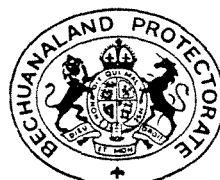


The Runner Post



RUNNER POST No. 32

(ISSN No. 0953-3354)

SEPTEMBER 1993

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ROY SETTERFIELD

It is with great sadness that we report the passing of Roy Setterfield on 17th August 1993.

It is an especially sad task to write an obituary for the man responsible for the very existence of the Society whose journal you are now reading.

Roy Setterfield's interest in Bechuanalands and Botswana philately stemmed from a period in the 1970's when he was a Government Veterinary officer in Mahalapye, Botswana. Roy seemed to have enjoyed his 'stint' in Botswana under contract from the UK. Amongst his many official duties, Roy was instrumental in setting up the extensive network of cattle control fences, a huge task which often entailed extended trips out into the desert.

He became an avid collector and accumulator of the postal markings of Botswana and Malawi (his previous posting). Roy made numerous friends in both countries, especially amongst the local populations whom he came into contact with in the course of his work, and he maintained what to anyone else would have been a withering level of correspondence - evidence of the warmth of those friendships and the high regard in which he was held. His presence was sorely missed after his return to England.

I first met Roy about eight years ago, although we had corresponded for several years previously. In that time he had personally produced three Bechuanalands 'Newsletters' (or 'flimsies' as he called them, now much sought after as collectors items) which were distributed amongst his small, but growing group of fellow enthusiasts. A note Roy placed in a Society journal seeking others to join him in a Bechuanaland postmark study was the initial move that set the course of events that was to lead to a Society of 100 members in 14 countries.

It was Roy who was largely responsible for the formation of the Society. For it was through his enthusiasm and tireless work, contacting, recruiting, following up

every whisper of interest in Bechuanalands philately around the world and writing volumes of correspondence in the process that he guided the various 'lost souls' towards formation of the BBS.

It was at the Inaugural meeting in London on October 16th 1985, that the name 'Bechuanalands and Botswana Society' was formerly adopted and Roy was appointed our first Honorary Secretary - a post he held for five years (a thankless task as any Hon Secretary will attest).

Roy and I shared the portfolio of 'Hon Editors' of *The Runner Post* with Roy often additionally contributing items for publication. He was not only a co-editor but a good friend and for several years I greatly enjoyed our regular Editorial get-togethers and 'working lunches' in Brighton/Hove before my move back to Cape Town made it impractical to continue sharing that portfolio.

At the Annual General Meeting in October 1991, Roy was awarded Honorary Life Membership of the BBS in recognition of his outstanding contribution to the Society.

Roy's great love was postal markings and he amassed volumes of postmarks of the 'Tswanalands' - as he referred to his primary area of interest. This passion for postmarks is illustrated by the fact that when he was offered some particularly irresistible items a few years back, he decided to sell his cherished car registration 'VET 7' to finance the purchase! (a registration fortuitously obtained by being in the right area of the UK when that sequence was distributed). Naturally, Roy played an active role in our typology project to classify all known Bechuanalands postmarks and was playing a similar role in our current Botswana study.

Roy was truly the BBS's founding father and he shall be greatly missed. We offer our sincere condolences to Roy's family and share in their loss.

AMG

Brian Trotter, who was Roy's first 'recruit', has written the following:

My first contact with Roy was about 12 years ago. I responded to a note in a journal that he wished to work on a Bechuanaland postmark study, and was seeking others to join him. I think I may have been the only one to respond, so Roy and I set out to try to embark on the study together.

Neither of us had previously done any such work, and since we lived in different countries, it soon became apparent that describing postmarks to each other was rather difficult so our first step became the development of a postmark classification, and, of course, trying to recruit others to join in the effort.

Soon, inspired by Roy's infectious enthusiasm, we had a brief Newsletter, and then, again urged on by Roy's enthusiasm, we formed the Bechuanalands and Botswana Society. So Roy was truly the spiritual father of our Society, and became our first Secretary.

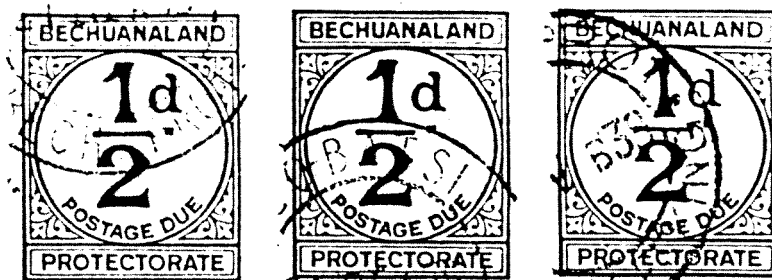
Roy continued to actively participate in the Bechuanalands postmark study, and right until the end, was very active in the present Botswana postmark project. But, more important, he nurtured our fledgling Society through its early, formative years, and did much to set it on the solid base on which it rests today.

Roy shall be remembered as the loyal founder of our Society, a fine friend, and an enthusiastic student of postmarks. We shall all miss him in these and many other capacities. We are all the poorer for his passing, but he has left his mark on the world of Bechuanaland and Botswana philately.

We offer our heartfelt sympathy to his family and other friends, and know, like us, they shall retain a wealth of fond memories of Roy. Rest in peace old friend.

BRT

MEMBER'S COMMENTS
AND QUERIES



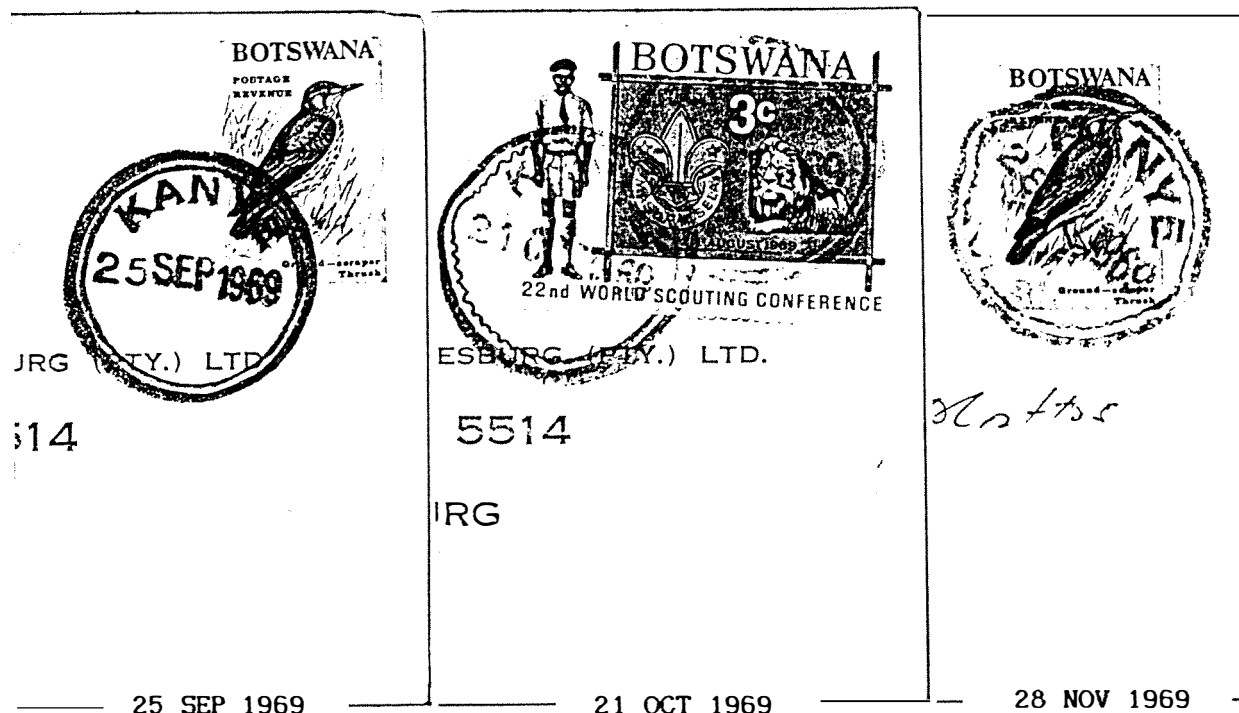
THICK 'd' ON 1d POSTAGE DUE ?

Leon Jacobson has sent photocopies of three 1d postage due stamps (SG D4) in his collection. Leon points out that the two stamps on the left, particularly the middle stamp, appear to show the large 'd' variety although this variety is only listed by Gibbons as occurring on the 2d value. Incidentally, the two stamps on the left appear to be a separated vertical pair.

Can any member confirm if this is a constant variety or perhaps the product of an over-inked plate? The lettering, numerals and design all appear to have a 'heavy' impression - is this a characteristic of the 2d value with Large 'd'? It may be worth mentioning that the Bridger & Kay KG6 catalogue lists all three values occurring on a 'rough thick paper' (July 1944) and a 'smooth and thinner paper' (July 1947) - the latter in slightly different shades. These are additional to the 1932 issue and the 1d and 2d on chalky paper. [Looking at my own 1d's, I also have an apparent 'large d', on a rough surfaced paper - Ed]

AN 'OYSTER' IN THE MAKING

Brian Trotter has provided illustrations of three covers, each apparently with the same Kanye cancellation clearly showing a deterioration in shape to the point where it becomes what Roy Setterfield aptly dubbed an 'Oyster'. The canceller, probably made of rubber, shows the marked change in shape over a period of only two months (the dates are: 25 Sep, 21 Oct and 28 Nov 1969). Presumably the oils in the ink reacted with the rubber, causing it to soften to the stage where pressure from the central date slugs - probably made of harder material - 'pushed' out the rim at the point of contact. Brian asks: 1) Why were these rubber cancellers introduced? 2) When exactly? and 3) For all Offices?



MEMBER'S COMMENTS AND QUERIES

STELLALAND - Addenda from Dr G H Jonkers to Dr Seligmann's article in RP 31.

1. The first postmaster was F Dekker, appointed approx. 1882 as such at a salary of £270 per annum. (c.f. list of Officers on following page).

On 25 Aug 1883 he became auditeur-generaal at a remuneration of £500 per annum. It is quite likely that the position of postmaster passed into other hands.

On 23 Sep 1884 a postal contract was signed between the Government Secretary (H.v.Boeschoten) and Willem Marthinus Geeringh at £600 per annum.

The post had to be conveyed by post-cart between Vrijburg and Christiana, once a week, within 48 hours. The route was to go via the postal-station 'Niekerk's Rest' which was the estate of the President.

2. From the graphological point of view it was clear the initial diagnosis of the signature 'F.H.' must be wrong. It is good this enigma is now resolved.

The following are the earliest and latest dates of usage of 'F.H.' initials in my collection:

<u>Value</u>	<u>Earliest Date</u>	<u>Latest Date</u>
1d	4-4-84	May 85
3d	11-1-85	Apr 85
4d	21-10-84	2-4-85
6d	14-11-84	12-2-85
1s	11-1-85	11-1-85

I think these dates fit the data re Harzenberg's officiate.

4. The first mention of the 'Twee' surcharge in philatelic literature is found in articles in the *Philatelic Record* of February and March 1888. Leon de Raay refers in his unpublished monograph (1934) to an article in *Stamp Collector* of June 1902.

7/11. The Kleinkauf remains suspect. The item emerged at a Shanahan stamp auction - an unreliable auctioneer. The fact that the cover has changed it's 'face' over the years, is, in my opinion, suspect, as well as Kleinkauf being a dealer who was interested in buying the remainders. When it can be proven from postal archives that No 334 was really registered in Christiana, I will change my opinion.

I also have in my collection a complete sheet of 42 (7x6) of the 2/6 revenue without monogram.

De Raay, in his aforementioned monograph, writes that the first printing of the revenues were imperforate.

Dr G H Jonkers

We are very grateful to Dr Jonkers for this additional information and details of items in his collection. However, I would like to make a few comments on Dr Jonkers references to Dr Seligmann's points 7 & 11: Although the Shanahan sales could be termed 'unreliable', this was in the financial sense (pyramid selling etc) while the actual quality of the material offered through their sales was generally very fine. I would also consider the fact that Kleinkauf's bidding on the remainders tends to support the genuineness of the cover (we therefore know he must have been in correspondence with Stellaland and was certainly likely to have saved his mail) rather than the reverse. The changed 'face' is a result of the way the cover was prepared for photography - in one case it was pictured opened out and in the other it was folded. On balance, I prefer to take the view the cover is innocent until proved guilty! Is anyone willing to take up the quest for the relevant Christiana registration book? Does it still exist? AMG

Republiek van Stellaland

Lijst van Ambtenaren

H. H. Ed. de administrateur: G. J. v. Niekerk.

Welld. A. J. G. de la Rey, n. } leden Mitv. Raad.
.. Th. Roms }

			per jaar
<i>gereguleerd</i>	Gouvernements Secretaris: H. v. Boeschoten	£ 365	
	Treasurier Generaal: vakant.		
	Auditeur Generaal: vakant.		
<i>Reguleerd</i>	Registrateur van Akten: L. G. Lee.	£ 350	
<i>£ 150</i>	Klerk op Registratie Kantoor: vakant		
<i>ongereguleerd</i>	Staatsprocureur: Th. Ludorf.		Private kantoor
<i>£ 100.</i>	Meer hier _____ vakant		
<i>Reguleerd</i>	Landdrost v. Nijburg: C. Bodenstein.	£ 400	
<i>do</i>	Landdrost Klerk en Postmeester: F. Dekker.	£ 270	
<i>do</i>	Baljuw: A. Bodenstein	£ 45	
<i>do.</i>	Schout: F. Greef	£ 100	

Kapitein der grenspolitie: A. I. Mohr
Luitenant der grenspolitie: H. Thompson

1882-84 'Republic of Stellaland List of Officials'
showing 'F. Dekker' as Postmaster.
(See Dr Jonkers' letter on previous page)

MEMBER'S COMMENTS AND QUERIES

'ROYAL' CEASES TO ISSUE CERTIFICATES FOR STELLALAND 'TWEET' PROVISIONAL (SG 6)

Members may be unaware of an announcement by the Expert Committee of the Royal Philatelic Society in *The London Philatelist* of May 1993 that they would no longer issue certificates for the Stellaland 'Twee' provisional (SG 6). The decision was apparently prompted in whole or in part by Dr Drysdall's article 'A Postal History of Stellaland', published in the March and April, 1992 issues of *The London Philatelist*.

The article in question is essentially the same as 'A Previously Undescribed Stellaland Item' and 'Stellaland Revisited' published in *The Runner Post*, issues 22 and 23. This announcement prompted Dr Jonkers to write in the July/August issue of *The London Philatelist*:

"... I am convinced that the decision ... is premature. I am aware that the Stellaland 'Twee' is a difficult stamp, but this is - in my opinion - no excuse for eliminating it from expertising. ... There exist, to my knowledge, at least 5 copies of the 'Twee' which apparently have gone through the post."

As evidence, Dr Jonkers refers to the covers to Venterstad and Pretoria, both cancelled at Barkly on Oct 24th 1885 (illustrated as Figs 8 and 7 respectively in RP 22, p409). Dr Jonkers also illustrates 3 single stamps. The first, in the Royal collection, is on piece with a Cape 6d - the latter stamp alone bearing a Barkly cds - also dated Oct 24 1885. The other 2 are from his own collection (both with certificates), one has a partial Barkly cds (no date showing) and the other with a BONC '555' cancel.

"Although we don't know exactly the reason for the manufacture of the 'Twee', it is at least certain that the items under discussion had been 'used' after British authorities had taken control of the post office in Vrijburg (7-2-1884) and all left the territory then via Barkly West. The Stellaland items were in use until 2 December 1885, when the British Bechuanaland ... stamps became available. My opinion is that Mr Holmes' opinion on the usage of the 'Twee' in chapter 2 of his book ... is valid as long as it is not contradicted by facts. I call upon the Expert Committee emphatically to undo the mentioned decision." Dr G H Jonkers

Dr Drysdall provided a copy of a letter he has written to *The London Philatelist*:

"I refer to the announcement by the Expert Committee concerning the Stellaland 'Twee' provisional (SG 6) in the May issue of *The London Philatelist* (v.102, no 1204, p114) and Dr Jonker's letter concerning this announcement in the July/August issue (v.102, 1206/7, p206-7).

It was of course the Expert Committee which concluded that, "the 'Twee' provisional was never used during the period that the State of Stellaland existed". What I tried to demonstrate was the possibility that Cape postage rates applied in Stellaland from June 1885 - or may be even earlier - and that from this date Stellaland and Cape stamps could be used indiscriminately. If this was the case there would have been no need for a provisional Stellaland stamp.

If this hypothesis - and it was never intended to be more than that - should prove to be correct, the Stellaland stamps affixed to the four known covers posted between July and October 1885, all of which are also franked with Cape stamps to receipt payment in full of the appropriate Cape rate, were affixed for philatelic rather than postal purposes - unless of course there was a change in the regulations sometime between June 1885 and December of that year when the first Bechuanaland stamps were placed on sale. It would seem significant that, with one exception, none of the Stellaland stamps on these later covers are cancelled. The exception is pen-cancelled with a single line rather than with a

date and/or initials, which had been the practice. Moreover although all but one of the four covers are franked in such a manner as to imply that the Stellaland inland rate was 2d per half ounce, one which is addressed to the Cape is franked with a Stellaland 4d stamp in combination with a Cape 2d (the Cape half-ounce inland letter rate).

It is important to bear in mind that even if the known covers are philatelic, this does not prove that the 'Twee' provisional was not an official issue."

[Dr Drysdall then refers to Dr Seligmann's report in RP 31 (June 1993) and his quotes from the minutes of the Stellaland Bestuur concerning the proposal for a 2d surcharge and the recommendation on May 29, 1885, that the Cape Colonial rate be adopted which would require letters for the Cape to be stamped with the same amount in Stellaland stamps as they require in Colonial stamps.]

"It may not be coincidence that J.B. van Riet used a handstamp with his name in the same type face as was used for the 'Twee' provisional, and that a Miss J. van Riet was at one time Zegelmeester (Distributor of Stamps).

It is particularly frustrating that both quotations relate to proposals put to the Bestuur rather than to resolutions. There is as yet no documentary evidence that either proposal was adopted.

It can certainly be argued that the balance of the evidence appears to have swung in favour of the 'Twee' provisional, but this creates further problems. For example, what is the explanation of the franking of the cover addressed to Canada, and why after June 1885 did the Stellaland authorities consistently avoid cancelling their own stamps? Dr Jonkers illustrates an example of the 'Twee' provisional cancelled with the barred-oval canceller coded '555' issued to Vryburg, but this was probably done by favour at a later date as there is no evidence that any of these Cape cancellers were in use in what was Stellaland before December 1885."

Alan R Drysdall



BOGUS 'BECHUANALAND' CANCEL ?

David Wessely sent this illustration of an Unappropriated Die £5, allegedly used with a barred oval canceller containing the word 'BECHUANALAND'. Has any member come across other examples of this canceller or is it perhaps a figment of some forgers mind?

'B TO Z OF BOTSWANA POST OFFICES'

This is the title of a publication (dated June 1st 1993) by Sheila Case. It is sub-headed 'A preliminary research survey into current and recent postmarks of Botswana', and the contents list includes:

'Introduction, Photocopies: postal markings by PO's alphabetically; Appendices (some may follow later); Machine Cancels; Commemorative handstamps; EMS; Registration; Late additions; Anomalies; Odds and Ends'. Sheila explains "Both here and in the UK, work is proceeding on more scholarly publications, but for the moment, little is available on recent/current Botswana postmarks. I have photocopied all the postmarks I have (over 600) for temporary reference." Sheila adds this is a non-profit venture but she would like to recover costs as well as facilitating the exchange of information. Sheila can supply the photocopies (about 60 pages), including airmail postage at the following rates: UK: £10.50, USA: \$16, RSA: R50.

Please contact: Sheila M Case, Box 40486, Gaborone, Botswana.

MEMBERS' COMMENTS AND QUERIES

AIRMAIL ETIQUETTE QUERY - HOWARD COOK

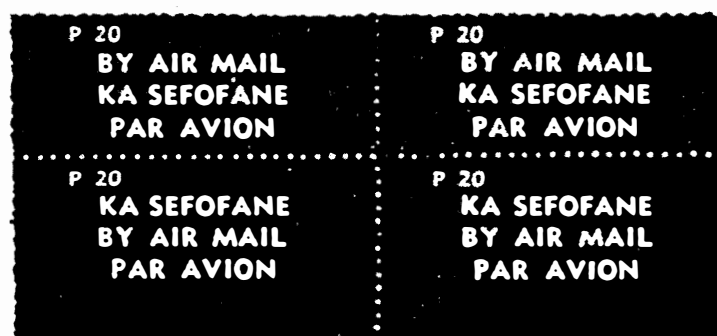
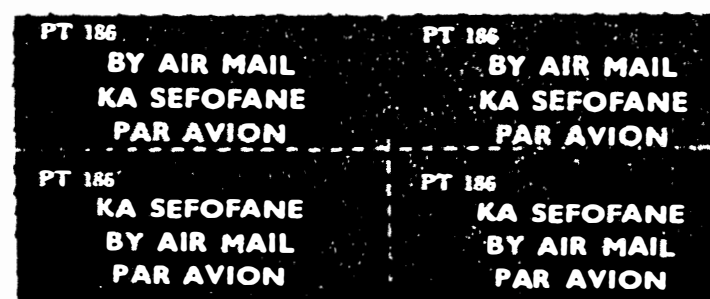
In the book *The Cancellations and Postal Markings of Basutoland and Lesotho* by A H Scott, it is claimed that the etiquettes illustrated below (at left) were issued by BASUTOLAND/LESOTHO. Whilst I am not an authority on either the Sotho or Tswana languages, I would venture to suggest that two of the etiquettes could instead have been issued by BECHUANALAND.

I suggest this in view of the fact that 'KA SEFOFANE' also appears on Botswana etiquettes, whereas the completely different 'LENGOLO LA MOEA' appears on the current Lesotho etiquettes.

Furthermore Bophuthatswana etiquettes are inscribed 'KA POSOFOFANE', which is very similar to the Botswana inscription.

Can anyone help confirm my supposition, and even better, provide me with a year of issue of the old etiquettes?
Howard Cook

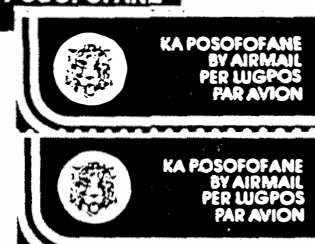
Basutoland/Lesotho Airmail Labels.
(Dark Blue)



Basutoland (?) and Lesotho (ex Scott, p294)



Botswana



Bophuthatswana

ITEMS OF INTEREST

'FORGERIES OLD AND NEW'

This is the title of a work by Alden C Johnson, published in 1941. Thanks to our member John McChesney-Young of the USA, who kindly supplied photocopies, we are able to illustrate the relevant section on Bechuanaland below. We are sure other members will find it of interest.

BECHUANALAND

No. 6

In the detection of counterfeits shade, size and general appearance very often give the work of the counterfeiter away. A stamp whose shade is wrong should always be suspected. It was in this way that we discovered a very well executed counterfeit of No. 6 Bechuanaland. This stamp only catalogs \$2.00 but the Cape of Good Hope stamp No. 43 on which it is printed only catalogs three cents, so no doubt the faker thought it was an excellent chance to make money. He made one mistake to begin with. Cape of Good Hope No. 43 when issued in December, 1885, came out in a Rose Red shade. This shade was the one used in making Bechuanaland No. 6. Sometime later Cape of Good Hope made other printings in a Carmine Red. It is rather common and either the counterfeiter used this shade through ignorance or he could not find enough of the correct shade available.

The counterfeit surcharge itself is a nice piece of work. However, a close inspection reveals some important differences.

- | Genuine | Counterfeit |
|--|---|
| 1. British, 8 mm. long. | 1. British, 7½ mm. long. |
| 2. Bechuanaland, 16 mm. long. | 2. Bechuanaland, 15½ mm. long. |
| 3. Distance between British and Bechuanaland 4 mm. | 3. Distance between British and Bechuanaland 4½ mm. |
| 4. The B of each word has serifs. | 4. Very little serif to the letter B. |
| 5. The letter B is both longer and wider than in the fake surcharge. | |

1

BECHUANALAND

Nos. 83 - 91



Fake

Genuine Gt. Britian stamps have been used with a fake surcharge. The reason these fakes were made was not necessarily to enhance their value. A few years ago the packet makers in Europe were hard put to to make up collections of 20,000, 30,000 and 40,000 different stamps. Some of the unscrupulous ones used fake stamps to make up for the scarcity. In one collection of 20,000 Different I noted almost 1000 fake surcharges on genuine common stamps. In most cases the average collector should be able to tell the fakes without much trouble.

In the case of the fake Bechuanalands they can easily be told by the following:

- | Genuine | Fakes |
|--|---|
| 1. Letters of surcharge clear and sharply defined. | 1 Letters of surcharge blurry and not sharply defined. |
| 2. Bechuanaland and Protectorate each 17½ m.m. long. | 2 Bechuanaland and Protectorate each 18 m.m. long. |
| 3. Openings in letters such as k, o, d and p are clear and distinct. | 3. Openings in letters such as a, o, d and p are small or in the case of the a's completely closed. |

3

SOME NOTES ON BECHUANALAND

by N. West

*This article has been reprinted from the February, 1990 issue of **The Overprinter**, the Journal of the G.B. Overprints Society. We are most grateful to that Society and are pleased to acknowledge their kind permission to re-publish it in **The Runner Post**. The article has been modified slightly for reasons of space, layout and clarity.*

For those of you with any interest in Bechuanaland, Holmes' book is your bible. He records a wealth of information to which little has been added since publication. Well, these notes add one item that Holmes was unaware of, and prove three items that he thought should exist.

Holmes records the spelling error on SG 55 (19mm setting) where 'Protectorate' is misspelt 'Protectorrte' and says that only two copies of this error are known, one in the Royal Collection (the third stamp in a mint strip of three, ex Ferrari) and a mint single. Gibbons accord this item catalogue status as SG 55b.

Holmes goes on to add examples of SG 55 are known with double overprint one of the impressions being very faint and which SG again accord catalogue status to as SG 55a.

Well, you have probably guessed by now that a copy of SG 55 has now been found with the 'Protectorrte' error and double overprint. This item received an R.P.S. certificate and there is an illustration of it on the next page. I know it is difficult to see the double overprint, it is very faint, but it is there.

On to the next items, these are all varieties of SG 53 and are referred to by Holmes on pages 88 and 89 of his book. He states that part of the type of the word 'Fourpence' fell out causing a progressive error with only 'Fou' printing and then finally just the 'F' printing. A used example with 'Fou' has obtained an R.P.S. certificate and is also illustrated on the next page.

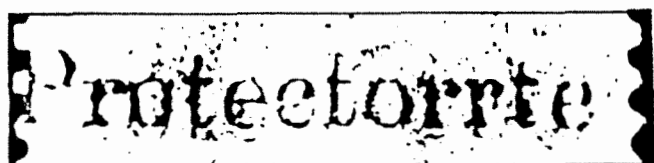
With regard to the 'F' only error, Holmes states this occurred on stamp 98 of the sheet and once again he was right. The only recorded positional example (in a lower left corner block of 6) obtained an R.P.S. certificate and is illustrated on the next page.

Lastly, Holmes states one pane received the surcharge inverted. He goes on to say that the pane included the variety with the 'F' only error. Yes it did, and the only recorded example has now obtained an R.P.S. certificate and is, once again, illustrated for your delight.

If these note read as if they were written by someone with a big smile on his face, you are right. Finding these items has given me the biggest thrill of my collecting life, material such as this is the stuff that real collectors dream about owning but seldom do. At least this time my dreams came true. Now if I could only do the same in Morocco Agencies, British Levant etc...

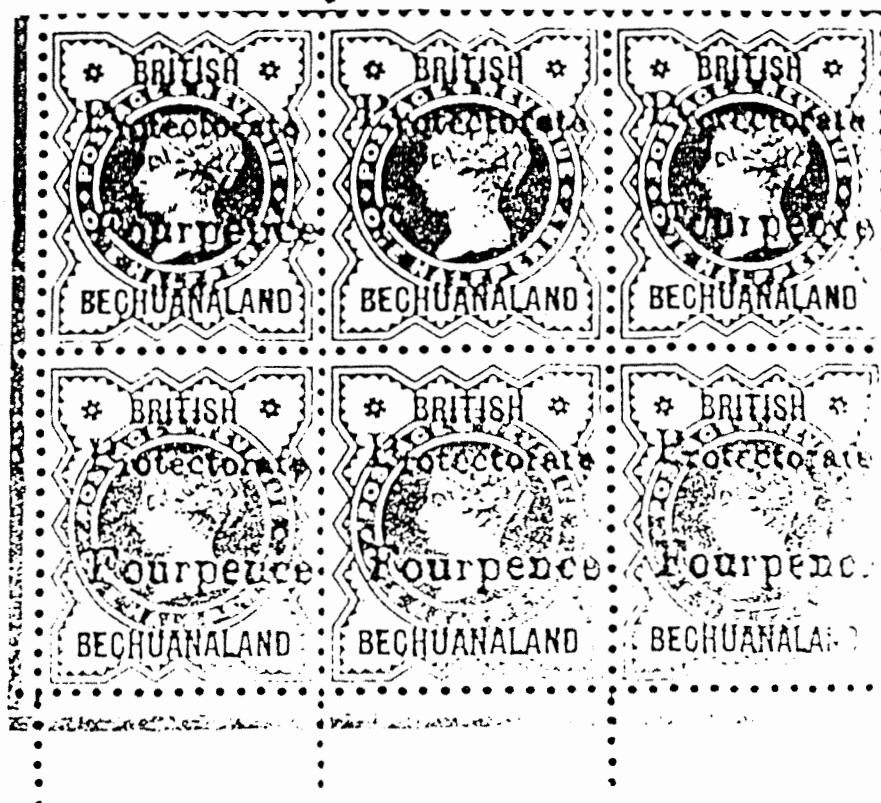
N. West

Do any of our BBS members have any comments on these finds?



'Protectorate' variety and double overprint
(SG 55a+b) (enhanced below)

'Fou' variety on SG 53
(enhanced below)



Lower left corner block of six of SG 53
showing the 'F' variety on position 98

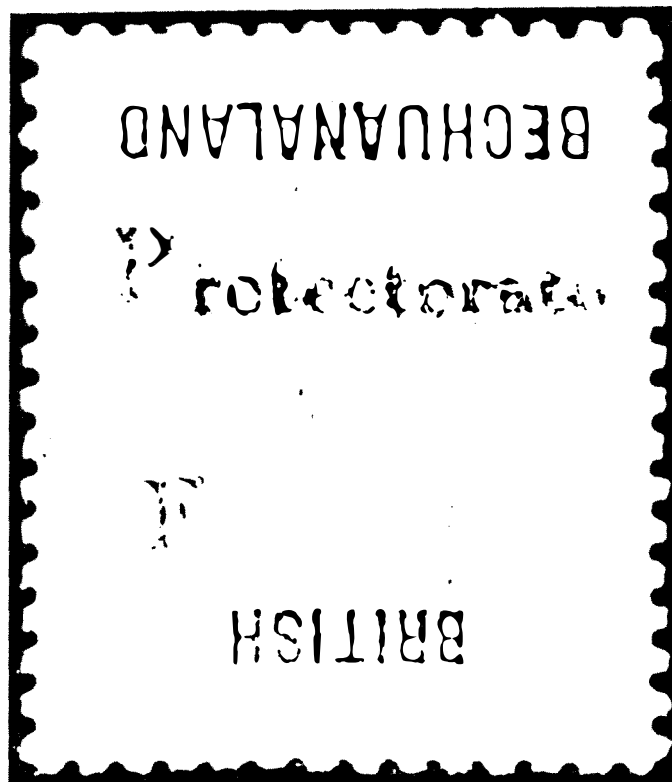


Figure 4 - Inverted surcharge (SG 53a) showing 'F' of 'Fourpence' only, with enhancement alongside



Figure 5
'Normal'



Figure 6
'Fonrpence'



Figure 7
'Fou'



Figure 8
Surcharge Inverted

The four illustrations above of the 1889 4d on 1/2d Provisional (SG 53) are shown courtesy of Jim Catterall and are particularly relevant to the previous article.

Figure 5 shows a normal used example of SG 53.

Figure 6 shows the hitherto unknown(?) variety 'Fonrpence'. Jim says the stamp, which he has had a number of years, is cancelled with an unclear Molepolole cds with an illegible date. Jim adds "It would be one's first thought to dismiss as a forgery but it is genuine by the usual criteria. The Type, the length of the word 'Fonrpence', and the spacing from the word 'Protectorate' all pass the test."

Figure 7 is a second example of the remarkable variety where 'Fou' of 'Fourpence' only prints (see also Fig 2). Jim's description reads: "The word Fourpence gradually lost letters. At first 'Fou' only printing, then 'Fo' and finally 'F' only."

Figure 8 shows an example of the rare variety 'Protectorate/Fourpence' inverted (SG 53a). Jim's description: "First listed in 1904, omitted from catalogue in 1917 as it was thought to be a forgery. Now known to be genuine and re-admitted."

ITEMS OF INTEREST



Dear Mr Matthews,

Yours received with P.O. for 10/-.

1/- Herewith 12 @ 1^d. Union Surrounded B.P.
 No more of these stamps are obtainable. The total issue amounted to £6.10/- issued direct from Jones to B.P. Post who distributed almost the entire lot to Magistrates throughout the Protectorate to be used as revenue stamps only. As none were used for postage purposes it is practically impossible to obtain any used stamps of this issue.

I take it that you wish to have 3 @ 3^d. and a set up to 2/- of Union overprinted Bechuanaland Protectorate. If so it is impossible. Only the 1^d Union overprinted B.P. were issued.

Herewith British Stamps overprinted "Bechuanaland Protectorate" as per margin. This is a complete set with the exception of the 5/- stamp. I can send you further supplies of these stamps, unused, if required. Sorry I have no used stamps of any kind.

I am fairly fit thanks. Hope you are also.

Regards,

Yours

W. H. B.

1 1/2
 1 1/2
 2
 2 1/2
 3
 4
 6
 1/-
 2/6
 6/2 1/2
 7
 3/2 1/2 by Postal Order
 10/-

1922 1d POSTAL FISCAL (SG F3)

Mike Nethersole kindly provided this photocopy of a letter dated March 15th 1922 from an official at the Post Office in Mafeking to a collector or dealer. It provides interesting and possibly important new? information regarding quantities and availability of the 1d Postal Fiscal (Union 1d 'King's Head' overprinted) as of that date. Assuming further stamps were not overprinted, the statement "The total issue amounted to £6.10/- ... " represents 6 1/2 sheets of 240, or 1560 stamps. The date also implies the stamps were issued during the first two months of 1922, or earlier? It also appears the P.O. had sold out of the 5/- 'seahorse' issue.

ANNUAL COLONIAL REPORTS, 1889-1897 - POSTAL MATTERS

by

John Inglefield-Watson

In my article 'The Kimberley & Bechuanaland Railway and Beyond', published in RP 28, I promised further extracts from Annual Colonial Reports in my possession for the period 1889-1897 (less 1895-96) dealing more directly with postal matters. These extracts are taken from the Postmaster-General's section of the reports.

1889-90 (year to 30 Sep 90)

Postmaster-General and Superintendent of Telegraphs: Mr. J.E. Middleton.

"A postal agency has been opened at Bloemfontein in Gordonia.

The mails between Kimberley and Palachwe have been conveyed weekly under contract by the Bechuanaland Exploration Company. Owing to large losses by horse sickness from January to April the service was not satisfactorily performed north of Mafeking.

The railway was utilised between Kimberley and Fourteen Streams from 4th August 1890, and from the 1st of December there will be a daily mail service by rail between Kimberley and Vryburg, with a bi-weekly service by road between Vryburg and Mafeking. Kuruman is still served from Taungs, and Bloemfontein from Upington by Native runners.

In the Protectorate there are five postal agencies (Kanye, Molepolole, Palachwe, Tati and Bulawayo), with a sub-agency at Macloutsie. The three first-named are served by weekly mail-cart from Mafeking, Macloutsie by a weekly cart from Palachwe and the others by weekly runners from the same place."

1890-92 (18 months to 31 Mar 92)

Postmaster-General and Superintendent of Telegraphs: Mr. J.E. Middleton.

"Since my last report, the postal agency at Macloutsie has been created a Post-office. This office is now the office of exchange between this territory and Mashonaland. The postal agencies in the Protectorate, viz., Kanye and Molepolole are now served by native runners from the main coach route. The agencies at Tati and Bulawayo are also served by runners from Palachwe. A postal agency has also been established at Keimoes in the division of Gordonia; this agency is served by native runners from Upington, via the Agency at Bloemfontein.

There is now a daily service between Vryburg and Kimberley by train and a bi-weekly service by coach between Vryburg and Mafeking, and a weekly service by cart between Mafeking and Macloutsie. Kuruman is now served once a week from Vryburg by cart and a contract has been entered into for a bi-weekly service to commence on the 1st May next." (1892).

1892-93 (year to 31 Mar 93)

Acting Postmaster-General: Mr. R. Tillard. (Mr. Middleton retired in May 1892).

"During the year the Postmaster at Macloutsie has been removed and a Post Office agent appointed, by which a saving of £200 a year has been effected. The making up of the Mashonaland mails, which was formerly done at Macloutsie, was removed to the Vryburg Post Office, but since this was done new arrangements were entered into and now Mashonaland mail matter, emanating from Cape Colony and other South African States, is made up at Kimberley or other Colonial Offices.

The rates of postage between the United Kingdom and British Bechuanaland are somewhat anomalous, as from England the rate is 2½d, and from Bechuanaland 4d.

As the management of the postal and telegraph systems has been handed over to the Postmaster-General of the Cape Colony from the 1st April 1893, this Department has now ceased to exist."

1893-94 (year to 31 Mar 94)

Postmaster-General Cape Colony and British Bechuanaland: Mr. S.R. French.

Postal rates extracted from a table showing the number and value of different descriptions of mail matter posted within British Bechuanaland and the Protectorate during the year:

Letters: For delivery in Bechuanaland at 2d.
For delivery in Protectorate at 4d.
For the Cape Colony, Natal, the Orange Free State and the South African Republic at 2d.
For Mashonaland at 4d.
For the United Kingdom at 4d and Foreign Countries at 4½d.
Postcards at 1d.
Postcards at 1½d.

1894-95 (year to 31 Mar 95)

Postmaster-General Cape Colony and British Bechuanaland: Mr. S.R. French.

"Early in the present year it became necessary to give Messrs. Wirsing Brothers four months notice of termination of their contract for the conveyance of mails between Mafeking, Palapye, Macloutsie, Tati and Bulawayo, a proportion of the expense of which service was borne by the British South Africa Company, and negotiations were shortly afterwards entered into between the Bechuanaland Post Office, the British South Africa Company and Messrs. H.J. & C.H. Zeederberg for the latter firm to take up the service from the 1st of May. The result of these negotiations was the establishment on the date mentioned of a mail service twice, instead of once, a week between Mafeking and Bulawayo.

Petitions have been received from several of the more populous villages in Bechuanaland for the establishment of postal communication with the business centres; amongst the villages referred to may be mentioned Genesa, Morokweng, Mosita, Maritsani and Pietfontein [sic]; but of these it has up to present only been found possible to grant the desired facilities to Mosita, which place has since the 1st April last enjoyed a weekly post to and from Setlagoli."

Postal rates: no change from 1893-94 extract above.

(Note: The report is dated 10th May 1895. The 'present year' implies 1895. '1st of April last' implies 1894.)

1896-97 (year to 31 Mar 97). Acting Postmaster-General: Mr. B. Duff.

"The following Branch Posts are now separately maintained by the Protectorate administration:

Gaberones Station to Gaberones
Gaberones Station to Molepolole
Lobatsi to Kanye
Ramoutsa siding to Ramoutsa

Communication with Palla, Palapye and Macloutsie was, at the end of March last, still maintained by the mail contractors, but on the opening of the railway to Palapye station, it will be incumbent on the Protectorate government to undertake the Palla to Palapye services.

It is to be hoped that my recommendations ... with regard to a reduction of the postal rates to and from the Protectorate will be adopted."

(Note: No details of the recommendations is given.)

SELECTED POSTAL RATES OF BECHUANALAND PROTECTORATE 1888-1935

Compiled by Peter Thy

1. Introduction

The following is an attempt to summarise the postal rates of the Bechuanaland Protectorate as recorded in official and public documents. British Bechuanaland is not included because crucial information is still lacking, but will be covered in a subsequent note. The sources available for the present study were limited to documents found in public libraries and archives in Botswana. There will be errors and missing information in the following table; however, in order to let the reader make his/her own interpretations and to avoid propagating any errors, the most important documents are reproduced in Figures 1-6.

2. Bechuanaland Protectorate

An organised postal service in the Protectorate commenced during 1888 (Aug 7) with a runner post service between Matabeleland (Gubulawayo) and British Bechuanaland (Mafeking). The early history of this service and related official documents have been covered in some detail by the Philatelic Society London (1895), Jurgens (1945), and Holmes (1971). The rates for mail transported via this service were announced in the British Bechuanaland Government Gazette in early August 1888. This announcement is reproduced in Figure 1, as it originally appeared in the Gazette. For destinations outside the southern African area, fees according to the postal convention between the Cape Colony and British Bechuanaland was added. Note that a delivery fee was applicable for all mail received in the Protectorate. November, 1890, book and parcel post were extended to the Protectorate.

Subsequent rate changes were introduced in 1892 (Figure 2), together with the introduction of stamp imprinted postcards. These rate changes occurred on Nov 18, in response to a change in the rates between the Cape Colony and UK from Aug 1. The Protectorate rates were modelled on the Mashonaland rates as clearly shown by the manuscript summary reproduced as Figure 3. The Mashonaland (British South Africa Company/Southern Rhodesia) rates (from Aug 1, 1892) are reproduced by Jurgens (1945, p55-56), and appear essentially identical to the Protectorate rates. The delivery fees in the Protectorate were 'abolished' from Nov 17, 1892.

Jim Catterall has pointed out to me that a study of Protectorate covers indicates that the 6d rate to UK was in effect possibly as early as May 29, 1891. This implies that either the British Bechuanaland or the Cape rates changed prior to 1892 (i.e. the BB part of the 1888 rate). An 1892 rate change is not listed by Goldblatt (1984) for the Cape Colony, but was adopted by Mashonaland (Knight and Mitchell, 1984). Goldblatt (p235) gives the 1889-1890 Cape rate to foreign destinations as 2½d, while he lists the 1886 inter-Empire rate as 6d (and presumably also the 1890-1899 rates). Unfortunately, Goldblatt's listings are not clear and may be in error. My information suggests that the 2½d rate from the Cape Colony to foreign countries was introduced Aug 1, 1892. The British Bechuanaland Government Gazette from July 29, 1892, reads "Postal Notices. (...) Information has been received that from the 1st August, the rate of postage from the Cape Colony to all parts of the world, served through the United Kingdom, will be 2½d per half oz.; post cards, same destinations, 1½d.; reply paid post cards, 3d. ... Information has also been received that from 1st of July, the postage on letters from the United Kingdom to British Bechuanaland and the Protectorate will be 2½d. per half oz.; Post cards, 1d.; reply post cards, 2d. ... No alteration has, as yet, been made in the postage on letters posted in Bechuanaland and the Protectorate./R Tillard, Acting Postmaster-General/Vryburg,/July 22nd, 1892." The resulting rate change was introduced for Southern Rhodesia Aug 1., for the Protectorate Nov 18, 1892

and the Cape 13 Sep 1892, or shortly thereafter (Act No. 35 of 1892 of Cape of Good Hope). It appears likely that the corresponding rates for British Bechuanaland also would change, but this is not proven. This illustrates the importance of solid information on the Cape and British Bechuanaland rates for interpreting early Bechuanaland Protectorate covers; unfortunately the Cape rates are beyond the scope of the present compilation.

On 1 April, 1893, the postal and telegraph services of British Bechuanaland and the Bechuanaland Protectorate were transferred to the Cape Post Office (Putzel, 1896, p111). Subsequently, the postal services were regulated by the Post Office Act No. 35 of 1892 and the Post Office Act No. 17 of 1895 of the Colony of the Cape of Good Hope. After 1911, and until the Protectorate took over its own postal service in 1957, the Post Office Act No. 10 of 1911 of the Union of South Africa was in force. Bechuanaland Protectorate did not become a member of the Universal Postal Union when the Cape Colony joined in 1895 (Goldblatt, p154); Instead, the Protectorate appears to have only taken this step (together with Rhodesia) in 1899, after the completion of the railway to Francistown in 1897.

The 1899 decrease in the postal rates (the UPU rates) has not been found officially documented, but appears as a comparative listing in the annual report from the Cape postal administration to the Protectorate administration for the year ending March 31, (Figure 4).

The Imperial Penny Postage was introduced in the Protectorate in 1908 (Figure 5) and Australia added in 1910.

The next change in the rates appears to occur in 1920 and is documented by a High Commissioner's Notice No. 42 of 1920 (Figure 6). Other important postal notices appeared in 1921, 1925, 1926 and 1931, as shown in Figure 6.

Acknowledgements.

The information has been compiled with kind assistance of the Botswana National Archives.

Sources

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Table 1. Bechuanaland Protectorate

	Letters	Postcards	Newspapers	Printed papers (1)
<u>2. Aug. 1888 (2)</u> Protectorate	2d/0.5oz		2d/4oz	
S. African postal area	4/0.5oz		2.5/4oz	
U.K.	2+8B rate		2+8B rate	
Foreign	2+8B rate		2+8B rate	
<u>18. Nov. 1892 (3)</u> Protectorate	2d/0.5oz	1d	0.5<4oz (4)	0.5d/oz (5)
S. African postal area	4/0.5oz	1.5	1<4oz (4)	1/oz (5)
U.K.	6/0.5oz	2	1.5<4oz (4)	3/2oz (5)
Foreign	6.5/0.5oz	2.5	2.5<4oz (4)	3/2oz (5)
<u>1. Apr. 1895 (6)</u> S. African Postal Union	2/0.5oz	1	0.5/4oz	0.5/2oz
U.K.	4/0.5oz	1	1/4oz	1/2oz
Foreign	4/0.5oz	1	1/4oz	1/2oz
<u>1. Apr. 1908 (7)</u> S. African Postal Union	1/0.5oz	0.5	0.5/2oz	0.5/2oz (8)
U.K. and possessions	1/0.5oz	1	1/4oz	1/2oz (8)
Australia and foreign	2.5/0.5oz	1	1/4oz	1/2oz (8)
<u>1. Nov. 1910 (9)</u> Australia	1/0.5oz			
<u>17. May 1920 (10)</u> S. African Postal Union	1.5/oz	1		
U.K. and possessions	1.5/oz			
Australia and Foreign	1.5/oz			
<u>1. Jun. 1921 (11)</u> S. African Postal Union	2/oz		0.5/4oz	
U.K. and possessions	2/oz			
Australia and Foreign	2/oz			
<u>1. Jan. 1922 (12)</u> British Empire & Egypt	3/oz	1.5		
Foreign		1.5		
<u>1. Jan. 1926 (13)</u> Bechuanaland Protectorate	1/oz	0.5	0.5/4oz	0.5/2oz
<u>1. May 1931 (14)</u> Bechuanaland Protectorate	2/oz	1		1/4oz

- Up to 1908 this category of mail is described as books and sample packets; after 1908 commercial papers also are included.
- This is the runner post organized by R. Moffat. Listed is the rates for mail posted within the Protectorate. For mail posted in Matabeleland and the Transprotectorate (Fati) different rates were applied; cf. Holmes (1971, p. 83-85) and the full text of the original announcement as shown in Figure 1. South African postal area includes Matabeleland and "Transprotectorate" (incl. Fati and Gubulawayo), British Bechuanaland, Cape, and other parts of South Africa. Book and parcel service was not available. The newspaper rates within the Protectorate were changed by a Government Notice of 16. March 1889 to 0.5d/4oz; additional charges at Kanya, Molepolole, and Shoshong 1d/4oz; and at Fati and Bulawayo 2d/4oz.
- The British Bechuanaland Official Gazette, Nov. 18. 1892, as reproduced in Figure 2. Only rates for mail posted in the Protectorate and the "Trans-Protectorate" (i.e., Fati and Bulawayo) are given. The rates were based on the Mashonaland rates (Figure 3). South African postal area includes Mashonaland, Bechuanaland, Cape Colony, Orange Free State, South African Republic, Natal.
- The correct interpretation of the newspaper rates may be per 4 ounces, and not up to 4 ounces as suggested here. Newspapers sent via private ship were 1.5 d per 4 ounces.
- Book packets and samples. Protectorate and Transprotectorate: 0.5d/oz; South African postal area: not exceeding 1 oz - 1d; 2 oz - 2d; 4 oz - 3d; every additional 4 oz - 4d; U.K.: not exceeding 1 oz - 1.5d; 2 oz - 3d; 4 oz - 4d; every additional 4 oz - 4d (4d per additional 4 ounces corrected to 3d on 25. Nov. 1892); foreign countries served via U.K.: not exceeding 2 oz - 3d; every additional 2 oz - 3d; foreign countries served by private ship: not exceeding 1 oz - 1.5d; 2 oz - 3d; 4 oz - 4d; each additional 4 oz - 4d.
- Listing occurs, as reproduced in Figure 4, in an annual report from the Cape postal administration to the Protectorate administration for the year ending March 31, 1900, and no details are available. The South African Postal Union includes Cape Colony, Orange Free State, South African Republic, Natal and dates from 1897. Rhodesia is mentioned together with other South African Postal Union; however, it is not clear whether this only refer to a decrease in the book and sample rates from 1d/oz to 0.5d/2oz (cf., Figure 4).
- This is the introduction of what is known as "Imperial Penny Postage" to all parts of the Empire (except the Australian Commonwealth). General Post Office, Table of Charges, Bechuanaland Protectorate, 1. Apr. 1908, shown as Figure 5.
- South African destinations: minimum charge of 1d for sample packets and commercial papers. Other destinations: minimum charge of 2.5d for commercial papers.
- Imperial Penny Postage extended to Australia. Annual report from the Postmaster-General, Cape of Good Hope, for the year ending 31. March 1909.
- High Commissioner's Notice No. 42 of 1920. Southern African area includes Union of South Africa, Basutoland, Swaziland, Bechuanaland Protectorate, S. and N. Rhodesia, Mozambique, and South West Africa.
- High Commissioner's Notice No. 44 of 1921. This notice is open to interpretations. It is assumed that it reflects a general increase in all letter rates from 1.5d to 2d; further, that only the newspaper rates within the Protectorate are affected. This latter is 0.5d to 2 lb; from 2 lb to 7 lb 0.5d/2oz.
- High Commissioner's Notice No. 88 of 1921. The letter rate to designations outside S. African Postal Union, British Empire, and Egypt is 3 d for first ounce; 1.5 d for each additional ounce. The postcard rate is changed to 1.5d for destinations outside the South African Postal Union. Reply coupons, 6d each. Literature for the blind 0.25d/500 g (international rate).
- High Commissioner's Notice No. 170 of 1925. Rate for newspapers is 0.5d up to 1 lb; 1 lb: 0.5d/2oz. Special rate for newspapers printed, published, and posted within the Protectorate. Up to 8 oz: 0.25 d; between 8 oz and 1 lb: 0.5d; above 1 lb: 0.5d/2oz. The rate for printed papers is for printed papers, accounts and receipts, and samples. Book rate is 1d for first 4 oz and 0.5d per additional 2 oz.
- High Commissioner's Notice No. 56 of 1931. The letter rate is 2d for first ounce, 1d per additional ounce. The printed paper rate is listed as accounts, receipts and invoices and is 1d for first 4 oz, 0.5d per additional 2 ounces.

PROTECTORATE POST.

It is hereby notified for general information that arrangements will shortly be completed for the establishment of a Postal Service, by Native Runners, between British Bechuanaland and Matabeleland via Bainangwato, when the following Rates of Postage will come into force :—

Correspondence posted within the Protectorate and Trans-Protectorate to be prepaid in British Bechuanaland Stamps over-printed with the word "Protectorate."	LETTERS		For each Newspaper not exceeding 4 oz. and for every additional 4 oz.
	Not exceeding ½ oz.	Every additional ½ oz.	
1.—WHEN POSTED WITHIN THE PRESENT LIMITS OF THE PROTECTORATE—			
(a) Addressed to places within the present limits of the Protectorate ...	2d	2d	2d
(b) Addressed to Offices in Matabeleland, British Bechuanaland, the Cape Colony, and other parts of South Africa ...	4d	4d	2½d
(c) Addressed to the United Kingdom and Foreign Countries.— <i>The Rates specified in the existing convention between the Cape Colony and British Bechuanaland and an additional charge of</i> ...	2d	2d	2d
2.—WHEN POSTED BEYOND THE PRESENT LIMITS OF THE PROTECTORATE—			
(a) Addressed to Places within the Trans-Protectorate ...	2d	2d	2d
(b) Addressed to Offices within the present limits of the Protectorate ...	4d	4d	2½d
(c) Addressed to British Bechuanaland, the Cape Colony, and other parts of South Africa ...	6d	6d	4½d
(d) Addressed to the United Kingdom and Foreign Countries.— <i>The Rates specified in the existing convention between the Cape Colony and British Bechuanaland and an additional charge of</i> ...	4d	4d	4d
3.—CORRESPONDENCE ADDRESSED TO THE PROTECTORATE OR TRANS-PROTECTORATE FROM OTHER PARTS OF SOUTH AFRICA, THE UNITED KINGDOM, AND FOREIGN COUNTRIES SHOULD BE PREPAID AT THE RATES PROVIDED IN THE EXISTING CONVENTION BETWEEN THE CAPE COLONY AND BRITISH BECHUANALAND, and the following additional charges will be payable upon delivery—			
(a) When delivered within the present limits of the Protectorate ...	2d	2d	2d
(b) When delivered beyond the present limits of the Protectorate ...	4d	4d	4d

Postal Agencies are being opened at the undermentioned places :—

Within the present limits of the Protectorate at Kutye, Molepolole (Secheli's), and Shoshong (Khame's).

Beyond the present limits of the Protectorate at Tati and Gubulawayo (Lobengule's).

No Articles will be transmitted at Book or Parcels Rates beyond Mafeking in British Bechuanaland so long as the Mails are conveyed by Native Runners.

ERNEST C. BAXTER,
Acting Postmaster-General.

Vryburg, British Bechuanaland,
July 28th, 1888.

Figure 1. The 1888 announcement of the postal rates of the postal rates of the runner post service between Gubulawayo and Mafeking. The illustration is reduced in size otherwise as it originally appeared in the British Bechuanaland Government Gazette. Trans-protectorate refers to Tati and Gubulawayo (later spellings: Bulawayo and Buluwayo). Courtesy Botswana National Archives.

Postal Notice.

RATES OF POSTAGE IN THE BECHUANALAND PROTECTORATE.

It is hereby notified that on and from the 18th November, 1892, the following rates of postage will be levied on correspondence posted in the British Bechuanaland Protectorate and at the Post Offices of Tati, and Bulawayo, in the District known as the Trans-Protectorate, and that from the same date the charges hitherto levied on the delivery of mail matter addressed to Offices in the above named Territories will be abolished except in the case of correspondence insufficiently prepaid at the rates chargeable in the country where such correspondence is posted.

Letters for delivery from any office in the Protectorate or at Tati, and Bulawayo, 2d. per ½oz. or fraction thereof.

Letters addressed to Mashonaland, Bechuanaland, the Cape Colony, the Orange Free State, the South African Republic and Natal, 4d. per ½oz. or fraction thereof.

Letters addressed to the United Kingdom, 6d. per ½oz. or fraction thereof.

Letters addressed to Foreign Countries, 6d. per ½oz. or fraction thereof.

Post Cards for delivery within the Protectorate, or at Tati, and Bulawayo, 1d. each.

Post Cards addressed to Mashonaland, Bechuanaland, Cape Colony, Orange Free State, South African Republic, and Natal, 1½d. each.

Post Cards addressed to the United Kingdom, 2d. each.

Post Cards addressed to Foreign Countries served via the United Kingdom, 2½d. each.

Post Cards addressed to Foreign Countries served by Private Ships* not admissible.

Reply Paid Cards Double the rates for single Post cards.

Newspapers for delivery within the Protectorate or at Tati, and Bulawayo, ½d. per paper not exceeding 4oz. in weight.

Newspapers addressed to Mashonaland, Bechuanaland, the Cape Colony, the Orange Free State, the South African Republic, and Natal, 1d. per paper not exceeding 4oz. in weight.

Newspapers addressed to the United Kingdom, 1½d. per paper not exceeding 4oz. in weight.

Newspapers addressed to Foreign Countries served via the United Kingdom, 2½d. per paper not exceeding 4oz. in weight.

Newspapers addressed to Foreign Countries served by Private Ships, 1½d. per paper not exceeding 4oz. in weight.

Book Packets and Samples for delivery within the Protectorate, not exceeding 1oz. 4d. every additional oz. or fraction thereof ½d.

Book Packets and Samples addressed to Mashonaland, Bechuanaland, the Cape Colony, Orange Free State, South African Republic, and Natal, not exceeding 1oz. 1d. not exceeding 2oz. 2d. not exceeding 4oz. 3d. every additional 4oz. or fraction thereof 4d.

Book Packets and Samples addressed to the United Kingdom, not exceeding 1oz. 1½d. not exceeding 2oz. 3d. not exceeding 4oz. 4d., every additional 4oz. or fraction thereof 4d.

Book Packets and Samples addressed to Foreign Countries served via the United Kingdom, not exceeding 2oz. 3d. every additional 2oz. or fraction thereof 3d.

Book Packets and Samples addressed to Foreign Countries served by Private Ships, not exceeding 1oz. 1½d., not exceeding 2oz. 3d., not exceeding 4oz. 4d., every additional 4oz. or fraction thereof 4d.

Parcels for delivery within the Protectorate not exceeding 8oz. 4d., not exceeding 12oz. 6d., not exceeding 1lb. 8d., every additional lb. or fraction thereof 8d.

Parcels addressed to Mashonaland, Bechuanaland, Cape Colony, Orange Free State, South African Republic, and Natal, not exceeding 8oz. 1/2, not exceeding 12oz. 1/5, not exceeding 1lb. 1/8, every additional lb. or fraction thereof 1/8.

Parcels addressed to the United Kingdom, for each lb. or fraction thereof 2/2.

Parcels addressed to Foreign Countries, served via the United Kingdom, the rates from Capetown, plus 1/5 per lb. or fraction thereof.

Parcels addressed to Foreign Countries, served by Private Ships,* not admissible.

Registration Fee in each case, 4d.

*The following countries are usually served by Private Ship Mails, but correspondence for India is also sent via the United Kingdom:—Australian Colonies, Bourbon, Ceylon, Delagoa Bay, India, Inhambane, Loyalty Island, Madagascar, Mauritius, Mozambique, New Zealand, Norfolk Island, Quilimaue, Reunion, Samoa, Seychelles, Tasmania.

Parcels, Samples and Books cannot be accepted for transmission to Tati and Bulawayo. The issue of Post Cards to Foreign Countries will be deferred to 1st January next.

By order,

R. TILLARD,

Acting Postmaster-General.

General Post Office,

Vryburg, 17th November, 1892.

Printed and Published at Vryburg, British Bechuanaland, by TOWNSEND AND SON.—Friday, November 18th, 1892.

Figure 2. The 1892 rate change as published by the British Bechuanaland Official Gazette, Nov 18, 1892. The rates were based on the Mashonaland rates (Figure 3). A printing error occurs for books, packets and samples addressed to Mashonaland etc, which should give the 'additional 4oz or fraction thereof rate' as 3d, not 4d. Courtesy Botswana National Archives.

Rates of Postage on Correspondence posted in ~~Mashonaland~~ and at Tati and Bulawayo.

For delivery within	Letters	Post Cards	Newspapers	Books - Packets						Parcels					Registration Fee
	Per 100	Per 100	Per 100	Not exceeding 10g	Every additional 5g	Not exceeding 20g	Every additional 10g	Not exceeding 40g	Every additional 20g	Not exceeding 40g	Not exceeding 80g	Not exceeding 120g	Not exceeding 1 lb	Every additional lb	
The British Bechuanaland Protectorate Mashonaland and at Tati & Bulawayo. Bechuanaland	2 ^d	1 ^d	2 ^d	3 ^d	2 ^d					3 ^d	4 ^d	6 ^d	8 ^d	8 ^d	4 ^d
The British Bechuanaland Protectorate Mashonaland Bechuanaland, Cape Colony The Orange Free State, the South African Republic or Natal.	4 ^d	1 ^d	1 ^d	1 ^d		2 ^d		3 ^d	3 ^d	3 ^d	1 ^d	1 ^d	1 ^d	1 ^d	4 ^d
The United Kingdom	6 ^d	2 ^d	1 ^d	1 ^d		3 ^d		4 ^d	4 ^d				2 ^d	2 ^d	4 ^d
Countries served by Annual Ships *	6 ^d	-	1 ^d	1 ^d		3 ^d		4 ^d	4 ^d	Not admissible					4 ^d
Foreign Countries served via the United Kingdom	6 ^d	2 ^d	2 ^d			3 ^d	3 ^d			(The rates from Cape Town plus 1 ^d per lb See Cape Post Office Guide pages 75 to 92)					4 ^d

* The following Countries are usually served by Private ship mails but correspondence for India is also sent via the United Kingdom :-

Australian Colonies	Longally Island	Zimbabwe
Bombay	Madagascar	Reunion
Ceylon	Midway Island	Samoa
Delagoa Bay	Mozambique	Seychelles
India	New Zealand	Tasmania
Indian Ocean	Norfolk Island	

Figure 3. Manuscript to the 1892 rates showing that these were based on the Mashonaland rates. Courtesy Botswana National Archives.

BECHUANALAND PROTECTORATE.

POST OFFICE.

ANNUAL REPORT FOR THE YEAR ENDED

MARCH 31ST. 1900.

In common with other parts of South Africa, postal business during the year ended 31st of March last was necessarily much restricted through the outbreak of hostilities between the Boer Republics and Great Britain. Indeed, through the railway line having been cut in the month of October and not again being in working order up to the close of the Financial Year, the postal operations in the Protectorate may, broadly, be said to have been confined to six months, viz:- April to September.

On the 1st of April 1899 the postage rates from the Protectorate to other countries were reduced as under.

COUNTRY.	LETTERS		POSTCARDS		BOOKS AND		NEWSPAPERS	
	From	To	From	To	SAMPLE PRICES		From	To.
Cape Colony.					From	To		
South African Republic.	4d	2d	1½d	1d	1d 1oz	2d 2oz	1d	½d
Natal.	½oz	½oz	each	each	3d 4oz		4oz	4oz
Orange Free State.								
Rhodesia.					1d 1oz			
United Kingdom.	6d	4d	2d	1d	3d 2oz	1d 2oz	1½d	1d
	½oz	½oz	each	each	4d 4oz		4oz	4oz
Foreign Countries.	6½	4d	2½d	1d	3d 2oz	1d 2oz	2½d	1d
	½oz	½oz	each	each			4oz	4oz

Figure 4. The 1899 rates. Listing occurs in an annual report from the Cape postal administration to the Protectorate administration for the year ending March 31, 1900. Courtesy Botswana National Archives.

BECHUANALAND PROTECTORATE.

TABLE OF CHARGES.

POSTAGE RATES ON CORRESPONDENCE.

Addressed to	Letters.	Post Cards.		Newspapers.	Books, Commercial Papers and Sample Packets.
		Single.	Reply Paid.		
South African Destinations ...	1d. per $\frac{1}{2}$ oz.	$\frac{1}{2}$ d.	1d.	$\frac{1}{2}$ d. per 2 oz.	* $\frac{1}{2}$ d. per 2 oz.
United Kingdom and British Possessions Oversea ...	1d. per $\frac{1}{2}$ oz.	1d.	2d.	1d. per 4 oz.	†1d. per 2 oz.
Australia and Foreign Countries	2 $\frac{1}{2}$ d. per $\frac{1}{2}$ oz.	1d.	2d.	1d. per 4 oz.	†1d. per 2 oz.

* With a minimum charge of 1d. for sample packets and commercial papers.
 † With a minimum charge of 2 $\frac{1}{2}$ d. for commercial papers.

PARCELS.

For Cape Colony and Natal	...	...	... 1/- per lb.
„ other places in S. Africa	...	...	... 1/6 „
„ United Kingdom	...	...	1/9 per 1st lb., 1/3 for each additional lb.
„ Foreign Countries	...	...	For rates apply at P.O. Counter.

POSTAL ORDERS.

Amount of Order.	Poundage.
6d., 1/-, 1/6, 2/-, 2/6, 3/-, 3/6, 4/-, 4/6 or 5/-	... 1d.
5/6, 6/-, 6/6, 7/-, 7/6, 8/-, 8/6, 9/-, 9/6, 10/- or 10/6	2d.
11/-, 11/6, 12/-, 12/6, 13/-, 13/6, 14/-, 14/6, 15/-, 15/6, 16/-, 16/6, 17/-, 17/6, 18/-, 18/6, 19/-, 19/6, 20/- or 21/-	... 3d.

TELEGRAMS.

For places within South Africa 2d. per word.
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CABLEGRAMS.

For the United Kingdom... 2/8 per word.
For other Countries	...	Cape Colony rates plus 2d. „

W. T. HOAL,
 Postmaster-General.

General Post Office, Cape Town,
 1st April, 1908.

D.722.100.3.08. C.T.Ltd.—D.1370.

Figure 5. Imperial Penny Postage 1908. General Post Office, Table of Charges, Bechuanaland Protectorate, 1 Apr, 1908. Courtesy Botswana National Archives.

HIGH COMMISSIONER'S NOTICE i o. 42 OF 1920.

BECHUANALAND PROTECTORATE—POSTAL TARIFF.

It is hereby notified for general information that, under the provisions of Act No. 10 of 1911 of the Union of South Africa as of force in the Bechuanaland Protectorate, His Excellency the High Commissioner has been pleased to approve of the under-mentioned amendments in the tariff in respect of the Postal Service in the Bechuanaland Protectorate; with effect from the 17th May, 1920, inclusive.

By Command of His Excellency the
High Commissioner.

H. J. STANLEY,
Imperial Secretary.
High Commissioner's Office,
Capetown, 17th May, 1920.

POSTAL TARIFF.

Letters—

To any place in respect of which the charge has hitherto been one penny per half-ounce, the charge shall be one and a half pence per ounce.

Post Cards (Inland)—

To any place within the Union of South Africa, Basutoland, Swaziland, the Bechuanaland Protectorate, Southern and Northern Rhodesia, the Province of Mozambique, or the South-West Africa Protectorate, the charges shall be as follows:—

Post cards (single), 1d. each.

Post cards (reply paid), 2d. each.

(Printed by the Government Printer, Pretoria.)

HIGH COMMISSIONER'S NOTICE No. 44 OF 1921.

BECHUANALAND PROTECTORATE POSTAL TARIFF.

It is hereby notified for general information that, under the provisions of Act No. 10 of 1911 of the Union of South Africa, as of force in the Bechuanaland Protectorate, His Royal Highness the High Commissioner has been pleased to approve of the under-mentioned alterations in the postage rates, as amended by Notice No. 42 of 1920, with effect from the 1st June, 1921.

By Command of His Royal Highness the
High Commissioner.

H. J. STANLEY,
Imperial Secretary.

High Commissioner's Office,
Capetown, 23rd May, 1921.

Letters from 1½d. per oz. to 2d. per oz.
Newspapers, not exceeding 2 lb. in weight, ½d. per 4 oz.
Newspapers, exceeding 2 lb. but not exceeding 7 lb. in weight, ½d. per 2 oz.

(Printed by the Government Printer, Pretoria.)

HIGH COMMISSIONER'S NOTICE No. 88 OF 1921.

BECHUANALAND PROTECTORATE POSTAL TARIFF.

It is hereby notified for general information that, under the provisions of Act No. 10 of 1911 of the Union of South Africa, as of force in the Bechuanaland Protectorate, His Royal Highness the High Commissioner has been pleased to approve of the under-mentioned alterations in the postage rates, as amended by Notice No. 42 of 1920 and Notice No. 44 of 1921, with effect as regards parcel post charges from the 20th October, 1921, and as regards the other charges from the 1st January, 1922.

By Command of His Royal Highness
the High Commissioner.

C. L. O'B. DUTTON,
Acting Imperial Secretary.
High Commissioner's Office,
Capetown, 14th November, 1921.

Foreign Parcel Post.—The addition of 3d. per lb. to the rates of postage of parcels for abroad forwarded via the United Kingdom.
Letters.—For destinations outside the South African Postal Union, with the exception of the British Empire and Egypt:—

First unit of 1 oz., 3d.

Each additional unit, 1½d.

Post Cards.—For destinations outside the South African Postal Union:—

Single card, 1½d.

Reply-paid card, 3d.

Avis de Reception, etc.—Avis de Reception, or acknowledgment of receipt of a registered letter, 3d.

Inquiry re disposal of a registered letter, 3d.

Minimum charge for extra-South African commercial papers, 3d.

Reply Coupons.—Price per coupon, 6d.

International Embossed Literature for the Blind: ½d. per unit of 500 grammes.

Insufficiently Prepaid International Correspondence.—Minimum charge of 3d. when the amount to be collected is not indicated by the dispatching office.

(Printed by the Government Printer, Pretoria.)

Figure 6A. The most important High Commissioner's Notices issued between 1920 and 1935 relating to postal rates.

HIGH COMMISSIONER'S NOTICE No. 170 of 1925.

It is hereby notified for general information that, under the provisions of Act No. 10 of 1911, of the Union of South Africa, as in force in Basutoland, the Bechuanaland Protectorate, and Swaziland, His Excellency the High Commissioner has been pleased to approve of the following rates of postage and supplementary charges, with effect in Basutoland, the Bechuanaland Protectorate, and Swaziland, from the 1st day of January, 1926, inclusive.

By Command of His Excellency the High Commissioner.

STURLEY PALMERS,
Acting Imperial Secretary.
High Commissioner's Office,
Pretoria, 21st December, 1925.

1. Letters..... 1d. per ounce.
1d. each.
2. Post cards (single)..... 1d. each.
3. (a) Accounts (reply paid)..... 1d. per 2 ounces.
(b) Printed papers..... 1d. per 2 ounces.
4. (a) Newspapers (other than those printed and published within the territory and posted in bulk by the publishers only)..... 1d. per 4 ounces per copy.
Limit of weight for each packet, 1 lb. Packets exceeding 1 lb., 1d. per 2 ounces.
(b) Newspapers printed and published within the territory, when posted in bulk by the publishers only and when addressed to any place within the territory (vide regulation 37)..... For each copy not exceeding 8 ounces in weight, 1d.
For each copy exceeding 8 ounces in weight but not exceeding 1 lb. in weight, 1d.
For each copy exceeding 1 lb. in weight, 1d. per 2 ounces.
5. Samples..... 1d. per 2 ounces.
6. All other classes of postal matter, except parcels and literature for the blind..... 1d. for the first 4 ounces and 1d. per 2 ounces thereafter.
Not exceeding 4 ounces in weight, 2d.
Not exceeding 8 ounces in weight, 4d.
Not exceeding 1 lb. in weight, 6d.
For every additional 1 lb. or fraction thereof, 6d.
For a packet not exceeding 2 ounces in weight, 1d.
For a packet exceeding 2 ounces but not exceeding 5 lb., 1d.
For a packet exceeding 5 lb. but not exceeding 6 lb., 2d.
8. Literature for the blind posted within the territory to a place within the territory.....

Supplementary Charges to be substituted for items 13 to 31 under Schedule B.

13. For the acceptance of ordinary letters, post cards, newspapers, samples, and book packets after the closing of the mail according to the time allowed (vide regulation 11)..... Not less than 1d. per article and not exceeding 2d. per article.
14. For the acceptance of registered articles and parcels after the closing of the registered letter and parcel mails according to the time allowed (vide regulation 11)..... Not less than 3d. per article and not exceeding 6d. per article.
15. For the acceptance after the closing of the European mail of ordinary letters, post cards, newspapers, samples and book packets according to the time allowed (vide regulation 11)..... Not less than 1d. per article and not exceeding 6d. per article.
16. For the acceptance after the closing of the European mail of registered articles and parcels according to the time allowed (vide regulation 11)..... Not less than 3d. per article and not exceeding 1s. per article.

(Printed by the Government Printer, Pretoria.)

HIGH COMMISSIONER'S NOTICE No. 56 of 1931.

With reference to High Commissioner's Notice No. 170 of 1925, it is hereby notified for general information that, under the provisions of Act No. 10 of 1911 of the Union of South Africa, as of force in Basutoland, the Bechuanaland Protectorate and Swaziland, His Excellency the High Commissioner has been pleased to approve of the undermentioned alterations in the rates of postage and other charges, with effect from the 1st of May, 1931.

By Command of His Excellency the High Commissioner.

B. E. H. CLIFFORD,
Imperial Secretary.

High Commissioner's Office,
Capetown, 25th April, 1931.

RATES OF POSTAGE AND OTHER CHARGES.

1. Letters..... 2d. for the first ounce and 1d. per ounce thereafter.
- 2 (a) Postcards (single)..... 1d. each.
(b) Postcards (reply paid) 2d. each.
- 3 (a) Accounts, Receipts & 1d. for the first 4 ounces and 1d. per 2 ounces thereafter.
Invoices

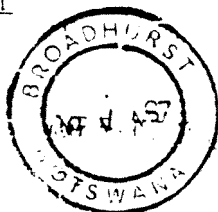
(Printed by the Government Printer, Pretoria.)

Figure 6B. The most important High Commissioner's Notices issued between 1920 and 1935 relating to postal rates.

CHECKLIST OF BOTSWANA POSTMARKS
FOR OFFICES BEGINNING WITH LETTERS A - E (PART 2)

Brian Trotter

BROADHURST



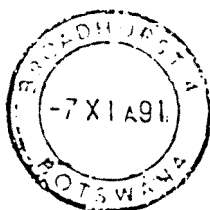
No. 1 Type 2 B 51
Circle diameters : 18mm & 26mm
Earliest recorded date : May 20, 1987
Latest recorded date : Sep 23, 1991
Codes recorded : A, C
Number recorded so far : 8



No. 2 Type 2 B(2) 51
Circle diameters : 18mm & 26mm
Earliest recorded date : Jan 21, 1991
Latest recorded date : Jan 21, 1991
Codes recorded : A
Number recorded so far : 1

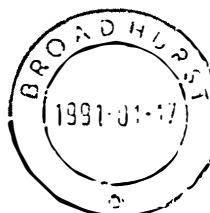


No. 3 Type 2 B(3) 51
Circle diameters : 18mm & 26mm
Earliest recorded date : Apr 11, 1983
Latest recorded date : Sep 21, 1989
Codes recorded : A, B, C
Number recorded so far : 11



No. 4 Type 2 B(4) 51
Circle diameters : 18mm & 26mm
Earliest recorded date : Sep 21, 1988
Latest recorded date : Dec 18, 1991
Codes recorded : A
Number recorded so far : 5

Presumably a similar marking with the number 1 following the name Broadhurst also exists, but so far we have only recorded those with the numbers 2, 3, and 4 following the name.



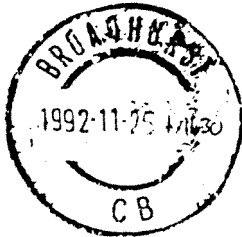
No. 5 Type 2 E(6)
Circle diameters : 18mm & 27mm
Earliest recorded date : Jan 17, 1991
Latest recorded date : Jan 17, 1991
Codes recorded : None
Number recorded so far : 1

Presumably similar markings with the numbers 1 to 5 at the base also exist, but so far we have only recorded the one with number 6 at the base.



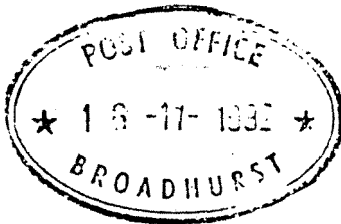
No. 6 Type 2 F 4

Circle diameters : 18mm & 26mm
 Earliest recorded date : Nov 5, 1983
 Latest recorded date : Feb 17, 1992
 Codes recorded : A, B, C
 Number recorded so far : Over 50



No. 7 Type 21 C 24

Circle diameters : 18mm & 30mm
 Earliest recorded date : May 20, 1988
 Latest recorded date : Feb 25, 1993
 Codes recorded : None
 Number recorded so far : 31



No. 8 Type 61 J 27

Oval dimensions : 23mm x 44mm
 Earliest recorded date : Nov 16, 1992
 Latest recorded date : Nov 26, 1992
 Codes recorded : None
 Number recorded so far : 2

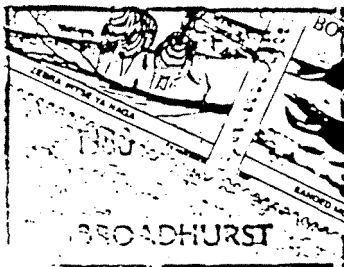
Struck in red.



No. 9 Type 61 J 27

Oval dimensions : 30mm x 50mm
 Earliest recorded date : Aug 17, 1990
 Latest recorded date : Aug 17, 1990
 Codes recorded : None
 Number recorded so far : 1

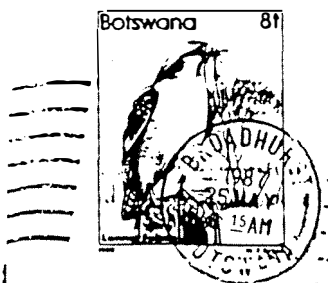
Struck in red.



No. 10 Type 8 J 26

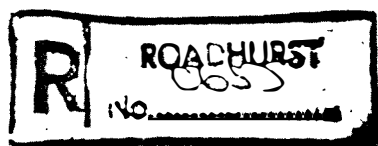
Box dimensions : 34mm x 44mm
 Earliest recorded date : ??, 1988
 Latest recorded date : ??, 1988
 Codes recorded : None
 Number recorded so far : 1

Struck in red.



No. 11 Type MACH 4a

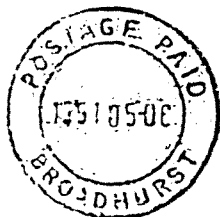
Circle diameter : 21mm
 Earliest recorded date : Sep 16, 1985
 Latest recorded date : Nov 16, 1988
 Codes recorded : None
 Number recorded so far : 31



No. 12 Type REGN 2a

Box dimensions : Circa 17mm x 47mm
 Earliest recorded date : Nov 11, 1988
 Latest recorded date : Nov 11, 1988
 Number recorded so far : 1

Note that the 'B' of Broadhurst appears to be missing.



No. 13 Type MISC 2e

Circle diameters : 19mm & 28mm
 Earliest recorded date : Jun 6, 1990
 Latest recorded date : May 6, 1991
 Codes recorded : None
 Number recorded so far : 2

Struck in red.



No. 14 Type SPEC 2c

Omnibus strike - International
 Literacy Year 1990

Earliest recorded date : Sep 4, 1990
 Latest recorded date : Sep 4, 1990
 Number recorded so far : 2

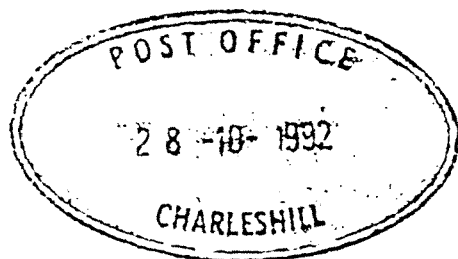
Recorded items are struck in blue, one of them is used to 'cancel' a stamp on an unaddressed cover.

CHARLES HILL



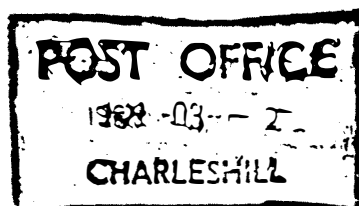
No. 1 Type 2 A 1

Circle diameters : 18mm & 27mm
 Earliest recorded date : Nov 26, 1983
 Latest recorded date : Oct 28, 1992
 Codes recorded : None
 Number recorded so far : 22



No. 2 Type 61 J 26

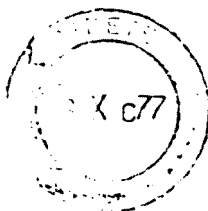
Oval dimensions : 33mm x 58mm
 Earliest recorded date : Oct 28, 1992
 Latest recorded date : Oct 28, 1992
 Codes recorded : None
 Number recorded so far : 1



No. 3 Type 8 J 26

Box dimensions : 26mm x 45mm
 Earliest recorded date : Mar 2, 1989
 Latest recorded date : Mar 2, 1989
 Codes recorded : None
 Number recorded so far : 1

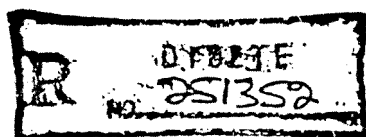
Struck in red.

DIBETI

No. 1 Type 2 D 2

Circle diameters : 18mm & 26mm
 Earliest recorded date : Mar 11, 1974
 Latest recorded date : May 7, 1992
 Codes recorded : A, B, D, E, None
 Number recorded so far : 17

A possible different marking may exist without the ornament at base (Type 2 A 1). Smudging makes the item illustrated alongside unclear. Dimensions are the same, and the date as recorded is -8 X c77



No. 2 Type REGN 3a

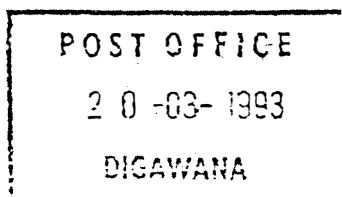
Box dimensions : Circa 12mm x 41mm
 Earliest recorded date : -
 Latest recorded date : -
 Number recorded so far : 1

The single item recorded is struck in black.

DIGAWANA

No. 1 Type 2 B 51

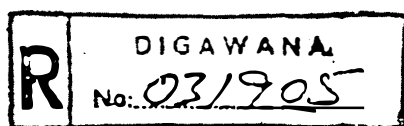
Circle diameters : 18mm & 26mm
 Earliest recorded date : May 1, 1985
 Latest recorded date : Oct 29, 1991
 Codes recorded : A, B, C
 Number recorded so far : 14



No. 2 Type 8 J 26

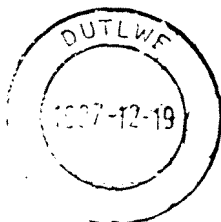
Box dimensions : 25mm x 44mm
 Earliest recorded date : Mar 20, 1993
 Latest recorded date : Mar 20, 1993
 Codes recorded : None
 Number recorded so far : 1

Struck in red.



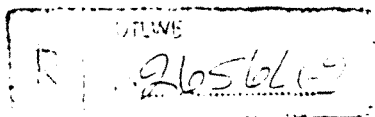
No. 3 Type REGN 2a

Box dimensions : 14mm x 50.5mm
 Earliest recorded date : July 24, ?
 Latest recorded date : Mar 10, 1993
 Number recorded so far : 2

DUTLWE

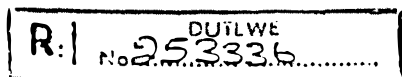
No. 1 Type 2 A 1

Circle diameters : 19mm & 28mm
 Earliest recorded date : Dec 19, 1987
 Latest recorded date : Dec 12, 1989
 Codes recorded : None
 Number recorded so far : 4



No. 2 Type REGN 2a

Box dimensions : 14mm x 43mm
 Earliest recorded date : -
 Latest recorded date : -
 Number recorded so far : 1



No. 3 Type REGN 2a

Box dimensions : 10mm x 52mm
 Earliest recorded date : Mar 3, 1993
 Latest recorded date : Mar 3, 1993
 Number recorded so far : 1

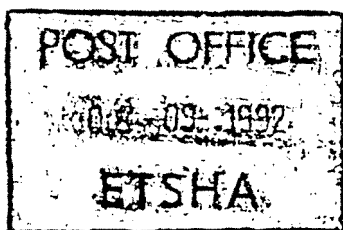
The one item recorded is struck in red.

ETSHA



No. 1 Type 21 A 1

Circle diameters : 17.5mm & 28mm
 Earliest recorded date : Sep ?, 1989
 Latest recorded date : Nov 23, 1992
 Codes recorded : None
 Number recorded so far : 8



No. 2 Type 8 J 26

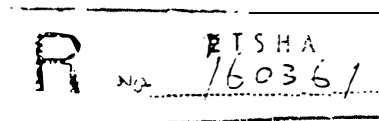
Box dimensions : 28.5mm x 43.5mm
 Earliest recorded date : Sep 8, 1992
 Latest recorded date : Nov 3, 1992
 Codes recorded : None
 Number recorded so far : 2



No. 3 Type 61 J 27

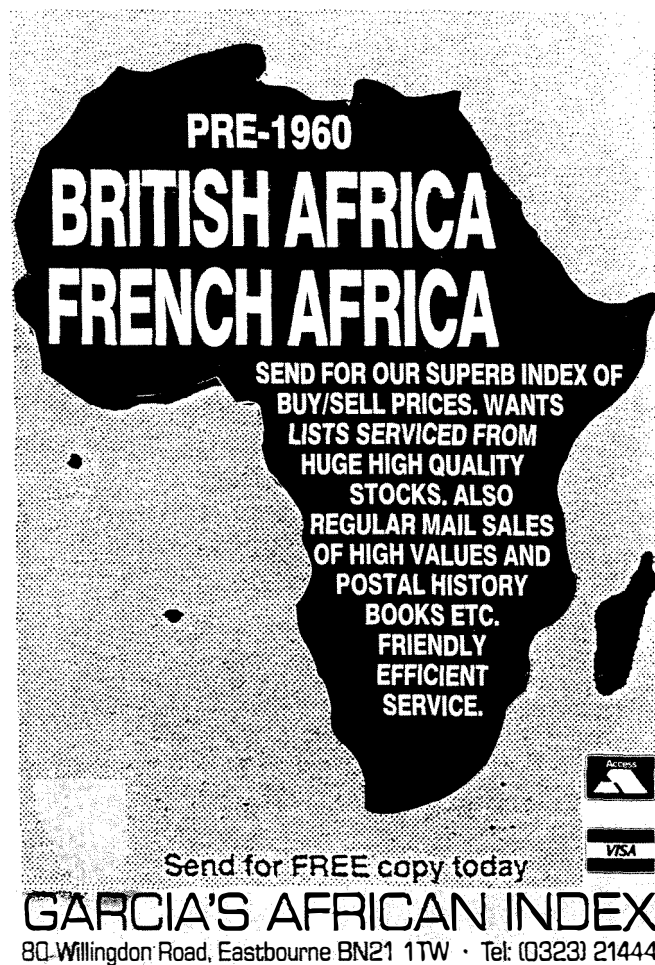
Oval dimensions : ± 33mm x 57mm
 Earliest recorded date : ?
 Latest recorded date : ?
 Codes recorded : None
 Number recorded so far : 1

Struck in red.



No. 4 Type REGN 3a

Box dimensions : 11mm x ? mm
 Earliest recorded date : -
 Latest recorded date : -
 Number recorded so far : 1





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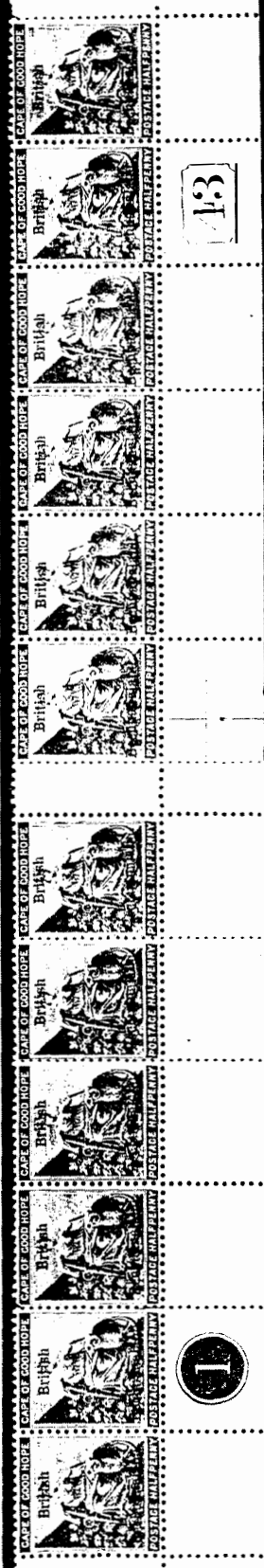
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43

1



1889 1/2d Provisionals (overprinted in green): Bechuanaland Protectorate (SG 52) & British Bechuanaland (SG 30) in interpanneau marginal strips of 12, each showing Plate No.1 and Reference No.43.



I cover The Bechuanalands from top to bottom (and side to side). Whether you are looking for the elusive low value item to fill a gap or something more spectacular, let me help build your collection.

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