

EGYPT STUDY CIRCLE

QUARTERLY CIRCULAR

MAY 1938.

NO. 2.

MAY 1938

THE POSTAL MARKINGS OF THE FRENCH P.O.s IN EGYPT

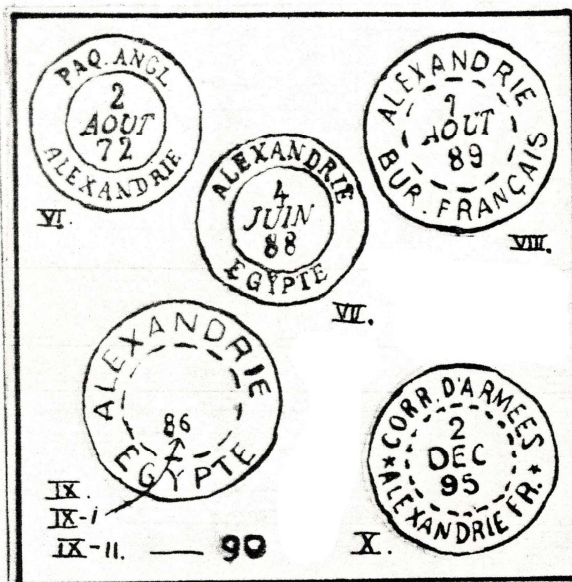
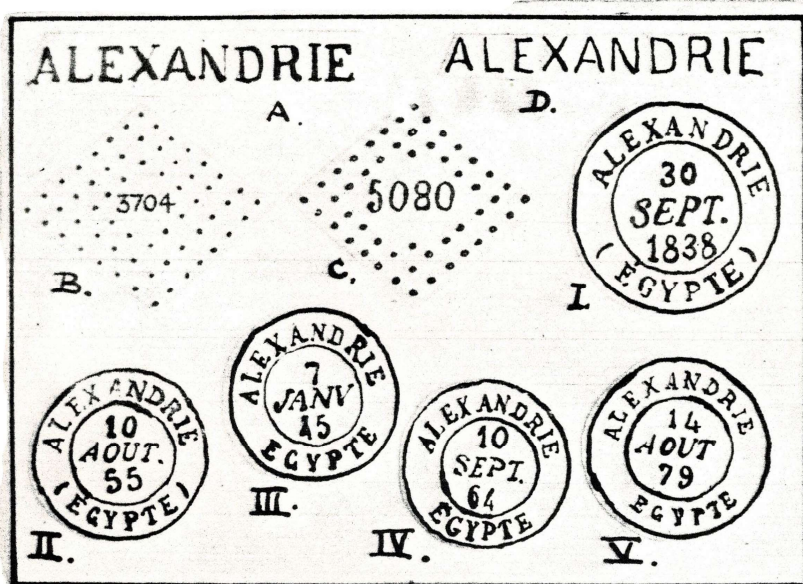
( STUDY II )

ALEXANDRIA

Opened 1830. Closed March 31st, 1931.

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UNDATED MARKINGS

TYPE A. ALEXANDRIE in straight line. About 1801. Napoleonic.

Earliest Date  
Latest Date.

TYPE B. 3704. Small figures in dotted lozenge.

Earliest Date: 6-2-58 (3) *10/8/59 8/2*  
Latest Date: 11-4-62 (2)

TYPE C. 5080. Large figures in dotted lozenge.

Earliest Date: 13-10-62 (3)  
Latest Date: 2-8-75 (2)

TYPE D. ALEXANDRIE in straight line. 39 mm.

Earliest Date;

Latest Date;

Note:- The illustrations "B" and "C" are not to scale;  
the actual figures in each case being:-  
3704. 3.25 mm. high.  
5080. 6.25 mm. high.

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DATED MARKINGS

TYPE I. Two plain circles. Extreme diameter: 25 mm.  
EGYPTE, with accent, in brackets.

Earliest Date: 7-8-38 (3)  
Latest Date: 8-4-47 (as transit) (4)

TYPE II. Two plain circles. Diameter 21.5 mm. EGYPTE, with  
accent, in brackets.

Earliest Date: 7-6-39 (as transit) (3)  
Latest Date: 3-12-53 (2)

TYPE III. Two plain circles. Diameter 21.5 mm. EGYPTE,  
spaced lettering. No accent. No brackets.

Earliest Date: 4-4-45 (2)  
Latest Date: 17-2-53 (2) *18 June 55 (Shepherd)*

TYPE III-I. As Type III but diameter 20 mm.

Earliest Date: 5-11-90 (3)  
Latest Date:

TYPE IV. Two plain circles. Diameter 21.5 mm. EGYPTE with  
accent. Letters close. No brackets.

Earliest Date: 2-11-55 (2)  
Latest Date: 19-9-74 (2)

TYPE V. Two plain circles. Diameter 22.5 mm. EGYPTE.  
No accent.

Earliest Date: 9-1-65 (2)  
Latest Date:

TYPE VI. Two plain circles. Diameter 21.5 mm. Worded  
"PAQ ANGL. - ALEXANDRIE"

Earliest Date: 17-6-72 (3)  
Latest Date: 29-3-75 (3)

Applied at Alexandria on inwards and outwards mail ./.  
carried on British Packet Boats.

TYPE VII. Two plain circles. Diameter 21.5 mm. No accent on EGYPTE. Sloping date in serif caps as before. Old type, narrow figures.  
Earliest Date:  
Latest Date:

TYPE VII-I. As Type VII but wider, figures: "4" for "4"; - 56  
"8" for "8"; "9" for "9";  
Earliest Date: 31-1-94 (strip) (2)  
Latest Date: **4' for 4: 8' for 8: 9' for 9:**

TYPE VII-II. As Type VII-I but month in upright sans caps.  
Earliest Date:  
Latest Date:

TYPE VIII. Inner circle in 12 segments. Diameter 24 mm. Worded "ALEXANDRIE - BUR. FRANCAIS" in sans serif type. Month in sloping serif. Antique type figs.  
Earliest Date:  
Latest Date:

TYPE IX. As shown. Diameter 24 mm. Sans serif lettering. No date.  
Earliest Date: March 1885. Cover. (4)  
Latest Date:

TYPE IX-I. As Type IX, but with date - sloping serif month and narrow type figures.  
Earliest Date: March 1885 (4)  
Latest Date:

TYPE IX-II. As Type IX-I but with modern broad and larger figures  
Earliest Date: 9-10-91 (3)  
Latest Date:

TYPE IX-III. As Type IX-II but all figures, no serifs and month upright sans serif.  
Earliest Date:  
Latest Date: 8-5-1920 (2)

TYPE X. For Naval and Military mail. Inner circle in 20 segments. Diameter 23 mm. Worded "CORR. D'ARMES" \*  
ALEXANDRIE \* *Star not on machine*  
Earliest Date:  
Latest Date:

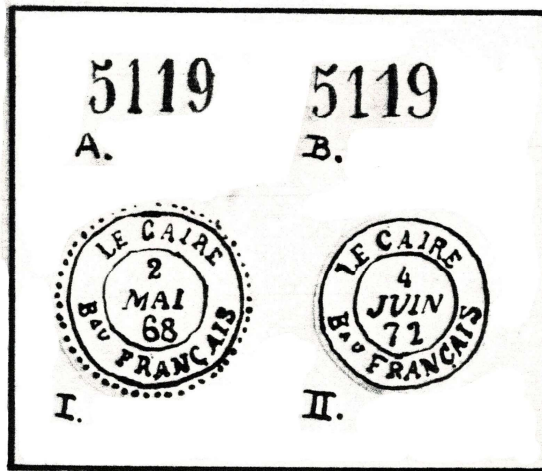
TYPE XI.

As Type IV but 20 mm. diameter. (Query diameter). Unrecorded by Langlois. First copy seen in the collection of Mr. A.S. Mackenzie-Low, dated 5-11-90. As to whether this should not be recorded as Type IV-I depends on other dates found later. The above date seems to allot it to this period and XI is about correct. Mr. Mackenzie-Low has another cover with similar postmark, dated 4-4-45 but 20.5 or, possibly 21 mm., but it is impossible to say if there is an accent, and a second similar (21 mm.) dated 20-2-46.

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CAIRO. (Le Caire) - Opened as a "Bureau de Distribution", November, 1865. Became a "Receiving Office" about 1872. Closed March, 1875.

Note:- "Bureaux de Distribution" use double circle date Stamps with an additional outer circle of date.



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UNDATED MARKINGS

TYPE A.

5119 in lozenge of dots. Always in black. Oval head to "9". Upper half of "9" comes low. Pyriform foot to "5".

Earliest Date: 18-4-58 (2)

Latest Date: 11-4-62 (2)

TYPE B.

As Type A, but round top to "9". Upper and lower halves of "9" equal. Ball to foot of "5".

Earliest Date:

Latest Date:

DATED MARKINGS

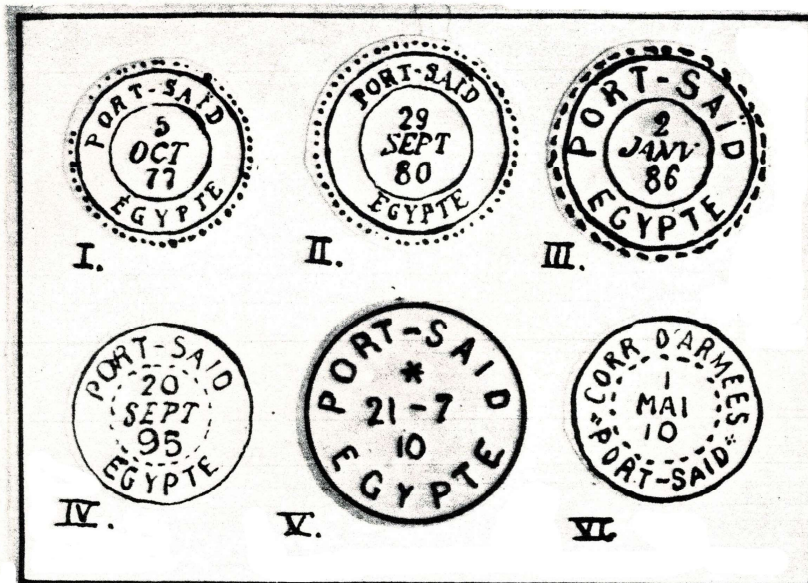
TYPE I. Dotted outer circle of "Bureau de Distribution".

Earliest Date: 7-3-66 (2)  
Latest Date: 28-6-69 (2)

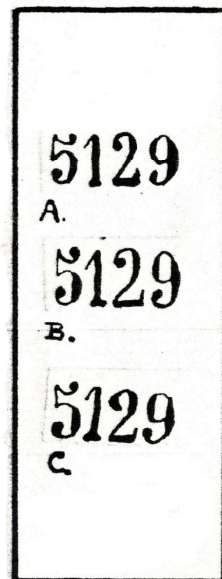
TYPE II. Plain double circle.

Earliest Date: 23-7-72 (2)  
Latest Date: 4-5-74 (3)

PORT SAID Opened as a B. "Bureau de Distribution" 1867.  
Converted into a Receiving Office, 1st. January, 1894.  
Closed 31st March, 1931. Struck in Black or Blue.



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UNDATED MARKINGS

TYPE A. 5129 in lozenge of dots. Even figures. Humpbacked 5, small dot to head slightly sloping inside. Foot of 2 ends in triangle. Height 6.75 mm. X 15 mm.

Earliest Date:  
Latest Date:

TYPE B. As Type A. but larger figures. Large dot incurved to head of "5" which is upright. Foot of "9" curves back. This type, probably made locally about 1868 to replace a damaged obliterator, is very scarce. Height 7 mm. Long serif to "1".

Earliest Date:  
Latest Date:

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TYPE C. Smaller figures. Height 6.5 mm. "5" has smaller dot at head than in Type B. and pyriform foot. End of foot of B. & C. a single upright line. "9" very regular. Head of "2" pyriform. Short serif to "1".  
Earliest Date;  
Latest Date;

DATED MARKINGS

TYPE I. Dotted outer circle. Accent in "EGYPTE". Diameter 22 mm. Date in sloping serif letters and serif antique type figures.  
Earliest Date: 15-7-74 (3)  
Latest Date: 22-12-77 (3)

TYPE II. Dotted outer circle. No accent on "EGYPTE". Diameter 25 mm. Date and month as Type I.  
Earliest Date: 9 JAN 75 (50)  
Latest Date:

TYPE II-I. As Type II but date in modern plain figures and month in upright sans serif capitals.  
Earliest Date: 23-10-81 (3)  
Latest Date:

TYPE III. Triple circle as previous types but outer circle of short curved lines. Diameter 26 mm. Sans serif inscription. Date in narrow antique figures and month in sloping serif capitals.  
Earliest Date;  
Latest Date;

TYPE III-I. As Type III, but date in plain broad modern figures. Month still in sloping serif caps. Sans serif inscription.  
Earliest Date;  
Latest Date;

TYPE IV. Double circle, inner of segments. Diameter 22 mm. Inscription sans serif. No dots over "I" of SAID. Date in plain broad modern figures. Month in sloping serif caps.  
Earliest Date: 31-3-96 (4)  
Latest Date:

TYPE IV-I. As Type IV, but month in upright sans serif caps.  
Earliest Date: January 98 (2)  
Latest Date: 15-4-98 (2)

TYPE V. Single circle. Diameter 26.5 mm. Thin sans serif inscription. No dots over "I" of SAID. Star at top centre. Day and month in figures with hyphen between in one line across centre and millesime at foot.

Earliest Date:  
Latest Date:

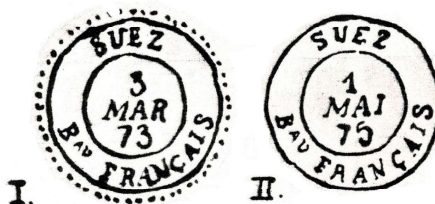
TYPE VI. For Naval and Military mail. Diameter 22.5 mm. As shown. All sans serif. PORT-SAID at foot with crosses before and after.

Earliest Date:  
Latest Date:

TYPE VI-I. As Type VI but centre blank.

Earliest Date:  
Latest Date:

SUEZ Opened as a "Bureau de Distribution" in November, 1862. Converted to a Receiving Office 1875. Closed December, 1888.



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UNDATED MARKINGS

TYPE A. 5105 in lozenge of dots. Struck in Black.  
Earliest Date:  
Latest Date:

DATED MARKINGS

TYPE I. Triple circle, outer of dots. Diameter 23 mm. Struck in Black.  
Earliest Date: 29-6-63 (4)  
Latest Date: 17-12-68 (4)

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TYPE II. Double circle. Diameter 21 mm. Struck in Black.  
Earliest Date: 28-7-74 (4)  
Latest Date:

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NOTE:- All Members having French material in their collections or who may be in the possession of information relating to the French P.O.s in Egypt, are asked to communicate with E.F. Hurt Esq. "Winfield", Dalkeith Road, Harpenden, Herts, giving particulars of earlier or later dates than those recorded above or filling same in where not as yet recorded. New types of postmark not listed should also be notified. Where there is any doubt, please forward the stamps or cover for inspection.

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FRENCH P.O.s IN THE LEVANT

It was thought that, in connection with Study II, the following list of French P.O.s in the Levant, with the dates of their existence might be of interest and assistance.

	<u>OPEN</u>	<u>CLOSED</u>	<u>SMALL FIGS.</u>	<u>LARGE FIGS.</u>	<u>DATE STAMPS</u>
ALEXANDRETTE	1852	1914	1853 (3766)	1862-76(5079)	(1876 (1914.
ALEXANDRIE	1830	1931	1853 (3704)	1862-76(5080)	(1876 (1931.
BEYROUTH	1840	1914	1853 (3706)	1862-76(5082)	(1876 (1914.
CAIRE (CAIRO)	1872	1875		1872-75(5119)	
CAVALLE	1874	1914		1874-76(5156)	(1876 (1914.
CONSTANTINOPLE known 1920 as CONST. PERA (closed 1914-19)	1840	1920	1853 (3707)	1862-76(5083)	(1876 (1902. (1902 (1920.
CONST. GALATA (closed 1914-19)	1879	1923	Sub-Office of Constantinople		(1879 (1923.
CONST. STAMBOUL (closed 1914-19)	1884	1923	Sub-Office of Constantinople		(1880 (1923.
DARDANELLES (closed 1914-19)	1835	1923	1853 (3708)	1862-76(5084)	(1876 (1923.
GALLIPOLI	1852	1872	1853 (3767)	1862-72(5086)	
JAFFA	1852	1914	1853 (3768)	1862-76(5089)	(1876 (1914.
LAGOS as PORT LAGOS	1874 1880	1875 1898		1874-75(5154)	(1880 (1898.
LATTAQUIE	1853	1914	1853 (3709)	1862-76(5091)	(1876 (1894.
MERSINA	1852	1914	1853 (3770)	1862-76(5092)	(1876 (1914.
METELIN	1852	1872	1853 (3771)	1862-72(5093)	

French P.O.s In The Levant

	<u>OPEN</u>	<u>CLOSED</u>	<u>SMALL FIGS.</u>	<u>LARGE FIGS.</u>	<u>DATE STAMPS</u>
PORT SAID	1867	1931		1867-76(5129)	(1876 (1931.
RHODES	1852 1896 1922	1877 1911 1923	1853 (3772)	1862-76(5094)	(1877 (1923.
SALONICA	1857	1914	1857 (4012)	1862-76(5095)	(1876 (1914.
SMYRNA	1835	1914	1853 (3709)	1862-76(5098)	(1876 (1914.
SUEZ	1862	1888		1862-76(5105)	(1876 (1888.
VOLO	1857 1879	1861 1881	1857-61(4019)		(1879 (1881.

There were additional French Offices in the Levant,  
but in places where there were no Egyptian Offices.

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MEETINGS OF THE CIRCLE

The TWENTY-SECOND 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, April 23rd. 1938 when the following members attended:-

The Chairman, Colonel G. Grylls, Colonel G.R. Worthington Wilmer, and Messrs. Stanford Cade, J.R. Danson, W.C. Hinde, E.F. Hurt, A.S. Mackenzie-Low, H.F. Lowe, F.S. Mumford, and A.L. Pemberton. Total 11.

The Circle received the Progress Report on Study III "The Postal History of the Canal Zone" and spent the greater portion of the afternoon discussing it. It was agreed that the Report be made under the following sections:-

1. The General History of the posts in the Canal Zone with brief reference to the Posta Europea and also the British, French and Austrian Post Offices. A full description of the Suez Canal Company's post.
2. The stamps of the Suez Canal Company. The Reprints and Forgeries of the same.
3. The Obliterations on the Suez Canal Company's stamps and the obliterations of the Suez Canal Company on the stamps of Egypt. A record of all the known covers bearing the stamps of the Suez Canal Company.
4. Egyptian Government Post Offices opened in the Canal Zone. The earliest known dates of the various postal markings.

It was also agreed that the Report submitted by Colonel G.R. Worthington Wilmer should now be sent to his collaborator, Mr. Jean Boulad, in Egypt, so that the result of both investigations might be embodied in one report to be submitted to the Circle later.

After tea, Members gave a display of their recent acquisitions, amongst which were the following:-

1. Mr. Mackenzie-Low showed various postal markings including:-  
"SCIO" Poste Khefeuie Egiziane. A new type.  
"KASSALA" Sept. 74. Type V-5.  
"ALEXANDRETTA" 30 AGO 1871.
2. Mr. H.F. Lowe showed the 5 Pt. 1867 in a used block of four.
3. Mr. F.S. Mumford showed a cover (combined postage) from Cairo to Trieste, franked by the Egyptian Government circular type frank (Type I-1) dated CAIRO 8 OTT 65 and also a copy of the Austrian 15 Soldi 1864 obliterated with the Austrian Type III-1 postmark.

Meetings of the Circle

The Chairman read a letter he had received from Mr. Douglas McNeille of Cairo querying the status of the following stamps:-

- S.G. 143 A. 1 Mil. Overprint inverted. à cheval, not the other.
- 143 B. 1 Mil. Overprint double.
- 144 A. 2 Mils. Overprint double.
- 146 A. 4 Mils. Overprint inverted.
- 151 A. 20 Mils. Overprint inverted.
- 151 B. 20 Mils. Overprint double.
- 152 A. 50 Mils. Overprint inverted.
- 153 A. 100 Mils. Overprint inverted.
- 0.30. 5 Mils. Overprint double.
- 0.32. 10 Mils. Overprint inverted.
- 0.33. 15 Mils. Without overprint, in pair with normal.

This letter was discussed at length and numerous specimens of the stamps under consideration were inspected.

As a result, the Circle gave its opinion that the above overprints were fraudulently produced from the genuine printing surfaces, with the following exceptions:-

1. S.G. 143 A. Typographed. 1 Mil. Type IIa. setting of single stereo. Inverted overprint. Mint and Used. 3 used copies known, postmarked CAIRO, date uncertain.
2. S.G. 151 A. Typographed. 20 Mils. Type IV. London Overprint inverted. Used. 5 used copies known postmarked GHURIA, 8th. and other dates in July 1924.
3. S.G. 152 A. Typographed. 50 Mils. Type IV. London overprint inverted, Used. About 15 copies known used at TANTAH. Date uncertain.
4. S.G. 155 A. Lithographed. 200 Mils. Type I. Inverted overprint. Used. 3 copies known, all postmarked MANSURA 8 OC. 24.

These stamps are undoubtedly genuine in all respects.

There are, in addition, the following three Lithographed overprints which the Circle considered fraudulently produced:-

- S.G. 143 A. 1 Mil. Overprint inverted.
- S.G. 151 A. 20 Mils. Overprint inverted.
- S.G. 152 A. 50 Mils. Overprint inverted.

In addition to the stamps mentioned by Mr. McNeille, there is S.G. 119, 1 Mil. on single watermarked paper bearing the Crown overprint upright and inverted, which the Circle considered a fraudulent production.

GROUP MEETINGS

The group of Members in charge of Study II met on Saturday February 19th. and Saturday March 12th. 1938 at 92 Harley Street, London. W.1. At the first of these meetings they concentrated upon the French Post Offices whilst at the March meeting, they devoted their attention to the Italian Offices, in Egypt.

At the latter meeting Colonel G. Grylls gave a General Display of Egypt which was much appreciated. Among the more interesting items being:-

1. A block of six 1 Pt. Rose 1879 with "Gouvernementales" cancellation from TANTAH. 3-1-1862. T.1.
2. 1922. Crown overprint. Lithographed. 4 Mils with forged overprint, apparently used.
3. 1923. King Fuad issue. 50 Mils green. Fine used vertical pair, showing heavy retouch to the aureus snakes on the lower stamp.
4. King Fuad Birthday stamp. Copies showing that the portrait size varies whereas the measurements of the frame are always 18 mm. X  $25\frac{1}{2}$  mm.

The measurements of the portrait in the two copies shown were:-

	A.	B.
Height	24 mm.	$23\frac{1}{2}$ mm.
Shoulders	$8\frac{1}{2}$ mm.	$8\frac{5}{8}$ mm.
Head (width)	$3\frac{1}{2}$ mm.	$3\frac{1}{2}$ mm. full.
Waist (belt top)	10 mm.	10 mm. full.
Skirts of coat	7 mm.	$7\frac{1}{4}$ mm. nearly.

It will be noticed that the taller portrait is the narrower.

5. A letter from Cairo, 31-12-36, to London, bearing one copy of the 1936 10 Mil. Carmine (stamps for the use of the British Forces in Egypt). Taxed in Great Britain  $1\frac{1}{2}$  pence, being twice the difference between 13 Mils. and 10 Mils. postage rates, converted to pence. This, because the letter had not been posted in the Military Post-Box.

QUERY SECTION

ANSWERS

1. Some information has already been collected and it is hoped that more will be forthcoming before the issue of our next Quarterly Circular, in which some notes on the subject will appear.
2. At the Circle Meeting held on 12-3-1938, it was decided that the Arabic reading of the town name and date is:-  
SOHAG 10 NOV. 74. Postmark, Type V-5.

QUERIES

3. Colonel G. Grylls has shown a copy of the 5 Mils carmine 1888 issue of Egypt cancelled "SERVICE RURAL" 9-X-94, apparently from KODDA ?  
Can any Members throw any light on this cancellation?  
Where is KODDA ?

PHILATELIC CONGRESS AT CAMBRIDGE

and

NEXT MEETING OF THE CIRCLE

The Chairman will read a paper on "Study Circles" at the "University Arms Hotel" in the morning of Thursday June 23rd. At 8.45 p.m. on the same day our Chairman will preside at an Egypt Study Circle Meeting and it is hoped that as many Members of the Circle as possible will attend and bring with them material for discussion.

This Meeting at Cambridge will take the place of the London Meeting in June and Notices for the Meeting in September will be circulated later.

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NEW MEMBERS

- C. 40. A.S. ARNOLD. Counsellor at Law.  
Commonwealth Bank Buildings,  
Metuchen. N.J. U.S.A.
- C. 41. B. MCGOWAN.  
"Linwood",  
Dumfries. Scotland.

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