

EGYPT STUDY CIRCLE

QUARTERLY CIRCULAR

FEBRUARY 1938.

No. 1.

THE EGYPT STUDY CIRCLE

CHAIRMAN:

Dr. W. Byam, O.B.E.,
92 Harley Street,
London. W.1.

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A.S. Mackenzie-Low.
"The Grange", Old Town,
Bexhill-on-Sea,
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"Winfield", Dalkeith Rd.
Harpenden, Herts.

SECRETARY - TREASURER:

F.S. Mumford.
174 Buxton Road,
Stockport, Cheshire.

Meetings of the Full Circle are held on the second Saturday after the first Thursday in the months of January, April, July and October.

Meetings of the Members interested in the various Studies are held in the intervening months by arrangement.

"The Quarterly Circular" is circulated to all Members as soon as possible after each meeting of the Full Circle.

Members are invited to make the fullest possible use of the "Query Section" of this Circular.

Subscriptions are due on the 1st. of January and are as follows:-

Full Members	7/6 per annum.
Corresponding Members	5/- per annum.

MEMBERSHIP ROLL

"F" indicates Full Members.

"C" indicates Corresponding Members.

C. 1. - G. Seymour Thompson. 88 Nightingale Lane, Bromley, Kent.

- F. 2. - A.S. Mackenzie-Low. "The Grange", Old Town,
Bexhill-on-Sea, Sussex.
- F. 3. - Dr. W. Byam, O.B.E. 92 Harley Street, London. W.1.
- F. 4. - Hubert F. Lowe. "Egremont", Manorgate Road,
Kingston Hill, Surrey. (died)
- F. 5. - Colonel G. Grylls. "Green Hollow", Bessels Green,
Sevenoaks, Kent.
- F. 8. - D.B. Armstrong. 428 Strand, London. W.C.2.
- F. 9. - E.F. Hurt. "Winfield", Dalkeith Road, Harpenden,
Herts.
- F. 10. - Captain G.L. Hearn. "Corey's Mount", Stevenage,
Herts.
- F. 11. - D.H. Kalman. 29 Cross Street, Hatton Garden,
London. E.C.1. (Out)
- F. 13. - Dr. R.J.C. Thompson, O.M.G., D.S.O.
St. Thomas' Hospital Medical School,
London. S.E. 1.
- F. 14. - W.C. Hinde. 20 Southdown Crescent, Cheadle Hulme,
Cheshire.
- C. 15. - R. Seymour Blomfield. 1736 White Avenue, Knoxville,
Tennessee. U.S.A.
- C. 16. - Jean Boulad. 2 Chawarby Pacha Street, Cairo. Egypt.
- C. 17. - Charles Fox. 298 West, 11 Street, New-York. U.S.A.
- F. 19. - Colonel G.R. Worthington Wilmer, D.S.O.
"Vineyards", Beaulieu, Hants.
- F. 20. - Major J.J. Bramble, O.B.E. Flat 2. (DIED)
23 Greenbank Drive, Liverpool. 17.
- C. 21. - E.L. Angeloglou. 13 Rue Manakh, Cairo. Egypt.
- F. 22. - F.S. Mumford. 174 Buxton Road, Stockport. Cheshire.
- F. 24. - F.S. Sillitoe, M.B.E. 31 Priory Road, Kew, Surrey.
- C. 25. - S. Lord. 20 Hackings Hey, Liverpool. 2.
- C. 26. - J.R. Raeburn. 122 Montford Avenue, Kings Park,
Glasgow. S. 4.

- C. 27. - Surg. Captain F.F. Mahon, R.N. Princess Royal Hotel,
Filey Road, South Cliff, Scarborough.
- C. 28. - Mrs. Isa Stuart. 89 Fotheringay Road, Maxwell Park,
Glasgow. S.1.
- C. 29. - R. Oakley. "Warminster", 208 Ellerdine Road,
Hounslow, Middlesex.
- C. 30. - T. Cathcart Stanbury. "The Den", Denmark Road,
Exeter, Devon.
- C. 31. - Douglas McNeille; Army Audit Office, Headquarters.
B.T.E. Cairo. Egypt.
- F. 32. - J.R. Danson, M.C. Tower Buildings, Liverpool. 3.
- F. 33. - A.L. Pemberton. 12 South Molton Street. London. W.1.
- C. 34. - Henry Whittaker. 411 Chester Street, Victoria B.C.
Canada.
- F. 35. - P.L. Pemberton. 12 South Molton Street. London.W.1.
- F. 36. - Stanford Cade, F.R.C.S. 68 Harley Street, London.W.1.
- C. 38. - A. Lester Taylor. 2925 Granville Street, Vancouver,
B.C. Canada.
- C. 39. - Ernest A. Kehr. 127-10 103 Avenue Richmond Hill,
New-York. U.S.A.

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PROGRAMME FOR THE SESSION, 1938.

Study I.

The History of the Egyptian Post Offices in Turkey, the Red Sea area and the Sudah, their duration, the stamps used in them and the postal rates and routes.

Study entrusted to:- Charles Fox.
298 West, 11 Street, New-York. U.S.A.

Study II.

The History of the Foreign Post Offices in Egypt on the lines of Study I.

Study divided and entrusted to:-

French P.O. E.F. Hurt. "Winfield",
Dalkeith Road, Harpenden, Herts.

Italian P.O. Dr. W. Byam, O.B.E.
92 Harley Street, London. W.1.

British P.O. A.L. Pemberton.
12 South Molton Street, London.
W.1.

Austrian P.O. F.S. Mumford. 174 Buxton Road,
Stockport, Cheshire.

Greek P.O. P.L. Pemberton.
12 South Molton Street, London.
W. 1.

Russian P.O. A.S. Mackenzie-Low.
"The Grange", Old Town,
Bexhill-on-Sea, Sussex.

Study III.

The Postal History of the Canal Zone including the Egyptian Government Offices and the Canal Company's stamps, their use and the forgeries of the same.

Study entrusted to:- Colonel G.R. Worthington
Wilmer, D.S.O.

"Vineyards", Beaulieu, Hants.

and:- Jean Boulad, 2 Chawarby Pacha Street,
Cairo. Egypt.

Study IV.

Pre-stamp Egyptian Postal History in the 19th Century and the Posta Europea.

Study entrusted to:- A.S. Mackenzie-Low.
"The Grange", Old Town, Bexhill-on-Sea,
Sussex.

Study V.

The History of the carriage of Egyptian Official Postal matter and the use of Interpostal Labels.

Study entrusted to:- Douglas McNeille.
Army Audit Office, Headquarters. B.T.E.
Cairo. Egypt.

- Study VI. The Postal Markings of Egypt in the 19th Century.
Study entrusted to:- R. Seymour Blomfield.
1736 White Avenue, Knoxville, Tennessee.
U.S.A.
- Study VII. The Postal Markings of the Anglo-Egyptian Sudan
from 1896, on the lines of Study VI.
Study entrusted to: A sub-group of the
Circle and; W.C. Hinde.
20 Southdown Crescent, Cheadle Hulme,
Cheshire.
- Study VIII. The Compilation of an extensive Check List of
Egypt which shall include all Postal Matter.
Study not yet opened.
- Study IX. The Classification of the Essays for the stamps
of Egypt.
Study not yet opened.
- Study X. The Forgeries of the stamps of Egypt.
Study not yet opened.
- Study XI. The Perforating Machines used in connection with
the preparation of the stamps of Egypt.
Study not yet opened.

Will those Members who have any information or material
likely to be of use in furthering any of the above
Studies kindly communicate with the responsible member
whose name and address appears in this programme.

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MEETINGS OF THE CIRCLE

The TWENTY-FIRST Meeting of the Circle was held at the residence of the Chairman, Dr. W. Byam, O.B.E., 92 Harley Street, London. W.1. on Saturday January 15th. 1938 when the following members attended:-

The Chairman, Col. G. Grylls, Major J.J. Bramble and Messrs. J.R. Danson, W.C. Hinde, E.F. Hurt, F.S. Mumford. Apologies for absence were received from Dr. R.J.C. Thompson, and Messrs. A.S. Mackenzie-Low and F.S. Sillitoe, the absence of the two latter being occasioned by illness.

On the proposal of Col. Grylls, seconded by Mr. W.C. Hinde, a hearty vote of thanks to the Chairman and Mrs. Byam for their generous hospitality during the past year was unanimously carried

The following were elected to serve on the Executive during 1938:-

Chairman.	Dr. W. Byam, O.B.E.
Keeper of the Philatelic Record.	A.S. Mackenzie-Low.
Exchange Packet Superintendent.	E.F. Hurt.
Secretary-Treasurer.	F.S. Mumford.

Quarterly Circular. It was decided to discontinue the Circle's Subscription to "Stamp Collecting" and, in its place, to send to all members a Quarterly Circular embodying an account of the meetings and work of the Circle and to include in such Circular brief notes on the Circle's work and one or more photographs of interesting items.

After tea, Dr. Byam gave a most interesting Display of his Crown Overprint stamps of 1922. The following items are worthy of record:-

1. The envelope posted on the day of issue bearing the twelve values with lithographed overprint. The 3, 4 and 10 millimes are from the 1st setting of the overprint; the remaining values from the 2nd. setting. This proves that overprints from both settings were made before the stamps were in use.
2. The Crushed Crown - creased transfer - being the lower portion of the lower pane overprinted with the lithographed 2nd. setting, 3rd. transfer - shown on the following stamps

1 Mil.	Control	A. 23.
2 "	"	B. 21.
4 "	"	B. 21 and B. 23.
5 "	"	B. 23.
10 "	"	B. 23.

(If other stamps bearing this variety are known, it is requested that they be reported to the Keeper of the Record.)

3. The London overprint (electrotyped) in mint blocks.

1 Mil overprinted	500,000 stamps.	Control	A 23.
5 " " "	6,880,200 "	"	B 23.
10 " " "	1,000,000 "	"	B 23.
15 " (S.G.149.) -	1,660,400 "	"	B 23.
20 " " "	450,000 "	"	A 23.
50 " " "	500,000 "	"	A 23.

Of these, 1 Mil in mint state is the most difficult to find.

4. The London Trial overprint in red. Mint blocks.

1 Mil. with Control	A 23.
15 " " "	B 23.

5. All the known errors of overprint. Of these, Dr. Byam drew special attention to the:-

- a) - 200 Mil. with lithographed overprint inverted and stated that only three copies are known, all postmarked MANSURA (CASH) - adding that forgeries in mint state are in circulation.
- b) - 1 Mil. Typographed (Type II a.) - overprint inverted - a mint block of four, with plate error (S.G. 143 c) which must be unique, as only the one sheet of this error is thought to have existed, three used copies have been found, one of which was shown, postmarked Cairo. It was pointed out that the value of this stamp was considerably greater than that of the 1 Mil. with inverted lithographed overprint and that no distinction was made between the two varieties in either Gibbons or any auction catalogue.
- c) - 20 Mil. Typographed (Type IV) - overprint inverted - used at GHURIA July, 1924 - of which only four or five copies have been found and all in used state. A much rarer stamp than the inverted lithographed overprint of this value, of which 100 copies in mint state are known to exist. Again the catalogues make no distinction.

INTERESTING PHOTOGRAPHS

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Vaglea Mark. Italian
P.O. Type V - 1.

Consigne Mark.
Italian P.O.
Type V - 2.

See Q.C. No. IX.

The Money Order cancellation of the Italian P.O. at Alexandria. A similar mark is known bearing the word CONSEGNE (consignments) in place of VAGLIA. It has been seen on the front of registered letters from Alexandria.

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Q U E R Y S E C T I O N

Each query submitted in this Section will receive an individual consecutive number and any replies which are received will be published under that number in the next issue of the "Quarterly Circular". When replying to queries, Members are asked to quote the Query Number.

1. Can any Member throw any light upon the two marks photographs of which appear below or produce evidence of their use in connection with Official mail and have any Members specimens with these marks in their collections?

Official Correspondence.

Cairo
Type A.6.

20



22

69

Official
Marking
Type VIII -
A.1.

See Q.C.
No. III.

2. A copy of the 2 piastre Surface printed Sphinx issue obliterated with a circular postmark, containing the town name of WAHAJ ? in Arabic and English, was produced at the last meeting. Does any Member know where WAHAJ ? was or is?

Should read SOHAG
Type V - 5

10 Nov. 74.

See Q.C. No. II
page 11.

PROGRESS REPORT ON STUDY IV

(Study entrusted to Mr. A.S. Mackenzie-Low)

Since the first Interim Report in this Study was published, the following two new Tables have been compiled:-

TABLE I This is a list of all the known Posta Europea Offices, their dates of opening and the earliest dates of covers recorded by the Circle. It will be seen that we have no record of covers from AFTE, ROSETTA, DAMANHOUR or GALIUB. DAMANHOUR must have been open from 1855 to 1860, if not later - The other Offices might only have been open a very short time.

TABLE II This is a list of the types of the Posta Europea and Government franks with the earliest and latest dates recorded on covers.

New data is recorded from:-

ALEXANDRIA and CAIRO	Type II.
MANSURA and SAMANOUD	Type III.
KAFER-ZAYAT, SAMANOUD & TANTA	Type IV.
CAIRO	Type V.

TANTA being a new Office recorded.
These records are brought up to 1937.

Carriage of Mails.

Before 1854, the Posta Europea service was carried on only between Alexandria and Cairo. The transport of mails was probably undertaken by means of Couriers, river steamers or barges on the Nile.

"Les Postes en Egypte" states that in 1854 the railway commenced to develop in Egypt and the Posta Europea followed their development.

A letter, concerning the opening of the railways in the Posta Europea period, has been received from the Editor of the "Railway Magazine" in which he states:-

"The first section of line between Alexandria and Kafr-el-Zayat was opened in 1854. It was extended to Tanta in 1855, and to Cairo in 1856.

The line from Cairo to Suez across the desert was completed in 1858. This railway provided a link in the chain of communication between Europe and the Far East from that date until the opening of the Suez Canal in 1869, when the line between Cairo and Suez was taken up, and replaced by one from the Cairo-Alexandria trunk line to Ismailia, approximately midway on the canal route from Port Said to Suez. It was later extended, north and south, to the terminal ports. We are sorry we are unable to give you the precise dates of the completion of those extensions.

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"In 1930, it was decided to reconstruct the old line, with a view to developing Suez as a summer resort; the reconstructed line was opened for Goods traffic in December 1934, and for passenger traffic later."

The Posta Europea would no doubt use the desert railway between Cairo and Suez in preference to the old Overland Route which took 36 hours.

In 1856 the Posta Europea concluded an agreement with the Railway Department by which their mail was carried by the railways for a period of five years for the total sum of 72,000 piastres.

After March 5th, 1862 when the Posta Europea were granted a postal monopoly, their mail bags were carried free on the State Railways.

Postal Rates, Franco and Registration markings and map will be brought into the next Progress Report.

TABLE I.

<u>POSTA EUROPEA OFFICES</u>			<u>Opened</u>	<u>Earliest Date</u>
A	B	Alexandria	1843	1847
A	B	Cairo	1843	1849
	B	Afte - El Atf.	1854 (L.P.E.)	No record.
		Rosetta	1854 (L.P.E.)	No record.
A	B	Damanhour	1855 (L.P.E.)	No record.
A	B	Kafer-Zayat	1855 (L.P.E.)	1858.
A	B	Bonha	1856 (L.P.E.)	15 - 4 - 1864.
A	B	Berket-El-Sab	1856 (L.P.E.)	13 - 1 - 1857.
A	B	Tanta	1856 (L.P.E.)	21 - 3 - 1860.
A	B	Damiata	1857 (L.P.E.)	15 - 5 - 1860.
	B	Galiub	1857 A.D.	No record.
A	B	Mansura	1857 A.D.	21 - 12 - 1857.
A	B	Michalla	1857 A.D.	21 - 3 - 1860.
A	B	Samanud	1857 A.D.	20 ----- 1858.
A	B	Suez	1857 A.D.	4 - 2 - 1864.
A	B	Zagasik	1857 A.D.	6 - 4 - 1860.
A	B	Zifta	1857 A.D.	6 - 6 - 1864.

B = Interpostals. (Issued 1864)

L.P.E. = "Les Postes en Egypte"

A.D. = Alberto Diena (See article in P.G. of G.B. Jan.1934)

A - Offices mentioned in "Postal Tariff Form of 1860."

TABLE II.

POSTA EUROPEA FRANKS

<u>Type</u>	<u>Offices</u>	<u>Earliest Date</u>	<u>Latest Date</u>	
I.	Alessandria	1847 (3)	7 - 5 - 1848(2)	
	Cairo	1849 (2)		
II.	Alessandria	1-5-1851 (3)	1-11-1858 (2)	
	Cairo	21-12-1851(16)	29-6-1859 (2)	
III.	Berket-El-Sab	13-1-1857 (2)	17-12-1857 (2)	
	Damiata	15-5-1860 (2)	31-8-1861 (2)	
	Kafer-Zayat	1858 (2)	14-2-1861 (2)	
	Mansura	21-12-1857(3)	16-6-1863 (2) 18-11-1863(15)	
	Mehalla	21-3-1860 (2)	18 ---1863 (2)	
	Samanud	20---1858 (2)	16-5-1863 (2) 22-7-1863(P.HA)	
	Tanta	21-3-1860 (2)	4-2-1863 (2)	
	Zagasik	6-4-1860 (2)	5-5-1863 (2)	
	IV.	Benha	15-4-1864(16)	
		Damiata	4-5-1861 (2)	16-10-1863(2)
Kafer-Zayat		23-7-1864(Alt)	---11-1864 (2)	
Mansura		8-10-1863 (2)	7-4-1865 (2)	
Michalla		13-8-1863 (2)	1-1-1864 (2)	
Samanud		19-12-1863 (2)	9-2-1865 (2)	
Suez		4-2-1864 (2)		
Tanta		28-9-1863(Alt)	21-2-1865 (2)	
Zagasik		26-9-1864 (2)	19-11-1864 (2)	
Zifta		1-6-1864 (2)		
V.	Alessandria	23-1-1861 (2)	4-4-1863 (2)	
	Cairo	13-3-1861 (2)	8-1-1863 (16)	

<u>Type</u>	<u>Offices</u>	<u>Earliest Date</u>	<u>Latest Date</u>
VI	Alessandria	8-6-1863 (3)	25-6-1865 3-4-1865 (2)
	Cairo	27-8-1863 (2)	13-5-1864 (2)

EGYPTIAN GOVERNMENT SERVICE

<u>Poste Vice- Reali Egiziano</u>	<u>Offices</u>	<u>Earliest Date</u>
Type I.	Alessandria	19-4-1865 (4)
	Cairo (black & blue)	20-4-1865 (3)
	Mansura	10-6-1865 (2)
	Michalla	18-11-1865 (2)
	Suez	14-6-1865 (2)
	Tanta	4-9-1865 (1)
	Zifta and Mitg	14-8-1865 (3)

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Change of Address:-

Colonel G.R. Worthington Wilmer, D.S.O.
Cross Ways,
Pennington,
Lymington. Hants.

Note:- Col. Worthington Wilmer, with Mr. Boulad, is responsible for Study III. The History of the Canal Zone.