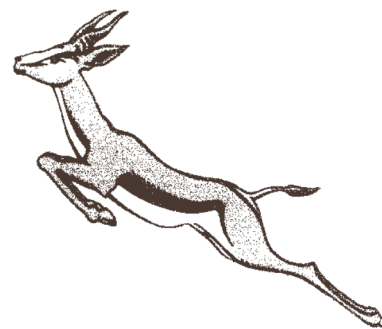


THE SPRINGBOK



SOUTH AFRICAN COLLECTORS' SOCIETY
QUARTERLY

www.southafricacollectors.com

Volume 62 No. 2



Incomplete "D" in DOUANE

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The Springbok is published quarterly for the benefit of Members of the South African Collectors' Society. It is not available to non-members. Contributions in the form of letters, notes, reports of SA related activities, articles, etc., are always welcome and should be sent to the Hon. Editor. All correspondence including a SAE will be acknowledged.

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Editorial

Those of you that have computers and have not looked at our new website please do so. Otto has done a splendid job as web master and there is information on there that I can not print due to size restrictions with the Springbok.

For those of you who do not have computers please be rest assured that the website will not take the place of the Springbok. Otto and I are working together to try and include as much information in both forms, the Website and Springbok, as we can.

Due to the size of the Springbok files, Otto has found it impossible to include all the back issues of the Springbok on the Website as they would take up too much space, so we have set up a Workspace where members can view and download the past two years Springbok. To access this site please read and follow the instructions given on the Society Website.

Since taking on the role as Editor I have struggled with the images that I have been sent. Most of the articles that I receive are in PDF format and while it is time consuming to retype the wording, which I am willing to do, the images are almost nearly impossible to enhance. If at all possible could you all please try and send the images separately in a JPEG file or photo. PDF files do not reproduce to a satisfactory standard as can be seen in the last few issues of the Springbok.

Membership

Ken Southall 1145 has resigned from the society due to personal reasons.

Barry Coleman 710 has also resigned.

We are sad to report the sudden death of Donald Farmborough member 1111. He suffered a massive heart attack and did not recover.

Ray Upson from South Africa has decided not to renew his membership.

Bran Leflang 1094 from the Netherlands has rejoined the society.

News in Brief from the Editors Desk

Significant honours have been conferred upon two of our members; the first is the award of the Congress Medal to our Hon. Secretary, **Chris Oliver** and the second award is to **Robert Johnson** who has been invited to sign the Roll of Distinguished Philatelists. Robert is the fifth society member to sign the Roll. Chris has served our society well and also philately in general and his name was submitted by this society. Robert has, more than once, shown us aspects of his Cape of Good Hope rectangulars when the extent of his scholarship has been quite obvious. *J. L. Shaw*

Barry Knox has confirmed that he has a block of the 7 cent buildings stamps showing all the same flaws that were listed in the last Springbok on page 7. *They may be more common than first thought Ed.*

Mike Tonking has sent in some comments about the Auction Review in the last Springbok : I was interested in Tony Howgrave-Graham's comment on the Bloom auction with regard to the 1962 Red Cross centenary with the missing Red Cross. Reference to the SA Stamp Study Circle Newsletter of April 1965 and the SAP of August 1965 indicates that there could be as many as 40 examples with the completely missing Red Cross and 20 examples with half missing crosses. It is probable that the true number may never be known. In the case of the 1959 Academy with the missing deep blue printing only six examples are known which shows that it is considerably rarer than the missing red cross. Since it sold at 50% of the price obtained for the missing Red Cross someone bought a bargain.

Mike Tonking has confirmed that the 1d. Large War Effort row 2/2 'button on sleeve' is constant. Vol. 62/1 page 17 article by Peter Pannall.

Please do not forget your entry for the Abell Trophy competition. 31st May Leamington Spa

S.A.C.S. Leamington Spa Meeting, 31st May & 1st June 2014

In the last Springbok, John Shaw described the meeting held last year as an “experiment,” one which I personally felt was a success and worth repeating. The meeting was intended to replace a London date, as those meetings were suffering from dwindling numbers. Rather than bemoan the situation, I offered to try and do something about it.

I am happy to organise another two day meeting to be held over the weekend of 31st May & June 1st 2014. For those who attended last year, the format will be the same as 2013. We started at 11am with displays either side of lunch, later in the day we had the Abell Trophy for one frame displays, finally followed by the A.G.M. On the Sunday we have plenty of time for attendees to show what they want to bring along, followed by the auction in the afternoon.

However, I can only book the hotel and arrange the chairs and tables in the room. It is the members who attend who make the meeting a success. So, please let me know if you wish to come. The rooms are priced £60 for dinner, bed and breakfast for a single, £90 for a double. There is no subject for the meeting, so I will need some offers of displays. The atmosphere is intended to be relaxed and informal, so not only can you show a neatly written up collection, but if your collection looks a little untidy, or is still housed on fourteen different types of album page then this is an ideal opportunity for you to show what you have! If you would just like to come for the day, or come along and just watch the displays, you will be made welcome. We are a friendly bunch and we love to see new faces.

My contact details are at the front, or you can write to me;
Simon Peetoom, AfricaStamps.co.uk, PO Box 16746, Birmingham, B35 9DQ

REGISTERED SOUTH WEST AFRICAN POSTAL HISTORY & POSTAL STATIONERY WANTED

I am a keen collector of registered postal stationery, envelopes, postcards and airletters of SA over-printed with South West Africa in different fonts, mainly from the 1920's onwards up to around 1950. I collect mint or used and 'Specimens'

I also collect Banknotes of South West Africa (Standard Bank, Barclays Bank and Volkskas Bank) from 1920 to 1960

THEMATICS FOR SALE : I have numerous thematic sets with Birds, Flowers, Trees , Fish, Plants and Solar themes in unmounted mint condition.

SALE : COMPLETE COLLECTION OF POSTMARKS OF NATAL

Dated about 1975. Postcards cancelled from every Post Office in Natal at the time.

Numerous other items of South Africa—if there is anything that you are keen on, do enquire as I may have some for sale e.g. Complete sheet of the 1/2d grey on green Springbok, Issue 17 of May 1948 showing all the listed varieties detailed in stamps of South Africa Handbook.

Please Email: Alan Ginsberg at grebsnig@hotmail.com with any offers or enquiries about the items mentioned above or Tel: 079507807891 during normal working hours.

**A RECORD OF THE MEETING OF THE SOUTH AFRICAN COLLECTORS' SOCIETY
HELD AT POSTAL PURSUITS PREMISES, LETCHWORTH GARDEN CITY ON
SATURDAY, 1ST MARCH 2014, AT 13.30 HRS.**

Seven members and two guests attended. Some of us had arrived earlier to view Thomas Humfrey's stock. Apologies had been received from Max Whitlock, Roland Archer and David Page.

Dr. Chris Board had refined his researches into the First Union Stamp and displayed a copy of a proof which had been in the De La Rue archive sale. This had made its way to the Bloom collection and was now in private hands. From the reports of 30th May 1910 in the S.A. Post Office archives Chris had produced a chart showing the post offices open in each province and the first day cancels of the 2½d stamp.

Rob and Lyn Lester displayed the 2½d Union stamps on cover with W.W. I. Censor marks and labels. Where numbered these labels were 99 and the circular censor mark was mainly C14 although C6 and C21 were present. Rob also explained that they were attracted to the Make-your-sixpence-Fly cards and other experimental airmail. On some of this mail, which they displayed, was included an airmail etiquette label designed for this experiment.

Some "liquorice allsorts" from Bob Hill followed. Including early post cards of Cape Town Docks and cancellation of "WINDHOEK" which included a small "k" and much more material. Wreck mail from the Mexican and from the Birkenhead which went aground near Danger Point. The only available postal cancellation at Danger Point was a telegraph canceller.



Chris Oliver had brought some printing trial sheets to show. The first sheets related to the Antelopes issue of May 1998 and their development, which Chris included in his display, although much had been seen before by members. The other four full sheets of colour trials featured a vignette of an art-nouveau lady in an array of colours on papers of varying thickness and make-up produced by South Africa Pulp and Paper Industries [SAPPI]. Two additional items of recent acquisition were a double proof of the cover to the first Big Five booklet and a W.W.II receipt for sheepskins sent to the Royal Navy Fund in S.A.

Tony Johnson showed an interesting selection of South African War Issues with full sheets of low value stamps and included a car licence issued monthly.

Slogan Postmarks 1913 – 1948 was the theme chosen by David Osborn for his display. Some of the most interesting slogans were produced between 1912 and 1952. David explained that there were, at least, four varieties of the V for Victory slogan. He also showed a flaw in the SPEND LESS – SAVE MORE with the first two letters missing.

We finished an excellent afternoon with a further short display of S.A. newspaper wrappers from Chris Oliver.

Our thanks Bob Hill for providing sandwiches and cakes at the interval, and also to Thomas Humfrey for allowing us to use his premises for our meeting and we hope to return there for another meeting in 2015.



Carlisle Meeting March 2014 Report

by David Haig

Present : David Haig, Eric Hammond, Colin Moore, Peter Dix, Roy Ross & John Ahmed

Apologies : Max Whitlock, David MacDonald & Malcolm Ridsdale

The Meeting started with positive approval of John Ahmed's article in the latest Springbok about South African POW's. The article was the written version of the display given at Carlisle in September 2013.

A member asked about the use of Aircraft in SWA during the First World War. John Ahmed was able to explain that 4 aircraft had been sent to SWA prior to hostilities, 2 of which had crashed and only one was serviceable when war commenced. The aircraft were used for reconnaissance and attached to the South African troops invading SWA. John had a picture of a South African camp photographed by this aircraft and a letter from South African soldiers describing being bombed by this same plane. Arthur Harris served during the SWA campaign and legend states that experience of getting bombed by this aircraft gave him the idea for strategic bombing by Bomber Command.

David Haig explained how he had been given all the South African books and Kiloware belonging to now sadly deceased SACS member Ray Glanville Jones. The books and stamps were available free to Carlisle members as per the wishes of the family, with many titles being added to the library. Several members commented that they missed the friendship and knowledge such as Ray, Don Todd, Bill Branney, Franz Hayman and Godfrey Mellor.

Peter Dix is looking for more Union Castle material and is looking for single stamps of the 2007 ships of the Union Castle set. Eric commented that he had travelled on the Pretoria Castle in 1967 taking 11 days to reach Cape Town via Madeira before continuing up the South African coast to P.E, East London and finally Durban.

The Springbok Editor: Roy Ross asked for new articles for the Springbok. Comments were made that we have not seen an article on Official Stamps and that it seemed to be quite difficult to get stamps and impossible to find a collection for sale. Roy also commented that most members have access to the internet and that many of these had opted to receive the Springbok electronically. Roy reminded anyone including pictures for publication to send the best quality possible. A poor picture cannot be improved while a large high definition picture can always be resized. If a picture is worth a 1000 words, Springbok readers really value the illustrations.

John Ahmed said that he had been in South Africa recently doing research at the military museum in Saxonwold Johannesburg. It has an incredible collection of small arms as well as larger items. While there a visitor brought in letters from his father who had been stationed in Madagascar during WW2. One APO-MPK (Militar pos kantoor) is very elusive. It should have been APO 50 but the postmaster had made a mistake and added a U to get U-50. The cancel remained in use for 6 months before the error was spotted and corrected. The Man's letter had the cancel U-50. Just a few days later another visitor brought in letters from his father who had been a POW in Italy and was trying to locate the Camp. John assisted the museum staff by explaining that the camp was Givare and was located near Genoa.

John was in Johannesburg researching the WW1 campaign in SWA. Unlike 1939 South Africa joined the war very quickly in 1914. London assigned South Africa the task of dealing with South West Africa and in particular the large radio transmitters located at Luderitz, Windhoek and Swakopmund. The 2 at Luderitz and Windhoek had the range to communicate directly with Berlin, which would allow German naval command to communicate with German submarines, warships and raiders operating in the South Atlantic and Indian Oceans. The Union invaded SWA in Sept 1914. Central Force landed at Luderitzbucht and then they had to hang around for 3 months whilst a rebellion was suppressed. Southern Force also crossed the Orange River in Sept and there was the Battle of Sandfontein with the 1st casualties, this was a bit of a disaster from the Union point of view and when Maritz showed his hand refusing to provide reinforcements the troops at and around Luderitz were encamped for some time.

Displays:

Colin Moore: 20c - R2 control of 6 depicting the Protea Definitives. Control blocks of the 1982 SWA Animal Definitives.

Peter Dix: Postcards of the Herero War including Nicholas Witbooi, General Von Trotha and covers of German buildings, post offices etc in SWA.

Roy Ross: Full sheets of the 4th Buildings series including varieties.

Agenda for the A.G.M. of the South African Collectors' Society to be held at The Falstaff Hotel, Leamington Spa at 17.00hrs on Saturday, 31st May 2014.

1. Apologies.
2. Record of previous A.G.M.
3. Matters arising if not included elsewhere in the agenda.
4. The Hon. Chairman's written report.
5. The Hon. Secretary's written report.
6. The Hon. Treasurer's report and ratification of annual subscriptions for 2015.
7. Reports from other officers of the Society, if any.
8. Election of Officers and committee.
9. **Ratification of Library Fund.**
At present we allocate £200 per annum to enable the Hon. Librarian to purchase new books for the Library.
10. **Society meetings and events :**
 - a) A brief report on those held. [if not already recorded in The Springbok.]
 - b) S.A.C.S. meetings in Carlisle and London in 2015.
 - c) Other meetings for S.A.C.S. in 2015.
 - d) British Philatelic Congress.
 - e) Any others: Midpex and Swinpex
11. **S.A.C.S. support for Youth Philately.**
In previous years we have made a donation to support this. Do we wish to continue to do so?
12. **A.O.B.** – if notified to the Hon. Secretary prior to the meeting.



New website offering fine Southern Africa stamps and specialised items.



Email: info@AfricaStamps.co.uk

A Report on the LONDON MEETING – APRIL 2014 by John Shaw

Our first 2014 London meeting was held, as usual, at the Calthorpe Arms in Holborn but, unusually was held on a Sunday due to a clash of bookings; those present were Maurice Flack, Christopher Oliver, David Page and John Shaw. There was no business to discuss but John Shaw reported that significant honours had been conferred upon two of our members; the first was the award of the Congress Medal to our Hon. Secretary, Chris Oliver and, then, invitation to sign the Roll of Distinguished Philatelists to Robert Johnson. Chris has served our society well and, also, philately in general and his name was submitted by this society. Robert has, more than once, shown us aspects of his Cape of Good Hope rectangulars when the extent of his scholarship has been quite obvious. The meeting was unanimous in congratulating to both of them.

The theme for this meeting was “Homelands” and, as promised, Maurice Flack showed us his collection, not of the normal, mint or first day covers, but the complete collection, all commercially used. The Bantustan “Homelands” came into being in 1976, as independent territories, but with the Republic responsible for external security, and sharing a common currency. Each of the four homelands issued its own stamps and, although the homelands did not receive international recognition, the stamps were accepted internationally. In 1984, at the end of apartheid, the homelands were re-incorporated into the Republic, but the stamps have never been demonetized and are still valid for postage anywhere in the republic.



Bophuthatswana was the first to be shown and all 305 stamps issued were represented, although Maurice confessed to not having been able to find any of the miniature sheets commercially used; included were the two definitive sets, both complete to the 2 Rand, a £1 then, but seemingly trivial 10 pence now with the current rate of exchange.

Ciskei was the last of the homelands to be established, in 1981, but in its 3 years of existence managed to issue 249 different stamps, with just one definitive set; an especially valued acquisition was a very fine commercially used

block of all 15 of the “comet” stamps, plus the Halley’s comet and whale issue, the latter being very difficult to locate used.

Transkei was the first of the homelands and issued 317 different stamps, with two definitive sets and three miniature sheets; like the other territories, all of these stamps are well produced, well designed and well printed in multi-colour photogravure.

Venda was the third homeland and issued 276 stamps plus three miniature sheets; it lasted five years, from 1979 to 1984; Maurice related how he used to spend hours with a dealer affectionately known as “Tomato box man” who housed his whole stock of covers in boxes rescued from the supermarkets and several elusive items from Venda were thus acquired.

Maurice stated it had taken him some 35 years to obtain all of these stamps commercially used, and given him oceans of pleasure; it was something new to us all and Maurice received a well deserved round of applause.

John Shaw concluded the display by showing some Transkei first day covers (ugh!) and then three homeland “forerunners”. The first cover bore a strip of three 1929 4d airmails on the Cape to London 1932 first flight, the Johannesburg to London stages but sent from Umtata, later the capital of Transkei and also known as “Sin City” for its lax laws on gambling and other “sinful” aspects of the Western world. Then, there was a 1941 EA – APO 2 censored envelope into Umtata which had probably contained a Christmas card, but the envelope had “ON ACTIVE SERVICE” in gold on the front, and bilingual crowned S.A.C. SIGNALS emblem on reverse, and finally a 1929 Cape Town to Johannesburg first flight cover, addressed to Umtata and bearing a single 6d official.

Yet again, despite the poor attendance, this was an interesting and worthwhile meeting, enjoyed by all.

South African Collectors Society

Income and expenditure to 31st December 2013

Income		Expenditure	
Subscriptions collected	2,179.82	Springbok 4 magazines	866.47
Subscriptions S A Mag	496.00	Purchase SA Mag	489.10
		Postage stock used	626.98
Auction Income NA	1,136.21	Rent London	82.00
Photocopy sales	347.96	Rent Carlisle	50.00
Donation	45.00	Other Room Hire	10.00
Book Sales	357.00	Book sale costs	152.00
Packet Surplus	45.95	Stamp Insurance	220.92
Advertising Magazine	80.00	Abps and handbook	168.31
L.Spa June 2013 Auction	444.19	Engraving	15.00
		Expenses	1.53
Interest 2013	22.02	Trophy	54.60
	-		-
	<u>5,154.15</u>		<u>2,736.91</u>

Surplus for year 2,417.24

Balance Sheet as at 31st December 2013

Bank Current	5,481.14	Subs 2014	551.00
Cash	38.93	Insurance 2014	136.50
S.A. Rands 7499	473.00		
Deposit Account	3,022.01		
N.Arrow June Auction Account	444.19		
Packet Fund Account	<u>45.95</u>		
	9,505.22		687.50
Copier	1.00		
		Society Funds	
Trophies	982.80	Balance	
Stamps	9.06		
	-	Brought Forward	7393.34
	<u>-</u>	Surplus for year	<u>2417.24</u>
Totals	<u>10,498.08</u>		<u>9,810.58</u>
			<u>10,498.08</u>

Treasurers

Report

This year has been good for consolidation and putting the Society in a good financial position and thanks should go to: Max Whitlock in his hard work of creating money for the society with use of the photocopier.

Nick Arrow for running the auctions which has brought money to the society.

Tony Johnston running the packet with increasing competition.

Chris Oliver for bringing in the Membership fees.

Eddie Bridges for his book sales.

There is no mention of Leamington Spa accounts this year as they are no longer part of the main bank account.

David Osborn

1961 FIRST RSA DEFINITIVE

How to sort out the nine groups of the 1961-73 Definitives of RSA using a blue ultra-violet

There are 4 basic papers from the front.

1. Non fluorescent and non phosphor (i.e. untreated paper). This shows up a dark pink or dark grey and does not reflect light at all.
2. Fluorescent paper gives a dirty grey or pale whitish reflection, but is dull and not at all bright.
3. Phosphor Frame, this is a bright shiny yellow or cream colour around the border of the stamp and inside this border the stamp is fluorescent as in number 2.
4. All over phosphor: the stamp has a very bright reflection and can vary from whitish blue to bright white to a bright yellowish white.

Use the Diagram at the end of this section for easy reference

When confronted by a mass of stamps, sorting may be done in steps as follows.

STEP 1:

Put all the stamps face up under the U.V. lamp and sort into four sections.

Section 1: The stamps are very dull pink colour and are difficult to see until your eyes are used to the lamp. These are non-fluorescent and non-phosphor or untreated paper.

Section 2: The Stamps are a greyish colour, definitely whiter than section 1, but may easily be mixed up with section 4. However, when placed side by side, the white border of the perforation is bright clean white in section 4 as opposed to a dull greyish colour in section 2.

Section 3: All stamps have a bright yellow border around the sides. Thickness differs and centering is often bad

Section 4: A very bright white, but sometimes tending towards blue or yellow and the brightness and colour do vary a lot, however they are a lot brighter than section 2. The stamps like 1/2c, 1c, 3c, 4c, 6c and 15c are easy to distinguish – but with the 2c, 5c, 9c, 10c and 20c one must concentrate on the white surround and not the inside of the stamps.

STEP 2

Take section 3, those with the bright yellow border and turn them all up-side-down and put under the U.V. lamp:

- a) Those with a grey or fluorescent back are group VII (Harrison paper)
- b) those with a dull pink non-fluorescent back are group VI (Swiss paper)

STEP 3:

Take Section 2 those with a fluorescent grey front, turn them all up-side-down and sort into two piles.

- a). Pink non-fluorescent back are Group V
- b). Grey fluorescent back are either Group III or IV (see step 4)

STEP 4:

Take those from pile b) Above (Step 3, Section b) and face them all upright and sort out into original design and redrawn design.

Most values are automatic i.e. 1 1/2c, 5c, 7 1/2c, 10c and 20c must be original design, while 1/2c, 2c, 12 1/2c and 15c are all redrawn design

The problem stamps are 1c, 2c, 2 1/2c, 50c and R1

1c Original – K in "Republiek" is directly above F in "Africa"

1c Redrawn – K in "Republiek" is between F & R in "Africa"

2c Original – N in "van" is just to right of K in "Africa"

2c Redrawn – N in "van" is directly above A in "Africa"

2 1/2c Original – R in "Republic" is above 'i' in "Suid"

2 1/2c Redrawn – R in "Republic" is between S & U in "Suid"

50c Original – Republic of S.A. is to the left and level with "50c"

50c Redrawn – Republic of S.A. is above the "50c"

R1 Original – N in "van" is to the right of K in "Africa"

R1 Redrawn – N in "van" is directly above A in "Africa"

Also:

Original design: The vertical height of the words "Republic of" are the same as "South Africa"

Redrawn: The vertical height of South Africa is much greater than "Republic of"

Those of the original design are then Group III.

Those of the redrawn design are then Group IV.

STEP 5:

Take the 50c and R1 stamps from the redrawn group above (i.e. Group IV).

The 50c is automatically Group VII.

Using a Watermark detector sort the R1 into:

a) RSA in triangle watermark. This group IV

b) RSA in triangle tête-bêche watermark. This actually chronologically Group VII, but it does not have a phosphor border as this and the 50c values were mainly used for parcels and do not go through the automatic franking machines, and therefore did not require a phosphor border for automatic cancelling.

We have now sorted out Groups III, IV, V, VI and VII – only I, II, VIII & IX remain and the U.V. lamp can no longer be used.

The difference between Groups I & II and between VIII & IX are to be found in the watermarks.

Firstly, know what watermarks you will be looking for:

Group I is a Coat of Arms watermark, which looks like this:



Group VIII is the RSA triangle tête-bêche watermark, and looks like this:



STEP 6:

Take Section 1 and sort into:

A) Those with Coat of Arms watermark, these are automatically Group 1

B) Those with no watermark are automatically Group II.

STEP 7:

Take Section 4 and sort into:

A) Those with the RSA tête-bêche watermark are automatically Group VIII

B) Those with no watermark are Group IX.

Section No.	1		2			3		4	
Stamps seen from front under UV Lamp	Pink Very Dark		Grey			Yellow Border		Bright White/Yellow	
Sub-Section No.	A	B	C	D	E	F	G	H	I
Stamps seen from back under a UV Lamp	Pink Dark	Pink Dark	Grey	Grey	Pink Dark	Pink Dark	Grey	Grey White	Grey White
How to Differentiate Section 1, 2, 3 and 4	Coat of arms Wmk	No Wmk	Original design	Redrawn design	Pink Back	Pink back	Grey Back	RSA T-B wmk	No Wmk
Watermarks	Coat of arms	None	RSA	RSA	RSA T-B	RSA T-B	RSA T-B	RSA T-B	None
Designs	Original	Original	Original	Redrawn	Redrawn	Redrawn	Redrawn	Redrawn	Redrawn
Paper	Un-Treated	Un-Treated	Harrison	Harrison	Swiss	Swiss	Harrison	Phosphorised	Phosphorised
Group Numbers	I	II	III	IV	V	VI	VII	VIII	IX

Abbreviations used:

UV = Ultra Violet

wmk = Watermark

T-B = Tête-bêche

Hume Henderson – final report, (so far)

By Peter Pannall, Sebastian Payne, Ron Winter.

The saga began when Peter reported blocks of the Large War Effort said to be signed by the designer, whose name appeared to be Hugh Henderson (1 in Figure). These were the half-penny and one shilling



issues, the designer of which is not known (The Springbok 61/1 p.7). In response Bas suggested that the name was Hume Henderson , not Hugh, as originally thought. He also identified a Hume Henderson as an illustrator of an edition of “Alice in Wonderland” which was published in 1928 with several later editions. He made enquiries through a book dealer friend but that came to nothing.

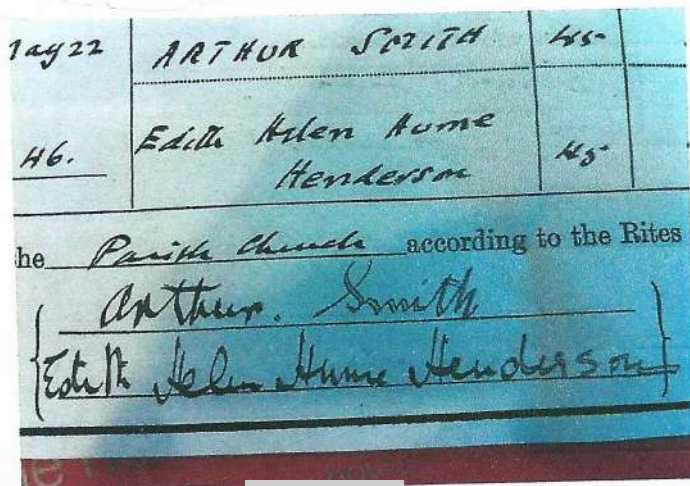


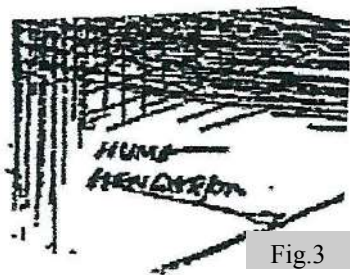
Fig. 2

Bas and his wife went further and tracked down an Edith Helen Hume Henderson who used to live in Essex. She described herself as an artist. They managed to track down her signature in a marriage register (2 in Figure). Peter submitted this, with the stamps, to a forensic handwriting team where it was decided that they were not the same person. In any event, there was nothing to link her to South Africa. At this point the trail went cold (The Springbok 61/3 p.54).

Recently, Ron, a new member, was looking through old issues of The Springbok and found the story. He, too, identified Hume Henderson as an Alice in Wonderland illustrator and, more important, came up with an illustration with a signature. With renewed enthusiasm I (Peter) found the book on the website of the University of Florida’s Baldwin Library of Historical Children’s Literature and obtained several more signatures (3 in Figure), which I submitted to the handwriting experts. The verdict was not an outright no, but rather a cannot say. Apparently the printed signature masks many of the features used for comparison. Most too are in upper case and in different styles (not in itself a problem).

Suzan Alteri of the Baldwin Library was very helpful and referred the question to their research section. They could find no biographical details of Hume Henderson other than the names of other books that he had illustrated. I found two of those but the drawings were not signed. One of them raised hopes. It was “The Afrikaner Little Boy”, a book of songs with a South African theme. This was the best link to South Africa that we had had. It was published in 1935 and written by Pattie Price, described as an authoritarian elderly lady who, after being rescued from a wrecked ship in the English Channel, prompted the formation of the Southern African version of the Royal National Lifeboat Institution. In earlier days she had been an entertainer and, as a founder member of the Black Sash movement, had attracted the attention of the security police.

Cont’



Other organisations that have been contacted, unsuccessfully, for biographical information on Hume Henderson include the Antique Collectors' Club, the U.K. Lewis Carroll Society and the Oxford University Reference Library.

Thus far we have drawn a blank. The possibility that the designer of these stamps was the Alice in Wonderland illustrator still exists but the case is very circumstantial. We have no proof that the signature "Hume Henderson" on the blocks is that of the designer and only a weak link between Hume Henderson and South Africa. It would be nice to have access to Government Printing Works records although it is hard to see

why it has remained a mystery if the answer is to be found there. Maybe Hume Henderson was a pen name, maybe he (or Edith Helen) was commissioned for this task but again, why should it have remained a mystery? What is the link with The Afrikaner Little Boy? As so often happens, a search merely results in more questions. We are open for suggestions.

Editor's note: Peter sent me more copies of the signature but unfortunately because they are copies of copies they would not reproduce satisfactory



A Query from Chris Oliver

Don't believe all you read

Having purchased at the Bloom sale at Spink, at a higher price than originally intended, a collection of the War Issue stamps, I set myself the Easter holiday task of assimilating these into my collection and of writing them up. Using various editions of the Handbook Catalogue I was surprised to see the two varieties of the 1½d value with the designation of V1. Row 16/8 & V2. 18/8 respectively.

In sheets of 20 rows of 12 stamps my marginal block, below, must either be an 11 stamp row or the designation should be 16/9 & 18/9 respectively? Any thoughts Please?



Handbook

82

1½d. Dark myrtle-green. Shades

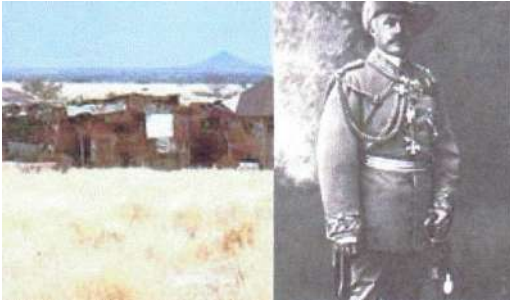
CONTROLS

Ca. Marginal arrow block of four

VARIETIES

V1. White "V" sign on right shoulder.
Row 16/8

V2. White spot in background at left centre. Row 18/8



The Herero War by Peter Dix

Reproduced from Peter's display at the Carlisle meeting March 2014

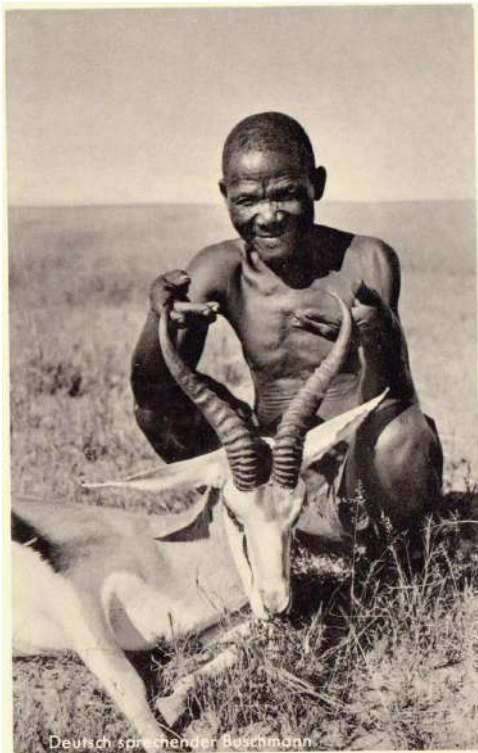
Part 1

Before the mass killings of Armenians, Jews, Cambodians and Tutsis, there were the Herero. The mighty German Empire faced off with the Herero cattle raisers of Southwest Africa in what many now refer to as 'The Forgotten War' It was the first genocidal war of what was to become a genocidal century.

Brief history

For thousands of years dating back to the Stone Age, primitive man lived in Namibia until San hunter-gatherers or bushmen emerged. They lived in small groups scattered across the country establishing their own civilisation and lifestyles based on the terrain and wildlife. When the various tribes were firmly settled, loose boundaries were formed and a small group of cattle raisers settled in the central and eastern parts of the country. These were the Herero.

The first European believed to have set foot on Namibian soil was Portuguese explorer, Deigo Cao who landed at Cape Cross on the Namib Coast in 1486. Although small trading posts were set up along the coast, 200 years were to pass before any European trader or missionary was to venture inland across 100km of the Namib Desert.



In 1878, Britain annexed the Walvis Bay while sometime later, Germany who were showing a greater expansionist interest in Africa declared Luderitz her protectorate. By the end of 1884, Germany had stamped her authority on Namibia, beginning an era of brutal colonial rule.

German Plans

With its mechanism of administration in motion, German rule became firmly established and its laws strictly enforced. German settlers began moving inland and many Namibians lost their lands and livestock while local chieftain authority was restricted.

So over a 20 year period, large areas of land changed ownership, not only as a result of German confiscation but because Herero leaders had to sell their land to recoup losses to regain power and influence. A crisis embroiled within the social structure of Namibia and the Herero in particular saw this as a direct threat to their survival. In January 1904, faced with little option, the Herero rose to challenge German rule.

The initial plan mapped out by Theodor Leutwein, the German Governor, was to keep the Herero as a pool of cheap if not, free labour. This was seen as a humane form of colonial rule but he grossly underestimated the immense hardships it would bring to the Namibians, who displayed widespread dissent.

Owing to this, Berlin considered Leutwein as being 'too soft' on the Namibians. They wanted a no-nonsense imposition of their colonial rules and identified one such person to effect this. General Lothar von Trotha was to take over command from Leutwein. He was an experienced colonial soldier who took part in the Boxer rebellion in China and was notorious for his butchery in putting down another African uprising in German East Africa.

One Man's Agenda

By re-assigning power to von Trotha, Berlin had inadvertently unleashed a greater terror on the Namibians. Von Trotha was never one to accept advice from his colonial officers and administrators. This was best demonstrated when despite the economic, social and moral concerns voiced by staff, von Trotha went on with his agenda.

The General intended to totally wipe out all opposition and resistance to Germany's colonial presence in Namibia. He identified the Herero as his top priority to achieve this. Initially it is believed that Berlin thought by this' von Trotha meant putting down local dissent once and for all and gave him the go-ahead. So von Trotha went ahead to unleash his war machine on the Herero.

When word surfaced that von Trotha was actually out to annihilate the whole Herero, the German government was split between 'hardliner's' and the humane segments of parliament. After endless debates and deliberation, the order was eventually issued to von Trotha to stop his murderous operation. But the time taken to come to a decision was time the Herero could not afford. By then the vehicle of genocide had already travelled far and with von Trotha, the obstinate man he was, getting his attention would take some doing.

When von Trotha eventually decided to accept Berlin's orders, the question at that stage was, how much damage had he already inflicted and was it repairable? Or could the Herero in effect be compensated? Or perhaps von Trotha took the orders but when it came to acting on them, was deliberately sluggish.

Words written by Keith G Emuang. Source www.Namibweb.com



Card posted from Otjimbingwe to Austria, 5pf. Rate on 31.1.1901
Picture shows grave 'Here lies a faithful Herero'



Local Postcard used as Feldpostkarte to Germany from Bethanien

Dispatched on 30.3.1906 and received on 30.7.1906

Photo H.Q. Of Station Chief at Bethanien (set for dinner)



Landschaft bei Arredaweizas im Anasgebirge Deutsch-Süd-West-Afrika

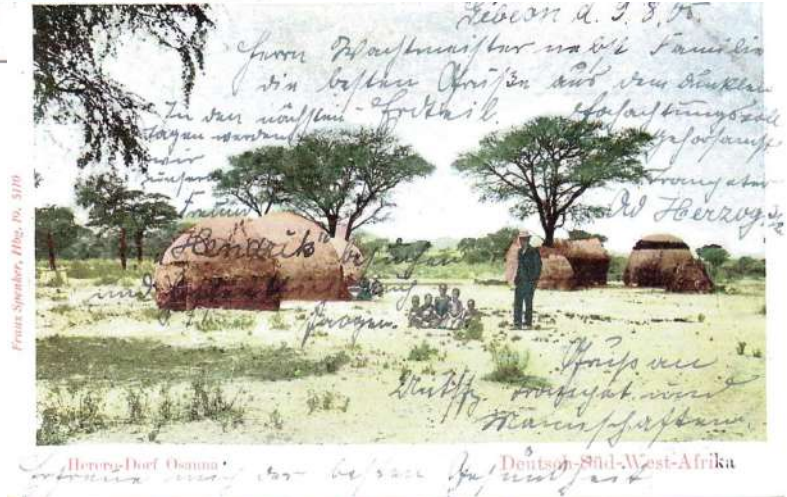
Postcard from Keetmanshoop to Berlin posted on 16.5.1905, received in Berlin 26.6.1905 rate 5pf.





Post card from Gibeon on 9.8.1905 to wife at Regimental Barracks in Potsdam

Photo of Herero village Osanna



Part 2 next issue

O

7 Cent Building Definitive - Missing '1' in Date By Mike Tonking

As requested by Roy Ross in the last issue of the Springbok, page 7, here are the details of the missing '1' in date

This flaw occurs on the 7c first issue 'B' pane, plate 1433 dated 82.07.15. It is an excellent example of a progressive flaw which developed over the printing of a few sheets. It can be traced from the '1' present to being completely absent. The number of sheets with the '1' missing is unknown. It was probably due to dust or something adhering to the plate during the printing process.

Stage 1.
'1' in date present



Stage 2.
'1' starting to break up.



Stage 3.
Ghost '1'



Stage 4.
'1' completely missing



The Building Series 15cent value Cylinder S26

By Mike Tonking

The first order for the 15c Building Series stamps was numbered 29819.24 which called for 300 000 sheets each of 100 stamps. They were recess printed on the Giori 841 press and Grover perforated. In the first instance cylinder S29 was used and the cylinder block situated in the bottom left corner of the sheet being dated 82.07.10. The first delivery of 19 300 sheets was made on 15 March 1982 and was followed by a further three deliveries, the last of which was in March 1983. All told a total of 101 100 sheets were printed by cylinder S29 before some defect necessitated it being withdrawn from service. This is evidenced by the numerous printing flaws seen on this issue.

On 16 March 1983 the Government Printer started to use a new cylinder S26 in order to be able to complete the original order. This was the second instance where two different cylinders were used for a single print order. The new cylinder block was now shifted to the top right sheet corner and dated 83.02.09. The design was changed to allow a 4,2 mm gutter all round compared with the 3,2mm horizontal and 3,5mm vertical gutters of the previous cylinder S29.

The Government Printer reported that after printing 55 000 sheets the S26 cylinder also became defective and then had to be Rechromed and a further 145 000 sheets printed by the Rechromed cylinder making a total of 200 000 sheets with the final delivery being made on 21 October 1983 compared with 213 000 sheets recorded in the printing records. Thus according to the printing records a total of 314 100 sheets were delivered against the original order for 300 000 sheets.

As in the case of the R2 value the Government Printer made a dreadful and costly mistake in that approximately 4 000 sheets were incorrectly fed into the perforator which resulted in the 'A' and 'C' sheets having imperforated top margins. This of course did not allow for the separation of the cylinder blocks without having to cut the top margins. It was reported that about 1000 each of the 'B' and 'D' panes were supplied for sale and the balance of the 'A' and 'C' panes with imperforate top margins were then destroyed. Fig. 1

Despite the fact the Government Printer maintained that the cylinder S26 was Rechromed many of the original flaws are again present on the reprint which would indicate that the cylinder was merely cleaned up and only major flaws corrected. Fig. 2. These included the broken pillars on rows 1/10 and 10/8 as well as other prominent scratches seen in various positions. It is of interest that it was not possible to completely remove the line through the roof on row 10/8 where only the portions above and below the design were corrected. Fig.3

Fig. 1



15c - Second Issue -Cylinder S26 - B Pane Incorrectly Perforated Bottom margin.

Side Margin - Missing 'S' in S26

Row 1/10 - Broken Pillar (a)

Row 10/8 - broken pillar and vertical line through roof at right (b)



(a)



(b)

Fig. 2

15cent Second Issue Cylinder S26 Examples of original and new flaws on the reprint

Pane A

Original Flaw - Dot in top curve of 'S' in S26
Reprint flaws - Dots above '1' and '5' in 15 of



Pane B

Original flaw - Row 1/10 Tiny dot above 'R' in LORD.
Reprint Row 1/10 - Broken pillar repaired



Pane C

Original flaw - Row 1/10 Dot between '1' and '9' in date.
Reprint flaw - Row 1/9 Dot after 1962.



Pane D

Original flaw - TM Dot to right of '3' in 13,50
Row 1/9 - Dot adjacent left side of middle of flagpole.
Reprint flaw - Row 2/9 Tiny dot above trees on left



Fig. 3

Cylinder S26 Row 10/8 - Broken Pillar and vertical line through roof.



Cylinder S26 Reprint Row 10/8 - Pillar repaired and only part of vertical line through roof removed.



Editors observations

Regarding the 15cent Buildings article on the previous two pages by Mike Tonking

Whilst putting Mike Tonking's article into this issue I had a couple of queries that I raised with him. They were: Was the missing "S" in S26 only to be found on the first 1000 sheets that were incorrectly perforated "B" pane?

Mike replied: No a partial missing "S" can also be seen on the 'Rechromed' - cleaned up S26 cylinder. I do not know if the missing "S" also occurs on the original S26 printing. It maybe so but I have never seen it to date.

Problem with perforations: Fig 1 (a) shows the design not central. This has occurred on a number of panes. Are these just a case of being incorrectly fed into the perforator? Mike replied that this was indeed the case. Fig. 3 repaired broken pillar: This it not common.

If any other member has any information about these observations or any other points raised. I would like to here from them and will publish the information. *Ed.*

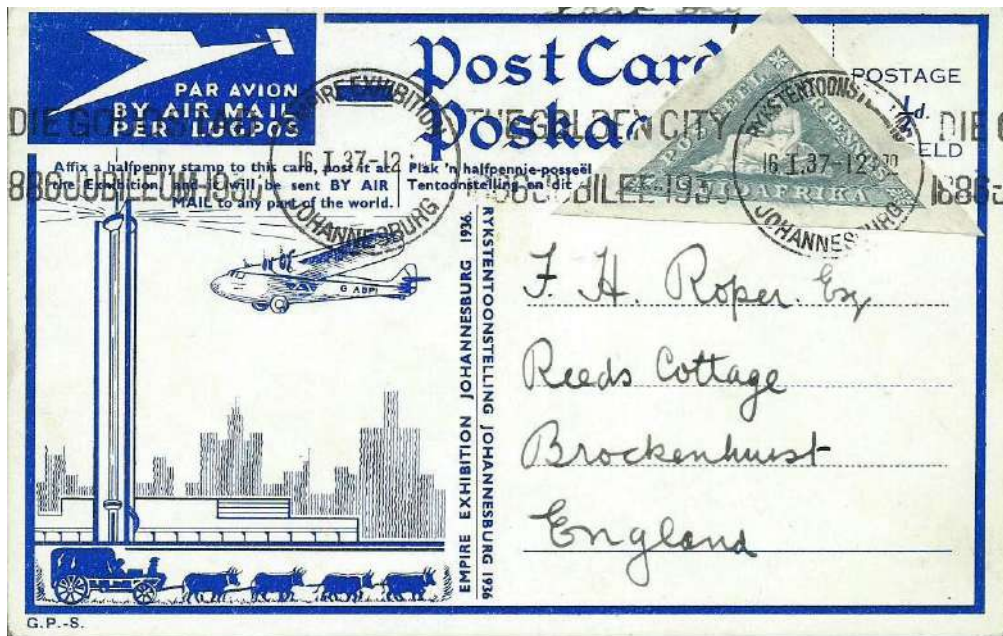
O

Destinations of the 1936 Empire Exhibition Airmail Card by Roy Ross

Some time ago I started putting together a map of all the destinations that these cards were sent to in an effort to work out the air routes. I never completed the task and with a little more research I hope to in the near future.

In my collection I have cards that have been sent to : Iraq, England, Scotland, Portuguese East Africa, Nyasaland, Canada, Uruguay, New Zealand, Bulawayo, Japan, USA, Trinidad, Ceylon and Guatemala.

I would like to hear from any member who has other destinations especially with arrival dates.



The stamp on the card is the Four pence wide margin. I could not find anything about the wide margin stamp in the 1952 handbook. In the SACC catalogue it does have a listing (32a) on cover priced at R220. A used stamp is only priced at R12. It is also stated that the wide margin was issued on 16th April 1926, some 10 years later someone decided to put the stamp on this card, eight times the value required?

The first issue, narrow margins, were issued 1st January 1926.

I am looking for information as to why there are two different margins? The first issue were supplied in packets of 60. If it was it just a case of the stamp margins being cut smaller on the first issue? How was it done?

The Julian Chapman Memorial Scholarship

Assistance with research

The Julian Chapman Memorial Scholarship exists to help philatelists, wherever resident, to undertake research into the stamps or postal history of the Commonwealth (Commonwealth is defined as those territories listed in the Stanley Gibbons Stamp Catalogues as 'British Commonwealth and Empire'.)

The Scholarship is intended to assist with the costs incurred undertaking the researches, especially for travel, accommodation and subsistence costs where such research is undertaken overseas. Other directly related costs can also be included (for example, the use of a research assistant).

The Scholarship is administered by The Royal Philatelic Society London, and it is expected that the results of the researches will be published, and that in all instances the Society will be offered first refusal to all publishing rights.

Full details may be obtained by writing to The Julian Chapman Memorial Scholarship, The Royal Philatelic Society London, 41 Devonshire Place, London W1G 6JY or by sending an email to chapmanscholarship@rpsl.org.uk.

When submitting an application, applicants will be asked to include an outline of the subject to be studied and how it relates to previous philatelic research undertaken, together with an accurate costing of the trip, including places and organisations to be visited, plus any other expenses that might be incurred as a direct result of the researches.

INCREASE IN POSTAL RATES

Postal rates will increase on 1 April 2014.

Category	2013	2014
Standard Postage	R2,80	R3,00
Airmail Postcard rate (APC)	R5,70	R6,05
International small letter (ILR)	R6,60	R7,00
B5 Rate – Medium	R5,60	R5,95
B4 Rate - Large	R6,90	R7,30
Aerogram	R4,20	R4,45
Registered letter DL – small	R19,60	R20,80
Registered letter B5 – Medium	R22,40	R23,75
Econoparcel	R20,40	R22,80

Information supplied by RSA Stamp Study Group

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Customs Duty stamps: some comments and new varieties.
by Giovanni Palazzo.

A conference of the representatives of the states comprising the South African Customs Union was held in March 1906 at Pietermaritzburg. Their decisions resulted in a considerable modification of the Tariff of 1903. The Customs Union Convention of 1906 was signed during April and May of the same year by the heads of Government of the Cape Colony, Natal, Transvaal, Orange River Colony, South Rhodesia, Basutoland, Bechuanaland Protectorate, Swaziland and North West Rhodesia.

Under item 43 of the South African Customs Union Tariff which came into force on the 30th of June 1906, duty became leviable on printed matter, including advertising matters, catalogues, price lists, almanacs, calendars, labels, posters and show cards, to the extent of 25 per centum ad valorem or 2d per pound, whichever be the greater. Interestingly printed matter under 8oz of weight weren't charged but a duty of 1d was applied on packages up to 8oz, while above and up to 16oz the duty was doubled. An additional 1d duty was requested for each extra 8 ounces.



1908 - Cape of Good Hope

While they are listed as issued between 1902-1908 by the former Colonies, it seems that they were used during the Interprovincial Period



1908 Transvaal

1908
Natal



1912
O.R.C



Mail containing printed matter was initially properly franked with postage stamps from the country in question and then after assessing the weight the "Customs Duty" stamps were applied accordingly.

King Edward VII stamps (small size) from Cape of Good Hope, Orange River Colony, Transvaal and Natal were introduced to enable overseas businesses to pre-pay duty on packages containing advertising matter. The stamps were obtainable at the office of the High Commissioner of London situated at 32 Victoria Street, London S.W., and as well from some South African Embassies. Without the preliminary payment of Customs Duty in this way, the receipt was likely to refuse to pay and therefore with this new system the mail was delivered and accepted without any problems. Postage stamps or revenue stamps manuscript or cancelled with various small or very large fiscal oval or circular crowned cancellers "CUSTOM HOUSE" or "CUSTOM DEPARTMENT" were used only to acknowledge receipt of customs duty. The first sets listed by Barefoot are values from the Cape as issued in 1902, Natal as 1903 and also 1905 while 1908 for the Transvaal and 1910 and 1912 for the Orange River Colony, but as these Customs Duty stamps would not be ready for use until at least June 1906, I therefore found the Natal and Cape dates not acceptable.



Postmarks "CUSTOMS DEPARTMENT/PORTNATAL/SOUTHAFRICA" are found on Postage or Revenue Stamps

In fact thanks to some correspondence from the Cape Archives dated 16th of April 1908 and recorded with reference 1851/06, written by the Controller of Customs and from arrangement made with De La Rue to have some postage stamps overprinted "CUSTOMS/DUTY" in July 1908, we can safely say that customs duty stamps were introduced in the same year. As far as Natal is concerned it appears that the scheme got off the ground in the United Kingdom in February 1908 and so possibly the stamps as well. Initially, Natal, Transvaal and the Orange River Colony Handstamped stamps in black with thin letters (2,25mm tall) over two lines with the wording "CUSTOMS/DUTY" which were used up possibly until stocks lasted or perhaps became obsolete when the new Typograph type were introduced. Again postage stamps of KEVII from all four Colonies were overprinted in black or in red over two lines and in square capital (1,75mm. Tall). They are often found cancelled particularly during the interprovincial period.

According to Drysdall, De La Rue overprinted the Cape Colony stamps from July 1908 onwards and from 1911 the other three Colonies. In 1914 when the first increase took place and consequently overprinted Union stamps were introduced, the same typography was adopted again. It is stated from Kamffer and Drysdall that the overprint was made up in a setting of six horizontal rows of ten. That the "temporary overprint plate" was used for all four Colonies is clear from a flaw that occurs in the overprint of all issues. This flaw shows the top end of the last "S" in "CUSTOMS" a diagonal cut (shaved) rather than horizontal. It is supposed that this variant "S" occurs throughout one vertical column of stamps, i.e. On six stamps in each setting of sixty It has been noted that some stamps from the Cape Colony and Transvaal have a thicker overprinting and although we cannot establish if this is a new typography plate or a rather heavier or slightly smudged overprint, the difference is nevertheless noticeable. Furthermore to confirm that the same plate for the overprint was used also on postage stamps of the Union, I have a 3d values (KGV) overprinted in red with this variant. Another typography variant has been noted on a stamp of the Orange River Colony. The value 1d has been found with a short foot of the letter "Y" in the wording "DUTY" Fig. 1 (not shifted in a higher position) and recorded here for the first time. Many of these Colonials values however can be found also un-cancelled as did not prepay for a postal service and only occasionally were postmarked with the arrival cancellation or pen-cancelled, while during the Union often they were cancelled at its final destination, or by the main local Post Office. Postal strikes from the country where these stamps were purchased are also known simply because the sender placed the customs duty stamp close to the postage stamp needed to frank the mail instead to put it, as required, at the top left corner of the envelope or packet.



Customs Duty labels in light-green from the Transvaal are also known used with Natal overprinted stamps during the interprovincial period. Natal also adopted the same system with labels/cards printed on red or a dark wine-red, but so far the very few seen, were all used before the Union. These labels franked with customs duty stamps or just with postage stamps are extremely rare.

The Bulletin No.4 of the Fiscal Philatelic Society issued in June 1909 reports for the first time these stamps issued in the Cape and Natal. The Natal values were hand-stamped in black with the word "CUSTOMS DUTY/NATAL covering two or three stamps and consequently single copies only show a part of the rubber hand-stamp. This hand-stamp possibly is the earliest type of customs duty stamps ever issued by Natal. The Bulletin No.8 issued in November 1910 reports again some values from Natal hand-stamped in small sans-serif type "CUSTOMS/DUTY" similar to the one from the Cape. It does also states that all these specific stamps will be made obsolete shortly as a new issue will be made for the Union.

Cont'

It seems that all the Edwardians customs duty issues were obsolete together with all the pre-colonial revenue stamps with effect from the 1st of April 1914. The typography type plate was used for the Union period from 1914 up to possibly 1929 in black or red on postage stamps of KGV of the 1913 issue and as well on stamps of the pictorial issues.



King's Head stamps overprinted from 1913 to 1926

Of this overprint one variety is recorded with the second letter "S" of "CUSTOMS" much thicker than the first. Stamps of the 2d value (London pictorial issue) with the thick "S" variety have been now plated and are found only on the first stamp of each row.



Pictorial Issue. This overprint was used until to 1926

The rate of duty, as I said before, increased initially between 1914 and 1915 and was set at 25 per cent ad valorem or 3d per lb and therefore now up to 8oz the duty required was of 1d but above 8oz to 16oz was 3d and for each additional 8oz a charge of 3d was needed. On the 1st of August 1925 the rate was increased again to 40 per cent ad valorem or 6d per lb., while packets under 4oz in weight were exempted provided that they were forwarded only in small quantities. The new rates were set as follows: up to 4oz 1,5d but above and up to 8oz the rate was 3d; above 8oz up to 16oz the duty was 6d and for each additional 8oz 3d were needed. Three years later another change was imposed and therefore the rates now are: Up to 3oz a payment of 1d was necessary but above and up to 5oz double charge was applied. An amount of 3d was applied for packets above 5oz and up to 8ounces, while above 8oz and up to 16oz the duty charged was 6d. For every additional 8oz a charge of 3d was instead required.



It seems that the overprint "CUSTOMS" does not appear in uniform lettering. On some specimens the second letter "S" of CUSTOMS is quite different from the first. This variety is found only on the first stamp of each row and it is easy to spot, because the "S" is thicker than the first.



In the late 1920's the Customs Duty overprint was replaced by the single word "DOUANE." with full stop, an internationally acceptable wording which obviated the necessity for bilingual overprints. The length of the overprint is 14mm long including the full stop.



In 1926 the Customs Duty overprint was replaced by the single word "DOUANE" an Internationally acceptable wording which obviated the necessity for bilingual overprints. Examples of different placements of "DOUANE" shown above

The half penny, one penny, the three pence and the six pence values of the London pictorial set of the 1930 issue printed in recess, are also recorded on inverted multiple springbok head. Another very interesting variety has been found and reported here for the first time on a 2d value of the pictorial issue that was printed without full stop after "DOUANE". Fig. 2 Clearly to be considered a variety



Fig. 2

we must have more than one stamp with the same omitted squared full stop. Herewith an unrecorded block of nine values of 6d Fig.3 showing the middle stamp on the right vertical side without full stop and although both values have not been plated yet, are still a rather pleasing addition to any collection. I

should think now that there is a possibility to find others values of this set with this variant as the same "overprinting plate" was adopted. I have seen some values with partially omitted full stop and therefore perhaps the damaged plate eventually, over a period of time, lost gradually and then completely the full stop that it seems was not replaced by the printers. Later issues were overprinted again "DOUANE" in black stereo process but with a much larger font and without full stop. The length of the overprint is 13.75mm long and was used on all-screened pictorial postage stamps.

Note: was the same "overprinting plate" used for two different size stamps? Comments invited. Ed.



Fig. 3

Customs cont'



Later issues continued to be overprinted "DOUANE" until 1960 for use by the Department of Customs and Excise

The half penny stamp issued in 1948 is also known with the letter "D" damaged, Fig. 4, or perhaps had some paper intrusion giving the impression of a letter "P" instead. We do not know, at this stage, if this is a constant variety but nevertheless this find was reported by me to Barefoot in the year 2000 and listed as the "POUANE" variety. Although, the rate remained at 40 percent ad valorem or 6d per lb, in 1929 the minimum rates by weight was changed once again and it will remain the same until 1961 when the currency was changed to decimal. While up to 1oz now required half-penny stamp, above and up to 3oz the rate was of one penny. If the weight was over 3oz but not exceeding 5oz 2d were necessary for the service. Packets above 5oz and up to 8oz will demand an extra cost of 3d and thereafter to the nearest 1d based on weight.



Fig. 4

During the Republican period, from 1961 to 1980, these rates were increased six more times but as the customs duty overprinted stamps were eventually obsolete possibly between the 14th of February 1961, the official date of the changing rates to decimal currency, and the 31st of May 1961, we will go no further with this subject. In fact revenue and postage stamps of the first republican series were already in use since February 1961 creating in this way a short but interesting inter-changing currency period (From February to 30th of May 1961).

Finally herewith two letters posted from Paris to Pretoria showing an arrival postal mechanical and appropriate cancellation "CUSTOMS PAID" in black and in red as well from Cape Town dated the 26th and 27th November 1952 respectively. According to S. J. Vermaak, in his book "A chronology of the Postal Slogans of South Africa" published in 1979, the first bilingual postal slogans "CUSTOMS DUTY PAID/ INVORREGTE BETTAL" were used initially at Cape Town from 1938 to 1940, while from 1952 have





been used also at Johannesburg and Pretoria as well. As during this period Duane stamps were still available but not used on both letters containing the weekly American newspaper "TIME", it seems that possibly overseas companies could have a bulk arrangement payment with the Customs and therefore the mechanical Customs Paid canceller was used on this kind of incoming mail to indicate pre-payment. The other possibility could be that somehow customs duty stamps were not anymore available in France and therefore a different arrangement took place.

The story about this section is not completed and of course I would be very grateful if anyone can share additional information regarding this historical and less known facet of philately.



The sender of packets from overseas could if they wish assess the duty at the rate mentioned and prepay it by affixing to the packets postage stamps of the Union of SA overprinted "CUSTOMS DUTY" These were obtained at the Office of the High Commissioner of Union South Africa in London

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- S. Payne – The Springbok (August 2012) Vol.60 No.3 – Cancellations on Customs Duty & Duane stamps. Pp73-76.

A special thank you to Sebastian (Bas) Payne for help and suggestions provided.

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1950 2d Official Reading Up SG 035 – UHB 096a (1952 – 1955)

By Otto Peetoom

.....

A brief summary of events - 1951 *The South African Philatelist* - The first a small format 2d overprinted OFFICIAL with a UHB Type II overprint was reported in the January issue, followed by another comment in December and then more of it in June 1952.

The 1952 Union handbook listed it as 096a 2d Small size Cylinder 6927/50 – Overprint Type II 16½mm reading up. With a note: - This stamp exists in used condition, but sufficient of its origin is known – Priced at 5/- for a used pair. In the 1955 UHB on page 167 a tentative note reads:

Item '096a' has been left undisturbed as no information has been made available, as yet, concerning its identity.

The November 1956 S.A.P. included another chapter on this official, it did not enjoy a listing or any comment in the 1960 & 1979 handbooks and finally in the 1986 UHB under Set 23 on page 226 the follow comment was forthcoming:

A small quantity of the 2d stamps in the reduced size was overprinted clandestinely, but as it was not a legitimate emission, it is not listed here.

An in depth account of SG 035 January 1951 S.A.P.

New 'Officials' - Mr. Robertson also furnishes the interesting information that prior to the use of the new process block - a stereotype - for the current 2d 'Officials', about a dozen or so sheets were overprinted from the old forme previously employed for 1½d 'Officials'. These, it was subsequently learned, were part of a consignment requisitioned by the Department of Transport and in the normal course of events were used up on official business.



Brian Coote Collection

The first knowledge of the matter came from overseas when a used specimen was sent back with an enquiry as to when they were issued and the answer is contained in these notes. As far as is known there are no mint copies and quite probably not many of the used variety.

December 1951 S.A.P.

Small 2d 'Official'- Overprint Variety - We are indebted to Mr. C. E. Sherwood of Manchester, England for the loan of a copy of the Small 2d stamp (21½ x 17½ mm) overprinted OFFICIAL - OFFISIEEL with type similar to that used for the 'Small Mine' 1½d 'Officials'.

As recorded in our January 'Notes' of this year, some of these stamps turned up on mail matter addressed to England and

following enquiries into their origin it was learned that several sheets of the 'Small' 2d stamps had been overprinted for official use from the old forme instead of from the new stereotype process blocks which had been prepared for the 'Officials'. They had subsequently been used up by one of the Government Departments in Pretoria in the normal course of official business and there is no record of any mint copies being in existence. Mr Sherwood mentions in his letter that the copy in his possession, which we illustrate here, was discovered in England by Mr H.J. Burkin.

June 1952 S.A.P.

Small 2d 'Official'- Overprint Variety - Following the note and illustration in our December 1951 issue of a single Small 2d 'Official' bearing the old type of overprint, we received a letter from Mr. H.J. Burkin, England, enclosing a photograph of a used vertical pair of these stamps, which we reproduce herewith.

Mr. Burkin states that the postmark is not very distinct, but he thinks it is in the region of November or December 1950, and that the item illustrated is just as he received it with the exception of the lower right edges, which he trimmed very slightly. The last paragraph of his letter reads as follows:



I bought it with a lot of used S.A. mostly Officials, not knowing what was there, and you can imagine my surprise when I found it; I could hardly believe my eyes.'

Mr. C. E. Sherwood of Manchester, England who loaned us the copy we wrote about in December, has now written appealing for the assistance of readers in tracking down further copies of these stamps. So far he has learnt of eight and if any readers know of others he would welcome their information along the lines of:

Mint or used - Horizontal or vertical pairs or singles and if the latter, which language.

If on cover, Postmark - Source of origin - with a view to ascertaining the distribution, Mr. Sherwood's conclusions will be published in due course so that the information he may obtain will be available to all.

The Sherwood used Single at right



1950 2d Official Reading Up SG 035 – UHB 096a (1952 – 1955)

November 1956 S.A.P.

Small 2d – ‘Official’ - Overprint Variety - Further to our Notes of December 1951 and June 1952, wherein the advent of the above stamp was reported, and an appeal for assistance in determining it was made, our attention has been drawn to an overseas offer for sale of a mint pair at £22 (twenty two pounds). This stamp is catalogued by Gibbons as 035 but unpriced and by the Union Handbook as 096a and priced at 5/- a used pair.

When the appearance of this stamp was reported from overseas, and upon enquiring into its origin, we were informed that several sheets of the ‘small’ 2d stamps had been overprinted for official use from the old forme instead of from the stereotype process blocks which had been prepared for the ‘Officials’; that they had subsequently been used up by one of the Government Departments in Pretoria in the normal course of official business, and there is no record of any mint copies being in existence.

To our knowledge, no copies, except those which were received on loan from overseas, have been viewed by collectors in South Africa, nor are any housed in collections in this country.

It would be very interesting to receive further information concerning the origin of this stamp.

1960 London Exhibition – During 1984, Alan Leverton of Bridger & Kay informed that a full sheet of SG 035 was jointly purchased by his Company and Stanley Gibbons.

The Authenticity of the Small Format 2d Official Reading Up, SG 035 - Former UHB 096a

Eric Sherwood remained completely convinced that 035’s are 100% genuine and I agree with his sentiment.

Who would carry out a clandestine overprint that was to be used on official overseas mail, the remnants of which ended up, either in a bin or became part of cheap kiloware? Used examples whether single or pairs, either vertical or horizontal, are and will always be great rarities. In some thirty five years of trading I have had the privilege of handling one used horizontal pair on part of an OHMS envelope.



Matheson Collection – 2004 Martin Eichele Certificate

At the time I had five people on a wants list who where all desperate to own a used pair.

During the late 1980’s at a London Stampex Exhibition, I recall the late Alec Page showing me a commercial envelope with a 035 on it; unfortunately I cannot recall whether it was a single or a vertical pair, someone somewhere must be the proud owner of it.

I find it difficult to understand that the doyens of Union philately could be so short sighted by completely ousting its listing in the Union handbook.

It seemed to be the attitude, that unless these stamps resided in South Africa, they were obviously fakes or attached to some suspicious circumstance.

London has always been the stamp capital of the world and probably paid better prices for rarities than any other country.

No matter from which Commonwealth country an item originated, it invariably ended up with the London stamp trade. In 1951 there was the Festival of Britain and I imagine many South Africans made the trip over.

If you had some worthwhile stamps to sell, it presented the perfect solution to fund ones overseas spending money.



Dunlop Collection (Brandon certificate)

Mint sheets of 035 had to be printed before they could be used for postage and whilst it was the opinion that no unused examples survived, it may not necessarily be the case. There is of course the possibility that someone could have run off a few extra sheets at a later stage, but is such evidence available for inspection? It seems to me that it maybe the usual philatelic trait; if you can’t explain it, then condemn it. My thanks to the following for their input - Brian Coote, Dr J. Dunlop, Bob Hisey, Alan Leverton, Ian Matheson & Roald Sand



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