

# EGYPTIAN TOPICS



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# EGYPTIAN TOPICS



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## THE AMERICAN AGENT

## THE PHILATELIC SOCIETY OF EGYPT

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*The Season's Greetings*

WITH BEST WISHES FOR THE NEW YEAR

## *with the editor*

Volume 5, Number 1., our Fifth Birthday Issue. Some good, some mediocre, yet most had something of interest and value to offer. We realize that every article printed does not appeal to every reader still, in presenting them to you regardless of whether the opinions expressed agree with ours or not, if philatelic, and in our area, the facts must be preserved.

Certainly we do not all collect alike; some prefer classics; some postal history, some airmails or revenues, or covers, or any combination of these. With this in mind, we try to present as much original material as possible. From your comments we feel we have been successful in a small way.

Our programs and innovations over the past four years have, for the most part, been successful.

A letter today from Tom Olson advises us that the new issue service Tom recently began is doing very well. Bazaar is getting bigger and it will continue to grow because (1) It's FREE, and (2) IT GETS RESULTS. No advertisement can do more.

We are constantly looking for something new, from a simple variety to a serious study. We look for the little known, the unusual, the interesting important information often badly needed for a write up, or for annotating your collection.

From a modest beginning — like the British Empire — the Sun Never Sets on Egyptian Topics. Now, from the four corners of the globe our readers contribute of their time, their talents, their friendship and their knowledge that all of us might more fully enjoy our own special area of collecting through a mutual exchange of the results of our studies.

**197 DUES ARE DUE**

**FOR MEMBERS OF  
THE**

**Philatelic Society of Egypt**

**PLEASE MAIL YOUR CHECK NOW TO:**

DR. PETER A. S. SMITH  
C/o Chemistry Department  
University of Michigan  
Ann Arbor, Michigan, 48104

**DO NOT MAIL CHECKS TO TOPICS**

**FOR SOCIETY MEMBERSHIP DUES**





# bazaar

There is NEVER a Charge for WANTS or OFFERS listed for our readers in EGYPTIAN TOPICS . . .

\* \* \*

**WANTED:** Postal History as covers: P.O.W. covers; Turkish Offices in the Holyland, Covers to or from Palestine (Egypt, Palestine, U.A.R.). War covers, period 1948 - 1956 - 1967 and related material. Send details to R. J. Cohen, P.O. Box 162 Parchester Station, Bronx, New York, 10462. . .

V. ANDONIAN is interested in acquiring additional items among the Royal Imperfs, early covers and essays of Egypt etc. Write to him at Post Office Box 11093, Oakland, Calif., 94611 if you have items of this kind to dispose of. . .

**EGYPTIAN POSTAL METERS:** GABRIEL PUSTEL is interested in Egyptian meters and needs some of the early types (Nos. 1 to 5). He sent xerox but failed to identify the source so it is of little value until we have more information. However if you can help write to him at: 34 Laurelton Avenue, Jackson, New Jersey, 08527.

**OFFER:** Large accumulation and variety of material, better items, cancellations etc.; both Sudan and Egypt. Send want list to Willaim G. Bogg at NEW ENGLAND STAMP CO., 45 Bromfield St. Boston, Massachusetts., 02108 . . .

**THE ALL NEW ZEHERI IS OUT !** Available now in hard bound edition from PETER FELTUS, 4970 Desmond Street, Oakland, Calif., 94618. A must for serious collectors of Egypt and the Sudan. . .

**WANTED:** R.A.F. labels issued for the Air Meeting in 1934: Also a Graf Zeppelin Suez cancellation on card or cover. Need the E.E.F. cancels - all three types. If you can help write to DR. A. WINTER, 45 Rue Carves, 92, Montrouge, France

**WANTED -** Odd lots, album pages or accumulations of Egypt - U.A.R. - Sudan. Send description and price first to: CHARLES W. MAYER, at 1927 Wakefield Dr., Nashville, Tennessee, 37215

## "BLURRED" IMPRESSION ON NUBIA

Tom Homa of Cleveland, Ohio sends us a copy of the 1959 commemorative (Zeheri #214, 1972 p. 170). Issued on 22 December to gain publicity for "Safeguarding the Monuments of Nubia" it was printed in a reddish-brown color by the photogravure process at the Survey Department.

There is a great deal of distortion and the stamp appears blurred. Lettering is heavier than on the normal stamp and shows, in some cases, a shadow.



Could this be a double impression? or, as Tom suggests, a stop-start variety? Regardless of the type of variety, there must have been a full sheet originally. Does anyone else know of this unusual item? If so, drop us a line. If there is a simple explanation, Tom would like to know.

**QUERY:** Kenneth Pierce would be interested in hearing from any reader who may have information regarding the French Military Post Offices in Egypt; their numbers, locations and dates of activity. Write to him c/o City of Hope, 1500 E. Duarte Road, Duarte, California, 91010 . . .

**WANTED:** By your editor - A few Pioneer Airpost items of Egypt and the Sudan i.e., Cobham covers, Mittelholzer flights to Africa in 1929 and 1930, the Coningham 1925 flight TO Kano. Also Palace imperfs: C-2 and C-6; C-18 to C-25 and Scott C-30 C-36 through C-50. Vignettes of the Carbery flight

**OFFER:** Unusual felt cachet on unaddressed FDC Sudan (Scott Nos. 142 & 143) the Anti-Malaria, set. \$1.00 postpaid. BLAKE R. WHEELER, 14230 Sunset Blvd., Pacific Palisades, Calif., 90272.

**ARTICLES ON VARIETIES** wanted by the editor for regular column "Philatelic Fun and Profit, begun by W. F. Billens!" Many readers have written to ask for more on the many varieties of Egypt and we would like to oblige. Send a photo, a xerox or a tracing of your favorite variety with a short text. We would like to feature one or two each month. Send directly to the editor. . .



G. T. Houston FRPSL

# Some "Unpublished"

# DISCOVERIES

## THE THIRD FOUAD PORTRAIT ISSUE

About twenty years ago I discovered the use of two different dies for the printing of the 5 Mil. (S. G. # 236 - Zeheri # 123). a) the sheet of 100 stamps on one hand and, b) for the "booklet" sheets of 120 stamps (2 panes of 60) on the other hand. This was vetted by the late Dr. Gordon Ward and duly published in Q.C. \*

By the way, the "new flaw" described there is certainly NOT "a tache 3 mms. wide" but a very prominent retouch - the only one so far recorded in this issue (S.G. #233/239 - Zeheri #120/126).

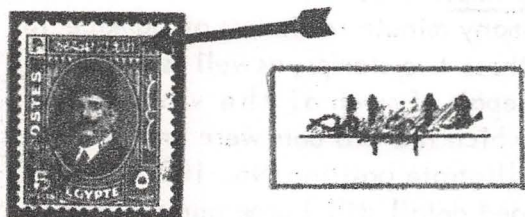


Fig. 1

Illustrated above is a copy of the original stamp showing the 5-1/2 mm. retouch at top center in the Arabic panel.

This retouch occurs, as far as I can judge, only on the stamps issued in sheets of 100, position in the sheet as yet unknown to me as I don't have complete sheets in my collection. Now, what follows hereafter HAS NOT BEEN PREVIOUSLY PUBLISHED anywhere so far as we know.

This concerns a constant flaw on another 5 Mil denomination in the sheet of 100 which consists of a short letter "ALEF" to the left of the top right cor-

ner square containing the letter "R" (REX); sheet position also unknown to me.



Fig. 2

### Constant Flaw

The first Alef in the upper Arabic panel is short.

Let us go on: Zeheri lists two shades of the 2 Mil. - Black and Dark Black. This does not make any sense. Black is black. One can only call an alternative shade GRAY-BLACK. That, however, is beside the point as it does not apply here. The two shades we are concerned with here, are in fact, two different colors, one being black while the other could be called SLATE-INDIGO. Both are quite common.



Fig. 3

### Slate-Indigo

Still on the same issue, there is another quite interesting matter. Mystery surrounds the essays, proofs, or trial printings for this 1936/37 issue.

\* One of the many regulations enacted by the 1934 U.P.U. Congress in Cairo invited all member states to include the mention POSTES or POST-

Continued





"UNPUBLISHED" DISCOVERIES (Cont.)

AGE or other equivalents in the designs of every issue of definitive postage stamps. As definitives of the Second Fouad Portrait Issue did not include any such mention, the Egyptian Post Office ordered a new definitive issue which was to include the French mention POSTES and the Arabic equivalent BAREED. This issue was to become the third and last Fouad Portrait Issue (S. G. #233 / 239). King Fouad died on 28-4-36; by then only two values had been issued, the 4 Mill in January 1936 and the 20 Mill in March 1936. Even though the King was dead, further values appeared: 1 Mil. on 9-10-36, 2 and 5 Mil. on the same day, 15 Mil. on 27-11-36 and the 10 Mil. on 8-3-37. The denominations still unissued (and never to be issued were) the 3, 13, 40, 50, 100, 200, 500, and 1000 Mils.

By way of explanation, King Fouad, Farouk's father, was a discerning stamp collector and obtained ex-officio, all of the essays, proofs and other choice items from the Government printery for the Royal Stamp Collection - which is a well-known fact. In the light of this, it would appear remarkable, at least, if not highly suspect, that no essays or proofs of any stamps of this new issue were found when the Royal Stamp Collection was prepared for the Palace Sales of 1954.

MORE ON THE WATERMARK VARIETIES

Further information with reference to the two watermark varieties published in E.T. #23: As these watermark varieties are due to damage in the dandy roll it may be impossible to fix their respective positions in the sheet. However, the distance from the left hand margin of the sheet is known by the positions published in E.T. as follows: The MIS-SHAPEN "F" - Variety No. 1, is situated generally in the first or second vertical row from the left-hand margin in some sheets of 100 stamps of size, S.G. #166. The PARTLY MISSING "F" - Variety No. 2, is situated generally in the third row - or center row - from the left-hand margin in some sheets of 50 stamps of the size of the oblong airmail stamps. However, one of my varieties, No. 2, should appear in the fourth, fifth or sixth vertical row of some sheets: this would apply to stamps like my varieties of S.G. #240.

STUDY ON THE "TWO DOTS OMITTED" VARIETY

S.G. Nos. 84a - 98c - 0.22a - and 0.26a, being No. 100 in the upper pane of 100 stamps, as well as the "BROKEN FRAME" variety (Zeheri No. 55b). Not heretofore published.

At present this variety is considered to be an error in the preparation of a batch of faulty electros, and the insertion of such a faulty electro in the printing forms. However, I came to the conclusion that this variety cannot have present in the originally prepared forms or printing plate. Most probably the printing surface was damaged either before printing commenced or soon after. The damage affected stamps No. 90 and 100 of the upper pane of 100. For some reason the printing surface must have been repaired in situ to avoid delays of the printing order. In the normal course of stamp printing such extensive damage should have been eliminated by substitution of a cliché. In this case, however, the damage was repaired by partly redrawing the two stamps. Proof of this is found in the many minute reminders of damage in these two stamps, as well as the course repair of much of the wording in which the two dots were omitted. We illustrate position No. 100 in enlarged detail still I urge our readers to use a strong magnification and follow my listing of existing abnormalities, as follows:

ON STAMP NO. 90 - (Zeh. 55b.)

Broken frameline in the top right tablet. (This is the subject of Zeheri listing).

The redrawn Arabic panel at right appears too wide at the top and not straight, thus causing the white frame line under MALLIM to taper towards the top.





## STAMP NO. 90 (Continued)

The borderline on the right sheet margin is dented exactly in line with the break in the frameline in the top right tablet.

The first Arabic letter of M of MALLIM is thinner than normal.

The Bottom Right tablet lines have all been redrawn and are thicker than normal.

The frameline at right in the Right Bottom Corner has been redrawn very thickly and forms a spur protruding beyond the corner.

## ON STAMP NO. 100 — S.G. No. 84a etc.

The entire right side has been redrawn.

The frameline at right is thick and both ends are thin in the middle.

The borderline on the right sheet margin appears to have been touched and thickened just under the tablet.

The white framelines of both Arabic figure tablets are thinner than normal and both circles of the tablets are NOT ROUND and appear superficially and badly redrawn.

The Arabic letters of M and L of MALLIM form a wider angle than normal.

The long letter YEH is thinner than normal - and the TWO DOTS ARE MISSING (as illustrated).

The downstroke of the second M of MALLIM is thinner and shorter than normal.

The Right Bottom tablet has all corners blunted and the top end of the Arabic figure "I" is sloping towards Bottom left, whereas it is exactly vertical when normal.

The Bottom Right corner of the picture showing a Nile scene has a thicker frameline than normal.

So, there is much more to it than meets the eye - in the catalogs. It may interest readers that there are forgeries of the TWO DOTS OMITTED of S.G.

22a as well as 0.26a where the two dots are painted out with sepia printing ink. Due to the above tabulated other characteristics of stamp No. 100, it was very easy for me to identify the stamps submitted as forgeries. (This latter occurred early this year . . .)

THE FIRST FOUAD PORTRAIT ISSUE

Some aspects of the First Fouad portrait issue S.G. Nos. 111/122, in particular the large size high values, S.G. Nos. 118/122.

1) PERFORATION - The perforation of the high value stamps is correctly listed by all catalogs. It is a comb perforation and the comb perforator used was apparently slightly short for the particular width of these stamps. This resulted in an irregular horizontal perforation, invariably showing 1 hole missing in the top and bottom line of perforation of each stamp. The missing perforation holes may appear at left or right. A check of several thousand 20 and 50 Mil. stamps, S.G. 118/119 - produced the following table:

20 Mil. perf hole missing at left	-	over 2800
" " " " right	-	only 5
Regular perf. without missing hole		1
50 Mil. perf hole missing at left	-	over 1600
" " " " right	-	" 800

While the position of the missing perf hole either left or right depends on the insertion of the sheet into the machine, it would appear extraordinary that only 5 of the 20 Mil. stamps occurred with the hole missing at right. Of these five stamps, two came from the same sheet (severed pair). The solitary copy without missing perf hole is a stamp considerably narrower than the normal and may therefore be disregarded.

2) PAPER - In the preceding Harrison pictorials, as in this issue, I have found two distinct paper varieties. Both are wove papers. One type has a rough surface on the back and seems thinner to the touch. The rough paper seems to be the scarcest of the two.

(Continued on page 22, Column 2.).



Dr. A. Winter

Little PublicizedThe **HIRSCHAUER**

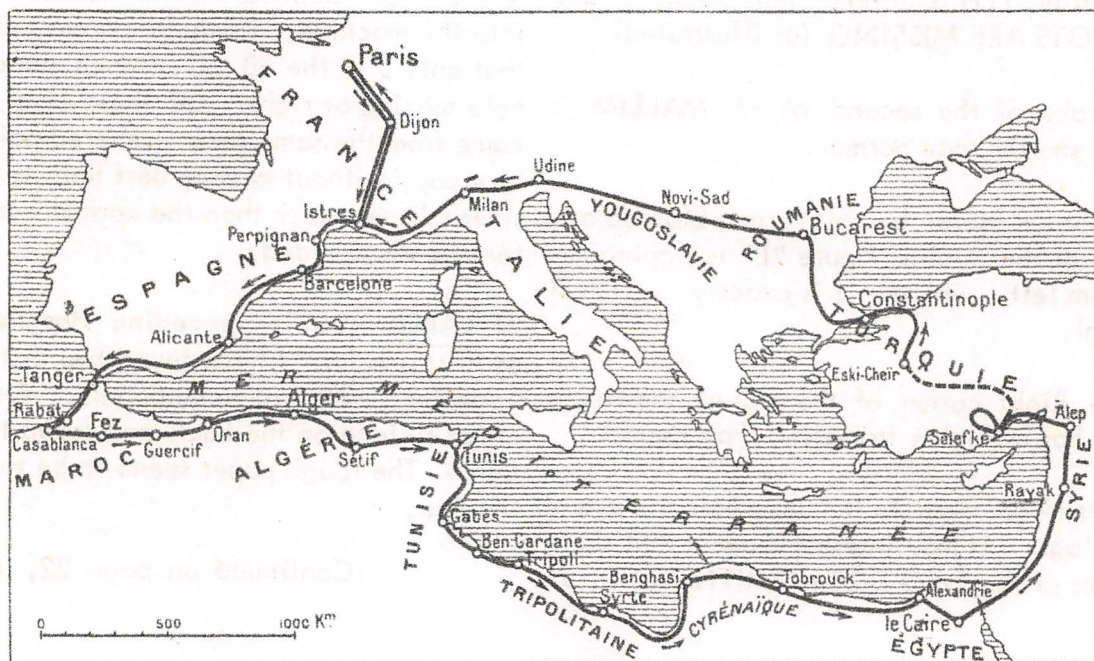
## Mission - 1926

In 1926, the engineer Hirschauer filed an overall flight tour of the Mediterranean (see illustrated map below) assisted by the pilot Couret.

The plane was a small two seater tourism, Morane Saulnier Type 122, monoplane parasol, 120 HP Salmson engine with air cooling.

Hirschauer left Paris on 20 May, 1926 and stopped in all towns marked on the reproduced map. He landed at Heliopolis on 26 June and left for Rayak-Beirut on 3 July. He then came back to Paris on 25 August having traveled over 11,850 Km. with only one serious incident, this at Selifke where the plane had to be taken apart and carried by road to Eski-Chair from where it would fly again.

Covers from this expedition are scarce: only ten (10) of them made the complete trip bearing the cancellations (and stamps) of France, Morocco, Algeria, Tripolitania, Egypt, Syria and Turkey. One was sold for 1250 French francs, (\$250.00) in 1971 in a French auction. Postcards were cancelled at the following ports of call: Rabat-Tunis, Algiers-Cairo, Tunis-Tripoli, Cairo-Beirut, and Beirut-Constantinople (San Stefano). For each port of call there were only 10 postcards. We illustrate on the following page, the card of the Cairo-Beirut run. The picture side shows Hirschauer's plane between the pyramid and the sphinx while the reverse bears the departure and arrival cancellation — a hotel post mark — of the Continental Savoy (type 9, Bou-lad) of 28 June 1926 on the 27 Mill. adhesive,



L'itinéraire du commandant Hirschauer.



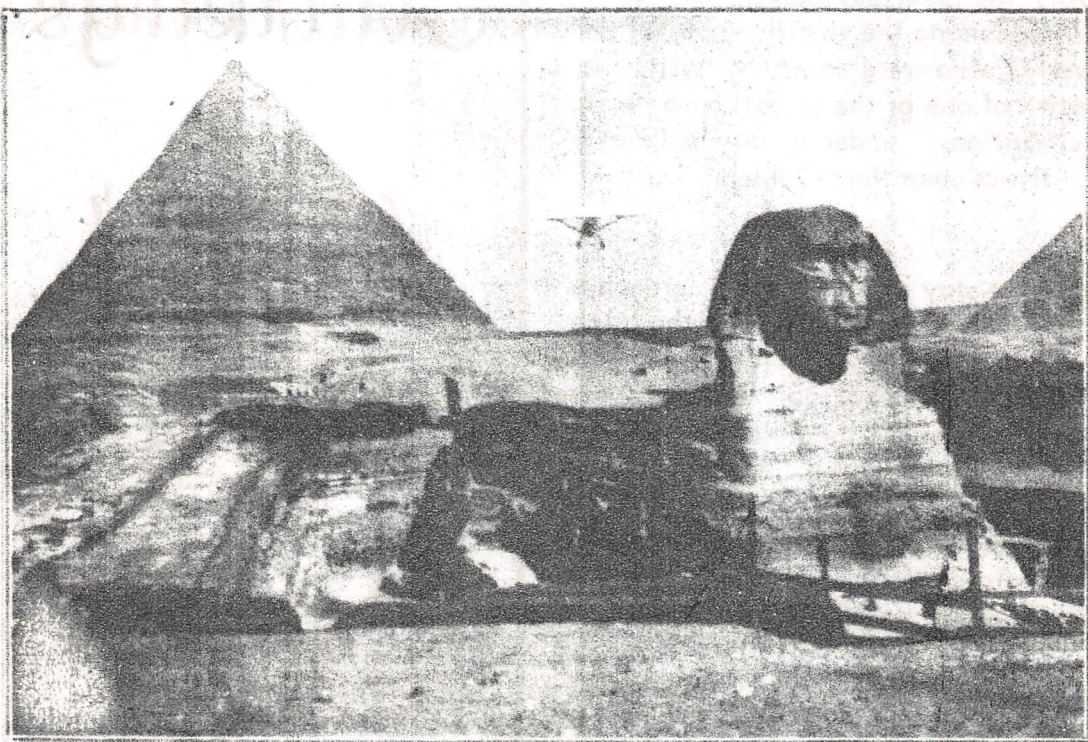


(Cont. from prev. page) the purple stamp C-1. Arrival cancellation at Beirut on 6 July 1926 (the travel was actually made between these dates — on 3 July).

auer himself and bears, in addition, the printed indication "TRIAL FLIGHT BY LIGHT PLANE / MEDITERRAN CIRCUIT HIRSCHAUER MISSION / 1926".

This card is written in the hand of Hirsch-

Front of the card is illustrated below.





**J. Bouled d'Humieres, FRPSL**

# EGYPTIAN

# HOTELS

Originally published in No. 114, October 1964 - "L'ORIENT PHILATELIQUE" in the original French. It is reproduced herein, in English, with the kind permission of the author, and the Editor of L'Orient Philatelique. Ed.

DATED POSTMARKS OF THE POSTAL FACILITIES IN THE HOTELS, TRAVEL AGENCIES AND SHOPS IN EGYPT.

The collection of dated postmarks used successively in each of the Post Offices in the Egyptian hotels is extremely interesting and attractive.

Those who know how to examine cancelled stamps carefully can find them easily, still at a reasonable price. So, it is possible to put together a nice collection in a short time.

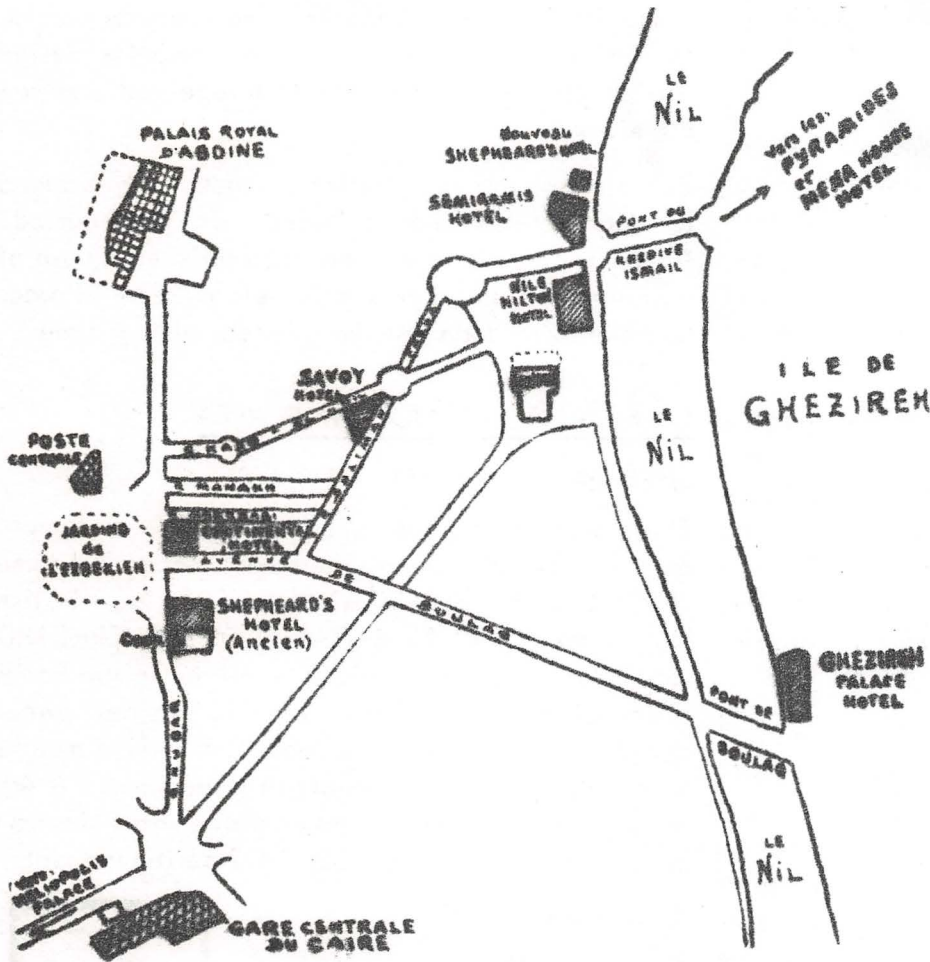
At the end of the last century, when tourism during the winter period was one of the principle resources of Egypt, the luxurious hotels from Cairo to Aswan were welcoming the wealthy guests from all over the world, who were eager to visit the cities and remains of one of the oldest and most interesting civilizations, under a very mild and even climate. It was then the "Golden Age" of Egypt.

In order to make the stay of these guests agreeable and more comfortable, the managers of the large hotels decided, with the consent of the Postal Administration, to open a special post office in the same building of each hotel, specially reserved for the guests. The person in charge, who obviously knew several foreign languages, was usually the same person from year to year and he could recognize the regular winter tourists on their arrival much to their pleasure.

This facility must have been of Swiss conception since, from 1840, Switzerland, which is a great expert in the hotel industry, maintained special post offices in the remote mountain (resort) hotels far from the urban centers.

The  
Proprietary  
Markings  
of their  
Post  
Offices





A map of Cairo — showing hotel locations in the city.

Other countries too, have offered such facilities to the guests of some of their hotels, among them the United States since 1890; Austria from 1895, Hungary in 1895 and in 1903 British India and France, to name a few.

It was on November 1, 1891 that the first two of these post offices were opened; one in Shepherds Hotel and the other in the Continental Hotel, both located in downtown Cairo.

Apparently until May, 1903, most of the post offices were open only during the winter season, that is from October 1st to the end of May of the following year, coinciding with the period the hotels which they served were kept open; these extreme dates may vary somewhat in different years.

Since 1903 - 1904, a majority of these establishments in Cairo have remained open the year around due to the great increase in tourism in Egypt.

In Upper Egypt the closing date is kept around April 15th when the very hot weather starts, which is unfavorable for tourism.

Whereas the Hotel San Stefano in Alexandria, contrary to the others, opened during the summer season at the same time as the Annual Summer transfer of the Palace and official government personnel to the cool suburb of Alexandria. Its post office usually remained open from April 20th to October 20.

Related to tourism in Egypt, the following two offices, whose customers are usually foreign travelers, have been included in the list: A Travel Agency "Thos. Cook & Son" in Cairo, and "Grand Magazines—Simon Arzt" in Port Said. These two are open the year around due to the continuous transit of ships through the Suez Canal moving to and from India and the Far East.

Since the end of World War II the social classes and the fortunes of the tourists have notably decreased to the extent that almost all of the special post offices in the Egyptian Hotels have had to close down for economic reasons.

On the other hand, in 1953, one has been opened at the Heliopolis Palace Hotel near Cairo, and in 1959 at the Nile Hilton Hotel in Cairo.

In this essay of the nomenclature of the different dated postmarks known, the greatest number possible has been reproduced, illustrations being the simplest and clearest way to distinguish them.

They have been classified by hotels, by category and by chronological order, indicating, in each case, the diameter, the extreme dates of their use (known or reported), the color (usually black); only the other shades are indicated. Also, the number of specimens seen or referred to me by the

(Continued on the following)



eight main collectors that I have consulted. This last information will allow an approximate idea of their degree of scarcity.

As noted, these dated postmarks appeared first in English with Arabic in the middle of the text or at the lower part of the circle; around 1935 the Arabic language was placed exclusively in the upper half, leaving the English inscription in the lower part, though this arrangement had been adopted in a limited way from 1926.

Those who can read Arabic will notice first the transcription and then the translation of the word "HOTEL" in the postmarks: At first it was "LO-KANDAT" (Shepherd's, Continental and Mena House), a word derived from the Italian. Then it was "HOTEL" (Luxor and Cataract) and finally, "FONDOUQ" which is the exact word (in Arabic) for a hotel.

Part of the information concerning the opening and closing dates of these post offices has been compiled from the "Bulletin d'Information Postale" (Postal Information Bulletin) published periodically by the Egyptian Postal Administration for the use of its personnel. However, precise information over the past few years has been getting more and more difficult to obtain from the Administration. Consequently, the information given here can only be approximate.

The major specialized collectors of Egypt, France, Great Britain and the United States have furnished us the information necessary to find the extreme dates in use for each type of the dated postmarks. These are mainly Mr. Jean Boulad of Alexandria, Mr. M.P. Langlois of Paris, the late Dr. Gordon Ward, Mrsrs. John Revell, C.W. Minett and J.L. Heap of Great Britain and Peter A. S. Smith of the United States.

The illustrations have been specially drawn by Mr. Alfredo Dazzi, another specialized collector of Egypt who due to a long stay in Egypt, has the added advantage of knowing the Arabic language which facilitates the transcription of the Arabic text on these postmarks.

These illustrations, in actual size, are as precise as possible but for those where a complete design was unobtainable, only the part received was reproduced.

In the following enunciation a short note is added for each hotel in order to place it in that period. As far as possible it will be accomplished by use of a photograph dated generally before 1914 in order to make more apparent the splendor of that time.

## CAIRO AND SURROUNDING AREA

### SHEPHEARD'S HOTEL AT CAIRO

The oldest and most famous of the hotels in Egypt. Built in 1843 by Samuel Shepherd under the name "NOUVEL HOTEL BRITANNIQUE" (New British Hotel) then "HOTEL BRITANNIQUE SHEPHEARD" (British Hotel Shepherd). It remained in the hands of its founder until 1861. In 1861 its new owner demolished it entirely and rebuilt it in five months. Since then it has been enlarged three times. A 4th enlargement would have taken place had it not burned down on January 26, 1952 during the riots.

As it stands now it has been rebuilt in a very modern style on the banks of the Nile next to the Semeramis Hotel and was inaugurated on July 20, 1957.

Special post office opened November 1, 1891 and disappeared on January 26, 1952 during the fire at the hotel.



SHEPHEARD'S HOTEL ABOUT 1900



No.	Diameter in mm.	First	Last	Number of Specimens seen	Comments
1	31	14-12-91	10.5. 98	16	
2	32	27.12.91	15.6. 97	8	
3	31	8. 3.93	13.8. 98	23	
4	28	14. 1.99		1	
5	30	— 5.96	22.2. 09	58	
6	30	20.11.07	20.10.09	17	
7	26	23. 3.09	31.3. 26	51	
8	28	7.12.31	26.1. 52*	43	*Morning of the Day the fire broke out at the hotel.
9	26	18.11.10	12.12.36	32	Cashier's Postmark
10	28	9. 3.38	9.11.46	12	Cashier's Postmark
11	Postage Meter			6	Three red Postmarks



1



2



3



4



5



6



7



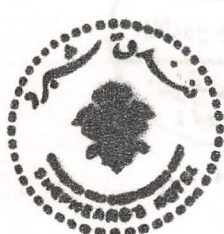
8



9



10

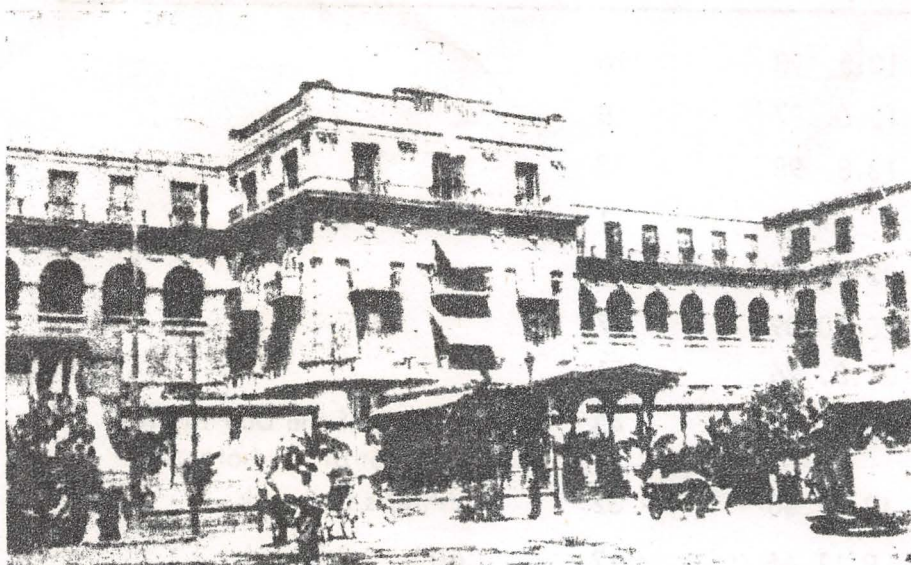


11





## CONTINENTAL HOTEL AT CAIRO



The second oldest hotel in Cairo, since it dates from 1885 when it used to be called "New Hotel". Later it was named successively "CONTINENTAL HOTEL", "GRAND CONTINENTAL HOTEL" and finally "CONTINENTAL SAVOY".

Considerably damaged on January 26th, 1952 during the riots in Cairo, it was rapidly restored and completed by the Fall of that same year.

The special post office in the Continental opened on November 1, 1891, temporarily closed on January 26, 1952, reopening about October 1952. It was forced to close down shortly thereafter.

## THE CONTINENTAL AROUND 1914

No.	Diameter in mm.	First	Last	Number of Specimens seen	Comments
1	31	8. 2.94	4. 3.00	7	
2	26 - 27	- . 3.00	5. 2.09	85	
3	30	9. 1.01	11. 3.09	12	
4	30	8. 5.09	- . 1.22	31	
5a	29	30. 4.22	11. 8.25* )	30	* Dates approximate
5b	29	- . 4.26	8. 5.32 )		
6	28	16. 2.34	21.11.53	79	
7	30	20.11.10	15. 2.22	17	Cashier's Postmark
8	30 - 32	18. 3.22	11. 2.29	20	Cashier's Postmark
9	30	20.12.40	1. 10.52	13	Cashier's Postmark



1



2



3



4



5a.





5b.



6



7



8



9



MENA HOUSE HOTEL — AT THE PYRAMIDS  
IN THE CAIRO AREA

Located in the desert at the foot of the pyramids is one of the most famous hotels in Egypt; famous for relaxation, its temperate climate and clean atmosphere.

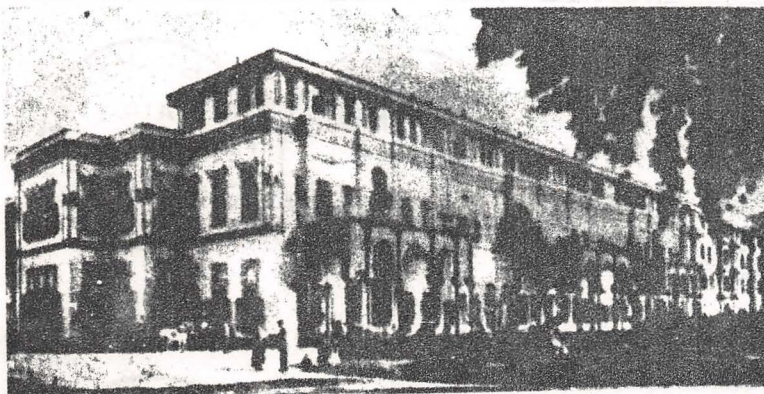
The special post office opened on December 15, 1891, had to close sometime between 1900 and 1904 when a regular post office was opened a few yards from its garden at the end of the road leading from Cairo to the Pyramids.

MENA HOUSE ABOUT 1950

Number	1
Diameter (mm.)	30
First Date	21.3.92
Last Date	30.4.94
Number seen	7



GHEZIREH PALACE HOTEL AT CAIRO



THE GHEZIREH PALACE ABOUT 1912

Number	1	Diameters in mms.	43
Earliest date:	19,11.94	Latest:	22.12.07
Number of specimens examined:	38		

This hotel is the former Palace which was built under the aegis of the Viceroy (Khedive) Ismail Pasha in 1869 for the planned reception of the Empress Eugenie during her trip to Egypt for the inauguration of the Suez Canal. Later, in 1914, it was temporarily closed for remodeling and the special post office, which had opened on November 1, 1894, was also closed.





THE SAVOY HOTEL AT CAIRO



SAVOY HOTEL -- CAIRO ABOUT 1912

Located in the center of the city, it was opened around November 1898 but was rather short lived, closing in 1914 due to the occupation of the British Army when the structure was established as their headquarters.

After World War I it was not re-opened. Instead it was demolished and replaced by an income property building. However, it was owned by the same company as that of the CONTINENTAL HOTEL.

The name was retained and added to this latter to make it the "CONTINENTAL SAVOY".

Special Post Office opened on November First, of 1898 and closed in March or April, 1914.

No.	Diam.	First	Last	No. seen
1	32	30.12.98	21.11.99	3
2	27	14. 3.00	5. 8.10	34
3	26-27	— . 4.01	— .11.13	13
4	26	— .— .09	2.11.13	8

TRAVEL AGENTS

THOS. COOK & SON AT CAIRO

Located in a special hotel of the British Consulate just next to Shepherd's Hotel, it was opened around the end of 1864 and disappeared on January 26, 1952 during the riots when a great number of buildings in Cairo were burned down.

Special post offices opened in November, 1894 and disappeared when the building burned on Jan. 26, 1952.



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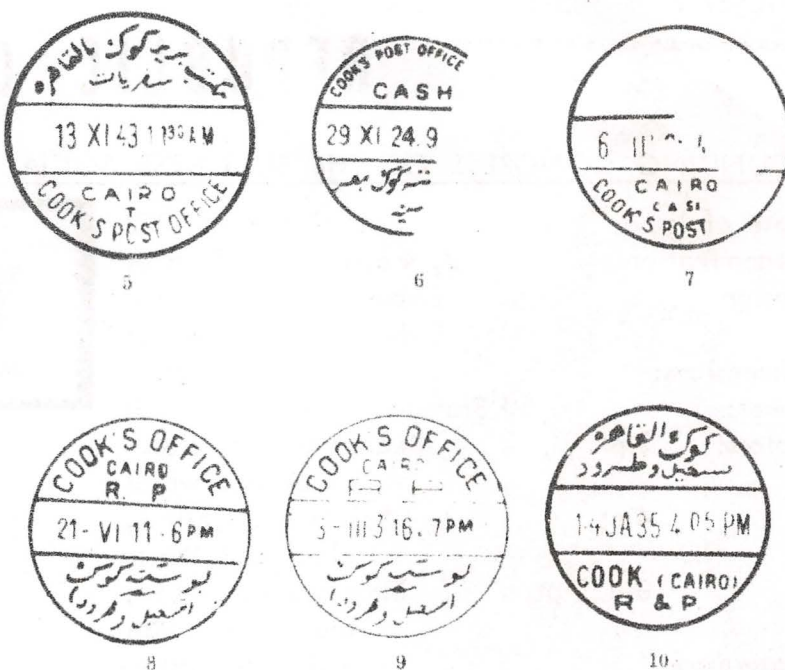






"OFFICES OF THE AGENT"

"THOS. COOK & SON" at Cairo about 1912. This building was previously the headquarters of the Consulate of Great Britain at Cairo.



Note No. 8, above. This was drawn after a description, not necessarily identical to the original, however, this will aid in visualizing its appearance.

No.	Diameter in mm.	First Date reported	Last	Number of Specimens seen	Comments
1	31	18. 1.95	6.4.09	23	
2	28	5. 4.03	22.4.05	8	
3	26	5. 6.09	30.9.29	19	
4	28-29	18. 4.33	—.—.—	1	
5	33	13.11.43	26.5.51	9	
6	20	29.11.24	—.—.—	1	Cashier's Postmark
7	29	6. 3.3?	—.—.—	1	Cashier's Postmark
8	29	—.—.10	21.6.11	2	Registration Postmark - Package
9	29	3. 3.16	28.3.31*	2	As above - in violet
10	29-30	14. 1.35	6.5.47	9	As above - in black

SEMIRAMIS HOTEL IN CAIRO

Was probably opened about 1907; located along the banks of the Nile River, it has long been the most luxurious establishment in Cairo

The special post office was probably opened in November - December, 1907 and closed in April 1910 when it was replaced by a public post office ;pcated near by.

(Continued on page 17)



# REPUBLIC OF SUDAN

FOUNDING CONGRESS OF THE SUDANESE SOCIALIST UNION — JANUARY 1972

Date of Issue: 15 October, 1972  
 Denominations: 2, 4 and 10-1/2 Piastres  
 Design: Emblem of the Republic  
 Emblem of the Congress  
 Dimensions: 42 x 25 mm.  
 Sheet: 50 Stamps — (10 x 5)  
 Colors: 2 pt. Medium blue, yellow,  
 black and white  
 4 pt. Rose lilac, yellow,  
 black and white  
 10-1/2 pt. Lime green, yellow,  
 black and white  
 Watermark: Unwatermarked  
 Printing: Rotogravure - Postal Print-  
 House - A.R. Egypt  
 Quantity: Unlisted



FOR NEW ISSUES SEND ORDERS TO:

Director of Posts and Telegraphs — Set of three: U.S. 50¢ + 47¢ Post & Reg. U.K. 20p. + 19p.  
 Philatelic Section  
 Khartoum, Sudan

MORE ON THE LITTLE PUBLICIZED "HIRSCHAUER" MISSION - 1926



Paris MORANE-SAULNIER type 122 "Grand Tourisme"  
 de Monsieur l'ingénieur HIRSCHAUER.

The front of a second (of 10) cards flown from Cairo to Beirut showing the plane.





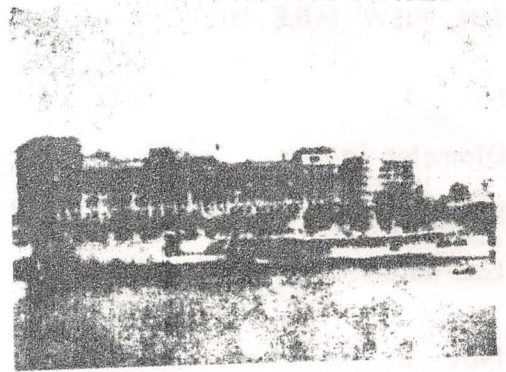
1



2



3



At right: THE SEMIRAMIS HOTEL ABOUT 1956

No.	Diameter in mm.	First Date reported	Last	Number of specimens seen	Comments
1	30-31	25.1.08	5.2.08	2	
2	28	--.2.07	11.2.09	4	
3	26	7.2.10	8.4.10	6	

HELIOPOLIS PALACE HOTEL AT HELIOPOLIS NEAR CAIRO



1



2



HELIOPOLIS PALACE HOTEL ABOUT 1911

Inaugurated in 1909-1910, it has always been one of the greatest and most luxurious hotels in the world

It was forced to close down suddenly in October 1958 when the Egyptian authorities decided to acquire the building for the establishment of the headquarters of the new Central Government of the U.A.R. in that location.

A post office was apparently opened in 1955 and closed on October 25, 1958.

No. 1	Diameter in mms.	35	First: 8.10.55	Last: ———	No. seen 1	Cashier's Postmark
No. 2	" " "	35	" 1.10.55	" 1.4.57	" " 3	Registered Traffic

THE NILE HILTON HOTEL IN CAIRO

Inaugurated on February 22, 1959, it is situated on the banks of the Nile, not very far from the Egyptian Museum. This hotel is the last to have a special post office which opened the same day as its inauguration.





THE NEW NILE HILTON HOTEL IN CAIRO (Continued)

No. 1

Diameter in mms. 34  
 First date known: 22 Febr., 1959  
 Last date known: First day of use

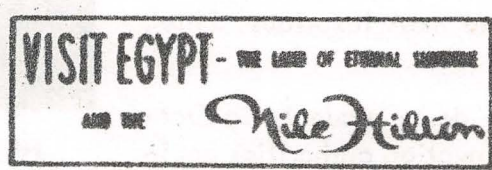
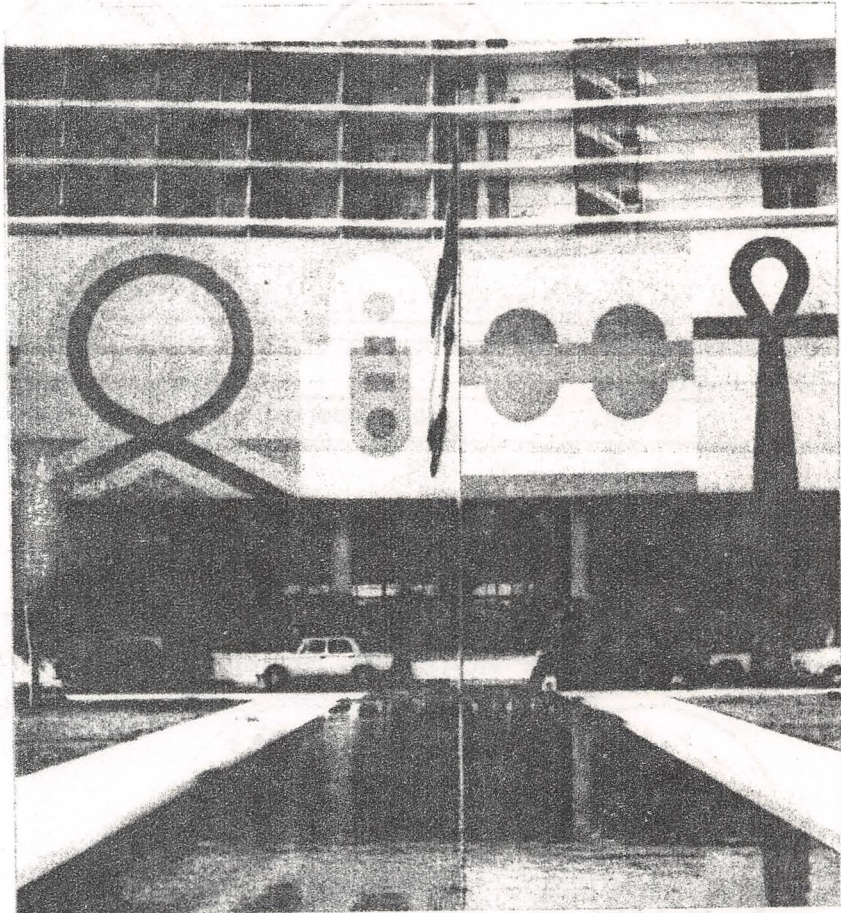
No. 2

Diameter in mms. 34  
 First date known: -- Dec., 1962  
 Last date known: 9 June, 1963 \*  
 Still in use.

No. of specimens seen: 4

No. 3

Meter Cancellation  
 Example shows date: 11 Nov., 1963  
 No. of specimens seen: 1  
 Used by the hotel administrator



= 11 11 63 = القاهرة - CAIRO =

UPPER EGYPT

THE LUXOR HOTEL AT LUXOR

Probably opened in 1893; building still exists at this writing.

Special post office opened in November 1893 and apparently closed in April 1909 due to the construction of the Winter Palace Hotel belonging to the same company, which is more luxurious.



No. 1 Diam. 30 mm. First: 5.1.94  
 14 seen. Last: 25.1.01 Also in blue.

No. 2 Diam. 27-28 First: 19.2.01 Last: 5.1.09 No. of specimens seen: 36

(To be concluded in our next issue)



Peter A. S. Smith

# Egypt

## *in the new* **SCOTT** *catalog*

### A Major Change

In the 1973 edition of the Scott catalog, Egypt and UAR have been brought together under one heading — EGYPT — in recognition of the official change of the name of the country to ARAB REPUBLIC OF EGYPT. This move has made it necessary to renumber all of the of the U.A.R. stamps, and at the same time, some needed improvements in the pre-U.A.R. section have been made. Finally, with the new arrangement of Scott in three volumes, instead of two, Egypt has moved out of the British Commonwealth section, and is now to be found in Volume II. This is an important year for collectors of Egyptian stamps to get a new Scott.

Let us look at the number changes. They begin with the Third Issue, where numbers 16 through 25 have been changed to 19 through 25, thus closing up the gaps formerly caused by the missing numbers 17, 19 and 21. There thus remains a gap between the Second and Third issues of three numbers; perhaps the editors have tentative plans to utilize these for other changes later on, but inasmuch as the Second issue still has gaps (Numbers 10 and 12 are not utilized), it is hard to guess what these might be. Numbers 27 through 102 are unchanged, but the gap between old numbers 102 and 104 has been removed by renumbering the One Pound of 1924 from 104 to 103.

The next change involves numbers 193 through 216A which have been changed to 191 through 216 by closing up gaps and eliminating the makeshift numbers 212B and 216A. The First Republic Issue has been similarly tidied up; former numbers 332A

through 338 have become 333 through 340. Finally, 367 through 371A have been changed to 366 through 371. These changes, by no means, clean up all of the messy places (for example, 360A through 362 D) but it is a good start.

The issues of the UAR are now numbered as a continuation of Egypt, but they begin with number 436 (formerly UAT No. 1), leaving a gap of 17 numbers between Egypt and the UAR. This is clearly deliberate, and suggests that the editors have made room for a possible sweeping renumbering of Egypt at some future time, when it may be possible to make more drastic improvements, particularly in the unwieldy Third Issue. From No. 436 to the end, the numbers are now continuous, without either gaps or "A" numbers. Opportunity has been taken to put former No. H1 among the regular issues where it belongs (it is now No. 460). This stamps was in no way a special service issue, but merely a provisional to provide for a rate change and was soon succeeded by a definitive (new No. 486) of the same face value and identical inscription. The same provisional overprinted for Palestine, formerly NH1, is now N72.

There are some changes among the airmails, in order to eliminate an "A" number, but otherwise, the various special service issues of the UAR have simply been numbered so as to continue where those of Egypt left off.

There are also some new listings. At least, the 1872 5 piastre tete beche has been listed properly as No.

(Continued on following page)



EGYPT IN THE NEW SCOTT CATALOG -- A MAJOR CHANGE

25j, right after No. 25, instead of erroneously after No. 25b, the 1874 stamp. A note has been added below the "Egypt, Tomb of the Aggressors" set, mentioning that the 10m. rose (No. 400) exists with the old "Crown and Arabic "F" water mark (a scarce error listed in Zeheri). Some of the part-perforated varieties of the early postage dues have been deleted (J4a, J7a, J14b), still none of the known, legitimate perforation errors have been added. In general, the listing of perforation gauges has been revised throughout Egypt, according to the study recently made by George Houston in Australia.

There has been very little change in prices, and in fact, most of the early issues have been unaltered for several years. A price has at last been given to the unused 1pt. lithographed perf. 13-1/4 of 1872 (22n); it is now \$125.00, which seems low in relation to the real rarity of this variety. The biggest rise is recorded for the 1879 Provisional, 10pa. on 2pt., tete beche, which is now \$750.00. The companion 5pa. on 2-1/2pt. tete beche remains the most expensive listed item in Egypt at \$1500.00. There are a few rises in the 1879 De La Rue sphinxes, but the later issues are quite static. Among the semi-postals, the Boy Scout Jamboree souvenir sheets are now priced (\$150.00 each), although they are not given a catalog number. The postage due 5 pt. gray of 1888 has been jumped from \$42.50 to \$50 unused while the variety with period after PIASTRES has been moved from \$55 to \$75, a remarkable jump for a postage due stamp. However, the poor neglected 2m. of 1889 bisected still remains at \$2.50 on cover! If anyone is willing to offer me a genuine example of this variety, I will gladly pay five times this ridiculous Scott price.

The Military Stamps section still does not list the British Forces stamps, although they were identical in purpose and validity to the stamps listed as M1-4. A new stamp, the 1971 10m. is listed as M5; this is not quite proper as it is a stamp with an entirely different function. Stamps M1-4 were for use on mail from soldiers, whereas M-5 was for use by civilians on letters written to soldiers. The scarcity of the 3m. Farouk Army Post is not recognized yet in used condition, but perhaps that is just as well, for cancelled to order specimens are fairly common.

A comparison with the new Zeheri quickly reveals that there are dozens of varieties, particularly imperforates, that are not listed in Scott. The editors of Scott are quite conservative in adding new varieties to the catalog, and they apparently need some indication of legitimacy as an issued stamp, more than just proof of existence. Zeheri, on the other hand, is rather liberal, and appears to list any variety that is known to exist. As a result, many imperforate proofs are listed in Zeheri, but not in Scott. Presumably, according to these policies, the newly discovered imperforates of some of the De La Rue sphinxes, and early postage dues and officials printed by De La Rue, will eventually be listed in Zeheri, but since their status is clearly that of unissued proofs, we should not expect to see them in Scott. (This fact does not alter their intrinsic value, of course.)

Not everyone will be pleased to see Egypt moved out of the British section of the catalog, particularly dealers, who tell me that it is bound to cause a drop in their popularity. However, Gibbons made this move many years ago, and it was inevitable. The strength of the scarcer varieties of Egypt, particularly of the classic period, in the recent auction market is unlikely to be effected, as the demand for these is international, and it is good to see Scott giving some attention to Egypt, and we should all welcome the improvements, while hoping for still greater ones to come.

NEW BULLETINS FEATURE DESIGN

Most progressive philatelic agencies publish regular new issue bulletins. Most are excellent while only a few are fair. The better ones are bi-lingual and always with a wealth of information about the forthcoming issue.

We have long believed that the bulletins of the Egyptian Philatelic Agency rank among the best, and we have seen many. They are always English, French and Arabic, usually in color with the full story behind the issue and pertinent facts, with one glaring exception. **THE DESIGNER HAS NEVER BEEN LISTED!** Now, at long last, this has been remedied. With the last two bulletins received the names of the designers are prominently listed. We know the many who have written to us about this will be pleased.



# ARAB REPUBLIC OF EGYPT

## 150TH ANNIVERSARY OF THE DECIPHERING OF THE HIEROGLYPHIC LANGUAGE

**THE ROSETTA STONE** is considered the key to the Hieroglyphic language. Discovered in 1799, it proved to be the key that unlocked the quandary of the centuries. The stone itself is a piece of basalt about 113 cm. x 75.5 cm. x 27.5 cm., broken and damaged. The inscriptions, covering the smooth side, consist of 100 lines: in the ancient Egyptian, 14 are Hieroglyphic, 32 Demotic - 54 in Greek, all of which have identical meanings. Champollion, in 1821, succeeded in deciphering these ancient languages by comparison. France has also issued a commemorative in his honor.

Date of Issue: 16 October, 1972  
 Denomination: 110 Mills  
 Designer: IBRAHIM EL TAHTAWI  
 Design: A likeness of the Egyptologist, Jean Francois Champollion beside the Rosetta Stone. Background is a cartouche repeated.



Dimensions: 50 x 30 mm.  
 Perforation: 11.5  
 Sheets: 50 Stamps (5 x 10)  
 Colors: Bluish-green, deep gray and background in gold on white  
 Watermark: Multiple Eagle  
 Printing: Rotogravure by Postal Printing House in the A. R. Egypt.  
 Quantity: 250,000 Stamps



**UNITED NATIONS DAY** --- DATE OF ISSUE: 24 October, 1972

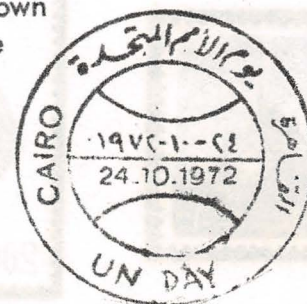
<b>DENOMINATIONS:</b>	<b>DESIGNERS:</b>	<b>DIMENSIONS:</b>
(1) 10 Mills	S. SABER	40 x 40 mm.
(2) 20 Mills	R. SAMI	25 x 42 mm.
(3) 30 Mills	MOMTAZ RAIF	50 x 30 mm.
(4) 55 Mills	IBRAHIM EL TAHTAWI	40 x 40 mm.

<b>DESIGNS:</b>	<b>SHEETS:</b>
(1) Tuberculosis Diseases, XIVth Regional Conf.	25 Stamps - (5 x 7)
(2) Heart Diseases, World Health Organization	50 Stamps - (10 x 5)
(3) Refugees, To make the world conscious	50 Stamps - (5 x 10)
(4) Safe - Guarding the Temples of Philae	35 Stamps - (5 x 7)

PERFORATION: II-1/2 WATERMARK: Multiple Eagle

**COLORS** (1) 10 m. Red, blue, pale orange-brown & deep orange-brown and (2) 20 m. Three shades of green, yellow, black and white  
**QUANTITY** (3) 30 m. Blue, pale blue, purple, lavender and white (4) 55 m. Deep orange-brown, blue-green, gold & white

**PRINTING:**  
 (1) 1,000,000 Stamps  
 (2) 1,000,000 Stamps  
 (3) 400,000 Stamps  
 (4) 400,000 Stamps





UNITED NATIONS DAY (Data on previous page)



THE FESTIVAL STAMP — 1972

Date of Issue: 1 November, 1972  
 Denomination: 10 Mills  
 Designer: IBRAHIM EL TAHTAWI  
 Design: An Egyptian Flower  
 Dimensions: 25 x 30 mm.  
 Perforations: 11.5  
 Sheets: 100 Stamps (10 x 10)  
 Colors: Pale yellow, green and orchid  
 Watermark: Multiple Eagle  
 Printing: Rotogravure -- postal Printing House in the Arab Republic of Egypt.  
 Quantity printed: Quantities are not listed for Festival stamps and definitives.



ADDITIONAL NEW DEFINITIVES

Date of Issue: 1 October, 1972  
 Denominations: 100 and 200 Mills  
 Design: 100 m. The Citadel  
 200 m. Egyptian Mask Unidentified  
 Dimensions: 100 m. 25 x 31 mm.  
 200 m. 40 x 40 mm.  
 Sheet: 35 Stamps (7 x 5)  
 Colors: 100 m. Medium blue, Midnight blue and burnt orange  
 200 m. Gray-beige, pale green kelly green, white  
 Watermark and Printing: As above  
 Quantity is not listed for definitives.



SOME "UNPUBLISHED" DISCOVERIES . . .

Cont. from preceding page — column 2)

3) WATERMARKS — There appears to be two different size watermarks; one is small, the other a larger type. Whether this is due to different types of paper used, I cannot as yet say. These two varying types of watermarks also appear in the Harrison pictorials and crown overprints. The larger type watermark seems to be the scarcer one. Neither the controls nor the postmarks give any lead to the preponderance of one or the other in any given period. Here, it is perhaps, interesting to note that the paper used for the Geographical Congress, S.G. Nos. 123/125, the last issue with the MULTIPLE CRESCENT & STAR WATERMARK shows a remarkably different watermark from the Harrison printings.

WHITTAKER'S "EGYPT" TO BE SOLD . . .

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