

THE SPRINGBOK



Vol 40 No 4

July/Aug 1992

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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

Within this issue you will find the Accounts for the preceding 2 years. Our Hon. Treasurer made the request that I should make reference to the work Alan Caines has done in auditing same and emphasise that pay-outs from funds to vendors is already into 4 figures this year.

On two aspects then are your Society's Officers faced with major considerations. Not only with the annual Election of Officers on the Autumn horizon, but the programme although set has some details to be finalised, and the evident factor that expenditure exceeds income. I do not doubt that most officers underwrite various aspects of their task, as their contribution, unseen. The cost of *The Springbok's* production has pretty well doubled, as the facility previously enjoyed ended and we had to face true commercial copy fees. Thus although our membership fee is about that of most specialist groups, they mostly have a quarterly magazine, far fewer central London meetings and at least the same membership if not more. How are we to proceed then?

Comment in issue No. 3 for 1992 is appropriate; the views in an item this time also, from another continent, and I have another in response that is in similar vein.

Two new members came from the item in a national magazine, plus a query on the non-postal commemorative miniature sheets. The well publicised fair, SWINPEX, shown also in our two previous issues brought together but two members, both from south Hampshire, who do seem to meet at such places and usually the London Saturday as well. One new member was acquired, our sole resident in Wiltshire. So, yes, I will try again next year there, but where were the members from adjacent counties? For 1993 there is on offer an April/May Saturday by

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Meetings

Saturday 5 September 1992: Invited Display; Abell Trophy; AGM/Elections; Mini-Auction (items brought on the day)
Saturday 19 September 1992: The Cumbrian Hotel, Carlisle, 10am to 4pm (our 'cousin' societies are invited) *Cont. →*

Tuesday 13 October 1992: Protea Definitives (Alec Page and Members)

Tuesday 13 April 1993: 1927 Pictorial Definitives, ½d to 1/-.

April/May 1993 (Saturday): By invitation of Richard Stroud, at Burnham-on-Sea, Somerset. Date to be confirmed.

Tuesday 8 June 1993: First Republican Definitives.

Saturday 7 August 1993: Regional Meeting at Bristol Federation Convention.

Meetings (other than regional and other special meetings) are held at 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 are assured of a warm welcome!

Des Greenhalgh

**A STUDY OF THE R.S.A. FIRST DEFINITIVE ISSUE 2½C STAMPS
PRINTED ON 3MM PHOSPHOR TAGGED HARRISON PAPER
ISSUED 24 JULY 1970 (SACC 291 a - b)**

THE PURPOSE OF THIS STUDY is an attempt to find some of the missing pieces for the jig-saw puzzle mentioned by R.B. Cronwright in his article which appeared in the *S.A. Philatelist*, July 1971 (pages 180/182), entitled: 'An Analysis of the Watermark Variety in the Second Phosphor Issue of the Republic 2½c Stamps, Printed from Cylinders 17-8'. A copy of the article will be found at Annexure A.

This is one of several studies that R.B. Cronwright performed on the R.S.A. First Definitive Issue. His other reports can be found in *S.A. Philatelist* magazines of the late 1960s and the early 1970s. His studies were carried out meticulously and in great depth. It is highly recommended that any person with an interest in the R.S.A. First Definitive series should obtain these articles, which contain a wealth of information. Students and collectors of the R.S.A. First Definitives owe a debt of gratitude to R.B. Cronwright for the detailed work performed and information recorded by him.

In order to obtain the necessary information required for this study, a questionnaire was sent to all the Philatelic Societies, the majority of Stamp Dealers, Study Groups and Study Circles in the R.S.A. and S.W.A. and to many collectors. It was published in the *S.A. Philatelist* and *The Springbok*. The response was reasonable - out of 125 sent out 40 replies were returned containing details of 34 panes with the watermark facing left and 205 panes with the tête-bêche watermark. An analysis of the information received proves the accuracy of the work and conclusions of R.B. Cronwright. A record of sheet numbers of the panes with the RSA watermark facing left will be found at Annexure B.

Two 'A' panes and two 'B' panes, with the watermark facing left, have been recorded. One collector has all four panes, photocopies of which will be found at Annexure C. Two collectors have three panes each: one has the 'C' and 'D' panes with a 'B' pane. Copies of these two sets are attached at Annexure D. The Post Offices of origin of the two 'A' panes cannot be established as one was bought from a dealer in Johannesburg and the other was bought from a dealer in Durban - neither of the two businesses exists today. However with regard to the two 'B' panes, which have consecutive sheet numbers, they were bought from a Postal Agency: 'MHLOSINGA', which is situated in North Natal (Zululand), approximately 35 kilometres north of HLUHLUWE. Besides what is shown of these two sheets at Annexures C and D only a block of eight from the top left corner of sheet No. 760 578, consisting of stamps 1 to 4 of Rows 1 and 2, and a block of 4 which cannot be positioned in the sheet, remain.

Thirteen 'C' and twenty-one 'D' panes have been recorded. Four collectors have both the 'C' and 'D' panes and the remainder are held singly in collections. It would be interesting to find what happened to the other twenty-one control blocks or sheets of the batch of thirty found by R.B. Cronwright.

The highest and lowest sheet numbers recorded as a result of this exercise are as follows:

			Highest Sheet no.	Lowest Sheet no.	Number of sheets
Watermark facing left:	Top range	(a)	760 578	758 064	2 514
	Bottom range	(b)	650 079	647 854	2 225 ¹
Watermark Tête-bêche:	Top range	(c)	750 143	683 907	
	Bottom range	(d)	676 464	642 644	
1970 - Government Printing Works quote: Watermark Facing Left:		(e)	762 575	757 971	3 575 (4 604 printed)

¹ R.B. Cronwright recorded 648 058 as the lowest figure: range 2021 which he took as half a reel. This figure brings it closer to his half reel.

The break between the Wmk. Facing Left and the Tête-bêche Wmk. appears to be between 758 064, the lowest of (a), and 750 143, the highest of (c). The Government Printing Works gives this figure as 757 971, the lowest of (e). As no Tête-bêche Wmk. has been recorded above 750 143, it is fair to accept (e) to be the top range of the sheet numbers with the Wmk. Facing Left, which is equivalent to one reel of Harrison upright watermark paper. As no number above 762 575 has been recorded the watermark facing left was the first used in this printing.

According to the Printing Works the rest were on Tête-bêche paper, that is from Sheet No. 757 970 to 642 644. The lower range with the wrong watermark is now recorded as (b), which R.B. Cronwright suggests could have been a reel of Harrison Tête-bêche watermark paper joined with half a reel of incorrect paper. This appears to be the problem area as within this range which has the Wmk. Facing Left, the following sheet numbers with Tête-bêche Wmk. have been recorded:

(f)	'C' Panes: between	650 061 - 649 972	(89 sheets)
(g)	'D' Panes: between	649 811 - 649 348	(463 sheets of which
		649 721 - 649 708	13 sheets were consecutive).

It must be appreciated that within the ranges of (f) and (g) are also sheets with Wmk. Facing Left.

It should be noted that, although the two different papers exist within the (b) range, no recorded sheet number has yet been duplicated. A comparison of (f) and (g) with the sheet numbers as quoted under 'C' and 'D' of Annexure B has also been included in the Annexure. No specific pattern can be determined as they appear to be fairly mixed in between each other. To find a possible solution to this problem collectors are requested to advise the writer if they find any control blocks, with the Tête-bêche watermark, having sheet numbers between 650 100 and 647 700. Thus at this stage a lower range cannot be assessed as both papers appear to be intermingled. If a duplicated number, within this range, could be found it would prove that a half sheet of the wrong paper could have been used in this range. So this question remains unanswered.

R.B. Cronwright assessed the size of the printing from Cylinders 17-8 to be 762 575 to 642 693 = 119 882 sheets, which he took to be roughly 120 000 full sheets. The lowest figure now recorded is 642 644, which equals 119 931 sheets, thus bringing it closer to his figure of 120 000, which I would agree is probably the actual size of the full printing. However the printing may have been executed in two separate printings as indicated by two different positions of the Sheet Numbers.

It has been found that all recorded copies with the Wmk. Facing Left, both from the higher and the lower ranges, have the six digits of their sheet numbers opposite Row 4, whereas all those with the Tête-bêche Wmk., which I have seen, have five digits alongside Row 4 and one alongside Row 5, except the following five: 743 578(A), 743 909(A), 750 073(B), 750 143(B) and 742 213(C), which have six digits alongside Row 4. This gives me the impression that there must have been at least two different printings involved in the production of the 120 000 sheets. In order to determine the range of each of these two printings collectors are requested to advise the writer, once again, of any control blocks with sheet numbers that have all six digits opposite Row 4 and please, if possible, send a photocopy of such blocks.

Obviously the study is incomplete at this stage and cannot be completed until the following additional information about control blocks with Tête-bêche Watermark is received from collectors, dealers or auction houses:

- a) With Sheet numbers between 650 100 and 647 700
- and b) Sheet numbers with six digits opposite Row 4.

In conclusion I must thank all those who assisted in this project by submitting information and photocopies of the control blocks.

1.5.1991

(More notes from L. Twiss in the next issue - DWP Ed.)

ANNEXURE A

An Analysis of the Watermark Variety in the Second Phosphor Issue of the Republican 2½c Stamps, Printed from Cylinders 17-8, by R.B. Cronwright

South African Philatelist, July 1971, p. 180-2

An introduction of the events leading up to the watermark variety is given first, after which my involvement is mentioned and finally a list of unexplained factors are tabulated and assistance requested.

On July 24th, 1970, the second phosphor lined issue of the Republican 2½c definitive stamp from Cylinder 17-8 was delivered by the Government Printing Works and aroused no undue interest, the only changes being a new exterior cylinder 8 instead of 23 and the use of Harrison instead of Swiss paper, the watermark remaining the same, is tête-bêche RSA facing right and left.

The first phosphor issue of the 2½c definitive stamp had been delivered on the 12th January 1970 and the 636 000 sheets printed then were expected, with the assistance of the 551 000 sheets of the Water Commemoratives 2½c stamps, to last to the end of August 1970, when the 2½c Bible Commemorative stamps were due. Apparently the demand was heavier than anticipated and it became necessary to print a small supply of 2½c definitives before the end of August.

As the exterior cylinder No. 23 had reached the end of its life, it became necessary to prepare a new exterior cylinder at short notice and, according to the official records, the old Negative and a new Positive were used to produce Cylinder 8, the replacement unit. Incidentally the interior cylinder No. 17 had also become the worse for wear and a new interior cylinder had been prepared but was not a success, so the old interior cylinder 17 was again used with Cylinder 8 for the printing of the second phosphor issue. (Later cylinder 12 replaced cylinder 17 in the third issue.)

An examination of the second issue showed that several exterior cylinder varieties were common to cylinders 23 and 8, some of the more obvious ones being the following:-

Panes A and C, stamp 2/19 – lilac dot at L side of R.H. window.

Panes B and D, stamp 5/1 – 2 dots near top of L.H. wall.

Panes B and D, stamp 5/2 – dot at L side of R.H. window (top).

According to official sources, the first sheets printed were despatched to the Orange Free State to overcome the critical shortage of 2½c stamps there, also the Philatelic Bureau received their quota in due course (see November [1970] issue of the *South African Philatelist*) and used them to supply mail and counter orders and standing orders. Matters proceeded

normally for about a fortnight, when a collector in the Cape Province reported to the Bureau that his set of 2½c cylinder blocks were a mixed lot, the "D" pane having a RSA pointing left watermark and the A, B & C panes having RSA tête-bêche watermarks, and could he have a set with each watermark etc.

Remnants

A hurried check at the Bureau showed that some of the D pane remnants were the only specimens left over from two packets with this incorrect watermark and unfortunately all the cylinder blocks had been cut out and sold. An inquiry by the Bureau received the explanation from the printers that inadvertently the last reel of Harrison paper with RSA watermark, pointing left, had been included in the allocation of paper for printing these 2½c stamps.

This explanation however left a lot unanswered, as the following record shows.

I had posted my mail order on the 24th July for a set of 2½c cylinder blocks and on my return from leave found that they had been despatched from the Bureau on the 27th July; unfortunately I did not check up on them on my return, as I had studied the issue from material bought elsewhere. On the 11th September, however, during a telephonic inquiry to the Bureau, I learnt of this watermark variety and found that my D cylinder block, serial number 649 849, received from the Bureau, was on the incorrect watermark paper.

Although hampered by the 2½c "Sower" commemorative stamps then being sold at all Post Offices, I was fortunate in finding a batch of the "C" panes, cylinders 17-8, Serial Nos. running non-consecutively from 648,676 to 648,058, with the RSA pointing left watermark.

Purchasing all these sheets and contacting other collectors, I discovered that the matter was not as simple as I thought.

Several collectors on the Reef had the "D" cylinder blocks with incorrect watermark from the Bureau, with serial numbers running from 758,171; 758,166; 758,165 and one lucky collector at the coast had 758,304; 758,174; 758,068; while at the same time other collectors on the Reef were finding several sheets of the "D" pane with incorrect watermark and at the West Rand, with serial numbers 650,079; 649,623; 648,156; 648,147; etc.

A little light was thrown on the matter when the S.A. Stamp Study Circle meeting in October was informed that the Publicity Officer had obtained the following information from the Government Printing Works: "From one reel of

(Harrison) upright watermark paper, sheet Nos. 762,575 to 757,971 were issued, the rest were on T.B. paper," (4604 full sheets printed). The story is given in the November, 1970 issue of the *S.A. Philatelist* where it is stated that 3 575 good sheets of four panes were obtained from the 4 604 printed, giving a total of 14 300 panes; of these only 100 cylinder blocks of the "D" pane were saved, these being in the Bureau's quota.

Several Sheets

At this same meeting, the members were told that a batch of printings from Cylinders 17-8 were issued on tête-bêche watermark paper with the same range of serial numbers as the 650,079 to 648,058 set mentioned above which had RSA pointing left watermark. I understand one collector has found several sheets with T.B. watermark having the same serial numbers as given in the range mentioned above.

The whole matter can be likened to a jig saw puzzle in which more pieces are missing than have been correctly placed; any collector possessing a missing piece would assist materially by publishing his information; as it is over 6 months since these stamps were issued it is unlikely that further material will be found in the Post Offices.

The following information would be useful:

- (a) Serial Nos above 762,575 to show whether the upright watermark reel was the first used or not; should have tête-bêche watermark.
- (b) Serial numbers just above 650,079 or just below 648,058 with wrong watermark to show the size of the printing of the lower range; according to the figures submitted here the size of the known range is 2021 sheets, say half a reel, which could mean a joined strip of incorrect paper in a reel of tête-bêche watermark paper from Harrison.
- (c) Serial numbers in the range 650,079 to 648,058 with tête-bêche watermark paper to see how far the numbers are duplicated and why.

There are other factors which do not fit into the picture, such as the alleged size of the printing from Cylinders 17-8. If the highest serial number is 762,575, and the known lowest is 642,693 (given at the October Study Circle Meeting), then roughly 120 000 full sheets were printed or 480 000 panes. The Publicity Officer's notes mention 219 100 panes printed by the 30th September. This number is confirmed in the November 1970 issue of the

South African Philatelist but, I am afraid, must be taken with reserve.

A second factor difficult to understand is the missing A & B panes in both range[s] of numbers and any report of an A or B Cylinder block with these serial numbers would reassure collectors that they were issued.

From Zululand

In addition to information from mint specimens, additional information could be obtained from cancelled specimens and in that regard I was fortunate in obtaining some "used" Registered Envelopes from Northern Zululand, bearing strips of 3-2½c Groot Constantia stamps, dated August 1970. On removal from the envelope, the RSA watermark could be positively determined as pointing left. The earliest date is 6-VIII-70 from Dundee, and others cancelled in August were from Newcastle, Dannhauser, Vantsdrif, N'Kande, Bloedrivier, Dick's Post and other Zulu named post offices; thus showing that Natal must have received a batch of these printings. Unfortunately I cannot pick out any flaws, so do not know what panes were supplied.

By supplying the Orange Free State and Northern Zululand with this watermark variety of stamps, one can say that the Post Office officials have hidden their light under a bushel, or is it two bushels.

As things stand at present, I think it is safe to say that the history of this variety is one of the most obscure in the Republican issues, and we must look forward to more details being supplied by collectors, before we can definitely explain all the factors.

Addendum

Since writing the above article, I have made a further examination of my cancelled specimens from Natal and have found the following:

1. At the end of a strip of these stamps, with the incorrect watermark and cancelled at Newcastle on the 18th August 1970, the flaw peculiar to Stamp 1/20 on the "B" pane is present; i.e. a white mark above IE of REPUBLIEK.
2. Stamps, with the incorrect watermark, cancelled at Dundee on the 6th August 1970, can be positioned, according to an obvious flaw, on panes "A" or "C". By the absence or presence of certain fly specks, these stamps can be allocated to the "A" pane at 3/17, 3/18 and 3/19.

Thus without the aid of cylinder blocks it can be stated that the "A" and "B" panes were issued in Natal at least.

ANNEXURE B

**RECORD OF THE SHEET NUMBERS
of
THE 'A', 'B', 'C' AND 'D' PANES
of
R.S.A. FIRST DEFINITIVE 2½c - PRINTED FROM CYLINDERS 17 - 8
WITH WATERMARK FACING LEFT**

PANE A	PANE B	PANE C	PANE D
758 287	760 577	647 854	648 147
758 315	760 578	648 058 (RBC)	648 156
		648 064	649 623
		648 065	649 624 (full sheet)
		648 066	649 849
		648 068	649 856
		648 084	649 970
		648 090	649 985
		648 101	649 986
		648 357	650 079 (RBC)
		648 665	758 064
		648 669	758 068
		648 676 (RBC)	758 152
			758 165
			758 166
			758 171
			758 174
			758 175
			758 180
			758 235
			758 304

N.B. R.B. Cronwright found a batch of about 30 sheets of 'C' panes, between 648 676 - 648 058, running non-consecutively. All the above numbers are within this range, except for the lowest one: 647 854, which is now the lowest found sheet number with the incorrect watermark. Therefore the range of the sheet numbers, with the watermark facing left, now becomes 650 079 - 647 854, which is 204 below that recorded by R.B. Cronwright.

'(RBC)' denotes sheet numbers recorded by Cronwright which did not show up in this study.

**COMPARISON OF SHEET NUMBERS WITH WMK. FACING LEFT
AND TETE-BECHE WMK. IN THE LOWER RANGE,
BETWEEN 647 854 - 650 079**

WMK. LEFT	WMK. T / B	WMK. LEFT	WMK. T / B
647 854			649 356 *
648 058		649 623	
648 064		649 624	
648 065			649 658
648 066			649 708
648 068			649 709
648 090			649 720
648 101			649 721
648 147			649 811
648 156		649 847	
648 357		649 856	
648 665		649 970	
648 669			649 972
648 676		649 985	
	649 348	649 986	
	649 356 *		650 061
		650 079	

* Carried/brought forward

ANNEXURE C/1

REPUBLIC OF SOUTH AFRICA - FIRST DEFINITIVE SERIES

JULY 1970: 2½c FROM CYLINDERS 17 AND 8
ON PHOSPHOR TAGGED 3mm HARRISON PAPER

WATERMARK FACING LEFT

The first few sheets of this print were on the old Harrison paper with the RSA watermark facing left. Subsequent sheets were on the new Harrison RSA tête-bêche, facing left and right, watermarked paper. All the watermarks of this issue show distinctly.

MARGINAL BARS: Reddish-violet, single line, broken bars with extended central gaps are on the left and right margins of all four panes. The central gaps on the right side of all panes measure 7mm. On the left side of Panes 'A', 'C' and 'D' they measure 10mm, but on the left side of the 'B' Pane it measures 8mm.

A reddish-violet 'Ghost' background appears only on the 'A' Pane.

A large pale mauve dot is present on 'A' and 'C' Panes in the left marginal bar between the second and third lower segments.

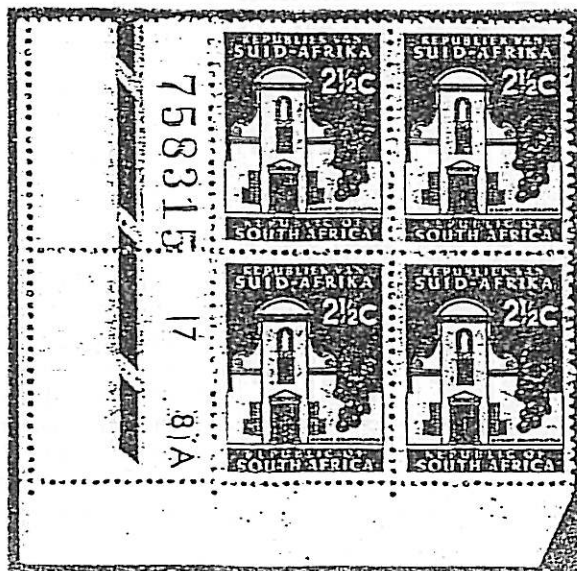
ARROWS:

Pre-manufactured, reddish violet arrows are present in the centre of the top and bottom margins of all panes. Those on the top margin of Pane 'D' and the bottom margin of Pane 'C' are about 1mm narrower than the others.

WATERMARK FACING LEFT

'A' PANE

Sheet numbers:-758 287 and 758 315 are the only two recorded 'A' Panes.



WATERMARK FACING LEFT

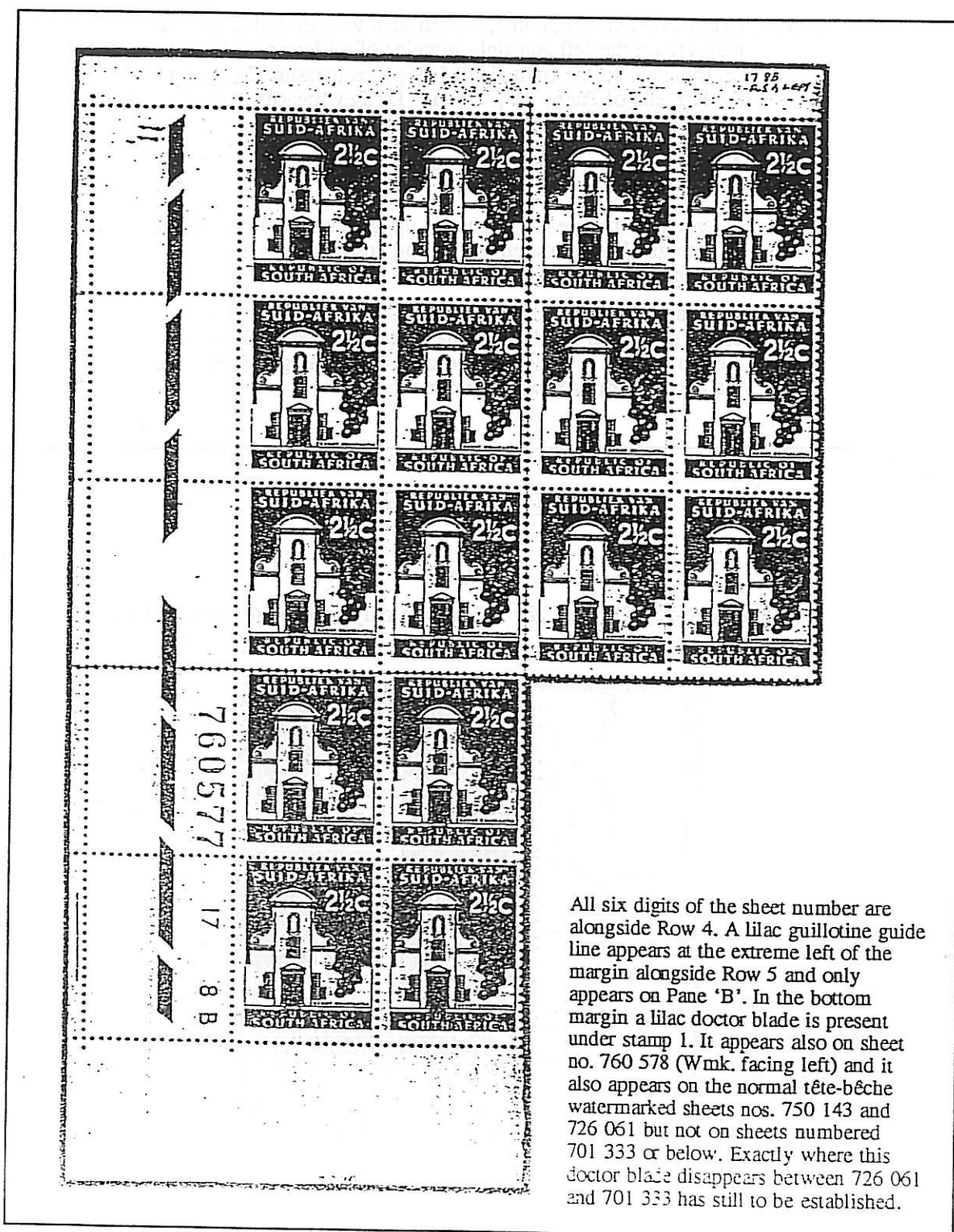
'B' PANE

Sheet numbers:- 760 577 and 760 578 are the only two recorded 'B' Panes.

(Three Blocks)

Three blocks are from sheet number 760 577. The horizontal perfs are misplaced down and the vertical ones are misplaced left.

1. Block of six from top left corner of sheet with the 8mm bar gap.
2. Block of six of Row 1/3 and stamps 3/4 adjoining right side of 1. above.
3. Control Block which adjoins at bottom of 1. above.

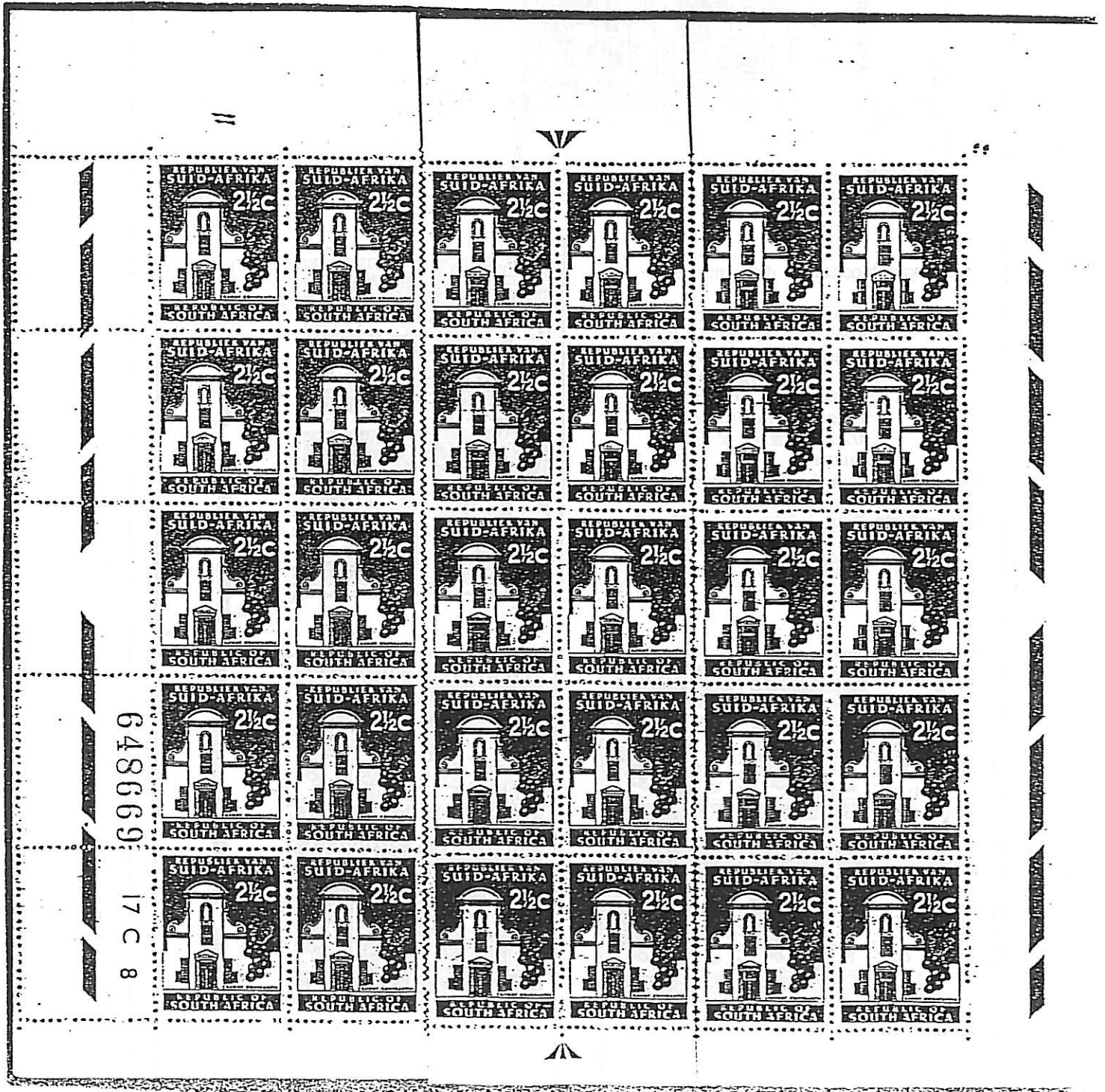


All six digits of the sheet number are alongside Row 4. A lilac guillotine guide line appears at the extreme left of the margin alongside Row 5 and only appears on Pane 'B'. In the bottom margin a lilac doctor blade is present under stamp 1. It appears also on sheet no. 760 578 (Wmk. facing left) and it also appears on the normal tête-bêche watermarked sheets nos. 750 143 and 726 061 but not on sheets numbered 701 333 or below. Exactly where this doctor blade disappears between 726 061 and 701 333 has still to be established.

WATERMARK FACING LEFT

'C' PANE

A reconstructed miniature sheet No. 648 669, with the two opposite marginal double vertical rows and the central arrow double vertical rows. The pre-manufactured, reddish arrows are centrally placed in the top and bottom margins, with the bottom one being about 1mm narrower than the top one. The central gap of the left marginal bar is 10mm and the one on the right margin is 7mm. The large pale mauve dot is present between the second and third lower segments of the left marginal bar.





WATERMARK FACING LEFT

'C' PANE

Sheet number: 648 357

WATERMARK FACING LEFT

'D' PANE

Three corner blocks from different sheets.

Top Right: Top right corner block from sheet. The 'A' and 'C' Pane variety on stamp Row 2/19: Dot to left of right window, is not present, nor is the 'B' Pane variety on stamp Row 1/20: Dot at top of right shutter.

Bottom Left: Cylinder block with sheet number 649 623.

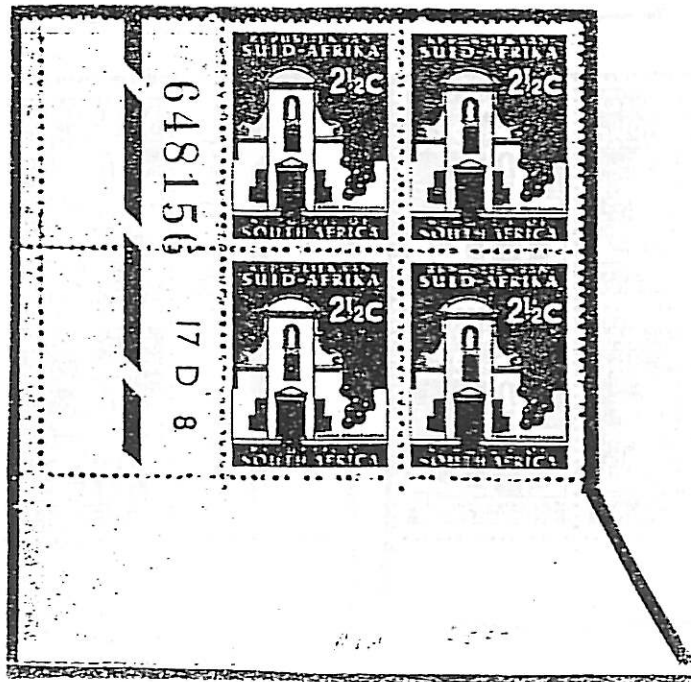
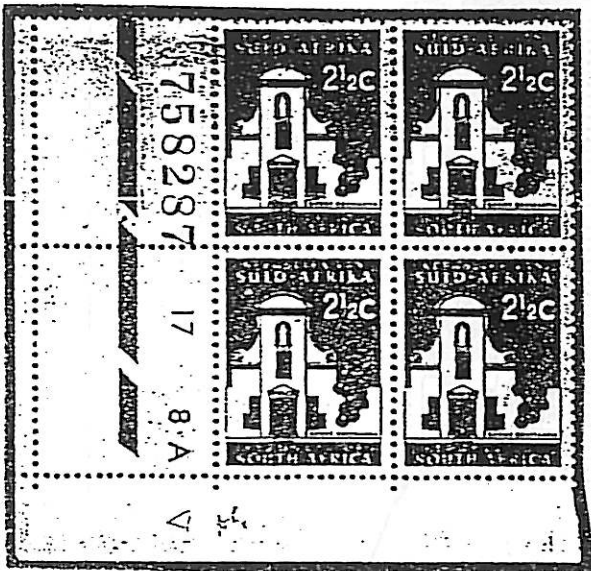
Bottom Right: Bottom right corner. 'B' and 'D' Panes have wide bottom margins.



COLLECTION 1. (with three Panes)
REPUBLIC OF SOUTH AFRICA – FIRST DEFINITIVE SERIES
JULY 1970: 2½c FROM CYLINDERS 17 AND 8
ON PHOSPHOR TAGGED 3mm HARRISON PAPER

WATERMARK FACING LEFT

'A' PANE: Sheet No. 758 287
'C' PANE: Sheet No. 648 065
'D' PANE: Sheet No. 648 156



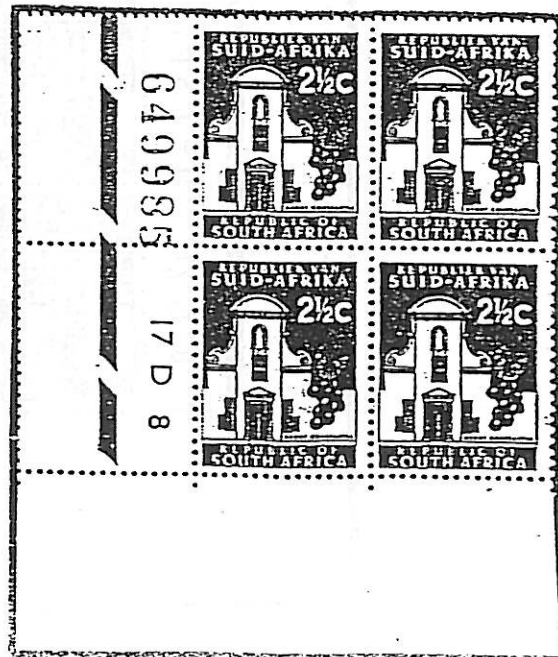
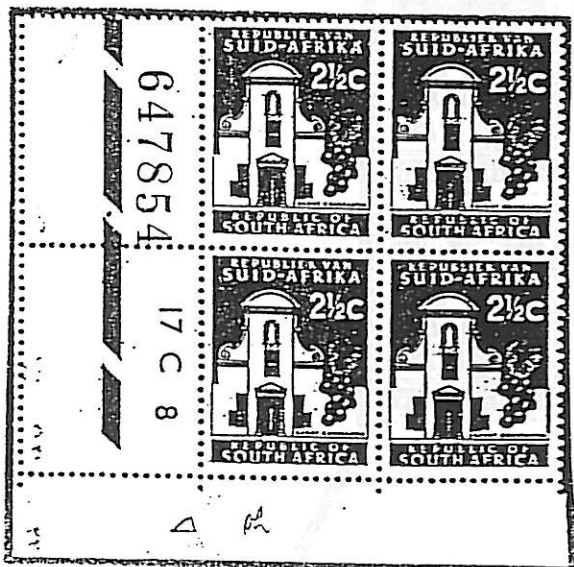
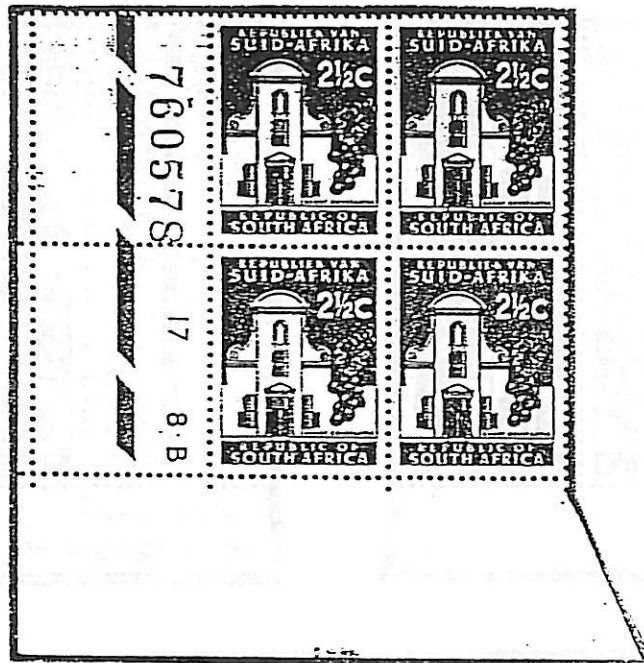
COLLECTION 2. (with three Panes)

REPUBLIC OF SOUTH AFRICA - FIRST DEFINITIVE SERIES

JULY 1970: 2½c FROM CYLINDERS 17 AND 8
ON PHOSPHOR TAGGED 3mm HARRISON PAPER

WATERMARK FACING LEFT

- 'B' PANE: Sheet No. 760 578 - Doctor blade in bottom margin under stamp 1.
- 'C' PANE: Sheet No. 647 854
- 'D' PANE: Sheet No. 649 985



LONDON MEETING - JUNE 1992

A few last minute snags were ironed out concerning the modern dispatch of *The Springbok*.

Before I start to write about the normal meeting, which was devoted to Union & Republic Postal Stationery - other than Postcards, it should be mentioned that there is no modern catalogue to cover these items, not even in *The Stamps of the Union of South Africa, 1910-1961*. Perhaps we may - in the very distant future - have such a catalogue. To overcome this small difficulty, Tony and myself took with us the 1979 2nd Revised Edition of the *Stamps of South Africa* which does contain a listing of postal stationery.

Over a number of years I have added notes, etc., to the listings, and these are:-

PC1 5-5-13; PC3 22-9-13 to 10-1-21; PC4 5-6-15; PC5a 1-1-26; PC5b 1-9-20 to 13-12-25;
PC6 Sept 1920; PC8 1-1-26

PL3 6-6-30, + 1d stamp 1-4-31; PL4 2-3-32 to May 34; PL5 5-4-34

PE7 15-2-39; PE8 10-12-38

PR1 11-11-13; PR2 7-3-14; PR3 1-11-17; PR4 1-5-24; PR5 1-6-23; PR6 3-5-24; PR8 5-11-20;
PR9 2-11-20; PR10 0-11-20; PR11 22-2-22; PR12 21-1-22; PR13 1-1-21; PR14 Jan 27;
PR15 19-11-26; PR16 12-6-34; PR18 23-6-34

PN1 20-9-14; PN3 10-2-14; PN4 18-8-28; PN5 15-11-27; PN8 Aug 32; PN9 July 32

I do seriously suggest that you may safely adhere to the above amended dates, as I made the alteration as and when the information came to my notice.

The 'P' in the above listing represents 'Postal'; the 'C' card; 'L' letter; 'E' envelope; 'R' registered; 'N' news wrapper.

Tony Chilton: PL - All the seven cards were shown, mainly in prime mint condition, plus one with only the Coat of Arms (stampless). I have yet to see a used one of PL1, returned from abroad with the South African stamp cancelled in the country of posting; the instruction upon the card, part, reads, 'if used in transmission abroad the additional postage required should be supplied by means of adhesive stamps'.

PE - All were shown; if you have the 1979 revised catalogue, the illustration listed as 'TYPE No E1' should be corrected to '2'.

PN - Not all were shown, those seen are: 1-2 & 5 plus an unusual double print, the wrapper had the stamp doubled and also inverted, that is to say at the other end of the sheet wrapper, one being offset. Also No. 3 the vignette plus the bad registration of the frame.

PR - Starting at No. 1, then 8-11-14-16, as only a small section of these were shown. No. 5 was a 'SPECIMEN' overprint; a sample of the printing for the die, in light blue dated 12-4-34. The 'lion' 6d, its counterpart of 5c, plus some 5c/6d.

David: Some official P.O. War covers, a parcel wrapper with 5/- stamps, etc., to send a food parcel to the UK; Union official covers; SAAF from Cape APO 6, also from Egypt; Cape Corps; some postal wrappers, all used; explanations of the various wordings; letter card used 1d Ship orange/grey; a cover - official with 1½d thereon plus 1d.

Self: Extracts from eight albums, specialised, showing: the De La Rue, Appletons; Dickinson/Dickenson; Spicers; D.R.G.; some without printer's name thereon; Knox; Marvo, and Silverary; errors in the printings; stamp boxes upside down; many words missing; printed on the wrong side of the paper; the various colours of paper used, some were linen lined others not so; some doubt has been placed upon the TENSION printed covers, one was shown with its wrapper used from a packet of them.

I was very pleased to see PL4, the letter card with the 2d red, and not the usual type of 2d, one that could quite easily be missed when going through boxes of dealers' covers,
RDA

INTEREST & REVENUES

About every four months, I examine my run of *The Springbok* 1984 to the present. From this little exercise, I often renew what was a flagging interest in Union philately.

Approximately 80% of all ½d and 1d Union stamps were additionally inscribed revenue, an even larger percentage when excluding the semi-postal stamps. Are there any SACS members who have sought these commemoratives and definitives fiscally used? Have they opinions on such usage of any stamps in question? Needless to say, I would love to add some of these to my collection.

Prior to the death of our late President Eric Sherwood, some comments appeared in *The Springbok* about preparation for a new edition of the 1980 catalogue of S.A. revenues. Whatever became of this rather worthwhile project? One weakness of Dodd and Sherwood was their omission of provincial and Union overprinted stamps for use in the High Commission territories. Was this matter being dealt with? Does anyone know the number printed of Dodd (1958) 1967 and Sherwood's 1980 catalogues? Did Dodd (1958) appear in two editions, one with actual revenue stamps for illustrations and another without? What were their prices?

Indian Q.V. and Edward VII high (rupee) values are discounted by two thirds when their cancellations are telegraphic. How about Union high values and the pictorials? I have a large telegraphic cancel (lavender) on a 1/- block of four on piece. It is a rare town cancel and I bought it for that but I am interested in what these stamps would fetch with relatively undistinguished telegraphic cancels. I don't recall an article on this subject in *The Springbok* and I hope to get Reynolds' article ex-S.A. *Philatelist*.

Jim Ryan
4419 - 17 Ave. N.W.,
Calgary, AB,
Canada T3B 0N7

REGIONAL MEETING

Member Jim Smart, a man of senior years, has been persuasive in arranging a meeting at the Cumbrian Hotel, Court Square, Carlisle, from 10 a.m. to 4 p.m. on Saturday 19 September 1992. There is a car park at the hotel which is centrally situated. Lunch break from 12(ish!) to 2 p.m. prompt is available, but please let Jim Smart know if you wish for lunch (your expense - the Society has stood the room rent). Times are based on train arrival/departure.

To augment the gathering, although we do have some 50 members north of a line across England from Chester to the East coast, our 'cousin' societies will be invited since their members are also far from the more usual places of meeting. Your Honorary Editor will represent the Committee members in the south.

Your queries, examples, displays and happy smiling presence are what we seek and do please let Jim Smart at

8 Wesley Court,
Church Road,
Harrington,
Cumbria CA14 5QA

have a line to say you *are* coming, and if you want lunch. Even half a day will be worth it and Carlisle has enough other attractions if your family can be persuaded to the trip out.

DWP



NORTH OF THE BORDER NEWS

SCOTTISH CONGRESS has come and gone once again. It was a good day with a sixty frame display by the Lanarkshire Philatelic Society. 59 members displayed covering a wide range of subjects. Unfortunately none on South Africa. One of the host society members won the Ferris Trophy for a display on Central Africa and the Cowell Salver for First Time Exhibition. The Perth Society had an excellent display with ten entries and eight prizes including one of Cape of Good Hope.

On the Sunday the Society had its usual table for Collectors Day. We appear to have had more people than in past years, as word gets around and more Societies are taking the chance to display their wares. We had S.A.C.S., the Alba Group, the Vikings, the Rhodesia Society, the Canada, Scout and Guide, Thematic, France and Colonies and the Falkirk Philatelic Society.

A short word about the Falkirk Philatelic Society. They are the type of society which works away steadily all the time. They help to erect and dismantle the frames at Congress each year, and all host societies appreciate them. If asked, they travel to give displays as a team or individuals. They have a membership of approximately 45 with an average attendance of 32 per meeting. They run a yearly auction and work with the local council. They get notices about their activities in all philatelic magazines.

This year on Collectors Day we had a sixteen frame display by the Royal Philatelic Society London, which was much appreciated.

Scotex will be held in the Clyde Hall, Glasgow, 31 October – 1 November 1992. Anyone requiring free tickets please contact Jim Grassom, 15 Glen Dye, East Kilbride G74 3SS – tel. 03552 32251.

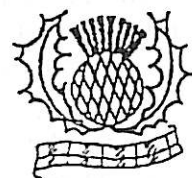
Congress next year is on the 20 March 1993 and Collectors Day on 21 March. The host society is the Scottish Philatelic Society.

B.P.F. will be held in Edinburgh on the 16-18 September 1993.

Congress 1994 will be on 19 March – host society Falkirk.

Jim Grassom

(Grateful for Jim Grassom's report and congratulations to Falkirk. Any more group or society action for the encouragement of collectors? - Ed.)



PUTTING THE SPRINGBOK TO BED

1990s-STYLE

THERE HAVE BEEN TWO PREVIOUS ARTICLES under this title, one by our President during his term as Hon. Editor and one by the present writer. Members may be interested in knowing how the technical processes of page makeup, formatting and printing are undertaken in this Year of Grace 1992...

To begin at the beginning. There would of course be no *Springbok* without a flow of material from you, the membership, and without the tireless efforts of our Editor, David Painter, in coaxing contributions from the unwilling by threats, flattery and any other measures which seem to him legitimate. Long may he continue to do so. For me the story begins when David has worked his usual magic and a bulky envelope containing the next issue's copy lands on my doormat. Everything that follows takes place over a 2-3 week period, since, as in all journalistic work there are deadlines to be met.

Most of the work is done on a personal computer – for the technically minded, on an Atari Mega ST4 with monochrome monitor and 60 megabyte hard disk, and with a Panasonic laser printer attached. The Atari is not the most advanced machine by today's standards, and sadly does not have 'IBM-compatibility', but I've used it for several years and wouldn't exchange it for any of the expensive wonders which fill the columns of the computing press.

Hardware is of course of no use without software, and the workhorse in this department is Fleet Street Publisher, a reasonably powerful desk-top-publishing package marketed by Mirrorsoft and consequently one more victim of the Maxwell collapse. There will be no more upgrades to FSP after the current Version 3.0, but fortunately this has all the facilities one needs: a text editor with spell checker, impressively versatile tools for page layout, and three basic fonts – Times Roman, Helvetica, Courier – in as many point sizes as one could want, not to mention *italic* and **boldface** type, SMALL CAPS, and a facility for mirror**ed** text which until now I have never needed. More important, FSP provides a precision in the area of page layout undreamed of by past editors and of crucial importance when the Hon. Editor and the Hon. Production Editor live in different counties. In practical terms, David can plan for a twenty-page issue of the magazine without having to calculate whether a particular article will fit exactly within a given number of pages. Provided the fit is approximate, FSP can be trusted to adjust the 'leading' – the amount of white space between lines, or if necessary a different point size can be used: 11pt or 12pt are easy on the eye, but 10pt is sometimes used where space is at a premium.

Apart from text, many graphic elements in *The Springbok* are computer generated. Large illustrations are generally photocopied, but devices like the thistle logo on p.77 are scanned and manipulated by software before being incorporated into the text. In practical terms the image can be 'cleaned up', extraneous dots or smudges removed and its size adjusted as necessary. The Springbok's head which adorns the contents page of each issue was produced in just this way, and started life as an illustration in a catalogue...

All this wizardry would of course be of no use without a means of printing the final result, and this the laser printer supplies. In hardware terms it's 'HP-compatible', which means that it can be used with any software designed to work with the popular Hewlett-Packard range of printers. While its resolution – 300 dots-per-inch – is not high by letterpress standards, it's good enough to fool the eye most of the time. Only someone trained to observe minutiae – a philatelist, perhaps? – will notice the characteristic 'stepped' appearance of curved letters which reveals its origin.

And broadly speaking that's it – disregarding the occasional blood, sweat and tears which are the lot of any computer user. I wonder what the Hon. Production Editor of 2002 will be writing on this same theme of 'Putting *The Springbok* to bed' ...

CR

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JOB NO	NUMBER PER SHEET	VALUE	NUMBERS OF SHEETS ORDERED	DATE OF FIRST DELIVERY	NUMBER OF SHEETS DELIVERED	DATE OF FINAL DELIVERY	TOTAL NUMBER OF SHEETS DELIVERED	PAPER	PLATE NUMBER	SAME DESIGN OR NEW	REMARKS
57632.62	3 (No. 2)	Postage Paid	200 000	92/03/16	180 000	92/01/23	206 000	Walter Opaque	2312, 2313, 2314 and 2315	New	Printed by Litho
56010.56	3	Postage Paid	4 600 000 - / 150 000	92/03/31	34 000		34 000	Walter Oyster Opaque	2297, 2298, 2299	New	Printed by Litho
AIR LETTER											
56694.33	100	5c	150 000	92/03/09	10 000	92/03/23	150 000	Walter marked Harrison Paper	2312, 2313, 2314 and 2315	New	Printed by Litho
56136.81	100	7c	100 000	92/01/22	10 000	92/02/12	98 500	Walter marked Harrison Paper	2297, 2298, 2299 and 2300	New	Printed by Litho
56007.53	100	R2	50 000	92/03/09	10 000	92/03/11	49 800	Walter marked Harrison Paper	2308, 2309, 2310 and 2311	New	Printed by Litho
56686.25	100	35c	4 000 000	92/03/27	80 000		140 000	Walter marked Harrison Paper	2324, 2325, 2326 and 2327	New	Printed by Litho
57689.18	100	Standardise	480 000	92/03/23	25 000		140 000	Walter marked Harrison Paper	2320, 2321, 2322 and 2323	New	Printed by Litho
54723.82	36	Postage Paid	2 000 000	91/12/30	68 000	92/03/05	2 070 000	Dukuzo Linen		New	Printed by Litho
56518.59	36	Postage Paid	2 000 000 - 2 011 750	92/03/25	31 750		350 750	Dukuzo Linen		New	Printed by Litho
49664.73	25	27c	700 000	91/10/29	28 000	92/01/09	700 000	Walter marked Harrison Paper	2271, 2272, 2273 and 2274	New	Printed by Litho
1961 - 1991 THE ANTARCTIC TREATY SPECIAL STAMPS											
54736.95	100	27c	2 000 000	91/09/16	10 000		1 890 000	Walter marked Harrison Paper	2279, 2280, 2281, 2282 and 2283	New	Printed by Litho
S.A. POST OFFICE LIMITED/TELKO S.A. LIMITED											
55787.35	25	27c	700 000	92/01/17	23 000	92/02/17	608 000	Walter marked Harrison Paper	2296, 2297, 2298 and 2299	New	Printed by Litho
55787.35	25	65c	52 000	92/01/15	23 000	92/01/20	52 000	Walter marked Harrison Paper	2300, 2301, 2302 and 2303	New	Printed by Litho
55787.35	25	85c	54 500	92/01/15	23 000	92/02/06	54 500	Walter marked Harrison Paper	2304, 2305, 2306 and 2307	New	Printed by Litho
RSA ENVIRONMENTAL CONSERVATION											
56009.55	16	65c	50 000	92/01/22	50 000	92/01/22	50 000	Walter marked Harrison Paper		New	Printed by Litho
RSA ENVIRONMENTAL CONSERVATION: MINIATURE											

CERTIFIED CORRECT
 REPRODUCTION STAMPS
 1000-10-8

MEMBERSHIP NOTES

New Members

- 945 Mrs L. Lester, London N21
946 C.T. Moore from Workington, Cumbria

Members Reinstated

- 782 M.P. Toft of Romford RM7 0XA
789 B. Buckle of Bournemouth BH1 3RS

Change of Address

- 788 B. Stokoe from Leicester to 16480 Chillac, France
877 D.E. Hyland to Welgemoed 7538, RSA

ELECTION OF OFFICERS

As the recent changes in post holders were made on an 'ad hoc' basis to maintain continuity and keep the Society running, it is felt advisable to remind members that Articles 4 and 5 of the Society Rules require that nominations should be sought, and where necessary postal ballots held, annually. It has been by word of mouth on occasions, but members are please asked to consider nominations under Article 4(b) to be made to the Hon. General Secretary by 1 September 1992. The present office holders are listed at the front of each issue.

PACKET NOTES

A reminder to members to let Bill Branney know the area/groups you collect to help him make up an interesting packet for these shorter circuits. This will help those making up booklets to similarly group the States; Union; Republic, etc. as far as is possible. Preferences for Air; Postmarks; FDCs or Special Event marks as well.

NEW ISSUES

FOREIGN AEROGRAMS

The third set of the series of numbered, illustrated foreign aerograms were issued by the South African Post Office Limited on 2 May 1992. These aerograms (Nos 7-9) highlight three special events.

- No. 7: Festal year of the German Settlers in South Africa
No. 8: INFACON 6 (International Ferro-alloys Conference)
No. 9: International Field Archery Championships

PICTURE POSTCARDS

On 2 May 1992 the SA Post Office Limited issued the fourth set of its series of numbered postcards. This set of postcards highlights four special events, namely:

- No. 13: National Sea Rescue Institute of South Africa: 25 years of service to the public
No. 14: Opening of the new Johannesburg Civic Theatre
No. 15: Centenary of the discovery of the *Saintpaulia* (African Violet)
No. 16: 100 years of cement production in South Africa

EDITORIAL (Continued from p. 63)

Richard Stroud at Burnham-on-Sea, and/or the use of a room at the Bristol Federation at Portishead, where the OFS and the Anglo-Boer War Societies meet. Shall comment on that in the next issue, hoping to amend this year's. DWP