

The Runner Post



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Editor's Comments

HONORARY LIFE MEMBERSHIP

At the Annual General Meeting in October, Roy Setterfield was awarded Honorary Life Membership in recognition of his outstanding contribution to the Society. It was Roy who was largely responsible for the formation of the Society, he followed up every whisper of interest in Bechuanalands philately around the world, writing volumes of correspondence in the process and guided the various 'lost souls' towards our first meeting of the then, still un-named Society. Roy published the first newsletters (or 'flimsies' as he calls them, now much sought after as collectors items), and for five years was Honorary Secretary (a thankless task as any Hon. Secretary will attest) and was joint Editor of Runner Post, often as a contributor.

I am sure all members will agree this is a much deserved token of our appreciation and 'thank you' for all he has done. Congratulations Roy!

NEW MEMBERS

We welcome two new members to the Society:

Mr Dion Futerman, P O Box 2986, Durban 4000, South Africa whose interests include Botswana/Bechuanalands, Lesotho/Basutoland and the thematic 'Hot Air Ballons';

Marcel Zollinger, 217 Crocus Avenue, Ottawa K1H 6E7, Canada, who collects the Bechuanalands used with circular datestamps, up to the 1937 Coronation issue. Marcel is also a member of the German Colonies Collectors Group.

DAVID EVANS

We were saddened to hear of the death of our member, David Evans who died on 5th November 1991 in Howick, Natal. David was also an Honorary Life Member, and former Treasurer, of the Botswana Philatelic Society and a specialist in the stamps of Jamaica.

NEWSFLASH FROM GABORONE:

The Botswana Postal Museum - which contains much of the Holmes collection - was finally opened on 29th November 1991 by H.E. The President of Botswana, Quett Masire. The Museum is open from 9 to 4 on weekdays.

MINUTES OF THE ANNUAL GENERAL MEETING OF THE SOCIETY
HELD AT THE UNION JACK CLUB, SANDELL STREET, LONDON S. E. 1,
ON SATURDAY 5th OCTOBER 1991, COMMENCING AT 2.00pm.

Members Present.

John Inglefield-Watson (Chairman), Philip Cattell, Alan Drysdall, Dennis Firth, Aubrey Glassborow, Mike George and Steven Wallace.

Apologies for Absence.

were received from Arnold Berman, Jim Catterall, Tony Chilton and Alan MacGregor, Roy Setterfield and Jeff Woolgar.

1. The Minutes.

The minutes of the Annual General Meeting held on 17th October 1990 were taken as read, and signed as a correct record.

2. Matters Arising from the Minutes.

Subscriptions for the current year commencing 1st July 1991 would be £10.00 for members in Great Britain, and the A.G.M. was asked to approve retrospectively rates for South Africa and Botswana for 1991-1992 which had been fixed and implemented by the Committee. Botswana would remain unchanged at the equivalent of £5.00 (satisfactory arrangements have now been made for printing their own copies of Runner Post), and the South African subscription would be increased to R24.00, with R10.00 per member being remitted to the United Kingdom. Proposed Philip Cattell, seconded Alan Drysdall and carried.

3. Chairman's Report.

John said that this was a half term report and he would try to be as brief as possible. We are trying to foster a one society concept, and now have Howard Cook and Andy Andersson on the Committee, representing South Africa and Botswana respectively. Experiments had been made with Saturday meetings, previously during Stampex and this time not at Stampex, and John was dismayed by the poor attendance at meetings held either Saturdays or midweek. The Auctioneer had been disappointed recently by the lack of submission of entries for future auctions, and many members are not supporting the Editor of Runner Post by submitting articles for publication or responding to articles in the journal. Thanks were expressed to members of the Committee for their support over the last twelve months. John appealed for people to come forward to help run the Society. In twelve months time the Treasurer will be standing down. THE SOCIETY CANNOT CONTINUE IF NEW PEOPLE DO NOT COME FORWARD AND OFFER THEIR SERVICES. THE SOCIETY DESERVES WHAT IT GETS - IF NO SUPPORT IS FORTHCOMING THERE WILL EVENTUALLY BE NO AUCTIONS, NO MEETINGS OR NO RUNNER POST. IF THE SOCIETY IS WORTHWHILE JOINING, THEN IT IS WORTHWHILE IT CONTINUING AND IT MUST BE WORTHWHILE SUPPORTING.

4. Secretary's Report.

Mike reported a year of steady progress for the Society, membership has held steady with a few resignations and non-renewals being offset by new members joining us. At 30 September 1991 the membership stood at 93, with 39 members in the United Kingdom, 30 in South Africa, 8 in Botswana, 8 in North America, 4 in Europe, and 4 in other parts of the world. We are particularly grateful to our representatives in RSA and Botswana (Howard Cook and Andy Andersson) for their continued efforts on behalf of the Society, especially in respect of printing and distributing Runner Post locally, as well as collecting subscriptions and finding new members. We continue to receive very favourable comments on the quality of Runner Post, and thanks are due to Alan for his editorial and publishing skills. As the mere 'printer' I have to tell you that it really is all down to him and to the contributors (although I continue to suspect that there are many more bud-

ding writers out there that have yet to put pen to paper - come on chaps and lasses). Mike apologised for a certain tardiness in replying to correspondence because of a hectic professional life. Alan Drysdall suggested entering Runner Post in National Exhibitions in South Africa, and contacting the PSGSA Group in America.

5. Treasurers Report.

Aubrey was happy to report an increase of 175% in our annual surplus, which was due to fortunate but unlooked-for factors. One of these is unlikely to recur in the subsequent year's accounts, and the other may only do so to a lesser degree. The first is auction commission where, if members do not submit plenty of worthwhile material to the Auctioneer, the next accounts will be £175.00 less in this respect. The second reason is the very economical production costs of Runner Post, which cannot be relied upon to continue indefinitely, indeed postal rates recently increased by 10%. With most items of expense tending to increase in excess of the inflation rate, we may in future years be very glad of the modestly healthy accumulated fund which has been built up to date. In the hope of this Aubrey recommended that subscriptions remain unchanged for the year commencing 1st July 1992. Finally of course, the Society must depend upon continuance of a buoyant (and hopefully growing) membership.

Alan Drysdall offered to send the Society a copy of the Transvaal Study Circle 100th edition of their journal, so we could get a list of advertisers, in connection with the proposed advertising in Runner Post. It was estimated that Runner Post would cost £200.00 per year to print if it had to be professionally printed.

The Auditor reported that the Accounts were immaculately kept. Members were reminded that subscriptions should be sufficient to cover the running costs of the Society. Other income such as interest and auction revenue should be reserved for special projects such as the proposed Postmark book.

It was proposed by John Inglefield-Watson, seconded by Dennis Firth and carried, that subscriptions for all areas remain unchanged for the period 1st July 1992 to 30th June 1993.

The Chairman expressed thanks to the Auditor, Philip Cattell, for auditing the accounts.

6. Amendment to Society Rules.

The Chairman proposed the following draft for a new Rule 14:-

Honorary Life Membership may be awarded to any member of the Society who is deemed to have made an outstanding contribution, over a long period, to the well-being of the Society. All nominations are to be submitted to the Hon. Secretary in writing, signed by a proposer and seconder, for consideration by the Committee. The Committee will be wholly responsible for establishing and maintaining appropriately high standards for the award and for deciding, by a majority of at least three-quarters of the Committee Members voting, upon the merits of the nomination. The Committee will submit each successful nomination for final approval at a General Meeting of the Society.

It was proposed by Dennis Firth, seconded by Philip Cattell and carried, that the new rule be accepted without alteration.

7. Proposal for the Award of Honorary Life Membership.

It was proposed by the Chairman, seconded by Aubrey Glassborow and carried unanimously that R.R. Setterfield be awarded Honorary Life Membership of the Society. The citation read out by Mike George stated that Roy had been largely responsible for the formation of the Society. He published newsletters and contacted potential members. For five years he had been Hon. Secretary, and joint Editor of Runner Post, which had received a bronze-silver award at Stampex. He had also contributed articles to Runner Post.

8. Future Meetings.

It was reported that the Royal Horticultural Halls (venue of Stampex) are being refurbished and the charges made to Stampex are being increased by 90%, and the upstairs rooms will only be available for use by Societies on Thursdays, Fridays and Saturdays at increased charges. As a result the provisional bookings for meetings in 1992 have been cancelled. It was agreed that our Spring 1992 meeting would be held on the Wednesday during Stampex, and the Hon. Secretary was requested to endeavour to book a room which would be accessible to Stampex. Regarding our Autumn 1992 meeting which would be the A.G.M., a vote was taken as to which day during Stampex members would prefer the meeting to take place. Four members preferred Wednesday and one Saturday. However, it was agreed that a questionnaire be sent out with Runner Post, asking members which day they would prefer for future meetings, and also their views regarding a proposed Society Weekend.

It was reported that Alan Drysdall had had articles on Stellaland accepted for publication in the London Philatelist.

The meeting concluded with a seminar on Bechuanaland and Botswana Postage Due stamps led by John Inglefield-Watson. Details will be included in a separate article.

'CAPE TOWN 1991' - A report by our South African Representative, Howard Cook.

What a wonderful experience the 'Cape Town 1991' South African National Stamp Exhibition, held on 9-12 October, proved to be. Not only were many BBS members on the organising Committee and the Jury but there were no less than seven Bechuanaland exhibits on show. It was a great privilege to view with admiration Jim Catterall's wonderful postal history exhibit for which he was awarded a Vermeil. Two other Vermeil awards went to Hamish Campbell for his exhibit of mainly postage stamps of the Bechuana territories until 1932 and also to Peter van der Molen for his very detailed study of QEII postal stationery of Basutoland, Bechuanaland and Swaziland. Three exhibits obtained silver awards. Brian Fenemore received one for his big exhibit of postal history and postmarks to 1950 whilst the Bechuanaland collection of Rita 'Tsas-Rolfes containing a number of scarce stamp varieties and fascinating postal history was also awarded a silver. The third silver was for the Victorian and Edwardian stamps and postal stationery exhibit by Howard Cook. Finally, Cedric Roché exhibited part of his magnificent specialised collection of Stellaland and the early Bechuanaland issues in the Court of Honour. All in all a feast of material on show.

The Exhibition was a great success in other ways too. Although there was no 'official' BBS meeting, it was excellent to see that seventeen (South African) members were at the Exhibition as well as Alan MacGregor and Tony Chilton from the UK [not so sure the former can still be called 'ex UK' - Ed!]. Three new members joined the Society (with another promised) and I am sure that I am justified in saying that the BBS is alive and well in South Africa.

CONTACT ADDRESS

Steve Wallace's address for any correspondence relating to his article on SG 40a (RP 24, p450) is: 39 Gore Crescent, Salford, Lancs M5 2LT.

CORRECTION

A minor misprint occurred in the last *Runner Post* (RP 24, p454) in the first line of the third paragraph: '1918' should, of course, read '1981'.

CORRESPONDENCE HELD OVER

Although scheduled for this issue, correspondence arising from John Inglefield-Watson's description of Rich's Mafeking due cover (RP 21, p384-5 & RP 22, p396), and further information on Stellaland by Dr Seligmann, will now appear in RP 26.

Members' Comments and Queries



Variety
enlarged



Rough
sketch

STOP AFTER 'P' ON KE 7 2½d AND KG5 1½d

In reponse to Brian Trotter's report on page 447 of RP 24, I begin with some information about the KE7 2½d 'stop after P' variety (SG 69a) gleaned in correspondence with the late H. R. Holmes, that supplements his descriptions in his book and in RP 4:

a. The irregular curved shape of the stop has certain distinctive features that make it comparatively easy to recognise once one has seen one or two known genuine examples under high-powered magnification. I can supply some further details privately to any member who has need of them but I feel that it is undesirable to publicize these features, even though Holmes considered that they make the stop "virtually impossible to forge". "Furthermore", stated Holmes, "if an attempt is made to add a stop to the 'P', the ink soaks into the paper and the impression of the addition shows on the reverse".

b. There was slight movement of the stop during printing. Different examples may therefore show variations in the positions and/or orientation of the stop.

Based on Brian's sketch and illustration, I feel confident in my opinion that the angular shape of the stop on his KG5 1½d (SG 75) bears no resemblance to the genuine stop on SG 69a. However, its shape is similar to another example that I have on a mint SG 75, as illustrated, though the orientation is different. If these two examples are identical then they may well represent a genuine variety, probably caused in the same way as on SG 69a, but the extent to which it was constant remains to be established. Two different Controls - O 19 and O 20 - are recorded for SG 75 but the number of printings is unknown, though this information may exist in the Crown Agents Archive at the British Library.

At this stage I would advise caution in reaching any conclusion. Once the existence of SG 69a became known there was a temptation for the unscrupulous to try to reproduce the variety on other stamps with the same overprint.

J.F.I-W.

STAMPLESS REGISTRATION ENVELOPE

With reference to the article in RP 21, p379 and RP 22, p395. Howard Cook has shown me a size H envelope in a similar style to the size G under discussion, which also is printed on linen-backed pale manilla coloured paper and which also lacks an imprint. Perhaps a size H2 may also exist?

Peter Van Der Molen

Items of Interest

COLOUR SHIFT ON 5c 1961 DECIMAL DEFINITIVE

While a generally high standard of printing by Harrisons of this issue seems to have precluded many errors of significance, an interesting shift in the black printing downwards by some 2.5mm has been noted on a 5c value, as illustrated - the error is quite striking in 'full colour'! Are any other errors known in this issue, apart from the 25c imperf and the error of yellowish colour on the 7½c with Republic overprint?

Peter Van Der Molen



BOTSWANA - NATIONAL CENSUS COMMEMORATIVES - PERFORATION VARIETIES

The S.G. Catalogue supplement published in the October issue of 'G.S.M.' describes the 3 Jun 91 National Census set as perf 14 (30t) or 14½ (others).

The descriptive leaflet enclosed in the Official First Day Cover states that the set is perf 14.

From my own new issue supply and other sources I have now obtained examples proving that all four values exist with both perfs 14 and 14½. J.F.I-W.

BOPHUTHATSWANA - MAJOR ERROR ON 5c 1977 DEFINITIVE

The 4c value of Bophuthatswana's 1st definitive set was originally intended to depict a crocodile, though for one reason or another the issued 4c depicted a leopard. The same crocodile design was issued as a 5c value, achieved by overprinting (surcharging?) the 4c crocodile with the new value '5c' at left and cancelling the old value by disguising it under some grass. As can be seen from the illustration, the old value can still be detected. Later printings had the old value completely removed.

A few of the original 4c crocodiles failed to receive the overprint, giving rise to an 'error of value', known in mint and (commercially) used condition and is listed in the South African Stamp Colour Catalogue (SACC) @ R1100 (mint, unpriced used) and must rank as a modern rarity.

This major error remains largely unknown outside South Africa, due mainly to the fact that 'Homeland' issues are not listed in major stamp catalogues, although availability for, and postal use of these issues is well recorded. Postally used, they are much scarcer than the usual CTO state and the SACC notes that "Prices for Homelands used are for CTO copies - commercially used are worth more".



4c Error of Value



5c with '4c' 'disguised'



'4c' removed

BISECT COVERS IN THE ROYAL PHILATELIC COLLECTION

We are very pleased to illustrate on the following page two bisect covers in the Royal Philatelic Collection - the Palapye and Kanye bisects. We have referred to bisect covers several times in the pages of *The Runner Post* and we are grateful for the opportunity to extend our listing by being able to record these two covers. The Kanye cover is exceptional and appears to be the only known example of the bisected 1/- (SG 37a).

Other bisect covers that have come to our attention recently include:

The Moseley collection in the British Library contains the fourth known 'Kanye' bisect cover: The cover is addressed to "Mr P.S. Fox / Kanye" and the adhesive is a B.B. 4d (SG 35a) bisected vertically (left half). Running vertically upward in the 'missing half' is the same signature as on the other three covers: "D... Solomon" and "Post master" (two words) in red. The cancellation date reads '05 / JU 19' all inverted relative to KANYE/BECHUANALAND (the three other covers show only the month and day inverted). Taking the '05' on the Moseley cover as 1905, this would place it 6 months later than the other recorded examples.

Two Palapye bisect items were on offer on the Christies Robson Lowe sale of 12/13 June 1991, the first (lot 198) was described as:

"1899 (13th Dec.) front (creases) addressed locally, bearing 1891 4d BISECTED DIAGONALLY, clearly tied by 'PALAPYE STATION/B.P. c.d.s. with the Postmaster's initials alongside. Rare."

The stamp is a hitherto unrecorded bisect (vertically, and not diagonally as described) of the B.P. 4d (SG 64) instead of the usual B.B. 4d (SG 35a). The cover was estimated £150 and fetched £1338.

The address appears to read "McLaren & Par(tners?) and to be in the same hand as the initials and 'Postmaster' which appear under the bisect. If self-addressed by the Postmaster, this may be an alternative to 'R McLean' or 'R MacLean' suggested as the name of the Postmaster by John Inglefield-Watson (RP 21, p378).

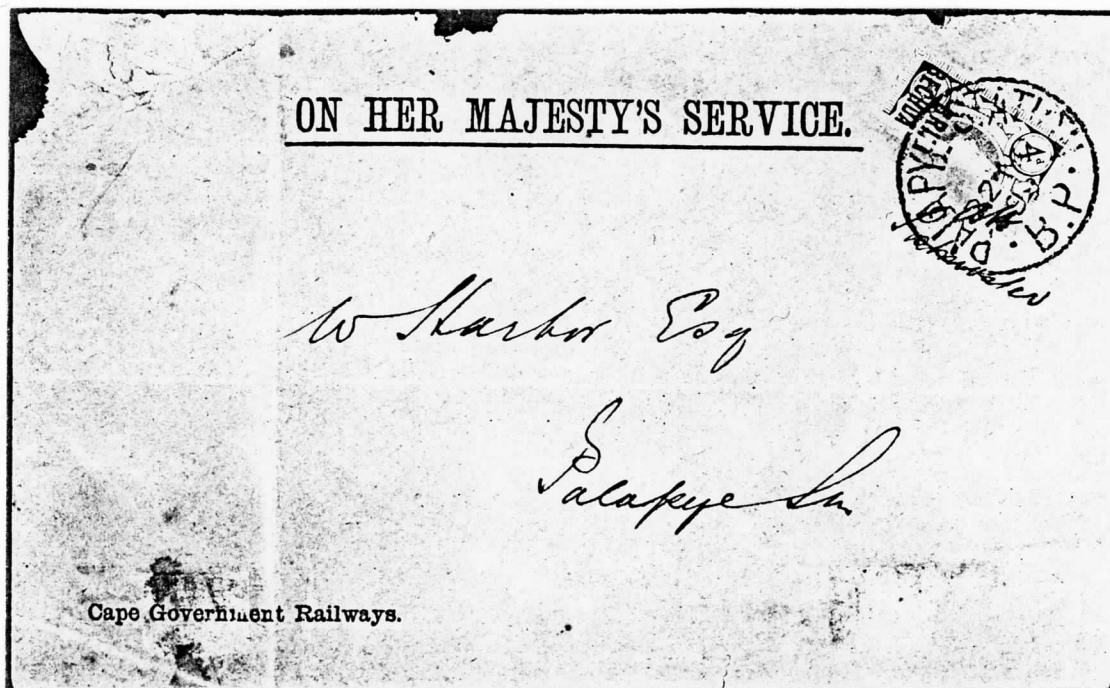
The second Palapye bisect on offer (lot 199) was described as:

"1899 (22 Nov.) OHMS [cover] with 'Cape Government Railways.' imprint at lower left, locally addressed, bearing 1891 4d. BISECTED VERTICALLY, legibly tied by 'PALAPYE STATION/B.P.' c.d.s. with the Postmaster's initials alongside; the [cover] with some faults/defects, nevertheless a presentable example of this rare provisional. RPS Certificate (1932)."

The cover is almost identical to the Palapye bisect cover illustrated from the Royal Philatelic Collection: the same stationery envelope, address and cancelled on the same date. It differs only in that the bisect is the right half of a vertically bisected B.B. 4d (SG 35a). (estimate £300, fetched £2230).

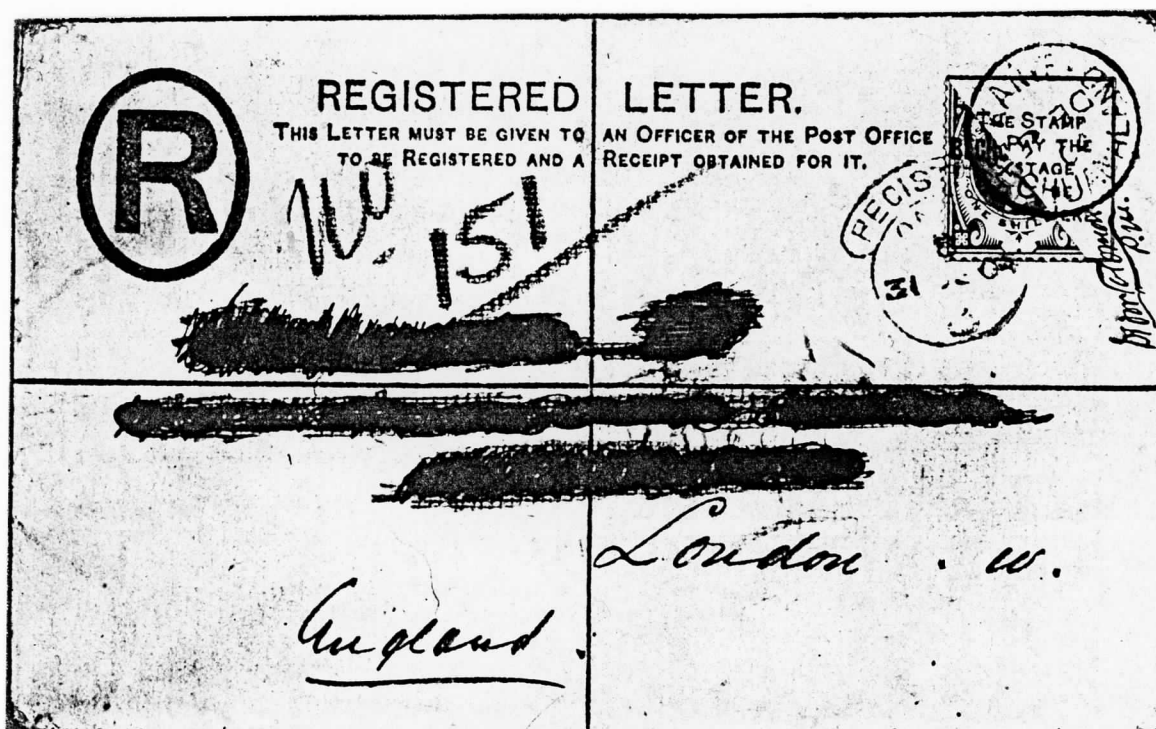
Previous references in *The Runner Post* to Palapye and Kanye bisects appear at:

- RP 11, p191: Palapye bisects.
- RP 12, p202: Palapye & Kanye bisects, with a schedule of all (then) known Palapye covers compiled by John Inglefield-Watson. Also an illustration of a Kanye cover courtesy of J.F.I-W.
- RP 21, p378: Palapye & Kanye bisects, including an illustration of a Kanye cover courtesy of John Taylor.



1899 (Nov 22). An 'O.H.M.S.' Cape Government Railways stationery envelope, locally addressed and bearing the left half of a vertically bisected B.B. 4d (SG 35a). Initials (AH?) and the word 'Postmaster' appear in manuscript below the adhesive which is cancelled with a PALAPYE STATION/22 NO/99/B.P datestamp.

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1904 (Dec 6). A size 'G' registered envelope addressed to London (name and most of address inked over) bearing a diagonally bisected B.B. 1/- (SG 37a). The adhesive is tied by a KANYE/DE 6/04 cds (the day and month are inverted). The signature "...(?) Solomon p.m." reads vertically upward to the right of the adhesive, which also received a London registered arrival cancellation (31 Dec).

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BECHUANALAND POSTAL FISCAL, SG F1

Alan Drysdall

Holmes (1) records that towards the end of 1906, the Transvaal Government was asked to supply 6d stamps overprinted for use in the Protectorate. The current 6d postage and revenue duty on chalk surfaced paper watermarked multiple Crown CA (SG 266a) was therefore overprinted 'Bechuanaland/Protectorate' (without stop) in "deep bronze-blue" by the Transvaal Government Printing Works in Pretoria.

Holmes further records that the number of impressions in the setting - 30 (6x5) - is proved by a constant variety at positions 1 and 31 (stamp 1, rows 1 and 6), which show the 'P' of 'Protectorate' slightly raised. The total number of stamps overprinted was 1,500. A copy further overprinted 'Specimen' was included in the set of Bechuanaland stamps presented to the Royal Empire Society in 1911.

Gibbons describe the overprinted stamp as follows:

"1910 (July). No. 266 of Transvaal, opt with Type F1.

F1 6d black and orange (B.)

£110 £180."

This is evidently incorrect as the basic 6d stamps watermarked multiple crown CA are described as follows:

| | | |
|---|------|------|
| "266 6d. black and orange (1905) | 1.40 | .25 |
| a. Chalk-surfaced paper. <i>Black and brown-orange,</i> | 1.25 | .25" |

A footnote reads: "There is considerable variation in the 'black' centres as in the previous issue". The footnote to that issue (watermarked Crown CA) reads: "The colour of the 'black' centres varies from brownish grey or grey to black".

Thus if the stamp overprinted for use in Bechuanaland is on chalk-surfaced paper, the basic stamp is SG 266a not 266, and the colour should, according to Gibbons' listing of Transvaal, be brownish grey, grey or black and brown-orange rather than orange.

There is, however, a wider range of variation in the colours of Transvaal 6d stamps than Gibbons' listing suggests. The stamps on ordinary paper watermarked multiple Crown CA show centres ranging from brownish grey through deepening shades of grey to black. The frames are typically yellow-orange, but some stamps are printed in a deeper shade of orange. Most 6d stamps printed on chalk-surfaced paper are brownish grey and orange, but a few show frames printed in paler shades. (Using either Gibbons' *Colour Guide* or their more recently introduced *Colour Key*, 'yellow-orange' and 'orange' rather than 'orange' and 'brown-orange' are the most appropriate descriptions.) Gibbons' listing is nevertheless correct in that the deeper frame colours are in general characteristic of the stamps printed on chalk-surfaced paper.

Examination of more than 20 mint and used copies of the overprinted stamp, including one or two multiples, confirms that they are printed on chalk-surfaced paper. The most effective non-destructive test is to hold the stamp so that light is reflected from the surface at a shallow angle. The surface of stamps printed on chalk-surfaced paper is noticeably more glossy, though this effect may appear to be patchy as this paper is vulnerable to 'rubbing' which decreases the reflectivity of the surface. Chalk-surfaced papers also feel smoother, and examination of a large number of Transvaal Edward VII stamps in the Criddle collection, shows that chalk surfaced paper typically does not show the watermark as clearly on the reverse, and may be slightly thicker than unsurfaced paper.

Overprinted stamps invariably show the portrait printed in brownish-grey, but the frames range from pale yellow-orange to orange. Some copies show both centre and frame in markedly pale shades, but these usually show evidence of 'rubbing', the most common cause of less intense, degraded impressions on surfaced paper. The

colour of the overprint is best described as blue-black rather than blue (or black).

Gibbons' listing shows that the first Transvaal stamps printed on chalk-surfaced paper - 2d, 3d and 4d duties - were delivered in 1906. There must also have been at least one delivery of the 6d duty on similar paper that year, as this stamp was available for overprinting late in 1906.

The overprinted stamps were despatched in January 1907 to the Resident Commissioner at Mafeking, who distributed them to Assistant Commissioners. They were never on sale at post offices but, because the word 'postage' is incorporated in the basic design, they were valid for postal use. Copies used postally at Francistown, Gaberones, Lobatsi, Mochudi and Palapye Station during a period of 12 months starting in mid-July 1910 have been reported. (The range of dates is 17.7.10 (Mochudi) - 24.7.11 (Gaberones).) Holmes' collection included two examples on covers registered at Mochudi in November 1910 and April 1911. The Royal Collection includes a cover registered at Francistown on 22nd October 1910. By the time the authorities decided to withdraw the issue, presumably in mid-1911, almost all the stamps had been sold.

The date of issue of the overprinted stamp in Bechuanaland is therefore 1907 rather than 1910. It was more than three years before some bright spark realised that, since postal use was not specifically prohibited, the post office had no choice but to recognise the stamp as a valid receipt for postage paid. (Transvaal dual-purpose postage and revenue stamps issued as revenue stamps in Swaziland were overprinted, 'Swaziland/Revenue/only', presumably in order to prevent similar misuse.) Whichever date Gibbons choose to use, an explanatory footnote would obviate any misunderstanding. The most essential amendment required is, however, the alteration of the designation of the overprinted stamp, which is 266a not 266.

Suggested amendment to the catalogue description of Bechuanaland F1

"1907 (January?). No. 266a of Transvaal, opt with Type F1 in blue-black
F1 6d. brownish grey and yellow-orange to orange f110 f180

This stamp was overprinted for fiscal use, but because the basic stamp was inscribed 'POSTAGE/REVENUE' the authorities condoned postal use, which extended from mid-1910 to mid-1911, when the stamp was withdrawn."

Reference

- 1 Holmes, H.R., 1971, *The postage stamps, postal stationery and postmarks of the Bechuanalands*: The Royal Philatelic Society, London, p.116

Acknowledgements

I am indebted to Steve Wallace, who raised the original query, and to Tony Chilton, Bill Hart, Lt.-Col. Sir John Inglefield-Watson, Alan MacGregor and John Michael, who provided material for study, and/or information concerning chalk-surfaced papers, etc.

David Aggersberg, The Editor of the Stanley Gibbons Part 1 (British Commonwealth) Catalogue has written to Alan Drysdall responding to the points raised above:

"...I have already agreed, for the next Part 1 catalogue, to amend the listing of No. F1 to make clear that it is overprinted on the chalk-surfaced paper printing of the Transvaal 6d., No. 266a. Listings of such chalk-surfaced paper printings were only added to the Part 1 catalogue for the last, 1992, edition and the implications for Bechuanaland No. F1 were, clearly, overlooked as the existing entry did not include a 'C' to denote that it was on chalky paper.

As this stamp appears in the Postal Fiscal section the date quoted refers to the postal rather than the revenue use although, for the new edition, I will provide a footnote giving further details as to its availability."

THE 'POOR RELATION' - POSTAL STATIONERY WITH NO IMPRINTED STAMP

by

John Inglefield-Watson

There is no doubt that postal stationery bearing no imprinted stamp is the poor relation of its class. It is not included in the Higgins & Gage catalogue, it is generally ignored both by those philatelic magazines that list new issues of stationery and by the few dealers that supply them and although it does appear in the periodic 'List of Stamps Available' issued by the Botswana Philatelic Bureau, no detail is given that would draw attention to a new type or printing.

The result is that little is known about this category of stationery, its printers and printings, release dates and other relevant details. Furthermore, mint examples seem to be virtually unobtainable, at least outside Botswana, and used examples of some issues are almost as scarce.

This article lists and illustrates all the stationery with no imprinted stamp that I have recorded. The list of registered envelopes includes answers to some of the queries raised by Peter van der Molen in 'Runner Post' No. 21. It does not repeat many of the details published in my article 'Postal Stationery News & Views - 4' in Runner Post No. 17 in respect of sub-types of one particular type of registered envelope.

The numbering in the lists is for cross-reference to the illustrations and does not relate to any other numbering system.

Many details are tentative or unknown. Can you improve or add to the lists?

REGISTERED ENVELOPES

BOTSWANA

1. There is little or no doubt that the two sizes of the Protectorate registered envelope with QE II 5c cerise imprinted stamp sufficed to meet demand until Independence. Indeed the McCorquodale printing of the size H envelope has so far only been recorded used after Independence. The following type of envelope is therefore listed as the 1st Botswana issue. It is similar in design to its predecessor but the imprinted stamp is replaced by a printed rectangle for adhesives and the instructions are in lower case instead of capital letters.

| | | | |
|------|------|--|----------------------|
| RE 1 | 1967 | No imprinted stamp. Very pale buff paper. Interior lined with fabric reinforcement. |) Sizes G) and H |
|------|------|--|----------------------|

Printer: No printer's imprint under flap but resembles
McCorquodale printing of Protectorate envelope.

ERD: Size G - 15 Dec 68, Size H - 3 Jan 69.

| | | | |
|-------|------|--|--------|
| RE 1a | 197? | No imprinted stamp. Whitish paper. Pale turquoise-blue internal lining with no fabric reinforcement. Thicker, coarser lettering. | Size G |
|-------|------|--|--------|

Printer: Unknown.

ERD: 2 Dec 76

2. The 2nd issue shows the characteristics of a South African design. It has a large flap with concave curved sides opening at the top. A small 'R' in circle (17mm diameter), a printed rectangle for adhesives and a horizontal blue line are printed on the flap. All instructions are on the reverse.

RE 2 1977? No imprinted stamp. Dull ultramarine lettering and lines on whitish or very pale cream paper. Small 'R' in circle. Top opening flap with concave curved sides.) Size 162
) x 116mm
)
)

Printer: Unknown.

ERD: 30 Mar 78.

3. Similar to the 2nd issue but with a smaller straight-sided flap and a large 'R' in an oval (29mm x 23mm). Horizontal blue line is below the flap.

RE 3 1979? No imprinted stamp. Very pale blue lettering and lines on whitish paper. Large 'R' in oval. Top opening flap with straight sides.) Size 162
) x 114mm
)

Printer: Unknown.

ERD: 2 Apr 79.

4. This issue reverts to a right-hand side opening flap with either straight or curved bottom. Large 'R' in oval as in the previous issue. Several different printings and printers result in a range of shades of the blue lettering and lines and of the whitish paper. There are distinct sub-types. These were described in 'Postal Stationery News & Views - 4' published in 'Runner Post' No. 17.

RE 4 1982? No imprinted stamp. Large 'R' in oval.) Size 162
Side opening flap:) x 114mm
(variable)
Sub type Ia: straight flap.

Printer: Unknown.

ERD: 20 Oct 84.

RE 4a Sub type IB: straight flap.

Printer: Unknown.

ERD: 9 May 87.

RE 4b Sub type IB: curved flap.

Printer: Twinlock SA.

ERD: 1 Apr 88.

RE 4c Sub type II: straight flap. Code 'D1' under flap at end of horizontal blue line, meaning not yet known.

Printer: Tension.

ERD: 29 Dec 88.

REGISTERED

This Letter must be given to an Officer
registered and a Receipt

LOKWALO LO LO

Lokwalo lo lo chwanetse go neelwa
letlamela a bo a ntshe

LETTER.

of the Post Office to be
obtained for it.

TLAMELWANG.

modiredi wa Poso go
seshupo sa lona.

Postage
Stamp.

Setempe
sa tuelo
ya Poso.

RE 1

Name and address of sender

Leina le aterese ya moromedi

MR Molelekwa Rampano

P.O. Box 45

Moshupa

TLHAGISO.

- 1 Lokwalo lo lo neelwe modiredi wa Poso yo o tla go nayang se supo sa gore o lo tsere.
- 2 Tuelo e motho a ka e bonang fa lokwalo lo lo latlhegile e laolwa ke melawana ya poso.

WARNING.

- 1 This letter must be handed in at a post office for registration and a receipt obtained therefor.
- 2 Compensation for the loss of a registered letter is subject to the conditions prescribed in the Postal regulations.

LOKWALO LO FA LOSA AMOGELWA LO BUSEDIWE KWA GO:
IF UNDELIVERED PLEASE RETURN TO:

MISS MAUREEN LETSHOLO
POST OFFICE BOX 644
GABORONE BOTSWANA
SOUTHERN AFRICA

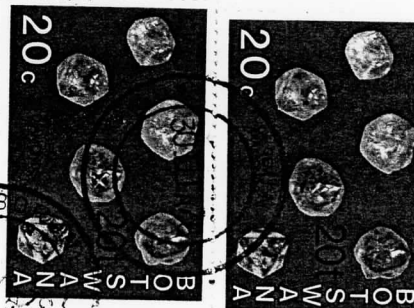
MOROMEDI - SENDER

SEGA FA

CUT OPEN HERE



R MAUN
No 1901



GOTO:
PRINCIPAL

TRANS-KECH STUCATIONAL TUTORIAL COLLEGE
P.O. Box 42, JERSEY
BRITAIN

RE 3

TLHAGISO:

1. Lokwalo lo lo neelwe modiredi wa Poso yo o tla go nayang se supo sa gore o lo tsere.
2. Tuelo e motho a ka e bonang fa lokwalo lo lo latllegile e laolwa ke melawana ya poso.
3. O se tsenye madi a a feteng P10 mo iokwalong lo.

WARNING:

1. This letter must be handed in at a post office for registration and a receipt obtained therefor.
2. Compensation for the loss of a registered letter is subject to the conditions prescribed in the Postal Regulations.
3. Not more than P10 is to be enclosed in this envelope.

LOKWALO LO FA LOSA AMOGELWA LO BUSEDIWE KWA GO:
IF UNDELIVERED PLEASE RETURN TO:

BLACKIE NZUALICWA
PO. BOX 195
FRANCISTOWN
BOTSWANA
SOUTHERN AFRICA

(MOROMEDI

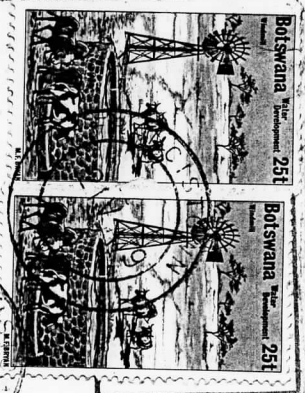
SENDER)

SEGA FA

CUT OPEN HERE

GO/TO:
TRANS LIBERATION
PO. BOX 195
402
JEKSEY
BEITAIN

CELLSCE



RE 4

TLHAGISO:

1. Lokwalo lo lo neelwe modiredi wa Poso yo o tla go nayang se supo sa gore o lo tsere.
2. Tuelo e motho a ka e bonang fa lokwalo lo lo lathegile e laolwa ke melawana ya poso.
3. O se tsenye madi a a fetang P10 mo lokwalong lo.

WARNING:

1. This letter must be handed in at a post office for registration and a receipt obtained therefor.
2. Compensation for the loss of a registered letter is subject to the conditions prescribed in the Postal Regulations.
3. Not more than P10 is to be enclosed in this envelope.

LOKWALO LO FA LOSA AMOGELWA LO BUSEDIWE KWA GO:
IF UNDELIVERED PLEASE RETURN TO:

Thimalele Seco
P.O. Box 171
LOBATSE
BOTSWANA

(MOROMEDI-SENDER)

SEGA FA

CUT OPEN HERE

SEGA FA



GO:/TO:

CUT OPEN HERE

Ditsempe
di
manegwa
fa.
Stamps to pay
postage and
registration must be
placed here.

TLHAGISO:

1. Lokwalo lo lo neelwe modiredi wa Poso yo o tla go nayang se supo sa gore o lo tsere.
2. Tuelo e motho a ka e bonang fa lokwalo lo lo lathegile e laolwa ke melawana ya poso.
3. O se tsenye madi a a fetang P10 mo lokwalong lo.

WARNING:

1. This letter must be handed in at a post office for registration and a receipt obtained therefor.
2. Compensation for the loss of a registered letter is subject to the conditions prescribed in the Postal Regulations.
3. Not more than P10 is to be enclosed in this envelope.

LOKWALO LO FA LOSA AMOGELWA LO BUSEDIWE KWA GO:
IF UNDELIVERED PLEASE RETURN TO:

Mrs DORA MOREMI
P.O. Box 40209
GABORONE
Botswana

(MOROMEDI - SENDER)

SEGA FA

CUT OPEN HERE

SEGA FA



GO/TO:

CUT OPEN HERE

Ditempe
di
manegwe
fa.
Stamps to pay
postage and
registration
must be
placed here.

1ST QE II DEFINITIVE ISSUE - PRINTINGS AND RELEASE DATES

by

John Inglefield-Watson

Holmes records quantities and despatch dates for each of the printings of the Protectorate's first QE II definitive issue (SG 143-53) but does not give release dates. The latter have been extracted from contemporary philatelic magazines and are listed below, together with the comments that accompanied them.

| <u>Value</u> | <u>Printing</u> | <u>Despatch Date</u> | <u>Release Date</u> | <u>Comment</u> |
|--------------|-----------------|----------------------|---------------------|---|
| <u>½d</u> | 1 | 2 Apr 54 | 3 Jan 55 | |
| | 2 | Not stated | 14 Aug 57 | Slightly deeper green. Plate No.1 as before. |
| <u>1d</u> | 1 | 2 Apr 54 | 3 Jan 55 | |
| | 2 | 8 Nov 55 & 22 Mar 56 | 26 Apr 56 | Brighter rose-red. Plate No.1 as before. |
| | 3 | 11 & 20 Dec 56 | 16 Jan 57 | Brighter rose-carmine. Plate No.1. |
| | 4 | 20 Oct 58 | 27 Nov 58 | |
| <u>2d</u> | 1 | 2 Apr & 12 May 54 | 3 Jan 55 | |
| | 2 | 8 Nov 55 & 22 Mar 56 | 26 Apr 56 | Warmer red-brown. New Plate No.2. |
| | 3 | 20 Oct 58 | 27 Nov 58 | A little redder, red-brown. |
| <u>3d</u> | 1 | 2 Apr 54 | 3 Jan 55 | |
| | 2 | 5 Jun 56 | Not known | |
| | 3 | 24 Sep & 29 Oct 56 | 16 Jan 57 | Deeper ultramarine (Holmes 'bright ultramarine'). Plate No.1 as before. |
| <u>4d</u> | 1 | 7 Aug 58 | 1 Dec 58 | |
| <u>4½d</u> | 1 | 2 Apr 54 | 3 Jan 55 | |
| <u>6d</u> | 1 | 12 May 54 | 3 Jan 55 | |
| | 2 | 26 Aug 57 | 26 Nov 57 | Slightly paler purple Plate No.1 as before. |
| <u>1/-</u> | 1 | 2 Apr 54 | 3 Jan 55 | |
| | 2 | 26 Aug 57 | 26 Nov 57 | More olive in vignette. Plate No.1-1 as before. |
| <u>1/3</u> | 1 | 2 Apr 54 | 3 Jan 55 | |
| <u>2/6</u> | 1 | 12 May 54 | 3 Jan 55 | |
| | 2 | 26 Sep 57 | 26 Nov 57 | Plate No.1-1 as before. |
| <u>5/-</u> | 1 | 2 Apr 54 | 3 Jan 55 | |
| | 2 | 20 Oct 58 | 27 Nov 58 | Brighter violet-blue vignette. |
| <u>10/-</u> | 1 | 12 May 54 | 3 Jan 55 | |
| | 2 | 21 Apr 61 | None | All used for decimal surcharge. |

Note: Holmes's list of printings, as above, does not include a 2nd printing of 67,020 stamps of the 1/3 value despatched on 18 Apr 61 for decimal surcharging. These were on thinner paper and were perforated through the right hand margin instead of the left hand margin.

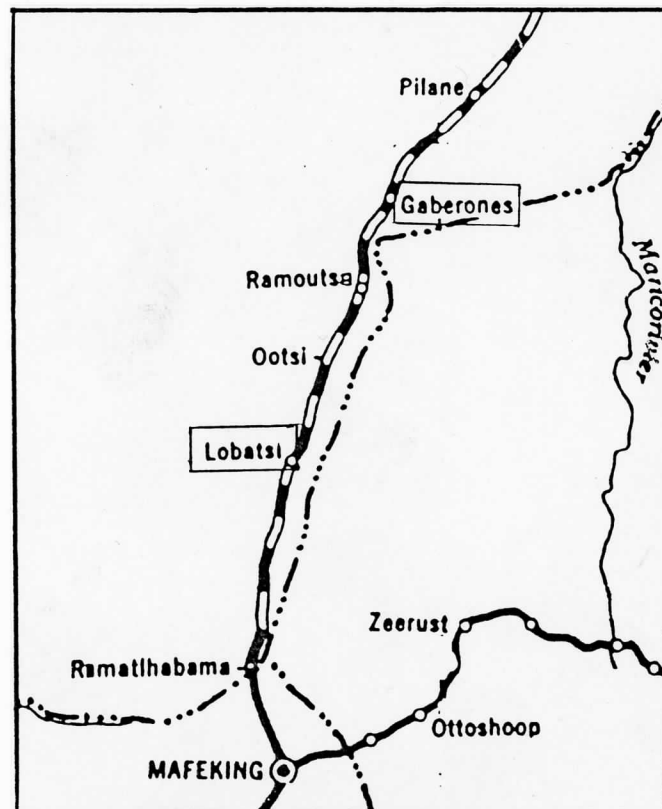
LOBATSI AND ITS POSTMARKS (PART 1)

Brian Trotter

The original settlement is believed to have been established some time in the 18th century, but it was not until the Mafeking-Bulawayo railway line reached Lobatsi in 1897 that it began to play a role in the postal system of the Bechuanaland Protectorate.

Lobatsi is situated only 76 km north of Mafeking in a pleasant hilly setting. Sir Charles Rey, Resident Commissioner of the Bechuanaland Protectorate from 1929 to 1937, described Lobatsi on his first visit in 1929 as "a very jolly spot - hilly, wooded and green - an immense improvement on Mafeking" (where he was located). He went on to record "it is to be our new capital one day." On the same visit Rey also refers to inspecting the site of the new town, and the new hospital then under construction which was to have 25 beds. The offices, camp and official dwellings he found "in a disgraceful state of repair and quite inadequate. Water supply lacking", he also noted.

Lobatsi never became the capital of the Protectorate, which continued to be situated at Mafeking, within the borders of South Africa. Apart from the expense of establishing a new capital, and the lack of an adequate water supply, there were fears that South Africa, which expected eventually to incorporate the Protectorate, would object to such a move. So Lobatsi continued as some kind of unofficial chief town within the Protectorate until Independence.

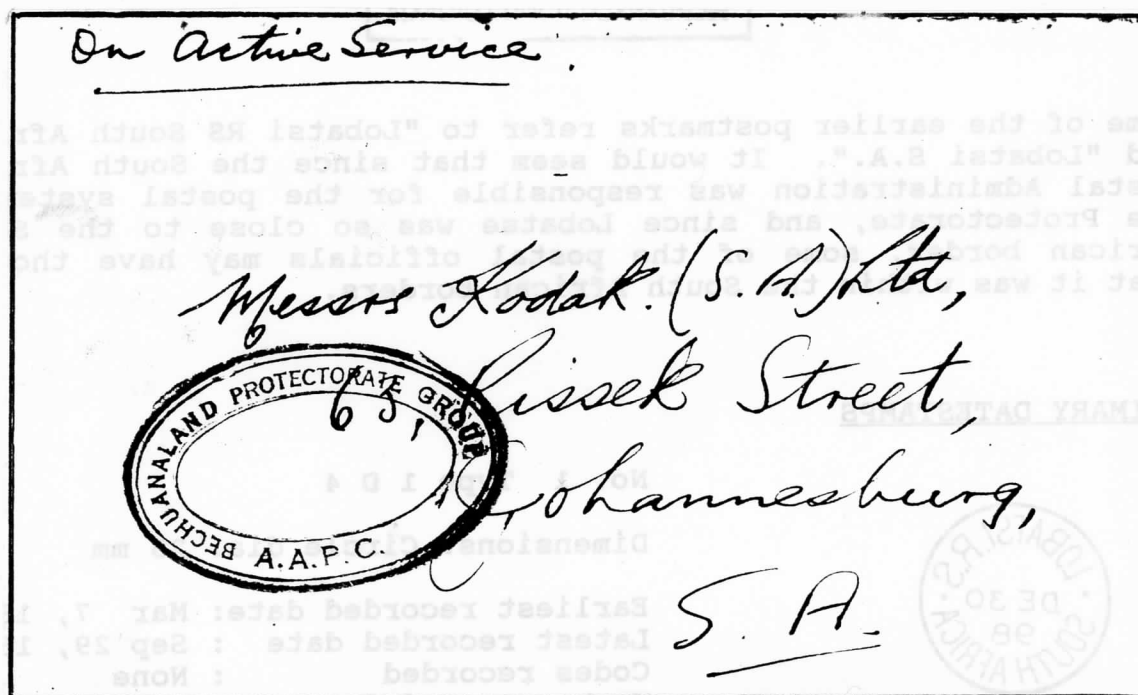


After Independence, Gaborone was chosen as the new capital rather than Lobatsi, one of the reasons possibly being the more plentiful water supply in Gaborone. The Special Court of the Protectorate did, however, sit in Lobatsi, which became the seat of the High Court in the 1950's, and continued its role to become the seat of the High Court of Botswana after Independence. The Legislative Council also met in Lobatsi before the capital was formally transferred to Gaborone - the meetings being held in the Courthouse.

After Independence Lobatsi became Lobatse and Geberones became Gaborone. Lobatse is 65 km south of Gaborone on the railway from Bulawayo to Mafeking. Even today, Lobatse's industrial expansion is constrained by limited availability of water.

Despite the water problems, Lobatse has become a major meat processing centre. The first abattoir was built in 1934, but closed 2 years later. It re-opened at the start of the Second World War, but closed again in 1941 when it was sold to the Mafeking Creamery, who produced milk products on the premises for the next 12 years. It reverted to being an abattoir again in 1954, and became a Government abattoir in 1966. It is now one of the largest meat processing and canning operations in Africa, exporting to Europe and Asia.

In 1941 Britain decided to organize a labour force from the High Commission Territories of Basutoland, Bechuanaland and Swaziland to support the War effort at the front. Lobatse had a large derelict cold-storage facility - one of Sir Charles Rey's projects. This was taken over by the British Military Mission, and by the end of June, 1941, a camp was being built round the derelict facility, which was converted into offices, stores and messes. The Bechuanaland Pioneer Corps headquarters was established, and recruits were trained. In September 1941 the first Bechuana s left Lobatse by train en route to North Africa.

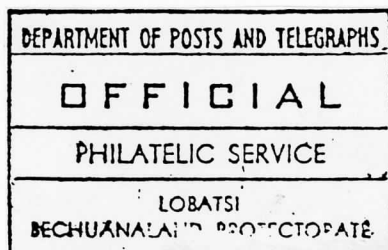


African Auxiliary Pioneer Corps Cover
(No evidence as to from where it was sent)

Lobatse was also the closing scene for the Protectorate's soldiers. On the 17th April 1947 King George VI, Queen Elizabeth, and Princess Elizabeth and Margaret visited Lobatse on their Royal Tour. Their train coming from Rhodesia to South Africa stopped in Lobatse for the Royal party to inspect the African Pioneer Corps and to present service medals.

A telegraph office was opened at Lobatse in 1896, and a sub post office in 1897, but this was reduced to a postal agency on January 1st, 1899. It reverted to a sub post office again on September 1st, 1904, and became a full post office in 1921. It remained under South African Postal Administration control until about 1957, when it moved to Bechuanaland, and later Botswana Postal Administration. Although Lobatse never became the capital of the Protectorate or Botswana, it did

acquire some sort of status as the Philatelic capital of the Protectorate in the years leading up to Independence. An example is the special postmark commemorating the Coronation of Queen Elizabeth II in 1953, and the establishment of a Philatelic Service unit in the 1960's.



Some of the earlier postmarks refer to 'Lobatsi R.S. South Africa' and 'Lobatsi S.A.'. It would seem that since the South African Postal Administration was responsible for the postal system in the Protectorate, and since Lobatse was so close to the South African border, some of the postal officials may have thought that it was within South Africa.

PRIMARY DATESTAMPS



No. 1 Type 1 D 4

Circle diameter : 25mm
 Earliest recorded date : Mar 7, 1898
 Latest recorded date : Sep 29, 1899
 Codes recorded : None
 Number recorded so far : 17



Barred Oval Numeral Cancellation (BONC) No. 1003 was used at Lobatsi.

Number recorded so far : 15



No. 2 Type 1 B 26

Circle diameter : 24mm
 Earliest recorded date : Oct 23, 1900
 Latest recorded date : Aug 29, 1916
 Codes recorded : None
 Number recorded so far : 36

The earliest cancellation is dated in manuscript 23/10/00 (the cover is illustrated below). This has been considered for earliest recorded, since the arrival datestamp on the reverse of the cover is dated Gaberones, October 24, 1900. (OC 24/00). The next earliest recorded is Jan 4, 1903. Apart from the manuscript cancellation, 13 of the remaining 35 recorded have day and month transposed.



Barred Oval Numeral Cancellation (BONC) No. 1159 was used at Lobatsi.

Number recorded so far : 4

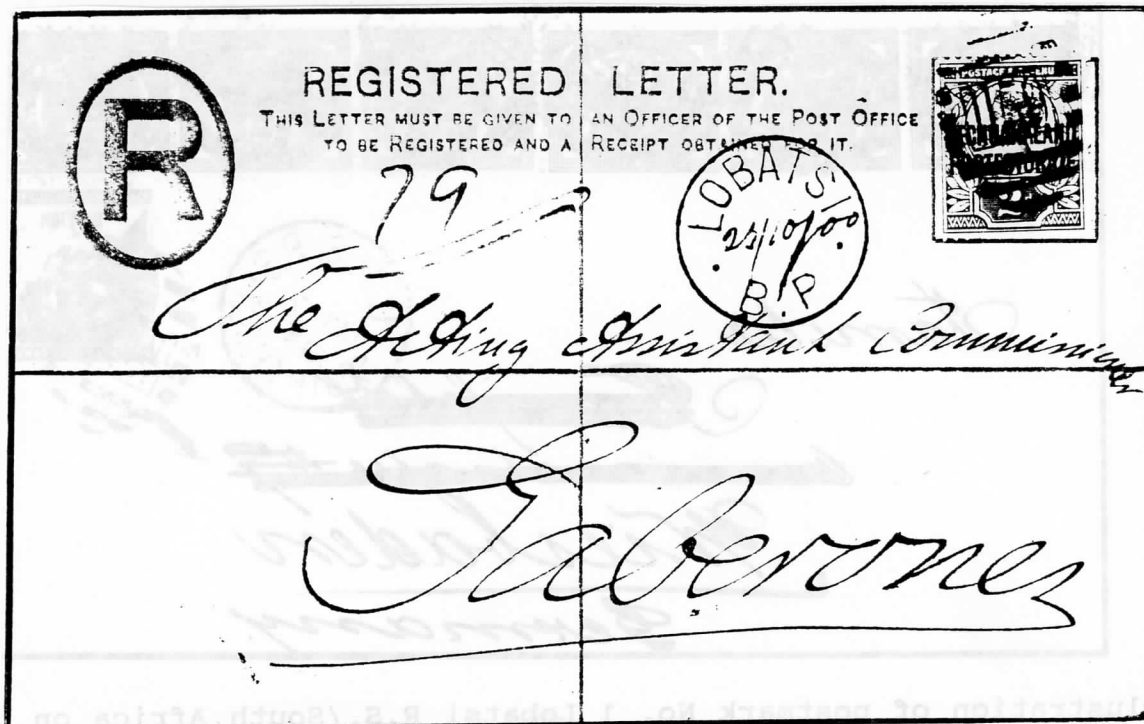
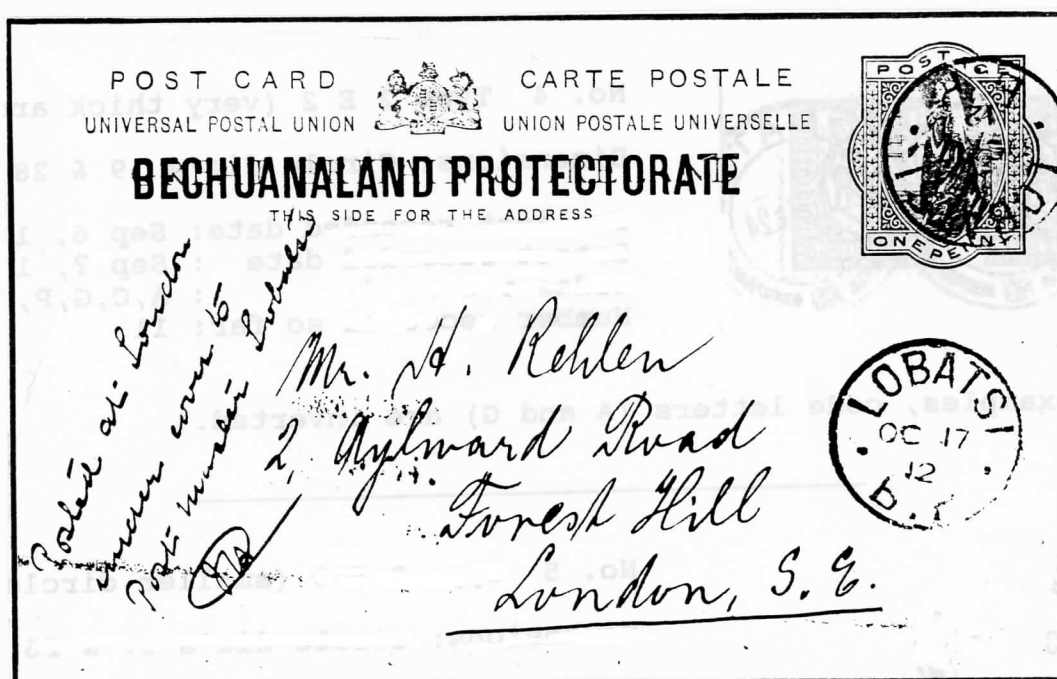


Illustration of postmark No. 2 Lobatsi/B.P. with manuscript date in the cancellation on cover with BONC 1159 confirming use of this BONC at Lobatsi.

Some possible questions exists regarding the latest recorded date usage. The date of August 29, 1916 is nearly 4 years after the next latest recorded of the 36 items I have on record. Since this does not constitute many postmarks, and I do not presently have all the postmark study group worksheets available, it may well be that this reported date is authentic. The only reason I have a little doubt, is that one of the next latest recorded items appears to show some damage to the datestamp (the tops of the B and P in B.P. are missing, card illustrated below). It may not have continued in use for 4 more years if that were the case.

Also, the relief type datestamp (No.R1) was used in 1913 and 1915. It is possible that this datestamp (No. 2) may have been repaired & put back into use. Since one of the other datestamps (No. 3) was already in use in 1914, this seems unlikely.



Two strikes, the second latest recorded, on card. Both clearly show missing tops to B and P in B.P.

Postmark numbers 3-8 are all similar - a double circle with Lobatsi at the top and spacer arcs at the base, separated by a cross. They are distinguished by size, lettering, arc thickness, and the shape of the cross.

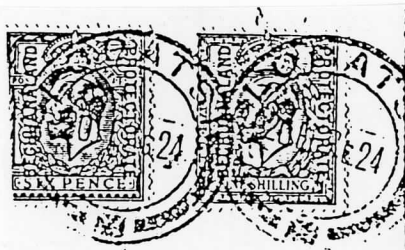


Enlarged cross:



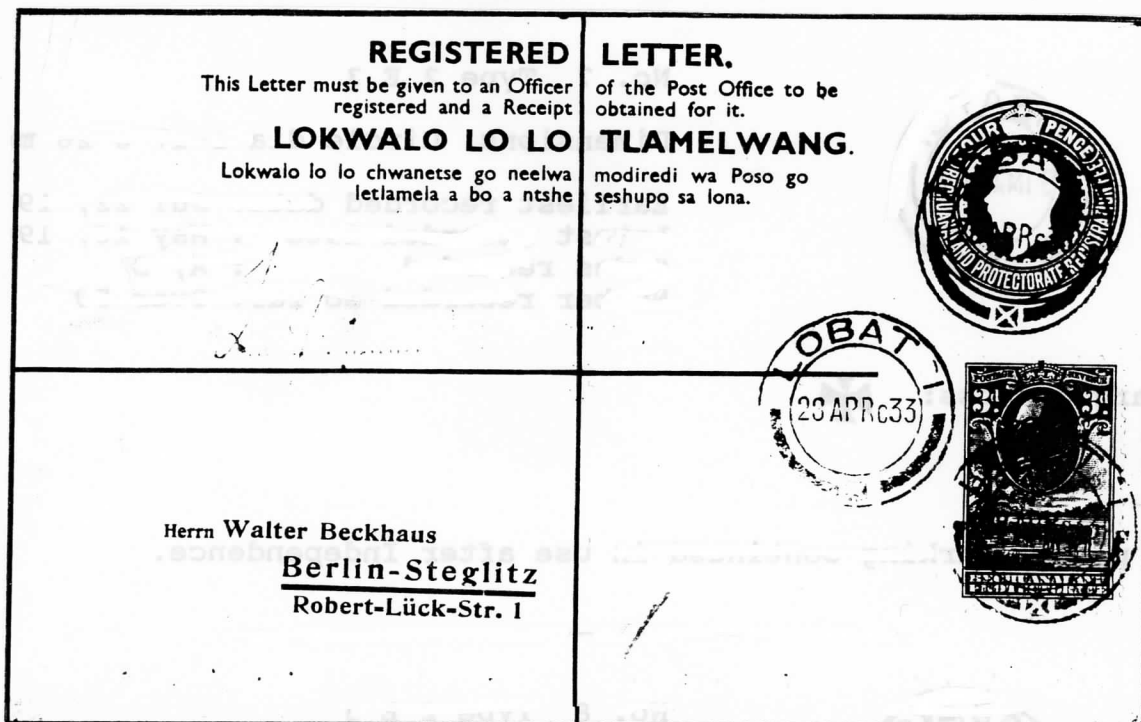
No. 3 Type 2 E 2

Circle diameters : 18mm & 28mm
 Earliest recorded date : Jul 29, 1914
 Latest recorded date : Sep 26, 1929
 Codes recorded : A, hyphen
 Number recorded so far : 8



No. 4 Type 2 E 2

Circle diameters : 19mm & 28mm
 Earliest recorded date : Sep 6, 1920
 Latest recorded date : Sep 7, 1930
 Codes recorded : A, C, G, P, block
 Number recorded so far : 11



Cover showing the 3 strikes with the missing 'S' in Lobatsi (No. 5).



Enlarged cross:



No. 5 Type 2 E 2 (smaller circles)

Circle diameters : 17mm & 26mm
 Earliest recorded date : May 30, 1928
 Latest recorded date : Apr 28, 1933
 Codes recorded : A, C
 Number recorded so far : 10

The latest recorded item appears to be damaged, with the letter 'S' missing, only a trace of the top showing. This is the item used for illustration, but it comes from a cover (illustrated) with 3 identical strikes, all showing the missing 'S'. Presumably this datestamp went out of service at about this time. The earliest recorded datestamp for postmark No. 6 is May 10th 1933 - 12 days later.



No. 6 Type 2 E 2

Circle diameters : 18mm & 28mm
 Earliest recorded date : May 10, 1933
 Latest recorded date : Feb 25, 1941
 Codes recorded : A, B, C
 Number recorded so far : 13

Enlarged cross:



The date has a stop after the month. One recorded item has a stop (dot) between the 3 and the 9 of 39 (3.9).



No. 7 Type 2 E 3

Circle diameters : 17mm & 26mm
 Earliest recorded date : Jul 22, 1933
 Latest recorded date : May 16, 1966
 Codes recorded : A, B
 Number recorded so far : Over 50

Enlarged cross:



This postal marking continued in use after Independence.



No. 8 Type 2 E 3

Circle diameters : 18mm & 28mm
 Earliest recorded date : May 19, 1945
 Latest recorded date : Nov 9, 1963
 Codes recorded : A, B, C
 Number recorded so far : 20

Enlarged cross 1947:



Enlarged cross 1960:



The cross appears to have changed and become smaller in later years. This may be just due to dry ink accumulation on the datestamp. The 'B' in Lobatsi appears to be inverted or top heavy on this datestamp.



No. 9 Type 2d 45 H5 Sp

Circle diameters : 19mm & 28mm
 Earliest recorded date : Apr 17, 1947
 Latest recorded date : Apr 17, 1947
 Codes recorded : A
 Number recorded so far : 5

This is the special datestamp produced to commemorate the visit of the Royal Family to Lobatsi on 17th April 1947 - when the Bechuana troops were inspected and service medals for the Pioneer Corps presented. The words 'Royal Visit' were excised from the top of the datestamp, and it was put into regular use.



No. 9a Type 2a H5 Xd

Earliest recorded date : May 12, 1949
 Latest recorded date : Jun 1, 1966
 Codes recorded : A, B, hyphen, none
 Number recorded so far : Over 50

The date has a stop after the month, and sometimes before the month as well.

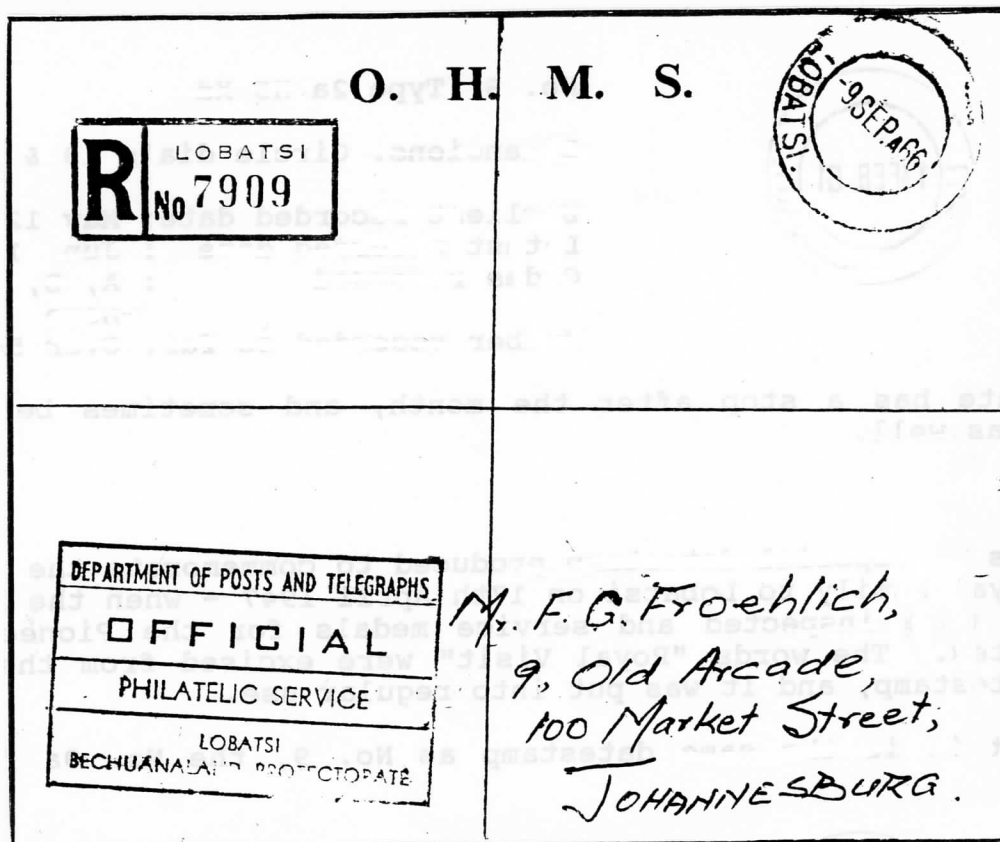
Since this is the same datestamp as No. 9, the No. 9a has been used.

The story of datestamp No. 9 does not stop here. Later, just prior to Independence on September 29th 1966, the further mutilation of the datestamp took place, when the words Bech. Prot. were also excised. The only example I have is the one illustrated below as No. 9b. Presumably the datestamp continued in use for a period of time after Independence.



No. 9b Type 2a H6 Xd

Earliest recorded date : Sep 9, 1966
 Latest recorded date : Sep 9, 1966
 Codes recorded : A
 Number recorded so far : 1



Cover showing No. 9b, which has the 'Royal Visit' and 'Bech. Prot.' excised. Used 20 days before Independence. The Philatelic Service postal marking still contains 'Bechuanaland Protectorate'.