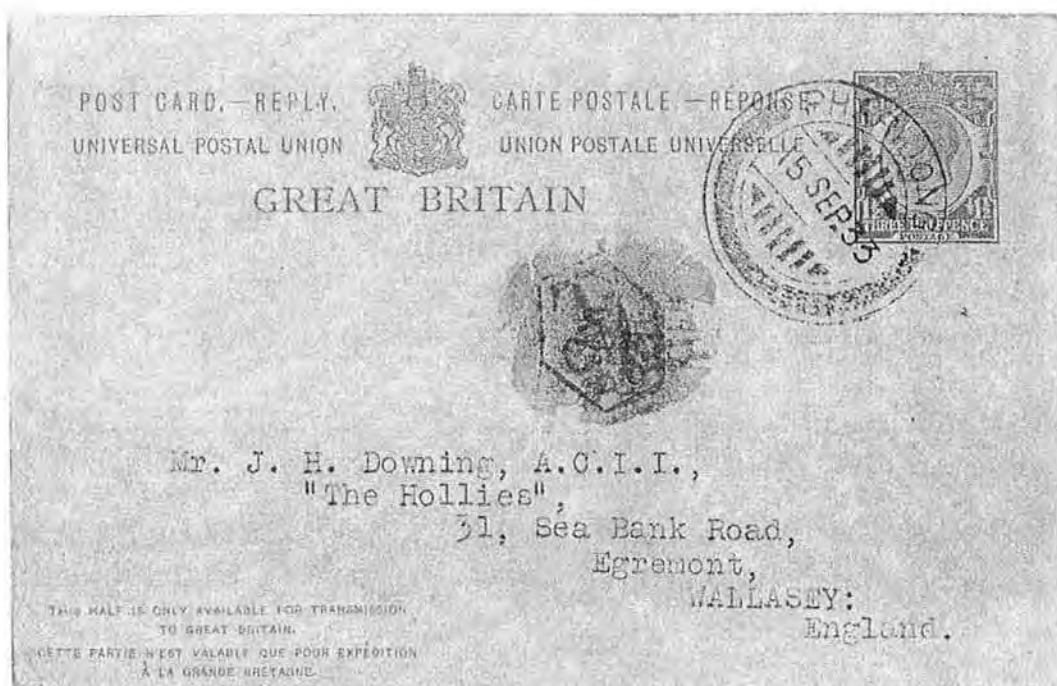


Postal Himal

QUARTERLY JOURNAL OF THE NEPAL AND TIBET PHILATELIC STUDY CIRCLE

NTPSC Homepage (courtesy of Rainer Fuchs) <http://fuchs-online.com/ntpsc>





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	<u>One Year</u>	<u>Three Years</u>	<u>Life Member</u>
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<u>Publishing Schedule:</u>	<u>Issue</u>	<u>Cutoff for Articles</u>	<u>Into Mail</u>
	120 - 4th Quarter 200	November 20, 2004	December 05, 2004
	121 - 1st Quarter 2005	February 27, 2005	March 12, 2005
	122 - 2nd Quarter 2005	May 28, 2005	June 11, 2005
	123 - 3rd Quarter 2005	August 27, 2005	September 17, 2005

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Officer's Corner

Our president is unable to provide us with an Officer's Corner for this issue as he is in the process of moving and everything is currently in a state of chaos. Armand's new address is:

Professor Armand E. Singer

1117 University Avenue

Morgantown, WV 26505

His email address remains the same - editor

Editor's Ramblings

Your editor has recently returned from a four week vacation in the State of Hawaii, spending time on the Big Island of Hawaii, as well as the islands of Maui and Kauai. The weather was, as usual, simply superb and the scenery beyond description. Everything turned out well and your editor (and his wife) took their first helicopter ride over the island of Kauai. Many of the Hawaiian Islands are almost completely inaccessible in the interior portions of the island, and the only real way to see things is from the air.

Next February I will be flying down to Ushuaia, Argentina to embark on a 19 day cruise to the South Shetland Islands, South Georgia Islands, Falkland Islands and the Antarctic Peninsula.

In 2006 I will be returning to India and Nepal and also hope to visit Bhutan, Sikkim and Cambodia to view the ruins of Angkor Wat. This will be my 7th visit to India and my 4th to Nepal. I anticipate that this will be a five week trip. For the first time I plan to visit Calcutta and some of the temple complexes in southern India. And as usual I will go to Bombay and Elephanta Island.

And speaking of travel, please remember that Washington 2006 is on the way. The Study Circle will have at least one meeting during that exhibition. And after that will come our

major European meeting(s) during London2010. It isn't too far away, so start making plans to attend! As usual we will find some interesting restaurant where the group can gather for a dinner (wives always welcome).

That takes care of your editor's travel plans for the near future. And as you can see from the Officer's Corner, our president is doing some traveling himself. We wish him well in his new abode and trust that it will not take him too long to get settled in and get everything unpacked.

As you will have noticed, this issue of PH is not as large as usual. That is because I am out of articles. As I mentioned in my very first issue (PH 105 page 1), if there are not enough articles to fill an issue, it will go out on time even if it is a short issue. **YOU CAN HELP** by sending me articles. It doesn't have to be new research. It can be about a favorite cover or stamp or whatever. It can be about a trip. It can be about attending an exhibition. It can be about another member that you met. It can be about mountain climbing. It can be about anything in our area, as long as it is not political or religious in nature. Email as a Word document or send by post to the address on the inside front cover. **Help stamp out short issues of PH!**

CONGRATULATIONS

Leo Martyn received a Gold for his exhibit 'The Development of Nepal's Postal System 1777-1799' at Singapore in August.

Alfonso Zulueta, Jr. received a Large Vermeil for his exhibit 'Nepal: The Pre-stamp and Classic Period 1814-1930' at Singapore in August.

The Essays and Proofs of Tibet **Alan Warren**

The Essays and Proofs of Tibet by Armand E. Singer, 8 ½ by 11 inches, stiff covers, Cerlox bound, 30 pages, color illustrations, Geoffrey Flack, North Vancouver, Canada, 2004. \$38.00 from Geoffrey Flack, Box 16011, Lynn Valley Postal Outlet, North Vancouver, British Columbia V7J 3S9, Canada.

Professor Singer continues to enrich the philatelic literature of the Himalayan area, especially in conjunction with dealer-publisher Geoffrey Flack. Although the subject of essays and proofs of Tibet is a somewhat narrow field as revealed in the number of pages, readers are rewarded with full color illustrations of the material discussed. Another benefit to collectors is that the material extends beyond that reflected in the title to include facsimiles, locals, labels, and other peripheral items of interest.

The 1912 issue proofs drawn from the wood blocks are described along with the Waterlow 'die proofs' in various colors. A pen and ink essay exists which presumably was used by Waterlow to prepare their proofs, and several tracings are also known. A native proof of the 1-sang is known in violet rather than the issued green. Singer mentions that there are no essays or proofs known of the 1914 4- and 8- trangkas issues, but he holds out hope that they may one day be discovered.

Proof 'sheetlets' of the 1933 issue are known except for the ½-trangka value. They appeared as miniature sheets with only two copies of the stamp. There are wider borders between the

stamps than in the normal sheet of 12, and the proof sheets show the two adjacent clichés in positions that are not found in the issued format. Several of the 1933 proofs are known used and on cover.

Among the peripheral items described, that are not really proofs or essays, are the third issue items overprinted PHARI / TIBET, Heinrich Harer's proposed stamp issue for Tibet, the two Tibet government in exile sets, and the specimen overprints of the Chinese Offices in Tibet series. Still other items of marginal interest are the Nelson Eustis promotional souvenir sheet of the 1/6-trangka first issue on wove paper, the Human Rights labels, and the various reproductions by Senf and Crow.

Additional discussions are presented on the floral cancels, a specimen seal, a recently discovered Tibetan revenue, and a theory offered by publisher Flack that the so-called 'official' stamps of Tibet may in fact be proofs of stamps never properly issued.

A bibliography would have been useful but detailed references are cited throughout the book so that students can refer to the earlier work of others.

Errata - PH 118

Page 3, second column, next to last paragraph. Sentence beginning 'It was agreed that the Study...' should have read 'It was agreed that exhibits of Nepal, Tibet, Bhutan, and Sikkim would be eligible, and that the Study Circle would decide who the winner is and present the award at a meeting'.

Page 5, first column, first paragraph. Sentence beginning 'The cover's are a philatelist's...' should have read 'The covers are a philatelist's...'.

Page 5, first column, second paragraph. Sentence beginning 'Bailey also used the 1924 Mont...' should have read 'Bailey also used the 1924 Mount...'.

Page 14, first column, second paragraph. Email address should have been gijk@optonline.net.

Thanks to sharp-eyed Alan Warren for the above corrections - editor

Tibet to England for Three Halfpence

Jeremy Brewer

Member countries of the Universal Postal Union were required to offer for sale to the public Foreign Reply Cards. These consisted of two post cards joined and folded together horizontally, one of which was for the use of the sender and the other for the reply. Some cards were perforated along the fold for detachment, others were simply eased apart by tearing. All cards, irrespective of the country of issue, were required to be printed with their function in French and headed 'Union Postale Universelle'; the same information could also be printed in the language of the issuing country. Additionally, but not necessarily bilingually, was printed the country's name. Both cards bore an imprint of the stamp of the country in which the cards were sold. The denomination of the stamp on each card was the same and the two values added together was the cost to the public. In this way the sender also paid for the addressee's reply. However, despite this facility comparatively few reply halves properly used have survived.

The service seems to have been used predominately, but not only, by European and South American countries. Towards the end of the nineteenth century and into the early part of the twentieth century the exchange of postal stationery and picture post cards had an enormous following amongst collectors. Enthusiasts in Europe particularly would arrange for reply cards to be sent to them from all over the world but rarely did they detach and return the reply half. Although employed commercially too, occasionally with pre-printed messages or advertisements, any reply halves returned to businesses would subsequently have been destroyed with other records. Many recipients of the unsevered cards ignored or discounted using the reply half for reasons of privacy or constriction of space, preferring to communicate by letter. Many unsevered 'one way' cards have subsequently been split by collectors and the philatelic trade so that those that have survived are now separate entities in

the form of a Postally used outgoing card and an used reply half.

A few countries and their colonies did adopt the system quite extensively. For example, there are many cards sent home by Belgian nationals working in the Congo, and the reply half of which was duly mailed back from Belgium. Conversely, one would be hard pressed to find a reply half of a card returned to India. Collecting the reply halves of Foreign Reply Cards is, of course, a topic in its own right involving as it does the stamped mail of one country being postmarked and validly transmitted from another.

The card illustrated here (see page 4 - editor) is the reply half of a type first issued in Great Britain in 1922. Originally, as already described, attached to it would have been the 'outgoing' card. The imprinted stamp depicts King George the Fifth and the denomination is a penny halfpenny or three halfpence* (1½d). On the reverse is a message headed 'Pharijong (Tibet) 14.9.33' written by the sub-postmaster there, being an apology to the sender, a Mr. Downing in England, for not having replied earlier to previous correspondence. No doubt the latter related to a request for Tibetan stamps. Reference is also made to the outgoing reply card, a reminder from Mr. Downing, which was dated 22nd August in England. The sub-postmaster goes on to explain that his apparent inattention is because he has been unable to exchange a subsequently amended reply coupon. This card, then, dispatched from Pharijong on the 15th September, 1933 represents one of those elusive reply halves referred to above. In this instance a British Reply Card validly used from Tibet.

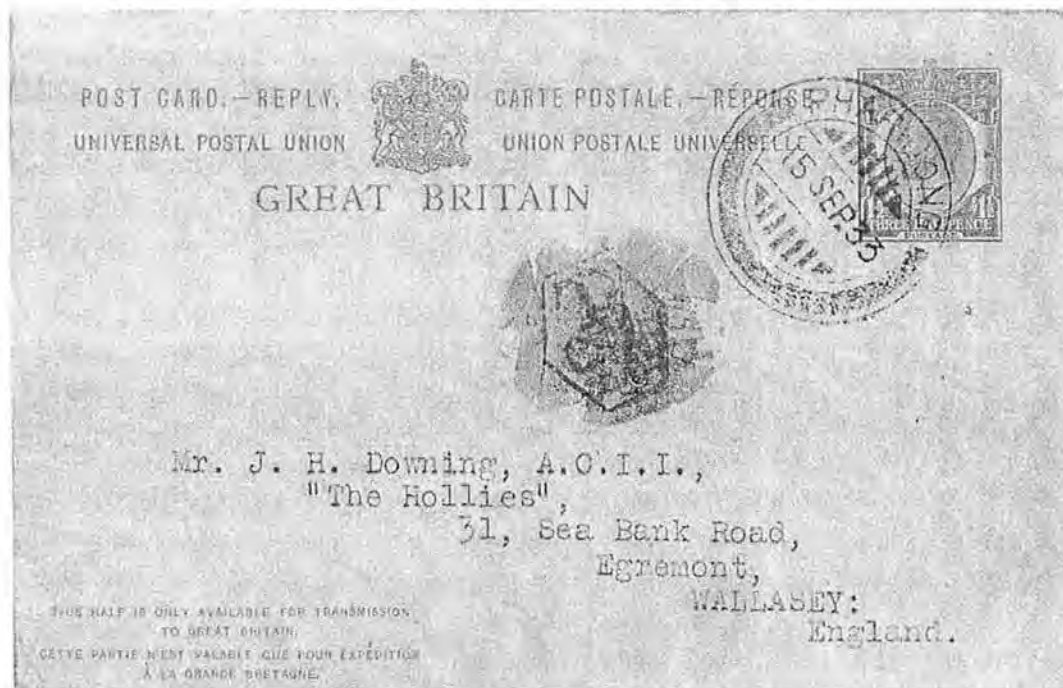
Another interesting feature of this particular card stems from the black blotch on its face. This represents the Phari sub-postmaster's improvised solution to cancel an erroneously struck 'postage due' marking by smearing ink over it. The due marking is hexagonal with 'T (axe) (gold) C(en)t(ime)s 40' indicating, when

converted, a charge of twice the Indian overseas rate; a total of four pence in Britain. So, momentarily, he must have regarded the card as requiring payment in Indian stamps; probably because Reply Paid cards from foreign destinations are somewhat few and far between mailed to Tibet. I have, in fact, seen reply cards sent from abroad (Great Britain) to India where the recipient has duly made use of the reply half but by franking it additionally with stamps of Indian currency thereby overlooking the prepayment by the sender in the issuing country at the time of the original mailing. Often this happened when the card was not used immediately but later in substitution for an ordinary post card, the message being of an

unrelated subject to that of the outgoing card. Hexagonal due markings are not often encountered used in Tibet and those that I have seen were applied during the 1930s.

Mr. Downing, incidentally, maintained a correspondence with post office employees in Tibet and some of you may find examples of this in the form of covers and cards in your own collections. Just in case anyone is curious the A.C.I.I after his name indicates that he was an Associate member of the Chartered Institute of Insurers, although I doubt his professional interests extended to Tibet!

* pronounced: 'hay-pense'



Philatelic Phantasies from Himalaya

Alan Warren

Our distinguished past president of the N&TPSC, Wolfgang Hellrigl, is president of the Association Internationale des Experts en Philatelie (AIEP or International Association of Philatelic Experts). Beginning in 1998 there has been a series of volumes published in cooperation with AIEP entitled *Fakes Forgeries Experts*. Recognized philatelic experts contribute articles to this journal and issue No. 7 was released in May of this year.

The first six issues were edited and published by Paolo Vollmeier of Switzerland. He has now stepped down and the responsibilities for editing and publishing *FFE* have been assumed by past FIP president Knud Mohr of Denmark and the auction house of Postiljonen under the leadership of Claes Arnrup. These volumes form an important part of a collector's library and they can probably be borrowed from philatelic libraries to see specific articles of interest.

Each issue contains many articles, typically about an issue of a particular country, but general articles on fakes and forgeries and techniques for detecting them are also found

here. Issue No. 7 contains over two dozen articles covering items of interest from Canada, Italy, Portugal, Brazil, Serbia and many other countries. However, there are also articles on Jean de Sperati, repaired covers, reprints, and literature reviews.

The latest issue has an interesting article by Hellrigl entitled 'Himalayan Phantasies' and focuses on covers from Nepal. Wolfgang's article illustrates eight Nepal items of postal history that have forged or bogus cancels and markings. The covers 'date' from late 19th and early 20th century, that is if they were genuine. The fine color illustrations help collectors of this material to identify these creative items for which the buyer must beware,

A couple of the early issues of *Fakes Forgeries Experts* are out of print but several of the others are still available. The better philatelic literature dealers carry the back issues, and you can visit the website at www.ffejournal.com to purchase the newest volume with Wolfgang's article.

Note: 50 € per issue - editor

प्रथम दिवसीय आवरण First Day Cover



२०६१

2004

“देशभक्तिलाई मिलनविन्दु बनाएर, जनकल्याणलाई नै सर्वोपरी ठानेर अघि बढदा जनतुकै उल्झन पनि सुल्झ्याउन सकिन्छ।”

- श्री ५ महाराजाधिराज ज्ञानेन्द्र वीर विक्रम शाहदेव



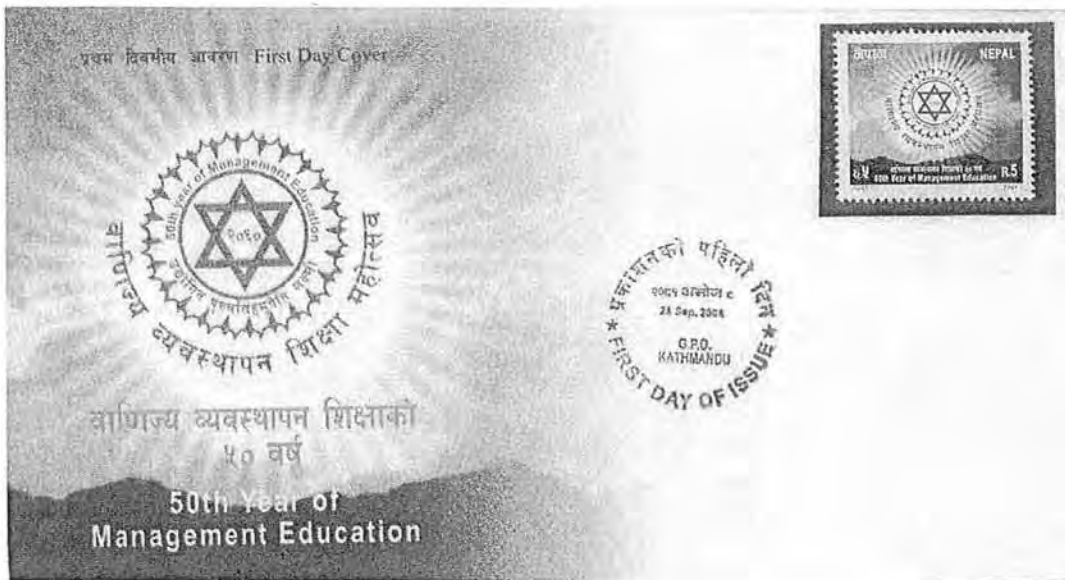
Whatever the problem may be, there is always a solution, provided patriotism remains the focal point and general welfare is placed uppermost.

- H.M. King Gyanendra Bir Bikram Shah Dev

Technical Details

1. Subject: : 58th Birthday of HM King Gyanendra Bir Bikram Shah Dev
2. Denomination : Rs 5.00
3. Color : Four Color
4. Sheet Composition : 50 stamps per sheet
5. Size : 40 x 30 mm
6. Process : Offset Lithography
7. Quantity : One Million
8. Format : Vertical
9. Paper : High Quality Stamp Paper
10. Designer : M. N. Rana
11. Printer : Austrian Government Printing Office, Vienna, Austria

Thanks to HMG Postal Services Department for the First Day Cover



Technical Detail

- | | |
|----------------------|---|
| 1. Subject | : a) 50th Year of Management Education b) Silver Jubilee of APT |
| 2. Denomination | : Rs. 5.00 |
| 3. Colour | : Four color |
| 4. Sheet Composition | : 40 stamps per sheet (20 Management Education and 20 APT) |
| 5. Size | : 34.5 x 30 mm |
| 6. Process | : Offset Lithography |
| 7. Quantity | : 500,000 |
| 8. Format | : Horizontal |
| 9. Paper | : High Quality Stamp Paper |
| 10. Designer | : K. K. Karmacharya |
| 11. Printer | : Austrian Government Printing Office, Vienna, Austria |

Covers courtesy of HMG/N Postal Services Department, Nepal Philatelic Bureau, Kathmandu



Technical Detail

- | | |
|----------------------|---|
| 1. Subject | : a) FIFA Centennial b) Personality Series Yogi Narahan Nath and Historian Nayaraj Pant |
| 2. Denomination | : a) RS 20.00 b) Rs 5.00 each |
| 3. Colour | : a) Four color b) Two color |
| 4. Sheet Composition | : a) 50 stamps per sheet b) 50 stamps per sheet (25 Nath and 25 Pant) |
| 5. Size | : a) 40 x 30 mm b) 34.5 x 30 mm |
| 6. Process | : Offset Lithography |
| 7. Quantity | : a) 500,000 b) 1,000,000 |
| 8. Format | : a) Horizontal b) Horizontal |
| 9. Paper | : High Quality Stamp Paper |
| 10. Designer | : a) Mohan N. Rana b) K. K. Karmacharya |
| 11. Printer | : Austrian Government Printing Office, Vienna, Austria |

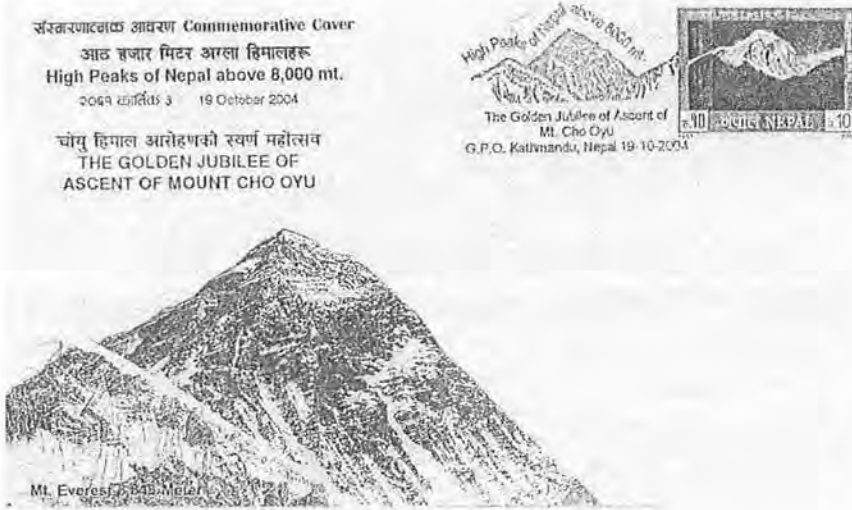
Covers courtesy of HMG/N Postal Services Department, Nepal Philatelic Bureau, Kathmandu



Technical Detail

- | | |
|----------------------|--|
| 1. Subject | : Bio-diversity series
a) Rufous Piculet Wood Pecker
b) Giant Atlas Moth
c) Serma Guru
d) Jumli Marsi (high altitude rice) |
| 2. Denomination | : RS 10.00 |
| 3. Colour | : Four color |
| 4. Sheet Composition | : 16 stamps per sheet (4 each) |
| 5. Size | : 34.5 x 30 mm |
| 6. Process | : Offset Lithography |
| 7. Quantity | : 250,000 each |
| 8. Format | : Horizontal |
| 9. Paper | : High Quality Stamp Paper |
| 10. Designer | : K. K. Karmacharya |
| 11. Printer | : Austrian Government Printing Office, Vienna, Austria |

Cover courtesy of HMG/N Postal Services Department, Nepal Philatelic Bureau, Kathmandu



Mr. S. L. Shrestha indicates that a series of 8 covers were prepared by the Nepal Philatelic Society and sent to him by Mr. Kedar Pradham, President of NPS. Each cover shows one of the mountains of the Mountain Series of stamps issued by Nepal.

(please see page 6 for the technical details of the series - editor)

Cover courtesy of Surendra Lal Shrestha, Kathmandu

News from Kathmandu
Surendra Lal Shrestha

BANKERS,
LLOYDS BANK LTD., BOMBAY.
Ram Gopal & Company
DEALERS IN STAMPS & COINS

Mg. Director:
KRISHNA CHANDRA

No. 4008
Dear Sir,

ALWAR, RAJPUTANA (INDIA)

Dated 20th May 49. 19

G. Dev Prasad, Esqr,

P.O. Nautanwa Bazar,
Gorakhpur.

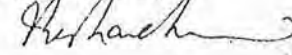
Ref your letter dated 16th May 49.

We beg to enclose 1 Sheet Nepal contain 40 stamps
2paise green for 5/-and postage Registration 8as
all Rs5/8 by V.P.P. according to your order.

Regarding Nepal 1941,Imperforated sheets
we cannot accept your offer,it is very low. If you
can get from Nepal we can pay Rs50/-for 3 sheets.

Please let us know your further requirements.

Yours Faithfully



Proprietor, Ram Gopal & Co.

Dated 20th May 49.

G. Dev Prasad, Esqr,
P.O. Nautanwa Bazar.
Gorakhpur.

Dear Sir,

Ref your letter dated 15 may 49.

We beg to enclose 1 Sheet Nepal contain 40 stamps
2paise green for 5/-and postage Registration 8as
all Rs5/8 by V.P.P. according to your order.

Regarding Nepal 1941,Imperforated sheets
we cannot accept your offer,it is very low. If you
can get from Nepal we can pay Rs50/-for 3 sheets./

Please let us know your further requirements.

Yours Faithfully

Note from S. L. Shrestha reads
'An interesting letter on a
Local print of Nepal supplied
in 1949, from India to India.
Stanley Gibbons Stamp
Catalogue Part 21, South-East
Asia, 3rd Edition have listed
this stamp as Number 57b.
Error, Yellow-green 2p.
showing a catalogue value of
£80.00 for a sheet of 40 (£2.00
each). This issue was printed
by Typography at Gorkha
Patra Press, Kathmandu. Some
stamps contain portions of the
sheet watermark "HOWARD
SMITH/LUXOR BOND/
MADE IN CANADA".
Scott is listing the same
Pashupati issue as Number 44a
2p. green (error) for \$7.50 each
copy in 1993.

S. L. Shrestha
Oct. 27, 2004