

POSTAL HIMAL

QUARTERLY OF THE NEPAL AND TIBET
PHILATELIC STUDY CIRCLE



"WHERE'S THE BEEF?"

No. 89

1st Quarter 1997



Postal Himal is a quarterly publication of the Nepal & Tibet Philatelic Study Circle. Membership subscriptions run from January through December of each year. Dues should be paid in local currency at the prevailing exchange rate to the Society representative in your area.

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	<u>One Year</u>	<u>Three Years</u>	<u>Life Member</u>
4th Quarter/1996	\$18	\$50	\$375

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HIMALAYAN VIEWS

by
Leo Martyn

Please note my new e-mail address which is: Himalayan@worldnet.att.net. I had to change it as my previous address was fouled up. I apologize for any inconvenience to members.

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The auction catalogue which accompanies this issue is a special one. Many of the items are quite rare and are from the collection of Lester Michel, our former Editor who devoted a tremendous amount of time publishing and helping the Society grow. In addition, several other consignors have sent some great items. Since this material commands appropriately high estimates the consignors have agreed to receive payments over a period of time, giving collectors of limited means the opportunity to purchase truly rare material. In order to avoid problems lots can not be delivered until full payment is received.

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David Feldman SA (Switzerland) is offering Mr. P. Gupta's collection of Nepal on Nov. 18. Wolfgang Hellrigl lotted the material so the descriptions will be accurate. He also gave Mr. Feldman names of collectors who are interested in Nepal. If you want a catalogue and don't receive one by early Nov., contact the auction house at: TEL 022/7270777; FAX 022/7270778; e-mail: admin@ davidfeldman.com.

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I received the latest catalogue (number XIV) from The Dervish Brothers Books, titled "Tibet-Land of Snows", listing 208 items. Proprietor Philip Boatright is a member of our Society. For a catalogue write him at: P.O. Box 43576, Tucson, AR., 85733, U.S.A. There may be a charge for the catalogue.

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Member Rainer Fuchs has created an extensive Home Page for the Study Circle. A reduced copy of the opening page is reproduced below. He has devoted much time and effort into keeping the Study Circle update with today's modern technology - this undertaking is greatly appreciated. His home page can be contacted at: <http://fuchs-online.com/ntpsc/>

Welcome to the Home Page of the NTPSC

<http://fuchs-online.com/ntpsc/>

The Nepal and Tibet Philatelic Study Circle welcomes you at his Home Page and encourages you to discover the fascinating aspects of the Philately and Postal History of the Himalayan Nations Nepal, Tibet, Bhutan and Sikkim.

Welcome to the Home Page of

The Nepal and Tibet Philatelic Study Circle



- [History and Purpose of the Nepal and Tibet Study Circle](#)
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- [Subject Index for Bhutan, Nepal, Sikkim, Tibet and related Areas](#) , 2
- [Catalogue Cross Reference Lists for Bhutan, Nepal and Tibet](#) , 2
- [Discussion Page](#)
- [Guestbook](#)
- [Links for Nepal, Tibet, Bhutan, Sikkim and related Areas](#)

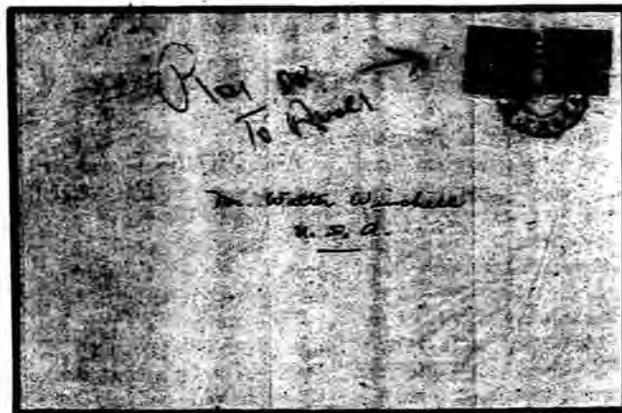
For classified advertisements in the bulletin (for members only), please contact the [Editor](#), or send him a [Email](#).

For classified advertisements on this Web Page, please contact the [Webmaster](#) by [Email](#).

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In the March 24 issue of *Linn's Stamp News*, the "Cover of the Week" (p.12) is from Tibet, as shown below.

Cover of the Week



Broadcaster Lowell Thomas sent this cover from Tibet to columnist Walter Winchell in the mid-1930s. Enclosed is a typed two-paragraph letter that Thomas likely sent to his friends as a travel souvenir. Thomas noted that "Tibetan stamps... never seem to reach their destination in the outside world. Tibet is not a member of the [Universal] Postal Union. As a result, stamps from Lhasa are so rare that, if sent openly through the mails, someone always snitches them." A collector said he got the cover from a retired nurse whose collection he had helped to sell.

* * * * *

OBITUARY: DR. PIERRE COUVREUR

It is with sadness that I have to report that Pierre Couvreur's wife, Monique, telephoned me today to say that Pierre had died. Wolfgang Hellrigl and I first met Pierre in 1975 in Brussels when we were looking for help to publish our book, The Native Postmarks of Nepal. Pierre, himself, was a keen collector of Indian States and Nepal and offered to help finance the first of the Study Circle publications.

The following year he took on the role of our first President and as Secretary I always found that he kept us "on our toes" by his enthusiastic questioning of what we did and how we could change things.

Because of heart problems he could not travel very much but was always a strong driving force from his home in the south of France during these early days. After he relinquished the President's role he still had a very keen interest in the Society even after he had sold his Nepal and Tibet collections. In these latter years he would occasionally write to me about Circle matters and he tried to get the local people in the surrounding villages where he lived interested in stamp collecting and ran a club for them to exchange stamps. I am not sure of his age but would guess that he was in his mid-eighties. It is a sad loss of one of the founding members of the Society who was instrumental in establishing the strong foundations that we now have.

Colin Hepper
3 September 1997

* * * * *

Letters to the Editor

Wilfried Franke sent the following information concerning "Bogus Tibetan Registration Handstamps" which appeared in Postal Himal no 87 (p. 51):

"All and all I got 50 different covers [including non-registered] from an Indian stamp dealer in Calcutta, My friend Kurt H. Danke got also over 50 different forged covers from another Indian dealer in Calcutta. Last week I could compare both lots. They were identically the same. We think that these forgeries are produced in India in 1996."

* * * * *

SUSPICIOUS "COLOR MISSING" ERRORS OF NEPAL

by
Leo Martyn and Bijoy Kumar Vora

In the last few years several "color missing" errors have come on the market; the most common one being the 1973 2p cow stamp issued in commemoration of Tihar (Festival of Lights); Scott 276/Stanley Gibbons 292 (error listed as 292a - "Brown-lake omitted", 1981 South East Asia edition). Years ago I purchased a complete sheet (illustrated below at 65%) which was first offered in George Alevizos' auction no 30 (July/1981). I believe this sheet was part of the original find and obtained a certificate from Wolfgang Hellrigl in 1986. Both George and Wolfgang state that only two sheets were found and one of them was split up.



Mr. Bijoy Vora, who lives in Calcutta, wrote me in regards to some Nepal stamps which had been chemically-treated, creating "color missing" errors. He could not find out the specific chemicals or methods used, but sent some of the items illustrated in this article which seem to be likely candidates. Hopefully the illustrations will be clear enough for purposes of comparison.

The bottom stamp in this pair and the one on the front cover have been treated. Compare the grounds in front of the cows with the top stamp and the complete sheet. In this area brown is present on both the top stamp and all the genuine "color missing" errors in the sheet. Also, on the bottom stamp the "19" of "1973" is somewhat faded from the chemical treatment. When viewing multiples of the treated stamps the amount of brown missing varies with each stamp. Also, areas around the cow are sometimes effected, such as the green and blue hills or mountains which appear somewhat unevenly faded. I believe that the stamp illustrated on the front cover is also a forgery.



1975 South Asia Tourism Year, Sc 302/SG 319; all of the colors have been removed on the right side; if genuine an interesting variety but I don't think it would be accepted as a true color missing error. A yellow border is barely visible on the original treated stamp which is a sure give away (probably not apparent in the illustration).

1975 Wildlife Conservation, Sc 305/SG 322; Another striking "error" when first viewed, but when held up to a light a ghost image is visible as well as very small scratch marks.





HIMALAYA SECURITY PRESS, K

1977 Birds, Sc 305/SG322; this "error" has been around for some time and been offered in quite a few auctions, including the Study Circle auction. The give away is in the area around the right side of the bird's body which has a bleached appearance. The "missing" dark brown was not applied here and therefore the area should not be affected. Hopefully this is apparent in the illustration.

1981 Hrishikesh, Bhuddist Stone Carving, Sc 398 (shown at 150%); in the bottom panel, not only is the red ("Nepal") partially bleached out, but also the year ("1981") is missing (yet black and red appear elsewhere in the design).



1983 Musical Instrument, Sc 411; not only is the Sarangi missing the brown color, but also the musician's right foot (his left foot has been untouched and is the same brown as his feet in the normal stamp).



Pharping Hydro Electric Station, 75th anniversary, Sc 444; a recent offering, the "artist" has bleached out the center design in the stamp on the left and the tablet containing text in the stamp on the right; the center stamp is normal. The two altered stamps were offered as errors!



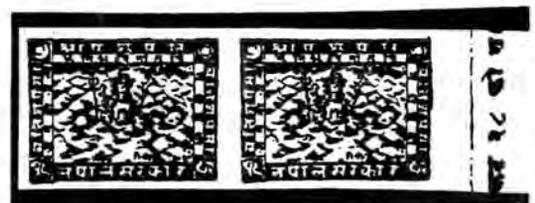
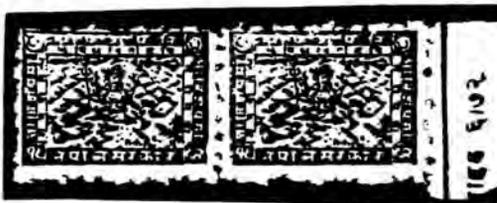
1970 Agricultural Year, Sc 231, SG 248; I have only seen one copy of this stamp and it is accompanied by a photocopy of a certificate issued by the Royal Philatelic Society of London in 1974. There is also a letter (1976) from the Society confirming that such a certificate was issued. The certificate states that the black color is missing, but I saw traces of black in the wheat stalks, the vegetables and the shadow at the fish's mouth. Also, there are "ghost impressions" of the values at the top left and right corners. In addition, the certificate and confirming letter refer to the stamp as SG 247, not 248 as listed in my 1981 edition of South-East Asia (part 21) - catalogue number change between 1976 and 1981? I will probably re-submit this item for a new certificate to the American Philatelic Society which recently added state-of-the-art equipment for analysis of philatelic material.



1991 Royal Chitwan National Park, Sc. 488 (shown at 150%); the stamp on the upper left was offered as having the "gold color missing", resulting in "Nepal" and the value of R4 (both in Devanagari and English scripts) missing. This "error" is quite convincing, but if held at the appropriate angle to a light a ghost image of the "4" appears, and if viewed under strong magnification (30X) traces of gold are present. In the "Collectors' Forum" column of *Linn's Stamp News*, May 12, 1997, reference is made to various methods of manipulation, including chemicals and abrasives, which apparently do not disurb the rest of the printed design. The article states "This has been possible because gold is typically applied as a final step in printing (as a layer on top of the rest of the printed design), and because the gold ink has its own special characteristics (and solvents as well, it seems)". An illustration of the normal stamp is on the right but the gold may not show up as it is not prominent on a normal copy. Also, the green border on the altered stamp is somewhat faded

Apparently, dark-brown is fairly easy to remove as most of these creations involve this color. Bijoy feels that the missing red color error which appeared on the cover of Postal Himal no. 87 is a genuine missing color error. To date, as far as I know, Mr. Shrestha's copy is the only one that has been recorded..

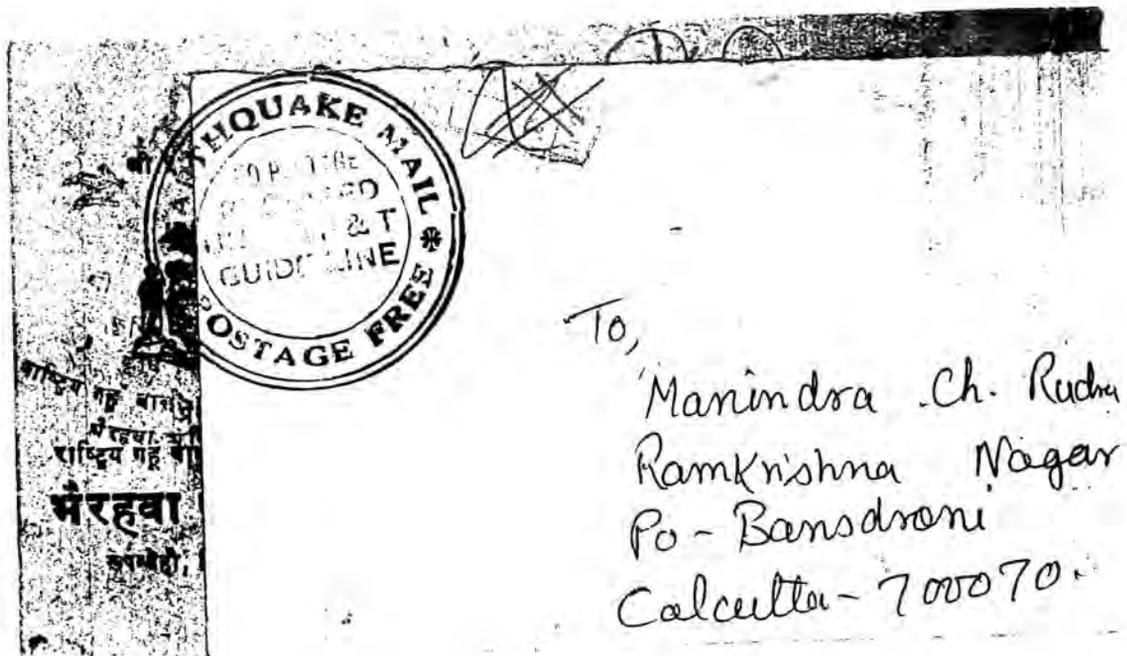
Mr. Ajit Shaw, who lives in Kathmandu, reports that new "forgeries" of the 1941 Pashupati issue have come on the market. Although not color missing errors, I am taking the opportunity to record them now. The colors are somewhat faded and the images even more blurred that the originals.



EARTHQUAKE MAIL - True or False?

A few years ago, more out of curiosity than anything else, I purchased a cover from an Indian dealer which was described as 'Nepal Earthquake Mail'. The description with the cover stated 'In the year 1988, Bhaktapur in Nepal was severely destroyed by the outstanding natural disaster. Only a few pieces known'.

The cover originally started life as a pre-printed Nepalese official cover and was used, presumably with no postage stamps. The cover was then re-used by sticking plain paper on the front and addressing it to Calcutta. On reverse is a Nepalese 50p stamp which has been cancelled at Inguroni and dated 12.9.88. The cancellation is smaller than those used in Nepal and I suspect is an Indian Post Office. On the front of the cover is the Inguroni P.O. postage due cachet which has been scribbled out, and a large 'Earthquake Mail/Postage Free' cachet applied.



The cover I am sure started it's second journey in India, but it does leave a question as to why a Nepalese stamp was applied. I would invite comments from members on this cover, has anyone else seen any other covers similar to this and where did the earthquake actually occur?.

Colin Hepper.

ROB HALL'S EVEREST EXPEDITION, MAY 1996

Armand E. Singer

Our paths crossed but for a short moment. Rob was the mountaineer par excellence, having already pulled off the hat trick on Mount Everest and tucked many another climb under his belt. We met at Adventure Network International's Patriot Hills Camp, a mere 700 miles from the South Pole where his wife Jan (who had also climbed Everest with him in 1993) was our expedition doctor and he was waiting to take his party up 16,864-foot Mount Vinson. The rest of us were hoping for good weather to reach the pole. We both finally made it. Meanwhile, in our scant three weeks together, cooped up in a big tent with twenty-five or so others, staff and guests, the climate beyond the cloth and wood door hardly conducive to much outside activity, we all got to know each other pretty well (too well in some cases). He and Jan proved a wonderful pair, filled with a joy for the adventurous life (they hailed from New Zealand and had sought the far reaches of the globe) and fully deserving of their good fortune. Somehow he and I hit it off. He must have felt some sympathy for this old would-be mountaineer with little going for him beyond a fascination with the high places of the world and some very minor ascents to show for it. After we all arrived back home, he to Christchurch, I to West Virginia, he would send brochures advertising his mountain-climbing company, Adventure Consultants, and huge posters featuring Himalayan peaks in their full glory.

Then one day, it happened, as it all too often does to those who tempt the gods on the riskiest heights. Our May 14 local paper headlined: "Eight climbers die in Everest blizzard; one American survives. "Somehow I already knew, even as I raced through the lines of the story fearing what I would find,, he would be among them. That same afternoon I received a card picturing a sunset over Everest in vivid orange, the moon above it: "Best wishes from Mt. Everest, Rob Hall." The date, almost indiscernable, seems to read "Kathmandu [April] 16." It was carried by runner from Base Camp.

Rob had let the others in his party hurry ahead to get out of the path of the fatal storm while he stayed behind with his tiring client Doug Hansen,, as they were all coming down off his fifth Everest ascent. Hansen succumbed. Rob then called his wife via satellite phone, talking for several hours,, his last words being, "Don't worry about me too much," dying soon after.

He will remain "buried" where he expired, in keeping with the climbers' tradition, but a service was held in Christchurch in memory of

"Robert Edwin Hall, MBE, 14 January 1961-12 May 1996." To those who deride the reckless expenditure of the life of so fine a sportsman,, we must remember that he lost it doing what he loved best among the greatest of the mountains of this planet. This may not seem a worthy excuse, but it was his good and sufficient reason. Mountain climbers are of necessity optimistic fatalists.

For the record, there were three teams attempting the summit at the same time, all caught in the unexpected blizzard. The Seattle-based Scott Fischer's party lost their leader; Ming Ho Gao, with his Taiwanese group, just barely survived; Rob's team suffered three deaths. In fact, Everest claimed eleven victims this spring from among the 87 climbers who braved its wrath.

Adventure Consultants

EVEREST EXPEDITION 1996

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AIRMAIL



Armand E Singer
248 Grandview Avenue
Morgantown
WV 26505
USA



Carried by
Sherpa Runners
From Base Camp

Best wishes
from Mt Everest

Rob Hall

[Reduced to 78%]

NEW ISSUES FROM NEPAL

Mr. D.R. Pandey, the Officer-In-Charge of the Nepal Philatelic Bureau in Kathmandu, kindly sent the following information, including stamps and FDCs.



प्रथम दिवसीय आवरण
First Day Cover



ओलम्पिक खेल 1996 OLYMPIC GAMES

1996 Olympic Games

The '96 Olympic Games held in Atlanta, the city of American state Georgia from 19th July to 4th August. The Olympic Games as we know them have been around only since 1896. Therefore this Games was celebrated as a century Olympic Games. Approximately 10800 athletes from 198 countries were participated in this Games. A total of 1933 medals were awarded in 26 different sports in Atlanta '96. The boy named 'Easy' was taken as a mascot of Atlanta'96. Nepal has been participating in Olympic Games since 18th Olympic Games of 1964. The 27th Olympic Games will be held in Sydney Australia.

This present postage stamp has been brought out to commemorate Atlanta '96 depicts the Logo and symbol of running ring and the runner.

Technical Details

1. Denomination:	R.7	6. Quantity:	1 million
2. size:	29.6X38.5 mm.	7. Process:	Offset Lithography
3. Sheet Composition:	50 Stamps.	8. Paper:	High Quality stamp paper
4. Colour:	4 colours	9. Designer:	K.K. Karmacharya
5. Format:	Vertical	10. Printer:	Helio Courvoisier S.A. Switzerland

REGULAR SERIES - October 9, 1996



Technical Details

1. Denomination:	a) Nyata Pola Rs. 1	6. Quantity:	a) 10 Million
	b) Kasthamandap 50 P		b) & c) 5 Million
	c) " " 10 P	7. Process:	Photogravure
2. Size:	20.5 x 25.7 mm	8. Paper:	High quality stamp paper
3. Sheet Composition:	100 Stamps	9. Designer:	a) K.K. Karmacharya
			b) & c) M.N. Rana
4. Colour:	a) Dark Brown & Light Blue	10. Printer:	Helio Courvoisier S.A.
	b) & c) Dark Brown & Black		Switzerland
5. Format:	a) Vertical		
	b) & c) Horizontal		

Regular Series 1996

Nyatapola

The Nyatapola temple in the centre (heart) of old town of Nepal, Bhaktapur constructed by Raja Bhupatindra Malla, is a living specimen of the style of Seventeenth Century's architecture in Nepal.

This postage stamp depicts an attractive & beautiful picture of Nyatapola temple.

Kasthamandap:

Kasthamandap built in the popular Nepalese architectural style, stands in the heart of Kathmandu city. It is called that the capital "Kathmandu" is named after its name. It is also called Marusattal by the local inhabitants.

This mandap is said to have been built by a single tree in 12th century A.D. It stands as a masterpiece of Nepalese woodwork. The image of Guru Gorakhnath is located in the centre and four images of the Lord Ganesh, the elephant God and son of the Lord Shiva has been installed in four corners of the Mandap.

Present postage stamp depicts an attractive picture of the Kasthamandap.

चरा तथा पुतली टिकटमाला (Birds & Butterflies Series)



Technical Details

1. Denomination	: R. 5 (each)
2. size	: 30 x 40 mm each stamp
3. Sheet composition	: 16 stamps (each)
4. Quantity	: 1 million
5. Process	: Offset lithography
6. Colour	: 4 Colours
7. Paper	: High quality stamp paper
8. Format	: Vertical
9. Designer	: K. K. Karmacharya
10. Printer	: Austrian Government Printing Of fice ,Vienna.

A. Sarus crane, *Grus antigone*

Sarus Crane, is the protected bird of Nepal. It is nearly tall as man (5 to 6 ft). It is found in western Terai of Nepal in damp, cultivated fields, and bank of the river and pond. This is very large bird with red head and grey body . It lives in pair. The two birds always staying so close together . Its main diet is all kinds of insects, soft roots and grass and fishes.

B. Great Himalayan Barbet, *Megalaima virens*

The size of this bird is between the Myna and the Pigeon. This bird is common in the surrounding Indian hills of Kashmir , Garhwal , Sikkim Himalayas to south China. In Nepal, it is found upto 6000 meter height of the Himalayan range. It is called that Newli is named form its sound Newli, Newli. It is gradually a coloured bird with a yellow bill and plumage largely green with a violet blue black head and ascarlet patch under the tail. Its main diet is as that of all barbets , consists of fruits and berries.

A. Krishna Pea-cock, *Papilio krishna*

This is very rare and beautiful butterfly having a brilliant blue patch on the hindwing . The span of the wing is between 85 to 95 mm . It is generally found in midland from Eastern boarder to Central Nepal , especialy in Solukhumbu , Tehrathum , Rasuwa, Lalitpur and Kaski district around 4500 to 9000 ft . height . In Kathmandu it can be collected from 7400 ft. in May to July .

B. Northern Junglequeen, *Sticopthalma Camadeva*

This butterfly has been considered very rare in Nepal . This magnificent butterfly has been recently found from the Pheksinda (Shankhuwasabha district) of Eastern Nepal around 3000ft. in July . After the birdwings it must surely be the largest butterfly in Nepal. The female *Northern Junglequeen* is larger than male . This butterfly is very rare for Nepal but not for Sikkim , Assam , Burma and Thailand .



POSTAGE RATES

(Postage tariffs for international mail have been retained the rate which came in to force from 17 August 1995.
Inland postage tariffs (including for India) have been amended with effect from 12 February 1997)

(Effective from 12 February 1997)

POSTAGE RATES

INLAND POSTAGE RATES (INCLUDING FOR INDIA)

1. Letter upto 20 gms	2/-
Each additional 10 gms or part	1/-
2. Aerogramme	1/50
3. (a) Post Card	7/5
(b) Printed Post Card	1/-
Explanation:- Printed post card signifies those cards other than hand written or typed which is printed, sketched, memographed (leaving the space for the use of sender's and addressee's address) with the help of any machine or press.	
4. Book post, printed paper up to 20 gms	1/-
Each additional 10 gms or part	7/5
4.1 Small packet up to 50 gms or part	4/-
Each additional 20 gms or part	2/-
5. Registered Newspaper	
(a) for single copy up to 25 gms. upto 50 gms	0/10
Each additional 25 gms or part.	0/15
(b) In case of more than one copy of the same issue of the same bundle	0/10
of the same address up to 50 gms	0/15
Each additional 50 gms or part	0/10
6. Blind Literature (up to 7 k.g)	Free

MISCELLANEOUS

1. Certificate of posting for 3 articles	1/50
2. Registration fee per article	8/-
3. Late Registration fee per article	2/-
4. Acknowledgment per article	2/-
5. Attested receipt of registered article/per article (within 6 months)	5/-
6. Recall of posted per article	10/-
7. Change of address per article (Before the despatch of mail)	10/-
8. Enquiry Fee:	
(a) Inland article per article	5/-
(b) Article intended for India per article	7/-
(c) Official inland article	Free
9. Insurance fee up to Rs. 500/- (For Nepal and India)	10/-
There after each Rs. 100/- or part (Registration fee is charged separately)	3/-
10. Money orders commission	
(a) For Nepal	
First Rs. 200	5/-
Each additional Rs 100/- or part	2/-
(b) For India	
First 200/- or part	6/-
Each additional Rs. 100/- or Part	3/-
(c) M.O. form per copy	1/-

TELEGRAPHIC MONEY ORDERS

(a) up to Rs. 100/-	12/-
(b) up to Rs. 500/-	4/-
(c) up to Rs. 1000/-	6/-

(Service will be introduced in selected districts as per decision of the Department)
(Additional telegraphic charge will be collected for telegraphic money orders)

11. Postal order commission		
(a) -/50 up to Rs. 5/- per card	/10	
(b) Rs. 10/- per card	/20	
(c) Rs. 20/- per card	/40	
12. Postal identity card per copy:		
(a) for one fiscal year	10/-	
(b) for three fiscal years	20/-	
13. Demurrage charge :		
(a) First 7 days from the date of intimation delivered	Free	
(b) Thereafter for 15 days /per day	5/-	
(c) Thereafter for 15 days /per day	7/-	
(d) Thereafter the parcel will be disposed off as per the legislation		
14. Post Box rent for one fiscal year		
Small	500/-	
Medium	750/-	
Large	1200/-	

PARCEL RATE (DOMESTIC)

1. Surface parcel		
(a) For the first 500 gms	20/-	
For additional 500 gms or part thereof (Up to 20 kg.)	20/-	
(b) Parcel up to 1000 gms dispatched from remote districts declared by HMG to the easily accessible districts	20/-	
For additional 500 gms or part thereof (Up to 20 kg.)	20/-	
2. Air Parcel		
(a) For the first 500 gms	25/-	
(b) For additional 100 gms or part thereof (Up to 10 kg.)	7/-	
(c) Parcel up to 500 gms dispatched from remote districts declared by HMG to the easily accessible districts	20/-	
For additional 100 gms or part thereof (Up to 10 kg.)	7/-	

DOMESTIC EXPRESS MAIL SERVICE RATES

(a) For the first 50 gms lump sum	10/-
(b) Additional 25 gms	1/-
(c) Additional 25 gms. or part thereof	2/-
(d) Each additional 10 gms or part thereof	50

NB :- Maximum weight for domestic Express item shall be 500 gms.
Compensation for this item shall be equivalent to domestic registered item.

FOREIGN POSTAGE RATES AIR MAIL

	Zone 1 Rs.	Zone 2 Rs.	Zone 3 Rs.	Zone 4 Rs.
1. Letter				
Up to 20 gms.	10/-	15/-	18/-	20/-
Each additional 10 gms. or part (up to 2 kg.)	5/-	6/-	8/-	10/-

2. (a) Post card	8/-	10/-	12/-	15/-
(b) Printed post card	8/-	10/-	12/-	15/-
3. Aerogramme	10/-	12/-	14/-	17/-
4. Book post, Printed newspaper, Newspaper: Each 20 gms or part	6/-	8/-	10/-	13/-
5. Small Packet; Each 50 gms or part (up to 2 kg.)	18/-	20/-	22/-	25/-
6. Blind: Literature	Free (Up to 7 kg.)			
7. Registered Newspaper : each 20 gms	3/-	4/-	4/50	5/-
8. Insurance Fee	(as per inland postage rates)			

SURFACE MAIL

	APPU Countries Rs.	Other Countries Rs.
1. Letter		
Up to 20 gms.	10/-	13/-
21 gms to 50 gms.	14/-	16/-
51 gms to 100 gms.	18/-	24/-
101 gms to 250 gms.	30/-	40/-
251 gms to 500 gms	50/-	65/-
501 gms to 1000 gms.	83/-	105/-
1001 gms to 2000 gms.	150/-	180/-
2. Post Card	5/-	8/-
3. Book-post, Printed paper Newspaper :		
Up to 20 gms	4/-	6/50
21 gms to 100 gms.	8/-	10/-
101 gms to 250 gms.	10/-	12/-
251 gms to 500 gms	20/-	22/-
501 gms to 1000 gms	40/-	45/-
1001 gms to 2000 gms.	50/-	65/-
above 2000 gms per additional step of 1000 gms or part	15/-	18/-
4. Small Packet :		
Up to 100 gms	10/-	15/-
101 gms to 250 gms	12/-	18/-
251 gms to 500 gms	22/-	35/-
501 gms to 1000 gms	35/-	50/-
1001 gms to 2000 gms	45/-	75/-
5. Blind Literature (up 7 k.g.) Free		
6. Registered Newspaper		
per 50 gms.	4/-	5/-
7. Insurance Fee (as per inland postage rates)		
NB: - Maximum weight :		
	- Letter 2 kg.	
	- Small Packet 2 k.g.	
	- Printed Paper 2 k.g.	
	- Books and Pamphlet 5 K.g.	

MISCELLANEOUS

1. Enquiry fee per article	10/-
2. Customs clearance fee if duty is levied	8/-
3. Certificate of posting per 3 articles	5/-

4. Registration fee per article	12/-
5. International reply coupon per coupon (purchase) Postage stamps equivalent to	20/-
6. International reply coupon (sale)	65/-
7. Acknowledgment fee	5/-
8. Demurrage Charge (as per inland rate)	
9. Repacking charge	
(a) parcel without customs duty	5/-
(b) parcel with duty up to Rs 50/-	8/-
(c) parcel with duty up to Rs. 100/-	12/-
(d) parcel with duty up to Rs. 200/-	16/-
(e) parcel with duty up to Rs. 201/-	18/-

NB 1 :- No repacking charge shall be levied if the parcel is being delivered through the same post office where the parcel is unpacked for the customs purposes.

NB:-2 Rates not included in the above will be charged as per miscellaneous rate specified for inland postage.

DIVISION OF ZONES

Zone- 1

Bangladesh, Bhutan, Sri-Lanka, Pakistan, Maldives.

Zone-2

Afghanistan, Abu Dhabi, Aden, Ajman, Baharain, Brunei, People, Republic of China, Dubai, Hongkong, Indonesia, Iran, Iraq, Kambodia, Kuwait, Laos, Macao, Myanmar, Malaysia North Broneo, Oman, Persian Gulf, Philippines, Qatar, Ras-Al Khalman, Sabah, Sarawak, Saudi Arabia, Singapore, Somali Republic, Sharjah, Taiwan, Thailand, Umal Quaiwain, United Arab Emirates, Vietnam, Yeman Arab Republic

Zone - 3

Albania, Armenia, Algeria, Angola, Ascension Austria, Azerbigan, Bechuana, Belgium, Benin, Byelurossia, Botswana, Bosnia Herzgovina, Bulgaria, Burundi, Caeron, Cape Verde IS. Central African Republic, Chad, Comoros, Congo, Croatia, Cheque and Northern Slovak, Cyprus, Dahomey, Denmark, Djibouti, Egypt, Ethiopia, Eritria, Equatorial Guinea, Finland, East Africa, West Africa, France, Gabon, Gambia, Germany, Ghana, Gibraltar, Gt. Britain and N. Ireland, Greece, Guinea, Estonia, Bissau, Guinea Republic, Hungary Iceland, Ireland, Isle of Man, Israel, Italy, Ivory Coast, Japan, Latvia, Jersey, Jordan, Kenya, Korea (Republic), Kazakhstan, Kirghizistan, Korea (PDR) Lebanon, Lesotho Lithuania, Liberia, Libya Arab Jamahiriya, Liechtestein, Luxembourg, Madagascar, Malawi, Mali Republic, Malta, Mauritania, Mauritius, Morocco, Mont Serrate, Mongolia Republic, Moldova, Monaco, Mozambique, Rep. of Namibia, Netherlands, Niger Republic, Nigeria, Norway, Poland, Portugal, East Timor, Reunion, Romania, Rwanda, San Marino, St.Helene, Senegal, Seychelles, Sierra Leone, Rep. of Slovenia, South Africa, Spain, Spanish Guinea, Sudan, Switzerland, Swaziland, Sweden, Syria, Tanzania, Turkmenistan, Tadjikistan, Togo Republic, Triestan de Cunha, Tunisia, Turkey, Uganda, Uzbekistan, Ukraine, Russian Federation, Upper Volta (Bourkino Faso), Vatican City, Yugoslavia, (Serbia and Montenegro), Zambia, Zaire, Zimbabwe.

Zone - 4

Anguilla Is, Antigua, Australia, Argentina, Bahamas, Barbados, Belize, Bermuda, Bolivia, Brazil, Canada, Caroline Isle, Cayan Isle, Chile, Colombia, Cook Island, Costarica, Cuba, Dominica, Dominican Rep., Equator, El Salvador, Falkland Isle, Fanning Isle, Fiji, Martinique, Mexico, Nauru Isle, New Caledonia, New Hebrides,

New Zealand, Nicaragua, Norfolk Isle, Panama, Panama Canal Zone, Papua New Guinea, Paraguay, Peru, Pitcairn Isle, Puerto Rico. St. Thomas, St. Christopher, St. Kitties Nevis, Sao Tome and Principe, Samoa, San Marino, Santa Cruz, Solomon Isle, St. Lucia, St. Vincent, St. Piare & Miquelon, Surinam, Tonga, Trinidad and Tobago, Turkes and Callous Isle, Tuvalu (EIIIS), United States of America (U.S.A..) Uruguay, Vanuatu, Venezuela, Virgin Island, Walis and Futuna, Western Samoa.

NB- APPU countries are as follows:

Afghanistan, Australia, Bangladesh, Bhutan, Brunei, Darussalam, People's Republic of China, India, Indonesia, Iran, Japan, Rep of Korea, People's Democratic Rep. of Laos, Malaysia, Maldives, Nauru, Nepal, New Zealand, Pakistan, Papuwa New Guinea, Philippines, Singapore, Sri Lanka, Thailand, Vietnam.

INTERNATIONAL EMS TARIFF

1. India		
First 500 gms		150/-
for each additional 500 gms or part thereof		60/-
(up to 20 kg.)		
(additional 50/- is chargeable for the merchandise)		
2. Germany		
First 500 gms		1200/-
Each additional 500 gms or part		300/-
(up to 20 kg.)		
(Additional Rs. 50 will be charged for merchandise)		
3. Other Countries		
Zone	First 500 gms	Each additional 500 gms or part thereof (up to 20 kgs.)
1	Rs 600	Rs 200
2.	Rs 700	Rs 250
3.	Rs 800	Rs 300
4.	Rs 900	Rs 350
(Additional Rs 50/- is chargeable for the merchandise.)		

First Zone :-
Bangladesh, Bhutan.

Second Zone :-
Thailand, Sri Lanka, United Arab Emirates, Hong Kong, Pakistan, Maldives, Japan, Singapore, Malaysia.

Third Zone :-
China, Russia, Israel, Philippines, South Korea

Fourth Zone :-Netherlands, Switzerland, Great Britain, USA, France, Italy, Canada, New Zealand, Belgium, Denmark, Finland, Spain, Norway, Sweden, Austria.

NB: -
Number of the countries in different zones may be changed in the course of expansion of the services.

Many thanks to Surendra Lal Shrestha, our representative in Kathmandu, for sending the Postal Rate Schedule.

* * * * *



Prime Minister's Seal in Horyig Script

"By the supreme order of the Most Excellent King, Protector of the perfect religion who has authority to carry the affairs of government for the happiness and welfare of all."

DERRICK DAWSON, SOME TIBETAN SEALS ILLUSTRATED AND DESCRIBED

[Available from the publisher - Geoffrey Flack, Box 65987 Station F, Vancouver, B.C. , Canada V5N 5L4. Tel: (604) 986-3898, Fax: (604) 986-4777, E-Mail: gflack@intergate.bc.ca. Cerlox bound - \$50 U.S., postage paid in U.S. or Canada, \$55 U.S.. all other countries; Hardbound - \$100 U.S., airmail postage paid all countries, \$5 extra for registration.]

by

Armand E. Singer

One by one, the holes in Tibet's philatelic dike are being plugged. The latest is Derrick Dawson's monograph on the seals. Make no mistake: this was a sizable breach. Other than a few pages in Waterfall's Postal History of Tibet (1981 ed., pp. 138-145), unfortunately plagued with wretched, untranslated reproductions (seek out the 1965 ed., where the printing is considerably if not quite acceptably clearer), Dieter Schuh's Grundlagen tibetischer Siegelkunde (part of a five-volume set [1976-81], obviously not in English, expensive to the tune of some \$500 for the set, and not particularly aimed at philatelists), and a few recondite articles, there has been nothing pertaining to Tibetan seals. In short, Dawson's is the answer of choice.

Luckily, Derrick Dawson is among the rare foreigners who know Tibetan. More to the point, he even knows Mongolian Horyig, the maze-like writing that resembles geometric patterns, found on many of the ink seals. The inscriptions in question he patiently translates for us. A useful appendix also lists both the Horyig alphabet, its Tibetan equivalents, and Roman letter approximations.

The illustrations appear in red or black, appropriate to the originals, along with occasional other colors. In the book's iv + 57 pages are included seals of the Dalai Lama and his administration, the prime

minister's, those of the Panchen Lama and his court, the Saka Lama's monastic, banknote, a few nobles' seals, etc. We are provided with a full index, and the clarity of both text and the almost hundred illustrations (including 67 different seals) is unexceptionable.

Is the volume complete? Does it make that claim? No and no. A friend of mine writes that in his own collection are examples not to be found in the present monograph. "I myself have a few. Dawson's title includes the disclaimer "some". "Selected" would possibly have been more accurate. Actually, the most prominent omissions do not lie with the inner, ink seals. It's the virtual dearth of the outer, wax seals. I count only Nos. 12, 19, 47, and 61-66: nine in all, none of them among those most sought after by collectors. I can think of good reasons: the wax seals do not bear much if any writing, mostly just designs, perforce of less interest to a scholar-linguist. As well, they make for poor reproductions. Waterfall affords some important examples missing from Dawson, but, as previously noted, his illustrations are a poor substitute for those in the present work.

All that said, we owe a genuine debt of gratitude to Dawson's excellent, basic, sorely needed monograph; and to Geoffrey Flack for his long hours scanning images into his computer and turning out the results, laboriously page by page, on his own printer. A commercial printer would have added greatly to the cost of production.

Misprints seem rare. Surely on p. 3, line 4 from the bottom, read "three outer columns", not "two", and on p 56, line 3 from the bottom, read "thus k o", not "k u". Some of the index entries vary slightly from their text equivalents. The rare other typos I noticed, all of them inconsequential,, bode well for the general accuracy of the Tibetan textual citations, on which I confess to being for the most part totally incapable of passing judgment

FLASH: Mr. Flack promises the appearance of the third and final volume of Frealon Bibbin's treatises on the lion stamps of Tibet, rounding out the trilogy with the 1914 issue, intended as the most elaborate. Target date the first half of next year. With its publication I would claim the major leaks in the Tibetan dike will have been sealed (pun intentional).

NEPAL & TIBET PHILATELIC STUDY CIRCLE AT PACIFIC 97

by Alan Warren

The Study Circle held two meetings during the international exhibition PACIFIC 97 held at San Francisco's Moscone Center. Members also enjoyed dinner one evening at a Tibetan restaurant. On Sunday, June 1, Leo Martyn our Editor and Auctioneer, called the meeting to order with 35 members and guests present. The significance of those attending was illustrated by the fact that six of those present were authors of important works in our field - Frealon Bibbins, Geoffrey Flack, Armand Singer, Roger Skinner, Frank Vignola and Dick van der Wateren. Also present was member Frits Staal who has written a book on the stamps of Jammu & Kashmir.

Our first speaker was Armand Singer who presented his work in progress, namely a book based on his exhibit of Nepal stamps and postal history, very similar to his recent exhibit book on Tibet. George Alevizos will again be the publisher. Five copies will be all-color editions of which only three are for sale. Copies for general sale will be essentially black and white with ten pages of color material. The content of Armand's new book will cover information on royal mail, official mail, seals from 1772, the British post offices from 1860 on, the native issues of 1881-1961, postal stationery, Nepal mountaineering, revenues, telephone and telegraph material, and concluding with a bibliography. It should be available by the end of this year.

Following Armand's talk, Geoffrey Flack spoke about his recent publications and then presented slides of recent discoveries. He proceeded to show some rare items such as China Republic stamps on piece tied with a Chamdo cancel, and China period stamps with and without the overprint and with Phari cancel. Geoffrey then surprised everyone by announcing that this "rare" material was in fact all forged, in many cases using genuine stamps but with forged cancellations. It is similar in nature to past work done by Gee-Ma (see The Gee-Ma Forgeries by Robson Lowe, 1980, and The Postal Markings of Tibet by Wolfgang Hellrigl, 1996). This forged material is coming from several sources and one should have an expert examine the material before purchasing.

Geoffrey Flack also described recent findings from a lot which surfaced together with some late 1940s correspondence from a Philadelphia collector. Included were sheets of late printings of the c. 1914 4 tr and 8 tr issues with Lhasa cancels, and a previously

unrecorded error of color of a sheet of the 1/2 tr 1912 issue - printed in yellow instead of purple.

That evening twelve members retired to the Lhasa Moon Restaurant on Lombard Street where we partook of ashom thang (corn and tofu soup), dishes with daikon radish, mixed momos (dumplings) filled with chopped beef or chicken or vegetables. Then followed a variety of meat and vegetable dishes including lamb curry and vegetable curry, served with bhale (flat bread) and loko momo (steamed/fried bread). Several brave souls ended the meal with bhatsa mahku (roasted barley, sugar and cheese flavored bread with cream sauce) and the notorious buttered tea known as bocha.

On Friday,, June 6, the Study Circle met again with 17 members and guests present. After awarding two door prizes, Leo Martyn introduced Bud Bibbins who discussed and exhibited covers related to F.M. Bailey. Bailey learned languages easily and after attending military school for one semester he entered the service and eventually transferred to the Frontier Commission to Tibet. The first item shown was a post card sent to Bailey with a Khamba-Jong marking. Bud showed a number of covers representing mail that Bailey had sent to his father in Scotland.

From 1905 to 1909 Bailey served as a British trade agent in Gyantse. He took a two year leave from the service beginning in 1909. Bailey later returned to Tibet as a member of a scientific expedition. He served in World War I including a secret mission to Turkestan in 1918. During the war Bailey was injured in France and again at Gallipoli. Bud showed some favor covers that Bailey had prepared with copies of the 1914 4 tr and 8 tr issues, and also two Everest expedition covers of 1924. In 1942 Bailey traded his material to Robbie Lowe.

Following Bud's talk, there was a hands-on presentation of forged stamps and covers by Leo Martyn, which led to a lively discussion of the subject.

In the exhibition itself, Leo Martyn won a gold medal for his "The Development of Nepal's Postal System 1774-1911", including mail of the early Hulak system, prestamp mail, various markings and seals, a study of the cancellations, analysis of postal rates, and concluding with mail of the transitional period.

Alfonso Zulueta Jr. received a large vermeil for "Nepal: The Classic Period 1881-1907" showing a wide variety of material including the first issue on European wove paper, the native paper issues of 1886-1898 and

1898-1907, the bow and crossed khukris design, and the one-anna recut frame.

Dick van der Wateren won a vermeil for his "Nepal Postal Stationery 1887-1959" beginning with the first postal card and including the earliest known usage of the eighth printing, newly discovered varieties, registered envelopes and stamped envelopes.

In the literature section, silver medals were given to Armand Singer for The Armand E. Singer Tibet 1809-1975, Dick van der Wateren for Nepal Postal Stationery, and to the Study Circle for the Postal Himal.

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Mr. Manfred Lauk, Gernotstrasse 16, 67069 Ludwigshafen, Germany.

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 2. issue: 32p and 1R used on cover or fiscally used on document.
 3. issue: imperforate proofs in blocks of 4 - 2p and 16p.
 4. issue: 16p and 1R full sheets.
- 1959 Pashupati issue (Gurkha Patra Press): 1R full sheet.
All issues telegraphically used in sheets and large blocks.
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NEPAL: I am selling Nepalese stamps, errors, varieties and Postal Stationery. Ajit Shah, GPO Box 2159, Kathmandu, Nepal.

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