Notes:

These Specialized pages include spots for all major varieties. They also include spots for most plate flaws, overprint flaws, etc.

Vorläufer and mitläufer (forerunners) are not included. I anticipate providing a separate file for those in the future.

All watermarks are as viewed from the rear of the stamp. Unless otherwise noted, all plate flaw positions are for partial issues, meaning the plate flaws appear at the position noted on some, but not all, printed sheets.

On pages with stamp photos included, there may be some stamp photos missing due to my inability to find suitable images of those stamps.

At the end of each set is a blank page for each page style used in the set. If you would like additional pages that include custom boxes, text, etc., in a style that exactly matches the existing pages, or if you would like further customizations (odd-size stamp, additional boxes, etc.) to the existing pages, please send me a note through the "Contact Admin" form that's in the footer of every page on my website.

NOTE ON PRINTING: If, when printing, you have the option to print the pages actual size or shrink them to fit the paper, do not select shrink to fit! Doing so will shrink all content, including the stamp boxes, resulting in them being too small. The pages should print correctly at actual size, regardless of any warnings your printer might give.

Cheers,

PostmasterGS

German Southwest Africa
Deutsch-Südwestafrika

In 1883, German merchant Adolf Lüderitz purchased the Bay of Angra Pequena from the local natives, establishing the first permanent European presence in the area. On 7 August 1884, the German government formally took the colony under its protection, raising the German flag over Angra Pequena, now renamed Lüderitzbucht.

Flag of the German Colonial Office

Throughout the next several years, the German holdings grew with the signing of agreements with several of the local tribes. By the mid-1890s, Germany controlled much of the territory, and there was a German population of approximately 1,000 settlers.

From the mid-1890s until 1907, the colony saw a series of uprisings, which cause the German military presence to escalate dramatically. By 1907, the German forces had defeated the local rebels, and the colony became self-governing.

DEUTSCH-
SÜDWESTAFRIKA
Maßstab 1:12.000.000
Kilometer
Wüste
Humbe
St. Michael
Tchimporo
Mpachi
Nangara
Onjira
Ombonde
Kubango
Omulonga
Okambombo
OVAMBO
Ohongo
Otjimorongo
Etoso-S.
HAUKOIN
(BERG DAMARA)
Upingtonia
Okaharona
BERG-DAMARA
AMBAZEMBI
DAMARA-LAND
Otjikango
Omborombonga
Otjihaenena
Otwiseona
Otwihivera
Elephants-R.
Windhuk
Gobabis
Dabis
Gaus
Kaitsaub
Aais
Rehoboth
Rowas
Nareis
Hoachanas
Awisub
Garas
Huganobis
Kerses
Goamus
Daberas
Haigas
Knaas
Salzpfannen
Bersaba
Bethanien
HAROBES
Khowars
Geitsaib
Karas-
Sebirge
Gaibes
Uhabis
Nabas
Warmbad
Port Nolloth
Dougall Hafen
Kleinsee
Springbok
Buschmannland
Namaqua
Hondeklip
Orange Fl.
Angra Pequena
Lüderitz Fal.
Elisabeth B.
Possession I.
Pomona
Plumpudding I.
Roast Beef I.
Seal I.
Halifax I.
Ichaboe I.
Hottentotten Bay
Conception B.
Wendekr. des Steinbocks
Port d'Theo
Sandfontein
Walvish-B.
Sugar Loaf
Salgrave Sp.
Black Sp.
Sierra Bai
Farilhao Sp.
K. Cross
Uniab
Tsarisis
Ugab
Huab
Kaoko-Veld
Kamanjab
Kunene
Cunene
Okavango
Rhinoceros Quelle
Okahandja
Okombahe
Okatjikua
Otjimbingue
Okondju
Omuondonde
Urukendiss
Goabis
Omaruru
Otavi
Okahandja
Okombahe
Omburo
Omaruru
Okahandja
Okatjuo
Otjikango
Otjozondjupa
Franzfontein
Grootfontein
Karkurber
Okahitua
Omaruru
Otjihaenena
Otwiseona
Otwihivera
Windhuk
Gobabis
Rehoboth
Gaus
Kaitsaub
Aais

German Southwest Africa
Deutsch-Südwestafrika

Bern "Deutsch-Südwest-Afrika" Overprint Issues

February 1897

Medium Brown
3 Pfennig

(Bright) Opal Green
5 Pfennig

Bright Lilac Red
10 Pfennig

Violet Ultramarine
20 Pfennig

Yellowish Orange
25 Pfennig

Bright Reddish Brown
50 Pfennig

In February 1897, the Reichsdruckerei printed 800 copies of the first "Deutsch-Südwest-Afrika" overprints for the Universal Postal Union in Bern, Switzerland. The issues feature a heavier overprint than the normal issues, and the 3 Pfennig value is in a different color – medium brown.

Printing presses at the Reichsdruckerei

www.germanstamps.net

German Southwest Africa
Deutsch-Südwestafrika

“Deutsch-Südwest-Afrika” Overprint Issues

July 1897 / 1899

1899

Medium Brown
3 Pfennig

Light Ochre Brown
3 Pfennig

Light Ochre
3 Pfennig

Dark Ochre Brown
3 Pfennig
(UV) Brownish Black

(Bright) Opal Green
5 Pfennig

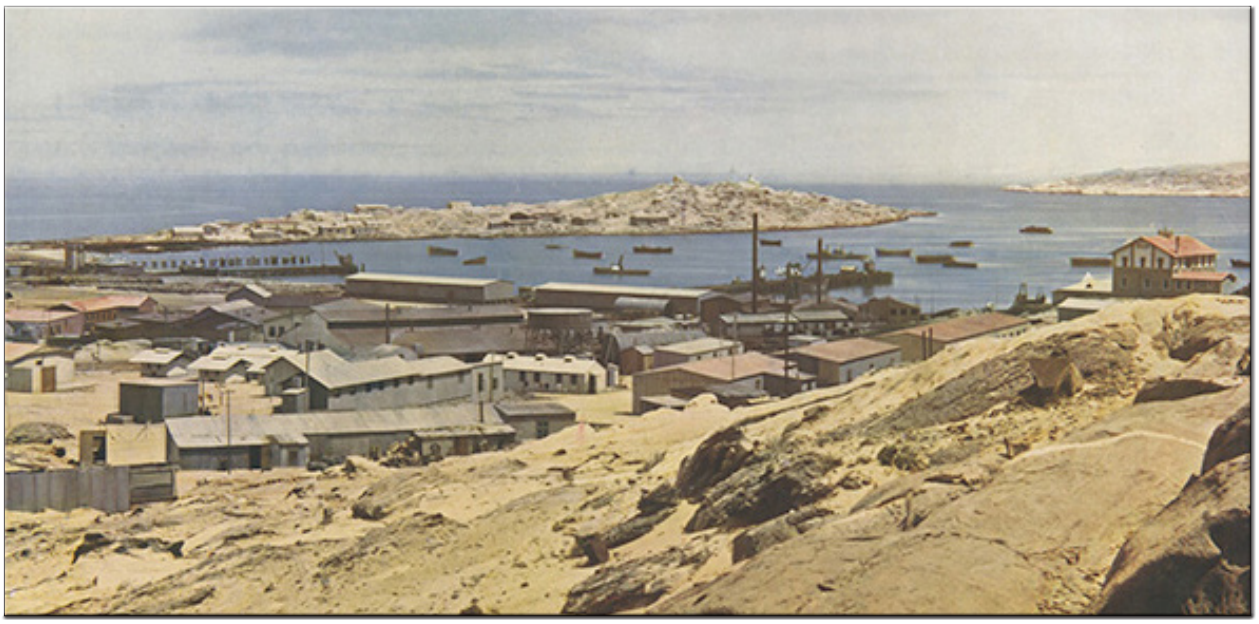
Bright Lilac Red
10 Pfennig
(UV) Red

Violet Ultramarine
10 Pfennig

Yellowish Orange
25 Pfennig

Dark Orange
25 Pfennig

Bright Reddish Brown
50 Pfennig



View of Lüderitzbucht

www.germanstamps.net

German Southwest Africa
Deutsch-Südwestafrika

“Deutsch-Südwest-Afrika” Overprint Issues

Plate Flaws

July 1897 / 1899

Break in scroll (right)

Posn. 33, 38, 83, 88

1899

Medium Brown
3 Pfennig

Light Ochre Brown
3 Pfennig

Light Ochre
3 Pfennig

Dark Ochre Brown
3 Pfennig
(UV) Brownish Black

Broken “I” (right)

Posn. 22, 27, 72, 77

Yellowish Orange
25 Pfennig

Dark Orange
25 Pfennig

Broken “I” (right)

Posn. Unk.

Dot beside lower
left scroll (right)

Posn. Unk.

Yellowish Orange
25 Pfennig

Dark Orange
25 Pfennig

Yellowish Orange
25 Pfennig

Dark Orange
25 Pfennig

www.germanstamps.net

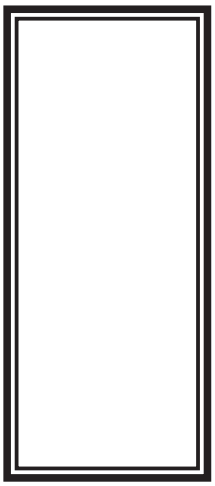
German Southwest Africa
Deutsch-Südwestafrika

“Deutsch-Südwest-Afrika” Overprint Issues

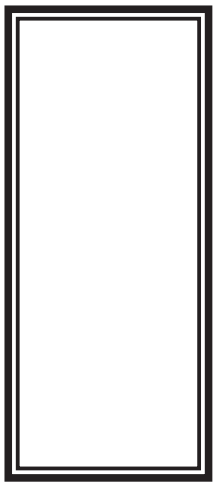
Gutter Pairs

July 1897 / 1899

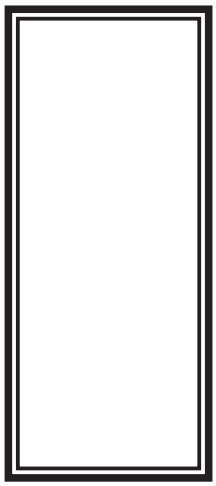
1899



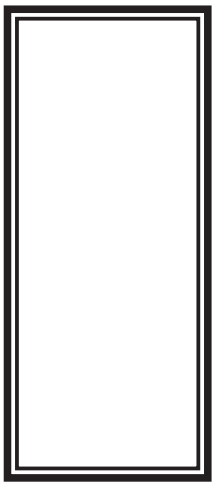
Dark Ochre Brown
3 Pfennig
(UV) Brownish Black



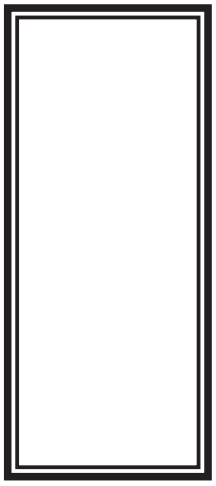
Light Ochre Brown
3 Pfennig



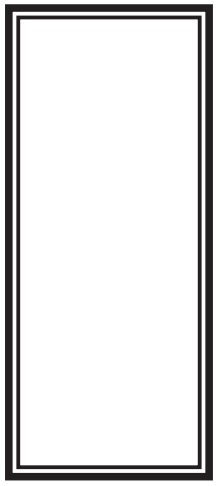
Light Ochre
3 Pfennig



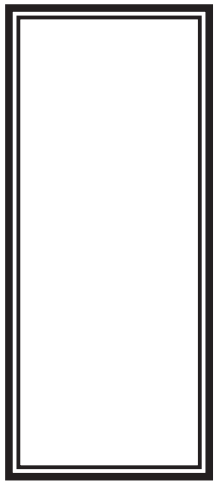
Dark Ochre Brown
3 Pfennig
(UV) Brownish Black



(Bright) Opal Green
5 Pfennig



Bright Lilac Red
10 Pfennig
(UV) Red



Violet Ultramarine
20 Pfennig

www.germanstamps.net

German Southwest Africa
Deutsch-Südwestafrika

“Deutsch-Südwest-Afrika” Overprint Issues

Gutter Pairs

July 1897 / 1899

Yellowish Orange
25 Pfennig

Dark Orange
25 Pfennig

Bright Reddish Brown
50 Pfennig

Swakopmund Post Office

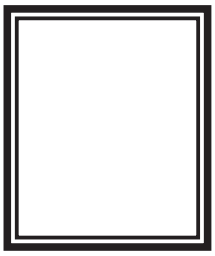
www.germanstamps.net

German Southwest Africa
Deutsch-Südwestafrika

“Deutsch-Südwestafrika” Overprint Issues

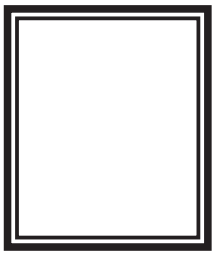
October 1898 / 1899

1899

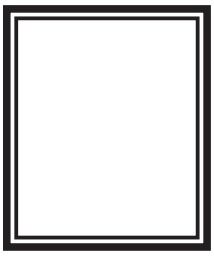


Dark Ochre Brown
3 Pfennig
(UV) Brownish Black

October 1898

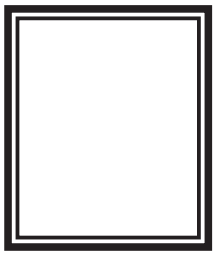


Light Ochre Brown
3 Pfennig

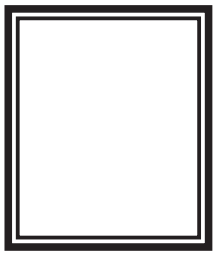


Bright Brown Ochre
3 Pfennig

1899

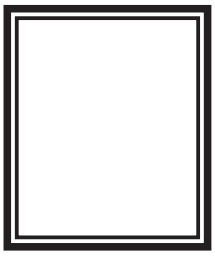


Bright Orange Brown
3 Pfennig



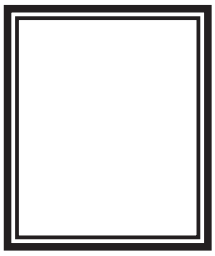
Light Ochre
3 Pfennig

October 1898

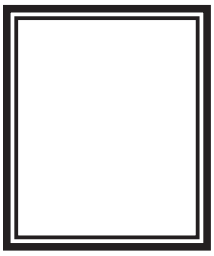


(Bright) Opal Green
5 Pfennig

October 1898

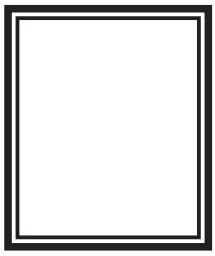


Bright Lilac Red
10 Pfennig
(UV) Red

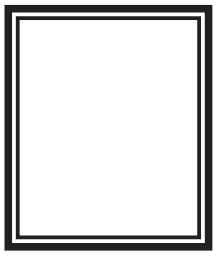


Lilac Red
10 Pfennig
(UV) Light Vermilion

1899

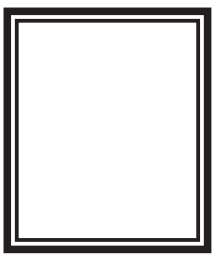


Dark Pink (Red)
10 Pfennig
(UV) Bright Ochre



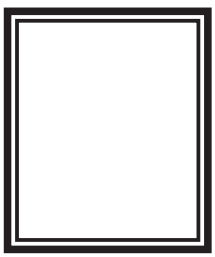
Dark Pink (Red)
10 Pfennig
(UV) Yellowish Orange

October 1898



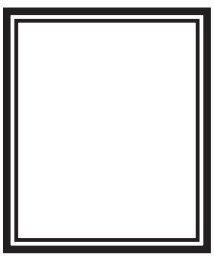
Red Carmine
10 Pfennig
(UV) Dark Red

October 1898

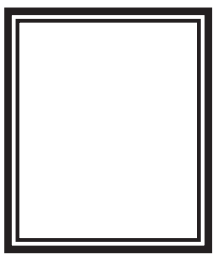


Violet Ultramarine
20 Pfennig

1899

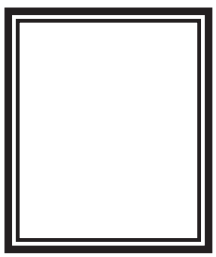


Yellowish Orange
25 Pfennig



Dark Orange
25 Pfennig

October 1898



Bright Reddish Brown
50 Pfennig

www.germanstamps.net

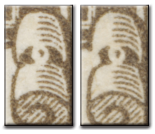
German Southwest Africa
Deutsch-Südwestafrika

“Deutsch-Südwestafrika” Overprint Issues

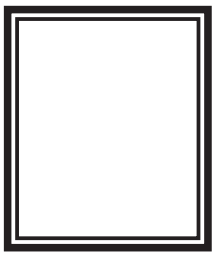
Plate Flaws

October 1898 / 1899

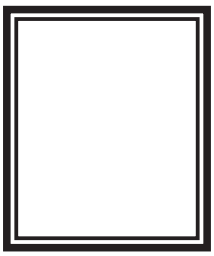
Break in scroll (right)



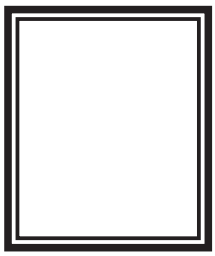
1899 — October 1898 — 1899 — Posn. 33, 38, 83, 88



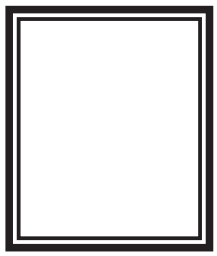
Dark Ochre Brown
3 Pfennig
(UV) Brownish Black



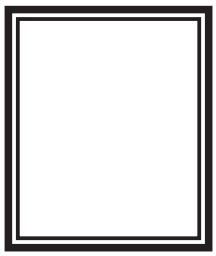
Light Ochre Brown
3 Pfennig



Bright Brown Ochre
3 Pfennig



Bright Orange Brown
3 Pfennig

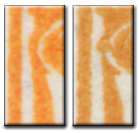


Light Ochre
3 Pfennig

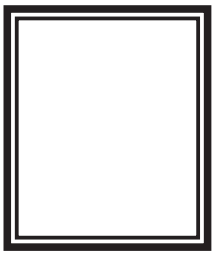
Broken “I” (right)

Posn. 22, 27, 72, 77 — 1899

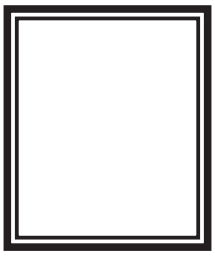
Dot beside lower left scroll (right)



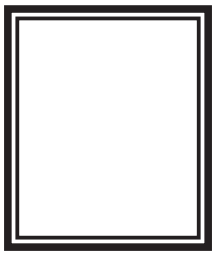
1899 — Posn. Unk.



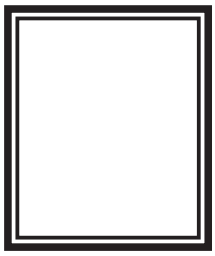
Yellowish Orange
25 Pfennig



Dark Orange
25 Pfennig



Yellowish Orange
25 Pfennig



Dark Orange
25 Pfennig

www.germanstamps.net

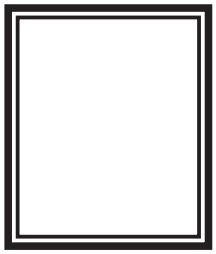
German Southwest Africa
Deutsch-Südwestafrika

“Deutsch-Südwestafrika” Overprint Issues

Overprint Flaw

October 1898

Overprint shifted
strongly upward



Bright Reddish Brown
50 Pfennig

Windhuk Post Office, c. 1911

www.germanstamps.net

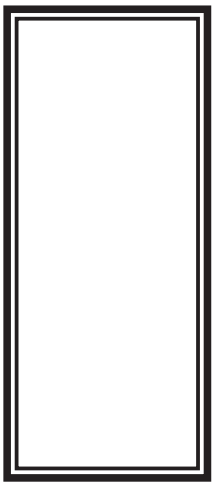
German Southwest Africa
Deutsch-Südwestafrika

“Deutsch-Südwestafrika” Overprint Issues

Gutter Pairs

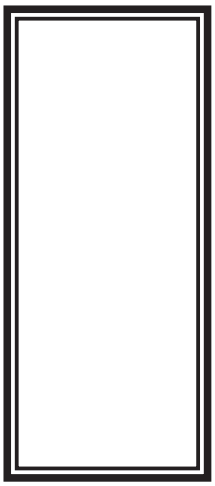
October 1898 / 1899

1899

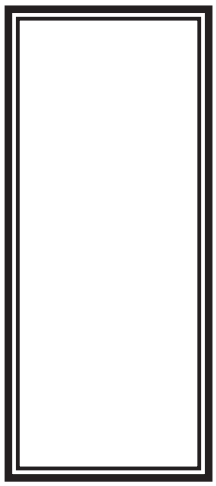


Dark Ochre Brown
3 Pfennig
(UV) Brownish Black

October 1898

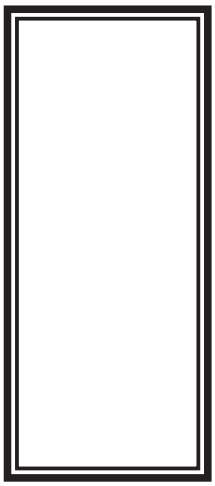


Light Ochre Brown
3 Pfennig



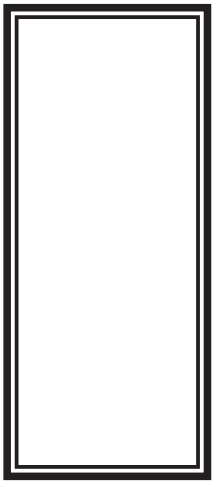
Bright Brown Ochre
3 Pfennig

1899



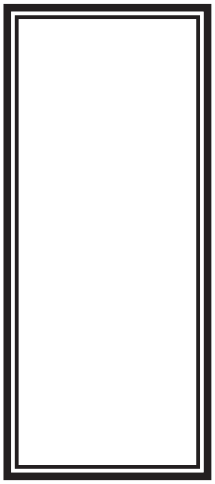
Bright Orange Brown
3 Pfennig

October 1898

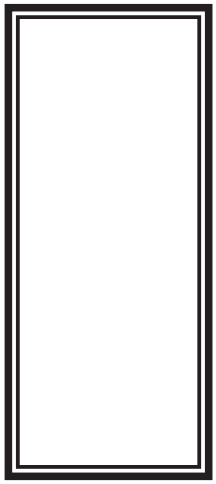


(Bright) Opal Green
5 Pfennig

October 1898

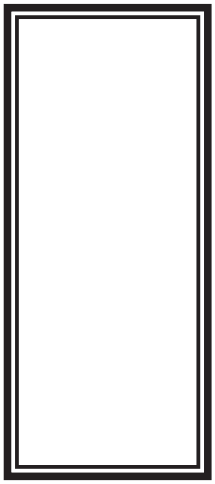


Bright Lilac Red
10 Pfennig
(UV) Red



Lilac Red
10 Pfennig
(UV) Light Vermilion

1899



Dark Pink (Red)
10 Pfennig
(UV) Bright Ochre

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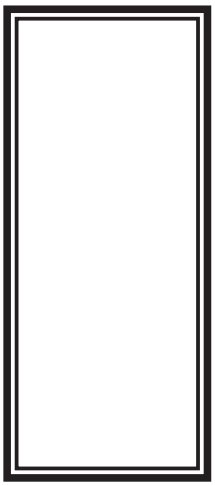
German Southwest Africa
Deutsch-Südwestafrika

“Deutsch-Südwestafrika” Overprint Issues

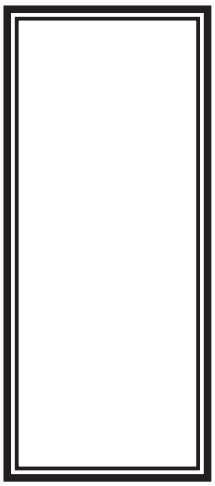
Gutter Pairs

October 1898 / 1899

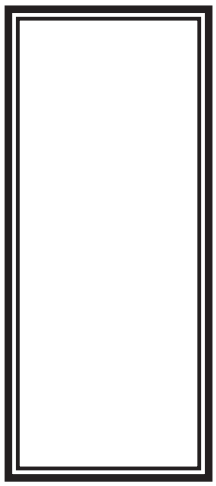
October 1898



Violet Ultramarine
20 Pfennig

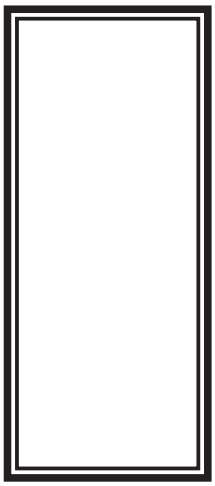


Yellowish Orange
25 Pfennig

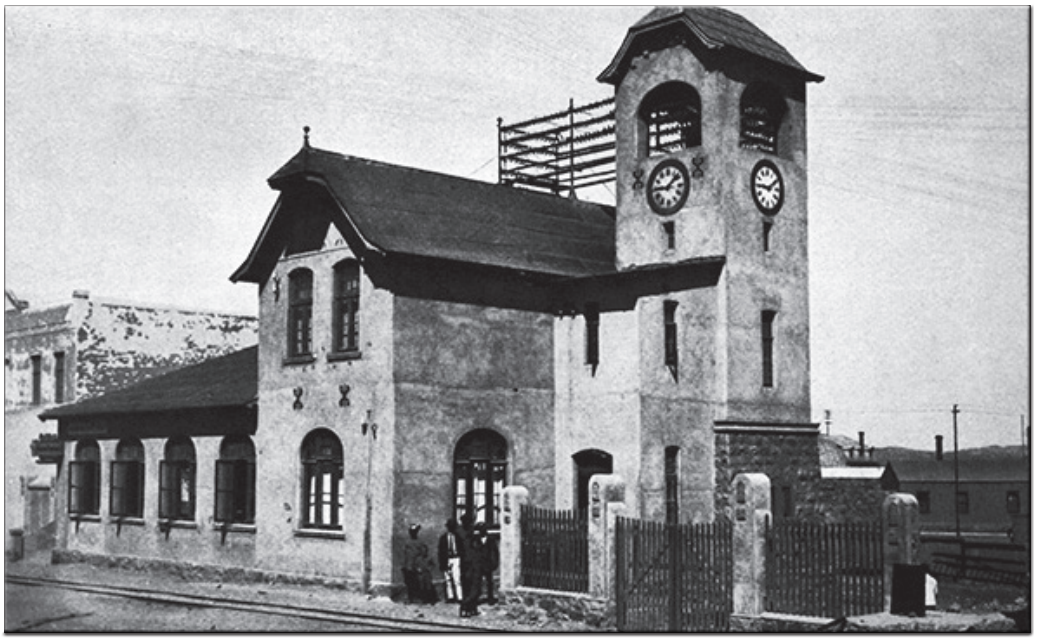


Dark Orange
25 Pfennig

October 1898



Bright Reddish Brown
50 Pfennig



Lüderitzbucht Post Office, c. 1911

www.germanstamps.net

German Southwest Africa
Deutsch-Südwestafrika

Keetmanshoop Provisional

June – September 1900

Red

From June-September 1900, Keetmanshoop faced a shortage of 5 Pfennig stamps. As an interim measure, the post office bisected 10 Pfennig stamps. Genuinely used copies can be found only on postcards bearing an arrival postmark. Those on cover or on postcard without arrival postmark are philatelic.

View of Keetmanshoop

www.germanstamps.net

German Southwest Africa
Deutsch-Südwestafrika

Cash Payment Provisional

September 1900

From June-September 1900, Keetmanshoop faced a shortage of 5 Pfennig stamps. In addition to the bisected Keetmanshoop provisionals, the post office also used cash payment (Barfrankierung) markings on a small number of items. These items contain a two- or four-line rubber stamp and the signature of the postal clerk, Herr Doms.

2-line rubber stamp

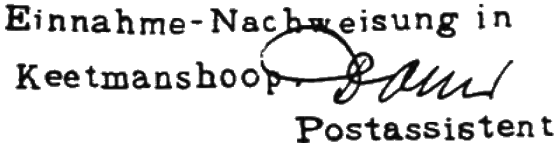
www.germanstamps.net

German Southwest Africa
Deutsch-Südwestafrika

Cash Payment Provisional

September 1900

From June-September 1900, Keetmanshoop faced a shortage of 5 Pfennig stamps. In addition to the bisected Keetmanshoop provisionals, the post office also used cash payment (Barfrankierung) markings on a small number of items. These items contain a two- or four-line rubber stamp and the signature of the postal clerk, Herr Doms.



4-line rubber stamp

www.germanstamps.net

German Southwest Africa
Deutsch-Südwestafrika

Yacht Issues

January 1901

Dark Ochre Brown
3 Pfennig

(Dark) Green
5 Pfennig

Dark Carmine Red
10 Pfennig

(Dark) Violet
Ultramarine
20 Pfennig

Reddish Orange / Yellow
Black on Light Yellow
25 Pfennig

Reddish Orange / Red Black
on Dull Yellowish Orange
30 Pfennig

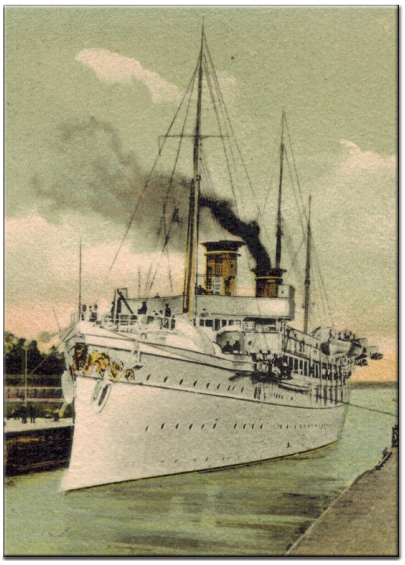
(Dark Reddish) Carmine /
Black
40 Pfennig

Dark Brownish Lilac / Red-
Black on Dull Brown Orange
50 Pfennig

Dark Reddish Carmine / Red
Black on Dull Carmine
80 Pfennig

(Dark) Red
1 Mark

Blackish Blue
2 Mark



Kaiser Wilhelm II's yacht,
SMY Hohenzollern II

Violet Black
3 Mark

Green Black / Brownish Carmine
5 Mark

www.germanstamps.net

German Southwest Africa
Deutsch-Südwestafrika

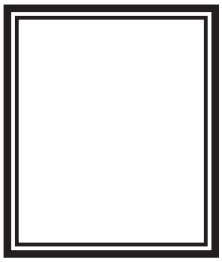
Yacht Issues

Plate Flaw

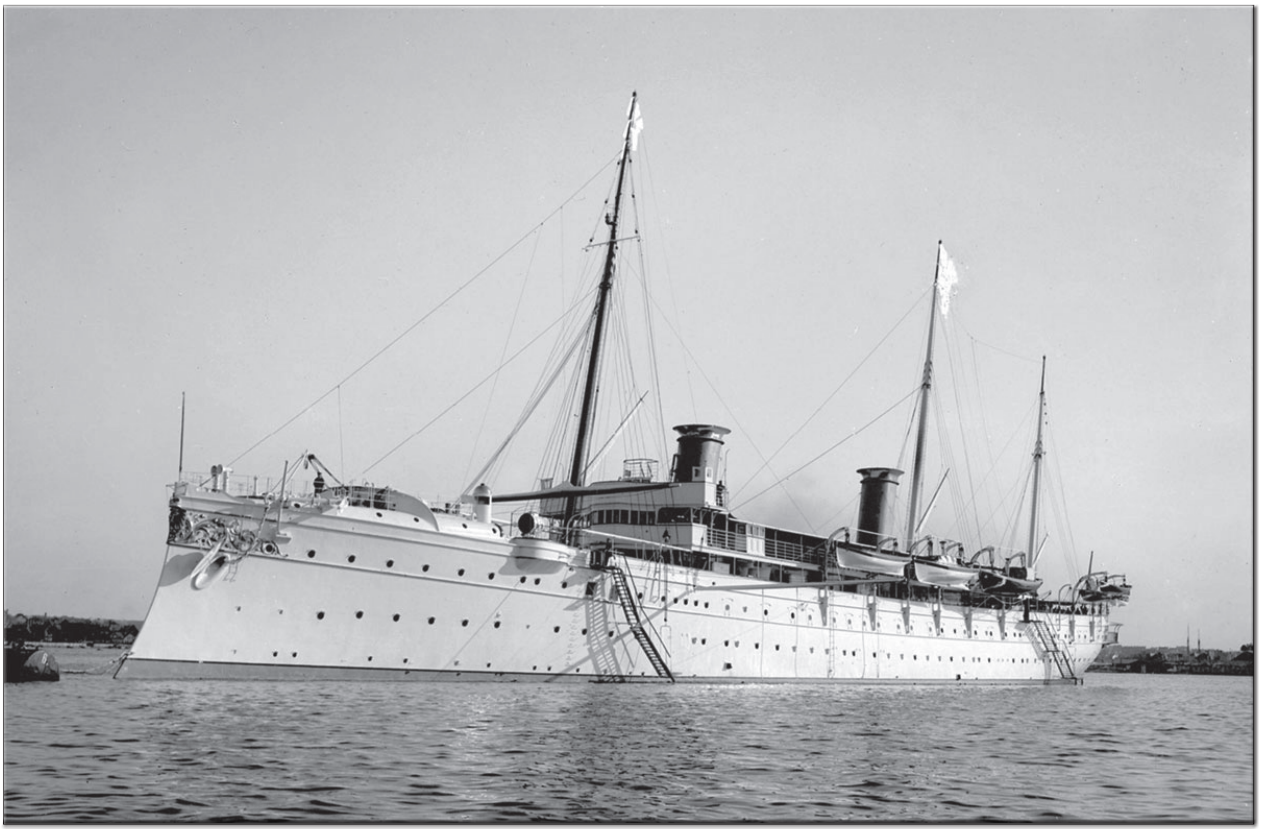
January 1901

Black lines next
to left value (right)

Posn. 42, 47, 92, 97



Reddish Orange / Red Black on
Dull Yellowish Orange
30 Pfennig



Kaiser Wilhelm II's yacht, *SMY Hohenzollern II*

www.germanstamps.net

German Southwest Africa
Deutsch-Südwestafrika

Yacht Issue Specimens

c. 1901

Dark Ochre Brown
3 Pfennig

(Dark) Green
5 Pfennig

Dark Carmine Red
10 Pfennig

(Dark) Violet
Ultramarine
20 Pfennig

Reddish Orange / Yellow
Black on Light Yellow
25 Pfennig

Reddish Orange / Red Black
on Dull Yellowish Orange
30 Pfennig

(Dark Reddish) Carmine /
Black
40 Pfennig

Dark Brownish Lilac / Red-
Black on Dull Brown Orange
50 Pfennig

Dark Reddish Carmine / Red
Black on Dull Carmine
80 Pfennig

(Dark) Red
1 Mark

Blackish Blue
2 Mark

Kaiser Wilhelm II's yacht,
SMY Hohenzollern II

Violet Black
3 Mark

Green Black / Brownish Carmine
5 Mark

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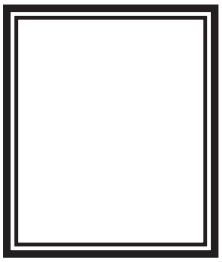
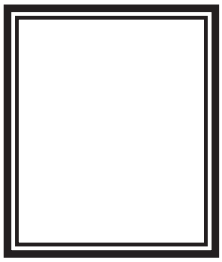
German Southwest Africa
Deutsch-Südwestafrika

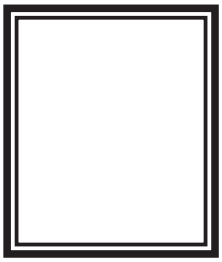
Yacht Issue Watermarked Proofs

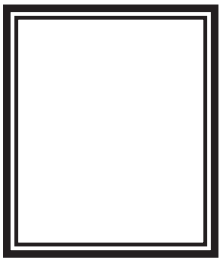
c. 1905

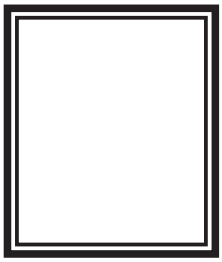
Watermark

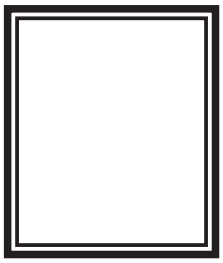

Dark Ochre Brown
3 Pfennig

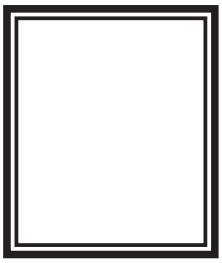

(Dark) Green
5 Pfennig

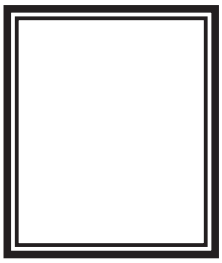

Dark Carmine Red
10 Pfennig

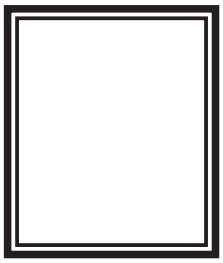

(Dark) Violet
Ultramarine
20 Pfennig


Reddish Orange / Yellow
Black on Light Yellow
25 Pfennig


Reddish Orange / Red Black
on Dull Yellowish Orange
30 Pfennig


(Dark Reddish) Carmine /
Black
40 Pfennig


Dark Brownish Lilac / Red-
Black on Dull Brown Orange
50 Pfennig


Dark Reddish Carmine / Red
Black on Dull Carmine
80 Pfennig

(Dark) Red
1 Mark

Blackish Blue
2 Mark

Violet Black
3 Mark

Green Black / Dark Carmine
5 Mark

Proof printings of the Yacht Issues were printed on paper with a lozenge watermark. The proofs can be very difficult to distinguish from the subsequent 1906/1919 issues on the same watermarked paper, differing only slightly in color.

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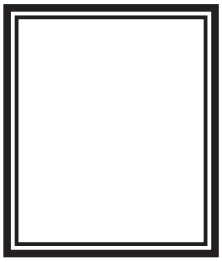
German Southwest Africa
Deutsch-Südwestafrika

Yacht Issue 2 Pfennig Proof

c. 1899 – 1900



(Dark) Gray Blue
2 Pfennig

Following the Reichspost's selection of the design for the Yacht Issues, several blocks of 16 were printed as proofs. The proofs are in a face value and color that were not used on the final, released issues.

The blocks of 16 contain 4 stamps each from Deutsch-Südwestafrika, Samoa, Kamerun, and Karolinen, arranged as follows:

DSWA	DSWA	Samoa	Samoa
DSWA	DSWA	Samoa	Samoa
Karolinen	Karolinen	Kamerun	Kamerun
Karolinen	Karolinen	Kamerun	Kamerun

Proofs of the same design were also printed for Deutsch-Neuguinea, though the specific details of the printing are unknown.

www.germanstamps.net

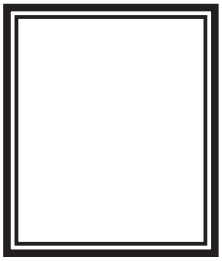
German Southwest Africa
Deutsch-Südwestafrika

Yacht Issues

Peace Printing

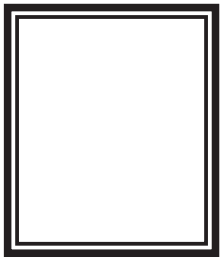
Watermark

1907



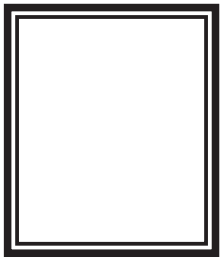
Dark Ochre Brown
3 Pfennig

May 1906



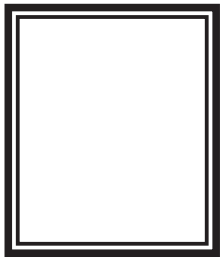
(Dark) Green
5 Pfennig

May 1906



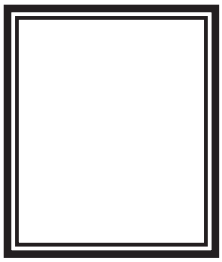
Bright Carmine Red
10 Pfennig
(UV) Lilac Brown

1911



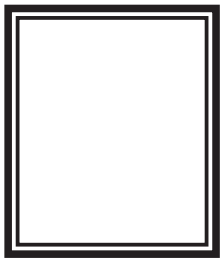
Bright Red Carmine
10 Pfennig
(UV) Red

1911



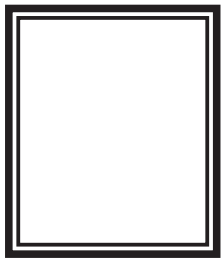
(Bright) Lilac Ultramarine
20 Pfennig

1911

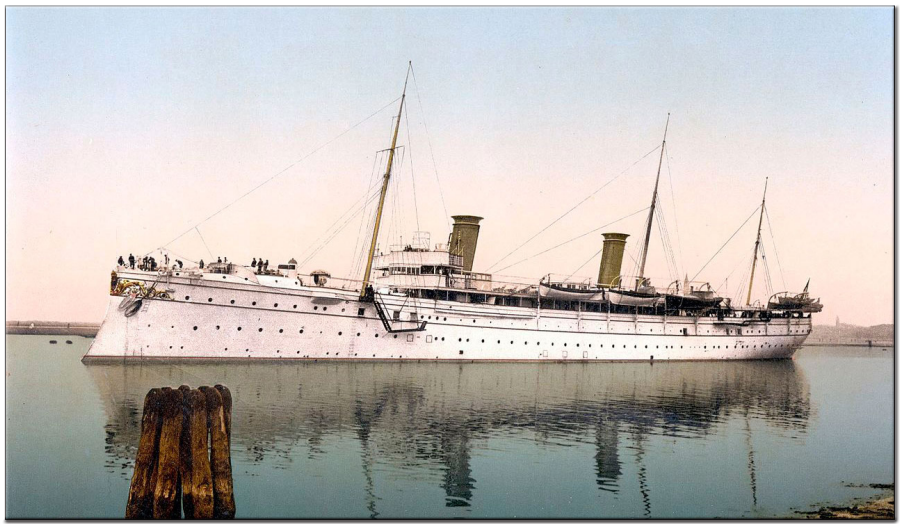


Dark (Reddish) Orange /
Yellow Black on White to
Medium Chrome Yellow
30 Pfennig

1913



Dark (Reddish) Orange /
Yellow Black on Orange White
30 Pfennig



Kaiser Wilhelm II's yacht, *SMY Hohenzollern II*

www.germanstamps.net

German Southwest Africa
Deutsch-Südwestafrika

Yacht Issues

Watermark

Peace Printing, 1912

Dark Carmine Red
1 Mark
26:17 Perforation

War Printing, 1919

Red Carmine
1 Mark
25:17 Perforation

Peace Printing, 1911

Dark to Blackish Blue
2 Mark
26:17 Perforation

War Printing, 1919

Dark to Blackish Blue
2 Mark
25:17 Perforation

War Printing, 1919

Black Violet Gray
3 Mark
25:17 Perforation

War Printing, 1919

Blackish Gray Violet
3 Mark
25:17 Perforation

Peace Printing, 1906

Green Black / Dark Carmine
5 Mark
26:17 Perforation
Center (UV) Yellowish Red

Peace Printing, 1906

Green Black / Dark Carmine
5 Mark
26:17 Perforation
Center (UV) Carmine

War Printing, 1919

Green Black / Red Carmine
5 Mark
25:17 Perforation
Center Type II

www.germanstamps.net

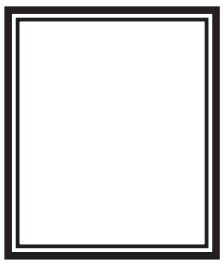
German Southwest Africa
Deutsch-Südwestafrika

Yacht Issues

Plate Flaws

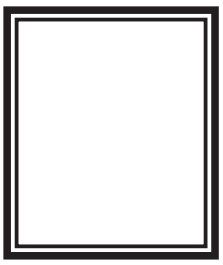
Watermark

1911



Dark (Reddish) Orange / Yellow Black on White to Medium Chrome Yellow
30 Pfennig

1913



Dark (Reddish) Orange / Yellow Black on Orange White
30 Pfennig

Black lines next to left value (right)

Posn. 42, 47, 92, 97

Kaiser Wilhelm II's yacht, *SMY Hohenzollern II*

www.germanstamps.net

German Southwest Africa
Deutsch-Südwestafrika

Yacht Issues

Perforation Variety

Watermark

Bright Red Carmine /
Bright Carmine Red
10 Pfennig

The 10 Pfennig issue was printed in 10 x 10 sheets, which were then run through a perforation machine. The machine used to perforate an unknown number of these sheets was designed to perforate two 10 x 10 sheets printed side-by-side with a margin in-between, rather than a single 10 x 10 sheet. This resulted in an extra perforation along the left margin of the sheet. For this reason, left margin copies of some printings of these issues can be found with a perforated margin, giving the appearance of a blank field attached at the left.

www.germanstamps.net

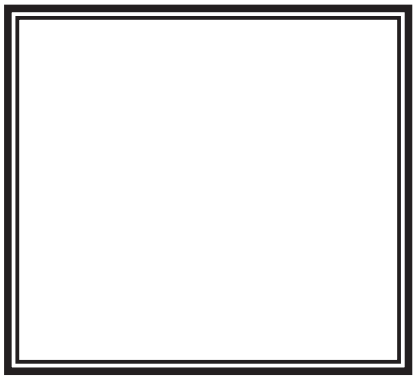
German Southwest Africa
Deutsch-Südwestafrika

Yacht Issues

Order Numbers / Hausauftragsnummern (HAN)

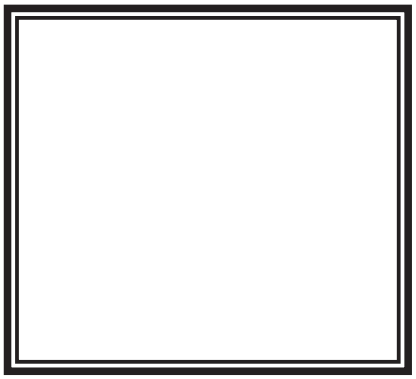
Watermark

1907



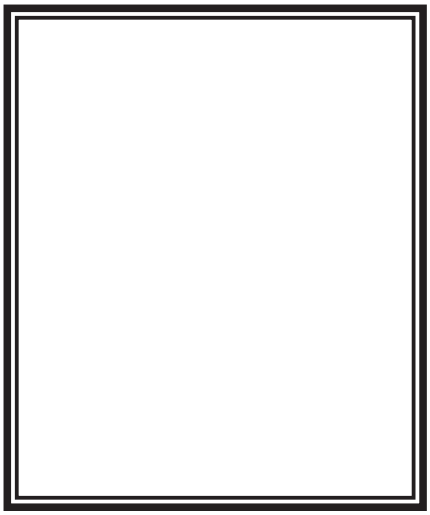
Dark Ochre Brown
3 Pfennig
HAN H 3615 at bottom

1907



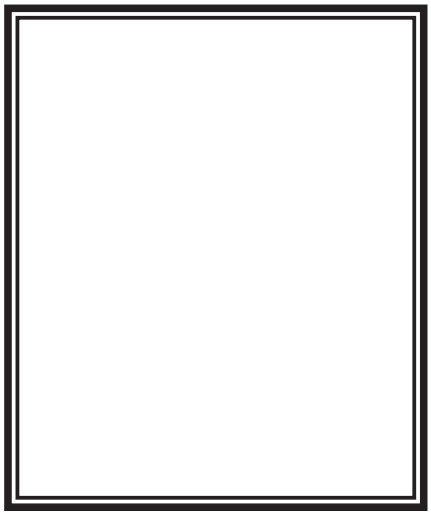
Dark Ochre Brown
3 Pfennig
HAN H 424.10 at bottom

1907



Dark Ochre Brown
3 Pfennig
HAN H 5238 at right

1907



Dark Ochre Brown
3 Pfennig
HAN H 4129.11 at right

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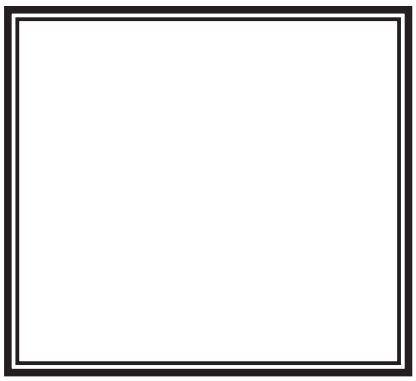
German Southwest Africa
Deutsch-Südwestafrika

Yacht Issues

Order Numbers / Hausauftragsnummern (HAN)

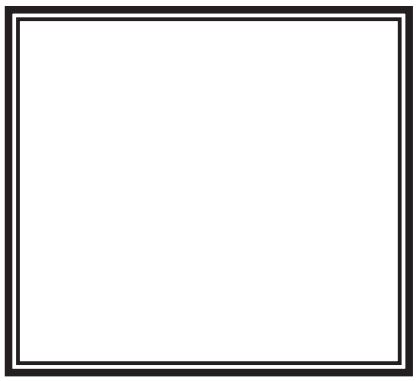
Watermark

1907



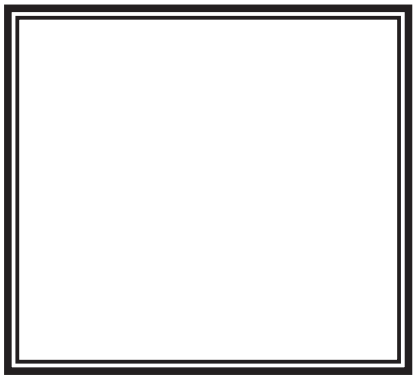
Dark Ochre Brown
3 Pfennig
HAN H 755.13 at bottom

May 1906



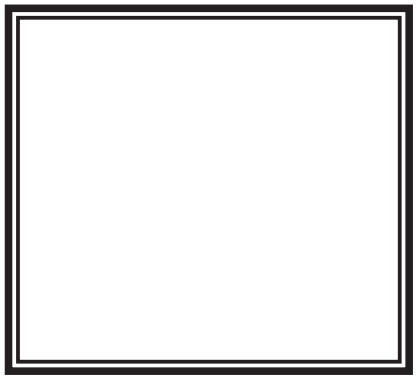
(Dark) Green
5 Pfennig
HAN H 966 at bottom

May 1906



(Dark) Green
5 Pfennig
HAN H 2426 at bottom

May 1906



(Dark) Green
5 Pfennig
HAN H 5093 at bottom

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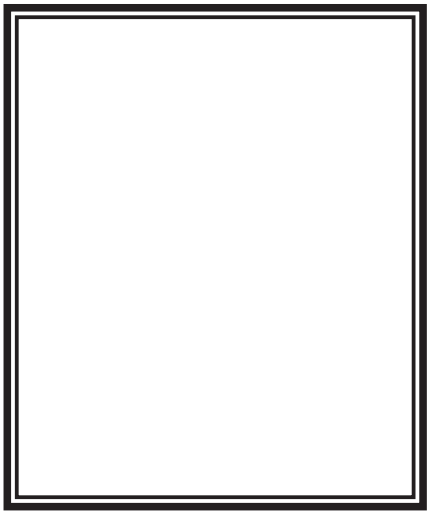
German Southwest Africa
Deutsch-Südwestafrika

Yacht Issues

Order Numbers / Hausauftragsnummern (HAN)

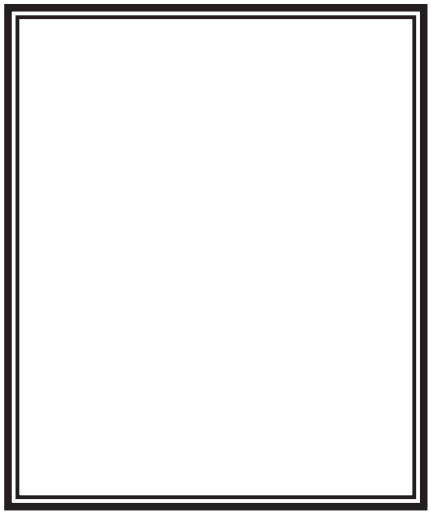
Watermark

May 1906



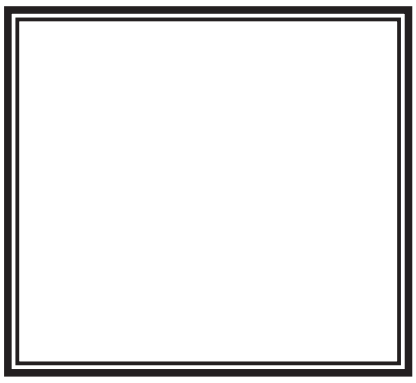
(Dark) Green
5 Pfennig
HAN H 4129.11 at right

May 1906



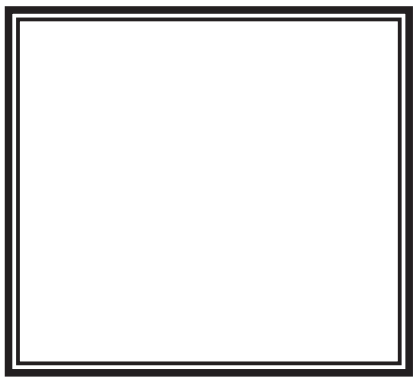
(Dark) Green
5 Pfennig
HAN H 2241.13 at right

May 1906



(Dark) Green
5 Pfennig
HAN H 424.10 at bottom

May 1906



Bright Carmine Red
10 Pfennig
(UV) Lilac Brown
HAN H 966 at bottom

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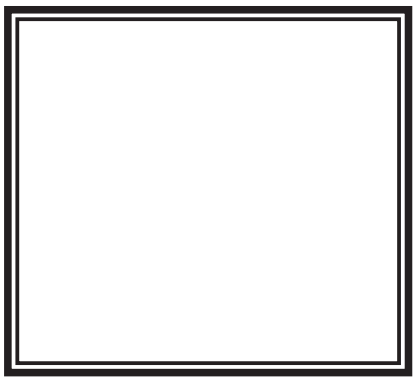
German Southwest Africa
Deutsch-Südwestafrika

Yacht Issues

Order Numbers / Hausauftragsnummern (HAN)

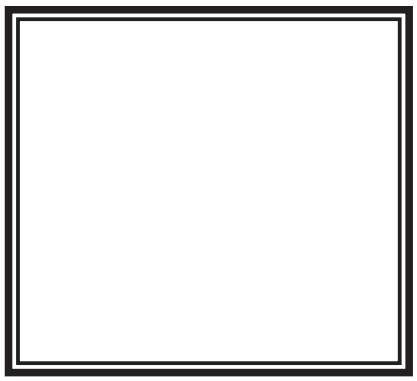
Watermark

May 1906



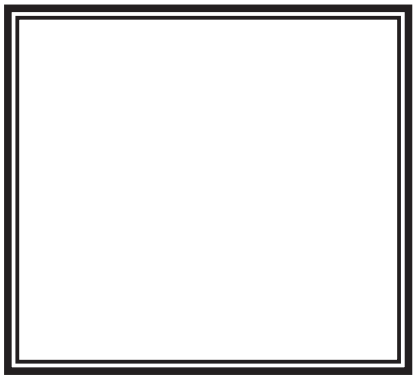
Bright Carmine Red
10 Pfennig
(UV) Lilac Brown
HAN H 2426 at bottom

May 1906



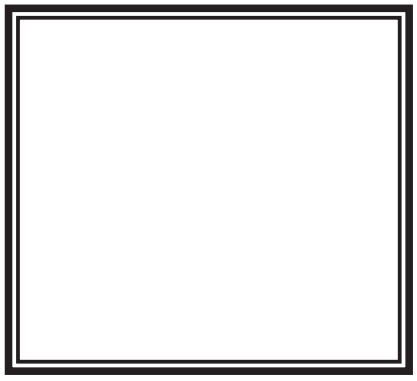
Bright Carmine Red
10 Pfennig
(UV) Lilac Brown
HAN H 3615 at bottom

May 1906



Bright Carmine Red
10 Pfennig
(UV) Lilac Brown
HAN H 5093 at bottom

May 1906



Bright Carmine Red
10 Pfennig
(UV) Lilac Brown
HAN H 424.10 at bottom

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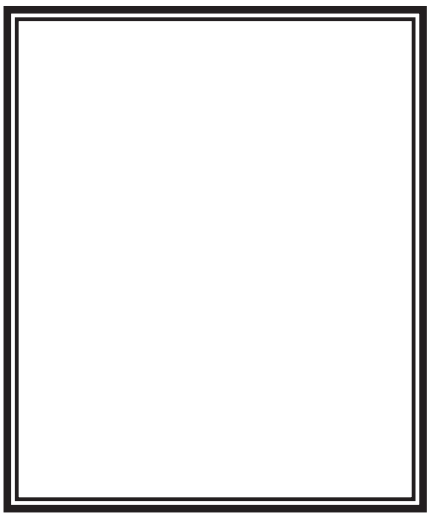
German Southwest Africa
Deutsch-Südwestafrika

Yacht Issues

Order Numbers / Hausauftragsnummern (HAN)

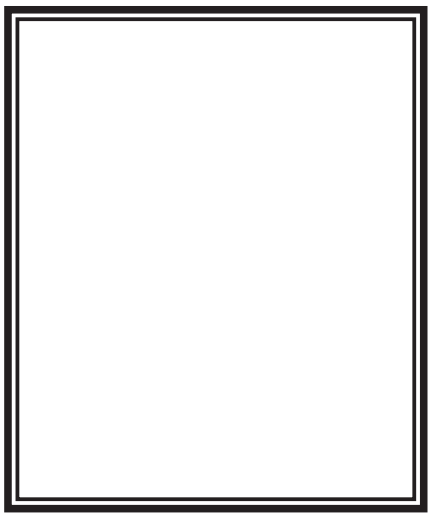
Watermark

1911



Bright Red Carmine
10 Pfennig
(UV) Red
HAN H 4129.11 at right

1911



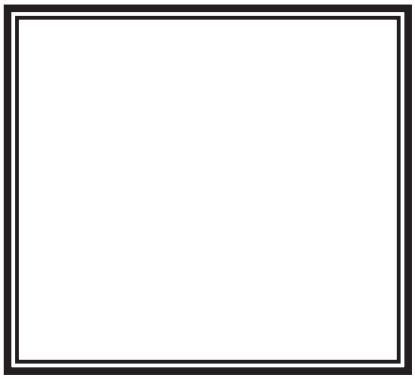
Bright Red Carmine
10 Pfennig
(UV) Red
HAN H 2241.13 at right

1911

Bright Red Carmine
10 Pfennig
(UV) Red
HAN H 2893.13 at left

Though not listed in Michel, HAN H 2893.13 in the left margin is known. It is from the printing of booklet sheets for the 1913/1914 booklet, and can be found next to the upper left stamp of the booklet pane containing six 10 Pfennig stamps.

1911



(Bright) Lilac Ultramarine
20 Pfennig
HAN H 424.10 at bottom

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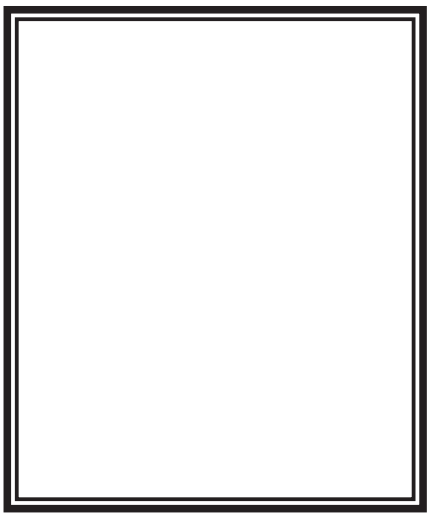
German Southwest Africa
Deutsch-Südwestafrika

Yacht Issues

Order Numbers / Hausauftragsnummern (HAN)

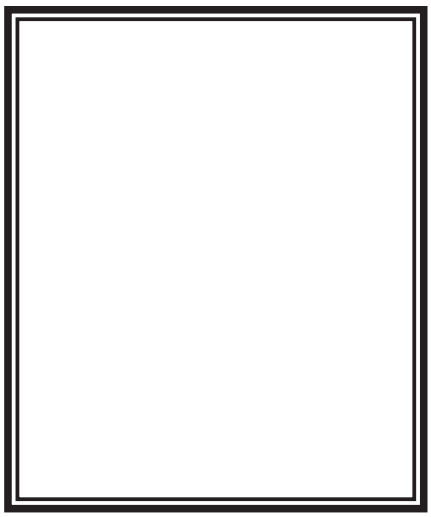
Watermark

1911



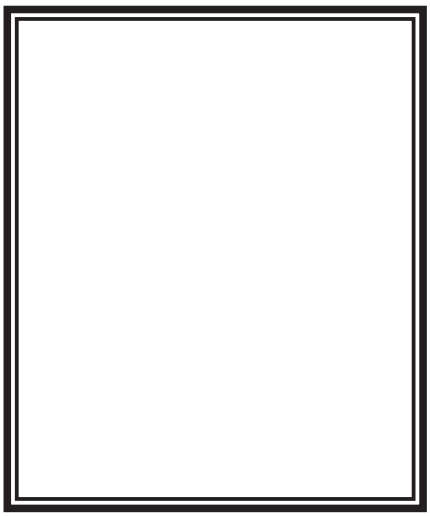
(Bright) Lilac Ultramarine
20 Pfennig
HAN H 4129.11 at right

1911



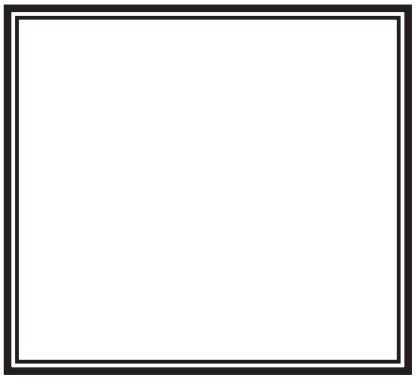
(Bright) Lilac Ultramarine
20 Pfennig
HAN H 2241.13 at right

1911



Dark (Reddish) Orange / Yellow Black on
White to Medium Chrome Yellow
30 Pfennig
HAN H 2068.11 at right

1913



Dark (Reddish) Orange / Yellow Black
on Orange White
30 Pfennig
HAN H 755.13 at bottom

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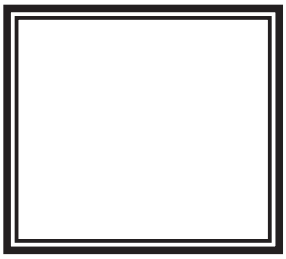
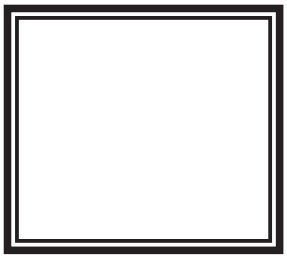
German Southwest Africa
Deutsch-Südwestafrika

General Fee Revenue Stamps

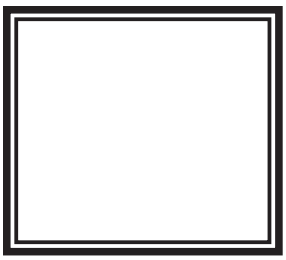
April 1897



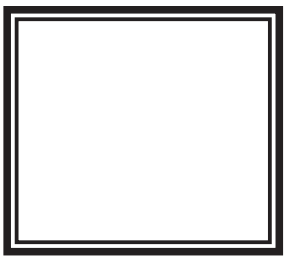
Brown
25 Pfennig



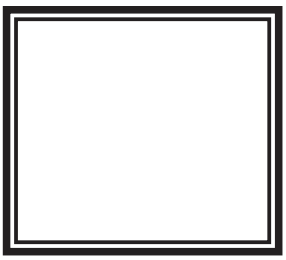
Violet
50 Pfennig



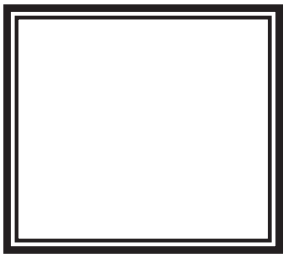
Red
1 Mark



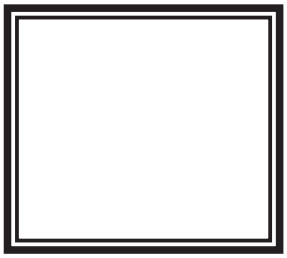
Blue
2 Mark



Olive
3 Mark



Green
5 Mark



Orange
10 Mark

All values other than the 50 Pfennig and 1 Mark are known only as unused proofs printed for the archives of the Bundesdruckerei (German State Printers). They are now available to collectors, but are very rare.

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German Southwest Africa
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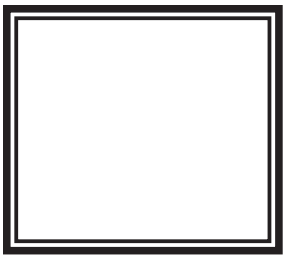
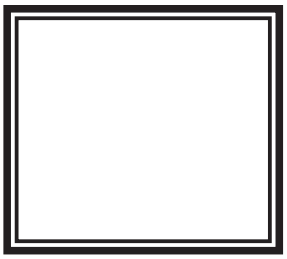
General Fee Revenue Stamps

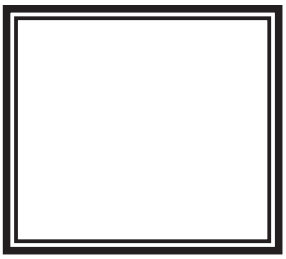
April 1897



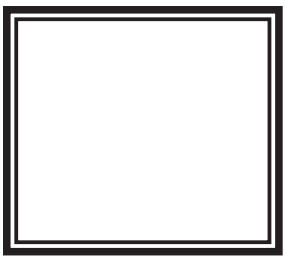
Brown
25 Pfennig



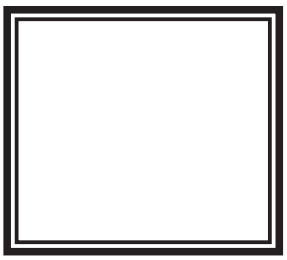
Violet
50 Pfennig



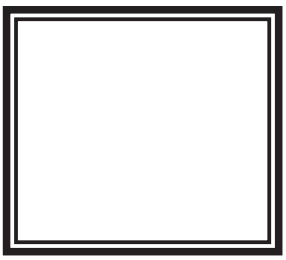
Red
1 Mark



Blue
2 Mark

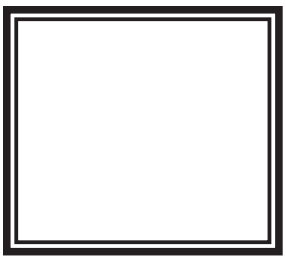


Olive
3 Mark

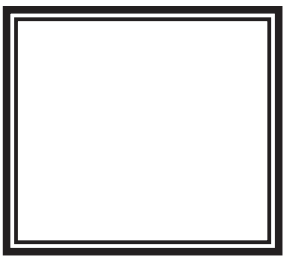


Green
5 Mark

1905



Orange
10 Mark



Red
25 Pfennig on 1 Mark

All values other than the 50 Pf., 1 M., and 25 Pf. on 1 M. are known only as unused proofs printed for the archives of the Bundesdruckerei (German State Printers). They are now available to collectors, but are rare.

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German Southwest Africa
Deutsch-Südwestafrika

Windhuk Native Tax Stamps

1 March 1913

These stamps showing payment of the 1913 Eingeborenen-Steuer (Native Tax) are known in 6 values – 0.25, 0.50, 0.75, 1.00, 1.50, and 2.00 Mark. Mint copies (5 to-date) are known only of the 0.50 Mark value. The 1.50 Mark value is known to have been sent to DSWA, but no copies are known to have survived. All others values are only known used, attached within payment booklets or on pieces cut from the same.

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German Southwest Africa
Deutsch-Südwestafrika

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