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Dear Friends,

We are round to a new year once again, with the good news that our Study Circle, which started with only a handful of members in 1975 has now almost reached a membership of 100. Looking back over the last year, apart from our steady growth in membership, there has been considerable work done by some of our Study groups. This work is by nature, slow going but during the next year, we should be able to start to publish some of our findings. My thanks must also go to some of our members in Nepal for providing most of the contents of the newsletter.

NEW MEMBERS

MR. A.K. BOSE, P79 Lake Road, Calcutta-29, India
MR. W.A. DAWSON, 55, Strafford Ave., Clayhall, Ilford Essex, England
MR. J.C. ROTH, 1450 2nd Ave., No. 165 Chula Vista, Calif. 92011, U.S.A.
MR. R. MAYES, 55, Windsor Road, Evesham, Worcs. WR 11 4 QF England
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CHANGE OF ADDRESS

DR. W.C. HELLRIGL, P.O. Box 349, 39100 Bozen (B.Z) Italy.

EXHIBITION AWARDS

Our congratulations go to Mr. Al Zulueta for his Gold Medal at Sescal 78 for Nepal-Classic Period and Mr. Frank Vignola with a small Gold at Indianapolis in the literature class for "The First Native Post Offices in Nepal".

MR. JOHN WHITE The Stamp Studio, 1586 Piedmont Avenue, Atlanta, Georgia 30324 will be featuring Nepal material in his next auction, and if any members would like a free catalogue, would they please contact him.

ARTICLES ON NEPAL

An article giving details of the servicing of the special helicopter flight covers, cancelled at Namche Bazar, to celebrate the 25th Anniversary of the first ascent of Everest has been published in both Stamp Collecting in the U.K. and Stamp News in Australia. Written by Nelson Eustic who organised the event. Mr. Eustic is the philatelic advisor to Nepal and was also responsible for some 'postage stamps' emanating from Tibet in 1974 for the U.P.U centenary. My correspondent is of the opinion that this set of four stamps have a greater cinderella interest than postal validity.

The first Perkins Bacon Issue of Nepal (1907) by Wolfgang Hellrigl published by the London Philatelist October 1978.

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SOCIETY REPRESENTATIVES:

U.S.A: Mr. Frank Vignola, 105, 22nd Av., San Francisco, CAL 94121
INDIA: Mr. C. Tulsian, P.O. Siswa Bazar, Distt, Gorakhpur U.P.
NEPAL: Mr. Dhruva Rudra, P.O. Box 80, Gana Bahal, Kathmandu,

"PAREWA DANDA POST OFFICE" by J.B. Manandhar

We cannot find Parewa Danda in the present list of Nepalese Post Office - departmental and semi-departmental running throughout the kingdom. Again without the aid of good Nepalese map many may experience difficulties in locating even the place of that name. Therefore the Nepalese and foreigners interested in research or study or collection of postal history may feel delighted in one way or other and also be in a fix in many ways when they make finds of old covers bearing different date stamps and name stamps of Parewa Danda in their collections. I often used to put forward my views regarding Parewa Danda at meetings with a few advanced philatelists and also before a sizeable gathering to remove their doubts. Now as it is being felt that delay should be avoided in bringing out information for the sake of all interested by shattering the bounds of limitation, here attempts are being made to point out the following details on Parewa Danda:

A document dated 1977 Ashwin 15 Thursday B.S. and related with the then pay hike of the postal officials mentions Parewa Danda (Bandipur) whereas in a Roman-Urdu book on the Nepalese history compiled by Captain C.J. Morris and published in 1935 A.D., Bandipur and Kuncha Parewa Danda are included as two separate entities under the heading of the Post Offices in western hills. Likewise the Post Offices given in the Postal Rules Part 1 of 1933 B.S. includes, in addition to Pokhara P.O., two more Post Offices i.e. Kunchha P.O. and Bandipur P.O. in West No. 3 and there were only Kunchha, Bandipur and Pokhara Post Offices in West No. 3 under Gorkha Postal Head Office during the year 1997 B.S. when all the Post Offices functioning inside the country were put under the jurisdiction of 7 Circle Postal Head Offices for purposes of postal administration.

Though the foregoing details furnish that Parewa Danda was inside the jurisdiction of West No. 3, it is difficult to ascertain whether it was situated in Lamjung or in Tanahun district. But a snad (an official document) bearing two large seals, dating 11th of Jestha 1990 Wednesday B.S. and pertaining to the arrangements of the porters and carriages of goods locates Parewa Danda in the main postal route linking Kathmandu with the western most part of the kingdom and Bandipur in the feeder route branching off from Parewa Danda itself. Besides, it is mentioned that Parewa Danda is situated 71 miles west of Kathmandu, 26 miles east of Pokhara and 16 miles north of Bandipur. Therefore it would not be difficult to those persons who have idea of the geographical locations of Gorkha, Pokhara and Bandipur in finding out Parewa Danda. Moreover, a map of Gandaki Zone published by M.G. G., Ministry of Land Reforms Department of Survey, Topographical section in 2033 B.S. clearly points out the place named Parewa Danda just a little north east of Kunchha within the present boundry of Lamjung District.

Now it remains to be discussed about covers bearing date stamps of Parewa Danda in combination with the hand-written inscriptions of Kunchha or Bandipur. If we turn to the geneology of Post Offices, Kunchha P.O. and Bandipur P.O. can be taken as the progenitors of Lamjung district Post Office located now at Besishahar and Tanahun district Post Office lying at Damauli respectively, and Kunchha P.O. itself was serving the Tanahun area including Bandipur before the opening of Bandipur P.O. It is now established that Parewa Danda which gave birth to Kunchha Post Office was functioning in Lamjung since the beginning of 1938 B.S. and later on it was transferred to the place named Kunchha. Thus we can guess the possibilities of Parewa Danda's existence before 1938 B.S. also because we can guess the possibilities of Parewa Danda's existence before 1938 B.S. also because of its strategic location in the main postal route i.e. foot-runners' main line extending from Kathmandu to the bank of the Mahakali river in the west. So those interested in the Nepalese postal history have to perform spade-works in that field too. Though there is the strong ground for presuming that Parewa Danda P.O. was transformed into Kunchha P.O. in the seventh decade of the twentieth century B.S., names of these two Post Offices were used in synonymity for a pretty long time. So responsibilities lie with us to determine with the study of covers the exact period after which Kunchha Post Office began to operate on its own footing by maintaining an independant status.

(First published in Nepali in the Postal Training Centre's journal 'HULAK' on 14 April 1978).

New Post Offices

Dhangadi, July 25. An additional post office building has been constructed at Pandaun village panchayat in Kailali district with local voluntary labour and assistance. 70 local people contributed voluntary labour for the construction of the building constructed at a cost of 21,000 rupees.

Dhangadi July 4. Pradhan pancha Tekh Bahadur Malla of Manuwa model village panchayat in Kailali district laid the foundation stone of additional post office building in the village panchayat at the function held there recently. The post office building is to be constructed at the village panchayat at a cost of 10,000 rupees. It is to be constructed with the voluntary labour and assistance of the local people and is expected to be completed in five months.

SIDDHARTHANAGAR POST OFFICE STILL USING OLD WEIGHING MACHINE - Siddarthanagar July 30

The district post office is still using old weighing machine and instruments. According to the chief of the post office, budget has not been made available for buying new machine in spite of repeated demand for the same. The local people have also complained of the irregular opening and collection of letters from the post boxes put up at Himali Sangam, Jail, Balmandir, Pakilwawa, Belhiya and Nepal Bank areas in the town. The district post office earned Rs 2,28,974/- as postal revenue in the last fiscal year 1977-78. The post office delivers here more postal goods coming in from foreign countries than from the postal goods sent from different parts of the country. The office delivered 1,63,592 postal goods received from foreign countries as against 1,43,884 internal postal goods. The post office says incoming and outgoing number of postal goods stands at about 9,000 per day. The postal goods destined to and through Nautanwa, Krishnagar, Banke, Kailali, Birgunj, Baitadi, and Biratnagar are sent via Indian railways and the other goods through vehicular transport and on foot to Gandaki and Lumbini zones.

Stamp Sale Income of Mechi Zone - Ilam Sept. 9

The postal offices of Taplejung, Panchthar, Ilam and Jhapa districts sold postal stamps worth Rs. 410,440/- in the last fiscal year. According to Mechi postal control office, postal offices of these districts had earned Rs. 384,584 in the preceding fiscal year. Ilam district post office had, in the last fiscal year earned 74,000 rupees from stamp sale and 47 rupees from the commission from money order service. Similarly, the post office located at Pashupatinagar of Ilam earned about Rs. 8,000 from sale. The district post office of Jhapa earned Rs 237,236 from stamp sale, money order commission, foreign parcels delivery and postal order services in the last fiscal year. The post offices of Panchthar and Taplejung districts earned Rs. 47,420 and Rs. 43,817 respectively in the same period. By the end of the last fiscal year there were 91 post offices of different tiers in Taplejung, Panchthar, Ilam and Jhapa districts of Mechi Zone.

MONEY ORDER SERVICE TO MORE DISTRICTS - Kathmandu November 3

Money order service is going to be introduced in the post offices of 11 more districts in the country during the current fiscal year. Khotang, Mugu, Shankhuasabha, Mahotari, Bara Nuwakot, Syanja, Nawa'parasi, Mustang Bardiya and Jajarkot are the districts in which the money order service will be introduced this fiscal year. The 11 new districts will bring the number of district post offices in the country providing money order service to 48. Although money of the country, the business situation in each district is first taken into consideration. Money order service was extended to 11 districts in fiscal year 1977/78 also. Money order service was first introduced at the central post office and Rupandehi and Morang district post offices on the occasion of the world Postal Service day in 1974.

66 POST OFFICES IN RAPTI ZONE - GHORALI Nov. 5. 1978

There are now altogether 66 post offices in Rapti zone. A sub post office and six additional post offices were established in the zone in the last fiscal year it is learnt. Likewise, recommendation has been made for the establishment of one sub post office and seven additional post offices in the zone in the current fiscal year.

Usual rules apply. Closing date for bids 17th February 1979. Colour codes are from the Color Handbook.

<u>Lot No.</u>		<u>Estimate</u>
105	S.G.1 1 anna postally used heavy cancel.	£6.
106	S.G. 13 ½ Anna used sheet, cliches 6 and 7 missing inverted cliches 7,8,57.	£15.
107	4a Green imperf. - 5 used stamps of different shades.	£4.
108	4a Green imperf. 3 blocks of 6 of different shades.	£15.
109	4a Green imperf. (70.10.100.30) Double impression.	£20.
110.	S.G. 42a Green (70.20.50.20) used T/B pair	£10.
111	S.G. 19a ½ anna used T/B pair	£3.
112	S.G. 21 2a lavender (0.0.10.50) used pin perf. block of 4.	£8.
113	SG 22a 2a Rose Lilac (0.0.50.50.) used T/B pair Sub office cancel type 1 pin perf.	£12.50.
114	SG 28a Used Corner block of 7 with frameline and one T/B pair	£8.
115	SG 31a used T/B pair pin perf.	£5
116	SG 21 7 diff. shades of 2 anna including lavender all pin perf.	£10.
117	SG 41 2 anna brown (100.50.50.10.) used T/B pair pin perf.	£7.50
118	2a Orange brown (70.50.10.20) used T/B Pair Pin Perf.	£7.50
119	2a brown lilac (50.70.50.30) used T/B Pr. Pin Perf.	£7.50
120	2a Claret (20 50 20.20) used T/B Pr. Pin Perf.	£7.50
121	4a Green used Pin Perf. 2 stamps diff. shades.	£3.50
122	SG 40a 2 anna Orange brown 70.501020used T/B Pr.	£5.
123	SG 50 5 Rs. used. very light cancel.	£4.
124	SG 72 1 rupee mint.	£2.
125	India ½ anna P.S. card (reply half) with printed message in Hindi Bombay to Nepal March 1921 with Nepal receiving P.M. and Kathmandu Oval.	£4.
126	First issue Postcard H.& G. 2 mint.	£4.
127	First issue Postcard H.& G 15 mint.	£3.

Prices realised for Auction No. 5

Lot 51 - £2.40	55 - £2.20	58 - £26.50	62 - £3.70	66 - £5.50	70 - £3.	75 - 6.50
52 - £3.25	56 - £4.	59 - £17.70	63 - £4.20	67 - £4.50	71 - £3.75	76 - N/S
53 - £1.00	57 - £3.70	60 - £5	64 - £3.00	68 - £3.00	72 - £3.50	77 - £4.70
54 - £2.20		61 - N/S	65 - £3.80	69 - £4.70	73 - £5.25	78 - 4.50
					74 - £5.50	