
THE SPRINGBOK



Volume 9 No. 1

Jan/Feb 1961

" THE SPRINGBOOK "

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

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* * * * *

Whole Number 49.

THE EDITOR'S CHAIR

We ought to call this issue the "R. D. Allen Snr." number, as without his efforts, there might not have been an issue at all!

Our friends Messrs Lauder and Stewart are working actively on their variety feature which we hope to include in the next issue. They advise that one of their difficulties has been finding sufficient examples of worth while varieties or fairly obvious ones to include and with this in mind all members can assist future efforts by submitting to either of these members examples of errors or varieties which they feel might well be of interest.

It is with the deepest regret that we have had to report the death of two very good personal friends. A tribute is paid to Frank Abell elsewhere, but we would like to add our own appreciation of the fine efforts he made on behalf of the Society and the Annual Exhibition - a tireless worker for both causes. Both he and Carl Adams, whom few of you would know personally, gave us lots of encouragement and were always ready with assistance if called upon. Sad to think that both should have entered retirement in ill health without prospect of recovery, and so soon come to the end of the road. Albeit, we shall miss them sorely.

An American magazine "Stamps", gives our Society a good and interesting write-up, which will no doubt bring us lots of enquiries. Would our British magazines be equally generous.

You will note the new format of the magazine and those who propose submitting sketches and the like please bear it well in mind. We are afraid this was a necessary economy as opposed to increasing the subscription rates, but we shall be interested to read any comments.

Do you want a word of advice? Make sure of your used definitives on the arms watermarked paper.

We are reliably informed that the Golden Jubilee edition of the Handbook/Catalogue should be released by the end of January, which in turn should be a happy release for those of us who have been awaiting our copy so long! May your patience be suitably rewarded.

SOUTH AFRICAN MOBILE POST OFFICES

R. D. Allen

A Mobile Post Office is the name for a vehicular post office that serves as a temporary station in an emergency; at large events such as exhibitions, or to visit isolated communities. Special cancellations denote this service. (Taken from the Johannesburg Library list of Philatelic terms.)

Much as it is regretted I must start off by contradicting certain lines of thought concerning the movements of the Mobile Post Offices within the Union of South Africa. It is apparent that the consensus of opinion is that there is a fixed schedule for these Post Offices. To put this matter correctly before you I wrote to the efficient Publicity Officer, G.P.O. Pretoria, asking for a list of the schedules of the various Mobile Post Offices. I quote from his letter dated 23rd January, 1960, reference 67/1/60:

"Mobile Post Offices are never used in the heart of the City, but serve outlying areas or suburbs, where the post offices are few and far between. Unfortunately, there are no published timetables - the times are often changed and are published in local newspapers. The Mobile P.O's. have only one date stamp, or canceller, in use at one time. If there is a difference it would be on the occasion of a change due to wear and tear or some similar reason. They all handle registered mail, accept parcels and telegrams and sell postal and money orders. The only way in which you could obtain an impression of each one would be to send me fourteen (one for each) addressed envelopes, which I would arrange to have registered, one at each of the Mobiles, and returned to you. They would cost you 10d. each.

With kind regards,

Yours sincerely,

Publicity Officer".

Advantage was taken of the offer and the self addressed envelopes were received back duly marked.

Examination of all fourteen and comparison of the markings used on earlier mail from these same Mobile Post Offices, it would appear that the cancellations have in some instances been used for some years in fact since their inception.

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S.A.M.P.O. page 2

As a result of an appeal for tracing of these marks etc., quite a good deal of information and assistance was received. The items came from the Editor of the "T.P.O." Magazine, Dr Gordon Ward, Messrs Lauder, Parker, Abell, Brown, Dewhurst and Mr Self, all S.A.C.S. members, to whom I offer my thanks and appreciation; also to Mr Kinsey for his article in Springbok, Vol. 3, page 92, et seq., and my apology for anyone I may have missed naming, but I must not forget our friend, the Publicity Officer, G.P.O., Pretoria, and last but by no means the least, Mr Lawrence, for his magnificent drawings of some of the marks, in which the name place has been deliberately omitted except where necessary.

The above quoted letter states that only one frank is in use at each office. I have covers bearing two different marks, in addition, the "T.P.O." lists several different marks from the same office bearing the same date. All these marks are not of recent usage, and it would appear that now only one mark is used as stated in the letter, by the covers I have received quite recently.

Ignoring the registration marks at present, these marks can be classified as:

"X" Unilingua, either (a) English or (b) Africaans;

"Y" Bilingual, either English first or Africaans first;

Under "X" we have wording "MOBILE P.O." (X.a)
 "MONIELE P.K." (X.b.)
 "MOBIEL POSTKANTOOR" (X.c)

Under "Y" we have wording "MOBILE P.O./ MOBIELE P.K." (Y.a.)
 "MOBIELE P.K./ MOBILE P.O." (Y.b.)
 "MOB P.O./P.K." (Y.c.) sometimes
 with name of town in both languages.

The Complete list of the various offices with dates of opening are:-

Office	City	Inaugurated	Remarks.
1.	Johannesburg	25. 1.37.	This was commenced in a converted lorry, (flown covers are known) but a specially designed and first proper mobile van was put into use on 10.5.39.
2.	Johannesburg	1. 7.40	
3.	Port Elizabeth	2. 9.40	
4.	Cape Town	1. 5.40	
5.	Cape Town	2. 9.40	
6.	Durban	20. 5.40	
7.	Pretoria	1. 8.40	
8.	Johannesburg	18. 8.52	
9.	Johannesburg	18. 8.52	

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S.A.M.P.O. page 3.

Office	City	Inaugurated	Remarks.
10.	Cape Town	3. 9.51.	
11.	Bloemfontein	3. 9.51.	
12.	Durban	18. 1.54.	
13.	East London	2. 7.51.	
14.	Pietermaritzburg	3. 9.51.	

All the marks are double ringed unless shown otherwise.

The first canceller had no number there-in, and was some time later taken into re-use when the two new Mobiles opened in Johannesburg on 18th August 1952 and it was allocated to office No.9. There should be no doubt to what office it was used as the dates will supply the answer. Whilst mentioning this mark, I have the original, no number, used after the converted lorry was taken out of service, but no information is at present available as to when this mark was taken out of use on No.1 van, but copies dated after 18-8-52 must be from No.9. office.

Drawing	Office	Type	Remarks
A.		Y.a.	See also office 9.
B.	1.	X.a.	
C.	1.	X.b.	
	2.	X.a.	
D	2.	X.b.	
E.	2.	Y.b.	
G.	3.	Y.c.	Hand made appearance - P.E.
	3.	Y.a.	Port Elizabeth not bracketed
F.	3.	Y.c.	
H.	4.	X.a.	Name of town bracketed.
J.	4.	X.c.	Name of town bracketed.
K.	5.	X.a.	Town name not bracketed.
	5.	X.b.	Town name not bracketed.
L.	5.	Y.b.	Town name in both languages.
	6.	X.a.	Durban in brackets.
N.	6.	Y.a.	Durban not bracketed.
	6.	X.c.	'6' at base of circle.
M.	6.	X.c.	Durban not bracketed.
	7.	X.a.	not bracketed.
	7.	X.c.	Not bracketed.
P.	8.	X.a.	Hand made appearance.
Q.	8.	Y.a.	
A.	9.	Y.a.	see No.1.
R.	9.	Y.b.	
S.	10.	Y.b.	Town in both languages not bracketed.
	11.	Y.b.	
T.	12.	Y.b.	
	13.	Y.b.c.	Oos Londen/East London
U.	14.	Y.b.	

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S.A.M.P.O. page 4.

Should you require further information, may I refer you to the following South African Philatelists:

Vols 13/27; 16/125; 17/110; 19/97; 19/109; & 20/1.

Then we have the registration Labels. There are two main types, one the usual printed paper sticky label, the other is a rubber, on somewhat similar lines, but larger. These are listed below, and the only diagrams will be those that are outside this general overall type.

Normal type.			Rubber Stamps.		
Office No.	Reg.	Type.	Reg.	Type.	Remarks.
0	-	-	-	-	-
1	Yes	E/A	Yes	E/A	
2	Yes	E/A	Yes	E/A	
3	Yes	E/A	Yes		three types ****
4	Yes	E/A	Yes		different types ****
5	Yes	E/A	Yes		- do -
6	Yes	E/A	Yes	E/A	
7	Yes	E/A	Yes	E/A	
8	Yes	E/A	-	-	
9	Yes	E/A	Yes	E/A	
10	Yes	E/A	-	-	
11	Yes	E/A	Yes	E/A	
12	Yes	E/A	Yes	E/A	
13	-	-	Yes	E/A	two types ****
14	-	-	Yes	E/A	

Items marked ****, doubt is in my mind about certain rubber marks on registered letters, which appear to me to be "Office marks" against the true registration mark which has a large "R", but until the proof or otherwise they are listed as above, as it is believed they have been irregularly used for registration purposes. They are: Item 3

MOBILE 3 P.E.
 POSTMASTER
 POSTMEESTER
 MOB. P.O. 3.P.E.

MOB. P.O. 3 P.E.
 R

Item 4.

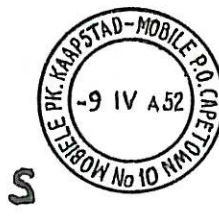
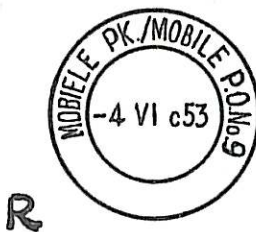
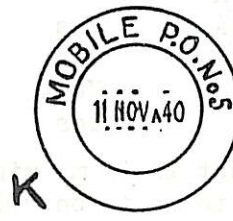
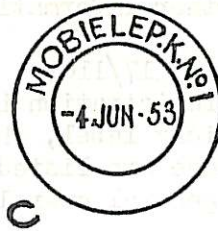
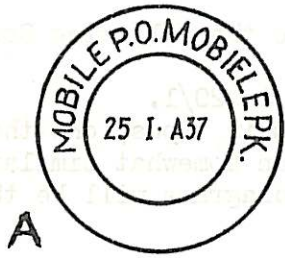
Mobile P.O. No 4

Item 5.

MOBILE P.O. NO-5

Item 13. NOT BOXED
 MOBILE P.O.
 MOBILE PK
 No 13
 EAST LONDON
 OOS LONDEN

Due appreciation is expressed to our member Bob Lawrence for the excellence of these drawings.



LONDON GROUP MEETING

The November meeting of the London Group, held on Tuesday, 15th November, at the George Public House, was a joint display by Messrs D. V. Parker and R. J. Lawrence, covering the 1st d. Gold mine definitives. Mr Lawrence, dealing with the large format designs, whilst Mr Parker confined his display to the medium issues.

Mr Lawrence started the show by illustrating the Master Negative flaws in Plate I, and then on to illustrate many flaws, a number of which although quite worthy are not to be found in the handbook/catalogue. Among the most notable pieces on view was a block of four of the well known "missing shading on dump" variety.

Dealing next with plates II & III, the only means of differentiating these plates was shown - a small white break in the building to the left of the stamp (Row 20, No.3.).

The second half of the display dealt with the medium format issues which Mr Parker displayed, showing examples of the much sought after and discussed "waffle plate" printing of 1941. The later issues were well covered with many printing varieties, many of which have not found catalogue status. Arrows and other positional pieces all added to a very interesting and informative display.

W.A.P.

EXPERIMENTAL AIR MAIL TO MOSSEL BAY

Extract from "The Post Office, 1910-1935", Union of South Africa, an Official Publication, being the Postmaster-General's Annual report for 1934-35, embodied in a Resume of development since the year 1910. Printed by the Government Printer, Pretoria.

AIR MAILS. page 29./30

"On the 2nd March 1925, on the recommendation of the Civil Air Board, the government inaugurated a three months experimental air service between Capetown and Durban. The service was operated by the Union Air Force, under the direction of General (then Colonel) Sir P. A. van Ryneveld, KBE:DSO:MC: and was run weekly in each direction to connect with the incoming and outgoing mail steamers at Capetown. The initial trip was a notable success. Calls were made at Mossel Bay, Port Elizabeth and East London. Later Oudtshoorn became a calling station instead of Mossel Bay

It would seem that the above contradicts Wyndham's South African Air Mails which states that no air mail was carried from Mossel Bay. R.D.A.

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POSTAGE STAMPS INFORMATION AS AT 10.5.60 to 5.11.1960.

Job. No.	Description	Stamps per Sheet	Value	No. of Sheets Ordered	Date of first Delivery	No. of Sheets Delivered
63136	Roll Stamps	1	1d.	19,000 rolls x506	1.10.59	400x506
63136	Roll Stamps	1	1d.	6,000 rolls x1012	10.11.59	430x1012
68416	Air Letters	1	6d.	2,800,000	29. 3.60	75,600
71570	Postage (Festival)	120	3d.	1,200,000	5. 5.60	41,000
73584	Post Cards	1	2d.	1,296,000	2. 6.60	-
2626	Union Postage Stamps	120	5/-	2,250	19. 7.60	-
2477	Union Postage Stamps	240	1d.	600,000)	25. 7.60	-
2477	Union Postage Stamps	240) & 120)	1d.)	26. 7.60	-
2619	Postage Due Stamp	200	2c.	30,000x50	13. 9.60	-
2618	Postage Due Stamp	200	1c.	21,000x50	13. 9.60	-
2620	Postage Due Stamp	200	4c.	7,000x50	13. 9.60	-
2622	Postage Due Stamp	200	6c.	6,000x50	13. 9.60	-
2621	Postage Due Stamp	200	5c.	7,000x50	13. 9.60	-
2623	Postage Due Stamp	200	10c.	2,500x50	13. 9.60	-
2476	Air Letters	1	6d.	1,908,000	1. 9.60	1,483,200

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SUPPLIED BY COURTESY OF THE PUBLICITY OFFICER, PRETORIA, 14.12.60

Date of Final Delivery	Total No. of Sheets Delivered	Cylinder Nos. Interior/Exterior		Whether same Cylinder or New	Remarks
29. 9.60	16,984x506	27		Same	
29. 9.60	3,395x1012	27		Same	
1. 9.60	2,797,800			New	Chambon Printing Machine
	1,067,405	11	94	New	
8. 9.60	1,347,192	54	99	Same	Pictures
			45	Same	Pictures
19. 7.60	2,250 (i.e. 4500x60)	118	4	Same	
2. 8.60	110,485	97		Same	Single Die
4.10.60	338,700x240)	89A)		New	Cylinder 89A for sheet x240 and 89B for sheet x120.
	341,900x120)	89B)			
13. 9.60	5,300x200	82	85	New	
13. 9.60	2,950x200	110	85	New	
13. 9.60	1,300x200	62	85	New	
13. 9.60	1,100x200	114	85	New	
13. 9.60	1,250x200	116	85	New	
13. 9.60	750x200	32	85	New	
-	1,483,200			New	Chambon Printing Machine

LONDON GROUP MEETING

The December meeting of the London Group, "A Seasonable Evening" at which members are invited to display "anything", brought about the unavoidable absence of the London Hon. Sec., due to pressure of work, and these notes are by the kindness of the London Chairman.

Unfortunately only three members brought along material to show, from which perhaps one must assume that their whole attention must be devoted to Union philately!

First to show, was Mr Brown, with a very nice sideline collection of about two dozen sheets, showing Maritime Mail markings from various parts of the world including Paquebot, Ship Mail Collection and other cancellations dear to the heart of a T.P.O. specialist.

Mr Allen brought along a collection of Modern Germany but only displayed those sheets of post war issues circa 1945/1946 containing local stamps. Starting off with the well known A.M.G.O.T. issues and the occupational zones, the display continued with the lesser known purely local issues from Berlin, Mecklenberg, Thuringen and Goss Rosschen, and also the Leipzig and Halle issues.

Mr Parker rounded off the evening with a threefold display of material not previously shown and comprising 3 sheets of Union Easter seals, not all that well known to the London Group. A small collection of Air Mail etiquettes from all over the world including cut outs, and rubber stamp markings. And finally about 24 sheets of Great Britain first day covers all with 1960 slogans and special cancellations, and all being addressed to the owner these aroused some mild speculation as to how they had been obtained. W.A.P.

As these notes are being compiled, it is my very sad task to report the death on 2nd January of Frank Abell, the London Group Chairman until the outset of the current season. Although in failing health in the past 15 months he never lost interest in the Society activities, and his presence will be greatly missed by his many friends both in the London Group and the Society, whom he has served well, as an Executive Committee member. We in the London Group will treasure his memory for the great help given at the start of the London Group activities and since his generous presentation of the now well known "Abell" Cup, which will stand as a fitting memorial to a very dear friend of us all.

Readers will, I am sure, be pleased that a floral tribute was sent from the Society, and also that his well known (particularly for his I.P's) collection has been bequeathed to a friend. The writer understands that it is hoped to continue to maintain and build up the collection. W.A.P.

THE 1/- ROTOGRAVURE

by R. D. Allen.

These stamps were printed by the Government Printer at Pretoria, by a process involving the use of copper cylinders bearing the etched images of the centre and frame designs. So says the catalogue handbook of 1952. That is nice and plain. Now the same catalogue page 100 is not so nice and plain, in fact quite contradictory to the matter published upon pages 101 and 102. I have only of late realised this as for a number of years I have been boarding - for want of a better description - South African stamps, and quite recently have started mounting them when I thought I had a decent representable collection of each catalogued item. Now I found out that I had quite a number of pieces of SAC 42 and 42A. I read the preamble on page 100 and the other matter on pages 101 and 102 and I was stumped. A reference to an earlier catalogue helped me - but not the way you readers may think. So let us read what is quoted and I shall itemise each item so that things may be sorted out as we proceed.

"1/- Gnus. September 1932. First stamp on Sheet English, 1932 printing; and in Africaans in the 1938 issue.

There were two plates of this value.

(1) the first appeared on 14th September, 1932 with long thin blue arrows in the margins, inverted watermark and the first stamp on the sheet inscribed in English.

(2) a later - and a scarcer - printing of this same Plate 1 was produced in 1934 on paper with the watermark upright. The colours of both printings were brown and Prussian blue.

(3) two new cylinders were used in the production of the second plate which appeared on 27th January 1938 with upright watermark but in the colours of chocolate and indigo and the first stamp on the sheet inscribed in Africaans. The marginal arrows were broad, splayed and segmented."

So the South African Catalogue Handbook if that preamble is correct should read:-

1. 42. Brown and prussian blue, 14-9-32 watermark inverted;
2. 42a. Brown and prussian blue. 34 watermark upright;
3. 42A. Chocolate and indigo. 27-1-38 watermark upright.

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But does it? Here is the actual catalogue listing, plus the supplement:
(omitting all controls and varieties).

- V. 42. Brown and deep blue, inverted watermark. Sept. 32;
- W. a. Brown and deep blue, upright watermark;
- X. b. Pale yellowish brown and deep dull blue;
- Y. 42A. Brown and prussian blue, inverted watermark, September 1932;
- Z. a. Chocolate and indigo, upright watermark.

Is it possible to reconcile both listings - 42 A and 42 are to my mind the one thing and it would appear that the only correct listing is 42b, which in my opinion is not a very good state of affairs. According to the preamble, and to pieces available in my own and other collections the listing would go something like this:

- 42. Brown and prussian blue, inverted watermark, 1932;
- a. do upright watermark, 1934;
- b. Brown and deep blue, inverted watermark.
- c. do upright ditto, 1934 ?
- d. Pale yellowish brown and deep dull blue, upright watermark.
- e. Yellowish brown and dull blue, upright watermark;

Not necessarily in order of issue or emissions.

- 42A. Chocolate and indigo, watermark upright, 1938.
- a. Chocolate and milky blue, -

The above listing may seem to be out of sorts, but strange as it may seem, it can be made quite good sense by the known varieties, which are, in my opinion, correctly listed under their own plates by the pieces in my collection and seen.

The next question is, how can we separate plates 1 from plates 2, except by corner pieces, arrows and the known varieties. Mr Gilbert's listing will help as he has itemised plate 1 flaws, spots and other things absolutely necessary to identify this plate.

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Looking for the difference, I could find nothing published, but S.A.P. Vol. 15, page 17, dated February 1939 gave a clue. Here it is as published:-

"New set up of 1/- rotogravure.

Mr Sydow notes that the current 1/- is now appearing in sheets with the stamp number 1 of the first now the African variety, whereas previously it was the English variety. There also appears to have been used a new glass positive for the frame plate."

So to the stamps themselves I had to turn and using only positive identifiable pieces of the two plates I was able to find a minute difference in the frames. The English stamp between the "T" of South and the first "A" in Africa, the perpendicular lines of shading on Plate 2 only do not go to the margin of the printed stamp. On the African worded stamp also of plate 2, I found that the shading immediately under the name of the country "Suidafrika" does not touch the bottom of those letters in every instance, between the "F" and "R" the perpendicular lines do not reach the base of the letters leaving a small blank space. I went to Plate 3, the Hyphenated issue, and found somewhat similar markings thereon.

The above cannot be taken as definite owing to the small amount of material for study in mint condition and heavy cancellations on the used material, thanks being due to several members of the London Group whose material was examined preparatory to the Exhibition and also to Mr Lichtenstein, P.O.Box 576, Bloemfontein, who so kindly lent all available material he had at hand.

I ask all who have definite identifiable pieces of plate 2, to examine them particularly if you have pieces larger than blocks of four, to ascertain if the above is true to the whole of the sheet.

Someone may have a complete sheet of plate 2, a complete sheet of plate 1 has been seen.

According to S.A.P., Vol.17, page 78, a list compiled by Mr Sydow to bring forward figures of stamps printed prior to March, 1937, when the Government Printer started supplying the S.A.P. with particulars of all issues, the following information to these stamps may be useful.

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Reference Audut General's Report.

Apr. 1932 - Mar. 1933	4,144,320	costing 15.00d	per thousand cyls.	7020/6927
" 1933 - " 1934	4,144,320,	costing 8.62d	do	-----
" 1934 - " 1935.	4,248,000,	costing 8.73d	do	-----
" 1935 - " 1936.	5,340,000,	costing 7.20d	do	-----
" 1936 - " 1937,	5,160,000,	costing 8.50d	do	-----
" 1937 - " 1938,	*9,996,000,	costing 9.13d	do	-----

Reconciliation:

S.A.P., Vol. 13, No. 10.

Government Printers Letter 17-9-37.

29,400 sheets of 120 cylinders 7020/6927 = 3,528,000.

S.A.P., Vol. 14, No. 4.

18,500 sheets of 120 cylinders 6926/22 (Hyphen) = $\frac{2,220,000}{5,748,000}$ *

It will be noticed that there is a difference of 4,248,000 stamps equivalent to 35,400 sheets of 120 units each, between the figures excerpted from the Auditor's General's report and the figures published in the S.A.P. marked *.

The above table of figures gives some idea of stamps printed, and it would seem that only 1% have gone into collections, maybe less than that, but still sufficient, if in large pieces, to substantiate the findings we hope.

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

Dear Sir,

In considering the value of some stamps in relation to Handbook/Catalogue prices while reviewing my insurance the vexed question of horizontal or vertical pairs arose.

It would be interesting to hear the views expressed particularly of those collectors owning blocks of four "joined pairs" with the join horizontal. Have they, for valuation purposes, a joined and a normal pair or two joined pairs? It could make quite a difference in insurance valuations even disregarding selling and buying value.

Lenzie.

H. J. Anderson.

Dear Sir,

Is there any way of telling the difference between the two black and red 3d unhyphenated stamps, Union Handbook 39 and 39A and similarly between the two 3d blue printings UH.39B and 39C ?

Of this Group, the Handbook comments on page 95 "The same printing flaws occurred on the first three issues, but the use of the new cylinders for the fourth printing (6914/15) resulted in the disappearance of the "shuttered window" and several other varieties from this particular issue."

There is not anything on this subject in the "South African Philatelist" since January, 1951, nor in the "Springbok". Was a list of varieties or "disappearing varieties" published in the "S.A.P." prior to 1951.

Wallington.

R. McDougall.

Dear Sir,

The other day, our Society was presented with a book called "The Language of Stamp Collecting", published by the Public Library, Johannesburg, South Africa, free while copies last.

The book is of 191 pages, single sided imitation type and the text is in English and Afrikaans but in alphabetical order for English with the index for Afrikaans at the back. It is a comprehensive listing of philatelic terms,

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which accompanied an exhibition of the items mentioned. The book is a painstaking collection from the works of a number of authors and sources, from Holland, South Africa and the U.S.A., whilst from this country the authors are:

D. B. Armstrong, Robson Lowe, Fred J. Melville, Alan W. Robertson,
R. J. Sutton, Stanley Gibbons, Ltd., and the brothers Williams, who
are so well known to us.

To my way of thinking this is the Last word on Philatelic Terms, and should fill a long felt want because of its vast coverage.

Amongst the items I saw fourteen pages on Paper, some eight pages on Perforations and in fact A - Z, Acknowledgment of Receipts to Zeppelin stamps.

London, S.W.9.

R. D. Allen.

(N.B. This book is available on loan from the Library for cost of postage - but only in U.K., I am afraid.)

VICTORY FOR "FLY-SPECKERS"

Reprinted from "Stamp Collecting", December 16th, with kind permission of the Editor and due acknowledgment, as we feel it may well interest those in the early stages of specialising who might wonder whether "fly-specking" is not overdone.

"In Johannesburg, recently, expert evidence proved beyond doubt that South African stamps used on receipts could not have existed at the time that the receipts were purported to have been given. Mr John Booyesen, a foreman printer of the Government Stamp Printing Works at Pretoria, was giving evidence in a case involving fraud of over half a million pounds, to which the accused had pleaded not guilty. Mr Booyesen explained that he had had 30 years experience of stamp printing and that cylinders used often became damaged when new ones were made. The old cylinders, however, were kept on record for the benefit of philatelists.

Inspecting four receipts bearing stamps which had been cancelled in September and November 1956 and in January and February 1957, Mr Booyesen said that by minute markings on the stamps he was able to say definitely that they were not on sale during the period mentioned above.

Mr Booysen went further and explained that he had eventually found a 1957 cylinder which bore markings identical to those on the above stamps, but that no stamps had been printed from that cylinder until April 1957. The court then took on the aspect of the philatelic society meeting at which a specialised display including enlarged photographs of stamps showing minor varieties such as are beloved by specialists were put on display.

On September 3rd, 1960, the first demonstration flight of the South African Airways Boeing 707 over the Cape Province was made, the pilots Captains J. B. Botes and S. Pienaar signing aerogrammes which were carried.

SOME AUCTION REALISATIONS

Messrs H. R. Harmer, Ltd., December 6th, sold a specialised collection of Air Stamps and covers including

1919 Cape Town Peace Celebrations Pigeon Post, the very rare pigeogram mounted on souvenir card along with the covering envelope for £50.

1920 February 15th, Experimental Flight from Capetown to Johannesburg, fine clean flown cover bearing 2 x 1/- and 2 x 1d stamps showing "CARRIED BY AERO-PLANE" and "Handley Page" cachets. for £28.

1911 Kenilworth-Muizenberg flown card from the first flight (December 27.1911) with commemorative cancel for £10.

1911 Muizenberg-Kenilworth First Return Flight on same day for £11.

1929 imperf. Plate Proofs of the 1/- value in the five different shades in horizontal pairs from right of sheet £13. 10. 0.

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" THE SPRING BOOK "

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MEMBERSHIP INFORMATION

New Members -

397. N. Wright, Thornley House, 25 Allerton Park, Leeds, 7. Yorks.
(Interests - General).
398. W. H. Harding, 5 Spring Hill Road, Westport, Conn., U.S.A.
(Interests - Union 22-53 inc. rolls, booklets, officials.).
399. Egon Semmer, Hunderupvej, 122B, Odense, Denmark.
(Interests - Union in S.W.A., Interprovincials).
400. J. C. Schafer, Groenendaalstraat 9 1, Amsterdam W, Holland.
(Interests - Union used abroad, IPs., Boer War).

Member Rejoining:

184. C. Swain, 42 Sunningdale Road, Yeovil. Som.

Changes of Address -

38. R. P. Jones, Cranworth, Summerhouse Road, Godalming, Surrey.
46. F. J. Falkiner, 64 North Road, Belfast, 5, N. Ireland.
113. L. W. Barratt, 37 Charter Avenue, Ilford, Essex.

Necrology -

45. F. C. Abell, London.
97. A. C. Adams, Leeds.

PRESS CUTTINGS

- "S.A.P.": October 1960. "Deterioration of 1d Wildebeest Cyl. 3."
by J. H. Bruwer. South African Airgraphs - R. D. Allen.
- "S.A.P." November 1960, "S.A. Airgraphs" concluded - R. D. Allen.
"Conveyans of Mails in the Cape of Good Hope before 1853" -
Sylvester L. Crozet.
- "S.A.P." December 1960. "Conveyance of Mails in the Cape" concluded. Annual
Index for 1960. List of Constituent Societies of the Philatelic
Federation of Southern Africa.
- "Stamp Collecting": December 16th, 1960. "Philately of the Union" by "Warthog"

AUCTION ANNOUNCEMENT

Mr John H. Wicks, 39 Loop Street, Pietermaritzburg, Natal, South Africa,
holds regular monthly auctions about half of which are invariably Union items.
Specimen catalogue and subscription rate provided on application.