



NEPAL & TIBET PHILATELIC STUDY CIRCLE



Newsletter No. 23

September 1980

Dear Friends,

You will be pleased to know of the honours received by members of our group in recent months:

- 1) Mr. P. Gupta has been appointed, for a period of two years, as a Philatelist member of the recently reconstituted Philatelic Advisory Committee.
- 2) At LONDON '80 Dr. Hellrigl was elected as a member of the very exclusive International Association of Philatelic Experts (A.I.E.P.). This organization is based in Zurich and presently has 91 members from 22 countries. He has been accepted as an expert for both Nepal and Tibet and is the first A.I.E.P. member specializing in these two countries.

This issue also contains a report on ASIAPEX '80, held last month in San Francisco, at which four of our members received awards. I should also mention that Bill McConnell gave ASIAPEX '80 a fine write-up in his column, "Asian Area Philately" in STAMP COLLECTOR for September 20, and we thank him for the generous amount of space devoted to the activities our group. Thank you, Bill, and congratulations to all these members who have helped to promote Nepal and Tibet philately in recent months.

Lester A. Michel

NEW MEMBERS

G.P.Wade, P.O.Box 163, Glebe 2037, Sydney, N.S.W., AUSTRALIA
C.W.Barnes, 181 Terry Street, South Hurstville 2221, N.S.W., AUSTRALIA
J.W.Hubbard, 3 Talavera Rd., Chiseldon, Swindon, Wilts. SN4 OJG, ENGLAND
Dr. R.E.Humphries, Division of Science, University of New Brunswick, P.O.Box 5050,
St. Johns, New Brunswick, E2L 4L5, CANADA
L. Gottlieb, 13 Old Hall Road, Salford, M7 OJJ, ENGLAND
Ramesh Shrestha, 2-69, Tripureswar, Kathmandu, NEPAL
L/Col W.J.Bailey, 2107 West 51st Ave., Vancouver B.C., V6P 1E2. CANADA

MEMBERS REJOINED

Allen Kaplan, U.S.A.	R. Mayer, ENGLAND	G. Richardson
N. Dhroove, INDIA	K.M.Reed, U.S.A.	U.S.A.

CHANGE OF ADDRESS

Dr. Karl Schmidt, Tulpenweg 37, (Huttendorf) 8520 Erlangen, WEST GERMANY

Dr. Hellrigl reports:

1) The July 1980 issue of the National Geographic Magazine features a great map of China. This is particularly valuable for Tibet collectors as this is the first map that shows all geographical names in the newly introduced Pinyin spelling system. Thus Shigatse, Penam and Phari have become Xigaze, Bainang and Pagri, respectively. The new name for Tibet, incidentally, is Xizang. Tibet collectors are well advised to obtain this very useful map.

2) Dr. Hellrigl has been invited by Stanley Gibbons to completely re-write the Nepal section of their catalogue. During LONDON '80, he submitted the new listing, which has been accepted. There are a number of important improvements in the classic issues, where the total number of entries has been increased from 74 to 161, making this easily the most detailed Nepal listing ever compiled. This enlargement affects almost exclusively sub-numbers indicating the main shade varieties. Incidentally, the new listing was arranged to fit the forthcoming handbook of the classic issues of Nepal. This means that in future we shall have a unified numbering system will be a tremendous improvement on the present situation where there is practically little connection between Haverbeck's handbook and any catalogue.

Other improvements concern many revised dates of issue (e.g. 1917 for the 1/2 anna orange-vermilion; 1930 - finally! - for the second Perkins Bacon issue; etc.).

Last, but not least, catalogue prices. As recent auction sales have demonstrated, a complete revision of catalogue prices was urgently needed. Quotations

had to be raised to the current market levels and, consequently, some dramatic increases could not be avoided, even though I often tried to deliberately soften the impact of too rapid a price acceleration.

According to the latest information from London, the new Gibbons catalogue containing the Nepal section (i.e., Part 21 of the firm's newly adopted publication system) will be available by mid-1981. Subsequent editions will no longer appear in 12-month intervals, but probably in three-year intervals, depending on the actual sale results.

CANCELLATION ERROR

Colin Hepper reports an error which appeared in the otherwise normal postmark of SINGHADARBAR, in which the letter "G" is missing, so that the name reads "SINHADARBAR," in the outer band. The cancellation appeared on a cover which he received with a postmark date of 17 FEB 1980, or 17 APR 1980. Has anyone else seen this error?

WHEN and WHERE

should the next official Study Circle be held? Our president, Dr. Couvreur, has recently sent me a note concerning this important question. It does not appear, at this time, that either the Nepal Postal Authorities and/or the Nepal Philatelic Society will schedule any special event to mark the centenary of Nepalese stamp issues in 1981. He and the editor have received a letter from C. Tulsiyan, in which he suggests that such an observance be held in conjunction with WESTPEX '81 held annually in San Francisco. Dr. Couvreur would like to have the meeting in Europe in 1981, since his health is such that he cannot make long trips by air. Both he and your editor request responses from the members concerning the matter.



PRESIDENT: Dr. Pierre Couvreur

PATRONS: Mac Linscott Ricketts and Harrison D. S. Haverbeck FRPSL
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ASIAPEX '80

Frank Vignola stated that the show was quite comparable to the Asian section of an "International." There were about 42 exhibits, with the majority from countries other than the U.S.A. A Study Circle meeting was held at 1 P.M. on Saturday, August 16. As host, Frank Vignola gave a report of the LONDON '80 meeting. Then each of the 12 members present spoke to the group about his own particular collecting interests. Frank concluded with additional remarks relating to various special interests that were revealed by the speakers.

AWARDS AT ASIAPEX '80

Several Study Circle members won awards at ASIAPEX '80. Frank Vignola took the Reserve Grand Award as well as the first Nepal and Tibet Study Circle Award for his exhibit titled "The kukris Issues of Nepal, 1881-1930".

Colin Hepper received a Silver for his "Nepal - First Hundred Years" while Vermeil awards went to two more of our members: Al Zulueta for his Nepal entry and Allen Kerr for his Tibet exhibit.

MEMBERS ATTENDING ASIAPEX '80

Study Circle meeting: H. Garratt-Adams, ENGLAND; Peter Holcomb, SWITZERLAND; Geoffrey Flack, CANADA; plus the following from the U.S.A.: Frank Vignola, Russ Sanford, Allen Kerr, Bill McConnell, Al Zulueta, Roger Skinner, George Alevizos, Fred de Ridder and Thomas Matthiesen. Mae Vignola and Julie McConnell were present also

FINE STAMPS AND POSTAL HISTORY ITEMS



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NEWS FROM KATHMANDU (1979):

Chhinasin, August 28:

The sub post office of Muchu village panchayat was declared open by its up-pradhan pancha Newachan recently.

Humla district has one district post office, one sub-post office, and four additional post offices at present.

Arghakanchi, July 29:

An additional post office has been established in Dibhama village panchayat in Arghakanchi district by the Postal Services Department, reports RSS.

According to the village panchayat the newly established post office was inaugurated at a function presided over by district panchayat president Rudra Prasad Ghimire.

Meanwhile it was reported from Okhaldunga that work is being hampered in the newly constructed post office building in the headquarters of Okhaldunga district because the roof of the new building has started to leak.

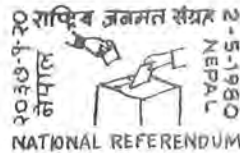
The post office building was handed over by the contractor just two months ago.

The post office building was constructed at a cost of one hundred and twenty thousand rupees under the supervision of public construction branch. (It would seem that the problems related to new construction are much the same as those which arise in the Western world!--Ed.)

SPECIAL CANCELLATIONS FOR THE NATIONAL REFERENDUM

--Colin Hepper

On the 2nd, May 1980 Nepal held a national referendum and at the stations where the voting took place the local post offices used a special cancel to commemorate the event. The cancellation depicts two hands placing a voting paper in a collecting box, with the wording around the outside in both Devanagari and English. This design is common to all cancellations with the name of the post office below the square, as shown in the cancel used at the General Post Office in Kathmandu.



गोश्वारा हुलाक, काठमाडौं

BAGLUNG	बाग्लुङ्ग जिल्ला हुलाक	KASKI	कास्की जिल्ला हुलाक	LALITPUR	ललितपुर जिल्ला हुलाक
BANKE	बाँके जिल्ला हुलाक	KAPILVASTU	कपिलवस्तु जिल्ला हुलाक	MAHOTTARI	महोत्तरी जिल्ला हुलाक
BHAKTAPUR	भक्तपुर जिल्ला हुलाक	KAILALI	कैलाली जिल्ला हुलाक	MORANG	मोरङ्ग जिल्ला हुलाक
DHANKUTA	धनुषा जिल्ला हुलाक	KODARI	कोदारी जिल्ला हुलाक	RAUTAHAT	रौतहट जिल्ला हुलाक
JHAPA	झपा जिल्ला हुलाक	KRISHNA NAGAR	कृष्णनगर जिल्ला हुलाक	RAJAPUR	राजापुर जिल्ला हुलाक
SURKHET	सुर्खेत जिल्ला हुलाक	SARLAHI	सर्लाही जिल्ला हुलाक	RUPANDEHI	रूपन्देही जिल्ला हुलाक
JUMLA	जुम्ला जिल्ला हुलाक			SIRAHA	सिराहा जिल्ला हुलाक

It was intended to have these special cancellations at 31 stations but so far only those listed above have been recorded. Post offices at Pashupati Nagar, Illam, Darchula, Kobilas, Baitadi, Saptari, Parsa, Dahnkutta, Dang and Kanchanpur only serviced a very few covers making them very much scarcer than the others.



Swiss-German Expedition to Mt. Makalu.

The illustration shows the latest of the special one day cancellations associated with climbing expeditions organised by Mr. Gerhard Lenser. This time it was a combined Swiss-German climb on Mt. Makalu I and II.

The successful expedition had four groups reach the summit of Makalu II on Oct. 9, Oct. 12, Oct. 15 and Oct. 17. The 10 member team left base camp for Kathmandu on Oct. 23 and the special cancel was used on Nov. 20 when they had returned to the capital.

German Kanchenjunga Expedition.

Another special cancellation, shown here tying an appropriate Nepalese stamp to a cover, was, apparently, used for one day only, as the date, 1 April 1980, appears in the outer band, between the two circles, where the words "GERMAN - KANCHENJUNGA EXPEDITION" also appear. The editor has no detailed information on this expedition.

