

THE SPRINGBOK



Vol 39 No. 3

May/June 1991

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THE SPRINGBOK

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The Springbok is published six times in each year for the benefit of Members of the South African Collectors' Society. It is not available to non-members.

Contributions in the form of letters, notes, reports of SA related activities, articles, etc. are always welcome and should be sent to the Hon. Editor. All correspondence will be acknowledged.



Editorial

Your President, who approaches his 85th birthday looking forward to shedding some of his tasks, reminds me that the WICKS Award for 1990 is due and having made the effort to get up to date, it would be a pity to let it slide again. So we must contact the other two members of the selection panel to ensure the award is made, and presented at the September Saturday. The standard of articles has been maintained and the result we hope for is that interest is stimulated among others to consider extending their researches, or even attempting to strike out on a new path!

The programme for 1991/92 is under active consideration. With the ABELL Trophy to be held on 14th September 1991, an afternoon meeting, we hope to provide a quality display so that the meeting is made as full as possible without becoming indigestible. Subjects for the Tuesday meetings are always acceptable and the discussions as to suitability, attractiveness and not least who we know with some good material causes no little problem so that balance, interest and discussion can be kept up.

I believe it necessary to put an occasional question to members, this time it is "what do you do on your home ground?". For example, a member in Cumbria, though not in the best of health at times, fosters a local gathering of our members in the area. With due credit to him, and I ask you to please consider doing the same. Do let me know before preferably, but after will do; and similarly for display engagements as not all County Federations have a good broadsheet to announce their Society programmes so that one can go a little further to see a better more pertinent display of the country we have a particular interest in.

DWP

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Meetings

11 June 1991 1st Republican definitive coils (RDA)

Meetings (other than regional and other special meetings) are held in Committee Room No.2, Hawkstone Hall, Kennington Road, opposite Lambeth North Underground Station and near Waterloo Main Line, 6pm for a 6.30 start.

Why not come yourself and bring a friend? Members of the Society and visitors alike can be sure of a warm welcome!

WHAT IS AN INTERPROVINCIAL? ANOTHER VIEW

The long-delayed task of sorting and arranging an accumulation of some 250 "Interprovincials" has led me to re-read Dr Chris Board's article "What is an Interprovincial?" (*The Springbok* 36 (3) May/June 1988, pp. 52-6) with rather greater interest and attention than I gave it when it first appeared - and renewed admiration for the amount of information it contains, much of it made available for the first time, which makes possible a more balanced and informed approach to this period of Union philately.

Board attempts to distinguish the following four phases:

(a) The initial phase when post offices were still drawing supplies of stamps and postal stationery from their former colonial administration, and any interprovincial use could only arise when a stamp was purchased in one province and used in another. One does not imagine that this would have happened very frequently, except when deliberately contrived for philatelic reasons. Board calls this the genuine Interprovincial period and dates it from 1 June 1910 to the end of January 1911.

(b) The period from the beginning of February 1911 until June/July 1911, which he calls the pseudo period, when distribution of stamps had been centralised and post offices were being supplied randomly with stamps of any of the four former colonies.

(c) From June/July 1911 until 31 August 1913 fresh printings of the Transvaal stamps (indistinguishable from those printed before Union) were being supplied to post offices; and these are not regarded by Board as being really collectable as Interprovincials since they are in effect Union stamps.

(d) Finally, after the issue of the first Union definitives the Distributor of Stamps was busily issuing the residue of Transvaal stamps to post offices until there were none left. (Any other postal administration, one feels, having at long last produced its first definitive issue, would have promptly withdrawn and destroyed the remaining stocks of the provisionals with which it was making do all those years! But a preoccupation with paper economy seems to have always been present in Pretoria; and it has been responsible for many philatelic curiosities, from the tête-bêche sheets of the King George V three-halfpenny to the 20-row, 6-stamp wide panes, cylinder number 89B, of the 1d Black Wildebeest in 1960.) This phase is presumably to be regarded as of even less interest than (c).

For postal stationery the story is essentially the same, except that some of the dates are different, articles from all four colonies were reprinted, and some of these post-Union printings can be distinguished from pre-Union material. Where this is the case they are "not true Interprovincials".

S.J. Hagger in a comment on Board's article (*The Springbok* 36 (6) Nov/Dec 1988, p.127) avers (tongue in cheek?) that the collecting of Interprovincials is no more than a gimmick, and has no basis in logic, since after Union they were all Union stamps used in the Union anyway.

To all this I would like to counter two propositions. In the first place I cannot help feeling that all this agonising over the dates and relative collectability of the various phases (genuine, pseudo-, not really and post-Interprovincials) is highly reminiscent of the disputations of mediaeval theologians; and has about as much relevance to what was actually happening in the real world. Personally I find phase (b) rather more interesting than phase (a), and phases (c) and (d) scarcely less interesting than phase (b). Accepting (as one must) the general progression through the four phases, it is not really possible to regard them as

sharply distinct and clear-cut as Board's dates suggest. What could be really significant would be the periods during which an individual post office was actually selling stamps (normally for more or less immediate use) in the various categories - its own colonial issue drawn from the former colonial postal administration; stamps of all four colonies drawn from Pretoria; post-Union reprints of Transvaal stamps - and this is something that one can never know. It will of course vary from place to place. Some postmasters would have been cautious souls, afraid of running out of any denomination, and always ensuring that they had a more than adequate local reserve stock which was not necessarily used in order of receipt. Others would have led a much more hand-to-mouth existence.

Even in a given post office the date of moving from one phase to another would be different for different denominations. How long did it take for a small rural office to get through a sheet of five shilling stamps, for example? The twopence-halfpenny value was never reprinted because the 1910 Union Parliament stamp had preempted the market for this denomination; and the colonial twopence halfpennies were still being issued in 1914 or later. For this value phase (d) followed phase (b). The Natal three-halfpenny and 5d hung fire too; but these values were peculiar to Natal, and presumably it did not occur to postmasters in the other provinces to requisition them. They were not reprinted either. The 5/- and 10/- values were reprinted, but seemingly not before 1912. The King George V one pound value did not appear until July 1916, so for this value phase (c) extended until that date; though how many offices still had the Transvaal £1 in stock by 1916, seeing that none were recorded in the central reserve stock at the 4 June 1914 audit, is another question! Indeed as Board shows, for several other values there was no phase (d).

On the general question of the transfer from phase (a) to phase (b) the evidence that Board cites is somewhat conflicting. He says that the distribution of stamps, etc. had been transferred in September 1910 to H.S. Wilkinson at Pretoria from the Cape, Natal and OFS. He then quotes a Union Postal Circular of 1 December 1910 instructing (or reminding?) postmasters to send requisitions for stamps to Pretoria. But later he says "centralised distribution of stamps and postal stationery from February 1911 marks the end of the genuine Interprovincial Period...". We can hardly expect to reconstruct exactly what happened 80 years ago; but is it not possible that Pretoria started issuing Transvaal stamps throughout the Union late in 1910, while the stocks of stamps, etc. from the other provinces were being collected together and counted? This could account for the negligible quantities of Transvaal stamps, apart from the twopence halfpenny and 1/- values, recorded by the audit of 13 January 1911.

In his final paragraph Board talks about recognising the postal practices of the transitional period until the King George V definitive issues became firmly established and dominant in 1914. To my mind this is the real issue, the starting point, and this is what our collections should reflect and illustrate. Anything is highly collectable if it contributes towards an understanding of the period. It was, after all, a highly unusual situation, perhaps unique: a new country, formed by the union of four stamp-issuing entities, which did not manage to produce its first issue of definitive stamps until no less than three and a quarter years had elapsed! The Federation of Rhodesia and Nyasaland came into being on the 23 October 1953 and produced its first definitive stamps on 1 July 1954, a mere eight months later. Presumably the three constituent territories had sufficient stocks of stamps in hand to cover this interval. (Was interprovincial use sanctioned, or condoned?) The Federation of Malaya (later Malaysia) was formed on 31 August 1957; but at first individual states continued to issue their own definitive stamps and federal issues were confined to commemoratives. In 1965 a new, and rather peculiar, policy was adopted: the states each continue to issue low value definitives (up to 20c) but there is a single federal issue for the higher values.

So to my second proposition: that we should stop thinking about an Interprovincial Period with sub-periods of greater or less collectability; and instead think in terms of the interprovincial use of stamps and postal stationery in the designs of the four colonies, some printed before Union and some after Union, until supplies ran out a short time after the

introduction of Union designs - and shape our collections accordingly. If the Transvaal design stamps printed in 1911 and later should really be regarded as Union issues, because they were ordered by the Union postal authorities for use throughout the Union, then this can only be demonstrated by showing copies used in each of the four provinces. It is true that the colonial issues remained valid until the end of 1937, but very late usages are mainly philatelic confections which I find of no real relevance.

With these thoughts swirling around in my head I examined my newly arranged stamps with renewed interest and found:

- (i) about half the total are Transvaal stamps;
- (ii) I have only three examples of a stamp being used in another province in 1910;
- (iii) the Cape, Natal and ORC stamps together include only 11 examples used in 1912 and later (and five of these are twopence halfpenny values), whereas there are 76 Transvaal stamps used within the same period;
- (iv) of my relatively few twopence halfpennies one was used on 11 November 1910, exactly a week after the Union Parliament commemorative appeared, and no less than four were used in 1914.

Which, you may say, was only what was to be expected. Or, to put it another way, this small collection illustrates, and contributes to an understanding of, the availability and use of stamps during the early years of the Union. I have too few examples of postal stationery to enable conclusions to be drawn for that class of material.

Postscript

And how should the following be designated:

- A Natal 5d postmarked at Port Elizabeth on 21 December 1908;
- A Transvaal 1d (black and carmine) postmarked at Pietermaritzburg on 3 July 1903?

Pre-Interprovincials? And how collectable are they?

ADDENDUM: Since writing the above I have had the opportunity to read another article by Chris Board ("A new interpretation of the Interprovincial period, with reference to the Transvaal", *Transvaal Philatelist*, Vol. 21 No.1 Feb. 1986) in which he reports the results of his research rather more fully, quoting extensively from the original documents. As far as the points that I have tried to make are concerned, the following emerges:

- (i) the centralisation of stocks appears to have been completed by mid-November 1910;
- (ii) the 1 December 1910 circular also notified postmasters that their normal supplies would be sent out monthly, during the first three weeks of the month, taking the provinces in turn;
- (iii) the 1911 audit took place between the 13 and 26 January.

This implies that centralised distribution of stamps and postal stationery from Pretoria did really start in December 1910, and strengthens my belief that it was Transvaal stamps that were supplied throughout the Union in that and the following month.

Incidentally the article confirms that the Transvaal 10/- stamp was reprinted in October 1911, and the 5/- stamp early in 1912.

[The article by Dr C. Board is available from Tony Chilton, who is also a member of the Transvaal Study Circle. - Ed.]

THE ONE PENNY TYPOGRAPH ISSUE 3

Issue 3 was first made available for use about November 1928 as the last supply of Issue 2's were exhausted and a printing of Issue 1 (printing 1Ea) was then being used. They then continued in use up until the first antehyphenate rotogravures became available in May-June 1930.

Printings

Two major printings can be distinguished with several variations in shade on the first. I label these printings 3A and 3B in the order in which they were made available for use. In fact, as will be seen, the 3B's were printed first and the 3A's were printed last. This difference in the chronology of how the stamps were printed and how they were used is explained by the way the sheets were stacked after printing. The following are the best word descriptions that I can give to differentiate the two printings.

Printing 3A

These were in use from November 1928 to May 1930. In other words, from beginning to end. The frames vary from light to very dark red, depending on inking. The centres are grey black to black and very clear. Some are so clearly printed that they almost give a "raised" appearance. Most have an intermediate stage between the Type A and Type B centres in that the background lines reach the edge of the oval when the centres are in correct registration with the frames, but unlike the classic solid lines in the Type B's, the lines are often broken and they begin to fade slightly at the edges.

There is one variation of printing 3A that deserves mention. In some of the printing runs, the frames were so heavily inked that when looking at the stamps from the back the frames show through appearing as an offset variety, which they are not. These dark frames are seen in scattered use from about February 1929 to July 1929.

Printing 3B

In use from December 1929 to June 1930. The frames are red and the centres are a grey black and give a much coarser appearance than the 3A's. These have the classic Type B centres with dark solid background lines that reach the edge of the oval when the centres are in correct registration with the frames.

Mystery Printing

Of the many thousands of stamps examined a few used singles were found with frames in a shade that is difficult to describe. The closest that I can come to a colour description is "rose claret". They were used in 1929 and so I include them with Issue 3. In fact I can't be sure since my few copies do not have any varieties that would place them in any particular issue. These are very scarce.

Watermarks

Inverted watermarks are found and are relatively more common than the inverted watermark varieties in Issues 1 and 2.

Varieties

Although minor varieties are plentiful in this issue, most are short lived and unimportant. There are only four major varieties of interest in a study of this scope. Three of them I have found to be fairly common and I have more than once bought them for the price of the stamp. The fourth variety (extended pennant) I mention for the record since it is listed in the Handbook along with an illustration. In fact I have not otherwise seen one.

"Calabash" Row 12/5

This flaw can be sorted into three major stages of development.

- I Small white hole in side of ship (3A, 3B)
- II Larger hole (3A)
- III "Calabash" (3A June 29)

I have also seen this variety with official overprint and with S.W.A. overprint.

Starboard Light Row 15/9

This flaw is again a white hole, but this time in the rigging of the sails. These too can be sorted into three stages of development.

- I Small flaw (3A, 3B)
- II Slightly larger (3A)
- III Large flaw (3A May to Aug 29)

White Spot in Sunrays - Unknown Position

There are many "white spot in sunrays" varieties in all three issues, but this particular variety seems to have been there from the first printings of Issue 3. It too can be sorted into three stages of development.

- I Small white spot (3B)
- II Larger (3A)
- III Large spot (3A May to July 1929)

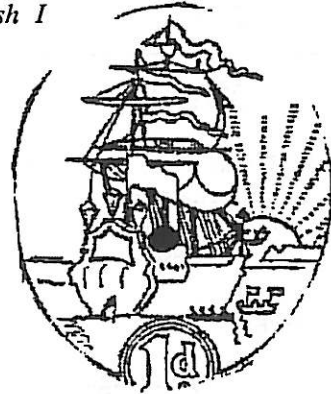
Extended Pennant Row 17/12

I have not had the luck of finding a stamp with this variety. It must have had a short life. Mr Jack Hagger owns two examples and he states that both stamps have a black flaw building up at the foot of the stamps.

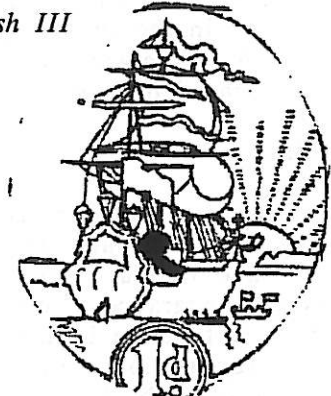
Order of Printing

I have learned that stamps were made available for use depending on how they were stacked after production rather than the order in which they were actually printed. And so by arranging the flaws in their stages of development, it can be seen that printing 3B was the first to be printed and the last to be used. It is also interesting to note that the advanced stages of all flaws studied were on stamps of 3A that were used between May and August 1929, even though 3A was in use until June 1930.

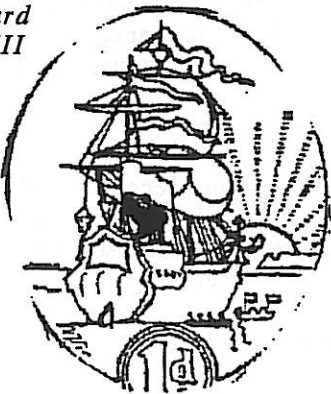
Calabash I



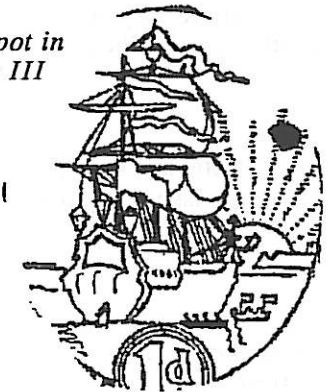
Calabash III



Starboard Light III



White spot in sunrays III



The Cigarette Strips: 1910 - 1977 (Revised)

The American Revenuer, November/December, 1983

by Peter H. Beukes, ARA

The first ever attempt to publish details of these strips appeared in the October 1980 TAR issue. The editor invited further data. He had three responses and I had one. As a result the number of items listed increased from 23 to 72. With the information supplied to me I made a complete revision and thanks to the following members of the American Revenue Association with whose assistance this revised listing has been possible. R.A. Mason; R.G. Myers; W.R. Wallace; and J.S. Willis.



Figure 1

Portrait of Geo. V. Figure 1

1. Inscription at right in two lines "Opened by H M

Customs". Design and lettering in black — No value.



Figure 2

Portrait of Geo. V Weight and value now inscribed — Figure 2

2. ½d and ½ oz. — Green
3. 1d and 1 oz. — Red

4. 2d and 2 oz. — Bistre
5. 5d and 5 oz. — Violet



Figure 3

Value in circle — Figure 3 — circle in rectangle. Inscribed Zuid-Afrika at base of circle — Background fingerprint wavy design — diagonal lines

6. ½d and ½ oz — Dark green Zuid-Afrika with hyphen, no period after value
7. ¾d and ½ oz — Green, no hyphen, no period
8. 1 d and 1 oz — Red/vermillion/Carmine. Hyphen, period.
9. 1½d and 1 oz — Rose red, hyphen, no period, horizontal bar between 1 and 2 of ½d
10. 1½d and 1½ oz — Orange, hyphen, no period,

- diagonal bar between 1 and 2 of ½d
11. 2d and 2 oz — Brown, hyphen, period
12. 3d and 2 oz — Bistre, hyphen, period
13. 3¾d and 2½ oz — Blue green, with hyphen, no period (tall thick three) horizontal bar
14. 3¾d and 2½ oz — Blue green, no hyphen, no period (tall narrow three) horizontal bar
15. 3¾d and 2½ oz — Blue green, no hyphen, no period (short thin three) diagonal bar
16. 5d and 5 oz — Violet, hyphen, with period

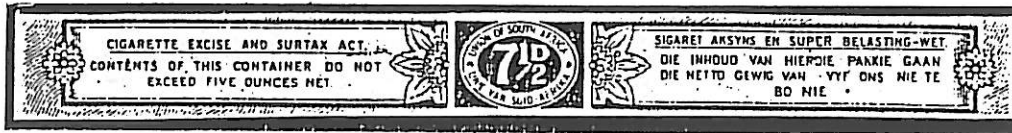


Figure 4

Value now in OVAL — Suid-Afrika at base of circle (all known hyphenated Figure 4

- 17. 3/4d and 1/2 oz — Emerald, no period
- 18. 1 1/2d and 1 oz — Pink, no period, thick diagonal bar strip size 127 x 15 mm

- 19. 1 1/2d and 1 oz — Carmine, no period, thin diagonal bar strip size 136 x 18 mm
- 20. 2 1/4d and 1 1/2 oz — Orange, no period
- 21. 3d and 2 oz — Brown period
- 22. 7 1/2d and 5 oz — Violet no period



Figure 5



Figure 6

Inscribed Suid-Afrika at Base of oval (all known Hyphenated) background of small squares in border. Figure 5.

- 23. 3/4d and 1/2 oz — Emerald green, no period
- 24. Similar in peppermint green — border design slightly altered
- 25. 1 1/2d and 1 oz cigarettes, 2 oz tobacco-red, no period note: left side reads in four lines; = Refer Figure 6
 - line 1 = excise & surtax under acts 18 of 1911 and 28 of 1933
 - line 2 = contents of this container do not exceed
 - line 3 = if cigarettes — one ounce net

- line 4 = if cigarette tobacco-two ounces net
- 26. 1 1/2d and 1 oz — Red, no period but without above act reference
- 27. 3d and 4 oz cigarette tobacco — violet
- 28. 3d dark brown with period and acts inscription as 25 above
- 29. 3d brown — 2 oz cigarettes or 4 oz cigarette tobacco
- 30. 3d brown 2 oz, period
- 31. 3 3/4d blue 2 1/2 oz, no period
- 32. 3 3/4 turquoise 2 1/2 oz no period slight change border design



Figure 7

Background changed to CLOVER PATTERN in border. In addition the inscription heading at left was changed to "CIGARETTE EXCISE DUTY AND SURTAX". The value still in OVAL. The length of the strips vary from 109 mm to 134 mm. The width in all instances was 14 mm. — Figure 7

- 33. 2d and 0.4 oz — Bluish gray
- 34. 2 1/4d and 0.48 oz — ultramarine
- 35. 3d and 0.4 oz — Slate green
- 36. 4d and 0.8 oz — Purplish brown
- 37. 4 1/2d and 0.96 oz — Crimson
- 38. 6d and 0.8 oz — Brown violet
- 39. 6 1/2d and 0.96 oz — Pink red
- 40. 9d and 1.2 oz — Gray blue

- 41. 9 3/4d and 1.44 oz — Light brown
- 42. 10d and 2 oz — Green
- 43. 1s3d and 2 oz — Emerald green, period
- 44. 1s4 1/4 oz — Orange red

Note: There are differences in the linear relationship between the rectangular inscribed tablets and the details of the background design among these stamps, even if of the same denomination.

Same design as before except 120 x 10 mm and the left inscription ends with "Cigarette tobacco"

- Overall strip size 241 x 17 1/2 mm.
- 45. 5d and 4 oz — Magenta



Figure 8

Very small design 96 mm x 9 mm — Rectangle 6½ mm x 10 mm — Figure 8

- 46. 2d and 0.4 oz cigarettes — Purplish brown
- 47. 4d and 0.8 oz cigarettes — Purplish brown
- 48. 7d and 2 oz cigarettes — Brown
- 49. 7½d and 2 oz cigarettes — Purplish brown

- 50. 8¾d and 2.2 oz cigarettes — Blue
 - 51. 10d and 2.0 oz cigarettes — Brownish purple
 - 52. 11¼d and 2.4 oz cigarettes — Blue
- As preceding but new value overprinted in black
- 53. 10d on 7 d and 2 oz cigarettes — Brown
 - 54. 11¼d on 8¾d and 2½ oz cigarettes — Blue

VERTICAL STAMPS



Type A



Type B



Type C



Type E

UNION OF SOUTH AFRICA

TYPE A: Format: A diamond shape insert in oblong, size 19,5 x 39 mm. The 2 d, 3d and 4½d are the only reference in Sherwood's catalogue on Union of South Africa cigarette stamps.

- 55. 2d and 0.4 oz — Blue green — size 19,5 x 39 mm
- 56. 3d and 0.4 oz — Deep green — size 19, 5 x 39 mm
- 57. 3¼d and 0.48 oz — Bright blue — size 19,5 x 39 mm

TYPE B: As before but larger oblong 24 mm x 43 mm.

- 58. 4½d and 0.96 oz — Red
- 59. 4 d and 0.8 oz — Brown

REPUBLICAN PERIOD 1961 - 1977 (Year of Cessation)

TYPE D: New design as before, size 24 x 43 mm with ornate border inscription at top and bottom of stamp changed to republiek/republic.

- 63. 8c 20 cigarettes — Brown violet

TYPE E: New design, as before size 24 x 43 mm with ornate

- 60. 6d and 0.8 oz — Light brown
- 61. 6½d and 0.96 oz — Pink red

TYPE C: New design — Ornate border 24 mm x 43 mm. Unie van Suid-Afrika at top and Union of South Africa at bottom.

Value white & black centre, rectangle with number of cigarettes in pack below.

- 62. 8c 20 cigarettes no weight stated — Pale brown

It is interesting to note that both the Republic and decimalization commenced in 1961 — yet decimal currency is quoted with "Union of South Africa" inscription.

border. Afrikaans at top, number of cigarettes in middle and weight in ounces of cigarette tobacco below.

- 64. 20 cigarettes or 4 oz — Brown violet
- 65. 20 cigarettes or 4 oz — Red brown

End of vertical strips (5 designs)

REPUBLICAN STRIPS



Figure 9

Size 109 x 8 mm Ornate border. Value in white in black rectangle on left followed by Afrikaans inscription, number of cigarettes in middle, followed by English inscription and 3 tobacco leaves ornamental design on right side. No weight

state — Figure 9

66. 8c and 20 cigarettes — Brown

67. 12c and 30 cigarettes — Dull blue

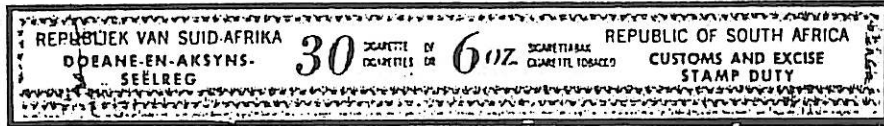


Figure 10

New design: Afrikaans at left followed by number of cigarettes. Tobacco weight, English at right. Text within ornate border — Figure 10

68. 30 cigarettes or 6 oz cigarette tobacco — Grey on white (Slanted figures)

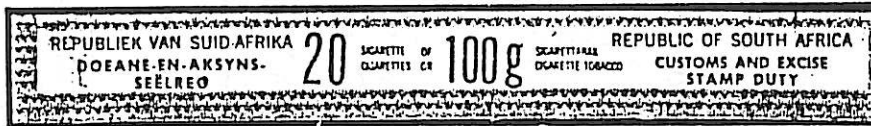


Figure 11

Design as before — Figures UPRIGHT weight in gram — Figure 11

72. 20 cigarettes or 100 gram — Blue on white

69. 30 cigarettes or 150 gram — Grey on white

70. 30 cigarettes or 150 gram — Blue on white

71. 20 cigarettes or 100 gram — Grey on white

Those with duplicate strips or further data is kindly requested to write direct to P. H. Beukes, P.O. Box 156, CAPE TOWN, 8000, SOUTH AFRICA. □



The above illustration and that on the next page are from my own collection.

The first, the farthing value, is highly suspect, however Mr Beukes has a pair in his collection. The second is on the original box of cigarettes, and of course the seal is broken, one small piece missing.



I wrote to Mr Beukes of South Africa, with whom I have had correspondence in the past, for permission to publish the above within these pages. He was very doubtful if the *American Revenuer* was copyright and suggested I contact the Editor, this I did, a Mr Robert Gene Myers, 1835 Camino Del Rex, Las Cruces, New Mexico, 88001, U.S.A., a former member of this Society for the necessary permission and my letter was returned "GONE AWAY". Our Editor is endeavouring to ascertain the name and address of the current Editor.

RDA

** Bibliography: *The American Revenuer*, Nov/Dec 1983.

LONDON MEETING MARCH 1991

Postponed from February because of the thick snow which enveloped the area, the subject of the evening was the Union Postal Stationery Postcards.

Tony Chilton led off, explaining that when the programme for the season had been arranged he had expected that a supplement which he had written on the subject for the *South African Philatelist* would have by then been published. Negotiations continue but the evening's display would illustrate some of the matters he had highlighted in the projected supplement.

Shown were the 1927 cards (PC9 with the unique 1½d "ship" design, several of the views including card 12 with KNYZNA (yes with a "Z") and card 17 having "KNYSNA" with the "S". The corresponding inland cards at ½d (PC9) not for oversea mails. Note that these have a large Coat of Arms and that the numbers on the address side are in green. Then the 1931 1d cards, including the envelopes in which they were sold. The numbering sequence on these envelopes is series 5 (cards 1-6) and series 6 (cards 7-12) which continues the numbering sequence of the envelopes used for the previous ½d cards. Also shown were cards with the stamp frame wholly or partly missing. These are listed in the Handbook/Catalogue under PC12 (non-pictorial cards) but this is an error. Then the ½d cards of 1934 (PC17), the address side of which is similar to PC10 except that the "Arms" are smaller and the numbering is in black. Nearly all these cards are found with an extra ½d stamp stuck alongside, even when mint. This is because the cards were recalled when the Inland Postage rate was later increased and stamps were put on by the Post Office before the cards were put back on sale. Mention was made of articles to appear in the SAP about the origin of the illustrations on these cards (a set of 36 sold at the South African Pavilion at the Wembley Exhibition of 1924/25) and the reason why the numbering on the cards is not consecutive (12 of the 36 cards from the Exhibition set were not thought suitable for the stationery).

The rest of the evening was spent in an examination of the ½d and 1d cards PC21-29 and of the 1d and 1½d cards PC30-39.

Two distinct shades of the ½d cards plus the first of the 1d cards showing the errors of inscription on the "Drakensburg" and the "Elephant" cards, plus the corrected cards, proving that the listing of 17 cards in a set is erroneous (no plate could have 17 views on it); seven different stages in correcting the CANON flaw; shades of brown printing which are not mentioned in the Handbook/Catalogue but which are definitely separate issues as may be proved by the differences in the design.

Issue 27 is where the address lines are all of the same length. PC27, 28 and 29 have light diagonal shading in the lower right quarter of the shield (previously solid background). For PC30-39 this shading is far more broad and at different angles on different issues. The listing in the Handbook/Catalogue is certainly not comprehensive as regards shades of brown but cards were seen in the same colour shade but with different angles of shading on the arms. Flaws such as large doctor blade marks and missing stamps were also seen. A mis-cut set showing that the cards of PC30 cylinder 1 were arranged 1, 3, 7, 8 alongside 2, 4, 5, 6 which does make the language order read logically.

In all a very full evening with some questions answered but others, such as the cylinder layout for issue PC21 to 29 remain outstanding.

ARC

THE CORONATION STAMP OF 1953

(*The Springbok* Vol. 38 No. 5 and Vol. 39 No. 2 refers.)

Mr Philpott writes that he was at first flummoxed, "but then the penny dropped. The stamp is printed sideways and the 2 panes are engraved AROUND the circumference of the cylinder and not ACROSS its width. Nowhere, including the immediate SAHC cover is this made evident. It must, however, be so patently obvious in the gutter blocks, etc., as described by our members. Then the differential sheet cutting is achieved by starting with pane A or pane B."

WESTON SUPER MARE

The ninth successive meeting of members, hosted by Philip Cattell the packet man, at the Victoria Bowling Club was a very happy and relaxing occasion. Sixteen members, with two members' wives, came from Wales, Dorset, North Devon and Somerset (proper that is!), London and Hampshire.

What was there? A very good showing right across the day's subject which was Interprovincials and the Homelands. A rather elasticated period some allege and to others the latter of doubtful propriety.

Stamps; Postal stationery (genuine use with a Library reminder printed on the reverse) Transvaal Registered envelope posted in the Cape with a Madeira transit mark; E. TAMSEN addressed mail on a wide variety of items, a founder of Nylstroom as described by K. GILES from Peterborough and our venerated member for Brixton produced Interprovincial REVENUES no less.

And so to the Homelands which was well represented by R. WEAVER who gave proper precedence to those issues relating to the origins, work and beliefs of the country as well produced by both design and printing as one will see on modern issues.

Yes, we did break for tea provided at modest cost by Philip and his wife and a well-earned vote of thanks to both was given then and again here for the afternoon. In 1992, the tenth meeting will be held on Saturday 11 April 1992 and the subject next year will be "The Commemorative Issues" and the opportunity to again meet with friends, see excellent material and make the odd purchase or exchange.

DWP

THE SOUTH AFRICAN PHILATELIST

The Jan/Feb issue for 1991, page 23, foot of the first column, is headed:

RE-DISCOVERY OF CUMULATIVE INDEX

The Hon. Editor of that magazine mentioned that he had an enquiry from England which stated, "I believe there is a cumulative index to the *S.A. Philatelist*, Vol. 1-12 (1923-36)".

The Editor then tells readers of the prolonged search for this index, which is loose leaf.

As far as I can ascertain I have the only complete copies of the *South African Philatelist* (plus the above mentioned supplement) in the world, some have completeness with photocopies, mine are the originals. Should any member desire material for their own research purpose, I will do my best to provide photocopies at your expense plus postage, etc. Before you go into that expense, please read the GREEN BOOK, contents of our Library.

NB: I do not lend out my books, I need them myself.

RDA

REFERENCE COLLECTION

That seems to be a hint that we have a Reference Collection, the answer yes - it comprises only one item: the 10c Castle, catalogued SACC 216a, Emerald Green, available as from Feb 1962.

This stamp was sent to me when I was editor of this publication, and passed to my successor and now lies with another person.

This emerald green stamp was taken by the presenter from a known sheet of certain cyclometer numbers. At present we do not know of any member who would be the custodian, bearing in mind that members may send their "emerald greens" for comparison and that the custodian would "Aye" or "Nay". It was felt by the present custodian that he was not capable of giving judgment as to the colour and also if the reference item was sent to a member whether the correct stamp would be returned. Hence our predicament.

It is suggested that if we have no "colour expert", then the item be offered for sale in a future society auction.

Volunteers please contact our Editor.

RDA

QUERY SPOT - THE ORANGE FREE STATE CENTENARY ISSUE

Responding to Philip de Paris's second query in the Sept/Oct 1990 issue of *The Springbok* (p.113), concerning the Orange Free State Centenary issue of 1954 (SAC/H 121-2), Fred Clark of Derby has written:

"Whilst I do not have full sheets or pieces with the central gutter between the panes, I would offer the following observations and suggestions.

"Of the 4½d value I have:

- (a) a double strip, rows 1 & 2, stamps 1-6, with margins and varieties V1, V2 & V3;
- (b) a similar strip from rows 19 & 20, stamps 1-6, with margins and varieties V5 & V6;
- (c) a block of 4, rows 19 and 20, stamps 5 and 6.

"On none of the above three pieces does the horizontal margin show any evidence of being from the central gutter between panes. On stamp Row 20/6, of both pieces (b) and (c) above, a flaw exists running right from the bottom of the quill above "Af" of Afrika; and this flaw is similar in nature to the one listed as V3 on stamp Row 1/6. The flaws in both sheet positions are horizontal grey marks tapering away at each end, with a small white area in the centre of the length of the mark. They appear to be doctor blade flaws caused by the doctor blade being lifted slightly over damage to the surface of cylinder 104, as represented by the central white area above mentioned. This damage on stamp positions Row 1/6 and Row 20/6 could have lasted throughout the printing run of the 4½d value, though why Row 1/6 warranted catalogue recognition but not Row 20/6 is puzzling.

"The corresponding corner blocks of the 2d value which I have do not exhibit the above doctor blade flaws.

"It is suggested that the damage to cylinder 104 in both positions occurred after the 2d value printing had been completed, and more than likely whilst cylinder no. 1 of the 2d value was being removed and replaced in the printing press by cylinder no. 11 of the 4½d value. This is, of course, speculation but it seems to fit the facts - or can you prove different?

"Over to someone with complete sheets; and does anyone have a complete sheet, or bottom strip, of this 4½d value with V5 and V6 but *without* the above described flaw on Row 20/6?"

Philip de Paris has commented on this as follows: "I, too, have a bottom right-hand corner block of four of the 4½d value, which appears to be from the bottom of the sheet and not of the upper pane, and which shows on Row 20/6 exactly the same flaw as that described by Mr Clark. An illustration of this flaw appears below.



Alas! I had not noticed it before, although it is prominent enough. If it is as constant as V3 presumably is, it certainly deserves catalogue status. They certainly look like doctor blade flaws, being similar to the "Jimmy Edwards" flaw described by R. McDougal in his article "The doctor blade and its flaws" (*The Springbok* 35 (2) Mar/Apr 1987, pp. 40-44); but this type of flaw, being caused by something adhering to the surface of the cylinder, is usually very short-lived. Both V3 and the newly observed flaw on Row 20/6 appear to be reasonably constant, if not completely so.

"Mr Clark's suggestion as to how the damage to cylinder 104 might have occurred is very interesting. In a separate letter to me he has pointed out that the stamps in positions Row 1/6 and Row 20/6 are almost adjacent on the cylinder, being separated only by the stamp-width gutter which is cut to form the top and bottom sheet margins."

REVIEW

The REVENUE and other NON-Postal stamps of South West Africa 1900-1978. Compiled by Leon Jacobson. 58pp in A5 format, softback. Published as ALNIS Guide No.10 by Glass Slipper, P.O. Box 62, YORK YO1 1YL. Price £6 (UK or surface mail) and £8 (Airmail).

Collectors of South West Africa revenues have been working in the dark for far too long. The leading catalogue (Barfoot and Hall) gives difficult to understand and, too often, misleading descriptions. Sherwood ignored the Territory totally. What material there was, was largely hidden in two or three South Africa collections.

Now at last, one of the most knowledgeable of those collectors has produced a publication which, since it appeared last year (1990), has already gained the endorsement of being quoted in auction catalogue descriptions.

This book covers not just "pure" revenue stamps but also associated items such as penalty stamps, cigarette and entertainment tax, various native taxes, railway parcel stamps, national savings stamps, even airmail labels and charity stamps. Each item is priced (in sterling) at a value claimed to be that obtaining in late 1989, though in this restricted collecting field, prices realised must be extremely variable.

With what would have been only a moderate increase in the cover price, this publication could have been improved in two major respects. The method of reproduction has resulted in all the illustrations showing the same non-contrasting shade of black for the stamps, the overprint and the cancellation. Thus, in several cases it is impossible to see the overprint and in almost all cases, accurate comparison with an item in one's own collection is very difficult.

Secondly, the paper used is of poor quality and dull blue in colour, which again does nothing for the quality of reproduction.

As far as the listings of the issues are concerned, these are generally easy to follow.

But I think it was an error to present the work as a definitive listing and not leave room for additional information. For there are additions to be made and a number of known, and reported, items have been omitted. Why, for example, no mention of the £10 small KGV or the 1953 3d on 2d entertainment tax overprint in red? But perhaps it is too much to expect a pioneering work of this scope to be faultless.

Leon Jacobson has provided a major service in making this information public in this form. Certainly, no serious collector of these stamps can hope to understand the scope of the subject without this book, but don't expect dealers to be able to supply any more than they can at present.

A.R. Chilton

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POSTAGE STAMPS INFORMATION AS AT 30 TH SEPTEMBER 1990

JOB NO	NUMBER PER SHEET	NUMBER OF SHEETS ORDERED	VALUE	DATE OF FIRST DELIVERY	NUMBER OF SHEETS DELIVERED	DATE OF FINAL DELIVERY	TOTAL NUMBER OF SHEETS DELIVERED	PAPER	PLATE NUMBERS	SAME DESIGN OR NEW	REMARKS
FIFTH DEFINITIVE SERIES SUCCULENTS											
46498.38	100	200 000	5c	90/09/17	10 000		90 000		2186,2187,2188 and 2189	New	Printed by Litho
46498.38	100	150 000	R1	90/09/17	10 000		20 000	Underwatermarked Harrisons Paper	2190,2191,2192 and 2193	New	Printed by Litho
44250.12	100	3 500 000	21c	90/02/26	38 000		2 140 000		2174,2175,2176 and 2177	New	Printed by Litho
RSA. TOURISM											
47289.21	24	70 000	50c	90/09/21	10 000		40 000	Underwatermarked	2198,2199,2200 and 2201	New	Printed by Litho
AIR LETTERS											
45304.56	3	3 000 000	40c	90/06/20	5 000		961 500	Oyster Opaque Matt		New	Printed by Litho
46519.59	3	150 000	21c	90/08/15	5 000		156 000				
S.A. BIRDS											
43196.69	25	700 000	21c	90/07/12	15 000		693 500	Underwatermarked	2158,2159,2160,2161 and 2162	New	Printed by Litho
43196.69	25	60 000	35c	90/07/12	30 000		60 000	Harrisons Paper	2163,2164,2165,2166 and 2167	New	Printed by Litho
43196.69	25	60 000	40c	90/07/09	30 000		60 000		2168,2169,2170,2171 and 2172	New	Printed by Litho
43196.69	25	60 000	50c	90/07/09	30 000		60 000		2194,2195,2196,2173 and 2197	New	Printed by Litho
S.A. BIRDS MINIATURE											
43863.29	21	70 000	50c	90/07/20	10 000		70 000	Underwatermarked Harrisons Paper		New	Printed by Litho
POST CARDS											
44201.64	40	5 500 000	21c	90/07/09	40 000		5 371 600	Dukuza Linen		New	Printed by Litho

CERTIFIED CORRECT
 DEPT. MANAGER STAMPS
 BUYING AND SUPPLIES

No CARD = NO list required.

See *The Springbok* Vol. 39 No. 2 page 33. RDA wants you to tell him by POSTCARD that you DO want the list.

AUCTION DISTRIBUTION LIST

In addition to those members displaying at Weston super Mare, John Grassom gave a display on the History of South Africa to the Dundee Philatelic Society on 4 March 1991.

DISPLAYS BY SOCIETY MEMBERS

Rejoined	442	John Mackay, Kelso
	881	Dr B.C. Toffe, Woking
New Members	929	A.L. Garfield, London E18
	930	John Reinisch of Briarwood N.Y.
	931	R. Grimmett of Maseru
	932	John Davis of Alicante
Non-renewals		Union and RSA
		SA, SWA, Rhodesia, Homelands
		Cape & Union Postal History
		SWA; Union & Republic
		Tansley 463; Shave 759; Thomas 774; Jose 900; Jannoni 913; Thorand 914; Dyer 918

MEMBERSHIP

No. 84
No. 85
The revenue and other non-postal stamps of SWA 1900-1978
SA stamp colour catalogue (available on quoting membership number from Vera Trinder, Bedford Street, London WC2)

LIBRARY

Also on papers, Rudolf LASAR from Kohn kindly writes: "Re SWA animal definitives on phosphorescent paper. Take a pocket lamp [torch - Ed.], withdraw into a dark room, light your SWA definitives up and see them shine after switching out the lamp!" [That at least will enable you to sort some of them further - Ed.]

Des Greenhalgh

I hope that you will find the information of some use. Unfortunately, I am the only one who uses the U.V. lamp a great deal in my studies and I rely on it to find the different papers. How one determines the three different papers (excluding the Blue, which appears to be a variety), without the use of the lamp is beyond me as I am unable to pick up the various papers without the U.V. lamp! I will await your expertise as to how it is done without the lamp.

Members will notice that many of the printings have both Pink and White backs but that does not mean that the others listed with only one colour at the back cannot also have the other colour. I have only quoted what I have found in my lots. I would assume that the majority of the prints of all the values could be found with both colours on the back.

I did a study for you on my control blocks and my findings are detailed on the attached lists. [The list is lengthy and will appear in Issue 4 - Ed.] I have used the U.V. lamp to establish the facts. There are definitely three types of paper used throughout the issue. It is interesting to note that on the 1c, cylinder nos. 766-769, issued on 26.4.1984 is the only one which I found with the Blue Fluorescent on the front. All the other fluorescents were white.

I refer to the issue of *The Springbok*, Vol. 39 No. 1, dated Jan/Feb 1991, page 19: you request information about papers used in the Third Decimal Definitive Issue of S.W.A.

S.W.A. THIRD DEFINITIVE PAPERS

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THE SPRINGBOK

POSTAGE STAMPS INFORMATION AS AT 31 TH DECEMBER 1990

JOB NO	NUMBER PER SHEET	VALUE	NUMBER OF SHEETS ORDERED	DATE OF FIRST DELIVERY	NUMBER OF SHEETS DELIVERED	DATE OF FINAL DELIVERY	TOTAL NUMBER OF SHEETS DELIVERED	PAPER	PLATE NUMBERS	STATE DESIGN OR NEW	REMARKS
<u>FIFTH DEFINITIVE SERIES SUCCULENTS</u>											
46498.38	100	5c	200 000	90/09/17	10 000	90/11/08	198 000		2186, 2187, 2188 and 2189	New	Printed by Litho
46498.38	100	R1	150 000	90/09/17	10 000	90/11/08	147 500	Undervatermarked Harrison Paper	2190, 2191, 2192 and 2193	New	Printed by Litho
44250.12	100	21c	3 700 000	90/02/26	38 000		3 090 000		2174, 2175, 2176 and 2177	New	Printed by Litho

AIR LETTERS

45304.56	3	40c	3 000 000	90/06/20	5 000		1 321 500	Oyster Opaque Matt		New	Printed by Litho
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NATIONAL ORDER OF S.A. MINIATURE

47195.28	5	30c	120 000	90/11/08	20 000	90/11/20	120 000	Undervatermarked Harrison Paper		New	Printed by Litho
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NATIONAL STAMPDAY SPECIAL STAMPS

47316.48	100	5c	150 000	90/10/23	10 000	90/11/29	142 000	Unvatermarked Harrison Paper	2149, 2150, 2151, 2152, 2153, 2154, 2155, 2156 and 2157	New	Printed by Litho
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ANIMAL BREEDING IN SOUTH AFRICA SPECIAL STAMPS

46995.10	25	21c	700 000	90/12/20	40 000		40 000	Unvatermarked Harrison Paper	2210, 2211, 2212 and 2213	New	Printed by Litho
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NATIONAL ORDER OF S.A. SPECIAL STAMPS

46212.55	25	21c	715 000	90/10/19	10 000	90/12/18	679 500	Unvatermarked Harrison Paper	2202, 2203, 2204 and 2205	New	Printed by Litho
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