

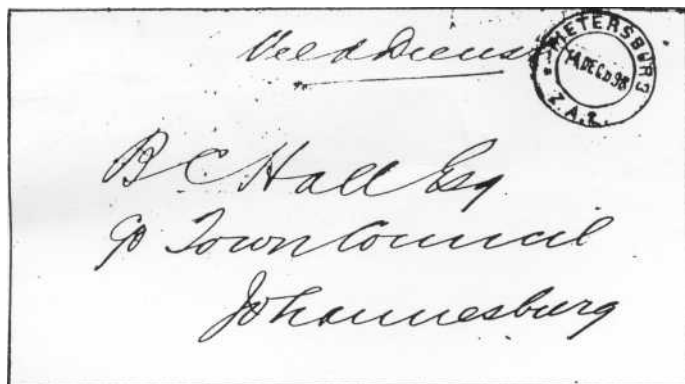


# \*\*\*\*\*FORERUNNERS

Journal Of The Philatelic Society For Greater Southern Africa

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July/October 1993

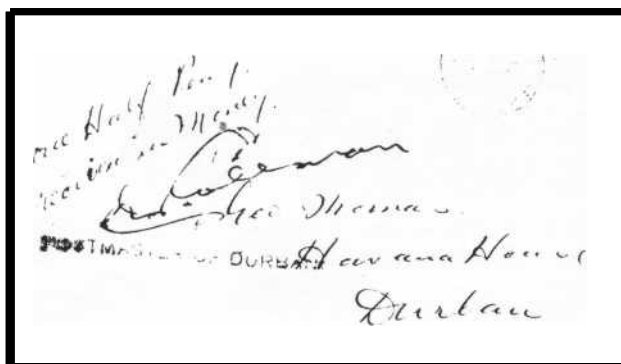


Hoofdlager - Zuid Afrikaansche Republiek

George van den Hurk, RDPSA, Switzerland

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The Philatelic Society  
for  
Greater Southern Africa  
1993 Mail Bid Auction  
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Society affiliations: American Philatelic Society, the Philatelic Federation of Southern Africa, the Southern California Federation. Society services and benefits include annual mail bid auction, library, question & answer panel, publications program, a "Best Exhibit" Award available for major exhibitors, translation service, national/regional meetings and programs. Membership information is available from any of the Society International Representatives listed prior to the contents page.

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Rhodesias - Bill Wallace, Post Office Box 16381, San Francisco, CA 94116 USA The Bechuanalands -

David Wessely, 125 Elma Drive, Elyria, OH 44035 USA

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## FEATURE ARTICLES:

**George van den Hurk Hoofdlager - Zuid Afrikaansche Republiek.** The commandos of the South African Republiek have an exciting history. This article goes into some detail in describing a number of their expeditions and the postal acts which provided them with postfree services, including temporary postal agencies. Reference is made to erection of stationary and portable iron forts... **56**.

**Robson Lowe Mauritius Reprints, Fakes & Forgeries.** This is a third installment of a series of related articles. Extremely well-illustrated and detailed, the reader is exposed to some of the more notable examples of the forger's art, including cancellations, die proofs, surcharges and coloration... **59**

**Frederick P. Lawrence Mafeking Forgeries: A Rejoinder.** This piece was developed as a response to an earlier article on the topic by Robson Lowe. As a specialist on the 'Mafeking Beseiged' overprints and the so-called 'Blueprint' issues, the author provides an excellent historical overview of just how the issues came into being, production levels, font sizes for the overprints and production methods. Information on the various forgeries is exemplary and should be included in any acquisition considerations on the part of the reader ...**62**

**Wilford H. Ross Collecting Bophuthatswana.** This is one collector's story on how and why he decided to pursue "Bop" philately. This piece includes some excellent modern postal history items especially a cover from the Office of the President of the Republic. The author points out the in-depth understanding one may achieve of these modern entities that may be gained from the study of present day issues, e.g., important industries, infrastructure and the like... **65**

**H.U. Bantz Keetmanshoop: Resume of Postal History.** The author provides the reader with a wonderfully detailed chronology of the development of postal services in the principal town of southern Namibia. Coverage ranges from the spring of 1866 and naming of the mission station financed by a German industrialist, to the first post-independence cancellers of Namibia in May of 1990... **71**

## ZULU NOTES

**Tony Davis Selected Postmarks of Zululand.** This well-illustrated article provides brief, yet, excellent information on the postmark types/measurements of Entonjaneni, Hlabisa, Ingwavuma, Lower Tugela, Lower Umfolosi and Melmoth. Examples of cancel varieties, e.g., inverted month and year slugs, point to an area with a great deal of appeal to cancel aficionados... **93**

## THE RHODESIAS

**William R. Wallace Postmark Primer - Bulawayo.** This is the first installment of this new regular feature in the journal. In this piece the author discusses the first postmark of Rhodesia and the establishment of a postal route in 1888. Rare cancels from other sites are also brought to light. The author hopes to stimulate future contributions to this feature by Rhodesia (and forerunners) enthusiasts. . **96**

## EDITORIAL NOTES

This issue celebrates the beginning of our seventh year of publication. During that time, as you 'old timers' will remember, Forerunners has gone from a four-paged, stapled newsletter to a fifty plus page plus award-winning publication. My thanks to the authors and regular feature writers for making this so.

To our delight, another regular feature appears herein. Beginning with this issue, members Bill Wallace and Tom Yazman co-author 'The Rhodesias'. Bill and Tom are looking forward to reader comments and invite "guest" articles.

Perhaps it is now time to evaluate what other avenues in the publications arena your Society should explore. We have an in-place structure ready for action - The Publications Program. We have two benefactors ready, willing and able to underwrite the production of specialized publications, under Society sponsorship.

PSGSA, through its internal resources, has the potential to provide the philatelic community with first class works. A review of the membership roster clearly reflects a wealth of knowledge and expertise, yet to be shared. Rumor has it that at least three of our members have manuscripts at varying stages of development. Perhaps this tome will spur them on to completion, sooner than later. Alec Page, our Publication Program Chair, is anxiously awaiting contact at 138 Chastilian Rd., Dartford, Kent DA1 3LG, England.

\*\*\*\*\*

Would any of our RSA readers be interested in doing a periodic column on the South African auction scene? Requests have been received for this type of feature. Anyone interested in doing an auction column, please write yours truly. If more than one member responds, perhaps the column could be a team effort. I am certain readers would follow an auction feature with great interest. Over 90% of members participate in an average of 11 auctions per year.

\*\*\*\*\*

We have been having some mailing difficulties with members who have failed to notify the Secretary of mailing address changes. Please do notify us when you move.

Thanks to those who continue to send in U.S. postage. Believe me, it comes in handy!

\*\*\*\*\*

You have probably noticed the increase in commercial advertising in Forerunners. Some months ago, an aggressive marketing campaign was implemented. The goal was to have an increasingly larger share of journal production costs underwritten by commercial ad

revenue. To entice firms to purchase ad space, the Society had to demonstrate its value as an advertising outlet. Three pieces of information were provided: (1) selected pages from the journal, (2) reader stamp acquisition data and (3) a Society brochure. Ad revenues have increased ten times in the past two years as a result! When contacting any of our advertisers, please let them know you saw their ad in Forerunners.

\*\*\*\*

Due to a recent editorial change, current advertisers may submit brief informational releases for publication on a space available basis. The primary requirement is that the release be informative and educational. Examples include an illustrated postal history item of significance, accompanied by a very brief narrative; or a significant realization; or a description of a key rarity to be offered; or perhaps a very noteworthy piece out of the firm's own archives.

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## CORRESPONDENCE

Thank you for Forerunners No. 16 which I think is an outstanding piece of work and I really enjoyed reading it - Jan Stolk, Holland

I have really enjoyed the two issues of "Forerunners" that I have received. Enclosed is a check for the Society Trust - Will Ross, California

On receiving my latest copy of the FORERUNNERS, I congratulate you on a very interesting magazine - Allan Raw, Republic of South Africa

Great issue -- lots to read and enjoy. My only complaint would be that it isn't more pages! 'Forerunners' has developed into a good forum for this philatelic area -- in my opinion it is a lot more dynamic than most - Tony Davis, Canada

I am very impressed with the quality of the articles and other things in the 'Forerunners', and I am glad that Alec Page had advised me to join the Society. Although my main interest is in Zululand, I find the information about the other areas most interesting reading. Who knows, I may venture into one of these in the future - Wilson Wong, Hong Kong

This is mainly to comment on the 'new look' journal. I like it! The pattern of content is now much more balanced in presentation with the features in one section. Of course I appreciate that it may not always be possible to maintain that entirely, especially if you get short of meaty features; however, the principal is first class - Alec Page, England

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Recruit a member or two - Applications/ brochures available from the Editor or any of our International Representatives.

# FEATURE ARTICLES

Receipt of articles is accepted on an on-going basis. The Individual issue deadlines are the 15th of January, May and September. Articles should be submitted in double spaced, typewritten form and have a maximum length of five pages, not including illustrations.

Whenever possible, black and white photographs of covers and/or stamps should be submitted for illustration purposes. If photocopies are submitted, they should be of the clearest copy possible. Originals of charts and graphs are preferable.

## Hoofdlager - Zuid Afrikaansche Republiek

George van den Hurk, RDPSA, Switzerland

It happened from time to time that commandos were called up for field service, be it for punitive expeditions against African tribes or for other events of a military nature. In such cases the free conveyance of the mail of commando members appears to have been the common practice.

Both Postal Acts, of 1869 and 1886 (in article 54), made provision for the postfree carriage of letters, books and newspapers to and from burgers in the commandos. Parcels to and from burgers on active service had to be sent at nominal rates established at the time.

In the next Postal Act, Act No. 18 of 1898, the matter was regulated by article 53. The free postal service for commando members was discussed again on 28 September 1898 in the Second Volksraad, and it was decided that the arrangement would also be in force in respect of "all concerned with the maintaining of order and the suppression of rioting".

On many occasions, special postal services were arranged for burgers in the commandos.

During the Malaboch War in 1894, a half-weekly postal service was in operation from 16 June 1894 until 30 September 1894. Temporary postal agencies were in operation, e.g., Blauwberg from 16 June to 10 August, Hoofdlager Brandboontjesrivier from 10 August to 30 September and at the bovenlager of the Groot Letabari-vier from 17 August until 30 September 1894. The report of the PMG for 1894 listed additional expendi-

tures for the transport of the fieldpost:

Pietersburg - Blauwberg 16.6/10.8 72 miles Pounds 228

Pietersburg - Hoofdlager 22.8/24.9 68 miles Pounds 66

Buffels - Hoofdlager 22.8/24.9 28 miles Pounds 22

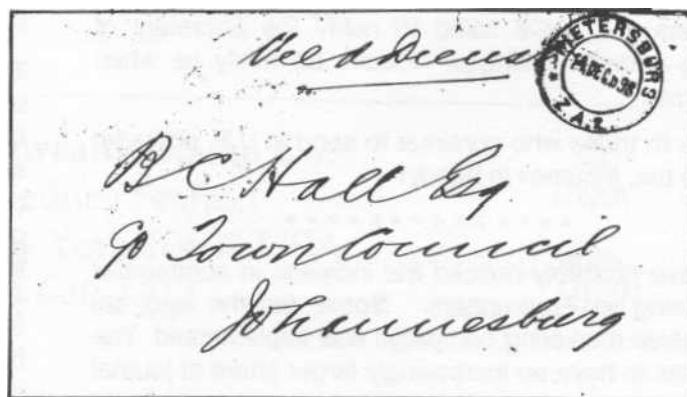
Haenertsburg - Bovenlager 17.8/24.9 Pounds 33

Isaac van Alphen noted in his report that he visited the field post offices and was satisfied with the transport and handling of the mails. While he conveyed his appreciation for the prompt and efficient service to H.J. and C.H. Zeederberg and Mr. James Hazelhurst, the Postmaster of Pietersburg, Commandant-General P. Joubert conveyed his satisfaction regarding the efficient field post service to the Government and the Postmaster-General.

A cover from this campaign was reported by Joh. Groenewald, RDPSA. It was sent by Henri Holzer, Lieutenant Pretoria Lager, Blaauwberg, 8/7/94, to Beaufort West. Also during the Magoeba expedition in 1895, a field postal service was in operation from 4 to 17 June 1895 in the Soutpansberg district. The Magato War of 1898 is another campaign from which covers survived.

A special half-weekly conveyance of mails between Pietersburg and the Hoofdlager in the Soutpansberg was operative between 18 October and 31 December 1898. A cover from this campaign is illustrated below in (Fig. 1).

**Figure 1.** Cover example of commando mails during the Magato War of 1898.



It is a "Velddienst" cover postmarked with the double circle datestamp of Pietersburg dated 14 December 1898, addressed to B.C. Hall Esq, c/o Town Council, Johannesburg.

A telegraph line, with wooden standards, was completed in record time from Pietersburg to the "Hoofdlager at Rietvlei" on 31 October, and two temporary postal agency offices for the commandos were opened on 1 November. The one was Fort Schutte, manned by Coernraad Johannes Abraham van Reenen, and the other Hoofdlager, where Jan Abraham Joubert looked after postal matters. Both men were postal agents and not officials in the employ of the Post Office.

Archival sources differ on the suspension of this service. According to one source the Hoofdlager post office was closed on 31 December 1898; according to another, both Hoofdlager and Fort Schutte ceased functioning "early in 1899". Shortly afterwards it was deemed necessary to maintain regular postal communication with "Fort Hendrina (Rietvlei)", apparently the place where the Hoofdlager was based.

A weekly postal service was started in February 1899 from Pietersburg to Fort Hendrina direct, and the journey took 14 to 15 hours. On 1 June 1899, the route was changed: the service then was from Lovedale Park, connecting with that place's postal routes to Louis Trichardt and Pietersburg.

The story of the campaign is characteristic of the commando actions during this period. The Venda were the last independent African people still left in the Transvaal. Ever since they had defeated the Republic in 1867, they had been doing pretty much as they pleased, not only refusing to pay taxes, but periodically demanding tribute from the surrounding settlers and missionaries. Also included were the Buys people, who still lived nearby in the valley called Mara (tears).

Despite the arrogance of the chief Mphefu and his energetic cattle raids, the Venda had lost much of their strength since the death of their previous chief, Magato. The tribe had been weakened also by the usual dissension's which followed the death of a strong leader. Early in 1898 the nervous Republic erected a new fort, named after D.E. Schutte, the Commissioner of Police. Its purpose was to guard the northern areas. The fort was erected a few miles west of Elim Mission, on a site dominating the ford across the Doorn River. In September the authorities began to prepare for a campaign, with men being commandeered and the new fort making for a rendezvous point, thus allowing for a strong concentration of power.

Commandant-General Piet Joubert travelled up to take command of his men early in October 1898; and the camp at Fort Schutte grew in to a large sprawling

place. The Doorn River was regarded as the Rubicon of the Venda. It was considered to be their boundary and Mphefu warned the commandos that crossing of the river would be an act of war. Any man who did so would never return.

On 17 October, however, the commandos crossed the river in strength. The column made its way unhindered to the very foot of Swunguzwi Mountain; and there, at a place called Rietvlei, pitched a camp and erected a portable iron fort known as Fort Hendrina. A present day Dutch Reformed Church of Louis Trichardt now stands there.

Messages were exchanged between Mphefu and Joubert, each asking the other to come and see him. As neither would be the first to budge, the commandos made themselves comfortable and prepared for a long fight.

The first clash took place on 21 October, when a crowd of Venda attacked the commandos while the men were busy constructing their fort.

More and more men were concentrated at Rietvlei, until Joubert had over 4,000 Europeans mustered into the largest army ever used by the Republic against an African tribe. The big attack was set for 16 November. In the actual attack on Swunguzwi the commandos had little difficulty. This mountain was attacked from three sides simultaneously. The Venda put up a purely token resistance. Three Europeans in the commandos were killed, and the defenders slipped away into a thick mountain mist, leaving their capital to be burned down behind them. The Venda fled with their chief across the Limpopo River into Rhodesia.

The Hoofdlager double circle datestamp of the ZAR was used during the Magato War of 1898. It was used on a "Velddienst" cover addressed to Johannesburg dated 23 December 1898 (Fig. 2). The Hoofdlager datestamp is better known from the Anglo Boer War where it was first used during November 1899 at Hoofdlager during the siege of Ladysmith.

After the siege of Ladysmith on 28 February 1900, the Hoofdlager was moved to Glencoe, where the datestamp was used until the Boer forces withdrew from Natal.

The covers illustrated in Figures 2 and 3 (next page) show the Hoofdlager datestamp dated 20 December 1899 on a cover from a Dutch war correspondent to the "Rand Post" of Johannesburg and a Velddienst cover dated 3 FEB. 00.

### Bibliography

Bulpin, T.V., Lost Trails of the Transvaal, 1983, Cape Town.

Sonntag, Christoph, My friend M-aleboch, Chief of the Blue Mountains, 1983, Pretoria.

Groenewald, Johannes, *Krygspas van die ZAR*, Rand 77 brochure.

Figure 2. Hoofdlager double circle datestamp shown on a "Velddienst" cover to Johannesburg.

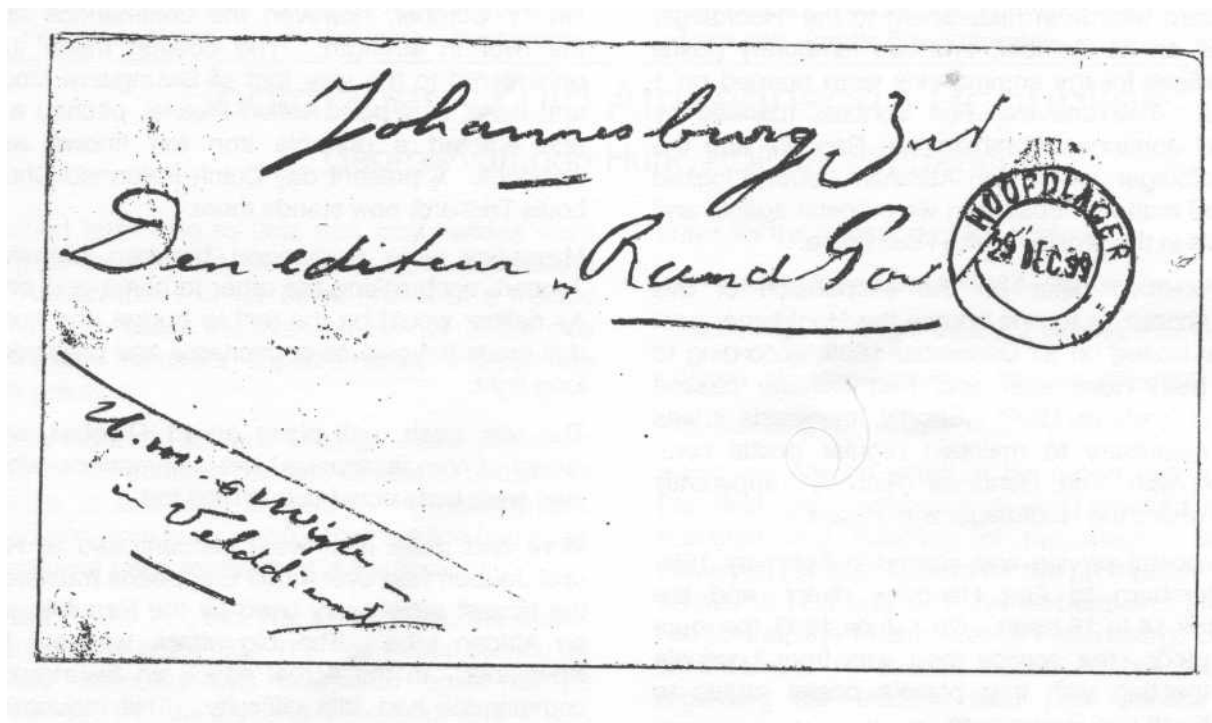
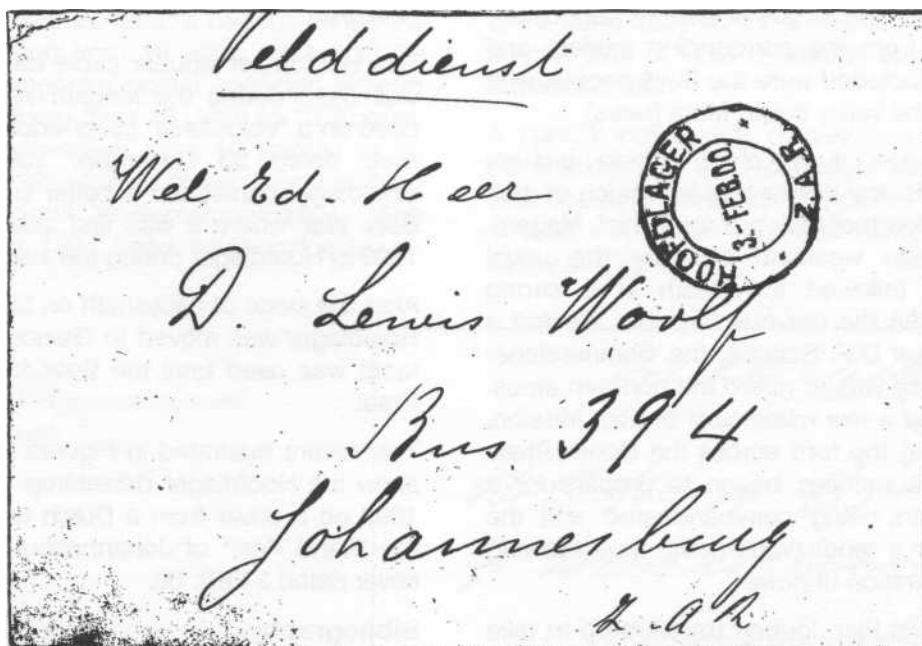


Figure 3. Hoofdlager datestamp on a cover from a Dutch war correspondent.



# Mauritius Reprints, Fakes & Forgeries

Robson Lowe, United Kingdom

The famous POST OFFICE Mauritius 1d. and 2d. were both engraved by J. Barnard in Port Louis. Barnard was a watchmaker and engraver. An estimate was submitted by him on 12 November 1846 for engraving and printing 500 of each value, together with a series of cancellations with the names of post offices, PAID, FREE, TOO LATE and PENNY POST, as well as numeral cancellations 1 to 14, and an obliterator.

The primitive engraved local issue, the 1847 POST OFFICE and 1848 POST PAID, the last engraved in sheets of twelve impressions by Barnard; the 1858 2d. being engraved in sheets of twelve by Lapirot; the re-engraving of Barnard's POST PAID plate by Sherwin in 1859; and Datdenne's lithographed Greek border 1d. and 2d. produced in 1859 - all have a curious history.

None of these stamps are known used on letters to the United Kingdom, which had sent supplies of the engraved stamps of the Britannia design to the Colony in 1849. However, none were issued until 1854 and did not come into general use until 1858 when the primitive period was coming to a close.

The primitive stamps, the first to be issued by a British Colony, were used for internal postage and for over-seas mail addressed to France, Aden and India.

Now to deal with the reprints, fakes and forgeries of the primitive issues.

The 1847 POST OFFICE plate passed into the famous collection formed by the late Maurice Burrus. One owner made a number of reprints with both values on one piece of paper, in black, deep orange and deep blue.

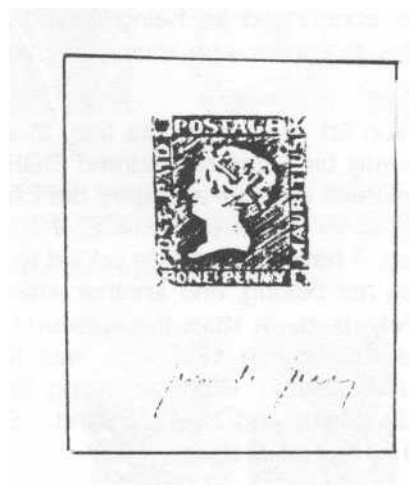
One photo-engraved reproduction is well done on white paper but it was not made to defraud; for each copy had "Reproductions d'apres original" stamped on the back. A number of crude lithographed forgeries exist; but if one cannot instantly recognize these horrors, then one should not collect stamps.

The 1848 POST PAID 1d. and 2d. have been extensively forged by lithography and many are overprinted with the word "Forgery" or 'Facsimile'. As many reference books illustrate reconstructed sheets of twelve, only in one case will plating not reveal a forgery.

Jean de Sperati made "die" proofs in color of the the tenth position of the 1 d. (the stamp in the lower left corner of the sheet). Illustrated is a die proof signed by him as well as an enlargement (Fig. 1). He possibly made unused and used reproductions but I have never seen an example. The test is simple, this is a

lithographed stamp so there are NO raised lines of engraving. This forgery was probably made fifty years ago.

Figure 1. Sperati die proof of the 1d.



The lithographed forgeries of the Lapirot 2d. and Sherwin 2d. may be readily detected by the same test. The lithographed forgeries of the Datdenne 1 d. and 2d. Greek borders have the wrong profile and the letters are incorrectly drawn.

Oneglia produced five forgeries of the POST PAID types-the early intermediate 1 d. and the early 2d.. Both have the same profile of the Queen, with a short eyebrow and the eye looking up. An early intermediate 2d. has a different profile with a chubby chin, a long eyebrow and the eye looking straight ahead. The worn impressions have a third profile.

The head on the Lapirot 2d. is Grecian in appearance and the worn impression has the same head. There is a double eyebrow, one straight and the other slanting up.

The Britannia type with no value expressed come in a variety of colors but are readily recognizable as the background is too coarse. They come in four colors, red on blue, vermillion, blue and a pale green. There are two states in the second - the S of MAURITIUS has been cut smaller than the overlong S in the first state.

Cancellations all seem to be bars in oval or circular form, one having a clear at 1 similar to Victoria.

All the primitive Mauritius stamps, even if undoubtedly genuine, should be examined with great care, as many have been skillfully repaired.



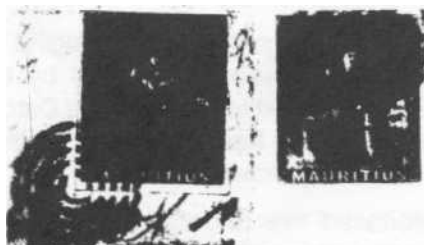
## The Britannia Types

Of the red-brown design without value expressed, 33,333 were sent to the Colony in 1849. However, they remained in the Postmaster's safe and were never issued. The same design was used in 1858 for a printing of 100,000 in blue which were sent to the Colony but were never issued.

The same stamp in green, surcharged FOUR PENCE in a curve was announced as being issued on 8 April 1854, but no examples are known on covers used before 1858.

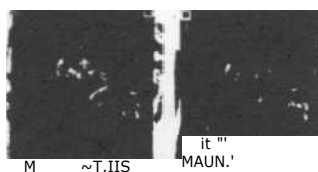
The companion 9d. deep magenta (Fig. 2) was issued in 1858 and may be found overprinted EIGHT PENCE. Expert Committees call this a forgery but I believe it to be an essay, as in the FOUR PENCE, there are three different types. I have an example added to a cover to which it does not belong, and another which I believe to be genuinely used. In 1858, the outward-bound ship postage was 8d. and in 1859, this was the rate to Aden, Australia, Ceylon, Gibraltar, Hong Kong, India, Ionian Islands, Malta and New Zealand. So, an 8d. stamp would have had its use.

Figure 2. Example of the EIGHT PENCE overprint.



The unsurcharged Britannia issues were 1858 4d. green on bleute, 6d. vermillion, 9d. deep magenta; in 1859 the 6d. blue and 1s. vermillion were issued. These were followed by the 6d. purple-slate and 1s. yellow-green in 1861. In 1862 the 9d. magenta was re-issued as a 1 d. stamp and is identifiable as it is cancelled 'B53'. In the same year, the 6d. slate and 1 s. dark green were issued perforated. Some of these stamps are much rarer used than unused. These are the imperforate 6d. vermillion, 6d. purple-slate and the perforated 6d. slate. They are commonly found with forged 'B53' cancellations of which two types are illustrated (Fig. 3).

Figure 3. Two types of the forged 'B53' cancellation.



The dangerous fake is the unissued 1 d. blue chemically changed to green; but it can be detected as it lacks the bleute paper of the genuine. It usually has a forged 'B53' cancellation.

Recently, I acquired a cover posted on 27 December 1862 to St. Denis, Reunion, for which the postage would have been 4d. It bears four 1d. magenta and two De La Rue 2d. blue cancelled 'B53' but the tying parts of the cancellations have been painted.

The Britannia types were crudely lithographed by Spiro Bros. of Hamburg and coarsely engraved by Oneglia.

## De La Rue Types

The only early fake known to be is illustrated (Fig. 4). It is the 1863 watermarked CC 2d. imperforate. The entire stamp has had margins added and a portion of the adjoining stamp painted in on the left.

Figure 4. An early known fake of the 1863 CC 2d.



Oneglia made some engraved forgeries of these typographed stamps, sometimes with impressed CC watermarks.

Spiro Brothers of Hamburg made some crude lithographs which are immediately recognizable.

Sperati made a dangerous forgery of the 1860 9d. on genuine unwatermarked paper with genuine perforations. It is found as a 'die' proof in black and in green as well as issued. In daylight the color is green as opposed to the yellow-green of the genuine. Under a mercury vapor lamp the genuine appears as if upon toned paper while the Sperati looks stained greyish.

There are several tests and the word NINE provides two. There are two white spots where the diagonal of the N joins the left upright and there are projections on both sides of the I. There is a white dot in the center of the dark shading at the base of the neck.

As with all Sperati forgeries of Mauritius, the stamps are photolitho instead of typographed and so lack the squeeze of ink on the frame. He also made examples on paper watermarked CC.

The next stamp Sperati imitated was the 1879 13 cents watermarked Crown CC, perforation 14 (Fig. 5). He used genuine paper but the color of the forgery is

is not as deep as the original. The right side of the triangular ornament in the upper right corner is broken on a level of the T of POSTAGE. The horizontal lines of shading around the head are frequently broken, notably in front of the bulge of the nose. He has also retouched the lines in front of the chin near the edge of the oval.

**Figure 5.** Example of the 1879 13 cents Sperati fake.



Sperati also made the 38 cents of the same issue but his color is reddish purple with much less blue than the bright purple of the genuine. There is a large color spot at the top of the left leg of the A in MAURITIUS and a small spot half way down the right leg. There is a small spot in the white triangle in the northeast corner opposite the T in POSTAGE. The 'B32' cancellation looks genuine (Fig. 6).

**Figure 6.** Example of 38 cent Sperati fake.



Now for a story about the 13 cents grey which was told to me some sixty years ago by Percy Pemberton. In 1890 this stamp was surcharged 2 CENTS. Percy said that when the lunch came out of the oven on a Sunday, you put the surcharged stamps in the hot oven on a clean plate. After lunch you took it out and with a stiff toothbrush you could brush the surcharge off. I have a used strip and block of four (Fig. 7).

**Figure 7.** Block of four of the 13 cents with 2 CENTS surcharge removed.



The TWO CENTS surcharges were extensively forged.

I have the TWO CENTS on 4c., 2c. on 38c., 6d. and the 2c. on 38c. with double surcharge, the upper surcharge inverted and forged (Fig. 8).

**Figure 8.** Forged TWO CENTS surcharges.



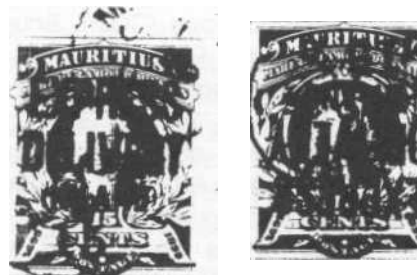
Other forgery varieties include double forged surcharges, one inverted, the other upright (Fig. 9).

**Figure 9.** Double forged surcharges.



Other forged surcharges include the 1899 6c. on 18c., 15c. on 36c. inverted, the 1902 12c on 36c. inverted and the 1903 Express Delivery 15c. on 15c., both normal, inverted and with C omitted (Fig. 10). There may well be other forgeries.

**Figure 10.** Other forged surcharges from 1899, 1902 and 1903.



Other 20th century fakes are the 1910 10 Rupees and 1924 50 Rupees with the SPECIMEN overprint pricked out and a forged cancellation hiding the scar, or with revenue cancellations cleaned off and forged cancellations added.

The 1913 10 Rupees on blue-green with olive back is sometimes imitated by fading, or painting over the back.

The 1935 Jubilee and 1937 Coronation first day covers come with forged cancellations. And that is the story of the murky side of the philately of Mauritius.

# Mafeking Forgeries: A Rejoinder

Frederick P. Lawrence, USA

*Editor's Note.* The author is responding to Robson Lowe's comments about Mafeking forgeries which appeared in his article on fakes and forgeries in Vol. VI No. 3, Whole #16. Mr. Lowe's response to Mr. Lawrence's rejoinder article follows the text.

I very much enjoyed Mr. Robson Lowe's "South African Fakes and Forgeries" which appeared in Vol. VI, No. 3, Whole #16 (Nov 92/Feb 93) of Forerunners. The venerable Mr. Lowe's philatelic acumen is well known and highly celebrated, and I am loathe to suggest that he is not as knowledgeable as he should be about the subject of his article. Nonetheless, his comments on the forgeries of the Mafeking siege issues fall far short of completeness, and as the Society's "Question & Answer Panel of Experts" specialist for these issues, I feel a strong obligation to insure that the public record is both correct and complete for the benefit of all readers of the journal.

So, let me briefly discuss first the Mafeking siege forgeries: the siege overprints, then the 'blueprint' stamps, and finally the siege cancel. Then, I will revisit Mr. Lowe's comments and try to place them in the proper perspective.

First, the "Mafeking Besieged" overprints: Upon the investment of the siege, the military authorities (under Col. R.S.S. Baden-Powell) suspended the operation of the civil post and purchased all available stamps on hand in the post office, of which there were sixteen different Cape of Good Hope (CGH), British Bechuanaland and Bechuanaland Protectorate issues. These were all subsequently overprinted "Mafeking Besieged" and surcharged either 1 d, 3d, 6d, 1 s or 2s, the values needed to meet the rates of the "siege post" operated by the military from March 23, 1900 until the relief, May 17, 1900. The overprinting was done with two different type fonts: eleven of the issues were overprinted in 13/4mm "fancy capital" letters, while the remaining five issues were overprinted in 11/4mm 'sans serif' letters, sometimes described in the literature as 'letter Gothic'. All the overprinting was done in horizontal blocks of six cliches, except for one value which was done with a block of five cliches. A total of 42,850 stamps were thus overprinted, the largest component of which was 7,680 1/2d CGH (old design) stamps and the smallest of which was 240 6d GB overprinted "British Bechuanaland." All the overprints were sold before the relief and no remainders were destroyed. Despite the fact that, relatively speaking, a large number of these overprints were produced, when the philatelic community learned of their existence and the operation of

the "siege post" shortly after the relief, a virtually insatiable demand for them arose almost overnight. This demand was fueled by the fact that the government of Great Britain used the successful defense of Mafeking to its political advantage by rallying public support for the Second Anglo-Boer War through shameful appeals to the patriotism of the gallant Mafeking defenders. Therefore, forgers went to work immediately and the first forged overprints were produced later that same year, probably in Cape Town. Other forgers followed, working well into the 20th century. Today there are a plethora of different forgeries of the 'Mafeking Besieged' overprints; and, since many of the values now catalog in the hundreds of dollars, we should not expect that we have seen the last of them.

Now, the 'blueprint' stamps. When it became clear that the supply of 'Mafeking Besieged' overprints would not be sufficient to last through to the relief, the military authorities authorized the production of additional emergency issue stamps. Three stamps in two values/designs were produced by a ferro-prussiate or photographic process, a 1 d Cadet Bicycle Corps cyclist, and a 3d Baden-Powell head in two sizes. Because the color of these emergency issue stamps was Prussian blue, they were immediately nicknamed the 'blueprints'. Production amounts are as follows: 9,476 of the cyclist, 6,072 of the small size BadenPowell heads and 3,036 of the large size BadenPowell heads. Like the 'Mafeking Besieged' overprints, the 'blueprints' also sold out before the relief, and no remainders were destroyed. Demand for the 'blueprints' exploded, just as it did for the siege over-prints, and the forgers promptly went to work. The first 'blueprint' forgeries also appeared later that same year and were probably also produced in Cape Town. They were photographic forgeries of the 'blueprints' which were themselves originally photographic stamps, i.e., these first forgeries were produced by taking photographs of genuine stamps and then printing the forged stamps with the same ferro-prussiate process used to produce the original 'blueprints'. These photographic forgeries are today the most difficult to detect of all subsequent forgeries. However, since turn-of-the-century cameras did not compensate for lens parallax, and the forgers did not manually adjust for it, the photographic forgeries are approximately 4% smaller than the genuine 'blueprints', which is easily seen when one of each is laid on top of one another and the frameline dimensions visually compared. When photo-lithography was

developed by the printing trade, photo-lithographic forgeries of the 'blue-prints' appeared.

With advent of offset printing came offset forgeries. Recently, some stamp dealers have produced offset facsimiles of the "blueprints" and given these away or sold them at low cost to collectors who cannot afford the genuine stamps, now also cataloging in the hundreds of dollars each. Although the offset facsimiles are easily recognized as non-genuine by the knowledgeable collector, they are now showing up in dealer stock, represented as being the real thing. So, what started out as harmless facsimiles have been transformed into modern-day forgeries. The latest "hi-tech" forgeries are color photocopies of genuine stamps, gummed and pin-hole perforated. While the knowledgeable collector would not be fooled, to someone who has never seen the genuine "blueprints", these photocopy forgeries look just like the catalog illustrations.

Finally, the siege cancel: During the operation of the "siege post", all stamps - the siege overprints and the "blueprints" - were canceled with the single circle 25mm MAFEKING C.G.H. (Goldblatt cds 25) canceler (see Vol. V, No. 2-Jul/Oct 91, Vol. V, No. 3-Nov 91/Feb 92, and Vol. VII, No. 2-see "Bits & Pieces", for discussions of the earliest and latest reported usage dates of this cancel).

At the turn of the century, used stamps were more highly valued than mint stamps by philatelists, and this fact was not unknown to the businessmen/entrepreneurs trapped in Mafeking during the siege who bought up the lion's share of the stamps which were not actually used on "siege post" mail. When they sensed that the relief was just a few days away, they went on a cancelling binge, trying to "use" as many of the siege stamps as possible before they were demonetized upon the relief. Whole sheetlets of 12 of the "blueprints" were cancelled-to-order (with the obvious cooperation of the civil postmaster who acted contrary to the directives of the military authorities) on May 10, 11 and 12; stamps still exist today with socked-on-the-nose cancels from these dates with full mint gum. But even this heroic effort was not enough to meet collector demand for used siege stamps. Therefore, the forgers stepped in to fill the gap.

The first forged siege cancels also appeared later that same year and were probably also produced in Cape Town. Some of the few mint siege stamps brought out of Mafeking following the relief were subsequently canceled with these early forged siege cancels, in part accounting for the small number of mint copies of all the values of the siege stamps which survive today. Later forgers of the siege stamps also forged their own versions of the siege cancel. So, today we find genuine siege stamps with forged siege cancels and

foreged siege stamps also with forged siege cancels, often side-by-side with genuine siege stamps with genuine siege cancels. The cancel forgeries range from clever, very deceptive imitations (the earliest, from Cape Town) to poor attempts with misshapen, mis-sized letters.

The accompanying illustration (Fig. 1) is from my national level exhibit which includes the "blueprint" stamps. I show examples of the four different "blue-print" forgeries; four of the forged stamps shown also have forged siege cancels, each different, all later period forgeries. This is a representative sample of the "album weeds" that one encounters today when shopping for the siege stamps.

Finally, let me try to place Mr. Lowe's comments in perspective. He first speaks about "Mafeking Besieged" overprint forgeries, giving information about dimensions and spacing. He is discussing the early forgeries; those produced in the early 1900s, and his information is correct, except that he fails to mention that one of the sixteen overprints was produced with a block of five clichés, rather than six. (John P. Ineson, the General Chairman of the Anglo-Boer War Philatelic Society, has recently explained why this is so. Interested readers are encouraged to contact him directly for the technical details.) Later forgeries also have dimension and spacing defects, though different from the early forgeries; some also fail to imitate the "fancy capital" and "sans serif" type fonts of the genuine overprints well. Mr. Lowe then speaks briefly about 'blueprint' stamp forgeries, suggesting that the key discriminant is a  $\pm 1/2$  difference in perforation. As I hope the reproduction quality of the accompanying illustration is sufficient to demonstrate, it is really the method of production which discriminates the various "blueprint" forgeries. Some of the "blueprint" forgeries do have incorrect perforations, but not all; so, while correct perforation (12) is a necessary condition for genuineness, it is not sufficient.

Mr. Lowe closes with comments on forgeries of the siege cancel, again giving information about dimensions. Again, he is discussing the early forgeries, those produced in the early 1900s, but his information is only partially correct. It is true that the early cancel forgeries have the letters MAFEKING C.G.H. more than 1/2mm from the (single) circle, and that the date AP 23 1900 often appears in these forgeries; however, Mr. Lowe's admonition that any date in February, March or after May 17 will be bad is incorrect. Dates on or after March 23 may be good; one must compare the date of the cancel with the issue date of the siege stamps on which it appears. Cancel dates before the issue dates and after the relief (May 17) may be, but are not necessarily, indicators of forged cancels, since 'par compliance' impressions of the genuine cancel

are known on genuine stamps with both too early and late dates. Successful discrimination of forged cancels can only be accomplished by comparing the sizes of candidate cancels and the sizes and shapes of their letters and numbers with known genuine cancels.

Considering the extent to which the Mafeking siege stamps and siege cancel have been forged and the

levels to which prices for genuine pieces have risen, the non-specialist would be well-advised to avail himself of the services of a competent expertizing committee before finalizing any purchase, either at an auction or from a dealer or collector. The expertizing committees operated by the APS/ASDA, BPA, RPSL and PFSA all have specialists available to review Mafeking siege material and are recommended.

Figure 1. Examples of offset facsimiles/forgeries with forged cancels of the Mafeking siege period.

4  
Aft, 41  
R-11-40H ~  
011E PENNY



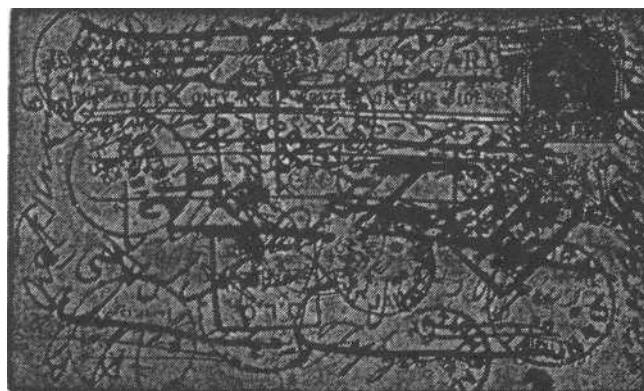
**Mr. Robson Lowe's response:** It gave me pleasure and knowledge to read Mr. Frederick P. Lawrence's contribution on Mafeking forgeries. I fear that I only described what I have seen and studied; anything else would be guess work.

Some years ago I plated the sans-serif Mafeking Besieged overprints, having blocks of twelve of each value to study.

Recently, Dr. Carl Walske sent me a list of all the engraved forgeries made by Oneglia, on which I have

written a commentary. When this work is published, I am sure there will be readers who will produce an Oneglia forgery of which we have no record. When I was in my teens, and that is over seventy years ago, my mentor, the late Fred J. Melville, urged me to write. "Even if you are wrong, someone will tell you, and you will have learned". Thank you Fred for the trouble you took. It is much appreciated.

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# Collecting Bophuthatswana

Wilford H. Ross, USA

Many readers of this journal are probably wondering to themselves, "Why would anyone want to collect Bophuthatswana in the first place? What possible interest could it hold for any stamp collector? It is not recognized as a country by anyone outside of South Africa, the stamps must be wallpaper." Well, for better or worse, here is one collector's story.

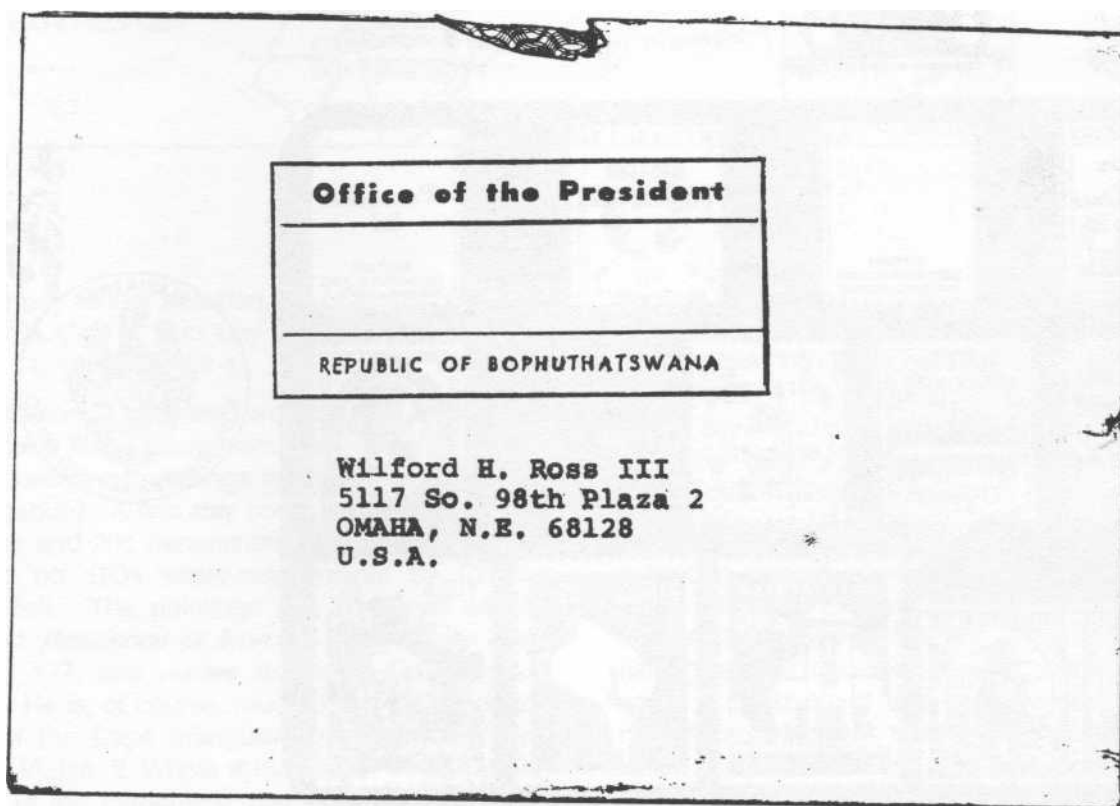
In the fall of 1977 I had just started my first year of law school. One day in October I noticed a small article in some magazine or newspaper that stated that Bophuthatswana would gain its independence from South Africa in December 1978. Totally on a whim I wrote Lucas Mangope, at that time Chief Minister of Bop (which is what everyone calls it), and asked for his help in acquiring Bop stamps. I took my first semester finals and forgot all about it until January of 1978 when I found the envelope reproduced in Exhibit 1 in my mailbox. Inside was a letter from I.J. Reid, Private Secretary to President Mangope, indicating that the matter had been referred to the Postmaster General. The cover became the first piece in my Bop collection. Two weeks later I received an "Official" envelope from the Bophuthatswana Postmaster General in Montshiwa.

He, or a member of his staff, indicated the matter had been turned over to INTERSAPA. That envelope became the second item in my collection. This was quickly followed by a letter from INTERSAPA, and I had a standing order account before I knew it.

"But why Bop?" many of you are still asking. It may seem silly, but ever since I got involved in stamp collecting at age 10 I had wanted to collect the stamps of a country since its independence. When I was younger my father had a friend from South Africa, an Afrikaner, who I came to know as well as a young boy can, and I found the stories of his country quite interesting. As I grew older I always watched the news about South Africa, read about it when I could, and became interested in it. So, when I heard about Bop, everything just seemed to come together. In a way, what clinched it was the fact that a free-franked envelope marked simply, "Office of the President-Republic of Bophuthatswana", had made it to Omaha, Nebraska, in the US Mail without question.

For the next fourteen years, until 1992, my collection consisted of the yearly mint sets from INTERSAPA.

**Exhibit 1.** Letter from the "Office of the President, Republic of Bophuthatswana" to the author.



While the rest of my stamp collecting interests died out for short or long periods, I always looked forward to getting my new set. A conservative stamp-issuing policy made sure my wallet did not become too thin, and I found many of the stamps very fascinating. In 1992, several things happened that accelerated my collecting interest in different directions. First, I read in "Linn's" about "Forerunners" and decided to see what it was all about. Second, I saw a review in "Kitchen Table Philately" of a Homelands mixture which made me think, for the first time, about expanding my collection beyond just mint stamps. Next, I saw a classified ad in "Linn's" from someone offering Bop used. Finally, I put a classified ad in "Linn's" asking for Bop used, on or off cover. Suddenly, I was getting Bop covers and used stamps that made my collection much more interesting certainly to me. Maybe, eventually, to someone else.

As many of you probably know, Bop has 2.4 million people located in six enclaves inside the Republic of South Africa. Over time various parts of RSA have been annexed into Bop. For example, Mafeking (now Mafi-keng), the current capital, was incorporated into Bop on September 19, 1980 for which the maxicard in Exhibit 2 was issued. The event was marked with a commemorative in 1985 (Scott 137-38). In 1983 Thaba Nchu was incorporated, an event marked by a stamp issue in 1985 (Scott 177-79). A map of Bop with most of the large cities shown is Exhibit 3.

I have learned about many things by studying Bop stamps. The importance of the platinum industry (Scott 47-50), and other industries shown in the Second Definitive series (Scott 139-63). Infrastructure such as dams (Scott 216-19), public buildings (Scott 96-99) and educational institutions (Scott 196-99).

**Exhibit 2.** Maxicard highlighting the incorporation of Mafikeng into Bophuthatswana on September 29, 1980.

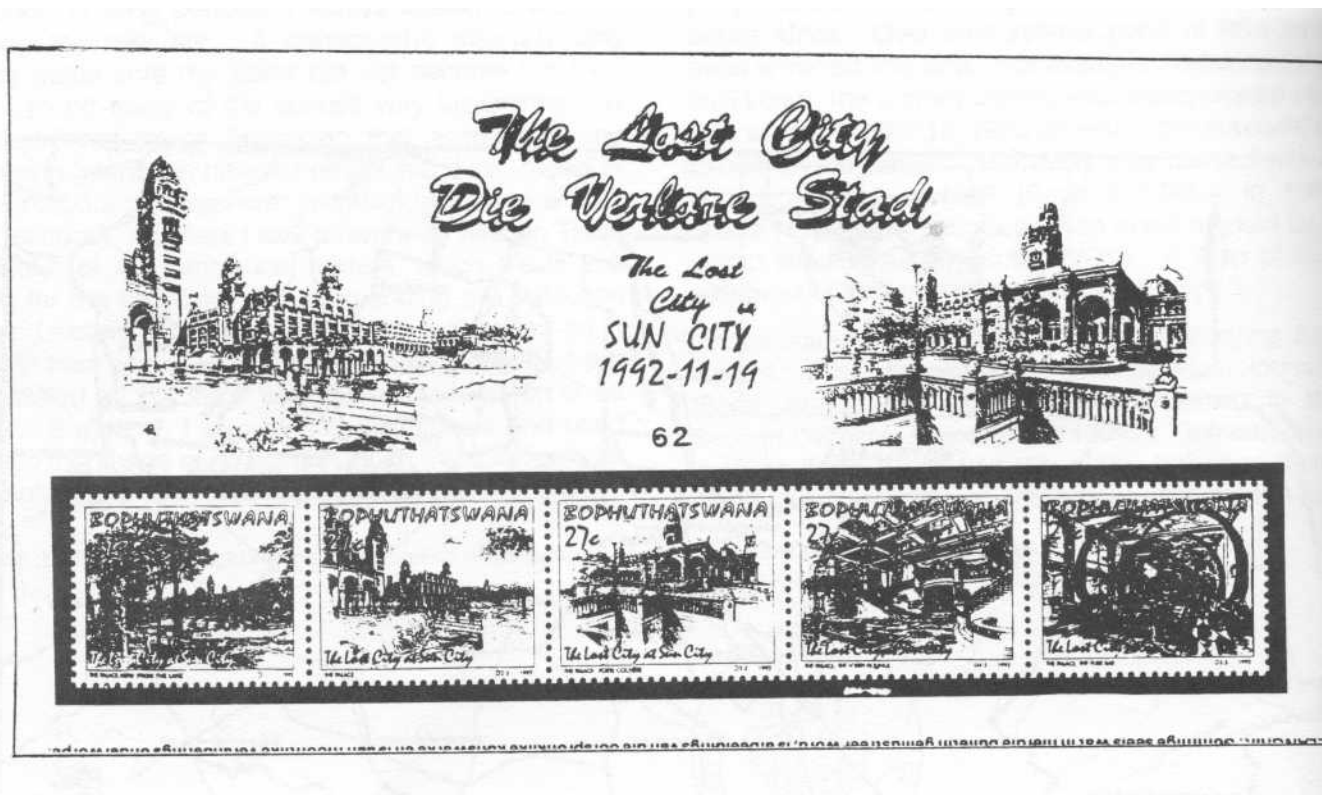




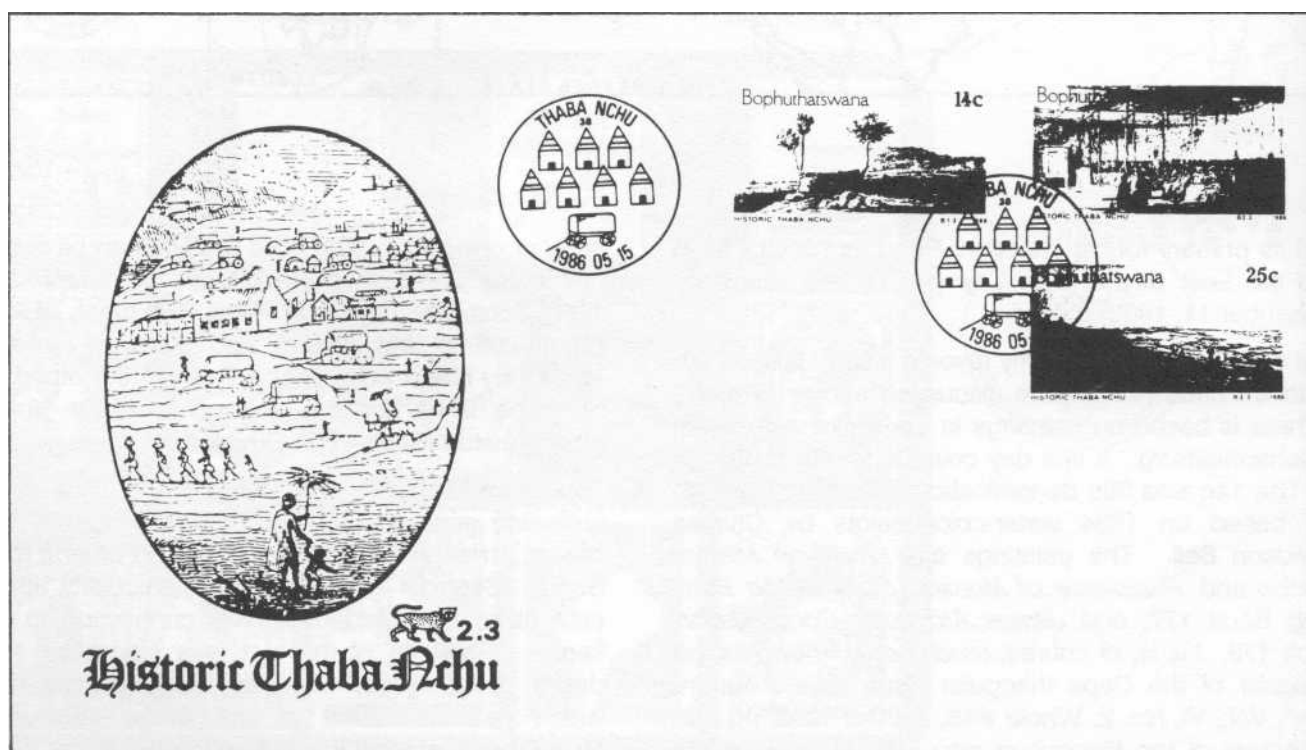




**Exhibit 4.** The Lost City at Sun City set issued November 19, 1992.



**Exhibit 5.** First Day Cover showing the Historic Thaba Nchu issue of May 15, 1986.



**Exhibit 6.** First Day Cover of 2 June 1979 commemorating the historic meeting between heavyweight boxers John Tate of the U.S. and Kallie Knoetze of South Africa.



Bop even has its own major error. Scott 9, the 5c value from the First Definitive series was printed as a 4c stamp, then had that denomination overprinted with a clump of grass in the upper right corner, and the 5c was added upper left. At least one sheet was sold over the postal counter and eventually reached dealer hands. As a legitimate error it probably deserves its own Scott listing. A 1983 ad in the 'SA Philatelist' offered it for sale at 400 Rand (Exhibit 7). I hope to eventually own one myself.

In the realm of postal history, there are at least two areas of enquiry. First, there could be more written about the error described above. Second, we could attempt to establish the date and place of the first use of the reprinted Bop First Definitive series (Scott 5a 9a, 11 a, 12a and 14a). My admittedly limited knowledge is that there is little published postal history of Bop. If any readers have any, I would deeply appreciate their sending me a copy.

In addition to my complete mint set I have forty-four different Bop stamps used off cover, including several nice socked-on-the-nose cancels. Including three used postal cards (very hard to find), I have a grand total of sixteen covers covering the years 1979 to 1986 from seven different locations in Bop. Exhibit 8 is a very nice registered mail cover from, of course, Thaba Nchu, dated November 23, 1983, and franked with Scott 19. Sometime between then and 1989, Thaba Nchu began

**Exhibit 7.** Private sale ad in the "SA Philatelist" of the first major rarity of Bophuthatswana.

## MAJOR RARITY PRIVATE SALE



**Bophuthatswana Definitive 4c Crocodile**

Was issued as a 5c stamp, with the 4c overprinted to look like a clump of grass and with 5c value tablet added at top left corner. Very few copies of the un-overprinted Crocodile stamp known. Reported in SA Philatelist in 1978.

Pristine condition, unmounted mint.  
Showpiece. **R400**

using a new circular date stamp (cde) which included question. I believe that shows that the stamps are no the name is Exhibit 9. Does anyone begin to see a "wallpaper". Of course, I have a long way to go to get pattern developing here? *Bop* complete used, much less on cover, but that is Exhibit 9. Thaba Nchu cds incorporating the name "Bophuthats- the fun of stamp collecting, the chase for that elusive wana"



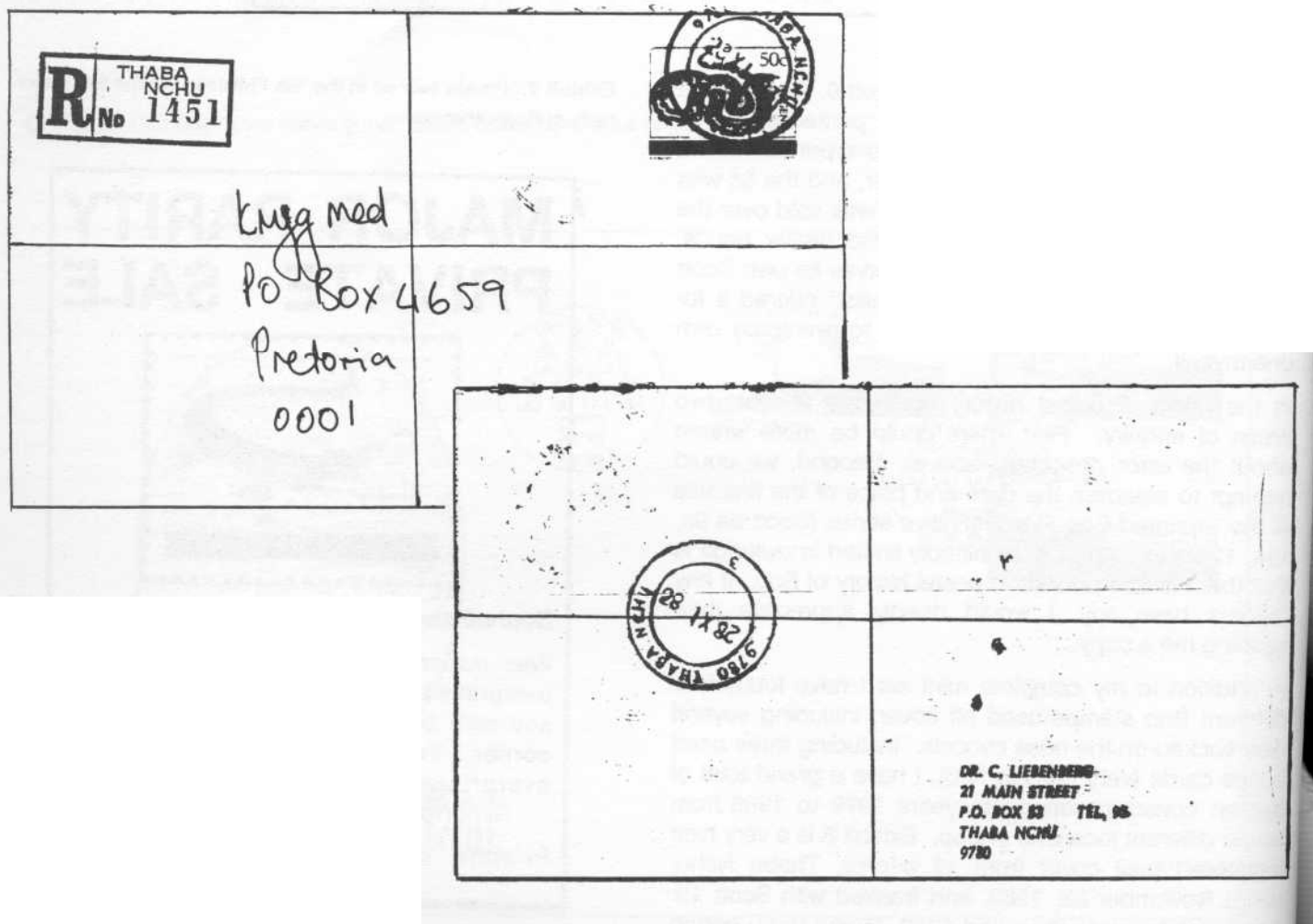
It is interesting to note that several of my covers have been mailed from Bop to the United States, franked only with *Bop* stamps. They have made it without

stamp I have rambled along for quite some time; . hope you have not been bored. This is about the fifth revision of this article. Just when I feel it is ready to be 'put to bed', I think of all of us who study South African philately know that great changes are in store. The future of Bop, and the other three homelands, is wrapped up in South Africa's. At least two of the homelands - Transkei and Venda - have indicated a desire to be reintegrated into RSA. Ciskei and especially Bop, represented by Lucas Mangope, do not. Of the four, Bop has the best economy and the best chance of succeeding on its own Whether that U.

will be allowed to happen is anyone's guess. In any event, I will keep looking for Bop, either as a stamp-issuing country or as a historical entity, like others whose stamps are searched for by members of PSGSA. Oh, by the way, if you run across any Bop in your travels, keep me in mind. Thanks and HAPPY

OTARADIM-2

Exhibit 8. Front & back of a registered cover from Thaba Nchu, dated November 23, 1983.



# Keetmanshoop: Resume of Postal History

H. U. Bantz, Republic of South Africa

At present, I am forming an exhibit on the postal history of Keetmanshoop, the principal town in the south of Namibia. The history of this town reflects the postal history of South West Africa/Namibia. The following dates have been gathered from a variety of sources and members are invited to supplement or correct the information.

Keetmanshoop owes its existence to a strong spring which the native Namas called "Nugo-ais" and the Dutch settlers "Swartmodder", meaning "black mud" in both languages.

**14 April 1866:** Missionary J.G. Schroeder from the Rhenish Mission Society arrives at Swartmodder. He renames the place "Keetmanshoop" to honor the German industrialist J. Keetman who had financed the new mission station.

1867: Keetmanshoop becomes a "Missionspoststelle" - a collection point for missionaries' mail. The mail was carried every second month by runners via Warmbad-Steinkopf to Cape Town (Schmidt, 1985).

**1894:** The German army establishes a military post to stop the smuggling of arms. A fort is built which was demolished in 1950.

**15 October 1895:** The Keetmanshoop post office is opened. It is the eighth post office to be established in German South West Africa. Until May 1897, unoverprinted German stamps are used ("Vorlaufer" period). Thereafter, overprinted German stamps and from 1900 onwards the colonial issue showing the "Hohenzollern" yacht.

**June/July 1900:** Emergency measures - bisecting the 10 pfennig yacht stamp as well as cash frankings due to a shortage of 5 pfennig stamps which was the postal rate for postcards to Germany.

During the German time Keetmanshoop became the starting or end point for the following postal routes: a) Warmbad-Ramansdrift, connection with the Cape cart post to Steinkopf and Cape Town. This route was closed from November 1903 until late 1904 because of the Bondelswarts uprising; b) Gibeon - Kuis - Rehoboth-Windhoek; c) Hasuur (Aroab) - Rietfontein (Mier) in Bechuanaland with connection to Upington in the Cape Province; d) Bethanien - Luderitzbucht by runner through the Namib desert.

**1902:** Opening of the first post office building.

**December 1903-February 1904:** Bondelswart uprising. "Feld-Poststation" (field post station) in Keetmans

manshoop using on line rubber stamp on "Wanders-tempel V". The Keetmanshoop negative seal was applied to the mail to document the official origin. The route to Cape Town was closed during 1904 and mail was conveyed either to Swakopmund via Windhoek or to Luderitzbucht using runners or relay riders.

**21 July 1908:** Official opening of the Luderitzbucht-Keetmanshoop railway line.

**1910:** Opening of the new post office building with telegraph facilities.

**3 March 1912:** Official opening of the railway line to Windhoek.

**2 August 1914:** World War I begins.

**21 September 1914 - April 1915:** Keetmanshoop becomes the collection point for mail addressed to or sent by German troops stationed in the southern part of German South West Africa.

**19 April 1915:** The German troops leave Keetmanshoop by train and the South African forces enter the town on the same day.

The German post used a total of four cancellers between 15 October 1895 and 4 April 1915. Philatelic delicacies are the "Rovlaufer" period, the bi-sects and cash frankings in 1900, mail from the Bondelswart uprising in 1903/04 and the 1914/1915 field post. Year slugs were unavailable in January 1896 and again in January 1900 and had to be inserted into the cancellation in manuscript.

**April 1915:** The South Africans open the Military Base P.O. No. 8 which is later taken over by F.P.O. 54. Very few field post items have been seen so far. The first "civilian" cancellers (Putzel's numbers B2oc and B3oc) have been recorded from September 1915 onwards. A German canceller was mutilated and used on telegrams in violet and on mails in black.

**5 August 1931:** "Southern Service" Windhoek - Keetmanshoop. Opening flight by South West African Airways. Some mail for Keetmanshoop is erroneously off-loaded at Mariental and has to be sent by road to Keetmanshoop.

**6 August 1931:** Return flight Keetmanshoop - Windhoek.

**4 December 1931:** Last flight of "Southern Service".

**19 December 1931:** Stop for special flight Windhoek - Kimberley to connect with London - Cape Town flight by Imperial Airways.

**27 January 1932:** Stop for regular "Feeder Service" Windhoek-Kimberly to connect with various Imperial Airways flights to or from Europe and the Far East.

**26 August 1939:** Stop for first return flight from Luanda.

**24 August 1948:** First cancellations with the Universal machine.

**9 September 1972:** Official opening of Naute Dam; commemorative canceller Keetmanshoop (Putzel No. B28).

**16 June 1978:** First day canceller for "Historical churches in SWA" stamps and miniature sheet (Putzel B29). The 20 cent stamp shows Keetmanshoop's Rhenish Mission Church, consecrated on 8 May 1895, now used as a museum.

**16 February 1989:** First day canceller for 'German Missionaries' stamps (Putzel B31).

**14 March 1989:** First day of use of FRAMA postage label vending machine.

**21 March 1990:** Namibia becomes an independent state.

**26 April 1990:** First day canceller for Namibia's first special stamps "The Sights of Namibia" (Putzel No. C36).

**29 May 1990:** First post-independence cancellers with 'SWA' removed (Putzel numbers C33-C35).

#### Selected Literature:

'100 Years Keetmanshoop', Centenary Brochure, Windhoek, 1966

Burckhardt, K.: "Die Feldpost in Deutsch Sudwestafrika 1904-1907", ARGE Verichte No. 85, Sept. 1986.

Putzel, R.: "The Comprehensive Handbook of the Postmarks of German South West Africa/South West Africa/Namibia", Tokai, October 1991

Schmidt, S.: "Postbeforderung in Sudwestafrika im 19 Jahrhundert", S.W.A. Scientific Society, Newsletter No. XXVI/4, Windhoek, July 1985.

Weber, O. von: 'Geschichte des Schutzgebietes Deutsch-Sudwest-Afrika', Windhoek.

The following illustrations and post office location listings are provided in further support of this effort.

Illustration 1. Photograph of Keetmanshoop's first (top) post office building opened in 1902, seven years after postal services commenced; and second (bottom) post office, opened in 1910 (note telegraph transmitter).

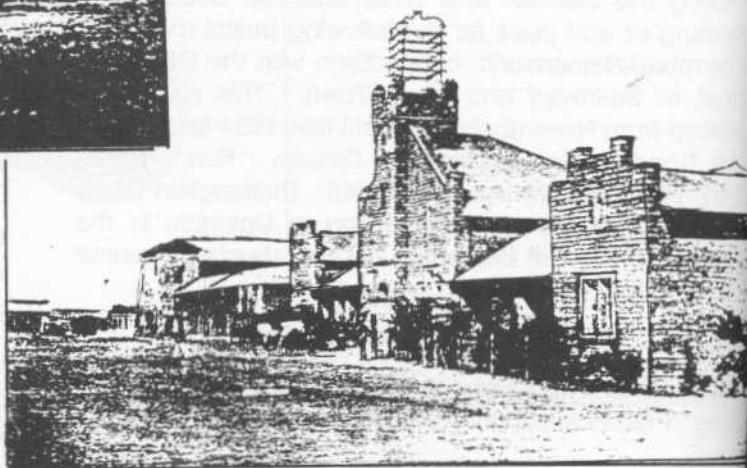
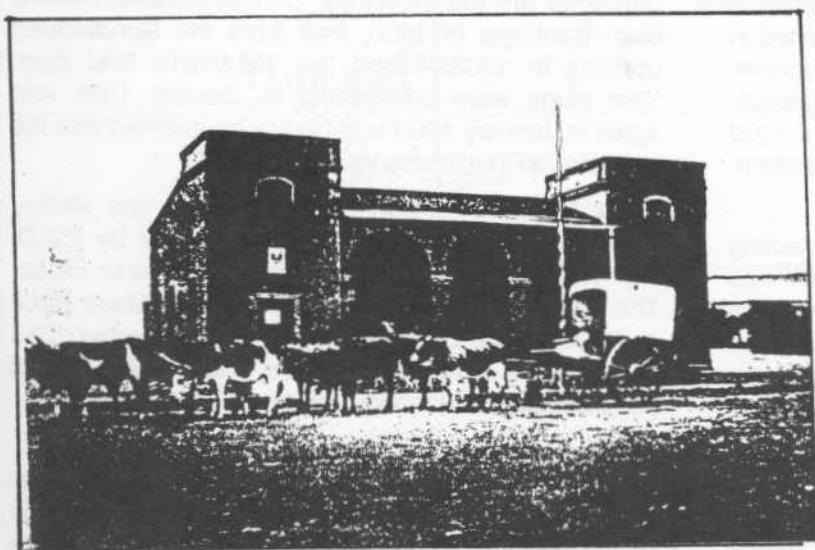


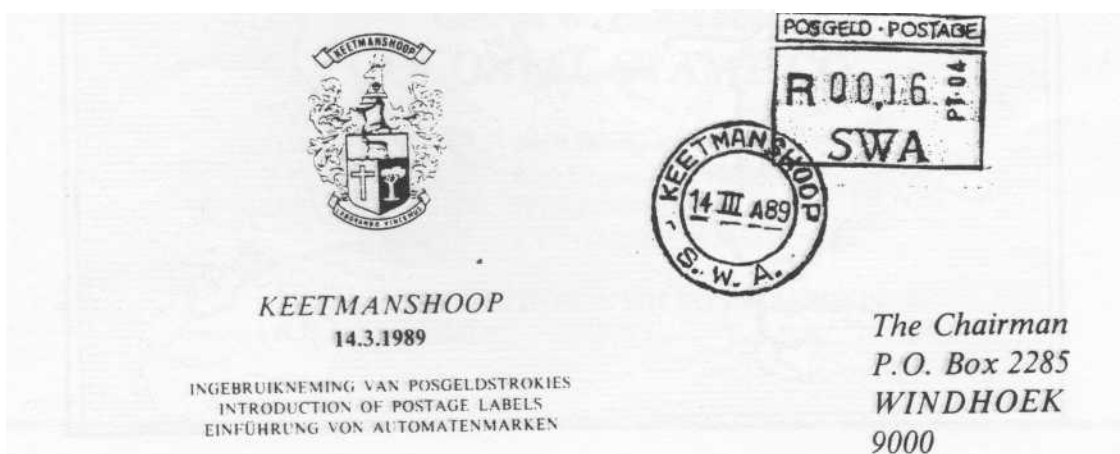
Illustration 2. The current post office building in Keepmanshoop.



Illustration 3. Bondelswarts Uprising field post card, Keetmanshoop to Berlin with soldier's cachet 'Etappe Keetmanshoop'.



Illustration 4. Keetmanshoop: first day of use of postage label vending machine No. PT04.





**Illustration 5.** A page from the author's collection. The cover was bought at the auction of the collection of the late Rudolf Jeidel - the foremost airmail collector in South Africa - Imperial Airways/Quantas: Keetmanshoop 3 Dec. 34 - Cape Town (4 Dec. 1934) - Alexandria (10) - Darwin (18) - Brisbane (21) - Laboenahadji 24.12.34, returned 3.1.35 - arrived Port Elizabeth 29 Jan. 35. Rate: 1s and 8d plus 4d registration fee. Commemorative envelope No. 11906 (Burrell, p. 94 & Putzel Air 53).



### Appendix of Postal Agencies falling under Keetmanshoop:

In the following list, the first date indicates the opening date and the second date the closing date. This list represents some of the most challenging postal agencies opened under South African administration in South West Africa/Namibia. If the reader studies Putzel's book, he/she will note that information is still needed. Can anyone contribute? Please, check your material for early and late dates and for unrecorded cancellers. The known-to-date Keetmanshoop postal agencies are:

**Aroab** - 1915 to date \* **Berseba** - Oct. 1921 to 1 July 1922 \* **Bethany** (Bethanie, Bethanien) - 13 April 1915 to date \* **Brackwasser** - 11 March 1916 to 1926 (name changed to Konkiep) \* **Chamis** - 4 April 1916 to 31 March 1917 \* **Daweb** - 11 November 1927 to ?

**Goageb** - 1956 to August 1983 \* **Grabstein** - ? to ? \* **Groot Daberas** - 14 July 1928 to 17 April 1948  
**Guisib** - 20 November 1957 to 27 July 1960  
**Helmeringhausen** - 1927 to date \* **Kabus** - 1916 to September 1918 \* **Kiries West** - 21 March 1921 - ? 1950 \* **Klein Daras** - 1915 to 2 August 1974 \* **Koes** - 6 March 1928 to date \* **Konkiep** - 11 September 1927 to August 1956 (name changed to Goageb) **Kuibis** (Rail) - 14 May 1915 to 30 June 1957 (renamed Guisbis) \* **Nakob, Nakob Rail, Nakop** - 1916 to 1918, 1910 to 10 January 1925 \* **Narubis** - 1916 to 27 May 1919, 17 January 1922 to 1 January 1964 \* **Nuichas** - 1 January 1939 to 20 August 1941 \* **Schanzen/Skanze** (name change in 1938/1939) 24 June 1928 to 1 January 1954 \* **Spitzkoope** - 1 May 1923 to 6 September 1925 \* **Sterreprag** - 5 January 1943 to 1 July 1951, ? to 16 March 1956 **Tses** - January 1916 to 11 February 1964 \* **Ukamas** - 26 September 1916 to 1927.

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### Correction

Dr. Jonkers' article on the January 1886 emission was published in Vol.VI, No. 2, Jul/Oct '92, pages 95-106. Table 2, page 105 contained a number of errors. The corrections are as follows:

1 d black, date of issue 9 JAN - five were measured rather than four as shown.

5/6 blue, date of issue 13 JAN - eighteen were measured.

5s/6d blue & yellow, date of issue 13 JAN - there were no stamps ordered or measured.

7/6 blue, date of issue 13 JAN - seventeen were measured.

7/6 yellow, date of issue 13 JAN - none were ordered or measured.

7s6d blue, date of issue 13 JAN - none were ordered or measured.

10s6 yellow, date of issue JAN - 16 were measured instead of the seven originally indicated.

10s6 blue, date of issue JAN - none were ordered or measured.

10s6d yellow, date of issue JAN - none were order or measured.

1 Pound yellow, date of issue 13 JAN - 21 were measured instead of the seven originally indicated.

1 Pound blue, date of issue 13 JAN - none were ordered or measured instead of fifty and 14 respectively.

30s yellow, date of issue 13 JAN - twenty were measured instead of the eight originally indicated.

30s blue, date of issue 13 JAN - none were ordered or measured as opposed to the twenty-five and twelve originally indicated.

Total of emissions with a JAN date of issue should have read 400 ordered and 97 measured.

Total of emissions with a 9 JAN date of issue should have read 88 measured.

Total of emissions with a 13 JAN date of issue should have read 2, 375 ordered and 178 measured.

Total number of stamps in the sample measured was 435 or 12.8% of the total number of stamps ordered.

## The Transvaal Study Circle

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## \* \* NEWS OF THE MEMBERSHIP

### Welcome Aboard ! !

**Colin G. Fraser - #9301**, New York City. Colin was referred by member Frederick Lawrence. His collecting interests include general British Africa, Orange Free State, Basutoland, Bechuanaland and Zululand. Colin specializes in the Nyasaland 1898 Provisionals and Boer War. He is also a member of the Rhodesia Study Circle, American Philatelic Society (APS), Waterlow Study Circle and the Philatelic Writers Society. Colin is an accredited national philatelic judge (UK).

**Dana Gioia - #9302**, Hastings-on-Hudson, New York. Dana read about the Society in the philatelic press. His primary collecting interest is Union of South Africa, Italy, Vatican and the U.S. His other affiliations include APS, Italian Area Study Circle, Vatican Philatelic Society, Great Britain Collectors Club and the American First Day Cover Society.

**Jan Stolk - #9303**, Rotterdam, Netherlands. Jan became aware of the Society via his involvement in the Reciprocal Listings Exchange. His primary philatelic interest is South West Africa and the Union period, specializing in postal history and stationery of

SWA, Walvis Bay area postal history and interprovincial postal stationery. Jan is Secretary of the Dutch Society for South Africa and also belongs to the Philatelic Society of Rotterdam, Windhoek Philatelic Society and the South African Collectors Society/G.B. He is also co-editor of the book on The Postal Stationery of SWA 1888&1990 to be placed on sale by our Dutch counterpart group.

**John (Jack) J. Shawcroft - #9304**, Seattle, Washington. Jack read about PSGSA in *Global Stamp News*. His primary collecting areas are Cape of Good Hope, Natal and Southern Rhodesia. He also collects Orange Free State, Union/South Africa and Bechuanaland. Jack belongs to APS and the Seattle Collectors Club.

**Bruce Campbell, Jr. - #9305**, Afton, Minnesota. Bruce is a stamp dealer (The Stamp Mart) and specializes in both the Union & Republican period of South Africa. Bruce is also a member of APS.

**Charles Berg - #9306**, Chicago, Illinois. President Guy Dillaway recruited Charles to the fold. Charles' primary collecting areas are Union/Republic of South Africa with secondary interests in the pre-Union states and republics, the Bechuanalands, the Rhodesias, post-independent states, Zululand and Basutoland. His specialty is South and South West Africa definitives after the King's heads. Among his many memberships, Charles belongs to APS, ATA, Bureau Issues Association, AFDCS, British North American Philatelic Society, UN Philatelists and the Chicago Philatelic Society. Among his many organized philatelic activities, Charles was the President of World Columbian Stamp Expo '92.

**R. N. Porter - #9307**, Hilton, Rep. of South Africa. Reg learned about us via a friend. His collecting interests include Natal, Transvaal and Zululand. He specializes in the postal history, postmarks and stamps of Natal and Zululand and the numeral and ZAR postmarks of Transvaal. Reg also belongs to the Postmark and Postal History Society of South Africa and the Anglo-Boer War Philatelic Society. His writings have appeared in both *TheSouthAfricanPhilatelist* and *The Anglo SoerWarPhilatelist*.

**Wilson C.K. Wong - #9308**, Hong Kong. Wilson came to join the Society by way of member Alec Page. Wilson's primary specialty is the postal history, stamp errors and varieties and military campaigns as related to Zululand and related subjects to 1920. In addition, he also collects Natal and Union of South Africa. Wilson's other affiliations include the Royal Philatelic Society of London (Fellow), King George VI Collectors Society, Hong Kong Philatelic Society, Bermuda Collectors Society and Indian Study Circle. Wilson has served as the Hong Kong Commissioner to PHILEX-FRANCE '89 & GRANADA '92. Several of his articles

have appeared in RPSL's *London Philatelist* as well as the publications of other groups to which he belongs.

**Norman Kirkpatrick - #9309**, Charleston, W. Virginia. He learned about PSGSA from member Will Ross. Norman's philatelic pursuits include SWA, Swaziland, the Bechuanalands, Basutoland, Zululand and the Homelands. His other collecting interests include Canada, India, Jamaica, Australia and Isle of Man. Norman also belongs to APS and is President of the Kanosha Stamp Club.

**Dr. Franco Frescura - #9310**, Port Elizabeth, RSA. Franco came to us via the recruitment efforts of Jim Ryan up Canada way. His primary interest areas are the Cape, Southern Rhodesia, Swaziland and RSA, with specializations in Swaziland pre-1961-especially pre-1933 and CGH postal history. Franco also belongs to the Port Elizabeth Philatelic Society. He is a past Editor of the *Post Office Stone* as well as having authored a number of books, monographs and articles.

**Charles Rudge - #9311**, Hampshire, England. Charles learned about the Society via an information release in *Stamp & Coin Malt (UK)*. His primary philatelic interest is the Homelands, followed by the Rhodesias, South Africa, postal history, postmarks and unusual items. Charles is a member of the Portsmouth Philatelic Society, New Forest Philatelic Society, Rhodesian Study Circle and South African Study Circle.

**Jim Catterall - #9312**, Cornwall, England. Jim found out about the Society from our UK/international Representative, Athol Murray. Jim's primary collecting interest is the Bechuanalands. He also has interests in CGH, Stellaland, Rhodesia and Botswana. Jim's specializations are postmarks and postal history. In addition to PSGSA, he belongs to RPSL, Bechuanalands & Botswana Philatelic Society, Anglo-Boer War Society, Postmark and Postal History Society of South Africa and the Rhodesian Study Circle. Jim is presently Membership Secretary & Archivist for the Bechuanalands & Botswana Society.

**Lawrence M. Goldberg - #9313**, Buffalo Grove, Illinois. He joined as a result of the APS recruitment campaign initiated by our VP/Membership. Lawrence's "first love" is Southern Rhodesia, followed by interests in New Republic, Northern Rhodesia, Nyasaland Protectorate, Rhodesia & Nyasaland and Rhodesia UDI to independence. His specialties include Nyasaland keyplate varieties, Rhodesia independence overprint varieties (stamps, overprints, forgeries), Southern Rhodesia Waterlow proofs and British Africa KGVI issues. Lawrence belongs to APS, East Africa Study Circle/UK, Forces Postal History Society/UK, Rhodesia Study Circle and others.

**Michael Lomax - #9314**, Carmel, Indiana. Michael joined as a result of the recent recruitment efforts by the VP/Membership. His collecting interests include British East Africa, German East Africa, Tanganyika, East Africa & Uganda and Nyasaland Protectorate. Michael also belongs to APS.

**Glen Carpendale - #9315**, Bronkhorstspuit, RSA. Glen joined the Society as a result of an ad campaign instituted by the Editor. Glen is a stamp dealer doing business as World Stamps.

#### Reinstatements

#9005 - John Haines, Salt Lake City, Utah #

9014 - Harry Sanders, Knoxville, Tennessee #

9143 - Sheila Case, Gaborone, Botswana

(Total Society membership stands at 150 as of 1 June 1993!!!)

#### THE 1993 LUPO AWARD RECIPIENT

Robert F. Taylor's article, "Postal Services At The Cape of Good Hope: The First Two Hundred Years", has been acknowledged by membership ballot, as the best of the twenty-six articles appearing in Volume VI of Forerunners. Congratulations Bob! In keeping with Society tradition, the award will be presented at the Society meeting during STaMpsHOW 93. In the event that the recipient will not be in attendance, the framed certificate will be mailed to his home.

The competition was indeed stiff. The following articles also received several votes:

'A Collector's Introduction to Griqualand West' by Ron Carlson & Hugh McMackin III, USA

"South African Fakes & Forgeries' by Robson Lowe, UK

'History & Postal History of Abbabis: German Southwest Africa/Namibia' by Werner K. Seeba, **Germany**

- Ship Penny Flaws' by Louise Christian, USA

"South West Africa/Namibia: The Namib Desert on Stamps" by Dr. H.U. Bantz, RSA

- Cape Triangles Used To & From Foreign Destinations' by Dr. Guy Dillaway, USA
- Illustrated Postcards & Covers: Anglo-Bgoer War 1899-1902" by John Campbell, NZ
- Issues of Zululand From 1888 to 1897' by Tony Davis, **Canada**
- The Z.A.R. 3d Tete-A-Tate Variety: A New Interpretation' by Dr. Alan Drysdall, UK

- Stamps of the New Republic: The January 1886 Emission' by Dr. G.H. Jonkers, **Holland**

- Charles Bell: The Designer of the Triangular Cape Postage Stamp' by Athol H. Murray, UK

"Postal History: Bulwer/Ipolele District of Natal' by Werner Seeba, **Germany**

'A Forged Cover Described' by Tim Bartshe & Athol Murray, **USA & UK**

Prior 'Lupo Memorial Awards" have gone to:

1991 - 'The Commando Briefs' by R. Timothy Bartshe, USA

1992 - 'One Hundred Years of the Barberton Post Office' by Werner K. Seeba, **Germany**

#### THE HONOR ROLL

This feature honors Society members and publications which have received awards in competitive exhibitions. Whether the topic of an exhibit is/is not related to greater southern Africa philately, members are acknowledged for their notable achievements. Members are encouraged to notify the Editor whenever they join the "Winner's Circle".

**Forerunners**: Silver-Bronze at Pretoria '92, Silver at ORAPEX '93, Silver at SPRINGPEX '93

**John Campbell**: Large Silver at Kuala Lumpur and Silver at CHICAGOPEX '92 for The Place Qf the Stones: Silver at CHICAGOPEX '92 for The Mail Coach

**Louise Christian**: Vermeil at ROPEX '93 for "U.S. First Bureau Issues 1894-98"

**Alan J. Hanks**: Vermeil plus American Topical Association Gold at ROPEX '93 for 'The World of Insects'

**Regis Hoffman**: Vermeil plus AAPE award of excellence at MIDAPHIL 92 for 'Armed Forces Mail of East Africa. World War I'

**Robert F. Taylor**: Reserve Grand, Gold and postal history medal at Postage Stamp Mega-Event for 'The Cape Before the Triangulans'

**David Wessely**: Vermeil plus an American Association of Philatelic Exhibitors (AAPE) award at EUPEX '93 for 'Revenues of Bechuanaland'

**News & Notes**: Member Daniel A. Brouillette will be an apprentice on the Philatelic Jury at STaMps-HOW 93. Our President, Guy Dillaway will chair the Literature Jury at the same event.

#### \* \* \* Durban Stamp Auctions

**b**We have Auctions every three months, stop in Southern African material. Durban Stamp Auctions, P.O. Box 461, Pine-town 3600, Republic of South Africa.

(Firm is a member of PSGSA)

## MEMBER BIOGRAPHIES

**Ian Shapiro - #9028.** Born in Cape Town, South Africa, Ian is a member of the staff of Argyll Etkin, Ltd. His primary philatelic interest is the historical and political history of southern Africa and household postal history of the Royal Family. Ian graduated with Honours when receiving a Bachelor of Commerce (Accounting) degree.

**John McChesney-Young - #9030.** Born in Alexandria, Virginia on 13 August, John is married to Ann. They have three children: Daniel, Amber and Mary. His primary philatelic interest is British Africa prior to 1920. New Republic especially intrigues him. His other pastimes include reading, cooking, and collecting ancient and medieval coins. John received his Bachelor Degree in Paleontology from the University of California at Berkeley. In other remarks, John states "My wife, who works full-time as a registered nurse, and I, who stay home, are home schooling our three children. My travel is limited to literary excursions, and by the time that I am able to set forth, I usually don't have the strength to advance beyond mystery novels. I also read ins and Stamp Collector, and many other magazines to a greater or lesser extent: Science News, The Alan i , The New Yorker, in Health, First Things, National Geographic, The New Republic and a number of others."

**W. A. 'Alec' Page - #9031.** Alec was born in London and was last a company treasurer prior to retirement whereupon he became a self-employed export finance consultant. His primary philatelic interests are the Union/Republic periods, Czechoslovakia and Tristan Da Cunha. His exhibits have brought him numerous awards at the national and international levels. He is an RPSL Fellow and has been an officer in a number of local and international philatelic organizations. At present, Alec is serving as the Chair of PSGSA's Publications Program Committee. Being a founding member of the Philatelic Writers Society/GB, Alec's literary endeavors have included a number of regular articles on South Africa, Tristan da Cunha and Czechoslovakia topics which have appeared in philatelic magazines and specialist society journals, including overseas publications.

**Irving Baron - #9032.** Born on the 10th of October in Brooklyn, New York, Irving is married to Miriam and has two children, Frank and Michael. Irv is a retired shipping manager which now allows him to devote fulltime efforts to his interests in WWI & WWII civil censorship, red cross markings, naval and Pearl Harbor covers. In addition to stamps, Irv enjoys sporting events, collecting and reading history books relating to the world wars. In 1986 Irv and his son Frank visited fifteen cities in Italy, Switzerland, France, Netherlands

and England. Irv says: "I was fortunate to find many WWI and WWII covers for my collections, besides seeing the sights. An interesting side light to the trip was the purchase of twenty-two POW covers (in a Siena, Italy flea market) - British and South African POW's taken at Tobruk in 1942. Through names and addresses on the covers I was able to locate several ex-POWs or members of the same South African unit. We have been corresponding ever since. These personal contacts aided me in putting my research efforts into the proper perspective.

***Our first Life Members*** - As noted in the 93/94 membership fee billing form, the Society has established a Life Membership category in the amount of \$300. Three members have taken advantage of this cost-efficient membership payment option: Ron Carlson, Robert W. Hisey and George Holschauer.

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## THE FORERUNNERS FORUM

### The Society Publications Program

PSGSA has established an active program to support, sponsor and publish various categories of the written philatelic word, e.g., occasional papers, monographs and books. The Publications Program Committee is available to assist writers in all phases of publication development. Reviewers are available to assist with rough drafts and so on. If collaborators are desired for a particular work, the Committee may also be of help. Individuals desiring to utilize the Publications Program as a resource, should contact the Committee Chair, Alec Page, 138 Chastillian Road, Dartford, Kent DA1 3LG, England.

In addition to the services offered throughout the Committee, this feature provides members with the opportunity to list their present research efforts and request reader assistance as needed. Readers are encouraged to use this feature as much as possible - to research in isolation with a view towards publishing is akin to 'reinventing the wheel'. The following lists a number of projects for which the authors are seeking assistance.

\* \* \* \* \*

**An appeal from the Committee:** We are still awaiting receipt of our first manuscript. Lest we forget, we have had two very generous officers from members to underwrite the production and printing costs of a Society sponsored monograph in the 40-50 page range, including illustrations. The work should be of a research/reference nature, aimed at being of lasting value to other collectors in a similar or related field so as to provide a useful addition to their libraries. Volunteers or would-be authors please contact Alec Page (address above).

The well-respected postal history firm of Proud-Bailey Co. [LTD. is](#) soliciting assistance as follows: "We will be publishing the following volumes in our standard handbooks on the British colonies (up to Independence) which list details of every post office and every postmark with the relevant dates, and would like to hear from anybody who will be willing to assist: Basutoland, Bechuanaland, Swaziland, Zululand, Southern Rhodesia, Northern Rhodesia and Nyasaland." According to the firm's initial letter, individuals providing assistance will be able to purchase their books at cost. Please direct all communications to Mr. E.W. Proud, Proud-Bailey Co. LTD, P.O. Box 74, Heathfield, E. Sussex TN21 8PZ, UK

\*\*\*\*\*

Will Ross needs some assistance in research that he is now doing. He is trying to pinpoint the first use of the reprinted issues of the first definitive series for Bophuthatswana, Transkei and Venda. If you can help out, write Will at 6456 Woodley Ave. Van Nuys, CA 91406

\*\*\*\*\*

Tim Bartshe is presently doing research on the usage of Orange Free State telegraph stamps with "postal" cancellations. He wishes to compile data pertaining to these issues through the Republican Era using the following parameters: (1) stamps must have a readable date stamp displaying the town name and the complete or nearly complete date; (2) printing/setting of the particular telegraph overprint is needed as well as the denomination and color (available in the OFSSC [Handbook](#), Vol. I, Ch. 15, pp 247-60; and (3) type of canceller is required using Batten's numbers, if possible, otherwise send a tracing, photocopy or detailed

measurements including the diameter of the plug, height of letters and presence/absence of stops and OVS. Respondents sending stamps themselves or photocopies will be reimbursed for postage. Write Tim at 13955 W. 30th, Golden, CO 80401 USA

\*\*\*\*\*

Hiram Slomowitz requests assistance in obtaining any available information on the issuing of stamps for Goshen or Goshenland. It has been suggested that none were ever issued, even though Hiram believes that he has acquired some examples. Please write him at Advocates Chambers, 2000 Innes Chambers, Pritchard St., Johannesburg 2001, RSA

\*\*\*\*\*

Guy Dillaway is working on a manuscript dealing with postal rates and foreign destinations from the Cape during the 1853-65 triangular period. Of special interest are the 3d rates to the UK and 1 /1 d rates to Holland. Front and back photocopies of covers will be appreciated. Guy will purchase items and condition is not of paramount importance. Guy may be reached at P.O. Box 181, Weston, MA 02193

\*\*\*\*\*

[Forerunn](#) rs very own Jim 'Bookie Reports" Ryan is continuing his daunting project to produce a comprehensive bibliography covering all aspects of greater southern Africa philately. We see update installments in each issue. Each reader is strongly encouraged to send Jim a list of all books, articles, etc., in his/her personal library. Jim's address is 4419 17 Avenue NW, Calgary AB, Canada T3B ON7



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## The Bookie Reports

Jim Ryan, Canada

### III. The Rhodesias & Nyasaland

A. Forerunners, i.e., BSAC's Charter (1889)

1. The Oates Correspondence, A Postal History of Frank Oates 'Travels in Matabeleland and Zambesia, 1873-75', by E. Kenneth Wright and A.R. Drysdall, 1988. MORE CITATIONS WELCOMED.

B. British South Africa Company

1. British South Africa Company: Guide to Philatelic Literature, 1890-1924, by Colin Hoffman, 1978
2. 'Genesis of British South Africa Company Stamps and Services', by Ellenberger, 1967, supplement to The South African Philatelist, v. 43/#6
3. 'First Bulawayo Provisional Issue of 1896', by Wright and Hoffman, 1983
4. 'An Essay on the 1905 Victoria Falls Issue of the B.S.A. Company', by Chris Cordes, 1983 (?), distributed by Rhodesian Study Circle - 63 pages.
5. Southern Rhodesia - Routes and Postage Rates to 1924, by R.C. Knight and D.A. Mitchell, 1984
6. Skeleton of Chief Cancellers Southern Rhodesia, 1902-1968, by D.A. Mitchell, 1989
7. The Postmarks of Southern Rhodesia to 192(?), by Mitchell, 1988
8. The Postage Stamps of Rhodesia, by (Royal) Rhodesia Philatelic Society, 1925

9. Moshonaland - A Postal History, 189Q\_1896 by A.R. Drysdall and Dave Collis, 1990; see pages 22-3, Vol. IV, No. 3 Forerunners; also Vol. IV, No. 2, pages 22-3

10. A Guide to the Postage Stamps of the Rhodesias and Nyasaland, 1888-1963 Mashonaland Philatelic Study Group, 1965 and 1974 (reprint)

### IV. Southern Rhodesia-Rhodesia-Zimbabwe A.

Stamps

1. The Postage Stamps of Rhodesia, by Philatelic Society of Rhodesia, 1925
2. Please see items 1-3 in 'Postal History'-Section B
3. 'Matabeleland Commemorative Issue 2d.', by Alec Kaplan-DETAILS PLEASE
4. Rhodesia Stamp Catalogue, by Salisbury (now Zimbabwe) Stamp Company; latest catalogue printed was 1983-4 edition, although periodic price supplements have been issued by the company, latest one in possession is for 1989.
5. A Guide to the Postage Stamps of the Rhodesias and Nyasaland, 1888-1966, Mashonaland Philatelic Study Group, 1965, 1974 (reprint)
6. Guide to the Postage Stamps of Rhodesia, 1964-1978 (title as seen in price list), Mashonaland Philatelic Study Group. These are loose leaf supplements designed to be added to a binder containing #5. They are: No. 2 - 1 Jan 1964 to 31 July, 1966; No. 3 - 1 August 1966 to 31 December 1967; No. 4 - 1 January 1968 to 31 August 1972; and No. 5 - September 1972 to last Rhodesia issue of October

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New Lynn, Auckland, New Zealand

(The author is a Society member.)



*Posta/History Southern Rhodesia/Rhodesia/Zimbabwe ..  
. coat o'*

1978. All have been compiled by the Study Group and published by Derrick Pollard. A 1987 reprint is available.

#### B. Postal History

1. Rhodesia: A Postal History, Its Stamps, Posts and Telegraphs, by R.C. Smith, 1967. NOTE: Numerous errors are believed to be contained within this volume.

3. (First) 1970 supplement to 1. above

2. (Second) 1978 supplement to 1. above

4. Rhodesia Post Offices: Where and When, by W.F. Calder, 1984

5. Postmarks of Rhodesia, 1950-1969, by Ellenberger, 1970

6. Skeleton and Relief Cancellers of Southern Rhodesia, 1902-1968, by D.A. Mitchell, 1989

7. L Postmarks of Southern Rhodesia to 1920(?), by D. A. Mitchell, two editions. Includes corrigenda to "The Postmarks, Postal Routes and Principal Postage Rates of Southern Rhodesia to 1924", by R.C. Knight and D.A. Mitchell, published by R.C. Knight, Cape Town, 1984

8. Postmarks and Post Offices of Rhodesia. Post Federation, by Thomson, 1973

9. Surcharging of Rhodesia's Mail, 1965-1971, by Mitchell and Tring, ?

10. Air Mail History of the Rhodesias and Nyasaland, by Baldwin, 1958 (?)

11. Mutilated Handstamps, January-June 1979, by Mitchell and Russell, ?

12. "The Postmarks and Post Offices of Rhodesia Post Federation", by R.M. Thomson, published by Salisbury Stamp Co., 1982

#### V. Rhodesia & Nyasaland - Combined Studies A.

##### Postal History

1. The Romance of the Posts of Rhodesia, British Central Africa and Nyasaland, by H.C. Dann, 1940. Second printing of this book is RARE, most destroyed in warehouse during Blitz. First printing is scarce but frequently seen.

2. Cancellations of Rhodesias and Nyasaland, by H.S. Dann, 1950

3. 1. & 2. above were reprinted in a combined volume in 1981.

4. Air Mail History of Rhodesias and Nyasaland, by Baldwin, 1958(?)

#### VI. Northern Rhodesia - Zambia

##### A. Stamps

1. Zambia's Postage Stamps, by Drysdall and Case, 1972

##### B. Postal History

1. Stamps and Postal History of Northern Rhodesia and Zambia, by Drysdall, 1976

2. North of the Zambezi, by Hal Hoyte. First Edition, 1980; Second Edition, 1983

3. Pre-Federation Posts of Northern Rhodesia, by Nodder 1965 (?)

#### VII. Br. Central Africa & Nyasaland Protectorate

1. British Central Africa and Nyasaland Protectorate, by F.J.M. Melville, 1909

2. A Pictorial Essay of the 1\_8\_9\_8 Provisional of British Central Africa-Nyasaland - PLEASE SEND DETAILS.

3. A Philatelic Handbook of Nyasaland, 1859-1964, by Robin Hillman, ?

4. King George VI Collectors Society handbooks for 1938 and 1945 definitive sets (in one volume) have been seen cloth and paperbound.,

5. "Nyasaland", by Colin Fraser in The Stamp Magazine, August 1989 - A description of the Graeme MacFarland Collection being sold by Christie's Robson-Lowe, 12 September 1989

6. The Nyasaland Rhodesia Field Force 1914-1918, by Drysdall and Kenneth Pennyquick, 1986

7. The Postal History and Postmarks of British Central Africa, by Nodder and Twynam, 1955

My sincere thanks to founding member Bill Wallace for his very timely assistance in constructing the lists for this issue... Jim

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#### Society Translation Service

The following members will provide translations:

\* Bob Hisey - Afrikaans & German to English. Address: 7227 Sparta Rd., Sebring, FL 33872

\* Dr. H.U. "Ulli" Bantz - Afrikaans & German to English. Address: 47 Van Santen Dr., Horizon View 1724, Republic of South Africa

Translation requests to be made directly to translators. A copy of the English version of translated item should be sent to the Editor for publication in the journal if subject falls within the Society scope. Any member wishing to be a volunteer translator, please contact the Editor and indication languages.

## Questions & Answers

As part of its services to the general collecting community, the Society makes its Panel of Experts available to answer questions submitted by readers. The Panel members are listed inside the cover page. Readers should send their inquiry directly to the appropriate Panel member. Clear copies of cancels, covers (front/back) and a detailed description of an item, e.g., color, perforations, watermark type, etc., should always be included.

The Panel member will forward his/her answer, along with the question and any illustrations to the Editor for publication in this section. Panel members will also return a copy of the response directly to the questioner. Please bear in mind that a question may require an extended period to allow time for research, which may include consultation with others.

Questions falling outside the scope of the Society, i.e., that pertain to British East or West Africa, should be submitted to the Editor. The inquiry will be forwarded to an appropriate specialty group for a response.

Membership on the Panel is open to Society members in good standing who have experience and knowledge in a specific area not yet designated on the Panel listing in the front of the journal. Interested members should contact the Panel Chair, Syl C. Tully, RD#1, Box 3060, Hyde Park, VT 05655 USA

**Question #25:** I believe that I may have emissions from Goshen or Goshenland. Are there any existing records or information indicating that stamps were actually produced? Hiram Slomowitz, RSA

**Response by Alan Drysdall/UK:** The short answer is that I know of no authoritative statements regarding a Goschen stamp issue, except that which has been stated many times; namely, that there were no postage or revenue stamps. I do not know of any published description of a postal service, and I doubt if anything formal existed. There may have been an informal runner service to the nearest Transvaal office - Lichtenburg or Zeerust - but it is more likely that individuals travelling to and from carried such mail as there may have been.

**Question #23 (Vol. VI, No. 3, Whole #16) revisited by Wilson Wong/Hong Kong:** In addition to the able response by Athol Murray, concerning Mr. Robertson's question regarding the double Zululand overprint on Natal (without stop), I would like to provide additional information. There are, to my knowledge, three versions of the double overprint variety: (1) closely separated double, with stop; (2) closely separated double, without stop; and (3) widely separated double without stop.

Robertson's variety is Type 3, which I have seen on the 'without stop' only. Although SG did not distinguish between the *with* and *without* stop double overprints (they surely should!), the variety normally available as SG 12a is either Type 1 or 2. Type 3 is much less common.

I have seen three other similar used strips of three (bottom two with Type 3 double) such as the one illustrated. One is off paper, one is on a large piece with a Paris arrival postmark (ex. John Robson) and one is on a cover to Paris (see next page).

Apparently all were originally on covers posted from Eshowe during 1891 to the same person in Paris, said to be a stamp dealer. Probably no one noticed the variety at that time.

I enclose a photocopy of the above mentioned cover bearing the 1/2d strip of three and four 1888 3d, with a stamp missing, posted from Eshowe in March 1891 (B.P.A. Cert.).\* This was originally in the 1971 Col. Danson sale but was sold as normal, as apparently no one noticed the variety (except possibly the buyer!). I subsequently bought it in London in January 1993.

Normally I would agree with Athol Murray that the double overprint is worth more used than unused, but probably not in this widely separated version. So far I have only seen one unused single (ex. John Robson) but four used strips with eight examples. Others may exist, of course, but I think it is worth more unused.

\* The missing stamp is probably the 11/2d to make up the non-U.P.U. rate of 1s.3d. (Zululand joined the U.P.U. on 27 September 1892). However, I am not certain about this, and I hope readers can provide further information on the matter.

\*\*\*\*\* Unanswered

## Challenges For the Scholar

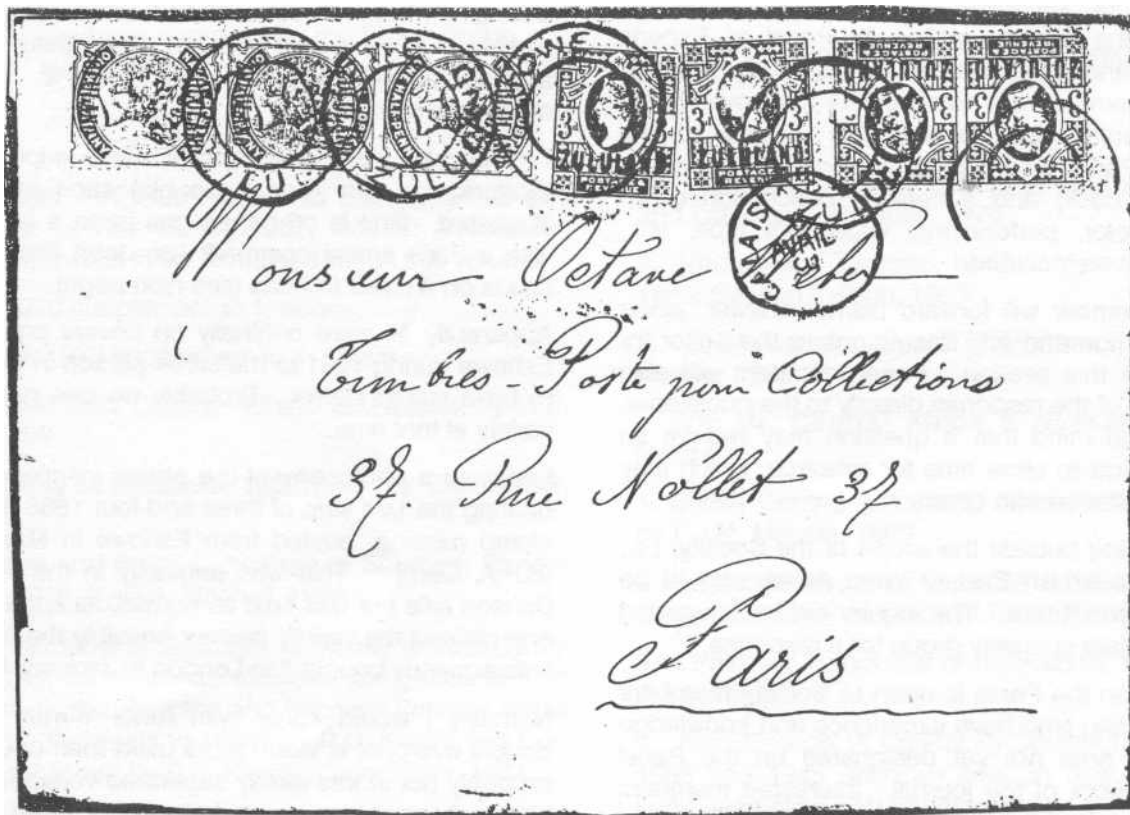
This feature includes questions which have gone unanswered by the Question & Answer Panel, as well as well-researched items that a member would appreciate additional data on. The reader is now invited to take up the challenge. Please forward all speculations directly to the Editor for publication in a future issue.

**Challenge #5 (new):** Member Bob Hisey has provided comments on a very interesting official mail cover. His analysis and questions raised by the cover are now presented to the reader for further speculation and comments as follows:

OFFICIAL COVER - D.G. WAR SUPPLIES, OCT 19, 1942 - Official mail from Director General of War Supplies in Jo'burg to a Major J.N.A. Ray, S.A. Government Supply Mission in Washington D.C.

Stamped with sixty-one official stamps totalling 8s4d.





Thirty-two of the 1/2d (Haggar 091 of 1941), eighteen of the 1 d (Haggar 076 of 1939). Oddly, also stamped "Official Free, Director General of War Supplies." This was applied after the stamps had been applied. No indication of intermediate transit marks or any indication of air mail which might still have been running from Brazil.

There are a number of questions about this cover:

1. Why put stamps on at all when it was marked "Official Free"? Was postage free, but not insurance?
2. What is the rate of 8s4d? The registry fee then was 4d, which leaves 8s for postage and insurance. I think the overseas seaml rate at this time was 3d. Thus, 8s is 32 times the basic rate! which would be good for either 16 or 32 ounces - too heavy for this envelope. The contents, according to the crayon on the front (same as the registry marks) were "L6895". Assuming one pound (half ounce rate), this would be about 55 square feet of notes, or 330 notes which would be about one inch thick. There are no creases in the envelope to indicate any such thick contents. Could this be an insurance amount? During this period of the war the British were selling off American securities to raise dollars for arms. Perhaps some American securities were in this extra long envelope. Is 8s4d, 8s

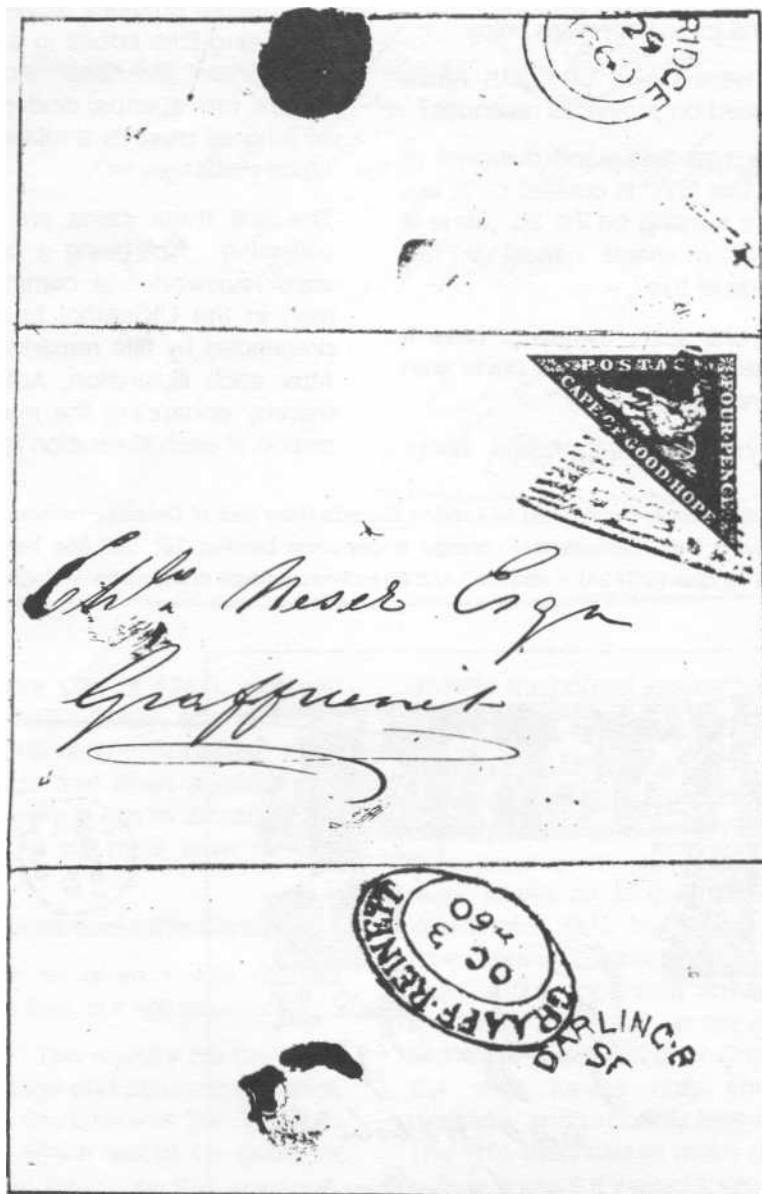
or 7s9d the correct insurance rate?

3. The time of passage is very short, too short for convoy mail. At this time, my father was in S.A., and the normal transit time for a letter was six to eight weeks. The first date is Rissik St. Johannesburg 31 (downtown post office) October 19, 1942, registry mark Miami on November 9, 1942. Registry mark Washington D.C. November 10, 1942. Total transit time from Johannesburg to Miami was twenty-one days, and it apparently arrived in Miami very early on the 9th to make DC on the same day. Allowing only two days for Jo'burg to Cape Town and getting on the ship, leaves only about eighteen days for passage, and probably less due to waiting for a ship. The ship then had to make good almost 17 knots (or twenty knots if it waited three days for the ship), while convoys usually only achieved a speed of six to eight knots or so. It was apparently a lone ship, fairly large and modern, relying on neutrality, speed, or luck to avoid U-boats. As to neutrals, the Portugese had old ships, their prize mail liners were pre-World War I, and did not stop in South Africa. The Swedes are equally unlikely. Perhaps a warship, but why would it be going TO the U.S.? A modern liner converted into a hospital ship? All a bit odd.

*Atho's comments regarding illustration #1:* An ordinary commercial cover (1885) with reasonably clear strikes of (Goldblatt SC.2) single circle; three segments:

GPO Cape Town at top, Cape Colony below (head office stamp).

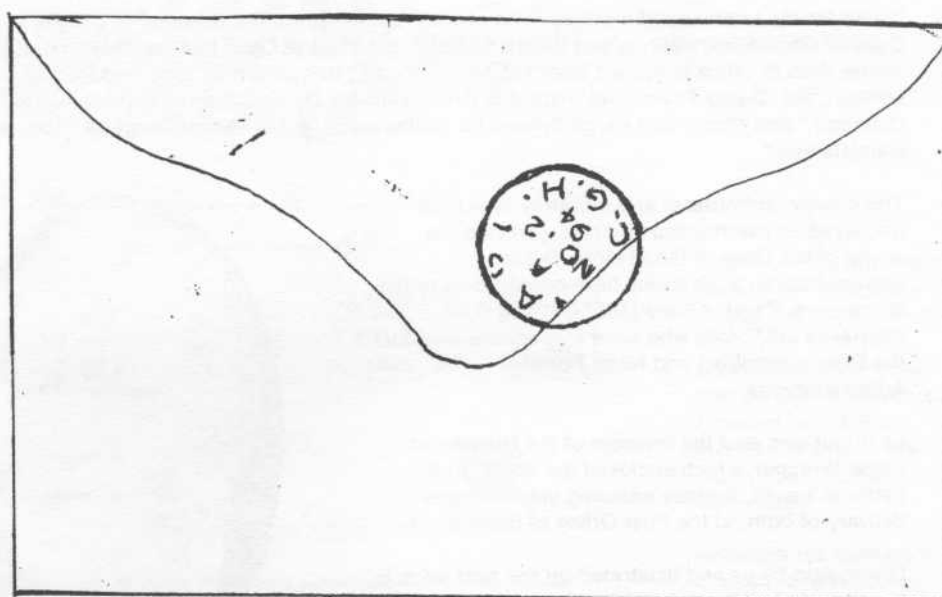
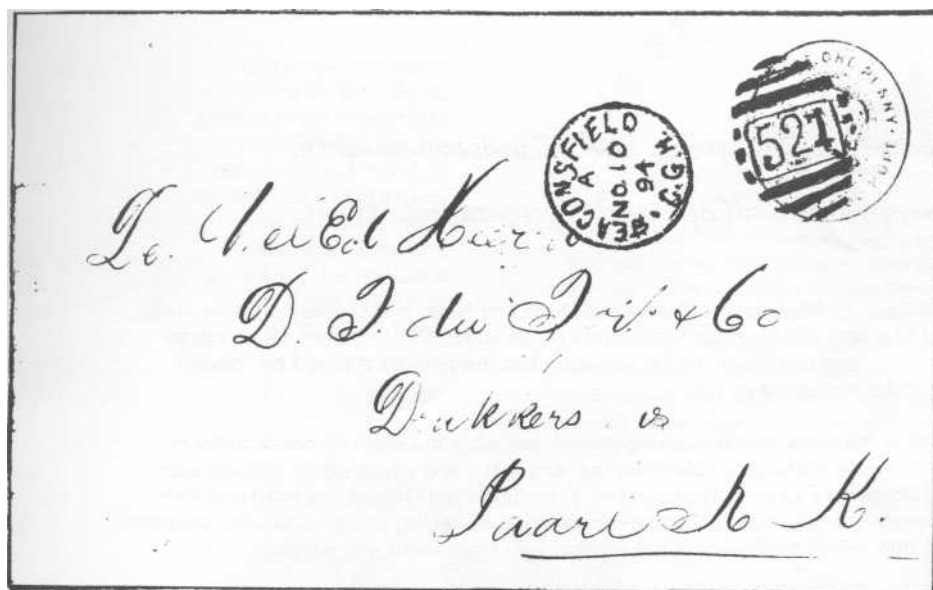
**Illustration 2.** Part cover to Charles Meser Esquire, GRAAF-REINETT; franked with a SC#4 - 4p blue; leaving mark is Darling Bridge 'SP29 1860' - double arc date stamp; arriving mark - GRAAF-Reinett 'OC 3 1860' - dated oval town stamp type cancel; wax seal noted on reverse.



*Atho's comments regarding Illustration 2* An internally used wrapper from Darling Bridge 29 Sept 1860 with double arc (dispatch) datestamp (Goldblatt DA 3). This post office opened on 8th June 1852 and was last listed in 1876. This postmark is listed by Ralph Putzel in his Encyclopedia Of South African Post Offices & Postal

Agen ie , published 1986, and is classified as extremely scarce. There are three further classifications: rare, very rare and extremely rare for marks more difficult to find that "scarce"! The 4p triangular is probably on white paper and the oval arrival mark of Graaff Reinett is self-explanatory.

Illustration 3. Postal envelope cancelled by single circle date stamp showing "Beaconsfield - A - No 10 - 94 - CGH"; numeral 521 barred oval cancel; (Beaconsfield became part of Kimberly in 1912.) Backstamp of 'PAARL - A - NOV 12 - 94 - CGH'



*Atho's comments regarding Illustration 3* An envelope very collectable. I am very envious of this cover as it cancelled with BONC (Barred Oval Numeral Cancellor) is missing in my collection (I have about 300 different 521 with proving cds of Beaconsfield (known as a numbers). proving cover). The BONC cancellations are becoming

On this and the next page are two excerpts from the are pleased to note Harold's inclusion of a detailed pages of member Harold Hollander's Griqualand West Society ad on the second to the last page of his Private Treaty Sale Catalogue of May/June 1993. We catalogue. His support is greatly appreciated.

### *On the Postal History and Handstamps of the Cape of good Hope and Griqualand West*

The postal history of the Cape of Good Hope, Griqualand West and Natal is represented by, probably, the most attractive array of postal markings and cancellers in the world. Finding them all on cover must then represent a long lasting challenge, which will not leave the philatelist bored by "having completed that Country in a short space of time."

There are in addition, within the Cape postal marking period, probably the most complete array of themes or facets by which Postal History can be collected, and just a few which come to mind are:- Maritime Postal History, Governor's Letters, Military Mail, Travelling Post Offices, Railroad and Rail P.O. Cancellations and many, many others. This also representing a lifelong study which will be richly rewarded, from research into a field about which not all has been discovered and written.

We have, for instance, made exciting discoveries concerning the Cape, Griqualand West and Natal handstamps from 1853 to around 1880, and who manufactured them, as well as having found many unrecorded "Dated Town Oval", "Barred Oval Numeral" handstamps, and Pre-Cancel manuscript cancellations from small, obscure Post Offices.

Credit for the existence of the collection of the most attractive handstamps in the world, that of the Cape of Good Hope, Griqualand West and Natal, goes to the Cape Postmaster General, J.A. le Sueur, whose term of office stretched from 1852-1867. During this period he procured from D.G. Berri of London, the "Dated Town Oval," "Double Arc," "Circular Dated," "Barred Oval Numeral," "Barred Oval Diamond," and "Small and Large Triangular Obliterators" as well as the range of "Special Purpose Handstamps."

The energy, enthusiasm and creativity which he displayed, in overhauling and re-organising the whole of the Cape of Good Hope Postal Administration, must surely have carried over to his successors, Charles Piers (1867-73) and G.W. Aitcheson (1873-92), who were responsible also for the Griqualand West and Natal Postal Administrations.

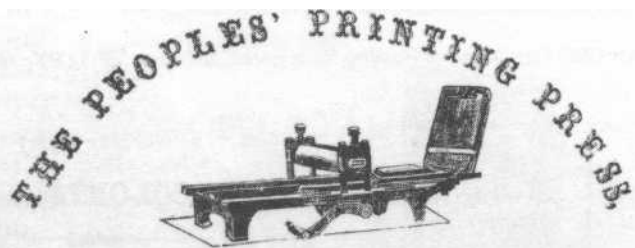
Le Sueur was also the inventor of the Registered Letter Wrapper, which enclosed the Registered Letter in transit, thereby ensuring simultaneous delivery of both, at the Post Office of destination.

Discovered by us and illustrated on the next page is the first page of the Advertising Booklet from D.G. Berri of London, which was sent to J.A. le Sueur during the early part of his term of office.



Inset: J.A. Le Sueur  
Postmaster-General  
1852-1867

The small innovative Letterpress by D.G. Berri, used at Cape Town from circa 1864 to around 1880, for the printing of virtually all the inter and internal post office stationery forms and envelopes, for the Cape of Good Hope and Griqualand West.



(PATENTED 1863.)

For the use of Authors, Amateurs, the Army and Navy, Missionaries, Colonists, Banks, Joint Stock, Railway, and Steam Ship Companies, Professional Men, Merchants, Druggists, Theatres, Music Halls, and all Tradesmen who wish to procure Bill-heads, Circulars, Labels, Cards, Envelopes, Hand-bills, &c., &c., at a **SAVING OF 75 PER CENT.**

The PEOPLES' PRINTING PRESS is remarkable for its *Durability, Simplicity, and Cheapness*, and in connection with the small Printing Office attached, should be in the possession of every Bank, Public Company, School, and Business Man.—500 impressions per hour of Bill-heads, Cards, Envelopes, Circulars, Labels, Hand-bills, &c., &c., may be printed by an unskilled boy—so simple is this machine. *Delivered by the Government Post Office.* PRESS very useful for job work.

g Ink Roller and Ink Slab.

width 12 1/4 in., height 9 3/4 in., weight 55 lb.

Press, 12 lb. fount of Pica, 1 lb. of fancy ink Roller, Chase, Leads, Rule, Furniture, and Discount.

**BERRI,**

or Majesty's Post Office,

36, High Holborn, London. W.C.

have Stereotype Plates of Copy furnished

**LES' PRINTING PRESS."**



*Requests to submit the following Specimen of Stamps used by the Government Offices.*



**16**  
CENTS

*Hobbs,*  
FAC SIMILE  
No. 2  
Reg. 18 Aug. 1855.



*D.G. Berri also to state that every description of Arms, Crests and Initials, Engraved on Stamps, Labels & Dies in the first Style.*

*Engraving and Printing on Copper & Steel, executed with dispatch in the best possible manner.*

LEVER EMBOSsing PRESSES &C.

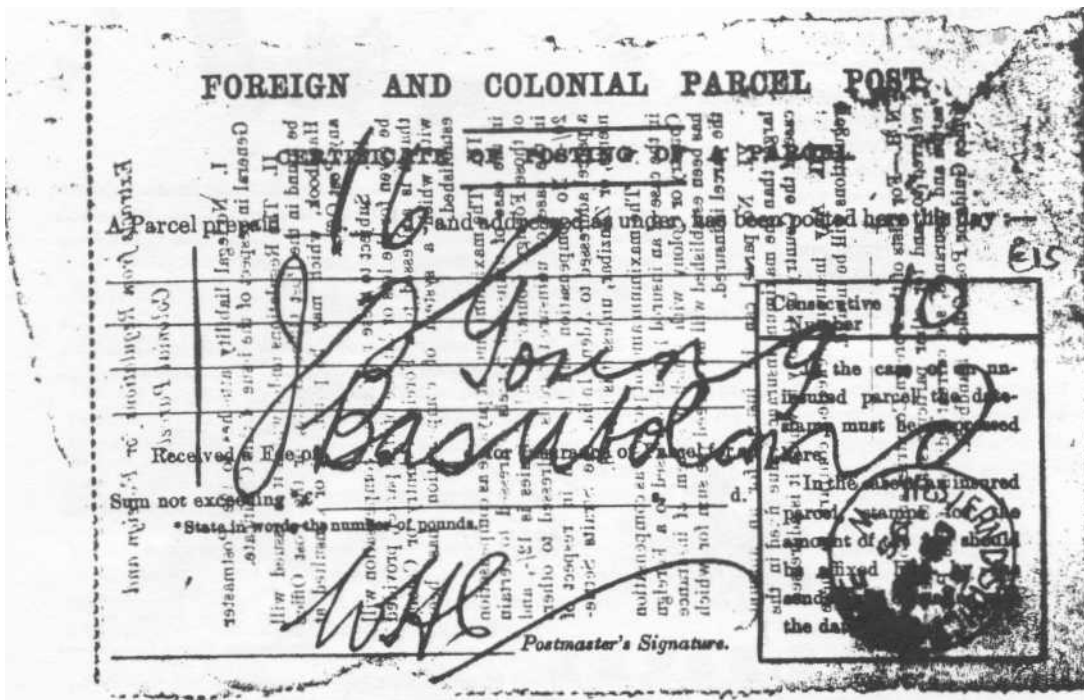
Page from the advertising booklet of the London firm of Die Sinkers and Engravers, D.G. Berri, concerning their hand-stamps and obliterators, received by the Postmaster-General of the Cape, J.A. Le Sueur, early 1853.

Although the date on this circular is reflected as 1855, we know that the "Dated Town Oval" for instance dates from December 1853.

The two illustrations shown below were submitted by Werner Seeba. In the first case (Basutoland parcel post certificate), Werner states that it is the first one he has ever seen. For the second item (Transvaal post

card), Werner references the collection of Peter Hutterer and states that the Hamberg cancel has been an unrecorded mark until now. Readers are invited to provide additional comments.

**Illustration 1.** An 1895 Certificate of Posting for a parcel with cds '26.12.95', Western District Office.



**Illustration 2.** A Transvaal postal card showing the previously unrecorded double circle canceller for Hamburg Transvaal dated '17. AUG.1904'. Addressed to Hamburg Germany, it went unclaimed and eventually returned to sender.



This next bit comes by way of Ohio member Dr. Barry Blumenthal and should be of special interest to medical professional members of the Society.

Fritz Brenner, The Brenner Tumor and South West Africa. . . Brenner was born in Osthofer, Germany on December 16, 1877. This was seven years before the establishment of the first post office in German South West Africa at Otjimbingwe (Fig. 1) in 1884. He received his medical degree from Heidelberg in 1904.

Figure 1. First post office canceller for German South West Africa at Otjimbingwe.



In 1907, Dr. Brenner described the ovarian tumor that would eventually bear his name, after operating on a 62 year old woman who subsequently died eight days later. Up until recently, it was the only ovarian tumor having no pathologic designation other than its eponym.

Dr. Brenner later moved to South West Africa, then a German colony. The German registry listed him in the seaport of Swakopmund (Fig. 2) between 1910 and 1914. There he was entrusted with official duties (Regierungsarzt).

Figure 2. Example of Swakopmund cancel.



At the conclusion of World War I, Brenner elected to stay in South West Africa, now a South African Mandate, rather than return to Germany. In 1922 he left Swakopmund for the inland city of Windhoek (Fig. 3), the capital of South West Africa. He migrated to South Africa in 1935.

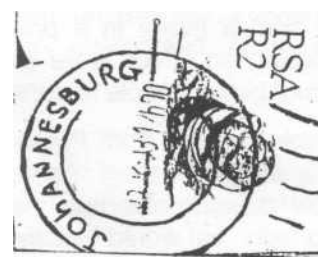
In Johannesburg (Fig. 4) in the 1950's, the local gynecologists had no idea that the Brenner of gynecological history was practicing amongst them. Brenner himself was very surprised that the tumor that he had described way back in 1907 was known by his name.

He repeatedly professed his surprise at the interest shown in his 'kleinen Beditrag zur gynakologischen'

Figure 3. Partial Windhoek cancel where the good Doctor called home beginning 1922.



Figure 4. Present day double circle datestamp for Johannesburg to which Dr. Brenner migrated in 1935.



\*\*\*\*\*

The following anecdote from Herman "Pat" Herst came as a result of contact between the Editor and Pat. Over the years, Pat's writings have delighted collector's of all stripes. Therefore, it occurred to yours truly that the Mr. Herst might have a story or two to share with us. Ergo, the following delightful story. It is hoped that Pat will keep us in mind in the future.

## SOUTH AFRICA AND ME

By Herman Herst, Jr.

In my sixty years as a stamp dealer, I have handled very little in South Africa stamps, other than in my auction sales.

From 1934 until my moving to Florida in 1973, I was a licensed auctioneer, mostly in New York City, but I also did conduct auction sales in other cities in connection with philatelic conventions.

But if someone asked me to do a story about South Africa, two people come to mind.

I was a regular participant in London's STAMPEX shows, and on several occasions I had the pleasure of meeting the dealer from Benoni, Hinko Sukije. We became very friendly, and as I often do, I invited Hinko to pay us a visit in the States, offering the

hospitality of a guest room.

I was then living in Shrub Oak, N.Y., a village in Westchester County about 40 miles from the metropolis of New York City. One day I had a letter from Benoni - Suklje wanted to sell his stock of stamps, and American seemed to be the place to do it. He wondered if he could ship his stamps to Shrub Oak, and arrange their sale there. Of course I answered in the affirmative.

Hinko was a very nice houseguest. He spoke several languages besides his native Yugoslavian (I know there is no language by that name but he had come from there before going to Benoni.)

His stamps, taking several dozen huge parcels, overflowed the room we had given him, and he needed other rooms to accomodate them. Soon after he arrived he confessed that he had always wanted to visit the U. S., but his wife, because he had a heart condition, told him that whe would permit the trip only if he could stay with a family in a private home. She dreaded his having an attack while staying in a hotel, when there would be no people to care for him.

He regularly took the train from Peekskill, New York to the City, usually carrying one of the parcels. He made few sales; local dealers later told me that his prices were much too high. He would usually stay late in New York, and several times, I would have to meet his train at 2 o' clock in the morning, often waiting in my car in temperatures far, far below the freezing mark.

The heart attack came and we had a patient as wesll as a house guest. The bundles of stamps remained unsold, and when his condition improved to the extent of his being able to fly home, the task of repacking the bundles of stamps for return to Benoni was left to us.

Hinko retuned home safely and we had a lovely letter from his wife, thanking us for our hospitality during his illness. Many readers will recall the play and movie called 'The Man Who Came to Dinner.' For a long time, we recalled our visit from Hinko, calling it the 'South African Dealer Who Came to Visit.'

My second recollection of a South African collector goes back, a long, long time, to about 60 or so years ago. I had not yet become a dealer, and the stamp collection that I had so enjoyed before entering college was gathering dust. One of my courses at Reed College in Portland, Oregon was on the British exploitation and exploration of the African continent. I had never heard the word 'Voortrekker' before but that event intrigued me, especially when I learned that it had been recorded on postage stamps.

A letter to the editor appeared in an American stamp magazine, carrying the name of the writer, a young man in Bloemfontein. I wondered if he knew a young

friend in South Africa and it seemed the friendly thing to do to introduce them to each other by letter. They thanked me, and apparently each helped the other advance a collection.

World War II came aloang in 1939, and my young man friend joined the Army, but before being sent abroad, the two were married. I have been told that there is a reward in Heaven for anyone who introduces persons who subsequently marry. (It must be so for during the three years of my being a widower following my first wife's death, so many people seemed to be worried at my living wifeless.)

Her husband was taken prisoner at Tobruk, and I gladly included him in my prayers. Happily, Tobruk was relieved, the war ended and the couple were together in Bloemfontein. It was not long before a baby boy graced the marriage, and I was glasttered to learn thast my having brought them together as husband and wife was to reward me by having the child named "Pat" after my nickname (earned because of a St. Patrick's Birthday.)

Unfortunately, my Bloemfontein friends did not have too many years together, for three years or so after the war, the husband was killed in a traffic accident. Not long after that, his wife died of an illness which I never knew to be the cause of her passing. Young Pat was brought by his aunt, the sister of my pen pal friend.

Every Christmas, I receive a greeting card from Pat, now himself a married man and a father, but sorry to say, not a stamp collector. However, he does know that someone whom he has never met, and probably never will, brought his mother and father together, resulting in his having been born.

Isn't it wonderful that the liking for such a tiny, inanimate thing as a postage stamp can do so much to change the lives of people living on the other side of the world? (If you enjoyed Pat's contribution to this journal, please let him know at P.O. Box 1583, Boca Raton, FL 33429-1583.)





## Zulu Notes

Tony Davis, Canada

The column continues in this issue of "Forerunners" with the postmarks of Zululand. Readers of "Zulu Notes" will be given a break in the next column as the writer will cover a different subject before returning to the postmarks in a later installment. As always, I would welcome any new postmark date information from readers. Please write to me at 41 Karen St., Thornhill, Ontario, Canada L4J 5L5.

### Entonjaneni

Entonjaneni (a lovely name to roll around the tongue) is located in the western part of the territory and the postal agency there was in operation for a little more than four years.

The postmark (Fig. 1) is a 30mm diameter black single circle strike with the words "Post Office" and "Entonjaneni" within the circle and the day-month-year in the center of the circle on one line. The earliest recorded usage of this postmark is 30 June 1888, and the latest recorded usage is 29 August 1892.

Figure 1. Example of Entonjaneni circular date-stamp.



The Entonjaneni postmark is one of the earliest Zululand strikes (along with Eschowe and Rorke's Drift) and is the only cancellation with the 30mm measurement.

It is also known with varieties. There are transposed month-day-year date slugs as well as inverted date slugs (Fig. 2).

Figure 2. Entonjaneni cancel showing inverted date slug.



Several dates in July 1888 have also been recorded of the Entonjaneni postmark in violet ink (Fig. 3).

Figure 3. Example of a violet postmark of Entonjaneni.



Due to the limited life of the Entonjaneni postmark, it is only known on the first Zululand definitive series and the overprinted Natal one penny revenue.

### Hlabisa

Hlabisa is a postal agency which was most likely based at the Resident Magistrate's Office in central Zululand.

The 24mm diameter single circle postmark is only known in violet ink. "R.M. Office" is found ringing the top of the circle and "Hlabisa" at the bottom. The date slugs are arranged over three lines with the day-month-year arranged top to bottom (Fig. 4) in the center of the circle. The "R. M." refers to Resident Magistrate.

Figure 4. Example of the violet Hlabisa postmark.



The earliest recorded usage of the Hlabisa (pronounced shhla-bisa) postmark is 26 October 1894 and the latest recorded usage is 27 March 1898. No varieties are reported.

Hlabisa also had its own postmark after the annexation to Natal (Fig. 5). Only Eschowe (Fig. 7, "Zulu Notes", *Forerunners*#17) and Hlabisa have these postmarks.

## Lower Umfolosi

There are two recorded postmarks for Lower Umfolosi, which is found on the east coast of Zululand and is named, like the Lower Tugela office, after the nearby river.

The use of the two postmarks overlap in time, the one strike being utilized at the Resident Magistrate's office, the other at the postal agency. Why two? Conjecture leads me to believe that there was a greater European settler/missionary/miner community in the area necessitating the two services.

The first Lower Umfolosi strike is the Resident Magistrate's office postmark which is a 24.5mm diameter violet single circle postmark with "R.M. Office" and "Zululand" placed within the circle and the day-month-year in the center of the cancel on three lines. The lettering for "R.M. Office" is larger than the same letters for the Hlabisa postmark (Fig. 8).

The earliest recorded usage of the first Lower Umfolosi postmark is 16 October 1894 and the latest recorded postmark is 25 January 1898. There are no reported varieties.

**Figure 8.** A "DEC 31 1895" example of the Lower Umfolosi single circle datestamp.



The second Lower Umfolosi postmark is a 25mm diameter violet single circle postmark with "Lower Umfolosi" and "Zululand" placed within the circle and the day-month-year found in the center of the circle on three lines (Fig. 9).

**Figure 9.** Example of the violet single circle Lower Umfolosi postmark dated "MAR 20 1897"



The earliest recorded usage of the postmark is 19 October 1895, and the last recorded usage is into the Natal annexation of 1898. On some postmarks the date numerals are thick - the result of an inconsistent stationery supplier, no doubt.

The postmark is also seen with the month-day-year on three lines.

## Melmoth

Melmoth is one of Zululand's larger towns and is located in central Zululand, north of Eshowe. Similarly, the postmark is one of the most commonly found strikes, next to Eschowe and Nondweni.

The postmark is a 26mm diameter black double circle strike with "Melmoth" and "Zululand" placed between the two circles and the day-month-year in the center on two lines (Fig. 10).

The earliest recorded usage of the Melmoth postmark is 18 January 1893 and the latest recorded usage is into the Natal annexation of 1898.

**Figure 10.** Example of the Melmoth postmark.

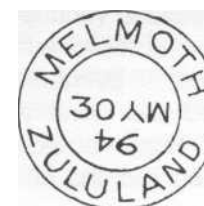


Varieties are fairly common with this postmark, with transposed dates - month-day-year (Fig. 11), and inverted date slugs as well (Fig. 12)

**Figure 11.** Melmoth cancel variety - transposed month-day-year.



**Figure 12.** Melmoth cancel variety - inverted month and year slugs.



## The Rhodesias

Welcome to a new regular feature of Forerunners, a Rhodesia section. Many of the members of PSGSA have an interest in Rhodesian philately. Therefore, it was felt a Rhodesian column would be appreciated by these members and may also interest others who have yet to discover this fascinating area. Arrangements have been made for two members, Bill Wallace and Tom Yazman, to share in the writing of this feature who will present their varying interests to the reader. It is the authors' hope to have guest writers as well (address at end of this first installment).

### Postmark Primer - Bulawayo

William R. Wallace, USA

What is generally agreed to be the first postmark of Rhodesia occurred even before the country was opened up to the British South Africa Company (BSAC) and is found on stamps of Bechuanaland Protectorate.

In August of 1888 a postal route was established between Mafeking and Gubulawayo in Matabeleland. Gubulawayo was the site of the Royal Kraal of King Lobengula. The postal route was set up to serve the few European farmers, prospectors and missionaries there. One of these missionaries, the Reverend Charles Helm was appointed postmaster. The first mails south left Gubulawayo on August 21, 1888. This mail was all franked with stamps of Bechuanaland Protectorate and cancelled with a single circle GUBULAWAYO/AU 21/88/BECHUANALAND cancel. After the mail had left, Reverend Helm realized the problems that might occur should Lobengula learn of the cancel. Lobengula might well get the impression that the British intended to annex Matabeleland and put the Matabele people under the rule of King Khama. This would certainly not do, so Reverend Helm took a chisel and excised Bechuanaland from the canceling device.

As far as is known, Lobengula was never aware of the cancel and only 14 of these cancels have been discovered. The Gubulawayo (only) cancel remained in use several more years until 1895.

Bulawayo, which means "place of the killing", has had many different postmarks since that time. Later postmarks include various-sized single circle cancels, both Bulawayo, Matabeleland and later Bulawayo, Matabeleland. Eventually we find double circle cancels and the country name now is shown as Rhodesia. These occasionally are found with Afrikaans-spelled months MRT and MEI for March and

May. Late in 1898, Southern Rhodesia was placed under separate administration. Thus, the country name was now Southern Rhodesia. The double circles became more involved and we find both double circles with arcs and with joined arcs.

Several of the Bulawayo cancellers must have been faulty in the 'B' as Bulawayo cancels are not uncommon. The early days also produced barred diamonds and barred ovals (BONC) 678. A large B in the barred oval is believed to have been a parcel stamp.

Additional cancels used in Bulawayo include a double circle British Association, Bulawayo in purple used when the Association was there in 1905, a registered single circle and registered skeleton, a single circle Bulawayo BSAP camp, double circle Bulawayo 'A', and double circle Bulawayo station used at the railway station.

While Bulawayo is indeed a very common cancel found on Rhodesian stamps, there are many varieties to be found.

If you have any questions or comments on collecting the cancels of Rhodesia, please feel free to write me at P.O. Box 16381, San Francisco, CA 94116 USA.

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## Society Affairs

### Facts, Figures & Other Matters

**Bill Brooks, Secretary**

As of this writing, Society membership has reached 150 collecting souls - a far cry from the founding group of 18. Membership distribution is as follows:

- \* Total US membership is 96 or 64%
- \* Total non-US membership is 54 or 36%
- \* Non-US members by country (14 different.): RSA - 21, United Kingdom - 10, Canada - 8, Germany, Switzerland - 3 each, Botswana, Holland - 2 each, China, Denmark, France, Guatemala, Hong Kong, Japan, New Zealand - 1 each
- \* US members by state (33 states in all): CA - 25, NY - 8; FL, IL, OH, PA, TX, VA - 4 each; MD, MN, UT, WA - 3 each; CO, NC, NJ, OR, TN, RI - 2 each; AL, AZ, DC, GA, HI, IN, MA, ME, MI, MO, MS, MT, NE, NV, VT, WI - 1 each.

## From The Archives

Tim Bartshe, Director/Archives

This column is back, hopefully without future interruption like my being halfway around the world in Indonesia for ten weeks. While I was away, Richard Knight was so kind as to donate a copy of a book that he co-authored with D.A. Mitchell in 1984. The Postmarks, Postal Routes and Principal Postage Rates of Southern Rhodesia to 1924 contains 176 pages, twelve illustrations and seven maps. This work details the postal history of the area and lists all of the post offices with their postal markings and the mail routes for each. It is truly a wonderful book and we thank the author for his generous donation.

I would like to pay special thanks to John Campbell for the generous contributions of his most recent publications. John, as you might know, is our representative in sunny New Zealand. I was fortunate enough to have a brief visit with him in the Auckland airport last fall. John is a very keen philatelist and promoter of the hobby in general, as well as our Society in particular. The first book, The Place of Stones Mafeking/Mafikeng, The Siege Stamps and Banknotes, second edition, is a profusely illustrated 76-page story of Mafeking, (a town in northernmost Cape Colony), leading up to and including the siege of this town by Boers. Details of the siege stamps, in particular the local "bicycle" and 'Baden Powell' issues are given along with the printed currency. This publication ends with a bibliography and exhaustive listing of other philatelic references all the way back to the first descriptions of these issues in 1900.

The second book authored by John, Illustrated Postcards & Covers of the Boer War 1899-1902, deals with that fascinating sideline to philately, deltiology or postcards. Though this book also includes illustrated covers, the majority are hand drawn or reproductions of artistic renderings pertaining to the politics of the time. The photocopies of the cards are generally quite good, presenting a fascinating look into this part of South African history. Although I have not counted them, over the two hundred fifty-three pages there must be at least seven-hundred and fifty illustrations. Thanks John!

The fourth donation is from Richard Stowers, author of Kiwi Versus Boer, The First New Zealand Mounted Rifles in the Anglo-Boer War 1899-1902. The first half of the book details the history of involvement of the New Zealanders in the conflict with the latter portion devoted to biographical and statistical data of the

contingent. It is well illustrated and makes for interesting reading.

Finally, and certainly not least, but at LAST, we have the first volume of the long awaited (by me at least) The Postmarks of South Africa and Former States & Colonies, by Ralph Putzel. For those of you not familiar with Mr. Putzel, he has authored numerous works, most notable being his study of the SWA postmarks and the landmark four volume The Encyclopedia of South African Post Offices and Postal Agencies. His most recent and ambitious project, to list, illustrate and value every postmark ever used in southern Africa, is daunting to even conceive. Ralph, however, has, with each of his succeeding works, undertaken ever larger and loftier projects.

Volume I, containing the postmarks of offices beginning with the letters A & B, is the logical companion of the Encyclopedia set. The first sixty pages are spent in a brief introduction of types of postmarks used in the separate areas dealt with; approximately half of which is spent on the COGH and South Africa. The remaining 340 pages illustrate, describe and value over 4000 different marks! Sure, there are going to be omissions and in future volumes there will be addendums to the previously issued ones, that is if everyone will take the time and send photocopies to Ralph. He is more than anxious to receive any new material. The work is an incredible compilation of information and is possibly one of the most monumental attempts in philatelic literature ever undertaken in ANY area of our hobby, let alone in the southern Africa arena. Live long and prosper, Mr. Putzel, as we await volume ? for the letter 'Z'.

As many have asked for, this issue and the next installment will contain a complete listing of material in the Society's library and archives. (I have been in the process of moving into a new home and some of our holdings are still in boxes.) The next two pages list first the Library's holdings of: (1) books and major articles by author, title and date; and (2) periodicals by name, volume and year(s) covered.

In the future, new members will receive a complete listing of what books, monographs, etc., are available to them.

The list will be formally updated every one to two years. Needless-to-say, I was as surprised as you will be when considering how much our holdings have grown, to be shared by all members.

# PHILATELIC SOCIETY OF GREATER SOUTHERN AFRICA LIBRARY INVENTORY

BOOKS & MAJOR ARTICLES		
AUTHOR	TITLE	DATE
Baker, Ken	The Early Postal History of the Griqualands and the Bechuanalands	1983
Batten, A.G.M.	The Roodewal Incident	1981
Berry, T.B.	South African Postmarks A synopsis of the Routine Handstruck Cancellations 1910-1966	?
Berry, T.B., & S.J. Vermaak	The Interprovincial Stamps and Postmarks of the Union of South Africa	1965
Campbell, John	The Place of Stones Mafeking/Mafikeng The Siege Stamps and Banknotes	1992
Campbell, John	Illustrated Postcards & Covers Anglo-Boer War 1899-1902	1992
Cattell, Philip	The Union Castle Ocean Post Offices	?
Chilton, Tony	The Pictorial Postal Stationery Cards of the Union of South Africa	1992
Dodd, L.J.	Revenue Stamps Cape of Good Hope, Natal, Orange River Colony, Transvaal and Union of South Africa	1958
Goldblatt, Robert	The Official Post and the Official or 'Free' Letter Stamps of the Cape of Good Hope	1983
Jurgens, A.A.	The Handstruck Letter Stamps of the Cape of Good Hope and the Postmarks from 1792 to 1910	1943
Knight, R.C. & d.a. Mitchell	The Postmarks, Postal Routes and Principal Postage Rates of Southern Rhodesia to 1924	1984
Mann, Eric W.	The Victorian Postage Stamps of Natal(ex London Phil)	1939
Napier, F.H.	Notes on the Stamps of Griqualand West(ex Phil Record)	?
Pirie, J.H. Harvey	World War II Philately of Southern and Eastern Africa	1953
Putzel, Ralph F.	The Comprehensive Handbook of the Postmarks of German South West Africa/South West Africa/Namibia	1991
Putzel, Ralph F.	The Postmarks of South Africa and Former States & Colonies, Vol. 1(A-B)	1992
Steyl, Pauw	Die Ontwidelingsgeskiedenis van Posseeluitstallings in Suid-Afrika	1991
Stowers, Richard	Kiwi Versus Boer The First New Zealand Mounted Rifles in the Anglo-Boer War 1899-1902	1992
Uys, D.J.	Airmails of the Republic of South Africa 1961-81, a Chronological Listing Including Flights in S.W.A.	?
van den Hurk, G.	The Netherlands South African Railway Company and the Postal Service of the South African Republic	1992
Wright, E.C.	The Embossed Postage Stamps of Natal 1857/1861 and Their Reprints	1988
Wright, E.K., Colin Hoffman	Rhodesia The First Bulawayo Provisional Issue of 1886 and its Varieties	1983

## Library Inventory continued: Periodicals

NAME	PERIODICALS VOLUME	YEARS
South West Africa Stamp Study Group	#168-191 less 171, 2, 9	1990-93
The Transvaal Philatelist	#96-105	1990-present
The South African Philatelist	Vol 55-7, 67-8 OA	1979-81, 91-2
Aeroletter	#50, 64, 68-73	1988-1993
The Springbok	Vol. 30-present	1982-92
The Journal of the Rhodesian Study Circle	Vol 36/3, Vol 40-pres	1986, 1990-92
The Anglo-Boer War Philatelist	Vol 35	1992
Pretoria Philatelist Society Newsmagazine	June-August	1990
The Mail-Coach (Postal Hist Soc of NZ)	Vol 28, No. 3-6	1992
The RunnerPost (Bech/Botswana)	#9, 26	1987, 1992
The Orange Free State Bulletin	#132-4, 146	1988-9, 1992
Bartolomeu Dias (Dutch Group)		1989-present
The Springbok Philatelist	Vol 1-3	1988-90

## A Message From The Program Chair

Louise Christian

Just a quick note to let you know that we will be meeting at STAMPSHOW '93 in Houston. Our actual meeting and program will be scheduled for Thursday, August 19th. A special notice will be sent out with more detail. Any member interested in offering a program and/or desiring additional information, please contact me at P.O. Box 369, Placentia, CA 92670.

One of the more enjoyable aspects of our annual get-together are the show-and-tell and general discussion segments. If you plan attending, why not bring something to share with the rest of us who will be there?

SCOTT STANDARD CATALOG INPUT . . . If you would like to provide input for Scott Catalog entries, and you have not already returned your input form (reverse side of the Memorial Award ballot), please do so at your earliest convenience

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JOINT MEETINGS WITH RHODESIAN GROUP TO CONTINUE . . . Bill Wallace reports that these joint sessions have now become a tradition and will take the place of having a meeting at WESTPEX.

## THE SOCIETY TRUST

As of the previous issue, donations to the Trust for 1992/93 had totaled \$1562. Since that time, additional contributions have been received from the following generous souls: Alan Hanks, John Holbrook, T.P. McDermott, Tom Yazman and Wilson Wong. At the time of this writing, donations to the Trust for the current fiscal year (to end 30 June next) now stands at \$1677.

For the newer members who do not know the story, the Society experienced significant cost overruns in the production and mailing of the Fifth Anniversary Edition (Jul/Oct '92) of this journal. A "Call to financial arms" was included in the Nov. '92/Feb '93 issue. This was done to raise funds to assure that Society activities and publications continue unaffected for the remainder of the 92/93 year.

Because of member generosity, not only was the financial ship uprighted, but your Society was then able to establish a much needed contingency reserve.

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JOURNAL INDEX VOLUNTEER NEEDED . . . Is there any member who would be interested in beginning a subject index for *Forerunners*? Please contact the Editor if you are.

# PHILATELI C LITERATUR E

of Greater South Africa and  
the British Empire, including:

Individual Books

Periodicals (including Society Journal runs)

Auction Catalogue runs

Name Sales

other Reference works

## BOUGHT and SOLD