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\*\*\*\*\***FORERUNNERS**\*\*\*\*\*

**Journal of The Pre-Union South Africa Study Group**

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**Individuals desiring membership information on PUSASG, should contact the Representative most convenient to them geographically.**



*From Your Editor....*

My thanks to the many of you that continue to provide me with your feedback and helpful suggestions as we open another exciting year. As in the past, I think that all of you will find the articles and general information contained in this issue to be of interest and value. Other editors, with whom I maintain communication, are continuously "wringing their hands" in trying to get contributors for each issue of their respective publications. I am eternally grateful that as time goes on, "new" authors continually emerge from our numbers. As I have said in the past, each of you is invited to try your hand at submitting an article to share with all of us; or perhaps you can send a copy of an unusual cover or postmark; or maybe you have a challenging question for our 'Question & Answer' department-Syl is always delighted to have the opportunity to respond to philatelic research demands. If the volume of material continues to increase, serious thought will be given to a more frequent publishing schedule. (Readers take note, we have yet to have any articles on SWA, Zululand, Griqualand West, revenues and a myriad of other topics which some of you know well.)

**-----NEWS-OF-THE-MEMBERSHIP-----**



**G. Stott/Menmonia, California**

**WELCOME ABOARD**

Primary collecting interest is SWA, followed by the Cape, OFS, Transvaal, Union of South Africa and Natal. Postage dues of SWA are of special interest.

Thomas E. Girdali/Sunland, California. Natal and Zululand are his collecting interests with specialty areas of postal history & postmarks, picture postcards and literature. Memberships include Roses Caribbean, British West Indies Study Circle, British Caribbean Philatelic Study Group, Civil Censorship Study Group and the American Philatelic Society.

**Jeff Brown/Shorewood, Wisconsin.** Primary collecting interests are CGH and OFS, followed by Natal, Transvaal, Union of SA and Zululand. Specialty Includes stationery. Jeff is a member

- The American Philatelic Society.

**Anita R. Beach/Cincinnati, Ohio.** Interests include Natal, Transvaal, general British Africa, SWA, Union of SA and Swaziland. Specialty areas are Boer War and bilingual pairs.

**Richard F. Day/Lohn, Texas.** Primary areas of interest are SWA and Union of SA followed by CGH, Natal, OFS and Transvaal. Richard is a member of the Belize Philatelic Study Circle.

**John Feintuch/Briarwood, New York.** I-us collecting interests include CGH, Griqualand West, Natal, OFS, Transvaal, Union of SA with specializations in cinderella, revenues and postal history. John is a member of the Society of Israeli Philatelists and the American Philatelic Society.

**Peter J. Melz/Morgan Hill, California.** Peter's primary collecting interest is Transvaal followed by CGH, Griqualand West, Natal, OFS, New Republic, Stellaland, general British Africa, Swaziland and Zululand. His specialty areas include: Transvaal-Pietersburg Issue, Boer War POW. Mail and Transvaal forgeries and reprints. Memberships include the American Philatelic Society, Anglo-Boer War Philatelic Society and Transvaal Study Circle.

**Dr. Guy Dillaway/Weston, Massachusetts.** Primary collecting interest is CGH followed by Griqualand West, OFS and Transvaal. His specialty interest area is the postal history of the Cape. Memberships a the American Philatelic Society and Postal History Society.

**Ray McCoy/Fremont, California.** SWA is his collecting interest area. Ray is a member of the American Philatelic Society.

**A FEW WORDS FROM YOUR BOARD**



*"Random Jottings From  
The President.....  
Syl C. Tully*

I sent In a batch of copies of a very well-researched article by the dean of Orange Free

State philately, Archie Batten, to be excerpted from as my column for this issue. Luckily they were misplaced, as matters of more general interest and importance have arisen. (If any of you want to read the OFS material, our archivist has a copy of the September, 1987, *OFS Bulletin* with a long articles on numeral cancels.)

First, we have nominations open for all the present offices. Our nominating committee has contacted me and suggested open nominations by the members. I agree, and suggest that any one interested in holding office feel free to contact one of the committee members (names and addresses listed below) and put your name forward. We are a relatively young organization and many of us are not very well

acquainted yet. I think this will be the best + way for the membership to get involved to the degree they are willing to be. (Don't be afraid to say you would like to be President, either.)

A second matter has arisen. I don't know how many of our members buy or sell through South African dealers, but I was just informed that the South African government is now imposing a 60% surcharge on material from sources outside the Republic of South Africa. This was first seen as boon to the South African dealers, until they realized that there isn't an unlimited supply of material in the country. However, laws once made are hard to repeal.

There is a possibility that letters by the concerned members of our organization sent to the South African ambassador may be of some help. The new ambassador is trying to improve relations with the U.S. 1, for one, intend to write in my own name - not as President of *PUSASG*. The address is as follows:

Ambassador P.G.J. Koornhof  
Embassy of South Africa 3051 Massachusetts Ave., NW  
Washington, D.C. 02008

**T**hat is all for this issue. . . . . Syl  
**I**

**NOMINATIONS COMMITTEE**

~~Any member wishing to be elected as an officer,~~ should write to one of the Committee members. Include the position you are interested in and a short statement as to why you desire the position. Please submit your application by March 1, 1989... Thank you.

Morgan Farrell  
P.O. Box 81162  
San Diego, CA 92138

Ralph Myerson  
310 Maplewood Ave. Merion Station, PA 19066

Bill Wallace  
P.O. Box 16381  
San Francisco, CA 94116



## "From Your Program Chair"

Louise van Ingen  
Program Director

At this point in time, the major

thing on our mind is the APS STaMpsHOW, August 24-27, 1989, in Anaheim, California. The show will be held at the Disneyland Convention Center.

For those of you who are not familiar with this event, a few words are in order. STaMpsHOW is the premiere philatelic event of the year! Sponsored by the American Philatelic Society,

this show hosts the **Champion of Champions philatelic exhibition competition which brings together** the winners of all APS sanctioned shows throughout the year. Normally, there are also a number of the major rarities on display as well as representatives of postal administrations from around the world. There will be a very large bourse and many special activities including a large area for children's activities. Among the special plans are an evening at Disneyland, trips to other points of interest and whatever else Louise van Ingen can think up. And there will be the usual APS reception and banquet. All of this will, of course, require a number of people to assist. It would be a "feather in our cap" if our group could become involved with the Show Committee, and assist with these activities. Any volunteers??!!

Our study group will be officially applying for APS recognition as a unit of the Society during this convention. We will hold our first official annual meeting and seminar at the event which makes this a most auspicious occasion for our group. Who will honor us with a talk for our seminar? **PLEASE LET ME KNOW IF YOU ARE INTERESTED IN BEING A PRESENTER.**

Be sure to put August 24-27, 1989 on your calendar for this extravaganza, and let me hear from you if you need assistance with hotel accommodations or any other aspect, or if you can offer a program, plan to exhibit, or provide assistance with the production of the show by writing me, Louise van Ingen, P. O. Box 369 - Placentia, CA 92670, or by calling (714) 524-0809.

**ENCLOSED WITH THIS ISSUE IS A FORM FOR MEMBERS TO COMPLETE AND RETURN AS SOON AS POSSIBLE.**

P.S. Stamp collectors are such wonderful friends. One of mine just sent me a rather exciting item for my collection of South Africa postal stationery which I would like to share with you.

The item is an **Orange River Colony half penny postal card, with a Transvaal half penny adhesive, used in Natal sent to Germany and**

**forwarded** in Germany. My collection **has only**

**one other item that represents three of the four pre-Union colonies. I have not yet seen one with all four colonies, so I find this to be a rather nice interprovincial usage...and my friend doesn't even collect South African material!!!**



## "From The Archives"

Tim Bartshe

Director of Archives

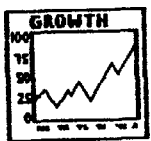
I like to thank Anita Bartshe for her generous offer to donate the periodicals from the South African Collectors Society of Great Britain, 1/78 through 1/81. I have responded to her and expect the first donation to our library soon. To date this is the only response (and an unexpected one at that), to my request for members' bibliographies of any and ad material that they have or might know about, relating to PUSASG's areas of interest. As we have expanded to include Southwest Africa and the Union of South Africa, there certainly must be one item in each member's library. Recently, a dealer friend gave me the opportunity to break up a number of very old Transvaal collections and properly catalog the material onto his sales pages. As it had been quite a while since I had seen so much First Republic material at one time, I scurried to the bookshelf for references. The following is a list of what I found:

- 1) Curle, J. H. & Basden, A. E., 1940, *Transvaal Postage Stamps*, The Royal Philatelic Society, London, 154p.
- 2) Earee, Rev. R. B., date unknown, *Album Weeds: How to Detect Forged Stamps, Part VIII*, The Manuka-Ainsle Press, Acton Canberra, Third Reprint Edition, 709p.
- 3) Hagen, H. S. and Naylor, S. P., 1985, *Railway Stamps of South Africa, The Philatelic Federation of Southern Africa, Johannesburg, 125p.*
- 4) Luff, John N., 1913, *Otto's Printings of the Transvaal Stamps*, The Philatelic Record, London, 40p.
- 5) Mathews, Ian B., et al, 1986, *Transvaal Philately*, Reijger Publishers (PTY) Limited, Capetown, 291p.
- 6) Meisel, Nick, 1985, *The Transvaal Handbook, Vol. 1, First Republic, Genuine and Forged, 118p.*
- 7) Tamsen, Emil, date unknown, *Notes On Stamps of the Transvaal (South African Republic)*, Stanley Gibbons Monthly Journal, Vol. 4 and 5.

- 8) Yardley, R. B., 1904, *Notes on the Stamps of the First Republic of the Transvaal*, London Philatelist.
- 9) Yardley, R. B., 1905, *Notes on the Postage Stamps of the Transvaal Used During the First British Occupation*, Paper presented before The Philatelic Society, London, May 12th.

Even though this material only takes up some eight inches on a shelf, it contains a parsec of information, without which one could not deal with the plethora of papers, printers and forgeries which exists from the First Republic and subsequent British occupation. Many of the above papers and books may be familiar; some I hope not, but the purpose of this exercise is to point to the value of the interchange of information. For those of us who are eager to increase our understanding of our hobby, but do not know where to go, a bibliography compiled specifically for our interests is a reasonable point from which to begin.

*Editor's note: Tim's installment this issue has spurred me to go through my own meager collection of reference materials of which I will forward a listing to him prior to the next issue. I hope the each of you will do the same. There is no telling what we may have collectively as a group of specialists. 1 for one, will be accessing some of Tim's material which should prove extremely valuable for future research efforts.*



"Facts, Figures & Other Matters"  
Bill Brooks Secretary-Treasurer

Study Group Name Change

As you will remember from the previous *CALL FOR PAPERS*, it included a ballot asking each member to express his/her desires regarding a name change. The catalyst for this was that some of us felt that such a move was required because of the recently broadened focus of our group. Well, the results are in and 100% of the ballots cast were in favor of changing our name. ENCLOSED IS A BALLOT LISTING ALL OF THE NEW NAME SUGGESTIONS SUBMITTED. PLEASE TAKE TWO OR THREE MINUTES TO READ THE INSTRUCTIONS, MAKE YOUR SELECTIONS AND RETURN BY THE DEADLINE.

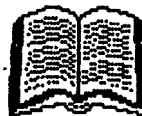
Back-of-the-book Survey

Beginning in August, all new and current members began receiving a membership Interest survey concerning peripheral philatelic

topics. This survey was at the behest of our illustrious President, Syl Tully. The purpose was two-fold: First to assess the level of interest in this type of material; and secondly to provide future journal contributors with some food-for-thought as to topics to write about. Twelve completed forms were returned. The results are as follows:

Topic	No. of Members Interested	Countries and Private Entities Collected or Interested In
Revenues	9	OFS, Natal, Zululand, Rhodesia, CGH, South Africa, TATI Concession, ZAR, CGH, Transvaal, Griqualand West
Newspaper Stamps	4	Natal, Zululand, Transvaal, Rhodesia, NRZ
Telephone Stamps	2	Natal, Zululand, Transvaal
Telegraph Stamps	5	OFS, Natal, Zululand, all Study Group countries, OVS, ZAR, Transvaal
Railway Stamps	5	Natal, Zululand, RR, SAR, Southern Africa, OVS, ZAR, Transvaal
Parcel Post	3	Natal, Zululand, OFC, CGH, Transvaal, Union of SA
Private Posts	4	Natal, Zululand, OFC, CGH, Transvaal, Union of SA, Mount Currie Express-Griqualand East
Postage Dues	7	CGH, Natal, OFS, Transvaal, Zululand, Rhodesia, SWA,
Other	7	OFS/postal stationery, Rhodesia registration labels, Central African Airways labels, specimen overprints African "cinderellas", Boer War cancels, Mafeking "blues", historic postcards, SA and SWA officials, OFS literature, Deutsche Seepost cancellations of the West & East Africa voyages (DOAL) on cover.

As you can see, there is a wide-ranging interest in this type of material. Are there any, back-of-the-book connoisseurs amongst us who would be willing to author an article for a future issue? Perhaps two or three members might like to collaborate on something-If you are interested, the editor will provide a list of those members interested in these areas.



MEMBER BIBLIOGRAPHIES

Morgan T. Farrell, founding member and presently serving on the Nominations Committee,

was born on February 28th in Glencove, New York. He is married to Elizabeth and is presently on active duty in the U. S. Navy. Morgan holds a Bachelor's Degree in Health Sciences, likes to travel and has a primary philatelic interest in South and South West Africa.

Brian E. Kock was born on September 19th at La Mesa, California. He is married to Suzetta and has three children - Brian, Rita and Thomas. Brian is a doctoral student at the University of Michigan in Ancient Near Eastern Studies. His philatelic interests are the Union of SA, Natal, Transvaal and Zululand in addition to collecting stamps. Brian's other pastimes include Iguana raising and spelunking. He resided in South Africa for two years (1977-79) where he developed his interest in the stamps of the area. He lived in Johannesburg, Newcastle and Pietermaritzburg-both in Natal Province.

Eric F. P. Burnett, our Resident Representative for Canada, was born in 1937 in South Africa. He is an Engineer and enjoys bridge and racquet sports. Last year, Eric was in Zimbabwe and South Africa this year. His main philatelic interests are early Rhodesia and Southern Rhodesia.

### THE FORERUNNERS FORUM



#### "Questions & Answers" By Syl C. Tully

No questions have been sent in as of late. However, there

must be a number of you who have philatelic mysteries in mind for which you have sought solutions. No matter how simple or complex the question, please send them to Syl at his address listed on the cover page.

**Question 6: "Why did the Cape of Good Hope use a triangular design for its early issues?"**

**Answers:** The first answer was provided by Jack Grutter out South Africa way. He quotes from L. N. & M. Williams, *Stamps of Fame*, Blandford Press, London, 1949, p. 150:

"A board was appointed in 1852 to report on the postal system. It recommended the introduction of postage stamps, and said: 'in order to obviate errors in sorting letters or stamping, we would suggest the adoption of a device and shape so different from those of the English postage stamps as to catch the eye at a glance, and we would propose that of a triangle with the figure of Hope in the centre.

with the words 'Postage', 'Four Pence', 'Cape of Good Hope on the surrounding border...as represented in the accompanying sketch by the Surveyor-general...' (who had also submitted a pentagonal design). "...we are disposed to recommend the triangle as most convenient, economical and distinctive."

John Feintuch from Briarwood, New York, sent a photocopy of page 10 from Rosenthal & Blum, *Cape Triangular Stamps*, A. A. Balkema, Cape

"Meanwhile the Cape public was becoming familiar with the idea of stamps for revenue purposes. Printed in embossed sheets, these had to be cut up with scissors by the user. Some were even supplied ready-gummed, cancellation being carried out by means of a so-called 'killer', covered with parallel bars. What rendered it unique was the triangular shape, carrying the name 'Cape of Good Hope' at each corner. Specimens of these 'killers' may be encountered on ancient diagrams in the Surveyor-General's Office and elsewhere. By degrees, the triangular 'killer' came into general official use.

In this fashion, was born the idea of associating triangular design with the payment of postage at the Cape of Good Hope:\*

**Question #9:** The Provincial issues are fully described in Samuels, "Specimen Overprints of Crown Agents" as Type SAS. Bechuanaland Protectorate is not mentioned even though I have what appears to be a copy of the 1902 1/2d green with a specimen overprint, similar to stamps of Natal, Cape, etc., for presentation to the Empire society in 1910, at the time of the formation of the Union. Could it have been part of the same presentation printing?

**Answer:** Upon further review, and in reference to a note from David Wessely, I found I had made an error in the type of specimen overprint I have on the 1902 1/2d of Bechuanaland Protectorate. It is not Type SA5 as I had thought, but Type GB1S which is listed in Samuels. The overprints have the same dimensions for each type, but there is a marked difference in the letters S, M and N, and minor differences in the other ones.



#### s UNANSWERED CHALLENGES FOR THE SCHOLAR

The following is the last remaining question which Syl

has referred to the general membership for a solution. As mentioned earlier, all members are invited to submit questions to Syl to continue "breathing life" into this department.

**Question #7: "Why did Natal use embossed Stamps?"**

**M BITS AND PIECES**

\* Jack Grutter noted the interest in the Interprovincial Period. He informed the Editor the Chris Board did a superb article on the period in *The Springbok*, GB Collector's Society of South Africa, Vol 36 No 3, May/June '88.

## FEATURE ARTICLES



Research On The One Penny  
Ship (1926-1930)

By  
Morgan Farrell

The one penny ship stamps of South Africa had a lifetime of 28 years, from the first penny ships printed in London and issued on 1 January 1926 through 27 different issues until they were replaced by the Animal definitives in 1954. Along with the 27 different issues are also several issues of booklets and coils. Most all of these penny ships are very much obtainable, and for the most part, very reasonably priced. In many cases, a dollar can buy hundreds of singles. There are very many well-known and collectable varieties among all of these millions of stamps and for the patient and knowledgeable collector, they can be found for the price of the stamp.

Because of the factors discussed above, these stamps have been collected and studied extensively by thousands of collectors almost since their beginning, nearly 63 years ago. Although all of the issues have received their share of attention, the first three issues, the London and Pretoria typographs, have probably received the least attention, even though they have been around the longest. This is not to say that they have not been studied or written about, but comparatively speaking, many more questions remain unanswered in their case. In some cases the questions remain unasked. Why would this be so when they were the first? I believe there are two major reasons: First, at least until recently, no records could be found before 1930, so there was nowhere to begin. (New records have recently come to light.) The other reason is that because of their typographed printing, they cannot be completely plated. Some well-known constant flaws can be individually plated, but entire sheets cannot be reconstructed. This tends to discourage a serious student of any stamp since without the ability to plate a stamp, it is so much more difficult to learn about it.

There are many things about these early penny ships that are well-known. The first issue was printed in London and then those plates, along with two additional sets were sent to Pretoria for printing. There are constant varieties that are very well-known on all three issues, in particular several cracked plate varieties from the second issue. All of these have been positioned. Much new information was unearthed during a visit to South Africa by the late Klass van Ingen and Oliver Sanford. Many

documents thought not to exist, and even

- John Feintuch of New York sent in a note in response to T. P. McDermot regarding *The 14th Edition of the south African Stamp Color Catalog (1989)*. John states that the catalog should be presently available from the same address at \$12 seairmail or \$19 air.
- Syl Tully thinks that a good topic for an article by someone would be one on postally cancelled fiscal issues and deceptive "postal" cancels which are actually fiscal in nature, such as the Controller cancel so often seen on early high value George V, Union of SA - actually out of Johannesburg and looking just like a postal cancel but really a revenue use.

*(Editor's note: These three notes of interest are excellent examples of how information may be exchanged, topics for future articles can come to light, etc. All members are encouraged to send me little "tidbits" from time-to-time. I feel they add a nice little touch to the service we provide one another via our journal.)*

\*\*\*ORANGE FREE STATE STUDY CIRCLE DONATES VOLUMES 2 & 3 OF THEIR HANDBOOK TO OUR GROUP!!!! Let me quote Chairman A. R. Allison's letter of August 8, 1988:

*" I am pleased to say that we agreed unanimously that we would like to support your Group and our Secretary, J. R. Stroud will be sending you our Bulletins...*

*With regard to your reference library, we would be pleased if you would accept without obligation complimentary copies of our Handbook Volumes 11 & 13. I am afraid Volume 1 has been out of print for a long time, otherwise we would have been pleased to include that. I will send you these two books by surface mail."*

I must say that OFSSC's support of our group was a most welcomed surprise. Needless to say, our sincere appreciation was communicated to Bob Allison. I would appreciate it if those of you who are also members of OFSSC would express thanks also.

\*Some inquiries have been received about our group having a mail bid auction. Perhaps it is time we gave one a try. I will be writing to the officers about the mechanics.

Research Of The Penny Ship Continued..-, some actual plates were found and are now in the postal museum in Pretoria.

There is still so much more to be done though, some 60 years later. I was lucky enough to come upon a very large number of these stamps and have been researching them for some time. I now own or have examined about 50,000 of these stamps. My research has brought several discoveries. Some of these findings may have been made long before, but if so, I cannot find any writings. Some of the areas of my study are as follows:

1. Since 1927, there has been discussion about two separate dies or plates for the vignettes. I think I have found the correct explanation for this. I am now waiting further information before proclaiming a definite conclusion.

2. There were many printing runs made within the three issues. I have attempted to identify some of these by description and by dates of usage.

3. The development of the cataloged varieties has never fully been given, either by giving the different stages or by their first dates of appearance. I have attempted this but more input is required.

4. There are many hundreds of minor flaws that are constant at least for some part of the lifetime of the plates that are not described anywhere, nor are their positions on the sheet. I am now trying to organize and identify these.

5. Probably due to the scarcity of material, little has been written of the booklet stamps at all. I am lucky enough to have a large number of these and have identified individual printings and constant varieties.

These are some of the areas that I am working on. Although I plan to write an article or two for any significant 'find', my ultimate goal is a comprehensive publication of some sort to bring out all of the knowns and unknowns of these stamps. I would like to hear from any member who can contribute to this study or for that matter, anyone who is interested in these stamps at all. (Address Hated under Nominations Committee - page 2.) As for my study, my best closing fine would be "to be -continued:

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THE FREE STATE Provisional  
of the Republic: Part I

By  
Tim Bartshe

Being a specialist in the issues of the Orange Free State, by necessity I am a lover of provisionals. As the Republic issued only one design of eight values and twenty-odd color varieties, provisionals yield the only outlet for variety or should I say varieties. Short of the minor printing plate flaws and the Gibbons "double" print of the 1sh the basic values are, well in a word, dull. But, the provisionals.... ah, therein lies the basis for research to answer questions unanswered and even unasked.

Prior to occupation by the British in March, 1900, ten basic provisional types were necessary to shore up gaps in the Republic's stock of values. It was a long way from the *de la Rue* presses in London to South Africa and in the interim the depleted values necessary for postal requirements were devised by overprinting existing little-used values to those needed. This plethora of provisionals yields a fertile field for philatelic writings. The first to be dealt with here is the first 1/2d provisional of 1896.

The 1/2d value was the prevailing rate for newspapers ever since the rate change of 1882. Since its first printing and issuance in 1883, usage of the 3,691,200 stamps was steady until a sudden surge in demand occurred due to the reduction of the postal card rate from 1d to 1/2d in 1891 and the overseas rate reduced to 2 1/2d in 1892. By September, 1896, all stocks were exhausted necessitating the overprinting of a temporary issue.

The surcharge, to be printed upon the abundant 3d ultramarine issued of 1882, consisted of seven distinct types of numeral fractions using five different founts of the 2and. at least five of the "1". Printing was done one-half sheet at a time, starting with the top half of the sheets - the top two panes of 120 stamps. Figure 1 shows the distribution of the various types arranged on the one-half sheet basis. Types correspond with the SG types, but not the Scott letter varieties. Early on a weakness developed on the first vertical row of the left hand pane, beginning with #31. This weakness spread until virtually each stamp on the first vertical row and half of the second were weakly printed. For some reason, the weakness was not corrected during the printing and a large number of stamps on the lower left pane were effectively uncharged.

To remedy the situation, it is believed that a handstamp was made from the Type G, fount and individually applied where necessary. Either through zeal (which is doubtful considering the enormity of the task) or boredom, some surcharges were placed

fore-runner s Vol III No .1 - Jan/Apr '89 P. 8  
 produced and abundance of double strike varieties, all combinations of doubles existing except Type D+Type G. These double strike varieties are fairly common with the Type B+Type G being the rarest of the group. Also, due to the occasional off-center or faint second strike, a third was applied. These triple surcharges are very scarce and are only occasionally offered in auction. Figure 2 shows a complete bottom left pane reduced for space conservation with a third surcharge on #19; Type A+Type G+Type G+. Figure 3 is a block of four, #7-8 and #13-14, with #7 showing a poorly placed second surcharge straddling both stamps, necessitating a third. Figure 4 is a used single certified as "genuine in all respects" by an A. Wilson, stamped 28 OCT. 1909. This example with Type F+Type G is postmarked with the cds of Trommel in use at the time. It is interesting to note that many of the varieties seen used from this issue originate from this post office—shades of Emil Tamsen. Another variety of double surcharge exists where the half sheet was slightly skewed thereby causing the upper right portions to fall off-center, partially printing on the stamp below. These items, which generally go unidentified as a separate variety are

from the more common double strike. The final type of variety in this printing requires a little more explanation and imagination than the previously discussed items. There exists examples of a double surcharge where the second strike is the same type as the original without the pence. The original itself was strong and the double was totally unnecessary. It is believed by the OFSSC that these arose from an experiment to develop a reasonable method to correct the weaknesses in the printing of the left panes. Apparently, individual handstamps were constructed of each type of the numerals to be applied to the weak surcharges. As can be imagined, this method would have taken an enormous amount of time and the Type G hand stamp was ultimately decided upon. Five examples are shown in Figure 5: Types D, E, F and two G's. As was typical of the Boers, no waste could be tolerated and these experiments saw postal duty as evidenced by the used example in the upper right of Figure 5. These items, though unlisted, are legitimate stamps and quite rare.

Diagram of setting

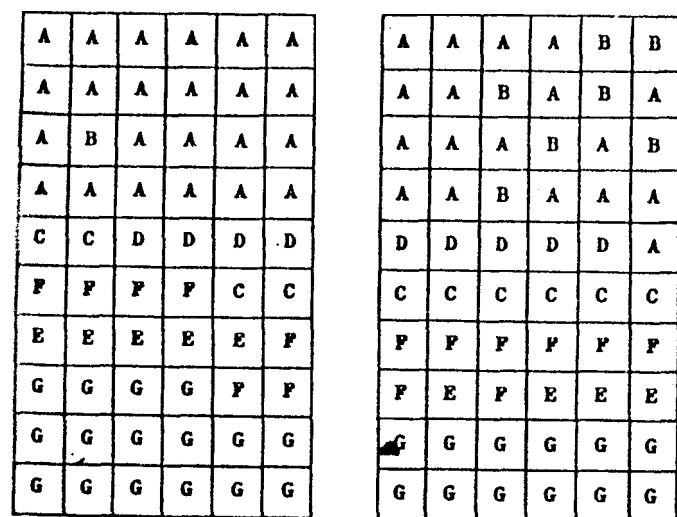


FIGURE 1



FIGURE 5



FIGURE 2

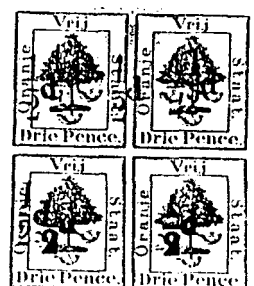


FIGURE 3

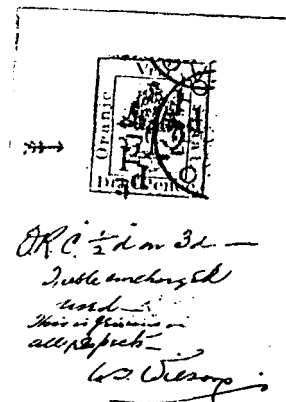
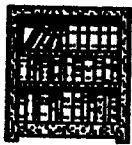


FIGURE 4



## My Collection of Transvaal Postal History By

George van den Hurk

My collection of postal history deals with a comparatively small area: The Witwatersrand; however, the area is economically and in many other respects, an important part of the

Transvaal.

The collection extends over a period of more than one hundred years. Most of the material covers the time after the gold-rush and the discovery of the Main Gold Reef in 1886, followed by the founding of Johannesburg and other towns on the Rand. After the Anglo-Boer War of 1899 to 1902, historically and from the point of view of the philatelist, an interesting period, the Transvaal came under British colonial rule until 1910, when the Union was formed which lasted from 1910 until 1961.

The collection is organized into different parts, as follows: A.

### Z.A.R., 1880-1899

1. Postmarks (Including "Paid Stamps", cheap-mail obliterations, etc.)
2. Registered letters
3. Parcel Post
4. Redirected and Missent Letters
5. Unstamped and insufficiently Prepaid Letters
6. The Returned Letter Office
7. Late Letters
8. Official Post and its markings
9. The Telegraph Office
10. Railway related markings
11. Military Mail
12. Fiscal markings
13. The Money Order Office
14. Picture Postcards
15. Philatelic History
16. Postal Rates
17. Postal Routes

### B. Anglo-Boer WAR, 1899-1902

- Mail to and from the Witwatersrand ( Various sub-divisions)

### C. TRANSVAAL, 1902-1910

- 1 - 17: Same as A above
- 18. Machine Cancellers
- 19. Special Postmarks and Cachets
- 20. Express Mad

### D. UNION, 1910-1961

- 1 - 20: Same as A & B above
- 21. Airmails
- 22. Meter Franks

### E. R.S.A., 1961-1986

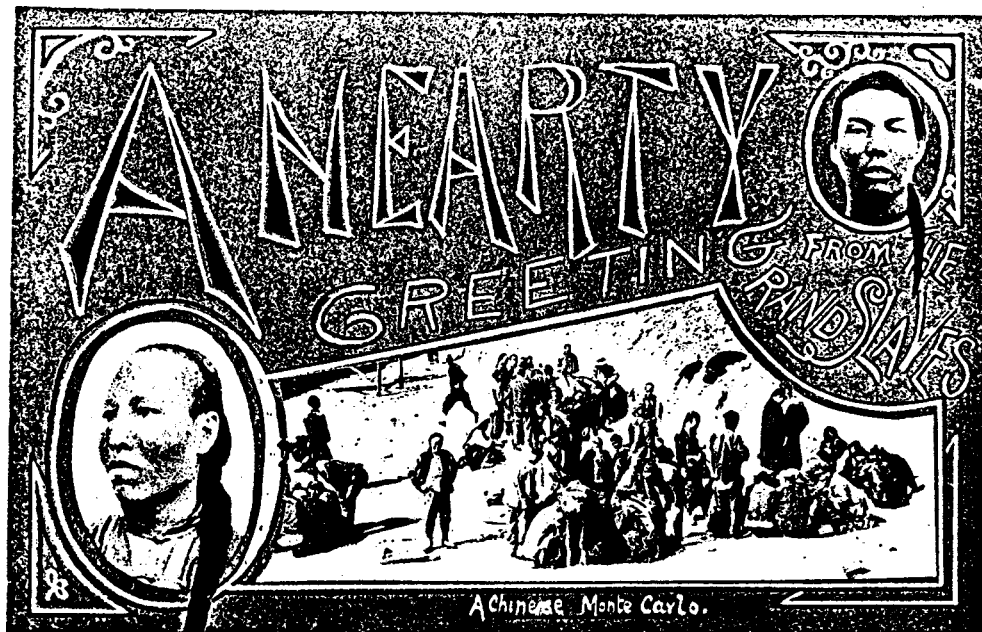
- 1 - 22: Same as A, C and D.

Some of the sections are again often sub-divided, e.g. Anglo-Boer War. Mail from the British and Boer sides, Censor markings, Burgher concentration camps, P.O.W. camps, etc.

***My Collection of Transvaal Postal History Cont'd....***

As a whole, I would classify the collection as a "Heimat" collection; but because of its extended scope from postal markings (Macrophily) to the more specialized aspects of postal history over a long period, it would from an exhibition point of view, be more suitable to select one or a combination of related subjects and show it as postal history.

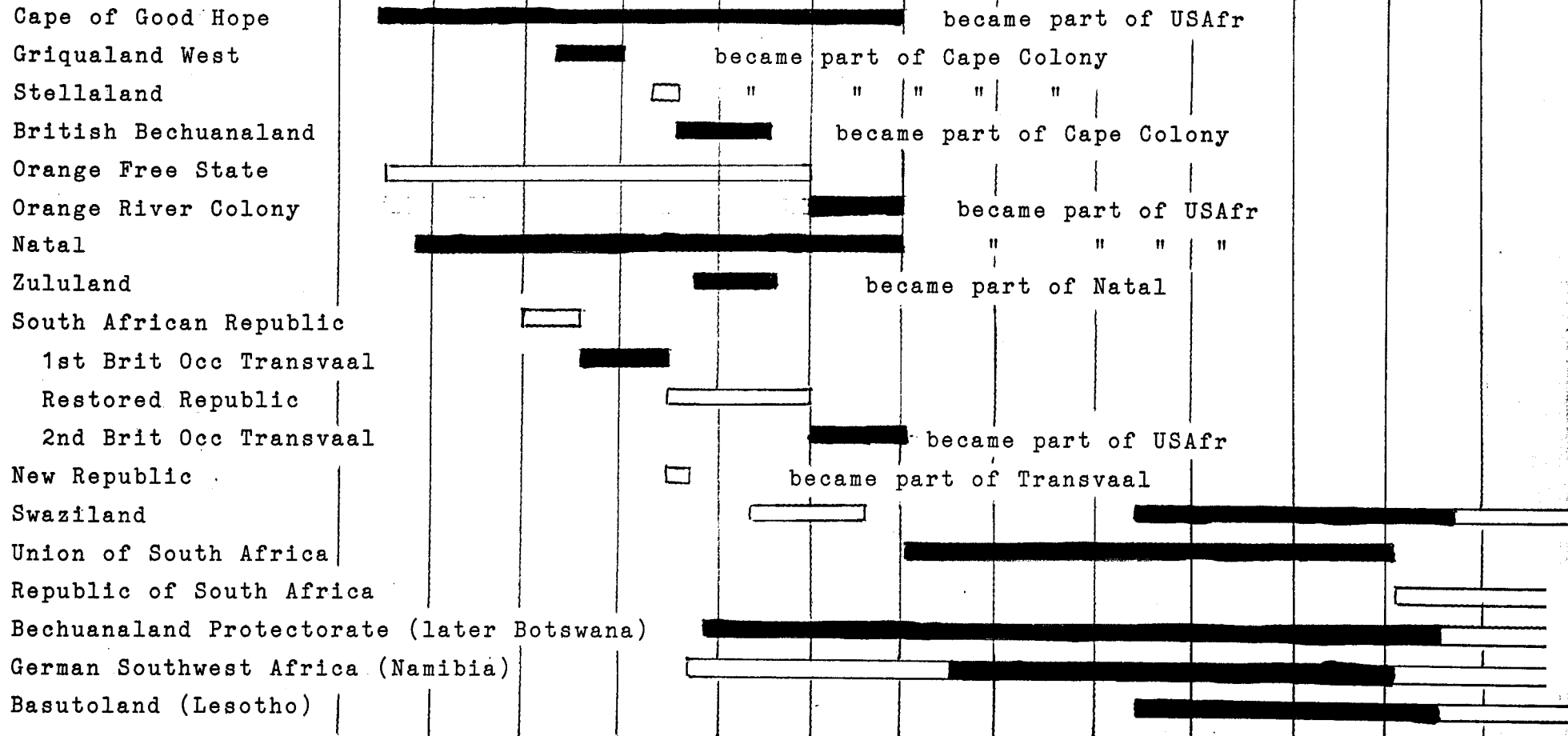
Included are picture postcards on a strictly selected basis because sometimes they are the only link with historical, social and other events for which no other postal evidence has yet been discovered. An example is the recruitment of Chinese labor for the gold mines on the Rand after the Anglo-Boer War. The first contingent of 1,055 coolies, recruited for the East Rand Proprietary Mines, sailed from Hong Kong on the S.S. Tweeddale on May 25, 1904, and arrived in Durban on June 18th. Political opposition to the continuance of "Chinese slavery" (by the help of which the Campbell-Bannerman government deceived the British electorate, defamed the good name of South Africa, and secured an ill-gotten return to power in January, 1906 - *Out of the Crucible*, Hedley A. Chilvers, 1929.), was the cause that by March 1910, the last of the 100,000 Chinamen were repatriated and had left South Africa.



A GRAPHIC CHRONOLOGY OF POSTAL SERVICE IN SOUTHERN AFRICA

By Ray Harrie

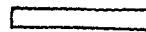
1850 1860 1870 1880 1890 1900 1910 1920 1930 1940 1950 1960 1970



UNDER BRITISH CONTROL



NOT UNDER BRITISH CONTROL



CAPE OF GOOD HOPE COVER CHALLENGE TO THE MEMBERSHIP From  
Syl C. Tully

*Editor's Note: Syl sent me the following copy of a "take" cover which he says Archie Batten encountered and is well written up by the OFSSC. Syl wanted to test my wits first as to why it is a fake. However, being the humble novice that I am, i felt that he challenge should be given to all of you. This item becomes Question #10 for the 'Unanswered Challenges For The Scholar" section - To wit: "Why is this cover a fake?" Responses should be sent to the Editor and will be published in the next issue.)*



STILL MORE ON THE OFS "BE" CANCELLER

*Editor's Note: This piece was sent in by Syl Tully and is an excerpt from a recent issue of the OFSSC "Bulletin". Illustrations appear on page 13. As Syl says "The theory seems sound."*


I recently came across three examples of the BE in barred oval canceller on various Bloemfontein newspaper wrappers all used to Bedford in the Cape (illustrated on the following page). This would tend to reinforce Bob Allison's theory that the BE stands for 'Beyond Environs'.

Illustrate them here as I think members may be interested to see the Newspaper imprints. One

- particular is unusual in that it has two imprints on one side - one in Dutch for 'De Burger', and one
- English for 'The Friend of the Free State/and Bloemfontein Gazette', while the stamp appears on the reverse side. Each wrapper has thoughtfully been dated in manuscript (contemporary?)"


(AMG)

002/14/08



*J.B. Gunn*  
*New Rush*  
*Redford*  
*CC*

**THE BLOEMFONTEIN POST.**  
 Published Daily.  
 Proprietors: ARGUS PRINTING AND PUBLISHING  
 Box 233, BLOEMFONTEIN




*J.B. Gunn*  
*New Rush*  
*Redford*

Postage, anywhere in South Africa, except Rhodesia, . . . . Id.  
 " Rhodesia and all countries in the Postal Union . . . . Id.

8/3/00

**"De Burger,"**  
 Gepubliceerd elke Woensdagen Zaterdag  
 Eigenaren: GEBROEDERS BARLOW & Co.,  
 BLOEMFONTEIN, ORANJE VRIJSTAAT,  
 Inteekenings Prijs:—22/- per Jaar, Vooruit Betaalbaar.

**FRIEND OF THE FREE STATE,  
 AND BLOEMFONTEIN GAZETTE.**  
 Published every Tuesday and  
 Proprietors:—BARLOW BROTHERS AND  
 PRINTERS, BOOKSELLERS AND STATIONERS,  
 BLOEMFONTEIN, ORANGE FREE STATE.



*J.B. Gunn*  
*New Rush*  
*Redford*  
*CC*

27/4/00

**EXCHANGE COPY**

For the Editor

**THE FRIEND OF THE FREE STATE,  
 AND BLOEMFONTEIN GAZETTE,**  
 Published every Tuesday and Friday,  
 Proprietors:—BARLOW BROTHERS & Co.,  
 PRINTERS, BOOKSELLERS, and STATIONERS,  
 BLOEMFONTEIN, ORANGE FREE STATE.

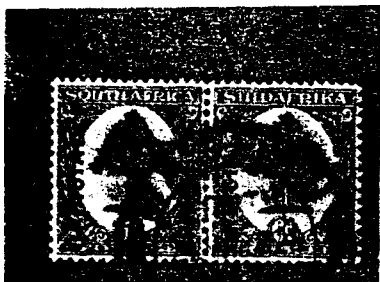
, Postmark Or Two: OFS Virginia Siding.  
And Maseru From The Union From  
Morgan Farrell

*Morgan came across these two interesting  
pieces and thought that perhaps they would be of  
interest.*

The first postmark, "Virginia Siding", was seen on an  
1899 list. However, there has never been a  
recorded mark. The illustrated cancel below was  
located in a recently purchased lot of ORC/OFS  
material. This find has been reported to the Orange  
Free State Study Circle.



The pair shown below (Scott #04a) was recently  
purchased at a stamp show. The pair itself is a  
good find, but the "Maseru" postmark adds to its  
attractiveness. In late 1933, many south African  
and provincials stamps were philatelically used in  
Basutoland (and Swaziland). This pair, though, was used in  
1928 and is most likely non-philatelic.



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