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# THE SPRINGBOK

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Volume 7 No. 3

May/June 1959

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

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THE EDITOR'S CHAIR

Having survived quite a number of years on this earth we profess not to be surprised at anything but we are taken aback continually by the number of occasions when members write to ask us questions, the answers to which have appeared already in this magazine. What are we to conclude - you are the readers - you tell us, because we are baffled!

Due for congratulations and our best wishes is member Ernest Hunt of Johannesburg, elected to the Roll of Distinguished Philatelists by the Congress of Great Britain.

It is with pleasure we congratulate our member, Sam Legator, on his election to be President of the Federation of the Societies of Southern Africa for the ensuing year at East London during the 21st Congress at the beginning of April. We are happy to note that member Dr. T. B. Berry was elected to the Roll of Distinguished South African Philatelists whilst member A. E. Wilkinson received a Congress Award for contributions to the "South African Philatelist".

We were very honoured to be invited to display some 47 sheets of Union material in the Court of Honour at the East London National Philatelic Exhibition in this their Golden Jubilee year and we are more than gratified to be advised that a Bronze Medal for this display is being forwarded to us. By all accounts it seems to have been a fine Show and we hope to publish a write-up in our next number. The magazine was also on show.

At the "Sicilia 59" International Philatelic Convention we shall be exhibiting a specialised collection of the 1954 Animal series and also again the magazine.

We are still waiting to know whether the magazine may be entered for competition at UNPIEX next year but we are in some doubt as to whether an exhibit of stamps will be accepted.

At the time of writing we have so little copy in hand for our next issue it looks as though we shall have to fill up the number with a description of the wonderful Whitsuntide sunshine when, one one day, Manchester had more sun than any other part of the country!

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SHIPPING POSTMASTER & ASSISTANT SHIPPING POSTMASTER MARKS

R. D. Allen, (Senior)

Many thanks to those who have so kindly collaborated in the discovery of items which have made possible the near completion of these notes so much that they may be put to print.

I do hope that all those concerned will accept this acknowledgement, as there are too many to mention by name.

As we have some new readers, a note of explanation of these marks will not be amiss.

These marks are mentioned in Cockrill's Ocean Mails, he has one reduced drawing and three lines of text.

The Shipping Postmaster and his Assistant used these marks at Cape Town and at Durban, on board ships in harbour. The office was dual, but at Durban it has been discontinued. The Postmaster at Cape Town was the busier, he had an Assistant with his own mark. It is not known for certain if Durban had an Assistant.

South Africa was/is rather particular about the method she handled mails from the large boats in these two harbours.

The Duties of the Shipping Postmasters was, to visit ships in harbour, to sell postage stamps and money orders, but not to cash them, to accept for onward transmission registered letters, cables and telegrams. The other mail is sorted, that bearing stamps foreign to South Africa was Paquebot marked. Domestic mail was postmarked with either of two marks at Cape Town (a) Cape Town Docks or (b) Alfred Docks. In Durban, it was marked (a) Point or (b) Durban. Strictly speaking South African stamps should not bear South African paquebot marks. There is no doubt that we nearly all have one or two, mostly cancelled by favour or by accident. What happened during the last war, it is not known for certain as this rule may have been altered to mislead the enemy.

The writer has purposely discarded all previous listings he hopes that the reason for this will be seen as the article is read and understood. The listing, it appears, should be in two separate and distinct parts: (1) Cape Town and (2) Durban.

Information as to the inauguration of the Shipping Postmaster service is unknown. The writer has written to the Publicity Officer at Pretoria and his reply is worthy of inclusion:

"I regret to inform you that any records which are available here do not reflect the dates on which the date-stamps were issued. As you probably know, only Cape Town uses a date-stamp inscribed 'Shipping Postmaster'. It is also not possible to give the dates when certain date stamps were superseded by other..... so the origins of present day practice in regard to such matters is not easy to trace. I would suggest that you write to the Royal Philatelic Society of Cape Town; some of their members may have access to archival matter which is no longer in the Post Office or may have done some research on the subject. Most of the old documents of the former colonies of South Africa were, at the time of the Union in 1910, transferred to the Archives and were not retained by the Post Office."

"The Shipping Postmaster date stamps are used only by the South African Shipping Postmaster on board ships, when required, for all transactions undertaken by the Post Office, but are not normally used at all for date stamping letters posted on board."

"I regret that it is not possible to supply specimen impressions of the date-stamps"..... Publicity Officer.

I do hope that some kind person will search for this additional information and also publish his findings.

May I refer to the South African Philatelist, January 1949, the article which prompted me on the road to collecting these post marks.

Extracts from the Annual Reports of the Post Master General of the Cape Colony.

1906: The Shipping Postmaster (at Cape Town) was authorised to accept letters on board mailboats up to almost the moment of sailing, a special late fee of 2/6 being charged. This privilege is stated to have been largely taken advantage of.

1908: Postage stamps sold by the Pursers who act as Postmasters in the Ocean Post Offices, amounted to £734. In addition, special postal officers transact business on all passenger steamers arriving or departing from Table Bay.

1909: Postage stamps to the value of £842 were sold by the Purser-Postmasters on the Union Castle mail steamers. In addition, the Shipping Postmaster transacted business on all passenger steamers..... sold postage stamps, postcards and embossed envelopes to the value of £1,698, as contrasted with £1,603 the previous year. The existing mail contract is due to expire on 30th September, 1910, and a new one is under consideration.

From the above it may be reasonably safe to assume that Shipping Postmaster marks were available to collectors from 1906. It is worth while to notice that extra postage was charged coupled with the stated fact, that advantage was taken of this special service, that I think is an Answer. We know, we usually put the Question first and then wait for the Answer, but this time it is not so. The Question is: Where are the covers or postmarks of the years of 1906-7 and 8?

According to all known recorded covers and pieces of these Shipping Postmaster marks, the earliest is 18th August, 1909. My pet theory on this, is that they have been discarded in a mistaken belief that they are fiscal due to the colour of the franking, which is normally, 'red', 'blue' 'violet' or styled 'magenta'.

The mark of 18-August 1909 should, therefore, be known as Cape Town, Type 1. Shipping Postmaster, dated copies are known from 1909 to 1914. It is a 40 m.m. circle and there are a number of sub-types:-

- (a) with a Maltese Cross between the words Shipping Postmaster & Cape Town;
- (b) with a figure "3" under the date and with eight pointed star in place of the maltese crosses;
- (c) with figure "3" under the date and a four pointed star with dots between each point of the star (The owner of this piece, at my special request, has been rather particular over the drawing of that star and sent me an enlarged drawing)
- (d) Figure "3" and no stars or crosses; (Cockrill's Ocean Mails). I have been in communication with the writer of that listing and he regretted he could

not give any further information than that published as all material had since been broken up.

Cape Town. Type 2. Assistant Shipping Postmaster. Dated copies 1909-1914. A similar sized mark to that of Cape Town Type 1. There are three sub-types:

- (a) Maltese cross between the Assistant Shipping Postmaster and Cape Town, also no lines above and below the date.
- (b) A six pointed star and
- (c) a five pointed star. Sub type (b) is in my collection and it is definitely a six pointer.

Cape Town. Type 3. Shipping Postmaster. Dated copies 1913-15. The mark is large, 45 m.m. circle and has a fancy bow above and below the date making it quite a handsome mark. No sub-types.

Cape Town. Type 4. Shipping Postmaster. Dated copies 1923. A 41 m.m. circle with the figure "3" below the date and eight pointed stars between the wording on the outside. This is somewhat similar to Cape Town, Type 1 whose mark read, Day, month and then year, this Type 4, reads, Month, day and then year.

Cape Town. Type 5. Shipping Postmaster. Dated copies 1926-7. A 36 m.m. circle the date is 4 m.m. high, with five pointed stars in the usual place. There is on some a curious marking below the date, described as ' ? coat of arms'; 'three dots in the form of a triangle the two dots being on the base'; I say a badly struck "3" Here we have three sub types of three bad impressions of one type. Since confirmed from South Africa it is a "3" so, no sub-types.

Whilst dealing with the difference of these impressions it should be borne in mind that the stamp is of rubber and not steel or metal. That is why there is variance in these markings. Take your own rubber stamp and see what you can make it do by striking it on paper different ways and angles.

Cape Town. Type 6. Assistant Shipping Postmaster. Dated 1926. A circle of 42 m.m. with five pointed stars. This one was used on the same envelope as one from Type 5.

Cape Town. Type 7. Shipping Postmaster. Dated copies 1928-9. An oval mark measuring 58 by 36 m.m. with figure "3" and five pointed stars.

Cape Town. Type 8: Assistant Shipping Postmaster. Dated copy 1929, a lop side mark size 45 by 40 m.m. no figure and has five pointed stars.

Cape Town. Type 9. Shipping Postmaster, dated copies 1933-37. An oval mark 46 by 28 m.m. no figures and five pointed stars.

Cape Town. Type 10. Assistant Shipping Postmaster. Dated copies 1933-37. An oval mark as Cape Town. Type 9.

Cape Town. Type 11. Shipping Postmaster. Dated copy 1938. An oval mark 48 by 28 m.m. no figures has six pointed stars.

Cape Town. Type 12. Shipping Postmaster. Dated copies 1935 to 1949, a circle of 39 m.m. five pointed stars, lines over and under date. Single circle on the outside month is in words.

Cape Town. Type 13. Shipping Postmaster. Dated copies 1936 to 1939, a circle of 40 m.m. five pointed stars, double circle on the outside, month is in figures.

Cape Town. Type 14. Shipping Postmaster, year of usage unknown (illegible) a 40 m.m. circle with formes crosses.

Cape Town. Type 15. Shipping / Skeeps P.M. Capetown 1 Kaapstad. Dated 1949 to date. 30 m.m. circle. Has either "A" or "B" between the month and the year of useage.

Cape Town. Type 16. Shipping/Skeeps P.M. Capetown 2 Kaapstad. Dated 1957 to date. 27 $\frac{1}{2}$  m.m. circle. Has either 1 or 2 on stamp. Please see letter following from Publicity Officer, which is dated 27-May 1957.



Durban. Type 1. Shipping Postmaster. Dates unknown. Recorded in Cockrill's Ocean Mails. Similar to Cape Town. Type 1.

Durban. Type 2. Shipping Postmaster. Dated copy 1936. A 37 m.m. circle, five pointed stars.

Durban. Type 3. Shipping Postmaster. Dated 1948-9. A 38 m.m. circle.

Durban. Type 4. Shipping/Skeeps P.M. Dated 1948-9, 25 m.m. circle.

I must quote another letter from the very kind Publicity Officer at Pretoria, it is dated 27th May, 1957, as it has a bearing on the listing, Cape Town, Type 16, besides the other matter it contains.

"With reference to your letter of 16th February, 1957, regarding Shipping Postmarks, I have detailed here-under, the postmarks available at the various ports of call in South Africa.

Cape Town: Two datestamps (numbered 1 & 2), engraved "Shipping/Skeeps/PM Cape Town/Kaapstad";

One datestamp engraved "Cape Town/Kaapstad Paquebot";

One sleeve engraved "Paquebot" (used in conjunction with a machine type stamp;

Port Elizabeth: No special datestamp in use.

Mail matter posted in Purser's Box received cachet "Paquebot";

East London: No special datestamp in use.

Mail matter posted in Purser's Box received cachet "Paquebot";

" THE SPRINGBOK "

Durban: One datestamp engraved "Durban Paquebot".

..... Publicity Officer.

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Springbok.

To Readers of the Springbok,

In view of the above new and revised listing, it will be necessary to revise your list of diagrams of the Shipping Postmaster marks.

Old List 5	is now C/T 1	Old List 6	is now C/T 2
J	C/T 12	8	C/T 8
9	C/T 9	9 ASP	C/T 10
10	D 3	A	is now C/T 3
G	C/T 5	D	C/T 7
E	C/T 6	F	C/T 11
G	D 2	H	C/T 4
7	C/T 13	5 (k)	D 1.

LONDON GROUP

The March meeting of the London Group consisted of an auction when 117 lots were under the hammer of the Society Chairman, Mr R. D. Allen, Snr.

W.A.P.

STAMPEX JOINTINGS

The London Hon. Sec. had the pleasure of meeting two 'out of town' members during the Stamp Exhibition at Central Hall, Westminster - Mr J. Hodgkinson from Derby and Miss M. I. Watson from Glasgow.

Miss Watson, representing the Caledonian Philatelic Society won the Stampex award in the Thematic Section with an entry on 'Astronomy'.

The only exhibit of South African interest was that from the Gravesend and District Stamp Club which consisted of a study of the screen flaws on the modern commemoratives, submitted by the London Hon. Sec.

SORTING SINGLE ROLL STAMPS

by "G. W."

There seem to have been at least eleven different issues of Roll stamps featuring Van Riebeeck's ship and it is by no means always easy to distinguish between them. The following notes show the stage of enquiry which the writer has at present reached. It is based almost entirely upon used copies.

The first two rolls are in the Electro or Typographed group and differ in that one (R.6) was printed in London and the other in (R.8) in Pretoria. It ought to be quite easy to distinguish between them for Robson Lowe (in his Encyclopaedia, vol ii, page 6) tells us that "Pretoria paper is non-curling and the London paper curls with heat." It seemed desirable to test this statement and a dozen copies of the sheet issue, all dated in 1926 and therefore London prints, were exposed to decent heat over a gas fire in a metal pie dish. Not one of them managed to curl. A mixed lot of later dates produced a few curlers which might therefore have been London prints but, alas, on closer inspection it appeared that all had material traces of gum on the back while none of the others had any gum at all. So the curling test is evidently not to be relied upon. Nor is the colour or shade or even the superiority of London printing. It is true that late dates, e.g. in 1928 or 1928 may with some confidence be attributed to Pretoria, but otherwise this present writer has no idea how to distinguish between R6 and R8.

We come next to R10 and R10a. These are easily distinguished from others by the facts that they are roto printed and have jet black ships. To distinguish between them is less easy for it depends in part upon the rather smudgy printing

of R10a (which is very helpful) and in part upon the minute differences between stamps from the 1-6 group and those of 7 and 7a. These may not be obvious on a single stamp. The distinguishing features of R10a are (a) a small white patch adjoining the tip of the leaf immediately under the top right hand scroll on all odd-numbered Afrikaans stamps and (b) A break in the horizontal lines of shading near the two bottom leaves in the right hand panel in all even-numbered Afrikaans stamps. On English stamps therefore, one can only depend upon the smudgy printing.

R 10b is something quite different. It is rare and not very easy to identify with certainty. The frame and head colours are that of Plates 8 and 9 (pink and grey black) and so is the design - no other roll has these shades. Also, there is no hyphen in Suthafrika. Dates should be in 1934 or 35. The wmk. is inverted but this applies also to the next 2 rolls.

R 13 has the pale grey centre and (usually) rather pale red but not pink frame of Plate 10. The watermark is inverted and there is now for the first time a hyphen in Suth-afrika. It is very similar to R 15 at first sight but R.15 has an upright watermark and resembles stamps from Plates 12 - 14. There is another minor difference which is sometimes helpful. The division of neighbouring rolls in R 13 seems to have effected by very blunt guillotine so that the separation seems often to resemble a tear rather than a cut. It is also apt to be off-centre so that the division is little better than a straight line on the margin of the stamp. It is difficult to know without more specimens whether this difference does really correspond to the use of a blunt guillotine for R. 13.

In any case, the divisions in R.15 are quite sharp and clear.

R. 16 might at first sight appear to belong to the same rather puzzling group as the last three but it is in fact a smaller stamp, 18 by 22 instead of  $18\frac{1}{2}$  by  $22\frac{1}{2}$ . This is the best test provided that one remembers that the actual measurements are commonly slightly more than is stated. A stamp measuring more than 18 but less than  $18\frac{1}{2}$  should be classed as 18, while one measures more than  $18\frac{1}{2}$  should come into the  $18\frac{1}{2}$  group. There is a shade peculiar to R.16 which is sufficiently distinct to enable one to pick out examples of this from other rolls. It is a rich velvety shade of carmine, partly due to over-inking. It is perhaps not too fanciful to call it 'velvet-carmine'. It is rather uncommon.

After this we come to the three monocolour rolls of which the first (R20) continued the small size of R16. The other two (R23 and R24) returned to the  $18\frac{1}{2}$  by  $22\frac{1}{2}$  measurement.

R20 is said to have a "coarse cross-lined screen" while the other two have a "fine cross-lined screen". Both in fact have the same basic screen of 150 to the inch and the difference between fine and coarse can only refer to the degree of inking, usually a somewhat unreliable guide. They are also reported to differ in colour. R 23 is 'red' and R 24 'bright carmine'. These means of differentiation are somewhat indefinite and few students of these issues can feel at all sure where single stamps are concerned.

EXCHANGE PACKET: Do not forget to let us have timely notice of your intended holiday dates so that the packets may be diverted and not held up by your neighbour pending your return.

LONDON GROUP MEETING

The April London Group Meeting was devoted to a display of the 1910 Union Commemorative and the De La Rue Geo. V definitives.

Mr A. J. Brown started the show with an almost complete collection of the first definitives. Practically all the controls were exhibited either in strips or varying sized blocks. Many of the major varieties, including a study, nicely illustrated of the 'missing Z' flaw in the 6d value, together with coils and booklet panes rounded off an excellent selection.

Among the varieties, was a rarely seen treasure, a strip of the 1/2d stamp with a bronze coloured bar across the centre of the stamp. No explanation was forthcoming as to how it came about!

The first Commemorative - that recognising the formation of the Union, of the four states of Natal, Cape of Good Hope, Orange Free State, and Transvaal, was well covered by a triple selection from Messrs Hammond, Abell and Allen. Various examples were shown, with a variety of paper colours and shades, together with first day postmarks, on and off cover. One item not often seen was an example of the 'rare 'Stewart Blue' complete with Certificate.

W.A.P.

WANTED !

Since the inception of our magazine we have lacked a regular correspondent from the Union and our news of Union activity has had to be collected here and there as and when possible. If any South African reader would like to volunteer for this post we shall be only too happy to hear from him or her.

A. G. M. LONDON

September 26th. at Y.M.C.A. Great Russell Street, London, W.C.1.

2d German Settler Stamp

Writing in "Stamp Collecting" to whom we are grateful for permission to extract this information, Mr S. L. Crozet of Germiston relates "How the German Settlers came to South Africa".

"After the Crimean War in 1855, members of the German Legion who had fought under Baron von Stutterheim against the Russian forces, were offered land in Kaffraria, in the Eastern Province of the Cape Colony, the principal town of this area being King William's Town. These settlers, numbering some 3,000 landed at East London during the month of July 1858.

Within a short time, settlements bearing, among others, such names as Berlin, Bodiam, Braunschwig, Breidbach, Frankfurt, Hanover, Hamburg, Ohlsen, Potsdam, Stutterheim and Weisbaden, were established under the shadow of the Amatola Mountains which rise to a height of more than 6,000 feet. The peaceful looking, lush forest-clad slopes of this range - a spur of the Great Winterberg - however, were the scenes of many battles during the Kaffir Wars which occurred during the first half of the last century.

With the passing of time, the names of Hanover, Ohlsen and Weisbaden have disappeared from the maps of the Eastern Province, these settlements apparently having been abandoned many years ago.

Today, a century later, Potsdam is a delightfully unspoilt German village with its tree sheltered church set in the centre of the green. Around this the little cottages, of the type shown on the stamp, cluster in sun-drenched tranquility".

Mr Crozet also reports in "Stamp Collecting" an interesting account regarding the design of the stamp which appeared in the Johannesburg Sunday Express.

"Some time ago, Mrs Hester Locke of the decorating department of a ceramic manufacturing company in Grahamstown, was requested to sketch an old German block wagon, a relic of the early settler days, for pottery decoration to commemorate the arrival of the German settlers in South Africa in 1858. Mrs Locke visited the village of Berlin, one of the original German settlements near East London, to prepare this, and in her original black and white sketch she included a quaint settler's cottage. It was this design that was adapted for the new commemorative stamp."

SUBSCRIPTIONS: Some pay promptly, others let it drift. To keep down costs we limit the number of copies of any one issue to a percentage over existing members. It has been known to happen that a member has suddenly awakened to the fact, despite several reminders, that the magazine has not been arriving and remits the subscription but as several months may have elapsed, the between times copies of a number have been sold out so the continuity is broken. Please do remit promptly to avoid this possibility and also to help us.

"Unknown by Postman"

by Gordon Ward, M.D.

The following is an extract from an article which appeared in the November-December issue of "The West-End Philatelist" and due acknowledgement is made for permission to reprint.

"Many things are known to the average postman which the postal historian only learns with difficulty but it is only occasionally that we find on envelopes the impression of a rubber stamp with the wording at the head of this article. Sometimes there is a variant showing that more than one postman has been consulted.

In Johannesburg a grid was used allowing for the initials of no less than 30 postmen. This was a letter containing a cheque for £2. 2. 0. paid by some grateful (I hope) patient to a doctor in Port Elizabeth. The patient was careless enough to address it in error to his own town, viz. Johannesburg and there it went the usual rounds (only they call them "walks" in South Africa). Then, and only then - after 29 walkers had signed that they had never heard of the doctor - did someone think to consult a Medical Directory and the doctor got his cheque. South Africa has several trilingual handstamps for returned letters but my favourite is PARTI-GONE AWAY-VERTREK. That must be from an old handstamp (although on a cover dated in 1957) for the Afrikaans is now put first as a rule, e.g. ONBEKEND-UNKNOWN-INCONNNU. It is curious how all Aryan languages are so much the same - and others, too, for "Inconnu" is almost exactly the same as the Zulu word for the same thing.

WALK NO.	INI-TIALS	WALK NO.	INI-TIALS	WALK NO.	INI-TIALS
1	W	11	G	21	G
2	S	12	G	22	G
3	M	13	G	23	G
4	W	14	G	24	G
5	H	15	G	25	G
6	H	16	M	26	G
7	U	17	G	27	G
8	M	18	G	28	G
9	L	19		29	
10	V	20	G	30	



Suggestions for the Improvement of the Handbook Catalogue and its  
Supplement. R. D. Allen.

I do not want readers to think that I have an axe to grind, what I write about is my own opinion and is based upon that well known statement - Constructive Criticism and not Destructive Criticism.

I find that certain parts of the two books are excellent and I am doubtful if they can be improved upon. We have such a high standard in several parts of the books that I see no reason as to why the whole of the books should not be up to this standard.

The Catalogue number 37 et seq are very good except 37K, so is 36 in its revised state but that will have to be amended once again in view of certain matters.

The general improvement can be made by using a different listing, that is, omit the "A"; "B" etc. except when it refers to a different value. Take 44, the most recent  $\frac{1}{2}$ d Springbok hyphenated, that number 44 should refer to all the  $\frac{1}{2}$ d hyphenateds; the plate numbers should be shown after the catalogue listing, e.g. 44 plate 15 would read 44/15 in bold type, as the listing is now shown. A new value is issued and that receives an "A" or "B" number accordingly. If you refer to the  $\frac{1}{2}$  ram,  $\frac{1}{3}$  Springbok and the  $\frac{1}{6}$  Aloes, all listed, what I call haphazard. I wonder what would happen if we have another 4d kraal printing as did happen re the economy printing of the  $\frac{1}{2}$ d Pretoria printing.

Several listings are not correct, as the type of catalogue handbook would lead one to expect. 38D has several varieties which should be listed under some of the other 38's. Numbers 33 and 34 appear to be mixed. The worst listing is under 44A and 45. Look at the listing of 36 and 37 also  $\frac{1}{2}$ d and 1d, and then compare it with 44A and 45. It would appear that the person responsible for writing this part of the catalogue was in rather of a hurry - maybe he was working to his own idea rather than to a standard method of use for listing items. I am not belittling his effort, which we all do know was rather a rush job for a special occasion.

I would like to see a new catalogue, issued as a loose leaf job. Sections prepared one at a time and then made available for purchase as the work progresses. Amendments etc. then could be easily replaced by the insertion of new pages and the old removed, or, part page which would or could be gummed by one's self for sticking over the amended matter. New information is coming to light and something should be done so that the handbook does not become obsolete. It should be kept up to date.

Listing of prices need not be given, blank spaces left so that the owner of the handbook could insert and amend in pencil these prices. The prices are so variable and the only true price is what we, the buyer will pay, not what the dealer says it is worth. Many of us will gladly pay over the prices in the handbook catalogue for pieces to add to our own collection. We also think that some of these prices are high, well I do.

Considerable work seems to be called for in the revision of the back of the Handbook, pages 312-313, etc. I think that quite a host of information is hinted at but very little given. I know that it is impossible to include it all and I think that with this in mind that the Editors of the Supplement made their references to the S.A.P.

I am very grateful for what has been done in the past. Quite a lot of information has been lost through it not appearing in print when the stamps were plentiful, e.g.  $\frac{1}{2}$ d anhyphenate springbok.

May I finish, if that is the right word, with a story. The Head of a well known Public School was interviewing the new boys and he told them that the School would be better off when they left - by their own contributions to its improvement.

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FOR THE RECORD

Since the last record in Vol. 74 No. 1, the following reprints have appeared -

$\frac{1}{2}$ d series. From single die cylinder 67, sheets having a single  
March 1959 broken lozenge line top and bottom. A very deep green.

1d. series. From single die cylinder 97 sheets having four  
November 1958 broken lozenge lines top and bottom.  
Printed on American (thin) paper.

2d series. From single die cylinder 86 sheets having single  
March 1959 broken lozenge line top and bottom.  
Deep violet.

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Railway Station Movable P.O.

Reproduced from "T.P.O." magazine for September 1958 by kind permission of the Editor.

"Towards the end of 1936 a Movable Post Office was brought into use on the Railway Station at Johannesburg, South Africa. Its purpose was to provide postal, telegraph and other facilities for departing and arriving passengers. The official in charge wore a distinctive uniform and for the ready transaction of business was supplied with a movable desk (on four "trolley" wheels) which bore a sign indicating that it was a Post Office. Its datestamp is here shown. It carried a postingbox. Whether this novel Office still operates we don't know."



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C O R R E S P O N D E N C E

Dear Sir,

Having some photographs of the Bradbury Wilkinson proofs I wrote to the printers and received this reply -

"We thank you for your letter of the 29th January and regret to advise you that although we have done a considerable amount of research we are unable to give any information regarding the photographs of proofs of South African stamps printed during 1937.

In those days we sometimes used to photograph proofs and send them to various officials connected with orders for stamps but this was rarely done.

We regret that we are unable to help you further in this matter."

My proofs have indentations in them as if they have been affixed to correspondence with paper clips.

London.

R. D. ALLEN.

Dear Sir,

Regarding SG.59, Union H/C.48 plate V, are the following flaws constant?

Row 16/2.	"Soaring lark" high to left
17/2.	"Searchlight" left
??	"Blue spot" over left scroll
??	"Tail" to R in Afrika.

London.

L. C. HARMAN.

Dear Sir,

On page 6 of this year's first issue there is an error in naming the postmarks. "Thanksgiving Cavalcade" was held in Capetown. I had not previously heard of a Durban effort (things were very secret in wartime!) so I presume that your illustration number 2 comes from the Durban affair.

"Andalusia No. 2" does not signify a different Post Office. The number could be just that of the datestamp."

Johannesburg, S.A.

J. ROBERTSON.

MEMBERSHIP INFORMATION

New Members:

368. Edward Tanggaard, 201 Paterson St., Perth Amboy, N.J., U.S.A.  
369. H. Dewhurst, 55 Beaumont Ave., Wembley, Middlesex.

Membership Lapsed:

184. C. Swain, Yeovil.  
208. F. H. Walker, Newcastle-on-Tyne 3.  
210. C. Lee, North Harrow  
214. Chas. F. Congdon, Hawaii.  
287. A. T. Spangenthal, Johannesburg.

Necrology.

238. C. J. Hardy, Burnham-on-Sea, Somerset.

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PRESS CUTTINGS

"South African Philatelist" February 1959. Conclusive information reported that both printings of the 3d plate 1 black and red stamp had four fine red arrows and the first printing a control letter "A" whilst the second did not have any. Also that they are of two distinct shades. Supplementary Notes on the Air-posts of S.A. booklet issued recently (to be cont.) The Union 2d photo-vignette hyphenated Rotogravure Stamps (to be cont.) Listing of Arrow differences in the 1d wildebeest printings by Mrs C. Pienar.

"South African Philatelist" March 1959. The Union 2d Photovignette hyphenated Rotogravure Stamps (to be cont.)

"Stamp Magazine" April 1959. "The Union of South Africa Animals" by W. A. Page - a general write-up of the series (to be cont.)

"The O.F.S. Philatelic Magazine" April 1959. "Anglo-Boer War Philately" by A. L. Meyburgh (to be cont.)

We are indebted to... "The Insurance and Banking Philatelic Society of G.B." for mention in their April issue of this magazine.

"Stamps" of the U.S.A. for a write-up of the Society and its magazine which brought several enquiries of which two so far have resulted in new members.