



# NEPAL & TIBET PHILATELIC STUDY CIRCLE



Newsletter No. 18

November 1979

Dear Friends,

Recent letters brought comments from two well-known members---our president, Dr. Couvreur, and our past-president, Dr. Hellrigl. Dr. Couvreur expresses concern for the heavy emphasis in recent newsletters on such modern items as fancy cancels, souvenir covers and cards, special flights, etc. Dr. Couvreur reminds us all that the value of our collections, both now and in the future, will rest, not on such items, but on the material generated in the process of meeting normal postal requirements, especially from the earlier periods.

Dr. Hellrigl raises questions about entirely different matters, but important ones. He is concerned that the name of our group (and its newsletter) has become very long and cumbersome. He feels that a shorter name, such as "Nepal & Tibet Courier," for example, would be more attractive. Dr. Hellrigl also suggests 'modernizing' our logo. He states, "The emblem of the Nepal Study Circle is a bit outdated, too. I drew this at a time when it was meant to cover only Nepal, not Tibet. How about changing this emblem by showing stamps of the two countries?" He elaborates by making a quick sketch of two stamps overlapping---one, the classic Nepal design; the other, a second Tibetan issue. I suggest that interested readers send me their ideas and suggestions which can be presented at our next international meeting in London next May.

With respect to ongoing studies, I am reminded to tell our readers in North America that I now have three circulation copies of the research manuscript on the "Sri Pashupati Issues." All are out at the moment, but if readers are interested in seeing a copy and will help us make corrections and addition, a copy will be sent as soon as possible.

Lester A. Michel

## NEW MEMBERS

Roland Andre, "RES MONISTROL," 42-52 Rue de L'Aqueduc, Paris 75010, France  
Owen White, Box 860 Station K, Toronto, M4P 2H2, Canada  
Dr. Karl Rudolph Schmidt, AM Europakanal 4/V, 852 Erlangen, West Germany  
D. Sheaff, 14 Hammonds Wood Road, Chestnut Hill, Mass. 02167, U.S.A.

## CHANGE OF ADDRESS

J. Lewis Blackburn, 21816 - 8th Place W., Bothell, WA 98011, U.S.A.  
H. D. S. HAVERBECK, Windmill Point, White Stone, VA 22578, U.S.A.  
C. Tulsiyan, 6/296 Gana Bahal, Second Floor, Kathmandu, Nepal

Note: Mr. Tulsiyan writes that, due to his recent move, it will be difficult for him to act as the Society Representative for INDIA. Since Dhruba Rudra is REPRESENTATIVE for NEPAL, we have deleted the entry for INDIA until we can find a suitable replacement.

PRESIDENT: Dr. Pierre Couvreur

PATRONS: Mac Linscott Ricketts and Harrison D. S. Haverbeck FRPSL  
SECRETARY: Colin Hepper, 3 Orwell Grove, Peterborough, PE4 6XU, Cambs., England  
EDITOR: Lester A. Michel, 309 Yucca Circle, Colorado Springs, CO 80906, USA  
PUBLISHER: Thomas Matthiesen, Box 406, Duvall, WA 98019, USA  
SOCIETY REPRESENTATIVES:  
USA Frank Vignola, 105 - 22nd Avenue, San Francisco, CA 94121  
NEPAL Dhruba Rudra, P O Box 80, Gana Bahal, Kathmandu

#### NEWS FROM KATHMANDU!

Bardiya, May 20: Gulariya village panchayat pradhan pancha, Ram Adhar Yadav, recently inaugurated a money order system at the Bardiya district post office, bringing the number of districts having this service to a total of 48.

Chautara, June 22: Sindhupalchok district panchayat president, Bom Bahadur Karki, recently declared open the sub-post office at Balefi village panchayat. The new unit will improve the postal service to the people of Balefi, Devasthan, Kadambas, Pathar, Mangkha and Kubinde village panchayat.

Kathmandu, July 23: A postal savings bank service has been introduced in Sunsari district post office. The service was inaugurated by acting pradhan pancha, Shyam Govinda Shrestha, bringing the total of districts in Nepal receiving this service to 17. According to official regulations, the initial deposit required is 5,000 rupees. Additional deposits as small as two rupees can then be added to the savings account.

Myagdi, July 27: An additional post office building has been constructed at local Okharbote village panchayat at a cost of about 4,000 rupees, met with voluntary labor from the local people.

Arghakanchi, August 6: An additional post office has been established in Dibhara village panchayat in Arghakanchi district. It was inaugurated by district panchayat president, Rudra Prasad Chimire.

#### EXHIBITION NEWS

N. G. Rajkarnikar, Vice-President of the Nepal Philatelic Society, reports that a National Exhibition in Nepal is being planned for 1981 on the occasion of the Centenary of Postage Stamps. This will be a joint effort of the Postal Department of His Majesty's Government and the Nepal Philatelic Society. The dates for this exhibition have not been announced.

A small exhibition on the theme of 'The Child' was held in Kathmandu recently in celebration of the International Year of the Child. Her Majesty, Queen Aiswarya Luxmi Shah, inaugurated the exhibition on its opening day, 20 August 1979. During the exhibition, the Nepal Philatelic Society distributed 2000 packets of 20 stamps in each packet and 100 albums of the King and Queen on stamps. These were given to children with the hope of attracting new junior collectors. The Nepal Philatelic Society is to be congratulated on this positive action to introduce young people to a hobby which can be pursued throughout one's lifetime, with many benefits.

#### AUCTION REMAINDERS

The following lots from Auction #10 did not sell and are available for purchase at 2/3rds of their Estimated Value as listed on the auction sheet sent out in July.

Lots : #178, 183, 189, 190, 192, 195, 196, 197, 198, 199, 200,  
202, 203, 205, 206, 209a, 209b, 210, 211, 213, 215, 215a,  
216, 217, 218, 224, 225, 228, 229, 232, 233, 236, 237.

Lots are available from Colin Hepper on a first come, first served basis.

#### MR. ZIP?

At present, when mailing out the newsletter we have been dishing out the margin blocks or singles (plate numbers, slogans, etc.) on our postage at random. If anyone out there has a preference and would like a certain position we could probably remember to give you what you want. Jot us a note to that effect directly to Thomas Matthiesen.

NORTH AMERICAN LIBRARY

The Western Philatelic Library is now ready to take orders for photocopies of journal articles. Send requests, and make out checks, bank drafts, or money orders, to: Western Philatelic Library, P O Box 2219, Sunnyvale, CA 94087. Give full title of article, Author, the name of the publication in which it appeared and the date of the issue(s). Page numbers are helpful, but are not necessary. If supplemental material appears, such as a response with information, or a letter to the editor, at least the date of the issue is needed. All requests from the USA and Canada involve a 50¢ handling charge in addition to the 10¢ per page fee for copying. Postage will also be charged if it exceeds 28¢. Overseas members should enquire about costs, as air and surface rates vary too much to establish any fixed rate. European members are advised to order copies of articles from the library maintained by our president, Dr. Couvreur.

A few recent 'finds' in the Western Philatelic Library on Tibet are:

- 1) (Author unknown), "Mails in Tibet" PHILATELIC MAGAZINE Vol. 37, No. 11, p. 401 (29 May 1936)---Short article about Gordon Enders' efforts to set up air transportation between Lahassa and elsewhere in the late 1930's. (1 page)
- 2) Waterfall, A. C., "British Mission and Field Post Offices in Tibet" STAMP COLLECTING Vol. 89, No. 10, pp. 259, 261, 263, 265 (8 November 1957)---Commentary and illustrations of cancels used from early 1903 Frontier Commission up to the 1944 WW II period, with an added 'letter to the editor' in No. 10, page 407 (6 December 1957). (6 pages)
- 3) Hall, Brian R., "A Study In the Stamps of Tibet" STAMP COLLECTING Vol. ?, No. ?, p.487 (14 January 1939), p.520 (21 January 1939), pp. 549,551 (28 January 1939), pp. 575,577 (4 February 1939)---Descriptions of the stamps of the issues of 1912, 1924-25, 1932 and 1933, including a number of varieties, some of which are now considered to be forgeries. Only two illustrations appear, but the article is interesting to specialists.
- 4) Newport, O. W., "Postal Affairs of the British Mount Everest Expedition, 1953" STAMP COLLECTING Vol. ?, No. ?, page 807 (4 September 1953)---A brief but authoritative account, written soon after the completion of the first successful Mt. Everest expedition. (1 page)

Another Nepal article:

Cohen, Marvin A., "Postage Stamps of Nepal" STAMP SHOW NEWS Vol. ?, No. ?, pp. 44-46 (June 1978)---A general article prompted by an interview with H.D.S. Haverbeck published in the April issue. It mentions some leading Nepal philatelists both past and present, lists some good publications and includes a number of illustrations---nearly all of modern stamps and covers. Contains a few inaccuracies and little new information for specialists, but is entertainingly written and very informative for newcomers to Nepal philately.

PRINTED ALBUMS FOR NEPAL  
STILL AVAILABLE

Members wishing to buy or exchange stamps of  
Nepal please write to:

**M.R. RAJBHANDARY**

27-45 KANALADI  
KATHMANDU, NEPAL

please use registered mail

INTERESTING ITEMS FROM DOUGLAS HATCH:

The 30 paisa stamp "Lilium Nepalense" from the Flower Series is known with both a light brown, a medium brown, and a green-brown corner for the "rock".

The 15 paisa stamp from the Dance Series "Maruni Nach" is known with both a brown background and a red-purple "matted" background.

The Rs. 1/- stamp from the Dance Series "Sebru Nach" is known with a brown floor covering as well as a red-brown color there.

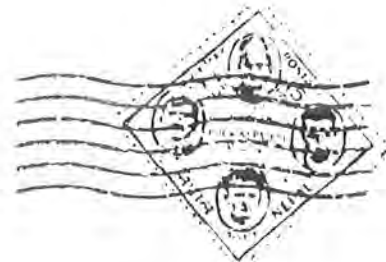
The 5 paisa stamp "Buceros bicornis" of the Bird series is known with both a dark brown wing coloring, as well as light brown wing coloring.

The Rs. 2/30 paisa 25th Anniversary of Mt. Everest issue is known with a definite upward shift of the grey design and lettering inside the frame, leaving a white border at the bottom and putting the lettering for the stamp's value into the brown color at the top.

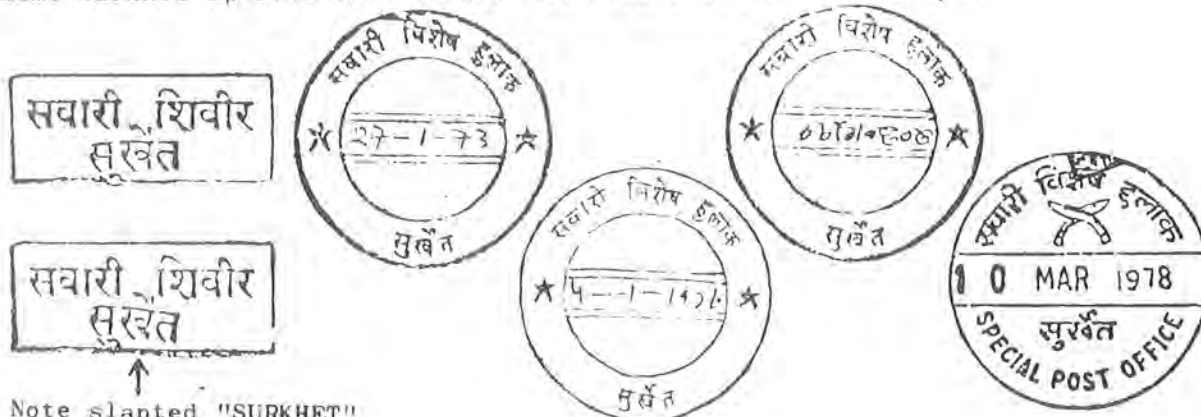
Both the 4 paise reply Postal Card and the 8 paisa reply Postal Card have been found with printing too high and thus across the "folding" line. I have also copies of these cards where the printing has been too low and some of the center dividing line has been cut off across the bottom. The 20 paisa Mt. Everest Postal Card also has been found with the printing too high for the card.

A single copy of the Rs. 1/- Triangular stamp of King Birendra (#280) was recently offered at auction as imperforate. I do understand that there have been occasional wide perforation margins on these stamps, and before buying anything imperf., I would advise making sure that the partner to the pair is also attached, in the imperforate position!

Illustrated at right is the first recorded use of a machine cancel, June 11, 1965 on a first day of issue cover of the "Four Martyrs." (This date is some three months earlier than that reported by Hepper in the postmark book, page 88.--Ed.)



Some Surkhet Special Post Office cancellations and handstamps:



Note slanted "SURKHET" variety