



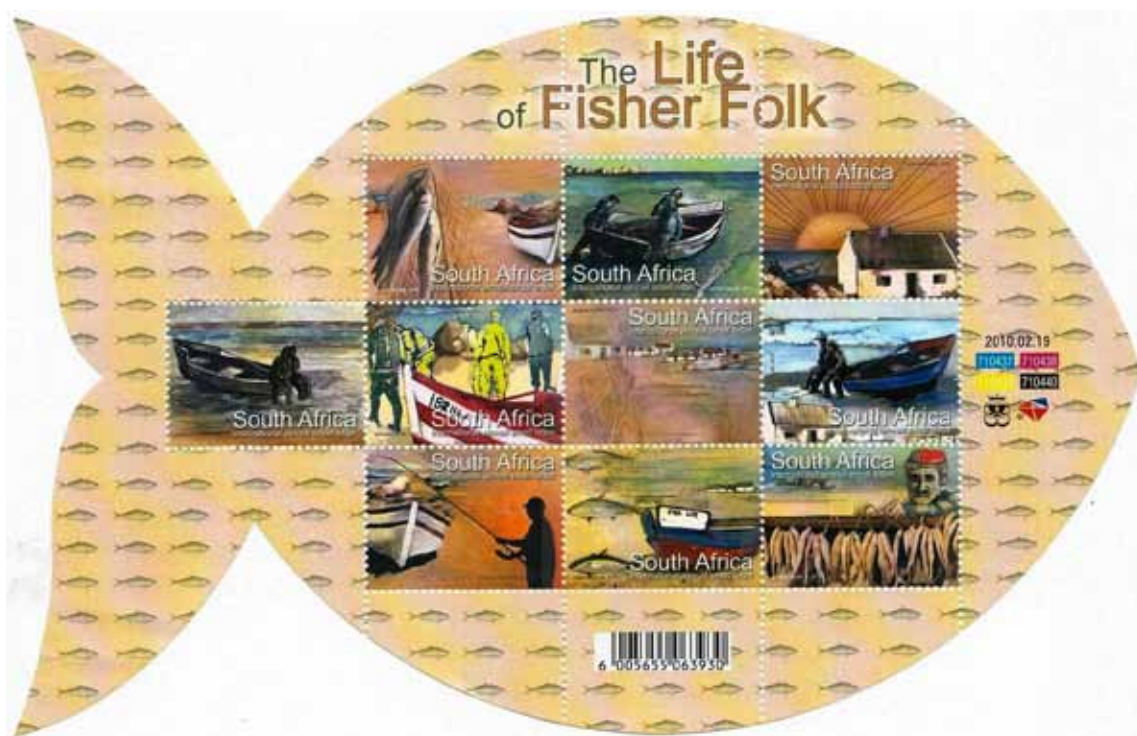
******FORERUNNERS*

JOURNAL OF THE PHILATELIC SOCIETY FOR GREATER SOUTHERN AFRICA

Affiliated with the American Philatelic Society and the Philatelic Federation of Southern Africa

Volume XXV, Number 2, Whole No. 72

November-February 2010/12



‘The Life of Fisher Folks’ issued in 2010 by the South Africa Post Office.

Highlights

Postage Stamps used as Revenues
Roll of Distinguished Philatelists
WW1 Red Cross Cover to SWA
Today's Insufficient Prepaid Mail
Postal Officials on Stamps
New Postal Stationery
Early Cape Letter to USA
More Peace Doves: Zambia
Registration Envelopes of Bechuanaland

Publications of the PSGSA

Philately of the Orange Free State by R.W. Hisey & R.T. Bartshe

Vol. 3. THE REVENUES AND POSTAL STATIONERY

2009. A history and study of the revenues, military and police franks and postal stationery of the Orange Free State and its occupation. New updated treatment of the subject.

In full color, hardbound, 205 pages.

Price \$35 plus s/h of \$5 in the US and \$10 elsewhere.

Vol. 2. THE TELEGRAPHS

2004. A history and study of the telegraph system and stamps of the Orange Free State and its occupation. The first comprehensive work on this subject. Vermeil at Stampshow 2004.

HH Pirie Prize for best literature in South Africa.

In full color, hardbound, 250 pages.

Price \$35 plus s/h of \$5 in the US and \$10 elsewhere.

Vol. 1. THE POSTAGE STAMPS

2002. Covering the postage stamps of the Orange Free State and its occupation. The most thorough and modern work on this subject available. Gold Medal at Stampshow 2002. Large Vermeils at FIP Espana 2004 and South African National Show 2002.

In full color, hardbound, 280 pages.

Price \$35 plus s/h of \$5 in the US and \$10 elsewhere.

REJECTED-ACCEPTED:

LIFE OF A BOTSWANA STAMP DESIGNER

by P. Lodoen

Price \$25 in color print, \$10 CD-ROM, postage paid.

Download free as pdf file from Society website.

FORERUNNERS ON CD

Edited by R.W. Hisey

Issues #1 to 50 (CD-ROM). \$30 plus \$5 s/h.

POSTAL OFFICE NAMES OF SOUTHERN AFRICA

ACCORDING TO RALPH PUTZEL

Spreadsheet (Excel) and Database (Access) Compilation of Office Names

Compiled by R.W. Hisey

CD-ROM \$15 pp.

EARLY POSTAL SERVICES OF THE CAPE OF GOOD HOPE

by R. Taylor

Exhibit Series (CD-ROM). \$15 pp.

All publications payable by US or UK check (latter made out to R. W. Hisey), cash,
or Paypal to dmcnamee@aol.com. Mail to David McNamee, 15 Woodland Dr., Alamo CA 94507, USA.
The OFS books should be ordered from and paid directly to Bob Hisey, 7227 Sparta Rd., Sebring, FL 33875; bobhisey@comcast.net.



The Philatelic Society For Greater Southern Africa

OFFICERS

Founder

Bill Brooks, 2854 W. Calle Vista Dr., Rialto, CA 92377;
billpatti99@sbcglobal.net

President

Alan J. Hanks, 34 Seaton Dr., Aurora, Ontario, L4G 2K1, Canada;
alan.hanks@sympatico.ca

Secretary-Treasurer

David McNamee, P.O. Box 37, Alamo CA 94507;
dmcnamee@aol.com, tel. 1-925-934-3847

Directors

Bob Hisey (Treasurer Emeritus and Publications), 7203 St. John's Place,
University Park, FL 34201; bobhisey@comcast.net
Timothy Bartshe (Library and Archives and Convention Coordinator),
13955 West 30th, Golden, CO 80401; timbartshe@aol.com
Jan Stolk (International Affairs), Waterhoenlaan 24, B-9120 Melsele,
Belgium; jan.stolk@telenet.be
Robert Taylor (Programs), 674 Chelsea Drive, Sanford, NC 27330, USA

Speciality Editors

Hans Ulrich Bantz (South West Africa and Namibia); P.O. Box 6913,
Westgate 1724, South Africa; ulib@mweb.co.za
Timothy Bartshe (Boer Republics), see address above
Alan Hanks (Rhodesians), see address above
Kendall Sanford (Aerophilately), 613 Championship Drive, Oxford,
CT 06478; kaerophil@gmail.com
Jan Stolk (Taxed Mail and Postal Stationery), see address above
Peter Thy (Bechuanalands), see address below

Web Page Editor

Clive Levinson, 186-8120 No 2rd, Suite 812, Richmond, BC, V7C 5J8,
Canada; clivel@bundu.com

Journal Editor

Peter Thy, P.O. Box 73112, Davis, CA 95617-3112; thy@kronestamps.dk

<http://psgsa.thestampweb.com>

Please report address and email changes.

Support our Advertisers - They Support Our Journal.



Stamp of the Issue:

Botswana Post issued in
2011 a set of six stamps.
This adoring Spring Hare
appeared on the P2.60
stamp. One of the best de-
signed stamps of the year.

Front Illustration:

Miniature sheet featuring 'The Life of Fisher Folks' in a
fish die cut format. The sheet was issued in 2010 by the South
Africa Postal Services,

*****FORERUNNERS**

ISSN 1076-2612

Vol. XXV, Number 2, Whole No. 72, March-June 2012

Official Journal of the *Philatelic Society for Greater Southern Africa*

Large Silver at 12th New Zealand National Philatelic Literature Exhibition;
Vermeil at JOBURG, 2010; Vermeil at STAMPSHOW 2010, Richmond; Vermeil
at CHICAGOPEX 2009; Silver at STAMPSHOW 2007, Portland; Large Silver
at WASHINGTON 2006; Vermeils in 2005 at STAMPSHOW and C7NPLE,
Toronto; Silver at CHICAGOPEX 2005; Silver-Bronze at LONDON 2000;
Silvers at JOPEX 99, STAMPSHOW 99, and COLOPEX 99; Silver-Bronze at
PACIFIC 97; Vermeil/Certificate of Merit at OKPEX 96; Large Silver at New
Zealand National Philatelic Exhibition 96; Silvers at SESCOAL 95, CAPEX 96,
WAPEX 93, and HAFNIA 94; Silver-Bronze at ESPAMER 96, SINGAPORE
95, and PHILAKOREA 94.

© The Philatelic Society for Greater Southern Africa, unless otherwise stated.
Permission to reprint material appearing in this journal is granted provided that
proper credit is given to the Forerunners and that the Editor has been notified.
The quoting in whole or in part of any material should be properly attributed to
the Author(s) and the Forerunners.

Table of Contents

Editorial Notes	26
President's Corner	27
Feature Articles
South African Postage Stamps Used to Pay Revenues by Uli Bantz	28
Red Cross WW1 Cover to South West Africa by Uli Bantz	32
Postal Officials on Stamps: A new Field of Collecting by Franco Frescura	34
Earliest Know Letter to the U.S. from the Cape of Good Hope by Mark Schwartz	40
Peace Doves to Southern Africa, Part 2 by Colin Moxham	41
Working Dies for the British 4d Vermilion Stamp Embossed on 1889 Bechuanaland Registration Envelopes by Peter Thy	42
Specialty Columns
Handling of Insufficient Prepaid Mail Today by Jan Stolk	33
New Postal Stationery from South Africa by Jan Stolk ..	36
Items of Interest
Postmark Quiz: B.C.A. by Peter Lodoen	27
1892 Map of Africa	30
Roll of South African Distinguished Philatelists	31
New UPU International Reply-Coupon	35
For the Record	50
Highlights from Journals and Newsletters	49
New Books	49
Exchange Journal Received	51
Forerunners Forum	50
OFS Entertainment Stamp	50
Cape Railway Service Parcel Stamp	50
Perforation Errors of FIFA Miniature Sheets	50
Bechuanaland Border Police Canteen Tokens	50
Market Place	52

Editorial Notes

This is whole number 72 of Forerunners. Truly an achievement not anticipated by our Founder Bill Brooks in 1987 when he and a small group of friends concocted PSGSA and the Forerunners over a bottle of wine. Bill was the Editor until number 47, when he finally managed to talk me into taking over the helm. Clearly, it has not been a one-man show to produce the Forerunners. A lot of people has contributed over the years. The present issue is no exception. Our long-time columnist Jan Stolk has again come to our rescue with a couple of articles. Franco Frescura and Uli Bantz are both contributors of long standings. This time Franco introduces a completely new collecting subject and Uli shows some revenue documents and a World War One Red Cross cover. The article on an early Cape cover by Mark Schwartz is planned to be an ongoing theme for several issues to come. But there is still some clear telltale signs, even in this issue, that there again have been problems filling the pages! I will leave it to the reader to identify these and can only say that the inbox for the next issue is as empty as it ever was. Your contributions for the next issue are thus urgently needed.

Occasionally we get emails asking questions about the stamps and postal history of Southern Africa. They often comes from people with a general interest in stamps that often are not members. Most time the questions are simple and can easily be answered. A recent request was however a bit unusual. It came from the newsletter/website editor for a Nyasaland high school alumni association. He explained that he used to be a stamp collector and went on the tell that recently he had been running a theme of maps in his newsletter and now wanted to shift to the stamps of Nyasaland. He thus asked for advise and references since he know little about the subject. This was clearly out of my expertise - so I forwarded the request to the Editor of the Rhodesian Study Circle Journal in Australia. The surprise was that within a couple of days - the alumni association editor had received emails from South Africa, Australia, United Kingdom, and USA offering advises and references to all the world's experts in Nyassaland stamps and postal history. He is now in a good position to develop his theme with all the international advise and contacts he possible could have asked for. This little incident shows us that philatelists are truly helpful and very willing to share their hobby and knowledge. No request is too small. They key is that you need to ask.

The privacy of our members has recently been debated among the board members. It was decided no longer to list addresses and emails for new members (or any member for that matter). If you need to contact another society member, the correct procedure would be to contact the Secretary-Treasurer David McNamee who will initiate the contact. Please let us have your thoughts on the subject of member privacy.

The deadline for the next issue will be June 15, 2012. Please let the Editor have your contributions - small or large - as soon as possible.



We Also Get Mail

A now former member recently wrote to tell us that he would not be renewing his membership of the PSGSA. He gave as his reason that his interest was collecting of postage stamps, rather than postal history or what he termed the historical geography of postal services. We always appreciate learning why a member decides not to review. In this case, it is certainly correct that there is a predominance of postal history subjects in Forerunners. Unfortunately, we can only print what the members submit and must appeal to members to help us out so we can produce a better balanced journal.

Preservation of Scale in Forerunners

Despite that we strive to preserve the original scales of philatelic material in Forerunners, often we fails for either practical reasons or because of technical or printing problems. It can be difficult to fit many large sized envelopes onto a couple of pages and reduction in size is necessary. In most cases the reduction will be given. More than often the scans submitted do not conform with the Editors computer and software (or his skills). The results too often is that the original scale of an item is lost in the transfer. This is not necessarily the fault of the author. However, if preservation of scale is important to you, include the original dimensions of the items shown in the subcaptions.

Society Affairs

The Forerunners is the official journal of the Philatelic Society for Greater Southern Africa. The journal is published three times per year for the periods July/October, November/February, and March/June. Subscription to the Forerunners is included in the membership fees to the Philatelic Society for Greater Southern Africa (PSGSA). Membership fees are US\$25 for USA mailing addresses and US\$30 for all other addresses. Those that join before July 1st will receive the complete back issues for that year. Thereafter annual renewals occur in August and are due by September 1st. A sample copy of Forerunners is available from the Editor for \$6. Presentation issue can be freely downloaded together with application form from psgsa.thestampweb.com. Advertising rates can be found in the Market Place section. Payment options are (1) check drawn on a US bank and made payable to PSGSA, (2) US \$ or £ Sterling bank notes at the current exchange rates and mailed at the sender's own risk, or (3) PayPal plus \$1 fee to the Society Treasurer at dmcnamee@aol.com. All membership fees and other payments should be mailed directly to the Treasurer. All communications about membership, subscriptions, publications, activities, and services of the Society should be sent to the Secretary.

Instructions for Manuscript Submissions

Manuscripts should be sent to the appropriate member of the Editorial Board or directly to one of the Editors. Electronic versions of submissions are preferred either embedded in an email message, email attachments or on a floppy disk or CD. MS Word files are preferred. Avoid complex tables, unless in text format. Illustrations should be in color and scanned at least at 150 dpi and submitted in tif, gif, or jpg formats. Illustrations should not be embedded in manuscript files. Contact the Editors if you have any questions and your submission requires special attention. Needless to say, good old fashioned typed or hand written manuscripts and photocopies can still be submitted and are most welcome.

President's Corner

Greetings once again from Ontario. Since I am a member of the American Philatelic Society, I always look first at the letters whenever the next issue of A.P. arrives. In the March issue there was rather disturbing letter from a lady who was a long-time collector but with no special area who was chided by (as she termed it) a "know-it-all-collector" who told her she should "pick an area and stick with it"! She stated that she felt "turned off" by the comments and I am sure you would all agree that this is not the way to keep someone in philately. A similar situation might occur when discussing exhibiting with a collector who has never tried it, as I have found on a number of occasions. The usual comment is that the potential exhibitor would not wish to be criticized by a judge. When I hear this I try to point out that in my experience as an exhibitor, this is one of the only ways that meaningful information can be obtained, the other being able to talk to exhibitors who have had success and do not mind giving advice. The whole idea in both of the described situations is to offer positive encouragement so that a collector or potential exhibitor is not turned away.

For some time now, I have been working on the philatelic holdings of a good friend who passed away last year, having been asked by the President of the P.S.S.C. here in Toronto if I would mind taking it on. It is proving to be an interesting exercise, as the collector had wide ranging interests: Australia, New Zealand, Liberia and many areas of Canadian Philately. Included in the latter were binders full of plate blocks, from the 1¢ values all the way up to \$5 values. I quickly found out that this had been a very unrewarding area of collecting, since the best that could be obtained as cash for the material was 50% of the face value. I imagine that this kind of material is available in numerous countries, with a similar result. I also found when submitting a fairly good Canadian collection to a local auction house, that they were "backed up" with many properties and that it might be some time before the collection could be handled. When I asked what the reason was, they said that many older collectors were getting rid of their holdings. I asked about using an agent for other auction houses, but after the agent's fee and the 10 or 15% at the auction house, the result would probably be far short of what might be expected. So, I have been introduced to the joys of a collector giving up some of the treasures he or she has because of advancing age. Not something to look forward to!

Until next time.....

Surplus Copies of Forerunners

The Editor has a large box of surplus copies of Forerunners between whole no. 47 and 66. These are available to members basically for the mailing expenses. The issues available are with the number of remaining copies in parentheses: 47 (13), 48 (12), 49 (9), 50 (6), 51 (0), 52 (46), 53 (10), 54 (14), 55 (18), 56 (6), 57 (14), 58 (14), 59 (24), 60 (1), 61 (1), 62 (5), 63 (9), 64 (9), 65 (8), 66 (11). They are available on a come-first basis for \$1 for the first copy and 50c for each additional. Additional for mailings outside US. Note that some issues are in low stock, so don't hesitate, contact the Editor immediately. Also consider your favorite local stamp library for a donation.

This offer was announced in last issue and still stand - except that no. 51 is now sold out and that of nos. 60 and 61 only one copy of each remains. This may be the last change to obtain a near complete run for little money.

New Members

Welcome to

Howard Wunderlich of New York

Collects locals and railways

Fred Chesnais of New York

Collects Zululand, Griqualand West, Natal, CGH, OFS, Bechuanaland

Gordon Smith of Nova Scotia, Canada

Collects Meter Marks, Officials, and M&U of Botswana

Brian Trotter of UK

Collects Southern Africa

Changes of address or email should be reported to the Secretary-Treasurer David McNamee at dmcnamee@aol.com.

Contact David McNamee if you wish to reach another member.

Postmark Quiz: B.C.A.

by Peter Lodoen

British Central Africa, a northerly entry into the world of Southern Africa philately, produced 73 stamps listed in Scott, albeit only 71 catalogued by Gibbons.



Two stamps were produced locally for use as internal postage.



Several others were seldom if ever used postally, though fiscal cancels are seen on a broad spectrum of issues.

And now for the quiz.

1. What was the primary use of the cancel type shown on the 10 pound stamp above?
2. Behind Blantyre and Limbe, what was the third principal city of British Central Africa?
3. Who was the only British monarch to be seen on British Central Africa stamps?
4. What two names have subsequently been given to the 570 mile long B.C.A.?

Answers: (1) Hut tax. 2. Zomba. 3. Edward VII. 4. Nyasaland and Malawi.

South African Postage Stamps Used to Pay Revenues

by H.U. Bantz

South African postage stamps used as revenue stamps are an interesting sideline to collect. Pasted on documents to collect taxes and fees, they provide us with a glimpse into private and business activities in days gone by. They are thus part of "Social Philately."

The revenue stamps in themselves provide an enormous study field for the serious philatelist as these stamps are often produced by the same designer and printer as the prevailing postage stamps. Certain Union of South Africa stamps used in South West Africa were bilingual and alternate in the inscriptions: English and Afrikaans. As an example: the value tablets of the ½d and 1d stamps of the 1931 'First Pictorials' include the words "POSTAGE" and 'REVENUE' ('INKOMSTE' in Afrikaans) signifying that these stamps could either be used as postage or as revenue stamps. The following examples cover a period from 1918 to 1969. They can only give a taste and provide some stimulation to consider the possibilities and pleasures offered by collecting revenues.

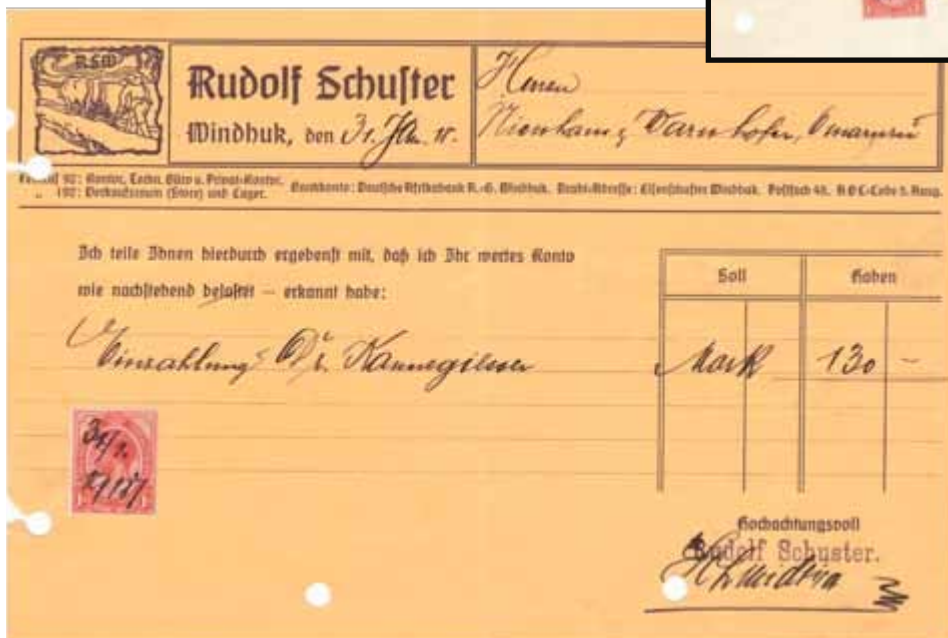


Figure 1a.

A) South African bilingual KGV 1p (Scott no. 3) stamps were used on these two credit notes (Figure 1), one for Mark the other for shilling, to cover the required revenue of one penny. The first example is on an receipt from Rudolf Schuster Windhoek dated 31/1 1916 (Figure 1a). The other is from Book Shop Lübecky Karibib dated 7. Feb. 20 (Figure 1b). The dates are in manuscript and the receipts are without date and rubber cancellation. Note that Mr. Lübecky from the Karibib Book Shop is looking forward to receive a walking stick with the letters MH and credited Mr. Nienhaus' account with 15 shilling.

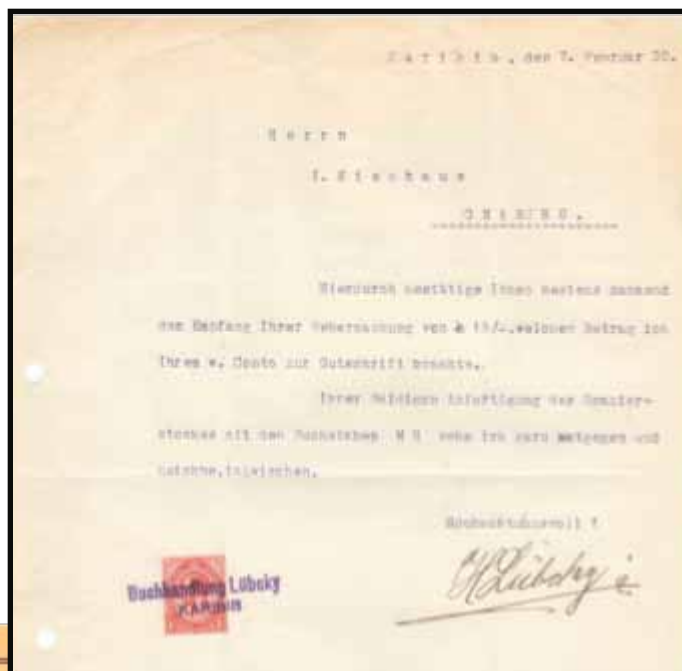


Figure 1b.

B) An invoice dated 23 September 1955, with receipt attached dated 8/12/1955. This vertical pair of 1d stamps (Scott nos. 109a+b) of South West Africa's so-called 'First Pictorials' were cancelled with the Kock & Schmidt rubber stamp (Figure 2). Cancellations of this nature on loose stamps often lead some collectors to think that they might have been applied officially by a post office clerk. The language on the stamps alternates. The English stamp is inscribed 'POSTAGE REVENUE' and the Afrikaans one 'POSSEEL INKOMSTE'.

C. Invoice and receipt for two meals consumed at "Pension Scheide" on 30.11.1951 (Figure 3). The 2d 'Afrikaans' postage stamp (Scott no. 111b) was initialed in manuscript. This stamp was primarily intended to pay for postage only, but used here as a revenue stamp.

D) Receipt dated 12/11/1957. The Afrikaans/English 2d stamp from the 1954 definitive issue (Scott no. 250) was this time neither initialed nor rubber stamped by Kock & Schmidt (Figure 4). The stamp is inscribed POSTAGE – INKOMSTE-REVENUE signifying its dual function either for postal or fiscal purposes.

[illegible]


WINDHOEK
 1957 No. 2588 B
 Von
 Received from *Han Bohme. 73*
 t. *five*
 sh. *eleven*
 5 : 17 -
 5 10
 5 11 2
 dankend erhalten
 ROCK & SCHMIDT


INVOICE 23

.....30 .. 11 1957.

M. H. Melder

Bought of... Peusson & Scheide

	.. 2 x Esser	L	4.	15 -
Betrag dankend erhalten H. Voth v. Peusson & Scheide				



die gute form
ST/112

EINRICHTUNGSHAUS — HUISMEUBELERS — FURNISHERS

STICHELST. WINDHOEK 6133

RECHNUNG
FAKTUUR
INVOICE

Nº 3039

TO: S. Hammeier
P.O. Box 509,
Swakopmund

DATE 14-6-

1969


	B	S
1. Schlafzimmer	230.00	
	23.00	
	207.00	

WINDHOEK 5-7- 1969

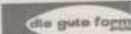
Bestellen von Meister S. Hammeier, Box 509
an und Name
die Lieferen von Swakopmund & Swakop
die bedarf von Swakop
des von Swakop

Nº 4603

207.00



Rechn. gebühren



T

The final question to answer is clearly why these people who was owned money or had paid money went to all the trouble of pasting stamps to the various documents (like invoices and receipts) and to cancel them. The answer is simple, without the revenue paid and affixed their documents would have no legal value in case a dispute later would arise.

Forerunners #72 (Vol. XXV, No. 2, November-February 2010/12)



"Africa" from Americanized Encyclopaedia Britannica Vol. 1, Chicago 1892.

Roll of South African Distinguished Philatelists

1932 Gilbert J Allis*	1932 A J Cohen*
1932 Sir Edmond HOWARD Lacam Gorges*	1932 SAUL Aaron Klagsbrun*
1932 George Blockey	1932 William CHARLES James Hand*
1932 George J Houbert*	1932 Jerome Ritchie*
1932 EMIL Carl Christiaan Tamsen*	1932 Louis Simenhoff*
1933 J Herbert Curle*	1934 Major WALTER John Harrington*
1938 Leonard A Wyndham*	1938 G N Gilbert (GILLIE)*
1939 Charles H Thornton*	1939 William L Ashmead*
1948 Albert Edward Basden*	1948 Adrian Albert Jurgens*
1948 Percy C Bishop*	1948 James Hunter Harvey Pirie*
1948 William M Redford*	1948 Archibald Hylton Sydow*
1948 J Norman Welsford*	1949 Karl Freund*
1949 Alec Kaplan*	1951 George K Forbes
1951 Sam Legator*	1952 Ernest Hunt*
1952 Andrew Watson*	1953 Bertram R L Fox*
1954 William N Sheffield*	1955 John H H Chamberlain*
1956 William (WILLIE) Newlands*	1956 Thomas B Davie*
1957 S J (Jack) Hagger*	1958 Leo Buchen*
1959 Thomas (TOM) Butland Berry*	1959 Commander Cyril Emil Delgado Enoch*
1960 Milton Frederick Stern*	1963 I H Charles Godfrey*
1965 Jonas M Michelson*	1966 Max Peisach (Israel)
1967 Jack Emil Crewell*	1968 W G Combrink*
1968 Jesse Manfred Weinstein*	1969 A Leslie Leon*
1970 Gustav Bulbring*	1970 Ken EW Lydall*
1971 Albert (Bert) L Meyburgh*	1971 Vivian F Ellenberger*
1972 John T (Jack) Burrell*	1972 S J Vermaak (Fanie)*
1973 Dr Hendrik Jacobus (Henry) Raubenheimer*	1974 Rudi Jeidel*
1976 Hilda Jeidel*	1977 Dr Hasso Otto Herman Frederick Reisener*
1979 IR (Bob) Goldblatt	1980 Joh Groenewald
1980 Arie J Bakker*	1981 Archie GM Batten*
1982 Natie Becker*	1982 Harry Birkhead
1985 Stan P Naylor*	1986 David G Crocker
1986 Harold M Criddle*	1987 M J (Thys) Rall*
1987 Danny T Swart	1988 Ernest Cecil Wright*
1988 Richard Cave Knight*	1988 N C (Nico) Combrink*
1988 H R Holmes*	1989 Andre Bezuidenhout*
1989 Mike J Nethersole (USA) *	1990 Coen Slagt
1990 Robson Lowe*	1991 Ralph F Putzel*
1991 George van den Hurk	1992 Cedric Roche
1992 Gunter von Schumann (Namibia)	1993 Howard Green
1993 Dr Gerrit H Jonkers*	1994 Wilhelm Grutter*
1994 Dr JR (Achi) Frank	1995 Dr Alan Drysdall (UK)
1996 David Stern*	1997 Philippa McIntosh
1997 Colin M Hoffman (UK)	1998 Gerhard Kamffer
1998 Jill D Redmond	2000 Michael Wigmore
2000 Peter van der Molen	2001 Chris Mobsby
2002 John Sandilands*	2002 Wikus van Heerden*
2003 Mary Bromfield*	2003 John Wannerton*
2004 Richard Johnson	2004 Des Hyland
2005 Dr Ian Matheson	2005 Danie Scheepers
2006 Jan Bakker	2006 Neville Polakow
2007 George Cafetzoglou	2008 Patrick Flanagan
2008 Emil Minnaar	2009 John Cheminais
* Deceased	2010 Hugh Amooore

Red Cross WW1 Cover to South West Africa

by H.U. Bantz



This cover was sent from Frankfurt am Main / Germany in an envelope addressed to the 'Bureau International de la Paix' at Bern / Switzerland and was forwarded from Bern to Omaruru according to the arrangements made for mail sent from Germany to her colonies during World War One. The cover left Bern on April 29, 1916 and went 'Via Southampton – Capetown' to Omaruru, where it arrived on June 13, 1916. The cover was opened twice and the content censored: first in England by Censor 316 (see reverse) and again in Cape Town by the South African censor 'C 15' (see front).

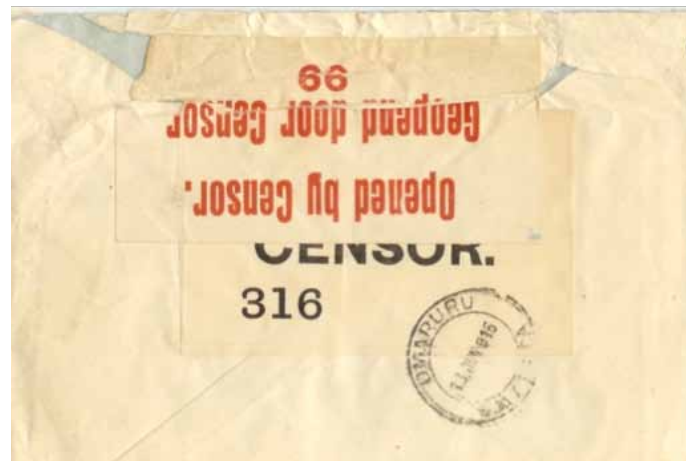
But there is much more to this cover. Starting from the top of the front:

- "Ausschuss für deutsche Kriegsgefangene" (Committee for German Prisoners of War). This Committee was a sub-organisation of the German Red Cross with the head office in Frankfurt am Main. It was founded in 1915 following an initiative taken by Heinrich Lismann (born 1870 in Frankfurt – died 1950 in Richmond / USA). This Heinrich Lismann was together with his Brother Robert the proprietor of the Frankfurt banking house "Gebrüder Lismann" (Brothers Lismann). He was active in various charity organisations like the "Erwerbslosenhilfe" (Help for the Unemployed); the "Jugendwohlfahrtslotterie" (Lottery for Youth Welfare); the "Frankfurter Winterfürsorge" (Frankfurt's Care for the Winter), and the "Brückenbauverein" (Association for the Restoration of Frankfurt's Bridges). He was also instrumental for the introduction of the "Muttertag" (Mothers Day) in Germany.

- The "Zeil" is Central Frankfurt's main business street
- "Fernsprecher" is old-fashioned for 'telephone'; "Amt Hansa" is the name of the designated telephone exchange office.
- One-line rubber stamp in blue: "Via Southampton – Capetown" denotes the proposed shipping route
- Boxed rubber stamp in blue: "Bureau International - de la Paix-"; French for 'International Bureau of Peace'
- Manuscript: erhalten Omar (uru) den 23.6.16 – that is ten days after arrival when the letter was received or collected by Mr. von Seydlitz.
- The two-line imprint at the bottom puzzles me: "Windhuk (note spelling) (Military Protectory (shouldn't it be Protectorate? as a protectorate is an institution for the care of destitute or delinquent children) South Africa)"
- 'by the Chief Civil Secretary at Windhoek' (What does this mean?)
- In manuscript: "No. 37 von Lute"

– denotes that this is letter No. 37 was received from Lute who-ever he / she was.

- In manuscript: Bestätigt mit No. 2 den 1. Juli 16 – answered with No. 2 on 1st July 16
- Descendants of Mr. Siegfried von Seydlitz are still living on the farm Schönfeld No. 92 (District Omaruru). The farm is now managed by the von Seydlitz family as a tourist and hunting farm.



Handling of Insufficient Prepaid Mail Today

by Jan Stolk

As shown with the illustrated covers below, the postage due system in South Africa appears today to have been disappeared.

Postal items with little or even without postage paid are correctly delivered to addressee without any delay or tax to be paid. Letters with foreign postage stamps (Namibia) arrive as well without any tax to be paid. Not only domestic, but also short paid overseas destinations go through the system without being noticed.

I tested this with different postal hubs, Port Elizabeth, Witspost, Nelspruit, and George as seen below. Of course this is not only a South African issue. Closer to home, I have noticed that domestic prepaid mail from Netherlands and insufficiently prepaid mail from Netherlands are delivered in Belgium without any tax to be paid.

Probably it is cheaper just to deliver the letter than handling it as a postage due item?



Learn More, Do More, Enjoy More with APS!
American Philatelic Society
— America's Stamp Club —
www.stamps.org

Postal Officials on Stamps: A New Field of Collecting?

by Franco Frescura

Directors of Philatelic Services are generally believed to be a rare breed and, given the way that things are shaping up in international philately today, they might even be considered to be an endangered branch of *homo philaticus*. For one thing there cannot be more than 217 of them in the world at any one time. It is true, however, that most smaller postal administrations have now gone over to Philatelic Agencies, and do not appoint specialized heads of philatelic departments in their own post offices. Thus, in reality, there are usually less than 70 Directors of Philately active in the field. In their own contexts, therefore, they are really quite unique, and subject to the societies and the ideologies they serve, are often considered to be the leading propagandists and publicists of their own nations. It would also be fair to state that, in their own little worlds, they are considered to be quite famous.



Illustration 1.

One can understand, therefore, the frustration that each one of these poor souls must suffer when, during the course of their careers, their governments require them to issue stamps about just about everything under the sun, including backache (Lesotho), fixing sewers (Kenya), burning obsolete stamps (Pitcairn Islands), and using eye-drops (Angola), and yet do not allow them to celebrate their own portraits on a stamp. This need to find postal immortality has been understood by the Canadian Post Office, which now offers private individuals the opportunity to feature themselves, their families, and their pet rats on an official postage stamp, all for a mere \$25.



Illustration 2.

One such person was Mr Herman Steyn, who between 1972 and 1994, was the first Senior Manager of Philately to be appointed at the South African Post Office. Among his many achievements was the establishment of Philatelic Services and INTERSAPA, which, in their time, serviced the philatelic needs of South Africa, South West Africa, Namibia, Bophuthatswana, Ciskei, Transkei and Venda. Perhaps little less known, however, is Mr Steyn's penchant for featuring his name, as well as those of his nearest and dearest, on things philatelic. Initially he began by having his own business card printed and perforated like a stamp at the Government Printing Works, in Pretoria (Illustration 1). He followed this up with a miniature sheet, also serving as a calling card, bearing his image. However, neither of these



Illustration 3.

was postally valid and, growing bolder, he took the process a little further. He realized that although the rules stated that he could not put his face on a stamp, there was nothing to say that said he could not put his name there. As a result, over the years, Steyn watchers have been treated to the Herman Steyn Rose (Ciskei, 1994, illustration 2), Herman Steyn's cat (Venda, 1993), Herman Steyn's neighbour's dog (Venda, 1994), Herman Steyn's favourite holiday beach, at Plettenberg Bay (South Africa, 1983), Herman Steyn's name on a date-stamp card, and Herman Steyn, together with his children, on a first day cover. At some stage there was also a Herman Steyn poster, but, understandably, this is quite a lot more difficult to find.

His parting gift to us was made when he retired in 1994, at which stage South Africa issued a set of stamps celebrating National Stamp Day, in what must surely be one of the worst designs to ever grace the face of philately. Each featured a pair of hands holding an envelope illustrating one of the specialized mail services offered by the SA Post Office. At least three of these stamps are of direct interest to thematic collectors of Stamps-on-Stamps, as they show small but recognizable stamps on their mail, but as a special treat for Steyn-watchers,

his name, as well as that of three other senior Post Office officials are given as the addressees. The 50c (bulk mail) is not fully legible, but could feature the name of Jannie Venter, then General Manager for what was then the Transvaal Region; the 70c (proof of delivery) is visibly addressed to Gawie van Eeden, then General Manager, International Services; the 95c (registered mail) is addressed to Herman Steyn (Illustration 3); and the R1.15 is addressed to Willie Joubert, Senior General Manager, Postal Business. Needless to say all of these gentlemen were close friends and colleagues of Mr Steyn.

Rumour has it that this list of apparitions is by no means complete, and Steyn-watchers, like their counterparts at Grace-land, eagerly await the next sighting of their idol.

Biographical Note: Franco Frescura is an architect and graphic designer, and is currently Professor and Senior Research Associate in both the Centre for Communication and Media Studies, and the School of Architecture, at the University of KwaZulu-Natal, in Durban. Between 1994 and 1999, during the course of a previous life in a galaxy far, far away, he was Senior Manager of Philately at the South African Post Office.

New UPU International Reply-Coupon.



The new illustration featuring on the international reply coupon (IRC) as from 1 July 2009 was chosen in Geneva during the 24th Universal Postal Congress. A Luxembourg artist won the competition, organized by the UPU's International Bureau in order to find the new illustration for the IRC. The work by Rob van Goor, a graphic designer from the Luxembourg Post, was selected from amongst 10 designs presented by UPU member countries. The artist interpreted the theme of the competition, "The postage stamp: a vehicle for exchange" by depicting a globe being cradled by a hand, and the perforations of a stamp. All 169 countries present at the UPU Congress cast a vote in order to select the winning design.

The new IRC, known as the Nairobi model, went on sale on 1 July 2009, and the general public, collectors and philatelists will be able to exchange it until 31 December 2013. It replaces the current coupon, Beijing 2, which was issued on 1 July 2006 and remains valid for exchange until 31 December 2009.

A new element of the Nairobi IRC is the possibility of featuring the national flag in colour on the front of the coupon. This feature is optional and subject to payment. The logo of the United Nations (UNEP) also appears on all IRCs, along with the slogan "Unite to Combat Climate Change".

Finally, it should be noted that an original and forward-looking printing innovation in the form of UV-visible security marking has been added to the many security features contained in the Nairobi IRC.

Since the reform of the IRC at the Beijing Congress, four "new format" IRCs have been issued:

- Beijing model 1 – valid until 31 December 2006
- Standard Beijing model 2 – valid until 31 December 2009
- Centenary Beijing model 2 – valid until 31 December 2009
- Nairobi model – valid until 31 December 2013

At the end of 2009, it will be useful to review the distribution of this product and to assess its public appeal.

This is based on a U.P.U. press release from 2009. It appears that since the first Beijing design was issued, the interest in southern Africa has steadily faded with the result that only South Africa and Zimbabwe is selling the current Nairobi design (Editors note).

New Postal Stationery from South Africa

by Jan Stolk

In Forerunners # 65, the five indigenous flower postcards were illustrated with 6 dates of reprint mentioned. Recently I found two later reprint dates, the first 2008-07-02 and the second 2009-09-?? (Figure 1). This is the first time I have seen a printer using question marks in a date!!

The air letter depicting a bird (Little Egret) illustrated in Forerunners # 70 was reprinted again on 2010.03.09 (Figure 2). The new air letter of the 8th definitive stamp issue has been reprinted as well on 2011.05.17 (Figure 3).

Figure 4 shows a lettergram for domestic use only. Figure 5 is an invoice from Albertinia Post office showing the price of

all available postal stationery items on 25th of October 2011. These items are all illustrated in 'The Postal Stationery of South Africa' part 2.

Figures 6 and 7 show the postal stationery that Post Office Box holders receive to renew the rental of their PO Box. Normally, all the holder's details are already printed on the form if it is an existing PO Box holder. This year one had to ask for a blank form and complete the form. In this way it was possible to get some unused copies of the form for illustration in Forerunners.



Figure 1.

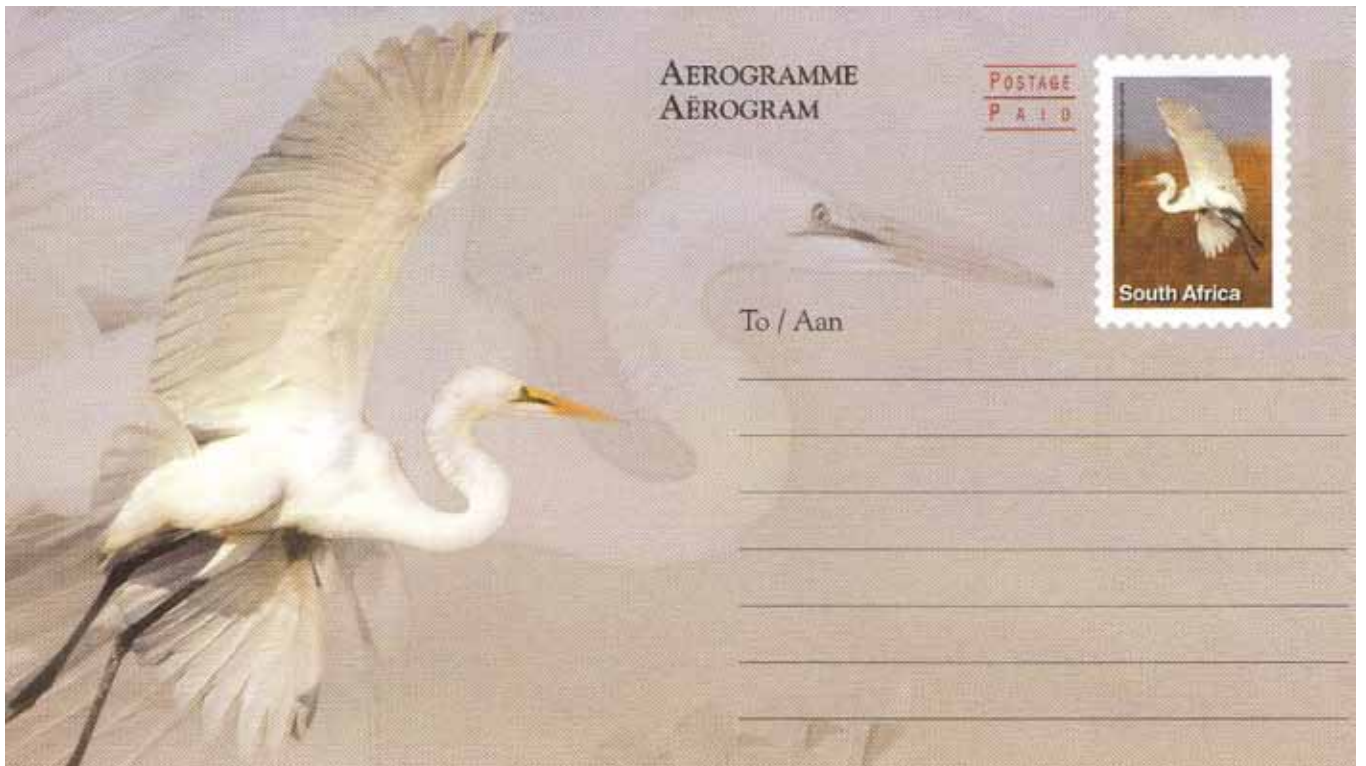


Figure 2.



Figure 3.



Figure 4.

INSERT PEN, SLIDE THROUGH TO OPEN ENVELOPE
ENCLOSURES ARE NOT PERMITTED

LETTERGRAM

For domestic use only

TO _____

Postage

Post Office

POST

TO OPEN, CUT ALONG THIS LINE

TO OPEN, CUT ALONG THIS LINE

CHURCH ST ALBERTINIA

South African Post Office Limited
ALBERTINIA

25-OCT-2011 11:39:06

TXN NO. : W6030010 56026
Teller Id : 50041122

TAX INVOICE VAT #4650101142
ALL PRICES VAT INCLUSIVE
VAT DOES NOT APPLY TO ITEMS MARKED *

Receipt for SA Post Office
Products or Services

PRODUCT	QTY	R AMOUNT
ENV PP ORD C4	1	7.80
ENV FASTMAIL C4	1	12.25
ENV FASTMAIL B5	1	10.40
ENV PP ORD B5	1	5.75
ENV FAST DL MX	1	4.35
ENV PPD SS DL N	1	2.70
ENV PPD INS REG	1	19.60
ENV PPD SS EP W	1	2.70
POSTCARD	3	8.10
AERO WORLD 50	1	3.80
LETTERGRAM DOM	1	2.60
POSTCARD	2	5.40
SUBTOTAL		R85.45
VAT TOTAL @ 14 %		R10.49

Figure 5.

Postbox and private bag
annual renewal notice

Annual renewal notice

The following channels can be used to renew the postbox/ private bag:

Post Office
Post Office Branches

POBox
online service
www.sagpo.co.za


BRANCH MANAGER

Figure 6.

Figure 7.

Postbox
Annual Renewal Notice

VAT No. 46650101142

 **Post Office**

Amount due by 1 January

Name of User	
Box/Private Bag Number	
Collection Point/Post Office	
Rates: Postbox	<input type="checkbox"/>
Private Bag	<input type="checkbox"/>

MOISTEN THIS AREA AND FOLD FIRST

MOISTEN THIS AREA AND FOLD FIRST

Kindly complete the section below.

Client Copy

Postal address

Box/Private bag number

Collection point / Name of post office

Postcode

Personal

ID number/Passport number

Title

Initials

Surname

Dialling code and telephone number (Home)

Dialling code

Telephone number (H)

Dialling code and telephone number (Work)

Dialling code

Telephone number (W)

Cell phone number

Cell phone number

Email address

For business

Business registration number

Name of business / organisation

Dialling code and telephone number

Dialling code

Telephone number

Dialling code and fax number

Dialling code

Fax number

Physical address

Physical address

Suburb

City / Town

Postcode

MOISTEN THIS AREA AND FOLD SECOND


MOISTEN THIS AREA AND FOLD SECOND

PLEASE HELP US TO HELP YOU - the quality and the completeness of the information opposite will assist the Post Office in its efforts to provide an excellent postal service. Please complete the sections applicable to you and hand the form to a teller at your nearest post office or follow the sealing instructions on the sides of the form and post it to your nearest post office. No stamp is necessary.

Please tick this box if you do not want your information to be made available to clients/businesses for promotional purposes.

☐

ALLOCATION CODE 0870



6005655039584

Signature

Date

PLEASE HELP US TO HELP YOU - the quality and completeness of the above information will assist the Post Office in its efforts to provide an excellent postal service.

701413

ONLY THIS AREA TO BE MOISTENED BY THE POST OFFICE

ONLY THIS AREA TO BE MOISTENED BY THE POST OFFICE

Earliest Known Letter to the U.S. From the Cape of Good Hope

by Mark S. Schwartz

Two recent articles have described early covers from Southern Africa. Allison and Johnson (1) state that they have seen only three dated covers sent to the United States earlier than 1870, with the earliest in 1859. Klugman (2) described two early covers from Natal, and indicated that a missionary letter written in Natal in 1836 is the earliest recorded in private hands from Southern Africa to the U.S., predating the 1859 earliest letter from the Cape.

Ships had sailed to the U.S. from the port at the Cape since at least 1784 (3), so it may be surprising that a letter from the Cape to the United States prior to 1836 has not yet been reported. I would like to report a letter from Southern Africa to the United States written in 1805. This letter, shown below, is dated at "Cape Town (Cape of Good Hope)" on April 3, 1805, and sent by Pyam Lovett, master of the ship Hope, to Abraham Kilham of Beverly, Mass. It was most probably carried by the ship Betsy (4), which had sailed to the Cape from Batavia and arrived at Salem, Mass. on June 29. The letter was postmarked as an incoming ship letter on July 2, and sent on to Beverly, 26c due (triple rate).

Lovett had arrived at the Cape after a seven week voyage from Madeira, and was shortly to sail east for Batavia. From Batavia, he sailed back to Calcutta, where he was reported on Sept 16, 1805 (5), then back to the Cape in March 1806 (6). He finally arrived home – at Salem – the week of May 22 (7).

Endnotes:

1. R. Allison and R. Johnson, "The Orange Free State and the Cape of Good Hope. The ½ oz. letter rate to the United States of America," *Collectors Club Philatelist*, vol. 88 (2009), pp. 205-221.
2. Keith P. Klugman, M.D., "Pre-1850 Letters from the First American Missionaries in Natal," *Collectors Club Philatelist*, vol. 89 (2010), pp. 35-37.
3. *New York Journal*, July 1, 1784: Bradford's Marine List. (Arrivals since our last.) Sloop Harriet, Hallet, Cape of Good Hope.
4. *Salem Register*, July 1, 1805: Port of Salem, June 29, arrived Ship Betsy, Capt. Jeremiah Page, from Batavia.
5. *U.S. Gazette*, Feb. 3, 1806, page 3. Shipping News.
6. *New England Palladium*, May 16, 1806, p.2, *Palladium List*. Port of Boston, Vessels Left.
7. *Baltimore Price Current*, June 5, 1806, p 4, *Marine Register*.



Originally published in the *Collectors' Club Philatelist* (New York), Volume 89 (2010), p. 113.
Reprinted with permission under a slightly different title.

Peace Doves to Southern Africa, Part 2

by Colin Moxham



To continue with the story of the porcelain 'Two Peace Doves' sent to the four heads of state in Botswana, Zambia, Rhodesia, and Mozambique. I will now continue with the response from the President of Zambia, Dr. Kenneth Kaunda.

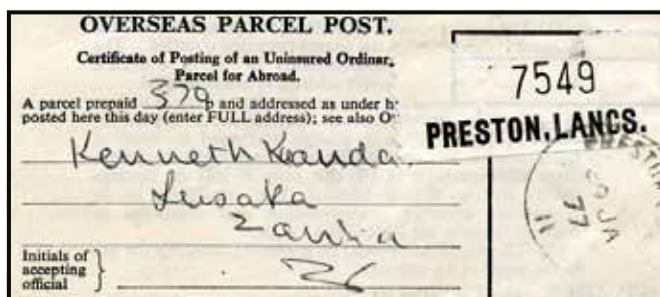


Figure 1.

I posted the 'Two Doves' on the 29th of January 1977 as seen on the certificate of posting Receipt No 7549 (Figure 1). The response from Zimbabwe is illustrated by the received envelope (Figure 2) and enclosed letter from the State House, Lusaka, Zambia, posted on the 18th of February 1977 (Figure 3). The letter was not signed by the President, but by his Principle Private Secretary J.M. Bowe.

A few years later I was in Lusaka on a trade mission together with the Zimbabwe Ministry of Trade. At that time I was Sales Manager for Capri Corporation (Pvt) Ltd manufacturers of Domestic Refrigerators. The company had space on the Zimbabwean stand at the Zambian Trade Fair and as such all the foreign exhibitors received an invitation to the State House Lusaka to attend a garden party held in honour of the exhibitors. The party was hosted by Dr. Kenneth Kaunda. I approached one of the protocol officers and asked if it would be possible to have a quick word with his Excellency. I was asked for more details and I briefly explained about the 'Two Doves.' I saw this being whispered to two or three others of the President's entourage until it was eventually whispered into the ear of the President. I saw him shake his head. Then the message relayed back via his Protocol Officers informing me that the President was just about to leave for another appointment. So my opportunity for a quick word did not materialise.

In the next issue I will report on my 'Two Doves' to Douglas Ian Smith, President of Rhodesia (now Zimbabwe).

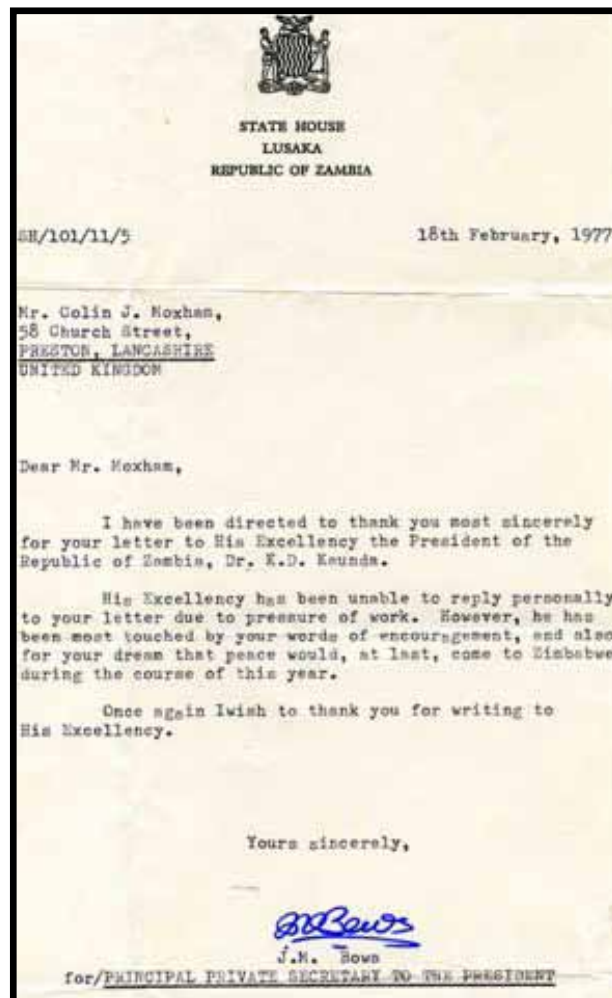


Figure 2.



Figure 3.

Working Dies for the British 4d Vermilion Stamp Embossed on 1889 Bechuanaland Registration Envelopes

by Peter Thy

The 1889 Bechuanaland registration envelopes with a vermillion stamp were made by embossing a 4d British postage stamp, originally made for a stamped-to-order program, on the then current McCorquodale registration envelopes. In addition, the envelopes were overprinted 'BRITISH BECHUANALAND' and 'FOR REGISTRATION ONLY.' The latter overprint was required because the original postage stamp did not specify registration, as was common for the British registration envelopes at the time. The existing essays (Figures 1 and 2A) suggest that the overprinting was done in one setting and that the stamp was subsequently embossed (Thy and Inglefield-Watson, 2004; Thy, 2008). Thus both overprinting and stamping were done individually on fully prepared, printed, folded, and glued envelopes. The overprinting was done prior to stamping. The only way that that could have been achieved would have been to print on folded-out envelope flaps. The printings were probably done at the Inland Revenue Department of Somerset House that would have held stocks of the current unstamped British registration envelopes.

stamp at a time (Stanley Gibbons, 1973; Samuel and Huggins, 1980). Only three denominations (6d, 10d, and 1s) were in use until 1855, when the surface-printed issues replaced the embossed stamps. To supplement the existing envelope program (1d and 2d), a stamped-to-order program of customer supplied envelopes and other papers was initiated in 1855 (Figure 3), eventually adding 1d, 1½d, 2d, 2½d, 3d, and 4d denominated stamps (Huggins, 1970). Only the 4d stamp embossed in vermillion is of interest for the Bechuanaland envelopes.

Security Features

There are two important security features of the early British embossed stamps that are important for understanding their production. The stamps were until 1883, according to information given by Huggins (1970), engraved at the base of the Queen's bust with die number in colorless letters and numbers (see Stanley Gibbons, 1973). The master die was engraved by William Wyon based on his Queen Victoria City Medal of 1837. The dies are thus inscribed by W.W. for William Wyon preceded or

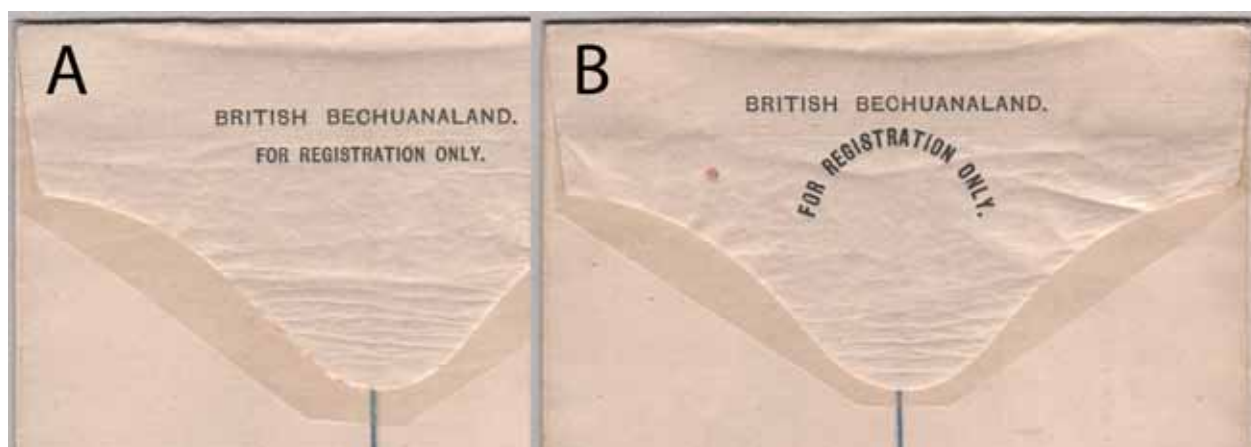


Figure 1. Essays for overprinting the Bechuanaland registration H-sized envelopes. (A) Both line straight. (B) First line straight and second line in an arch leaving space for the stamp, as approved. These essays were not included in Thy and Inglefield-Watson (2004), but was described by Thy (2008).

The present interest in the stamp dies for the British stamped-to-order envelopes as well as the Bechuanaland registration envelopes stems from the possibility that the stamps used for the Bechuanaland issues were made using new working dies. Thus with some stretch of the imagination, the 4d vermillion stationery might qualify as the first definitive stationary specifically prepared for Bechuanaland. We have previously speculated without substantiating the claim that the 1889 dies were specifically produced for the Bechuanaland envelopes because of the similarity between die registration dates and the printing dates (1889-90) of the envelopes (Thy and Inglefield-Watson, 2006).

Great Britain started producing embossed adhesive stamps in 1847. Sheets of 20 or 24 stamps were made by printing one

followed by a serial die number. The dies were further drilled at the bases for the insertion of date plugs specifying the printing day. The earliest seen date plugs give the year as 1855 for the 4d vermillion stamp, but the practice was terminated around 1894, being replaced by purely ornamental plugs (5 or 9-dots florets).

Registration and Printing Dates

The imprimatur books at Somerset House contain the registration imprints of the individual dies without which the dies were not authorized for usage. A total of four original 4d vermillion stamp dies with two different registration dates (12.11.55 (dies 2 and 4, drilled, but still without inserted dates) and 26.9.89 (die 3, with inserted dates; Huggins, 1961, 1970).



Figure 2. Embossing of stamps. (A) Essay embossed on British envelope with compensation notice that was not in effect in Bechuanaland (RE E(17)). (B) Stamp embossed on envelope with overprint (Figure 1) (RE 15a). (C) Enlargement of detail from Figure 2B to illustrate that the stamp was embossed on envelope with overprint.

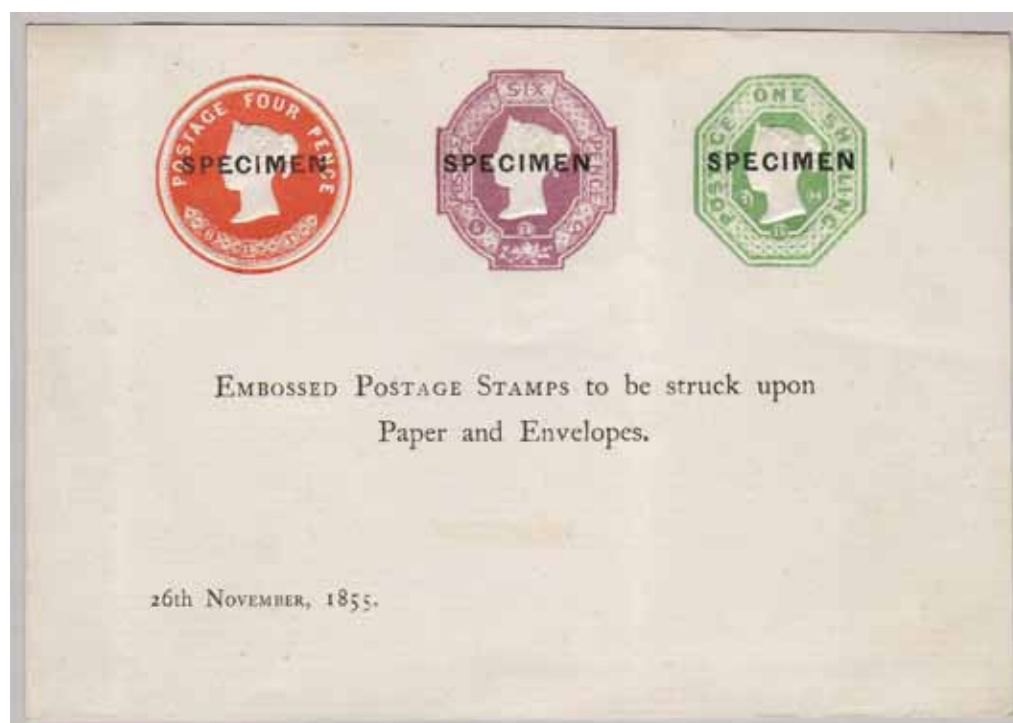


Figure 3. Post Office Notice dated 26th November 1855 with the 4d stamp with an 8.12.55 date plugs.

Huggins (1961) was, however, not able satisfactory to identify the registration date for die 1, but suggested 27.11.01. In his 1970 study, Huggins, nevertheless, gives the registration dates for both dies 1 and 3 as 26.9.89, both with inserted date plugs for that day.

Ewen (1905) gives the earliest seen date plugs (not registration dates) for the four dies as 11.11.89 for die 1; 21.11.61 for die 2 (not including the 1855 Post Office Notice); and 23.5.83 for die 4. Die 3 is listed used first in 1894 with ornamental florets. Ewen further identifies three reasons why the detailed book-keeping of these dies may be complicated: (1) all four working dies were made in 1855, (2) plug holes were drilled in all dies just after being prepared, and (3) die numbers for dies 1 and 4 were switched during handling. This means that the registration order of the dies may have been random (not in order of production sequence) and that the true die number may have been misidentified in the imprimatur registers. However, if we trust that Ewen's observation of the switching of the dies is correct, the registration dates given by Huggins (1961) makes better sense: dies 1 and 2 in 1855, die 3 in 1889, and die 4 in an uncertain 1901 (or also 1889 according to Huggins, 1970). The observation on which Ewen (1905) based his suggestion about a die mix-up is that a die proof of die 1 exists without drilled date plugs. Its impression has very clearly identifying characteristic, only found on die 4 after the drilling (broken 'S' of 'POSTAGE').

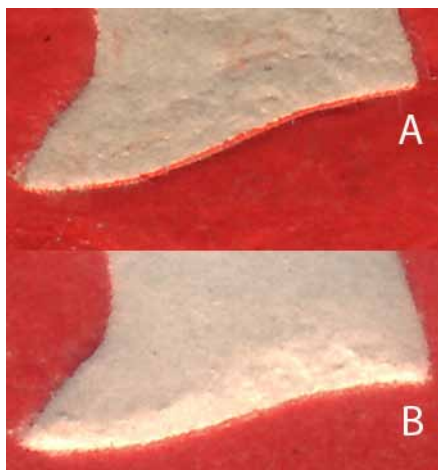


Figure 4. Illustration of die numbers. (A) On registration envelope with 1890 printing year. (B) On the 1855 British postmaster notice. In both cases the die number is indistinct and cannot be read, despite irregularity can be seen in the area where expected.

The practice of including the die number, as part of the die design, was discontinued in 1883. Thus the die number should be included on all four 4d vermilion dies since they were produced in 1855 (Ewen, 1905). The die numbers can, however, not be read in any of the dies of the Bechuanaland envelopes in this authors collection, either because of weak imprint or because they are missing entirely. This is illustrated in Figure 4, where the die numbers only can be seen as irregularities at the

base of the Queen's bust. Schematic illustrations of examples of the die numbers can be found in Stanley Gibbons (1973) and an optical enlargement of a stamp can be found in Munez (2010), both not for the 4d dies. It is, therefore, not clear how Huggins and Ewen identified the dies, if the die numbers often, if ever, could be read.

Despite that odd thus are stacked against us, there is still some help that may identify the die numbers. Ewen (1905) gives distinguishing features for the dies (although it is not clear how this information was obtained in the 'lack' of die numbers in the design):

Die 4 (1): broken 'S' in 'POSTAGE'.

Die 2: white dot under bust over center plug, colored dot on left arm of 'T' in 'POSTAGE'; white dot before 'P' of 'POSTAGE'.

Die 3: no distinguishing marks.

Die 1 (4): central white dot on lower edge of burst; white scratch under left foot of 'A' of 'POSTAGE'.

See Ewen (1915) for other distinguishing marks, including progressive changes to the dies.

The dates given by the British inserted plugs can be summarized according to information by Ewen (1905) as earliest and latest dates:

Die 4 (1): 23.5.83 to 29.7.89 and a late date of 17.10.93.

Die 2: 21.11.61 to 8.6.78. On the postmaster's notice, this die occurs with 7.12.55 and 8.12.55.

Die 3: in use from 1901 with florets.

Die 1 (4): 11.11.89 to 1894 after which used with florets.

(The numbers in parentheses after the die numbers are the corrected die numbers.)

The date censuses for the British dies by Huggins (1970) and Huggins and Baker (2007) do not discriminate between the various dies. Huggins and Baker (2007) suggest 1859 as the earliest year of usage and illustrate a stamp with a 23.5.83 date. Huggins (1970) gives the printing dates as between 21.11.61 and 4.1.94. These early British dates appear rather late considering that the 4d stamp was announced and ready to be used for private orders already in 1855. The date plugs were around 1892-94 replaced by plugs with florets (Huggins, 1970; Huggins and Baker, 2007). Ascher (1923) identify die 1 as only having been used for the postmaster's notices, but lumps dies 1 to 3 together to between 21.11.61 and 29.01.94. Ascher (1923) further identify die 4 as having exclusively been used only for the Bechuanaland envelopes. As we will see, this is not correct since two different dies were used for the Bechuanaland envelopes.

Bechuanaland Registration Envelopes

The printing dates for the Bechuanaland are 28.2.89 (Sizes G and H), 1.3.89 (Sizes H and K), 2.3.89 (Size G) (Thursday-Saturday), and 28.4.90 (Sizes G, H, and K) (Monday) (Thy and Inglefield-Watson, 2004). Ascher (1923) does not list the 2.3.89 date for the Size G envelope, but the date is possible being the day (Tuesday) immediately after the precious printing day. These dates suggest that the Bechuanaland envelopes were produced in two printings. The first printing stretched over three days during late February and early March 1889. The second

printing was done in very early April 1890. Both printings included all three envelope-sizes. Envelopes from both the 1889 (Sizes G, H, and K) and 1890 (Size G) printings occur with a UPU specimen (Type 2) overprint done in September 1890 in Vryburg (Hurst, 2007a), after the last 1890 printings were made.

The impressions on the Bechuanaland envelopes suggest that at least two different dies were used. The 1889 impressions all reveal distinct damages to the central part of the 'S' of 'POSTAGE' (Figure 5B-D). The same die was used for producing the only known essay for the stamp impression (Ewen, 1905, Samuel and Huggins, 1980). The 1890 envelopes were made with an entirely different working die without the damaged 'S' (Figure 5E-F), but without any clear permanent marks to distinguish it from the other dies. On some imprints there are, nevertheless, a downward extension of the right upward stroke of 'A' of 'POSTAGE' as on Figure 5E, but is not always discernible as for Figure 5F. Ewen (1905) lists a 'white scratch under left foot of A of "Postage."' for die 1 (4); however, other identifying features also given by Ewen cannot be seen on the Bechuanaland 1890 imprints. A further complicating factor is that the 1890 imprints always show strong bleeding-through of the ink

on the reverse suggesting a different ink-type (Figure 6) that does not make the die identification easy. This means that we cannot positively determine the second working die used for the 1890 Bechuanaland envelopes, although die 1 (4) is a possibility. It is, however, quite clear that the 1889 envelopes were made from die 4 (1).



Figure 5. Summary of dies and plugs. (A) From 1855 British post-master notice. (B) From essay RE E(17). (C and D) From Bechuanaland registration envelopes with 1889 printing year. (E and F) From Bechuanaland registration envelopes with 1890 printing year. The enlargement scales as well as the colors may not be exact.



Figure 6. Bleeding through of ink to the back-side of flap. (A) From Bechuanaland registration envelope with 1889 printing year. (B) From Bechuanaland registration envelope with 1890 printing year.

Die Production and Printing Techniques

Why is the chronology of these early British stamp dies important for understanding the production of the Bechuanaland envelopes? To answer this question, we need to understand how the dies were produced and how the printing was done. The following is largely based on the description in Scott (2001). Printed embossed stamps have the colorless or white parts raised above the colored flat background. Three different die stages are involved in producing an embossed working die. The master die is engraved on the surface of a soft steel rod and is used to produce all subsequent dies. The parts that are to be colorless are engraved into the steel below the flat steel surface that will carry the ink. The master die is thus the negative image of the embossed stamp.

The master die is after hardening transferred to an intermediate die (hub die) by hard pressing a soft steel rod into the hardened master die. The intermediate die is thus positive with the colorless part protruding above the flat surface very much like the printed stamp. The intermediate die may be cleaned and

sharpen by removing excess metal and may further be slightly modified by reducing the design area (but not enlarged). This die is used to make often several working dies.

The working die is made by pressure transfer from the intermediate die and thus is a duplicate of the master die (meaning that it is negative). This means that the working die can be further engraved and modified, however, without reducing or eliminating embossed parts. At this point, the negative die numbers are engraved from the base of the already engraved Queen's bust. It also appears that the Queen's low hanging pendant curls may have been engraved at this point (Huggins, 1970). Two working dies may therefore not be exactly similar despite originating from the same master and even intermediate dies. A working die may also wear with use and may further require 'touch-ups' to improve a deteriorating print product.

The printing is done by pressing the working die against the paper (or envelope) into a resilient plate. The ink is applied only to the flat surface of the working die with the embossed lines and patches remaining uninked. What is happening is that the flat inked surface is pressed against the paper and the paper is being pressed into the un-inked embossed parts of the die. Thus, the protruding parts are left un-inked, while the main flat parts are inked.

This method of printing may result in various printing flaws. The first group of these is non-constant flaws when accidentally ink fills or paper flakes cover engraved parts resulting in inking of what was supposed to be embossed. Such flaws do not represent die varieties. The second group of flaws is constant defects that appear on all subsequent imprints. Scratches and other defects in the surface will appear as un-inked embossing on the imprinted stamp. Other die modifications are intentional and represent changes to either the intermediate or working die. These are constant changes to the die and helps identifying the die and their progressive modifications.

Albino embossed imprints are the result of printing either without inking or with more than one envelope at a time fed into the press. Other typical printing errors are off-positioned and multiple embossed imprints. Such printing errors are common for many similarly embossed US envelopes, but are nevertheless not reported for the Bechuanaland envelopes, probably due to a good quality control by the printer; although the small quantities produced may share part of the responsibility. Another type of printing error that often is recorded is off-centered back inking. This happens when the press is used without paper and not cleaned before next envelope is fed into the press. Such characteristic back inking has not yet been reported for the Bechuanaland envelopes despite being common on some US embossed envelopes. For our purpose, only constant modifications to the dies (intentional or accidental) are of interest for understanding the chronology of printing and the dies used.

Bechuanaland Working Dies

By observing the six selected imprints in Figure 5, it can readily be seen that a few characteristic features appears on some, but not all imprints. The weak 'S' of 'POSTAGE' appears on all examples of the first printing of the Bechuanaland envelopes (1889; Figure 5B-D), but is not present on the remaining imprints, including the early post office note imprints (Figure 5A) and the 1890 Bechuanaland imprints (Figure 5E-F). There are other irregularities that can be observed. The 'A' of 'POSTAGE' is sometimes partially filled by a gash on the horizontal stroke on some of the 1889 imprints (Figure 5D), but may not be constant. The low hanging pendant curls of the Queen's hair dress may also be used to distinguish groups of working dies as done for other British stamp dies (Huggins, 1970). The majority of imprints in Figure 5 show nearly detached curls only hold in place by two thin hair threads. Although more detailed work needs to be done to support the point, it is felt that all the dies show the same nearly detached pendant curls. Differences appear to be caused by variable imprint pressure. It is significant that the 1890 Bechuanaland imprints show very variable degrees of detachments of the curls (Figure 5E-F).

The overall shapes of the Queen's neck regions are compared in Figure 7. When the neck outline is traced for the 1889 Bechuanaland imprints (Figure 7A) and overlain on the necks of the 1890 (Figure 7B), it is clear that the 1890 dies have the front neckline enlarged with the addition of a weak projection of the Adam's apple. The question is obviously how was this achieved. We must assume that all four working dies were made on the same day from the same master die (Ewen, 1905). It is not clear how many intermediate dies that were used, however, the simplest guess is that only one die was used to produce the four working dies; after all there were only four working die. These observations suggest that the dies used for the Bechuanaland envelopes represent two working dies produced from the same

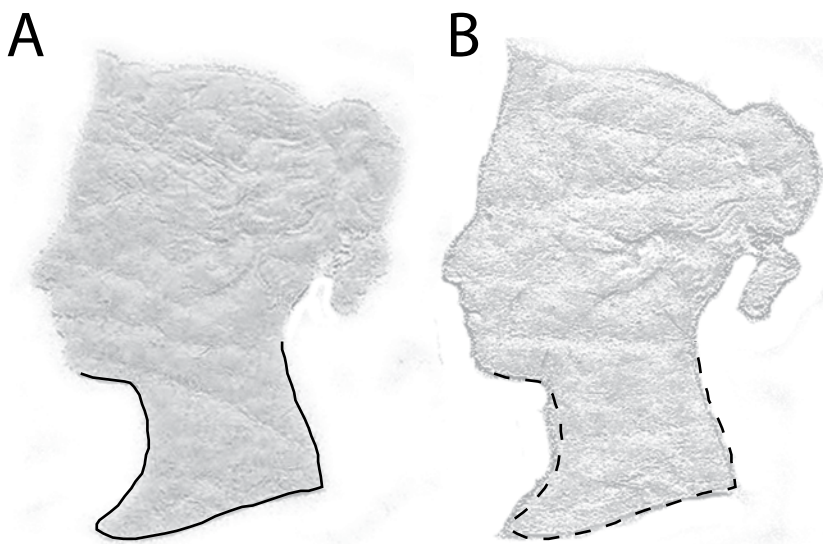


Figure 7. Comparison of the necklines relative to the 1889 Bechuanaland imprints. (A) 1889 Bechuanaland imprint. (B) 1890 Bechuanaland imprint.

master die or intermediate die. The 1889 die was prepared from one of the early dies prepared for the British stamped-to-order envelopes (one of the dies with 12.11.55 registration date, die 4 (1)). A different working die with a slightly enlarged Queen's neckline was used for producing the 1890 envelopes (one of the dies with 26.9.89 registration date, probably die 1 (4)).

It is currently not possible in details to compare the Bechuanaland imprints with those of the British envelopes for the simple reason that no detailed study of the British imprints appears to exist, including a date census. It is also a problem that clear images of the die imprints in the imprimatur books at Somerset House have as yet not been available for study.

examples of each of seven of the stamps. The first die of each stamp is with date plugs (24-1-94) and the other die with florets inserted in the plug holes.

Samuel and Huggins (1980, p. 219-226) show several color standard sheets all with specimen cancellations. The dies used for these imprints are said to be dies 1, 2, and 4 with dates from 1858 to 1893, after which the date are replaced with florets. Unfortunately, the illustrations provided of many of these color control sheets and other imprints (all with specimen overprints) are unfortunately not sufficiently clear to identify details of the imprints. Of particular interest, however, is a clear die 1 from



Figure 8. Proof sheet with impression of British stamped-to-order dies (Hahn, 2008). Stamps no. 2 and 3 of the central row are the 4d vermilion stamps with inserted florets. The image was scanned from Hahn's book and is thus reduce in size.

Imprint and Color Sheets

Several imprint sheets exists that sometimes can be dated from inserted date plugs. The early collection of stamp and stationery essays assembled by F.A. Philbrick prior to 1890 (Hahn, 2008) included a proof sheet with impressions of one or more dies for each stamp used for printed-to-order stationery (Figure 8), all with inserted florets. This sheet included two impressions of the 4d vermilion stamp. The Philbrick collection was sold to Phillip de Ferrari in 1888. Since de Ferrari had little interest in essays, he donated this part of the collection to a Viennese stamp dealer that displayed it in his private museum (Sigmund Friedl) until 1896 when his stamp business was liquidated (Hahn, 2008). However, the imprint proof sheet was probably added to the original collection after being sold in 1888, because of the insertion of floret plugs dates to 1894. Menuz (2010, attributed to Alan Huggins) showed another proof sheet with two

1866 without drilled holes said to have been prepared for the 1867 Paris Exhibition. This may be the same imprint listed by Ewen (1915) as die 1 without date holes. Whatever the case, it does question the assertion that all dies were drilled in 1855. A later drilling of die 1 may be supported by the observation of Samuel and Huggins (1980) that the first color standard sheet with an imprint of die 1 with inserted date plugs is dated 8.5.90. Menuz (2010), however, shows a clear die 1 with a 20.5.84 date placing the drilling prior to 1890.

Printing Quantities

It may perhaps be a bit puzzling that the 4d canceled-to-order program only required four working dies. The program was in effect from 1855 until 1902 (47 years), when King Edward VII dies replaced the Queen Victoria dies, and moreover in addition was able to provide for the need in Bechuanaland for



Figure 9. British printed-to-order envelope mailed on 9 JU 91 from Cambridge to Orange Free State. The date of the plugs is 25.11.90. The die appears to be similar to that used for the 1890 Bechuanaland registration envelope.

registration envelopes. Dagnall (1987) gives the total number of printings with the 4d dies in the financial year of 1862-1863 as about 8,000. It is not known how many envelopes were imprinted for use in Bechuanaland. A surviving 1888 requisition order for the first 1887 4d blue British overprinted registration envelopes for British Bechuanaland requested a total of 700 envelopes for three different sizes (Hurst, 2007b; Thy, 2009), but this may, however, have been the requisition for a second printing before the 4d vermilion envelopes were first supplied in 1889. The first Bechuanaland Protectorate definitive registration envelope about 10 years later was printed in about 5,000 copies (Thy and Inglefield-Watson, 2004). It is thus clear that the Bechuanaland need was insignificant compared to the total domestic British requirements of say 376,000 imprints, or 94,000 per working die. It also only took less than five days to stamp the Bechuanaland envelopes. This is still peanuts, when compare the printing of the 1893 US Columbian Exposition envelopes that produced a total of nearly 110 million envelopes using 31 working dies, or on an average 3-4 million per working die. It is thus clear that there were no need for specially designated working dies for the Bechuanaland envelopes.

Conclusion

The Bechuanaland registration envelopes were produced in 1889 and 1890 using two different working dies. The same two dies were used to produce the British stationery of the stamped-to-order program with the latest recorded imprints between 1883 and 1889. The 1890 Bechuanaland working die was again in use shortly later the same year to produce further British stamped-

to-order envelopes, this time using normal non-bleeding ink (Figure 9). The working die used for the 1889 Bechuanaland envelopes are recorded used in November 1889 (11.11.89), after having been used for the British Bechuanaland program.

It has proven to be difficult to identify the die numbers for the two dies used for the Bechuanaland registration envelopes. Best estimates are die 1 for the 1889 envelopes and die 4 for the 1890 envelopes. The lack of good descriptions and illustrations of the various working dies and inconsistencies between previous studies, however, makes clear identifications difficult. In conclusion, the Bechuanaland registration envelopes were produced using working dies that before and after were employed in the British program. The working dies for the Bechuanaland envelopes were thus not specifically produced and reserved for the Bechuanaland registration envelopes.

Acknowledgement. Brian Hurst and the American Philatelic Society Research Library are thanked for providing photocopies. Andreas Hahn and the 'Museumsstiftung Post und Telekommunikation' are thanked for access to a high-density scan of the Philbrick proof sheet. Wayne Munez provided additional information and helpful comments on an earlier version of the article originally published in the *Runner Post* in 2009 (Whole no. 75, 1854-1858). The stationery catalogue numbers (with RE prefixes) in this study are after Thy and Inglefield-Watson (2004).

References

- Ascher, S., 1923. *Die Privat-Umschlag von England mit dem Bilde der Königin Victoria*. Robert Noske, Borna, Germany.
- Dagnall, H., 1987. *Notes on Victorian Embossed Postal Stationery*. Published by the Author, Middlesex, United Kingdom.

- Ewen, H.L'E., 1905. Priced Catalogue of the Unadhesive Postage Stamps of the United Kingdom. Ewen's Colonial Stamp Market, Bournemouth, England.
- Hahn, A., 2008. Die Erfindung der Briefmarke. Erturfe und Probedrucke aus der Sammlund F. A. Philbrick und dem Preußen-Fund. Museumsstiftung Post und Telekommunikation, Kassel, Germany.
- Huggins, A.K., 1961. Postal stationery imprimaturs at Somerset House, Great Britain Journal 3, 2-5, 38-41.
- Huggins, A.K., 1970. British Postal Stationery. Great Britain Philatelic Society, London, UK.
- Huggins, A. and Baker, C., 2007. Collect British Postal Stationery. A simplified Listing of British Stationery 1840-2007. GB Philatelic Publications, Ringwood, UK.
- Hurst, B., 2007a. BEC2 'SPECIMEN' handstamp on Bechuanaland stamps – a mystery solved. Runner Post 70, 1700-1701.
- Hurst, B., 2007b. Snippets from the Cape Archive – Part 2. Runner Post 70, 1702-1703.
- Munez, W., 2010. A British STO envelope discovery. Postal Stationery Whole no. 373, 120-123.
- Samuel, M. and Huggins, A., 1980. Specimen stamps and stationery of Great Britain. Great Britain Philatelic Society, G.B. Philatelic Publications Saffron Walden, U.K.
- Scott, 2001. Embossing and printing dies, Specialized Catalogue of United States Stamps and Covers, p. 366-367. Scott Publishing Co., Sidney, OH (or later editions).
- Stanley Gibbons, 1973. Great Britain Specialized Stamp Catalogue, Vol. 1, Queen Victoria, 4th Edition.
- Thy, P., 2008. Postal stationery views and news – 9. Runner Post 71, 1743-1748.
- Thy, P., 2009. Postal stationery views and news – 10. Runner Post 76, 1886-1893.
- Thy, P. and Inglefield-Watson, J., 2004. The Postal Stationery of the Bechuanalands and Botswana. British Philatelic Trust, London.
- Thy, P. and Inglefield-Watson, J., 2006. Postal Stationery News and Views – 6. Runner Post 60, 1449-1451.

Highlights From Journals and Newsletters

- Arrow, N., 2011. The "Horseshoe Route" Part 1. Springbok 59, 102-105.
- Barth, J., 2011. Cape of Good Hope private postmarks. London Philatelist 120, 379-383.
- Beech, D., 2012. The printing plate of the Mauritius Post Office issue. London Philatelist 121, 2-9.
- Bourbon, A. de, 2011. Cigarette surtax 1937-1953 and the 'excise' overprints. Journal Rhodesian Study Circle 61, 164-169.
- Brakspear, G., 2011. ADS registration labels, Part 2. Journal Rhodesian Study Circle 61, 113-117.
- Brakspear, G., 2011. ADS registration labels, Part 3. Journal Rhodesian Study Circle 61, 169-171.
- Courtis, J., 2011. Natal: Post Office wrappers. Survival rates, analysis of demographics and marked size. Cape and Natal Philatelic Journal 15, 145-150.
- Davis, T., 2011. Natal and Zululand: the Boyce letters in the Bambatha rebellion period. Cape and Natal Philatelic Journal 15, 152-153.
- Dickson, J., 2011. Natal post offices as listed in the Postal Guide of 1902 classified according to circulation routes. Cape and Natal Philatelic Journal 15, 162-165.
- Drysdall, A., 2011. Hargreaves and Fort Young. Journal Rhodesian Study Circle 61, 159-162.
- Drysdall, A., 2011. Postal stationery cards addressed to the UK sent by railway workers from Untali via Beira in 1897-98. Journal Rhodesian Study Circle 61, 110-111.
- Drysdall, A., 2011. The stamps overprinted 'B.C.A.' in Museum Africa, Johannesburg. Journal Rhodesian Study Circle 61, 123-126.
- Farrell, M., 2011. South African KGV definitive inking varieties. Springbok 59, 51-55.
- Johnson, R., 2011. CGH: Information taken from Cape Government Gazettes. Cape and Natal Philatelic Journal 15, 157-161.
- Kamffer, G., 2011. "Non-European/nie-blanke" counters in post offices. South African Philatelist 87 (Dec. 2011), 188-190.
- Larking, B., 2011. Otto's "atypical" six-pennies. Transvaal Philatelist 46, 73-85.
- Leeffland, B., 2011. De Transvaal Ausstellung 1897 to Berlijn. FVZA Bartolomeu Dias 24 (92), 13-15.
- Lindstrom, N., 2011. Using rotary blade damage to study Union stamps: focusing on the screened 5/- UHB 52B. Springbok 59, 95-99.
- Messenger, R., 2011. R.S.A. seventh definitive series. South African Philatelist 87 (Dec. 2011), 216-219.
- Mulder, P., 2011. De Fleischer-stempels. FVZA Bartolomeu Dias 24 (92), 4-5.
- Olivier, C., 2011. Southern Cross Fund covers. Springbok 59, 106-108.
- Peetoom, O., 2011. 1926 1/2d springbok (London printing) with double print of frame. South African Philatelist 87 (Dec. 2011), 210-211.
- Peetoom, O., 2011. The Southern Rhodesia 5/- Admiral SG 14. Journal Rhodesian Study Circle 61, 117-119.
- Reah-Johnson, S., 2011. Was the £1 "error" not the first £ Double Head printed? Journal Rhodesian Study Circle 61, 128-131.
- Vroom, J., 2011. Luchtpost in Zuid West Afrika in die dertiger jaren. FVZA Bartolomeu Dias 24 (93), 4-6.
- Woolgar, J., 2011. Post Office and privately overprinted wrappers – a few notes. Transvaal Philatelist 46, 89-91.
- Zeyl, P. van, 2011. The history of the Zuid-Afrikaansche Republiek / Transvaal to 1896, Part 6. South African Philatelist

New Books

- Pratt, A. (ed. C. Cooksey), 2011. Rhodesian and Nyasaland Air-mails. Rhodesian Study Circle. Study Project CD available from C. Cooksey, contact RSC for contact information.
- Stanley Gibbons, 2011. Africa. Simplified Catalogue: Including All Stamps from Continental Africa and Islands. London.
- Stanley Gibbons, 2011. Commonwealth Stamp Catalogue. Southern and Central Africa, London.

Forerunners Forum

Questions, Comments, and Answers

OFS Entertainment Revenue Stamp

Peter Lodoen (peterlodoen@gmail.com)

has emailed to ask about this 3d Orange Free State entertainment revenue stamp.

We showed the stamp to a couple of experts on the Orange Free state who both suggested that it was used in the province of Orange Free state of the Union of South Africa after 1910. But apparently little is known about the stamps. Can any member help?



Cape Railway Service Parcel Stamp

Peter Lodoen (peterlodoen@gmail.com) has also emailed to ask about this Cape Railway Service parcel stamp. Consulting the two books by Hagen and Naylor given below, we can identify the stamp as a 1/2d 1882 Cape Railway Service newspaper stamp. The 1/2d denomination gives it away as a newspaper stamp. It is listed as NP 1.1 and value at R30 in 1985. It is canceled at the East London Rail Office in 1899? More information of the rail way and its stamps can be found in these two book: Hagen and Naylor: Railway Postal History of South Africa. Philatelic Federation of Southern Africa, 1998.

Hagen and Naylor: Railway Stamps of South Africa. Philatelic Federation of Southern Africa, 1985.



Printing Errors of FIFA Miniature Sheets

A couple of the 2010 golden SAPOA-FIFA miniature sheet have been discovered completely without perforation. The sheets were from Botswana and Swaziland. They were offered on eBay for an exorbitant amounts of money. Refer to the article in Forerunners # 70 for details of these issues.

Bechuanaland Border Police Canteen Tokens

Metal tokens are a favorite of the Editor, so please excuse me another another digression. There is only two sets of tokens known to have been used in Bechuanaland. The first of these are the canteen tokens of the Bechuanaland Border Police. Three different denominations have been recorded: 3d, 6d, and

1s. Two of these are shown here. The other set were used by the Tati Company. Of these, 4 denominations are known to have been used, but I have never seen these. Any members with the same passion that can show them? The authoritative references to the subject are these two books:

Hern and Jacobs: Hern's Handbook on Southern African Tokens. Published by the authors, 2004.

Theron: Tokens of Southern Africa and their History. Johannesburg, 1978.

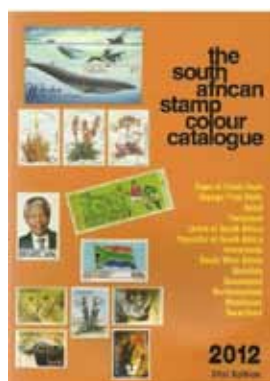


For the Record

166. **Linn's Stamp News** (Jan. 30, 2012) suggested in 'Tip of the Week' to buy the 10c Rhinoceros machine-vended postage label (FRAMA). They referred to a recent used copy sold on eBay for £775.
167. **Christoph Gärtner** in their recent auction (February 2012) included a surprising large number of specimen-cancelled items from the **Madagascar receiving UPU authority** from a wide range of countries (about 45 items, often full ledger pages).
168. **Regency-Superior** has announced that they are the authorized distributor in the United States of **Stanley Gibbons** products. Included is a complete range of catalogues, albums, and accessories. All products can be ordered on line at www.RegencySuperior.com. This is a welcome development since it will reduce the excessive mailing expenses from ordering direct from London.
169. **Victoria Stamp Company** has conducted their Public Auction #30 (February 2012) containing the **Frascati Collection** of specimen stamps and the **Hisey Collection** of Orange Free State.
170. **Grosvenor** will have conducted their (Sale #70) of British Empire and Foreign Countries (March 2012) when this is being read. Included was a large selection of **Southern Africa** (about 120 lots).
171. **Prestige Philately** has last year sold the 'The Gerald Elliott Collection' of **Royal British Navy Mail** (December, 2011). It was a British Empire-wide collection of 19th

Century military mail with many Cape related items. "Truly eye-popping postal history" as said by the Australian auction company.

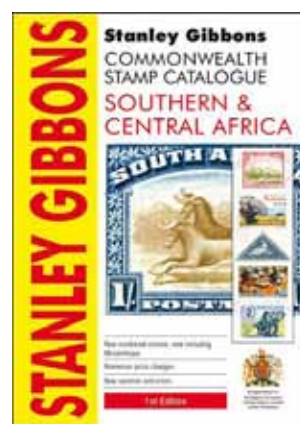
172. **Stanley Gibbons** has just introduced a new **digital microscope** (Pro10) with the capability of up to 200x magnification measuring to 1000th of a millimeter accurately. It is pocket-sized and portable with 32MB built-in memory and a 2 GB memory card included. It is available from Regency-Superior at \$400.



173. The 31st edition of the **South African Colour Catalogue** is now available at R499.00 each plus postage. Can be obtained from Edenstamps at orders@edenstamps.com. Contact them for shipping expenses from South Africa.
174. **Michael Gorwits** has announced the upcoming sale of a stunning collection of approximately 650 **stamp boxes** and associated items. They include silver, Chinese, European, Japanese, as well as porcelain and wooden ones. Many are commemorative and all have exquisite workmanship. Contact Michael Gorwits, Philately & Postal History, PO Box 1317, Huntington, NY 11743, Tel. 516 617 9541, wharfestmp@aol.com, <http://stores.ebay.com/msbrh>.



175. **Stanley Gibbons** has just released a new Southern and Central Africa listings in one volume. They must finally have decided to listening to the collectors! It is available from Regency-Superior together with other Stanley Gibbons publications.



176. **Prestige Philately** has in their General Auction 171 (February 2012) sold a collection of unusual **Nieuwe Republiek** stamps as lots 992-998. Included were missing perforations and double prints.

New Republic 1886-87 1d violet stamp without embossed arms on yellow paper (SG 2). Printed double. Sold by Prestige Auction February 2012.



177. **Empire Stamps Auctions** have just released their spring postal auction (closes March 31, 2012). As always a strong selection of British Africa postal history. Contact Steve Drewett at empirestampauctions@yahoo.co.uk to get on the mailing list for this and future auctions.

Exchange Journals Received

The Springbook: Volume 59, Nos 2 (April/June 2011), 3 (July/Sept. 2011), and 4 (Oct./Dec. 2011).
 FVZA Bartolomeu Dias: Volume 24, No. 92 (Nov. 2011) and Volume 25, No. 93 (Jan. 2012).
 South West Africa Newsletter: Nos 375 (Oct./Nov. 2012), 376 (Dec. 2011), and 377 (Jan. 2012) (from No. 377 in electronic format).
 Magnify: No. 201 (Jan, 2012) (electronic).
 The Transvaal Philatelist: Volume 46, No. 4 (Nov. 2011).
 South African Philatelist: Volume 87, No. 6 (Dec. 2011).

Society Publications

Hisey and Bartshe, 2003. *Philately of the Orange Free State, Vol. 1, The Postage Stamps*. Hardbound, 280 pages in full color, \$35 plus \$5 s/h in the US, plus \$10 elsewhere by air.
 Hisey and Bartshe, 2004. *Philately of the Orange Free State, Vol. 2, The Telegraphs*. Hardbound, 250 pages in full color, \$35 plus \$5 s/h in the US, plus \$10 elsewhere by air.
 Hisey and Bartshe, 2009. *Philately of the Orange Free State, Vol. 3*. Hardbound, 205 pages in full color, \$35 plus \$5 s/h in the US, plus \$10 elsewhere by air.
 Forerunners on CD, Issues 1 to 50 (CD-ROM). \$30 plus \$5 s/h.

Taylor, Robert. Early Postal Services of the Cape of Good Hope PSGSA Exhibit Series (CD-ROM). \$15 pp.
 Lodoen, Peter. Accepted - Rejected: Life of a Botswana Stamp Designer. \$25 full color print, \$10 on CD-ROM. Postage paid.
 Hisey, B. (compiler), 2006. Postal Office Names of Southern Africa According to Ralph Putzel (CD-ROM). \$15 pp.
 To order contact David McNamee at the addresses given on page 1.

The Market Place

Union machine and parcel postmarks. Wanted by specialist collector. Single items, collections, or unsorted bulk accumulations. Please contact Bas Payne on bas@paynes.demon.co.uk, or Saltbox Barn, Edney's Lane, Denmead, Waterlooville, PO7 6JL, UK.

Union pictorials 1926-1940. Wanted by specialist collector. Single items, collections, or unsorted bulk accumulations including singles. Please contact Bas Payne on bas@paynes.demon.co.uk, or Saltbox Barn, Edney's Lane, Denmead, Waterlooville, PO7 6JL, UK.

Cape of Good Hope. I buy postal history material, specially the period 1652 - 1853. Please send scan or photocopy with price. Johnny Barth, Nivavaenge 25, DK 2990 Niva, Denmark. E-mail: barth@post3.tele.dk.

SA Homelands used. Seeking postally used stamps and covers (larger lots with duplication OK). Have used Homelands and GB, Commonwealth (Australia, NZ, others) to trade. Send description/scan/price to Chris Oberholster, 2013 Yancy Drive, Bessemer, AL 35022; pangolin100@aol.com.

Wanted: Postal Savings Books and related items from any southern African territories and countries. Send photocopies/scans and descriptions to Peter Thy, P.O. Box 73112, Davis CA 95617-3112, thy@kronestamps.dk.

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

South West Africa postal stationery. I am seeking pre-1969 items. Please send offer to Jan Stolk, Waterhoenlaan 24, B-9120 Melsele, Belgium; janstolk@belgacom.net.

Mafeking covers. Want to purchase or trade for covers to/from, or through Mafeking, 1885 to present. Send photocopies, prices or trade want list to Frederick Lawrence, 658 W. Douglas Ave., Gilbert, AZ 85233-3219; ieconsulting@cox.net.

South African postage due covers. Looking for postage due mail from and to South Africa, all periods welcome. Please send offers to Jan Stolk, Waterhoenlaan 24, B-9120 Melsele, Belgium; janstolk@belgacom.net.

Bechuanaland and Botswana postal stationery. Used, stamped and unstamped, stationery from any territory and any period are needed for collection and exhibit. Send offer to Peter Thy, P.O. Box 73112, Davis, CA 95617-3112 or email thy@kronestamps.dk.

GSWA, OFS postal stationary & the Cape of Good Hope pre-stamp period are my interests. Philatelists wishing to correspond and exchange information / material can write to me at: Hennie Taljaard, P O Box 816, Ceres, 6835, RSA or stadsbeplanner@ananzi.co.za.

Old Zimbabwe Currency. Wanted a few pounds, any condition, and any value. For Show give away. Bob Hisey at bobhisey@comcast.net.

Perfins Wanted. I buy/trade for perfins of Cape, Natal, Transvaal, ORC, and South Africa. Especially interested in on cover examples, but will give generous return for any loose stamps. Write or email with trade/sale proposal. Robert Weeden, 1446 Grenac Rd, Fairbanks, AK 99709 or email weeden@mosquitonet.com.

Madagascar postal stationery. Used and unused, stamped and unstamped, stationery from the greater Madagascar area. Any period and type are needed for collection and exhibit. Send offer to Peter Thy, P.O. Box 73112, Davis, CA 95617-3112 or email thy@kronestamps.dk.

Numerical Cancellers (BONCs) used in Southern Africa sought by collector. Contact me for wantlist or let me know what you can offer. Werner Seeba, In Den Wannenaeckern 14, D-70374 Stuttgart 50, Germany.

Airmails from SA to South America. Wanted airmail covers from SA to South or central America between 1932 and 1952. Send scan or photocopy with price to Hugh Amoore, (9 Bishoplea Road, Claremont, South Africa, 7708); email to: hugh.amoore@uct.ac.za).

Send request for your free non-dealer membership ad to the Editor. Multiple ads per issue per member are admitted as long as space is available. Ads will run for several issues unless specified otherwise. Limits of 40 words plus name and postal and email addresses.

Commercial Ad Rate Schedule

Premium positions:

1/1 page inside front cover single issue \$60, annual \$150, two years \$280.

1/1 page inside back cover single issue \$50, annual \$120, two years \$200.

1/1 page outside back cover single issue \$60, annual \$150, two years \$280.

Contact the Editor for smaller ad sizes.

Non-premium positions:

1/2 page: single issue \$20, annual \$60, two years \$100.

1/1 page: single issue \$40, annual \$95, two years \$170.

All advertisers who reserve a full page ad for one year or longer will receive full membership to the PSGSA. Contact the Society Treasurer or Editor for any special requirements and for booking your premium spaces. All payment should be addressed to the Treasurer. The Editor will assist with ad designs if required.

Expertization of World Classics



Sismondo

EXPERTS

www.sismondostamps.com
sismondo@dreamscape.com

Reliable, Competitively Priced & FAST!

Estimated Turnaround Time: 2-3 WEEKS!

Photo Certificates with

Detailed, Accurate, and Complete Descriptions

If you have stamps which require certification, mail them today!

Liane & Sergio Sismondo

Philatelic Experts

10035 Carousel Center Drive
Syracuse, New York 13290-0001

ASDA* NSDA * PTS * CSDA

Membership Application

Membership fees are \$25 to US mailing addresses and \$30 for all other addresses. Membership includes a subscription to the Society's quarterly journal *Forerunners*. Those that join before July 1 will receive the complete back issues for that year. Thereafter annual renewals occur in August and are due by September 1. If sending in dues by mail, please provide funds in US\$ either in currency or a check on a USA bank account made out to "PSGSA." Mail all payments to David McNamee, PSGSA Treasurer, P.O. Box 37, Alamo, CA 94507 USA. Paypal to "dmcnamee@aol.com" is also acceptable, but please add US\$ 1 extra to cover part of the PayPal fees we must pay to use the service. For some overseas members, it might be more advantageous to send in dues for two or more years to avoid the annual conversion fees.

Name: _____

Address: _____

Email address: _____

APS No: _____

Collecting interests and Comments: _____

THE RARE AND UNUSUAL

Early Orange Free State Foreign Registration Mail



A recent census of covers recorded in auction catalogues, price lists and various collections and notations in the Orange Free State Bulletin has yielded 82 registered covers either domestic or foreign originating from the Orange Free State up to the British Occupation in 1900. The first shown here was sent from Kroonstad to California (Oct. 1895) paying the pre-UPU registration rate of 6d and 4d postage for ½ oz. Upon joining the UPU the rate went down to 4d and postage of 2½d to member countries. This 10d rate is the most common foreign rate found, particularly to Europe except to England which would have been 8½d during most of the 90's. The other cover is a double weight cover from Jagersfontein 5 Mar 97 to Germany paying 6d for registration and 8d for the double weight fee of 4d per half ounce. The boxed 'Geregistreerd' is quite rare used on mail and was in some towns only for use along with the standard revenue cancel device.