

THE STAMP BOOKLETS OF EGYPT



BY
A. JOHN REVELL

Introduction.

The stamp booklets of Egypt have been a much neglected subject. Many of the specialists in Egyptian philately appear to have completely ignored the collecting of these booklets, maybe due to prejudice or to the lack of availability. A few specialists collected the booklets of 1923-4 and the "Brown" overprinted booklet of 1922, because these came into their studies of the definitive issues of these periods. Many of the booklets of all periods were issued in quite large quantities and due to lack of collecting interest must have been torn up and used commercially, causing the scarcity today.

As so few people collected and studied these booklets, little information appeared in print over the years, except the occasional reference here and there in the philatelic press. No serious study was made until Jean Bourlad d'Humieres and I got together and produced two detailed articles in 1963 and 1972, (see bibliography at the end) some of which has now been proved to be incorrect due to further research and my continued interest in the subject.

To put these findings into print on their own would be adding confusion to collectors without access to earlier published information, hence the publication of this monograph based on my own collection, which will then be a permanent record of everything that is known to date, starting with the first issue of 1903, going through the years chronologically giving details of all known issues.

Three catalogues list these booklets, The Roger's Postal Booklet Catalogue; The British Empire Postage Stamp Booklets, Evaluation and Study, 2nd Edition Pub. by H. R. Work, both of which are long out of print, and scarce. The third is the Stanley Gibbons, Middle East, Part 19, 1990 and 1996.

At the end of this monograph, a listing of all known booklets and their sub types is given. The main numbering is in line with the listing in the Gibbons catalogue. I do not have every booklet listed but where these are missing, photographs have been obtained from other collectors to whom I convey my sincere thanks for their co-operation, especially "Pip" Whetter. Also to John Sears for his help on the Harrison booklets.

This book is for private circulation
to Egypt Study Circle members only.

A. John Revell. March 1997.

Booklet No 8 14th April 1922

Loose from the L. J. Mass collection bearing

3 copies of the brown overprint booklet stamps cancelled Alexandrie 5-V-23.

JACQUES J. SASSON - Alexandrie, Egypte.
P. O. B. No. 1246

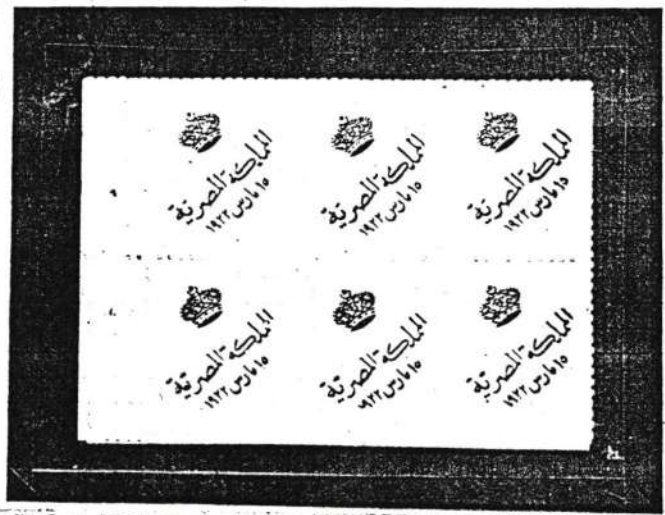
Messieurs.



Gehr. Hüttenmüller,
Kantstr. 61.

Leipzig.
Allemagne

Transparency for
checking brown overprint
booklet pane stamps.



As from Nov. 1944 a new set of stamps with the portrait of King Farouk in military uniform started to appear.

No further booklets had been issued since the issue of the 6 millime booklet on the 27th June 1943, but the year 1951 saw the resumption of manufacture. Once again a new method of sheet arrangement came into being. Booklets were still stitched left or right hand but the method of cutting was different due to the new sheet formation. Whereas the previous booklet sheets had been composed of 120 stamps in two panes of 60, the new method was a sheet formation of 54 stamps in 9 panes of six stamps with margins surrounding each pane thus forming nine miniature sheets.

There is a control No occupying the interior right corner of the sheet, but it disappears when the sheet is cut into booklet panes. It is inscribed in Arabic and reads A/51.

Two booklets were issued, one containing 24 x 10 millimes and a composite booklet containing 12 x 4 millimes, 12 x 10 millimes and 6 x 22 millimes.

These two booklets appear to have been issued in a very limited quantity and were put into circulation shortly before the abdication of King Farouk in July 1952. The booklets were then quickly withdrawn from circulation and used by the Parcels Dept of Cairo Central Post Office before the set bearing the portrait of King Farouk became obsolete.

Only a small number of these booklets escaped this fate.

References to illustration.

--- denotes lines of stitching

→ denotes lines of cutting.

