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# EGYPTIAN TOPICS



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## THE AMERICAN AGENT

## THE PHILATELIC SOCIETY OF EGYPT

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## *with the editor*

Wouldn't it be wonderful if  
All nations could really be,  
Like the average stamp collector,  
Even as you and me ?

Wars would stop and Peace would reign;  
The size of the table wouldn't count.  
They would be too busy talking stamps,  
To think of munitions, greed and doubt.

The only battles that might be fought  
Would be on the auction floor;  
To obtain a prized item  
Would be the only war !

Have you ever seen a stamp collector  
Who was downright dirty mean ?  
No, and we think this breed would vanish  
With a display of the Sovereign Queen,  
Or a classic cover from Zanzibar  
Or an error of blue in place of green !

No my friends, stamp collectors  
Are the diplomats today.  
They don't treat other people  
In a mean degrading way.  
They're proud of their possessions,  
Their knowledge and their skill;  
They want to share their knowledge  
With Abdul, Igor, Fritz and Bill !

Heads of State would have no fears  
Of war with a neighboring realm.  
Their known sense of fair play  
Would maintain wisdom at the helm.  
Their joy would radiate  
Throughout the world today.  
There would be no cause for trouble  
And Peace would be here to stay !

And the moral of this story  
Is International in scope.  
If nations of the world  
Would follow in our tracks,  
Then all nations would be brothers  
And no one would be on their backs !

Ibrahim Chaftar

## EGYPT'S

## First Portrait Issue

IT IS TIME to call this issue "1923 - 1926" instead of "1923 - 1924" as we know of some values (2 & 5 Mil) with control C-26. The following issue, 1927 - 1934 appeared only in 1927.

— 1 —

Immediately after the proclamation of the Kingdom of Egypt on 15 March 1922 the Egyptian Postal Authorities decided to translate that event on the current postage stamps.

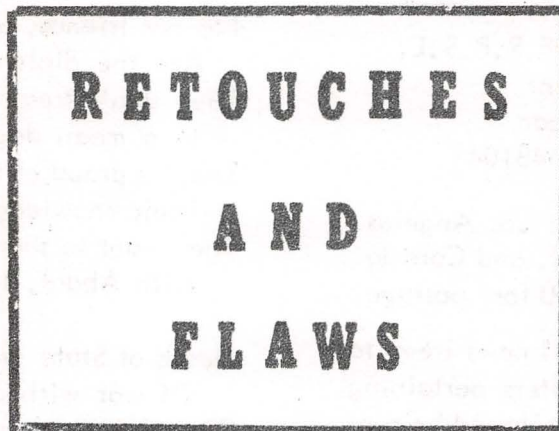
Two measures were taken:

1) To ask the supplier of the Egyptian stamps — at that time Harrison & Sons, the British firm — for estimates and new designs incorporating the portrait of the new Sovereign.

2) In the meanwhile, and till the arrival of the projected issue, to apply a quick overprint on the current stamps.

The chosen overprint — a black one — was to be in Arabic Only, in two lines, surmounted by a royal crown:

1923 - 1926



"Si jeunesse savoit et vieillesse  
pouvet, les choses en iraient mieux".

"If youth had experience and old age  
ability, things would get on the better".

The overprint reads as follows:

Al Mamlaka el Masria  
/ 15 March 1922

(The Kingdom of Egypt  
/ 15 March 1922).

Four types and a quantity of sub-types have been recognized. We give a short indication, with dates of issue for each (1)

TYPE I — Lithographed  
10 October 1922

TYPE II — Typographed,  
Small screen  
December 1922

TYPE III — Typographed,  
Large screen  
January 1923

In July 1923 the bulk of the current Egyptian stamps supplied by Harrison already overprinted

in black and issued. This particular overprint, well executed, was approved by the Egyptian G.P.O. on the 6th of February 1923: The quantity of this last supply was bigger than or equal to the whole quantity overprinted locally (some values).

(1) See footnote at bottom of page 26.

EGYPT'S FIRST PORTRAIT ISSUE — 1923 / 1926 — RETOUCHES AND FLAWSType IV — London Overprint Typographed  
July 1923

We suppose that the Egyptian Government invited or received offers from other sources as we see in existence many die proofs and essays, all of which were rejected.

There are die proofs and color trials for which at least four printers were responsible: The Survey Department, Cairo; Perkins Bacon Ltd. Harrison & Sons and Bradbury Wilkinson and Co. Essays were submitted in offset-litho; typography, recess and grained or screened photogravure showing the King's head in various designs and sizes with both inscriptions in French and Arabic, English and Arabic and finally, in Arabic only.

— 2 —

Harrison intended to produce the stamps by recess printing and he applied for estimates in Perkins Bacon Ltd., who was urged to prepare the die engraving and submit sketches and die proofs. Pressed by the Egyptian Government, Harrison sent numerous sketches and essays, and among them proofs in corn and screened photogravure, the earliest dated 3rd May 1922.

When the Perkins Bacon die proofs in recess were finally received they were not so attractive as those previously submitted in photogravure. The photogravure proofs were therefore approved, and the process chosen. New proofs and color trials were solicited for the accepted sketch.

This Egyptian decision perplexed Harrison who however, accepted the contract.

The sketches for all of the stamps of the 1923 issue, as eventually produced, were drawn by Perkins Bacon. Harrison states definitely when writing to that firm on the subject:

"The sketch of the 5 mil. stamps which you have already prepared is to be the model for the other values."

In the same letter, dated 15th May 1922, the final paragraph reads:

". . . I am sorry for many reasons that the recess method has not been adopted as I am afraid that the photogravure process is still very uncertain in its results and until the issue is successfully produced will entail a considerable amount of anxiety". (2)

From the above correspondence between Harrison and Perkins it is established that these two firms are responsible for the essays ZEHRI No. 69a and 69b; the ordinance and design being exactly as the stamp issued, the central portrait excepted, but this portrait also appeared on other Harrison essays. See illustration. Fig. No. 1.

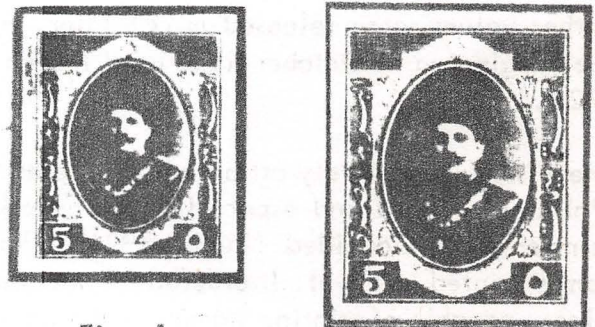


Fig. 1.

Here we publish, for the first time, four engravers proofs, issued on glazed paper on sunken cards in color, by courtesy of the Postmaster General in 1945. These were among many others — essays and proofs in the Egyptian Museum, Cairo, No. 65 "Section des Timbres Postes"), but unfortunately without any indication of source of origin (Photo illustration, Fig. No. 2.).



Fig.  
# 2.

EGYPT'S FIRST PORTRAIT ISSUE — (Continued)

— 4 —

These four die proofs: 1 mil, 2 mil, 4 mil, and 10 mil. were dated 20 March 1924, which is a very late date if we consider that all the values of the First Portrait Issue 1923/1926 had already been issued. I am unable to understand for what purpose they were sent. All indications suggest that Perkins Bacon Ltd. is responsible for them as the design is exactly the same as the one issued, and was their entry in the international competition for the Second Portrait Issue of 1927/1934.

— 3 —

It was only on 16 April 1923 that an advance supply was delivered by Harrison: a 5 mil. value of the new set was issued.

The other values were released much later, one by one, beginning in October 1923 until March 19 of 1924.

This new issue immediately attracted the interest of the Philatelic World and especially the Egyptian Government which decided (August 1924) to have its stamps printed in Egypt. It ordered the necessary machines, capable of printing stamps by the photogravure process, from specialized manufacturers in England.

By the end of 1924 the preliminary experiments began for the printing of postage stamps locally by the photogravure process. The machinery and equipment began to arrive from England in March 1925. The printing machines and presses were erected and tested and after adequate experiments the etching and printing of photogravure cylinders commenced under the guidance of two specially engaged foreign experts.

Before the end of 1925, the total work was in full production and large initial deliveries were made to the G. P. O. However, the 1925 / 1934 set which eventually made its appearance was issued only in 1927.

- (1) Information reproduced from p. 88: the Robson Lowe catalog, London "Byam's Egypt" Sale, 24/25 October 1961.
- (2) Same reference as 1, above.

It was only in September 1928 that we see the Philatelic Press publishing a first detailed article in "THE PHILATELIC JOURNAL OF GREAT BRITAIN" — "EGYPT-RETOUCHES on the KING FUAD ISSUE OF 1923 - 1924" by A. J. Sefi (3).

The author, an eminent philatelist, capable writer and researcher was stimulated by some 1928 retouches and flaws displayed at the HERTS PHILATELIC SOCIETY by DR. Byam.

In that comprehensive and much illustrated article, there is a full description of the retouches and flaws. The author invited philatelists to study both this issue and the printing process.

He mentions that he compared his finds with Dr. Byam. From this article we see that he had in hand, one sheet of the 1 mil, B/23, one of the 10 mil, no control and two sheets of the 5 mil., one C/23 (same as the Byam sheet) and another C/24. Also that Sefi succeeded in accumulating a good quantity of used copies of which he collected some thousands.

— 5 —

We had then to wait until December 1937 when Douglas MacNeille, an ardent and enthusiastic philatelist, published his monumental article "EGYPT 1923 / 24 — RETOUCHES & FLAWS" which appeared in instalments in "GIBBONS STAMP MONTHLY" from December 1937 until April 1938. (4)

MacNeille refers to a paper delivered at the Brighton Congress, 1932, by G. Harrison, a Director of Harrison and Sons, saying that the 1923/24 issue was originally planned to be produced by recess printing.

He then briefly stated that the process from the original drawing to the actual printing cylinder is:

- (3) Ref. "philatelic. Jour. of Great Britain" Sept., 1928, pp. 174 to 179.
- (4) This article has been reprinted in L'OP in instalments, 1940, No. 45, Vol. IV, on pages 8/16 and pages 60/62.

- (1) Original Design
- (2) Negative (single)
- (3) Positive of 100 stamp size units
- (4) Carbon print from positive
- (5) Printing cylinder

N.B. I draw the attention to (3): Positive of 100 stamp-size units.

The author established the basic methods of studying the issue. Unfortunately, the limited material available in his collection and the large stock of E.L. Angeloglou has not given him the full opportunity to conclude. It is at this time that I met, for the first time, (1928) this good friend in the premises of Angeloglou and we had lengthy talks. To these two gentlemen I am indebted for a great deal of information and hints and I take this opportunity to express to both of these master philatelists my respectful appreciation.

MacNeille recognized eight (8) different controls and a sheet with no control for the 5 mil., but he eventually acquired two different sheets of the 5 mil. value with controls C/23, A & B; 1 sheet control B/24 A, with control measurement different from the two sheets C/23 previously mentioned. This makes three sheets. The five other different controls were: a block of thirty (5 x 6) C/23 and a block of 56 (8 x 7) no control, which he alluded to be a private state of C/23 and three other blocks of 4. He bitterly complained that he did not have a fair chance to complete his conclusion.

— 6 —

It was only in April 1942 that Dr. Byam published in the "LONDON PHILATELIST" his eminent study "THE FIRST PORTRAIT ISSUE OF EGYPT — 1923 — 24". (5)

Dr. Byam, in an introduction, states how the issue was chosen and explained in detail the retouches and flaws he recognized as soon as the issue appeared. He compared his observations with those of A. J. Sefi and Douglas MacNeille and he arrived at the conclusion that some of the sheets studied by MacNeille differed from the sheets in his

hands. He specially refuted the theory that the no control number sheet was a previous state of the C/23 sheet.

He mentioned that 10 positions of the control for the 5 mil. had been recognized but also that he had only three sheets of that value; one complete sheet, no control, a block of the three top rows (3 x 10) from a smaller sheet, and two other sheets mentioned in his sale catalog with no indications of control numbers. He did not mention if the no control sheet was included in the 10 positions above referred to and he added that ". . . we have no evidence that only one positive for the 5 mil. was used".

Dr. Byam states also that:

". . . an imperfect carbon was used, or that the positive of 100 stamp-size was on its last legs when the carbon was taken to prepare the cylinder, and a new positive probably did duty when preparing the cylinder for the stamps bearing control B/24."

N.B. I draw attention to the portion underlined: "The positive of the 100 stamp-size."

— 7 —

The Palace sales in 1954 threw new light on the 1923/26 issue: all values were offered in sheets with no control, proving that sheets of all values existed with this variety and these were cataloged in the 1956 edition of the Zeheri Catalog by Mr. A. Mazloum.

The sale also included two sheets of the 5 mil. variety imperforate, one with control B/24. The complete sheets of the 5 mil. C/23 and B/25 does not seem to have been sent to the Palace Collection as there is no mention of these in the Koubbeh Sale catalog.

On different occasions members of the Egypt Study Circle showed normal sheets with different watermark positions and the late E. N. Proctor was in charge of the study of this intriguing issue.

(5) This article was reprinted in L'OP, No. 71. of Vol. IV, July, 1950.

(Continued on next page)

EGYPT'S FIRST PORTRAIT ISSUE --- (Continued)

The FIRST PORTRAIT ISSUE OF EGYPT — 1923/26 which was one of the first for which the photogravure process had been employed on a large scale deserves a detailed study in following the steps of production and having a look at the measures taken by Harrison & Sons to overcome the difficulties.

There is no doubt that the flaws and blemishes which were so numerous in the early printings required much retouching but the process was finally mastered and we see that the Egyptian Issue 1925/34 produced on similar machines in Egypt by the same process (except the "corn grain" was replaced by a "screen") was practically without major varieties.

This fact is also confirmed by the stamps produced for Great Britain by Harrison & Sons in 1934, practically without major printing varieties.

— 8 —

In the summer of 1940 I had some spare time in the hot evenings during a mission at the Sugar Factory at Kom Ombo (near Assouan) and started scrutinizing some + or - 32,000 used stamps composed of 10,000 each of the 20, 50 and 100 mil. and 2,000 stamps of 200 mil., all of the 1923/26 Issue. This huge stock of Mr. E. L. Angeloglou was put at my disposal by this helpful gentlemen.

I gathered a good quantity of flaws and retouches of these Intermediate High values of which there were practically no complete sheets on the Cairo market. I shared my findings with the owner to whom I returned the packets, who gently refused to charge me for what I retained (all of Angeloglou's stock was destroyed by fire and water in the Cairo 1952 fire).

As a matter of statistics the defects and retouches totalled 35 kinds of the 20 mil., 17 on the 50 mil., 22 for the 100 mil. and 27 for the 200 mil. All of the shades are represented and some flaws and retouches are peculiar to a definitive shade. Some of them are minute. Although the size of the stamps in this category is bigger than that of the low values, it is obvious that the working staff was not willing to reject the pane and tried to save it.

One of these flaws is spectacular and deserves description. It is on a 100 mil. purple of the earliest shade which shows the left frame line of the oval heavily broken and the background between the chin and the frameline of the oval left badly damaged.

In this stamp (Fig. No. 3A, illustrated in color on our front cover, it is puzzling why the defect has not been repaired on the gelatine layer after removing the carbon tissue before etching, or why this defect was not repaired on the copper surface on the cylinder after etching? Has this defect developed during printing? Anyhow, I never succeeded in finding another copy until now as I have never stopped hunting.

STAMP A — GELATINE SHIFT

A portion of the gelatine from the lower west side of the colored oval has been removed and deposited further to the west (gelatine shift). Also a part of the neighboring background of the portrait has been damaged (melted gelatine). No attempt has been made to correct this visible defect.

In the meantime, I found a used copy (B), same shade and seemingly from the same pane with a similar flaw, but not identical to the first one. The background near the N.E. side, between the head and the oval has the same "melted gelatine" appearance. The variety is very striking and no attempt appears to have been made to remedy the defect. (c. 5/6, D.7). Fig. No. 3B.

STAMP B — MELTED GELATINE

This second copy shows a flaw giving the appearance of the colored background in the tarbouche, and part of the colored oval (N.E. side), as originating from a "melted gelatine". As the color of this stamp is identical to Stamp A we can assume that the flaw is from the same printing surface which, we suppose, was discarded.

NO OTHER COPIES, EITHER FROM STAMP A or B WERE FOUND IN 10,000 USED COPIES EXAMINED IN 1940.



Fig. 3 B.

These two units were shown, among my other retouches and flaws, to Dr. Byam and my other colleagues of the Egypt Study Circle on the occasion of the "LONDON INTERNATIONAL EXHIBITION - 1950". I explained that my aid was to help the study of the 1923/1926 issue and gather the retouches and flaws of these Intermediate High values while they are still available in used condition, the big blocks and sheets having long since been sold out.

I don't intend to go on describing the other retouches and flaws in my possession here. What I want to say, "Is it not time, now that we are in a relatively better position, to begin once again with serious study of this fascinating issue?"

TO BE CONTINUED . . .

\* \* \*

Ed's. Note: The author, Mr. Ibrahim Chaftar, has shared his knowledge and published his finding over many years in L'OP and other serious philatelic journals. He willingly offers his help to any serious collector who is interested in locating and listing all of the flaws and retouches of this issue. The editor will gladly forward any mail to Mr. Chaftar in Egypt relating to this study.

\* \* \*

## Unrecorded "SUEZ" Forgery Classified

By L. N. & M. WILLIAMS

It is very many years since we first classified the different forgeries of the stamps of the Suez Canal Company and published the results in the long defunct Stamp Review. The original classification contained a certain amount of duplication because what seemed to us at that time to be different forgeries were later discovered to have been sub types of a stamp classified under a different number.

During the sixties, in order to improve the classification and to add any new forgeries that had appeared on the scene, a meeting was arranged between certain experts in genuine and forged Suez Canal stamps, as a result of which a new classification was agreed upon and 14 distinctly different forgeries recognized.

Until recently nothing remained to be added to the experts' findings, but now a hitherto unrecorded forgery has made its appearance. It is an extremely crude production, with many of the very fine lines blotted with colour, and is lithographed on yellowish-brown paper. The most curious feature of this production is the fact that it is a 20 centimes value but is printed in green, normally the hue of the 5c. The cancellation, too, is 'new' and consists of a double lined circle inscribed, presumably, 'Compagnie du Canal Maritime de Suez' with 'Egypte' and perhaps a date in the center; the mark on this example is struck in violet.

It has been suggested by a well-known student of forgeries that this specimen might have been cut out of an advertisement and provided with a forged cancellation. The width of the margins, with no trace of adjoining stamps, tends to support this suggestion but there is, equally, no sign of printing on the back, which would surely have been in evidence if the forgery had once served to illustrate a dealer's advertising leaflet. If any reader can provide a clue to the forgery's origin, we should be pleased to hear from him or her.

This article appeared originally in STAMP MAGAZINE (England) in the January 1973 issue on p. 59 and is reproduced here with the kind permission of the authors, and the editor, Mr. Richard West.



Dr. A. Winter

WHO WERE COSTES and de VITROLLES and why did they undertake an experimental flight from Paris to Kom Ombo, a small town in Upper Egypt, 40 km. north of Aswan ? That is what we will tell here explaining the philatelic interest of this journey.

# The Paris Kom Ombo

## Record Attempt

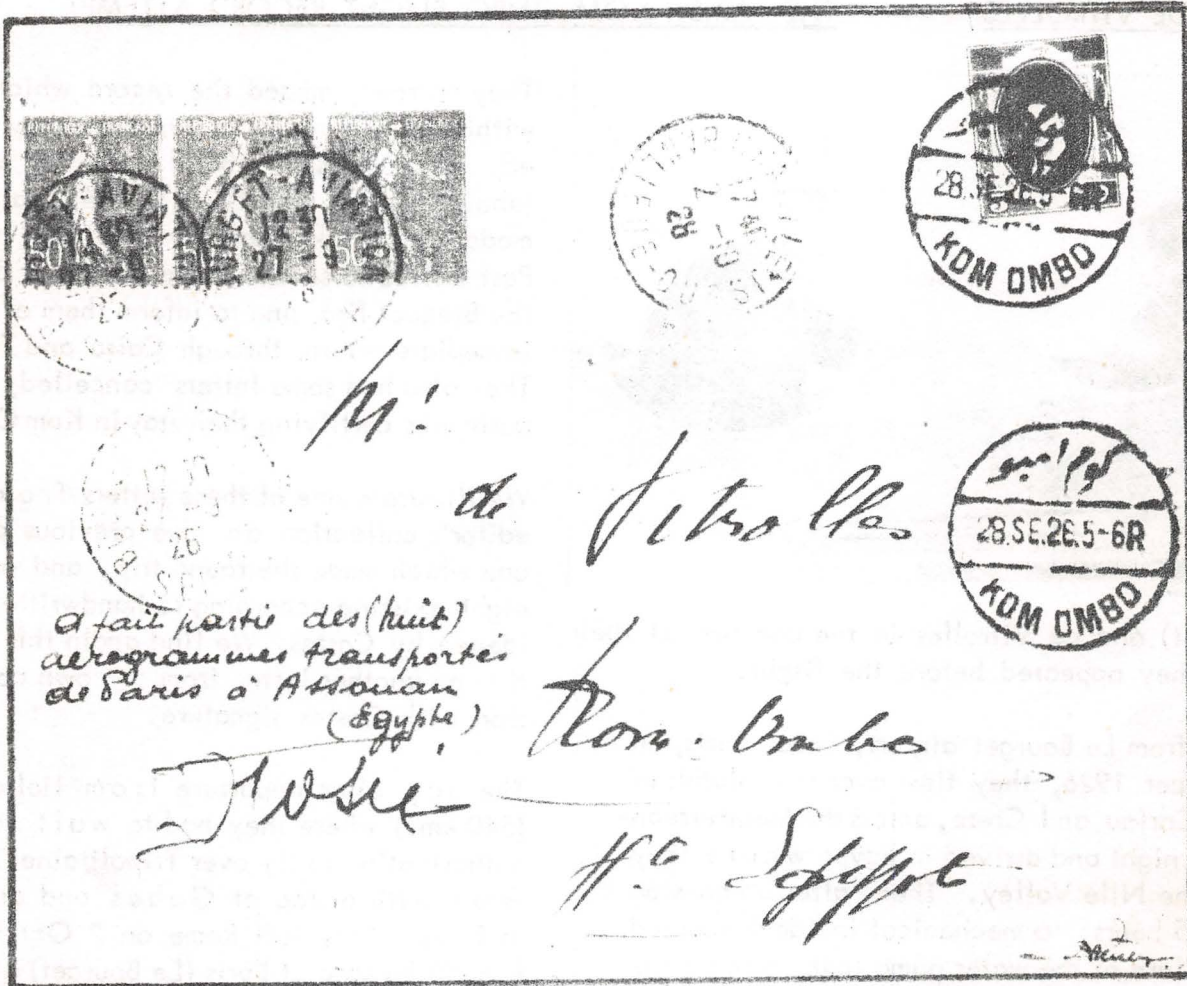


### COSTES



### DE VIT- ROLLES





One of eight covers flown, Paris - Kom Ombo - Paris, in the collection of Gordon B. Garrett. Shows c.d.s. departure Le Bourget 27 - 9 - 26 and arrival c.d.s. at Kom Ombo 29 Se 26: 5-6 P. Cover is signed at lower left by Costes. Muller's signature guaranteeing authenticity is in the lower right hand corner. Also backstamped with the French arrival c.d.s. 2-10-26 at Chaville in the Paris area at 17 h 45.

DIEUDONNE COSTES, a Frenchman, is probably one of the last survivors of the great old time pilots. He was born in November 1892 and has just celebrated his 80th birthday, still active as the head of a teleferic firm.

In 1926 he was Chief Pilot of the Breguet firm and had not yet acquired the celebrity that came to him later when he made his first non-stop flight across the South Atlantic Ocean in October 1927 with Le Brix and his first non-stop run, Paris - New York with the navigator Bellonte in September 1930.

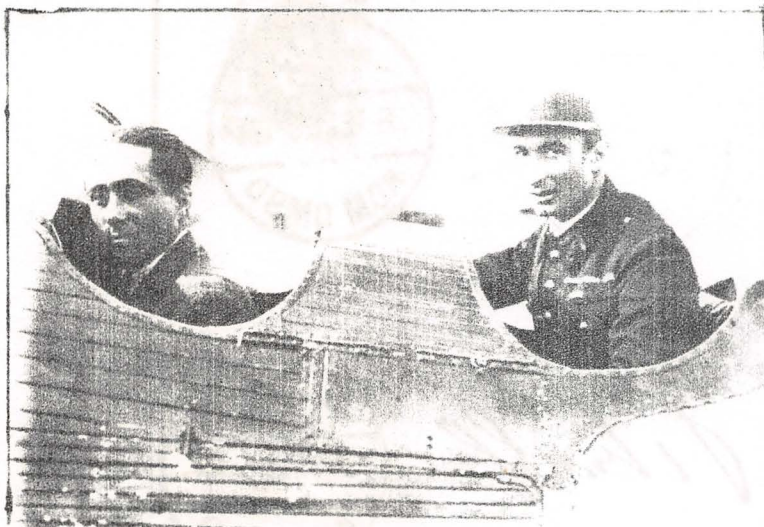
On 14 and 15 July, 1926, Captain Girer accompanied by the Lieutenant Dordilly established the world record for the longest non-stop flight, Paris-

Omsk (USSR), 4,700 km. in 29 hours in a Breguet plane.

In September 1926 Costes then decided to break this record straight line distance as well. For this trip he chose as a companion, the Lieutenant de Vitrolles, a military aviator who had become well known since 1925 thanks to a flight, Paris-Rome-Paris, made with his brother.

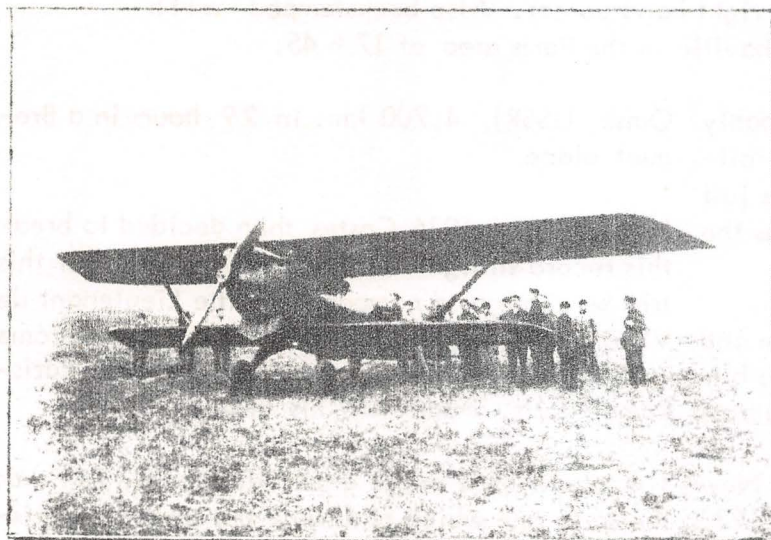
The plane used in the expedition to Egypt was the same one which had made the journey, Paris-Omsk, in July: Breguet XIX, No. 1685, Hispano-Suiza 600 HP engine (see illustration).

(Continued on following page)

COSTE & DE VITROLLES — THE PARIS - KOM OMBO FLIGHT RECORD ATTEMPT

Costes (left) and de Vitrolles in the cockpit of their plane as they appeared before the flight.

Departing from Le Bourget airport, near Paris, on 27 September 1926, they flew over the islands of Corsica, Corfou and Crete, across the Mediterranean during the night and arrived in Egypt where they followed the Nile Valley. Then, after a non-stop flight of 25 hours, a mechanical incident occurred — the failure of the water pump that forced the pilot to land immediately, a little before Aswan. This is how the two men found themselves in the small town of Kom Ombo, at 4,050 Km. from Paris.



The plane of Coste and de Vitrolles, aptly named the "Question Mark" as it appeared in 1926, probably at Le Bourget airfield. (Photos from Musee de L'air, the French Air Museum near Paris.

They narrowly missed the record which was within their range as, as when they landed, there was still 880 litres of petrol (about an eight hour flight). The repair was made very quickly and the crew went to the Post Office to send a cable at 17 h 55 to the Breguet firm and to inform them of their immediate return through Cairo and Tunis. They also had some letters cancelled, the postmarks certifying their stay in Kom Ombo.

We illustrate one of these letters from the editor's collection on the previous page, one which made the round trip, and one of eight existing according to handwritten evidence by Costes. We find again this mention on another letter from my own collection with Costes signature.

The day after departure from Heliopolis (540 km.) where they had to wait for an authorization to fly over Tripolitaine: then return with a stop at Gabes and another at Tunis. They left Rome on 2 October at 8 h 50 to land at Paris (Le Bourget) at 14 h 35 after a run of 1200 km. in fog and storm. The letters carried received the handstamp of 2 October at 17 h 45 from Chaville, in the Paris area.

This unsuccessful attempt to break a record did not discourage Costes as a few weeks later, on 28 October 1926, he flew again with the same plane, this time with Captain Rignot and established a certain world record of distance on straight line with a flight — Paris-Djask, representing 5,396 km. in a total of 32 hours.

This same plane accomplished several other flights, totaling 120,000 km. and 700 flying hours. This historical plane "The Question Mark" is displayed at the "Air Museum" in Meudon, near Paris. On its fuselage are shown the main flights it made. Paris-Aswan is in the second place.

\* \* \*

# REPUBLIC OF SUDAN

## TENTH ANNIVERSARY OF THE FOUNDING OF THE AFRICAN POSTAL UNION

Date of Issue: 16 December, 1972  
 Denominations: 2, 4 and 10-1/2 P.T.  
 Designs: The reverse of an envelope,  
 a map of Africa and the  
 Emblem of the Postal Union

Dimensions: 42 x 25 mm.

Sheets: 50 Stamps: (5 x 10)

Colors: 2 P.T. Yellow - orange, green, black,  
 pale and dark blue and white.

4 P.T. Cerise, purple, black, pale &  
 dark blue, black and white.

10-1/2 P.T. Medium blue, purple, white,  
 black, pale and deep pink.

Watermark: Unwatermarked

Printing: Rotogravure — Postal Printing House  
 Arab Republic of Egypt

Quantity: Unlisted



## COMMEMORATING NATIONAL UNITY — 3 MARCH 1972

Date of Issue: 1 January, 1973

Denominations: 2, 4 and 10-1/2 P.T.

Designs: 2 P.T. Emblem of the Sudan and vignettes of animals native to the country, with diamond design

4 P.T. Heads of Government at the Conference Table

10-1/2 P.T. The Emblem of Unity superimposed on an Eagle.

Dimensions: 2 and 4 P.T. 37 x 27 mm.  
 10-1/2 P.T. 27 x 37 mm.

Sheets: Unlisted

Colors: 2 P.T. Gold, Red, Green  
 Black and White.

4 P.T. Mauve and Black

10-1/2 P.T. Silver, white, orange & green

Watermark: Unwatermarked

Printing: Rotogravure — As above

Quantity: Unlisted.



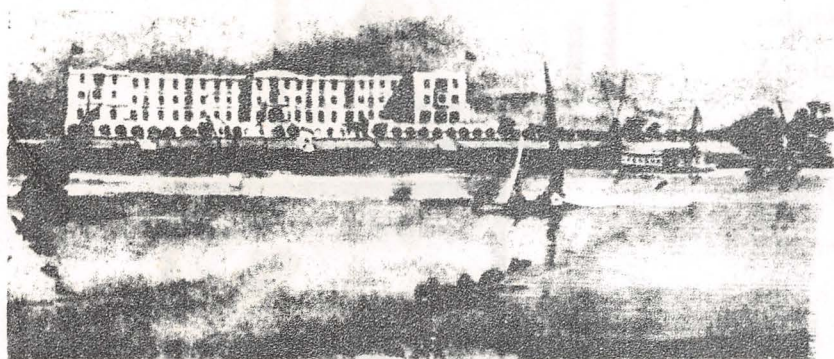
**J. Bouček d'Humieres, FRPSL**

Continued from Vol. 5, No. 1.

Originally published in L'Orient Philatelique, No. 114, October 1964 in the original French. It is reproduced herein, in English, with the kind permission of the author, and the Editor of L'Orient Philatelique, the official publication of the Philatelic Society of Egypt. Ed.

**WINTER PALACE HOTEL AT LUXOR**

A luxury hotel, probably opened in November 1905 leading to the closure, in 1909, of the Luxor Hotel, close by.



WINTER PALACE HOTEL AT LUXOR ABOUT 1912

No.	Diameter in mm.	First Date	Last Reported	No. seen
1	30	— 2.06	8.12.07	3
2	30	17.12.06	— 4.14	20 All
3	30-31	6. 3.09	— 4.14	9 Except
4	30-31	13. 1.12	29.11.30	5 Nos.
5	30	7. 1.23	14. 3.37	35 1 & 3
6	30-31	7. 1.27	15. 2.50	11 are known
7	26-27	1. 2.33	14. 2.50	20 in blue



1



2



3

**EGYPTIAN  
HOTELS**

The  
Proprietary  
Markings  
of their  
Post  
Offices



Cataract Hotel (Cont.)

No. 1 Diameter in mm. 28  
First 4.1.01 Last 18.1.14  
No. of specimens seen: 70  
Also known in blue

No. 2 Diameter in mm. 28-29  
First 5.2.21 Last 26.2.28  
No. of specimens seen: 9

No. 3 Diameter in mm. 28  
First reported 10.3.26 Last: 21.12.54  
No. of specimens seen: 27  
No. 3 is also known in blue strike

SAVOY HOTEL AT ASWAN

Though exceptionally well located on the EL-EPHANTINE ISLAND in the middle of the River Nile, this hotel did not endure for long. By the end of 1913 no trace of it remained. It probably opened in November-December of 1902.

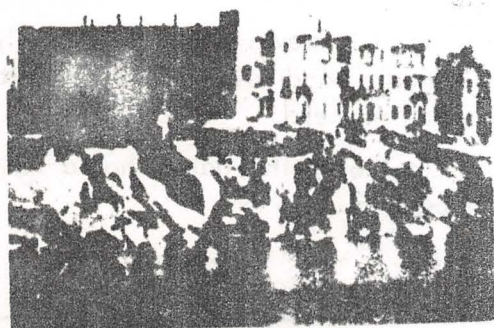
Special post office opened concurrently with the hotel and closed about April 1913.

No. 1 (on previous page) is a drawing (tracing) after a sketch.

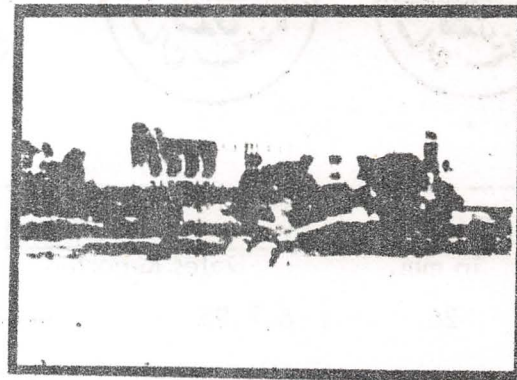
No. 2 Shows more or less pronounced breaks of the horizontal line under "PALACE".

CATARACT HOTEL AT ASWAN

Situated on a marvelous site, overlooking the Nile, this hotel was probably opened in November - December, 1900. Its special post office was opened at the same time.



THE CATARACT HOTEL AT ASSOUAN



SAVOY HOTEL — ASWAN

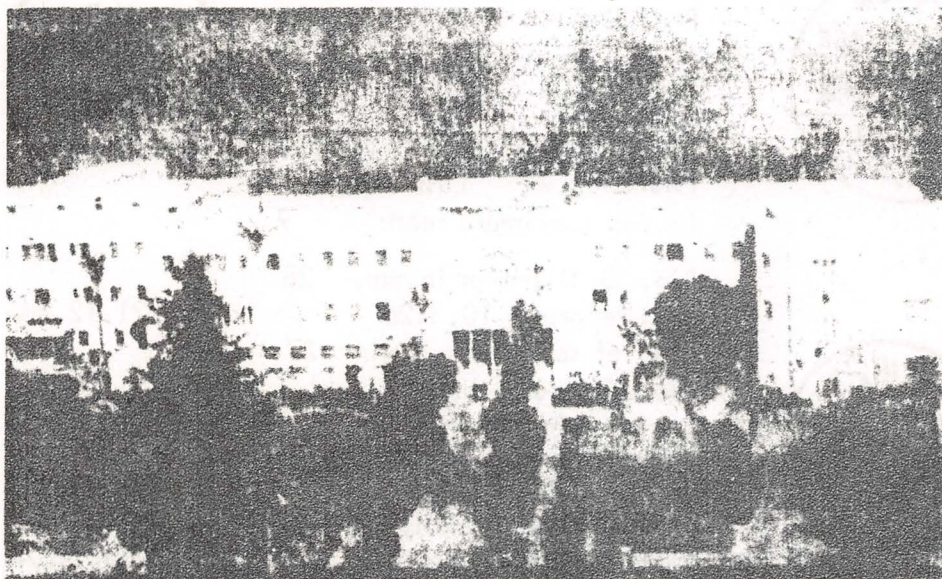
No. 1 Diam. First: 22.12.02 Last: —.—.09  
28-29 No. of specimens seen: 21

No. 2 Diam. First: 7. 3.05 Last: 27.2.13  
28-29 No. of specimens seen: 4  
Also known with strike in blue.



ALEXANDRIA AND PORT SAID

SAN STEFANO HOTEL (Near Alexandria)



Excellently situated near Alexandria, not far from the sea, this hotel which apparently opened in May 1895, was used as a summer residence by a great number of Government officials who moved with the Palace staff and seat of Government when it transferred to Alexandria during the hot season.

The special post office opened May 1895 but it could not be traced after the summer of 1916.

Photo at left is undated. . .



1



2



3



4



5

No.	Diameter in mm.	First Dates Reported	Last	Number of Specimens seen	Comments
1	26	6.7.95	—	1	No. 1 is drawn after a sketch. The middle band with the date is quite narrow here.
2	28	8.5.96	8.9.99	12	
3	28	28.9.99	18.9.07	26	On No. 2 the date should have been 8-IX-99.
4	27-28	27.7.08	1.9.11	9	
5	28	6.7.16	23.8.16	3	

GRANDS MAGASINS (BIG STORES)

SIMON ARTZ, AT PORT SAID

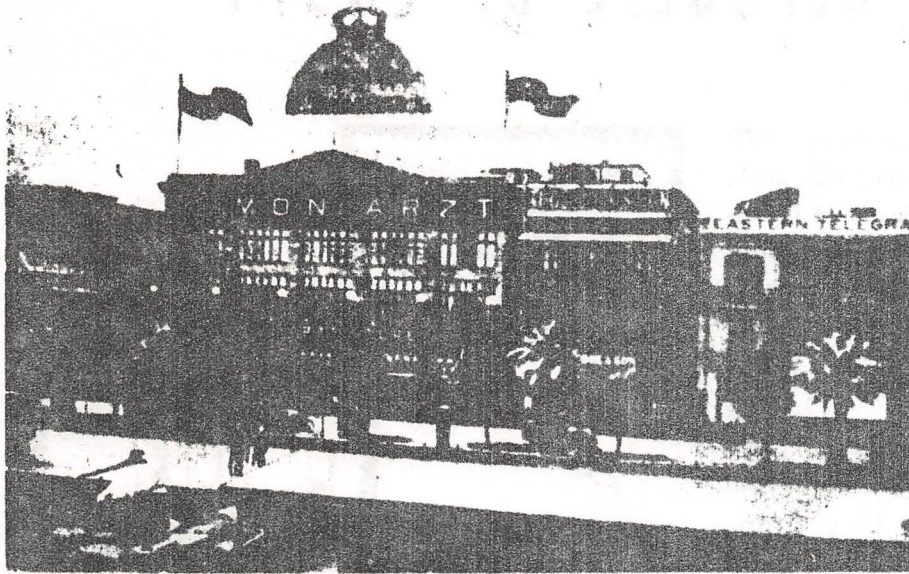
This huge store in Port Said is able to supply all of the needs of the travelers travelling through the Suez Canal, during their visit to this city.

It is universally known by the Colonials of India and the Far East.

A special post office was opened for the convenience of the travelers; also for the inhabitants of Port Said visiting or purchasing in this neighborhood, probably in 1934. It was closed for a few months at the end of 1956 due to military operations. It probably reopened during 1957.

(Continued on the following page).

SIMON ARTZ AT PORT SAID (Continued)



No.	Diameter in mm.	First Date Reported	Last	Number of Specimens seen	Comments
1	27	24.9.34	24.2.60	31	Also seen with strike in violet in 1934
2	28	1.2.138	4.3.55	11	

BIBLIOGRAPHY:

- HOTEL POSTMARKS — DR. GORDON WARD, in the Quarterly Circle of the Egypt Study Circle, London, Vol. IV, No. 38, May 1952.
- THE HOLY LAND AND MIDDLE EAST PHILATELIC MAGAZINE — London, Vol. 1, Nos. 2 & 3 February and March 1957 and Vol. II, No. 5, September and October 1958 pages 437 (8).
- "CAIRO" — L'ORIENT PHILATELIQUE, Vol. IX, No. 94, April 1956.
- HOTEL POSTMARKS — N. J. PLACOLTARIS, in L'Orient Philatelique, Vol. X, No. 97, April / July 1957.
- "LES HOTELS d'EGYPTE -- PIERRE LANGLOIS, in Le Documentation Philatelique, Paris, No. 15 April / May 1957.

**EXHIBITION NOTES...**

RALPH TIPPER EXHIBITED "EGYPTIAN OFFICIALS-1865 — 1935" at the recently held Annual Exhibition of the EAST TORONTO STAMP CLUB where he received a SILVER AWARD. Congratulations, Ralph!

And at SEPAD, the Annual A.P.S. Convention show held in Philadelphia; the GRAND AWARD went to GORDON H. TORREY for a 10 Frame Postal History Exhibit entitled "OTTOMAN TURKEY", Stampless — Official Issues and Locals. Gordon also received an

invitation to compete in the A.P.S. Champion of Champions competition, to be held this year in Los Angeles at SESCAL in conjunction with the national A.P.S. Convention.

Also at SEPAD, a SILVER MEDAL to Mrs. DOROTHY MINTO for a fine showing of the "GREEK PHILATELIC STORY".

The readers of Egyptian Topics would like to share in your triumphs. When you win in an Exhibition, drop a note to the editor.



# ARAB REPUBLIC OF EGYPT

## NEW REGULAR AIRMAIL ISSUE

Date of Issue: 22 November, 1972  
 Denominations: 30 mills and 100 mills  
 Design: 30 m. Mosque & Minarets of Cairo  
 110 m. Jet plane approaching the pyramids  
 Dimensions: Each stamp 42 x 24 mm.  
 Perforation: 11-1/2  
 Sheet: 50 stamps (5 x 10)  
 Colors: 30 m. Azure blue, white, deep brown and yellowish brown  
 110 m. Deep azure blue, black, tan, yellow, green, brown, & white  
 Watermark: Multiple Eagle  
 Printing: Rotogravure - Postal Printing House, Arabic Republic of Egypt.  
 Quantity: Unlisted



## THE SOCIAL WORK DAY

The Social Work Day is celebrated annually on a national, territorial and local level to emphasize its meanings. Honored are those persons who

have performed outstanding deeds in the field of Social Service and those organizations performing diligently in the area of public service.

Date of Issue: 30 November, 1972  
 Denomination: 20 mills  
 Design: The Emblem of Social Work Day  
 Dimensions: 40 x 40 mm.  
 Perforation: 11-1/2  
 Sheet: 35 Stamps (5 x 7)  
 Colors: Pale blue, royal blue, tan, brown, green and white  
 Watermark: Multiple Eagle  
 Printing: Rotogravure As above  
 QUANTITY: 1,000,000 stamps



## EGYPTIAN AIRLINER CRASHES

A small notice appeared in the "WALL STREET JOURNAL" on 20 March 1972 as follows:

"Twenty-one persons died when a chartered Egyptian airliner crashed into a mountain area near Aden, South Yemen, according to the Middle East News Agency.

We have been watching for news on crash covers. Perhaps, as a charter flight, no mail was carried?

## A NOTE ON THE HOTEL POSTMARKS . . .

After reading the first instalment of his excellent article on Egyptian Hotel Postmarks which concludes in this issue, he hastens to say that much more remains to be said. The article was complete as of 1964 but much additional study has uncovered additional information which he plans to publish soon.

We hope this preliminary work will encourage our newcomers to Egyptian philately to consider this phase of study while material is still available.

Ken Pierce

# ILE ROUAD

STAMPS OF THE FRENCH OCCUPATION OF SYRIA USED  
IN THE FRENCH OFFICES IN EGYPT IN 1921 . . .



An unusual cover through the French Post at Alexandria addressed to Greece. Franked with stamps of the French Syrian Occupation overprinted "ILE ROUAD".

I recently came across a most interesting combination cover. It bears the 15 and 25 c regular issue of Port Said and the 2c, 3c and 5c ROUAD overprinted offices in the Levant adhesives all tied by the date stamp of the French Office in Port Said.

According to Yvert & Tellier the French Offices in Levant stamps overprinted "ILE ROUAD" were issued for the French Occupation of Syria.

This is the first use of these ROUAD over-prints that I have seen used from Egypt. May I enquire of the readers if they have knowledge of their use in this manner ?

The cover in question was posted from Port Said to Greece, and was returned to Alexandria as undeliverable. It bears, in addition to the Port Said date stamp, the Greek arrival stamp and the Egyptian Alexandria return-arrival date stamp on the reverse.

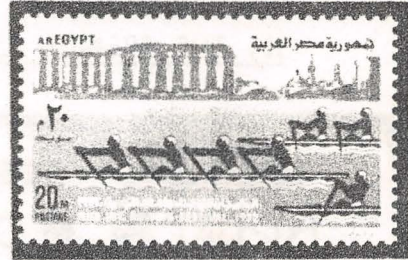
"TELL YOUR FRIENDS ABOUT "TOPICS"

THE INTERNATIONAL ROWING FESTIVAL

The first and second festival for rowing in the Arab Republic of Egypt was set at the end of December in 1970 and 1971 at Luxor & Maadi. The Egyptian teams and the teams of the Universities of Oxford, Cambridge, Harvard and

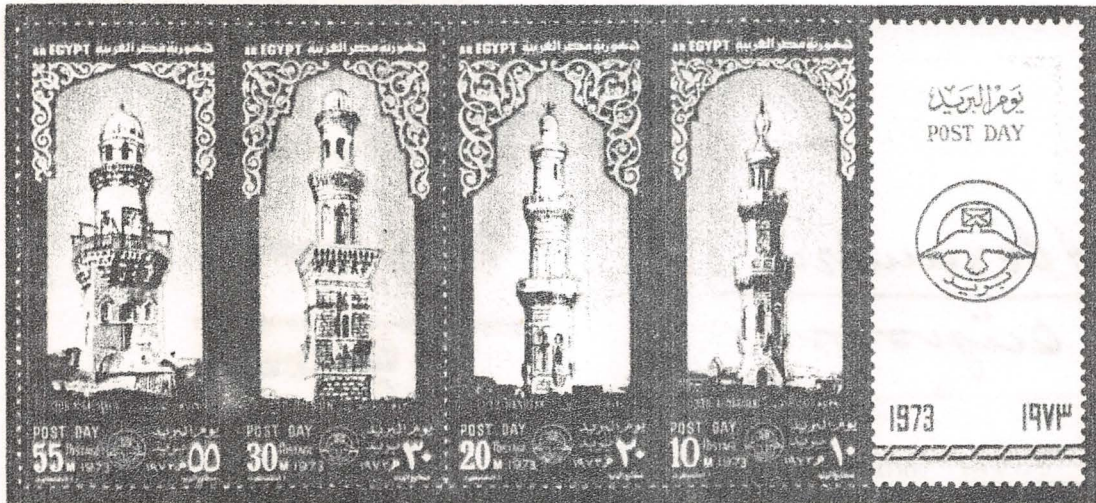
Yale shared in it. The third festival will be held at the end of December 1972. The Egyptian teams will compete along with teams from the universities of England, America, Russia, and Italy.

Date of Issue: 17 December, 1972  
 Denomination: 20 mills  
 Designer: IBRAHIM EL TAHTAWI  
 Design: Rowing shells on the Nile passing The Temples of Karnak  
 Dimensions: 42 x 25 mm.  
 Perforation: 11-1/2  
 Sheet: 50 Stamps (5 x 10)  
 Colors: Azure blue, pale blue, tan, brown and white  
 Watermark: Multiple Eagle  
 Printing: Rotogravure As previous  
 Quantity: 1,500,000 stamps



POST DAY — 1972

THE POSTAL ANNIVERSARY OF THE EGYPTIAN POSTAL SERVICE — FIRST COMMEMORATIVES OF 1973



Date of Issue: 2 January, 1973  
 Denominations: 10, 20, 30 and 55 mills  
 Designs: 10 m. Mosque AL MARIDANI - 1338  
 20 m. " BASHTAK — 1337  
 30 m. " QUSUN — 1330  
 55 m. " AL-GASHANKIR — 1306  
 Dimensions: 61 x 28 mm.  
 Perforation: 11-1/2  
 Sheet: 10 sets with 10 vignettes 100 stamps  
 Colors: Pale green, emerald green, yellow, ochre and deep brown  
 Watermark: Multiple Eagle  
 Printing: Rotogravure — As previous  
 Quantity: 400,000 sets

The VIGNETTE is printed in Emerald Green and Brilliant Yellow on a white background. a distinctive and interesting cancellation is provided, as illustrated, for the First Day Cancellation, 2 January, 1972 This year's offering is a set of four stamps and special vignette with the Emblem of the Post, printed in Se - Tenant strips.



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 . . .

\* \* \*

**WANTED:** Souvenir Sheets — Scott's #B6a & B6b, mint, (NH preferred), at a reasonable price. Would also like mint copies of C3 & C4 mint. If you can help drop a line to GUS KATHMAN, 6216 W. 35th Street, St. Louis Park, Minnesota, 55416. Please quote your price when writing.

**WANTED:** Special Delivery Stamps — Scott E1-5 Need information as to source of supply. Would like to acquire items on cover, and essays or proofs. GENE D. PILARSKI, 24 Mary Lue Drive, Pittsburgh, Pennsylvania, 15223 . . .

**THE NEW ZEHERI CATALOG:** Available for immediate delivery. Special price to P.S.E. members \$7.00, others, \$7.75. Order from PETER R. FELTUS, 4970 Desmond Street, Oakland, California, 94618

**WANTED:** Egypt No. 7 mint. If you have a spare drop a line to DR. FRANK AUTRY, P.O. Box #714 Corsicana, Texas, 75110 . . .

**AVAILABLE SOON!** The all new "CATALOGUE OF STAMP PROOFS", emanating from the private collection of Kings Fuad and Farouk of Egypt. Now a comprehensive, up-to-date listing with current prices and a wealth of information not previously in print. Price will be \$6.00 U.S. Reserve your copy now. Write to ALBERT MIZRAHI, P.O. Box #1214 Mission, Kansas, 66222, U.S.A. . . .

**AN UNUSUAL OFFER:** A full sheet of the 13 mil. rose carmine of the 1944-51 Farouk Issue. Zeheri #151 bis b, Control A/50, the INVERTED WATER-MARK - "Arabic F" and Crown, p. 98 (1972 Ed.). Make your offer direct to: FREDERIC COSTI, 8404 Bay Parkway, Brooklyn, New York, 11214 . . .

**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 . . .

**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. . . .

**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. . .

**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

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. . . .

**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. . . .

# THE PHILATELIC LITERATURE OF EGYPT

"AN ANNOTATED RESEARCH BIBLIOGRAPHY"

By GORDON B. GARRETT

With Valuable Assistance From CHARLES FOX

## SECTION IX      REVENUES    and    FISCALS

The Revenue Stamps of Egypt — FORBIN, A., (F) 1915 Edition of Forbin's Fiscals. An illustrated early catalog of 21 varieties. Of little real value to the specialist.

EGYPTIAN TOPICS — The following articles have appeared as listed.

THE SALT STAMPS — FELTUS, Peter R., Vol. 1, No. 1, pp. 8-10. An illustrated article on the first two issues and two early Provisionals. Nov/Dec., 1968.

THE TOBACCO STAMPS — FELTUS, Peter R., Vol. 1, No. 2, pp. 23-26. Part I. The beginning of an illustrated and comprehensive listing of the private commercial tobacco firms imprints on the basic government labels. Jan/Feb., 1969.

THE TOBACCO STAMPS — FELTUS, Peter R., Vol. 1, No. 3., pp. 32-35. Part II. Conclusion of this article on the various tobacco mfgs. listings. March/April, 1969.

ESSAYS OF THE CONSULAR SERVICE — FELTUS, Peter R., Vol. 1, No. 5, pp. 62-64. An illustrated and informative article on the essays of Harrison. July/August, 1969.

THE CONSULAR STAMPS — PART I — FELTUS, Peter R., Vol. i, No. 6, pp. 99-101. Another comprehensive listing, illustrated with stamps and documents, of the material in use by the Consular Service. Sept/Oct., 1969.

THE CONSULAR STAMPS — PART II — FELTUS, Peter R., Vol. 2, No. 1, pp. 3-4. Conclusion of the previous article with proof of usage, illustrated. Nov/Dec., 1969.

THE "OFFICIAL" REVENUE --- FELTUS, Peter R., Vol. 2, No. 3, pp. 63. March/Apr., 1970. An illustrated article concerning the 1, 2, 3 and 5 P.T. overprints on the "no value" Official of January 1, 1893, used as a fiscal.

POSTAL CANCELLATIONS ON EGYPTIAN FISCAL STAMPS — SMITH, P.A.S., Vol. i, No. 6, pp. 104-105. An excellent article, illustrated with covers showing fiscal stamps of World War II vintage used for postal purposes with an explanation for this usage.

POSTAL CANCELLATIONS ON EGYPTIAN FISCAL STAMPS — GARRETT, G. B. Vol. 2, No. 5, pp. 103-104. July/August 1970. Two additional War time covers showing fiscal stamps used for postal purposes by the military (RAF) and a civilian item to Germany.

POSTAL CANCELLATIONS ON EGYPTIAN FISCAL STAMPS — SMITH, P.A.S., Vol. 2, No. 3, pp. 54-55. Further notes with illustration of Palestine money order franked with fiscals and interesting and informative text. March/April, 1970.

- MORE ON FISCAL CENSOR MARKINGS — BJORK, Walter, Vol. 3, No. 1, pp. 8. Nov/Dec., 1970. An illustration of another cover franked with two fiscals, censored by special marking, addressed to the bank in Alexandria.
- POSTAL CANCELLATIONS ON FISCAL STAMPS — PIPERNO, Gino, Vol. 3, No. 3, pp. 57 and 58. March/April, 1971. Two interesting illustrations, with text, concerning the use of the 5 mil general purpose revenues in combination with two of the young king and postage due and, second cover with young Farouk stamp used as a postage due cancelled with the boxed "T".
- SALT TAX FORM — VINCENT, Larry., Vol. 4, No. 1, p. 15, Nov/Dec., 1972. A complete original form (used) showing the method of franking used and cancellations.
- SALT STAMPS — PERMIT REQUIRED — FELTUS, Peter R., Vol. 4, No. 3, pp. 42-45. March/April, 1972. An interesting article with illustration of an early salt tax form with tax franking of De La Rue 1 P.T. (blue) Sphinx and Pyramid adhesives. Also translation of the Arabic.
- 
- L'ORIENT PHILATELIQUE — Noted by Volume and Number.
- SALT STAMPS — (F) Author unlisted. No. 30, October, 1936. Two De La Rue salt stamps illustrated. Text in French, this being part of a general article under a l'Epoque Moderne.
- THE REVENUE AND FISCAL STAMPS OF EGYPT --- FELTUS, Peter R., No. 116, pp. 545-554. Oct/1965 - Jan/ 1966 issue. An authoritative text, well illustrated. Probably the most comprehensive single work in the area of Egyptian fiscals to date.
- 
- THE AMERICAN REVENUER — Journal of the American Revenue Association
- CIGARETTE TAX STAMPS — "LEFTY", p. 2, October, 1957. We haven't seen this one.
- REVENUE AND FISCAL STAMPS — FELTUS, Peter R., pp. 96, 109, Nov., Dec., 1965  
Material similar to that published in Egyptian Topics and L'OP.
- 
- DEALER NAMES OF TOBACCO STAMPS — FELTUS, Peter R., p. 71, October, 1971. As published in Egyptian Topics and noted on preceding page.
- EGYPT SALT DEPARTMENT REVENUES — MORLEY, Walter, Morley's Philatelic Journal, Vol. II, No. 8, August, 1901, p. 60. Notes on the abolished "salt tax" and the monopoly granted to the Salt and Soda Co. Illustration of Salt tax form.
- THE DEALER NAMES APPEARING ON THE TOBACCO STAMPS OF EGYPT — FELTUS, Peter R., OPAL, Vol. 12, No. 5, Whole # 121, May 1970, pp.87-90. A listing as published in E.T. and the AM. REV. Not illustrated.
- THE CONSULAR OFFICES — LOWE, ROBSON, Encyclopedia of Br. Emp. Postage Stamps, Vol. No. II, The Empire in Africa., p. 253, Sect. 2. Brief notes on the opening of the various foreign offices in Egypt.

(To be continued)

# Letter to the Editor

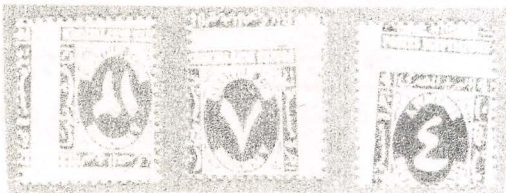
Dr. A. J. Barnard Jr. of Bethlehem, Pa. writes to advise that he would like to see a column in each issue that might provide advice to the novice in capsule form (perhaps with references to articles in earlier issues). Some topics that might appear in such a column could be: 1) comparison of catalogs on Egypt. 2) Officials on Interpostal Seals, 3) Hints on telling the various printings from each other. 4) Hints on recognizing chalky versus ordinary paper. 5) Multiple overprints. 6) False overprints and forgeries. 8) Some recognized directions for specialization. 9) Imperforate issues vs. perforate. 10) Are P.O.'s of other countries in Egypt to be viewed as pertaining to Egyptian collections, and, 11) What are the common varieties the novice should be looking for ?

At first glance these appear to be rudimentary questions to the old-timers, however, every reader was an amateur before he became an advanced specialist. We believe this request has considerable merit as a number of our readers have written advising they are relatively new to Egyptian philately and urgently need help. As real specialists, the editor feels that those among us with the knowledge could do far worse than share it with friends new to our field of endeavor. We believe that ample material for the advanced collector appears in Topics. We would like to help with a column of this kind.

Dr. Barnard has only scratched the surface in his short list of recommended subjects. Will one of our readers take on this project and turn out a regular column for the benefit of our newer devotees to the fascinating area of Egyptian philately ?

Please write to the editor if you are interested.

MIZRAHI OFFERS VARIETY OF CRAZY PERFS. Write for his price list. Address in Bazaar. . . .



# OUR NEW ISSUE SERVICE

Our NEW ISSUE SERVICE for readers of TOPICS is going great. A visit with TOM OLSON, who has undertaken this task so we can receive new issues from Cairo as they appear, at reasonable cost, confirms that the program is well along & several orders have been received and distributed to those participating.

WE REPEAT THE INTERESTING PART: A collector desiring mint singles only will have received the first 19 stamps (all issues) for a total outlay of only \$1.54. Blocks of Four and First Day covers are proportionate.

Since Topics began, over four years ago, numerous complaints have been received about the high prices charged by some dealers for new issues — if the dealers even bothered with them. With Tom's system of multiple purchases in one order, the costs of mailing and registry are paid pro-rata, reducing it to a bare minimum.

For those interested who have not taken advantage of the offer, we will print the ground rules again — as follows:

### ADDRESS YOUR REQUEST TO:

TOM OLSON  
1115 Keith Avenue  
Berkeley, California, 94708, U.S.A.

DO NOT send your form or deposit to Topics. This will only delay your order.

TOM: Send me the following NEW ISSUES of Egypt, for which I enclose my deposit as follows to apply against my order.

- \_\_\_ Single of each issue: Deposit \$ 2.50
- \_\_\_ F.D.C. of each issue: Deposit 2.50
- \_\_\_ Blk. of 4, each issue: Deposit 10.00
- \_\_\_ Other: \_\_\_\_\_  
Deposit to be arranged

MY NAME IS: \_\_\_\_\_  
Please print

MY ADDRESS: \_\_\_\_\_

CITY: \_\_\_\_\_ STATE \_\_\_\_\_