

EGYPTIAN TOPICS



VOL. 2
JULY - AUGUST 1970

WH 11
NO. 5



with the editor

Traditionally the new philatelic season begins in the U.S. each year on Labor Day. Now during the warmer summer months, all but the very ardent lay down their albums and turn to the out-of-doors & more physical recreation. Most of the major auctions suspend during the summer in anticipation of the new catalogues and hopefully, higher prices.

Our auctions have not enjoyed the participation we have hoped for, either in the quality of the material or in the quantity of the lots. Some criticism has been noted because of unrealistic reserves. Once again we must point out that the reserves are set by owner not by our auction committee or by Dr. Davis.

Due to this lack of participation consideration has been given to suspension, at least for the time being. However, Dr. Davis believes it can be built up to a point where we can offer good material at fair prices. To accomplish this we need your help. Several letters to us indicate buyers are waiting to bid. Get your lots together now and mail.

Our next auction will be listed in the Sept. Oct. issue of Topics so it is imperative Dr. Davis receive them before the end of August. He must have time for proper listing. Dates are also being extended so our friends overseas will have an opportunity to bid.

AS USUAL, we need more articles, interesting items and illustrations for Topics. We would like to see some new names on the by-lines. Some of our contributors have been with us from the beginning. It is difficult to turn out good copy issue after issue. Everyone is a potential author. Everyone has at least a few elusive and interesting items that would be of interest to our readers. Even if you are not gifted with the pen send us the illustrations and the facts. We'll help you put it together. I've said many times "This is your journal and your contribution is important". Won't you take the time? Now...

The new season will also herald in the Fall and Winter exhibition circuit. Foremost in the public eye probably is PHILLYMPIA '70, the big International to be held in September in London. Many of our members plan to make the trip, and to attend the special meeting of the Egypt Study Circle. Our correspondents promise a full report, possible pictures !!

THE AMERICAN AGENT FOR

THE PHILATELIC SOCIETY OF EGYPT

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Published six times yearly, at Los Angeles.
Subscription \$3.00 per year, US and CANADA.
Overseas subscriptions, add \$1.00 for post.



SOME NOTES...

on the 1866 Issue

W. F. BILLENS

1 A RETOUCH ON THE 20 PARAS

In recent issues of L'ORIENT PHILATELIQUE, Drs. Peter A. S. Smith (Nos. 117 & 118) and Sava Michel Vestarkis (No. 121) have initiated a fine compilation of the known flaws and retouches of Egypt's early issues.

Dr Vestarkis illustrates, in his photo 7, what he describes as "... a major variety. The two numerals "2" and "0" in the lower left corner are attached together due to the presence of a large white patch which joins their upper sides."

I, too, include this flaw in my collection. It is illustrated in Figure I.



Fig. 1.

N° 14



N° 489

2.

In addition, I have a 20 Paras which appears to be a stippled retouch of this same flaw (Figure 2). Neither of these items are proofs or imperfs; the photographer worked too closely to include perforation. The flaw is perf. $12\frac{1}{2} \times 13$, as in Dr. Vestarkis' example; the retouch however, is a perf. $12\frac{1}{2} \times 12\frac{1}{2}$.

Continued on next page

2 OVERPRINT FLAW ON THE 5 PIASTRE N° 77

FIGURE 3, at the right, illustrates a five Piastre proof with a very pronounced flaw, in the form of a diagonal slash through the upper Arabic inscription. It gives the appearance of a knife-cut all across the printing surface.

* * *

These notes have been in the hands of your Editor for some time. Publication has purposely been held up at the request of Dr. Peter Smith in the hope that more information might be obtained, particularly with respect to the sheet positions. Unfortunately, this information did not arrive from England in time. When we do receive further notes, rest assured they will appear on these pages.

A great deal of work in the classification of the types of overprints has been done by enthusiasts of the first issue, and in this connection Mr. Billens notes that both the overprint and the background of the 20 Para illustrated in Figure I are Type 2., while the overprint on Figure II is Type 5, with background Type 10. As far as we know the overprints on the 5 P.T. are unclassified.



Fig. 3.

3 THE CELEBRATED "ZIFTA & MITG." BISECT!

I am the lucky (?) purchaser of the 2 Piastre bisect cover described in a previous issue of EGYPTIAN TOPICS by Dr. Smith. I confess after very careful examination, I still do not know whether I bought a bargain or blew a bundle! Figures 4 and 5 are the cover in question and, for comparison, a Zifta & Mitg. cover where authenticity is not in doubt. Figures 4a and 5a are the reverse of these same two covers.

On the positive side I can add little more than Dr. Smith has already mentioned, (a) the dates are correct for the authentic usage; (b) the cancellations are dimensionally correct, (c) the cover is allegedly signed by an accepted expert of his day.

I, for one, am willing to accept the fact that bisect usage was authorized only for

Alexandria and Cairo. But it does not strain my imagination to picture a postal employee of this period, seeing a cover from the big city, franked with a bisect, concluding that he could do the same and thereby, perhaps, use up his 2 Piastre supply. Thus, the cover could be genuine even though officially unauthorized.

Negatively, however, there is some fairly damning evidence. The diamond of dots, separating "POSTE VICE-REALI EGIZIANE" from "ZIFTA & MITG." is clearly apparent on the comparison cover . . . it appears as two dashes on the bisect cover. This may very well prove the fatal flaw. Yet the "BIRKET EL-SAB" on the reverse is a diamond cluster! Could the forger have goofed on one and not on the other?

Continued on next page

3. THE CELEBRATED "ZIFTA & MITG." BISECT (Continued)

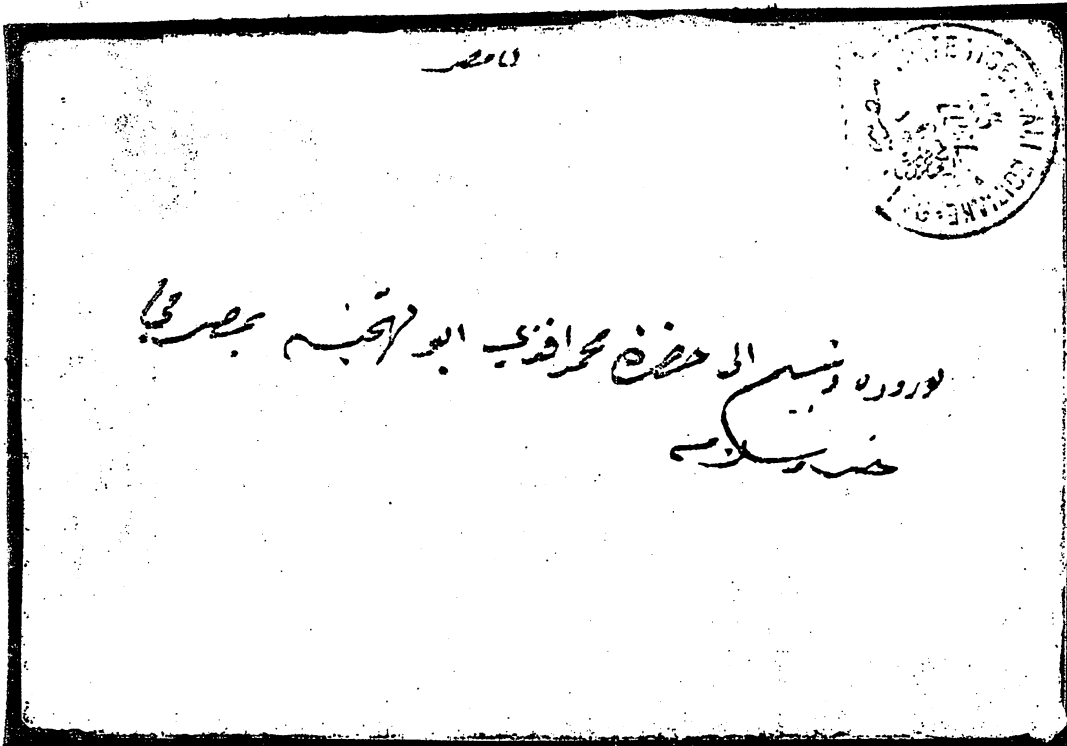


Fig 4

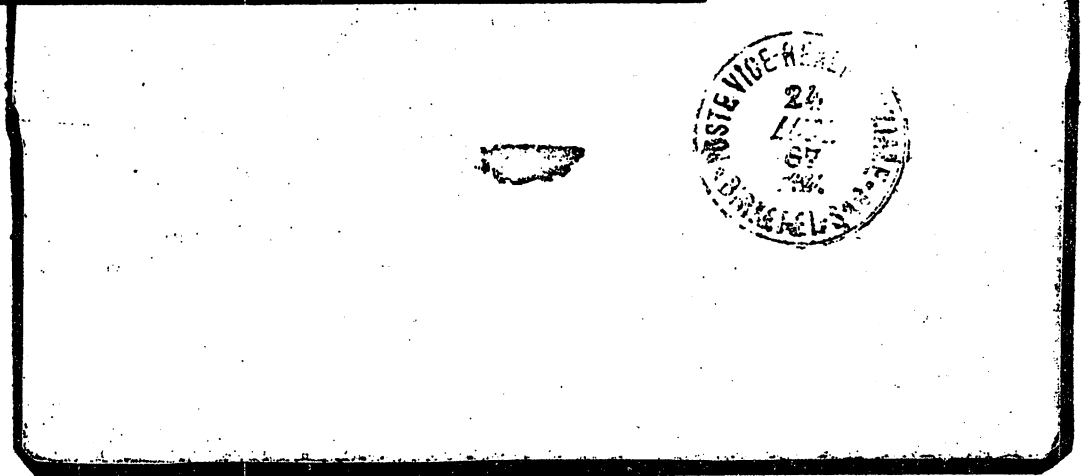


Fig 4a

Equally suspicious is the fact that the lettering of the cancels on the two covers are not radially equal. Draw a line through the bottom corner of the "E" in "POSTE" and the upper corner of the first "E" in "EGIZIANE". Now draw a parallel line 1/4 inch below. On the bisect cover, the second line touches the "P" in "POSTE" and the "Z" of "EGIZIANE" . . . on the comparison cover, this is below "P" and directly through "I" ! Or is it possible that the Zifta & Mitg. office had two date stamp tools ?

Dr. Smith has already observed the absence of the usual second date strike.

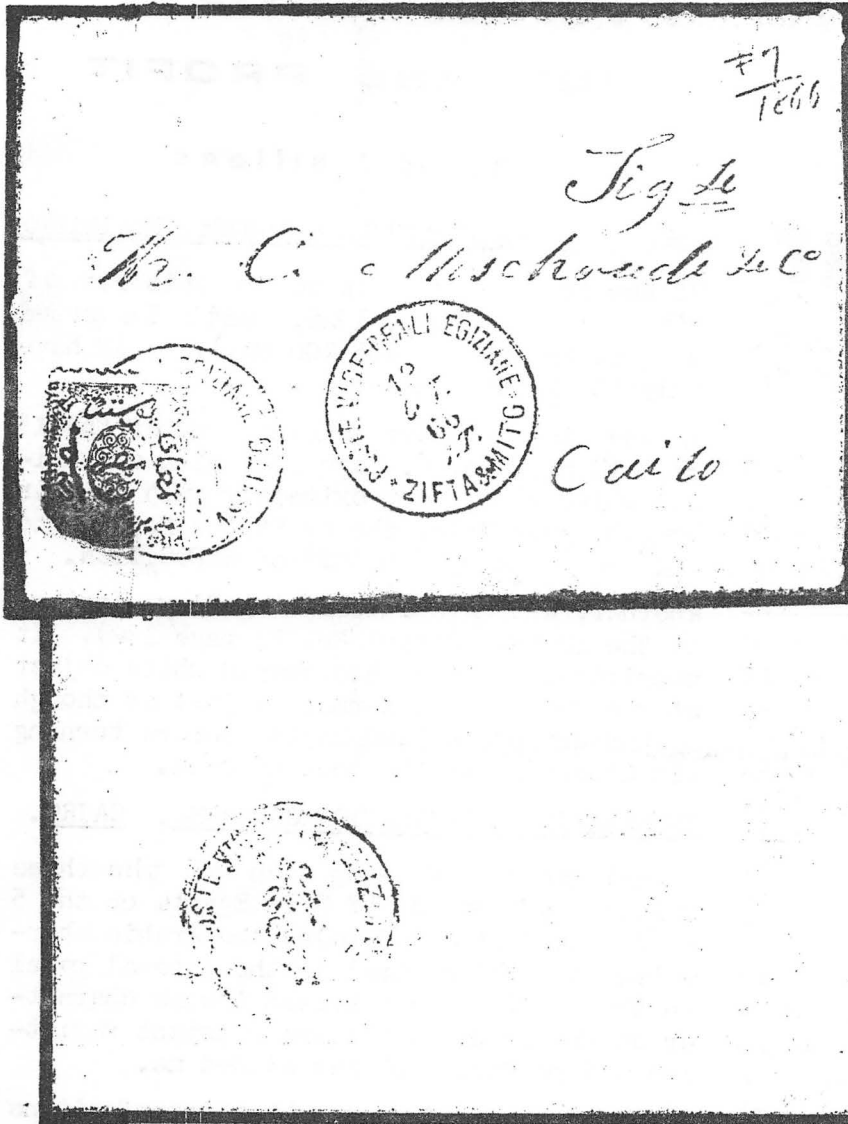
I do not detect a possible removal of a 1 Piastre, but anyone clever enough to forge this well may have techniques beyond the ability of my magnifying glass.

The cover is not entirely a wrapper, there are four lines of Arabic manuscript inside. Translation might be very helpful. All I can decipher is a date "1867" which is in itself suspicious.

My conclusion ? I fear the worst, while hoping for the best. Of course I will submit the cover to an Expert Committee.

Continued on next page

3. THE CELEBRATED "ZIFTA & MITG." BISECT (CONTINUED)



Figs. 5 & 5a

At the left (Figs. 5 and 5a) are the front and reverse of a "ZIFTA & MITG." cover known to be genuine shown for comparison purposes.

While we held up the article for information on the 20 Paras it inadvertently gave Bill sufficient time to submit the bisect for expertization and his report to me from his letter follows:

"As you know, Peter Smith and I decided to submit the cover to the Expert Committee of the "ROYAL PHILATELIC SOCIETY OF LONDON" and Peter included, for comparison, some examples of the same cancellations whose authenticity was already established. These gentlemen decided that they did not have sufficient material for an adequate comparison and declined to give either "genuine" or "forgery" status!"

"At this time, the authenticity remains in doubt. I am encouraged by the fact that the Royal also fit to be in doubt and did not brand it an obvious weed!"

This cover will now be submitted to the expert committee in London of the Egypt Study Circle for an opinion, and I am sure Bill will advise us of their finding.

* * *

EGYPTIAN TUBERCULOSIS SEAL—1945



Admittedly non-philatelic nevertheless we believe this item, of at least collateral status, seldom seen in the U.S. will be of interest.

A booklet pane of four, carmine-red, is rouletted. Note colored guide lines.

Block is without gum & carries a large double-ring handstamp on the reverse in purple; 38 mm. in diameter with the rings 7 mm. apart and inscribed within the rings in English "WOMEN HEALTH IMPROVEMENT ASSOCIATION" with the same legend in Arabic in the center.

* * *



PARDON EFFENDI!
A FEW FREE WORDS
HERE MEAN PROFIT

bazaar

There is never a charge for WANTS or OFFERS listed for our readers in Egyptian Topics.

* * *

EXCHANGE A. S. MICHRIK M.D., 520 Franklin ave., NYC, N.Y., 11530, has a very extensive collection of varieties & imperf. He would be delighted to compare notes and exchange with any interested reader.

OFFER - "CARE OF MR. WAGHORN" a biography by Marjorie Sankey. The special series, it is No. 19, published by the Postal History Society in 1964. Total printing 100 copies. A valuable reference work, and a real collector's item. Over 125 pages including bibliography and three plates; one a portrait of Waghorn and two of Waghorn statues. The book is in mint condition. Only one copy is available. Write now to S. NAIDITCH, 3638 N. Canon Blvd., Altadena, California, 91001

WANTED Avid collector of the Egyptian overprints, WEBER STEARNS, P. O. Box 112, Astor Station, Boston, Mass., 02123, is interested in literature (in English) on the Port Fouads and the 1879 - 2½ P. T., surcharged 5 and 10 Mills. L'OP, H.F. Lowe, etc.

WANTED by the editor; A copy of L'OP No. 63 to complete his file. Badly needed for research and inclusion in the bibliography being run each month now in Egyptian Topics.

TELL A COLLECTOR FRIEND TODAY OR GIVE HIM A SUBSCRIPTION TO THE "SPECIALIST'S JOURNAL, FOR COLLECTOR'S OF EGYPT AND THE SUDAN. IT WOULD BE A THOUGHTFUL REMINDER SIX TIMES A YEAR AT THE LOW COST OF ONLY \$3.00 (U.S.)

BENJAMIN BABINGTON urgently needs stamps of the Sudan (USED). He offers up to 75% of Scott. See our last issue for a detailed list Write: 48 Hill St., Apt. 12c, Morristown, New Jersey, 07960.

DOES ANYONE have a spare copy of L'OP No. 28 for PETER FELTUS? Write: 4970 Desmond St., Oakland, California, 94613. . . .

PHILATELIC FUN AND PROFIT

By W. F. Billens

1926 XIITH AGRICULTURAL & INDUST. EXHIBITION

Of the three values listed in this set of six, issued March 1, 1926, with inverted watermarks (5, 50 and 100 mm.), I have only the latter, however . . .

In addition, I have a mint copy of the 15 mm. (Zeheri No. 6, page 152) with a vertical white line, approximately 2.5 mm. in length, just below the ox in the foreground and located above the "S" of EXPOSITION.

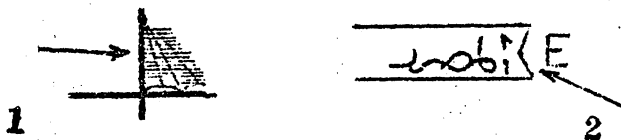
Another, and more interesting flaw, appears on the 10 mm. (Zeheri No. 5, page 132). It consists of a horseshoe shaped white object at the foot of the farmer - just as though he had dropped a hand scythe before turning his attention to the team of oxen.

INTERNATIONAL NAVIGATION CONGRESS, CAIRO.

Zeheri lists a flaw on each of the three values: a blotted "Y" in Egypte on the 5 Mill, an extra dot below the Arabic character at right central in the lateral panel on the 10 Mill and a broken Arabic character on the 15 Mill. All are constant varieties and so far, each has eluded me.

I have discovered two other imperfections on the 5 Mill denomination (Zeh. No. 11 on page 133).

First is a distinct break in the black horizontal shading, just to the right center of the main mast, creating the impression of a hole in the sail: Illus. 1.



Second is a clear break in the first Arabic character in the upper left label. Illus. 2

Along with these, I have two copies of the higher values (10 & 15 mm.) with the black vignette off-center horizontally by nearly a full millimeter.

(To be continued in our next issue.)

AN INTERESTING DISCOVERY. . .**EGYPT AIRMAIL****Overprint Double**By **Gino Piperno**

The opportunity recently presented itself and I was able to buy a more or less advanced collection of Egyptian stamps. Was most agreeably surprised to find, among the airmail set of 1952-1953, Zeheri No. 76-87, Scott Nos. 78-89, with three bars, overprinted (i.e., the ordinary airmail issued in 1947, overprinted "KING OF EGYPT AND THE SUDAN"), a copy of the 3 Milliemes denomination showing the ARABIC OVERPRINT 'DOUBLE'.

It may be supposed that the original sheet of 50 stamps (5 x 10), with this overprint was lying in the stock of the Post Office among hundreds of other sheets of this same value which were later overprinted with the three bars (or possibly six bars) later regularly sold through the normal postal channels.



I will add that, during my stay in Egypt up until 1958, this double overprint was unknown to collectors there, and in the last (1967) edition of the Zeheri catalogue, it is not yet listed. My thought now is this; where are the other forty-nine stamps which made up this sheet; And why, up until now, has this double overprint never been reported in the philatelic press?

Now that Egyptian Topics is read in several countries around the world, I would be very much obliged to readers of this journal, if any who may already possess this interesting variety would be kind enough to advise me of the existence of any other specimens of this overprint.

Any communication may be addressed directly to me at 6 Piazza Gramsci, 20154 Milan, Italy, or through the editor of Egyptian Topics. My thanks to any who may be able to help.

* * *

Mr. Piperno is a knowledgeable collector and a well known specialist in the stamps of Egypt and the Sudan. He has written extensively in the philatelic press.

He is particularly knowledgeable in the area of the postage dues of 1884 to 1888, the first three definitive issues, 1866-1878, Egypt Used Abroad, and inverted watermarks.

He has written numerous articles for the Philatelic Society of Egypt in L'Orient Philatelique and articles in Egyptian Topics. (Ed.)

ALOHAFrom the land
of surf and sunshine**HAWAII**

Welcomes you to

**HAPEX-APS 70****November 5 - 8, 1970**

POST OFFICES OF *Egypt* AND THE *Sudan*

WITH TPO'S AND RURAL STATIONS OF 1892

CONTINUED FROM OUR PREVIOUS ISSUE: Vol. 2, No. 4, page 86

N

NABARO 3
 NABTIT 7, by Chibin-el-Kanater
 NACHART-EL-GUEDIDA 1
 NADER 7, by Menouf
 NADIBA 7, by Damanhour
 NAGGAR 5
 NAGHI HAMADI 1
 NAHARIA 7, by Kafr-el-Zayat
 NAKADA 1
 NAKARIA 7, by Zagazig
 NAKHAS 7, by Zagazig
 NANAIEYA 5
 NAWA 1
 NAWASSA-EL-BAHR 7, by Samanoud
 NAWASSA-EL-GHEIT 7, by Samanoud
 NAZALI GANOUB 1
 NEFICHA 3
 NEGUILA 2
 NEKITA 7, by Mansoura
 NEKHELA 8
 NEKLA-EL-ENAB 1
 NOUBRA 7, by Beni Souef

O

OM-EL-ZEIN 7, by Zagazig
 OLD CAIRO 3

P

PORT SAID 1
 PORT TEWFICK (Suez) 2

R

RAHBIN 3
 RAMADI 8
 RAHMANIA 3
 RAMLE (Alexandria) 2
 RAMSIS 7, by Teh-Baroud
 RAS-EL-KHALIG 1
 RAS-EL-TIN (Alexandria) 2
 RAWAFEH 7, by Schag
 REKKA 3
 REFA 7, by Assiout
 RODA 1
 RODA 7, by Edwa
 ROSETTA 1
 ROUBIAT 7, by Edwa

S

SAADIEN 7, by Mit-Yazeed
 SAFT-EL-KHAMMAR 7, by Minia
 SAFT-EL-MELOUK 3
 SAFT RACHIN 7, by Beba
 SAHEL-EL-GAWABER 7, by Tala
 SAHRAGT-EL-SOGHARA 7, by Mit Ghamr
 SAHRAGT-EL-KOBRA 7, by Mit Ghamr
 SAKHA 1
 SALAKA 7, by Samanoud
 SALAMOUN 5
 SALHAGAR 5
 SALHIA 1
 SALHIA 7, by Kena
 SAMALOUT 1
 SAMANOUD 1
 SANABO 7, by Nazali-Ganoub
 SANAFI 7, by Mit-Ghamr
 SANDAEAST 7, by Zefta
 SANDAWA 7, by Chibin-el-Kanater
 SANDOUB 7, by Mansoura
 SANHOUR 3
 SANHOUR-EL-MEDINA 7, by Chabas
 SANNHWA 7, by Mit-Yazeed
 SAN STEFANO (Alexandria-Ramle) 3
 SANTA 1
 SARD 7, by Kotour
 SAWAKIN 2
 SARSAMOUS 7, by Batanoun
 SCHUTZ (Alexandria-Ramle) 3
 SEBOUH 6
 SEDFA 1
 SEDOUD 7, by Menouf
 SELWA 8
 SEMBELLAWAIN 1
 SENOURES 1
 SIRIAKOS 7, by Marg
 SERS Lajan 7, by Menouf
 SETRIS 5
 SERSENA 7, by Tala
 SIAFA 7, by Toukh
 SIALA 6
 SIDI GABER 3
 SIMOKHRAT 7, by Rahmania
 SINBO MAKAM 7, by Mit Ghamr
 SINGUIRG 7, by Menouf
 SIROU 7, by Ras-el-Khalig

Z

SOHAG 1
SOROUMBAY 5
SOUBK-EL-TALST 1
SOL 7, by Wasta
SUEZ 1

T

TAFAHNA-EL-EZAB 7, by Mit Bara
TAHNACHA 7, by Minia
TAHTA 1
TAHA BOUCHE 7, by Beni-Souef
TAHANOUB 7, by Chibin-el-Kanater
TALA 1
TALLA 7, by Minia
TAMALAY 7, by Menouf
TAMBOUL-EL-KOBRA 7, by Sembellawein
TANAH 7, by Mansoura
TANTA 1
TALKHA 8
TAL MAWIN 7, by Zagazig
TAL MOSMAR 7, by Zagazig
TANT-EL-GUEZIRA 7, by Toukh
TARCHOUB 7, by Beba
TAYEBA 7, by Zagazig
TAYEBAT MECMA 7, by Nabaro
TAWADER 7, by Guerga
TEH-EL-BAROUD 1
TEH-EL-KEBIR 1
TEMA 1
TERIA 1
TETA 7, by Mencuf
TEWFIKIAH 3
TOCHKA 2
TOD 7, by Teh-El-Baroud
TOKAR 3
TONNAMEL GHARBI 7, by Mit-Ghamr
TONOUB 7, by Kafr-el-Zayat
TOR 4
TOUKH 1
TOUKH-EL-AKLAM 7, by Sembellawein
TOUKH TAMBECHA 7, by Birket-el-Sab
TOURA 8

W

WADI-HALFA (TEWFIKIEH) 1
WAKAD 3
WANINA 7, by Sohag
WARDAN 1
WASTA 1
WAT 7, by Menouf

Y

YAHODIA 7, by Kom-Hamada

ZAA TRA 7, by Ras-el-Khalig
ZANKALON 7, by Zagazig
ZAGAZIG 1
ZAHRIA 8
ZAOUYET GHAZAL 7, by Damanhour
ZAOUYET-EL-NAOURA 7, by Menouf
ZARKOUN 7, by Damanhour
ZARCA 7, by Ras-el-Khalig
ZEFTA 1

The dispatch and arrival of all foreign mail going to Europe, Turkey, Africa, and America goes mostly through (except for the Mediterranean area completely) Alexandria, although some mail goes from Port Said. British, French, Austrian, Egyptian, Italian and Russian vessels are used. Mail going to and from the Red Sea Coast, Asia and Oceania goes via Suez in Dutch, Egyptian, Italian, British, German, and French vessels.

Railroads to Alexandria include a Rosetta - Alexandria line and a Cairo - Alexandria line (and Vice versa).

Branch offices in Alexandria are
Ramleh (Bacos) - Ramleh (Bulkley)
Ramleh (Schutz) - Ras-el-Tin
Ramleh (San Stefano) Sidi Gaber
Minet-el-Bassal - Mex

Letter Boxes in Alexandria are
Attarine Street - Fort Napoleon
Caracol Attarine - Coptic Church
Caracol in the Square - Bourse
Custom House - Hospital (European)
Khedivial Steamship Office - Midan
Minet-el-Bassal - Hotel Abbat
Municipality Office - Sister's St.
Mixed Tribunals - Railway Sta Gov't
Railway Sta Ramleh - Moharren Bey
Ras-el-Tin's St-Ras-el-Tin Palace



RALPH TIPPER

Varieties On OFFICIALS

While many of us look for the elusive varieties on the classics, most of which are expensive, another area of Egyptian philately is wide open to us. We mean of course, the overprinted "OFFICIALS", Among them the issues of 1914-15, 1921-22 and 1922-23.

The overprints on the 1914 and 1922 issues listed above were typographed by the Government Printing Works at Boulac, and as a re-

sult many interesting varieties occur. Many are constant and looking for them can be half the fun in collecting.

Oddly enough, in this series of typographs, the four low values of the Harrison printing were overprinted, also at Boulac, but - by lithography. (Zeheri Nos. 17 through 20 pages 267-8). Naturally, the overprinted items also showed the original ptg. faults.

THE ONE MILLIEME VALUE



A NEARLY
NORMAL EXAMPLE

ONE LEG
OF "H"
SHORTER



"ALEF" LOOKS
LIKE AN
EXCLAMATION
MARK

OVERPRINTS SHOWING THE RISING REGISTER



VERY
HIGH
PATCH
ON SAIL



OTHER VARIETIES SUCH AS THE BROKEN "O", ROUND STOP AFTER THE "S", ETC.

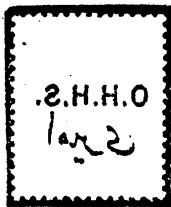
(Continued on next page)

1914 - 15 OFFICIALS - VARIETIES

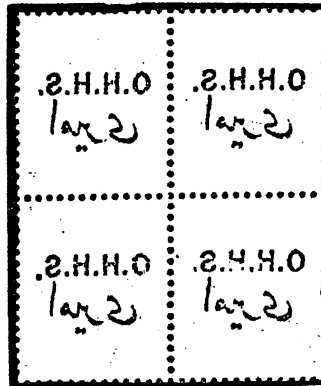
A FORM OF OFFSET

All Overprinting of Egyptian stamps for Official use except the issues of 1907 and 1924, was done by the Government printers at Boulac. Not only was the plant and the

equipment antiquated but many of the printers were inexperienced. This created naturally, a great many varieties, to be found on these official issues.



On 3 Mill
"Orange"



On block of four
1 Mill - "brown"



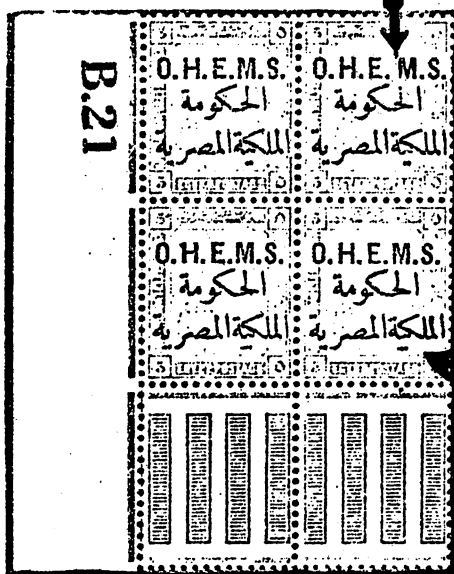
On 2 Mill
"Green"

The items shown above were caused by allowing the inked type to strike the bed of the press before the sheet to be overprinted was inserted and, when it was fed into the it received, not only the normal overprint on the surface but, it also picked up a reversed overprint on the gummed side.

These are fairly scarce and are found only on mint stamps or, used specimens that retain the original gum.

The broken "ALEF" variety is also found offset on the reverse. (See notes on the 2 Mill variety).

1922 - 23 VARIETY "M" SPACED OUT FROM "E"



Third diamond shaped dot on both lower stamps.

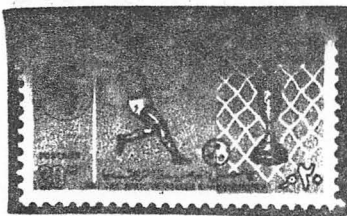
The block of four illustrated at the right is from the lower left hand corner of a sheet of 100 bearing the control number B.21. It is from the first printing of the overprint. (Printing A), Zeh. No. 25-e.

This variety occurs on the upper right stamp which is No. 82 on the sheet. It also occurs on No. 86 on the second printing (B). The difference between the third stop (after 'E') and the letter 'M' is normally about 1/2 mm. In our illustration it is over 1 mm. and the length of the first line of the overprint is correspondingly different than the normal.

The pillars seen on the selvedge below the two bottom stamps is found on most of the British printings. Its function is to prevent any attempt to use this space for producing fakes. (i.e., forgeries on the genuine paper).

UNITED ARAB REPUBLIC

AFRICA DAY

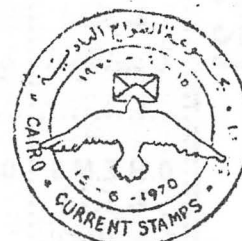


A commemorative set issued in salute to the Egyptian players for their struggle to achieve victory in the competition for the Fifth African Football cup for the 1968-69 season, and for the Third African basketball cup for 1970. Also to commemorate the UPAF POSTA SEMINAR.

DATE OF ISSUE: 25 May, 1970
 DENOMINATION: 3 stamps each 20 Mills
 DESIGNS: (1) Emblems of the UPO, African Postal Union and the U P U.
 (2) A football player, a cup and map of Africa
 (3) A player & basketball
 DIMENSIONS: 42 x 25 mm.
 PERFORATION: 11 1/2
 SHEET: 50 stamps - 1 vert., 2 horiz.
 COLORS: Beige, light blue, pea green and yellow ochre
 WATERMARK: Multiple Eagle
 PRINTING: Rotogravure - Postal Organization Printing House in U A R
 CONTROLS: Date of Printing & Serial No.
 QUANTITY: 1,000,000 of each stamp

HIGH VALUE DEFINITIVE

DATE OF ISSUE: 15 June, 1970
 DENOMINATION: LE 1
 DESIGN: The Head of Khafraa
 DIMENSIONS: 40 x 40 mm.
 PERFORATION: 11 1/2
 SHEET: 35 stamps (5 x 7)
 COLORS: Gray-green and orange
 WATERMARK: ** Unwatermarked
 PRINTING: Rotogravure - Postal Organization Printing House in U A R
 CONTROL: Date of Issue & Serial Number
 QUANTITY: Initial printing not listed



** CORRECTION: We inadvertently listed the 1, 5, 10 and 50 m. definitives with watermark in our last issue. The Postal Authority now advises us they are unwatermarked. Also, correct dimensions are 30 x 24 mm.

The Postal Authority also lists this new 1 pound value as unwatermarked, however, the copy I have shows a large & distinct watermark, visible to the naked eye.

The four remaining denominations will be issued in 1971.

It is also interesting to note that the head of "KHAFFRAA", in the gray-green color is misplaced one mm. to the right. The nose of the statue appears orange. Would be interested to know if this is common or peculiar to this sheet only? (Ed.)

Postal Cancellations ON

EGYPTIAN FISCAL STAMPS

By *Garrett B. Corbett*

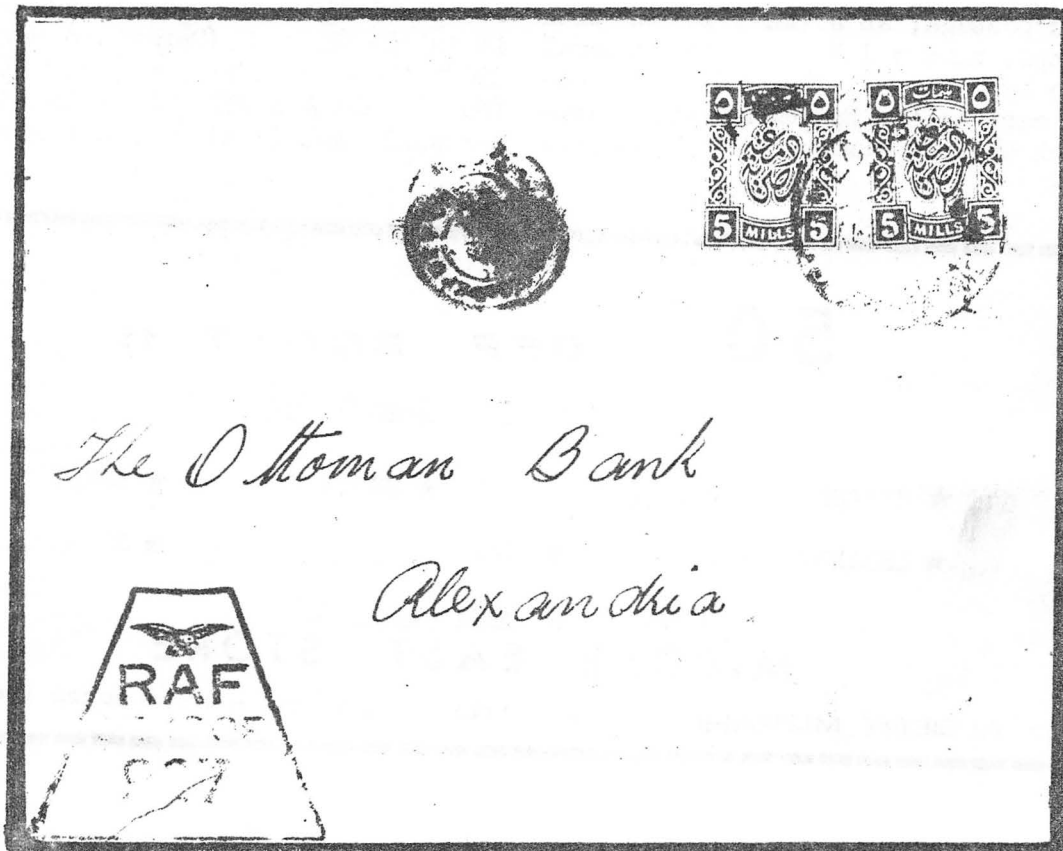
Some very interesting articles on the postal cancellations and the usage of Egyptian Fiscal stamps appeared in Vol. 1, No. 6 and in Vol. 2, No. 3 of Egyptian Topics. Written by Dr. Peter A.S. Smith, these articles advised us of four separate types of usage, among which was the rarest emergency use: that of the Field Military forces. Stamps were frequently not obtainable in the normal types and/or denominations and, as an emergency measure, fiscals were permitted for normal postal usage.

Two additional covers have recently come into my hands denoting this unusual use. The first, as noted by Dr. Smith, carries a pair of the 5 Mill fiscals to make the 10 Mill internal rate as the addressee was in Alexandria, Egypt. The cds on the front is dated 12 JL 42 with EGYPT / 17 at the top, and the usual postage prepaid at the bottom

An illegible censor's mark in black appears on the front along with the RAF CENS OF 927 in purple. On the back are the machine markings (Blomfield Type XIII-4) similar to the front but without the fig. 17, dated: 15 JL 42 and Type XIII-5, Alexandria, dated: 16 July - 1942 - 6 AM. This usage corresponds with the period as No. 17 was assigned to the RAF at Heliopolis. It was in use there from 5 December, 1941 until 6 January, 1946.

To me it appears odd that a shortage could occur at this base so close to Cairo particularly in view of the large amount of military traffic to and from the city daily.

Is this an isolated case or, does this mean that the Egyptian Postal Authorities chose to look the other way during wartime? This usage was quasi-official at best. We have been of the belief that it was tolerated as an emergency measure only?




POSTAL CANCELLATIONS ON EGYPTIAN FISCAL STAMPS (Continued from preceding page)




The second cover, even more interesting, is addressed to Vienna, Austria, franked with 32 Mills in postage; an airmail letter with normal stamps, plus a 1 Mill of the general all-purpose type fiscal. There are no back-stamps. It carries the Egyptian censor marking in black and the Austrian censor mark-

ing in purple with a large "330"/Z.1. This marking is 30 mm. in diameter. The Egyptian cds in black, is nearly illegible, however it is the CAIRO D (Departure marking) dated 23 SE 50 - 7 A (Type Dep-8). THERE IS NOTHING TO INDICATE ITS USE BY THE MILITARY and certainly not in time of emergency ?



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SEND YOUR WANT LIST TO

MIDDLE EAST STORE



ALBERT MIZRAHI P. O. BOX 1325

MISSION, KANSAS 66222, U.S.A.



CURRENT MARKET NOTES

BY ADAM Z. CZARNECKI

H. R. HARMER LTD., of London held an auction on March 16-18, 1970, which included some 90 lots of Egypt, 1866-1951, including many multiples; some of the more interesting items (OG or part OG unless stated otherwise) are as follows: Prices have been converted to dollars from English pounds.

- 1874-75 - 20 para vertical pair, imperf between (little toned) \$ 93.60
- 2 P.T. (13½ x 12½) T-B in a block 91.20
- 2½ P.T. (12½), blk, ctr. stmp inv. 124.80
- 1922 - OVERPRINTS (Monarchy) . . .
- 1 m., dbl ovrpt. Blk of four 81.60
- 1 m., inv. ovrpt. " " " 62.40
- 2 m., dbl. " " " " 67.20
- 20 m., " " " " " 96.00
- 20 m., horiz pr., with inv. ovrpt. 55.80
- 50 m., inv. ovrpt. (single) 100.80
- 100 m., double overprint 76.80
- 1923 - 4 - Harrison essay, Zeh 95, Block of four, LE 1, green 144.00
- LE 1, Zeh. #93, Scott # 104 in a marginal block of nine. 144.00

- 1926 - Bthdy Sht. 25, Zeh. 118 \$ 312.00
- Ditto - Imp. top, single few stains, Scott # 114 81.60
- Agricul. Issue, 15 m. on 200 m. surcharge double, stained 79.20
- PORT FOUAD, 15 m. (U), dbl. bar 45.60
- " " set (used) 216.00
- " " 50 P.T. (U) perf. var.cr. 180.00
- 1929 - Farouk bthdy, Col. ctrs. 105.60
- " " Blks of four 276.00
- 1932 - 100 m. on LE 1, avg. blk 120.00
- 1934 - U.P.U. set, marg. blks. 192.00
- 1937 - Birthday, LE 1, block 96.00
- 1943 - Princess Ferial, 5 - 5, with error L493 in marg. blk. of 8. 55.20
- 1946 - Air Cong. "MEANS", ovrpt dbl 72.00
- " " overprint inverted 86.40

ERRATA

1947 Air post, 7 m. imp. horiz. pair, O.G. p. 87, Vol. 2, No. 4, (5-6/70 Topics) should read: sold for \$22.00 instead of \$8.00.

EARLY WWII BRITISH OCCUPATION ISSUE

Year	Scott No.	Description	MINT	Per 1 -	Per 5	USED	Per 1 -	5
<u>M. E. F. - FOR USE IN ERITREA, CYRENAICA, ETC.</u>								
1942	1-5	First issue (5)	\$.30	\$ 1.35		\$.35	\$ 1.75	
		" " - on piece				.50		
		" " - on cover				.75		
1943	5-13	Second Issue (9)	1.50	7.00		1.50	7.00	
		" " - on piece				1.90		
1947	14-15	5 sh and 10 sh (2)	5.50	-		-	-	
1942	J 1-5	Postage Dues (5)	.40	1.75		.40	1.75	
1942	1-5	Cairo Prints (5) - A specialized lot, including mint blocks of 20 (4x5) showing both the "round stop" and "square stop" varieties, covers, etc. - P.O.R.						
1942	1-5	London Prints (5) - Mint vertical blocks of 20 (2x10) with full LH sheet margins and plate numbers - -						6.60
1943	5-8	Second Issue (8) - Mint vertical blocks of 20 (2x10)						
	10-13	with full LH sheet margins and plate numbers - -						17.50
<u>E. A. F. - FOR USE IN ITALIAN SOMALILAND</u>								
1943	1-8	First Issue (8)	.80	3.50		.80	3.50	
1946	9	2 sh 6 p (1)	1.00	-		1.00	-	

I HAVE A COMPREHENSIVE STOCK OF EGYPT - MAY I HAVE YOUR WANT LIST ?

FLOYD H. DAEHN - 5849 PARK AVE., MINNEAPOLIS, MINNESOTA 55417

LOOK

THE PHILATELIC LITERATURE OF EGYPT

"AN ANNOTATED RESEARCH BIBLIOGRAPHY"

By GORDON B. GARRETT

With valuable assistance from CHARLES FOX

SECTION III - THE DEFINITIVE ISSUES (Continued from Vol. 2, No. 4.)

- L'ANTIQUE TERRE DES PHARAONS (L'Histoire Egyptienne et la Philatelie) - DARTEYRE, DIDIER, L'OP, No. 19, Jan., 1934, pp. 4-9 (F). Interesting facts dealing with the antiquities pictured on the 1914 issue and the 50 P.T. and pound value of the Fauds. Well illustrated and of value in writing up a collection for exhibition.
- LES ANCIENS MONUMENTS d'EGYPTE - Author unlisted, L'OP, No. 19 (as above) pp. 17-19. The article (F) includes photos of additional antiquities as they appeared on the issue of 1914 in the style we now denote as "maximum" cards. The photos of the various stamps are superimposed in a corner of each photo. Interesting.
- LES LANGUES EMPLOYEES dans les TIMBRES D'EGYPTE - BOULAD, GABRIEL, L'OP, No. 35, Vol. III pp. 199-206, (F) Covers several issues and some commemoratives from 1st issue thru 1937, illustrated.
- CARTES MAXIMUM - "C.M.", L'OP, No. 35 (as above), pp. 210-11. Commentary on the young King Farouk issue with some commems. illustrated as on maximum cards.
- EGYPTIAN VARIETIES - BOULAD, JEAN (F), L'OP, No. 55, pp. 551-52. Some varieties on the Boulac issue (illustrated) and broken Arabic and English letters on the 30 mill value of Jan. 1939 and a dbl. imp. on the 200 mills of the same set.
- MISPLACED PERFORMATIONS - SMYTH, F. A., L'OP, No. 55, p. 553 on the young Farouk. Also on p. 554, an example of the 1 m. of same issue, off center, and an illustration on the later Farouk issue in blk. of 4 "folded sheet".
- THE FIRST LE 1 OF KING FAROUK - MEGGLE, LEOP., L'OP, No. 78, p. 362. (F) A query concerning the 3 curved marks at the frame line. L'OP. No. 80, p. 489, An answer in English by C. W. Minett with illus. and believes guide lines.
- CHAIN VARIETY OF THE 5 PARAS OF 1867 - DAZZI, ALFREDO, L'OP, NO. 80, Oct. 1952, pp. 511 (F) A discussion of this variety of the 10th stamp of third row of sheet.
- THE BISECTED 2 P.T. OF JULY 1867 - MINETT, C. W., L'OP, No. 80, p. 525. A discussion of a find with false cancellation, on a piece rather than full cover.
- L'EMISSION DE SIWA DE 1942 - MAZLOUM, AHMOUD (F) 131-33, L'OP, No. 83, July, 1953 and in English pp. 153-55, both illustrated with block of 1 m. young Farouk, overprinted SIWA. A private issue from an Italian occupation area. Well described.
- SIWA - RAVEGNANI, GIUSEPPE, Il Collezionista, May, 1953. As above (Ital.).
- NEW ISSUES - VARIETIES - (F) L'OP, No. 83, pp. 157-59. Commentary on the 3 and 6 bars which had then just been issued; also the LE 1 Nefertiti and a variety on the 1 P.T. of 1867 on p. 158. And, on p. 180 by P.A.S.SMITH, a discussion in a letter to M. EID concerning an 1872 1 P.T. variety.
- THE TETE BECHES OF THE 1927 FAUDS - DAZZI, A. L'OP, No. 87, July, 1954, p. 398. (F), A diagram of the sheet with information on the Fauds as cut into booklet pages.
- NOMENCLATURE - The 3 Bar surcharges, controls and varieties - MAZLOUM, A., L'OP, No. 89, (F), P. 4. An article concerning dates, printing, types of bars etc. 10 m. ill.
- PHILATELIE ARCHITECTURALE AU CAIRE - PIATTOLL, Mario, L'OP, No. 91, July, 1955, (F) P. 133. An article on the Mosques in the definitive set issued in 1953.

- VARIETIES OF EGYPT - L'OP, NO. 93, Jan., 1956, pp. 276-78, Various issues briefly listed as to watermarks inverted, extra dots etc. Not illustrated.
- THE PHARAONIC ART. PRINCESS NOFRET - ORDINARY STAMP OF 1957-58 - L'OP, No. 99, Apr-July, 1958, pp. 671-72. The story of Nofret briefly (Illus. in color on cover) with pertinent on the individual stamp from Survey Dept. Additional information on the 2 and 4 mill of the same issue.
- AN INTERESTING VARIETY - L'OP, No. 100, Jan.-Apr., 1959, p. 747. A variety, one stamp with and one without the overprint on the 5 mill palestine definitive (1953).
- NEW ISSUE - 1961 - L'OP, No. 105, Oct. 1961, p. 272. Announcement relating to color changes and perforation. on four values - 1, 4, 10 and 35 mill.
- VARIETE DU TIMBRE DU 1 MILLIEME - (F), L'OP No. 105, p. 289. Relating to the double surcharge on the 1 mill (farmer's wife), the rose-carmine issue. illustrated.
- IS IT A TRIAL OVERPRINT OF BARS ? - EID, M., L'OP, No. 106, Jan., 1962, p. 5. Illustrated. Short bars, $3\frac{1}{2}$ -4 mm. long used with normal (12-13 mm.) bars.
- HOW ARE CONTROL BLOCKS OF STAMPS TO BE PRINTED BY THE NEW PRESS TO BE COLLECTED ? EID, M. L'OP, No. 106, pp. 22-4. Descriptive data on new press installed in 1962, and logical methods to be used in collection of its emissions. Illustrated.
- NOTES ON THE KING FAUD ISSUE - 1927 - CHAFTAR, IBRAHIM, L'OP, No. 119, Jan-Apr., 1968, pp. 13-15. Good descriptive material on the 200, 500 and LE 1 with both printings described on the LE 1. Good comparative table.

SECTION IV PROVISIONAL ISSUES

- THE 2 MILLS ON 3 MILLS. ORANGE - OCT., 1915 - SMITH, F. A., L'OP, No. 31, Jan., 1937, pp. 17-18. Illustration of sheet with part double surcharge, (See notes on this by same author in July, 1936 No. 29). A careful study on this overprinting, including the albino and a cheval varieties.
- WHAT IS IT ? - KEHR, E. A., L'OP, No. 40, March, 1939, p. 465. A photo of the 1 P.T. rose of the De La Rue issue surcharged with large "3" in the center and obliterating bars in the corners. A query for additional info. (Illustrated).
- LES VARIETIES - L'OP, No. 46, Apr-June, 1940, p. 81. HAGOPIAN, B. (F). The three values of the agricultural issue surcharged showing varieties (Illus.) in the overprints.
- NOUVELLES VARIETES DE LA TROISIEME EMISSION D'EGYPTE (1872-1879) - CHAFTAR, IBRAHIM, (F) L'OP, No. 48, Oct. 1944, p. 136-139. Well illustrated comments on the various varieties of the 1879 - 5 & 10 paras on $2\frac{1}{4}$ P.T. overprints, and on the O.H.H.S. overprints among the officials, i.e., a cheval, double, inverts, etc.
- LE PREMIER TIRAGE DU DEUX PIASTRES TAXE DE 1889 - SURCHARGE 3 Milliemes - CHAFTAR, I (F) L'OP, No. 49, Jan, 1945, pp. 184-6. Well illustrated and good descriptive material for the student of this issue. Refers to the McNeille article IN PJGB.
- EGYPT - THE TWO PIASTRES POSTAGE DUE OF 1889 - McNEILLE, DOUGLAS, L'OP No. 49, as above, pp. 187-91. Orig. published in the P.J.G.B. in Febr., 1936. Additions and corrections, plus constructive comment have been added to this article in L'OP as a result of the earlier printing. It covers all six printings and is well illustrated and detailed. Excellent for the specialist. CONT. IN No. 50, April, 1945, pp. 266-268. Opinions by Edwards, Tancock, Buckland and Byam.
- NOUVEAUTES ET VARIETES D'EGYPTE - DAZZI, A. & BOULAD, J., L'OP, NO. 59, JULY, 1947, (F) p. 135. Brief descriptive information on the 5 P.T. green surcharged 20 paras. Zeh. No. 31, mentioning varieties and a cheval etc., of small interest. Several other interesting items do appear in the article apart from the surcharges.
- THE PROVISIONAL OF 1898 and 1905 - PIPERNO, GINO, L'OP, No. 78, April, 1952, p. 369-71, Illustrated (F & E), concerns an error on 3rd printing, comment by Mr. Ahmed Mazloun.

SECTION IV - PROVISIONAL ISSUES (Continued) . . .

- LES PROVISOIRES DE 1898 ET DE 1905 - DEUX NOUVELLES VARIETES - PIPERNO, Gino., L'OP, No. 80, October, 1952., pp. 493-96. Some excellent illustrations of additional varieties, as discussed in No. 78. (French) in this issue.
- LES TAXES PROVISOIRES DE 1898 ET 1905 - L'OP, No. 81, Jan., 1953., p. 55. (F)., Illustrated cover from the Sudan in 1906 with a pair of the 1905 provisional (Egypt).
- NOTES ON THAT PORTION OF THE PALACE COLLECTION ALLOTTED TO THE POSTAL MUSEUM - EID, M., L'OP. No. 90 April, 1955, p. 87-89. Block of nine with tete-beche illust. of the issue of 1879, the 5 paras on 2½ P.T.
- CURIEUSES VARIETES DU TIMBRE NEFERTITI 100 mm. SURCHARGE 55 mm. ET PALESTINE - ZEHERI, Raoul, L'OP, No. 100, April, 1959. pp. 776-78. (F). Block of 20 illustrated. Interesting overprint varieties, also on p. 780, the same item illustrating a double overprint plus the Human Rights issue without the overprint. (CONTINUED) L'OP No. 101, Oct-Jan., 1960, p. 31-2. (F). Also illustrated with block of six.
- UN ESSAI DE SURCHARGE INCONNU ? - PIPERNO, GINO. L'OP, No. 103, Oct., 1960, pp. 163-4., (F) An unknown essay of the overprint, illustrated and well described.
- AN UNKNOWN ESSAY OF OVERPRINT ? - DANSON, J. R., L'OP No. 104, April, 1961, p. 219. An answer to the article in French by Piperno in the preceding issue in which Col. Danson describes the essay as one in his collection and that it is printed by lithography and not by typography as on the issued stamp. (With certificate).
- A LISTING OF SEVERAL LITERATURE ITEMS in L'OP. No. 16, April, 1933, as advertised by the VALLANCEY PRESS, LTD., of London. Listed only by title and author as:
Postage Due Provisionals of 1898, WATSON, H. G.
Inverted Surcharged of 1879, LOWE, H. F.
- EGYPT'S FIRST MILITARY STAMP - LINDENBERG, PAUL P., Scott's Monthly Journal, Vol. 30, No. 3, pp. 69-70., Descriptive information on the 3 m. overprint of 1898 and 1905, illustrated with a small singe. Refers to Eg. Post. Dept. Bull. 2/14/98.
- THE 1898 POSTAGE DUE 3 MILL PROVISIONAL - A NEW DISCOVERY - SMITH, P. A. S., L'OP, No. 120, pp. 86-88, A pane of 60 illustrated with a cheval and albino PLUS the fact that two of the stamps were overprinted separately and not a cheval.
- THE 3 MILL VALUE OF 1914 SURCHARGED 2 MILLS IN ARABIC & FRENCH - McNEILLE, D., Q.C. of E.S.C., Vol. IV, No. 2, pp. 14-17. An excellent study for the specialist.
- THE 1926 PROVISIONAL ISSUE - AGRICULTURAL AND INDUSTRIAL EXHIBITION - PIPERNO, GINO, Egyptian Topics, Vol. 2, No. 1, Nov-Dec., 1969, p. 12. Treatise on an interesting variety of the overprint. Illustrated with block of eight.
- A SOLDIER'S STAMP - (From "Egypt" - MELVILLE, F. J.), From original notes in the Weekly Bulletin of the Egyptian Post Office Dept., Feb. 14, 1898. - EGYPTIAN NEWS-LETTER (Hinton), Vol. 1, No. 8, p. 3. Detailed information on the rates and usage of the 1898 overprinted 3m.
- SOME NOTES ON THE 55 MILL / 100 MILL, NEFERTITI PROVISIONAL - SMITH, P. A. S., EG/MWSLTR, Vol. 4, No. 3, p. 2-3. An excellent article on color varieties, controls and the many varieties of this interesting overprint, also used in Palestine.
- PROVISIONAL POSTAGE DUE OF 1899 - McNEILLE, Doug., P.J.G.B., Feb. 1936, Mar., 1936, Vol. XLVI, pp. 24-27, Corres., pp. 52, 84, 136. Reprinted in L'OP. See prev. listing.
- A VARIETY - 1898 PROVISIONAL - PEMBERTON, P. L., P.J.G.B., Vol. XLVI, Mar., 1936, p. 98 Refers to a stop after milliemes in one of the printings.
- A PROVISIONAL VARIETY - 1898 - WATSON, H. G., Stmp. Coll. Ftnghtly. Vol. XXIV, (1918), p. 146. Half page refers to two distinctly different types. Covered in L'OP.

(To be continued).

Gordon B Garrett

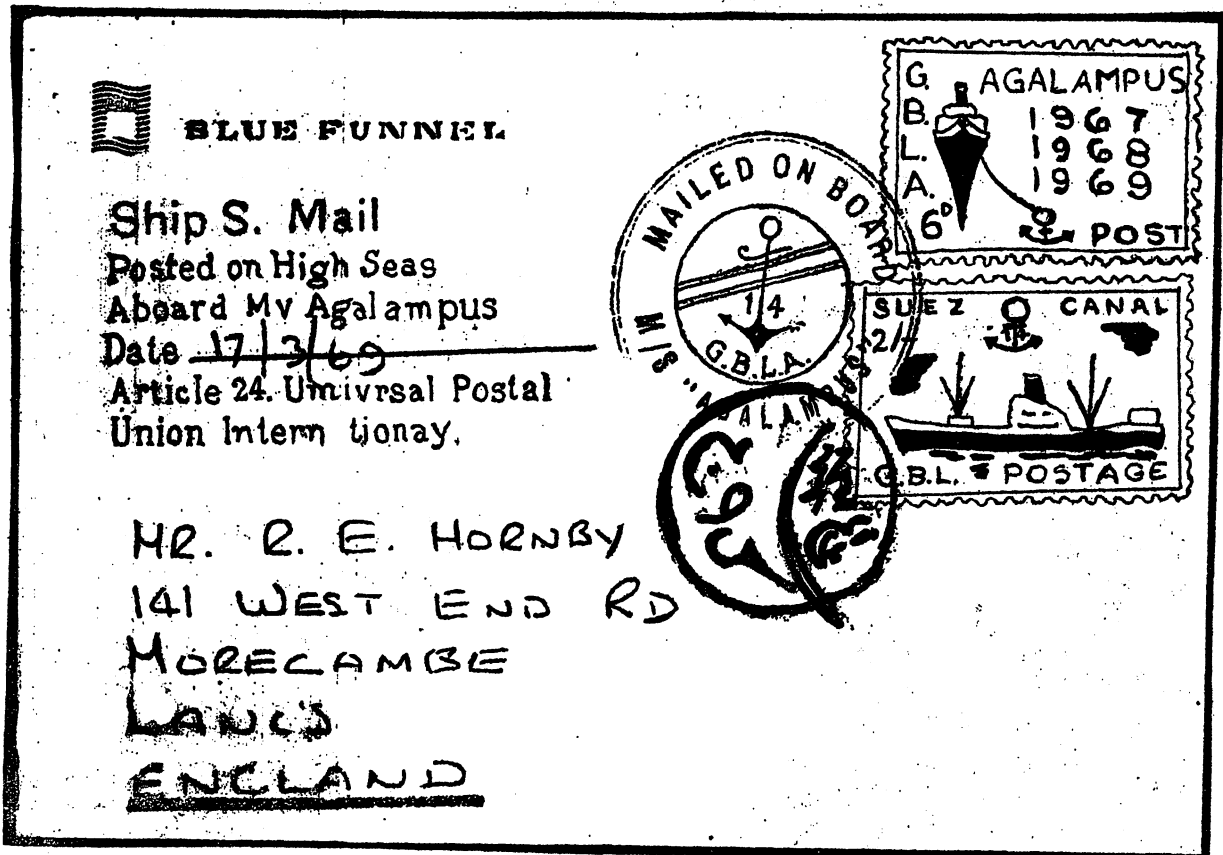
The "GREAT BITTER LAKE LOCALS"

IN OUR LAST ISSUE we illustrated several covers bearing the markings of ships in the "Great Bitter Lakes section" of the Suez Canal, entrapped as a result of the war in 1967, both with and without G.B.L.A. labels. We mentioned some were only franked with the labels but as far as we were able to determine, these were carried internally, or by private air, and did not carry any franking or alterations of the Egyptian post.

As a result we are now indebted to our good friend from Britain, K. D. KNIGHT, who sends a fine cover with two of the G.B.L.A. frankings from the "AGALAMPUS", which is a compound of the two ships "M/S MELAMPUS" and "M/S AGAPENOR", under a single command. This cover carries no Egyptian franking however, it does carry an Arabic marking of

the Egyptian post, and we are pleased to offer it for your inspection. The packet-boat marking of the M/S Agalampus and the detail cachet are in purple. Envelope carries the name of the Blue Funnel Line in blue and black. On the reverse of the envelope are the markings, of both the Agapenor and the Melampus, in purple, showing their net tonnage and their home port, Liverpool.

In our previous article we provocatively mentioned that this mail was "philatelic junk" in the hope that it would create a surge of interest and thus more information. To date no one has objected; in fact, not even a comment. I feel bound now to clarify this statement. While I still believe they have no valid philatelic standing other than locals, they do comprise an interesting



THE GREAT BITTER LAKES ASSOCIATION (Continued from preceding page)

bit of postal history; certainly material that might be eagerly sought after by members of the War Cover Club, and packetboat enthusiasts.

at anchor in this modern day maritime graveyard.

For more than three years a steady fight has gone on to maintain the ships against rust, erosion, sand & wind, and to keep them manned and ready to sail. With constant battles every day, artillery barrages from both sides, and little hope that the way would ever be cleared for sailing, the owners finally threw in the towel. The last of the crews were airlifted to Britain, writing a colorful finish to a unique and costly situation and a question mark philatelically.

AGAPENOR
181088
LIVERPOOL
4210.52 NET.

MELAMPUS
301342
LIVERPOOL
4864 NET

As we go to press we have received a despatch from Cairo (and a copy of a similar article from Reuters through our friend Joe Schirmer, the basics of which follow:

**STRANDED CANAL SHIPS LEFT TO RUST,
ABANDONED BY GHOST CREWS**

Cairo, July 5 — Four ships still retaining care-taking crews, stranded in the Suez Canal since the Arab-Israeli war (1967) were quietly abandoned and left to the elements.

These ships, unlikely ever to sail again, are the freighters: Scottish Star (10,000 tons), Melampus (8,500), Port Invercargill (10,500), and the Agapenor (7,600). Ten of the other ships of foreign flag quietly lay

Our saga of the Great Bitter Lakes Association and all of its philatelic implications will be detailed by one of our readers in Britain, JOHN F. COUSINS, in our next issue. Mr. Cousins has been interested since the very beginning and his information and article covers many facets never before related. He is extremely knowledgeable with a wealth of material in this area. He answers many of the questions where previously we could get no answers. His rebuttal to some of our allegations will clear the air once and for all and will be of interest to our many readers seeking information.

* * * * *

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