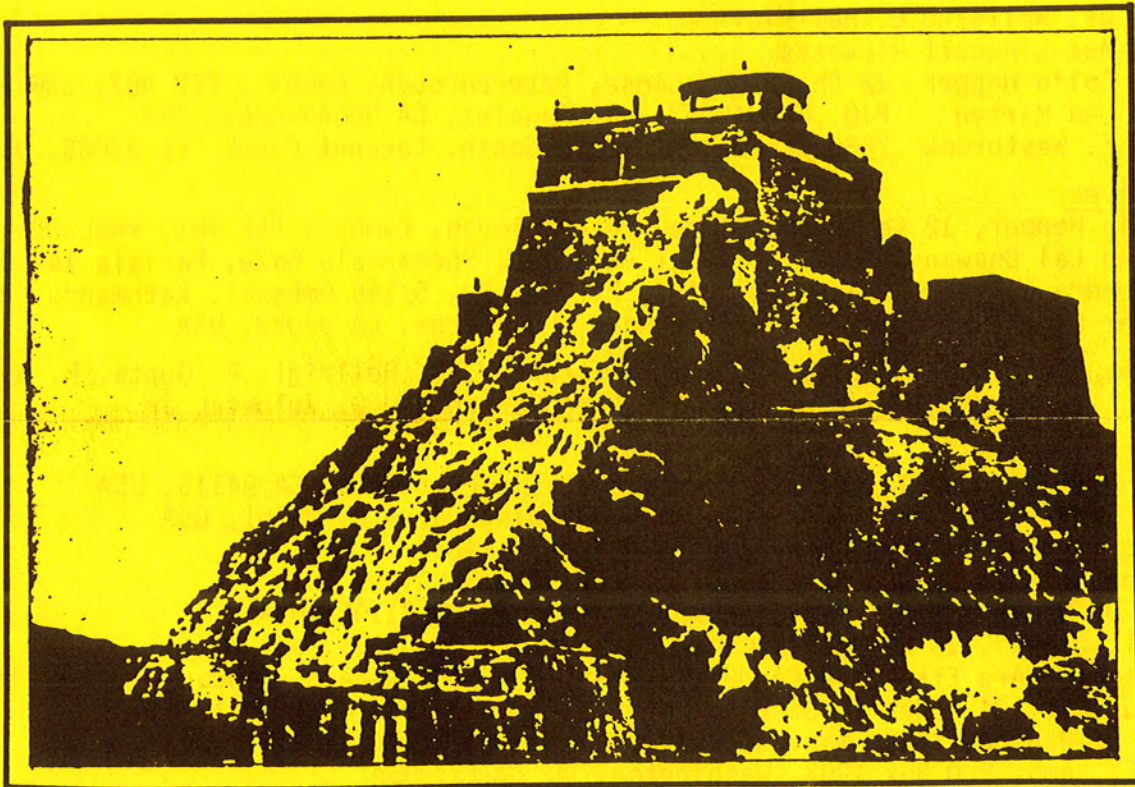


POSTAL HIMAL

QUARTERLY OF THE NEPAL AND TIBET PHILATELIC STUDY CIRCLE



"CHAGPORI MEDICAL COLLEGE (in Lhasa): built by Desi Sangye Gyatso during the 17th century A.D. It was utterly destroyed by Communist China and is presently in ruins." -- Caption on a picture card sent to the editor by Alan Warren, postmarked 3 June 1989.

No. 61

1st Quarter 1990



POSTAL HIMAL No. 61
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Dear Friends,

It is with great excitement and some fear that I take over the editorship of the Postal Himal. I hope to produce a quarterly as fine and comprehensive as Les has these many years. He told me that each issue involves some 40 hours of preparation.

Your newsletter can only be as good as its contributors, so please continue sending articles.

Leo Martyn

Dear Friends,

I shall miss the correspondence that, in addition to gaining new friends, has so often included material to be shared with the members of our Study Circle. But the time has come to 'pass the baton' to a new editor. There is no doubt in my mind that Leo will bring fresh ideas and talents to this important position. Each of you can help by offering suggestions, constructive criticisms and, most of all, material to share with our members. -- I am pleased to point out the short article (page 12) by Lawrence Bowles, one of our new members listed on the page at left. Our thanks to you, Lawrence, for setting such a good example.

The majority of our members specialize in Nepal philately and some of those may ask why this issue is devoted so heavily to Tibet material. To be quite frank, we have relatively little Nepal material on hand, but we hope to have more to offer in our June issue.

Because Colin has decided to send out a relatively large auction list under separate cover, no auction list is included with this issue, and none will be sent with Postal Himal No. 62. Those who attend one (or both) meetings of the Study Circle during STAMP WORLD LONDON 90 will have the opportunity to examine the auction material at first hand, but will make their bids by mail, as we have always done.

Mr. D. Dawson has waited patiently for his article on modern Tibet post offices to appear. That article fills nearly half of the pages in this issue and I, for one, found it most interesting, as I am sure you will, even if you are not a Tibet specialist. Thank you, Derrick, for the privilege of publishing this fine, informative article.

Finally, I am pleased to report that

Leo's fine Nepal exhibit is entered in the competition at STAMP WORLD LONDON 90 and he will be there as well.

Lester A. Michel

**CLASSIFIED ADVERTISING
FOR MEMBERS USE ONLY**

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To calculate the number of lines your advertisement will require, count 39 characters per line, including all letters, numerals, punctuation marks and blank spaces between words. Ads will be placed under appropriate headings without charge for the headings. See the Classified Ad section in the final pages of any issue of The AMERICAN PHILATELIST for typical ad headings -- or simply send your own ad, asking the editor to place it under an appropriate heading (at no extra cost).

DEADLINE: Ad and payment in USA dollars (or in mint USA postage stamps) must reach the editor by the first day of one of the following months -- February, May, August, November -- in order for ad to appear in issues mailed about one month later. Any change of copy after the first insertion will be counted as a new advertisement.

FOR SALE

TIBETAN FORGERIES. I have a large stock of the older 1912 and 1933 forgeries, as well as examples of the new 1912 forgeries. Want lists are welcome. If you have forgeries for sale, I am an active buyer. Write first before sending material. Trades are also welcome. If you have an interest in forgeries and would like to share that interest or are looking for information about Tibetan forgeries, write to me. George Bourke, P.O.Box 564, Belleville, MI 48111, USA.

WANTED

Bhutan. Anything: covers, FDCs, stamps, proofs, essays, etc. Also loose stamps & broken sets to use for postage. Write first. Nildo Harper, 510 Main St. 1910 Roosevelt Island, New York 10044

EXHIBITION NEWS

STAMP WORLD LONDON 90

Alexandra Palace
3 - 13 May 1990

The Study Circle will be holding two meetings during this International Stamp Exhibition in London.

Both Meetings will be held in Room D in the North West Hall from 14:15 to 17:45. The first is on Friday, 4 May and the second on Thursday, 10 May.

The rooms can accommodate up to 30 members and there are five display boards available if required.

One of the topics for discussion will be the proposed new statutes and the indications are that there will be more members attending the second meeting than the first. However, since some members cannot attend the second meeting, it seems appropriate to discuss the proposed new statutes at both meetings. Members will be welcome at both meetings.

Most of the lots in Auction No. 51 will be available for viewing during these meetings.

The Exhibition will open its doors at 12:00 noon on 3 May. On this day only it will be open until 20:00 hrs and on all other days will be open from 10:00 to 18:00 hrs.

Admission charges are £5 per day for the first two days and £3 per day for the remainder of the exhibition. Senior citizens will be charged £3 and £2.

Alexandra Palace has been newly refurbished and re-designed since it was almost destroyed by fire in 1980. It is situated in North London, between Muswell Hill and Wood Green. It is well served by all forms of public transport.

For many of our members who will be coming from overseas and will be using the London Underground to get to the exhibition: They will need to take the Piccadilly line to Wood Green from where there is a Courtesy bus service to Alexandra Palace.

I look forward to seeing many of you who I correspond with, both with Study Circle matters and the auctions, and wish you a very enjoyable time.

Colin Hepper

P.S.--Colin reports that Richard Hanchett, one of our most enthusiastic USA

members, has made a generous donation of \$200 for the use of the Study Circle to pay for room hire and other expenses related thereto. He has offered to make similar donations (up to \$200) to individuals or groups who organise regional meetings. We wish to thank Richard for his generosity and his belief in the value of Study Circle meetings during important philatelic exhibitions. We have no doubt that such meetings will strengthen and enlarge our Circle.--Ed.

REPORT ON MEETING AT STAMPSHOW '89
HELD IN ANAHEIM, CALIFORNIA, AUGUST 24-27

--Leo Martyn

The Society had a meeting at the American Philatelic Society's National "STAMPSHOW" which took place in Anaheim, California, August 24-27. Members present were: Bill Janson, Vern Richards and Leo Martyn, plus visitors Barbara Kayfetz and Alfredo Giddens. Bill brought several Nepalese 1941 series Pashupati covers which were apparently used on the first available day ("First Day of Issue" was typed on each cover - possibly prepared by a postal employee). Alfredo brought a collection of Nepalese classic stamps for identification.

After an hour of discussion we viewed my exhibit "Nepal: Postal History from the Pre-Philately period through the Transition Period" (which was awarded a GOLD). Frank Vignola was also present at the show but was not able to attend the meeting.

POSTAL HIMAL IN LITERATURE COMPETITIONS

--Lester A. Michel

Your retiring editor has routinely entered Postal Himal in two or three literature competitions, feeling that the advertising might bring in a few new members, as well as useful criticisms from the judges. At SESCAL '89, which was the site of STAMPSHOW '89 (the American Philatelic Society sponsored exhibition in 1989), Postal Himal was awarded a SILVER medal. We noted that no Periodicals received a GOLD, and only four VERMEILS were given out.

At CHICAGOPEX '89 (the annual show sponsored by the Chicago Philatelic Society), noted for its outstanding literature section over a period of years, our publication received a SILVER-BRONZE medal. Only ten entries received a higher award.

POST OFFICES OF THE PEOPLE'S REPUBLIC
OF CHINA IN TIBET

--D. Dawson

S. L. Shrestha's contribution on Chinese postmarks in Issue No. 56 focussed attention on the widespread development of the postal system in Tibet when compared with the much more limited coverage in independent Tibet. (There was, in passing, one incorrect designation - the cancellation attributed to Yadong is, in fact, that of Phari.) This development is the more noticeable in the light of the considerable shrinkage of Tibetan territory since the Chinese take-over in 1950. Amdo, in the north, has been transferred to Qinghai and the entire region incorporated into China. Large areas of Kham have gone to Gansu, Sichuan and Yunnan, and what is now called the Tibet Autonomous Region is a much diminished territorial entity. Such indisputably Tibetan towns as Jyekundo, Tatsienlu (Dartsendo) and Kumbum are now shown as lying well within China proper.

The cancellations of Lhasa, Shigatse, Gyantse and Yatung are frequently encountered, but many of those from smaller and less known places are rarely seen. Those in my collection are generally philatelic, mostly of the 1984-1986 period, addressed to Shanghai as a rule, franked at the 3 fen or 8 fen rate according to date, and bear cancellations of the type shown in Shrestha's article, designated type CIO by Waterfall.

My holding is by no means complete. Several of the locations mentioned by Waterfall² are not included, though some reservation needs to be expressed here since Chinese place names are liable to changes which make continuity a problem at times, a process which the change to Pinyin has underlined (Canton, for example, being now Guangzhou and Hong Kong, Xianggang).

It may be useful for fellow-collectors of Tibetan postal history if I list the cancellations in my collection, plus one or two from Shrestha's article which are not in my collection, so that they may, perhaps, be more easily able to identify items in their own holdings and be encouraged to share with us information on any other cancellations they have which are not in the list. First, one or two explanatory notes might help:-

- (i) In September 1965 the Chinese set up the Tibet Autonomous Region based on the Lhasa Shi (i.e. municipality) and the five administrative divisions of Shannan (chief town Tsethang), Nagqu, Shigatse, Ari (former Ngari), and Chamdo. These were sub-divided into 70 Hsien or county areas. Thus was replaced the former Tibetan native administration based on the Dzongs.
- (ii) I have been able to locate practically all the offices for which cancellations are listed using the English version of the Map of the People's Republic of China.³
- (iii) The Waterfall type CIO cancellation is illustrated below; double circle, the outer being 31 mm diameter, the inner 16 mm and having superimposed a rectangle 18 mm x 7½ mm in which the date appears. The inscription is bilingual, Chinese and Tibetan. The Chinese characters at 11 o'clock and 1 o'clock translate as Xi Zang, Western Storehouse or Treasury, the Chinese designation for Tibet. Those at 7 o'clock give the town name in Chinese; the Tibetan spelling appears between 5 and 6 o'clock.
- (iv) The listing which follows is by administrative division. The Tibetan characters are followed by their literal Romanisation and then by the usual Westernised form of the place name. Finally, some general comment on the location of the town and other relevant detail follows.



Type CIO cancellation of Tsethang

LHASA SHI CANCELLATIONS

	<u>Tibetan characters</u>	<u>Romanised</u>	<u>Normal usage</u>	<u>Remarks</u>
1	ལ་ས་	Lha-sa	Lhasa	
2	ལུ་བ་ཕྱོགས་	Nub-phyogs	Nu-chok	Lhasa City West area
3	བྱང་ཕྱོགས་	Byang-phyogs	Jang-chok	Lhasa City North area
4	གྲོང་ལུ་	Grong-nub	Dong-nu	Lhasa City West
5	ཡ་གླིང་	Wa-gling	Wa-ling	Lhasa City. Chinese: He Ba Ling, "the wood by the river bank".
6	གཤི་བའ་ལྷོ་ལྗང་ལས་	Gshi-ba-'brol-byang-las	Shi-wa-do-jang-las	Lhasa City, Jiefang Bei Road
7	སྤོལ་ལུང་བདེ་ཆེན་།	Stod-lung-bde-chen	Tölung-Dechen	About 12 km West of Lhasa on the northern route to Shigatse on the Tölung Chu. Birthplace of the 3rd Dalai Lama Sönam Gyatso in 1543. Chin. Doilung Dechen.
8	ཡང་པ་ཅན་	Yang-pa-jan	Same	Former Kang Hyan-pa-chen, upper Tö lung district. Seat of Shamarpa. Geothermal springs & power station. Chin. Yang-bajain.
9	འདམ་གཞུང་	'dam-gzhung	Dam-shung	Most northerly PO in Lhasa Shi area, 100 km North of Lhasa. Chin. Damxung.
10	ལ་རི་	Lha-ri	Same	Former Lharigo, 160 km SE of Nagchu on the old Silk Road
11	མལ་གྲོ་གུང་དགར་	Mal-gro-gung-dkar	Medogongkar	70 km NE of Lhasa in the Drigung valley. District centre with extensive lead and marble deposits. Chin. Maizho kunggar.
12	གོང་པོ་རྒྱལ་དམ་	Gong-po-rgyam-da	Gongpo Gyamda	Also known as Gyamdie. 200 km East of Lhasa. Nuclear missile site. In 1906 the Chinese General Chao Erh-feng planned its inclusion as the border town in his proposed province of Sikang. Chin. Gongbo-Gyamda.
13	ཀང་རྩེང་	Kang-treng	Gungtang	10 km East of Lhasa in the Kyi-chu valley. Abbots of Tse Gungtang played a major role in Tibetan affairs from the time of Kublai Khan (1214-94) until the end of the 16th century.
14	འཕན་པོ་	'phan-po	Pen-po	In the Penyul valley NNE of Lhasa where the great monasteries of Nalanda and Langtang lay. The Northern

(continued on next page)

15	ལུན་གུབ་	Lhun-grub	Lhundu	trade route to Lhasa went via this valley and over the Pembogo La. Srongtsen Gambo, Tibet's greatest king, died here of fever in 649 AD. 50 km North of Lhasa. Chin. Lhünzhub.
16	ཅུ་ཤུར་	Chu-shur	Chushu	80 km SW of Lhasa at the confluence of the Kyi Chu with the Tsangpo. There is now a bridge across the Tsangpo here to carry the road from Lhasa to Gongkar airport. Formerly important as a staging post on the Lhasa - India route. Chin. QUXL.
17	ཉིང་ཕྱི་	Nying-phri	Nyingchi	Chin. Linzhi. A mainly Chinese town on the Nyang Chu about 100 km SE of Gongbo Gyamda. A major transport & industrial centre - textiles, paper, printing and match manufacture.

SHANNAN ("South of the Mountains") Division

18	གོང་དཀར་	Gong-dkar	Gongkar	100 km from Lhasa on the S bank of the Tsangpo. Site of Lhasa airport. Ancient Dzong and monastery of the Zung tradition of the Sakya order. Dzong destroyed in the cultural revolution. Borax deposits in the area. Chin. Gonggar.
19	གྲ་ནང་།	Gra-nang	Danang	Chin. Zhanang, about 40 km E of Gongkar on the Tsangpo. 11th century settlement.
20	རྩེ་ཐང་།	rTsed-thang	Tsethang	Chief town of Shannan. 7,000 population. 180 km from Lhasa on the S bank of the Tsangpo at the mouth of the Yarlung valley. Its sacred mountain, Gongbo-ri, is associated with the legendary birth of the Tibetan nation. Chin. Zedang
21	ནེ་གདོང་	Ne-gdong	Nedong	Adjoins Tsethangon, the route into the Yarlung valley. Capital of Tibet during the Second Kingdom period (1350-1581).
22	ཟངས་རི།	Zangs-ri	Sangri	On the north bank of the Tsangpo opposite Tsethang to which it is linked by ferry.
23	རྩེ་ཀ་།	rGya-tsa	Gyatsa	On the S bank of the Tsangpo 60 km E of Tsethang. Chin. Gyaca.

24	ནང་ཤང་།	sNang-shan	Nangshan	On the S bank of the Tsangpo 100 km E of Tsethang. Chin. Nangxian.
25	གྲོ་བ་མདའ་།	Grob-mda	Doda	Chin. Zhongda. A post office in the Nangshan area.
26	མཚོ་གླིང་།	sMin-gling	Minling	A village on the S bank of the Tsangpo 50 km SW of Tsela Dzong. Chin. Mainling.
27	ལོ་བྲག་།	Lho-brag	Lhowa	Chin. Lhozhag, former Towa Dzong. Close to the Indian & Bhutanese frontiers. The last Tibetan town on the 14th Dalai Lama's escape route in 1959.
28	ལུང་རེ་།	Lhun-rtse	Lhuntse	A strategic area guarding the Indian frontier. Chin. Lhünze.
29	མཚོ་སྐ་།	mCho-sna	Chona	200 km S of Tsethang, close to the Bhutanese frontier. Chin. Cona.
30	མཚོ་སྐ་མཚོ་།	mChos-smad	Chome	Former Dongkar Dzong. NW of Chona and also close to the Bhutanese frontier. Chin. Comai.

SHIGATSE Division

31	ཤིག་རེ་།	gZhis-rtse	Shigatse	Tibet's second city. 40,000 population. Seat of the Panchen Lama. Trade centre on the Nepal route. Chin. Xigaze.
32	རིལ་སྤུངས་།	Rin-spungs	Rinpung	Rinpung Dzong on the S bank of the Tsangpo at the Dazhuka ferry crossing. Important during the Second Kingdom's later stage (1440-1550). Gold deposits in the area. Chin. Rinbung.
33	སྐལ་མོ་།	sNyemo	Nyemo	Former Nambopuk, E of Dazhuka.
34	གྱེ་ཅི་གོང་སར་།	brGyad-gchig gong-gsar	Gye-chi gongsar	A mystery location. The Tibetan translates as "81 Gongsar"; the Chinese as Bayi Lelin, i.e. '81 Lelin'. Said to be in the Nyemo area.
35	པེ་ཤམ་།	Ba-snam	Penam	E of Shigatse. Birthplace of 4th Panchen Lama, Tempe Nyima. In World War II an American 'plane flying over the Hump between Assam and China lost its way and crash landed at Penam. The crew were held for some days before being repatriated. Chin. Bainang.
36	རྒྱལ་རེ་།	rGyal-rtse	Gyantse	Tibet's fourth city, 10,000 population. Military base on the strategic Indian route. On the right bank of the Nyang Chu. Woollen crafts & rugs. Former British Trade Agency here. Chin. Gyangze.

37	སྐ་དཀར་རེ་	sNa-dkar-rtse	Nagartse	A village on the Yamdrok Lake 170 km from Lhasa and 90 from Gyantse. Ruined Dzong. Staging post on the Lhasa-Gyantse route. Chin. Nagarze.
38	ཁང་དམར་	Kang-dmar	Kangmar	50 km S of Gyantse on the India route. Associated with the 1904 Younghusband Mission.
39	ཕག་རི	Phag-ri	Phari	At the head of the Chumbi valley and close to the Bhutan frontier. Chin. Pagri.
40	གྲོ་མོ།	Gro-mo	Yatung	Gro-mo (Domo) "the wheat country", in contrast to Denjong, "the rice country" (i.e., Sikkim). The border town in the Chumbi valley. Chin. Yadong or Chomo.
41	འཛམ་མཐོང་སྐྱོད་	bZhad-mthong-smoin	Xaitongmoin	The Chinese name for the Tibetan village of Karu (cf Sven Hedin, "Trans-Himalaya", vol. 1) W of Shigatse on the north bank of the Tsangpo.
42	ས་སྐ།	Sa-sgya	Sakya	Sakya, "grey earth", in a side valley off the main Shigatse-Nepal road, famous for its Karmapa monastery. Chin. Sagya.
43	གདིང་སྐྱེས།	gTing-sgyes	Tinggye	A village E of Dingri. Chin. Dinggye.
44	དིང་རི།	Ding-ri	Dingri	Former Shekar Dzong, a famous halt for Mt. Everest expeditions, 280 km from Shigatse.
45	གམ་བ།	Gam-ba	Kamba	Close to the Sikkim border. Kamba Dzong of the Younghusband Mission. Chin. Gamba.
46	གྲོ་ལྷ་མོ།	gNya-nang	Nyalam	Formerly Kuti, one of the border towns where Nepalese courts functioned following the second Gurkha War (1885).
47	ལྷ་རེ་	Lha-rtse	Lhatse	Lhatse, "Peak of the gods", 120 km W of Shigatse at an altitude of 4,000 m. Chin. Lhaze.
48	འགྲམ་	'gram	Dam	The former Khassa, another of the Nepalese court towns. Chin. Zhangmu.
49	ངམ་རིང་	Ngam-ring	Same	Former Namling Dzong, 60 km W of Lhatse, lies midway between the Yarlung Tsangpo and the Raka Tsangpo on the Tibet-Xinjiang highway.
50	འབྲོང་བ།	'Brong-ba	Zhongba	Former Tradün, 120 km W of Saga on the Xinjiang route. Backed by Dhaulagiri, Annapurna and Manaslu.

51	ས་དགའ།	Sa-dga	Saga	Former Saka Dzong on the Tsangpo, 180 km W of Ngamring and 50 km N of Kyirong. The area of Heinrich Harrer's book "Seven Years in Tibet".
<u>NGARI Division</u>				
52	ཕུ་བྱེང་།	Bu-theng	Purang	Ancient capital of Ngari, on the Indian border near the Lipu Lek Pass. Close to Mt. Kailas and the lakes of Manasarovar and Rakas Tal. Also known as Taklakot. Chin. Burang.
53	ཇ་མདའ་།	Za-mda	Zamda	Former Toling in Guga province. Famous monastic centre associated with the Portuguese Jesuit Padre Antonio de Andrade who visited the Tsaparang area in 1623. Chin. Zanda.
54	སྐར་ཁ།	sGar	Gar	The post office serving the Gargunsa (where it is located) area and Gartok.
55	སེང་གེ་གཙང་པོ་།	Seng-ge-gzang-po		Chin. Shiqanhe, a modern town and capital of Ngari, near Trashigang at the confluence of the Gar Tsangpo and the Sengge Tsangpo. The Tibetan Sengge Tsangpo, "out of the lion's mouth" is the name of the R. Indus in Tibet. (NB Though confusing, the Gar Tsangpo and the Sengge Tsangpo are quite separate from the R. Tsangpo which also has its source in the Kailas area).
56	རུ་ཐོག་།	Ru-thog	Rudok	The most northerly PO in Ngari. Near the Pangong lakes and the Lakakh border.
57	དགེ་རྒྱལ་།	dGe-rgyas	Gegyai	Former Pekiya, 120 km E of Shiqanhe on the Sengge Tsangpo.
58	གེར་ཅེ་།	Ger-tse	Same	Former Sakti, near the gold-fields of Thok Amar and Thok Marshera. Centre of a large nomadic population.
<u>NAGCHU Division</u>				
59	ནག་རྒྱུ་།	Nag-chu	Nagchuka	Chin. Gerze. Capital of Nagchu Division. Rich in mineral deposits - gold, iron, coal, borax. Nuclear weapons site.
60	ཡ་མདོ།	A-mdo	Amdo	90 km of Nagchu on the Qinghai highway.
61	སྐྱུ་རྩ་རྫོང་།	sNyan-rong	Nyainrong	60 km SE of Amdo off the main highway.
62	ངེ་དམར་།	Nge-dmar	Gemar	In the Nyainrong area.

63	མཚོ་གཉིས་	mTshou-gnyis	Tshoyu-nyi	Precise location uncertain. Both the Chinese Shuanghu and Tibetan Tshoyu-nyi mean "two lakes".
64	དཔལ་མགོན་	dPal-mgon	Pengon	180 km W of Nagchu on the road to Ngari via Gerze. Chin. Baingoin.
65	ཤན་རྩ་	Shan-dza	Same	150 km W of Pengon. Chin. Xainza.
66	སྤུ་ཚེན་	sBra-chen	Bachen	200 km E of Nagchu on the Chamdo route. Chin. Baqen.
67	སོག་རྩོང་	Sog-rdzong	Sok Dzong	On the Nak Chu (Upper Salween) SW of Bachen. Chin. Sogxian.
68	འབྲི་རུ་	'bri-ru	Biru	S of Sok Dzong on the Nu Chu (Upper Salween).
<u>CHAMDO Division</u>				
69	དྲེང་ཚེན་	Teng-chen	Dengchen	180 km E of Biru. Chin. Dengqen.
70	རི་བོ་ཚེ་	Ri-bo-che	Riwoche	60 km W of Chamdo. Described by Robert Ford as "the prettiest little town in Kham, well wooded and wonderfully green". Pop. 5,000. Had three monasteries. Rich in mineral deposits- gold, iron, coal, copper, borax, antimony, mineral salt. Chin. Riwoqe.
71	ཆམ་མོ་དོ་	Chab-mdo	Chamdo	Tibet's third city, on the R. Mekong. 12,000 population. Capital of Kham and China's gateway to Tibet. Coal and copper deposits. Chin. Qamdo.
72	ཀུ་དོ་	'gu-do	Gudo	A town in the Chamdo area. Chin. E Luo Qiao (Russian Camel Bridge).
73	སྤྱི་ཐང་	sGyi-thang	Jidong	On the Sichuan highway 50 km N of Batang. Also known as Yidun, Daxoi.
74	འཛུ་མདའ་	'dzho-mda	Jomda	Formerly Gonjo, near Derge on the River of Golden Sand (Upper Yangtse).
75	ཐོག་མེད་	Thog-med	Tokme	40 km NW of Bomi. Chin. Tongmai or Tungmeh.
76	སྤོ་བོ་	sPo-bo	Powo	Formerly Showa. E of the great southwards bend of the Tsangpo, dominated by Namche Barwa, the eastern outrider of the Himalayas.
77	དཔལ་གོང་	dPa-gong	Pagong	Formerly Shugden Gompa. Chin. Baxoi.

A NEW SET OF 1912 FORGERIES

PART II

--George Bourke

Since writing the article that appeared in Postal Himal No. 60, some additional material belonging to this set has been seen.

1/3 TRANGKA

A single sheet has been found printed on thin native Nepalese paper. In addition, a block of six showing the tete beche error has been found. It is on thin native Nepalese paper and is the largest known multiple containing the error. Several "errors" of color exist for this value. Dr. Hellrigl notes that he has copies in yellow green, on yellow paper and violet, on thin native paper. These "errors" of color are not known in full sheets. They are very rare as only a few examples are known. In addition to the above, double prints of this value exist. A full sheet of the 1/3 trangka has been found on rough-smooth paper, printed on the smooth side, although this is not usual.

1/2 TRANGKA

Violet, purple, light blue, dark blue. Rough-smooth paper, thin native paper and a smooth dark brown paper with a greenish tinge.

Only four cliches: 1 2 3 3
(See illustration 2 1 7 7
on page 12.) 1 7 2 3

This is the most interesting and rarest value of this set. Only one sheet has been seen so far. It is in purple on dark brown paper. The paper has a green tinge to it and has not been seen before in this set. In addition to the sheet, a block of nine in violet, exists, printed on rough-smooth paper. A couple of pairs and a few singles have been found on thin native paper. The printing of this value is rather interesting. The color is a composite of two separate printings. The first is in red, on top of which a second printing in blue has been done. In most of the examples the second printing is slightly misaligned, causing both the red and blue colors to be seen. The difficulty in aligning both of these co-

lors to achieve the desired color, may account for the rarity of this particular value. No copies have been seen on yellow paper. Two "errors" of color exist for the 1/2 trangka. Examples are known in light blue, the same shade used for the 1/3 trangka of this set, and a very dark blue. As with the other "errors" of color belonging to this set, they are very rare, with only a few copies of each known. Collectors who have examples in their collections are very lucky indeed.

Since publishing the first part of this article, several new forged cancels have been noted. They are: Lhasa Type I in red, Lhasa Type IV in black and Phari Type VIII in black. I thank Dr. Hellrigl for bringing these to my attention.

A CORRECTION

--George Bourke

In my article, A New Set of Tibetan Forgeries, Postal Himal No. 60, the information provided under the heading, 1/2 TRANGKA is incorrect and should read as follows: No sheets or singles of this value have as yet been found. The only example so far noted is a block of four printed double in two colors. The first impression is in violet, on top of which a second impression in blue has been printed. This is shifted 10 mm vertically. This example is a color trial or printers waste. What it does show, is that the plates for this value were prepared. Examples of this value should eventually turn up.

In addition to the above correction, the mention of values of this forgery set on rice paper is incorrect. No values of this set have been found on rice paper.



TO USA MEMBERS OF THE NEPAL PHILATELIC SOCIETY

As the USA Rep for NPS, I (Lester A. Michel, 309 Yucca Circle, Colorado Springs, CO 80906) collect dues and solicit new members. However I did not receive a copy of the "Half-Yearly Journal" dated "July 1987" (PHILATELY), with an attractive picture of Mt. Pumo Ri on the front, until last summer -- nearly two years after this issue was published! A 1988-89 issue of PHILATELY reached me early in 1989! Let me know how I can help you. 11

DR. PIERRE COUVREUR
-- Colin Hepper

After more than a decade as President, Pierre Couvreur has decided that it is time to retire from this office.

It was at the 1976 HAFNIA International Exhibition in Copenhagen that Wolfgang Hellrigl and I first met Pierre. He already had a good collection of Nepal, Tibet and India States and was interested in joining our Study Circle.

He soon began to show a keen interest and, in the November 1976 newsletter, it was reported that he had suggested that the society should change its name to that of the Nepal & Tibet Philatelic Study Circle. The suggestion was balanced by the members with the result that the name was adopted.

Wolfgang and I again met him in Brussels in December 1976 and offered him the position of President, which he accepted. At that time the Circle was two years old and had a membership of 50.

Pierre immediately put his energies into two projects: (1) to have the Circle publish books on Nepalese philately - a field much neglected in the past, and (2) to increase our membership as quickly as possible. Wolfgang and I were already close to the final stages of the Native Postmarks book and, with some financial assistance from Pierre, it was published during 1977.

July 1977 saw Wolfgang and I staying as guests of Pierre for a week to discuss future plans and development of the Circle. The result of this meeting was the forming of our first library and a general meeting of members was arranged for May of the following year in the South of France.

At the 1980 London International, Pierre met many of our overseas members during the two organised meetings, when the subject of fakes and forgeries were his main theme. By that time the membership had doubled in four years and now stood at over 100.

Since then the society has continued with its steady growth, with a President who has managed to keep the society officers 'on their toes' with his astute questions.

Before being sold, his very large collection was made readily available

for research into both the stamps and postal history of Nepal.

I am sure that now he has retired to a position of 'Past President' he will continue to show a keen interest in our work.

Pierre, we thank you for all your work and enthusiasm during the last twelve years that have helped to make our Study Circle a sound and healthy society.

Now that he has retired to a position of 'Past President' I am sure that he will continue to show a keen interest in our work.



TIBETAN BI-LINGUAL POSTMARKS - A REVIEW
--Lester A. Michel

On page 37 of POSTAL HIMAL (No. 59, 3rd Quarter 1989) your retiring editor reproduced a full-size 'flier' describing a set of "130 cards with the bi-lingual date stamps of February 28, '87". This writer has now had the opportunity to examine a set of these cards, after learning that the address given you is no longer 'active' for unknown reasons. The 'active' address is the same as given for the set of "mountaineering" cards:

Mr. Yeh Yu-Shuen
Tibet Philatelic Society
Lhasa, Tibet
People's Republic of China

The dimensions of the cards are described as being "4 3/16" by 2 5/8", but we found the vertical length to vary a bit from that average. The width (2 5/8") was constant. Each card a single Chinese postage stamp (as shown on page 14), tied by a reasonably clear strike of the postmark in both Chinese and Tibetan, though the latter are sometimes hard to read. Not being familiar with either language, we were most grateful for the tri-lingual booklet enclosed with the set of cards. The first two pages of this 10-page booklet is shown on page 15 of this issue, but a more useful reference is Mr. D. Dawson's scholarly report on pp. 3-10. We do note that his list includes only 83 post offices and we leave that 'discrepancy' to the students of Tibet philately among our members. (Indeed, our new editor, Leo Martyn, has already suggested that we revive the Question & Answer column.)

The booklet (see page 15) contains 137 names, although the set examined contained 129 cards. This would imply that 8 more cards would be needed to complete the set. Each card in the set has a strip of a 'triple design' across the lower portion of the card, as in the example immediately below. Eight different 'triple designs' are shown, together with the number of cards bearing that particular design & the color. Can anyone explain the significance of the designs -- and the colors?

བེམ་བླ་ལྷན་ལཱ་ལེལ་ཤོག་གྲུ་
纪念邮戳卡



Number of cards: 6
Color of 'triple design': black



Number of cards: 8
Color of 'triple design': purple



西藏自治区邮票公司

Number of cards: 52
Color of 'triple design': grey-green



Number of cards: 19
Color of 'triple design': yellow



Number of cards: 13
Color of 'triple design': blue



Number of cards: 11
Color of 'triple design': green



Number of cards: 12
Color of 'triple design': pink



Number of cards: 8
Color of 'triple design': rusty red

XIZANG DI MIN YOU COKA - TIBETAN POSTAL DATEMARK CARDS - TIBET STAMPS COMPANY

A.	拉 萨 市	ལ་ས་གྲོང་ཁྱིམ་	LHASASHI
1.	拉 萨	ལ་ས་	LHASA
—1	八 角 街(所)	བར་གྲོང་	BAGKO
—2	军 区(所)	དམག་ཁུལ་	JUNQU
—3	北 郊(所)	བྱང་ཕྱགས་	BEIJIAO
—4	西 郊(支)	ཁྲུག་ཕྱགས་	XIJIAO
—5	解放北路(支)	བཅིངས་འགྲེལ་བྱང་ལམ་	JIEFANGBEILU
—6	河坝林(所)	མ་མིང་གྲོང་ཁྲུག་	WOBALING
—7	城 西(所)	གྲོང་ཁྲུག་	CHENXI
—8	大 楼(所)	ཐོགས་ཆེན་	DALOU
—9	林 周(所)	ལུང་ལྷུག་ལྷོ་ལྷོ་	LHUNZHUB
—10	澎 波(所)	འཇན་པོ་	PAINBO
2.	尼 木	རྩེ་མོ་	NYEMO
3.	达 孜	རྩྭ་ཁྲུ་	DAZE
4.	当 雄	འདམ་གཞུང་	DAMXUNG
	— 1 —		

4—1	羊八井(所)	ཡང་པ་ལ་ཐན་	YANGBAJAIN
5.	林 周	ལུང་ལྷུག་	LHUNZHUB
6.	堆 龙 德 庆	ཏུང་ལུང་བདེ་ཆེན་	DOILUNGDEGEN
7.	墨 竹 红 卡	མལ་གྲོལ་གྲོང་དགར་	MAIZHOKUNGGAX
8.	曲 水	ཆུ་ཕྱིར་	QUXU

B.	日 喀 则 地 区	གཞིས་གཙེ་ས་ཁུལ་	XIGAZEDIQU
9.	日 喀 则	གཞིས་ཆེ་	XIGAZE
—1	东 嘎(所)	གདོང་དགར་	DONGGAR
—2	大 竹 卡(代)	ཏུག་ལྷུ་ཁྲ་	DAGZHUKA
—3	江 当 机 场(代)	ཅེ་ར་འདམ་གནམ་གུ་མང་	JANGDAMJICHAN
—4	塘 河(所)	ཐང་ཁུ་	TANGHE
10.	谢 通 门	ཤེ་ཏོང་མོན་	XAITONGMOIN
11.	白 朗	བ་ནམ་	BAINANG
12.	江 孜	གྲུ་ཁྲུ་	GYANGZE

NEPAL STUDY CIRCLE NEWSLETTER

Issue No. 1

3, Orwell Grove,
Peterborough PE 4 6 XU
England

November 1976

Dear Friends,

Your response to my initial letter to have a newsletter has been excellent with 25 members who have replied so far. We have also gained two new members:

Mr. Hanns Wittmann,
Steinmetzstrasse 5
D.6200 Wiesbaden
West Germany.

Dr. M. Allen Greenwood,
707 Jewett Avenue,
Staten Island
NY 10314,
U.S.A.

I would like to welcome these gentlemen to the Study Circle and hope that they will find it a useful source of information and perhaps be able to provide some articles or information for us.

Unfortunately one member Mr. Watterson of Doncaster, England does not wish to continue as a member so would you please delete his name from the original list.

I would also like to apologise to Dr. Armand Singer for omitting the letter R after his name. We all know from the numerous articles he has written what a tremendous amount of work he has done in the research field. (My typist now has sore knuckles!)

Mr. Dhruva Rudra from Kathmandu has written to say that the Nepal Philatelic Society has re-formed again, and he is the new Secretary. They hope to start publishing the quarterly magazine 'Philately' again, so if any member wishes to re-join or have details of the newly-formed Society I would suggest you write to him.

A number of you sent me your wants list of Nepalese stamps, but this does not seem a very practical proposition to put into a newsletter as many of you are searching for the same stamps. It would seem to me that a better idea would be for members to list material they have for sale or exchange.

I have a suggestion sent in from Dr. Pierre Couvreur that we should be called the Nepal and Tibet Study Circle. Well I am a Nepal only collector, but I am sure many of you also collect Tibet, but before we do anything with the name I would appreciate your comments on it - both for and against.

You will also find that the page size is now A.4 and not foolscap as I had first suggested as one or two members felt that this would be a more convenient size for filing.

Mr. Raj Bhandary from Kathmandu has a specialised collection of the half anna and is willing to help with any information he can on this subject. So you students of the half anna might like to contact him.

Mr. Leo Diamond from New York asks what has happened to the studies that have been carried out by members. Well, Dr. Wolfgang Hollrigl and myself have just completed a large manuscript on the Native postmarks which includes items such as registered mail and telegraph cancellations, and other general collecting interest and problems. At the moment we are trying to find an interested publisher and we will keep members informed on progress made. Wolfgang is also working on the forgeries of Nepal and Tibet and would welcome any information on this subject.

Dr. Joseph Braun from West Germany has been working on an extensive study of the British Indian postmarks for a number of years and this I believe is almost ready for publication.

If any other members have any pet subjects they are working on, let us know, you will be surprised what information other members will send you.

The following is a list of subjects on which members have written asking for information:-

- (a) The correlation between the Nepalese and Western calendar.
- (b) Information on all types of cancellations.
- (c) When were stamps discontinued as pre-payments for telegrams?
- (d) Information on the various revenue issues and their uses.
- (e) The postal rates 1881 to the present day.

Well the answers to question (a) and (b) are quite comprehensively covered in our manuscript on the Native postmarks so for the moment I will leave these.

I would like to publish answers to question (c) (d) and (e) in our next newsletter BUT I need YOU to supply me with the answers. So if any of you have any of this information - no matter how small - send it to me, so that I can collate it together for the answers. As a help towards the answer on the telegraph forms I know that the Service stamps 1959-63 issue were also used as pre-payment for telegrams.

Now, who is going to break the ice and send me an article on an item/s from their collection (about 500-600 words)?

In the meantime I would like to wish you all good tidings for Christmas and good collecting in the New Year.

Colin Hepper

Now Available :- Map of Nepal (Scale 1" = 16 miles) showing the Postal Routes and all the major Post offices (245). Price :- Overseas member \$4.00 including postage

U.K " £2.00

From : C. HEPPER

SHOWCASE

An unusual page from the Nepal collection of Dick van der Wateren includes a fine classic 2-anna block of 4, with the upper right stamp inverted, bears a complete postal cancel. To this writer, however, the use of a relatively rare Birganj postal cancel some 20 years after it was 'retired' from postal service is unique, as we have never before seen such usage on a telegraphic receipt. Most remarkable!



2 annas
Chisapani 1928



पानीपत बन्दुवेलिफोन
 आफिस रसिद नम्बर
 फागुन नम्बर ३ बाब पठाएका ... तेषा ल्यामा जाने सगर
 नम्बर ३३५ का महसुल मोच ३२ कागज पैसा
 दाखिल भयो
 श्री गोपाल बुद्धिनिने अपरेटरको माप सहि
 ६१११३५१ ईमान

Telegraphic receipt, Birganj 1930