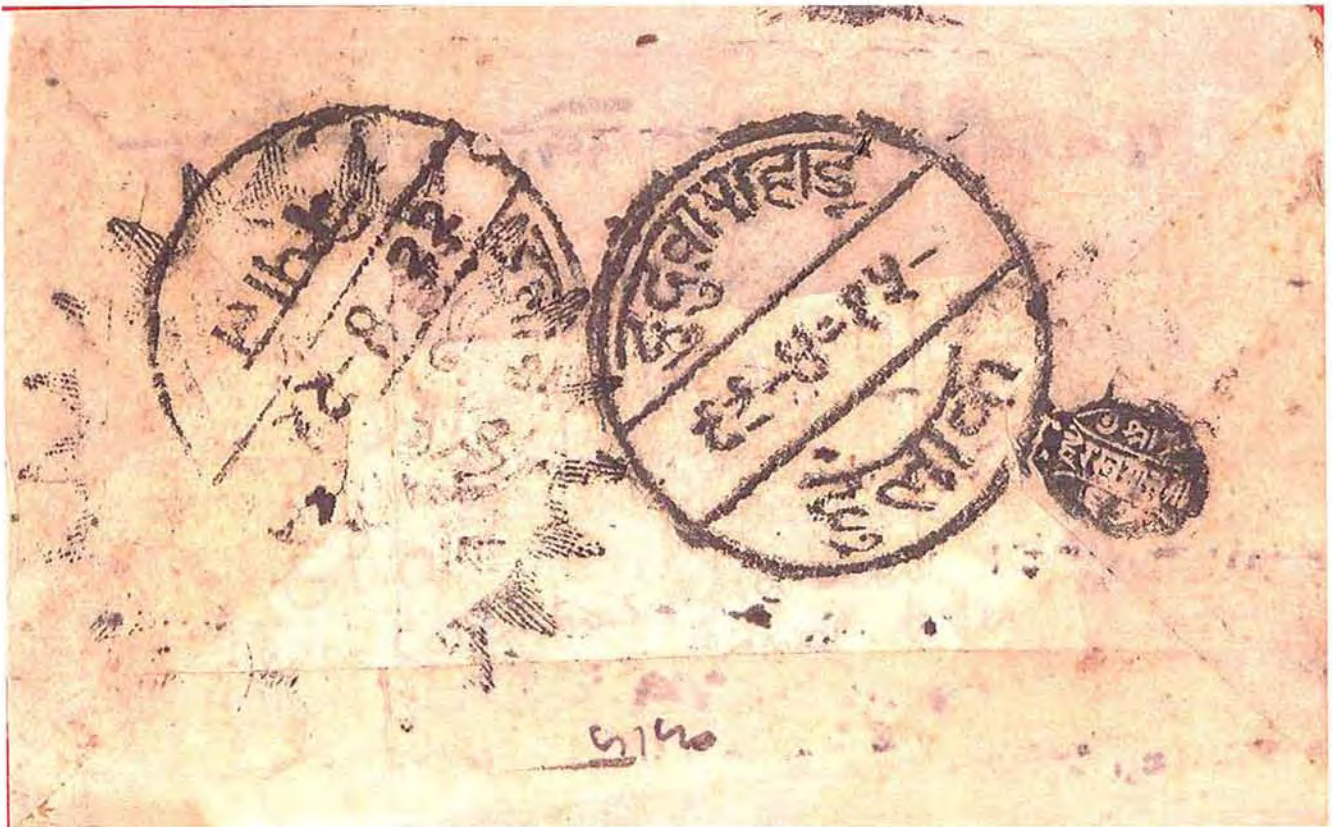


Postal Himal

QUARTERLY JOURNAL OF THE NEPAL AND TIBET PHILATELIC STUDY CIRCLE

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



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	138	May 30, 2009	June 13, 2009

TABLE OF CONTENTS

Officer's Corner	Colin Hepper	1	Cumulative Index Report	Richard M. Hanchett	7
Editor's Ramblings	Richard M Hanchett	1	Membership List	Richard M. Hanchett	7
Congratulations		1	Additional Cover Illustrations	Surendra Lal Shrestha	8
Himalayan Mountaineering			A Piece of Postal History	Surendra Lal Shrestha	9
Correspondence	Bob Gould	2	British-Indian B25 Cancellation	Colin Hepper	10
Mysterious Black Label	Bo C. Olsson	3	British Envoy at Court of Nepal	Colin Hepper	11
Double Sealed Document	Dick van der Wateren	4	Unusual 'Postal Stationery'	Colin Hepper	12
Bharatpur BPO	Colin Hepper	5	News from Kathmandu	Surendra Lal Shrestha	13
Local Pashupati Printings	Colin Hepper	5	FDCs		14
Dhuduwapahad PO	Colin Hepper	6	Nepal Post Offices	Hepper and Jha	15
Report on WESTPEX 2008	Richard M. Hanchett	7			

Officer's Corner

At the recent WESTPEX meeting I had the honour to be elected as the President of our society and together with our new Vice-President, Geoffrey Flack, from Canada will try to make us a more active society. I would also like to thank our former Vice-President, Dick van der Wateren, for the excellent work he did for us in his many travels to both Nepal and international exhibitions.

One of our first objectives is to have more regular auctions and by now you should all have had and been able to participate in Auction No. 71. Derek Pocock, one of our Australian members, has decided to sell his Nepal collection and this is currently being lotted up to be included in another auction to take place later in the year. To be able to continue these on a more regular basis we do need your spare material as not only does it benefit other members but is also a source of income for us.

Richard Hanchett often has difficulties in having sufficient material to complete a 16-page magazine, so we need you to have more participation in this. Richard has produced an

excellent index for *Postal Himal* and looking through it, there is a long list of questions that have been asked of members, but very few answers. If you think you know the answer to any questions please write to Richard and don't assume that someone else will send an answer.

We have new members that join us every year but we have no idea if they are advanced or beginner collectors in this area. If you are a new member and would like advice on anything write to Richard in the first place and he will either pass the questions on to an appropriate member, or he may be able to re-run an earlier article that answers your questions.

Finally, *Postal Himal* is one of the vehicles we have to communicate with each other; the other is our web page. Rainer Fuchs who runs our web page, feels very unwanted as he runs a very good forum page and none of us use it. So please make an effort and go to it on a regular basis. I am sure that you could get a lot out of it.

Colin Hepper

Editor's Ramblings

Congratulations to Colin Hepper and Geoffrey Flack (see e-mail addresses on inside front cover) on being elected President and Vice-President of our Society. Colin has now held every position in our Society (at one time he was Vice-President, Secretary, Treasurer and Auctioneer simultaneously in addition to putting out *Postal Himal* and its Newsletters.

And again thanks to Dick van der Wateren for all that he has done (and will continue to do) for our Society.

We had two meetings at WESTPEX (see page

7 for a report) and next year we will have two meetings: one at WESTPEX in April and one at SESCAL in October. The people who run SESCAL had asked us if we would consider holding one of our meetings at their show and so we will.

Also LONDON 2010 will have a new venue (not Earl's Court) and Colin has promised to get a list of close by hotels for those who are planning to attend. We will have probably 2 meetings at LONDON. And then there will be INDIA 2010 in New Delhi in September 2010.

CONGRATULATIONS:

Edward F. Gosnell was awarded Vermeil for his exhibit "The Kingdom of Nepal: Adapting an Industrial Age Communications System to a Handicraft Society (A Philatelic Overview 1790-1930)" at the Garfield-Perry National Exhibition

Colin Hepper was awarded Gold and the NTPSC Award for his exhibit "Nepal: Postal History 1810-1911" at WESTPEX '08

Alfonso G. Zulueta Jr. was awarded Gold and the Michael Rogers Award for Best Asian exhibit for his exhibit "Afghanistan: Amanullah Period, 1920-1929" at WESTPEX '08

More Himalayan Mountaineering Correspondence

Bob Gould

In our catalog, Singer and I included most of the chapter "A Tale of Philately" from the book *Tales of the Himalaya: Adventures of a Naturalist* by Lawrence W. Swan. Swan told about the trials and tribulations that he endured in order to mail covers for the 1954 California Himalayan Expedition to Makalu. The covers were made from native Nepalese Daphne paper and had in the upper left corner a cinderella label designed by Swan for this expedition. These were printed in red, blue and green and over 1000 covers were mailed out with both Nepalese and Indian stamps and cancels. The covers had a black R/S "CARRIED BY RUNNER" and another "BARUN GLACIER BASE CAMP". A 1954 newspaper article states that "Each cover will cost \$1 and will be addressed directly to the person ordering. Five hundred of the labels are reserved for the personal use of the expedition's members and 500 have been set aside for the use of the

public". One of the covers that I own included a short note (on Daphne paper) to Bob, signed Bill. The cover was addressed to an individual at Stead AFB in Reno, NV and had no return address or sender's name. I thought it would be interesting to try and discover who had mailed this particular cover. The expedition took place 50 years ago and had three members named William and one named Willie, so I had my work cut out for me. After corresponding with several different members I was able to narrow it down to William Long who now lives in Alaska and subsequently signed the cover for me. We have had several phone conversations and he was most helpful in supplying me with additional information about this and other mountaineering expeditions. In fact, he was also a member of the first expedition to climb the highest peak in Antarctica, Mount Vinson in 1966.



Double Sealed Document by Dick van der Wateren

A few years ago, I obtained an interesting double sealed document with the seal of Jung Bahadur Rana and his younger brother Bam Bahadur. The translation of the text is as follows:

Big seal: Prime Minister Jung Bahadur Rana

Small seal: Commander-in-Chief Bam Bahadur Rana

Date: BS 1909 Baisakh 4, Saturday (ca. 16 April 1853 AD)

This document is an order to the *Bichari* of Pokhara Court, Mr. Gopi Nath Upadhyay.

Background: During those times, certain local people were assigned the duty of *Hulaki* (postman) for a certain region. For their salary they were given a plot of land to cultivate. After the designated *Hulaki* died, his son would take over the job and continue using the land.

Gist of the case: In this case, the Post Office at Tanahun Alsi Chilaune (a place near Pokhara) was being run by Mr. Prajapati Padyay (*Hulaki*). When he died without any children, his wife

continued to use the plot instead of handing it to Mr. Sekhar Padyay who was appointed *Hulaki* in Mr. Prajapati's place. Mr. Sekhar, the new *Hulaki*, was given another plot to cultivate. But he could not use that plot either, because the *Mohi* of the land refused to submit his cultivation to Mr. Sekhar. (A *Mohi* is a person who is appointed to work on the land by the landlord but is not the owner of the land. He has to submit a certain agreed portion of his cultivation to the landlord as a rental for the use of the land.) As he could not reap profits from either of the plots, Mr. Sekhar filed a case against both the widow and the *Mohi* in Pokhara Court to allow him to use both of the plots. The case subsequently reached the office of the then Prime Minister.

So, this document is an order from the Prime Minister to the *Bichari* of Pokhara Court to decide the case in favor of Mr. Sekhar. And if both the defendants refused to comply with the decision, to order both of them to appear before the Prime Minister's office.



श्री महान्तकमार्कमारात्मन श्री ३ प्रदेवनाचर यानक
 कृवाएगाजि श्रीकर्म्याडा इन्चिफुजनालवमहाइक
 गो मार्षेययोरअदलतकाविचार्गोपिनाथउपाध्या
 सालमा तकोचोककाथी धानिमानिकचोका अस्मिचि
 लाकि गेहवमि निगुअउकोठुलाकि प्रजापति पाध्या मदे
 राजिनामाके खिउलाकजाचमादिदा निगुप्रता धनि पाध्या
 इ नेसममा अधि दरीयाका खेत निगुप्रजापति कावाह
 येसमा लाइतेरा चिगवकाउन्मा गिअठुलाकि मोइस
 खोभनि दसाल काहलाक जाचमा नजात्रत दहाइदिदा
 तिले चनायाका खेत चला इआफु लाइलाग्पाका थाल
 ति आज सम्र चलायाकोइ तेसैसाल देखि नजादरीयाक
 करियामोहिले नहोए अघिदरीयाकाखेत प्रजापति

The Mysterious Black Label Depicting the Potala in Lhasa One More Piece of the Puzzle

Bo C. Olsson

In his book *The Essays and Proofs of Tibet* Armand E. Singer mentions the mysterious black label depicting the Potala.

The Swedish part of The Relief Committee for Tibetan Refugees in India sold such labels to raise funds. This must have been around 1973-74 (id I remember right). Apparently few were sold since I have not had many answers when trying to advertise for them. I could have missed them totally, but a person who was involved in the work knew I was a collector, so I was notified the committee had received a thin bundle of minisheets from the exile government in Dharmasala. Would I like to buy a few? Yes, indeed!

And I was offered a proof perforation as well. Minihole 9 instead of rouletted 6. A whole minisheet! So far as I know, it is the only such item known, and it is depicted here.

Singer asks in his book what the figure "20" stands for. It is a value and the currency is Indian; i.e., naye paisa. Trangka was not used in Tibet itself at that time. It was probably made invalid after the 1959 revolt or even

earlier. Chinese stamps were sold in Tibet in Chinese currency during 1954-55, so for some time I think both Tibetan and Chinese currency had validity. At least until late 1956 when the Tibetan postal organization finally closed down.

In a number of *The Cinderella Philatelist* many years ago someone speculated that this label had been used for local postage in the Tibetan camps in India. Or, he might have heard a rumor that they were. I can't remember exactly after so many years. Sorry! However, if that was true at least a few such covers should have turned up in the meantime, but none have yet. So, I think we can now be sure that it was just a fund raising label.

Like I said, I have tried to advertise for such labels, but without much success. I did however, get a used copy on piece with a Swedish postmark, showing evidence that they have been used as labels on mail here. It would be interesting to hear if this label was sold in any other countries outside of India.



Bharatpur Branch Post Office

Colin Hepper

I have two covers in my collection from Bharatpur Post Office. One is a small registered letter using official stamps which has been cancelled 'Bharatpur Post Office' and dated 016/9/20/2 which would be in January 1960.

The other cover is a postal stationery envelope which I recently purchased and is cancelled with a single line handstamp, reading Bharatpur Branch Post Office. On the back of the

envelope are the postmarks of Kathmandu G.P.O. and Singh Durbar dated 5th and 8th of June 1964.

So far I have not seen any of the bi-lingual postmarks from this post office and it is not listed in the 1999 official list of post offices. I would be interested to know from our friends in Nepal if this post office still exists.



The Local Pashupati Printings

Colin Hepper

All the early collectors and writers on the local Pashupati printings made the assumption that the local printings were started in 1941, because of the difficulties of getting supplies from Perkins Bacon, due to the start of World War II. Later writers (myself included) and some catalogue companies continued to make this assumption without 'switching their brains on'.

During the meeting at WESTPEX, I was in

conversion with Roger Skinner who reminded me that we had all ignored a very well known fact that Perkins Bacon went out of business in the late 1930's, so that the supply of stamps to Nepal and any other country they were supplying would have dried up.

I am sure that this is a much more accurate reason for the need for the Nepalese to start printing their own stamps again, than is the World War II theory.

DHUDUWAPAHAD POST OFFICE
 from the Derek Pocock collection
 Colin Hepper



डीडेमानिपाट श्रीकुमारी
 कोवाले

उपरोक्त दर्भिमाल हुनुमानको आजागवटा आषाढ २२ र्त १९४२ को एकोठे
 कर्नेरु पक्ष २१ मा लीकडा श्रीमान् कुमारीको आजागवटा माईके
 ३२२१११ धरीमान् इमेको देवी गले पटलाज सेठपाट नागवुक्त
 श्रीमान् कुमारीको आजागवटा आषाढ २२ र्त १९४२ को एकोठे
 गले कुमारीको आजागवटा आषाढ २२ र्त १९४२ को एकोठे
 नेमा उपरोक्त प्रमाणको दाखिले एकोठे नेमा उपरोक्त एकोठे आस
 श्रीमान् कुमारीको आजागवटा आषाढ २२ र्त १९४२ को एकोठे
 श्रीमान् कुमारीको आजागवटा आषाढ २२ र्त १९४२ को एकोठे
 का २२/११/४२

Dhuduwapahad is not shown on any of the maps of Nepal . The name has however appeared in the senders address on a classic cover posted at Pyuthan, which would indicated that it was located somewhere in the Pyuthan area.

The illustrated cover which is complete with

its contents has the only know example of the Dhuduwapahad Post Office postmark and is dated 29 July 1942.

This item will be offered in the next Study Circle auction of Derek Pocock’s collection at the end of the year.

Report on WESTPEX 2008

Richard M. Hanchett

We had another very successful WESTPEX! It is interesting that 100% of our members who entered exhibits won Gold (see page 1).

Our first meeting was Friday afternoon with Frank Vignola, Bill Jansen, Frealon Bibbins, Leo Martyn, Geoffrey Flack, Roger Skinner, Colin Hepper and myself in attendance. The primary business for the meeting was the election of a new President and a new Vice-President. I am very pleased to announce that Colin Hepper is the new President and Geoffrey Flack is the new Vice-President. Their e-mail address are on the inside front cover. There was then time to examine the exhibits and of course, to spend (too much) money buying items from the various dealers. That night Roger and his wife Jo, Colin Hepper and myself and my wife Pat went to Max's for dinner - lot of food and huge desserts.

Sunday we had our general meeting with Geoffrey Flack, Alfonso Zulueta Jr, Roger Skinner, Deepak Jaiswal (a visitor), Frank Vignola, Gerhard Wolf, Colin Hepper and myself in attendance. The discussions included how to get our auctions going again on a regular basis. It was noted that Derek Pocock of Australia is selling his entire Nepal collection (Vermeil awarded Postmarks of Nepal, 5 albums with covers classified postmarks, an

album of Pashupati sets and covers, a 1000+ covers with seals and some odds and ends) through the Society. Colin Hepper is currently lotting the material and says he will have it finished by the end of the year. (See page 6 for one of the items that will be in the auction). Mr Jaiswal showed us several documents with seals.

SESCAL has invited us to have a meeting at their show next year and we have accepted the offer. So, next year there will be two meetings - one at WESTPEX in April and the second at SESCAL in October.

The venue for LONDON 2010 has been changed from Earl's Court and will be in the northern part of London. Colin will get a list of hotels near the area and it will be published in *Postal Himal* for those interested in attending that show. We normally have two meetings at the LONDON show. Also in 2010 will be the international exhibition in New Delhi, India and several of those in attendance indicated an interest in attending with a trip also possible to Nepal (and also Bhutan for those interested). No word yet on the venue.

Hopefully we are once again on the way to having regularly scheduled auctions for the Society.

Cumulative Index for *Postal Himal* and Membership List

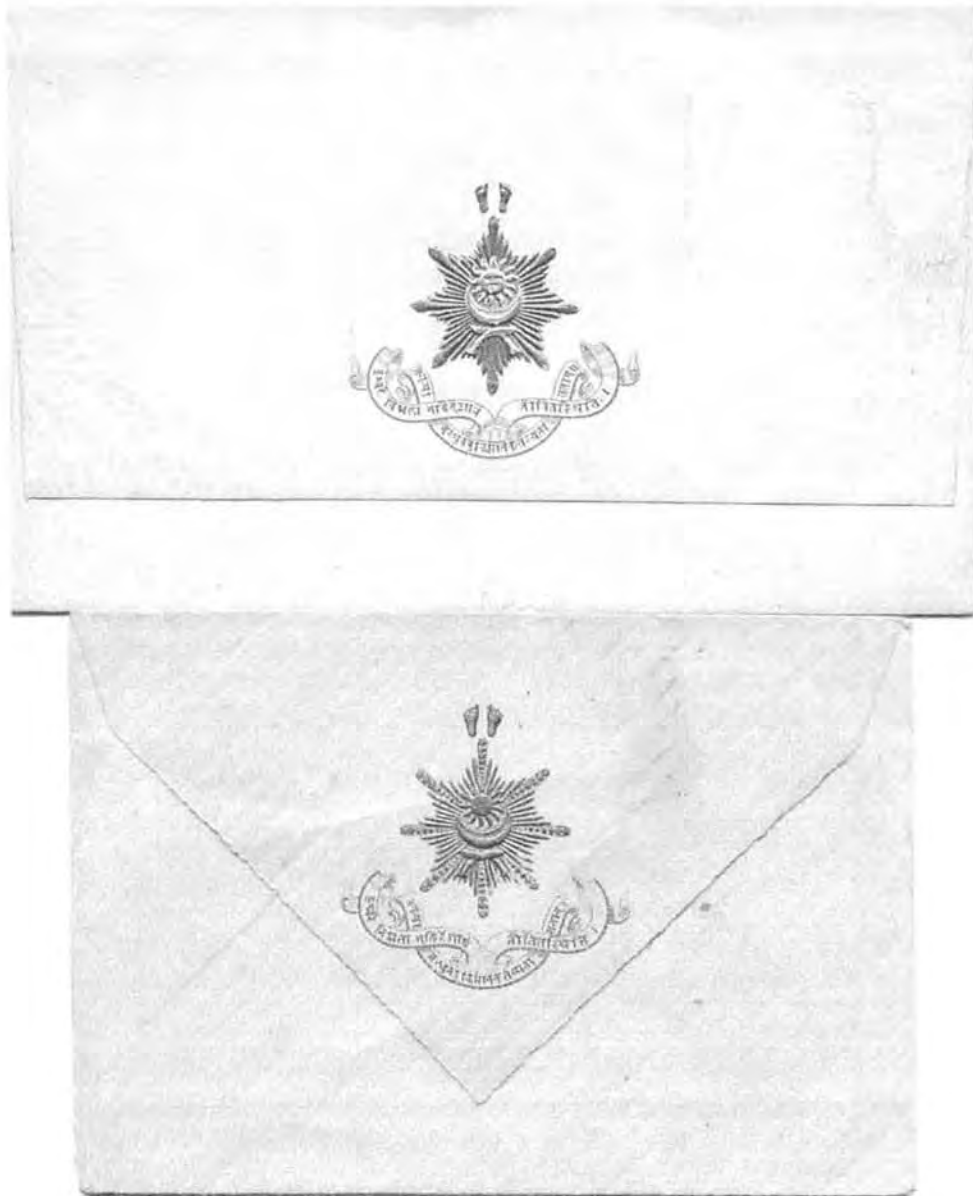
Richard M. Hanchett

When last I gave you an update on the Cumulative Index (see *PH* 131:1) I had finished through Issue 46 and the Index was 23 pages long. When I finished it through Issue 132 (4th Quarter 2007), it was 80 pages in length. Then, like any editor, I thought it would be good to have such and such, and so and so would make it more readable and when I got finished with the enhancements it was 130 pages long. I used a few tricks like changing margins to shrink 2 lines to 1 and it is now 122 pages long. You will have it later this year. At the same time I am

going to republish the Membership List. I notice that there is a lot of white space in it. It would be beneficial to all of us to have e-mail address and collecting interests published. If you collect general Himalayan areas, specialize in corner blocks of the first local printing of the Pashupati issue, are a part time or full time dealer, or expertise stamps, why not let your fellow members know. Send me any information about your collecting interests that you want others to know about. E-mail addresses would also be nice to have.

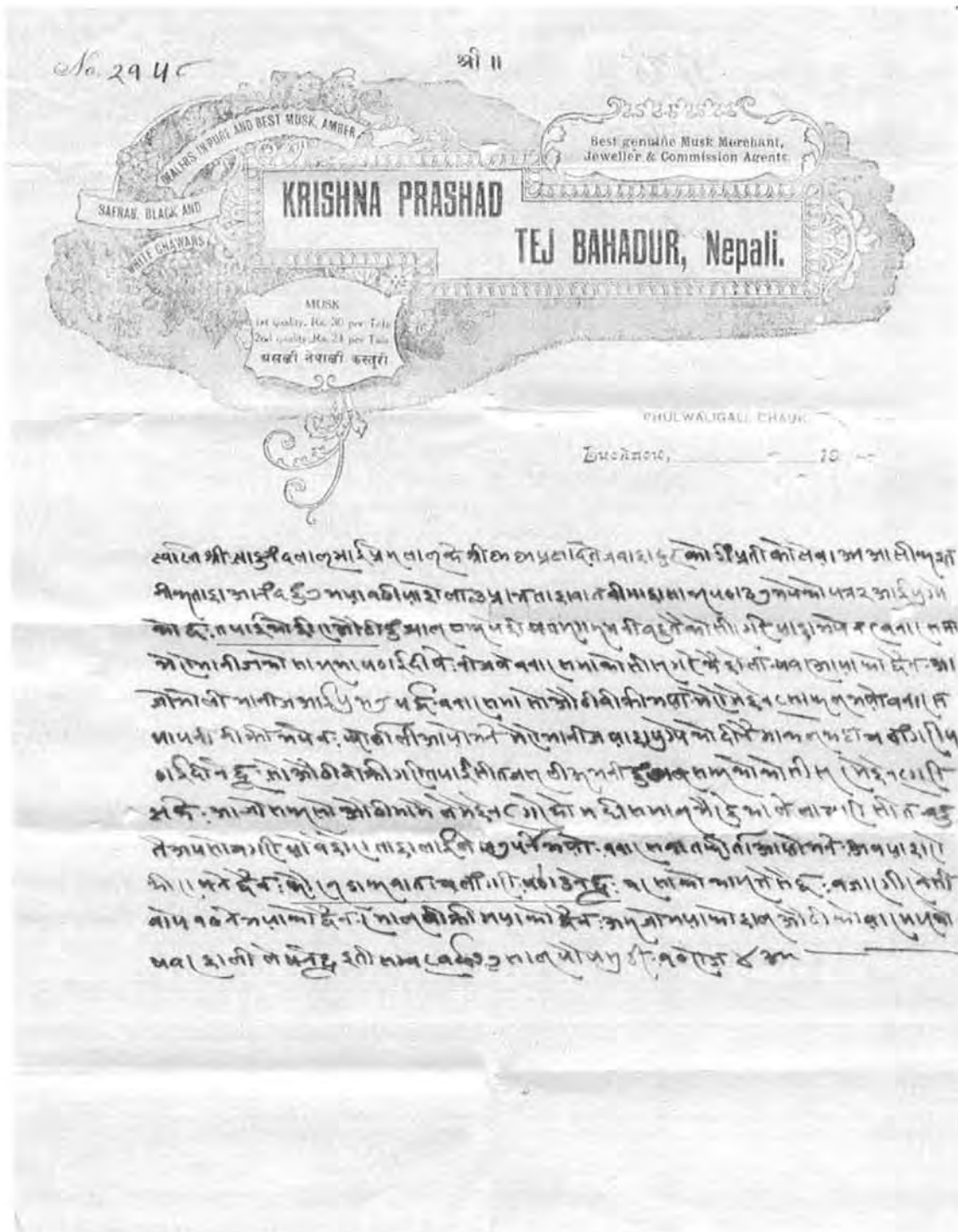
Two Additional Cover Illustrations Surendra Lal Shrestha

Illustrated are two cover envelopes with the Lakshmi Nivas Maharajganj, Kathmandu, crest used by the last Rana Prime Minister of Nepal. (See also *PH* 133:9 'A Letter to the Nepal - Mohan Shamsher J. B. Rana from Queen of Bundi' - editor)



A Piece of Postal History Surendra Lal Shrestha

Below is a letter dated 1915 A.D. from merchant's instruction. Surely an example of Lucknow to Kathmandu informing the recipient trusting the Postal Service in the old days that a diamond ring will be returned between India & Nepal. Also, note the rate of immediately by 'Mail' if unsold as per a Nepali 'MUSK' inserted in the fancy letter head.



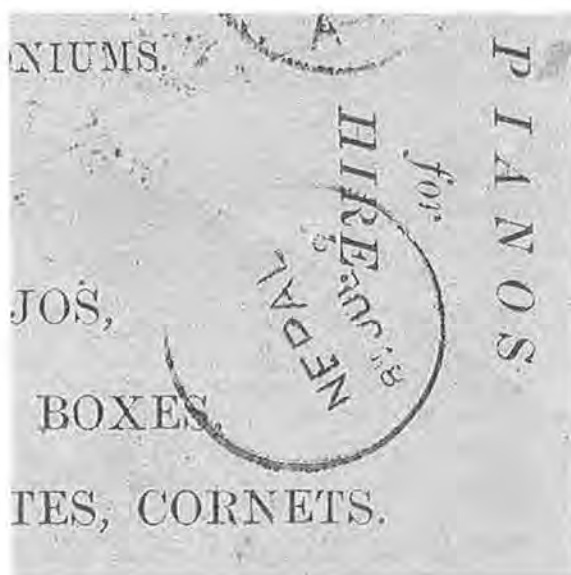
The British-Indian B25 Cancellation

Colin Hepper

I would like to comment on the 'New Discovery' of the British-Indian B25 cancellation, reported by Surendra Lal Shrestha in *Postal Himal* 133 (see 'A New Type Discovered on the British-Indian B25 Cancellation by Surendra Lal Shrestha *PH* 133:2 - ed.).

I believe that we should *proceed with caution* before accepting that it is a new type. I have a similar postcard to the one illustrated which was

posted two months earlier, and as can be seen from the illustration, the inking on the lower portion of the date stamp is very clear. On Surendra's card, the inking on the lower portion of the date stamp is almost non-existent and so there is a possibility that the date characters are there but missed being inked making it look as if there was no date stamp. To be sure there must be a full inking of the whole date stamp.



British Envoy at the Court of Nepal

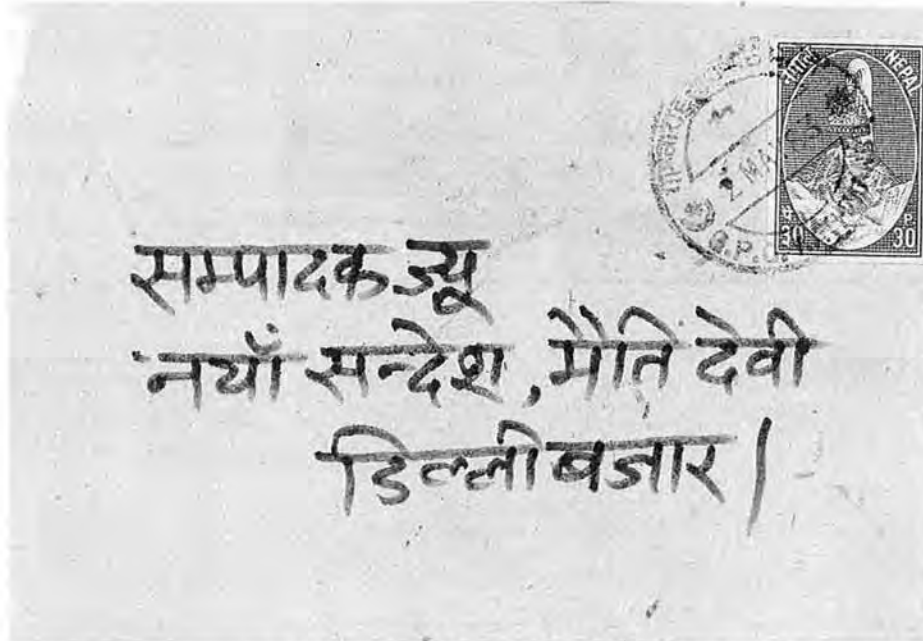
Colin Hepper

Some time ago I purchased a small lot of Nepalese material in amongst which was this fine embossed seal on a thin cream coloured card, which may have been cut out from either a letter sheet or an envelope. However, the card seems to be rather too thick to have been used on normal stationery items. I have no idea as to

what year this stationery was in use and would be interested to hear from anyone who could throw some light on this position of 'British Envoy at the Court of Nepal', bearing in mind there has always been a British/Indian Embassy in Kathmandu.



Unusual 'Postal Stationery'
Colin Hepper



The illustrated cover was posted at Kathmandu G.P.O. on 2 May 1983. The stamp used has been cut out of the 1980 issue postal stationery envelope and placed on a normal envelope.



Another cover also posted at Kathmandu G.P.O. dated 19.10.93 has had the 50p stamp from the 1986 issue aerogramme cut out and used in conjunction with a 1 Rupee stamp for use on an internal airmail letter.

News from Kathmandu
Surendra Lal Shrestha



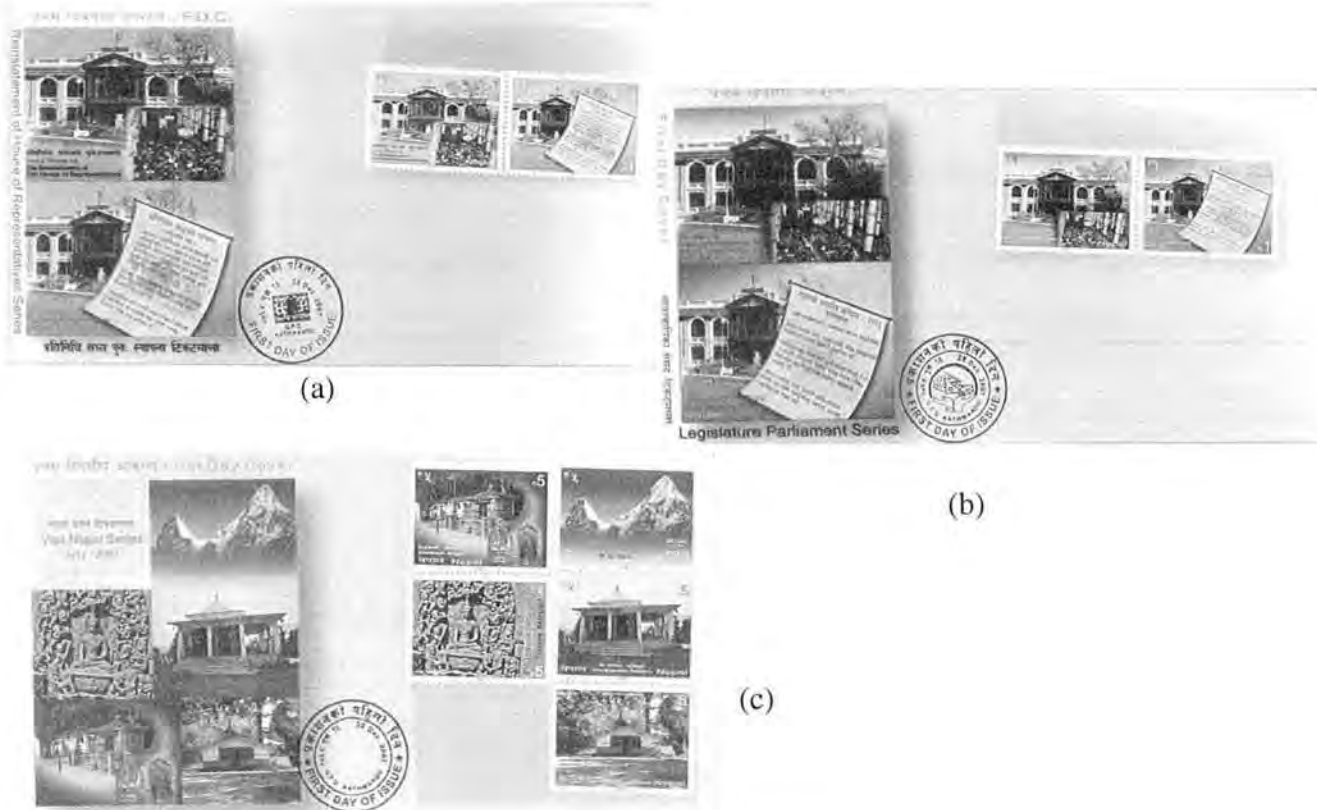
हलाक पत्र Post Card



COMMEMORATIVE COVER



First Day Covers



Technical Details

	(a)	(b)	(c) Visit Nepal Series
Subject:	Reinstatement of House of Representatives Proclamation of House of Representatives	Constitution of Legislative Parliament Interim Constitution of Nepal	Shree Shaillya Malikarjun, Darchula Buddha Mt. Abi 6097 m. Shree Bhageshwor, Dadeldhura Shiddakali, Bhojpur
Denomination:	Rs. 1	Rs. 1	Rs. 5
Color:	Four with Phosphor print	Four with Phosphor print	Four with Phosphor print
Composition:	20 stamps per sheet	20 stamps per sheet	20 stamps per sheet
Size:	40 x 30 mm	40 x 30 mm	40 x 30 mm
Process:	Offset Lithography	Offset Lithography	Offset Lithography
Quantity:	500,000 each	500,000 each	200,000 each
Format:	Horizontal	Horizontal	Horizontal
Paper:	High Quality Stamp	High Quality Stamp	High Quality Stamp
Designer:	Mohan N. Rana	Mohan N. Rana	Mohan N. Rana
Printer:	Cartor Security, France	Cartor Security, France	Cartor Security, France
Postal Himnal No. 134		13	2 nd Quarter 2008



(a)



(b)

Technical Details

	(a) (Personality Series)	(b)
Subject:	Shivapuri Baba & Mahesh Chandra Regmi Bhrikuti & Pt. Udayananda Arjyal Ganesh Lal Shrestha & Tara Devi	Chhaya Devi Parajuli
Denomination:	Rs. 5	Rs. 2
Color:	Four with Phosphor print	Four with Phosphor print
Composition:	20 stamps per sheet	20 stamps per sheet
Size:	40 x 30 mm	40 x 30 mm
Process:	Offset Lithography	Offset Lithography
Quantity:	1,000,000 of each pair	1,000,000
Format:	Horizontal	Horizontal
Paper:	High Quality Stamp	High Quality Stamp
Designer:	Mohan N. Rana	Mohan N. Rana
Printer:	Cartor Security, France	Cartor Security, France

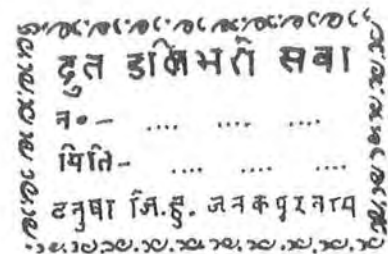
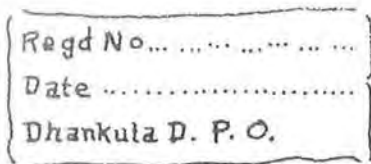
Thanks to Nepal Philatelic Bureau, Kathmandu for the First Day Covers

Nepal Post Offices - A Continuing Series
 Colin Hepper - photos by Jaya Hari Jha

Dhankuta District Post Office



The Dhankuta District Post Office is one of six District Post Offices in the Koshi Zone



Itahari Chhoti Hulak



Itahari Chhoti Hulak is in the Koshi Zone and comes under the jurisdiction of the Sunsari District Post Office

