
THE SPRINGBOK



Volume 9 No. 5

Sept/Oct 1961

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" THE SPRINGBOK "

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

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* (also London Group Secretary). *
* *

Whole Number 53.

Page 82.

THE EDITOR'S CHAIR

A point we intended to make a little while ago. Some members are rather slow in renewing their subscriptions and it has happened at times they have not been able to complete their files with consecutive copies. Now and again a member mislays a back copy and sometimes we are able to help as we are able to buy in copies from members who decide to give up collecting South Africa.

As reported elsewhere, the pace is hotting up a little with reprints on watermarked and on plain paper and who is to know just how far this state of affairs will go, what values will or will not appear on plain paper. Motto - get them as they come out and not in a year's time.

Airletter sheets have been causing quite some interest with quite a number of changes and yet more are still coming along, so if this is your forte you should be enjoying yourself.

As most members will know, our last number of the year generally contains an excellent article from the pens of Messrs Lauder and Stewart describing some varieties not depicted in the Handbook and which members might have difficulty in recognising. This is amplified by a page of illustrations. They have the matter in hand already but if YOU have any variety you think could do with being illustrated please write accordingly NOW to either of the two gentlemen.

Afraid we are a little late with the issue this month but we hope it will be none the less welcome. With the magazine we are including the booklet regarding the Republic stamps issued by the Post Office in South Africa through the kind co-operation of the Publicity Officer in Pretoria to whom our grateful thanks.

We are looking forward to renewing our acquaintance with those many members who make the effort to attend the Exhibition. Even though we may be busy we do hope you will stop to say hello before passing on your way through the exit.

Multipositive Flaws of Plates VIII to XI

(cont. from page 50 Vol. 18 No.3)

by "CAECULUS"

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Further study of Plates IX and R10b has established the fact that a number of flaws recorded previously as cylinder flaws of either VIII or IX are in fact multipositive flaws - several new multipositives have been added to the list.

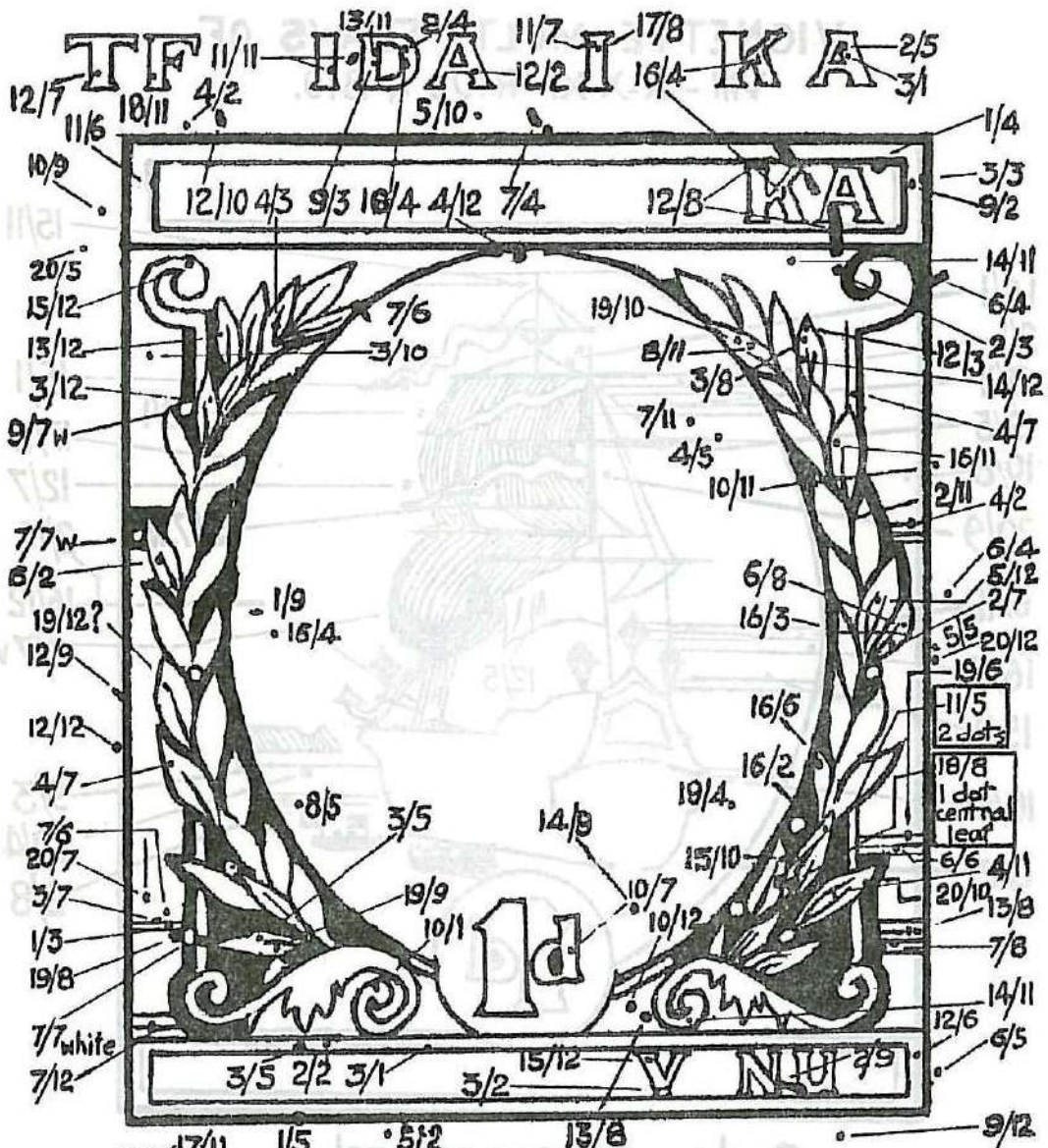
IT IS QUITE CERTAIN THAT THERE ARE MORE MULTI-FLAWS TO BE DISCOVERED - particularly those which developed for the first time on Plate R10b. Alas stamps from Plate IX are not easily found and supplies of R10b have dried up completely. Therefore, the writer has decided that the time has come to publish the following lists however incomplete.

To summarize. Of the FRAME MULTI-FLAWS common to Plates VIII, R10b and IX, 25 occur on all three plates, 18 on R10b and IX only and 6 on VIII and R10b only. These latter 6 prove the printing sequence and confirm the contention previously advanced by the writer that R10b (Oct. '33) was issued before Plate IX (Nov. '33).

Apologies must be made for the microscopic nature of some of the flaws recorded. They are required on account of the difficulty in plating R10b. In excuse it can be said that some of them whilst scarcely visible on Plates VIII and IX are quite strong on R10b. In general when a flaw is described as tiny it should be readily visible to the naked eye; minute - reach for the magnifier and microscopic is best ignored unless necessity compels.

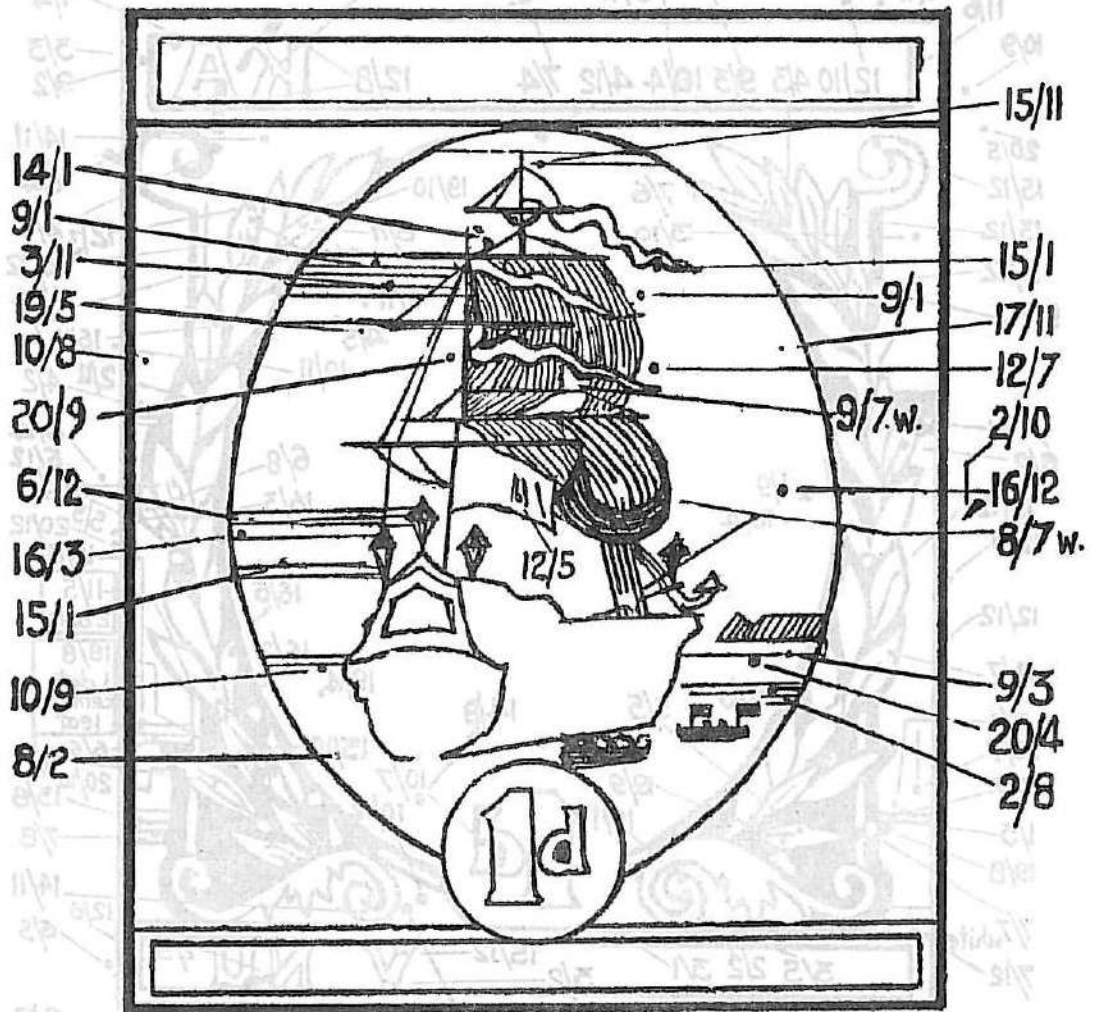
Flaws of the Vignette Multipositive
common to
Plates VIII, R10b, IX, X XI and R10.

Row		VIII	R10b	IX	X	XI	R10
2/10	BLACK DASH CENTRAL R MARGIN			X	X	w	
9/1	Minute dot on 4th line of shading under top pennant and close to sail	X	X	X	w	a	
9/7	WHITE SPOT IN SAIL UNDER LOWEST PENNANT	X	X	X	X	X	
14/4	Black hyphen or stroke in or near "I" of "INIC"	X	X	X	w/A	w	
20/9	Tiny dot under second yardarm close to mast	X	X	X	X	X	



3 FRAME MULTI FLAWS OF
 VIII - IX - RIObs
 Scale :- 6 times natural

VIGNETTE MULTI FLAWS OF
VIII-IX-X-XI-R.10b & B10.



Scale: - 6 times natural

Flaws of ^{2/10 12/5} 9/1, 12/7, 14/1, 16/12 & 20/4 do not appear on P.VIII.

" THE SPRINGBOK "

Flaws of the Frame Multipositive
common to
Plates VIII, R10b and IX

Row		VIII	R10b	IX
1/5	Pimple on outer frame under 2nd s of POSS.	-	x	x
1/9	Scratch on sky opp. tip 5th leaf up on left and 1 mm. from it.	-	x	x
2/11	Faint scratch across tip of outer leaf opposite lowest pennant	x	x	x
3/8	Micro dot in top of leaf adj. right Q.M.	x	x	x
3/10	Micro dot panel shading top L on 2nd full line down.	x	x	x
4/2	Micro dot top margin $1\frac{1}{2}$ mm from NW corner close to frame	x	x	x
4/5	Micro dot between sun rays 2 and 3 near top	x	x	x
4/12	SPOT OVER TOP MAST	x	x	-
5/2	Micro dot bottom margin under R leg of A.	x	x	x
5/5	Micro dot R margin 11 mm up close to frame	-	x	x
5/10	Dot in margin over right leg of H.	-	x	x
5/12	Minute dot in top of higher outer leaf opp. big sail	-	w	x
6/2	Scratch L top of outer leaf opp. yard-arm 4.	w	x	x
6/4	Minute dot in R margin $10\frac{3}{4}$ mm down	x	x	x
6/6	Micro dot lower panel shading R over tip of 2nd leaf up (on 19th line)	x	x	-
6/8	Dot in outer leaf over top berry on R.	-	x	x
7/4	TWO SPOTS IN MARGIN OVER A OF AFR.	x	x	-
7/6	Pimple on inside of oval frame at tip highest inner leaf L.	-	x	x
	Minute dot lower panel shading L on 11th line up-	x	w	
7/7	Tiny white spot at tip of outer leaf opp. y.a.4.x	x	x	
7/11	Micro red dot opp top of 4th inner leaf R and 2 mm from it. (i.e. under tip of pennant)	-	x	x
7/12	Dot on bottom line of panel shading L.	-	x	x
8/5	Micro red dot in sea opp bulge on stern and near oval.	-	x	x
8/11	Micro dot 2nd inner leaf down on R.	x	x	x
9/2	Dot in white line opp A of ICA	-	x	x
9/7	WHITE SPOT AT BASE OF LEFT Q.M.	x	x	x
10/1	Micro dot in top of inner ball of L scroll	x	x	x
10/11	Micro dot R margin $7\frac{1}{2}$ mm down, close to frame	-	x	x
11/6	Tiny pimple on solid colour opp. top loop of S of SOU.	x	x	x
11/7	Dot in top of I of ICA.	-	x	x
12/3	Tiny dot in extreme top of leaf adjoining R.Q.M.x	x	x	x
12/7	Dot in stalk of T of OUT bottom left	x	x	x
12/10	Dot in lower loop of first S of POSS.	x	x	-

 " THE SPRINGBOK "

		VIII	R10b	IX.
Row 13/8	Dot in solid colour R of value tablet	x	x	x
13/11	Dot on R edge of downstroke of D.	-	x	x
14/9	Red dot in sea 1 mm R of value tablet level with top of 1	x	x	-
15/10	Micro dot in R top of leaf nearest boat	-	x	x
16/2	Micro dot between shading lines of 3rd outer leaf up on R.?	x	x	x
16/3	Scratch thro' leaves R central	w/a	x	x
16/4	Tiny red dot in S.W. sky opp top 4th inner leaf up and 1 mm from oval.	x	x	-
	Minute pimple central inner edge of loop of D of SUID.	-	x	x
16/6	Dot in tip of small inner leaf under TM	x	x	x
17/8	Dot on top of I of ICA.	-	x	x
17/11	DOT IN 1st S of POSS.	x	x	-
18/11	Micro dot in F bottom left.	x	x	x
19/2	Left frame blurred and damaged at NW corner (NOT ILL)	x	x	x
19/4	Tiny red dot in sea over rear flag in boat	x	x	x
19/6	Dot panel shading R on 20th line up.	x	x	w
19/12				
20/6				
20/10	Tiny dot on R top edge of 2nd outer leaf up on R.	x	x	x
20/12	Tiny dot R margin 10 mm up close to frame	-	x	x

Abbreviations.

s - strong. w - weak. w/a - weak or absent. a - absent.
 T.M. - Table Mountain. S.T. - sun's rays. y.a. - yard arm.
 Q.M. - question mark.

Plating Query

Mr R. M. Kitchingman enquires whether anyone can plate the following stamps for him -

- Union cat.123 - 1/2d. green globule under K of Afrika (Th.H5)
 dot in margin to left of postage (Th.A1)
 dot below M of Inkomste (Th.G3)
- 127 - 3d. brown line thru' c of Africa (Th.A/B6)
- 128 - 4d. Colour on I of SUID (Th.A2)
 hairline in lower section of S of SUID (Th.A1)
- 132 - 1/3d. line between two legs (Th.E5-7)
- 48D - 4 1/2d dot right of o of Postage (Th.C1)
- 50d - 1/3d dot in t of South (Th.A4)
 dot in H of South (Th.A4)

THE LONDON GROUP 'ABELL' CUP COMPETITION

This year's competition brought one less entry than last year - seven in all, of varying nature and setting the members a difficult task to judge.

However after some deliberations, the winners were announced as follows -

1st. Mr G. M. Whitten.

A study in nine sheets of the variety of marginal inscriptions found on the stamps of the Union ranging from the jubilee lines of the De La Rue Georgians to the blanking out designs of the current definitives.

2nd. Mr A. J. Brown.

A selection of early Air Mail postal history including the Muizenburg flight and the Red Cross flights together with photographic illustrations.

3rd. Mr P. Haigh.

A brief study of the re-drawn 2d. Union buildings from Plates 5 - 7 showing identification by arrows and positional blocks.

The 'also ran' included some very interesting material and is worthy of recording for the benefit of other members.

There was another entry of 2d. Union buildings - this time of the small format issues from Group 6, again showing identification by positional blocks.

No display or competition would be complete without a study of the 1d ship and this year it took the form of a selection of the multipositive flaws of Plates 1 to 7.

The 1/- Recess issues of Plates 1 & 2 contributed another entry, again with data pointing out the differences.

Lastly another Postal History entry of World War II - A selection of covers posted during a journey of a War Train exhibition that toured the Union in 1941, each showing its appropriate markings.

W.A.P.

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" THE SPRING BOOK "

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SOUTH AFRICAN STUDY CIRCLE

From P.O. Box 31, Bryanston, Transvaal, S.A. we have received a pamphlet giving a synopsis of the 1d black wildebeest stamp and we are told it is the intention to publish periodically, probably every second or third month, a similar pamphlet dealing with all the values of the Union's Third Definitive Issue. Whilst the lay-out will be based on the "Stamps of South Africa, Hand Handbook Catalogue" it is stated the information will be more extensive.

Certainly the specimen we have seen referring to the 1d stamp is quite informative and useful to the student. Price is 10 cents each pamphlet from Box 31.

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Third Edition Catalogue

The Golden Jubilee edition is being kept up to date by listing of new issues in the "South African Philatelist" along with appropriate catalogue numbers, but without pricing. Subscription to the "S.A.P." is 12/6d a year or 2 dollars.

REPUBLICAN ISSUES

The first series was released on May 30th and met with a mixed reception as might be expected.

Interest, however, is growing afresh as the new printings are beginning to appear.

The 2½ cent value started it all when the first reprints were made from new cylinders S17 and S3 but this lasted only about six weeks when for some reason unknown the cylinders must have become damaged for yet another pair of cylinders was employed S15/S18. As if this was not sufficient, it was found that the stamp had been redrawn without the basic design being altered but with a little more colouring. For good measure somebody decided to print them on paper without watermark.

We find it difficult to believe that the cost of a watermark was straining the resources financially of the Post Office and it is our feeling that there has been a slip-up somehow and it may not be long before we are back regularly on watermarked paper. The 1 cent value has received this treatment and it is reported that the ½ cent value is also available similarly but we are still waiting to see specimens. The position is not helped by the fact that these unwatermarked printings only seem to be in certain parts of the country.

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CUSTOMS PAID

This postal marking appears to be applied when printed matter has been sent in bulk in order that the trouble of affixing DOUANE stamps should be avoided. I have

1. DOUANE BETALD KAAP STAD in single line circle on cover from Germany 1.9.57.
2. CUSTOMS DUTY PAID/INVOERREGTE BETALD in $2\frac{1}{2}$ x $\frac{1}{2}$ inch box, in two lines, on a cover from U.S.A. no date.
3. CUSTOMS PAID CAPE TOWN double line circle with the inscription between the lines. Letter from Chicago, no date.

All the above are addressed to my colleague, Dr J. W. Harris, of Port Elizabeth, to whom I am much indebted for these and other covers.

G.W.

A LITTLE KNOWN POSTAL MARKING

This is on a registered cover from New York to P.O. Box 940, Port Elizabeth. It left New York on 25 May, 1957, but the only arrival mark reads thus DUPLICATE ADVICE/TWEEDE ADVIES 4/6/57 all in an oblong box. The explanation appears to be that a registered letter could not be put in a P.O. Box because a receipt was needed but that the Post Office was holding such a letter addressed to the particular box was indicated by a printed form placed in the box.

The actual registered letter received on the back the postal marking above mentioned to show that the procedure had been carried out.

Is this the correct explanation?

G.W.

QUERY?

A cover from DURBAN 23.11.50 to G.B. handstamped in single line and boxed "DAMAGED BY SEA-WATER". The cover is stained (as if by coffee) but mostly towards the edges.

Can anyone explain or tell of a minor sea or air tragedy in November 1950.

VARIABLE MULTIPOSITIVE FLAWS -
screened not screenless printings

by R. McDougall.

In the July/August "Springbok", Mr Haigh draws attention to the problem of multipositive flaws which seem to appear and disappear at will, in a baffling manner. Most of them are scarcely larger than the dots produced by the screen.

While listing the multipositive flaws of the first three issues of the 1d Animal (Cylinders 12, 27 and 97) several similar instances were noted and, since there must be an explanation, various possible causes were considered, but for several reasons, including the lack of evidence to support anything else, it was decided that only the Screen could produce the desired effect of concealing or revealing a microscopic flaw on the Multipositive.

The same Screen appears to have been used for the three cylinders (diagonal lines, about 200 per inch). The SAP has described the Screens and how they are used, and it is obvious that they are not positioned with extreme accuracy. Therefore, a shift in positioning of only 1/200th inch could either conceal or reveal the flaw, depending on whether the juncture of screen lines came over the flaw or not.

This is all very well when dealing with microscopic flaws, but can it be used to explain large variations in size of flaws which are as big as four of the screen dots (almost $\frac{1}{4}$ mm diameter)?

On Row 10 x 11, a $\frac{1}{4}$ mm dot over "So" of South on Cylinder 12 is only a microscopic dot on Cyl 27, while on Cyl 97 it is so small that it is just a slightly-emphasised screen dot.

On Row 5 x 1, a clearly visible blob on top of the "R" of Revenue on Cyl 12 is only a minute dot (not touching the "R") on Cyls 27 and 97.

It hardly seems possible that the Screen alone could produce such variations in size, but there is a further example on Row 9 x 9 which illustrates the effect more clearly. On Cyls 27 and 97 there is a dot, slightly less than $\frac{1}{4}$ mm in diameter, over the "I" of Inkomste. On Cyl 12 there is no clear dot but two of the screen dots are definitely deeper and the adjoining two are very slightly emphasised. Obviously the flaw on the Multipositive was almost entirely concealed by the juncture of two screen lines.

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AUCTION REALISATIONS

In South Africa during the past few months one or two good collections have been broken up for sale by auctions and material not often seen became available. For your interest we note some items you might never acquire!

1927	Pretoria Plate Proof 1d ship in black/white on gloss paper, centre plate only, block of four with jubilee line and enormous top margin.	£ 12. 10. 0.
1927	as last but frame plate only.	£ 12. 10. 0.
1927	Pretoria Plate proof 1d ship blue-green/carmine on thick paper, imperf., block of four.	£ 13. 0. 0.
1927	as last but blue-green and orange.	£ 13. 0. 0.
1927	Pretoria 1/2d top marginal vertical pair with Centres MISSING with strong offset of the frame across the albino centres due to fold-over.	£ 25. 0. 0.
1927	Pretoria 1d Block of four with left margin showing fold-over with consequent extra perforations and the printing of a portion of 2 stamps on the gummed side with the top pair completely missing frames and the lower pair partly missing frames.	£ 37. 10. 0.
1927	Pretoria 1d twisted ship variety block of 4.	£ 12. 10. 0.
1927	Pretoria 6d shifted head plate with white oranges and misplaced jubilee line, 7 horizontal pairs from top left corner of sheet with margins.	£ 45. 0. 0.
1927	Pretoria booklet 1/2d pane green bars in margin	£ 7. 10. 0.
1927	Pretoria as last but 1d pane.	£ 7. 10. 0.
1927	Pretoria booklet 1d pane missing jubilee line	£ 10. 10. 0.
1927	Pretoria 1/2d and 1d booklet pairs stamped in violet SPECIMEN	£ 7. 10. 0.
1923	Essay - A Dutch artist's drawing for the centre-plate of a springbok (features suggested by Mr Guy Harrison) on plain white card 2" x 2" along with similar card for frame-plate 3 1/4" x 3 1/4".	£ 52. 10. 0.
1923	Harrison essay 1d in blue imperf. unwatermarked gummed paper, block of four from bottom corner.	£ 11. 0. 0.
1926	London 1d horizontal pair from booklet B6 VI WATERMARK SIDEWAYS, with certificate of genuineness, USED	£ 30. 0. 0.
1926	Bradbury Wilkinson 4d triangular colour trial in brown, perforated specimen.	£ 50. 0. 0.
1926	as last but grey-green	£ 45. 0. 0.
1926	Booklet B6 complete	£ 15. 0. 0.

These realisations are from sales held by Wick's Stamp Agency, in Pietermaritzburg.

" THE SPRING BOOK "

POSTAGE STAMP INFORMATION AS AT 5/8/1961.

DECIMAL ISSUE	JOB No.	DESCRIPTION	NUMBER PER SHEET	VALUE	No. OF SHEETS ORDERED	DATE OF FIRST DELIVERY	No. OF SHEETS DELIVERED
	49 2	POSTAGE	100	1c	882,000	6/12/1960	62,000
	49 5	POSTAGE	100	2½c	930,000	15/11/1960	60,500
	6392	AIR LETTERS	1	5c	2,880,000	29/12/1960	78,000
	49 4	POSTAGE	200	2c	90,000	13/12/1960	15,000
	4921	POSTAGE	100	20c	40,000	20/12/1960	12,500
	49 9	POSTAGE	100	10c	63,000	22/12/1960	4,000
	95 1.17	POSTAGE STAMPS	200	½c	32,000	25/4/1961	1,600
	95 2.18	" "	200	1c	1,750,000	27/4/1961	15,000
	95 3.19	" "	200	1½c	24,000	25/4/1961	20,390
	95 4.20	" "	100	2c	94,000	13/4/1961	23,342
	95 5.21	" "	100	2½c	1,900,000	20/4/1961	43,900
	95 6.22	" "	100	3c	160,000	18/3/1961	21,100
	95 7.23	" "	100	5c	110,000	13/4/1961	34,000
	95 8.24	" "	100	7½c	110,000	13/4/1961	8,500
	95 9.25	" "	100	10c	110,000	11/4/1961	29,675
	9520.26	" "	100	12½c	40,000	13/4/1961	27,000
	9521.27	" "	100	20c	50,000	18/4/1961	8,100
	15432.80	" "	100	2½c	1,486,180	4/7/1961	5,100
	9679.84	AIR LETTERS	1	2½c	200,000	11/4/1961	87,000
	9599.04	AIR LETTERS	1	5c	2,880,000	4/4/1961	54,000
	9730.34	POSTCARDS	20	1½c	1,296,000 P.C.s	2/5/1961	40,000 P.C.s
	14928.81	AIR LETTERS	1	2½c	300,000	20/7/1961	9,000
	12349.27	GREETING AIR LETTERS	1	5c	67,880 RECEIVED FROM P.M.G. TO BE OVERPRINTED 'REPUBLIC'	13/7/1961	33,000

/HV.

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BY COURTESY OF THE PUBLICITY OFFICER, PRETORIA

DATE OF FINAL DELIVERY	TOTAL NO. OF SHEETS DELIVERED	CYLINDER NOS.		WHETHER SAME CYLINDER OR NEW	REMARKS
		INT.	EXT.		
14/3/1961	826,889	38 A&B	-	NEW	D/DIE. PANE B RIGHT HAND SIDE. " A LEFT HAND SIDE.
7/2/1961	751,850	52 A&B	27 A&B	"	D/DIE. PANE A RIGHT HAND SIDE. " B LEFT HAND SIDE.
28/3/1961	2,064,000	-	-	"	CHAMBON PRINTING MACHINE.
28/2/1961	85,348	29	-	"	
22/12/1960	27,500	100	23	"	
12/1/1961	53,844	97	1	"	
22/6/1961	36,932	2&34	9	"	
-	575,100	25	26s.	"	D/DIE. PANE A RIGHT HAND SIDE. B LEFT HAND SIDE.
20/6/1961	25,091	S.24	S.19	"	
15/6/1961	118,042	16	86	"	
13/6/1961	413,820	Y.4	Y.1	"	{D/WIDTH PANES B & D LEFT HAND SIDE " A & C RIGHT HAND SIDE DOUBLE COMB GROVER PERFORATOR. (SEE JOB NO. 15432.50 FOR BAL. OF ORDER
-	87,254	21	S26	"	
-	71,960	31	S1	"	
-	58,580	S20	S21	"	
-	49,243	114	101	"	
27/7/1961	40,550	118&106	30	"	
-	20,206	29&103	97	"	
-	119,350	S17	S3	"	BALANCE OF QUANTITY ORDERED AGAINST JOB 9515.21
15/6/1961	249,000	-	-	"	CHAMBON PRINTING MACHINE
-	1,965,000	-	-	"	CHAMBON PRINTING MACHINE
-	1,076,000 P.C.'s	168	171	"	
-	57,000	-	-	"	" " "
25/7/1961	67,880				

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ANNUAL EXHIBITION AND GENERAL MEETING OF THE SOCIETY

Yet another and the last reminder that this takes place on October 21st., at the London Central Y.M.C.A., Gt. Russell Street, London, W.C.1. from 10 a.m. to 6 p.m.

This is your only opportunity to see a really good composite display of South African stamps drawn from a number of collections to present the best we can provide. There is ample room for viewing or discussion with tables and chairs available if you want to get down to it to show the other chap just what you have got or what you want to know.

There is, of course, an auction, as usual, in the afternoon which many members have found profitable whether selling or buying.

There should be facilities for the inevitable cup of tea and if you want to stay the night there are two or three hotels within five minutes of the Y.M.C.A. which is but a few minutes from Tottenham Court Road Tube Station and, of course, any taxi will find it for you!

After the auction the General Meeting takes place where you are free to express your views on any points appertaining to the Society.

So do try to visit us - you will be glad you made the effort and it will be twelve months before you have the chance again.

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Celebrations in South Africa

Our member, Mr John H. Wicks, will be celebrating his tenth year of auctioneering through Wicks Stamp Agency during October. In offering our Congratulations we regret that we shall not be there on the 25th to partake of the special birthday cake during the birthday party, but we have no doubt that those who are fortunate enough to be present will have a jolly good time.

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Sometime in October we think around the 7th to 14th there is to be an exhibition in Cape Town at which a special cancellor is to be used. We are without suitable information to give you more details but we understand the Philatelic Congress of South Africa will be meeting during that time.

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Articles for the magazine and contributions to the exchange packet are always a dire need so please try to help.

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" THE SPRINGBOK "

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Dear Sir,

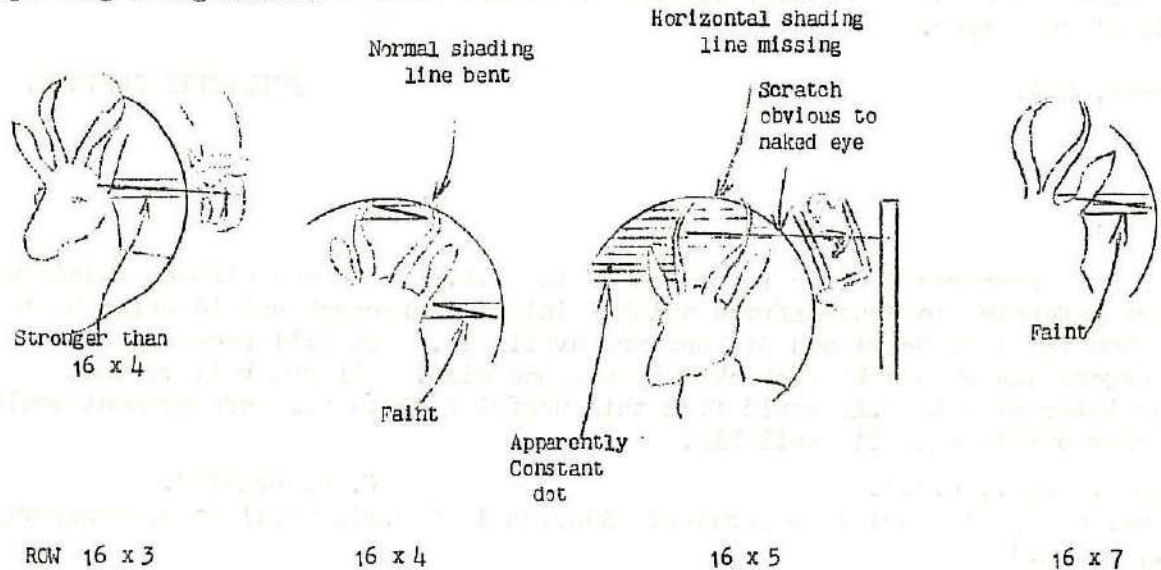
Re: Black Line Flaws on 'Springbok' Issue 5.

During a browsing session with the new H/Cat. a listed variety of the $\frac{1}{2}$ d Issue Five 44A,V7 "Missing line of shading between horns" position unknown, rang a distant bell.

Having unearthed the suspect "Bell ringer" (Row 16 x 5) it proved somewhat of a "clanger" firstly, because the scratch or black line running from between the horns to the right bar (see sketch) seems a more overt flow and secondly, although later deep green printings (those associated with the better known V.10, Row 18 x 1) do suggest a missing line of shading, i.e. broader white line between horns - under a magnifier the missing (or faded) portion can be faintly seen, whilst in the earlier paler green printings, the shading between the horns has no unusual appearance except, of course, the scratch flaw. Hence, unless a developed flaw, unacceptable as V.7.

What then became of more interest was the similarity between the line flaw and those recorded on the 1d value, Issues 11 and 12. One of the former, row 14 x 9, had an elevated spot in H/C Vol I as 45 Vi, those of Issue 12 were (to my knowledge) first given prominence by our august contributor "G.W." in his survey of the 1d Ship. In Vol III all these are now contained under the one variety heading 45.V.16 with "origin unknown".

Given the lead, further investigation of this half-penny issue brought to light other scratches on stamps in the same row, hitherto unnoticed. These are of the same pattern, slightly oblique and curved, but much fainter and requiring a magnifier:-



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" THE SPRINGBOK "

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- 16 x 3 - Faint line from ear to right scroll
- 16 x 4 - (a) Faint line between top of horns and
(b) between ear and oval, very faint.
- 16 x 7 - Faint line similar to 16 x 4 (b), but one shading
line higher.

All on both pale and dark green printings.

For those interested in "plating" flaws see diagrams, maybe too, one of our S.A. friends who helped sponsor or know 44A,V7 could give 16 x 5 their "yea or nay" - it is useful to know what not to seek. Incidentally, even on used material 16 x 5 stands out, but the others will be more difficult to locate.

London.

R. J. LAWRENCE.

Dear Sir,

With reference to your letter of July 14th., requesting copies of the descriptive brochure on the Republican series of postage stamps, I have to inform you that three parcels were forwarded to you by surface mail today.

In the third line of the second paragraph describing the Secretary bird on page 6 the word "year" should read "ear". It would be appreciated if you would kindly make the necessary amendments or alternatively advise the recipients of the error.

Pretoria, S.A.

PUBLICITY OFFICER.

Dear Sir,

I have prepared a cross reference of the S.A., Scott and Gibbons catalogue numbers referring to South Africa which I intend to recheck and to bring up to date when the 1962 Scott and Gibbons are available. It will probably contain some errors and should be rechecked by someone else. If you believe that others interested in S.A. would find this useful perhaps some arrangement could be worked out to make it available.

Westport, Conn., U.S.A.

W. H. HARDING.

(Any volunteers to assist Mr Harding? Address is 5 Spring Hill Road, Westport, Conn., U.S.A.)

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" THE SPRINGBOK "

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Dear Sir,

Maritime Mail in World War II

I was most interested to read Mr Lauder's article in the last issue of the magazine under the above heading.

I am fortunate to possess a copy of the mark - unfortunately only on the top half of the front, of a similar type of air letter card to that illustrated, through the courtesy of Dr Harvey Pirie, but British card which was in frequent use from British troops in M.E.F. Fortunately the only writing visible is the address of the writer and the date viz "V.A.D. Quarters R.N.H. Durban 3.1.45". It is franked with two 3d Bantam War Defence stamps. It is fairly clear now that at least in 1944 and 1945 it was a Durban Naval "security" type of maritime cancellation. I know of no other apart from the one illustrated.

I feel that Dr Harvey Pirie has forgotten my own copy as we were in correspondence about it three or four years ago when he agreed that in view of the address shown on mine, my view that it was a Durban Naval security mark, was probably correct. I shall be most interested to hear of any more copies, particularly if they shatter the theory I have held for some time.

London,

E. G. KINSEY.

Dear Sir,

Maritime Mail in World War II.

I have read Mr Kinsey's notes with great interest. I do not think that there can be any dispute about the cancellation being a Durban Naval security type of maritime postmark. The point of interest, however, which seems to have escaped Mr Kinsey is why a maritime mark should only, so far at any rate, have appeared on an Air Mail letter.

One possible explanation which I think highly likely is that these air letters, originating from the Naval Hospital in Durban were handed to members of the Forces being repatriated with the request that they be posted on behalf of the sender. For some reason it was not found possible to post the letter until the servicemen got aboard ship. It is reasonable to assume that under these hypothetical circumstances the letter would be treated as ship mail and receive the maritime cancellation. The flaw as I see it is that this does not prove that it was applied in Durban. At any rate from the period of use, at least six months, it would seem that it can hardly have been a naval hospital mark otherwise one would expect more examples to have been found. Any other suggestions?

Bearsden, Glasgow.

EDW. LAUDER.

Membership Information

New Members -

414. K. G. Johannes, P.O. Box 275, Piet Retief, Tvl., S.Africa.
415. F. Jordan, Lochryn, S4 South Road, Stourbridge, Wercs.
416. H. A. Hofman, P.O. Box 8044, Johannesburg, S. Africa.

Member Rejoining -

272. C. Clement, King Edward High School, Box 91, Matatiela, East
Griqualand, S. Africa.

Change of Address -

80. G. Scholes, 70 Manor Road, London, N.16.
103. R. D. Watson, Desterry, 21 Greys Road, Eastbourne, Sussex.
329. R. Gee, 15 Fernhurst Crescent, Brighton, 6, Sussex.

Resignation -

344. G. D. Oliver, Cobham, Surrey.

Press Cuttings

- "S.A.P." August 1961. Additions to the Union Catalogue.
Van Riebecks's Ship by Sylvester L. Crozet.

New Post Offices

More information from Mr Sylvester L. Crozet to whom many thanks.

Jozinidam in Natal	-	Head Office	-	Mkuze.
Tsakane in Transvaal	-	"	-	Brakpan (East Rand)
Marmerpunt in Transvaal		"		Marble Hall
Joe's Pride in Cape		"		Mount Pletcher
Kockspark in Transvaal		"		Potschefstroom
Kwa-Nofikils in Cape		"		King Williams Town
Salt Rock in Natal		"		Umhlali
Thornton in Cape		"		Cape Town

As from September 1st. Bremersdorp in Swaziland has been renamed Manzini -
we wonder why?