
THE SPRINGBOK



Volume 7 No. 6 November/December 1959

" THE SPRINGBOK "

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Hon. Editor

C. E. Sherwood, 105 Marford Crescent, Sale, Cheshire, G.B.

All correspondence to be addressed to the Editor who does not accept responsibility for any views so published.

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: Chairman: R. D. Allen, Snr., 82c Hackford Rd., Brixton, London, S.W.9. :
: : : :
: Committee: F. C. Abell, 86 Herne Hill, London, S.E.24. :
: Edw. Lauder, 1 Cairnhill Rd., Bearsden, Glasgow. :
: W. A. Page, 138 Chastilian Rd., Dartford, Kent. :
: (also London Group Secretary) :
: : :

" THE SPRINGBOOK "

THE EDITOR'S CHAIR

And so we come to the final issue of yet another volume -- and we find ourselves wondering what the New Year is going to bring.

In this issue we can list the names of 6 new members -- would we could do it every issue! Will you help towards this laudable goal? On balance we seem to lose more than we gain, particularly in those who let their memberships lapse without any reason being provided. We send out three reminders before reaching such a decision so it is not for the want of reminding!

It did occur to us that it would be interesting to ascertain whether our magazine was deemed to be of merit in the philatelic world and with this in mind we submitted it for competition at "Sicilia 59" in Palermo during October. The result --a "Diplomi di medaglia di bronzo argentato".

Unheralded by the Post Office, another period of Union postal history has begun with the advent of a change in the watermark of the paper now being used for printing Union Stamps as will be noted elsewhere in this issue. And so our last link with the ever so popular pictorial series is being broken with the disappearance of the Springbook watermark.

In this issue we are including details of the new monetary system to be introduced into the Union during 1961 which will make it clear that a new series of stamps will have to be introduced and a very vague idea of what sort of values there may be.

If you missed this year's Exhibition, you left out what quite a number of members remarked to be the best all round effort yet. The hall was just right, the location is most convenient and it does look as though we may have found a "permanent" home at last, so on to 1960 and the October meeting. Do make a note of the date and come along.

There was a suggestion that some of our overseas members might like to send along a few sheets for exhibition next year. This is purely a thought at the moment as there are a number of points to be covered but it would be interesting to know whether any such member finds the idea appeals. Write to the Secretary if so.

A little early maybe, but this copy will be a little late in distribution, so to all, near and far, a Very Merry Christmas and a Happy and Prosperous New Year.

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PLATE FLAWS AND VARIETIES

- by -

H. A. STEWART and E. LAUDER

How quickly the years seem to roll by. Each new instalment of "Plate Flaws and Varieties" reminds us that another year has passed in the records of our Society. All the same we have not yet illustrated variety No. 100 but including those now presented we have reached a total of 92. Next year, therefore, should see the century reached. We invite members to give us their views as to which variety should be selected for the honour of No. 100. Perhaps a well known variety which some how or other we have never illustrated or again an outstanding flaw on one of the post war issues. Which is it to be? The matter rests with you, dear member, and we hope that you will offer several suggestions.

This year's offering includes several flaws on current or fairly recent issues. Judging from some of the Booklets which go through the Exchange Packet the collecting of varieties which one might find in "Kiloware" or "Mission Mixturo" is very popular and we illustrate a few of those for which it is worth looking. Incidentally we sincerely apologise for the gremlin which crept into the last instalment and do hope that the numbers refer to the correct illustration on this occasion.

1. "Line under SO of SOUTH" This variety appears on the first stamp of row 4 of the unhyphenated 1d. printed from Plate VIII and is catalogued as 37L Vg. It consists of a black line of about 1-5mm. long below the letters SO.

2. "Tall C in SOUTH AFRICA" It occurs in each of the three printings of the 3d. Small War Effort (Bantan Series) and is found on the last stamp (No. 20) of row 6. As can be seen, it is perfectly clear without the aid of a magnifying glass. The three printings of this stamp were all produced from one stamp cylinder and it was the marginal cylinders which were changed. It would appear therefore, that, although the variety is found on each printing, it is simply a cylinder flaw caused by a small portion of gelatine on the intermediate positive being pushed out of position.

3. "Red smudge on right vertical frame" This variety, although well enough known appeared for the first time in the Handbook Supplement being catalogued as No. 37L Vm and is found on row 10 no.2 of the unhyphenated 1d. from Plate VIII. Here in direct contrast to variety No. 1. above we have a red line, again of 1-5 mm. cutting across the right hand vertical frame line about a third of the way up from the bottom.

4. "Rocket". Here is a really outstanding flaw which personally I would have christened the "Searchlight" as that is exactly what it looks like to me. I have never found a mint example but I acquired the copy illustrated from a South African dealer who stated that it comes on stamp no. 6 of row 5 of the unhyphenated 2d. printed from Plate I. The flaw is NOT however constant and has the appearance of having been caused by the doctor blade.



1



2



3



4



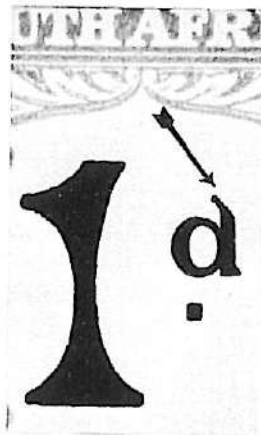
5



6



7



8



9



10



11



12

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5. "Dot under VIR". As most members will know there are quite a number of varieties on the new Academy commemorative stamp. This one occurs on row 14 no.5 and consists of a coloured dot below the word VIR.

6. "Searchlight beam at right hand side of right tower" This variety is found on the hyphenated 2d. from Plate VIII and occurs on stamp no.5 of row 17. It has been included for comparison with the "Rocket" variety in No.4 above. A very similar flaw is to be found on the Postage Dues from Group X. For the record this variety is catalogued as No. 47D Vc.

7. "Stubbed 2" We have broken a rule here by illustrating a variety which is already shown on page 246 of the Handbook. It comes on the 2d Postage Due of 1914-15 vintage and is the first stamp in the sheet. It is worth comparing this flaw with No. D22 Va "Blunt foot to 2" which is illustrated on page 252 of the Handbook. The postage due issues tend to be neglected by some members and we hope that by illustrating a few of the varieties to be found it will encourage members to collect them and perhaps discover new ones.

8. "Top of 'd' broken off" This is found on the 1927-28 1d. Postage Due Type IV typographed on unwatermarked paper. It is catalogued as No.D23 Vd and is worth hunting for being quite distinct from the normal stamp.

9. "Numeral stubbed at foot" Catalogued as No.D4 Va it comes on the 1914-15 3d. It might perhaps better be described as a "Missing serif" variety. A glance at the Handbook will show that there are quite a number of different varieties among the postage dues and we hope to illustrate a few more in a future instalment.

10. "Left inner frame line broken" The Handbook Supplement tells us that this variety only occurs on Plates 1/A and 1/B of the unhyphenated 2d. catalogued as No.38 Va it is found in a top arrow pair being stamp no.4 in the top row. A very similar variety is found on the hyphenated 2d. from Plate V catalogue No.47B Vd although, of course, the position is different.

11. "Extra stop to the right of 'd' of 1d." Here we have an interesting flaw comprising a coloured dot to the right of the 'd'. It is similar in size to the stop under the 'd' and comes on stamp no.3 of the first row. You will find it on stamps printed from Cylinder No.12 that is, the one without any marginal lines. It is catalogued as No.124 Va.

12. "Smudge on left hand frame near top corner" Here is another long sounding label from the Handbook. It is No.47D Vd. It consists of two short lines diagonally cutting the left hand frame line about a third of the way down from the top. It is, of course, on the all screened 2d. from Plate VIII.

Well, that completes our selection for 1959 and we both hope that you have plenty of fun searching for those varieties which are not already in your collection.

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SOCIETY ANNUAL GENERAL MEETING

The eighth Annual General Meeting of the Society was held at the London Central Y.M.C.A., Great Russell Street on Saturday, 26th September, 1959. In conjunction with this meeting the Sixth Exhibition was also put on (see report).

The formality of reading the minutes was dispensed with and the existing Officers and Committee were re-elected 'en-bloc' following a proposition from S. Dudman, Esq., supported by S. C. Nunnely, Esq.

They are as follows:-

Chairman:	R. D. Allen, Snr.
Hon. Sec/Treas.	
Hon. Editor:	C. E. Cherwood, Esq.
Committee:	F. C. Abell, Esq.
	E. Lauder, Esq.
	W. A. Page, Esq.

Dealing with membership, the Society Honorary Secretary stated that membership was a few down on last year and appealed for more 'recruits', also more material for the magazine. Financially, it had been a satisfactory year due to the decrease in the cost of production of the cover of the magazine.

A deal of discussion followed on the plans for next year bearing in mind that the International Exhibition was being held at the Royal Festival Hall. It was eventually agreed that arrangements would be made to possibly hold a meeting in London during the exhibition week.

It was further agreed that a full exhibition would be held next year, at the same venue (watch these columns for the date). The main exhibit was to cover the same trend as hitherto and cover the 1/- to 10/- values of the pictorial definitives.

Under the heading of any other business, suggestions were brought forth that overseas members be invited to exhibit material at the exhibition.

Other matters brought up and left to the Committee of the London Group to deal with included the assistance in disposing of deceased members' collections, hospitality to out of town or overseas members and the expertisation of rarities.

To conclude the business, a vote of thanks was passed to the members of the London Group for their hard work in putting on the exhibition.

Auction: Over a hundred lots were offered for sale and by the end of the auction most were sold, some after some keen competition.

To round off the day a dozen or so members joined for an informal dinner party and get-together which, although dwindling in numbers by 10 p.m., did not finally disperse until after 11 p.m.

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ANNUAL EXHIBITION

The Annual Exhibition of the Society was this year held in new surroundings - at the London Central Y.M.C.A., Great Russell Street, London, W.C.1. and attracted a good number of visitors and members.

The main item of the exhibition was a composite display of the fourpenny and sixpenny pictorial definitives, which comprised the following:-

The 4d. triangular showed types Afrikaans (A) 1 & 2 and English (E) 1 & 2, with single stamps and the master die characteristics in detail; mint blocks of E.1. and A.1. with the unauthorised perforations mint and used.

The 4d. rectangular included inscriptional pieces of Group 1 Plate 1 perforated 14; Group 2 Plate 2 perforated 14 x 13½ and Group 3 Plate 2, perforated 14 x 13½ with illustrations showing the perforations concerned.

The Rotogravure issues were displayed with examples joined paper in a large block; blocks and singles of varieties; top arrow block; a corner block showing the different language setting; some used blocks and strips showing Groups 2 & 3 also varieties, corners and arrows. A nearly completed plating study and ghost arrows - plate flaws in detail.

The 6d. value was set out to show the various changes from the London Printings of 1926 and included corner pieces, inverted watermark, the 'cloud' flaw Row 20 No.11 (Vb.) and other uncatalogued flaws.

The Pretoria printings were illustrated with colour trials, corner pieces and again the 'cloud flaw' on row 20 No.11; white splash in spandrel (Vc); misplaced headplate(Vc).

The unhyphenated Rotogravure issues showed corner and arrow pairs and most of the catalogued flaws together with many not so catalogued, including the very interesting travelling flaw.

The hyphenated series covering plates 111 to V11 included Control pieces and most of the recognised flaws.

The remainder of the exhibition was very varied but of equal interest to visitor and member alike.

An original idea in presentation was a study by single stamp of the ½d. and 1d. stamps from the advertisement booklets of 1935. This showed in considerable detail the method of identifying single used copies and of tracing them to their correct panes; the position occupied on that pane. Each value was preceded by a diagram of the complete sheet and information as to the Post Office slogans and Commercial advertisements. In the 78 examples shown the characteristic flaw so necessary for identification in nearly every instance was clearly described and marked. A fascinating study and one full of interest.

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The entries of the first three placings in the London Group 'Abell' Cup Competition were exhibited, details of which have already appeared in these columns.

A display of some really detailed study of the penny definitive (ship) brought to light some very interesting discoveries, some of which were controversial. The London Group members were privileged to see this display in greater detail at the first meeting of the season (See full report elsewhere in this issue).

The five denominations of the 1937 Coronation series were each printed from an individual frame cylinder with a single head cylinder common to all. A second head cylinder derived from the same multipositive was employed for one printing only of the penny value.

There were several printings of each denomination and identification features include the direction of the watermark, the position of the sheets serial number and the junction of the eleven row perforator, together with shades and the general appearance of the stamp.

The stamps on show included five different printings of the $\frac{1}{2}$ d; six of the 1d, two of the $1\frac{1}{2}$ d, three of the 3d, and two of the 1/- . Also on view were several of the more prominent head cylinder flaws common to all denominations. A comparison of blocks of 1d printed from both head cylinders, showing a multipositive flaw common to both, but with different cylinder flaws was also shown.

A series of photographs of the Pretoria Printing Works, although unusual at a stamp exhibition were found of great interest. Whilst only a small amount of reading matter accompanied the photos the full text of the working was available for reading at the exhibition.

A full scale exhibit of Roll or 'Coil' stamps commenced with a survey of the Geo. V. Coils and included coil ends, isolated perforations joins etc, followed by a brief coverage of the London and Pretoria printings with their coil leaders, in either factual or photographic form.

From stamp (Ref. H/Cat.R.9) onwards, all the two cylinder issues were illustrated, fully developed with all the listed varieties together with many unlisted but constant varieties of interest, particularly as plating flaws.

Some of the more elusive coils stamps such as R.9; R.14; R.17; & r.18 were presented in proving strips of 22 or more. Concluding the assembly, all the H/Cat listing varieties of the monocoloured issues were on view, again with numerous other constant flaws, of either distinction or plating interest.

Other displays included a brief coverage of the Postage Due Labels for the period 1914. to 1928 and the recent emissions of the current definitives, together with only commemorative stamp issued since the last exhibition - The South African Academy Commemorative. A complete selection of the De La Rue Georgians included the rare 1d. and 2d. values without watermark.

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Perhaps one of the most varied displays was that of the display that was sent out to the East London Philatelic Exhibition this year by the Society Honorary Secretary. It may be described as a potted display of Union Philately and briefly included the following:-

Introduction to the Union by way of the Boer War Covers; Postmarks; examples of the first George V 2½d. with photograph of the mock-up and a f.d.c.; various examples of the George V. printings which include the rather scarce ½d. Moss Green, reversed perforations, various stages of the 6d. missing 'Z' variety; 5/- co-extensive jubilee lines; 4 sheets of the ½d. and 1d. typographed issues; double perforations and various other flaws on the ½d. and the 1d. type. Pane of 60 of the 2d. recess perf. 14 x 13½; examples of the 1d. rotogravure flaws; ½d. arrow blocks of plates 4 and 14 1d plate 14; large block of 1½d waffle printing; arrow blocks 1/- brown arrow printing; 3d. SG117b deep blue. Complete strip of 1/- missing perf. ex-cylinders 6926/6935; 2d. War Effort bantam flaws; 2d. Official overprint reading UPWARDS (SG. O.35) used single; make your Sixpence Fly-large wings; Mint and used Postcards; Royal Visit; King's Flight and H.M.S. Vanguard covers.

To deviate a little from the Union itself one frame was devoted to South West Africa 1914-1923. This comprised of a very condensed survey of the postal history of the so-called 'Occupational Period' during which unoverprinted Union adhesives were alone in use in South West Africa.

Commencing with mail from the invading South African troops in 1914-15 which was cancelled with various 'Security' postmarks, the display included letters from German Prisoners of War.

A Selection of Union values to the £1, postage due labels and postal stationery, all used in South West Africa.

Stamps of Natal, Orange River Colony and Transvaal as used interprovincially in this territory.

Then followed a representation of the cancellations used by the Civil Post Offices from 1915 to 1923, including the interesting altered German date-stamps from Swakopund; Guchab; Mariental; Maltahöhe; various rubber date stamps with a scarce single line "Post Neuhausis" and finally some of the permanent date-stamps which followed with a curious lopsided "Luderitz" date-stamp which was altered from its old name of "Luderitzbucht" and a similar alteration "Windhuk S.W.A.P." to read "Windhuk S.W.A." The letter alteration was believed to have been the result of German objections to the "P" which stood for Protectorate which South West Africa was not in 1920, being under the League of Nations Mandate at that time.

No exhibition of South African Philately would be complete without the now famous 'Story of the Pictorial Definitives' - now an annual must - so profusely illustrated and surely a great help to many of the 'struggling' collectors trying to sort their Union definitives.

Thus ended a fine and varied display which, to borrow a remark of a visitor (not a Union specialist), covered something of value to collectors of any country.

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LONDON GROUP MEETING

The November London Group Meeting title was 'Sidelines' and it brought along a series of unusual items and the title proved very apt.

The noticeable absence of the London Group Chairman, who, all members will be sorry to learn, is in hospital, and a delay through traffic hold up of the Society Chairman, found the Hon. Sec. in a new role, hence the brevity of these notes.

The members showing material included Messrs A. J. Childs, A. Brown, E. G. Kinsey, G. M. Whitten and R. D. Allon and W. A. Page.

So varied and unusual were the items exhibited that it will only be possible to select a few outstanding ones for mention.

These included such things as Postal Stationery, early Air Letter Sheets, Christmas Greeting Air Letters, S.P.I.F.S., Customs Duty - Douane overprints, Fiscals used postally, Parcel Labels, Airgraphs, Express Letters, Publicity Stickers, Railway Letters, Telegram covers, Postal Slogans, Cigarette Tax labels, Censorship Labels.

Of the many items of a more philatelic nature, was a pair of 1d ship stamps used on cover as Postage Dues at Grahamstown and so far unrecorded as such. In addition a series of Mobile Post Office cancellation were shown, together with some covers from Tristan Da Cunha, and a cover posted at the Raadsaal (Town Hall) Bloemfontein.

In all a most varied and interesting collection of the material so often discarded by collectors and specialists alike.

W.A.P.

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Congratulations to member, Edw. Lauder on his election to the Presidency of the Caledonian Philatelic Society - can we expect an influx of Scottish members now, we hope!

At "Sicilia 59" in Palermo our member, Mr Sam Legator, was awarded a Silver Medal for his display of Union stamps from his collection which, according to the catalogue of the Exhibition, provided most of the illustrations for the Union Handbook. Our heartiest congratulations to you, Sir!

We hear that some startling news regarding the 1d booklet stamp classified as R.10b.S in the Union Handbook is due to appear in print any time now but as it stems from the pen of a collector who is not a member of our Society we may not be able to give you chapter and verse.

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ADVISORY PANEL

From time to time some members have difficulty in the identification of certain stamps or varieties and with this in mind some several years ago certain members offered their assistance.

As we have acquired a considerable number of new members who may not have this information in their particular copies of the magazine, the scheme is detailed again.

An addressed envelope suitably stamped, to include registration if necessary should be provided for the return of the items submitted for information.

Stamps should be mounted on the blank side of an ordinary plain postcard, leaving the remaining space available for the panel member to write his notes. The reverse side of the card should contain the member's name, address and membership number only. In the case of large blocks of stamps these should be placed in cellophane envelopes and affixed to the post-card in a similar manner.

The following members will assist -

Mr Edw. Lauder	-	De La Rue Georgians.
Dr. Gordon Ward	-	1d values (ship type)
Mr R. H. Merson and		
Mr R. J. Lawrence	-	1½d values
Mr H. J. Anderson and		
Mr A. E. Wilkinson	-	2d values roto
Mr A. J. Brown	-	anhyphenate series
Mr H. A. Stewart	-	rotogravure issues
Mr R. P. Jonas	-	Silver Jubilees
Mr R. H. Merson	-	Postage Ducs
Mr E. G. Kinsey	-	Officials

Any offers of assistance in this work from other members would be greatly appreciated.

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We are often asked, particularly when enrolling new overseas members, if we can put them in touch with other collectors either studying a particular stamp or series or willing to exchange correspondence on the subject of Union Philately. Any member who is interested or wants to make contacts should write to us suitably and we will put in the necessary comment.

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For a specialised collection of the Animal series at "Sicilia 59" in Palermo, we were awarded a Diploma which shows that modern issues are not altogether ignored, as some of us may be inclined to think.

" THE SPRINGBOK "

SOUTH AFRICAN NATIONAL ANTARCTIC EXPEDITION
COMMEMORATIVE STAMP

Springing quite a surprise, news came of a 3d stamp to be issued on November 16th. to commemorate this event with the Expedition leaving Cape Town on November 28th., 1959.

According to the official bulletin "the main theme of the design shows a globe tilted at such an angle as to show South Africa in outline and the South Polar region. A dotted line stretching from Cape Town to the area concerned, indicates the approximate route to the locality of the base. The letters "SANAE" in the lower portion of the design stand for South African National Antarctic Expedition. The stamps will be printed in vertical format in sheets of 120. The wording on each stamp will be in English and Afrikaans. The size of the stamp will be 24.2 mm. x 40.5 mm. A specially designed datestamp will be used at the base."

We have seen this stamp which appears with the new watermark so presumably it was a somewhat hasty decision to have such an issue. In Orange covering South Africa and Green for most of the rest of the stamp, it would seem to express the National Colours. We rather like it, although we think the colours could have been chosen better if a really attractive stamp was wanted.

Cylinders 60 and 119 are used, both numbers vertically opposite row 6/1 in the left margin. Also the lozenge single protective lines appear in orange vertically in the left and right margins, - arrows too, are in orange.

We see it stated that there will be a stamp to celebrate 100 years of a railway system in the Union, next year. Also we have noted that rumour is rife in the Union the new set in 1961 - everybody excepting the Post Office seems to know there will be a new set that year! - will depict flowers. However, between now and then no doubt, it will change to fishes or birds or some such.

Can any member say they have examples of unofficial bisects used in S.A.? On piece we have an example of the 1d GV. postmarked "Adams Mission, Natal, Au.12.20" and another postmarked "Ju.17.20 Amanzimtoti, Natal". Were they really necessary? One is used with a complete 1d GV and the other with complete $\frac{1}{2}$ d and 1d GV.

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POSTAGE STAMP INFORMATION AS AT 6th AUGUST, 1959

Supplied by courtesy of the Publicity Officer, G.P.O., Pretoria
to whom we express our gratitude for this co-operation.

Job No.	Description	Stamps per Sheet	Value	Number of Sheets Ordered	Date of First Delivery
47968	Postage	120	1/-	135,000	28.10.58
49974	Air Letters	1	6d	5,000,000	7.12.58
51704	" "	1	6d	1,000,000	9.12.58
53942	Postage	240	1d	1,000,000	15. 4.59
49597	"	120	6d	150,000	28. 4.59
49599	"	60	2/6	50,000	30. 4. 59
62976	Postage /Aka- demie	120	3d	100,000	21. 5.59
49598	Postage	120	1/3	50,000	18. 6.59
54762	"	120	3d	1,500,000	23. 7.59
63135	Air Letters	1	3d	1,000,000	30. 7.59

Number of Sheets Delivered	Date of Final Delivery	Total Delivery	Cylinder Nos. Interior Exterior	Whether Same Cylinders or New
7,500		95,658	105 New 104	Same
31,200		3,895,200		New Cylinders
10,800	26. 2.59	511,200	"Greetings"	" "
7,500		395,396	97 Same	Single Die
12,595		74,695	1	121 Same
14,428		14,428	66	23 Same
7,500	4. 6.59	106,420	89	119 Same
4,267	2. 7.59	50,162	106	38 Same
7,500		110,000	16	107 Same
66,000		198,000		New Cylinders

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THE NEW CURRENCY

This information is taken from the Extraordinary Government Gazette No.6255 issued in Cape Town on 6th July, 1959.

"Act No.61 of 1959 - Decimal Coinage Act 1959.

"To provide for a coinage system for the Union on a decimal basis and for matters incidental thereto."
 (English text signed by the Governor-General, Assented to 29th June 1959)

Coinage Unit shall be Rand (R) and the Cent (C)

TABLE

COINS issuable under this sub-section	-	Values in comparison with coins issuable under principal Act.
-----		-----
<u>Gold Coins.</u> Two rand. Rand		Pound. Half-pound
<u>Silver Coins.</u> Fifty cents Twenty cents Ten cents Five cents Two and a half cent		Crown Florin Shilling sixpence Threepence.
<u>Bronze Coins.</u> Cent Half-cent Quarter-cent		Twelve-tenths of a penny " " " a half-penny " " " a farthing

 Government to set up a Decimalization Fund under the Minister of Finance.
 Apply also to South-West Africa (including portions known as Eastern Caprivi
 Zipfel and Rehoboth Gebiet.

To come into operation on a date to be fixed by the Governor-General by pro-
 clamation in the Gazette (expected to be the beginning of 1961).

" THE SPRINGBOK "

De Vexilio

of

Up The Pole!

by "SQUATTER"

The flagstaff or flagpole flaw was first reported by Mr Lichtenstein in "S.A.P." April 1934 as follows - "Row 20 number 6.... "Flagpole from right hand tower on right" also on the same stamp a "purple horn on top right of tablet of value". He states also that the flagpole was not present on the first Plate III printings. (Confirmed from copies in writer's possession).

In his list of plate flaws in "S.A.P." January 1935, Mr G. N. Gilbert, evidently examining a sheet of the first printing of Plate III, does not mention the flagpole but does record a "mark on top of circle of value on right" on stamp 20/6.

This very accurate observer also records under Plate III row 3/6 "line from top left roof." This stamp subsequently became known in S.A. as the "flagstaff" flaw possibly as distinct from the flagpole flaw and reference is made to the "man on roof" on the same stamp.

Small wonder that the "H/C boys bless them" - (again I quote Mr Lichtenstein in the "S.A.P.") have got confused either with the row and number or with the description. For the purple horn can scarcely be described as a broken circle and the man on roof only by a considerable stretch of imagination. NOTE the H/C description of 38DVg is "Flagstaff flaw and broken circle" no particular circle being specified.

While on the subject I may add that on stamp 4/1 the flagpole from 3/6 has been uprooted and thrown away to the left. To further confuse searchers for flagstaffs there is a short vertical stroke on the corner of the roof over the colonnades on right on stamp 18/3. This flaw is not constant. All these flaws are on Plate III. I need hardly warn searchers of the many doctor blade scratches that occur on Plates I and II which may also be mistaken for flagstaffs.

Detailed Descriptions:

Row 20/6. Strong horizontal line projecting from right hand side of left tower about one third way up. The line is broken and is about $1\frac{1}{2}$ mm. long.

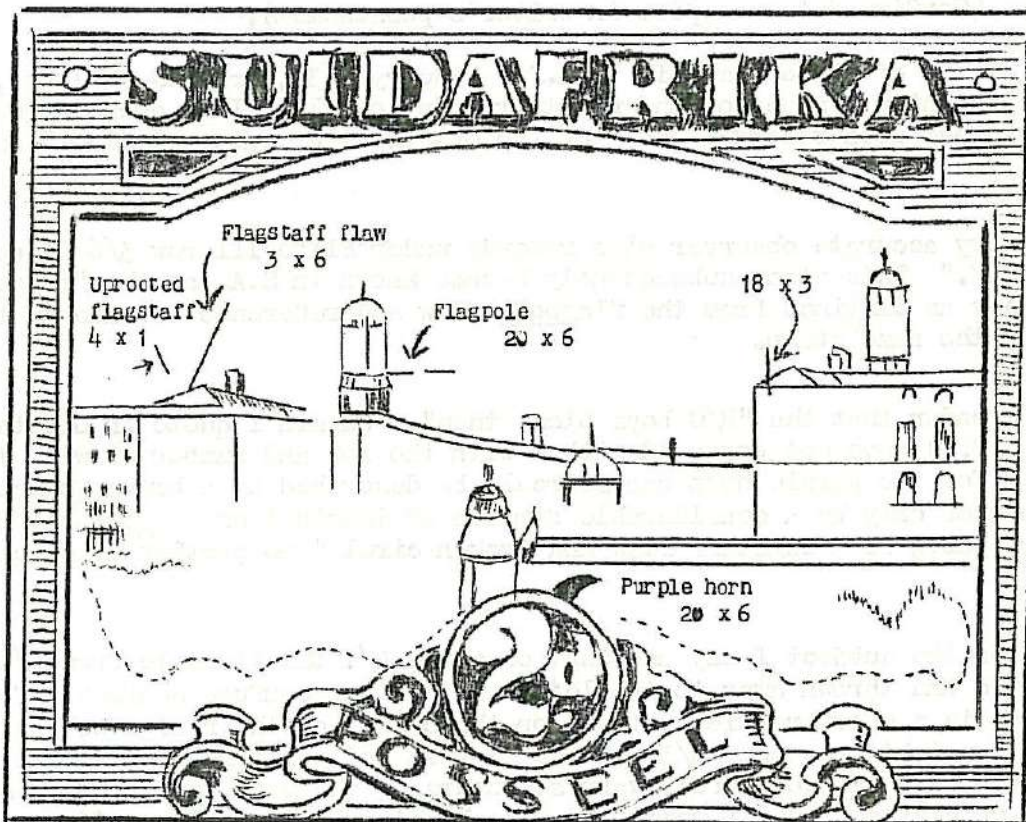
Row 3/6. Line from apex of roof on left leaning towards the chimney and $2\frac{1}{2}$ mm. long. Sometimes faint.

Man on roof - strong vertical mark on roof top between centre chimney and colonnades on right and 2 mm. from latter-flaw extends through white line of roof top.

" THE SPRINGBOK "

Row 4/1. Diagonal line about 1 mm. long between left chimney and frame and leaning towards the frame.

(Editor's Note. If a lesser mortal may be allowed to add a footnote. Our examples show the flagstaff with inverted watermark whilst on the upright watermark paper it is not present.)



SCALE FIVE TIMES NATURAL

" THE SPRINGBOK "

LONDON GROUP MEETING

December 15th., 1959. Display "Odds and Ends" - Seasonable Evening
January 19th., 1960 Six Sheets or 1/-d.
February 16th., 1960. 2d Definitives - Mr P. D. Haigh.
Meetings 6.30 p.m. for 7.0 p.m. in Restaurant Room of the "George Public House"
Strand, London, W.C.1. (Opposite the Law Courts).

NEW SOUTH AFRICAN POST OFFICES

From Mr S. L. Crozet comes news of -

Kwa-Thema in Transvaal, Linton Grange in Cape, Silwerkop in Transvaal, Tikwe
in O.F.S. with Biggarsberg re-opened in Natal.

MOST IMPORTANT DATE IN YOUR DIARY

Arrangements have been made to hold the Annual General Meeting and Exhibition
of the Society next year in the Kinnard Hall of the Y.M.C.A. again, on October 15th.,
1960. Put it down in red ink now so that you cannot overlook it!

NEW WATERMARK

Without any official announcement stamps printed on the new type watermarked
paper were put on sale in South Africa and it was left to the "hawk-eyes" to make
this discovery. Our first news came from Mr J. B. Levy to whom we are grateful
for bringing this quite epoch-making fact to our notice. Up to going to press
we have seen the 1d stamp from cylinders 3A and 3B, the 3d and 4d values from the
old cylinders.

Also the 3d value has been printed yet again from new combination of cylinders
82/84 without any apparent difference in shade. In the sheet formation though
there are the now well-known lozenge shaped bars down both left and right vertical
margins, single line in deep brown. The cylinder numbers have been moved and
appear in the left margin printed vertically against row 5/1 and 6/1 reading in
line with the watermark which faces left. On all the printings this coat-of-
arms type watermark is rather blurred.

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" THE SPRINGBOK "

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Dear Sir,

With reference to the query on page 96 of the last issue re the $\frac{1}{2}$ d rotogravure Plate IIIa.

I have a block of sixteen from the top right hand corner of this plate which contains varieties Va, Vb, Cd, Ve, Vf. There is, however, not any sign of a "broken horn" on Row 2/12.

Beaconsfield

E. F. TAYLOR.

Dear Sir,

In re combination franking of Swaziland (pages 97/98 of last issue) during the one month which S.A. and Swaziland stamps were available for postage I and a few other collectors obtained covers franked with S.A. (including pre-Unions, then available) and Swazi stamps used together. We also sent understamped covers posted here and addressed to Swaziland and arranged matters so that both Swazi and Union dues were used to make up the amounts due.

Johannesburg.

J. ROBERTSON.

Dear Sir,

Having just read through the latest copy of our magazine I was interested to read about the $\frac{1}{2}$ d booklet "Retouched value tablet". I can confirm that this is in fact, row 20 number 8 as I have it in a corner block from the economy strip as well as in a booklet pane. It can only come from rows 6, 7, 8 vertical because the watermark is inverted and as it occurs in a corner block it must be from a bottom row. Whether this should be called row 20 or row 1 may be a moot point since, as it would appear tete-beche to the other six vertical rows, it could be either. However, if you take the multi positive as being the arbiter of sheet positions, then rows 1 to 20 stamps 6, 7, 8 were taken from the multi-positive and inverted in relation to the remaining rows, hence the position of this flaw would appear as row 20 number 8 on the multipositive (if it did but it did not as it was a cylinder flaw on the booklet cylinder).

London.

A. J. BROWN.

" THE SPRINGBOK "

Dear Sir,

Regarding the comments on the subject of first day covers for the G.V. issue prompts me to advise you that I have a piece bearing a 1d stamp of the issue which is postmarked "Sept. 1913" at Cleveland, Transvaal.

Plymouth.

H. McGEENEY.

Dear Sir,

Although the comment has been made in this magazine that the answers to queries may have appeared already, may I, as a relative newcomer, ask for information about a sticker for the South Africa War Market, Johannesburg 12-17 December 1917. I have seen a copy tied on piece with 1d G.V. definitive.

Langley.

R. G. JONES.

Dear Sir,

Reference the item on the "Merry Month of Mei", I am glad the writer had more luck than I did when I asked for information on this subject in 1956! Since then I have acquired 5 examples of the "OKT" variety and 2 showing "MEI" all between 1937 and 1941. Any significance in this I wonder?

Edinburgh.

DR. J. McD. SIMPSON.

Dear Sir,

On behalf of the members of the Ashford (Middx) Philatelic Society I would like to express through the pages of the "Springbok" our appreciation of the display given to us by Mr R. D. Allen, Snr., in the absence of Mr F. C. Abell due to illness.

The variety of material shown and so well described, included many rare and unique items from his own and Mr Abell's collections. This despite the fact that our meeting was only two days before the London Exhibition, ranged from Proofs and Shipping Postmaster marks to commemorative issues to form a most interesting show which was enjoyed by the twenty members and two visitors present and our thanks are due to both Mr Allen and Mr Abell for whom the former so ably deputised.

Staines.

W. A. MATTHEWS,
(Vice President)
Ashford (Mx.) P. S.

" THE SPRINGBOK "

MEMBERSHIP INFORMATION

New Members:

373. Dr E. J. Riseborough, Hammersmith Hospital, London, W.12.
374. Henry F. Knotter, 1710 Hobart Ave., Bronx 61, N.Y., U.S.A.
375. Mrs A. Murnane, Belper, Dunsany, Co. Meath, Eire.
376. John H. Wicks, 39 Loop St., Pietermaritzburg, Natal, S. Africa.
377. Thos. J. Gronville, 56 Richmond Ave., Auckland Park, Johannesburg, S.AFRICA.
378. James L. O'Rear 5240582, VAP-62 Box 37 N.A.S., Jacksonville, Florida, U.S.A.

Members Rejoining:

80. Geoffrey Scholes, Macnaughton House, Judd St., London, W.C.1.
214. Chas. F. Congdon, University of Hawaii, Honolulu 14, Hawaii, U.S.A.
340. M. M. Wood, c/o P.O. Box 687, Johannesburg, South Africa.

Change of Address:

190. L. E. Orkin, P.O. Box 10638, Johannesburg, South Africa.

Resignation:

303. E. C. Rothkugel, Harrow, M'sex.

Membership Lapsed:

322. Irving Hirsch, U.S.A.

PRESS CUTTINGS

"L'Entier Postal" Belgium. April/May 1959. Complete listing of official post-cards with all pictures named 1927-1954.

"Stamp Collecting" September/October 1959. "Philately of the Union" by "Warthog" General comments and new printings etc. noted.

"O.F.S. Philatelic Magazine". August/Sept/Oct. 1959. Anglo-Boer War Philately (cont'd.)

"South African Philatelist" September/October 1959. The Large 1½d Goldmine stamp 9 (R. J. Lawrence)

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