



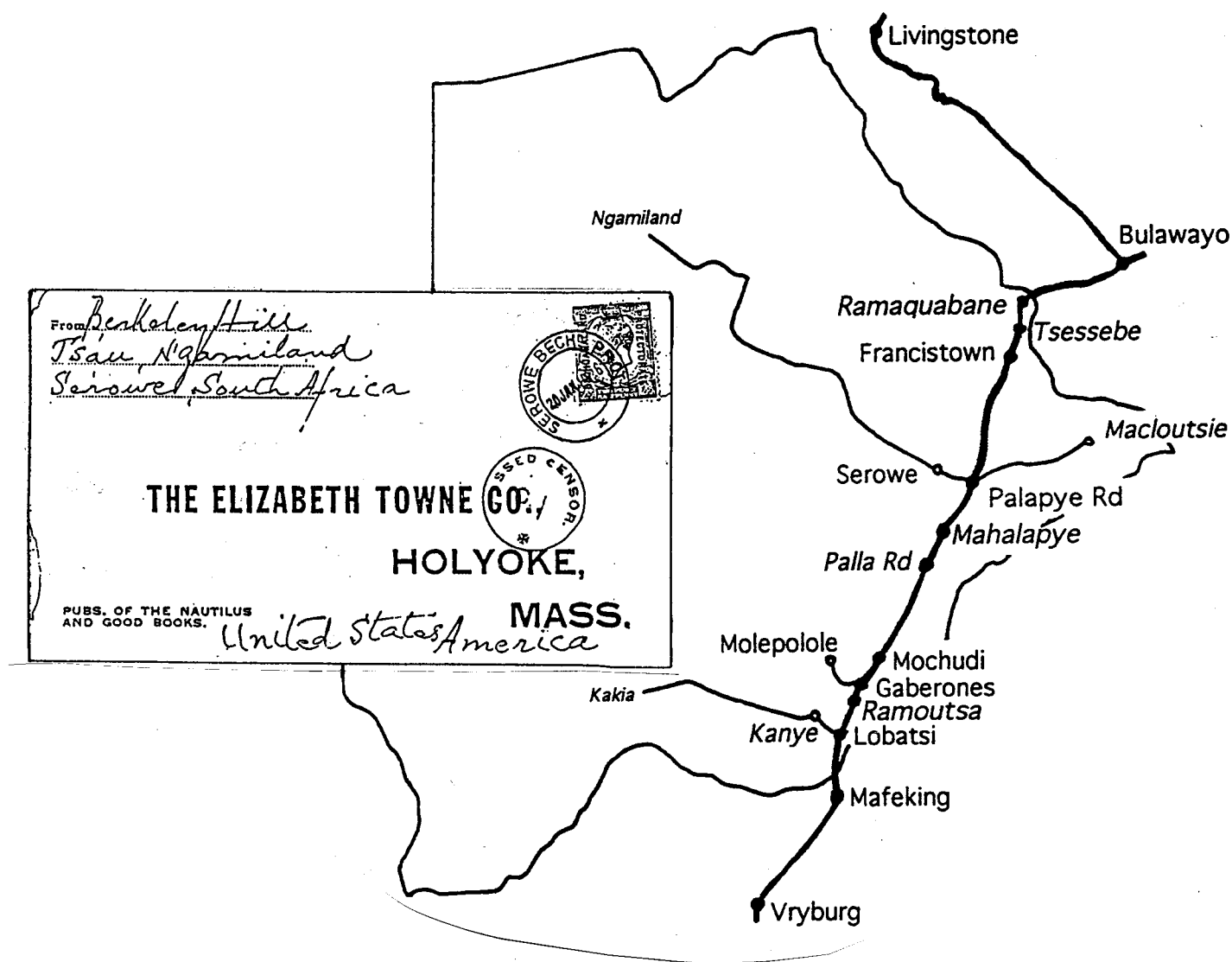
********FORERUNNERS***

Journal Of The Philatelic Society For Greater Southern Africa

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

Volume X, Number 1, Whole #26

March/June 1996

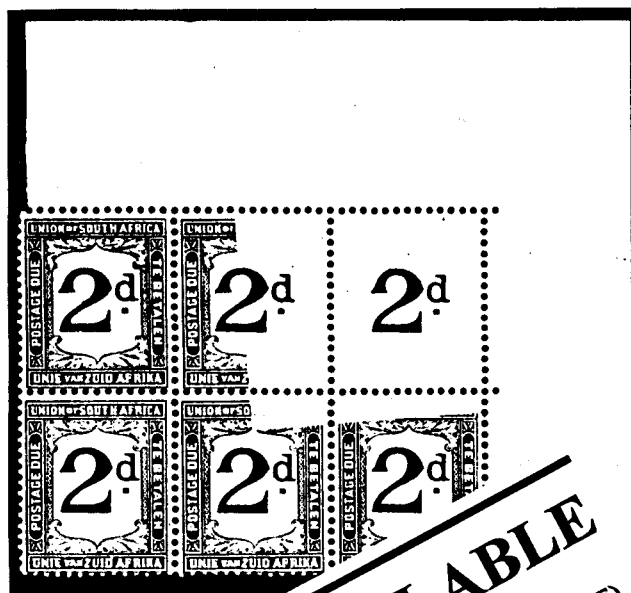
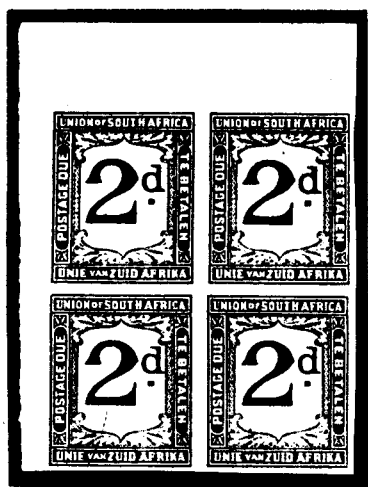


Bechuanaland Protectorate Post Offices & Routes - 1900-1920

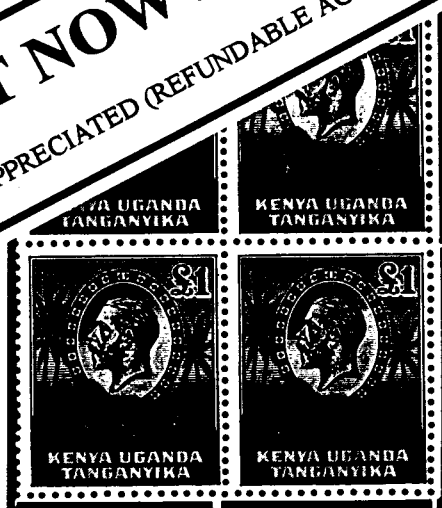
Other Highlights of This Issue

- * Cover From The *Far Interior*
- * Bits & Pieces and Other Stories
- * Zululand Cancellation Debate
- * Natal Specialist Group Forms
- * Machadorp, East Transvaal
- * The Rhodesias & The Sea Post Mail
- * Society Affairs * CAPEX 96
- * The International Scene
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The following panel members are available to answer written questions in their designated areas of expertise. This service is available to members and non-members alike. A more detailed description of the Panel and its function is printed in the "Question & Answer" section.

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of Good Hope triangles - David Crocker, P.O. Box 294, Montagu 6720, South Africa

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* * Members desiring to serve on the Panel are to contact the Panel Chair or the Editor * *



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Table Of Contents

| | |
|--|-------|
| Board & Expert Panel Listings | I |
| Contents | III |
| Editorial Notes | 1 |
| Correspondence | |
| Feature Articles | 3-13 |
| Dialogues & Updates | |
| News of the Membership | 15-16 |
| Welcome Aboard | |
| Member Biographies | |
| The Honor Roll | |
| Closed Album | |
| The Forerunners Forum | 17-30 |
| Publications Program | |
| Questions & Answers | |
| Unanswered Challenges | |
| Bits & Pieces | |
| And Other Stories | |
| The Rhodesias | |
| Zulu Notes | |
| Society Affairs | 30-36 |
| Facts, Figures & Other Matters From the Archives | |
| British Africa Convention Update | |
| Society Meetings | |
| Study Groups Update | |
| Translation Service | |
| The International Scene | 37-39 |
| Reciprocal Listings Exchange | |
| Events of Note | |
| The Bookie Report | 39-40 |
| Back of YOUR Book | 41 |
| The Classifieds | 42-44 |
| Free Member Adlets | |
| The Trading box | |

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***FORERUNNERS

Vol. X, No. 1, Whole #26, Mar/Jun '96

Recipient of a Vermeil at STAmPSHOW 95 and CHICAGOPEX 94, Large Silver at New Zealand National Philatelic Literature Exhibition, Silver awards at SESCAL 95, ORAPEX 94 [Canada], WAPEX 93 [Australia], HAFNIA 94 [Denmark], and Silver-Bronze at SINGAPORE 95 and PHILAKOREA 94.

FEATURE ARTICLES:

The Post Offices and Postal Routes of Bechuanaland Protectorate, Part I: 1900-1920 Peter Thy, USA. This is the first installment of a continuing series that chronicles the postal offices and routes of Bechuanaland Protectorate during the years 1900 to 1955. This entry includes a map showing postal routes for the 1900-1920 period. Tables detail the postal routes, frequency and mode of mail delivery during the time covered. As the author points out, detailed information on sorting and transport of the mail that entered the rail system is completely lacking. Interesting is the discussion of mail originating from isolated communities which had to find its way to nearby more substantial towns before being cancelled. Numerous footnotes and references. . 3

An Interesting Cover From The Far Interior Richard Knight, South Africa. This piece tells the story of the travels and life experiences of one Dr. Emil Holub who was determined to explore southern Africa, based upon his knowledge of the efforts of Dr. Livingstone. Illustrated is an 1876 cover originating from one of Dr. Holub's sojourns, addressed to Bohemia, Austria. As the author points out, known covers emanating from the "Far Interior" during the mid to third quarter of the 19th century are only a handful in number. Excellent footnotes are provided. . . 7

Journeys To The Past: Machadodorp, Belfast District, East Transvaal Werner K. Seeba, Germany. In this latest journey, the author takes us back to the early beginnings of development of this town which was established on local farmland back in 1847. The text includes detailed accounts of the development of commerce, road and rail transport routes and other economic activities. Included is a brief history of tribal settlements and intertribal conflicts prior to the coming of settlers to the area. Includes numerous illustrations of postal history and canceller items.. . 10

The Rhodesias - Bill Wallace/USA, Editor

The Union Castle Mail Steamship Company Dudley Blascheck, Canada. The author states that there is a very interesting time period of which the Rhodesia postal historian should be aware. Detailed is the story of the integral part that Union Castle played in the delivery of mail. Within this context the author discusses the United Kingdom and South Africa Sea Post Office as well as its predecessor, the Cape Colony Ocean Post Office... 26

Zulu Notes - Tony Davis/Canada, Editor

Zululand Violet Cancels: The Postmark Legitimate Debate The Editor. The use of violet ink for Zululand postmarks and for official handstamps for fiscal purposes has led to debate over the legitimacy of some of the territory's cancellations. Although few in number, there are proving covers which clearly demonstrate that violet or purple cancellations were used on a commercial basis, in addition to fiscal purposes. Early collectors removed stamps from documents, telegraph forms and the like, providing present day collectors with only a glimpse of the entire strike and its proper usage. The author then goes on to list and illustrate a number of these official handstamps, together with some examples... 28

The Back of YOUR Book - R. Timothy Bartshe/USA, Editor

Postal Stationery - Long overlooked by so many The Editor. According to the author, postal stationery has long been an item overlooked by all but the most dedicated philatelists. He then describes three items in his collection which clearly demonstrate the value of incorporating this material into one's collection... 41

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FORERUNNERS is published three times per year. A sample copy is available from the Editor for \$5US (sea mail) or \$7.50US (air mail). Commercial advertising rates and payment options are listed at the beginning of the Classified Section.

The Society's basic membership is \$20US (surface class), \$25 North America 1st class and \$30US overseas air mail. Payment options include: (1) draft drawn on a US **Bank** payable to "PSGSA"; (2) £ Sterling bank check with **payee left blank**; or (3) RAN\$ or £ Sterling currency sent via registered mail, **using current exchange rates at a local major bank** Society brochure/provisional applications are available from the Editor or any of the International Representatives listed opposite the inside front cover page.

EDITORIAL NOTES

As announced in the previous issue, the Mar/Jun '97 journal issue will be published as "THE Celebration Special Edition" in honor of the Society's Tenth Anniversary and the British Africa Philately Convention at PACIFIC 97. In consultation with our publisher and President, Dr. Guy Dillaway and other Board members, the special edition is described as an anthology of British Africa philately.

Society members please read: Several British Africa specialty groups have already committed to sponsoring an article falling within their individual scope. We now turn to the need for articles from Society members.

A primary goal for the Special Edition of *Forerunners*, is that it will include one article focusing upon each of the stamp-issuing entities falling within the Society's scope. First time authors are especially encouraged to submit writings. There will be plenty of editorial assistance available if desired. The following is a list of the entities and periods falling within the scope of PSGSA: Anglo-Boer Wars, Basutoland, the Bechaunaland, Botswana, Cape of Good Hope, Griqualand West, the Homelands, Interprovisionals, Lesotho, Local Posts, Malawi, Namibia, Natal, New Republic, Nyasaland, Orange Free State, Orange River Colony, the Rhodesias, South West Africa, Stellaland, Swaziland, Transvaal, Union/Republic of South Africa, Zambia, Zimbabwe and Zululand. Topics related to the above can range from pre-adhesives to back-of-the-book, classic to modern.

The submission criteria is as follows:

- 3-5 typewritten pages, double-spaced format (not including illustrations).
- If possible, black-and-white photographs of stamps and covers should be used for illustrations purposes. Photocopies that are extremely clear are acceptable. (Any that do not reproduce clearly will be rejected.)
- A clear, succinct title for each illustration.

- Proper reference to illustrations in the text.
- Use of references properly notated.
- Where appropriate, inclusion of bibliographic references and an other readings list.
- Submission deadline to your Editor is September 15, 1996.

An Editorial Committee will review submissions on an as-needed basis.

If members come through as they have in the past, we will have produced an anthology surveying the British Africa collecting area - something we can truly be proud of. The success of the Special Edition now rests with you the reader.

• * *

Enclosed with this issue is your ballot for the 1996 Charles Lupo Memorial Award. **PLEASE VOTE!**

• * *

David Crocker has now joined the ranks of the Question and Answer Panel of Experts for the Cape Triangles. David is presently Chairman of the Philatelic Federation of Southern Africa's Expert Committee.

• * *



Correspondence

TO ALL PAST AND FUTURE SOCIETY MAIL AUCTION BIDDERS: Despite very diligent efforts to the contrary, the finalizing of Auction #7 was the most delayed yet! The billings were sent within five days of my return back to the U.S., yet some bidders neglected to return their remittance until late January with one not being received until February! This is not only a bother for the auctioneer, but is patently unfair to the vendors who must await their proceeds until the final accounting is obtained. In the future, I would once again request that all bidders anticipate notification within two weeks of auction close and remit payment as promptly as possible. Two things will be done differently for Auction #8: Firstly, the closing date will be set forward to October 15 this year. Secondly I would request that all bidders and vendors who have them, please include their FAX numbers and E-mail addresses. I am available on-line at the following address: imbartshe@AOL.COM. This last method of communication will facilitate the notification procedures and decreases expenses for all involved. I will also be able to notify the vendors of receipt of lots, etc. Next year, let's all be a little more considerate of the other bidders and vendors, not to mention the poor old auction manager, and not only bid early but remit as fast as your little fingers can write a check - **Tim Bartshe, Auction Manager, USA**

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FEATURE ARTICLES

Receipt of articles is accepted on an on-going basis. The individual issue deadlines are the 15th of January (Mar/Jun issue), May (Jul/Oct issue) and September (Nov/Feb issue). Articles should be submitted in double-spaced, typewritten form. Maximum length is five pages, **not** including illustrations. Longer written works should be submitted in serialized form. Each illustration must be titled and properly referenced in the text. The Publications Program committee is available for review of drafts. Contact the Editor if this is desired.

Whenever possible, black/white photographs of covers and/or stamps should be submitted for illustrations purposes. If photocopies are submitted, they need to be the clearest copy possible. Illustrations which copy poorly **will be excluded** by the Editor. Originals of charts, graphs and tables are preferable. Authors show a black border around cover and stamp illustrations used in an article.

If scanning is used to produce an illustrations, the following (or later generation) computer configuration is recommended to assure the best possible appearance: HP2CX flatbed scanner, an HP4 laser printer with Winjet 1200 card and a 486 personal computer.

The Post Offices and Postal Routes of Bechuanaland Protectorate, Part I: 1900-1920

Peter Thy, USA

This is the first installment in a continuing series that chronicles the postal offices and routes of Bechuanaland Protectorate during the years 1900 to 1955.

The basic information for this study was obtained from the annual reports submitted by the Postmaster General (PMG) of Cape Town to the Protectorate administration [1] and is portrayed by a simplified map (Fig. 1), as well as two Tables.

Figure 1. Map showing postal routes for the period 1900-20.



The former is a sketch map of the existing Bechuanaland postal routes for the 1900-20 period. Locations and spellings are based on a 1935 geographic map (scale 1:1,250,000) reprinted in 1984 by *Botswana Notes and Records*. The Ngamiland location is problematic in that it is given as present-day Maun. Another weakness concerns the postal route between Serowe and Ngamiland - complete detail of the entire route is not known. The route shown is essentially correct through Rakops. Those offices which were open throughout the period under study are printed in larger bold type.

Because of the nature of information provided by the PGM reports, all references reflect specific fiscal years, the financial period running from 1 April to 31 March. In some instances, more detailed information has been obtained from Putzel's post office listings. As you read, keep in mind that the information provided below is based on lists produced by the Post Office.

The majority of post offices were located along existing rail lines. Similarly, primary telegraph lines also were located along the rail lines. In addition, the older northeastern telegraph line from Palapye to Macloutsie and Tuli in Southern Rhodesia was in operation during part of the study period. Unfortunately, data concerning the opening and closing of both telegraph and rail offices is scant and limited. This is unfortunate since the history of the postal, telegraph and rail services of Bechuanaland are closely interconnected.

The rail line from Mafeking to Bulawayo was completed in 1897 and was used to transport the bulk of the mail at that

time. The report from the PGM for the 1899-1900 period mentions that mail was transported seven times per week by the railroad from Mafeking to Palapye Road (station), and from Palapye Road to Ramaquabane, presumably continuing on to Bulawayo. It is interesting that this is the only reference to rail transport found in the annual reports reviewed for this study.

The main post offices located along the northern segment of the rail line were Palapye Road, Francistown, Tsessebe (open only during 1912-15 [2]) and Ramaquabane (open only 1 April 1912 - 16 February 1913 [3]). Along the southern segment of the rail line from Palapye were located Mahalapye (opened 1898-1904 and again from 1910-11 [3], Palla Road (open from 1 July 1916 to present), Mochudi Station, Gaberones Station, Ramoutsa (open from 1 February 1914 to present), Lobatsi and Mafeking.

Although postal agencies were listed at Tsessebe, Ramaquabane and Palla Road during part of the period under study, there is no evidence suggesting that postal agents actually were present at these stations. A listing in the 1917-18 PMG report only indicates agents posted to Lobatsi, Ramoutsa, Gaberones, Mochudi, Mahalapye, and Palapye stations. It is possible that rail personnel at Tsessebe and Ramaquabane did

perform simple postal functions. Furthermore, the mail exchange could have been done with the use of postal boxes placed by the rail as described by Smith [4]. The same may have been the case for Mahalapye during 1904-10 [5] in that there was no listing of a post office in the PGM's report for that period.

Use of postal boxes as suggested above would explain why certain locations are missing from the governmental listings of postal agencies. However, this, explanation does not account for Palla Road which has been listed since 1916. Similarly, other rail stations may have received mail without established postal facilities. It is known that this was in fact the case for Artesia in that stamps exist with cancellations from there for the years 1902 and 1905. Artesia was not on the PGM list of post offices for those years. A reasonable speculation is that some locations may only have been served by the collection of mail via use of mail bags that did not necessarily require post or rail offices. The main mail routes connected to the rail line (Fig. 1 and Tables 1 & 2) were Kanye-Lobatsi, Molepolole-Gaborones Station, Ngamiland-Palapye (from 1901-02), Macloutsie-Palapye (until 1904), Serowe-Palapye (from 1907-08), and Kakia-Kanye (from 1901-02). Prior to these periods, all transportation of mail was by runners.

Post offices did not exist in Ngamiland and Kakia, and then only in Kanye after 1915-16 [6]. The office in Mafeking did not function as a regular post office, lacking for example, postal and money order services. The Macloutsie post office was closed 1 January 1904, with the telegraph office subsequently closing during 1917-18 [7].

Organized mail transport was available between Palapye (probably until 1902), Gaberones, Ramoutsa (until 1913-14) and their respective stations. There is no indication in the records that mail was transported between Mochudi and Mochudi Stations. In fact there is not clear evidence that a postal facility existed in Mochudi Village before 1920. The listing of the route between Ramoutsa Village and Ramoutsa

Table 1. Postal Routes of Bechuanaland Protectorate 1899-02 -----

| Route | Frequency | 1899/00 | 1901/02 -- |
|--------------------------------|-----------|---------|------------|
| Gaberones Station - Gaberones | 7/w | Foot | x x |
| Gaberones Station - Molepolole | 1/w | Foot | x x |
| Kanye - Kakia | 1/m | Foot | x |
| Lobatsi - Kanye | 1/w | Foot | x x |
| Palapye - Macloutsie | 1/w | Foot | x x |
| Palapye - Ngamiland | 1/2m | Foot | x |
| Palapye Station - Palapye | 7/w | Foot | x x |
| Ramoutsa Siding - Ramoutsa | 21w | Foot | x x |

w - week; m-month. For example, read 71w as 7 times per week and 1/2m as once per 2 month.

Table 2. Postal Routes of Bechuanaland Protectorate 1907-20

| Route | Frequency | 907/08 | 08/09 | 09/10 | 10/11 | 11/12 | 12/13 | 13/14 | 14/15 | 15/16 | 16/17 | 17/18 | 18/19 | 19/20 |
|-------------------------------|-----------|--------|-------|-------|-------|-------|-------|-------|-------|-------|-------|-------|-------|-------|
| Gaberones# - Molepolole | 1/w | Foot | x | x | x | x | x | x | x | x | x | x | x | 2/w |
| Gaberones Station - Gaberones | 7/w | Foot | x | x | x | x | x | x | x | x | x | x | x | x |
| Kanye - Kakia | 1/m | Foot | x | x | x | x | x | x | x | x | x | x | x | x |
| Lobatsi - Kanye | 1/w | Foot | x | x | x | x | x | 2/w | x | x | x | x | x | x |
| Palapye Road* - Serowe | 3/w | Foot | x | x | x | x | x | x | x | x | x | x | x | x |
| Palapye Road* - Ngamiland | 1/2m | Foot | x | x | x | x | x | 1/m | x | x | x | x | x | x |
| Ramoutsa Siding - Ramoutsa | 2/w | Foot | x | x | x | x | x | x | x | x | x | x | x | x |

w - week; m - month. For example, read 7/w as 7 times per week and 1/2m as once per 2 month.

A note of little relevance: Gaberones post office burned down 31. March 1914 and was completely destroyed, except for a stock of postal orders, stamps, and cash.

* Station 1908-1910, Siding 1910/11, otherwise Road. Note that Palapye indiscriminately was referred to as Palapye Road Station, Palapye Siding, Palapye Road, Palapye Rail, or simply Palapye. Putzel notes that Palapye was last listed in Cape Post Office Circulars for Oct. 1902 and probably then permanently transferred to the Station.

listing of the route between Ramoutsa Village and Ramoutsa Siding is interesting because there is no postal history evidence that post offices actually existed at any of these localities until after 1 February 1915 (Ramoutsa Village).

The mail transport was typically organized by local traders, officials and postmasters. The mail between Palapye Road and Serowe was the responsibility of the Bechuanaland Trading Association for a yearly sum of £180 and £240 respectively. The Ngamiland and Kaki mails were collected by the Bechuanaland Border Police for £120 and £30 respectively. The Gaberones-Molepolole mail cost the postal service £40-48 annually and was handled by P.N. Vickman and R.H. Lewis. The Ramoutsa mail was handled by T. Wilson for £18. The Lobatsi-Kanye mail was transported by H. Williams and E.M. Drury for £77 per year. (The names mentioned above are specifically given in the PGM reports, but may not be complete for the fiscal period reported.)

Detailed information on sorting and transporting of the mail that entered the rail system is completely lacking. We do not know where mail was sorted, how the mail bags were made up and their individual destinations. We can only guess that mail was sorted in the main postal centers and placed in specific bags for destinations along the rail line as well as for Rhodesia and South Africa. It is equally possible that Bechuanaland mail was sorted by personnel at Rhodesian or Cape/Union post offices. Travelling Post Offices were introduced in Rhodesia in 1912 on the Salisbury-BulawayoPlumtree route [8] and in the Cape/Union from 1883 between Fourteen Streams or De Aar and Cape Town [9].

Mail was, at least from the 1930's and likely before, accepted for an additional fee at all rail stations between Ramathabama and Bulawayo. Furthermore, train personnel could accept letters provided that no station staff was on duty [11]. We have no clear confirmation, however, that this service was

available during 1900-20 in Bechuanaland. Despite the fact that the Bechuanaland railway was operated by the Cape Government Railways (and from 1910 by the South Africa Railways), we do not know whether travelling postal offices were transferred through Bechuanaland and who actually handled Bechuanaland mail during the transit. Similarly, it is not known if posting boxes were attached to the Bechuanaland trains as was practiced in Rhodesia from 1909 [10].

An interesting result is that mail from the Ngami area would be postmarked in Serowe or Palapye before reaching the rail stream. Conversely, letters to Ngamiland would be addressed via Serowe, the nearest post office. Letters from Kakia would be postmarked in Lobatsie or, after 1915-16 in Kanye. Such letters can only be identified by return addresses. This is demonstrated by the cover shown in Figure 2. This cover is addressed to the U.S.A. with the return address " Tsau, N' gamiland/Serowe, South Africa." It entered the mail stream on 20 January 1916 at Serowe, the nearest postal office

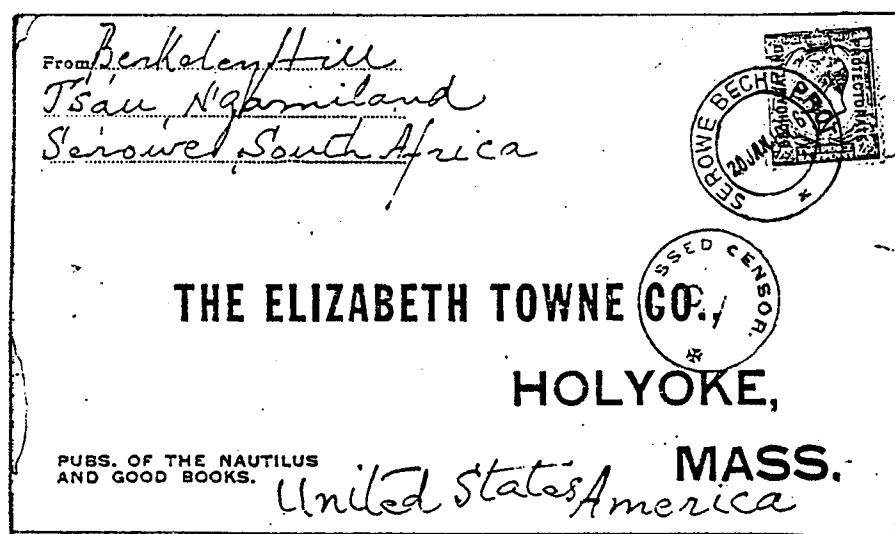
(Source: *The Runner Post*, No. 21, p. 380).

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Footnotes

Figure 2. Example of letter entering mail stream from nearest post office.



[1] The PGM reports are available in the Botswana National Archives, Gaborne. Reports for years 1902/ 03-1906/07 are missing.

[2] Putzel (1986-90) does not report the closing of Tsessebe between 1915-20, but notes that available information is confusing.

[3] According to Putzel and consistent with information in the annual reports.

[4] Putzel lists Mahalapye Siding as a postal agency between 1898-1904, a time period not completely covered by the available reports.

[5] Smith, 1967, pp. 51-62.

[6] Putzel states Kanye opened pre-1913, inconsistent with present information.

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[7] Putzel states that the post office in Macloutsie was closed 1 January 1904. The present source shows that the Macloutsie Telegraph Office was closed during 1917-18.

[8] See Smith (1967) and Knight & Mitchell (1984). [9]

Putzel, Vol. 4.

[10] Smith, 1967, p. 52.

[11] See Hagen (1986) and Hagen & Naylor (1985).

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Hagen, H.S. and Naylor, S.P., *Railway Stamps of South Africa*, Philatelic Federation of Southern Africa, Johannesburg, 1985.

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Smith, R.C., *Rhodesia: A Postal History - Its Stamps, Posts and Telegraphs*, R.

C. Smith, Salisbury, Rhodesia, 1967.

The Museum of Postal History Opens

On November 11, 1995, the museum opened on the 62nd anniversary of the construction of the Delphos, Ohio post office. The museum is housed therein. Highlights of the many displays include an actual 1906 rural delivery mail wagon, a parcel cart that had been used in Brooklyn, New York, a number of unusual collection boxes, a buyer beware exhibit. Additional display areas will include individual stamps and collections. Regular hours: Monday, Wednesday and Friday, 1:30 p.m. - 3:30 p.m. For more information, contact Gary S. Levitt, Postmaster, 131 North Main St., Delphos, OH 45833-5000.

Museum for the Postmark Collector

The Museum is housed in the post office building (built 1884) located at historic Lyme Village, Ohio. The holdings are built upon the 600 volume Willett-Thompson postmark collection. Other items on display include postal artifacts, postmarking devices as well as donated philatelic material for the postmark collector's delight and study. The separate research room for the scholar is closed to the public. Contact the Curator, Post Mark Museum, c/o Historic Lyme Village, P.O. Box 342, Bellevue, OH 44811.

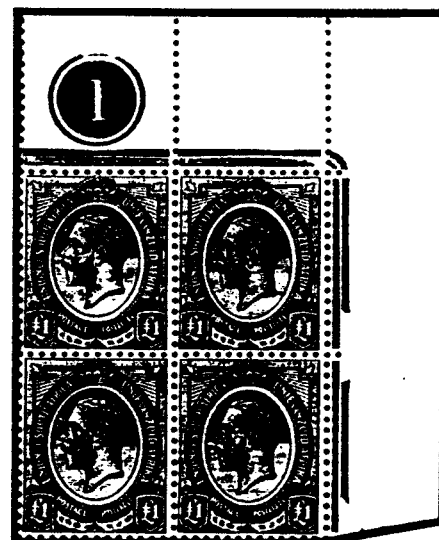


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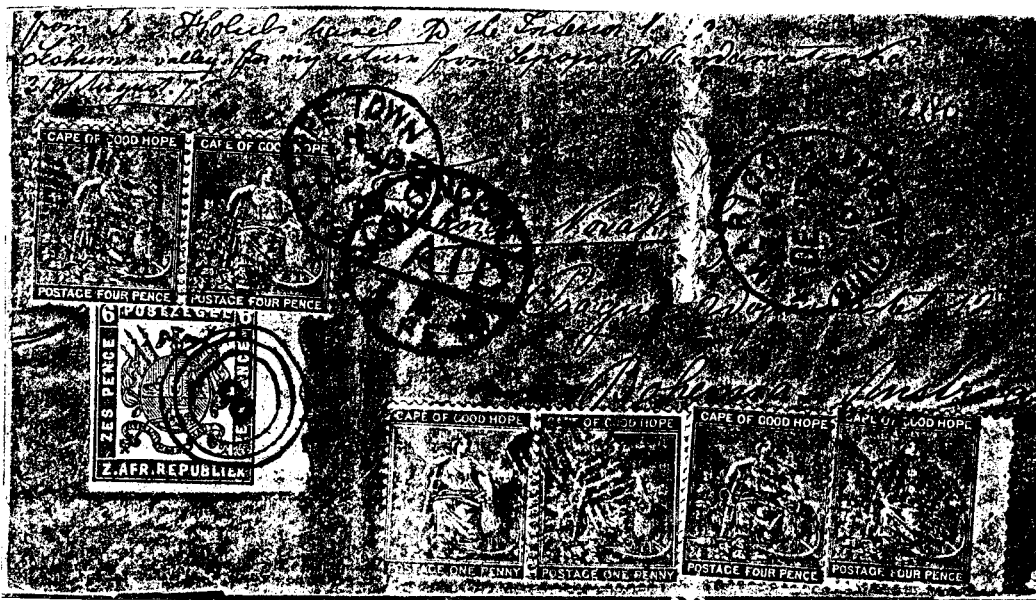
An Interesting Cover From The Far Interior

Richard Knight, South Africa

Known covers from the *far interior* (1) prior to 1888 have hitherto been represented by the Oates Correspondence of 1873-75 (2) and a handful of covers addressed to or by David Livingstone; the appearance (3) of a cover from another correspondent is therefore quite an occasion.

The cover illustrated below (Fig. 1) is addressed to "Prague,..., Bohemia, Austria" and is endorsed by the sender "*From Dr. Holub's travel to the Interior, No 48, Leshumo Valley for (?) my return from Sepopo to Pandamatenka. 31 of August 75*".

Figure 1. Cover from the Far Interior.



The Sender

The sender, Dr. Emil Holub (1847-1902) was born in Holitz (Holic) in eastern Bohemia. The son of a surgeon, he himself studied medicine and natural science at Prague (4). His boyhood reading of the life and travels of Dr. David Livingstone made him determined to explore southern Africa. Within three months of graduating on 2 February 1872, he sailed for South Africa where he set up a medical practice at Dutoitspan (Kimberly). Working hard and living frugally, Dr. Holub collected sufficient funds to enable him to journey to the Transvaal early in 1873; then onwards to Taung, Molepole and Shoshong from November 1873 to April 1874. From the first expedition he returned with 30 skeletons, 1600 dried plants, 3,000 insects, skins of birds and mammals, fossils and mineral samples, ethnographic specimens and notes on geological observations.

Dr. Holub returned to his Kimberley practice during April of 1874. A little over a year later on 2 March 1875,

accompanied by a young storekeeper's clerk named Theunissen, he set out on his third trip with the aim of going to Zambesi and Angola on Livingstone's route of 1852-54. It is from this journey that the illustrated cover emanates.

Holub travelled first to Shoshong via the Marico district and then along the Salt Pan Road (5) to Pandamatenka which he reached on 31 July 1875 (Fig. 2). Here he was welcomed by George Blockley who operated George Westbeeche's trading

Store (6) at that place.

Blockley was preparing to Sepopo (7), King of the

At the time of Holub's arrival, set-off for Shesheke, the home of Barotse. Given that Holub was continuing on in the same direction, Blockley travelled with his group, leaving Theunissen at Pandamatenka.

The Zambesi was reached at Impalera (at the junction of the Chobe and Zambesi rivers) about 10 August. The two men waited there until a message arrived from Sepopo telling them to come to Shesheke, which they reached on 18 August. Holub remained at Shesheke for ten days and obtained leave from Sepopo to travel through Barotse country.

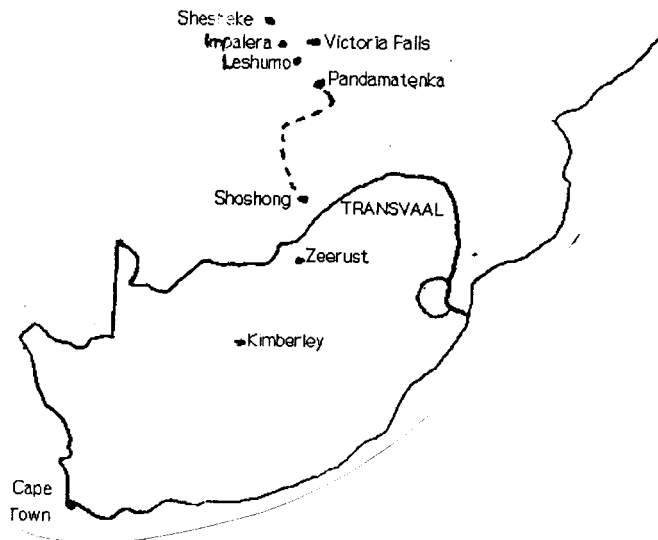
On 28 August a message arrived that Westbeeche (who had heard of Holub's plans from John MacKenzie at Shoshong) was at Pandamatenka. In response Holub left Shesheke on 29 August and reached Impalera the next day. It is here he found Westbeeche accompanied by a considerable party that had left its wagons at Pandamatenka. The group was making a visit to Shesheke to pay their respects to Sepopo before returning to Pandamatenka and beginning their trek to the Victoria Falls. They had with them a quantity of mail for Holub.

After receiving his mail, Holub crossed the river and reached the Leshumo Valley (8) on 31 August. It was here that he wrote the letter illustrated in Figure 1. Here also he met two English officers, Captains Macleod and Fairlie (9) who allowed him the use of their wagon to take him to Pandamatenka while they visited Shesheke.

Holub left Leshumo on 3 September and reached Pandamatenka to find that Theunissen had decided to return to the Cape Colony. When Westbeeche returned to Pandamatenka,

his wife (whom he had recently married) decided to return home with some members of the party instead of visiting the Falls. She reached her father's farm in the Marico district 22 November 1875.

Figure 2. Map including Salt Pan Road (Western Old Lake Route) shown dotted from Shoshong to Pandamatenka.



Westbeeche's party with Holub as guest, visited the Falls. On their return to Pandamatenka Holub again travelled to Shesheke where he set out by canoe up the Zambesi on 1 December 1875. However, he shortly lost his powder, medicines and food when a canoe turned over and suffered an attack of fever. At this point Holub turned back.

Not expecting to need them, Holub had sold his wagons and oxen before setting off up the Zambesi. Without the use of the wagon for transportation purposes the ill Holub was forced to remain at Shesheke for a month as matters became more dire for him. He was rescued by Westbeeche with whom he travelled back towards the Cape Colony with many delays along the way. Westbeeche left Holub at Shoshong to go on to Marico but lent him a wagon for his onward journey. Holub left Shoshong on 17 June 1876 and made a slow journey to Kimberley which he reached on 26 November 1876 - he was so short of food and funds that he practiced as a doctor enroute to cover his expenses.

Holub remained in Kimberley as a doctor until 1879 when he returned to Europe with a huge collection of bird skins and specimens. These he presented to various museums and made a name for himself lecturing on his travels. He eventually married in 1883 and, with his wife, made a further disastrous *trip to the Falls* and up the Zambesi, reaching a point about 160 miles north of Kazungula. The couple returned to Europe in 1887. Holub died in 1902.

Holub was not an explorer, for he left the beaten track only once... . However, he enriched the museums of Europe with many thousands of specimens in many branches of science and the literature of travel with interesting books and articles. " (10)

Postal History

The cover shown in Figure 1 is franked with a 6d Transvaal stamp (11) cancelled by a target-type mark coded "8" and 1s6d in Cape stamps (4x4d, 2x1d) cancelled by the Lined Circular Bar dumb defacer. (12) In addition, the cover bears the Transvaal single circle canceller (13) of Marico dated "December 17, 1875"; a Kimberley backstamp, the Double Arc datestamp (14), a Cape Town circular datestamp of "December 30 1875", a "London Paid" mark (in red) of "2 February 1876"; and on the reverse, an indistinguishable mark which appears to be an arrival cancellation. There is also a red crayon endorsement "1/01/2" which was an accountancy mark applied in Cape Town indicating the amount due to the British Post Office.

The Transvaal stamp (6d) was required to pay the Transvaal internal postage. The circular datestamp used at Zeerust is unusual in that it bears the name of the district (Marico) and not that of the Post Office (Zeerust) - the only South African Republic datestamp with this peculiarity. (15)

The Cape internal transit rate was 4d. The Cape rate to Austria (Bohemia was part of the Austro-Hungarian Empire) was 1s2d per half-ounce, accounting for the 1s6d in Cape stamps. These would have been purchased and affixed at Zeerust. Transvaal post offices carried supplies of Cape stamps for this purpose. Postal rules of the time required that the Cape stamps cancelled at the office of exchange, in this case Kimberley, which used the Lined Circular Bar dumb defacer.

As mentioned above, Mrs. Westbeeche reached her father's farm in the Marico district on 22 November 1875. As the cover was posted at Marico (Zeerust) on 17 December, it seems highly likely that Holub had given her this and probably other letters to post for him. It has been suggested that Holub and other early travellers carried supplies of stamps with them for letters. This may be so, but one is inclined to think it more likely, particularly in this case, that Holub handed letters and funds to Mrs. Westbeeche to pay for the postage.

The entry of the letter into an organized postal system at Zeerust provides further evidence of the importance of that Post Office in the period before any formal system was created in the Rhodesias and Bechuanaland Protectorate. The cover in question travelled to Cape Town by coach and left Cape Town for Europe on the Asiatic of the Union Line which sailed from Table Bay on 6 January 1876 (17).

As with other covers from this period, this one illustrates the long time span necessary for letters to reach Europe from the early travellers.

* * *

Footnotes

- (1) "The phrase *far interior* was in use for many years in England and South Africa as a name for the regions beyond the most advanced white settlements." (E.C. Tabler, *The Far Interior*, A.A. Balkema, Cape Town, 1956, p. 6). As Tabler remarks, the phrase has an alluring connotation of adventure in wild places difficult to access.
- (2) See *The Oates Correspondence: A Postal History of Frank Oates Travels in Matabeleland and Zambesia 1873-1875*, E.K. Wright & A.R. Drysdall, 1988.
- (3) At auction in Johannesburg - Stephan Welz & Co., November 1994.
- (4) Holub wrote a detailed account of his journeys in southern Africa - *Seven Years in South Africa* (translated by E.E. Frewer, Sampson Low Marston Searle and Rivington, London 1881). There are also accounts of his travels and life in E.C. Tabler's *Pioneers of Rhodesia*, C. Struik (Pty) Ltd., Cape Town 1966, pp 73-76; *Dictionary of South African Biography*, Nasional Boekhandel Bpk, Cape Town, nd, pp 390-392; and *The Standard Encyclopaedia of Southern Africa*, Vol. 5, p. 571.
- (5) Also referred to as the Western Old Lake Route on page 408 in E.C. Tabler's *The Far Interior*.
- (6) George Westbeeche, hunter, trader, roadmaker and concessionaire, was in the far interior almost continuously from 1870 until his death in 1888. "He was the firm friend of Sipopo, Lewanika and Lolbengula. He became a member of the Barotse Council of state and was the induna of Pandamatenka. His trading operations covered a wide area in North Western Rhodesia. Westbeeche was for many years the best known European in Zambesia, where he was most helpful to all visitors and was liked and admired by all who knew him." (E.C. Tabler, *Pioneers of Rhodesia*, pp. 166-170.)
- (7) Various spelled as Sipopa or Sepopo.
- (8) Leshumo (also Lesumo) was on the road from Pandamatenka to the Zambesi and was a well-known stopping point on the route. It is today on the Botswana side of the Botswana/Zimbabwe border.
- (9) Capt. N.M. Macleod (who later succeeded as Chief of the Clan Macleod and Capt. W.F. Fairlie had been officers together in the 74th Highlanders. They travelled extensively in South Africa from 1873-1880. (E.C. Tabler, *Pioneers of Rhodesia*, pp. 50, 102.)
- (10) E.C. Tabler, *Pioneers of Rhodesia*, p. 75.
- (11) A Stamp commission (Celliers) printing on semi-pelure paper, probably position 8 in a right pane. (I am indebted to Dr. Alan Drysdall, FRPSL, for this information.)
- (12) Goldblatt, Type G.1.
- (13) Mathews, Type 1a.
- (14) Goldblatt, Type G.4.
- (15) I am indebted to Dr. Drysdall for help on this point and for reading and commenting on a draft of this note.
- (16) Cape Almanac, 1875, p. 177.
- (17) I am indebted to Mr. Peter Wingent, through Dr. Drysdall, for information regarding the arrival of the *Asiatic* in England as my local sources only gave the date of departure.

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Museum In Budapest

The interior of the stamp museum in Budapest is pictured on a recent Hungarian souvenir sheet in honor of the 6th Stamp Day. The library itself contains one of the richest stamp collections in the world. For further information write to: Budapest VII, Harsfa Str. 47, 1400 Box 86, Budapest, Hungary.

Western Postal History Museum, Arizona

This is the research arm of the non-profit Postal History Foundation established to promote the hobby through education and research. The library, consisting of more than 20,000 books, journals and catalogs, is one of the largest of its kind in the U.S. Further information is available from The Postal History Foundation, 920 N. First Avenue, Tucson, AZ 85719.

Western Philatelic Library, Inc.

For those on the West Coast, there is a wonderful philatelic section located at the Sunnyvale Public Library located at 665 West Olive Avenue, Sunnyvale, California. The Friends of the WPL produce an excellent newsletter which includes a listing of duplicate literature available for sale. Hours vary. Contact WPL, P. O. Box 2219, Sunnyvale, CA 94087.

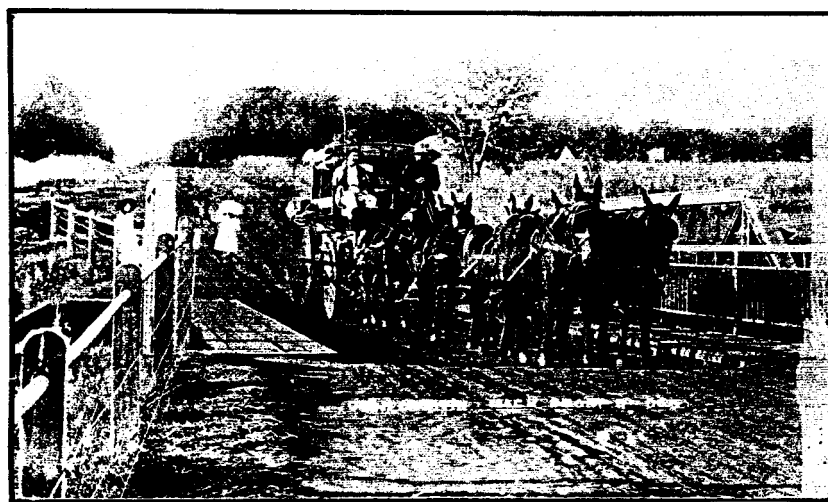
Journeys To The Past: Machadodorp, Belfast District, East Transvaal. . . Werner K. Seeba, Germany

Originally, Machadodorp was established on an old farm named Geluk meaning "happy" or "lucky". It was named after Colonel Ignacious Joaquim Jose Machado (born in Lagos, Portugal/ September 24, 1847, died Lisbon February 22, 1925).

Developing from an early village into a full-fledged town in the Belfast District of East Transvaal, Machadodorp was located on the railway line and national road from Pretoria to Maputo (Lorenzo Marques), Mozambique. In terms of distance to the east from Pretoria, it was 251 km by rail and 222 km by road. Machadodorp, well-known as a health resort, is situated 5,280 feet above sea level with an excellent climate.

The town is located at the convergence of several major and minor transport roads. For example, the roads to Ermelo, Carolina and Swaziland start at Machadodorp. Being at the hub of several transport roads, mail coaches (Fig. 1) ran regularly between it and several other towns, e.g., Lydenburg.

Figure 1. Mail coach crossing the Machadodorp bridge about 1890.



Under the direction of Z.A.R. President Burgers, Col. Machado completed a survey of Geluk in 1878 in preparation for a planned railway line between Lorenzo Marques, Delagoa Bay and Pretoria. By 1886 Machado had become the Public Works Director and was the Governor General of Mozambique from 1890-1900.

Decades before development in the area, the Koni tribe had settled at Mohlato-Pela (Blouboskraal) which is immediately east of Machadodorp. This occurred around 1800. The tribe built their kraals on sloped land which they surrounded by stone walls. Ruins can still be seen on the right side of the present-day road from Helvetia, north to Waterval Boven. Of particular interest were the semi-enclosed passages which led

to their water supplies. Because of the terrain and weather the Koni peoples had to practice terrace agriculture on the steep slopes.

The Koni defense of their mountain strongholds was made easier by the fact that they could roll boulders down upon attackers. The boulders were kept stacked in readiness to defend against any approaching enemy. However, after many attacks by Zulus and the "Mapono" (Swazi), the tribe found it necessary to flee to the north. The ruins of their villages are reminiscent of similar finds in Zimbabwe.

It is speculated that the Koni hunting grounds were in the Elandspruit area. This countryside was teeming with wild animals for hunting.

It was in 1847 that the first white settlers - Voortrekkers - started arriving in the area and developing farms. Many of them were named after the abundant eland antelope, e.g., Elandshoek, Elandslaagte, Elandskloof, Elandsfontien.

In 1858 the Geluk farm was awarded to Mr. Cornelius Potgieter who had rendered outstanding service as the Landrost of Lydenburg, Transvaal. After his death his son inherited the property, parts of which are still in the hands of present day descendants.

Since the very earliest settlement days, the Geluk farm also served as a relay station on the old Natal to Lydenburg road which began as a simple path in 1846. The early coach road distance from Durban to Lydenburg was 420 miles or 672 km. For the northern portion of the route from Lake Chrissies, relay stations were located at Clarke's farm near Klipstapel and Stein's farm near van der Merwe (Leathern). After crossing the Umkomatje River

(Komati) the route arrived at the Gabriel Stolz relay station. In 1890 a stone bridge was built at this location which was 12 miles from the Geluk farm.

Continuing on the route passed Geluk farm, the coach travelled through Blaauwbosch Kraal Spruit, Christiaan Fourie (Swartkoppies) which later became known as Helvetia. Then it went on to the top of Krokodil River Hill (Leathern). In the late 1880s Mr. Louw Viljoen actually constructed the road to Helvetia. From that time on the road was known as "Louw se Hoogte".

In the 1890s a steel bridge over the Crocodile River was built at Koppie Alleen, a result of efforts by W. J. van Niekerk,

member of the Volksraad. Koppie Alleen provided the traveller with accommodations at Hoelting's Hotel and supplies at Krantz's Store. Leaving the town, the route's final stops were the Rooidraai farm and Lydenburg.

Beginning in the 1890s the eastern railway line was constructed by a Netherlands company. As a result, commercial operations in the Geluk area increased significantly by 1892. Huge quantities of supplies were stored in local facilities. Large camps for employees soon dotted the area. This is the area which became the actual town of Machadodorp.

Recognizing the impact of the railway line on local commerce, a local syndicate bought a portion of Geluk farm. The railway passed through the property. The purchased land was subdivided into freehold plots which found ready buyers. This is what formed the beginning of the present-day township. It was at this time that the syndicate suggested to

State President Paul Kruger that the new village should be named after his friend, Colonel Machado and named Machadodorp.

In the early mailcoach days passengers, especially on the Barberton route, often had exciting experiences during the journey. For example during one particular June, a "Red Star" coach of the Gibbons Brothers transport firm was carefully crossing the Elands River Drift, west near present-day Machadodorp. The river was running at a depth of three feet at the point of the crossing where there was also thick undergrowth on both sides. Suddenly, one of the passengers riding on top of the coach behind the driver began to shout "lions". The passenger had seen several lions opposite embankment. In response, the driver abruptly pulled up. By this time the horses had caught the scent of the lions. As a result, the horses began to

rear up and try to pull away. At that moment the driver's assistant quickly filled the surrounding quiet with the sound of a bugle.

In actuality the six or so lions were lazily lying about in the sun while watching the approach of the coach. The potentially dangerous situation happily resolved itself. The sound of the bugle and arrival of two transport wagons on the lions' side of the river quickly resulted in the lions disappearing into the bush. The driver then loudly spurred the horses and the coach was quickly pulled up the embankment from which the lions had so quickly left.

The greatest concern along the route was typically not lions. Rather, drivers and passengers alike feared the local baboons the most. It seems that travellers would, at times, have to

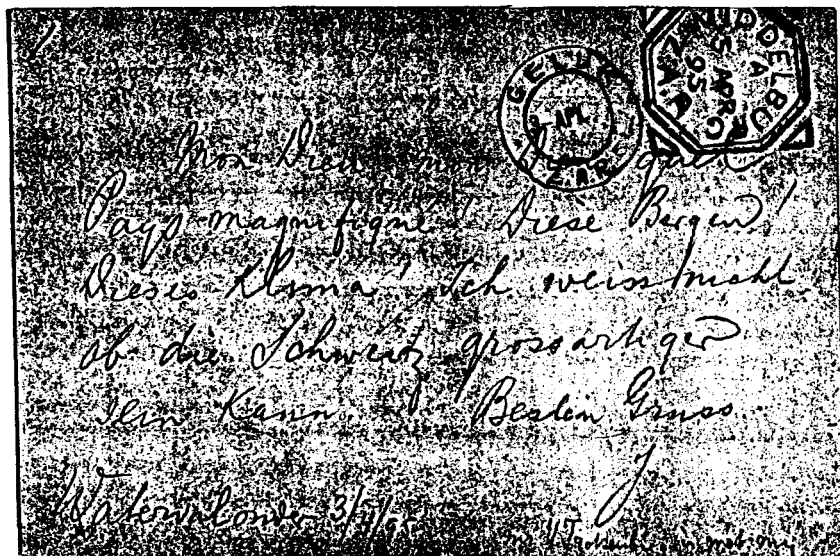
suffer rock attacks by the primates causing property damage and personal injuries.

In 1892, Mr. James Button settled at Geluk where he opened butchery, bakery and produce stores. These enterprises were first known as Button & Wentzel. The business was eventually sold and renamed Andrew Gay & Co. In both cases management was in the hands of Mr. Button's local partners.

In 1893, the only permanent building was the "Hotel de France". It has been speculated that this establishment served as the first postal agency which opened as P.O.A. GELUK on March 1, 1893.

Figure 2 illustrates the message side of a postal card showing the only recorded Geluk postmark dated "3 APR 95". The Middelburg Z.A.R. receiving mark shows a date "5 APR 95". This item is in the author's collection.

Figure 2. Only recorded Geluk postmark.



It was after the 2nd Anglo-Boer War that growth in the area really took off. The railway line, station and telegraph office at Machadodorp were opened on July 10, 1894 as a result. A rectangular boxed Z.A.S.M. "MACHADODORP" cancel was used at the station to mark telegraph forms. It was also, from time to time, used to cancel mail handed in for dispatch.

Beginning in 1895, the firm of De Graeff & Schenk became the commission forwarding agent at Machadodorp. The company's office and storage facility, adjacent to the station, was leased from the railway. Mr. H. de Graeff was the third official resident of the infant village (dorp).

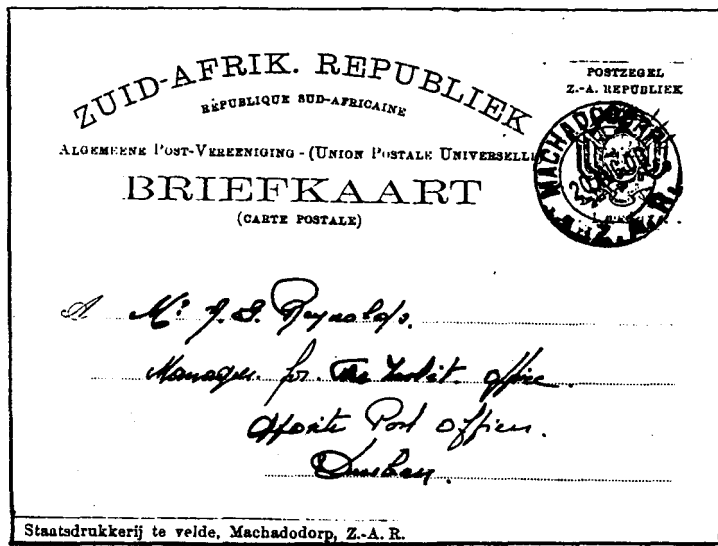
P.O.A. GELUK was upgraded to P.O. and renamed Machadodorp on May 1, 1895. Its assigned canceller was the Second Republic 24/2mm x 16mm, double circle datestamp MACHADODORP/dateplug in the center/stars on both sides in the double ring/Z.A.R. below (Fig. 3).

Figure 3. The Machadodorp The outbreak of the Second Anglo-Boer War prevented growth in the area. However, the war did bring notoriety to Machadodorp after the occupation of Pretoria which resulted in the Z.A.R. government's relocation to East Transvaal by rail. A specially printed



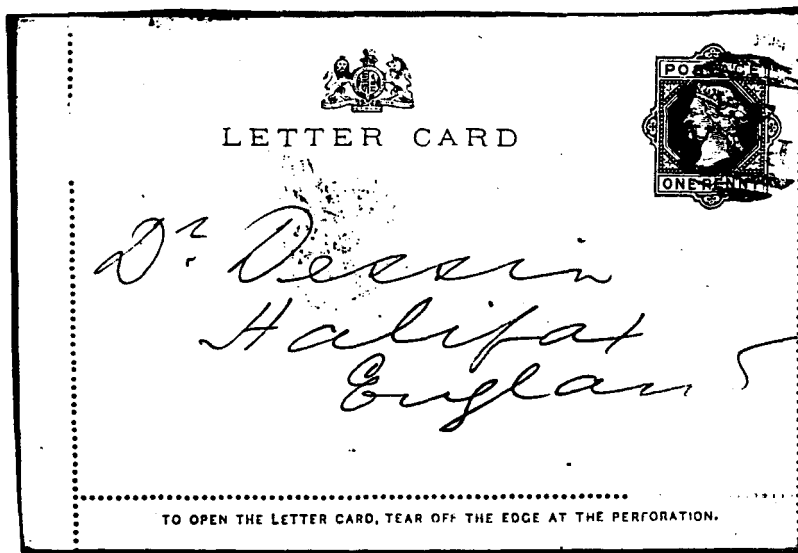
post card proclaimed Machadodorp the "Seat of Government" from June 5 through August 27, 1900 (Fig. 4) until moved to Waterval Boven.

Figure 4. Post card with inscription at bottom announcing Machadodorp as the "Seat of Government" during Second Anglo-Boer War.



The "seat of government days" were busy and hectic at the Machadodorp station due to Z.A.S.M. carriages from different government departments having to be housed there.

Figure 6. Letter Card written at Geluk farm.



The post office at the station closed on August 27, 1900 due to approaching British troops. On the next day Machadodorp was occupied by General Bullers' British Army. The British Army Post Office operated behind the battle lines, south of the town at the Geluk farm. The Natal Post Office Agency "43" was used for cancelling purposes (Fig. 5). P.O.A. "43" was actually in regular use at Loteni near Inzinga, Natal.

A Letter Card from the late Bill Hart collection, showing the above cancel, was written from the Geluk farm (Fig. 6). The message reads as follows:

Mail running the gauntlet today so an off chance of this getting through. make our bearings 10 or 15 miles S.W. of Machadodorp. Pushed our way in here yesterday, good deal of resistance, some 50 or 60 casualties in 3 days ...

As the British began taking ascendancy in the war and moving on, Brigadier General Reeves and his troops occupied Machadodorp the remainder of the hostilities. The town had become the main supply depot for the Eastern Transvaal.

On the average, 6000 British troops were always stationed at Machadodorp. The British also set up an Army Post Office in the town - No. 90. Used initially was the rubber type canceller (Fig. 6). The cancel was not used after January 12, 1901.

From that time on until July 15, 1902, a steel APO canceller was used (Fig. 7).

The mail and passenger transport

contract, effective January 1, 1899 for the Machadodorp to Pilgrim-rest route was 85 miles in distance. It was run three times per week by ten-horse mailcoaches operated by George Hays & Co. of Pretoria. The route driving time required 16 hours. The amount of the contract with the government was £1,675 per year. The contract expired on May 31, 1902.

Figure 5. Tracing of Natal P.O.A. "43".



Figure 6. Machadodorp rubber canceller tracing.



Figure 7. Tracing of the APO steel canceller.



The Machadodorp public post

office reopened on March 1, **Figure 8**. Corner piece showing 1901. A new canceller was introduced: "MACHADODORP" at the top, date line in the middle with full year and ornament at the bottom - Mathews type 130 (**Fig. 8**).

The post office was upgraded to M.O.O. status January 1902. With this change in operational

status came the introduction of a new canceller with "MACHADODORP" at the usual top position, date line in the middle and time code now at the bottom - Mathews type 16Ai (**Fig. 9**). This type of canceller was very similar to the one used by London's Underground Stations.

A means for readily determining the assessed charge for taxing purposes, a special canceller was put into use. It consists of a heavy single circle enclosing a large "T" in the center with small Roman numeral characters at the bottom. **Figure 10** shows a 1903

cover from Machadodorp to Rotterdam, with an NL tax stamp affixed - from the Peter Hutterer collection.

Figure 10. Cover showing use of the "T" taxing cancel.



In 1904 the Railway Telegraph Office (RTO) at Machadodorp was reopened. An example of the travelling post office (PWK) cancel used prior to and during this time is shown in **Figure 11**.

After the Second Anglo-Boer War, a large Repatriation Depot was established at Machadodorp, under the direction of a certain Capt. Bourne. With the resulting influx of human kind

the town grew rapidly. Several new stores were opened along with the splendidly appointed hotel - The Eastern Hotel, a steam operated mill and local brewery. The number of private homes being built also increased significantly. Those were indeed prosperous times. There were also other

significant milestones during this period for the town. In February 1904, the Urban District Board was established. On December 30, 1904 Machadodorp was upgraded to township status by Proclamation No. 100 of that year. It was in the year 1907 that the Village Coun-

Figure 11. Tracing of PWK cancel.



cil was set up. The town eventually became noted for its sulphur springs with curative powers.

The Machadodorp Rail Station (TAR) was listed as operational in 1905 when the town became the railway junction for Natal via Breyten and Bryheid. It has yet to be determined which canceller was used at the site. It is suggested that the triple circle, Mathews type 19a, may possibly have been used. This would be in keeping with the type used at similar sites elsewhere - perhaps readers could help out on this point. A year later in 1906 a rectangular mark without frame came into use for Registered letters.

References

- The Transvaal and its Mines*, L. V. Praagh, 1906.
- 'n Kort Geskiedenis van Belfast en Distrikt*, A. P. van der Medrwe, 1952.
- Veld Express*, H. Zeederbert, SESA, 1971.
- Transvaal Philately*, Maj. Jan B. Mathews, 1986.
- The Encyclopaedia of South African Post Offices and Postal Agencies*, Vol. 2, F-M, Ralph Putzel, 1987.
- Various collections and auction catalogues.

The Old Machadodorp Post Office



Dialogues & Updates

This feature provides an opportunity for readers to share their reactions to feature articles appearing in the journal. Prior to publication the Editor will provide the author with a copy of the reader comments. Author rejoinders are published in response.

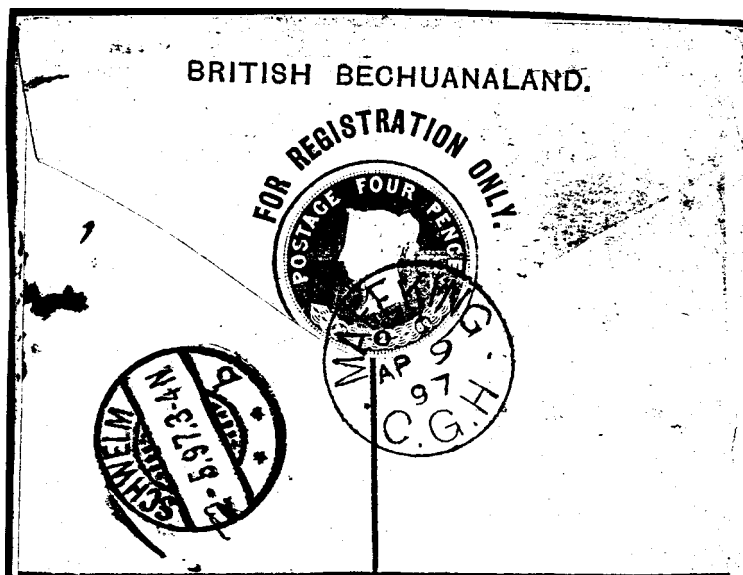
Article/Author/Source "New Earliest Usage of Mafeking Siege Cancel Discovered", Frederick P. Lawrence Ph.D., *Forerunners*, Vol. VII, No. 1 (Mar/Jun 93), pp 21- 22. See also *Dialogues* in the Mar/Jun 94 issue, p 28.

Reader/Comments: Reader David Jefferies is a Scouts On Stamps collector residing in Edinburg, Scotland. David sent a photocopy of the reverse of a British Bechuanaland registration envelope, addressed to Germany, showing the earliest known use of the Mafeking Siege cancel, to-date (Ill.) As Mr. Jefferies points out, the Mafeking Siege cancel usage is for April 9, 1897. This date of usage is six days earlier than what was previously known. (An additional Cape oval, single line cancel [not shown] appears for April 14, 1897.) The "SCHWELM" cancel is a dated time stamp receiving mark common to Germany at that time.

Author's Rejoinder. From the photocopy, the cover and cancel appear genuine, though I have not examined the actual

item. If genuine, the date is six days earlier than the reported earliest usage for this cancel. The front of this cover has not been illustrated, so the information as to its addressee, which would be useful in establishing legitimacy, is not available. However, there was extensive correspondence from Germans in Mafeking in the 1890s, particularly the families of M. Isaac and L. Schreiber, of which this may have been a part.

Illustration. Cover showing earliest known use of the Mafeking Siege cancel



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NEWS OF THE MEMBERSHIP

Welcome Aboard !!

J. R. Tommy, #9516 - Auckland, New Zealand. Mr. Tommy learned about us from our President, Guy Dillaway, during a visit to PHILATELIC SHOW 96. He collects the pre-Union states and republics, the Union period and British South Africa Co. He is an active member of the Auckland Philatelic Society, having served as a Board member and librarian. J.R. was also President and held other offices in the Tokaroa Stamp Club for many years.

Henry Pattiz, #9601 - Beverly Hills, California. Henry collects the Cape, Griqualand West, Natal, New Republic, Orange Free State, Transvaal, Swaziland, postage dues, the Pietersburg issues, officials and railway stamps. His specializations include OFS RDM issues, telegraphs, postal fiscals, CSAR and NGR stamps. Henry is affiliated with APS, is a Fellow of the Royal Philatelic Society, London; Royal Philatelic Society of New Zealand, the Anglo-Boer War Philatelic Society as well as study groups for Indian Ocean, West Africa, Bermuda, Hong Kong, British West Indies and South Australia. He learned of PSGSA from releases in other specialty group journals.

Thomas "Tom" E. Winkler, #9602 - Houston, Texas. Tom was referred to us by APS. He collects general British Africa with concentrations in the Cape, Union/SA, Malawi and Zululand. Tom is also interested in Ethiopia and Italian Colonies in Africa. He is a member of APS.

Gary Clark, #9603 - Lutz, Florida. Gary found out about the Society from releases appearing in other specialty group publications. He collects the Rhodesias, the Bechuanalands, Basutoland, Swaziland and KGVI with an emphasis on Africa and Atlantic islands. His specialties are printing shade varieties, WWII censorship and Boer War material. Gary's other affiliations include APS, KGVI Collectors Society and the British Caribbean Philatelic Society. He indicates that he will be submitting articles for the journal.

Peter R. Newroth, Ph.D., #9604 - Victoria, British Columbia, Canada. Our latest member from the neighbor to the north learned about us from several of his philatelic friends. Peter's primary interests are the Cape, Gold Coast Colony QV period and Egypt. His specialties include Cape triangulars, CGH cancellations, plate varieties and relevant auction catalogs. Peter is a major contributor to the forthcoming book on the Gold Coast Colony under aegis of the West Africa Study Circle. His other memberships include APS, the Egypt and Sudan Study Groups, Royal Philatelic Societies of Canada and London. According to his application, we can expect Peter to grace these pages with an article or two in the future.

Michel Neault, #9605D - Champlain, New York. He is a dealer in Canadian stamps and presently advertises in the journal. Michel is a member of APS and learned of the Society's existence through them.

E. Bridges, #9606 - Moers, Germany. He joined as a result of recruitment efforts of our Int'l Rep/Netherlands, J. Stolk. Awaiting receipt of completed membership application.

J. Verzantvoort, #9607 - Halsteren, Netherlands. This newcomer also joined as a result of J. Stolk's recruitment efforts. Awaiting receipt of completed membership application.

Member Biographies

Larry Standridge/USA. Born in Houston, Texas, Larry's birthday is November 16th. He is married to Anita and has a son, Aaron. Larry received his Bachelor of Science degree from Stephen F. Austin State University. He is presently employed by the Texas Employment Commission. Larry enjoys traveling, e.g., Russia, and has lived in Europe. His primary philatelic interests include Union/Republican periods of South Africa, Boer War covers, pre-Union and interprovincial material. Other activities and pasttimes include, Boy Scouts of America, Lions Club, United Way, community service, sports cars, rock climbing and teaching thereof, backpacking, camping and collecting political campaign buttons. Larry also enjoys local history to the point that his first book on the subject, *The Ghosts of Nacogdoches*, has been published.

Alan Raw/South Africa. Alan is one of our loyal advertisers who was born in Durban, Natal. His birthday falls on January 14th. Alan is married to Pamela and they have three children: Neville, Cheryl and Derryck. Alan collects Norfolk Islands in addition to being a dealer in British Commonwealth material.

Robson Lowe/England. The ever active, legendary "Robbie" was born in London on January 7th. He has two daughters, Annabelle and Marion. To this date Robbie is recognized as the philatelist's philatelist. His monumental British Commonwealth encyclopedic work still stands out as one of the significant contributions to philatelic literature. He has contributed numerous articles to the journal on forgeries and fakes. Robbie is presently Chairman of the Question and Answer Panel. His philatelic interests include postal history, Chalon Heads, Transvaal, historical letters, revenue stamps and forged postal history. In his travelling days as an active dealer, Robbie averaged over 100,000 air miles per year.

Honor Roll

This feature acknowledges Society members and publications for notable achievements. Members are encouraged to notify the Editor when they "join the winner's circle". The subject of winning exhibits or literature entries need not fall within the Society's scope.

Paul M. Benson - Gold at STAMPOREE 95 for "British Camps for Boer Prisoners of War, 1899-1902"; also Silver-Bronze for "Bavarian Postal Markings (Pre-1900)".

John Campbell - Silver Bronze at SINGAPORE 95, Vermeils at STaMpsHOW 95 and TOTAL STAMPEX 95 for his book *The Place of the Stones*.

Forerunners - Silver at COLOPEX 95 and Vermeil at CHICAGOPEX 95.

Regis Hoffman - Gold and Jeanne & Stan Jersey Award at FLOREX 95 for "Allied Forces in East Africa, WWI".

Des Hyland - Large Vermeil at SINGAPORE 95 for "Booklet Stamps of South Africa"; Large Gold and the Grand Prix Award at TOTAL STAMPEX 95 for "The London & Pretoria 1926 Typographic Printings".

David Wessely - Gold at CHICAGOPEX 95 for "The Bechuanalands".

Member Notes

Long time member, **T. P. McDermott**, will be giving a lecture on "UPU Presentation Booklets" at CAPEX 96, on Tuesday, June 11th at 2p.m. He also wrote: "If anyone wants to discuss journal Challenges #3 and #8, I can be reached at CAPEX through the Beaver Club and/or the SOSSI Society booth."

The Life Member List

Daniel A. Brouillette - #9009 - Fridley, Minnesota

Ronald C. Carlson - #8928 - Plano, Texas Robert W.

Hisey - #9117 - Sebring, Florida

George W. Holschauer - #8911 - Los Angeles, California

Jurgen Philip - #9317 - Hengersberg, Germany Jeremy

Filmer Watson - #9003 - Guangzhou, China Jeffrey K.

Weiss - #9109

In Memoriam

Athol H. Murray - #9103 - Altrincham, Cheshire, England * *

*

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THE FORERUNNERS FORUM

The Society Publications Program

Through this service the Society provides assistance in the development and publication of occasional papers, monographs, books and multi-volume works. Authors submitting works receive valuable technical support in all phases of publication development.

If collaborators are desired, this journal feature provides an opportunity to "advertise" for assistance. Researchers are also encouraged to describe their present efforts. "To research in isolation with a view towards publication is akin to reinventing the wheel." Listed below are a number of projects for which authors-to-be are seeking input.

Anyone wishing to access the services of the Publications Program may write to: Alec Page, RPSL, Committee Chair, 138 Chastillian Rd., Dartford, Kent DA1 3LG, UK, or Dr. Guy Dillaway, Committee Vice Chair, Post Office Box 181, Weston, MA 02193 USA.

* * *

Gary J. Anemaet has a study in development concerning the first two **South African aerogram issues**. His goal is to publish an article in addition to expanding his three-frame exhibit on the subject.

Gary's most pressing need is to obtain additional copies of the first and second issue aerogrammes for the following purposes: (1) to identify/confirm the number of different Groups/Types for each issue; (2) to complete/confirm identification of plating characteristics for each type; (3) to determine if a plating of the various types can be accomplished and the identification of the position of each type in the larger sheet. (Do multiples even exist for either issue?); (4) to determine if multiple plates were prepared. (Were multiple printings done?) The number printed was relatively small - about 3.15 million for the 1944 issue and about 1.66 million for the issue of 1947 as per the Kessler catalog. (If several plates were prepared what was the rationale?).

South African based members, Gary would also like to know: (1) If data can be obtained from the philatelic archives in South Africa for these early issues? How and whom does one contact for requesting data? (2) Is information on paper stock, sources, suppliers, etc., available? Any reader having examples of the aerogrammes in question (see his ad in the Classifieds), is encouraged to write to Gary at 5904 Merkel Rd., Dexter, MI 48130-9647 USA.

We look forward to having Gary grace these pages with an article. Please help him out if you can.

Tim Bartshe is compiling data on the use of **OFS telegraph stamps with postal cancellations** through the Republican Era. If you have any examples of covers, canceled stamps, etc., photocopies would be appreciated. Please write to Tim at 13955 West 30th, Golden, CO 80401 USA.

Peter Thy is researching **postal routes and rates of the Bechuanalands and Botswana**. He seeks any printed information on postal tariffs, government notices and regulations, telephone directories prior to 1980, annual postal and government reports, and information on covers with unusual frankings, e.g., express letter, telegrams, parcels, bulk mailings. In particular, Peter needs information on rail transport of mail, traveling post offices, airmail routes, rail timetables, parcel post and bulk mailing rates. If you can help, write to him at P.O. Box 73112, Davis, CA 95616 USA.

* * *

Hiram Slomowitz has acquired what he believes are actual stamps used in the short-lived **Republic of Goshen** (Goshenland). Scholars have suggested that no stamps were ever issued for Goshen. Hiram would like to hear from readers who may be able to assist him in his research efforts. Write him at Advocates Chambers, 2000 Inner Chambers, Pritchard St., Johannesburg 2001, South Africa.

* * *

Guy Dillaway desires information and materials concerning **rates from any country to/from the Cape of Good Hope 1800-1900, e.g.**, copies of postal notices, almanacs, rating or directional information, fee schedules, etc. Copies of covers, front/back, with work-up appreciated. Will purchase. Condition not an issue. Language not a problem. Research results to be periodically published in *Forerunners*. Write to Guy at P.O. Box 181, Weston, MA 02193 USA.

* * *

Will Ross wants contacts from readers interested in the **postal history of Bophuthatswana**. He wants to publish a supplement to his prior articles in the journal - focus to be on activities through the dissolution of the Homelands, possibly a monograph. Will cover the entire postal history period from pre-independence to reincorporation. Reader suggestions on approach to be used appreciated. Content will include official mail user agencies, a listing of all BOP postmasters, post offices and their dates of incorporation, revenues and last day of use of postal strikes. Interested readers write to Will at 6079 Fragans Way, Woodland Hills, CA 91367 USA.

Tony Davis continues his work on a **handbook** to be titled *Zululand Philately, 1888-98*. He would appreciate reader comments and updates of the information appearing in his "Zulu Notes" column. The handbook content will cover general history, pre-1888 postal history, the 1879 War, missionaries, origins of the Zululand postal administration, postmasters, post offices, postal agencies, postal carts, first definitive overprints, second definitives, revenue stamps, proofs, specimens, trials, postmark rarity factors, official use of the mails, official frankings, the changeover period of January-July 1898, bibliographic notes, the great collections, manuscript markings and more. Interested readers contact Tony at 41 Karen St., Thornhill, Ontario, Canada L4J 515.

David Mordant is planning the publication of a book on the **Cape of Good Hope rectangulars**. (The previous definitive work on the subject was that of Allis, published in 1930.) David has extensive information and a large collection of unusual varieties, but lacks depth in the area of proofs and essays. He is seeking specialists to write that section. Proofs and essays are an integral part of the subject matter and must be included in the work; otherwise, the finished product would be incomplete as many philatelists regard proofs and essays as indispensable as a fertile area for research and collectibility. Those wishing to collaborate on the work are to contact David at P.O. Box 21161, Helderkruijn 1733, South Africa.

• • •

Bob Hisey's project is **updating the handbooks on the stamps of the Orange Free State** published in 1975 by our sister specialty group, the Orange Free State Study Circle. The effort includes preparation of a summary of all material published since 1975 that is not adequately covered in the Buckley & Marriott volumes. He would like to hear from readers who have items in their collections which would add even miscellaneous information to this effort. There is particular interest in early cancel dates on the raised stop VRI overprints, especially on stamps containing varieties which can be placed in a specific printing. Also desired are blocks that cannot be placed in the various B & M setting diagrams. All help greatly received and acknowledged. Write to Bob at 7227 Sparta Road, Sebring, FL 33872 USA or phone/FAX (941) 382-3014.

• • •

Volunteers sought to produce and maintain an up-to-date **cumulative Forerunners journal index**. Guidance and support will be available from the Publications Program Committee. Examples of cumulative indices are available. Interested parties should contact the Editor directly.

• • •

Questions & Answers

As of this issue, the Panel coverage has expanded to now include the **KGVI Issues** specialty field. We welcome highly regarded new member, **Mr. Gary Clark** of Lutz, Florida, to our Panel of Experts. He is an active specialist in KGVI material and will consult with other known scholars as needed. Now, let's put him to work!

In service to the general collecting community, the Society makes its Panel of Experts available to answer questions submitted by readers, members or not. The Panel members to whom inquiries should be sent, are listed in the early pages of each journal issue. Here is how the process works...

Readers should send their questions to the appropriate Panel member. When applicable, clear copies of cancels, covers (front/back) and a detailed written description of the item(s) should be included. The Panel member will forward his response, the question, and any illustrations to the Editor for publication in this feature. Panel members will also return copies of their responses directly to the questioners.

It should be kept in mind that a particular question may require an extended period for research, requiring consultation with other experts. Questions pertaining to areas outside the scope of PSGSA, e.g., British East Africa, should be sent directly to the Editor. The question will then be forwarded to the appropriate specialty group for a response.

Membership on the Panel is open to Society members in good standing. Members who have experience and knowledge in any area *not presently covered* in the Panel listing (inside opening page of journal), are encouraged to offer their services. Letters of interest should be directed to: Robson Lowe, Panel Chair, Flat One, Bodorgan Rd., Bournemouth BH2 6NQ, England.

* * *

No questions and answers were received this publishing cycle. The last entry was Question #39 in Nov '95/Feb '96 issue.

The British Philatelic Library

When in England visit the British Library and its philatelic collections which are estimated to contain over eight million items. Included are postage and revenue stamps, postal stationery, artwork, essays, proofs, covers and entires, "cinderella" material, specimen issues, airmails, some postal history material, official and private posts, for almost all countries and periods. Holdings include the philatelic collection formed by the Foreign & Commonwealth Office. Information available from: The Philatelic Collections, Great Russell St., London WC1B, England.

Unanswered Challenges

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

Challenge #10. I recently encountered a double-circle numeral "2" marking on an Anglo-Boer War period cover (see illustration, p. 135, whole #25), described as follows: "1900, B. war, 1d VRI arms tied to censored cover with pink and blk. label on postal stationery env of The Imperial Yeomanry Field Hospital and Bearer Co.' from Johbg to Cape Town, and large blue circle with '2' cachet on front." I have never seen this mark before (neither has our Transvaal expert on the Panel, Alan Drysdall). New find? - **Werner Seeba**, Germany

Challenge #9. I have a Natal QV one penny definitive showing a manuscript cancel which appears to read "Taylors/Post/17-10-87". Was this a fiscal cancel or? Postmark references list it as "very rare". I purchased the item for 5c from a dealer's box. Is anyone able to provide definitive information on the cancel and Taylors Post? - **Jim Lays**, USA

Response: This form of cancellation is noted and illustrated by Messrs Hart, Kantey and Leon on pages 51-2 of *The Postal Markings of Natal* (1977). Their illustrated example is dated "14.8.87". If looking at these, plus that illustrated by the questioner, all appear (to my untrained eye) to be by the same hand. I have a passing mention in some notes to seeing a cover front with the adhesive cancelled as above but no detail as to date of usage and who had possession of the cover front actually at the time I made a note on it.

Whenever this manuscript cancellation does crop up, it seems always to be proffered as a postal rather than a fiscal marking and appears to be generally accepted as such. In the book mentioned above, Taylors Post is located as being situated on the railway line between Pietermaritzburg and Elandskop which is in the Bulwer district, i.e., approximately to the south-west of Pietermaritzburg. Ralph Putzel's magnum opus shows the office as a Postal Agency listed from 1884 to 1887; closed 1908 with a second office opened 1909 but with no further information. - **Michael Wigmore**, South Africa.

Sources of Reference:

The Postal Markings of Natal, **Hart, et al.**, 1977

The Encyclopaedia of South African Post Offices and Postal Agencies, Ralph

Putzel, Vol. 3, 1989

Writer's own reference notes.

* * *

Challenge #8. Fox Hill locals of Natal appeared in the Phillips of London July 1993 auction catalog, lot 512; best described as primitive facsimile stamps. The lot contains a strip of three of the 1d blue (only 17 examples reported), a 1d purple horizontal pair with a central monogram "T.W.J.", i.e., T.W. Jackson (only 12 examples reported), and a 1d purple with cartoon-like KEVIII (only 6 known). Each has some faults and have thick gum, as is usual. Do any of our Natal collectors have other copies to report? What literature references can be provided? - **Ron Carlson**, USA

Response: These locals would appear to have been the contrivance of two residents of the Fox Hill area - the one being an attorney, Mr. T.W. Jackson, and the other in all probability the Postmaster at Fox Hill itself.

References to them in philatelic literature may be traced back to as early as 1902 when the publication *Philatelic Monthly Referee* printed information from a correspondent in Natal concerning these local issues. At a later date, the *Stamp Collectors' Fortnightly* published a full history of these labels, obtained from their originator. This information was put to press again in Frederick Melville's *Phantom Philately* of 1923 which was, in turn, quoted in full in an article in the October, 1945 edition of *The South African Philatelist*.

In our politically correct times, the terminology quoted from the above may offend some of the "Forerunners" readership; but I repeat it in full here for your consideration:

The 1902 item in the "Philatelic Monthly Referee" carried an explanation that the "stamps" were used for franking correspondence carried across country per Kaffir runners. .. they were printed by the "Pinhole" process.

The history of these issues from their originator (not identified by name) carried in the *Stamp Collectors Fortnightly* read as follows:

It was simply a private local manufactured by myself and used on letters which my native carried to a friend of mine some few miles off. This Kaffir was paid at the end of the month at the rate of one penny for each letter he had carried during that period Not wishing to take the trouble of making a note of each letter or packet I sent, I printed a certain number (100) of this stamp and despatched half to my friend At the end of the month it was of course plain to see how many letters had been carried each way by the number each of us had left. Thus, each paid his own postage in a lump sum. Being dissatisfied with the first design I subsequently manufactured a second and finally a third type, printing 40 of the former and 50 of the latter. When my friend moved away a short time ago it was more convenient to write per post and hence the local service was discontinued

Mr. Melville goes on to say that the "stamps" appear to have been made on a home-made duplicator or by "cyclostyle" (which may be an explanation of the earlier reference to "Pinhole" process). The first type of stamp (100 copies) was

the 1d surmounted by "E R"; the second (40 copies) has the monogram of T.W. Jackson's initials at its center; and the third type (50 copies) the attempted portrait. These "printing figures" differ from those reported by your enquirer who saw much lower figures mirror those given as part of an auction lot description of a group of these locals sold in Johannesburg in 1992. Described as a "recent find" and offered in two lots, the whole added up to an irregular block of five and a block of four of the first design; a block of four of the second design; and two singles of the third design.

- **Michael Wigmore**, South Africa

Sources of Reference

Philatelic Monthly Referee, II, p.57, 89 (1902)

Stamp Collectors' Fortnightly, VIII, p. 65, 94

Phantom Philately, Frederick Melville. Published in book form in 1923 (revised and expanded from a series of articles on the subject by the same author, appearing in *The Stamp Lover*, 1917 - 1918 - gv , XV, p. 8)

The South Africa Philatelist, XXI, #10, p. 114 (Oct., 1945)

The Encyclopaedia of British Empire Stamps, Vol. II, published in London by Robson Lowe (1948/9)

Writer's own reference notes.

Challenge #7. I have collated much information on the elusive and almost undocumented Wolmaranstad. I have photos of most of those in circulation, with full comparisons of the surcharges which were printed separately on each stamp. The visual results disprove Rich who had seen only a few copies including the scarce overprint color varieties. Has anyone ever been able to estimate the quantities of the individual values?

Barry Fletcher, South Africa

Response: A total of £10 face value was overprinted.

- **Robson Lowe**, England *

* *

Challenge #6. A non-member, Mr. Ronald G. Carr of the U. S. submitted a list of questions regarding U.S. specimen stamps distributed through UPU H.Q. to its members; specifically samples overprinted by the Natal G.P.O. (One detailed response appears on pages 136-37 in whole #25.) The questions are:

What date were the stamps delivered to the UPU H. Q. ?

When were they overprinted?

How many U.S. sets were presented?

For what purpose?

Who were they presented to?

Is it known how this set resurfaced into circulation?

Response: The U.S. stamps pictured on page 86, #24 of *Forerunners* are from a whole world collection of specimen stamps (covering approximately the years 1885 to 1910) that was sold by public auction in Johannesburg, South Africa in 1980. Their source was a Natal Post Office archive.

Natal became a member of the UPU in 1892 but had been complying with UPU regulations for some seven years prior to that date. It had been published (in the International Bureau Circular of 30th July, 1889) that there was an arrangement to distribute specimens to Administrations of British Colonies that were UPU non-members. As near as possible complete collections of stamps, stationery, etc., that had been sent to members of the Union were thus circulated to a number of British colonies, one being Natal. The year of supply of this collection is understood to be 1887. It is noted that while there were gaps in the collection due to reserves of some issues being exhausted, there were also a few stamps included that had not normally been distributed.

The stamps in question were distributed by the UPU uncanceled. It is thought that, at the time of the formation of the Union of South Africa, the Natal Post Office defaced the stamps, using a "Specimen" handstamp (Samuel type NA2) with upright, capital lettering and thus treated, wrote off the collection. Samuel does point out that if the defacement had occurred upon original receipt, the earlier, local handstamp with "sloping" lettering (Samuel type NA1) would have been utilized.

A synopsis of the introduction in the auction catalog is that the collection was originally housed in a "Schaubek" style album and that the stamps were stuck down. In some cases, both sides of the album page were utilized, which complicated the separation of the various country lots and/or individual stamps. In some instances separation had been careless, resulting in stamps being trimmed of the perforations or actually cut-into. Emanating from Natal, there was also a little rust-intrusion in places! Finally, the fact that the "Specimen" handstamp had been applied locally was borne out by the fact that in a number of cases, it had been applied inaccurately and actually "tied" the stamp to the album page.

In dividing up the album, the auctioneers created six lots of U.S. stamps and a seventh featuring issues for U.S. post offices in Cuba, Guam, Philippines and Puerto Rico. The stamps queried in *Forerunners* appeared in the first lot, whose description, repeated verbatim, goes as follows:

1879/98 Presidents Series, 12 odd values earlier series plus 11 values 1890/93 series, set 18 values 1894/95 series, and 4 new colors 1898 all with "authority handstamp" (SG 191a), between 2071222 (11 values), 224/234, between 251/266, between 283/290, 2c and 4c 1894 set damaged some rust

spotting and roughs perfs but basically a sound lot...

- **Michael Wigmore**, South Africa

Sources of Reference

"Specimen Stamps of the Crown Colonies" by Marcus Samuel. Published by the Royal Philatelic Society in London, 1976

"Supplement to the above" by Messrs Bendon, Latto and Samuel. Published by the RPS, 1984

"UPU Specimen Stamps" by James Bendon. Published by the author in Cyprus, 1988

"Specimen Stamps Of The World, c.1885/1910". October 9, 1980 auction catalog, Sotheby Parke Bernet South Africa

Writer's own reference notes.

Challenge #5. Does someone have a non-philatelic use of the Bophuthatswana inland and overseas aerogrammes that were issued in 1977? - **Will Ross**, USA

* * *

Challenge #4. I have been unable to obtain South Africa postal rate information for the period 1959-71. I do have the rate change information for when the country went to decimal currency as listed in the May, 1971 issue of *The South African Philatelist*. Putzel's rate information is very sparse. Does anyone have or know of a source of the missing rate information? - **Bernard Doherty**, Australia

* * *

Challenge #3. Do any of our members know of a tabulation of the "OFFICIAL FREE" cachets appearing on "ON HIS MAJESTY'S SERVICE" official SWA envelopes (see page 102, #21)? - **Dr. H.U. Bantz**, South Africa

Advertisers' Corner

As space permits, *Forerunners* highlights selections of items from its advertisers' auction and price lists, as well as their special publications.

David Crocker has published two CGH price list booklets which will be found interesting both to the Cape collector and students of this country's postal history. The first booklet describes over 400 postal history items dating from the 1700s. In addition there are numerous examples of the early and popularly collected Cape postal markings. The second list features a remarkable array of revenues of the Cape. The list contains not only basic single stamps, scarce multiples, examples of correct usage, etc., but also such gems as die proofs, plate proofs and "specimens".

Stephan Welz & Co.'s February '96 auction (641 lots) of stamps and postal history contained a number of interesting

Challenge #2. The first series of the stamps of Zululand consisted of 11 overprinted values of Great Britain issued between July 1888 and March 1893. Of the 11 values, 10 can be found handstamped "SPECIMEN" in violet with the exception of the 1d value. Why was the 1d value not included in this handstamped specimen overprint set? - **Peter Whitmore**, South Africa

Response: This challenge pertains to issuing authority specimens. That is, the defacement or overprinting was performed by the country sending the sample to the UPU. Bendon reports that Zululand stamps were first circulated or forwarded in November 1893 from stamp stocks in either Zululand or more probably in Natal. Quoting from Bendon:

By this time the 1d was no longer available and the Natal Revenue stamp overprinted ZULULAND; which had been authorised for postal use, was substituted. The SPECIMEN handstamp, which had been in use in Natal since 1890, was applied in Durban... The 1894-96 issue was distributed as follows: the 1d in April 1894, the 1/2d and 1s in July 1894, the 2 1/2d, 4d, 6d, 1s, 4s and £1 in December 1894 and the 2s6d in February 1896.

Note that the subsequent 1894-96 issue had its 1d value available for distribution three months before the other values of the issue. Was it because the former 1d was out of stock? Can postal history collectors confirm this?

- **T.P. McDermott**, USA

* * *

Challenge #1. I have two South Africa postal orders, one of 6d uprated to 9d by affixing a 3d stamp, the second of R1.20. Both were used in South West Africa, the first in Windhoek (22/9/42), the second in Aroab (3/9/63). Do readers know of any others? When did SWA postal orders get issued? - **Leon Jacobson**, South Africa

items, such as: scarce early Anglo-Boer War covers, 1929 "Oldsmobile Kalahari Mail" (Bechuanaland), 1817 Cape "Packet-Letter" wrapper showing first date handstamp to be used at the Cape (10 known), a scarce 1873 Griqualand West cover (De Beers N.R./London), Natal 1902/03 postagerevenue die proofs, an 1892 Prince Dinuzulu letter (Natal), rare 1854 wrapper Winburg/Paarl (Orange Free State), a margin block of six of the Rhodesia 1892/93 Arms £2 rose-red, excellent range of Admirals and "Double Head" varieties and color shades, 1977/81 Rhodesian Forces Mail, the original Wilkinson essay of the 1910 First Union Commemorative, hand-drawn in pen and ink; a 1911 first South African aerial post return flight card with special departure and arrival cancels, a mint collection of South Africa's 1913/82 coil stamp issues, South West Africa 1923 KGV specimen overprints in pairs - exceedingly rare.

BITS & PIECES AND OTHER STORIES

"Bits" provides members the opportunity to share interesting little tidbits in a short order format, e.g., cancels, covers, rare marks, etc. A brief, succinct description must accompany entries of this nature, including any historical information of philatelic significance. "...And Other Stories" is reserved for short written pieces which do not fit the feature article mold, yet the subject is more than an interesting cover or cancel. Anecdotal writings are especially encouraged. All entries for this feature are to be sent directly to the Editor.

Bits & Pieces

Cape of Good Hope - A Previously Undescribed Inverted Watermark... Dr. D.G. Mordant writes that the CGH id red issued in October 1893 (SG 58), depicting "Hope" standing with Table Bay in the background, is a very common Cape stamp, as the internal postal rate at that time for letters of up to 1/2 oz in weight was 1d.

Many thousands have been examined over the years. Recently two specimens with the cabled anchor watermark inverted have been found. One is a single used in Cape Town

(date indistinct but seemingly January 1896), the other being a pair with both town and date illegible.

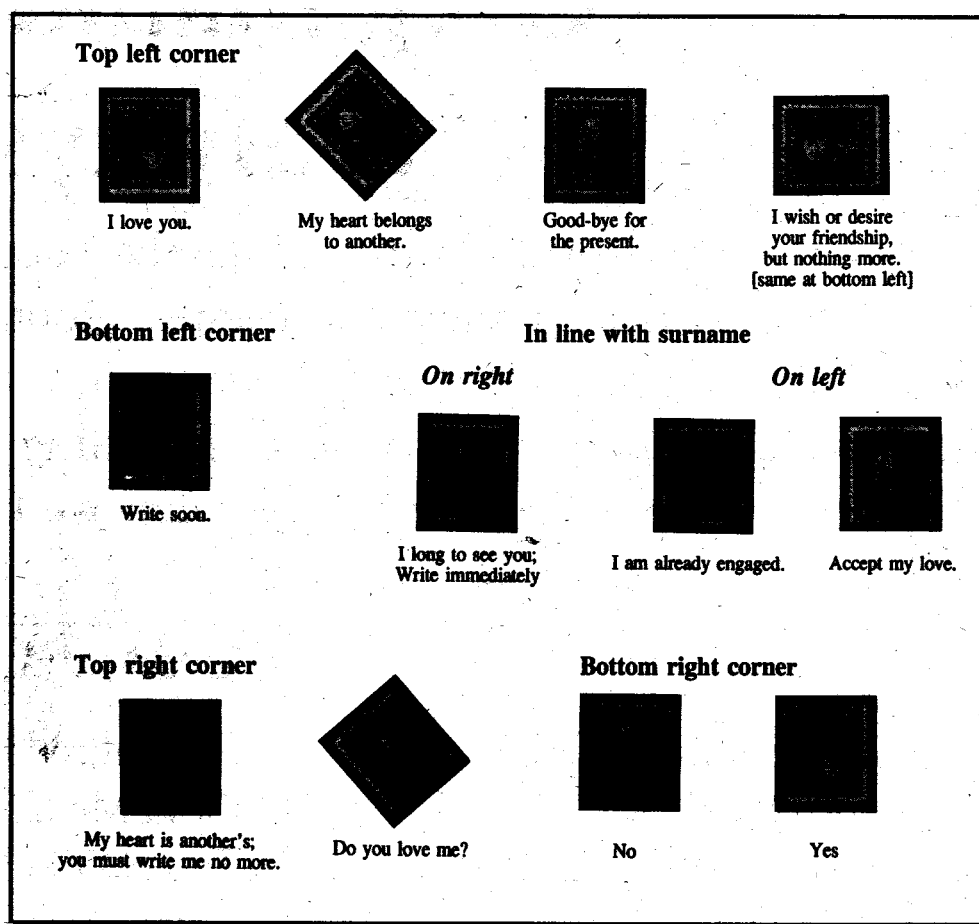
New Discovery... Guy Dillaway sent in the following enlargement of a corner piece. The double circle cancel reads "VOGELSFONTEIN/ R.O." (outer circle) and "14 MAY 06" in the center. This Railway Office is unlisted in Putzel.

Illustration. Newly discovered R.O. cancel.



Unknown to the present-day general public there was, once upon a time, a practice of positioning a stamp on a letter in such a way as to communicate a message. In a recent issue of *Linn's Stamp News* the stamp placement positions and implied messages commonly used in the U.S. in 1911 was shown (111. below). The chart reflects the answer given to a question that was posed that year: "When stamps are put on a letter in different ways, what does it signify?" Interesting. Were stamp placements used in a similar manner in South Africa? (READERS TO THE RESCUE!)

Illustration. Stamp placement and related message.



Greek Philatelic Museum In Athens

Located near Panathinaikos Square, corner of 5 Stadiou and 2 Fokianou Streets in the Pagnati area. The hours of operation are subject to change. It is recommended that the traveller have a native speaker call in to confirm open hours. The local phone number is 751-0942.

When visiting Denmark . .

The museum of the Danish Postal Administration contains many historical and philatelic archives. Ongoing exhibits include uniforms, philately and an old postmark machine, to name just a few of the varied and interesting items available for viewing. The museum location is Valkendorfsgade 9, Copenhagen.

Previously unlisted Natal town post office period cancel found. ... Dr. Mordant noted on a cover the date of a Hilton Road, Natal receiving cancel dated "JA 23-07" (Ill. opposite). It was accompanied by a second receiving mark of the same date for Pietermaritzburg (not shown). The leaving cancel on the cover front is a double circle Harrismith, ORC dated "22 JA 07".

Putzel indicates the following known periods for which there was a post office operating at Hilton Road: 1st office - 1886-1898 (very rare), 2nd office - 1910-1913 (very rare) and 3rd office - 1921-1962. From this the reader will note that no operating post office marks have been seen for the 1899-1909. period.

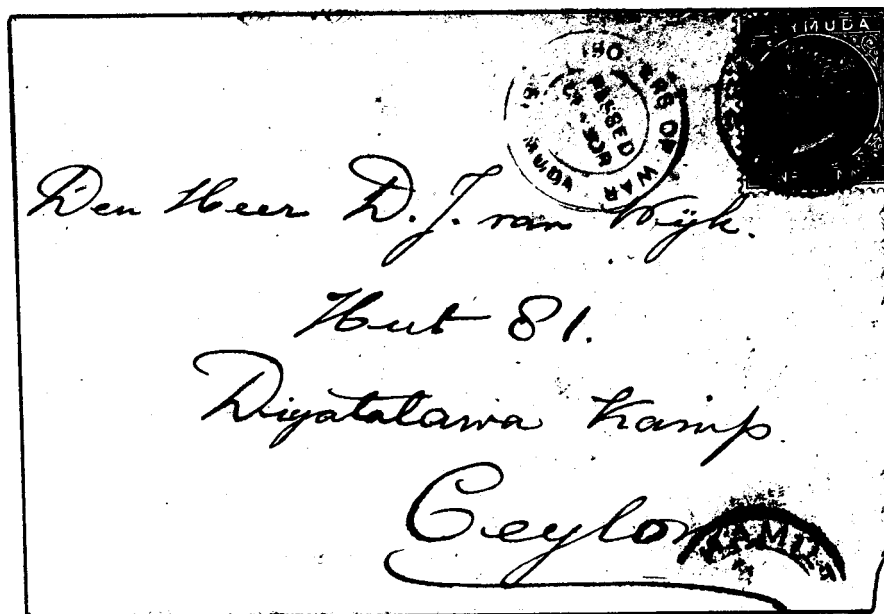
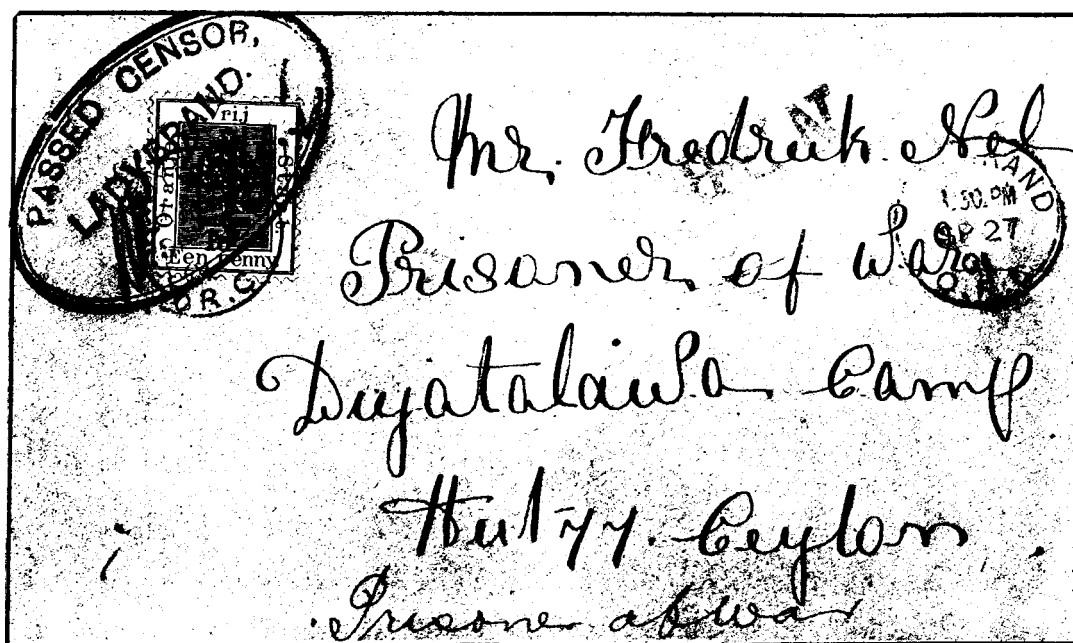
Illustration. Hilton Road cancel used during previously unknown period.



The last entries consist of two Anglo-Boer War covers (Ill.) sent in by Reginald Foster. The top item is addressed to a P.O.W. in the Diyatalawa Camp, Ceylon. The cover was posted and censored at Ladybrand,

railway censor mark. The second cover (bottom) is an example of P.O.W. intercamp mail. It is addressed from Bermuda to Diyatalawa. The double circle Bermuda P.O.W. censor mark is in blue.

Illustration Two example of Anglo-Boer War covers - (top) Ladybrand to Diyatalawa, (bottom) Bermuda to Diyatalawa.



...And Other Stories

Unrecorded Natal - Who is responsible?

Michael Wigmore, South Africa

Michael Wigmore has been a student of the philately of Natal for over thirty years. A professional philatelist for almost twenty years he works with his father-in-law, David Crocker, in Montagu, South Africa. His personal collecting and study interests include all forms of forgeries and reprints - especially British Africa and more generally the Colony of Natal. Related to the latter, Michael's Second Anglo-Boer War postal history collection is of particular note and has been successfully exhibited. A member of a number of specialty groups, he is also on the Expertising Committee and Exhibition Judging panel of the Philatelic Federation of Southern Africa, as well as its past Vice President/Outside Territories.

Although I have many diverse philatelic interests, the Colony of Natal has always been a favored area of study. In terms of my own Natal collection, I collect all areas related to the subject. The most developed section is that of the postal history of the 2nd Anglo-Boer War period. I have extensively researched the area and have achieved some success (gold medals at National level exhibitions) when selections of material have been exhibited competitively.

Over the past few months, a number of collectors in South Africa, plus one or two from overseas, have been in touch with me here in Montagu to ask if I would supply information to solve some conundrum of Natal philately. There was an expressed need for me to suggest a basic reading list from which they may further their own studies. This has prompted the following thoughts.

Unless I have, over the years, inadvertently overlooked a major reference work or definitive series of articles in the philatelic press, the list for the Natal bibliophile is somewhat limited. This is especially so when compared with some of its Colonial counterparts. In addition, while some authors have given attention to Natal postal markings/postal history in the not too distant past, the basic stamps seem to have received the minimal amount of coverage in what almost amounts to a lifetime! (You may agree that this assertion is borne out by the short list of Natal material on hand in the Society library, as reported in the March/June 1995 edition of *Forerunners*, page 41- "From The Archives").

What are the answers to the question: Why is there comparatively little information in print about Natal? My first and most obvious thought, is that there never has been a philatelic specialty group for the area as in the excellent Transvaal and Orange Free State Study Circles. Having a Natal Study Group will encourage the sharing and collation of information and the development of ideas, much the same as

these examples.

Secondly, perhaps the stamps of Natal have not traditionally achieved the popularity among collectors as some of their contemporaries due to the apparent lack of available material. Add to this the often held perception that the usual general condition of what material is available is not that good. (Natal's climate tends to the hot and humid side, thus leaving the specter of toning or foxing in the back of the collector's mind.).

Perhaps each of the above factors has contributed to the Colony being put on the collecting "back burner". I am sure that past and present students also suffer from the "it's of interest to me but I'm sure no-one else wants to be bothered with it" syndrome. Whatever the answer, here is a thought for contemplation:

Would the Society's readership be interested in establishing a project to assimilate information on the philately of Natal?

Here we are not so much talking about the technical study of postmarks - this may encroach upon or duplicate work at hand in other groups. Perhaps the focus could concentrate on the stamps themselves, as well as associated subjects - postal history with a view towards rates, etc.; fiscals and revenues, locals or cinderella material - you name it!

It could well be that someone is sitting out there with just one item of Natal in his or her stockbook - a block of surcharged stamps that the owner thinks of as cheap and cheerful. But what about things like broken letters, etc., that may be plateable; or a taxed cover with the charge explained by a manuscript note on the envelope itself, written by the clerk responsible and solving a question that no-one has ever found the answer to before.

The possibilities are vast - a piece that may not be of specific importance to the owner in their own collection, may be that which will supply the vital piece of clarification of an issue, when placed in context with all those other little scraps of information held by everybody else. The trick is not to hold back on the basis that "everyone's got one of these" as maybe we haven't!

The suggestion therefore is this: I think that it is about time that my fellow Natal students and I take on the collective responsibility for the recording of our philatelic interests. I would thus like to propose that we all look at our own holdings of Natal. From this we will establish an initial data base; a data base from which students of ongoing research may draw from, or the discovery of new information which may prompt the initiation of completely new research. An obvious use to which this data base may be put would be to provide the occasional article for *Forerunners* - to promote

an occasional article for *Forerunners* - to hopefully promote further interest and debate. Does anyone else out there think that this project has the makings of a good idea? If you do, I would "put my money where my mouth is" and offer to be the co-coordinator of the incoming information. Due recognition of the source of new or confirmatory information would, of course, be given where applicable in reporting back through the Journal.

Using my own research notes assembled over the years, I have started to prepare a tentative framework for a data base. Should this be of interest, I will let the Editor have it for a future edition of *Forerunners*.

Have I just advocated a PSGSA Natal Study Group? Maybe! Let's see how you respond. Please let me hear from you by writing me at P.O. Box 294, Montagu 6720, South Africa.

Forged British Southern Africa Postmarks

Peter Thy, USA

The American Philatelic Expertising Service recently issued a British Empire fake postmark alert in the January, 1996 issue of *The American Philatelist*. A total of 45 forged cancelling "devices" with fixed dates between 1937 and 1969 were illustrated and reported to have been donated from the estate of a dealer in British area material. It was also noted that to date no documented uses on stamps or covers has been reported. Included are the three southern Africa postmarks shown below.

Figure 1. Forged Bechuanaland cancel.



BECHUANALAND/12 V ???/H.O.

MAFEKING (Fig. 1):

The May 12 date may be the day of issue of the 1937 Coronation issue and Mafeking a likely location for a first day of issue cancelling. Nevertheless, the indistinct and/or damaged year code cannot easily be read as 1937.

,OLA/2/JU53/*/NORTH

xri KHODESIA (Fig. 2):

The 2 June 1953 date is the first day of issue of the 1953 QEII Coronation. Despite this, Chingola in the Copper belt is hardly a likely location for an official first day of issue cancellation.

Figure 2. Forged Northern Rhodesia cancel.



Figure 3. Forged Swaziland cancel.



MBABANE/12 MAY A ?/6/

SWAZILAND (Fig. 3):

The May 12 date may be the day of issue of the 1937 Coronation issue. Still, the year code clearly ends with "6" and perhaps best reads as 1946.

The intended usage of the forged

postal cancellers is not clear. If the whole collection is considered, only 8 cancellers (out of 37 for which the date clearly can be read) matches first issue dates. It is likely that the dates are of lesser significance and simply reflect the available illustrations on which the forged devices were manufactured. The few postmarks I have examined in detail are virtually indistinguishable from the genuine marks.

Based upon the above information, it is plausible that the cancellers were intended for the postal history market - if indeed ever used. The American Philatelic Expertizing Service, as well as your Editor, welcome reader comments and observations.

Where Are They?

W.A. Page, UK

A major stamp variety that has received little publicity is the Union of South Africa 10/- value of the Bradbury Wilkinson pictorial definitives of 1927. The stamp is listed in the *Gibbons Commonwealth Catalogue* as SG39a "inverted center".

I first came across this error while visiting PHILEXFRANCE in 1989 when I was able to inspect an example on offer from a well-known London dealer. Having examined the stamp, it was a single in Afrikaans language with margin attached (Fig. 1). I was not very happy about the margin which appeared to have been either added or repaired.

Figure 1. 10/- inverted center with margin.



The stamps are printed in sheets of 120, comprising two panes of 60 items with a central gutter. These were cut into single

panes before distribution. In the absence of obtaining further information I considered the possibility that this may in fact have been "printers waste" leaked from the printing firm.

The error is not listed in any of the South African hand-books or recent editions of the *South Africa Color Catalog*. However, subsequent research efforts have revealed the existence of a vertical mint pair which was sold in Switzerland in 1986 (value unknown). The single item mentioned above was eventually sold by Christies in 1990 at £4186.

Thus, one margin single and one verticle pair (Fig. 2) of this error have been recorded. That leaves a further 117 stamps - *where are they?*

Figure 2. Only known vertical pair of the 10/- invert.



"Hot off the press!!! "

Word has been received that the FABULOUS, 50+ volume **Athol H. Murray Cape of Good Hope Collection** is to be offered in June. See the full page Christie's ad on the inside back cover page.

When in the Northeast . . . Visit the Cardinal Spellman Philatelic Museum," housing a 40,000 volume library, three exhibition galleries, photographic and research laboratories. The Museum's collection contains 4 million items. Additional information: Cardinal Spellman Philatelic Museum, 235 Wellesley St., Weston, MA 02193.

Postal & Telecommunications Museum of Turkey . . . Located in Ankara at PTT Muzesi, PTT Meslek Gelistirme, Bas mudurlugu Samsun Yolu Uzeri, Aydinlikevier. This could prove to be an interesting stop in the Asian area. Everything is in Turkish, so make certain to take along a dictionary.

The Rhodesias

Bill Wallace, Editor

The Union Castle Mail Steamship Company

Dudley Blascheck, Canada

For the Rhodesian postal historian, there is a very interesting time period to be aware of. From 27th September 1913 until the outbreak of Great War in August, 1914, the United Kingdom and South Africa Sea Post Office operated.

Following the signing of the mail contract in October, 1912, between the Union Castle Mail Steamship Company and the government of the Union of South Africa, each mail ship was required to provide *"adequate accommodation for sorting and making up of mails"* and to *"convey free of charge when required to do so by an officer or officers of the Post Office."* The cost of the service was to be shared equally by South Africa and the United Kingdom G.P.O.

This was a progression from the Cape Colony Ocean Post Office that commenced in 1893 and the Union of South Africa Ocean Post Office that commenced in 1910. It was similar to the Sea Post sorting service on transatlantic ships that had been successfully working for several years. The objective was to speed up the delivery of mails and reduce the huge workload resulting from the arrival of the mail ships at Southampton and Cape Town. On arrival, the presorted mail would be immediately dispatched to the various post offices throughout the country for delivery.

Part of the other duties performed by the Sea Post Office officials, was the recording and stamping of registered mail. From this process, along with mail posted on board by passengers and crew, covers carried on anyone of the nine mail ships can be identified. The cancellers bore an index number from 1 to 12, although only seven have been identified as actually being used.

Initially it was thought that each ship was allocated a numbered canceller. However, through study, Philip Cattell, in his book *British Maritime Postal History, Volume 3, The Union Castle Ocean Post Offices*, convincingly argues the cancellers were more likely allocated to the Post Office teams that sailed on the ships. As the ships did not terminate in Cape Town and continued up the coast to Durban, the teams would transfer at Cape Town to the next available sailing for Southampton, rather than waiting 18 days until their southbound ship returned from Durban. This would account for the same index number being used on several different ships which correlates with sailing schedules at that time.

This article is not the place to explore the Ocean Post Office or the Sea Post Office in detail, but is written merely to wet the appetite of postal historians who have yet to delve into this field.

A photocopy of a registered cover (Fig. 1), addressed to the

Reverend H.E. Jennings of St. Clements Parsonage, London, was recently sent to me by Roland Jacques. Mr. Jacques is a member of the Union-Castle Postcard Study Circle and compiler of the *Union-Castle Postcard Index*. Unfortunately the reproduction of the weak strikes is not very clear.

The cover is franked with an Admiral 5d, cancelled by a Salisbury, Rhodesia double circle, dated "11.Nov.13" and bears a pink Salisbury, Southern Rhodesia registration label. On the reverse are two further Salisbury double circle's, an "OCEAN POST OFFICE" cancellation with "South Africa" and the date "15.NOV.13" in the center and an index number "10" in the bottom center of the double circle (Fig. 2). An oval London registration mark indicates arrival on December 2, 1913. The canceller used by the Sea Post Office officials when verifying registered mails was set at the date of sailing.

Figure 1. Front/reverse of registered Southern Rhodesia cover to London.

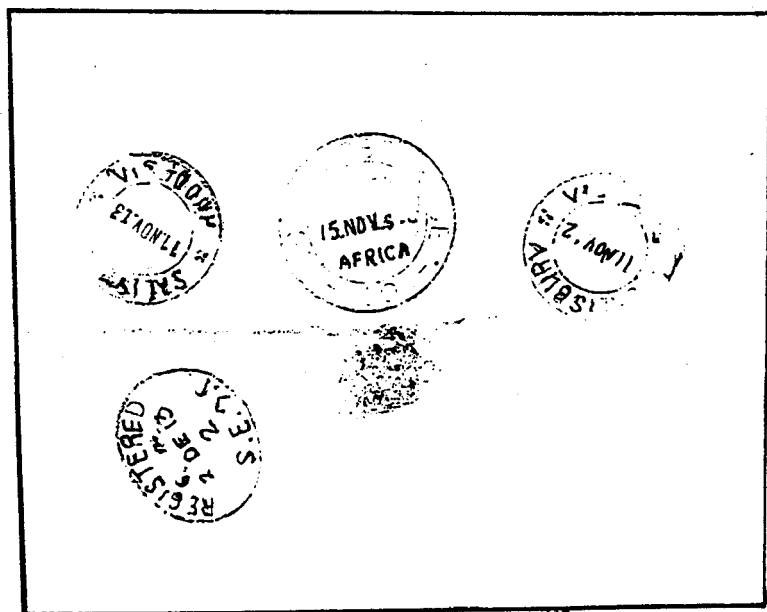
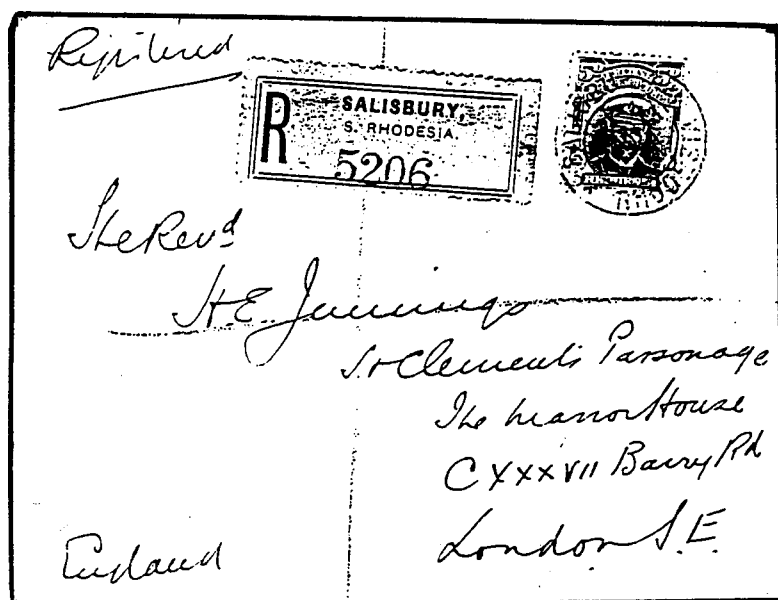


Figure 2. Tracing of double circle Sea Post Office cancel.



has only been confirmed to have been used aboard the Walmer Castle when northbound from Cape Town, November 15, 1913 to December 2, 1913. The two known examples are: a postcard written shortly after sailing and a registered letter from Salisbury, Southern Rhodesia datestamped on

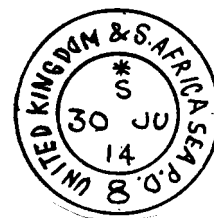
arrival on board. This cancel is probably a replacement for type 6-8, due to loss or damage.

From the dates indicated in Figure 1, we can identify the ship that carried this mail as the "Walmer Castle", which sailed from Cape Town on November 15th and arrived in Southampton on December 2nd. The cover's Ocean Post cancel is most interesting in that there is only one other

recorded and illustrated in Cattell's earlier mentioned work's supplement of 1985. It too, emanated from the same voyage and was used on a passenger's postcard. It is believed that the regular cancel had been lost or damaged and this one had been taken from stores as an emergency replacement. (Figure 3 shows an example of a normal U.K. & S.A. Sea Post Office cancel.)

The cancel in Figure 3 is the Type 6-8 cancel used from September 27, 1913 to August 3, 1914. The "S" indicates "South Bound", "N" indicating "North Bound". This cancel was used on seven ships. It is believed that the cancel was issued to the Post Office

Figure 3. Normal Sea Post Office cancel.



Team rather than a particular ship. This appears to be the case with Cape Colony and Union of South Africa "Ocean Post" cancels. By itself, the U.K. & S.A. Sea Post Office cancel is rather hard to find. To locate a "Rhodesian" cover bearing such a cancel will be even more difficult. So, if anyone is lucky enough to find any cover bearing the emergency replacement cancel, they will have a scarce item in their possession.

References: "The U.K.-South Africa Sea Post Office 1913-14", by Bryan Hunt, *The Philatelic Journal of Great Britain*, Sep '74; *British Maritime Postal History Vol. 3 - The Union Castle Ocean Post Office*, Philip Cattell, Proud-Bailey Co., Ltd., Suppl. '85; "Reminiscences of the Ocean T.P.O." by K. J. Anstensen who was transferred to the Sea Post Office in September 1913.

Zulu Notes

Tony Davis, Editor

Zululand Violet Cancells: The Postmark Legitimacy Debate ... The Editor, Canada

The use of violet ink for Zululand postmarks and for official handstamps for fiscal purposes has led to debate over the legitimacy of some of the territory's cancellations..

Any study of the postmarks of Zululand reveals that a significant number of cancellations are to be found with violet or purple ink. In this regard, Africa provides philately with a goodly number of postmarks in other than black ink. This obviously creates more of a challenge for postal historians.

In many far-flung parts of the British Empire, postmasters, or part-time postal agents, used whatever resources they had at hand to do their job. Violet ink was commonly used with rubber handstamps for financial purposes. Thus, when the collecting of Zululand stamps began overseas, at the turn of the century, a good number of postmarks were ignored in the case of used stamp values with violet strikes. The real proving ground is, of course covers; but there never has been a fair number of these to be found. Even today most surviving covers can be found in several major collections. A study of Zululand postal history offered at auction over the past 30 thirty years reveals that it is mostly the same covers that keep "making the rounds".

As a result of early research, particularly by Robson Lowe in the 1950s, collectors learned that used Zululand stamps with violet ink did represent actual post offices and agencies in the territory during the 1888-1898 period. The majority of these "legitimate" postmarks (there may still be the odd "missing link") have been recorded. Even then, some postmarks are not known on cover, but written evidence proves their validity.

There are some cancellations which come up from time to time in sale catalogs, or even in major exhibitions, which purport to be legitimate postal cancellations. However, many of these are official business handstamps. We must recall that many postal officials in Zululand were either civil servants who undertook more than just postal duties, or store owners who functioned as postal agents by contract arrangement with postal authorities.

A survey of Zululand government records reveals a good number of these non-postal postmarks. Many such strikes were used for financial purposes - for licences, deeds and treasury records, while others were used by Resident Magistrates and Resident Commissioners for administrative purposes.

A "hint" of a violet handstamp tantalizes the collector, especially if the cancellations appear to be as yet unrecorded strikes. Early collectors removed stamps from documents, telegraph forms and the like, providing present day collectors with only a glimpse of the entire strike and its proper usage. Detailed below, then, are a number of these official handstamps, together with some examples.

RESIDENT MAGISTRATE NKANDHLA - date seen 1893
RESIDENT MAGISTRATE'S OFFICE NKANDHLA DISTRICT - date seen 1893

MAGISTRATE'S OFFICE NKANDHLA ZULULAND - The one recorded example (Fig. 1) carries a 1912 date on a telegraph form. The correct usage would be Nkandhla, Natal, so this strike may be a legitimate Zululand official strike from the 1888-1898 period: words "Magistrate's Office" and Nkandhla Zululand" in three ring oval, two crosses, daymonth-year date in center.

Figure 1. Handstamp used at Nkandhla, Zululand by Magistrate's Office.



RESIDENT MAGISTRATE ENTONJANENI - Consists of a large three ring oval (Fig. 2) with "Resident Magistrate Entonjaneni", two six-pointed stars, scroll artwork above, and below a day-month-year date in center. It is identical to Resident Magistrate Nondweni violet postmark; date seen 1892.

Figure 2. Enlarged Resident Magistrate, Entonjaneni cancel example.



RESIDENT MAGISTRATE OFFICE NQUTU ZULULAND - date seen 1897

ASSISTANT RESIDENT MAGISTRATE UMLALAZI - date seen 1897

RESIDENT COMMISSIONERS OFFICE ESHOWE ZULULAND - date seen 1897

RESIDENT COMMISSIONERS OFFICE ZULULAND - date seen 1891

DEPUTY COMMISSIONER AMATONGALAND - date seen 1897

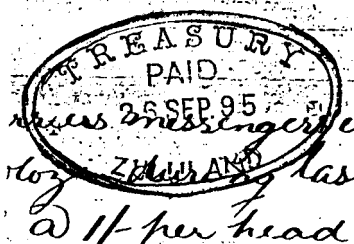
TREASURY ZULULAND - 2 types known. The first is a circular (Fig. 3) one ring violet with "Treasury" and "Zululand" and day-month-year in center.

Figure 3. Circular type.



The second type consists of a large oval type (Fig. 4) with "Treasury" and "Zululand", day-month-year in center, two iron crosses. Some strikes have "Paid" included; dates seen 1895 and 1897.

Figure 4. Large oval type.

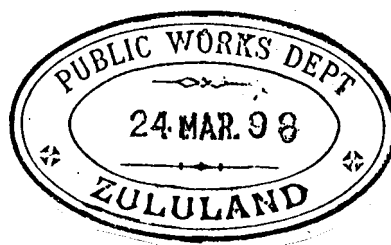
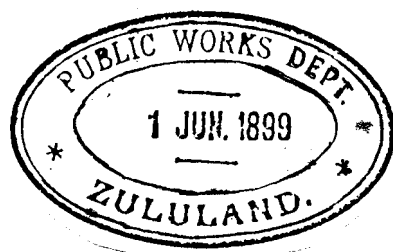


ZULULAND POLICE - date seen 1897

MINES DEPARTMENT ZULULAND - date seen 1897

PUBLIC WORKS DEPARTMENT ZULULAND - large 3 ring oval handstamp in two slightly differing formats (Fig 5.) with "Public Works Department" and "Zululand" and either iron crosses (right) or six-point stars (left). There are straight lines or scroll work which surround the day-month-year date in the center. Dates seen were 1898 and 1899.

Figure 5. Oval handstamp varieties for Public Works Department.



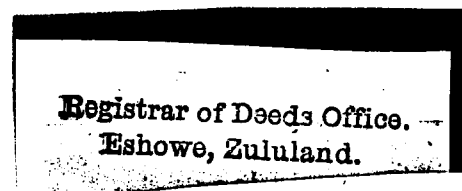
D. A. A. G. OFFICE, NATAL & ZULULAND - date seen 1889

HEADQUARTERS OFFICE, NATAL & ZULULAND - date seen 1896

REGISTRY OF DEEDS ZULULAND - large single circle with "Registry of Deeds" and "Zululand"; date seen 1891; also

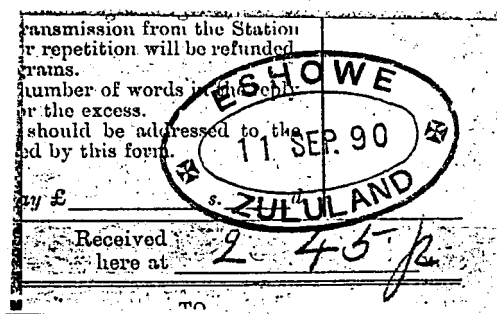
two line (Fig. 6) "Registrar of Deeds Office Eshowe Zululand".

Figure 6. Example of Zululand Registry of Deeds cancel.



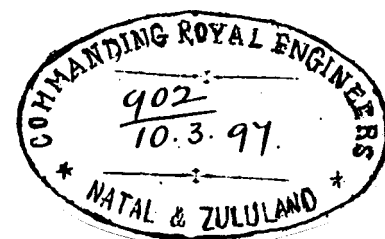
ESHOWE ZULULAND - large oval violet strike (Fig. 7) with the words "Eshowe" and "Zululand" and two iron crosses, day-month-year date in the center; an official handstamp utilized on many government documents: date seen 1890.

Figure 7. Example of Eshowe, Zululand large oval strike.



COMMANDING ROYAL ENGINEERS, NATAL & ZULULAND - large 1 ring oval (Fig. 8) with words "Commanding Royal Engineers" and "Natal & Zululand", 2 six-pointed stars, 2 lines in center; on recorded specimen date is written in by hand; manuscript date 1897.

Figure 8. Example of the large ring oval cancel of the Commanding Royal Engineers.



RESIDENT MAGISTRATE, MAPUTA - One cover is known to exist bearing a 3-ring large circular handstamp with

the words "Resident Magistrate" and "Maputa" (in northern Zululand) with day-month-year date in center and 2 iron crosses (Fig. 9).

Figure 9. Large 3-ring handstamp for Resident Magistrate, Maputa



However, there is no evidence to confirm its postal validity.

My opinion is that this cancellation is an official one and not for postal purposes, although it has been used in that role. This in no way detracts from the cover's rarity. The strike is somewhat similar in format to the

large violet Nkandhla postmark.

Editor's Note: The contents of this column will be contributing to the major work on Zululand philately. The book will be made available through the Society's Publication Program. Readers are urged to submit comments, copies of material, etc., to Tony Davis, 41 Karen St., Thornhill, Ontario, Canada L4J 5L5

Readers are invited to submit entries for "Zulu Notes" by sending them direct to Tony also. Perhaps an interesting cover or two.

Rocky Mountain Philatelic Library

The RMPL has more than 1800 volumes, runs of 75 philatelic periodicals, catalogs from 150 auction houses and a large collection of USPS publications. Located at 3055 S. Peoria St., Aurora, Colorado. Donations of materials and/or Western history literature welcomed by writing RMPL, CS27 Box 906, 8007 West Colfax Avenue, Lakewood, CO 80215.

PLEASE COMPLETE AND MAIL YOUR "BEST ARTICLE" BALLOT TODAY!!!

Society Affairs

Your Society to hold regular elections - Please Read!

PSGSA has begun the process of applying for non-profit, tax exempt status. Filings with the State of California and the Federal Government are being handled by members Will Ross and Wallace Craig respectively.

As covered in revenue and tax codes, certain operational requirements must be met to assure achievement of non-profit status. One of the key requirements is to hold regularly scheduled elections for the Board of Directors positions. The Society's holding of elections every two years will assure compliance with this requirement.

Instructions regarding the candidate selection process, requirements to appear on the ballot, election scheduling, etc., will be included with the 1996/97 membership dues mailing. When the details arrive with the annual billing, please take a few moments and read them. The general plan is to hold elections in the Fall of this year and install the newly elected Board members early 1997. These officers will have the privilege of presiding over the Society's 10th Anniversary and sponsorship of **THE Celebration of British Africa Philately** at PACIFIC 97.

Recruiter's Report

Mark Milzman, V. P.

Greetings to my fellow PSGSA members. As the new "director" of membership recruitment, I have been asked to write a short column detailing plans and thoughts for growth in the upcoming year.

I suppose I probably could regale everyone with facts, figures, bottom lines, cost analysis, break-even points ... all those wonderful little vignettes that would send every reader scurrying forward to the next column "toot sweet". Well, I have not decided to do that. The reason is that I need all members to read my little column. Why? Because I NEED YOU! There, I've said it. I didn't get too emotional or carried away. I am just being honest.

Increasing membership is the God given responsibility of every organization's members and you, my friends, are now the chosen ones. I will devote my energies in recruiting new

members and will spearhead a drive with the aid of brochures, sample copies of *Forerunners*, entertaining recruitment letters and a mass mailing to the presidents of local stamp clubs world-wide in search for potential members.

What I need from you is for each and every one of you to take three minutes of quiet time (should you be so fortunate to have it), and think of at least ONE person you know who MIGHT be even PERIPHERALLY interested in membership. They need not even be philatelists. A friend of mine suggested sending a copy of *Forerunners* to a college history professor who had an interest in southern Africa. Voila! A new member. A DUES PAYING member.

Another vital cog in the machinery of growth ... If you are a member of a stamp club, perhaps a co-members would be interested. In fact, after the selling job you would do, I'm quite certain they would be interested. If you need Society brochures write to me and I will send them to you - or wherever you direct me - and I will refund your postage costs.

Any other ideas are gratefully accepted and will be acknowledged in *Forerunners*. Write to me and I will answer! (Even just to say "hello").

Thought is being given to recruitment schemes whereby members would receive reduced or possibly even free membership for bringing in "new blood". I guarantee all of you that you will benefit from any future scheme if you start to bring in members NOW. We will "grandfather-in" all recruiting benefits back to the first of this year. Hopefully, a workable program can be implemented by the next issue of the Journal.

New members will be encouraged from Canada, the UK, South Africa and other countries. Plans are underway to facilitate the acceptance of personal checks in rand, sterling and other foreign currencies, thereby making it easier for non-US members to join. We'll see how that possibility develops.

I suppose that I could drone on, but I have a feeling that you all get the message. We have 170+ members at this point in time. If each member makes the minimal effort that we are requesting, I see no reason why we shouldn't have 250+ members by this time next year. Your Society will grow, the library will grow, services will expand - perhaps the establishment of circuits (my own little wish) - and *Forerunners*.

The Journal will get bigger and better (if that could be possible!). Each and every one of us has the good fortune to be a member of one of the finest philatelic societies on the planet. A small helping hand from the many will give us a mighty lift. Many thanks for your time. I'll see you next issue.

Comments, questions, suggestions, etc., regarding what appears in this column are most welcome. Please write me, Marc Milzman, at P.O. Box 7899, Culver City, CA 90233.

* * *

United Nations Philatelic Museum

Opened in 1962, the Museum is located in the Palais des Nations' conference center wing. It houses a collection covering everything the U.N. Postal Administration has issued, including items from specialized U.N. agencies and the forerunner League of nations.

Among the best in the world is the Museum's collection of Swiss official service stamps issued for the League and other specialized agencies based in Geneva. Holdings include full specimen panes, die proofs and color separations of UNPA issues. Hours: 9 a.m.-12 noon and 2 p.m. to 4:30 p.m. weekdays.

Facts, Figures & Other Matters

William C. Brooks VI, Director

Yes, as Marc indicates above, the Society is at its highest membership level since being founded in 1987 - 170. There has been no year where we have not increased membership since our founding. That says something about perceived benefits. Anyway, I thought it might be interesting to revisit some up-to-date membership profile data.

Membership by Country

| | | |
|-----------------|-----|---|
| United States | 112 | New Zealand and Switzerland - 2 each |
| South Africa | 20 | 1 each for Australia, Botswana, China, Hong Kong, Japan, Namibia, Norway and Zimbabwe |
| United Kingdom | 10 | Total number of countries with members - 16 |
| Canada | 9 | U.S. members - 67% All others - 33% |
| Germany | 4 | Dealer members - 15% |
| The Netherlands | 3 | U.S. individual states with members - 31 |

Dealer Members

| | | |
|----------------|---|---|
| United States | 9 | Individual states with higher membership: |
| South Africa | 8 | California - 27, New York - 7, Texas - 6, and Florida/Ohio/Pennsylvania - 5 each. |
| United Kingdom | 6 | * largest geographic contingent |
| Canada | 2 | |
| Switzerland | 1 | |

From The Archives

Tim Bartshe, Director

The archives have been enriched once again by photocopies as well as by original works. We have acquired a photocopy of the *Stamps and Postal History of Swaziland and of the New Republic* by Dr. J.H. Harvey Pirie. Up until fellow member Dr. Gerrit Jonker's publication of his book (translation available) and the continuing articles in the *Transvaal Philatelist*; this was THE work on the New Republic. To my knowledge, this is still the reference for Swaziland, dealing with good renditions of postmark tracings and the stamps themselves. It is very well illustrated and a must for the Swaziland collector. T.M. Mullins' Occasional Paper No. 3 published by the Postmark and Postal History Society of Southern Africa is the definitive work on *The Mount Currie Express The Stamp of East Griqualand*. This monograph is 34 pages containing all of the previously published information on this stamp along with numerous examples, including a complete sheet. For those not familiar with this interesting local, it makes for

fascinating reading and illuminates an early period of mail delivery in a remote part of the northeastern Cape. Although not as well known as the Bakker Express labels, this stamp is most certainly more scarce and tells an interesting story.

Fellow member L. Jacobson published *The Revenue and Other Non-Postal Stamps of South West Africa 1900-1978*. This work was published by Glass Slipper, P. O. Box 62, York, England, Y01 1YL and is still available from them. This small format booklet is 56 pages in length and deals with essays, revenues, penalty, cigarette tax, entertainment tax, tribal tax stamps, railway parcel stamps along with others. Prices are listed in pounds sterling as of 1989 which serves as a good guide for value and scarcity. If you collect SWA, the material this book deals with is an ideal supplement to expand upon. A recent note from Mr. Jacobson calls for any help on new material found or new varieties. Supporting a fellow member by purchasing his work is always appreciated.

Speaking of fellow members, W.A. Page published his own title in 1989 dealing with *The Mobile Post Offices of South Africa: The Postmarks, Registration Marks and Cachets, 1937-1983*. This original 54-page copy deals in detail with all 25 MPO's and a brief history on this service. It has examples of each postmark and registration label along with examples of covers.

Rounding out the additions to our library and archive holdings are three works, two original copies, dealing with Natal. The first is a photocopy of J.B. Moens' *Les Timbres de Natal*, published in Brussels in 1883. This 60-page treatise, unfortunately, is in French, but is the original work on the listings of the postage stamps of Natal and a valuable reference. *The P.O.A. Cancellations of Natal* by B.A. Kantey: The first 21 pages deal with the lists of the various agencies and the commissions and errors of same. The last 10 pages contain a detailed listing of the 120+ POAs known to the author. As there is no specific journal for Natal, it is unknown whether corrections have been made since originally published in 1982.

Presently the definitive work for Natal POAs is *The Postal Markings of Natal* by Hart, Kantey and Leon. This work is the most complete listing at present (except for Putzel's Encyclopaedia of postmarks which is not yet finished) for the postal markings of Natal. Complete with numerous illustrations and a listing of all the known post offices and their postmark types, this work is invaluable for the collector of Natal postal history.

If you have any questions or comments, please write to me at 13955 West 30th, Golden, CO 80401 USA.

The 1995 Mail Bid Auction Report

Tim Bartshe, Auction Manager

Last year's event was our largest offering yet with 1040 lots. Table 1 show the results by category. Total prices realized came to \$6,609 for 352 lots sold or 34% of the total offered. I am certain that the 18 vendors appreciated the results when all was said and done. There were 44 bidders all of whom achieved some success in their bidding efforts.

Table 1. Bidding statistics by general lot category.

| TYPE | # LOTS | SOLD | % SOLD | TOT EST | EST SOLD | | % EST |
|----------------|--------|------|--------|-------------|------------|------------|-------|
| CINDERELLA | 10 | 3 | 30 | \$ 70.00 | \$ 20.00 | \$ 20.00 | 100% |
| LITERATURE | 16 | 10 | 63 | \$ 178.00 | \$ 84.00 | \$ 101.00 | 120% |
| MARITIME | 14 | 7 | 50 | \$ 64.00 | \$ 36.00 | \$ 35.00 | 97 |
| POSTAL HISTORY | 545 | 170 | 31% | \$ 4,454.00 | \$1,418.00 | \$1,723.00 | 122% |
| PR/CINDERELLA | 2 | 2 | 100 | \$ 15.00 | \$ 15.00 | \$ 16.00 | 107% |
| PROOF | 1 | 1 | 100 | \$ 30.00 | \$ 30.00 | \$ 30.00 | 100 |
| REVENUE | 44 | 17 | 39% | \$ 579.00 | \$ 247.00 | \$ 251.00 | 102% |
| STAMPS | 365 | 133 | 36% | \$40,176.50 | \$3,993.50 | \$3,996.50 | 100 |
| SPECIMENS | 43 | 9 | 21% | \$ 1,182.00 | \$ 487.00 | \$ 437.00 | 90% |
| TOTALS | | 352 | 34% | 46,748.50 | | \$,60950 | |

The prices realized for Auction #7 (Table 2) are listed on the following pages.

Material is now being received at a rapid rate for Auction #8. Review the submission guidelines appearing in the previous journal issue before forwarding any material. Thanks, Tim.

Table 2. Prices realized for the 1995 Mail Bid Auction.

| LOT # | WIN BID | LOT # | WIN BID | LOT # | WIN BID | LOT # | WIN BID | LOT # | WIN BID |
|-------|-----------|-------|-------------|-------|-----------|-------|-----------|-------|----------|
| 2 | \$ 5.00 | 190 | \$ 20.00 | 341 | \$ 9.00 | 487 | \$ 15.00 | 656 | \$ 5.00 |
| 6 | \$ 20.00 | 191 | \$ 30.00 | 345 | \$ 75.00 | | \$ 6.00 | 657 | \$ 6.00 |
| 8 | \$ 40.00 | 193 | \$ 70.00 | 347 | \$ 26.00 | 490 | \$ 5.00 | 659 | \$ 40.00 |
| 12 | \$ 25.00 | 194 | \$ 1,250.00 | 348 | \$ 25.00 | 491 | \$ 7.00 | 660 | \$ 40.00 |
| 20 | \$ 16.00 | 195 | \$ 56.00 | 350 | \$ 5.00 | 493 | \$ 8.00 | 661 | \$ 12.00 |
| 22 | \$ 20.00 | 198 | \$ 2.00 | 351 | \$ 5.00 | 494 | \$ 4.00 | 662 | \$ 6.00 |
| 25 | \$ 5.00 | 202 | \$ 3.00 | 352 | \$ 4.00 | 497 | \$ 9.00 | 663 | \$ 3.00 |
| 36 | \$ 6.00 | 204 | \$ 55.00 | 353 | \$ 6.00 | 500 | \$ 6.00 | 664 | \$ 3.00 |
| 38 | \$ 7.00 | 210 | \$ 5.00 | 357 | \$ 11.00 | 505 | \$ 2.00 | 667 | \$ 2.00 |
| 45 | \$ 3.00 | 211 | \$ 32.00 | 359 | \$ 15.00 | 508 | \$ 5.00 | 669 | \$ 7.00 |
| 50 | \$ 3.00 | 212 | \$ 31.00 | 363 | \$ 3.00 | 519 | \$ 200.00 | 670 | \$ 21.00 |
| 65 | \$ 3.00 | 223 | \$ 35.00 | 364 | \$ 15.00 | 520 | \$ 27.00 | 673 | \$ 6.00 |
| 74 | \$ 3.00 | 224 | \$ 25.00 | 367 | \$ 5.00 | 526 | \$ 100.00 | 675 | \$ 30.00 |
| 76 | \$ 3.00 | 225 | \$ 7.00 | 374 | \$ 25.00 | 532 | \$ 250.00 | 676 | \$ 6.00 |
| 77 | \$ 3.00 | 226 | \$ 2.00 | 382 | \$ 40.00 | 536 | \$ 300.00 | 682 | \$ 60.00 |
| 86 | \$ 3.00 | 227 | \$ 3.00 | 390 | \$ 10.00 | 537 | \$ 125.00 | 683 | \$ 11.00 |
| 94 | \$ 3.00 | 228 | \$ 5.00 | 406 | \$ 10.00 | 538 | \$ 310.00 | 684 | \$ 20.00 |
| 95 | \$ 4.00 | 235 | \$ 4.00 | 418 | \$ 4.00 | 546 | \$ 5.00 | 685 | \$ 12.00 |
| 97 | \$ 3.00 | 241 | \$ 2.00 | 419 | \$ 9.00 | 547 | \$ 9.00 | 686 | \$ 12.00 |
| 111 | \$ 3.00 | 249 | \$ 2.00 | 420 | \$ 8.00 | 548 | \$ 9.00 | N | \$ 8.00 |
| 113 | \$ 3.00 | 267 | \$ 17.00 | 424 | \$ 6.00 | 549 | \$ 8.00 | 702 | \$ 8.00 |
| 116 | \$ 3.00 | 270 | \$ 2.00 | 432 | \$ 4.00 | 553 | \$ 8.00 | 708 | \$ 12.00 |
| 126 | \$ 4.00 | 272 | \$ 3.00 | 435 | \$ 7.00 | 556 | \$ 3.00 | 711 | \$ 10.00 |
| 146 | \$ 2.00 | 273 | \$ 4.00 | 436 | \$ 6.00 | 558 | \$ 8.00 | 721 | \$ 10.00 |
| 151 | \$ 2.00 | 274 | \$ 4.00 | 437 | \$ 2.00 | 594 | \$ 7.00 | 724 | \$ 40.00 |
| 152 | \$ 2.00 | 287 | \$ 2.00 | 438 | \$ 2.00 | 596 | \$ 11.00 | 725 | \$ 35.00 |
| 153 | \$ 5.00 | 290 | \$ 7.00 | 441 | \$ 10.00 | 598 | \$ 45.00 | 726 | \$ 13.00 |
| 154 | \$ 2.00 | 291 | \$ 8.00 | 442 | \$ 160.00 | 599 | \$ 3.00 | 727 | \$ 12.00 |
| 155 | \$ 3.00 | 292 | \$ 7.00 | 454 | \$ 9.00 | 600 | \$ 9.00 | 729 | \$ 4.00 |
| 156 | \$ 3.00 | 293 | \$ 16.00 | 455 | \$ 4.00 | 601 | \$ 3.00 | 730 | \$ 5.00 |
| 157 | \$ 10.00 | 294 | \$ 32.00 | 458 | \$ 8.00 | 602 | \$ 3.00 | 731 | \$ 6.00 |
| 158 | \$ 16.00 | 295 | \$ 30.00 | 459 | \$ 10.00 | 603 | \$ 4.00 | 735 | \$ 5.00 |
| 159 | \$ 2.00 | 296 | \$ 5.00 | 460 | \$ 4.00 | 604 | \$ 2.00 | 736 | \$ 2.00 |
| 164 | \$ 6.00 | 297 | \$ 11.00 | 463 | \$ 13.00 | 605 | \$ 2.00 | 737 | \$ 2.00 |
| 165 | \$ 25.00 | 298 | \$ 20.00 | 464 | \$ 11.00 | 606 | \$ 1.00 | 738 | \$ 5.00 |
| 166 | \$ 40.00 | 299 | \$ 110.00 | 467 | \$ 6.00 | 609 | \$ 3.00 | 739 | \$ 6.00 |
| 167 | \$ 110.00 | 300 | \$ 20.00 | 470 | \$ 7.00 | 625 | \$ 2.00 | 743 | \$ 2.00 |
| 168 | \$ 7.00 | 302 | \$ 3.00 | 471 | \$ 6.00 | 629 | \$ 10.00 | 744 | \$ 5.00 |
| 171 | \$ 2.00 | 303 | \$ 3.00 | 472 | \$ 11.00 | 632 | \$ 5.00 | 745 | \$ 4.00 |
| 172 | \$ 5.00 | 325 | \$ 5.00 | 473 | \$ 11.00 | 638 | \$ 3.00 | 746 | \$ 22.00 |
| 176 | \$ 45.00 | 326 | \$ 5.00 | 475 | \$ 10.00 | 639 | \$ 7.00 | 748 | \$ 3.00 |
| 177 | \$ 25.00 | 332 | \$ 30.00 | 476 | \$ 10.00 | 640 | \$ 5.00 | 749 | \$ 3.00 |
| 179 | \$ 2.00 | 334 | \$ 25.00 | 478 | \$ 8.00 | 641 | \$ 4.00 | 751 | \$ 5.00 |
| 180 | \$ 22.00 | 335 | \$ 25.00 | 480 | \$ 12.00 | 642 | \$ 8.00 | 753 | \$ 40.00 |
| 182 | \$ 20.00 | 336 | \$ 13.00 | 481 | \$ 6.00 | 643 | \$ 6.00 | 763 | \$ 10.00 |
| 186 | \$ 28.00 | 337 | \$ 3.00 | 484 | \$ 6.00 | 649 | \$ 3.00 | 768 | \$ 10.00 |
| 187 | \$ 2.00 | 339 | \$ 4.00 | 485 | \$ 2.00 | 654 | \$ 5.00 | 771 | \$ 8.00 |
| 189 | \$ 23.00 | 340 | \$ 21.00 | 486 | \$ 2.00 | 655 | \$ 5.00 | 772 | \$ 4.00 |

Table 2 *cont'd* - Prices realized for the 1995 Mail Bid Auction.

| LOT # | WIN BID | LOT # | WIN BID | LOT # | WIN BID | LOT # | WIN BID | LOT # | WIN BID |
|-------|----------|-------|----------|-------|-------------|----------|----------|-------|----------|
| 783 | \$ 40.00 | 864 | \$ 6.00 | 900 | 7.00 | 950 | \$ 5.00 | 986 | \$ 18.00 |
| 785 | \$ 2.00 | 867 | \$ 4.00 | 901 | \$ 7.00 | 951 | \$ 10.00 | 987 | \$ 18.00 |
| 793 | \$ 1.00 | 868 | \$ 4.00 | 903 | \$ 8.00 | 954 | \$ 3.00 | | \$ 6.00 |
| 799 | \$ 2.50 | 869 | \$ 8.00 | | | | \$ 3.00 | 990 | \$ 10.00 |
| 801 | 25.00 | 870 | \$ 2.00 | 907 | 2.00 | 956 | \$ 3.00 | 991 | \$ 6.00 |
| 810 | \$ 2.00 | 871 | \$ 2.00 | 909 | \$ 5.00 | 957 | \$ 2.00 | 992 | \$ 7.00 |
| 813 | \$ 7.00 | 873 | 2.00 | 913 | \$ 3.00 | 960 | \$ 15.00 | 993 | \$ 3.00 |
| 814 | \$ 5.00 | 875 | \$ 10.00 | 919 | \$ 3.00 | 962 | \$ 2.00 | 994 | \$ 6.00 |
| 815 | \$ 25.00 | 877 | 3.00 | 922 | 5.00 | 970 2.00 | \$ 6.00 | 996 | \$ 7.00 |
| 825 | \$ 9.00 | 878 | 4.00 | 923 | 971 3.00 | 972 7. | \$ 5.00 | 997 | \$ 6.00 |
| 827 | \$ 9.00 | 879 | \$ 20.00 | 925 | 00 974 5.00 | 975 | \$ 40.00 | 998 | \$ 3.00 |
| 833 | \$ 7.00 | 882 | \$ 5.00 | 929 | | | \$ 4.00 | 999 | \$ 5.00 |
| 834 | \$ 5.00 | 884 | \$ 3.00 | 935 | | | \$ 16.00 | 1006 | \$ 5.00 |
| 835 | \$ 3.00 | 885 | \$ 2.00 | 938 | 2.00 | 976 | \$ 10.00 | 1008 | \$ 10.00 |
| 837 | \$ 2.00 | 886 | 3.00 | 939 | 3.00 | 977 | \$ 7.00 | 1011 | \$ 5.00 |
| 838 | \$ 2.00 | 887 | 3.00 | 941 | 5.00 | 978 | \$ 6.00 | 1013 | \$ 4.00 |
| 849 | \$ 5.00 | 8 | 10.00 | 945 | \$ 2.00 | 979 | \$ 4.00 | 1014 | \$ 30.00 |
| 859 | \$ 6.00 | 889 | 19.00 | 946 | \$ 2.00 | 980 | \$ 5.00 | | |
| 860 | \$ 2.00 | 890 | \$ 7.00 | 948 | \$ 2.00 | 981 | | 1015 | \$ 50.00 |
| 861 | \$ 3.00 | 899 | \$ 3.00 | 949 | \$ 4. | 984 | \$ 20.00 | 1017 | \$ 8.00 |

00

\$ 18.00

Table 3. Bidding and sales statistics for the 1995 Mail Bid Auction by Country.

| | # LOTS | # SOLD | % SOLD | TOT EST | EST SOLD | | % T |
|----------------|--------|--------|--------|-------------|------------|------------|------|
| ANGLO BOER WAR | 23 | 6 | 26% | \$ 292.00 | \$ 126.00 | \$ 120.00 | 95 |
| ANTARCTICA | 133 | 24 | 18% | \$ 453.00 | \$ 81.00 | \$ 81.00 | 100% |
| BASUTOLAND | 8 | 4 | 50% | \$ 136.00 | \$ 23.00 | \$ 34.00 | 148% |
| BR CENT AFRICA | 3 | 3 | 100% | \$ 225.00 | \$ 225.00 | \$ 175.00 | 78% |
| BECHUANALAND | 67 | 28 | 42% | \$10,565.00 | \$1,831.00 | \$1,812.00 | 99% |
| BOPHUTHATWANA | 1 | 1 | 100% | 2.00 | \$ 2.00 | \$ 4.00 | 200% |
| BOTSWANA | 49 | 7 | 14% | \$ 148.00 | \$ 27.00 | \$ 34.00 | 126% |
| CISKEI | 5 | 1 | 20% | \$ 18.00 | \$ 2.00 | \$ 2.00 | 100% |
| COGH | 51 | 22 | 43% | \$ 395.00 | \$ 271.00 | \$ 403.00 | 149% |
| GRIQUALAND | 2 | 1 | 50% | \$ 18.00 | \$ 8.00 | \$ 9.00 | 113% |
| GER SWA | 49 | 15 | 31% | \$ 1,389.00 | \$ 259.00 | \$ 270.00 | 104% |
| LESOTHO | 57 | 12 | 21% | \$ 590.00 | \$ 168.00 | \$ 228.00 | 136% |
| MALAWI | 1 | - | 0% | \$ 10.00 | \$ 10.00 | \$ - | 0% |
| NATAL | 70 | 31 | 44% | \$ 759.00 | \$ 373.00 | \$ 423.00 | 113% |
| NEW REPUBLIC | 26 | 6 | 23% | \$ 2,060.00 | \$1,092.00 | \$1,112.00 | 102% |
| N RHODESIA | 4 | 4 | 100% | \$ 27.00 | \$ 27.00 | \$ 31.00 | 115% |
| OVS | 46 | 4 | 9% | \$25,038.00 | \$ 24.00 | \$ 26.00 | 108% |
| RHODESIA | 31 | 12 | 39% | \$ 554.00 | \$ 78.00 | \$ 88.00 | 113% |
| RHODESIA/NYASA | 2 | - | 0% | \$ 40.00 | 40.00 | \$ - | 0% |
| REP S AFRICA | 36 | 19 | 53% | \$ 284.00 | \$ 164.00 | \$ 176.00 | 107% |
| S RHODESIA | 23 | 11 | 48% | \$ 326.00 | \$ 167.00 | \$ 187.00 | 112% |
| SWA | 196 | 61 | 31% | \$ 1,754.50 | \$ 544.50 | \$ 531.50 | 98% |
| SWAZILAND | 13 | 7 | 54% | \$ 289.00 | \$ 33.00 | \$ 47.00 | 142% |
| TRANSKEI | 2 | - | 0% | \$ 8.00 | \$ 8.00 | \$ - | 0% |
| UNION S AFRICA | 100 | 52 | 52% | \$ 742.00 | \$ 348.00 | \$ 359.00 | 103% |
| ZAR | 37 | 17 | 46% | \$ 526.00 | \$ 366.00 | \$ 339.00 | 93% |
| ZIMBABWE | 1 | 1 | 100% | \$ 30.00 | \$ 30.00 | \$ 45.00 | 150% |
| ZULULAND | 4 | 3 | 75% | \$ 70.00 | \$ 67.00 | \$ 67.00 | 100% |
| TOTALS | 1,040 | 352 | 34% | \$46,748.50 | - | \$6,609.50 | |

| | | | |
|------|------|----------|-------|
| 1018 | 1019 | \$ 6.00 | 14.00 |
| 1022 | | \$ 21.00 | |
| 1023 | | \$ 15.00 | |
| 1024 | | \$ 15.00 | |
| 1027 | | \$ 3.00 | |
| 1033 | | \$ 3.00 | |
| 1034 | | \$ 75.00 | |
| 1035 | | \$ 70.00 | |
| 1036 | | \$ 45.00 | |
| 1037 | | \$ 12.00 | |
| 1038 | | \$ 5.00 | |
| 1040 | | \$ 50.00 | |

Member Sought For Treasurer

Acting Treasurer Hugh McMakin has requested to step down. There is now an active effort to recruit a permanent replacement, spearheaded by our President, Guy Dillaway. The primary qualification to be considered for Treasurer is to be a member in good standing.

The Treasurer's primary role and responsibilities include:

- voting member of the Society Board
- annual membership billing
- maintaining a general ledger of accounts
- annual financial statement and balance sheet
- reporting as required to maintain non-profit status
- policy/procedures recommendations to the Board
- establishing an annual budget
- monitoring of expenditures and revenues
- instituting necessary accounting procedures

Financial reports for the past three fiscal years are available for review by those interested in the position.

Whether you have had prior experience as a treasurer or not, if you have the interest and energy in serving the Society, please contact Guy by writing him at P.O. Box 181, Weston, MA 02193.

The present Board members can be counted on to provide assistance to the new Treasurer to assure a smooth transition. If you consider the position, it is a team that you will be joining, in other words.

Society Meetings

Update: THE Celebration of British Africa Philately Convention at PACIFIC 97 (sponsored by PSGSA as part of its 10th Anniversary Year activities). The official Celebration Convention period during PACIFIC 97 will be 29 May - 3 June. . . "Super Booth" Coordinator, Bill Wallace, reports that the number of volunteers for the booth's staffing is steadily growing. Volunteer composition includes individual collectors, official representatives from a number of specialty groups, dealers and firms, hailing from several countries. If you are only thinking about attending PACIFIC 97, please send a note to Booth Coordinator, Bill Wallace, P.O. Box 16381, San Francisco, CA 94116 USA. . . Individual programs sponsored by specialty groups *tentatively* include PSGSA, Orange Free State and Transvaal Study Circles. We expect a couple more to be added to the master calendar... So far PSGSA appears to be the only British Africa specialty group which is taking advantage of having a one-frame

Society exhibit on display during PACIFIC 97... A number of excellent British Africa exhibit applications have been submitted to PACIFIC 97.

STaMpsHOW 96 - August 22-25 - Orange County Convention Center, Orlando, Florida. APS annual. Champion of Champions exhibit and open competition. **PSGSA meeting and program.** Members in the Southeast should contact our Director of Programs, Bob Taylor, if you plan on attending STaMpsHOW - especially those who wish to offer a program. Write to Bob at 674 Chelsea Drive, Sanford, NC 27330 USA,

SESCAL 96 - early October - Wyndam Hotel at LAX, 6225 West Century Blvd., Los Angeles, California. SESCAL is an APS World Series of Philately exhibition event. **PSGSA Fall Regional meeting and program.** Word from our SESCAL Meeting Coordinator, Will Ross, indicates the new meeting time will fall on Saturday instead of Sunday. If you either plan on being at SESCAL and/or you would like to put on a short program, please write to Will at 6079 Fragnans Way, Woodland Hills, CA 91367 USA.

Northern California Joint Sessions with the Rhodesia Study Circle - Each January and July, interested collectors gather to "show-and-tell" what they are currently working on. Meetings are held in private homes of members in the area. This half-day affair closes with a traditional dinner meal at a local Thai or Chinese restaurant. If you are going to be in the greater San Francisco Bay area and would like to participate in this joint get-together and enjoy general philatelic comradery, write to: Bill Wallace, No. Calif. Meeting Coordinator, P.O. Box 16381, San Francisco, CA 94115 USA.

CAPEX 96 - June 8-16 - Toronto, Canada. This FIP World Philatelic Exhibition is fast approaching. PSGSA will be represented by members Alan Hanks and Tony Davis. A meeting for the Society is confirmed for June 10 at 2:00 p.m. The Rhodesian Study Circle meets the same day in the morning from 10:00-12:00 noon. Plans are underway for a luncheon get-together between the two meetings - any interest in joining us?

The organizers would still welcome guest speakers and would also like to know how many members are planning to be at CAPEX. If you are going to be there, please call or write as follows: Alan Hanks, 34 Seaton Drive, Aurora, Ontario, Canada L4G, (905) 727-6993 or Tony Davis, 41 Karen St., Thornhill, Ontario, Canada L4J 5L5, (416) 661-3660. Support PSGSA in this "foreign" land!

ILSAPEX 98 - October 20-25 - Johannesburg, South Africa. PSGSA meeting tentatively planned. Further information from U. S. Commissioners: West, Frederick Lawrence, Ph.D. 5016 So. Kenneth Pl., Tempe, AZ 85282 USA; or East, Colin Fraser, 502 Park Ave., New York, NY 10022.

International Representative/UK Sought

With the passing of the late Athol Murray, a significant loss was felt within the ranks of our dedicated Society International Representatives (IR). PSGSA is now actively seeking a replacement for the UK position. The IR is critical to successful membership recruitment through exposure of the Society's existence. This has been found to be true in analyzing membership data.

Briefly stated, the role and responsibilities of a Society IR are as follows:

- perform as an *ex-officio* member of the Society Board
- place Society information releases in the commercial philatelic press in his/her geographic area

*.. respond to inquiries received about PSGSA membership *

...acts as Society contact for local members

- coordinates Society regional meetings in his/her area

Information releases, brochures and applications are provided to each IR.

Individual members in good standing, who reside in the UK meet the criteria for consideration. If this is you and you desire to "spread the Society word" as our UK/IR, please send a letter of interest to: Bill Brooks, Editor, P.O. Box 2698, San Bernardino, CA 92406-2698 USA.

* * *

Study Group Updates

Members are encouraged to establish communications with others who have similar collecting interests. This feature is available in each issue for that purpose.

Any member wishing to form a specialty group should send a short entry for "...Updates" to the Editor. Once formed, a group can use this feature for recruitment purposes, information releases and the like.

Will Ross/USA is interested in forming a **Homelands Study Group**. If these former stamp-issuing entities are of interest to you, please write Will at 6079 Fragnans Way, Woodland Hills, CA 91367.

Michael Wigmore/South Africa desires to hear from readers interested in the idea of a **Natal Study Group**. This is a fascinating pre-Union state deserving of some long overdue attention. Write to Michael at P.O. Box 294, Montagu 6720, South Africa.

The **Cape of Good Hope** collecting area is yet to be represented by a specialty group. A sizable number of Society members collect this area. Perhaps it is time someone stepped forward - any takers?

Society Translation Service

Readers willing to provide translation assistance to members, please contact the Editor. The following members have graciously volunteered to provide translations.

- **Afrikaans & German to English** - Bob Hisey, 7337 Sparta Road, Sebring, FL 33872 USA
- **Afrikaans & German to English** - Dr. H.U. Bantz, Post Office Box 6913, Westgate 1734, South Africa

- **Dutch to English** Piet Mulder, Ruimzicht 300, 1068 CA Amsterdam, The Netherlands * *

Contributors for British African Anthology

As mentioned in the previous issue, the Mar/Jun '97 edition of *Forerunners* will serve as "THE Celebration Special Edition". Several of our sister specialty groups have indicated that they will be sponsoring an article for their areas of focus. We now need to hear from PSGSA members who will be submitting an article on countries within our scope. (Details furnished in the previous issue.)

The submission deadline for the *Special Edition* is September 15, 1996. All inquiries and entries are to be submitted directly to the Editor by that date.

Report of Joint Meeting With The RSC

A regional meeting of PSGSA and Rhodesian Study Circle members was held in San Francisco on Saturday, January 13, 1996. The turnout of members and guests set a record. Graham Stott was about the only PSGSA member within a hundred mile radius unable to attend.

Bill Brooks, noted columnist for *Global Stamp News* and, oh yes, founder of the Society, flew to San Francisco to attend. Bill displayed some covers of pre-Union South Africa plus a complete used set of the 1953 Coronation Omnibus issue.

Paul Buechner again amazed the group with his ongoing research of "dots and spots" on the Rhodesia penny double-heads.

Don Chapman came briefly from his sick bed, primarily to meet Bill Brooks (to see if all of the things said about Bill could be true).

Hans Paul Hager attended for the first time and brought a group of Cape V.O.C. revenues (embossed) on 17th and 18th century documents.

Hank Ibsen brought parts of his massive collection of pre-Union South Africa.

John McChesney-Young arrived somewhat late. It seems the

siren call of a local stamp show beckoned to him, knowing full well he would have no competition from the rest of us. John did bring a box full of stamps to show. Bitty, the resident cat in the house made an honest mistake - at least the stamps were used.

Peter Thy also was a first-timer at these semi-annual meetings. Although his main interest is Bechuanaland/Botswana, he brought an interesting group of Airgraphs, both original forms and microfilmed entires.

Bill Wallace showed Rhodesian plate proofs, revenues and specimens.

Guest Tim Buirgess, who specializes in Great Britain (GB) was the crafty one. He brought along an album of GB 1840-1901 and said he mixed in some Boer War usage cancels throughout the album so that people would have to go through page-by-page to find them. With penny blacks and £5 oranges flying, the stamps of interest were eventually located.

Guest David Aeschliman, who confessed an interest in Natal, brought an album of his true love, the United States 3c issue of 1851. This included essays, proofs and plating of the issue. U.S. stamps are heretical to this group and Paul attempted to persuade David to use his efforts on the double heads.

Everyone appeared to have had a good time. It would seem more and more and more collectors are using computers to create album pages.

Bill Brooks concluded the meeting with a talk of PSGSA plans for THE Celebration at PACIFIC 97 and ways in which members can help out.

Following the meeting we were forced to break with tradition. The local Thai restaurant was closed so we had to settle for Chinese. Hank can now add to his list of Chinese restaurants which do not serve apple pie for dessert.

Society PACIFIC 97 One-Frame Exhibit

PSGSA will have a Society one-frame exhibit on display the run of PACIFIC 97. We were successful in recruiting new members as a result of our one-frame at the World Columbian in 1992. David Wessely of Ohio is organizing our 16-page exhibit. He would appreciate hearing from readers who would like to loan material for the pages. Please write to him at 125 Elma Dr., Elyria, OH 44035.

* * *

The 1996/97 Membership Drive

As of this writing PSGSA has 171 members in good standing. This is our highest point since our founding in 1987. The Board's goal is to surpass 200 by year's end, 1996. This can only happen with your help and enthusiasm. Recruitment brochures are available from the Editor. Think of a philatelic acquaintance or two to whom you could send the recruitment brochure - including your very enthusiastic endorsement.

The International Scene

The Reciprocal Listings Exchange

Any specialty group whose focus includes British Africa and German southern Africa is invited to participate in this publications and information exchange.

General information about a fellow specialty group, its activities and special events, is welcomed for publication in this feature. All that is required is that PSGSA be provided the same courtesy on a reciprocal basis. Exchange of publications between participating groups is encouraged.

Aerophilatelic Society of Southern Africa - Contact G. Cafetzonglou, Hon. Secretary, Post Office Box 844636, Greenside 2034, South Africa.

Anglo-Boer War Philatelic Society - Contact Peter M. Prime, Hon. Secretary, 56 Mount Way, Waverton, Cheshire CH3 7QF, UK

Bechuanalands & Botswana Society - Contact David Wall, Hon. Secretary, 8 Walkwood Rise, Beaconsfield, Bucks HP9 1TU, UK.

Dutch Philatelic Society of Southern Africa - Contact Secretary FVZA, Jac Stolk, Post Office Box 33223, 3005 EE Rotterdam, The Netherlands.

East Africa Study Circle - Contact Roy Dunstan, Chantry Court, Warminster, Wilts BA32 9AL, UK.

Greater Basutoland/Lesotho Philatelic Study Circle - Contact Roy W. Simcox, P.O. Box 1212, Cape Town, RSA.

Orange Free State Study Circle - contact J.R. Stroud, 28 Oxford St., Burnham-on-Sea, Somerset TA8 1LQ, UK.

Postmark & Postal History Society of Southern Africa - Contact Dr. D. Mordant, Box 21161, Helderkruin 1733, RSA.

Rhodesian Study Circle - Contact Keith Harrop, Hon. Membership Secretary, 817 Wilmslow Road, Didsbury, Manchester M20 8RT, UK.

A recent announcement indicates that RSC is attempting to form a New Zealand branch. A meeting of collectors at SOUTHPEX '96 (NZ) will explore the feasibility of doing so.

St. Helena, Ascension & Tristan Da Cunha Philatelic Society - Contact J.L. Havill, Secretary, 205 North Murray Blvd., Apt. # 221, Colorado Springs, CO 80916 USA.

South Africa Collectors Society of Great Britain - Contact A. R. Chilton, 56 Framfield Rd., Mitcham, Surrey CR4 2AL. SACS held its AGM in London on 2 September last. With a fine display of Harrison Essays, member John Shaw, FRPSL, won the Abell Trophy competition. Jack Newman was a solid runner-up with a display of the 1936 Johannesburg Exhibition material. Other entries included a study of the Natal Settlers Centenary issue in which the alleged mistake of including a "wireless mast" was challenged - an early watercolor of the headland shows that there was a wooden lighthouse framework which is similar in style to a mast. Other showings included: Tristan da Cunha period of World War II, coil stamps from the Fifth Definitive Series and registered envelopes of the Republic period. Alec Page's material on the South African Weather Stations was shown by John Shaw.

The catalog for SACS' March 18, 1996 postal auction contained 842 lots. Reserves ranged from 50p to £65. Included was a large range of South African officials. Other selections included post cards, aerogrammes, postal history and scarce varieties.

Transvaal Study Circle - Contact Hon. Secretary, Jeff Woolgar, 132 Dale St., Chatham, Kent ME4 6QH, UK.

South West Africa Stamp Study Group - Contact Dr. H.U. Bantz, President, P.O. Box 6913, Westgate 1734, RSA.

West Africa Study Circle - Contact Michael Ensor, President, Flat 1, No. 12 The Paragon, London, SE3 ONZ, UK.

Show Reports

"The International Scene" invites readers to report of their experiences when attending any of the events listed below. Please write-up your experiences and send them to the Editor. Also, if any reader has additional information pertaining to one of the listed events, please send the Editor a note. No reports were received this publication cycle.

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Events of Note

CAPEX 96 - June 8-16 - Toronto, Canada. FIP World Exhibition, 4,000 frames of competitive exhibits. Official participants include the RPS/Canada, Canada Post and the Canadian National Postal Museum. Literature competition as well - *Forerunners* will be there. **PSGSA meeting and program** (see "Society Meetings" previous). If you will be attending CAPEX, please contact Tony Davis as listed earlier.

OLYMPHILEX 96 - July 19 - August 3 - Atlanta, Georgia. Olympic & Sports philately theme. Held during the 1996 Summer Olympic Games. Contact U.S. Commissioner, James Bowman, 3459 Township Ave., Simi Valley, CA 93603.

ISTANBUL 96 September 26-October 6 - Istanbul, Turkey. U.S. Commissioner: John Livesay, 20 Center Drive, Old Greenwich, CT 06870.

NORWEX 97 - April 16-21 - Oslo, Norway. FIP. Aerophilately & Postal History theme. U.S. Commissioner, Paul Nelson, 620 Wellesley Drive, Claremont, CA 91711.

PACIFIC 97 - May 29-June 8 - San Francisco. FIP World Philatelic Exhibition - 4,000+ frames of competitive exhibits. PSGSA 10th Anniversary Year Convention - **THE Celebration of British Africa Philately**. Planned activities include a 1500-lot British Africa specialty auction, exhibits, programs, informal social gatherings for philatelic comradeship; hospitality suite and "Super-Booth" (Volunteers needed - Contact Bill Wallace, P.O. Box 16381, San Francisco, CA 94116.). Event bulletin, *THE Celebration Newsletter*, available. Write to Bob Taylor, Event Director, 674 Chelsea Dr., Sanford, NC 27330.

MOSCOW 97 - August 30-September 8 - Moscow, Russia. commissioners to be announced.

ISRAEL 98 - May 12-21 - Tel Aviv, Israel. Commissioners to be announced.

JUVALUX 98 - June 18-21 - Luxembourg. FIP. Youth and Postal History themes. Commissioners to be announced.

PORTUGAL 98 - July 25-August 2 - Lisbon, Portugal. FIP World Exhibition sponsored primarily by the Portuguese Post Office. Contact PORTUGAL 98, General Secretariat, A. Casal Ribiero 28, 2, Lisbon 1000, Portugal.

ITALIA 98 - September 18-27. FIP World Philatelic Exhibition. Postal history, thematics, aerophilately and literature. Contact ITALIA 98 Organizing Committee, Viale Europa 190, Rome 00144, Italy. Commissioners to be announced.

ILSAPEX 98 - October 20-25 - Johannesburg, South Africa. FIP World Exhibition. Here is your chance to exhibit on the "home ground". **PSGSA meeting and program being planned**. Tour and group rates to be available. U.S. Commissioners (both Society members): Colin Fraser, 502 Park Ave., New York, NY 10022 and Dr. Frederick Lawrence, 5016 South Kenneth Pl., Tempe, AZ 85282.

IBRA 99 - April 27-May 4 - Nuremberg, Germany. FIP. Commissioners to be announced.

CHINA 99 - October - Beijing, China. FIP. Commissioners to be announced.

News & Notes

South Africa Philatelist subscription rates for 1996. PSGSA is affiliated with the Philatelic Federation of Southern Africa. As a result, Society members are able to subscribe to the publication at a reduced rate: sea mail - R60, air mail - R110. Write to PFSA, P.O. Box 375, Johannesburg 2000, So. Africa.

* * *

Formation of the Postage Stamp Consultative Committee.

The following information release was received from Society member Dr. Franco Frescura, Senior Manager, Philatelic Services:

The South African Post Office is committed to issuing stamps whose designs are modern, attractive and depict the culture, values, life and concerns of the South African people as a whole.

In order to ensure that its stamp program reflects the current needs of South African society, the Board of the South Africa Post Office has established a nine-member Stamp Program Consultative Committee. This will consist of cultural and artistic workers, historians, anthropologists, archeologists and architects. One seat has been set aside, on a permanent basis, for a representative nominated by the Philatelic Federation of Southern Africa. The Committee will be based in the Gauteng region and might be asked to meet two or three times a year. The term of office will be three years. The Committee's task will be to formulate and finalize an annual program of stamp themes.

The ten-member Committee is composed as follows:

- *Three representatives appointed by the South African Post Office.*
- *One representative from the Board of Directors of the South Africa Post Office.*
- *One representative elected by the Philatelic Federation of Southern Africa.*

** Five public nominees.*

The five public nominees will be persons who play leadership roles in the political, cultural or artistic spheres of public life.

The Committee tasks will include:

- *The ratification and implementation of a national stamp issuing policy.*
- *The approval of an annual stamp-issuing program.*
- *The screening of preliminary stamp designs prior to implementation.*

The Committee will be supplemented, from 1997 onwards, by representatives of the nine regions. Members will be entitled to an honorarium and travel cost reimbursement.

The Bookie Reports

Readers are invited to submit bibliographies, reviews of books, journal, etc., for inclusion in this feature. Send entries to The Editor, Box 2698, San Bernardino, CA 92406-2698

November 1995 issue of AEROLETTER, official newsletter of the Aerophilatelic Society of Southern Africa... Total of 12 pages. The cover page illustrates a souvenir cover of the 1920 trail-blazing England-South Africa flight. The cover shown is the earliest known piece of airmail flown through Rhodesia and south to South Africa. Other topics included "New Finds"; "England To Cape Town" which tells the story behind the aforementioned 1920 flight, accompanied with several illustrations; news items about recent aircraft acquisitions by South Africa Airlines and replacement of the airline's "Flying Springbok" logo which will be replaced with the colors of the new flag. The closing piece (reprinted) "Flying in South Africa - Major Miller's Machine" from *Motoring In South Africa* which talked about the first flight flown in South Africa - October 23, 1917. - *Reviewer, The Editor*

* * *

Transvaal - Revenue and Telegraph Stamps, by Alan R.

Drysdall, 207 pp, available from James Bendon, Ltd., P.O. Box 6484, 3307 Limassol, Cyprus, for UK £30 or US \$52.50. This is a second volume published by James Bendon in association with the Transvaal Study Circle on the philately and postal history of the Transvaal. The book is divided into two parts. Part one deals with revenue stamps and part two with telegraph stamps and stationery. The stamps in each section are arranged chronologically with a check list at the end. Each issue is fully described and most are illustrated.

The author has gathered information from various postal museums, the De La Rue archives, the Royal Philatelic collection and many private collections. The important items from these collections are presented in 118 black and white illustrations and eight full page color plates. There is an extensive bibliography and references to support the main text. The book will definitely be valuable to all collectors of British Africa. Reviewer - Guy Dillaway.

* * *

International Philatelic Literature News, by PLN International, recently came to our attention as the only actual periodical exclusively devoted to philatelic literature and all its aspects. The 20-page November '95 issue was reviewed. Literature entries were broken into the following categories: Book, Catalogs, Articles, Other Collectables, Thematics, Dealers and Auctions. Subscription - \$10US or £7. Write to PLN, Brandespad 14, 3067 EB Rotterdam, Holland.

The Journal of the Rhodesian Study Circle, December, 1995 issue, 36pp... Contained literature reviews; "Matters Arising" - the ½d Double Head 'Apple Green', the 1/2d Double Head deep olive green plate II, the 4d Double Head perf. 15 bright orange, some observations on the Rhodesia 1910-13 double rouletted stamps, WWII free letter scheme for African servicemen and Southern Rhodesia surface letter rates 1924-1939; and a question and answer section. Major articles included "An Interesting Early Cover From The Far Interior (Dr. Emil Holub)", "Zimbabwe Frama Labels" and "Postmarks on Double Heads with Rarity Factor". Reviewer - The Editor.

The Anglo-Boer War Philatelist, December '95 issue, by The Anglo-Boer War Philatelic Society, 24 pp. . . The cover illustration was a most unusual item - a Christmas greetings card in the form of a luggage label. The issue listed publications for sale, "Society Notes", individual member research projects and progress regarding the town issues project. Major articles included: "The Brothers Guy at Brandfort and Vet River", "The Ceylon Volunteer Company, Gloucester Regiment" and "The Boer Interception of the Dundee Mails." Reviewer - The Editor.

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Scott Catalog Input Coordinator Needed!

As most of you are aware, PSGSA assists Scott in its annual valuation and listings updating process. For our assistance, the publisher lists the Society in its catalog, as well as providing a complimentary copy of Vol. 1B for the library. In the past the coordination of this annual effort was handled by the Editor. However, he is no longer able to continue in the coordinator role due to increasing demands in other areas. The responsibilities involved are not overbearing. Here is how the annual process works:

- Publisher provides coordinator in the Fall with tear sheets for catalog areas falling within the Society's scope.
- Coordinator distributes tear sheets to list of individual members who have agreed to provide valuation and notational information in their respective areas of expertise.
- The individual members review the tear sheets and return their remarks to the coordinator.
- The coordinator sends all input in a single batch to the publisher.
- The coordinator forwards a copy of all inputs to the Editor for entry in this feature.

U.S.-based members interested in coordinating the annual Scott Catalog input effort are to contact the Editor. This job can be accomplished on a shared basis. **PLEASE HELP!**

Natal Group Now Forming

Collectors' Society for the Study of the Stamps and Postal History of Natal and KwaZulu... A number of collectors of Natal and Zululand stamps and postal history have recently expressed enthusiasm for the formation of a society dedicated to this area.

Although united by an interest in the region, interests are varied. Some are collectors of the postage stamps of colonial Natal and hope to see a united effort to produce a handbook on their subject to match those covering Transvaal and the Orange Free State. Others are interested in colonial Zululand. Some are interested in the postal history of the early settlement, others in the Anglo-Zulu/Anglo-Boer war periods; yet others in present day post offices and postal arrangements.

Before settling on the precise objectives and mode of operation of such a society, we would like to hear from others with a similar interest. Anyone interested in this proposal should contact member John Dickson. Please get in touch with him and tell him of your ideas as follows: Lismore House, Shepton Beauchamp, Ilminster, Somerset TA19 0LJ, UK - FAX: 01460 24 00 28 or phone: 01460 24 15 34.

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Philatelic Prose & Poetry

From time-to-time, readers come across the hobby being honored via poetry and the like. The praises of our collecting passion in the written word is certainly a joy to experience. As received, entries will appear in this new feature. The first installment came by way of long-time member and journal contributor, Werner Seeba of Germany. It reads as follows:

Philatelist Psalm By Luke P. Bartojay

Stamp collecting is my hobby, I shall not be bored.

It maketh me to do research on far places. It

causeth me to correspond with all people. It

keepeth me alert.

It leadeth me into areas of understanding for curiosity's sake.

Yea, though I live through a winter of inclement weather, I will fear no boredom, for my stamps are with me.

Their beauty and their history they intrigue me.

They provideth me a means of escaping from the tensions of my responsibilities.

They filleth my house with books.

My cash runneth lower.

Surely interest and knowledge shall follow me all the days of my life, and I will be listed in the ranks of the philatelists forever.

The Back of YOUR Book

R. Timothy Bartshe, Editor

Editor's Note: Reader reactions, comments and entries for this feature are invited. Write me at 13955 West 30th, Golden, CO 80401 USA.

Postal Stationery - Long overlooked by so many

Postal stationery, those items pre-stamped and printed by the government for postal usage, has long been an item overlooked by all but the most dedicated philatelists. This is truly a shame, particularly in the case of postal cards, because not only can they show routings and franking rates, but can also give us a glimpse of history in the making as well as the day by day situations of one hundred years ago.

Postal cards used for their intended purposes (non-philatelic) can be more or less broken into two broad categories. The first is the handwritten note, mostly noncommercial in nature, that kept people in contact with one another without spending the time for a lengthy letter. This is true with both internal as well as international mail. The second type is the commercial correspondence and advertising cards. The most common usage is the preprinted reply bank cards used to notify a depositor that his money arrived safely and was credited to his account. These contain a story in themselves deserving separate attention with the varieties of bank handstamps and printing. The others deal with everything from the opening of a new play to weather reports and railway orders. Please indulge my whimsy as I describe a few examples of antique "junk mail" from my collection.

The first example advertises a lottery drawing at Boshof, Orange Free State. It is unclear whether this was administered under the authority of the Government. It was sent to the "Proprietor/Hotel/Calitzdorp". The drawing was slated for April 28, 1890. Organized gambling from a hundred and six years ago!

Another commercial card displays the charges for freight hauled from Harrismith to various destinations throughout the area. These are as far north as Pretoria, west as Potchestroom (sic) and east as Durban. The solicitation comes from Schenk's as the "latest transport rates per 112 lb." as of 12/11/92. The writing states that "174 wagons were loaded were this week", "Wagons fairly plentiful for the O.F.S." and details payment terms. This one of two examples from Mr. Schenk, the other as of 30/8/92.

Some cards advertise the fact that company representatives would like "the pleasure of waiting upon you". William Savage and Sons, agents for Union Assurance Society of

London sent out notices to businesses within a certain area that the "Dreaded" insurance salesman would soon arrive. Another advises the visitation of a stationery and printing salesman. This card is printed in two colors, green background and blue script. Others, such as one from P. Henwood, Son, Soutter & Co., Johannesburg, inform a client that "1 parcel hooks" were "dispatched per passenger train to Kimberley Station."

Fred Jeppe of Pretoria, a rather industrious individual and "compiler of local law", mailed a notice of his "complete index of all laws and V.R. Resolutions from 1849 to end of 1885" having been completed. The fee of £1.1 is stated with "copies and translations according to tariff." This was sent to what was an assumed law office in Potchefstroom in June, 1886.

One interesting item comes from the firm of K. Machol & Co. of Commissie Drift, District Rustenburg, August 2, 1900. As this was just after British occupation of the South African Republic, one can imagine the disruptions and hardships of businessmen and merchants throughout southern Africa. The text reads: "We beg to advise that we are now ready to execute any order for our Celebrated Magaliesberg Tobacco. Please do not wait for our agent, but place your order as soon as possible, as pressure of business will delay the execution for a week or two at least. Crops this year are very small, almost nil, and Magaliesberg Tobacco will be very scarce. We quote our usual prices, 90 days net, or cash less 5 per cent." There are a multitude of other examples, not just in my collection, but awaiting discovery in other collections to actually give us a small window into commerce of yesteryear.

Passing through Munich? . . . Visit the City's Philatelic Library with 37,000 catalogued items, runs of 500 periodicals, catalogs runs from 200 auction houses worldwide, 6-7,000 library visitors annually. More than 9,000 books are loaned out each year. Over 3,000 photocopies are sent in response to inquiries. Write to Otto Gliexner, Rosenheimer Strasse 5, D-81667 Munich, Germany - Phone 089-4-80-98-291. (PSGSA Member)

Postal Museum Opened in Thailand. . . While traveling- in Asia, you may find yourself in the city of Chiang Mai. If you do, a small local postal museum should be visited. It is located on the second floor of the post office, Charoen Prathed Road near the Ping River.

The Classifieds

Forerunners is published three times per year for the following periods: Mar/Jun, Jul/Oct & Nov/Feb. The ad submission deadlines are the 15th of January, May and September. The ad placement guidelines:

- Brief ads are free to NON-DEALER members and run indefinitely. **Members are requested to notify the Editor when they wish to withdraw their entry.**
- Ads may be run by individuals not belonging to the Society. The commercial ad rates apply in such cases.
- The rate schedule for commercial ads (EXCLUSIVE of the premium positions - inside front cover page or inside/outside of back cover page):

| Ad Size | Single Issue | Annual |
|-----------|--------------|--------|
| 1/8 page | \$10 | \$25 |
| 1/4 page | \$15 | \$40 |
| 1/3 page | \$20 | \$50 |
| 1/2 page | \$30 | \$75 |
| full page | \$45 | \$120 |

* Two size options are offered for placement in a **pe-ehm. position**. The rates for the inside front and inside/outside back cover pages are as follows:

Ad Size Single Issue Annual 1/2

page \$45 \$120 full page \$75

\$200

* Ad Payment Options:

#1 - US\$ denominated instruments payable to "PSGSA". MUST BE DRAWN ON A UNITED STATES BANK.

#2 - £ Sterling cheques at current exchange rates as published by major bank in local area. PLEASE LEAVE "PAYEE" BLANK if choosing this option.

#3 - £ Sterling and RANDS currencies SENT VIA REGISTERED MAIL, at current exchange rates as published by major bank in local area.

#4 - American Express Traveler's Cheques in US\$ ONLY.

* Payment must accompany ad copy, mailed to The Editor, P.O. Box 2698, San Bernardino, CA 93406-2698 USA.

(R)PS,L British Africa Pt. 3 (1906) FOR SALE - Pages privately bound and quite sound. Some photoplates may have been placed inside text but priced without photoplates. Asking US \$70. NO check. Please write first. Also, **Swaziland postal stationery wanted**, pre-independence mint or used if not in Mbabane. Also any British colonial 1936-1965 definitive short sets to 1/-, as well as commemorative sets of that period. Jim Ryan, 4419-17 Ave. NW, Calgary, AB, Canada T3B 0N7. (vXN1)

Seeking SA 1/2d & 1d Kingsheads, 1d Ship - Will purchase quality conditioned items - control blocks, blocks, varieties, postmarks, postal history items. **Natal also** - SG #s 66-7, 85-90, 99-9a, 104 and 125. Interested in buying high quality mint blocks, control blocks, postal stationery/history and postmarks for specialist collection. If your varieties are not for sale, please send photocopy and short written description of the item to include data in my study. Dr. Dennis Wolmarans, Box 38291, Point, Natal 4069, S. Africa. (vXN1)

Auction Catalog Sought - Sotheby's Johannesburg '80 catalog. Need actual catalog or photocopy of only the Natal specimen stamps. From Sotheby Parke Bernet Auction at Johannesburg in October of 1980. Please write T.P. **McDermott**, 25 Hillside Ave., White Plains, NY 10601-1111, or call (914) 948-8484. (vXN1)

South African Aerogrammes - Wanted 1944 and 1947 issues, unused/used (with readable cancels), for research and exhibit. Approvals or photocopies with price welcomed. Contact Gary J. Anemaet, 5904 Merkel Road, Dexter, MI 48130-9647. (vXN1)

Wolmaranstad - I am a buyer of any high value copies. I am missing a used 6d, mint 4d and used/mint 1/-. Barry P. Fletcher, 18 Valley Rd., Kenilworth 7700, So. Africa. (v9N2)

Cape of Good Hope - Boy Scout issues, Sc#s 178-80, mint, for sale. Ronald G. Can, 60 Robinhood Rd., Pittsburgh, PA 15220-3014 or call (412) 561-6562. (v9N2)

South Africa cigarette advertising labels on cover - Looking for covers with cigarette ad attached to stamp as margin label. Sc#s 45c or 48j - marginal ads on 1d Ship. Pre-JIPEX best bet. Please include a photocopy. Anita Beach, P.O. Box 15481, Cincinnati, OH 45215. (v9N3)

THANK OUR LOYAL ADVERTISERS! - When patronizing any of our commercial advertisers, please tell them you saw their ad in *Forerunners*. Their financial support contributes to the quality of the journal.

International Reply Coupons - Wanted for southern Africa; also Commonwealth & Empire. Send details. Leon Jacobson, P.O. Box 316, Kimberly 8300, South Africa. (v9N1)

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

South Africa Postage Due Labels - Seeking covers showing usage of various denominations, particularly the 1972 mono-color issues. Also SA pictorial postal cards (mint sets and used items) issued from 1941 to 1960. Purchase or exchange for other postage due items (control blocks or individual labels, etc.) Send list of items available and price or exchange terms. Bernard Doherty, P.O. Box 18, Waratah 2298, Australia. All letters will be answered. (V8N3)

Botswana - Mint/used postal stamped and formula stationery sought, especially stampless and stamped aerogrammes, postcards, registered envelopes, postal orders, EMS envelopes. Peter Thy, P.O. Box 73112, Davis, CA 95617 USA. (V8N3)

1/- GNUS - SC #43/SG #48 needed for study of issues I and II. Wish to acquire/borrow material, or photocopies of information/stamps - especially Issue II. Morgan T. Farrell, P.O. Box 1064, Hamilton, MT 59840 USA. (V8N2)

Join the Philatelic Federation of Southern Africa (PFSA) - As an affiliate, Society members are allowed to enter South African national exhibitions. Use of Stamp Expertising Committee. Reduced subscription rate for *The South African Philatelist* Write to PFSA, Post Office Box 375, Johannesburg 2000, South Africa.

Swaziland - Private treaty sale of 1933 KGV definitive issue (SG 11-20), unmounted mint (MNH) - \$230. Also, Swaziland *forerunners* wanted. Franco Frescura, INTERSAPA, Private Bag X505, Pretoria 0001, South Africa. (V8N2)

Swaziland, Basutoland, Transkei - Desire postal history items prior to 1930. Send offers to Steven Gardiner, 15 Barrydale Rd., P.O. Box 15294, Miramar 6070, RSA. (V8N1)

British Africa Collection - Breaking-up extensive collection mostly complete through KGV. Send want list. Tim Bartshe, 13955 W. 30th, Golden, CO 80401. (V4N3)

Need back issues of *The South African Philatelist* - issues from April 1983 through December 1991. Will photocopy needed information and return promptly. Will reimburse

postage costs. Larry Standridge, 4365 Rolling Hills Drive, Nacogdoches, TX 75961. (V4N3)

Bakkers Express - Used for sale: Pretoria Id, Te Betalen 1/2d, \$ 10 each. Blocks available. Dr. Victor Berkovich, 3644 Chamblee-Tucker Rd., Ste. D, Chamblee, GA 30341. (v7N2)

Military Covers Wanted - WWII items used in Africa from the 1938-40 period: Indian FPOs, EA/APs, APO-I-MKs, Egypt, Sudan, British Somaliland, Italian Posta Militaire, German Feldpost, etc. Walter Bjork, 54 West 84th St., New York, NY 10024. (V5N2)

South African Air Force Museum Commemorative Covers Museum issues a series of commemorative covers highlighting SAAF events in both world wars and current squadrons. Attractively cacheted. Price list: SAAF Museum, AFB Swartkop, Post Office Valhalla 1037, South Africa.

Postal Orders & Postal Notes Sought - Want to purchase all countries, all reigns, any condition, single items or quantities. Jack Harwood, Post Office Box 32015-Midtown Station, Sarasota, FL 34239. (V7N2)

Rhodesia Town Postmarks Wanted - For the 1890-1980 period. Also any B-O-B items. Send list to Bill Wallace, P.O. Box 16381, San Francisco, CA 94116. (V7N2)

South West Africa Postal Stationery - Pre-1961 wanted. Send offers to J. Stolk, Post Office Box 33223, 3005 EE Rotterdam, Netherlands. (V7N2)

Mafeking Covers - Want to purchase covers to/from/through Mafeking 1885-present. Frederick Lawrence, Ph.D., 5016 South Kenneth Place, Tempe, AZ 85282. (V7N2)

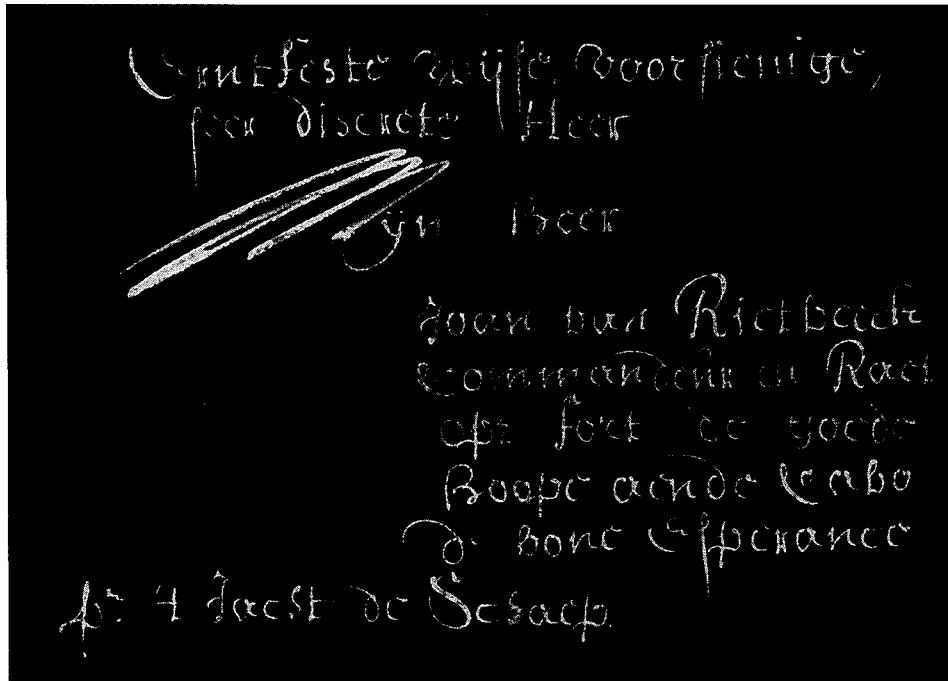
Bophuthatswana - Desire used on/off cover, including revenues and postal stationery. Let me take the excess kiloware off your hands. Also INTERSAPA Bophuthatswana bulletins 10, 14, 16, 17 and 18 wanted. Will Ross, 4120 Schuylkill Drive, Calabasas, CA 91302. (V7N2)

Journal Index Needed - Volunteer(s) sought to compile and maintain an index for *Forerunners*. Assistance available from the Publications Program Committee. Contact The Editor, P.O. Box 2698, San Bernardino, CA 92406-2698.



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"Undated (c.1654) entire from Holland to `Joan van Riebeeck, Commandeur en Raet op't Fort de Goede Hoop aan de Cabo de Bone Esperance"

AUCTION: London, 18 and 19 June 1996

VIEWING: 14, 17 and 18 June 1996

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