



# NEPAL & TIBET PHILATELIC STUDY CIRCLE



Newsletter No. 22

July 1980

Dear Friends,

One of my interests has been the correlation of the Nepali calendar with the one used in the Western world. A few years ago I heard that a book was being written in Nepal on this subject, but I have been unable to locate the book, or even determine whether such a book has actually been written. Does anyone know of such a book?

Dr. Hellrigl, in "The Native Postmarks of Nepal" (p. 118), provides a convenient method for converting a Bikram Sambat date to a corresponding date in the Gregorian calendar simply by deducting 56 years, 8 months and 17 days from the Bikram Sambat date. He points out, however, that the date thus obtained will be approximate, since the number of days in a month vary in both calendars. By assuming that a month has exactly 30 days in both calendars, the error is not more than 2 or 3 days either way.

A suggestion by Lawrence B. Scott allows a closer correlation if the B.S. date includes the day of the week. For example, the handwritten date across the end of a cover in my collection is: 61/8/24/5 B.S. Subtracting 56 years, 8 months and 17 days gives an approximate equivalent date: 1904 December 7 A.D. We can now turn one of the perpetual calendars to determine the day of the week corresponding to that date in the year 1904. A simple and compact 200-year calendar, together with instructions for its use, appears elsewhere in this issue. We find that December 7 fell on a Wednesday in 1904. The B.S. date indicates the day numeral as 5---a Thursday. Thus we conclude that the exact conversion would be: 8 December 1904 A.D., since that would be a Thursday also.

Your editor regrets that illness has delayed the answers to a number of letters and wishes to assure readers that all will be answered. I especially wish to thank all who have submitted material during the past year.

Lester A. Michel

## NEW MEMBERS

Frank G. Bailey, Fern Hill P.O. Box 71, Tacoma, WA 98412 U.S.A.

Mag. Pharm. M. Muller, Am Dominikanergrund 35, A-8043 GRAZ, AUSTRIA

## ADDRESS CORRECTION

Kenneth Lee Javonovich, P.O. Box 126, Conway, PA 15027 U.S.A.

## AUCTION

Remember the closing date for Auction No. 13 is Aug. 30, 1980

Lots for the next Auction #14 should be received by Colin Hepper before September 15, 1980.

Years							Months												
1801-1900				1901-2000			J	F	M	A	M	J	J	A	S	O	N	D	
01	29	57	85		25	53	81	4	0	0	3	5	1	3	6	2	4	0	2
02	30	58	86		26	54	82	5	1	1	4	6	2	4	0	3	5	1	3
03	31	59	87		27	55	83	6	2	2	5	0	3	5	1	4	6	2	4
04	32	60	88		28	56	84	0	3	4	0	2	5	0	3	6	1	4	6
05	33	61	89	01	29	57	85	2	5	5	1	3	6	1	4	0	2	5	0
06	34	62	90	02	30	58	86	3	6	6	2	4	0	2	5	1	3	6	1
07	35	63	91	03	31	59	87	4	0	0	3	5	1	3	6	2	4	0	2
08	36	64	92	04	32	60	88	5	1	2	5	0	3	5	1	4	6	2	4
09	37	65	93	05	33	61	89	0	3	3	6	1	4	6	2	5	0	3	5
10	38	66	94	06	34	62	90	1	4	4	0	2	5	0	3	6	1	4	6
11	39	67	95	07	35	63	91	2	5	5	1	3	6	1	4	0	2	5	0
12	40	68	96	08	36	64	92	3	6	0	3	5	1	3	6	2	4	0	2
13	41	69	97	09	37	65	93	5	1	1	4	6	2	4	0	3	5	1	3
14	42	70	98	10	38	66	94	6	2	2	5	0	3	5	1	4	6	2	4
15	43	71	99	11	39	67	95	0	3	3	6	1	4	6	2	5	0	3	5
16	44	72		12	40	68	96	1	4	5	1	3	6	1	4	0	2	5	0
17	45	73		13	41	69	97	3	6	6	2	4	0	2	5	1	3	6	1
18	46	74		14	42	70	98	4	0	0	3	5	1	3	6	2	4	0	2
19	47	75		15	43	71	99	5	1	1	4	6	2	4	0	3	5	1	3
20	48	76		16	44	72	00	6	2	3	6	1	4	6	2	5	0	3	5
21	49	77	00	17	45	73		1	4	4	0	2	5	0	3	6	1	4	6
22	50	78		18	46	74		2	5	5	1	3	6	1	4	0	2	5	0
23	51	79		19	47	75		3	6	6	2	4	0	2	5	1	3	6	1
24	52	80		20	48	76		4	0	1	4	6	2	4	0	3	5	1	3
25	53	81		21	49	77		6	2	2	5	0	3	5	1	4	6	2	4
26	54	82		22	50	78		0	3	3	6	1	4	6	2	5	0	3	5
27	55	83		23	51	79		1	4	4	0	2	5	0	3	6	1	4	6
28	56	84		24	52	80		2	5	6	2	4	0	2	5	1	3	6	1

Days						
Sun.	1	8	15	22	29	36
Mon.	2	9	16	23	30	37
Tues.	3	10	17	24	31	
Wed.	4	11	18	25	32	
Thur.	5	12	19	26	33	
Fri.	6	13	20	27	34	
Sat.	7	14	21	28	35	

<p>☆ 1801-2000 ☆</p> <p><b>200-Year Calendar</b></p> <p>For use in determining the day-of-the-week for any date over a two-Century span.</p>
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 Philatelic Society.

First, locate the last two digits of the year (e.g., 1904) in the appropriate century of the "Years" table. Second, read across on the same line, noting the appropriate single digit number in the "Months" section of the table. (For our example, December is the month, and, from the column headed by "D" we find the number---4.) Third, add this number to the the numerals of the day of the month. (e.g., 4 + 7) Finally, locate this sum (4 + 7 = 11) in the "Days" section of the table, to identify the day of the week. (The sum, 11, is opposite Wednesday, in our example.)



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 PATRONS: Mac Linscott Ricketts and Harrison D. S. Haverbeck FRPSL  
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# COUNTERFEIT CHRONICLE

A Fake Cover

---Roger Skinner

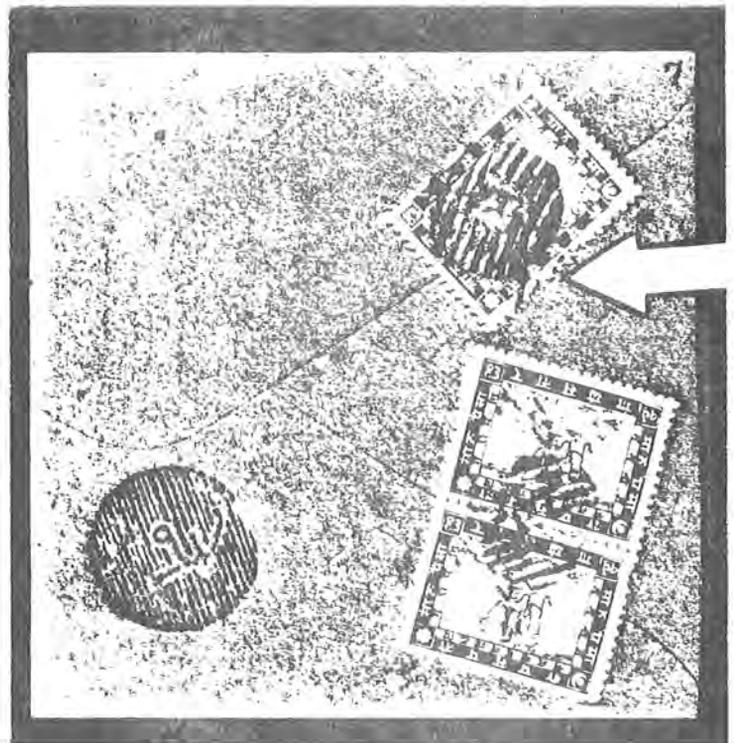
## EXHIBITION NEWS

ASIAPEX '80 will be held at San Francisco Aug. 15-17 in The Hall of Flowers, Golden Gate Park. A meeting of those members of the Nepal and Tibet Philatelic Study Circle attending the exhibition is planned for Saturday the 16th, 1:00 PM. Consult program for location.

## MORE ON INDIA '80

The editor finally received the Catalogue for INDIA '80 together with letters from members whose exhibits and awards have not been mentioned previously. P. Gupta's famous Nepal exhibit won a PRIX D'HONNEUR in the F.I.P. Class of Honor, while his exhibit of Cochin received a Large Gold in the National Class. P. Gupta also reports that his Nepal exhibit was entered in LONDON '80 and NORWEX '80. Amal Bose, another of our members from India, received a Silver for his Nepal exhibit and a Silver Bronze for his Thematic exhibit. Our president, Dr. Couvreur, received a Gold for his exhibit of Indian Feudatory States, not a Large Gold as reported by your editor in the March issue. An apology is extended to Dr. Couvreur for this error, and to those members whose exhibits were overlooked. All members are urged to report their exhibit plans and awards to the editor in order that the newsletter accounts can be complete and accurate.

One type of cover that seems to have been making the rounds world wide is the one using the circular barred cancel shown in the illustration below. These covers donot appear to have anything genuine about them at all. They do not have the usual stampless cover markings, nor any other postal markings not supplied by the creator. The stamps of the 1907 issue all have the familiar Chisapani cancels used for telegraph payments and are not difficult to find complete on one or two stamps. This is, apparently, the reason for using them, but, as can be seen in the illustration, there are some distinct partial bars on the single stamp that would have extended onto the cover itself, if the stamp had been attached to the cover when it was cancelled. Although collectors desire clean covers, cleanliness is usually a warning sign with material from Nepal, as it is on these examples. In fact, with so many being in the hands of collectors, sold as forgeries and not offered as genuine, we may be seeing a new market in forgeries, manufactured to be obvious, but providing an income to the makers. It may not provide the high gain when offered as genuine, but the 25 Rupees for each one could add up to a nice income for the not-so-affluent craftsman in India.



## CORRELATION OF CATALOGUES

2 Annas: 1917 - 1918 (Imperf.)

Brown (shades)27	16	39	32a
T/B Pair 27a	16a	39a	-
Chestnut 27b	-	-	-
T/B Pair 27ba	-	-	-
Chocolate 27c	-	-	-
T/B Pair 27ca	-	-	-
Cinnamon 27d	-	-	-
T/B Pair 27da	-	-	-
Orange Brown 27e	-	40	32b
T/B Pair 27ea	-	40a	-
Maroon (shades)28	-	-	29b
T/B Pair 28a	-	-	-
Brown Purple 28b	-	-	29c
T/B Pair 28ba	-	-	-
Brown Red 28c	-	39	30
T/B Pair 28ca	-	39a	-
Claret 29	-	41	-
T/B Pair 29a	-	41a	-
Purple 30	-	-	31b
T/B Pair 30a	-	-	-
Slate Purple 30b	-	-	31a
T/B Pair 30ba	-	-	-
Pale Purple 30c	-	-	31b
T/B Pair 30ca	-	-	-
Recut lettering and frame:			
Brown 32	-	-	-
T/B Pair 32a	-	-	-

4 Annas: 1917 - 1918 (Imperf.)

Green (shades) 31	22	42	34b
T/B Pair 31a	22a	42a	-
Yellow Green 31b	-	-	33b
T/B Pair 31ba	-	-	-
Blue Green 31c	-	-	-
T/B Pair 31ca	-	-	-
Emerald -	-	-	33a
Dark Green -	-	-	34a
Recut lettering and frame:			
Green 33	-	-	-
T/B Pair 33a	-	-	-

Note: None of these issues are recorded by Yvert Tellier.

This feature (Correlation of Catalogues) is brought to a close at this point since correlation is relatively simple for the issues which follow. We thank Colin Hepper for this useful tabular correlation.--Ed.

## PUBLICATIONS

Some of our members may not be aware that these Nepal stamp albums are in print:

- 1) Gerhard Lenser: Nepal Stamp Album printed in West Germany
- 2) S. L. Shrestha's Nepal Stamp Album (1881-1971) + 1972-1979 Supplements printed in Nepal (without binder)
- 3) G. Tuladhar & M. R. Rajbhandary: Nepal Stamp Album, Second Revised Edition (1974) printed in Nepal (without binder)

Surendra Lal Shrestha has published the articles: "The Land-lord and Handstruck Revenue Stamps of Nepal" in THE AMERICAN REVENUER, September, 1979, and in PHILATELY, January 1978, a "Checklist of Nepal Court Fee Documents" together with "'Nalis Dastoor', the Court Fee Stamps of Nepal.

Mr. Shrestha also points out the two following items: 1) In "Stamps for Investment" by Kenneth R. Lake, Pan Books (1970), Nepal is discussed on page 170 under the heading "Untouched Areas." 2) In "The Last Home of Mystery" by E. A. Powell, John Lond, Limited, London (1929), some observations concerning Himalayan Postmen are made on page 151. Incidentally, this book is fascinating reading, written by one of the few Westerners to visit Nepal prior to 1950. It contains a number of pictures and is a valuable addition to the philatelic library, if a copy can be found.



work during the past year. Any suggestions for a name for the Newsletter should be sent to Tom Matthiesen.

#### SUBSCRIPTIONS

After some discussion, members decided that subscriptions should be doubled in 1981 to £3. for one year and £8. for three years. If inflation overtook the three year subscription, it could be supported by the auction proceeds or, possibly, by advertising.

#### AWARDS

It was decided that, whenever possible, we should make awards at major exhibitions for the best Nepal or Tibet entries.

#### FUTURE MEETINGS

1980 - 15 to 17 August ASIAPEX '80 - San Francisco. Any members who are attending this meeting please contact Frank Vignola and he will try to arrange a meeting during the exhibition.

#### 1981 - KATHMANDU

Colin Hepper will be in Kathmandu from 6 to 11 February 1981 and will meet our members and members of the Nepal Philatelic Society during this time. Details will be announced later.

1981 - WIPA - International Exhibition in Vienna, 22 to 31 May. Any of our members who are attending this Exhibition please contact Wolfgang Hellrigl, who will try to arrange a meeting.

Finally, Dr. Couvreur closed the meeting and thanked all members for attending. It was a pleasure to meet so many who have supported the Circle over the past three years and to have representatives from twelve different countries must be something of a record for a new Society!

#### MEMBERS ATTENDING

The following members attended during the two days:

C. Hepper, J. Purkiss, H. Garratt-Adams, G. Rosamond, J. Jackson, L. Norton, all from the United Kingdom; F. Vignola and G. Alevizos from the U.S.A.; Prof. Werner-Axel from Germany; R. Goffinet from Luxembourg; Nils Ram Ericson, Austria; G. Flack, Canada; Dr. D. Pocock, Australia; C. Tulsiyan, Nepal; Dr. W. Hellrigl, Italy; Col. L. G. Shenoi and A. Bhattacharya, India; P. Fink, Switzerland; and Dr. P. Couvreur, France.

#### TIBET-CHINESE POST OFFICES

---Edmund Weissberg

I think there is a constant error in in the Tibetan overprint of the surcharged One Rupee/One Dollar stamp. All copies I have seen read:

Skor-mo geig → སྐོར་མོ་གཞིག་  
instead of:  
Sgor-mo geig → སྐོར་མོ་གཞིག་

"Geig" means "one," and "Sgor-mo" means "Rupee." However, "Skor-mo" has no meaning, or, if you try to give it a meaning at all, it could be translated as "She-pilgrim." It seems to me that this error passed unnoticed from the printer and was never corrected. Apparently, the stamps were all released thus. Can everyone check their stamps and comment on this supposition, or add any more information?

#### EXHIBITION NEWS

The first Nepal & Tibet Philatelic Study Circle Award for the best Nepal or Tibet exhibit will be presented at the ASIAPEX-80 in San Francisco, to be held 15-17 August 1980. Some of the world's finest exhibits of Far East Asian Countries will be entered. Entry forms and information can be obtained from member Bill McConnell, P O Box #2730, Santa Clara, CA 95051.

Bill McConnell has sent me a copy of the advance brochure for PHILA TOKYO '81, the International Stamp Exhibition to be held in Tokyo, Japan on 9-18 October 1981. In 1971 the international stamp exhibition commemorated the centenary of the first Japanese postage stamp and was open to Japanese stamp exhibits only. Now, the exhibition will be a full-scale event under the patronage and the rules of the Federation Internationale de Philatelie (F.I.P.) and under the auspices of Inter Asia Philatelic Federation (FIAP). The address of the Organizing Committee: Teisan Bldg., 11-12 Ginza-8, Chuo-ku, Tokyo 104.

**NEPAL AND TIBET PHILATELIC STUDY CIRCLE**  
**STATEMENT OF ACCOUNTS**  
**March 31, 1980**

INCOME

Subscriptions	£73.00
Library Sales	£15.72
Transferred from U.S.A.A/C ( \$15.75 )	£7.80
Bank Interest	£71.16
Commission Auction No. 7	£19.48
Commission Auction No. 8	£14.09
Commission Auction No. 9	£4.65
Commission Auction No. 10	£43.98
Commission Auction No. 11	£32.21
Cash at Bank 1979	£207.74
 Total	 <u>£489.83</u> =====

EXPENDITURE

Postage No.15 Newsletter	£12.11
" Auction No. 10	£11.22
" " " 11	£14.00
" " " 12	£18.00
All other postage	£15.86
Accounts book	£3.45
Bank charges	£7.43
London '80 Meeting Room	£40.00
Transferred to T.Matthiesen	£158.00
 Cash at Bank	 <u>£280.07</u>
 Total	 <u>£489.83</u> =====

U.S.A.Account - F. Vignola

Subscriptions	\$148.00
Transferred to T. Matthiesen.	<u>\$45.00</u>
	<u>\$103.00</u>

U.S.A. Acco - T. Matthiesen

Received	\$384.73
Total cost Newsletters Nos. 16 - 20.	<u>\$323.32</u>
	<u>\$61.41</u>

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TOTAL STUDY CIRCLE ACCOUNT: U.K. £209.76

U.S.A. \$164.41

Estimated cost of newsletters for the remainder of 1980 = 300 dollars.

...C. Hepper

PRESIDENT: Dr. Pierre Couvreur

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