

THE SOUTH AFRICAN PHILATELIST

FEBRUARY
1993

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- What international exhibiting means to SA
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Seventieth Anniversary Year

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In my view/Soos ek dit sien

THE contents of this issue speak for the magazine. In comparison to some others, a seventieth anniversary is perhaps paltry. All the same, there are not many which have been able to persist for as long as *The SA Philatelist*.

It is an issue in which one recalls, with a deep debt of gratitude, the energies, knowledge and dedication of everyone since 1 February 1923 — managerial and editorial — who has contributed to this milestone of philately in South Africa. Many names will be found in the ensuing pages. Some will have remained anonymous. But our gratitude encompasses them all.

A few subtle changes in presentation mark this issue. One least likely to be noticed, yet most important from the bibliographic point of view, is the new running footline. It notes the title, and its month and year of publication, as well as the volume, part and whole numbers, together with the page number.

Humble as such mundane details may seem, they loom large and larger with the passing of the years where the basis of our hobby is concerned, and that is research.

DIT is pret om sewentig jaar oud te wees. Kyk wat nie alles tot stand gebring is nie! Heelwat van die inhoud van hierdie uitgawe van ons tydskrif spreek daarvan.

Maar hierdie ingenomenheid kan baie maklik lei tot fossilisering.

Dit is dus aan die orde dat daar altyd gekyk moet word na geleenthede om vorentoe te streef, en nie alleen om tred te hou nie. Dit is tevore reeds beklemtoon dat dit die lesers is — en by uitbreiding, die bydraers — wat van hierdie tydskrif maak wat dit is.

Die Ere-redakteur is net 'n verkeerskonstabel wat die filateliese weg vorentoe so glad soos moontlik probeer baan. Maar dit is die toegenee bydraes van sy lesers wat sorg dat daar hoegenaamd 'n weg is om te volg.

Die Redakteur/The Editor

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Facing up to the future



Bill Welch The American Philatelist

PHILATELIC literature is the mirror the hobby of philately holds up to itself. As the world of philatelic literature approaches its sesquicentennial, in 2012, we see reflected in it more clearly than ever before the changing tides and tastes of hobby history. The inexorable movement has been from the general to the specific, from collecting the world to forming specialized collections.

Once a telescope providing a view of distant lands, philately now has become a kaleidoscope — countless colourful fragments making up an identifiable yet ever-changing whole.

Thanks to computers and photocopies, the number of philatelic journals has mushroomed in the last quarter-century. The American Philatelic Research Library estimates there are now more than 750 philatelic periodicals published worldwide.

As the trend toward specialization continues, the challenge for speciality journals is to develop sufficient useful content to justify their existence and inspire their readers to more fully study their own collections. The challenge for the general-interest philatelic journal is to take a panoramic view of the hobby, and thus act as the framework of our philatelic kaleidoscope.

THE CINDERELLA PHILATELIST

Norman Williams The Cinderella Philatelist

THE fact that *The South African Philatelist* is about to attain its seventieth anniversary of continuous publication speaks for itself. The successive editions, emerging from a monoglot beginning well within living memory and record, to a bilingual appearance reveals a realistic adaptation to changing circumstances.

One could wish, however, that a proportion of the periodical's contents nowadays were not, so to state, closed pages to those so deficient in language skills as

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RATHER than reflecting on the seventy years since this magazine began its life in February 1923, a look at the direction and purpose of philatelic publication today and tomorrow seemed more like serving as a constructive form of anniversary celebration.

Accordingly, editors of all the magazines world wide with which *The SA Philatelist* exchanges issues were asked for their views. While not all of them found it possible to respond, one is grateful for the stimulating and challenging perspectives offered here by those who did.

The *SA Philatelist* is indeed honoured by the thoughtful attention they paid to the request to examine one of the most satisfying aspects of our hobby — namely to write about it.

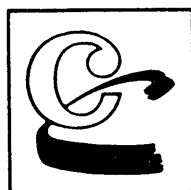
Hon Editor

to be unable to cope fluently with both languages.

There are publications which provide for such lack of ability by providing translations into other languages of, at least, the bulk of contributions. It may be that, since a publication like *FIP's Flash* devotes itself mainly to matters politic and has no studies of stamps or postal history to present, the problem of not understanding by three-quarters of the intended readers of what is printed would be much more significant without translation, than is the situation that is eased by sketches and illustrations of the philatelic subjects set out for, and reflecting the fruits of, study.

One can view with sympathy the reaction of an editor of a bi-lingual publication, faced with a requirement that all contributions be printed in both languages: "It would halve the material presented." True, but would the benefit not outweigh the loss? One has in mind the publication of the *Schweizer Briefmarken Zeitung*, aliter *Journal philatelique suisse*, also known as *Giornale filatelico svizzero*, where trilingualism is catered for by selective translations.

I send you all good wishes for your seventieth anniversary and beyond. Surely, someone will be writing to your publication with such cordial sentiments on the centenary.



THE COLLECTORS CLUB FOUNDED 1896

E E Fricks FRPS,L The Collectors Club Philatelist

PHILATELIC literature displays all the signs of robust health. In fact, the proliferation of collector newsletters and

journals represents the most noticeable impact of the personal computer on the hobby. Today, with a PC and a photocopying machine, even the smallest group of enthusiasts can band together, exchange information, and enjoy one another's collecting as never before.

However, we pay a price for this atomization in terms of the availability of copy and articles for the conventionally printed, more established magazines, some of which have enjoyed print runs for over 70 years. To keep up with the explosion of information, a knowledgeable philatelist must now subscribe to as many as 15 or 20 publications. The cost runs into the hundreds of dollars (US).

Early in the life of most of the limited distribution publications comes an effort to reprint that which appeared many years ago in other publications (with or without consideration for copyright). This has the advantage of exposing a new generation of collectors to the foundations of their specialties, but at the risk of perpetuating outdated or incorrect information. Often new developments become recognized only in small notes buried among a host of other information. Occasionally the new information is summarized in a major article, but this seems to be the exception rather than the rule.

Philatelic libraries must deal with the ever expanding number of new publications, if they can even discover that these efforts exist. It is the unusual editor who realizes the benefit of placing these repositories of knowledge on their distribution lists. As most libraries operate on limited acquisition budgets, the opportunity to buy subscriptions is restricted. In some ways we seem to be reliving the early days of the hobby, when there were no libraries, and many publications were lost.

One segment of the hobby, those individuals who attempt to remain knowledgeable about wide swaths and serve on exhibition juries, is shortchanged by the proliferation of publications. The exhibitor ultimately suffers (assuming he/she has made an effort to publish) from a lack of widespread exposure of the significance of his/her speciality.

An aspect of this atomization that seems very inefficient is the growth of speciality groups for the same subject area on both sides of the Atlantic. At least in the English language area, we have matching groups covering Germany, France, Portugal, Austria, Russia. For Latin America, there are about eight publications covering the same subjects in English. A subscription to each is about US\$10-15. Membership/subscription lists show that many of the same people belong to all eight groups. It would seem that a more effective use

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of the funds and effort could be devoted to facilitating currency exchanges that would allow a painless worldwide readership.

Comparatively little effort is devoted to translating articles that appear in publications in one language to the others. In that way, for example, collectors of the Netherlands and colonies could be exposed on a regular basis to what appears in English, German, French, and Walloon.

For the thematic area, there are perhaps 50 publications in English, and many more in the other languages. Often, these are imaginative, well-produced efforts. For postal history, in the United States, we have perhaps 35 magazines that cover the modern and classic periods, and particular geographic areas.

Trying to stop the growth in publications is perhaps akin to King Canute's attempt to turn back the waves. The effort may not be even desirable as this evidence of growth is a bright spot in what in many ways is becoming a moribund hobby. No, not moribund, but certainly changing. As technology develops further, we are likely to see even greater diversity.

Let us hope that the technology can also be harnessed to prevent the economic strangulation of literature.

Orange Free State Study Circle



Bob Allison Orange Free State Bulletin

WHEN Wilhelm Grütter invited me to pen a few lines for this special issue I could not help thinking, at first, that 70 years was an awful long time — three score years and ten and all that. Then, putting it into perspective by, for example, comparing it with my own age (I am a little over 60), or looking back to 1923, and noting that the Orange River Colony had been a part of the Union for 13 years by that time, all of a sudden it seemed that 70 years was really only a very short time.

So I went back another 70 years. Now I did seem to be back in the depths of time, back to 1853. The Cape of Good Hope issued its first two stamps in the September of that year, the penny and fourpenny. Not many countries would attempt to survive on just two values nowadays! The Orange Free State was still (just) the Orange River Sovereignty, not achieving its independence until the beginning of 1854, and it had another 15 years to wait before it saw its first stamps, the penny, sixpenny

and the shilling — up to three values by 1868! The power of the philatelist was still not a force to be considered.

Specialising in the Free State, though, as I do, I sometimes wonder just when did the stamp collector become a person to be pandered to? I hesitate here. “Pander” — do I have the right word? A look in the dictionary — “Go-between in clandestine amours; one who ministers to evil designs”.

Yes! I think I may have exactly the right word! So it was in 1877 the Free State surcharged its 6d stamps with a “4”. Why were so many put on upside down? Why did they use four different kinds of “4”? Were they getting the message, I wonder? Then in 1881 they wanted some penny stamps. So they took their 5/- stamps and used six different kinds of “1d”. Of course they inverted some, but not only that, they doubled some as well. Next year, in 1882, they wanted some 3d stamps, so the fourpenny stamp was surcharged with five different kinds of “3d”. They must have got tired of inverting them by now, but they liked the doubles nevertheless. Why would they surcharge them twice?

Some will say, “accidents will happen”. Perhaps so. But what about the surcharges of 1896, when they used seven (going up!) different kinds of large “½d” to surcharge the threepenny stamp and then some bright spark took some of these and added a “Half Penny” on top! Really quite blatant pandering by now and, admittedly, the catalogue does only recognise them with a note “not to have been issued with authority”.

You would have thought that all would have changed with the British Occupation, would you not? Not a bit of it. It was a jolly sight worse! A look at the catalogue shows that the 1d value of the first setting alone of the VRI overprints uses the letters of the alphabet from “a” to “o” for its varieties! Thank goodness that by 1900 there were no stocks left of the “½d” + “Halve Penny” on 3d in the Post Office! Catalogue editors would surely give up.

But, of course, all this is fun, the fun of collecting. And being the Editor of the *Orange Free State Bulletin* I write mainly of Free State matters. Study circles are often introspective bodies concentrating on their particular fields of study and raising their heads when at last they have something to say, perhaps in the form of a handbook or other publication. Then they wish to inform the world of the results of their work.

They are here entering into the world of communication and, let's face it, it is a different world to the actual studying of stamps with not only the use of different skills, of presentation, etc, but one is addressing a world with a larger population, and one with wider interests.

The Orange Free State Study Circle

is 40 years old itself this year, and throughout it has benefited from being closely associated with *The SA Philatelist*. Countless articles have been published in the SAP, publicity has been freely given in the SAP for the publication of its handbooks. Many new members have been obtained for the study circle through the publication of the details of its meetings in the SAP.

We, as a Study Circle, are indeed indebted to *The SA Philatelist*. We warmly congratulate it on its 70 years of youth and hope it may long, long continue to serve its readership. While the SAP continues to thrive, there is no doubt that the Free State will live on!



Barbara Hancock Philas News

CONGRATULATIONS to *The SA Philatelist* on 70 years of successful philatelic publishing — quite an achievement and one which we all hope to emulate. There are so many facets to philately, with numerous researchers working in the various fields, that a means of disseminating this knowledge is essential. Research journals provide a great service to philatelists, and it is a pity that more collectors do not take advantage of this mine of information thereby increasing their knowledge.

Declining membership of philatelic societies seems to be a world-wide phenomenon at present, but there remains a core of dedicated collectors who gain great enjoyment from the hobby. Their vast knowledge when published in journals benefits all collectors. In fact, it never ceases to amaze me that collectors find so many diverse subjects to research — long may it continue.

THE SPRINGBOK



D W Painter The Springbok

THE invitation to write for the 70th Anniversary was a surprise, yet on reflection the chance to comment for collec-

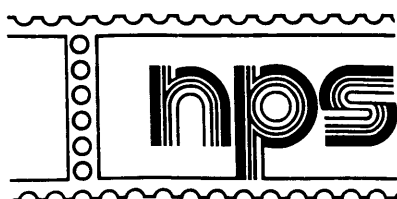
tors of South African material whose own society has been active since 1947 along with its publication *The Springbok* is very welcome.

Although but 4 years in office as Editor, I have many more years as an avid reader and researcher among matters philatelic and historical, so that the term "journal" seems to have been exceeded in the content of many such items. A journal is a record; a periodical, but should we not regularly project a more activist role to and for the collectors of all categories for their benefit and philately generally?

Whilst the broadsheet will necessarily act as the record of studies and comments, in order to attract and maintain membership and interest, some degree of provocation, even to stir latent thoughts and ideas, should find room. If a few pebbles are not flicked into the vast pool of knowledge and ideas, those latent sources are in danger of stagnating, withering or foundering, for want of the spur — be it verbally or in writing.

How do we go about it? Bait the trap with competitions for the budding scribe; make challenging offers to the unseen and deeply interested, but largely non-vocal student. Spread the word among the young to ensure a continuing flow into this hobby that is so relaxing, yet demanding.

Sponsorship has been suggested, but with the shadow of the commercial hand that will demand and direct policy, the inherent danger of the loss of that essential level of independence is a reality to be guarded against.



Michael Furnell Stamp Lover

AS Editor of *Stamp Lover*, the journal of the National Philatelic Society, London, it gives me great pleasure to send you our congratulations on the 70th anniversary of your magazine *The SA Philatelist*.

Before composing this message I undertook some research in our extensive library, which contains a vast collection of books on philatelic subjects, and also an extensive range of periodicals on stamps. I was fascinated to discover that we have an almost complete range of bound copies of your magazine, commencing with issue number 1 dated 1st February 1923, but in addition we have a few rather worn copies of the magazine's predecessor.

The South African Philatelist, which was published under the auspices of the Johannesburg United Philatelic Society and the Philatelic Society of Rhodesia,

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including volume 1 number 1, which is dated November 1910 is one. So the title is really 83 years old!

On reading through the leading article, by the then Editor of that very early issue, I was surprised to discover that this magazine had had even another predecessor, for three issues under the same title had appeared earlier in 1910, following an announcement on 25 May 1910 at the annual dinner of the Johannesburg Society that a new philatelic journal was "to be sprung upon an astonished world".

Apparently it appeared in "a humbly tentative form; it was typewritten and doomed to circulate laboriously among an elect few, whom it reached by devious and uncertain routes". The Editor goes on to say that the typewritten journal "fulfilled its mission: its three numbers showed that a paper could be produced worthy of a worthy dress.

"Warm welcomes came from leading South African philatelists and when *Stamp Lover* (London) clinched the matter by printing one of our papers in its August 1910 issue, then your Editor's cup was full".

With his editorial heart swelling high, he "took unto himself six other spirits as prideful as himself, and these seven decided to produce a real live magazine with real printed pages! They knew it could be done, and kept going . . . so a new *South African Philatelist* was born, and its sponsors played the godfather's part by undertaking to see it through the teething stages."

In the same leader article there is also a reference to a namesake in the dim ages "before the war". The writer goes on to say "If it died, it died not ingloriously, and those who fought and failed in 1895-96 will not begrudge the assured success of the upstart of 1910."

So is in fact *The SA Philatelist* approaching its centenary?

Stamp Lover was established by Fred J Melville in 1908 for members of his Junior Philatelic Society (now known as the National Philatelic Society), which he set up in 1899 after he had been refused permission to join another prominent London philatelic society on the grounds that he was too young! So as a society we also are within sight of our centenary.

Despite many new inventions which have been achieved during the twentieth century, our hobby of philately continues to enjoy a strong appeal throughout the world as a means of relaxation, research and enjoyment for young and old, and it is obvious that there will continue to be a demand for philatelic journals and articles of historical and current interest.

So here's wishing continued success and long life to *The SA Philatelist*! We are delighted to know that we have had such a long mutual interest in each other.



THE TRANSVAAL PHILATELIST

Alan Drysdall The Transvaal Philatelist

IF there is one overriding consideration I have learnt from my interest in the postal history of the territories of central and southern Africa it is that, because there are so many facets of the subject which interlock, one must avoid the trap of pleading a restricted specialised interest, thereby failing to take account of the highly relevant postal history of the other territories.

The examples which can be quoted to illustrate the point are legion. For example, the key to the postal rates and routes of Mashonaland and Matabeleland lies in the postal history of the Bechuanalands. Overseas mail originating from the Transvaal and Orange Free State prior to the 1880s was franked not only at the appropriate inland rate, but in addition at rates which had been agreed between the Cape Colony or Natal and the British postal authorities.

It follows that a student of Cape or Natal postal history cannot afford to be ignorant on the subject of mail in transit to or from the Boer Republics. (Nor indeed can he/she ignore British postal history, as many of the markings on mail addressed overseas from all the territories of central and southern Africa were struck in the UK.)

My plea therefore is for closer collaboration between specialist groups, and a greater sharing of knowledge. I would suggest the most effective way to achieve this is through joint meetings and collaborative research projects. Many of the groups to which I am referring have members in South Africa. They may be too few and too scattered for individual study circles to hold meetings, but it must surely be possible to interest enough collectors in any one geographical area to hold joint meetings.

The various study circle journals are undoubtedly the most appropriate vehicles for publishing progress reports relating to joint research projects and "flying kites". But what more appropriate vehicle for publication of the end-product could there be than *The SA Philatelist*, which is in a unique position to play a particularly important role — and long may it continue to do so.

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A lifetime in South African philately

JONAS MICHELSON RDPSA Philatelic Society of Johannesburg

I must thank you for asking me here this evening to talk about some of my experiences while in the Federation hot seat; first as Secretary/Treasurer and Business Manager, and then as Treasurer and Business Manager only.

But perhaps I should tell you a little about myself prior to this.

In 1935, as a boy of 17, I came to South Africa, members of my family already being here. I left Riga, the capital of Latvia, one early evening by train to arrive in Berlin the next morning, where I spent the whole day before taking the train for Ostende.

Latvia was in dire financial straits, with strict financial controls, and all I was allowed to take out was \$2. I was a tall skinny youth (hard to believe now!) but with a very healthy appetite. \$2 did not go very far. Needs must when the devil drives, or in my case when the stomach demands.

I had my Latvia stamp collection with me, and looked for the first stamp dealer. I found him on the Kurfürstendamm, the smartest shopping street in Berlin. He was prepared to buy my complete collection, but I would only sell him some of the better complete charity sets for about £7 or £8. I hate to think of what it cost me to replace them at a later stage to complete my collection. But at the time the money saw me through until I reached England, where an uncle and various cousins saw me onto the ship at Southampton.

I joined the Philatelic Society of Johannesburg in 1935, and when JIPEX came along, I was determined to exhibit. Unfortunately for me it was a limited exhibition, confined to Southern Africa, but it had a class for "A general collection of Southern Africa".

I decided to enter and starting from scratch (I only had stamps of Eastern Europe), I accumulated my pocket money and splurged all of it, all of £3 it was. I assembled my display and entered it in the Junior Class. I received a Certificate of Participation which is one of my treasured possessions.

During the latter part of the war I was in Italy, where I started on my Italian collection which I managed to acquire by barter; mainly cigarettes. This collection and many others have since been disposed of.

In 1952 I attended the International Exhibition in Cape Town (SATISE), and was present at Congress. Federation had just lost its Secretary. An earlier secretary, Leo Buchen, stood in at Congress. It was Buchen who proposed that I fill the vacancy. I agreed, subject to the meeting with the Committee in Johannesburg, who were vetting likely candidates.



Jonas Michelson RDPSA

The Chairman of Jury at SATISE was H R Harmer, and on his way back to England, he stopped over in Johannesburg to be guest speaker at a special meeting of the Philatelic Society of Johannesburg. It was on a Saturday afternoon, and there was standing room only. Over 150 people were crowded into a room which normally catered for sixty to seventy. How times have changed. Where have all the enthusiastic philatelists gone?

After the meeting I met with the selection sub-committee; Dr J H Harvey Pirie, Ernest Hunt and William Redford. For about two hours they cross-examined me to determine whether I was a fit and proper person to be put in this position, and apparently I must have been.

I have since attended 36 congresses and exhibitions, met numerous philatelists in the Republic, the Rhodesias and overseas, and made many friends.

In 1957 Paarl held its first congress. What an incorrigible optimist I must have been in those days — I decided to drive to Paarl in my car, at the time a 2-stroke Lloyd station wagon. Leo Buchen came with me as a passenger, and Ernest Hunt asked me to take some of his collections to be displayed in the Court of Honour.

Before we got to the turnoff to Heneman the car packed up. Fortunately then garages still worked on Saturdays, and I managed to get the necessary repairs done. Just 18 miles this side of Beaufort West we had a second breakdown, and this time no chance of repairs.

I managed to get Leo a lift, but I had to remain with the luggage and about £250 000 of stamps to await the next

Good Samaritan. He duly came along, a Springbok Safari guide in a nice big American car. We caught up with Leo at the hotel, and the next day our Good Samaritan took us on to Paarl.

At Beaufort West I had instructed a garage to tow in my car and rail it to me in Johannesburg. Three weeks passed and there was no sign of my car, although I was assured that it had been promptly railed. Eventually I received a letter from the Railways demanding that I produce export and import permits, and over £200. On investigation it was found that the garage had inserted the word "CONCESSION" near the address, under the impression that a concession was still available for cars railed, but this had been withdrawn years previously.

In Northern Rhodesia there was a station called CONCESSION, and it was there that my little car had landed up without an exit permit. Nothing makes the average man feel more helpless than being involved with red tape. It was only after representations from the AA that I was able to claim my property. The AA also managed to recover the expenses incurred by my much travelled little car from the garage responsible.

Copied from *The SA Philatelist*, this story appeared in an overseas stamp magazine, and eventually in a hardcover book on postmarks, with the Concession postmark illustrated.

In 1960 the two Johannesburg societies staged the International Exhibition UNIPEX, and we were indeed fortunate in having Ernest Hunt as chairman. He put his vast organisations; Williams Hunt and Modern Appliances behind the project. When it came to erecting the stands at the City and Selborne Hall the call went out to all his staff — Mr Hunt would like their attendance at that venue on the revelant Sunday. No overtime would be paid, but there would be plenty of beer and food available.

THE guest speaker at the inter-club meeting of the three Pretoria Philatelic Societies on 24 February 1989 was Jonas Michelson, who was invited to sign the Roll of Honour of Distinguished Philatelists of Southern Africa in 1965. He is the Honorary Life President of our Federation.

His reminiscences, which cover so much of the lively history of the local philatelic scene and of our magazine, were fortunately preserved, and are published here unchanged as an appropriate feature of our anniversary issue.

Jonas Michelson is today still the Hon Advertising Manager of *The SA Philatelist*, and since its editorial home moved to Cape Town with the issue of March 1989, he has been responsible for the publication of the plating supplements which appear from time to time.

I cannot recollect how many turned up, but I do remember that all the stands were erected in an incredibly quick time. The people handling them were professionals, and all we philatelists had to do was to look on in admiration.

However, there was no Herman Steyn with his organisation available then, and we had to organise our own First Day covers to raise funds. You may remember that there was a set of 4 stamps issued to commemorate 50 years of Union, and another one commemorating the Railways. The Post Office very obligingly made a room available for us at the Jeppe Street Post Office, and work parties of members arranged to handle the sticking and addressing of the FDCs.

Starting at 4 pm and finishing at 8 pm, we worked for two weeks. Around 20 helpers would turn up, many of them night after night — if we had to embark on a similar exercise now I feel the response from members would be very lukewarm, and we must be grateful to Philatelic Services that the situation does not arise.

In 1969 our Johannesburg societies staged the ZAR 100 National Exhibition at Wanderers Cricket Pavilion and,

in spite of the prophets of doom who said the venue was too far out, we had the biggest attendance ever, with 6 000 people attending.

One of the fund-raising efforts was the helicopter flight. I declined the offer of a seat, and Naomi Beinart carried the covers. A few years later we advertised the left-over covers at R1 each in *The SA Philatelist*. There were no takers — and just look at the prices they fetch today!

This exhibition was the first to have dealers' stands at a National, and it was thought that we could possibly accommodate ten in the space available. The demand was so great that eventually 16 stands were squeezed in.

The Philatelic Traders' Association in England handled the allocations for overseas dealers, who were in the majority. Stanley Gibbons, at that time not a member of PTS, approached us through their local clients, all prominent philatelists. We could only offer them a single stand, not the double they requested, and in their letter of acceptance they asked us to arrange for a chauffeur-driven car to meet their two representatives at the airport.

We had a car pool to collect all visitors, and thought it was a rather strange

request. We obliged them by hiring a Rolls-Royce with a driver, and this was the first time I have ever travelled in a Rolls-Royce.

There have been many highlights during my time as Federation office bearer, culminating in holding the position of Federation President in 1987/8, and last year, when I was elected Honorary Life President of *your* Federation. I say "yours" advisedly as, regrettably many societies and their members are under the impression that Federation only exists for the favoured few.

I would like to say here that the people who run Federation put in a great deal of time and effort, without any material gain accruing to them, but for the love of the hobby. Obviously there are members who feel that they do not derive any benefits from Federation. You cannot please all collectors all the time although Federation does its best.

To get back to my main interest: it is our magazine. There is a wide spectrum of interests among philatelists and again you cannot please all the readers all the time. It is up to you to contribute articles on your pet subject and share your discoveries with others. It would be a great help to the people who edit and run the magazine.

What lies ahead for the South African collector

DAVID STERN Society of Israel Philately

SOUTH Africans can lift their heads, philatelically! The position has recently changed very drastically since we have been admitted to FIP — the Federation Internationale de Philatélie. This happened at the FIP Congress in Grenada, where "Mr Official SA Philately", Herman Steyn, represented us.

What does this really mean? The concise answer is that all South Africans can now exhibit at international exhibitions under their own mantle as South Africans, and do not have to ask other societies or organisations in other countries to enter on their behalf.

Of course there are some very impor-

A previous article by David Stern (*The SA Philatelist*, August 1988, p 203) outlined his uncompromising stance that he would exhibit internationally only as member of a South African society. Since this is now possible, he has written a comprehensive review of the lines South African exhibitors could follow.

David collects the Doar Ivri issue of Israel and GB Errors, and has been elected South African representative of the British Errors and Varieties Society. He is an honorary life member of his home society, and chairman of the organising committee of ILSAPEX (1998).

He is a judge at senior national and junior level, and secretary of the Federation's judging sub-committee.

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tant prerequisites, and the first is that there has to be a minimum standard attained at national level. This is a Silver/Gilt (Vermeil) and indeed this is quite a high standard to aspire to. It is therefore important to look at this aspect.

Judging

Let us start with the judging procedures. The Federation's Judging Sub-Committee has very strict rules and regulations that all judges have to adhere to. The Jury Chairmen are always fully aware of changes, and rules that have been updated, but one thing is very clear! Try and judge an exhibit for what it is really worth, be this at Club, Mini or National Level.

Give each exhibit the best award that you feel it warrants, but don't go overboard for concern about "reprisals" at higher levels. This is so necessary because if a philatelist is lauded at his club and then at a Mini, he might enter nationally, and come down to earth with a Big Bang. The comments are then something along the lines of:

1. I can't compete with the "Big Boys".
2. I am not a "Favoured Person."
3. What do the judges know anyway?
4. I cannot afford the very "heavy"

items and classics.

5. Mr "So and So" is a very wealthy man, I am a working guy, is it fair that we compete in the same class?
6. How can I be helped by my philatelic society?

Material

I shall cite the collecting of Israel (as this is my great speciality) but what I state here would apply to any country or any Thematic. We all know of the First Coins Issue called DOAR IVRI, both in Hebrew and the transliterated English. Known also as SG 1-9 or Bale 1-9; statements are always made that if a collector wants to reach heights he should start with a set of 1-9.

Does this have to be a set with tabs? Who said so? Does this have to be a mint set with tabs? What is wrong with a used set? If it must be mint, then must it be unmounted mint? What is at all wrong with a lightly mounted set?

It is very nice to have all your early stamps unmounted mint, but are the additional premiums that have been and are still being asked, but on a lesser scale, sometimes questionable? If one got a lot of these stamps years back, of course, they had an advantage from a cost point of view. So is life!

The SA Philatelist February 1993

Now assume that you have a set of Israel Doar Ivri 1-9 with tabs, and you show this as the First Coins only. What *knowledge* are you imparting, if one may venture to ask this bold question? You have 1-9 . . . have you tried to show any perforation size differences? Have you mentioned the kinds of paper that existed, or the thicknesses thereof? Are you aware of this at all?

These are studies all on their own, and there one would show a great deal of philatelic knowledge, searching and researching, and one would have to know about the papers and perforation types, and be able to recognise them.

This is called "Philately", and not just the demonstration of a Big Bank Balance.

Do you not think that you will earn recognition if you demonstrate that you know your subject? You can do the same thing with the various gums that were used, and much more. You can really come up with an outstanding presentation.

There is an internationally acclaimed philatelist right here in South Africa who is at this moment collecting three specific denominations of the Low Values, and there is no doubt at all that he will one day show an outstanding collection. He feels that he cannot allow himself to attack the other six values, as this will be very very costly today.

You can compete with anybody, as it is your collection that is being judged on its own merit. Of course if there were to be a special Israel Section, and there had to be an overall winner picked for the Best Israel Exhibition, then this is where the jury has the task of picking the best of all that has been presented.

Would you be surprised that at the National Exhibition in Cape Town two top awards were made to a modern Israel collection of the Agorot Overprints of 1960? This was awarded a Vermeil, with the Felicitations of the Jury, plus the most coveted award of the Philatelic Federation of Southern Africa for Philatelic Research, plus the Cape Town Israel Society (CASPIP) Medal for Research!

Present a collection without the "Heavy Items" and the "Classics". Do not just regurgitate the catalogue (we know that you can read), look around for a few good genuine commercial covers from the period or series that you are exhibiting, ask at your local philatelic society for some guidance from your elders (not necessarily in age), and then see the fruition of your work.

You simply cannot expect to build up a top class collection in a short time — unless you buy one intact! It is my belief that building a collection is a long and difficult road.

Reach a level of maturity at which you make the most important decision of your philatelic career . . . *What are you going to collect?* Once you have

made this decision then you have crossed the invisible line from being a stamp collector of "Good Old Anything" to becoming a True Philatelist!

Favouritism

I have a seven-letter word for this . . . **RUBBISH!**

If any philatelist in this country can prove that he was prejudiced in any way on a personal basis, I would be prepared, as Secretary of the Judging Sub-Committee of the Philatelic Federation of Southern Africa, to take this matter to the highest philatelic authority in this country, namely the President of the Federation!

This must not at all be confused with that collector's exhibit being judged at the level that the jury felt it was worth on a purely philatelic basis. It is indeed a pity that more people are not aware as to how our juries work, as then you would be absolutely amazed to see that no favours can ever be granted!

The moment an exhibit is recommended for a high award, or where there is any major query, it is quite the normal thing for the chairman of the jury to ask the whole jury to view this exhibit, and comment.

Judges' knowledge

Do you know that there exists a list of qualified and accepted judges and learners in this country? These people have been vetted and watched over years as to their judging prowess, philatelic knowledge and total neutrality.

The Judging Sub-Committee sends this list to the invited chairman of the jury of future national exhibitions, so that judging standards are kept up. Names will be added to this list and, if necessary, deleted from time to time.

This list is not available to philatelic societies. However, should you wish to invite a judge to your local society to give you a talk, or to judge at club competitions, then you may contact the Judging Sub-Committee and it will make recommendations, either by area, or with special knowledge, depending on what type of competitive evening you are having.

South African judges are held in very high esteem by our overseas counterparts, who have always supported our national exhibitions strongly, and have come out at their own expense to serve on local juries! In short the local philatelist need have no fear at all as far as the neutrality and quality of judging is concerned.

Classes and wealth

I know of many philatelists who are not that wealthy at all who have achieved Gold medals both nationally and internationally. On the opposite side of the scale, very wealthy people have

presented the most terrible exhibits, and have not progressed very far with their philately at all.

I go back to my previous point that judges are neutral and competent, and they are not to be swayed by the fact that there is a very wealthy guy out there, and he is showing his "wares", and so give him a good award. Non-sense!

At the same time I would be a bit naïve if I did not admit that if a person is a good, or a top philatelist with a specialised collection, then to acquire the major rarities, his healthy bank balance would be of great help. Yes, then this must be a plus factor!

There is no reason to be jealous, and in the world of philately there will always be somebody somewhere who might just have the edge on you. I think that 99.99% of us who collect stamps do this for the love of the hobby, and if we have the privilege of seeing one of the "Great Collections of the World", then surely this must have been a philatelic treat for us?

In philately one cannot create separate categories for special conditions. Going back quite a few years ago, to the Gebeks National Exhibition of 1980, modern collections took their rightful place in South African philately and got the recognition they deserved. Some of the "Old School" thought that this was a terrible thing. No way at all!

If you have a modern collection, and you have worked hard on it, and not just taken a catalogue and copied this onto pages and presented this, then you will get your recognition . . . without reference to your bank balance. This is indeed how it should be, and the top philatelist is the man who will in almost all cases score, as opposed to a very wealthy guy who does not know what he is doing.

Society help

I sincerely believe that it is the duty of the elders — and here I do not necessarily refer to the age factor! — of any philatelic society to make themselves available at certain times to try and help new collectors, and to make an attempt to guide them from stock book collecting to mounting stamps on acceptable pages, to club level exhibiting, to Mini Exhibitions (when and if these will continue to take place) — to the eventual Big Day of competing at national exhibition level.

Then one day in the long distance is the great challenge of the international!

There are the questions that have to be asked by the newer collectors, and it is this way that they can be groomed for the challenging future.

Annual exhibits at philatelic societies, both at competitive and non-competitive level, should be planned by the organising committee in such a way that not only is the experienced collector given a

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BASUTOLAND/LESOTHO AND SWAZILAND —
INCLUDING COMMEMORATIVE POSTMARKS (but not machine pmks.)**

The **first Volume** of this 8-9 vol. series has been ready since last October. There are still a limited number of hard-cover volumes (numbered and autographed), plus the soft-cover edition. Prices shown below.

I am now offering the **second Volume** of this series (Letters C, D & E), with “C” alone being about 200 pages, including a very detailed section of Cape Town which is only fitting, seeing we have just had the 200th anniversary of the first Post Office at the Castle, Cape Town.

Accordingg to my previous set of 4 encyclopaediaes of S. African Post Offices, on which this new Series is based (the set is still available — see below), there have been over 9 600 post offices and agencies; not all short-lived offices will ever be found, but my photo-copying of material over a period of 15 years has brought results, also many local and overseas specialists have come forward with much valuable and previously unknown material. For example numerous oval town date stamps of the Cape 1853 series, some previously double-arch date stamps, early Transvaal postmarks. Many rare covers are illustrated.

Volume I already had over 5 000 postmark illustrations, and I expect that Volume II will have even more. Issue date for Vol. II is probably May/June.

As will be seen below, I am **at present still offering Vol. II at the same price as Volume I**, and those who order the hard-cover version will be able to get the same number of the subscription copy as per list in front of each volume. (Those that are now ordering for the first time, will have their name shown from Vol. II.

In the Introduction of 60 pages in Vol. I, major postmark groups are explained as also a detailed section of the interesting Relief cancellations. Much more pre-Union material has been found, and where they are known numeral cancellers (such as the Transvaal Triangles, the POAs of Natal, the known BONCs of the Cape will be shown at the beginning of each town.) The basic postmark listings have already progressed to letter “R”, and of letter “M” alone there will be over 600 pages. All postmarks have point ratings for on piece and on cover.

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chance to show his pride and joy, but also the guys who have just crossed that great barrier of not believing that a stamp collection does not stay in a stock book for the rest of time.

They must then be carefully guided through the paces, and shown what they

are doing right and also, and this is most important, what they are doing wrong.

I believe that many a collector has had his passage to success, and some basic recipes and rules, given to him by being a member of a philatelic society.

With South Africa's acceptance by

FIP, I am very confident that we will see the phenomenon of both South Africans competing overseas on a more regular basis, and also that all South African philatelists, whether exhibitors or judges, will be moving with the times as we approach the magic year of 2000.

The publishing history of The SA Philatelist: 1923-1991

WILHELM GRÜTTER Royal Philatelic Society of Cape Town

Introduction

NOT PROPERLY APPRECIATING what he was letting himself in for, the Honorary Editor contemplated the page table for one year of *The London Philatelist in Philatelic Literature* by James Negus (Limassol, 1991, p 45) and thought to himself that it would be rather nice to have such a blow-by-blow account for the whole of *The SA Philatelist*.

Reading the description given by Negus of how to go about such a compilation of volumes, issue dates, pages, numbers and whole numbers, it seemed so eminently clear and simple. In ignorance and bliss, the Honorary Editor was deceived into tackling a task which would be completed only many weeks later because he was too pig-headed to give up.

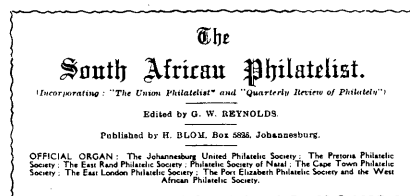
A friend who is a professional librarian then told him that he had completed an "Annotated Historical Bibliography of *The SA Philatelist*." Copies of this have since been lodged with the South African Library in Cape Town, the British Library, the archive of The Philatelic Federation of Southern Africa, the American Philatelic Research Library and the society libraries of the National Philatelic Society (UK), the Collectors' Club in New York and the Royal Philatelic Society of Cape Town.

The entire catastrophe with its detailed page tables for each volume is too lengthy and complex for general publication here. While some examples of page tables are given, the main interest resides in the annotations, and the article is based on these. The notes provide a detailed picture of the publishing history of the magazine and the personalities who made it happen.

Details of editorial and publishing responsibilities were taken from the mastheads of the issues cited. These may not necessarily be a correct reflection of what actually happened — while mastheads are usually prepared with eagle eyes, slip-ups cannot be excluded.

Year	Volume	January	February	March	April	May	June	July	August	September	October	November	December
1923	1		(1)-20	(21)-32	(33)-44	(45)-56	(57)-72	73-88	(89)-100	(101)-112	(113)-124	(125)-136	(137)-152
Nos/Wh Nos			1/	2/	3/	4/	5/	6/	7/	8/	9/	10/	11/
Year	Volume	January											
1924	1	(153)-168											
Nos/Wh Nos		12/											

The SA Philatelist February 1993



Vol. 1. February 1st, 1923. No. 1.

TOPICS OF THE MONTH.

Our First Issue.

THE "Quarterly Review of Philately" has ceased publication, and with this issue the "SOUTH AFRICAN PHILATELIST" makes its first appearance. On this occasion we do not wish to say much about ourselves, but would prefer to let the journal speak for itself. A few remarks are, however, necessary. The "Q.R.P." had many difficulties with which to contend, but a new company with increased capital and a larger staff has been formed, and no pains or expense will be spared to make the new journal as complete a success as possible. Mr. G. W. Reynolds, who needs no introduction to South African Philatelists, has joined the staff as Editor, while Mr. Harry Blom will be the publisher. The management will do everything possible to make the "S.A. PHILATELIST" as interesting as possible. Well-written articles will appear regularly, and our notes on New Issues and varieties will be complete and up-to-date. In addition, as far as possible, all South African Societies will be reported. Space will also be devoted to reviews of the newest stamp books, while a stop press column will be reserved for the latest news up to going to press. We cannot, however, run the journal on air, so we trust that all South African Collectors will support us by sending in their subscriptions, and by making the "SOUTH AFRICAN PHILATELIST" as widely known as possible. In return, we shall make the "SOUTH AFRICAN PHILATELIST" a real live, interesting, up-to-date journal which should supply a long-felt need, and we therefore look forward with confidence to the whole-hearted support of all stamp lovers.

Easter Stamp Exhibition Postponed.

With much regret we have to announce that the Stamp Exhibition, due to be held in the University Hall, Johannesburg, during Easter Week, has been postponed. This news will be received by all South African Philatelists with regret, and it was only after a very long and animated discussion that the Committee concerned reluctantly made the decision. A lot of spade work has, however, been done, and the experience gained will be more than useful for the next occasion. Lack of support was the principal reason advanced for postponing the Exhibition. The strike and revolts undoubtedly hit everyone, and as a result made money very tight, but after carefully

Title page February 1923

It will be noted in passing that there were various anomalies in the number of issues per volume, page misnumbering and errors in whole numbering. Thus, today, references to *The SA Philatelist* are best made in terms of the month, year and page number of the issues as given on publication, and not by volume and whole numbers. Any other course would only lead to disastrous confusion.

A word about indexes is necessary. There were no annual indexes for Vols 1 to 12, for which a cumulative index appeared with Vol 15 No 5. No annual indexes were issued from Vol 54 (1978) to Vol 67 (1991). However, a cumulative index for these 14 years was prepared in the course of 1992, and is being prepared for publication. An index for Vol 68 (1992), compiled by the Honorary Editor, was incorporated in the last issue of that year.

In the few page tables which follow, where page numbers do not actually ap-

pear — usually on the first page of an issue — the correct pagination is given notionally, in brackets. Covers, outside and in, front and back, which always carried advertising, have been consistently ignored, except where page counts of editorial pages are affected. Covers were sometimes, but not consistently, number i, ii, iii and iv.

Publishers, editors and managers

Vol 1 No 1 designates the editor as G W Reynolds, and the publisher as H Blom. It was not until Vol 9 (1933) that the magazine's year would run from January to December. (See page table).

Vol 2 No 8 designates both editor and publisher as H Blom, which changes to J Robertson with Vol 2 No 12. From Vol 3 No 9 the designation of J Robertson reads: "Published monthly by . . .", which falls away with Vol 3 No 11, no editor or publisher being indicated. Instead, the masthead states the magazine is the "official organ" of various philatelic societies. Named are: "Johannesburg United, Pretoria, East Rand, Natal, Cape Town, East London, Port Elizabeth, South West African, Rhodesian, Grahamstown, Kaffrarian and East African".

With Vol 6 No 6 (1928), the magazine is designated "a progressive independent monthly, edited and published" by J Robertson. April 1928 should have begun with (notional) page 29, but two initial page numbers were skipped. May 1928 should have begun with (notional) 39, but four page numbers were skipped here, as well as pages numbering 51 and 52.

The actual as opposed to the numbered page count for the year is therefore eight pages less — not 172 as given in the last issue of the year, but 164.

Seemingly erroneously, the running headline on the last two pages of May 1928 (53 and 54) designates the issue as



THE

South African Philatelist

Published Monthly

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Hon. Editor: A. E. Basden, P.O. Box 238, Pretoria

Hon. Business Manager: William Redford

- Communications.**— Business and Advertising—to be addressed to William Redford, 88 Fox Street, Johannesburg.
- Subscription.**— 5s. per annum, post free to any part of the world.
- Contributions.**— Manuscripts submitted to the Editor will receive careful reading. Unsuitable articles will be returned if stamped addressed envelope is enclosed. Every care will be taken of the MSS. submitted, but the Editor cannot accept responsibility for loss or damage.
- Correspondence.**— The columns of this Journal are open to correspondence on subjects of Philatelic Interest. In particular, the Editor will be pleased to receive information regarding new issues, discoveries of errors, and varieties, etc.
- Advertisements.**— For Advertising Rates see announcements on third page of cover.

Cover October 1932 - First issue published by The Philatelic Congress of Southern Africa

“June 1928”. In the June issue, pages 65 to 68 are headed “July 1928”. Then pages 149 and 150 in the October issue were designated “November 1928”, and pages 161 and 162 in November, “December 1928”.

It was a bad year for the magazine which, with its numbering of pages into its “next” month, must obviously have been running late. Without a word of explanation, it ceases publication at the end of 1928 with the December issue, Vol 6 No 11, whole number 71, there being no No 12.

Publication was resumed in February 1931, 25 months later, with Vol 7 No 1, whole number 72 — which is correct — and the cheery introduction, “Well, readers, we are glad to be with you again.” The masthead again has J Robertson as the editor and publisher.

Year	Volume	January	February	March	April	May	June	July	August	September	October	November	December
1933	9	(1)-16	(17)-32	(33)-48	(49)-64	(65)-80	(81)-96	(97)-112	(113)-128	(129)-144	(145)-160	(161)-176	(177)-192
Nos/Wh Nos		1/(94)	2/(95)	3/(96)	4/(97)	5/(98)	6/(99)	7/(100)	8/(101)	9/(102)	10/(103)	11/(104)	12/(105)

Pages 21 and 22 of the February issue are headlined “March 1931”, 41 and 42 of March “April”, and 53 and 54 of April “June”.

A loose note inserted in the June issue regrets that no issue appeared in May. (This was reproduced in the magazine in the issue of May/June 1991, p 88 — Vol 67 No 3, Whole No 786). The silly forward dating of pages came to an end with the last two pages of June (69 and 70), given as “July”.

From Vol 8 No 8 (1932) the proprietors and publishers are the Philatelic Congress of Southern Africa, the Hon Editor is A E Basden, and the Hon Business Manager William Redford. With this issue, whole numbers were discontinued for the time being.

Vol 8 No 1 consists of 16 pages, of which 2, 3, 7, 8, 11, 12, 14 and 15 are

blank and not numbered. There does not appear to be any editorial matter missing. Pages (57) and 58 constitute the outside and inside front covers of Vol 8 No 7. The volume consisted of only ten numbers.

Volume 9 again consisted of 12 numbers, but now running with the calendar year from January (No 1) to December (No 12). (See page table).

From 1934 with Vol 10 No 3, J H Harvey Pirie took over as Hon Editor from A E Basden. Page make-up went slightly awry, as the eleventh pages of Vol 10 No 1 and No 2 (consisting of 16 pages, as did all numbers this year), were misdated “1933” in the running headline.

W J Harrington was Hon Editor from Vol 11 Nos 4 to 10, J H Harvey Pirie resuming with No 11. (Maj Harrington’s death notice appeared in Vol 17 No 10 [October 1941, p 120] and a full obituary in Vol 17 No 12 — December 1941, p 135.)

Initial pages of issues began to be numbered — sporadically! — with Vol 12 No 2.

As there is a cumulative index, Vols 1 to 12 (see below), annual indexes must have begun with Vol 13, although there was not one in the run the author consulted. A photocopied index for Vol 14, consisting of 3 unnumbered pages (probably issued as 4 pages), was acquired. It appeared with Vol 15 No 1 (January 1939).

From Vol 15 No 12 onwards the publisher is The Philatelic Federation of Southern Africa, merely reflecting a change in name from “Congress” to “Federation”.

Vol 15 No 5 contains the cumulative index to Vols 1 to 12 of the magazine as a supplement. The four pages are not numbered. The index to Vol 15 appeared as four unnumbered pages with the running headline “January 1940”.

It is noteworthy that the first full year of World War II (1940, Vol 16) did not diminish the number of pages published annually under the auspices of the Philatelic Congress/ Federation of Southern Africa since Vol 8 No 8 in 1932.

Whole numbering was resumed in 1942 with Vol 18 No 1, correctly counted as 202. Since the magazine’s inception, 1946 was the first year in which a volume (Vol 22) reached 200 pages, and 1948 was a bumper year — 220 pages for the first time.

With Vol 25 No 1 in 1949, the Business Manager became L L (Leo) Buchen. This year shows how inadequate mastheads can prove as a record. The Hon Editor, Dr J H Harvey Pirie, notes on p 1 of Vol 26 No 1: “It is on the whole very pleasant to be back in the editor’s chair . . . after a holiday . . . of eight months . . . I would like to express

The SOUTH AFRICAN PHILATELIST

Proprietors and Publishers :

The Philatelic Federation of Southern Africa

Honorary Editor: Dr. J. H. HARVEY PIRIE, P.O. Box 7012, Johannesburg.
 Honorary Business Manager: WILLIAM REDFORD, Broadcast House, Commissioner Street, Johannesburg.

Subscription: Five Shillings per annum, post free to any part of the World.

Vol. 19, No. 1. JANUARY, 1943. Whole No. 214.

UNION NOTES

Bantams to remain Perf x Roulette

When the first of the reduced size war effort stamps appeared it may be remembered (see *S.A. Philatelist*, September, 1942, p. 102) that an official notice was published "that owing to technical difficulties each alternate vertical row of perforation is imperfect, but this defect will be remedied in future printings."

We read into this (and we fancy many others did the same) that in future printings each stamp would be perforated all round. As the other denominations appeared also perf. x roulette we were, to doubt whether we had not read too much into the statement, so a request has been made to the Government Printer to clarify the position. Here is his reply:

"I have to inform you that the slit perforation on the miniature war stamps is a permanent feature for the duration of the war.

The first print of the miniature 1½d. was imperfect to the extent that the slit perforation hardly penetrated the paper.

Partial slit perforating will be maintained during the war owing to mechanical difficulties which preclude full perforating on all sides of the stamp as in the past."

ISSUE OF NEW WAR POSTAGE STAMPS

The Postmaster-General of the Union announces that a new stamp (war series) of 1s. 3d. denomination will be placed on sale at all post offices on 2nd January, 1943.

The new stamps, which are intended primarily for the prepayment of airmail fees, are printed alternately in English and in Afrikaans in sheets of 240, and the size is the same as that of the ordinary penny stamp. The colour is sepia brown.



The design is representative of the South African Corps of Signals, an important unit which has not hitherto been included in the existing series of war stamps. A resolute signaller in steel helmet and battle dress, operating his transmitter to headquarters, from an armoured car, relays the progress of a tank and aerial battle.

The Postmaster-General of the Union announces that the reduced size 1d. war postage stamps will be placed on sale shortly. There will be no "First Day" issue, but the reduced size stamps will be placed on sale at individual post offices as and when supplies of the existing stamp become exhausted at such offices.

The 2d. denomination, in the series 1d., 1d., 1½d., 2d., 3d., 4d., 6d. and 1s. has still to be reduced. The cost of a complete set of the miniature war stamps will be 3s. 6d., the 1d., 1½d., 2d. and 3d. stamps being printed alternately in English and Afrikaans.



The design of the new penny stamp remains similar to that of the original stamp of the same denomination, with the exception that the ambulance has been removed and the lettering on the left-hand edge has been placed on the top. The colour remains the same, viz. red.

Persons overseas may obtain supplies by writing to the Under-Secretary, Staff, Room

The South African Philatelist

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

Hon. Editor
 Dr. T. B. Berry R.D.P.

Hon. Associate Editors.
 Mr. Joh Groenewald
 Dr. H. J. Raubenheimer
 Business Manager

Mr. S. J. Vermaak
 Annual Subscription
 South Africa R2.00
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 Elsewhere US \$ 3.00

Vol. 47 No. 1
 JANUARY 1971
 Whole No. 549

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Hobbies As Investments?

By E. Bear

Stamp and coin collecting boomed in the 1960's. The number of collectors multiplied many times. With it came an increase in the number of dealers, auction houses and publications. Increased demand pushed up prices of specific items to remarkable heights, but genuine philatelists and numismatists, in spite of their own personal gains, have shown themselves far from delighted with the trend.

They know that the vast majority of new "collectors" have no real interest in or love for their hobby. They are "investment hobbyists" who collect coins or stamps as a novel form of capital investment. The International Investment Handbook for 1970, published in Zürich, Switzerland, warns these collectors: Do not buy stamps or coins as an investment, unless you have a real knowledge to support your purchases.

This is good advice. Unfortunately it does not go far enough. The artificially boosted demand for rare and therefore high-value stamps and coins has encouraged more than ever before the appearance of doubtful trading practices. Even the collector with knowledge must be on his guard when buying though the stocks come from a reputable dealer or an auction firm of world renown. Clever forgeries and repaired pieces are so like the genuine article, that they cannot be distinguished without technical equipment not ordinarily available to the experts. Stamp and coin collecting for capital investment and appreciation centres around the "antiques", which in the case of stamps, are called the "classics" and which for coins covers an even more extended and ancient period of history. This high value area exists, because there can be no natural increase in the number of pieces, as they are not any

longer printed or coined. The number in circulation is in fact continually reducing due to loss from age and carelessness. On the other hand this very limitation encourages devious practices to supplement insufficient trading stocks.

EXPENSES

In addition to the cost of stamps and coins themselves, buying and selling expenses are not cheap. The collector, when he buys from or sells to a dealer, must obviously be prepared to let him make his profit. This means that the dealer will pay less than he expects to get and that he charges more than he had to pay. This is fair and the law of all trading, but the fact is frequently not remembered by investment buyers of stamps and coins. On the face of it, buying and selling at an auction seems more attractive. However, collectors must bear in mind that buying commission can amount to an average of 15% and selling commission to 10% or more. The great auction houses of the world operate on varying commission rates, but with very few exceptions they charge commission twice, to the buyer as well as to the seller. The cost added to an auctioned stamp or coin is thus at least 20%. As this money goes to the auctioneer, the collector is hardly better off than when trading with a dealer.

Continued overleaf

Title page January 1943

my heartfelt thanks to Adv I Isaacs for so kindly and efficiently acting as editor in my absence; he was so modest about it, too, that he never even announced that he was so acting." Thus, the mastheads for Vol 25 Nos 5 to 12 did not reflect this acting editorship.

It should be added that Vol 46 No 9 (September 1970) contains a great deal of information about early publishing aspects of the magazine, which it is sometimes not possible to deduce from the masthead.

The Business Manager from 1951 (Vol 27 No 2) onwards is J Nathanson. There is an unnumbered single-sheet supplement to Vol 27 No 12, giving details of the Van Riebeeck Tercentenary stamps which were issued on 14 March 1952. The reverse is blank. Adding this in, Volume 27 set a new record of 226 pages.

With Vol 28 No 5 (1952) the business manager became J Michelson, and with this volume the magazine reached its highest annual page count yet: 236 pages.

There is an unnumbered single-sheet supplement to Vol 29 No 7, giving advance details of the Cape Postage Stamp Centenary issue of 1 September March 1953. The reverse is blank. Adding this in, the volume sets another "record" — 238 pages.

The numbered pages 9 to 12 of Vol 30 No 1 — the centre section — contain the index of the previous volume. This explains why they may be missing

The SA Philatelist February 1993

Title page January 1971

from copies of the issue, having been removed for binding with Vol 29.

The whole number for Vol 32 No 3 incorrectly repeats that for No 2. It should have been Whole No 372 for No 3. This error rattles through to Vol 55 No 12, where it is given as 656, which in fact should be 657. But then, with Vol 56 No 1, a further error occurs — see further on!

With Vol 33 No 1 in 1957, an editorial board with Dr J H Harvey Pirie as chairman was instituted. Its other members were J E Frankland, Dr T B Berry and W N Sheffield. J Michelson continued as Business Manager, but J E Frankland no longer appears as member of the editorial board from Vol 34 No 6 onwards.

It was already apparent from the page count of Vol 33 (down to 188 pages) that a cost squeeze was making itself felt. Part of meeting this was the decision, announced in the editorial of Vol 34 No 1 (p 1) to henceforth employ photo-lithography instead of letterpress printing. There is also extensive type-writer setting, and general typographic untidiness. The volume ran to 204 pages, and proper type-setting through-out resumed with No 7.

Some idea of the difficulties researchers and bibliographers encounter can be gained from the following: The index for Vol 35 appeared as four unnumbered pages between pages 8 and 9 of Vol 36 No 1. However, this index takes up only pp (i) and (ii). Page (iii) carries a list of

ZAR post offices of 1890, indexed for Vol 36 as "p 8a". Page (iv) has news about UNIPEX (indexed at "8", whereas the actual page 8 carries only advertisements) and a note about a Canadian inverted overprint, also indexed at "8".

From Vol 36 No 1 onwards, the editorial board is "assisted by S L Crozet", and from No 7 onwards, J Michelson is designated Honorary Business Manager. With Vol 37 in 1961, for the first time since Vol 28, the magazine again achieves 236 pages in a volume.

The editorial board from Vol 38 No 1 onwards consists of Dr J H Harvey Pirie as chairman, Dr T B Berry and S L Crozet, and S J Vermaak becomes Business Manager. J Michelson is given as Honorary Business Manager only for No 1.

A steady, unbroken march of 20 pages per issue gave Vol 39 the highest number of pages thus far: 240 in 1963. The following year Vol 40 from No 6 to No 12 incorrectly shows the volume number in the masthead as 41.

From the proper Vol 41 No 1 in 1965 onwards, (Dr) H J Raubenheimer joins the editorial board. While remaining Business Manager, S J Vermaak is also listed on the editorial board from No 3 onwards. With No 6, Dr J H Harvey Pirie is designated consultant, which ceases with No 9. Berry, Crozet, Raubenheimer and Vermaak (still Business Manager) constitute the editorial board from No 10 onwards, with Berry designated chairman from No 11 onwards.

69:1 (796) 11

Year	Volume	January	February	March	April	May	June	July	August	September	October	November	December
1966	42	(1)- 24	(25)- 48	(49)- 72	(73)- 96	(97)-120	(121)-144	(145)-168	(169)-192	(193)-216	(217)-240	(241)-264	(265)-296
Nos/Wh Nos		1/489	2/490	3/491	4/492	5/493	6/494	7/495	8/496	9/497	10/498	11/499	12/500

Pirie edited the magazine longer than anyone else: From Vol 10 No 3 (with a break from Vol 11 Nos 4 to 10) through to Vol 41 No 9. The time span was March 1934 to September 1965, constituting 364 issues. These are counted as follows: 379, less seven under W J Harrington in 1935, and less eight when Adv I Isaacs acted as editor in 1949. It was not possible to deduce other brief holiday breaks — if there were any.

Volume 41 achieved another page record: 280.

Dr T B Berry became the Honorary Editor with Vol 42 No 11, and remained chairman of the editorial board. It was constituted as before, with the exception of S L Crozet from No 10 onwards. S J Vermaak remained Business Manager as well as serving on the board.

Not only does *The SA Philatelist* reach its 500th whole number (actually with Whole No 499, due to the error noted in Vol 32), but it reaches 296 pages for a year of publication. (See page table.)

The next year, with Vol 43, reached 300 pages! (Ah well — they include the four pages indexing the previous volume, which also holds good for some of the preceding page counts. For example, the four pages of the index to Vol 43 are numbered 11 to 14 — the centre section of Vol 44 No 1 — and headlined “January 1968”. But still.)

There was a loose supplement to Vol 43 No 6; V F Ellenberger: *Genesis of the British South Africa Company's Postage Stamps and Postal Services*. It consists of 24 unnumbered pages, with p 23 entirely blank.

Another loose, separately numbered (1-14, iii, iv) supplement to Vol 44 No 6 was Dr T B Berry's, *The Mobile Post Offices of South Africa and their Postmarks, 1937-1967*.

No 9 of Vol 45 in 1969 repeats the masthead line for No 8 on p (189), which is obviously incorrect in every respect except for the volume number and year. The running headline is, however, correct with “September”, and No 10 carries the “correct” whole number — correct, that is, but for the number dropped in Vol 32.

With Vol 46 No 7 the editorial board disappears, but the same three persons are still involved: Dr TB Berry as Hon Editor, Dr H J Raubenheimer now as Hon Associate Editor, and S J Vermaak as Business Manager. With No 10, Joh Groenewald joins as a further Hon Associate Editor.

This volume of 1970 describes its No 9 as the “50th Anniversary Issue”. This is based on the fact that the first publisher of the magazine, J Robertson, had started *The Union Philatelist* in February 1920, and this is regarded as the true forerunner of *The SA Philatelist*.

12 69:1 (796)

As noted above, the issue contains interesting information about the early days and personalities involved in publication from February 1923 onwards.

The volume reaches 304 pages, the highest yet, until the following year (308 pages), when the name of Dr H J Raubenheimer appears in the masthead for the last time in Vol 47 No 4, and Joh Groenewald becomes Hon Assistant Editor with No 5.

From No 9 the magazine is in the hands of a management committee: Hon Editor, Berry; Hon Assistant Editor, Groenewald; Business Manager, Vermaak; and Hon Secretary, K E W Lydall RDPSA: Hon Treasurer, Jonas Michelson RDPSA. J M Weinstein RDPSA is given as “co-opted” in No 11.

(Vol 47 No 3 repeats the month, number and whole number of No 2 in the masthead, but the whole number in No 4 is “correct” again, if the repeated whole number in Vol 32 is not taken into account).

The index to Vol 47 consists of four pages numbered 305 to 308, and is headlined “December 1971” — the centre pages of Vol 47 No 12. It is the first time the annual index appeared within its own volume.

The volume purports to have 318 pages, which is a printing impossibility. The explanation is that No 8 should have begun with p 189, but was notionally numbered (199), which means ten pages to be deducted. This makes 308, but includes four each for the two indexes published in the one volume.

S J Vermaak no longer appears in Vol 48 No 1, and Michelson has (“Advertisements”) added to his responsibilities; Lydall (“Subscriptions”). Weinstein is described as “additional member”, to be joined in the same capacity by Prof C J H Schutte from No 7 onwards. With No 10, Weinstein becomes Hon Editor, Schutte joins Groenewald as Hon Assistant Editor, and Dr T B Berry RDPSA is designated Consultant Editor.

Vol 48 now shows the pagination also on the initial pages of each issue, and the journal appears for the first time in the still current A4 format.

No 12 carried a supplement: Mephius, *Ultra-Violet sheds a new light on philately*. It is page numbered separately, (1) to (12) implied, with intervening figures 3 to 11 explicit.

Vol 49 ran to 364 pages, equalled once again with Vol 56. While Vol 49 ran to the highest page count to date, Vol 50 included two supplements: With No 6, Hagen: *The Language of Thematics* (24 numbered pages, unnumbered wrap-around cover) and with No 9, Berry and Michelson, *The History of the Philatelic Federation of Southern Africa* (18 numbered pages, two at end

blank, unnumbered wrap-around cover).

With Vol 51 No 1, the name of Dr T B Berry RDPSA no longer appears as consultant editor. In No 3 J Michelson RDPSA takes over both subscriptions and advertising, while society subscriptions are the responsibility of D Brown, and K W E (!) Lydall RDPSA became, with Natie Becker, “other members” of the management committee.

In Vol 52 No 11 (1976), the name of Prof C J H Schutte appears for the last time as Hon Assistant Editor. No 3 carried what is described in the contents as a commemorative supplement: “AFV 25”. This consists of 36 pages, but is numbered through the issue from page 69 to 104 (contents spilling over on to page 105). It is therefore part of the volume.

No 4 has a slip, measuring 50 x 100 mm, tipped in on p 113. It is printed in red capitals, reading “Mowbray cover has been cancelled. Please ignore report on page 135”. It is identified as “Supplement to The SA Philatelist — April 1976”.

Dr Hasso D Reisener joins as Hon Assistant Editor with Vol 53 No 2, but his name ceases to appear with No 9, which carries his obituary on p 235. D Brown (Society subscriptions) last appears in the masthead of No 10.

Vol 53 No 7 has a full colour reproduction and description (on the reverse) of a Southern Rhodesia error of colour on a slip 152 x 152 mm, titled “Supplement to the SA PHILATELIST — JULY 1977”. It was printed in Scotland by Woods of Perth. Its inclusion is due to “the generosity of Mr Robson Lowe of London”, noted at the foot of p 174.

This was, for the moment, the last volume to which an index appeared. It consisted of six pages number i to iv (!), identified with “August 1978” (No 8). The “iv” is obviously incorrect, and should have been vi. The preceding page is correctly number v.

However, this leads to an anomaly in the total page number count, which is given as 344. With an additional vi pages, the full total is no longer divisible by four. Pages i to iv were incorrectly taken into account when numbering of No 9 began with 233. The “indivisible” pages (ie v and the erroneously number iv) prove to be a single sheet tipped on.

Vol 53 therefore consists of 340 pages, plus four, plus a sheet of two.

The name of J M Weinstein RDPSA still appears as Hon Editor in Vol 54 No 9. In fact, the space where his editorial would have appeared on p 244 of that number is blank, and his obituary appears on p 245. Joh Groenewald becomes the Hon Editor from No 10 onwards, and what was the “management committee” is now called the “management and editorial board”.

The SA Philatelist February 1993

Year	Volume	January	February	March	April	May	June	July	August	September	October	November	December
1980	56	1-24	25-52	53-80	81-112	113-144	145-168	169-192	193-228	229-260	261-292	293-328	329-364
Nos/Wh Nos		1/646	2/647	3/648	4/649	5/650	6/651	7/652	8/653	9/654	10/655	11/656	12/657

No 3 of this volume carries an extensive article from pages 61 to 79, with its own frontispiece (Goldblatt, "The Mafeking Blues") which might be regarded by some as a supplement. However, as it is numbered through the issue, it is part of the volume.

No 8 carries a tipped-in sheet of two pages — 231 and 232, and in the following year, 1979, Vol 54 No 8 carries a tipped-in sheet of two pages — 231 and 232.

With Vol 56 in 1980 the whole numbering becomes decidedly confusing. Vol 56 should have begun with Whole No 657. It is, instead, given as 646.

Thus, while the table above gives the whole numbers as printed in the magazine, a wholly corrected summary would add in the number skipped, through inadvertent repetition, in Vol 32, giving 658 as the corrected starting point for Vol 56 No 1. Then should have followed 659 to 669.

For the first time since Vol 49 in 1973 the magazine again reached its highest count of 364 pages in a year.

The whole numbering given for Vol 57, Nos 1 to 12, is 658 to 669. It is now exactly a year behind as, wholly corrected, it should have run from 670 to 681. The issue of February incorrectly repeats the issue number, month and

whole number of No 1. This is corrected with No 3, except, of course, for the whole number.

Pages 333 and 334 in No 10 were a two-page sheet containing advertising, accounting for the anomalous overall total of 430 pages. The correct page count of 428 for the volume has not been exceeded since.

Honorary correspondents were listed in the masthead for the first time in 1982, in Vol 58 No 11, a practice which has continued. Listing all changes, however, would serve little purpose. The first two were Eddie Howie (Natal) and Wilhelm Grütter (Western Cape).

The whole numbering given for Vol 58, Nos 1 to 12, is 670 to 681. Wholly corrected, it should have been 682 to 693. K E W Lydall's name ceases to appear as one of the "other members" of the board in Vol 59 No 7, which carries his obituary on p 185.

The whole numbering given for Vol 59, Nos 1 to 12, is 682 to 693. Wholly corrected, it should have been 694 to 705. No 2 contains pages numbered i to viii, carrying an advertisement.

In 1984, for Vol 60, Nos 1 to 3, the whole numbering continues incorrectly with 694 to 696. Wholly corrected, it should have been 706 to 708. This numbering discrepancy was finally corrected

with April 1984 (No 4), as a result of the vigilance of D Lamont Smith, FRPSL.

An editorial in Vol 60 No 1 (p 2), remarking on the "60th anniversary" of the magazine, first drew his attention to the matter. While the volume number reflected such a surmise, publication had begun in February 1923. Thus January 1984 could not be the true anniversary, and he began to research the matter. His letter, setting out the correct position, was published on p 98 of No 4 (p 98).

He wrote what prompted him: "I offered my first 'Looking Back 60 Years Ago' in the June 1983 issue, so the magazine must have been at least 60 years old then". (His column has since appeared without interruption). Contrary to what the editorial note to the letter may lead one to suspect, the volume as opposed to the whole number count has always been correct throughout.


In Vol 62 No 1 there are typographic changes to the masthead, with more names mentioned either as correspondents or with other responsibilities, but the management and editorial board remains as before: Groenewald (Hon Editor), Michelson (Advertising and subscriptions) and Becker.

An innovation with this volume in

Cover April 1987

Cover September/October 1990

The SA PHILATELIST



Vol 63 No 4 April 1987 R12


An exceptional series of sales will be held by

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- 12 May **EUROPE** including the H.H. Laundon collections of French & Prussian cancellations, the Nils Farstrom Poland, rare classic covers from France.
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Veldblomme van Bophuthatswana op 23 April

Inside

- Stamp Day is on the road
- Theme: Police on stamps
- How the 1910 2½d changed
- Tvl numeral triangles sorted out
- Those digits on the blue R stickers
- New stamp details in supplement

The South African PHILATELIST

SEPTEMBER
OCTOBER
1990

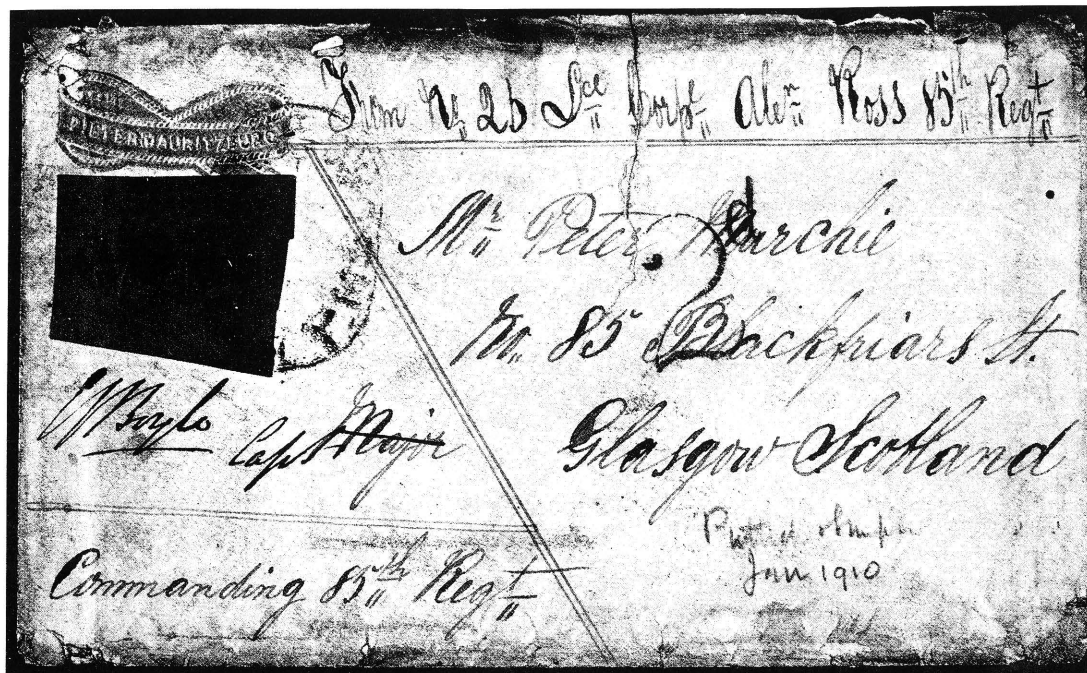
Vol 66 No 5

- Railway cancellations: the Rhodesias and PEA
- Seëls vir die res van 1990
- Vroue op die seëls van Suid-Afrika
- JUNASS Results and awards
- All the issues planned for 1991 listed
- Full reports on 52nd Congress and "Stamps 150"



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Philatelic Auctioneers since 1918



1986 is that with No 1 the magazine begins to publish, on an irregular basis, plating details of new Southern African issues as a pull-out supplement. The format is A4 overall, in the centre of the issue concerned, but designed to be folded down to A5.

It usually contains eight A5 pages, numbered from i to viii, thus taking up four A4 pages. They are not described here in detail, but listed below as a check. To identify these plating supplements in the various issues, only the first heading is given. For example, in No 1, "RSA Reprint of the 50c Building Series".

The ISSN 0038-2566 makes its first appearance in the masthead of No 10, and the anomalous volume page count of 298 is accounted for by two A4 pages usurped by the i to iv of a plating supplement in No 4.

Plating supplements: 1986-1991

1986

January	RSA 50c Building Series
February	Transkei Historical Port St Johns
April	SWA Special issue Tortoises
May	Bophuthatswana additional stamp value
June	Bophuthatswana Easter Stamps
August	Transkei Souvenir Sheet
September	SWA Special issues
November	Transkei Special issue

1987

April	RSA Special stamp issue
August	Bophuthatswana Special issue

The first page of Vol 63 No 9 carries the following note: "This issue is the 750th number of *The South African Philatelist*, magazine of the Philatelic Federation of Southern Africa. Outside Europe and the USA, it is the oldest running stamp journal in the world."

From Vol 64 No 10 onwards, Maj Ian Mathews joined as Hon Assistant Editor, and the Hon Editor from Vol 65 No 3 onwards (March 1989) became Wilhelm Grütter, while the management and editorial board disappeared.

J Michelson RDPSA, however, is still there as Hon Advertising Manager. From No 4 onwards the title of Hon Circulation Manager appears with the address of the Philatelic Federation of Southern Africa, but there is no name. He is Danny Swart RDPSA.

From Vol 66 to date the magazine began appearing only six times per year.

1988

February	SWA Third Definitive series
March	Venda Postcards
October	RSA Fifth Definitive series

1989

February	Ciskei Special issue Homemade Toys
September	Transkei 16c reprint

1990

Jul/Aug	SWA Flora
Nov/Dec	Bophuthatswana Small Mammals

1991

Jul/Aug	RSA Definitive series 5c reprint
Sept/Oct	Transkei Definitive series 1c reprint

In May/June (No 3), the Penny Black anniversary issue, there is a blank for the title and name of the Hon Assistant Editor, whose obituary appears in the same number, p 86. The masthead information concerning Maj Ian Mathews was inadvertently, and incorrectly, repeated in No 5.

A supplement with an unnumbered wrap-around self-cover and internally numbered pages 1 — 16 appeared with Vol 66 No 1: Hagger and Tonking: *The Union 2d London Printing, the Final Chapter*.

In 1991 a supplement with an unnumbered wrap-around self-cover and internally numbered pages (1) — 76 appeared with Vol 67 No 6: Steyl: *Die Ontwikkelingsgeskiedenis van Posseëluitstallings in Suid-Afrika*.

Reminiscences of a stamp dealer

JOHN ROBERTSON Founding father of The SA Philatelist

STAMP dealing is usually a pretty hum-drum business, but sometimes one has to smile at some of the things that are said in a stamp shop.

A woman once asked me if stamps are mounted in albums with rivets. I nearly said "No, staples are much better", but fearing that I would be taken seriously I refrained from doing so!

Many times I was also asked for "those sticky pieces of paper to mount stamps with". On one of the occasions, when I said "I don't sell them sticky, you have to make them sticky when you use them", I got the rejoinder "Well, if you don't sell them sticky I can't buy them".

Once, when I sold a watermark detector, I was asked "Do I use hot or cold water?"

A fellow once ordered a pair of tweezers, "one with narrow ends and one with wide ends". Reminds me of the man who ordered a pair of trousers from a tailor — "one flannel and one tweed".

A letter that I received read "I understand that the South African 2d stamp showing the Union Building is worth £70 and would like your comments as I have one to sell". Return postage was not included, so I kept my comments to myself!

The SA Philatelist February 1993

SHORTLY before this anniversary issue went to press, Argyll Etkin of London sent the Hon Editor four articles, in manuscript, carbon copy form, by John Robertson. These were evidently from the files of Manfred Weinstein RDPSA, Hon Editor of our magazine from October 1972 to September 1978. All of them were written around the time when *The SA Philatelist* was in its fiftieth anniversary period.

Two of them, dealing with lucky finds and dated respectively 26 March and 1 April 1974, were published in reverse order in the issues of July (p 177) and August (p 209) 1974. Another one, undated, but obviously from the same period, is published here for the first time, followed by the first publication of a second, which was dated 31(!) November 1973.

John Robertson, a life-long stamp dealer to whose persistent philatelic publishing efforts beginning in February 1920 with *The Union Philatelist* we owe the existence of this journal, died in Durban in October 1976.

Someone in India once sent me a letter addressed to "Johannesburg, England". It reached me without going to England first. A letter from Poland was addressed to me at "Jachenabrg, Süid Afrika". Another letter from India addressed to "Johnaburg, South America" reached me without delay. It was flattering to receive a letter from Germany

addressed to "The Chief Dealer in Postage Stamps, Johannesburg".

Why is it that women have a habit of affixing stamps right in the extreme top right corner of the envelope, often with the perforation extending beyond the edges of the envelope, so that when letters are tied up in bundles by the post office, the stamps get nicely creased?

The sterling issues of postage stamps of South Africa and South West Africa were demonetised on 31 December 1972. The public could exchange them for decimal issues. I have been informed in good faith by someone whose word I can trust that someone sent in some mint £1 stamps (KG V), to be exchanged at 5 percent discount off face for decimals. The transaction went through, and the £1 stamps were officially destroyed (as happened to all stamps sent to the PO for exchange).

It seems difficult to believe that there was someone who did not know that the £1 stamps are worth very much more than face value. Was he too stingy to buy a catalogue?

My own experiences suggest that there are many collectors who would not accept the advice of the great Fred J Melville (one of the most intelligent philatelists of the past) who said "When-

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ever you come across a damaged stamp — if it is your own — tear it in half. The collector who will deceive himself with a damaged stamp, will deceive others. Bad mounting and stamps stuck in anyhow show carelessness in other directions as well.”

When I was young my father used to say that collectors are a covetous lot; if they could not obtain a stamp they wanted by legal means, they would steal it. I did not believe him, but when I grew up and opened a shop I discovered that there were some collectors who “helped themselves” when I was not looking, and as some of them were rich people, I felt pretty disgusted with them.

In the past few years there have been a number of burglaries of stamp dealers’ premises in Europe and North America; in one case the dealer was murdered by

the thieves. It would seem that some dealers and collectors do not safeguard their stamps adequately, and many do not insure their stamps.

Of course, the fellow who steals stamps from sales packets by substitution is well known, but when I conducted packets I found a way which enabled me to catch suspects red-handed.

Yes, I remember being pestered by people bringing me 20th century 2c British Guiana and Mauritius stamps, asking me if they were worth thousands of pounds. There are some very simple people in this world.

In June 1864 Mr E Stanley Gibbons wrote to his agent in Cape Town for the new rectangular 1d stamp, adding a footnote: “Do not send me 1d triangular unused, as they are no use to me”. Apparently, he had overbought them.

Don't wait until they are catalogued!

FOR many years Gibbons listed one postal fiscal for Bechuanaland Protectorate, namely the KE VII Transvaal 6d overprinted “Bechuanaland Protectorate”. This stamp, No F1, was intended to be used on bills, but the word “Postage” on the stamp was not obliterated.

Two other stamps in the same category were not listed during the time that they were easily obtainable. They were ignored by most collectors, but now that they are listed, the hunt is on — but where are the stamps?

In their 1973 catalogue Gibbons listed for the first time a stamp issued in 1918. This was the 1/- stamp of British Bechuanaland overprinted “£5”.

British Bechuanaland became part of the Cape of Good Hope in 1895 and ceased to issue its own stamps in 1897, when Cape stamps were brought into use in the territory. This overprinted stamp was, I am told, intended to be used on licences issued to bars. Certain-

ly it could not, in 1918, be used to its full face value on mail matter. In spite of the name on the stamps, they could not be used in “British Bechuanaland”, which ceased to exist in 1895.

Apparently this stamp could be purchased at face value for many years, because round about 1932 a collector showed me a mint copy, which he had just purchased at face value at Mafeking Post Office, which at that time was the head post office for the Bechuanaland Protectorate, although situated in South Africa. About the same time I saw two fiscally cancelled copies of this stamp.

Collectors showed no interest in this £5 stamp, as it was not catalogued. In an auction held in Cape Town in November 1973 a fiscally cancelled pair was included, and it was valued by the auctioneer at R350. Now that it is catalogued I think that specialists will be looking for mint copies.

In 1918 post offices did not advertise their wares as they do today. I consider that the number of surcharges was very small, and mint copies (and postmarked, if any exist thus) must be of considerable rarity and worth several hundred of rands a copy, but where will you find them? (*The stamp is F2 in the Red Gibbons of 1990, only listed mint at £4 500. Hon Editor*)

In their 1974 catalogue Gibbons have listed, for the first time, the Union of South Africa KG V 1d overprinted for Bechuanaland Protectorate. This stamp has been well known for years, but it was shunned by most collectors until this year, as it was not catalogued. It used to be difficult to obtain a few shillings for a copy.

With a bit of looking around you might find a copy, but now that it is catalogued, it will cost you more than a rand or two! (*This is F3, listed in 1990 at £40 mint, £60 used.*)

While the British South African Company governed Rhodesia they had a clean-up in their London offices and found a small stock of two hitherto unknown stamps which many collectors regard as proofs, namely the £1 of the 1909 issue overprinted “Rhodesia” in violet (Gibbons No 113b) and the 1910 Double Head issue £1 in scarlet and reddish mauve (Gibbons No 166b). The former is now catalogued at £25 (1990: £225) and the latter at £1 500 (1990: £8 500). London dealers bought the lot of these two stamps.

In 1917 post offices in Northern Rhodesia ran out of ½d stamps, probably due to the war that was on then, and the 1d Admiral was surcharged “Half Penny”. The story goes that someone managed to get a couple of sheets overprinted the wrong way round, thus giving the inverted surcharge variety, now catalogued at £300 mint (1990: SG No 280a, £1 700 mint).

Seëluitgawes 1993 Stamp issues

FILATELIEDIENSTE EN INTERSAFA

RSA

28 Januarie
Suid-Afrikaanse Hawens

Walvisbaai-hawe aan die weskus van Suider-Afrika word op die 35c-seël uitgebeeld. Dié baai is reeds in 1487 op Portugese seevaarderskaarte aangedui. Bartolomeus Dias het dié natuurlike hawe Golfo de Santa Maria da Conceicao genoem.

Die Walvisbaai-gebied het in 1878 'n Britse besitting geword, en in 1884 is dit by die destydse Kaapkolonie ingelyf. Walvisbaai is vroeër as 'n walvisstasie gebruik — vandaar die naam.

Die Oos-Londen-hawe (55c-seël) in die monding van die Buffelsrivier is



Suid-Afrika se enigste rivierhawe. Dit is kleiner as die ander vernaamste Suid-Afrikaanse hawens, maar kan los en behouerde vrag sowel as massavrag hanteer.

Dit hanteer 'n groot hoeveelheid onderdele vir die motornywerheid en is die belangrikste invoer/uitvoerhawe vir Transkei en Ciskei. 'n Aantal Afrika-state gebruik die hawe vir die uitvoer van koper.

Die Port Elizabeth-hawe verskyn op die 70c-seël. Bartolomeus Dias was die eerste Westerling wie se landing (op 12 Maart 1488) by die Bahia da Lagoa (landingsplek met vars water), soos hy die hedendaagse Algoabaai genoem het, geboekstaaf is.

Die hawestad Port Elizabeth het egter sy ontstaan aan die 1820 Britse Setlaars te danke. Na hulle koms het daar 'n behoefte aan 'n doeanepos ontstaan. In

The SA Philatelist February 1993

16 69:1 (796)

HIERMEE verskyn die eerste vier maande van 1993 se uitgawes vir die RSA, die TBVC-lande en Namibia. Vir die orige agt maande lyk die program soos volg:

RSA:

7 Mei, Nasionale Seëldag, 4 waardes.
 2 Julie, Sesde vaste reeks, Bedreigde fauna, 18 waardes.
 3 September, Toerisme, 4 waardes.

Transkei:

18 Junie, Fossiele, 3de stel in reeks, 4 waardes.
 20 Augustus, Helde van medisyne, 8ste stel in reeks, 4 waardes.
 15 Oktober, Duiwe, 4 waardes, miniatuurvel.

Bophuthatswana:

18 Junie, Treine, 2de stel in reeks, 4 waardes, miniatuurvel.
 20 Augustus: Ou kaarte van Afrika, 3de

stel in reeks, 4 waardes.

Venda:

19 Mei, Huiskatte, 4 waardes, maksaarte*
 16 Julie, Reiers, 4 waardes, miniatuurvel.
 17 September, Nywerheidsprodukte, Skoenfabriek, 4 waardes.

5 November, Uitvindings, 3de stel in reeks, 4 waardes.

Ciskei:

19 Mei, Beroemde ontdekkers, 5 waardes.
 16 Julie, Klein kouvoëls, 5 waardes,*
 17 September, Kerke en sendingstasies, 4 waardes.
 5 November, Indringerplante, 4 waardes, miniatuurvel.

Namibia:

4 Junie, Ongekende skoonheid van die Namib, 4 waardes.

6 Augustus, SOS Kinderdorsorg, 4 waardes.

1 Oktober, Tweede vaste reeks, Skoenlappers, 14 waardes.

* Miniatuurvel, Filatelistigting van Suider-Afrika.

Wat die uitreiking van die RSA se sesde vaste reeks betref, is die totale beplande sigwaarde R24,03. Hiervan word R18,00 deur vier hoë waardes in beslag geneem: R1, R2, en vir die eerste maal R10.

Ook noemenswaardig is dat die inskripsie op die uitgereikte ontwerp om die beurt "Suid-Afrika/South Africa" en "South Africa/Suid-Afrika" lees, en nie "RSA" nie.

Wat die Namibiese vaste reeks betref dra die uitgereikte ontwerpe geen aanduidings en waardes nie.
 Ere-Redakteur



1825 het die baai die status van 'n hawe verkry toe 'n hawemeester aangestel is. 'n Jaar later is 'n doeanebeampte aangestel.

Tans is Port Elizabeth die vyfde grootste vraghawe in Suid-Afrika.

The 90c stamp depicts Cape Town Harbour. Table Bay has been used as a landingplace by passing ships ever since Bartolomeu Dias rounded the Cape of Good Hope in 1488.

The port of Cape Town grew from the refreshment station founded by Jan van Riebeeck in April 1652 for ships of the Dutch East India Company. In 1656 work was started on a wooden jetty to facilitate the landing of small boats — the first step towards making a harbour in the exposed bay.

The first breakwater protecting the bay against the prevailing southeasterly gales was officially opened by Prince Alfred, Queen Victoria's second son, on 4 July 1870. The possibility of developing Table Bay into a great man-made port then became apparent.

During World War II, the port of

Cape Town handled more than 400 convoys, 13 000 ships were repaired and about six million soldiers landed here. During the Suez crisis in 1973, the harbour had to handle an enormous amount of shipping.

Durban Harbour features on the R1,05 stamp. In 1823, three hundred years after Vasco Da Gama had sighted the *Terra do Natal* (land of birth), a brig named *Salisbury* sheltered in a bay on the Natal coast during a sudden storm. Impressed by the potential of the bay, lieutenants King and Farewell obtained a concession for a trading store on the waterfront.

Thus began the history of South Africa's busiest port, Durban. Today, Durban has burgeoned into one of the best-equipped ports on the entire continent of Africa. Over 500 000 containers are handled in Durban's container terminal annually, making it the biggest in Africa.

The issue will be accompanied by a miniature sheet.

deur Raison en Bredell gebou is, was die eerste plaaslik vervaardigde vliegtuig wat in Suid-Afrika vir 'n vlug gebruik is — op 30 April 1911 by Highlands-Noord.

Paterson no 2 (1913)

Cecil Compton-Paterson het in 1911 na Suid-Afrika gekom as 'n lid van die African Aviation Syndicate, 'n sakeonderneming wat lugvaart in Suid-Afrika wou ontwikkel. Nadat die sindikaat ontbind is, het hy in 1913 die Paterson no 2-tweedekeer gebruik om die eerste tien militêre vlieëniers vir die SA Aviation Corps by Alexandersfontein naby Kimberley op te lei.

Henri Farman F.27 (1915)

Die Henri Farman F.27 met sy staalraam was meer geskik vir die strawwe klimaatstoestand van Suidwes-Afrika — waar dit deur die SA Aviation Corps gebruik is — en Oos-Afrika — waar dit deur 26 Eskader RFC gebruik is — as die BE.2c, wat vinnig verslyt het omdat dit van hout en doek gemaak was.

BE.2e (1918)

Die BE.2e was 'n tweesitplek-verkenningvliegtuig wat gedurende die Eerste Wêreldoorlog op groot skaal saam met die vroeëre BE.2c gebruik is. Die vroeëre model is deur die SA Lugkorps in Suidwes-Afrika (tans Namibië) en later deur die Suid-Afrikaners in 26 Eskader RFC in Oos-Afrika gebruik.

Vickers Vimy Silver Queen (1920)

Die Vickers Vimy was 'n tweemotorige langafstandbomwerper wat teen die einde van die Eerste Wêreldoorlog ontwikkel is. Dit is as geskik vir langafstandroetes beskou, en is inderdaad vir 'n hele aantal langafstandeervlugte gebruik. Die Vimy *Silver Queen* is in 1920 deur kol HA (Pierre) van Ryneveld en vlugluitenant Quintin Brand, vergesel van vlugingenieurs Burton en Sherrat en later ook vlugersant EF Newman, op die eerste skof van die eerste geslaagde vlug van Engeland na die Kaap gebruik.

SE-5a (1921)

Gedurende die Eerste Wêreldoorlog is die SE-5a deur talle beroemde Suid-

**1 April
Lugvaart in Suid-Afrika**

Bristol Boxkite (1907)

John Weston, een van Suid-Afrika se voorste lugvaartpioniers, het sedert 1907 'n aantal vliegtuie ontwikkel wat hy self ontwerp het. Hy het ook twee Bristol Boxkites — en onderdele — van 'n besoekende Belgiese vlieënier aangekoop en vir vertoonvlugte gebruik.

Voisin (1909)

Die eerste suksesvolle masjieneangedrewe vlug in Suid-Afrika is op 18 Desember 1909 deur 'n Fransman, Albert Kimmerling, by Oos-Londen in 'n Voi-



sin-tweedekeer met die bynaam *Flying Matchbox* onderneem. Dié vliegtuig is later ook by Johannesburg en ander sentra vir vlugte gebruik.

Bleriot XI (1911)

Op 27 Desember 1911 is die Bleriot XI deur Evelyn (Bok) Driver van die African Aviation Syndicate gebruik om die eerste Suid-Afrikaanse lugpos van Kenilworth (Kaap) na Muizenberg te vervoer. Nog 'n Bleriot, 'n replika wat



Afrikaners — onder andere kaptein AW Beauchamp-Proctor VC — in gevegte gebruik. In 1921 het die Suid-Afrikaanse Lugmag 22 SE-5a-vegvliegtuie as deel van die Imperiale skenking van 111 vliegtuie ontvang.

Avro 504K (1921)

In 1921 het die Suid-Afrikaanse Lugmag die Avro 504K as opleidingsvliegtuig in gebruik geneem. Die eerste lewensverlies in die geskiedenis van die Lugmag het in 'n ongeluk met een van dié vliegtuie voorgekom.

Armstrong-Whitworth Atalanta (1930)

Die Armstrong-Whitworth Atalanta was 'n viermotorige lynvliegtuig wat volledig van hout was. Dit is in die vroeë dertigerjare op groot skaal op die Afrika-roete gebruik. Dié vliegtuig was 'n bekende gesig op die Randse lughawe by Germiston totdat dit deur die Short C-klas Empire-vliegboot vervang is.

DH.66 Hercules (1931)

Die DH.66 Hercules is in Desember 1931 as die eerste Imperial Airways-lynvliegtuig op die Suid-Afrikaanse roete in diens gestel. Die DH.66 is pal gebruik totdat dit deur die Armstrong-Whitworth Atalanta vervang is. Drie van hulle is toe aan die Suid-Afrikaanse Lugmag as transportvliegtuie verkoop en het tot vroeg in die Tweede Wêreldoorlog diens gedoen.

Westland Wapiti (1931)

Die Westland Wapiti was die eerste vliegtuig wat as 'n volgrees in Suid-Afrika gebou is. Nadat vier van hulle in 1931 van Brittanje ingevoer is, is 27 in die vliegtuig- en artilleriesepot as meerdoelvliegtuie vir die Suid-Afrikaanse Lugmag gebou.

Junkers F.13 (1932)

Die Junkers F.13 is in 1932 deur Union Airways in gebruik geneem. Dié vliegtuie is in 1934 deur die Suid-Afrikaanse Lugdiens oorgeneem. Hulle is deur meermotorige vliegtuie vervang, maar minstens een het behoue gebly, en is in die Tweede Wêreldoorlog deur die Suid-Afrikaanse Lugmag gebruik.

Handley Page HP-42 (1933)

Die Handley Page HP-42 *Helena*, een van die grootste lynvliegtuie wat destyds gebou is, het in 1933 'n vlugtige besoek aan Suid-Afrika gebring. Dié soort vliegtuig is geruime tyd op die Kaïro-Kisumu-skof van die Afrika-lugposroete gebruik.

Junkers Ju52/3m (1934)

Die Junkers Ju52/3m is oorspronklik deur Union Airways bestel maar vanaf 1934 is dié vliegtuig op groot skaal deur die Suid-Afrikaanse Lugdiens gebruik. 'n Paar jaar gelede het die Suid-Afrikaanse Lugdiens 'n Spaansvervaardigde

CASA 352L omgebou tot 'n replika van een van die Ju52/3m-vliegtuie wat voor die oorlog in diens was. Dié replika, wat as *Tante Ju* bekend staan, is op die seël afgebeeld. Dit word nou vir plesiervlugte gebruik.

Junkers Ju86 (1936)

Die Junkers-Ju86 vliegtuie van die Suid-Afrikaanse Lugdiens is tydens die Tweede Wêreldoorlog deur die Suid-Afrikaanse Lugmag oorgeneem. 'n Paar van hulle was by die eerste oorlogsop-trede van die Suid-Afrikaanse Lugmag betrokke toe die Duitse lynboot, die *Watussi*, naby Kaapstad onderskep is.

Hawker Hartbees (1936)

Die Hawker Hartbees was die tweede vliegtuigsoort wat plaaslik in lisensie vervaardig is. Vyf-en-sestig van dié vliegtuie is gebou voordat daar na die produksie van die Avro Tutor omgeskakel is. Die Hartbees is in samewerking met die leër in Oos-Afrika gebruik en het in baie eenhede diens gedoen.

Short Empire-vliegboot Canopus (1937)

Die Short C-klas Empire-vliegboot is vanaf 1937 deur Imperial Airways op die Suid-Afrikaanse roete gebruik. Die eerste vlug is met die G-ADHL *Canopus* onderneem. Die Empire-vliegbote het tot kort na die Tweede Wêreldoorlog na Durban en later die Vaaldam gevlieg.

Miles Master II en Airspeed AS.10 Oxford (1940)

Gedurende die Tweede Wêreldoorlog is die verstommende getal van 33 347 lugbemannings vir die Suid-Afrikaanse Lugmag, die RAF en die Geallieerde lugmagte deur die Gesamentlike Lugopleidingskema in Suid-Afrika opgelei. Die Miles Master II-gevegsopleidingsvliegtuig en die Airspeed Oxford-bomwerperopleidingsvliegtuig is twee van die talle vliegtuigsoorte wat deur vliegskole oral in Suid-Afrika gebruik is.

Harvard Mk IIa (1942)

Die Harvard van die North American-maatskappy is vir die eerste keer in 1940 deur die Suid-Afrikaanse Lugdiens in sy Mk I-weergawe in gebruik geneem. Vanaf die einde van 1942 is die Mk IIa en die Mk III in groot getalle in Suid-Afrika ingevoer en mettertyd het hulle die Miles Master vervang. Sedertdien was die Harvard die Lugmag se standaard opleidingsvliegtuig. Meer as 700 is uiteindelik afgelewer.

Short Sunderland (1945)

Toe 262 Eskader van die RAF tot 35 Eskader van die Suid-Afrikaanse Lugmag hernommer is, is die Catalinas deur Sunderland-vliegbote vervang. Die Sunderland is van 1945 tot 1957 vir maritieme verkenning gebruik, en toe deur die Avro Shackleton vervang.

Avro York (1946)

Die Suid-Afrikaanse Lugdiens het in 1946 en 1947 'n aantal Avro Yorks van die BOAC gehuur om op die Springbokdiens tussen Johannesburg en Londen diens te doen, tot tyd en wyl die Suid-Afrikaanse Lugdiens se eerste Douglas DC4-vliegtuie afgelewer sou word.

Douglas DC-7B (1955)

Die Suid-Afrikaanse Lugdiens het die Douglas DC-7B in 1955 in diens gestel. Dit was die laaste langafstand-suier-vliegtuig wat die dié lugdiens gebruik is, en word veral onthou omdat dit vir die instelling van die Suid-Afrikaanse Lugdiens se vlugte na Australië gebruik is.

Sikorsky S-55C (1956)

Die Sikorsky S-55C is die tweede soort helikopter wat deur die Suid-Afrikaanse Lugmag gebruik is. Die drie wat ingevoer is, is van 1956 tot 1968 deur 17 Eskader vir seereddingswerk en vragvervoer gebruik.

Boeing 707-344 (1959)

Die Boeing 707-344 is in 1959 deur die Suid-Afrikaanse Lugdiens as sy eerste straler op sy buitelandse roetes in diens gestel — hoewel Comets wat van die BOAC gehuur is, tevore gebruik is. Dié langafstandvliegtuie het die Suid-Afrikaanse Lugdiens in staat gestel om sy roetestructuur aansienlik uit te brei.

Die 25 seëls verskyn se-tenant, en daar sal 'n miniatuurvel van die Filateliestigting van Suider-Afrika wees.

The SA Philatelist February 1993

Transkei

12 February
Small dog breeds



The 35c stamp features the Papillon. These dogs are probably direct line descendants of the drop-eared Italian toy spaniel of the late Middle Ages. The erect set of the ears was developed in the 17th century. It was a fashionable dog in France and legend has it that it was given the name *papillon* (butterfly) by Queen Marie Antoinette.

The Pekingese is depicted on the 70c stamp. This breed of toy dog was developed in China, where it was already known to the T'ang dynasty in the 8th century. It was confined to the Imperial Court and regarded as sacred. The tiny dogs were carried by royalty in the sleeves of their robes — hence, the name sleeve dogs.

The 90c stamp shows the Chihuahua. Although currently accepted as a Mexican dog, the authorities cannot agree on whether the smooth or long-coat variety is the true progenitor of this ancient breed. It is thought that this saucy-looking, alert little dog acquired its current name when it was first imported into the USA from the Mexican state of Chihuahua in the late 1800s.

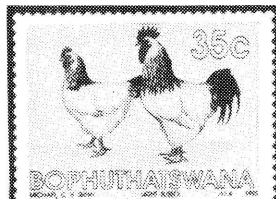
The Dachshund is depicted on the R1,05 stamp. Despite diverse opinions as to its origin, by the middle of the 19th century, the dachshund had become firmly established in Germany where it is known as the Teckel. It is be-



lieved that it was used to pursue badgers into their burrows. It is a lively breed with an extraordinarily long body on very short legs.

The Philatelic Foundation of Southern Africa will be issuing a miniature sheet.

Bophuthatswana



12 Februarie
Hoenderrasse



1993-02-12
Mabatho

35c Ligte Sussex

Hierdie ras het in Engeland ontstaan, en is hoofsaaklik uit die Brahma, die Cochinchin en die Silwergrys Dorking geteel. Dit is 'n uitstekende slaghoender met vleis van 'n fyn tekstuur. Die ras het 'n lang, breë en diep lyf, 'n wit bek en pote, 'n enkel kam en rooi oorlelle.

70c Rhode Island Red

Dié ras het in die VSA uit die kruising van inheemse hennet met Malay-hane

ontstaan. Die rooi Shanghai-hoender, die Bruin Leghorn, die Indiese veghoender en die Wyandotte is ook in die teelproses gebruik. Die ras het 'n lang, reghoekige lyf en word vir eiers sowel as vleis aangehou.

90c Brown Leghorn

The Brown Leghorn is a colour variety of the well-known White Leghorn. They lay white-shelled eggs, but are not such prolific egg producers as the white vari-

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ety. The Brown Leghorn is nowadays mostly being bred for show purposes. In the past, this breed was used to breed day-old chicks of which the sex could be determined by means of the colour of the down.

R1,05 White Leghorn

The Leghorn is one of the oldest breeds of chicken. It was developed in Italy and was already well known in the time of the Roman Empire. The Leghorn was bred as an egg-producer and has little meat. It has a yellow beak, yellow eye rings, legs and feet, and a single comb. Leghorn hens seldom become broody.

The Philatelic Foundation of Southern Africa will be issuing a miniature sheet.



**5 March
Easter Stamps**

The four stamps in the eleventh set of the Easter Stamp Series depicting the Passion of Jesus Christ illustrate incidents from the last phase of Jesus' trial by the Roman governor, Pontius Pilate, to the beginning of the crucifixion.



35c Luke 23:25

The evangelist Luke describes how the hostile mob demanded that Pilate release Barabbas, who was in prison for taking part in a sedition and for murder, and that Jesus be crucified. The scene on the stamp depicts Pilate pointing at Barabbas with his left hand before releasing him, while Jesus, wearing the crown of thorns and the mock royal robe, is waiting to be handed over to the soldiers to be crucified.

Namibia



25 February Rare and endangered animals

20c Loxodonta africana Desert-dwelling Elephant

Desert-dwelling elephants are found in the arid northwestern region of Namibia where the annual rainfall is approximately 100 mm. Although the elephant is regarded as endangered in most parts

20 69:1 (796)



70c John 19:17

The gospel according to John relates how Jesus had to carry his own cross on the way to Golgotha. The stamp depicts Jesus stumbling from exhaustion under the weight of the cross while a Roman soldier is looking on impatiently, and a woman is turning away her head in sorrow.



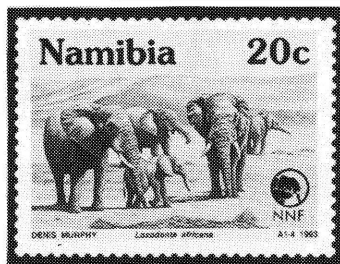
90c Mark 15:21

The soldiers forced Simon of Cyrene to take over the cross from the exhausted Jesus. The stamp features the Cyrenian shouldering the heavy cross while Jesus continues on his *via dolorosa* to Golgotha.



R1,05 Mark 15:23

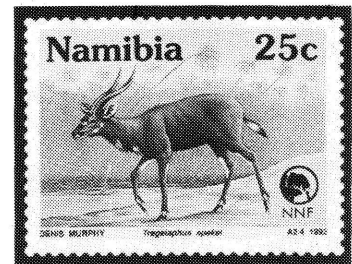
The soldiers had to nail a condemned person's hands and feet to the cross before hoisting him up to die eventually of loss of blood, fever and utter exhaustion. The stamp shows how a bystander offered Jesus wine mingled with myrrh as a sedative, but He would not drink it.



of Africa, the Namibian population is stable. The status of the desert-dwelling elephant is consequently listed as vulnerable.

These animals frequent dry river beds in the region, browsing on the leaves and branches of trees and shrubs. The

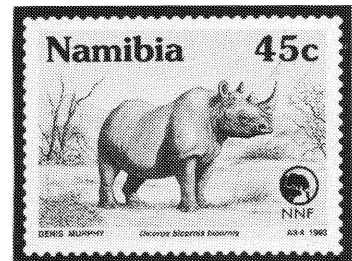
arid environment forces them to head westward onto farmland during dry periods. Their search for water may bring them into conflict with domestic stock farmers.



25c Tragelaphus spekei Sitatunga

The swamp-adapted sitatunga is the most aquatic of all antelope. In Namibia, these antelope are found on isolated islands and in reed swamps along the Kwando/Linyanti River. Their specialised habitat requirements have led to the sitatunga being classified as threatened.

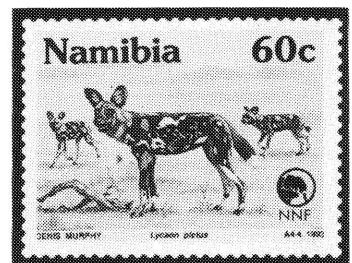
These shy animals resemble a kudu but weigh approximately 120 kg compared to the kudu's approximate weight of 250 kg. Several adaptations have made them more at home in their swampy surroundings than on open plains.



45c Dicerus bicornis bicornis Black Rhinoceros

Solitary in habit, these animals rest during the heat of the day, browsing mainly at night. They have few natural predators, with calves being vulnerable to lions although they are fiercely protected by their mothers. Mortalities among bulls as a result of territorial fights with other males have been recorded.

Namibia currently has a stable population owing to a carefully structured protection programme which encompasses antipoaching patrols, an auxiliary game guard system, translocation of animals to safer regions and dehorning operations. The world's first dehorning operation took place in northwestern Namibia in 1989, and was repeated during 1991.



The SA Philatelist February 1993

60c *Lycaon pictus* Cape Hunting Dog
The Cape hunting dog, commonly known as the wild dog, is the most threatened carnivore in Africa and is classified as endangered.

In Namibia, the species occurs in the extreme northwestern regions and parts of Bushmanland. They hunt in packs of five to fifteen dogs, preying mostly on bovines. Relying on sight rather than smell to locate prey, wild dogs hunt mainly during daytime. They also often compete with spotted hyenas (*Crocuta crocuta*) for food at a kill.

A miniature sheet is to be issued.

**16 April
Simmentaler centenary**

In 1893, two shipments of cattle from Europe arrived in Namibia. Among these animals were two Simmentaler bulls which belonged to the then government. At a later stage, another Simmentaler bull and a number of heifers were imported from Germany via Swakopmund by Mr Albert Nietze. These Simmentalers were the first to be exported from Europe to a different part of the world.

The Simmentaler's ability to adapt to



the changeable and harsh conditions in Namibia and its capability to meet the dual purpose of good milk and meat production on the grazing available, turned it into the most popular imported breed of cattle in the country.

The Simmentaler is known for its high fertility rate under local conditions. The stud farmers use bulls that have been carefully selected and officially approved. Simmentaler cows are good mothers and produce enough milk for their calves, resulting in fast growth,

early maturing and good meat production.

The outstanding results produced by the Simmentaler during the breed comparison tests conducted at the experimental farm at Omatjene in 1950, afforded this breed worldwide recognition. Scientific breeding methods and stringent selection ensure that the Simmentaler being bred in Namibia meets with the current production requirements.

The Philatelic Foundation of Southern Africa will issue a miniature sheet.

Nuwe uitgawes/New issues

HOWARD GODWIN East Rand Philatelic Society

IN *The SA Philatelist* Vol 1, No 1, the heading "Notes on New issues and Varieties" appears on p 5, followed by details of Union varieties and issues, and varieties of other African countries.

Nothing by way of commemorative issues, no overseas issues, no thematic issues as we see them today — but themes did exist: National coats of arms, monarchs, flags.

Strange that stamps of the pre-George VI era are seldom seen in thematic exhibits today.

Christmas comes but once a year

AS we have come to expect, the Christmas issues were again varied and colourful, with a gradual move away from the religious paintings. Subject matter is still linked to the festive season, as, for example, the sheet of 12 x 13p stamps from Guernsey which depicts "Seasonal Fayre". Shown is "a happy family Christmas in the traditional Guernsey style", at a table loaded with goodies.

Neighbour Jersey, in its final set of Parish Churches, showed the remaining four as its Christmas set. Drawn in pastels by local artist Peter Layton, the churches are the Trinity (16p), St Mary (22p), St Martin (39p) and St Peter (57p). Issue date was 3 November 1992.

Across the Atlantic, Canada featured "gift givers" from around the world.

The set of four issued on 13 November 1992 featured the Santas of Estonia (42c), Italy (48c), Germany (84c) with the North American Santa Claus on the

37c "Greet More" stamp, a "specially priced stamp to be used on domestic greeting cards and enabling well-wishers to enjoy a saving of 50c on each booklet





of 10.” (Couldn’t happen here, could it?)

New Zealand issued its set of seven stamps for Christmas on 16 September 1992 — they get earlier each year, and the sets get bigger. The set comprises a block of four 45c stamps which together “depict a typical New Zealand colonial house and Father Christmas being pulled across the skies.”

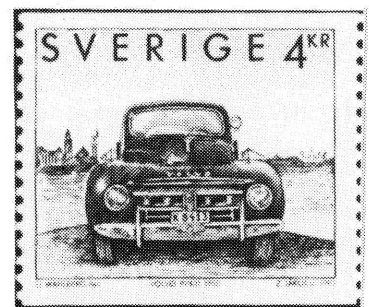
The 65c shows a fireplace adorned with Christmas stockings. A church with worshippers at the door appears on

the \$1 and New Zealand’s “Christmas Tree”, the *pohutukawa*, in full bloom, adorns the \$1.50 value.

One of the few countries to stay with the religious emblems was Cyprus, which issued a set of three stamps depicting wall paintings from three Cypriot churches — the Church of Timios Stavros, Pelendri (7c), the Church of Panayia tou Araka (15c) and the Church of Ayios Nicolaos tis Steyis (20c). The issue date was 9 November.

silised form in areas of Sweden.

Next, a pair of stamps depicting two vehicles which while not prehistoric are certainly elderly — the classic 1950



Volvo P 831 and the first Saab, a green Saab 92. Each has a face value of 4 KR and alternate in coil format.

Sweden and all the Baltics

IT was quite a day on 3 October 1992 for collectors of Swedish stamps and for thematic collectors! First came the Stamp day issue which features Prehis-

toric animals — the Dinosaur, the Crocodile, the Mammoth and the Woolly-haired Rhino, each of SEK 2,80 and in booklet form. All had been found in fos-





The last set on this momentous day was four stamps depicting birds common along the Baltic shores. All four have a 4,50 KR face value. What makes this set unusual is that the identical stamps were also issued by Estonia, Latvia and Lithuania on the same date, the only differences being the names and

denominations. All four countries' stamps were printed in Sweden, using the same printing presses, cylinders and paper.

The birds illustrated are the Osprey, the Black-tailed godwit, the Goosander and the Shelduck. Quite a day!

Take your pick!

ON 4 November 1992 New Zealand issued the first of a four part series "the Emerging Years". The first set, titled "The 1920s" comprises six stamps produced in the "poster art" style of the period, giving the stamps the unmistakable 1920s look.

For the collectors of transport, the Guernsey issue of 17 November 1992 of "Trams" may pose a minor problem — which theme to consider? The set of five features both steam and electric trams, with the operating company being the

Guernsey Railway Company for a major period of the life of the service.

Another issue which could fall under different themes was that of the Isle of Man on 8 November 1992. Two stamps to celebrate the winning of the Formula One World Championship by Nigel Mansell were issued. Manx resident Mansell is shown completing his "lap of honour" after winning the British Grand Prix on the 20p stamp, and cornering on his way to winning the 1992 French Grand Prix on the 24p value.



For the "Sports" collector came the "Lightning on Ice" set of three from Canada on 9 October 1992. The issue marked the 75th Anniversary of the National Hockey League and the three 45c values depict different eras of the NHL, the early years, the six-team years and the expansion years.

The Zimbabwe "Butterflies" issue of six values appeared on 15 October 1992. A neat and colourful set which depicts the Foxy Charaxes (25c), the Orange & Lemon (59c), the Emperor Swallowtail (77c), the Blue Pansy (90c), the African Monarch (98c) and the Gaudy Commodore (\$1,16).



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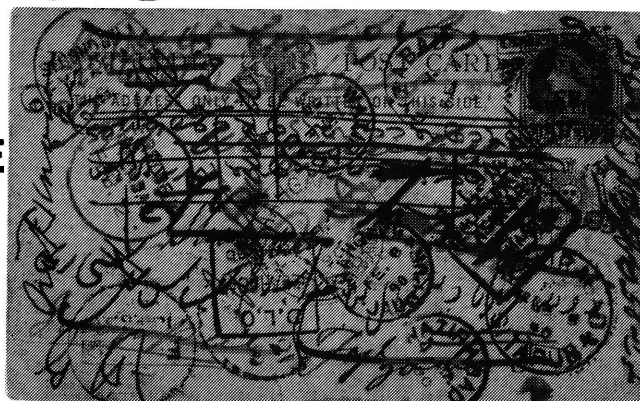
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News & notes/Aktualiteit

Michel analyses the issues for 1991

IF it is any consolation to collectors who still have blank album pages to fill, the number of annual issues went up in 1991 to 9 279 stamps issued worldwide, from 8 776 in 1990. This is according to the annual Michel survey.

Top producer was Tanzania with 256, and narrowly beaten into second place was Guyana with 240 stamps. In this kind of cricket scoring league South Africa, with 18 stamps at a face value of R8,58, does not feature at all.

Add in, if you will, Transkei with 16 stamps (R8,21), Bophuthatswana, 16 stamps at R7,92, followed by Venda with 16 at R8,68 and Ciskei with 28 at R17,28. Then the local stamp issuing authority manages to beat Great Britain, with 74 stamps, by a margin of 20.

Britain's stamps, at a total face value of £19,51, amount to (at current rates) about R92,50. Ours run to R50,67.

More stamps for less money. What more could a philatelist wish for, than to collect RSA and TBVC? You could, of course, be a big spender, and go for Peru's 15 stamps at the local currency unit of 4,86 million. A currency conversion rate was unfortunately not obtainable.

Hon Editor

Kaapstadse hoofskantoor ken sy kliënte

DIE posbus met die nommer 2789 wat *The SA Philatelist* in Kaapstad gebruik, is 'n gedeelte een, en nie onder die tydskrif se naam nie. Maar die sorteer-

personeel weet geruime tyd klaarblyklik reeds dat onvolledig of foutief geadresseerde filateliese pos daar 'n heenkomsal vind.

Navrae wat dikwels niks met die tydskrif as sulks te doen het nie, beland gereeld in 2789. Twee onlangse voorbeelde, wat dan maar geduldige verdere behandeling verg — een uit Italië en die ander uit Duitsland — word hier afgebeeld.

Specialist society for Bermuda collectors

THE Bermuda Collectors Society came into being in 1986, when a small group of founding members decided to financially support an organization dedicated to studying and exchanging information regarding the postage stamps and postal history of Bermuda. The BCS has been designated an affiliate (Unit No 186) of the American Philatelic Society.

By 1992, the membership had grown to over 225, a remarkable achievement for any specialist society. While a majority of the members are resident in the United States, there are many representing the United Kingdom, Canada, Australia, New Zealand, Hong Kong, Switzerland and elsewhere, to include the Bermuda contingent.

Although many BCS members correspond directly with their fellow members, the principal link with other society members is through the quarterly issues of the *Bermuda Post*, the society's official publication edited by Reid L Shaw.

The BCS is publishing two philatelic literature references in 1993. The first

will be a comprehensive *Bermuda Catalog/Handbook*, which will detail and price the postage stamps and postal history of the island. Proofs and essays, charity labels, meters, aerophilatelia, NASA tracking station covers, the local railroad stamps, and many other esoteric and otherwise little-known items will be documented and valued for the first time.

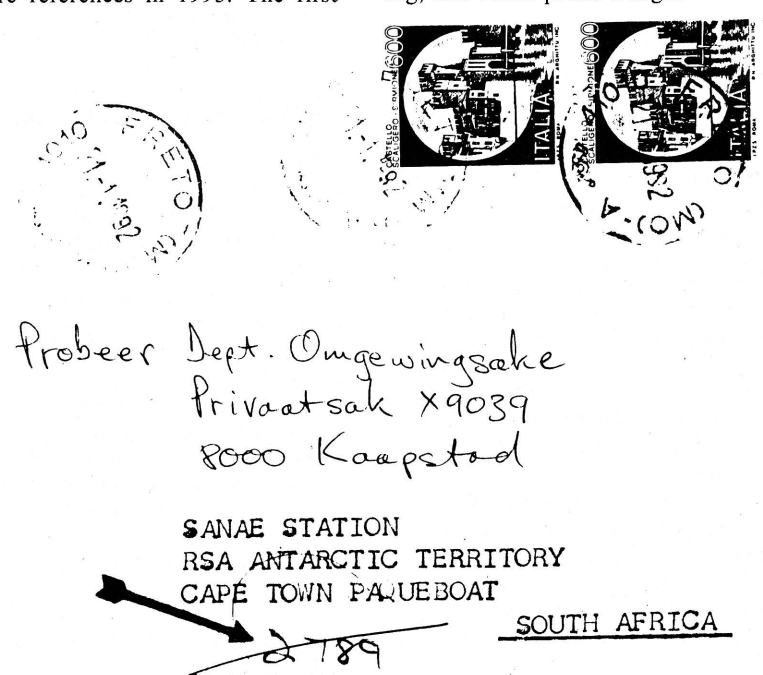
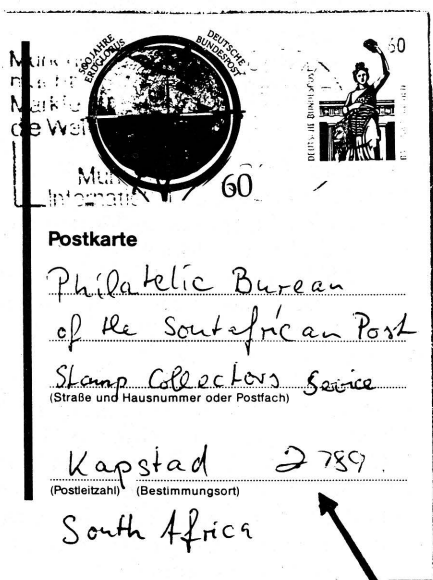
The second 1993 publication will be the *Bermuda Aerophilately* monograph. This reference will not only list complete data encompassing all of Bermuda's air mail postal history from 1919 to the present, but will include a large amount of support and reference information, allowing the syllabus to be a primer for the aerophilatelist.

Further information is available from the BCS Secretary-Treasurer, Thomas J McMahon, 86 Nash Road, Purdys, NY 10578. If more convenient, inquiries may be directed to the BCS UK Representative, Stuart M Babbington, MURRAY PAYNE LTD, PO Box 1135, Axbridge, Somerset BS26 2EW, England.

Society news release

Short-lived postal stationery discounted

EARLY in December 1992 a prepack of five envelopes imprinted "RSA Inland Postage Paid" (and the same in Afrikaans), bearing the logo and symbol of Hallmark cards, was noted. The selling price was R1,60, a discount of 3 cents on the inland postage rate alone, not even taking into account the cost of the envelopes and printing, pre-packaging, and retail profit margin.



(Heradressees deur Ere-Redakteur, *The SA Philatelist*)

ena
First with the goodies

R1.60

Post Office
Poskantoor

Enquiries to Philatelic Services and Intersapa elicited a copy of a document signed by the Senior General Manager, Postal Business Development, on 9 October 1992, regarding "Pre-paid Envelopes". It records the following:

In the last meeting with the Hallmark Group, the following decisions were made:

1. The SA Post Office Ltd granted a discount of 7,5% on a quantity of 500 000 envelopes printed.
2. These envelopes must adhere to standardised specifications. (sic).
3. A VAT-invoice would be supplied for the amount payable.
4. The amount of R161 875-00 (R175 000-00 minus R13 125-00) is payable on the last day of November 1992.
5. The initial run would only be a test-run for both companies concerned.
6. The authorisation "MD Authorised 1817/92" must be printed on the envelope and is valid only for 1992 and re-application for 1993 should be done on decision of permanent use of the pre-paid envelope.
7. The ownership of the initial die used to print the indicator must be transferred to the Post Office on printing the last envelope of the run.

It is obviously up to collectors to decide what the status of such an authorised issue is, which was, however, not printed or distributed by the postal authorities.

The Hon Editor bought and used two such packs within the authorised period, resisting the temptation to mail a specimen to himself. He would be interested to hear whether readers noted and/or received examples of the issue.

Pospapier vir Ithuba

IN die Bulletin Nr 5 van die Poskantoor

26 69:1 (796)

Post Office
Poskantoor

Ithuba Television Game Show Johannesburg 2005

(Oktober 1992) is die onderstaande aankondiging opgemerk:

Beskikbaarstelling van 'n spesiale koevert vir die versending van Ithuba inskrywings by poskantore.

Ten einde kliënte wat Ithuba-kaartjies koop, behulpsaam te wees, word geadresseerde koeverte vir dié doel by poskantore te koop aangebied teen 45 sent per koevert. Die prys sluit posgeld in.

Die koevert word hiermee geïllustreer, en versamelers sal moet besluit watter status hulle daaraan as amptelike pospapier, al dan nie, toeken. Gebruikte eksemplare sou kennelik net van een bron verkry kan word.

Hierdie uitgawe van die bulletin bied ook, vir so ver vasgestel kan word, vir die eerste maal beskrywings en afbeeldings van destyds heersende spesiale uitgawes aan. Dit is die RSA se Anton van Wouw reeks (8 Oktober 1992), Venda: Krokodilboerdery (15 Oktober 1992), Ciskei: Hotelle (5 November 1992) en Bophuthatswana: Verlore Stad (19 November 1992). **Ere-Redakteur**

British aerophilately on show

THE British Aerophilatelic Federation is organising EUR-APEX '93 in conjunction with Spring Stampex, to be held at the Royal Agricultural Halls in London from 2 to 7 March 1993.

Each of the six days will have a special cancellation, and two miniature sheets showing aircraft are planned to be among the souvenirs. In addition, Royal Mail has announced that coinciding with the opening day, a set of four pre-paid post cards termed "Air Cards" will be put on sale. These are the first such cards by the British Post Office since the 1940s.

Press Officer, EUR-APEX '93

Auction news around the world

HERMAN HERST JR reports that a really magnificent collection of Trans-

vaal was sold on 31 October 1992 in New York by the firm of Greg Manning of Montville, New Jersey, at a price that must have been a real bargain to the owner.

The estimate of value given in the catalogue was \$20 000. In the Manning auctions, more lots sell for more than the estimate than otherwise. The sale price of the lot without tax was \$12 500.

The collection contained 888 stamps and eight covers. It included many complete sheets and half sheets, with all the different types represented. There was one sheet of halfpenny with initials omitted (Scott #175a, 176a and 177a). The covers represented a varied offering, but the stamps were of many different types with many combinations. The condition was generally very fine throughout.

One lot of South Africa suffered in the realisation because of the untidy condition of the stamps. The 1913 issues with coils were well represented, and the officials and postage dues were in splendid quantity. The 1935 Silver Jubilee set included one stamp with the "cleft skull" variety.

The lot was estimated to bring between \$800 and \$1 000, but it sold for \$625.

London is the scene, from 2 to 5 March 1993, of a series of auctions by Christie's. These include stamps of India and its States, as well as British Empire and Great Britain.

A Christie's auction of important stamps and covers of the United States takes place in New York on 9 and 10 March.

The next three monthly auctions by Imperial of Leeds are to be held on 13 March, 17 April and 15 May 1993.

On 26 March 1993 Sotheby's in London will be auctioning the Philip Vine collection of Falkland Island stamps, which includes some of the country's most highly prized rarities.

An internationally recognised collection of Russian Zemstvos will also be on sale, as well as a copy of the rare 1910 2d Tyrian Plum of King Edward VII.

The SA Philatelist February 1993

This literally fell out of a box full of stamps acquired by a collector of modest means from a dealer.

Stanley Gibbons's March 1993 auction contains the Nyasaland and Rhodesia collections formed by the late R Hillman.

They will be offering the vast European, Great Britain and British Commonwealth "Geneva" collection in various sales during 1993. It has been valued at over £110 000.

On 1 April 1993 Phillips will be auctioning the Great Britain reference collection assembled by the late R C Alcock who, with F C Holland, was responsible for several remarkably detailed postal histories of Britain, Scotland and Ireland.

Sotheby's announced recently that its auction catalogues had been awarded a Gold by the organisers of the first international philatelic literature exhibition in North America, held in New York from 28 October to 2 November 1992.

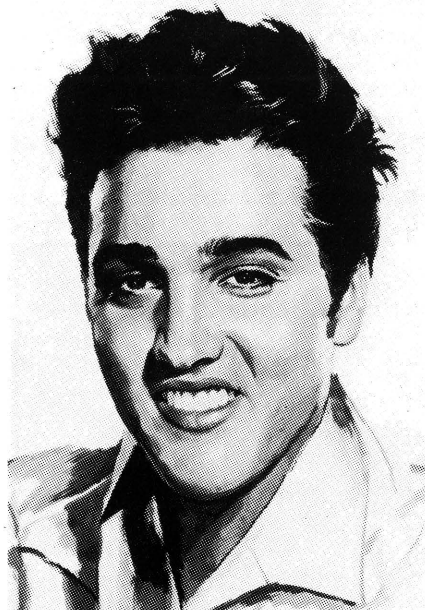
There were 617 entries, and it was the first time that auction catalogues were included as a category. The Gold awarded to Sotheby's was the only one in the category.

News releases

Die koning leef voort

MET die uitreiking op 8 Januarie 1993 van die VSA se posdienste se 29 sent seël om Elvis Presley te gedenk, het die nuusagentskap Sapa-Reuter interessante besonderhede verskaf — byvoorbeeld dat die VSA se posadministrasie op die minste tien jaar moet wag nadat iemand dood is om hom of haar op 'n posseël af te beeld.

Daar is 500 miljoen van die seëls met die Koning van Rock daarop gedruk.



Onder die Elvis-seëls wat reeds verskyn het, word die volgende genoem:

Uitgawes in 1992 deur Tanzanië, Gambië, St Vincent, Antigua en Palau

The SA Philatelist February 1993

('n trustgebied van die VSA in die Stille Oseaan).

In 1978, net 'n jaar na Presley se dood, is daar gepoog om in Grenada 'n seël uit te reik, maar dit was nooit posgeldig nie. Grenada het ook eers in 1992

amptelik 'n Elvis-seël gekry.

Die eerste posgeldige seëls met die onderwerp was dié van St Vincent in 1985 — agt seëls en 'n miniatuurvel.

In 1988 het Wes-Duitsland so 'n seël uitgereik, en ander lande wat dit ook op

The South African Philatelist.

(Incorporating: "The Union Philatelist" and "Quarterly Review of Philately")

Edited by G. W. REYNOLDS.

Published by H. BLOM, Box 5826, Johannesburg.

OFFICIAL ORGAN: The Johannesburg United Philatelic Society; The Pretoria Philatelic Society; The East Rand Philatelic Society; Philatelic Society of Natal; The Cape Town Philatelic Society; The East London Philatelic Society; The Port Elizabeth Philatelic Society and the West African Philatelic Society.

The SA Philatelist: Looking Back

D LAMONT SMITH, FRPS, L

70 years ago

February, 1923

Eleven Thousand Pounds for a pair of "Post Office" Mauritius

Mr Arthur Hind, of Utica, USA, "The American Ferrari," recently paid the astounding sum of 50,000 dollars (over £11,000) for a pair of the "Post Office" Mauritius, 1d and 2d, used on envelope — the famous "uniquity" of these classic rarities.

1½ tete-beche

It is of interest to note that the Distributor of Stamps, Pretoria, received from the printers three cases of 10,000 sheets each of the 1½d in which the tete-beche occurs. Since 40 pairs tete-beche are found on each sheet, it follows that the total number received was 1,200,000. Postmasters were instructed to use these up as far as possible on parcels and telegrams, so collectors must form their own opinions as to how many were available for postage.

60 Years ago

February, 1933

Surtax on Stamps

Last month we hoped that the surtax on stamps imported into the Union would soon be removed. Thank God! That is gone with the primage and obsolete gold standard. We may now safely express the humble opinion that most economists start with wrong premises and consequently arrive at conclusions which prove to be wrong. But at what cost to the public!

30 Years ago

February, 1963

Philatelic Mailing Box

Durban would appear to be thinking well ahead for the Congress and Exhibition in September. Mr C A Frost sends us a cutting from a local newspaper,

showing a posting box which has been put up for the use of philatelists wanting special treatment of their letters in the way of clear postmarks.

Let us hope the box will not be swamped by ordinary folk pushing their letters in.

60 Years ago

March, 1933

SWA double overprints

Have you seen any double overprint SWA on Union airmails? We have, but they are forgeries and not too clever. The items we have seen are the small SWA on 4d and the large SWA on 1s, and we understand they emanate from India. We think it advisable not to describe the errors made by the forgers, or they might try again with greater success, but shall be glad to have our expert advisers look at your copies, if you have any, and tell you where they are wrong.

30 Years ago

March, 1963

Quo Vadis?

The efforts of the various organisations to stem the ever-increasing stream of unwanted speculative issues will have to be speeded up if our hobby is to be saved from disrepute at the hands of exploitation-happy stamp issuers.

We feel very strongly on this point, particularly as this practice, which is spreading like a scourge, is fast threatening our own sphere. The step to issue a long set of 15 stamps (face value R4,29 or £2-2-11½) for British Antarctic Territory on the 1st February, has us stone cold.

When a country having no real use for postage stamps does this sort of thing, one cannot but ask where we are going and where will it end? This issue must be damned in the strongest of terms.

69:1 (796) 27

die een of ander stadium gedoen het, sluit in Guinee, die Sentraal-Afrikaanse Republiek, Dominica, Madagaskar, die Comoro-eilande en die Kongo.

Fred Baumann, 'n verslaggewer van

Linn's Stamp News word aangehaal: "Dit is goeie aandenkings. As daar 'n warm plekkie in jou hart vir Elvis is, sal jy dit geniet om sy gesig op 'n seël te hê."

Sapa-Reuter

In memoriam

William R Hart, 8 November 1992

THE unexpected death of "Bill" Hart was briefly noted in *The SA Philatelist*, December 1992/January 1993, p 194. Richard Stroud, editor of the *Anglo-Boer War Philatelist*, pays tribute.

The loss to philately is grievous, not only to the philately of Southern Africa, and of those whose interests lay in that area, and of all the associated specialist societies, friends, colleagues and clients, but to international philately in every respect.

Bill was a respected philatelic dealer; he was an international judge; he was on expertising committees; he was involved with many specialist societies and member of countless others. Above all, he was a friend to just about all with whom he came into contact, either as a professional philatelist, or as a dedicated collector — his major collections included Anglo-Boer War, Natal, Zululand, Postage Due, to name but a very few.

Regarding the Anglo-Boer War Philatelic Society, Bill had been a mainstay, since becoming a member in 1961. His guidance as he progressively undertook most of the society's appointments (ie Packet Exchange Secretary, Treasurer, Chairman, Auctioneer and, latterly,

President) was of paramount importance in establishing it as a major international society.

New members have benefited from his outstanding knowledge of the subject and from the many displays of breathtaking material shown at the annual conventions and area meetings.

Bill will also be remembered as a co-author of *The Postal Markings of Natal*, published in 1977, this containing an important section on the Republican occupation of Natal during the ABW.

Bill was a regular visitor to South Africa, initially exhibiting there in national exhibitions, in latter years acting as a senior Judge. He was a member of SAPDA and was a respected philatelic dealer with a wide ranging and comprehensive stock, and had a significant client base.

He made many friendships throughout the country and the support he gave to Southern African philately on his international travels may never be fully appreciated.

To Sheila, and his sons Michael and Graham, we extend our sympathy and best wishes at this sad time.

In memoriam

Bennie Illman, 17 December 1992

BENNIE ILLMAN'S passion for philately is well recorded. He grasped every spare moment from his many business duties to pursue his hobby with great enthusiasm, and was very proud of his acceptance as a serious philatelist. If given the choice he would certainly wish to be remembered as a philatelist and postal historian.

Ben's unique approach to philately was a source of great amusement to

those that knew him. For many years, between his many duties and interests, he quietly accumulated large holdings of many country collections which caught his interest, and studied these in solitude.

It was only in the late 1970s that it became general knowledge that he was one of us, and with his first effort of competitive display, at Bloemfontein in 1981, he received his first gold medal as

well as the Stanley Gibbons Award for his "Unappropriated Die" collection.

We have been fortunate in seeing his magnificent displays of St Helena, Mauritius, Orange Free State, Cape, Griqualand West, Russia and Natal, all of which earned Ben Gold medals as well as other numerous awards. He received the prestigious State President's Trophy for his Mauritius (1984) and Natal (1988).

He amazed us all with his in-depth knowledge of each and every one of his collections. He always endeavoured to show a new country display at each national exhibition, but never stopped expanding his earlier collections.

He strove for completeness and took delight in uncovering new snippets of information. The sheer volume of his collections would often highlight the scarcity of many lowly priced items, and when found, were greeted with sheer delight. Their inclusion in his display would not have influenced his award, one way or another, but he always insisted that they must be shown.

His wife Mavis, children and grandchildren have our sincerest condolences.
Solly Chinman

Seëlruil gevra/Exchange wanted

Lithuania: Z Rackauskas, PO Box 1012, 2001 Vilnius, would like to exchange mint stamps of the RSA, TBVC countries and Namibia — mainly thematics — for material of his own country, Latvia, Estonia and the CIS Republics.

Lithuania: Ramunas Uzuotas, 26 — 75 Minties Street, 2051 Vilnius, would like to contact collectors interested in the new mint stamps and FDCs of Lithuania and the other new states of the former USSR.

Norway: Per Guttorm Skaaret, Post Box 111, N-2420 Trysil, is 28 years old and collects used stamps of South Africa, including the former colonies, and is looking for exchange offers for Norway and the Baltic States.

Rumania: Julian Vasilica, Str Doina 11, Bl.1 Sc.1 Ap.9, 76621 Bucharest, is

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Publication deadlines

AS has become customary, a schedule is given of the deadline dates of future issues of *The SA Philatelist*. Advertisers, society scribes and correspondents are urged to make effective use of them.

Issue	News	Advertising
April	1 March	5 March
June	30 April	5 May
August	1 July	5 July
October	1 Sept	3 Sept
December	1 Nov	5 Nov
February	3 Jan	5 Jan

looking for boys and girls of all ages with whom to exchange stamps.

Russia: Sijatdinov F Musinowitch, Ul. Prawo-pobereshie 17, 457330 Bredy 1, Cheljabinska oblast, is 41 years old and has been an invalid for 19 years. He would like to enjoy the contact that stamp exchange brings.

Ukraine: Victor Mironov, Str Gogola 8-

10, Budy, Kharkov Obl., 312154, is interested in exchanging stamps of the RSA and TBVC countries, but does not specify what he is able to send in return.

United States of America: Leamon Hinkle, 421 Queensbury, Middlesboro, KY 40965, would like pen friends in South Africa.

ularly in the light of the positive flood of philatelic literature being published today. Not all the journal's readers are recipients of numerous overseas journals, and the informed reviewing of new books draws attention to publications which may be of interest to collectors in a particular field, and enables a reader to evaluate the book for his own collecting purposes.

Details of new issues are eagerly awaited by many — and the journal has publicised, and where the Hon Editor has thought fit, criticised, these for many years.

The word "criticised" also highlights one of the journal's more valuable functions: To enable the Hon Editor, his correspondents and his readers to criticise those aspects of organised and other facets of philately which they feel worthy of criticism, and to put forward new — even iconoclastic — ideas.

Not all of this has itself been accepted uncritically; from time to time various acidulated comments about the journal have been made by philatelists. Sometimes, no doubt, these comments have been justified, sometimes they have been manifestly unjustified. Frequently they have at least enabled a philatelist to let off steam without hurting anyone!

And perhaps it is because *The SA Philatelist!*, under successive editorships, has done all these things, and because in the end the delegates at successive Congresses have, however unconsciously, accepted that all these things were worth doing, that the journal has survived — and, one hopes, will continue to survive — for so many years.

Ruminations of a philatelist

EQUES

PLENTY of journals cross my desks in the course of a year, some good, some bad, some indifferent; many last a few years and disappear but some (few) go on and on and on . . . And one of these latter is *The SA Philatelist*.

Those who have sat through the annual congresses of the Philatelic Federation of Southern Africa for the last many years will recall, only too well, the annual heart-searching over the future of the journal. Can we afford it? How can we cut the costs? Is it worth it? and so on.

Now, despite all the hesitations and the worries, and because of much effort by many people, the journal has reached its 70th anniversary, and it seems an appropriate time to review, briefly, the purpose it has served through the years and continues to serve.

Clearly, the journal serves a number of purposes and it would be a bolder man than *Eques* who would put these in order of importance, for the importance varies with each reader.

Perhaps one of the more valuable and necessary, if rather parochial, tasks is keeping readers, primarily members of philatelic societies, in touch with organised philately in Southern Africa, with

the doings of societies round the country and sometimes overseas, providing information regarding exhibitions, particularly national but also international, and with developments on the national administrative level.

For readers who live remote from a philatelic society this may be the only way in which they are kept in touch and made to feel that they are not lost souls doing their "philatelic thing" in a vacuum — they can feel that there are others out there also doing *their* "philatelic thing".

The publication of philatelic research has always been a feature of the journal, and to my mind one of its most important aspects. Not only does it provide a vehicle for the publication of research articles on aspects of (particularly) South African philately, thus ensuring that the research reaches a far wider, international, audience than it would if published in the journal of a specialist society, but the encouragement of successive editors has helped first-time authors to publish their research, to the inestimable benefit of a wide audience of philatelists.

Reviews of philatelic publications are also a valuable service to readers, partic-

Federation flashes/Federasieflitse

Volledige verslag oor die FVZA in Nederland

J Groenewald RDPSA, voorsitter, bestuurskomitee Filateliese Federasie van Suider-Afrika

**J Diesveld, redakteur Bartolomeu Dias
J Stolk, sekretaris FVZA**

DIE buitengewone aandag wat die vyfjarige bestaan van die Filatelistenvereniging Zuidelijk Afrika (FVZA) in Oktober 1992 op Suider-Afrika gerig het, is kortliks aangestip in *The SA Philatelist* Desember 1992/Januarie 1993, p 181. Hier volg verdere verslae.

Van J Groenewald RDPSA

DIE "dag van de postzegel" in Nederland is — onder groot belangstelling — gekenmerk deur die grootste uitstalling van Suid-Afrikaanse filatelie wat ooit in die stamland aangebied is.

Tegelyk was die dag 'n hoogtepunt vir die ywerige Filatelisten Vereniging Zuidelijk Afrika (FVZA), wat 'n skrale vyf jaar gelede tot stand gekom het.

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Die "dag van de postzegel" was oor 'n naweek, 10 en 11 Oktober 1992, en die fokuspunt was die uitstalling in Rotterdam, waar tegelyk die 25ste ononderbroke jaarlikse viering van die seëldag gedenk is.

Die tema van die uitstalling was Zuidelijk Afrika, en die FVZA het gesorg dat 75 van die 200 rame hieraan gewy word. Daar was versamelings van lugpos, poswaardestukke, poskaarte, Unie-seëls, posgeskiedenis, krygsgevangenes op St Helena, interprovinsiale seëls en temas soos Van Riebeeck en Zambesi.

'n Skitterende versameling in die erehof was Stellaland, van dr Gerrit Jonkers.

Die enigste artikel in die uitstalkatalogus was tereg "Zuid-Afrika op postzegels" deur FVZA-ondervoorsitter Koos Verzantvoort. Die uitstalling is geopen deur G A Glas, voorsitter van die Nederlandse Stichting Filatelie.

Vir die uitstalling het die Nederlandse poskantoor (PTT-Post) 'n promosiekaartjie (mapje) uitgegee, met

besonderhede van die uitstalling, die nuwe Nederlandse Europa-seël as 'n geskenkie, en die embleem van die FVZA daarby. Die embleem is 'n lynskets van die Dias-karveel.

Jan Stolk sê die PTT doen baie om filatelie te bevorder, en het 'n groot bydrae tot hierdie seëldag-uitstalling gemaak. Die huur van die lokaal en kostes aan die uitstalling, drukkoste van die katalogus, promosiekaartjie, pos van uitnodigings, en ander uitgawes soos versersings vir die werkers en beamptes ("ruim 50 man") is alles deur die Poskantoor betaal.

Die uitstalling was 'n hoogtepunt vir die FVZA, wat in 1988 tot stand gekom het (die Dias-gedenkjaar, vandaar die karveel as embleempie). Die 150 lede versamel meestal ongebruikte of gebruikte seëls, en gebruik voordrukalbums hiervoor, maar daar is 'n groeiende belangstelling in posgeskiedenis, lugpos en pospapier.

Daar is 'n kwartaallikse nuusbrieff, wat al hoe meer die formaat van 'n jong

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tydskrif begin aanneem, met die titel *Bartolomeu Dias*.

Vergadering word vyf maal per jaar gehou in De Bilt naby Utrecht, min of meer in die middel van Nederland. Dis op Saterdag vanaf 10:00 tot 17:00, met die formele vergadering vir 'n uur vanaf 11:00, en 'n veiling vanaf 13:00. Vir die res is daar ruimskoots geleentheid om materiaal en inligting te ruil. Die vergaderings word goed bygewoon, gewoonlik deur meer as 40 lede.

Vergaderings vir 1993 is gereël vir 13 Februarie, 24 April, 19 Junie, 11 September en 13 November.

Besonderhede oor die FVZA kan verkry word van die sekretaris, Jan Stolk, Posbus 33223, 3005 EE Rotterdam, Nederland.

Van J Diesveld

TER viering van het eerste lustrum van onze vereniging hebben 12 verenigingsleden meegedaan aan de postzegel tentoonstelling georganiseerd door de samenwerkende Rotterdamse postzegelverenigingen. Voor de FVZA leden die voor het eerst meededen was er geen jurering.

Het was erg succesvol voor de volgende leden:

- C de Hey — *Het ontstaan van een veel besproken land*. Verzilverd brons.
- W A Hoek — *St Helena*. Verzilverd brons.
- J P Toussaint — *Rivier de Zambezi*. Verguld zilver.

Tevens was de heer Toussaint winnaar van de NVPH-wisselbeker: prijs voor een verzameling met toekomst.

De andere FVZA-leden die voor het eerst meededen zijn weliswaar zonder prijs naar huis gegaan, maar door deskundigen wel aangemoedigd om er mee door te gaan, kwaliteit was overal zeer zeker aanwezig. Nog een paar kleine verbeteringen aanbrengen en prijzen zijn binnen handbereik.

Het belang van deze tentoonstelling voor de FVZA was tweeledig. Enerzijds kregen een aantal leden de smaak te pakken wat het betreft je eigen materiaal op te stellen, aan anderen te laten zien en hun medeleden deelgenoot te maken van dit plezier. Anderzijds was het voor de vele toeschouwers een eerste kennismaking met de specialistische vereniging FVZA.

Al met al was het een succesvolle tentoonstelling, uitstekend georganiseerd, met veel bezoekers en een herhaling waard (bij ons tweede lustrum?).

Van J Stolk

De bezoekers aantallen waren bijzonder hoog op deze Dag van de Postzegel te Rotterdam, totaal 3 700, waarvan 3 000 op de zaterdag en 700 op de zondag.

Dit grote aantal was in het bijzonder te danken aan het feit dat de Nederlandse PTT 6 000 verzamelaars in de regio een persoonlijke uitnodiging heeft

gestuurd, en een bon voor het speciale PTT mapje.

Verder is er uitgebreid aandacht voor deze dag in de regionale pers geweest.

SWA Stamp Study Group survey

UNDER the leadership of Leon Jacobson, the SWA Stamp Study Group is undertaking a survey of the long and short imprints of the 1931 SWA Pictorial Definitives.

The long imprint adds "Engravers" after the printers' name in "Bradbury, Wilkinson & Co Ltd, New Malden, Surrey, England".

A detailed schedule of the information required, such as perforation types and dates of postmarks on used items, is available from Mr Jacobson, PO Box 316, Kimberley 8300.

All assistance is assured of acknowledgement, and results are to be published in the society's newsletter.

Society news release

Shipping postcards draw crowds

FROM 12 December 1992 until the end of January 1993, a member of the Cape Postcard Society, Gerald Flack, exhibited 12 frames of "Passenger Liners Visiting Cape Town, 1920-1940" at the South African Maritime Museum in the Waterfront.

According to the curator of the museum, Tom Graham, about 3 000 people a week visited the museum's displays over the extremely busy holiday season.

The cards on view were a classic example of the nostalgia and interest such material evokes, and were superbly selected and presented.

Hon Editor

Leopard leaps on Harry Howden

M Ratnam, secretary, Bophuthatswana Philatelic Club

THE true story behind this somewhat misleading headline is that the chairman of the Bophuthatswana Philatelic Club, Harry Howden, was honoured by HE Dr Lucas Mangope, president of the country, with the Order of the Leopard for his outstanding services in promoting philately in Bophuthatswana.

The award ceremony took place in the course of a state banquet at the Mma-batho Convention Centre on 4 December 1992, on the eve of the country's 15th anniversary of independence (6 December 1992).

It is an annual award, given to no more than 25 persons. The club's member in France, Yves Cléret, also received the Order of the Leopard for his services as representative of Bophuthatswana in France.

Please keep up with the Expert Committee

ITEMS for expertisation by the Expert Committee are still being sent to defunct addresses. One in Farrarmere has been inoperative now for nearly three years, and the previous Pretoria address fell from use more than six years ago.

Where an opinion is required, items should be sent by registered mail to:

The Honorary Secretary
PFSA Expert Committee
PO Box 360
6720 MONTAGU, South Africa
Secretary, Expert Committee

Mashonaland sets an example

AMONG the society publications received and always read with interest by the Hon Editor, was a recent "Information Booklet" published by the Mashonaland Philatelic Society.

It contains exactly what its title implies: Information. And this in the broadest sense.

Everything one would want to know about the society, from membership to meetings and from auctions to annual awards, is clearly and inexpensively set out in 27 pages of A5 format, legibly typed and reproduced.

While the constitution is not duplicated, probably the most valuable information is given in the six appendixes, which detail the rules for the society's awards.

The full contents list, for those societies who would like to consider this exemplary kind of publication for themselves, is: Membership, Meetings, Auctions, Exchange circuit, Newsletter, Bourse evenings, Awards and displays, Library, (Constitution), Executive committee, and the appendixes mentioned above.

Postcard secretary visits South Africa

THE secretary of the Isle of Man based SA Postcard Research Group, Vivian Allen, welcomed the inclusion of a category for postcards at future national exhibitions in South Africa. She was visiting Cape Town at the time of the launch of Ryno Greenwall's *Artists & Illustrators of the Anglo-Boer War* (*The SA Philatelist*, December 1992/January 1993, p 187).

She emphasised that experience had shown that excellent presentation and immaculate condition were key factors in successful postcard exhibiting, although her personal interests were non-competitive.

Ms Allen stressed the pictorial and historical side, and recalled that recently a small Transvaal town approached the society for details about what the place really looked like in its pioneer

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days, as postcards were the only remaining visual reference.

She has, together with Archie Atkinson, chairman of the SA PRG, provided an exhibition for a reception held at Douglas in the Isle of Man by the SA Tourist Board.

Hon Editor

Alternatiewe tot jaarlikse nasionale tentoonstellings

Joh Groenewald RDPSA

DIE vraag wat by die afgelope filateliekongres in Pretoria geopper is, naamlik of daar jaarliks 'n nasionale seëluitstalling aangebied moet word, het 'n interessante teenpool in Nederland.

Nederland het 60 000 ingeskrewe versamelaars wat lede van verenigings is — maar daar is nie 'n jaarlikse nasionale seëluitstalling nie.

'n Nasionale uitstalling gebeur maar elke vyf jaar, en die volgende een is Fepapost 94, in Oktober 1994 in Den Haag.

Hoe werk dit dan?

Bestuurslede van die Filatelisten Ver-

eniging Zuidelijk Afrika verduidelik dat mededingende uitstalling in Nederland op drie vlakke geskied. Die laagste, of derde vlak, is die landelike kategorie.

Daar word elke jaar so 'n tiental landelike uitstallings gereël deur verenigings wat herdenkings het, soos 'n 25-jarige viering van die vereniging se bestaan. Inskrywing is oop vir alle klublede.

'n Versameling wat by 'n landelike uitstalling minstens 'n silwer toekenning verwerf, kan ingeskryf word vir die tweede kategorie van uitstalling, naamlik uitstalling by die Dag van die Posseël. Sulke uitstallings word op Seëldag in Oktober gelyktydig in 11 sentrums gehou.

Die Nederlandse Bond hou rekord van elke versameling se kategorie-kwalifikasies, en die Bond bied ook beoordeelaarskursusse aan om te sorg dat beoordeling landwyd eenvormig geskied.

Die eerste (hoogste) kategorie van uitstalling is dan die nasionale uitstalling, wat elke vyf jaar gehou word, of 'n spesiale uitstalling.

So 'n spesiale uitstalling is FILA-

LOG, wat vir Oktober 1993 in Delft beplan word.

Daar is sowat 7 500 lede van spesialisverenigings in Nederland, soos die FVZA. Hulle is onder die Nederlandse Bond saamgesnoer in LOG, die Landelike Overlegorgaan Gespecialiseerde Verenigings. LOG se spesiale uitstalling FILALOG in 1993 gaan dus toegespits wees op versamelings van lede van die spesialisgroepe.

By die jongste Dag van de Postzegel in Rotterdam is 'n interessante versameling van dr Gerrit Jonkers "nie beoordeel nie" omdat dit nie-filateliese materiaal bevat het. Dr Jonkers het naamlik geïllustreerde briefkaarte van die Zuid Afrikaansche Republiek (ZAR) gewys, soos poskaarte met foto's en ander met saaklike inligting, soos die spoorwegadvieskaarte.

In Nederland mag so iets nie!

FILALOG gaan egter vir die eerste keer 'n "oop klas" hê waar tot 25 persent nie-filateliese materiaal vertoon kan word, soos foto's, mits dit met die versameling of tema verband hou.

Uit die possak/From the mailbag

More about Mittelholzer

O T Berner of Pietersburg writes: I have read with interest the story by George van den Hurk in *The SA Philatelist*, December 1992/January 1993, p 175.

I have in my possession a postcard (photocopy illustrated) addressed from Zürich to Pretoria:

Zürich postmark 28.11.26

Alexandria arrival datestamp 13.12.26

Port Said datestamp 15.12.26

No arrival postmark Cape Town or Pretoria

It seems indeed that this mail left Alexandria by steamer, arrived at Port Said on 15.12.26, then continued again by steamer to Cape Town.

Pity there are no further postmarks which would make the item very much more interesting.

Thanks for an interesting periodical.

Making our cents fly?

E S Whitlock of Graaff-Reinet writes: To all appearances philately in South Africa is on the wane, particularly among younger collectors, our philatelists of the future.

Actually one cannot blame them. Firstly, the supply of the official First Day Covers to almost all Post Offices was withdrawn. Many collectors who cannot afford a deposit account with Philatelic Services used to purchase the

covers of their choice over the counter. They have now been deprived of this facility. If they, as an alternative, want to make their own FDC, they often find that the supply of the new commemorative stamp or miniature sheet has not been received by the local Post Office.

The only alternative is therefore to order from Philatelic Services, in which case one may have to wait a long time to have your order executed. (It took five months for my own order for "private" covers of the Sports issue to be executed, or more correctly, spoilt with disgracefully indistinct datestamps, despite high service charges.)

Another factor deterring philately is the high cost. Admittedly everyone is looking for bigger profits, but what collector, particularly a young person, can afford R8,75 for a single sheet of 25 different aviation stamps, or R24 for a set of new definitives as Philatelic Services has advised for issue in 1993?

Philately is such a fine hobby. Let the power in control please not kill it. (See p 16 etc of this issue for full details. Hon Editor.)

Australia in WW II

David Collyer of Sydney, Australia, writes: I would like to expand on Mr MacKenzie's article in your issue of July/August 1992, p 113, "WW II mail from Australia to UK".

In September 1939 the Australian Government decided to form a division for service overseas. The 6th Division was the first divisional unit of the 2nd Australian Imperial Force (AIF). The



First AIF had served in WW I in Gallipoli, France, the Sinai and Palestine. It was disbanded in 1921, and its place taken by a volunteer force.

Until 1939 the only permanent army was the artillery, so the 6th Division was the first permanent infantry since the end of WW I. Divisions 1—5 did exist, but they were Militia units.

The initial point to consider is that when the 6th Division was formed it was composed of 3 Brigades of 4 Battalions along the lines of the British Army in WW I. The Brigades were numbered 16, 17, 18, whilst the Battalions were numbered 2/1, 2/2, 2/3, 2/4 (16 Brigade). In May 1940, at the time Mr MacKenzie's convoy was diverted to England, the Brigades were reduced to 3 Battalions, which meant sufficient Battalions to form a new Brigade.

Ronald Lee, writing recently in *Stamp News Australia*, claims that the ships of MacKenzie's convoy U-5, used unit censor marks such as 5 X 55 and 5 X 65. After arrival in Britain, the Corps Troops and others formed the 25th Brigade.

Its battalions were originally numbered 2/28, 2/29, 2/30 until it was pointed out that these numbers had been allotted to units forming in Australia. The Battalions were then provisionally renumbered 70th, 71st, 72nd Bn's, and finally numbered 2/31, 2/32, 2/33 Battalions.

The airmail cover in itself is most interesting. It was posted in Launceston in the Island State of Tasmania. The envelope is one of a type commercially produced for use by troops. You may note that Mr MacKenzie's serial number is TX524- (T= Tasmania X= overseas service, and the number is for the number of people enlisted in that State).

From about March 1940 onwards the overseas address for the troops was "AIF Abroad", rather than a specific location. It was the job of the Army Postal Service to find the addressee, and

make sure that the mail was delivered.

You will note that there is an 8 dot censor tape, which I think is Hobart. This means that the cover first travelled to the southern part of the island and then north.

The postage rate is 1/6d, which was the airmail rate re-imposed on 5 September 1939, and operative until the early 1950s. The cover would have flown from Tasmania on Australian National Airways DC 2, first to Melbourne and then to Sydney. It would have been then transferred to a Qantas/BOAC Imperial Airways C Class flying boat.

Although the date is not legible in the illustration, the stamps were issued on 15 July 1940, so the letter would have been posted on or after that date. This means that as the Horseshoe route (Sydney/Durban) started on 19 June 1940, this cover would have been flown first to

Cairo, where the 2/1st Bn was, and then flown down to Durban, then taken by ship to England. The airmail cover itself thus has a South African connection.

Inflation upon inflation

Chris Cordes of Johannesburg writes: I enclose herewith a photocopy of the front and back of an envelope that came into my hands recently, which was posted from Zaire earlier last year to South Africa.

It contains no less than 35 five hundred z stamps (themselves an overprint of the ten k stamp, together with 5 three hundred z stamps) (which were the seventy five k overprints).

All this to pay a fifty five cent postage rate.

The moral is that somebody else is always worse off than you are!



Vir die boekrak/For the bookshelf

Gevangenes van die Boereoorlog

Bannelinge oor die oseaan, deur Coen Groenewald

178 pp, hardeband, swart/wit illustrasies, uitgegee deur J P van der Walt en Seun, Posbus 123, Pretoria 0001, R49,95.

HOEWEL STRENG GESPROKE nie 'n filateliese boek nie, verdien hierdie publikasie die oorweging van alle belangstellendes op die gebied van die krygsgevangenekampe van die Tweede Vryheidsoorlog. Dit is 'n groot filateliese studieveld, waartoe hierdie boek 'n spesifieke bydrae kan maak.

Wat die algemene inhoud betref, skryf die historikus Leopold Scholtz in

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Die Burger, "Die wel en wee van die krygsgevangenes het eintlik nog maar baie min aandag gekry, al is enorm baie daaroor te sê. Die publikasie van die werkie is daarom 'n welkome toevoeging tot die bibliografie oor die oorlog..."

"Uit die massa gegewens het Groenewald betreklik goed geselekteer om sin aan die geheel te gee. Hy gee aandag aan verskeie temas..."

Vir die filateliese navorser is van belang dat hierdie temas — benewens 'n goeie bibliografie — toeganklik gemaak word met 'n uitmuntend ingedeelde indeks. Sien 'n mens 'n naam op 'n koevert, kan jy onder "Mense" naslaan of dit in die boek voorkom om moontlik meer van die persoon te wete te kom.

Eweneens is daar afdelings vir

"Skepe", "Kampe", "Lande/Landstreek", "Dorpe/Stede", "Veldslae", en self ook "Riviere en Oseane" en "Gedigte/Liedjies".

Dus is daar aansienlike moontlikhede om nie alleen die posgeskiedenis nie, maar ook die oorlogsomstandighede van 'n item van nader te bepaal.

WG

The Australian side of the Anglo-Boer War

Anglo-Boer War 1899-1902, illustrated postcards & covers, by John Campbell 253 pp, spiral-bound, published by Radway Press, available from the author, PO Box 15766, New Lynn, Auckland,

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New Zealand, approx R45,00.

THE Anglo-Boer War was the first campaign to which Australia contributed a significant military presence. In the philatelic and postal history sense the story of this Australasian presence is not an easy one to follow, because it was intermixed with the overall British story of the time. Even as regards patriotic stationery the Australasian story is small, but it needs recording.

The book is basically a catalogue of illustrated envelopes and other forms of stationery. Due to a number of factors, such as the quality of the originals and variations in black and white photographic definition, some illustrations were not well reproduced. The author has chosen to use photographically reduced examples, and this also leads to some loss of detail.

The work commences with a contents listing, followed by acknowledgements and the bibliography, which for books gives entries by title and author. Journals and auction catalogues are also listed.

The Australian section commences with four postcards illustrating Australian military personalities:

Captain W Dobbin — Commanding "A" Division, Bushmen's Corps,

Colonel J C Hoad — First Victorian Contingent,

Lieut-Colonel R G Kekewich — In command at Kimberley, and

Colonel Tom Price — Commanding 2nd Contingent.

A number of other cards are shown which illustrate either the Australian flag or the Coat of Arms. The final item in the Australian section is a pictorial envelope entitled "Transvaal war" featuring Lord Roberts and Lord Kitch-

ener, posted at Melbourne in 1900.

In New Zealand the Post office issued a series of 16 1d postcards which depicted scenes of its first contingent both in New Zealand and in South Africa. The author merely illustrates this material, and there is no in-depth philatelic discussion. The majority of the examples are unused.

Like Australia, New Zealand also had privately produced items and they are listed between pages 24—27. For collectors of "Australiana" there is a Dutch pictorial postcard depicting President Kruger as a boxing Kangaroo. Versions of this card have been recorded in German and French as part of the chromolithographic "Gruss vom Kriegsschauplatz" (Greetings from the Theatre of War) series.

The first three sections of the work deal with material produced in support of the British cause by stationers in Britain, the colonies and Dominions, and in Southern Africa. The Boer side was mainly taken up by European stationers from Germany and Holland. The author has provided us with an interesting insight into the propaganda side of warfare.

There is philatelic interest in this work, such as the NZ Post office postcards, and a listing of Cinderella labels, but it is overwhelmed by the listing of propaganda material. The work does, however, illustrate the social side of modern warfare, and might be considered a step in the direction of "social philately".

DC

Lists and books to look for

17th Stock Catalog + Supplement,

Leonard H Hartman, PO Box 36006, Louisville, Kentucky 40233, USA. US\$ 5,00.

SINCE this catalogue was last noted here (March/April 1992, p 54) it has grown to 112 pages, which is about as much as centre-stapling can bear.

It is crammed with (understandably) North American material, but where else would you find *Transvaal 1878-1880* by Robson Lowe (1973) at \$2,50 — unless you have happened to keep your copies of *The SA Philatelist* of November and December 1973?

Or something as out of the way as Alan Robertson's little monograph, *Ship Letter Handstamps of Liverpool*, at \$4,50?

It is a catalogue that repays close reading, and useful in providing a wider view of the world of philatelic literature.

Philatelic Literature from James Bendon, November 1992, PO Box 6484, Limassol, Cyprus.

THE latest list from this ex-patriate British publisher features *Samos, Postal History and Stamps 1800-1915*, by Manos D Anagnostou. The author is the general secretary of the Hellenic Philatelic Federation and an accredited FIP juror.

Paul H Jensen, president of the FIP Commission for Postal History says in his foreword: "The book opens up new views on the philatelic knowledge of the postal history of the island of Samos. It is an excellent piece of work . . . which will stand out as a milestone in Hellenic philately."

The list contains a further ten titles, including the last five mint copies of *The Works of Jean de Sperati* by Robson Lowe (1955), priced at £350,00.

Onderonsies/Society news

GREAT BRITAIN PS OF SA

December 1992: The meeting was held at the home of George Cafatzoglou in Johannesburg and the new executive for the coming year was elected.

The award winners for 1992 were: Cyril Enoch Trophy for Queen Victoria — George Cafatzoglou; Lionel Lewis Cup for 4 Kings — George Cafatzoglou; Mary Wood Trophy for QE 2 — Jill Redmond; Joan Morgan Trophy for Postal History — Dave Deighton; GB Trophy for best at Nationals — David Crocker; Redmond Service Trophy — Tony Pugh.

Our hats off to all the winners.

The venues and dates for the 1993 meetings will be: 3 April — Lynnwood Glen Pretoria; 5 June — Arcadia Pretoria; 7 August — Linden Johannesburg; 2 October — Bedfordview; 27 November — Linden Johannesburg.

Eddie Kier

MASHONALAND PS

November 1992: Attendance: 42 members and 2 guests. One-page competition: Letter "P": winner Mrs Morrison, again, with "Penguins".

Derrick Byrom showed his complete col-

lection of the Faroe Islands 1975 to date, and gave interesting information on its history and present statistics including: It consists of 18 islands, won home rule from Denmark in 1975, and has 48 000 humans and 65 000 sheep.

Our Annual Dinner was held on 21 November, attended by over 40, and the society's Designer of the Year certificate was presented to Mr Roland Pletts for his "Birds of Zimbabwe" issued in July.

December 1992: Attendance: 35 members and 5 guests. One-page competition: "A Christmas Theme": Winner Mrs Helen Allen, with "The First Noel", each verse depicted by a stamp illustrating its subject.

Ron Ireland exhibited 30 pages of his "Miniature Sheets" as an entry for the Goldblatt (Thematic) Trophy, and gave a very interesting talk on this Cinderella, but growing branch of our hobby.

Exchange Circuit sales since 1 April reached Z\$90 000 by 30 November — a record.

Maurice Rainbow

EDENVALE PS

October 1992: 24 members and 4 visitors attended. A discussion was held on the merits

of an annual versus bi-annual National Exhibition/Congress, and the majority of members present felt that it should be held annually. It was decided to donate R50 to the Audio-Visual Committee.

Our annual "Country" competition was then held, with Keith Baillie judging. The winner was John Aspling with his entry Bechuanaland; joint second were John Simpson — Seychelles and William Scott — Jamaica; 3rd Shirley Rose — Rhodesias; 4th Jack Carrajola — Union of South Africa.

Other entries were William Scott — Hong Kong and Jack Carrajola — USA. Our judge congratulated all the competitors and commented that some entries could be entered in a future National.

November: Happily attendance was up to 31 this month. Elizabeth Mephius who represented the society at Congress gave us a short report on the happenings there.

The evening was then given over to a Bourse and Auction.

December: Subscriptions for 1993 are to be R30 for home members, R10 for non-home members, and the committee has generously decided that vintage members of 65 years or older should pay only R20 subs.

There were 8 entries in our Alphabetical Competition — 2 pages letter “F” — encompassing Falcons; Fish Eagles; Flugpost of Danzig; Fusiliers; Fairy Tales; Falkland Is Dependancies; Foxy Charaxes and Farming. Winners to be announced in January 1993.

Shirley Rose

RHODESIAN STUDY CIRCLE JOHANNESBURG BRANCH

24 October 1992: The final meeting of the year was held at the War Museum, Johannesburg and two substantial exhibits were shown during the course of the afternoon’s meeting, the first by Danny Swart (in absentia, shown by George Cafetzoglou), and this exhibit was based on the RAF camps in Rhodesia during the second World War, and covered a variety of active service mail, together with internee camp items for good measure.

Most of the camps were shown via covers, and included a Thornhill skeleton strike, together with the Thornhill “excised” official free cachet. Other camps included Kumalo, Induna, ITW Camp, Belvedere, Park River, Moffat, King George VI Barracks, Thornhill, Guinea Fowl, Cranborne, etc.

Examples of the airgraph service, economy labels for the re-use of envelopes, and censor cachets were exhibited in profusion. Incoming mail from all over the world included OAT cachets (Canada), Camel Corps (Somaliland), Fiji, Kenya, Aden et al. One of the unusual items shown was an AFRAF newspaper wrapper inscribed “Rhodesia’s first service newspaper”!

All in all a wonderful exhibit of concentrated war time philately at its best.

By contrast Paul Clark showed 45 sheets of his award winning Rhodesia Railways parcel stamps. This was truly remarkable in its scope and breadth of coverage, and more than justified the award received at the recent Pretoria exhibition.

The exhibit included a variety of guards luggage way-bills, and some of the more interesting items included the Chisamba RR10 shilling over written in Manuscript “K1-00” and used after independence. There was also the right hand half sheet of 60 of the 1 penny value showing the OB variety.

A L1 part sheet of 94 examples of the Chambishi stamp was also shown, as were complete sheets of the 4 pence Nkana and the Pemba 6 pence. The process of printing was also demonstrated via the proofs showing the various stages of development. One of the highlights was the Francistown part way-bill bearing both the 10c and 20c errors of colour.

Chris Cordes

SWA STAMP STUDY GROUP

Special Meeting at “Pretoria ’92”: This meeting was attended by 15 members and three guests. Each one introduced himself and stated his collecting interests. What a variety! L Jacobson put it in a nutshell: “We collect everything which moved through the postal channels of South West Africa/Namibia.”

The winners of our Group were congratulated, especially M Tonking (Large Gold) and C Wollbrandt (Gold). Several items of interest were circulated, eg a strip of ten German SWA Otavi registration labels.

Messrs J Heimann and C Truebody reported on the postal situation in today’s Namibia. The picture is very positive, and several changes are in the pipeline to improve the philatelic services to the public.

October 1992: Eight members and one guest. Mr E Viljoen, from Cape Town, attended. The meeting was deeply shocked to hear that

our Hon Life members, Mrs and Mr L E P Sauer had died the previous week in hospital after a car accident. Mr Sauer was 88 years of age when he passed away. Meetings without “the Sauers” will not be the same.

Mr N Clowes had sent a fantastic item: A cover posted at Erundu to Tsumeb (arrival 12 March 1918) and censored en route by “Censor 107”. The cover had both a censor label and a cachet 107. It was known that a censor 107 existed, but this is the first hard evidence which has come to light after nearly three quarters of a century.

The following exhibits were studied: Mr C Wollbrandt showed the “Wanderstempel” which won Gold and the “ZAR 100 Award” at “Pretoria ’92”. Both awards were deserved for this well researched and written-up object. Mr Wollbrandt has gathered a lot of information on the various Wanderstempel which has not been published so far.

Mr K Kornacker showed two frames of “Queen Elizabeth II Coronation” covers — a colourful exhibit. No official FDC were issued by the postal authorities in those days. Covers were produced privately, and the designers and printers competed fiercely to outdo each other and to make their products more saleable to the collectors.

November 1992: Eight members and Dr A Bloom as guest attended the last meeting for the year. The evening was devoted to the study of postmarks from South West African post offices starting with the letters D, E, F. All postmarks shown fell within the time ranges and specifications given in Putzel’s latest book on SWA postmarks.

Only one new find can be reported from Franzfontein. Mr K Kornacker showed a rainfall table for October 1919 which was postmarked Franzfontein Nov.11.1919 (Putzel B1 occ), transit Outjo 18.11.19 and arrival Windhoek 23.11.19. This official cover bears no postage stamp, and it is not clear whether the Franzfontein canceller was used at a post office which, according to Putzel, closed in 1918, or privately as a cachet?

Mr H Thompson showed two Feldschuhhorn covers, one sent to Spain in 1916. It was closed with censor labels printed in green and inscribed in English. Where were these labels affixed? In Spain?

Dr D J Retief reminded us that “field post” starts with an “F”. He had therefore brought his fantastic collection of fieldpost covers. Mr A Kriegler showed postmarks on cover from Ekuja, Empfängnisbucht and Epukiro — the three German South West Africa post offices starting with the letter “E”. He is still looking for Fahlgas!

Dr H U Bantz brought modern cancellers which included Delmyn and Fettluft Nord, two postmarks which are relatively scarce.

H U Bantz

FISH HOEK PS

September — The evening was devoted to the thematic competition, and as usual, there were more entries than in other competitions. Judges said that only a few points separated all the entries. Those who competed were:

Mrs Allderman — Roses, Mr Barnes — RSA Flood overprints, Mr Crawford — Wreck and Crash mail, Mrs Douglas — Calligraphy and Illumination, Mrs Douglas — Ships and men who sailed them, Mrs Reynolds — Food, Glorious Food, and Mr Singels — WW II Royal Netherlands Navy Ships’ Mail and censors.

Mr Crawford was the winner, and Mr Hodgson displayed his “Selvedges” as a non-competitive entry.

The hobby on stamps was “Reading”, there being a tie for first place between Mrs Allderman and Mrs Douglas. To complement the competition Mr Barnes brought some old and precious leather-bound books, and Mrs Reynolds brought a large book 400 x 600 mm, and a small book 35 x 50 mm.

M Reynolds

MARITZBURG PS

August. 25 members attended, and Francis Eustace spoke about the system at an auction. He said the catalogue value bore no relation to the worth of a stamp. Decent material would fetch quarter value at an auction.

Harmers said in London that it is possible to buy any First Day Cover at half Catalogue value.

Points to remember are that if an item is photographed, you are bidding on the photo. So always examine when possible. Over a certain number of items in one lot becomes an accumulation (usually 10), and you cannot challenge if it is not up to your standards. Never accept an auctioneer’s comment.

Mike Dyer showed forgeries of the Cape Triangulars, along with some genuine fine used for comparison. He said that the only way to detect a forgery is to get hold of a genuine article and compare, and that the Cape Triangulars were some of the most forged stamps of world issue. On the woodblocks it can be so crude, you can compare differences in line and type.

Des Greenhalgh showed the 10c issue of the First Definitive. Robin Castle showed postmarks and place names with a story running through them, ending up with Berlin post cards. Peter Southwood showed a post card from “HELL” in the Bahamas. Anne Southwood showed some pages of later issues of Bechuanaland.

September. Anne Southwood put up an envelope which had gone to Papua New Guinea, even though it had been correctly addressed. Also an envelope POOC (Posted Out Of Course) as well as one that had been posted in Louis Trichardt with a Venda stamp on it that had been surcharged R2,40!

Dr Orti Bourquin showed a page from his vast collection of reptiles.

Anne again made an appeal for more people to take part in the Letter competition. She herself exhibited Bechuanaland Revenues and Runner Post — Mafeking to Bulawayo, for the letter R.

Our visitors from Durban favoured us with three exceptional and interesting exhibits which were thoroughly enjoyed.

Jonty Fabian displayed a fascinating and unique set of Egyptian postals which started off for the purpose of getting things posted faster amongst Egyptian businesses, and later became the official Government postal service. The person who began the service later became the Director of Postal Services in Egypt. Covers on this subject are very rare.

Giovanni Palazzo displayed two different exhibits — the first was early officials of Natal, OFS, Cape, Transvaal and Union stamps. The second was a comprehensive collection of Italian stamps.

October 1992: 21 members, 2 visitors and guest auctioneer, Martin East, V/P for Natal, attended the October meeting. A moment of silence was observed for Frank Warner who died last month, member for less than a year, and an Honorary Life Member of the Royal PS of Bulawayo.

Anne Southwood attended Congress in Pretoria. The top awards were outstanding.

Items of interest: Anne put up latest Bureau publications and some old post cards of PMB, purchased at the exhibition. Peter Southwood showed the Exhibition Frama cliché.

Sales Packets: 5 boxes in circuit — no more until the New Year, in the meantime anyone with a particular thematic interest, to get in touch with Francis Eustace.

Auction: Martin East conducted the auction in a highly efficient manner. He congratulated the society, and André van Zyl in particular, for all the hard work which had been put into organising the event. Much fun was had by all. 35 of the 100 items were knocked down to postal bidders and members

in the room, estimated sales about R3 600.

Anne Southwood

THEMATIC STAMP CLUB

It was our club's misfortune to lose one of our most stalwart and loyal members, Ron Turton, early in 1992. Ron died in April after a short and sudden deterioration in his health and left a void which has been difficult to fill.

The last year has been full and varied, with exhibits by members covering a wide range of thematic material. It was decided that each meeting should be convened by a different member, the result being a successful series of meetings on Transport, Botany,

Biology, The Arts, Famous People, Domestic Animals, Cinderellas and International Organizations.

Of course, our monthly Fun Competition raised a great deal of mirth, especially the imaginative entries of our newest member, Anne Essek, who walked away with the annual Sheelah Savidge Trophy.

The annual Lavinia Coe competition for the best thematic entry was won by David Dowie Dunn's exhibit on "The Big Five" of the animal kingdom.

We are planning an exciting programme of events for 1993 with the hope of enticing new members to join the Thematic Stamp Club.
Clem Baker

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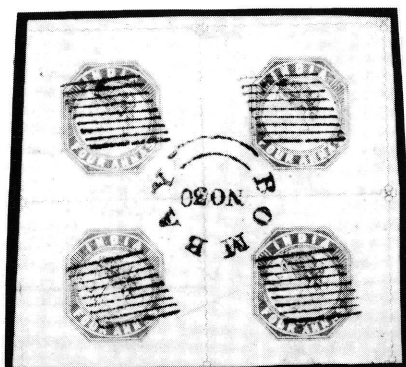
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