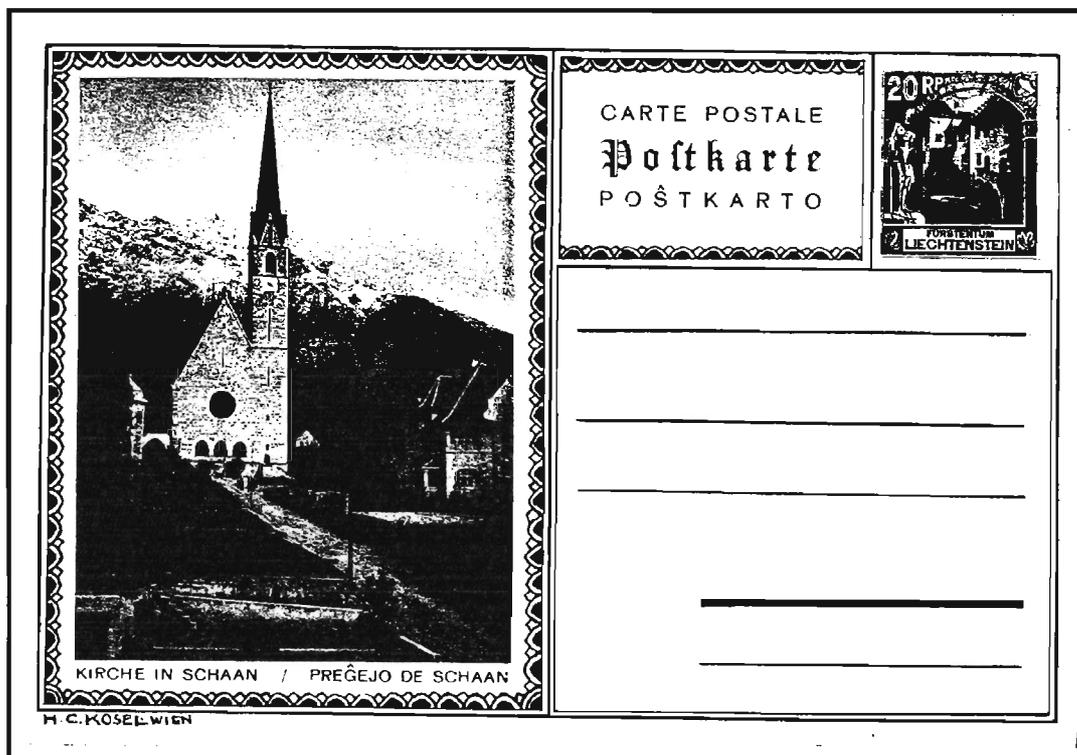




THE POSTAL STATIONERY SOCIETY

Journal Vol. 10, No. 3 October 2002
(Serial number 24)



LIECHTENSTEIN - 1930 View Card with Esperanto Heading
See page 16

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The Management Committee.

The affairs of the Society are managed by four officers:- Chairman, Vice-Chairman, Secretary and Treasurer, and a number of ordinary committee members from whom Post Holders are appointed.

OFFICERS:-

CHAIRMAN - Iain Stevenson,
67 London Road,
Bishop's Stortford,
Hertfordshire. CM23 5NA

VICE-CHAIRMAN - Keith Hanman

SECRETARY - Colin Baker,
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Warminster,
Wilts. BA12 7AY
phone - 01985 840033

TREASURER - Sam Barkley,
77 Rathmore Heights,
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POST HOLDERS AND COMMITTEE:-

AUCTION ORGANISER -

Following the sudden death of Tony Chilton, matters relating to the auction are currently being dealt with by Michael Smith and Colin Baker.

EDITOR - John Barker,

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COMMITTEE MEMBER - Alan Huggins

The Postal Stationery Society Web site: www.postalstationery.org.uk

SOCIETY CALENDAR 2002

Saturday 19th October 2002

AGM, Display and Auction. See page 3 for details.

Saturday 26th October 2002

Regional meeting in Dorset. See page 4 for details.

2003

Saturday 22nd March 2003

At the British Philatelic Trust, 107 Charterhouse Street, London EC 1. 11.00 am.
Invited display of British South Africa by our Vice-Chairman Keith Hanman, followed by members displays. Members are invited to bring along a maximum of 30 sheets each and to give a display of not more than 10 minutes with a further 10 minutes for viewing.

Saturday 28th June 2003

Midpex. Tile Hill, Coventry, 10.00 am. to 4.00 pm.

The Society will have a table with a static display, to attract new members by promoting the collecting of postal stationery and the benefits of joining our Society.

Saturday 25th October 2003

At the British Philatelic Trust, 107 Charterhouse Street, London EC 1. 10.00 am to approx. 4.30 pm. Society's AGM, display and auction.

TONY CHILTON FRPSL**1950 - 17th July 2002**

To members of the Postal Stationery Society.

Tony was best known for his commitment to ensuring the smooth running of the Society's auctions. He was enormously successful in this and the commission generated has been a significant financial benefit to the Society.

That Tony should be struck down by a heart attack at the early age of 51 comes as a great shock to us all and will cause a significant wave of repercussions in British and British Africa philately. His philatelic involvement spanned a wide range of organisations but was particularly focused around those covering southern Africa. He was for example Chairman and Auctioneer of the Bechuanaland and Botswana Study Group, a past Treasurer of the Natal and Zululand Study Groups, Treasurer of the Orange Free State Study Circle, Chairman of the Transvaal Study Circle, Membership Secretary of the Southern African Collectors Society as well as Auctioneer of the Postal Stationery Society. Such involvement heralds Tony's commitment to getting things done, but he was also an accomplished researcher and was a worldwide authority on southern Africa stamp booklets and postal stationery. His contributions were widely recognised and he was one of the only three recipients in the past decade of the South African Collectors Society Wickes Award which he received in 1992 for the best literature contribution to Southern Africa philately.

Unfortunately his untimely death will not only deprive the philatelic community of the results of his ongoing research but leaves a number of gaps in various societies and study groups which will be extremely difficult to fill.

Alan Huggins

SECRETARY'S NOTES - OCTOBER 2002

I have received a number of letters from members expressing their sadness at the news of Tony Chilton's sudden death in July. Everybody realises how much Tony has done for the Society without seeking praise or gratitude. One member has also sent a donation to help the Society overcome any losses it has incurred as a result. Thank you to all of you who have written to me so far, if I have not yet replied I promise I will do so in the next few days. Your messages have been passed to Tony's family who appreciate the thoughts of his friends at this sad time.

Notice of the Society's Annual General Meeting.

The Society's Annual General Meeting this year is to be held on Saturday 19th October 2002 at the British Philatelic Trust Headquarters, 107 Charterhouse Street, London EC1, starting at 11.00am. The meeting will include reports by all the Society's

officers, presentation of the Society's accounts for the twelve months to 31st August 2002, the election of officers and any other business.

Details of the day's events are:-

- 10.30 am Auction lots to be set out for viewing
 - 11.00 am Society's AGM
 - 11.30 am Display of the postal stationery of Natal, by our current vice-chairman Keith Hanman
 - 1.00 pm Viewing of auction lots
 - 2.00 pm Society's annual auction
- The meeting is expected to close by about 4.30 pm.

The summary of the agenda for the AGM is:

- Apologies for absence
- Minutes of the previous meeting to be agreed
- Secretary's notes and other business
- Officers' reports
- Proposal to amend the subscription rates

Election of Officers. The officers listed below have agreed to re-stand for election for the twelve months from the 19th October. If any other member wishes to be considered for election to the committee, or would like to help in running the Society, they should write to the secretary.

Chairman	Keith Hanman	Executive officer
Vice-chairman		Executive officer
Secretary	Colin Baker	Executive officer
Treasurer	Sam Barkley	Executive officer
Committee Members	Alan Huggins	
	John Barker	
	Mike Smith	
	Peter van Gelder	

Any Other Business. It would be helpful if members would advise the secretary of any matters which they would like to raise under this heading.

Members attending the AGM should note that London Underground will be closing its Hammersmith and City lines between Farringdon and Baker Street on most weekends until Summer 2003. The only underground trains running into Farringdon will be the Circle Line trains from the east, ie. Liverpool Street, Moorgate, etc.

There are no planned engineering works on Thameslink lines running from Kings Cross to Farringdon.

Members wanting more up to date information should contact London Underground, telephone 020 7222 1234 or see their web site www.thetube.com Alternatively contact London buses telephone 020 7222 1234 or visit their web site www.tfl.gov.uk (although the Transport for London site is not that good at guiding you from A to B)

Society Accounts.

Due to the sudden death of our auctioneer, Tony Chilton, it will not be possible to table audited accounts at the AGM for the year 2001/2002. As most of you will be aware,

all auction income and expenditure goes through the Society's main account, and this year it is going to take much longer than normal to sort out exactly how much money has been received from purchasers and how much vendors are to be paid. The auditor naturally will not put his name to estimates and guesswork, and therefore the accounts will only be formally audited once the June auction finances have been completed. However, our treasurer, Sam Barkley, will have a statement of the Society's financial position as at 31st August 2002, and will be available at the AGM to answer members questions concerning the accounts. The committee trust that all members will understand the difficulties caused by the loss of our auctioneer and will be patient this year

British Airgraphs and the American V-mail

At the same time that the last issue of PS was being prepared for publication, one of our American members, Richard O'Brien, wrote to me with an example of the American letter sheet (V-mail) which was used in a similar fashion to British airgraphs. The V-mail letters were photographed by Kodak and the roll of film was sent by air and photographically printed at the delivery end in exactly the same way as the British system. I know no more than this about the system, but if any of our members can expand on the service, I'm sure John would be willing to publish the details.

Dorset Meeting Saturday 26th October 2002

Chris Howe has organised an all day regional meeting for Society members. This will be of particular interest to those living in the South West of Britain, but of course all Society members are welcome. Chris lives just outside Dorchester, Dorset. Anyone who has not already notified Chris of their intention to attend should contact him as soon as possible on 01305 889481 or 889959, or alternatively e-mail him at chrishowe@skanderbeg.fsnet.co.uk to get all the details, including where the meeting is to be held.

As Chris has to make arrangements for catering, please let him know if you are going to attend and not just turn up on the day.

Colin Baker

G.B. POSTAL STATIONERY OF K.G.V.

Peter O'Keeffe

As I was born during the reign of King George V, it seemed quite reasonable, when my interests had matured, to collect the Postal Stationery issued during that King's reign. I was however quite surprised to discover how many different items, either by the Post office or privately printed to order, had been issued.

The first King George V stamps and stationery issued, both had the 'Downey' head design, with the King's head facing partly to the left and partly forward (Fig. 1). However it is known that the King was not enamoured with this design, and within two years, a new design, with his head facing fully to the left, as had the heads of Queen Victoria and King Edward VII, (this design, being known as the 'Mackennal' head) was introduced.



Fig. 1 Downey Head



Fig. 2 Mackennal Head

Thus, Postcards, Reply-cards and Lettercards, plus Newspaper wrappers, all with the 'Downey' head design were issued from 1911. It should be noted that the ordinary postal stationery envelopes and registered envelopes never used the 'Downey' head design.

The first ordinary envelopes of the Kings reign were 'embossed' with the King's head facing fully sideways, with a large outer oval frame (Fig. 2), and these were issued in 1913. Registered envelopes with a smaller embossed, but round frame (Fig. 3) were introduced in 1911, and were basically the same design as those of KE VII, also with the face fully sideways, facing to the left.



Fig. 3 Mackennal Head in round frame



Fig. 4 Mackennal Head on postcard of 1916

The first postage stamps with the King facing fully to the left were issued in 1912, yet postal stationery postcards with this design (the 'Mackennal' head) did not appear until 1916 (Fig. 4). In fact the 'Downey' head was also used for the 1914 issue 'one penny' Field Service Cards issued to the British Expeditionary Force.

It was therefore possible, in 1913, to have ordinary PS envelopes, registered envelopes and postcards each bearing a different design stamp in use at the same time.

It is not generally realised that the first GB 'pictorial' stamps and postal stationery items, were the 1d and 1½ d stamps, envelopes, postcards, and lettercards issued in 1924 to mark the British Empire Exhibition (Fig. 5)



Fig. 5 First GB 'Pictorial'

These were repeated in 1925. (Incidentally, the next 'pictorial' postal stationery items were the Airmail letter-sheets, starting with the KG VI 1948 Olympic Games 6d value, some 23 years later.)

In 1916, the first ½ d 'Mackennal' head design postcards were issued, followed in 1918 by the 1d value. Also the 'Printed to order' ½ d and 1d values were issued, with each having a white dot after the word PENNY.

Between 1913 and 1920, some 'Downey' head newspaper wrappers were up-rated in value, when postal rates increased, by the adding of an additional ½ d or 1d value 'stamp' being printed on the wrapper (Figs 6 & 7). These 'extras' were all of the 'Downey' head design, and were referred to as 'compound stampings'. (i.e. when two or more impressions appear on the same stationery)



Fig. 6 1/2 d up-rated with additional 1d

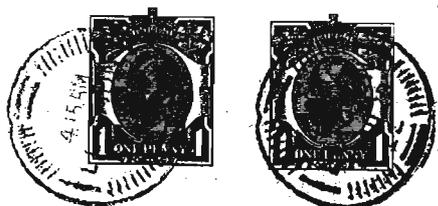


Fig. 7 1d up-rated with additional 1d

I understand that there is only one other 'Downey' head 'compound stamping', the 1d plus 1 1/2 d, but that there is a printed 'Downey' 1/2 d with an embossed 1/2 d 'Mackennal' head 'printed to order'. There is also a 1d printed 'Mackennal' postcard which was up-rated to 2d, with an additional 1d 'Mackennal' printed 'stamp' (Fig. 8). This was 'printed to order' with the added 1d 'stamp' having a white dot after the word PENNY, whereas the original 'stamp' on the same card did not. The shades of red differ on these two printings.



Note dot after penny

Fig. 8 1d Mackennal up-rated with 1d 'printed to order' (with a dot after 'ONE PENNY')

The embossed 'Mackennal' design, with the oval surround was issued in four denominations, 1/2 d, 1d, 1 1/2 d (Fig. 9) and 2d



Fig 9 1 1/2 d embossed to up-rate Newspaper wrappers. Some of these values were also used when registered envelopes were up-rated. Later, several higher values were also made available on 'printed to

values, with the border being similar to those used for KE VII issues. These 'stamps' were issued on envelopes, and postcards, but only the 1/2 d value was used

order' stationery and on Telegraph forms. The latter having differing border shapes (Fig. 10).

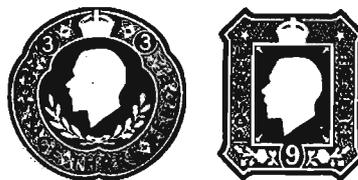


Fig. 10

In the case of registered envelopes the initial round 'stamp' for 3d, had the words "REGISTRATION TWO PENCE / POSTAGE ONE PENNY", but when the postage rate increased in 1918, the wording at the right changed to "THREEHALF PENCE". However, in the meantime, a need arose for registered envelopes for use by the members of the Armed Forces. As they were allowed free postage, a new registered envelope with a black 'stamp' and only the words "REGISTRATION / TWO PENCE" was issued in 1915 (Fig. 11). The embossed 'stamp' was printed in black with the King's head and wording in white.

The wording and lines on the rest of the envelope were printed in the normal blue. The wording format was changed slightly when the registration rate was increased to 3d in 1921 with the 5d envelope (Fig. 12), but it changed back when the rate was reduced in 1922 on the 4 1/2d envelope.



Fig. 11 Forces Registered 'Postage' omitted



Fig. 12 'Postage' at bottom left

The larger, embossed oval border design 'stamp' was added below the original 'stamp', when surplus stocks of the Forces registered envelopes were up-rated after WWI, and on other registered envelopes following increases in the relevant postal rates. During the reign of KG V, the embossed 'stamps' on registered envelopes were colour coded, 3d (red brown), 2d (black), 3 1/2d (royal blue), 4d (deep green), 5d (orange) 4 1/2d (puce). This being the order in which they were issued. The 'up-rated'

envelopes therefore had two different coloured 'stamps' embossed on them (Fig. 13).

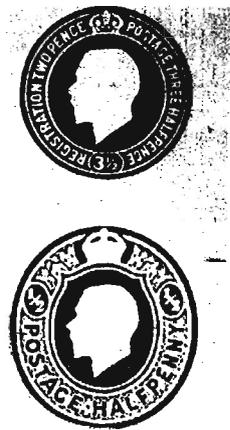


Fig. 13 3½ d Registered up-rated to 4d

There is another 'British' registered envelope, with a 5d embossed 'stamp' printed in emerald green, issued in 1922, specifically for the Irish Postal Authorities in the early days of the Irish Free State. An instance has however been reported of this type having been postally used in the U.K. Considered quite rare usage!

Another item of KG V postal stationery were the 'Reply cards', being two joined postcards each having a printed 'stamp', one on the outgoing or address side of the card, with another, of the same value, on the second card, the 'reply' part to pay the return postage. These were intended only for 'internal usage' but occasionally they were sent out of the Country, and should therefore have been surcharged, unless the appropriate postage stamps of the Country from which they were returned, had been affixed.

Of the various items that were issued, many were on white or buff coloured cards, some thin and some described as 'stout'. some also seem to have a 'speckled' appearance in the quality of the buff coloured paper; whether this is due to age is not clear.

Post Office issued postcards bore the Royal Coat of Arms, whereas 'printed to order' items did not. Some firms are believed to have purchased large quantities of stationery from the Post Office, and then overprinted them with their business address or details..

I have some GB items of postal stationery, specially printed in a Foreign language, so that British firms can communicate with their customers abroad, including an ordinary postcard with a printed 1½d 'stamp', and a 'reply card', with a ½ d printed 'stamp', and a blank space for a German 15pf postage stamp, on the reply portion.

Following the increases in 1920, the postal rates were reduced in 1922, when surplus stocks of the 2d value envelopes were reduced to 1½ d, by being marked with a small triangular hand cancel in black ink close to the embossed 2d orange 'stamp'. These were usually marked at London West Central Stationery Office, but some are known similarly marked at Middlesborough, with their '946' triangle (Fig. 14)



Fig. 14 'Reduced' Rate

interesting sideline, but one still needs to complete the collection.

There are numerous printings of KG V postal stationery, on several sizes of envelopes or card, together with some shade varieties and various permutations of 'stamps', which not only make it a very

LIBRARY NOTES

The following issues of overseas journals have recently been received and added to the Library:-
 Re. item 9, Summer 2002 issue of "L'Intero Postale" (Italy)
 Re. item 40, May 2002 issue of "Postal Stationery" (U.S.A.)
 Re. item 66, April 2002 issue of "Der Ganzsachensammler" (Switzerland)

Parts 3 to 6 of the "Neuer Ganzsachen-Katalog" (relating to Germany) have been added to the Library as item 74 (They date from the mid 1960s).

Though it is not at present in the Library, an important recent publication is the Zumstein 2002 catalogue of Swiss postal stationery. It has 352 pages, is comprehensive and well illustrated, and is priced at 48 Swiss francs (approx £21).

Peter van Gelder

BRITISH BECHUANALAND

John Philpott

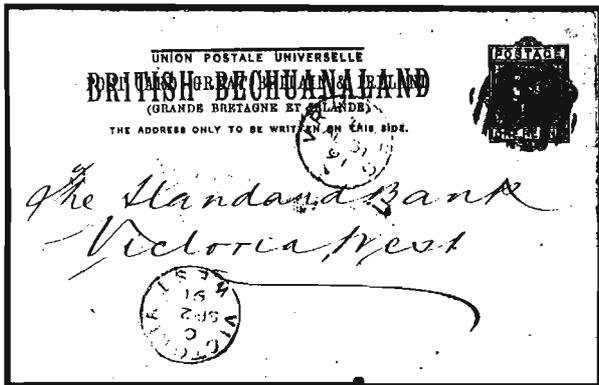
British Bechuanaland was a short lived (10 years) colony in the centre of southern Africa. Its mail transport was crude and slow. By the time (1897) that the railway from Bulawayo (Matabeleland) to Cape Town - just skirting Boer territory (ZAR and OVS) and linking all its important towns - had been built, British Bechuanaland had been annexed by the Cape of Good Hope (1895).

As with most of its stamps, its postal stationery, first issued in 1886, comprised current cards (½ d local; 1d colonial; 1½ d foreign), registered envelopes (4d) and wrappers (½ d; 1d) of Cape of Good Hope (CoGH) and Great Britain (GB) overprinted **BRITISH BECHUANALAND**.

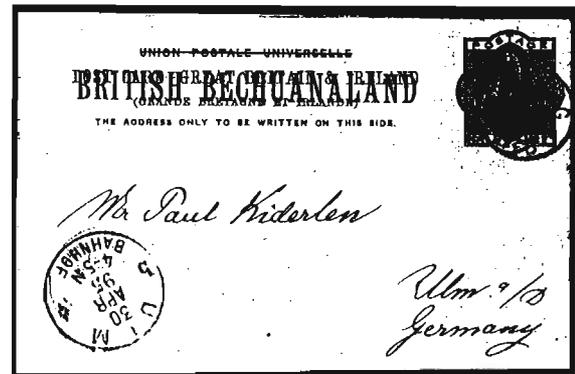
BECHUANALAND PROTECTORATE, which was postally administered, however, through Mafeking (British Bechuanaland, Cape of Good Hope, South Africa, Republic of South Africa) until independence in 1966 (Botswana).



Overprint on CoGH 1½d grey (H&G 6)

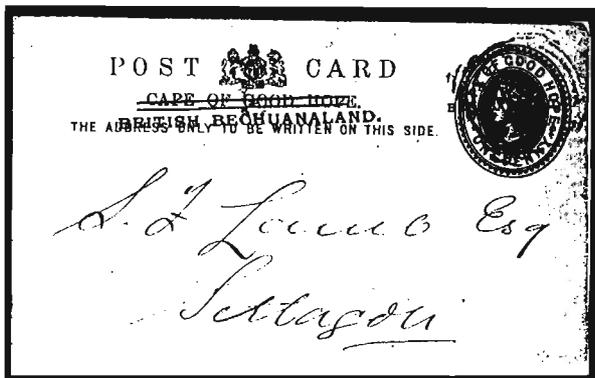


1888 overprint on GB 1d brown (H&G 4)

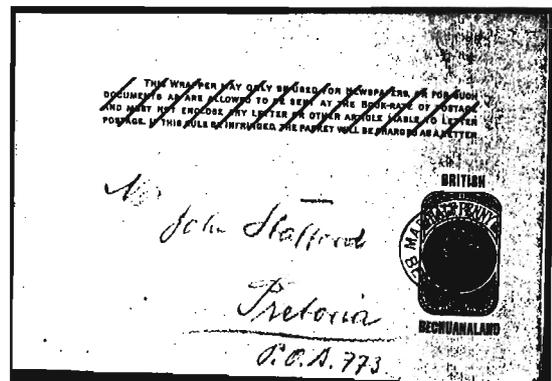


1893 overprint on GB "THREE HALF PENCE" on 1d red (H&G 8)

An interesting observation is that the Cape stationery invariably had an overprint (two line) over the Queen's head whilst this was deferentially avoided on GB material.



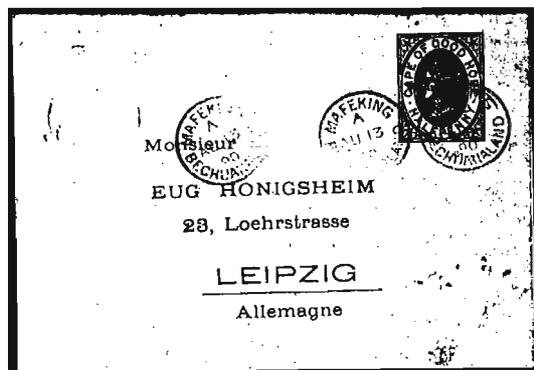
1886 overprint on CoGH 1d brown (H&G 5)



1886 overprint on GB 1d wrapper (H&G E4)

After 1895, the British Bechuanaland postal stationery continued to be used (when available!) in its northerly neighbour,

Whilst the Protectorate had its own registered envelopes from 1888, it did not have cards until 1901 and never had its own wrappers (no newspapers?).



1889 overprint (in red) on CoGH ½d greyish green wrapper (H&G E5)

BRITISH
BECHUANALAND.

BRITISH
BECHUANALAND

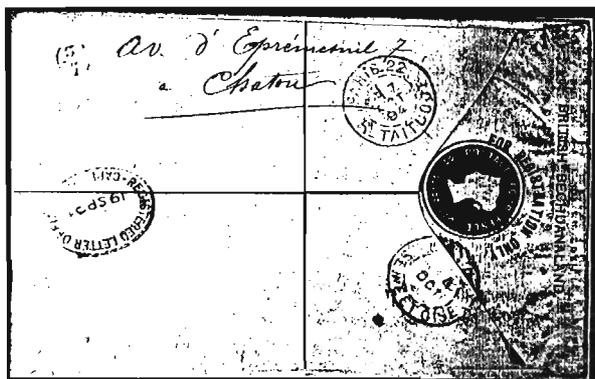
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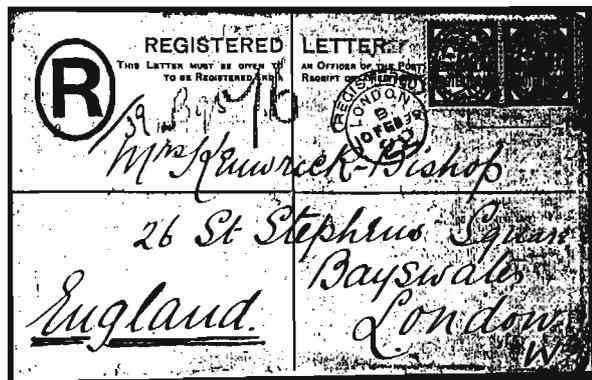
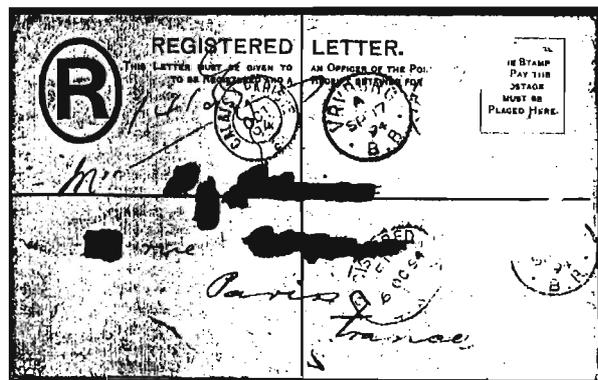
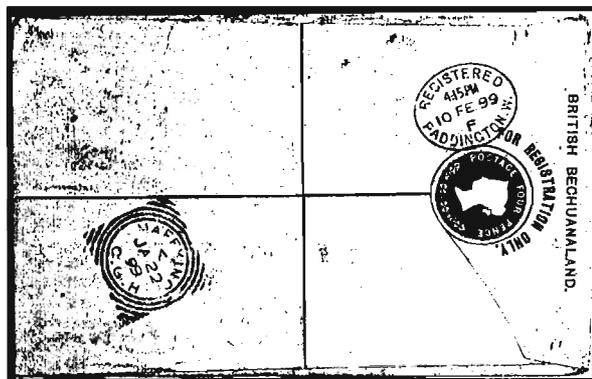
Some of the different overprints used over the impression of the Queen's head on the CoGH postal stationery cards

The two items shown below are the front and back of the 1889 overprint on GB 4d registered envelope (H&G C 7). However, each has been used in a different way:-

used in British Bechuanaland (1894)



- used in Bechuanaland Protectorate (1899)



British Bechuanaland centres of civilisation were Vryburg, Mafeking and the diamond capital, Kimberley although cancellations of only the first two appear to be evident on postal stationery or stamps: why no Kimberley?

Herr Kiderlin of Ulm seems to have been the F.J.Field of postal stationery collecting having every item (?) of such whenever and from wherever sent to him. Please note two examples on the previous page.

Bibliography

1. Stanley Gibbons Part 1 for further history/geography; it is wrongly under Botswana, it should be under Cape of Good Hope/South Africa.
2. Higgins and Gage.

VICTORIAN NATAL - POSTCARDS AND REPLY-PAID CARDS AT THE 1d RATE

John Dickson

At the SWINPEX meeting, in June 2002, I showed a selection of Natal Victorian postal stationery used at the one penny rate, including cards uprated to one penny and cards to which the one penny rate was applicable which were posted at one half-penny and fined accordingly. The following summary of that display is based on part of *The Postal Stationery of Natal* written by Keith Hanman and myself.

A recapitulation of the rates applicable to post cards posted in Natal will clarify the dates between which cards addressed to various destinations were chargeable at one penny:

	Date from	Rate
Inland including Zululand	21/02/1885	½ d
To the Cape Colony	21/02/1885 1/11/1896	1d ½ d
To the Orange Free State/ORC	1/03/1885 1/07/1897	1d ½ d
To the S.A. Republic/ Transvaal	1/01/1886 1/01/1898	1d ½ d
To the U.K.	1/01/1891 1/01/1892	1½ d 1d
After 1/07/92 to U.P.U. countries	13/09/1892	1d

Single post cards "stamped to the value of one penny" were envisaged in the postal convention of 3rd May 1884 made between the colonies of Natal and the Cape of Good Hope. When introduced such cards were to be available to be posted anywhere in Natal for delivery at any post office in the Cape of Good Hope without further charge.

The introduction of the service was delayed until such post cards could be received in the colony. Notice of this delay was given on 4th December 1884. The first Natal one penny post card was not printed until 31st December 1884 and the supply did not reach Natal until mid-February 1885. Post cards were placed on sale in post offices on 21st February 1885 and were subject to the condition that nothing should be written on the stamped side of the card other than "the address of the person to

whom the card is sent". Initially they were not much in demand.

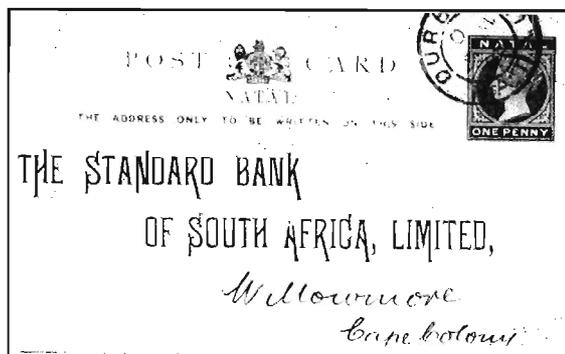


Fig. 1 1885 one penny post card used to Cape in 1888

From 1st March 1885 one penny post cards could be sent also to the Orange Free State and from 1st January 1886 one penny post cards could be sent to the South African Republic completing a basic southern African arrangement.



Fig. 2 1885 one penny post card used to OFS in 1889

It was confirmed in February 1886 that the one penny cards were for use only to addresses in the Cape Colony, the Orange Free State and the Transvaal and by the same notice it was provided that postmasters could make marks and endorsements on the stamped side of the card.

The *Natal Almanac* for 1889, published late in 1888, stated that half-penny cards, if an additional half-penny postage stamp was attached, were allowed to pass to destinations in southern Africa as one penny cards.

A notice of 19th December 1891 announced that post cards addressed to the

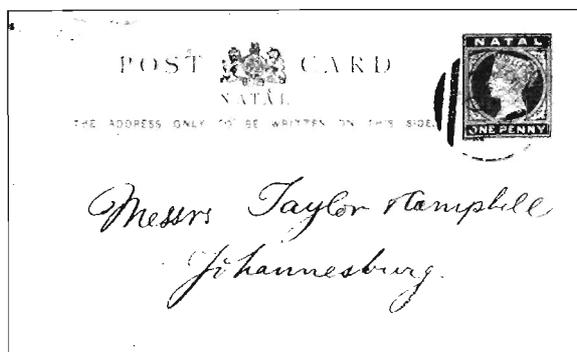


Fig. 3 1885 one penny post card used to ZAR in 1889

United Kingdom could be sent at the one penny rate from 1st January 1892. At this date only the original small cards of 1885 were available. The United Kingdom was, for a time, the only place outside of southern Africa to which it was possible to address a post card.

The same notice also announced the intention to procure reply-paid post cards "at a rate of 2d. (1d. each card)" and appears to have envisaged their use only between Natal and the United Kingdom. The one penny reply-paid post card was first printed on 4th April 1892 and was issued in May or early June 1892.



Fig. 4 1894 half-penny provisional card uprated to one penny and used to England in 1894

Natal entered the UPU on 1st July 1892 and shortly thereafter the Postmaster-General published a comprehensive set of rates which included the rate of one penny on post cards and reply-paid post cards to any country of the UPU and to China. However, the post cards previously issued (the original small cards of 1885) were stated to be invalid for use except to the United Kingdom and, therefore, for a few weeks longer it continued to be impossible to send a post card to any other overseas country.

The one penny card remained valid for use to addresses in southern Africa but reply-paid cards were not approved at this time for use to such addresses.

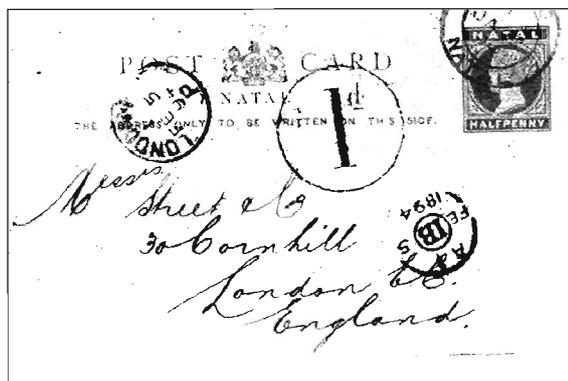


Fig. 5 1885 half-penny post card used to England in 1894: charged twice the shortfall

On 8th August 1892 the Natal Postmaster-General announced that the South African Republic had entered the UPU (in fact the South African Republic did not join the UPU until 1st January 1893) and authorised the use of the current one penny reply-paid cards, as "used to England", to and from the South African Republic. Swaziland is included alongside the South African Republic in a postal notice of 18th October 1892 and was specifically mentioned in association with rates to the South African Republic from time to time thereafter, the Swaziland post office being under the administration of the post office of the South African Republic. Published rates and practices as between Natal and the South African Republic were equally applicable on mails to Swaziland.



Fig. 6 1894 provisional half-penny post card uprated to one penny used to Germany in 1894

On 13th September 1892 the proscription against using the currently available official

post cards and reply-paid cards to addresses within the UPU was lifted. Even half-penny cards, if a supplementary half-penny postage stamp was attached, were authorised.

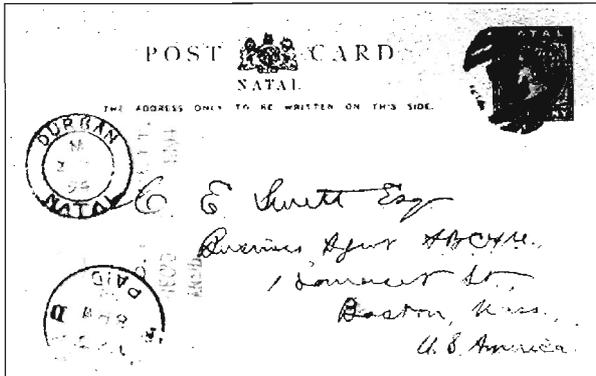


Fig. 7 1893 rare "international size" post card used to USA in 1894

The *Natal Almanac* of 1893, published late in 1892, made it clear that the one penny reply-paid card was usable between UPU countries, therefore to the Transvaal, but not to other addresses in southern Africa.

From 1st January 1893 the one penny reply-paid cards were authorised for use to and from the Cape Colony and (British) Bechuanaland. In this notice there is a reference to insufficiently paid reply-paid cards which relates to the use of half-penny cards in the one penny service: such cards were officially to be charged as insufficiently prepaid letters, but this regulation seems to have been largely ignored in favour of charging such cards with double the amount of the deficient postage, a practice which was regularised on 15th October 1896.

The larger 'international size' one penny post cards were first printed in December 1892 and would have reached Natal during January or February 1893. No announcement of the availability of this card appears to have been made in Natal. There is no evidence that the authorities in Natal noticed that the first supply of these 'international size' cards did not comply with UPU regulations, indeed, as they had already authorised the use of the small post card to addresses in UPU countries, they could hardly find the new card objectionable. The 'corrected' international card was first printed in June 1893 and would have reached Natal at the end of July or in August 1893 but again no announcement was made in Natal. Only very few of the original large card were

sold and it is probable that the card was withdrawn when the UPU card arrived.

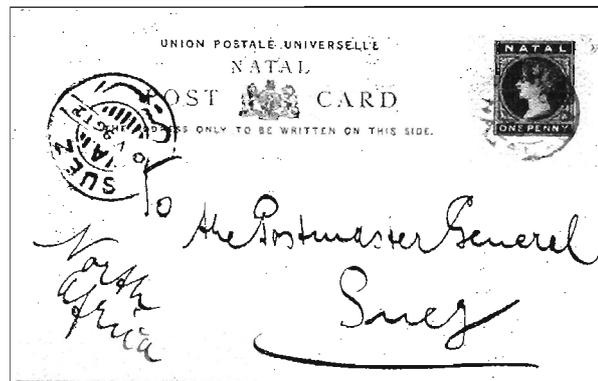


Fig. 8 1893 UPU one penny post card used to Suez in 1896

A Government Notice of 8th March 1893 stated that half-penny cards, if supplemented by an additional half-penny postage stamp, could be sent to destinations in southern Africa, beyond the borders of Natal, as one penny cards. This notice may have been intended only as reminder of a practice which had been previously described in the *Natal Almanac* for 1889. It was announced in the same notice that the address of the person to whom the card was sent could be given in writing or printing or by the attachment of a gummed label to the front of the card.

By Law No. 26 of 1894 it was allowed to send post cards by private ship at the one penny rate to any country not covered by any postal convention. This practice allowed the post office in the receiving country to make an additional charge if they were so minded.

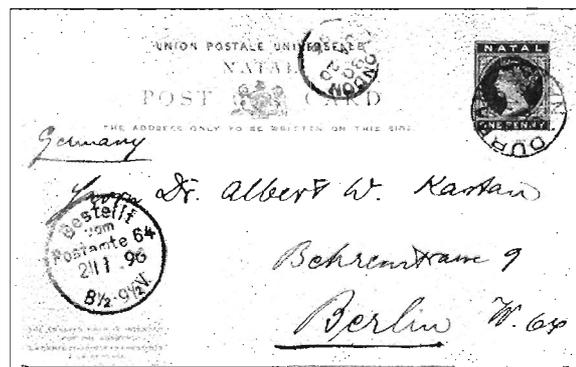


Fig. 9 1893 UPU one penny reply-paid post card used to Germany in 1896

The *Natal Almanac* of 1895, published late in 1894, advised that post cards could be sent to Mashonaland via Pietersburg in the Transvaal at the one penny rate and that

reply-paid cards could be circulated likewise, but a summary of this arrangement which appeared in February 1895 said nothing about reply-paid cards. Matabeleland was added in February 1895 and the name 'Rhodesia' was introduced in October 1895.

One penny cards gradually ceased to be of use within southern Africa. The half-penny rate for post cards to the Cape Colony and the use of the half-penny reply-paid post card in that service was authorised from 1st November 1896. This was extended to the Orange Free State from 1st July 1897 and to the Transvaal from 1st January 1898.

The Imperial Penny Post was announced in Natal with effect from 25 December 1898; one penny was then the maximum rate of postage on post cards to those commonwealth destinations not members of the UPU.

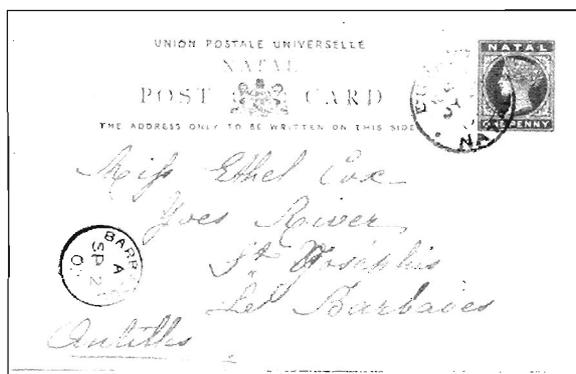


Fig. 10 1900 UPU one penny illustrated post card used to Barbados in 1902

From as early as 1885 it had been permitted to write or print on "the reverse side of a card any communication, whether of the nature of a letter or otherwise", but official post cards with printed pictures on the reverse have not been seen with dates earlier than 1898.

From 1st April 1899 the rate to the Bechuanaland Protectorate, but not to Rhodesia via the Cape, was reduced to one penny, but reply-paid cards were still not authorised.

At the turn of the century the one penny rate applied to post cards addressed to most parts of the British Empire, by analogy with the half-ounce letter rate, as well as to all UPU countries and China and, if by private ship, to any other country. It therefore extended generally world-wide except to those southern African countries where the one half-penny rate obtained. The rate to the Bechuanaland

Protectorate was also one penny. Otherwise post cards were not available to any other destination except at the letter rate of two pence half-penny (4d. to Rhodesia via the Cape). The one penny reply-paid card could be sent to all countries where the one penny post card rate obtained except to the Bechuanaland Protectorate.

In June 1900 the UPU card was reprinted with 'patriotic and touristic' photographs on the reverse side. This card was announced in Natal by a postal notice of 31st August 1900. Messages were limited to the 'picture' side of the card.



Fig. 11 Government issued illustrated one penny post card - in this case a half-penny card would have served the postal if not the patriotic interest.

The use of the one penny card in southern Africa was further eroded when, on 1st January 1903, the southern African half-penny rate was extended to Southern Rhodesia (but not to 'North-eastern' or 'North-western' Rhodesia) that country "having joined the UPU". From 1st April 1903 the same rate was applied to the Bechuanaland Protectorate.

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Pp 221 + 4 pages in colour.

A JOURNAL ON AN AEROGRAMME !

Duff Malkin has written from Canada about a couple of items which show an interesting use of aerogrammes by the Women's Voluntary Services (W.V.S.) in the period following WWII. This organisation kept in touch with its members after the war by means of a Newsletter which they printed on current G.B. King George VI aerogrammes. Our Secretary, Colin Baker has recently acquired one of these items, illustrated below, which precedes those referred to by Duff by 12 months and which casts a little more light on the topic

On Saturday, Kensington Gardens was thronged with people, picnicking on the grass under the trees, while the children in the briefest of bathing suits played gaily in the sunshine. On the Round Pond, grandfathers and grandsons happily sailed their boats, boats ranging from large, elegant models built exactly to scale, to small tub-shaped objects in danger of capsizing at any moment. Dogs splashed themselves vigorously—and drenched the bystanders in a shower of spray. A pair of swans suddenly rose in the air and circled the pond with a graceful sweep of outstretched white wings, even the small boys looked up from their important business to enjoy the sight before stooping, once more, to their tidler-catching.

The new Health Scheme is now nearly two months old, and already those who have to work the scheme are having a hectic time. There has been an avalanche of people wanting false teeth, spectacles, deaf aids and medical advice. General practitioners are overwhelmed by the milling crowds who fill the waiting rooms at Surgery hours. Many of these are, of course, genuine cases who have delayed visiting the doctor but now feel that as it is "free for all," they might as well go along. But there are, too, the people with imaginary ailments and those who think: "Might as well have a bottle of tonic, must get some of my Insurance money back!" Chemists report a startling increase in dispensing, in some districts it is up by 150 per cent. And the doctors think gloomily: "If it is like this in summer time whatever is it going to be in the winter?" One can only hope that by then the stampede to get specs false teeth, etc., etc., will have subsided and things will have shaken down to a more normal routine.

While no one decries the necessity and importance of social security measures, it is well to remember that zeal should always be tempered with wisdom. The Bishop of Salisbury in a recent article said that the State now fulfils the role of "foster mother." He went on to say that "much that is wholly good has been accomplished," but pointed out that many things that had been the responsibility of the individual had become the function of the State, that the State is now busying itself in our well-being "from the womb to the tomb." And he added: "The modern parody on that popular old song 'Mother Machree' is not wholly unjustified."

I love the clean clinic which washed me with care,
And the nursery school lady who toothcombed my hair,
And all the youth movements so toil-worn for me,
But mother, God bless her, she never sees me."

Now that we have what is, perhaps, the most comprehensive National Insurance Scheme in the whole world, with all that it can contribute to the well-being of the people, we have to avoid the pitfall of too much lessening of the individual's sense of responsibility and initiative.

We all know the quotation:—

"I do not like the human race,
I do not like its silly face,"

but surely the general public has not such a cow-like face as the remarks of some persons might lead us to suppose? "We cannot treat the travelling public as some kind of gigantic milch cow from which we can extract rates and fares at any price"—Mr. John Benstead, *British Transport Commission*, July.

"It should be clearly understood that the coal industry cannot look on the consumer as a milch cow, and merely go on increasing the price of coal to cover the extra costs."—Mr. Roben, *Parliamentary Secretary, Ministry of Fuel*, August.

Footnote by one newspaper commentator: "Have the airways any views about milch cows?"

BY AIR MAIL

AIR LETTER

IF ANYTHING IS ENCLOSED
THIS LETTER WILL BE SENT
BY ORDINARY MAIL.



Kinette Club
Kingston
Ontario
Canada.

First fold here

Second fold here

Third fold here

Sender's name and address:-

MRS. G. H. DUNBAR

W.V.S. HEADQUARTERS

41, TOTHILL STREET,

LONDON, ENGLAND.

If there are any questions arising out of this News Letter which you would like to ask, please do write and let me know.

To open cut here

W.V.S. NEWSLETTER No. 84 issued on 1st September 1948 printed on a K.G.VI aerogramme (This would appear to be Huggins AP 3e / Kessler K3c)

Duff Malkin writes:

"The Women's Voluntary Service, then headquartered at 41, Tothill Road in London (since at least sometime in 1941) used George VI aerogrammes to send out a journal to their "Empire and Foreign Department" members shortly after World War II. They may have also used 6d. aerogrammes during the war for the same purpose and this usage of aerogrammes could have continued on into the reign of Queen Elizabeth.

The only two journals I have seen were printed on George VI aerogrammes. Both have the name of a 'Mrs. G. B. Dunbar', who appears to be

the journal's editor, in the printed return address on the back of the form. Searches in the Women's Royal Voluntary Services website have not given any information on this individual. She may be a member of the Dunbar clan or could have received some royal honour for services rendered but searches in these areas have also been without results. Princess Alice, wife of the Duke of Gloucester, third son of George V, was the head of the organisation from 1940 to 1945. She is still living at the age of 101. A personal note from Mrs. Dunbar, which might indicate something of her character, was printed on the back of the aerogramme. It reads~



During the last fortnight interest has been very largely centred on the harvest, the weather has been a great deal better, we have had some warm sunshine and only sporadic rainstorms. These improved conditions have enabled the farmers to save crops that they were beginning to fear would be a complete loss. In some parts crops have been lost, severe damage by heavy storms laid waste many acres, and in districts that were flooded hundreds of sheep and poultry were destroyed. The general picture for the whole of the country is much brighter now and it is considered that we should have a harvest well up to the average. But what work is involved in this difficult harvesting. Flattened crops are expensive to save, clogged blades hinder the reaping, much corn has had to be scythed and bundled by hand. Combine harvesters have been saving the situation in many places. There have been hundreds of volunteer helpers, many of them foreign students from Holland, France, Belgium and Norway. These students are anxious to get a knowledge of English farming, to spend their holidays profitably and to learn English.

Everywhere men are hard at it from early morning until late at night, in some places they are working 80 to 90 hours a week. The farmworker who looks at the fields of grain ready for cutting cannot pay any attention to the 51-day week. One newspaper writer commenting on the overtime on the farms pointed out the importance of workers in other industries realising the need for quick, immediate action to ensure our future food supplies. He wrote: "In almost every farming job the worker sees the results of his work. He sees what damage is done if it is slackened. Workers in other industries may not see the harm done by slackening, but it will make itself felt just the same. How we work over the next few years is going to decide what we shall eat and how we shall live. That must somehow be brought home to every one of us. Somehow we must be made to realise that we can only win through if we tackle our own job, whatever it may be, in the spirit that is now getting in the harvest."

The poor summer has not only made things difficult for men, the bees, too, have had a hard time as they searched the rain-washed flower borders, and "Humming in the storm" carried "their cold, wild honey to cold cells." Their harvest has been a disappointing one and the expected £1,000,000 worth of honey will now, probably, only reach the £1,000 mark. Bee keepers are appealing to the Ministry of Food for an extra allowance of sugar to save the bees from starvation during the coming winter.

Housewives are busy at their own particular "harvesting," gathering in things for the store-cupboard. Jam-making and fruit bottling goes on apace and kitchens are filled with warm fruity smells. Jars filled with rosy Victoria plums and gleaming golden "gages" gladden our eyes. We have no sooner scrubbed the last remaining plum juice from our finger-tips when it is time to peel and core the pears, or to make the apple pulp. And once more we go around with stains on our hands and pride in our hearts as we view the slowly-filling shelves.

Grocers have been complaining of the shortage of points goods, those in general demand are becoming very scarce, but so far as one can see the position is not likely to improve as the Government policy is to cut down dollar expenditure on points goods to an absolute minimum. The problem of the best and most profitable way of spending points becomes ever more difficult, and the housewife who goes from shop to shop, hunting for tins of this or that, sometimes feels that life in primitive times must have been easier—when one just hunted for food in the raw.

To-day is "Black Wednesday" for cigarette smokers, three of the largest cigarette manufacturing firms are cutting their supplies to retailers by 5 per cent.

The Government is not likely to spend more dollars on tobacco at the expense of food, raw material and petrol so it looks as though smokers will really have to smoke less. Already amateur tobacco growers are getting to work in their back gardens, and all kinds of hints on how to grow and cure tobacco are appearing in the papers.

Last year the Edinburgh Festival was criticised on the grounds that Scotland was not adequately represented and also that the sponsors selecting the programmes had "played for safety." on neither score can this year's Festival be condemned. Far from condemnation, in fact, there is almost overwhelming praise for the majority of the events. Ballet, concerts, operatic and dramatic performances have all drawn large crowds. The old Scottish morality play, "The Three Estates" written by Sir David Lindsay to be performed before King James V in 1540, has delighted audiences with its mixture of satire and beauty.

Nearly half a million people, many of whom came from all parts of the world, have crowded into the Scottish capital and apart from the events of the Festival, have been enjoying the beauties of the City. Edinburgh is acclaimed one of the loveliest cities of the world, the exquisite flower gardens, Princes Street, the towering grandeur of the Castle, the dignity of the old, grey streets have a special distinction that is all their own. At night, pipers have played beneath the Castle walls and the Castle itself has been floodlit. One music critic wrote: "... a sight for the gods it is. Here, I thought when I first saw it, is Valhalla at last: it needs only a great rainbow flinging its curve across the valley of the Castle gardens to Princes Street to make it the ideal setting for the final scene of the 'Rheingold.'"

It is not only the audiences who have been cosmopolitan, apart from the different nationalities in the various orchestras, the Glyndebourne Opera Company in its presentation of "Don Giovanni" included an Englishman, a Scot, a Welshman, two Americans, two Italians and a Bulgarian. This year's Edinburgh Festival has, indeed, been an outstanding artistic success.

The Chairman of the Travel Association said last week that the number of tourists in Britain during July was the highest on record. The total, excluding visitors from the Empire and Commonwealth who were also here in large numbers, was more than 90,000, 40 per cent. higher than July of last year and 25 per cent. above the average pre-war July. Lord Hacking pointed out that tourism was rivaling any other single export from Britain as a producer of foreign currency, and he added that there was little doubt that the Association's estimate of 500,000 visitors during 1948 would be attained.

Although holiday-makers from overseas have been so numerous, it is apparent that many people in this country have not gone away for a holiday this year. Investigations into our holiday habits show that 41 per cent. of the population of Britain now spend their holidays at home, 51 per cent. go away, the remaining 9 per cent. take day trips on their vacations. This is mainly accounted for by the fact that people cannot afford to spend the money on the increased rail and hotel charges. Bad weather has been another deterrent factor, the wet August caused many last-minute cancellations at hotels and boarding houses. People did not feel inclined to spend a lot of money and then have to drip from shelter to shelter, in-between-whiles trying to dry their wet clothes in chilly hotel bedrooms. Conversation overheard on the train: "Had your holidays yet, old man?" "No, I'm lucky, I'm taking mine in November!"

But this last week of good weather has cheered us all up. People on holiday feel they are getting their money's worth of sunburn and those who are spending their holidays at home have flocked down to the river or into the Parks.

WOMEN'S VOLUNTARY SERVICES—EMPIRE AND FOREIGN DEPARTMENT

The inside of the aerogramme illustrated on the previous page.

'If there are any questions arising out of this News Letter which you would like to ask, please write and let me know.'

Another printed note also on the back reads ~ 'Copies of the News Letter can be sent to your friends on payment of \$3 or/ 15/- a year postage costs.'

The latter message appears to have been composed and set up before the devaluation of the pound in late 1949, since the first of the aerogrammes I have is dated 26th September of that year and mentions the event. Issue number 110 (printed on Huggins AP10 / Kessler K 6) was mailed on 7th October. Perhaps the printers just did not see the need to make a change especially since, though the rate of exchange was different, the cost of aerogrammes in Britain, unlike almost everything else, did not increase. 15 shillings would have still purchased 30 aerogrammes but these same 15 shillings would have been worth less than 3 dollars U.S. at that point in time. The old pre 1949 rate was about 5 shillings to the dollar.

The second aerogramme, issue number 113, mailed on 9th November, 1949, mentions Sir Winston Churchill's receiving a gold medal for his first two volumes on the Second World War, and

gives a quote or two from the speech he made in accepting it.

The News Letter might have been quite a welcome item. By this time there were W. V. S. personnel, or recent members of same, all over the world. Some were still in service in India and other places, some were war brides, and some had returned home to the colonies and dominions from which they had originally come. Many probably liked receiving this 'News Letter' for it was a means of keeping in touch with events in England".

Editor's note :

By comparing the dates and issue numbers of the items described, it would appear that the News Letter was issued at fortnightly intervals (at least between issue 84, 1st September 1948, and issue 110, 26th September 1949. The note concerning the subscription rate would also confirm this. If this were the case from the onset, then the first issue of the Newsletter would have been sometime in the summer of 1945.

Do members have any more information on this subject?

THE POSTAL STATIONERY OF LIECHTENSTEIN, 1918 - 1940

Robert Avery

The Principality of Liechtenstein is the only country in the world which takes its name from its ruling family. The Liechtenstein family served the Austrian Empire very well during the Middle Ages, principally in the diplomatic and military spheres, and as a reward the Emperor in 1699 (I think it was Charles IV) granted to the family the right to become temporal rulers. But in more recent times it has become impossible for such a small country to exist entirely independent of its more powerful neighbours. And so, in 1852, Liechtenstein formed a Customs and Economic Union with Austria, which gave Austria the right to run the Principality's postal services. Liechtenstein remained strictly neutral in the two World Wars of the last century, but found that her ties with Austria obliged her to suffer the same inconveniences as Austria in 1914 - 1918: censorship, rationing, inflation, etc., and so she decided to terminate her relationship with Austria in 1920 and form a similar one with her other neighbour, Switzerland.

somewhat random and do not give much of a cross-section of the material.

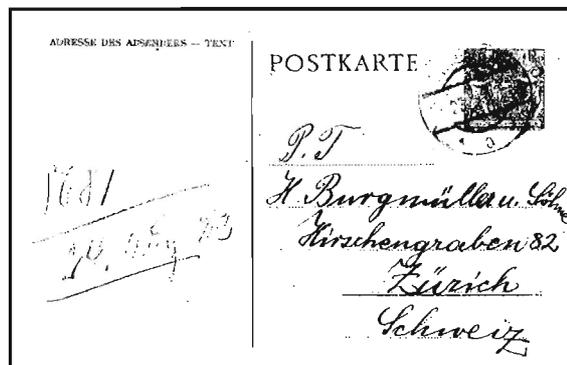


Fig. 2 1921 - Currency change, card for internal use

On 18th October, 1918, Liechtenstein issued its first postal stationery postcard, a buff card bearing a printed 10 Heller stamp (fig. 1). This was in use until the end of January, 1921, when Liechtenstein changed over to Swiss currency. On 1st February, 1921, a 10 Rappen card was issued for internal mail (fig. 2) and a 25 Rappen card for external mail (fig. 3).

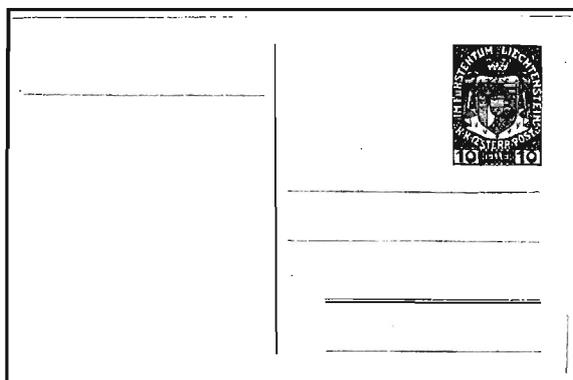


Fig. 1 The first p.s. card issued in 1918

The philately of Liechtenstein starts in 1912, when Austria was finally persuaded to let the little country to have a few stamps in her own name, though the more serious collectors go for the forerunners - Austrian stamps postmarked in one of the five post offices then operating in Liechtenstein. Similarly, collectors of postal stationery can collect forerunners - Austrian postal stationery used in Liechtenstein. A catalogue of such material lists a hundred or so of such items, but most of them are scarce and expensive. I do have a few of the cheaper ones, but they are

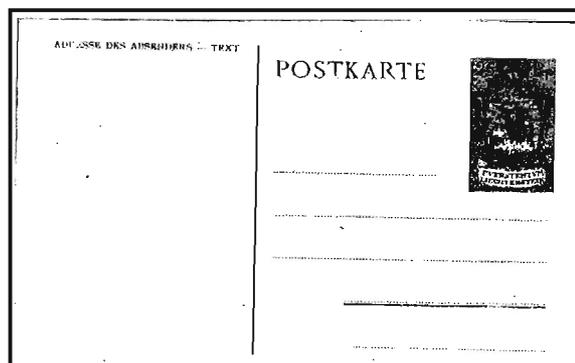


Fig. 3 1921 - card for external use

In this connection, "Internal" means in Liechtenstein and Switzerland. In May, 1924, the 25 Rappen had to be overprinted "20" as the External rate had been reduced; and in February, 1929, most of the remaining 25 Rappen cards were overprinted "10" apparently because the authorities had miscalculated the required proportion of Internal and External cards. In October, 1925, a new 10 Rappen card appeared (fig. 4) with a stamp showing a Vine-dresser, you will see a face that looks suspiciously like that of the ruler, Prince John, who is to be seen on many of the stamps of

that period. It is believed that the resemblance was intentional.

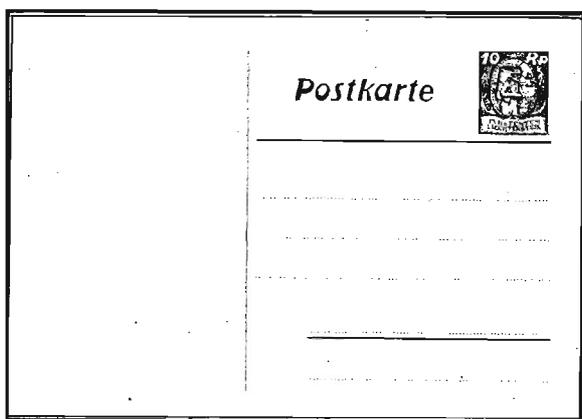


Fig. 4 1925 10R imprint showing a Vine-dresser

The designing of all these cards was minimal - just a buff rectangle of card with the representation of a stamp, a few straight lines and the word "Postkarte"; but in 1929 this started to change. A new 20 Rappen card for External use appeared (fig. 5). again with the Vine-dresser on the stamp, and with a sketch of the castle above Vaduz (the capital) in the top left hand corner and "Postkarte" translated into French and Italian.

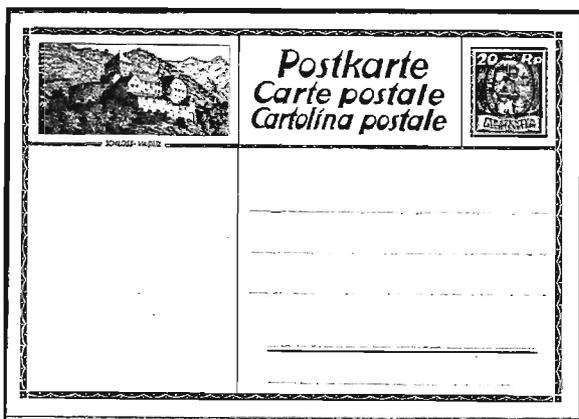


Fig. 5 1929 20R 'view card'

Less than 10,000 were produced, but they seem to have gone down well with the people, for in 1930 a new design appeared (illustrated on the front cover of this Journal) with the whole of the left hand half of the card filled with a photograph of a tourist attraction, while "Postkarte" was now translated into French and Esperanto. There were six different pictures, 2,600 were printed of each. The captions to the pictures appeared in German and Esperanto. At that time an Esperanto Congress was being held in Oxford, and the congress asked many stamp-issuing

authorities to try to publicise Esperanto in their next issue. This was Liechtenstein's contribution. This issue was evidently popular, for in 1931, new 10 Rappen and 20 Rappen cards appeared (figs 6 & 7) similar to the 1930 issue but with a simpler border and ten different pictures to each value.

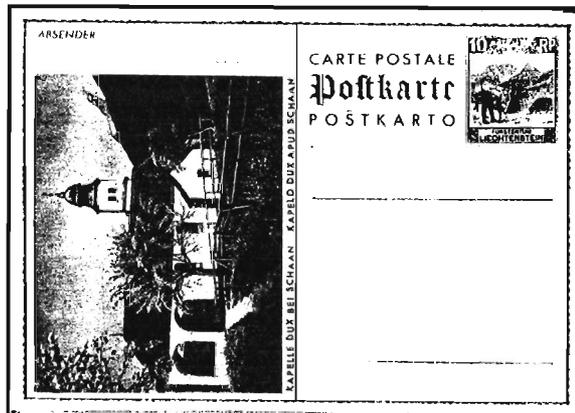


Fig. 6 1931 10R View card



Fig. 7 1931 20R View card

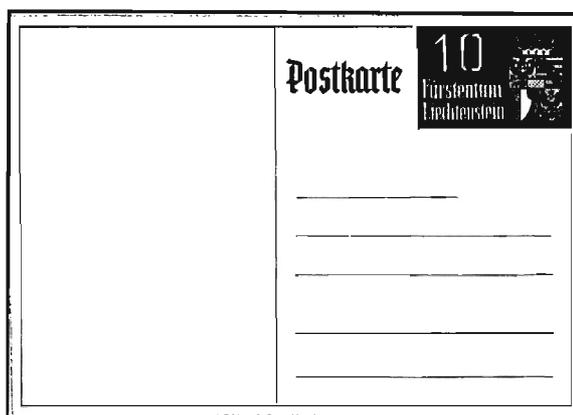


Fig. 8 1938 New 10R internal card

To my mind, these are the most attractive pieces of postal stationery that Liechtenstein has ever produced, just as the 1930 set of definitives are the most interesting and attractive stamps they have produced. 15,204

of each of the 10 designs of the 10 Rappen were issued and 5,165 of the 20 Rappen., but about half of the latter were overprinted in 1937 to reduce them to 10 Rappen. (Presumably another miscalculation). Both of these values also appeared without the pictures and were

valid until March 1940. Even with the overprints, it appeared that they ran short of 10 Rappen cards, for in September 1938, a new and much plainer design appeared, without picture (fig. 8) and also in Reply-Paid form.

REPORTS FROM REGIONAL MEETINGS

Meeting at Swinpex 8th June 2002.

The first of the Society's regional meetings of the year was held at Swinpex on 8th June. This is an annual stamp fair and convention that has been hosted by the Swindon Philatelic Society for a number of years, but it is the first time we have held a meeting there.

Ten members came along to the meeting, and six showed material from their collections. **Colin Baker** started off the meeting with Great Britain postcards prepared for use to overseas destinations. He showed both single and reply cards from their first issue in 1875 to the final issues in the reign of George V.

Tony Chilton showed material which had been sold by the South West Africa Post Office archives, including proof sheets of postcards and airletters (very useful to plating enthusiasts of course), together with the original colour slides which had been used for the illustrations on some of the postcard sets.

John Norton displayed postal stationery used in Albania and the surrounding area, not all of which had been produced by the Albanian authorities, some being stationery from Montenegro, Serbia, Bulgaria and Austria. This was followed by a large display of Great Britain postal stationery cut-outs used in place of adhesive stamps, including some examples used between 1870 and 1905 when using cut-outs was prohibited, as well as those produced by the Marsh Brothers in the 20th century.

John Philpott showed postal stationery used in Bechuanaland, which he explained was only a postal administration in its own right for about 10 years. His display included Great Britain stationery overprinted for use in Bechuanaland as well as Cape of Good Hope stationery used in the Bechuanaland protectorate.

John Dickson showed Natal postcards which were posted at the 1d rate. In the early

period the 1d rate was only sufficient for postcards used within Natal, but eventually the 1d postcard was valid for sending to any destination in the Empire. John's display included postcards re-rated by overprinting and the use of adhesive stamps.

Eddie Bridges displayed air mail letter cards produced by South Africa for use by their troops stationed in the Middle East from 1941 to 1945. These were printed in two languages, English and Afrikaans, giving rise to a number of printing variations.

Everyone attending the meeting thought it had been very successful, so we intend holding a similar meeting again next year. Make a note in your diaries of the date, Saturday 14 June 2003.

Meeting at Tunbridge Wells 6th July 2002.

Report from **Peter van Gelder**

Attendance 17 (members & other philatelists). Apologies for absence came from Messrs Irwin, Schofield, Rolfe and Padgham. Sales exceeded £200, mostly of unsold lots from the Society's June 2002 postal auction.

The quiz results were:- Best score by P.S.S. member - Michael Smith, best score by non-member - Lionel Jones. Each of the winners received a packet of 250 self-adhesive photo corners ("the postal stationery collector's hinge").

Lionel Jones, recently of the National Postal Museum, showed a fine range of mint G.B. aerogrammes 1941 - 66 (including the spectacular Coronation aerogramme with curved flap ends) plus rarely seen related G.P.O. printed ephemera. The vote of thanks was proposed by aerogramme specialist Tony Edwards. Then followed 8 short displays by Messrs G. Barker, Ray, Hoyte, Avery, Chilton, King, van Gelder and O'Keefe. At the end of the meeting hope was expressed that a continuing organisation for the region could be established.

BOOK REVIEWS

AN INTRODUCTION TO OCEAN LETTERS.

By Roger Hoskins. Published jointly by Roger Hoskins, 12 St Michaels, Limpsfield, Oxsted, Surrey and T.P.O. and Seapost Society, 41 Paxton Gardens, Working, Surrey. U.K. GU 21 5TS. Price £14 plus £2 postage and packing (UK) from the T.P.O. and Seapost Society.

A highly informative book on a little known subject, which fills a gap in our knowledge of Maritime communications.

Following advancements in radio transmission in the early part of the last century, a service was started by both British and German firms which enabled passengers at sea to send messages via passing ships to friends and family at home. This service was expensive and usually required the registration of the message from the receiving land base.

Special forms and stationery were printed by the companies for the messages to be sent.

A large section of this book is devoted to photographs (some in colour) of the many types of Ocean letters and printed forms that exist.

It will surely stimulate interest in this fascinating subject. A very worthwhile publication on which the author should be congratulated.

Brian Wood

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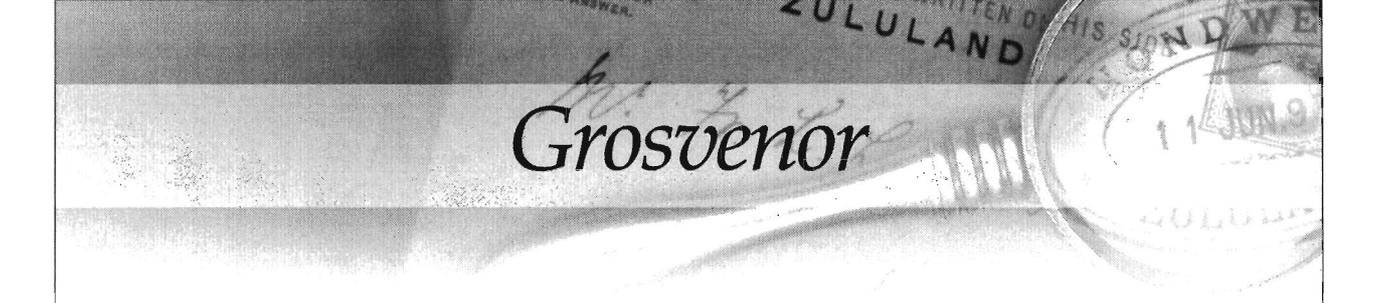
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