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May 1979

Dear Friends,

I have delayed this issue of the newsletter in order to be able to give a full account of our meeting in San Francisco as soon as possible. Firstly I must thank all of those U.S.A. members who came to the meeting despite the shortage of petrol (Sorry! Gas) and a strike by one of the major airlines. It was not always very easy for those of you who travelled hundreds of miles to the Westpex Exhibition, and shows what a fine spirit there is within the Circle. My thanks also to Frank Vignola and Russ Sanford for organising the meeting rooms, and programme also those members who took the time to show me round the town and introduced me to some of your fine eating houses.

NEW MEMBERS

Dr. W.A. Studer, Hussbaumweg 15 CH 4123, Allschwil BL. Switzerland
 Paul Morgoulis, Case Rive 141, 1211 Geneve 3, Switzerland
 Dr. B.R. Tolley, Boddington House, Upper Boddington, Daventry, England
 Frantisek Kommers, Podsmukyrkan 1049, 15000 Praha, Czechoslovakia
 Allen Kerr, 1424 Westmoor Drive, Austin, Texas 78723, U.S.A.
 G.L. Richardson, 10225 Kensington Parkway, N.816 Kensington, Maryland 20795, U.S.A.
 Mrs. D. Hawes-Richardson, 6, John Grinter Way Wellington, Somerset, England
 Arthur F. Ackley, 3707 Meadowland Boulevard, Colorado Springs, COL 80907 U.S.A.
 Alan Warren P.O. Box 17124 Philadelphia, Pennsylvania, 19105, U.S.A.
 Grosvenor W. Bissell M.D. 5685 Noel Court, Saginaw, Mich. 48603 U.S.A.

CHANGE OF ADDRESS

Alan Kaplan, 11, Lister Drive, Barrington RI 02806, U.S.A.
 L.B. Scott, P.O. Box 1886 Carson City NEV. 89701, U.S.A.

Our new member Frantisek Kommers is rather isolated in Czechoslovakia and collects both Nepal and Tibet up to 1934, he would appreciate correspondence with any of our members.

SUBSCRIPTIONS

We still have a few members who have not renewed their subscriptions, and their names will be removed from the membership list if these are not cleared by the end of May.

RECENT ARTICLES ON NEPAL

Tibet - A Unique Postal Marking by Dr. Wolfgang Hellrigl - The Philatelist DEC.1978
 NEPAL - The First Issues of Nepal by Gunnar Okero - Svensk Filatelistisk Tidskrift April 1979
 NEPAL - The Commemorative Postmarks by C. Hepper - American Philatelist - FEB.1979

SOCIETY REPRESENTATIVES:

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

SAN FRANCISCO - 1979 MEETING AT WESTPEX

Members began to arrive at the Jack Tar Hotel during Friday and first introductions led to an exchange of views and problems which lasted until the early hours of the morning. The first official session was on Saturday from 1 pm. - 3 p.m. with fourteen members attending, plus a few visitors. Frank Vignola opened the meeting by welcoming the members, and then handed over to your secretary Colin Hepper for the remainder of the two days. Colin explained to members that Saturday would be 'Nepal' day and Sunday 'Tibet' day. He began by showing some of his registered mail collection, which included most of the items and markings described in the registered mail section of our book on The Native Postmarks. During the talk some additional information was given by Mr. Tulsian who had made the long trip from India, with Russ Sanford taping the proceedings. Due to his work commitments Al Zuelutto was unable to give his talk, but kindly sent along a report illustrating Nepal forgeries to all members.

Mr. Tulsian then showed members some very scarce items he had, including a tete beche pair of the re-cut 1 anna on European paper, used on cover, and other examples of fine early covers.

After 3 p.m. Frank Vignola then took us on a 'conducted tour' of the very fine exhibit he had in the Court of Honour, which was based on the early postmarks shown in Chapter I of The Native Postmarks and covered most of the postmarks illustrated. Of particular interest were covers with first issue stamps and others with very fine seal cancellations.

Sunday was Tibet day and Colin Hepper opened the meeting by giving the sixteen attending members the apologies of our President Dr. Couvreur who, on doctor's advice was unable to travel, but had sent his good wishes for a successful meeting. Colin then introduced Fred de Ridder who gave a very comprehensive display and talk on Tibet, its stamps and postal history, which included many scarce items.

The second half of the meeting saw John Service who had been to Lhasa during 1978 and showed us some quite superb slides, showing many views of the town and its temples.

Colin then officially closed the meeting and reminded members that the next annual meeting would be in London during the 1980 International Exhibition, and that there was a possibility that we may be able to arrange a meeting in Kathmandu in 1981 - the centenary year of the first Nepalese stamps.

The final highlight of the meeting were the awards gained by our members at the Exhibition:-

Robert T.Y. Lee with Imperial China - Postal History and Postal markings winning the Grand Award, and the A.P.S. Medal. We wish him every success with it, at the 'Champion of Champions' Exhibition in Boston later in the year.

Lester A. Michel - Nepal - Sri Pashupati issues - The California Collectors' Club Roy E. Hill Memorial Award for the best research exhibit and a Vermeil medal.

Russ Sanford Jr. - The Union of South Africa 1910 - 54 - Silver Medal.

Arthur F. Ackley - Combination covers of Tibet - Bronze Medal

During the latter part of the Saturday meeting and at various times during the two days, members were able to discuss the Circle's activities and the following decisions were made:-

LIBRARY

There will be two libraries within the Circle, one in the U.S.A. and one in Europe. The U.S.A. Library will be organised by Roger Skinner in conjunction with the Sunnyvale Philatelic Library, and would all U.S.A. members please contact him for library items - cost 10 cents per photocopy plus postage. The European Library will remain with Pierre Couvreur in France as it is at present.

NEWSLETTER

To try and relieve the secretary of some of his work load, the July issue of the newsletter will be published by Tom Matthiesen, who may be able to give us a better quality production with illustrations. The situation will be reviewed after this issue, with regard to its cost and viability. It may be that the size could increase, and we would be looking for paid advertisements, so if any of our dealer members are interested in advertising, please contact Tom. If the whole thing is a success Lester Michel may be taking on the responsibility of Editor.

AUCTION

After this newsletter the auction will be run separately, and we will try to have three large ones per year. Your secretary will continue to organise these, and the first of the larger auctions will be in July with the next being in October and February. I hope to be able to have a minimum of 100 lots for each of these, so any of you with items for sale, please let me have them by 25th June.

PUBLICATIONS

Roger Skinner has offered to help with publishing articles written by our members. If any member has any studies completed - contact Roger and see if he can help you to get it "off the ground."

BALANCE SHEETSTATEMENT OF ACCOUNTS 31st March 1979

<u>Income</u>		<u>Expenditure</u>	
Subscriptions:		Postage	£191.09
U.K. 29 members @ £4	£116.00	Photocopying	£12.40
7 members @ £1.50	£10.50	Envelopes	£5.64
		Duplicating Ink	£3.71
U.S.A. \$ transferred		Bank Charges	£10.31
to U.K. Account.	£90.23		
<u>Auction:</u>			
Commission from No. 3	£8.53		
" " No. 4	£3.02		
" " No. 5	£13.65		
" " No. 6	£10.97	Cash at Bank	£207.74
Bank Interest	£11.14		
Cash in Hand	£47.53		
Sale of Newsletter (Back Issues)	£7.30		
Sale of Library items	£18.00		
Reclaimed postage	£11.34		
Cash at Bank 1st May 1978	£83.98		
	<u>£430.89</u>		<u>£430.89</u>

As you can see we managed to get through a good deal of business, and we hope that the decisions made will all help to improve the standards of our Circle. The subject of having official rules and elected officers was discussed, but members felt that they wanted the Circle to remain on an informal basis, and problems which may arise can be discussed at the annual meetings.

I hope that future annual meetings will be as well attended as this one, as I believe that this meeting stimulated the interest of all who came, and I am sure that they returned home with a renewed enthusiasm for both their collecting and their studies. On the latter subject, I was quite astonished to find so many members who have written or are in the process of writing up studies of their various interests, and I hope that it will not be too long before these begin to filter through to the remainder of the Circle. Finally I would like to offer congratulations to Dhruba Rudra who was married on 28.2.79 to Pratibha Pradhan and may we wish you a long and happy life together.

Colin Hepper

Usual rules apply. Closing date for bids 22nd June 1979.

<u>Lot No.</u>	<u>NEPAL</u>	<u>Estimate</u>
153	Top part of Court Fee documents, one with 4 R Court Fee stamp, one with 3 R Court Fee stamp.	£6
154	Top part Court Fee document, with postage stamps used as revenues, one x SG 50, one x SG 73 and three x SG 78.	£5.
155	As above, with 4 x SG 73, 6 x SG 81, 5 x SG 82	£5.
156	As above, with 1 x SG 74, 1 x SG 75, 2 x SG 79, 4 x SG 83.	£5.
157	As above, with 9 x SG 82	£5.
158	As above, with 7 x SG 58, 6 x SG 67	£5.
159	As above, with 8 x SG 67, 1 x SG 58 imperf. one side.	£10.
160	Official cover with pair 5p ovpt. (SG 0150) with three official stamps 2 x SG 0140 and 1 x SG 0136.	£10.
161	Telegram with official stamps and telephone cancel.	£5.
162	Four covers India to Tibet 1919, 1943, 1944, 1945.	£10.
163	2p. 1936 issue postcards - mint - diff. shades (4 items)	£10.
164	4p. 1936 issue postal stationery envelope mint.	£7.
165	1880 stampless cover India to Nepal, Madras T.P.O. cancel and postage due cachet.	£5.
166	12 covers India to Nepal 1895 - 1916 period.	£10.
167	Nepal - eight different used Postal Stationery items.	£5.
168	Nepal - 16 diff. mint Postal Stationery items.	£10.
169	Nepal - 1st issue 8p Aerogramme - mint.	£5.
170	Red Seal (with signs of the Zodiac) document.	£10.
171	Nepal 1st issue 8p Aerogramme with F.D. Cancel.	£5.
172	Three Philatelic covers with special cancels from Hotel Shanker, Mahri Shiva stamp issue special P.O. and Surkhet.	£5.
173	6 official stampless covers with diff. cancels 1940's	£3.
174	Telegram India to Nepal with Indian Embassy TEL receiving postmark.	£1.50
175	1933 Registered cover from Kathmandu 1929 issue 24p stamp clear postmarks.	£5.
176	1934 Registered cover from Kathmandu 1929 issue 4p (2) and 16p stamp. Clear postmarks.	£5.

Prices realised for Auction No. 7

<u>Lot No.</u>		<u>Lot No.</u>		<u>Lot No.</u>	
105	£8.	111	£3.40	117	£8
106	£20.	112	£9.70	118	£8.20
107	£4	113	£14.	119	£8.20
108	£15.50	114	£10	120	£8.20
109	£15.	115	£7	121	£3.40
110	£10	116	£13.	122	£5.70
				123	£6.20
				124	£2.70
				125	£2.50
				126	£5.70
				127	£6.40