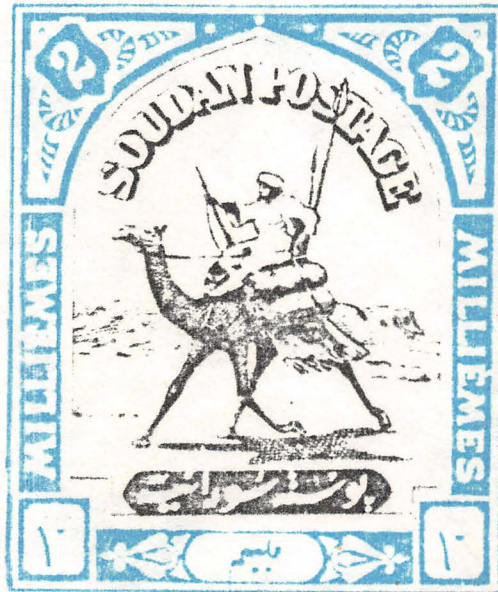


EGYPTIAN TOPICS



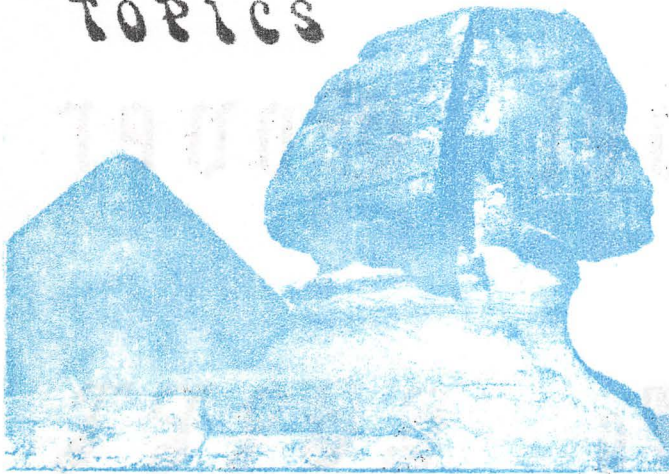
AN UNACCEPTED DE LA RUE ESSAY (JULY 1897)
FOR THE CAMEL POSTAGE STAMP

Vol. 6. No. 4

Whole No. 34

May — June 1974

EGYPTIAN TOPICS



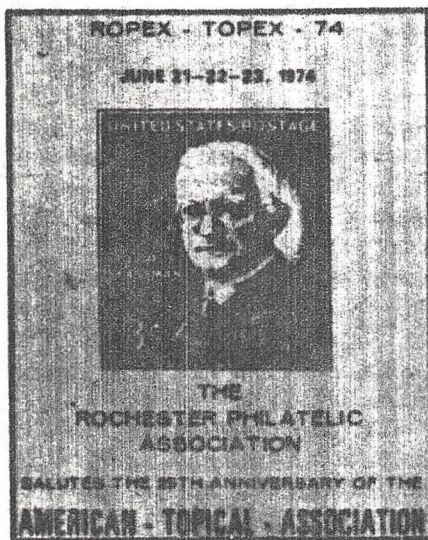
EDITOR AND PUBLISHER

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Torrance, California, 90503

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Please send all news items and subscriptions, articles, wants and offers etc., to the publisher. Annual dues, and all matters pertaining to the Philatelic Society of Egypt should be sent to Dr. P.A.S. Smith, the American Agent. To avoid confusion his address is listed elsewhere in this issue.

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with the editor

Hi neighbor ! Looks like the crisis is over and our regular schedule will again be maintained. My thanks to each of you for bearing with me.

In the attempt to catch up time has not been on our side and very little has been done toward the finalizing of our new Egyptian Society, for Egyptian Collectors. We hope to remedy this before our next issue. The vote was overwhelmingly in favor as we received only one no, this with the explanation that there were already too many Societies. Perhaps so, however, we believe each, in its own way has something to offer that is not included in the others. If we believed otherwise there would never have been a Topics. Certainly, the existing journals dealing with our material are far apart in content and format and each offers something that is of interest ?

Our last appeal for articles did reach ONE reader and we welcome Charles Hass and his interesting notes on the newly discovered bisect. And to Bill Ittel who took the time to reply to Dr. Goudsmit's article, thank you. We always welcome the other side and everyone is entitled to his opinion.

We have received several letters asking why there are no more columns like Bill Billens used to write (Fun & Profit) We'd love to have someone resume it but so far no one has offered. Bill's column was a fine example of having a lot of fun without the expenditure of large sums. He loved to look for the little varieties on the commoner stamps. Surprisingly, he found a number of constant flaws of significant value. Anyone interested in becoming Bill's worthy successor ?

I don't know how many of you haunt the dealers, looking for elusive Egyptian material but for those of you who do, have you noticed the shortage of any really good material. I don't mean the common sets of singles in every auction catalog and I don't mean the "always hard to find" classics, but things like De La Rue blocks and even material of the 1920's in multiple pieces. If the shortage we have noted is any criterion it appears that catalog values, unchanged in Scott for years, are due for some realistic revisions !

Have a nice Summer — EXHIBIT SOMEPLACE — Share your pleasure with other collectors . . .

G. ALEVIZOS

The author, GEORGE ALEVIZOS is well-known as a specialist in the stamps of this tiny semi-independent State located on a high tableland in Central Asia. Since 1951 it has been under the rule and nominal control of Communist China and since that date has used the stamps of China.

The total of its local stamps was comprised of only 18 emissions & 5 officials. The officials were valid, and used, after 1952, for general postage. Monetary currency of the country is in Trangkas, 6-2/3 Trangkas equals one Sang.

While all of its stamps appear in imperforate condition, Nos. 9 through 13 also appear in pin perf. These were issued in 1932, on thin white native paper. They remained in use for only two yrs. when, in 1934, an identical design was used but printed on new and different paper — a heavy toned native paper.

Tibet first issued stamps in 1912, adding two additional values in 1914. Even with this long period of use they are quite rare due to the very small amount of correspondence emanating from this country and its lack of contact with the outside world. Ed.).

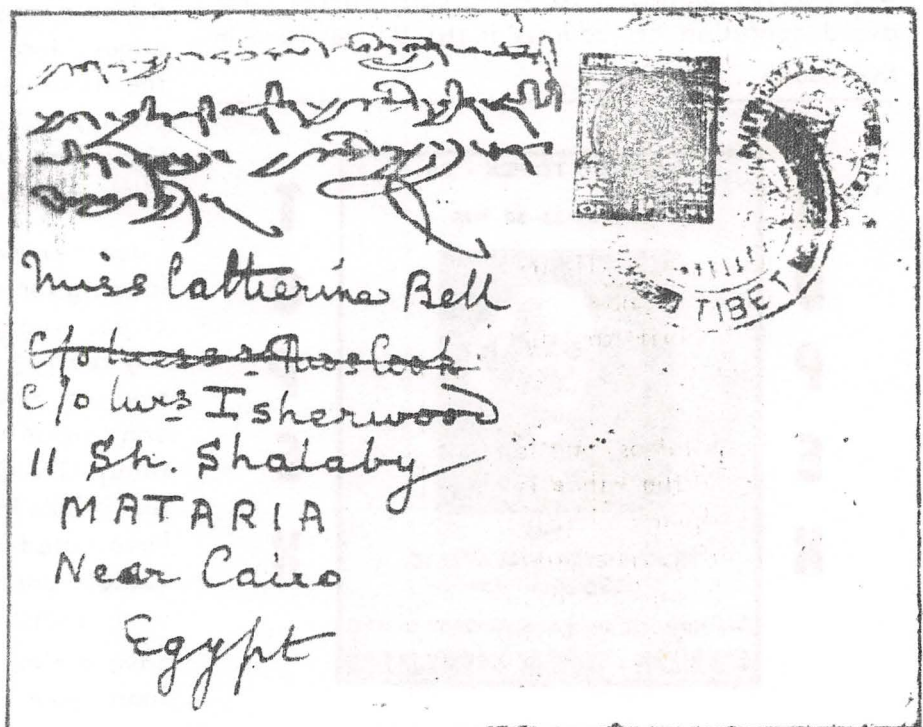
COVERS FROM one country to another are, of course, not uncommon. However, very little mail of any kind, to almost any where, sees the light of day in the tiny Country of Tibet, situated as it is, perched high in the Himalayas, and more particularly, nearly 30 years in the past.

Tibet Cover

TO EGYPT

RARE AND UNUSUAL

In Fig. 1, (below) we illustrate the front of this unusual cover which bears, in the upper left hand corner, the Tibetan equivalent of the sender's name and address. Franked with Indian stamps, Scott No. 139, 1 anna dark brown and No. 100, the 2 anna, 6 pies denomination. These were applied in Tibet by the sender, Sir Charles Bell, on the cover addressed to his daughter, Catherine, at Mataria (near Cairo) in Egypt.



AN UNUSUAL TIBETAN COVER ADDRESSED TO EGYPT IN 1936 . . . Continued

We are pleased to be able to show you just such a cover — addressed to MATARIA in EGYPT.

All mail to the outside world, posted in Tibet, must pass through India and, of course, must be franked with Indian stamps as Tibet does not belong to the UPU, and its postal emissions are not valid outside of the country itself.

In this case the stamps were obviously affixed to the letter in Tibet prior to its posting and cancellation at GYANTSE. It is addressed to Miss Catherine Bell from her father, Sir Charles Bell, who was then the British Administrator attached to the N. E. Indian State of Sikkim, which is situated between Nepal and Bhutan. He maintained offices in its capitol, Gangtok, with frequent trips on government business to Tibet. Highly regarded by the Tibetans, he spoke and wrote with fluency in their language having been tutored by a Tibetan Nobleman who later, at the request of Bell, visited in England. (Note the return address on the face of the envelope in Tibetan as well as in English on the reverse side.)

Since Tibet was not a member of the UPU a local stamp was necessary to carry it to the Tibet-India border (actually to British Tibet Offices at either Gyantse or Pharijong). From the border the Indian stamps were necessary to carry its onward transmission. The Tibetan cancels are undated, hence the only way we can date the cover is through the mixed frankings and by the backstamps in Egypt, which in themselves are not entirely clear. A particularly exceptional usage as most Tibetan covers never travelled beyond any of the Indian States.

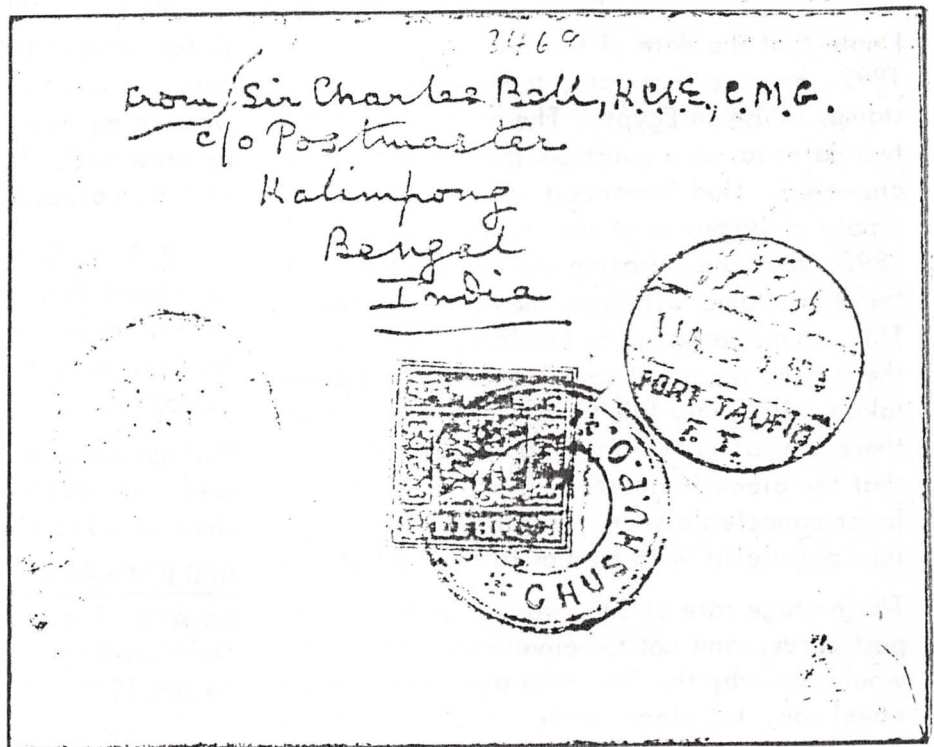
The reverse of this cover shows the local franking of Scott's No. 12, the 2 Tr. vermillion as listed with pin perforation, a very scarce rate at that time. Perforated stamps are exceptionally difficult to find on cover, especially the 2/3 Tr, 2 and 4 Tr. The cancellation on the local reads CHUSHU which is 50 miles S. W. of Lhasa, the Capitol of Tibet. Chushu postal officials maintained a very small office due to a minimum of outgoing mail and its cancellations are seldom found in commercially used condition.

Fig. 2 - (at right) we illustrate the reverse side of this interesting cover.

Note that Sir Charles Bell's return address is listed C/o the Postmaster, Kalimpong, Bengal, India.

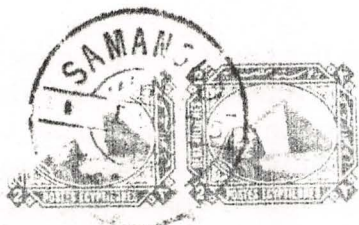
A clear strike of the Tibetan post office at Chushu has been used to obliterate the Tibetan local.

Egyptian backstamps one is unreadable and the other is indistinct, although clearly from Port Taufig. The date stamp is not decipherable, not uncommon to the stamps of Egypt.



CHARLES E. HASSA NEW DISCOVERY 1 1

Recently, in a collection I purchased at auction, I discovered the illustrated pair, on piece, of the Two millieme stamp of the 1888 Issue, one stamp being bisected diagonally. The pair is affixed to a fragment of the lower right-hand corner of an envelope. It is tied by a clear SAMANOUD ? 1 92 T5 c.d.s.



At first glance, I immediately judged the item to be absolutely bogus, as the only known authorized and legitimately used bisects are of the first three issues and the 1889 2 m. postage due. However, on closer examination and a bit of research, I have become less definite in my opinion.

I note that the date of the cancel is Jan. ? 1892. Prior to that date, there were no 3m. stamps in use in Egypt. The proximity of the two dates raises a question that is not easily answered. Had Samanoud not received its supply of stamps as of stamps as of January 1 1892, thus necessitating the use of a pair of the 2 m. stamp with one member bisected? This, to me seems quite possible, even though there is no record of such action having been taken. It is only fair to say, however, that there are factors which lead me to believe that the piece in question is merely another favor canceled bisect, created by an ambitious philatelist with friends in the post office.

The postage rate of 3m. was, I believe, for post cards, and not for envelopes, and one would ask why the 3m. rate appears on an envelope, let alone in the lower right-hand corner, a rather unusual, though not unheard of, place for postage to be affixed, and one might also ask why a current 1 m. stamp was

2 M. - 1888**DE LA RUE****BISECTED****ON****PIECE**

not used in place of the bisected 2 m. ?

Unfortunately I do not have the entire envelope. Perhaps, if such a complete envelope did exist, and if it were in my possession, some of these questions would be answered. It may be that there is another stamp of 2 m. values affixed elsewhere on the cover.

Dr. P.A.S. Smith, having kindly examined the bisect, has stated that the cancellation appears to be genuine. He further has said that, due to lack of evidence to the contrary, the piece must be considered a mere curiosity.

Perhaps some of my fellow philatelists have, or have seen such an item in the past and would be willing to share any knowledge of it with the readers of Topics ?

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print of the original article from Topics by Gougas.
(Better illustrations in the reprint).

ajax jakes

VISITS

EGYPT

AND COMMENTS ON

HOTELS, THE WEATHER,

AND HOTEL POST OFFICES

CIRCA 1974

Old Friend, Ajax Jakes, critique philatelique superb of the Robson-Lowe Organization sends us a most interesting letter on stationery emblazoned with a cartouche and Crest of the LUXOR HOTEL Arabic and English — mailed from London under date of 4 February 1974, on his immediate return. He explains why it was mailed from London. Ed.

"I'm just back from a very cold fortnight in Egypt with no heating appliances in any of the hotels we stayed at (I can't afford the Hilton)". (Ed. note—Who can?).

"I suddenly realized we were staying at the Luxor Hotel so made enquiries about the Post Office. No body on the staff had ever heard of a Post Office. (They no longer accept Travellers Cheques which tells you how it has deteriorated.)".

"I trotted down to the New Winter Palace Hotel and as I entered passed within six feet of Henry Kissinger who was staying there visiting the Tombs of the Kings that afternoon". (You see, grieving fellow-American taxpayers — Henry can't afford the Hilton either, Ed.). "I met the Assistant Manager who thought I was mad BUT he invited me along to meet the Manager." (Dear Ajax, I've heard of a number of Egyptians who thought the English were quite mad, even as far removed as in the time of Cromer and Gladstone.). "Despite the travel worn clothes I was wearing he greeted my wife and self very courteously and when I put

my question, said that he remembered the Post Office. Indeed, he also remembered the man who ran it, and turning to one of his companions said, 'Don't you remember him? He had a moustache like this — which turned up on the ends! He used to stand like this' — and he imitated the man with his tongue slightly sticking out of his mouth. 'He was a big, tall man. I think it closed about 1962 and the Luxor at the same time'."

"So — I wasn't mad — there had been a P.O."

"I don't know how many people I asked — they all said NO until this moment. Later, I met another chap who remembered one at the Luxor Hotel — he thought it closed in 1942".

"All this is hearsay and perhaps a faulty memory but, if it is correct some up-dating is required on Egyptian Hotel Post Offices!"

"Cairo was so lousy that I only got as far as the Hilton and, as luck would have it, the post office too, was closed the day I went there and I didn't have a spare stamped card to send to myself!"

"I'm glad to be home where we have little solid fuel and have to economize on electricity. At least, my bedroom floor isn't made of marble with one thin rug placed on top!"

AJAX

P.S. "Cards posted in the Winter Palace and Luxor Hotels arrived in London five days ahead of one posted simultaneously in the main post office in Luxor!"

(Eds. note: Jean d'Humieres was quite put out at your editor after reading the translated article in Topics from the original French in L'OP as it had been written some years earlier and we had neglected to ask him about up-dating it. He hastily wrote to tell us he was working on an up-date of this important and interesting subject. We hope to be able to bring it to you later this year.

EXHIBITION NOTES...

BECKPEX '74 — WALLY CRAIG picked up a SILVER and a UPSS GOLD for his efforts at this interesting show at Fullerton California, His daughter — a GOLD, of course. A chip off the old block.

Dr. A. Winter



Marc
Pourpe

In the January / April 1959 issue of L'OP we find an article by the late, great Egyptian Aero-philatist, John H.E. Gilbert, F.R.P.S.L., concerning a new (at that time) find and enumerating on the flight of Marc Pourpe from Suez to Port Said in 1914.

Three very interesting photos accompanied this article in which he states that one can count a "dozen" letters in the hand of Mr. Louis Dumont. (pp. 741 - 747.)

Few enough of Pourpe's original messages carried have survived the ravages of time — In fact, only one cover, now carefully preserved in the British Museum, and the piece illustrated at the right, inscribed as: "POSTE AERIENNE / SUEZ PORT - SAID / MARC POURPE" with dates below of 16 FEV 1914 and 17 FEV 1914 below, remain as tangible evidence of the flight. The card is overprinted O.H.H.S., the H.S. and part of Arabic inscription remains. Franked with 4m adhesive, in red.



Fig. 1 - The only known memento of the flight from Suez to Port Said by Marc Pourpe in 1914, on a small piece of card.

This item and the card illustrated on the following page were offered for sale in the November 1973 Auction of the House of Orlandini.

Of particular interest are the prices realized for each of the two items. Fig. 1 - The Suez- Port Said piece Lot #243, brought 1,000,000 Italian Lira. Fig. 2 - The card posted at Heliopolis, addressed to E. P. BARBER, by himself, to England realized 850,000 Lira. Surely this is some kind of a record for Egyptian aero-philatelic material ?

Eds. note: The good Doctor's comment was closely akin to my own thoughts on the matter: He says, "Such Mar-

ket Notes make me wonder now whether I should begin collecting match boxes".

Doctor, a friend of mine just returned from the National Match Box Convention held in Fresno, California where he won a Gold & commented that he saw one match cover on auction there sell for over \$200.00. (How about baseball cards ?).

While we are adding postscripts to this article we hasten to offer our congratulations to Dr. Winter on the birth of his 2nd daughter, christened LAURE. All the best to Dr. and Mrs. Winter.

Fig. 2 - The card flown by Marc Pourpè which recently (Nov. '73) sold at auction in Italy, bringing the record price of 825,000 Italian Lira.

Postmark is at Heliopolis 3 February 1914 franked with a 4m. De La Rue of the then new issue (1913). It carries the L. N. A. cachet in violet.

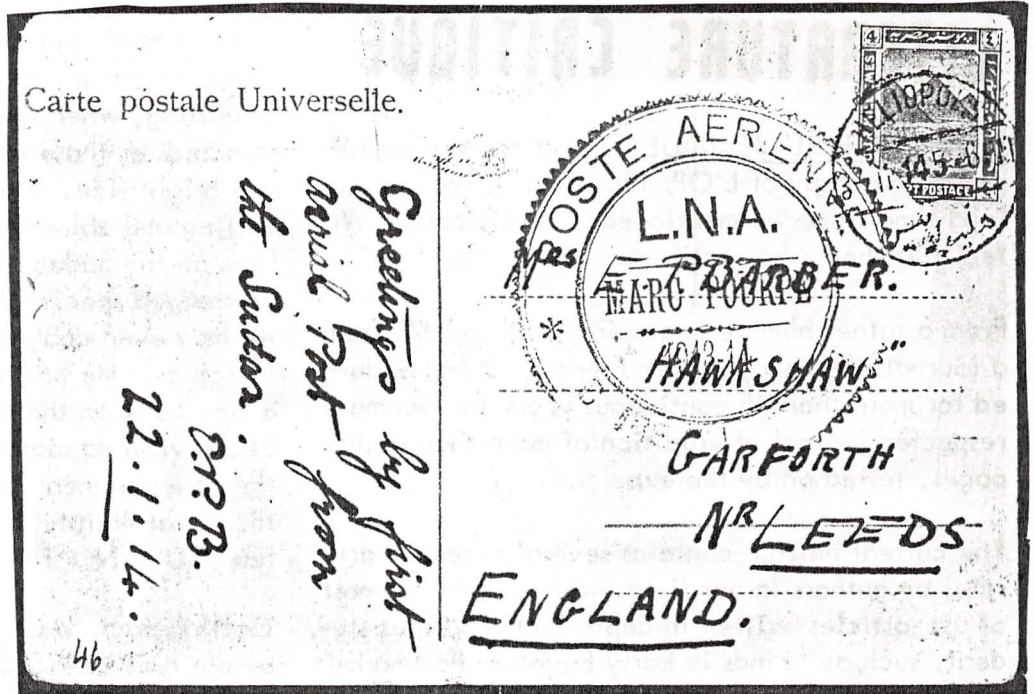


Fig 3 - A reproduction of photo No.2. as it appeared in volume 100 of L'OP in the article of Mr. John H. E. Gilbert in 1959. We present it here as an item of interest for those readers who may not have access to L'OP.

On the right is Mr. Dormoy, an engineer of the Suez Canal Co. then Marc Pourpè handing messages to Mr. Louis Dumont, destined for Port Said. Dumont was a member of the Staff of the Suez Canal Company, and the source of the original photos in the article. Several letters, perhaps a dozen or so, are in the hands of Dumont and Pourpè.

Quality of the original photos as noted by the author was very poor hence a poor reproduction. Nevertheless, we believe it is of significant historical interest to be shown anyway.

For those among you who correspond with Doctor Winter, he has asked that we list his correct new home address in addition to his address at the hospital: Write to him as:

DR. A. WINTER
Residence Buffalo
4, Rue Du Stade
92120 Montrouge, France

If visiting in France, Call first: 253 - 03 - 08

LITERATURE CRITIQUE

L'ORIENT PHILATELIQUE Sometime ago we received our copy of L'OP, No. 127. It has been a long time since we mentioned it specifically. We feel this should be rectified.

From a rather humble beginning back in 1929 from a journal of a few pages in French, it has endured for more than 45 continuous years to become a respected journal of erudition of more than eighty pages, relied on by the experts.

The current edition contains several excellent articles by authors in our field, well known to most of us; articles written in depth for the serious student, such as "Finds in Early Egyptian Postmarks" by Ibrahim Chaftar, well illustrated; an interesting, illustrated piece on the booklet panes, from the earlies in 1903 to the later items not covered in other issues of L'OP, such as the De La Rues.

A comprehensive work on the "Retouches & Flaws of the First Portrait Issue" by Chaftar with additional comments by Dr. P.A.S. Smith; a more comprehensive work on the "Mail of the Sailors of the French Ships Detained In Alexandria - 1940-1943 in both French and English, with fine photos.

Articles of this caliber are the usual fare and we earnestly advise those serious students among you to become members of the Society, most particularly to receive this Journal. Information may be obtained from Dr. P.A.S. Smith, Dept. of Chemistry, University of Michigan, Ann Arbor, Michigan, 48104. Cost is a modest \$3.00 per year. In Britain contact Mr. P.E. Whetter, 1 Burrels, 25 Court Downs Road, Beckenham, Kent, BR3 2TQ.

ORIENTAL PHILATELIC ASSOCIATION, London, Another fine journal of interest to our readers and known as O.P.A.L. is the organ of this British Society catering to the Middle East with much on Egypt and the Sudan. The current Issue (May-June 1974) is at hand under the aegis of our old friend Major E.C.W. Stagg who has just informed us by letter that he is retiring due to ill-health and the new editor will be Mr. I.L. Booth. Certainly we wish him well in his new venture and we hope he will carry on the tradition of excellence so capably maintained by Major Stagg and his predeces-

sors. It is always sad to hear of a capable person retiring from any activity, be it stamp collecting or editing, when they have maintained such high standards as those set by the Major. To this there is a bright side. The Major writes that he will be willing and able to help any of us with any problems on the Sudan — an area where he is an acknowledged specialist. Perhaps, with diligence, we may even coax a story or two from him for use in Topics. He has just completed, from all reports a fine book on the Sudan which we intend to give as a review as soon as we received our copy. See the advertisement in our last issue, Published by the Royal Philatelic Society in London, it is entitled "SUDAN / The Postal Markings / 1867-1970".

Getting back to O.P.A.L., its lead-off story is by our own P.A.S. Smith entitled "UGANDA — SUDAN / NIMULE. It concerns a hitherto unchronicled item about a Ugandan cancellation from a town now known to be in the Sudan. Interesting and factual in the usual method of Dr. Smith, its a must for collectors of the Sudan. In noting the Index for Vol. 16 we see other articles listed for Egypt as: Censorship 1948 and Civil Censorship — 1939-1945, an increasingly popular subject to us.

THE AERO FIELD — And here we might say fools rush in etc. It might seem presumptuous of this 6 year old upstart to mention such an august journal which, to our mind, is the epitome of aero-philately — yet N.C. Baldwin, Francis Field and now John Field have, collectively, for more than 50 years kept us aware of the best in our field. This fine issue is no exception. My own library carries as many of the issues as I have been able to come by and I make constant reference to them as they are rich in information on the airmails of Egypt & the Sudan. If interested contact Francis J. Field, Sutton Coldfield, Warwickshire, England.

Another new one, founded by our own member and founder of the Italia Society, DOMENICO FACCI. Edited by Jack Gianelli it is entitled: "THE I.P.S. SOCIETY NEWSLETTER". We have seen #2 consisting of eight pages but crammed full of meat for Italian collectors. Much in the way of postal history has transpired between Egypt and Italy in the past century or so, and I am sure, too, that as time goes by Dom will keep us advised when some item of interest to us appears. If interested, write to 248 W. 14th St. New York, N.Y., 10011.

THE LEPROSY CONGRESS
ISSUE OF 1938 . . .

Charlie Hass of Jenkintown, Pennsylvania sends us the photo illustrated below. This very neat and interesting cover, purportedly on FIRST DAY OF ISSUE of the 1938 Leprosy Congress stamp shows the date of mailing — with the special cancellation dated 21 FE 38 — NOT 21 March 1938 as listed in Scott, Zeheri and Gibbons

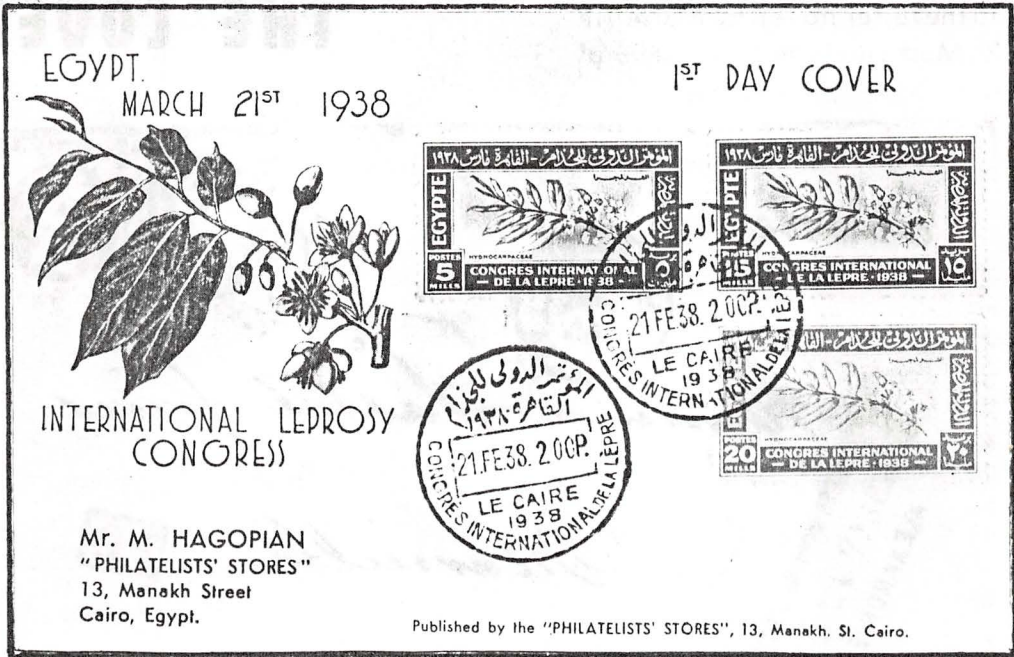
The stamps in question are listed in the 1972 edition of Zeheri on page 135 as numbers 73 — 74 and 75 with a clear photograph of FIRST DAY cancellation as issued by the Egyptian post office. It also clearly shows the date as 21 March 1938. Scott numbers these as 231, 232 and 233 while a Gibbons listing shows numbers as 302, 303 and 304.

This oddity brings to mind a somewhat similar situation which we chronicled back in volume 1 No. 3 when Bill Billens wrote to inquire about an early date used on a cover where the 13m. Farouk definitive of the 1950 series was used as franking in conjunction with three educational commemoratives issued at that time.

A N F D C.

WITH
CANCELLATION
DATE ERROR

Does anyone have a reasonable explanation for this phenomena other than the possible fact that the postal clerk simply made an error when the date stamp was changed or, that it was fa-for cancelled ? If you can clarify it for Charlie, drop us a line.



Ken Pierce

ONE OF WEBSTER'S definitions of research is "studious inquiry or examination . . .". The application of research on the cover illustrated below is suggestive, and a fine case in point, of the vast amount of information that one can find if you question.

I questioned this cover because an examination of Raymond Salles' excellent work "La Poste Maritime Francaise", Tome II, "Les paquebots de la Mediterranee" failed to turn up a paquebot named "BRESIL".

Before going further let me describe the various markings on this Alexandria to Marseille cover. The French stamps are tied by the G. C. 5080. It also bears the French office CDS of Alexandria, December 7, 1864, a boxed PD and the small red "Paquebots de la Mediterranee". Also, manuscript "Par Paquebot Bresil". The reverse shows the arrival C.D.S. of Marseille, December 15, 1864.

The first fact uncovered was that the "Bresil" was a cargo ship, not a paquebot, which irregularly traveled between "Constantinople, Salonique, Alexandria and Marseille". Next question was: Did the letter travel to Marseille by the "Bresil"? Most likely not, for several reasons. . . .

French Offices in

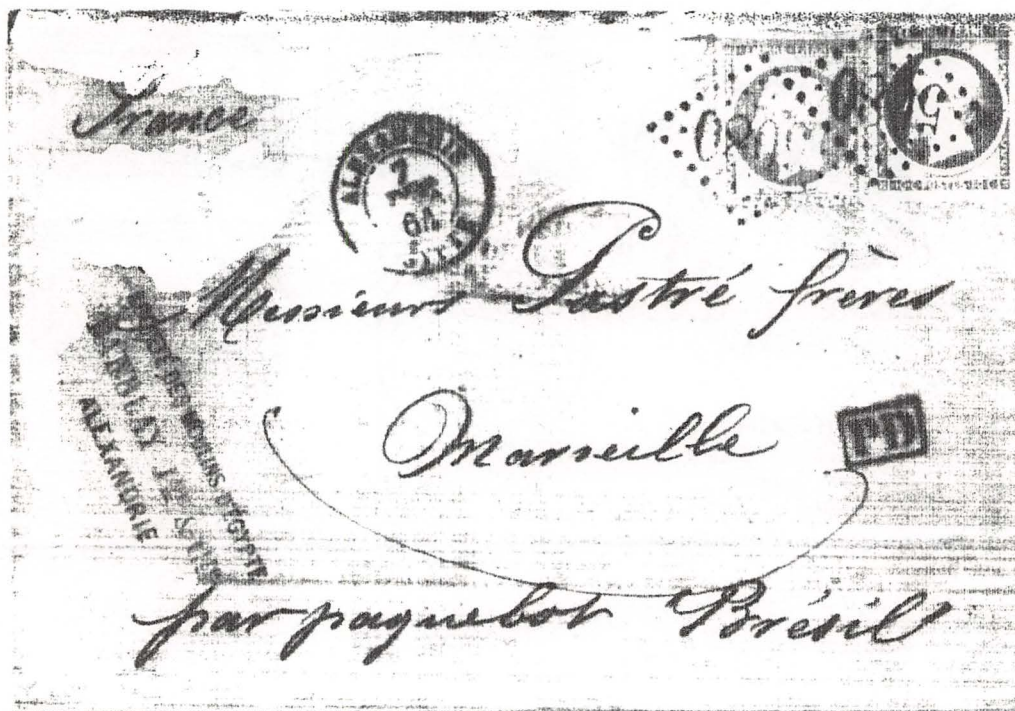
EGYPT



THE STORY

BEHIND

THE COVER



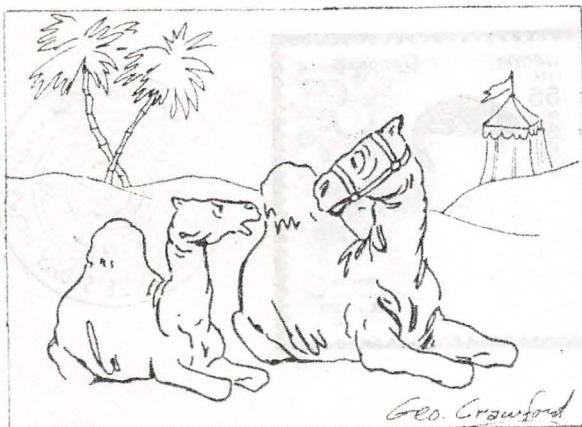
STORY BEHIND THE COVER (Continued).

IT IS TRUE that mail was sometimes given to the Captain of cargo vessels bound for Marseille, (usually containing a bill of lading for cargo shipped on board). This mail stamped with a 40c stamp was then turned over to the Marseille Post Office and received the G. C. 2240 cancellation of Marseilles along with the Marseille CDS arrival marking. The cover in question, as illustrated, does not have markings of this type.

Even though the indication by the sender was to send the letter via the "Bresil", by putting it into the French Post Office in ALEXANDRIA, he obligated the Post Office to send it via a French postal packet. The official procedure (which was for the most part strictly adhered to) was that all mail to Marseille or, via Marseille had to travel by the French postal packets if it was mailed through the French Post Office. The "Paquebots de la Mediterranee" mark on the cover is almost final proof. Most likely this cover traveled to Marseille on the first available postal packet which appears to be the "MOERIS", which left Alexandria December 9, 1864 and arrived in Marseille on December 15.

I hope this little story, as written, will brook inspiration to the point that you will look beyond your first impressions of any covers you may have in your own collections.

I am indebted to Monsieur Raymond Salles of Boulogne, France for some of the above details and for confirming the results of this research.



"To hell with tradition.... I wanna drink of water!"

Letter to the Editor

PROPAGANDA ON STAMPS

THE OTHER SIDE OF THE COIN !

There is no doubt in my mind that Dr. Goudsmit is in error in stating that propaganda on stamps is valueless, hence harmless. I cannot point to any serious study of the matter — but let us just think about the subject for a moment.

If Dr. Goudsmit is correct, why have generations of politicians, trained manipulators of men and their opinions, used postage and other stamps to carry a propaganda message? Why then has there been, in our own time, a fervent stamp-war in Europe? Why have whole series and classes of non-postage stamps, such as the Pan-Germanic Wehrschatzmarken, been used consistently for propaganda? Have all of these political pros been involved in and worrying about nothing?

Certainly the name of the country might not accompany the portrait of Victoria? But is that not propaganda in itself? Do we not simply notice the various commemorative issues and accept them from our own postal administration because they simply reinforce our previously formulated views?

I ask, what would be the reaction in this country here and now, if the portrait of Hitler or Josef Stalin were to be glorified on one of our own commemoratives? No, I think it is an error to consider propaganda on stamps as valueless, hence harmless.

/s/ WILLIAM ITTEL

Eds. Note: Bill Ittel is a highly respected journalist in the revenue field; a long-time member of the ARA and the author of a great many fine philatelic books and articles for the revenue specialist.

We respect the views of all of our readers and we will gladly print both sides of any controversial question with rebuttal if desired.

ARAB REPUBLIC OF EGYPT

LABOURERS' DAY

Labourers' (Workers') Day is celebrated each year on the 1st. of May on both the National and International level in honor of the memory of the American workers who, in Chicago in 1886, were falsely tried, convicted and executed. It was later learned that the Chief of Police on his deathbed, confessed to the false charges he brought against them because of their support for the Workers' Right Movement at that time.

Date of Issue: 15 May 1974
 Denomination: 20 m.
 Designer: LOTFY EL SAWAF
 Design: A carving from Queen "Tee's" tomb in Sakara concerning the workers of of ships and modern factories — the universal motto of workers.
 Dimensions: 48 x 30 mm.
 Sheet: 50 Stamps — (5 x 10)
 Perforation: 11-1/2
 Colors: Pale yellow, deep brown, royalblue, beige & white.
 Watermark: Multiple Eagle
 Printing: Rotogravure - P.P.H. - A.R. Egypt
 Quantity: 1,000,000 Stamps.



NURSES DAY — INTERNATIONAL HOSPITALS' DAY

Considering the great human services nurses perform with regard to their patients, the Arab Republic of Egypt has constantly worked to raise the technical and cultural level of nurses and their assistants. There are two higher institutes of learning for nurses in Egypt; the first, established at Alexandria in 1954 and the second, at Cairo in 1964. In addition, there are a 150 schools of nursing. The higher institutes were established with the help of the World Health Organization (W.H.O.).

Date of Issue: 15 May 1974
 Denomination: 55 m.
 Designer: LOTFY EL SAWAF
 Design: A nurse at work — Motto of the Egyptian Society for nursing & the Medal of the Angels of the 10th Ramadan.
 Dimensions: 40 x 40 mm.
 Perforation: 11-1/2
 Sheet: 35 Stamps — (5 x 7)
 Colors: Grayish-green, gold, pink, white and crimson.
 Watermark: Multiple Eagle
 Printing: As above
 Quantity: 400,000 stamps



NEW ISSUE — DEFINITIVE POSTAGE STAMP


Date of Issue: 15 May 1974
 Denomination: 55 m.
 Designer: WAHEEB FARAG
 Design: The Middle Pyramid with the Sphinx in foreground
 Dimensions: 25 x 30 mm.
 Perforation: 11-1/2
 Sheet: 100 Stamps — (10 x 10)
 Colors: Deep bluish-green and white
 Watermark: Multiple Eagle
 Printing: As previous
 Quantity: 250,000 stamps.




STAMP ISSUES ANNOUNCED FOR THE REMAINDER OF 1974

- The Fourth Collection 23 JULY UPU — On the occasion of its Centenary — S.S. and a set United Nations Day — 1ST Anniv. of the 10th Ramadan Battle Family and Social Work Day — World Savings Day
- The Fifth Collection OCTOBER The Greeting Card Stamp — Sixth Exhibition of Plastic Art Anniversary of the death of ABBAS MAHMOUD EL AKKAD, 1889 — 1964. 110 m. denomination
- The Sixth Collection DECEMBER 50th Anniversary of MUSTAFA LUTFI EL MANFALOUTI, 25th Anniversary of the Martyr AHMED ABDEL AZIZ.

AR EGYPT
يوم الممرضين العربيه





يوم الممرضه
 العبدالعالى للمسنشعيا
NURSE'S DAY

FIRST DAY COVER خلاف اول يوم

BOOK REVIEW

of MAJOR E. C. W. STAGG'S

We frequently review philatelic material; books, articles, monographs and other related items of a philatelic nature we believe will be of interest to our readers. Some of it is excellent, some mediocre and some, in our opinion is better left for reading in the free library, if you must.

Once in a very great while we do receive a publication for review, in our own special sphere of collecting that merits more than just a few lines, and SUDAN, THE POSTAL MARKINGS - 1867 - 1970, by MAJOR E. C. W. STAGG, is one of those rarities.

Major Stagg, as a professional soldier, spent several years in the Sudan. He knows the country, the people and he knows the area as to towns, communications and transportation, a knowledge invaluable in the preparation of any specialized work of this kind.

This book is not on POSTAGE STAMPS. It deals entirely with the postal markings of the Sudan covering more than 100 years - the actual period that we know and readily associate with the postal history of this fascinating land.

I have struggled in the collection and classification of the elusive postmarks of the Sudan. Save for some forty illustrations in the definitive 1947 work by Gisburn and Thompson, little has been available to aid the student. The Major lists, describes and illustrates over 400 varieties and types of postal markings; a hard-bound book of 196 fact filled pages. And, he doesn't stop there as every city, every town, yes each way side retreat that maintained a postal facility, either office or agency, and there were many, is listed with opening and closing dates. A number has been assigned to each illustration, all slightly reduced in size from the original and referred to as you progress.

SUDAN THE POSTAL MARKINGS 1867-1970



AN UNACCEPTED DE LA RUE ESSAY (JULY 1897)
FOR THE CAMEL POSTAGE STAMP

THE ROYAL PHILATELIC SOCIETY, LONDON
41 Devonshire Place London WIN IPE
1974

He covers, in attentive detail, the numerous varieties of the cancellers themselves, such as the number of segments in each of the half moons of the C.D.S., the rettas and the composition of each with regard to the layout; the size in mms. and the number of dots, and how, where and when they were used. He lists, in carefully chronology, each of the known T.P.O.'s, not only by number but by the routes they followed together with opening and closing dates. He has not neglected the military markings, listing all known F.P.O.'s, not only by number but by the Unit that used

SUDAN — Postal Markings (Cont.)

each of them and the time in use at a given location. Censor markings too, are thoroughly covered — both military and civilian and more. . .

With every thought of being extremely critical so as to pass on a highly accurate picture of this publication, I sat down thinking I would go through it in short order. Needless to say, I became so fascinated with the content that I read it in detail from cover to cover and it will now become a much used segment of my own library.

I believe this work is important enough to list the contents and you can judge for yourself:

1. The Egyptian Period of 1867 to 1885
2. The Mahdist Regime Period 1885 to 1896
3. The Reconquest/Military Period 1897 to 1903
4. The Head Post Office Khartoum — from 1904
5. The P.O.'s and Postal Agencies 1904 to 1970
6. The Travelling Post Offices 1888 to 1970
7. The Military Post Offices 1916 to 1955
8. Censorship and other Marks

Bibliography

Index

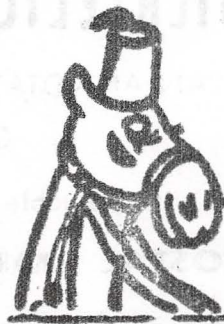
Published by the Royal Philatelic Society of London, it is hardbound in attractive fawn color with black name plates on the front and spine, stamped in gold. The frontpiece, (Un-accepted Essay as illustrated) is in color. We highly recommend this book to all our readers evincing even the slightest interest in Sudanese Postal Markings.

It is available now from the Secretary, "ROYAL PHILATELIC SOCIETY OF LONDON", Number 41 Devonshire Place, London WIN 1PE, England.

Price is 4.50 Pounds Sterling plus 25p. for postage overseas. (About \$11.40 in U.S. or Canadian dollars). When ordering please say you saw it in "Topics".

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WANTED: Editor needs Type II (circular cancel) of the 1919 E.E.F. emergency mail flown by the R.A.F. For airmail display. If you can help write to: GORDON B. GARRETT, P.O. BOX 3875, Torrance, California, 90503, U.S.A.

URGENTLY NEEDED: For Egyptian Study Circle monograph . . . Details, including a photocopy of both sides of Napoleonic — Egyptian covers not previously reported to me. Send information now to: JOHN A. FIREBRACE, Little Chart, Walden Road, Chiselhurst, Kent BR7 5DH, ENGLAND

WANTED: For inclusion in forthcoming catalog on FRANCE USED IN EGYPT which will begin to be serialized soon in Egyptian Topics. ANY odd or unusual material of this era and area not commonly known. We want it as complete as possible and we need your help. Write to Kenneth Pierce, Director of Systems, C/o City of Hope, 1500 E. Duarte Road, Duarte, California, 91010.

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THE PHILATELIC LITERATURE OF EGYPT

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By GORDON B. GARRETT

With Valuable Assistance From CHARLES FOX

SECTION X — **POSTAL MARKINGS** (Continued from Vol. 6, No. 2., p. 38.)

CONTINUING FROM L'ORIENT PHILATELIQUE:

L'OBLITERATION CROISSANT ET ETOILE — BOULAD, Gabriel, Vol. IX, No. 89; pp. 19-21 (F).
Postal stationery and singles illustrated. Concerning the crescent & star cancellations.

EGYPT — THE STAR AND CRESCENT DATESTAMPS — MINETT, C.W., Vol. IX, No. 89, pp. 22-
With commentary on p. 23 with unusual illustration, by Mehanny Eid. Diagrams and a listing
of towns used together with an explanation of the types. Reprint from OPAL Newsletter, 1954.

THE POSTAL MARKINGS OF EGYPT (FROM 1865) — BLOMFIELD, R.S., Vol. IX, No. 89, pp. 24-
29 (p. 29 Markings from 1880). Study No. 6 of the E.S.C., Report #4. Detailed with several
illustrations, the numbering system used, types and postal functions of each.

ENCORE DES ERREURS DANS LES OBLITERATIONS EGYPTIENNES — BOULAD, G., Vol. IX, No. 89,
(F) An illustrated item on the repeated mistakes on some Egyptian cancellations.

NOTE / AU SUJET DU TRANSPORT DU COURRIER OFFICIEL DES ADMINISTRATIONS GOVERNEMENTALES — BOULAD, G., Vol. IX, No. 90, pp. 93-96. (F) A treatise on the official courier seals used
on government correspondence - not Interpostals. Illustrated.

LES MARQUES POSTALES EN EGYPTE de 1866 — 1880 LE CACHET "POSTE V.R. EGIZANE". — By
BARGIGLI, Bruno, Vol. IX, No. 90 (F) pp. 117-121. Illustrated. A comprehensive work on
these important early obliterations. Another article by same author on pp. 129-131 dealing with
the bi-lingual Italian/Arabic cancellations.

TWO NEW HANDSTAMPS — Listed by the Editor, Vol. IX, No. 91, July 1955, p. 162 with an illustra-
tion. Two official handstamps issued for use by government departments, one post office in the
Ministry of Education and later, one marked "2" in the gardens of the Ministry of Public Works.

THE STAR AND CRESCENT DATESTAMPS — MINETT, C.W., Vol. IX, No. 91, p. 183. Additional
information listed as a result of Minett's previous work — additional listing of towns.

AN UNRECORDED POSTMARK OF A STRANGE TYPE — EID, Mehanny, Vol. IX, No. 90, pp. 265-
266. Illustrations of the cds "1", "2", and special cancel for the P.S.E. w/ Alex/Traffic.

HOTEL POSTMARKS — WARD, Gordon, Vol. IX, No. 94, April 1956, pp. 351-353. No illus.
A listing of 42 postmarks known at that time to have been used by the various hotels.

LE CACHET "CASSA" — MAZLOUM, Ahmed, Vol. IX, No. 95, July 1956. (F) pp. 415-6. Inter-
esting notes on the "Cassa" postmark and a full page illus. of its use on a document.

POSTMARK "RARE" ILLUSTRATED — A brief note by the editor and a photo of the unusual postmark in
use by the Egyptian museum which requires no franking. Vol. IX, No. 96, Oct/Jan. 1957. p. 524

HOTEL POSTMARKS — A correction commentary by PLACOTARIS, N.J., Vol. X, No. 97, p. 535.
An illustration of another type overlooked by Dr. Ward in his previously listed article.

BIBLIOGRAPHY — SECTION X (Continued)

- DALLA STAZIONE — MAZLOUM, A., Vol. X, No. 98, Oct 1957/Jan. 1958. pp. 599-601
An illustrated article with specific details on this cancel meaning "From the Station".
Examples from Mr. M's collection on the second and third issues are shown.
- DOPO LA PARTENZA — GOUGAS, G., Vol. X, No. 98, pp. 623-625. (F) An illustrated treatise on this Italian marking shown on a Third issue stamp.
- THE ITALIAN-ARABIC BILINGUAL CANCELLATIONS OF THE 1870's — SMITH, DR. P.A.S.,
Some factual information and notes on this marking on cover. Written in the scholarly style usual with the work of Dr. Smith. Illustrated. Vol. X, No. 98, pp. 626-8.
- SOME RECENT DISCOVERIES AMONG THE POSTMARKS OF THE EGYPTIAN OFFICES ABROAD — PETER A.S. SMITH, Vol. XI, No. 103, Oct. 1960, pp. 139-142. Well illustrated and instructive article in the usual factual manner of Dr. Smith. Excellent reference work.
- LE CACHET D'OBLITERATION EN "CREUX" DIT BLANC SUR NOIR — GOUGAS, G., No. 104, April 1961, pp. 223-228 (F). Illustrated article dealing with a blank (or white) spot on government seals used on the second issue.
- A NEW TYPE OF OFFICIAL FRANK — SMITH, P.A.S., No. 104, p. 228. Illustration of an official government frank used in 1888 from the War Office.
- EGYPTE CACHETS ASSEZ CONNUS L'Expression "REGIE POSTE EGIZIANE" et son histoire — D'HUMIERES, J.B., No. 104. pp. 229-237. An article on Interpostal seals but included here because of the valuable listing of and numerous illustrations of cancellations used at that time. (1868-9/1879. In English in No. 108, pp. 195-203.
- UNE ERREUR DANS LA COMPOSITION DU TEXTE DU TIMBRE A DATE — Editor, No. 105, Oct. p. 271 (F). Illustrations of two cancellations used in Jan. 1938 for VIIe Conference Internationale pour l'unification du Droit Penal with an error in the spelling.
- AIRGRAPHS — EID, M., No. 105. pp. 273-4. An article dealing with the use of airgraphs with two illustrations specially used for this service.
- LE CACHET QUE L'ON UTILISAIT A SCELLER LA CIRE DES SACS POSTAUX A SERVI AUSSI A OBLITERER LES TIMBRES-POSTE EGYPTIENS — GOUGAS, G., No. 105, pp. 275-278. Another article basically on Interpostals but with interesting notes on the cancellations - Illus.
- CACHETS PAS ASSEZ CONNUS — D'HUMIERES, J.B., No. 105, p. 278. (F). Illustration of a cachet (1868) with large blank space showing town Ghisa, the date and the RE of Regie.
- WRONG POSTAL MARKING — KEHR, Ernest, No. 105, pp. 284-5. Illustration of wrong year date on the 5 mills Royal Wedding Issue, illustrated.
- NOTE A PROPOS DU "REGIE POSTE EGIZIANE" — GOUGAS, G., No. 105, pp. 288-9. (F). An article on the Italian cancellation "official" Gabinetto Del Direttore Generale". Illus.
- POSTAL MARKINGS — EXTRACTS FROM THE BYAM SALE — No. 105, pp. 302-305. Well illustrated with good information on dates with trans. from Italian to English circa 1866-7.
- LES TIMBRES SURCHARGES ET CACHETS RELATIFS AUX LETTRES EN RETARD — BOULAD, G., No. 106, Jan. 1962, pp. 6-8 (F). Illustrated article with special note on cancellations Apres Depart, Dopo La Partenza, Late Fee, etc.
- ALEXANDRIA EN EGYPTE ET HORS D'EGYPTE — BOULAD, G., No. 110, Apr/July 1963. (F) pp. 129-134. Illustrations of all of the cancellations, world wide, with the name of ALEXANDRIA in various forms as used.

PHILATELIC BIBLIOGRAPHY OF EGYPT - SECTION X (Continued)

"CANCELLED" ON STAMPS OF EGYPT - EID, M., No. 111, Oct. 1963. Illustrated article on the Cancelled 5 mills Fuad issue used for vending machines. pp. 159-164. Also the Palace imperf. proofs with cancelled on the reverse, illus.

SOME NOTES ON NINETEENTH CENTURY EGYPTIAN POSTMARKS - SMITH, P.A.S., No. 112, pp. 231-234. Well illustrated with copious notes on some of the more interesting cancels.

SOME UNUSUAL EGYPTIAN POSTMARKS - GOUGAS, G. No. 114, Oct. 1964/Jan. 1965. on pp. 367-9. Illustrated and descriptive notes on some unusual cancellations.

LES CACHETS A DATE DES BUREAUX DE POSTE DES HOTELS D'EGYPTE - D'HUMIERES, J.B. No. 114. pp. 370-389. (F) Well documented, illustrated article on the hotel postmarks of Egypt. (Reprinted in English in Egyptian Topics - Vol. 5, No. 1, Nov/Dec., 1972).

OBLITERATIONS INSOLITES - AYOUB, Christian, No. 114. pp. 428-432. (F). Copious notes on "Some lucky finds" in Egyptian postmarks, illustrated.

NOTE SUR DIFFERENTS SUJETS - GOUGAS, G., No. 117. (F). April 1966/Jan. 1967. pp. 587-600. Meticulous notes on a large variety of postal markings, well illustrated, such as FESCNE, ALES^a, Franca, Dopo La Partenza, etc.

MORE ABOUT THE HOTEL POSTMARKS FROM EGYPT - LARS ALUND, No. 117, pp. 603-607. Not illus. but a great deal of additional information on the earliest and latest usage, types used by the various hotels and descriptive remarks of value.

EGYPTIAN CANCELLATIONS - VESTARKIS, DR. SAVA M., No. 119, pp. 3 - 9. Jan./April, 1968. Useful comments on a variety of interesting postal markings used in Egypt. Illus. Additional comments in No. 120, pp. 89-95, with corrections on prev. art., illustrated plus pages from the ESC postal marking Study with pertinent comments.

AN EARLY COVER FROM THE EGYPTIAN POST OFFICE AT BEYROUT - SMITH, P.A.S. No. 119. Jan/Apr. 1968. pp. 10-12. Illustrated. Use of round government seal.

LA CENSURE POSTALE EN EGYPTE - PENDANT LA GUERRE DE 1939-1945 - BOULAD, G. (F). No. 119, pp. 40-52. Well illustrated. (Reprinted in Egyptian Topics, Vo. 4, No. 4, May/June 1972). Detailed information on the postal censor markings used in Egypt during World War II.

DOPO LA PARTENZA on EGYPTIAN STAMPS - SMITH, P.A.S., No. 121, Jan/July 1969, pp. 197-201. Dr. Smith cites previous references in L'OP and explains with the aid of good illustrations concerning some of the proven points and comments on the unproven items.

LES MARQUES POSTALES EGYPTIENNES DE 1866 A 1880 - LES OBLITERATIONS BILINGUES: ITALO-ARABES - CHAFTAR, IBRAHIM, No. 123, April/Oct. 1970. pp. 347-349 (F). Illustration article with descriptive information on some of the more unusual cancels.

LES CACHETS PORTUAIRES "PLEINE MER & PAQUEBOT - D'HUMIERES, J.B., No. 123, April/October 1970, pp. 366-381. (Reprinted in English in Egyptian Topics, Vol. 3, No. 6, September/October 1971). A well illustrated article with excellent study text.

EGYPTE 1866 - 1880 - QUELQUES FAUX CACHETS DONT IL FAUT SE MEFIER - D'HUMIERES, J.B., No. 125, April 1972. pp. 93-104. (F). A large number of forged cachets, on and off cover described and illustrated, on genuine and forged covers.

A NEW PAQUEBOT MARKING - WINTER, Dr. A., No. 126, January 1972. pp. 198-9. Illustrated article on Porttawfig/paquebot marking on and off cover as addenda to article noted above by Mr. J.B.d'Humieres.

SOME MISCELLANEOUS CANCELLATIONS - SMITH, P.A.S., No. 122, Oct. 1969/Jan. 1970 - pp. 302-3. Illustrated article with notes on various odd cancellations including some in colors and some incomplete with a request for help to identify them.

FINDS IN EARLY EGYPTIAN POSTMARKS - CHAFTAR, I., No. 127, Oct. 1973, pp. 283-288. An illustrated article with pertinent information on some of the early cancellations with good descriptive information.

FOLLOWING ITEMS ARE FROM O.P.A.L. (Journal of the Oriental Philatelic Association of London)
PLEINE MER - MINETT, Charles, No. 35, March 1953, p. 3-4. An unillustrated article listing five types of this marking with good descriptions.

EGYPT / THE STAR AND CRESCENT DATESTAMPS - MINETT, C.W., No. 43, October 1954, pp. 1-2. Notes with descriptive text and line drawings of four types of this marking.

EGYPT - SOME MARKINGS ON SOLDIER'S LETTERS FROM THE EGYPTIAN ARMY IN THE ARAB ISRAELI WAR OF 1948 - 1949 - SMITH, P.A.S. No. 49, pp. 7-8. (Reprinted from the Crescent-USA). Line drawings of Field post date stamp and censor marking careful descriptive text.

MILITARY POST OFFICES - CIRCULAR DATESTAMPS DURING THE POSTAL CONCESSION PERIOD
MINETT, C.W. & FIREBRACE, John, Vol. 4, No. 3, pp. 30-35. A comprehensive study with page of good illustrations on the various town military markings during the pre-censorship period in Egypt. Reprint from ESC. No. 61, p. 1.

"PLEINE MER - RECONSIDERED" - MINETT, C.W., No. 94, Vol. 7, No. 3, January 1965.. pp. 60-64. More information to update his 1953 article with line drawings of the types of the cancellation and types used at Egyptian locations. Corrections on p. 111. More additions in Vol. 8, No. 4 Whole #100, March 1966, pp. 77-79, and Vol. 9, No. 1, Whole #102, p. 21.

EGYPT POSTAGE PAID DATESTAMP USED BY INDIAN FPO'S - JAGGER, E. Vol. 10, No. 4, March 1968, Whole # 110. A listing of the various nos., dates and units for reference.

EGYPTIAN CENSORSHIP, 1948 - INGLEFIELD-WATSON, J.F., Vol. 15, No. 2, Whole # 132, Nov. 1972. pp. 29-30. Comment on an unusual Bechuanaland cover with three line Egyptian censor markings described and illustrated.

EGYPT CENSORSHIP, 1948 - MINETT, C.W., Vol. 16, No. 1, Whole # 136, Sept/Oct. 1973. pp. 5-6. Comments to the above article with answers to some of the questions with a listing of references.

CIVILIAN CENSORSHIP 1939 - 1945 - EGYPT - Editor (Maj. STAGG), Vol. 16, No. 3, Whole No. 138, January/February 1974, pp. 30-32. Illustrated item of 72 censor markings as previously listed in L'OP and later in English in Egyptian Topics.

HOTEL POSTMARKS OF EGYPT - WARD, Gordon M.D., HLME, Vol. 1, No. 2, March 1957. p. 49. Twelve excellent, clear cds illustrations and some notes on the cancellations. Reverts back to p.33 and cont. Vol. 1, No. 3, p66. Good comprehensive information.

EGYPT AERODROME MARKINGS - WARD, G., Vol. 1 No. 3 April 1957. pp. 79-80. Ten clear illustrations of postal markings used for airmail in Egypt with definitive text.

POSTAGE FREE E.E.F. - WARD, G., Vol. 1, No. 4, May 1957. p. 91. Illustrated and information of 15 locations of use by the military, including destination and Indian P.O. Number.

IN MEMORIAM

JOHN H. E. GILBERT

John Gilbert passed away in England on January 22, 1974 in his 73rd year. His was a history of long service to philately, Egyptian philately in particular. His collection of Egyptian Air Mails won many international honors and he was never too busy to help a fellow collector in this, or any other philatelic field.

His signature to the Roll of Distinguished Philatelists in 1971 climaxed a long and illustrious career. A fellow in the "Royal" for 26 of more than 30 years there he remained constantly active plus activities in many other British Societies.

John was an outgoing person and you would be hard put to remain a stranger long in his presence. He counted his friends world-wide and his place among us must long remain vacant in silent tribute to this great philatelist — this great man.

ON THE ANTIQUITIES

Our reader, DOROTHY MINTO, is an expert on Egyptian antiquities and will be happy to share her knowledge with those readers of Topics with a similar interest.

This is a popular subject with many, particularly those collecting the stamps of Egypt with a Thematic Theme. Dorothy's letter goes on to say that this information is listed in about eleven pages in the Fine Arts Handbook as the following example.

20 m. Tutankhamen's "Dummy" 30 in.
high of painted suttcoed wood. c.1350
Figure from waist up made with BC
out arms. Purpose unknown.

She also says she has a complete record of source material, in this case, "Tutankhamen" by Desroches-Noblecourt, page 194. The Handbook lists a Bibliography of nearly 400 titles, many of which are in her personal library. If any of our members wish specific information she will be glad to furnish it on receipt of an SASE.

Eds. Note: If enough of you are interested in any specific phase as evidenced by your letters to the editor, we will ask Dorothy to do an article for us in a forthcoming issue of Topics.

OUR NEW ISSUE SERVICE

Some time ago TOM OLSON of Berkeley began a new issue service for the readers of Topics. After many complaints that our people were unable (and unwilling to pay the high prices) to get new issues from Egypt. Tom solved our problem by ordering directly from the Egyptian Post Office on a share the cost basis among all participants. We can now report that it is eminently successful and building larger all the time. However, there is room for more — the more that participate the lower the cost to all. This program began in November 1971 and is now firmly established. We thank the Egyptian Philatelic Agency for the fine service.

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<input type="checkbox"/>	Other:	_____	
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