



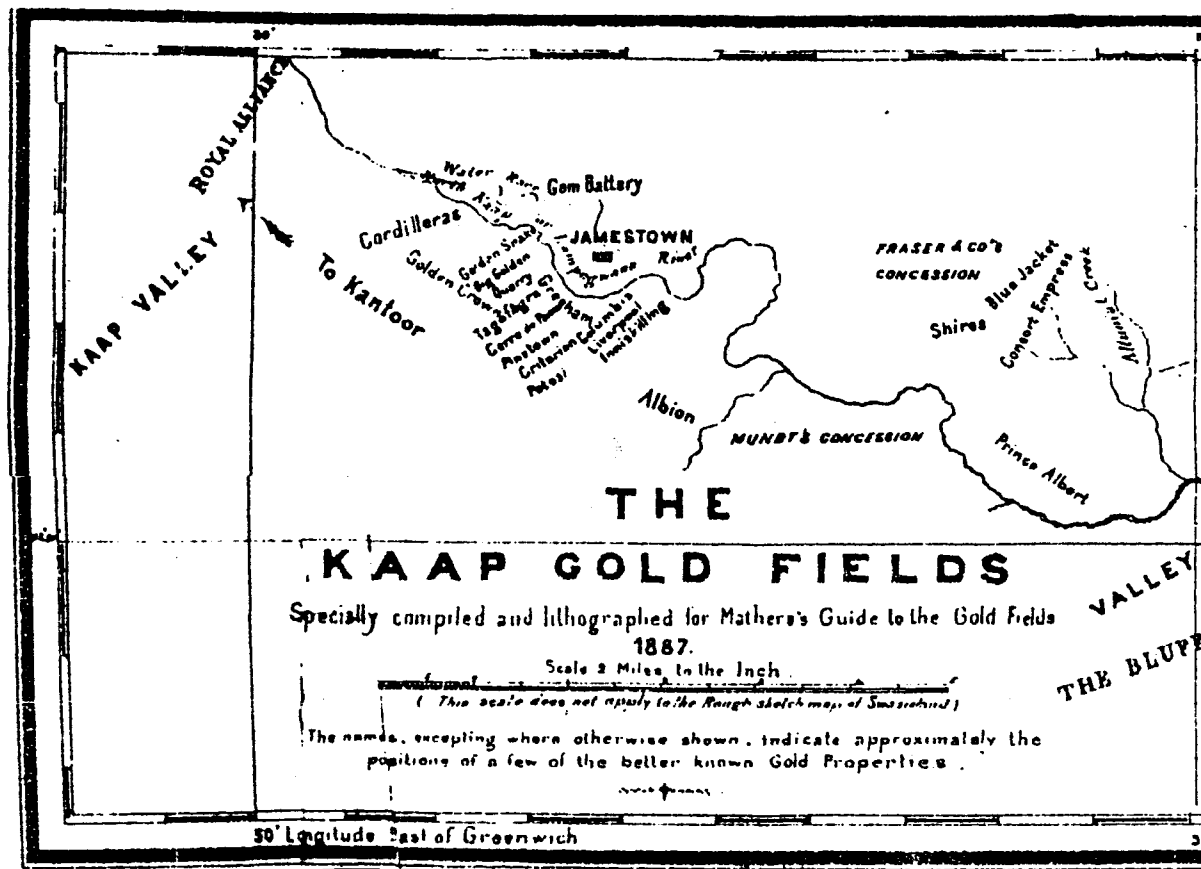
# \*\*\*\*\**FORERUNNERS*

Journal Of The Philatelic Society For Greater Southern Africa

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

Volume XII, Number 1, Whole #32

Jul/Oct 1998

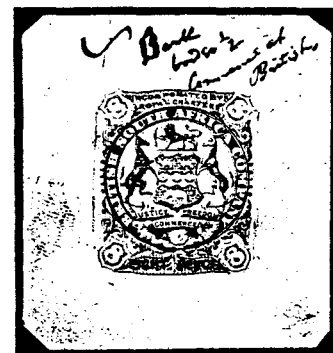
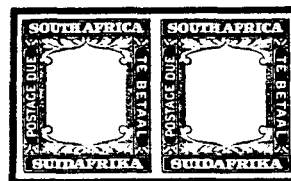
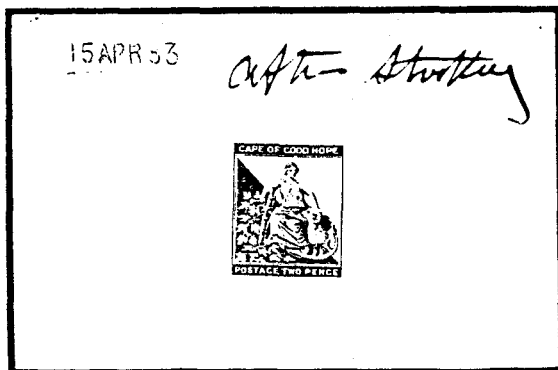
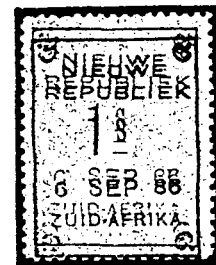


## Jamestown, East Transvaal Goldfields

### Other Highlights of This Issue

- \* The Lost History of the Goshen Republic      \* Post Office Exhibition Cards of the Union of South Africa
- \* News of the Membership \* Works in Progress \* Questions & Answers \* Unanswered Challenges \* Bits & Pieces
- \* And Other Stories \* My **Favorite Philatelic Item** (New feature) \* The Bechuanalands \* The Rhodesias
- \* **The Boer Republics** (New feature) \* **Postage Dues** (New feature)      \* Zulu Notes \* Cover With A Story
- \* The Bookie Reports \* Society Affairs \* The International Scene \* Back of YOUR Book \* T4 Marketplace      \* Appendix of Philatelic Institutions, Specialty Groups, Events

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The following 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 how it operates is printed in the "Question & Answer" section. Members desiring to serve on the Panel are to contact the Editor. *For areas not listed below, forward inquiries to Journal Editor.*

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**Bechuanalands** - Peter Thy, P.O. Box 73112, Davis, CA 95616

**Cape of Good Hope pre-Adhesives** - Robert Taylor, 674 Chelsea Drive, Sanford, NC 27330 USA

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**Cape of Good Hope triangular period postal history** - Guy Dillaway, P. O. Box 181, Weston, MA 02193 USA

**Interprovisionals &/or Union of South Africa** - *recruitment in progress*

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Editor:

Bill Brooks

200 E. 30th St. - Apt. 144

San Bernardino, CA 92404-2302 USA

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Silver-Bronze at PACIFIC 97, Vermeil/Certificate of Merit at OKPEX 96 and CHICAGOPEX 96, Large Silver at New Zealand National Philatelic Literature Exhibition, Silver awards at STaMpsHOW 96, CAPEX 96 [Canada], WAPEX 93 [Australia], HAFNIA 94 [Denmark], and Silver-Bronze at ESPAMER 96 [Spain], SINGAPORE 95 and PHILKOREA.

## FEATURE ARTICLES

**Journeys to the Past: Jamestown, East Transvaal Goldfields Werner K. Seeba, Germany.** Once again Werner takes the reader on one of those delightful sojourn to times and places gone by. The excitement stirred by gold's discovery by European transplants is well-documented. However, the more interesting historical piece of information comes from old Portuguese records which indicate that early on native inhabitants had used quills filled with gold dust as battering chips. The characters, times and development of the area are discussed in detail. One very interesting occurrence of gold's discovery had to do with the serendipitous happening. It seems as though a local settler had been out hunting, and lo and behold while resting beneath a tree he spied a gold nugget! The rest of the story is there for the reading... 3

**The Lost History of the Goshen Republic Jos. De Wahl, South Africa.** As the author indicates, Goshen's episodic existence had a profound influence and bearing on subsequent and colorful history of South Africa, and on the changing face and map of the area. Great pains are taken to detail who the local peoples were, their geographical spheres of influence and relationship with settlers and bordering territories. The Mafeking and Vryburg areas play key roles in this arrangement as the reader will discern. How Goshen actually came about as a territory and then short-lived republic is fascinating indeed. Cecil Rhodes saw to it that Goshen disappeared from the map and subsequently incorporated into his scheme for an unbroken "Empire to the North". The details harken for the reader's delight. . . 5

**Post Office Exhibition Cards of The Union of South Africa Kalman V. Illyefalvi, USA.** A very interesting and intriguing collateral collecting area is brought to light in great detail by the author. After government take over and consolidation of several struggling airlines into the present-day South African Airlines during the early-mid 1930's, a scheme was developed and implemented to increase revenues. This came in the form of producing and distributing a series of printed post cards at various exhibitions and making a special cancellation available at each event site. Illustrations abound showing numerous cards and cancellations. Also included are production statistics and very helpful checklist for the reader wishing to pursue the area. A bibliography is also provided for future research enthusiasts... 9

\* \* \*

## The Specialty Feature Departments

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*SWA/Namibia...* Feature Editor, Dr. H.U. Bantz, RSA - Look for this exciting new addition to appear in the Fall issue (Nov/Feb).

\* \* \*

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FORERUNNERS is published three times per year for the periods Jul/Oct, Nov/Feb and Mar/Jun. A sample copy is available from the Editor for \$5US (surface) or \$7.50US (air). Commercial advertising rates and payment options are listed at the beginning of the Classified Section.

Membership in the Society is available at the following rates: *surface worldwide* - \$25US, *1st Class No. America* - \$30US, *Europe air mail* - \$38US and *Pacific/Africa air mail* - \$40US. Payment options: (1) draft **drawn on a US bank**, payable to "PSGSA"; (2) Sterling bank drafts at current exchange equivalent **with "payee" left blank**; or (3) US\$, RANDS or Sterling currency, **sent via registered mail**, using current exchange rates at a local major bank. Membership fees are to be mailed directly to the Society Treasurer, Mr. Robert W. Hisey, 7227 Sparta Road, Sebring, FL 33872 USA.

Society membership information is available from any of the PSGSA International Representatives listed on the previous page.

PSGSA holds an **annual mail auction**, open to members and non-members alike, both as vendors and bidders. Catalogs normally become available during July-August each year. For further information, contact R. Timothy Bartshe, Auction Manager, 13955 West 30th Ave., Golden, CO 80401 USA, FAX: 303-987-8671, [E-mail: timbartshe@aol.com](mailto:timbartshe@aol.com).

# Editorial Notes

Bill Brooks, Editor & Founder

**Journal Coeditor Comes On Board!!** I am proud to announce the addition of a coconspirator in the editorial game. He is none other than our own Feature Editor of "The Bechuanalands", Mr. Peter Thy. His primary role, as he defines it, will be to get members to send in feature articles, an acquisitions sergeant-at-arms of the gentle variety. "Yes, Henry, rest assured you will be on the receiving end of a friendly arm-twist every now and then." In the meantime, Peter will continue putting-out "The Bechuanalands" during his tenure as Coeditor.

In addition to many correspondences and e-mails over the years, I have had the pleasure of meeting Peter in person on two occasions - a joint meeting of PSGSA and the Rhodesia Study Circle in northern California and then at PACIFIC 97 during Society's Tenth Anniversary International Convention "THE Celebration of British Africa Philately".

When Peter wrote that he was interested in helping out with the Journal in any way that he could, I was very pleasantly (and thankfully) surprised. We have grown over the years wherein *Forerunners* now requires a great deal of "care and feeding" to ensure its continuing appeal and content expansion. Having Peter as my right hand will assure that editorial excellence is maintained - he is a writer, editor and publisher in his own right.

As an introduction I asked Peter to provide a short, third person "Bio" for the readership. Herein is the text of that introduction: *The newly appointed assistant to your honorable Editor-in-Chief was born in post-war northern Europe during a cold and rainy autumn during the reign of King Christian X. It was a year during which only four new stamps were issued, all semi postally surcharged to benefit the Liberation fund. It was also the year of the Centenary International Philatelic Exhibition.*

*However, his fondest and earliest philatelic recollection is related to a certain blue whole-world album. As it so often happens, this album was soon forgotten for far more worthy interests.*

*The stamp album resurfaced later while he was a student at a local university and developed into a series of country collections over the years to follow.*

*After obtaining an advanced postgraduate degree, he moved first to Iceland where he, in addition to exploring the life of volcanoes, began an Iceland collection. Later he moved on to a well-known space center in Texas where a USA collection was started.*

*At this point his philatelic life he had clearly reached a point where the lack of direction in his collecting interests became painfully obvious. The remedy presented itself during his tenure as professor at the University of Botswana. A very active local philatelic society showed him how and why to collect the stamps postal history of southern Africa.*

*Another important was his frustration over not being able to obtain the current and reliable postal rate information at the local post office. This later eventually drove him to the primary postal history sources in the libraries and archives.*

*He since has been hopelessly fascinated by the philately and postal history of the Bechuanalands and southern Africa. His writings on the postal history and rates of the Bechuanalands have been published over the past several years, particularly by "The Runner Post", journal of the Bechuanalands and Botswana Society.*

*Peter's postal stationery collections have achieved gold medals at local and national shows and exhibitions. In 1994, he was awarded the prestigious Father Placid McLaughlin Memorial Trophy by the Philatelic Society of Botswana for his research and writings on the*

*postal orders of Bechuanaland (and he is very proud of this achievement). Peter is a member of several philatelic societies, including PSGSA, Bechuanalands and Botswana Society, postal order Society, American Philatelic Society, United Postal Stationery Society and the philatelic Society of Botswana.*

*There is finally only to say that he uses his spare time as a research scientist with a major northern California university doing what he likes best.*

**An Appreciation.** Many thanks to those readers who continue to return requested covers and stamps. \* \* \*

**Question & Answer Panel fills a vacancy.** Alan Hanks, Feature Editor of "The Rhodesias" specialty column has volunteered to serve on the Panel for this area. We thank him for his expanded role in Society affairs. His "Bio" reads as follows:

*Alan J. Hanks/Canada was born in Woodford, England in 1930. He has been collecting on-and-off for fifty years. He was employed as a soil technician by the Ministry of Transportation in Ontario where he has lived since 1957.*

*His primary philatelic interest include the Rhodesias from 1892 to 1980, with a specific love of Double Heads and Admirals. Exhibits have been made of BSAC, Southern Rhodesia and the UDI period. Another strong interest is in insects on stamps, as well as real insects, since he is Treasurer of the Toronto Entomologists Association. Other activities include listening to classical music, reading, golfing and watching great movies and sports on TV. Travelling is of great interest and visiting stamp shows around North America with his wife, Barbara, occupies a fair amount of time.*

\* \* \*

**Update on "The Rhodesias" specialty column.** I erroneously announced the appearance of the first installment by the new Feature Editor in the previous issue. However, the installment arrived too late so it appears in this issue. It is great to have this highly received column "back on track".

\* \* \*

**"My Favorite Item"** is an exciting new journal feature starting with this issue. It appears following "... And Other Stories".

**New specialty column here and on the way!** Jan Stolk as answered the clarion call with the introduction of "Postage Dues", the first installment appears in this issue. Tim Bartshe has written that we can expect to see a specialty column covering philately of "The Boer Republics" in the near future.

Readers desiring to contribute installments to either specialty column as "Guest Authors" are invited to contact the respective Feature Editor as follows: "The Rhodesias" c/o Alan Hanks, 34 Seaton Dr., Aurora, Ontario, Canada L4G 2K1; and "The Boer Republics" c/o Tim Bartshe, 13955 West 30th Ave., Golden, CO 80401 USA.

"SWA/Namibia Philately" will begin appearing with the Nov '98/Feb '99 issue. Its able Feature Editor will be our International Representative/RSA, Dr. H.U. "Ulli" Bantz. Those interested in contributing installments should contact Ulli at P.O. Box 6913, Westgate 1724, South Africa.

\* \* \*

**Additional specialty columns sought.** Feature Editors are needed for the following collecting interest areas: Cape of Good Hope, Natal, Transvaal, The Modern Era, Aerophilately, Military Postal History and Thematics. However, if any reader has an idea for a specialty column in another area, e. g., South Africa Union and/or Republican Periods, Basutoland, Swaziland and so on, please contact the Editor.

\* \* \*

**Readers, take advantage of your journal.** There are a number of other valuable avenues to get the most out of your journal as a resource. Here I am talking about reader contributions to "Feature Articles", "Questions & Answers", "Unanswered Challenges", "The Bookie Reports" (book and literature reviews), "Works In Progress", "Cover With A Story", "Bits & Pieces". ". . . And Other Stories", "Show Reports", "The Honor Roll", free member adlets and the Trading Box.

\* \* \*

**Volunteer to serve on your Journal's Editorial Staff.** Peter and I invite each member to consider taking over key journal related activities. If you have experience in the area of advertising management, we are looking for someone to take over this function. Advertising revenues are essential to improving the quality' of the journal, as well as underwriting production costs so we do not have to face dues increases. Also need someone to take over as Feature Editor for "A Cover With A Story". Assistance is always available from the

Editorial Team by writing The Editors, 200 E. 30th St., Bernardino, San CA 92404-2302 USA.

## *Correspondence Received*

Just received the Jan/Jun '98 "Forerunners" and wanted to let you know that my daughter (age 14) and I thought you did a fantastic job on the envelope's cover with the Trans-Mississippi reissues. Great cancels too - **Tom Winkler, USA**

Congratulations on the excellent Jul/Dec '97 issues of "Forerunners" - a great job - **Ralph Myerson, USA**

The "Forerunners" I received this week was of outstanding quality again and I enjoyed reading it very much - **Jan Stolk, Netherlands**

# FEATURE ARTICLES

Receipt of articles is accepted on an ongoing basis. The individual issue submission deadlines are the 15th of January (Mar/Jun issue), May 15th (Jul/Oct issue) and September 15th (Nov/Feb issue). Articles are to be submitted in double-spaced, typewritten form. Maximum length should be held to five pages, **not** including illustrations. Lengthier works should be submitted in serialized forms. Each illustration must be titled and properly referenced in the text. Authors are encouraged to include references, footnotes and a list of suggested readings for readers who are interested in pursuing the subject of the article further.

Whenever possible, black/white photographs of covers and/or stamps are recommended for illustration purposes. In the case of photocopies, they need to be the clearest copy possible. Photocopied illustrations should show a black border around covers and individual stamps. Illustrations which copy poorly will be excluded by the Editor. Originals of charts, graphs and tables are preferred.

## Journeys To The Past: Jamestown, East Transvaal Goldfields

Werner K. Seeba, Germany

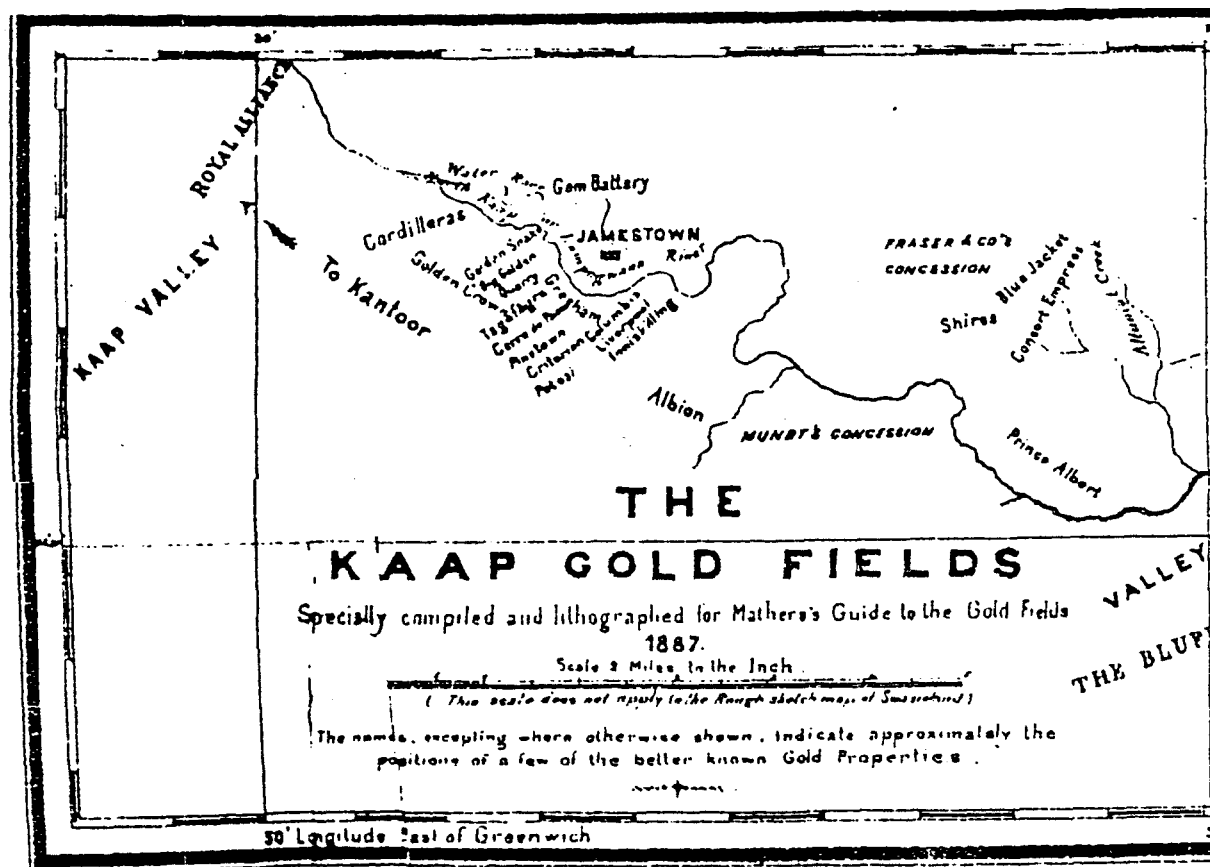
There is not much known, written or recorded about this little forgotten goldmining place - Jamestown. It was situated about 20km northwest of the township of present-day Barberton (Ill. A). In 1882 alluvial gold had been found at Duiwele Kantoor, later renamed Kaapsehoop or Kaapsche Hoop. This find was known as De Kaap or Kaapsehoop Goudvelden (Goldfields).

The news of gold's discovery attracted many hundreds of fortune hunters, prospectors and diggers. These opportunists searched and worked the general area, concentrating primarily in the valleys of the area which at the time fell within the Lydenburg District of

Transvaal. However, these prospectors were not the first humans who found gold there. In this regard, there is evidence that there had been ancient efforts at working the area, very possibly by native peoples. Findings included nuggets and gold dust. It is known from old Portuguese records that natives from the interior, who carried porcupine quills filled with gold dust, came to the coastline and used this for bartering purposes.

In early 1883, Mr. Ingram James found alluvial gold on the banks of the Nampogwana River (also known as Ngwenyana). It was also named North/Noordkaap River by Europeans in the area. Mr. James

Illustration A. Portion of an early map of the Kaap Gold Fields, 1887, showing Jamestown and surrounds.





initially worked alone and pegged a claim for himself. Eventually, he acquired two partners, the first being a Frenchman - nicknamed "French Bob" - Mr. Robert Auguste. The second partner was Mr. Henry Culverwell, who had reported this new gold discovery to the District Government, after filing a number of claims for themselves as the news spread quickly thereafter.

Within a few days of the announcement discussed above, many diggers founded a camp and called the surrounding area, Poop Valleys. Within a short time the camp with its tents, shanties and huts, located on the north side of the Noordkaap River, became the nucleus of a real settlement of about 150 souls. In honor of Ingram James, the previously mentioned first settler and discoverer of gold in the area, this encampment, now of village size, was named "Jamestown".

Early settlers were known to have faced difficulties with a certain breed of the local fauna. During the early period of development a leopard had killed and dragged a heifer away. The same fate was experienced by sheep on the opposite side of the river. In the local Poverty Gully area, a great, early find of gold was discovered by a party of Australians.

Jamestown was actually the first real European settlement of the De Kaap Valley. As a result, many famous prospectors used this place as a base from which to pursue further discoveries. Among these residents were Jim Murray, Bob Watson, Tom Elsie and his wife. Mrs. Elsie was the first European female in the De Kaap Valley. Their daughter, named "Nugget", was the first child to be born in Jamestown.

The Jamestown goldrush was profitable to an extent - a few good nuggets were found, one with a weight of 58 ounces. However the gold rush "era" here was relatively short-lived in that deposits were very patchy with claims fairly spread-out and were soon exhausted.

The occurrence of events leading-up to gold rush discoveries is interesting indeed. For example, one day, a certain Mr. Tom Andrews went hunting on horseback for buffalo. He was looking for a pair of horns for trophy purposes. He did eventually kill a suitable specimen for that purpose. On his return to Kaapsehoop he rested under a large rock, south of the nearby Noordkaap River. When he awoke from his rest nap, Mr. Andrews spotted a piece of gold before him on the ground. He pegged the area and purchased a claim licence for an area he named "Pinetown". This claim was later worked as the Worcester goldmine.

Mr. Andrews also had an alluvial diggings enterprise in operation at which he employed several men. This freed him up to become fully occupied with his work on the Albion mine which he had also discovered earlier. He started out with 118,000 in capital for this particular project.

With the passage of time, Jamestown became a small, pretty little mountain village with a bakery, butchery, general store and inn. However, being sparsely settled presented a great handicap and some

diggers died during their years at the place. Take for example 70-year-old Jack Bartholomew. A real old-timer for that area, he passed-away in his tiny mountain shack, still in his hobnailed boots and dressed in his ragged moleskin cloth. It is also known that within a period two months, five men were buried.

Regarding its early postal services, much is not known regarding Jamestown's situation. It is known that the Mine Commissioner, David Wilson would take letters with him as part of his duties. These letters would be forwarded through the existing mailstream at Duiwels Kantoor. Mr. Wilson made several regulatory control visits to Jamestown in 1883. During these visits, he also made gold purchases, as well as dealing with other official matters.

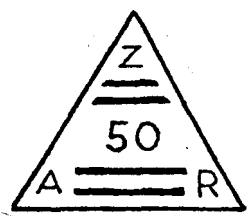
For outgoing mail, all letters and cards should have been addressed via Kaapsche Hoop. In the early development of an area postal system before 1888, it is unknown if there was a private, semi-official postal agency operation to expedite matters. If there was, it is possible that the BONC obliterator "560" may have been used to cancel mail items. (Perhaps the Transvaal/ZAR archives in Pretoria have as yet undiscovered documentation to that effect.)

On January 1, 1888, Jamestown was designated and opened as a "Postal Agency" (P.A.K.). Mr. J.W. de Waal was its first postal agent. He received an annual salary of 110

The Agency was assigned a squared 26 x 26mm octagonal place-date canceller (2nd Republic), with "JAMESTOWN" at the top, date/month line in the middle (possibly with a time code letter "A" or "B" above and year below). At the bottom "Z.A.R." might also have appeared as usually issued in this type of canceller during the Transvaal years. Unfortunately, non-canceller impressions have been seen/found, but not yet been recorded. Can anyone help me with this?

A mailbag seal was also possibly used at the Jamestown postal agency. From January 1, 1888, the mailcoach from Pretoria to Barberton and vice versa, made a little turnoff from the main road, arriving in Jamestown each Tuesday and Friday at 4 p.m. In 1889 mailcoach arrival saw routine arrivals on Mondays and Fridays at this same afternoon hour. In that year, the agency began using its recently assigned triangular code "50" canceller (III. B). Blue ink was used for cancelling purposes.

**Illustration B.** The Traingular "50" canceller of Jamestown.



As the diggings petered-out, many prospectors moved away resulting in the postal agency being closed at the end of 1889. Sometime later a mission station was established at Jamestown. This eventually resulted in the postal agency being reopened on January 1, 1892. This was a short-lived reopening in that the agency was

closed again on April 25, 1892 (Mathews).

After the opening of a branch railway line to Barberton, an 8km road from Sheba Siding Station (Eaylwayhalt) to Jamestown was built to serve still-working mines in the immediate area.

During the remainder of the 1890s, neighboring mines, e.g., Albion, Consort, Independent, were worked out, resulting in miners and local inhabitants moving away. The once boastful and rapidly growing practically disappeared as a result.

Today, Jamestown consists only of a few foundations in open fields. The name survives only in the old ZAR post office listings, records and maps of the time.

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# The Lost History of the Goshen Republic

Jos. De Wahl, South Africa

*Editorial Note: This article, by the late Mr. Wahl originally appeared in "The Mafeking Mail and Botswana Guardian" on October 11, 1974. The author was an amateur historian who lived in Vryburg. This article was reprinted next in the December 1993 issue of "The Runner Post" of the Bechuanaland and Botswana Philatelic Society. The original spellings have been retained as there was frequently more than one accepted version.*

## Introduction

In and round about the town of Mafeking in the northern Cape, there exists a legend handed down from father to son, from one generation to another, about the mythical Republic of Goshen which reigned over these parts once upon a time. Yet, apart from a vague reference to a couple of names of persons and places in a tone of great respect and reverence for its noble past, nothing more is known. Its existence, however, was very real, and represented a very important chapter in the colorful history of South Africa. Indeed the episode had a profound influence and bearing on subsequent history, and on the changing face and map of South Africa.

## Of Same Race

At the dawn of the nineteenth Century, the vast country north of the Vaal River, from Taung northwards to the Molopo River, and beyond; bounded on the east by the Transvaal border, and Westwards as far as Kuruman, was inhabited by native tribes. This was the Sechuana or Tswana race, speaking the Sechuana language, which the famous missionary Dr. Moffat, who had his mission at Kuruman, put into writing, and later translated the Bible into it. There were also scattered settlements beyond the Molopo River, stretching far to the north.

Although the early inhabitants of these areas belonged to the same race, with a common language, they were divided into many different tribes under the rule of different chiefs. Officially these people migrated from Basutoland (now Lesotho). The Sechuana language is closely related to Sesotho and is in fact a dialect of the latter; and

the Sotho and Tswana people can understand each other's tongue at first hand. In the present Government classification for instance, the Tswana is in fact classed in the ethnical group of South Sotho. The territory north of the Molopo was known a Kgamas Country, after the powerful chief Kgama who reigned over a portion of the area in question.

Chief Kgama was generally referred to as "Kgana the Great". His country also bounded on the Zuid Afrikaanse Republiek of President Kruger, with whom he was on friendly terms. In fact, strange as it may see, it was President Kruger himself who gave him the nickname of "Kgama die Grote".

In the area north of the Molopo lived various tribes under different chiefs. The most important tribes there were the Bamangwato, Bangwaketse, Bakwena, Bakgatla, Bartlhokwa, Balete and Batharo.

## People of the Fish

The area which roughly comprises the Mafeking district today, was the country of the Barolong tribe; commencing with a settlement at Mafeking, and running westwards along the Molope, with settlements at Logageng and Mositya up to the site of the present Vergelegen; and the settlements at Madibogo and Setlagoli in the south; and Lothlankani, Kuana, and Bodibe on the east.

Two major chiefs had control over the Barolong; Mafeking was the seat of Montsioa who had his brother Molema as assistant chief while Chief Moshwete had his headquarters at Kunana (near the present Kraaipan), with a sub-chief at Bodibe.

Southwest of Mafeking, in what is now the Vryburg area, lived the Batlhaping tribe. "Batlhaping" means "People of the Fish", having the fish as a token or national emblem. How it came to pass that the fish could be adopted as emblem in a drought-stricken area bordering on the Kalahari desert, is of course a history on its own. The Batlhaping had the settlements of Taung to the south of Vryburg, with Bothitong, Littakoon and Tselaenge to the west up to Kuruman. North of Vryburg were the settlements of Tlakgameng, Morokweng and Ganyesa, over which ruled the famous Batlhapi chief Mankoarane, son of Molala, and successor the great Chief Mahura. Far to the west in the Kuruman area, in addition to a section of the Batlhaping, one of the Batlharo tribes also resided. The rest lived beyond the Molopo.

In 1866 gold was discovered at the Tati River in the north where the Bamangwato tribe lived under the rule of Chief Matsheng. The discovery of gold brought an influx of settlers and fortune seekers from Europe, England and also the Transvaal, which created unrest and disturbance amongst the Bamangwato people. At the same time Chief Matsheng's people were attacked by the Matabele race living in the north near the Zambezi under the rule of Chief Moselekatse. As a result of all this unrest and trouble, Matsheng found himself in an insecure position. He was well acquainted with the British authorities through medium of the missionaries, and decided to enlist the sympathy and help of the British Government. Accordingly, he wrote a letter to Sir Philip Wodehouse, Governor of the Cape Colony, in the following words:

#### **Gold Diggers**

"Now I conceive it my duty to seek the counsel and aid of Her Majesty's Government. The Transvaal Government desires me to hand over to the Republic the district in question, in return for the protection of the Republic against the gold-diggers molesting my people. I beg then humbly to submit to your Excellency, as Her Majesty's representative, that the fields in the Shashe are situated in the country which belongs to me as Chief of the Bamangwato. The boundary line between my country and that of Moselekatse is at Makobe's old town." Sir Philip referred Matsheng's letter to London, and after further requests and negotiations, spurred on by the fact that Britain was wary of and had misgivings about establishment of a German colony on the southwest coast, a British Protectorate was proclaimed over the whole of the Sechuana country north of the Molopo. Henceforth, it became known as the Bechuanaland Protectorate, and remained so until recent years when it was granted independence, and emerged as the Republic of Botswana.

While developments in the Protectorate were taking their course, there was constant strife between the people of the two Barolong chiefs, Monsioa at Mafeking and Moshwete at Kunana; with continual disputes of cattle rustling, watering places and boundaries, until eventually open war broke out between them. At the same time serious disputes, skirmishes and other incidents between Monsioa's

people and the Transvaal burghers were common, and almost of daily occurrence. Moshwete lived right on the Transvaal border and traded cattle with the burghers, with the result that he was on good terms with them. When he was at a time hard-pressed by Monsioa's warriors, he appealed for help to the Transvaal Government. The latter was, however, not anxious to take part officially, but did not oppose volunteers going. Accordingly, during the latter part of 1880, a volunteer corps of burghers under leadership of the very able and highly respected Nicolaas Guy van Pittius set forth to the aid of Moshwete. The latter was soon victorious with the aid of his allies who were awarded a tract of land and farms as remuneration. They decided to settle there and in 1881 established the Republic of Goshen (Republiek van Goosen) with van Pittius at the head of the Volks-Komitee (People's Committee), at a place they called Roode Gron (now Rooigrond), some 18 Kilometres east of Mafeking, on the road to Lichtenburg. The name Goshen (or Goosen) was derived from the Biblical history of one of the tribes of Israel who preferred to leave their traditional dwelling place to go and live in the "Faraway land of Goshen".

#### **Volunteered**

While events in Goshen were making history, there was also trouble towards the south in the Batlhaping area where Chief Mankoarane was engaged in warfare with David Massouw Taaibosch, the chief of a different race, namely The Korannas, a yellowish race living on the Transvaal border at Mamusa, the present site of Schweizer-Reneke. Massouw was on friendly terms with the neighboring Transvaal and Free State burghers, and appealed for help to the Transvaal; offering as reward part of his territory, as well as ground which may be conquered from Mankoarane. The Transvaal was, however, at the time itself involved in disputes with the British Government, after the 1880 War of Independence, and therefore not eager to take part.

Accordingly a volunteer corps of Transvaal burghers, together with a party from the Orange Free State, came over, and, in a short time defeated Mankoarane. They decided to settle on the ground and farms that were granted to them; and, in 1881 established the Republic of Stellaland with Gert van Niekerk, the leader as President. They called themselves "Vrye Burgers" (free Burghers) and laid out the town of Vryburg as the seat of their government.

Unlike President van Niekerk of Stellaland, van Pittius never assumed the title of "President", but signed himself in letters and documents as "Administrator of Land Goosen".

#### **Rhodes' Dream**

While the aforementioned events in Stellaland and Goshen were taking place, Cecil John Rhodes was busy with the building of his "Empire to the North". His dream was an unbroken British Colonial Empire from the Cape to Northern Rhodesia. The two little Republics of Goshen and Stellaland became an embarrassment to his scheme. In fact, he himself referred to it as "The Suez Canal to the North."

At one time Rhodes was appointed Deputy Commissioner to the Protectorate, which post served him very well with the building of his railway to the north. It was his ambition to get rid of the Republics of Goshen and Stellaland which were blocking his road; and he continually pressured upon the British Colonial Government to annex the territories. However, the British Government never had an eye for the two Republics and looked upon this with disfavor. It considered the European settlers as aggressors and adventurers. In fact, in official Gazettes before us, dated 1880 to 1883, with the title "Presented to both houses of Parliament by Command of Her Majesty:", the burghers of the two small Republics are referred to as "Freebooters" and "Filibusters", whatever that may mean.

At this time an army of British troops was stationed on the Vaal River some 70 Kilometers north of Kimberley, under the command of General Sir Charles Warren, at a place called Warrenton (named after him). This was indeed one of the armies which later caused President Kruger's ultimatum to the British to remove their troops from his country's borders; and afterwards resulted in the Anglo-Boer War.

### **Order to Annex**

Cecil Rhodes' efforts in his representations to the British Government were successful, and by June 1884 Warren suddenly received an order to proceed to Stellaland and Goshen to annex these territories forthwith in the name of the British Crown. This was known as the Warren Expedition. Warren's army entered Vryburg where it met little resistance, as there was no warning and the people were unprepared for war. The British flag was hoisted and British rule proclaimed over the territory. His entry into Vryburg is commemorated by Warren Road in Vryburg.

From Stellaland, Warren proceeded to Goshen, but was halted by armed burghers from Goshen at Kgomo-Luchube, and prevented from going further. He then swerved to the left and reached Mafeking, where he hoisted his flag and proclaimed British rule. There were, however, no burghers from Goshen present to hear his proclamation which was ignored with contempt by the Goshenites.

The Reverend John Mackenzie was appointed by the British Government as first High Commissioner to govern the territory with his government seat at Vryburg and his name is commemorated by a Mackenzie Street in the town. Accordingly, on August 1, 1884, Commissioner Mackenzie proclaimed the whole territory, bounded on the south by the Vaal River and on the north by the Molopo River; from Mafeking and the Transvaal border to the east to Kuruman and Upington areas in the west, as a British Crown Colony, by name British Bechuanaland; to distinguish it from the Bechuanaland Protectorate situated north of the Molopo.

An administrator was appointed for the two Bechuanalands in the person of Sir Sydney Shippard, with the administrative seat at Mafeking where his name is commemorated by Shippard Street. A garrison of troops under Colonel Carrington, was left to guard the

Unlike Stellaland, which gave very little resistance, the small Republic of Goshen proved a difficult and hard nut to crack. Van Pittius was a brilliant soldier and able leader, and with only 300 armed men gave battle, and kept the British at bay for almost two years. Many incidents, skirmishes and battles took place, and we have culled a few scenes at random, depicted by the following correspondence and despatches.

### **Patched Up Peace**

11 September 1884 - Telegraphic from Sir Hercules Robinson to the Earl of Derby: "Mr. Gey declined to meet Rhodes unless recognized as Administrator of Goshen. Rhodes refused. Subsequent meetings took place and Rooi Gronders submitted proposals wholly inadmissible, but Rhodes offered to discuss them if armistice was granted for fourteen days. This was declined and Rhodes left, warning Gey that they were making war upon a chief under British protection. After departure of Rhodes, Montsioa being in extremis asked Joubert to mediate. Result, agreement of peace between freebooters described as Government of Goshen, and Montsioa. By this Montsioa agrees unconditionally to Government of Goshen promising to be a loyal subject and to obey Goshen laws. In consideration of above Montsioa to retain location of not more than ten farms of three thousand morgen each within certain limits."

While the Goshenites were continuing their struggle with Rhodes and the British Army, the Transvaal Republic decided to step in, as witnessed by the following Proclamation by President Kruger: 16 September 1884 - "Whereas it has appeared desirable to put an end to the discontent and bloodshed on the western boundaries of Montsioa have with all their subjects and rights placed themselves under the protection of the Government of the South African Republic, so do I Stephanus Johannes Paulus Kruger, President of the South African Republic, for the protection of public order and safety, hereby proclaim and make known that the Chiefs Moshwete and Montsioa with their subjects and rights shall be regarded as under the protection and control of the Government of the South African Republic."

So now the Republic of Goshen found itself in the strange and queer position of having been simultaneously annexed by two different powers, a situation certainly unique in world history.

### **Thankful Heart**

The foregoing proclamation of President Kruger was in fact prompted by a letter written by Chief Montsioa to Mr. Joubert, a commissioner of the Transvaal Government who acted as a messenger of peace and tried to put an end to the hostilities. Here is the text of the letter:

"Mafeking, 30 Aug. 1884 - When I the Chief saw yesterday evening that you had listened to me and had agreed to make peace my heart was very thankful. I then said I will be under your arms and the Government of The Transvaal with my people and my land and my country. I see there is but one thing to bring peace into my land and give my people rest. Where is Mackenzie now? Will he help if I am

town where his name is recalled by Carrington Road.

dead? N

To, I will hear nothing of him. I put myself into your hands.

I have called you in as mediator and pray you not to abandon me without making peace. And now Mr. Joubert this letter of mine is my heart, and these words I shall speak as long as I live in this world, and here is my name". (Signed) Chief Montsuou (note spelling). (Countersigned by Jesaiga and Motsegare). The news of the Transvaal Proclamation and Chief Montsioa's negotiations were conveyed to the British Government by the following despatch.

24 September 1884 - sir Hercules Robinson to the Earl of Derby: "I have to inform you Lordship that a press telegram from Pretoria had announced the issue of a proclamation on the 16th instant by the President of the South African Republic by which Chiefs Montsioa and Moshwete with their subjects were placed under the protection of the South African Republic".

The reaction of the British government to President Kruger's Proclamation, was a sharp protest and reproach that it was a flagrant contravention of the Pretoria Convention. This latter was the peace Treaty between the Transvaal and the British, after the 1880-81 War of Independence. Accordingly the Proclamation of President Kruger was shortly afterwards withdrawn unconditionally.

Thus far the Government of Goshen had counted on, and was inspired by the moral support and sympathy of The Transvaal Republic, but with the withdrawal of President Kruger from the scene, the faith and courage in the cause collapsed, and the Republic of Goshen finally capitulated to British rule.

### **Friends**

We dig into papers and we turn up something interesting of a more charming and peaceful nature: a letter dated March 30, 1885, from President Kruger to Chief Kgama The Great, which shows the friendly relations which existed between them. Here is the text: "Friend, I have received your letter about complaints against Chief KGAMANE and will in answer inform you that I had referred this matter to my Native Commissioner of the Waterberg, Mr. Potgieter. You may rest assured that I will not allow anyone from within by boundaries to worry and injure you. Be further assured that the friendly understanding which has here-tofore existed between you and me shall remain undisturbed and shall not be allowed to be broken by me through evil-doers on my side". (It should be noted that Kgamane lived on the border but inside The Transvaal.)

Here again is recorded a strange and rather comic incident: August 18, 1884, State Secretary to His excellency The High Commissioner: "This government has been informed that the volunteers of Rooigrond under cover of a flag of truce have taken prisoner Mr. Wright, Assistant British Commissioner in Bechuanaland." Mr. Wright was soon back, [however, it](#) was thought that he had escaped but that was not so. The truth is that the incident was nothing more than an annoying prank executed by the Goshenites. He was taken to Rooigrond and there released, and made to walk back to Mafeking. The poor fellow lost his way however, and arrived footsore and weary

Here again we come across a relic on a sadder note and rather tragic in tone. It is a copy of a letter by Guy van Pittius to Commissioner C.J. Rhodes, which holds a faint ray of hope that the Republic of Goshen might be spared from British occupation and consequent extinction.

Land Goosen Government Office, August 26, 1884 - "To C.J. Rhodes Esq: Sir, in answer to your letter of this date I have the honor to reply that as it is painful to us to prolong bloodshed in this war, and as we earnestly desire, above all things to put an end to it, now therefore I with my Executive council am most willing to have a conference, which conference may be held at such time and place as you may fix." (Signed) N.C. Guy van Pittius, Administrator of Land Goosen.

At the turn of the Century, Cecil John Rhodes who was then Premier of the Cape Colony, conceived the idea to place the territory of British Bechuanaland under the administration of the Cape Colony government. His petition to the British Government succeeded as it was obviously a cumbersome task to govern the Colony from faraway England. Thus came to pass the paradox: of this northwestern frontier being under an administration seated in Cape Town, a thousand miles away, and forming part of the Cape Colony, with which it has no connection whatsoever, neither geographical nor historical.

### **Mafeking's Name**

There may seem to be some confusion as to the spelling of the name of the erstwhile Republic. The pronunciation was definitely that of the Afrikaans "Goosen". Van Pittius in official correspondence mostly used the term "Land Goosen". In correspondence and official records of the British Colonial Office, as well as that of Cecil Rhodes and other Commissioners, the name was spelt "Goshen". (It seemed to have taken on a bilingual character to fit in with circumstances and usage at the time.)

About the origin of the name "Mafeking": there are two versions. The one has it that the name was "Mafi-kang" which means "The place of Rocks". With the changed topography which the modern town has brought about, however, it would be difficult to establish today which rocks were referred to. The other legend revolves around the fact that these parts were the home of the large flocks of wild ostriches. When the immigrant natives first arrived here, there were astounded at the huge eggs produced by these giant birds, and exclaimed in wonder "MAI-KENG?" (What sort of egg is this?) The writer prefers the latter version.

Unfortunately for Rooigrond, it could not be connected by the railway to the north. This would have resulted in its cutting through a portion of The Transvaal. The line had of necessity to follow the Protectorate border. Thus Mafeking evolved on the railway line as the capital town of the territory, and became the veritable "Gateway to the North". For more than half a century it controlled the exchange of traffic and rolling stock between the Rhodesia Railways and the South

at Zeerust three days later.

African Railways.

Its railway workshops were well-equipped and one of the busiest in the country. At the same time it became one of the most important customs control and check points in what was then the Union of South Africa. Until recently, Mafeking was also the official seat of the Government of the Bechuanaland Protectorate. The town became known internationally on account of the temporary residence there of Lord Baden-Powell, the founder of the international Boy Scout movement; also on account of the notorious siege which made world headlines during the Anglo-Boer War of 1899-1902.

There is still a small settlement today at Rooigrond, with a picturesque wayside hotel, a country trading store, and a little post office with a farmhouse dotted here and there, surrounded by trees and the open countryside a haven of peace and tranquility after its turbulent past. It has become an attracts as a weekend resting place, and a popular venue for functions of all kinds.

"Sic Transit Gloria" - and another chapter in our history is closed.

## Post Office Exhibition Cards of The Union of South Africa

Kalman V. Illyefalvi, USA

*Editorial Note: This article was first published in "The Collectors Club Philatelist" of July-August 1997, Volume 76, Number 4, pages 221-229. Our thanks to the author for bringing this very interesting work to our attention.*

The late 1920s and early 1930s witnessed a worldwide depression Afrikaans, English, or German (Fig. 3) This was the second time and, at the same time, evolving technology led to expansion of civil since 1915 that German (Fig. 4) was authorized for use in an official aviation. In South Africa, the government took over and consolidated

cancellation. Flown cards are scarce.

several of the struggling airlines and formed South African Airways The next exhibition was to promote the purchase of radio receivers (February 1, 1934). It was operated as a department of the South (which were licensed [annually, by](#) the Post Office). It was held in African Railways and Harbors and has remained so

ever since. Since the air service was now a government function, the Post Office gave more attention to supporting and publicizing air mail.

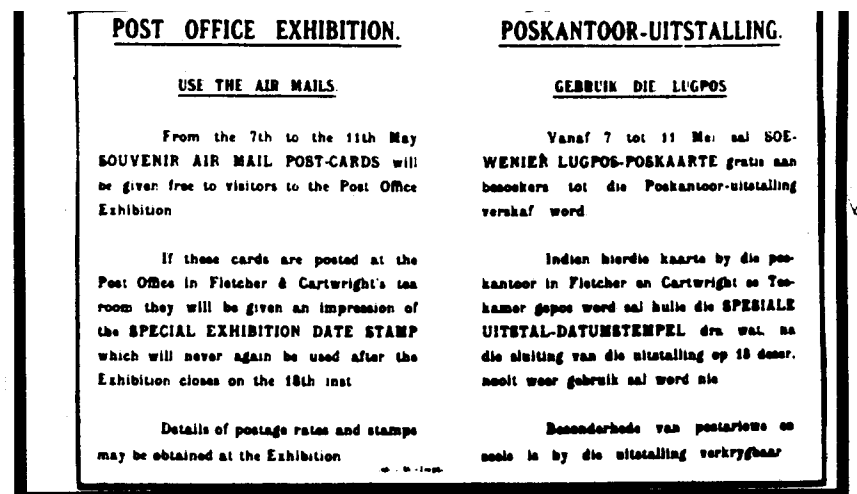
In 1935, the government of South Africa, anxious to increase revenues, decided that a series of exhibitions in some of the major cities would create additional interest and develop new customers for the use of the air mails. To enhance these events, government-printed post cards were to be given out, and a unique cancellation was to be used at each location. Reduced postage rates were arranged with the airlines for the special cards mailed from the exhibition stations.

The first exhibition was held in Cape Town from May 7 through May 18, 1935. Despite publicity in the newspapers, poster, placards and the selection of a popular spot to hold the exhibition (Fletcher &

Cartwrights' Tea Room), the event was something of a flop (Fig. 1). The cards were handed out May 7 through 11, with the cancel and special mailing rates being available through May 18, 1935. A grand total of 1091 cars were distributed. Most of the cards were sent to countries abroad by philatelists (Fig. 2).

The South African Postal Administration operated the post offices in the League of Nations mandated territory of South West Africa. It held a brief exhibition May 31-June 1, 1935 in Windhoek. Unused cards from the Cape Town exhibit were distributed at this show. The cards could be canceled with one of three cancels with text in

Figure 1. Bilingual announcement of the first Post Office Exhibition, 1935.



Johannesburg from the 16th to the 24th of October 1935. *The Star*, a local newspaper, was the sponsor. Almost as an afterthought, an air mail souvenir card was given out and a special cancellation provided. Two different versions of the card were distributed. One was similar to the previous cards but marked PBY 14A in the upper left corner (Fig. 5); the other, with reset text (English 8 1/2 lines) but without markings in the upper left corner. Most used copies are canceled on October 24 (Figs. 6 & 7).

This was followed by another Post Office Exhibition, held in East London (Cape Province) December 2, 1935, through January 14, 1936. Postcards with the identifier PBY 14A were given to visitors.

Figure 2. Example of first Post Office Exhibition card.

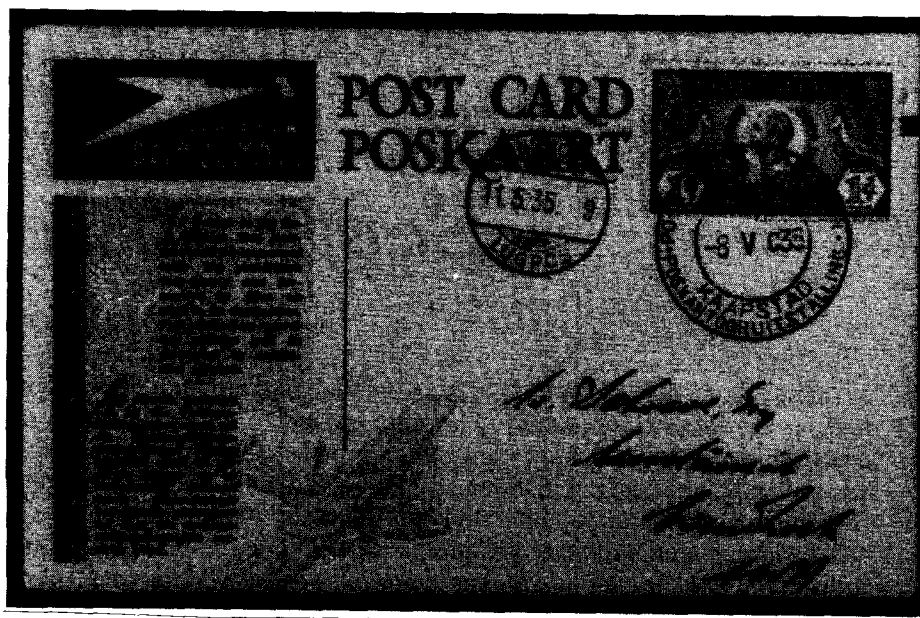


Figure 3. Example of used bilingual card from the 1935 Windhoek exhibition.

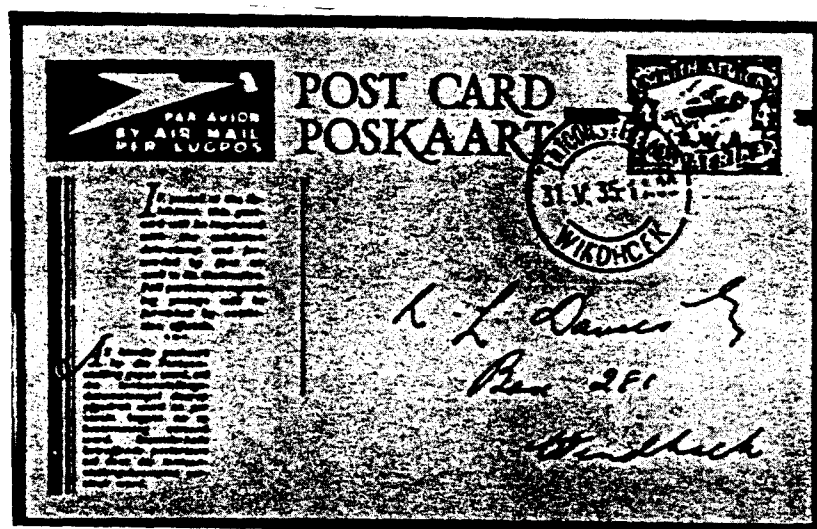


Figure 4. Three cancels used at the 1935 Windhoek exhibition.



Cards could be air mailed for  $\frac{1}{2}$  penny within South Africa and 9) (Figs. 8

The year 1936 was eagerly anticipated. Johannesburg was to celebrate the 50th Anniversary of the discovery of gold nearby. It would host the Empire Exhibition from September 15, 1936, to January 16, 1937, and JIPEX (Johannesburg International Philatelic Exhibition),

November 2-14, 1936. The postal administration negotiated with all the airlines and received permission to mail special souvenir cards for  $\frac{1}{2}$ d to anywhere in the world. This was the lowest airmail rate ever. Initially, type II exhibition cards and PBY 14 (a reset of type II) were handed to visitors at the Air Mail Booth. On October 19, 1936, this was succeeded by a set of six pictorial cards, sold for 3 pence. They showed aspects of Air Mail operations. The type 1 and type 2 postmarks can be easily identified by type size. In type 1 the ornament in the double circle on the left is 1mm from "E" while in type 2 it is 1.5mm (Figs. 10 to 14).

At the same time a set of general purpose pictorial cards were also sold by the post office. These dealt with the history and development of the posts in south Africa.

Both types of cards were used by collectors at the JIPEX Post Office. Two hand cancels were used: one in English and one in Afrikaans (Fig. 15). Registry service was available.

According to Reisener, Post Office records show that 29,307 cards were sent by airmail at the special rate from the Empire Exhibition and JIPEX stations: South Africa 10,792, United Kingdom 10,209, Germany 1,427, Rhodesia 1,163, Australia 718, U.S.A. 716, Canada 492, India 386, New Zealand 365, East Africa 269, Holland 248, other southern Africa countries 282, Tristan da Cunha 11, the rest of the world 2,239. Cards with postmarks showing dates of arrival are especially desirable.

An audit by the Postal Administration showed that there were some leftover PBY 14A cards. Rather than letting them go to waste or be scrapped, they were sent to South West Africa to be used at a special postal exhibition in Windhoek on May 12, 1937, to celebrate the coronation of King George VI and the first day of the new coronation stamps (Fig. 17). All flown cards were backstamped. As before, cancellations were available in English, Afrikaans and German.

These exhibition cards were prepared by the government

printer for official use and given or sold to the public by the post office. I believe that this group of cards belong in the category of semi-official postal stationery, even though postage had to be affixed. Accordingly, they should be included and listed in the catalogs. For interested collectors a check list of the cards ( $3\frac{1}{2}$ " x 5"), their uses, and a bibliography is listed below.



All the cards were 3 1/2" x 5" in size. Printers' markings, if present, were in the upper left corner.

#### An Exhibition Card Checklist

*XPC-1 Unmarked Type I.* Text in dark blue, English text 10 1/2 lines, background illustration pale green. Post Office Exhibition, Cape Town (1935), Post Office Exhibition, Windhoek (1935).

*XPC-2 Unmarked Type II.* As above, English text 8 1/2 lines. Radio Exhibition, Johannesburg (1935). Empire Exhibition, Johannesburg (1936-1937).

*XPC-3 Marked PBV 14A.* As above, English text 10 1/2 lines. Radio Exhibition, Johannesburg (1935). Post Office Exhibition, East London (1935/1936). Post Office Exhibition, Windhoek (1937).

*XPC-4 Marked PBV 14.* As above, English text 8 1/2 lines. Empire Exhibition, Johannesburg (1936-1937).

*XPC-5 Empire Exhibition Air Mail Card.* Text in dark blue. Views: 1. Air Station, Rand Airport.

2. Rand Airport, Arrival of Air Mails from Europe and Intermediate Countries.

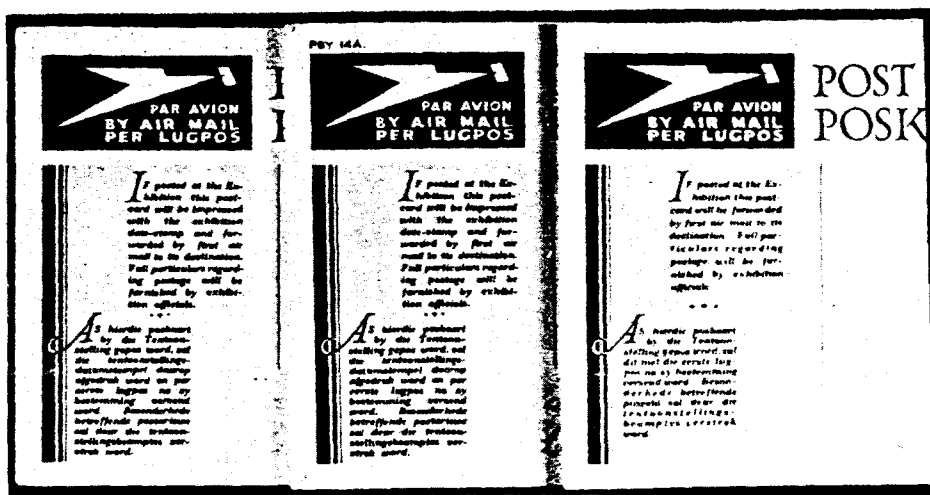
3. Rand Airport, South African Airways' Machine and Postal Van.

4. Delivery of Mails at Rand Airport. 5. Air Mail Section, General, Post Office, Johannesburg.

6. Posting Boxes, General Post Office, Johannesburg, with Illuminated Map of Principal World Air Mail Routes. Empire

**Figure 6.** Radio Exhibition card.

**Figure 5.** Comparison of text of Type I, PBV14, Type II.



Exhibition, Johannesburg (1936-37). JIPEX, Johannesburg (1936).

PC-6 Empire Exhibition General Purpose Card. Text in Brown. Views:

1. The Telephone Tower (Telephone Exchange) Johannesburg (1894-1907).

2. Interior, Telephone Tower, Johannesburg, (1894-1907). 3.

Post Office Stone (1622). 4. First Post and Telegraph Office,

Johannesburg, 1887. 5. General Post Office, Johannesburg (1904)).

6. General Post Office, Johannesburg (Opened 15th October 1935). Empire Exhibition, Johannesburg (1936-1937). JIPEX, Johannesburg (1936).

(Bibliography provided after remaining figures over the next pages.)

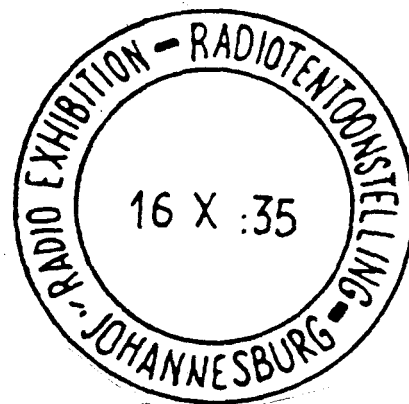
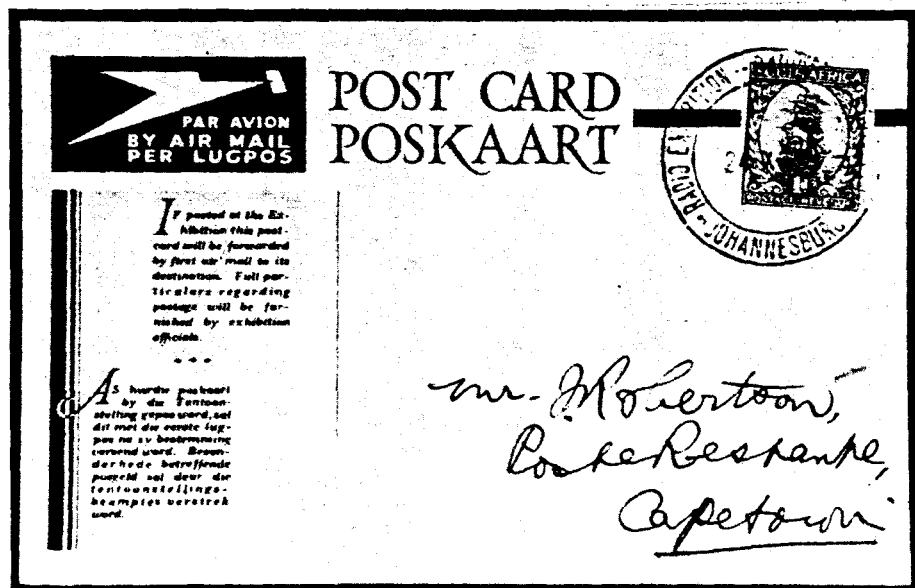




Figure 7. Windhoek Cancellation



Figure 8. Post Office Exhibition, East London.

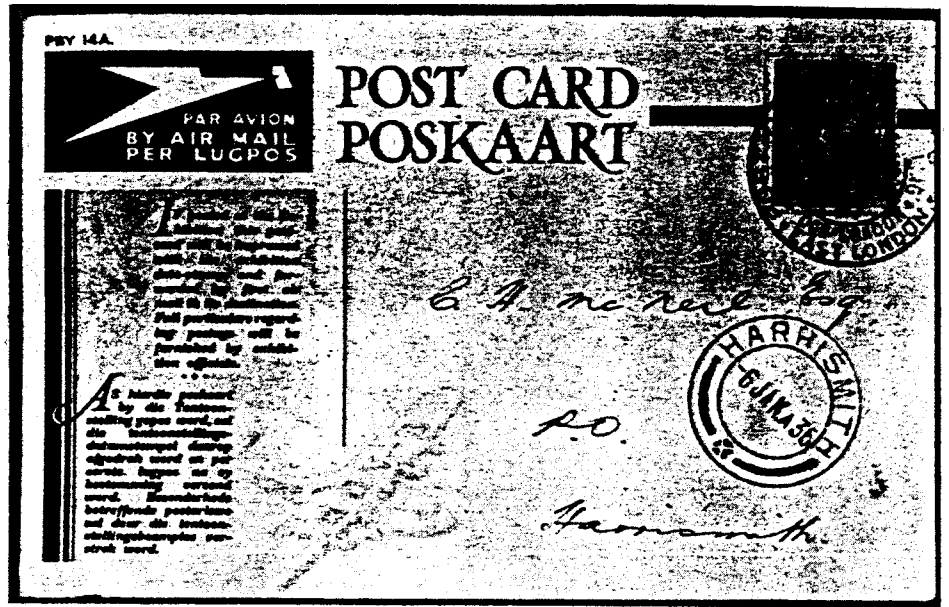


Figure 9. East London cancellation.

Figure 10. Card showing Exhibition machine cancellation.

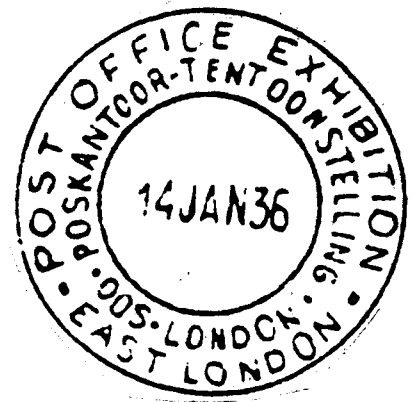
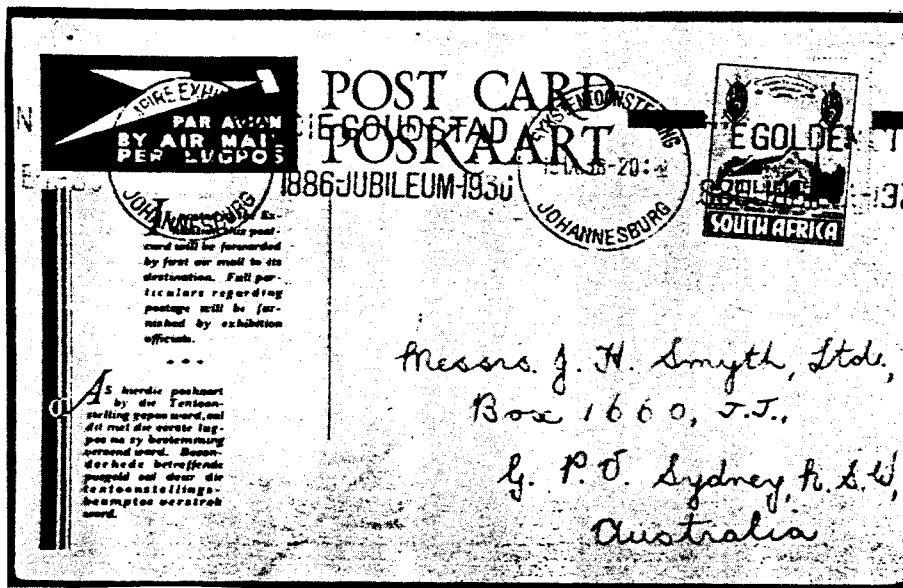




Figure 11. Unused card of the Johannesburg Exhibit

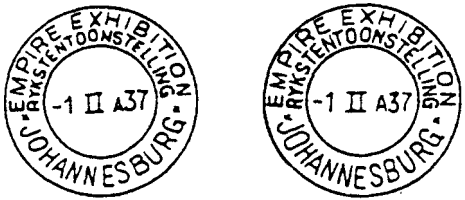


Figure 12. Handstamps type 1 and 2.

Figure 13. Empire Exhibiton machine cancellation.

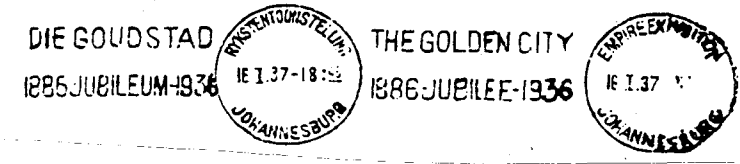


Figure 14. Empire Exhibiton general purpose card.

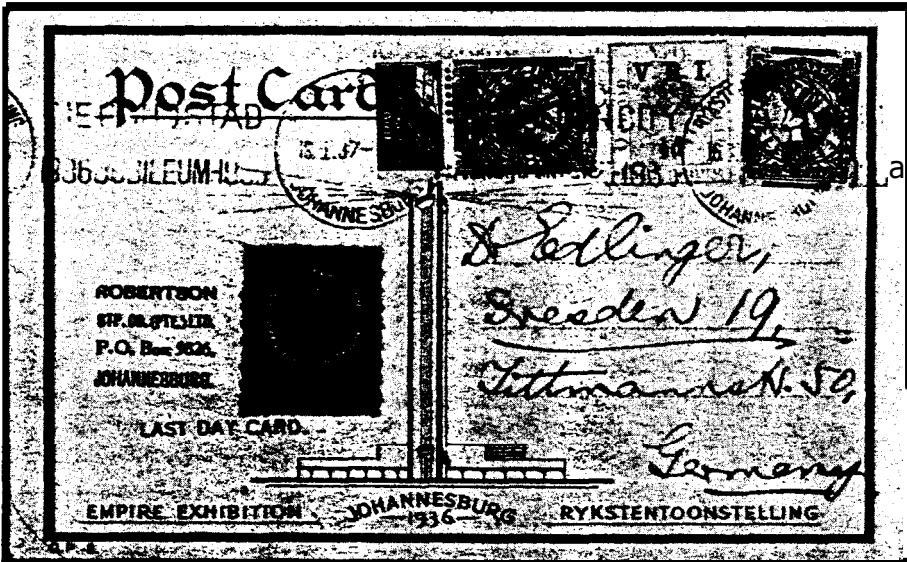


Figure 15. JIPEX English and Afrikaans cancellation.

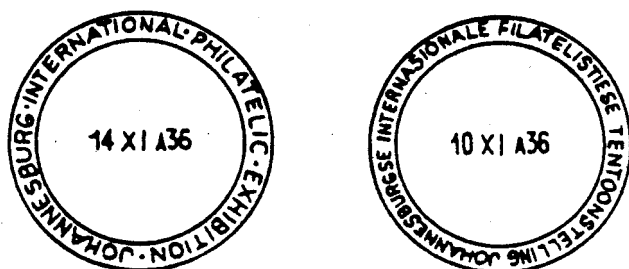


Figure 16. Used card canceled at JIPEX.

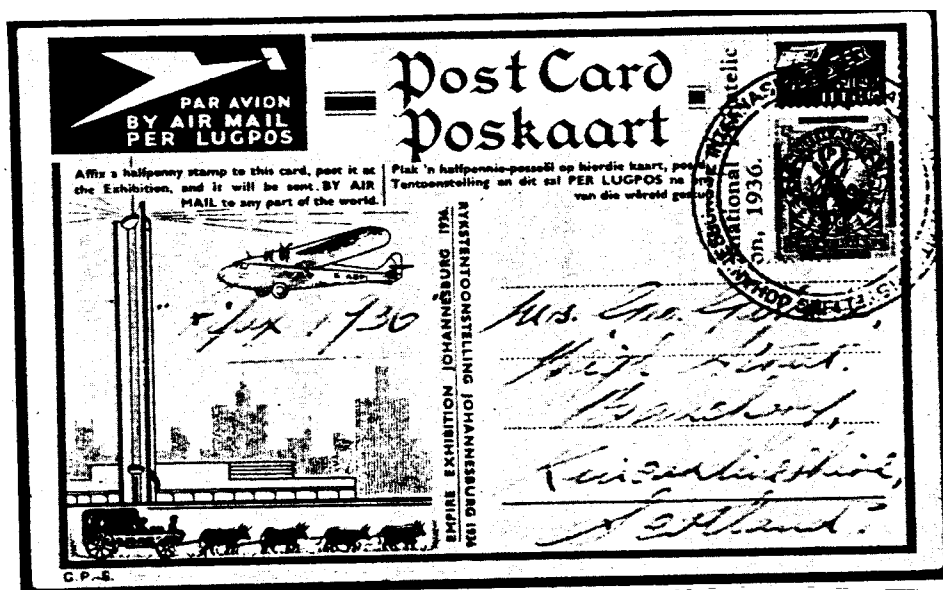
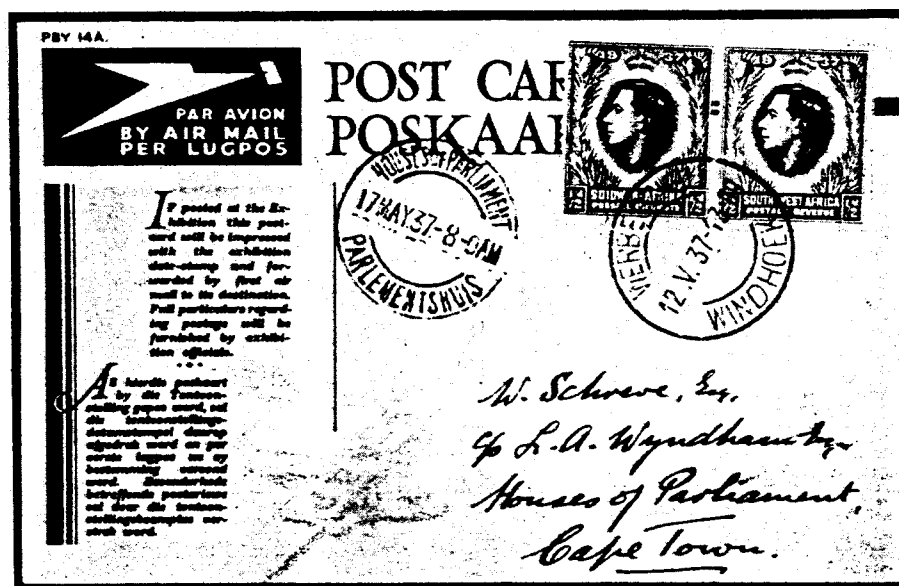


Figure 17. Windhoek card, 1937 Exhibition.



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## Dialogues & Updates

*Dialogues...* provides readers with the opportunity to share their reactions to articles appearing in this journal. Updates to published information are encouraged. Comments and updates are to be sent directly to the Editor. A copy will be sent to the original author for a response before publication herein. Corrections from authors also appear.

Dudley Blascheck wrote that two key references were inadvertently excluded by yours truly when his "Cape Mails and the Union Castle Line" appeared in the Jul/Dec '97 issue. Herein are those missing references:

"The U.K. - South Africa Sea Post Office 1913-14", Bryan Hunt, *The Philatelic Journal of Great Britain*, September 1974.

"The Union-Castle Postcard Study Circle", correspondence with Roland Jacques.

## NEWS OF THE MEMBERSHIP

### Welcome to the Fold!

**Michael K. Kluherz, #9801 - Golden, Colorado.** Michael joined after seeing one of our brochures. He collects most of southern British Africa with primary interests in Basutoland, the Bechuanalands, Swaziland, South West Africa, the Rhodesias, Union/Republic South Africa and Zululand. His specializations include stamp varieties and philatelic literature for all areas collected. Michael is a member in good standing in 25 philatelic specialty organizations in addition to PSGSA and APS.

### Member Biographies

**Trevor Measham/England.** Trevor was born in Nottingham, England. His birthday is May 11th. He is married to Cynthia. They have three children - Steven, Tina and Tracy. Trevor is a financial analyst by profession who has received various financial and electronics related college diplomas. He was a radio officer on passenger ships on the "round Africa run" for several years in the 1950s. Trevor likes to play tennis, read philatelic literature and non-fiction material. His primary philatelic interest is the town cancel, on cover, piece or stamp.

**John Tolbutt/Zimbabwe.** Born in Nairobi, Kenya, John has been collecting stamps since 1935. His primary philatelic interests are Cape triangles and Rhodesia double heads. John is a civil engineer by profession. He has obtained undergraduate and graduate in engineering related subjects. In addition to stamps, John collects (and drinks) wines. He enjoys travel, especially taking cruises. He has a work history which has taken him to South Africa, Swaziland, Mocambique, Angola, Rhodesia, Kenya, Sudan, U.K. and Saudi Arabia where he specialized in project management of large civil engineering projects - pipelines, irrigation, dams, water treatment and tunnels. In addition he has travelled to Japan, China, Malaysia, Australia and New Zealand. He also enjoys playing bridge and swimming. John is married to Lolotte and has two daughters - Sheila and Leslie. His birthday falls on April 16th.

**Julia Ward/England.** Born in London, Julia is married to Terry the union of which resulted in three children - Andrea, Belina and Ralph. She is a student licensed conveyancer by profession. Julia's primary

philatelic interests include Southern Rhodesia, the Orange Free State and Transvaal. In addition to philately, she enjoys ancient history, art appreciation, reading books of Anthony Trollope and the music of Delius. Julia also enjoys travelling. Of European countries visited, she particularly likes Italy. She had her honeymoon in Florida and would like to re-visit the USA - especially Washington, D.C. and New York City - when the children are grown.

**W. Steven Woodward/USA.** Steven is married to Nanciann. They have two children - Alexandra and Scott. He is an Attorney-at-Law by profession, having received A.B. and J.D. degrees. His primary philatelic interest is in European colonies. Steven also enjoys reading and travel.

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### The Honor Roll

This feature acknowledges Society members and publications for notable achievements such as exhibits, philatelic judging, and publishing. Members are encouraged to notify the Editor of their achievements. The subject of winning exhibits or published literature need not fall within the Society's scope.

**Gary Anemaet** - Gold and Paul Rokey/AASC Club Award at AAPEX '96 for "1904 Issues and overprints of Haiti".

**Guy Dillaway** - Appointed as Chair of the American Philatelic Society's Fakes and Forgeries Committee.

**Werner K. Seeba** - The Transvaal Gold Congress Award at the 59th Congress of the Philatelic Federation of Southern Africa for "The best Transvaal related article published during 1997".

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### Closed Album

#### Eugene E. Bowman, 1928-1997

I first knew Gene Bowman in 1980 when he suggested to Paul Wolf that he write to me regarding a census Paul was compiling on Cape of Good Hope covers to foreign destinations with triangular stamps. Upon Paul's death I decided to continue the project. Gene was a tremendous help. He was always willing to share his knowledge. He would send me color photos of his latest acquisitions to further the

project. A keen and eager student of the triangle stamps, one could always find him searching for the minute plate flaw.

We never really competed for the same items except on one lot in the Dale-Lichtenstein Auction in Washington, D.C. A second cover to Canada came up and we both started to bid. I was sitting next to Gene and finally I asked him to put his hand down since he had purchased the first cover. Without hesitation, he generously did and I won the lot. That's one kind of man he was - kind, generous, helpful. He was a good friend and I will miss him... Guy R. Dillaway.

Additional words on the passing of Gene were culled from the August 31, 1998 *Linn's Stamp News*: "Mr. Bowman, who lived in Waukesha, Wisconsin, received the 1984 American Philatelic Society World Series of Philately Champion of Champions award for his exhibit "Cape of Good Hope, 1792-1910" and the large vermeil at Ameripex 86 international stamp show.

The exhibit went on to win a number of gold awards at international exhibitions including Capex 87, New Zealand 90, Singapore 95 and Pacific 97. The exhibit was featured in the Court of Honor at both World Stamp Expo 89 and World Columbian Stamp Expo 92.

His one-frame exhibits at Ameristamp Expo in 1993 and 1994 won reserve grand and grand awards, respectively.

Mr. Bowman held memberships in the American Philatelic Society, the American Association of Philatelic exhibitors, the Royal Philatelic Society of London, the International Society of Worldwide Stamp Collectors, and the Philatelic Society for Greater Southern Africa.

He served as Midwest commissioner and on the youth committee at Ameripex 86. Mr. Bowman generously encouraged the activities of young stamp collectors and was frequently seen helping at the your table at local shows. He is survived by his wife, MaryAnn.

## THE FORERUNNERS FORUM

### The Society Publications Program

Through this activity, your Society sponsors and provides assistance in the development and publication of occasional papers, monographs, books and multi-volume works. Authors submitting written drafts receive valuable technical support in all phases of publication development. This is accomplished through the Publications Program Committee. Submissions of drafts or inquiries regarding the Publications Program are to be submitted to the Editor.

### *Works In Progress*

To research in isolation with a view towards publication is akin to reinventing the wheel" - the late Alec Page, FRPSL

Researchers/authors are encouraged to "advertise" for collaborators through this feature. If you are researching an area have yet to use "Works...", please consider doing so. You will be pleasantly surprised at the response you will receive. Entries run for three consecutive issues. Submit yours to the Editor. The alpha-numeric following the entry indicates the last issue in which the entry will appear unless renewed.

### **Postal routes and rates of the Bechuanalands and Botswana.**

Seeking printed information on postal tariffs, government notices and regulations, telephone directories prior to 1980, annual postal reports and information on covers with unusual frankings, e.g., express letter, telegrams, parcels, bulk mailings, etc. Especially needed is information on rail transport, travelling post offices, airmail routes and rail timetables. If you can help, contact Peter Thy, P.O. Box 73112, Davis, CA 95616 USA. (Vol. 12 No. 2)

### **Postcards and the Postal Historian: A Collaborative Effort. The**

South African Postcard Research Group (SAPRG) is seeking assistance in their effort to compile and publish a multi-volume catalog containing a listing of the South African produced by publishers active in the area before 1939: Volume I - Sallo Epstein, Volume II - Braune & Levy, Rittenberg and P.S. & Co. Updates and copies of material for both volumes sought. If you can assist with examples, please contact Martin Nicholson, 3 Grovelands, Daventry, Northants NN11 4DH, England. (Vol X11, No. 2)

**Postal History of Bophuthatswana.** A monograph focusing on postal activities throughout the dissolution of the Homelands. Coverage will include the postal history period from pre-independence to reincorporation, official mail user agencies, a postmasters listing, post offices and their dates of incorporation, revenues and last day of use of Bophuthatswana postal strikes. If you can help out with the information being sought, please contact Will Ross, 4120 Schuylkill Dr., Calabasas, CA 91302 USA. (Vol x11, No. 2)

## Questions & Answers

As a service to the general collecting community, the Society makes its Panel of Experts available to answers questions submitted by both member and non-member readers alike. To use this service send you question(s) to the Panel member covering the area of interest (listing opposite inside front cover page).

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. The Panel member will also return a copy of their response directly to the questioner. Some questions may require an extended period for research and/or collaboration with other scholars.

Membership on the Panel is open to members in good standing. Those who have experience and knowledge in any area *not presently covered* by the Panel are encouraged to offer their services by writing the Editor.

British Africa questions pertaining to areas outside PSGSA's scope, e.g., British East Africa, are to be sent directly to the Editor. The question will then be forwarded to the appropriate specialty group for response.

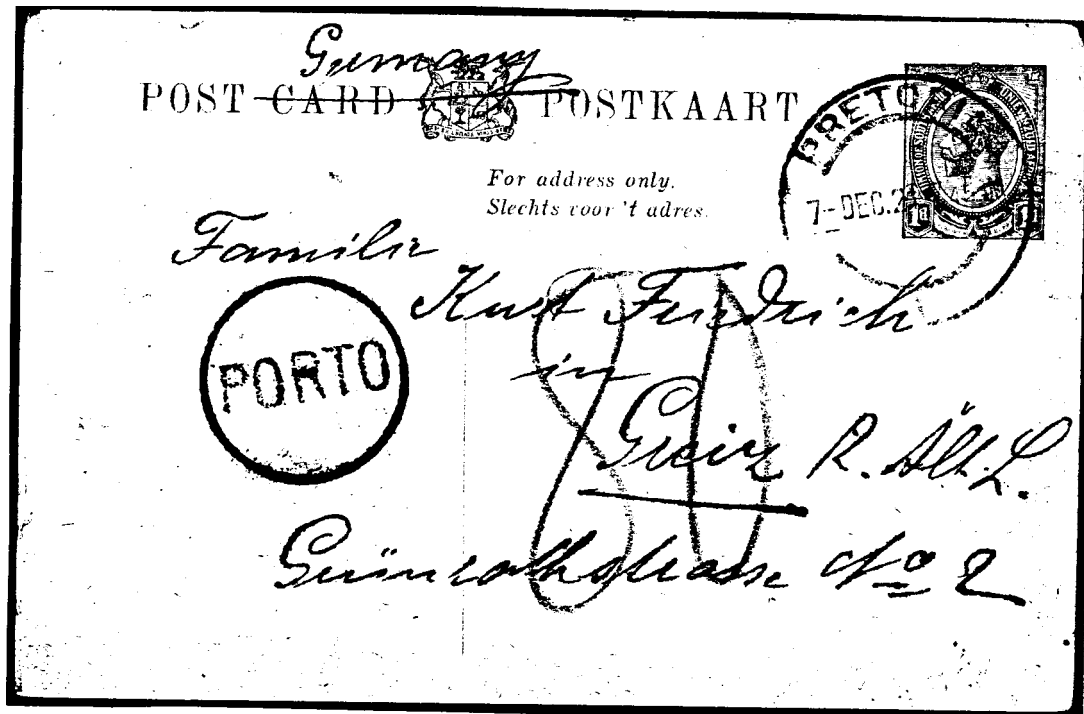
*No questions and answers were received this publication period.*

## Unanswered Challenges

This feature lists: (1) questions for 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" should be sent directly to the Editor.

**Challenge #1 (NEW).** Illustrated below is a photocopy of a taxed postcard from my own collection. This card is dated 7 December 1921. This is the correct postage for a postcard to Germany. I have some questions as follows: (1) Why was the card taxed? (2) Is the "PORTO" cancel known as a South African taxed mark. OPr was it added in Germany. (The manuscript 80 [pfennig] in blue crayon is a typical German postage due marking.) - Jan Stolk/Netherlands

**Illustration.** Postcard from South Africa to Germany - why was it taxed?



**Challenge #2.** Does anyone have a non-philatelic use of the Bophuthatswana inland and overseas aerogrammes that were issued in 1977? - Will Ross/USA

**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. BantzJRSA

**Challenge #4.** I have two south African postal orders, one of 6d uprated to 9d by affixing a 3d stamp and the second of R1.20. Both were used in south West Africa, the first in Windhoek (22/1/42), second in Aroab (3/9/623). Do readers know of any others? When did the SWA postal orders get issued? (**No record of submitter - please identify yourself!**)

## Bits & Pieces

"Bits..." provides readers with the opportunity to present information in a short order format. If you have an interesting cancel, rarity, cover, cachet, etc., then this is the place to share with your fellow members. Please, when sending your entry to the Editor, provide some detailed information when you do.

Our first "bit" comes from our long time Int'l Rep/Germany, Werner Seeba who also appears in this issue's "Honor Roll". It is a snippet from Mathew's *Transvaal Philately*, 1986, and contains an illustration of the Type 5b Barred Oval Numeral Cancellor (BONC)

The discussion goes on to say that the Type 5a canceller corresponds to the Cape Type 6a3 (refer to occasional paper by Franco Frescura,

published by the Postmark & Postal History Society of South Africa as a supplement to *The Post Office Stone*, Vol. 14, No. 2, June 1982, and Goldblatt Nos. 1 to 18).

A sub-type with 7 bars (5b) bearing the numeral 2 has been reported on a KE VII postal stationery wrapper (TP/XVLJ3/63-64). It was still in use at Pretoria in February, 1939, as an obliterator for misapplied cachets.

**Illustration-** Type 5b BONC.



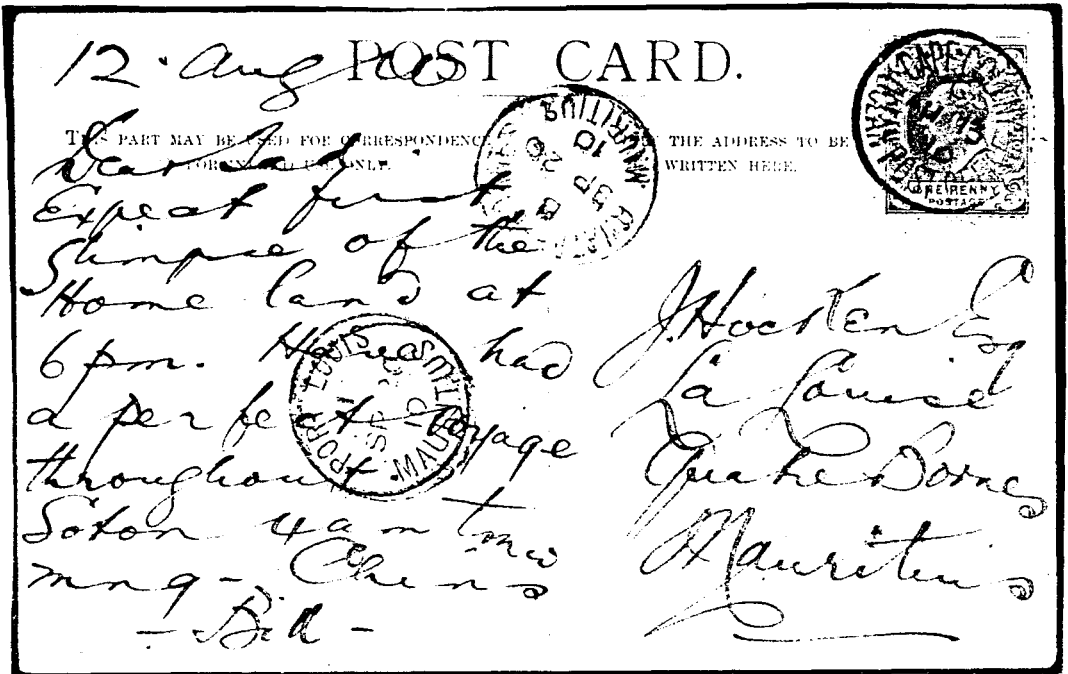
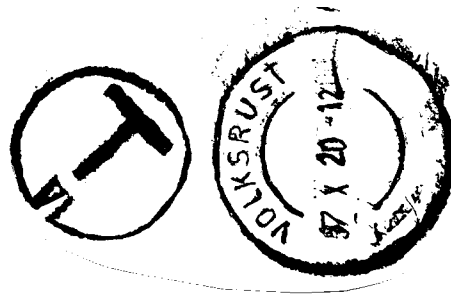
Our second piece comes by way of our Jan Stolk of the Netherlands relating to his specialization in South African postage due markings. This one is a piece postmarked "Volksrust" and is shown in the opposing illustration.

Our late member Athol Murray's collection contained a number of Cape of Good Hope maritime mail postal history items. If you enjoyed the recent Union Castle Line lead article by Dudley Blascheck, this entry should add to the experience. Illustrated below is a postcard which went aboard the R.M.S. "Kildonan Castle".

According to the illustration write-up **Illustration.** Postcard cancelled August 13, 1910, Cape Colony Ocean Post office, aboard the R.M.S. Kildonan Castle. from Athol's collection the care left

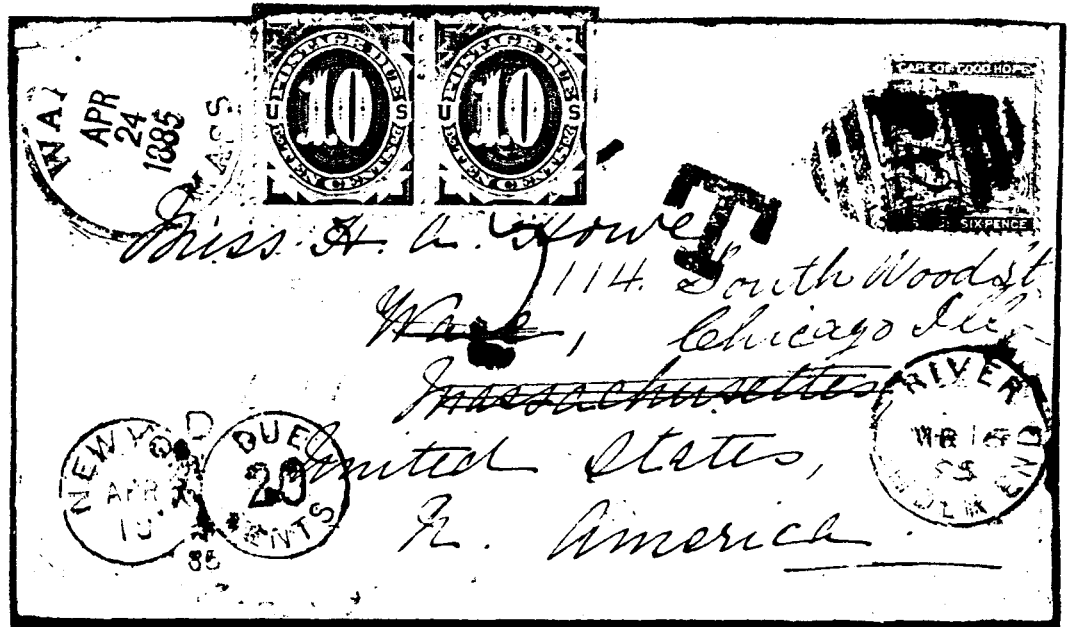
Cape Town 27 July 1910 and arrived Southampton 13 August. The card then returned to South Africa, probably by R.M.S. "Armada Castle" which departed Southampton 20 August. It arrived Cape Town 6 September. Arrival c.d.s. mark indicates Mauritius 20 September 1910. Additional notations on the presentation page for the postcard (source not indicated) state that the Kildonan Castle was built in 1899, described as a steamer, 9,962 tons, length 157.07 meters or 515 feet 4 inches. It was a twin-screw ship capable of 16 knots, carrying 635 passengers. The Kildonan Castle was practically identical to Kinfauns Castle also built 1899. She was the last vessel built for Castle

**Illustration.** Volksrust "VI" postage due mark still in use 20 October 1997.



Line before the merger in 1900 and **Illustration.** Cover showing the use of the BONC "242", River Zonder End, Cape of Good Hope. was immediately pressed into service

as a troopship for the Anglo-Boer War, carrying 3,000 troops on her maiden voyage. In 1900, based at Simon's Town as a prisoner-of-war ship. In July 1916, she was converted to an armed merchant cruiser. On 20 January 1917, it left Oban for Murmansk with the Allied Mission to Russia in an attempt to prevent a separate peace with Germany. After the war she resumed the mail service until 1931 at which time she was broken up in Norway. The last entry for "Bits" also comes from the Murray Cape collection. Illustrated opposite is a cover to the U.S. showing the River Zonder End BONC "242". Note the dues mark and USA postage due stamps.



## ... And Other Stories

"The Rest of the Story: What is it?"

This issue's entry comes from the archives (sender unknown) and was incomplete as received. Therefore, we have a challenge before us which I hope will be answered in the future by one of our more knowledgeable readers so we can learn the rest of the story.

### **Roessing and the State Railway in G.S.W.A.**

Many readers who might consult an atlas to find the location of this strange sounding place, along the most desolate and lonely coast of Africa, much search in vain for Roessing. Only the latest maps will indicate this modern mining complex which is situated not far from Swakopmund and is said to be the world's largest Uranium mine.

From the historical as well as the philatelic aspects, it will be interesting to wander back to the construction of the first railway line in German South West Africa (G.S.W.A.). This railway line from Swakopmund to Windhoek became known as the "Staatsbahn" (State Railway).

The commander of the Schutztruppe in GSWA, Captain Curt von Francois, had decided in 1890 to establish the future capital of the German Protectorate at Windhoek, as it was situated more or less in the center of South West Africa. On the afternoon of the 18th October 1890 the foundation stone of the fort was laid which is today Windhoek's oldest building and houses the local museum. At that time the Schutztruppe (protective troops), consisting of 32 men, were largely dependent on their supplies which were sent out from Germany. From 1892 onwards these supplies were loaded on the open beach at the newly established seaport of Swakopmund. The only means of transport to Windhoek, passing through the arid Namib desert region, was by means of ox wagon. The first 120 kilometers from Swakopmund through the desert was the most gruelling part of the journey due to limited water and grazing. The loading capacity per ox wagon was therefore also greatly reduced.

In 1897 tragedy struck the country when Rinderpest was carried from the neighboring Bechuanaland, across the border into South West Africa. Many ox wagons had to be left behind as numerous trek-oxen fell victim to this disease and died or had to be destroyed en route. Landeshauptmann (Governor) Major Theodor Leutwein, who during this period was on holiday in Germany, undertook to communicate, to the German Reichstag (Government), the dire necessity of immediate assistance to address the catastrophic conditions prevalent in the Protectorate. He pointed out that the construction of a railway line would be the only means of avoiding total collapse of the transportation supply system to the inland areas.

At that time the colonies fell under the jurisdiction of the Colonial Director, Baron Oswald von Richthofen. He was in charge of the Colonial Department within the government's Foreign Administration. Baron von Richthofen gave Major Leutwein his fullest support as he immediately realized that only a speedy railway construction program

would save the Protectorate from catastrophic starvation and administrative breakdown. Due to state monies being restricted, Baron von Richthofen was forced to seek assistance with the necessary manpower plus material for a 600mm, narrow gauge Feldbahn (field railway).

The commander of the Railway Brigade in Berlin, General/Lieutenant (Colonel), Nonus von Roessing accepted this challenge without further hesitation and promised the immediate realization of the scheme to resolve the transportation supply dilemma. He made certain that, within a couple of weeks, the first construction gang consisting of 10 men would be organized.

Under the supervision of Lieutenant Kacker and 2nd Lieutenant Schultze, in 1897, the construction force left Hamburg by ship on the 10 August 1897, arriving in Swakopmund the following 10 September.

The planned railway line from Swakopmund was to be the second German colonial line to be attempted in the southern hemisphere. Until the start of the Swakopmund Staatsbahn, a railway line of 14km existed from Tanga to Pongwe in the then Tanganyika, known as the "Usambara Railway".

The 600mm gauge tracks for SWA consisted of preassembled units of 5m lengths, made of 9.5 kg/m rails for an axle load of three tons, bolted to 5 processed steel sleepers per unit. During August of 1897, Baron von Richthofen was also responsible for the first shipment of twin-coupled (Zwilling) locomotives. Until the arrival of these locomotives mule drawn trolleys were used to transport the construction material, thereby earning the nickname "Mule Train"

All of the problems encountered during the planning of acceptable alternative routes and various other difficulties that had to be overcome will be side-stepped at this time.

Less than two months after the arrival of the construction gang, the first 10km were inaugurated on the 20th November 1897. The first station was to be named NONIDAS - a word from the Nama tribe meaning "hunibush", a plant growing extensively in this region.

In the beginning of December 1897, the 20km station was reached. It was first known as SWAKOP, but later renamed by the construction supervisor, Herr Schultze, to RICHTHOFEN, in honor of the Colonial Director who assisted whenever called upon.

The original permanent station building at RICHTHOFEN still existed until a few years ago, when it was unfortunately destroyed by an American film company which had it blown-up during a movie production.

The working force was increased with the arrival of over 200 soldiers and Major Paphal, who was in command of the overall construction project. An African labor force of about 800 men was recruited which...

NOW, DEAR READER, WHAT IS THE REST OF THE STORY?



## My Favorite Philatelic Item

As mentioned in "Editorial Notes" this is a new feature for your

journal. As collectors it is certain that we PSGSA members each have **Front** - block of 30 (philatelic usage), 1/2d CGH ovpt "ORANGE/ one or more items in our individual collections which we cherish as RIVER/COLONY" (SC45/SG133), Bloemfontein O.R.C. c.d.s. dated one of our favorites for sentimental or other reasons, e.g., covers, "11 AM/28 AP/02", two black oval "PASSED PRESS/CENSOR/ ephemeral material, documents, back-of-the-book, unusual markings JOHANNESBURG" marks; addressed to "C.G. Bauser(?) Esq. P.O. or usages, modem material. As your Editor, I thought it would be an Box(?) 2, Krugersdorp, Transvaal"; partial boxed purple "P.B.C." enjoyable experience to have us begin sharing these favorite items

with one another. Future appearances of this feature will consist of one "favorite" per installment. Send yours to the Editor.

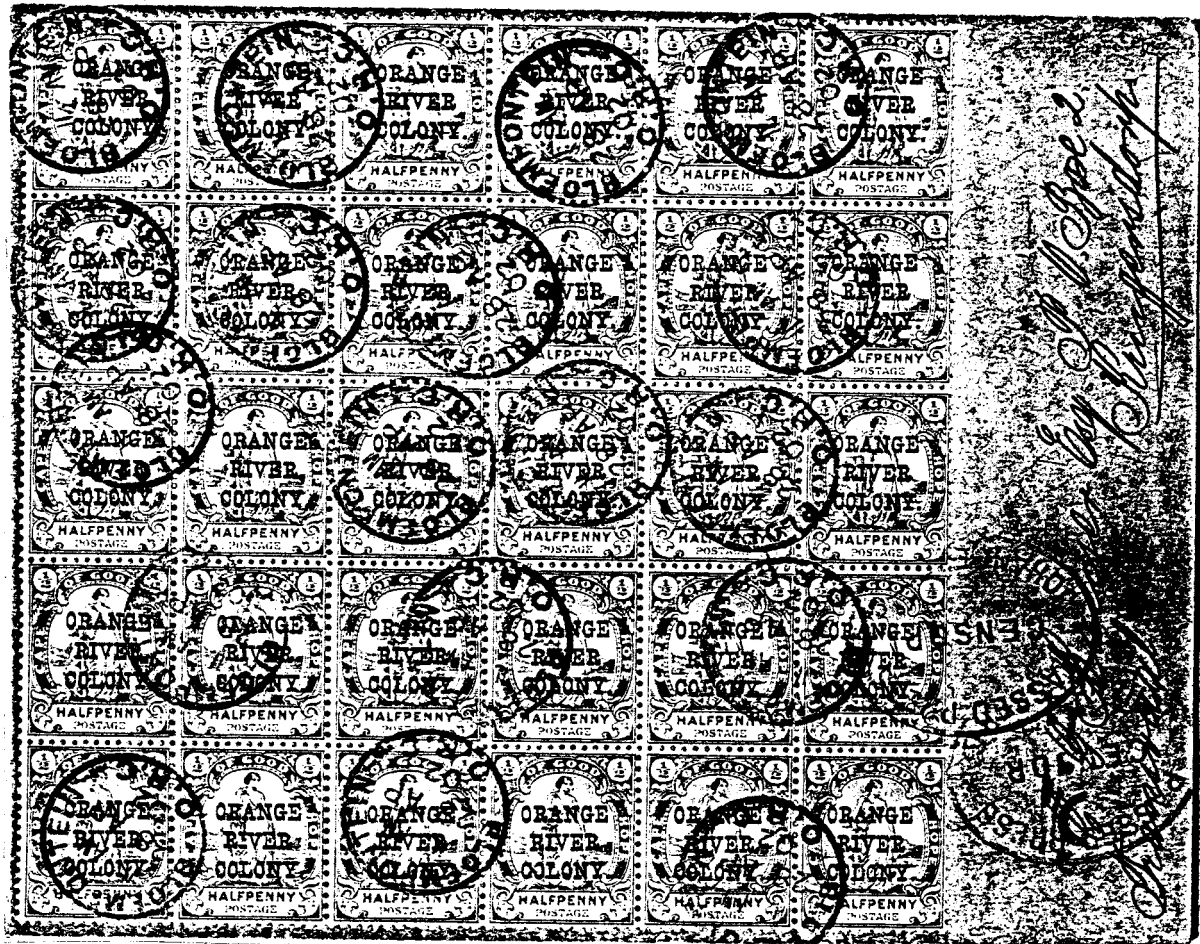
To start things off, the first installment comes from the collection of yours truly. Illustrated below is a postal history piece emanating from the Orange River Colony, sent to Transvaal during the Anglo-Boer War period. The cover is sealed without contents. Where a question mark appears in parenthesis (?) indicates that I had difficulty in

reading the mark or handwriting, even under magnification. It is

described as follows:

**Reverse** - handwritten note reading "Posted at Krugersdorp under cover addressed to P.M. Bloemfontein"; on left a purple oval "P.B.C. Krugersdorp" cancel; next a "KRUGERSDORP/29 APR.02.7 --- P.M." cds; and indistinguishable partial cds date line reading "29 AP 02 1..." - could be a Johannesburg receiving mark

Whose "favorite" will appear next - stay tuned.



# The Bechuanalands

Peter Thy & Dave Wessely, Co-Editors

*Your comments and updates invited, as are installments for future columns as a guest author. Send to Peter Thy, 581 9th St., Davis, CA 95616*

## Sources of Philatelic Information

Peter Thy, Co-Editor

There exists a surprisingly large array of literature covering the various aspects of the philately and postal history of the Bechuanalands. This vast amount of written information and studies attests to the popularity of the area and the excitement felt by its students. Because of this, the biggest obstacle facing a newcomer to collecting the Bechuanalands is where and how to obtain the basic information. In this installment we give a brief introduction to the most important sources of information for the collector who is new to specializing in the Bechuanalands. Subsequent columns will cover the postal history aspects, as well as more specialized subjects.

### General Stamp Catalogs

Several English language general catalogs include the Bechuanalands. The most important of these is STANLEY GIBBONS, who in its latest editions of the *British Commonwealth Catalog*, list together Stellaland, British Bechuanaland, Bechuanaland Protectorate, and Botswana in *Part 1*. Because many of the early Bechuanaland issues were overprinted on Cape of Good Hope and Great Britain issues, the listings of these areas will constantly be of interest to the Bechuanaland collector. Unfortunately, only the Great Britain overprints are listed in *Part I* of the Commonwealth catalog. The overprints of the Cape of Good Hope are listed with South Africa in *Part 2*. For this reason most Bechuanaland collectors will require both parts of the catalog. The current edition, the 100th, is the most detailed and accurate listing available and should not be ignored by a serious collector of the Bechuanalands. Nevertheless, it is important to consider that the listings are not of a specialized nature.

The SCOTT STANDARD POSTAGE STAMP CATALOG includes a simplified general listing of the Bechuanalands and Botswana. This catalog is widely used by North America and, therefore, is an important tool for communicating with collectors and dealers, particularly in the USA. Because of the simplified nature of the listing, it is not recommended that specialized Bechuanaland collections are being built based upon the Scott catalog.

The SOUTH AFRICAN STAMP COLOUR CATALOGUE has, in the last two editions, included the Bechuanalands. The editor has recently expanded the catalog to include all of pre-independence southern Africa. (The 23rd edition is available from L. Heffernann, P.O. Box 567, Johannesburg 2000, South Africa.) This catalog is highly recommended and is superior to Scott's.

The COMMONWEALTH FIVE REIGNS POSTAGE STAMP CATALOGUE contains useful information and is an important additional source. The 1980 edition was published by Bridger & Kay,

but later editions may exist. A relatively similar catalog covering a more limited area is the COMMONWEALTH KGVI CATALOGUE, also published by Bridger & Kay. This catalog has just been advertised as available in its 17th edition by Murray and Payne (P.O. Box 1135, Axbridge, Somerset, BS26 2EW, UK).

The STANLEY GIBBONS ELIZABETHAN II STAMP CATALOGUE (or related titles) contains a slightly expanded general listing of QEII stamps. This catalog has had a long publication history (1964-84?), originally published by Urch and Harris and later by Stanley Gibbons. It is, however, no longer published.

Robson Lowe's THE ENCYCLOPAEDIA OF BRITISH EMPIRE POSTAGE STAMPS, VOLUME II, THE EMPIRE IN AFRICA, was published in 1949. This work belongs on any serious student's bookshelf, but its stamp listing is now outdated.

### Specialized Stamp Catalogs

Sadly, specialized catalogs for the Bechuanalands and Botswana do not exist. It may be of interest briefly to consider the reasons. Specialized catalogs are the result of two important factors. First of all, it requires a contemporaneous and active group of local collectors that carefully monitor the activities of the postal services and its post offices, and record on paper their findings. Secondly, it requires that the postal services and philatelic bureaus make available detailed information of new issues including printings and printers, release and withdrawal dates, amounts printed and destroyed. None of these conditions have fully existed in Bechuanaland or exist today in Botswana. The collector of these areas, therefore, will largely have to reconstruct the story based on the available stamps, erratic hearsay, and archival information. This is exactly what makes collecting the Bechuanalands and Botswana such an exciting and rewarding enterprise.

Information on printings, plate numbers, withdrawal dates, and errors may be found for the QEII area in various editions of the STANLEY GIBBONS ELIZABETHAN STAMP CATALOGUE of which the 1983 edition appears to be particularly useful (other editions may be equally valuable).

Another specialized catalog is the SHELLY CATALOGUE OF THE DECIMAL SURCHARGES ON THE STAMPS OF BASUTOLAND, BECHUANALAND AND SWAZILAND (1962).

The specialist will also frequently need to consult the latest editions of STANLEY GIBBONS SPECIALIZED STAMP CATALOGUE, VOLUME 1 (QUEEN VICTORIA) & VOLUME 2 (KING EDWARD VII TO KING GEORGE VI) for information on the British stamps overprinted for use in the Bechuanalands. A similar source on the overprinted Cape of Good Hope stamps does not exist.

### Specialized Monographs and Major Journal Articles

There exist three important monographs dealing with the stamps of the Bechuanalands. The earliest of these is the POSTAGE STAMPS, WRAPPERS, POST CARDS, AND TELEGRAPH STAMPS OF THE BRITISH COLONIES, POSSESSION AND PROTECTORATES IN AFRICA. Part 1 of this work includes British Bechuanaland and the Cape of Good Hope. Part 2 includes Stellaland. This monograph is often referred to as "AFRICA: and was published by the Philatelic society of London in 1895 (Part 1). This is the most important source of detailed information of the early period and is the foundation for all later studies and catalogues.

In 1945 the Royal Philatelic Society of London published A.A. Jurgens' THE BECHUANALANDS: A BRIEF HISTORY OF THE COUNTRIES AND THEIR POSTAL SERVICES TO 1895. This work mainly covers the postal history, but also includes information on stamps and an extensive discussion of forgeries, specimens, revenue stamps, and essays (when using this latter discussion reference to more recent opinions may be essential).

The most recent monograph is H.R. Holmes' THE POSTAGE STAMPS, POSTAL STATIONERY, AND POSTMARKS OF THE BECHUANALANDS. This was published in 1971 by the Royal Philatelic Society of London and contains detailed discussions and check lists of the stamps and stationery up to 1964. This monograph is a must and cannot be avoided by serious collectors.

For some years now, there has been constant rumors originating from Botswana that a major new monograph is about to appear. Although not seen yet, it appears to be something worthwhile to wait and be on the look for. Let us all wish that the author will be able to find the time to finalize his manuscript.

There exist several earlier studies of the stamps of the Bechuanalands. To mention a few: (1) B.W.H. Poole's "The Postage Stamps of Stellaland" in the 1908, Vol. 18 edition of *Stanley Gibbons Monthly Journal*. This work still stands out as the authoritative study of the Stellaland stamps' (2) The Bechuanaland chapter of Kohl's Handbook

has been translated by S.G. Rich and is published in the *Collectors Club Philatelist* (1937, Vol. 16) (3) B. May's "The Stamps of Bechuanaland" in *The South African Philatelist (SAP)* in Volume 1' and (4) W.J. Harrington's "The Bechuanalands" which also appeared in SAP (1938, Vols. 13 & 14).

### Specialist Journals

Several specialist societies, including our very own PSGSA, are devoted to the study of the southern Africa area. However, there is only one which is devoted to the study of the philately and postal history of the Bechuanalands and Botswana. This is the UK-based BECHUANALANDS AND BOTSWANA SOCIETY (BBS) which publishes the very important and highly respected journal, *The Runner Post*. This journal has appeared since 1984 and its pages contain an indispensable source of information and recent studies by society members. (an occasional index is included). Information about BBS and membership forms can be obtained from its Secretary, David Wall, 8 Walkwood Rise, Beaconsfield, Bucks HP9 1TU, UK. Needless-to-say, no student of the Bechuanalands and Botswana area can be without *The Runner Post*.

### Availability

Most of the current catalogs discussed here can be obtained from any number of dealers. The monographs now out of print can be easily found in the stock of many used philatelic book dealers. The American Philatelic Research Library (APRL) can assist with some of the journal articles, but may not own copies of the early issues of SAP. APRL can be reached by writing to P.O. Box 8000, State College, PA 16803. Their web site address is [www.stamps.org](http://www.stamps.org). Complete runs of *The Runner Post* only appear occasionally on the market (buy if you see it). The APRL does not have this publication in their inventory, but UK based philatelic libraries may be able to assist with photocopies. Finally, you may wish to contact our very own Society Librarian, Tim Bartshe, in that there are a number of related publications available to members-in-good-standing.

## The Rhodesias

Alan J. Hanks, Editor

*Comments and updates to this column are invited, as are installments for future columns as a guest author. Send to Alan at 34 Seaton Dr., Aurora, Ontario, Canada L4G 2K1.*

As you may have noticed in the last issue of our journal, I had volunteered to take over from Bill Wallace as editor of the Rhodesias column. I had intended to have something prepared for that issue, but other demands precluded that, mainly preparation for the American Topical Association annual show in Virginia. I hope that I am able to "carry the flag" as ably as was Bill Wallace. His articles were always interesting and informative. However, I feel that I shall need some help along the way. So, I am appealing to any Rhodesia enthusiasts among our readers to send me "guest columns" or ideas on anything

they would like to see in the column. All contributions will be gratefully received. Now, on to my inaugural installment. I hope you enjoy it.

### Unusual Coincidences - Part 1

Early in 1998, a dealer in Montreal sent me photocopies of some cards and covers from Rhodesia that he had recently acquire. Among them was a id postal card, apparently from the 1899 series (Higgings & Gage 11) which somehow looked "odd". I ordered all of the items

and when they arrived, much to my amazement, the card I had remarked as "odd" certainly was, as it was printed in black (where the original is brick red) and appeared to have no indicium. The card had a photograph on the reverse of the Sinoia Caves and carried a 1d Double Head postmarked "Sinoia, April 4, 1913". The front of the card is illustrated opposite.

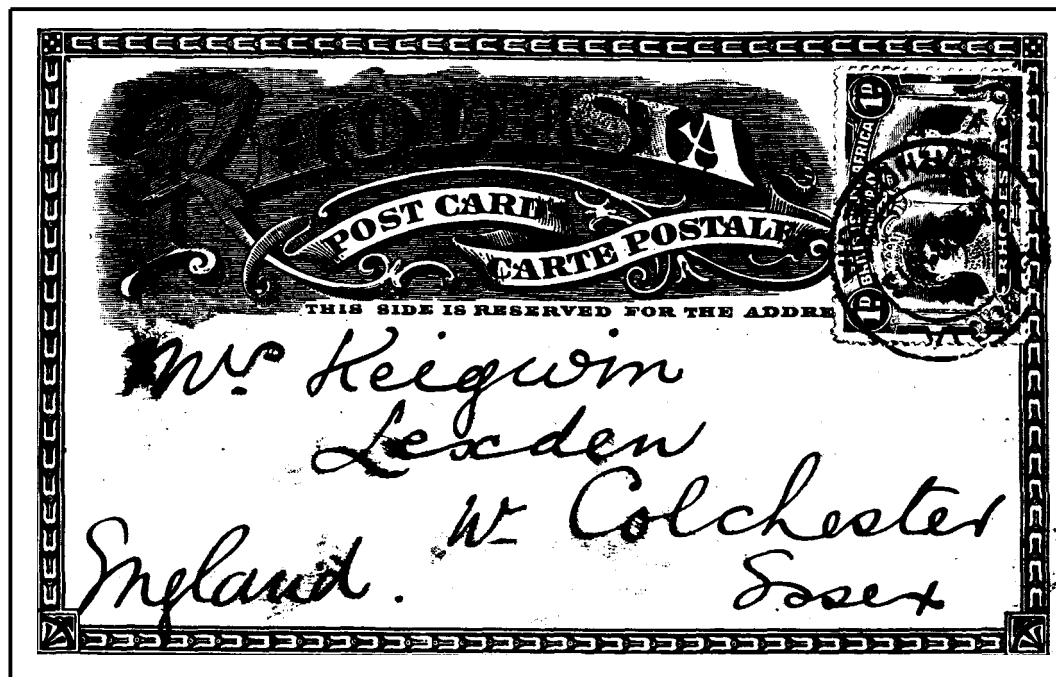
The design of the card is identical to that of the 1899 issue but carries no Waterlow imprint and some of the lines in the design appear thicker and not as finely detailed as in the original. It seems to have been privately produced. Details were sent to the Rhodesian Study Circle (RSC) to publish in their

journal (it appeared in the June issue) and inquire if any other examples of this card were known.

Almost immediately after I had sent off the details to the RSC, the April 1998 of *The Rhodesian Philatelist* an admirable publication by Otto Peetoom of Ormskirk Stamps in the UK, arrived. The issue carried details of an identical card sent from Umboe on December 18, 1913 to Grahamstown in South Africa. Otto noted that the front and back images of the card were on thin paper glued to a central card to give it the thickness of a postcard. Otto also noted that the Umboe cancel may be the only recorded example on a Double Head on cover. It will be interesting to see if any other examples of this card come to light now that two occurrences have been noted.

The card in my possession had an additional interest in being addressed to a Mrs. Keigwin in Colchester in the county of Essex in

Illustration. Front of Sinoia Caves postcard.



England. H.S. Keigwin was the Native Commissioner at Sinoia during the period. In a 1912 written report he noted that "This country should offer an attractive proposition for the irrigation expert. The damming of the Zambesi at Kariba Gorge, where the river tears through a narrow rockbound channel about some thirty yards wide, presents a scheme for irrigation of the valley which would fire the imagination." This quote is taken from the book on Kariba by Frank Clements, published in 1959 and one cannot help but wonder if Keigwin's report indirectly led to the construction of the Kariba dam. It certainly contributed to the investigation of the area.

Roy Orrin of the RSC is researching any data he can find on the Keigwin family, as he lives in Colchester. If any PSGSA members have any covers or cards addressed to or from Keigwin, he would be happy to hear about them Please send the details to me or e-mail me at [A.Hanks@aci.on.ca](mailto:A.Hanks@aci.on.ca). Until next time...

## The Boer Republics

Tim Bartshe, Editor

*Questions and comments about this column are invited, as are installments for future columns as a guest author. Send to Tim at 13955 W. 30th, Golden, CO 80401 USA.*

What follows here is the inaugural installment of a regular feature column. In it I hope to present short, well-illustrated articles dealing with the many and varied aspects of the South African Republic and the Orange Free State. The subjects will be diverse yet quite limited in scope, intended to inform the reader about a specific aspect of these Republics. This is not meant to be a scholarly treatise on either that is best left to their respective specialist journals. Rather, this column will try to condense much of the scattered knowledge into a concise aid to the beginning and intermediate collector of these fascinating countries.

**Adolph Otto: The first ZAR issues and their forgeries/ unauthorized reprints (or why would anyone collect these things!)**

The life and times of Adolph Otto, printer extraordinaire of Gustrow, Mecklenburg-Schwerin, have been well documented in other sources. Why he forged cancellations, reprinted issues on altered plates and created bogus issues in unissued colors is unclear and unimportant to the scope of this column. What is important is that he did and the fruits of his labors abound throughout the world in dealer's stock

books, auction catalogs and even the best old-time collections. Once the collector is exposed to the light and can see the keys to discerning forged from genuine, you are amazed that one could have been followed in the first place. Pictures speak volumes.

The original plates were made up to produce three values - 1d, 6d and 1sh. For each value, a left and right plate containing 40 impressions were produced. In all, it is believed that there were 10 plates created to legitimately produce the stamps commissioned by the south African republic' two of the 6d and four each for the 1d and 1sh. The later two values existing in the so-called "wide-set" plate and a "narrow-set" plate. The "narrow-set" plates have the individual cliches placed only 1 1/2mm apart, leaving almost no margins in the issued stamps, sometimes with the adjoining impression inside the rouletting or imperforate margin. For purposes of this column, only the 1d value will be discussed although much of what will be illustrated can be used for the other two values.

These stamps, all of Type 1 design, display certain characteristics that are quite easy to identify. When looking at Otto reprints focus on the coat of arms within which the changes were made from the original plates to produce the later "clandestine" printings by Otto. The important and most obvious criteria are: (1) The right flag pole that traverses from the bottom left behind the motto towards the shield does not touch the frame line' (2) The "D" of "EENDRAGT" in the motto ribbon is slightly larger than the other letters and touches the top of the ribbon' and (3) The diagonal lines of shading on the bottom half of the shield are cut by two scratches that are visible on even the most heavily inked specimens. There are other minor points relating

to the aforementioned flag pole being basically a solid line of color. The knob at the base of this pole also generally has a small colored dot in the middle, although in heavily inked examples, both are rather mute points to hand your hat on. Examples of the close-set plates is evidenced by the gap in the outer frame line in the bottom right corner.

The first unauthorized reprint from a slightly modified "plate" were first described in *Le Timbre-Posts* in 1872 and were probably produced sometime in late 1870 or early 1871.

Four electrotypes were produced from the plate each with minor character differences' however, each of the four received an individually etched frame around both numerals in the upper right and left corners. This single feature identifies them as a Luff Plate G production unique amongst all others. This feature, along with other alterations done on the die used to make the electrotypes are, notably: (1) diagonal lines in the lower part of the shield have been strengthened thus eliminating the scratches' (2) right flag pole lines have been strengthened with a central white portion making the staff appear stronger' (3) right bar arm of anchor in coat of arms is broken' and (4) the outer oval of the shield is broken above the "T" of "EENDRAGT" .

The stamps were printed in shades of red and black on medium hard, semi-transparent wove paper with smooth white gum, rouletted 15 1/2-16. Cancells are the typical Otto 4-ring circles, in black or blue, placed in the corners of the stamps, pointing to the possibility that these stamps were produced in blocks of four... Until next time, Tim.

## *The Founder's Corner*

### **Your Society is in Need of Volunteers!**

Philatelic specialty groups can operate successfully only as long as there is demonstrated commitment and dedication of its members. In the case of PSGSA, we presently have too few doing the work of many. As happens with so many specialty groups, sooner or later actively involved members "burn out". PSGSA is no different in this respect.

Members volunteering to serve as part of "The Society Team" will find that they are not left up to their own devices. Position descriptions will be furnished prior to commitment. There is ample assistance and guidance available for those stepping forward. The following vacancies are in need of immediate attention - HOW ABOUT YOU:

**\* Vice President \* Secretary \* Director/Marketing \* Publications Program Committee Chair**

**\* Question & Answer Panel of Experts Chair**

Interested members should make their inquiries to our President, Frederick P. Lawrence, Ph.D., 5016 South Kenneth Place, Tempe, AZ 85282 USA.

## Postage Dues

Jan Stolk, Editor

*This is the first of several installments consisting of comments and samples of postage due marks from the Editor's collection. He plans on presenting a more extensive listing of each type of mark in this column and asks readers to respond by sending him copies of additional examples and related information. Using his own material, as well as information provided by readers, Jan plans to produce a major postage due work, either in the form of a Society sponsored monograph or book. Reader comments and examples of marks should be sent to Jan at P.O. Box 33223, 3005 EE Rotterdam, Netherlands.*

### International Handling of Unpaid or Underpaid Postal Items, Since Foundation of the Postal Union in 1874.

Seven different systems of Postage due handling were in use since the foundation of Postal Union (UPU) in 1874 for unpaid and underpaid postal items. These systems were decided at the following UPU congresses:

- 1874 - Bern - system applied from 1 July 1875
- 1878 - Paris - system applied from 1 April 1879
- 1906 - Rome - system applied from 1 October 1907
- 1920 - Madrid - system applied from 1 January 1922
- 1924 - Stockholm - system applied from 1 October 1925
- 1964 - Vienna - system applied from 1 January 1966
- 1974 - Lausanne - system applied from 1 January 1976

#### Bern System

The office of despatch registers the amount of postage **paid** (not the deficiency or double the deficiency) on the letter in centimes of the Latin Monetary Union. The receiving office calculates what should have been paid in the receiving country (in centimes), doubles this

amount, and deducts the amount of postage already paid. This amount, in centimes, is transferred to its own currency and forms the postage due.

#### Paris System

The office of despatch registers on the letter the **deficiency** in centimes of the Latin Monetary Union. The receiving office doubles this amount and transfers it to its own currency and forms the postage due. Figure 1a shows a letter from Durban/Natal December 1894 to the USA with deficiency centimes Tax mark and postage due paid with a USA 10c postage due stamp. Figure 1b illustrates a postcard from Pretoria dated 8 February 1902 to Holland with 15 centimes Tax mark.

#### Rome System

The office of despatch registers on the letter **double** the amount of the **deficiency** in centimes of the Latin Monetary Union. The receiving office transfers this to its own currency which forms the postage due. Illustrated (Figs. 3 & 4) are various centimes Tax marks used in south Africa during this period.

#### Madrid System

This arrangement is the same as the Rome system. However, because

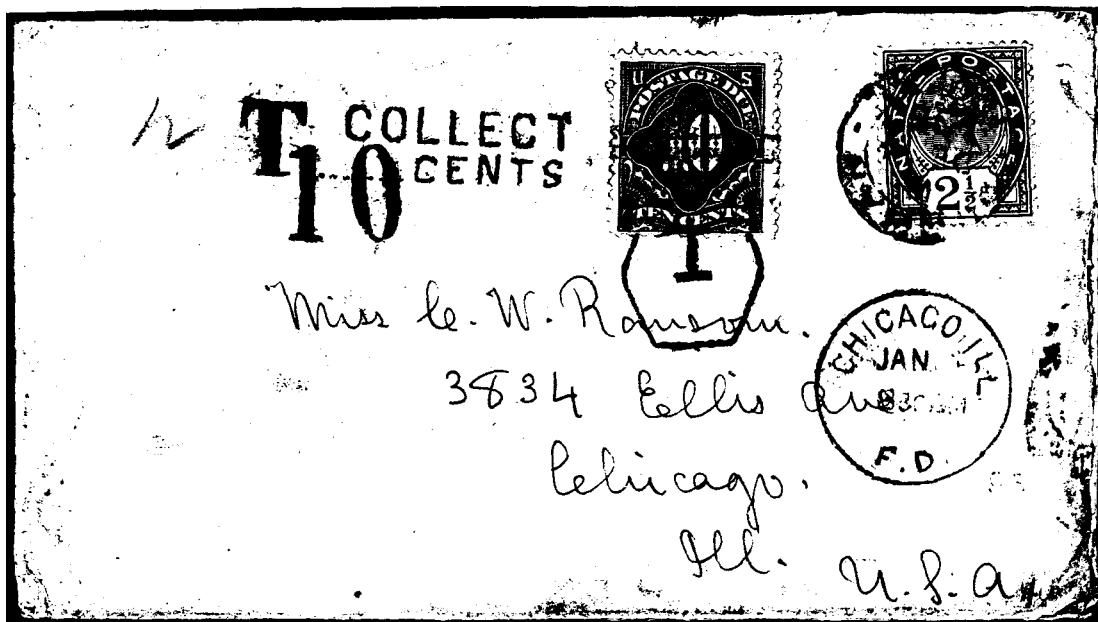
of differences in the value of the centime in various currencies, **a minimum of 30 centimes** had to be paid. This equals 1½d sterling and therefore the reason for the use of that stamp denomination.

Centimes Tax marks from the previous system are often still applicable. However, some new marks from this period do appear (Figs. 5, 6 & 7).

#### Stockholm System

The office of despatch registers on the letter the **deficiency** in UPU Centimes which is based on the gold

**Figure 1a.** Cover from Durban to USA showing Tax mark and USA postage due paying the underfranking.





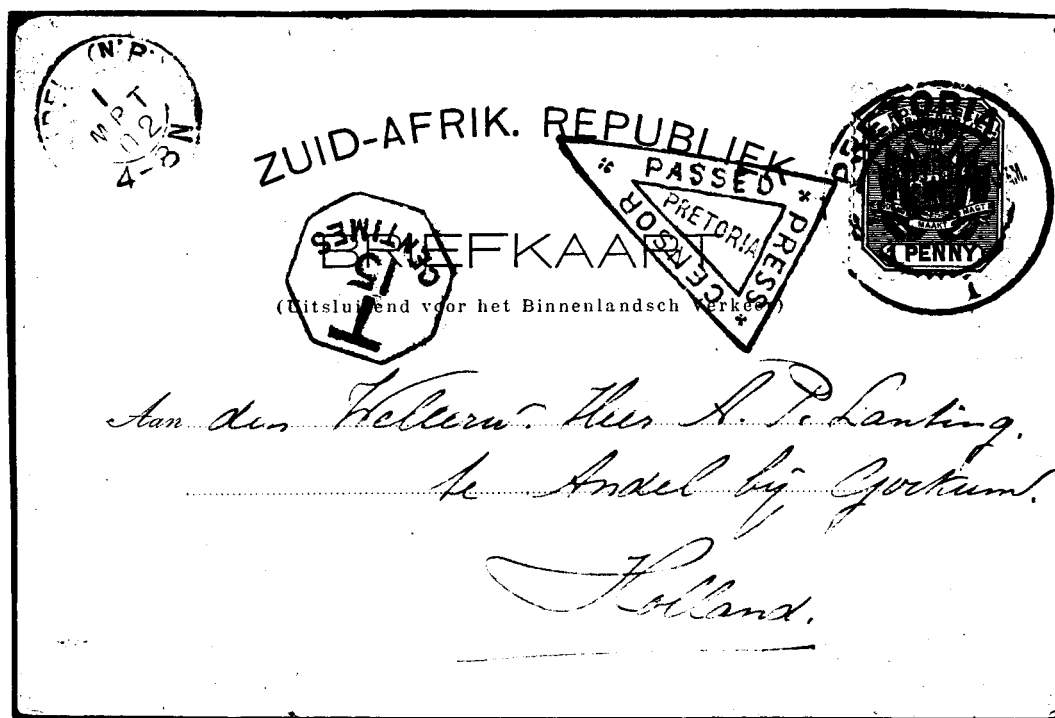
value. The receiving office transfers this amount to its own currency which forms the postage due.

The UPU centime was introduced as many currencies were devalued during this period (Fig. 8a). These marks were changed for use in the inland system by deleting some figures (Fig. 8b). Examples of taxed letters from this period are shown in Figures 9 - 12.

### Vienna System

The Vienna system brings a total change to the system. The office of despatch has to mark the letter with **2a/b** where a is the deficiency and b is the country of despatch basic rate abroad.

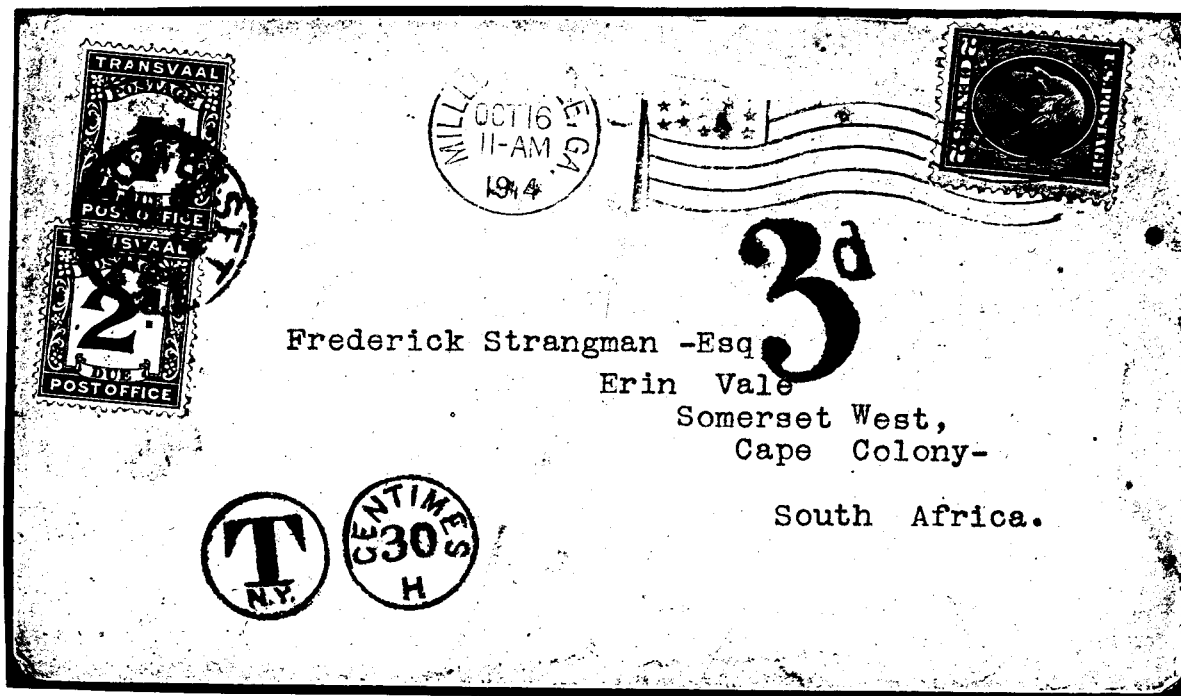
**Figure 1b.** Postcard from Pretoria to Holland with 15 centimes Tax mark.



The receiving office multiples **2a/b** with **c** (**2a/b x c**), with **c** being the receiving country's basic rate abroad.

The system is much easier as the post office does not have to know changing currency rates, just its own rates multiplied with the fraction. Still this system was not perfect as the differences in value of the currencies and postal rates made the amount to be paid in the re-

**Figure 2.** Incoming letter from USA dated 16 October 1914 to Somerset West with 30 centimes Tax mark.



ceiving country less than the deficiency.

Various South Africa Tax marks for this system are shown in Figure 13.

### Lausanne System

This system is based on the Vienna system. The office of despatch marks the letter with **a/b** instead of **2a/b**. The receiving office

calculates the postage due as  $(a/b \times c) + p$ , where **p** is a fixed amount decided by the postal administration of the country but restricted by a UPU maximum defined in UPU currency (Fig. 14).

**References:** *Postage Due Markings of the Union and Republic of South Africa*, R.D. Allen; *Caspip Bulletin*, April, article by J. Amoores; and *The South African Philatelist* various issues.

Figure 3. Various centime Tax marks used in South Africa during the Rome System period.

P.D.MARKING	P.D.MARKING	P.D.MARKING	P.D.MARKING



Figure 4. Outgoing letter from Vermaas dated 12 April 1913 to England with 20 centimes Tax mark.

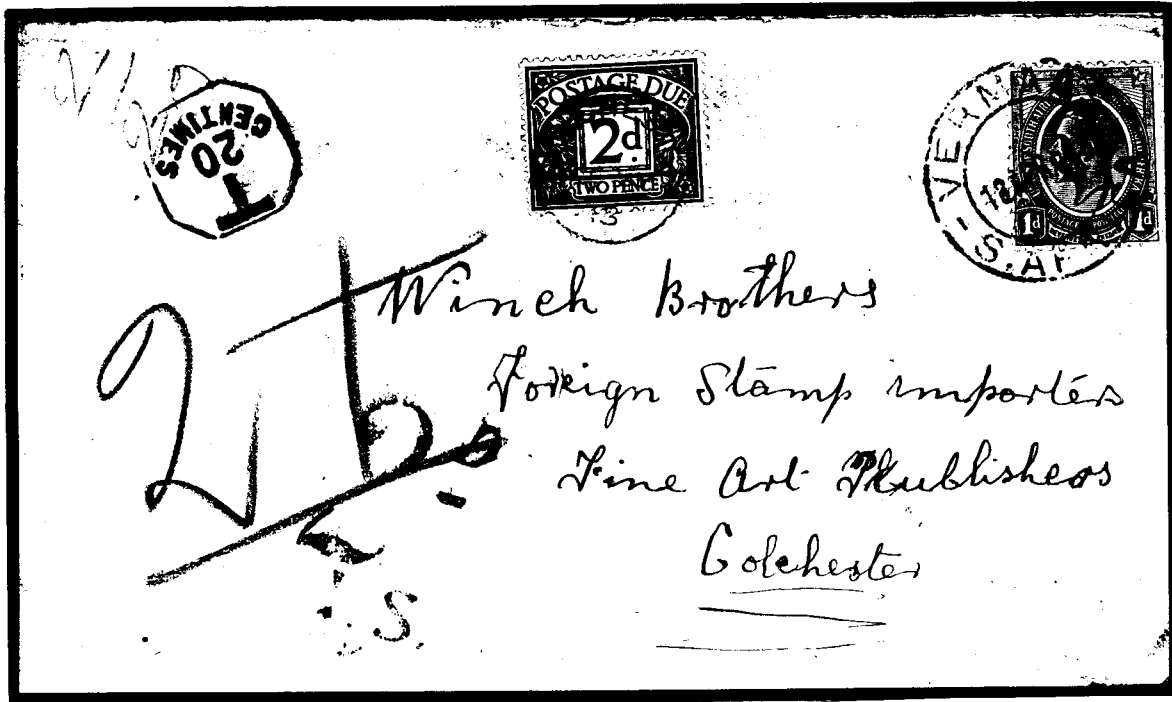


Figure 5. Outgoing letter from Johannesburg dated 11 April 1923 to USA with 20 centimes Tax mark.

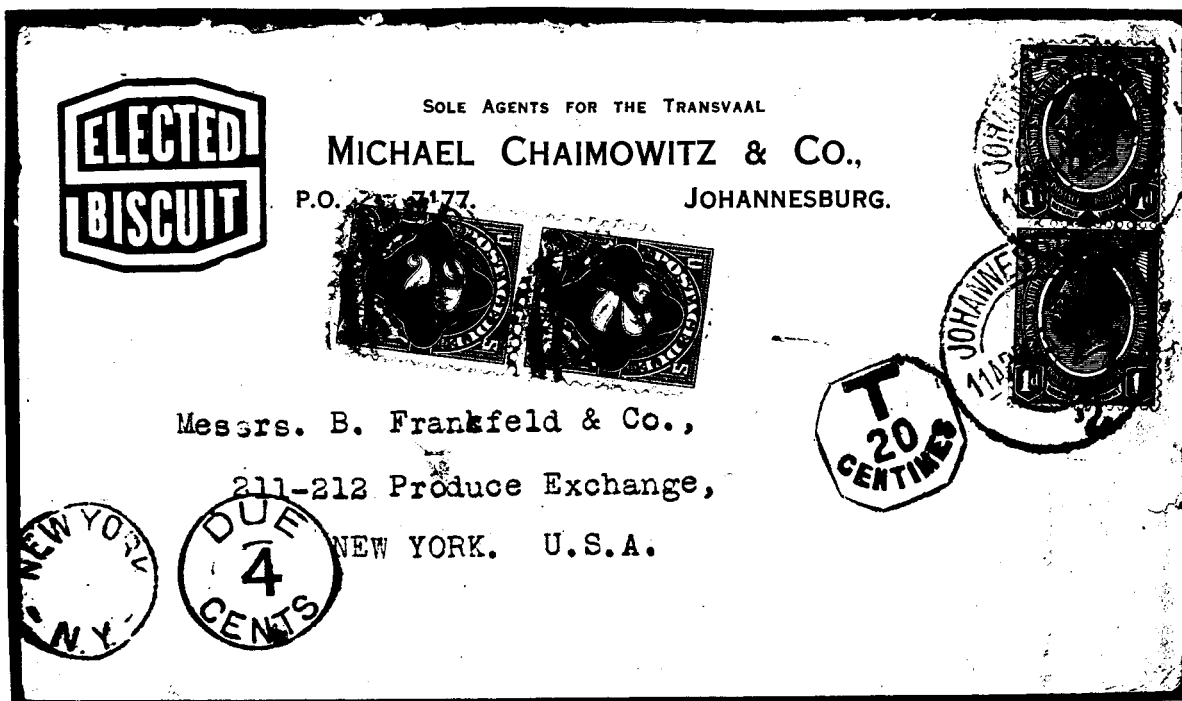


Figure 6. Examples of various Tax marks from the Madrid System period.



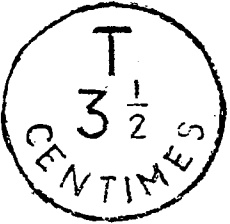
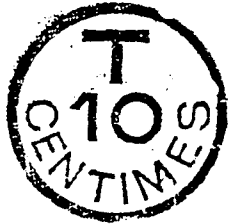

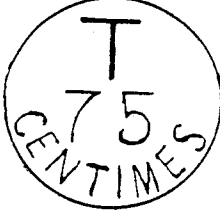
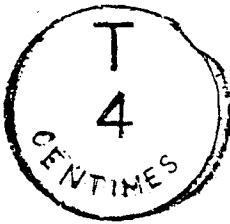
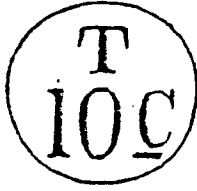
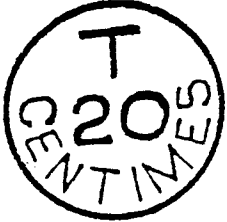
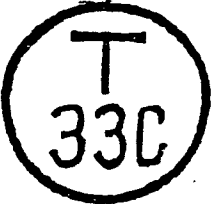
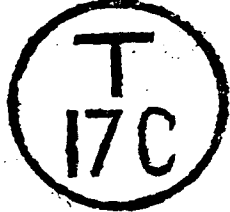
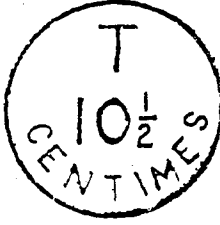
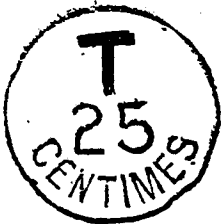




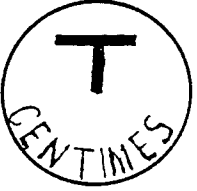
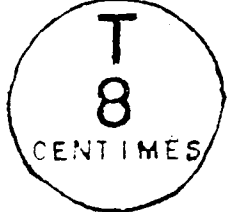

P.D.MARKING	P.D.MARKING	P.D.MARKING	P.D.MARKING
			
			
			
			
			

Figure 7. Madrid System period incoming letter from UK, dated 22 June 1923 to East London with manuscript 10 centimes Tax mark charged 1½d minimum.

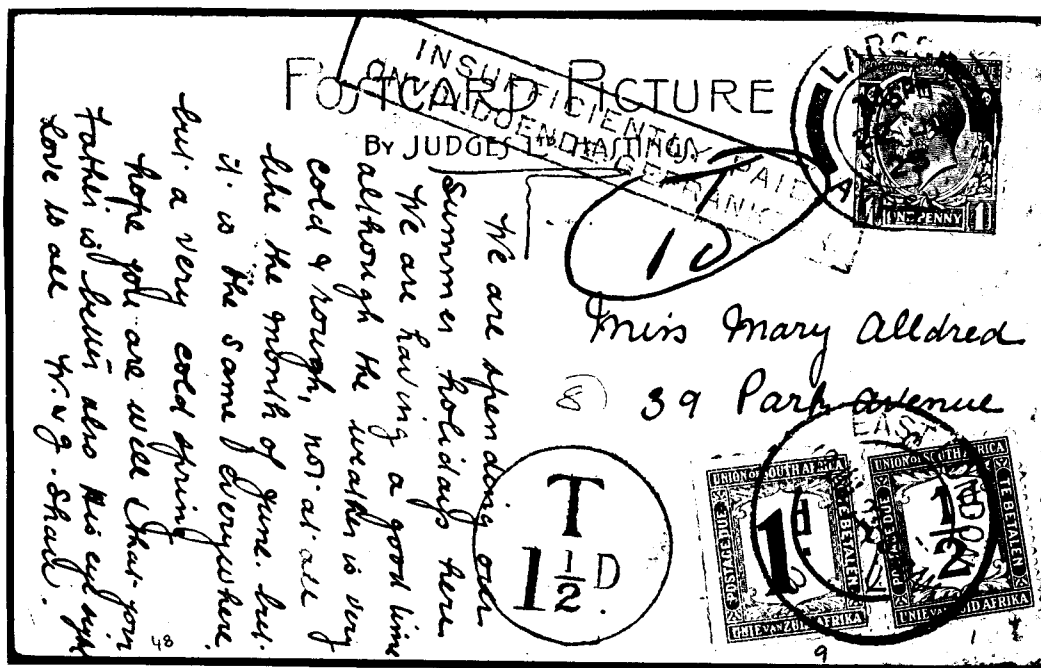


Figure 8a. Examples of Stockholm System period centimes Tax marks.

P.D.MARKING	P.D.MARKING
$T_{3\frac{1}{2}}^c$	$T_{42}^c$
$T_7^c$	$T_{84}^c$
$T_{17\frac{1}{2}}^c$	$T_{21}^c$

Figure 8b. Examples of inland Stockholm period Tax marks.

P.D.MARKING	P.D.MARKING
$T_1^c$	$T_3^c$
$T_2^c$	$T_6^c$

Figure 9. Stockholm period incoming letter from Montreal to Johannesburg with 10 centimes Tax mark charged 1d postage due.

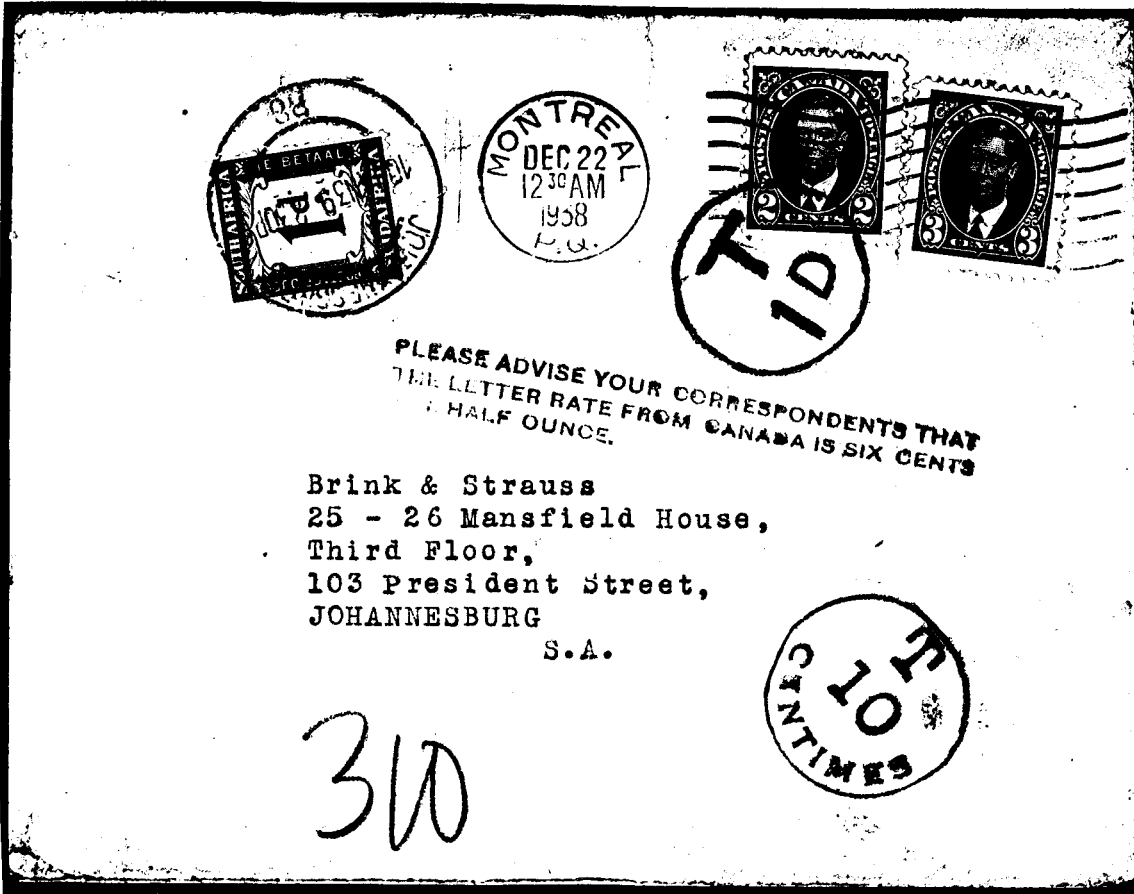


Figure 10. Stockholm period incoming letter from London to Johannesburg with 21 centimes Tax mark, charged 6c postage due.

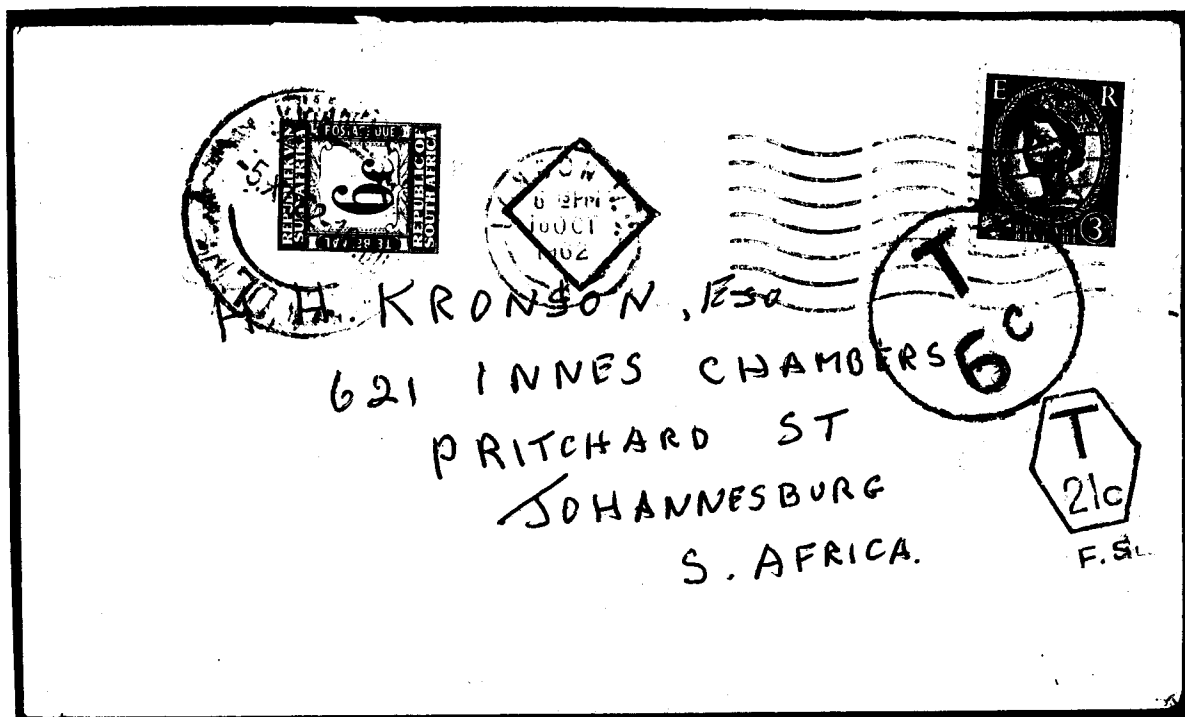


Figure 11. Stockholm period outgoing letter from Hartengos to Amsterdam with 17 centimes Tax mark, charged 9 cents postage due.

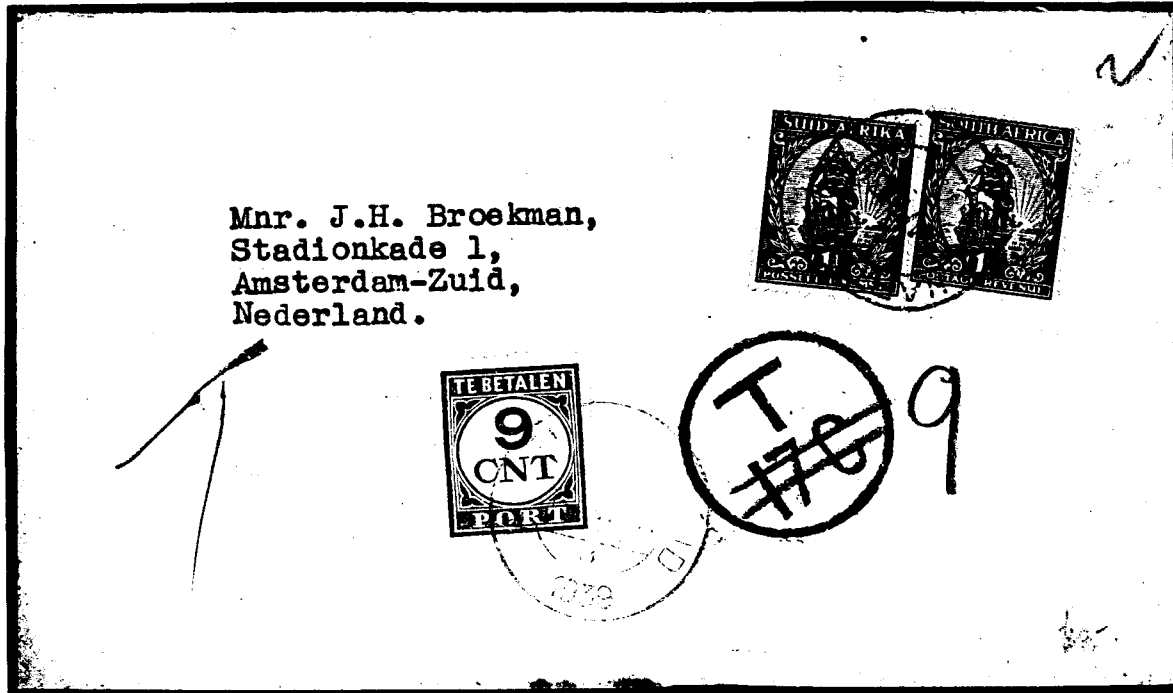


Figure 12. Stockholm period incoming letter from Khartoum to Pretoria with T mark and 25 centimes in manuscript, charged 2d in Onderstepoort, Pretoria.

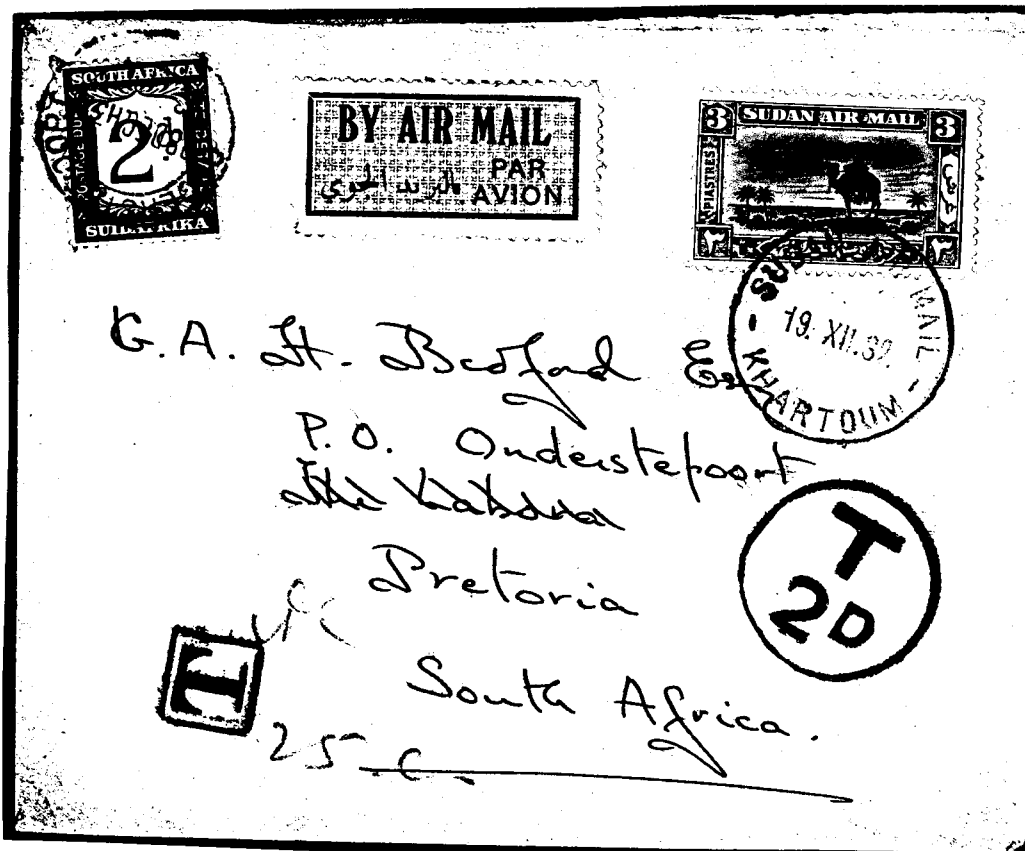


Figure 13. Vienna System period of various South African Tax marks.

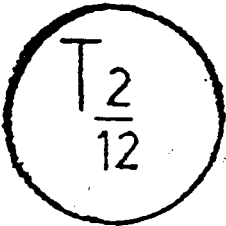
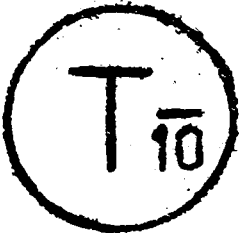
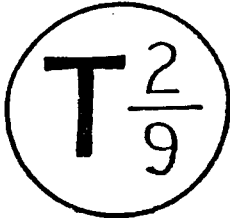
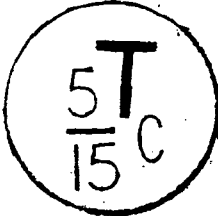
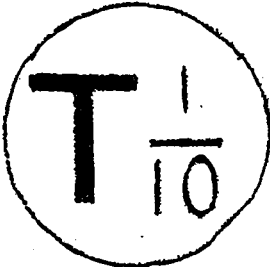
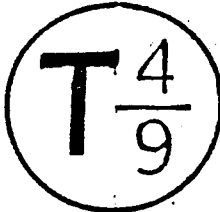
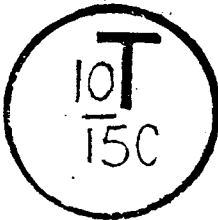
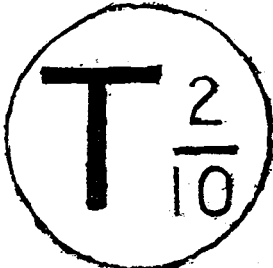
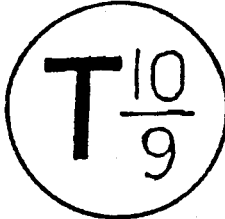
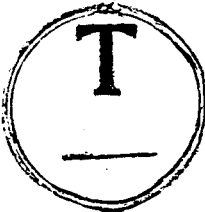
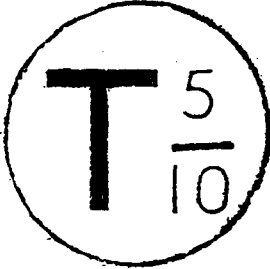
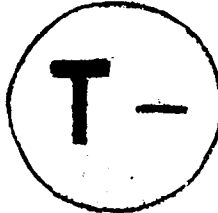
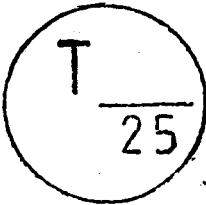
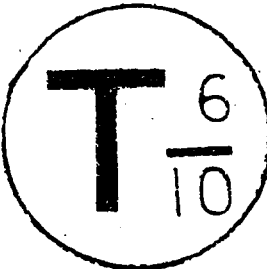
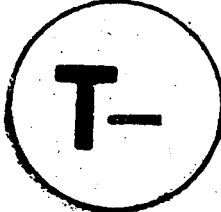
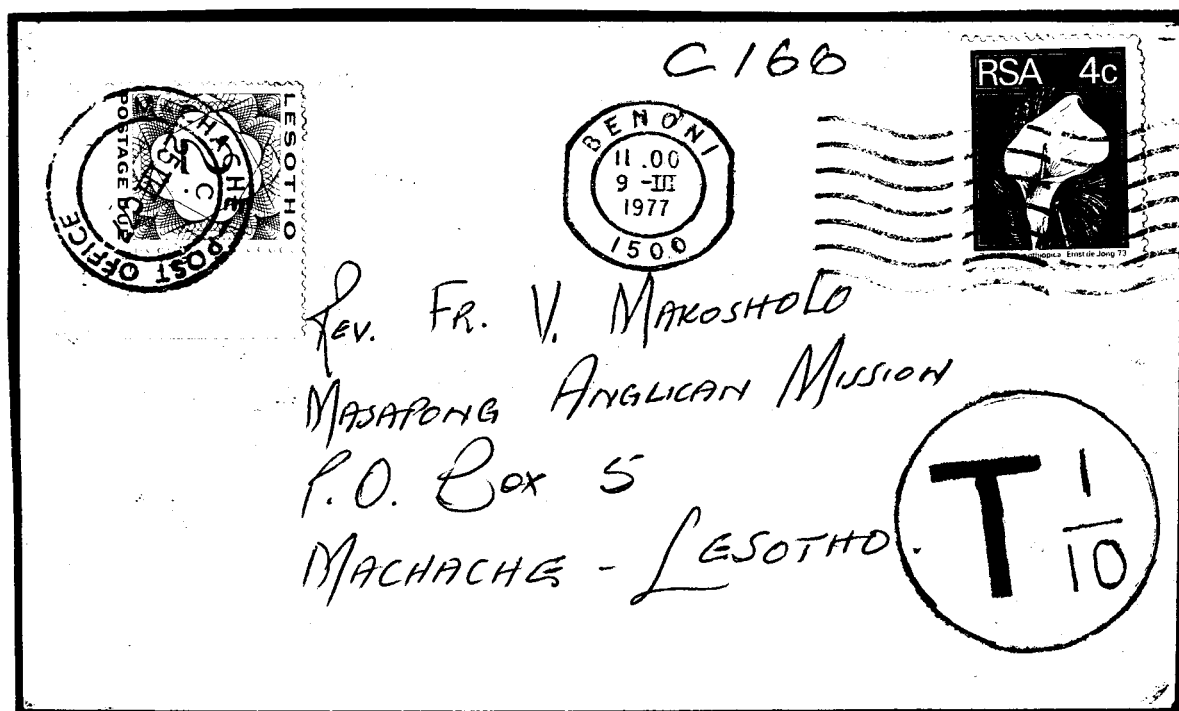
P.D.MARKING	P.D.MARKING	P.D.MARKING
		
		
		
		
		

Figure 14. Lausanne System period outgoing letter from Benoni with 1/10 Tax mark to Machache, charged with 2c postage due.



## Zulu Notes

Tony Davis, Editor

*This column will eventually lead to the production of a handbook on Zululand philately. Reader comments are invited as are future installments on a guest author basis. Send yours to Tony at 41 Karen Street, Thornhill, Ontario L4J 5L5, Canada.*

### Rating Availability of the Postmarks of Zululand

Having addressed the subject of the postmarks of Zululand over four issues of *Forerunners* (Mar/Jun '93, Jul/Oct '93, Jul/Oct '94 and Jan/Jun '98), I will now provide a ranking or rating, if you will, of the availability of stamps bearing these strikes. In doing so, I utilized the following criteria:

- 1 - **readily available**, common
- 2 - **available**, better postmark
- 3 - **scarce**, hard to come by
- 4 - **rare**, very few reported or recorded

The valuation scheme is based upon viewings over the past 20 years of major collections, either in person, through correspondences, auctions or in other publications. There is obviously a certain amount of subjectivity in an exercise such as this, so the writer would welcome reader opinion in this regard.

Examples of postmarks should be clean and distinct with two-thirds or more of the cancel available. Used multiples, such as strips of 2, 3, or more, or else blocks with entire examples, will command a premium, as would examples on piece or, of course, on cover. Stamps with earliest or latest recorded date of postmark usages would

also have added value.

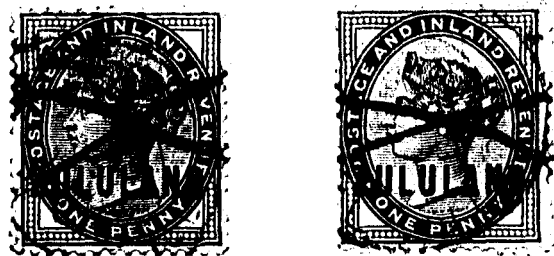
Higher rated postmarks on high value stamps will also command premium market prices. A majority of cancels are found on the 1d first definitive and on the ½d and 1d second definitive issue. The postmarks in alphabetical order are shown as follows:

**ENTONJANENI**: black double circle-2 & violet variety-4; **ES-HOWE (NO ZULULAND)**: black double circle-3 & violet variety-4; **ESHOWE**: black double circle-1, "A" & "P" time indicators-2 & black single circle-2; **R.M. OFFICE HLABISA**: violet single circle-2; **INGWAVUMA**: violet single circle-3; **LOWER TUGELA**: black double circle-1; **LOWER UMFOLOSI**: violet single circle-3; **R.M. OFFICE LOWER UMFOLOSI**: violet single circle-3 & blue single circle-4; **MELMOTH**: black double circle-1 & fugitive ink type-2; **NKANDHLA**: large violet circle-3, black double circle-1, fugitive ink type-2 & violet variety-3; **NONDWENI**: large violet oval-3 & black double circle-1; **NONGOMA**: violet single circle-2 & varieties, inverts, etc.-3; **NQUTU**: black double circle-2; **P.O. NTINGWE**: violet single circle-4; **QUDENI**: violet single circle-4; **RORKE'S DRIFT**: large violet circle-3; **UBOMBO**: violet single circle-3; **ULUNDI**: black double circle-2 fugitive ink type-3 & violet variety-3; and **ULUNDI P.O.**: violet single circle-4; **UMLALAZI**: violet single circle-4.

### Those "Potato" Stamps

An interesting sidebar to Zululand philately is what is known as the "potato" stamps. The story goes that sacks of potatoes, routed through Eshowe, had postage stamps affixed to the tags attached to the bags for revenue purposes. The stamps were then marked with an obliterating "x" (see illustration below).

**Illustration.** Two examples of "suspected" potato canceled stamps.



Is there any truth to this story? Well, a complete potato bag tag would solve the matter. The stamps so described are always the one penny first Zululand definitive lilac value. The examples shown here also bear some faint, but indistinguishable markings beneath the "x" markings.

Further speculation could provide other explanations for the number of such stamps being found: (1) the "x" is a revenue marking for stamps on documents, etc.' or (2) the marking could have been applied at another post office or agency as part of a routing strike if a canceler was not readily available' or (3) like today's postal authorities, if it was felt by the postal clerk that the postmark was too faint and the stamp could be reused, the brutal "x" was applied.

This writer would certainly welcome any reader's thoughts on the above.

## Cover With A Story

Bill Brooks, *acting* Feature Editor

*Many covers, entires and cards have interesting background stories - sometimes even unique. If you collect postal history, ferret out those interesting items and share a story or two. As yours truly does not collect postal history, Forerunners is seeking a Feature Editor for "Cover".*

All this for Only Two Halfpennies - and Baden-Powell, Too. . . Frederick P. Lawrence, Ph.D.

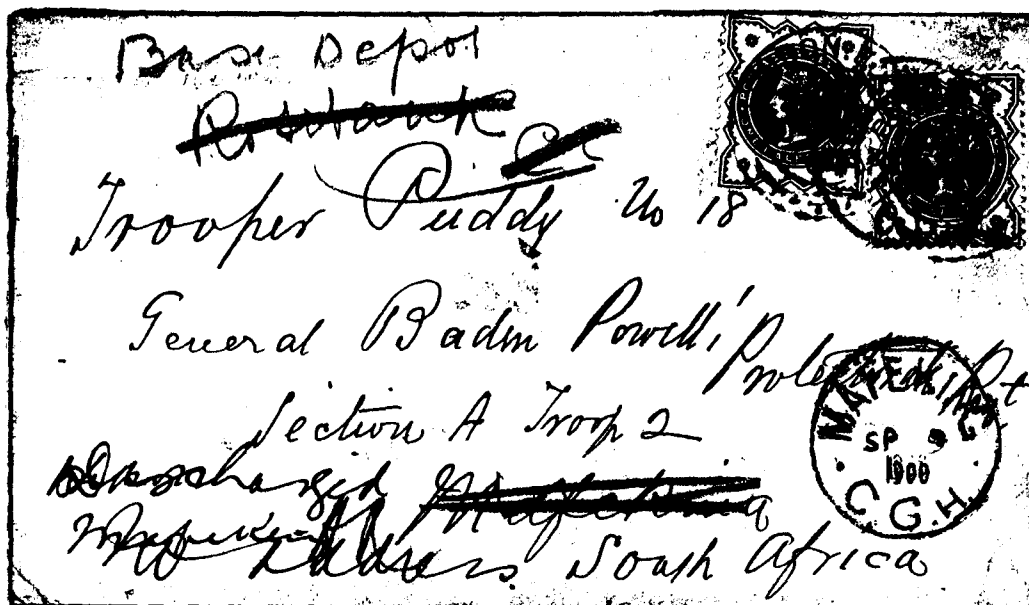
Franked with two Queen Victoria halfpenny definitives, the cover illustrated below was posted in London on July 13, 1900, just two months after the relief of the Mafeking siege during the Second Anglo-Boer War. It was addressed to Trooper Puddy, No. 18, Section A, Troop 2, General Baden-Powell's Protectorate Regiment, Mafeking, South Africa. Baden-Powell, who commanded the Mafeking siege garrison, had been promoted to Major General by Queen Victoria immediately following the relief.

Trooper Puddy, a member of the siege garrison, is well known to As there was no sender's address on the cover, the envelope was collectors and researchers of Mafeking siege philately, for the several opened in the RLO in an attempt to identify its origin. There is no covers franked with siege overprints and "blueprint" stamps which

were addressed to him at the Western Outposts defensive fort. This cover was redirect enroute to the Base Depot, Rosebank, Cape Colony (CC), where it arrived on August 9, 1900 (back- stamp).

Since Trooper Puddy was not in Rosebank, the cover was again redirected on August 13, 1900 (additional cancel over the stamps) to the Depot, Mafeking, where it arrived on September 9, 1900 (receiver cancel on front). Since Trooper Puddy had already been mustered out, the cover was endorsed "Discharged / No Address" in manuscript and forwarded to Cape Town Returned Letter Office (RLO), where it arrived on September 15, 1900.

evidence that the cover was returned to the sender.



In light of the above it is likely a sharp-eyed clerk in the RLO noted the connection to Baden-Powell, then quite a popular hero of the day for the successful defense of Mafeking, and pulled the cover out from among those awaiting an otherwise certain destruction. So this wonderful cover has survived until today, to give us closure to the story of Trooper Puddy of the Mafeking siege garrison.

*Editorial note: There is only one "Cover With A Story" remaining in the archives. Readers please help!*



## The Bookie Reports

*Readers are invited to submit reviews of books, journal, monographs, articles, etc., for inclusion in this feature. Besides greater southern Africa, the majority of Society members collect general British Africa. Therefore, entries are accepted in the following categories: greater south Africa (including German South West Africa), general British Africa as well as tangential areas, e.g., border war wait aerophilately, polar, thematics and so on. All entries are to be sent to the Editor.*

### A Sampling of Subjects Appearing in the South West Africa Stamp Study Group's Newsletter

Reviewed by Bill Brooks

While recently cleaning out and rearranging ye olde stamp den, yours truly ran across several back issues of SWASSG's monthly publication. For the collector of SWA, both German and British periods, as well as post-independence Namibia, there is a wealth of valuable information contained therein. Just to give you a taste of subject matter, here is a "sprinkling" of contents for your enjoyment:

- "Inland" endorsements on field postcards
- railway cancellations
- \* reprint of Namibian miniature sheet
- \* the 1/2d and 1d "King's Head" first overprint
- comparative postal history of Swakopmund & Walfish Bay \*
- new discoveries
- literature received

- \* proving covers
- \* German South West Africa postmark information \*
- postmaster cachets on official mail
- WWI & WWII prisoner-of-war camps
- \* examples of picture postcards related to the Herero Rebellion
- German South West Africa & South West Africa exhibits
- flight covers

Any reader serious about adventuring into any or all periods of collecting this area by all means should join our sister society. Membership information may be had by writing our own Dr. H.U. Bantz, P.O. Box 6913, Westgate 1734, South Africa.

\* \* \*

## Society Affairs

### THE PRESIDENT'S CORNER

Frederick P. Lawrence, Ph.D.

Because of the journal's production schedule, this is being written in the middle of August, during the "dog days: of summer in the United States. Here in the Phoenix, Arizona area, the daytime temperatures soar well into the triple digits (in degrees Fahrenheit), then cool down to the low-to-mid 90's at night. In the late afternoons and early evenings, the summer monsoons storm through the Valley of the Sun, flash floods fill the streets and the creek beds which are otherwise dry all the rest of the year, and amazing displays of lightning make the dark skies glow as if it were broad daylight. In a few weeks the cooler temperatures of Fall will arrive. And, six months from, when most of the rest of the United States will be firmly in the grip of Old Man Winter, the temperatures here will be in the balmy 70's. For those wishing to avoid California's high cost of living and Florida's humidity, Arizona is the best place to be within the continental 48 states.

There is an old saw - some say adage - that bad news comes in threes. In December 1997 we lost our members Alec Page, FRPSL, well known British philatelic writer, and Gene Bowman, international large gold medal exhibitor. No word has come from Johannesburg of the death in July of David Stem, RDPSA, FRPSL, the Chairman of the

ILSAPEX 98 Executive Committee. Although David was not a member of PSGSA, his contributions to greater southern Africa philately were considerable and significant. (For more on David's death, see the "ILSAPEX 98" Update: elsewhere in this issue.) I hope that these three losses constitute our quota for the time being.

When I was serving in the military, whenever there was a major foul-up, the public affairs office would release statements to the press and the general public, describing what happened as an 'incident': caused by "operational exigencies". I always thought this was a perfect example of government double-speak.

We had a couple of incidents: with the last issue of the journal, and they had specific, identifiable causes. I said that there would be a place on the dues notice, which was an insert in that issue, for a contribution to the "PSGSA Millennium 2000 Fund", in addition to the Society's other donation funds. Because of a breakdown in communications, these were inadvertently left off the dues notice. As an insert to this issue, you will find a stand-alone form for making contributions to all the Society's donation funds. I realize that you will have to write a second check to make a contribution; but, please take the time to be generous in your support of PSGSA.

I also said that a remembrance for Gene Bowman was in the last issue of the journal. I had asked a member of the Society to write the

but he declined, as he felt he did not know Gene well enough to do justice to my request. Subsequently, I asked one of Gene's very close friends to remember him to us. That remembrance appears earlier in the "News of the Membership" feature.

1999 will be an election year for our Society. All positions on the Board of Officers will be contested for two-year terms of office (1999-2001). Since PSGSA's Constitution & By-Laws do not contain provisions specifying how nominations are to be made, I will appoint a Nominating Committee of one or more members to compile

nominations and present a slate of candidates to the to the membership

for election. The name(s) of the Nominating Committee member(s) will appear in the next issue, along with the job description of all officer positions. Any Society member may submit a self-nomination and/or nominations of other members for any of the positions on the Board of Officers. If you submit someone's name in nomination for an officer position, please be sure that you have his/her permission, i.e., that he/she desires to be a candidate for the position and will service if elected.

The elections will be held at the Society's 1999 international meeting. APS's STaMpsHOW held during late August in Cleveland, Ohio, is the leading contender for the site of the meeting; however, a possible schedule conflict with the international philatelic exhibition BEIJING 99 which will be held August 21-30 at the China International Exhibition Center in Beijing, has yet to be resolved. I expect that the Board of Officers will have selected the 1999 international meeting site by press time of the next issue of the journal.

Our founder and journal editor, Bill Brooks, has recently been doing a yeoman's service to recruit feature editors for *Forerunner's* specialty columns. He has made considerable progress, and the roster of

specialty columns now reads:

- "The Bechuanalands" - Edited by Peter Thy/USA & David there. All checks and deposits are accounted for. I believe that the Wessely/Egypt. (Peter has also volunteered to be the journal's books are now adequate to support a charitable status application, Co-Editor. His main thrust will be to "hustle" feature articles. Final drafts are to be sent to him first for review and editing.)

- "Back of YOUR Book" - Edited by Tim Bartshe/USA system called "MS Access".

- "The Boer Republics" - also Edited by Tim Bartshe. (Tim also It is noticeable that more and more of our members are now on the serves on our Question & Answer Panel for this area.)

\* "Cover With A Story" - *acting* Editor Bill Brooks. A permanent editor who collects postal history is presently being sought. HOW ABOUT YOU?

- "The Modern Era: The Post-Independence Period" - To be Edited *Robert W. Hisey*, Treasurer/Acting Secretary by Will Ross/USA starting this Fall.

- "My Favorite Philatelic Item" - Edited by Bill Brooks/USA.

- "The Rhodesias" - Edited by Alan Hanks/Canada. (Alan has also

agreed to serve on the Q & A Panel for this area.)

- "SWA/Namibia Philately" - To be edited by Dr. H.U. Bantz/South For those of you not familiar with the most recent addition of southern

\* "CGH Philately", "Natal" & "Transvaal" - Editors needed! Apply to Bill Brooks.

Our thanks to Bill and all Feature Editors of the specialty columns for their continued support of the PSGSA journal.

Finally, please don't forget the still-open position on the Board of Officers: Vice President, Secretary, Director/Marketing and Director/Publications. If you are interested in serving in one of these positions, please contact me at 5016 South Kenneth Place, Tempe, AZ 85282-7265 USA.

\* \* \*

## Treasurer's Report for Fiscal Year 1997/98

Robert W. Hisey, Treasurer/Acting Secretary

For the Fiscal Year (FY) just ended (1997/98), total inflow was \$2,219 (including auction net proceeds) and total Expenditures were \$2820. Two issues of the journal were published.

Cash on hand at the end of FY97/98 was \$2,435.62. This is the amount after paying for the July issue which was an expenditure chargeable to FY97/98. This is a very low level, but it does not include any of the dues for FY98/99, as the dues notice was not sent out until July, not April as had been usual.

Most comparable societies plan for and have a cash cushion of about one year's income as sort of a rainy day reserve. In our case this would be about \$4,000' so we have a long way to go. We are presently budgeted to make a small step in that direction.

We ended the year with 134 paid-up members' a slight decrease over the prior year.

The books are now fully computerized utilizing a commercial program called "Quicken". It is my believe that there are no more surprises out so-called 501c3.

The membership roster has been fully computerized on a database internet with their own e.mail addresses. This will, in the future, make communication easier. Who knows, maybe sometime we can publish electronically and save us all a lot of money and bother.

Respectfully submitted,

\* \* \*

From The Archives

Tim Bartshe, Director

and Zululand Study Circle. The publication, *The Natal and Zululand Post*, is in the most capable hands of editor Alan Drysdall who also is editor of *The Transvaal Philatelist*.

As one familiar with the latter journal, the high quality is carried on with a no nonsense approach of presenting original research articles along with timely analysis of membership "discoveries". The latest journal from June 1998 highlights fellow members John Dickson and Tony Davis. The former begins with *The Sea-Borne Mails of Natal (Part I - From the Beginning to 1850)*, a seventeen-page article of import that deals with the near impossible task of unraveling postal rates and routes during the infancy of the Natal postal system, beginning in the early 1840's. Tony Davis also chips in with *An Overview of Zululand Philately*, a four-page thumbnail sketch on items issued from 1887-1898. congratulations and kudos for both in their literary endeavors. Those interested can gain further information from North American representative Morgan Farrell at P.O. Box 1064, Hamilton, MT 59840. The annual subscription rate for the quarterly journal is a paltry 110 for surface mail. Well worth the tariff!

Speaking of *The Transvaal Philatelist* (quarterly journal of the Transvaal Study Circle), the latest edition of August is another packed and informative issue containing fifty pages dealing with such issues as Fred Jeppe, postal markings, early Swaziland postal history and Transvaal taxing stamps. Similarly, the annual fees are the same 110 and Morgan Farrell is also the contact as above. I highly recommend both of these whether you are collecting either area or not. These publications set the foundations relative to the future postal systems of the Union and Republic of South Africa.

One final note of reminder to any trying to expand their knowledge into a new area of philately. Our own archives is fertile ground for virtually any and all areas relative to southern Africa, particularly the earlier 19th century time period. As your Society Director/Archives, I have begun, and am well along, in making available items of interest as published by the major societies of our area, in particular *The Springbok*, *The Transvaal Philatelist* and *The Bulletin of the Orange Free State Study Circle*. If you have a specific subject you want to know about, send me a line and I will research what is available and sent it on. Your only costs are copy and mailing fees. Ask - the worst that can happen is that I can't help out. This is your library, too.

\* \* \*

## ILSAPEX 98 Update

Frederick P. Lawrence, Ph.D., W. USA Commissioner

By the time you read this, the International Philatelic Exhibition ILSAPEX 98, held in Johannesburg, South Africa, October 20-25, 1998, under the support of the international Federation of Philately (FIP), will have taken place. The show venue was the Gallagher's Estate Exhibition Center, within 20 minutes proximity of Johannesburg and Pretoria. The exhibition was jointly sponsored by the

Society of Israel Philately (Johannesburg) and the south African Philatelic Dealers Association (SAPDA). A full report of the exhibition will appear in the next issue of *Forerunners*.

ILSAPEX 98 was the first international a exhibition to be held in South Africa under the dispensation of the black majority government and the sponsorship of the Philatelic Federation of South Africa (PFSA). The exhibition was scheduled to feature 2,000 competitive frames with a comprehensive set of exhibit classes, including traditional philately, postal history, aerophilately, thematic, revenues, youth and literature. The court of honor was to have included selected pages from the collection of Queen Elizabeth II and the official archives of the state of Israel, as well as those of South Africa. The "Natal" collection of the Royal Philatelic Society of London (RPSL) had been promised for the show.

PSGSA was scheduled to holds its 1998 international meeting at ILSAPEX 98 on Saturday, October 24, at 10:00 am. Originally slated for Saturday after noon, the PSGSA meeting was moved to avoid a conflict with the meeting of the Rhodesia Study Circle. PSGSA's south Africa representative, Dr. Ulli Bantz, arranged the meeting program, which had not been announced at press time. While PSGSA had hoped to have a society table during the exhibition, the ILSAPEX organizing committee was unable to accommodate any requests for society tables.

August brought the sad news of the death of David Stem, RDPSA, FRPSL, Chairman of the ILSAPEX 98 Executive Committee, On July 18 in Johannesburg after a short illness. David fell ill on his return from Israel where he had been the South African Commissioner at ISRAEL 98. Health problems had prevented David from attending both CAPEX 96 and PACIFIC 97 to promote ILSAPEX 98 in the Americas, and he had been hospitalized earlier in the year for heart difficulties. He was very well liked and held in high regard by the international commissioners to ILSAPEX 98, both for his philatelic achievements and the organization of the ILSAPEX philatelic exhibition. He will be sorely missed. Henk de Lange, Vice Chairman, took over as Acting Chairman upon David's death. professionally, Henk manages philatelic auctions for Stephan Welz & Co., Sotheby's associated company in South Africa.

## Scott Catalog Call For Input

Tim Bartshe, Director/Archives

It is that time of year again for the call for comments, corrections and additions to the *Scott Catalog*. Anything that comes to mind is appropriate for consideration and will be sent to Scott publishing Company for their use. I know there is a somewhat defeatist attitude regarding the rather monolithic and somewhat intransigent catalog-publishing entities' however, some of us have had success in altering and adding listings for our area. On the next page is the text of the letter received from Scott's James Kloetzel.

Please consider

contributing in any form and send the suggestions directly to me prior to the dates as listed. Any copies of the tear sheets for the specific countries involved can be mailed to anyone by requesting again through me. I will ship them out for your perusal - even if you are unable to meet one of the deadlines listed below, send me your inputs so that I can forward them. Catalog Editor Kloetzel's letter reads as follows:

Scott Publishing Co., 911 Vandemark Road, Sidney, OH 45365-0828

"Dear Valued Advisor:

It is that time of year again, and we would like to thank our many advisors for input for previous years and issue our annual call in the hope that you will be able to assist us in this year's effort to update the Scott catalog. We are enclosing tear pages from the 1999 catalog for the areas you have assisted us with in previous years.

As you know, starting in the 1997 catalog values are for very fine stamps, otherwise noted. Numerous changes to condition notes were made, so please review them carefully. If you feel the need to discuss specific details, please feel free to write, call (937) 498-0802, Ext. 358, fax (937)

498-0807 or e-mail at [jkloetzel@amospress.com](mailto:jkloetzel@amospress.com).

At the very latest we would like to receive your suggestions by:

\* November 3, 1998 for Basutoland, Bechuanaland, Bechuanaland Protectorate, Botswana

\* November 20, 1998 for Cape of Good Hope

\* December 31, 1998 for Griqualand West

\* February 5, 1999 for Lesotho, Malawi, Namibia, Natal, New Republic, Northern Rhodesia, Nyasaland Protectorate, Orange River Colony

Amsterdam, The Netherlands \* March 19, 1999 for Rhodesia, Rhodesia & Nyasaland

\* April 23, 1999 for the remaining countries.

As usual, you will receive a gratis copy of the volume for which you provide assistance, and if you desire, your name will appear on the acknowledgments page. We will list your name along with your philatelic affiliation *only if you are offering suggestions on behalf of that organization* While we may be receiving input from a number of members of a particular society, there is only one person that the society has selected to serve as a liaison with Scott on its behalf. Please fill out the attached form and send it along with your suggestions.

suggestions.

Sincerely,

James E. Kloetzel, Catalog Editor

\* \* \*

## Our New US/Intl Rep (IR) & Membership Recruiter

Founding Member, Ralph M. Myerson, MD, has graciously volunteered to replace Dave Wessely as our US/IR. (Dave has accepted a entry position in Egypt.) Ralph will also perform membership recruitment duties by reviewing new member application listings in *The American Philatelist* The following "bio" was furnished to

to introduce you to Ralph and welcome him aboard:

*Ralph M. Myerson is a graduate of Tufts College and Tufts School of Medicine, a board-certified internist, and Clinical Professor of Medicine at Allegheny University Health Sciences Center in Philadelphia. He has been interested in the philately of greater southern African for about 40 years with a special interest in the Anglo-Boer*

*War and its medical aspects. He is a charter member of PSGSA and suggested the title of Forerunners for the Society's journal. Several of his articles have been published in Forerunners, including one on General Buller for which he received the Lupo award for the best article of the year, the Deadwood Prison Camp, Medical practices during the Boer War, his most recent being one on Bermuda as a philately.*

*Ralph and Loretta, his wife of 55 years, spend their time between suburban Philadelphia and the New Jersey shore. They have two children and four grandchildren. Travel and gardening are made, so please review them additional hobbies.*

\* \* \*

## Society Translation Services Available

The following members have volunteered to provide translations:

\* Afrikaans & German to English - Bob Hisey, 7337 Sparta Road, Sebring, FL 33872 USA

\* Afrikaans & Getman to English - Dr. H.U. Bantz, P.O. Box 6913, Westgate 1734, South Africa

\* Dutch to English - Piet Mulder, Ruimzicht 3000, 1068 CA,

19, 1999 for Rhodesia, Rhodesia & Nyasaland

\* Dutch to/from English, French & German - Jac W. Versantvoort, P.O. Box 59, 4660 AB Hasteren, The Netherlands

\*\*\* us

## he Question & Answer Panel

**Panel Addition** - Our feature editor for "The Rhodesias", Alan Hanks of Canada, has volunteered to serve for that area. He replaces Bill Wallace who unselfishly served in that capacity for a number of years.

**Volunteers needed** for the following areas: locals, Griqualand West, the interprovisional period, the Nyasalands, Union/SA, and RSA.

\* \* \*

## Study Group Updates

Members are encouraged to establish communications with others, who have like collecting interests, with an eye towards forming a study group/circle. Readers so interested are invited to send a short teered to that effect for appearance in "...Updates". Entries will be run teaching for three consecutive issues duration.

We are still looking for someone to establish a formal or informal group, focusing on the philately of the Cape of Good Hope.

# The International Scene

## PSGSA Highlighted

they had built up the designs of the stamps.

Member firm Murray Payne, Ltd., of the UK highlighted our Society The RSC is also marking its 50th Anniversary by updating its list of in issue number 12 of its philatelic newsletter, *Sixth Sense*. The firm's literature for its *Handbook* and issuing a new Cumulative Index of its Director, R.G.P. Pollard serves on the Question & Answer Panel as Journal for the 50 year period of 1948-1997. A history of the RSC is our expert on KGVI issues. planned for release later in this year.

Murray Payne recently published the 17th addition of *The Common-wealth King George VI Catalog*, as announced in the newsletter issue. members please write to Heather Rudge, 190 Greenfield Crescent, Other highlights of the issue included: (1) literature awards at Stampex which included a bronze for *Sixth Sense*, a silver for the The RSC Journal for July 1998 comprises 48 pages and four pages of catalog and a silver gilt for Peter Baldwin's monograph on the 1938 color photographs and is devoted to the 50th Anniversary Meeting of St. Kitts-Nevis issues also published by the firm' (2) a brief history of the RSC in Zimbabwe in April 1998. Most of the papers which were the firm' (3) part one of KUT KGVI flaws and varieties' (4) old delivered are reproduced in full and those that are not are reported in problems and new mysteries of St. Helena' (5) "Collector's Corner" -

the unissued WEI-HEI-WEI stamps of King George VI' (6) forgeries and other interesting tidbits under the heading "Confetti".

For members with an interest in the KGVI issues, the King George VI of Zimbabwe through to postal historians who talked about the Collector's Society may be just the group for you. Further pre-1890 days. Almost all the stamp issues are covered, some in more information is available by writing Murray Payne, Ltd., P.O. Box detail than others, with particular emphasis on the 1910 Double 1135, Axbridge Somerset, BS26 2EW, UK. Heads. The articles are full of references to the idiosyncrasies of the

\* \* \*

Horndean, Hampshire, P08 9ER, UK.

some detail.

The subject matter of the papers delivered covered a side range, from a talk by the artists who designed the April 1998 Bee Keeping Issue

individual collectors which makes them pleasant reading as well as

informative on the subject matter.

\* \* \*

## The Reciprocal Listings Exchange (REL)

An annual listing of all known British Africa related specialty groups

appears in the annual supplement accompanying the Jul/Oct issue of

*Forerunners*.

Any specialty group who focus includes British Africa is invited to participate in this (REL) publications and information exchange.

Information releases about a fellow specialty group, its activities and special events are welcomed for publication in this feature. All that is

required is the PSGSA be provided the same courtesy on a reciprocal basis.

A number of specialty groups exchange publications with PSGSA. A

listing of those available through our library services may be had by writing Tim Bartshe, Society Librarian, 13955 W. 30th, Golden, CO

80401 USA.

The following information releases were received this period: tive collection, Union stamps, maxicards - Transkei, Venda, **BoRhodesian Study Circle (RSC)**

RSC announced a special journal issue to mark its 50th Anniversary Union, RSA 1st, 2nd and 3rd definitive issues. Membership meeting in Zimbabwe during April 1998. The special issue was in information is available by writing the SACCS contact listed in the addition to the usual four quarterly issues for 1998.

## Orange Free State Study Circle (OFSSC)

Founding PSGSA member Jack Koch informs us that OFSSC has established a web site with an initial six pages. For philatelists with an interest in the World Wide Web, access is provided at

<http://www.ofssc.org>.

## South Africa Collectors Club/UK

SACC's auction, closing September 25th last contained 325 lots,

ranging in value from 30p to 2180. Auction lot categories included:

postage dues, RSA commemorative blocks/strips, mini sheets, airlet

ters, Union animals, postal history/covers 1927-1987, South West Africa, Union coil stamps, RSA succulent issues, a RSA commemora

commemorative Paquebot covers, Union officials, large blocks -

supplement.

## Namibian Issues Blacklisted

(As reported in the April 1998 issue of *The American Philatelist* pages 324-25.)

### On the Blacklist

The Namibia Post Office has stunned South African stamp collectors by having Namibia stamps issued in China, with Chinese motifs. A total 32 stamps, in 12 sheetlets, were issued in Shanghai on November 23, 1997, by a Chinese stamp dealer acting for the Namibia Post Office (Nampost).

South African stamp collectors first heard about this "flood of fabrications" in the middle of January. Representatives of organized philately immediately approached Nampost, which confirmed the "venture" in a press statement in Windhoek on January 22, 1998.

On January 26, the Philatelic Federation of Southern Africa, the umbrella body of stamp collectors on the sub-continent, issued a statement saying the stamps would be blacklisted with immediate effect.

The Philatelic Federation said Nampost's action was a multiple contravention of the Universal Postal Union's philatelic code of ethics, which was instituted at the twentieth UPU world congress in 1990. As a result of the code, the UPU maintains a blacklist of undesirable or "abusive" stamp issues in conjunction with the International Philatelic Federation (FIP), the International Federation of Stamp Dealers' Associations (IFSDA), and the International Association of Stamp Catalogue Editors (ASCAT).

In its statement Nampost said its series of twelve minisheets was issued : for the Chinese market" and "were designed by a Chinese artist." The stamps include:

1. sheet, Macao Returns to China 1999, three stamps, N\$4.50 each
2. sheet, Reunify the Country, Strengthen the Motherland, four stamps ("Beijing national capital", "Return of Hong Kong", "Return of Macao", and "The Taiwan Region"), N\$3.50 each
3. sheet, Lunar New Year, six stamps, N\$2.50 each
4. sheet, 25th Anniversary of Shanghai Communique, four stamps (Nixon and other presidential visits), N\$3.50 each
5. sheet, Chinese Symbols, six stamps, N\$2.50 each
6. sheet, Deng Ziaoping's Towering Achievement, Macao Returns, three stamps, N\$4.50 each
7. each of the above topics in a sheetlet with one stamp, N\$6.00

The Nampost statement said the stamps would "not be sold over counters and can only be ordered by mail" however, the head of Nampost Philatelic Services earlier told inquiring stamp club representatives that the items would be obtainable at the philatelic counter in Windhoek. She confirmed that, although not issued in Namibia, the stamps would be acceptable as legal postage at any

Namibian post office.

The Philatelic Federation said collectors believed that the Chinese venture would cause irreparable harm to the popularity of Namibia as a country to collect. Hitherto, Namibia had followed a conservative stamp-issuing policy, with limited numbers of new stamps, stamp values relating to actual postal rates, themes and subjects pertaining to the country itself, and reasonable to well-designed stamps.

"It was an exemplary stamp-issuing country with growing international appeal and popularity, and we are saddened by the ill-conceived marketing ploy," the Philatelic federation said. It added that Nampost's stamp advisory committee was not consulted, having last met in February 1997.

The blacklisting of the stamps means that they are barred from national, regional, or junior stamps exhibitions in southern Africa. Collections with such stamps will be disqualified at club competitions. The Philatelic Federation has supplied full details to the relevant international bodies.

Joh Groenewald, President - Philatelic Federation of Southern Africa

## Events of Note

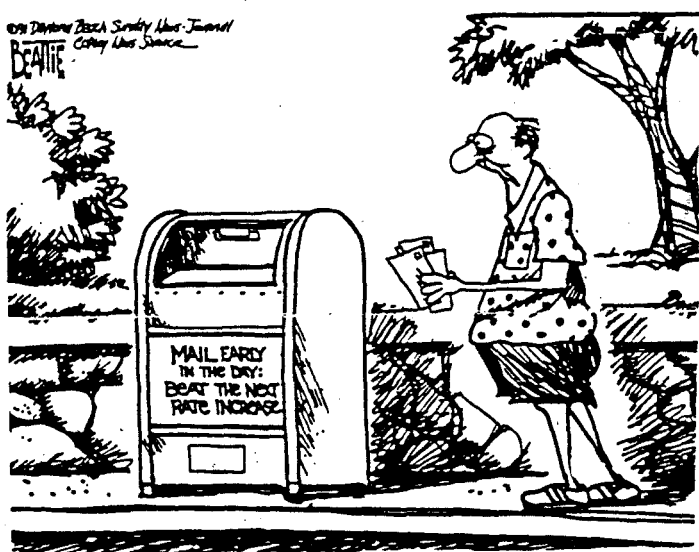
As noted in the prior issue, a listing of International and World Exhibitions will appear once per year in this issue. These events of interest to our many show-attending and exhibiting readers appear in the incorporated supplement of this issue.

\* \* \*

## Show Reports

Readers who attend international philatelic shows and exhibitions are encouraged to write-up their experiences and submit their entry for appearance in this feature.

No reports were submitted for this publication cycle.



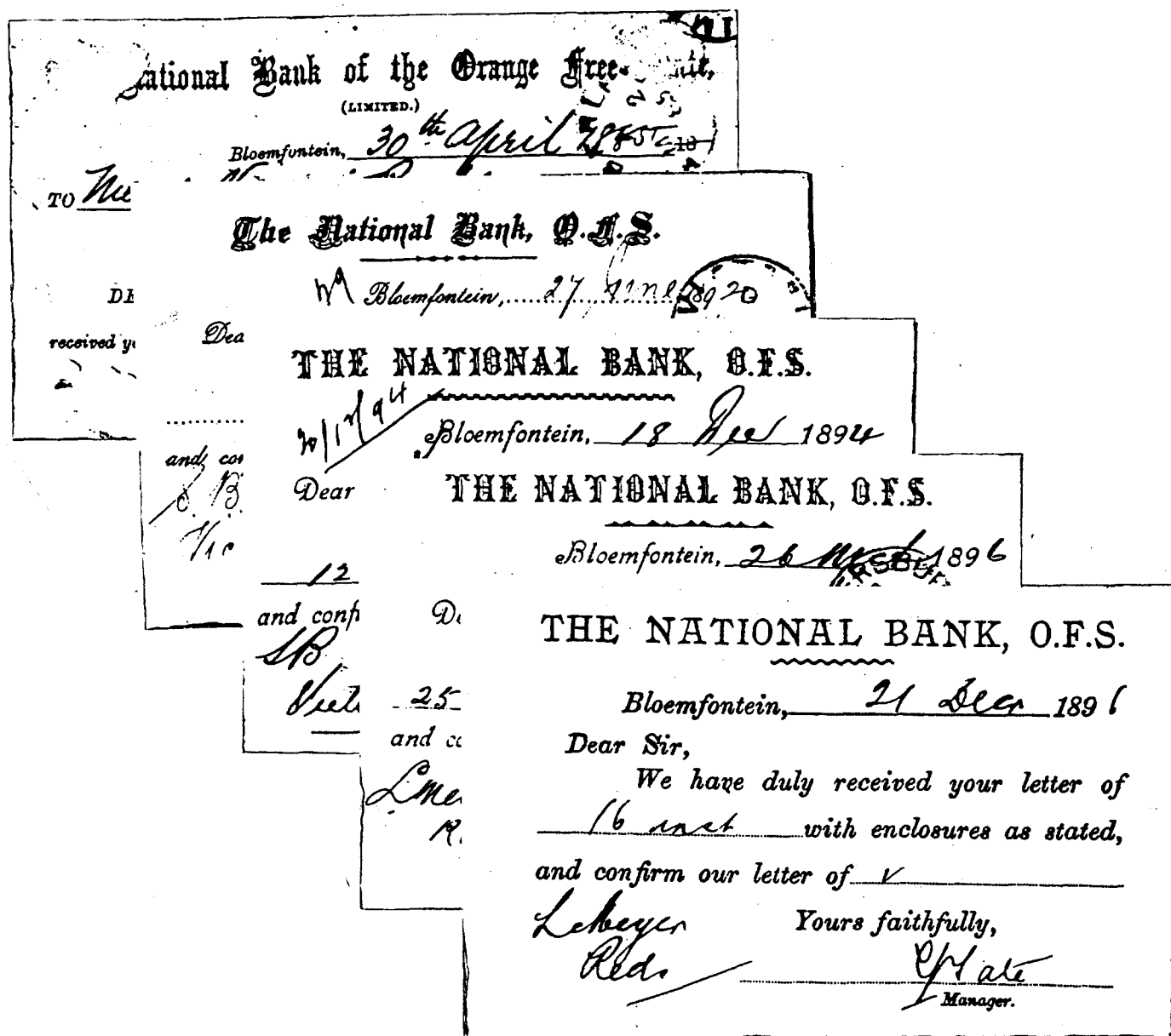
# Back of YOUR Book

R. Timothy Bartshe, Editor

Comments and updates to information appearing in this column are welcomed by Tim. Readers are also invited to submit future installments on a guest author basis. Send yours to Tim at 13955 West 30th, Golden, CO 80401 USA.

For those of you that postal cards and/or revenue stamps of the There were two main banking organizations prevalent within the Free Pre-Union States of South Africa, you are familiar with the numerous State: The Bank of Africa, Ltd. and the National Bank of the Orange handstamps used by the major banking institutions. These banks also Free State. Sometime in the mid-1880's. The National Bank, OFS, utilized the penny and half-penny postal card as a means of Bloemfontein branch, acquired a large number of Id postal cards from acknowledging receipt of funds and instructions from individuals as the postal authorities and had a local printer produce a form for well as other banks. Of the Boer Republics, the Orange Free State reproduction on the reverse of the cards. The earliest example I have made use of the postal card system more frequently than the South is dated 30 April 1885. Numerous printings of these cards were done, African Republic. Whether this was due to the amount of transactions each one a little different than the others in type, font or decoration and banks within the country, my limited statistical sample.(Fig. 1).

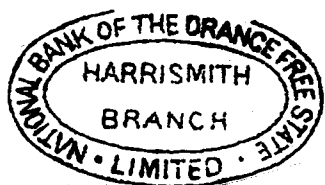
Figure 1. Examples of five different printings of form used by OFS banks on reverse side of Id postal cards.



I have at least seven different types identified, being used up to the Boer War. After the fall of the Republic, the bank wisely altered its name to include Orange River Colony on the reverse of the VRI surcharged cards sometime in 1902. The only other example of a black printed notice is from Bethlehem dating late 1899.

The other branches of The National Bank also utilized the postal cards, but all appear to be printed with a rubber handstamp, generally in purple but sometimes in green (Kroonstad). The banks seen include the branches of Wepener, Rouxville, Ladybrand, Winburg, Heilbron, Boshof, Senekal, Kroonstad, Harrismith and Ficksburg. These also show an evolution in style as did the Bloemfontein items but generally follow the same format and message as all of their sister institutions. Many of the branches above also utilized a rubber handstamp to act as a receiving mark. These are generally double ovals although some are double-edged double ovals stamped in blue, green, red (Pretoria only) or purple, ranging in size from 40x23mm to 43x31mm. They sometimes contain the branch name inside but also are either blank with the branch incorporated in the oval or dated. A blue example from Harrismith, dated 1 November 1884, is shown in Figure 2. Examples seen include Ladybrand, Vrede, Heilbron, Harrismith, Boshof, Vredefort and Pretoria.

Figure 2. Harrismith oval handstamp.



The Bank of Africa displays a similar histories of postal card usage, although they appear to have not printed up a message as early or utilized them as universally within their system as did the

NBOFS. A manuscript card with the standard message is dated 1886, but the first black printed message dates from 1890 used in Bloemfontein with an example from Bethlehem dated 1891. A much more elaborate item, however, is found from 1895 where a purple message is stamped on top of an elaborate ochre rendition of the Bank of Africa seal printed on the card. The emblem takes up nearly 75%

of the reverse of the card and is quite attractive. (This item is not illustrated for the sole reason it would not reproduce adequately.) These are the only two towns that utilized a printed form on the reverse in my collections.

The Bank of Africa branches also utilized a similar handstamp as a receiver marking as did NBOFS. The varieties in color and size are much more variable as well. These range in color from black to purple with red, blue and a bluish-black noted. Size variations point to individual branch purchases rather than a uniform head office distribution of arrival handstamps. Figure 3 shows the simplest and smaller type (36x18mm) branch name in black ink manuscript. Figure 4 shows an example from Winburg with a space for a transaction number. This has been crossed-out with the recording date filled in again in black ink. Examples in double-edged double ovals, along with simple double ovals, are noted from Bloemfontein, Bethlehem, Faresmith, Rouxville and Winburg. Multiple variants from the individual branch also are found. One example similar to Figure 3 has the branch Bethlehem handstamped in large capitals single lined.

Figure 3. Rouville single circle oval.



Figure 4. Winburg double circle oval.



I am sure the above list is far from complete and many more types are to be found on revenue stamps. I just wanted to bring to the reader's attention these highly varied and interesting items' from a sociological standpoint if not a philatelic one. If you enjoy these columns, please send in any ideas or items from the "Back of Your Book". Your editor cannot come up with ideas forever! On second thought, maybe that's the idea.

## YOUR JOURNAL NEEDS FEATURE ARTICLES NOW!!!

other than two original pieces from Werner Seeba, all that remains in the feature article archives are a few reprints from other publications. I am certain that you, the reader, would prefer continuation of our fine tradition of publishing three original works per issue. At the moment we are down to only one... Ye olde Editor



# THE MARKETPLACE

*Yes dear reader, "The Classifieds" has been renamed and reconfigured. Rather than having the separate "Trading Box", all free member ads, whether they are for buying, and/or selling, and/or trading, will appear under this new heading. As before, member ads will run for three consecutive issues and then are removed. The code in parenthesis indicates the volume and number of the last issue in which a member's free ad will appear before being removed. Members desiring to continue the run of their ad beyond a year must so notify the Editor to that effect.*

## Ad placement guidelines:

\*Brief ad free to NON-DEALER members & run 3 issues.

\*Ads may be run by individuals not members of PSGSA. Commercial rate schedule applies.

## Ad payment instructions:

\* US Bank draft in dollars payable to "PSGSA".

\* Sterling cheques at current exchange rate as published by major bank in local area with "PAYEE" LEFT BLANK.

\*Sterling, Rands or DM currencies at current exchange rates sent via registered mail.

## Commercial advertising rate schedule (non-premium):

1/8 page - single issue - \$10 - annual - \$25

1/4 page - single issue - \$15 - annual - \$40

1/3 page - single issue - \$20 - annual - \$50

1/2 page - single issue - \$30 - annual - \$75

full page - single issue - \$45 - annual - \$120

## Premium position (inside front, inside/outside back):

1/2 page - single issue - \$45 - annual - \$120

full page - single issue - \$75 - annual - \$200

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

Send camera read ad copy to: Bill Brooks, Editor, 200 East 30th - #144, San Bernardino, CA 92404-2302 USA

**Mafeking Covers.** Want to purchase or trade for covers to, from or through Mafeking, 1885-present. Send photocopies, prices or trade want list to Frederick Lawrence, Ph.D., 5016 So. Kenneth Place, Tempe, AZ 85282. (V12N2)

**Bophuthatswana used.** Want to trade for on/off cover, including revenues and postal stationery. Have all Homelands used, some mint and older general worldwide to trade. Will Ross, 4120 Schuylkill Dr., Calabasas, CA 91302 USA. (V12N2)

**Join the Philatelic Federation of Southern Africa.** Write PFSA, P.O. Box 375, Johannesburg 2000, South Africa.

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

**Botswana.** Mint/used postal stamped/formula stationery sought - especially stampless and stamped aerogrammes, postcards, registered and/or EMS envelopes, postal orders. Peter Thy, P.O. Box 73112, Davis, CA 95617 USA. (V12N2)

**South West Africa postal stationery.** Pre-1969 wanted. Send offers to J. Stolk, Post Office Box 33223, 3005 EE Rotterdam, The Netherlands. (V12N2)

**WHEN PATRONIZING OUR COMMERCIAL  
ADVERTISERS, PLEASE LET THEM KNOW  
YOU SAW THEIR AD IN FORERUNNERS.**

# Appendix: Part I - Philatelic Institutions

A majority of Society members do some traveling each year for vacation and/or business reasons. Some journeys take us to places where there is the opportunity to mix travel and our passion for philately. To better serve its members in this regard, PSGSA publishes this listing of philatelic institutions in the Jul/Oct 'jumbo' issue of the journal each year. The philatelic libraries and museums listed below range in size and comprehensiveness with some being located in the most surprising places. Make certain to add them to your itinerary when "on the road." It is always best to contact sites in advance of your visit to confirm the days and hours of operation.

The listing will be updated during the course of each year. Readers are encouraged to send in information on institutions not yet appearing in this listing. If possible the following information is requested: complete name of institution, mailing/physical address, phone, e-mail if any. Also, some of the listings show incomplete location information for which additional data would be appreciated. Readers are also encouraged to send information concerning museums and/or libraries not yet appearing in the list. Send your additions to the list directly to The Editor, 200 E. 30th - #144, San Bernardino, CA 92404-2302.

If any reader visits one or more of the institutions listed, share the experience with fellow Society members in a short write-up which will appear in a future issue of Forerunners. Send your visit write-ups to The Editor.

## Canada

*Canadian Postal Museum* (located in the Canadian Museum of Civilization, 100 Laurier, Hull, Quebec), Box 3100, Station B, Hull, Quebec J8X 4H2, phone: No. America 1 - (800) 565-4632, other countries (902) 863-6550

## Denmark

*Danish Postal Museum*, Dansk Post-og Telegrafmuseet, Valkendorfsgrde 9, 1151 Kobenhavn K

## Finland

*Postal Museum*, Manerheimintie 11 B, Station Square, Helsinki

## Germany

*City of Munich Philatelic Library*, Rosenheimer Strasse 5, D-81667 Munich, phone: 089-4-80-98-291

## Great Britain

*The British Philatelic Library*, 96 Road, St. Pancras, London, NW1 2DB, phone 0171-412-7635, web site <http://www.bl.uk>

## Greece

*The Philatelic Museum* (located near Panathinaikos Square), corner of 5 Stadiou and 2 Fokianou Streets in the Pagrati area, local phone: 751-0942

## Japan

*The Mizuhara Memorial Philatelic Museum* (located at Meiji 1-4-23, Toshimaku, Tokyo 171), Box 96, Toshima, Tokyo 170-91

## Poland

*Museum of Posts & Telecommunications* write to Muzeum Poczty i Telekomunikacji, ul. Drasinskiego 1, Poczta 2030, 50-954 Wrocław, Poland

## Singapore

*Singapore Philatelic Museum*, 23-B Coleman St., Singapore 179807

## Sweden

*Swedish Postal Museum*, Old Town of Stockholm

## Switzerland

*United Nations Philatelic Museum*, located in the Palais des Nations Conference Center center wing, Geneva

## Thailand

*Postal Museum*, second floor of the post office on Charoen Prathet Road near the Ping River, in the city of Chiang Mai

## Turkey

*Postal & Telecommunications Museum of Turkey*, located at PTT Muzesi, PTT Meslek Gelistirme, Basmudurlugu Samsun Yolu Uzeri, Aydinlikevler, Ankara

## United States

### Arizona

*Western Postal History Museum*, c/o of The Postal History Foundation, 920 North First Avenue, Tucson, AZ 85719

### California

*Western Philatelic Library, Inc.* (located at 665 West Olive Avenue), Sunnyvale, contact WPL, P.O. Box 2219, Sunnyvale, CA 94087

### Colorado

*Library, Philatelic Society for Greater Southern Africa*, contact Tim Barsthe, PSGSA Librarian, 13955 West 30th, Golden, CO 80401

*Rocky Mountain Philatelic Library*, Denver, 2038 S. Pontiac Way, Denver, phone (303) 759-9921

### Florida

*The Philatelic Library*, contact Librarian, Florida Atlantic University, FAU Library, Box 3092, Boca Raton, FL 33431

### Massachusetts

*Cardinal Spellman Philatelic Museum*, 235 Wellesley St., Weston, MA 02193

### New York

*Postal History Museum* (located on the third floor of the James A. Farley Building), contact Mr. Joe Cohen, 212-330-3291

## Ohio

*The Museum of Postal History*, located in the Delphos Post Office, contact

Postmaster, 131 North Main St., Delphos, OH 45833-5000

*The Post Mark Collectors Club Museum*, c/o Historic Lyme Village, P.O. Box

342, Bellevue, Ohio 44811

## Pennsylvania

*American Philatelic Research Library* (American Philatelic Society), Gini Horn,

Librarian, P.O. Box 8000, State College, PA 16803

*International Philatelic Libraries Association*, c/o APRL Librarian, P.O., Box

8000, State College, PA 16803

## Texas

*Wineburgh Philatelic Research Library*, University of Texas at Dallas, Box

930643, Richardson, TX 75083

## Washington, D.C.

*The National Postal Museum* (located at 2 Massachusetts Ave., N.E.), contact

National Postal Museum, Smithsonian Institution, Washington, D.C. 20560

## Part II - British Africa Specialty Groups

*Listed below are those British Africa specialty groups known to date.*

*Editor to add to next year's listing.*

**Aerophilatelic Society for 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, England

**Bechuanaland & Botswana Society.** Contact David Wall, Hon. Secretary, 8

Walkwood Rise, Beaconsfield, Bucks HP9 1TU, England

**Dutch Philatelic Society of Southern Africa.** Contact Secy. FVZA, J. Stolk, P.

O. Box 33223, 3005 EE, Rotterdam, The Netherlands

**East Africa Study Circle.** Contact Roy Dunstan, Chantry Court, Warminster,

Wilts BA32 9AL, England

**Natal & Zululand Study Circle.** Contact John Dickson, Lismore House, Shepton

Beauchamp, Ilminster, Somerset TA19 0LJ, England

**Orange Free State Study Circle.** Contact J.R. Stroud, 28 Oxford St., Burnham-

on-Sea, Somerset TA8 1LQ, England

**Philatelic Society for Greater Southern Africa.** Contact Robert W. Hisey,

Secretary-Treasurer, 7227 Sparta Road, Sebring, FL 33872 USA

*Any reader knowing of others, please send contact information to the*

**Postmark & Postal History Society of Southern Africa.** Contact Mrs. Marge

Viljoen, P.O. Box 835, Groenkloof 0027, South Africa

**Rhodesia Study Circle.** Contact Keith Harrop, Hon. Membership Secy., 817

Wilmslow Rd., Didsbury, Manchester M20 8RT, England

**St. Helena, Ascension & Tristan da Cunha Philatelic Society.** Contact J.L.

Havill, Secy., 205 N. 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 1AL, England

**Transvaal Study Circle.** Contact Hon. Secy., Jeff Woolgar, 132 Dale St.,

Chatham, Kent ME4 6QH, England

**South West Africa Stamp Study Group.** Contact Dr. H.U. Bantz, President, P.

O. Box 6913, Westgate 1734, South Africa

**West Africa Study Circle.** Contact Michael Ensor, Pres., Flat 1, No. 12, The

Paragon, London, SE3 0NZ, England

## Part III - Events of Note

*Readers attending a listed event are invited to submit a short report on their experience which will appear in the "Show Reports" journal feature. Also, the are major international shows/world exhibitions which do not appear below, please send contact informaticv to the Editor for entry in "Show Reports".*

**AUSTRALIA 1999 World Stamp Expo** - March 19-24. Melbourne Exhibition

Centre, Melbourne. U.S. Commissioner, Stephen D. Schumann, 2417 Cabrillo Dr.

, Hayward, CA 94545.

**IBRA 99 International Stamp Exhibition** - April 27-May 4. Nuremberg,

Getmany. U.S. Commissioner, Michael D. Dixon, P.O. Box 60007, Potomac, MD

20859-0007.

**PHILEXFRANCE 99** - July 2-11. Parc des Expositions de la Porte de

Versailles, Paris. U.S. Commissioner, George J. Kramer, 199 Charles St., Clifton,

NJ 07013.

**STAMPSHOW 99** - August 26-29. APS Annual Convention. Cleveland

Convention Center, Cleveland, OH. Contact APS, P.O. Box 8000, State College,

PA 16803.

**SESCAL 99** - October 1-3. PSGSA Regional Meeting. Wyndham Lost Angeles

Airport Hotel, 6225 W. Century Blvd., Los Angeles. Contact Wallace Craig, P.

O. Box 3391, Fullerton, CA 92634.

**WIPA 2000** - May 30-June 4. Vienna International Stamp Exhibition, Austria

Center Vienna. Contact FIP Coordinator, Jos. Wolff, 67 rue du Centre, L-3960

Ehrlange/Mess, Luxembourg.

**STAMPSHOW 2000** - August 24-27. APS Annual Convention. Providence,

Rhode Island. Contact APS, P.O. Box 8000, State College, PA 16803.

**SESCAL 2000** - October 1-3. PSGSA Regional Meeting. Wyndham Los Angeles

Airport Hotel, 6225 W. Century Blvd., Los Angeles. Contact Wallace Craig, P.

O. Box 3391, Fullerton, CA 92634.

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