



# POSTAL HIMAL

QUARTERLY OF THE NEPAL AND TIBET  
PHILATELIC STUDY CIRCLE




1899, 1/2 anna Orange Bow and Arrows.





Nepal Philatelic Society  
Silver jubilee 1992

POST CARD



Name & Address

MR. LEO MARTIN  
P.O. Box 49263,  
LOS ANGELES,  
CA.-90049-0263, U.S.A.



Souvenir postcard from Nephil'92, Nepal's National Philatelic Exhibition. It bears a pair of the 4 R. stamp commemorating the Silver Jubilee of the Nepal Philatelic Society which produced the postcard and was sent by its Secretary, Mr. Madan Bahadur Shrestha.



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 in local currency at the prevailing exchange rate to the society representative in your area.

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TABLE OF CONTENTS

	<u>Page</u>
New Members, Address Changes, Classified Ads . . . . .	29
Announcements . . . . . Colin Hepper . . . . .	30
"News From Kathmandu" . . . . . Surendra Lal Shrestha . . . . .	31
Editorial . . . . . Leo Martyn . . . . .	32
"Directional Handstamps of Tibet" . . . . . Wolfgang C. Hellrigl . . . . .	34
"Review of Tibet, First Series, 1912 Plating Notebook by Frealon Bibbins" . . . . . Armand E. Singer . . . . .	37
"An Unofficial Mail Routing in Eastern Nepal" . . . . . N.G. Rhodes . . . . .	38
"Later Than We Thought!" . . . . . Geoffrey Flack . . . . .	40
"Tibet: The 1950's Bi- and Quadri-Sects" . . . . . Armand E. Singer . . . . .	42
"Tibet At WCSE 92" . . . . . Alan Warren . . . . .	43
"Nepal-Tibet-India Forged Covers" . . . . . Leo Martyn . . . . .	44
"Exdel" Cover" . . . . . Surendra Lal Shrestha . . . . .	46
"Special Postmarks of Singha Darbar and the New Democratic Parliament" . . . . . Surendra Lal Shrestha . . . . .	46
Questions and Answers . . . . .	47
Nepal: Postage Rates Effective July 16, 1992 . . . . . Dept. of Postal Services . . . . .	48
Annual Financial Statement . . . . . Colin Hepper . . . . .	50

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- Mr. Michael Scarborough, P.O. Box 20160, Albuquerque, NM, 87154-0160, U.S.A. [N].
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**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 STAMPS AND POSTAL HISTORY.** I currently have a large stock of quality material from all periods. I would be glad to send you a selection tailored to your specific needs. Want lists invited. I also have a list of out-of-print books and articles on Tibetan philately for which I can provide photocopies. This will be sent to anyone requesting it. George Bourke, P.O. Box 1174, Jackson, Mi., 49201, U.S.A.

**WANTED: CLASSIC AND PASHUPATI COVERS FROM NEPAL.** I will purchase and or trade better stamps and covers. Also wanted: Ancient Paper of Nepal by Jesper Frier (photocopy acceptable), Jutland Archaeological Society Publication, Volume X, 1972, Copenhagen. Leo Martyn, P.O. Box 49263, Los Angeles, Ca, 90049-0263, U.S.A.

## MAFATLAL H. SHETH

During the last nine months Mr Sheth, one of our Indian dealer members, has been sending large quantities of modern Nepal forgeries in full sheets to various auctions for sale. He has quite correctly described them as forgeries but does not seem to understand that reputable dealers do not become a main distributor of forgeries. Dr Hellrigl and I have both written to him to tell us the source of these sheets. This he refuses to do, so we can only assume that he is involved in the production himself. As a result Mr Sheth has been expelled from the Study Circle.

Colin Hepper  
5 June 1992

### NOTICE TO AUCTION VENDORS

As a result of the increased activity in the production of modern forgeries of both Nepal and Tibet, the Study Circle will no longer accept any of these for our auctions. Any that are received, each individual stamp or cover will be rubber stamped 'Forgery' and returned to the vendor. We will however still accept the early forgeries of the classic issues for auction. These will still receive the 'Forgery' rubber stamp.

### INCREASE IN SUBSCRIPTIONS

During the past year the Board have been looking into our financial position as we have reached a situation where the income from subscriptions, bank interest and auction commission is no longer paying for the running of the Circle and we are using existing bank reserves.

The background on deciding the subscriptions has always been based on a single weight issue Postal Himal, to be issued four times a year, plus running expenses. Single weight being eight pages or four A4 sheets.

The current subscription rate was set at the London meeting in 1980, and at that time the £6 gave a surplus of around £2 per member per year. So for the next few years we were in a position of being able to make some healthy additions to the bank balance, which was supplemented by the auction commission which was just becoming more established. Over the years costs have increased and we have become more reliant on the auctions and bank interest.

We have also increased the size of Postal Himal to a double weight posting which we believe is more acceptable to our members.

Budget forecasts at the present postage and printing costs for four double weight issues per year are that it will cost £10 per member per year.

It has therefore been decided that as from 1st January 1993 the new subscription rates will be:- 1 year £12, 3 years £33 and life membership £250, or the equivalent exchange rate. These will be reviewed every two years.

23/6/92 ( ८।३।९२ )

THE RISING NEPAL

# National Philatelic Exhibition In July

Kathmandu, June 22 (RSS):

A national level philatelic exhibition entitled "Nephil 92" is to be organised to celebrate the silver jubilee of the Nepal Philatelic Society from July 27- //.

At the five-day exhibition jointly organised by the Department of Postal Services and the Nepal Philatelic Society, postal history, traditional stamps, postal stationaries and thematic stamps of Nepal will be displayed.

The "Nephil-92"

competitors will be awarded gold, vermeil, silver and bronze medals and diplomas.

On the occasion, a 4-rupee special stamp will be issued by the Department of Postal Services on July 27. //.

In 1981, a national level philatelic exhibition was organised here to mark the philatelic centenary in Nepal.

A colloquium on "philatelic development and promotion" is also on the cards.

Commendation letters will be given to the writers of

philatelic journal and to the commissioners and participants attending the international philatelic exhibition.

The Nepal Philatelic Society was established 25 years ago to promote philately in Nepal and to build friendly relations with stamp collectors around the world.

The Nepal Philatelic Society is a member of Federation of Inter-Asian Philately (FIAP) and Federation of International De Philatelic (FIP).

[The above article which appeared in The Rising Nepal of June 23, 1992, was sent by our Representative in Nepal, Mr. S.L. Shrestha, who holds Life Membership in the Nepal Philatelic Society and the Nepal and Tibet Philatelic Study Circle.]



Mr. S.L. Shrestha is shown presenting a "Gosthi-Karyapatra" (program presentation) to the senior officers of the Postal Service Dept. in a colloquium on "Philatelic Development and Promotion" which was organized by the Postal Service Dept. and the Nepal Philatelic Society. His presentation took place on July 14 at the meeting hall of Nepal Pragya Pratisthan, Kamaladi, Kathmandu and was part of the programme celebrating the Silver Jubilee of the Nepal Philatelic Society from July 11-15. Also pictured is Mr. J.B. Manandhar (Secretary of the Ministry of Communications), Mr. Naiyan Bahadur (K.C. Director of the Department of Postal Services), and Mr. N.G. Rajkarnikar (Vice-President of the Nepal Philatelic Society).

[Ed. On behalf of the Nepal & Tibet Philatelic Study Circle I offer congratulations to the Nepal Philatelic Society on the occasion of their Silver Jubilee]

EDITORIAL

Next year's national meeting of The Nepal and Tibet Study Circle will be held in San Francisco ("Westpex '93") next April 23-25 and promises to be a great success. Frank Vignola and Roger Skinner are busy getting things in order. Frank advises me that 45 frames (720 pages) of Nepal and Tibet exhibits have already been accepted with possibility of more. We are trying to get meeting rooms for April 23 (1-3 pm) and April 25 (10-12 am). I hope to be able to confirm these dates and times in the next Postal Himal. On April 24, there will be an awards banquet in the evening at the Cathedral Hill Hotel (also the location of "Westpex '93").

We will have at least one slide show and possibly two at the meetings. Also, I think a mini-bourse would be nice, so any members attending may bring items for trade or sale. Also welcomed would be items members may want more information on or just to show off.

\* \* \* \* \*

I apologize for the foul up concerning the too-early closing date for Auction 59. Colin Hepper sends me the list and I apply the appropriate closing date. I goofed and indicated June 27 instead of July 27. Because of this, most of the lots will be re-numbered and re-offered in Auction 61.

\* \* \* \* \*



For you, doctor...  
a different kind of stamp.

(Listen to it on your manual record player.)

... and for your patients, a different kind of antihistamine/decongestant: ACTIFED®. Try it this spring to alleviate symptoms of allergic rhinitis.\*

Illustrated is the heading of another advertisement using a stamp from our area of interest to catch the reader's attention (see cover of Postal Himal # 69-70). The 1.25 nu Bhutanese "record" stamp was inserted between two slits and could be easily removed for playing (these stamps come "played" and "unplayed" as well as "hinged" and "unhinged"). Unfortunately there is no further reference to Bhutan following the illustration.

\* \* \* \* \*

Nepal has raised the postal rates after only one year (minus one day) had elapsed from the previous new rates (see Postal Himal # 67, p. 42-4). This should result in some scarce rates involving unusual usages and destinations.

\* \* \* \* \*

Please note that our representatives in India, Mr. Sohan Lal Dhawan & Sons, have changed their business name to ESSELL DEE & SONS.

\* \* \* \* \*

Francis Westbrook Jr., our publicist and Board Member sent the following views concerning the recent Nepalese forgeries in a letter of March 19:

"These forgeries (or reproductions) are bound to work their way into the philatelic market, unidentified for what they are. I think it could well be harmful in the long run to the market for Nepal and Tibet material. But as George Bourke says, the damage has been done. I agree with him that the Study Circle should put some effort into helping members identify the new forgeries so they can avoid them if they wish."

\* \* \* \* \*

- NATIVE:** 2. belonging to a locality or country by birth, production, or growth; indigenous.
6. of or characteristic of the inhabitants of any given region.
7. of, characteristic of, or belonging to primitive or uncivilized peoples, particularly nonwhites, living in their place of origin.

[Webster's New World Dictionary of the American Language, College Edition, N.Y., 1953]

Although the term "native" is commonly used to refer to the non-British philately of Nepal and Tibet, I have become increasingly uncomfortable with its use because it can be construed as being pejorative. "Native" smacks of colonialism and is a carry-over from a period when the phrase, "The Sun never sets upon the British Empire", was a reality. It has been handed down, so to speak, by authors of philatelic works and editors of catalogues of the last century who used the term in describing the philately of the Himalayan area, including India.

If one needs a term, "local" seems to be more appropriate than "native" since the mail of Nepal could not be forwarded outside of its borders without additional foreign postage (most likely Indian) until 1937, when it signed an agreement (1936) to be included in the Inland Indian Postal System. It wasn't until 1959 that Nepal's postal service was able to use U.P.U. provisions. Tibetan stamps never could pay the postage necessary for forwarding mail outside the country as it never was a member of the U.P.U. Kenneth Wood in his This Is Philately (Vol. Three) states: "Local postage stamps are defined as official government issues that have a restricted validity. They are not valid outside the area or service for which they were issued, nor can they be used in the international mails".

It is interesting to note that only the Scott catalogue, I believe, includes Nepal in the "British" Empire" section. Stanley Gibbons used to include Nepal in the same section with the Native Feudatory States (as did Scott in its early catalogues) but eventually placed it in the South-East Asia catalogue (Part 21). Illustrated is a partial listing of Nepalese stamps which appeared in the 1940 Stanley Gibbons catalogue (courtesy of Geoffrey Rosamond) - please note the introduction.

I am hoping for a good response from our readers. Please advise me if you do not want your name published.

Leo Martyn

Oct. 9, 1992

**NEPAL:**

Strictly speaking this country should not be included among the Native Feudatory States as it is independent, but should be transferred Part II, like Afghanistan. It has, however, been decided to leave it in this group of Native stamps for the convenience of collectors.



		1 (1 a.)	2 (1 a.)	
1881. Type 1. White paper. (a) Pin-perf.				
1	1 a., milky blue ..	..	6	0 1
1a	1 a., bright blue ..	..	6	0
2	2 a., purple ..	..	10	0
3	4 a., green ..	..	15	0
Variety, tête-bêche (pair).				
3a	2 a., purple ..	..	6	5
(b) Imperf.				
4	1 a., milky blue ..	..	5	0 5
4a	1 a., bright blue ..	..	5	0 5
5	2 a., purple ..	..	7	6 7
a. Tête-bêche (pair) .. .. . 6 5				
6	4 a., green ..	..	7	6
1886. Type 1. Native paper. Imperf.				
6a	1 a., grey-blue ..	..	1	6 0
6b	1 a., blue ..	..	1	6 0
7	1 a., deep blue ..	..	1	9 0
8	2 a., purple ..	..	3	0 1
8a	2 a., violet ..	..	3	0 1
9	4 a., green ..	..	2	0 1

**Directional Handstamps of Tibet**

by Wolfgang C. Hellrigl

In *Postal Himal* Nos. 69 & 70, p. 24, Frealon Bibbins illustrated a Tibetan cover and asked for further information on the directional handstamp thereon and on this kind of markings generally.

I am happy to oblige by showing every directional handstamp I know of. Most of these were first published in an article I wrote for the German journal *Indien-Report* (cf. special jubilee number of 1980, pp.97-98 and No. 32, pp. 39-40). Since this list is probably not complete, members are invited to report any additional types.

While the directional handstamps of Tibet are interesting and unusual markings that enable us to easily identify the provenance and address of a given letter, it must be stressed that these types are of a strictly private nature. They were simply applied - in lieu of hand-written addresses - by senders, mostly traders, who regularly and frequently corresponded with the same addressees. Even the directional handstamp with incorporated registration details (Type 10) falls into the category of private markings that were not directly connected with the Post Office. Frealon Bibbins' directional handstamp is, of course, of Type 9 and proves that the letter in question went from Lhasa to Phari.

The majority of the engraved devices was struck in black ink while the more modern rubber handstamps are usually in violet. I do not recall having ever attempted to date the various types of directional handstamps, mainly because dated domestic covers of the 1950s and 1960s (roughly the periods of use of these markings) are rarely found.

Handwritten Tibetan text in black ink, arranged in three lines. The characters are stylized and appear to be a specific dialect or script used for directional marking.

TYPE 1 - LHASA TO GYANTSE

Handwritten Tibetan text in black ink, arranged in two lines. The characters are stylized and appear to be a specific dialect or script used for directional marking.

TYPE 2 - LHASA TO GYANTSE

Handwritten Tibetan text in black ink, arranged in three lines. The characters are stylized and appear to be a specific dialect or script used for directional marking.

TYPE 3 - LHASA TO GYANTSE

Handwritten Tibetan text in black ink, arranged in three lines. The characters are stylized and appear to be a specific dialect or script used for directional marking.

TYPE 4 - LHASA TO GYANTSE



བྱུང་ཆེ་གཏེས་གཅིག་མཉམ་སྲིད་ཀྱི་ལོ་ལྟར་ལྟར་  
 རྒྱུ་ལྡན་གྱི་ལོ་ལྟར་ལྟར་ རྒྱུ་ལྡན་གྱི་ལོ་  
 ལྟར་ལྟར་ ལྟར་ལྟར་ ལྟར་ལྟར་

TYPE 5 - LHASA TO GYANTSE

གཞིས་ཆེ་ཡི་ཆུ་ཆུ་ཁང་སུ་གི་ལོ་ལྟར་ལྟར་  
 ལྟར་ལྟར་ ལྟར་ལྟར་ ལྟར་ལྟར་  
 ལྟར་ལྟར་

TYPE 6 - LHASA TO SHIGATSE

ལག་ལྟར་ལྟར་ལྟར་ལྟར་ལྟར་  
 ལྟར་ལྟར་ ལྟར་ལྟར་ ལྟར་ལྟར་

TYPE 7 - LHASA TO PHARI

ལག་ལྟར་ལྟར་ལྟར་ལྟར་ལྟར་  
 ལྟར་ལྟར་ ལྟར་ལྟར་ ལྟར་ལྟར་  
 ལྟར་ལྟར་ ལྟར་ལྟར་

TYPE 8 - LHASA TO PHARI

ལག་ལྟར་ལྟར་ལྟར་ལྟར་ལྟར་  
 ལྟར་ལྟར་ ལྟར་ལྟར་ ལྟར་ལྟར་  
 ལྟར་ལྟར་

TYPE 9 - LHASA TO PHARI

ལྟར་ལྟར་ ལྟར་ལྟར་ ལྟར་ལྟར་  
 ལྟར་ལྟར་ ལྟར་ལྟར་ ལྟར་ལྟར་  
 ལྟར་ལྟར་ ལྟར་ལྟར་

TYPE 10 - LHASA TO PHARI

ལྟར་ལྟར་ ལྟར་ལྟར་ ལྟར་ལྟར་  
 ལྟར་ལྟར་ ལྟར་ལྟར་ ལྟར་ལྟར་

TYPE 11 - SHIGATSE TO GYANTSE

ལྟར་ལྟར་ ལྟར་ལྟར་ ལྟར་ལྟར་  
 ལྟར་ལྟར་ ལྟར་ལྟར་ ལྟར་ལྟར་

TYPE 12 - GYANTSE TO LHASA

ལྷ་མོ་ལྷ་མོ་སྤྱི་ཤར་པ་སྤྱི་ཤར་  
ཕྱོགས་ལ་ལྷ་མོ་ལྷ་མོ་

TYPE 13 - GYANTSE TO LHASA

ལྷ་མོ་ལྷ་མོ་སྤྱི་ཤར་པ་སྤྱི་ཤར་  
ཕྱོགས་ལ་ལྷ་མོ་ལྷ་མོ་

TYPE 14 - GYANTSE TO LHASA

ལྷ་མོ་ལྷ་མོ་སྤྱི་ཤར་པ་སྤྱི་ཤར་  
ཕྱོགས་ལ་ལྷ་མོ་ལྷ་མོ་

TYPE 15 - PHARI TO LHASA

ལྷ་མོ་ལྷ་མོ་སྤྱི་ཤར་པ་སྤྱི་ཤར་  
ཕྱོགས་ལ་ལྷ་མོ་ལྷ་མོ་

TYPE 16 - PHARI TO LHASA

ལྷ་མོ་ལྷ་མོ་སྤྱི་ཤར་པ་སྤྱི་ཤར་  
ཕྱོགས་ལ་ལྷ་མོ་ལྷ་མོ་

TYPE 17 - YATUNG TO LHASA

Finally, here are two forged handstamps found on a series of bogus covers marketed by Mafatlal Sheth and others. First seen around 1991, they were perhaps intended as imitations of handwritten Tibetan addresses rather than as directional handstamps. At any rate, their presence is quite sufficient to condemn a cover:

ལྷ་མོ་ལྷ་མོ་སྤྱི་ཤར་པ་སྤྱི་ཤར་  
ཕྱོགས་ལ་ལྷ་མོ་ལྷ་མོ་

ལྷ་མོ་ལྷ་མོ་སྤྱི་ཤར་པ་སྤྱི་ཤར་  
ཕྱོགས་ལ་ལྷ་མོ་ལྷ་མོ་

Review of TIBET FIRST SERIES, 1912 PLATING NOTEBOOK by Frealon Bibbins. Available from, and published by, Geoffrey Flack, Box 65987, Station F, Vancouver, British Columbia, Canada V5N 5L4. Copyright 1992. 42 pp. \$15.00 U.S. plus postage.

This is the sort of specialized manual which is so much needed that one is at a loss to say why it was not written years ago. What it purports to do, and does, is to help in plating Tibet's first issue. It also helps -- something Waterfall's Postal History of Tibet (1965; 2nd ed., 1981), with its often blurred reproductions, does far less well -- philatelists distinguish between copies of the two-thirds and one trangka values, which in some shades are very confusing. And because the illustrations are not only clear but also shown as enlarged singles (ca. 38 x 45 mm.), fakes can more easily be distinguished from the genuine examples. A welcome feature is a well reproduced sheet of each of the five original values plus the one sang, in full color (good approximations of the standard colors of the early printing, by the way). Bibbins uses the black-and-white enlarged cliches to point out significant differences in each cliche of the one-sixth trangka value, which permits plating, and then similarly describes the other five.

Flack, in his publisher's foreward, warns that being able to plate a particular stamp does not guarantee its bona fides: forgeries photographically reproduced from genuine originals can also be plated. Nor can the colors in this manual, he adds, be used to compare any under suspicion. The inks in the originals vary considerably. But, despite the increase in the use of colored reproductions meant to deceive (unlike those in the present monograph), Bibbins has helped collectors immeasurably.

The volume is printed in large format (8" x 11" pages), on good quality paper, looseleaf spiral bound between cardboard covers, in turn sheathed in clear, heavy plastic. Cost and execution and clarity, simplicity, and logic of explanations are all unexceptionable. We need more of such fine, detailed manuals as this one. I am most pleased to note on lines seven and eight of the publisher's foreward his hope to make this the first in a proposed series. Might I suggest, for starters, similar plating tables for the four and eight trangka issue, and a more detailed, better illustrated plating study for the 1933 issue than the one found in Waterfall?

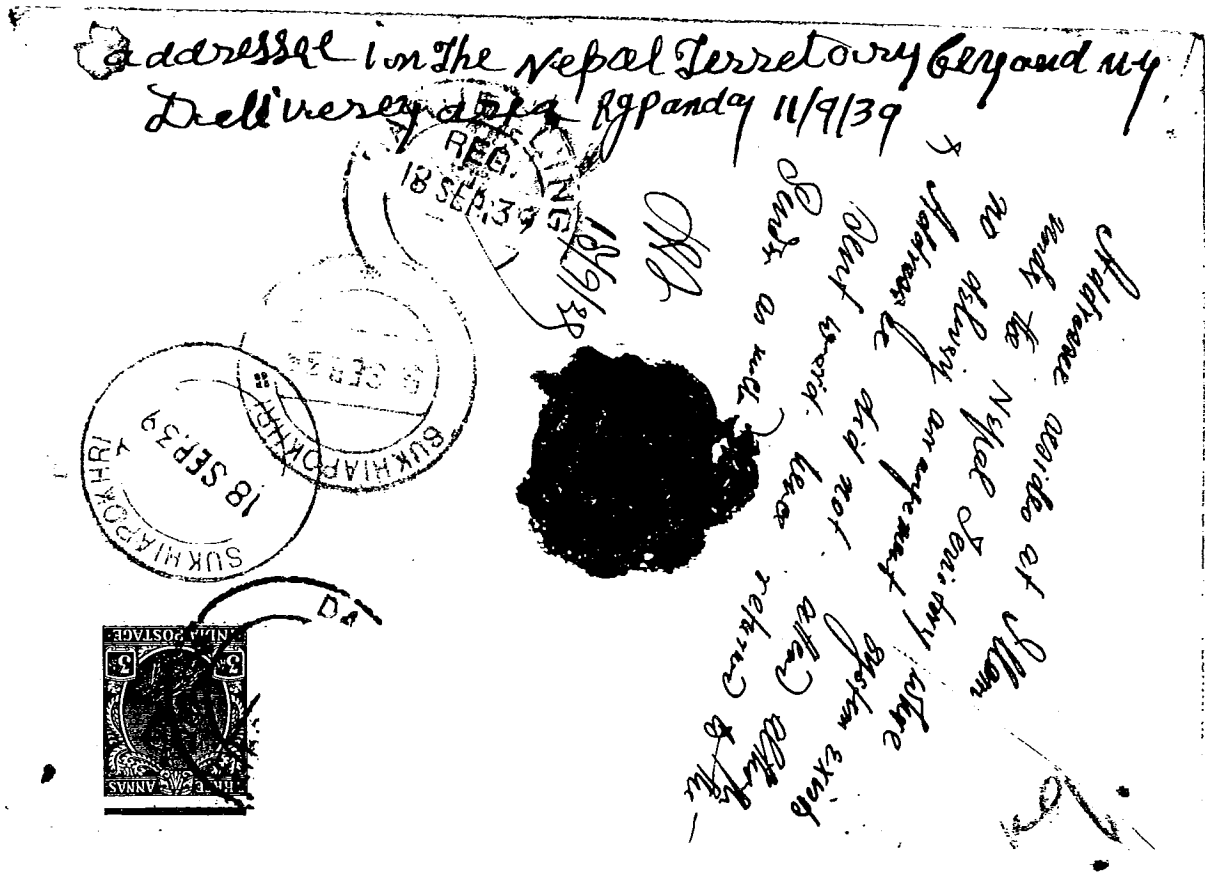
Coda: Waterfall, by the way, makes no attempt, nor does Haverbeck's The Postage Stamps and Postal History of Tibet (1952; 2nd ed., 1958), to plate the 1912s, though it does deal with the 1933s as does Waterfall. C.W. Chiu, in his Supplement Volume 4, chapter 2 (August 1955), p. 67, makes a brief mention only. Hellrigl and Gabrisch's Tibet: A Philatelic and Numismatic Bibliography (1983), out of 246 books and/or articles listed, mentions nothing dealing with plating tables for the 1912 issue. That list includes H.R. Holme's pioneering Postage Stamps of Tibet (1941), K.H. Dahnke's Tibet Handbuch und Katalog der Marken und Stempel (1978-1982), Theodore Newman's, George Russell's, E.A. Smythies's, and others' many basic contributions, not to speak of Li Tong-Yuan's Study of Tibetan Stamps and Currency (title thanks to Wolfgang Hellrigl; the original, including all the contents, is in Chinese; 1959). Bibbins remains first. Fortunately he has not let us down.

An Unofficial Mail Routing in Eastern Nepal

By N.G. Rhodes

The two covers illustrated here give an interesting insight into the mail service from India to Ilam in eastern Nepal about 1940

The first cover was registered and sent from Darjeeling Bazar addressed to Mr. N.B. Rai, a contractor in Ilam (Nepal), via Sukiapokhri, a village a few miles from Darjeeling on the Nepalese border. No official mail exchange could take place there, and the postman endorsed the letter "addressee in the Nepal territory beyond my delivery area". The post master, however, must have tried to send a message to recipient, but being unable to contact him, the envelope was returned to sender with the manuscript endorsement "Addressee resides at Ilam under the Nepal territory where no delivery arrangement system exists. Addressee did not attend although sent word, hence returned to the sender as such."



REGISTERED.

A/K Due.

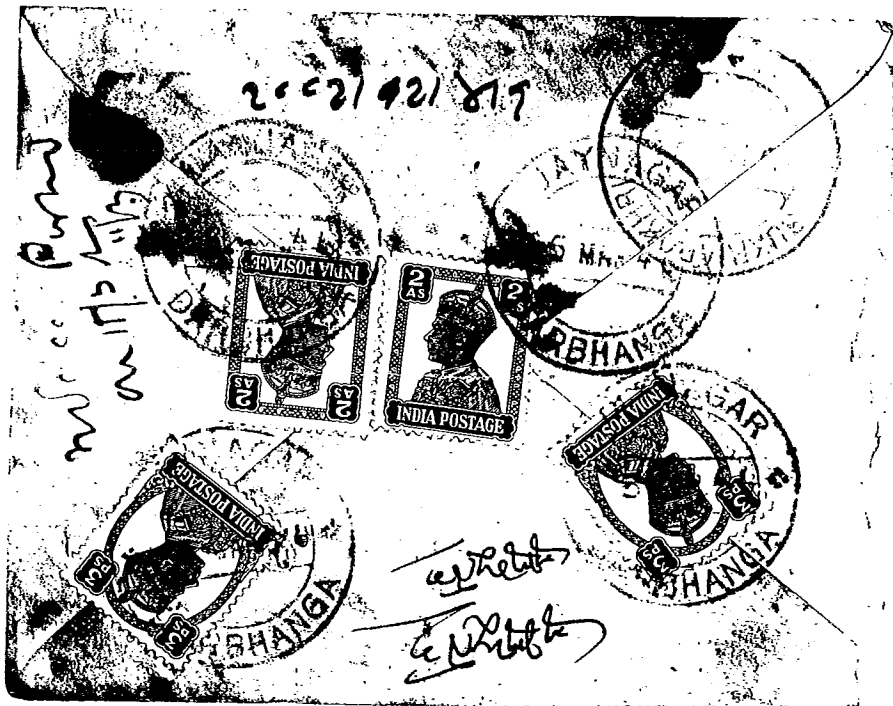
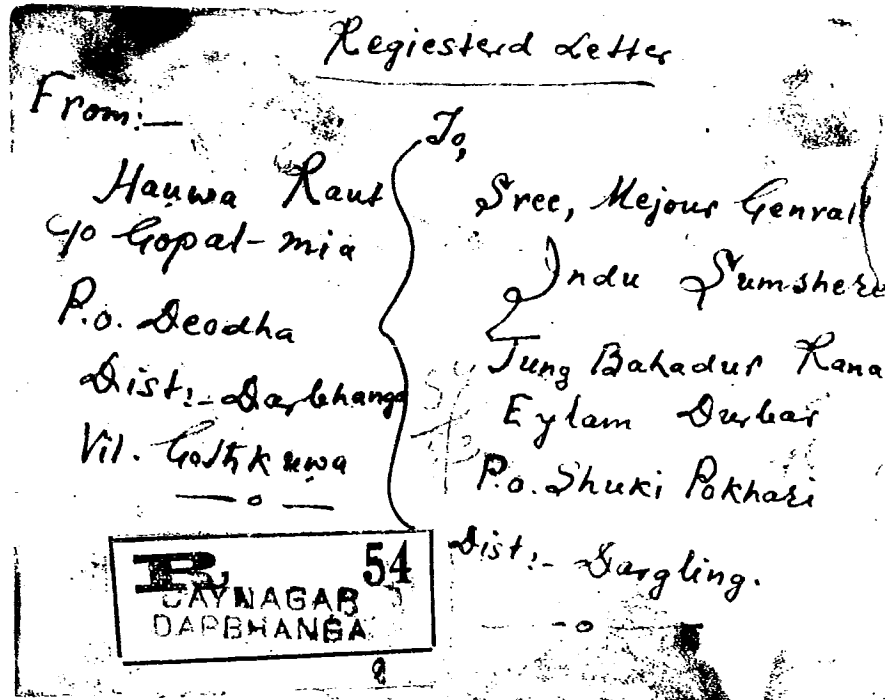
*To Sender*

Mr N. B. Rai,  
 Contractor, (New Water Works Supply)  
 I L A M ( N E P A L ).  
 P. O. Sukia Pokri.

103  
DARJEELING BAZAR

(Front reduced)

The second cover was sent from Jaynagar in Darbhanga district (Bihar) to Major-General Indu S.J.B. Rana at "Eylam Durbar", and was also directed via Sukhiapokhri. On this occasion a system clearly existed for onwards transmission of the letter in Nepalese territory to Ilam, as the letter was successfully delivered.



Presumably, as Ilam was so close to the Darjeeling district, some correspondents found it more efficient to send letters from India via Sukhiapokhri, rather than via the Nepalese postal system.

## LATER THAN WE THOUGHT!

Geoffrey Flack

In a recent article entitled "A Late Usage of the LHASA Cancellation Type VII" (Postal Himal, Vol. 69 & 70), Nick Rhodes, discussed and illustrated a December, 1938 cover from Lhasa to Darjeeling. The cover is unusual as the perforated ltr of the 1933 issue was cancelled by a LHASA Type VII Native cancellation. Mr. Rhodes notes that Waterfall dates this cancellation from the "Mid 1920s to early 1930s". Mr. Rhodes went on to say that all the other used 1933 issue stamps in his collection bore one or the other of the 1933 cancellation types VIII or IX. He asked if any reader could confirm a later use of this cancellation.

Over the years, I have put aside any 1933 stamps cancelled with the LHASA Type VII cancel which have come my way. I am sure they are quite rare and the bulk of the 1933 issue bear type VIII and IX cancels as Mr. Rhodes suggests. (On cover they must be extremely rare as the cover illustrated in his article is the only example I have seen.) Off cover .. it is very difficult to "date" the examples I have put aside. However, I think we are able to confirm a later usage than the Rhodes' cover suggests.

For the record, I have listed (and illustrated) the examples I have seen:

- ½tr .. 2 imperf. pairs in two distinctive shades of yellow, both from Setting I (circa 1935).
- ltr .. 2 strips of three (both cliches 2, 11 & 10) from Setting II. Cardinal Red and Bluish Red printings. (Setting II .. Circa 1941-48)
- ltr .. a single and pair in shades of Bluish Red. The cliches can be identified, but do not help in determining the Setting. The shade indicates Setting II.
- 2tr .. 2 pairs from Setting I. They are printed in Scarlet and Brownish Scarlet. It is difficult to date these with any certainty.
- 4tr .. Original Perforations .. Cliches 1 & 5 with C.T.O. cancel. Cliche 5 bears part of a second strike indicating the complete sheet was probably cancelled to order. (This is one of the first printings of this value and is circa 1933-34.)

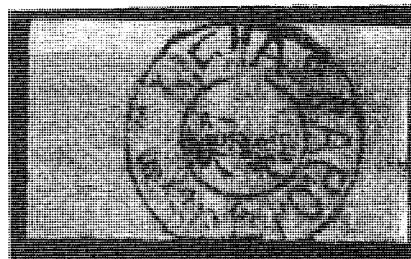
As I stated above, it is more difficult to date "stamps" with any certainty than it is to date a cover. However, the two strips of ltr throw some light on the problem. Both strips are from Setting II. Waterfall's dates for this Setting, 1941 to 1948, do not seem to be in dispute. In Setting II, the Cardinal Red printing was one of the earliest (Circa 1941) and if we are to believe Waterfall, the Bluish Red did not appear until the mid-1940s.

Very few examples of 1933 issue stamps bear LHASA Type VII cancels, but they do exist. These examples have shown the LHASA Type VII cancel was used in the early 1940s and possibly into the mid-1940s.

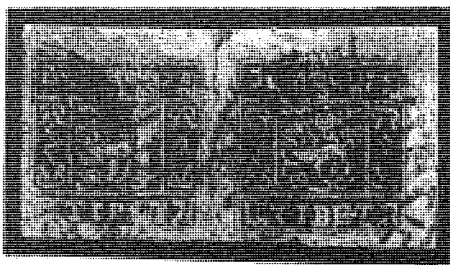
LATE USAGE OF THE "LHASSA" TYPE VII CANCEL



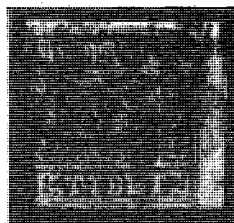
½tr Setting I  
(Cliches 8 & 12)



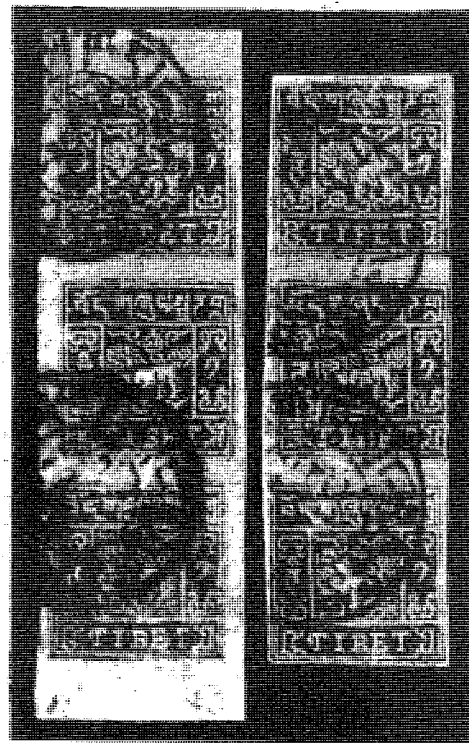
½tr Setting I  
(Cliches 3 & 4)



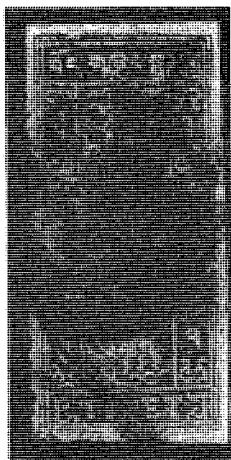
1tr Setting II?  
(Cliches 3 & 4)  
Bluish Red



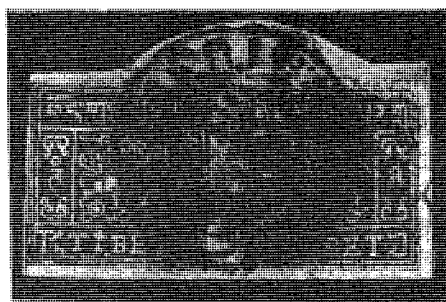
1tr Setting II?  
(Cliche 9)  
Bluish Red



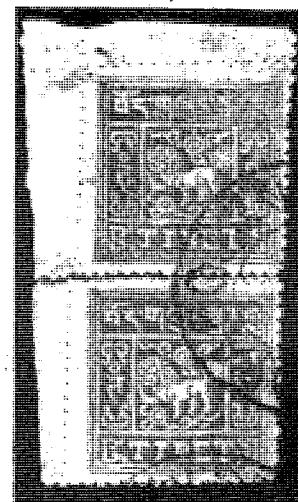
1tr Setting II  
Both strips Cliches 2, 11 & 10  
Cardinal Red & Bluish Red



2tr Setting I  
(Cliches 3 & 7)



2tr Setting I  
(Cliches 6 & 7)



4tr Setting I  
(Cliches 1 & 5)  
Original Perfs  
C.T.O.

Armand E. Singer

The fee for Tibetan registered letters jumped from four to five trangkas sometime around 1953 (Waterfall, pp. 102-03 [1965 ed.]; pp. 108-09 [1981 ed.]). There being an apparent shortage of the one-trangka value, Waterfall conjectured that it became necessary to bisect the two-trangka or quadrisect the four-trangka denominations in order to make up the new rate. Similar examples of necessity acting as the mother of invention in the case of many a stamp-issuing nation are certainly not uncommon. But no one has explained why Tibet did not simply print more one-trangkas. A day or two should have sufficed for the operation, quantities being minimal in this largely illiterate land. Consider how many colors and shades exist (Waterfall lists 29 each for both the one and the two-trangka, and other students of the issue have added a few more). The post office would have a few sheets printed up at a time, but apparently could never manage to duplicate the inks or have the right color handy again. In any event, bisected twos and quadrisected fours do exist on cover, and with genuine commercial usage, according to most philatelists.

There are, however, some odd questions begging for answers. If there is no problem with the four-trangka green (no matter which quadrant is affixed to a cover, postal clerks know they are looking at the equivalent of one trangka -- no other denomination is green), there is certainly room for error or cheating with the twos. During the period of bisect use, the two values were both being printed in the same colors from time to time. So, once the sender used up his halves showing the "2" value, how could the clerk tell whether the other half was from a "one" or a "two"? This, however short the supposed supply of one-trangkas.

I examined some half dozen examples in my own collection and then combed auction catalogs going back to 1978. Out of my own holdings and about twenty-five photos from the auctions (a few of the illustrations were too blurry to allow for a certain identification), I found only five in all without the "two" value showing. Did most of the users simply destroy the "unusable" half, or, as a few did, affix it as if non-controversial? Even if I add to my figures a few where the bisect remains affixed to a single or a pair of the twos, thus legitimizing its provenience, there are still more halves showing the value panel than not. We cannot assume that the clerks did not care, or there should be about the same of each for the disconnected use of bisects.

The usual bisection is vertical, but copies exist severed diagonally (which Waterfall considers at least in the case of bisected fours, sort of Johnny-come-lately's, philatelically-produced imitations). One of my five examples with no value panel is such a diagonal bisect. Waterfall does not mention a third, quirky method of bisection: horizontal. I have seen three of this variety, two of which are cut too low to show a value. My count, then, consists of two controversial vertical bisects, one diagonal, and these two horizontal cuts. For the record, let me add, in my possibly biased judgment, none of these variously cut twos looks any more philatelic than any of the others.

There are some even more creative cuttings. I have a cover with three-fourths of a four (Waterfall in 1981 edition mentions this "three-fourths usage, but it is not sure whether he considers it philatelic . . . [p.109]) plus a two to make the five-trangka rate, and I saw a catalog illustration of a cover bearing one half of a two-trangka still attached to a whole two below it, thus forming an "L", which the description suggests may be unique. Waterfall would doubtless disapprove of such an unusual scissoring. He did not even appreciate a two-trangka bisect plus another two to make up an example of that never properly explained, ephemeral three-trangka registry (?) rate, but, again, if such a rate really existed at about that period, why should it not be so satisfied (of course, a healthy attitude of suspicion is in order)?

Moral: Tibetan philately is rarely given to surrendering its secrets meekly.



There were several items of interest for collectors of Tibet at World Columbian Stamp Expo held in Rosemont IL the last ten days of May. On Monday, May 25, the author presented a slide program on "The Postal Issues of Tibet". A small group of seven interested collectors attended the session. Following the slide program, member Geoffrey Flack led a discussion on Tibet philately, and shared information he had recently acquired, and circulated some interesting stamps and covers.

Thanks to Leo Martyn and Geoffrey Flack for supplying material and assembling a one-frame exhibit about the Nepal and Tibet Study Circle at the show. Examples and varieties of Nepal issues from 1881 to the modern era were displayed, including postal stationery, revenues, and cancellations. The Tibet material ran from the first issue to the 1933 issue, showing examples of pin-perforations and different types of cancels. Covers shown indicated handling within the Tibetan postal system as well as by the British-Indian system.

In the International Court of Honor - The Aristocrats of Philately - many excellent individual world classics and country collections were displayed. Of interest to Tibet collectors was the exhibit of Meiso Mizuhara on the "Chinese Imperial Post 1897-1911". Four pages of Tibet material were shown. A 1910 cover from Peking to Yatung and the Dahching Postal Service was seen. Another page contained a 1910 registered cover from Lhasa to Gyantse with a Lhasa Type 1 and Gyantse Type 2 cancels on stamps of China.

The third page contained a complete mint set of the 1911 surcharge issue including the retouched 2½ annas on 10¢, the large inverted "S", and a block of four of the 3 pies on 1¢ with inverted surcharge. The fourth page exhibited a 1911 registered cover from Lhasa via Yatung to Peking with several values of the surcharge issue.

Nepal - Tibet - India Forged Covers

Leo Martyn

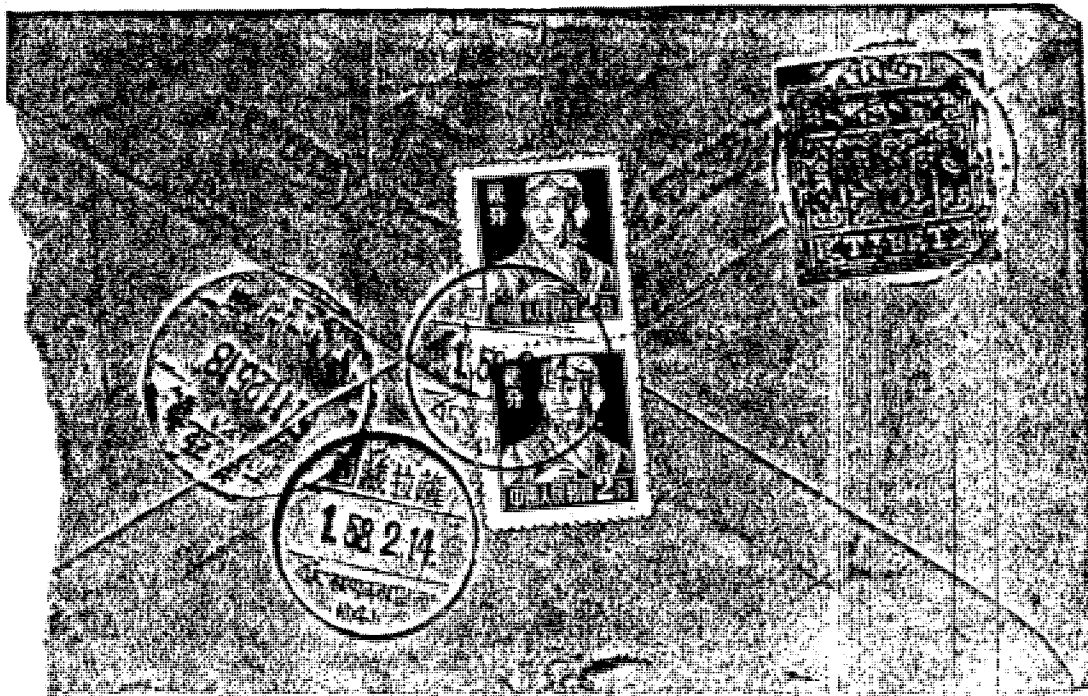
Some rather dangerous forged covers were recently offered by a German auction house which collectors should be aware of. Each cover had the same "Chinese Post Office in Tibet" Lhasa cancel (Waterfall and West type C8) with the same date - Feb. 14, 1958. It appears that genuine Kalimpong to Lhasa and Nepal to Lhasa covers were altered with the application of Chinese stamps and the C8 postmark which APPEARS TO BE GENUINE - apparently the canceller has fallen into the hands of a forger. Most likely the local Tibetan stamps (forgeries) have also been added. Illustrated below is a blow-up of the postmark and three of the covers which, with several other similar covers, were withdrawn before the sale.



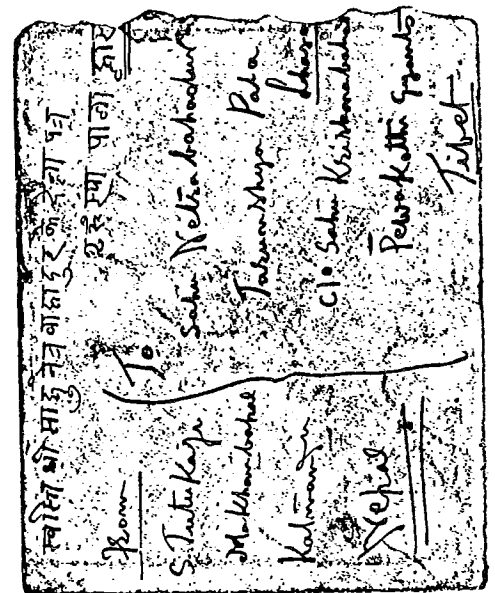
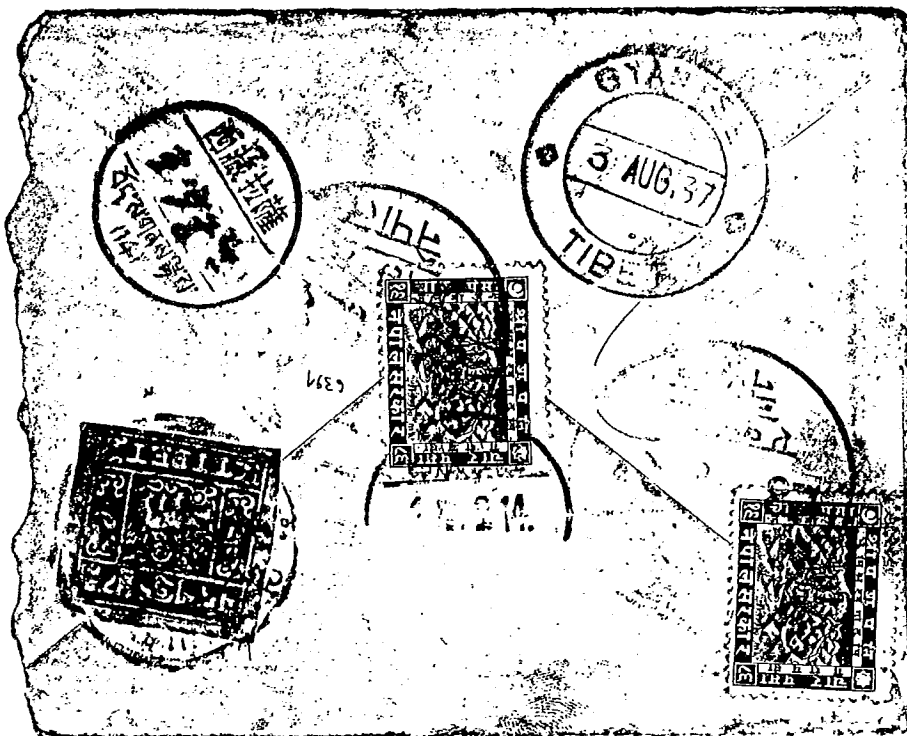
Waterfall-West Type C8



The Indian postmark appears to be Jan. 24, 1958, too long for normal transit - some 21 days.



Genuine receiving postmark of Yatung (West type C6) dated Nov. 25, 195(7?).

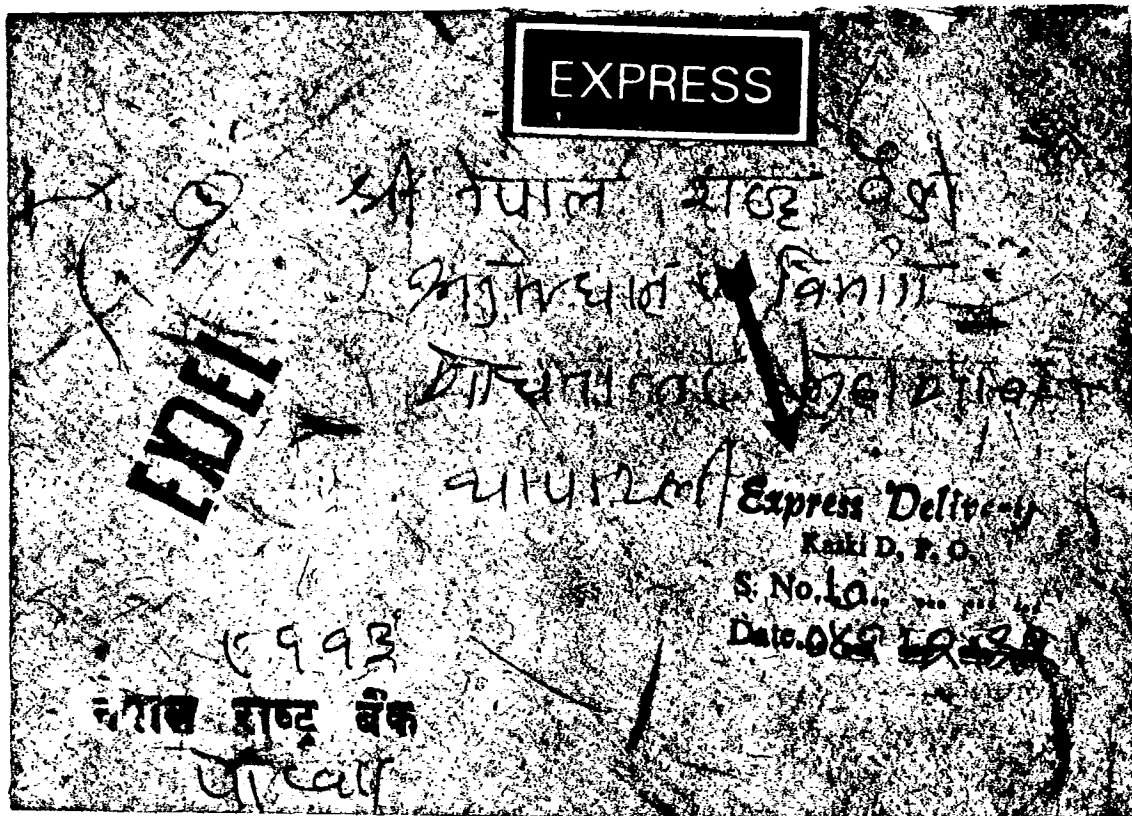


Addressed to Lhasa, C/O of an agent in Gyantse (receiving postmark dated Aug. 3, 1937). The local Tibetan 4 tr. stamp is not the correct rate for 1937 (should be 1 tr.) and the Chinese type C8 postmark was not introduced until 1955, some 18 years after the cover was posted in Kathmandu. Even though the date has been inked-out on the C8 postmark another partial strike can be seen tying the middle stamp and showing the same date as on the other covers.

"EXDEL" Cover

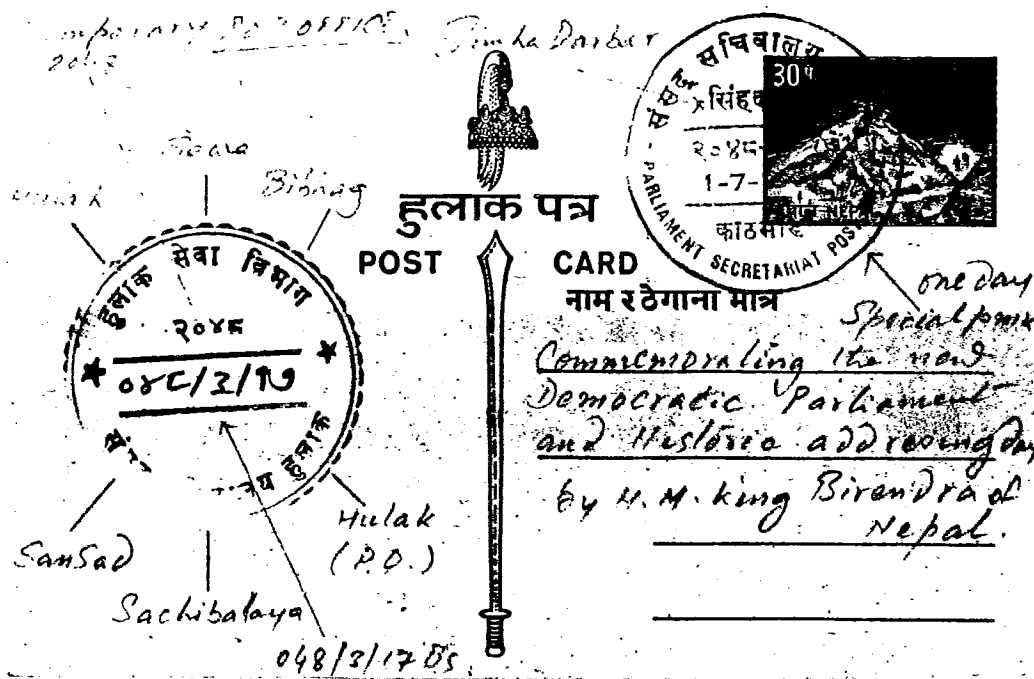
S.L. Shrestha

Mr. Surrendra Lal Shrestha sent the following unusual 1989 cover (Gift of Mr. T.B. Dhakwa) bearing a red "Express" label and a violet "EXDEL" handstamp plus a violet handstamp of the Kaski District Post Office. He states that "EX" means express and "DEL" means delivery. He also mentions that in Nepal "EXDEL" is also referred to as "Drut Delivery Sewa". The cover bears 1R. 60 paisa in postage on the reverse.



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Mr. Shrestha also sent this 1991 postcard bearing a temporary postmark of Singha Darbar and special postmark commemorating the New Democratic Parliament.



QUESTIONS AND ANSWERS

Dear Mr. Martyn:

We know that the stamps of the Chinese office in Tibet were only issued by the Chinese Imperial Post. But an article published in "Prize Selections from the ROCPEX TAIPEI '81" [ed. Contents taken from exhibits at the 1981 Philatelic Exhibition in Taipei] stated:

"On February 2, 1940 the National Government assigned Wu Chung-hsin, the then Chairman, Mongolian & Tibetan Affairs Commission, to come to Lhasa to officiate at the inaugural ceremony of the Djalai [sic] Lama XIV. A Chinese representative also was stationed in Tibet. The ROC Postal Administration then overprinted some of the Dr. Sun Yat-sen Issue, Second Hong Kong Chung Hwa Print stamps (Ord. 27) with "Tibet", three waving lines were also overprinted. There were five denominations: 2 cents, 3 cents, 5 cents, 8 cents and 10 cents. Though these overprinted "Tibet" stamps were never issued, some were first put on display at the philatelic exhibition held on March 20, 1951 at the Taipei City Hall. Whole sheets of the 2-cent stamps and 10-cent stamps of this Tibet Overprint set were exhibited at Rocpex '73 held at the National Museum of History, Taipei.

In 1944 when the government escorted the Panchen Lama X to Lhasa for his inaugural ceremony, it planned also to resume the Chinese Postal Service in Tibet. Consequently, the Postal Administration also prepared to overprint some of the Dr. Sun Yat-sen Issue, Pacheng Print and Chung-king Chung Hwa Print stamps with 'Restricted for Use in Tibet.' But this plan did not materialize."

The overprinted stamps are Scott catalogue # 349-51, 353 and 354. I asked the Directorate General of Posts about these stamps. He said they had saved a complete set of these antique stamps, but they didn't give me pictures. I think that maybe there are some of these stamps outside China. Can anyone confirm the existence of the overprinted stamps? The overprint made up of Chinese characters is:

藏

Wilson Lin  
Number 74, Section 1, Anhe Road,  
Anna District, Tainan City,  
Taiwan Province 709,  
Republic of China

[ed. I would appreciate a copy of any information sent to Mr. Lin for publication in the Postal Himal.]

\*\*\*\*\*

Dr. Hellrigl questions the date of my cover bearing three copies of the "New Design" 1 anna (see Postal History #69-70, p. 27), stating that it couldn't date from 1945 as the cancel wasn't introduced until 1948 and the backstamp until 1949. Of course he is correct. I had misread the cancel and used the manuscript date, 2003, as a confirmation of the year. Actually the manuscript date refers to the engraved year of the wax seals. Dr. Hellrigl states, "I have found that this practice [notating the year of the wax seal on the cover] is sometimes met with in covers of this period and I noticed it on almost all covers with late uses of the 4 as." Upon careful inspection of the cover I was able to date the cancel as Feb. 5, 1953. I had interpreted an inverted year digit of 9 for a 6.

issue of the same bundle  
 of the same address. Up to 50 gms 0/15  
 Each additional  
 50 gms or part 0/10

6. Blind Literature Free

MISCELLANEOUS

- |     |   |   |              |
|-----|---|---|--------------|
| 1.  | Certificate of posting  | For 3 articles  | 1/-          |
| 2.  | Registration Fee  | per article   | 6/-          |
| 3.  | Late Registration Fee:  | per article   | 1/-          |
| 4.  | Acknowledgement   | per article   | 1/-          |
| 5.  | Attested Receipt of Registered article/per article (within 3 months)  |   | 2/-          |
| 6.  | Recall of Posting per article   |   | 7/-          |
| 7.  | Change of address per article (only before the dispatch of article)   |   | 15/-         |
| 8.  | Enquiry Fee:  |   |              |
|     | (a) Inland article  | per article   | 1/50         |
|     | (b) article intended for India  | per article   | 4/-          |
|     | (c) Official inland article   |   | Free         |
| 9.  | Insurance fee up to Rs. 500/- (for Nepal and India) There after each Rs. 200/- or part (Registration Fee is charged Separately) |   | 7/50<br>2/50 |
| 10. | Money order commission (for Nepal and India)  |   |              |
|     | a) up to Rs. 100/-  |   | 2/50         |
|     | each additional Rs. 10/- per part   |   | 0/15         |
|     | b) extra charge for each Rs. 100/- or part there of for India   |   | 0/15         |
|     | c) M.O. form per copy   |   | 0/15         |
|     | Telegraphic Money Order   |   |              |
|     | a) up to Rs. 100/-  |   | 1/50         |
|     | b) up to Rs. 500/-  |   | 3/-          |
|     |   | Service will be intruduced in selected districts as per decision of the Dept. |              |
|     | c) up to Rs. 1000/-   | (Additional charge will be collected for telegraphic money order.)            | 4/50         |
| 11. | Postal order commission:  |   |              |
|     | a) -/50 up to Rs. 5/- per card  |   | 0/05         |
|     | b) Rs. 10/- per card  |   | 0/10         |
|     | c) Rs. 20/- per card  |   | 0/20         |
| 12. | Postal Identity card per copy:  |   |              |
|     | a) For one fiscal year  |   | 5/-          |
|     | b) For three fiscal year  |   | 10/-         |
| 13. | Demurrage charge:   |   |              |
|     | a) First 7 days from the date of intimation delivered   | Free  |              |
|     | b) Thereafter for 15 days/ per day  |   | 4/-          |
|     | c) Thereafter for 15 days/ per day  |   | 7/-          |
|     | d) Thereafter the parcel will be disposed off as per legislation  |   |              |
|     | e) No import licence is required for the article other than prohibited ones valuing up to Rs. 600/-                             |   |              |

# POSTAGE RATES

(Effective from 16th July 1992)

## POSTAGE RATES

(Effective from 16th July 1992)

### INLAND POSTAGE RATES (INCLUDING INDIA)

- |    |   |   |                      |
|----|---|---|----------------------|
| 1. | Letter  | up to 20 gms<br>Each additional<br>10 gms or part                   | 1/-<br>0/50          |
| 2. | Aerogramme  |   | 0/75                 |
| 3. | Post Card   |   | 0/50                 |
|    | (a) Printed Post Card   |   | 0/60                 |
|    | Explanation:- Printed post card signifies those cards other than hand written or typed which is printed, sketched, memographed/(Leaving the space for the use of sender's and addressee's address) with the help of any machine or press. |   |                      |
| 4. | Book-post printed paper, Small packet   | up to 20 gms<br>Each additional<br>10 gms or part                   | 0/75<br>0/50         |
| 5. | Registered Newspaper  |   |                      |
|    | (a) for single copy   | up to 25 gms.<br>up to 50 gms<br>Each additional<br>25 gms or part. | 0/10<br>0/15<br>0/10 |
|    | (b) In case of more than one copy of the same   |   |                      |

14. Post Box Rent for one fiscal year 400/-

Parcel Rate (Domestic)

1. Surface Parcel

- (a) For the first 500 gms 15/-  
For additional 500 gms or part thereof (Up to 20 KG) 15/-
- (b) Parcel up to 1000 gms dispatched from remote district declared by HMG to the easily accessible districts 15/-  
For additional 500 gms or part thereof (up to 20 KG) 15/-

2. Air Parcel

- (a) For the first 500 gms 25/-
- (b) For additional 100 gms or part thereof (up to 10 KG) 7/-
- (b) Parcel up to 500 gms dispatched from remote districts declared by HMG to the easily accessible districts 20/-  
For additional 100 gms or part thereof (up to 10 KG) 7/-

**DOMESTIC EXPRESS MAIL DELIVERED SERVICE RATES**

- (a) For the First 20 gms. 2/-  
(in addition to the Postal Charge for an ordinary Postal item.)
- (b) Each additional 20 gms. or part thereof (up to 1000 gms) 0/50

**FOREIGN POSTAGE RATES**

**AIR MAIL**

	Zone 1	Zone 2	Zone 3	Zone 4
1. Letter Up to 20 gms. Each additional 10 gms. or part (up to 2kgs.)	8/-	10/-	11/-	13/-
2. (a) Post Card (b) Printed Post Card	6/-	7/-	9/-	10/-
3. Aerogramme	7/-	8/-	10/-	11/-
4. Book-post, Printed Paper, News Paper: Each 20 gms or part	4/-	5/-	6/-	8/-
5. Small Packet: Each 50 gms or part (up to 1 kg)	15/-	16/-	17/-	20/-
6. Blind Literature:	Free (up to 7 kg)			
7. Registered Newspaper: each 20 gms	2/50	3/-	3/50	4/50
8. Insurance Fee	(as per inland postage rates)			

**SURFACE MAIL**

APPU Countries

- 1. Letter
 

Up to 20 gms.	7/50	6/-
21 gms to 50 gms.	12/-	10/-
51 gms to 100 gms.	20/-	15/-
101 gms to 250 gms.	35/-	26/-
251 gms to 500 gms.	60/-	45/-
501 gms to 1000 gms	100/-	80/-
1001 gms to 2000 gms	175/-	140/-
  - 2. Post Card 5/- 3/50
  - 3. Book-Post, Printed paper Newspaper.
 

Up to 20 gms	4/-	3/50
21 gms to 100 gms	8/-	7/-
101 gms to 250 gms	10/-	9/-
251 gms to 500 gms	20/-	18/-
501 gms to 1000 gms	40/-	36/-
1001 gms to 2000 gms	60/-	55/-
above 2000 gms per additional step of 1000 gms	16/-	14/-
  - 4. Small packet:
 

Up to 100 gms	10/-	7/-
101 gms to 250 gms	15/-	10/-
251 gms to 500 gms	30/-	20/-
501 gms to 1000 gms	45/-	30/-
1001 gms to 2000 gms	70/-	40/-
  - 5. Blind Literature..... Free.
  - 6. Registered Newspaper per 50 gms 3/- 2/50
  - 7. Insurance Fee (as per inland postage rates)
- N.B.: Maximum weight: - Letter 2KG.  
- Printed paper, 2KG  
(For Books and Pamphlet 5 KG)

**MISCELLANEOUS**

- 1. Enquiry fee per article 7/-
- 2. Customs clearance fee if duty is levied 5/-
- 3. Certificate of posting per 3 articles 3/-
- 4. Registration fee per article 10/-
- 5. International reply coupon per coupon 13/-
- 6. Acknowledgement fee 5/-
- 7. Demurrage Charge (as per inland rate)
- 8. Repacking charge:
 

(a) parcel without customs duty	3/-
(b) parcel with duty up to Rs. 50/-	6/-
(c) parcel with duty up to Rs. 100/-	9/-
(d) parcel with duty up to Rs. 200/-	12/-
(e) parcel with duty above Rs. 201/-	15/-

NB:- Rates not included in the above postage rates will be charged as per miscellaneous rate specified for inland postage.

Zone - I

Bangladesh, Bhutan, Sri-Lanka, Pakistan, Maldives.

Zone - 2

Afganistan, Abudhabi, Aden, Ajman, Baharain, Brunei, People Republic of Chine, Dubai, Hongkong, Indonesia, Iran, Iraq, Kampuchea, Kuwait, Laos, Macao, Myanmar, Malaysia, North Broneo, Oman, Persian Gulf, Philippines, Qatar, Ras-Al Khalmah, Sabah, Sarawak, Saudi Arabia, Singapore, Somali Republic, Sharjah, Taiwna, Thailand, Umal Quiwain, United Arab Emirates, Vietnam, Yeman Arab Republic

Zone - 3

Albania, Armenia, Algeria, Angola, Ascencion Austria, Azerbaigan, Bechuana, Belgium, Benin., Byclorussia, Botswana, Bosnia Hergovina, Bulgaria, Burundi, Cameroon, Cape Verde IS. Central African Republic, Chad, Comoros, Congo, Croatia, Cheque and Slovak, Cyprus, Dahomey, Denmark, Djibouti, Egypt, Ethiopia, Eritria, Equatorial Guinea, Finland, East Africa, West Africa, France, Gabon, Gambia, Germany, Ghana, Gibraltar, Great Britain and N. Ireland, Greece, Guinea, Estonia, Bessau, Guinea Republic, Hungary, Iceland, Ireland, Isle of Man, Israel, Italy, Ivory Coast, Japan, Latvia, Jersey, Jordan, Kenya, Korea (Republic), Kazakhstan, Kirghizistan, Korea (PDR) Lebanon, Lesotho Lethonia, Liberia, Libya Arab Jamahiriya, Liechtenstein, Luxembourg, Madagascar, Malawi, Mali Republic, Malta, Mauritania, Mauritius, Morocco, Mont Serrate, Mongolia Republic, Moldova, Monaco, Mozambique, Rep of Namibia, Netherlands, Niger, Republic, Nigeria, Norway, Poland, Portugal, Protegees Timor, Reunion, Rumania, Rwanda, San Marinio. St. Helene, Senegal, Seychelles, Sierra Leone, Rep of Slovenia, South Africa, Spain, Spanish Guiena, Sudan, Switzerland, Swaziland, Sweden, Syria, Tanzania, Turkmenistan, Tadjikistan, Togo Republic, Triestan de Cunha, Tunisia, Turkey, Uganda, Uzbekistan, Ukraine, Russian Federation, Upper Volta (Bourkino Faso), Vatican city, Yugoslavia, (Serbia and Mentenegro), Zambia, Zaire, Zimbabwe.

Zone - 4

Anguilla Is, Antigua, Australia, Argentina, Bahamas, Barbados, Belize, Bermuda, Bolivia, Brazil, Canada, Caroline Isle, Cayman Isle, Chile, Colombia, Cook Island, Costa Rica, Cuba, Dominica, Dominican Rep., Equador, El Salvador, Falkland Isle, Fanning Isle, Fiji, Gilbert and Alice Isle, Grenada, Guatemala, Guam, Guyana Haiti, Honduras Republic, Jamaica, Kiribati, Mariana Isle, Marshall Isle, Martinique, Mexico, Nauru Isle, New Calidonia, New Hebrides, New Zealand, Nicaragua, Narfolk Isle, Panama, Panama Canal Zone, Papua New Guinea, Paraguay, Peru, Pitcairn Isle, Peutro Rico. St. Thomas, St. Chiristopher, St., Kitis Nevis, Sao Tome and Prinicipe, Samoa, San Marinio, Santa Cruz, Solomon Isle, St. Lucia, St. Vincent, St. Piare & Miquelon, Suriname, Tonga, Trinidad and Tobago, Turkes and Callos Isle, Tuvalu (ELLIS), United States of America (U.S.A) Uruguay, Vanuatu, Venezuela, Virgin Island, Walis and Futuna, Western Samoa.

NB:- APPU countries are as follows:

Afganistan, Australia, Bangladesh, Bhutan, Brunei Darussalam, People's Republic of China, India, Indonesia, Japan, Republic of Korea, People's Democratic Republic of Laos, Malaysia, Maldives, Nauru, Nepal, New Zealand, Pakistan, Papuwa New Guinea, Philippines, Singapore, Sri Lanka, Thailand, Vietnam.

Many thanks to Mr. S.L. Shrestha, the Study Circle's Representative in Nepal, for sending the new postal rate schedule.

THE NEPAL AND TIBET PHILATELIC STUDY CIRCLE

Accounts

END OF FINANCIAL YEAR

30 APRIL 1992

INCOME		EXPENDITURE	
ITEM		ITEM	
Bank Interest	501.49	Postage	82.29
Subscriptions	486.50	Trans. R. Skinner	597.09
Auction 54	170.75	Telephone	153.10
Auction 55	141.64	Insurance	39.43
Auction 56	225.15	Stationery	29.92
Auction 57	123.15	BPF Subs	59.00
Donation	1.00	Advert	14.56
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	1649.68		975.39
Trans. from Extra Interest Account	3204.71		
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	4854.39	Cash at Bank:	
		Giro Account	103.00
		Lloyds Account	3893.60
Cash at Bank 1991	289.01	Postage Stamps	171.41
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	5143.40		5143.40