
THE SPRINGBOK



Volume 4, No. 6. November/December 1956

" THE SPRINGBOK "

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

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" T H E S P R I N G B O K "

THE EDITOR'S CHAIR

And yet still another volume completed, a little to our surprise as we seem to have been continually appealing for articles and contributions so it is with brighter hope that we look forward to the commencement of Volume 5, feeling that you will continue to rally round rather than see this common link between so many collectors of the Union philately, fall by the way-side.

The need for new members continues unabated and again we ask each of you to obtain one new member during 1957 - just one each, not very much to ask surely? It is with deep regret we include the name of Mr C. F. Jacobs, of Johannesburg, in the obituary listing. Mr Jacobs was a keen supporter of the Society in various ways and we shall miss his correspondence very much.

We see that in the last issue, we allotted to Mrs Chapman some of her husband's labours due to a printing error, but it really was Mr Chapman who visited the Exhibition on behalf of "Stamp Collecting".

Reference the Exchange Packet, some contributors are causing chaos and confusion by putting prices under the stamps. Please do not continue doing this but, as is established custom, put the details over the stamps and make life easier for us all.

In South Africa, the Postmaster General has turned down an application for a special commemorative stamp for Natal and in fact has stated publicly there will not be any commemorative issue until 1960 when the Union celebrates 50 years of existence. Whilst we are all for keeping such issues to a reasonable minimum we do think the P.M.G. has been ill-advised in making such a sweeping statement and we hope he will think again. It is accepted that stamps are issued for the purposes of paying postage but the old order changeth and many countries now recognise the fact that they can be put to other uses too, i.e., propaganda in its various forms - political to tourist and in some cases for the definite swelling of the country's coffers, as witness Monaco, etc. Whilst South Africa does not need to swell her coffers, we personally do not see what harm could be done by an odd stamp now and again to show us some of the attractions of the Union, for instance.

And now all that remains is for us to convey the Season's Greetings to you and wish you a Merry Christmas and a Most Happy and Prosperous New Year.

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CONSTANT PLATE FLAWS AND VARIETIES - PART IV

by

H. A. STEWART and E. LAUDER

From all accounts the quest for varieties is as keen as ever it was and the main difficulty which we have to overcome is that of trying to satisfy everybody. Several suggestions have been put forward and we will certainly do our best to meet as many of them as possible. Members should remember, however, that several varieties are not suitable for photographic reproduction and we have had to omit many on that account. We are continuing, too, with the original scheme of including different denominations from several issues on the one page as we feel that this will appeal to a greater number of members, many of whom do not collect the earlier issues.

Including the varieties illustrated in this issue we have now covered a total of 54 and we make haste to apologise for being three short of the ideal quantum. Members will have noticed from the Editorial in the last issue that back numbers of the "Picture Page" are still available and we suggest that these 54 illustrations make a useful adjunct to the South African Handbook/Catalogue, especially for those collectors who have only recently started to collect South African stamps and have not had the opportunity of seeing the varieties on the stamps themselves.

Let us now consider the varieties which are featured on the "Picture Page" of this issue:

(1) "Balloon in Sun Rays". Catalogued as No.45B Vv the stamp is found on Row 17 No.8 of the first penny stamps to appear with the cylinder numbers printed on the margin of the sheets, viz 6A and 6B (Plate XXI).

(2) and (3) "Strong horizontal dark line through ship's hull". The catalogue tells us that this variety is found on stamp No.9 of Row 14 of Plate XI which appeared in 1935 and was the first of the hyphenated penny stamps to be issued. The examples inspected do not confirm the catalogue as being correct. It would appear that a defect occurred on this stamp when printed from Plate XI and that it was subsequently repaired on the following Plate XII. It is on the stamp found on the latter Plate on which one finds the variety. In other words the "repair" appears as a black line and the defect which is certainly Plate XI, as a white line or horizontal break through the ship's hull. We should like to hear from other collectors who have this variety in their collection in order that the facts can be confirmed.

(4) "Flaw on top Frame". This well known variety comes from Plate XV (with the first stamp on the sheet in Afrikaans) and is stamp No.2 on the first row. One can collect a series of this stamp showing the flaw in varying stages of development.

(5) "Aeroplane flaw on Afrikaans stamp". In view of the queries which our worthy Chairman has been raising in the pages of the South African Philatelist we

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felt that it was only right that we should illustrate this variety, especially so when its companion one on an English stamp was illustrated in Vol.1 No.6 (Illustration No.5). The variety included in this issue is from a booklet pane and is stamp No.1 of Row 16 of the sheet from which the panes were made up. The variety found on the English stamp is No.3 of Row 5 of the "economy" sheets which were issued for a brief spell and were ultimately used for making up booklet panes. Mr H. J. Anderson points out that the "plane" on the Afrikaans stamp is flying West while that on the English stamp is flying East. The illustrations or the inspection of the actual stamps are the best guide. We would refer members to the interesting comparison between the above flaws and that to be found on the 3d. Postage Due catalogued as No.D46 Vc "Swallow in Flight" which was illustrated in Vol.II No.6 of "The Springbok". No wonder collectors are confused by printed descriptions, especially when the Handbook catalogues as an "Aeroplane" flaw stamp No.4 of Row 9 (No. 38D Vr).

(6) "Extended leg of first 'A' of 'AFRICA'" This variety which is found on stamp No.3 of Row 4 of Pane B of the 5/- all screened issue from Cylinders 8/72 and is catalogued as No.52B Va in Vol. II of the Handbook. We have seen it described elsewhere as "Dot under first 'A' of 'AFRICA'".

(7) "Break in inner frame below 'K' of AFRIKA" is the second stamp on the last row of the Hyphenated 2d. from Plate V (Cylinders 6913/10). This is not unlike the variety from Plate VIII illustrated (No.10) in our last article although the position is of course different.

(8) "Green stop between the large '1' and the '2' of the value". Rather a long winded way of describing the "Stop between '1' and '2'" variety which is catalogued as No.46D Vd and comes on stamp No.19 of Row 10 printed from Cylinders No.31/6924 so that a bottom right corner block will show the variety.

(9) and (10) "Worn Background" variety which occurs on the 6d. stamps printed from Plate VI, all screened, Cylinders 6930/6 Cat. No. 49C. The variety which has already been recorded in the pages of the South African Philatelist is uncatalogued but can be found on stamp No.1 of each row and as can be seen from the illustration the lines of shading to the left of the orange tree practically disappeared. A comparison with the adjoining stamp which is normal will make this clear. We are of the opinion that this interesting variety is more worthy of catalogue ranking than many of the minute flaws which have achieved that distinction.

(11) "Verticle line between yard - arms" is catalogued as No.45B Vw and is found on the first stamp of the sheet from the later printings of Plate XXI printed from Cylinders 6A and 6B.

(12) "White Orange" variety on the 6d. printed from Plate VII (Cylinders 85/32) is quite distinct from a similarly named variety found on earlier printings of this value. As the stamp is all screened no confusion can arise. The Handbook records the variety as appearing on stamp No.2 of Row 3 and is catalogued as No.49D Vc.

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(13) "Blob on Belly" variety, the official name for what has become known among collectors as the "Male Specie" variety. It is catalogued as No.50D Vb and is found on the first stamp of Row 9 of the 1/3 Springbok printed from Cylinder No.30.

(14) "White Forehead" variety found on the 3d. King's Head, black and orange red. It is surprising that this variety, which is constant, has been dropped from the catalogue. It was originally listed and illustrated in Mr Simenhoff's Standard Catalogue published by the Pretoria Philatelic Society in 1931 and is well worth keeping a look out for when going over any copies of this stamp.

Once again we wish our fellow members "happy hunting".

THE SPRINGBOK HALF-PENNY

by

GORDON WARD, M.D., F.R.P.S.L.

A REVIEW

We regret having omitted to review this excellent publication in our last issue but feel sure that most of our readers will already have made its acquaintance.

Published by H. E. Wingfield & Co., at the modest price of 5/-, it first appeared as a series of articles in that firm's House Organ "The Strand Stamp Journal" and has since been extensively revised.

The author is well known as a writer on philatelic subjects and as a student of this particular stamp which he has studied for many years. The result of his researches are now made available to all collectors in a form which makes a comparatively difficult subject relatively easy to follow. A complete "Check List" is included tying up the various printings with those listed in the Handbook/Catalogue, even the page number being quoted for easy reference.

The stamps are dealt with Group by Group and all relevant information given as to how one is distinguished from another. Needless to say both the Booklet and Roll stamps are recorded in their proper sequence. If that is not sufficient to make you fork out 5/- then you had better buy it for the illustrations because these alone are worth the price asked. There are no less than thirteen pages of illustrations covering thirty six different items altogether. They are exceptionally well drawn and being printed on fine art paper come out as clear as anyone could wish.

If you are interested in this particular stamp then you cannot afford to be without a copy. If you are not interested in the Half-penny Springbok then it is surprising that you are reading this magazine.

E. L.



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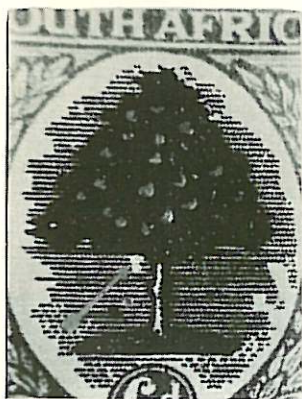
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14

" T H E S P R I N G B O K "

THE 2d UNION BUILDINGS
S.G.44 - H.B.38-38D

by CAECULUS.

As the above stamp has been declared the "Stamp of the Year" the following check list and notes may be of some use to members of the Society.

Plate	Cyls. Int.Ex.	Approximate Date of Issue.	Colour	Watermark
I	1 1	April 1931	a Greenish slate & lilac	Upright & Inverted
B	2 2	late 1931	b Greenish slate & bright mauve	" " "
II	3 3	(Sept. 1931 (1932	c Slate grey & mauve d Black & mauve	" " "
R	4 4	Nov. 1931 (Oct. 1933	e Slate grey & lilac f Black & mauve	Always inverted
III	34 42	(not yet ascertained	(g Deep black & deep mauve	" "
			(h Greenish grey & deep mauve	Upright & inverted
			(i Blue grey & deep mauve	Always upright
			(j Bluish-black and deep mauve	" "
			(k Indigo and violet	" "

Notes:

R = Rolls. B = Booklets.

1. The authority for the date of issue of the Rolls (e) - i.e. Nov.31 - is the Handbook. It was first reported on sale in "S.A.P." of April 1932.
2. Although the Booklets (b) were printed sometime after the printing of Plate I and before the printing of Plate II, they were not issued until 1931. (see table of Multi flaws).
3. f and g may possibly be the same printing
4. j and k may possibly be the same printing

The following table of various multipositive flaws demonstrates the order in which the different printings appeared.

	I	B	II	R	III
3x2 Dot in angle of L of POSSEEL	x	x	x	x	x
15x1 Two dots between P and O	x	x	x	x	x
1x1 Dot in top white line over O	-	x	x	x	x
6x6 Dot in shading under S of SOUTH	-	x	x	x	x
9x3 S.W. corner of E extended downwards	-	?	x	x	x
1x1 Dot in sky top under T	-	-	x	x	x
15x2 Extended serif to 1st E of POSSEEL	-	-	x	x	x
20x6 Purple horn on value tablet	-	-	x	x	x

It will be noticed that the Booklet sheets were printed at some time after the

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printing of Plate I and before the printing of Plate II. They were not issued until late 1931 after the issue of Plate II.

The "purple horn" flaw on 20 x 6 has previously been considered a Plate III cylinder flaw. A recent letter from Mr G. N. Gilbert reports its presence on the Rolls printings. It is, therefore, a multi-flaw and as it does not appear on Plate II, this find enables us to complete the sequence satisfactorily.

Colours.

Colour exists in the eye of the beholder.

Not long ago I met a modern young man who assured me that the primrose by the River's bridge was a bright magenta primrose to him.

When the 2d value (the pale shade of Plate I) first appeared it was described in "S.A.P." of April 1931 as dull green and purple! S. G. called it then and still calls it slate grey and lilac. The Handbook calls it greenish grey and dull mauve. So the colours and shades mentioned in this article are only what the writer's eye sees and the writer's eye sees the colour of PLATE I as LILAC; but call it what you will the colour of Plate I is distinctive and distinguishes it at a glance from the other sheet printings.

I will repeat that PLATE I occurs in the LILAC or dull mauve, if you like, shade only and in no other. You will find it a great help. The Rolls stamps, however, appear in an almost identical shade but they are so elusive that their existence may be practically ignored.

It is unfortunate that both the greenish grey shade of the vignette and the mauve or purple shade of the frame are extremely liable to colour change from usage. The writer confesses himself unable to cope with the situation. The stamps are all different shades of the same colour and he has designated that mauve.

Arrows.

No doubt some enquiring mind will want to know why there were only three sheet Plates while there were five sets of marginal arrows. All I can say is that a careful examination of the plate flaws has proved to the writer's satisfaction that there were only three frame cylinders and three vignette cylinders used for the sheet printings and no combinations of these cylinders were used other than those shown in the check list.

Rolls.

The writer has for a long time cherished the theory that the Rolls stamps never saw the inside of an automatic slot machine. They would not fit into the machines used for the $\frac{1}{2}$ d and 1d values. He has seen no copies either mint or used which have the clipped perforations unseparable from the use of such machines. Enquiries, not very wide-spread it must be admitted, have failed to discover how many machines were in use, where they were used, nor anyone who admits to having inserted his twopence and extracted a stamp. On the other hand a note in "S.A.P." for July 1932 reports that "a large supply of 2d booklet stamps has been split up into strips of twenty, rolled up into £5 packages and issued to dorp (country) postmasters." These can only

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be the Roll values. There would be no reason for splitting sheets of stamps into rows of twenty.

In conclusion, as the reader of this preamble on the subject of colour may have grasped, no great accuracy can be claimed for the classification of the various printings of Plate II and III. The writer does claim that this short article does introduce some order and coherence into this very difficult group of which very little appears to be known.

His sole object in rushing into print before he has fully completed his investigations is to help his fellow members of the Society, especially those of the London Group from whose recent wonderful display he has brought away such pleasant recollections.

THIS DOCTOR BLADE BUSINESS

Doctor blade flaws are not necessarily, nor even usually, of the nature of scratches and the dastardly title of an unsigned article in the last number of the "Springbok" is much to be regretted. May the writer of it be pursued by the sharpest of blades wielded by gigantic doctors. Of course, it is quite possible that he is by no means so ignorant as he seems but is just trying to extract a coherent article from any indignant reader who will take the trouble to answer him. In any case - here goes.

D. B. flaws are either constant or otherwise. Constant flaws show that there has been some definite continuing damage to the cylinder. They may take the form of fine coloured scratch marks or of much wider marks with rather indefinite edges. The former are due to scratching of the cylinder by some hard foreign substance trapped by the sweep of the doctor blade but I do not feel quite sure how the latter are caused. They would seem to depend upon shallow grooves in the cylinder and certainly have some connection with the doctor blade.

The inconstant flaws are more variable in character and appearance. It is the duty of the D.B. to sweep surplus ink from the surface of the cylinder. If there is the slightest bend or nick in the blade some of the ink will escape removal and will remain as a long streak on the surface of the cylinder. This streak will be conveyed to the printing sheet and will serve to exemplify the commonest form of D.B.

Rather less common are the D.B. flaws caused by a foreign body being pushed along in front of the edge of the D.B. or being actually caught up beneath its edge. The resulting flaw will depend upon the nature of the foreign body. If it is soft and woolly it will wipe the cylinder even more thoroughly than the doctor blade itself. It will suck up the ink out of the recesses on the cylinder. The result

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on the printing sheet will be a comparatively thick white line. Some striking examples of this were shown on the early 'ship' pennies at our recent exhibition.

If there is enough of this softish foreign body to lift the blade a trifle from the surface of the cylinder, there will be a dark line or zone of colour on either side of the white mark.

The remaining type of D.B. flaw shows up as a clear white line across the stamp. It is usually a thin line and is due to a small hard substance beneath the edge of the knife wiping off the ink even from recesses.

All these varieties would seem to be collectable but only those which are constant would usually be thought fit for catalogue rank - the others occur on every single issue and could be covered in an introductory note setting out their appearance and frequency.

The diagnostic signs of a doctor blade flaw would seem to be that it is:-

- (a) Linear straight and unbroken by the screen.
- (b) Crosses the stamp in a slightly diagonal direction which is occasioned by the side-to-side movement of the doctor blade.
- (c) Is in one colour only, although two different flaws in different colours may occur on one stamp.

This is not quite the whole story, for the doctor blade flaws shown at our exhibition on the 37G ships were too similar and too striking to be dismissed as of very little significance. It is evident that there was at the time of this printing a serious maladjustment of the doctor blade which was not at once corrected. It occurred during the printing of the head and may have been due to some inequality in the head cylinder. We have here, then, a series of inconstant flaws which can be recommended to cataloguers because they illustrate a particular printing difficulty at one period only and not a mere inevitable recurrent fault of the photogravure process.

Lastly, there is a doctor blade flaw which I have seen only on a single Egyptian issue but which might turn up again anywhere else. It is caused by a doctor blade insufficiently secured, so that the blade 'jitters' on the cylinder with repeated, rapid, make-and-break contacts. The result is a series of wiped and unwiped lines crossing the stamp at right angles to the direction of the turns of the cylinder.

G. W.

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SOME EXHIBITION COMMENTS

by

"Eavesdropper"

- A Stamp Dealer: "I thought it was an all-round excellent effort by the Society. First-class material, well-displayed and under ideal conditions."
- A College Student: "It was streets better than any previous Exhibition I have seen and the stamps were set out so well that it made the study of them easy."
- A Foreign Visitor: "I am not familiar with this "Specialization" of stamps but if this is an example, it is a remarkable exhibition and has great possibilities for the collector."
- A Professional Man: "I thought it was a magnificent effort on the part of the Committee and thoroughly enjoyed the display which was presented so exceedingly well."
- A London Family:
(Father, Son and
Daughter) "A jolly good show and it answered a lot of questions for us. The stewards were most helpful. We came for the morning but decided to return in the afternoon and make a day of it! And what a day!"
- A Civil Servant: "I had no idea that a specialist Society could put up such a wonderful show of the stamps of one country. As a S. A. collector in a small way, I was thrilled and am forthwith starting to become a collector in a big way."
- A Housewife: "I am not a collector but I thoroughly enjoyed the show and can readily appreciate why my husband is so keen."
- The Youngest Visitor: "I like the lovely pictures of the animals, daddy!"
(aged 3)
- A Provincial Member: "I thought I would look in for half an hour but stayed three! I have rarely enjoyed a trip to London so much."

Our contributor vouches for the fact that these comments were made quite spontaneously and he could not resist passing them along so that if you will not take our word for it that the Annual Exhibition is well worth a visit, maybe you will take theirs.

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GLASGOW GROUP MEETINGS

Group Meetings are again being held this year in Room A of The Christian Institute, Bothwell Street, but we have changed our meeting night to the SECOND MONDAY in each month. This has proved more popular with members and an increased attendance has resulted. The following meetings have been held so far:

September 10th. Members brought along their contribution to the Society's Exhibition in London at the end of the month. A review of the Exhibition has already appeared in these pages. However in view of the letter which was published in an earlier issue of this magazine it is perhaps as well to put on record that the artist's drawings for the two values of the "Centenary of Pretoria" issue of 1955 were preliminary drawings which differed slightly from the drawings as finally accepted which, of course, are kept in the Government archives. The differences would be apparent to those members who visited the exhibition.

October 8th: Mr Lauder tabled a collection illustrating the South African Postal Services in World War II. Commencing with the Large War Effort Series the collection followed on with the different printings to be found in the Bantam Series, the various distinguishing features being explained.

Following on this Mr Lauder exhibited pages showing the stamps used outwith South Africa, including Egypt, the Middle East and Italy. The feature of this section was the many examples on cover, including combination covers used in various theatres of war. Covers both to and from Prisoners of War and used by South African Forces stationed in Gt. Britain were also on view, the display being concluded with a sheet of Victory Stamps.

November 12th: On this evening the Group were privileged to see Mr James Robinson's collection of "Unions". The collection covered all the different issues right from No. 1 and the mint and well centered high values of the King's Head issues were well worth seeing.

Mr Robinson also brought along pages showing several of the most interesting varieties to be found on the pictorial issues, many of those on the unhyphenated series being difficult to find now-a-days. Among the more unusual items exhibited were the Harrison Essays and blocks of the Postage Dues from Proof Sheets. When Mr Robinson modestly says that he hasn't much to show, Glasgow Group Members knew better.

The next meeting of the Group will take place on Monday, 10th December, when members are invited to bring along a maximum of twenty sheets showing South African Stamps used on cover, or if they have any, the stamps of any other country cover used in South Africa.

E. L.

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LONDON GROUP MEETING - OCTOBER

Lantern Lecture - Production of Union Stamps at Government
Printing Works, Pretoria, by W. N. Sheffield, Esq.

The London Group were honoured at the October meeting by having Mr W. N. Sheffield to speak to the members. A large number of members turned out and visitors included Miss E. J. Evans of the B.P.A. and Mr L. N. Williams.

Mr Sheffield gave a really comprehensive lecture, illustrated by lantern slides, on the production of Union stamps by the Government Printer at Pretoria. Although the photographs were taken seven years ago, there has been little material change in the process used then and now, apart from a slight change in the step and repeat camera used in preparation of the multipositive.

The early slides showed the printing works and also the artists at work, producing the original design for the U.P.U. and Voortrekker Monument, Commemorative Issues. The drawings are first done in black and white on white card. Further slides then showed the finished artists' designs ready for photographing to make the negative. Mr Sheffield explained the procedure of photographing both the English and Afrikaans designs and the necessity of split second timing that is required in the exposure. Over exposure would, of course, give deeper density to one of the multiple of negatives, which form the master negatives, from which the multipositive negatives are made. Other slides showed the step and repeat camera in operation. The story was continued with the development and the completion of the multipositive plates and the final examination before the production of the cylinders from which the stamps are printed.

The question of screening was then dealt with at some length. The production of the glass screens was explained, which, it was understood, was a very costly business, running into several hundreds of pounds per "screen".

We next came to the projection of the screen and images of the stamps on to the carbon-tissue, from the multipositive. First of all the screening effect is exposed on the tissue, giving a fine mesh like effect which eventually provides rests for the doctor-blade, on the finished cylinder. This is followed by the exposure of the multipositive containing the images of the stamps, together with the marginal arrows and other marginal data.

Going on still further Mr Sheffield explained the method of wrapping the carbon-tissue around the copper faced cylinder, the actual etching of the cylinder and the final act of cleaning and polishing.

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Concluding the lecture, the actual production was explained and illustrated from the stage of feeding the paper into the machine to the completed sheets coming off, being cut, perforated, numbered, stacked and scrutinised.

All members and visitors who were able to see and hear this lecture will have learnt a great deal on the production of Union stamps, and undoubtedly many queries were answered. The questions at the end of the show promised to go on indefinitely, such was the interest aroused by the show, and the Society owes Mr Sheffield a debt of gratitude for his great interest and help whilst in England. By the time these notes appear in print Mr Sheffield will be back in Cleveland, Johannesburg. In saying again - thank you - may we also say - may your next visit be soon!

W.A.P.

FUZZLE CORNER

Christmas is the time for all sorts of puzzles and problems to pass the time over the Holiday and to give you a change from the usual, and to test your philatelic knowledge, I do hope the following queries will be of interest. Answers in the next issue.

1. If there has been a change of watermark on South African stamps when did it occur and for what issue.
2. What is the FIRST recorded air mail? (Whole World)
3. Is printers' waste catalogued in the SAC/H, if so, where?
4. Explain the main difference between London and Pretoria printings of the $\frac{1}{2}$ d.
5. Has any part of Vol. 1, SAC/H, been re-written, if so, which?
6. When and where did "black curl on buck's shoulder" become "hay in mouth"?
7. What stamp has been listed for years in SG, but only just in SAC/H.
8. Name all the areas in which Interprovincials were allowed to be used?
9. Can you have stamps of any other country outside those comprising the Union which were legitimately used by S. Africans?
10. What do you know of "pressure varieties"?
11. What is meant by Sunset cover?
12. What do we mean when we say "Sunset" and "Sunrise" printings?
13. Can you give a reasonable explanation for the Ghost arrows on several stamps?
14. Have you any "pheon" blocks.
15. What is the family connection between the 2d and 10/-d of the Pictorials?
16. How do you know if you have a True Offset?

What is a Freak?

"Skipper".

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THE ANHYPHENATE PENNY VALUE

by E. W. Merriman.

The response to my enquiry for information regarding flaws etc. on the above stamps has not been overwhelming in numbers of members, but from those named below great assistance has been received. To the following members I wish to extend my thanks.

Mr Keenan, Dublin, Mr Charlton, Doncaster, Mr Turner, Biggleswade,
Dr Berry, Johannesburg and Messrs Brown, Jonas and Lawrence of the London
Group.

The corrections below are the result of their information. The numbers refer to the key in the Jan/Feb. issue of the "Springbok".

English Setting:

- No.
1. Add, and black dot left and above lantern.
 4. Row 17-8 12½ mm. from bottom frame line.
 20. Add, and red dot outside frameline opposite mountain.
 26. Row 20-5 Pl. 4.
 27. " 17-6 Pl. 6.
 28. " 8-5 Mult.
 29. Add, also dot outside margin over SO, and black dot above masthead under A. Plate 6.
 30. Mult.?
 32. Row 4-1 Plate 6.
 34. " 20-7 " ?
 35. " 3-6 " 6.
 37. " 8-1 " 6 or 3 (No. 59 is the same stamp)
 38. " 19-6 " ? No. 32 is the same stamp.
 39. " 1-2 Mult.
 41. " 13-2 "
 42. " 18-7 ? "
 43. " 18-3 Mult.
 44. " 13-1 "
 45. " 8-3 "
 47. " 4-11
 48. " 16-3 Pl ? add, and red dot left of masthead.
 51. " 8-11 add, and red dot over large curl of pennant.
 52. " 10-11 Pl. 3.
 57. " 8-5 " ?
 60. " 17-8 " ?
 61. " 19-6 and/or 17-3 Pl. 6.

Afrikaans Setting.

6. Wrong language setting. therefore not the variety listed.
8. Possibly 4-12 Pl. 4.

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10. Plate 2 (Row 14-8 Pl 6. Mr Lawrence)
16. Mult. from plate 4 onwards.
21. Row 5-12 Pl. 6.
22. " 19-3 Mult.
23. " 20-6 and add, dot in lower limb of last A,
24. Mult.
26. Row 20-2. Pl.4. add 2 black dots left of ship, just below sea level.
27. " 2-2
28. " 8-12 Pl.6. also oblique line across base of upright of T of ste on some stamps.
29. Row 19-1 Pl.6.
30. Add large red dot under top left scroll.
32. Row 6-8 Mult.
33. " 19-1 Pl.4.
35. Mult.
36. Row 3-3 Pl.6.
40. " 2-4 Pl.4.
44. " 20-1 Pl.4.
46. " 14-2 Pl 5.?
47. " 14-2 " 5.
50. " 5-5 Pl.4 or Mult.
56. This should be an English stamp "Dwarf Lantern" variety.
58. Row 15-1
60. " 11-11
61. Pl.6.
64. Row 8-2 Pl.6.
65. Row 16-8
66. " 3-3 Pl.6.
67. " 16-7
68. " 2-2 Pl. 4.

THE EXCHANGE PACKET

To endeavour to obtain a more efficient circulation of at least one packet it is proposed to make up a circuit amongst the London Group and to this end it is suggested that ALL London members send details of full name and address with telephone number and also their business address with 'phone number and extension if applicable, to Mr R. D. Allen, 82c Hackford Road, London, S.W.9, the Chairman of the Group. Your co-operation is invited.

Every member should have a copy of the Rules and how helpful it would be if all would abide by them! Packets should be despatched within 48 hours and not days after receipt; the advice card only needs a 2d stamp and should be completed with details and posted promptly with remittance, if any. As at present sometimes they do not arrive, they arrive unsigned, they arrive blank, they arrive without dates, they even arrive without the postage being paid! Do please make it clear, when you are being helpful and listing the number of stamps taken, which column represents the sheet numbers and which the stamps.

As long ago as July it was announced that Packets could be forwarded without registration providing a Certificate of Posting was obtained and even these latter

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seem to cause trouble. They distinctly call for the name and address of the person to whom the parcel is being sent and yet we receive them with the sender's name and address, sometimes with the Secretary's name and address although the parcel has gone elsewhere and even blank, all stamped by the Post Office! Just a little thought would be most helpful.

When packets are finally returned rarely does the total of purchases agree with what is entered on the mailing sheet. Stamps are removed without indication as to purchaser, additions are made incorrectly, stamps are torn and damaged, sheets have even come back with cigarette burns and tea stains - fortunately with no actual damage to stamps.

PLEASE..... a little thought, a little care and a little more co-operation would be most welcome.

THE CAMPAIGN IN GERMAN EAST AFRICA

1914 - 1918. By E. G. Kinsey.

South African troops under General Smuts played a large part in this campaign and, in fact, the fighting was largely of a defensive character until the Union troops arrived late in 1915.

Local troops had been reinforced by the Indian Expeditionary Force 'C' which reached Mombasa by sea on the 1st September 1914 and by Force 'B' which landed at Tanga on the 2nd November 1914. This latter force could not hold its bridgehead and had to retire by sea to Mombasa whereupon the campaign became a defensive one, local troops and the Indians largely content to prevent German forces advancing out of German East Africa.

Large South African forces arrived late in 1915 and General Smuts assumed overall command in the Theatre on the 6th February, 1916. He organised an advance from Voi to the Kilimanjaro area early in March simultaneously with advances by the Belgians from the Ruandiarundi area and by General Northey in the Nyasaland area the latter force including South African and Indian units.

The campaign ended with the General Armistice in 1918 when the fighting was in Portuguese and N. E. Rhodesian territory.

The South African forces had no postal services and the few postal clerks were attached to Indian Army Post Offices. Covers from this campaign franked with Union stamps are unknown and only a very few stamps on piece are known (see the Union Hand-Book). Such mail would have consisted largely of parcels and registered letters, the ordinary mail being carried free. All the mail had to be passed through Army Post Offices of other forces and even unstamped mail from South African forces in this theatre is scarce, most of those I have seen having passed through Indian Post Offices.

Indian Field Post Offices known to have been in East Africa are listed below:-

21	304 (Tanga)
23 (Kenya and at Wilhelmstal)	305
24	306
25	307

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32	309
34	315
36 (?) may have been in Egypt	320 321
42	322 (Zanzibar)
51	337
52	338 (Kelossa)
71	343 (Kenya-At DAR-ES SALAAM and in Zanzibar
73	
74	348
301	349
302	350 (LINDI)
303	

There were two Indian Base Post Offices "B" and "C" the former having two types of mark. Marks of both Field and Base P.Os are all of the double ring type and have been seen with dates varying between December 1915 and August 1918. Details of the types are given below:-

- (A) Base Office "B" at top "I.E.F." at bottom separated by two stars the date in centre between two lines.
- (B) Similar to (A) but two heavy bars in place of the crosses and vertical bars in the two segments above and below the horizontal lines in centre.
- (C) Similar to (B) but "Base Office" only at top and "C" in place of "I.E.F." at bottom.
- (D) Field Post Office marks have "F.Po." at top, nothing at bottom. "No _____" in very large figures and date between much wider lines in centre and vertical bars in segments as types (B) and (C).

Many covers have a two line rubber stamp usually in black "I E F" "B" F Po _____ (No) / POSTAGE FREE".

Covers from S.African troops may have any of these cancellations or marks of other nationalities. Belgian, Nyasaland and N.Rhodesian forces definitely had Post Offices in the area. In some cases it may be difficult to be certain that a cover is from Union forces.

Will any member who has covers from this Campaign which are definitely South African let the Editor have details of the cancellation, particularly if it is NOT an Indian mark.

I am indebted to the "South African Philatelist" for some of the information in this article.

Mr R. D. Allen indicates an interesting query about the 6d orange tree stamp saying he has a block of four seeming identical with Union Handbook 45A but the gum is not normal being rather similar to that of a recent issue, striated. The problem is that these stamps do not seem to have a watermark and we should like some well-informed member to shed light on the matter please.

There are some members who shun publicity but we feel there may be some who would like to exchange correspondence with others at home and/or abroad. Any member

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willing to enter his name in the magazine for such purpose please send in name and if there is any particular angle of Union philately in which such member is interested then this will be shown also.

Queries are invited for publication in the magazine with the hope that the answers will be forthcoming and of interest to all.

CORRESPONDENCE

Dear Sir,

From previous experience of South African postmarks, I had gained the impression that the month of postage was always shown by its English abbreviations, or by the employment of the appropriate Roman numerals; and that the time of posting was followed by the letters AM or PM. After a recent perusal of many thousands of the hyphenated unscreened 1d ship, I have found 3 stamps, one of which shows the postmark as "Capetown, 27 MEI 39". The other 2 had been issued in Durban on the "12 and 13 OKT 37" respectively. On all 3 stamps, the time of posting was followed by the letters "NM".

I feel reasonably certain that the use of Afrikaans in depicting the time and date of postage is extremely rare and would be grateful if any reader can provide either an explanation for its appearance on the above stamps or further examples of such postmarks.

Edinburgh.

Dr. J. McD. Simpson.

Dear Sir,

With reference to my notes on "Air Crashes" which were published in Volume 4 No.4 I have since learnt from the "Aero-Field" that the South African Airways' Comet which crashed into the Mediterranean, north of Stromboli, on 8th April 1954 carried mail from South, East and Central Africa and for Naval personnel on the South Atlantic Station.

Two crash cachets noted below have now been reported from this crash and it will be interesting to see if any mail addressed to the Union has survived.

- "A" Two line violet cachet on a forces air letter "CORRESPONDENZA RECUPERATO IN SEQUITO/INCIDENTE AERO DEL AVRIL" last word being pen inscribed.
- "B" On a "Daily Telegraph" addressed to Khartoum a type-written note was affixed to the wrapper reading:- "THIS ITEM WAS AMONGST MAIL SALVAGED FROM BOAC COMET G-ALYY WHICH CAME DOWN IN SEA NORTH OF STROMBOLI ON 8th APRIL 1954.

If any member has, or has seen, mail addressed to the Union of South Africa, salvaged from this crash, bearing a special cachet, perhaps he would be good enough to send details to the Editor.

Richmond.

E. G. Kinsey.

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MEMBERSHIP INFORMATION

New Members:

- 325. Morgan W. Godwin, 360 N.E. 159th St., North Miami Beach, Florida, U.S.A.
- 326. R. L. Bull, 27 Grove Road, Windsor, Berks.
- 327. J. A. Robinson, 71 Ross Street Apt.1, St. Thomas, Ont., Canada.

Change of Address:

- 300. M. R. Cluskey, 71 Mill Road, Marlpool, Heanor, Derbyshire.

Resignations:

- 56. H. P. Goodliffe, Sidmouth.
- 156. Col. E. P. Dickson, C.B.E., Winchester.
- 263. C. Theron, Cradock, S.Africa.
- 307. Major I. Macdougall, O.B.E., London, S.W.3.

Deceased:

- 230. C. F. Jacobs, Johannesburg, S.Africa.

Mr L. E. Orkin, The Cottage, 1 Eighth Ave., Orange Grove, Johannesburg, S.A., informs us that he has numerous duplicate registration labels, air mail stickers, and many other stickers such as T.B., Cripples and if any reader is interested in such and would contact Mr Orkin direct he will be pleased to send some along.

Mr P. A. Bowditch, 39 Ambler Road, London, N.4. is carrying out a study of the paper used for S. A. stamps and to this end would be grateful if any member who has torn stamps or pieces of stamp edging of a known plate, printing or group would send them along to him with full details, the paper if possible being mounted. This is not an idle or facetious request and we hope members will co-operate in this work, the results of which will be published in this magazine in due course.

Mr J. Hammond, 66 B, High Road, East Finchley, London, N.2., showed his appreciation of the Annual Exhibition by taking some fine photographs and a set of six post-cards may be obtained from him at 4/9d postage paid.

" S P R I N G B O K " " S P R I N G B O K "

(N)	NEWS Flash	68	(A)
(O)	ONE of the Maritime Marks of S.A. R. D. Allen	44	
	ORIGIN of the S.A. 1d Stamp Trefoil Watermark. Capt. J.A.B. Van Wyk	97	
(P)	PICTURE Page	9, 10, 39, 59, 79, 99, 107a	
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	The Two (?) Dies of the 1d Ship Type	84	
	PRESS References, A.J.B.	38	(B)
	PRETORIA Centenary Stamps, Report, C.C. Seaford, M.C.	20	
(Q)	QUATORDICI, Is it a Guide Line ?	4	(C)
	Three Shots (at) a Penny	48	
	QUERIES	16, 40, 100	
(S)	S.A.C.S. 1956 Exhibition, Impressions of a Visitor, W.N.S.	91	(D)
	S.A. Experimental Mail Outward Journey, W.E. Hughes	49	
	Return Trip	64	
	SEAFORD, C.C., M.C., Pretoria Centenary Stamps Report	20	(E)
	SNIPPETS from S.A.P. of 1948	75	
	SPECIAL Announcement Annual General Meeting 1956	67	(F)
	SPLINTERED Horn Upright Watermark, B.R. Powell	25	
	SPRINGBOK Half-Penny by Gordon Ward, Review of	106	(G)
	STEWART H.A., Constant Plate Flaws, Part IV	104	
(T)	THE Two Dies of the Penny Ship Typo, B.R. Powell	84	(H)
	THE 2d Union Buildings. Caeculus	107	
	THIRD Annual Exhibition, W.A.P.	92	(I)
	THIS Doctor Blade Business, G.W.	109	
	THREE Shots (at) a Penny, Quatordici	4	(J)
(U)	UNION Stereo Officials, A Simplified Listing, A. Lichtenstein	69	(K)
(V)	VARIETIES, Plate Flaws and, H.A. Stewart & E. Lauder	97	(L)
	VAN WYK, Capt. J.A.B., Origin of S.A. 1d Stamp Trefoil Watermark	104	
	VOORTREKKER, Auction Realisations 1955	34	(M)
(W)	W.A.P. Third Annual Exhibition.	92	(N)
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