

POSTAL HIMAL

QUARTERLY OF THE NEPAL AND TIBET

PHILATELIC STUDY CIRCLE





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Printed in the U.S.A.

HIMALAYAN VIEWS

Leo MacTyn

I apologize to all members for getting out this issue so late in the year. The next issue will follow soon.

o o o o o

The front cover of the last issue (no. 81, Cumulative Index) was incorrectly labeled as the 4th Quarter - it should have read 1st Quarter. I have enclosed within this issue a self-adhesive tape to be placed over the mistake (peel away the backing).

o o o o o

Several corrections to issue no. 81, the Cumulative Index, were sent in by members, as follows:

Page 4 - the beginning of the bottom four lines should read:

1930, used on ...
1898 17:6 ...
1911-1923 17:6 ...
Bisects>"Tibet ...

Page 33 - all of the references listed under SHRESTHA, MADAN BAHADUR should be attributed to SHRESTHA, SURENDRA LAL except the following which are correctly assigned to SHRESTHA, MADAN BAHADUR: "The Australian ... commemorative envelope" 55:37-38; >"Additional information - re money orders" 63:40; Obituary 74:25 (should also be listed under SHRESTHA, SURENDRA LAL).

Page 39, Line 5: should read VIGNOLA, FRANK (eliminate EDWARD).

Line 7: should read BECKPEX '78.

line 29: should read VIGNOLA, FRANK EDWARD.

line 14: "vermeil and Michael Rogers ... WESTPEX '88 54.16" should be listed under VIGNOLA, FRANK EDWARD.

lines 21 & 22: "Philatelic references ... in To Lhasa in Disguise" should be listed under VIGNOLA, FRANK EDWARD.

lines 26 & 27: The Sri Pashupati ... and Frank E. Vignola ..." should be listed under VIGNOLA, FRANK EDWARD.

o o o o o

Mr. D.R. Pandey, the officer-in-charge of the Nepal Philatelic Bureau in Kathmandu, has graciously sent stamp folders and first-day covers for 1994 and 1995. He stated that these will also be sent in the future. We will be sending copies of the Postal Himal for their archives. We can thank Mr. Surendra Lal Shrestha, our representative in Kathmandu, for making this welcome and greatly appreciated arrangement possible.

प्रथम दिवसीय आवरण

FIRST DAY COVER



व्यक्तित्व टिकटमाला

PERSONALITIES SERIES

२०५२ / १९९५



o o o o o

Member Colin Narbeth is seeking information, as follows:

UNITS PRESENT IN TIBET 1904

In D.S. Virk's excellent book, Postal History of Indian Campaigns, Sikkim Tibet 1903-1908, he gives the most comprehensive list I have seen of Units present. Looking through my war-medal collection I noticed some units not mentioned by Mr. Virk. This does not, of course, necessarily mean that the unit was present, as the recipient could have been attached to another unit for the expedition. But it does demonstrate that individuals from the following units were present:

Lieut. A.F. Redfern, 7th Gurkhas. Silver - no bar.
Sepoy. 16th Mule Corps. Silver - no bar.
Sepoy. 34th Pioneers. Silver - no bar.
Driver 17th M. Cadre. Silver - no bar.

I would like to hear from any member who can identify what "17th M. Cadre" refers to. Colin Narbeth, 6 Hall Place Gardens, St. Albans, Herts AL1 3SP, Great Britain.

I am also trying to trace any letters or covers from or to, Lieut. C.A. Elliott, R.E., who served on General Macdonald's staff. If you know of any I would like to hear about them.

And, any information regarding early mail from Chinese soldiers when they first occupied Tibet in the 1950s. I cannot trace a mail-service till about 1954-55. If anyone has some information and would care to write an article I would like to publish it in the Journal of Chinese Philately, of which I am the editor [ed. We would also like to publish it in the Postal Himal].

One last request - has anyone seen or heard of propaganda leaflets being dropped over Tibet prior to the invasion?

[ed. We are pleased to print such requests in hopes that new information will come to light.]

o o o o o

Frank Warner and Tibet

by Alan Warren

Old time collectors will remember the Nassau Street stamp dealers of New York City. Unfortunately times have changed all that and Nassau Street has lost the philatelic luster it once had. However, one of the enterprising dealers at 109 Nassau St. was Frank Warner. His famous slogan was "One of the most complete stocks of the world-- in the world." He maintained one of the largest stocks of material from 1920 on.

For several years Frank published his "Frank Warner's Market Report" in which he would comment on recent travels to buy for his stock, and discuss the current status of the hobby. Sometimes he would mention the recently issued catalogs and then he would provide an analysis, country by country, with some tips on which particular issues were "hot" at the moment. No doubt it was a good sales ploy for his own business.

Frank's 1955 report, his fifth annual edition, included the following comments on Tibet.

Tibet is a favorite country with many American collectors. This is one of the "magic words" of stamp advertising; all we have to do is mention the word "Tibet" in one of our ads and we are sure to receive a couple of dozen inquiries. Scott has added six additional stamps to the 1955 edition and has provided quotations for two rare items which were hitherto unpriced. Except for #14-18, every stamp of Tibet is elusive.

We have never seen #6, nor #9-13. O1 is also virtually unobtainable. #7 is even rarer than #8 and should be listed accordingly. Covers are very much in demand and are usually sold on the day we receive them. Supplies from Tibetan sources never amounted to more than a trickle. Now that Tibet has been absorbed into Communist China and Chinese stamps are in use, it seems certain that Tibetan material will become even rarer than it already is. Highly recommended!

One of my favorite quotes of Frank Warner was his observation on how to distinguish a genuine Tibetan cover from the forgeries that often turned up. His recommendation was simply to smell it. If it carried the odor of yak dung, it was genuine for it came down out of the Himalayas by courier and pack animal!

Unfortunately Frank died in a tragic swimming accident in 1958. However, the business is still run by his son Walter A. Warner.

* * * * *

Book Review

The Armand E. Singer Tibet 1809-1975, by Prof. Dr. A.E. Singer. Santa Monica, California: George Alevizos, 1995. Illustrated, American quarto format, iv + 193 pp., soft cover. The standard edition shows black and white photocopied illustrations (with five colour plates); the special edition features colour photocopies throughout.

I have waited impatiently for this book to be published and now that I am leafing through its pages, I can indeed experience, as the author anticipates in his foreword, some of the delights he must have known in assembling his treasures. This book is about a gold-medal collection of Tibet that shows, above all, the individuality, knowledge and personal taste of its owner. What struck me immediately is the massive presence of rare and extraordinary material, including many familiar covers that I knew from various auction catalogues and quite a few that I had bid on myself, alas unsuccessfully. Several other outstanding items were totally new to me (I had never had the chance to actually view the exhibit itself), so they interested me even more.

There are many good reasons for publishing a collection by photocopying the album pages. To begin with, the publication represents a permanent record of the author's holdings, a useful reference that can be used without disturbing the originals. The reader of a published collection has more leisure to study an item than the visitor at an exhibition, he can compare items, view them in good light and under magnification, and he can return to them anytime he desires. By sharing the copies of his collection with other philatelists, the author opens a most individual source of information and knowledge that can be of great advantage indeed, especially if the write-up is as detailed as Prof. Singer's. Finally, the way of displaying a collection must be of considerable interest to any exhibitor of the same field. Although I personally have a rather different approach to exhibiting, I must say that, by reading through this volume, I have picked up several ideas that will eventually result in an improvement of my own exhibit.

One point that the author has particularly well demonstrated is the great variety that Tibet's postal history has to offer. From the early Dalai Lama letters, to the British-Indian and the Imperial Chinese periods, and, at last, independence. Then there are the Everest expedition covers, the postal history of the border areas of Kerong, Khasa, Kuti and Mustang, the controversial officials and radio-telegraph stamps, the second Chinese occupation, the labels of the Tibetan government in exile. Many dramatic events and highlights of Tibetan history come to life in the pages

NEPAL: THE FIRST ISSUE POSTAL CARD - A NEW DISCOVERY!

by Dick van der Wateren

"So little interest is taken in postal stationery at the present day, that I fear it would be considered a final condemnation of the issues of Nepal if I were to hint that the Postal Cards are even more interesting than the adhesives", Major Evans wrote in "Stanley Gibbons Monthly Journal" for March, 1906.

I'll leave that aside, but in fact, while finishing the Nepal Catalogue of the Postal Stationery, 1887-1992, my interest in the postal stationery and mainly in the "Classic" postcards, increased rapidly. Renewing my studies of the postal cards, new differences came to light, resulting in varieties as described in Postal Himal, issues nos. 75 and 76.

But recently I obtained another rarity. The card in question, identified as Wa 18 in Nepal Postal Stationery (W 5bc in Nepal Catalogue of the Postal Stationery, 1887-1992), shows the smaller format, the stamp C, Horse 3, Text M, Words 5 and Ornament II. Also, the large text is ending in a full stop. My new acquisition is exactly identical to the other Wa 18 cards I have, except that the blurred stamp is always in a different position.

What makes the new found card so interesting, while being identical to the other Wa 18? It is the color in which the stamp is printed. We all know, the usual color is vermilion, sometimes orange and I even have one in an unusual reddish brown. But the stamp of the newly discovered variety was printed in a curious **deep brown** color, established through the use of Stanley Gibbons' Stamp Colour Key. Nowhere in the sources I have consulted has such a color been mentioned. The previous owner obtained the card between 1920 and 1935, together with stationery of many other countries.

Through inquires, possible causes such as high heat or intensive sunlight were offered. I experimented with two inexpensive cards: one was in contact with a hot iron for over an hour, the other was exposed to strong sunlight for more than two weeks but the colors of the two cards did not change from the normal vermilion of the stamped areas. I therefore believe that the rare deep brown color must be genuine.

In searching through my classic Nepal stamp collection I found some 2 anna stamps of the last settings (1927-1939, "cleaned lettering variety") in almost the same color. The card could have been printed during this period.

If anyone also has a card with the stamp in the same **deep brown** color please contact me (a color photocopy would be greatly appreciated). I am still looking for proof that W 2c and W 5b exist - clear photocopies also appreciated.

* * * * *

A MYSTERIOUS PHARI TIBET CANCEL

by George Bourke

The recent Christie's sale¹ of the Henry Garratt-Adams collection contained, as is usual with such collections, a small group of forgeries. I was fortunate in being able to acquire this material, among which were found four genuine stamps with a previously unrecorded Phari, Tibet cancel.

According to the album notations made by Garratt-Adams, the stamps had come off a genuine cover addressed to an E.J. Carrell (?)² of South Africa. This cover had been sent through the British Post Office at Pharijong, Tibet in October 1934.

Unfortunately, I am unable to confirm this note, as the removal of the stamps and their subsequent separation from the cover have destroyed any possible information that might have been derived from the cover itself.

I assume that the stamps had been removed by someone prior to their being acquired by Garratt-Adams. This would make his information secondhand at best.

All of the stamps belong to the 1st Setting and three of them have genuine perforations: the ½ tr. orange (W-105), 1 tr. carmine lake (W-141) and 2 tr. scarlet (W-170). The 2/3 tr. dark ultramarine is imperforate (W-128). Each of these stamps has a cancel consisting of the words PHARI TIBET.

This two-line cancel is in blue with a straight line under the word TIBET. This line is not seen on the 2 tr. stamp, not surprisingly if you consider that such differences in impression can be caused by a slight variation in the angle at which the canceler is held. The letters of the cancel on the 2 tr. are also clearer and without the thickening seen on the other stamps. This thickening in turn could be caused by the rocking back and forth of the canceler in contact with the stamp, a common enough occurrence. Differences in the amount of ink applied to the canceler can cause wide variations in appearance of a cancel from one stamp to another. Despite these visual differences, I am satisfied that we are dealing here with a single canceler.

Although the stamps are genuine, there remains the question of the cancel. Could it be genuine? A previously unrecorded British Phari Tibet cancel? Phari does have a history of unusual cancels and markings. Some, like the negative type B12, have no equivalent elsewhere. So such an occurrence is not outside the realm of possibility.

Could this be some kind of experiment, an attempt at changing the then existing canceler, or possibly a makeshift (made-do) cancel created to fill in on a day when the normal canceler was broken and meant to be used only until a replacement was made? Was it a private experiment, the product of someone's boring afternoon working at the Post office, or maybe it is not a cancel at all but an overprint, meant to deter theft?³

Because there are no postal records to speak of, the appearance of a previously unknown cancel, so many years after its supposed use, is not without precedent. We need only recall the long interval between the 1914 issue and its discovery by the philatelic community to know that such occurrences do indeed happen. If only a few strikes were made, it could well have not been noticed for many years.

Garratt-Adams had assumed that the cancels were bogus.⁴ But what is the evidence? Unlike a suspected forgery, which can be compared to a known genuine example, a bogus item is really a

fantasy and cannot be compared in this way. If he had evidence with which to condemn this cancel, it is not apparent to us today. It is possible that such evidence has been lost. It is also possible that it never existed.

Because of the great number of forgeries, many of us look at all Tibetan material with skepticism. How might we react if faced with an entirely unknown cancel? Would we condemn it out of hand? There might be a very strong tendency to dismiss such a cancel, thinking it was false. Is this what Garratt-Adams did?

To this and the many other questions raised in this article, I must reply that we just do not know. And while some of the speculation may seem logical, it should not be confused with facts, which in this instance are few.

All that is known (that is, if the Garratt-Adams information is correct) is that the stamps were placed on the cover no earlier than October 1934 and that they are genuine.

The status of this cancel remains unknown. And while there is no positive evidence as to its genuineness, this lack is not in itself evidence against such a cancel's existing. These may simply be the first examples to come to light.

Whatever may be the case, cancel or overprint, genuine or bogus, it joins the many mysteries that make Tibet one of the most interesting countries to collect.

I would like to take this opportunity to thank Dr. Armand Singer, who gave unsparingly of his time and whose many suggestions and comments have been so very helpful in the preparation of this article.

Notes

- (1) London, April 22, 1993.
- (2) The correct spelling of the name Carrell could not be made out from Garratt-Adam's notes.
- (3) Arnold C. Waterfall, The Postal History of Tibet, London: Robson Lowe, 1981 edition, p. 39. Waterfall's recounting of an incident of mail theft underscores the fact that mail theft was a potential problem. It is possible that some bright-eyed postal employee came up with the idea of overprinting the stamps to prevent their theft or misuse, making them easier to trace in such cases. As a practice, overprinting has often been used for just such a purpose. This kind of preventative overprinting was used by the U.S. Postal Service in 1929, when, after a rash of Post Office robberies in Kansas and Nebraska, some values of the then current regular issue were overprinted "Kans." and "Nebr." This was done to make it easier to trace the stamps and harder for thieves to dispose of them.
- (4) The correct word in this case is bogus, rather than forged, as no similar genuine cancel is known. Thus it cannot be a forgery, as a forgery implies the existence of a similar genuine example which is being copied.

[Ed. The $\frac{1}{2}$ tr. and 2 tr. are illustrated on the front cover.]

* * * * *



फिलाटेलिक कार्यक्रम

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Contact: NEPAL PHILATELIC BUREAU

Sundhara, Kathmandu,

Nepal

Phone No. 2-14695

PHILATELIC PROGRAMME

1995



NEPAL PHILATELIC BUREAU

for

Nepalese Postage Stamps, First Day Covers,
Folders, Postal Stationeries etc.

क्र.सं.	प्रकाशन मिति	विषय	दर
१.	२०५२ जेठ	क्यान्सर रोग सम्बन्धी	२१-
२.	२०५२ असार	साहित्य र कला क्षेत्रका व्यक्तित्व टिकटमाला (क) श्रीमति वि तिवारी ३१- (ख) बन्धुमान मास्के ३१- (ग) पारिजात ३१- (घ) युद्ध प्रसाद मिश्र ३१-	
३.	२०५२ भाद्र	राष्ट्रिय व्यक्तित्व टिकटमाला (क) भक्ति थापा -११५ (ख) मदन कुमार बन्धारी ११- (ग) प्रकाश काफ्ले ५१-	
४.	२०५२ भाद्र	जनावर टिकटमाला १०१- प्रत्येकको (क) (ख) (ग) (घ)	
५.	२०५२ चैत्र	नेपाल दर्शन टिकटमाला १३१- प्रत्येकको (क) भिमेश्वर मन्दिर, दोलखा (ख) उग्रतारा मन्दिर, डडेल्धुरा (ग) नाम्पा हिमाल (घ) थान्का चित्र	
६.	२०५२ आश्विन	विश्व खाद्य तथा कृषि संगठनको ५० औं वर्ष ७१-	
७.	२०५२ कार्तिक	संयुक्त राष्ट्रसंघको ५० औं वर्ष ५०१-	
८.	२०५२ मंसिर	लम्बोनी (बुद्ध सम्बन्धी) २०१-	
९.	२०५२ पौष	श्री ५ महाराजाधिराज सरकारको ५९ औं शुभ जन्मोत्सव ८१-	

टिप्पणी: १. आवश्यकता अनुसार यस कार्यक्रम र दरमा थपघट हुन
सक्नेछ ।

२. प्रत्येक प्रकाशनको सम्बन्धमा विशेष जानकारी नेपाल
फिलाटेलिक ब्यूरो, काठमाडौंबाट समय समयमा उपलब्ध
हुन सक्नेछ ।

S.No.	Date of Issue	Subject or occasion	Rate
1.	June 1995	Disease of Cancer	Rs. 2.00
2.	July 1995	Personality Series a) Literateurs and Artists 1- Bhim Nidhi Tiwari Rs. 3.00 2- Chandra Man Maskey Rs. 3.00 3- Parijaat Rs. 3.00 4- Yuddha Prasad Mishra Rs. 3.00	
3.	August 1995	b) National Personalities 1- Bhakti Thapa 0.15 P. 2- Madan Kumar Bhandari Rs. 1.00 3- Prakash Kafley Rs. 4.00	
4.	August 1995	Animal Series Rs. 10.00 each 1- 2- 3- 4-	
5.	Sept. 1995	Visit Nepal Series Rs. 13.00 each 1- Bhimeshwor Temple, Dolakha 2- Ugratara Temple, Dadeldhura 3- Mt Nampa 4- Thanka Art	
6.	Oct. 1995	50th Anniversary of the FAO Rs. 7.00	
7.	Oct. 1995	50th Anniversary of the UNO Rs. 50.00	
8.	Nov. 1995	Lumbini (Relating to Lord Buddha) Rs. 20.00	
9.	Dec. 1995	51st Birthday of H.M. the King Rs. 8.00	

Note: 1) The above Programmes and rates are subject to
change as necessary.

2) The detailed information on each issue will be
available from Nepal Philatelic Bureau, Kathmandu
from time to time.

Tibet, Third Series, 1933-1960 Plating Study was awarded a Silver Medal at Canada's Third National Philatelic Literature Exhibition (Ottawa/Hull, May 6-7, 1995). This very fine reference book was written by Frealon Bibbins with Geoffrey Flack (published by Geoffrey Flack). In addition Frealon has recently completed a plating study of the second series (ca. 1914) which should be published shortly (a plating study of the first series was published in 1992 by Geoffrey, also by Frealon).

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Alan Warren received a Gold Medal for his exhibit, "Tibet: Stamps and Postal History", which was shown at Colopex '95 (April 7-9, Columbus, Ohio). Ramesh Shrestha, Nepal's National Commissioner for the World Exhibition held in Helsinki - Finlandia '95 (May 10-15) reports that the following awards were presented for exhibits of Nepalese material:

"Nepal Postal Stationery" - Ramesh Shrestha - Large Silver.

"Die Ganzsachen Im Himalaya-Konigreich Von Nepal Von 1887 Bis Zur Neuzeit - Dr. Gunter-Otto Maus - Silver.

India Used in Nepal - Chandra Kumar Sthapit - Silver.

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Our Study Circle will have a 2 hour meeting on June 9 next year at 10:00 during the World Philatelic Exhibition being held in Toronto, Canada (Capex '96). Armand Singer will give a presentation titled "Tibet and Nepal - the Countries behind the Stamps". Other speakers are most welcome - please contact me. For details regarding Capex '96 see Postal Himal no. 79, p. 45. For more information (including hotels - the show site hotel is the Crowne Plaza, tel. 416/597-1400) call Capex at 800/946-9696, or write: Capex 96, P.O. Box 204, Station Q, Toronto, ON M4T 2M1, Canada.

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The Study Circle will have two meetings (2 hours each) at the World Philatelic Exhibiton, Pacific 97, being held in San Francisco from May 29 through June 8, 1997. The first meeting is on June 1 at 10:30, the second on June 7, also at 10:30. We need speakers - plenty of time for preparation. The U.S. commissioners are:

<u>Literature</u>	<u>Western</u>	<u>Central</u>	<u>Eastern</u>
Russel V. Skavaril 222 E. Torrence Road Colombus, OH 43214	Dr. Peter Iber 9379 W. Escuda Dr. Peoria, AZ 85382	Paul Larsen P.O. Box 426 Park Forest, IL 60466	John Lievsay 20 Center Drive Old Greenwich, CT 06870

For more information write: Robert Thompson, Exhibition Manager, 1940 San Mateo Place, Oxnard, CA 93033.

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Sohan Lal Dhawan & Sons, our representatives in India, report the death of Mr. Saral Basak, a renowned philatlist in Calcutta and a collector of Nepalese, Bhutanese and Tibetan stamps.

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Geoffrey Flack has for the asking, a booklist titled "Tibet: The Land & The People". Address - Box 65987, Station F, Vancouver, B.C., Canada, V5N 5L4.

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Armand Singer's article, titled "PHilately from Pole to Pole" appeared in the March issue of The American Philatelist.

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The Daily Planet, a mail order company dealing in "global clothing & gifts", offered a "Nepalese Mail Case" in their Fall 1995 catalogue, as pictured below. Their address is, P.O. Box 64411, St. Paul, MN 55164-0411, U.S.A., tel. 800/324-5950. Can anyone confirm that these were actually used in transporting mail in Nepal?



NEPALESE MAIL CASE

A remembrance of posts past, from the serpentine alleyways of Kathmandu. This beautiful wood mail case has an iron handle, clasp and etched brass cover.

Perfect for your *billet doux*. Approx. 14" long.

Each is unique and individual.

#35775 \$88

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Dr. Kennie Linn sent a guide book titled "A Road Guide To Nepal". Although there are only 29 pages the large accompanying map shows many towns and is labeled "Nepal Political". It is available from the publisher: TT. Maps & Publications Limited, 328 GST Road, Chromepet, Madras 600 044, India. Tel. 401824, Fax 044-401532. The price in India is Rs 25.

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In Indien-Report (the journal of the "Forschungsgemeinschaft Indien e.V." - Germany) Nr. 73, February of this year is a very detailed article by Wilfried Franke on the forgeries of Tibet's 1920 and 1933 issues, dating from 1957 to the very recent outpouring. It runs 36 pages, includes many illustrations and is in English as well as German. This particular article is labeled part 3 and is to be continued. In the same issue are two other articles on Tibet.

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Dr. Wolfgang has announced that there will be an important Tibet collection of major exhibition quality being offered in auction by Harmers of London around the 20th of December. Wolfgang played a major part in arranging and describing the lots - one of which is the finest Dalai Lama cover that he is aware of. There are many other exceptional pieces, including a few which are unique. The collection abounds in complete sheets which are offered in groups of the same values in different shades in order to avoid duplication within a particular lot. This particular auction is devoted to only Tibet, Ethiopia and some Nepal. For more information and a catalogue, write/call: Harmers of London, 91 New Bond Street, London W1A 4EH, England; Telephone 171/629-0218, Fax 171/495-0260.

* * * * *

of this album and they convey a feeling of the true spirit of this forbidden land, its culture, its people, its rulers, its conquerors and its foreign visitors.

Apart from the presence of many rarities, there are other tests by which any Tibet collection can be measured: undetected forgeries or forged markings that have crept in (I have seen none), the incidence of philatelic covers (tolerably few), and the quantity of common covers (very limited indeed). In all probability, some lesser items - such as the standard settings and shade varieties of the 1933 issue - have not been reproduced in order to make room for more important material. I am certain that readers will appreciate this solution. The black and white illustrations are fairly good and, I would say, quite sufficient for the purpose of illustrating a collection. I have not seen the colour version, but would assume that it brings out finer details.

Although I went through most sections of this book with the fine-toothed comb, I noticed very few inaccuracies indeed. One that struck me immediately is that the top sheet on page 84 is not a 1 Sang at all, but a 1950 printing of the 1/6 Tangka (presumably in the typical 1 Sang shade, too, which makes it a perfect impostor). On the difficult subject of dates, the Chamdo cover on page 68 is actually dated April 1914 (not 1913).

I am grateful to the author that this publication has enabled me to find an unrecorded marking (the boxed registration handstamp, page 139) as well as a dozen new periods of use of postmarks, notably of the Imperial Chinese period. In view of the many rarities contained in this volume, I regard it as a highly important tool for further research and I warmly recommend it to all who take some interest in the postal affairs of the Himalayan region. May this good example of sharing one's holdings and knowledge with other philatelists, find many imitators. One day perhaps Prof. Singer could even be persuaded to publish his collection of Nepal, i.e., the other half of what he aptly calls his "dual addiction." It would be as highly welcome as this excellent work on Tibet.

Wolfgang Hellrigl

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[ed. Armand's book is available from George Alevizos, the publisher.]

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A PERSONAL OPINION

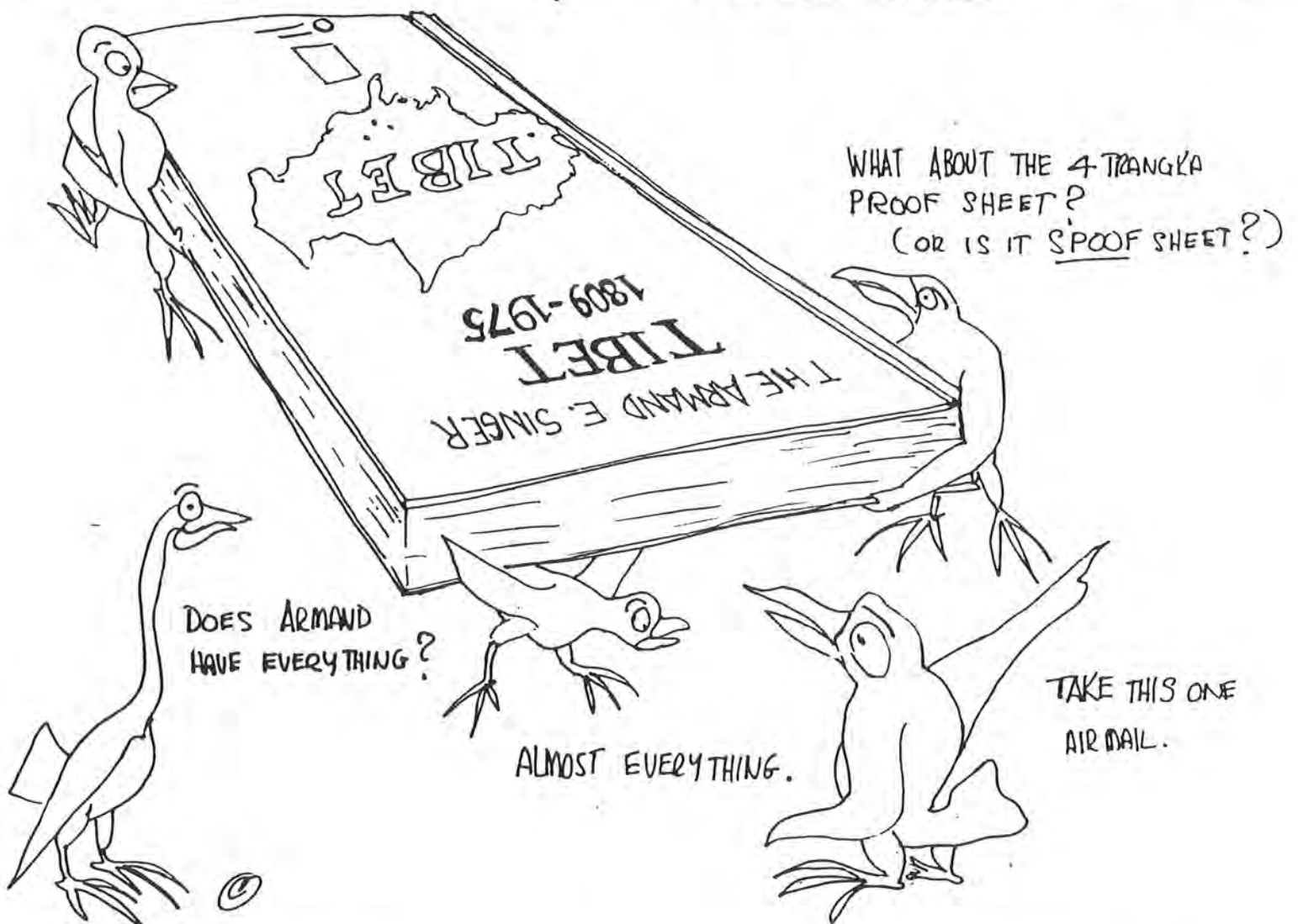
Armand E. Singer has put together a fabulous exhibit of incredible depth documenting the stamps and postal history of Tibet. This monumental work is now recorded in his new book, ARMAND E. SINGER TIBET 1809-1975. This book contains photocopies of each exhibit page, several in color, plus a few pages added since it was exhibited at NAPEX. Armand E. Singer is a collector's collector who has spent a life time seeking out and obtaining the finest and the rarest examples known for his collection and exhibit. This book will have a special place in my philatelic library. Highly recommended.

Frealon Bibbins
San Francisco, July 1995

I DIDN'T KNOW TIBET WAS THIS BIG!

FOR THE BIRDS

by Norden



NEPAL ISSUES A NEW AEROGRAMME
by Dick van der Wateren

I received a new Nepalese 10 Rs aerogramme from Mr. Punnya Sthapit. It was issued on Jan. 27 to meet the rate for Zone 3. The aerogramme is identical to the Rs 2.50 issued on April 14, 1982 (W12, Type 7), except for the colors - the indicia and inscriptions are dark blue and the paper is bright blue. It is listed in Nepal Postal Stationery as Wa 22. Mr. Sthapit mentioned that there was no special First Day cancel. [ed. Mr. S.L. Shrestha also sent in information.]

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TIBET FOR SALE: Ask for available items at very competitive prices. I am
also interested in buying everything from Tibet. Write or send a FAX to
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