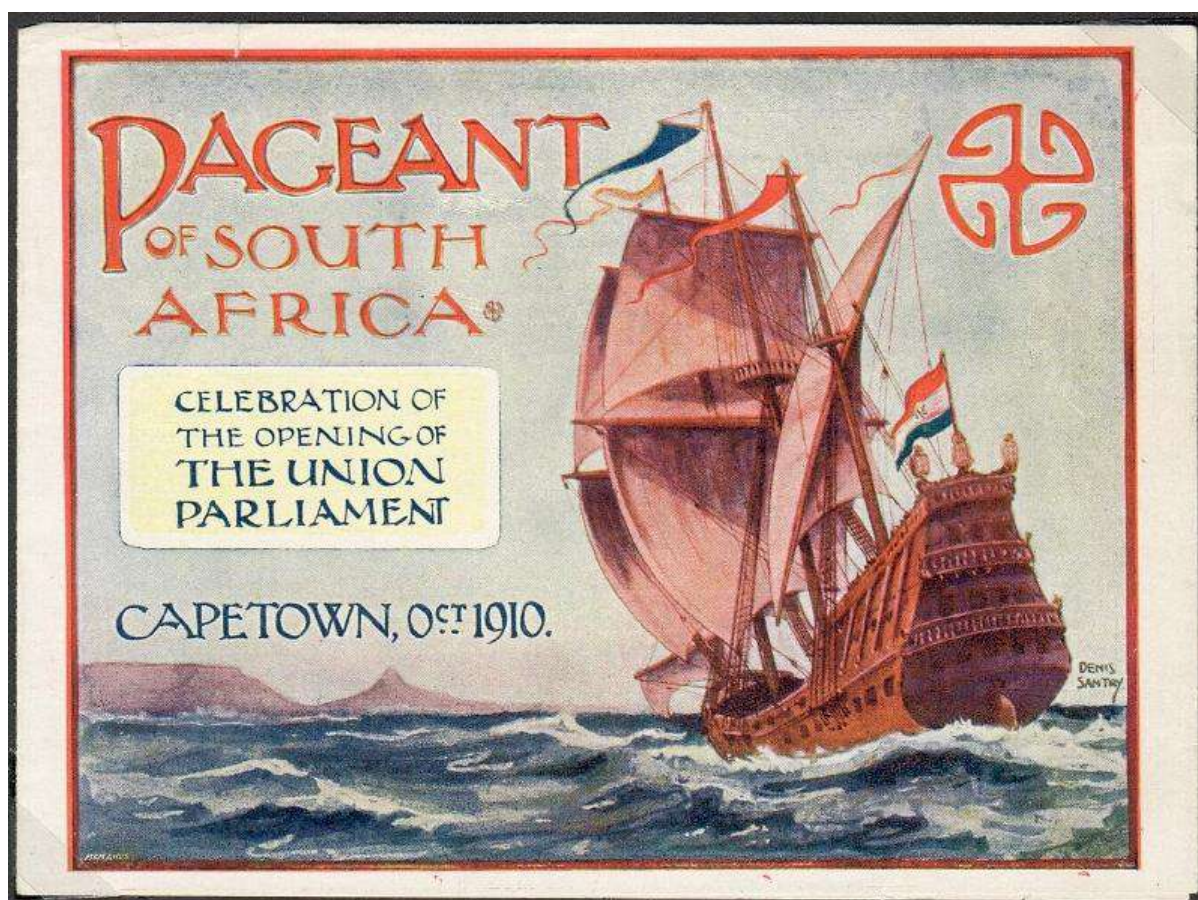


THE SPRINGBOK



SOUTH AFRICAN COLLECTORS' SOCIETY QUARTERLY

Web Site: www.thespringbok.africastamps.co.uk



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Editorial

Nick Arrow has joined the Editorial Team and is currently updating and revising the Societies Rules and Constitution and I believe this is to be presented at the A.G.M. in November.

The ways in which the Society rules are currently being interpreted are confusing to say the least. At an 8th June Committee meeting I was formally appointed as Editor, but this is not really so as I am informed that everyone resigns at the A.G.M. & must then offer themselves for re-election. This is certainly not in keeping with **Article 4b** that states: *Nominations for these offices shall be submitted to the Honorary Secretary of the Society before the first day in June in each year.*

Article 4c reads: *Each candidate shall be proposed and seconded by Members of the Society, who shall be responsible for obtaining the nominee's permission. Details shall be published in The Springbok.* Annual election is decided by a postal ballot.

Prior to the 8 June meeting, no one asked me if I wanted to continue as Editor, I was unaware of the actual meeting and the report on said meeting appointed me along with certain provisos that were not discussed with me beforehand. The previous Editor resigned & remains a Committee member, I take on his job, but I am not a Committee member until those in charge tell me I am. Confused? I certainly am!

I have remained in the Editor's chair otherwise there would be no Journal for the rest of this year. What happens next?



From the Chairman – John Shaw

I am delighted that Otto has agreed to become the editor of the Springbok. Eddie Bridges took the journal into the 21st century and deserves all credit for that; however, due to pressures of illness, work and moving to Germany, he found issuing the journal on time difficult, and felt obliged to resign, although he has pledged support for the society whenever possible.

The Editorial opposite touches on an important aspect of society organization. It is claimed that the first thing one should consider on appointment is one's successor; this is good sense (however premature!) especially in voluntary organizations. I know of two societies, previously thriving, which have disappeared, unable to find secretaries. It is difficult to get volunteers for office and, I know of many who, for this reason, have taken on too many posts - one recently resigned from all of them, just like that, causing total chaos! Others hold on for too long, often secretive about their work, making succession more difficult. That said, I shall be standing down as chairman of the society at the AGM, the intention of the committee, I gather, being to 'kick me upstairs'. Ideally, candidates for society positions should, among other things, be suitable in respect of expertise, age, demeanour and location. A little over 25 years ago, when living in Lincolnshire, it was suggested I stand for election to the Council of the Royal and, when I mentioned this to the president of the Royal, I was rather hurt when he said that he only wanted people living in or near to London, who would work there at least one day a week. On my first meeting there, after moving to London, he reminded me of what he said whereupon I was frog marched to the Expert Rooms, where I have worked happily ever since.

OBITUARY - William J. Branney 1947 – 2012

It is with the greatest sorrow that I must report the death of one of our Life Members, Bill Branney on the 19th June.

On Tuesday 26th June the funeral was held at Distington Crematorium, the Society was represented by four of Bill's close friends (Roy Ross, Max Whitlock, Albert Moffat and Colin Moore), who offered condolences and sympathy on their own behalf as well as from other Society members who were unable to be present. Roy and Max contributed some excellent information regarding Bill's non-philatelic life on which this obituary is based - my thanks to them both for this.

Bill was aged 64 and was born in 1947. After leaving school at 15, he started work at the local steelworks, making fish plates for the railways, and after a few years, when it closed down, went to work in the local ore mine. When that closed, he retrained as a joiner, and for the rest of his life worked as a first-fix joiner for various building firms. He married his wife Marie in 1975 and they had a son.

Bill joined the Society in 1990. He was elected Hon. Packet Superintendent in January 1992 and Hon. Auctioneer (Republican) 1996. This changed in April 1999 when he became Hon. Auctioneer for all South African material. He had to relinquish both posts in November 2009, due to his worsening health. He had the distinction of winning both the Wicks Medal and the Abell Trophy on two occasions.

After the Society meetings in the North had lapsed they were re-instated at Carlisle in the early 1990's with Bill as one of its founder members.

Over the years he only missed one Carlisle meeting and that was due to ill health.

Bill's collecting interests were mainly S.A. Republic stamps, and Great Britain. His immaculate and comprehensive collection of the Republic stamps was the envy of all us.

Bill was never a showman and never bragged about what he had collected, but was widely accepted by members of the S.A.C.S., particularly those in the North, as an authority on these issues. It was not until recently that he was persuaded to display his material at the Carlisle meetings and it outshone that produced by most other members - he had items none of us had ever seen!

A kind and generous man, Bill worked tirelessly over the years helping others with their collections and was a corner stone of the Society, particularly in the North. In 2006 the Society bestowed Life Membership upon Bill for his good works which had substantially contributed to the objectives of the Society.

He fulfilled a lifelong ambition four years ago, when he visited South Africa with Marie, his sister and her husband, his visit included travelling on the Blue train from the Cape to Johannesburg.

Those who attended the northern meetings will have noticed that Bill always wore a suit, a bright shirt and tie. Marie said that she had Bill cremated in a suit with his pink shirt on and his beloved Man United shirt alongside him.

R.I.P. Bill.

Chris Oliver

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Letter to the Editor - Dear Editor,

'What Sort of Society Member are You?'

May 2012 *The Springbok* Volume 60/2 No.318

I conclude from the content of the article, that meetings are enjoyable and members are encouraged to attend, however as I have not attended a meeting I ought to be classed as an *'Inactive member'* of SACS. Applying the criteria used for an *'Active member'* in the article and an analysis of reported meetings between Vol.59/2 to 60/2 (excluding Leamington Spa) it appears that there are only 30 *'Active members'*.

From my experience as a member of the Society's activities this is not the case, so why is it considered that one is only an *'Active member'* if you attend meetings?

Many members could now be labelled *'Inactive members'* and this just is patently not the case, nor was it intended to be, I suspect. The broader message which, I think, Simon Peetoom is trying to get over is – use the SACS facilities for your further enjoyment of being a member. After all not only has he been active in attending meetings but to write his article he has been active in using *The Springbok* to do research for his article, and he is/has become an active contributor to the Journal. I suspect he may also be actively using other SACS facilities and would think he gets enjoyment and encouragement from the society in furthering his collecting.

Whilst the Society needs more members, others no doubt appreciate that with a specialist society the membership is likely to be wide spread. Yes, there may be pockets of society members which can give rise to their holding *'local'* meetings, but I suspect that for many that may not be the case, all Society facilities are important and there to be used.

SACS must appreciate that members do not attend because they possibly cannot stand attending meetings or get no satisfaction from looking at other people's treasures. For some, incapacity prevents travel plus priority of other activities, venue, distance and cost of travel, date and time to get to a meeting lasting for some 4 hours are also a consideration.

So perhaps the SACS needs to consider the, by inference, *'Inactive member'* if it wishes to retain and increase membership by channelling more resources to serve those who do not, for whatever reason, attend meetings.

In the UK I am probably the furthest away from London and my nearest member is 70 miles distant and I managed to *'find'* him without SACS assistance. It may help if we had a members list including town, a contact either in the form of address, telephone number, or e-mail. Of course I realise some will hold up their hands in horror, put up barriers to contact, squeal Data Protection Act, etc? But I am sure a number of members, if approached, would be willing to allow and welcome contact between each other. Of course it would be helpful to have an idea, if a list is made available, of what the member's interest(s) might be.

In *The Springbok* I picked up that one member was collecting early South Africa machine cancels; I had some in my possession and as his e-mail address was given I started to correspond and contributed some helpful information and scans and in return obtained information from him. Some of his material was displayed at a meeting and it seems a pity there were no illustrations. It illustrates that *The Springbok* is important and that I have actively helped another member and exchanged information to increase my knowledge and enjoyment.

I contribute to and receive the Stamp Exchange Packet and do not receive the Cover Packet as it is predominately RSA which doesn't interest me. Packet Secretaries do an excellent job and deserve support with more material being submitted and increasing packet circulation. I note the Stamp Packet Secretary requires more material, and commented on postage costs.

Is the lack of material caused through lack of sales on previously submitted books which are time consuming to make up? Are those receiving packets not finding enough material to satisfy their posting on to the next member on the list? I know of one society who has lost members through lack of a successful exchange packet; do not let it happen in SACS. Targeting may I suggest, of packet material may be a way to encourage more activity and reduce postage costs – a split to 1. South and South West Africa to 1961, 2. Republic of South Africa and SWA/Namibia. I note from *The Springbok* that Max Whitlock is working on the possibility of advising members by e-mail of covers for sale – an excellent idea. Exchange Packets are one of the few ways I can obtain material having no stamp dealer within 100 miles so I value our packet; I suspect, like me, other members have limited access to stamp shops, and we all like to browse.

The Auction is a valuable facility and our Auctioneer needs our support both as vendors and buyers and these are *'Active members'*. Our auctioneer was very helpful when I was not sure about submitting my first batch of lots for sale and he welcomes enquiries. I am a vendor and bidder and consider the auction a good source to dispose of material and also to purchase items. Having personal experience of running a society's postal auction it helps the auctioneer if members respect the fact that it costs money to run an auction and therefore low reserve lots can be a drain on an auction net receipt. Perhaps members should consider low value lots as being more appropriate to exchange packets.

Contributions to *The Springbok* are also important as a way of members spreading their knowledge and well done to those who contribute – they are *'Active members'*.

The SACS library is another source to obtain information and the unseen borrower, not too many I believe, is also an *'Active member'* using the Society's facilities for his/her benefit.

The Society's advertising window should be its website and my own local society website attracts new members each year. A website is perhaps more important to a society with a widespread membership especially where it is looking to attract new members from areas throughout the country. It can be used to provide valuable information, and if there is a members section with secure entry facility considerable information could be available to members.

The work of the Committee is paramount as without them the Society could not function and their time and effort is unseen by the membership. They are *'Active members'* who for some reason may not be able to attend a meeting, although I suspect most do. Their reward for their activity is good membership activity in all facilities.

This is not a poke in the eye as Simon Peetoom has given us all the start of something to think about. We members are a diverse bunch of people paying our subscription and entitled to pick and choose from the facilities which the Society provides. We are all *'Active members'* to a varying degree, let us just all become more *active*.

David Macdonald

London Meeting – May 2012

Held, as usual, at the Calthorpe Arms in Holborn, those present were Tony Johnson, Christopher Oliver, David Osborne and John Shaw. Before the display there was a short discussion on the society's insurance cover and it was clarified this now includes the exchange packet and auctions but not trophies and replicas where, by-and-large, the policy excess would be more than the trophy replacement value.

The Theme of this meeting was Revenues, unfortunately the anticipated speakers had other commitments and thus John stepped into the fold.

John Shaw displayed a 1951 airmail cover to Hollywood (USA) illegally franked with 2/3d KG VI first revenue stamps and charged postage due (bought only three weeks ago); a Deed of Transfer bearing a Cape 7/- cancelled 1877 and a first Union 3/- franked 1915; and a block of four 5/- Swaziland KG VI on a farm transfer, with a hand coloured drawing of the farm plan, all on the front.

David Osborne then showed two Swaziland 1947 Royal visit sets on privately produced first day covers, one with a most dramatic shift of the red colour on the flag. Not too well printed, the Johannesburg address on the reverse was firstly attributed to the well-known Robertson company but, after some thought, I feel this might have been the Robemark Stamp Company.

Finally Chris Oliver brought along a lovely selection of World War Two civil censorship mail.

This started with the censor tapes and all seven known types were shown, both loose and on cover.

Then came the arms handstamps, with a letter beneath, which tied the censor tape to the cover and, again all the known types, this time lettered A to T were shown with types S and T being virtually unknown until Chris put this collection together.



Several also had additional markings applied, such as 'To be delivered by Civil Post Office'. Following a pristine 1942 Italian Red Cross leaflet there were some nice stationery items including a Swiss escapees repatriation card, casualty and P.O.W. Transfer card and some 'On Your Honour':

Envelopes including the very scarce Blue variety, many with APO-U-MPK or Egypt Post Prepaid postmarks, one also with 'Released by Censor' handstamp. There were some exotic origins and destinations, such as Belgian Congo, Athens, Lourenco Marques and Tanganyika, but my John's favourite item is a card from East London to Berne bearing a Nazi transit mark.

John Shaw

Letchworth Meeting – July 2012

The meeting convened at 2.00pm, with six members and six guests present, above Thomas Humfries' philatelic emporium, Postal Pursuits in Letchworth Garden City. This was an introductory meeting to a new venue for the Society. Thomas made no charge on this occasion and although a fee should be paid if this venue is used again, I consider that this would be beneficial to the Society. Thomas has established a one-man philatelic centre in Letchworth where his modern shop window displays feature 16 page frames of standard size to provide those passing by with an indication of what may be seen at a stamp club or exhibition. One of these frames is offered to philatelic societies to display attractive material that may appeal to the general public. The ground floor is used as a commercial business where Thomas encourages collectors, both young and old, to enjoy their stamps and purchase their wants in a convivial atmosphere. Upstairs more material is available to purchase, together with a desk, a computer and a modest reference library to assist in customers' study. Adjacent this is the meeting room with a fixed display unit, seating for 25 to 30 people and some additional tables. All is very comfortable and a splendid enterprise provided by an enthusiast dealer. Well done, Thomas. Some of us gathered prior to the meeting to peruse Thomas' stock.



Mike Berry



Peter Grimley



Bob Hill

Letchworth meeting – continued

Chris Oliver displayed early Union essays produced by Booyson and Harrison together with photographs taken of some of the essays in the Post Office Archive at Pretoria. These were taken in August 1974, not those 186 photographed in 1964 by the S.A. Philatelic Federation, but include the Immelman Essays and others produced as preparatory work to the Kings Head and the Pictorial definitive issues.

Mike Berry displayed some covers with special markings used in Natal. Undeliverable, undercharged and delayed mail received different markings dependent upon location and some of these were included.

Peter Grimley showed some stamps of Zululand both unused and used. The latter depicted postmarks from unusual locations. Rob Lister displayed an overwhelming study of the first stamp of the Union of S.A. This included preparatory advertising of the stamp by the Post Office, essays, proofs, two full sheets of stamps (one composite and one entire) and a selection of his collection of first day covers which had been used in various post offices throughout the Union.

Although 4th November 1910 was a public holiday many of the post offices must have remained open for the greater part of the day.

Bob Hill's display was, in his words a pot-pourée of covers with interesting markings, used from pre-Union times until the Republic of S.A. came into being. This presentation was accompanied by some amusing anecdotes.

A further display by Mike Berry was of the revenue stamps of the Union and the Republic of S.A. from 1913, which he had originally hoped to show at the earlier London meeting. The issue of 1953 was of particular interest in that the Afrikaans and English version of the stamps had been mixed up by incorrect placing of the printing of the second cylinder. This meant that "inkomste" appeared with Union of S.A. and "revenue" with Unie van S.A. on the stamp.

Roland Archer showed some interprovincial used stamps, including two with very late usage.

The meeting was brought to a close soon after 4.30pm, with our thanks to Bob for providing sandwiches for our repast.

Chris Oliver

Auction Report January - June 2012 by Tony Howgrave-Graham

EBay

Previously I wouldn't recommend putting fine, or specialised, items up for sale on EBay, but a dealer in Worthing had the courage to do so in February and March, all starting at 99p! Sadly the illustrations were very poor and although I did save some in 'My EBay', they disappeared after a month, thus you will have to rely on my description. Some of the offerings were really quite unusual and interesting and I did wonder if they originated from a recently deceased member from Worthing whose name was also attached to an 8 March Grosvenor auction.

In February a mint King's head 3d blue block of 6 with a missing jubilee line on the attached gutter made £68. I wonder if this was lot 144 in the 2010 Leamington auction which may have been bought by our ex-Worthing member.

A Pretoria typo mint 6d block with 2 missing perf holes made £107. A mint 1932 4d, watermark inverted, with a 'spear' flaw with a stain and a short perforation fetched a surprising £67.

On 2 March a ½d coil strip of 5 (R5) with Waterlow & Sons imprint on a largely detached leader made £87 and an inverted watermark rotogravure 3d control 'A' strip of 3 a surprising £58. A marginal pair of the 1946 6d with a dramatic vertical white flaw through the right of the centre of the row 12 stamp sold for £90. A nice taxed cover with a large block (5 units) of the bantam 3d postage dues made a fairly modest £47.

On 10 March a wonderful marginal pair of Pretoria typographed 6d with grossly displaced centres attracted 14 bids and made £320 and a lovely complete bottom double row of the recess 3d perforation 14 attracted 23 bids making £117.

A rotogravure 3d black & red, watermark up, block of 4 with a serial number made £65. Moving to a hyphenated 3d imperforate in a top right corner block of 4 (the lower pair creased as is common with this stamp) again attracted 23 bids and made a surprisingly high £360! A mint type I 6d with 'falling ladder' variety, received even more bids but sold for a modest £81.50. On 24 March a type III 6d with the dramatic white flaw even got me bidding and it sold for £106. On the same day a rotogravure 3d black and red single with half its centre missing due to an inclusion made £103.55 and finally a heavy aniline hyphenated 1/- pair fetched £55.

Gartner Auctions in Germany

This company produces massive sales and their 6-10 February auction included over 7,000 lots - reserves are high and premiums amount to 25%. The sale included interesting S.W.A. with a lot of railway mail which is difficult to price, realisations are in Euros including commission. Of the SAR&H ovals Ariamsvlei, 1932 made €63; Asab, 1939 with label, €94; Mariental, 1936 with label €94; Omitara, 1938, two philatelic cards, €75 and Seeheim, 1939, with toning €81. Booking Office cancels for Karibib in 1923 on 2d pair, €94; Luderitz with label in 1938 made €63 and for Swakopmund in 1923 + a 1960 cover, €81. Two faint Aus Rail cancels (B10c) on a 1916 faulty cover made €138; a 1938 Klein Karas commercial cover franked 3x1d with 2 unclear boxed cancels €94 and a 1918 Kolmannskop Station (Putzel R1, the altered B1) €325 despite being toned. Two non-railway items were a 1917 under franked Busch cover from Keetmanshoop with Transvaal ½dx3 dues which made €213 and a 1916 philatelic Max Hobe cover with a King's head set to 1/- all cancelled Klein Windhoek in manuscript, €375.

Grosvenor Auctions

On 8 March they offered the 'Warren' collection which included some very nice material. A 1910 2½d handstamped 'Specimen' £325 and a pair on a folded card from the S.A. High Commissioner in London £1060.

The King's heads included a mint ½d dark mossy emerald green with faults £218 and a ½d double print, again with multiple faults, £3,010. A complete die proof of a 1½d £746 and a 10/- frame only £1084! A 2½d imperforate colour trial in black & violet £662. A 5/- mint single with shifted medallion at £361 – in my opinion the 'new moon' on this value is reasonably common. A 5/- control block with a manuscript '5' in crayon plus gum wrinkles £349 which is perhaps less than might be expected given that a similar 10/- block (without a crayon mark) made £818. A fine used 10/- with watermark inverted £1385 and a £1 SG 17a umm folded block of 4 reached £3130. Individual collections of the different values sold above their estimates and I was particularly pleased that the 1/- lot made £7,465 against an estimate of £1,600 - 1,800!

Auction Report – Continued

The **1927 Pretoria** typographed 1d: a mint block of 4 with two stamps imperf on 3 sides £482 and a pair with one stamp imperf on 4 sides £237. A mint Tete-beche pair £506.

A 6d perforated pair in grey-black & orange red £199 and a similar item on a registered piece, £120.



The **1929 Darmstadt trials** in a collection of 12 pairs averaged £35 per pair. A mint 2d indigo & violet pair with UHB V37 £108 and an umm bottom right corner block of 4 with UHB V42 £241. The latter, being unmounted seems a better buy. 3d arrow block of 4 (inverted watermark) with 'window' flaw £145.

Under the **hyphenated section** a 1d mint vertical pair with centre omitted (Illustrated at right) made 4 times estimate £867.

A top double row of the 2d blue & violet um but with minor foxing £241 whilst its counterpart bottom double row only reached £199.

An umm imperforate 3d pair (creased - as is common) £132, a heavily mounted 6d Die I with falling ladder £96 and a mint 6d bottom right corner pair with the molehill variety £157.

Stanley Gibbons 17 May Auction - The Arnhold collection of British Africa - 1276 lots and they all sold!

From the SA section a 1916 £1 bottom control single made £448 (compared to £421 at Grosvenor). A 1927 ½d mint tête-bêche pair made £767 and the same for the 1930 roto in a strip of 5 with minor faults, £885. The same again in a strip of three with a heavy 1947 Johannesburg cancel made £708.



One really does wonder what this issue (or rather 'non-issue') is doing with such a cancel. It's a difficult problem for used collectors such as me. One either gets them with dodgy cancels or not at all! A 1931 1/- pair with the 'twisted horn' variety, watermark inverted & um made £112 and the same, but watermark upright, £284.

Of the hyphenated an Issue 11 1d imperf pair, um, made £112 and the 6d 'molehill' flaw, um but with a small gum adhesion, £142. The bantam war effort 1½d with roulette omitted mint made £142. The 1947 2/6 Official with the diaeresis variety on row 6/2, um, made £885 whereas the same from row 6/3 but with a tiny fault not visible on the photo only reached £496. The 1940 5/- official made £77 um and fu. The 1948 version with OFFICIAL at right didn't appear and, certainly, used is very much scarcer. Gibbons has now corrected the valuation for this but it still considerably understates the relative scarcities.



Of the RSA the 1963 Red Cross 12½c missing red (ie the cross) (Illustrated at left) umm, made £2,596 Just above full catalogue.

The 1987 Bible Society unissued 40c, umm £354.

With several other auctions it's been an active six months and I wait with interest to see what the next half year produces.

An Album page from Dave MacDonald An Advertising Cover – The Wonder Hut by M. Ostrowaik

M. Ostrowaik, 89 Berea Road, Durban manufactured huts and he chose his postal envelopes as one of the ways to advertise them. The huts were for living in. It is difficult to say from the illustration on the cover just what they were made of but it would appear that they are on a solid base, concrete perhaps and possibly has a corrugated roof. The slogan 'Wonder Hut – Solves Housing Problems' and the photo would, I suspect, not go down well today in South Africa. Nevertheless it is interesting to see the thinking about housing people in South Africa after World War II when materials must have still been in short supply.



Cover bearing 1d and 2d reduced War Effort 3d Surface rate to U.S.A.

Cancelled with a DURBAN 1 V 46 roller cancel To Saginaw, Michigan, U.S.A. Backstamped on arrival JUN 4 1946 - redirected to Springfield, Ohio
-----o-----

Another similar envelope was posted from Durban 4 XII 47 To the USA. Ed.

Matters Arising

1. The 1952 Tercentenary Mail coach Routes Springbok 318/56 - 59

Siegfried Mayr writes:

The article on the above coach trek caused me to search through my covers. I have two, one postmarked in Wellington and one in Alice. Both covers are similar to the one depicted on page 58. They also bore the same 1d pair official stamps.

The fact that so many covers are identical with stamps that the public has little access to suggests the following: The covers, with stamps were prepared ahead of time and carried by the coaches uncanceled. Along the route they were then sold (or given) to the public. The individuals could then write the town name in the space provided and mail them to themselves or friends. So only fresh, uncanceled covers were carried by the coaches and this stock could be replenished along the way, thus making it possible for a single coach to carry 'all' the covers - ie each cover was probably only carried a short distance.

What led me to this hypothesis was that on the 1938 Trek the two original wagons were very quickly fully loaded and a third wagon had to be provided in Riversdale to help carry the increasing load. Now the 1938 ox-wagons could carry a much larger load than the single 1952 coaches, so the above explanation may be the way this was cleverly handled in 1952.

2. What Sort of Society Member are You? Springbok 318/50

Peter Grimley responded to this and wrote:

I have found Philately to be a fairly lonely hobby; enjoyable, yes, but mainly at home with only your stamps for company.

I was pleased to be introduced by a mutual friend to Mike Berry... He invited me to a Midlands meeting of SACS... So the next stage was to join the Society which was fairly simple, and in due time I received a letter from the Secretary with my membership number 1158. Since then, not a lot.....

What would I like for the future? I would like a list of all the members and their particular collecting areas, so that I can contact them to discuss, and buy or swap stamps, even to visit or receive those not too far away at my cottage for an afternoon of Philately. Also I hope to attend more meetings..... So, fellow members, I live in Leicestershire and hope to meet up with you, either through the phone or email or at one of the SACS meetings held during the year. Please feel free to dash off an email to grimleyhouse@btinternet.com or phone 0116 2605509 if there is anything you would like to discuss with me.

The Leamington Spa Meeting on November 11/12 I have told my wife is Sacrosanct as I intend to be there, so I look forward to meeting many of you there.

3. Society meetings

Sadly there are no more meetings in the Midlands reducing the choice to either the North or the South with nothing between.

In the last journal our Secretary expressed his concern over the poor attendances at the regional meetings that often dwindle down to 3 to 5 members only. The Annual Carlisle get together and Leamington venues being the exception to the rule and the proposed additional Leamington meeting next June will hopefully prove to be a new ray of light.

Giovanni Palazzo is trying to arrange a Macclesfield meeting, but unfortunately there are only four members in that area.

4. World War I Recruitment Label Springbok 318/42

David Gottesmann Sent in a scan of *Alnis Guide 9* – Under SWA Publicity labels it lists the orange label illustrated in the last journal. Although listed by *Alnis* under S.W.A. it is in fact a Union WWI label.

5. Unrecorded Christmas Booklet Springbok No's 317/16 & 318/43 - 44

David Haig wrote: The label 'Put Christ Back Into Christmas', Godfrey Mellor showed that at Carlisle, he had a fabulous collection of the Christmas & Easter seals, better than your wildest imagination. Unfortunately he died last year, but he could have given you chapter & verse on it & I can't remember what he said about it.

July 2012 RSA Study group - Newsletter No 317 page 8/9
They mention the Springbok report and illustrate three used labels including 'Mother & child' and the three Wise men.

6. A page from your Album (See page 67)

Dave MacDonald wrote: The one thing I miss in many meeting reports, in *The Springbok*, is a scan of what has been shown, or at least some of what has been shown.

It also occurs to me that the lack of articles from members may be due to them being put off by what has been in *The Springbok*, in some cases long and 'technical'. I have been looking at my collection/accumulation as I suffer from 'Philatelic creep'; I creep into various collecting areas as they present themselves and do not specialise in one particular theme. Perhaps you could make use of some of my collection and it may encourage others to submit similar articles. If it successfully generates similar it could become a regular feature 'Album Page' for want of a general title. Attached are a few pages from my collection, all I hope self explanatory

7. The Wicks Medal

Despite my appeal for nominations for the 2011 award in the May Ebok, the response brought in only two votes, having leafed through last year's journals, I must admit the choice is very limited. Perhaps it is time we reviewed the rules for this award - it could include any article written by a member on S.A. philately during the current year, but not necessarily published in the Springbok. Any thoughts on this?

8. The Abell Trophy

Awarded annually either in London or Carlisle, thus the same limited audience wins it time and again. How about Leamington as a choice for 2012 and providing other members, especially those overseas, the opportunity to submit an entry even in the shape of colour copies. The Society rules state it is a maximum of nine pages, but I noted in a past Journal (No 290) that twelve pages are required.

9. The Leamington Spa auction catalogue

It has been suggested to our worthy auctioneer that the bulk of the catalogues ought to be emailed to members. Those without emails will automatically receive a hard copy and anyone else requiring a printed catalogue – please email the auctioneer.

Please note: Members attending the Conference - a hard copy will be available on arrival at Leamington.

Matters Arising (Continued)

10. Chris Board has submitted a translation of an September 1993 S.A.P. article the gist of which is:

'Philatelic sleuthing brings a thief to book'

The late Tony Chilton's alertness ultimately leads to unique Union essays that had gone missing from the State Archives in Pretoria, being returned to the country. This eventually resulted to a court case about the theft.

Reported during 1992 in the SAP, a lot comprising 17 essays for stamps to commemorate the formation of the Union was withdrawn from the Christie's 7.5.92 Auction after Chilton had pointed out that he had studied this material in 1983 at the Union Buildings.

Space constraint prevents the complete report being published, a copy can be emailed on request and hopefully there will be room in the next journal for the entire article.

Reports from Officers

1. From the Hon. Membership Secretary's desk

We welcome new members:

1164 - Neil Fairley from Cape Town - Neil collects Union of S.A. with a main interest in K.G.V.

1165 - Paul Hartdegen from Wimbledon, London - Paul's collecting interests are G. S.W.A.; S.W.A.; Rhodesia, Zimbabwe; Union & Republic of South Africa.

We were sorry to learn of the passing of a friend and Hon. Life Member of the Society, Bill Branney - his obituary appears on page 63.

Notice is given that the Annual General Meeting of the Society - The A.G.M. will be held at during the Southern Africa Societies Convention, at the Falstaff Hotel, Leamington Spa provisionally on 10th November 2012 at 17.00 hours. If you wish to raise any matters of concern to the Society at that meeting, please notify the Hon. Secretary, in writing, by 19th October 2012.

(There has been a debate amongst the Committee to move the timing of the AGM Ed.)

The next Carlisle meeting is later in the month, on 29th September, and is an open meeting but will include the annual Abell Trophy Competition. If you have an entry for the competition please contact David Haig. E-mail Address: dh009c6362@blueyonder.co.uk - Phone: 01698 292672 to arrange transportation, if you are not attending.

2. From Simon Peetoom - S.A.C.S. Day Meeting, 1st June 2013, Falstaff Hotel, Leamington Spa

I am planning a day meeting to be held at the same hotel we hold the Joint Conference at in November. As so many of you enjoy coming to Leamington Spa in November, perhaps you would all enjoy a day in the Midlands during the summer. The displays will be just for us, so South Africa Union & Republic and South West Africa stamps and covers.

I am hoping to make the day as philatelically indulgent as possible, hence the room that we usually eat our Saturday evening meal in November has been booked (the one by the bar). We will be able to have the displays in there and there will likely be at least two dealers with some stock for you to browse. It will be an opportunity for everyone to get together again to talk stamps, look at stamps and buy stamps.

The AGM will possibly be held at this meeting instead of November.

There is the option to stay for a night, the hotel manager has offered us the same room rate for dinner, bed and breakfast that we have in November, so it's £60 for a single, £90 for a double. If enough people wish to stay on the Saturday night then I will arrange something for the evening.

3. Comment on the Society meetings Besides my observations on the previous page, in my own case motoring to any meeting will amount to a 6/8 hour round trip & ideally an overnight stay is required. For this reason I feel that a midyear Leamington Spa ought to be turned into a weekend affair and not just one day. Most specialist Societies host their own weekend, as it stands, the current meetings are basically attended by the same handful of people. The names on the Abell trophy confirm the foregoing. Ed.

4. Auction Manager's Report by Nicholas Arrow

Auction 30 provided a few surprises, the sums realised totalling nearly £800. However, Auction 31 was not so successful and the total sales amounted to just over £400. I am not surprised, as there was very little new material offered.

I have aimed for 3 Auctions per annum, the 4th Auction being that held at Leamington Spa. Because of the lack of new material and for other reasons, there will be no auction in the summer quarter, and the Autumn Auction will be the Leamington Spa Auction.

The next general Auction (32) will be held in the first quarter of 2013. We are lucky to have been asked to dispose of the collection of a member whose health now precludes him from continuing with his hobby. We are fortunate in that the collection will be at a 50% commission rate, so that half of all the proceeds will be for Society funds thanks to the Vendor's generosity.

The auction list of this collection will be forwarded in due course and the material will be available for inspection at Leamington Spa. There are numerous lots consisting of packages of used stamps, in multiples and singles, which will be ideal for the postmark collector and the specialist, will also find plenty to interest him, so this will prove an added incentive to attend the Society's convention.

I have circulated all the vendors on whose behalf I currently hold material for sale and I now give notice to the rest of the membership that from Auction 33 (ie after the sale of the collection) there will be a minimum commission of 25p. The reason for this is to discontinue the practice of offering lots for 50p, which involve a lot of work for a commission of 5p, and in order to raise the profile of the Auction generally. This may mean a smaller auction but with better quality lots.

Please will you all look out your surplus material and pack it up in lots with a minimum reserve of £2.50 and send it to me. It never ceases to amaze what people will buy and, as I have said before, member A's unwanted material is the treasure that Member B has been seeking for ages!

Remember to visit Leamington Spa and inspect the lots which will be offered in January 2013.

(Members ought to appreciate that our last sale only cost £15.12 as against £108.66 for the previous one & the reason for this was that a hard copy of the catalogue was only sent to those without an email address. Ed)

The Union Buildings

By Sylvester L. Crozet - *The South African Philatelist* March 1964 (Reprinted)

Before the consolidation of the four colonies to form the Union of South Africa, the Transvaal province found itself with a substantial budget surplus which it felt should not be handed over to the new government. Accordingly it was decided that a large portion of these funds should be used for the creation of projects from which both the Transvaal and the Union would benefit.

One of the schemes financed from this surplus was the erection of the Union Buildings which had been designed to accommodate the administration staff of the new government. During the first two sessions of the Union Parliament, strong criticism was expressed on the actions of the Transvaal cabinet, which it was said, had acted irregularly.

The site of the Union Buildings was chosen by Herbert Baker, an architect who had been commissioned to design the structure. His selection of the locality was enthusiastically acclaimed by General J. C. Smuts, who was then Secretary in the Transvaal cabinet.

Magnificently situated on Meintje's Kop, some 2½ miles from the centre of Pretoria, and overlooking the city and its surroundings, this site has been described as one of the finest in the world. In 1909 the Transvaal government paid £40,600 for this land.

The buildings are generally three storeys in height, with basements which house the Archives, the post office, garages for ministerial cars.

Besides these, there are a great number of store rooms on the floors above are the offices of the Ministers, which are grouped around internal courts. As far as was practicable, South African materials were used in the construction of this imposing edifice.

The building face terraced gardens 164 acres in extent. On one of the terraces is the Delville Wood Memorial while below this is the Pretoria War Memorial, in the Garden of Remembrance. A statue of General Louis Botha - the first Prime Minister of the Union of South Africa - has also been erected in these gardens.

Herbert Baker was knighted in 1926 and many of his creations, in the form of stately public buildings, churches, schools and dwellings grace many of our cities. Among his best known achievements in this country is the restored Groote Schuur, Pretoria Railway Station, the Governor-General's residence in the capital city and the Institute for Medical research in Johannesburg.



Excavations for the buildings were commenced during the first week of May, 1910, and the entire undertaking was completed on October 11, 1913, at a cost of £ 1,180,000.

The foundation stone was laid on November 26, 1910, by His Royal Highness the Duke of Connaught, in the name of His Majesty. King George V. The silver trowel which was used at this ceremony is now preserved in a stinkwood cabinet in the Transvaal Museum, Pretoria.

The buildings are of a modified Grecian style with a semi-circular colonnaded central block flanked with twin domed towers, 180 feet high, which connect two extensive wings.

Between the wings and in front of the colonnade is a large amphitheatre capable of accommodating 9,000 persons. In the amphitheatre is a central rostrum with a sandstone dome surmounted by a bronze figure of Mercury.

The length of the buildings is 900 feet, under a roof of red tiles, with two pavilions projecting from the extremities of each of the administration blocks located on either side of the central feature. The Ionic columns to the colonnade and the pavilions are 24 feet in height. The full extent of this magnificent piece of architecture is not shown on the stamp which serves to illustrate this article.

The Springbok No 292 (Oct/Dec 2005) in an article by Eddie Bridges *How to distinguish the major printings Part 2*

The Author deals with the various printings depicting the 2d Union Buildings and on the final page there is a summary of the various printings identified by their UHB numbers.

It starts with the 1927 London printing SG 34, followed by the Pretoria unhyphenated & hyphenated issues SG 44 & 58. In 1945 the redrawn design is SG 107 and an all screened printing; SG 116 is the last of the large format stamps. Finally in 1950 the reduced format stamps, listed as SG 134, bring the era of this particular Union definitive to an end.

The Pretoria unhyphenated 2d was also used in a 1931 3/- booklet (SB 8) in a pane of four and the small format stamps, in panes of six were included in the final 1951 3/6 Union booklet (SB 19)

All the above issues were overprinted OFFICIAL/OFFISIEEL. The use of Official stamps was terminated in 1955.

Given that the internal postage rate was raised to 2d on 15 May 1950, the small format issue enjoyed prolific use and was printed in vast quantities. Almost three million sheets were issued and excluding three thousand sheets overprinted Official, the Post Office put over 719 million stamps in circulation.

The Small format 2d Union Building Definitive SG 134 By Otto Peetoom

Introduced during April 1950 and intended to supersede the 1½d small format gold mining when the inland postage rate was increased to 2d on 15 May 1950. Information on this new reduced sized 2d appeared in the May 1950 S.A.P. Its sheet format is twelve rows of twenty stamps and the first requisition was Job 12995 being an order for one million sheets x 240 and the first delivery of 24,000 sheets on 18 April 1950.

Printed from new cylinders 6927/50 and by 14 June the total delivery was 191,250 sheets.

The SAP report concludes: *'They will probably be on sale at a number of post offices in the Union before the end of April.'*

A review of this new issue appears in the June 1950 S.A.P. followed by some noted Printing flaws in the July edition.

Job 12995 for one million sheets x 240 – Cylinders 6927 & 50			
Delivered by	No of sheets	Total delivered	S.A.P. References
18.4.1950	24,000	24,000	August 1950
14.6.1950	167,250	191,250	August 1950
26.9.1950	242,090	433,340	November 1950
4.1.1951	330,250	763,590	March 1951
4.4.1951	138,250	901,840	June 1951
10.7.1951	135,000	1,036,840	September 1951



A Job 475 for one million sheets x 240 – Cylinders 6927 & 50 First delivery 14.6.1951			
10.7.1951	*117,750	*117,750	September 1951
11.10.1951	360,737	478,487	December 1951
11.1.1952	89,650	568,137	March 1952
29.7.1952	239,798	807,935	September 1952
21.10.52	99,700	907,635	January 1953
B Job 475 (Continued) - New Cylinders 30 & 18			
23.10.1952	13,500		January 1953
29.10.1952	18,000	31,500	January 1953
27.11.1952	203,000	234,500	March 1953
C Job 475 (Continued) - New Cylinders 27 & 46 Delivered from 2.12.1952 to 4.12.1952			
4.12.1952	6,000	6,000	March 1953
D Job 475 (Continued) - New Cylinders 27 & 18 Delivered from 4.12.1952			
20.1.1953	122,000	122,000	March 1953
5.3.1953	134,600	256,600	July 1953
Job 475 combination of cylinders = 1,404,735 sheets			

Job 5906 for one million sheets x 240 - Cylinders 27 & 18 First delivery 30.6.1953			
21.7.1953	16,246	16,246	September 1953
21.10.1953	158,610	174,856	January 1954
21.1.1954	201,750	376,606	June 1954
21.7.1954	520,856	722,606	October 1954
10.8.1954	92,068	**814,674	February 1955

*Job 475 the 'Recent Printings' report in the September 1951 the number of 2d sheets printed is given as 171,750 and appears to include transposed figures of 1 & 7 or is a typing error. By adding that number to the next figure it introduces a huge discrepancy but by using 117,750 the figures balance.

** Job 5906 being an order for one million sheets was not completed due to the issue of the Animal series on 14 October 1954; the final date of delivery of the small format 2d is 10 August 1954 (May 1955 S.A.P.)

Further notes on this issue appeared in The South African Philatelist in December 1952, during 1953 in March, April, May, June (Report of misplaced vertical perforations) – My search extended to 1969.

Cylinder changes on the small format 2d – Issues as per 1986 Union Handbook

Issue 14 April 1950	Cylinders 6927/50	1,944,475 sheets
Issue 15 November 1952	Cylinders 30/18	234,500 sheets
Issue 16 December 1952	Cylinders 27/46	6,000 sheets
Issue 17 December 1952	Cylinders 27/18	814,674 sheets

On issue 14 the first stamp on the sheet is English on the others it is Afrikaans. The printing figures indicate that the first cylinder is the most common, whereas the third cylinder in comparison is relatively scarce.

The Small format 2d Overprinted OFFICIAL – OFFISIEEL SG 045 (Was 038)

Sheets of 240 Stamps – Cylinder 6927/50

Job No	Delivered by	No of sheets	Total delivered	S.A.P. References	1986 UHB
?	29.6.1950	499	499	November 1950	Set 24
8318	5.12.1950	500	999	March 1951	Set 24
12256	15.3.1951	1,500	2,499	June 1951	Set 25

Set 24 & 25



Set 29



Sheets of 240 Stamps – Cylinder 30/18

?	27.1.1953	499	499	July 1953	Set 29
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Although delivered end January, the 1986 UHB dates Set 29 as February 1953

January 1955 S.A.P.

NO MORE UNION ‘OFFICIALS’

We have been officially informed by the P.M.G. that when the existing stocks of Union stamps overprinted ‘Official/Offisieel’ are used up no more will be made.

These stamps were originally made for the use of Government Departments on letters going outside the Union. It was at the request of philatelists that they were made available also for the public, although they had to be purchased through Pretoria only.

Philatelists have gradually come to the conclusion that they amounted practically to a duplication of Union stamps and that they could well be abolished altogether. A request to this effect was forwarded to the P.M.G. from the Durban Congress last year.

The Government also would appear to have decided that their Departmental use was unnecessary, Hence the decision ‘away with them’ Few, if any, will mourn their decease.

February 1955 S.A.P.

Discontinuance of Union ‘Official’ Stamps

The official bulletin received from the Publicity Officer, Post Office Publicity Branch, G.P.O., Pretoria.

**UNION OF SOUTH AFRICA
DEPARTMENT OF POSTS AND TELEGRAPHS
POSTAGE STAMPS OVERPRINTED
‘OFFICIAL-OFFISIEEL’**

It has been decided that postage stamps for use by government departments on official correspondence and issued by the Postal Administration of the Union of South Africa will no longer be overprinted with the words ‘Official – Offisieel’. Existing stocks of the overprinted stamps will continue to be sold until they have been exhausted.

The words ‘Official – Offisieel’ have not been overprinted on any of the denominations of the third definitive (Animal) series.

Cancellations on CUSTOMS DUTY & DOUANE Stamps – by Bas Payne

Most collectors of Union stamps have come across Union definitives overprinted “CUSTOMS DUTY” or “DOUANE”. They were produced to allow advertisers to prepay customs duty on advertising matter sent to South Africa (this tax was introduced shortly before Union), as people don't like paying tax on brochures they receive from large firms. The overprinted stamps were sold through South African Embassies and High Commissions in Britain and other countries.

The first CUSTOMS DUTY overprints, on values between 1d and 1s, were on Edwardian stamps of the four provinces; after Union, values of the King's Head issue between ½d and 1s were similarly overprinted, followed by stamps of the first bilingual pictorial issue. Around 1930, the wording of the overprint was changed to DOUANE, which appeared on later issues of the first bilingual pictorials, and then on low values (½d to 2d) of the 1954 animals issue; they appear to have remained in use until around 1960. Listings are given in Barefoot and Sherwood's catalogues of fiscals.

In the course of collecting these stamps, I have come across a surprisingly wide range of postal and other cancellations; these may suggest how the system worked and changed.

Covers with CUSTOMS DUTY or DOUANE stamps are not common – they probably had a low survival rate. The Customs Duty stamp (usually ½d) was supposed to be placed away from the top right corner with the postage stamp(s); but often they were stuck close to the postage stamps (e.g. 7, 14 and 15, below). Sometimes the Customs Duty stamps were cancelled accidentally by the country of origin (10-18); more frequently they arrived in South Africa uncanceled, and were usually, until WWII, cancelled on arrival in South Africa, either with a hand-canceller (19-45) or with a cancelling machine (46-52). After WWII, it would appear from the relatively small proportion of cancelled Customs Duty stamps that the postal authorities usually did not cancel them.

As the duty was charged by weight, larger denominations were presumably mainly used on packets of brochures and other advertising matter, few of which have survived. Pieces with higher-value CD stamps and large blocks presumably come from these packets.

Covers: These illustrate normal usage. In 1, from London to Durban in 1942, the CD stamp at top left is uncanceled. In 2, from London to Pomeroy (Natal) ca. 1935, the CD stamp was placed top centre and was accidentally cancelled by the GB machine cancellation. In 3, from Erfurt in Germany to Berbice (Transvaal) in 1930, the CD stamp was placed lower left, and was hand-cancelled in Johannesburg. In 4, a piece, the CD stamp was placed top centre, accidentally cancelled in London, but cancelled again with a machine canceller in Cape Town.



Cancellations on CUSTOMS DUTY & DOUANE Stamps - Continued

Pieces and blocks assumed to be from packets: In 5, 11d in CD stamps escaped cancellation. In 6, the CD stamps were placed close to the GB stamp, escaped cancellation nonetheless in England, but were cancelled in Cape Town. In 7, the CD stamps were placed next to the GB stamps and received the same LONDON FS (Foreign Service) canceller. 8 and 9 are large blocks, one cancelled in Durban in 1932, the other in Bloemfontein in 1957 – a rather late usage.



5



7



8



6



9

Foreign cancellations: Hand cancellations have only so far been seen from GB, not from other countries. 10 and 11 are from Chelsea and Willenham respectively; see also 7 (London FS) and 60-65 (below)



10



11

Foreign machine cancellations are commoner, reflecting their unintentional nature. 12 is from Sydney, Australia in 1939; 13 is a PAID cancellation in red from Watford, GB in 1950; 14 is from Paris in 1939; 15 and 16 are from Hamburg in 1929 and 1931; 17 and 18 are from Berkeley (Calif.), USA in 1929 and 1930.



12



13



14



15



16



17



18

Cancellations on CUSTOMS DUTY & DOUANE Stamps – Continued

South African postal cancellations: Most South African hand cancellations are from large towns, especially Cape Town (19 - 24) and Johannesburg (25 - 30). Other large centres whose cancellations have been recorded include East London (31 - 33), Grahamstown (34), Kimberley (35), Port Elizabeth (36), and Pietermaritzburg (37). Smaller places include Fort Beaufort (38) Kaapmuiden Rail (39), Rustenburg (40) and Tugela Rail (not illustrated). One of the Johannesburg hand cancellations (41) is a parcel cancellation. Two roller cancellations have also been seen, from East London (42) and Kimberley (43), and a Paquebot cancellation (!) from Durban (44). In both Cape Town and Johannesburg, a range of cancellers were used; however some appear to turn up more often and may have been used more often for CD mail – at Cape Town, postmarks with counter numbers 24 - 29; at Johannesburg one canceller in particular (26 and 28, listed as type 13x in Visser’s recent addendum to Putzel’s postmark catalogue).



All used in Cape Town



All used in Johannesburg



East London (31 – 33)

Grahamstown

Kimberley



Port Elizabeth

Pietermaritzburg

Fort Beaufort

Kaapmuiden Rail

Rustenburg



Johannesburg
Parcels ‘P’ at base

East London
Roller

Kimberley
Roller

Durban
Paquebot

Cancellations on CUSTOMS DUTY & DOUANE Stamps - Continued

South African machine cancellations have been recorded from Cape Town (45 - 47), Durban (48 - 49, 48 being a bulk mail cancellation), Johannesburg (50) and Pretoria (51). 45 (Cape Town, 1930) suggests that CD stamps were sometimes used for normal postage, however 4 (above) clearly shows that machine cancellations were also applied to CD stamps in normal use.



45



46



47



48

Cape Town (45 - 47)

Durban bulk cancel



49 Durban



50 Johannesburg



51 Pretoria

Late usage: The issue and use of CD stamps ended in the later 1950's. CD stamps on covers of this period are usually uncanceled; three examples illustrate later 1950's use. 52 (also illustrated as 38) is a hand cancellation from Fort Beaufort (24 MAR 55), 53 is from Liverpool, GB (13 SEP 1955) and 54 is a surprisingly late hand cancellation from Durban (May 59)



52 Fort Beaufort



53 Liverpool



54 Durban

Other markings: A range of other cancellations are also seen. Office date stamps (55 and 56) are often found, especially dating from the 1930's; 57 & 58 are probably official DUTY PAID stamps.



55



56



57



58

Miscellaneous: Finally a selection of cancellations unfamiliar to the writer are included in the hope that someone knows what they are: 59 has RO in a triangle; 60 may be a GB parcel cancellation; 61 has FS (Foreign Section?) in a circle; 62 has what looks superficially like a Johannesburg parcel cancellation; 63 & 64 are two strikes of the same cancellation dated 8 AUG / 6.15 PM / 15. Any elucidation would be welcomed. Please email bas.payne@gmail.com



59



60



61



62



63



The Tercentenary Mail Coach Routes by Nick Arrow

My article in The Springbok 60 - 2, has stimulated some feedback, and a letter from Siegfried Mayr appears in this issue on page 76. After seeing a copy of the previous *Springbok* Klaus Kornacker in Johannesburg made contact, telling me that he has acquired Dr Raubenheimer's collection of centenary covers that are all addressed to his company "Messrs Africana" - my earlier article referred to Dr Raubenheimer's paper read to the SA Stamp Study Circle.

Included with Dr Raubenheimer's collection was a copy of a letter sent to "Messrs Africana" (a company run by him) explaining the contact made by the Sabie Postmaster about the special cachet which had been ordered, but supplied after the Mail Coach had left Sabie.

The text of the letter dated 10-1-52 reads - 'Dear Sir I am in receipt of your letter and three envelopes for datestamping on the 9th January, the day on which the Van Riebeeck coach "Bloemfontein" left this town. This has been done but I would like to advise you that the local committee placed an order for a special rubber stamp in commemoration of the event which was to be placed on the left hand upper corner of the envelope. Unfortunately the stamp did not come to hand in due date. Will you please advise whether you would like me to hold your envelopes over for a few days until arrival of the rubber stamp or should I forward them to you as they are! J G Marquis - Postmaster' (See illustration on the following page)

These covers contrast with those shown in my earlier article in that (a) neither of them bear the usual "Souvenir" cachets referred to in the earlier articles and (b) neither have the "usual" frankings with pairs of Official stamps. Note in both covers the mark privately applied by Dr Raubenheimer to confirm passage of the Mail Coach through Sabie and White River respectively.

From the remarks of both Siegfried and Klaus, the following conclusions appear reasonable -

1 - The coaches carried cacheted mail franked with pairs of Official stamps, which could be obtained (by purchase or gift), the recipient completing the detail of the cachet and arranging for the stamps to be cancelled, either to order or through the normal post.

2 - The English cachet was applied to the English cover (Reisener SC20) and the Afrikaans cachet to the Afrikaans cover (SC19).

3 - Collectors could mail their covers to the appropriate Post Offices, decorated with private marks, and the Post Offices would postmark them and send them on (obviously through the post).

4 - There seems to be only 1 design of the English cachet, but 2 designs of the Afrikaans cachet.

5 - The colours of the cachets are red (most frequent), grey black (less frequent) and green (only 1 example seen so far from an admittedly small number of examples).

---o---

I show some further 'Oddities' from the former Raubenheimer collection -



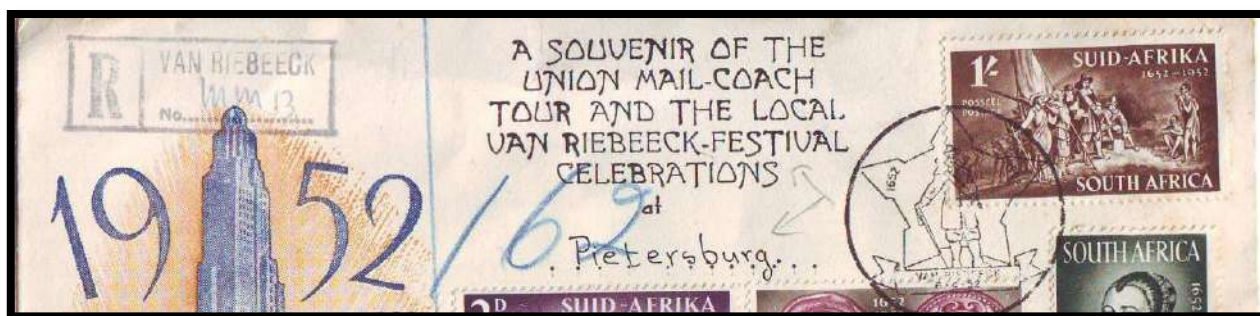
1



2

1. Apparently a Souvenir from the Mail Coach's visit to Bloemfontein, but the stamps is uncancelled.

2. Clearly one of the covers which came from a Mail Coach, but with the Van Riebeeck special postmark which was only available on the 6th April 1952, after the Mail Coach tours had ended.



The above item was apparently a souvenir from Pietersburg, where the Mail Coach had stayed overnight on the 18th January 1952, but actually posted (as the one immediately above) at Van Riebeeck on the 6th April and is also registered.



This cover was held back to have the cachet applied as shown at above.

After leaving Sabie on the 9th January 1952, the Mail Coach stayed overnight at White River on the 10th, before leaving Nelspruit, the original starting point. An item from White River is shown below.



Klaus wrote to the SAP in 2002, hoping to re-stimulate interest in this event. I have submitted an article to the SAP with the same intention. It is only to be hoped that there will be some response, lest all knowledge of a potentially fascinating topic, which took place as recently as 60 years ago, may be completely lost, leaving future collectors with nothing to rely on but guesswork and intuition. This would be a pity.

In closing I give due acknowledgement to Klaus Kornacker - all the illustrations are from items in his collection.

South African Collectors Society - Income and Expenditure to 31 December 2011

Income		Expenditure	
Subscriptions	2,585.78	Subscriptions to the S.A. Philatelist	464.46
		Springbok x4 Journals	2,268.89
		Rent London	129.00
Postal Auction Income	206.25	Rent Carlisle	100.00
		Other Room Hire	55.00
Packet Income	132.83	S. Gibbons S.A.P. subscription refund	35.00
Cover profit	208.89	Stamp Insurance	260.01
Advertising Magazine	359.00	A.B.P.S. and handbook	161.00
Copier Profit for year	240.40	National Philatelic Society	60.00
		Storage Boxes	40.75
Sale Booklet	5.00	Midpex	40.00
		Sundry expenses	75.87
		Packet costs	40.06
Interest 2011	40.74	J. Shaw Cinderella meeting	84.00
		Abell trophy	16.95
Loss for Year	<u>103.00</u>	Exchange Loss	<u>50.90</u>
	<u>£3,881.89</u>		<u>£3,881.89</u>
 Balance Sheet as at 31st December 2011			
Bank Current	1,075.78	Subscriptions in advance 2012	429.00
Cash	24.91	Owed to D. Haig	100.00
S.A. Rands 5129 at £1 = 12.77	401.64	Leamington Spa Balance	1,183.31
Deposit Account	5,132.86		
Packet Fund Account	294.01	Brought Forward SACS Funds	6,154.29
Insurance paid early	150.40		
Advertising 2010/11 late invoices	684.00	<u>Loss on the year</u>	<u>(103)</u>
<u>Total Assets</u>	<u>£7,763.60</u>	<u>Total Liabilities</u>	<u>£7,763.60</u>

DRAFT ACCOUNTS AWAITING INDEPENDENT REVIEW

South African Collectors' Society - Income and expenditure up to 30th June 2012

Income		Expenditure	
Subscriptions	3,251.90	Subscriptions to the S.A. Philatelist	525.35
		Sprinkbok x 2 Journals – Printing	629.00
Postal Auction Income	59.95	Journal Post + packing	415.46
Advertising Magazine	85.00	Room Rentals	146.00
Copier Income	158.40	Stamp Insurance	150.40
Other	34.40	A.B.P.S. & handbook	113.30
		Auction costs - April & June	123.78
Total Income to date	<u>3,589.65</u>	Donation	<u>20.00</u>
Current Surplus	<u>1,466.36</u>	Total Expenditure to date	<u>2,123.29</u>
 Balance Sheet as at 30 June 2012			
Bank Current	2,059.54	Subscriptions in advance 2013	15.00
Cash	24.91		
S.A. Rands 10094 (£1 = R12.77)	805.32	Leamington Spa Balance	1,183.31
Deposit Account	3,132.86		
Packet Fund Account	294.01	Brought Forward	6,052.29
Photocopier	1.00		
Advertising	154.83	Current Surplus	<u>1,466.36</u>
Trophies	1,092.00		
Stamps (Postage)	<u>1,152.49</u>		
Totals	<u>£8,716.96</u>		<u>£8,716.96</u>

At a Committee meeting, there was a decision to write off the photocopier, thus it has an appropriate book value of £1 until its disposal. The expenditure on 20 years worth of trophies is to be systematically written off over 20 years.

I have suggested to the Treasurer that Society subscriptions & S.A.P. subscriptions ought to be shown as two separate figures. Ed.

Kruger National Wildlife Park – the former Sabi Game Reserve 1898 – 1926

Brief History: During a Volksraad session in 1895 Jakob Louis van Wyk introduced a motion to create a game reserve, supported by fellow member R. K. Loveday; it was accepted for discussion in September 1895 by a one vote majority. As a result President Paul Kruger made a proclamation on 26 March 1898 for the creation of a 'Government Wildlife Park' which became known as the Sabi Game Reserve. The reserve was located in the southern section of the modern park and the initial idea was to control hunting and protect the diminished number of animals in the park.

In 1902 James Stevenson Hamilton became the first warden of the reserve and in 1903 the Shingwedzi Reserve was proclaimed, this being in the Northern part of the Kruger. In 1926 the Sabie and Shingwedzi Game Reserves plus the adjacent farms were combined to create the Kruger National Park. In 1927 the first three tourist cars entered the park, in 1928 the number rose to 180 and in 1929 850 cars had made the journey. On 30 April 1946 after 44 years service, the warden, James Stevenson-Hamilton retired and was replaced by Colonel J. A. B. Sandenburg of the S.A. Air Force.

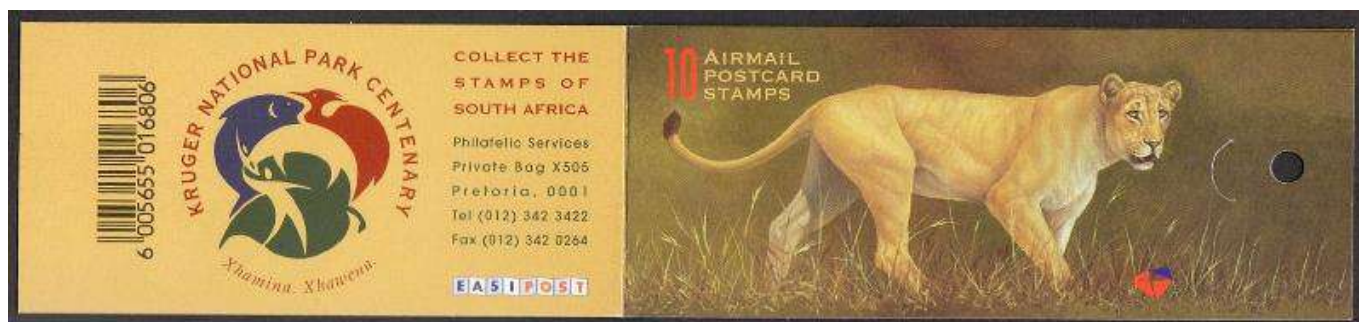
During 1959 the fencing of the park boundaries became a priority to curb the spread of disease, facilitate border patrolling and inhibit the movement of poachers. Work started on the southern boundary along the Crocodile River and in 1960 the western and northern boundaries were fenced, followed by the eastern boundary with Mozambique.

In 1969 the Government took possession of the northern part of the Makuleke area and relocated some 1500 Tribesmen to the South and in 1996 the Makuleke tribe submitted a land claim for 19,842 hectares (198.42 square kilometres) in the northern part of the Kruger National Park. This land was returned to the people who chose not to resettle it; they engaged the private sector, invested in tourism and built several game lodges.

In 2002 the Kruger National Park, Gonarezhou National Park in Zimbabwe and Limpopo National Park in Mozambique were incorporated into a peace park known as the Great Limpopo Transfrontier Park.

Information gleaned from the internet – Wikipedia, Ed.

The Centenary of the Kruger Park - 26 March 1998



Surprisingly there was no commemorative stamp to celebrate this event, but during 1998 a specially designed Centenary logo featured on four stamp booklets, the first issued on 11 February 1998 in a 'Big Five' booklet SG SB 44 or S.A.C.C. 1079

On the inside the following message appears:

South Africa enjoys a wide international reputation in the field of nature conservation and can boast of many successful projects in this regard. No better example can be quoted than that of the Kruger National Park which, on 26 March 1998, will celebrate its first hundred years of existence. Originally named the Sabie Game Reserve, it was subsequently enlarged and renamed the Kruger National Park. Today it is one of the oldest game reserves in the world. Its centenary will attract a great deal of attention among lovers of wildlife both locally and overseas.

During the centenary year of the Kruger Park five new 'standard postage' Antelope designs were added to the sixth definitive series featuring South African Wildlife.

Two booklets issued on 18 May & 2 November 1998 - SG SB 46 & 55 or SACC 1093 & 1178 - the latter printed by the House of Questa - both include the centenary logo and the above message.

The first self-adhesive stamps made their appearance in a booklet produced by Sprintpak in Australia; it includes the centenary logo, but not the message – its date of issue appears to be 18 August 1998, listed as SACC 1081 and dated 16.04.1998.

1948 The 50th Anniversary of the Kruger Park

Whilst the 50th Anniversary was not considered worthy of a postal celebration. It did not prevent the design of a very attractive sheetlet depicting eight animals.



Cancelled PRETORIUSKOP - 9 V 49

I have also seen the Giraffe label tied to a commercial cover postmarked ESTCOURT 16 VII 48 Ed.

The 1910 Cape Town Pageant by Otto Peetoom

The Pageant Committee published a souvenir booklet circa September/October 1910 that includes more than 100 pages of text and illustrations plus over 40 pages of advertisements, slightly larger than an A5, its cost was 1/-. In the introduction there are photographs of various dignitaries and copies of letters from Baron de Villiers & Prime Ministers of the Colonies who were in Office before the Union.

Frank Lascelles (1875 – 1934) an Englishman, born Frank Stevens, was appointed Master of the Pageant.

The first chapter includes a resume of how it came about:



Cover of the English Brochure (Size 188 x 122 mm)
Same design used for a postcard

The idea of celebrating that great event in this manner originated on the 5th July, 1909, when Councillor Drake carried a resolution to the effect 'that the question of steps to be taken for a fitting celebration of the inauguration of the Union Parliament be referred to the Finance and City Lands Committee for report.' At the meeting of that Committee held on the 19th July, the Town Clerk, Mr. J. R. Finch, was left the task of reporting on a suitable programme.

After strenuous labours Mr. Finch evolved a scheme submitted on Tuesday October 12th, *in which he* suggested that the Corporation should make an effort to include as a special feature of the celebration of Union, an Historical Pageant of South Africa, supporting his suggestion by pointing out the rich array of incidents in the History of this Country which could be represented, and the means of educating and cementing the various elements of which our white population is. In discussing the site he brought forward all the advantages offered by the foreshore, and gave a first sketch of such episodes as he thought the Portuguese, Dutch and English periods might lend for dramatic representation.

He pointed out that the Portuguese and Dutch authorities might be of great assistance in working out details, and added: 'The Pageant programme would, of course, extend over several days and certain days might be devoted to one particular period. 'The final celebration of the Pageant, when all periods would be grouped, should take the form of a public display along some of the streets of the city.' He dwelt upon the absolute necessity of co-operation on the part of the citizens and said that it would be advisable to form Committees for the purpose of considering the various details, discussed a programme of Festivities and the manner of receiving the Royal personages who would open the first Parliament of the Union, and gave hints on other matters connected with the proposed celebration.

The report was received with approbation and in November at a public meeting of citizens, the Mayor, Sir Frederick Smith, gave full credit to Mr. Finch for what he had done in the matter. A General Committee was formed and subsequently split up into various Sub-committees...Finance; Site, Buildings and Seating; Historical Incidents and Episodes; Costumes and Properties; Advertising and Publication; Music, and so forth. Finally a scheme was approved which would have extended the Pageant up to four days. This was subsequently modified by Mr. Markoe, the assistant of the Master of the Pageant, and slightly altered on the arrival of Mr. Frank Lascelles, who, owing to the successful manner in which he had conducted the Quebec Pageant, was unanimously selected as such Master so that the scheme as now proposed embraces a Pageant of two days, the first consisting of eight and the second of nine episodes.

The Pageant is a national one, and deals with the History of each of the Colonies forming part of the Union. For various reasons which will be easily understood the last sixty years have not been included in the period dealt with, more especially as the intention of the Pageant is to cement together, to obliterate points of difference, and to make all our fellow-countrymen feel that, whether they come from the Transvaal, from the Orange Free State, from Natal, or from the Cape Colony, their ancestors have all had a hand in the making of his country's history. Each contributed in his measure, and each should reap his reward.

The work of organisation has been conducted on a broad and liberal basis...the co-operation of all races and classes has been secured. It is estimated that some 5,000 performers will take part in the show.

The Union Government has guaranteed a sum of £15,000 for carrying into effect this National undertaking, and the people of Cape Town have extended that guarantee by a further sum of £6,000.

The performers belong to all classes and races of the population, from Bushmen to persons of title, and the spot selected for the representation of the Episodes is on the shores of Table Bay, in the vicinity of the landing-place of the early Portuguese navigators, of Johan van Riebeeck, and of the English skippers who in the early days have visited this port.

The booklet includes 50 pages of History plus numerous illustrations followed by a Synopsis of the planned Episodes. At the back of the book there is a list of fourteen different Committees associated with the event and brings home the scale of the Pageant's organization, the Patrons were H.R.H. Duke of Connaught and Viscount Gladstone, the Governor General. Committee members total over 450 which include a Ladies committee comprising of 173 women.

Although one gains the impression that the Pageant was a two day event, it is preferable to state that it was performed in two parts as each was performed on three occasions:

Part I on Saturday 29 October or Wednesday 2 November or Friday 4 November.

Part II on Monday 31st or Thursday 3rd or Saturday 5 November 1910.

In addition there was *The Pageant Fancy Dress Ball* on the Evening of November 1st at the Cape Town City Hall.

Three Publicity brochures were produced – Folded providing a front & back cover plus two inside pages that include the sequence of the two part programme.

These brochures exclude the opening Episode in Part II ‘COURT OF HOLLAND’ but this is included in a different six page programme in Ian Shapiro’s collection.

Two brochures were printed by S.A. ‘Electric’ Cape Town, both front covers are identical and in English (size 168 x 125mm) the remaining three pages have the same information, one in English, the other in Dutch. A reduced illustration appears on the front cover of this journal.

The Cape Town brochures were intended for people in South Africa and encourage them to write to the Publicity-Agent in Cape Town for a list of Hotels & boarding houses and there are offers of low tariff rail tickets and reduced fares from coastal ports onboard Union Castle Line ships.

Besides the list of events, it announces that the theme in Part I represents ‘The Discovery and Colonization of South Africa’ and Part II illustrates ‘The Commercial and Social Development of South Africa and the making of the Nation’.

The third brochure was printed in England by Hill, Siffken & Co. (L.P.A. Ltd.) London, the front cover illustrated on the previous page (size 188 x 122mm) and this design was also used for a Postcard.

The aim of this version appears to be a British promotion to encourage overseas visitors to come to South Africa for this momentous occasion offering reduced Fares with Union Castle Line during June to August 1910 and Thomas Cook offering a

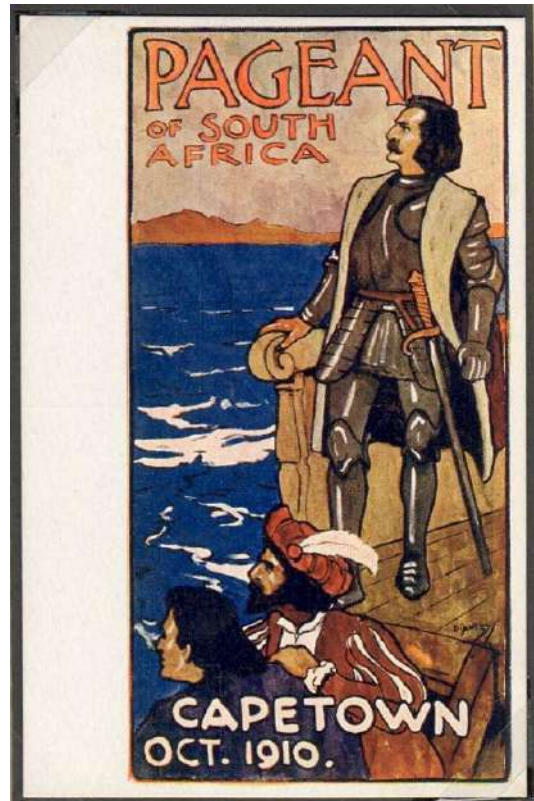
‘Select Conducted Party leaves London 27th August, 1910’.

The additional information on the inside of the English programme boasts: *Thousands of Performers – Gorgeous Costumes, Old World Courtesies, Dance and Music – Dances by the Bushmen Aborigines and Hottentots – Pageant Week in Cape Town – Splendid Illuminations – Pageant Ball – The Nation’s History portrayed under the shadow of the world-famed Table Mountain on the shores of Table Bay – Write for full programme to THE TOWN CLERK CAPE TOWN.*

This type of advertising was clearly there to inspire potential overseas visitors.

A large illustrated envelope (212 x 135 mm) was shown on the front cover of the previous *Springbok* and I believe its use may have included posting out the brochures as described.

The illustration on that envelope was also used on the rear of a ‘Programme of Music’ and included in a set of 24 colourful postcards produced by ‘The Cape Times’ on behalf of the Pageant Committee (see Illustration below)



Two slightly different ‘standard’ size envelopes with the Pageant logo are illustrated on the next page - courtesy of Ian Shapiro.

Joseph Lieberfreund in Perth, Australia has kindly given me the loan of his copy of this Souvenir Booklet and I am using O.C.R. to convert it to a word document and scanning all the illustrations. Also thanks to Ian Shapiro for his valuable input.

Facilities for Tourists visiting South Africa for the Union Celebrations and Pageant, the Victoria Falls, Zambesia, etc.

<p style="text-align: center;">Union-Castle Line ROYAL MAIL SERVICE TO SOUTH & EAST AFRICA.</p> <p>Opening of the First Union Parliament of South Africa at Capetown. The Capetown Pageant, &c.</p> <p><i>Special Return Tickets at Reduced Fares will be issued during June, July and August, 1910.</i></p> <p><i>Superior accommodations and Cuisine.</i></p> <p><i>Extensive Excursions at reduced inclusive fares may be combined with these Tours to the principal places of interest in the Cape Peninsula, Natal, Transvaal, Rhodesia, including the far-famed Victoria Falls.</i></p> <p>APPLY TO DONALD CURRIE & CO., MANAGERS, LONDON AND SOUTHAMPTON.</p> <p>Offices of the Company at Birmingham, Liverpool, Manchester and Glasgow; and at Capetown, Port Elizabeth, East London, Durban, Lawrence Marquet and Johannesburg.</p>	<p style="text-align: center;">Travel Arrangements TO AND IN SOUTH AFRICA Can be made at any office of</p> <p style="text-align: center;">THOS. COOK & SON.</p> <p>Chief Office: LUDGATE CIRCUS, LONDON.</p> <p>Capetown: { CORNER OF STRAND and 22 ST. GEORGE'S STREETS.</p> <p>Durban: SMITH STREET.</p> <p>Select Conducted Party leaves London 27th August, 1910.</p>
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Exhibition of Antiquities, Paintings, etc. 22 22

Trips up Table Mountain under competent Guides.

The Pageant of South Africa is a thrilling, dramatic representation of the most interesting and important episodes in the last born Nation in the British Empire. It is a Ritual of the Nation, conceived in a spirit of patriotism and born of the highest and purest artistic ideals.

VISIT CAPETOWN IN OCTOBER, 1910

Printed by Hill, Siffken & Co., (L.P.A., Ltd.), London

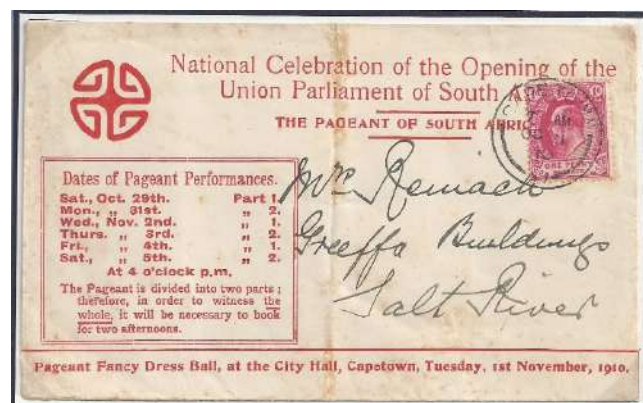
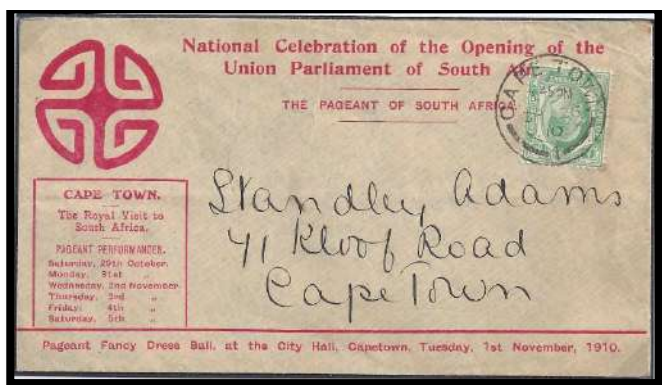
The Reverse of the English (London) Brochure

The 1910 Pageant Emblem

This is described as a Swastika and stated to be a religious symbol used by early Aryan races and is supposed to represent the sun as it is invariably found to be associated with the worship of the sun-god...chosen by the Pageant Committee as an emblem of South African Union and its four arms denote the four colonies of the Cape of Good Hope, Transvaal, Orange Free State and Natal.



There is another note that refers the reader to an 1898 book by T. Wilson: ‘The Swastika, the earliest known symbol and its migrations’.



Posted Cape Town SP 26 10 & OC 21 10

Frank Lascelles (1875–1934) - Pageant Master

Born in 1875 the son of the Reverend Edward Thomas Stevens, vicar of Sibford Gower and christened **Frank William Thomas Charles Stevens**. He went on to read English at Keble College, Oxford and was a leading light in undergraduate dramatics. He became an actor, appearing 1904-06 at His Majesty's Theatre where Sir Herbert Beerbohm Tree was actor-manager and it was at this time that he adopted the name **Lascelles**.

Pageants embodying the spirit of local and national pride were the fashion of the day and Lascelles made his name directing them. He came to be known as 'the man who staged the Empire'.

Some of the pageants and celebrations he devised are as follows:

1. 1907 The Oxford Historical Pageant
2. 1908 The Tercentenary of Canada at Quebec
3. 1909 Bath Historical Pageant
4. 1910 Union Parliament of South Africa celebrations at Cape Town
5. 1910 Pageant of London with a cast of 15,000
6. 1912 Coronation Durbar at Calcutta with over 300,000 participants
7. 1924 Pageant of Empire at the British Empire Exhibition at Wembley

SOURCE: Information researched by Dr Deborah Ryan in preparation for a forthcoming biography of Lascelles.

Our auction is scheduled for November 2012

Entries close: mid September



For further information see our website

www.stephanwelzandco.co.za

or contact Morné de la Guerre

Landline +27 (0)11 880 3125 Fax +27 (0)11 880 2656

Email morne.dela.guerre@stephanwelzandco.co.za



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Stephan Welz & Co.

AUCTIONEERS OF DECORATIVE & FINE ARTS

Telephone +27 (0)11 880 3125
jhb@stephanwelzandco.co.za

Postal Address – P.O. Box 52431
2132 Saxonwold. South Africa

Postscript

We have debated the best Font and size to employ and the decision is New Times Roman point 10 in favour of Arial, Calibri, Tahoma and Verdana. We are of the opinion that, far as is practical, two columns per page will be utilized to ensure user-friendly reading.

The actual month of publication will appear on each journal and the schedule for publication is mid-February, May, August and November, exact date of distribution is at the discretion of the Editor. The deadline for contributions is the ends of a previous month i.e. end January, April, July and October. At my discretion & time permitting, I may publish this year's final edition to coincide with Leamington.