



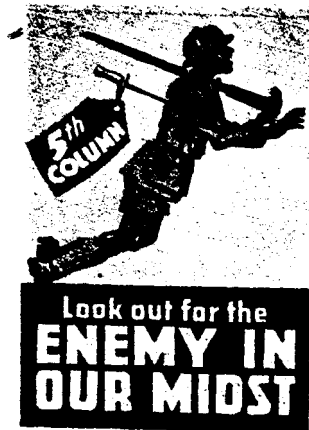
*******FORERUNNERS*******

Journal Of The Philatelic Society For Greater Southern Africa

Affiliated with The American Philatelic Society & Philatelic Federation of Southern Africa

Volume XVI, Number 1, Whole #44

July/October 2002



Patriotic & Propaganda Labels of World War II

Other Highlights of This Issue

- * Philately Southern Africa *The Postal History of Graaff-Reinet: Part 8
- * Bits & Pieces * A Favorite Philatelic Item * Aerophilately * The Bechuanalands
- * The Boer Republics *Cover With A Story * Fakes, Forgeries & Facsimiles
- * Postage Dues * The Rhodesias * South Africa World War II Civil Censorship
- * South West Africa/Namibia * Zulu Notes * Society Affairs * The Marketplace

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RHODESIA BSA COMPANY / REVENUE 1906 'Certificate of Transfer document issued at Hartley, certifying the transfer of ten claims from the 'Butterfly Gold Development Co. Ltd.' to the 'Indarama Gold Mining Co. Ltd.'. Bearing, on the reverse, a pair of £100 'cherry-red', £30 and £50 large format revenues and a 'postage' £2 rosy red. All tied by '27/1/06' perfin and 'MINING COMMISSIONER / 27 JAN 1906 / HARTLEY' oval datestamps struck in violet. (Mewett 13,75,78,99: B&H 2a,8,9,19). Extremely rare and attractive. Stunning! £6500 / \$9600



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A more detailed description of the Panel and how it operates is printed in the "Question & Answer" section. Members desiring to serve on the Panel are to contact the Panel Chair. *For areas not listed below, please forward your questions to the Panel Chair.*

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Readers wishing to volunteer to serve for other areas not presently covered are also invited to join the Panel. Contact the Panel Chair for additional information.



Silver-Bronze at LONDON 2000, Silvers at JOPEX 99, STaMpsHOW 99 and COLOPEX 99, Silver-Bronze at PACIFIC 97, Vermeil/Certificate of Merit at OKPEX 96, Large Silver at New Zealand National Philatelic Literature Exhibition 96, Silver awards at SESCAL 95, CAPEX 96, WAPEX 93, HAFNIA 94, Silver-Bronzes - ESPAMER 95, SINGAPORE 95, PHILAKOREA 94. ISSN 1076-2612

Table of Contents

Officer's Page	i
Contents	1
Editorial Notes	2
Founders Corner	
Feature Articles	3 - 13
Forerunners Forum	14 - 17
Bits & Pieces	
Specialty Columns	18 - 41
Society Affairs	43
President's Message	
From the Program Chair	
The Honor Roll	
The Market Place	44

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FEATURE ARTICLES

South Africa - Patriotic and Propaganda Labels of World War II
 By Chris Miller, UK. . . 3

Philately Southern Africa By the late Tony Chilton. . . 9

The Postal History of Graaff-Reinet: Part 8 By the late Ken Baker. . . 11

* * *

SPECIALTY COLUMNS

A Favorite Philatelic Item. . . Editor: Bill Brooks, USA. "An Orange Free State Postal Stationery Item & An Orange River Colony 1891 Mourning Cover", submitted by Jan Stolk, Netherlands. . . 18

Aerophilately. . . Editors: Kendall Sanford, Switzerland & Paul Magid, USA. "The Handley Page Flight, 1920". . . 19

The Bechuanalands. . . Editor: Peter Thy, USA. "Botswana Experimental Vending Stamp Booklets". . . 21

The Boer Republics. . . Editor: Tim Bartshe, USA. "Bisect Examples of the Vurtheim and Shaft/Disselboom Issues of the Second Republic". . . 24

Cover With A Story. . . Editor: Bill Brooks, USA. "An Early Orange River Colony Express Mail Cover". . . 27

Fakes, Forgeries & Facsimiles... Editor: Frederick Lawrence, Ph.D., FRPSL, USA. "Some Rhodesian Fakes & Forgeries", submitted by Alan J. Hanks, Canada ... 28

Modern Times... Editor: Will Ross, USA. "New Issues & Other Matters", submitted by Bill Brooks... 30

Postage Dues. . . Editor: Jan Stolk, the Netherlands. "The Decimal Postage Due Markings of South Africa". . . 31

The Rhodesias... Editor: Alan J. Hanks, Canada. "Postal Stationery - British South Africa Company Part VI: 1903-1904 Cards & Envelopes". . . 33

South African Civil Censorship in World War II. . . Editor: Chris Miller, UK. "Civil Censorship in WW II: Censor Station G - Bloemfontein". . . 36

South West Africa/Namibia... Editor: Dr. H.U. Bantz, South Africa. "The Mandate Period: 1923 - The First Year". . . 38

Zulu Notes. . . Editor: Andy Carr, USA. "The 1888 Provisional 1/2d With Inverted Overprint". . . 41

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PSGSA's scope of coverage includes: Anglo-Boer War, the Bechuanalands, British Central Africa, Cape of Good Hope, Griqualand West/East, the Homelands, the Interprovisional Period, Lesotho, Namibia, Natal, New Republic, the Nyasalands, Orange Free State/River Colony, the Rhodesias, South West Africa, Stellaland, Swaziland, Transvaal, Union/Republic of South Africa, Zambia, Zimbabwe and Zululand. The Society has 85+ members in Canada, England, Germany, Netherlands, New Zealand, Norway, South Africa, Switzerland, Thailand and the United States.

The Society program year is 1 July - 30 June. Additional information concerning PSGSA services and benefits is available from any of the PSGSA International Representatives listed on the previous page or by accessing the Society's web site at: <http://www.homestead.com/psgsa/>. Membership in the Society is available at the following subscription rates: *surface class worldwide* - \$25US, *1st class North America* - \$30US, *Europe air mail* - \$38US, *Africa/Pacific air mail* - \$40US. Payment options: (1) **Credit Card** - please contact Treasurer at address below; (2) **check drawn on a US bank**, payable to "PSGSA"; (3) £Sterling bank drafts at current exchange equivalent **with "payee" left blank**; or (4) \$US, Rands, Sterling or Dmark currency, **sent via registered mail**, using current exchange rates at local major bank. Membership fees are to be mailed directly to the Society Treasurer, Robert W. Hisey, 7227 Sparta Road, Sebring, FL 33872, [e-mail: bobhisey@strato.net](mailto:bobhisey@strato.net).

(MEMBERS: ALL ADDRESS CHANGES ARE TO BE SENT TO THE TREASURER.)

Editorial Notes

Bill Brooks, Editor & Founder

Just a reminder. . .As you may remember, an editorial decision was rendered a couple of issues ago to accommodate the need to reduce the number of pages per issue. This decision was driven by significant increases in mailing costs. To accomplish size reduction, Peter and I decided to eliminate as much redundancy from issue to issue as we could while maintain content integrity. We therefore decided to use the first issue (Jul/Oct) of each Volume to contain boilerplate pages and short entries which would not appear in Nos. 2 and 3. The Officers and Panel of Experts page was the first choice in this effort in size reduction. Next came the lead-ins for "Questions & Answers" and "Challenges". These content elements will only appear in this first issue of Volume XVI and will not appear again until the first issue of Volume XVII.

Society auction to return. . .Member Franco Frescura, South Africa, will take over the auction manager's helm from Tim Bartshe in the near future. Read more in "From The Program Chair", Society Affairs Department.

It's about those address changes. . .For some reason, I continue to receive address change notices from members. These notices should actually be sent directly to our Treasurer, Bob Hisey - address on the Officers' page listing.

Zulu Notes returns. . .Member Andy Carr from out Atlanta, Georgia way has graciously volunteered to be our editor for this specialty column on the philately of Zululand. His first installment appears on page 44. Reader feedback and input for future installments will be appreciated by Andy. (As a number of long-time readers will remember, Canadian member Tony Davis edited "Zulu Notes" for a number of years prior for which we belatedly thank him.) Hopefully, the addition of Andy's specialty column will spur others of you to seriously consider doing a specialty column covering an area not presently appearing in your journal. There are any number of subject areas that would be welcomed additions, e.g., Natal, CGH, Swaziland, Republic/Union of South Africa, and so on. Think about it.

A first time appearance. . .Propaganda labels are a very interesting and fascinating sub-specialty collecting area. The lead feature article is a first for the journal to illustrate an extensive variety of these war time adhesives. My thanks to our Civil Censorship specialty column editor, Chris Miller, for contributing this piece.

Founder's Corner

I hope you took the time to read the late Tony Chilton's article, "Philately Southern Africa" which appears in this issue on pages 9-10. Whether one agree's with his proposals, one of his points bears serious consideration by each and every one of us; that too few people are doing the work of the many, so-to-speak.

Bob Taylor's "From the Program Chair" column in Society Affairs on page 43, points out that the Society is down to 86 members world-wide from a membership high of 164 just a few short years ago. Therefore, it would be helpful, as a recruiting tool, if Society information releases appeared in the philatelic press, e.g., Linn's, Stamp Collector. What we need is a member who would be willing to help out in this area. Contact your the President, Alan Hanks, if you are interested in seeing your society grow.

FEATURE ARTICLES

Articles are accepted on an ongoing basis. The submission deadlines are the January 15th (Mar/Jun issue), May 15th (Jul/Oct issue) and September 15th (Nov/Feb issue). Articles must be submitted in double-spaced, typewritten form. Maximum length should be held to five pages, including illustrations. Lengthier works should be submitted in serialized form. Each illustration must be titled and properly referenced in the text. Authors are encouraged to include references, footnotes and a list of suggested reading for readers who may be interested in pursuing the subject of the article further. Whenever possible, black/white photographs are recommended for illustration purposes. In the case of photocopies, they need to be the clearest copy possible. Photocopied illustrations should show a black border around covers and individual stamps. Illustrations which copy poorly will be excluded by the Editor. Originals of charts, graphs and tables are preferred.

South Africa - Patriotic and Propaganda Labels of World War II

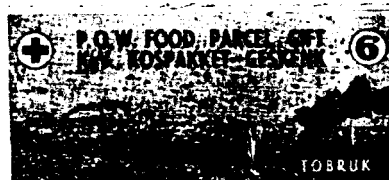
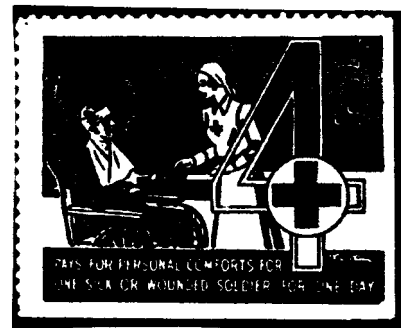
By Chris Miller (Hon. Secy., World War II Study Group, Cinderella Stamp Club), United Kingdom

There are a great number of labels found on envelopes originating in South Africa during the war. Unlike some other countries most of these originated in South Africa.

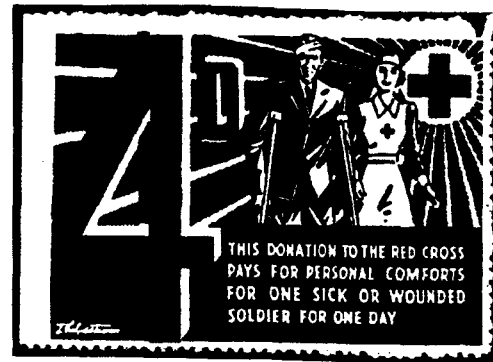
The first category is labels related to the Red Cross. Some of these are very scarce.



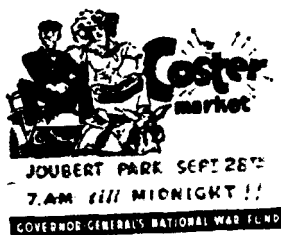
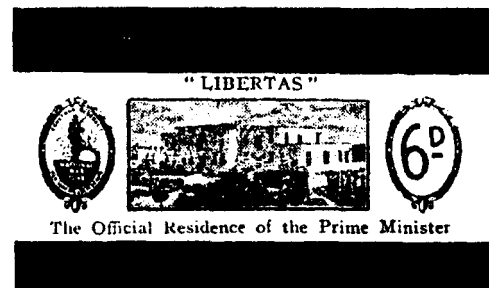
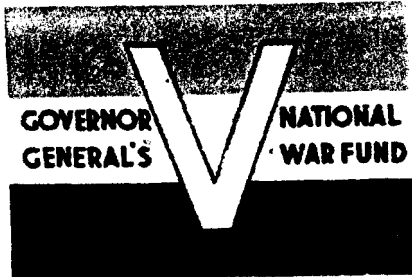
Two formats known.



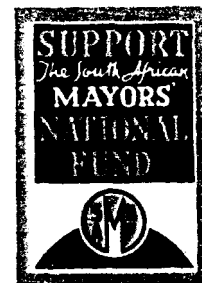
The Prisoner of War parcels labels was not for use on the outside of a parcel but was a fund raising exercise to provide the contents.



Next in importance was the Governor General's War Fund. Local as well as national labels are shown.



There was also a Mayors' National Fund.

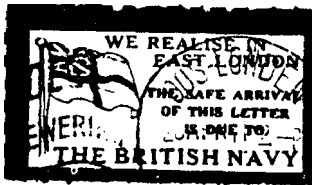


The People of Britain's Fund was a fund raising exercise in the post war austerity period.

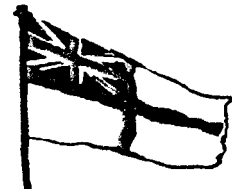


The Port Elizabeth 'V' label. This was probably sold as part of a fund raising exercise and is known in several shades of red and pink as well as blue and green.

The Navy League labels. The Navy League was an international organisation providing comforts for seamen. As well as hostels at ports they also provided warm clothing including sheepskin coats. The labels were sold to raise funds for the League.



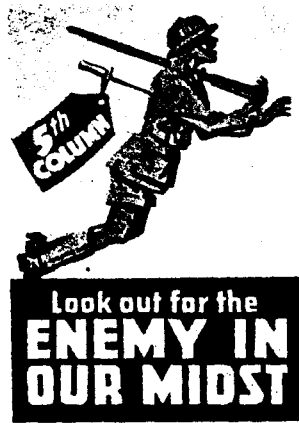
Other naval labels.



THANK THE NAVY
 Help us to give them
 Sheepskin Coats and
 Handspun Comforts



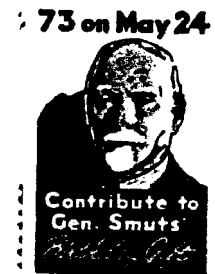
Fifth column labels.



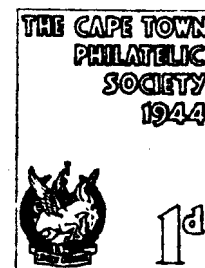
Aid to Russia. The first design is known in a number of colours and on three colours of paper. It is sometimes rouletted and sometime crudely perforated.



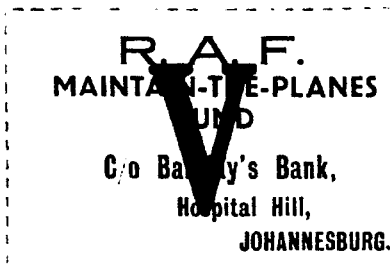
General Smuts related labels.



Cape Town Philatelic Society Fair 1944. More details are given in Pirie



Miscellaneous labels

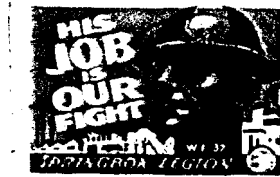


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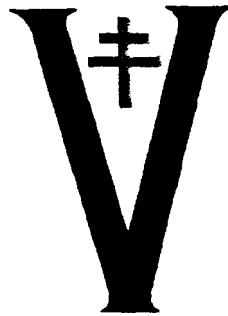
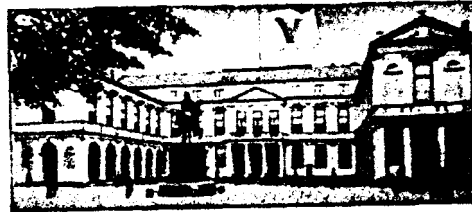
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If you can add to the list published please write to Chris Miller either through e-mail at cpbmiller@aol.com or by post to 161 Upper Woodcote Road, Caversham, Reading, RG4 7JR, UK.

Philately Southern Africa

By the late Tony Chilton, UK

Editorial Note: The following working document is currently being discussed among southern African philatelic specialist societies and study groups in the UK. Since the subject matter is well known to all involved with our own Society, it also deserves to be discussed on this side of the Atlantic. The problems outlined are equally critical for our own society's survival and any remedies proposed by our British sister societies can benefit and will affect our own future. The document is, with the permission of the author, reproduced with only minor editorial adjustments. Just after forwarding this work to Bill Brooks, I was notified of the sudden and unexpected passing of Tony on July 17, 2002. Tony was the Chairman of the Bechuanaland & Botswana Society.. Peter Thy, Coeditor

Concern has been expressed in several quarters about the long-term future of the societies which cover the philately of southern Africa. Other study groups no doubt face many of the same problems. Efforts made by some to spread their administration to other countries, including southern African itself, have not met with success, beyond the appointment in some cases of representatives who have accepted duties such as the collection of local subscriptions and distribution of journals. The intention of this discussion paper is to highlight the matters which have been raised informally so far, to discuss ways in which they might be tackled and to offer a general view of solutions. How matters are subsequently taken forward can only be by the agreement of all or some of the societies involved.

A basic concern is common to many, if not all, societies: that of over-reliance for administration on a restricted number of volunteers. It is common for many officials to have served on the executive committee, often in the same post, for a considerable number of years. While some people are perfectly happy to continue to serve in this way, it cannot be healthy that each society is reliant on so few people. Indeed, it is a "cross-border" problem in that several in that several officials hold office in more than one society. In today's social climate, many philatelic societies are in the same position but specialist study groups are more susceptible to the problems associated with this structure as the membership is widespread and social contact, with the associated means of identifying the administrative abilities and interests of the members, is thereby limited.

The issue is compounded by the obvious fact that none of us is getting any younger. The demise or infirmity of any one office holder is thereby more probable than for the younger generation, whose members the societies largely lack, especially in administrative capacities. The loss of any office holder is thus potentially a major problem, as several societies have already experienced.

While membership of each society is individually healthy and at an economically viable level, there is an issue of multiple memberships, that is of members belonging to more than one society. In some cases, multiple membership accounts for some 25% of the members. The potential pool of administrative volunteers is thus reduced even further.

A further issue which most of the societies face is poor attendance at local meetings. Regional meetings seem to fare better but such success as there has been in enticing members

to attend meetings has largely occurred when there have been joint society gatherings. Whether this has been because of the range of material on display, the location, or the organizational ability of those concerned, is not immediately apparent but it is a positive development which should be built on.

Consideration has been given at various times to amalgamation of two or more societies. No formal discussions have ever taken place but there has largely been resistance to the idea because of considerations such as the state of the development of each society - some are well advanced with producing publications while others are only just beginning - and the number of joint members, which in this area goes against amalgamation as it indicates that the majority of members of any one society are not particularly interested in the subject matter covered by the potential partner.

It is perfectly possible for existing societies to continue as they are, but each face the problems mentioned above. There is a strong possibility each will decline and will face severe problems in finding personnel to run the administration, with the strong probability that closure or forced mergers will take place sooner rather than in the mid- to long-term.

Proposals for a way forward

The alternative to finding enough people to fill a large number of administrative posts (at least 4 or 5 for each society) is to reduce the number of posts by creating a single level of administration which would meet the basic requirements of all the societies. It is therefore proposed that an umbrella organization, to which I have given the working title "Philately Southern Africa", be created. This organization would be responsible for providing the main secretarial and financial administration for all the societies involved. This would include arranging meetings for the membership as a whole - an extension of the successful joint meetings held at present - with the possibility of building on experience gained to launch weekend and further regional meetings; basic publicity and recruitment for the societies as a whole; maintaining membership records so that members are made aware of all the activities which fall within their areas of interest. It is also suggested that there is scope for providing a journal which would take contributions of general interest on all southern African subjects.

It is not suggested, however, that this should be seen as merging all the societies into one. There is no reason which each would not still exist but acting more as a specialist

department of "Philately Southern Africa" to organized specialists meetings as required and to produce specialist publications. It is, however, probably beneficial to think in terms of there being only one journal, to incorporate contributions on all subjects and produce on a regular, probably quarterly, schedule. Each society would continue to produce its own magazine, although these would be more akin to newsletters and study papers, in order to provide an outlet for projects and study items; the number issued each year might diminish if an area-wide journal were to be produced. The present burden on each secretary, treasurer and editor

would thus be reduced, especially for those with multiple jobs. A number of financial problems would need to be addressed, not the least of which are differences in subscription levels and payment periods. But if these are standardized, it is suggested that members would all join "Philately Southern Africa" and then pay a small extra amount to belong to each of the societies which come under that umbrella. This would entitle the member to receive the various specialist journals of interest but it would be cheaper than paying an individual subscription to each society as at present.

* *
*

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The Postal History of Graaff-Reinet: Part 8

the late Ken Baker

Editorial Note: This is the final of eight parts being reprinted from a series which first appeared in "The Post Office Stone" official publication of The Postmark & Postal History Society of South Africa. This installment was first published in Volume 30, Number 1, pages 9-11. A few very minor grammatical edits have been made.

Graaff-Reinet Division - 1890

The established offices were as they were in the prior year of 1889. Staff changes included a new Assistant being appointed to the Graaff-Reinet post office by the name of Mr. R. Gower. His tenure commenced 16 November 1889. In this year a large number of Post Office officials came from the Imperial Service, Mr. Gower being one of them. A Mr. Wright was appointed 1 December as a Lineman, evidently succeeding Mr. Ross.

Postmaster General's (PMG) Report

The PMG noted that an additional mail service had been established with Aberdeen Road which improved its service with the terminal stations at Port Elizabeth and Graaff-Reinet.

Postal Drafts

241 drafts were issued for a total amount of £570.4.9.

Post Office Savings Bank

There were 41 accounts opened in 1890 while 11 closed. Those open at the end of June 1890 totalled 163, balance due to depositors on the 30th of the month totaling £2,542.12.9.

Private Bags

Those renting private bags this year were Messrs. S. Botha, J. Rex and A. Kingwell.

Conditions for renting mail bags

Persons residing on any of the mail routes were permitted a letter bag to be conveyed by mail cart or other means of conveyance, the following were adopted:

- (a) The bag or bags to be provided at the cost to the renter.
- (b) Minimum rent of £1 per annum to be paid in advance. If the renter requires a bag to be made up on each side of his residence, double rental to be charged.
- (c) Bag not to exceed 1 pound in weight when empty.
- (d) Bag can be used for letters for persons in neighborhood of the renter, provided permission of renter is given in writing to the Postmaster. The renter is held responsible for unpaid postage on other person's letters and also for receipts of registered letters.
- (e) Renter is to provide for the mail cart to be met on arrival, and for return bag being handled to driver of mails cart on return journey. Under no circumstances can a cart be allowed to wait.

Graaff-Reinet Division - 1891

The same post offices and agencies existed this year as in 1889. There were changes in personnel. A new Postmaster by

the name of Mr. W. Humphris succeeded Mr. Rice on 1 August 1891. Two new Assistants were also appointed this year - Mr. P. Ramsay and Mr. G. Morrish. The former was appointed from the ranks of the Imperial Service.

P.M.G.'s Report

Regarding Travelling Post Offices (TPOs), the Acting PMG noted that the new 48-foot sorting tender had already proved to be inadequate, when the English and the Colonial mails were despatched simultaneously on Thursday evenings. With approximately 300 bags being dealt with, some of them had to be stowed in passenger compartments.

In prior years the TPO had run as far as De Aar where the mails for the Eastern Province and elsewhere were handed over to the sorting staff of the Midland TPO. This TPO ran between Port Elizabeth and De Aar, the line being the one Graaff-Reinet was situated. Upwards of 100 bags of mail were affected upon this route.

In view of the delays caused by the volume of bags over the Midland Line, it was proposed to run the sorting tenders from Cape Town to Port Elizabeth rather than from Cape Town to Fourteen Streams (Kimberley Division). As a result, fewer carriages with sorting fittings would be required. Also new carriages, designed according to GPO plans, were in the process of construction.

[Pirie notes that by 1891 the Midland TPO was put into use between Port Elizabeth and De Aar. Unfortunately the PMG gave no actual date for its inception.]

Mr. George Hurford

It is interesting to note that Mr. Hurford, who for many years, was the postmaster of Graaff-Reinet. Later he was Postmaster at Grahamstown and then, on 1 September 1891, he was appointed PMG of the Orange Free State.

Graaff-Reinet Post Office - late fees (postal charges)

For all mails, letters, newspapers, etc.

- up to 15 minutes after closing - 1d
- up to 30 minutes after closing - 2d

Registered Articles

- up to 15 minutes of closing of regular mail - 1d
- up to 30 minutes of closing of regular mail - 4d

No late newspapers, parcels, etc., could be posted, otherwise than over the counter. Parcel and registered mail in every case closed two hours before the advertised time of ordinary mail closing. TPO Office: letters - 6d, newspapers - 2d, books, parcels, etc. - 4d and registration - 1/-.

Graaff-Reinet Division - 1892

According to the *Cape Post Office Guide*, the following offices existed in the Graaff-Reinet district for 1892: Graaff-Reinet, Head Office and M.O.O.; Goliads Kraal, sub-office; and the following Post Office Agency locations: Adendorp, Klipdrift, Naudesburg (1), New Bethesda, Oudeburg, Petersburg and Wheatlands (2).

(1) I have been unable to find a reference to this office elsewhere. It might have been opened earlier than this year. However, it appears to have been abolished soon after 1892.

(2) Wheatlands was first opened as a Post Office Agency in 1858 but in 1859 it was renamed Buffels Hoek.

During this year, an office was opened at Mariais Siding, on the railway line between Aberdeen Road and Graaff-Reinet. Its status was not given but evidently it functioned as a Post Office Agency.

Branch Posts and Field Cornet Mails

For the first time in many years, one of these posts in the Division is mentioned in the PMG's Report. The New Bethesda Post Office Agency was now served from Oudeberg instead of Goliads Kraal. Oudeberg is not yet listed as an office in the report, Klipdrift likewise. Both were Post Office Agencies.

T.P.O.s

With the opening of the Bethulie Junction Rail there resulted a great saving in time - according to the PMG - in the conveyance of mail between the Transvaal and the Orange Free State (OFS). The post offices in the Midland District of the Colony were especially affected in this regard. These facilities, however, could be appreciated only by the larger offices as it was impossible to deal with a large number of bags to be circulated in the absence of a TPO between the small offices of the OFS and the small offices of the Midland Districts. Correspondence from Cape Town was therefore sent via Naupoort and sorted on the Midland TPO now operating from Port Elizabeth via Graaff-Reinet and extended from De Aar to Naupoort.

Four new TPO sorting coaches, even larger than those of 48 feet noted above, had been put into service this year while two others were under construction.

Resident Magistrate's Court, Graaff-Reinet

At the above court on 12 October 1892, the driver of the Post Cart between Zuurpoort and Graaff-Reinet was charged with mail tampering on his route. It was alleged that he opened certain letters, one of them containing two £5 notes. The driver was set for trial as a result. The sender of the registered letter containing the £10 made application for its refund. Under the terms of the existing agreement, the contractor for the conveyance of mails at that point was called upon to make up the loss.

The Postmaster General, Mr. G. Aitchison, had passed away some months earlier during January. Mr. S. French, who was serving as Secretary and Accountant of the GPO, was appointed PMG of the Cape Colony.

Postal Drafts 1892

There were 238 issued that year totalling £470.16.5.

Graaff-Reinet Division - 1893

A new office, probably a Post Office Agency, was opened this year at Smithvale which had previously been served by New Bethesda. The post offices/designations and officers in the Division this consisted of: Graaff-Reinet - P.O. and M.O.O., Mr. W. Humphris, Postmaster, salary of £320 per year, had five assistants assigned - Mr. R. Gower at £170, Mr. P. Ramsay at £150, Mr. D. Eddie at £150, Mr. C. Smit at £140 and Mr. C. Morrish at £120.

The remaining offices were: Goliads Kraal, sub-office or Agency; and Kendrew Station, new Bethesda, Petersburg, Smithvale, Oudeberg and Klipdrift - all being Post Office Agencies.

T.P.O.s

The PMG's Report for this year notes that in order to avoid mail delays to and from places served by the Graaff-Reinet branch of the railways, a TPO was established between Zwartkops and Uitenhage in August.

Circuit Court Graaff-Reinet

The driver of the mail cart was charged with mail tampering of five letters was sentenced to five years hard labor.

Graaff-Reinet Division - 1894

In the Graaff-Reinet Post Office, two new Assistants were employed - Mr. Smith appointed 3 October 1893 and Mr. Simpson from the Imperial Service on 1 October 1894.

Post Offices and Agencies were the same as in 1893.

Branch Posts and Field Cornet Mails

The Graaff-Reinet to Klipdrift posts extended to Klein Zondags and Rivier Hock. The latter was probably a Field Cornetcy.

There was an additional weekly mail service inaugurated between Oudeberg and New Bethesda.

T.P.O.s

According to the PMG's Report of 1894, the sections of railway, upon which the TPO service operated were: (1) Cape Town to Port Elizabeth, (2) Zwartkops to Uitenhage, (3) Middleberg Road to Stormberg, and (4) Naupoort to Norvals Pont. Therefore, it would seem that Graaff-Reinet mail going south to Port Elizabeth and thence Cape town, would be sorted over the Zwartkops-Uitenhage section. Mail going north to OFS and Transvaal from Graaff-Reinet, would be dealt with over the Middleberg Road-Stormberg TPO route.

Graaff-Reinet Division - 1895

One new Assistant, Mr. S. Lowe, was appointed at the Graaff-Reinet Post Office on 1 September 1895. The Post Offices and Agencies remained as they had in 1893.

Branch Posts and Field Cornet Mails

The mail on the Oudeberg-New Bethesda Route were now conveyed by cart instead of horse.

TPOs

Four additional sorting tenders were placed into service.

Prosecutions

On 28 May 1895, at Graaff-Reinet, a conviction for the theft of a parcel drew a fine of £5 or one month's incarceration.

Graaff-Reinet Division - 1896

Mr. W. Humphris continued as Postmaster of the Graaff-Reinet Post Office at an annual salary of £335.

By this year, some reclassification of staff had taken place. Also, the Graaff-Reinet Post Office had three Third Class Assistants - P. Ramsay, C. Smit and J. Simpson with annual salaries of £180, £170 and £180 respectively. In addition there were two Fifth Class (Junior) Assistants, Messrs. W. Smith and S. Lowe, their annual salaries respectively being £120 and £150.

The remaining offices in the Division were: Goliads Kraal - Sub-office and the Post Office Agencies - Adendorp, Kendrew Station, Klipdrift, New Bethesda, Oudeberg, Petersburg, Wheatlands, Naudesburg and Smithvale.

TPOs

The large sorting tenders were withdrawn from the Cape Town-Port Elizabeth, De Aar-Middleberg Road-Stormberg sections and from the Uitenhage-Zwartkops sections. Smaller vans were being used on these sections, the larger vans being removed to the Cape Town-Johannesburg direct route.

Graaff-Reinet Division - 1897

Two new offices in the Division were opened during this year: Bethesda Road, a sub-office on the railway, and Glen Harry sub-office also on the rail line. The Post Office Agency at Naudesburg was closed this year.

Mail Routes

The opening of the railway connection with Rosmead Junction brought Graaff-Reinet in closer touch with the main lines. Also, a daily exchange of mails took place between Rosmead,

Middleburg and Graaff-Reinet, replacing post cart service.

Branch Posts and Field Cornet Mail

With the completion of the Middleburg-Graaff-Reinet railway line, it was arranged for Riviertjie to be served from Oudeberg (Murraysburg Road) and New Bethesda from Bethesda Road Station with three mails a week instead of two. Smithvale getting this post from New Bethesda.

Graaff-Reinet Division - 1899

The staff composition at the Graaff-Reinet Post Office this year consisted of: Mr. W. Humphris, Postmaster, annual salary of £365; Mr. J. Smith (Imperial Service) Assistant, £320; Messrs. C. Smit and J. Muller, Third Class Assistants, £200 and £185 respectively; Messrs. H. Bunting, G. Black, U. Groves and H. Matheson - £150, £145, £132.10 and £120 respectively; and Mr. D. McAuley, Junior Assistant with an annual salary of £75.

The remaining offices in the Division were as follows:

Sub-Office - Goliads Kraal (not listed in 1902), Bethesda Road (listed in 1902), and Glen Harry (listed 1902); Post Office Agencies - Adendorp (listed as a sub-office in 1902), Kendrew Station (listed as Kendrew sub-office in 1902), Klipdrift (listed 1902), New Bethesda (listed as an MOO Post Office in 1902), Oudenberg (listed as a sub-office in 1902), Petersburg (listed in 1902), Wheatlands (listed in 1902), and Smithvale (listed in 1902).

Branch Posts and Field Cornet Mail

A new route was arranged for between Letts Kraal on the Graaff-Reinet-Middleburg railway route and the Field Cornetcy at Tweefontein.

Hostilities

While Graaff-Reinet postal services were not directly affected by the commencement of the South African War in 1899, mails generally throughout the Colony were affected at times; no doubt Graaff-Reinet suffered its share of dislocation.

(Ends)

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Back Issues Available

The following issues of Forerunners are in stock and available for purchase. They are listed in order by whole number. Price per copy includes shipping by surface class/printed matter rate. The number in parenthesis indicates the number of copies remaining in inventory. #1 (2) - \$2.00, #2 (2) - \$2.00, #3 (3) - \$2.00, #4 (4) - \$4.00, #5 (1) - \$3.00, #6 (4) - \$3.00, #7 (2) - \$3.00, #8 (2) - \$3.00, #9 (3) - \$3.00, #11 (7) - \$3.00, #12 (4) - \$4.00, #13 (14) - \$4.00, #14 (8) - \$5.00, #15 (5) - \$5.00, #16 (10) - \$6.00, #17 (6) - \$6.00, #22 (15) - \$7.00, #23 (26) - \$7.00, #24 (2) - \$7.00, #25 (5) - \$7.00, #26 (45) - \$7.00, #27 (30) - \$7.00, #28/#29 (39) - \$10.00, #30 (43) - \$7.00, #31 (45) - \$7.00, #32 (45) - \$7.00, #33 (48) - \$7.00*

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THE FORERUNNERS FORUM

Dialogues & Updates

This feature provides readers with the opportunity to share their reactions to written materials appearing in this journal. Updates to published information is also encouraged. Comments are to be sent to the Editor. A copy of the comments will then be sent to the original author for a response before publication. Corrections from authors also appear here. No entries were received this publishing cycle.

Questions & Answers

As a service to the general collecting community, your Society makes its Panel of Experts for greater southern Africa available to answer questions submitted by members and non-members alike. To use this service send your questions to the Panel member covering the area of interest (listed opposite inside front cover page in each Jul/Oct issue).

For a greater southern Africa area not presently listed, send your question to the Panel Chair, Dr. Lawrence. Also, British Africa questions pertaining to areas outside PSGSA's scope, e. g., British East Africa, are also to be sent Dr. Lawrence. The question will then be forwarded to the appropriate specialty group for a response.

Clear copies of cancels, covers (front/back) and a detailed written description of the item should be included with all questions. The Panel member will forward his response, the question and any illustrations to the Editor for publication in the journal. The Panel member will also return a copy of their response directly to the questioner. A question may require an extended period for research and/or collaboration with other scholars, so please be patient.

Panel members are presently being sought for areas not already represented. If interested in serving on the Panel for one or more areas not presently covered, please contact the Panel Chair, Dr. Frederick Lawrence, RPSL, 5016 South Kenneth Place, Tempe, AZ 85282 USA; or e-mail him at: ieconsulting@earthlink.net.

*No questions & answers were received this publication cycle. **

Unanswered Challenges

This feature lists: (1) questions for which the Panel has indicated it has no definitive response; or (2) questions about a subject for which there is no coverage on the Panel. The listed "Challenges" begin with the latest received and remain until solved. Responses to a "Challenge" are to be sent directly to the Editor.

Challenge #1: Does anyone have a non-philatelic use of the Bophuthatswana inland and overseas aerogrammes that were issued in 1977? - Will Ross/USA

Challenge #2: Do any of our readers know of a tabulation of the "OFFICIAL FREE" cachets appearing on "ON HIS MAJESTY'S SERVICE" official SWA envelopes (see page 102, #21)? - Dr. H.U. Bantz/South Africa

Challenge #3. I have two South African postal orders, one of 6d uprated to 9d by affixing a 3d stamp, and the second in the amount of R120. Both were used in SWA, the first in Windhoek (22/1/42), the second in Aroab (3/9/43). When did the SWA postal orders get issued? - Jack Harwood/USA

*** **

Bits & Pieces

This feature provides readers with the opportunity to present items in a short-order format. If you have an interesting cancel, rarity, cover, cachet, etc., and want it to appear here, please provide descriptive information. "Bits" also presents short entries which do not fit elsewhere. Items of an anecdotal nature are especially invited.

Our first entry has to do with Border War military postal history. Appearing on page 28 in the November 4, 1991 issue of *Linn's Stamp News*, it is titled "War Covers from Angola and Namibia scarce" and written by Ken Lawrence. The text goes as follows:

"Now that South Africa's wars in Angola and Namibia seem to have drawn to a close, we are finally beginning to see some of their most interesting postal history appear on the philatelic market.

"Figure 1 shows the most revealing cover I have seen from those conflicts. Despite its tatty appearance, it is an astounding document - one that would not exist had South Africa's censors been obeyed.

"Angola won its independence from Portugal in November 1975. Even before the Portuguese withdrew, however, war broke out among three rival Angolan movements, each with powerful foreign backing.

"The Popular Movement for the Liberation of Angola (MPLA) took power, with solid popular support in Luanda, the capital.

"Holden Robert's National Front for the Liberation of Angola (FNLA), with some tribal support in northern Angola, attacked the Luanda government from bases in neighboring Zaire.

"The National Union for the Total Independence of Angola (UNITA), headed by Jonas Savimbi, attacked from bases in the south.

"Cuban troops sent by Fidel Castro supported the MPLA government. President Mobutu Sese Seko of Zaire and the United States, through Central Intelligence Agency (CIA), backed the FNLA. The United States, through the CIA together with the government of South Africa, also backed UNITA.

For the taxed cover enthusiast, the first illustration shows an illustrated advertisement cover - "HOTEL HOLLYWOOD", from the USA to South Africa with 2 x 2c Washingtons, franked Los Angeles, date stamped "Feb 2 (1920)". On the middle right is to be found the Tax Due cachet "N.Y. T/c". In the lower left, a South African Tax Due cachet "4D" and 2 x 2d South African Postage Due stamps cancelled by HEIDELBERG TRANSVAAL" cds, the date being March 18, 1920.

Something we have not seen for awhile in "Bits" is a postal history example of a cover carried by ship. The bottom illustration is an 1873 cover from the Cape of Good Hope with a 4d rectangle carried by ship to India. It is cancelled on arrival with B72 octagonal cancel with "DIAMOND HARBOR" cds. Alongside and boxed is "DIAMOND HARBOR/SHIP LETTERS" redirected from Madras to Bangalore with a 1anna Victorian issue.

Illustration. Advertisement taxed cover from 1920, sent from the USA to Heidelberg,

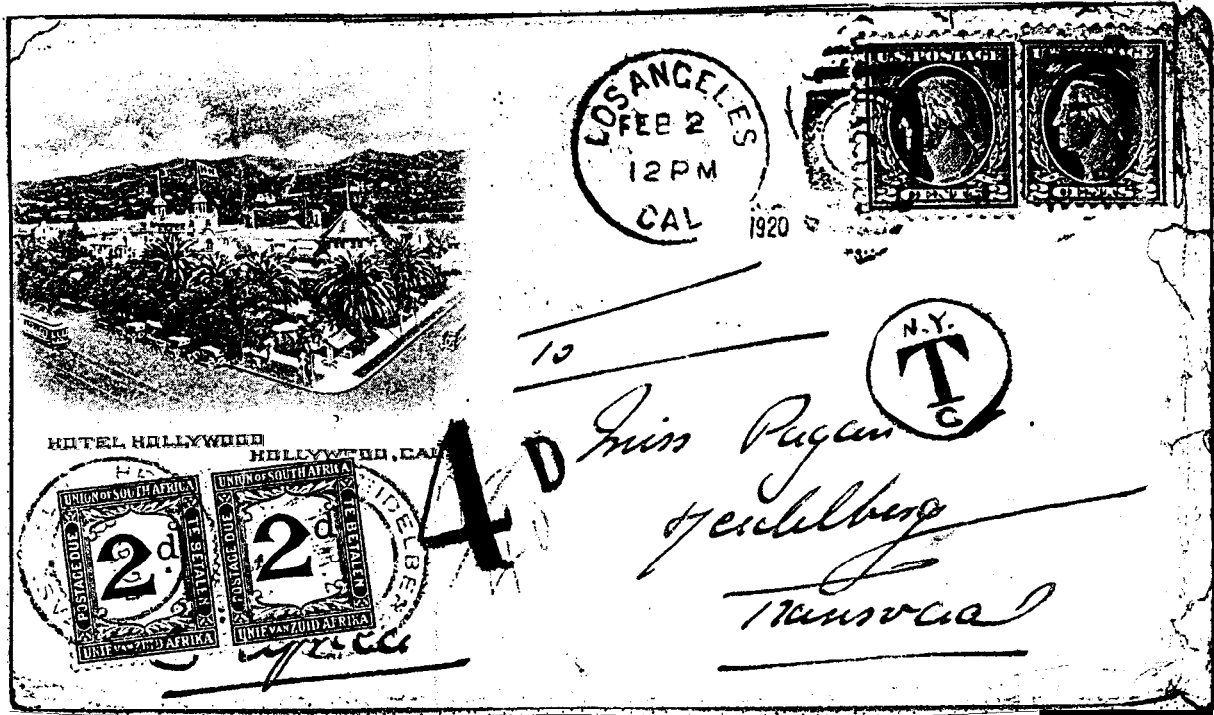
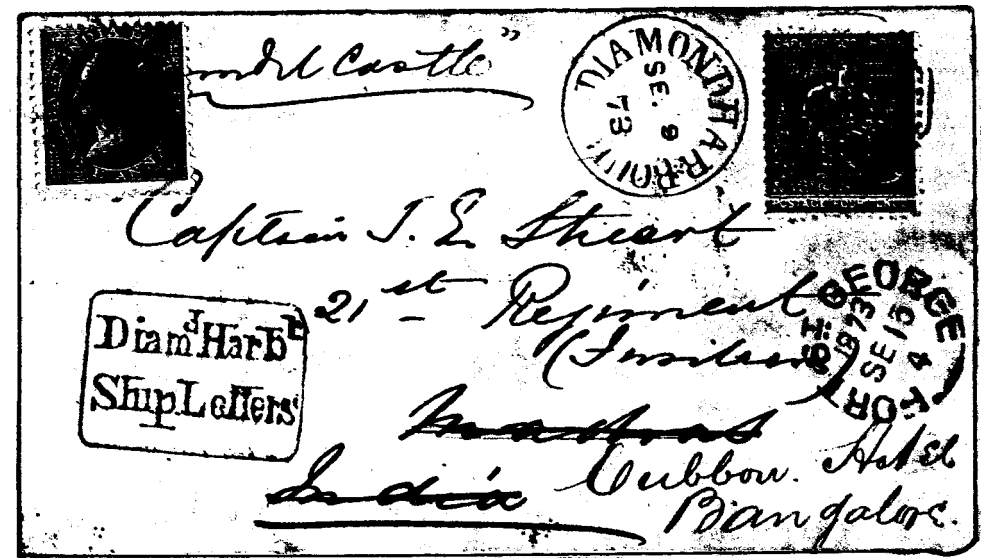


Illustration. An 1873 cover mailed to India from the Cape of Good Hope showing boxed ship letters cachet.



Damaged and/or interrupted mail has become a specialty in and of its own over the years. Shown on this page are two examples. The top illustration is a 1925 cover damaged by fire in a train. The cover is from Guernsey to South Africa and is franked with a 1vA, datestamped "30 APR. 25". Alongside is "CAPETOWN" cds for 3 June 1925, and violet boxed dual language cachet "DAMAGED BY FIRE". The manuscript pencil endorsement (upper left) reads "On Train from Cape Town to Port Elizabeth".

Town to Port Elizabeth". This particular cover is illustrated on page 137 of Hopkin's book *A History of Wreck Covers*. The bottom illustration is a 1918 cover mailed from Johannesburg, South Africa to Edinburgh, Scotland. It shows a violet "SALVED LETTER" (see Hopkins, page 84). It was presumably lost between the Mediterranean and the United Kingdom.

Illustration. The 1925 cover showing the violet boxed dual language cachet "DAMAGED BY FIRE".

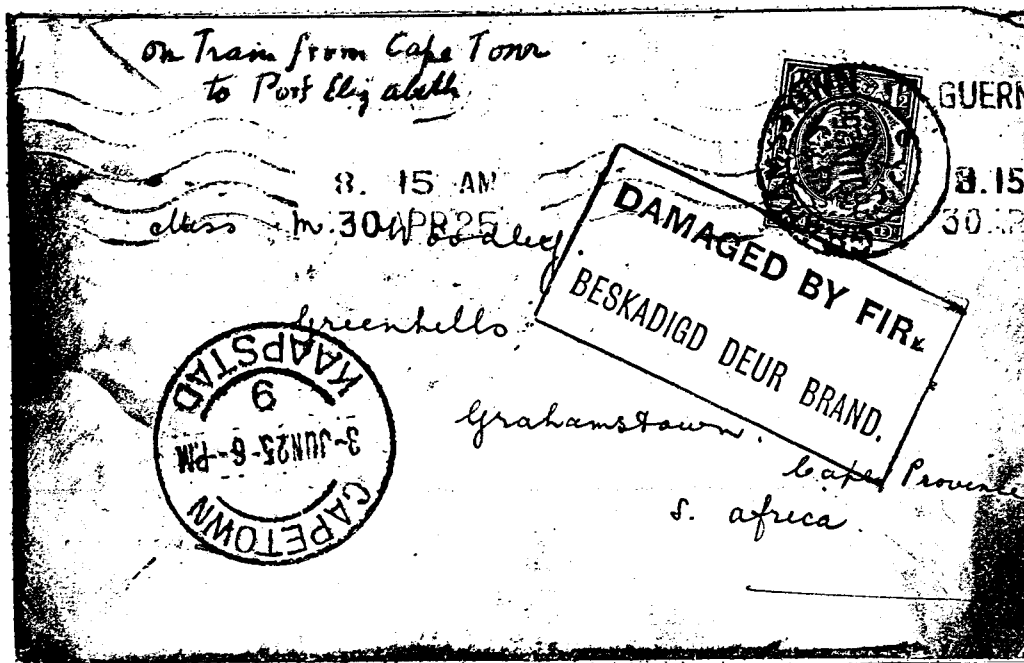
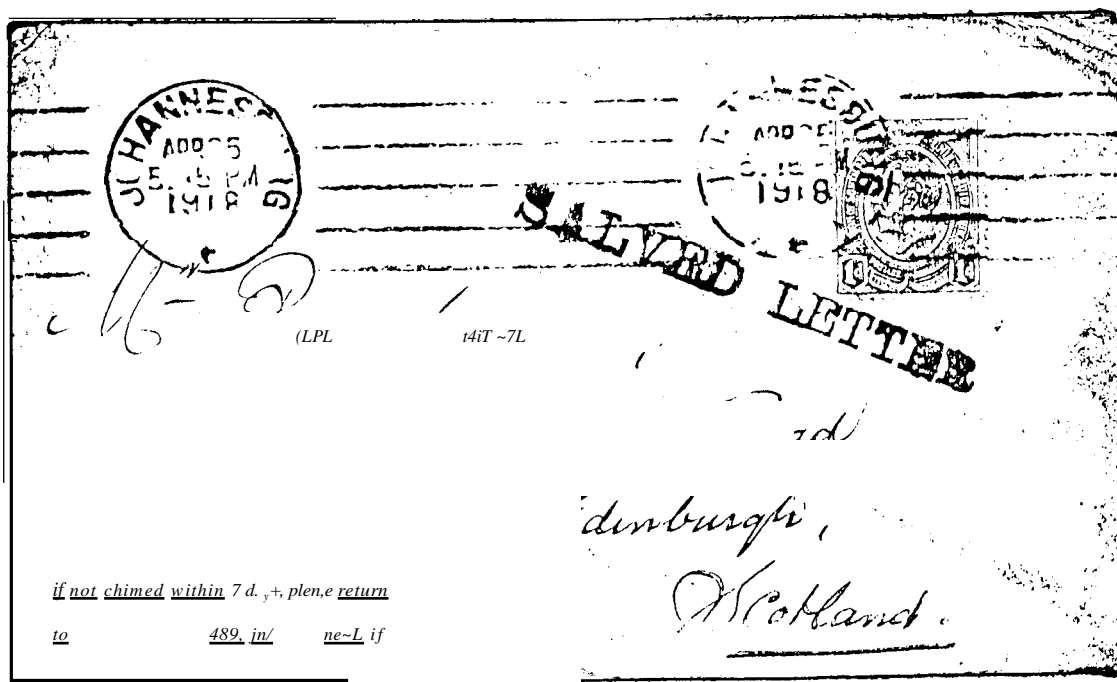


Illustration. Cover from 1918 showing example of the violet "SALVED LETTER" mark.



A Favorite Philatelic Item

Bill Brooks/USA, Editor

Each reader has one or more 'favorites' in his/her respective collections - perhaps a cover, ephemeral material, a document, back-of-the-boob a particular stamp, cachet, etc., etc. Please share yours by sending it to the Editor.

An OFS Postal Stationery Item & An ORC 1891 Mourning Cover

By Jan Stolk, The Netherlands

Jan Stolk has sent in a couple of little favorites which should prove to be of great interest to a number of our readers. The first is a 1d Orange Free State (OFS) postal stationery card cancelled with the letter H and "BULTFONTEIN / 15 JA / 91/ OVS", sent to Reverend C. Sandrock (sp?) in Bethanie, OFS. This is a proving cover for the letter "H". (*Editorial Note: Does anyone happen to know some history on the good Reverend?*)

The second item is a mourning cover franked with a 1/2d Orange River Colony stamp, cancelled with triangle numeral "16". There is no sender on the reverse but the contents were still in the envelope which consisted of a mourning card for Reverend George Thom who died on 6 September 1906. This card was found by a friend in an old bible which he bought at a church bazaar in Sasolburg in the Orange Free State.

Illustration. Orange Free State postal stationery card.

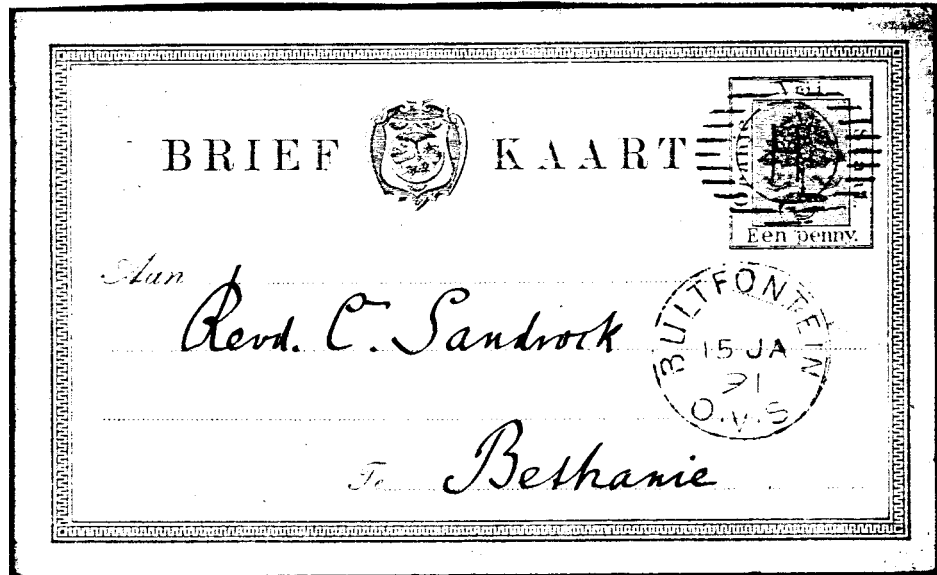
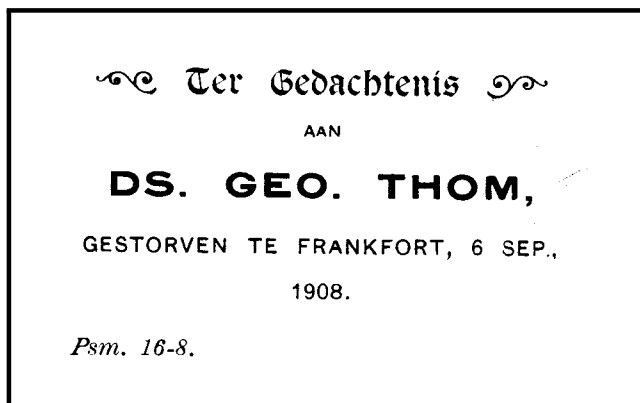


Illustration. Mourning cover front and enclosed card announcing the passing of Rev. George Thom.



Aerophilately

Kendall Sanford/Switzerland & Paul Magid/USA, Coeditors

The coeditors invite your comments as well as written materials for future installments. Send to Kendall at 12 Chemin des Tuilots, CH-1293 Bellevue (GE), Switzerland, e-mail at: kaerophil@cs.com or Paul at 5324 28th St. NW, Washington, DC 20015, e-mail: magid@erols.com

The Handley Page Flight, 1920

By Paul Magid, USA

Handley Page Transport Ltd., founded by Sir Fredrick Handley Page in 1908, came into its own during the Great War, when it built the huge twin engine biplanes that carried out night bombing raids on Germany. After the Armistice, with his workshop idle, Sir Fredrick knew that in the short term, his survival depended upon finding a civilian application for the few bombers that he still had in production.

In 1919, he announced to the press that he was converting his bombers into transport planes, and would soon be opening a London-Paris air service that, for the price of a first class ticket on the boat train, would carry passengers between the two great capitals in only three hours. To add revenue, mail would be carried. The experiment was a success.

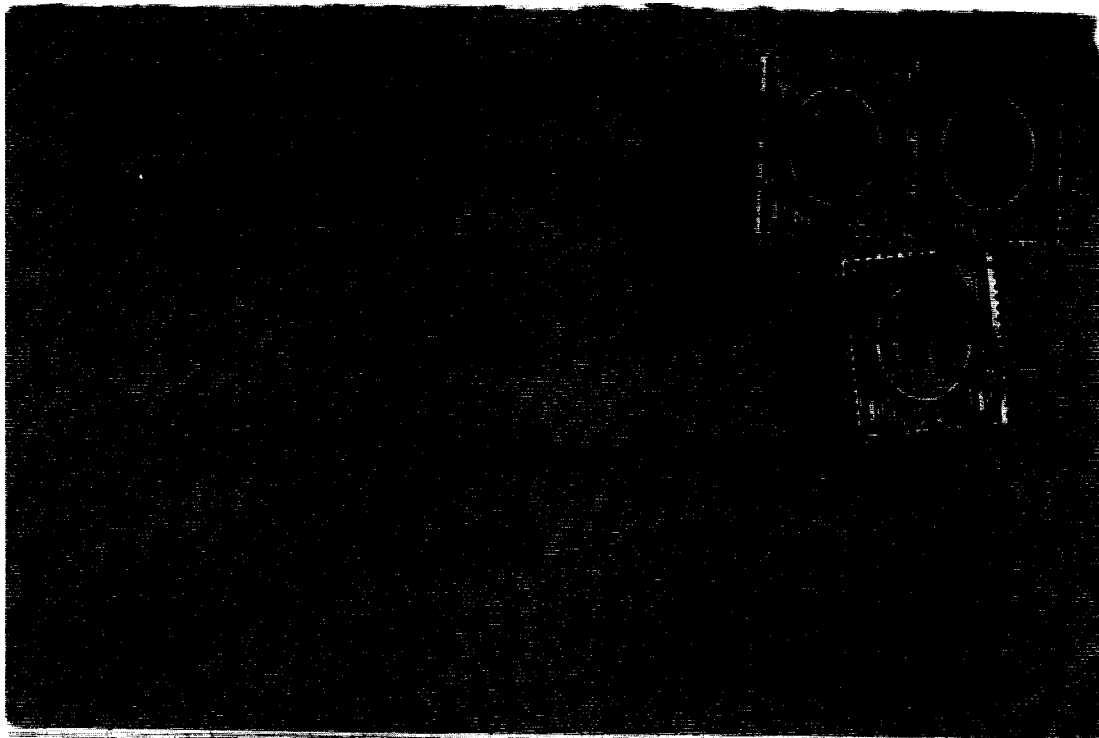
The following year, seeking ways to expand his empire, Sir Fredrick founded a subsidiary company in South Africa known as the Handley Page South African Transport Ltd. To commence operations, two 16 passenger converted bombers were taken apart and shipped to Cape Town, where they were assembled at the company's new Aerodrome at Young Field in Wynberg. A former South African aviation ace, Major Meintjes, who had been wounded in aerial combat against the famous Richthofen Circus, was put in charge of the operation.

On February 7, 1920, with great fanfare, the firm successfully completed a trial flight over Cape Town, an occasion celebrated for being the first flight by the largest aircraft to fly in South African air space up to that time.

Now that the plane had proven itself airworthy, the plan was to open a passenger and mail service between Cape Town and Johannesburg, calling at Beaufort West, De Aar and Kimberley en route. On February 1, the Postmaster General telegraphed his approval of the planned mail service and announced that letters (Ill.) posted before 8pm on the 14th, franked with stamps at id per half ounce plus a special charge of 2d per ounce, would be flown on the maiden flight to Johannesburg or to intermediary points. Mail from these points would also be picked up and flown at the same rates. All letters intended for the flight, he noted, should be endorsed "By Aerial Post" to ensure proper routing. The press carried this announcement on the 12th so that the public would be made aware of the opportunity to participate in this historic enterprise. On Saturday, February 14, the company officially opened its Aerodrome before a large crowd of enthusiastic dignitaries, using the occasion to christen the aircraft the Pioneer.

At 6:30am the following day, the Pioneer, piloted by Major

Illustration. Letter posted at 1pm on the 14th February 1920 for the maiden flight to Johannesburg.



Meintjes, with Captain Venter as copilot, and Mr. Askew as engineer, carrying several passengers, including Mrs. Meintjes, took off into the early morning sunshine - and disappeared. Monday's press announced that the aircraft had gone missing. However by the afternoon, the South African public was informed, much to its relief, that the machine had made a forced landing, but would resume the flight as soon as it had been resupplied with petrol.

It was later learned that flying north over the Drakenstein range, the Pioneer had run into a cloud bank. The machine's notoriously fickle compass offered no help, and Meintjes was forced to land at a local farmstead to find out exactly where he was. Having gotten directions from the bemused farmer, he took off and, following the rail line, was able to get himself back on course toward Beaufort West, his first destination. After an hour, however, Mr. Askew nervously informed him that the plane was running out of petrol and he should immediately begin looking for a place to land. He promptly complied with the engineer's recommendation, and on landing, discovered that the gas tank had sprung a leak. He also learned that the nearest village was some fifty miles away.

By Tuesday evening, the crew had obtained sufficient petrol to make it to Lainsburg where again the plane waited until additional petrol could be obtained from Beaufort West. Finally, on Thursday, the crew took off once again, landing at 11am at Beaufort West, its first official port of call, four days behind schedule, but undeterred and excited by the prospect of completing the remaining portion of the flight in good time. But this was not to be.

What with unloading the mail bag for Beaufort West, taking on additional mail for the remainder of its scheduled flight, and refueling, it was 1:30pm before Meintjes, to the cheers of yet another crowd of well-wishers, was able to take off. Eight minutes later, at an altitude of only 300 feet, those aboard the lumbering aircraft heard a loud snap from the rear of the machine. As the plane began to tilt forward into a soon-to-be-fatal spinning nosedive, Meintjes fought her back to an even keel for long enough to land her. Though the undercarriage and propellers were completely smashed, the landing was so skillfully done that the cabin of the aircraft

remained completely undamaged and the passengers and crew walked away from the crash without so much as a scratch. Sadly, they departed for Cape Town, while the mails were dispatched northward by rail. They were later told that the loud snapping sound that they had heard was made when the rudder post broke in two, putting the rudder out of commission. Apparently, the company was so disillusioned by the streak of bad luck that attended this flight, that they discontinued the effort entirely. As a result, South Africa would have to wait until 1929 to have its first permanent internal air mail system.

Though 422 letters were said to have been dispatched from Cape Town and an additional 17 from Beaufort West, the mail from the Pioneer has become a much sought after philatelic rarity. Its scarcity and value derives from the fact that almost all of the mail was non-philatelic in nature and hence was not retained by the addressees. In 1936, at the time L.A. Wyndham wrote his book, *The Airposts of South Africa*, from which most of the information in this article has been cribbed, only twelve covers were known to still exist. By the 1970's twenty had surfaced, the latest at the time having been discovered in an attic trunk.

In an article appearing in a South African philatelic journal, *The Aeroletter*, in 1991, it was said that only about 30 are recorded. Though the number keeps creeping up, there is no doubt that the covers will always be regarded as highly desirable, both as documentation of a pioneer flight and as crash mail - at least the mail addressed to points other than Beaufort West. As the illustrated cover shows, covers carried on the flight from Cape Town received a February 14 cancel, were endorsed "By (or Per) Aerial Post" and then were officially stamped in red block capital letters "CARRIED BY AEROPLANE". Not clear on the photocopy is a circular cachet applied just below the stamps reading "Handley Page South African Transport Ltd., Aerial Post." A few covers, such as the one illustrated in Wyndham's book, were signed by the pilot. If you are a serious aerophilatelist, and you see one of these for sale, buy it! It may be a long time before you see another.

WANTED

**WORLD WAR II MILITARY COVERS
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The Bechuanalands

Peter Thy/USA, Editor

Your comments invited, as are installments for future columns as a guest [author](#).
[CA 95617](mailto:thy@jade.ucdavis.edu) or e-mail Peter at thy@jade.ucdavis.edu.

Send to Peter Thy, P.O. Box 73112, Davis,

Botswana Experimental Vending Stamp Booklets

By Peter Thy, USA

The story of Botswana booklets takes a new turn around 1996 when the Postal Services acquired a couple of booklet vending machines. This was clearly an attempt to reduce the often long lines at the post office to buy stamps for a single or a few letters. However, the details of the introduction of the machines are rather fuzzy and the exact date, locations, and machine manufacturer are not well known. What is known is that a vending machine was installed near the entrance to the main Mall Post Office in Gaborone. This happened in or around 1996. It is also likely they were in use at other postal centers such as Serowe and Francistown, since the latter office is mentioned by *Stanley Gibbons* in a footnote to their booklet listing.

The vending machine was designed to accept 2 x 3 inch booklets with a cover price of P1. The inland letter rate was 20t in 1996 and increased to 35t in 1997. Therefore, in 1996 a booklet would contain five 20t stamps which would cover the postage for five letters. However, already in August 1997, the usefulness of the booklets was severely diminished since they could now only contain stamps to pay for two letters, with an odd 30t left over.

The booklets, with their inserts of P1 value stamps, were produced by post office staff. The style of covers varied in an attempt to use existing material and to develop the ideal booklets suitable for the machines. In this sense, the booklets were truly experimental. The present treatment of the booklets is based on material obtained either from the Philatelic Bureau over the counter at the Mall Post Office, or directly from inserting P1 coins into the vending machine in Gaborone. Booklets that originated from the machine in Francistown are not known. It is, therefore, not known if the Francistown booklets had local characteristics that made them different from the Gaborone booklets.

The first booklets produced were made from covers of the 1993 booklets left over after the sale of these had stopped. The two covers known to have been used for the vending booklets are the 1 x 20t (Fig. 1) and 10 x 10t covers (Fig. 2; also see *Forerunners #43*). The booklets were reduced to size with a pair of scissors. Because of the inserted 20t stamps, we can assume that the 10 x 20t covers were used first, despite that only 5 stamps were inserted and not 10 as stated on the cover. These and the 10 x 10t booklet covers were used before August 1997, when the rate increased to 35t and the contents of the booklets were changed to more appropriate denominations.

The 10 x 10t covers are the most commonly used and they

Figure 1. Booklet produced by inserting P1 stamps into a 1993 booklet cover originally intended for 10 x 20t stamps of the 1992 definitive series.

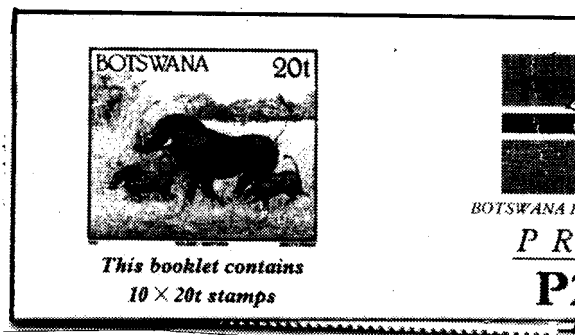
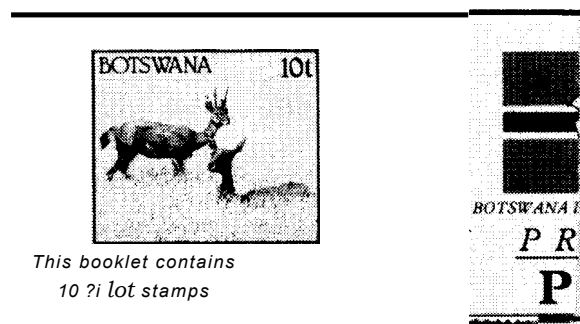


Figure 2. Booklet produced by inserting P1 stamps into a 1993 booklet cover originally intended for 10 x 10t stamps of the 1992 definitive series.

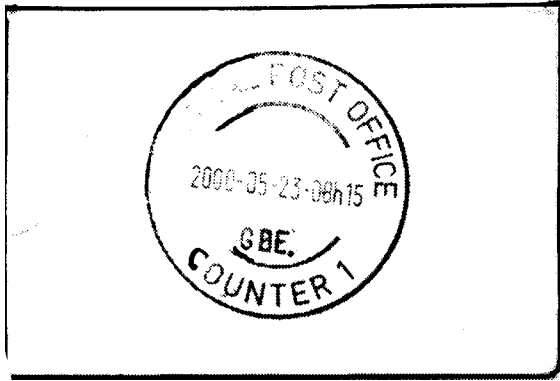


exist uncut and both with and without staple. Obviously, these booklets would not fit into vending machines and may simply have been made to satisfy counter customers while the production was in progress. However, it is interesting that the cut booklets either exist with holes from removed staples as well as more commonly without staple traces. It is noteworthy that these early attempts were narrower than the optimal 2 inches, as indicated by the final group of covers.

The next group of booklet covers was simply produced by cutting white cards to almost 2 x 3 inches folded and presumably the ideal shape for the vending machines (Fig. 3). These blank covers are the most commonly used. It may not always be possible to tell whether the booklets actually were dispensed through the vending machine. A good sign appears to be sharp folding as well as minor abrasion and creasing along the margins. In my experience, only few, if any of the early booklets actually went through the machines.

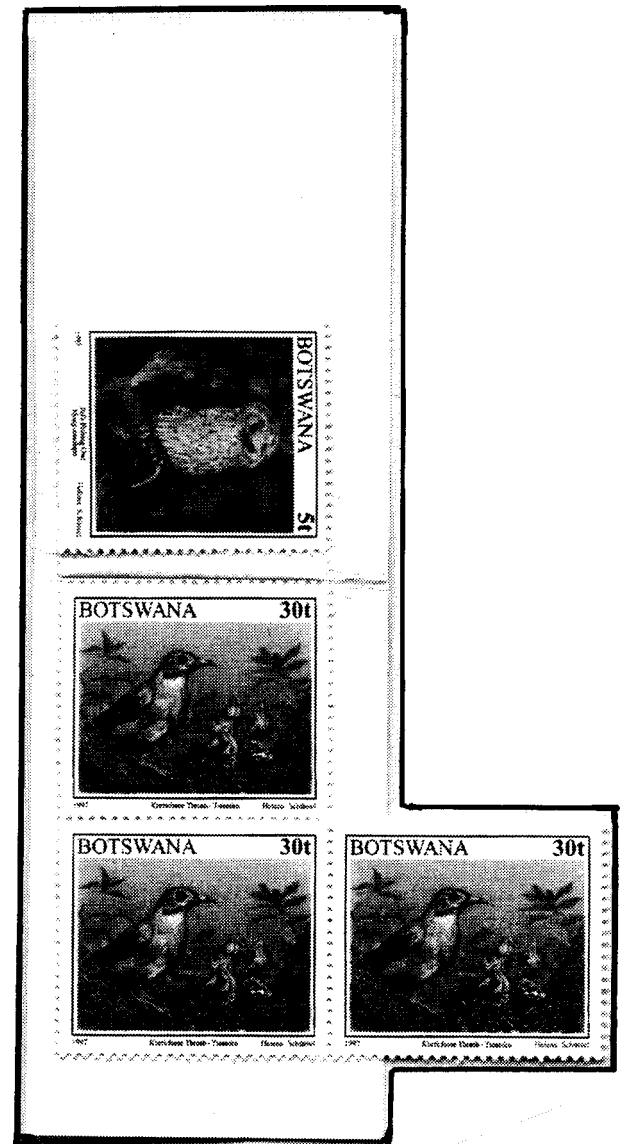
After several years of service, the machines were removed and the experiment was given up apparently in early 2000. My

Figure 3. Booklet produced by cutting, inserting stamps, and folding white care to an approximately 2 x 3 inch shape.



and add a note explaining that these were replaced by P1 value of current stamps inserted into a white blank.

Figure 5. Booklet opened and showing the folded strips of 3 x 30t and 2 x 5t inserted stamps. The cover is made from cutting and folding white care.

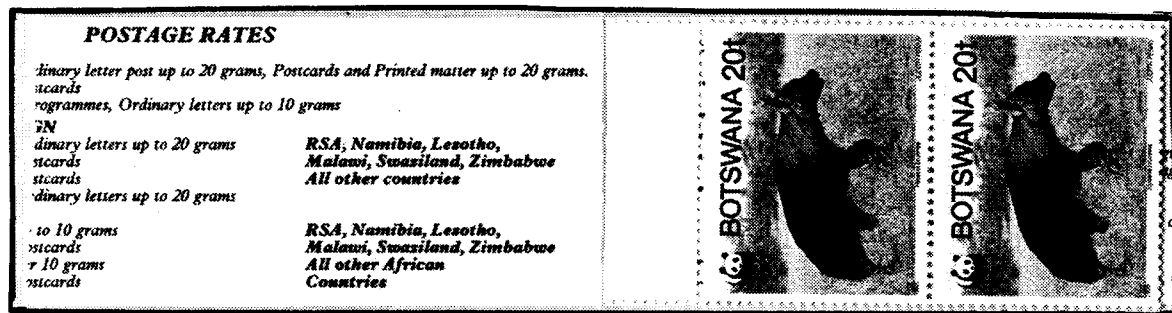


local informant tells me that the machine in Gaborone rarely worked due to lack of proper maintenance and resulting malfunction. The remaining booklets were sold over the counter at the Mall office. It appears that the front cover of these was date stamped by the clerk before being handled over to the customer (Fig. 3). The fate of the Francistown machine is unknown if it ever existed.

The stamps used for the booklets were the available current issues. The first booklet (the 10 x 20t cover) contains 5 x 20t strip of the 1995 WWF hyena stamps (SG 809 - Fig. 4). The next booklet (the 10 x 10t) contains strips of 5 x 5t and 5 x 15t stamps of the 1992 definitive series. These first booklets were cut after the stamps were inserted and the cover folded, resulting in examples with stamps cut short by the scissors. All blank booklet covers contain strips of 2 x 5t and 3 x 30t stamps of the 1992 definitives. This content shows that the blank booklets were taken in use after August 1997, when the letter rate increased to 35t. Despite all being attached by gluing the sheet selvage to the inside of the cover, the strips used were either sheet columns or rows or irregular (Fig. 5). Often the stamps were folded together with the cover.

These experimental booklets present several problems for the collector as well as the catalogue compiler since it is difficult to decide which were legitimately produced by the post office and actually dispensed through the vending machine. *Stanley Gibbons* lists the two cut-down booklets (SG 35 and SB 36)

Figure 4. Booklet opened and showing the folded strip of inserted 5 X 20t stamps. The cover is a 1993 cover reused and cut down.



Philatelic Atlas of the Bechuanalands and Botswana, by Peter Lodoen. Published 2002 by Bay Publishing, P.O. Box 502425, Gaborone, Botswana (baybooks@it.bw), spiral bound, clear plastic cover, A4, 26 pages. Available from the publisher or from Krone Publications, P.O. Box 73112, Davis, CA 95617, USA. Price is \$5 per copy including surface mailing.

This slim booklet contains 13 maps that illustrate various aspects of the postal history of the Bechuanalands and Botswana. The maps include pre-1900 postal routes between Bechuanaland and Cape Colony, the 1888 Runner Post, postal agencies of British Bechuanaland prior to 1895, early postal

agencies of the Bechuanaland Protectorate, railway offices and their postal cancels, post offices in Bechuanaland to 1960 with opening dates, Botswana at the time of Independence in 1966, and again in 2000. The maps are packed with information and must have taken years of careful preparation and compilation. This kind of information is absolutely not available anywhere else in the existing literature. The booklet is a must for collectors of southern African and the Bechuanalands and Botswana. It will prove to be an indispensable tool. . . reviewed by Peter Thy.

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The Boer Republics

Tim Bartshe/USA, Editor

Questions and comments regarding this column are invited as are installments for future issues as a guest [author](#) at 13955 West 30th, Golden, CO 80401 USA or e-mail him at timbartshe@aol.com

Send to Tim

Bisect Examples of the Vurtheim and Shaft/Disselboom Issues of the Second Republic

By Tim Bartshe, USA

A number of issues ago, I began discussing bisects of the Orange Free State and the South African Republic. As shown, virtually all known legitimate bisects were produced in the latter, some with questionable validity, others with reasonable explanations for their production. I would like to further expand this topic, skipping over the First British Occupation and deal with some of the Vurtheim and shaft/disselboom issues of the Second Republic.

The Vurtheim issues of 1885 were produced by Enschede of The Netherlands and were the first proper postage stamps of the Second Republic, delivered for sale on 3 March 1885. The first values delivered were: 1/2d, 1d, 3d, 6d, 1s, 2s6d, 5s and 10s. In anticipation of the ZAR joining in on the South African rate structure of 2d per 1/2 oz letter rate between Cape Colony and the Orange Free State, a 2d was issued sometime in September of the same year. The actual acceptance of this rate was not until 30 June 1886 when the use of the stamps, first issued in a brown purple color skyrocketed. The new color olive-bistre was printed 29 December and probably did not arrive until April of 1887. While awaiting the arrival of the new printing, a 2d on 3d provisional was created in four separate printings from January through April 1877. The next order of the 2d olive-bistre was not executed by Enschede until 23 June of 1888.

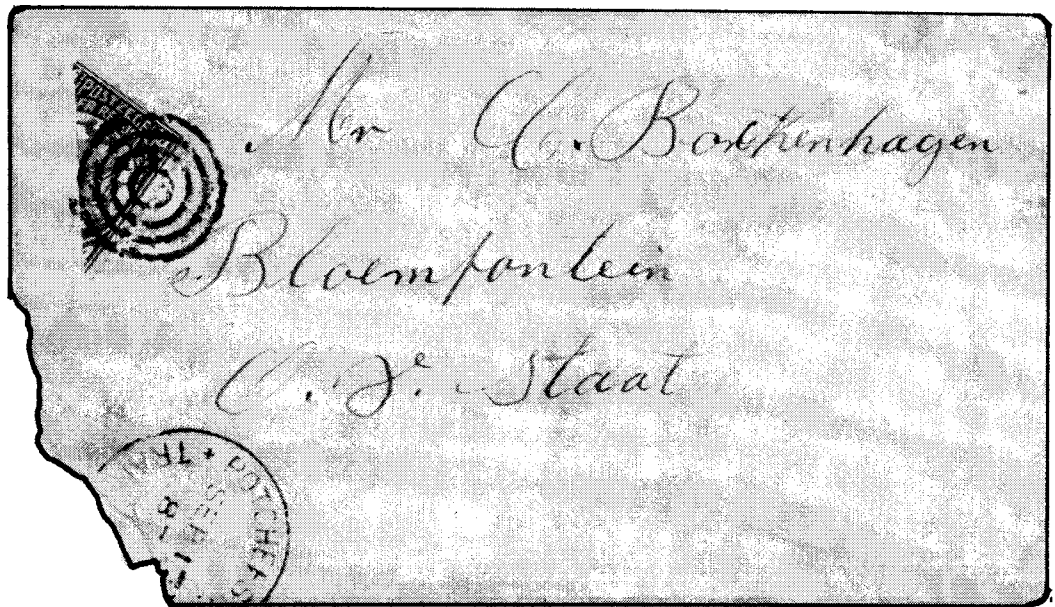
The above background being laid, one starts to see the picture of shortages, beginning to occur throughout the country mainly due to shipment timing and distribution problems. An example of this 2d shortage is shown in Figure 1.

This cover emanated from Potchefstroom 17 September 1887 and was mailed to Borkenhagen (the famous Government printer responsible for the provisional printings of postage stamps in the Free State) with an arrival of 20 September at Bloemfontein. The required 2d stamp was made by bisecting the 4d bronze-green perforated 13 1/2 x 13 1/2. This presumed to be due to the shortage caused by stocks of the newly arrived 2d olive-bistre being temporarily exhausted.

Three other examples of the 4d are known to me. One example in the Drysdall collection was mailed by HLOMO HLOM (an extremely scarce post office in its own right!) to Ladysmith Natal via Chrissies Meer 1 December 1888, Ermely, Newcastle and arriving at Ladysmith on 3 December. This would probably be related to the above shortage of the prior example but was not accepted by the Natal authorities, being taxed by 4d or twice the perceived deficiency. Another Drysdall cover was mailed during the initial shortage in early 1887 from Ventersburg on 29 January 1887 via Potchefstroom to Pretoria. This letter was accepted without any taxation. The final example from the Hunt Collection was mailed from Barberton on 7 September 1886 (prior to the shortage of early 1887) to Pretoria. This item did not pass muster and was marked 2d tebetalen or 2d to pay as a sign that this was not accepted procedure within the Republic with 2d stamps still available.

Other Vurtheim bisects are known from the 2d issue to make the local within-town id rate. I am aware of three examples of this usage, one of which is from the Drysdall collection and is

Figure 1. An example of a 4d Vurtheim paying 2d rate to OVS.



dated 26 September 1887. It traveled through the GPO on 30 September and Newcastle the following 2 October. The same details pertain to this cover as the last and it was taxed at 2d, double the deficiency of 1d for the unsealed letter rate. The example in Figure 2 was locally posted in Johannesburg on 11 September 1890. Figure 3 is an example posted in Barberton on 14 January 1890. The former is perforated 12¹/₂ x 12, printed on 29 December 1886 and the latter is perforated 12¹/₂, large holes printed 14 November 1889. Additional supplies of the 1d carmine were not printed until 12 October 1889 and may not have reached Barberton in time, indicating an actual shortage. The Johannesburg example may just be a convenience usage. Both were accepted untaxed.

One example from the Hunt Collection exists with two 1 shilling stamps, one bisected. This is the only one I am familiar with. It was sent from Johannesburg to London, registered to Germany. At the time, the rate to Germany was 5d per ounce and registration was 6d. This leaves a convenience overfranking of 2d (1/4d versus 1/6d in stamps). It was accepted without any penalty.

The final Vurtheims to be bisected were the 1d and I am aware of two example all used to make a foreign rate. The earliest example was mailed from Lydenburg to Germany via Natal. Mailed through the GPO on 10 February 1888 via Durban, London it arrived in Germany. This item comes from the

Figure 2. The 2d Vurtheim paying 1d unsealed rate.

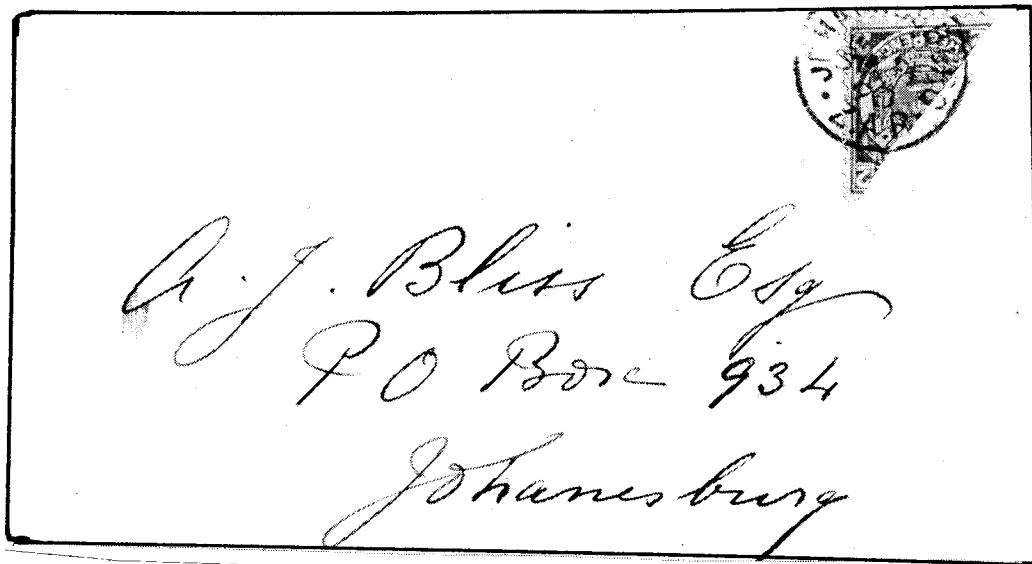
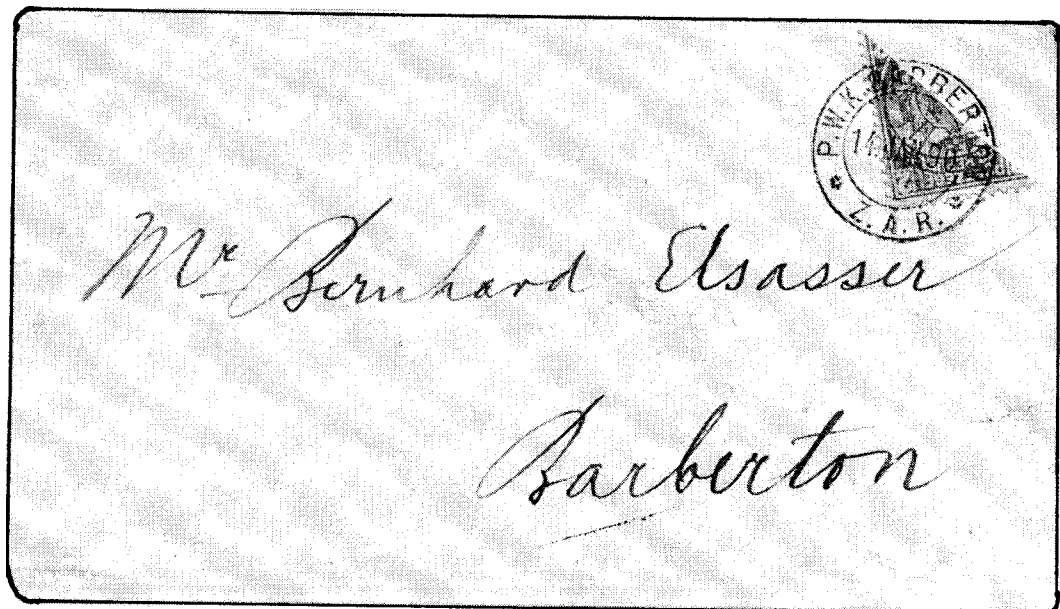


Figure 3. The 2d Vurtheim paying 1d drop rate or unsealed letter.



Stephan Welz and Company auction of 18 April 2000 and sold for R3300. Not seeing the cover personally, I cannot explain the 2½ rate marking described as being in red ink. The rate via Natal at the time was 7½ per ½ ounce to Germany, even though it was franked with 9½, the 1d vertically bisected. As the last shipment of the ½ was sometime in 1885, a shortage was possible. The other example is that illustrated in Mathews, page 39. This item uses a 1d bisect in conjunction with a 2d to make the newly proscribed rate to England of 2½ put in effect 1 January 1893. Enschede did not print this value until 23 June 1893 and numerous settings of a provisional utilizing the 1 shilling stamp were issued in January and June 1893. The stamps were boxed with ink and check indicating the bisect was noted but allowed.

Finally, the final issues of the Second Republic, the shafts and disselboom issues were first put on sale during 1894. Three examples are recorded for this article. The first displays a pair of 1d disselboom and a third diagonally bisected. There was an actual shortage of ½ stamps with provisionals being printed in July and August 1895. The item was sent from Klerksdorp on 12 May 1895 to England, making the 2½ rate. Two examples of the bicolor disselboom id bisect were used

for the local rate, Figure 4 used at Klerksdorp (triangle 5 cancel) unknown year and one from the Drysdall collection dated 27 November 1899. All three were accepted as mailed.

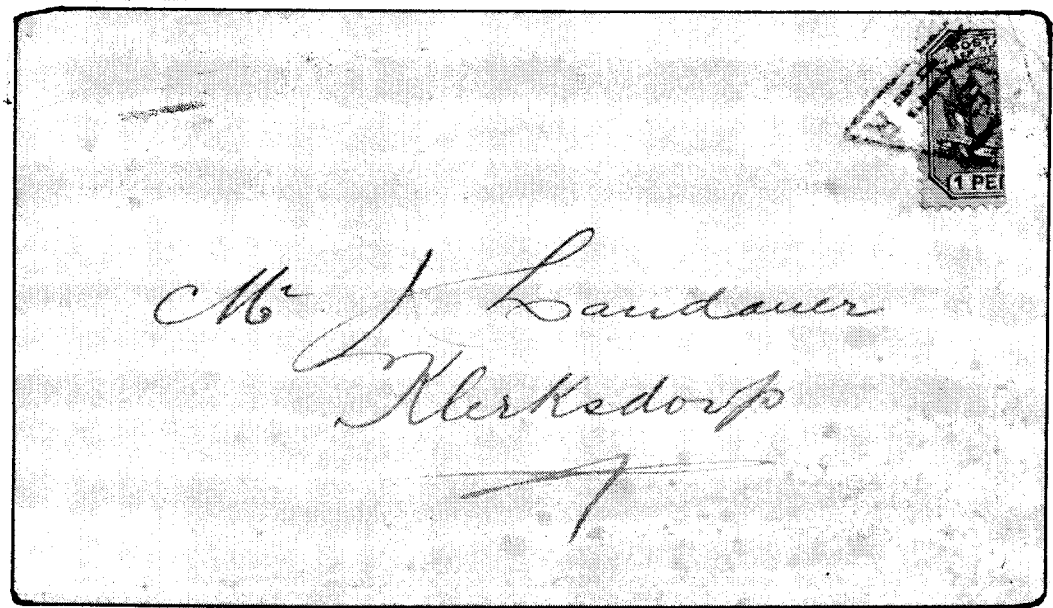
One final note is in order here. It has been stated that bisects of the Vurtheim issue are comparatively common (Drysdall, 1998). If that is so, then I am missing something as I have failed to find them in any quantity for myself., let alone listings from auction catalogs. They appear to have some standing as legitimate usages, certainly as much so as the more obviously questionable Tamsen bisects of the First Republic and First Occupation. This is yet another mystery from the Boer Republics.

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Figure 4. id bi-color paying ½ unsealed letter rate.



II

Cover With A Story

Bill Brooks/USA, Editor

Many covers, entires and cards have interesting background stories - sometimes even unique in the annals of philately. If you have postal history items in your collection, ferret-out those interesting items and share as story of two. Forward your cover and story to me at P.O. Box 4158, Cucamonga, CA 91729-4158 USA.

An Early Orange River Colony Express Mail Cover

By Bill Brooks, USA

This installment is extracted from page 16 of the July 3, 2000 issue of *Stamp Collector*. It appeared in the "Starting From The Back" column written by David L. Straight.

As the column heading indicated, "Special delivery has long been important service." As early as the 18th century, special markings had been in use to "hurry-up" a stampless letter or royal document to its ultimate destination. The illustration below shows an example of express mail in the form of a cover with an unusual single franking of the high-value 5/- Orange Free State stamp, to which a "V.R.I." overprint had been added to show the restoration of British sovereignty at the end of the Boer War.

The rate of 60 times the 1-penny letter rate is explained by the

manuscript marking at the top - "To Be sent by special runner." Unfortunately there were not enough markings present to completely reconstruct the routing of this letter.

The stamp is tied by a neatly placed February 1901 Springfontein datestamp. "Via Springfontein" in manuscript at the bottom of the address suggests that the letter originated elsewhere and was routed through Springfontein, where it was canceled, on its way to the addressee.

If there are readers out there who have similar covers and have more of a "story" as to what was behind them, by all means please forward a photocopy to me along with the "story" behind the cover.

Illustration. The inscription across the top - "To be sent by special runner" - explains this unusual solo usage of the 5-shilling high value of the 1901 British Occupation overprint set of the Orange River Colony.



Fakes, Forgeries & Facsimiles

Frederick P. Lawrence/USA, Ph.D., FRPSL, Editor

Reader contributions for future columns are encouraged and may be forwarded to Dr. Lawrence at 5016 So. Kenneth Place, Tempe, AZ 85282-7265; or e-mail him at ieconsulting@earthlink.net.

Some Rhodesian Fakes & Forgeries

By Alan Hanks, Canada

There are a number of references to forgeries of the early issues of Rhodesia in the *Journal* of the Rhodesian Study Circle (*RSCJ*). In journal No. 112 (December 1980), Margaret Harris wrote on forgeries of several values of the first issue that she had obtained, as well as "used" copies with single circle "postmarks" reading "GULAWAYO/RHODESIA". Other members also had shown examples and there had been previous references in *RSCJ*. The short article further states that "there would appear to be no proven information on their origin. By lithography, they have been attributed to Fournier, but they appear rather crude for his work and are not mentioned in his Price List No. 17, issued in 1914."

I have a number of forgeries in my collection and the 2/(SG5) and 2/6 (SG6) values are illustrated below (Fig. 1) The 2/- value is crudely executed on thick, porous paper and the perforations are poor. It has a single circle indecipherable "postmark". The 2/6 value, on the otherhand, is very well done on thinner and harder paper with accurate perforations. However, the gum is yellowish and "crackly" whereas the gum on genuine stamps is whitish and smooth.

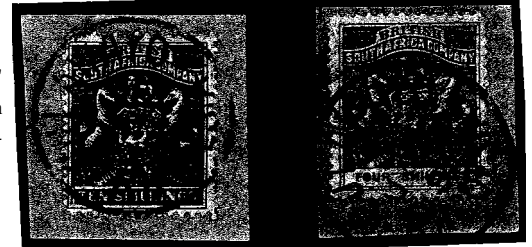
Figure 1. Examples of BSAC 2/- and 2/6 forgeries.



The Gulawayo/Rhodesia "postmark" is not mentioned in *The Romance of the Posts of Rhodesia* by H.C. Dann, although "Boulouwayo" is noted as a forged mark. In *The Postmarks, Postal Routes and Principal Postage Rates of Southern Rhodesia to 1924* by R.C. Knight and D.A. Mitchell, under Gubulawayo, the Gulawayo cancel is mentioned as a forgery. A possible reference for this may be a 1955 serialized article appearing in the *Stamp Collectors Fortnightly*, Vol. LXI, Nov. 26th to Dec. 21st, 1957 by Nodder titled "The Postal History of the Rhodesia's". It ran to 39 pages in 25 installments and I have not succeeded in tracking down a copy. The mark is a single circle, 26.5mm in diameter and is illustrated (Fig. 2) on 10/- (SG) and 4/- (SG26) stamps on piece, both stamps being forged. Both forgeries are of good quality. I also have the "cancel" on £5 and £10 (SG 12 & 13 stamps, also forged).

All of these marks have a date of "JY 20/92", but the "J" looks more like a "U". One characteristic all of the forged stamps have is that the mouth of the lion on top of the shield has the corners upturned and appears to be grinning. A spot of

Figure 2. Forged "Gulawayo" mark on BSAC 4/- and 10/- values.



whimsy on the part of the forger no doubt, as the real stamps have a very serious looking lion, as befits an animal in a coat of arms.

Interestingly, these forgeries were part of the Sotheby's "Gerald Simpson" sale in 1982 as Lot 472 - "Crude forgeries, 2/-, 2/6. 5/-, £1, 2, 5 & 10 in colors reasonably close to the issued stamps, each with GULAWAYO (sic) c.d.s." Recently, the Argyll Etkin sale of September 28 2000, Lot 11 consists of perforated forgeries, including five with the "GULAWAYO" datestamps. The estimate was £150-180!

The surcharged and overprinted issues have been extensively forged. These consist of the 1892 First Provisional Issue (SG 14-17), and the First Bulawayo Provisional Issue (SG 51-53 and varieties) and the Second Bulawayo Provisional Issue (SG 58-64).

The 1892 provisionals were the subject of an article by E. Kenneth Wright in the *RSC Journal* No. 114 (June 1981) in which the author states that this was an unimportant issue, of which none, or certainly very few, were ever used for genuine postal purposes. It is noted in the article that Emil Tamsen and Whitfield King almost certainly manipulated these stamps for profit and created a number of covers bearing the whole set - total cost 1/2h - which does not correspond to any postal rate. The article also contains a section on forgeries consisting of forged surcharges on both genuine and forged stamps. Reference is made to an article by Howard B. Young, "Forged Stamps, Postmarks and Overprints of the British South Africa Company", which was privately produced.

The 1896 provisionals were written up in considerable detail by E. Kenneth Wright and Colin Hoffman in the *RSC Journal* Nos. 120 (Dec. 1982) and 121 (March 1983). These issues were to offset the shortage which occurred in April and May due to the Matabele Rebellion, when Bulawayo was invested on three sides by native forces. The road to Tati and the south was left open for some reason, so that the mails were permitted to pass to and from the south with little interruption.

The stamps proved to be a ripe field for forgers due to the number of varieties which occurred during the production: "P" in "Penny" inverted (SG 51a), "P" and "y" in "Penny" inverted and single line through value (SG 52a, b & c) and "R" and "T" in "THREE" inverted (SG 53a & b). These are fully detailed with numerous illustrations, with six of the examples coming from the collection of Carl E. Kane of the U.S.

Also in 1896 (from July), a second series of provisionals appeared, consisting of six values of Cape of Good Hope stamps overprinted "British South Africa Company" in three lines of type. The values were 1/2d, 1d, 2d, 3d, 4d, 6d and 1/- and the overprinting was carried out by the Argus Printing Co. in Capetown. One major variety occurred in that the word "Company" was omitted (or partially omitted) on a number of the 4d value. These issues were discussed by Colin Hoffman in two articles in the *London Philatelist*; Vol. 95, Nos. 1121-22, May-June 1986, pages 74-84 and Nos. 1125-26, September-October 1986, pages 160-70. There were numerous forgeries, which is strange, because this series had nothing like the value of the first three provisionals, except for the 4d "Company" omitted. Forgeries of the complete overprint were reported by Earee (2 types) and were no doubt made by Fournier (3 types), Oneglia (?) and at least one other. In addition, there are forgeries of the error, which was to be expected. I have one copy on a 1/2d stamp of the first mentioned Earee forgery, with a narrow "A" in "Africa". The overprint is rough and does not appear through to the back of the stamps, whereas genuine examples usually do.

There do not appear to be any (or many) forgeries of later issues, although altered stamps have been reported. The Double Head and Admiral issues have their share of altered perforations made to increase the value of a common stamp, and there have been examples of chemically altered stamps.

I have one faked stamp, pictured below (Fig. 3), of a 3d Double Head from the "Clandestine Roulette" series of oddities.

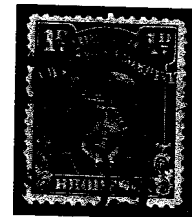
It is a lower margin copy which has been "ironed out" to remove the appearance of the rouletting. Perforations have then been added to give the appearance of a "compound perf" stamp (SG 180) with 14 x 15 perforations. The only problem is that the faker erred in providing 15 x 14 perfs which do not exist on a genuine stamp! In addition, the genuine stamp is from a "No Gash" printing while the clandestine roulette 3d is from a "Short Gash" printing, two stamps with a very different appearance.

Figure 3. A faked Double Head given the appearance of a compound perf.



The last illustrated item (Fig. 4) is a 1d Admiral (probably SG 193) with an added overprint at the top of the stamps reading "One Penny". This appears to have been applied with a rubber letter stamp from a set such as children used to get for Christmas many years ago. Inscribed in pencil on the back of the stamps are the words "missing 'h' - rare". Obviously this is meant to represent one of the 1917 Livingstone overprints (SG 280 or 281), but the overprint on those has the word "Penny" quite low on the stamp and the type is very different from the fake, which can only be termed an interesting oddity!

Figure 4. A 1d Admiral with fake overprint reading "One Penny".



Modern Times

Will Ross/USA, Editor

Comments, updates and installments as a guest editor for future issues are encouraged. Contact Will at 4120 Schuylkill Drive, Calabasas, CA 91302 or e-mail him at rosskw@earthlinknet.

New Issues & Other Matters

By Bill Brooks, USA

Lesotho recent 2001 issues: October 1 - Birds of Prey, 701-black kite, 1m-martial eagle, 1.5m-bateleur, 2.10m-African gashawk, 2.50m-bearded vulture, 3m-jackal buzzard; October 15 - Wildlife of Southern Africa, 1m-grass owl, 2.10mklipspringer, 3m-saddlebacked jackal, 5m-black wildebeeste, two panes of six se-tenant 4m stamps each, pane 1-damara zebra, bontebok, eland, lion, saddled or blackbacked jackal and yellow kite; pane 2-aardvark, rock kestrel, black-footed cat, spring hare, aardwolf and rock hyrax; two souvenir sheets, each with a 15m stamp, caracal and black-shouldered kite.

Namibia recent 2001 issues: August 15 - Renewable Energy Resources pane with five nondenominated standard-rate stamps and five \$3.50 stamps showing continuous scene of solar home, medical center, solar streetlight, solar cooker, bio-gas digester, other solar equipment and wind water pump.

South Africa recent 2001 issues: June 22 - Bats souvenir sheet with 10 self-adhesive 1.40-rand stamps-Cape horseshoe bat, Wahlberg's epauletted fruit bat, Egyptian fruit bat, Egyptian free-tailed bat, Welwitsch's hairy bat, short-eared trident bat, Schreiber's long-fingered bat; September 5 - Christmas nondenominated stamp inscribed "Standard Postage," frame with blank center; 2r-baobab tree with lights, stars in sky; 3r-angel's wings.; September 5 - Tourism/South African Natural Wonders, 10 stamps for the airmail postcard rate-Cango Caves, Richtersveld, Augrabies Waterfall, Tsitsikamma Forest, Namaqualand flowers, Table Mountain, West Coast sea and beach, Southern Cape vinelands, zebra wildlife, Snow-covered mountains near Elliot; November 26 - Nelson Mandela prestige booklet containing 10 panes, each with a single airmail postcard-rate stamp, photograph; as activist, as statesman, as ambassador, behind bars, waving, with boxers, with wife, cutting birthday cake.

Selected Philatelic Services:

South Africa - Philatelic Services and Intersapa, Private Bag X505, Pretoria 0001, Republic of South Africa.

Swaziland - Swaziland Stamp Bureau, Box 555, Mbabane, Swaziland, Southern Africa

Zambia - Philatelic Bureau, Box 71857, Ndola, Zambia

Zimbabwe - Posts and Telecommunication Corp., Philatelic Bureau, Box 4220, Harare, Zimbabwe.

Did you know? Present day South Africa has 11 official languages. For the record they are: Afrikaans, English, Ndebele, Northern Sotho, South Sotho, Swat, Tsonga, Tswana, Venda, Zhosa and Zulu. When a local-rate stamp was issued

in August 2001 to commemorate the World Conference Against Racism, each of the 11 languages was represented. It is, however, uncertain when South Africa will adopt this multi-lingual approach in its normal issue of stamps, posters, communications to employees, and the translation of documents in postal headquarters. (Source: *Linn's* 12/17/01, p. 16)

Christie's sells Spink firm: A group of Far Eastern investors, based in Singapore, purchased Spink, the 336-year-old stamp and coin auction firm based in England. The purchasing consortium includes investment banker John Koh, property developer Daniel Teo and Mercedes Zoebel, a member of a prominent Philippine family. Koh, a senior adviser of Goldman Sachs Singapore, was in London at the end of March to close the deal, which was valued at close to £10 million, or about \$ 14.38 million US. The seller was Christie's, the world's oldest fine arts auction house, which owned Spink outright. The transaction involved the purchase of Spink's collectibles business - the part of the group that conducts high-profile auctions of stamps, covers, coins, banknotes and medals.

Founded by John Spink in 1666, Spink has long been associated with British tradition and royalty. It is the holder of the Royal Warrants as medalist to the Queen, the Duke of Edinburgh and the Prince of Wales, and is a leading auctioneer of stamps, coins and banknotes in the United Kingdom, Hong Kong and Singapore.

Christie's put Spink up for sale last year after an internal review found little interaction between Spink's collectibles business and Christie's other activities.

The new owners expect to leave the running of Spink to its existing management headed by Tim Hirsch. Teo said he has known Hirsch and Spink for more than 15 years, having both auctioned and bid on stamps through the firm.

Teo - a major real estate developer, is also an extremely advanced stamp collector. He won a gold medal at the Capex International Philatelic Exhibition in Toronto, Canada, in 1996.

According to Singapore reporter, Catherine Ong, the sale of a well-known English brand to foreigners is likely to cause a stir in Britain, a country that guards its tradition and national identity jealously. John Gee, a British writer based in Singapore and an avid stamp collector, said that he suspects that people in Britain will be quite astounded in that Spink is a very prestigious name. (Source: *Stamp Collector*, 4/22/02, front cover page)

Postage Dues

Jan Stolk/The Netherlands, Editor

Reader comments, examples of marks and guest author installments are [welcomed](#).
[EE](#) Rotterdam, The Netherlands or e-mail at janstolk@uni-one.nl

Send yours to Jan at P.O. Box 33223, 3005

The Decimal Postage Due Markings of South Africa

By Jan Stolk, The Netherlands

After the change from the pound-Sterling currency to the decimal currency (1 Rand = 100 cents) in 1961, Sterling markings for use on inland mail were no longer used. They were replaced by "T" markings with the letter "C" added for cents.

The new decimal markings can be divided into 5 groups as follows: *Type 0*: adapted Sterling or Centimes markings (Figs. 1 & 2), *Type P*: circular framed T markings with letter C but no value (Fig. 3), *Type Q*: circular framed T markings with letter C and value, *Type R*: rectangular framed T

markings with letter C and value, and *Type S*: unframed T markings with letter C and value.

When the decimal system was introduced, Sterling markings came out of use and until now I have only found one type that was adapted for decimal use by deleting the penny value. This Sterling marking, *Type KD3* was used in Port Elizabeth. And, only two types of Centime markings have been found thus far which were adapted for decimal use by adapting the value. These are *Types G* and *A*.

Figure 1. Types OA1-5 adapted Sterling or Centimes markings.

'ape	Size	Used At	Earliest date	Latest date
OA1	H=25 W=20	Ex-Allen		
T				
OA2	H=21 W=19	Ex-Allen		
OA3	H=25 W=25	Ex-Allen		
OA5	H=25 W=28	Ex-Allen		

Figure 2. Types OB2 and OC2 adapted Sterling or Centimes markings.

0132			CapeTown	03-Jul-70	08-Jul-70
OC2	-~	D = 25 mm	Port Elizabeth	06-Oct-73	06-Oct-73

Figure 3. Types PA1-5 circular framed T markings with letter C but no value.

Type	Size	Used At	Earliest date	Latest date
P A1	D=30mm	Vrijheid	08-Apr-89	
P A2	D=28mm	Port Elizabeth	23-Feb-62	04-Feb-98
PA3	D=28mm	Johannesburg	23-Dec-89	
PA4	D=30mm	Johannesburg	03-Jun-87	
PA5	D=28mm	Rustenburg	04-Jul-00	15-Aug-00

The Rhodesias

Alan J. Hanks/Canada, Editor

Comments and updates to this column are invited, as are installments for future columns as a guest [author](#).
 at 34 Seaton Dr., Aurora, Ontario, Canada L4G 2K1, or e-mail him at a.hanks@aci.on.ca

Send yours to Alan

Postal Stationery - British South Africa Company Part VI: 1903-1904 Cards & Envelopes

By Alan J. Hanks, Canada

In 1903, the postcard rate within Rhodesia and to South Africa was reduced to 1/2d and a newly designed card with a different indicium in green was introduced (H&G 13). It was 140 x 85mm with no imprint and the design never appeared on any postage stamps. Cards are known with a diagonal "Specimen" overprint across the indicium and also with a blue circular "logo" reading "Waterlow & Sons Specimen Cancelled". This latter may have been for use as a trade sample. Figure 1 shows a card used from Bulawayo to Kalomo, addressed to the

A letter card for the internal 1d rate was also released in 1903 (H&G 1). It was inscribed "To open the letter card. Tear off the edge at the perforation." On the reverse, a message reads "If used for transmission abroad, the additional postage required should be supplied by means of adhesive stamps". This card is also known with the diagonal "Specimen" overprint across the indicium and also the circular Waterlow logo referred to above. Figure 2 shows a mint copy of the card. Used examples appear to be extremely scarce.

Ordinance Officer for the BSAC. w-



Figure 1. The 1903 newly designed, 1/2d card with green indicium.

*The Ordinance officer
 B.S.A. Co.
 Kalomo*

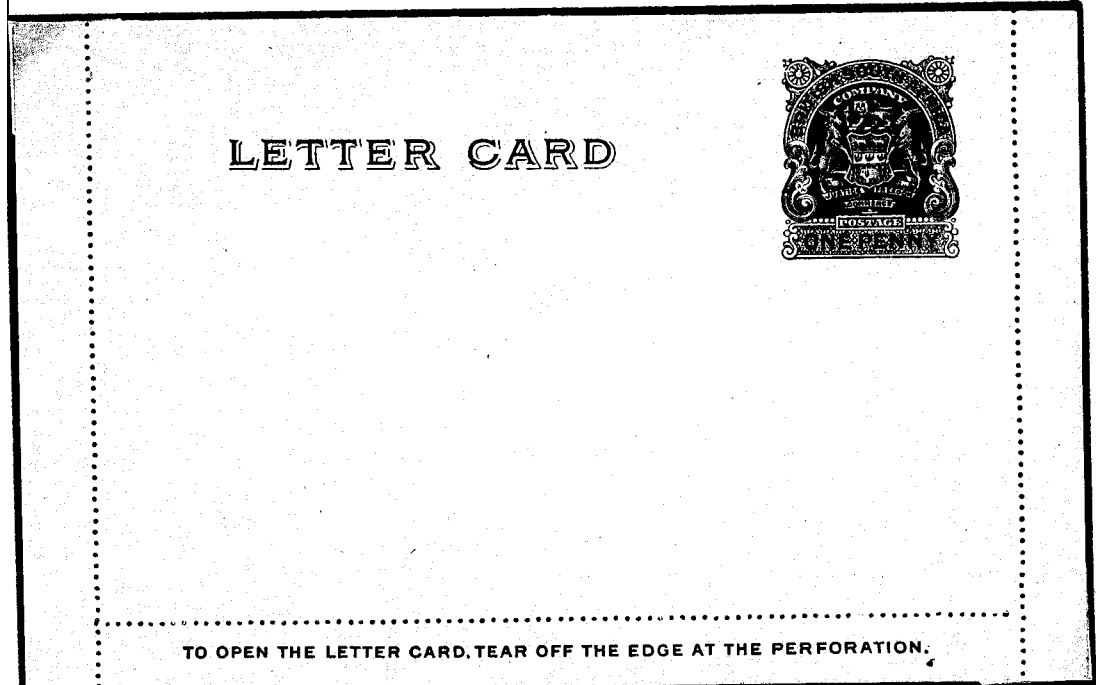


Figure 2. The internal 1d letter card released in 1903.

Three values of printed envelopes appeared in 1904 in a number of different sizes and openings with the embossed BSAC coat-of-arms in various ornate printed borders. The 1/2d versions in green with shades (H&G 1 and 1a) were in two sizes: 137 x 79mm (1) and 229 x 105mm (1a), both having end opening with a pointed flap to be tucked into a shaped area. The flap had no gum and since no 1/2d letter rate is mention in Knight & Mitchell (1), it is assumed that this was a printed matter or circular rate, which probably applied late into the 1930's. Figure 3 shows a copy used from Gwelo to

Bulawayo in 1904.

The 1d envelopes in red (H&G 2, 2a and 2b) were also in two sizes: 137 x 79mm and 124 x 97mm, with normal openings with gum on the flaps. There were two paper types, thick laid and thin ivory laid. Both these and the 1/2d envelopes had "Waterlow & Sons, Limited, London Wall, London" in colorless embossing under the flap. Figure 4 shows a copy of the 137 x 79mm version used from Gwelo to Belingwe in 1908 and Figure 5 shows the 124 X 97mm version used from Shangani to Cape Colony in 1909.

Figure 3. Used copy of a 1/2d used green printed envelope, from Gwelo to Bulawayo, 1904.

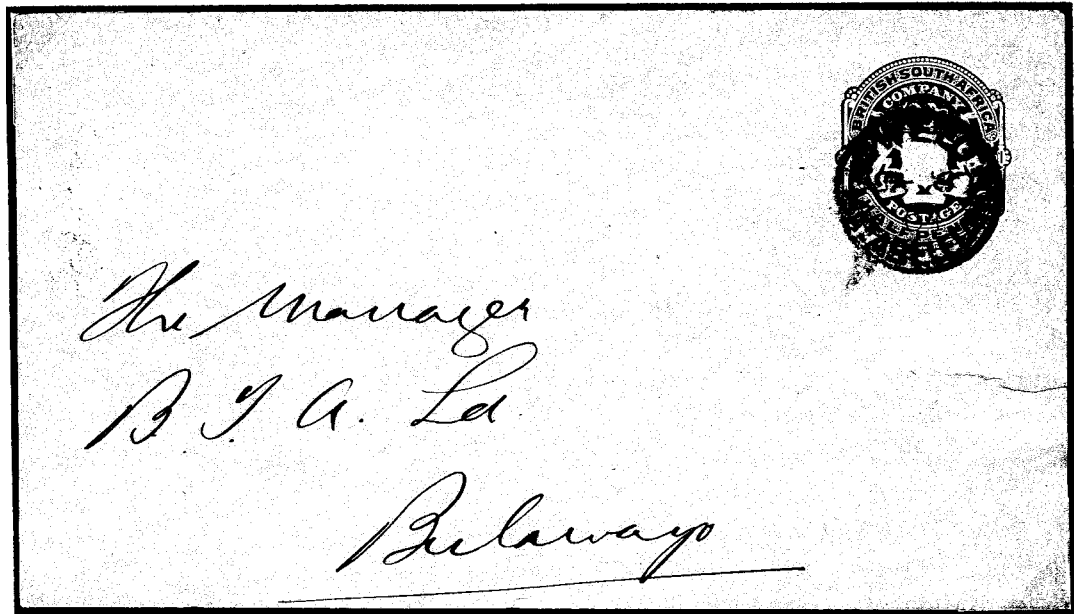


Figure 4. A copy of the 137 x 79mm version of the 1d envelope in red.

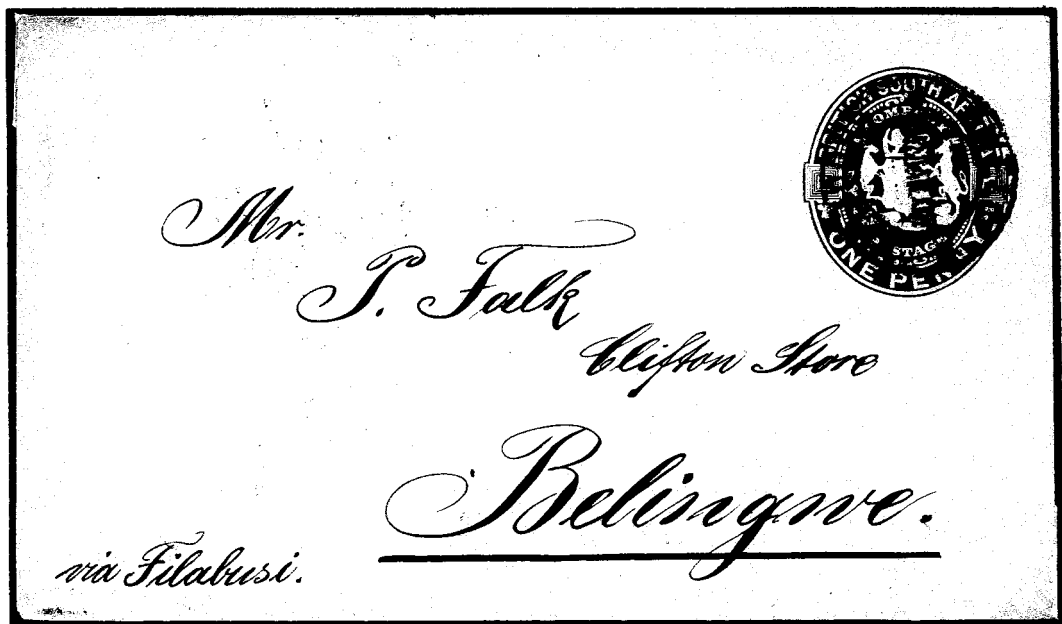
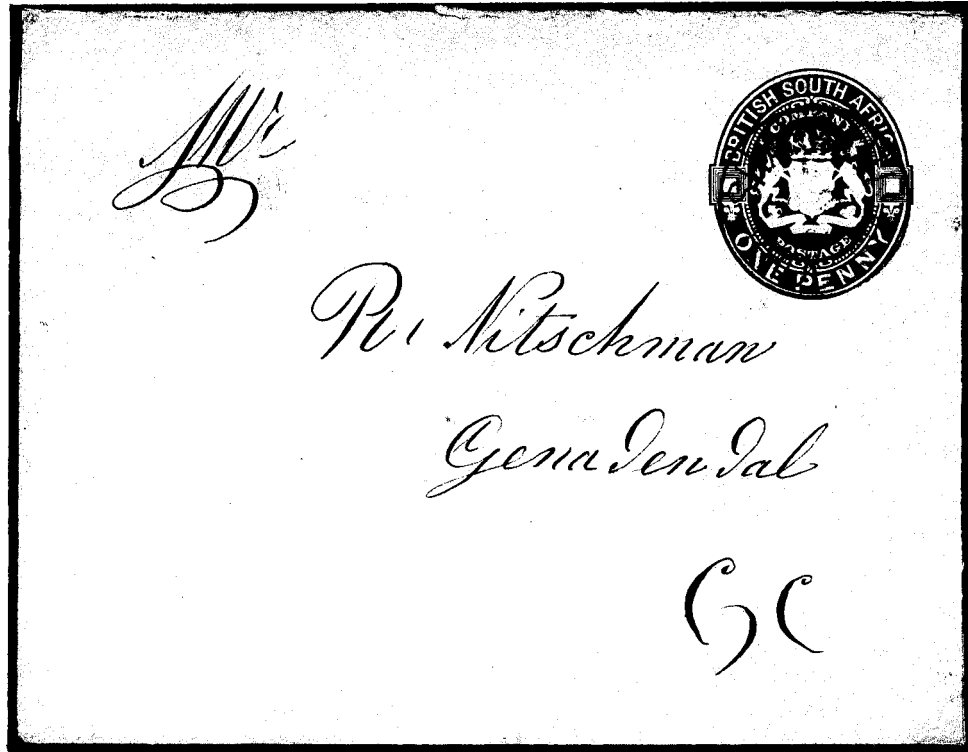


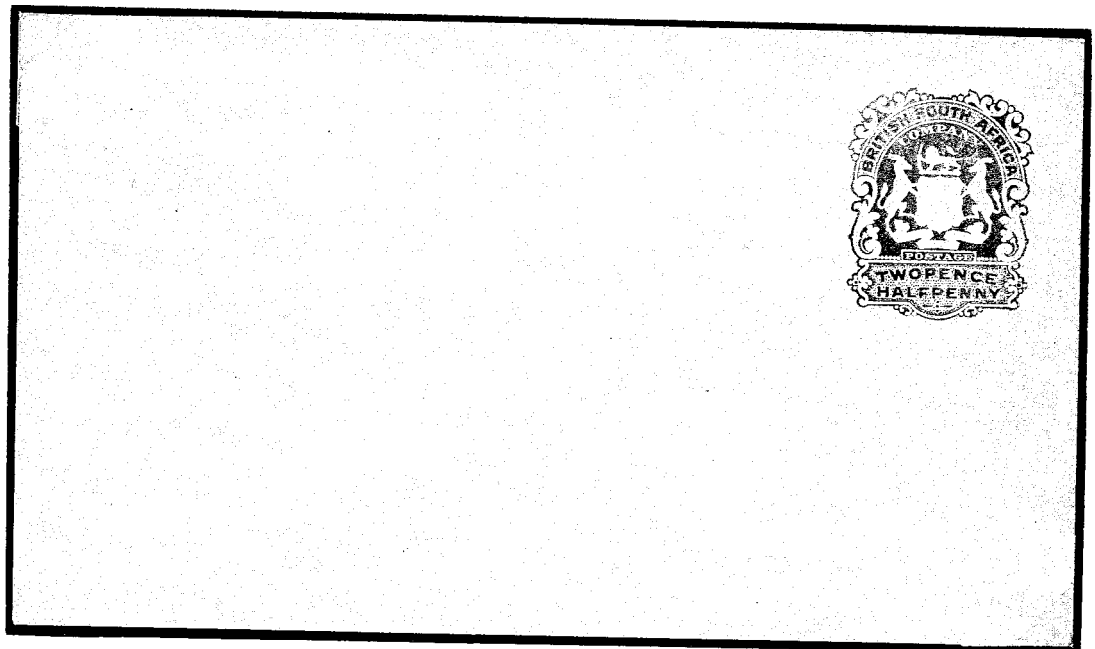
Figure 5. The 124 x 97 version of the id envelope in red.



The 2 1/2d envelope was on very thin paper with a "Waterlow" watermark and in two sizes: 140 x 90mm and 145 x 110mm. The indicium is gray and shades are known. The 2 1/2d rate was for the UK and for airmail, in force until 1911. Figure 6 shows a mint copy of the 140 x 90mm version.

Next time we will take a look at the 1913 Kin George V cards and envelopes and the wrappers of for newspapers. Until then.

Figure 6. A mint copy of the 2 1/2d envelope on very thin paper.



South African Civil Censorship in World War II

Chris Miller/UK, Hon. Secy. Civil Censorship Study Group, Editor

Reader comments and updates are invited, as are entries for future installments as a "guest" author. Send yours to Chris at 161 Upper Woodcote Road, Caversham, Reading RG4 7JR, England, or e-mail him at cpbmiller@aol.com.

Civil Censorship in World War II - Censor Station G -Bloemfontein

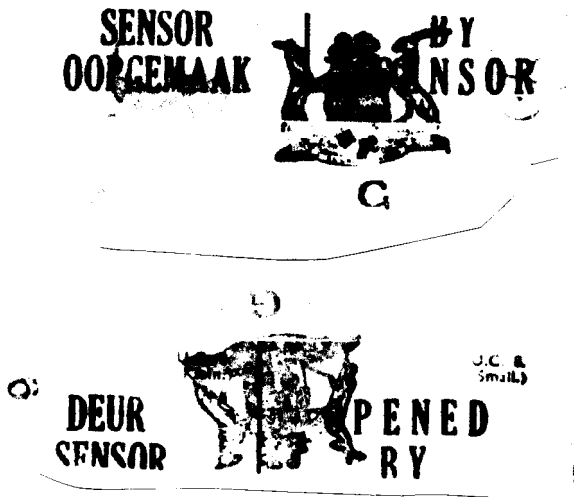
By Chris Miller, England

The introduction of the code lettering system in the spring of 1942 provided greater opportunities for examiners to personalize the markings on the letters they examined. This may have been because the censor in charge at their station required this action.

At some time during the war, and not necessarily concurrently, there were about 36 censors at Bloemfontein. As arms handstamps, including the code "G" for the stations are scarce, then what were these censors doing and how do we know that they were in Bloemfontein?

To deal with the arms handstamps first, the one most usually encountered is the one listed on the top in Figure 1. All covers I have seen with an obvious Bloemfontein connection, which have an arms handstamp, have this version. For those collectors who have as copy of John Little's book on *British Empire Civil Censorship Devices in World War II - Section 1 - Africa*, this might present a dilemma because it is clearly the other handstamp, which is depicted.

Figure 1. Two examples of the arms handstamps, including the rare code "G".



I have now borrowed the cover from which the above information and the picture were obtained and would make the following observations. The cover was posted in Mariannhill on 13 July 1944 and was paid at three pence, the service rate to Switzerland. Mariannhill is situated in Natal and the normal route for surface mail from here to Switzerland was via Durban for which the code "C" had been allocated. It appears, on close inspection, that this "G" is in fact a code "C" handstamp

which had acquired an adhesion which resulted in a blot occurring downwards from the point of the "C" which makes it appear like a "G".

The story is further complicated because the cover also bears a code "E" handstamp which means that it travelled via Cape Town. This is another story which will be covered in a later issue of *Forerunners*.

The question of the hour remains: "If the Arms 'G' is so scarce, where are the "Bloemfontein covers?"

For collectors of Prisoner of War and internee mail, the answer to the above question may be more apparent. The large volume of mails from Koffiefontein and Andalusia camps has provided many opportunities to study the Bloemfontein censorship stations. The return address on such outgoing mail is "via the Censor Bloemfontein" or a similar expression.

It is a mystery as to why the outgoing mail was not handstamped with an arms handstamp. In practice a type 3B two-line handstamp "PASSED BY CENSOR/DEUR DIE SENSOR GOEDGEKEUR" was nearly always used or another variant of this handstamp. A handwritten "G", followed by a number between 1 and 36 usually accompanies this. You may have to look carefully for these in that they were usually done in pencil and it was not unusual for the handstamp to be applied on top of the mark.

In a few cases, the individual examiner has had his own personal handstamp made of which "G2" is the most common while all others are rare. This also appears near the type 3B mark - see Illustration next page.

What about incoming mail to the camps? The small sample that I have been able to examine is all from within South Africa and has the normal marks that would be expected from the point of origin. I have seen only two examples with a Bloemfontein mark. One is a "G2" handstamp and the other a half label marked in pencil.

Covers from the two camps listed above are usually in the \$18 to \$30 range and the value of a clearly struck arms "G" mark perhaps \$100. Until a friend generously gave me a fine strike I would have been prepared to pay much more.

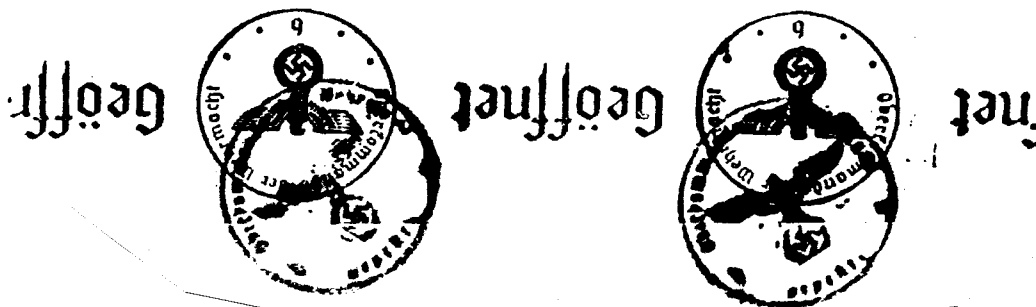
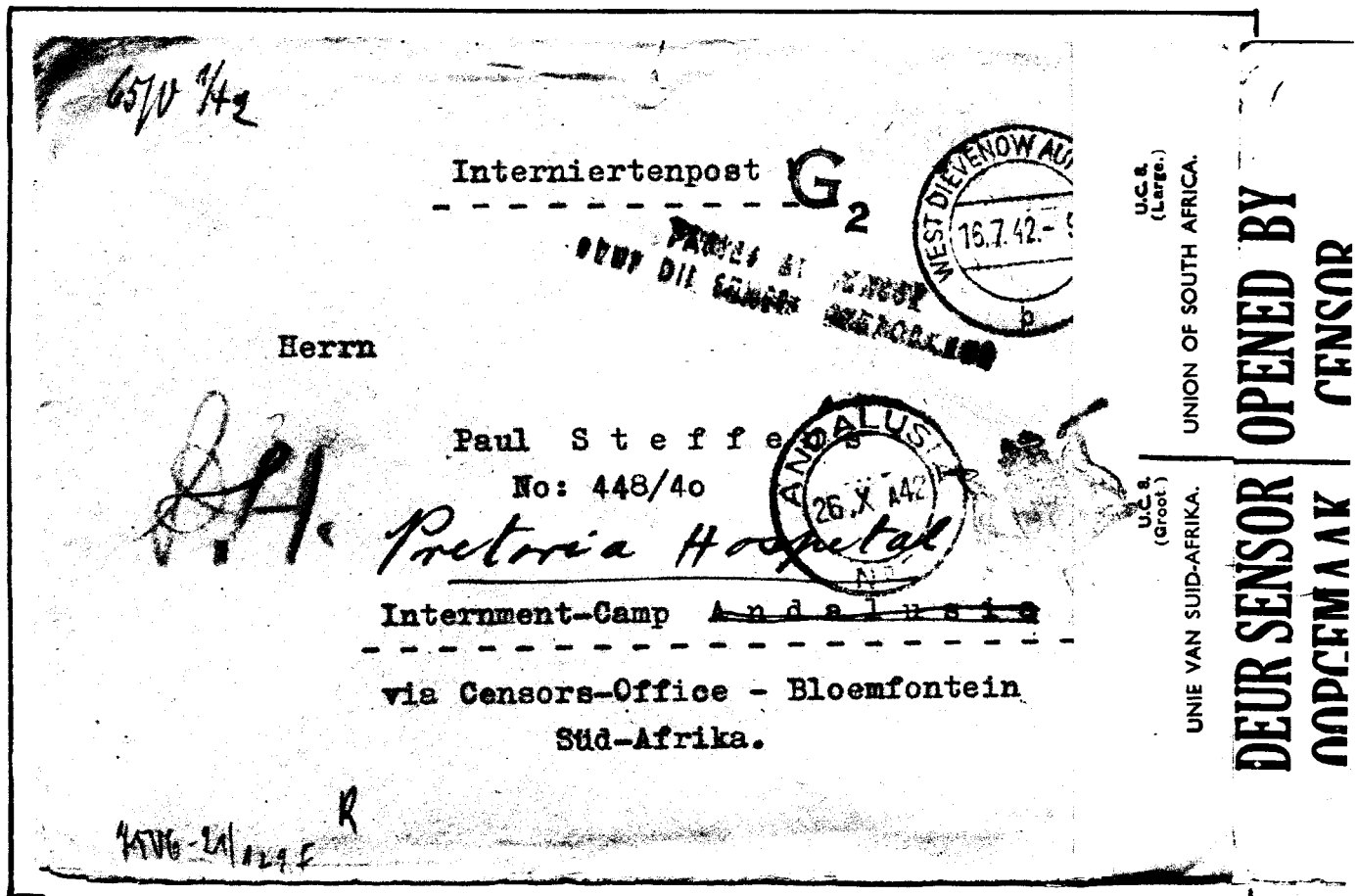
If you wish to take part in continuing research on South Africa Civil Censorship you only have to let me know at the address listed in the header.

SOUTH AFRICA

18 July 1942 Bremen.

Letter to a prisoner interned in South Africa and censored by the Wehrmacht but also on arrival in South Africa. The two line handstamp is type 3a and the resealing label also type 3a. The "E" handstamp tying the label has been attributed to Cape Town but in view of the address Bloemfontein is perhaps more likely.

The "G2" hand stamp is not known.



South West Africa/Namibia

Hans Ulrich Bantz/South Africa, Editor

Reader comments, updates and installments for future columns are invited by contacting the Editor at P.O. Box 6913, Westgate 1724, South Africa or by e-mail at ulib@mweb.co.za.

The "Mandate "Period" : 1923 - The First Year

By Hans Ulrich Bantz, South Africa

Summary: This column deals with developments during the first year of South West Africa's "Mandate Period", which began, from a philatelic view point, on January 1, 1923, when the first South African postage stamps and postal stationery, overprinted by the South African Government Printer for use in the territory, became available to the public. The authorities were still trying, in 1923, "to find their feet" with regard to the types of overprints to be applied and how to balance supply and demand.

(Editorial Note: Three major corrections need to be made regarding last issue's installment. First, on page 113 below Figure 4, "Cape" mail should read "Camp" mail, e.g., mail which originated from the Pietermaritzburg internment camp. Second, again on page 113, two lines on, soldiers were interned at 'Aus', not 'Aas". Third, September 7, 1915 should have read July 9, 1915 under "Olukonda".)

Introduction

The transition to the "Mandate period" from the earlier South African military administration, following the occupation of hitherto German South West Africa, was blurred, as the political arrangements do not concur with the postal planning.

For us as philatelists it is right to let the "Mandate Period" start with Monday, January 1, 1923 when the first distinctive postage stamps, postage dues and postal stationery, which could only be used within and from South West Africa (SWA), were first sold to the public.

Official consideration was given first to a distinctive set of definitive stamps for South West Africa on July 28, 1922 in an announcement in the *Government Gazette*, stating inter alia: "Competitive designs are hereby invited for a series of postage stamps for the Territory of South-West Africa ... The Competition closes on the 30th September 1922." (For the full text of this announcement see Becker, p.54)

Within a week the invitation for the designs was cancelled with another announcement in the *Gazette*, dated August 4, 1922 reading: "The notice appearing in the *Union Gazette of the 28th* of July, 1922 relating to the competition for designs for postal stamps for the Territory of South-West Africa is hereby withdrawn."

The decision was then taken to have the Government Printing Works in Pretoria overprint the Union's King's Head stamps for "provisional" postal use in the territory. It was agreed that the stamps of a sheet would be overprinted alternately in English and Dutch. Why in "Dutch" and in "English"? To answer this question we have to delve a bit into the history of South Africa.

The official language of the first white settlers in South Africa, who founded Cape Town in 1652 on behalf of the Dutch East India Company, was Dutch, which changed gradually from the

language spoken back home into a local idiom by incorporating French and German words and certain expressions used by the indigenous neighbors. This local "language" or dialect developed into the modern day "Afrikaans".

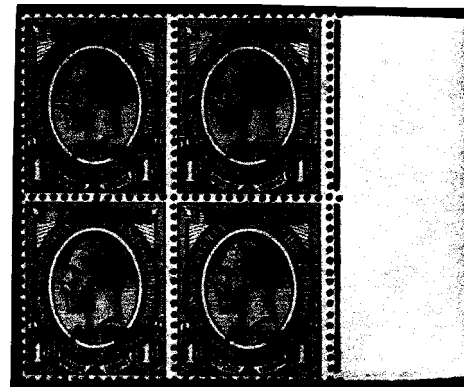
Britain occupied the Cape in 1806 and attempted then to eradicate the use of Dutch. This created much antagonism. English and Dutch were declared the two official languages, when the Union of South Africa was formed in 1910 out of the Transvaal and the Orange Free State and the two British colonies, namely the Cape of Good Hope and Natal. However, public pressure mounted to replace Dutch with Afrikaans, which was finally to become, by an act of Parliament on May 8, 1925, the second official South African language, replacing Dutch.

Dutch and English were thus still the official languages in 1923, when the first overprinted stamps were issued. They signaled to the outside world that South Africa was now in charge of the previous German "Schutzgebiet."

The 1923 Postage Stamps

After resolving to utilize the currently available South African stamps for use in SWA, the Government Printer was instructed to arrange the printing plate in such a way that the first stamp in row 1 was overprinted in English, the second in Dutch and then followed by English-Dutch, etc., in both directions, starting row 2 with the overprint in Dutch (see Fig. 1).

Figure 1. idTypeI overprint, showing the alternation of English and Dutch on the basic South African stamp; right hand margin imperforate.



In order to document this arrangement it has become a philatelic custom to collect these overprinted stamps in pairs, whereby horizontal pairs are considered to be more acceptable than vertical pairs. The "why?" is debatable.

The original South African stamps showed the head of King George V (1865-1936) and had been printed by the British De La Rue printing company in 1913. The finished sheets consisted of four panes divided by horizontal and vertical gutter strips (Figs. 2 and 3). The four panes comprise six stamps in ten rows each, thus giving 240 single stamps or 120 pairs per sheet.

Figure 2. 1d Type III overprint, gutter block with vertical gutter.

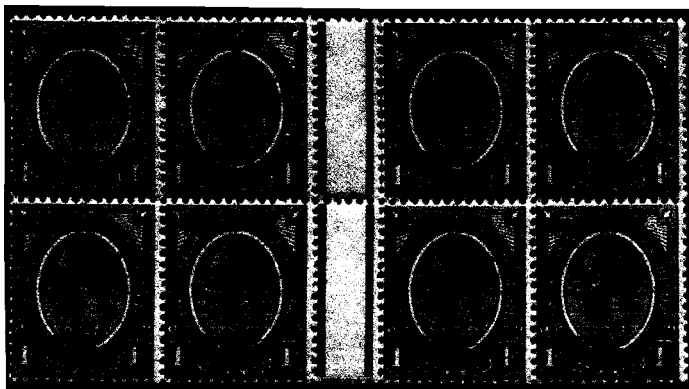
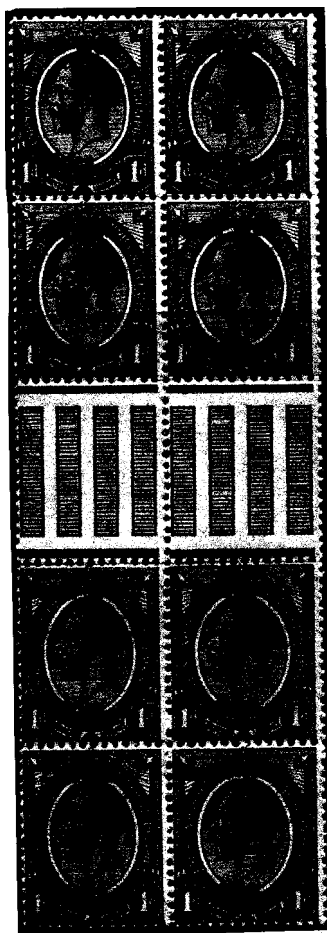
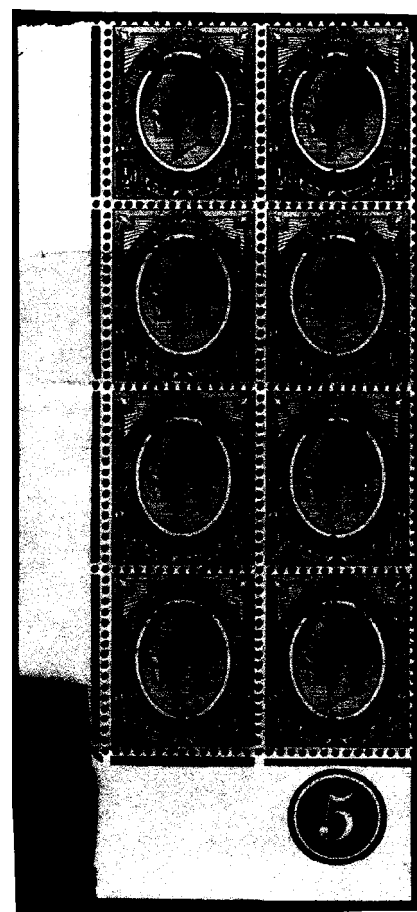


Figure 3. 1d Type III overprint, gutter block with horizontal gutter.



Three different overprints, called Type I, Type II and Type III were done in 1913 by the Government in Pretoria. The Type IV, V and VI overprints were done on the King's Head stamps in the following years, the last issue being in 1927, when the so-called "London Pictorials" of South Africa were overprinted for use in South West Africa. The overprinting was done by letter-printing (Typography). It is assumed, that the original typesetting was almost entirely free of the deformities, which developed during the repeated use of the printing plates. The resulting numerous blemishes found in the overprints are collected, studied and plated by specialists. Figure 4 shows, as an example, the "broken t" variety (row 17/stamp 1) in the Type I overprint. This letter suffered most damage during the use of the plate. *Becker* (1990) traces the development of this imperfection on seven pages. It is assumed that the printing plate used for Type I was of a very soft nature.

Figure 4. 1/2d Type I overprint, broken "t" variety on top left hand stamp from bottom left pane, imperforate margin, De La Rue plate number 5.



The three different overprints can be distinguished as follows:

Type I: Zuid-West with hyphen, space between lines of overprint 14mm, ink dull.

Type II: Zuid-West with hyphen, space between lines of overprint 10mm, ink dull.

Type III: Zuidwest one word, space between lines of overprint 14mm, ink dull.

There is a sub-type Ia in shiny ink, previously thought to be done by the lithography process. However, research made by

Quick (various newsletters of the SWA Stamp Study Group) showed that the Government Printer did not have the facilities for lithographic printing in 1922 and experimented only with a different ink. Twenty sheets (2,400 pairs) of the 5sh stamps and 10 sheets (1200 pairs) each of the 10sh and £1 stamps of Type I were overprinted, making them very rare indeed. The unexpected large demand from overseas collectors soon made another issue of the three high values necessary. The new Type II plate had 10mm between the lines of the overprint. The same numbers as for Type I were overprinted, making these stamps, which were issued in April 1923, rare as well. Use of these high value stamps was mostly for paying the postage on diamond parcels mailed to the European diamond cutting centers.

Language experts were of the opinion that Zuid-West with the hyphen was not the correct translation of South West into Dutch. As a result, the hyphen was dropped and the change was put into effect around the middle of July 1923 with Type III (bold) and Type **IIIa** (thinner overprint). In 1923, the larger post offices should have had the following 12 denominations available: 1/2d, 1d, 2d, 3d, 4d, 6d, 1sh, 1sh3d, 2sh6d, 5sh, 10sh and £1.

The 1923 Postal Stationery

Postal stationery is another fascinating field for a specialized study. Up to 1923, unoverprinted stationery, first issued in South Africa in 1913 and introduced into South West Africa during WWI, was used in the form of postcards, envelopes, lettercards, registered envelopes and newspaper wrappers. As from January 1, 1923 these five categories became available as overprinted items. Figure 5 shows an example of a postcard, cancelled at Keetmanshoop on January 2, 1923, probably a first day of sale.

From January to September 1923, the following numbers, which vary either in the overprint settings or in the original

South African stationery, were issued: *postcards* - 14 different, *envelopes* - 4 different, *lettercards* - 4 different issues and *newspaper wrappers* - 10 different (Wrappers were discontinued from September 1923 onwards, but remained valid for posting.)

Why so many issues? Postal stationery, especially postcards, was popular during those years as paper was scarce and expensive. Postcards provided an ideal vehicle for short communication prior to the general availability of the telephone. The messages on postcards are quite often a fine source of information on the social and historic fabric at the time of writing and sending.

The authorities underestimated (most likely during 1923) that demand by both the public and the collector, thus necessitating the astonishing number of additional prints. Simultaneously, experiments were conducted with the overprints, adding to the plethora of issues. As an example, the English "ONE PENNY" overprint on the Dutch "Zuid-West Afrika" card, issued in March 1923 (see Fig. 5), caused strong protests by the purists and had soon to be replaced with a more acceptable issue. Readers are directed to *Quik & Stolk* (1993), the most recent and comprehensive write-up on South West Africa's postal stationery.

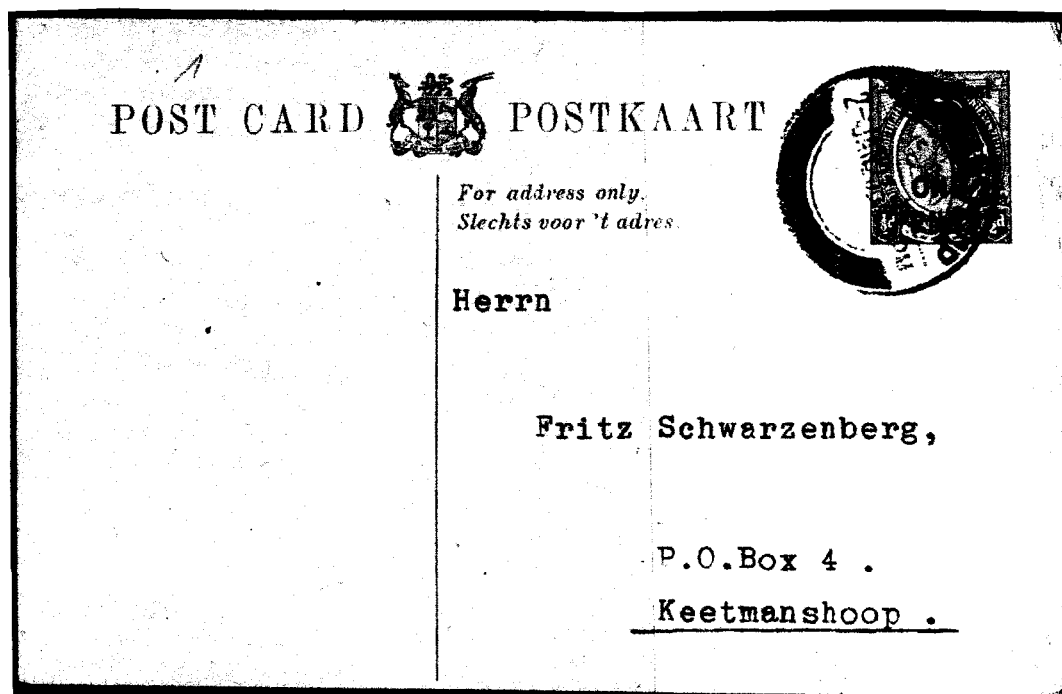
The 1923 Postage Due Stamps

Transvaal had issued its first postage due stamps in 1907. The first postage dues for the Union of South Africa were printed by De La Rue in 1914. The Cape of Good Hope, Natal and the Orange Free State/Orange River Colony never had postage due stamps.

Unoverprinted Transvaal and Union postage due stamps were used in South West Africa between 1915 and 1923. They can only be identified from their SWA postmarks and are rare.

Postage due stamps overprinted for use in South West Africa

Figure 5. March 1923 1/2d South African postcard overprinted Zuid-West Afrika and ONE PENNY (*Quick & Stolk* #55). Cancelled Keetmanshoop "2-JAN23", the first day of sale? Combining English and Dutch in the overprint led to objections by purists.



became available from January 1, 1923 onwards and form another fascinating study field. The Pretoria Government Printer used the same sequence of plates as had been used for the overprints on the postage stamps. Thus, in 1923 we find the same "Types I, II and III" on the postage dues as described above.

Any study of the overprints and the development of imperfections during the various printing runs must take cognizance of both kinds of stamps.

The use of the basic postage due stamps from the Union and from the earlier Transvaal for the overprints is another interesting and unique feature. The following values were overprinted: Union postage dues - 1/2d, 1d, 2d and 3d; Transvaal postage dues - 5d and 6d.

The 1923 Postage Rates

No postage rate changes took place in 1923. The tariffs introduced on January 1, 1922, as listed in the previous *Forerunners*, applied up to the next rate change on January 1, 1926.

Selected Sources

Becker, N. (1990): *The Overprinted Stamps of South West Africa to 1930*; Lobdell, H.E. (1948): *The De La Rue Georgians of South Africa*; Quick, W.J. (2001): *Newsletters of South West Africa Stamp Study Group*, Johannesburg; Schirmer, P. (1980): *The Concise Illustrated South African Encyclopedia*, Johannesburg

Zulu Notes

Andy Carr/USA, Editor

Readers with comments and/or updates to information appearing in this column, are invited to send them to Andy at 15270 Highgrove Rd., Alpharetta, GA 30004-3104, or e-mail him at acarr6453@aol.com

The 1888 Provisional 1/2d Zululand With Inverted Overprint

By Andy Carr, USA

Hi. My name is Andy Carr and I have volunteered to write a short column on Zululand stamps. I thought a good idea for a column would be a "favorite from my collection" theme. Each column will have a photo and brief description of a stamp or stamps from my collection. I am not a very specialized collector but have been collecting Zululand for about 20 years now. I also collect the British Machin series and US postage dues (1959-present) and do specialize in the high values of the US Americana series, 1978-82.

The focus of this inaugural installment is the 1888 Provisional 1/2d Zululand stamp with inverted overprint - Scott #12c, SG #12g. I acquired it from Crown Colony Stamps in 1997. It is accompanied by a BPA Certificate dated 1938 (Figs. 1 & 2).

The 1/2d British stamp surcharged for use in Zululand was not

issued until November, 1888. The need for a 1/2d stamp made itself felt some time before this, pending the arrival of the 1/2d stamps from London. The then current 1/2d stamp of Natal was surcharged "ZULULAND" in thin fancy capitals, for use in the territory. It appears that the type with a stop, or period, after the overprint (Scott #12) appeared first and the type with no stop or period (Scott #12a) which is more common, appeared towards the end of August, 1888. According to the acting Commissioner of Stamps in Zululand at the time, 11,245 of these stamps were sold. How many of each type, especially the inverted overprint variety referenced here is not known*.

*Written with reference to *ZULULAND*, by Clive Sergay, March 2002, Witwatersrand Stamp Society and the Natal & Zululand Study Circle, Collectors' Exhibit Series No. 1.

Figure 1. The 1938 BPA Expert Committee Certificate showing a genuine copy of the 1888 Provisional 1/2d stamp with Inverted Overprint.

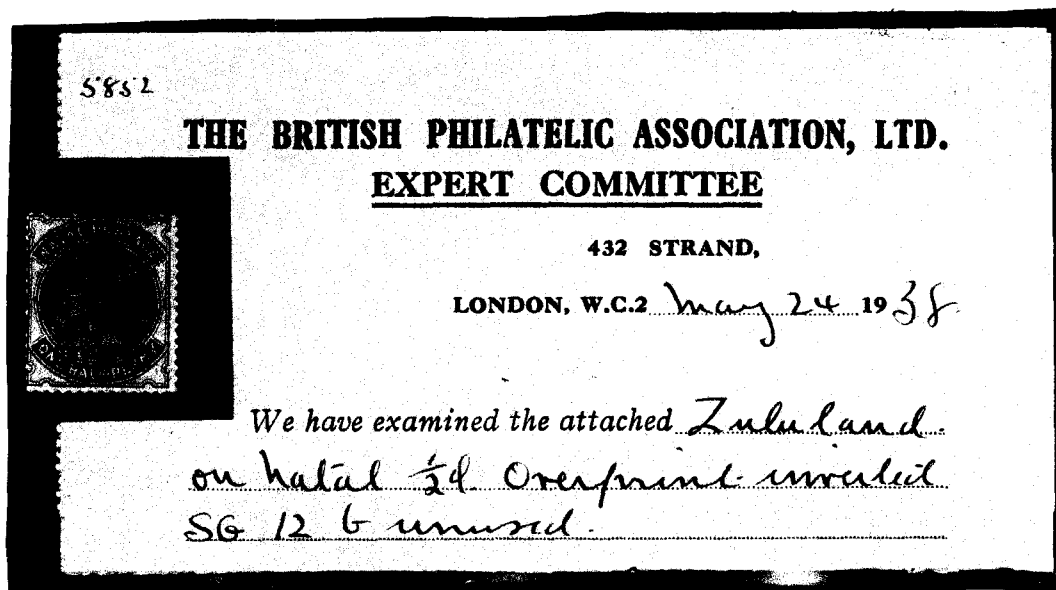
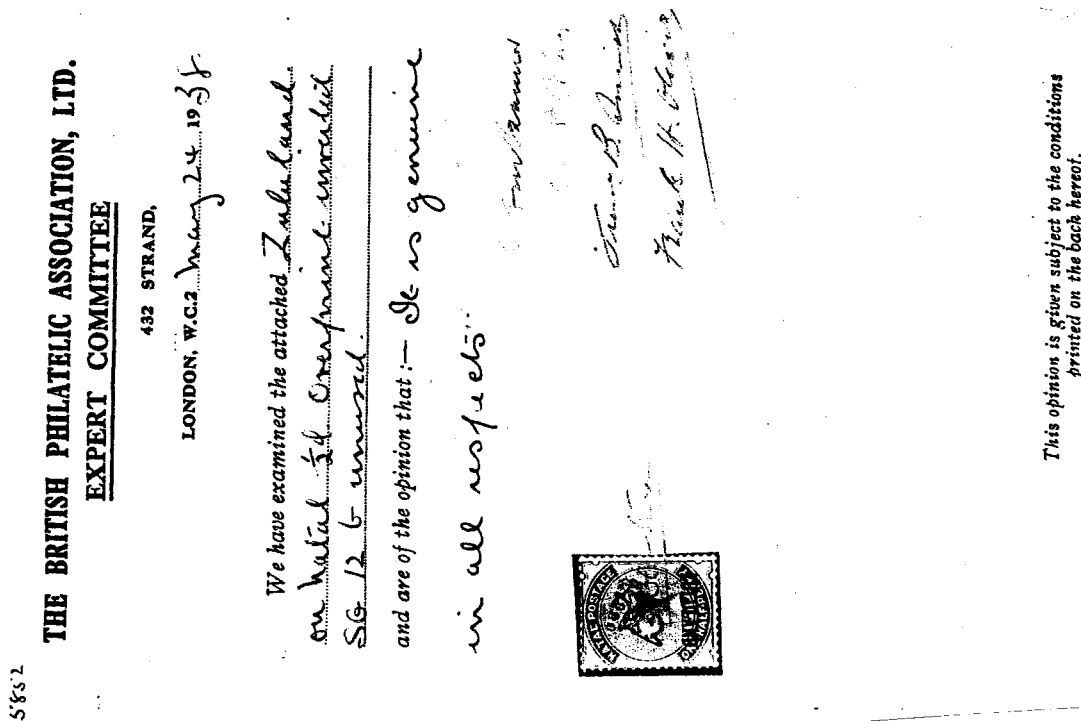


Figure 2. BPA, Ltd. certificate showing a genuine Natal Stamp with Zululand overprint inverted.



Back of YOUR Book

Tim Bartshe/USA, Editor

Questions and comments regarding this column are invited as are installments for future issues as a guest [author](#) at 13955 West 30th Golden, CO 80401 USA or e-mail him at timbartshe@aoL.com

Send to Tim

Transvaal: A Cigarette Tax Wrapper

By Tim Bartshe, USA

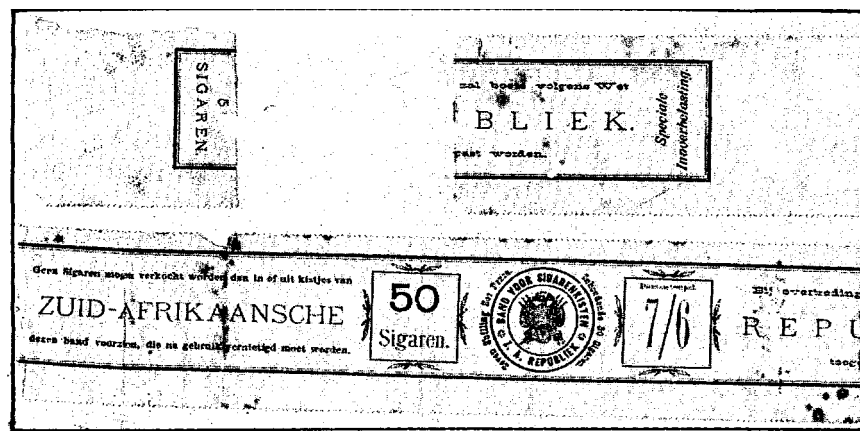
This column will be a quick entry regarding something very interesting I picked up from a dealer friend of mind here in Denver, Web Stickney. Web told me he had picked up a lot of various materials including a gob of paper pieces all glued together. Rather than throwing them away, he painstakingly soaked them, separating the pieces from each other, the results of which are shown below.

The three pieces, seem to comprise a complete wrapper utilized as a tax band for the payment of import duties on cigars. The central Arms of the Republic are flanked by the number "50 Sigaren" and "Datumstempel 7/6". The import duty for 50

cigars apparently was 7/6d, or nearly 2d per cigar. As there is no date marking, I would assume that the tax wrapper would have been gummed and unused, explaining why Web found this gob all stuck together.

I showed them to David Crocker recently on his visit to Denver. David wrote the chapter on revenues in Ian Mathew's book, *Transvaal Philately*. His comment was that he had never seen anything like it before except the sole copy example on page 269 in the book. That illustrated item is a partial wrapper for taxing cigarettes. If anyone has any comments, or can add any new information on this curiosity, please let me know.

Illustration. Example of the ZAR Cigarette Tax Wrapper.



Society Affairs

President's Message

In our usual fashion, when going to a far distant stamp show, my wife Barbara and I started for Denver and ROMPEX by car on Sunday, May 12th. We had planned to stop at the Henry Doorly Zoo in Omaha and found it fascinating, as they had constructed a "Desert in a Dome" with some of the flora and fauna found in the American Southwest contained within a Buckminster Fuller construction. The rest of the zoo was very good and well worth a visit.

The ROMPEX show appeared to be a great success and it was good to meet Alan MacGregor and David Crocker from South Africa, with plenty of material for the African enthusiast. Most shows in Canada have little or no material from the area. The PSGSA meeting was not all that well attended - a bit disappointing - although we did discuss some Society matters. A preliminary copy of *Philately of the Orange Free State*, by Bob Hisey and Tim Bartshe, was passed around and received very favorable comments. There were some terrific exhibits on display, including many from our area and the judges awarded 24 gold medals, 16 vermeil, 1 silver and 2 bronze. The "Postal History of the Cape of Good Hope 1853-1866" by Guy Dillaway took the Grand, and "British Central Africa 1891-1907" by Colin and Pamela Fraser took the Reserve Grand.

It was really good to renew some old acquaintances and make several new ones. We shall look forward to visiting Denver again in 2003 when the American Topical Association has its annual show at the same hotel. . . *Alan J. Hanks, President*

From the Program Chair

Rocky Mountain Stamp Show 2002 was the venue for the PSGSA annual meeting and for the display of 14 southern African exhibits, by far the most I have ever seen in one show. This was due, in large part, to the unceasing efforts of R. Timothy Bartshe. A list of exhibits and awards received appear in "The Honor Roll". As a result, this year's Champion of Champions competition at STaMpsHOW in Atlantic city in August will have THREE entries by PSGSA members. Truly incredible!

The Dealer's Bourse included Ian Shapiro of Argyl Etkin, David Crocker who, as usual, went out of his way to talk with exhibitors and offer helpful comments and advice, and Alan MacGregor, all from overseas.

At the Society's business meeting, Bob Hisey presented the Treasurer's Report. Through adroit management, Bob has kept the Society solvent. The cost of producing and mailing *Forerunners* is the major budgetary problem and proposals were offered to reduce these costs.

Our membership is now 86, the lowest in years and too low to support activities at their present level. Periodic short information releases in publications such as *Linns* and *Stamp Collector*, and a society presence at shows with an APS Affiliate table were suggested as recruiting tools. The Society

auction was discussed at length. Franco Frescura has volunteered to take over from Tim Bartshe. Changes in format and possible problems with payment and mailing were considered.

Bob Hisey showed attendees a copy of his new book, the title of which I have forgotten but which impressed me as one of the best philatelic publications I have ever seen.

All in all, this was a great show and a huge plus for our Society... *Bob Taylor, Director/Programs*

NEWS OF THE MEMBERSHIP

The Honor Roll

This feature acknowledges Society members for their notable achievements such as exhibit and literature awards in any area. Members are encouraged to notify the Editor of their achievements. The following members recently received awards for their exhibits:

STAMPSHOW 2001

Guy R. Dillaway, Prix d'Honneur at Champion of Champions for "The Postal History of the Cape of Good Hope 1853-1866"; **R. Timothy Bartshe**, Grand and Gold for "Orange Free State Republican Postage Issues 1868-1900", which also won Best Postal Division, the American Philatelic Congress Award, and the American Philatelic pre-1900 Award, and a Platinum for the single frame exhibit "Enschede Essays, Trials and Die Proofs of the South African Republic", also the PSGSA Award.

BELGICA 2001

Ronald E. Strawser, Gold and felicitations for "Postal Cards of the Belgian Congo".

ROCKY MOUNTAIN STAMP SHOW 2002

Guy R. Dillaway, Grand Award and Gold for "The Postal History of the Cape of Good Hope 1853-1866", also PSGSA Award and Postal History Society Medal; **Colin and Pamela Fraser**, Reserve Grand Award and Gold for "British Central Africa 1891-1907"; **Robert F. Taylor**, Court of Honor for "Early Postal Services at the Cape of Good Hope 1653-1853"; **Robert W. Hisey**, Gold for "Official Stamps of South Africa", and APS Research Medal; **Frederick P. Lawrence, Ph.D.**, Vermeil for "Scouting on Stamps 'Classics'"; **Peter Thy**, Gold for "Bechuanaland Postal Stationery" and United Postal Stationery Society Marcus White Medal; **David Wessely**, Vermeil and American Revenue Association Gold Award for "Revenues of Bechuanaland"; **Alan J. Hanks**, Gold for "Rhodesia - British South Africa Company 1892-1925"; **John Dickson**, Vermeil for "The Rates and Regulations applicable to Postal Stationery Used in Natal"; **Ronald Strawser**, Vermeil for "Transvaal Postal Stationery"; and **Robert W. Hisey**, Vermeil for "Telegraph Forms of the Orange Free State".

The Marketplace

Member adlets for buying/selling/trading are free and run for three consecutive issues and then removed. Members desiring to continue the run of their ad for another twelve-month period must so notify the Editor to the effect in writing. PLEASE NOTE THAT THERE IS A 20% RATE DISCOUNT (FROM THE RATES LISTED BELOW) FOR COMMERCIAL ADVERTISERS WHO REQUEST TO PLACE THEIR ADS FOR AT LEAST A TWO-YEAR PERIOD.

Ad Placement Guidelines:

- Brief ads are free to NON-DEALER MEMBERS and are run for three consecutive issues
- Small word ads may be run by individuals who are not Society members. The cost is \$1US per column line.
- Payment for an ad must be received prior to appearance in "The Marketplace".

Ad Payment Options:

- * US\$ bank draft in dollars payable to "PSGSA"
- £Sterling cheques at current exchange rate as published by major bank in local area **WITH "PAYEE" LEFT BLANK.**
- £Sterling, Rands or Dmark currencies at current exchange rates **sent via registered mail.**

Commercial Ad Rate Schedule

Premium Position (inside front, inside/outside back cover pages): 1/2 page: single issue - \$45, annual - \$120 full page: single issue - \$75, annual - \$200 *Non premium Position:*
1/8 page: single issue - \$10, annual - \$25 1/4 page: single issue - \$15, annual - \$40 1/3 page: single issue - \$20, annual - \$55 1/2 page: single issue - \$30, annual - \$75 full page: single issue - \$45, annual - \$120
Small non-member word ad \$1 per column line (approximately 50 characters).

Send payment only to: Bob Hisey, Treasurer, 7227 Sparta Road, Sebring, FL 33872 USA.

Send camera ready ad copy to: Bill Brooks, Editor, P.O. Box 4158, Cucamonga, CA 91729-4158 USA.

Adlets

Bechuanaland & Botswana Postal Stationery. Used stamped and unstamped stationery from any territory and any period are needed for collection and exhibit. Send offer to Peter Thy, Post Office Box 73112, Davis, CA 95616 USA, or e-mail thy@jade.ucdavis.edu

Cape of Good Hope. Seeking VOC embossed revenues from the Cape. Send offers to Robert F. Taylor, 674 Chelsea Dr., Sanford, NC 27330-8567 or e-mail at rtaylor@wave-net.net

22-year accumulation of South Africa commercial covers offered. Container full and of interest regarding RSA postmarks, machine cancels, etc., from the mid-70's onwards. Prefer someone interested in classifying, studying and preserving the material; perhaps even write articles for the journal. Just pay for the shipping. Contact D.G. Mordant, P.O. Box 21161, Helderkruin 1733, South Africa or [e-mail: farmfeed@global.co.za](mailto:farmfeed@global.co.za).

Join the American Philatelic Society. Membership application and benefits information: APS, P.O. Box 8000, State College, PA 16803 USA.

US trading partners sought I collect used USA stamps and would like to exchange stamps of southern Africa countries for them on a stamp-for-stamp basis. Write to Anton P. Roux, P. O. Box 427, Newlands, Pretoria 0049, South Africa.

South West Africa postal stationery. I am seeking pre-1969 items. Please send offers to: Jan Stolk, P.O. Box 33223, EE Rotterdam, The Netherland

Mafeking covers. Want to purchase or trade for covers to/from, or through Mafeking, 1885-present. Send photocopies, prices or trade want list to Frederick Lawrence, Ph.D., FRPSL, 5016 S. Kenneth Place, Tempe, AZ 85282 USA

Join the Philatelic Federation of Southern Africa. Write to PFSA, P.O. Box 412505, Craighall 2024, South Africa

Join the Society team. Your Board is seeking a volunteer to serve as Director/Marketing. You will have a wonderful team to work with and not be left up to your own devices. Contact Alan Hanks, Pres., 34 Seaton Dr., Aurora, Ontario L4G 2K1, Canada or e-mail a.hanks@aci.on.ca.

Bophuthatswana used. Wish to trade for used on/off cover, including revenues and postal stationery. Have all Homelands used, some mint and older general worldwide to trade. Write Will Ross, 4120 Schuylkill Dr., Calabasas, CA 91302 USA.

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