

The Runner Post



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DAVID CROCKER

P.O. Box 294, MONTAGU 6720, SOUTH AFRICA
TELEPHONE 0234-41424 'FAX' 0234 - 42521



SOCIETY OFFICERS

Chairman:	Lt. Col. Sir John Inglefield-Watson Bt., The Ross, Hamilton, Lanarkshire ML3 7UF, U.K.
Secretary:	Mike George P.O. Box 108, St Albans, Herts AL1 3AD, U.K.
Treasurer:	Aubrey Glassborow 156 Reading Road South, Church Crookham, Hants GU13 0AH, U.K.
Membership Secretary / Archivist:	Jim Catterall Trevessa, Upper Castle Road, St Mawes, Truro, Cornwall TR2 5BZ, U.K.
Auctioneer (U.K.)	Tony Chilton 56 Framfield Road, Mitcham, Surrey CR4 2AL, U.K.
Botswana Representative:	R.J.F. 'Andy' Andersson P.O. Box 1240, Gaborone, Botswana.
South African Representative / Auctioneer (S.A.):	Howard Cook P.O. Box 6, Gillitts, Natal 3603, South Africa.
Editor:	Alan MacGregor P.O. Box 3130, Cape Town, 8000, South Africa.

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EDITOR'S COMMENTS

My thanks to all those members who have expressed favourable opinions on the new look *Runner Post*. I am also pleased to report that several articles have been received 'on disk' and have proved no problem to 'read' or convert.

Peter Thy's article entitled 'Postal Rates of British Bechuanaland, 1888-1895' which appears on page 738 of this issue, is the last in a series of excellent articles on postal rates which were researched and produced by Peter while he was working in Botswana. These have been published in *The Runner Post* over the past few years. This particular article was originally compiled in August 1992 and has been awaiting its turn for publication. Alan Drysdall incorporated some of Peter's research in his article 'Postage Rates Prior to 1900' which appeared in RP 34, p719. Although there is some resulting overlap, primarily the Schedules and Classes of countries which accompanied the Bechuanaland/Cape Proclamation of 1885 (these have identical content to those reproduced with Alan's article and have therefore been omitted), Peter's article contains much original research and information that will prove invaluable to students of postal rates - an area where previously there was a dearth of reference material.

The Wanderers Philatelic Society of Johannesburg sadly closed recently due to rising costs, though it has been reborn at a different venue as the Witwatersrand Philatelic Society. Before the old club ceased to exist, the Committee chose to award *The Runner Post* with their biennial Certificate of Merit which is awarded for southern African Philatelic Literature and is made in terms of the Herbert Horne Memorial Bequest. Your Editor was very pleased to receive a very attractive certificate to this effect. One doesn't like to blow one's own trumpet but I thought you should at least know I had one.

MINUTES OF THE ORDINARY MEETING OF THE SOCIETY
HELD AT THE ROYAL OAK, REGENCY ST., LONDON SW1, ON WEDNESDAY
2nd MARCH 1994, COMMENCING AT 2.00pm.

Members Present:

John Inglefield-Watson (Chairman), Arnold Berman, Tony Chilton, Alan Drysdall, Dennis Firth, Mike George, Aubrey Glassborow, and Alan MacGregor.

Apologies for Absence:

Jim Catterall and David Hardwick.

Displays:

No business was conducted, the meeting being devoted entirely to philately. Jim Catterall showing his stamp (not postal history) collection, was to have been the star attraction, but due to serious trouble with his car was unable to appear. However, other members had brought material along and this was shown.

Mike George showed items which he had obtained from the Roy Setterfield Queen Elizabeth collection. These included a New Constitution 12½c with colour changed - could it have been caused by sunlight?, an illustrated FDC of the 1961 Decimal Surcharges, the 3d value of the 1960 Anniversary issue with a flaw on Queen Victoria's right eye, and 25c Decimal Surcharged stamps.

Dennis Firth's contribution included a pane of 60 of Bechuanaland D5 on thick rough paper showing various thick 'd' varieties, a forgery of SG 1 with forged Mafeking postmark, an example of SG 39c overprinted British Bechuanaland with broken 'ch', Rhodesia SG 44 with Francetown S. Africa postmark dated JA 22 97, (office opened July 1897) and an imperforate pair of Botswana SG 501 with misplaced printing - printer's waste?

Arnold Berman showed a Stellaland £5 revenue without JPM monogram, cancelled at Mafeking, with the wording at the sides cancelled, and British Bechuanaland added in manuscript.

SEAHORSES.

The rest of the meeting was devoted to a further discussion on the Bechuanaland seahorse issues, lead by John. Some of us had brought examples from our collections.

Shades are not adequately covered in the Part 1 Catalogue. Apart from the shades three other problems were identified:-

- 1) Separating Waterlow and De La Rue printings.
- 2) Sorting by the rules laid down - are there exceptions?
- 3) Are there more re-entries than those listed in the catalogue?

A helpful article was published in the GB Journal, volume 1, No.8, August 1958, p94-97.

It was suggested that we try to arrange a meeting with the GB Overprints Society and other interested parties to try and sort out the problems. The aim being to produce a more specialised listing for the GB overprints than that of the Part 1 Catalogue, based on the listing in the GB Specialised Catalogue.

The main problems are:

- a) The apparent lack of GB experts who could assist.
- b) The identification of shades.
- c) Identification of Waterlow and De La Rue printings
 - 1) De La Rue yellowish and often patchy gum } Are they invariable
 - 2) De La Rue large perf tooth at top of each side of the stamp. } or are there exceptions?
- d) Bradbury Wilkinson printings - 2 sizes, 22¾ or 23mm respectively.

MEMBERS' COMMENTS AND QUERIES

1926 POSTAGE DUES - PRINTERS - John Inglefield-Watson

David Finlay's presumption in *The Runner Post* No.34 (page 708) that Waterlow and Harrison used the same forme for overprinting the 1926 ½d and 1d postage dues reminds me that an apparently unresolved doubt exists about the actual printer of the basic 1d value.

Holmes (page 115) states that the ½d and 2d values were printed by Waterlow on thin unsurfaced paper and the 1d value by Harrison on thick chalk-surfaced paper.

Bridger & Kay's Commonwealth Five Reigns Catalogue 1980 lists Waterlow as the printer of all three values.

The SG catalogues are more confusing:

- a. In Part I, Vol. 1, 1993, the Botswana listing shows that the overprints were on GB Nos. D 10, D 9 and D 13 respectively. The GB listing shows that D 10 and D 13 were printed by Waterlow and D 9 by Harrison, thus agreeing with Holmes.
- b. However, the GB Specialised Catalogue, Vol. 2 (8th Edn.), states that D 9 was printed by Waterlow, bringing SG into line with B & K.

This anomaly has been brought to the notice of the SG Catalogue Editor but, to the best of my knowledge, has not yet been resolved.

The presence of the malformed 'P' variety on both the ½d and 1d values, reported by David Finlay would, I suggest, be easier to explain if both values were from the same printer. No doubt SG will come up with their answer in due course. Meanwhile can any member provide any definite evidence on the subject?

CROCODILE POOLS - David Finlay

In *Runner Post* No.34, Frederick Lawrence refers to at least three covers from the Colonel Vyvyan Mafeking siege correspondence, bearing the Crocodile Pools datestamp, in the period 20th - 31st December 1899. In R.P. No.9 Jim Catterall noted the Mochudi card datestamped 30th December 1899 and a 5 x 1d piece datestamped 30th December 1899. Andy Andersson has a 2d grey-green and carmine stamp (SG 62) cancelled Crocodile Pools, on the 11th January 1900. Thus, there can be no doubt that the Crocodile Pools datestamp was used, during the Boer War period, earlier than the 17th March, 1900.

However, it must be questioned where the datestamp was located, when it was used to make the cancellations in December 1899 and January 1900. As the Boer forces were in control of the area of the Crocodile Pools Telegraph Office from 25th October 1899 to approximately 24th February 1900, it is unlikely that the datestamp could have been used at the Crocodile Pools office during this period.

Ralph Putzel, in Volume I of his *Encyclopaedia of South African Post Offices and Postal Agencies*, notes that a Telegraph Office was opened at Crocodile Pools in 1897. Dr. Karl Seligmann has told me that he believes that Telegraph Offices, of this period in the Protectorate, were issued with datestamps.

Therefore, the logical sequence appears to be as follows:-

- (i) In 1897, or later, Crocodile Pools Telegraph Office was issued with a datestamp.
- (ii) When the Imperial Forces evacuated Crocodile Pools siding on 21st October 1899, the datestamp was probably removed with the troops retreating to Mochudi and subsequently Mahalapye. Mochudi and Pilane Siding (Armoured Train) were reoccupied by the Imperial Troops on 8th November.
- (iii) It is likely that in December 1899 and January 1900 the Crocodile Pools datestamp was used in Mochudi/Pilane. As Mochudi Postal Agency would have its own datestamp it is possible that the Crocodile Pools datestamp was used on the Armoured Train at Pilane Siding, for letters from Mafeking and the southern Protectorate.
- (iv) When the Imperial Troops reoccupied Crocodile Pools on March 17th, 1900, the Telegraph Office would have been reopened and was used as a Postal Agency, until the relief of Mafeking in May. This is supported by the majority of cancellations with the datestamp being in the late March to May period.

MEMBERS' COMMENTS AND QUERIES (Cont.)**DAMAGED FRAME LINE ON 1887 2d - Steve Wallace**

Steve Wallace has sent this illustration of an Unappropriated Die 2d (SG 11) showing a decidedly warped frame line at the lower right side above the second 'E' of 'PENCE'. Steve asks if anyone else has noticed this variety and if it is plateable?

**POSTAGE RATES PRIOR TO 1900 - Frederick Lawrence**

"... My congratulations to Dr Alan Drysdall for his very informative article 'Postage Rates Prior To 1900' (R.P. No.34, p719-730) which contains extremely important information to those of us who are researching postal history documents from this period. A long overdue compilation and much appreciated!

Its appearance prompted me to return to the puzzling, and to-date not yet satisfactorily answered questions concerning the Jan 28, 1886 cover from Ashford Station Office, UK to Mafeking, then in British Bechuanaland. This cover was the subject of my inquiry in R.P. No.24 (Sept. 1991, p444) and Dr. Drysdall's reply (ibid, p445).

Additional discussion followed in R.P. No.26 (March 1992, p488-489) from myself and R.C. Knight, and R.P. No.27 (June 1992, p518) from Peter Thy, where the matter stood until now.

In Dr. Drysdall's new study, we find the following information relevant to this cover:

1. An 8d ½-ounce letter rate from the UK, which was the Cape rate (6d) + the British Bechuanaland rate (2d), introduced in the UK with effect from 1 Jan 86 (p722, 1st para.; cited source [footnote 4] is UK PO Notice, reported by Tabeart, 1989, p41).
2. Charges on insufficiently paid correspondence, viz. Letters, from the UK: deficient postage at the rate of 6d for every ½-ounce + a fine of 6d, + 2d for every ½-ounce to be added on delivery in British Bechuanaland (Schedule B., Table 2; cited source [footnote 3] is "as reproduced by Jurgens," 1945, p105-106, also Knight & Mitchell, 1984, p167).

On this basis, the cover, which was posted in the UK 28 days after the reciprocal 8d rate was introduced in the UK, and which was paid with only 1d, should have been charged: (6d - 1d) = 5d deficient, + 6d fine, + 2d for British Bechuanaland = 13d (total). Yet the cover was charged with only 3d due in Cape Town on 26 Feb 86 (backstamp), 10d short of the amount mandated by the prevailing rates. While mistakes were often made by postal clerks, especially shortly after changes in rates took effect, an error of this magnitude is most troubling, and (perhaps) suggestive of something (s) further which we do not yet fully understand concerning the rates in effect at that time.

As a student of Mafeking postal operations, the period from late 1885 to the Mafeking siege of the 2nd Anglo-Boer War is of especial personal interest. I would welcome any further insights Dr. Drysdall, Mr. Knight or Mr. Thy can give to an acceptable explanation to this perplexing, but important early Mafeking in-bound cover. Those individuals, and any other researchers active in this area, are requested to communicate directly with me at: 5016 S. Kenneth Pl., Tempe, AZ 85282-7265, USA."

[The cover referred to above was illustrated with Frederick Lawrence's letter in *Runner Post* No.24, p444 - Ed]

FORGED 'GUBULAWAYO BECHUANALAND' POSTMARK - Jim Catterall

Jim Catterall supplied this illustration of a forged GUBULAWAYO BECHUANALAND /AU 21/88 cancellation on an example of the 'Protectorate/1d' overprint (SG 41). Jim reports the diameter of the forgery as 21mm whereas the genuine measures 23mm. There are also differences in the shapes of some of the letters and numerals. Have members seen other examples? [I recall seeing this forgery struck in red! - Ed].



ITEMS OF INTEREST

Dr. G.H. Jonkers has sent a three-part letter relating to Stellaland:

1. A translation of the main conditions and clauses of the 1884 postal contract between the Stellaland Government and the Vryburg-Christiana Postal Contractor, W. M. Geeringh:-

POSTAL CONTRACT

Concluded on the twenty-third day of September, 1884, between in the first part Henri van Boeschoten, Government Secretary, on behalf of the Government of Stellaland, and in the second part Willem Marthinus Geeringh Jr, hereinafter referred to as the Postal Contractor, according to the following conditions and clauses:-

- 1) The driver or post-rider shall be required to be in possession of a horn to announce the departure and arrival of the mail.
- 2) It is forbidden to transport in the post cart with the postal packages any flammable substances or breakable items which could cause damage.
- 3) The Postal Contractor is required to transport office and stationery materials (books, paper, etc.) destined for the various Government Offices, handed to him by the Postmaster in Vryburg and the Postal Agent in Christiana, without claiming any payment whatsoever.
- 6) If the post cart has not arrived in front of the Post Office within one hour from its scheduled departure time, the Postmaster of that Office shall be entitled to hire a cart, horses and a driver to transport the mail, at the cost of the designated Postal Contractor.
- 7) The Postal Contractor is obliged to call at the Postal Station of Niekerk's Rust, Stellaland, on route, to collect and deliver postal packages, a time delay of two hours being considered sufficient.
- 9) The Postal Contractor shall be held responsible for the post bags, postal packages, or other postal items, designated on the postal list by the Postmaster of the Office from which the cart originally set out. If upon examination by the Postmaster at the destination, one or more of these items appear not to be present on the post cart, this Postmaster shall immediately send a full report to the Government Secretary.
- 10) The Postal Contractor is required to transport the mail from the Vryburg Post Office to the one in Christiana once weekly within 48 hours, and the return journey also within 48 hours. The departure and arrival times for both the villages of Vryburg and Christiana shall be determined by the Postmaster at Vryburg.
- 13) The first undersigned Henri van Boeschoten, Government Secretary on behalf of the Government of Stellaland, promises the second undersigned, Willem Marthinus Geeringh Jr, the sum of £600 (six hundred pounds) per annum, by monthly payment of the sum of £50 (fifty pounds) for his services, providing they are discharged satisfactorily, with effect from the above date.
- 14) The contract for the transport of the above mentioned mail, between Vryburg and Christiana, shall remain valid for an indeterminate period with the understanding that the contract may be terminated by either party, subject to one calendar month's notice being given.

Signed and sealed at Vryburg on the 23rd day of September in the year of Our Lord One Thousand, Eight Hundred and Eighty Four, in the presence of the undersigned witnesses.

2. Dr Jonkers also sent a copy of an 1888 letter supplied to him by the Hon. Librarian of the Royal Philatelic Society, London:

"...extract from a letter sent to me by Cambell (sic) 24-8-88 that he has received from the Postmaster-General of British Bechuanaland Mr Ernest C. Baxter dated Vrijburg July 27th 1888":

"The monogram on the Stellaland Fiscal stamps is J.P.M. the initials of the late J.P. Minnaar - Auditor-General under the late Stellaland Gvt. It was impressed for want of a better distinguishing mark on the bulk of the stamps by order of Sir Charles Warren during the expeditions upon a report that a large number of stamps had been stolen from the safe in the Deeds-office. Stamps were then used as currency, so all those in hands of the public were called in for exchange. If large quantities had been presented by any persons, they would have had to account for their possession of them.

This procedure evidently disgusted the thief, for shortly afterwards the whole of the missing stamps mysteriously found their way back to the same safe. Duplicate key of this had been lost for some time."

3. "The 'Kleinkauf' cover [illustrated below] was recently on the market again (Christie's London, May 26th, lot 80). It was offered with a 1990 APS certificate [and signed 'A.Diena']. It was apparently not sold. My co-worker in historical research in South Africa has been investigating ZAR postal archives, especially for documents concerning Christiana in an attempt to trace this registered cover. Alas, no postal archive for Christiana was to be found. I realise this is neither positive nor negative proof. Nevertheless, I stick to my previous opinion: this cover is a surreptitious item."

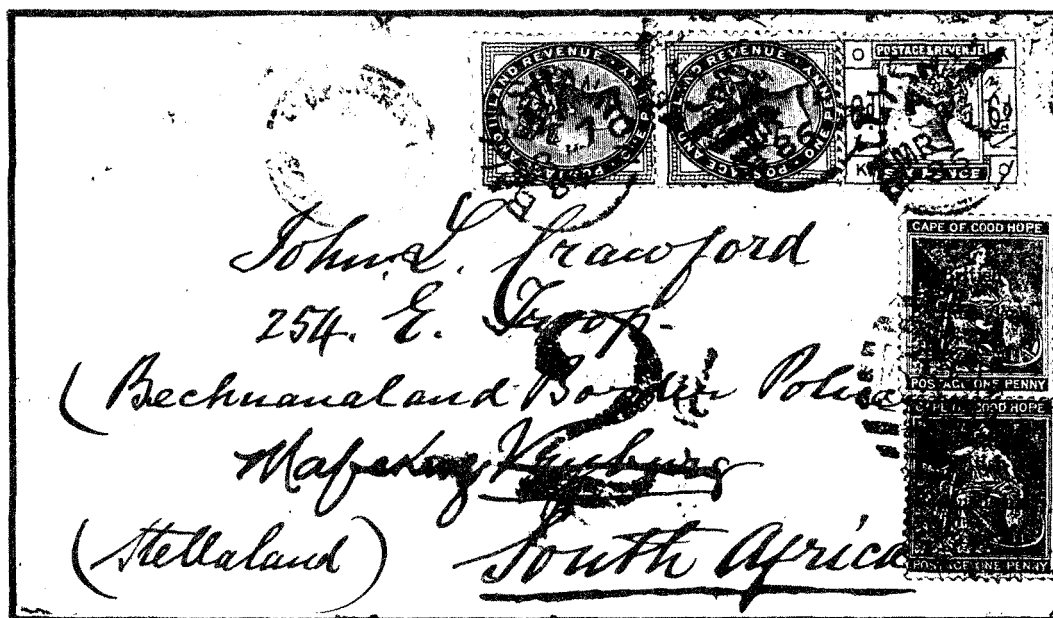
"Kleinkauf may well have been a dealer, and had something to do with the remainders. This cover is dated 5-6-88 when the Stellaland Republic was still in existence. The remainders were sold on 31st October 1886 to an English firm, although there were also others interested" [who had also tendered for the remainders].

"An additional query: Has anyone seen on a Transvaal cover an example of the boxed two line registration marking 'REGISTERED/TRANSVAAL N°' ? If so, when and where?"

[I am able to answer Dr Jonkers last query. I illustrate below an 1891 Transvaal cover from Nylstroom to London bearing the marking concerned. It is recorded by Mathews in *Transvaal Philately* (p157) as having been introduced during the 1st British Occupation. - Ed]



ITEMS OF INTEREST



1886 COVER FROM IRELAND TO STELLALAND, THEN REDIRECTED

This cover, illustrated courtesy of Brian Fenemore, is a superb example of incoming mail to Bechuanaland/Stellaland. The address reads: "John L. Crawford / 254 E. Troop / Bechuanaland Border Police Vryburg / (Stellaland) / South Africa". The cover bears a G.B. 6d and 2 x 1d used at Ballyshannon (Ireland) on March 7th 1886 and on arrival in Vryburg the cover was redirected to Mafeking. It appears there was a 2d charge for this service which was receipted with the addition of two Cape 1d overprinted stamps (SG 5) and which were cancelled with the BONC '555' of Vryburg. It is unclear if the large handstruck '2d' marking refers to this tax charge or (more usually) was applied in Cape Town as an accountancy mark. The cover bears transit marks of Cape Town (March 31) and Vryburg (April 16). The Mafeking arrival cds on the front is unclear.

Incoming covers are very scarce, particularly addressed to Stellaland (which had been annexed five months earlier) and the first apparently bearing a redirection fee I have seen.



STELLALAND REVENUES - 'REBUBLIEK VAN STELLALAND' DELETED - Alan MacGregor

At our Meeting on 2nd March, Arnold Berman showed an example of a Stellaland £5 revenue without JPM monogram, cancelled at Mafeking, with pen lines drawn through the wording 'REBUBLIEK VAN STELLALAND' and 'British Bechuanaland' added in manuscript. Illustrated above are two further examples of this practice. Both are without monogram. The first is a 10/- orange with pen lines through the territory name but with a simple 'BB', initials and the date '28/5/86'. The second stamp is a £5 carmine, also with pen lines through the territory name but no 'new' territory designation. It bears the same signature as the 10/- and is dated '3/1/87' in manuscript. Interestingly, it also bears a 'MAFEKING/BECHUANALAND' datestamp of the same day.

POSTAL RATES OF BRITISH BECHUANALAND, 1885-1895

Compiled by Peter Thy

1. Introduction

The following article on the postal rates of British Bechuanaland is incomplete as the sources are incomplete. The period 1885-91 has been covered by official records, published 1890-92, of the British Bechuanaland proclamations and the more important Notices. The period 1892-95 has been covered by a presumably complete run of British Bechuanaland Government Gazettes. The individual sources are incomplete for the period, but taken together they may provide complete coverage. Nevertheless, a detailed evaluation suggests that important information is lacking. Despite this, the following will provide a basis for independent studies.

This chapter is the final of a general survey of the postal rates of the Bechuanalands and Botswana. Any additions and corrections will be greatly appreciated and will be included in future editions.

2. British Bechuanaland

Shortly after 30 Sept. 1885 proclamation of British sovereignty over what was to be known as British Bechuanaland, a postal convention was entered into between the Cape Colony and British Bechuanaland which came into operation on 1st. December 1885. Because of its importance for understanding the early postal history of the Colony, it is here reproduced as Figure 1 [Schedules A and B and the listings for Class I, II and III which accompany this Proclamation, were illustrated as part of Alan Drysdall's article in RP 34, p720-1. They are identical in content but with slightly different layout, - Ed]. Jurgens (1945, p103) and Knight and Mitchell (1984) reproduced part of the foreign rates. Because it is an agreement between the Cape and Bechuanaland governments, no information was included on the local rates, or rates to other southern African states/territories. The available rates are summarised in Table 1, showing only representative destinations. There were basically three routes for foreign mail. Most mail went via U.K., using the contract packet services maintained by the Cape Colony. Another possibility was the overland service via Mozambique/Mauritius and Suez to India, Ceylon, Hong Kong, and Australia (see Goldblatt, 1984). Finally, mail could be dispatched via private ship to some destinations (typically India, Ceylon, Australia, New Zealand, Madagascar, Mozambique, Reunion, etc. (see RP 32, p667, figure 2 for a listing).

During 1887, the money order and postal draft conventions with the Cape Colony were signed. From 1 Oct 1888, the rates to U.K. and other foreign countries were reduced (Figure 2), but other rates remained unchanged (see Knight and Mitchell, 1984, for the same listing, but from a different source). The rates between British Bechuanaland and the Protectorate, from 1888, can be obtained from the Protectorate listing (see RP 32, p666, figure 1). The parcel post convention with the Cape Colony was signed in 1890 (see RP 12, p205).

The rates between the Cape Colony and United Kingdom were reduced again in 1892. Consequently, the Mashonaland and Protectorate rates were adjusted (Knight and Mitchell, 1984; Thy in RP 32). A postal notice published in the Government Gazette on July 29, 1892, states in part "... 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." This notice is dated prior to the amendment of the Cape Post Office Act on 13 Sep. 1892, or shortly thereafter. There are no indications that the British Bechuanaland rates ever were reduced. This, despite the fact that the rates from U.K. to British Bechuanaland and the Protectorate were reduced on 1 August to 2½d per ½oz for letters and for post cards to 1d. Knight and Mitchell (1984, p167-169) reproduce, from the Cape of Good Hope Government Gazette, two tables showing British Bechuanaland rates (conforming to those shown here). The first is stated to have been in effect between 1885 and 30 Sep. 1888. The second between 1 Oct. 1888 and 1894. This suggests a change in the rates in 1894, and not 1892, and that the old tariffs were in use until 1894. Unfortunately, Knight and Mitchell do not reproduce the full text of the documents, so could it be that 1894 is a typing error for 1892? Nevertheless, the year 1894 appears in another source, Harrington (1935, p139) notes "About 1894 there [was] a general movement, in which the Vryburg Chamber of Commerce took the lead, to reduce the inland and internal postage to a uniform corporate rate of 1d. per 1/2 oz." My best estimate is that the rates were actually amended in 1892, but never legally approved and published. The British Bechuanaland letter rates can probably be estimated as 2d plus the Cape rates (the problem is, nevertheless, what were the Cape rates!). The following year, on 1 April, the postal services of British Bechuanaland were transferred to the Cape Post Office (Putzel, 1986, p111). British Bechuanaland was annexed by the Cape Colony on 16 Nov. 1895, and consequently ceased to exist as an independent postal unit.

Table 1. British Bechuanaland

		Letters per ½ oz	Postcards ^[1]	Newspapers per 4 oz	Books/sample packets
1 Dec 1885^[2]	Cape (+B.B.)	2d	1d	½d	1d / 2oz
	U.K.	8d		1½d	2d / oz ^[3]
	Europe/N. America	9½d		2½d	3d / 2oz
	S. & C. America	11d		2½d	3d / 2oz
	Australia via U.K. ^[4]	1s1d		2½d	5d / 2oz ^[5]
	India/Japan via U.K. ^[4]	1s		3d	3½d / 2oz
	Private Ship	8d		1½d	2d / 2oz
1 Oct. 1888	U.K.	6d		1d	1d / oz ^[6]
	Europe/N. America	7½d		2d	2d / 2oz
	S. & C. America	9d		2d	2d / 2oz
	Australia via U.K. ^[4]	11d		2d	5d / 2oz ^[7]
	India/Japan via U.K. ^[4]	10d		2½d	3d / 2oz
	Private Ship	6d		1d	1d / 2oz
1892	INFORMATION MAY BE MISSING				
1 Aug. 1892^[8]	Mashonaland	4d	1½d	1d	1d / oz ^[9]
18 Nov. 1892^[10]	Foreign via U.K.		1½d		

[1] Post cards were first issued in July 1886 according to Holmes (1971), and were extended to Mashonaland and foreign countries served via U.K. during Aug.-Nov. 1892. Their usage must have been extended to U.K. prior to that date. Goldblatt (1984, p. 223) mention that post cards with 1½d stamp impressed for mailing to U.K. were available in the Cape from 1890. The rate for reply cards are always 2 times the regular rate.

[2] Postal convention between the Cape and the British Bechuanaland colonies. The local British Bechuanaland rates were probably identical with the Cape rates. Parcel post rates to the Cape were 3d/4oz.

[3] The rates are 2d <1oz; 3d <2oz; 5d <4oz; 5d per additional 4oz.

[4] This is the contract packet services. The overland route via Mozambique / Mauritius to India, Ceylon, Hong Kong, and Australia would require higher rates.

[5] 5d <2oz; 9d <4oz; 9d per add 4oz.

[6] 1d <1oz; 2d <2oz; 3d <4oz; 3d per add 4oz.

[7] 5d <2oz; 9d <4oz; 9d per add 4oz.

[8] Postal Notice, British Bechuanaland Government Gazette, July 29, 1892. Rates between Mashonaland and British Bechuanaland (incl. the Protectorate). See Jurgens (1945) for more details. Parcel rates given as ¼lb 3d; ½lb 6d; ¾lb 9d; 1lb 1s; each add 1b 1s.

[9] 1d for 1oz; 2d for 2oz; 3d for 4oz; 3d add 4oz.

[10] Postal Notice, published 18. Nov. 1892 in the Gazette.

The 1885 convention only lists post cards for transmission between the Cape and British Bechuanaland. According to Holmes (1971) post cards were introduced in July 1886 for the southern African area. The usage was probably extended to United Kingdom in 1890 (Goldblatt, 1984). During November 1892, the usage of cards (single and double) was extended to Mashonaland and foreign countries served via United Kingdom. The Philatelic Society (1895) reproduces two notices from the British Bechuanaland Gazette relating to reply cards to the U.K. and the Mashonaland service, respectively (both copied by Holmes, 1971). An additional notice was published in the Gazette on 11 Nov. 1892 reading: "Postal Notice/---/The Single and Reply-paid Post Cards, at present issued for transmission to the United Kingdom, may now be used for transmission to Foreign Countries, served via the United Kingdom, provided that in addition to the penny stamp already printed on the Card, 1/2d adhesive stamp should be affixed. Reply-paid Cards must have a halfpenny stamp affixed to the return half as well as the outward half./R. TILLARD,/Acting Postmaster-General./Postmaster General's Office,/Vryburg, 4th November, 1892." A further notice was published on 16 Dec. 1892: "Postal Notice./----/Reply paid Postcards prepaid 2d. may be posted for circulation between British Bechuanaland and Cape Colony and Natal, from 1st January next./R. TILLARD,/Acting Postmaster-General./Vryburg, 14th December, 1892." It is unlikely reply postcards were introduced for international usage from the Protectorate before late 1898. The introduction of post cards in British Bechuanaland and the Protectorate is clearly an interesting field needing more research.

3. Cape Colony

Collections of the statutes of the Cape of Good Hope of 1884-93 are available. There are three schedules/amendments to the Post Office Act of the Cape Colony, which is of interest to the postal history of British Bechuanaland. The first is Schedule 2 to the Post Office Act No. 4 of 1882; this was in part reproduced by Knight (1992). The 1882 act was amended in 1886 (Figure 3), and subsequently in 1892 (Figure 4). The listed overseas mail rates are probably to U.K. via private ship, and not via the official mail packets. Other foreign countries, served via U.K. would require additional postage. The Cape mail packet letter rates appear to be 2d below the rates for British Bechuanaland. Unfortunately, little information is available on the mail packet rates (see Goldblatt, 1984). For the period of interest here, the Ocean Mail Contracts were renewed on 24 March 1892 (to The Castle Mail Packets Company until 30 Sept. 1900) and on 19 July 1899 (to Union Steamship Company and Castle Mail Packets Company). It is likely renewal of these contracts affected the postal rates. It is clear that a detailed understanding of Cape rates is vital for deciphering Bechuanaland rates. These were based on the Cape rates, plus whatever the local government felt it could charge for the local service/transport.

Table 2. Cape Colony

Letters		Postcards
1882		
Inland local	1d / ½oz	Inland local is for delivery at same post office as posted.
Inland general	2d / ½oz	
Private ship at port	4d / ½oz	
Private ship	6d / ½oz	
Mail packet	6d / ½oz	
1 July 1886		
Inland	1/2d <1oz 1d for 1-2oz 1d per add 2oz	Inland general is for delivery at another office. In 1886, the local fee was discontinued.
1 Oct. 1888		
Mail packet	4d / ½oz	All foreign mail (ship/mail packet) is probably to U.K., other destinations would require additional frankings. Private ship refer to delivery by private steamship company often at cheaper rates than via the "official" mail packets between Cape Town and U.K.
1892		
Inland	1d / ½oz	Knight (1992) notes that a reduction from 6d to 4d of the mail packet rates occurred during Oct. 1888 (see Table 1; in general, the mail packet rates were 2d below the British Bechuanaland rates).
Private ship	2½d / ½oz	

Acknowledgements. The information has been compiled with kind assistance at Botswana National Archives.

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PROCLAMATION

BY HIS EXCELLENCY THE RIGHT HONOURABLE SIR
HERCULES GEORGE ROBERT ROBINSON,

A Member of Her Majesty's Most Honourable Privy Council, Knight Grand
Cross of the Most Distinguished Order of Saint Michael and Saint
George, Governor and Commander-in-Chief of Her Majesty's Colony of the
Cape of Good Hope in South Africa, and of the Territories and Depen-
dencies thereof, and Her Majesty's High Commissioner, &c., &c., &c.

UNDER and by virtue of the powers vested in me, I do hereby
proclaim, declare, and make known, that the Postal Conven-
tion entered into with the Administrator of British Bechuanaland,
and hereto appended, shall come into operation on and after the
first day of December, 1885.

GOD SAVE THE QUEEN!

Given under my hand and the Public Seal of the Colony of the Cape
of Good Hope, this 3rd day of December, 1885.

HERCULES ROBINSON,

Governor.

By command of His Excellency the Governor in Council.

THOMAS UPINGTON.

No. 188, 1885.

CONVENTION.

His Excellency the Governor of the Cape of Good Hope, and
His Honour the Administrator of British Bechuanaland, being
desirous of promoting arrangements which will afford greater
facilities than at present exist for Postal communication between
the said Colonies respectively, have agreed on behalf of their
respective Governments to the following articles:—

Article 1.

All letters posted in the Colony of the Cape of Good Hope, and
addressed to places in British Bechuanaland, shall be prepaid by
postage stamps issued by the Government of the Cape of Good
Hope, to the value of 2d. for every $\frac{1}{2}$ oz. or fraction of $\frac{1}{2}$ oz. that
such letters may weigh.

Article 2.

All letters posted in British Bechuanaland and addressed to
places in the Cape Colony, shall be prepaid by postage stamps,
issued by the Government of British Bechuanaland to the value of
2d. for every $\frac{1}{2}$ oz. or fraction of $\frac{1}{2}$ oz. that such letters may weigh.

Article 3.

Post Cards issued by the Government of the Cape of Good Hope
having a postage stamp of the value of 1d. printed or embossed
thereon, shall, if posted at any Post Office in the Cape Colony, be
forwarded free of further charge to any place in British Bechuanaland.

Article 4.

Post Cards issued by the Government of British Bechuanaland
having a postage stamp of the value of 1d. printed or embossed
thereon, shall, if posted at any Post Office in British Bechuana-
land, be forwarded, free of further charge to any place in the Cape
Colony.

Article 5.

All book and sample packets posted at any place within the Cape
Colony addressed to places in British Bechuanaland, shall have the
postage payable thereon prepaid in postage stamps issued by the
Government of the Colony of the Cape of Good Hope, at the rate of
1d. for every 2 oz. or fraction of 2 oz. which such book or sample
packet may weigh.

Article 6.

All book and sample packets posted at any place within British
Bechuanaland addressed to places in the Cape Colony, shall have
the postage payable thereon prepaid in postage stamps issued by
the Government of British Bechuanaland at the rate of 1d. for
every 2 oz. or fraction of 2 oz. which such book or sample packet
may weigh.

Article 7.

All parcels posted in the Cape Colony, addressed to places in
British Bechuanaland, shall have the postage payable thereon
prepaid in postage stamps issued by the Government of the Cape of
Good Hope, at the rate of 3d. per 4 oz. or fraction of 4 oz., that
such parcels may weigh, and shall be forwarded to British Bechuana-
land, and be delivered to their respective addressees free of further
charge.

Article 8.

All parcels posted in British Bechuanaland, addressed to places
in the Cape Colony, shall have the postage payable thereon prepaid
in postage stamps issued by the Government of British Bechuana-
land, at the rate of 3d. per 4 oz. or fraction of 4 oz., that such
parcels may weigh, and shall be forwarded to the Cape Colony, and
be delivered to their respective addressees free of further charge.

Article 9.

All newspapers posted in the Cape Colony and addressed to places
in British Bechuanaland, shall be prepaid in postage stamps issued
by the Government of the Cape of Good Hope, of the value of 4d.
for every newspaper not exceeding 4 oz. in weight, and 4d. for
every additional 4 oz. or fraction of that weight.

Article 10.

All newspapers posted in British Bechuanaland and addressed to
places in the Cape Colony, shall be prepaid in postage stamps issued
by the Government of British Bechuanaland of the value of 4d. for
every newspaper not exceeding 4 oz. in weight and 4d. for every
additional 4 oz. or fraction of that weight.

Figure 1 - 1885 Bechuanaland / Cape Proclamation

Article 11.

The Postal Department of each Colony shall retain for the use of its Government all postage paid on letters, post cards, book and sample packets, parcels, newspapers, and all other articles transmissible by post under the provisions of this Convention when addressed to the other Colony, as well as all postage chargeable on or collected at the time of delivery of all unpaid and insufficiently paid letters, book and sample packets, and parcels received from the other Colony, which postage shall, unless otherwise provided in this Convention, be double the amount of the deficient postage.

Article 12.

All newspapers which shall not have been prepaid with the full amount of postage chargeable thereon, shall not be sent forward, and if inadvertently sent forward, shall be returned to the postal department of the Colony in which they originated; and shall be destroyed, or otherwise dealt with under the regulations for the time being of the Postal Department of the Colony of origin.

Article 13.

All letters, book and sample packets, and newspapers posted in British Bechuanaland to be forwarded to the United Kingdom or Foreign Countries receiving their correspondence in transit through the United Kingdom by means of the contract packet service maintained by the Government of the Cape of Good Hope, or to any other place by sea shall be prepaid by postage stamps issued by the Government of British Bechuanaland at the rates of postage set forth in Schedule A to this Convention, or such other rates as may from time to time be agreed upon in the event of the present rates of postage between the Cape Colony and the United Kingdom and Foreign Countries being altered; and credit shall be given to the Government of the Colony of the Cape of Good Hope for the proportion of the postage specified in that Schedule.

Article 14.

Letters, book and sample packets, and newspapers addressed to places in British Bechuanaland from the United Kingdom or from Foreign Countries, forwarding their correspondence in transit through the United Kingdom, shall be prepaid the same rates of postage as if the correspondence had been posted in British Bechuanaland and addressed to such places or Foreign Countries respectively. The whole of the postage collected on such letters, book and sample packets, and newspapers, shall be retained by the Imperial Government in order that the proper proportions may be paid over to the Governments of the Cape of Good Hope and of the Foreign Countries concerned.

Article 15.

Unpaid and insufficiently paid letters and book and sample packets posted in British Bechuanaland addressed to places in the United Kingdom, or to places in Foreign Countries receiving their correspondence in transit through the United Kingdom, or for other

places beyond the seas, shall be sent forward from British Bechuanaland stamped with the letter T. (Taxé), and without any charge being made thereon.

The Postal Department of British Bechuanaland shall give credit to the Cape Colony for all postage on insufficiently paid letters and book and sample packets addressed to the United Kingdom over and above the rates of postage from British Bechuanaland to the Cape Colony. In the case of insufficiently paid letters addressed to Foreign Countries of the Universal Postal Union the Colony of British Bechuanaland shall give credit to the Cape Colony for the whole of the postage on such correspondence.

Article 16.

Unpaid and insufficiently paid letters originating in the United Kingdom, or in countries forwarding their correspondence in transit through the United Kingdom, shall, when addressed to places in British Bechuanaland, be chargeable on delivery with the rates of postage and fine set forth in the Schedule B to this Convention.

All sums collected in British Bechuanaland in respect of charges upon such unpaid and insufficiently paid letters shall be retained by the postal department for the use of the Government of British Bechuanaland, but credit shall be given to the Cape Colony for the proportion of the charges specified in the said Schedule B.

Article 17.

Unpaid and insufficiently paid book and sample packets originating in the United Kingdom or in countries forwarding their correspondence through the United Kingdom, shall, when addressed to places in British Bechuanaland, be chargeable on delivery with the rates of postage and fine set forth in the Schedule B to this Convention.

All sums collected in British Bechuanaland in respect of charges upon such unpaid and insufficiently paid book and sample packets shall be retained by the postal department for the use of the Government of British Bechuanaland, but credit shall be given to the Cape Colony for the proportion of the charges specified in the said Schedule B.

Article 18.

Newspapers posted in British Bechuanaland for the United Kingdom or Foreign Countries receiving their correspondence in transit through the United Kingdom as well as newspapers posted in the United Kingdom or in Foreign Countries forwarding their correspondence in transit through the United Kingdom to British Bechuanaland, shall have the postage thereon fully prepaid, and if posted unpaid or insufficiently paid shall not be forwarded, or if forwarded inadvertently, shall be returned to the country of origin in order that they may be destroyed or otherwise dealt with under the regulations for the time being of the Postal Department of such country.

Article 19.

Letters, newspapers, book and sample packets, and parcels sent on service by the heads of civil or military departments of either Colony, shall pass free of postage, and be delivered to their respective

Figure 1 (continued)- 1885 Bechuanaland / Cape Proclamation

addresses in either Colony, provided that they are sent on the public service, and are marked as such on the covers.

Article 20.

Except as otherwise provided in this Convention, all letters, post cards, newspapers, book and sample packets, and parcels passing between British Bechuanaland and the Cape Colony, shall be subject to the general regulations of the Postal Department of those Colonies respectively.

Article 21.

All registered correspondence posted in British Bechuanaland or in the Cape Colony respectively for delivery within the other Colony, shall be prepaid with the registration fee for the time being payable upon inland correspondence of the Colony of origin, and the whole of such registration fee shall be retained by the Postal Department of that Colony.

Article 22.

Registered correspondence posted in British Bechuanaland for the United Kingdom or for the Foreign Countries receiving their correspondence in transit through the United Kingdom, shall be prepaid with the registration fee chargeable upon ordinary correspondence, and the whole of the fee shall be retained by the Postal Department of British Bechuanaland; credit, however, shall be given to the Cape Colony for the sum of 2d. for every article being the amount of the fee payable to the United Kingdom under the Postal Convention between the Government of the Colony of the Cape of Good Hope and the Imperial Government.

Article 23.

Registered correspondence posted in the United Kingdom or in Foreign Countries forwarding their correspondence through the United Kingdom for places in British Bechuanaland, shall be prepaid the same registration fee as would be payable if such correspondence had been addressed to places in the Cape Colony, and all such registered articles shall be forwarded to their destination duly registered free of further charge to the addressee; the half fee payable in respect of such registered articles to the Cape Colony under the terms of the postal Convention between the Government of the Cape of Good Hope and the Imperial Government shall be retained by the Postal Department of the Cape Colony.

Article 24.

This Convention is entered into between the respective Governments of the Colony of the Cape of Good Hope and of British Bechuanaland.

land, from the 1st day of December, 1885, and shall remain in force until it shall be necessary to be modified in consequence of the Cape Colony entering the Universal Postal Union.

Given under my hand and the Public Seal of the Colony of the Cape of the Cape of Good Hope at Taunus, this eleventh day of November, One Thousand Eight Hundred and Eighty-five.

HERCULES ROBINSON,
Governor.

Given under my hand and Seal at Taunus, this twelfth day of November, One Thousand Eight Hundred and Eighty-five.

S. G. A. SHIPPARD,
Administrator.

Figure 1 (continued) - 1885 Bechuanaland / Cape Proclamation

POSTAL NOTICE.

Reduction of Postage on Correspondence to the United Kingdom and Foreign Countries.

ON and from the 1st of October next the rates of postage on correspondence from British Bechuanaland to the United Kingdom, St. Helena, Madeira, and Foreign Countries will be reduced and the postage will be as follows:—

	LETTERS. Per ½ oz. or fraction of that weight 4 oz. and for every additional 4 oz.	NEWS-PAPERS. For each paper not exceeding 4 oz. and for every additional 4 oz.	BOOK AND SAMPLE PACKETS.
To the United Kingdom, St. Helena, and Madeira ...	6d	1d	1d not ex. 1 oz. 2d " 2 oz. 3d " 4 oz. 3d for every additional 4 oz.
To the Continent of Europe and places mentioned in Class A of the list given below ...	7½d	2d	2d every 2 oz.
To places mentioned in Class B ...	9d	2d	2d " 2 oz.
To places mentioned in Class C ...	10d	2½d	3d " 2 oz.
To Australasian Colonies via the United Kingdom ...	11d	2d	5d not ex. 2 oz. 9d " 4 oz. 9d for every additional 4 oz.
To India, Ceylon, China, and Australia via Mozambique	1s	2d	5d every 4 oz.
To Foreign Countries by direct private ship ...	6d	1d	1d " 2 oz.

Figure 2 - 1888 Postal Notice - Reduction of Postage, and Classes of Countries

[Note: There are five differences between the 'book and sample packages' rates above to those in Table 3 in RP 34, p722. They are: 'To Places mentioned in Class C', 'To Australasian Colonies via the United Kingdom', and 'To India, Ceylon, China, and Australia via Mozambique'.

Both listings refer to rates effective October 1st 1888. There are also differences between the Classes above and those in Knight and Mitchell (p168). The latter also uses 'I, II, III' instead of 'A, B, C' - Ed]

CLASS A.

Austro-Hungary
Azores
Belgium
Bulgaria
Canada (Dominion of)
Canary Islands
Cyprus
Denmark (including the Faroe Islands and Iceland,
Egypt
France
Germany
Gibraltar
Greece
Heligoland
Italy
Luxemburg
Malta
Marquesas Islands
Montenegro
Netherlands
Newfoundland
Norway
Persia via Russia
Portugal
Roumania
Russia
St. Pierre et Miquelon
Servia
Spain
Sweden
Switzerland
Tahiti
Turkey
United States

CLASS B.

Antigua
Argentine Republic
Bahamas
Barbados
Bermudas
Bolivia
Black Point
Brazil
British Guiana
British Honduras
Camaroons
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 Tannicave (Madagascar) the French portion of the Lower Archipelago
Gambia
German Colonies, viz.: Togo Territory, including Bageida. Little Popo, Lome, and Porto Seguro, and territory in South West Africa
Gold Coast
Grenada
Grenadines
Guatemala
Hawaiian Islands
Hayti
Honduras, Republic of
Jamaica
Lagos
Liberia
Majumba
Mauritius and dependencies
Mexico
Montserrat
Togo
Togo Territory, including Bageida. Little Popo, Lome, and Porto Seguro, and territory in South West Africa
Gold Coast
Grenada
Grenadines
Guatemala
Hawaiian Islands
Hayti
Honduras, Republic of
Jamaica
Lagos
Liberia
Majumba
Mauritius and dependencies
Mexico
Montserrat

ACT

To Amend the "Post Office Act, 1882," and to repeal the "Post Office Act Amendment Act, 1886."

BE it enacted by the Governor of the Cape of Good Hope, with the advice and consent of the Legislative Council and House of Assembly thereof, as follows:—

1. The last twelve lines of section five of the Post Office Act, 1882, commencing with the word "Provided," so much of the second schedule to that Act as has not heretofore been repealed, and the whole of the Post Office Act Amendment Act, 1886, are hereby repealed, and in lieu of the rates of postage specified therein there shall be levied the rates of postage set forth in the first schedule to this Act.

2. The fourth schedule to the Post Office Act, 1882, is hereby repealed, and in lieu of the form of declaration therein set forth, the form of declaration in the second schedule to this Act shall be taken and subscribed before a Justice of the Peace by every Postmaster and other officer of the Post Office before the exercise of the duties of his office, as required by the provisions of the forty-fourth section of the Post Office Act, 1882.

3. This Act shall come into operation on a date to be named by the Governor by proclamation in the *Gazette*, and shall be read as one with "The Post Office Act, 1882," and may be cited for all purposes as the "Post Office Act Amendment Act, 1892."

No. 35—1892.
Schedule 2.

SECOND SCHEDULE.

DECLARATION.

(Made pursuant to the provisions of the forty-fourth section of the Post Office Act, 1882.)

I, do solemnly and sincerely declare that I will not wittingly, or willingly open or delay, or cause, or suffer to be opened or delayed, contrary to my duty, any letter or any thing sent by the Post which shall come into my hands, or custody, by reason of my employment relating to the Post Office, except by the consent of the person or persons to whom the same shall be directed, or except in such cases where the party or parties to whom such letter or any thing sent by the Post shall be directed, and who is, or are, chargeable with the payment of the postage thereof, shall refuse or neglect to pay the same; and except such letters or any thing sent by the Post, as shall be returned for want of true directions, or when the party or parties to whom the same shall be directed cannot be found; and that I will not in any way embuzzle any such letter or any thing sent by the Post as aforesaid, and I make this solemn declaration conscientiously intending to fulfil and obey the same, and by virtue of the provision of the "Oaths and Declarations Act, 1891."

Signature
This Declaration was made before me, {
at in the Division {
of the day {
of 1892 }

SCHEDULES.

FIRST SCHEDULE.

Letters.	
Inland Ship.	Posted for delivery within the Colony To be forwarded by private ship, vessel of war, or other ship (not being a mail packet), direct to any foreign country or British possession with which a convention for the exchange of such mail matter has not been concluded. For owners, charterers, or consignees of vessels arriving in any part of the Colony by such vessel.
Shippers and Consignees.	For every half ounce or fraction of half an ounce. One Penny.
Newspapers.	
Inland.	For each newspaper not exceeding four ounces in weight. One Half-penny.
Ship.	For each newspaper not exceeding four ounces in weight. One Penny.
Inland.	Postal Cards. On each postal card. One Half-penny.
Book Packets.	
Inland.	For every two ounces or fraction of two ounces. One Half-penny.
Sample Packets.	
Inland.	For the first four ounces or fraction thereof. One Penny.
	For every additional two ounces or fraction thereof. One Half-penny.
Packets.	
Ship.	To be forwarded by private ship, vessel of war, or other ship (not being a mail packet), direct to any foreign country or British possession with which a convention for the exchange of mail matter has not been concluded. For the first four ounces or fraction thereof. One Penny.
	For every additional two ounces or fraction thereof. One Half-penny.
Parcel Post.	
Inland.	Each parcel not exceeding eight ounces. For each additional four ounces or thereof fraction. Fourpence.
	Registration. For the registration of every separate article. Twopence.
	For the registration of every separate article. Fourpence.

Figure 4 - 1892 Cape Post Office Amendment Act No. 35

CHECKLIST OF BOTSWANA POSTMARKS FOR OFFICES BEGINNING WITH THE LETTER 'F'

Brian Trotter

In reality, we have only one office whose name begins with the letter F - that is FRANCISTOWN. So this is the Botswana Postmark Project Team's work for Francistown, following up on the previous checklist that covered offices with names beginning with the letters A-E.

As always, we welcome all further information on recorded postmarks, better illustrations, and of course, information on unrecorded markings. Your input will help us as a Society to improve our overall knowledge of the postal markings of Botswana, so please let us have the information on your markings for the Society records.

FRANCISTOWN



No. 1 Type 2 A 1

Circle diameters	:	17 & 26 mm
Earliest recorded date	:	Sep 30, 1966
Latest recorded date	:	Jul 17, 1969
Codes recorded	:	A, B, C
Number recorded so far	:	6

This is Bechuanaland Protectorate postmark No. 5 with territory name and dot separators excised (see Runner Post No. 4, page 14).



No. 2 Type 2 A 1

Circle diameters	:	20 & 30 mm
Earliest recorded date	:	Oct 17, 1966
Latest recorded date	:	Jul 29, 1968
Codes recorded	:	A
Number recorded so far	:	2

This is Bechuanaland Protectorate postmark No. 7 with territory name excised (see Runner Post No. 4, page 14).



No. 3 Type 2 A 1

Circle diameters	:	19 & 30 mm
Earliest recorded date	:	Oct 11, 1966
Latest recorded date	:	Aug 26, 1969
Codes recorded	:	A, B, C
Number recorded so far	:	8

This is Bechuanaland Protectorate postmark No. 8 with territory name excised. It was recorded in use the last day before Independence, and listed as Bechuanaland Protectorate postmark No. 10 (see Runner Post No. 4, pages 14 and 15).



No. 4 Type 23 A 1

Circle diameters	:	28 & 30 mm
Earliest recorded date	:	Jul 1, 1968
Latest recorded date	:	Sep 27, 1971
Codes recorded	:	None
Number recorded so far	:	28

Some markings are struck in violet.



No. 5 Type 2 A 1

Circle diameters	:	18 & 31 mm
Earliest recorded date	:	Oct 20, 1972
Latest recorded date	:	Jul 16, 1992
Codes recorded	:	A, B, C, E, F
Number recorded so far	:	More than 50



No. 6 Type 2 A 1

Circle diameters	:	18 & 26 mm
Earliest recorded date	:	Jul 15, 1969
Latest recorded date	:	Aug 18, 1992
Codes recorded	:	A, B, C
Number recorded so far	:	More than 50

As from early 1992 the date sequence seems to have been changed from day, month, year, to the reverse. That is year, month, day, with the code still appearing between month and year. Latest recorded original sequence 10 II C 92, earliest recorded reversed sequence 92A III 25.

Note Postmark No. 7 is similar to No. 6, but with a different date format.



No. 7 Type 2 A 1

Circle diameters	:	18 & 26 mm
Earliest recorded date	:	Apr 28, 1986
Latest recorded date	:	Jul 7, 1990
Codes recorded	:	None
Number recorded so far	:	More than 50

Note Postmark No. 6 is similar to No. 7, but with a different date format.



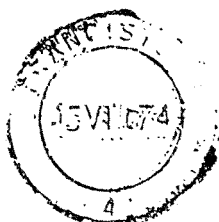
No. 8 Type 2 E (1)

Circle diameters	:	19 & 27 mm
Earliest recorded date	:	Oct 24, 1970
Latest recorded date	:	Aug 11, 1986
Codes recorded	:	A, B, C
Number recorded so far	:	More than 50



No. 9 Type 2 E (2)

Circle diameters	: 18 & 26 mm
Earliest recorded date	: Aug 7, 1971
Latest recorded date	: Jun 24, 1986
Codes recorded	: A, B, C
Number recorded so far	: 19



No. 10 Type 2 E (4)

Circle diameters	: 18 & 26 mm
Earliest recorded date	: Jul 15, 1974
Latest recorded date	: Jul 15, 1974
Codes recorded	: C
Number recorded so far	: 1

Presumably a similar type exists with the numeral 3 at the base.



No. 11 Type 21 A 1

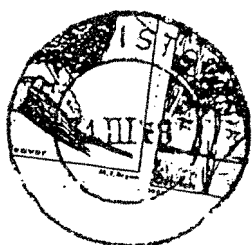
Circle diameters	: 17 & 32 mm
Earliest recorded date	: Jul 22, 1989
Latest recorded date	: Mar 8, 1993
Codes recorded	: None
Number recorded so far	: 6

Note the thick rims of this canceller.



No. 12 Type 21 E (8)

Circle diameters	: 16.5 & 31.5 mm
Earliest recorded date	: Jul 17, 1992
Latest recorded date	: Feb 25, 1993
Codes recorded	: None
Number recorded so far	: 4

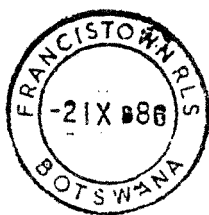


No. 13 Type 2 A 1

Circle diameters	: 18.5 & 28 mm
Earliest recorded date	: Mar 31, 1987
Latest recorded date	: Mar 31, 1987
Codes recorded	: E
Number recorded so far	: 2

Only one of the recorded items has a clear day and month visible on the strike, so the other one has been used for both earliest and latest recorded items.

Note that the second digit for the year is a small raised number - in this case 8⁷ for 87.



No. 14 Type 2 F 2

Circle diameters : 18 & 26 mm
 Earliest recorded date : Apr 23, 1982
 Latest recorded date : Jan 24, 1990
 Codes recorded : A, B
 Number recorded so far : 20



No. 15 Type 2 C 21

Circle diameters : 18 & 27 mm
 Earliest recorded date : Sep 6, 1990
 Latest recorded date : Dec 28, 1991
 Codes recorded : None
 Number recorded so far : 14



No. 16 Type 21 B 51

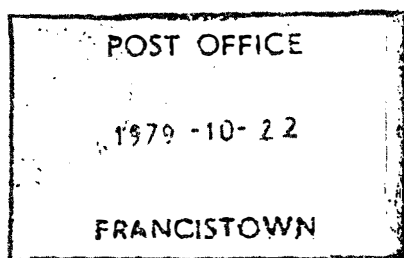
Circle diameters : 18 & 30 mm
 Earliest recorded date : May 6, 1989
 Latest recorded date : Oct 10, 1991
 Codes recorded : None
 Number recorded so far : 8



No. 17 Type 21 F 13

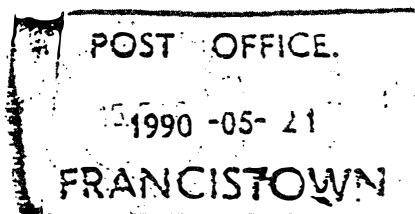
Circle diameters : 17.5 & 31 mm
 Earliest recorded date : Jan 13, 1992
 Latest recorded date : Nov 7, 1992
 Codes recorded : None
 Number recorded so far : 9

Intended for use on Expedited Mail Service (EMS) mail, but seen several times on Postal Services mail and registered mail.



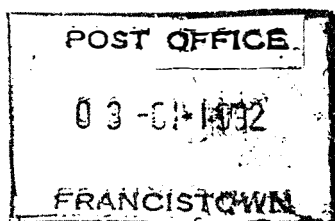
No. 18 Type 8 J 26

Box dimensions : 32 x 51.5 mm
 Earliest recorded date : Oct 10, 1979
 Latest recorded date : Apr 25, 1990
 Number recorded so far : 5



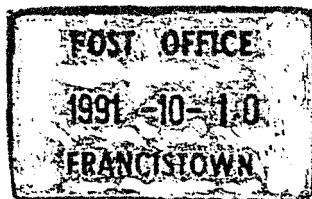
No. 19 Type 8 J 26
 Box dimensions : ± 27 x 52 mm
 Earliest recorded date : Apr 2, 1990
 Latest recorded date : Nov 14, 1990
 Number recorded so far : 6

Two strikes, both dated 1990-11-14, have the complete date inverted.



No. 20 Type 8 J 26
 Box dimensions : 28 x 43 mm
 Earliest recorded date : Nov 27, 1991
 Latest recorded date : Feb 4, 1992
 Number recorded so far : 3

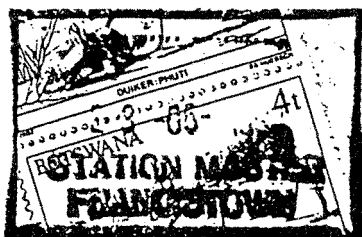
One marking struck in magenta.



No. 21 Type 8 J 26
 Box dimensions : 25 x 40 mm
 Earliest recorded date : Oct 10, 1991
 Latest recorded date : Oct 10, 1991
 Number recorded so far : 1



No. 22 Type 8 J 26
 Box dimensions : 35 x 53 mm
 Earliest recorded date : Sep 12?, 1986
 Latest recorded date : Sep 12?, 1986
 Number recorded so far : 1

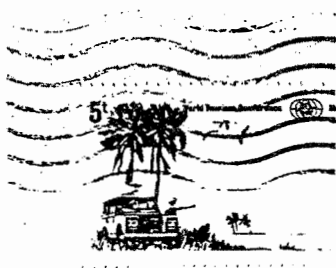


No. 23 Type RLWY 4a
 Box dimensions : 29 x 44 mm
 Earliest recorded date : May 23, 197
 Latest recorded date : May 23, 197
 Number recorded so far : 1

Marking is struck in red.



No. 24 Type MACH 1a
 Circle diameter : 26 mm
 Earliest recorded date : Aug 31, 1967
 Latest recorded date : Oct 30, 1974
 Number recorded so far : 14



No. 25 Type MACH 2a

Circle diameter	: 21 mm
Earliest recorded date	: Jan 21, 1976
Latest recorded date	: Apr 29, 1988
Number recorded so far	: 21

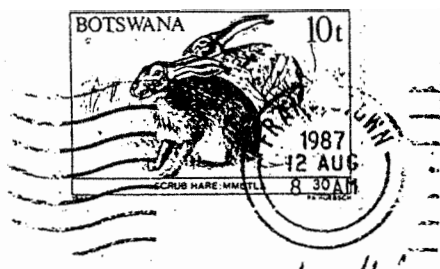
Time, date and year sequences vary. One recorded item has the time inverted.



No. 26 Type MACH 2b

Circle diameter	: 21 mm
Earliest recorded date	: Feb 1, 1972
Latest recorded date	: May 14, 1988
Number recorded so far	: More than 50

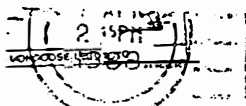
Time, date and year sequences vary.



No. 27 Type MACH 3a

Circle diameter	: 21 mm
Earliest recorded date	: May 21, 1987
Latest recorded date	: Apr 8, 1988
Number recorded so far	: 11

Time, date and year sequences vary. All the items recorded for 1988 (6 items) have different, larger numbers for the year. See illustration below.



No. 28 Type MACH 3b

Circle diameter	: 21.5 mm
Earliest recorded date	: Jun 20, 1989
Latest recorded date	: Feb 17, 1992
Number recorded so far	: 4

Time, date and year sequences vary.



No. 29 Type SPEC 1a

Circle diameters	: 18 & 26 mm
Earliest recorded date	: Sep 30, 1971
Latest recorded date	: Mar 2, 1987
Codes recorded	: A
Number recorded so far	: 36



No. 30 Type SPEC 2b

Earliest recorded date : Sep 30, 1986
 Latest recorded date : Sep 30, 1986
 Number recorded so far : 1

Omnibus marking - 20th Anniversary of Independence.



No. 31 Type SPEC 2b

Earliest recorded date : Jun 1, 1987
 Latest recorded date : Jun 1, 1987
 Number recorded so far : 2

Omnibus marking - UNICEF Child Survival Campaign 'Immunise Your Child'.



No. 32 Type SPEC 2c

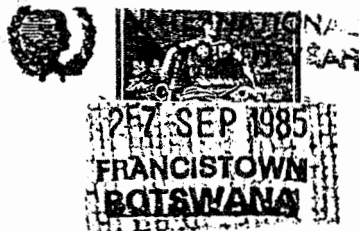
Earliest recorded date : Jul 13, 1987
 Latest recorded date : Jul 13, 1987
 Number recorded so far : 1

Omnibus marking - Association of Round Tables in Central Africa - 20 years of service. Lobatsi illustration used as no good Francistown illustration available.



No. 33 Type SPEC 2c

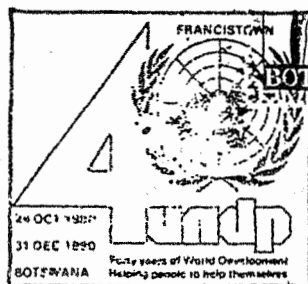
Earliest recorded date : Oct 17, 1987
 Latest recorded date : Oct 17, 1987
 Number recorded so far : 1



No. 34 Type SPEC 3

Earliest recorded date : Jul 17, 1985
 Latest recorded date : Nov 7, 1985
 Number recorded so far : 16

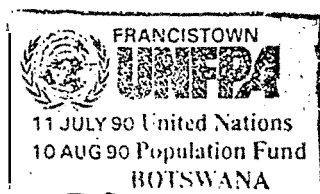
Omnibus marking - International Youth Year. Some markings are struck in red. One item has been recorded as -1 Feb, but the year is unclear. Since this canceller is believed to have been first used on 17th July 1985, this February cancellation is either an error, or it was used in 1986.



No. 35 Type SPEC 2c

Earliest recorded date : Nov 14, 1990
 Latest recorded date : Nov 14, 1990
 Number recorded so far : 2

Omnibus marking - UNDP - Forty years of World Development. Helping people help themselves. One item is struck in blue, one in red. Date recorded as earliest and latest dates is from another canceller on the same cover.



No. 36 Type SPEC 2c

Earliest recorded date : Jul 10, 1990
 Latest recorded date : Jul 31, 1990
 Number recorded so far : 5

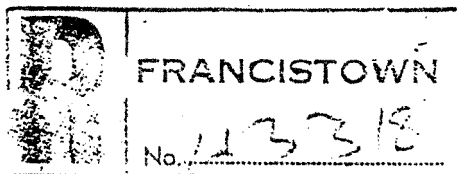
Omnibus marking - UNFPA - United Nations Population Fund. One item is struck in blue. Earliest and latest recorded dates are from other cancellers on the same covers.



No. 37 Type SPEC 2c

Earliest recorded date : Jul 27, 1990
 Latest recorded date : Oct 13, 1990
 Number recorded so far : 10

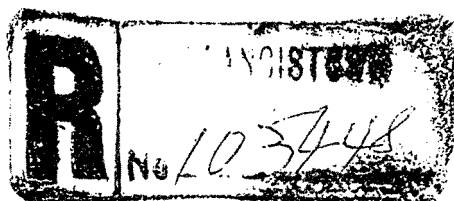
Omnibus marking - International Literacy year. Markings struck in red, purple, and blue. Earliest and latest recorded dates are from other cancellers on the same covers.



No. 38 Type REGN 2a

Box dimensions : 21.5 x 59 mm
 Earliest recorded date : Sep 1, 1969
 Latest recorded date : Sep 1, 1969
 Number recorded so far : 1

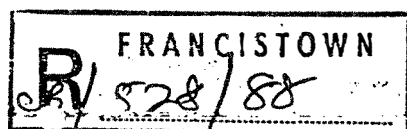
Marking is struck in violet.



No. 39 Type REGN 2a

Box dimensions : ± 23 x 58 mm
 Earliest recorded date : Nov 22, 1973
 Latest recorded date : Nov 22, 1973
 Number recorded so far : 1

Marking is struck in purple.



No. 40 Type REGN 3b

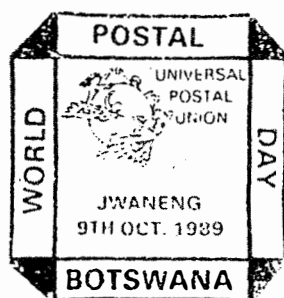
Box dimensions : 15 x 52 mm
 Earliest recorded date : Oct 26, 1987
 Latest recorded date : Nov 14, 1990
 Number recorded so far : 6



No. 41 Type MISC 12

Earliest recorded date : Jul 5, 1989
 Latest recorded date : Jul 22, 1989
 Number recorded so far : 9

Omnibus marking - African Development Bank. Earliest and latest recorded dates are from other cancellers on the same cover.



No. 42 Type MISC 12

Earliest recorded date : Oct 9, 1989
 Latest recorded date : Oct 9, 1989
 Number recorded so far : 3

Omnibus marking - World Postal Day. Jwaneng illustration used as no good Francistown illustration available. Markings struck in blue.



No. 43 Type MISC 12

Earliest recorded date : Oct 16, 1989
 Latest recorded date : Nov 8, 1989
 Number recorded so far : 9

Omnibus marking - Jawaharlal Nehru Centenary. Note office spelling 'FRANCISTON'. Markings struck in blue. Earliest and latest recorded dates are from other cancellers on the same cover.



No. 44 Type MISC 12

Earliest recorded date : Feb 4, 1992
 Latest recorded date : Feb 21, 1992
 Number recorded so far : 4

Omnibus marking - A Decade for Literacy. Some markings struck in red. Earliest and latest recorded dates are from other cancellers on the same cover.



No. 45 Type MISC 3c

Circle diameters : 18 & 31 mm
 Earliest recorded date : Feb 7, 1975
 Latest recorded date : Feb 5, 1976
 Codes recorded : A, B
 Number recorded so far : 2



No. 46 Type MISC 4a

Circle diameters : 32, 42 & 44 mm
 Earliest recorded date : Dec 3, 1990
 Latest recorded date : Mar 10, 1992
 Number recorded so far : 2



No. 47 Type MISC 7k

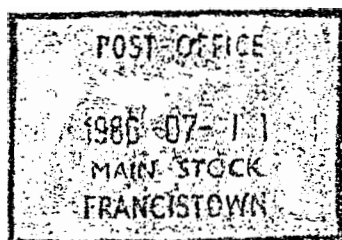
Oval dimensions : 29 x 45 mm
 Earliest recorded date : Mar 31, 1993
 Latest recorded date : Apr 1, 1993
 Number recorded so far : 2



No. 48 Type MISC 7j

Oval dimensions : 34 x 59 mm
 Earliest recorded date : Apr 1, 1993
 Latest recorded date : Apr 1, 1993
 Number recorded so far : 2

Note that the word Postage is split into two words, 'Post age'.



No. 49 Type MISC 9h

Box dimensions : 30 x 43 mm
 Earliest recorded date : Jul 11, 1986
 Latest recorded date : Jul 11, 1986
 Number recorded so far : 1

Marking struck in red.



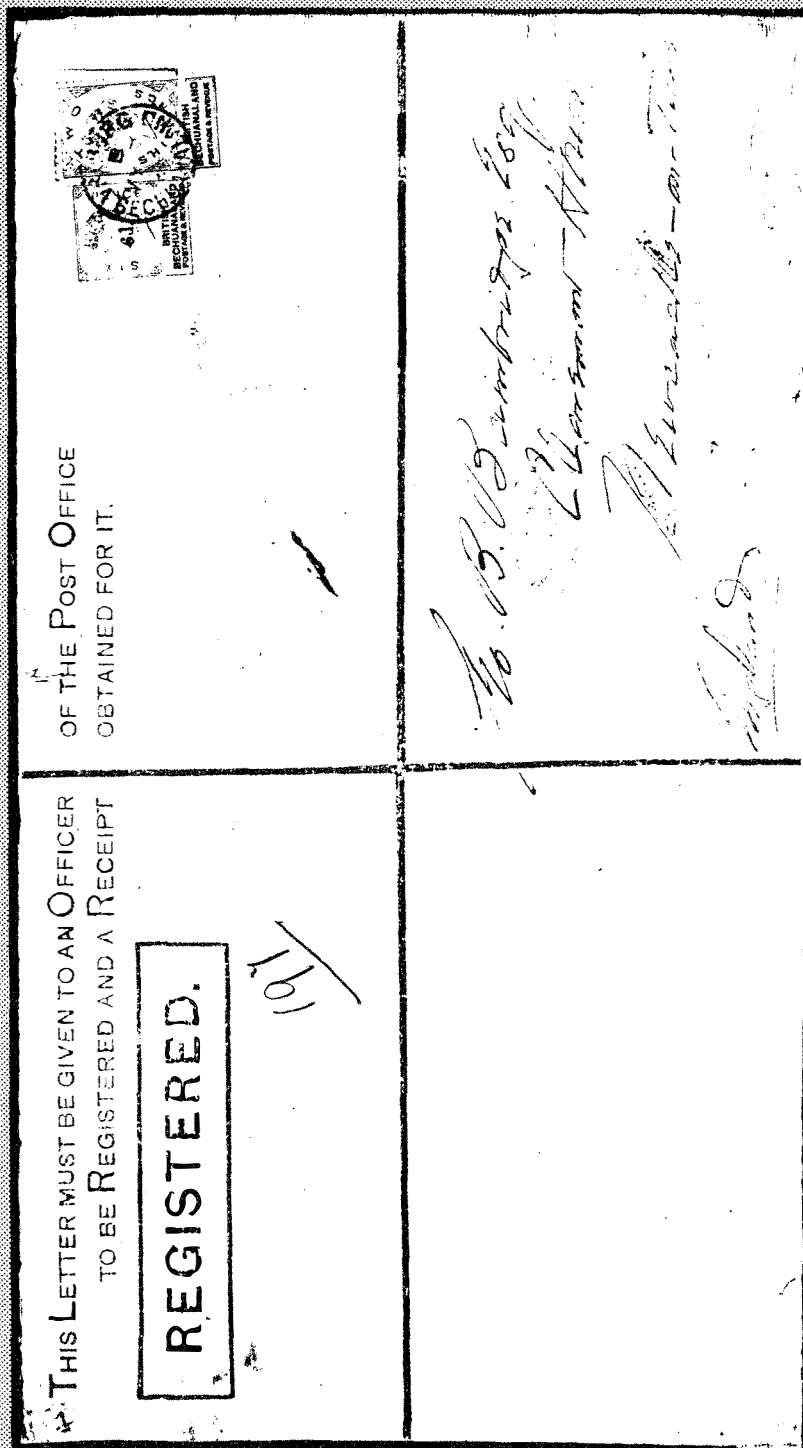
No. 50 Type MISC 7h

Outer oval dimensions : 32.5 x 59 mm
 Earliest recorded date : May 27, 1992
 Latest recorded date : May 27, 1992
 Number recorded so far : 1

Marking struck in red.

The Botswana Postmark Project Team that provided the data for this Francistown Checklist Offices consists of Dennis Firth, Mike George, Sir John Inglefield-Watson, Paul Raynor, the late Roy Setterfield, Peter Thy, David Wall, (with help from Barbara Andersson and Sheila Case), and myself.

ITEMS FROM STOCK



1889, British Bechuanaland 'K' size Registered Stationery Envelope (H&G 6b), used to UK bearing 6d on 6d surcharge (SG 26) and 2/- (SG 16) cancelled VRYBURG (MY 31). Cape Town transit (JU 4) and Newcastle (24 JU) arrival cds' on the reverse. Scarce use of these stamps and this size envelope. (Illustration is 68%). For further details, please contact:

ALAN MACGREGOR

Member: PTS, SAPDA, APS

P O BOX 3130, CAPE TOWN 8000, SOUTH AFRICA

TEL (+27 21) 696 4643 FAX (+27 21) 696 4797

HELP

Following the success of our recent auction, our auctioneer is now looking for more lots for the next one.

Please look out your surplus material and post it without delay to:

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