

UNION OF SOUTH AFRICA

Postage Dues

Except for the wartime bantam size the bilingual Union Postage Due Labels were all of a similar general design even though produced with various changes in detail and method of production. Those changes permit the labels to be divided into ten groups which appeared at intervals between 1914 and 1961.

GROUP I

De La Rue & Co., Ltd., of London produced the first seven values using one exterior frame and separate interior value plates in sheets of 120, divided into two panes of 60 (10 x 6) by a narrow vertical gutter. They were issued only in panes with no plate numbers, P 14 and watermarked with a single Springbok Head. There are no varieties reported in the frames, which are inscribed in English and Dutch. The labels became available sometime in 1914 but were used by post offices only after stocks of corresponding Transvaal labels were exhausted so there was no definite date of issue for the set, or several of the values. It was difficult to get the 5d. and 6d. labels until the early 1920's and many post officers never did get the 1/- labels which accounts for its scarcity, especially with a dated postmark

SG D1. ½d. Black & Green



Scarce Basutoland usage

"MOHALESHOEK/BASUTOLAND/12 DEC 33" cds



SG D2. 1d. Black & Scarlet (Shades)



V1-Raised "d" Row /6



V4-Short serif to "1"
Rows 4, 5 & 9/1



V7-Smaller stop. Row 1/5



V8-Wmk Inverted



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SG D3. 2d. Black & Reddish Violet (Shades)
12 December 1914



V4-Sloping downstroke
of "d" Row 9/6

SG D3a. Black & Bright Violet
1922



SG D4. 3d. Black & Bright Blue (Shades to Cobalt Blue)
2 February 1915



V6-Inverted Wmk



V6-Inverted Watermark



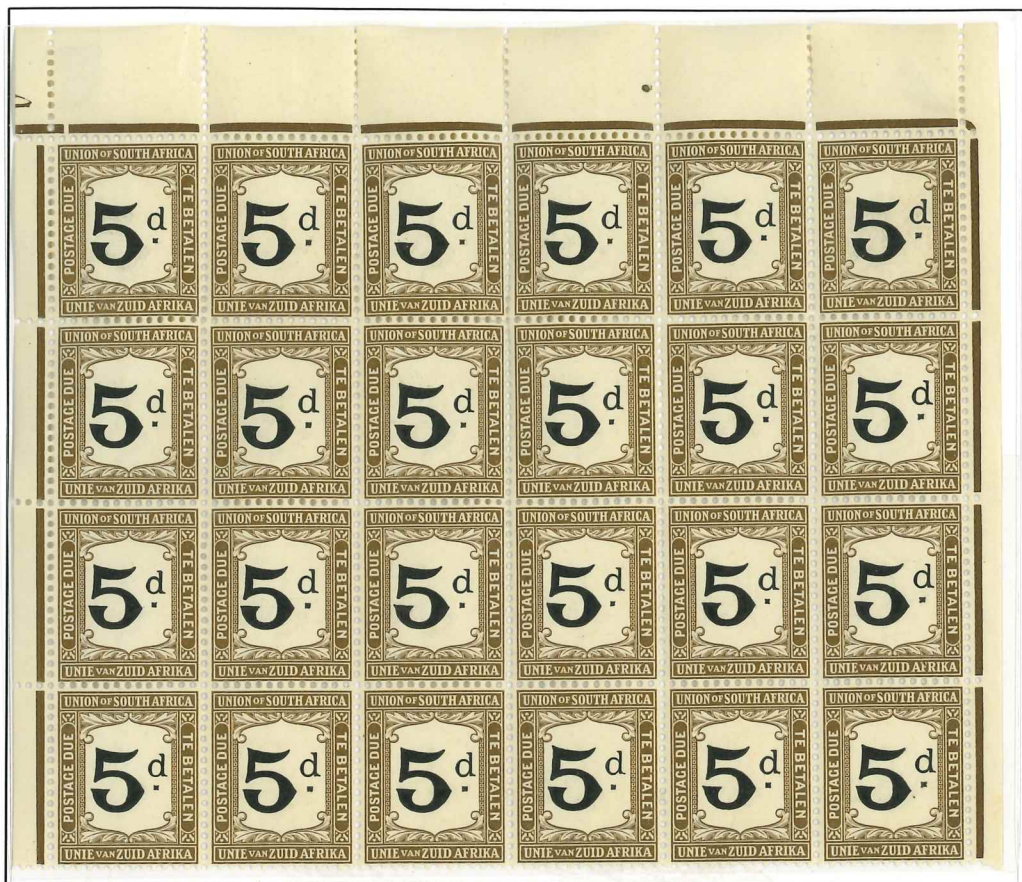
Scarce Basutoland usage
"MOHALES HOEK/BASUTOLAND/12 DEC 33" cds

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SG D5. 5d. Black & Sepia

19 March 1915



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Postage Dues

SG D6. 6d. Black & Slate-Grey
19 March 1915



Deformed "6" Row 6/5 & 6

SG D7. 1/- Red & Black
19 March 1915



V1-Short serif to "1"
Row 3/1

UNION OF SOUTH AFRICA

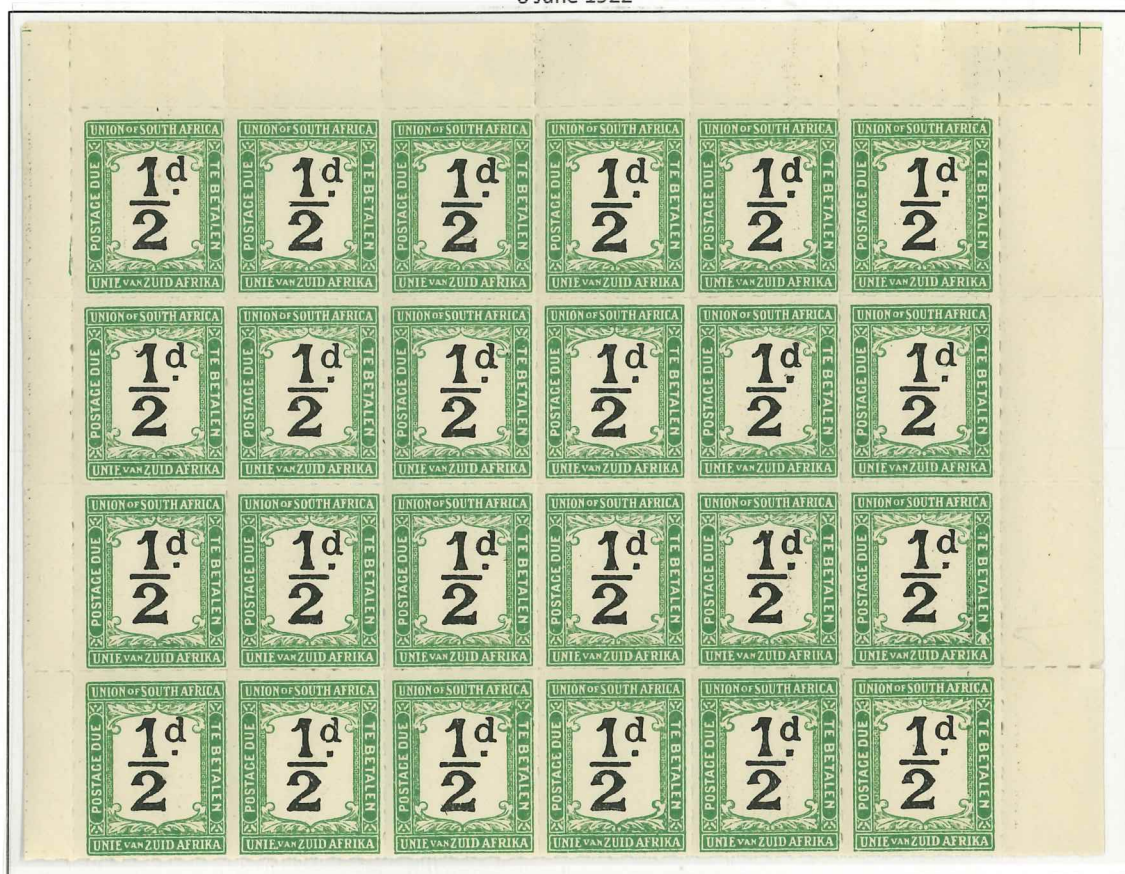
Postage Dues

GROUP II

Three values, the first to be printed by the government printer in Pretoria where all were printed thereafter. They were printed from lithographic plates, one for each value and a common exterior plate copied from Group I with the same lettering, in sheets of 180 on three panes each (10 x 6)¹ separated by gutters the width of a stamp. Separation was by roulette, gauging 7 to 8 on unwatermarked paper. Production was poor and there are numerous flaws.

SG D8. ½d. Black & Bright Green

6 June 1922



Pane 1. V1-Solid lower right spandrel. Row 3/6



Solid Spandrel



Normal Spandrel



¹ The three panes are numbered from left to right viz; Pane 1, 2 & 3.

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SG D9. 1d. Black & Rose-Red

3 October 1922



Pane 1. V1-Solid lower right spandrel. Row 3/6



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SG D10. 1½d. Black & Yellow-Brown

3 June 1922



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GROUP III

Six values also printed from lithographic plates, one for each value with at least four exterior plates resembling those of Group II in sheets of 120 on two panes (10 x 6) divided by a narrow vertical gutter. The value of the ½d. value closely resembled that of Group II but the rest are distinct. At different times each value was printed on noticeably toned paper. Perforation is 13½ x 14 on unwatermarked paper

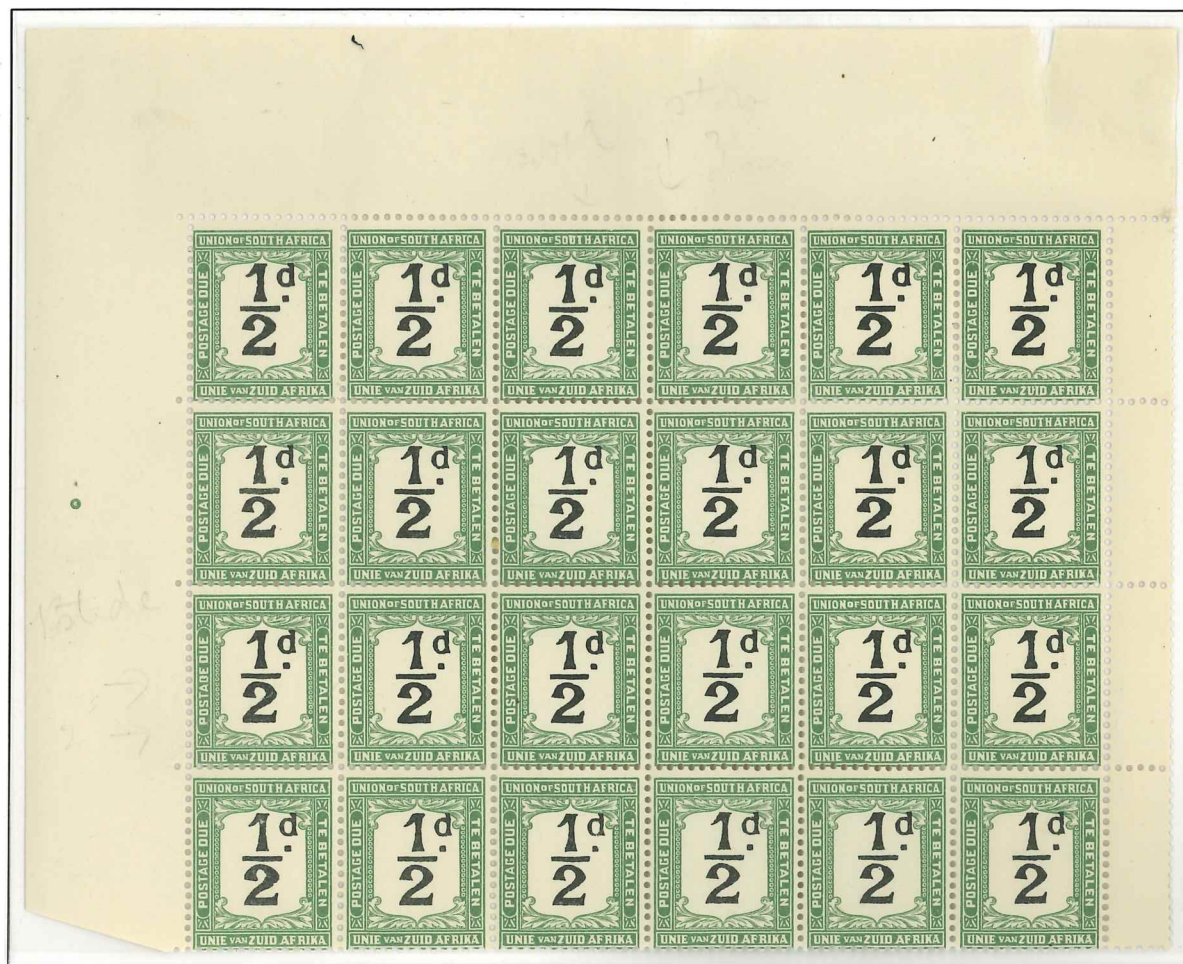
SG D11. ½ d. Black & Green (Shades)

1 August 1922

On Toned Paper

Small green rondel at left marking Plate 1

Narrow vertical gutter at right denotes left pane



V1-Closed top of "U" (SOOTH) Row 1/3

V2-Closed "G" (POSTADE) Row 3/1

Stop after DUE. Row 2/4

On White Paper



UNION OF SOUTH AFRICA

Postage Dues

SG D12. 1d. Black & Rose (Shades)

16 May 1923

On Toned Paper

Small red rondel at left marking Plate 1

Large vertical gutter at left denotes left pane



Plate 1, Left Pane

V1-Closed top of "U" (SOOTH) Row 1/3

Stop after DUE. Row 2/4

Note: Absence of V2-Closed "G" (POSTADE)

Row 3/1 signifies an early printing



Plate 1. Left pane. V2-Closed "G" (POSTADE) Row 3/1

From a later printing

UNION OF SOUTH AFRICA

Postage Dues

SG D12. 1d. Black & Rose (Shades)

Bottom left and right corner blocks of 12
comprising the bottom two rows of a full pane

On Toned Paper
Left Pane



Right pane



UNION OF SOUTH AFRICA

Postage Dues

SG D13. 1½d. Black & Yellow-Brown (Shades)

12 January 1924

On Toned Paper

Small yellow-brown rondel at left marking Plate 1

Large vertical gutter at left denotes left pane



Plate 1, Left Pane

V1-Closed top of "U" (SOOTH) Row 1/3

V2-Closed "G" (POSTADE) Row 3/1

Stop after "DUE" Row 2/4

On White Paper



V5-Broken "F" in "OF"
Row 10/2

UNION OF SOUTH AFRICA

Postage Dues

SG D14b. 2d. Black & Deep Violet

16 May 1923

On Toned Paper



Plate 1, Left Pane

V1-Closed top of "U" (SOOTH) Row 1/3

V2-Closed "G" (POSTADE) Row 3/1

Stop after "DUE" Row 2/4

142
SG D41. On White Paper



Scarce Basutoland usage

"MOHALESHEOK/BASUTOLAND/12 DEC 33" cds

UNION OF SOUTH AFRICA

Postage Dues

SG D14b. 2d. Black & Deep Violet (Shades)

Bottom left and right corner blocks of 12
comprising the bottom two rows of a full pane, on toned paper

Left Pane



Right pane



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Postage Dues

SG D15. 3d. Black & Blue (Shades)

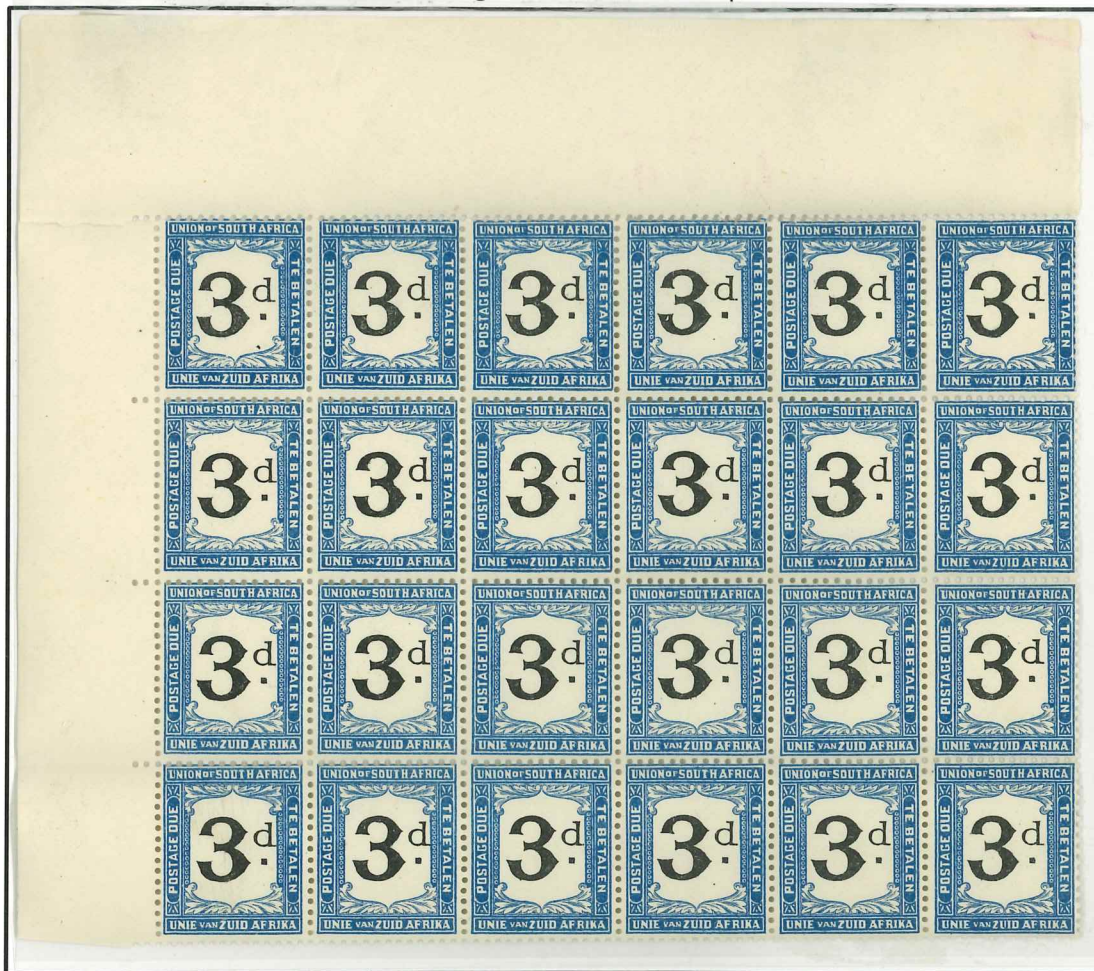
3 July 1926

The 3d. value was intended to be overprinted for use in South West Africa and stamps without the overprint are relatively scarce. The stamps on toned paper are worth almost twice as much as the ones on white paper

On Toned Paper

The 3d. value was printed on only Frame Plate 4

Wide vertical gutter at left denotes left pane



On Toned Paper



On White Paper



UNION OF SOUTH AFRICA

Postage Dues

SG D16. 6d. Black & Slate (Shades)

September 1923

On Toned Paper

The 6d. value was printed on Frame Plates 1, 2 & 4

Narrow vertical gutter at left denotes right pane

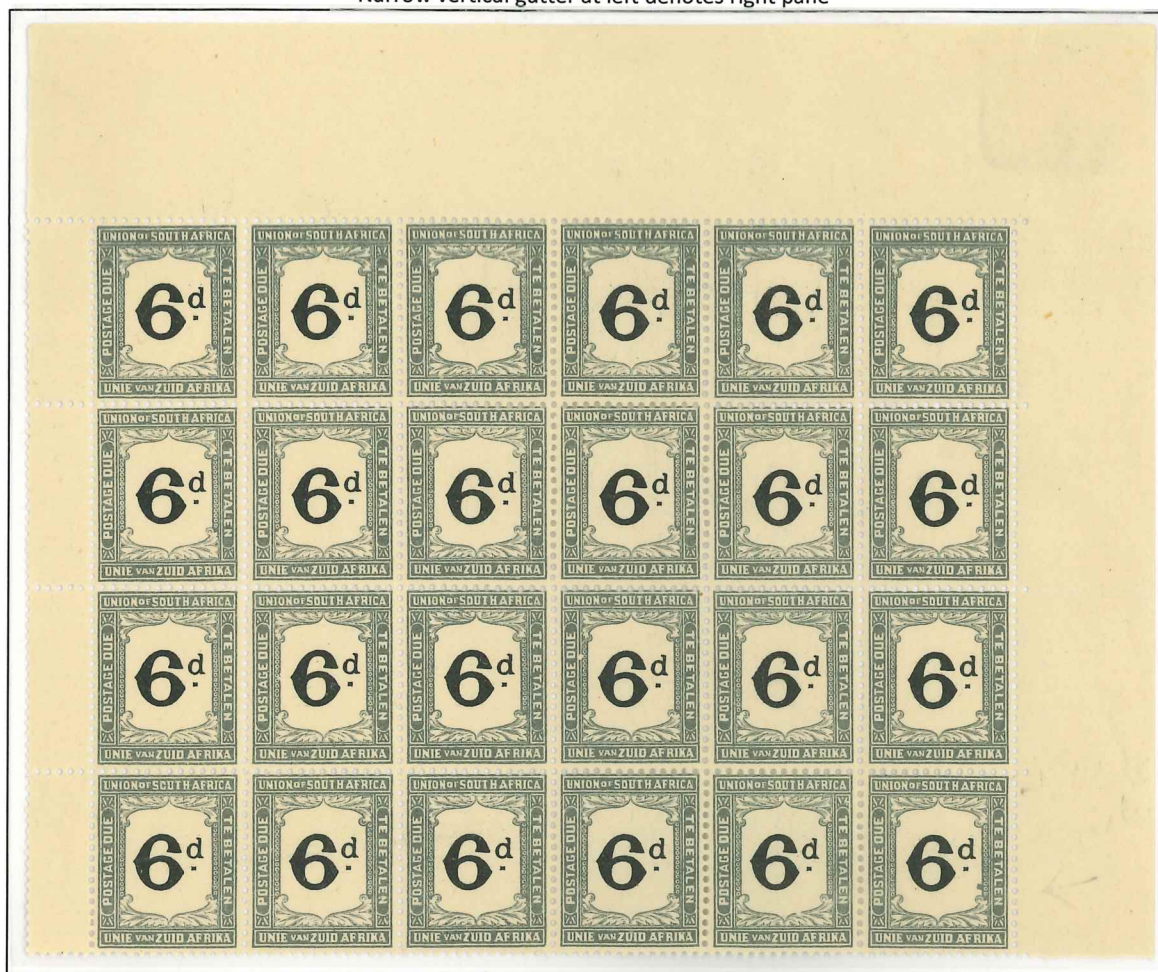


Plate 4. Right Pane. V13-Square blob on inside of lower right frame. Row 4/6

On White Paper



On Toned Paper



UNION OF SOUTH AFRICA

Postage Dues

SG D16. 6d. Black & Slate (Shades)

Toned paper, block of twelve (two complete horizontal rows of six with narrow margin at left, ex right pane) with all stamps displaying V15-offset of value on reverse and V13-square blob on inside of lower right frame. Row 4/6.



UNION OF SOUTH AFRICA

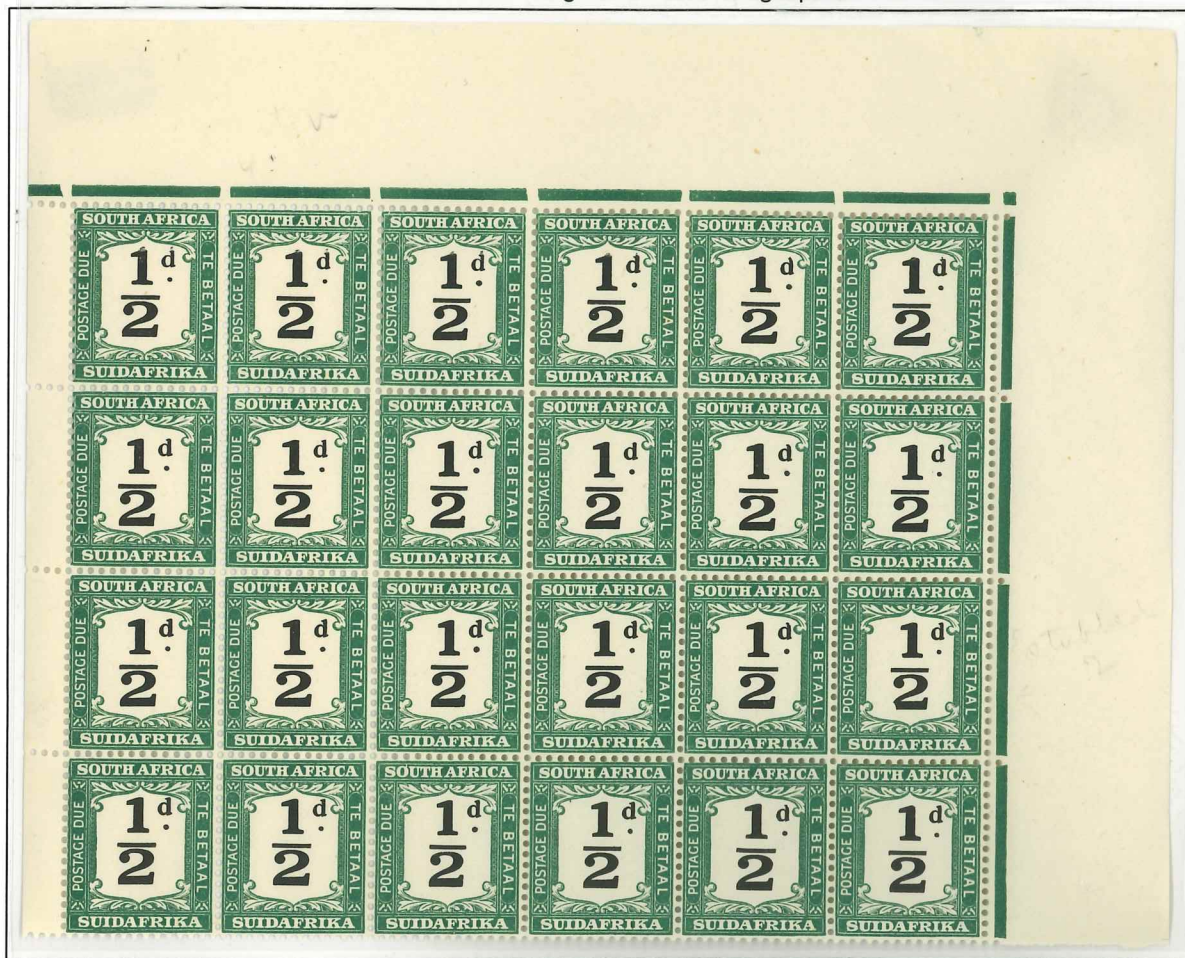
Postage Dues

GROUP IV

Five values printed by typography from one frame plate in the same colors as before in sheets of 120 on two panes (10 x 6) divided by a narrow vertical gutter. Otherwise there are significant differences. The name was shortened to SOUTH AFRICA and the values and "d" differed from their predecessors. The stop below the "d" was omitted in the 3d. and 6d. values. Perforation is 13½ x 14 on unwatermarked paper

SG D17. ½d. Black & Green (Pale & Bright Shades)
1927-1928

Narrow vertical margin at left denotes right pane



V1-Stop after "DUE" Row 1/2
V9-Blunt foot to "2" Row 3 or 8/6 (both panes)



UNION OF SOUTH AFRICA

Postage Dues

SG D18. 1d. Black & Carmine (Pale Rose to Carmine-Red)

Narrow vertical margin at right denotes left pane



V1-Stop after "DUE" Row 1/2

V9-Missing perf hole. Row 4/4 & 5

V11-Top of "d" broken off. Row 4/5



Scarce Basutoland usage



V1-Stop after "DUE" Row 1/2

UNION OF SOUTH AFRICA

Postage Dues

SG D19. 2d. Black & Mauve (Shades to Reddish-Violet)

Narrow vertical margin at right denotes left pane



Damaged bottom left corner. Row 4/8

V9-Missing perf holes in vertical rows:

8 between rows 2 & 3

4 between rows 3 & 4



SG 19a. 2d. Black & Brownish-Purple

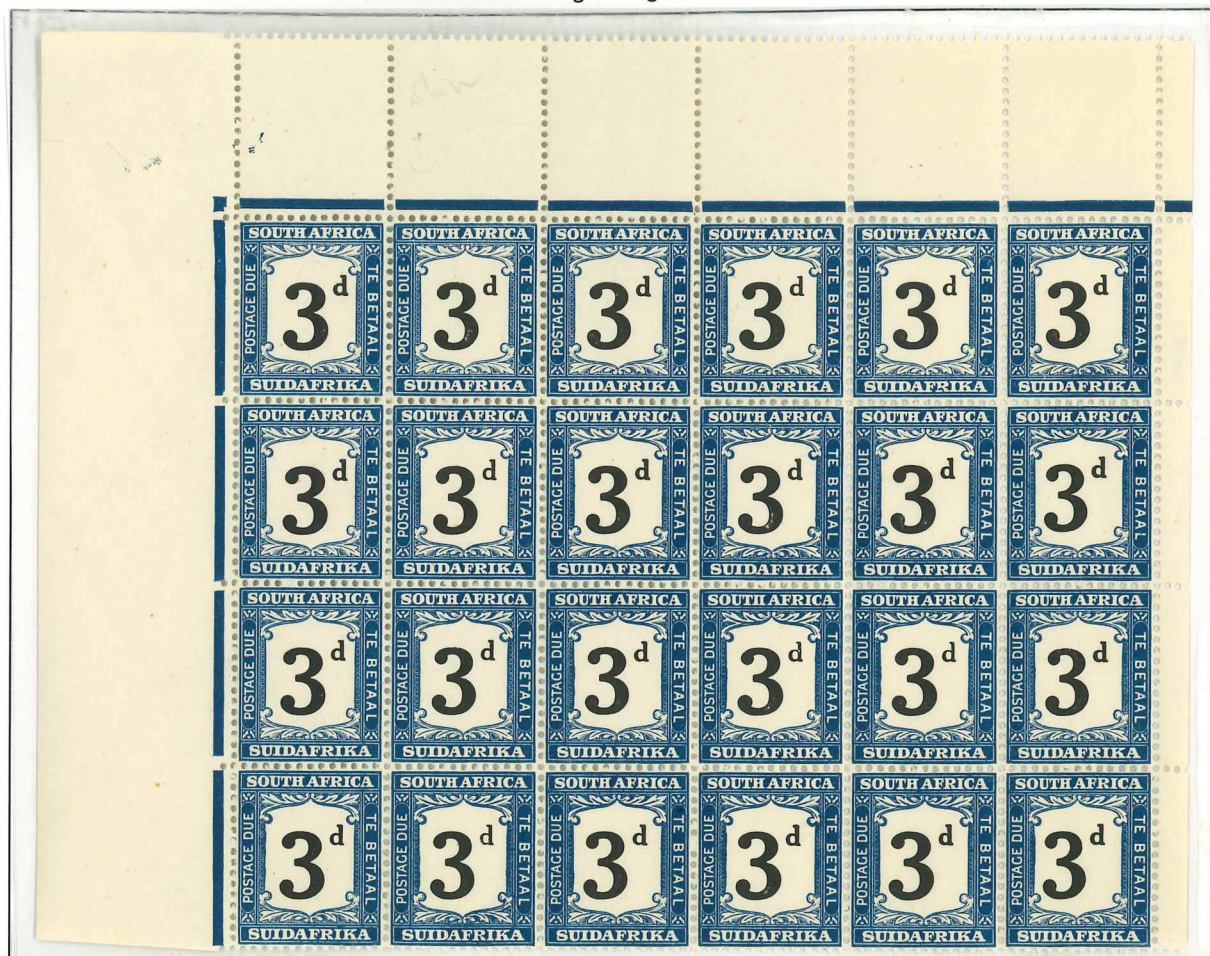


UNION OF SOUTH AFRICA

Postage Dues

SG 20. 3d. Black & Bright Blue (Shades)

Narrow vertical margin at right denotes left pane



V1-Stop after "DUE" Row 1/2



SG 21. 6d. Black & Slate

UHB 21. Black & Brownish-Grey



V1-Stop after "DUE"



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Postage Dues

GROUP V

This small group of two values mark the transition from typographic to rotary printing and printed in units of 240 (20 x 12) without any dividing gutters. The typo frames were printed in 120 units (10 x 12) so had to be halved before the values could be printed. There are a number of differences between Group V and the preceding Group; the "d" is much thicker or larger and the background to "POSTAGE DUE" and "TE BETAAL" is less solid, the labels are watermarked upright or inverted and the perforation is 14½ x 14.

SG D22. ½d. Black & Green Upright Watermark
SG D22a. ½d. Black & Green Inverted Watermark
Frames roto and Values typo

1934



SG D23. 2d. Black & Dark Purple Upright Watermarks
SG D23a. 2d. Black & Dark Purple Inverted Watermarks
Frames roto and Values typo

10 April 1933



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Postage Dues

GROUP VI

Four values appeared at intervals between 1934 and 1940 printed in the rotogravure process with, in the main, inverted multiple Springbok Head watermarks; in fact the 1d. and 6d. values were unique in that they never occurred with the watermark upright. The value plates were new but the same frame plate was used as for Group V. P 14½ x 14

SG D25. 1d. Black & Rose-Carmine (Shades to Bright Red)

Inverted Watermarks

1934



V1-White mark in lower loop of "S" of "SUIDAFRIKA"
Row 4/1

V4-White blob below "TA" of "POSTAGE"
Row 16/12

SG D26. 2d. Gray-Black & Dark Purple (Shades)

Upright Watermarks



SG D26w. 2d. Gray-Black & Dark Purple (Shades)

Inverted Watermarks



UNION OF SOUTH AFRICA

Postage Dues

SG D27. 3d. Black & Prussian Blue
(Shades of Pale, Bright to Greenish Blue)
Upright & Inverted Watermarks
3 August 1932



SG D28. 3d. Deep Blue & Blue
Inverted Watermarks³
3 August 1932



SG D28a. 3d. Indigo Blue & Milky Blue
Inverted Watermarks Only
3 August 1932



SG D29. 3d. Green & Brown-Ochre
Inverted Watermarks Only
7 June 1933



SG D29a. 3d. Green & Bright Orange
Inverted Watermarks Only
1938



³ Stanley Gibbons states inverted watermarks only. The Union Handbook, *infra* is incorrect when it states both inverted and upright.

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GROUP VII

As with the regular postage stamps, to save paper, four of the Postage Due Labels were printed in bantam format in 1943 and 1944, during the years of WW II.⁴ The design of "d" was changed to a capital "D" and remained so until decimal currency. The multiple Springbok Head watermark is always upright. The sheets consisted of 360 units (20 x 18) with perforations of 15 x 14 separated into horizontal units of three, called triplets, in turn divided by roulette gauging 6½. The labels were issued only in one-sixth parts (10 x 6)

SG D30. ½d. Blue-Green (Shades)

1944



⁴ The ½d. label was actually printed in 1944 but did not come into general use until 1947.

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Postage Dues

SG D31. 1d. Carmine (Shades)

P 15 x 14, Rouletted 6½

1943



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Postage Dues

SG D32. 2d. Dull Violet (Shades)

P 15 x 14, Rouletted 6½

1943



SG D32a. 2d. Bright Violet



UNION OF SOUTH AFRICA

Postage Dues

SG D33. 3d. Indigo (Shades)

P 15 x 14, Rouletted 6½

1943



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Postage Dues

GROUP VIII

Five values very similar to those of Group VI but distinguished by the capital "D" and a reduction in size to 18 x 22 mm. Printed in the rotogravure process with a multiple Springbok Head watermark. P 14½ x 14. All issued in quarter sheets (10 x 6) in 1947 except for the 2d. and 6d. which first appeared in early 1948.

SG D34. ½d. Black & Blue-Green

SG D35. 1d. Black & Carmine-Pink

Multiple Springbok Head watermark. P 14½ x 14
1947



UNION OF SOUTH AFRICA

Postage Dues

SG D36. 2d. Black & Violet

SG D37. 3d. Deep Blue & Blue

SG D38. 6d. Green & Bright Orange

Multiple Springbok Head watermark. P 14½ x 14

1947



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Postage Dues

GROUP IX

In 1950 through 1958 six values were produced. The 1d., 2d., 3d. and 6d. labels appeared in 1950 and 1951 and the new 4d. and 1/- values were added in 1958. All remained in use until 1961 when the new decimal currency values were introduced. The rotogravure cylinders are all screened and are easily distinguished from the previous Group by the hyphenated SUID-AFRIKA and P 15 x 14

SG D39. 1d. Black & Carmine

Multiple Springbok Head watermark. P 15 x 14



1953 QEII Coronation 2d in a strip of 3 on illustrated, registered cover (2 days after day of issue) apparently incorrectly put into post box (posted out of course) at Cape Town with registration label applied later. Taxed with 1d & 2d Hyphenated Postage Dues SG D39-40 tied by "CAPE TOWN/ 6 JUN 53" cds's



UNION OF SOUTH AFRICA

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SG D40. 2d. Black & Violet

Multiple Springbok Head watermark. P 15 x 14

1951



V10-Value "2" much larger. Rows 15 & 16/5 & 6

SG D41. 3d. Deep Blue & Blue

May 1950



SG D42. 4d. Deep Myrtle-Green & Emerald

February 1958



SG D43. 6d. Green & Bright Orange

March 1950



UNION OF SOUTH AFRICA

Postage Dues

Multiple Springbok Head watermark. P 15 x 14
SG D44. 1/- Black-Brown & Purple-Brown
February 1958

