

POSTAL HIMAL

QUARTERLY OF THE NEPAL AND TIBET PHILATELIC STUDY CIRCLE



No. 52

4th Quarter 1987



POSTAL HIMAL is a quarterly publication of the Nepal and Tibet Philatelic Study Circle. Membership subscriptions run from January through December of each year. Dues should be paid to the society representative in your area. Information on advertising rates may be obtained from the editor.

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COVER ILLUSTRATION: The death of His Majesty Jigme Dorji Wangchuck in 1972 brought some abrupt changes in the government of Bhutan. And, in the fourth month of the Wood-Tiger, at the auspicious Hour of the Serpent, on 2 June 1974, at 9:10 AM, His Majesty Jigme Singye Wangchuck arose from the golden throne and placed on his own shoulders his great-great-grandfather's five-colored scarf. The fourth hereditary King of Druk Yul -- and, at 18 years of age, the youngest of the world's 29 hereditary reigning monarchs -- was thus crowned. He is depicted on this souvenir sheet which accompanied a set of stamps marking the occasion. See page 44 of this issue.

It is my sad duty to report the death of a member -- Dennis McCullough. Colin Hepper reports that Dennis had a heart attack and died on 28 September. Dennis is remembered as one who had worked in Nepal for many years and had a good understanding of the language & culture.

Our President, Dr. Pierre Couvreur, suffered a stroke in early September. Colin reports that Pierre has recovered sufficiently to write a letter to our secretary, but with obvious effort. I am sure that Pierre would appreciate hearing from his many friends in the Study Circle.

I am sure that most of our members are aware of the unfortunate incidents which occurred in Lhasa on 6 October and in the days following the 37th anniversary of the official Chinese occupation of Tibet. Ted Miller has sent your editor copies of various publications condemning the Human Rights violations by the Chinese government in Tibet. We are pleased to report that both the Senate and the House of Representatives of the USA have unanimously passed resolutions condemning China's actions in Tibet. If you wish to support the cause of Tibetans in exile, as well as those still living in Tibet, we call your attention to Ted Miller's offer on page 41.

Please note Dr. Hellrigl's report on HAFNIA '87 (page 38) and refer to a table of future FIP World Exhibitions which appeared in PH No. 51, page 20. Please write to Dr. Hellrigl, or your editor, as soon as possible, if you plan to attend and/or exhibit at one of the two exhibitions which Dr. Hellrigl will be attending in 1988, so that meeting plans can be arranged for and publicized.

We thank all those who have responded so promptly to the questionnaire sent with POSTAL HIMAL No. 51. Your editor appreciates the information and constructive suggestions which many of you made, and wishes to express thanks to Frank Westbrook for his work in putting the questionnaire together for us.

Due to an oversight, two sheets (four pages) of PH No. 51 had to be removed and are enclosed with this issue. Thus this issue is shorter than normal, in order to keep within the 2-ounce weight limit as specified by the United States Postal Service.

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DEADLINE: Ad and payment in USA dollars, must reach the editor by the first day of one of the following months -- February, May, August, November -- in order for ad to appear in issues mailed about one month later. Any change of copy after the first insertion will count as a new ad.

MAIL SALES

INDIA, Indian States: Stamps, postal history, covers, fiscals, literature, etc. Catalogue FREE, send 90¢ stamps or 3 IRC for Air postage to Satish Misra, 112 Punjabpura, Bareilly - 243 003 (INDIA).

Mail Auctions being run by a long time member of the Circle. Please apply for a free catalog without delay. Your postage on the application will be refunded if you bid successfully. Material from Nepal, Tibet & Bhutan always included. Happy to offer your material as well as our own - but write before sending it for details of the U.K. Customs procedures. STAMPS FROM OVERSEAS, 35 Church Hill, Winchmore Hill, London N21 1LN, England.

We welcome a new member and his fine, enthusiastic article (pp. 42 & 43) -- Bo Olsson. Your editor hopes that more of you will offer your knowledge to Study Circle members via the pages of POSTAL HIMAL in 1988.

With all best wishes for a "Merry Christmas" and a "Happy New Year."

Lester A. Michel

EXHIBITION NEWS

THE HAFNIA '87 EXHIBITION

--Wolfgang C. Hellrigl

Held in Copenhagen, Denmark, from 16th to 25th October 1987, the HAFNIA '87 World Exhibition came true to its motto, "not the biggest in the world but very likely the friendliest".

The tough judging introduced earlier in the year, at CAPEX '87, was maintained at HAFNIA. Out of some 900 exhibits in the competitive classes only 32 received large gold medals, a decrease of 55% compared to last year's STOCKHOLMIA '86.

The Asian section was not very strongly represented and there were only two classic Nepal collections, both shown by members of our Circle: Wolfgang Hellrigl (Large GOLD) and Hardaya Singh Gupta (VERMEIL). In the literature class, a GOLD medal was awarded to the Hellrigl/Vignola handbook: "The Classic Stamps of Nepal". This was the fifth Gold medal in a row bagged by the authors, a record achievement considering that, at each world exhibition, there are usually over 200 literature entries competing for an average 6 to 7 Gold Medals.

Only three members of the Study Circle attended the show, i.e., Shyam Prasad Pradhan (Commissioner for Nepal), P. Gupta and Wolfgang Hellrigl.

At the annual meeting of the International Association of Philatelic Experts (A.I.E.P.), held in Copenhagen, Wolfgang Hellrigl was elected a member of the Council. This exclusive Association, founded in 1953, has a worldwide membership of 100 philatelic experts. (Our congratulations go to all exhibitors, and especially to our own Wolfgang Hellrigl for his recognition as one of the leading philatelic experts in the world. --Ed.)

XX

At SESCAL '87, held in Los Angeles, California, on 16-18 October, Alan Warren was awarded a SILVER for his exhibit titled "Tibet: Stamps, Covers, Cancellations". In the Literature section we note that POSTAL HIMAL received a SILVER-BRONZE award.

We have just received word that POSTAL HIMAL earned a SILVER medal in the literature division at CHICAGOPEX '87, held in Rosemont, IL on 6-8 November.

Nepal, Bhutan, Tibet

Always the Unusual, Esoteric and Inimitable...

Our Public Auctions contain an array of unusual rare stamps, proofs, essays and postal history, often including important collections of errors and varieties.

We feature material not found elsewhere that will truly enhance your collection whether you are just starting or competing for an international gold medal.

We offer valuable material for the discriminating collector.

In addition, our Mail Sales present extremely interesting items in the \$25-\$150 range. These sales contain wonderful material, virtually unavailable elsewhere.

We are always interested in buying specialized items or collections.

A Specialist Service is also available so that you receive only the catalogs you require. Please let us know your interests.

We will be glad to send a complimentary copy of our Public Auction and/or Mail Sale catalogs to members of the Nepal and Tibet Philatelic Study Circle. Please let us know which catalog you desire.



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BUILDING A NEPAL COLLECTION

--F. A. Westbrook, Jr.

(Eighth in a series of discussions for beginners and intermediate collectors)

The Modern Era:

From 1881 through the Sri Pashupati issues, the stamps of Nepal essentially depicted designs -- and their production, as we have seen, often bordered on the chaotic. Starting in 1949, however, there was a historic change that brought Nepalese philately into the modern -- or more graphically -- the pictorial era.

In that year the nation issued its first pictorial stamps, consisting of eight values depicting various Nepalese shrines and temples, plus a one rupee stamp showing an enlargement of the Sri Pashupati design. The entire issue was handsomely printed in India.

From this issue forward, the production of Nepalese stamps, with one short period of exceptions, was orderly and a credit to the country. The quality of the stamps to this day has been good, the adhesives colorful & attractive and the schedule of issuance refreshingly modest. Stanley Gibbons has 63 listings prior to the 1949 pictorials. From then through 1984, Stanley Gibbons lists 381 additional stamps. These covered a period of 45 years, from 1949 to 1984 -- an average of just over six stamps each year. While the annual number has crept up in more recent years, it seldom has exceeded 12 to 15 a year, and often fewer.

Moreover, the stamps of the modern era are all readily identifiable. Several of the earliest issues do not show denominations in Arabic numbers, but can be identified readily by comparing with illustrations & descriptions in Scott or Stanley Gibbons. The word "Nepal" is inscribed in Latin characters on all but the 1 rupee of the 1949 issue.

The first pictorials were followed in 1954 by two sets of 12 stamps each, with values ranging from 2 pice to 2 rupees. One featured a portrait of King Tribhuvana, the other a map of Nepal.

After this, in 1956, came a set of five stamps commemorating the Coronation of King Mahendra. The values range from 4 pice to 1 rupee. Also in 1956, a 12

pice triangular stamp was printed to mark the first anniversary of Nepal's admission to the United Nations.

In 1957 another extensive issue was released depicting the feathered crown of the king, said to contain \$2 million worth of jewels. Denominations ranged from 2 pice to 2 rupees -- again 12 stamps in all.

Two years later, an even more extensive set of 15 values was offered featuring Nepalese birds, animals and artifacts. This issue, in 1959, marked Nepal's admission to the Universal Postal Union.

All the issues discussed above were printed in India -- all are of good quality, attractive and colorful.

Native Printing Again

In 1958, however, Nepal reverted to natively printing some of its stamps. Ten, in all, were produced by the Gurkha Patra Press, Kathmandu, between 1958 and 1961 that merit special attention as we again encounter a rash of perforation errors and other variations.

The first of these natively-printed stamps was Nepal's initial airmail issue commemorating inauguration of the country's airmail service. Major details of this and the other natively-produced adhesives follow:

Scott C1 (SG 115) -- (October 1958)
deep blue on un gummed thick and thin white paper -- rough perforations -- known fully perforated, imperf & imperf between, both vertically & horizontally.

Scott 102 (SG 116) -- (December 1958)
6 pice yellow, showing Lumbini Temple, on Swedish watermarked paper, roughly & cleanly perforated, without gum -- available perforated, imperf and imperf between, both vertically & horizontally -- noted in two distinct shades of yellow.

Scott 118 (SG 118) -- (April 1959)
2 pice brown, commemorating Nepal's cottage industries -- line perforated on imported gummed paper -- also known on un gummed paper -- perforated, imperf & imperf between, both vertically and horizontally.

Scott 119 (SG 119) -- (April 1959)
12 pice deep blue, showing King Mahendra and commemorating Nepal's admission to the Universal Postal Union -- line

(concluded on page 40)

Westbrook, BUILDING.....(continued) -- perforated (both cleanly & roughly) on three grades of gummed & ungummed thick & thin paper (sheets on thin paper are watermarked) -- also available imperf & imperf between, both vertically and horizontally.

Scott 120 (SG 134) -- (June 1959) 6 pice crimson, commemorating the first session of Nepal's parliament -- on unwatermarked gummed paper -- line perforated, imperf and imperf between, both vertically & horizontally.

Scott 121-23 (SG 135-37) -- (November 1959) three values: 4 pice green; 8 pice carmine and 1 rupee light blue -- commemorating renovation of the Sri Pashupatinath temple, Kathmandu -- line perforated on imported gummed paper -- known imperf & imperf between, both vertically & horizontally.

Scott 125 (SG 137a) -- (March 1960) 6 pice deep blue, commemorating Nepal's first Children's Day -- printed in small sheets of four stamps, line perforated, on gummed paper -- known imperf & imperf between vertically (and, most probably, horizontally).

Scott 134 (SG 143) -- (March 1961) 12 pice orange, commemorating Nepal's second Children's Day -- produced in sheets of 16 stamps, cleanly perforated on gummed paper -- recently a few sheets were discovered fully imperf. No other irregularities are known.

This group of natively printed stamps, except for those roughly perforated and the proliferation of perforation errors, is of reasonably good quality both as regards imported paper and printing. It provides an opportunity for broadening the modern era collection with the various perforation errors, gummed and ungummed thick & thin paper, and watermarks, where they exist. Many of these varieties are available at relatively reasonable cost.

The Later Issues

Following the second Children's Day stamp, Nepal returned to foreign printers exclusively, eventually using suppliers in a number of Asian and European countries. The stamps became increasingly colorful as the years progressed. They all tell much about Nepal -- its culture, interests, art, religion, environ-

ment, wildlife and fauna. An annual stamp -- sometimes a set of several -- honoring the King's birthday has appeared since 1960. Sets of two to four stamps frequently depict outstanding Nepalese personalities, temples, religious artifacts, native animals & birds, scenic landmarks and the like. The Himalayas, and Mt. Everest in particular, are favorite themes. Such stamps often appear in "Visit Nepal" sets that have become annual releases in recent years. A colorful set of six stamps -- and a souvenir sheet -- was issued in 1975, marking the coronation of King Birendra, successor to his father, King Mahendra.

The beginning collector can readily identify stamps by reference to the Scott or Stanley Gibbons catalogs, though the latter, being more complete, is generally favored over the broad range of Nepalese philately. Album spaces can be filled without problems and those who wish can expand their collections with the 1958-61 perforation errors, blocks, sheets, postmarks and covers.

The classic and Sri Pashupati issues provide the 'pay dirt' for those desirous of specialization, but no collection of Nepal would be complete without the colorful and instructive stamps of the Pictorial Era.

The next instalment will deal with the postal stationery of Nepal, which is interesting as well as having the potential for a considerable degree of specialization for those so minded.

Bibliography

Stanley Gibbons Stamp Catalog, Part 21, Southeast Asia, Second Edition (1985).

Scott Standard Postage Stamp Catalogue, Vol. 1, pp. 784-94 (1988).

"The Postage Stamps of Nepal" by Harrison D. S. Haverbeck, published by the Collectors Club, New York, NY (ca. 1960).

"The Native Postmarks of Nepal" by Wolfgang Hellrigl & Colin Hepper, published by the Nepal & Tibet Philatelic Study Circle (1978).



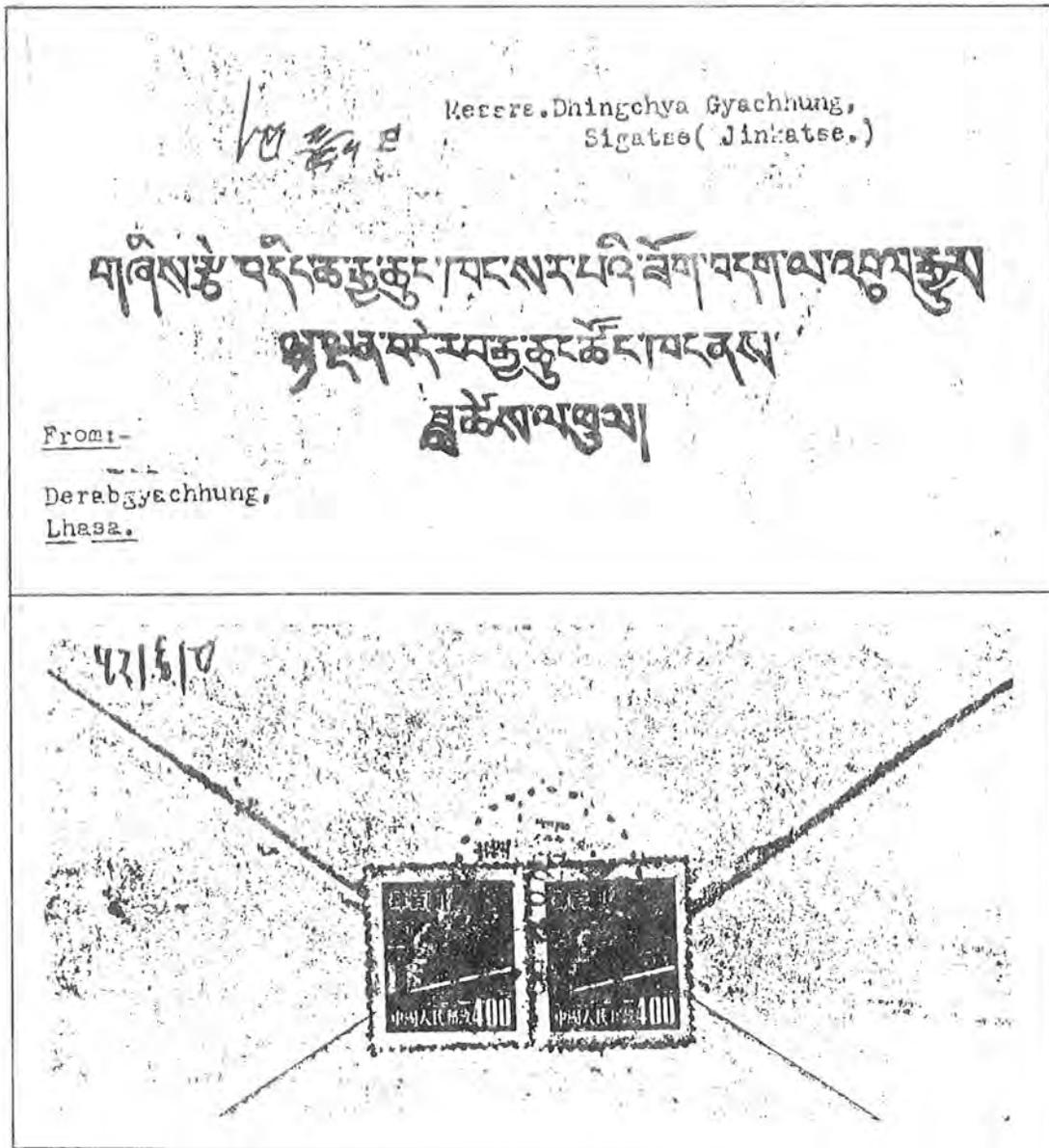
TIBETAN CALENDAR DIARY AVAILABLE

For those collectors desiring a Tibetan/Gregorian calendar, member Ted Miller can supply them at a very nominal sum. Made in the Tibetan colony of Mundgod, India, the cost supports the refugees. For the year 1987 the cost is \$1.00 + postage -- 56¢ for 3 ounces within the USA. Ted has only a few left, so let him know soon if you would like one. The Diary is on native paper with about 4 days to the page, with the Gregorian calendar on the left side & the Tibetan dates on the right. Even if not used for appointments, they are handy for date conversions. If you would like a calendar for 1988, let him know at the same time. Ted's address: P O Box No. 59031, Chicago, IL 60659.



AN OMISSION AND AN APOLOGY

In the previous issue of POSTAL HIMAL (No. 51), lower left column on p. 24, we published a brief item by member Kurt H. Dahnke titled "Another Response to N. G. Rhodes". An illustration of a cover discussed by Herr Dahnke was, inadvertently omitted. We apologize to the author and to our readers.--Ed.



--Bo C. Olsson

It was interesting to see this item in POSTAL HIMAL, but is it really Lot 1026? I saw it in Holden & Pemberton and marked Lot 962 in their January 16 auction.

Anyway, someone has also tried to fool Swedish collectors by offering similar items. I recently bought 13 forged covers from a stamp dealer here, paying SEK 20 each (approximately \$3.00 each) and I think that is the maximum that anyone should be prepared to pay for such junk.

However, the Lhasa postmark of the 1933 type is rather dangerous and I was lucky enough to be able to reconstruct a full strike of this forged postmark so that other collectors can study it. Furthermore, I have also written a warning in a leading Swedish stamp magazine. I think I may be the only "serious" collector of Tibet in Sweden, but there may be a few collecting it casually. Strangely enough the design of the forged 8t stamps (there are both red & blue, sic!) seems to be carved out individually. Why not use the modern photo technique? And why repeat the mistake made by the original forger of the 1914 type? Simply manufacture the 8 trangka and then print it in blue, calling it a 4tr stamp -- but with the wrong design! At least the blue copy I have on cover seems to be shiny, or have that appearance. -- I have one of each of the 1914 type. Now let us examine the 1933 type.

One cover has a genuine 2t orange stamp, with a forged postmark (it may be Lhasa but is impossible to identify) and with the address written with a ball-point pen!! Six covers bear 2/3 t, two 2t and two 4t. I did not have time to examine them against genuine stamps but they seem to be rather good and thus dangerous. They all have a shiny appearance and one 4t appears to be fluorescent and very shiny!

I would like to add two more points to the list by Rhodes and Bates:

4) It is not usual to write the Tibetan address on the back of covers, but most of these covers are like that.

5) Of my set of 13 covers, all are roughly hand opened and are not cut. That seems good to me, but, in my experience, a few should be so opened -- but not all.

I will ask my Tibetan friends to translate the addresses and then compare the results with what is written in Nepali. I will inform you, through POSTAL HIMAL, of the results.

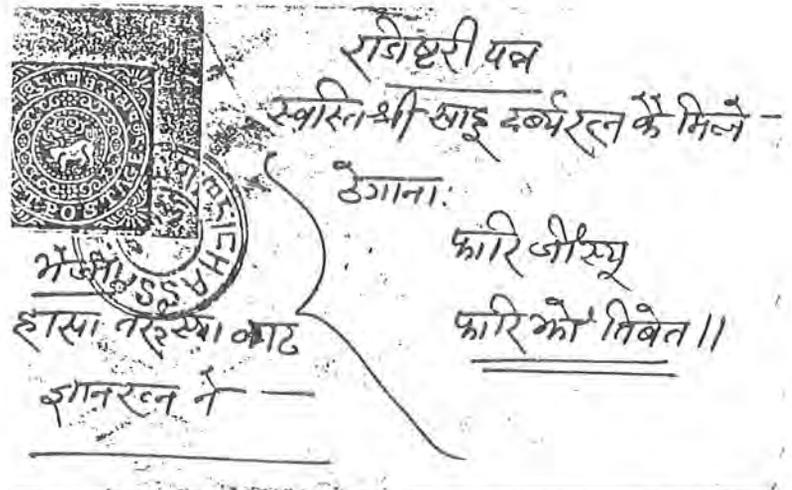
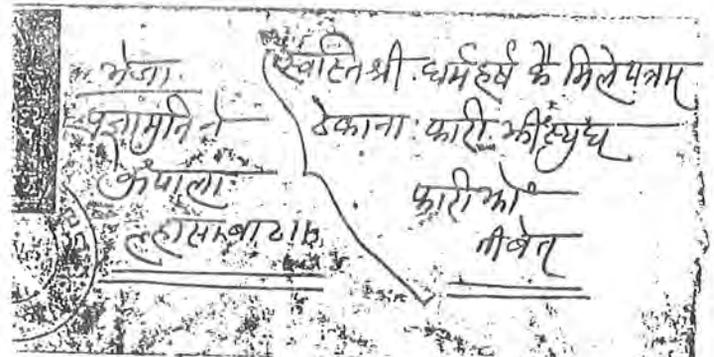
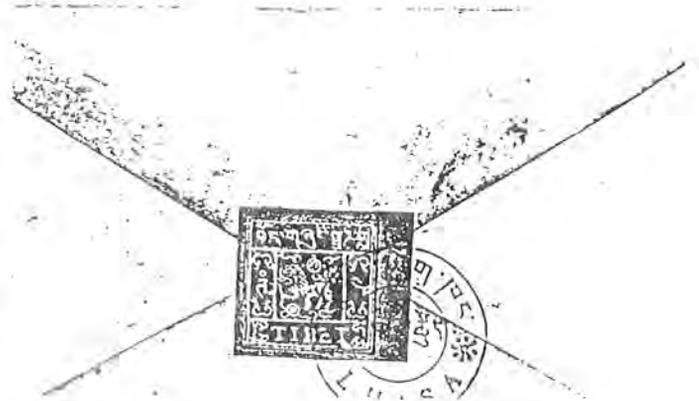
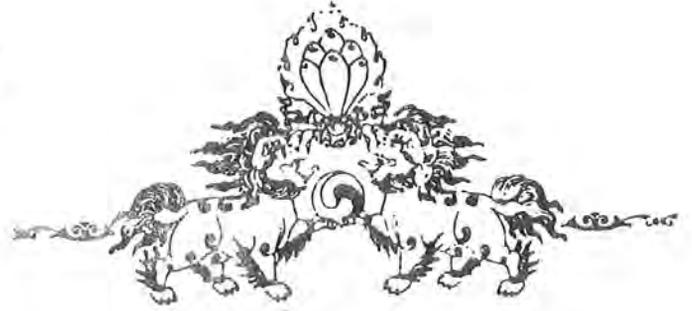
Unused complete sheets of six of the 1914 forgeries have recently been offered at stamp auctions here and they are generally described as "proof" sheets (sic!). Both CL stamps, as well as Nova and Klassisk Filately offered these, and now they have appeared in Globalia in Denmark! It begins to look like an epidemic! The China Stamp Club, here in Sweden, published my warning in a recent number and the editor included a photo of the forged sheet which I had provided. Imagine my surprise when I received the magazine and saw there a "genuine" sheet for comparison -- but that, too, was a forgery! I notified the editor and sent him a photo of a genuine sheet -- to be published with a correction. In his reply, the editor confessed that he had 'stolen' the photo of the "genuine" sheet from an auction catalogue in Hong Kong! Could it be that the forgers are in Hong Kong? But I am more or less certain that the forged covers are coming from Nepal, since the script, both in Nepali and in Tibetan, seems to be correct -- at least to me who does not understand it but have some "feeling" from all the genuine covers I have seen through the years since I started collecting Tibet in 1956. Now, do you know what I most regret in my life? No, it is not a woman I missed, it is that I followed my parents "advice" (in 1964-65) when they said, "Do not put so much money in Tibetan stamps." I still keep the catalogues from Mr. Waterfall's wonderful auctions..... And I feel sick every time I look in the catalogues and think of "the bus I missed," -- but such is life. (Most of us 'old-timers' could tell similar stories, Bo.-- Ed.) I think we should not cry over the things we missed. That will only keep you "down" all your life. (Good advice.--Ed.)

After so many years as the "lonely wolf" in Tibetan philately, I am glad that I joined this fine Study Circle -- and I hope to hear from others interested in Tibet. By the way, it may be of interest to our readers that the Swedish Post Office has invited me to display my Tibet at POSTEXPO next year and a special souvenir postmark will be issued (depicting the Potala) with both Swedish and Tibetan

Olsson, COMMENTS.....(concluded)--

inscriptions and, maybe, a PT-card, though this is not certain. Perhaps this is a way to do a little PR for the Study Circle. Hopefully, others here can be encouraged to collect a little more seriously and not just "casually". I know we must have at least 10 (and possibly more) serious collectors here. (This is a major portion of a letter written by Mr. Olsson to Colin Hepper and passed on to your editor. We feel that Bo's infectious enthusiasm for Tibet philately, and for our Study Circle, shines through in his own words -- and in his command of the English language, also. Keep up the good work, Bo. We look forward to hearing from you again.--Ed.)

A reconstructed Lhasa postmark (full size) is shown, together with portions of forged covers (reduced size) used in making the reconstruction:



A BRIEF POSTAL HISTORY OF BHUTAN

--Nildo Harper

(This is the third and concluding section of Mr. Harper's report on the Bhutan exhibit, first entered in the ASDA show in New York City in the Fall of 1986. The editor regrets that the lack of space prevented the publication of the entire report.--Ed.)

New foreign letter rates (90 ch) and postcard rates (55 ch) made it necessary to overprint some of the higher values from previous issues. The only 3D stamp to be overprinted (10 ch to a faint 90 ch) is shown below:



4.54
R-54)

Mr. Sharon Bender
3024 Arigaton 12 ST.
Brooklyn N.Y. 11235.
U.S.A.

Registered Letter

A relief printing process which reproduced the "brush strokes" of the artists, was used for a set of famous paintings, which included those illustrated here: ("The Gleaners" by Millet & "White Horse" by Paul Gauguin)



His Majesty was delighted by the innovations in stamps produced by the Bhutan postal service. His concern was that, since most people of Bhutan would not be able to travel and see these paintings and sculptures, the stamps could serve as mini-art galleries and mini-history lessons.

The "Talking Stamps" issue of 4 April 1973, further served His Majesty's goals. In addition to the transportation of mail, Bhutan's stamps "should serve as ambassadors to the world and show or tell the world about Bhutan's age-old heritage, culture, people and government."

These mini-record stamps can actually be played on any 33 RPM record player and present two different folk songs, the Royal Bhutan National Anthem and a short history of Bhutan in English and in Bhutanese. One of these stamps is shown below, while a cover (registered letter) bearing a single stamp of the set to pay the postage from Bhutan to the USA, is shown on the facing page:



With the death of His Majesty Jigme Dorji Wangchuck in 1972, there were many changes in the government. One of these was the abrupt cancellation of the Bhutan postal agents in the Bahamas.

In the fourth month of the Wood-Tiger, at the auspicious Hour of the Serpent, at 9:10 AM on 2 June 1974, His Majesty Jigme Wangchuck arose from the golden throne and placed on his shoulders his great-great-grandfather's five-colored scarf. The fourth hereditary King of Druk Yul and, at 18 years of age, the youngest of the world's 29 hereditary reigning monarchs, was thus crowned. The souvenir sheet illustrated on the front cover of this issue of POSTAL HIMAL was released on that date. It is listed in the Scott Catalogue as No. 162. His Majesty is shown, wearing the Raven Crown of the Golden Throne. Ravens are considered sacred because they continually repeat the holy syllable: Ah! Ah! Ah! It is considered a greater sin to kill one raven than to kill 1,000 monks!

(concluded on page 45)

Harper, HISTORY OF BHUTAN (concluded)

The coronation cost more than \$3,000,000 (about 1/5 of the country's annual budget) but most of it went for paved streets, electrical equipment, cable and telephone services, and three hotel-guest houses.

While the king is an absolute monarch, he rules together with an 8-man advisory council. Laws originate in the 150-man democratically-elected Tshogdu, or National Assembly, of which 105 are directly elected representatives of the people, 12 are elected by the Monk Body and 33 are nominated officials. The Assembly meets about twice a year for 15-day sessions in the capital's huge Tashichho-dzong.

With the new postal agency, Bhutan began issuing sets with themes more closely related to their history & customs. A "World Population Year" stamp was issued in December 1974 and depicts a typical Bhutanese nuclear family.

The Bhutanese are warm & hospitable, clinging to human values and an easy, uninhibited way of living. They eat well, dress well and most families own two homes; one for winter in the lower valleys and one for summer, higher up. The houses have three stories: the ground floor serves as a stable and storage area, the second floor is the family quarters with a chapel, and the attic is used as a storeroom for meats and fodder.

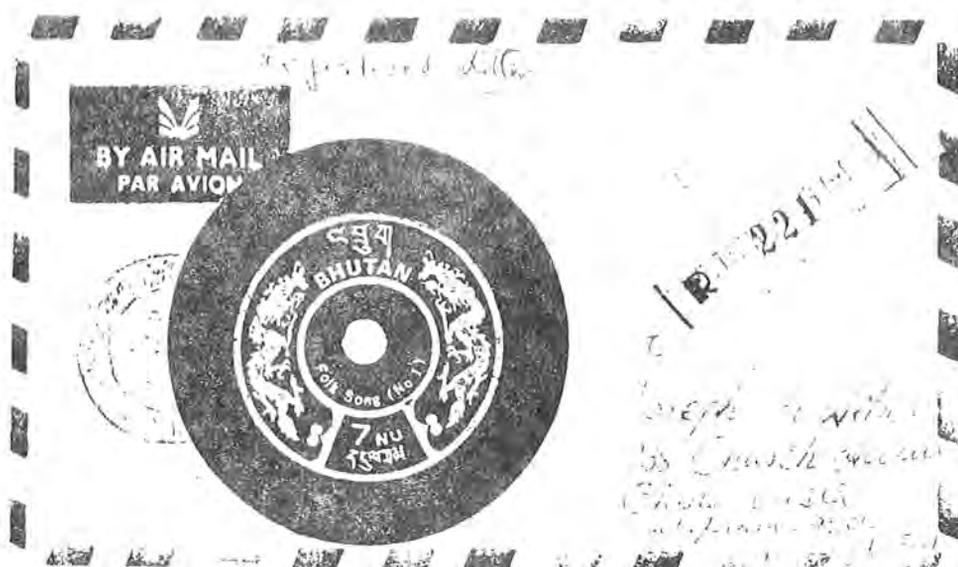
The last 3-D set from Bhutan depicted colorful Ceremonial masks, 11 in all.

One of the first things Bhutan did, at the beginning of the first "Five Year Plan", was to join the Colombo Plan, an economic development organization for Asian countries. On 1 July 1976, a set of stamps was issued to commemorate the 25th Anniversary of the Colombo Plan. The 4ch and 5ch values are shown here:



In 1979 Bhutan issued stamps, as did many other countries, to mark the International Year of the Child. The Bhutanese family is basically patriarchal, though women enjoy equal rights with men, including the right to vote, and take an active part in the affairs of the country (often holding major government posts). Family estates are divided equally between sons & daughters. Divorce is easy--settled in a civil court or by mutual consent before the village elders.

Bhutan was proud to participate in the Los Angeles Olympics in 1984. Archery, not surprisingly, is their stronghold. (Your editor, attempting to augment his knowledge of Bhutan, now receives notices of new issues directly from the Bhutan Postal Administration.)



SHOWCASE



SAWARI CAMP P.O. (KHASRA)
DEC. 25, 1911
BLACK

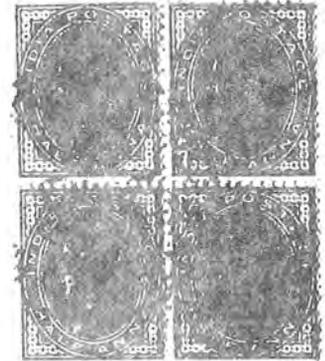


BRITISH-INDIAN CAMP P.O.
DEC. 26, 1911
BLACK



Stamped

*Mrs G Johnson
6 Clive Road
Allahabad*



THE REMOVED INDIA STAMPS WERE
GLUED ON COVER TO HIDE THE GENUINE
DEC. 16, 1911 POSTMARK.
NEPAL STAMP ALSO ADDED TO COVER.
ADHESIVES GENUINE, BUT THE POST-
MARKS TYING THEM TO COVER ARE
CLEVER FORGERIES.

MIXED FRANKING COVER WITH 1 ANNA DEEP BLUE STAMP OF NEPAL,
ISSUE OF 1901-1907, AND FOUR GREEN 1/4 ANNA ON 1/2 ANNA
STAMPS OF INDIA, ISSUE OF 1899,

ROYAL POSTMARK IN USE ONLY 10 DAYS DURING VISIT
OF KING GEORGE V TO NEPAL.

AT THIS TIME, INDIAN STAMPS WERE REQUIRED TO CARRY
MAIL BEYOND NEPAL. BACKSTAMPED ALLAHABAD, INDIA.

NEPALESE STAMP PRINTED ON MEDIUM NATIVE PAPER, PIN-
PERFORATED. RECUT FRAME VARIETY.

(A remarkable cover -- and analysis -- from the collection of Frank Vignola.--Ed.)