only comprehensive guide to the stamps of the whole world in one volume that is published anywhere".

To qualify for this study an item had to be listed in the 1955 catalogue at a price of £10 or more. In addition the same item had to be listed in the 1980 catalogue and priced as well.

In each of the categories unused and used, the items were split into three groups according to the 1955 catalogue prices — £100 and more, £50 to £99, and £10 to £49 — as follows:

Category	Group (based on 1955 price)	Number of items	Cumulative 1955 price (£)	Cumulative 1980 price (£)	Appreciation (times)	Compound growth (% per annum)
Unused	£100 and more	114	50 405	1 300 675	25,8	13,89
	£50 to £99	128	8 269	197 720	23,9	13,54
	£10 to £49	<u>900</u>	<u>18 511</u>	<u>423 993</u>	<u>22,9</u>	<u>13,34</u>
	Sub-total	1 142	77 185	1 922 388	24,9	13,72
Used	£100 and more	56	29 025	530 075	18,3	12,32
	£50 to £99	72	4 535	83 935	18,5	12,38
	£10 to £49	<u>688</u>	<u>13 724</u>	<u>237 947</u>	<u>17,3</u>	<u>12,09</u>
	Sub-total	816	47 284	851 957	18,0	12,26
Total		1 958	124 469	2 774 345	22,3	13,22

Warning on special covers

PHILATELIC societies which in future would want to venture into "special covers" would have to watch their step, Prof M van Wyk Smith, chairman of the Grahamstown Philatelic Society, said in his report at the society's recent AGM.

Prof Smith said resistance to purely "philatelic" covers, was building up among collectors and the day was probably not far off that a rigid distinction between genuine postal items and mere souvenirs would be insisted on.

He referred to the 40th anniversary cover of the Grahamstown Philatelic Society, which was made in 1979 and which had sold well, particularly at Fort Selweyn Museum.

"In this regard we should, however, note that some resistance is building up," he said.

Prof Smith said as one of the smaller societies Grahamstown had had a good year. Ten regular meetings had been attended by an average of 18 members, slide shows and auctions had been introduced and there had been two regional weekend meetings.

One of the society's longest-standing members and chairman for many years, Wally Pettit, had died during the past year and would be remembered by the new Pettit Trophy, designed by Nick Allen in the form of a Union £1 King's Head.

Although Stanley Gibbons at no time claims that their prices represent the monetary value of the items, it is submitted (in Commonwealth countries at least) that their prices are used as a basis for determining monetary value.

FOOTNOTE

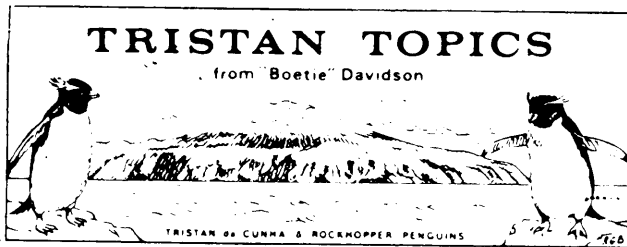
Over a 25-year period (1955-1980) the prices of 1958 items have risen at a compound growth rate of 13,22 per cent per annum. In monetary terms the appreciation has been from £125 000 to £2,75 million. Should the same compound growth rate continue for the 25-year period 1980-2005, these same items will appreciate in price to in excess of £61,75 million.

STAMP INSURANCE

A SOUTH AFRICAN insurance broking organisation is offering stamp insurance through Lloyds at two rates — a normal premium and a preferential one for collectors who are members of philatelic societies or stamp clubs affiliated to the Philatelic Federation.

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Information may be obtained from the Secretary of the Federation. It should, however, be noted that the Philatelic Federation has not investigated the situation as to stamp insurance and therefore is not yet in a position to endorse any stamp insurance policy.



Earlier and earlier covers found

FOR many years the earliest known cover to have emanated from Tristan was the one carried by HMS Thrush in 1898, and then in 1975 a veritable storehouse of early Tristan material became available when a descendant of Peter Green sold four items which belonged to him, and this material was described in this column in the November 1975 issue of this magazine.

A subsequent "find" and addendum to all this pre-cachet Tristan mail was the unearthing of Tristan's earliest entire — a letter written on 16 April 1904 by "A Repetto" to a Mr Mayne of Torquay, England, and this letter entered the official postal channels at East London, South Africa, postmarked at the town's postal office on 22 July 1904. This item was fully described, again in this column in this magazine in June 1977, page 158.

Although Tristan da Cunha is totally isolated and dependent upon passing ships for the carriage of mail, there just had to be more covers, and hopefully entire, somewhere, and in his recent book George Crabb not only mentions almost all the known pre-cachet (1908) mail but he also describes the earliest known item — a whaling cover dated October 1843, and four such items have surfaced since the publication of his first book in 1965 . . . Obviously all the early nineteenth-century material will most likely be from whalers, as these ships were the most frequent visitors to Tristan

da Cunha, and as they came from America, that is probably where much of this early material still awaits discovery

At a recent auction in England, an entire came up for sale. The letter was written on behalf of "William Henry Rogers", is dated 20 February 1905 and is sent to Lionel J G Anderson Esq RN, and reads:

Sir,

My wife and I desire to thank you heartily for your kind gifts which have safely reached us, and to tell you how much we appreciate your thoughtfulness in remembering us.

Believe me,

*Sincerely and gratefully ours,
William Henry Rogers,
per F Hussery Freke.*

The cover itself is addressed to Lionel J G Anderson Esq RN, in Whitehall, London, and then readdressed to H M S Shark, Portsmouth (the "RN" would indicate his being in the Royal Navy, hence the new address), and above the addressee's name is written "RN Barracks" surrounded by boxed lines. In the top lefthand corner of the cover is written "By Exploring Yacht *Pandora*/Tristan da Cunha", and written over this the word (?) "Officia . . ." and beneath the address is written in a different handwriting "Per T C Kerry/Exploring ship *Pandora*/Tristan da Cunha".

On the lefthand side of the cover is a handstamp "2D" above the letters which appear to be either "F.B." or "P.B." and presumably this is a taxmark from the London post office. When the cover was originally put into the official postal channels, at Cape Town, it received the Cape Town circular double-ring postmark of 22 March 1905, as well as the local paquebot cancellation described as figure 59 on page 57 of Mr R D Allen's book "Maritime Marks of South Africa".

I believe that this cover was sold in one of the smaller British auctions, and the price it realised was virtually double that paid a mere 3½ years ago for the entire from Andrea Repetto to Mr Mayne! An interesting sidelight on the state of the postal history market today, and further proof (if required) that Tristan material is still very high on the list of popular countries to collect.

I wish to thank Mr Chris Rainey, the British postal history dealer of Basildon, Essex, for permitting me to publish this article.

Why coil stamps?

Mrs D L Sutherland of Kempton Park asks

Please can you tell me why we have coils in our definitive set — why do they exist and from where do they originate? Does every definitive set have coils?

Answer

A coil stamp is one of a roll of stamps used in stamp vending machines or in stamp affixing machines.

When vending machines for stamps were introduced at the beginning of this century, coil of stamps were made by joining together, by hand, strips from ordinary sheets.

Today coils of stamps are produced by printing long reels of paper, which are perforated and then split up into separate strips, which are wound into coils for the stamp dispensing machines.

In many countries, including the RSA, coil stamps are perforated only on two sides.

Usually definitive stamps of common rate denominations are dispensed by stamp vending machines. When a new definitive series is introduced it involves both stamps in sheets and stamps in vending machine coils.

Question-box Vraebus

With the special printing of definitives as coil stamps in South Africa, the production process made it expedient to use fewer colours for the coil stamp than for its counterpart in sheet form, eg the monochrome Ship Penny. The procedure gradually developed for the design of special coil stamps, using fewer colours yet theme-wise in harmony with the rest of the definitive set.

Scandinavia catalogue — The 1981 edition of *Lilla Facit Norden*, the catalogue covering all Nordic countries, will be published during March by Frimarkshuset AB, part of the Stanley Gibbons Group.

Exchange wanted — H Dworzak, Frz Schubert Street 7, D-8013, Haar, Germany, would like to correspond and exchange stamps.

Houw Hoek: 'There were no louses there'



by Bob Goldblatt RDPSA

The impression of the "HOW HOCK" Oval Town date stamp forwarded by the postmaster, Cape Town, to the Netherlands Commissioner General.

ONE hours' motoring after leaving Cape Town and travelling towards Caledon brings you to the Houw Hoek Pass.

How many visitors and even Capetonians descend the pass, oblivious of the fact that nestling in the foot of the valley and unseen from the road is the historic Houw Hoek Inn, and the hamlet of Houw Hoek?

The Houw Hoek Inn is the oldest remaining coaching halt and licensed tavern in South Africa, and the old world charm and majesty of the building seems to confirm its historic connections with our past as well as with the early association of the postcard route to the north.

The white colonists at the Cape sought a way through the mountain barriers to the east, discovered Hottentots Holland Kloof which led them on to a plateau. They descended the plateau by the Houw Hoek Pass, and this route was first used by Olaf Bergh in 1692.

In the early days Houw Hoek provided a convenient outspan on the way to Swellendam. One of the early visitors was Lady Anne Barnard who in 1798 declared "that the boiled chicken was fit for an emperor".

The Houw Hoek Inn building seen today dates from 1834 but the single-storey building was extended into a double-storey establishment in 1861 by the owner, John Aspinall, who was also Houw Hoek's first postmaster. Another of the distinguished guests of bygone days who commented on the Houw Hoek Inn was Lady Duff Gordon who in 1866 wrote: "That she found the Inn clean and no louses there".

A most interesting feature of the inn is the tremendous bluegum tree planted circa 1850. Originally there were two such trees but one was cut down and the remaining tree had a girth of 38 ft and was 120 ft in height at the turn of the century. It has, however, subsequently been pruned down, but is still of massive proportions.

A young gallant on leaving for abroad left a novel visiting card in the form of a 10 shilling note glued to the ceiling of the bar, to ensure that on his return he would be able once again to enjoy the delights of the well-stocked cellar. Others followed his example, and until recently the ceiling and walls of the pub were the envy of many a numismatist.

The first pass through the Houw Hoek Valley was built in 1846 by that well-known pioneer of South African geology, Andrew Geddes Bain, inspector of roads. From 1820 the old postcart used to make regular stops at the inn, and with the establishment of the railway line in 1900, the cart road ran approximately parallel to the railway track continuing on the same zig-zag course through the Houw Hoek gorge.

The train stopped for about half an hour at Houw Hoek at noon, and permitted passengers to lunch at the inn, and some of the earlier owners of the inn made handsome profits by the simple expedient of ensuring that the soup was so hot that the diners were unable to consume it fast enough to eat the rest of the meal before the train's departure.

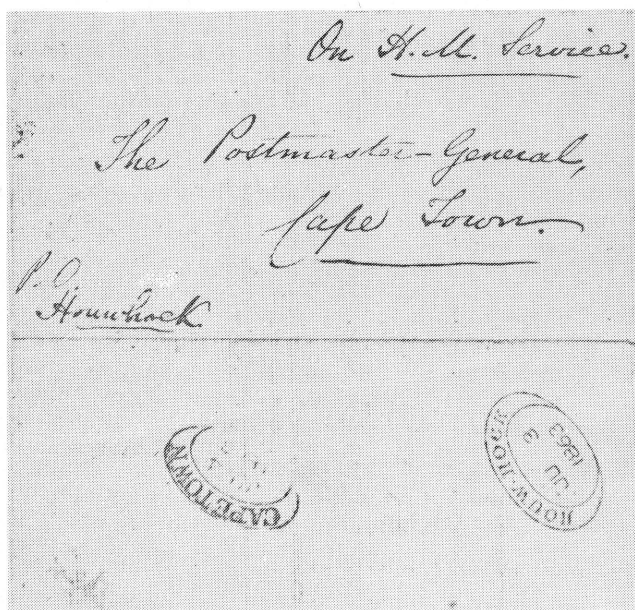
Whilst conducting circuit courts in Caledon, judges from Cape Town in the early 1900s stopped over at the inn, and brought their own chefs to ensure that they dined well. The inn has maintained its excellent cuisine throughout the years. A most relaxing week-end can be spent in the sylvan surroundings of the countryside and an excellent Sunday meal is served in the old barn.

The establishment of the first post office at Houw Hoek appears to date from 1853 and the post office closed down about six years ago.

My interest in Houw Hoek was aroused in somewhat unusual circumstances. The Commissioner-General for the Netherlands in 1912 attempted to obtain an impression of



A view of Houw Hoek Inn at the turn of the century showing the tall bluegum tree planted in 1850, which was 36 m tall. (Photo: Courtesy Cape Archives.)



Cover from Cape Town to HOEW HOEK with the HOEW HOEK Oval Town date stamp on 3 June 1863.

every cancellation in use by every post office in South Africa, a most ambitious undertaking, and to this end addressed reply paid cards to the postmasters of various post offices throughout Bechuanaland, Cape of Good Hope, Natal, Transvaal, Rhodesia and Nyasaland. I doubt whether he was entirely successful.

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	SG NO	R		SG NO	R		SG NO	R
Antigua	98-109	120		211-223	225		24-36	220
	120(a)-134	63		283-296	95	North Borno	320-334	72
Ascension	57-69	162	Dominica	272-290	24		335-349	30
	70-83	65	Falkland Islands	172-185	95	Papua New Guinea	1-15	595
Bahamas	178-193	80		193-207	162		18-24	235
	201-216	56	South Georgia	1-16	370	Pitcairn Islands	1-18	156
	228-243	56		18-31	110		18-28	158
Basutoland	18-28	48	Gibraltar	121-131	115	Rhodesia	374-387	60
	43-53	25		145-158	400	Rhod & Nyasaland	1-15	139
Bechuanaland	99-110	60		160-173	120		18-31	135
	168-181	32	Gilbert & Ellice	43-54	42	St Helena	153-165	102
British Antarctic	1-15(a)	550		64-75	102		176-189	70
British Guiana	308-319	34	Hong Kong	178-191	175		226-240	30
British Indian Ocean	1-15	135		196-210	114	Seychelles	174-188	42
	16-30	150	Kenya Uganda	167-180	37	Southern Rhod	78-91	130
Cayman Islands	115-126	70	Malta	217-231	71	92-105	70	
	135-147	89		234-248	88	Tristan	1-12	205
	148-161(a)	88		266-282	200		14-27	200
	165-179	57	New Zealand	723-736	195		28-41	190
Christmas Island	1-10	145	Norfolk Island	1-12(a)	180		42-54	195
Cyprus	173-187	135		13-18	208		55-67	39
	188-202	470						

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The postmaster at Cape Town, however, responded to the request by impressing the various cancellations still under his control and forwarding the impressions.

One of these was the oval datestamp of 1853. A notation in the hand of the postmaster reads: "Datestamp of the Post Office at Houw Hoek recovered in 1901". The word "Hoek" appears as "Hock" in the datestamp. It bears the date November 7 without the year. I tried unsuccessfully to obtain examples of the Houw Hoek Oval Date strike from other Cape collectors and thought that probably "Hock" was erroneous and that for this reason the date stamp had been returned to Cape Town and replaced with one correctly reading "Hoek".

As coincidence will have it, I perused a forthcoming auction catalogue and there spotted my quarry, described as "Houw Hoek", and thought that if I acquired the item I could confirm that the date stamp "Houw Hock" was incorrect.

I was indeed surprised and delighted to learn on receipt of my successful acquisition that the oval datestamp had not been altered and had been used as a despatch cds reading "Houw Hock" JU 3 1863.

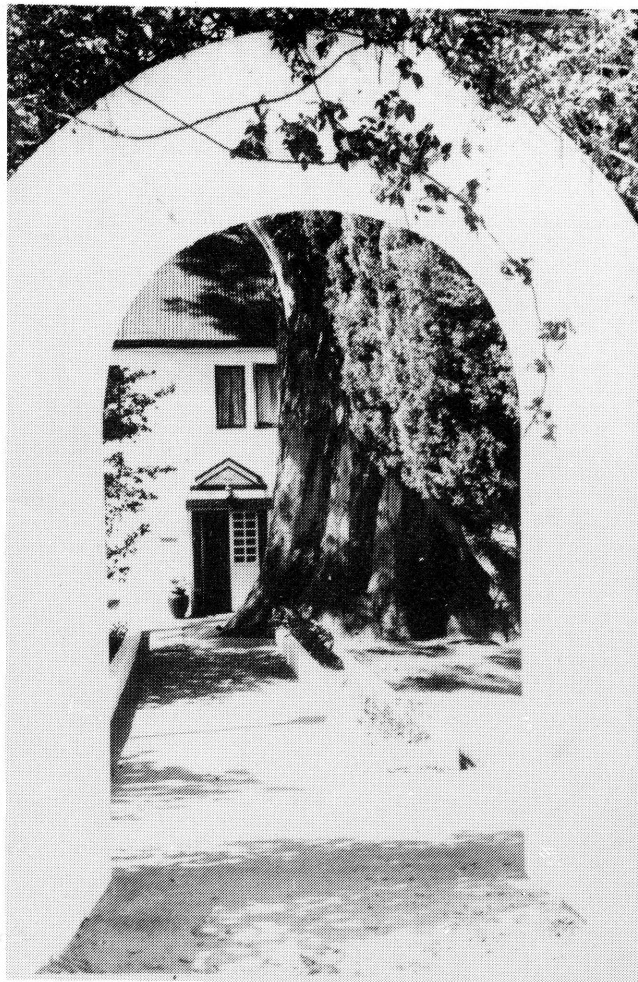
The cover is an official one from the Cape Town Post Office and is inscribed "Houw Hoek" at the left lower corner (note spelling in manuscript).

The spelling of the cds was, however, later amended to "Houw Hoek" as is seen on the Transvaal ½d Edward Stamp used interprovincially on 15 May 1913.

Early mail from Houw Hoek would appear to be rather scarce!

The name "Houw Hoek" is known in a variety of forms, viz Houhoek, Houthoek and Houwhoek, but certainly not Houw Hock.

Different derivations as to its original are also recorded. In 1712 it was referred to as Houthoek due to the supposed scarcity of wood in the area. The present form Houw Hoek "Om deselfs kankwylingen en steylen opgang" (because of a steep and tedious ascent). The form "Hou" (stay! hold!) indicates a tedious climb up a steep ascent necessitating the traveller to make a halt on the summit to allow the animals to recover, but there appears to be no explanation for "Hock".



A view of the front entrance to the Houw Hoek Inn, with the base of the giant bluegum tree visible.

'Binda forgeries' file is closed

EARLIER this year a man aged 65 died in Beira, and soon after in Salisbury Zimbabwe fraud squad detectives closed the file on the so-called "Binda forgeries".

For 12 years Alexandre Binda, a Portuguese, was a fugitive from Rhodesian justice, a wanted man convicted in connection with a stamp swindle which continues to cause problems for philatelists.

The demise of Binda was brought to our attention by Mr N Noordergraaf of Northcliff.

In 1966 Binda was charged in the Salisbury regional court about the illegal overprinting of Rhodesian independence stamps. Because of the allegations philatelists referred to the counterfeit stamps as the "Binda forgeries" and the name has stuck, although Binda was cleared of involvement in the fraudulent overprinting some months later.

He was convicted for offering or selling 162 clandestinely overprinted independence stamps and was sentenced to three months. The magistrate said there was probably a "brain" behind the operation but it could not be proved that this was Binda.

Meanwhile a machine-minder had been sentenced to 12 months for his part in overprinting 396 stamps at a Marandellas printing plant.

After Binda had served his sentence he was re-arrested and charged with the unlawful export of 514 stamps, being in possession of 1 580 dagga seeds and a forged postage stamp. He failed to appear at court and in September 1968 a warrant was issued for his arrest — but he had fled to his birth-town, Beira.

The fraudulent overprinting involved the Rhodesian 1/3 Churchill stamp of 1965 and some of the overprints are difficult to identify.

Tuvalu group — Comment on recent allegations about shady practices in the market for Tuvalu "specimen" stamps is contained in the latest newsletter of the Tuvalu Philatelic Society, Inc, PO Box 2760, Chicago, Illinois 60690, USA. The society is a specialist group affiliated to the American Philatelic Society.

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1948 Silver Wedding SG75-76	R 65
New Zealand	
1968 Definitives SG870-879 (10v)	R 90
1969 Captain Cook M/Sheet MS910	R 40
Papua New Guinea 1966 Butterflies SG82-92 (12v) ...	
1968 Shells SG137-151 (15v)	R 60
Rhodesia	
1966 Mardons SG397-407 (11v)	R200
Singapore	
1948 Defins SG1-15 perf 14	R100
1949 Defins SG16-30 perf 17½x18	R170
1948 Silver Wedding SG31-32	R 95
South Georgia	
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07

Somerseëls beeld 'skepping' uit

DIE Skepper het die wêreld geskep, met die uitsondering van Holland, wat deur die Hollanders self gemaak is. Dié bewering word weerspieël deur vier somerseëls wat op 7 April 1981 verskyn het. Die onderwerp is "die nuwe Nederlandse landskap".

Dis seëls met ekstra toeslag, wat bestem is vir maatskaplike en kulturele instellings. Die seëls beeld uit op watter manier land "geskep" is.

Op 'n 45 plus 20c-seël sien ons 'n natuurlandskap met grond wat aanslib; op die 55 plus 25c-seël staan 'n dyk as beskerming om die water teen te hou; 'n afvoersloot vir oorskotgrondwater tref ons aan op 'n 60 plus 25c-seël, terwyl die 65 plus 30c-seël 'n geploegde en verder bewerkte land aandui: die uiteindelijke landaanwins nadat die probleme in die stryd teen die water opgelos is.

Die seëls is gedruk in rasterdiepdruk, 25 x 36 mm, tanding 12³/₄:14. Hulle is besonder interessante seëls wat die eeue-oue stryd teen die water pragtig uitbeeld.

INHULDIGING KONINGIN BEATRIX

Soos ons reeds gesien het, het vir die inhuldiging van koningin Beatrix verlede jaar een seël van 60c verskyn.

Inmiddels het geblyk dat van dié seël nie minder nie as vier oplae verskyn het, wat van mekaar onderskei kan word. Die verskille bestaan hoofsaaklik uit kleur en duidelikheid van die portret, met verder aanduidings op die velrand. Inmiddels is dié seël vervang deur 'n seël van 65c met dieselfde afbeelding. Daar is nog niks bekend oor 'n nuwe vaste reeks seëls van Nederland nie.

SURINAME SE VERNUWINGS

In Suriname het op 25 Februarie 1981 vier seëls verskyn vir vernuwing in die samelewing, soos dit vanaf die begin van verlede jaar deur die regering voorgestaan word. Al vier seëls vertoon 'n opkomende son met langsaan 'n beeld van Justitia, die godin van die reg. Die verskillende gebiede van vernuwing is die ekonomiese orde (30c), onderwys en opvoeding (60c), maatskaplike verbetering (75c) en die regering se politieke organisasie (1 gulde).

Daar was ook 'n miniatuurvel, met die 60c- en 1 gulde-seëls en die teks 1980 25 Februarie 1981. Hierdie seëls is in baie helder kleure uitgevoer.

Vir sowel die Nederlandse as die Surinaamse stel seëls was daar natuurlik eerstedagkoeverte. — N.



CORRESPONDENCE DAMAGED BY SEA-WATER

by David Slater-Kinghorn

THE Imperial Airways flying boat "Challenger" crashed on alighting at Lumba, Mozambique, on 1 May 1939, and in *The SA Philatelist* of January 1975, seven methods of treatment of the mail were described. One consisted of a framed cachet used in Durban handstruck in violet, with three horizontal lines etc forming two sections in which appeared respectively in capital "Flying boat correspondence damaged by seawater/Vliegboot korrespondensie deur seewater beskadig."

The cachet has been seen on two Barclays Bank damaged covers used during World War II, but with the words "Flying

boat" and "Vliegboot" and the relative portions of the frame removed.

Details of the covers are:

(1) Postmarked Jaffa 7.10.42 addressed to Pretoria, not censored, and having a further cachet "Bank business only"; and

(2) Postmarked Cairo 6.10.42, addressed to Pretoria and with Cairo censor mark.

It appears, in view of the dates, mail arrangements at the time and the previous history of the cachet, that the covers were damaged in the same mishap and that the cachet was still in Durban where it was adapted and used.

Any further information would be welcomed.

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SOUTH WEST AFRICA

	Unhinged Mint	Superb Used
1927 4d Triangle SG48 (Arcade R40)	R28	R28
1927 London printing to 10/-(SG49/54)	R575 (Mounted)	R625
1927/30 London printing to 10/-(SG58/67)	R650 (Mounted)	R700
1930 Large Airs (SG72/3)(Arcade R40)	R27	R22,50
1931 Pictorials to 20/-(SG74/85)	R700	R575
1931 Airmails to 10d (SG86/77)	R100	R100
(Arcade R140)	(Mounted)	
1935 Silver Jubilee(SG88/91)(Arcade R35)	R25	R25
	(Mounted)	
1938 Voortrekker (SG105/8)(Arcade R50)	R40	R35
1939 Huguenots (SG111/3)(Arcade R30)	R20	R20
1943/4 Bantam Wars(SG122/9)(8)(CatR25)	R20	R18
1943 1/3d Signaller (SG130)(catR12,50)	R8	R8
1949 UPU (SG138/40)	R1,80	R2
1949 Monument (SG141/3)	80c	75c
1952 Van Riebeeck (SG144/8)	R3,50	R3,25
(gutter prs R50)		
1953 Coronation (SG149/53)	R6,75	R6
1954 Animals to 10/-(SG154/65)	R88	R60
1960 Animal Arms wmk set (SG166/70)	R40	R35
1961 Decimal Dfs to R1(SG171/85)	R40	R25
1962/6 No wmk set (6)(SG186/91)	R9	R7
1963 Dam (1)(SG192)	R1	90c
1963 Red Cross (2)(SG193/4)(Arcade R30)	R20	R17
1964 Assembly (1) (SG195)	R1,10	90c
1964 Calvin (2) (SG196/7)	R3,50	R3,35
1965 Windhoek (2) (SG198/9)	R3,50	R3,25
1966 Vedder (2)(SG200/1)	R3,50	R3,25
1967 Verwoerd (3)(SG217/9)	R4	R3,75
1968 Swart (2 strips 3)(SG220/1)	R14	R15
1970 Water (2) (SG222/3)	R1,40	R1,25
1970 Biblia (2)(SG228/9)	R15	R13,50
1970 Redrawn set of 3 (SG224/6)	R12,50	R12,50
1971 Republic set of 4 (SG230/3)	R50	R45
1971 New Values set of 3 (CC217/9)	R15	R13
1972 SPCA (1)(SG234)	R1,50	R1,50
1973 Jentsch (5) (SG235/9)	R14,80	R14,75
1973 Succulents perf 14 set(6)(Arcade R11)	R9	R9
1974 Birds (4) (SG260/3)	R17	R17
1974 Rock Paintings (3) (SG264/6)	R9,50	R9,50
1974 Diamonds (2) (SG267/8)	R4,90	R4,90
1975 Dorsland Trek SG269	65c	65c
1975 Monuments (3) (SG274/6)	R2,25	R2,25
1975 Schröder blk of 4 (Cylinders R35)	R5,75	R5,75
1975 Schröder Miniature Sheet (FDCR25)	R4,25	R7,50
1976 Bushmen Paints (4) (SG282/5)	R3,40	R3,40
1976 Bushmen Minisheet (FDC R25)	R3,50	R7,50
1976 Castles (3) (SG287/9)	R2,20	R2,20
1976 Nature (3) (SG290/2)	R1,75	R1,75
1976 Buildings (2) (SG293/4)	R1	R1
1978 Water (2) (SG295/6)	R1	R1
1977 Namib Desert (4) (SG297/300)	R2,75	R3
1960/72 Postage Dues (SGD55/64)	R14	R17
(Arcade R19)		

SOUTH AFRICA

	Unhinged Mint	Superb Used
1925 Airmail set (4) (SG26/9)	R100 (mounted)	R125
1929 Airmails (2) (SG40/1)	R40 (mounted)	R35
1938 Voortrekkers (SG76/9)	R40	R30
1939 Huguenots (SG82/4)	R24	R20
1941 Large wars (SG88/95) (8)	R35	R25
1942 Small wars (SG96/103) (8)	R17	R13
1943 Signaller olive brown (SG104)	R7	R6,50
1960 Union set (4) (SG179/82)	R4	R3,25
1954 Animals to 10/-(14)	R60	R12
1960 Animal Arms to 5/- (8) (SG170/7)	R50	R35
1960 1/3 Railways (1) SG183	R2,80	R2
1961 Decimal Animals to R1 (13)	R55	R48
1961 Republic to R1 (13) (SG198/210)	R55	R9
1961/3 No watermark (9) (SG211/9)	R28	R5
1962 Settlers (2) (SG222/3)	R3	R2,25
1963 Red Cross (2) (SG225/6)	R3	R2,25
1964 Rugby Board (2) (SG252/3)	R4	R3
1964 Nursing (2) (SG256/7)	R3	R2,25
1965 ITU (2) (SG258/9)	R3,30	R2,75
1965 DRC (2) (SG260/1)	R3	R2,50
1966 Republic (4 prs) (SG262/5)	R7,50	R7,50
1966 Verwoerd (3) (SG266/8)	R2,10	R1,65
1967 Reformation (2) (SG269/70)	R1,90	R1,65
1968 Fouche (2) (12/5c t/b R2)	R1,95	R1,75
1968 Hertzog (3) (SG273/5)	R2,20	R1,70
1963/7 RSA Watermark to R1 (SG227/36)	R70	R25
1969 Games (2) (SG278/9)	R1,80	R1,50
1969 Barnard (2) (SG280/1)	R2,50	R2,25
1969 ZAR 100th Anniv (SG282/3)	R2,40	R1,90
1970 Biblia (2) (SG301/2)	R2,50	R2,25
1971 Stamp Exhibition (3) (SG303A/4)	R5	R4,75
1972 Dam (2) (SG307/9)	R2,15	R1
1973 No Watermark to R1 (13) (SG313/25)	R30	N/A
1973 Escmo (3) (SG326/8)	R2,45	R1,55
1973 UNISA (3) (SG329/31)	R2,25	R1,65
1973 Woltermade (3) (SG332/4)	R3,75	R2,65
1973 Langenhoven (3) (SG335/7)	R2,50	R1,65
1973 ITU (watermarked) (SG339)	R2,75	R3
1973 Burgerspond (1) (SG342)	75c	75c
1974 Sugar (1) (SG344)	R1,30	R1
1974 UPU (1) (SG347)	R1,30	R1
1975 Baines (4) (SG379/82)	R2,60	R2
1975 Baines Minisheet (SGMS383)	R4,50	R7
1975 Tourism block (SG391a) (cylinders R45)	R9	R10
1976 Mayer (4) (SG399/402) (4)	R2,15	R2
1976 Mayer Minisheet (FDC R22,50)	R3,40	R6
1976 Nature (4) (SG404/7)	R2	R1,90
1976 Sport Minisheet (SGMS397) (FDC R4)	R2,60	N/A
1977 15c Wine cnr pair 'missing Die'	R14	R14
1978 Volschenk Minisheet (SGMS448)	R2,50	R3

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Foundation to be more selective

THE Philatelic Federation's representatives on the board of the Philatelic Foundation have been asked to exercise care and be more selective in deciding what the Foundation should do and not do.

At the meeting of the Federation's Management Committee in Johannesburg at the end of March, the committee reviewed matters referred to it by the Federation's General Purposes Committee at the end of January.

Regarding the operation of the Foundation, the Management Committee noted that some orders for the 1980 Transkei Fishing-Fly frames had been executed. After discussion Management Committee chairman Natie Becker said the Federation's members on the Philatelic Foundation had a clearer brief from organised philately.

In reviewing the Federation's financial position and the demands for input made on it by societies and society members in the interests of philately, the committee approved of a set capitation fee of R6 per society member, plus R1 affiliation fee for societies.

The committee learnt that the stamp day organised by the Afrikaanse Filatelistevereniging at a Randburg shopping complex on 21 March had been well attended and had brought numerous enquiries, while the Pretoria societies planned another at the Sunnypark shopping centre on Saturday 16 May.

The South African Philatelic Dealers' Association was formally congratulated on the invited exhibition which it presented on the Total Gallery in Braamfontein in the week of 16 March: 300 people attended the opening by PMG Henry Bester and thousands visited the show.

Cmdr Cyril Enoch RDPSA presented the 30th report of Expert Committee. He said 667 certificates had been issued in the past year while the quality of material submitted for expert opinion had improved materially.

Cmdr Enoch invited collectors to donate stamp forgeries and reference material to the committee to aid it in its function as watchdog.

Waar is hulle?

Weet u hoe die naam Antarktika ontstaan het?

Arktikos is Grieks vir beer, en die ou Griekse sterrekundiges het dié naam gegee aan 'n groep sterre wat in die noordelike halfrond sigbaar is. Ons ken vandag nog die Groot Beer en die Klein Beer in die sterrekunde en as u Europa besoek, kan u hulle straks in die noordelike sterreheem sien.

Al die land wat sou bestaan aan die ander kant van die aarde was dus duidelik teenoor die Beer. Die land was dan Antarktikos en hulle het dit op hul kaarte só genoem.

Die Grieke het nie hul verbeeldingskrag prakties probeer toets nie. Eers in 1772 het kaptein James Cook sy skepe in daardie geweste gebring maar hy was nie ver genoeg suid om Antarktika ('n gebied so groot soos Europa en die VSA saam) te sien nie. Hy het Suid-Georgië ontdek en dit was sy verste punt "onder" toe.

Ek het gehoor dat by DISA 79 'n studiegroep gevorm is vir Antarktika-filatelie, maar tot nou is hulle tjoepstil.

Tog is dit 'n baie interessante versamelgebied, en 'n mens wonder wanneer die studiegroep wat van hulle laat hoor... of het hulle in Antarktika se koue verkleum?— **Arie Bakker RDSA**

POSTMEN OF YESTERYEAR

MR ARCHIE BATTEN FRPSL, our regular contributor on Orange Free State philately and author of the extensive OFS and ORC postmark handbooks, has been studying most interesting information pertaining to Southern African philately in the records of the London Post Office.

In *St Martins-Le-Grand*, the house magazine of the GPO, he in the October 1900 issue found an item on postmen of the British Central Africa Protectorate carrying the overnight mail from Zomba to Blantyre. This is reproduced with the permission of the Post Office in London.

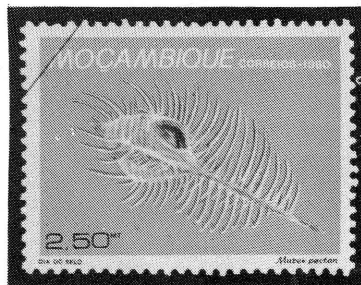
Postmen of the British Central Africa Protectorate.



THE above picture shows two mailmen of the British Central Africa Protectorate about to start with the night mail from Zomba to Blantyre. The journey of some forty miles is divided into two stages of about twenty miles each. Leaving at sun-down the mailmen reach the halfway rest-house at about midnight, and there transfer the bags to other carriers, who are waiting to receive and convey them forward to their destination. This is usually reached shortly after sunrise.

The illustration shows the native method of carrying mails on the head, and also the snider rifles with which the mailmen are equipped for purpose of defence against wild beasts, chiefly lions and leopards. The Central African native considers that the carrying of a gun adds greatly to his dignity. On one occasion the man on the right of the picture was carried away by the current when fording a river in flood. In his struggles to regain his foothold he was obliged to relinquish either the rifle or the mail bag, and accordingly allowed the latter—which he regarded as the least important—to be washed away.

MOZAMBIQUE



MOZAMBIQUE'S latest stamp issue was a set of six 2,50, 5,00, 7,50 and 12,50 MT, and 200 000 sets were produced.

Major Palestine rarity found

by David Muscott

IF YOU CAST an eye over the 1920-22 issues of Palestine you will find that on these Jordanian stamps overprinted 'PALESTINE' in English, Hebrew and Arabic, there are a few rare varieties catalogued at several hundred pounds each, plus five rarities at prices varying from £2 250 to £16 000. At the upper end of this scale only a tiny number of each are known to exist.

After nearly 60 years one might be forgiven for thinking that everything that was likely to be found should have turned up by now, so the following account may come as a surprise to most of the philatelic world, as well as the specialist collectors of this country.

In September 1980 a lady and gentleman, well able to qualify as 'senior citizens', brought in to Muscott's of Meadrow, Godalming, a selection of early Palestine issues, nearly all in pristine, unmounted mint condition. Although the couple have been married for the last 35 years, the lady had been previously wed to a young captain in the Army. He was serving in Palestine at the time of the British military occupation and his young wife accompanied him. Being a stamp collector, he asked his wife to visit the local post offices and purchase the available issues. These contained many complete single sets, blocks and positional pieces.

The stamps were safely kept but never mounted or displayed. During the second great struggle of nations the captain, who by then had attained the rank of colonel, was unfortunately killed on active service. After the war his widow re-married and the stamps which had been left in a suitcase for safe keeping with his sister during hostilities, were left undisturbed. On her death the suitcase was discovered and the contents examined by the

second husband, also an interested philatelist, who discovered many unusual items.

Among the stamps were the 1921 (29 May-4 August) set 1m to 20p complete in unmounted mint blocks of four, SG 47-57. Reference to the catalogue shows that these stamps, printed by Harrison of London, were normally perforated 15 x 14 but both the 1m and the 20p (the lowest and highest face values) were known perforated 14 all round.



The unique block of SG 59, sold for US \$75 000.

The Palestine Mandate issues continue to attract interest. Estimated at SF 4000, this marginal block of four of the 5m on 1p (SG 2) was auctioned at Robson Lowe's Basle sale during March 1981.



The stamps were carefully checked by Muscott's who found the 20p block to be the rare perf 14 and thus catalogued at £13 000 per stamp — a total of £52 000. The exact measurement is 13,8 and this agrees with the known facts of the perforating machine. Collectors of Great Britain, for example, will find similar rare stamps perforated by this machine on the 1/2d and 1d issues of 1911-12.

At the time Robson Lowe of London issued his encyclopaedia in 1951, only two mint copies were known from the only sheet with the rare perforation. Subsequent knowledge indicates the number of mint singles to be three plus an estimated 20 used examples. The new find now brings the mint number to 7 of which this block of four is unique.

Establishing a fair market price on behalf of the fortunate owner was not easy as no mint example had been seen for a long while. Additionally the catalogue value had been radically increased by Stanley Gibbons from £7 500 per single in the 1979 Part I Catalogue to £12 000 in 1980 and now £13 000 in the 1981 edition. Specialist opinion was that a single should retail at around £7 600 and on behalf of the owner, Muscott's accepted an offer of US \$75 000 (£30 700) for the unique block. The new American owner is naturally delighted and intends to add the rarity to his already magnificent collection which he hopes to show at the international exhibition in Jerusalem in 1983.

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Aerophilately, but not airmail

A FIRST-flight cover for the Comair service between Jan Smuts Airport and Sun City in the Pilanesberg has been made by the Aerophilatelic Society of Southern Africa.

Covers were made for both way flights on 6 December 1980, but there is no airmail service between the two points.

For the flight from Sun City to Jan Smuts Airport the cover (illustrated) is postmarked with the special Sun City canceller instituted in that day — but the stamp is the 5c Bird commemorative and not a “Tourism” stamp. After postmarking the covers did not go through the mails but were taken aboard the aircraft and flown to Jan Smuts, where they were presented at the post office counter for backstamping.

To obtain a backstamp each cover had to have a 5c RSA stamp affixed to the back, and this stamp was cancelled with the Jan Smuts postmark of 7 December 1980.

Thus, while clearly aerophilatelic, these covers do not represent airmail.



Comprehensive Mauritius show

PETER IBBOTSON, FRPSL, will display varied selections from his comprehensive collection of the stamps and postal history of Mauritius in the Stanley Gibbons Romano House Gallery, 399 Strand, London, from 1-29 May.

The display begins with 18th-century letters from Mauritius to France when, as Isle de France, Mauritius was under French rule; and representative handstruck postal markings from the early years of British rule. The locally printed classic stamps are represented by a selection of 1d and 2d Post Pairs which show different states of the printing plate by a reconstructed plate of the 1d, as well as by Lapirot (including a pair on entire) and Dardenne issues. These locally printed stamps were used throughout the 1850s despite the fact that Mauritius, had received a supply of stamps — the seated Britannias — from England, via the Crown Agent, in 1849; and was in fact the first colony to do so.

During the 19th century Mauritius offers much of interest to the postal historian. There is a wide range of handstruck postal markings on maritime mail, both incoming and outgoing, which — since there are regrettable gaps in the available documentation — are comprehensible only after painstaking study. The attractive markings include red accountancy marks, applied in the country of despatch to show how much of the total postage paid was due to the country of receipt; “to pay” marks, applied in Mauritius as a form of postage due handstamp on unpaid or underpaid mail, and the oval Packet Letter Mauritius datestamp used in the 1850s, preceded and briefly succeeded by a rectangular Packet handstamp.

Examples of these and other maritime markings are displayed including the Ship Letter handstamp first used in 1850 and still in use (as a paquebot mark) in the late 1970s.

Nineteenth-century cancellations are also of great interest, especially two numeral series: (a) 1 to 17 in two concentric circles, 1853 - 69 and (b) 1 to B49 in an oval of bars, 1869 -ca 1893. Extracts from a detailed study of the latter are included, as well as selected pages showing other 19th century cancellations; including many of the cancellations and handstamps illustrated in the noted Japanese specialist, Hiroyuri Karai's book *Classic Mauritius - the locally printed postage stamps 1847 - 59* which Stanley Gibbons plan to publish in 1981.

At the end of the 19th century Mauritius launched a definitive series popularly known as “the first Colonial Arms

issue”. This is shown used, with proofs, colour trials and specimen stamps; and with two values used on the rare 1901 postcard issued to commemorate the visit to Mauritius, during their round-the-Empire tour, of TRH the Duke and Duchess of Cornwall and York.

Mauritius was one of the few colonies where mail posted in a street pillar box was postmarked with a distinctive pillar box circular date stamp. One frame holds a specialised study of these marks, including (for rural pillar boxes) two items which are the only ones as yet recorded.

A frame of early airmails to or from Mauritius is followed by a frame which holds a selection of Richard Granger Barrett's drawings for the 1969 Marine Life definitives.

Peter Ibbotson is a former teacher who after a spell at educational journalism is now a philatelic writer and a frequent contributor to Stamp Collecting. He has also been secretary of the British Philatelic Association and editor of its journal *Philately*. For many years he has studied, and researched and written about the postal history of Mauritius (which begins in 1607), on which he has come to be internationally regarded as an authority.

Communications

INTERNATIONAL COMMUNICATIONS is the theme of the four stamps which Malaŵi released on 2 May 1981. The values are the same four standard values as have now become customary — the 7, 10 and 20 tambala and the K1.

The 7t and 20t show respectively the Standard A and Standard B Earth Stations at Kanjedzai with the familiar dish antennae pointing skywards. The 10t depicts the international gateway exchange in Blantyre, while the K1 shows a satellite in space with the earth in the background. This latter design is very reminiscent of the United States “Project Mercury” stamp.

The issue was designed by Leslie Curtis and litho printed by Harrison & Sons Ltd in sheets of 50 (2 x 25 panes), on Malaŵi cockerel watermarked paper, perforated 14.5.

There is a miniature sheet measuring 100 x 150 mm for this issue. It is in vertical format, and, from the black and white advance illustration seen, it does not appear to be perforated.

This issue could well appeal to thematic collectors of space or communication subjects. — Howard Godwin.



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	1938 SG18/28	35
BECHUANA- LAND	1932 SG99/110	450
	1938 SG118/128	45
N RHODESIA	1925 SG1/17	650
	1938 SG25/45	90
NYASALAND	1938 SG130/143	65
	1945 SG144/157	38
	1953 SG173/187 (UM)	45
SOUTH AFRICA	1949 CC113/121a (14V-UM)	150
	1954 CC150/163 (UM)	60
	1959 CC169/176 (UM)	45
	1961 CC184/196 (UM)	50
SWA	1926 CC75/80	500
	1931 CC103/114	400
	1961 CC199/213	45
S RHODESIA	1931 CC15/27	250
	1953 CC78/91 (UM)	125
	1964 CC92/105 (UM)	70
SWAZILAND	1933 SG11/20	325

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Two more vending machine stamps

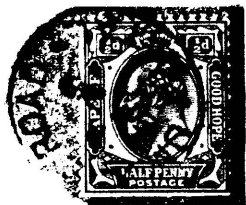
by S J Hagger RDPSA

IN an article on the first South African vending machine stamps, which appeared in the September 1977 issue of this magazine, I wrote that the 1d Transvaal roll stamp, illustration 6, would have come from the vending machine in Cape Town. Mr David Allison has informed me that there was a machine at Woodstock as well, so the stamp in question could have been purchased there.

I am also grateful to Mr K Freyman of Cape Town who presented me with a copy of what is obviously a Transvaal ½d roll stamp with part of the sheet margin used in the joining (of the next strip) on its lower back. Several more copies have since been seen but none with part of this joining margin.

Much scarcer are the ½d Cape roll stamps, to which my attention was drawn by Mr E de Lange of Pretoria, who was so kind as to let me have an example for my collection, and for which I thank him again.

The Transvaal ½d roll stamp.



The Cape ½d roll stamp used at Umlaas Road.

It will be seen on the illustration that the postmark is that of Umlaas Road in Natal, so although neither Durban nor Pietermaritzburg figured among the centres where vending machines were installed originally, they must have been introduced there soon afterwards.

As these are the only two emissions which have since come to light, it would seem that there are only six of these SA Edwardian roll stamps for specialists to be on the hunt for:

1. Those torn into strips and consequently cut only along the top and bottom perforations, the Cape ½d, ORC 2d, Transvaal ½d, 1d and 2d values.
2. The only one guillotined at the sides when making up the rolls and so being cut through all its perforations, the Transvaal 1d value.

This might also be a good time to summarise the booklet stamps which can be found with postmarks of the interprovincial period. They are cut only through the top or bottom perforations, never both, indicating that they came from the middle of the pane, otherwise cut on their left or right sides as well.

In the Orange River Colony stamps were never sold in booklet form, while those of the Cape and Natal were made up of 1d stamps only, but the last Transvaal booklet comprised ½d and 1d values.

Six roll and four booklet stamps together make a nice round number, unless of course one tries to find them used in different provinces, but that is another story.

(The Union of South Africa Postmaster General's report for 1911 said automatic stamp vending machines had been installed experimentally in Cape Town, Johannesburg and Pretoria - Ed.)



SWAZILAND

SWAZILAND'S latest issue is also styled "tourism" but unlike Bophuthatswana only one of the four stamps features the hotel/casino industry. The stamps were designed by Leslie Curtis and issued on 16 April 1981.

The values are:

- 5c - Mantenga Falls on the Little Usutu River, off the Mbabane-Manzini road in the Ezulwini valey.
- 15c - Mananga Yacht Club on the Sand River Dam in the northern Lowveld.
- 30c - A white rhino with young in the Mlilwane Game Sanctuary.
- E1 - The postal rate for this high value stamp is unknown, but the significance is obvious: gambling involves money. The stamp shows a roulette wheel, playing cards and a pair of dice.

Mini-uitstalling 'n mooi sukses

DIE "mini" wat in Maart by die Total-galery aangebied is, was toe in werklikheid 'n "maxi" — nie soseer omdat dit uit 'n groot aantal rame bestaan het nie, maar omdat dit van 'n gehalte was wat dit kop en skouers bo talle ander uitstallings laat uitstaan het.

'n Mens kan net die hoop uitspreek dat die inisiatief wat Dee Walkden, direkteur van die galery, SAPDA en Total geneem het in die jare wat kom, herhaal sal kan word.

Maar sonder die samewerking van die Poskantoor museum en The Star, asook die groot ywer wat Dave Crocker en SAPDA aan die dag gelê het, sou "Ons Posgeskiedenis" nie so 'n treffer gewees het nie.

Die uitstalling het weer eens die waarheid beklemtoon dat 'n mens nie raam-op-raam nodig het om doeltreffend te kan uitstal nie. Uit die aard van die geleentheid wa dit nie moontlik om meer as twee rame per deelnemer toe te ken nie. Maar wat 'n skittervertoning van die beste wat beskikbaar was! 'n Mens het lank laas die geleentheid gehad om feitlik die hele posgeskiedenis van die land onder een dak byeen te sien.

Daar was Bob Goldblatt RDPSA se nou reeds beroemde Cape-O-Rama, Kobus Esterhuysen se manjifieke Kaapse driehoekige, Claude Malan se Unie van Suid-Afrika-stukke, Stan Naylor se lugposversameling, Basil Kantey se Natal-stukke en Harry Birkhead se versameling van die glorieryke Mafeking Blues.

Die bybehore uit die poskantoor museum en uit die argiewe van The Star — foto's en toerusting uit "Ons Posgeskiedenis" — het net daardie tikke afgerondheid verskaf.

Diegene wat nie die geleentheid benut het om 'n draai by die Total-galery te maak nie, het sekerlik baie misgeloop.

Falkland Islands Dependencies



THE CHARACTERISTICS of Antarctic land-life are the antithesis of land-life in the tropics, where plants and animals are large, exotic and abundant. The only animal form native to the Antarctic land mass is a species of wingless fly. It is only in the sheltered places of the northern part of the Antarctic Peninsula, that several flowering plants, two species of grass and a pearlwort can survive.

The climate of the islands which constitutes the Falkland Islands Dependencies is intermediate between that of Antarctica and the Sub-Antarctic islands.

South Georgia, Britain's oldest Antarctic possession, lying 800 miles south-east of the Falkland Islands, has a cold, damp climate, with summer temperatures averaging only about 5°C. It is plagued by mists and strong winds as well.

The island is 100 miles in length and 20 miles wide, and consists principally of a chain of snow-covered mountains, of which the highest is Mount Paget (9 625 feet).

The intervening valleys are filled with glaciers, which in some places reach down to the sea. Tussock-grass grows in the swampy ground near the shore, beyond which is a tundra-like region with various grasses, burnets, tiny flowering buttercups and bedstraw.

Elsewhere grow mosses and lichens. Seaweed or kelp is abundant on the beaches.

There are a few species of insect-life and the coasts are inhabited by birds and seals. Captain Cook on his famous second voyage, in search of an Antarctic continent, claimed South Georgia for Britain in 1775. His opinion of it was hardly flattering:

"Lands doomed by Nature to perpetual frigidness, where not a tree was to be seen, nor a shrub high enough to make a toothpick".

The South Sandwich Islands, which constitute the remainder of the Falkland Islands Dependencies, form the eastern section of the volcanic Scotia Arc. The southern islands, Vindication, Candlemas, Saunders, Montague, Bristol and Southern Thule Antarctic bedstraw (*Galium antarcticum*).

As their names suggest, Zavodovski, Visokoi and Leskov Islands were discovered by a Russian expedition under Captain Thaddens von Bellingshausen in 1819.

Some of the volcanoes are still active and it is only in the region of their warm fumaroles that green mats of mosses and liverworts are able to thrive. Most of the remainder of the island is barren. Antarctic hair grass is found on Candlemas Island.

The plants featured on the Falkland Islands Dependencies stamps of 5 February 1981 are as follows:

- 3P - Magellanic club moss (*Lycopodium magellanicum*). The club mosses (*Lycopodiinae*) are distributed throughout the world, but avoid the most arid zones. All species are herbaceous and most have procumbent, richly-forking stems. The leaves are small, needle-shaped and sometimes, scale-like.
- 6P - Alpine cat's tail (*Phleum alpinum*). This plant is a member of a widespread grass family related to the "fox-tail".
- 7P - Greater burnet (*Acaena magellanica*). The burnets are a member of the Rosaceae (rose family).
- 11P - Antarctic bedstraw (*Galium antarcticum*).
- 15P - Brown rush (*Rostkovia magellanica*). Rushes differ from grasses in manner of their pollination, their consequent simplification of flowers, their structure of seeds and the formation of a starchy endosperm.
- 25P - Antarctic hair grass (*Deschampsia antarctica*). This grass was the first flowering plant described in the Antarctic by Hooker when he accompanied Ross's expedition in 1837.

OFFERS FROM STOCK

- Falkland Island**
1978 Def set of 15 Ships. (1p-£3) SG331/345 UM R19
- Gibraltar**
1977 Silver Jubilee. Min sheet SGM/S 373 R9,50
1977 Def Flowers ½p-£5 SG374/389a. UM. (18) R28
- Pitcairn Island**
1977 Def Set of 11. SG174/184 UM R10
1980 London Exhibition Mini sheet SG205 R7
- St Helena**
1976 def set of 15. 1p-£2. SG319/331 UM R18
1978 Coronn Anniv Mini sheet SG338/340 UM R8
- Samoa**
Def Set of 17. Shells. SG516/530b. UM R16
- Tristan da Cunha**
1978 Coron Anniv Mini sheet SG239/241. UM R9
1977 def set of 12. Birds SG220/231. UM R16,75
1978 Fish Set of 4. SG246/249. UM R5,50
- SA 1913 Kingsheads**
2d Plate No 2 top and bottom control singles. Top
UM Mint, bottom Mint R16
1/3 pale-violet. Plate 1. Control pair from top left corner
stamps. UM. Hinged only on margin. Superb R175
- 1927 London Pictorials**
10 Horiz pair "Speciman" centred top left. Very Fine Mint R475
1971 R1 showing green colour shift (on flower). Giving
double print impression. Superb. UM Mint R28

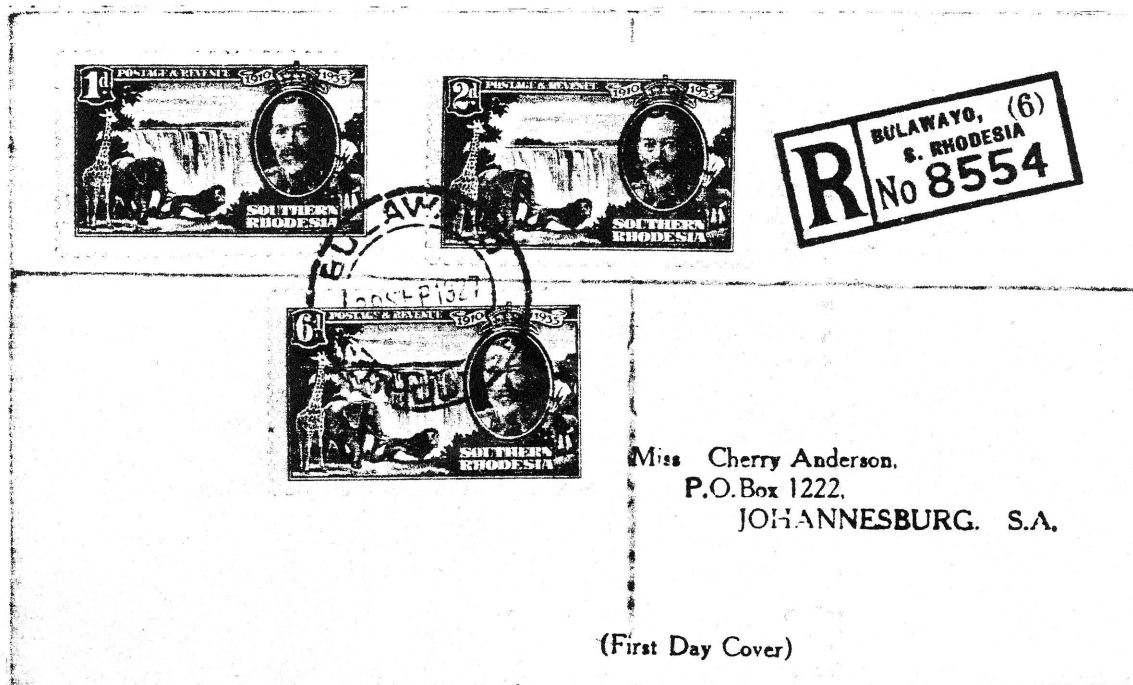
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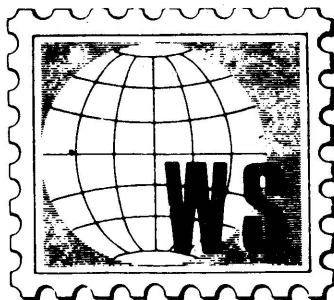
Mr John P Rozwadoski, of Pietermaritzburg, writes that the report on "a genuine FDC" on p 317 of *The SA Philatelist* of November 1980, and other comments recently expressed about first day covers, have prompted him to forward photocopies of a recently found "FDC" postmarked some eight years prior to the issue of the stamps.

The cover has a "First Day Cover" imprint and a printed

address. It is franked with the 1d, 2d and 6d of the Southern Rhodesia Silver Jubilee set, which was issued on 6 May 1935 (the 3d stamp of this issue is missing from the cover).

The cover is registered from Bulawayo, the double-circle datestamp being dated 25 September 1927. A second impression of the postmark is used as a backstamp to tie the sealed flap of the envelope.

How come?



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Nuwe seëlbeleid is nodig

GEAGTE MENEER — Die volgende sake in die Maart 1981-uitgawe van u tydskrif lok kommentaar uit:

(1) Dit is verblydend om te sien hoeveel mense van die kolomme van die tydskrif gebruik maak om hul menings te lug in verband met wat in die seëlwereld aangaan. Ek hoop nog meer mense sal, ná die uitnodiging deur u in die redaksionele kolom gerig, van dié geleentheid gebruik maak.

(2) Die antwoord van die Posmeester-generaal van Bophuthatswana oor die sogenaamde "Sun City"-seëls bring nou seker hierdie saak tot 'n einde. Ek waardeer dit dat u dié soort gebeure in u redaksionele kolom onder die aandag van die owerhede en die versamelaars bring. Maar ek wil graag weet wat het die Filateliese Federasie en *The SA Philatelist* in die verlede gedoen om die onafhanklike swart state te adviseer in verband met filateliese sake? Was ons nie maar té gelukkig om hulle in die hande van Filateliedienste en Intersafa te laat nie? Moet die regering van die Ciskei, wat later vanjaar onafhanklik word, nie van raad gedien word sodat hulle nie in dieselfde slaggate trap nie?

(3) Die Transkeise Kunsvlieë-kombinasies en die debakel oor die sogenaamde gedenkkoeferte. Hierdie twee sake waaroor daar weer in die jongste uitgawe van u tydskrif geskryf is, is maar net die jongste in 'n reeks van klagtes wat oor jare al teen die seëlowerhede en die seëlbeleid geopper is. Ek dink dit het tyd geword (en vinnig ook) vir 'n nuwe seëlbeleid vir Suid-Afrika. So 'n seëlbeleid moet in samewerking met die Filateliese Federasie opgestel word.

— G van der Walt, Potchefstroom

Lesotho should reconsider

DEAR SIR — The new streamlined Lesotho Philatelic Bureau has certainly improved the service to collectors but the stamp production policy is deteriorating rapidly.

The Lesotho commemorative issues have not been cheap for the last few years, but a set like the June 1979 reptiles was tasteful and relevant and it is possible to believe that 4s, 10s, 15c and 25s stamps would reasonably be required for postal purposes.

I list some of the later issues to show the decline.

22 October 1979 Sir Rowland Hill 4s, 15s, 25s, 50s miniature sheet.

The high value as a sheet tends to imply that it would not be generally used for postage, particularly as it was issued in no other form.

10 December 1979 Christmas 4s, 10s, 15s, 25s miniature sheet.

Design attractive but unrelated to Lesotho and a larger if cheaper sheet!

18 February 1980 Grass weaving 4s, 10s, 15s, 25s.

Almost back to normal, and an attractive set.

6 May 1980 War of the Gun 4s, 5s, 10s, 15s, 25s.

Reasonable and a relevant subject.

After a break in issues the new policy was in full bloom.

20 September 1980 Olympic Games 5 x 25s, M1,40 miniature sheet, total price R2,65.

This represents no internal postal rates, except possibly parcel post. The miniature sheet is particularly objectionable as its postal use is vague in the extreme.

20 October 1980 Overprint on definitives.

A drain on collectors, but permissible.

20 November 1980 Pottery 5s, 10s, 15s, 25s.

Fine, till you realise there is a miniature sheet of 4 x 40s. I would be glad to know if any of these stamps have been found used individually for postage.

1 December 1980 Queen Mother's 80th Birthday 5s, 10s, M1 in se-tenant strip.

Expensive. The implication here is that either too few 5s and 10s were issued or too many M1 were issued for normal postal purposes. Were these strips used in the PO or only kept for the collector?

10 December 1980 Christmas 4s, 15s, 25s, 75s.

A nice set of churches. Postal rates up and 75s a new rate! The set has the inevitable miniature sheet at M1,50.

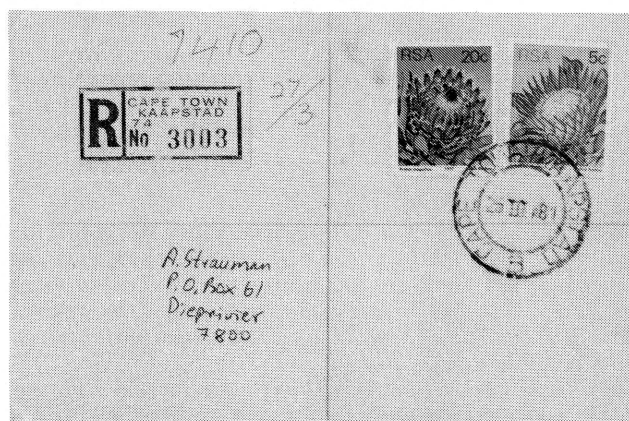
Now we have the new Space issue of 15 March 1981, 5 x 25s and a M1,40 miniature sheet. A repeat of the Olympic Games issue with no internal low rate. This is not surprising as the subject of the issue has little if any connection with the country.

My feeling about the new Lesotho stamp policy is that they are following hard on the heels of the Gulf states and collectors should think twice before they continue to collect these issues.

One can only hope it is not too late and the Lesotho PO will reconsider.

— Margaret van Zyl, Bloemfontein

Special mark not used



DEAR SIR — A special temporary postmark had been announced for the 150th anniversary of the Western Cape Agricultural Society on 25 March 1981.

It is with much regret that I must inform you that the postal agent at the Goodwood Showgrounds was not supplied with the special commemorative postal canceller, and that all postal items were cancelled with the usual postmark (a large double-circle Cape Town/Kaapstad/3).

This is evidenced by a registered letter posted at the postal agent in the showgrounds at 14h45 on 25 March 1981.

Is there some explanation for this sad state of affairs?

— Ms A Strauman, Dieprivier

How patient to be?

DEAR SIR — The leading article in the January issue of *The SA Philatelist* "Vast backlog in executing orders" was most timely. Until this article appeared standing order customers had been completely in the dark as to what was happening.

By not having notified standing order customers in an official circular, these customers have understandably written to enquire why issues had not been received. The extra work caused by these enquiries and referred to in your article, is therefore largely the fault of Philatelic Services themselves.

The statement that delays began after the Leipoldt issue is not accurate. This was issued on 3/9/80 and was only received by me on 21/11/80, ie 69 days after issue date.

Of last year's issues, I still have to receive the following:

SA Paardekraal issue 15/12/80 (so far 91 days)

SWA Water Conservation issue 25/11/80 (so far 111 days)

How patient must one be?

May I suggest that Mr Steyn be requested to issue an official circular on this subject and inform standing order

customers how long they should wait before reporting the non-receipt of an issue? This would save Philatelic Services unnecessary enquiries and give customers peace of mind.

I find it difficult to understand how, if such bureaux as Great Britain who have an enormous order book, can despatch stamps on the day of issue, the SA Services cannot improve on their service.

— R M Ellman, Pietermaritzburg

Odd mark from Holland



DEAR SIR — I have received this label on a letter from Holland. It reads Surface Mail Air Lifted and is issued by the Dutch post office (PTT).

Why should surface mail be airlifted? What would the explanation be?

— Maj C F Hegardt, Cape Town

Definitely Zastron

DEAR SIR — Mr A G M Batten's article on the OFS postage due marks in *The SA Philatelist* was most interesting.

I have two postcards posted without stamps in Zastron during September 1907. Both have clear impressions of Zastron's Tax mark with the figure 20 below the T, which prove the use of this mark at Zastron beyond doubt.

— Alex van Rensburg, Zastron

Advertisers slated

DEAR SIR — Perhaps it is time advertisers in your journal get hauled over the coals. I have found that when one places orders with firms, and they are firms of repute, one waits and waits for orders to be executed.

I cannot escape the conclusion that once the advertiser has your money, they adopt the attitude "he can wait".

In the future if I am meted out such treatment, I will forward you the name of such a firm so that you can give them a roasting.

Courtesy costs nothing. If they are out of the item, or are awaiting further stocks, the firm should let one know, or go out of business.

— Dr I Hirschfield, Bloemfontein

. . . And local dealers too

DEAR SIR — I wonder why some dealers advertise in *The South African Philatelist*? I recently decided to get my specialist collecting interest (Grahamstown postal history) across to as many sources as possible. I went through *The SA Philatelist* of February 1981 and wrote to a large number of dealers stating my interest and enquiring whether they could help me.

Some seven weeks after having written the letters, I have only had answers from two dealers — strange that these two who responded are both overseas companies.

What is wrong with our local dealers? Are they so busy that they can't even drop a card into the post acknowledging receipt of a letter? If this is the case, a statement in their advertisements along the lines of "callers only — no postal business" would be appreciated.

Does this all mean that a new collector who doesn't live on the Witwatersrand is never going to be able to exhibit at a national exhibition?

— Dr John Haigh, Grahamstown

Meer oor Vrykorps

GEAGTE MENEER — Na aanleiding van 'n berig in die *Nederlandsch Maandblad voor Philatelie* oor die artikel van die heer S J Vermaak betreffende die Skandinawiese Vrywilligers in die Vryheidsoorlog, gepubliseer in *The SA Philatelist* van Oktober 1980, kan ek 'n verdere posstuk aanmeld.

Dis is 'n brief gestuur uit Hybo, Swede, op 1 Februarie 1901 na die Diyatalawa-kamp op Ceylon en gerig aan luitenant Erik Stalberg van die Skandinawiese Vrywilligerskorps. Op die koevert is twee ovaalstempels van die Diyatalawa Camp/Passed/Censor, bo-om is die pienk sensorplakstrook E.R. Opened under Martial Law, en op die rugkant is die skeepsmerk Trelleborg-Sassnitz 141 B 3.2.1901 en die aankomstempels van Colombo en Diyatalawa.

Weens die groen kleur van die koevert is fotostate ongelukkig nie helder nie.

Daar so weinig posstukke van die Vrykorps bekend is, hoop ek dat u lesers en die heer Vermaak dié gegewens interessant sal vind.

— W Bakker, Nederlandse Vereniging van Poststukken- en Poststempelverzamelaars, IJmuiden, Nederland

High prices for Malta

SEVERAL unique items of Malta postal history realised extremely high prices at Warwick & Warwick's auction held on 1 April 1981 at Brighton, UK.

Sixteenth, 17th and 18th century letters from the Grand Masters were acquired by the Museum of the Order of St John in London; the second letter recorded from Malta in 1596 realised £480 and a particularly fine 1703 entire, without postal markings, made £550.

The unique entire bearing the only known copy of the "VOYE DE MER/PAR MARSEILLE" strike was knocked down for £975 to an overseas telephone bidder.

An 1802 soldier's letter with a Portsmouth ship letter handstamp, which described the situation after the defeat of Napoleon's forces, realised £340.

In the disinfected mail section an entire bearing an Anchor Seal of the Sanitary Office with a local post postage due handstamp in Tari/Grani made £925, and an 1830 outer wrapper with a magnificent strike of the fancy, oval-framed "LAZARETTO/MALTA" (one of three known covers) and a local post handstamp realised £1050.

The major item in the postage due section was the 1830 internal entire with a magnificent strike of the rare oval frame "ONE PENNY/FOR/DELIVERY", which was knocked down for £850.

BELEGGINGSADVIES

LESERS het ons aandag gevestig op 'n artikel waarin mnr Herman Steyn na vore tree as eksponent van seëlversameling vir belegging.

Die agtkolom-opskrif in Die Kouter, 'n landboukoerant, van 25 Februarie 1981 is "Posseëlversameling 'n uitstekende belegging".

Ons volstaan met 'n enkele aanhaling: "Nie diamante, skilderye, antieke meubels of selfs goud het die winsgrens van 'n belegging in seëls nie, sê mnr Herman Steyn, direkteur: Filateliedienste en Intersafa."

Karoo-rampfonds — Die veiling wat die Afrikaanse Filatelistevereniging gereël het, het R191 opgelewer.

Nuwe toonbank — Vryheid se poskantoor het 'n filateliëtoonbank gekry. Hierdie gerief is net op Woensdae, van 14h00 tot 16h00.

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The business administration of the Federation is handled by the Honorary Treasurer.

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The South African Philatelist

All editorial correspondence should be addressed to the Honorary Editor, PO Box 4430, Pretoria 0001.

Hon Editor: Mr Joh Groenewald RDPSA. Tel (012) 86 6011. W (012) 2 17671.

Philatelic Estates Committee

The Vice-presidents of the Federation will assist executors in dealing with philatelic holdings in deceased estates.

Expert Committee

This committee expresses considered opinion as to the genuinity or otherwise of stamps and philatelic items. The chairman is Cmdr Cyril Enoch RDPSA.

Tel H (012) 2 4891.

Material for expertising may be submitted to the Hon Secretary, Expert Committee, PO Box 2388, Pretoria 0001.

Audiovisual Committee

Chairman: Mr Arie Bakker RDPSA, PO Box 13108, Northmead 1511. Tel H (011) 849 1819. Affiliated societies may apply for slide shows and talks to Mr Dave Hunt, PO Box 11388, Rynfield 1514. Tel H (011) 849 4578, W (011) 845 1300. Eighty shows are available.

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Considers suggestions for new stamp issues and prepares representations to the authorities. Societies and collectors may submit ideas to PO Box 4430, Pretoria 0001.

The Philatelic Foundation

Promotional fund administered jointly by the Philatelic Federation and the Post Office. Donations may be sent to PO Box 2492, Pretoria 0001.

Exhibitions

1981 - Vrijstaat 81, Bloemfontein, July 1981. Information from Exhibition Chairman, PO Box 702, Bloemfontein 9300.

1982 - Telepex/Telefu, Port Elizabeth, 8-13 May 1982, at the Feathermarket Hall. Information from Exhibition Chairman, PO Box 3, Port Elizabeth 6000.

1983 - Durban.

1984 - West Rand.

1985 - East London.

Philatelic Congress

The 43rd congress of the Philatelic Federation will be held in Bloemfontein in July 1981.

Aerophilatelic Society of South Africa

Transvaal section meets on the third Saturday of the month, 14h15, Room 75, Johannesburg Public Library.

Hon Secretary Colin Plen, PO Box 391499, Bramley 2018. Tel H (011) 40-4272.

Afrikaanse Filatelievereniging van Pretoria

Vergader vierde Woensdag van die maand, 19h00, teekamer, Patalogiegebou, Soutpansbergweg, Pretoria.

Eresekretaris Prof FGE Nilant, Posbus 706, Pretoria 0001. Tel H (012) 47 2702.

Afrikaanse Filatelistevereniging

Vergader eerste Saterdag van die maand, 14h00, kamer 75, Openbare Biblioteek, Markplein, Johannesburg.

Eresekretaris JS Zaayman, Posbus 32470, Braamfontein 2017. Tel H (011) 764 3836, W (011) 713 4650.

Jeugafdeling vergader eerste Saterdag van die maand, 14h00, kamer 95, Openbare Bilboteek, Markplein, Johannesburg.

Barclays Group Philatelic Society

Meets third Tuesday of the month, 13h00, third floor, Barclays National Bank, corner of Commissioner and Harrison Streets, Johannesburg.

Hon Secretary Mr Cedric Edwards, Inspection Department, Barclays National Bank, PO Box 1153, Johannesburg 2000. Tel W (011) 836 1971.

Bellville Philatelic Society

Meets first Wednesday of the month, 19h30, Van Riet Auditorium, Bellville Public Library.

Hon Secretary K I Phillipson, 23 Letchworth Drive, Edgemead 7405. Tel H (021) 58 3428, W (021) 58 4900.

Boksburg Philatelic Society

Meets first Wednesday of the month, 20h00, 37 Langenhoven Road, Parkrand, Boksburg.

Hon Secretary Mrs Jill Redmond, PO Box 942, Boksburg 1460. Tel H (011) 52 4597, W (011) 34 4331.

Brits-Filatelistevereniging

Eresekretaris, Posbus 512, Brits 0250.

Cape Society for Palestine-Israel Philately (CASPIP) Meets third Wednesday of the month, 20h00, The Boardroom, Western Province Zionist Council, 4 Leeuwen Street (between Long and Keerom Streets), Cape Town.

Hon Secretary PO Box 6160, Roggebaai 8012. Tel H (021) 52 4124, W (021) 55 5151.

Specialist study circle meets once per month.

East London Philatelic Society

Meets fourth Thursday of the month, 20h00, Langenhoven Hall (upstairs), Central Library, Gladstone Street, East London.

Hon Secretary, PO Box 925, East London 5200. Tel H (0431) 8 8883, due to change to (0431) 5 6883.

East Rand Philatelic Society

Meets second Monday of the month, 20h00, Benoni Library.

Hon Secretary, PO Box 1066, Benoni 1500. Tel H (011) 849 0056, W (011) 805 2161.

Edenvale Philatelic Society/Filateliëvereniging

Meets first Wednesday of the month, 20h00, Public Library, corner of Van Riebeeck Avenue and 7th Street (entrance 7th Street), Edenvale.

Hon Secretary S J Bailie, 62 Karen Road, Iliondale Edenvale 1610. Tel H (011) 609-2709.

Filateliëvereniging van die Onderwyskollege Potchefstroom

Vergaderings word gehou om by die akademiese jaarprogram in te pas.

Eresekretaris Hermanus Grobler, Huiz Izak Meyer, P.O.K., Potchefstroom 2520. Tel H (01481) 22244, W (01481) 22175.

Fish Hoek Philatelic Society

Meets first Wednesday of the month, 20h00, Library Hall, Beach Road, Fish Hoek.

Hon Secretary J Wannerton, "Caertaff", Pearson, Avenue, Kenilworth 7700. Tel H (021) 77 5802.

Germiston Philatelic Society

Meets third Wednesday of the month, 20h00, Board-room, Germiston Hotel.

Hon Secretary N W Davey, PO Box 30, Germiston 1400. Tel H (011) 58 3694, W (011) 892 2810 x 268.

Grahamstown Philatelic Society

Meets first Thursday of the month (except January, when there is no meeting), 20h00, at a member's house.

Hon Secretary, PO Box 175, Grahamstown 6140. Tel H (046) 4653, W (0461) 4133 x 25.

Great Britain Philatelic Society of South Africa. Meets quarterly in February, May, August and November at a member's home in the Johannesburg/Pretoria area.

Hon Secretary Mrs M Wood, 978 Sysie Street, Silverton X7, 0184.

Kempton Park Philatelic Society

Meets second Tuesday of the month, 19h30, Bernie Jacobs Hall (next to public library), Kempton Park. Hon Secretary T W Blom, PO Box 1199, Kempton Park 1620. Tel H (011) 972 5024.

Junior section meets first Saturday of the month, 11h00, same venue. Further information from junior section organiser De VM Horak, PO Box 1450, Kempton Park, 1620. Tel H (011) 972 1691.

Meets first Saturday of the month, 11h00, same venue. Further information from junior section organiser De VM Horak, PO Box 1450, Kempton Park, 1620. Tel H (011) 972 1691.

Meets first Saturday of the month, 11h00, same venue. Further information from junior section organiser De VM Horak, PO Box 1450, Kempton Park, 1620. Tel H (011) 972 1691.

King William's Town Philatelic Society

Meets first Monday of the month, 19h30, group activities room, Public Library.

Hon Secretary B G Sonemann, PO Box 655, King William's Town 5600. Tel H (0433) 22984, W (0433) 23400.

Kimberley Philatelic Society

Meets third Wednesday of the month, 19h30, Kimberley Mine Bowling Club, North Circular Road, Kimberley.

Hon Secretary R Oliver, 2 Cohen Street, Labram. Kimberley 8301. Tel H (0531) 21689, W (0531) 31791.

Klerksdorp Philatelic Society

Meets first Thursday of the month, 19h30, Public Library.

Hon Secretary, Mrs Wynne Ward, PO Box 712, Klerksdorp 2570.

Mashonaland Philatelic Society

Meets second Wednesday of the month, 19h30,

Riembarta Hall, Jameson Avenue East, Salisbury.
Hon Secretary E A Wrangle, 46 Alveston Avenue,
Borrowdale, Salisbury. Tel H 8876315, W 706081.

Manicaland Philatelic Society

Meets third Wednesday of the month, 19h30, Paul-
ington Room, Cecil Hotel, Umtali.
Hon Secretary P Hoau, PO Box 809, Umtali, Zim-
babwe. Tel H 61772, W 64031.

Maritzburg Philatelic Society

Meets last Monday of the month, 19h30, Depart-
ment of Psychology, University of Natal, Golf
Road.
Hon Secretary Mrs M C M Holmberg, PO Box 256,
Pietermaritzburg 3200.

Midlands Stamp Club

Meets fourth Tuesday of the month. 19h30, Presby-
terian Church Hall, 8th Street, Gwelo.
Hon Secretary, PO Box 550, Gwelo, Zimbabwe.
Tel H 3539 or 7949, W 2446 or 3863. Social
weekend held in September/October; junior night
in July.

Moorivierse Posseëlklub

Vergader eerste Woensdag van elke tweede maand
(gelyke maande), 19h30, Biblioteek, Potchefstroom.
Eresekretaris J A S Malherbe, Posbus 721, Potchef-
stroom 2520. Tel H (01481) 23115.

**Noord-Natale Filatelievereniging/Northern Natal
Philatelic Society**

Meets second Wednesday of the month, 19h00,
Anglican Church Hall, Paterson Street, Newcastle.
Eresekretaris L C Eksteen, Posbus 8224, Newcastle
2953. Tel H (0343) 83275, W (0343) 28011 x 1249.
Jeugafdeling vergader op Saterdag na die tweede
Woensdag, 15h00, huis van mnr L C Eksteen.

Oranje-Vrystaatse Filatelievereniging

Vergader vierde Vrydag van die maand, 19h30,
Museumsaal, ingang Henrystraat. Vergader nie in
Desember nie.
Hon Secretary, PO Box 702, Bloemfontein 9300.
Tel H (051) 313235, W (051) 78231.

Paarlse Filateliste

Vergader derde Donderdag van die maand, 20h00,
Hotel Central Paarl.
Eresekretaris mev R Radandt, Posbus 60, Hoof-
straat, Paarl 7646. Tel H (0251) 24006 of 22494.

Phalaborwa Philatelic Club

Meets first Wednesday of the month at 19h00, Blue
Room, Selati Club.
Hon Secretary Mrs E M Giroul, PO Box 228,
Phalaborwa 1390. Tel H (01524) 2790.

Philatelic Society of Johannesburg

Meets second Tuesday and fourth Monday of the
month, 20h00, Room 75, Public Library, Market
Square, Johannesburg.
Hon Secretary D Morrison, PO Box 4967,
Johannesburg 2000. Tel H (011) 453461, W (011)
838 3311.

Philatelic Society of Malawi

Meets first Thursday of the month, 19h00, Shire
Highlands Hotel.
Hon Secretary Mrs V Garland, PO Box 1443,
Blantyre, Malawi. Tel H 630237, W 635346.
Meeting dates are varied occasionally to avoid
public holidays.
Junior meetings are usually extra to programme.

Philatelic Society of Natal

Meets first and third Wednesday of the month,
19h30, Geo Cato Room, City Hall, Durban.
Hon Secretary, PO Box 588, Durban 4000. Tel H
(031) 64306.

Pietersburg Philatelic Society/Filatelistevereniging.

Meets last Tuesday of the month, Library
Auditorium.
Hon Secretary, PO Box 302, Pietersburg 0700.

Pinelands Stamp Circle

Meets last Wednesday of the month, 20h00, Roman
Catholic Church Hall, Woodside Drive, Pinelands.
Pinelands Junior Stamp Circle meets third Wed-
nesday of the month, 17h00, 2nd Pinelands Scout

Hall, Cedar Avenue (details contact Mrs Crawford).
Hon Secretary Mrs M Crawford, 6 Norfolk Lane,
Rosebank 7700. Tel H (021) 695050.

Port Elizabeth Philatelic Society

Meets first and third Tuesday of the month, 20h00,
Walmer Library Hall.
Hon Secretary, PO Box 3, Port Elizabeth 6000. Tel
H (041) 332680.

Post Office Tree Philatelic Society

Meets second Monday of the month in alternate
months, 20h00, Library Hall, Marsh Street, Mossel
Bay.
Hon Secretary A Mortimer, PO Box 313, Mossel
Bay 6500. Tel H (04441) 2693.

**Postmark and Postal History Society of Southern
Africa**

Meets fifth Saturday of the month (months having
a fifth Saturday), 14h30, Room 95, Public Library,
Market Square, Johannesburg.
Hon Secretary Mr Paul van Zeyl, 16 Siebolds
Road, Darrenwood Ext 2, 2195. Tel H (011)
6784041, W (011) 8333611 x 250.

Pretoria Philatelic Society

Meets first Monday of the month. 19h30, Cultural
History Museum, Boom Street.
Hon Secretary, PO Box 514, Pretoria 0001. Tel H
(012) 786841, W (012) 749111.

Pretoria Railway Philatelic Society

Meets second Wednesday of the month, 19h30,
Railway Recreation Club, Berea Park.
Hon Secretary, PO Box 2388, Pretoria 0001. Tel H
(012) 627535.

Queenstown Philatelic Society

Meets first Monday of the month, (except Jan),
19h45, upstairs Museum Building.
Hon Secretary Mrs M Rothmann, PO Box 123,
Queenstown 5320. Tel (0451) 2383.

Royal Philatelic Society of Cape Town

Meets second and fourth Monday of each month,
20h00, Athenaeum Trust, 154 Camp Ground Road,
Newlands (next to Newlands Station).
Hon Secretary, PO Box 1973, Cape Town 8000. Tel
H (021) 711798, W (021) 214800 x 739.

Royal Philatelic Society of Rhodesia

Meets first Wednesday of the month, 20h00,
Ingutsheni Recreation Hall, in the grounds of
Ingutsheni Hospital.
Hon Secretary, W J Tully, PO Box 803, Bulawayo,
Zimbabwe. Tel H 64745, W 65781.

SABC Stamp Club/SAUK-Seëlklub

Meets first Wednesday of the month, 12h30, Room
1911, Broadcasting Centre, Auckland Park.
Hon Secretary Bob Tucker, Room 1942, PO Box
8606, Johannesburg 2000. Tel W (011) 7149422.

Sand River Philatelic Society

Meets third Monday of the month, 19h30,
Harmony Country Club.
Hon Secretary Mrs R L Bonthron, PO Box 42,
Glen Harmony 9435. Tel H (017) 33084.

Sanlam-Filatelistevereniging

Vergader elke derde Woensdagaand van elke tweede
maand.
Eresekretaris, Sanlam-Sportklub, Posbus 1, San-
lamhof 7532. Tel H (021) 971316, W (021) 971311
x 560.

Lidmaatskap is geslote: slegs Sanlam-hoofkantoor-
personeel en hul gesinne kan aansluit.

Signum-Filatelistevereniging

Eresekretaris, Posbus 922, Bethlehem 9700. (Dit is
'n junior vereniging).

Society of Israel Philately

Meets first Monday of the month, 20h00, first
floor, Diamond Exchange, De Villiers Street,
Johannesburg.
Hon Secretary, PO Box 11502, Johannesburg 2000.
Tel H (011) 435000, W (011) 216311.

South African Stamp Study Circle

Meets second Saturday of the month, 14h15, Room
95, Mezzanine floor, Public Library, Market

Square, Johannesburg.

Hon Secretary, PO Box 32471, Braamfontein 2017,
Tel H (011) 6725206, W (011) 8336452.
Specialist newsletter is published.

South West Africa Stamp Group

Meets fourth Saturday of the month, 14h15, Room
95, Mezzanine floor, Public Library, Market
Square, Johannesburg.
Hon Secretary Mr I M Blackstone, PO Box 3913,
Johannesburg 2000. Tel H (011) 7888666.

Springs Philatelic Society/Filatelistevereniging

Meets third Monday of the month, 19h30, Springs
Country Club.
Hon Secretary B Mannie, PO Box 13031, Geduld,
Springs 1562. Tel H (011) 8182655, W (011)
564211.

Stellenbosse Filatelistevereniging

Meets third Tuesday of the month (Feb to Nov),
19h30, Langenhoven Student Centre, University
campus.
Eresekretaris J C Evertse, Posbus 2230, Stellen-
bosch 7600. Tel H (012231) 71737.

St Stithians Stamp Collectors' Club

Meets one evening per month, date to suit school
programme, St Stithians Prep School Library, Hen-
drik Verwoerd Drive, Randburg.
Hon Secretary Mrs J M Lloyd, 42 Tenth Road,
Hyde Park, Johannesburg 2196. Tel H (011)
7882380.

SWA Philatelic Society

Hon Secretary, PO Box 20650, Windhoek 9100.

Tugela Basin Stamp Club

Meets second Wednesday of the month, 19h15,
Library Facilities Room, Ladysmith.
Hon Secretary G R Orr, PO Box 236, Ladysmith
3370. Tel W (0361) 2171.

The Wanderers Philatelic Society

Meets second Wednesday of the month, 20h00. The
Wanderers Club, Bowlers' Lounge (check notice-
board at club entrance), Corlett Drive, Illovo.
Hon Secretary Walter Giesenow, PO Box 55306,
Northlands 2116. Tel (011) 401159.

Vereeniging Stamp Club/Vereenigingse Seëlklub

Meets third Friday of the month, 19h30, Group
Activities Room, Vereeniging Municipal Library.
Eresekretaris, Posbus 222, Vereeniging 19h30. Tel
(016) 221177.

Welkom Philatelic Society

Meets first Wednesday of the month, 19h30,
Library Lecture Hall.
Hon Secretary E Ryles, PO Box 22, Welkom 9460.

West Rand Philatelic Society

Meets fourth Wednesday of the month, 19h30 for
20h00, Krugersdorp Bowling Club, Hospital Road,
Krugersdorp.
Hon Secretary B Simpkins, 26 Sydney Carter
Street, Roosevelt Park Extension, Johannesburg.
Tel H & W (011) 464585.

Windhoek-Filatelielklub

Vergader eerste Donderdag van die maand, 20h00,
Talparkse Ontspanningsklub.
Eresekretaris, Posbus 2285, Windhoek 9100. Tel W
(061) 22711.

Witbank Philatelic Society

Meets first Wednesday of the month, 19h30, office
4, Gerry Mann's Building (informal).
Meets first Wednesday of the month, 19h30,
committee room, MOTH Hall, Lukin Street,
Witbank (formal meeting).
Hon Secretary Lionel Lewis, PO Box 693, Witbank
1035. Tel H & W (01351) 2614.
Meetings are occasionally held in Middelburg Tvl
and visitors should contact Mr Lewis for con-
firmation of the venue.

Worcester Philatelic Society

Meets last Tuesday of the month, 19h45, The
Boardroom, Eben Dönges Hospital.
Hon Secretary, Dr IB Walters, 18 Rabie Avenue,
Worcester 6850. Tel H (0231) 5031.

Exchange wanted — A young Indonesian who combines
working at a timber firm with studying at commercial college,
would like to correspond with collectors in South Africa and
exchange stamps. He is E B Tjiptadi, Jalan K.H. Agus Salim 26,
Kendari, Sulawesi Tenggara, Indonesia.

Duitse ruilmaat gevra — Len Büchner is 'n st 6-lerling op
kosskool op Somerset-Oos. Hy neem Duits en hy sal graag
met 'n penmaat in Duitsland wil korrespondeer en seëls
uitruil. Len sal dit waardeer as lesers hom kan help. Sy adres
is Gill Junior Hostel, Somerset-Oos 5850.

Society News ~ Onderonies

AFRIKAANSE FILATELIEVERENIGING VAN PRETORIA

Maart — Hierdie maand was ons jaarvergadering. Die verskillende verslae is voorgelê en grondig bestudeer. Dit lyk asof ons finansieel nog sal kan hou vir die jaar. Daar is in wese niks om oor te kla nie en alles lyk baie gesond.

Die nuwe bestuur is:

Ondervoorsitter: mnr Thierry
Penningmeester: mnr Briel, gehelp deur mnr Van Renssen

Sekretaris: prof Nilant (tydelik) en mnr Schuring
Nuwe uitgawes: mnr Rudman
Rondsenddiens: mnr Hardijzer, gehelp deur mnr Van Renssen

Nuusbrief: mnr Raats
Veilings: mnr Bernhardt, mnr Hermanides
Vert. Federasie: mnr Rudman, mnr Wessels
Biblioteek: sekretaris sal behartig
Oudiovisueel: mnr Stronkhorst
Addisioneel: mnr Van der Mey
Tee: mev Greyling, dames Brits, van Niekerk, Hamman, Scholtz, suster Lagrange.

Die voorsitter, prof W C van Wyk, het 'n indrukwekkende versameling koeverte uitgestal. Dit het uit drie verskillende afdelings bestaan en elkeen het 'n baie klein deel van die geheel van die versameling verteenwoordig.

Die afdelings was: oorlogspos uit die Tweede Vryheidsoorlog, veldpos uit Suidwes-Afrika en tenslotte afwykende eerstedagkoeverte van die RSA. Dit is baie duidelik dat die versamelings met baie sorg saamgestel is en hulle is netjies en duidelik bygeskryf. Dit is duidelik dat elkeen van hierdie versamelings van besondere historiese belang sal wees. Dit was 'n pragtige uitstalling. — N.

EAST LONDON PHILATELIC SOCIETY

January — This was the AGM and the following members were elected to serve on the committee for 1981:

President — Mrs Sheena Nicholas
Vice-president — Mr Denzil Abrey
Secretary — Mrs Trudy Buchholtz
Treasurer — Mr Ray Murdoch

Other members — Messrs T Radue, Ed Williams, Frank Drusinsky, Leo Hellman, G Daines, J Morris and E Kruger, and Mrs J Hutchinson.

A sound committee and all good wishes go to them for a successful year.

February — The competition for the Bill Bradley Trophy brought out numerous interesting 10-page displays, varying greatly in composition, and this proved how many budding philatelists we have in our midst joining the more seasoned exhibitors.

Mrs Sheena Nicholas ran out the winner with her display of Germany. Dr Barton Sparrow gave a short talk on his impressions of the various collections on display.

Mrs Nicholas and Leo Hellman tabled a composite of Germany and Frank Drusinsky "Day of the stamp", both very well received by the appreciative members.

March — The night was dark and stormy: headline news in fact. A few brave members ventured forth and attended the meeting, where they were rewarded by the slide showing of Postal History of Transvaal.

Our delegates to the philatelic congress will be Mrs Nicholas, Mr Radue, Mrs Hutchinson and Miss Gloria Goetsch. — Jeanne Hutchinson

EAST RAND PHILATELIC SOCIETY

March — The meeting, attended by 28 members and four visitors, was started with the presentation of some items of interest by means of the recently acquired epidiascope. This turned out to be the ideal way of showing up little details.

Next we were treated to the audio-visual show

"The Rhodesia's — some postal history 1892-1924 part II which is a follow-up of the show of February last year.

After tea-break the newly elected auctioneer Mr A C Rix was given the opportunity to show his capabilities, ably assisted by Mr E Holden and Mr D Ransom. It appears that the choice was a good one since only two out of at least sixty covers were left unsold. — L J van Riet

FISH HOEK PHILATELIC SOCIETY

March — This took the form of the annual general meeting, at which the following office-bearers were elected for the ensuing year:

President — Mr John W Hodgson
Vice-president — Mr J Wannerton FRPSL
Hon Secretary — Mrs A Wannerton
Hon Treasurer — Mr H B Julian
Hon Sales Supt — Mr D Lang
Committee members — Mrs M Stark, Mrs M Reynolds.

The exhibits for the evening were those that won awards during the previous year. A black-out midway during the meeting did not dampen our spirits in any way for we were prepared for just such an eventuality. Counting heads by candle-light was fun! — John W Hodgson

MASHONALAND PHILATELIC SOCIETY

March — The AGM was attended by 75 members and 26 visitors. The committee was re-elected en bloc but Mr Bob Spurgin was not available again and was replaced by Mr D J Shelton.

The Aloe Trophy was not awarded this year while the others were awarded as follows:

Peinke Cup — Mr E A Wrangle
Goldblatt Cup — Mr J March
Beck Cup — Mr G R D Spurgin.

NATAL PHILATELIC SOCIETY

18 February — This evening was devoted to an "All comers" night with ten pages of any type of collection whatever. Judging was done by members present, although one was not allowed to vote for his/her own collection.

Mrs B Zarnack put up "Dancing around the world", part of her large collection.

Mr D Tunley showed New Zealand's first pictorial and Id Universals.

Mr N Hartley showed part of his 75th anniversary of the UPU.

Mrs P McIntosh showed GB postal markings, pre-stamp.

Mr G Ponsford showed New Zealand commemeratives, used.

Mr D Warren showed Bechuanaland errors.

Mr R Osborne showed the Qantas flight covers from Mauritius.

Mrs J Osborne showed Czechoslovakian commemoratives.

Mrs J Schultz showed Stained glass windows.

Mr G Buttigieg showed Australian errors and varieties.

As we said, judging was by popular vote and Mrs McIntosh was the winner, Mr Buttigieg second and Mrs Osborne third. Congratulations to winners and thanks to all competitors.

4 March — This was the night of our AGM. The following officers were elected: President, Mr N Hartley. Vice-president, Dr J Duncan. Secretary, Mrs D Reinecke. Treasurer, Mrs B Leak. Sales Pkt Supt, Mr G Ponsford. Auditor, Mr D Tunley. Auctioneer, Mr M East. Editors, R and J Osborne. Committee, Mr Schultz, Mr Warren, Mr Hitcock, Mr Robinson, Mrs McIntosh.

We also changed our constitution to allow all races membership. Cups were awarded to winners and certificates to runners-up by Mrs Osborne.

18 March — We were shown ways to present a thematic collection, from Mr Vermaak, and a paper was read on the subject by Mr Hitcock. The

meeting was concluded by an auction. — Rex Osborne

NOORD-NATALESE FILATELISTEVERNIGING

Op die onlangse algemene jaarvergadering is mnr F van Es herkies as president en mnr LC Eksteen herkies as ere-sekretaris.

Ons ledetal is ongeveer 40 lede. Ons het die probleem dat ongeveer 80 persent van die lede by Yskor werk en dus is daar maar steeds die probleem van verhuising.

Ons vergadering word redelik goed bygewoon, hoewel daar veel ruimte is vir beterskap. Daar word elke tweede maand 'n seëlwendusie gehou en elke maand word daar 'n skyfielesing vertoon. Daar word ook gereed praatjies gehou oor een of ander faset van seëlversameling. Die vereniging het verskeie trofeeë waarom meegeding word, maar die kennis is nog 'n bietjie eina, maar ons is ook nog jonk en ons vertrou dat dinge sal verber. — L C Eksteen

PORT ELIZABETH PHILATELIC SOCIETY

17 February — Tonight was postal history evening, when we had a surprise from four of our members.

First to display was Mr T J Strachan who showed an excellent display of postal stationery specimens from the West Indies, and Mr M J Sullivan who displayed a collection of British postal history from 1844 up to 1981.

The second exhibits were by Mrs S Jankelowitz, Peace between Israel and Egypt, and Mr G Bülbring RDPSA, a miscellaneous collection of postal history. It was a very interesting evening as all the exhibits were different, and very well laid out.

"Open forum" was then held and the topic was about stamps as an investment. As usual we had the same old argument, "do we collect stamps or hide them away?"

3 March — To start the evening off we had a preview of the items which will be auctioned by Johnson Philatelics.

This was followed by audio-visual lectures. We had two very good shows. The first one about the Mafeking Blues and the second about the SA Defence Force Mail. — Mike Sullivan

PRETORIA PHILATELIC SOCIETY

February — The competition for the Allan Cup for beginners had only two entries: Dr Ferdie Schoeman and Master Gibson.

Dr Schoeman tabled the 1966 Lesotho Overprints on 1961-1964 Basutoland definitives on two types of watermark paper, ie Script CA and Block CA. Different positions of the overprint were shown as well as light, medium and bold lettering. The exhibit included singles, cylinder blocks and imprint blocks as well as numerous errors such as a broken "O", solid "O", missing perforations, weak entries behind the Queen's head, broken "L" and weak "E" in the R1 values. The well known LSEOTHO error on the R1 value was shown in positional blocks in both watermarks and on a FDC of which only 6 are known to exist.

Master Gibson showed a collection of beautifully mounted GB first day covers together with the set of stamps that appeared on each cover. The attractive art, Christmas and sport stamps formed part of this collection.

Judging of this competition was done by all the members present and points were awarded for layout, neatness, condition of stamps and completeness. The final points count showed Dr Schoeman to be the winner. — Ghita Traub

ROYAL PHILATELIC SOCIETY OF CAPE TOWN

January — Colourful stamps and bright posters met the eye at the first meeting of the year on 12 January when Mr John Rivera exhibited Malta. A brief account of the island's situation and history was followed by comments on the stamps. Also displayed were the stamps of the Sovereign Military Order of St John of Jerusalem with its headquarters in Malta.

The second half of the meeting was a slide show presented by Mr Richard Knight and based upon items from his award-winning collection of Rhodesian postal history. The programme was very well received and it is evident that more slide shows could be used to good advantage at society meetings.

February — The Annual General Meeting on 23 February was well supported. Retiring President Lewis Picton thanked the members for their loyal support during his term of office. He referred to the proposed addition of a room to the Athenaeum to provide for the society's accumulated records and for the society's library, which was valued at many thousands of rands and deserved adequate accommodation.

The committee was re-constituted as follows for the year 1981/82:

President - BA Kantey
 Vice-president - HC Berneaud
 Secretary - GR Morris
 Treasurer - S Kaganson
 Librarian - Mrs L Coe
 Exchange supt - DW Watts
 Committee - R Goldblat RDPSA, RC Knight, R F Putzel and AH Scott
 Past president - LJ Picton.

Cups and awards for 1980 were presented by Mrs Picton assisted by Mr Sam Kaganson: Royal Cup (the society's premier award) R Jeidel RDPSA; A V Jacob Cup Mrs Hilda Jeidel RDPSA; Jurgens Cup

for philatelic research AG Versino; Wannerton Cup for postal history BA Kantey; Kaganson Cup (thematics) DW Watts; Simenhoff Cup (best ladies exhibit) Mrs H Leggatt; Solomon Cup OR Bowen; Wilson Award for the best classics of the year JWT Wannerton; Wilson Award for the best thematics of the year RT Turton.

The society was very pleased to once again welcome an old friend from London in the person of Mr John H Levett, who gave a new dimension to an AGM with his exhibit "Covers with a story". He had cast his net widely and the result was a sparkling array of covers quaint and scarce, from an early specimen of 1649 to "joke" covers of modern times.

The meeting closed with a heartily endorsed vote of thanks to Mr Picton proposed by Mr CFJ Muller and to Mrs Picton by Mr Kaganson. — GR Morris

SPRINGS PHILATELIC SOCIETY

March — Special guests at the March meeting were Dr J von Varendorff and his son Rod. They displayed stamps of the German colonies and some items from German post offices abroad. — WA Dring

VEREENIGING STAMP CLUB

February — The meeting held on 20 February was attended by 14 members and four visitors. The

visitors and one new member, William Gillman, were welcomed by our president, Meier Weitzman.

As we were late at getting started, Hannes went straight on displaying his German stamps without saying a word. Hannes was supported by his son Joe, who displayed a variety of countries, Steve's RSA third definitive series proved that we have beautiful designs well printed by the Government Printer. — Steve Boshoff

THE WANDERERS PHILATELIC SOCIETY

At the 11th Annual General Meeting the following were elected as office-bearers:

Mr Franco Frescura, Chairman; Mr Chris Mobsby as vice-chairman; Mr Archie Pringle as Hon Treasurer; all members were re-elected. Mr W Giesenow who acted recently as assistant secretary was elected as Hon Secretary.

Mr H Horn exhibited stamps and covers of Basutoland among which were items seldom seen.

Awards with certificate were presented to Mr A Spangenthal for his exhibit of Cape of Good Hope, Mrs WF West for her outstanding improvements of her exhibits and Mr S Abramowitz for his exhibit of Falkland Islands.

Certificates of merit were awarded to Mr Nethersole for West Indies and Mr Shlamm for 10 pages of pre-stamp Bavarian covers.

Meetings of this Society take place very second Wednesday in the month at the Bowlers Lounge in the Wanderers Clubhouse. — W Giesenow

Wants, Offers and exchange

(10c per word per insertion with a minimum of R2,00 per insertion, payment with order.)

AAA-SOS — One mint stamp badly wanted to complete RSA collection. Robemark 204RR22 — or Arcade 36A. Can anyone help a fellow Philatelist — John Rivera, Berkeley Square, Main Road, Rondebosch 7700.

AAB APPROVALS. Sent regularly. State your interests. Wants lists welcome. AAB Collectors Service, Box 44223, Linden 2104. Phone 678 3324.

AAB COLLECTORS SERVICES. Wanted to buy: Collections, Accumulations, Stamps on paper etc. Send or offer to: Box 44223, Linden 2104. Phone 678 3324.

AEROGRAMS issued t SA forces up North 1943-1945 sponsored by Gifts and Comfort Fund for Jewish servicemen for Jewish New Year, mint or used wanted. Hilda Jeidel, Box 4364 Cape Town 8000.

APPROVAL BOOKS of Great Britain unmounted mint Commemorative Sets sent regularly. Please write W Phillips, PO Box 39799, Bramley 2018.

APPROVALS: Jersey, I.O.M., Guernsey, Gibraltar, Malta, Norfolk Islands, Tristan da Cunha, Botswana, Lesotho and Swaziland. Unmounted mint Commemorative sets now in our Approval Books. Write Wilfred Philip & Son, Box 411 Bergvlei, 2012

ALL CLASSES OF INSURANCE. L Lewis, Insurance Broker, P O Box 693, Witbank, Commission to your Philatelic Society.

APPROVALS required of any postal history associated with my place of birth, Wynberg, Cape. David Crocker, PO Box 482, Florida 1710.

BECHUANALAND/BOTSWANA require used, mint, cylinder blocks, varieties, etc. Offers to Hamlett, Box 2342 1416. Cas by Return.

BELGIAN CONGO Material wanted, especially Postal History. Please write to A. Chiger, 17 Somme Road, Delville, Germiston, 1401.

BEST DEAL by Cape Town's first registered dealer Gold Coins, Gold Medallions, Silver Coins, Proof sets. War Medals. Write M Jaffe, 24 S W House, Greenmarket Square, Cape Town or phone 441971 1-7 pm any day.

BUYING GEORGE V and George VI Mint only, preferably unthinned, in sets or high values singles, of all Commonwealth including SA, SWA, Rhodesia and Cyprus. Please send details of what you have for sale and price to Box 10744, Marine Parade 4056, or phone 52-5052 after hours.

BUYING SUPERB unmounted mint — Rhodesia/Nyasaaland SG1-15 R60; SG18-31 R50; Southern Rhodesia SG78-91 R60, Subject requirements. Also buying Fiji,

Solomons, New Hebrides. Merseyside Stamp Co. PO Box 2, Garston, Liverpool England.

CIGARETTE CARDS wanted. Write B. Stone, 2 Hope-lands, 286 Vause Road, Durban. Phone 217375 Evenings. Approvals appreciated.

COLLECTOR wants RSA cylinder Blocks (1) 1c 1971 (414-415 A Reversed) (2) & (3) 2½c 1970 (12-8 A & D Reversed). Cash offers unmounted mint to M.D. Joubert 852 Arcadia Street Arcadia Pretoria 0083. Phone 012-43261.

DALNOR STAMPS, Box 335 Germiston 1400. All your Philatelic requirements from A to Z. (Some exceptions B to Y). Car parking galore. Call at Human Street Germiston or phone 825-6622.

EXTENSIVE COLLECTIONS for sale of Commonwealth, Holland, Swaziland, SA and SWA and postal history of pre-Union. E van Dijk, 90 Gen Viljoen Street Pietersburg 0700. Tel. (01521) 73887.

GB-LINE ENGRAVED STAMPS wanted for plating reconstruction. Offers to L. Lewis, Box 693, Witbank 1035.

GB SILVER WEDDING, SG493, 494. Superb unmounted mint - R115 (GST and registration included) Apply PO Box 385 Durban 4000.

GEDENKOEVERTE - GEDENKOEVERTE (Eerste dagkoeverte) gesoek om te koop, het eers onlangs begin versamel. Koeverte van RSA, SWA, Transkei & Bophuthaswana - Wynand du Plessis, Posbus 178, Bloemfontein 9300. Telephone Nr 229024.

GERMAN SOUTHWEST AFRICA — Write for our next German Offices, Colonies and Ship Mail Auction Catalogue. John Miller, PO Box 112 Nutting Lake, MA 01865 USA.

ICELAND, FAROE ISLANDS, GREENLAND. Free price list, mint, used, FDC, kiloware, new issue service, mixture, stamps on paper, covers coins. Fylkir Agustsson, PO Box 200 IS 400 Isafardi, Iceland.

I EXCHANGE Polish, Russian and East German stamps against mint issues of South Africa. Mr Zygmunt Jelenski, Skrytka Pocztoowa 178, 00-987 Warszawa 4, Poland.

INTERESTING CONSTANT VARIETY found on "Wickhams Fancy" Transkei Cover (As this variety can only exist on one in four sheets, only approx. 1000 covers can have this variety). For details write with offers to Box 10744 Marine Parade 4056.

LARGE SELECTION of Southern Africa and British Commonwealth available. Wants lists welcome. Visit, write or phone: - The Stamp Shop 4th floor, Sanlam

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LOOSE LEAF PLASTIC PROTECTION FOR: Folder - M/S FDC - Control Strips - fits into two-ring-fitting official file, bought in stationery shops. Loose leaf available: in full 305 x 240 mm for folder - M/S FDC. Divided into two: fits most Countrys FDC-s, Divided in 3 and 4; for Control Strips - or made to your own specifications. All lined with Black Album Paper. Price: R-.55c per Leaf — plus R-.75c per order for packing and postage. Payable by Postal Order or Cheque. Address: Mrs Ilona Kalitzka, 12 Rodney Road, Glenwood Durban 4001 RSA.

NATAL — Accumulations of used stamps, Postmarks, Covers, Postal History wanted for cash. Chutter, 49 Farmers Folly, Lynnwood 0081.

NEW SUBSCRIBERS - Can obtain back numbers of the magazine at a special price. 20 copies from 1972 - 1980 (assorted) at only R5 post free. A wealth of interesting reading and information. Order from PO Box 375, Johannesburg 2000.

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PENSIONER, WAR VETERAN would welcome contribution of Sales Packet Material. Reply Advertiser, Box 44016 Wentworth 4076 - All letters acknowledged - correspondence invited.

REPUBLICS RAREST STAMP: Commercially used copies 2½c Groot Constantia Watermark facing right (Slagt RD36a) R40 each. Cash with order. Ted Reynolds, Box 202 Klerksdorp 2570.

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WANTED — POSTAL HISTORY of the Commonwealth especially South West Africa, Tristan da Cunha, St Helena, Malta and Gibraltar. Write to Box 10744 Marine Parade 4056.

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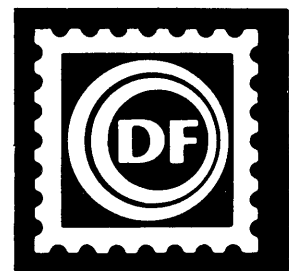
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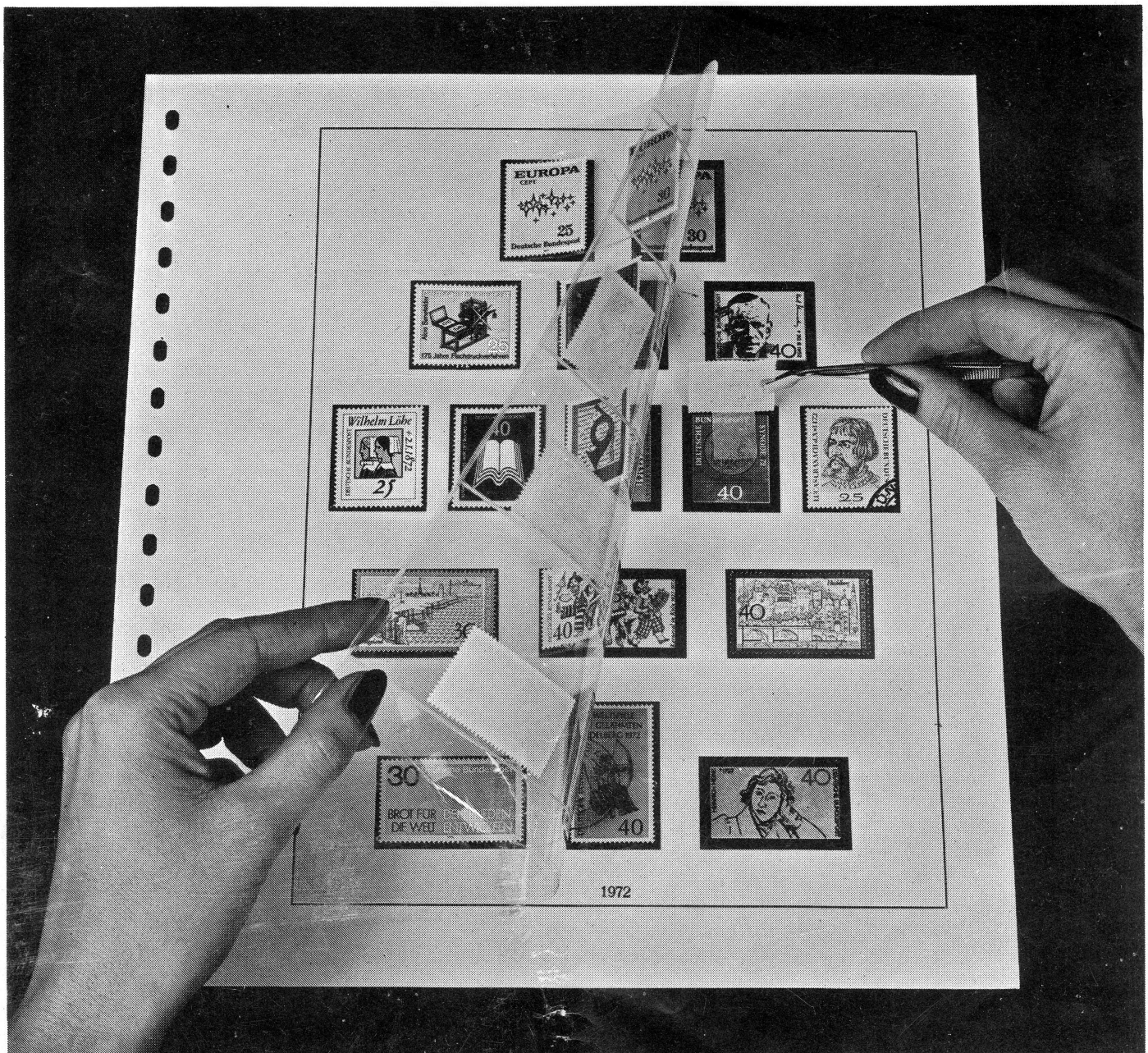
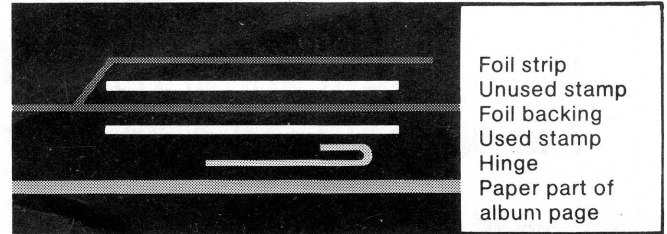
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