

The **Runner Post**

THE BECHUANALANDS AND BOTSWANA SOCIETY



Issue 77 Contents

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CROCKER & WIGMORE

PROFESSIONAL PHILATELISTS

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DIARY OF EVENTS - 2010



Sat 8th to
Sat 15th May

London 2010 International Stamp Exhibition
Business Design Centre, Islington
The Society has a large private room within the Design Centre
from 10:00 to 14:00 on the final Saturday, 15th May

London 2010 International Stamp Exhibition



So what is the latest on the 2010 London International Stamp Exhibition of which this Society is one of the supporters?

It takes place from the 8th to the 15th May at the Islington Business Design Centre [above left]. For those members who are going but aren't regular visitors to London the nearest tube is Angel on the Northern Line (the Bank Branch not the Charing Cross Branch). When you come out of the



Auction News

The next Society auction will take place on Saturday 12th June (apology for the delay due to the Chairman's personal circumstances).

Lots will be available for viewing at the London 2010 meeting on 15th May. Catalogues will be circulated by e-mail or snail mail towards the end of April.

This will be the biggest Society auction ever, with around 275 lots.

Errata

Bruce Warrender noticed: "In RP#76 Postal Stationery Views and News#10 there is a mistake regarding the New Botswana Reg Envelope on page 1890. Peter Thy says the envelope featured in Figure 3 was used at Tatitown on 9th February 2000. The envelope was posted on 1st September 2000 and cancelled R.L.S



tube station keep walking straight forwards and after a few hundred yards cross over the main road on your left. The Design Centre is set back with the Hilton Hotel to the right of it. Dealer stands will be on the ground and first floors [above right]. More details are available on the web page <http://www.london2010.org.uk/festival-of-stamps>

The Society has booked a room (Room C [below left]) on the second floor from 10 a.m. to 2 p.m. on Saturday 15th - this being the final day. There will be a number (as yet tbc) of frames for members to exhibit. The Society plans to provide complimentary drinks and light refreshments for attendees and is hoping both members and outside visitors will visit.

Peter Van der Molen had agreed to give a display of Queen Elizabeth II at 11 a.m.

Shown below is a list of the Society members known to have stands at London 2010. Apologies if I've missed anyone.

Steve Zirinsky szirinsky@cs.com says:

I will try to bring as many different modern official free franks as I can, plus everything else. If people have a special request email me, I can try to bring it.

| Stand | Stamp 2010 Stand Holder |
|-------|--------------------------------------|
| 4 | Botswana Post |
| 48 | Murray Payne Ltd |
| 50 | Alan MacGregor |
| 52 | Argyll Etkin |
| 67 | Victoria Stamp Company |
| 79 | Stanley Gibbons Ltd |
| 80 | Willard Allman |
| 83 | Ormskirk Stamps |
| 85 | Richie Bodily and Euro Yu Oz Pty Ltd |
| 100 | Grosvenor Auctions |
| 124 | Steven Zirinsky |

Gaborone 2nd September 2000."

Martin Taylor wrote: "I am probably not the first to advise that the block of four stamps shown on the front of issue 76 of *The Runner* are SG109 KGV 5/- not SG129 KGV 5/-" [Ed: No one else noticed Martin]

Postal Stationery Views and News - 11

by Peter Thy

Part 10 of Postal Stationery Views and News appeared in *Runner Post*#76 p.1886-1893 (Nov 2009)

All postal stationery collectors will no doubt have accumulated material as part of their collections that may or may not strictly qualify as postal stationery according to prevailing philosophy and exhibiting regulations of the FIP (Fédération Internationale de Philatélie) or other national philatelic organizations such as the APS (American Philatelic Society). The FIP special regulations define postal stationery as

"... postal matter which bears an officially authorized pre-printed stamp or device or inscription indicating that a specific face value of postage or related service has been prepaid."

The APS very similarly states that postal stationery

"... must have an expressed or implied monetary value when sold, and retain their value until cancelled in use or otherwise demonetized by the issuing authority."

These definitions are fairly specific and require that a stamp is imprinted or a value or usage otherwise is 'implied.' 'Formula' stationery with a stamp affixed by the post office is thus included, while stationery without stamp despite either being sold by the post office or having a design similar to previous stamped stationery are not per definition postal stationery. It is unclear, for example, how official and active service mail should be treated under this definition, despite that they have 'implied' values. Much depends on the meaning of the word 'implied.' My dictionary states that implied means 'strongly suggest the truth or existence of (something not expressly stated).' Does that include 'common knowledge' despite not being stated in print on the items in question? The FIP regulations, perhaps for such reasons, clearly state that the definition of stationery is developing. Collectors are thus typically permitted to include questionable formula stationery without being unnecessarily penalized when exhibiting, at least as long as the questionable items do not dominate the exhibit.

Most problematic is perhaps that the prevailing definition precludes stationery used for other than strictly postal purposes and thus often without imprinted postal stamps. This is despite the fact that the functions of postal offices and agencies in the Bechuanalands and Botswana (and for many other world-wide postal administrations) included a large variety of equally important public services. Most importantly, the telegraph was part of the post office and often utilized postal cancellers and postal stamps in addition to sharing the same buildings and counters. In fact, the post and telegraph functions

were unified in the Post and Telegraph Services that also handled the emerging telephone networks and other radio communications requiring licenses. The transmission of money through the mail or telegraph was done using postal and money orders and was a most important function of any postal office or agency. The post office further often functioned as postal saving bank and in fact was the only banking opportunity available to many residents, in particularly women. Postal and later also revenue stamps were utilized for revenue and licensing purposes and were distributed by the post office that also collected some revenue fees. Customs functions were also normal occurrences at many post offices. Further, the coach lines that connected the main post offices were organized to transport the mail and were only able to accept paying passengers and other goods as space permitted. Later the rail line connected the main post offices relocated to the rail line and sharing personal and facilities. The rail line thus became the artery along which mail, passengers, and goods were and still are being channeled.

Many of these post office functions required or allowed various forms of stationery without imprinted stamps. Often these stationery forms were produced by the government and were available at the post office either free or sometimes for a small fee. Other types of forms may have been privately produced or might have originated from neighboring or overseas postal services. The forms used by the Bechuanaland Post and Telegraph Services often originated in South Africa and Rhodesia. This wide view of stationery conforms to the definition of stationery in standard dictionaries ('writing and other office materials'). Some typical items in my personal collection of stationery belong to this very wide definition only loosely constrained by the history of communication and transportation in the Bechuanalands. They include receipts for mailing and payments, reports of lost mail, official mails, coach line tickets, telegraph forms, telegraph delivery envelopes, radio communication cards, saving bank books, postal orders, reply coupons, parcel and custom forms, and rail waybills. The limits are really without boundaries and are only constrained by the individual collector.

This time we show several postal stationery items of interest. A large group is composed of reply coupons and postal orders, which although per definition are postal stationery, but often are excluded from many collections. Other items are formula or stampless postal stationery, but still others are genuine postal

stationery cards. Please report any new or old finds.

Corrections

No new corrections have been reported this time.

Listing Updates

RE 32:

Add listing as well as amend 'Date Letter Codes' on page 46 and replace Note C of the Postal Stationery Book.

RE 32d 4d on 2d+1d chestnut with blue text on pale whitish buff envelope, Size F (date code F.G.)B,C

Note C. The stop after 'FEE PAID' is missing on all examples of these envelopes seen by the author.

Background: An example has been found used from Palapye Road on 11 June 1917 to the west front of World War I 'somewhere' in France or Belgium.

Items of Interest

South African International Reply Coupon Used 1961 in Bechuanaland

UPU reply coupons were mandated in member countries following the Rome UPU Congress in 1906. The first design (Rome design) was issued in the Cape of Good Hope Colony the following year. Later designs (London design) were issued in the Union of South Africa and also used in Bechuanaland Protectorate without overprinting. The coupon illustrated here (**Figures 1 and 2**) was issued in South Africa during February, 1961 (Type XV11

according to Hauck, 1961). It was issued on 18 April, 1961, in Francistown. Bechuanaland obtained its own coupons in the 60's inscribed 'BECHUANALAND' at the base (Type XVIIA). Jacobson (2002) did not list South African reply coupons used in Bechuanaland and Botswana. This is a rare reply coupon that, however, may be more common than judging from the rare reports in the philatelic literature. Can any reader help with similar sightings?

British Postal Order Overprinted for South African and Used in Bechuanaland

This is truly an exceptional find (**Figure 3**). A member of the GB Overprint Society that had heard about my passion for postal orders forwarded this illustration to me. It is a British King George VI postal order overprinted for South Africa and used in 1944 at Serowe in the Bechuanaland Protectorate. The basic British order is, according to Lunn (1984), the



Figure 1. SA reply coupon used 1961 in Bechuanaland.

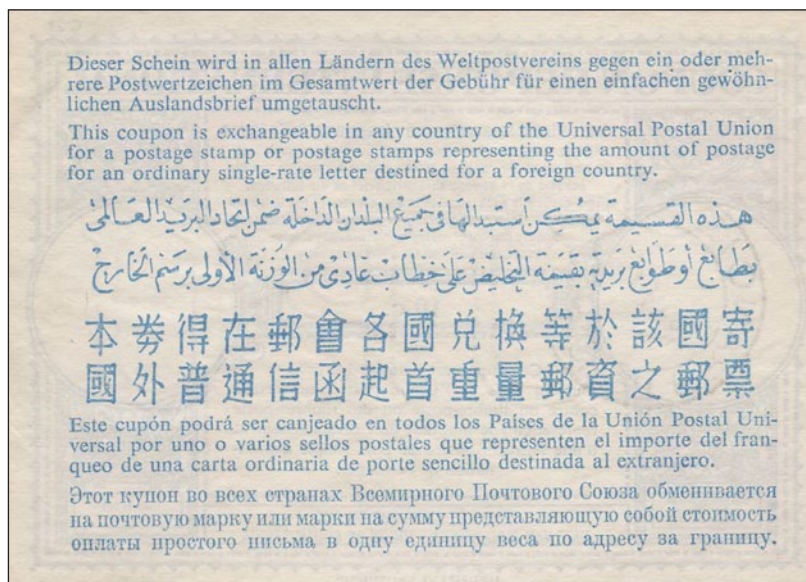


Figure 2. Reverse of reply coupon.

first issue of the George VI orders in use between November 1938 and December 1939. The order was never cashed, which explains why it has survived. The value is 5/- and the commission fee has been surcharged from 1½d to 3d. The basic order is one of the first George VI issue released in 1938 and discontinued in 1939. The second issue was released in 1939 and was in use to 1956. The order was thus likely overprinted and surcharged for use in South Africa in 1938-9 and thus also made available at post offices in Bechuanaland. Postal orders were introduced in the Bechuanaland in 1907, however, this example, so far is the only known South African order used in Bechuanaland. South African was (temporary?) discontinued in Bechuanaland around 1962 and replaced with British overprinted and surcharged orders (Thy, 1994). This is the oldest and only truly Bechuanaland order known to exist.



Figure 3. South African postal order used 1944 at Serowe.

South African Postal Order Overprinted for Botswana

This postal order is a lifetime finds on eBay of a South African postal order issued in 1974 at Gaborone in Botswana (**Figures 4 and 5**). It is the then current South African order for 50c that has been overprinted 'REPUBLIC OF BOTSWANA' and further has the commission fee surcharged from 3c to 5c. The order is even more remarkable by having been uprated to 59c by affixing two stamps for a total amount of 9c. This is the highest surcharge possible on this order since 10c or higher would have required the use on the next order of 60c. The stamps are according to regulations not cancelled. The recipient is not indicated on the

order and the order was never cashed (otherwise it would have been destroyed). Postal orders were first issued in Bechuanaland in 1907 as British orders overprinted for South Africa. The only known example of these 'early' British orders is an example issued in 1944 in Serowe (see above). It is known that South African orders was issued in Bechuanaland from 1933 when the Union at least temporary decided to discontinue issuing British orders (as seen, this decision had been reversed in 1944). Around 1960, Bechuanaland decided to discontinue the use of South African orders and to offer their own overprinted British orders. This decision was soon reversed and South African orders were again sold



Figure 4. South African postal order overprinted 'Republic of Botswana.'

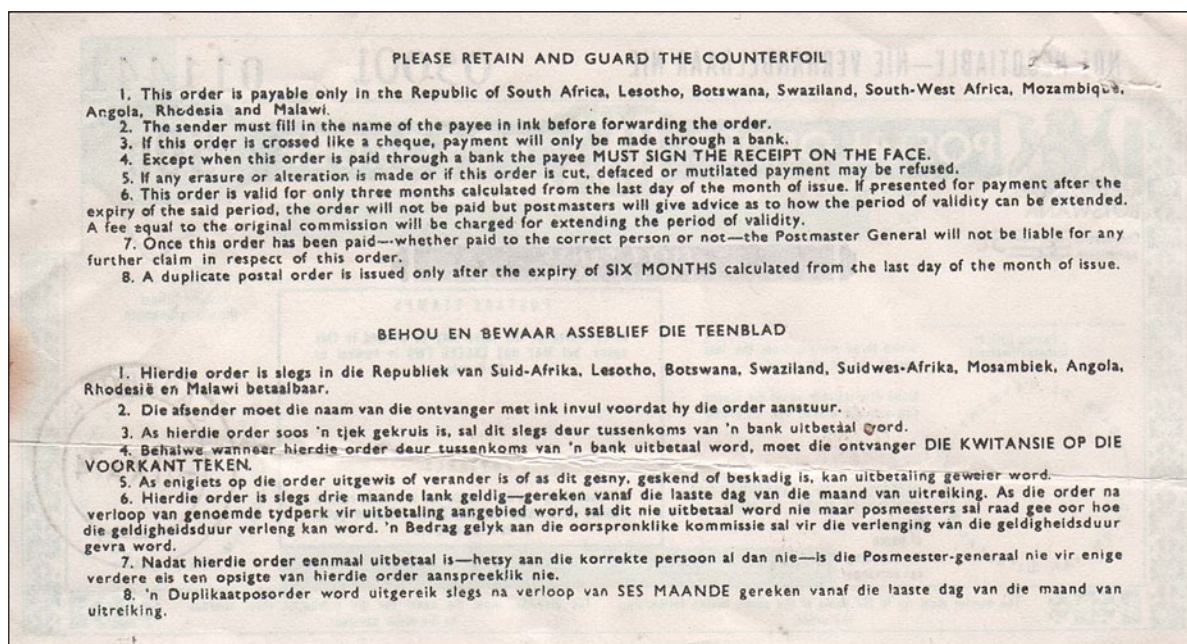


Figure 5. Reverse of South African postal order.

at Bechuanaland/Botswana post offices this time overprinted. Only two of these latter are known to exist (the other is a 10c 'philatelic' used order).

'Official' Aerogramme

Bechuanaland and Botswana never issued official aerogrammes as was done for envelopes and inscribed 'On Government Service.' This contrasts with the practice in many other Commonwealth countries

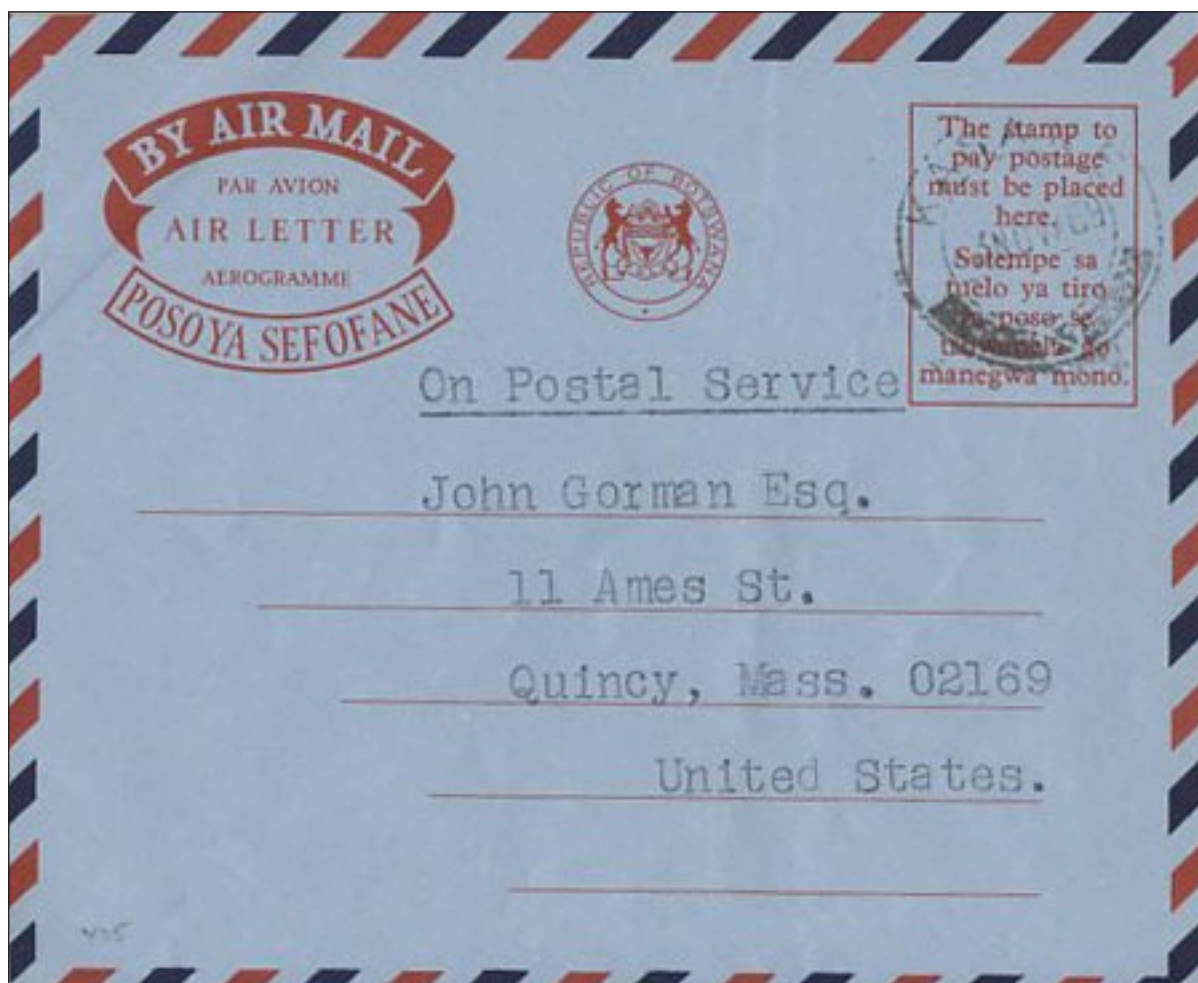


Figure 6. On Postal Service aerogramme.

that issued stampless aerogrammes inscribed 'OFFICIAL,' 'ON GOVERNMENT SERVICE,' or similar text. The reason was probably the restricted need for such aerogrammes. Here is shown a stampless aerogramme used from Kasane on November 3, 1969, to the US (Figure 6) without any internal message. The aerogramme is endorsed 'On Postal Service' using the same typewriter as for the address. Can anybody report similarly inscribed stampless aerogrammes?

Ghost Marks Beneath Overprint on PC 16

Two round ghost ink marks have been observed beneath 'N' and 'A' of overprinted 'BECHUANALAND' on an example of PC 16 (Figure 7). The origin of these marks is unknown. It is possible that the marks represent a print impression with the 'BECHUANALAND' forme being detached and that the 'full' overprint was later made with the forme re-attached. It is assumed, but also rather uncertain, that these cards were overprinted individually and not as full print sheets. It is shown here with the hope that a reader can explain and also to learn if the phenomenon exists on other cards.



Figure 7. Ghost marks beneath overprinting on PC 16.

Earliest and Latest Usage of Botswana UPU Reply Coupons

The study of Leon Jacobson published in the Runner Post in 2002 provides the basic listing of UPU reply

coupons used in Botswana. The following gives an update to some of the earliest and latest recorded dates listed by Jacobsen.

Type 19. Earliest Lobatsi 31 XII 70 and latest Lobatsi 31 VIII 72.

Type 22. Earliest Gaberones 13 I 76 (with manuscript 'prix de vente' of 20 c)

Type 25. Earliest Gaberones 14 III 91.

Please report finds of unlisted coupons as well as earlier or later dates than listed by Jacobson and above.

Botswana UPU Reply Coupon Used After Expiration

The latest UPU international reply coupon issued by Botswana was the 2002 coupon with country name inscribed on front (Beijing design). On both sides on the coupon are also as something new given an expiration date (30.12.2006). Despite this, the coupon is known to have been issued in Gaborone on 17 June 2008, well after having expired (Figure 8). Thanks to Peter Jukes for having obtained copies of the current reply coupon used in Botswana.

Protectorate Usage Dates of ½d Cards

Malcolm Hodgson has shown us an example of PC 10 used in Francistown and dated July 20, 1906. The card is uniformly toned to a deep buff color and has had the upper right corner cut, affecting the stamp. The card is inscribed in pencil 'from Tati' on the front and used by African Banking Corporation in Francistown & Tati to Standard Bank in Mafeking. Malcolm raised



Figure 8. IRC used in Gaborone on June 17, 2008, after the expiration date (31.12.2006)

| Card | Overprinted | UPU Distribution | Release | Earliest | Latest |
|--|-------------|------------------|---|--------------|-------------|
| PC 9 | Nov. 1891 | | Sep. 1894 (BB)* | 26-Sep-1900 | 14-Mar-1910 |
| PC 10 | Nov. 1891 | | Sep. 1894 (BB)* | 03-Nov-1903 | 20-Jul-1906 |
| PC 14 | Aug. 1901 | 1901 | 1903 (BP) | 1 Aug. 1903 | 24 May 1909 |
| PC 15 | Aug. 1905 | 1905 | 1907 (BP) | 14 Aug. 1909 | 5 June 1915 |
| Overprinted: date of first printing or dispatch UPU distribution: from archival marking | | | Release: assumed or known release in British Bechuanaland (BB) and Bechuanaland Protectorate (BP) Earliest and Latest: as observed. * Not known used in British Bechuanaland. | | |

Table 1: Usage dates for ½d cards in the Protectorate

the question of the release dates of the ½d cards in the Protectorate. The cards was overprinted by De La Rue in 1891 (Nov.) and assumed to have been released in British Bechuanaland in 1894. The remaining stock of PC 9 and 10 was used in the Protectorate after annexation in November 1895 and may have been use at the same time as the first Protectorate ½d cards (PC 14 and 15). Our known dates of usage in the Protectorate of these various ½d cards are:

Table 1 (above) clearly shows that both the British Bechuanaland and Protectorate ½d cards (PC 9, 10, 14) were indiscriminately used in the Protectorate prior to and after the arrival of the second Protectorate card (PC 15). Another interesting fact is that PC 9 and 10 are not known use in British Bechuanaland and that the earliest known usage of these cards are thus in the Protectorate. The cards were prepared and submitted to UPU in a timely manner, but were release in the Bechuanaland with significantly delays. The reason for this is apparently that a ½d postcard rate did not exist in either British Bechuanaland or in Bechuanaland Protectorate. There is no record suggesting that a ½d postcard rate ever was in effect in British Bechuanaland, despite having been introduced in the Cape in 1892 for inland correspondence. This explains the lack of cards used in British Bechuanaland. The records shows that a ½d postcard rate were in effect in 1908, however, no records exist for between 1899 and 1908. It is thus possible that the ½d card rate was introduced already in 1900 as suggested by the above table (see discussion of the 1900 usage of PC 9 below). It appears that the need for inland postcards was so low in the Protectorate that stock was plenty and that new issues were administratively delayed. It

is also possible that administrators without direct knowledge of the Protectorate services and its postal rates made the decisions about acquisitions. Only a comprehensive census of the existing cards used in British Bechuanaland and the Protectorate can help to us better to understand the release of the ½d cards. Please report your used examples.

Printings of EMS Plastic Envelopes

The large plastic EMS envelope (EX 7) appears currently to be most commonly used envelope and

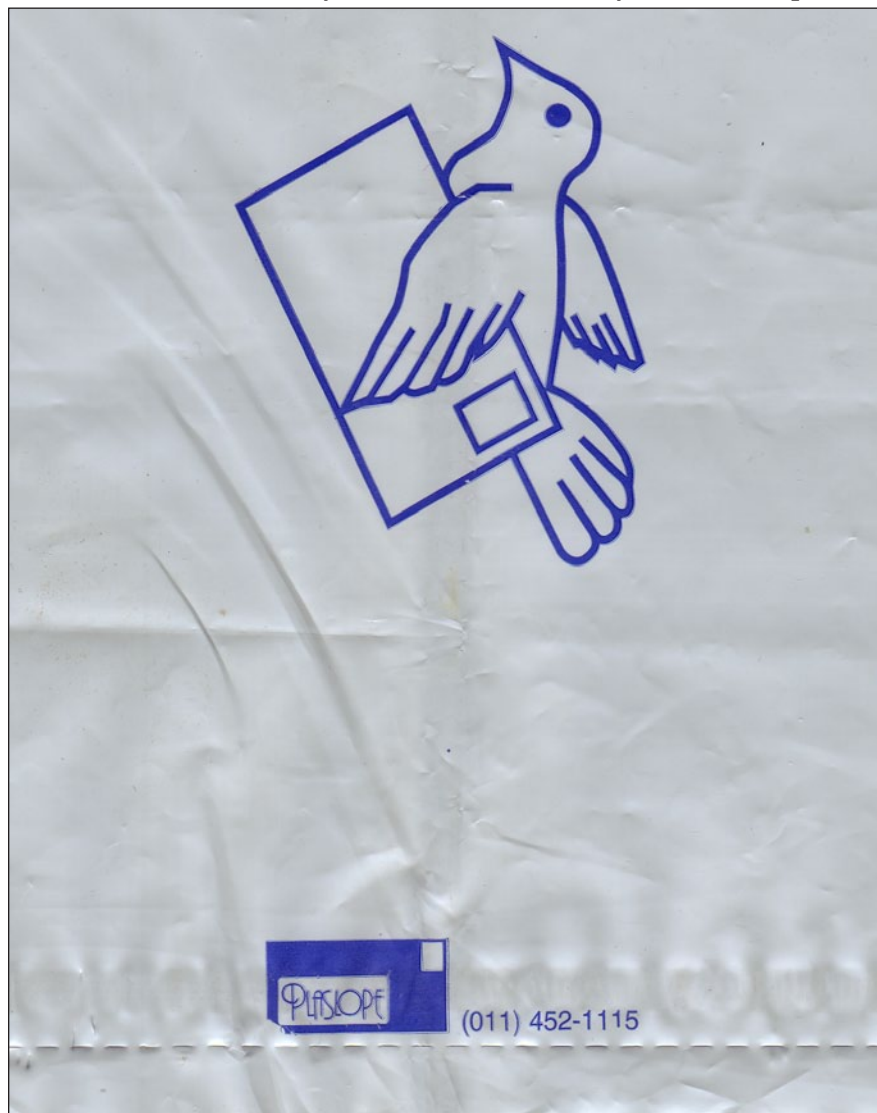


Figure 9. Plaslope's printer's imprint on front of flap of EX 7.

is therefore likely to have been repeatedly reprinted since first released just after the 1990 paper and card envelopes were introduced. Peter Jukes has been told that the paper and card envelopes were discontinued in 2000/2001 and completely replaced by the current large plastic envelopes. He also has led my attention to a new plastic envelope version with a printer's logo on the front of the flap.

The new envelope currently obtained from the post office by Peter Jukes is 365 x 450 mm in dimensions (with folded flap), printed in yellow-orange and blue on light grey, and with an envelope logo inscribed 'PLASLOPE' and the telephone number '(011) 452-1115' oriented laterally from the envelope logo (**Figure 9**). This telephone number is a Johannesburg number belonging to Plaslope (PTY) LTD, 36 Simba St, Sebenza, Edenvale 1609. Peter also describes a smaller 450 x 310 mm envelope that I have not yet seen. Thy and John Inglefield-Watson (2004) listed four different versions of the envelopes distinguished between the ink/plastic color, envelope sizes, and imprints on flap. These two new envelopes may thus eventually become EX 7e and EX 7f.

Earliest Recorded Usages

PC 7b

Malcolm Hodgson has reported an example of PC 7b used internally in Vryburg on FE 14 93 (message dated Feb. 13, 1893). The card is addressed to the Postmaster of Vryburg and contains a short message acknowledging the receipt of cards. This usage predated the earliest date listed in the postal stationery book by nearly two months. Note 'A' for PC 7b should thus be updated.

PC 9

The PC 9 postcard had been found used to Switzerland from Mochudi and cancelled by a SEP 26 00 date (**Figure 10**). The card was transit marked in Kimberley

and arrival marked in Bonigen and Winterthur, all confirming the mailing date. The card was taxed by 5 centimes supporting a 1d single card rate to Europe in 1900. This is the earliest known usage of PC 9 (see the discussion above of the ½d cards).

AE 13

An example of AE 13 has been found used in Maun on December 1, 1976, to Iowa, USA (message is dated November 26, 1976) (**Figure 11**). This is about 2 months earlier than the previously earliest recorded usage of 26 January 1977.

Acknowledgements

Thanks for illustrations and information to Malcolm Hodgson, Steve Wallace, Peter Jukes, Dennis Firth, and apologies for having forgotten others.

Corrections, Updates, and Additions Website

All corrections and updates are listed on our website at www.kronestamps.dk/corrections. The website also contains pdf versions of this column as well as other articles of interest that all can be downloaded and printed for personal use. Let us have your feedback on the site.

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Figure 10. PC 9 used in September 1900.

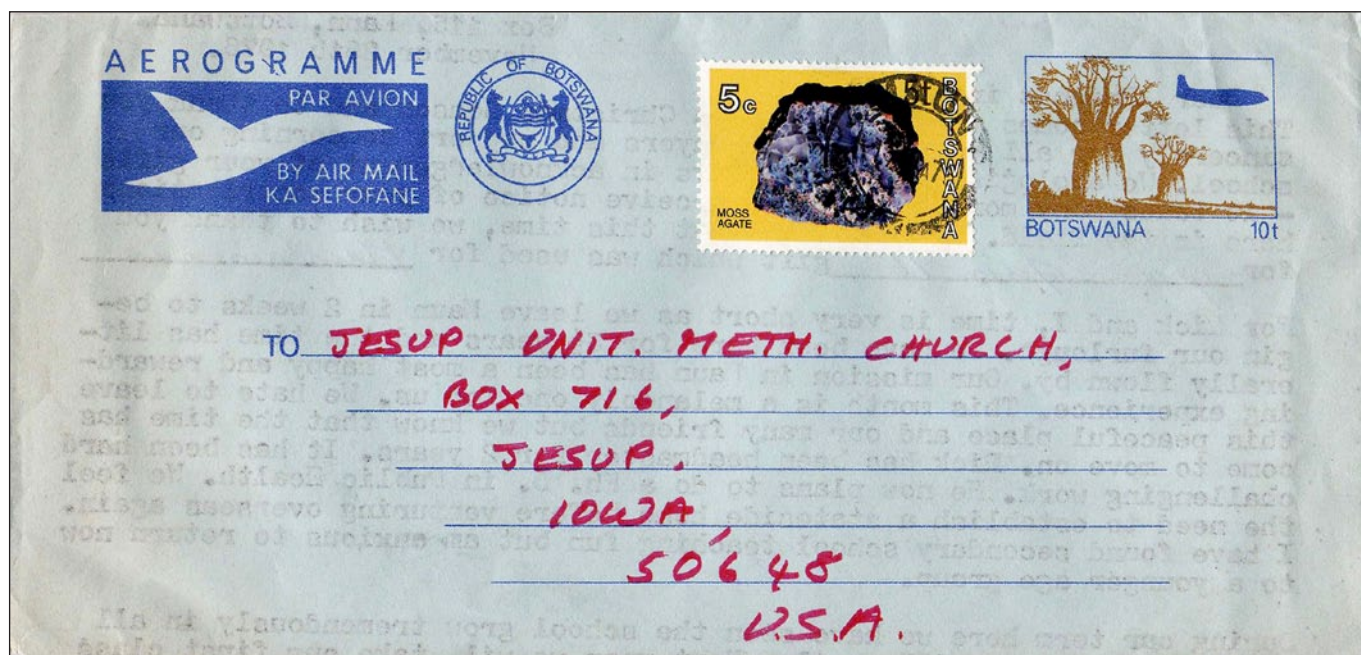


Figure 11. AE 13 used December 1976 in Maun.[90%]

Bechuanaland/Botswana. Runner Post 56, 1371-1374.

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Recent Botswana Issues

| Threatened Birds in Botswana | | Date of issue | | 5 th June 2009 |
|--|--|----------------|--------------------|---------------------------|
| Denominations | P1.10, P2.60, P4.10, P4.90 | P1.10 | Lesser Flamingo | |
| Graphic Designer | Mary Lane-Jones | P2.60 | Blue Crane | |
| Printer | Osterreichische Staatsdruckerei | P4.10 | Wattled Crane | |
| Process | Offset Lithographic | P4.90 | Grey Crowned Crane | |
| Stamp Size | 30mm x 40mm | FDC Size | 110mm x 220mm | |
| Paper | 110gsm, PVA 110 gum | | | |
| Sheet Format | Panes of 25 x 2 single stamps with gutter pair | Period of Sale | One Year | |
| “There are not many Cranes in Botswana or resident Flamingos, although huge numbers of the latter sometimes come and go. Cranes require marshy areas and relatively undisturbed open grasslands to live and breed; Flamingos need large expanses of open, saline water: places such as Botswana’s Makgadikgadi Pans, Namibia’s Etosha Pan and the lakes in East Africa’s Great Rift Valley. So why are the futures of these birds threatened? It is not a long story: the basic problem is people and their activities...” | | | | |



Blue Books - Report of the Commissioners Appointed to Determine Land Claims... Part 2

by Neville Midwood

Land Commission Report

As mentioned in Part 1, the main body of the Land Commissioners Report is only eight pages long, with a number of Annexures making up the majority of the Blue Book's ninety seven pages.

In this part I have transcribed Annexure B, which is the narrative by one of the Commissioners, Mr A. H. F. Duncan, of the events leading to the reaching of an agreement over land claims between the Hon. C. J. Rhodes and some of Stellaland's inhabitants

ANNEXURE B.

NARRATIVES OF THE EVENTS WHICH LED TO THE AGREEMENT BETWEEN THE HON. C. J. RHODES, AND CERTAIN INHABITANTS OF STELLALAND, ON THE 8TH SEPTEMBER, 1884.

1. In October, 1881 information was received in Cape Town to the effect that war was likely to break out between Mankoroane, Chief of the Batlapin tribe at Taungs, and David Massouw, a Koranna Chief at Mamusa, on the border of the Transvaal. Messrs. Agenor Daumas and Cecil H. King, Government Agents resident at Taungs and Phokwane respectively, intimated their intention to accompany Mankoroane on an expedition to Mamusa, in the hope that they might be instrumental in bringing hostilities to a peaceable issue. Both the High Commissioner and the Colonial Government, however, disapproved of these gentlemen proceeding on marauding expeditions with Natives, and they were ordered to remain at their posts.
2. The origin of this quarrel may be traced to the disturbing effect on the native mind of the events enacted on the Griqualand West Border in 1878 and the following year, and the retrocession of the Transvaal by Great Britain, and also to intertribal jealousies produced by the rival claims to paramountcy supported by Great Britain and the Transvaal respectively.
3. Mankoroane, at the head of a force of Natives and a few white settlers in his country, advanced to the attack of Mamusa. Many of the Korannas and Basutos living there were at the time assisting Moshette in his operations against Montsioa; but those who remained succeeded in repelling the Batlapins. Mankoroane retired to Massimanyana to recruit his force, and on the 21st November, 1882 unsuccessfully attacked Mamusa, whence he was compelled to fall back on Taungs by the Korannas, reinforced by those of their number who had now returned from the attack on Montsioa, and possibly by some Boers.
4. The Korannas who had failed to capture Taungs returned to Mamusa, and David Massouw, seeking advice from Mr. Theodor Doms, a person notorious in connection with land questions in Griqualand West and elsewhere, was induced to appoint Mr. Doms his secretary, and to enlist white volunteers on, the promise of land. My informant is Mr. Doms himself.
5. Accordingly on the 21st January, 1882 a notice was issued stating that Massouw was ready to enlist 300 volunteers upon the condition that each volunteer should receive a farm 3,000 morgen in extent, and a share of the booty captured.
6. The promise of land excited the cupidity of a number of men, who enrolled themselves as Massouw's volunteers. Elaborate rules or articles of war were drawn up, and a committee of management was elected. On the 20th February, preparations having been completed, the volunteers moved out to the Hartz River and formed a laager.
7. Mankoroane on his side now endeavoured to enlist volunteers from the Cape Colony; but the Colonial Government, wishing to maintain neutrality in the dispute beyond their borders, issued a proclamation of neutrality which, together with the Foreign Enlistment Act, was rigidly enforced.
8. While the Boers, fighting ostensibly for Massouw, were able to draw unlimited supplies of ammunition from the Transvaal, munitions of war were scarce in Taungs, and a small supply only was surreptitiously brought in from Griqualand West. Mankoroane, and the few white men who assisted him under these disadvantageous conditions, were at last compelled to yield, and on the 26th July, 1882 a treaty of peace was signed, which virtually ceded the country to the Transvaal.
9. In accordance with the terms of this treaty, a commission was appointed to beacon off boundaries between Taungs, Mamusa, and Phokwane. The object of this was to lay down dividing lines between Massouw, Mankoroane, and Botlasitse Gasibone, a sworn enemy of Mankoroane who had joined the filibusters and David Massouw during the war.
10. The chief difficulty, however, lay in determining the position of the line which was to separate the territory which Massouw was supposed to have conquered from that which remained to Mankoroane. The freebooters, whose interest it was to secure as much land as possible, as a matter of course objected to any line which Mankoroane might suggest, and the result was that in December, 1882 a commission appointed by Massouw beacons off a line which Mankoroane consistently refused to recognise.
11. The white persons who assisted Massouw now proceeded to select a site for a township in the conquered territory. Erven were laid out, and the village was named Vrijburg. Commissions consisting respectively of three

- or four men simultaneously rode outwards in all directions from Vryburg to lay out farms of 6,000 acres each for the volunteers.
12. On the 18th January, 1883, a proclamation was issued in the name of the Chief David Massouw, designating the conquered territory Stellaland, and appointing the chairman of the committee of management of the white volunteers, Administrator of the country.
 13. After a certain number of farms had been inspected, the commissions returned to Losasa, where by arrangement a lottery was to be held, and gave in their reports. It was found that only 341 farms had been inspected, whereas about 390 were required; and as the lottery was to take place on the following day, there was no time to lay out any more. Under these circumstances a sketch plan was made, and the farms divided into 461 new farms and renumbered.
- On the 27th February, 1883, 388 farms were drawn by Massouw's volunteers and their substitutes, and by those of Mankoroane's volunteers who had elected to take the land promised to them by Mankoroane in Stellaland. The remaining 73 were reserved for special purposes, such as officers rights and miscellaneous payments, and, together with other farms subsequently laid out, were afterwards granted from time to time to various persons by the Stellaland Government.
14. On the 25th May, 1883, Mankoroane, taking advantage of the presence of a Cape Commission appointed to inquire into and report upon the northern boundary of Griqualand West, addressed a petition to His Excellency the Governor and the Executive Council praying for annexation to the Cape Colony.
- The Stellalanders hearing of this, immediately requested the Transvaal Government to annex the country. The document containing this request was signed by Massouw, who was a mere tool the hands of the unscrupulous white freebooters styling themselves his volunteers. Their allegiance to the Chief became considerably qualified after the termination of the war, and Massouw complained in August, 1883, that he and his people were being oppressed by adventurers who were measuring off ground for themselves on his locations, and he refused to sign any more documents. His apprehensions seem to have been allayed, however, for on the 18th September he received the proclamation of January, 1883, and the appointment of an Administrator of Stellaland.
15. The visit to Stellaland of the Hon. C. J. Rhodes, a member of the Cape Boundary Commission above referred to, was followed by an agitation in the New Republic for annexation to the Cape Colony. This movement was not approved of by a large section of the inhabitants, who preferred annexation to the Transvaal, and this, together with the circumstances connected with the murder of a man named James Honey in the earlier part of the year, and alleged dishonesty in the disposal of both money and land by the administration, led to a quarrel and the creation of two factions in Stellaland.
 16. Though the country had been divided into farms for the freebooters, it will be seen on reference to Capt. Conder's report that the fertile Morokane Range and Dry Hartz Valley up to within 10 miles of Vryburg, were in January 1884 still occupied by the Batlapins. Probably on this account a letter was sent from Vryburg, dated 9th January, 1884, ordering Mankoroane to cause his people to retire to the south of the Stellaland line.
- Apparently the Stellalanders had arranged with Massouw an attack on Mankoroane's outposts, for on the 4th February it was reported that Boers were forming a laager at Mudibing with the intention of attacking Taungs, and that Massouw's Korannas and Basutos had made a raid on certain places on the Morokane Range, captured cattle, disarmed men, stripped the women, and wounded one child.
- Mankoroane thereupon applied to the High Commissioner for assistance, but was informed that if attacked he should defend himself.
17. On the 27th February, 1884, the London Convention was signed. A British Protectorate was established to the westward of the new Transvaal boundary line, and the Rev. John Mackenzie appointed British Resident. Two days after this intelligence had been cabled from England, information was received in Cape Town pointing to the formation of a combination of freebooters to attack Taungs before the British Government could interfere.
 18. The position of affairs in the Protectorate thus becoming critical, it was considered advisable to send up Capt. Bower, R.N., Private Secretary to the High Commissioner, to explain to the Native Chiefs Mankoroane and Montsioa the decision with reference to the Protectorate which had been arrived at, and to ascertain the exact number of the freebooters in the country.
 19. Capt. Bower reached Taungs on the 12th March, 1884, and endeavoured to reassure Mankoroane. On the following day at Commando Drift he met Mr. G. J. Van Niekerk, Administrator of Stellaland, who professed for himself and his people the greatest anxiety to preserve peace, and to render the most cordial and zealous assistance to Capt. Bower in any efforts which he might make to that end.
- On his way to Vryburg, Capt Bower received information to the effect that 1,300 of Massouw's men were on the march to attack Taungs, and at Losasa he found a number of farmers collected together ostensibly for mutual protection. Capt. Bower does not seem to have connected in his mind these "farmers" with the freebooters who nine days previously had been reported as marching in force on Taungs; but it is significant that Mr. Niekerk was by his own personal authority enabled to turn back 1,300 Basutos and Korannas who had actually started to attack Mankoroane.
20. At Vryburg, Capt. Bower was received with courtesy and hospitality, and he was assured that the manner of his reception by the freebooters. was intended to show their goodwill to the Imperial Government.
 21. Having completed his tour of inquiry, Captain Bower left Commando Drift for Cape Town on the 22nd March. On the same day the Commandant of Vryburg wrote to the Administrator, Mr. Van Niekerk, counselling union and co-operation (see section 15 above) in the face of the ominous advent of the British Government with its scant

respect for filibusters land rights. Mr. Van Niekerk was assured that under the circumstances all burghers at Vryburg still placed confidence and faith in him as Administrator, and he was invited to attend a public meeting at Vryburg on the 25th of the same month.

Mr. Van Niekerk approved of the proposed public meeting, and suggested that a committee should be elected to work with him for the public interest, and that public opinion should be heard with regard to two memorials, one to the Cape Colony and the other to the Transvaal.

Accordingly, on the 25th March, a public meeting was held at Vryburg, when it was resolved that two memorials should be drawn up as suggested, and a Volks Committee of 25 members was elected.

The memorials, when ready, were submitted for the approval of Mr. Van Niekerk, who was then living at his farm on the Hartz river. On the 31st March he, in reply to the Volks Committee, suggested that, in any negotiations which might take place with reference to annexation, it should be thoroughly understood that if either Government attempted to deprive the volunteers of their ground, the latter would resist and defend their rights, if necessary, with arms. He referred to the Rev. John Mackenzie as one who was undoubtedly their enemy, and added that it was not their intention to allow themselves to be governed by a British Resident were he ever so much a Boer friend.

Accordingly on the 8th April, the memorial praying for annexation to the Cape Colony was despatched, receiving the support and approval of Mr. Van Niekerk, who acknowledged that he had intended to form an independent State in Bechuanaland, and, Convention had frustrated his plans, he considered that annexation to the Cape Colony was the only course open for a "pacific arrangement" which should guarantee the rights of the white inhabitants.

22. Before any answer had been received from Cape Town, Mr. Mackenzie, the British Resident, arrived at Taungs, and met Mr. Van Niekerk on the 7th May. Mr. Mackenzie showed his commission, and explained fully to Mr. Van Niekerk the policy which he intended to pursue. Mr. Van Niekerk expressed his decided approval of it, and his preference for the establishment of territorial law in the country to immediate annexation to the Cape Colony.

On his arrival at Vryburg, Mr. Mr Mackenzie read his commission and announced that the inhabitants of Stellaland were thenceforth under the jurisdiction and control of Her Majesty. This declaration was not received with unqualified approval, and a series of interviews with the Deputy Commissioner ensued, at which attempts were made to obtain from him a guarantee that the titles to land granted to the volunteers would be ratified by Her Majesty's Government. Mr Mackenzie replied that a land commission would be appointed, to which all land questions would be submitted, but expressed his opinion that all the original volunteers would get their farms or suitable compensation in money or other land. 'He then appointed Mr. Van Niekerk Assistant Commissioner, to be responsible for affairs connected with the Government of Stellaland until the final settlement of the country should be known. The Volks Committee approved of the appointment but asked to be informed whether it would be necessary for Mr. Van Niekerk to take the oath of allegiance to Her Majesty, and evinced some anxiety on the land question.

Mr. Mackenzie, apparently anticipating some difficulty, postponed the demand of the oath of allegiance from Mr. Van Niekerk, but left the management of affairs in his hands. Two days afterwards, on the 16th May, Mr. Mackenzie left Vryburg for Mafeking.

23. Contentment in Stellaland was by no means assured. On the 10th May a public meeting of the inhabitants was held, and a resolution adopted that Mr. Van Niekerk should take no further steps until a reply from the Cape Parliament on the subject of annexation had been received; but on the 18th June the Volksraad resolved to accept Mr. Mackenzie's promises with regard to Stellaland, should the Cape Parliament neglect to answer the memorial or refuse to annex the territory.

24. The task of settling Stellaland, however was in the then state of the country, perhaps, impossible. The usual factions, after endeavouring to sink their differences, in view of a common danger, could not longer agree, and on the 23rd of June Mr. Van Niekerk told Mr. Mackenzie that he could not be personally responsible for the maintenance of peace. On the 26th June, Mr. Van Niekerk having disappeared from Stellaland, the Volks Committee met and declared itself the highest power in Stellaland, and accepted, together with the Executive Council the responsibilities connected therewith.

25. On the 27th June, the Volks Committee decide to send a deputation to Mr. Mackenzie, who was expected to arrive at Taungs on the 1st July; and invited Mr. Van Niekerk to meet them. The deputation was to ascertain whether there was any prospect of annexation to the Cape Colony, and if not, to place before the Deputy Commissioner certain points already discussed with him at Vryburg for his ratification and confirmation. On condition of Mr. Mackenzie meeting their wishes, they undertook on their part to recommend Mr. Van Niekerk to take the oath of allegiance within a certain time.

26. On the 4th of July, the deputation met Mr. Mackenzie and submitted to him the points selected by the Volks Committee. On the following day a letter was addressed to Mr. Van Niekerk, who had not arrived, requesting him to take the oath of allegiance within 10 days from that date. The land question was anxiously discussed on both days, and an agreement was eventually come to by which the Deputy Commissioner certified as regards "the claims to the farms which were drawn by lottery by the original volunteers under David Massouw or otherwise, that farms of equal value or fair compensation be granted to those volunteers or the holders of their titles."

When this agreement was submitted to the Secretary of State, he suggested that the titles themselves should be recognised rather than that claims to money compensation should be admitted.

27. The. deputation now returned to Vryburg and reported the result of their interview with Mr. Mackenzie to the Volks Committee, who approved of what had been done, and on the following day appointed five of its members

to be a Select Committee. The resolutions of the Select Committee were to be subject to the approval of the whole Committee.

28. On the 12th July, a telegram was received in Cape Town from the Deputy Commissioner to the effect that Mr. Van Niekerk had absolutely declined to take the Oath of Allegiance, and had expressed himself to Mr. Mackenzie as follows :- "Even if the majority of the people should desire to accept the Government proposed by you, I would refuse to take oath or accept the position offered by you." And four days afterwards the Volks Committee passed resolutions deposing Mr. Van Niekerk from his office as Administrator of Stellaland, and discharging the Executive Council.

On that same day the Executive Council at Hartz river passed a resolution hostile to Mr. Mackenzie and the Volks Committee.

29. Mr. Mackenzie arrived at Vryburg on the 18th July and held a public meeting, at which resolutions were passed in favour of the Deputy Commissioner, and against Mr. Van Niekerk. There were now two hostile parties in Stellaland, the Vryburg faction with Mr. Mackenzie at its head, and the Hartz river party under Mr. Van Niekerk, believed to be working for annexation to the Transvaal in the hope that the London Convention would not be ratified by the Volksraad at Pretoria. On the 29th July, a public meeting was held at Vryburg, when Mr. Mackenzie was welcomed, the Cape Parliament thanked for its attitude on the question of annexation, and Mr. Van Niekerk and his party condemned for their conduct in endeavouring to incite the inhabitants to oppose law and order. General satisfaction was felt, and the British flag was hoisted. Next day at Hartz river Mr. Van Niekerk and his party met, and declared that the Volks Committee had not the right to negotiate with Mr. Mackenzie, nor to surrender the country without the consent of the people. The Executive Committee was requested to try before a military tribunal the persons who had negotiated with Mr. Mackenzie, and to charge with high treason those who should in future commit the offence.

30. The state of affairs in Stellaland had now become so critical, and the dangers of a collision between the two factions so imminent, that the High Commissioner recalled Mr. Mackenzie to Cape Town, and meanwhile appointed the Hon. C. J. Rhodes, Acting Deputy Commissioner.

31. Mr. Rhodes, on his arrival at Vryburg, found Stellaland on the brink of civil war. He therefore determined to negotiate with Mr. Van Niekerk, and left Vryburg for that purpose, much against the wishes of the town party. On his arrival at the Hartz river Mr. Rhodes received from the Van Niekerk faction certain proposals for the consideration of the High Commissioner. The first of these proposals required that all Mr. Mackenzie's acts in Stellaland should be cancelled, and among the others was one to the effect that the Stellaland Land titles should be recognised. Mr. Rhodes then returned to Barkley West in order to place himself in telegraphic communication with the High Commissioner. As he was anxious to proceed northward to Montsioa's country as soon as possible and feared leaving Stellaland with no officer to represent him in his absence, he solicited and obtained the services of Capt. Bower, the Imperial Secretary, who came up at once.

Capt. Bower arrived at Commando Drift on the 23rd of August, and was joined there by Mr. Van Niekerk, who, together with one or two of his supporters, accepted for themselves some modified terms of agreement which Capt. Bower had brought up, but expressed a fear that the majority of the people who were bent on war at any price, would reject these modifications.

On the 26th August, a meeting of three or four hundred armed men was held at Losasa. Capt. Bower found some of them very violent, and the majority opposed to an agreement, although their leaders were in favour of a compromise. No agreement was arrived at. Mr. Van Niekerk was despatched by the people to summon General Joubert, who was then at Rooi Grond with Mr. Rhodes, and Capt. Bower returned to Commando Drift.

32. Mr. Rhodes arrived on the 1st September at Commando Drift, where he was met on the 3rd by General Joubert, Mr. Van Niekerk and others. On the following day Mr. Van Niekerk submitted an alternative proposal to Capt. Bower, who was unable to accept it. The Imperial officers then decided that Capt. Bower should proceed to Taungs and put the place in a state of defence in the event of war, and that Mr. Rhodes should meet the people and endeavour to come to terms with them.

Accordingly, Mr. Rhodes met the people at Commando Drift on the 5th September, and after a discussion, protracted for three days came to terms with them. An agreement was drawn up containing five articles, the third of which ran as follows :-- "That the land titles issued by the Government of Stellaland be recognised."

A committee, chosen by the people on the one side, signed their acceptance to these terms, and Mr. Rhodes, as Deputy Commissioner for Bechuanaland, on the other side, accepted and ratified them on the 3rd September, 1884.

The crisis was now passed, and the people, numbering about 400, all of them armed, quietly dispersed to their houses.

33. This agreement was subsequently acknowledged by the Right Hon. the Earl of Derby, Secretary of State for the Colonies, who, in a despatch, dated May 30th, 1885, stated that in the view of Her Majesty's Government "the Stellaland titles must be generally recognised and upheld, but that the decision to uphold them, in accordance with Mr. Rhodes' agreement of the 8th September last, would not justify the maintenance of a title in any exceptional case of flagrant coercion or unfairness."

MAY 1886.

A. H. F. DUNCAN.

Checklist of Botswana Postmarks (Second Series)

Late Arrivals Section - Part 1

The Botswana Postmark Project Team set out to extend the earlier work done on Botswana Postmarks (First Series) by Brian Trotter. Botswana Postmarks (Second Series) followed the same Postal Marking Classification System (Typology) as the First series and continued the numbering from the First series.

The earliest date included in the Botswana Postmarks (Second Series) was 01-Jun-1995 i.e. only new postmarks and markings appearing after this date, which had not been previously recorded, were included.


Since Runner Post #60 in June 2004 there have been sixteen installments of the Second Series Checklist. In the last five and a half years the Project Team has consisted of Bruce Warrender and David Wall - with assistance from Sheila Case, Barbara Andersson, Steen


Jelgren, Dennis Firth, David Allison (a non-member), Peter Jukes and the late John Inglefield-Watson. Bruce wishes to thank all those members who contributed.


In the period of time covered by the sixteen installments more and more postmarks have been recorded thanks to members interest in the postmark study. Unfortunately some of these have been too late to be published in the correct section, so here is the first part of the "Late Arrivals Section" - in four parts - to be followed by annual supplements.


Further information on recorded postmarks, copies of better illustrations, and, of course, information on unrecorded markings is welcome and should be sent to Bruce Warrender (post) or e-mailed to the Editor.


Late Arrivals Section - Part 1 - Offices B to F


| BOBONONG | No 17 Type 61 J 26 | |
|---|---------------------------|--------------|
|  | Struck in purple | |
| | Outer oval dimensions | 34mm by 55mm |
| | Earliest recorded date | 03-Jul-2002 |
| | Latest recorded date | 26-Aug-2005 |
| | Number so far recorded | 9 |


| BOKPITS | No 5 Type REGN 2 h | |
|---|---------------------------|--------------|
|  | Box dimensions | 22mm by 58mm |
| | Earliest recorded date | no dates |
| | Latest recorded date | no dates |
| | Number so far recorded | 3 |


| BOTLENG | No 25 Type 21 B 56(5) | |
|---|------------------------|-------------|
|  | Circle diameters | 21mm & 35mm |
| | Earliest recorded date | 27-Jun-2001 |
| | Latest recorded date | 13-Oct-2001 |
| | Number so far recorded | 4 |


| BOTLENG | No 26 Type 21 B 58 | |
|---|------------------------|-------------|
|  | Circle diameters | 21mm & 35mm |
| | Earliest recorded date | 23-May-2002 |
| | Latest recorded date | 15-Nov-2002 |
| | Number so far recorded | 3 |


| BOTLENG | No 27 Type 1 M 19(3) | |
|---|------------------------|-------------|
|  | Circle diameter | 40mm |
| | Earliest recorded date | 01-Nov-2004 |
| | Latest recorded date | 01-Nov-2004 |
| | Number so far recorded | 7 |

| BOTLENG | No 28 Type 1 M 19(4) | |
|---|------------------------|-------------|
|  | Circle diameters | 40mm |
| | Earliest recorded date | 08-Dec-2004 |
| | Latest recorded date | 08-Dec-2004 |
| | Number so far recorded | 1 |


| BOTLENG | No 29 Type 1 M 29 | |
|---------|---|-------------|
| |  | |
| | Circle diameters | 41mm |
| | Earliest recorded date | 03-Nov-2005 |
| | Latest recorded date | 01-Mar-2007 |
| | Number so far recorded | 2 |


| BOTLENG | No 30 Type 23 M 19(1) | |
|---------|---|-------------|
| |  | |
| | Circle diameters | 40mm |
| | Earliest recorded date | 14-Nov-2007 |
| | Latest recorded date | 14-Nov-2007 |
| | Number so far recorded | 1 |


| BOTLENG | No 31 Type 23 M 19(2) Struck in purple | |
|---------|---|-------------|
| |  | |
| | Circle diameter | 40mm |
| | Earliest recorded date | 01-Aug-2008 |
| | Latest recorded date | 01-Aug-2008 |
| | Number so far recorded | 1 |


| BOTLENG | No 32 Type 23 M 19(5) | |
|---------|---|-------------|
| |  | |
| | Circle diameter | 41mm |
| | Earliest recorded date | 23-Jun-2008 |
| | Latest recorded date | 12-Aug-2008 |
| | Number so far recorded | 2 |


| | |
|-----------------|--|
| BOROLONG | This is a new Postal Agency in Tatitown. Date of opening is unknown. |
|-----------------|--|


| | | |
|---|--------------------------|-------------|
| BOROLONG | No 1 Type 21 J 30 | |
|  | Circle diameters | 22mm & 36mm |
| | Earliest recorded date | 10-Nov-2004 |
| | Latest recorded date | 10-Nov-2004 |
| | Number so far recorded | 8 |


| | | |
|--|-----------------------------|-------------|
| BOSEJA | No 7 Type 23 M 24(1) | |
|  | Circle diameter | 41mm |
| | Earliest recorded date | 12-Apr-2005 |
| | Latest recorded date | ??-???-2005 |
| | Number so far recorded | 2 |


| | | |
|---|--------------------------|--------------|
| BOSEJA | No 8 Type 61 M 41 | |
|  | Outer oval dimensions | 40mm by 67mm |
| | Earliest recorded date | 04-Jul-2007 |
| | Latest recorded date | 04-Jul-2007 |
| | Number so far recorded | 1 |


| BOSEJA | No 9 Type 1 X 16(2) | |
|---|------------------------|-------------|
|  | Circle diameter | 33mm |
| | Earliest recorded date | 03-Nov-2004 |
| | Latest recorded date | 01-Dec-2004 |
| | Number so far recorded | 5 |
| New sub-variant 16. "BOTSWANAPOST" (outside the circle) at top with "C" followed by a number (inside the circle) and [OFFICE NAME] followed by "POST OFFICE" (outside the circle) both at base. | | |


| BOSEJA | No 10 Type 23 M 39 Struck in red. | |
|--|---|-------------|
|  | Outer circle diameter | 40mm |
| | Earliest recorded date | 10-Dec-2008 |
| | Latest recorded date | 10-Dec-2008 |
| | Number so far recorded | 1 |


| BOTSHABELO | No 12 Type 1 J 52(2) | |
|---|------------------------|-------------|
|  | Circle diameter | 41mm |
| | Earliest recorded date | 27-Oct-2004 |
| | Latest recorded date | 01-Dec-2004 |
| | Number so far recorded | 6 |


| BROADHURST | No 32 Type 23 M 20(1) | |
|--|------------------------|-------------|
|  | Circle diameter | 41mm |
| | Earliest recorded date | 20-Aug-2004 |
| | Latest recorded date | 20-Aug-2004 |
| | Number so far recorded | 1 |
| New sub-variant 20. "BOTSWANAPOST" at top with [OFFICE NAME] followed by "C" followed by a number at base. | | |


| BROADHURST | No 33 Type 23 M 20(2) | |
|---|------------------------|-------------|
|  | Outer circle diameter | 40mm |
| | Earliest recorded date | 01-Nov-2004 |
| | Latest recorded date | 01-Nov-2004 |
| | Number so far recorded | 3 |


| BROADHURST | No 34 Type 23 M 20(3) | |
|---|------------------------|-------------|
|  | Outer circle diameter | 41mm |
| | Earliest recorded date | 22-Oct-2004 |
| | Latest recorded date | 28-Oct-2004 |
| | Number so far recorded | 2 |


| BROADHURST | No 35 Type 23 M 20(4) | |
|---|------------------------|-------------|
|  | Outer circle diameter | 41mm |
| | Earliest recorded date | 01-Nov-2004 |
| | Latest recorded date | 18-Sep-2007 |
| | Number so far recorded | 6 |


| BROADHURST | No 36 Type 23 M 22 | |
|---|------------------------|-------------|
|  | Outer circle diameter | 40mm |
| | Earliest recorded date | 15-Jul-2005 |
| | Latest recorded date | 27-Jul-2005 |
| | Number so far recorded | 2 |


| BROADHURST | No 37 Type 23 M 24(2) Struck in purple | |
|---|---|-------------|
|  | Outer circle diameter | 41mm |
| | Earliest recorded date | 06-May-2008 |
| | Latest recorded date | 14-Jun-2008 |
| | Number so far recorded | 3 |


| BROADHURST | No 38 Type 23 M 24(3) | |
|---|------------------------|-------------|
|  | Outer circle diameter | 40mm |
| | Earliest recorded date | 30-Jul-2007 |
| | Latest recorded date | 10-Dec-2008 |
| | Number so far recorded | 3 |


| ETSHA | No 9 Type 21 B 55 | |
|---|------------------------|-------------|
|  | Circle diameters | 22mm & 35mm |
| | Earliest recorded date | 10-Nov-2004 |
| | Latest recorded date | 10-Nov-2004 |
| | Number so far recorded | 3 |


| ETSHA | No 10 Type 21 B 56(3) | |
|---|------------------------|-------------|
|  | Circle diameters | 21mm & 35mm |
| | Earliest recorded date | 11-Nov-2004 |
| | Latest recorded date | 11-Nov-2004 |
| | Number so far recorded | 2 |


| FRANCISTOWN | No 65 Type 1 M 24(6) | |
|---|------------------------|-------------|
|  | Circle diameter | 39mm |
| | Earliest recorded date | 15-Jun-2007 |
| | Latest recorded date | 03-Jul-2007 |
| | Number so far recorded | 2 |


| FRANCISTOWN | No 66 Type 23 M 24(2) One item struck in pink | |
|---|--|-------------|
|  | Outer circle diameter | 41mm |
| | Earliest recorded date | 12-Mar-2007 |
| | Latest recorded date | 10-Nov-2008 |
| | Number so far recorded | 2 |

| FRANCISTOWN | No 67 Type 23 M 24(3) | |
|---|------------------------|-------------|
|  | Outer circle diameter | 41mm |
| | Earliest recorded date | 31-May-2007 |
| | Latest recorded date | 28-Sep-2007 |
| | Number so far recorded | 3 |


| FRANCISTOWN | No 68 Type 23 M 24(4) | |
|---|------------------------|-------------|
|  | Outer circle diameter | 40mm |
| | Earliest recorded date | 07-Aug-2007 |
| | Latest recorded date | 20-Aug-2007 |
| | Number so far recorded | 2 |


| FRANCISTOWN | No 69 Type 23 M 24(5) | |
|---|------------------------|-------------|
|  | Outer circle diameter | 40mm |
| | Earliest recorded date | 25-Jun-2007 |
| | Latest recorded date | 25-Jun-2007 |
| | Number so far recorded | 1 |

| FRANCISTOWN | No 70 Type 23 M 24(6) | |
|---|------------------------|-------------|
|  | Outer circle diameter | 40mm |
| | Earliest recorded date | 07-Feb-2006 |
| | Latest recorded date | 07-Feb-2006 |
| | Number so far recorded | 1 |

| FRANCISTOWN | No 71 Type 23 M 26(1) | |
|---|------------------------|-------------|
|  | Outer circle diameter | 40mm |
| | Earliest recorded date | 02-Nov-2004 |
| | Latest recorded date | 02-Nov-2004 |
| | Number so far recorded | 1 |

New sub-variant 26. "BOTSWANAPOST" at top with "C" followed by a number above [OFFICE NAME] (2 lines) at base.

| FRANCISTOWN | No 72 Type 23 M 26(3) | |
|---|------------------------|-------------|
|  | Outer circle diameter | 40mm |
| | Earliest recorded date | 02-Nov-2004 |
| | Latest recorded date | 25-Jul-2005 |
| | Number so far recorded | 2 |

| FRANCISTOWN | No 73 Type 23 M 26(4) | |
|---|------------------------|-------------|
|  | Outer circle diameter | 41mm |
| | Earliest recorded date | 08-Feb-2005 |
| | Latest recorded date | 15-Feb-2005 |
| | Number so far recorded | 2 |
| | | |

Exhibiting Stamps

by Brian Hurst.

I have been exhibiting stamps at National Level for about three years and have derived a great deal of pleasure from the disciplines involved.

In common with many other collectors, purchases accumulated during my working years had largely been stored unattended in a chest of drawers. On retirement, I decided it was time to do something about them, but having experimented with basic album mounting I finally decided to have a go at the more rigid structure of mounting my collection up for exhibition purposes.

All members of this Society resident in the UK have the right to enter any of the national competitions organised by the Association of British Philatelic Societies. The format is based on a frame comprising 16 pages, and exhibits will commonly consist of one, three or five frames. One frame exhibits are particularly suited to the beginner, but choice of subject is very important. The subject must be complete in itself and must be dealt with in the most comprehensive manner possible. The first page must always be a title page, explaining to the viewer (and judges) what they are going to see in the remainder of the exhibit. It can contain philatelic material if desired and should also contain references to the sources the exhibitor has consulted in reaching the conclusions included in the write-up of the material.

Editor Notes on:

The provisional overprint of 27th December 1888 Exhibit

Whilst I endeavoured to exactly reproduce the layout of the pages from Brian's single frame exhibit I had to

Brian Hurst receiving a Gold Medal for his single frame exhibit at Spring Stampex 2010



The material you exhibit does not have to be prohibitively expensive; it just needs to be dealt with in an informative and interesting way.

My single frame exhibit of the two halfpenny Cape stamps overprinted in green and issued on 27th December 1888 for use in British Bechuanaland and the Bechuanaland Protectorate was shown at Spring Stampex last month. I was delighted to receive a Gold Medal awarded for the exhibit. To give members who have not so far attempting exhibiting some idea of what is involved and to offer them encouragement to 'have a go', the exhibit itself is reproduced in the following pages of the magazine. Full details of the rules that were used for receiving and judging the exhibits at this year's Spring Stampex can be found by visiting www.abps.org.uk and clicking on the 'Spr. Stampex 2010' tab.

make a couple of changes to enable it to fit the *Runner Post* with its centre margin, header and footer.

Most notably, due to the double pages I had to place page 10 after the double page 11-12. The double pages were split - hopefully without them appearing too strange. I also had to reduce the image size on page 4 to 90%.

THE BECHUANALANDS

Provisional Overprints on ½d. Cape of Good Hope stamp issued 27th December 1888

In 1888, the Bechuanalands consisted of two distinct territories in Southern Africa, separated by the Molopo River. To the north of the river lay the Bechuanaland Protectorate (now Botswana) and to the south, the Crown Colony of British Bechuanaland (now part of South Africa). Both territories shared a single postal administration with headquarters in Vryburg, the principal town of British Bechuanaland.

In December 1888, following a larger than expected demand from dealers and collectors for the stamps of the new issues released that year, the postal authorities ran out of halfpenny stamps, which covered the rate for printed papers. Further supplies had been ordered from London, but to bridge the gap an emergency supply of halfpenny stamps of the Cape of Good Hope was requested from the Postmaster-General at Cape Town.



overprinted
'British Bechuanaland'
in green



overprinted
'Bechuanaland Protectorate'
in green

100 sheets of 240 stamps for each of the two territories were released on the 27th December 1888, each sheet having been overprinted with the appropriate territorial name in a setting that covered just 30 stamps. The severe difficulty this caused the printer in attempting to maintain the overprint position on a sheet of 240 stamps during 8 separate operations per sheet is the fascinating subject of this display.

Rare large blocks and marginal strips of both stamps are included to prove the size and position of the overprint setting and show the difficulties encountered in positioning the overprint. Extremely rare examples of omitted words and transposed overprints caused by shifts in the overprint are shown and, where sufficient evidence exists, part panes have been reconstructed to show the position of these errors. A large block containing a single stamp with the word 'British' omitted, but not due to a shift, is exhibited. This stamp is, to date, the only recorded example of such an error. A variety of double overprints on both stamps is shown and, once again, part panes have been reconstructed and the stamps placed in their appropriate positions.

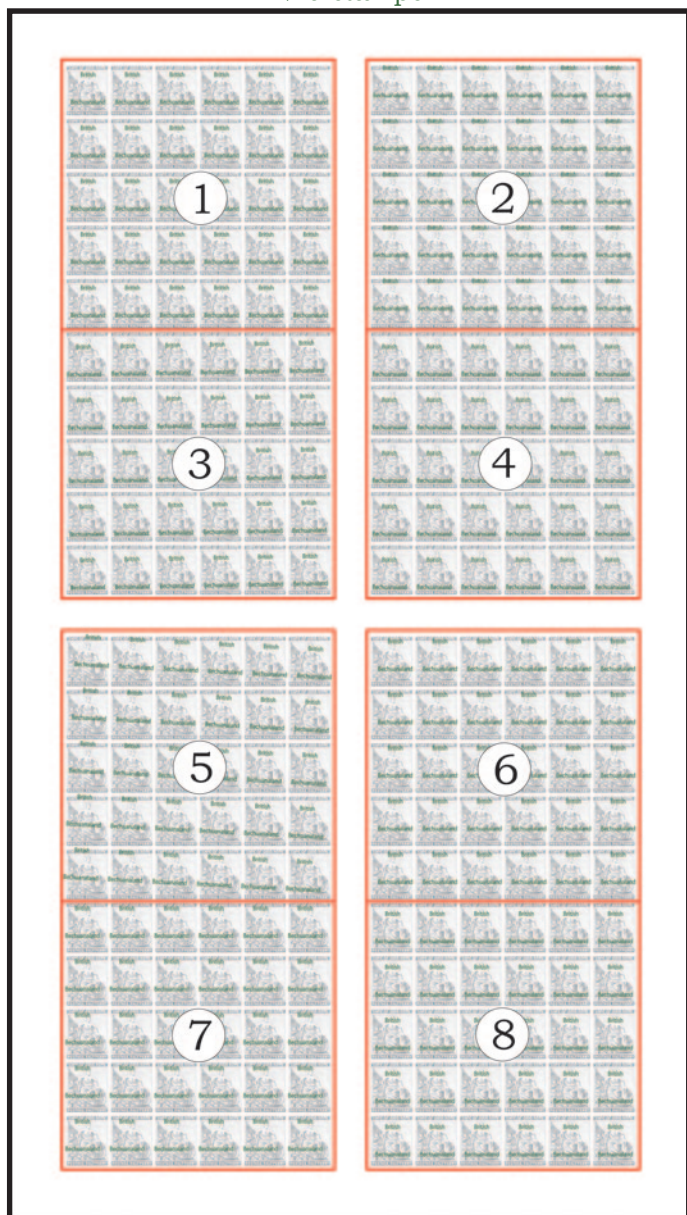
References:

1. The display is the result of many years' personal study and research into these two stamps. The conclusions reached have not been obtained by reference to any other source apart from that mentioned below, and at the time of first presentation of this display have never previously been published.
2. The National Archive, Cape Town. *Archives of the Bechuanaland Crown Colony Government: Volume 244, Register Stamp Accounts 1885-1889*, pp 36 and 51 (release date and quantities)

BRITISH BECH

The provisional overprint

Diagrammatic representation of the overprint setting of 6x5 showing the way it was applied to the sheet of 240 stamps



UANALAND

of 27th December 1888

Complete strip across the top of the sheet showing the De La Rue current number '43' and plate number '1'



The British Bechuanaland stamp accounts record this overprint as being applied to complete unbroken sheets of 240 stamps, despite the fact the overprint setting covered only 30 stamps. This represents something of an enigma since the method used to achieve this must have presented the printer with enormous problems.

The logical solution is to conclude that the surcharge was applied locally in Vryburg on the same day the stamps were received from the Postmaster-General in Cape Town, and since composing an overprint setting from individual pieces of type was so time consuming, there was insufficient time to produce one covering a larger number of stamps.

The upper and lower rows of the sheet displayed here provide evidence that the panes were not separated horizontally prior to overprinting, and the diagrammatic representation to the left shows the eight individual operations required to complete the overprint on each sheet.



Complete strip across the bottom of the sheet showing the De La Rue plate number '1' and current number '43'

BRITISH BECHUANALAND

The provisional
overprint of
27th December 1888

Upper overprint setting of 30 →

This upper right pane clearly demonstrates not only the overprint setting of 30 (6x5), but also the difficulty the printer faced in getting it to fit accurately on just an eighth part of a sheet of stamps

Lower overprint setting of 30 →



BRITISH BECHUANALAND

The provisional overprint of 27th December 1888

Specimen overprint

This 'Specimen' overprint, known as the Holmes type BEC1, was applied locally at Vryburg early in 1889 to a very small number of examples of every different stamp in the current stock of the Colony's Distributor of Stamps; probably for archival records. It is likely that no more than six copies of each stamp were overprinted, and are thus very rare.



Specimen

Postal use

Postally used examples of this stamp are difficult to find. It's main usage was to provide the local postal rate for newspapers, whose wrappers bearing the stamps must almost invariably have been destroyed. The only known surviving cover from the period is now in the BotswanaPost archive and an illustration of it, reduced in size by 50%, is shown to the right.



Revenue use

There was no revenue rate in force requiring the use of halfpenny stamps. However, a pair served to pay the one penny duty needed on all receipts in payment for goods and services. The two pairs shown to the right are the only examples recorded to date.



Fakes and Forgeries

The issue attracted little attention from forgers. However two quite interesting examples are displayed here. The left hand stamp is the product of two stamps joined at the line indicated by the arrow with such accuracy that it is virtually undetectable. The result is a stamp with 'Bechuanaland' omitted.

The right hand stamp simply has a forged overprint on a used Cape Stamp with an 'East London' cancel; the word 'Bechuanaland' also measuring about 1mm too long



RPSL 71179



BRITISH BECH

The provisional overprint

Errors - 'British' omitted & 'Bechuanaland/British'

In common with so many instances where stamps are overprinted locally, this issue has and varieties which make its study particularly interesting.

The rarest of these is the error 'British' omitted, which occurs in two quite distinct ways: the shift in the overprint as shown in the reconstructed part pane below, which also exhibits variety 'Bechuanaland/British' and the second by the total omission of the word 'British' stamp at Row 5, Stamp 1 of the part pane to the right.

The errors have been placed in their appropriate positions in the reconstructed part pane.

Examination of the 'British' omitted error reveals a flaw in the basic Cape stamp in that the 'G' and 'E' of 'POSTAGE' are virtually joined. This occurs only at row 5, stamp 2 of a lower right pane and the pair must therefore be from the 5th and 6th rows of the second column.

It is also apparent that the only other stamp in the sheet on which the 'British' omitted error can possibly occur is at row 5, stamp 1. A single example that fits this position is to be found in the Royal Philatelic Collection.

There seems to be a maximum of six positions at which the stamp would show a transposed 'Bechuanaland/British' overprint. These are the first four stamps of the first column and those from rows 3 & 4 of the second.

The example shown from row 4 stamp 1 position is the only specimen ever recorded and it may well be that the others have not survived.



UANALAND

of 27th December 1888

transposed

a number of errors

first by means of a
the transposed
as recorded on the

Error
'British' omitted →
at R5/1

This irregular block of fifty stamps contains the only known example of the error 'British' omitted due to a failure of the word to print.

There is no trace of an albino impression and it is possible that this is the first strike of the overprint and the missing letters were immediately noticed and corrected.

Unfortunately the corresponding position of the overprint on the lower half of the setting at row 12, which would have provided further information is absent

Once again the joined G and E of POSTAGE on the basic Cape stamp at R5/2 confirms that this is a lower right pane.



RPSL 196889

BRITISH BECHUANALAND

The provisional overprint of 27th December 1888

Error - overprint double, one inverted

Research has proved that just one half pane of stamps received a double overprint where one of the overprints is normal and the other fully inverted.

Several copies have survived and it is likely that, whilst the error was probably due to hurried production, it was quickly recognised and marketed as such.

Just one marginal example seems to have survived. This is in the Mosely Collection at the British Library and is illustrated at bottom left. Not only does it have a perforate margin, but also it carries the printers' cross which plates it to row 10, stamp 1 of a lower right pane. This has permitted a reasonable accurate reconstruction of the appearance of the original pane, the lower six rows of that reconstruction being shown here. A vertical pair, also illustrated at the left, has survived from rows 5 and 6 and this has allowed the position of the overprint on the upper half of the pane to be determined.

A single example of the error has been placed in its likely position within the setting.



Reproduction of a vertical pair from rows 5 & 6



Reproduction of a marginal example from R10/1

Reproduced with permission from the British Library



Rows 1 to 5 have a normal overprint

Rows 6 the inverted overprint reads 'Bechuanaland' only

Rows 7 to 10 the inverted overprint reads 'Bechuanaland/British'

BRITISH BECHUANALAND

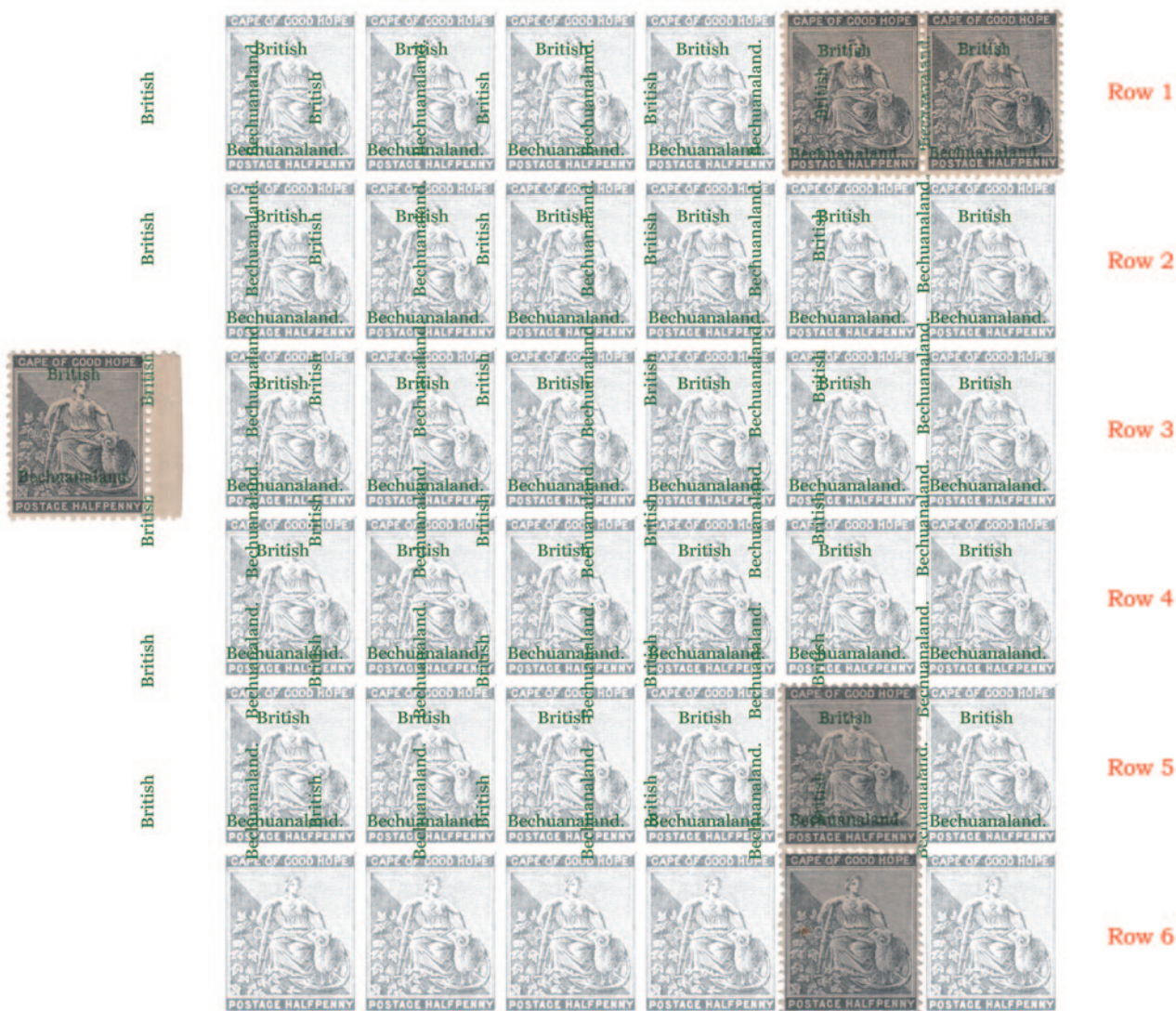
The provisional overprint of 27th December 1888

Error - overprint double, one vertical

Two half panes carried the double overprint error in which one of the overprints is normal and the other is rotated through 90° to the left. In this pane it is the upper half that is affected, the lower half carrying no overprint at all.

Vertical pairs from rows 5 and 6 showing the upper stamp with the double overprint and the lower stamp totally without overprint have long been collected. In fact, five out of the possible six examples are still known to exist, although only two, one of which is shown below in its appropriate position in the setting, remain in private hands. One of these vertical pairs in the British Library shows the joined 'G' and 'E' of 'POSTAGE' at R5/2, proving that this is a lower right hand pane. The reconstructed upper six rows of the pane are reproduced here. A horizontal pair and a single cross-gutter example have also been placed in position.

Reconstruction of the pane and consequent plating of the stamps with this variety is easy since, although the horizontal overprint remains constant, the vertical one differs on every single stamp



RPSL 17075

NOTE: Page 10 follows the double page 11/12 9

BECHUANALAND

The provisional overprint



Complete strip across the top of the sheet showing



Block of 40, being rows 1 to 6 of a lower left hand pane

PROTECTORATE

of 27th December 1888



the De La Rue current number '43' and plate number '1'

Government records for British Bechuanaland show the release of 100 sheets of 240 stamps overprinted 'Bechuanaland Protectorate' on the same day as those issued with the 'British Bechuanaland' overprint. Postal services through the Bechuanaland Protectorate from Mafeking in the south up to Gubuluwayo in the north had only commenced a few weeks prior to the issue of this stamp, yet the initial supplies of vermilion halfpenny stamps had run out in the early part of December 1888. For a few months, from the beginning of August 1888 through to the middle of 1889, it had been decided, as an experiment, to issue separate stamps for the Protectorate by means of appropriating stocks of British Bechuanaland stamps and overprinting them with the word 'Protectorate'. This stamp was issued during that period, but is unique in being the ONLY stamp produced during the control of the Protectorate postal services by the Crown Colony of British Bechuanaland that exclusively carried the overprint 'Bechuanaland Protectorate'

The fact that the sheets were undivided before overprinting and the size of the overprint setting was 30 (6x5) is confirmed by the strip from the upper row of a sheet displayed above and by the block of stamps to the left, which shows the complete setting on rows 1 to 5 and the first row of the repeated overprint in a completely different position at row 6.

Single stamps in mint condition are very common to this day, and the quantity issued of 24,000 was far in excess of the requirements for the rudimentary Protectorate Runner Post service. This situation can perhaps be explained by reference to a statement made by Ernest Baxter, the Acting Postmaster-General of the Colony, in the report of the Administrator for the year 1888. In it he says "Stamp collectors in various parts of the world are material aids in making our postal revenue equal expenditure; the sale of stamps to dealers in England and elsewhere being far in excess of what would be expected by anyone not conversant with the actual figures". Most stamps from such sales seem to have been split into singles, and large pieces such as those displayed are extremely rare. Used examples cancelled with Protectorate postmarks are particularly difficult to find, and no surviving cover from the period has been recorded to date.



A very scarce used example
with barred oval numeral cancellation

BRITISH BECHUANALAND

The provisional overprint of 27th December 1888

Error - overprint double, one vertical

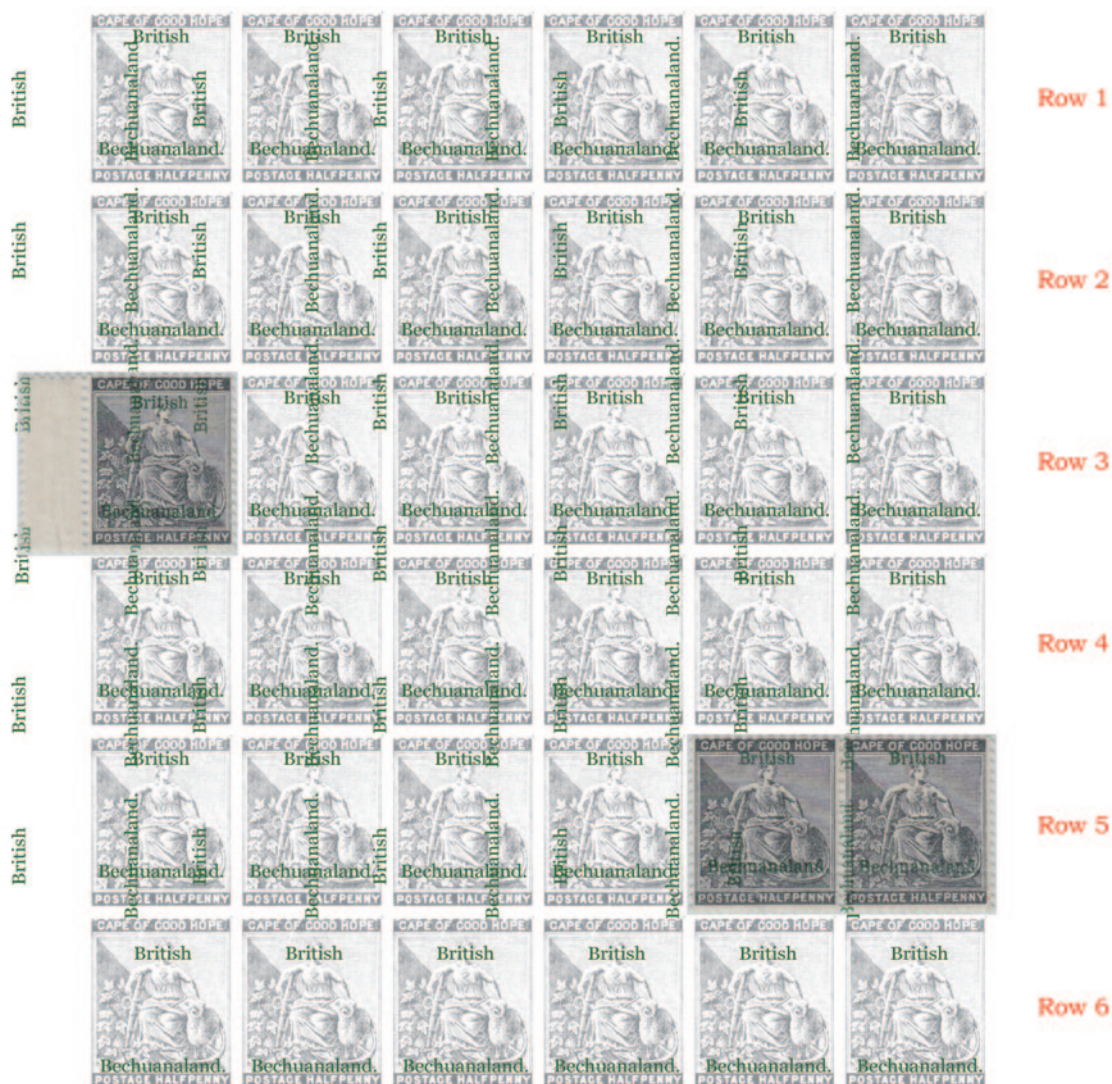
This is a reconstruction of part of the second pane carrying the error overprint double, one vertical.

Stamps from this pane can be distinguished by the fact that, despite the identical positioning of the vertical overprint, the horizontal one is positioned higher on the basic stamp. A rare surviving vertical pair from the first column of rows 5 & 6, originally in the Holmes collection, illustrated to the left, shows that the lower half of this pane carried a normal overprint. Furthermore, a horizontal pair with margins from row 1, stamps 5 & 6 in the Mosely Collection at the British Library show that this must be a lower pane. The stamp displayed with gutter at left confirms that once again this is the upper part of a lower right hand pane.

A study of auction catalogues over the last 50 years reveals that of the 30 possible examples of the error from this pane, no less than 24 still exist. For the other pane, displayed to the left, the tally is 21, indicating the philatelic methods involved in their distribution.



Illustration of a vertical pair from rows 5 & 6 showing the position of the overprint on the lower half of the pane



BECHUANALAND PROTECTORATE

The provisional overprint of 27th December 1888

Error - overprint double

A study involving the examination of several examples of the Protectorate halfpenny stamps carrying a double overprint has led to the conclusion that there are at least five separate half panes showing the error.

All examples of the double overprint have both overprints upright. The half pane reconstructed on this page is the most interesting since one of the overprints shows not only a considerable shift, but also a rotation of over two degrees from the horizontal. This has resulted in all stamps on row six having one overprint reading 'Bechuanaland' only, on rows 7 to 10 one overprint is transposed and reads 'Protectorate/Bechuanaland' and the lower part of the overprint reading 'Protectorate' falls in the lower margin. Sufficient examples are displayed here in their appropriate positions to prove that this is a lower right-hand pane, but since a vertical pair from rows 5 & 6 has yet to be discovered, the position of the overprint shown on row 5 of the reconstruction is pure conjecture. The lower left corner stamp as illustrated has assisted greatly with the accuracy of reconstruction of the overprint on the lower half pane. Only two examples from row 6 have been recorded to date, making the example shown below extremely rare.



Reduced size reproduction of the lower left corner stamp



Row 5
true position of the overprint is not known

Row 6
one of the overprints reads 'Bechuanaland' only

Rows 7 to 10
one of the overprints is transposed and reads 'Protectorate/Bechuanaland'

'Protectorate' in margin

BECHUANALAND PROTECTORATE

The provisional overprint of 27th December 1888

Error - overprint double

Stamps from this half pane have the two overprints upright, sloping upwards from left to right and both reading 'Bechuanaland/Protectorate'

One of the slopes is more extreme than the other which leads to some interesting variations on the overprint theme. The discovery of a cross gutter pair at the left and a single from the right of the half pane have made possible a reconstruction of the overprint that is further confirmed by the pair illustrated that plate into the top row. No lower or upper marginal examples have been observed, so it has not been possible to say whether it is the upper or lower half of a pane that carries the double overprint, although the gutter pair confirms that it is a right hand pane.

Original stamps from this half pane have been placed in their appropriate positions in the reconstructed setting below.



Horizontal pair, reduced in size,
that plate into positions 1 and 2
of the top row

BECHUANALAND PROTECTORATE

The provisional overprint of 27th December 1888

Error - overprint double

In this, the third of the analysed double overprint varieties, the two overprints are horizontal, directly beneath each other and both positioned to the extreme left of the stamp.

The vertical pair exhibited allows the conclusion that it is the lower half of a pane which carries the double overprint. There is insufficient further evidence to indicate which of the four panes of the sheet is involved.

Although it is impossible to position the stamps with any degree of certainty, minor variations in the overprint position allow them to be placed in what is probably the correct row, although not necessarily in the correct position within that row.



BECHUANALAND PROTECTORATE

The provisional overprint of 27th December 1888

Error - overprint double

Two further examples of the double overprint are displayed here.

A first impression of the left hand example is that it belongs to the reconstructed pane on the sheet immediately to the left. A more careful examination reveals that this cannot be so since the basic Cape stamp is better centred and the overprints are slightly too low and to the right to fit exactly into any position of that particular setting. Only two examples of this overprint position have been seen, so any sensible attempt at reconstructing the half pane is impossible.

The right hand example carries two overprints, close together, and simply does not fit into any of the half panes discussed so far. It is the only example seen of this type of double overprint.



overprint double,
separated and to the left



overprint double,
close together and central

Error - overprint transposed

The overprint on the stamp below is transposed due to a vertical shift, so that it reads 'Protectorate/Bechuanaland'.

Originally a half pane would have existed comprising 24 examples with the overprint transposed and 6 reading 'Protectorate' only. However it seems to have been issued postally and the error not noticed at the time. The result is an incredibly rare stamp. Just two mint copies are recorded: the one below and a second example in the BotswanaPost archive. A single used copy has been recorded with a clear 'Ramoutsa' postmark, leading to the conclusion that this was possibly the Post Office which sold the stamps from the part pane.



overprint transposed,
reading 'Protectorate/Bechuanaland'

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STELLALAND

WARREN EXPEDITION



1885 STELLALAND : THE 'COLONEL COTTON' COVER

1885 (June) cover addressed to 'Col Cotton / Officer Commanding Troops / Sitlagohli' bearing a vertical pair of Stellaland 1d red (SG 1) tied by a horizontal blue crayon stroke. The reverse is annotated "This letter came by the despatch riders this day at 3.15 p.m. from Vrijburg and was delivered to me. Paul Methuen. Col Command. Setlagoli. June 28. 1885. Setlagoli".

A small defect on the right hand stamp has been expertly repaired subsequent to the issuance of a clear RPSL certificate (1978). Ex Jonkers.

Exceptionally rare, being one of only 13 covers bearing Stellaland stamps recorded in 'A Postal History of Stellaland' by Alan R. Drysdall, FRPSL (London Philatelist, March/April 1992).

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