






Edited for the Postal Stationery Society  
by Peter van Gelder

Issue No. 20

June 2001

 POSKAART · POST CARD 

*Alleen vir die adres  
For address only*



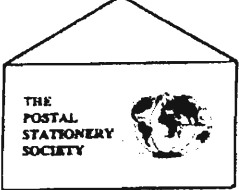
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KAMPS  
KAAPS

 POST CARD · POSKAART 

*For address only  
Alleen vir die adres*



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MARINE DRIVE—SEEWEG  
CAPE—KAAP

Based on used examples, 1944 is the assumed issue date for these SWA overprinted cards (see pages 7 & 11)

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## NAMES & ADDRESSES

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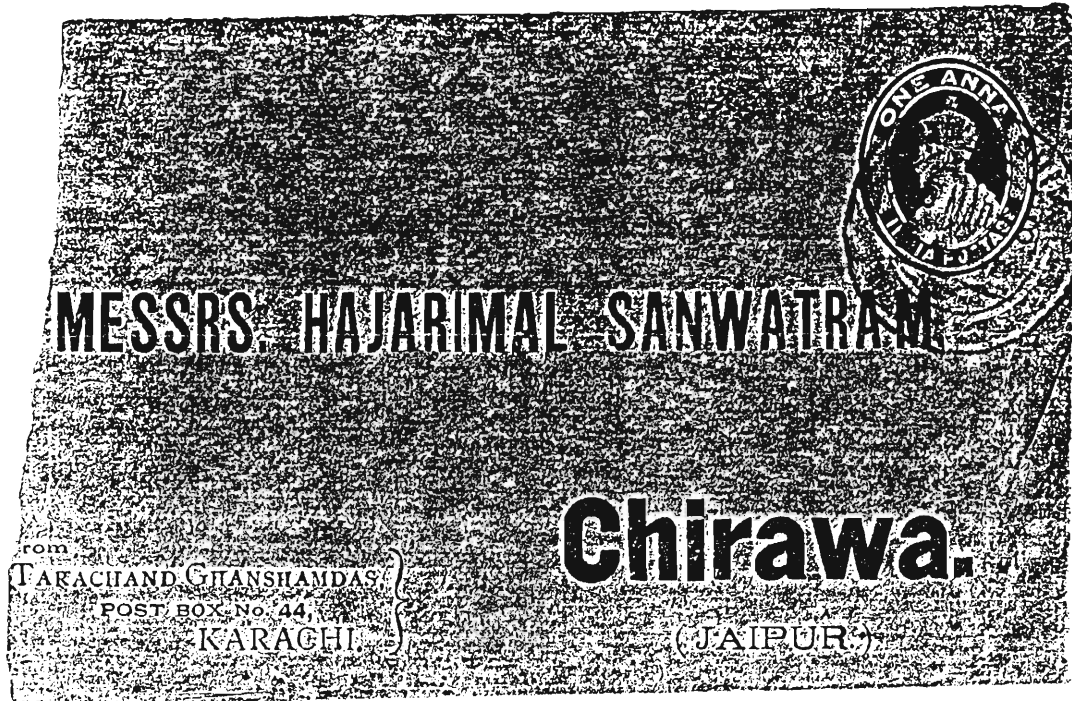


The current Canadian postal view cards will be featured in our next (October) issue

# ARTICLES

## The unknown 1922 De La Rue 1 Anna Business Envelope of India

Copyright © by E.F. Deschl



Finally an eighty year mystery appears resolved. Derek Lang in his ISC Indian envelope listing (1977) did not list such an envelope and with good reason: he did not have proof of its existence, even after years of research. In his 1997 work, he lists "EE1AX\*" as a "new entry" and notes "official release questionable but samples or specimens may have been marketed". His footnote "The EE (D.L.R. and NASIK) provides doubts. More detailed study is needed, but the suspect items (marked \*) are apparently scarce" And in his section preamble he states:-

"Proofs of the De La Rue, King George V one Anna envelopes include - the approved die proof, dated 4<sup>th</sup> April 1922, sent to Somerset House on 22 May 1922, followed by die proofs from die 9 on 13 June 1922.

Colour specimens were submitted to the India Office Store on 26 May 1922. A specimen (approx. 152 x 90 mm), with the stamp overprinted CANCELLED, on buff paper, is endorsed "approved for colour" and dated 17/1/23.

The most interesting of these specimens is an envelope measuring approx. 150 x 89 mm with the stamp overprinted CANCELLED, and endorsed in manuscript: *Commercial Envelope - Decemner 1922. Printed on buff to use up stock of paper. The envelope will then be made of white paper.*

D.L.R. & Nasik issues of envelopes in this size on either buff or white papers, is uncertain (see Notes & EE1AX). Further development of these issues may arise but support of used examples is necessary. "

The above is more information on the 1922/26 1 Anna business size (153mm x 89mm) that has otherwise appeared in one place at any time.

Manik Jain in his 1973 stationery listing, lists "(De La Rue - 1922) E30 1a, brown on white laid\* 153 x 89mm", and states E30 mint "uncommon", used "very common". The latter comment is most unreliable - indeed it appears that he had never seen a copy !

Higgins and Gage (Ed Fladung) did not separate the De La Rue and Nasik envelopes. This is the storey ----- until now !

A study of this envelope started several years ago. The problem was that no one could accurately describe it. So in order to establish what the De La Rue knife looked like, the ½ Anna Green envelope (Fig.1) (1922) was checked and the knife examined. The next step was to do the same with a known Nasik envelope (Fig 3) (1941).

Then the two knives were compared for a simple point of difference ... and there it was: The De La Rue envelope knife has a sharp angle on the top edge of the side flap, while the Nasik envelope has a rounding to both the top and bottom of the flap. It shows clearly.

The final step was to find a copy of the unseen envelope. After going through nearly 10,000 envelopes, a copy did emerge (Fig.2), a 1 Anna brown on brown paper, size 153mm x 89mm (the business envelope size).

So we know that the envelope exists, we know what it looks like, and we know how to identify it positively. If you have one you have a scarce item of Indian postal stationery. Good hunting !

\* Editor's Note: I understand Jain is wrong here, and that the paper is wove.

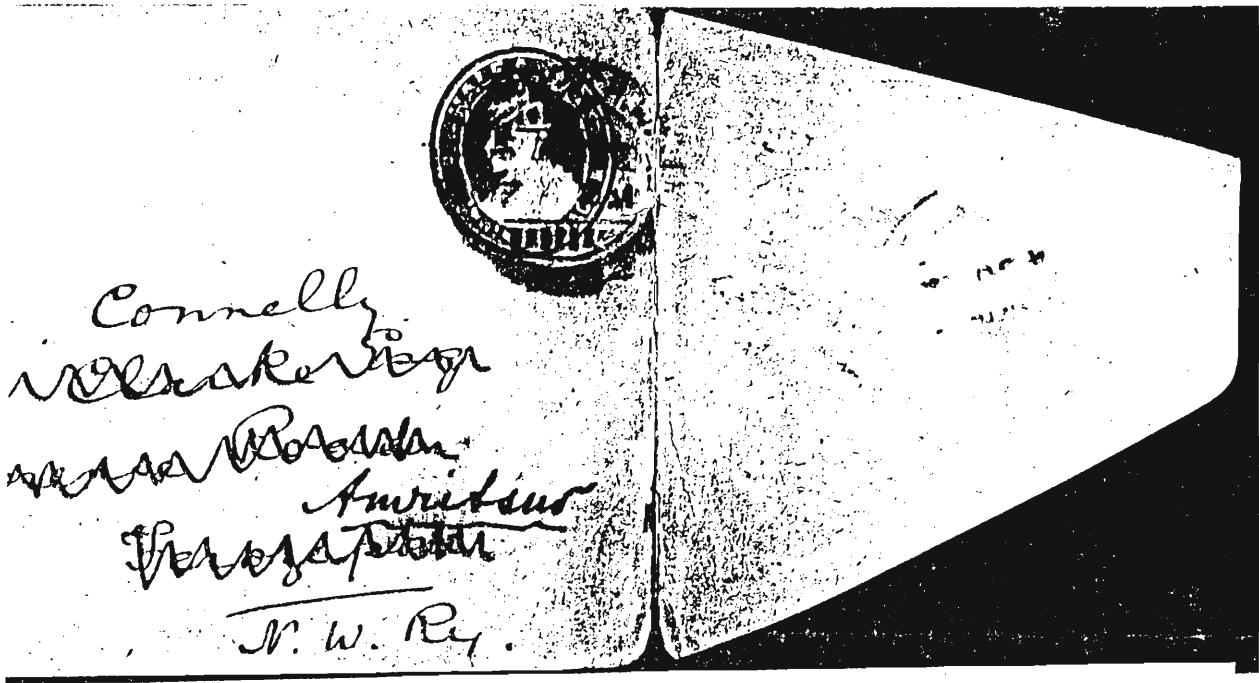


Fig.1 - De La Rue ½ anna envelope 1922. Note sharp upper flap point.

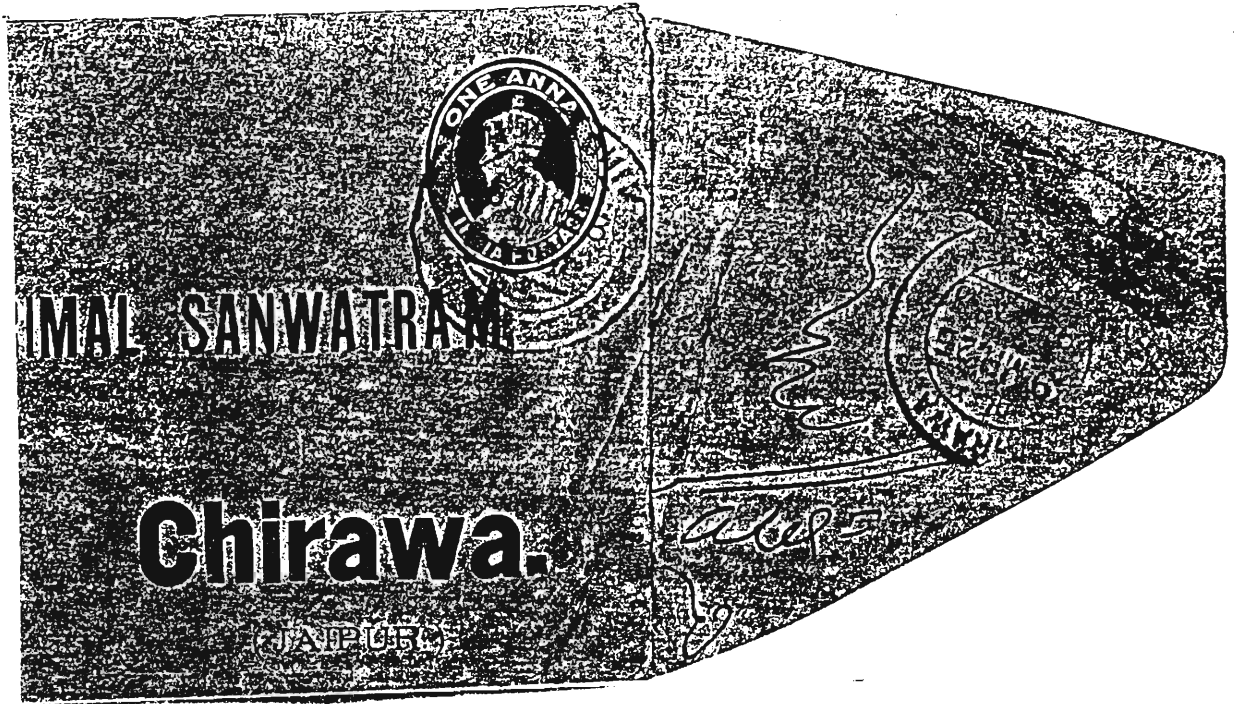


Fig. 2 - De La Rue 1 anna envelope 1925. Note sharp upper flap point.

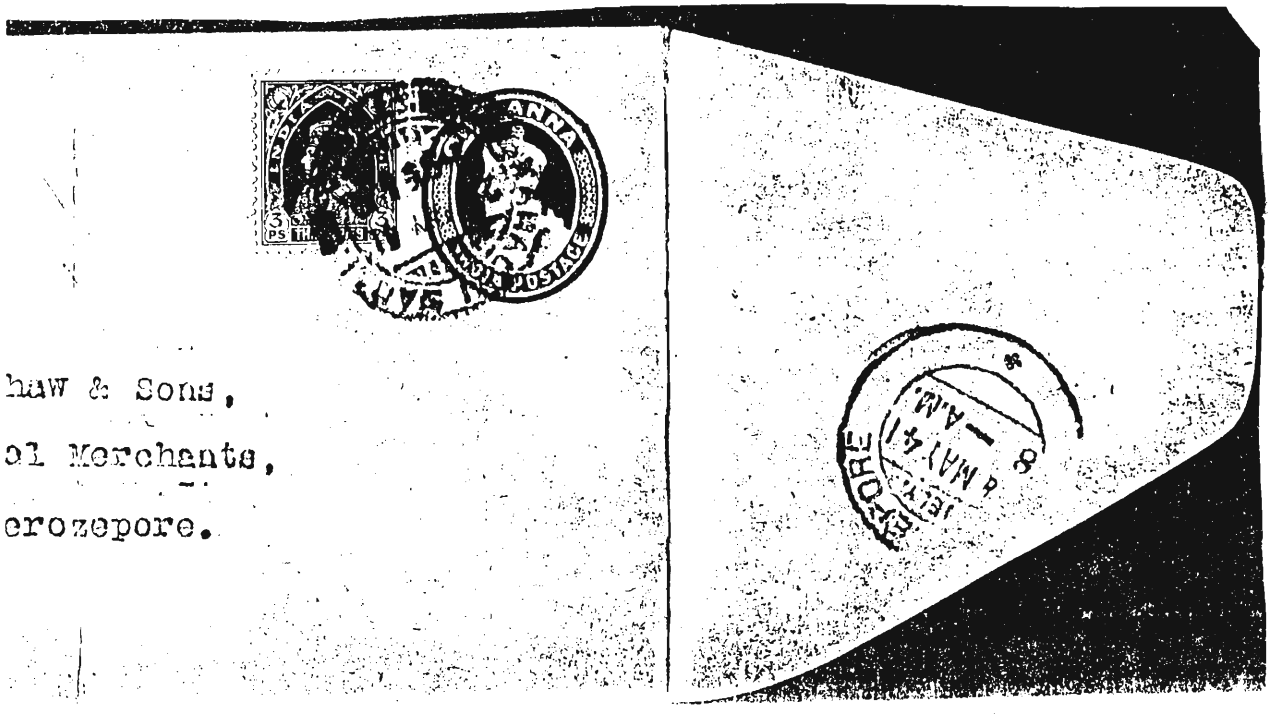


Fig.3. - Nasik 1 anna envelope 1941. Note rounding on both top and bottom of flap.

# THE POSTAL STATIONERY OF SOUTH WEST AFRICA

By Jan Stolk

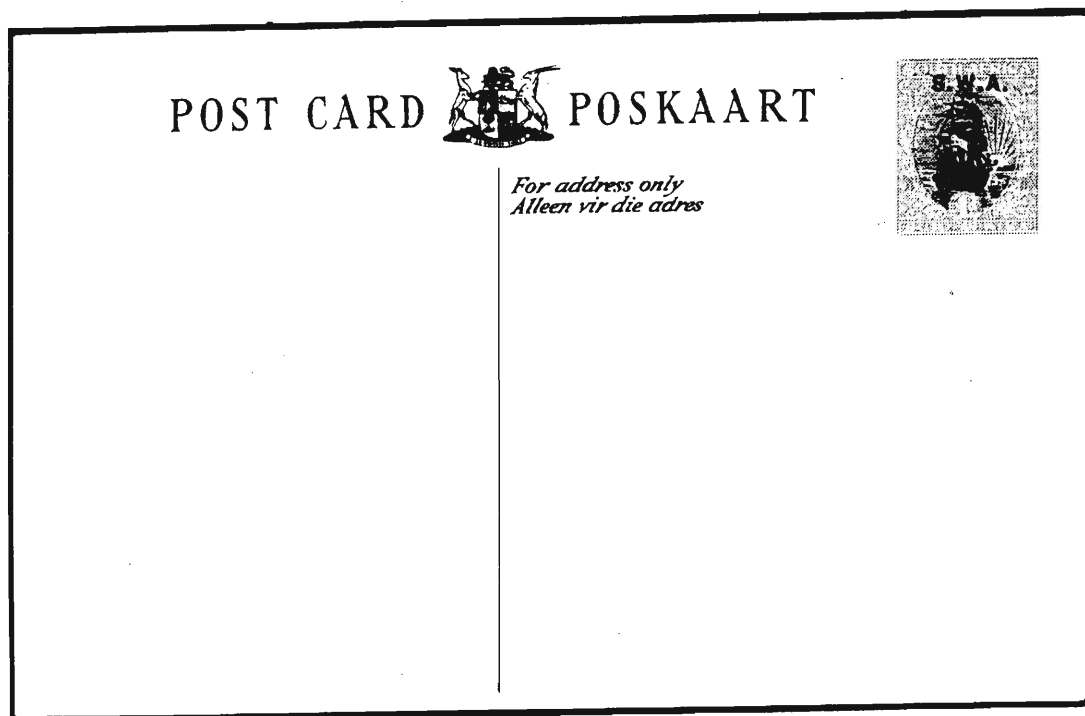
South West Africa, now known as Namibia, became a German protectorate in 1884. It was captured by South African troops during World War One and was mandated to South Africa by the League of Nations in 1920.

Following the occupation by South African troops, the postal stationery of South Africa was used in South West Africa.. All stationery that was valid for South Africa was also valid for use in South West Africa, including the postal stationery produced for the former provinces. Walvis Bay was South African and C.o.G.H. stationery was available from there. Stationery of the other provinces was often imported by philatelists.

All these items can be recognised as being used in South West Africa only by the cancellations they carry as there are no other distinguishing marks.

South African postal stationery items were valid for use until 1<sup>st</sup> February 1923. The postal cards from this period vary a great deal in their colour and quality of cardboard used in their production. They were printed in South Africa, but both the board and ink had to be imported. Thus every reprint was distinctly different from previous printing by the shade of ink or the quality and colour of board used.

*continued on page 11*



1934 card, van Riebeck's ship stamp imprint in red with black centre.  
See also illustration on front of this Journal.

**REPORT ON THE MEETING HELD ON SATURDAY 24th MARCH AT THE BRITISH PHILATELIC CENTRE, CHARTERHOUSE STREET LONDON.**

Fourteen members attended the Society's first meeting of the year. Apologies were received from Peter van Gelder, Keith Hanman, David Taylor Smith and Peter O'Keeffe.

The Secretary gave out notices concerning forthcoming events, including the Society's stand at Midpex, Coventry on 30th June, details of Chester 2002 to be held in November 2002, and the Society's AGM to be held on Saturday 20th October.

Alan Huggins informed the meeting of the new web site that had been set up by the FIP Commission and showed printouts of the various pages. Members can access the site at **www.postalstationery.org** [Note that this is very similar to our own web site address, but ours has **.uk** added to the end.]

Iain Stevenson then introduced one of our members to the meeting, Derek Nathan, who gave a display of the Postal Stationery of British Guiana. Derek's collection covered the complete period during which postal stationery was issued and used in that country, from the very beginning in 1879 when British Guiana had to provide prepaid stationery as a consequence of being a member of the UPU, to 1966 when the country gained independence and became Guyana. He showed us essays, proofs, specimens, mint and used examples of just about every item of stationery ever issued by the authorities in British Guiana, with some items only existing as single examples or one of very few known to exist. Derek's collection is one of the finest in the world today, far outweighing the collection owned by the Guyanan Post Office. Derek's display was accompanied by numerous facts and figures about the country's postal stationery, which he told in a clear and interesting manner.

The vote of thanks was given by the Chairman, Iain Stevenson, saying that Derek had

managed to collect a wonderful amount of material of this country, adding that he hoped Derek would be able to provide an article based on his collection for the Society's Journal in the near future.

Derek will be showing some sheets from this collection in our Society display at Midpex.

After a very relaxing lunch in a nearby restaurant, it was the turn of the other members present to give their 30 sheet displays. These were:

Iain Stevenson: The GB Victorian 1/2d vermilion including die wear, earliest date of usage, Post Office and private envelopes etc. Iain posed a question to the meeting which nobody was able to answer concerning two impressions struck in pink on paper rather than using the normal vermilion colour. These examples had been used as cut-outs on an unstamped envelope. The 1/2d pink stamp was reserved for postcards and Iain wondered whether these had been colour trials or specimens improperly used in the post.

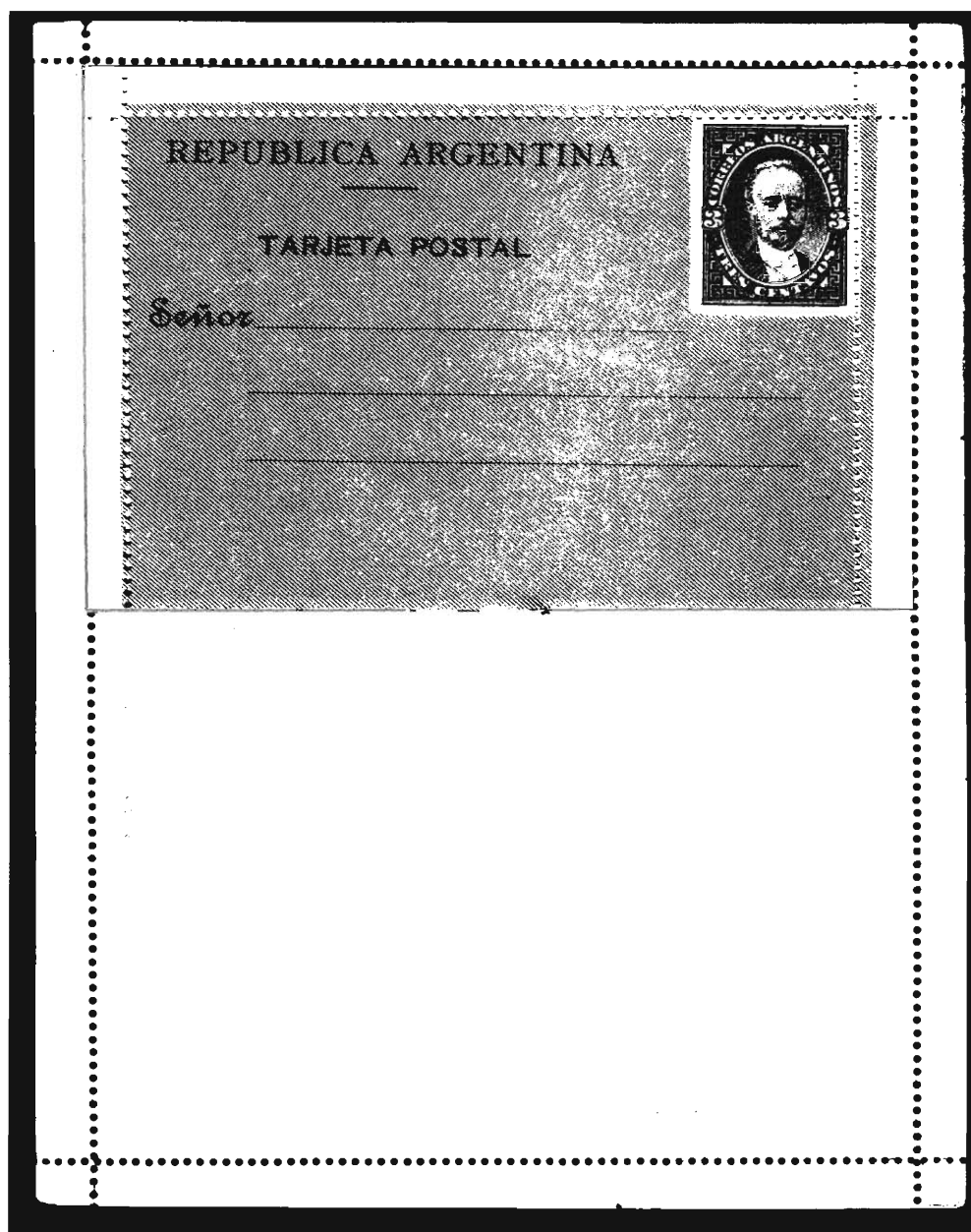
John Ray: Fiji registered envelopes and postage envelopes, of which very few were commercially used. John told the meeting how difficult it was to obtain correctly used copies of this stationery, due to the limited numbers printed and used by the islanders.

Bob Avery: Postal stationery of the Principality of Liechtenstein, another area where the use of postal stationery was very small and so items are very hard to find.

Tony Chilton: South African stamped envelopes of 1872/4 and modern aerogrammes, including examples where the printer had printed the instruction "English and scientific names of the bird" instead of looking them up and including the correct text on the item [as described in a recent Journal article].

John Barker: Reply paid lettercards from around the world, showing the ways some postal administrations had tried to introduce this type of stationery. These included cards which fitted into each other, the reply half

being the smaller, and others where the edges were perforated to separate the reply half from the remainder of the item. This type of stationery had a short life due to the difficulty of producing a satisfactory and easy to use reply lettercard.



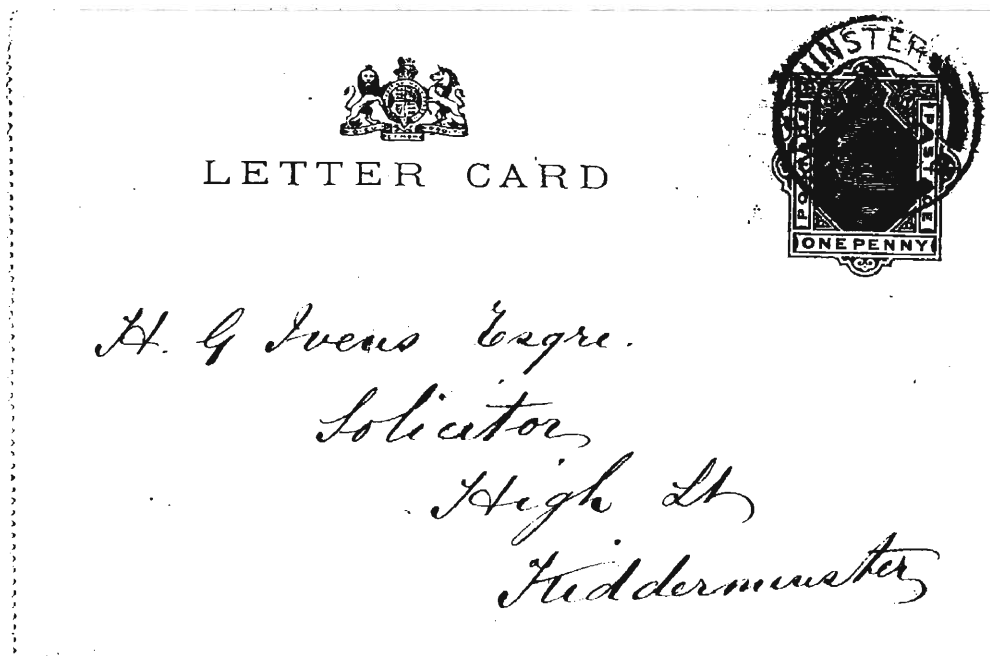
**Argentina: Reply paid lettercard issued in 1888.**

The larger outward card has been opened to reveal the smaller reply card inside. The latter is secured by means of a staple. The face of the outward card is similar to that of the reply card.

Colin Baker: The history of the GB lettercard, including two early essays from 1883 and 1891, and a Victorian patent for a private lettercard. Colin's display covered the whole

period when lettercards were issued by the Post Office in Great Britain from 1892 to 1982 when the short-lived postnote took over.





G.B. Edward VII lettercard used locally in Kidderminster.

## SECRETARY'S NOTES

### SOCIETY'S AGM

The Society's annual general meeting will take place on Saturday 20th October 2001 at the British Philatelic Centre, 107 Chatehouse Street, London, starting at 11.00am. Items for discussion, together with a draft agenda, are being formulated at the moment and will be notified to members prior to the AGM. If any member has any matter which they wish to raise, would they please write to me as soon as possible so that it can be included in the meeting agenda.

After the AGM, and before we all have lunch and look at the auction lots, one of our members, Mr Hans Smith will give a display of Austria, including pneumatic posts. In the afternoon the auction will commence at approximately 2.15pm.

### SWINPEX 2001

Swinpex is due to take place at Swindon on 9th June 2001. We were invited by the organising committee to use, free of charge,

one of the spare rooms at this venue for a Society meeting, but I have had to decline this year due to lack of time to organise a regional gathering, (this newsletter will probably not reach you until after the event has taken place). If a similar event is organised in 2002, would you be prepared to come to a Society regional meeting, either in the morning or the afternoon (max 2 hours)? If so please let me know by letter or phone. The event attracts lots of dealers (with plenty of postal stationery for sale) and has some very good displays on view. It would be nice to avail ourselves of this opportunity so that members in the west of the country can meet, chat and get to know each other a little better. Of course everybody is welcome to join in, not just those living locally.

### CHESTER 2002

The next Provincial Philatelic Exhibition in the UK will be held at Chester on Friday 29th and Saturday 30th November 2002. I know this sounds a long way off, but these exhibitions often seem to come round more quickly than

we realise. Not only will there be plenty of dealers present at Chester 2002, but there are four categories of competitive exhibits, including postal stationery for members to enter. Any member requiring a prospectus on this aspect of the exhibition can obtain one from me, or from the ABPS.

#### MEMBERS' ADDRESSES

If the name and address on the envelope enclosing this issue of the Journal is incorrect in any way, please write to the secretary advising him of corrections.

#### WELSH PHILATELIC SOCIETY

For all those members who live in Wales or who collect Welsh material, I have had a note informing me that the Welsh Philatelic Society, which was formed to promote collecting and study of Welsh postal history, is celebrating its 30th anniversary this year. Further details can be obtained from the society's secretary, Paul Gaywood, 2 Fairways, Fulwood, Preston PR2 8FX

#### BRITISH PHILATELIC TRUST

The British Philatelic Trust have sent details of the Trust's activities and their balance sheet for last year, with more information on "International" level entries and judging at the Autumn Stampex. If you would like further information on either of these subjects, contact the BPT direct or write to the secretary who will copy the information to you.

Colin Baker, Secretary

#### POSTAL STATIONERY SOCIETY WEB SITE

The Society's web site went live on the 21st October 2000. The site is very much a "first stab" and is intended to give the basic information, which a prospective member would require.

The site comprises the following sections:

- Homepage

- Membership Benefits
- Application Form
- The PS Journal and Newsletter
- Monographs
- Auctions
- Society Meetings
- Library
- Society Officers & Contacts
- Web Links

The address of the site is:

**[www.postalstationery.org.uk](http://www.postalstationery.org.uk)**

If you are accessing the site from a larger organisation with a robust "firewall", you may experience difficulties. In this case try accessing the site using the following address:

**[www.postalstationery.free-online.co.uk](http://www.postalstationery.free-online.co.uk)**

In future, it is hoped to expand the site to include articles and other items of interest. I would be pleased to receive constructive criticism of the site as it stands. Also, if you experience any difficulties, please let me know and I will attempt to resolve them.

Michael Smith, Publicity Officer

#### MIDPEX 2001

Midpex 2001 will be held on Saturday 30th June at the Midlands Sports Centre for the Disabled, 1, Cromwell Lane, Tile Hill, Coventry from 10.00am to 4.30pm.

Midpex is a biennial Exhibition for National and Specialist Societies and is accompanied by a dealers fair with 40 dealers. Our Society will have a table and six display frames each holding 16 sheets to promote postal stationery collecting and the benefits of belonging to the Society. We hope that our table will act as a focal point for members attending Midpex and also serve to attract new members to our Society. Many of the other Society displays will also contain exhibits of postal stationery so there will be much to see for members who are able to visit this event. If you require further information or directions on how to get to Midpex, please contact me on 0121 744 2580.

John Barker

On 1<sup>st</sup> January 1923 South African postal stationery with an overprint for use in South West Africa was issued, printed in two languages, English and Dutch. In 1923 the inland postcard rate was 1d, while the rate for postcards to foreign destinations was 1½d. Halfpenny cards which carried an incorrect value of stamp were therefore overprinted with ONE-PENNY. This surcharge was not very popular in South Africa as the overprint was only in English. For this reason these cards were overprinted in two languages for South West Africa. The first overprints were produced using only capital letters, but after a few months reprints appeared using a combination of both capital and lower case letters. The first spelling of "Suid-West" was made using a hyphen between the two words, but this was later printed as one word, "Suidwest".

In 1926 there was a decrease in the inland postage rate from 1d to ½d, and ½d George V cards appeared overprinted in two languages. These cards exist with different sizes of overprint and were also made using both the English and Dutch languages. In 1926 Afrikaans became the official language in South West Africa, replacing Dutch, and this meant that both "South West Africa" and "Suid West Afrika" could be abbreviated to S.W.A. Thus in 1928 the ½d George V card was issued overprinted with S.W.A., rather than using these names in full.

Rather curious is the issue of the 1½d card overprinted in both English and Dutch. This card was probably overprinted prior to 1926 before the decrease of postage rates, but was never used. It appeared in 1934 at the Windhoek International Exhibition. There are two types of this card, with differing lengths of text. In the longer text there is an error with double "s" in Afrikaans.

In 1931 these cards could again be used for mailing abroad owing to an increase in postage rates, when the cost of sending a postcard to a foreign country rose to 1½d.

In January 1935 there was a decrease of postage rates again. As no ½d cards were available at the time, the "half-penny" overprint was issued. There seems to have been an issue of only 300 cards. Many auctioneers value this card very highly, stating that only 50 were printed. However in my collection alone I have 2 used and 2 mint copies and I know of another collector who has several more. Therefore it seems highly unlikely that only 50 were printed.

South African pictorial cards using various printings and incorporating different settings of the "SWA" overprint were produced in 1943. In 1954 the first specifically South West African pictorial postal card appeared..

The development of other postal stationery over the same period saw a similar sequence of events, including stationery issued with or without overprints, with overprints only in capital letters, with overprints in both capital and lower case letters and with overprints "S.W.A." and "SWA".

### **Conclusion**

South African postal stationery overprinted for South West Africa makes a fascinating subject for study owing to the various types and varieties of overprints used. We have to thank the early collectors of this material, such as Dr. H. W. Gewande (who published a book on South West African philately in 1954) for much of the information we have nowadays.

# FROM THE EDITOR'S DESK

## Newly published

Two catalogues that will be of interest to some members have recently come out. "The Stamps & Postal Stationery of Palestine Mandate 1918-1948" is by David Dorfman and is published by House of Zion of Redwood City, California at \$40 (post and packing extra). The other catalogue is the well-established Michel Postal Stationery of Western Europe, published by the firm of Schwaneberger in Munich. I do not yet know the price of this 2000/2001 edition, but I am finding it out with a view to possible purchase for the Society's library. Perhaps I should add that G.B. is here included in Western Europe.

## New from Down Under

There is currently plenty of new postal stationery coming from the antipodes. On 17<sup>th</sup> May 2001 Australia issued 3 international PSEs with a total face value of \$9.50, and also 5 aerogrammes at 78c each, all featuring threatened marsupials. Meanwhile New Zealand has chosen a completely different theme for its 2<sup>nd</sup> May 2001 issue of 6 postal cards. These cost \$2 each and feature aircraft.

## A personal View

I have been reading "The Real Cost of the Penny Post" by the Secretary and 3<sup>rd</sup> in a series I have come to think of as "bakographs" !

The subject's relation to postal stationery seems to me tenuous. The text is brief; it is free to members - but dear to others at £2.50 ? Yes, there was poverty in the 1840s/50s - as there is now - but there was also plenty of prosperity - as evidenced by the Great Exhibition of 1851. The author gives the presentday price of a ½lb loaf as 45p, but I find it more like 27p - the very same price as a 1<sup>st</sup> class stamp !

The author's references to £sd are tantalising - they bring to mind what a simple system we had, with all normal purchases never taking us beyond the number 19 (fingers, toes and a thumb !), whereas today we are saddled with numbers up to 99 for, say, simply sending three 3oz letters !

# MEMBERSHIP LIST

The following, who have recently joined the Society, are welcomed. Country of residence is shown if not the United Kingdom, and also collecting interests in brief. (Total membership is now 210.)

Sharp Mrs. D.	G.B.; (Victorian and before)
Engelbrecht L. (Denmark)	Denmark (1877-79)
Dickson J.	Natal
Wang Z. (P.R. of China)	World (items with illustrations, especially Mulreadies)
Wright P.	Jamaica
Downing R.	G.B.; France
Palmer C.	French Colonies (especially Indochina); southern Africa (esp. Basutoland)
O'Brien R. (U.S.A.)	World aerogrammes
Maltson R.	World (items bearing pictures or advertising)
Rideout A.	G.B.; France
Stickland R.	World
Jennison J. (Switzerland)	G.B. & colonies (KGV period)
Majeed R. (Iraq)	Iraq; Middle East; Germany; India; G.B.
Duncan S.	West Africa
Jacobs M. (U.S.A.)	British Empire pre-1940
Burford C.	Chile; Peru
Harley A.	Western Australia; Transvaal
Cavendish Philatelic Auctions (corporate member)	

## ANNUAL GENERAL MEETING 2000

This meeting in London on 21<sup>st</sup> October was attended by 17 members.

The CHAIRMAN reported on the successful and well attended meeting at Stamp Show 2000, in addition to which two other London meetings and one regional meeting (in Solihull) had been held during the year. There had also been two auctions and three issues of the journal.

The SECRETARY reported that owing to the wide geographical spread of office-holders, a system of postal committee consultations had been started.

The TREASURER was unable to attend but sent a written report, stating that the finances were sound, surplus funds having increased by about £350 over the year, mainly owing to the increased income from the auctions. It was recommended the membership subscription should be unchanged for 2001. (The Annual Account is reproduced on page 15 of this journal.)

The AUCTION ORGANISER reported that there had been 587 lots in the two sales held during the previous 12 months, with total realisations of almost £4,700.

The EDITOR requested more contributions to the series "National Bibliographies" and "Collecting Postal Stationery in...". Also, advertisements by dealer members would be welcome. The Newsletter had now been incorporated into the journal, and its producer (John Barker) was now acting as EDITOR'S ASSISTANT.

The LIBRARIAN reported that 13 books had been added to the library since the previous A.G.M., and that borrowings per annum had increased from 17 to 46, including borrowings by two overseas members.

The PUBLICITY OFFICER stated that he had sent out 20 reports of Society meetings to British and overseas magazines, and he had established a web site for the Society.

A vote of thanks, proposed by the CHAIRMAN, was carried in appreciation of the endeavours of all the Society's office-holders. The constitutional changes set out in the June and October journals were then approved. It was announced that, after all, Sam Barkley was willing to continue as Treasurer, as the Secretary was willing to relieve him of membership list duties. The Society having been invited to enter an exhibit at Bephila 2001 (Berlin), Alan Huggins would be sending a G.B. exhibit on the Society's behalf.

All serving office-holders were re-elected (for the list of officers and names, please see page 2 of this journal).

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## AEROGRAMME NEWS

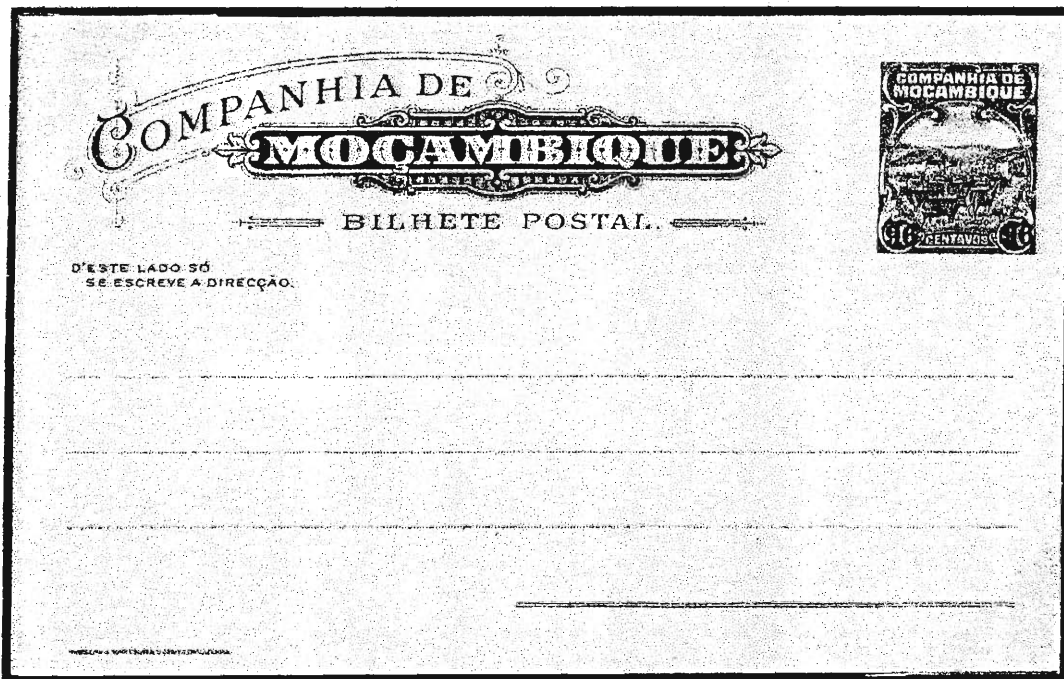
The Editor has been informed by Royal Mail that although there will be a G.B. stamp issue next year to mark the Queen's Golden Jubilee, at present they "are unable to say whether an aerogramme will be produced". This sounds ominous !

A new version of the Welsh aerogramme has been produced with "Airletter" caption (and its equivalent in Welsh) instead of "Aerogramme".

# MOZAMBIQUE COMPANY

Following the A.G.M., a display of postal stationery issued by the Mozambique Company was given by Keith Hanman. This company held a lease from Portugal for 50 years between 1892 and 1942, and was run as a concession company establishing its own postal administration. The speaker showed the complete range of postal cards, lettercards and reply cards issued in this period, the first issues of which were printed by the Portuguese State Mint in Lisbon, with subsequent issues from 1916 onwards being produced by Waterlow and Sons in London. In the beginning, only two values of postal cards were produced, these being 10 reis and 20 reis for inland and overseas use respectively.

Revised values were issued later when the introduction of new currency and the effects of inflation had to be catered for, as well as the fact that Portugal changed from a monarchy to a republic in 1910, resulting in fresh overprints. Of particular note was the 1904 elephant issue set of ten pictorial cards, eight of which followed a standard layout, but rather strangely, one had the stamp on the top left and one on the bottom right of the card owing to the particular shape of the engraving used. Reply cards carried these pictures on both halves and were folded book fashion (i.e. along their left hand edge) rather than by the more traditional method using the top/bottom edge.



96c on 60c card issued 1<sup>st</sup> May 1926 - there was no issue of the 60c card unsurcharged.

# WANTS

World Postal orders or postal notes of any country. Will purchase or exchange.  
Jacj Harwood, P.O. Box 32015,  
Midtown Station, Sarasota, FL-34239  
U.S.A..

Note - Inclusion in this feature is FREE TO MEMBERS. Maximum length per entry is normally approx. 35 words (including address). Advertisers of WANTS should please reply promptly to any member who responds to their requests.

World Wish to buy p.s. of all countries.  
R. S. Majeed, P.O. Box 42046,  
Baghdad 12631, Iraq.

## Income & Expenditure Account for Year ended 31 August 2000

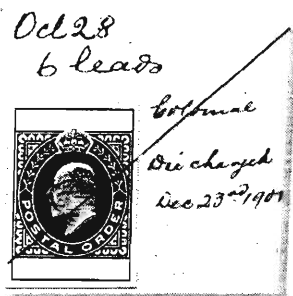
INCOME	£		EXPENDITURE	£	
Balance b/f from 1999 statement	2220.90	(2136)	Journal/Newsletter printing	860.48	(669)
Subscriptions	1353.83	(1113)	Journal etc. postage	270.38	(248)
Auction commission	533.88	(281)	Room Hire	325.00	(224)
Bank Interest	22.86	(31)	ABPS	78.60	( 84)
Advertising	60.00	(108)	Exhibitions	0.00	( 50)
Book sales	44.30	(121)	Postage /general exp.	101.14	(177)
Donations	10.00	(0)	Auction expenses	49.47	( 64)
BPT (StampShow)	75.00	(0)	Library purchases	47.22	(115)
Late auction payments	0.00	(62)			
			<b>Total</b>	1732.29	(1631)
			<b>Balance</b>	2588.48	(2221)
	<b>4320.77</b>	<b>(3852)</b>		<b>4320.77</b>	<b>(3852)</b>

Balance represented by:-

Cash at Bank (Investment A/C)	£1603.01
-----do----- (Cheque A/C)	£ 920.18
Cash in hand	<u>£ 65.29</u> (Editorial float)
<b>Total</b>	<b>£2588.48</b>

## Our Autumn 2001 Auction

is in preparation and items for inclusion are currently being accepted.



Proof of a steel letterpress die for an undenominated stamp to appear on Postal Orders, on piece ex 1901 De La Rue Striking Book, from our May 2001 auction

Postal Stationery from around the World features regularly in our specialised auctions. Complimentary catalogues are available on request.

### Vendors

If you are selling, Grosvenor can offer you...

- ▶ A friendly and flexible approach
- ▶ Low and negotiable commission rates
- ▶ Prompt payment
- ▶ No hidden charges or handling fees
- ▶ Extensive international mailing
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