

POSTAL HIMAL

QUARTERLY OF THE NEPAL AND TIBET PHILATELIC STUDY CIRCLE



2 ANNA



4 ANNA

What is unusual about the design of the Nepalese 1 anna stamp as opposed to the 2 and 4 annas stamps? See the

Editorial column on page 33.

(Illustration from the title page of The Classic Stamps of Nepal by Hellrigl and Vignola.)

Postal Himal is a quarterly publication of the Nepal & Tibet Philatelic Study Circle. Membership subscriptions run from January through December of each year. Dues should be paid to the society representative in your area. Information on advertising rates may be obtained from the editor.



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Our Secretary, Colin Hepper, has a new telephone number: 0733-349403.

NEW MEMBERS: Areas of interest indicated if known: [B]=Bhutan, [N]=Nepal, [T]=Tibet.

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Mr. K. Winkelmann, Rathgorragh Lower, Rathdangan, Kiltegan, Co. Wicklow,
Ireland

Included with this issue is a Membership list. If your name and or address has been printed incorrectly please write the editor so a correction can be printed in the next issue.

=====

BACK ISSUES AVAILABLE

Newsletter #1-24 @ \$.30 each
plus following postage per issue.

U.S.A.	Europe	Asia
\$.25	\$.83	\$.90

\$15.00 for a complete set (#1-24) including
postage to all areas.

Postal Himal #25-60 @ \$2.00 each
plus following postage per issue.

U.S.A.	Europe	Asia
\$.45	\$1.34	\$1.52

\$75.00 for a complete set (#25-60) including
postage to all areas.

Indexes

To all Newsletters and Postal Himal @ \$5.00
which includes postage to all areas.

\$95.00 for a complete set of Newsletters,
Postal Himal and Indexes which includes
air mail postage to all areas.

Editorial

Dear Friends,

This expanded issue offers much information for the reader plus our usual fine auction compiled by Colin Hepper and a listing of members by Roger Skinner. Also offered is a free one year membership or a classified ad up to 8 lines for the first member writing me with the answer I am seeking to the question posted on the front cover of this issue (time of receipt will be adjusted for overseas mail).

I appreciate the non-response to my goof in the last issue - that is the placing of alternate page numbers on the inside corners instead of the outside corners. Also, I should have held back Les Michel's article dealing with Nepalese forgeries as he sent me the last 3 pages after the article went to the printer (even though he wrote me stating that additional pages were forthcoming). The final 3 pages appear in this issue. Any new member who didn't receive Postal Himal # 62 can write me for a photocopy of the first part of the article.

When sending an article with illustrations please try to send photos were possible and not photocopies as the quality is not very good with photocopies. And, if possible, I would like to keep them with the make-up issue, but will return them if requested. If you do send photocopies try to use a machine at a self-service outlet as this gives you the opportunity to control the darkness of the copy.

Keep those article coming - they don't have to be technical in nature.

Dick van der Wateren again garnered a Gold medal plus a Prize of Honour for his exhibit, "The Classic Period of Nepal" - this time at the National Stamp Exhibition "Groningen 90".

I recommend a very useful book titled Tibet - a travel survival kit. Although intended for the traveler it is loaded with information - historical and geographical, plus many illustrations and a chapter dealing with routes to Nepal. This paperback was published in 1986 by Lonely Planet and written by Michael Buckley and Robert Strauss. It retails for U.S. \$7.95 and is stated to be available around the world. Other related titles by Lonely Planet are: Kathmandu and the Kingdom of Nepal and Trekking in the Nepal Himalaya. For a current booklist and the address of your nearest distributor write Lonely Planet, P.O. Box 88, South Yarra, Vic 3141, Australia or P.O. Box 2001A, Berkeley, Ca. 94702, U.S.A.

S.L. Shrestha is willing to send a copy of his Nepal Stamp Album (1881-1971 plus 1972/73 supplements) to members for \$5.00 to cover postage and packing expenses. His address is: K'du Dist. P.O. Box 72, Kathmandu, Nepal.

I do not deal anymore in the books of the Himalayan area but can recommend the following book store for Asian titles. The store has a tremendous offering of titles relating to Bhutan, Nepal, Tibet, India, China, Egyptology, etc. The address is: The Oriental Bookstore, 1713 east Colorado Blvd., Pasadena, Ca. 91106, U.S.A.

CLASSIFIED ADVERTISING FOR MEMBERS ONLY

One insertion, per line \$1.00
Four insertions, per line \$3.50
To calculate the number of lines yr - advertisement will require, count 39 letters, numerals, punctuation marks and blank spaces between words. Ads will be placed under appropriate headings without charge for the 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 1933 forgeries. Want lists are welcome. If you have forgeries for sale, I am an active buyer. Write first before sending material. Trades are welcome. If you have an interest in forgeries and would like to share that interest or are looking for information about Tibetan forgeries, write me: George Bourke, P.O. Box 1174, Jackson Mich. 49201, U.S.A.

No. 13 - BUILDING. (continued from P.H. #62)

The beginning & intermediate collectors will almost certainly be interested in covers, but will need to be informed concerning 'doctored' items. Fig. 7 (right) easily shows the bottom bogus cancel in Fig. 6.* In this instance it ties a 1 R vermilion to a damaged cover, but the writer paid a good price for it at the time, as he had never seen that stamp on cover before! -- In Colin Hepper's book titled "The Sri Pashupati Issues of Nepal" page 124, the author shows a cover bearing this stamp, with the following description: "Rare use of the 1 Rupee vermilion on a local registered letter - postmarked Sarlahi." To this writer's knowledge this is the only genuine example of its kind. -- Upon further examination of my cover I have been able to determine that a cancel of Dolakha (or portion thereof)

as applied to this stamp before it was applied to this cover and tied with the bogus cancellation. Furthermore, the registry marking of Kathmandu on the front of the cover clearly shows that the postage charge on the item is 32 p.

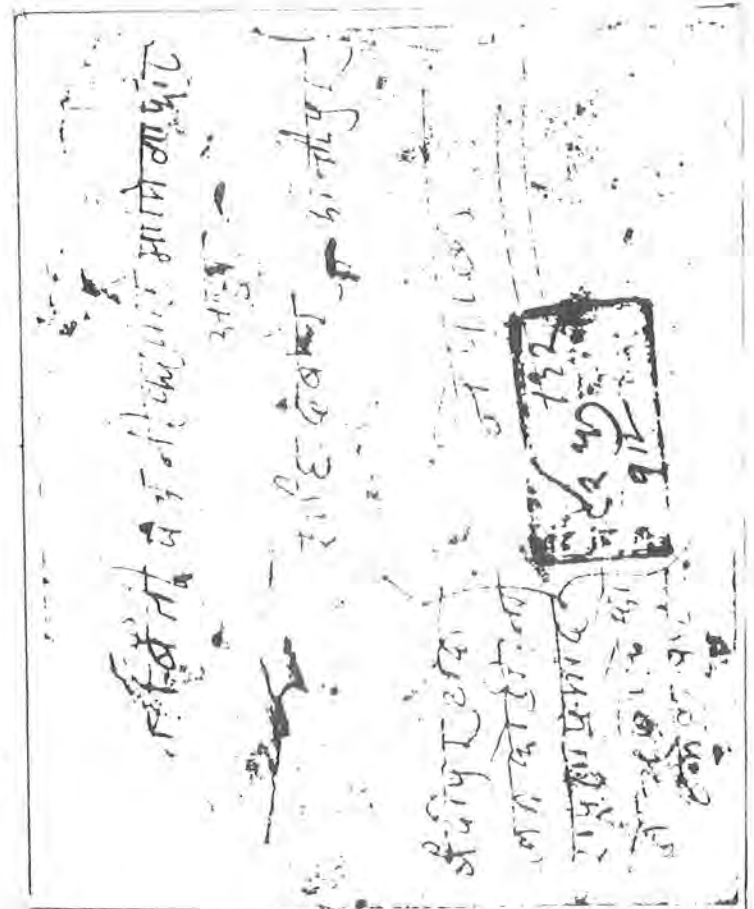
Another interesting cover (Fig. 8 on next page) bears a 4-anna green, with a handwritten "Motahari" (in purple ink) to the right of the stamp. The back of this cover shows two postmarks, one of Calcutta and the other of Motaharee, plus a "Postage Due" rectangular hand stamp. A Nepalese friend examined the cover in 1976 and observed that "this went from Calcutta to Motihari and has nothing to do with Nepal." The stamp was undoubtedly applied by someone with the intent of deluding a collector of nepal postal material.

Fig. 9 (also on the next page) shows a 1-anna stamp which is dubiously tied to a cover which bears a handwritten date corresponding to mid-September 1883. The stamp is a clear example of the first issue on native paper -- not issued prior to 1886. Thus, while both stamp and cover may well be genuine, they certainly failed to do postal duty together! And, since no postal markings appear on either front or back, this cover may never have seen postal service at all!

Fig. 10 shows a strike of another of Dr. Hellrigl's bogus cancels. See Fig. 6.* Nine 4p green stamps of the 1907 Sri Pashupati issue bear telephone/telegraph cancels which tie none of the stamps to this cover. It should not fool anyone!

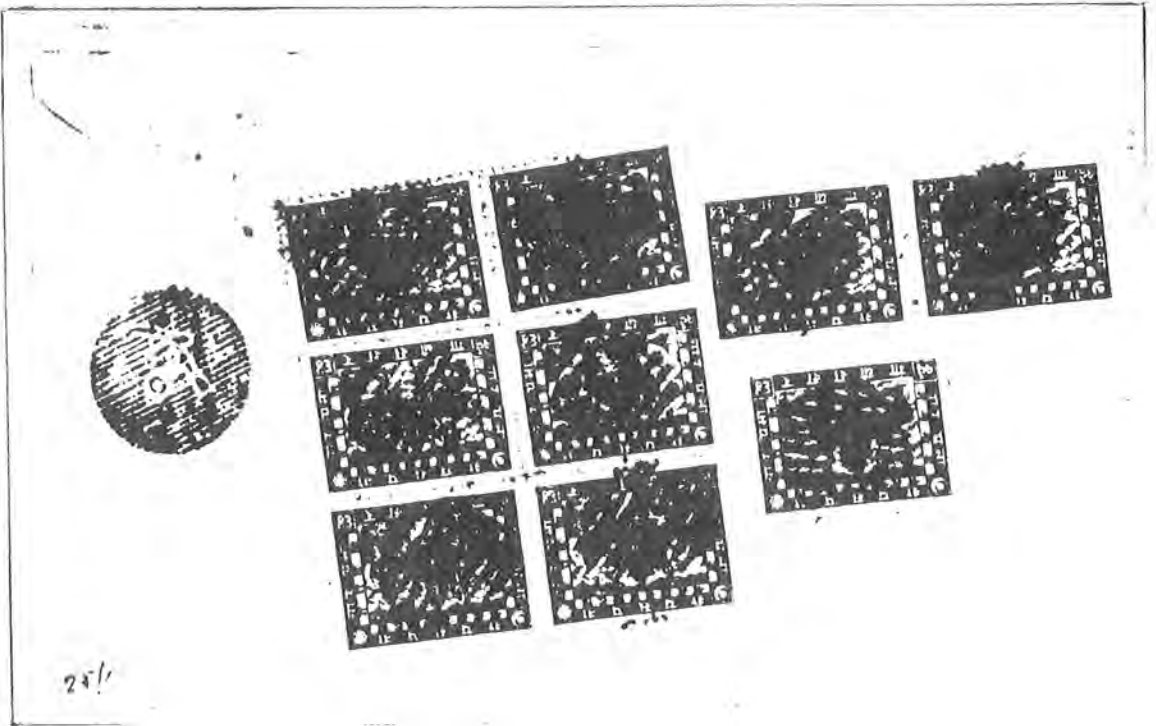


Fig. 7



* [ed. Fig. 6 is shown in Postal Himal No. 62. page 32.]

Fig. 10 (at right)
An obvious fraud.



The Native Postmarks of Nepal
by Dr. W. C. Hellrigl & Colin Hepper, was a 'landmark' publication by the Nepal Philatelic Study Circle in 1978. On page 101 we find a discussion of a registration cachet which began to appear about 1930. Drawings of the genuine cachet and the forgery appear side by side. I had become interested in covers bearing stamps from two or more of the four Sri Pashupati series and had collected several of these colorful covers, but had trouble with the cancels. The problem was that the tying cancels and the 'receiving' cancels seemed to have dates approximately two years apart! I also found that some covers bore stamps tied by the 'receiving' cancel, with the back stamp being the former tying cancel. At the right Fig. 11 shows a cover bearing three stamps of the 1930 series, plus two of the 1935 series. These attractive covers are hard to resist! The stamps are quite genuine, but the covers are total fakes! -- The backstamp on this particular cover is shown at the right. -- Other 'doctored' covers add to my own forgery collection and the reader is encouraged to report forgeries to either our president, Dr. Hellrigl, or to our editor, Leo Martyn.



Fig. 11



NEPAL PHILATELIC PROGRAM - 1990

Date of Issue	Subject or Occasion	Denomination
1. January 3	Coming of Age Ceremony of <u>H.R.H. Crown Prince Dependra</u>	Re. 1.00
2. April 12	Manakamana, Gorkha	p. 60
3. June	Silver Jubilee of Nepal Children's Organisation	Re. 1.00
4. July	Centenary of Bir Hospital	p. 60
5. September	20th Anniversary of the Apptc	Rs. 4.00
6. September	Second United Nation's Conference on the Least Developed Countries	Rs. 2.00
7. October	Royal Chitwan National Park	Rs. 2.00
8. November	SAARC Year of the Girl Child - 1990	p. 60
9. November	Mt. Saipal	Rs. 5.00
10. November	Bageshwari Temple, Nepalgunj	Re. 1.00
11. December 28	46th Birthday of <u>H.M. King Birendra</u>	Rs. 2.00

(1) This Program is subject to change with or without notice

Details of each issue will be available from Nepal Philatelic Bureau, Sundhara, Kathmandu.

The above information was sent by our representative in Nepal - S.L. Shrestha



From: -
Sawari S.P.O.
Pokhara (10 weeks).

Cover with special purple cancels (one with manuscript date) of the Sawari Special post office in Pokhara. Many thanks to Mr. S.L. Shrestha for sending this item.



HIS MAJESTY'S GOVERNMENT
POSTAL SERVICES DEPARTMENT
Nepal Philatelic Bureau

Sundhara, Kathmandu, Nepal.

★

★

We have the pleasure in notifying revised list of Nepal Postage Stamps available for sale in this Bureau. All those interested in Nepal Postage Stamps are cordially invited to contact the following address:-

Officer - in Charge
NEPAL PHILATELIC BUREAU
Sundhara, Kathmandu, Nepal.

Order and method of payment

Since standing order system for deposit Account Number is already available in our Bureau, deposit account may be opened at the following minimum sum in one of the following currencies listed below

Rs. 200.00 NC for Nepalese Customers.

Rs. 200.00 IC for Indian customers.

25.00 (U. S. Dollar) or equivalent in SF or DM or Sterling pounds or Japanese Yen for overseas customers.

Any order required from time to time may be placed along with the remittance sufficient to cover the cost of stamps including Packing, Postage and registration.

Payment may be made by any foreign customer through cheque, bank draft or any method payable to the Nepal Philatelic Bureau or through Nepal Rastra Bank Account No. SA. A, Deposit- 1549/041.

Stamps will not normally be sent until the draft or cheque has been cleared.

**AVAILABLE POSTAGE STAMPS
1990**

S.N.	Subject	Denomination	Sheet	Year
17.	23rd Olympic Game	10.00	50	1984
18.	Mt. Annapurna	5.00	50	1984
19.	Sagarmatha National Park	10.00	25	1985
20.	40th Anniversary U.N.O.	5.00	50	1985
21.	14th Eastern Regional Tuberculosis conference of IUAT	25.00	16	1985
22.	First S.A.R.C. Summit	5.00	50	1985
23.	75th Anniversary of pharpping Hydro Electric Station Regular Series	.15	50	1986
24.	(A) Lumbini	.10	100	1986
25.	(B) Crown	1.00	100	1986
26.	Mt. Purneri	8.00	50	1986
27.	International Peace year	10.00	50	1986
28.	Regular Pashupati	.50	100	1987
29.	International Year of Shelter for the Homeless 1987	5.00	50	1987
30.	Kashthamandap	.25	35	1987
31.	33rd Birthday of H.M. The King	.25	50	1987
32.	Mt. Kanchjoro	10.00	50	1987
33.	Diamond Jubilee of Queen Mother Ratna	5.00	50	1988
34.	Diodehyabani Temple Pokhara	.15	50	1988
35.	4th Birthday of H.M. King Birendra	4.00	50	1988



Orders may be made for

1. New Issue Stamps.
2. First day covers bearing a newly issued stamps with first day cancellation.
3. Folders bearing new stamps and first day cancellation marks.
4. Singles, stripes, blocks and sheets of available stamps in mint conditions.
5. Singles, strips, blocks and sheets of available stamps cancelled with ordinary post mark or first day cancellation.
6. Postal Stationeries (Postcards, Envelops, Registration envelops and Aerogrammes.)

**DEPOSIT ACCOUNT
STANDING ORDER FORM**

NAME (Block Letters).....
ADDRESS
COUNTRY

I enclose the sum of ... to open a deposit account for automatic supply to the items listed below.

Standing Order of	Please send by/On
1.	* air mail
2.	
3.	
4.	* 3 months a year
5.	* 6 months a year
6.	* once a year

Signature
Date

Available Folder FDC

	FOLDER/FDC
1. Rastriya Panchayat	2.50
2. 10 Democracy Day	.60
3. Int. Postal Services	.65
4. National Democracy Day	3.50
5. Int. Women Year	2.00
6. 31st Birthday of H. M. King	1.25
7. 25th Anniversary of the Colombo Plan 1976 - 77	2.00 1.25
8. Olympic Games	4.25
9. Flower - Lilium	1.30
10. 32nd Birthday of H. M. King	1.35
11. Kaji Amar Singh Thapa	1.10
12. Visit Nepal Series (1977)	6.30 5.55
13. 33rd Birthday of H. M. King	1.30
14. Silver Jubilee of Nepal Scout	4.50
15. Post Mark	1.75 1.25
16. World Environment Day	1.25 1.25
17. Golden Jubilee of Queen Mother Ratna	3.05 2.55
18. Visit Nepal '78	2.35
19. Fruit series	3.05 2.55
20. 30th Anniversary Human Rights Day	2.00 1.55
21. 75th Anniv; of the powered Flight	3.05 2.55
22. 34th Birthday of H. M. King	3.05 .55
23. Idol of Fed Machhendranath	1.50 1.00

Available Postage Stamps

S.N.	Subject	Denomination	Sheet	Year
1.	Date Stamp 1935 V.S.	.75	50	1978
2.	Idol of Red Machhendranath	.75	50	1978
3.	Chariot of— Red Machhendranath	1.25	100	1979
4.	Shiva Parvati	1.25	35	1979
5.	Danphe	3.50	50	1979
6.	Dhaulagiri	5.00	50	1980
7.	World Tourism Conference	25.00	50	1980
8.	International Year of Disabled Person (IYDP)	5.00	50	1981
9.	Silver Jubilee of Nepal Rastra Bank	1.75	50	1981
10.	Souvenir Sheet	5.00	—	1981
11.	70th Council Meeting of International Hotel Association	1.75	50	1981
12.	Satellite Station	5.00	100	1981
13.	Golden Jubilee of UIAA Mt. Everest, Mt. Lhotse & Mt. Nuptse	5.25	12	1982
14.	39th Birthday of H.M. King	5.00	50	1983
15.	Mt. Cho-oyu	6.00	50	1983
16.	20th Anniversary of Asia Pacific Broadcasting	5.00	16	1984

FOLDER/FDC

	FOLDER/FDC
24. chariot of Red Machchindranath	3.05
25. Forest Festival	3.30
26. T. Y. C.	1.75
27. Visit Nepal 1979	2.80
28. Banaganga Irrigation Project	3.30 2.25
29. Bird Series	14.35
30. 35th Birthday of H. M. King	3.30
31. Herb Series	4.40
32. Literature Series	4.40
33. 36th Birthday of H. M. King	2.00
34. Silver Jubilee of Nepal Rastra Bank	2.25
35. Visit Nepal '81	2.80
36. 39th Birthday of H. M. King	6.00
37. Sagarmatha (Mt. Everest) National Park	1.00
38. Silver Jubilee of Royal Nepal Airlines	2.00
39. 40th Birthday of Birendra	2.00
40. Silver Jubilee of Auditor General	1.25
41. International Youth Year	2.00
42. Wildlife Series	1.85
43. 40th Anniversary of U. N. O.	6.00
44. 14th Eastern Regional Conference Tuberculosis	26.00
45. First (SARC) Summit	6.00
46. Silver Jubilee of (RSS)	5.00

Many thanks to S.L. Shrestha for sending this list from the Nepal Philatelic Bureau.

ADDITIONAL INFORMATION RE MONEY ORDERS
by Madan Bahadur Shrestha

"Rare Money Order Form" used in the early days was published on page 56 in your POSTAL HIMAL #56 (4th Quarter 1988) is actually a Register Form used to keep a record in an Office. When people pay their amount at the counter, to send a Money Order, they will get one receipt from the Postal Service (see Form #2). An Acknowledgement of receipt of the Money Order, with signature of addressee, is returned to the Office of posting, for delivery to the Sender (see Form #3). [ed. Illustrations reduced in size.]

Form #2

कार्यालय नंबर २ मनिभादुर गनेरे दारिद्र्य परेका कपेभाको रसिद कार्यालय

दुनियालाई दिने

केन्द्र: दुधाराक बाटो/१०, नयाँ बजार, मनिभादुर

नम्बर	२०५	मिति	२०५१/०५/१०	रकम	१०२५००
पठाउनेको नाम	नाम	पत्तन	पठाउनेको नाम	पत्तन	पिठि
पठाउनेको नाम	नाम	पत्तन	पठाउनेको नाम	पत्तन	पिठि
पठाउनेको नाम	नाम	पत्तन	पठाउनेको नाम	पत्तन	पिठि

मनिभादुर गनेरेले बुझिदिनेको पत्रादेशको दिने किति रसिद

कार्यालय नंबर २ दुधाराक १०९३

पठाउनेको नाम	नाम	पत्तन	पठाउनेको नाम	पत्तन	पिठि
पठाउनेको नाम	नाम	पत्तन	पठाउनेको नाम	पत्तन	पिठि
पठाउनेको नाम	नाम	पत्तन	पठाउनेको नाम	पत्तन	पिठि

Form #3

THE 1962 CINDERELLA INCOME STAMPS OF NEPAL
RAMESH SHRESTHA

Cinderella philately deals with the collecting and study of stamps that have been produced by authorities for raising funds, revenues, etc., but not for pre-payment of postal charges. Precisely they can be defined as adhesives that are not for postal purposes.

Almost all countries have produced such stamps and the Kingdom of Nepal is no exception. Such items have been extensively used since the first quarter of this century, including land-lord, court-fee stamps, etc. Almost all of these were locally produced by the application of native printing methods on local rice paper. However, it is quite interesting to know that a set of cinderella natured stamps were printed outside Nepal and most probably at India Security Press in 1962 (2019 VE). They were the income stamps of Nepal. But the existence of these stamps in the government treasury was not made public. Thus, their existence was not known for certain. Although prepared for income tax purposes they were not issued and remained in the treasury for some 21 years before being released by the Finance Ministry on July 14, 1983 (1 Shrawan 2040 VE) to raise funds with surcharges or premiums on custom duties, airline tickets, visa, insurance policies, etc., but not applied to income taxes. An amount of one to ten percent was levied and the stamps stuck to forms, tickets, passports, etc. and obliterated with official rubber stamps of the respective offices. The Nepal Philatelic Bureau was in charge of selling these stamps but not to the public. After about 1 1/2 years they were discontinued in most offices other than the National Insurance Company (Rastriya Beem Sansthan).

There were altogether 10 denominations ranging from 10 paises to 100 rupees. The following details were obtained from a government official in the treasury:

Denomination	Sheet Format	Total Sheets	Quantity	Total Amount Rs
10p	320 (16x20)	662	211,840	21,184.00
20p	320 (16x20)	2,658	850,560	170,112.00
50p	320 (16x20)	2,000	640,000	320,000.00
R 1.00	224 (14x16)	1,907	427,168	427,168.00
R 2.00	224 (14x16)	1,837	411,488	822,976.00
R 5.00	224 (14x16)	850	190,400	952,000.00
R 10.00	224 (14x16)	928	207,872	2,078,720.00
R 20.00	224 (14x16)	932	208,768	4,175,360.00
R 50.00	224 (14x16)	466	104,384	5,219,200.00
R 100.00	224 (14x16)	450	100,800	10,080,000.00

Rs 24,266,720.00

Out of the ten values I possess only six stamps and have not seen the remaining four values of Re 1, Rs 20, 50 and 100.



10p



20p



50p

The three lowest values have the common design of a Purna Kalash (a religious ceremonial vase) enclosed in a somewhat triangular shaped design with a dented base. On the sides of the central design are two wheat whisks. The outer side borders each contain six khukuris facing outward. The upper two corners contain the values with "Nepal" inscribed between them - all in Devnagari. The bottom panel contains the words AAYA TIKAT, meaning INCOME STAMP. The perforations measure 13½ x 14. They measure 20 x 24 mm with the printed areas being 17 x 21.5 mm. The colors of the 10p, 20p and 50p are pink, ultramarine and light violet respectively.



Rs 2



Rs 5

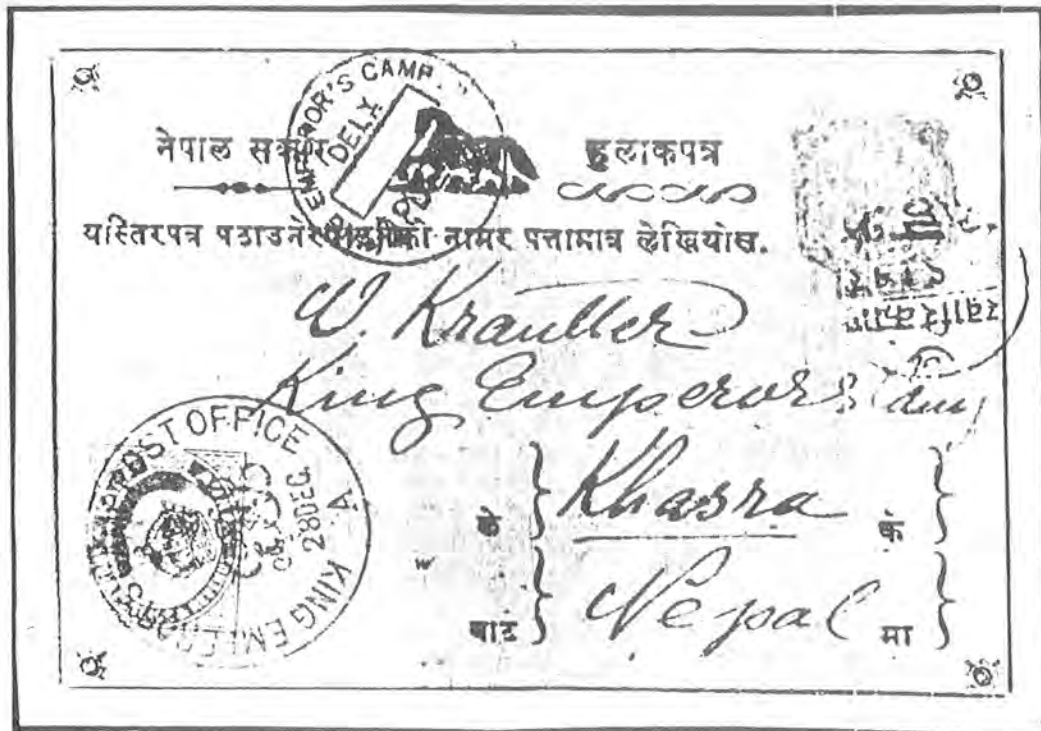


Rs 10

The basic design of the Rs 2, 5 and 10 values show the obverse side of a coin of King Mahendra, dated 2019 VE, enclosed in an oval - oblong structure placed in a rectangle. A pair of swastikas is also present. As in the lower values the upper corners contain the denominations and the word Nepal between them in Devnagari characters. The vertical borders contain nine khukuris facing outwards and an ornamental flower at the base with the words AAYA TIKAT between them. These stamps are perforated $13\frac{1}{2}$ and measure 21 x 34 mm overall with the printed area measuring 18 x 30mm. The colors of the Rs 2, 5 and 10 are brown orange, dark red brown and bright carmine rose respectively.

Although these stamps were not sold to the public used specimens are available which can be collected as a new theme. There are rumors that these may be validated for use on parcels in the near future, which means that unavailable denominations could be obtained.

Ramesh Shrestha
P O Box 2060
Kathmandu, Nepal



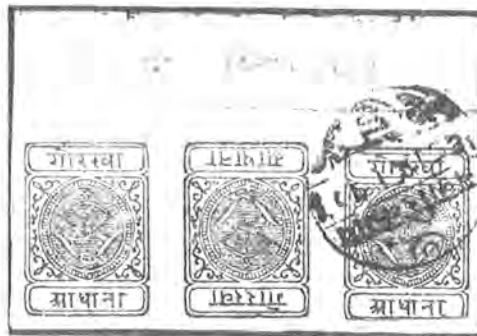
Three special postmarks were used on the occasion of King George V's visit to Nepal, in December, 1911.

Two of the postmarks (inscribed King Emperor's Camp Post Office) were used by the British-Indian P.O. in Nepal.

The third type is the earliest special native postmark of Nepal. This postcard, showing all three types, is very rare. (Prof. Singer collection).

NEPAL; ONE-HALF ANNA, SETTING 5

Armand E. Singer



Hellrigl - Vignola in The Classic Stamps of NEPAL, p. 180, list characteristics with approximate dates of use: 1906-1907, 1917; position of inverted clichés: 6 and 57; position of flattened cliché: 7.

Illustrated on p. 187 is the only known sheet of setting 5 (mint), housed in London in the Royal Collection. Further details on p. 186 note that it is found in black and black-brown, on thin paper, very clearly printed. The royal sheet was presented to King George V on the occasion of his visit to Nepal in 1911. This setting also happens to be the first with the flattened-base cliché occurring in position 7 instead of 6. There it was to remain for the next four settings until it was transferred to position 1 (i.e., with setting 10; these data all verified from sheets in my own collection, except for settings 5, 6, and 9, which I lack -- though H.-V. scarcely need my acceptance of their findings!). Certain exceptionally clearly printed singles with telegraph cancels may well come from this setting, they theorize, but examples are not common. No framelines are noted, and the illustration shows none; actually, only the first setting is framed (p. 182).

In the Christie's - Robson Lowe auction of March 28, 1990 there was offered lot No. 1645, a strip of three from this setting, in black, as herewith illustrated from their own cut. Note the flattened cliché on the right and the inverted cliché to its left. On the selvage above, a faint black line is visible. In reference to setting 3, H.-V. (p. 183) warn against mistaking these occasionally seen thin lines for frames. (Minor mystery: are those remnants of printed letters above the written "1/2 anna"?).

The wary buyer, in this case myself, might wonder: although the flattened cliché is in position 6 in the earlier settings and not in position 7 until this fifth setting, how can he be sure that the strip of three does not represent positions 4-6 rather than 5-7? Simply answered, the only invert on the top row before setting 5 occurs in setting 3, where it turns out to be cliché No. 7, to the right, not to the left, of the flattened cliché. In the later settings, all three clichés, Nos. 6 to 8, are inverted, except for setting 9, where only Nos. 6 and 8 and are found. Thus, the strip could, conceivably represent Nos. 5-7 of this one late setting, but for the fact that it is a blurry, late printing dating from 1921-1922. The clincher is the cancel - the special Sawari Hunting Camp postmark clearly covering cliché No. 7 (See Hellrigl - Hepper, The Native Postmarks of NEPAL, p. 91). The thin paper and fine printing of my copies perfectly match with H.-V.'s illustration and description. Therefore, as syllogistic logic puts it, Q.E.D. (or almost).

[ed. Illustrated on the opposite page (Fig. A) is a Nepalese postal card bearing the three special postmarks used on the occasion of King George V's visit to Nepal in December, 1911 (Professor Singer's collection). For more information see Hellrigl/Hepper pp. 34-35.]

TIBETAN POSTCARD ISSUES OF 1989

Cameron Britt

I recently received two sets of commemorative postcards with pictorial handstamps, all dated 1 November 1989. Both sets were published by the Posts and Telecommunications Administration of the Tibet Autonomous Region. Each of the Design types share the same Tibetan and Chinese inscriptions which refer to the 2000th Anniversary of China.

Illustrations of the three handstamp designs used on the cards are as follows:



Design 1
(35mm diam.)



Design 2
(38mm diam.)
Lhasa



Design 3
(28mm diam.)
Xigatse

Design 1: I have found this cancel only on the folder which contained Set 2 of the cards.

Design 2: All of the handstamps used are similar with Chinese place names below the Great Hall.

<u>Locations</u>		
(1) Lhasa	(2) Shigatse	(3) Nedong
(4) Qonggyai	(5) Gyantse	(6) Tingri
(7) Sagya	(8) Jichang	

Design 3: All of the handstamps used are similar with Chinese and Tibetan place names below the Great Hall. Design 3 doesn't appear on Postcard Set 2, except on the folder which contains the set.

<u>Locations</u>		
(1) Lhasa	(2) Shigatse	(3) Nedong
(4) Nedong	(5) Shannan	(6) Naggu
(7) Naggu	(8) Nyingchi	(9) Qamdo
(10) Yadong		

The following are only seen on the Set 2 Postcard folder:

Set 1: TIBETAN LANDSCAPE POSTCARD ISSUE

The 10 postcards all show photographs relevant to the place of handstamping. They are all stamped in red ink, with Design 3 on the face. On the rear of each card the Tibetan Dwelling House stamp (1 and ½ fen from China set R.23) are tied by Design 2 and the standard black bilingual datestamp.

The ten locations are:

- (1) Potala Palace - front view (Lhasa cancels).
- (2) Potala Palace - rear view (Lhasa cancels with 10 in lower semi-circle below dateline in Standard Bilingual Handstamp).
- (3) Tashi Lhunpo Monastery (Xigatse or Shigatse; Dawson no. 31).
- (4) Yumbu Lagang (Nedong; Dawson no. 21 on Design 2, Shannan on Design 3).
- (5) Tumuli of the Ancient Tibetan Kings (Qonggyai on Design 2, Shannan on Design 3).
- (6) The Phalkor Choten (Gyantse; Dawson no. 36 on Design 2, Xigatse on Design 3).
- (7) Glacier Landscape (Tingri on Design 2, Xigatse on Design 3).
- (8) Mt. Qomolangma (Tingri on Design 2, Xigatse on Design 3).

REVIEW by Armand Singer

D.S. Virk, Sikkim-Tibet 1903-1908. New Delhi: Philatelic Congress of India/Army Postal Service Association, 1989. In the Postal History of Indian Military Campaigns series, 144 pp. Available from George Alevizos, 2800 28th St., Suite 323, Santa Monica, Ca., 90405; \$40.00; or directly from India, R 250. [ed. Also available from Christie's Robson Lowe @ £15.00 plus postage (U.K.-£2.00; Overseas-£2.60).]

Brigadier Kirk, who has done four other books, particularly on Army mail sent through the British-Indian postal system, divides his present volume into three parts.

Part I, pp. 1-78, "Before, during and after the Campaign," details the project of Lord Curzon, recently appointed Viceroy of India, to open up Tibet to trade and British influence. This plan involved building a military road into Sikkim, sending Colonel Younghusband and a military escort to Khamba Jong with the Tibet Frontier Commission, and finally pushing him clear to Lhasa with his expedition - activities resulting in the establishment of Indian Trade Agencies in Yatung, Gyantse, and Gartok. Philatelically, it all furnished collectors with the now highly prized and scarce covers marked with temporary and field post office and Lhasa cancels on military and, later civilian mail. This fascinating story is told at length, including five appendices listing officers, post offices, rates, stamps, and seals. The extended treatment allows for much new information, not in the R. Lowe Encyclopedia or even in Waterfall (especially see Tulloch's diary, and the extended dates of usage for various cancels, etc., etc.).

Part II, pp. 79-91, "The Tibet Mission 1903-1904; Table of Recorded Periods of the Use of Postal Markings and Their Illustrations," turns out to be the work of our own Dr. Wolfgang C. Hellrigl, wearing yet another of his well-fitting hats as chronicler of Nepalese and Tibetan philately. He has updated and added to information in Haverbeck's and Waterfall's handbooks. Illustrations are uniformly excellent.

Part III, pp. 93-139, consists of "A Field Post Office Diary" kept by H. Tulloch, Superintendent of Field Post Offices, later Chief Superintendent, Tibet Mission and Force, 1903-1904.

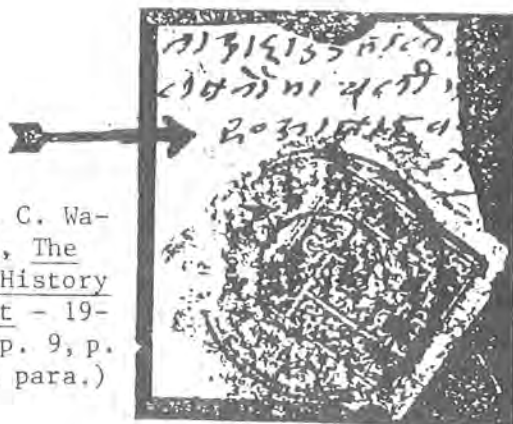
There is a very full index and generous use of illustrations in both black-and-white and color (somewhat inaccurate). Drawings, maps, and photographs benefit greatly from the excellent coated stock on which the whole volume is printed, far surpassing the Waterfall book (either the original edition of 1965 or the even blurrier 1981 revision). Specialists in the British-Indian aspects of Tibetan postal history can ill afford to neglect this fine work.

A NEW FIND IN TIBET!

--Surendra Lal Shrestha

The illustration below shows a dated example of the earliest use of the 1933 issue from Gyantse in June 1933. The stamp is the 1/2 trangka Orange, perforated.

(See A. C. Waterfall, The Postal History of Tibet - 1965, Chap. 9, p. 79, 1st para.)



FROM THE PON-WANG OF LO
D. DAWSON

Scattered around the borders of political Tibet were numerous states populated by tribes of Tibetan stock exercising varying degrees of autonomy from the Lhasa government. Many of them were in Eastern Tibet on the border with China, where claim and counter-claim led to an unsettled state of affairs. Derge, Litang, Muli and Nyarong in Kham were among the better known. Further north in Sichuan the Aba Tibetans were sufficiently remote from the centres of power in Lhasa and Peking to be able to pursue their own affairs. On the southern frontier Bhutan and Sikkim were largely independent, while the same was true in the far west where Ladakh and Zaskar and even parts of Baltistan were Tibetan domains within the Indian sphere of influence.

In Nepal, an overwhelmingly Hindu state, there was, and still is, an enclave of Tibetan Buddhism lying in the shadow of Annapurna and Dhaulagiri, almost cut off from the rest of the country. It is known in the West as Mustang, though the inhabitants call it Lo (Glo-bo or Klo-bo). Its history is fascinating. Tibetan documents record that in 652 A.D., during the minority of King Mang-song Mang-tsang the kingdom was extended to include the lands of Lo. These early links with Tibet were subsequently strengthened when Gunde Nyime Bum, a great grandson of King Trisong Detsen (754-797 A.D.), went to Lo. One of his descendants, Ame Pal (1380-1450), distinguished himself as a soldier and for his services was awarded a grant of land in Ketcher, where he built a castle and became Lo's first king with his capital at Lo Menthang. In 1760, Lo became a tributary state of Jumla, then at the height of its power, but within 30 years the Gurkhas, who had obtained supremacy in Nepal, defeated Jumla and Lo became tributary to Nepal.

Although within Nepal's territorial jurisdiction Mustang's ties with Tibet have remained strong throughout the centuries. Before its inclusion in Nepal at the end of the 18th century, its people regarded Lo as forming part of Eastern Ngari, i.e. part of West Tibet, together with the lands of Dolpo and Gungthang. The Tibetan connection was emphasized around the time of the assertion of Gurkha overlordship towards the end of the 18th century, when the ruler of Lo was involved in dispute with the Lhasa authorities over non-payment of his annual tax on the grounds that the Chinese had freed him from such obligations in return for his diplomatic assistance during the Gurkha invasion of Tibet in 1788. The Tibetan's, displaying their independence of China, insisted that they alone had jurisdiction in such matters and ordered Lo to meet their demands. Tibet having emerged victorious from the Gurkha war, Lo decided that discretion was the better part of valour.

This political ambivalence was also a certain indication the Lo's relationship with Nepal was somewhat loose. Its kings were regarded as of Tibetan stock and of Buddhist faith, and this recognition continues to the present day. When, in 1962, Nepal passed the Raja Abolition Act, which dismissed from office all Hindu Rajas, a separate clause was enshrined preserving Mustang's feudal status. The present ruler is Maharaja Jigme Dorje Tandrul. The state, which had a strong economy up to the end of last century based on its control of the salt trade between Tibet and India, is now somewhat impoverished.

Mustang never had an independent postal history and collectable items must be difficult to find. The only piece I have was bought as a Tibetan trader's cover some years ago. But something about it disturbed my peace of mind. It did not look like the usual covers one associated with traders, which are usually written in a mixture of English, Tibetan and Nepali. It is a scarf cover, again unusual for traders' correspondence. It is written in a fine Tibetan script only. Its wax seal, rather the worse for wear, is larger than the usual trader's seal, and has something about it which suggests better things. Finally, the back of the cover bears what looks like a Nepali registry mark (see Fig. 3). Traders' covers, to my knowledge, were not accorded such treatment. It is strongly suggested and official communication of some sort.

The front of the cover is illustrated at Fig. 1. It measures 35cm by 7.6cm (12 ins. by 3 ins.) and is made of Tibetan paper folded to form the cover, the ends being sealed with black wax. It has at some time been subjected to damp and shows some staining. The black wax seal is 22mm in diameter. In the centre is a circle quartered containing four characters, thus;



The top left shows a decorative scroll; character 1 and 2 spell Glo, 4 and 3 Rygal, i.e. Glo Rygal or "King of Lo". This is surrounded by a lotus cushion. It is illustrated at Fig. 2. The cover is dated 4th month 10th day (Tibetan) but the year is not given. The vendor stated it was circa 1835, and that could be correct.

The Tibetan address reads 'rGyal khang du khosgsu kun gyi rje-bo shri Ma-ha-ra-dsa rin zhabas-pad seng-ge sri ges si khri du we gyas'bangs pa Glo-bo smad dpon bangs kyi zla ba tses la phyug bchas phul".

Translated this is "To the lotus foot of the lion throne of the Lord of the three worlds, the glorious Maharaja, from the people and the Pön-Wang (the Lord of men) of Lower Lo (Globo-smad) with their compliments, sent on the 10th day of the 4th month".

The division of Lo into Glo-bo stod (Upper Lo) and Glo-bo smad (Lower Lo) is known from the 13th century. The capital, Lo Menthang, lies in Upper Lo; Lower Lo at one time extended as far south as the Hindu shrine at Muktinath. The state is said to be divided into seven administrative divisions, each governed by a Lumbo (Duke), a member of the royal family. Within these divisions each village is controlled by a Gemba (Baron).

Mustang made world news between 1959 and 1974, when it became the base for Khampa guerilla units operating against Chinese military units across the border in Tibet, until, under pressure from China, Nepal was forced to take action to close down the base.

References

Hagen, Toni. Nepal.
 Jackson, David P. The Mollas of Mustang.
 Peissel, Michel. Mustang, a lost Tibetan Kingdom (published in the USA as Mustang the Forbidden Kingdom).
 Shakabpa, W.D. Tibet, a Political History.



Fig.2 Illustration of the Pön-Wang's seal

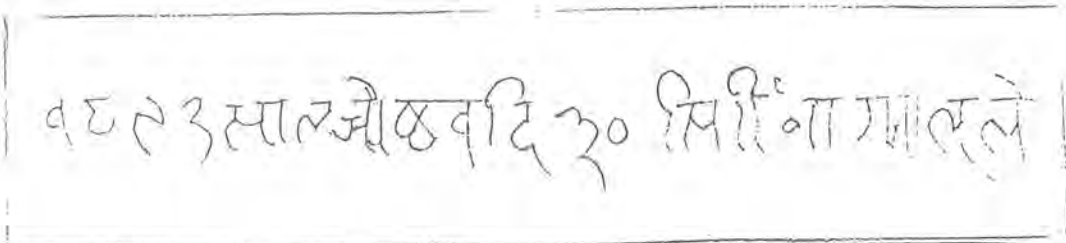


Fig.3 The Nepalese registry marking on the reverse of the cover.

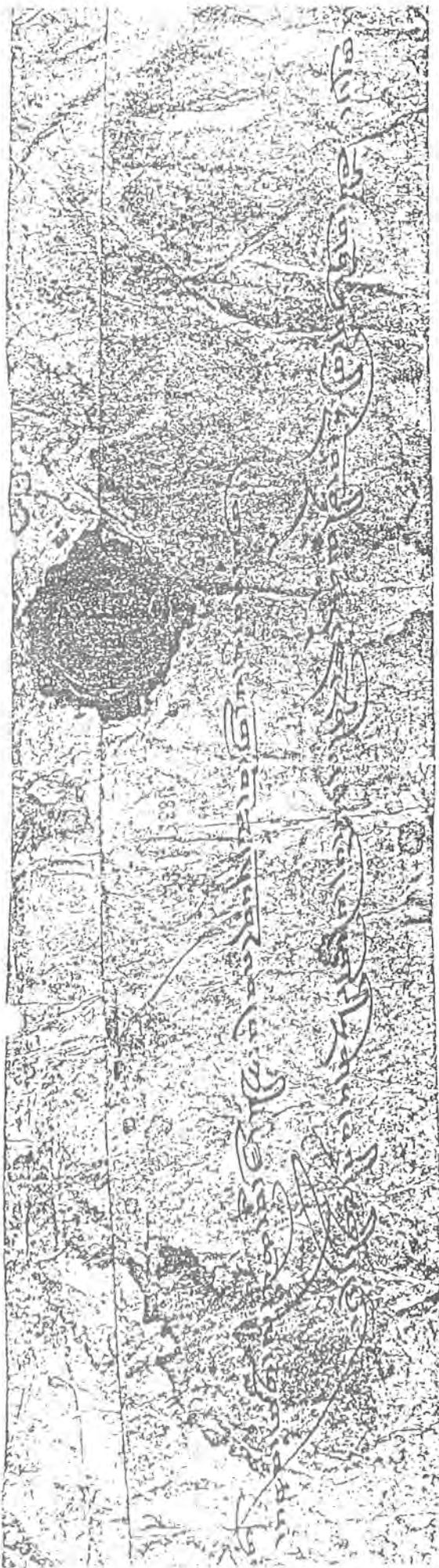
TIBETAN DATEMARK ENVELOPE ISSUES OF 1986
Cameron Britt

In reference to the article "Tibetan Bi-Lingual Postmarks - A Review" by Lester Michel on page 13 of Postal Himal No. 61, there was an earlier issue of the datemarks of Tibet. I possess a group of envelopes which were issued to commemorate the 2nd Anniversary of the Tibet Stamp Company in 1986.

The envelopes are all of a common design, showing a Tibetan woman in traditional costume and most of the envelopes bear the Tibetan dwelling house stamp from set R. 23.

The covers are dated 9 September 1986, 5 September 1986 (10 covers) and 1 September 1986 (1 cover - Nyainrong, Beixong in Nagqu Prefecture). The set I received number 127 in total, though Mr. Michel notes 130 in the postcard set dated February 28, 1987. I would be interested to hear from anyone else with a set of the envelopes to ascertain whether the full set contains 127 covers.

Fig. 1 The Mustang Cover.



ལྷ་མི་ལོ་ལོ་ལོ་ལོ་ 纪念封

The cancel is of Quxu (Yamdrock Lake).



The Birth of a Rarity

by Wolfgang Hellrigl

Referring to page 13 of the Hellrigl/Vignola handbook, one will find that catalogue-prices of the USED pin-perforated 4 annas of the 1881-1885 issue range from 550 to 650 "points", depending on the shades of green.

Although, at the time of compiling the catalogue, I did not have a used copy in my collection, no particular attention was paid to these stamps until the thought occurred to me that nobody had ever recorded a USED pin-perforated copy! I immediately checked with a number of collectors of the classic issues and found that they, too, had never seen such a stamp.

At this point I felt certain that the pin-perforated 4-annas stamp on European paper did either not exist in used condition or, if it existed, had to be a supreme rarity that was greatly undervalued in all catalogues, H/V included. Thus I placed this stamp high up on my personal want-list.

Five years after having mentally identified this potential rarity and after sifting through many more 1st-issue stamps, my patience was finally rewarded: I spotted "my" used 4-annas copy in an auction lot containing various stamps of the 1881-1885 issue. Obviously, the auctioneers were not aware of the extreme rarity of this item or else they would have deemed it worthy of a separate lot number. The stamp bears the Kathmandu II (C70) cancellation which would suggest that it was used rather late, probably in 1886.

Until a further copy comes to light, this remains the only known USED pin-perforated 4-annas stamp of the 1881-1885 issue. It is definitely one of the great rarities of classic Nepal.

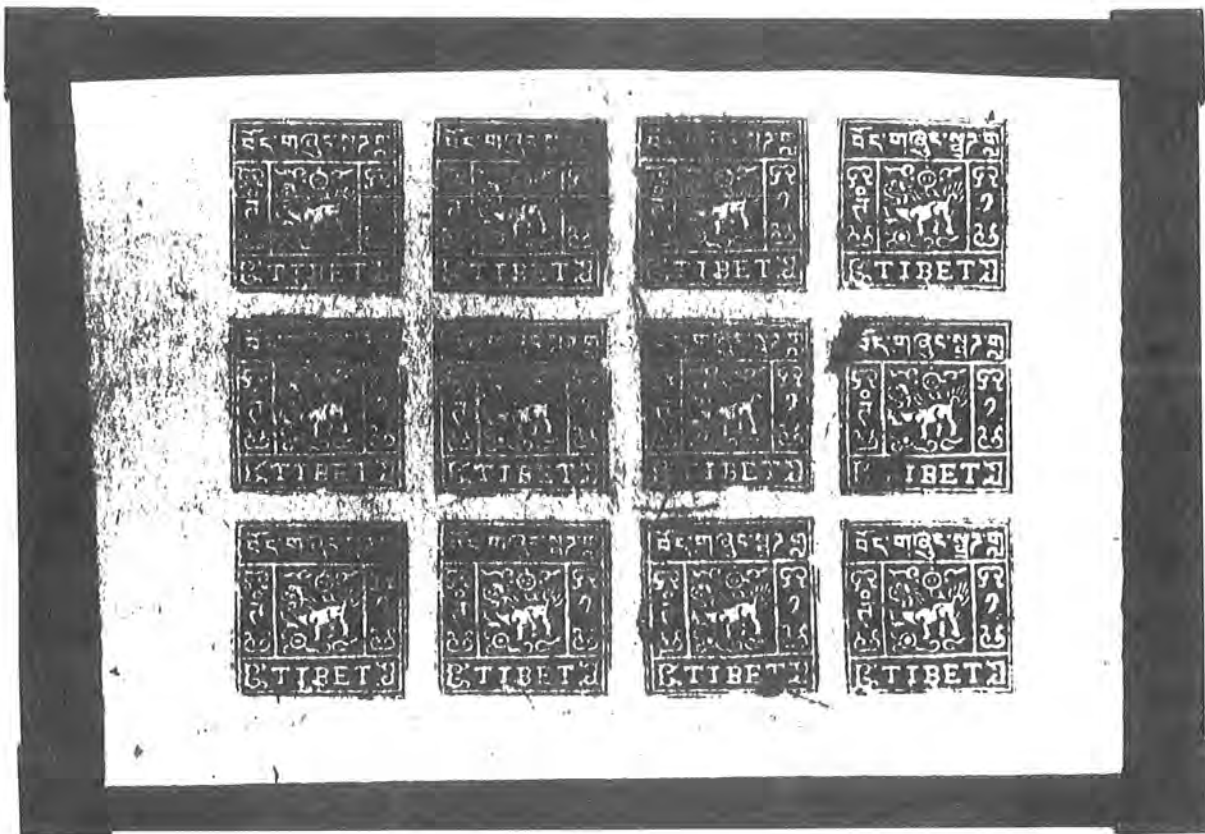


1881-1885 issue, 4 annas yellow-green,
pin-perforated (H/V #3), used at Kathmandu

A NEW SET OF 1933 FORGERIES

George Bourke

A new set of forgeries of the 1933 issue has appeared. Because of the similarity in color and paper to the recent 1912 forgeries (see Postal Himal No. 60 & 61), it is clear that both were produced by the same people. With the exception of the 1/2 trangka, all values of the 1933 issue have been photographically reproduced either from genuine sheets or photographs of genuine sheets. The sheets can be divided into two groups: those composed of a limited number of cliches and those reproducing genuine settings. Four types of paper have been used in their production: Rough-smooth (a two layer paper composed of a non-native layer on top of which a second layer of native paper has been added), yellow wove, thin native Nepalese and a greenish-brown paper. Some sheets may be found with perforations which look like the genuine perforations found on the 1933 issue. Dr. Singer feels that a sewing machine was used to make the genuine perforations as the underside of the stamps show bent-down remnants of paper. [ed. See "Of Sewing Machines, Perforations, and Other Kindred Tibetan Matters" in The American Philatelist of April, 1986, p. 328]. The only sheets I have seen with perforations were on rough-smooth paper. Some forged postal history items bearing forgeries of this set have been noted. They were genuine covers and pieces to which forgeries and forged cancels had been added. These cancels have been photographically reproduced from Haverbeck's Tibet. It is safe to say that any of the forged cancels found on the new 1912 forgeries are likely to turn up on this set as well.

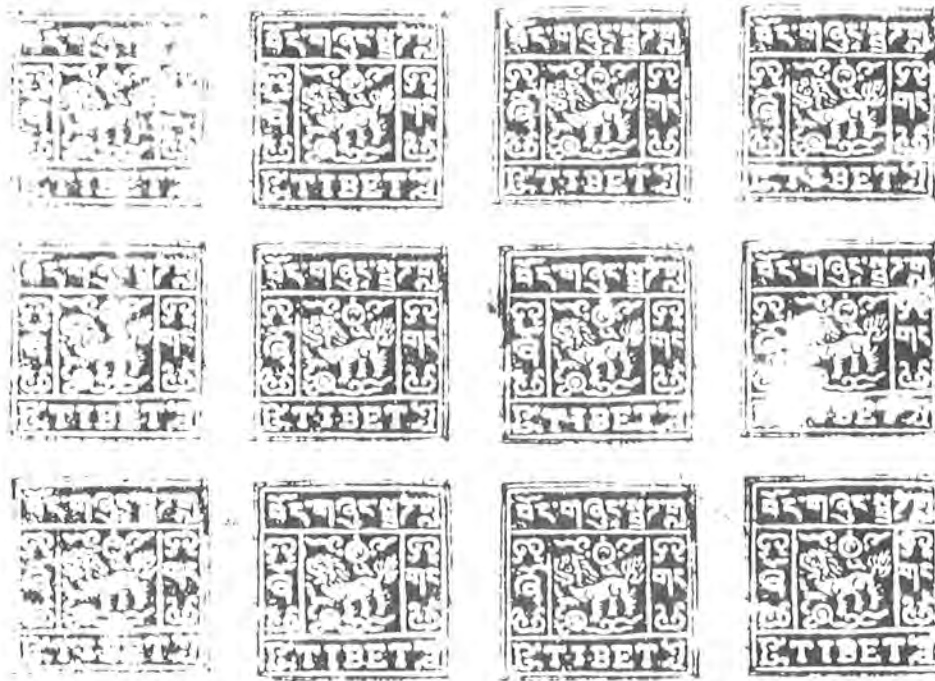


1 TRANGKA

Vermilion. Rough-smooth and thin native paper. Sheets on rough-smooth paper can be found both perforate and imperforate.

Three cliches:

1	1	1	4
5	5	4	5
1	1	5	4



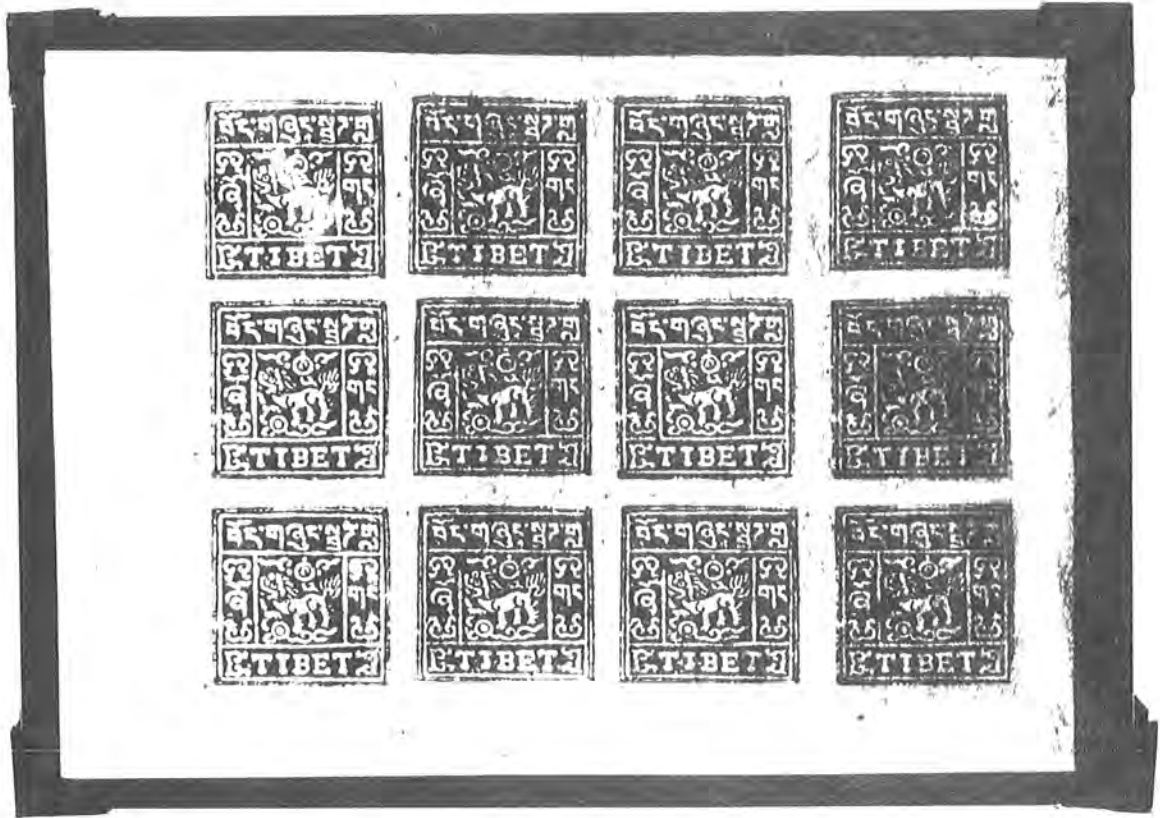
2/3 TRANGKA : 1st Setting

Blue, purple, green, chestnut brown and maroon. Rough-smooth, yellow and thin native paper. Two different settings can be found.

1st: only two cliches, with wide spacing between the cliches:

1 1 2 2
 1 2 1 2
 2 1 2 1

This is a most interesting value, as a number of significant "errors" of color have been noted. I have a strip of four in purple, on thin native Nepalese paper. This printing is composed of two colors. The first red, on top of which a second printing has been done in purple. Examples can be found in chestnut brown, on rough-smooth paper. These have also been printed using two colors. The first red and the second chestnut brown. A few copies have been found in maroon on rough-smooth paper. These have also been printed in the same way. Some examples are known in green, on yellow paper. The above mentioned "errors" of color are not known in full sheets.

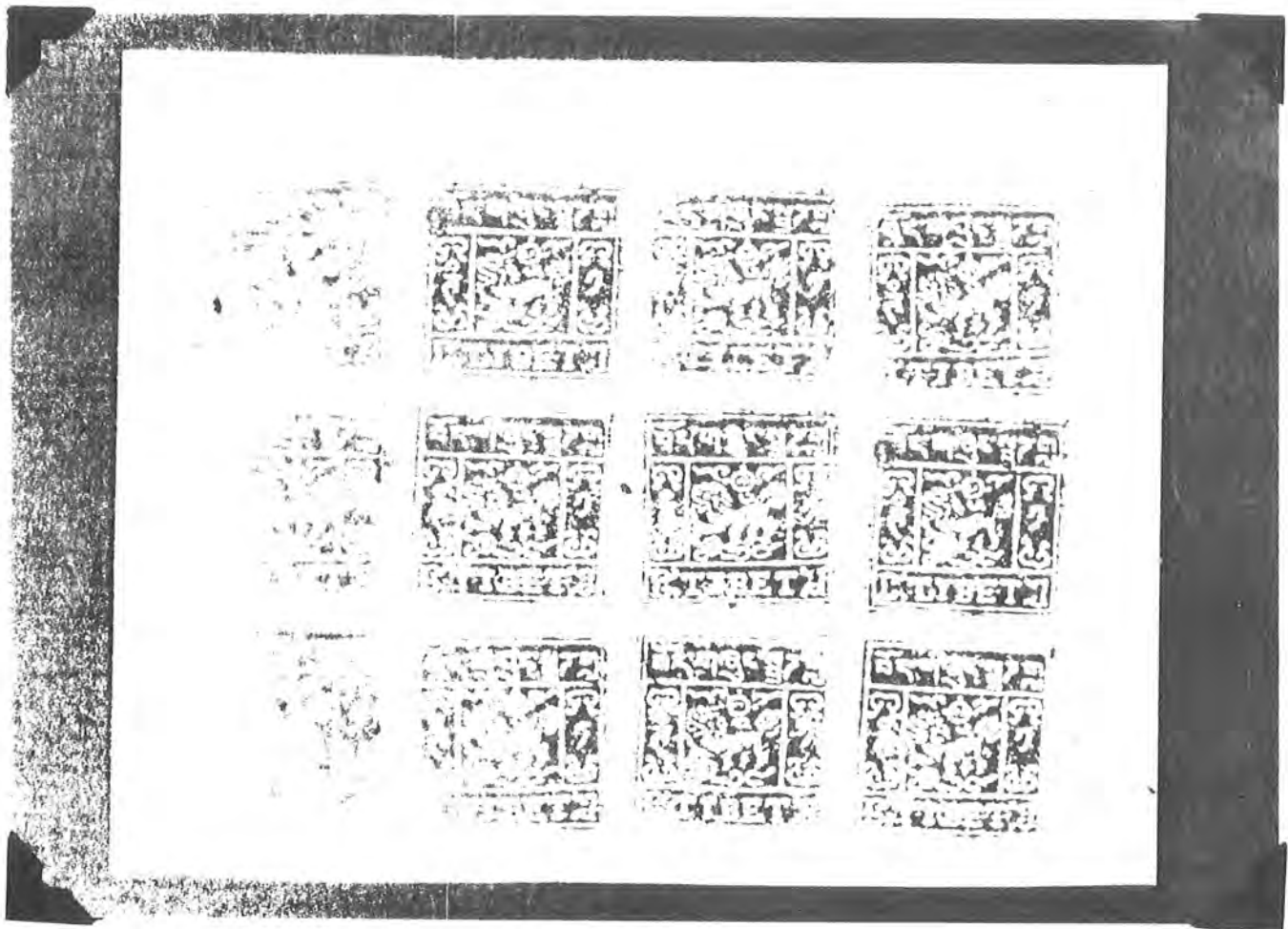


2/3 TRANGKA

2nd: two cliches:

2 2 1 2
 1 2 1 1
 1 2 2 1

The same two cliches as in the first setting only rearranged and with less spacing between them. This setting has been seen on rough-smooth and thin native paper but not on yellow paper. Sheets of this setting can be found on rough-smooth paper, both perforate and imperforate.

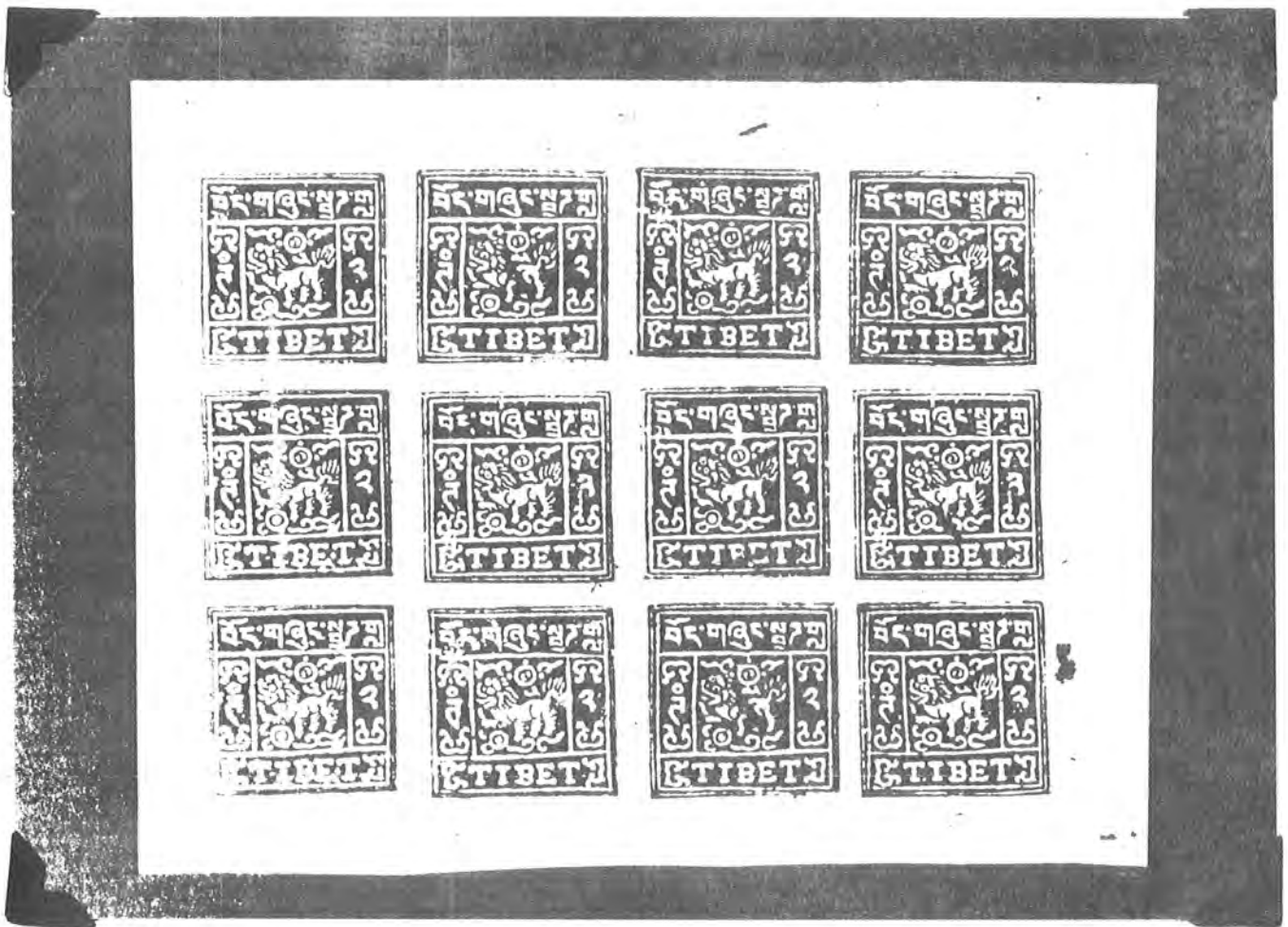


1 TRANGKA

Vermilion. Rough-smooth and thin native paper.
Six cliches:

1 2 3 4
5 6 1 2
3 4 5 6

This sheet has the appearance of reproducing a genuine sheet from setting I. Dr. Hellrigl, who examined this sheet, feels that the forgers used only the top right block of four (pos. 3-4-7-8) and a pair (pos. 5-6), from setting I of a genuine sheet.



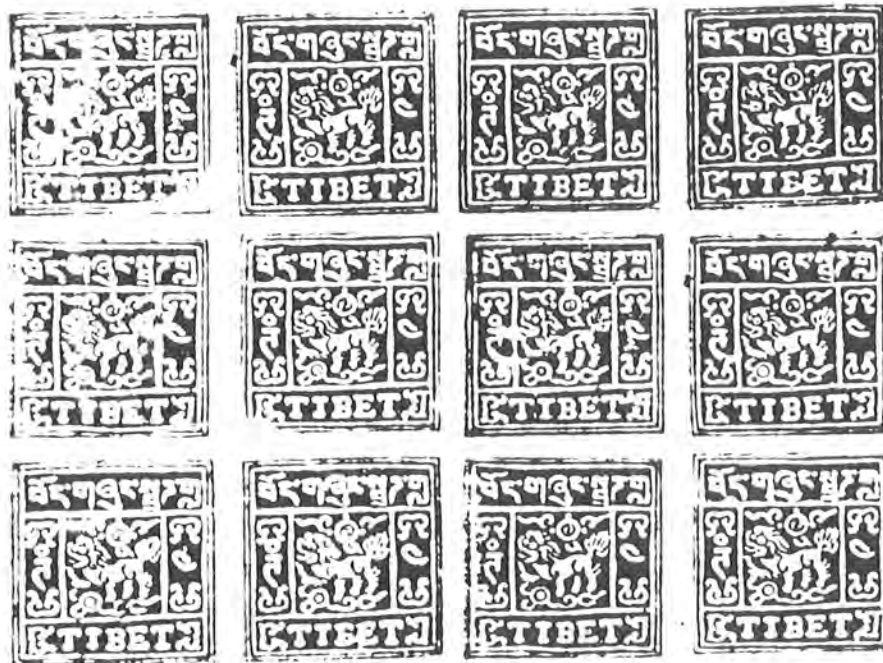
2 TRANGKA

Vermilion and purple. Rough-smooth, yellow, thin native and greenish brown paper. Sheets on rough-smooth paper can be found both perforate and imperforate.

Six cliches:

- 1 2 3 4
- 5 6 1 6
- 5 3 2 4

Full sheets can be found in purple on thin native and greenish brown paper.



4 TRANGKA

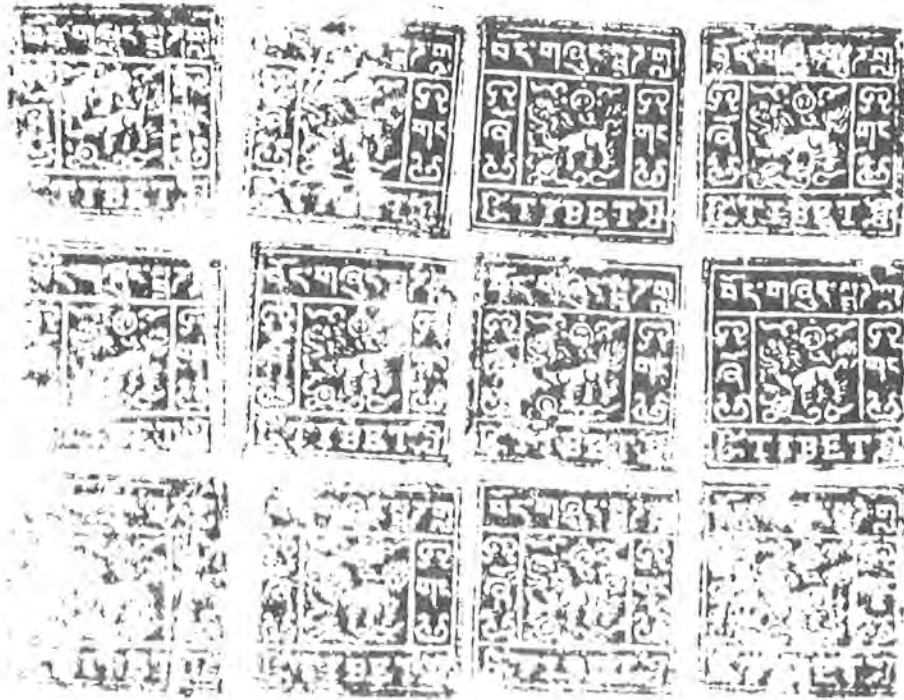
Green, deep blue green, purple and blue. Rough-smooth, yellow, thin native and greenish brown paper. Sheets on rough-smooth paper can be found both perforate and imperforate.

Six cliches:

1 2 3 4
 5 6 1 2
 3 4 5 6

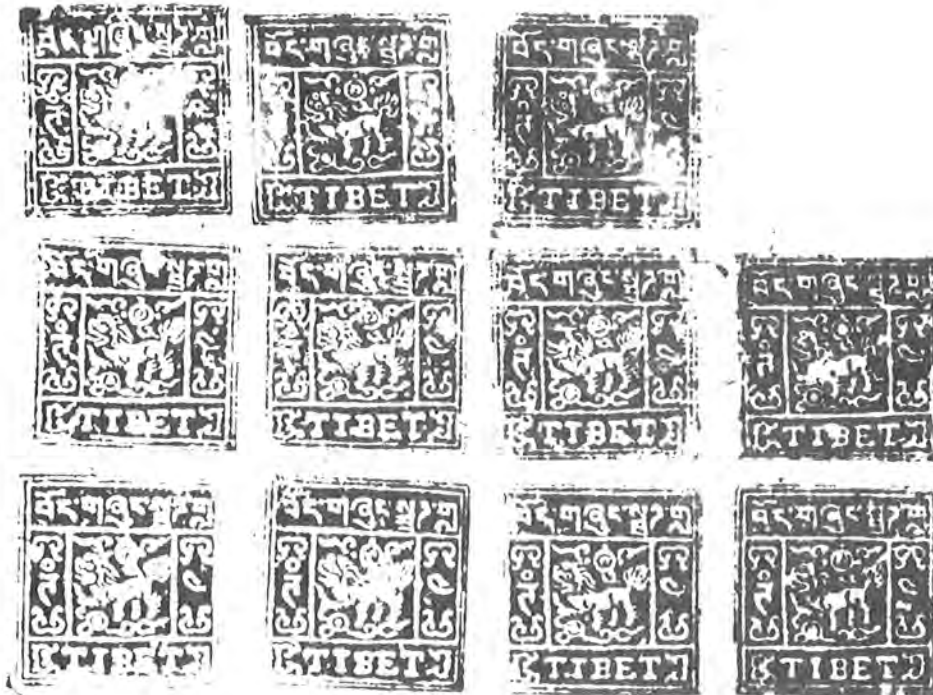
Examples in blue and blue green have as yet not been seen in full sheets. Full sheets can be found in purple on greenish brown paper.

The following group of sheets were photographically reproduced from genuine sheets and represent genuine settings.



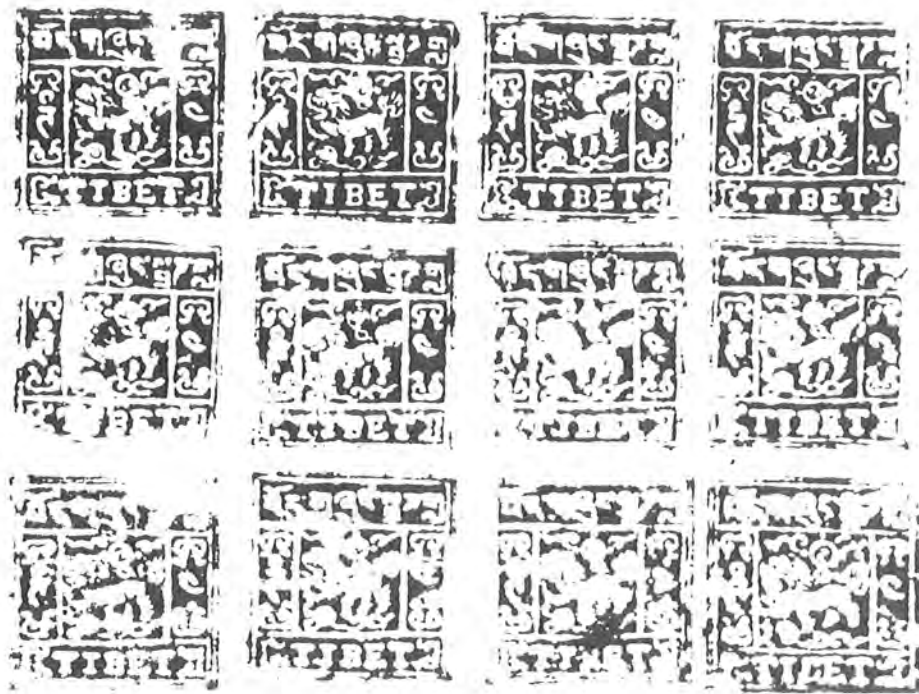
2/3 TRANGKA

Blue. Rough-smooth paper. Reproduces a genuine sheet of setting IV.



4 TRANGKA

Green. Rough-smooth paper. Reproduces a genuine sheet of setting Id.



4 TRANGKA

Green. Rough-smooth paper. Reproduces a genuine sheet of setting II.



~ HOUSTON-MT EVEREST ~
 ~~~~~ FLIGHT ~~~~~  
 ~~~~~ 1933 ~~~~~

Houston flight datestamps and cachet (enlarged) - see article on opposite page. Also see Waterfall, The Postal History of Tibet, second edition, pp. 41-42 [Editor].

FIRST OVER EVEREST

by
Sir Eric Mensforth

In April 1933, over half a century ago, two aeroplanes first flew over Mount Everest, 29,002 ft. high. Because of my long connection with the plane makers concerned, Westland of Yeovil, England, I have been asked whether there is any philatelic link with this historic survey. There are postal records of climbing expeditions, from the British 1922 first attempt to the successful first ascent by the Hunt team in May 1953. There have been many signed cards, cancellations and commemorative stamps issued since.

The 1933 Houston Everest Expedition was a scientific one to explore by aerial photography a then inaccessible area. It had the benediction of the Royal Geographical Society. The British Air Council, the Government of India through the Viceroy, and the Government of Nepal (then a closed country to travelers, as was Tibet), on behalf of the King through Maharaja Sir Joodha Rana. It was financed by a far seeing patriotic English woman, Lady Houston D.B.E., to whom the Battle of Britain later owed much for her support of the genesis of the "Spitfire".

The organization and execution of the Everest Flight was a brilliant tour de force. It is difficult now to realize how relatively crude were resources. It was made possible by the new supercharged Bristol "Pegasus" engine with which in 1932 a new world altitude record was established. I quote Walt Unsworth in his book Everest.

"From start to finish the whole plan has taken a mere 13 months, in which the aircraft and engines had to be built, special equipment designed and tested, political and financial problems overcome. The attention to detail was meticulous and scientific."

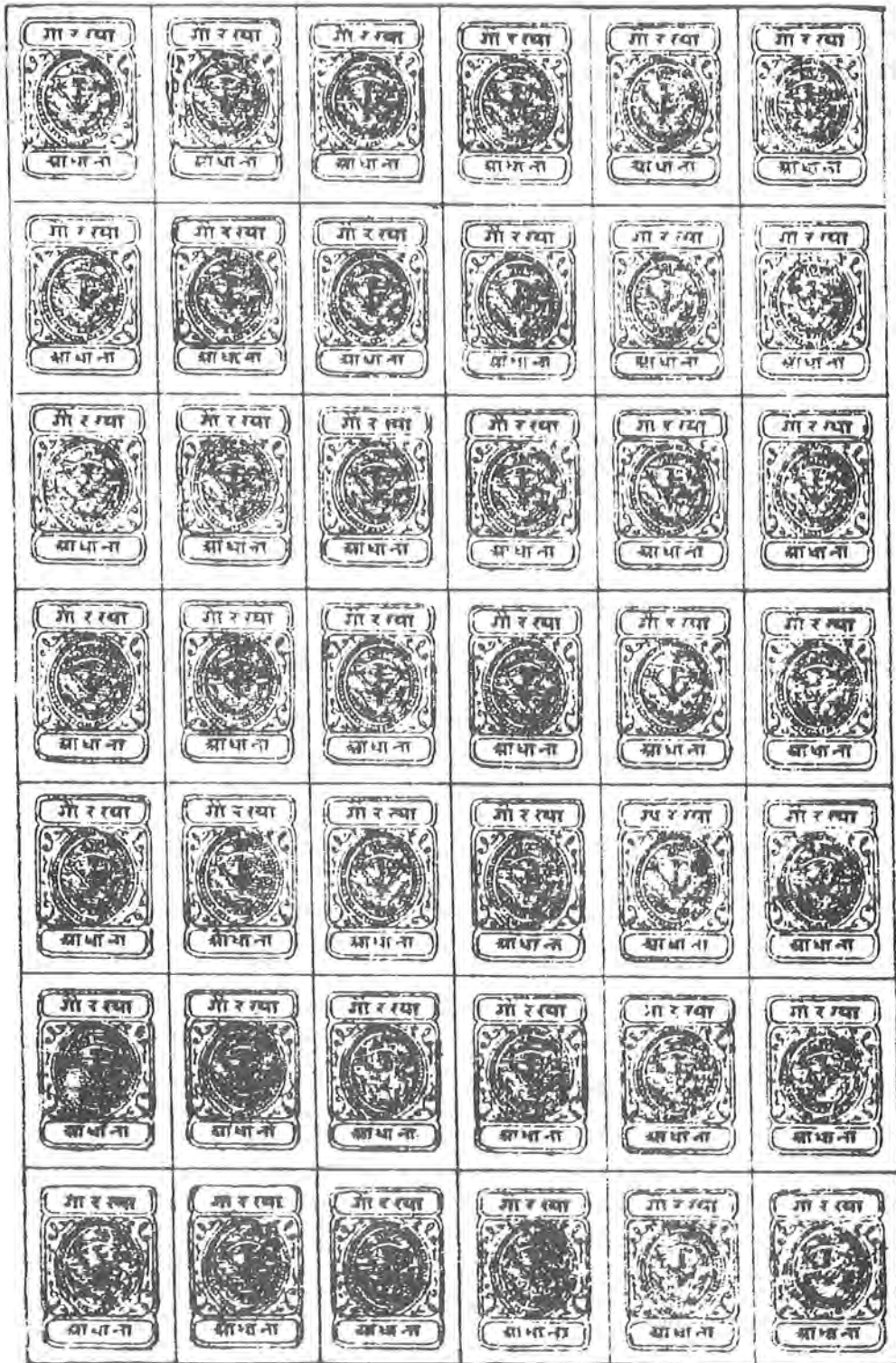
Whilst the crews flew in three light planes to Karachi, the two "big" Westland machines were transported there by sea. After assembly at the local aerodrome they flew to the operational base at Purnea, India. From there the summit flights took off, overflying Nepal. There was of course no "communications", as with land expeditions. But on their return the pilots, Lord Clydesdale and D.F. McIntyre (later a pioneer of Scottish aviation), said they "were tired and entranced by their experiences and by what they had seen to the point of exaltation. . . . Meanwhile the letters we had carried over the mountain were dispatched to H. M. the King, the Prince of Wales, and Lady Houston". I assume that they were then forwarded from Purnea by Diplomatic bag. With weight and space restricted it seems probable that these were the only airborne letters.

To me, as a mountaineer, a natural follow on to this was for Westland through its subsidiary Normalair, using its subsequent long experience of high altitude survival to supply the oxygen breathing sets for the first ascent of Everest by Hillary and Tensing in John Hunts team of 1953.

Although a few covers have recently come to light, more information is needed to determine the dates the special cancellation "Houston Mount Everest Flight * Purnea" was in use. Does anyone have more of these covers? Contact with myself or with Roger Skinner would be appreciated!

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- Mensforth, Sir Eric. Family Engineers. London, 1981.
- Unsworth, Walt. Everest. London, 1981.



Focus on Forgeries, Part 4

by Wolfgang Hellrigl

At the STAMP WORLD LONDON '90 Exhibition, an Indian dealer showed me a most unusual forgery that I would like to bring to the attention of Nepal collectors.

The forgery is based on the so-called "essay" of the ½ anna, which is, of course, nothing but a plain forgery itself. The "essay" is always printed in black and comes in sheets of 42 (seven rows of six stamps) that are printed on cigarette paper. The "essay", believed to be Nepal's earliest forgery, can easily be identified by the bogus framelines that surround each stamp.

The new forgeries - which are here illustrated - were photographically reproduced from the "essay"-sheets. They are printed in black and orange, respectively, on thin, low-grade paper. The printing is poor, much of the details of the "essay" being lost: the bow and arrow are hardly discernible and the ornaments are anything but neat. So far, no used copies have been reported.

Over the years we have come to accept that Indian and/or Nepalese forgers display a great deal of imagination. In a constant battle to outwit Western collectors, they have tried to produce and market all sorts of phantastic stamps. But to forge a well-known forgery, as they did here, is probably something that has never been attempted before, at least as far as Asian stamps are concerned. Inevitably, there remains one final question: what will they think of next?

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HAVE YOU SEEN ANY OF THESE?

Leo Martyn

Does anyone have or know of any of the following Nepal items which conceivably could and probably should exist? If so, please write the editor with details plus photocopies if possible.

1. Cover bearing both un-recut and recut 1 anna stamps.
2. 1 anna, recut, pin-perf, Native or European Wove paper: used on a cover.
3. Commercial cover bearing the "New Design" 1 anna stamp (H/V 44, SG 42). I think I have one; article hopefully in the next issue of P.H.
4. 1/2 anna orange-vermilion (H/V 34, SG 35) used on a telegraph form. A fellow collector said he once was offered, some years ago, a very grubby large block of these stamps affixed to part of a telegraph form.

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NEPAL: Wanted - information and photocopies of Pashupati stamps on covers tied by unusual cancels (i.e. Classic cancels, seal cancels, manuscript cancels, etc.) for an article - will reimburse for expense. Also, unusual Pashupati covers of all periods for purchase or trade. Also wanted: Forgeries and 1 anna recut frame positions 24 and 64. Leo Martyn, P.O. Box 49263, Los Angeles, Ca. 90049-0263, U.S.A.

DISCOVERY OF A NEW 2 ANNA SETTING?

Dick van der Wateren

From the Seeger collection, sold by Heinrich Kohler [1], I obtained a 2 anna block of 14 with the following description in the auction catalogue:

"1886/89 2A. violet, irregular block of 14, margins all around, setting 9, pos. 39 and 53 inverted and other varieties. Hellrigl/Vignola 12, extremely scarce unit."

The facts:

The block has the following positions in the sheet: 35-39, 43-47 and 51-54.

Two cliches are inverted: pos. 39 and 53.

Colour: violet.

Paper: medium thick of good quality.

Cancellation: clear Kathmandu II postmark, Hellrigl catalogue [2] C 70, period of use: 1886-1896.

Hellrigl [3] records the following settings beginning with:

Setting 8, 1894-96, inverted cliches 21 and 60.

Setting 9, the above mentioned setting, 1897-98, inverted cl. 11, 20, 21, 33, 39, 45, 53, 56, 58 and 60.

Setting 10, 1897-98, inverted cl. as in setting 9 plus 22.

Setting 11, 1897-98, only two marginal multiples found, both Hellrigl collection, plus a disappeared block of 6. Position of inverted cl. not known.

Setting 12, 1897-98. Inverted cl. as in setting 10, plus 18 and 63.

There are two obvious facts: the period of use of the Kathmandu II postmark and the position of cliche 45.

Beginning with the postmark, Hellrigl states the period of use from 1886-1896. If there are no new facts about this period the block must have been cancelled before 1897, thus before setting 9 (a late use of the cancel however is not unimaginable).

The positions of the inverted cliches in the successive settings:

Setting 8: pos. 21 and 60 only.

Then, at once, in setting 9 ten inverted cliches, including 45.

Also in setting 10 and 12 this position 45 is inverted.

Setting 11: not known

Of course there is a rare possibility that in 1896 or 1897 some cliches were dropped out of the frame and cliche 45 is replaced upright (setting 11) and again dropped out and replaced inverted (setting 12).

In my opinion this block of 14 of the 2 anna is part of a sheet, situated between the settings 8 and 9. We have to wait for the find of a whole sheet or a part sheet with inscriptions and position 45 upright.

Literature:

[1] Auction catalogue Heinrich Kohler: 268 Versteigerung vom 29. Mai - 2. June, 1990, Wiesbaden/Germany.

[2] Dr. Wolfgang Hellrigl: A catalogue of Nepalese Postmarks (1879-1935), 1982.

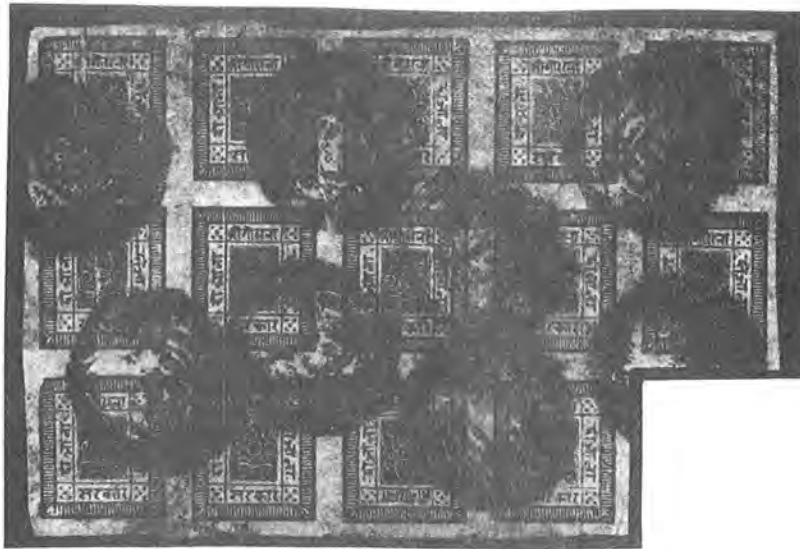
[3] Hellrigl/Vignola: The Classic Stamps of Nepal, 1984.

Dr. Hellrigl, when asked for his comments, reacted as follows:

"There are only 2 possibilities:

1. The block is part of H/V setting 11, but this setting comes not after setting 10, but before setting 9. The correct sequence should be: setting 8 - 11 - 9 - 10 - 12 etc.

- The block is of a so far unknown setting between H/V setting 8 and 9. Personally I think the first possibility but nobody can prove it until more blocks or sheets appear. Anyhow we are here a little step forward, as the combination 39 plus 53 inverted plus 45 not inverted was unknown until now".



"ACAP Entry Fee" - A newly Discovered Revenue Stamp of Nepal.
 Surendra Lal Shrestha

This newly discovered revenue stamp is (was?) available only at the gate of the Annapurna Conservation Area Project (King Mahendra Trust for Nature Conservation). It measures 40 x40mm, printed by De La Rue & Co. (England) in Crimson and Black, with a face value of RS. 200. The date and quantity of issue are unknown.



RAMA IN EXILE
Dick van der Wateren

The unaddressed picture post card, shown below, depicts four people in a small row-boat; the rower appears to be Indian; the others do not look happy. On the postcard is affixed a purple 16 paisa Pashupati stamp (SG 33) tied by a Kathmandu (?) cancel (30mm), dated 75/?/29 BS or c. 1919 AD. On the reverse is printed: "Moorli Dhur and Sons, Ambala. (Printed in Germany)".

In Nepal by Perceval Landon (London, 1928), I found the following notes relating to this "Exile": After Maharaja Bir Shum Shere died in 1901, he was succeeded by his brother Deva Shum Shere who was a well educated man and had been fourteen years Commander-in-Chief. Though he had done this work very well, he was inadequate to the post as Maharaja. After two months (June 26, 1901) his brothers sent him an ultimatum. He abdicated and was succeeded by his eldest brother Chandra. At first Deva was interned in Dhankuta, but after a short time he was allowed to escape to India where he died on Feb. 20, 1914. Another brother, Khadga Shum Shere, who was Governor of Palpa for some years, was also exiled after his attempt to undermine Chandra's regime. Khadga lived in exile in India where he died Dec. 22, 1921, in Benares.

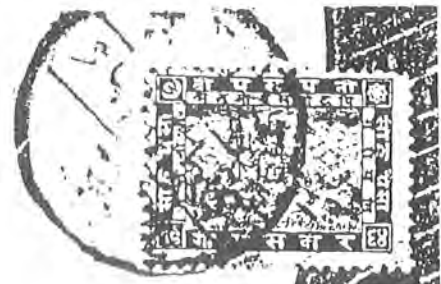
Can anyone provide more details concerning this card, the person on it and the meaning of the card? Also, is the cancel genuine or a forgery?



[Ed. Having seen the post card in person I feel that the postmark is the forgery illustrated in The Native Postmarks of Nepal by Hellrigl and Hepper, page 42, type A, as shown below plus an enlargement of the cancel on the post card. Also, the rate of 16p is too high (proper rate is 2p). Can we be sure that Rama refers to a high ranking Nepalese. "Rama in Exile" is printed but "Nepal" is manuscript and probably refers to the stamp and not to any of the occupants in the boat. Any other opinions?

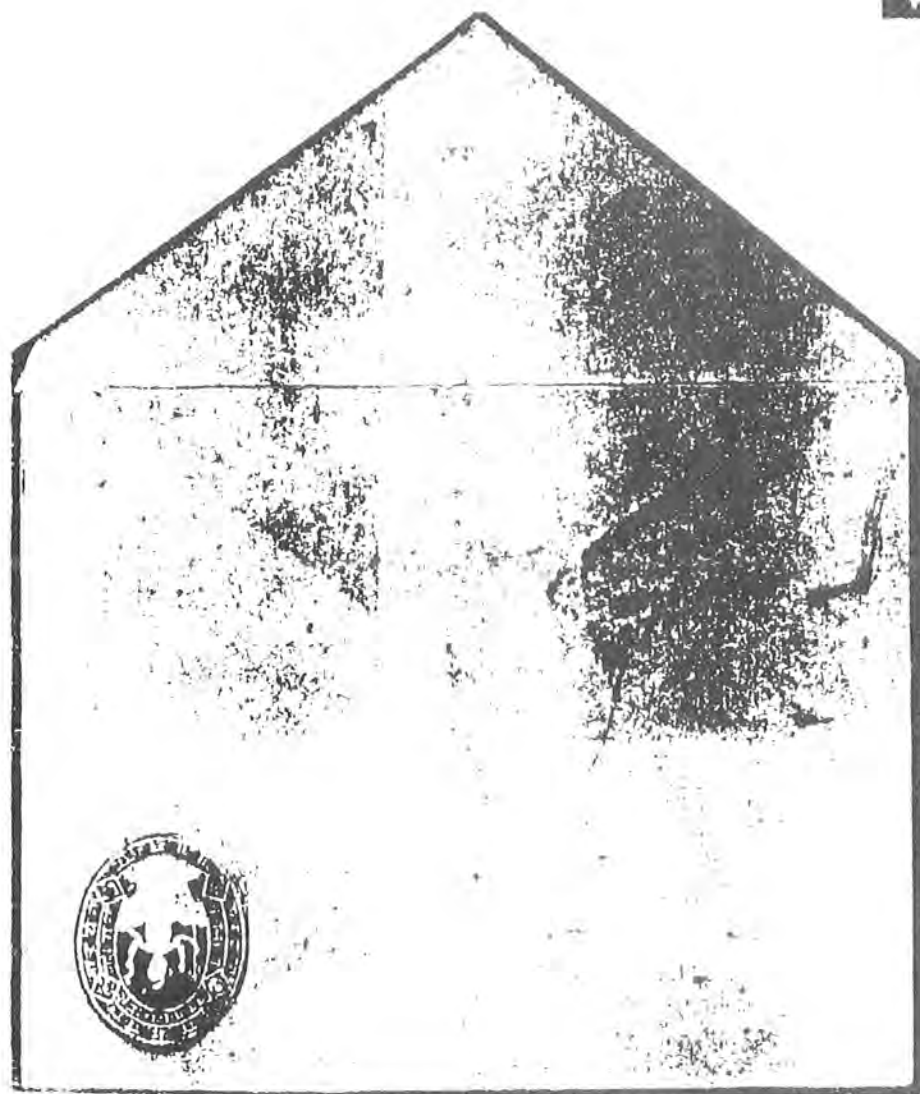


Type A



An unrecorded item of Nepal on Higgins & Gage No. 2b, size 119:93 (Envelopes-B-); Fig. 12. Issued between 1933-1958, envelopes are made of native paper with gummed flap and all envelopes were made prior to the printing. The familiar Sri Pashupati oval stamp, in a variety of shades of green is then applied. We see the oval stamp in the wrong corner on this cover. (Reported in 1989 by S. L. Shrestha, Nepal Representative for the Nepal & Tibet Philatelic Study Circle.)

The 1959 (19 Nov.) Pashupatinath 8p carmine-red, unused pair perf'd 'double' in the selvedge of the right copy! - A new find in the perforation varieties!!
 --S.L.Shrestha



RECENT SPECIAL POSTMARKS OF NEPAL
S.L.Shrestha

An area P.O. opened at the Holy Pashupati Ground with a special postmark commemorating the "Bala Chaturdashi" religious festival on November 27, 1989. The same type of postmark, inscribed "D.P.O. 27 Nov. 1989 Kathmandu" in English was also used on mail and collectors items and was used also by the K'du, Dist. P.O. Sundhara, Kathmandu on the same festival day.

*Bala Chaturdashi
2046 Manbir 12
Pashupati Chhetra-
Elaka Hulak.*



*Bala Chaturdashi
2046 Manbir 12
Kathmandu -
Tilla Hulak.*

