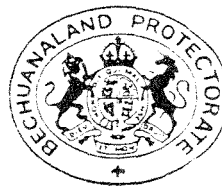
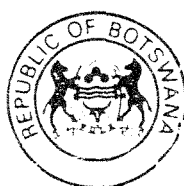


The Runner Post



RUNNER POST NUMBER 34

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MARCH 1994

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THE BECHUANALANDS AND BOTSWANA SOCIETY

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GETTING THE READER'S ATTENTION!

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Whilst obviously stocking Bechuanaland (!) we also cover many other facets of philately. British Africa is our speciality and we take great pleasure in being invited to associate ourselves with "The Runner Post". We look forward to hearing from its many readers.

(Free, illustrated price lists available on request).



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Editor:	Alan MacGregor P.O. Box 3130, Cape Town, 8000, South Africa.

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EDITOR'S COMMENTS

Welcome to your new style *Runner Post*. I am sure members will agree that the print quality of a laser printer over that of dot matrix is a vast improvement.

Improving *The Runner Post* is an ongoing process and in this regard I am always open to suggestions. If you have any constructive criticism or ideas, please let me know!

At the risk of boring non-computer-minded members, it may be worth giving a few details: The *Runner Post* is now prepared using MS Word for Windows (Version 6.0). One of the benefits of now using an 'IBM compatible' system is that contributors who use any of the following word processors may submit articles in disk format (1.44 MB or 1.2 MB) - which I will return: WordPerfect for MS-DOS or Windows (version 5); MS Word for MS-DOS (versions 3, 4, 5, 5.5 or 6); MS Word for Macintosh (versions 4 and 5) or MS Write for Windows.

Articles received in 'disk format' would be greatly appreciated by your Editor as it considerably eases the burden of re-typing. In no way is this intended to discourage contributors without access to a computer. All articles, whether hand-written or typed are always most welcome and actively sought after.

Apologies for the delay in the appearance of this issue. The last few months have been particularly busy and I am only now clearing the backlog.

Pagination: Another change/improvement in this issue concerns pagination. I recently obtained a copy of the superb book *PHILATELIC LITERATURE Compilation Techniques and Reference Sources* by James Negus (1991). From this mine of useful information, I learn it is established bibliographic practice that right-hand pages always have an odd number, a fact probably known to most members (and certainly this computer) but new to me. Correcting this ongoing error entails skipping a page number with this issue, with the result there will be no page 704.

Next BBS Auction: Our Hon Auctioneer, Tony Chilton, is in the process of preparing our next auction. Please submit material to him by 30th June (address at top of page 705).

Typology Study Members who are able to provide additions, corrections, earlier or later dates to the typology articles we have published in various issues of *The Runner Post*, are kindly requested to respond with such information. This will enable us to move the project forward towards the planned publication stage.

Still on the typology study, we are again obliged to stress that the figures quoted in the 'number recorded so far' section for each postmark only record those examples held or seen by members of the study group and are not to be taken as final.

New Member: Stephen Froud, 3 Belmont Road, Gillingham, Kent ME7 5JB, U.K. Stephen is a dealer and a member of the PTS, London and the UDPA, Crewe. He also belongs to 21 other Specialist Societies and Study Circles. Welcome aboard Stephen!

Subscriptions 94/95 Members are reminded that subscriptions fall due at 30th June 1994 and prompt or prior payment would be greatly appreciated. Delays in payment will result in non-despatch of *The Runner Post*! The subscription is £10 (or equivalent) except Botswana (£8) and RSA (R40).

Airmail Surcharge For members living outside UK/Europe or RSA/Botswana, an airmail surcharge of £3 sterling p.a. (or equivalent) will be charged in the new subscription year. Please remember to add this to your usual £10 remittance, and if you have already paid for 94/95 please remit the £3 balance. If you don't mind waiting a few weeks longer for your *Runner Post* and do not want to pay the surcharge, the basic subscription still covers surface mail! Remittances to the Hon Treasurer please (except Botswana/RSA).

MEMBERS' COMMENTS AND QUERIES

CROCODILE POOLS - Frederick Lawrence

I was very interested to read in the December issue of *The Runner Post* (R.P. 33) David Finlay's 'Crocodile Pools Siding - Occupation by Imperial and Boer Forces October 1899 to May 1900 and Postal Agency' (pages 683-685). I must however, disagree with his statement (p684):

2. It is unlikely that the Crocodile Pools datestamp could be correctly used before the 17th March [1900] and probably some days later.'

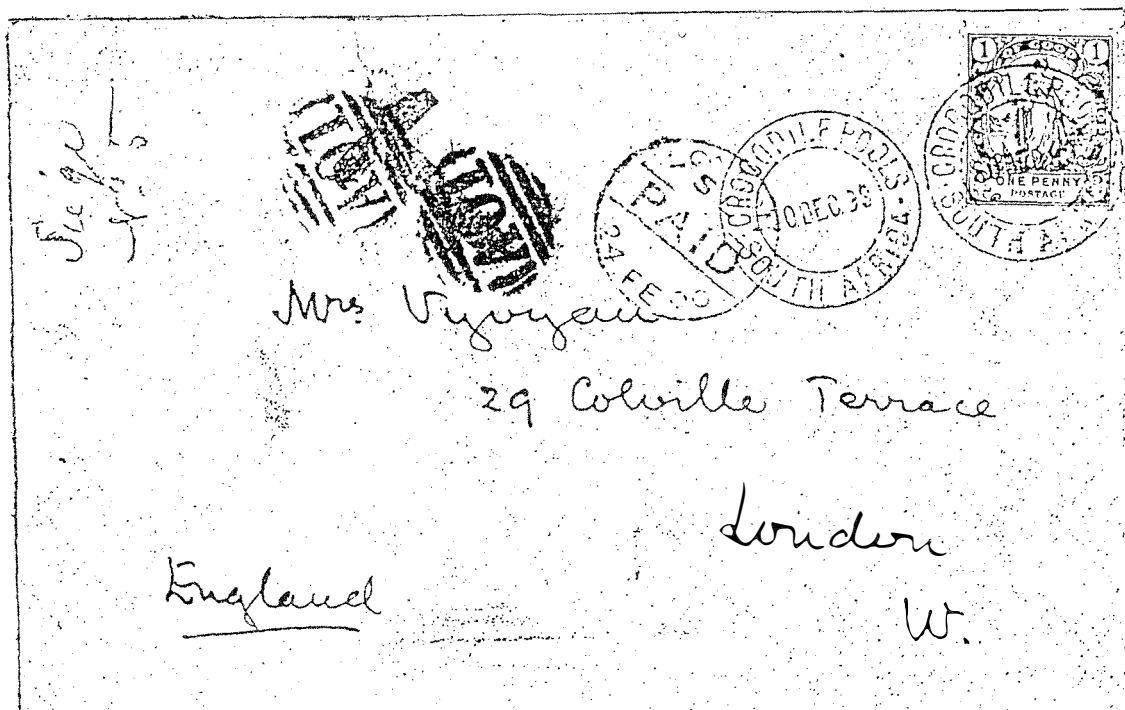
In reaching this conclusion, Mr Finlay has overlooked the Colonel Vyvyan Mafeking siege correspondence, which contains at least three covers whose adhesives are cancelled by the Crocodile Pools datestamps in the period 20-31 December 1899.

Courtenay B. Vyvyan, then a Lt. Colonel, was one of Baden-Powell's senior officers during the Mafeking siege; he served as Town Commandant, Base Commandant, and Chief Engineer of the siege garrison. During the siege he wrote a series of letters to his wife, who lived in Notting Hill, London, which were smuggled out of Mafeking by the Kaffir Runner Post. His Mafeking ledgers, orders, diaries and personal papers were sold as a single lot in a Phillips auction in London in November, 1990.

Prior to this sale, his heirs sold privately the postal history material from his service memorabilia, including the Mafeking siege covers. I enclose photocopies of six of these covers. [Only 'Siege No.5' will reproduce with any clarity, but should illustrate the point - Ed]. Those that were later numbered 'Siege No. 2, 4, 5, 7, 8, & 10.' The photocopies are of courtesy of Ian Shapiro at Argyll Etkin, which handled the sale of some of these covers, and Mr. Hiram Slomowitz of Johannesburg, who is the present owner of some of the covers. I am privileged to presently own 'Siege No.4' which was postmarked with the Crocodile Pools datestamp on 20 December 1899. The Bulawayo, Durban, and Notting Hill backstamps prove conclusively that the Crocodile Pools datestamp was not backdated as Mr. Finlay has suggested for the Mochudi card dated 30 December 1899. You will note that 'Siege Nos. 5 & 7' were also postmarked with the Crocodile Pools datestamp in the period 20-31 December 1899. I believe it is safe to conclude that 'Siege No 6' was similarly postmarked, and possibly others of this correspondence. The Colonel Vyvyan siege correspondence clearly establishes that the Crocodile Pools datestamp was in use from no later than 20 December 1899 as a transit cancel on Kaffir Runner Post mail originating in the besieged Mafeking.

It is interesting to note that the Vyvyan covers which are franked bear only a 1d CGH definitive, possibly posted at the soldier's concessionary rate to which Vyvyan, as an officer, was not entitled. Further, the stamps are not overprinted 'Mafeking Besieged'; the one explanation is that the stamps Vyvyan used to frank his letters were in his personal possession at the time of the investment of the siege, when the military authorities suspended operation of the post and bought up the entire supply of stamps in the Mafeking post office, which were later revalued and overprinted for use

by the siege post. Vyvyan used his stamps until his personal supply was exhausted; since the post was then suspended by the siege, he could buy no more stamps from the civil post office, so he sent the remainder of his letters without stamps. Some of his letters were marked postage due - some with stamps, some without - but it does not appear that the due marks were enforced; some were even obliterated by the London Foreign mail branch (FB) and/or stamped 'London/Paid'. It was apparently British post office policy to grant 'free mail' privileges to military personnel fighting in the Boer War.



'Siege No.5' Cover with CROCODILE POOLS cds dated '30 DEC 99'

POSTAL ORDERS - Peter Thy

"Peter van der Molen asks an interesting question in the Editor's Comments of R.P. 33. He wonders if poundage on postal orders was free when sent 'OHMS'. I have forwarded this question to an expert on postal orders (PO's). The answer follows:

'British PO's could be used without payment of fees during very brief periods of both WW1 and WW2. They were declared 'legal tender' during the period 4 Aug 1914 to 3 Feb 1914, and again between 3 Sep and 20 Dec 1939. PO's dated during those periods have counterfoils removed and are very scarce. I have never seen or heard of one dated outside Great Britain during either of those time periods. I am not aware of any other 'official' usage of postal orders or any other provision for waiving the commission.' (Jack Harwood, 14 Mar 1994.)

How can we then interpret the scribbled notes on a letter to a philatelic customer (from UK?) from the postal office in Mafeking and dated during March 1922 (reproduced in R.P. 32). At that time, the postal rate to the UK (and South Africa) was 2d/oz and the registration fee 5½d. This would total 7½d. Also in 1922, a postal order of 3s would bear a 2d commission fee. The purchase of 6s2½d of stamps, postage and registration of 7½d, and a 3s postal order of 3s2d would total 10s, the amount submitted. The problem is that the postal clerk notes 7d for postage and registration, and apparently returns a 3s2½d order (3s order, 2d commission fee, and ½d affixed to the order in the form of an adhesive). Perhaps the clerk made a simple error, and actually did let the customer pay the full postage and registration fees and did not affix the ½d stamp to the postal order? Or could it be that my rate information is incorrect? However, there is little doubt that the customer paid 2d commission fee for the returned 3s postal order.

It is indeed very rare to find postal orders issued in Bechuanaland (and Botswana), or for that matter references to such orders. If the above stamp collector had saved his/her postal order, today the small investment of 2d would have been greatly repaid. Unfortunately, what is most likely is that it was cashed.

For the last three years I have been searching for British and South African postal orders issued in Bechuanaland and Botswana. I have only seen copies issued around independence. Does anybody own orders and are willing to let me see photocopies?" Please respond to Peter Thy, 581 9th St. 27, Davis, CA 95616, USA.

MEMBERS' COMMENTS AND QUERIES

NEW 'TATI BECHUANALAND' POSTMARK RECORDED -

Michael Hamilton

Michael Hamilton has sent this illustration of a previously unrecorded Tati Bechuanaland postmark neatly cancelling a copy of the ½d vermilion with 'Protectorate' overprint (SG 40). Michael says "The date, whilst indistinct in places seems to conform to [the] expected 21 AU / 88".

We noted in RP 17, p306, the discovery of an eighth copy of this postmark, as recorded in the RSC Journal (RSCJ 148, p155). Michael enquired if illustrations were available of the other recorded examples. The answer is 'yes'. In 1988, Kenneth Wright published an excellent two-part article on Tati in the Rhodesian Study Circle Journal (RSCJ 141, p37 and 142, p88). The latter issue included reduced illustrations of the seven examples recorded as of September 1987.



1926 ½d AND 1d POSTAGE DUES WITH MALFORMED 'P' - David Finlay

This variety was discussed and illustrated in *Runner Post* No.12

I have blocks of six of the ½d and 1d (SG D1-2) with control 'B 24'. In addition I have a block of 40 of the ½d - 10 horizontal by 4 vertical. This is a lower right block being marginal at the foot and right. Finally, I have a block of 48 of the 1d - 8 horizontal by 6 vertical - and again marginal at the foot and right.

The following may be noted from the above:

- Both the ½d and 1d blocks of six, with control 'B 24', have the malformed 'P' on the lower left stamp. (With regard to the ½d, this contrasts with the 'B 24' block of Sir John Inglefield-Watson.)
- On the ½d block of 40 the malformed 'P' appears on Row 12, No.11. It does not appear on any other stamp on this block nor on the 1d block of 48. (However, this block only commences at No.13 in Row 12)
- The two large blocks confirm the stamps were printed in sheets of 240 and were not sub-divided into panes. On the ½d block at foot the green marginal rule is broken on the left by what appears to be half of a green arrow pointing upwards. On 1d the block, at top right, there is a short red vertical line outside the red marginal rule. These appear to confirm the 20 x 12 rows continuous setting.
- A minor variety on the large 1d block is a small white dot in the red marginal rule under Row 12 No.20.

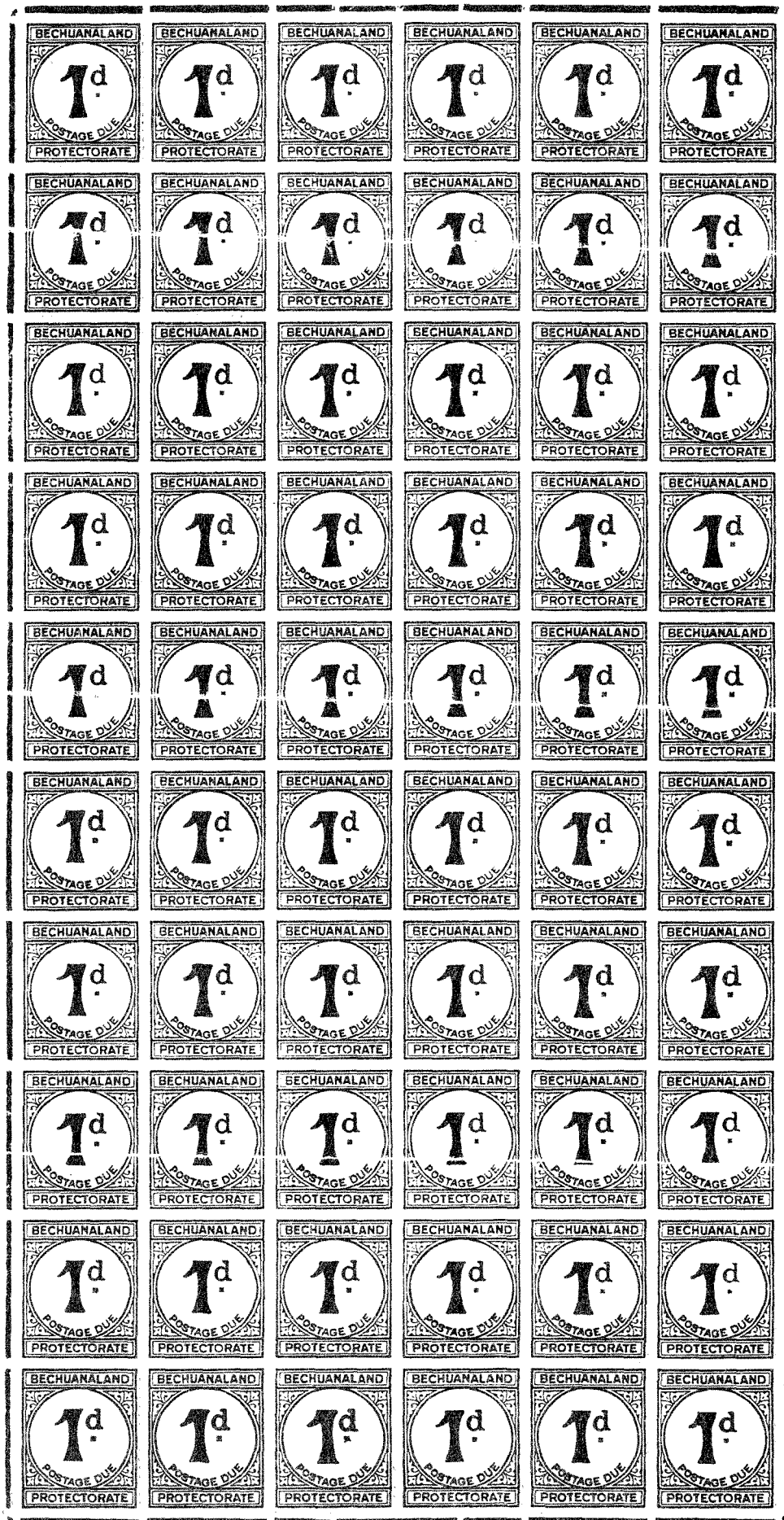
The following points arise:

- There is some evidence to suggest the malformed 'P' is relatively constant on Row 12 no.1 and Row 12 no.11 of the 'B 24' ½d and 1d. Presumably Waterlow and Harrison used the same forme.
- The forme could have been 120 or possibly 60, depending on whether the malformed 'P' appears in Row 6 nos. 1 and 11.

1932-58 POSTAGE DUES - Dennis Firth

"Referring to Leon Jacobson's query regarding the Thick 'd' variety on the ½d Postage Due stamps on page 650 of *Runner Post* No.32, I am enclosing a photocopy of a sheet of 1d Postage Due stamps. This is the 1944 printing (according to the Commonwealth King George VI Catalogue) on rough thick paper. This shows a great deal of variety in the thickness of the d's, thick d's appearing in R1/6, R2/1, R2/6, R8/1, R8/5, and all stamps in the bottom row. In some instances, e.g. R10/3, where the thick 'd' appears, the '1' is thicker as well, this could be caused by an over-inked plate. Only the '1', the 'd' and the ornament under the 'd' seem to vary, the rest of the printing appears fairly constant throughout the sheet. Like the ½d value, the subject of Leon's query, the Thick 'd' variety on the 1d value is not listed by Gibbons."

JUNE 21





THE BECHUANALAND PROTECTORATE DEFINITIVE ISSUE OF 1961 - David Finlay

This issue is described on pages 167 and 168 of Bob Holmes' book. He records only one variety, being the 2½ cents stamp, where the 'black' part of the design is significantly out of register. In *The Runner Post* No.25 a similar variety on the 5c stamp is described and illustrated by Peter van der Molen. The varieties I have noted on this issue are as follows:

The 2 cents stamp the African Hoopoe

(i) White dot above the Hoopoe's eye - This appears on all four stamps of a bottom right marginal block of four, with the plate number 1A1A1A1A at foot. While the white surround of the bird's eye is not very noticeable on the normal stamps, clearly this has moved up to form the white dot on this block.

(ii) White horizontal line on the Queen's neck - this appears on all three stamps of a used horizontal strip. On the left hand stamp the line is low on the neck moving upwards on the middle and right hand stamps. This strip also shows the 'black' colour on the bird's beak substantially failing to print on the middle stamp leaving most of the beak white.

The 2½ cents stamp - the Scarlet-Chested Sunbird

As recorded by Holmes, the 'black' colour used for part of the bird, the Queen's portrait and word 'cents' is out of register by some 5mm downward, the tail feathers of the bird extending as far as the third 'T' of 'PROTECTORATE'. I have a mint single and a single on cover, cancelled with a Mahalapye datestamp. It appears that one sheet was printed with this error and acquired, wholly or in part by the wife of the then District Officer in Mahalapye. Other copies should be known.

The 5 cents stamp - the Swallow-Tailed Bee-Eater

Again the 'black' colour involving part of the bird, the Queen's portrait and the name of the bird is out of register, on this occasion by 2½mm. I have a single mint copy. As a single sheet with this error was printed, a number of other copies should be known.

The 25 cents stamp - the Baobab Tree

It appears that one sheet was printed imperforate. One pair was sold at the Christie's/Robson Lowe auction on Wednesday 18th September 1991 and acquired by the Botswana Postal Museum. I acquired a pair at a recent Johnson Philatelics auction. Others should be known.

The 35 cents stamp - Woman grinding maize

On the right hand stamp of a bottom marginal pair, with 1A1A under the left hand stamp, I have a prominent printing error, which may be unique. This appears as a dark orange printer's ink mark in the shape of a leaf, stretching from the Queen's portrait to halfway down the selvedge - some 17mm in length and 7mm at the widest point. The 'orange' colour is similar to that used for the words 'Postage' and 'Revenue'.

NEWS FROM BOTSWANA

David Wall

POST OFFICES

On 5 June 1989 the Postal Agency at MOIYABANA was replaced by a small post office built by the Village Development Committee but operated from that date as a proper post office. On 3 July 1993 a bigger post office, built by the Dept of Postal Services, replaced the small office.

Revisions and additions to my previous notes on post office openings (RP 27, p519; RP 31, p626) are as follows:

The latest postal agencies to be upgraded to post offices are as follows:

RAMOKGONAMI	10 July 1993
KALAMARE	12 July 1993
MAKALENG	12 July 1993
MATHANGWANE	12 July 1993
LECHENG	31 August 1993
KHAKHEA	9 November 1993

New post offices are being built in the following villages to complement the existing POs: Mahalapye, Serowe, Maun and Mochudi. No dates are set for opening and the names of the new offices (which presumably will have to be different from the existing offices) have not yet been decided.

Plans are underway to upgrade the agencies in SEMOLALE, MABULE, MAKWATE, and TAKATOKWANE. Peter Loeden, who lives at Takatokwane, reports that the agency there ceased to function sometime in December - possibly between the 15th and 20th - when the agent closed her store for the Christmas holidays. It had (at end-March) not yet re-opened. The openings and closures of postal agencies are a nightmare for anyone attempting to fully document the history of postal services in Botswana. The Dept of Postal Services cannot keep track of the periods of non-operation of its agencies if the agent fails to inform H/O when operations are suspended. This may be because the agent continues to be reimbursed for providing a service so it's not in the agent's interest to keep the PO informed of temporary closures. The only real option is to study cancellation dates on mail from a particular agency. However, since the volume of mail from agencies is likely to be very small, the number of strikes passing through our hands will be negligible, so this can only be an approximate approach.

As with Moiyabana in 1989, the Village Development Committee is LEHUTUTU are building a small post office as an upgrade to the present agency.

At SHAKAWE a new post office building is under construction to replace the existing one, which is now too small.

CANCELLING MACHINES

These are currently listed as being 'in operation' at the following offices:

Bontleng	Maun
Broadhurst	Molepolole
Francistown	Orapa
Gaborone (3)	Palapye
Gaborone Sorting Office	Selebi Pikwe (2)
Jwaneng	Serowe
Mahalapye	Postal Stores (1 - and 3 out of order)

Whilst a machine is listed as being in use at Gaborone Sorting Office, almost certainly it will say just 'Gaborone', so it will not be distinguishable from the other three Gaborone machines. Presumably the one working machine at Postal Stores is being held as a spare.

BOOKLETS

Sometime in October 1993 [October 4th according to a publicity booklet just received - Ed] a new range of stamp booklets was put on sale. There are 18 booklets in total, containing the following numbers and denominations of stamps:

P2.00 and P1.20 Booklet Covers

POSTAGE RATES

(a) INTERNAL

Surface: 10t Ordinary letter post up to 20 grams, Postcards and Printed matter up to 20 grams.

Airmail: 12t Postcards
15t Aerogrammes, Ordinary letters up to 10 grams

(b) EXTERNAL/FOREIGN

Surface: 15t Ordinary letters up to 20 grams
20t Postcards: RSA, Namibia, Lesotho, Malawi, Swaziland, Zimbabwe

25t Postcards
35t Ordinary letters up to 20 grams All other countries

Airmail:
Africa: 25t up to 10 grams RSA, Namibia, Lesotho, Malawi, Swaziland, Zimbabwe
20t Postcards All other African Countries
35t per 10 grams
25t Postcards

Europe: 40t up to 10 grams
35t Postcards

Rest of the world: 50t up to 10 grams
35t Postcards

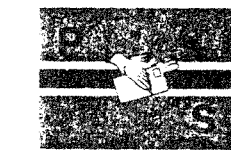
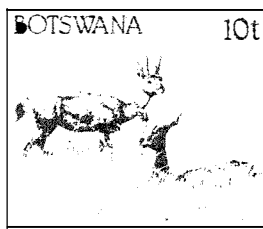
Internal revenue usage: 10t - Used for legal documents

POSTAL ITEMS AVAILABLE

All Post Offices: Stamps, Postal Orders, Money Orders, Aerogrammes, reply paid coupons, registered envelopes, Airmail labels and Savings account facilities.

At Philatelic Bureau: Commemorative and Definitive stamps mint or cancelled to order, Commemorative covers and First Day Covers on appropriate dates, Stockbooks and FDC albums.

All enquiries to:
Director General
Botswana Postal Services
Poso House
P.O. Box 100
Gaborone



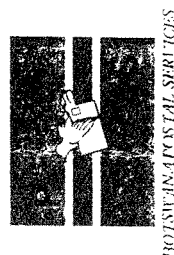
BOTSWANA POSTAL SERVICES

THIS BOOKLET CONTAINS

20 × 10t stamps

PRICE

P2.00



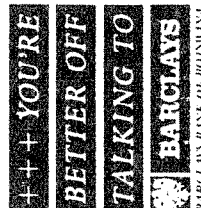
BOTSWANA POSTAL SERVICES

PRICE

P1.20

This booklet contains
10 × 10t stamps

Head Office
Barclays House
Khama Crescent
P.O. Box 478 Gaborone
Telephone 352041



POSTAGE RATES

(a) INTERNAL
Surface: 10t Ordinary letter post up to 20 grams, Postcards and Printed matter up to 20 grams.
Airmail: 12t Postcards
15t Aerogrammes, Ordinary letters up to 10 grams

(b) EXTERNAL/FOREIGN
Surface: 15t Ordinary letters up to 20 grams
20t Postcards RSA, Namibia, Lesotho, Malawi, Swaziland, Zimbabwe
25t Postcards All other countries
35t Ordinary letters up to 20 grams

Airmail: 25t up to 10 grams
20t Postcards RSA, Namibia, Lesotho, Malawi, Swaziland, Zimbabwe
35t per 10 grams All other African Countries
25t Postcards

Europe:

Rest of the world:

Internal revenue usage:

POSTAL ITEMS AVAILABLE

At Post Offices:

At Philatelic Bureau:

Stamps, Postal Orders, Money Orders, Aerogrammes, reply paid coupons, registered envelopes, Airmail labels and Savings account facilities.

Commemorative and Definitive stamps mint or cancelled to order, Commemorative covers and First Day Covers on appropriate dates, Stockbooks and FDC albums.

All enquiries to:

Director General, Botswana Postal Services, Poso House, P.O. Box 100, Gaborone.

		Colour of covers
10 x 50t = P5.00	20 x 50t = P10.00	Grey
10 x 45t = P4.50	20 x 45t = P9.00	Pale pink
10 x 40t = P4.00	20 x 40t = P8.00	Blue
10 x 35t = P3.50	20 x 35t = P7.00	Green
10 x 25t = P2.50	20 x 25t = P5.00	Deeper green
10 x 20t = P2.00	20 x 20t = P4.00	White
10 x 15t = P1.50	20 x 15t = P3.00	Orange
10 x 12t = P1.20	20 x 12t = P2.40	Peach
10 x 10t = P1.00	20 x 10t = P2.00	Yellow

The outside and inside of the 20 x 10t and 10 x 12t booklets are as shown. Note that advertising space on the reverse of each booklet cover was sold to Barclays Bank of Botswana.

I have only ever purchased these at Poso House and at the philatelic counter in the Gaborone Mall post office. I would welcome reports of successful attempts to buy them from other post offices.

LITERACY FOR ALL BY THE YEAR 2000

These labels were produced not by the Post Office but by the Department of Non-Formal Education who sent supplies of the label to Poso House for distribution to post offices throughout the country. Reports of covers seen with this label would be welcome:

- a) to establish whether only certain post offices were issued with supplies.
- b) to ascertain the type of mail it was applied to.

Examples seen so far suggest that the label was mostly used on official mail - either Postal Service mail or Botswana Government mail. An example is recorded with the label applied at Thamaga after cancellation.

NEW STAMP ISSUES

Since my last notes (RP 31 p626), three more sets have been released.

30 August 1993: Rare Eagles (10t, 25t, 50t, P1.50)

25 October 1993: Christmas - Medicinal Plants (12t, 25t, 50t, P1.00)

28 March 1994: Traditional Toys

Note that the 12t Christmas value was in anticipation of an increase in postal rates (local rate from 10t to 12t). However, at the end of March this had still not been implemented.

Future Issues scheduled for 1994 are:

June 1994: 50th Anniversary of ICAO

September 1994: Environment

October 1994: Christmas - Edible Wild Fruits

The provisional programme for 1995 and 1996 is as follows:

- 1995: Traditional Fishing
- Natural Resources
- 50th Anniversary of the UN
- (featuring UNICEF, World Food Programme, UNHCR and UNFPA)
- Christmas - Mushrooms
- 1996: Traditional Weapons
- Worthy Causes
- Centenary of Radio Communication, 1896-1996
- Christmas - ??

NEW AIR LETTER

Due for release in April was a single value (15t) pictorial air letter that was to feature some aspect of the railways in Botswana. I have not yet seen a copy of this, because I left Botswana at the end of March and am now dependent on others to keep me supplied and informed!

FLUORESCENT PAPERS IN THE 1961/1966 BECHUANALAND/ BOTSWANA DEFINITIVES

by John Inglefield-Watson

Hopefully, this response to Leon Jacobson's queries in *Runner Post* No.33 will only be an interim reply. One of Peter van der Molen's ongoing projects is a detailed study of these two issues in the course of which we have exchanged information, including the fact that each of us separately has noticed the existence of fluorescent and non-fluorescent papers. Some details are given below but more may emerge once Peter's involvement in the organisation of the 'Benoni '94' National Exhibition is over!

The following table shows the types of paper we have recorded for each value. 'NF' indicates non-fluorescent and 'F' fluorescent.

<u>1961 B.P. Definitives</u>		<u>Value</u>	<u>1966 Botswana Overprints</u>
		1c	NF and F
NF	1st ptg }		
No example held	2nd ptg }	2c	NF
	(10.9.63) }		
NF	1st ptg }		
F	2nd ptg }	2½c	F
	(3.8.65) }		
NF		3½c	NF and F*
NF		5c	NF
NF		7½c	NF and F*
NF		10c	NF and F
NF		12½c	NF
NF		20c	NF
NF and F		25c	NF and F
NF		35c	NF
NF and F		50c	NF and F
NF		R1	NF
NF		R2	NF

* Indicates not recorded by Jacobson

The following remarks amplify the above table:

1. 1961 B.P. Definitives

- a. I have the imperf 1961 colour trial (?), mentioned in R.P. No.26, page 491, on both types of paper.
- b. I have a complete 1961 set on a First Day Cover. The two horizontal format values, 25c and 50c are on fluorescent paper, the remainder non-fluorescent.

2. 1966 Botswana Overprints

The Requisition Books in the Crown Agents' Philatelic and Security Printing Archive in the British Library show against the initial Requisition No. 5/66768/1 for the complete set of 1966 'Republic of Botswana' overprints the remark "Stamps for this Requisition from Bechuanaland." Two further Requisitions follow. No. 5/66768/2 is for additional quantities of the 1c, 3½c, 7½c and 10c values with the remark "See above". Contemporary sources, which I am unfortunately unable to trace, indicated that this required new printings of the basic stamps. This would account for the overprinted values concerned being recorded on both types of paper. Robert Brownlow records in the 21 August 1969 issue of *Stamp Collecting* that "There are two distinct shades of the 3½c. The 10c also appears on thin paper, the green colour showing through the back of the stamp, particularly when the stamp is wet, but there is no apparent difference in shade." Finally, Requisition No. 6/49656/1 is for a further quantity of the 1c value with remark "From Bureau stocks".

POSTAL SERVICES - SOME EXCERPTS FROM BECHUANALAND ANNUAL REPORTS

David Finlay

1902/03 to 1930

The early Annual Reports on the Protectorate are very brief with limited information, which, in regard to the Postal Service, is restricted to Income and Expenditure.

	1899/1900	1900/01	1901/02	1902/03	1903/04	1904/05
Postal	£	£	£	£	£	£
Income	6,008	5,121	4,684	3,533	3,833	3,351
Expenditure	3,679	4,188	3,667	2,624	2,613	2,994

The Postal Services were administered by the Postmaster-General of the Cape Colony and the telegraphs owned and operated by the British South Africa Company. Throughout the period there was surplus of revenue over expenditure from the Postal Service for the Protectorate administration. Revenue was declining in the period above due to reductions in transit rates on all mail conveyed to Rhodesia.

1913/14 "There were 12 Post Offices open in the Protectorate... The value of postage stamps sold was £1,774 17s 10d an increase over the estimate of £474 17s 10d which is attributed to the increased demand by philatelists for Protectorate postage stamps."

1914/15 "There were 11 Post Offices open ..." (Tsessebe had been closed). Again increased postage stamp sales were attributed to demand from philatelists.

1916/17 "There were 12 Post Offices open in the Protectorate, ... a Postal Agency was opened at Palla Road on 1st July 1916."

1917/18 "There were 11 Post Offices open ... a Telegraph Office at Macloutsie having been closed."

1918/19 "There were 12 offices in the territory ... on the 1st December 1918 ... the Postal Order Agency at Ramoutsa Siding was transferred to the Railway Administration for the conduct of the postal business."

1919/20 "There were 13 offices in operation during the year ended 31st March 1920 viz. three Money Order and Savings Bank Offices, five Postal and Telegraph Offices and five Agencies. A Postal Order Agency was opened at Pitsani on 1st March 1920." (The three main offices were at Francistown, Serowe and Lobatsi)

1920/21 "There were 15 offices in operation during the year ended on the 31st March 1921." (Two were Agencies opened but not named)

1921/22 "There were nineteen offices in operation during the year ended on 31st March 1922 ... of the new Agencies, three were established ... Maun, Kasane, and Ghanzi and an increased postal service has been inaugurated enabling these places to get two posts every month instead of one as formerly."

1922/23 "There were 20 offices of all classes in operation ..."

1923/24 "There were 22 offices of all grades in operation ... The two new Agencies were established at Shashi and Ramaquabane."

1924/25 and 1926/27. 22 offices.

1927/28 Appears to have been reduced to 21 offices. "Agricultural post services at low rates have been initiated with the Union of South Africa and Southern Rhodesia."

1928 "The rate on letters posted within the Territory for delivery therein or for delivery in the Union of South Africa, Southern and Northern Rhodesia and the province of Mozambique is 1d for each ounce or fraction thereof, to Great Britain and Northern Ireland and other British Possessions 2d for each ounce or fraction thereof".

1929 Mahalapye upgraded to the fourth "Money Order, Savings Bank and Telegraph Office." Total of 23 offices.

1930 23 Offices. "Since April, 1931, certain postage rates have been increased."

B.P. POSTAGE DUES, 1932-58 – PAPERS AND VARIETIES

by

John Inglefield-Watson

This article results from Leon Jacobson's queries in *Runner Post* No.32. Reference is also made to Mike George's report on our Postage Dues Workshop in *Runner Post* No.26, to Holmes, pages 152/153 and to Bridger & Kay's Commonwealth Five Reigns catalogue (1980).

PAPERS

The three types of ordinary paper and the 1958 chalk-surfaced paper are mentioned briefly in all the above references. There is an unresolved disagreement between Holmes and Bridger & Kay about the date of introduction of the "rough, thick, ordinary paper". B&K attribute the July 1944 printing to this paper whereas Holmes indicates that this printing was still on 1932 paper and that the new paper was first used for the August (½d and 1d) and October (2d) 1945 printings. Can anyone provide firm evidence as to which is correct? Dated examples on rough, thick paper used prior to August/October 1945 would suffice. Meanwhile in this article I refer to this paper as '1944 paper'.

Some aids to distinguishing between the ordinary papers are as follows:

1932 and 1947 Papers. It is not easy to separate these. The 1947 paper is slightly thinner and is said to be more opaque. As detailed by Holmes, there was more than one printing of each value on 1932 paper, resulting in some shades, whereas only one printing of each value is recorded on 1947 paper. The difference between the 1932 and 1947 ½d and 1d shades is not sufficiently obvious for identification of isolated single stamps but the 1947 2d is noticeably paler. Under UV light the natural colours of the stamps seem more apparent on 1947 than on 1932 paper. Finally, the quantities printed suggest that the 1947 paper is much the scarcer of the two.

1944 Paper. There should be no difficulty in identifying this "rough, thick paper". It feels thicker and under magnification the coarse surface texture is readily apparent. Probably due to the paper's texture the overall printed design appears thicker than on other papers and shows visible signs of ink-squash. This effect seems to vary in degree but is not confined to any particular part of a sheet.

VARIETIES

General. The thick 'd' on the 2d value on 1947 and 1958 papers is the only catalogued variety. However, several minor varieties are known in the central duty plate but I have seen none in the frame/key plate. Mostly these varieties affect the 'd' in the form of damaged or bent serifs or a bent vertical stroke. Although I have some positional examples, I have not seen sufficient material to be able to assess the extent, if any, to which they are constant. Nearly all the varieties occur on the 1947 and 1958 papers.

The Thick 'd'. On all papers the thickness of the 'd' is not absolutely consistent from stamp to stamp. As already stated, on 1944 paper it is thicker than the average 'd' on other papers. I also have seen an example of a thicker 'd' on a 1947 1d value. However, with the exceptions mentioned below, these do not quite match the thickness of the catalogued thick 'd' variety. This variety is recorded on Rows 9 and 10, No.6 of the 2d value on 1947 and 1958 papers. It is slightly thicker in Row 10 than in Row 9, as illustrated (Fig.1). My other comparable thick 'd' varieties are on 1944 paper on which the extra thickness can, in my opinion, largely be attributed to the texture of the paper and to ink-squash. They are, as illustrated:

- a. ½d value. Row 3, No.6 in a decimal surcharged sheet (Fig.2). The sheet also contains several examples of a 'd' that is thicker than the average on other papers. I have seen another surcharged sheet that also contains several thicker than average 'd's but no thick 'd' in any position.
- b. ½d value. Row 9, No.6, in block of four (Fig.3). Compare this with the same stamp in the surcharged sheet on the same type of paper which does not have such a thick 'd'. Note also that the Row 10 stamp underneath does not have the sloping top serif on the 'd' as shown on Leon Jacobson's left-hand stamp which he suggests may be from a vertical pair with his centre stamp. Are his stamps on 1944 paper?

c. 1d value. Row 1, No.6 (Fig.4). This stamp also shows a minor variety, the vertical stroke of the 'd' being bent to the left above the loop.

On very limited evidence my belief is that any thick 'd' found on 1944 paper is probably not constant.

Finally, in searching for further evidence on the positions and constancy of the varieties under discussions, please remember to examine sheets and multiples of the 1961 decimal surcharges on ordinary paper. The 5c/½d value exists on both 1944 and 1947 papers. The small quantities of the surcharged d 1c/1d and 2c/2d values do not include any on 1944 paper: mine appear to be on 1947 paper.



Fig. 1
The thick 'd' variety
Rows 9 & 10, No.6
1947 and 1958 papers



Fig. 3
Thick 'd'
Row 9, No.6 - 1944 paper



Fig. 4
Thick 'd'
Row 1, No.6 - 1944 paper

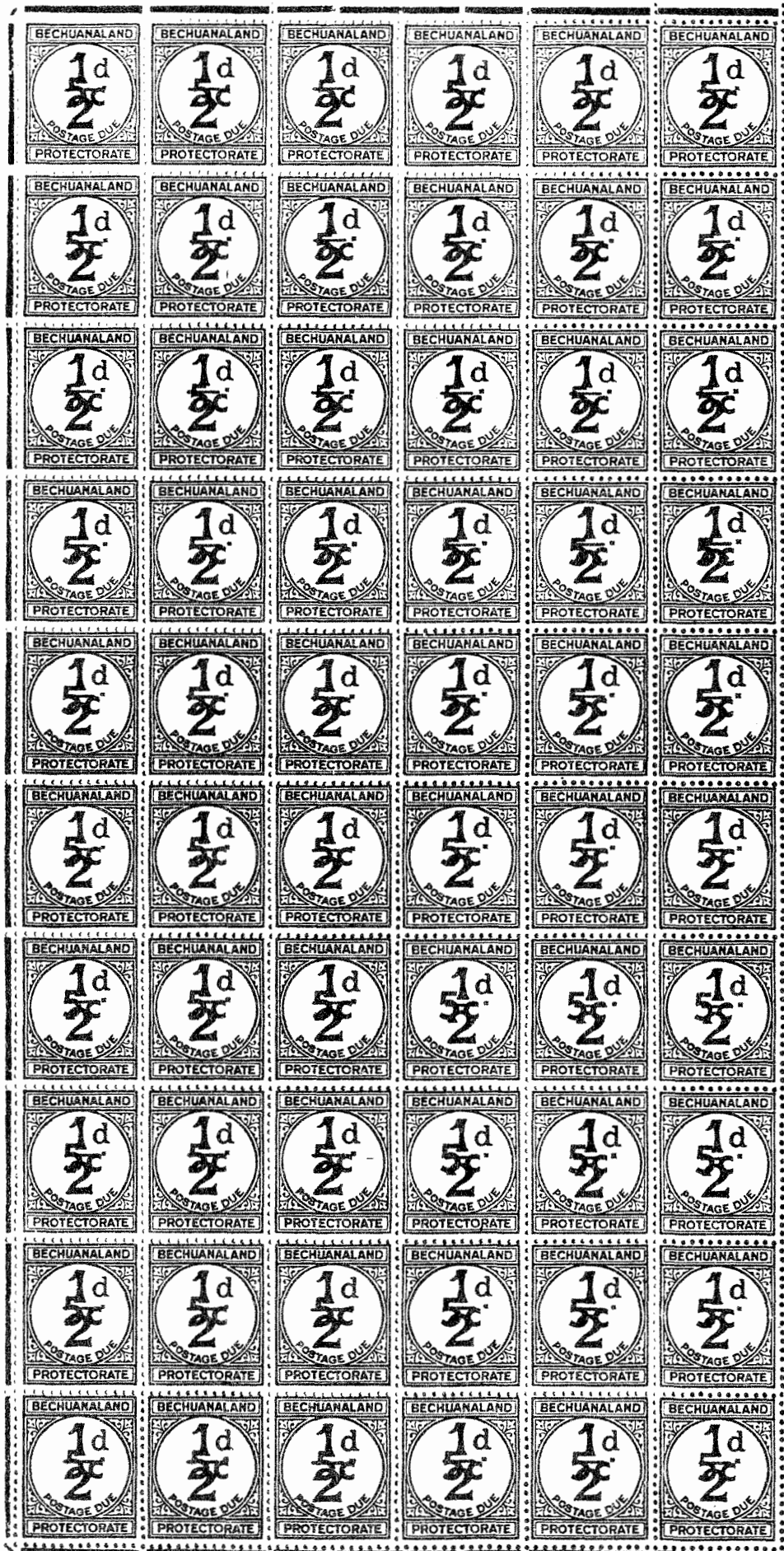


Fig. 2
Thick 'd'
1944 paper.

Row 3, No. 6

Row 9, No. 6
Compare
with Fig. 3

POSTAGE RATES PRIOR TO 1900

Alan Drysdall

1 The 'precursor' period – the occupation of Stellaland and Goshen

The driving force behind the colonisation of central Africa was Cecil Rhodes, then Prime Minister of Cape Colony. The impetus was thus from the south, and the route north vital to Rhodes' vision of British influence extending from the Cape to Cairo. Thus the story starts with the Warren Expedition, which forestalled Boer ambitions of expansion westwards from the South African Republic into the Republics of Stellaland and Goshen, and secured the route through what became British Bechuanaland and Bechuanaland Protectorate.

The military expedition led by Sir Charles Warren reached Vryburg, the capital of Stellaland, on the 7th February, 1885, and then advanced into Goshen, only to find that it had been abandoned by the Boers who had returned to the South African Republic. The proclamation of the Crown Colony of British Bechuanaland on the 30th September, 1885, formalised the removal of the Republics of Stellaland and Goshen from the map.

Very little documentary evidence relating to postal rates prior to the 30th September, 1885, and in particular during the period following the occupation of the Republics when the mail service was operated by the military, has been discovered. Moreover interpretation of the comparatively small number of surviving covers which were not sent by military personnel has proved to be controversial¹. Such evidence as there is would suggest that the inland rate was 2d per half ounce, that Cape rates applied to mail addressed outside the territory and that the Cape authorities recognised Stellaland stamps as receipting payment of Cape rates. Thus for all practical purposes the postal rates were as though the territory was part of Cape Colony. (The key Cape half-ounce letter rates were: inland – 2d; to the UK – 6d; to most destinations in western Europe and North America *via* the UK – 7½d.) There are for example a number of surviving covers addressed by Col. Methuen to his wife in the Cape which are franked at the 2d rate. If this interpretation is correct, Stellaland stamps, including examples of the notorious 'Twee' provisional, on the four known combination covers posted after June 1885 were affixed for philatelic purposes. It would also explain why, with one apparent exception, the Stellaland stamps were not cancelled.

It is, however, possible that a 2d-per-half-ounce inland rate, in addition to the appropriate Cape rate for mail addressed outside the territory, was payable. Dr Karl Seligmann² has reported archival evidence that at a meeting of the Bestuur (Management Committee) held on the 29th May, 1885, it was proposed that, "the Cape Colonial rate of postage be adopted for Stellaland in consequence whereby letters intended for the Colony would have to be stamped with the same amount of Stellaland stamps as they will require in Colonial stamps". Moreover on the 1st October, 1885, a proposal was put that, "whereas there are no more penny stamps on hand, sheets of 4d stamps shall by means of an imprint be altered to the value of 2d each. Proper account being kept of the number of stamps thus altered". This evidence is in direct conflict with the hypothesis based on the evidence of covers outlined above, but it must be emphasised that the quotations refer to proposals which were put to the Bestuur rather than decisions actually made.

2 British Bechuanaland

Table 1 Half-ounce letter rates UK – British Bechuanaland, 1885–95

Date of implementation in the UK	Date of implementation in British Bechuanaland	Rate
1886 (1st January)	1885 (1st December)	8d
1888 (23rd October)	1888 (1st October)	6d (direct) 8d (<i>via</i> Lisbon)†
1891 (1st January)	1892 (18th November?)	4d (direct) 6d (<i>via</i> Lisbon)†
1891 (12th June)		Lisbon route discontinued
1892 (1st July)		2½d

† this option was not available for mail posted in British Bechuanaland

Table 2 British Bechuanaland postal rates from the 1st December, 1885

SCHEDULE A.

ving the Rates of Postage to be collected on correspondence posted in British Bechuanaland addressed to the United Kingdom and Foreign Countries, and the manner in which such postage is to be distributed.

Class of Correspondence.	Country of Destination.	Rates of Postage.	Proportion of Postage to be credited to the Cape Colony.
Letters	United Kingdom	8d. for every $\frac{1}{2}$ oz.	6d. for every $\frac{1}{2}$ oz.
	Countries specified in Class I. below	9 $\frac{1}{2}$ d. " $\frac{1}{2}$ oz.	7 $\frac{1}{2}$ d. " $\frac{1}{2}$ oz.
	Countries specified in Class II. below	11d. " $\frac{1}{2}$ oz.	9d. " $\frac{1}{2}$ oz.
	Countries specified in Class III. below	1s. " $\frac{1}{2}$ oz.	10d. " $\frac{1}{2}$ oz.
	Australasian Colonies <i>via</i> United Kingdom ..	1s. 1d. " $\frac{1}{2}$ oz.	11d. " $\frac{1}{2}$ oz.
	India, Ceylon, China and Australia <i>via</i> Mozambique	1s. 2d. " $\frac{1}{2}$ oz.	1s. 0d. " $\frac{1}{2}$ oz.
	Foreign Countries by direct Private Ship ..	8d. " $\frac{1}{2}$ oz.	6d. " $\frac{1}{2}$ oz.
Newspapers	United Kingdom	1 $\frac{1}{2}$ d. for every 4 oz.	1d. for every 4 oz.
	Countries specified in Class I. below	2 $\frac{1}{2}$ d. " 4 oz.	2d. " 4 oz.
	Countries specified in Class II. below	2 $\frac{1}{2}$ d. " 4 oz.	2d. " 4 oz.
	Countries specified in Class III. below	3d. " 4 oz.	2 $\frac{1}{2}$ d. " 4 oz.
	Australasian Colonies <i>via</i> United Kingdom ..	2 $\frac{1}{2}$ d. " 4 oz.	2d. " 4 oz.
	India, Ceylon, China and Australia <i>via</i> Mozambique	2 $\frac{1}{2}$ d. " 4 oz.	2d. " 4 oz.
	Foreign Countries by direct Private Ship ..	1 $\frac{1}{2}$ d. " 4 oz.	1d. " 4 oz.
Book and Sample Packets	United Kingdom	2d. not exceeding 1 oz.	1d. not exceeding 1 oz.
		3d. " 2 oz.	2d. " 2 oz.
		5d. " 4 oz.	3d. " 4 oz.
		5d. for every additional 4 oz.	3d. for every additional 4 oz.
	Countries specified in Class I. below	3d. for every 2 oz.	2d. for every 2 oz.
	Countries specified in Class II. below	3d. " 2 oz.	2d. " 2 oz.
	Countries specified in Class III. below	3 $\frac{1}{2}$ d. " 2 oz.	2 $\frac{1}{2}$ d. " 2 oz.
	Australasian Colonies <i>via</i> the United Kingdom ..	5d. not exceeding 2 oz.	4d. not exceeding 2 oz.
		9d. " 4 oz.	7d. " 4 oz.
		9d. for every additional 4 oz.	7d. for every additional 4 oz.
	India, Ceylon, China and Australia <i>via</i> Mozambique	5d. for every 4 oz.	3d. for every 4 oz.
	Foreign Countries by direct Private Ship ..	2d. " 2 oz.	1d. " 2 oz.

CLASS I.

Austria-Hungary.
Azores.
Belgium.
Bulgaria.
Canada (Dominion of)
Canary Islands.
Cyprus.
Denmark.
Egypt.

France.
Germany.
Gibraltar.
Greece.
Italy.
Luxemburg.
Madeira.
Malta.
Marquesas Islands.

Montenegro.
Netherlands.
Newfoundland.
Norway.
Persia, *via* Vienna or the Black Sea.
Portugal.
Roumania.
Russia

St. Pierre-et-Miquelon
Servia.
Spain.
Sweden.
Switzerland.
Tahiti.
Turkey.
United States.

CLASS II.

Antigua.
Argentine Republic.
Bahamas.
Barbadoes.
Bermuda.
Brazil.
British Guiana.
British Honduras.
Chili.
Congo Free State.
Costa Rica.
Danish Colonies: *viz.*—Greenland, St. Croix, St. John, and St. Thomas.
Dominica.
Dominican Republic (San Domingo).
Ecuador.
Falkland Islands.
French Colonies: *viz.*—Martinique, Guadeloupe and dependencies, French Guiana (Cayenne), Senegal and dependencies, Gaboon (also Grand Bassam and Assinie), Reunion, Mayotte and dependencies, St. Mary and Tamatave (Madagascar), and the French portion of the Low Archipelago.

Gambia.
Gold Coast.
Grenada.
Grenadines.
Guatemala.
Hawaiian Islands.
Hayti.
Honduras (Republic of).
Jamaica.
Lagos.
Liberia.
Mauritius and dependencies.
Mexico.
Montserrat.
Netherlands Colonies: *viz.*—Dutch Guiana (Surinam), Curacao, and dependencies, *viz.*—Bonaire, Aruba, the Netherland portion of St. Martin, St. Eustache, Saba.
Nevis.
Nicaragua.
Paraguay.
Patagonia.
Peru.

CLASS II.—(continued.)

Portuguese Colonies, viz.—Cape de Verd and dependencies (Bissau and Cacheu), Ambrizette, Islands of St. Thomas and Prince (in Africa), with the Establishment of Ajuda, and Angola.
 St. Kitts.
 St. Lucia.
 St. Vincent, West Indies.
 Salvador.
 Sierra Leone.
 Siam.
 Spanish Colonies: viz.—Cuba, Porto Rico, Fernando Po, Annobon and dependencies.

Staten Island.
 Terra del Fuego.
 Tobago.
 Tortola.
 Trinidad.
 Turk's Island.
 United States of Colombia.
 Uruguay.
 Venezuela.

CLASS III.

Ceylon.
 French Colonies, viz.—New Caledonia and dependencies, and the French Establishment in India (Pondichéry, Chandernagor, Karikal, Mahé and Yanam), and in Cochin China.
 Hong-Kong.
 India.
 Japan.
 Labuan.
 Netherland Colonies, viz.—Java, Medura, Sumatra, Celebes, Borneo, Billiton, Archipelago of Banca, Archipelago

of Riouw, Sunda Islands (Bali, Lombok, Sumbawa, Floris and the South-West part of Timor), the Archipelago of the Moluccas, and the North-West part of New Guinea (Papua).
 Persia via the Persian Gulf.
 Portuguese Colonies, viz.—Goa and its dependencies (Daman and Diu), Macao, Timor and Mozambique.
 Spanish Colonies, viz.—Philippine Islands and Marian Islands.
 Straits Settlements.

SCHEDULE B.

Shewing the Charges to be made upon Unpaid and Insufficiently Paid Correspondence posted in the United Kingdom and Foreign Countries addressed to British Bechuanaland, and the manner in which such charges are to be distributed.

Class of Correspondence.	Country of Origin.	Proportion of the charges to be claimed by the Cape Colony.	Amount to be added on delivery in British Bechuanaland.
Unpaid letters	United Kingdom	6d. for every $\frac{1}{2}$ oz. and fine of 6d.	2d. for every $\frac{1}{2}$ oz.
Insufficiently paid letters		The deficient postage at the rate of 6d. for every $\frac{1}{2}$ oz. and a fine of 6d.	2d. for every $\frac{1}{2}$ oz.
Insufficiently paid book and sample packets			
Unpaid and insufficiently paid letters	Countries specified in Class I. of Schedule A ..	The deficient postage at the rates of postage to the Cape Colony and a fine of 3d.	1d. for every 2 oz.
	Countries specified in Class II. of Schedule A ..	10d. for every $\frac{1}{2}$ oz. and a fine of 3d.	2d. for every $\frac{1}{2}$ oz.
	Countries specified in Class III. of Schedule A ..	1s. 1d. for every $\frac{1}{2}$ oz. and a fine of 3d.	2d. " $\frac{1}{2}$ oz.
	Australasian Colonies	1s. 3d. for every $\frac{1}{2}$ oz. and a fine of 3d.	2d. " $\frac{1}{2}$ oz.
	India, Ceylon, China and Australia via Mozambique	11d. for every $\frac{1}{2}$ oz. and a fine of 3d.	2d. " $\frac{1}{2}$ oz.
		Double the deficient postage.	4d. for every $\frac{1}{2}$ oz.

Cape stamps overprinted for use in British Bechuanaland were placed on sale on the 1st December, 1885, and a postal convention with Cape Colony resulted in the introduction of revised postal charges with effect from the same date. The table of rates as reproduced by Jurgens³ – see Table 2 – shows that the rates were based on those of Cape Colony plus an additional amount which was credited to British Bechuanaland. Thus the 8d half-ounce letter rate to the UK was the Cape rate plus 2d, i.e. 6d was to the credit of Cape Colony. The charges on unpaid and insufficiently paid mail from the UK received in Bechuanaland were distributed in the same manner, Cape Colony receiving 6d per half ounce plus the fine of 6d, and Bechuanaland 2d per half ounce. The reciprocal 8d rate was only introduced in the UK with effect from the 1st January, 1886⁴.

Cape postage rates were reduced with effect from the 1st October, 1888, and Bechuanaland rates were reduced in conformity with effect from the same date. The relevant postal notice is reproduced by Knight and Mitchell⁵, and is reset here as Table 3. (The countries comprising Classes I, II and III are the same as previously.) Because Cape overseas rates were reduced by 2d per half ounce, and the 2d 'surcharge' on mail to and from Bechuanaland still applied, the new Bechuanaland rates were the same as the former Cape rates. Thus the half ounce letter rate to the UK was reduced to 6d. A UK Post Office Circular announced the reduction apparently with effect from the 23rd October, 1888⁶: "Correspondence for . . . Bechuanaland . . . will henceforth be despatched from London with the mails for the Cape of Good Hope, every Friday morning *via* Dartmouth and *via* Southampton alternately, and every Saturday morning with the Supplementary Mails *via* Lisbon". The rates are quoted as 6d per half ounce *via* the "direct sea route", and 8d per half ounce *via* Lisbon. (There is no evidence that the option *via* Lisbon was ever available for mail sent from southern Africa.) Unpaid and insufficiently paid correspondence was to be charged and fined the equivalent of a single rate on delivery. A revised circular dated the 19th February, 1889, referred to mail to British Bechuanaland rather than Bechuanaland, and the "long" rather than the "direct" sea route.

Table 3 British Bechuanaland postal rates from the 1st October, 1888

Class of Correspondence	Country of Destination	Rates of Postage	
Letters	United Kingdom	6d for every	½ oz.
	Countries specified in Class I, below	7½d	½ oz.
	Countries specified in Class II, below	9d	½ oz.
	Countries specified in Class III, below	10d	½ oz.
	Australasian Colonies <i>via</i> the United Kingdom	11d	½ oz.
	India, Ceylon, China and Australia <i>via</i> Moçambique	1s	½ oz.
	Foreign Countries by direct Private Ship	6d	½ oz.
Newspapers	United Kingdom	1d for every	4 oz.
	Countries specified in Class I, below	2d	4 oz.
	Countries specified in Class II, below	2d	4 oz.
	Countries specified in Class III, below	2½d	4 oz.
	Australasian Colonies <i>via</i> the United Kingdom	2d	4 oz.
	India, Ceylon, China and Australia <i>via</i> Moçambique	2d	4 oz.
	Foreign Countries by direct Private Ship	1d	4 oz.
Book and Sample Packets	United Kingdom	1d not exceeding	1 oz.
		2d	2 oz.
		3d	4 oz.
		3d for additional	4 oz.
	Countries specified in Class I, below	2d for every	2 oz.
		2d	2 oz.
		2½d	2 oz.
	Australasian Colonies <i>via</i> the United Kingdom	4d not exceeding	2 oz.
		7d	4 oz.
		7d for every additional	4 oz.
	India, Ceylon, China and Australia <i>via</i> Moçambique	5d for every	4 oz.
		1d	2 oz.

The direct rate from the UK was reduced to 4d and the rate *via* Lisbon to 6d with effect from the 1st January, 1891, but the latter route was discontinued less than six months later on the 12th June, 1891⁷. None of the references quoted state the date on which the reciprocal Bechuanaland rate was reduced, but it was undoubtedly intended to be no later than the 1st August, 1892, as it was on this date that a Mashonaland – UK letter rate of 6d per half ounce, which comprised the Bechuanaland rate plus 2d, was introduced (see below). However, a Postal Notice in the British Bechuanaland Government Gazette of the 29th July, 1892, referring to changes in postal rates from the UK to British Bechuanaland and Bechuanaland Protectorate states, "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; postcards, same destinations 1½d; reply postcards, 2d . . . No alteration has, as yet, been made in the postage on

letters posted in Bechuanaland and the Protectorate"⁸. It would seem therefore that the most likely effective date was the 18th November, 1892, when revised rates were introduced in Bechuanaland Protectorate (see below), but this is no more than speculation.

The letter rate for mail from the UK addressed to Bechuanaland was reduced to 2½d per half ounce with effect from the 1st July, 1892⁹, but the Postmaster-General of Bechuanaland noted in his annual report for the year ending the 31st March, 1893, that, "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".

British Bechuanaland was annexed and became part of Cape Colony from the 16th November, 1895, but the postal service was under the control of the Postmaster-General of Cape Colony from the 1st April, 1893. He continued to be responsible for postal services in the Protectorate, the capital of which, Mafeking, was now in Cape Colony! (There were two counters in the Mafeking Post Office; one sold Cape – and later South African – stamps, and the other Bechuanaland Protectorate stamps. This pragmatic arrangement continued until the Director of Posts and Telegraphs of Bechuanaland Protectorate assumed responsibility from the South African Post Office in 1963.)

3 Bechuanaland Protectorate

Table 4 Half-ounce letter rates UK – Bechuanaland Protectorate, 1888–1908

Date of implementation in the UK	in Bechuanaland Protectorate	Rate	
		Protectorate	Trans-Protectorate
†	1888 (9th August)	10d	1s
†	1888 (1st October)	8d	10d
1892 (1st July)		2½d	2½d
	1892 (18th November)	6d	6d
	1899 (1st April)	4d	-
	1908 (1st April)	1d	-

† the UK rate was the rate to British Bechuanaland plus 2d payable on delivery in the Protectorate or 4d on delivery in the Trans-Protectorate (Gubulawayo and Tati)

The first regular post serving Bechuanaland Protectorate, the Tati District and later Gubulawayo was established by the missionaries, possibly as early as 1873, and interfaced with the official mails at Zeerust in the South African Republic. Users of this service paid an annual subscription or 5s per letter¹⁰. Following the Warren Expedition there was a military post linking Mafeking with Molepolole, where troops were stationed for a while, which operated three times a week possibly from June 1885¹¹. There would appear to be no record that this service operated after August 1885, when the newly formed Bechuanaland Border Police assumed responsibility for transporting the mails between Barkly West and Mafeking. The applicable postal rates are not known, but are likely to have been Cape rates.

The first official civilian postal service was the Gubulawayo – Mafeking runner service introduced on the 9th August, 1888. Cape P.O. Circular No. 80 of the 1st August, 1888, listed the postal rates which would apply. (The original notice is reproduced by Thy; the same notice with the type reset is reproduced by Drysdall and Collis¹² and below as Table 5.) The rate to the UK and foreign countries was, "The rates specified in the existing convention between the Cape Colony and British Bechuanaland and an additional charge of 2d [per half ounce]". When posted outside the limits of the Protectorate, that is at Gubulawayo or Tati in the Trans-Protectorate, there was a further charge of 2d per half ounce. Thus the Protectorate half-ounce letter rate to the UK was initially 10d, and the equivalent Trans-Protectorate rate was 1s.

The Bechuanaland charges applied to incoming as well as outgoing mail. Thus the addressee of a prepaid half-ounce letter sent from the UK had to pay 2d on receipt if he lived within the Protectorate and 4d if he was at Tati or Gubulawayo.

From the wording of the relevant section of the Notice reproduced as Table 5, it is evident that the overseas letter rate would have been reduced in line with reduced British Bechuanaland (and Cape) rates from the 1st October, 1888, the half-ounce letter rate to the UK becoming 8d.

British Bechuanaland stamps had been overprinted for use in the Protectorate solely in order to determine the cost of operating the Gubulawayo – Mafeking service. By June 1890 this had been established, and it was therefore announced that the stamps of British Bechuanaland and the Protectorate could be used in either territory.

A Postal Notice dated the 17th November, 1892, announced various changes in rates – the half-ounce letter rate to the UK was reduced to 6d – and that delivery charges on incoming mail would be abolished with effect from the 18th November, 1892. The rates applicable to mail to and from offices in the Trans-Protectorate – Tati and Gubulawayo – were now the same as for the Protectorate itself. The original notice is reproduced by Thy¹³, together with a manuscript draft from which it is evident that the new rates were modelled on the Mashonaland rates (see below). Thy, quoting Catterall, records that covers would seem to provide evidence that the 6d half-ounce letter rate to the UK may have been in force as early as May 1892, but a Postal Notice in the British Bechuanaland Government Gazette of the 29th July, 1892, referring to changes in postal rates from the UK to British Bechuanaland and Bechuanaland Protectorate states categorically that, “No alteration has, as yet, been made in the postage on letters posted in Bechuanaland and the Protectorate”¹⁴.

Table 5 Bechuanaland Protectorate postal rates from the 9th August, 1888

Cape P.O. Circular No. 80 of 1.8.1888:

16. **Protectorate Post.** – It is hereby notified for the information of Postmasters that arrangements will have been completed for the establishment from the 9th August of a Postal Service by Native Runners, between British Bechuanaland and Matabeleland via Bamangwato, 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

Table 6 The 1892 Postal Notice (reset from the original)

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 Buluwayo, 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, or Buluwayo, 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, 6½d. per ½oz. or fraction thereof.

Post Cards for delivery within the Protectorate, or at Tati, or Buluwayo, 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.

Reply Paid Cards, Double the rates for single Post cards.

Newspapers for delivery within the Protectorate or at Tati, or Buluwayo, 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 4oz. ½d. 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 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 oz. 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 Cape Town 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, Quilimane, Reunion, Samoa, Seychelles, Tasmania.

Parcels, Samples and Books cannot be accepted for transmission to Tati and Buluwayo.

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.

† This is a printer's error and should read '3d'

Jurgens¹⁵ records that in 1895 Moffat introduced a monthly runner service to Lake N'Gami and a similar service once every two months to Kazungula. On the 1st April, 1895, a weekly post was established to and from Mosita and Setlagoli.

The *Annual Report* of the Cape Postmaster-General for the year ending the 31st March, 1900, records that the Protectorate letter rate to the UK was reduced from 6d to 4d per half ounce with effect from the 1st April, 1899 (see Table 6). A 1d per half ounce rate to the UK was not introduced until the 1st April, 1908¹⁶.

Table 7 Bechuanaland Protectorate postage rates from the 1st April, 1899 (after Thy, 1993)

COUNTRY	LETTERS		POSTCARDS		BOOKS AND SAMPLE PACKETS		NEWSPAPERS	
	from	to	from	to	from	to	from	to
Cape Colony South African Republic Natal Orange Free State Rhodesia	4d per ½oz	2d per ½oz	1½d each	1d each	1d 1oz 2d 2oz 3d 4oz	½d 2oz	1d 4oz	½d 4oz
United Kingdom	6d per ½oz	4d per ½oz	2d each	1d each	1d 1oz 3d 2oz 4d 4oz	1d 2oz	1½d 4oz	1d 4oz
Foreign countries	6½d per ½oz	4d per ½oz	2½d each	1d each	3d 2oz	1d 2oz	2½d 4oz	2d 4oz

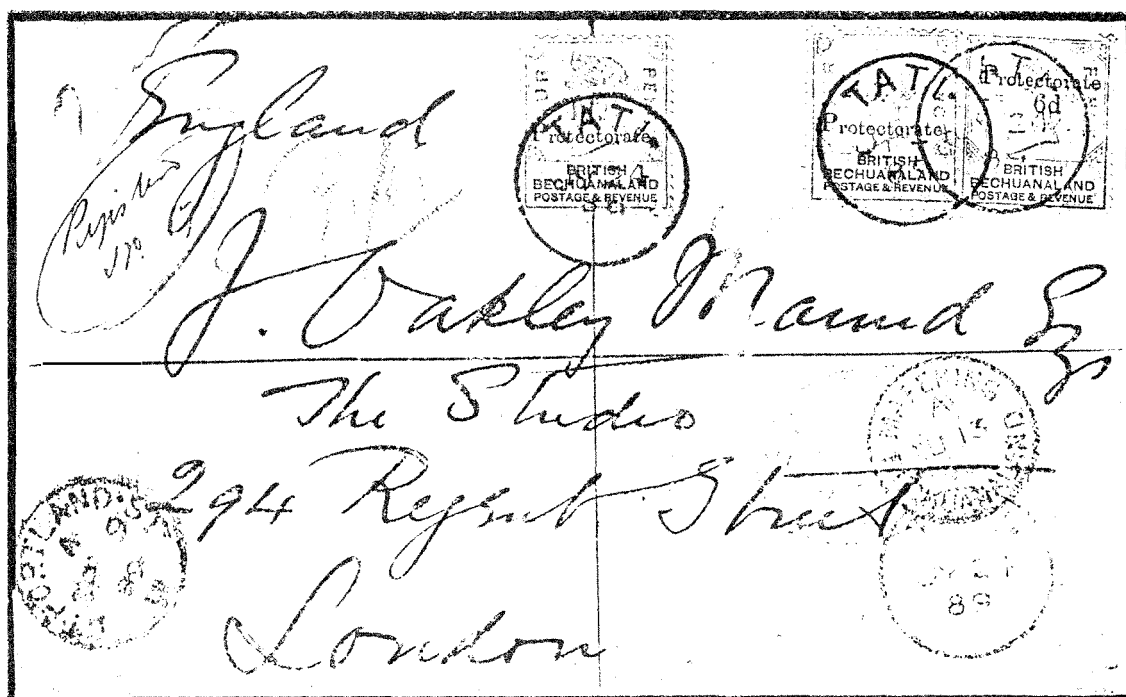
4 Matabeleland

The first official post serving Matabeleland, established at the instigation of the former missionary, John Smith Moffat, was the Mafeking – Gubulawayo runner post. The rates in force from the 9th August, 1888, were announced in Cape Post Office Circular No. 80 of that year (see above). The half-ounce letter rate to the UK was that for British Bechuanaland (8d) plus a surcharge of 4d per half ounce for mail to and from the 'Trans-Protectorate', namely Tati and Gubulawayo. Incoming overseas mail, which could only be prepaid to British Bechuanaland, was charged 4d per half ounce on delivery. Bechuanaland stamps overprinted for use in the Protectorate had to be used to receipt payment of postage; as far as is known payment of the 'surcharge' on incoming mail was not receipted with stamps.

British Bechuanaland postal rates were reduced with effect from the 1st October, 1888, the rate to the UK becoming 6d per half ounce. The basis for determining Protectorate and Trans-Protectorate rates remained unchanged, and the rate for a half-ounce letter addressed to the UK posted in the Trans-Protectorate therefore became 10d. The cover illustrated proves that the registration fee at this time was 4d¹⁷. The surcharge payable on incoming mail prepaid to British Bechuanaland remained at 4d per half ounce.

A Cape Postal Notice of the 10th October, 1892, announced that, "the rates of postage on correspondence addressed to offices in British Bechuanaland Protectorate and the Districts of Tati and Bulawayo will be made uniform with the existing tariff to Mashonaland" (see below). These changes were implemented in the Protectorate and Trans-Protectorate on the 18th November, 1892 (see Table 6), from which date the rate for a half-ounce letter addressed to the UK was reduced to 6d. It is of interest that parcels, samples and books could not be transmitted, presumably because weighty items could not be carried over the northern section of the route, which was still operated with runners.

The British South Africa Co.'s (BSA Co.) forces, having defeated Lobengula's impis, marched into Gubulawayo on the 4th November 1893. The postal service, after some disruption caused by these events, continued as previously until the rerouting of Salisbury's mail to and from Cape Colony *via* Gubulawayo rather than Tuli with effect from the 1st August, 1894, marked the end of the independent existence of the Mashonaland and Matabeleland posts.



5 Mashonaland

The situation in Mashonaland following occupation of the territory by the Pioneer Column on behalf of the BSA Co. in September 1890 was unique in southern Africa in that the territory was administered by a private company. The Pioneers and the accompanying Police used the stamps of Bechuanaland Protectorate on their mail, which was routed south *via* Tuli, Palachwe – or later Macloutsie – and Mafeking. In 1892 the BSA Co. introduced its own stamps to receipt payment of internal postage. Mail addressed outside the territory was franked with combinations of BSA Co. and Bechuanaland or Moçambique stamps depending on whether the route was *via* Bechuanaland or *via* Beira and Durban. The situation was complex, the records are incomplete and there are few surviving covers which can be used to deduce what the rates were. What is known is described by Drysdall and Collis¹⁸, and is summarised below.

The BSA Co. were responsible for organising the carriage of mails between Bechuanaland Protectorate and Mashonaland until the 31st July, 1892, and the Bechuanaland authorities therefore treated the mail delivered to or collected from Palachwe, or later Macloutsie, as Protectorate mail. Most of the covers posted in Mashonaland prior to the 14th May, 1892, and forwarded *via* Bechuanaland Protectorate are only identifiable if the sender is known to have been resident in Mashonaland at the time, as they are franked with British Bechuanaland or Bechuanaland Protectorate stamps to receipt payment of Bechuanaland Protectorate rates. The few exceptions are covers addressed to the UK franked with Bechuanaland stamps cancelled at Palachwe or Macloutsie to receipt payment of a 6d rate, rather than the Protectorate rate of 8d per half ounce. There are a few comparable covers addressed to Cape Colony franked at a 2d rate, and any registered mail would also be identifiable (see below).

The postage rates in force and the usage of Bechuanaland, Moçambique, and BSA Co. stamps on Mashonaland mail prior to the 1st August, 1892, can be summarised as follows:

July – mid-August 1890 The stamps on outgoing mail from the Pioneer Column were cancelled at Mafeking rather than Palachwe, and it would seem probable that this mail was forwarded to Mafeking as bagged freight, in which case the Protectorate charge would not have applied. The BSA Co. paid the Protectorate charge – 2d per half ounce – on incoming mail, and did not recover it. (It is possible that the Company also paid the Protectorate charge on outgoing mail, but this seems unlikely.)

Mid-August 1890 – 1st January, 1892 Internal mail, of which there could have been very little other than official communications between Salisbury and Tuli or Umtali, was carried at the BSA Co.'s expense, and was unfranked. Mail addressed to or *via* Bechuanaland was franked at the appropriate rate with Bechuanaland Protectorate or British Bechuanaland stamps. The rate to the UK was 8d per half ounce. The Protectorate charge on incoming mail – 2d per half ounce on letters – was collected from addressees, but was not receipted by affixing stamps. There is, however, a

complication in that surviving covers prove that for a period sometime between November 1890 – or possibly mid-June 1891 – and mid-May 1892, with the exception of a few days in late November and possibly early December 1891, the Protectorate charge was not applied to mail addressed to the UK¹⁹. The reason for this apparent concession is not known.

Table 8 Bechuanaland Protectorate and Mashonaland half-ounce letter rates 1888–92

DATE		BECHUANALAND PROTECTORATE		MASHONALAND		REFERENCES#
from	to	CAPE	UK	CAPE	UK	
9. 8.88	30. 9.88	4d	10d	-	-	
1.10.88	15. 6.90	4d(1)	8d	-	-	(1) Puzey ArP.2
5. 7.90	3. 8.90	2d*	6d*	2d(1)	6d(2)	(1) Puzey ArP.3–9 (2) Borrow 757
13. 8.90	4.11.90/ 11. 6.91	4d	8d	4d(1)	8d(2)	(1) Puzey ArP.10–22 (2) Borrow 778–816
5.11.90/ 12. 6.91	22.11.91/ 25/11.91	4d(1)	8d(2)	4d(3)	6d(4)	(1) Puzey AnP.2 (2) Borrow 903; Brown 10 (3) Puzey ArP.20–22 (4) Borrow 943–1006; Brown 11–17 Harmers, 29.10.81, lot 1355
23.11.91/ 26.11.91	30.11.91/ 19.12.91	4d	8d	4d	8d(1)	(1) Borrow 1015 and 1020
20.12.91	13. 5.92	4d	8d	4d	6d(1)	(1) Borrow 1027–1078

* applied only to mail from the Pioneer Column, which may have been consigned as freight and posted in Mafeking
these correspondences are tabulated by Drysdall and Collis²⁰

29th August, 1891 Introduction of the Umtali–Macequece–Beira–Durban service. The rate charged was probably 2d (inland) plus 3d, the equivalent of the Moçambique rate of 50 reis for a half-ounce letter to Europe.

14th October, 1891 Introduction of optional registration for mail forwarded *via* Bechuanaland. Payment was receipted with a Bechuanaland 1s stamp which was cancelled at Tuli regardless of where the letter was posted.

2nd January, 1892 – 13th May, 1892 Introduction of the Salisbury – Umtali service, which linked with the Umtali – Beira route. Payment of the inland rate for mail addressed within Mashonaland was receipted with BSA Co. stamps. Overseas mail was franked with the Company's stamps to receipt payment of both the inland and Moçambique rates, the Umtali Postmaster affixing the necessary Moçambique stamps. However, the supply of Moçambique stamps, which were presumably obtained from Macequece, appears to have been exhausted at an early stage, and most covers were annotated and handstamped at Macequece to record payment of the Moçambique rate. None of the known covers addressed to the UK originating from Umtali bears Moçambique stamps, and an inland rate of 2d rather than 4d per half ounce appears to have been charged plus, of course, the Moçambique rate.

14th May, 1892 – 31st July, 1892 All internal mail was franked with BSA Co. stamps, and external mail routed *via* the Protectorate was franked with combinations of BSA Co. and Bechuanaland stamps. It was apparently decided that stocks of Bechuanaland stamps would in future be kept at Tuli and not distributed to individual post offices, but these offices were in the meantime to use up such stocks as they held. This decision resulted in complex instructions as to how payment of postage was to be receipted, which are summarised in Table 9. There are, however, covers which prove that the instructions were on occasions misunderstood. The Postal Notice dated the 13th May, 1892, announcing these procedures was distributed to postmasters with a circular letter which included the following instruction regarding underpaid mail, "Upon insufficiently prepaid letters the Tuli Postmaster will insufficiently prepay in Bechuanaland stamps".

It is evident from the Postal Notice of the 13th May, 1892, that the Tuli Postmaster also held a stock of ZAR stamps to be used on mail forwarded *via* Pietersburg, but no covers franked with a combination of BSA Co. and ZAR stamps are known.

Table 9 Frankings of half-ounce letters despatched *via* Tuli, 14th May – 31st July, 1892

DESTINATION	PAID BY SENDER	FRANKING			
		Bechuanaland stamps affixed by the office of despatch		Bechuanaland stamps not affixed by the office of despatch*	
		BSA Co. stamps	Bechuanaland stamps	BSA Co. stamps	Bechuanaland stamps*
Cape Colony South African Republic	6d	4d	4d	6d	4d
UK	10d	4d	6d	10d	6d
Registration	8d	8d	8d	8d	8d

* the appropriate Bechuanaland stamps were affixed by the Postmaster at Tuli

1st August, 1892 The Cape Postmaster-General assumed responsibility for the postal services of Mashonaland, which allowed admission to the South African Postal Union and consequent recognition of the BSA Co's stamps as receipting payment of the postage to most destinations. The rates which applied from the 1st August, 1892, are quoted by Jurgens, and Knight and Mitchell²¹, and are summarised in Table 10. The overseas letter rate was the rate from British Bechuanaland plus 2d per half ounce. Thus the rate to the UK was reduced to 6d per half ounce, of which 2d was credited to Bechuanaland, and the rate to most countries in Europe and North America was 6½d per half ounce. A late fee of 6d per letter was introduced with effect from the 24th June, 1893.

Table 10 The postage rates applicable in Mashonaland from the 1st August, 1892

DESTINATION	LETTERS (per ½ oz.)	POST-CARDS* (each)	NEWS-PAPERS (per 4 oz.)	BOOK AND SAMPLE PACKETS	PARCELS
Mashonaland and the Trans-Protectorate	2d	1d	½d	½d per oz.	2d for 4 oz. 4d for 8 oz. 6d for 12 oz. 8d for 1 lb. 8d for every additional lb or fraction thereof
Bechuanaland, Bechuanaland Protectorate, Orange Free State, South African Republic, Cape Colony or Natal	4d	1½d	1d	1d for 1 oz. 2d for 2 oz. 3d for 4 oz. 3d for every additional 4 oz.	11d for 4 oz. 1s 2d for 8 oz. 1s 5d for 12 oz. 1s 8d for 1 lb. 1s 8d for every additional lb or fraction thereof
United Kingdom	6d	2d	1½d	1½d for 1 oz. 3d for 2 oz.	2s 2d per lb or fraction thereof
Foreign countries, North-Eastern Rhodesia, British Central Africa (Nyasaland) and Moçambique	6½d	2½d#	2½d	-	The rate from Cape Town plus 1s 5d per lb or fraction thereof
Registration fee – for all destinations and all classes of correspondence	4d	-	-	-	-

* not available until January 1893²²

2d to British Central Africa (Nyasaland)

Jurgens²³ records that, "In accordance with the scale approved by the Secretary of State for the Colonies . . . transit dues were payable to the Bechuanaland Administration on all correspondence forwarded to or from Mashonaland by

the Mafeking – Macloutsie route”. This was, however, a book-keeping exercise by the postal administrations concerned, and addressees no longer had to pay a charge on incoming mail *via* Tuli.

Moçambique Co. stamps were required on mail addressed to or *via* Moçambique until April 1894 and there was a charge payable by the addressee on incoming mail, but this route is not known to have been used for civilian mail forwarded *via* Moçambique – as distinct from mail exchanged between Moçambique and Mashonaland – during the period under review after April 1892.

Cape postcards overprinted for use in Mashonaland were not on sale until January 1893²⁴. A 1d + 1d reply paid postcard was also available. A ½d stamp had to be affixed to each half of this card if it was addressed to “neighbouring South Africa Colonies and States”, 1d stamps (x 2) if the card was addressed to the UK, and 1½d in stamps (x 2) if it was addressed to a foreign country.

6 Rhodesia

The rates introduced in Mashonaland with effect from the 1st August, 1892, applied with only minor changes, throughout Mashonaland and later Matabeleland – collectively referred to as Rhodesia – until the turn of the century. A ‘town’ letter rate of 1d per half ounce was introduced in Salisbury with effect from the 22nd April, 1894, and a 2d half-ounce letter rate to North Western Rhodesia with effect from the 8th March, 1898. The inland rate, now applicable to the Rhodesias as a whole, was reduced to 1d per half ounce with effect from the 1st November, 1899²⁵.

Application was made by Rhodesia to join the UPU with effect from the 1st January, 1900, but there were administrative delays and entry was postponed until the 1st April. Because of interruptions to communications consequent upon the outbreak of the Second Anglo-Boer War, notification of this postponement did not reach Rhodesia in time to prevent the changes in rates which were part of the agreement being gazetted. There were in fact further delays and postponements, and the formalities were only completed for Rhodesia’s entry to the UPU to be accomplished on the 1st March, 1901, though the revised rates were in force from the 1st April, 1900. The reduced letter rate to the UK was 4d per half ounce; the registration fee remained at 4d. The rates to other destinations are listed by Knight and Mitchell²⁶.

Acknowledgement

I am indebted to Richard Knight, who reviewed the manuscript and provided additional information.

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- | | | |
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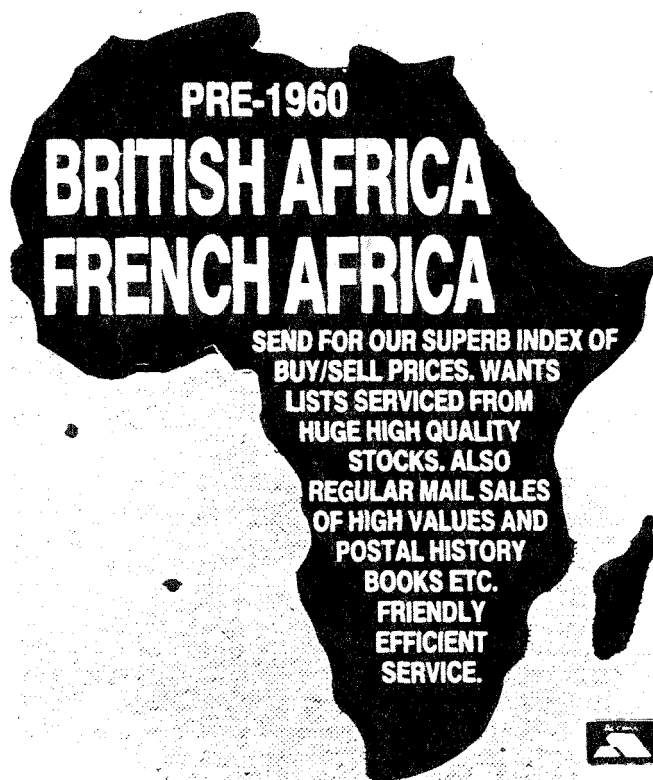
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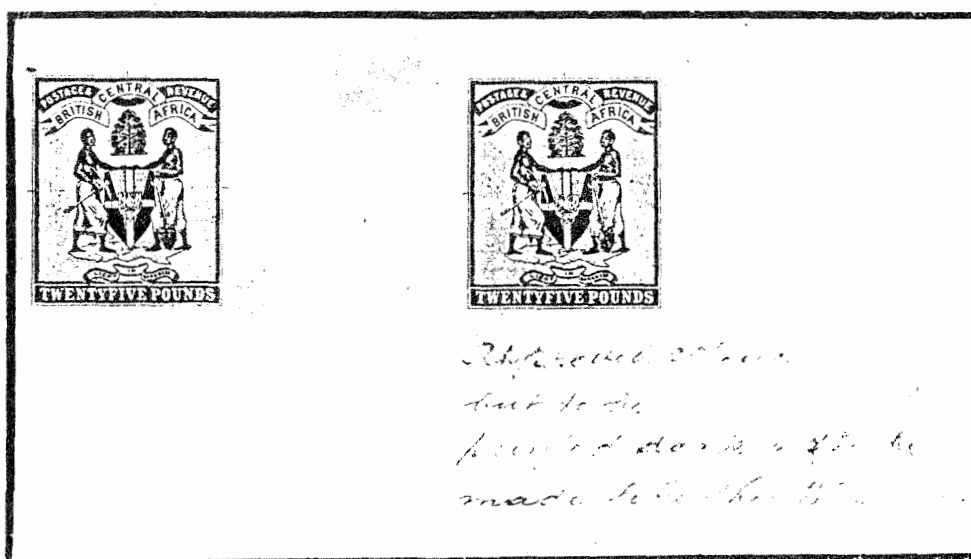
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