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*******FORERUNNERS**

JOURNAL OF THE PHILATELIC SOCIETY FOR GREATER SOUTHERN AFRICA

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

Volume XXXIII, Number 2, Whole Number 96

November 2019 - February 2020



Endangered Cranes set of four stamps and a miniature sheet
were issued by Botswana Post on October 9, 2019

Highlights

Philately of Southern Africa
Vermilion Ink
Reverend Falloon
Wrapper Catalogue

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Swaziland Posts and Telecommunications Corporation issued in April 2012 four stamps showing African migratory locusts. Denomination for all stamp was 'C.' Printer was Joh Enschede Security Printers.

Front Illustration:

The souvenir sheet was part of a set showing endangered birds of Botswana. The P10 stamp shows a wattled crane that is resident and breeds in the Okavango Delta. The bird is on IUCH red list as vulnerable. Two different sheets exists: the one shown and another with an UPU logo added at the base.

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Vermeil at STAMPSHOW Richmond, VA 2017. Large Silver at WORLD STAMP SHOW NEW YORK 2016; Vermeil at CHICAGOPEX 2015; Silver at CHICAGOPEX 2014; Silver-Bronze at CHICAGOPEX 2013; Vermeil at STAMPSHOW 2013, Milwaukee; Large Silvers at the New Zealand National Philatelic Literature Exhibitions 2012 & 2013; Vermeil at JO'BURG, 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 SESCAL 95, CAPEX 96, WAPEX 93, and HAFNIA 94; Silver-Bronze at ESPAMER 96, SINGAPORE 95, and PHILAKOREA 94.

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Editorial Notes

Hope that you can find something of interest in this issue. It is, however, admitted that the Editor had problems filling this issue, as you perhaps can see for yourself.

In the past, we have typically restricted the scope of the journal to southern Africa. But following our successful Pan African convention during Milcopex last year, it has been decided that articles outside our traditional sphere will be allowed as long they are Pan-African. This is why you will find an East African article in this issue.

We are in the process of changing our publication schedule to fit the calendar year. The plan is to finish the current volume XXXIII (=33) at the end of this year. Volume XXXIV (=34) will thus start with number one first thing in 2021. Whether this will result in volume XXXIII having 3 or 4 issues will largely depend on the amount of material available. The current flow is however not very promising.

I will be attending London 2020 - COVID-19 allowing - and hope to meet with members and to discuss philately and the Forerunners.

Peter Thy

Collapse of the Postal System as We Know It

This regular feature will continue in next issue. This is not because of nothing to write about, but because of little space left.

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Preparation for PSGSA 2020 Auction

The preparation for the next society auction is now in progress. Your lots are needed as soon as possible. Please prepare all material with description, scanned images (if possible), and minimum accepted price. Contact the auction manager by writing to rudolph912@gmail.com or PSGSA2016@gmail.com.

Moody Tidwell

The deadline for the next issue will be July 15, 2020. Please let the Editor have your contributions - small or large - as soon as possible.

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



PSGSA WhatsApp Group

PSGSA has got its own WhatsApp group. The younger members will probably know how it functions. But just in case: it works on your cell phone and is an easy way to reach our membership (and everybody else who has signed up) with trivial questions and certainly also with complicated requests. Send your cell phone number to Moody Tidwell at rudolph912@gmail.com and follow his instructions.



WhatsApp and Smartphones

From 1st of February, only Android and iPhone devices which support Android 2.3.7 and iPhone iOS 8, or newer, will be able to support WhatsApp. Users should update if possible their operating systems in order to continue using the WhatsApp. Only certain devices, such as the iPhone 4, which only supports iOS 7, will no longer be compatible with the app. WhatsApp is dropping older systems to ensure its service remains secure.

Society Affairs

Forerunners is the official journal of the Philatelic Society for Greater Southern Africa and is published three times per year for the periods January-April, May-August, and September-December. Subscription to the Forerunners is included in the membership fees to the Philatelic Society for Greater Southern Africa (PSGSA). The basic membership fee is US\$20 for the electronic version of the journal. The print version can in addition be obtained by adding \$5 for USA mailing addresses, \$10 for Canada addresses, and \$15 for the rest of the world. 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 each year. A sample copy of Forerunners is available from the Editor for \$6 or may be downloaded at no cost together with application form from www.psgsa.org. 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 directly to the Editor. Electronic versions of submissions are preferred either embedded in an email message, email attachments or on a CD. MS Word files are preferred. Tables in Excel or text format is preferred; avoid complex Word tables. Illustrations should be in color and scanned at least at 150 dpi and submitted in pdf, tiff, gif, or jpg formats. Illustrations should not be embedded in manuscript files. Contact the Editor 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

By the time you read this it will be about one year to the week until the next BIG event for Southern African philately. I am talking about the Cape Town 2021 or the International Stamp Exhibition 17-20 March, 2021. This four-day event will be held at the Cape Town International Convention Center in the heart of town close to the Docks District where the city comes alive every evening. For those of you who have a large hole missing in your bucket list device, Cape Town is one of the most beautiful cities in the world (as evidenced below from a few thousand feet above). You can see the dock area just above the new soccer stadium recently build for the World Cup. The iconic Table Mountain is in the background and Camps Bay is to the right out of the picture.



Open 8½ hours a day, one can peruse the 2000 or so frames of exhibit vying for medals and awards in this F.I.P. patronage show and scores of dealers that will not look at you with a blank stare as you ask for Free State or Griqualand West. The Court of Honor will feature award-winning international exhibits. Special sections will be devoted to an exhibition of the philatelic Gems of Africa, and to Gerhard Kamffer's award-winning exhibit, the 'Road to Democracy'. Gerhard's exhibit features the story of Nelson Mandela and his fight for 'one man one vote' and the evolution of the politics that have shaped this modern democracy into what you see today. For those wishing to exhibit as well as attend, Sandeep Jaiswal will be the US commissioner and one will need to fill out an entry form before 15th August 2020.

The exhibition venue is at the Victoria and Albert Waterfront and the show hotel will be the Southern Sun Cullinan just across the street.

While visiting you will have opportunities to see Africa as it was meant to be seen with the help of Spirit of Africa (www.spiritofafrica.co.za) who is managing many of the tours that are part of the show which includes many of the perks of being supporter of the show (visit website at <https://capetown2021.org>). Whether you have a taste for world class wines from the wine country only an hour north, a hankering for a curry, fresh calamari or wild game at hundreds of establishments within a short cab ride from your hotel. Or braving the winds at the tip of the Cape of Good Hope avoiding the occasional Chakma baboons, this is

the place to be in March, 2021!

The polyglot of peoples that inhabit this teeming city has formed a melting pot that adds flavor to life and the culture found around every corner of Cape Town. Each resident moves around and blends in making the town to throb with commerce and industry from the office to the street vendor. The bustle of this metropolis is everywhere you turn, as in any major city. Yet the people still portray the open South African friendliness, warmth accompanied with ubiquitous smiles.

I hope that you can join Candace and I as we once again travel to South Africa and enjoy the show and one of the most extraordinary places on earth.

Tim Bartshe



Mark Your Calendar

Several important stamp shows and exhibitions are fast approaching. It is now time for making a decision about to attend and to mark your calendar.

London 2020 Philatelic International Exhibition, Business Design Centre, Islington, May 2-9, 2020.

Great American Stamp Show, Hartford, CT, August 20-23, 2020. American Philatelic Society and the Topical Association.

International Symposium on Analytical Methods in Philately. Smithsonian National Postal Museum, Washington DC, 13 November 2020. Go to symposium@analyticalphilately.org.

Cape Town International Stamp Exhibition 2021, 17-20 March 2021, <https://capetown2021.org>.



Closed Albums

Robert Ian Johnson 1940-2019

Robert was born on 20th September 1940. At the tender age of 22, he passed the examination needed to become a practicing solicitor. His philatelic life must also have started early, since he managed to put together several collections, including British postal history, Cape of Good Hope Rectangulars, and French Congo Postal History. But his interests stretched much further.

Articles written by Robert have appeared in many society journals, including those of the Cape and Natal Study Circle, Anglo Boer War Philatelic Society, Orange Free State Study Circle. He also authored or coauthored important and difficult handbooks on British postal rates between 1936 and 2000, Iraq postal history and rates, and India express post.

Robert's administrative work has been equally creditable. He was the first chairman of the Friends of the National Postal Museum, trustee of the Stuart Rossiter Trust, and most recently the editor of the publication program of EPA Experitising's Educational Charity.

He was most generous in providing access to all his collections and willing to help others with his knowledge.

In 1988 he joined the Royal Philatelic Society London and was elected a Fellow in 1995. In 2012, he was awarded the highly prestigious Tapling Medal for his work 'Cape of Good Hope: 1882 to 1884'. This was followed in 2014 by being invited to become a signatory of the Roll of Distinguished Philatelists.

Robert passed away on 25th September 2019 and will be deeply missed by all who knew him. Philately has lost another Giant.

Based on Simon Solomon's obituary in the Cape and Natal Philatelic Journal No. 92.

Steven Gardiner 1959-2019

Steven was born in Port Elizabeth on 18th April 1959. He obtained a commercial business degree from University of Port Elizabeth and settled down in the same town and later in Cape Town where he had just retired. Many collectors worldwide of southern Africa have undoubtedly had contact with him since he widely traded on eBay under the name 'algoast.' Steven has in the past been a member of the PSGSA. His main collecting interests were the early postal history of Swaziland and Basutoland; the latter received a Gold SAPDAPEX 2017. His Basutoland exhibit has been published by Volker Janssen (www.janssenstamps.com) and is still available.

Steven died on 6th September 2019 at a too young age, after several years of poor health, from a massive stroke. We extend our condolences to his large family and wife. We will all be missing 'algoast.'

Based on obituary in the South African Philatelist, October 2019

Bechuanalands and Botswana Society

It is with regret that we have been notified that the BBS has ceased to exist, the Runner Post will no longer be published, and their website will be closed. A total of 102 issues of the journal appeared since 1984 with a total of 2467 pages. The later years have seen a dwindling membership and little interest in contributing to the society and the journal. The result had been that the operations were completely left to the only remaining society officer - the editor - that eventual had to call it a stop. The Bechuanaland Society and the Runner Post will be missed. RIP

Botswana Government Printed Envelopes: Update

by Gordon Smith

The following markings are added to the typology of 'On Botswana Government Service' (OBGS) envelopes described and illustrated in No. 89 of this journal.

Please feel free to provide additional thoughts and information related to the development of this typology. The author can be reached at gs@postalhistory.ca

OBGS Type NssL04
OBGS Type UsS04
OBGS Type NssU014
OBGS Type UsS05
OBGS Type NssU015

OBGS Type NssL04	On Botswana Government Service
OBGS Type NssU014	ON BOTSWANA GOVERNMENT SERVICE
OBGS Type NssU015	ON BOTSWANA GOVERNMENT SERVICE
OBGS Type UsS04	ON BOTSWANA GOVERNMENT SERVICE
OBGS Type UsS05	ON BOTSWANA GOVERNMENT SERVICE

The Philately of Sub-Saharan Africa

by Moody Tidwell

The death of the famous explorer David Livingstone in 1873 began a scramble to open Africa by the famous and infamous. Some came for commerce, others for power. According to Packenham¹ “governments were reluctant to intervene but to most people there seemed a real chance of missing something. Africa was a lottery and a winning ticket might earn glittering prizes.” What followed rarely went well. The philately of Africa, especially sub-Saharan Africa, is a compelling and fascinating story of the continent.

Long before Livingstone the earliest South Africans were the hunter-gatherer San (Bushmen) and the pastoral Khoekhoe (Hottentots), collectively the Khoisan. Both lived on the southern tip of the continent for thousands of years before written history began with the arrival of European seafarers making this country an archaeological treasure chest.²

Jan van Riebeeck and his 90 men landed at the Cape of Good Hope in 1652 to develop a vegetable garden to serve the Dutch East India Company’s eastern trade route. The British took the Cape from the Dutch in 1795. Seven years later the colony was returned to the Dutch, only to come under British rule again in 1806. By the second half of the 18th century, the colonists, mainly of Dutch, German and French Huguenot stock, had already begun to develop into the Afrikaner nation. Following the arrival of philanthropist missionaries (from 1806) and the emancipation of slaves (in 1834), about 12,000 discontented Afrikaner farmers, or Boers, uprooted and moved north and east: this was to be known as the Great Trek. All of these events are memorialized in the extensive philately of the Colonies of the Cape of Good Hope and Natal (British territories) and the Transvaal and Orange River Colony (Afrikaner or Boer territories). At one time or another the territories of near fifty other entities in sub-Saharan Africa were under the control of the British or Afrikaners. All developed postal systems and were stamp-issuing entities. Following the Anglo-Boer War (1899-

1902) the four principal Colonies united as the Union of South Africa (1910-1960) and in 1961 the country evolved to become the Republic of South Africa. An example of the most well-known issue of the War are the stamps produced by Colonel Robert Baden-Powell when his troops were under siege for 217 days by the Boer forces at a small town called Mafeking in north-western South Africa.

During this period the stamps issued by two British colonies usually featured the current monarch or a local symbol. The most well-known of the Cape of Good Hope is the “Seated Hope” depicted on a number of triangular stamps. Later Cape stamps also featured “Hope” but in the familiar rectangular shape, some with overprints.



Not to be outdone the postal officials at Natal first issued embossed stamps, similar to the early embossed issues of England. Within a few years Natal, too, introduced the usual printed rectangular format values.



The English and Transvaal Boer Republic in 1886-1901 issued hundreds of easily forged stamps of common designs for the Nieuw Republiek (L) and siege of Pietersburg by English forces (R).



The Orange Free State also issued a large number of stamps with a common “Lemon Tree” design and countless overprints. Later in the Anglo-Boer War they were overprinted V.R.I. to signify British Occupation.

On May 31, 1910 the Union of South Africa joined the former Colonies of Cape of Good Hope, Transvaal, Orange Free State and Natal into Provinces and assumed stamp-issuing responsibility for all four. The first stamp of the Union was a commemorative of the Opening of Parliament on November 10,

1910. South African planned to use the likeness of King Edward VII but his death on May 4th of that year caused a frantic scurrying to replace his likeness with that of King George V. Twenty million oversize bi-lingual English and Dutch copies were produced in London.



In January 1911 designs were sought for the first definitive issues of the Union. Competition was fierce and essays of a British printer De La Rue were finally selected. Fifteen bi-lingual values from ½d. to £1 were eventually printed over a period of a few years, from September 1913, depicting the head of King George V.



Between issuance of the 1910 commemorative and late 1913 remaining stamps of the previous four Colonies were made valid for use in any Province. This gave rise to a new collection class of “Interprovincial” usage.



Coil and booklet stamps followed shortly thereafter and the first Air Mail stamps in the British Empire were issued in 1925. In 1926, again following keen design completion the second

set of bilingual definitive and pictorial values were printed in London and issued in 1926. South Africa iconic views were selected. Wanting to produce its own stamps the Government Printer in Pretoria undertook to produce the same stamps a year later, in 1927, using the London plates. The stamps are usually collected in horizontal bilingual pairs.

One of the challenges, and joys, of collecting the stamps of sub-Saharan stamps and Postal History is that they have been studied extensively and varieties, shades and errors are plentiful and usually easy to locate. Further the value of the South African Rand is 14/1 to the U.S. Dollar making the philatelic material very reasonably accessible to the average collector. The major catalogs list only ±200 Union stamps issued.



There are also listings of other definitive, commemorative and war-time issues up until the creation of the Republic of South Africa in 1960. The first Republic issues were repeats of the last Union definitive set but with values changed to Rand Cents (d. to c). The thousands of Republic stamps display the full history of that country including the issues of the onetime “Homelands” of Bophuthatswana, Ciskei, Transkei and Venda. Other Southern Africa countries include Botswana, Bechuanaland, Lesotho, Malawi, Nyasaland, Mozambique, Namibia and South West Africa, Rhodesia, Rhodesia and Nyasaland, Zululand, Swaziland, Zambia, Northern Rhodesia, Zimbabwe and Southern Rhodesia. All printed revenue stamps, coils, booklets and official issues.

For further information please go to ‘www.PSGSA.org’ the website of the Philatelic Society of Greater Southern Africa, an organization of world-wide philatelists dedicated to assisting

1 The Scramble for Africa, 1876-1912. Pakenham, Thomas. Ran-
 2 dom House, New York, 1991
www.medioclubsouthafrica.com



GB Wrappers Addressed to Reverend William Marcus Falloon, Nairobi, British East Africa

by John K. Courtis FRPSL

There are two known post office postal stationery wrappers from London addressed to the Reverend Falloon, Nairobi, British East Africa. At first blush these wrappers appear to have been addressed to different persons, but the recipient is one and the same. The top wrapper (Figure 1) is the 1902 ½d blue-green issue of King Edward VII, posted in London from the Foreign Branch (F.B). The lower wrapper (Figure 2) is the 1904 ½d yellow-green King Edward VII, posted from the East Central District E.C./I/M, (M = morning) post office. Neither wrapper shows transit or arrival markings which is normal for newspapers sent in sealed mail bags, but frustrating from a postal history perspective.

British East Africa

British East Africa or the East Africa Protectorate was an area in the African Great Lakes roughly the same size as the present-day Kenya. While it was technically part of the dominions of the Sultan of Zanzibar, it was under the control of Britain because of British commercial interests in the 1880s. When the

Imperial British East Africa Company began to fail, the British government proclaimed a protectorate on 1 July 1895 with the administration first held by the Foreign Office. In 1902, the administration was transferred to the Colonial Office with Uganda incorporated as part of the protectorate. It remained a protectorate until 1920 when it became a colony of Kenya, except for the coastal strip which became the Kenya protectorate under the sovereignty of the Sultan of Zanzibar.

In 1897, Lord Delamere, the pioneer of white settlement, arrived in the Kenya highlands. He was impressed by the agricultural possibilities in the area. This led to an extension of the boundaries of the Protectorate to include this area and a land grant to promote white settlement in the Highlands. Extensive farming commenced and in 1905 a large number of settlers arrived from England and South Africa. The capital was shifted from Mombasa on the coast to Nairobi. A governor was appointed and by 1919 the European population was estimated to be 9,000 settlers.



Figure 1. Addressed to Rev. W. W. (sic) Falloon, Bishopsbourne, Nairobi, British East Africa, circa 1904



Figure 2. Rev. Marcus Falloon, Nairobi, British E. Africa, circa 1906

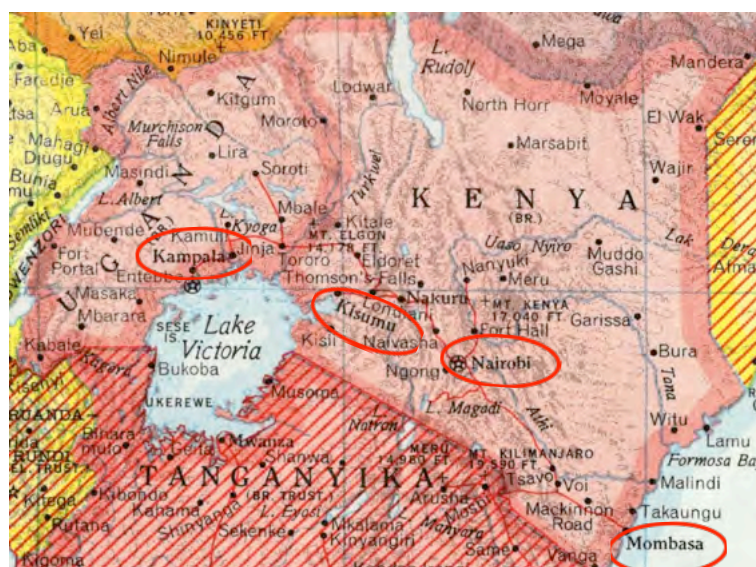


Figure 3. Topographic overview map of the area of interest showing Kampala, Kisumu, Nairobi, and Mombasa



Figure 4. Mombasa harbor

Uganda Railway

The Uganda Railway began at the port city of Mombasa in 1896 and finished in 1901 at the line's terminus, Kisumu, on the eastern shore of Lake Victoria. Despite its cost, the railway was a huge logistical achievement and became strategically and economically vital for both Uganda and Kenya. Disassembled ferries were shipped from Scotland by sea to Mombasa and then by rail to Kisumu where they were reassembled and provided a service to ports on Lake Victoria. A seven-mile line between Port Bell and Kampala finally linked the Ugandan capital and the open sea Mombasa.

The Reverend Falloon

William Marcus Falloon was born in 1872 in Chester, England. He received a BA in 1894 and an MA in 1907, both degrees from the University of Cambridge. He was ordained a priest in the Church of England in 1897 and was chaplain of the Nairobi mission from 1904 to 1911. He served in World War I as a chaplain. After the war he returned to England and served in a few parishes, eventually becoming Vicar of St. Paul's Anglican Church, Chatham, Kent from 1919 to 1931.

Bishopsbourne, the address on the Daily Mail wrapper, was the episcopal residence of the Archbishop of the Anglican Church in Nairobi. It was located on State House Road beside Government House. This was the home of the Reverend Falloon and his wife.

Rates and Content

In both cases, the concessionary rate for newspapers and printed matter was paid for the first weight scale of $\frac{1}{2}$ d up to 2 ounces. With regard to the first wrapper, the contents are identified as the newspaper The Daily Mail. This morning daily newspaper, founded in 1896, was published in London. Historically the paper has been known for its independent editorial stance and coverage of foreign news, such as the Dreyfus affair in France (1894–1906) and the South African War (1899–1902). The paper also syndicated news, features, and pictures to newspapers in other countries. It is likely to have been a newspaper of choice of Rev. Falloon in the early years of his posting to Nairobi in order for him to keep up with English and foreign news.

Of the two wrappers, the content of the second wrapper is more difficult to determine. It is certainly not a copy of a traditional newspaper because of its narrower size and compact folding. The postmark East Central District of London identifies the sender's location and implies it is to do with the financial sector of London, the area being well served with stockbrokers and banking. The East Central District was also home to a number of religious missionary orders. For example, the Christian Mission grew out of the East London Special Services Committee, a group of Christian businessmen who did evangelistic work in the East End of London. The London City Mission, the East London International Church of Christ and the Church Missionary Society were also headquartered in this area. It is this last organization that is especially notable because William Marcus went to British East Africa with the Church Missionary Society (CMS). This Society was born out of the evangelical revival in the Anglican church and was an independent society within the Church of England. It is highly probable that the CMS was the sender of the second wrapper and that the contents could

easily have been a religious-based newsletter of relevance to missions.

Route

The dilemma for postal history analysis in ascertaining the route without supporting postmarks and arrival markings is that the post office could adopt one of two postures. Bulky newspapers paid for at the concessionary rate could be sent by the cheapest and therefore the most profitable means. This would imply the use of a Royal Mail steamer from Southampton to Aden, and beyond. The alternative posture was that mails should be sent by the fastest possible means. Based on the Post Office Guide for 1910 (earlier issues were not available), correspondence for British East Africa and Uganda was dispatched on intervening Fridays by British Packet to Aden for onward transmission by first opportunity. It is not clear whether this is a directive via Southampton or via Brindisi although it is suspected that Brindisi was the routing. If indeed Brindisi, the route from London to Calais was by train and mail ferry, linking with the fast train to Brindisi, connecting with one of the P&O fast mail steamers to Port Said, transshipment through the Suez Canal to Aden, transshipment again along the east coast to Mombasa. The Uganda Railway then took the wrapper the remaining way to Nairobi. Total transit time cannot be calculated for these wrappers.

Summary

Two King Edward ½d 1902 and 1904 issued wrappers from London, England sent to the Reverend Marcus Falloon, Nairobi, bring to life early British participation in the “Scramble for Africa” in the interior of British East Africa. The Uganda Railway was built a few years before the arrival of Marcus Falloon and opened up colonial settlements, farming and trade. Nairobi flourished when the capital was shifted from the coastal Mombasa to the cooler highlands. As the European population increased, missions and churches were built in Nairobi. The Reverend Marcus Falloon came out to Nairobi in 1904 under the auspices of the Church Missionary Society and lived in Bishop-



Figure 5. View of Uganda Railway

bourne next to Government House. He was chaplain between 1904 and 1911 before returning to England.

Endnote

The Falloon family surname extends over several continuously unbroken generations entering the clergy. The Rev. Daniel Falloon had a son, Rev. Marcus (b. 1788). Marcus had a son, Rev. William Marcus (1814-1891) whose son, Rev. William Hugh was the father of a second Rev. William Marcus (b. 1892), the recipient of the two wrappers

Acknowledgement

Sheila Mackenzie sleuthed the Falloon family and edited the final version of the paper and I thank her for her time and effort.

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EdithFurley&Marcus%20Falloon%20%20prf3.pdf

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Characteristics of the Kośniowski Catalogue of Postal Stationery Newspaper Wrappers

Reviewed by John K. Courtis FRPSL

Philatelists and stamp collectors prefer to collect against a catalogue. In other words, a catalogue proxies as a Want List and collectors can cross off their acquisitions and identify what they are still chasing. The recently published Kośniowski postal stationery newspaper wrapper catalogue will serve postal stationery collectors well in this regard. The three volume 1,265-page work includes every known post office postal stationery wrapper issue worldwide and is the first of its kind to focus exclusively on post office wrappers. Profusely illustrated in colour throughout on good quality chalk paper it is a scholarly, comprehensive and carefully crafted chronological listing of the issues of each country, alphabetized, with values of mint and used expressed in Great Britain pounds. It replaces the wrapper sections of previous catalogues of postal stationery, corrects mistakes and adds items not previously recorded and their varieties. The detection of layout varieties where other printing appears on the wrapper in addition to the indicium is a strength of the work. Kośniowski was by profession a printer of some renown, and his skill in analysing text layout and revealing differences is an eye-opener. This review of the catalogue is presented under different headings.

Comprehensiveness

Those who collect post office postal stationery wrappers have not been given much help by previous postal stationery catalogues. The current world standard is the Higgins and Gage (H&G) Catalogue of Postal Stationery of the World. Wrapper listings appear throughout the 18 sections, all of which are needed for reference for a worldwide collector. Images of indicia are in black and white, smaller than actual, and a challenge in some cases to reconcile with the listings, which in turn are now known in some cases to be incomplete. Country catalogues are better informed, especially with varieties, but unless one seeks to compile a library of these catalogues, the H&G catalogue becomes the default catalogue for worldwide collectors. It is normally the 'go to' catalogue for sellers in identifying the "E" and "KE" numbers used to code wrappers. The new catalogue has started afresh, referencing but not slavishly copying previous works. Kośniowski has challenged the order of issue in many cases and reset the chronological issue dates. All known post office issues are now compiled in one place, although the sheer volume required the catalogue to be presented in three separately bound volumes. For convenience, part one deals with countries A – F, part two with countries G – Z, and part three Great Britain. Each part, in perfect binding, has a bright yellow cover with an illustration of a wrapper and its newspaper contents: A shows an ornate Cape of Good Hope The Argus

Weekly Edition (395 pages), B shows The Tasmanian Mail (454 pages) and C shows Great Britain The Echo on the first issue in 1870 (416 pages). The informed reader will be immediately aware of the rarity of the nature and quality of the wrappers appearing in these illustrations.

Initially, the author intended to produce a catalogue of basic post office issues. He was prevailed upon to consider the inclusion of wrappers bearing private printing, hence one fundamental reason for the increase in pagination. The end result, which added probably a decade to the project, was a listing of all known private overprints, most of them illustrated regarding mastheads and other important printing detail. This section of the country listings contains official overprints such as specimen or OHMS (or its equivalent), stamped-to-order (for those countries where this service existed) and private overprints. Nomenclature misunderstandings of printed-to-private-order, stamped-to-order and private printing has been sidestepped by using a simplistic private overprinting. There are thousands of wrappers bearing private overprinting added by printers to customers' requirements after post office stock or private stamping on customers' own paper had been acquired from the post office. No known listing of these private overprintings has appeared in the literature prior to this catalogue and will be a boon to collectors of this material. As an aside, it is worth noting that private overprinting does not create a variety for postal stationery purposes unless the overprinting was done by the post office before delivery to the customer. No catalogue can ever hope to be complete because previously unrecorded private overprinting wrappers are appearing on the market at the rate of about 20 per month. Once usage of the catalogue has reached dedicated collectors of this material, undoubtedly new 'finds' will make an appearance.

Values

Values are a characteristic that is a vital component of a catalogue. If the values are unrealistic, the credibility of the catalogue suffers accordingly. In the case of the Kosniowski catalogue, values have been assigned to mint and used copies, expressed in British pounds. They are realistic and based on current realized values, making the values appearing in older catalogues outdated and irrelevant. Although not perfect, they are a very close approximation of what a buyer should expect to pay for a copy of the item. And, it is hoped, they will stabilize the pricing that sellers place on items. There are too many instances where sellers place uninformed and unrealistic values on items, witness recent examples of Heligoland on eBay with asking prices more than ten times 'normal'. One of the worst

cases of price disparity is in the selling of Specimen overprints on wrappers. All things being equal, one specimen wrapper is identical to another specimen wrapper of the same issue and therefore should be valued at the same price. Not all specimen wrappers are identical in quality regarding their folds, storage deterioration, crispness, gum, and so forth and some variation in pricing is to be expected. But variations should not be to the tune of ten times the difference.

Marketplaces too, vary – for example, prices for wrappers on Delcampe are frequently higher than their counterpart wrappers on eBay. Some wrappers listed on eBay but unsold are flipped to the Delcampe site at eight to ten times the listing price on the former internet auction marketplace. In addition to the growing importance of the internet auction markets, there are traditional philatelic auction houses that are more likely to offer the high-end material. There does not appear to be any systematic and objective evidence in the literature about the realisations of these sales so the high-end pricing in the catalogue will need to be corroborated.

Values of wrappers sold at bourses and from stamp dealers selling directly to known buyers are not documented in any way that allows comparison with catalogue values. A suspicion, which cannot be proven with evidence, is that sellers in these circumstances sell at prices based on what the market will bear rather than resort to a number appearing in a catalogue.

Despite a caution about the representativeness of values that would apply to any philatelic catalogue (and perhaps a catalogue of other collectables), the values attached to items in the Kośniowski catalogue are an honest attempt to capture realistic contemporary values. At one point, the author said they represented amounts that he would be willing to pay for an item. He bought some 26,000 wrappers in the preparation of the catalogue, so he has an informed awareness of fair and realistic values. Nevertheless, without perfect knowledge of the quantity of extant numbers of each wrapper, values will be subject to change in light of fresh information. There are some wrappers that have never appeared on the market, the Maldives for example. As one dealer said to those of us sitting at the table at a Palmares award dinner, “We haven’t got a clue what value to place on some items, so we put on a high figure, state the item is rare, and wait to be told by collectors who know more than we do what is a more acceptable asking price.”

New Information

Kośniowski presents much new, previously unknown information in this catalogue. Some of it is in the nature of post office issues not previously recorded, Belize and Ceylon being examples. Much of it documents printing differences, especially with line variations of text within boxes. Other printing differences also emphasise variations in printing line alignments, and examples of Argentina illustrate (Kośniowski catalogue numbers 064, 065, 070, 070a, 071, 071a, 072, 072a, 073 and 073a, the a’s being type 3a). That these variations exist has not previously received catalogue status.

«Además del valor del timbre se cobrará un gravamen de DOS CENTAVOS moneda nacional por cada diez fajas».

Referred to as Type 2: V of CENTAVOS under d of Además

«Además del valor del timbre se cobrará un gravamen de DOS CENTAVOS moneda nacional por cada diez fajas».

Referred to as Type 3: V of CENTAVOS under gap between Ad of Además

«Además del valor del timbre se cobrará un gravamen de DOS CENTAVOS moneda nacional por cada diez fajas».

Referred to as Type 3a: V of CENTAVOS to the left of A of Además

Another example of new information is Belize Queen Elizabeth II 4c red. Not only has it been shown that the width of FOUR CENTS is printed in both 12mm and 15mm lengths, but that the text settings also vary. To emphasise the flavour of the catalogue’s presentation the following page extract is shown with the author’s permission. Not only are there text box varieties for this issue of Belize, there are text box differences for earlier and later issues.

The author’s keen printer/philatelist eye has concentrated throughout the entire catalogue on text box layouts and consequently there are now hundreds of additional printing varieties not previously documented in the literature. Country collectors will want to examine their country of interest to determine what additions have now been included in this modern catalogue that has employed technology to reveal differences.

1975?
Head of Queen Elizabeth, “FOUR CENTS” is 12mm wide. Text setting DLR10.

This wrapper may only be used for Newspapers or for such documents as are allowed to be sent at the Book-rate of postage, and must not enclose any letter or communication of the nature of a letter (whether separate or otherwise). If this rule be infringed, the packet will be charged as a letter.

Text Setting DLR10
o of to in line 2 below s, t of at in line 2 below centre of w



010 4c red 011 £5 £20

1981 January 15
Head of Queen Elizabeth, “FOUR CENTS” is 15mm wide. Text Setting DLR12 or DLR13.

This Wrapper may only be used for Newspapers or for such documents as are allowed to be sent at the Book-rate of postage, and must not enclose any letter or communication of the nature of a letter (whether separate or otherwise). If this rule be infringed, the packet will be charged as a letter.

Text Setting DLR12
o of to in line 2 below s, t of at in line 2 below left side of w

This Wrapper may only be used for Newspapers or for such documents as are allowed to be sent at the Book-rate of postage, and must not enclose any letter or communication of the nature of a letter (whether separate or otherwise). If this rule be infringed, the packet will be charged as a letter.

Text Setting DLR13
o of to in line 2 below u

011a 4c red (heading DLR12) £5 £20
011b 4c red (heading DLR13) £5 £20

One of the most notable country improvements is that of Ceylon. While a straightforward collection of Ceylon was around 25 post office issues according to earlier catalogues, this new catalogue shows 78 items that include 13 specimen overprints. To collect these additional examples is no easy feat because the intensive analysis of all text boxes has revealed 14 different types, some with subtle differences and difficult to detect without physical inspection of the actual wrapper. Any country that has text messages on its wrappers has been examined, and many previously unreported variations are now listed. As they are variations that occurred during post office printing (cliché differences) they are legitimate postal stationery varieties for inclusion in exhibits. Jurors will need to bone up on these varieties.

There are a number of countries that could be singled out for especial discussion, but suffice to examine two: USA and Great Britain. USA has 107 pages devoted to its issues and private overprints, of which the first four pages refer to the post office issues. The remaining 103 pages illustrate in colour the essential aspects of the printing overprints that show their differences. They are presented in strict alphabetical order and there are 327 illustrations. One improvement would have been an index of these names before the illustrations, a point that could be made for other countries with large numbers of private overprints such as Austria, Germany and Switzerland.

By far the most overwhelming contribution is the list of private overprints of Great Britain, so many that a separate volume was warranted. The separation of this material for a separate volume makes sense because it is likely to appeal to a collector base that wishes to specialize in that country. The numbering used in this part three is based on the traditional numbering of Huggins and Baker's 2007 book: *Collect British Postal Stationery*. The issues are beautifully illustrated with the QV sinuous lock and pendant curl in a bunch magnified for better identification as well as the stamped-to-order advertising rings that appeared on wrappers.

The real strength of this part of the catalogue is the 390 pages illustrating over 2,000 private overprints, covering post office issues and stamped-to-order wrappers overprinted for businesses or individuals. With so many illustrations it would have been a useful addition, as mentioned before, to include an index of the names at the beginning of the illustrations. Some entries show many detailed variations, the *Daily Mail* for example has 10 pages, Macmillan & Co. has nine pages, while W. H. Smith & Son has 16 pages and almost 300 entries.

Limitations

The question was raised by one serious and experienced philatelist that in this age of the computer and internet, why would anyone prepare a hard copy catalogue? It was argued that a web site could handle errors and additions quickly and efficiently. That is a fair point of view. The author has sought to overcome this problem to some extent by raising a web page which will list the changes necessary through errors detected in the listings. This web site will be available to those who buy the catalogue.

There is some indefinable thing about the tactile nature of books and their permanence and portability that attracts old school collectors. The author made work-in progress versions of the catalogue available over a number of years to some postal stationery collectors, and as a result this writer was able to develop a facility for working with a computer copy. Sometimes, however, there were feelings of frustration in needing to scroll through pages to get to the desired one. The printed pages allow for faster retrieval of information and a better overview of a country.

Another concern is that the catalogue listings do not indicate when postal rate changes were introduced occasioning the change in wrapper denominations. In a more generic vein, reasons underlying changes in issues have been left to the collector to find. This does not seem unreasonable. The reason for a colour change might have its genesis in post office sorting staff experiencing difficulty in differentiating indicium values. Another reason could be tied to Universal Postal Union regulations stipulating certain colours for domestic and overseas usage. Changes in postage rates is a very difficult question and probably an unrealistic expectation of all but a country-specific philatelic catalogue. One matter that perhaps could be considered is the date when airmail usage was introduced. This would contribute to an understanding of the appearance of higher post office wrapper denominations and explain why so many used wrappers have appeared on the market with uprates. It would also be helpful to know the dates when the post office discontinued selling wrappers so as to better identify late usages.

It could be argued that a work such as this should provide some indication of rarity. Rarity scales for wrappers that have never been seen or only one or two copies known could have been mentioned at points where the wrappers were listed. The values placed on these wrappers supposedly proxies a rarity scale. Nevertheless, a rarity scale would be a useful guide. For example, Argentina 1917 4c grey-green San Martin (048 Kośniowski and E44 H&G) is catalogued at £50 for both mint and used with only 136,000 printed. From an analysis of approximately 3,000 used copies of Argentinian wrappers, there was only one copy in this author's database. This wrapper is rare.

Strengths

This is the first catalogue that specialises in only one branch of postal stationery: worldwide post office wrappers. Every known post office issue of the approximately 140 countries and postal entities has been listed together with relevant illustrations of the indicia in colour. Varieties have been carefully identified and explained with illustrations to reveal the differences. Information not previously recorded in the literature has been added, especially printing variations of text line layouts. Issue dates have been carefully checked from different sources and there are some instances where dates have been added or changed. In short, the catalogue is comprehensive and includes official and private overprinting.

Having all relevant details for all wrapper-issuing countries and postal entities in the one place is a convenience not

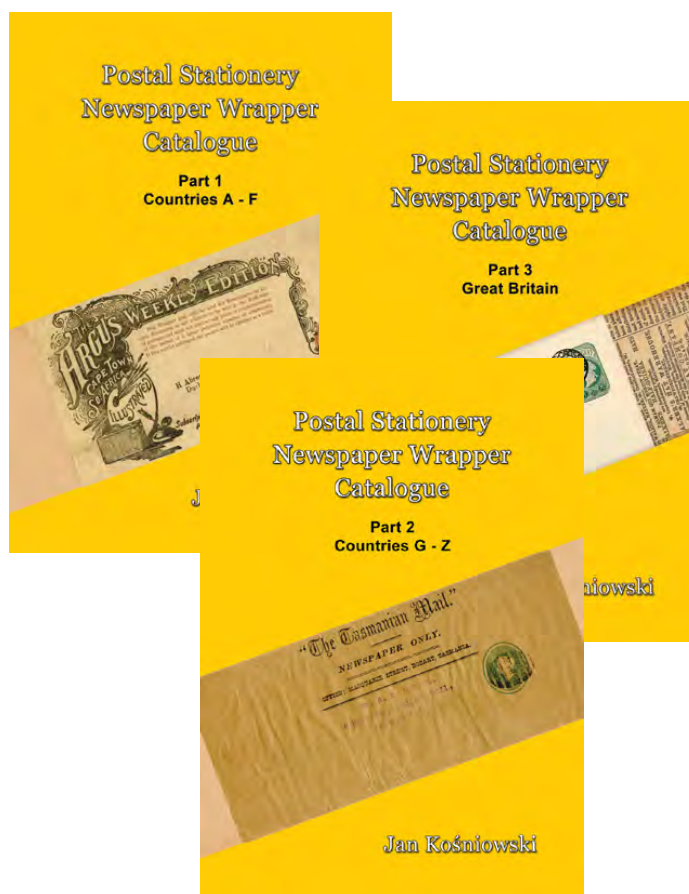
previously available. Although the one place has three parts, that too can be an advantage if only certain areas of the world are followed by collectors. Having contemporary values based on actual transactions adds to the credibility and relevance of the catalogue for both postal stationery collectors and sellers. Price dispersion will not be eliminated, but the catalogue values should be an influence in reducing the range of asked prices. Collectors will be able to see the extent to which listing prices vary from the catalogue and modify their behaviour accordingly.

For existing post office wrapper collectors and for those intending to take up this branch of philately, the catalogue is a must have. It reveals the population of issued post office types, and all the known wrappers with private overprints. It reveals the state-of-the art knowledge of this area of postal stationery. It is thoughtful, organized, scholarly, comprehensive and well-illustrated.

It is self-published by the author, costs £110 for the three parts (single parts can be purchased £40) and is available from him with methods of payment and shipping charges detailed at <http://www.stampdomain.com/catalogue/>. The author welcomes input from collectors regarding errors and additions.

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The reviewer can be reached by writing to acapjajc@friends.cityu.edu.hk



COLLECTABLE POSTCARDS

As a fund-raising endeavour for the 2021 International Exhibition, to be held in Cape Town, the next series of postcards have been prepared by the Organising Committee. The first of these sets was released in 2017. Official Postal Stationery showing a pre-printed 'Indica' of Standardised Postage. (Note: only 250 of these sets have been printed).

The postcards depict original artwork by Mrs. Julia Birkhead. This set of cards, sold in packs of 10 designs, are of indigenous birds. They were on sale at the East Rand 100 Exhibition held earlier in Benoni (4-7 September).

Now orders can be placed with Emil Minnaar by email: Emil@Minnaar.org.

The selling price per pack is R200 plus R15 (local) and R65 (Foreign) postage and packaging.



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The original watercolours by this renowned artist, generously donated by her, were sold on auction at the East Rand 100 Exhibition.

The Vermilion Ink Used by McCorquodale for the 1889-90 British Bechuanaland Registration Envelopes

by Peter Thy

British Bechuanaland emerged from the 1884 British military intervention (Warren Expedition) along the northern boundaries of the Cape of Good Hope to curb the Boer buildup in the Republic of Stellaland. The military expedition ended with the creation in 1885 of the crown colony of British Bechuanaland and the declaration of the protection over the northern inland frontiers of Bechuanaland. The postal service of British Bechuanaland issued their first adhesive stamps in 1885 and the first postal stationery in 1886. British Bechuanaland lasted only till 1895 when it was included in the Cape of Good Hope, leaving the vast northern area as a British protectorate.

The overprinting of British registration envelopes, prior to 1897, produced two British Bechuanaland issues. The first of these were the 1887 envelopes made by overprinting and surcharging British envelopes already embossed with a 2d blue stamp. The second, and the subject of this discussion, were the 1889-1890 registration envelopes made by overprinting and embossing a vermillion stamp on existing unstamped British envelopes. Both these series of British Bechuanaland registration envelopes were made using McCorquodale envelopes, including several different sizes (G, H, I, and K). McCorquodale & Co. at that time held the contract for the production and stamping of the British registration envelopes. It is, therefore, a reasonable assumption that they also produced the registration envelopes for British Bechuanaland.

Several other registration envelopes released in Bechuanaland were, however, produced by overprinting Cape of Good Hope envelopes. The earliest of these were done in 1886-8 also by using McCorquodale stamped envelopes, but in 1889 De La Rue stamped envelopes replaced the size G and H envelopes⁽¹⁾ Subsequently, the large sizes I and K envelopes which were only made by McCorquodale were discontinued. This pattern reflects the Cape of Good Hope registration envelopes.⁽²⁾ The first provisional overprinted stationery and stamps of British Bechuanaland and the Protectorate were overprinted locally by W.A. Richards & Son of Cape Town on existing stock of stationery held by the Cape Post Office in Cape Town.⁽³⁾

The early colonial government of Bechuanaland thus appears to have had two options for ordering new stationery (and stamp) supplies, either requesting these from the Cape Post Office or to request them via the Crown Agents of the Imperial Government. In 1887, and again in 1889, the Cape Post Office may have run out of sufficient envelope stock to be able to service the Bechuanaland Post Office. The orders, therefore, appear to have been placed with McCorquodale who presumably fulfilled the request at their Wolverton facility.⁽⁴⁾ This despite the fact that De La Rue at this time was the primary contractor for producing the Cape Colony envelopes and from 1897 also the Bechuanaland envelopes.

The 4d dies used for embossing the vermillion stamp on the flap of the envelopes (Figure 1) were dies normally used for embossing British stamped-to-order envelopes. These dies were made by De La Rue and held by the Inland Revenue Department at Somerset House.^(4,5) In order to make the British Bechuanaland envelopes, the dies must have been transferred to McCorquodale for the embossing.⁽⁴⁾ Two different dies were utilized; the stamp on the 1890 envelopes (die 1) clearly differs from that on the 1889 envelopes (die 4).⁽⁴⁻⁶⁾ The production of the envelopes involved first overprinting of the original envelopes with 'BRITISH BECHUANALAND' and 'FOR REGISTRATION ONLY' and then embossing the stamp under the arch of text (Figure 1). The ink used for the overprint was black, while the text of the original envelope was done with dark blue ink. The ink used for the embossing was vermillion. Both overprinting and embossing were done directly on the open flap of the fully folded and glued envelopes.^(6,7)

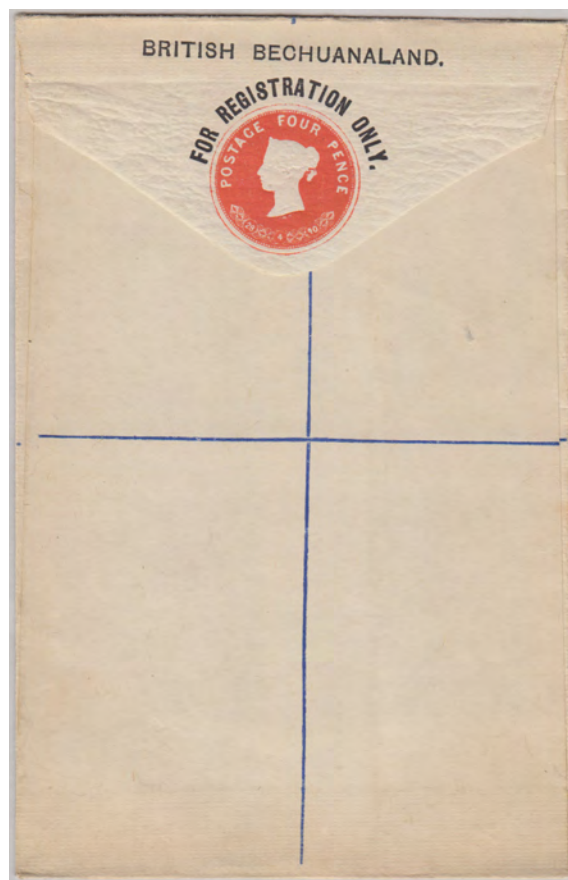


Figure 1. 1889 British Bechuanaland size G registration envelope with the 4d embossed vermillion stamp with date plugs 28.4.90. The overprinted text at top of envelope was done with black ink, while the envelope text was printed with dark blue ink.

The stamp dies were drilled at the base to allow for the insertion of date plugs. The British Bechuanaland envelopes are known with the dates 28.2.89 (envelope sizes H and K), 1.3.89 (sizes H and K), 2.3.89 (size G), and 28.4.90 (sizes G, H, and K).^(1,6) An essay with the date 28.2.89 exists done on a size G envelope with the 1888 British compensation instructions, not applicable in Bechuanaland, and lacking the overprinting. The first three printing dates are consecutive days from Thursday to Saturday. The dates thus record two printings, in 1889 and 1890, both producing all required envelope sizes. The 1890 printing appears to have been done with ink that often bleeds through the paper to the back.⁽⁶⁾

This study was undertaken in order to characterize the vermilion pigmentation of the inks used for embossing the stamps on the envelopes using a micro-X-Ray Fluorescence (μ -XRF) spectrometer and to see if the ink for the late printing differed from that used for the early printing.

Methods

The recent development of mobile and bench-top XRF techniques has allowed the non-destructive, spatial, and elemental distributions to be recorded at pixel-level resolution. In this study, the M4 Tornado Micro-XRF (Bruker Nano, Berlin, Germany) was used to obtain elemental distribution maps and area compositions^(8,9) of the embossed stamps and associated papers. Fluorescence radiation is generated at a voltage of 50 kV and a current of 600 μ A from a rhodium (Rh) tube which is optically focused to a spot size of 20 μ m, and detected by a silicon drift detector with a pixel acquisition time of a total of 15 ms (milliseconds). No filters were used. The resultant images are

collected in triplicates as 20 μ m spot sizes at a distance of 40 μ m using a movable chamber table. The operation was done without vacuum in order to reduce curling of the large glued envelopes (to 130-200 mm).

Quantitative compositions were obtained by accumulating the elemental counts over areas of 14 to 26 mm². The X-ray emission lines used were with high intensity at the K or L levels: ⁸⁰Hg L α_1 9.99, ²⁷Co K α_1 6.93, ²⁶Fe K α_1 6.40, ²⁰Ca K α_{1-2} 3.69, ¹⁷Cl K α_{1-2} 2.62, ¹⁶S K α_{1-2} 2.31 and ¹¹Na K α_{1-2} 1.04, all as keV. The only potential interference (Figure 2) is between S K α_{1-2} (2.31 keV) and Hg M α_1 (2.20 keV). Elements with atomic numbers (Z) below 11 cannot be detected with the micro-XRF, leaving out the important elements C, N, H, and O that are the building stones of organic material like paper, glue, and varnish (oils). The detection and quantification of Na (Z=11) may, furthermore, be questionable for atmospheric measurements used here. An example of the spectra collected in air is shown in Figure 2 for the pigmented area. Quantification was done using standard-less models for total counts and is reported oxygen-free as cation (Hg, Co, Fe, Ca) and anion (S, Cl) weight percentages normalized to 100 %. Other elements were not detected.

Four imprinted stamps were examined in details (Figure 3): the 1889 essay with 28.2.89 date imprint (A), 1889 stamp with 28.2.89 date (B), 1889 stamp with 1.3.89 date (C), and 1890 stamp with 28.4.90 date (D). The 1.3.89 dated stamp (C) was on a size H envelope, the rest were on size G envelopes. The 28.2.89 envelope (D) is a production error missing glue, except for affixing the inner linen, while the rest were complete with closing and flap glue.

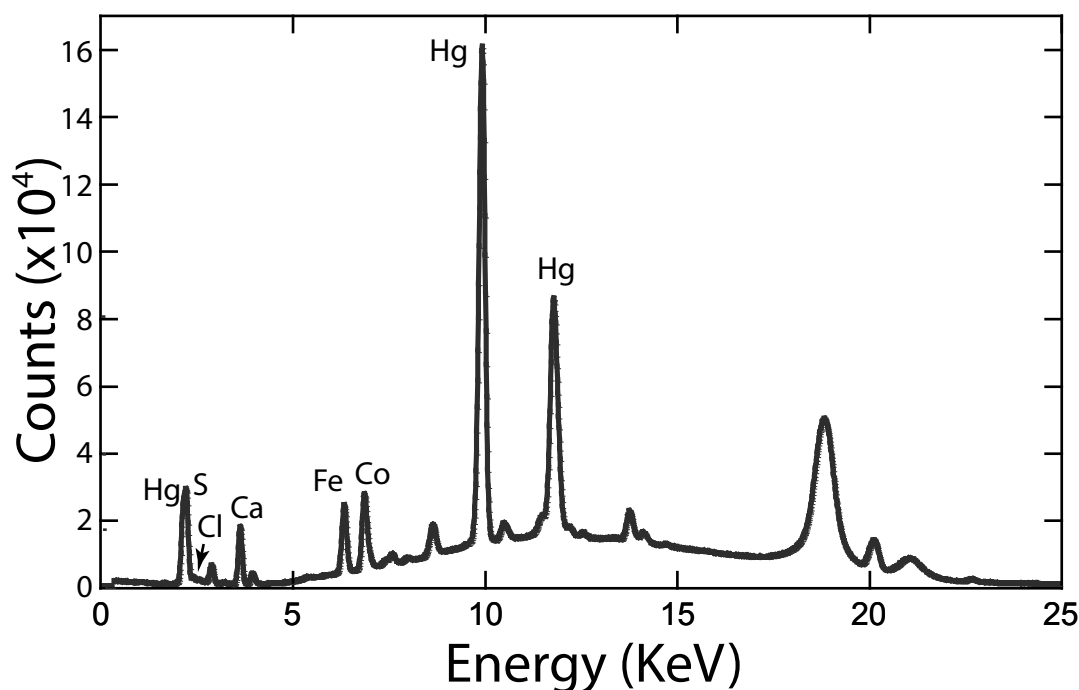


Figure 2. Typical XRF energy spectrum for the vermilion print area of the embossed stamp with date plug 28.3.89. The position of all elements (Hg, Co, Fe, Ca, Cl, S) detected in either the print or backing paper areas are indicated. The lumps above 18 keV are due to Rayleigh and Compton scattering.

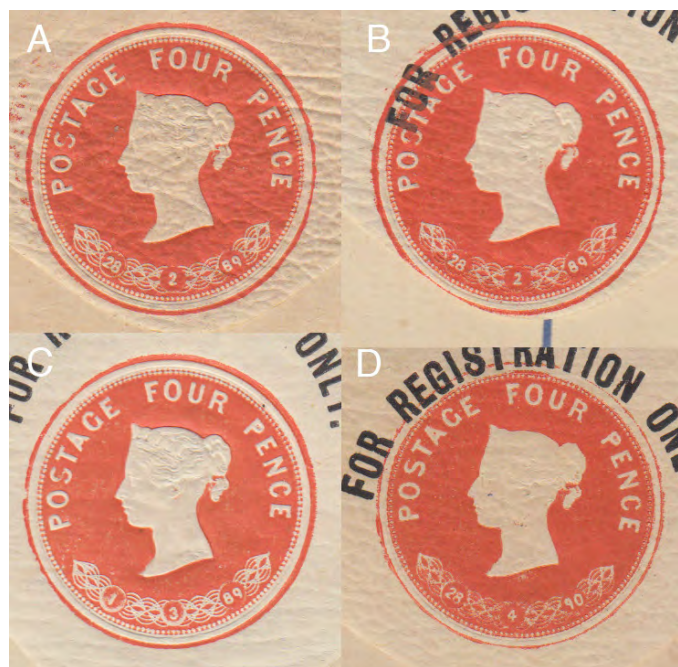


Figure 3. Four vermillion embossed imprints examined. (A) 1889 es-say with 28.2.89 date plugs; (B) 1889 stamp with 28.2.89 date plugs; (C) 1889 stamp with 1.3.89 date plugs; (D) 1890 stamp with 28.4.90 date plugs.

The envelopes were mounted in sturdy polyester (Mylar) sleeves during examination with cutouts for the areas of interest in order to reduce curling from heating under the X-ray beam.

Observations

The result of the elemental mapping is shown in Figures 4 and 5. Figure 4 shows that the only three elements confined to the pigment are mercury (Hg), cobalt (Co), and sulfur (S). These elements do either not appear in the paper or occur in concentrations below their detection limits. The colored fields stand out sharply without detectable bleeding into the surrounding paper. Figure 5 shows that three additional elements, iron (Fe), chlorine (Cl), and calcium (Ca), are largely confined to either the paper and/or glue, but are also detected in the inked area due to the penetration of the X-ray beam into the paper and possible the glue base.

Envelope

The registration envelopes have a composite multi-layered makeup of several paper and linen layers, the latter with associated glue in addition to a layer of glue for sealing the envelope on the back of the flap and also glue for closing the envelope on the reverse. The X-ray beam penetrated the pigment coating and into the paper and the flap glue at the very least. The scans at Figures 4 and 5 were done on an envelope lacking sealing glue.

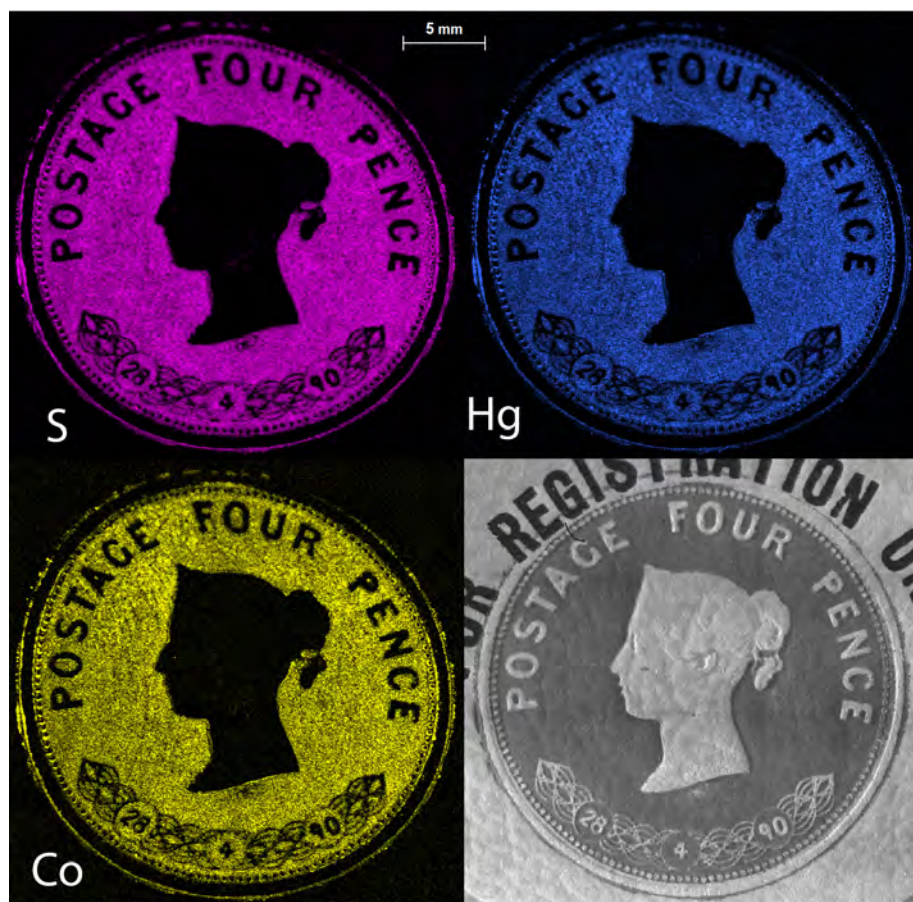


Figure 4. Elemental mapping for S (pink), Hg (blue), and Co (yellow) for the 1890 embossed stamp with 28.4.90 date plugs. The grey-shaded image is a video image of the same area as for the elemental maps. Scale bar is 5 mm.

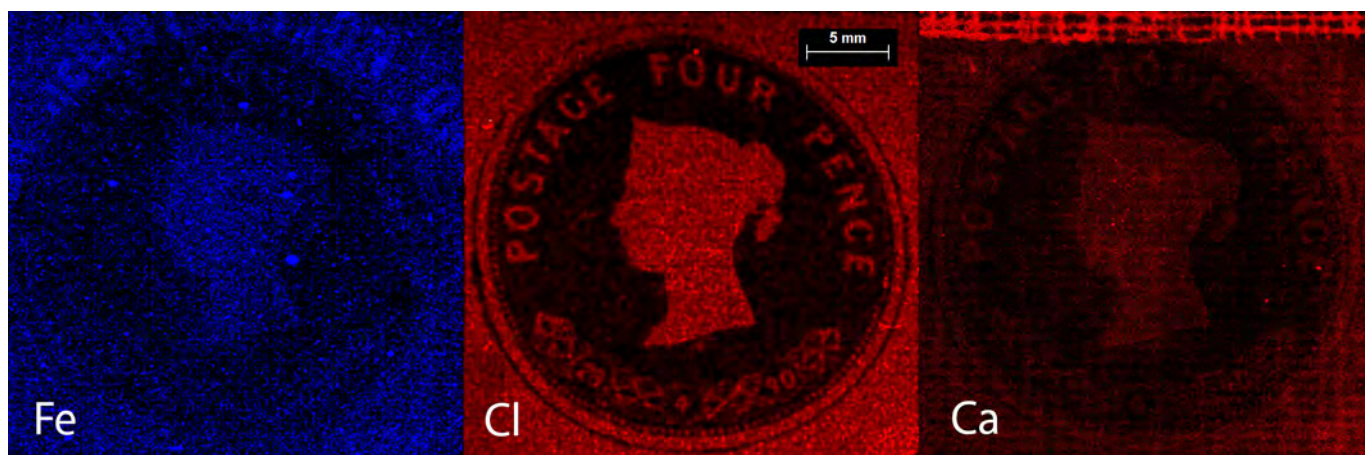


Figure 5. Elemental mapping for Fe (blue), Cl (red), and Ca (also red) for the 1890 stamp with 28.4.90 date plugs. The Ca-mapping shows the linen that has been bend around and glued to the back of the paper flap (see text for discussion). Scale bar is 5 mm.

This is the reason why the linen clearly appears on the Ca-map (Figure 5), whereas the linen does not appear for envelopes with intact flap glue. This restricts the penetration of the X-rays to below 0.20 mm (paper 0.15 mm and sealing glue 0.05 mm) of a total thickness for the folded envelope of 0.65-0.85 mm. The X-rays thus recorded a composite material of ink pigment, paper, glue, and possibly linen.

The linen is likely made from cotton composed of dominating cellulose. The linen was saturated in glue and press-placed on the paper. Cotton fibers have diminishing inorganic (or ash) content⁽¹⁰⁾ for which reason the Ca confined to the linen threads (Figure 5) must be related to the adhesive applied to the linen.

The adhesive commonly used in the United Kingdom at that time was gum Arabic,^(11,12) but possibly a starch-based (dextrin) glue could have been used, the latter often referred to as British gum. Gum Arabic contains about 3-4 % ash (on a dry basis) made-up mainly of 52 Ca, 24 Mg (magnesium), and 21 K (potassium) (wt. %).^(13,14) We can recast these ash concentrations to a gum Arabic content of 0.6 % Ca, 0.4 % Mg, and 0.4 % K that might probably not have been detectable on the X-ray maps. This suggests that what was detected with the micro-XRF was not the intrinsic inorganic components (ash), thus pointing towards the addition of precipitated calcium carbonate, or something similar, as a modifier to the glue, specifically in the view of the lack of other detected Gum Arabic indicator elements (K and Mg).

The nature of the paper used for the envelopes is uncertain. It is without watermark and probably, because of the large quantity required, a machine-made, low-quality wove paper. Around the turn of the century, rag- or linen-based paper had long been phased-out for industrial mass applications and widely replaced by paper, dominantly produced from wood by a process of chemical pulping. The indigenous content of inorganic components of wood (the ash content) is typical very low at <1 % mainly composed of Ca, Si, and K.⁽¹⁰⁾ Thus for the same reasons as the glue component, we can assume that the substantial content of Ca, Cl, and Fe observed in the envelope paper (Figure 5) were added during manufacture. The paper pulp is traditionally made (Kraft method) by cooking wood particles under pres-

sure in a watery solution of caustic soda (sodium hydroxide, NaOH), followed by water rinsing, and finally by treatment using chlorine components to remove un-dissolved lignin, leaving bleached cellulosic pulp for the paper production.⁽¹⁵⁾ To explain the high Ca content, fine-grained, precipitated, calcium carbonate must finally have been added as an extender to the pulp to cheapen the end-product. The globular dots, with elevated Fe distributed throughout the paper (Figure 5), may have been added as an iron contamination with the carbonate. It is perhaps a surprise that sodium was not detected despite being a prominent part of the paper production process. The reason could be attributed to the efficiency of the rinsing process or perhaps that calcium hydroxide was used for the cooking process instead of sodium hydroxide.

There are a couple of important observations that can be made for the multi-layered envelopes. They are made of alternating layers of organic materials that overall contains little inorganic components detectable with the micro-XRF. The main elements expected would have been Si, Ca, and K, but since neither Si nor K was observed, the indigenous inorganic components of the paper, linen, and glue mixtures were undetectable. This means that all inorganic elements detected must have been added during the processing: Ca to both glue and paper and Cl only to the paper.

Vermilion Ink

The remains of the ink are found as a layer of red pigment on top of, and partially penetrated into, the top layer of paper being terminated by the backing glue. The analyses of the pigment given in Table 1 represent a mixture of pigment and its backings made up of paper, glue, and linen. The elemental scans of Figures 4 and 5 suggest that the pigment is void of Ca (or that Ca only occurs in concentrations below detection level). This allows us to adjust the analyses to a backing-free (or Ca-free) basis by subtracting Ca, Fe, and Cl from the pigment analyses in proportions indicated by the Ca-content of the backing. The results of this first-order correction are shown in Table 1, calculated to a total of two cations and anions (atomic basis). This suggests that the pigment is made up dominantly of mercuric

Table 1. Chemical Analyses in the Ink Area and the Paper as Elemental Weight Percentages

Elements	Essay	As Issued				Average	
	28.2.89 N=2	28.2.89* N=3	28.2.89** N=1	1.3.89 N=2	28.4.90\$ N=3	Average N=10	STD N=10
Inked Area							
Ca	9.29	5.61		9.36	15.01	9.92	3.97
Fe	1.87	1.87		2.63	2.99	2.36	0.57
S	15.82	13.39		13.89	14.98	14.45	1.23
Cl	0.05	nd		nd	0.50	0.16	0.25
Hg	68.78	74.02		70.96	63.49	69.20	4.54
Co	4.20	5.11		3.18	3.02	3.92	0.95
Sum	100.00	100.01		100.01	100.00	100.00	
Surrounding Paper							
Ca	63.63	56.88	32.30	56.22	64.29	60.32	3.99
Fe	20.14	24.98	26.76	24.42	20.69	22.61	2.71
S	4.25	4.48	9.66	7.01	2.44	4.33	2.16
Cl	10.84	11.72	30.42	12.07	11.74	11.62	0.76
Hg	1.15	1.94	0.87	0.28	0.84	1.12	0.96
Co	nd	nd	nd	nd	nd	nd	nd
Sum	100.00	100.00	100.01	99.99	100.00	100.00	
Inked Area Corrected for Contribution from Paper and Glue&							
S	1.068	0.939		0.984	1.101	1.021	0.080
Hg	0.771	0.859		0.882	0.773	0.820	0.059
Co	0.161	0.202		0.134	0.126	0.158	0.034
Sum	2.000	2.000		2.000	2.000	2.000	

N, number of areas analyzed. STD, standard deviation at the 1 sigma level.

* Paper within backing glue.

** Paper outside backing glue.

\$ With gum missing.

& Ink analysis adjusted for contribution from backing paper and glue as described in the text and calculated as a total of 2 cations and anions.

sulfide (HgS or cinnabar) (fraction of 0.82 ± 0.05), with the remaining occurring as an unspecified cobalt compound. The correction procedure eliminates all Ca, Fe, and Cl from the pigment analyses; although the assumption that all Ca resides in the backing may lead to a slight overcorrection for Fe by 1.2 % and for Cl by 1.7 %, and thus that a small amount of Ca may actually be part of the pigment.

The early postal stationary catalogues variously refer to the color of the embossed stamps as vermilion⁽¹⁶⁾ or red,^(17,18) but more recent catalogues appear to refer to the color as vermilion.^(7,19,20) Vermilion is traditionally used to refer to dark red pigmentation prepared from mercuric sulfide or cinnabar.⁽²¹⁾ Vermilion pigment has traditionally been prepared from natural occurring cinnabar, but natural impurities and coexisting minerals (clays, oxides, quartz) made it difficult to extract pure cinnabar from the natural ore. The result is that most 17th or 18th centuries mercury-based pigment was synthetically produced either by dry firing a mixture of metallic mercury and sulfur or by a wet precipitation method.^(22,23) The observation of a very pure pigment, lacking detectable silica, alumina, and potassium, supports the idea that a synthetic pigment was used (Table 1). De La Rue used vermilion ink until at least 1901,⁽²⁴⁾ which corresponds approximately to the color change of the British ½d stamp of the Jubilee issues from vermilion to a green in 1900 as a result of changes in the U.P.U. color scheme. By the early 20th century, a cadmium-based red pigment was largely replacing

mercury-based pigment. Thus for stamps embossed in 1888-9, it can, as confirmed by the analysis, be predicted that these were printed using a synthetic mercuric pigment.

Cobalt occurs as an average of 0.158 ± 0.034 cations (or 13-19 %) in the vermilion pigment (Table 1). Vermilion pigment has traditionally been prepared by firing five parts liquid metallic mercury with one-part sulfur to temperatures of about 300 °C.⁽²³⁾ However, Co and Hg do not amalgamate and Co therefore probably did not originate as a pigment contaminant. Cobalt was most likely added by the ink-maker as part of a drying agent made up of a mixture of a cobalt salt and linoleate (oil).^(25,26) The Co-linoleate is known as an intermediate fast dryer, but manganese (Mn) and lead (Pb) salts were also commonly used resulting in slower or faster drying, respectively, compared to Co-salt. The Co-salt used was probably a sulfate (CoSO_4 , or similar) since that would explain the excess sulfur sufficient to suggest a ratio of 1Co:1S, reasonably explaining the average observed 3Co:4S ratio. Cobalt sulfate has a characteristic red color, but is soluble in water⁽²⁷⁾ although no running of the pigment is seen when treating the stamp impressions with water. McCorquodale used the ink for stamping envelopes and thus was not required to print with fugitive inks. The reason also might have been as simple as a measure to reduce the production expenses of the pigment; although red burnt clay may, unknown to the printer, have served that purpose equally well and much cheaper. All possibilities taken into consideration, the

origin of Co was probably due to the addition of a drying agent by the ink maker.

The ink is a mixture of pigment and various organic compounds (varnish) selected to optimize properties of the ink, such as the ease of application and cleaning of the press, ink transfer, and drying and binding of the ink to the paper surface. Most ink would thus be made up of a color pigment, oils, resins, and additives.^(27,28) The solvent would most likely have been linseed oil with resin added to act as the glue that binds the pigment to the paper surface. This part of the ink is purely organic and would not be detectable by the micro-XRF method. Added to the ink could be extenders and drying agents that may be detectable, as seen by the detection of cobalt of the drying agent. The most common used extender was calcium carbonate detectable as calcium; but this appears not to have been added to the vermilion ink.

An auxiliary observation is that the ink used for the original printing of the envelopes (dark blue) contains a modest amount of S, while the ink used for the overprinting (black) contains a modest amount of Fe; no other elements were detected. Black ink was widely made from a mixture of oil and lampblack (charred oil).⁽²⁹⁾ Often indigo dye was added to tone the black ink. It is possible that the blue ink was based on indigo dye, since no indicator elements indicating commonly used blue pigments are observed. Around the turn of the century indigo dye was extracted from natural plants that may have contained small amounts of S.

Discussion

McCorquodale produced the Bechuanaland envelopes in two batches only 14 months apart, in 1889 and 1890 respectively, prior to annexation of British Bechuanaland by the Cape of Good Hope in 1895. An October 1888 requisition^(30,31) from British Bechuanaland ordered 4800 size G, 2400 size H, and 1200 size K envelopes. The 1890 printings are unknown, but judging from the amount of surviving 1890 envelopes may have been about the same quantity as the 1889 printing. As part of the equation is a 1890 UPU submission of 345 sets of stamps and stationery;⁽³²⁾ the majority of these from the 1889 printing with the exception of one odd envelope that received multiple specimen imprints placed on both sides of envelope.⁽¹⁾ It is thus possible that the 1890 printing arrived at the General Post Office in Vryburg after the shipping of the UPU submission.

The 1890 printing appears to have been done with ink that often bleeds through the paper to the backside.⁽⁶⁾ Since the pigment used in both 1889 and 1890 is similar, the differences must be related to either the use of a new batch of ink in 1890 or to the freshening-up of the existing ink.

The 1891 British Bechuanaland census excluded the 'native reserves,' but still allows us to estimate the population of British Bechuanaland at about 73,000 that can be broken down to 11,000 Europeans and 62,000 non-Europeans, with a predominance of female inhabitants. Of these, about 19,000 might, to a various extent, have been literate and thus potentially able to use the Post Office.⁽³³⁾ The mail statistics submitted by the postmaster in his annual reports to the colonial Administrator in

Vryburg suggest about 2,500 outgoing registered letter in 1888-1889, compared to 41,000-54,250 outgoing paid letters.⁽³⁴⁾

The farming community around Vryburg greatly expanded during the following years, tripling the use of registered mail to over 7,000 letters in 1894.⁽³⁴⁾ The main use of registration envelopes was for banking and legal correspondences (and some by stamp dealers and collectors). This further limited the part of the population using registration service. Based on these observations, it is probably a fair assumption that during 1889-1891, 10-15 % of the registered mail utilized the prepaid envelopes (~250-375, annually). Included into the equation must also be substantial, but unknown, sales to stamp collectors and dealers. The 1888 report from the Postmaster General thus states "... a number of stamps sold are never affixed to correspondence, but find their way into the albums of stamp collectors. When looked at from a business point of view each new variety of stamp issued represents a fresh source of profit" (p. 38). The Postmaster General illustrates this with the stamp sales at Vryburg, the main office in the Colony, which tripled from the previous financial year ending in August 1887. The collector sales thus appear to have been substantial judging from the fair amount of mint stationery envelopes existing among collectors and dealers today, but the available information does not allow any quantification.

The stamps and stationery of British Bechuanaland were also used in the Protectorate before and after annexation into the Cape Colony of British Bechuanaland in 1895. The European population in the Protectorate was very small, only amounting to about 1,000 (predominantly men) in 1904 and remained below 2,000 until after World War 2.⁽³³⁾ After annexation, the remaining envelopes were used in Bechuanaland Protectorate. The stock of the British Bechuanaland registration envelope was exhausted two years after annexation in Bechuanaland Protectorate in 1897, when a new design was introduced, this time produced by De La Rue.

We can make a non-qualified, but reasonable estimate that a total of 16,800 envelopes were embossed at the McCorquodale facility. These envelopes lasted for six years with an average yearly consumption of 2,800 envelopes, not considering a short extension for two years into the Protectorate. This consumption is rather similar to that of the pre-1887 British Bechuanaland registration envelopes, also done by McCorquodale by overprinting and surcharging. These British envelopes, with a 2d blue impression, were shipped in November 1887 to Bechuanaland as a total of 2,520 envelopes (1,680 size G, 460 size I, and 360 size K).⁽³⁵⁾ They probably arrived in the colony during early December 1888 and lasted for approximately 17 months until April 1890 by which time the first shipment of vermilion envelopes may have arrived.

The British vermilion 4d stamped-to-order postal envelopes were produced using the same set of four De La Rue dies in quantities that in 1863-64 amounted to 8,000 imprints during the year.⁽³⁶⁾ Despite the numbers are nearly 25 years apart, there is little doubt that the 1889-80 Bechuanaland orders for a total of 16,800 envelopes was, for McCorquodale, a significant order that may have required a new batch of vermilion ink. At this point in history, De La Rue had the contract for printing

the British adhesive stamps (including several in vermilion) and McCorquodale held the contract for producing the British registration envelopes (all 2d in blue). The alternative was the Inland Revenue Department at Somerset House that was producing the stamped-to-order postal stationery, including at least one printed in vermilion based on the same 4d dies as the British Bechuanaland envelopes. Since Somerset House supplied the dies for the Bechuanaland envelope, it is possible that they also supplied the required pigment or ink.

A detailed survey of the vermilion ink used by the three dominating British security stamp printers around the turn of the century may shed light on this issue. The Inland Revenue Department used the same 4d dies with vermilion ink from 1855 and continued doing this until 1913, when the Queen Victoria design was replaced by one featuring King George V. From 1855 to 1894, these impressions were done with a date stamp that uniquely identifies the production date. So for about 35 years the same dies were used with presumably several batches of vermilion pigment that may have been obtained from several suppliers. Some of these ink batches may contain components that can fingerprint the ink maker and/or the security printer.

Health Considerations

Some of the health risks associated with mercury compounds have been well known for centuries. Lewis Carroll undoubtedly used this knowledge in his 1865 children's fantasy *Alice in Wonderland* for the "Mad Hatter" character.⁽³⁷⁾ In occupational settings, such as a print shop, mercury poisoning can occur by inhalation of mercury vapor and fine dust particles. The chronic effects include neurological disturbances resulting in uncontrolled tremors and the deterioration of intellectual, cognitive,

and emotional abilities.^(38,39) With the present day knowledge of the effects of mercury on the human health, it is of interest to ask the question if the print workers at McCorquodale were being slowly poisoned from producing the Bechuanaland envelopes?

Embossing presses for producing stamped envelopes (Figure 6) had by the turn of the century evolved to high-speed, automated wonders that would imprint the stamp and ink and clean the steel engraved die in a few mechanical operations.⁽⁴⁰⁻⁴²⁾ All that was required, under perfect circumstances, was for an attendant to feed the paper, or in this case the envelope, into a guided position just prior to imprint and another attendant to retrieve the product for drying and stacking before the next envelope is placed in position. The machines were able to operate at high speed imprinting sixty envelope a minute or about 22,000 during a normal work day,⁽⁴²⁾ easily sufficient to produce the Bechuanaland requirement in three days in 1889 (from February 28 to March 2, Thursday to Saturday) or one day in 1890 (April 28, Monday). This type of press should greatly reduce the direct contact between the print worker and the mercuric ink. However, needless to say, the operation was not always perfect; the ink reservoir had to be refilled, the die had to be cleaned if over-inked, and the operation stopped if something else malfunctioned, such as a misplaced or missing envelope.

The risk for mercuric poisoning appears to have been a one-time 'Bechuanaland' event at McCorquodale, since the British registration envelopes at that time was imprinted with a 2d blue stamp. Further only a maximum of four print workers were involved and only for a total of four days over two years. Thus the effect of poisoning of the workers was probably minimal even considering that this was a time when ventilation, protec-

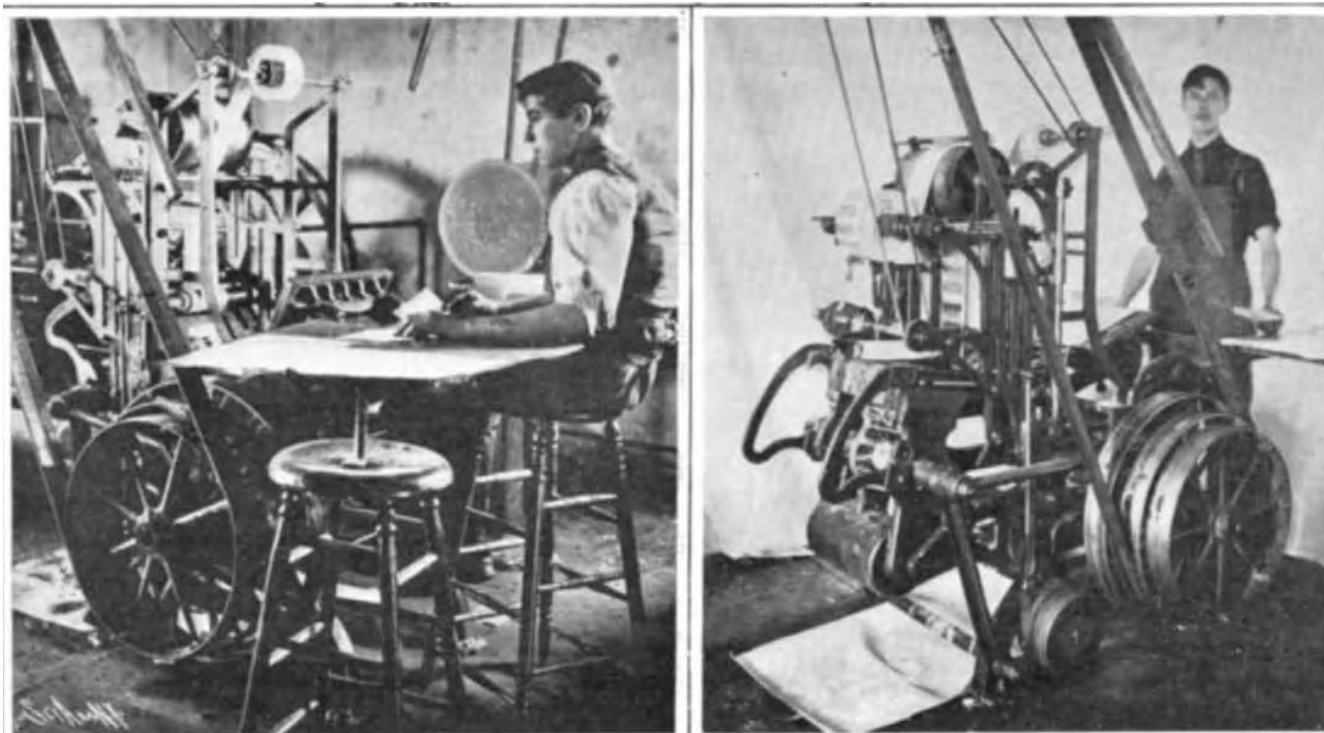


Figure 6. A 'new' press for printing and embossing stationery from steel dies described in 1906 *Scientific American* by A.F. Collins⁽⁴¹⁾

tive clothing, masks, and gloves were foreign concepts. Still the workers had to go home to their families and kids after a long workday with mercury remains on work clothes and skin. The largest occupational hazard may actually have been stress imposed by the high-speed presses lacking automatic envelope feeding and removal. The situation may have been more problematic at Somerset House, where the stamped-to-order stationery was printed. Despite similar working conditions, the workload was larger with what may have been a daily use of mercuric ink. This could have raised the level of accumulated exposure among the workers and their closest family members.

To place the printers use of mercury into perspective: In 1890, the U.S. consumed 1,200 tons of mercury per year, 800 of which were mined mostly in California, and the remaining 400 were imported.⁽⁴³⁾ The majority of the mercury was utilized for extracting silver and gold from mining ore and the remaining used for various commercial and industrial purposes: dental amalgam, felt production, thermometers, batteries, fluorescent light bulbs, chloride catalyst and other reagents, and grain fungicides. Many of these uses are now phased out or highly regulated; however, their legacy remains in our waterways, biosphere, and bodies.

Summary

The 1889-1890 British Bechuanaland registration envelopes were made by McCorquodale of Great Britain in two printings, using two different De La Rue dies on loan from the Inland Revenue Department. Premade McCorquodale registration envelopes were overprinted for use in British Bechuanaland with standard black ink. The dies used for embossing the 4d Queen Victoria stamp on the envelope flaps were British stamped-to-order dies. The vermilion ink used for both printings was made using synthetic mercuric sulfide with the addition of a cobalt sulfate-containing drier. It is estimated that a total of about 17,000 envelopes of three different sizes were produced over 3-4 days at the McCorquodale facility. They lasted for six years in the colony with an average yearly consumption of just below 3,000 envelopes. A significant amount of these went to the philatelic trade and collectors. The stock remaining in 1895 was, after the annexation of British Bechuanaland by the Cape of Good Hope, used in the Bechuanaland Protectorate where they lasted for two years before being replaced by De La Rue envelopes.

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Amendment to Vermilion Ink Article

After this article was first published in the Collectors Club Philatelist, comments by Wayne Munez raised a critical issue of who actually embossed the Bechuanaland envelopes. Wayne wrote "... you state the 4d dies were made by De La Rue. All Great Britain dies were made by the Department of Inland Revenue, and then loaned out to the private printers (initially, De La Rue, later others) for printing post office stationery. Inland Revenue printed all Stamped to Order (STO) items sent in by the public. As there were no 4d QV post office items of stationery ever made, it is extremely unlikely that a 4d die would have been sent to McCorquodale for printing the Br. Bechuanaland registration envelopes. And, they would have also had to send the vermilion ink, as no post office stationery used that color until September 1892 when a ½d rate was issued. It is probable that Inland Revenue was given the order to stamp the registration envelopes, and handled the order similar to any STO order. At the time, the working dies were drilled to take date plugs. The 4d was a seldom-used die, and between 1861 and their replacement by King George V 4d dies February 1903, only three 4d working dies were ever used, numbered 1, 3 and 4." Later Wayne agrees that the De La Rue "... in fact made dies from punches obtained from the Royal Mint, and later created them themselves. (...) I still think it is more likely that Internal Revenue was engaged to stamp the British Bechuanaland registration envelopes. As you note, the color matches that used in its STO work. Unstamped registration envelopes from DLR and McCorquodale were on the market, and in fact, some colonies such as New Zealand, first issued REs as formulars using them. It would have been simple for a supply of them to be purchased and sent to IR for stamping."

These comments clearly raise the issue that despite that the envelopes bear the imprint of McCorquodale, it cannot *a priori* be assumed that the stamp was also imprinted by the same company. McCorquodale envelopes were used for all early Bechuanaland registration envelopes from the beginning to the end in 1932, when De La Rue took over till 1966, when a single envelope again appears with a McCorquodale imprint. The early exceptions are a handful of envelopes between 1889 (Cape envelope that may have been overprinted locally) and a couple of 1897-1899 envelopes. Does this mean that the overprinting and embossing were also done by McCorquodale? No but that is the most likely scenario. It was McCorquodale who held the contract for producing the British registration envelopes from 1880. The reason was

simply the difficulties with printing on linen backed envelopes as well as the need for transporting the McCorquodale envelopes to the stamping department of the Inland Revenue services.

Supporting my argument is a recent surfaced (thanks to Steve Schumann) stack of the 1890 British Bechuanaland envelope with a wrapper similar to those found on later Bechuanaland Protectorate registration envelopes from 1907-1920, also bearing McCorquodale printer imprints. Bands on some postal cards overprinted by what is believed also have been McCorquodale have some design features in common. The question to the readers is thus if any have seen this wrapper band or similar bands on De La Rue or Inland Revenue products?



Forerunners Forum

BONC 270 Query

David Mordant writes from *david.mordant@shaw.ca* in response to **John Woollard's** query about the BONC 270. "I have done much work on BONC 6 (or is it 9?) of Wynberg and Plumstead and Ceres and come to the conclusion that they are identical, and used at the same time in different post offices. Thus I have come to the conclusion that more than one BONC 6 obliterator was manufactured initially, either erroneously by the BONC canceller manufacturer and sent out erroneously to two different post offices by the postal official in Cape Town. Or just maybe two instruments of each numeral was manufactured initially, with one being sent to the post office in question and one kept in reserve at the GPO in Cape Town. And in these cases of duplication at two different post offices, both were sent out, one possibly in error.

Thus I think that you could well be right that BONCs 270 at Venterstad and Laingsburg were identical. My one Laingsburg proving cover still measures a taller numeral than in either of my two Venterstad proving covers, but that could well be smudginess or mildly running ink.

With respect to 276 and Maritzani Siding, I do not have a proving cover of it. My information of 276 and used 9 June 1898 comes from Paul van Zeyl in South Africa – certainly a very experienced philatelist, but his proving cover may have been unclear or indistinct. With very kind philatelic regards."

S.A. Republic Proclamation Cards

Peter Melz writes from *peterjmelz@aol.com* to comment on **Tim Bartshe's** article on the South African Republic proclamation cards. "I would like to add some comments to Tim's article in the Forerunners #95. This information comes from the publication G. H. Jonkers and J. Groenwald, 'Die Machadodorp-briefkaart van die Anglo-Boereoorlog' published in 2006 and available from the Anglo-Boer War Philatelic Society. While this publication is in Afrikaans and is primarily devoted to the Machadodorp card (H&G 7), there is a chapter on the proclamation cards, the gist of which I obtained with the help of an on-line translator. With respect to the number 54 at the lower left of the proclamation cards, this publication claims it is a printer serial number for 1900 for the government documents. They further indicate that approximately 2000 ordinary ZAR postal cards were transported from Pretoria to Machadodorp, and these were used to produce the proclamation cards. They indicate that the 1/2p cards are 7 to 8 times more plentiful than the 1p cards. These figures roughly correspond with notes I have in my collection, source unknown, that there were 1800 of the 1/2p cards issued and 200 of the 1p cards.

Although not stated in the publications, it is my opinion that printing of the proclamation cards exhausted the supply of postal cards and motivated the printing of the Machadodorp card in June, 1900. The same mobile press was used to produce both these cards and the proclamation cards."

Tim Bartshe responds from *timbartshe@aol.com*. "Thank

you very much for your effort in the translations. I discussed the English versus Afrikaans with Joh Groenwald at the time the series was being planned. The opinion was that for the Boer issues it should be in the native language and the occupation issues in English. My point was not so much to honor the combatant's language but for use of the audience. If you only care about the South African philatelists then so be it but you are placing the main, numerically speaking, audience in the darkness and sales will suffer accordingly. Anyway, the analysis of the 54 is pretty similar related to the government notice for the year, there was another theory but I didn't think that it was correct and subsequent authors like Joh and Mathews went with the proclamation number.

As to the numbers issued/printed this makes a lot of sense as the 1d are quite rare while the 1/2d is fairly common. Say a 5 - 10% survival rate (the 1d being more likely to be dispersed overseas) that would make the 1d extant around 10-20. I have recorded 6 in my census. As to the production, if I did not mention this, it was an omission of thought or space. Yes all were printed by the mobile printing press on a car staked out at Machadodorp during this period prior to the capital being moved again ultimately to Pietersburg.

As to the various 'uses' mainly precanceled and actually used, let me know if you have found any other variations of cancels and uses. The printing seems to have been carefully done as I have not noticed any errors in printing."

Peter Melz continues. "Just to add to your census, I have 4 cards, all precancelled at Machadodorp 7 JUN 00. Two half penny cards have an additional half penny franking, a third half penny card with no additional franking, unaddressed, with a receiving mark of Waterval-Boven 8 JUN 00, and a single 1 penny card. Good to hear from you."

Available Journals

The Editor is in the process of disposing of old philatelic journals. These include Transvaal Philatelist, Rhodesian Study Circle Philatelist, South African Philatelist, Philatelic Literature Review, Philatelic Exhibitor, London Philatelist, and others. Contact me if you should be looking for anything.

South Africa Auction

The **South Africa Collectors Society's** next auction will be held at their Convention on the 17th May, at around 1.30 p.m. at the Strawberry Bank Hotel, Meriden.

The SACS has this time been entrusted by an experienced collector to dispose of his collection, which is as fine a collection as one could wish to find.

Any collector of South Africa, SA Officials, and South West Africa are invited to get in touch with the auction manager and he will mail you a copy of the auction list when it is finalized. There is some truly mouth-watering stuff and of course bidding from non-SACS members are most welcome to participate in the auction. Contact **Nicholas Arrow** by writing to *nicholasarrow@btinternet.com*.

Book Reviews



Uwe Albert and Hans Koppe, 2019. Mail in Occupied German Southwest-Africa 1914-1919. Arbeitsgemeinschaft der Sammler Deutscher Kolonialpostwertzeichen, 208 pages, soft cover.

The authors cover in this book the consequences of WWI on the mail service in German Southwest Africa from beginning of the war to 1919. The text is in large parts bilingual German/English so that also the non-German speaker can make most use of it. The South African occupation administration kept the postal service in their occupied territory running with almost no interruption. For this they made use of the existing postal infrastructure, including the use of the adapted German postmarks and even German forms. The listing of the used censor marks and sealing labels - always with illustration and a rating of rarity - form the first part of the book. The civil postal connections with foreign countries - especially Germany - for the second part. This is followed by around 100 pages about prisoner of war and internee mail. The book is a fantastic addition to the 2016 issued publication Catalogue of the adapted German postmarks in Southwest Africa after 1915 of the same authors. (Also still available!)

The book can be ordered from the Arbeitsgemeinschaft der Sammler Deutscher Kolonialpostwertzeichen e.V. at € 25 + € 8, international postage. Payment is also possible by PayPal. Contact: Harald Krieg, Keltenstr. 32, 41462 Neuss, Germany. Email e-mail: 2.Geschaeftsfuehrer@kolonialmarken.de to order.

Publisher's announcement.

Philatelic Books and Catalogues

Janssen Stamps of Simon's Town, South Africa, offers several philatelic books and catalogues that may be of interest to many of our members. Currently on his list are these books and catalogues that may not be easily available elsewhere:

Greg Allen, 2009. Cape of Good Hope Triangle Stamps 1853-1864

Eric Rosenthal, 1957. The Cape of Good Hope Triangular Stamp and its Story (2009 extended reprint)

The South African Stamp Color Catalogue 2019-20

Michel Südafrika 2018-2019

Robbie Schmidt, 2017. The Homelands Stamp Catalogue, In two Volumes

Robbie Schmidt, 2017. The Concise Stamp Catalogue of the Republic of South Africa. In three volumes

In addition to these, Janssen Stamps also publishes a long running series of Postal History Monographs under the imprint of Peninsula Publishers. The list has now reached 20 volumes. As shown in #95, there is four volumes that will be of interest to collectors of southern Africa. Most recently, a list of volumes in preparation was presented that included volumes on Bechuanaland and the Boer War concentration camps. All titles are available in print by contacting Volker Janssen. Visit www.janssenstamps.com for details.

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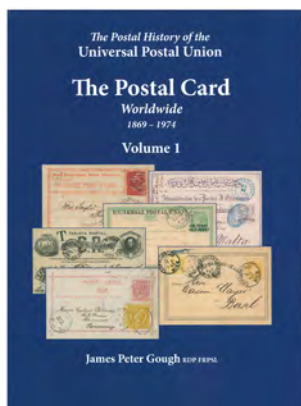
For the Record

393. ALGOAPEX 2020 S.A. National Philatelic Exhibition will take place in Port Elizabeth 14-17 October at the Boardwalk Hotel Convention Center. The deadline for exhibition is May 15.

394. The Philatelic Federation for South Africa (PFSA) is selling a set of 10 postcards with imprinted stamp to benefit the **2021 International Exhibition** in Cape Town. Only 250 set of these cards has been prepared that will not be available at the post office and probably also not at the exhibition. The price is R265 mailed to the US. The same set, but without imprinted stamp was sold at the East Rand 100 Exhibition in September 2019. See advertisement on page 42.

395. The Royal Philatelic Society of London (RPSL) has a brand new website up and running at rpsl.org.uk.

396. The RPSL has published a two volume monograph by **James Peter Gough** on 'The Postal Card Worldwide 1869-1974.' It is described as including '... philosophical approaches, rules, regulations and rates.' Can be ordered from rpsl.org.uk.

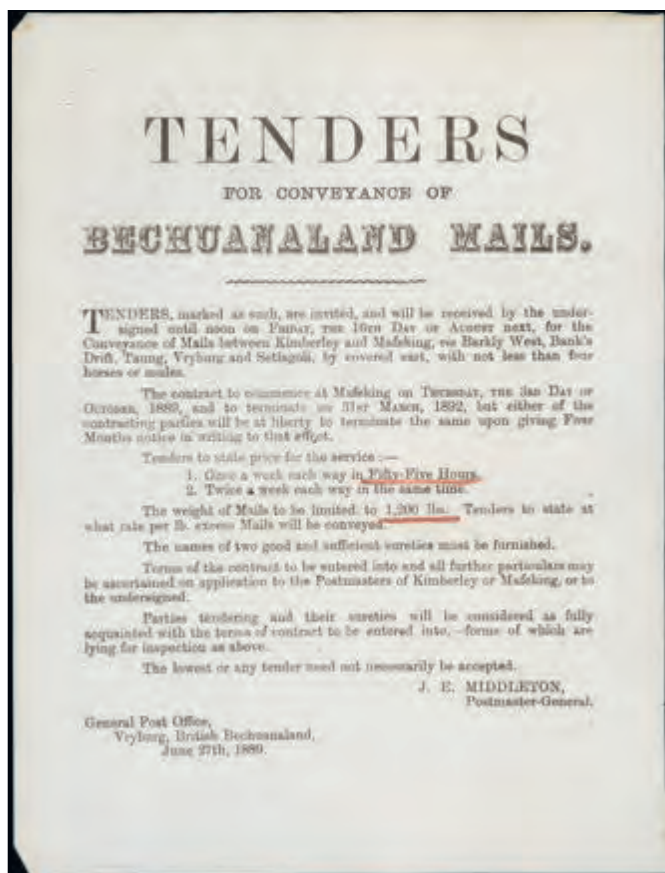


Heuglin's Robin

The white-browed robin-chat, also known as Heuglin's Robin, is 19-20 cm long and weighs 29-51g. The female is a little smaller than the male.

The crown and face are black, and there is a white supercilium over the dark brown eye. The back is olive grey-brown, with the two central tail feathers olive-brown, and the other feathers orange-rufous. The underparts are bright orange-rufous. The beak is black. Its natural habitats include riverine forest and thickets and also gardens.

See No. 394



See No. 397

397. Argyll Etkin is offering as part of their March Worldwide Stamps and Postal History auction. Including is some exceptional early **Bechuanaland** documents and **King Lobengula** letters.

398. Grosvenor sold in their November 2019 auction no. 132, two exceptional **British East Africa** collections belong to **John Wilks** and **John Minns**.



399. The PFSA has distributed an invitation to subscribe to a new monograph by **Derrick Byrom** on 'Zimbabwe Post Offices and Postmarks. The First Decades.' Contact johngroen@mweb.co.za for details.

400. The London Philatelist No. 1470 (November 2019) included an article that should be of interest to all philatelic writers and exhibitors: **Charles Oppenheim's 'What philatelists need to know about copyright.'**

Bechuanaland & Botswana Dealer Stock

Longtime Botswana stamp dealer and philatelic activist **Sheila Case** has retired to Oregon and want to dispose of her dealer holdings of mostly very fine used stamps and a collection of valuable Bechuanaland postmarks. The stamp stock is perfect for a dealer while the postmarks may also be useful for an experienced collector. Contact Sheila by writing to sheilacase23@gmail.com for further information.

Highlights from Journals and Newsletters

This regular column lists some of the more important articles on Southern Africa Philately and postal history that recently have appeared in other journals. It is based on our exchange journals as well as on those that by other means end up on the Editor's desk. If you find that some important articles are missing, please supply the relevant quotes.

- Barit, L., 2019. The 1984 Lesotho 30s butterfly stamp. *South African Philatelist* 95 (Whole No. 956), 156-159.
- Case, S., 2020. The Holmes Collection – its undetermined fate. *Runner Post* No. 102, 2464-2465.
- Cooksey, C.J., 2019. Alluvial certificates of registration. *Rhodesian Study Circle Journal* 69, 262-263.
- Cooksey, C.J., 2019. Mail from S. Rhodesia to prisoners of war in Germany and Italy. *Rhodesian Study Circle Journal* 69, 267-269.
- de Bourbon, A., 2019. Airletters of Nyasaland. *Rhodesian Study Circle Journal* 69, 289-292.
- Findlay, J., 2019. A revision of postal stationery and censor marks used in South African prisoner of war camp and internment camp in World War II. *South African Philatelist* 95 (Whole No. 957), 224-226.
- Gibbs, B., 2019. Adventures with the Penny Double Head. The terminal sufferings of the benighted 85B. *Rhodesian Study Circle Journal* 69, 249-254.
- Harrop, K. and Loomis, M.M., 2019. The Southern Rhodesia WWII Triangular censor handstamp. *Rhodesian Study Circle Journal* 69, 256-259.
- Hoffman, C., 2019. Mashonaland mails 1890. *Rhodesian Study Circle Journal* 69, 260-261.
- Jørgensen, L., 2019. Een handleiding tot de correcte identificatie van de 6d wapenschildpostzegels van de eerste Zuid Afrikaanse Republiek (Transvaal) deel 2. *FVZA Bartholomeu Dias* 31, Whole No. 124, 24-29.
- Kamffer, G. and Barnard, W., 2020. Revenue stamps of the Union South Africa: ASSIZE/YK stamps. *South African Philatelist* 95 (Whole No. 956), 160-164.
- Kamffer, G., 2019. Official correspondence from Paul Kruger as Commandant-General of the ZAR posted from Rustenburg in 1870. *South African Philatelist* 95 (Whole No. 957), 210-212.
- Klugman, K.P., 2019. Natal: additional Durban ship letter markings in the past decade. *Cape and Natal Philatelic Journal* 23, 239-244.
- Klugman, K.P., 2019. Natal: census of the use of the 1869 Natal provisional 'postage' overprint to Southern African destinations outside of Natal and Zululand. *Cape and Natal Philatelic Journal* 23, 268-281.
- Loomis, M., 2019. Mother Patrick and the Dominican Sisters in Southern Rhodesia. *Rhodesian Study Circle Journal* 69, 275-279.
- Lowther, K., 2019. Mail from South African soldiers in Angola traced beginning of the end to apartheid. *Kelleher's Stamp Collector's Quarterly* Whole No. 4, 73-77.
- Matheson, I., 2019. Entertainments tax in South Africa. *South African Philatelist* 95 (Whole No. 956), 179-181.
- Matheson, I., 2019. Entertainments tax in South Africa. *South African Philatelist* 95 (Whole No. 957), 214-215.
- Peetoom, O., 2020. Mozambique – Kionga and its elusive 1916 overprints. *Southern Africa Philately* Whole No. 14, 570-571.
- Peetoom, O., 2020. SA – postal rate increases, a concession and King's Head 'dues.' *Southern Africa Philately* Whole No. 14, 568-570.
- Peetoom, O., 2020. South Africa WWII labels and street flags – 'V' for victory. *Southern Africa Philately* Whole No. 14, 574-575.
- Peetoom, O., 2020. Southern Rhodesia – 1935 Silver Jubilee – First omnibus issue. *Southern Africa Philately* Whole No. 14, 554-557.
- Peetoom, O., 2020. Southern Rhodesia – 1937 Coronation – second omnibus issue. *Southern Africa Philately* Whole No. 14, 576-578.
- Peetoom, O., 2020. Steamers and gunboats on the Zambesi and Lake Nyassa. *Southern Africa Philately* Whole No. 14, 566-567.
- Peetoom, O., 2020. Tristan – postage rates, typewritten overprints and a rouge handstamp. *Southern Africa Philately* Whole No. 14, 562-565.
- Peetoom, O., 2020. South Africa 2d Union building with frame omitted. *Southern Africa Philately* Whole No. 14, 558-560.
- du Plessis, A., 2019. Chinese indentured mineworkers on the Rand – 1904 to 1910. *South African Philatelist* 95 (Whole No. 957), 219-

223.

- Ross, S., 2019. Postcards of the African Lakes Corporation. *Rhodesian Study Circle Journal* 69, 270-274.
- Solomon, S., 2019. CGH: Charles Davidson Bell and the Cape triangulars. *Cape and Natal Philatelic Journal* 23, 233-238.
- Sorour, V., 2019. RSA Protea series – how to identify the unidentified panes. *South African Philatelist* 95 (Whole No. 956), 182-184.
- Spivack, D. and Hoffman, C., 2020. The British South Africa Company, King George V Admiral series. Rediscovering the origin of the portrait. *London Philatelist* 129, 3-16.
- Spivack, D., 2019. The BSAC Admirals – a philatelic bibliography. *Rhodesian Study Circle* 69 (Supplement), 294-332.
- Spivack, D., 2019. Stanley Gibbons 2020 'Part 1' BSAC Admiral catalogue revisions. Summary of listing changes. *Rhodesian Study Circle Journal* Whole No. 276, 244-248.
- Stolk, J., 2019. Midland spoorwegverbinding Port Elizabeth-Graaff Reinet 140 jaar (1). *FVZA Bartholomeu Dias* 31, Whole No. 124, 12-18.
- TBVC Study Group (Heinz Wirz), 2019. Transkei – first definitive issue (3). *South African Philatelist* 95 (Whole No. 956), 187-191.
- Toussaint, J., 2019. Een paradijs voor olifant en iedereen (8). *FVZA Bartholomeu Dias* 31, Whole No. 124, 30-37.
- Whitmore, P., 2019. The Eshowe Zululand single circle canceller: the longest surviving Zululand postmark. *Cape and Natal Philatelic Journal* 23, 245-264.
- Wilkie, A., 2019. The RHODESIA 'large arms' postal stationery cards of 1896. *Rhodesian Study Circle Journal* 69, 265-266.
- Williams, R., 2020. 1905 A short history of the Bechuanaland Protectorate. *Runner Post* Whole No. 102, 2460-2461.
- Zegerman, K., 2019. De 6e langlopende gebruiksserie van de Republiek Zuid Africa (8). *FVZA Bartholomeu Dias* 31, Whole No. 124, 4-7.

New Books

- Byrom, D.A., 2020. *Zimbabwe Post Offices and Postmarks. The First Decade*. Philatelic Federation of South Africa (has been announced, 48 pages in soft cover). Contact johngroen@mweb.co.za for details.
- Albert, U. and Koppe, H., 2019. *Mail in Occupied German Southwest-Africa 1914-1919. Arbeitsgemeinschaft der Sammler Deutscher Kolonialpostwertzeichen e.V.* (Study Group of the Collectors of German Colonial Stamps). Write to 2.Geschäftsfuehrer@kolonialmarken.de for ordering details
- Kośniowski, J., 2019. *Postal Stationery Newspaper Wrapper Catalogue. Parts 1 to 3*. Published by the author. Go to <http://www.stampdomain.com/catalogue/> for ordering details.



Exchange Journals Received

- South African Philatelist*: October 2019 (Volume 95, No. 5, Whole No. 956) and December 2019 (Volume 95, No. 6, Whole No. 957).
- FVZA Bartholomeu Dias*: November 2019 (Volume 31, Whole No. 124).
- The PSGSA exchanges printed journals with the Filatelistenvereniging Zuidelijk Afrika. We receive the *South African Philatelist* as an affiliated society of the Philatelic Federation of South Africa. The Forerunners is exchanged as an electronic document to all southern African specialist societies known to us.

Society Publications

Hisey, Bob and Matheson, Ian, 2017. The "Officials" of South Africa. PDF on Memory Stick, \$30 pp.

Mordant, David, 2017. Barred Oval Numerical Cancellers of Cape of Good Hope 1863-1963. Can be downloaded from the Society website.

Hisey, Bob and Bartshe, Tim, 2003-9. Philately of the Orange Free State, Vol. 1. The Postage Stamps, 280 pages.

Vol. 2. The Telegraphs, 250 pages.

Vol. 3. Revenues and Postal Stationery, 205 pages.

CD version is now available at \$30 pp.

Forerunners on CD, Issues 1 to 81 (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. Can be downloaded from the Society website.

Hisey, Bob (compiler), 2006. Postal Office Names of Southern Africa According to Ralph Putzel (CD-ROM). \$15 pp.

To order contact David McNamee using the address given on page 1.

The Market Place

South Africa OFFICIALS. Want to purchase/trade for stamps overprinted official/offisieel. Collections, accumulations, units or pairs, for studying purposes. The usual is as interesting as the spectacular. Can offer Union and RSA stamps and covers. Send scans and price to Roald Sand, Bygdoy alle 27B, 0262 Oslo, Norway. roald.sand2@getmail.no

Union machine and parcel postmarks. Wanted by specialist collector. Single items, collections, or unsorted bulk accumulations. Please contact Bas Payne on bas.payne@gmail.com, or The Mill House, Clifford Bridge, Drewsteignton, Exeter EX6 6QE, UK.

Union pictorials 1926-1940. Wanted by specialist collector. Single items, collections, or unsorted bulk accumulations including singles. Please contact Bas Payne on bas.payne@gmail.com, or The Mill House, Clifford Bridge, Drewsteignton, Exeter EX6 6QE, 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.

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 siege "blueprint" covers. Want to purchase or trade for covers with Mafeking siege "blueprint" stamps. Send photocopies or scans, 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.

Natal Postcards Wanted. Used or unused picture postcards from 1906-1907 depicting scenes and events surrounding the Natal Native Rebellion. Contact David McNamee dmcnamee@aol.com.

Botswana and Bechuanaland Official Free Marks: interested in trade or purchase. Contact Gordon Smith, 11 Elliot St., Dartmouth NS, CANADA B2Y 2X6; gordon.smith@ns.sympatico.ca.

Botswana Meter Marks: interested in all eras. For trade or purchase. Contact Gordon Smith, 11 Elliot St., Dartmouth NS, CANADA B2Y 2X6; gordon.smith@ns.sympatico.ca.

Zimbabwe Covers between 2008 (Jan 1) and 2009 (Apr). 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@mosquiconet.com.

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).

Swaziland Picture Postcards Wanted. Please send scan to Peter van der Molen at molens@pixie.co.za

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