EGYPT STUDY CIRCLE

QUARTERLY CIRCULAR

<u>AUGUST 1942</u>

<u>NO. 13.</u>

THE QUARTERLY CIRCULAR.

Published by The Egypt Study Circle.

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Editor of the Quarterly Circular. F. S. Mumford. 174 Buxton Road. Stockport.

| VOL. II. No. 1. August 1942. Whole Series No. | VOL. | L. II. N | Vo. 1. | August 1942. | Whole Series No. 13. |
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EDITORIAL.

Since the appearance of the last number of the "Q.C." we have had an opportunity of discussing its future arrangement with members of the Circle and it has now been decided that, in future, twelve issues shall constitute a volume, the pages of which will be numbered consecutively throughout. A Table of Contents will appear upon the front cover of each number and a full Index to the Volume will be included with the last number.

For the benefit of those members who do not desire to have their Q.C.s bound and who compile their own indexes, the number of the part counted from the commencement of the Q.C. will also be given.

In indexing the Q.C. matter appearing therein will be classified as follows :-

1. The Posta Europea. (Study IV) 2. The Consular Posts. (Foreign P.O.s in Egypt.) Study II. 3. The Study of the First Issue. Arabesque designs S.G. 1 - 10. - Second Issue. Lithographed Sphinx - 11 - 25. 4. ____ 5. - Third Issue. ____ Typographed Sphinx - 26 - 71. 6. _ - Fourth Issue. De La Rue Sphinx, old currency. - 72 - 92. 7. - Fifth Issue. - - - , new currency. - 93 - 118. ----- - Sixth Issue. De La Rue Pictorials - 119 - 129. 8. - Seventh Issue. Harrison Pictorials - 130 - 142. 9. -10. -- Ninth Issue. Harrison Fouad Portraits - 156 - 167. 11. - Tenth Issue. 12. Survey Dept. Fouad Pictorials. - 192 - 204. _ ____ ____ 28 264-270. 13. ____ 14. - The Express Letter Stamps. 15. -16. - - The Air Mail Stamps. - - The Commemorative Issues. 17. 18. ____ -- The Postage Due Stamps. _ 19. - The Official Stamps. ____ The carriage of Official Mail. Interpostal Labels. (Study V.) 20. 21. (Study XII.) The Military Seals & Army Post. 22. The Suez Canal Zone. (Study III) 23. Postal Markings. (Study VI.) The Egyptian P.O.s in Turkey, The Red Sea Area & The Sudan. (Study I.) 24. 25. Forgeries. (Study X.)

| Issue. | Description. | Date. | State. | Comments. All these proofs are in black except where notified otherwise. |
|--------------------------------------|------------------|-----------------------------------|------------------------------|--|
| April 1879. | Oval Head Die | Stamped Oct. 1, 1878. | Stamped Before Hardening. | Lines in Shoulder run downwards. Measur- ments of oval 17 mm. horizontal X 13 mm. vertical. Circular white plate mark 21½ mm. approx. |
| Ditto. | 5 Paras. | Unmarked. | Unmarked. | Very clear and black. |
| Ditto. | 10 Paras. | Stamped Nov. 6 , 1878. | Stamped Before Hardening. | General Soft appearance. |
| Ditto. | 10 Paras. | Stamped Nov. 7 , 1878. | Stamped After Hardening. | General appearance harder and blacker then the last item. |
| Ditto. | 10 Paras. | Stamped Nov. 19 , 1878. | Stamped After Hardening. | General less black then the last item. |
| Ditto. | 5 Piastres. | Stamped Nov. 6 , 1878. | Stamped Before Hardening. | Fairly soft appearance, but black. |
| Ditto. | 5 Piastres. | Stamped Nov. 7 , 1878. | Stamped After Hardening. | General appearance less black then the last item. |
| 25 Jan. 1882. Or 15 Dec. 1884. | Oval Head Die | Stamped 17 Oct. 81. in red. | Unmarked. | Very similar to the first item in general ap- pearance but as the meatal is not cut away round the oval head die, it must be a new die. |
| Ditto. | 10 Paras. | Stamped Nov. 7 , 1878. | Unmarked. | Very clear. Probably a new die for the 1884 is- sue. See next item. |
| Ditto. | 5 Piastres. | Stamped Nov. 7 , 1878. | Unmarked. | Very clear. For 1884 issue. |

| Issue. | Description. | Date. | State. | Comments. All these proofs are in black except where notified otherwise. |
|--------------|--------------|-----------------------------------|------------------------------|--|
| 1 Jan. 1888. | 1 Mill. | Stamped 27 July 87. | Stamped Before Hardening. | Clear and black |
| Ditto. | 1 Mill. | Stamped 5 Aug 87. | Stamped After Striking. | Harder and less black than the last item. |
| Ditto. | 1 Mill. | Stamped 13 Jul 88. | Stamped After Striking. | Similar to last item but darker. The card bears Manuscript ED in black ink. |
| Ditto. | 5 Mills. | Stamped 22 Jul 87 | Stamped Before Hardening. | General soft appearance . |
| Ditto. | 10 Piastres. | Stamped 20 Oct. 88. | Stamped Before Hardening. | Good black print. |
| 1 Jan. 1892. | 3 Mills. | Stamped 1 May 91 in blue. | Stamped Before Hardening. | Very clear but soft. |
| Ditto. | 3 Mills. | Stamped 4 May 91 in blue. | Stamped After Hardening. | Harder and blacker than the last item. |
| 1902. | 3 Mills. | Stamped 11 May 91 in blue. | Stamped After Striking. | Slightly greyer than the last item. |
| Ditto. | 5 Mills. | Stamped 5 May 97 in blue. | Stamped Before Striking. | Die produced 5 years before issue of Stamp. |
| Ditto. | 5 Mills. | Stamped 12 Mar. 97 in blue. | Stamped After Striking. | Darker and clearer than the above. These 2 appear to be from the same die as the 5 Mil. 22 July 87 as they may be for a late print- ing of the 1888 issue, and not for the 1902 set. |

| Issue. | Description. | Date. | State. | Comments. All these proofs are in black except where notified otherwise. |
|----------------------------|------------------------|-----------------------------------|------------------------------|--|
| 1902. | 1 Mill. | Stamped 19 Sep 05. in blue. | Stamped After Striking. | Card bears Manuscript ED in black ink. |
| Ditto. | 1 Mill. | Stamped 27 Sep 05. in blue. | Stamped After Striking. | Card bears Manuscript ED in black ink. These two items are very similar in appearance and it is difficult to appreciate why two prints were taken, and apparently approved, at such a short interval |
| Ditto. | 5 Piastres. | Stamped 18 Aug 04. in blue. | Stamped After Striking. | Card bears Manuscript ED in black ink. |
| Ditto. | 2 Mills. | Stamped 9 Jul 07. in blue | Stamped Before Hardening. | Card bears following inscription on back in manuscript in black ink- "Rectified die- left hand side pyramid lightened ". |
| 1914. | 5 Mills. | Unmarked | Unmarked | |
| Postage due 1889. | 4 Mills. | Stamped 18 Oct. 88. | Stamped Before hardening. | Very black print. |
| Ditto. | 4 Mills. | Stamped 20 Oct. 88. | Stamped After hardening. | Card bears Manuscript HG in black ink. |
| Ditto. | 1 Piastre. | Stamped 16 Oct. 88. | Stamped Before hardening. | Very black print. |
| Ditto. | 1 Piastre. | Stamped 17 Oct. 88. | Stamped After hardening. | Card bears Manuscript HG in black ink. |
| Ditto. | 2 Piastres. | Stamped 12 Oct. 88. | Stamped Before hardening. | Very black print. |
| Ditto. | 2 Piastres. | Stamped 13 Oct. 88. | Stamped After hardening. | Card bears Manuscript HG in black. |
| Official Stamps 1892 | No Value expressed. | Stamped 31 Jul 89. | Stamped Before hardening. | Similar to Dr. Byam's example. |

| Issue. | Description. | Date. | State. | Comments. All these proofs are in black except where notified otherwise. | | |
|---|--|--|---|---|--|--|
| Official Stamps. 1892. | No Value expressed. | Stamped 1 Dec. 10. in blue. | Stamped After Striking. | Card bears manuscript HG in black. Prob- ably new print for chalk surface issue. | | |
| Official overprinted stamps 1 Feb. 1907. | Overprint only. | Stamped 26 Nov. 06. in blue. | Unmarked. | Similar to Dr. Byam's example. | | |
| FOUR OTHER INTERESTING ITEMS. April 1 Piastre. Stamped Original Artist's sketch on car 3 1/8 " X 3 13/16" stamp 90 1879. 7 Aug. 78 in rose-magenta, in actual size of stamp, with perforations 90 90 1879. 7 Aug. 78 on front 90 90 90 90 19 Sep. 78 on back. 01 90 90 90 90 90 19 Sep. 78 on back. 01 90 90 90 90 90 90 19 Sep. 78 on back. 01 90 | | | | | | |
| April 1879. | 1 Piastre. 2 Piastre. | Stamped 7 Aug. 78 on front 19 Sep. 78 on back. 17 Sep. 78 | Original Artist's sketch on car 31/8 " X 3 13/16" stamp in rose-magenta, in actual size of stamp, with perforations shewn in pencil. On front W H in manuscript in black & (see back). On back, in black manuscript " Copy the large diagrams for the Arabic /, inscriptions and the Arabic numbers: the bottom tablet is to contains / the words " Postes Egyptiennes " in Arabic, the / right hand tablet the value in Arabic. W H O Believed to be, but not very distinct. As above, but in orange-chestnut. Inscription on back reads | | | |
| | | on front 19 Sep. 78 on back | " Copy the large diagrams for the Arabic /, inscriptions and the Arabic numbers, as / the in-scriptions on this design are not correctly /drawn, the bottom tablet is to contain / the words " Postes Egyptiennes " in Arabic, the / right hand tablet the value in Arabic. W H O (see last item) | | | |
| <u>Issue of 1914</u> | Proofs in colour of the 1 and 4 Mills. These are very difficult to describe, but the following applies to both. | | | | | |
| | They are mounted on 4 thicknesses of card about $3\frac{1}{2}$ " X $3\frac{1}{4}$ ". 2 thicknesses of the card is cut out of the centre and the proof is mounted in the space so made which acts as a frame for each stamp which is below the general surface of the card. | | | | | |
| | In each case the Arabic inscription on the proof is not in accordance with the issued stamp. The correct inscription is white on black and of the correct size for the stamp is stuck on the card above and t the right of the mounted proof, and in addition the right hand Arabic inscription is drawn in ink on the card considerably enlarged. | | | | | |

By the side of the corrected stuck on Arabic inscription there is a :: in black, and at the top of each card in manuscript in black the following appears. ":: These characters to be followed ".

In the case of the 4 Mill attention is drawn to the fact that the Arabic 4 is wrongly drawn and an enlarged drawing appears twice, as well as one in the correct size in black on white paper, stuck on the card.

Each card is dated in manuscript in black in the top right hand corner 17th. Oct. 12. Below the stamps appears a purple rubber stamp and a signature in red ink, and a date in black manuscript, thus

> APPROVED N.C.Boston POSTMASTER GENERAL 23-11-12

The 1 M. appear to be on thin card or thick paper. - imperf with a smooth surface.

The 4 M. is on a very shiny blue-white card or thick paper and appears to be from an engraved die, which is seriously damaged across the middle pyramid - the line running across the right hand Arabic inscription to the border of the stamp.

These I think are die proofs of the first essay of the stamps concerned, and it is interesting to note from the date (17 Oct. 12) that work on this issue was well advanced nearly 2 years before the stamps were issued to the public.

Similar proofs in colour of 2 Mill. On the very shiny blue-white card or thick paper. All other notes as for the 1 Mill.

Since listing the above we have heard form Lt.-Colonel Danson informing us that he has another Die Proof of the 10 Para, 25 January 1882 or 15 December 1884. It is very clear and similar to the 10 Para listed above but is un-marked. The Quarterly Circular. Vol. II. NO. 1. Page 7.

INDEX OF THE PHIALTELIC LITERATURE OF EGYPT.

By A. S. Mackenzie-Low.

(continued from Q.C. No. XII)

PART V. - ADHESIVE STAMPS, GENERAL ISSUES.

NOTES ON THE OVERPRINTED EGYPTIAN STAMPS OF 1922. By Hubert F. Lowe. G. S. M. May 1930. pages 142-144. Illus.

EGYPT. THE CROWN OVERPRINTS. By A. S. Mackenzie-Low & Dr. W. Byam. P.J. of G.B. July & Aug. 1934. Reproduced in L.O.P. Nos. 25 & 26.

> <u>Comments</u>. This is the most comprehensive article on the stamps of this issue. The following is a summary of the contents :- general characteristic of the over print types with enlarged illustrations. The different settings of the overprints described and illustrated. Diagrams showing the make up of the stones. The number of stamps printed. The recorded overprint errors. A table of Control numbers. This article should be acquired.

<u>THE " CROWN " OVERPRINTS OF EGYPT</u>. By J. R. Raeburn. P.M. May 27th. 1938. illus. A paper read before the Scottish Philatelic Societies' Join meeting in Perth.

THE FIRST PORTRAIT ISSUE OF EGYPT. 1923 - 24. By Dr. W. Byam.

L. P. April 1942. Pages 63 - 68.

<u>Comments</u>. This is a paper read before the Royal Philatelic Society, London, on May 2nd. 1940. The following is a summary of the contents of this valuable article :-How the photogravure process was chosen for this issue. Essay and line engraved die proofs submitted by Perkins Bacon and Harrison & Sons described. How are the retouching was done. All the known retouches are fully described, some of which are recorded for the first time. Illustrations of 10 essays and proofs. An excellent collotype plate showing 18 retouches. This article should be acquired. The Quarterly Circular. Vol. II. NO. 1. Page 8.

PART VI. - AIR MAIL STAMPS.

This includes - Flown covers - The History and carriage of Air Mail.

THE AIR MAILS OF BRITISH AFRICA. 1925 - 1932.

Handbook Complied by N. C. Baldwin.

<u>Comments</u>. This handbook of 68 pages contains much valuable information regarding the various pioneer flights, and the regular Air Mail services from Egypt and the Sudan, with illustrations of the cachets, etc. There is a check list of covers with prices. This useful book should be acquired. Pub. at 2/6.

FIRST REGULAR POSTAL FLIGHTS FROM EGYPT. By Jean Boulad.

L.O.P. No. 25 & 35.

<u>Comments</u>. This is a chronological list of all the first regular Air Mail services from Egypt from Aug. 1921 to Nov. 1937 giving dates of departure and postal rates. Compiled from Postal information in the Egyptian Government Official Journal.

LA POSTE AERIENNE EN EGYPTE. By Jean Boulad.

L. O. P. Nos. 29, 30, 31, 33 and 34.

<u>Comments</u>. A useful chronicle of new issues, Air Mail services, Regulations, Rates, etc. A few illustrations.

DEVELOPMENT OF THE AIRPOST IN EGYPT. By A. S. Mackenzie-Low.

The Aero Field, June 1938 and L.O.P. No. 38. illus.

<u>Comments</u>. This is the summary of the principal flights from the commencement of aviation in Egypt. With illustration from Punch of 1843. the reproduction of this article in L. O. P. includes illustration of three historical covers.

AIR MAIL FLIGHTS OF EGYPT. By Ernest A. Kehr. Airpost Journal, Sept. & Oct. 1941.L.O.P. No. 25 & 35.

FIRST REGULAR POSTAL FLIGHTS FROM EGYPT. By Jean Boulad. L.O.P. No. 25 & 35. The Quarterly Circular. Vol. II. NO. 1. Page 9.

THE CAIRO BAGHDAD AIR POST. By P. E. Bjerregaard.

Airpost Journal, Feb. 1938.

NIGERIAN AIRMAILS - 1925 - 1936.

The Aero Field. Jan. - Feb. 1937.

<u>Comments</u>. The first Cairo - Kano and Kano - Cairo flights are fully described. Illustration of a flown cover and the various cachets used.

AIR MAILS TO AND FROM CYPRUS.

The Aero Field. JULY 1941.

<u>Comments</u>. Contains useful information on the various flights to and from Egypt with illustrations and maps.

<u>AGYPTENFAHRT DES LUFTSCHIFFES</u> " GRAF ZEPPELIN ". By Hermann E. Sieger-Sieger-Post Oct. 1931. pages 13 - 19.

<u>Comments</u>. This is a very useful article All the varieties of the overprint are described and the positions on the sheet are shown by a diagram. (In German.)

LES TIMBRES DU GRAF ZEPPELIN. By George Khayat.

L.O.P. NO.9. pp 2 - 10.

<u>Comments</u>. This article in French contains a good account of the mails carried, the stamps and postmarks - With illustrations.

ZEPPELIN STAMPS OF EGYPT. By T. Cathcart Stanbury. S. C. July 9th. 1938.

<u>HELIOPOLIS VIGNETTE.</u> By Walter J. Canrath. The Airpost Journal. March 1940, pp 111 - 112. illus.

> <u>Comments</u>. An interesting account of the first Air Meeting held at Heliopolis, Feb. 1910, and a description of the vignette used on the special picture postcards.

LES ETIQUETTES AEROPOSTALES D'EGYPTE. By Jean Boulard.

L.O.P. NO.24. pp 8 - 9.

<u>Comments</u>. This is the best list that has been complied of Air-Mail labels & souvenir flight labels. Fully illus. The Quarterly Circular. Vol. II. NO. 1. Page 10.

MARKET JOTTINGS.

By Dr. W. Byam.

The outstanding auction of the past quarter has been the sale of the F. Heneker collection of Egypt sold by H. R. Harmer on May 18th. The price realised for the proofs and essays were exceptionally good and I will, therefore, deal with them first. A set of the printing stone proofs for the 1866 issues fetched 23/- although several copies were thinned. Another lot contained three essays on coloured paper for the Penasson issue of 1872, together with four modern photogravure essays unlike any issued stamp and of doubtful status : this lot realised £6-0-0. A die proof in black on glazed card by De La Rue for the 10 paras of 1879 dated NOV 6 1878 bought £8., which is a distinct advance on previous prices. The De La Rue essay for the 2 paras Newspaper Stamp produced by surcharging a special printing in olive green of the 5 paras stamp of 1879 raised £13. the specimen was perforated and carried marginal paper above. This essay was figured and described in the Illustrated Philatelic Record, it is of considerable interest and rarity though it was never called into use owing, apparently, to the change of currency which necessitated the issue in millièmes. A set of the 1914 imperf. proofs overprinted Specimen sold for $\pounds 3-17-6$. in spite of the fact that no Egyptian specimen stamps were ever received at Geneva and that these overprints are nearly certainly bogus. Two single copies of the 1922 Crown overprints in red on the 1 mill. and 15 mill. fetched £7-15. The Perkins Bacon engraved die proof for an essay of the 1 mill. of 1923-24 showing the King in uniform, colour olive green, £6-10. Only four copies of this essay have so far been recorded - two in green and two in orange. Two other die proofs engraved for the 5 mill. Of the same issue but with the King in mufti, in blue and black £10.

The stamps also fetched good prices. A collection of the 1866 issue used and unused, comprising 43 stamps and one cover bearing a 1 PT. realised £10-10. in spite of the fact that only two copies, a 10 para perf. 12% and a 1 PT. - both mint - were the only well-centred specimens, which bears out my contention that desirable copies of this issue should always eb secured at prices up to three quarters catalogue value.

Of the 1867 issue the following prices were realised for mint blocks :- 20 para, block of six in deep blue green from Stone B \pounds 3-7-6, 10 para of the 1869 printing, four slightly off centre \pounds 4-15. 10 para pale mauve slightly stained, block of six, \pounds 7-15. which is surprising as the full catalogue for the singles is \pounds 4-10. It is noteworthy that there was no block of 1 PT. Or of higher values but a pair of 2 PT. bright blue, imperf. between, fetched \pounds 6-15. as usual this pair, though unused, was without gum which makes me think this variety is always from a sheet which never reached the post office. It is not included by Gibbons but Zeheri records it as No. 12c price 280PT. or roughly \pounds 2-16.

Of the third issue the only blocks were Boulac prints perf. 12% 10 paras grey lilac, two shades in block of four, and 2% PT. deep violet a block of six - all mint - fetched 36/- against full catalogue of singles 61/-, which shows how little this issue is appreciated and suggests that when more fully studied and written about these stamps will increase in value more rapidly than any other series of Egypt, for which reason they should be secured while the going is good. A well centred mint copy of the £1 of 1923 realised £2-2. A similar £1 of 1927 27/-Commemorative stamps in mint condition fetched prices which re difficult to justify in view of their doubtful philatelic status. The 1929 birthday set with The Quarterly Circular. Vol. II. NO. 1. Page 11.

centres in the wrong colours £5-15. 1934 Postal Union Congress set £8-10. a similar set of fourteen used £3-7-6. 1938 birthday £1. catalogues at £3-5 (Gibbons) and £8-17. (Zeheri, Dec. 1941) fetched £3-7-6. another copy of this stamp postmarked on an unaddressed cover £3-15. - which would seem to reduce such material to the level of more gambling counters.

Postage Dues and official produces nothing of interest but the 1935 Jubilee Seal was represented by a mint single at 45/-. A used vertical column of three, one stamp with a short U (off centre) \pounds 7-10. and a used single 25/-.

Egypt used abroad included several good entries : 1866 2 PT. From Gedda dated 9 MAG 67 at £10: 1867 1 PT. From Lagos dated 29 SET 1871 at 310-10-. - a big price as the stamp was badly off centre: a cover of pleasing appearance from Smirne to Volo franked with a pair of 20 para 1869 and a single 1 PT. 1867 date OTT 1871 £4, a slightly damaged cover from Rhodes bearing a horizontal pair of 20 para blue 1872 clearly postmarked and dated 6 LUG 79 went for £7-15, which was not an unduly high price in view of the extreme rarity of these covers and the fact that Hurt, when describing this piece in The Illustrated Philatelic Record No. 5, alluded to it as unique; a clear cover from Scio dated 28 LUG 1872 bearing two copies of 1 PT. 1872 £4. Singles off cover from Constantinople, Smyrna, Mytilene, Tripoli, etc. averaged 5/8 a copy for the thirty-seven stamps, which was high as several postmarks were at least doubtful.

Foreign Post Offices in Egypt were represented by 37 lots. Of the British Office at Alexandria the following are worth noting:- 1862 3d rose Plate 2 horizontal strip of four with slightly damaged wing margin $\pounds 2-17-6$. - an attractive piece with clear BOI of the first type : 1862 single 9d bistre BOI first type £3. - a rare stamp from Egypt. From Suez there was one cover bearing a pair of 1d. red, Plate 106 and 6d mauve, Plate 9 - this with two loose copies of the 4d. sage green, Plate 15 fetched £3-7-6. From the French Office the best thing was a cover from Alexandria to Italy dated 6 SEP 59 (before the Italian mail line began to function) bearing eleven copies of 80c and one copy of 20c 1853-61 cancelled 3704, some of which markings were unusually distinct, £5-10. A cover which offered something of a problem was franked with 1872 1 P.T. postmarked Alexandria and the French 80c of 1872/75 cancelled 5080 : why the Egyptian stamp if the letter was posted at Alexandria where the French office was obviously destined to handle the correspond ence; and why 1 P.T. when the ordinary rate withing town was 10 para ? A Frenchman seldom throws away money like that. A neat cover date 1864 bearing a Greek 80 lep. carmine cancelled 97 and four loose stamps realised 45/- which I though was cheap, as so often the Greek stamps were only cancelled at the port of arrival.

Of the Italian items, the highest price reached was £4-4. for a cover dated FEB 65 bearing four copies (one damaged) of 10c brown-buff and two copies 40c rose 1863 cancelled PIROSCAFI POSTALI ITALIANI, presumably a double weight letter as the normal rate at that time was 60c. A cover carrying a pair of 20c pale blue 1865/67, dated 13 GEN 1870 was of interest because it bore no PIROSCAFI marking which supports the contention advanced in our Interim Report on this office that the steamship marking passed out of use about this time: it sold for £4.

The only Russian piece was a cover from Alexandria dated 31.1.68. to Beyrout franked with a Russian Levant 20k of 1866/67 cancelled with the earlier type circular mark: $\pounds 4$ -4.

On February 9th . 1942, H. R. Harmer sold fifty-three lots of Egypt some of which are worth noting for comparison with the Heneker prices. 1866 10 para perf. $12\% \times 13$ a vertical pair and two singles on piece £2-7-6; 20 para same perf. Unused and well centred the same price (Zeheri £2); I P.T. Perf 12% unused block of four, stained in places, £5-15.

1867 1 P.T. Imperf. Block of three unused £3-5. this is probably an early colour trial on unwatermarked paper (most if not all used copies have forged postmarks); 2 P.T. Bright-blue imperf. mint £3. two unused copies of the 1 P.T. described as lake were really the brown colour trials perf 12%, they fetched £3.

Seven picture postcards of Heliopolis Aerodrome dated 1910, listed as Air mail realised £30. though they nearly certainly had never been in a plane.

1923-24 5 mill. imperf. colour trial form the actual printing surface, a vertical column of four with lower sheet margin $\pounds7-10$. (S.G. 160A $\pounds2-5$. for a single) - it is to be hoped that the true status of this variety will be better known in future. An engraved die proof for the 5 mill. In blue $\pounds5-5$. was virtually the price realised for a similar specimen in the Heneker sale. Three photogravure essays of the 50 mill. in blocks of four with large margins fetched $\pounds6-15$., $\pounds3-3$ and $\pounds3-3$ which can only mean that the withdrawal of the bidder who secured the first lot enabled professional buyers to secure the other two at a profitable level.

The rest of the sale provided nothing of special interest.

On April 20th. H. R. Harmer sold two copies of the 1932 100 mill. on £1 mint with margins for £3-3 and £3. (£3-10 in the Heneker sale when a used copy realised £3-12-6.)

The Douglas H. Baird collection disposed of by H. R. Harmer on April 13th. was a disappointing sale. It consisted mainly of singles arranged according to catalogue, a due proportion of forgeries and many philatelic covers- The bulk of the collection, 510 stamps, sold as a single lot for $\pounds24$.

Two Postal History Auctions by Robson Lowe deserve mention. The first on April 23rd. when a very early Waghorn was sold; this was dated Madras March 5th. 1836 and was endorsed " care of Mr. T. Waghorn, Suez." The second on May 28th. when Mackenzie-Low offered his Foreign Posts in Egypt material. The detailed description of these two sales must await our next number as these jottings have already exceeded the space our Editor will sanction.

NEW MEMBERS.

- F. 12. Colonel Richard Stead. "Wyche Barn ", Hale, Near Liverpool.
- F. 49. J. C. Besley, " Lewins ", Shurlock Row, Twyford, Berks.
- F. 50. J. Gilbert, 117 Shirely Avenue, Croydon, Surrey.

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MEETINGS OF THE CIRCLE.

THE TWENTY-EIGTH 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 July 18th. 1942 where there was an attendance of 12 including - C.G.Alterskye; D.B.Armstrong; W.Byam; G.Grylls; G.I.Hearn; W.C.Hindle; G.L.Hoffman; E.F.Hurt; A.S.Mackenzie-Low; F.S.Mumford; F.S.Sillitoe; and G.R.Worthignton-Wilmer.

The minutes of the previous meeting, held on July 22nd. 1939 were signed by the Chairman as being a correct record.

The Keeper of the Philatelic Record, Mr. A.S.Mackenzie-Low, gave his Report upon the progress made in the various Studies since the last meeting of the Circle, most of which has appeared in the pages of the Q.C. During the reading of this Report it was pointed out that the tracing of the Russian obliterator - 785 -, a photograph of which appeared in Q.C. No. VIII. was incorrectly drawn. The two ovals forming the figure 8 should have their longest diameters vertical instead of horizontal as appears in the photograph. It is hoped that another photograph will be produced when a clearer mark is forthcoming.

Mr. Mackenzie-Lowe reported that -

Mr. A.L.Pemberton was now on active service with the R.A.F. and therefore not in a position to continue his work on the Study of the British Post Office in Egypt.

Mr. P.L.Pemberton had written intimating that, owing to pressure of work, he was unable do anything further for the time being with his Study of the Greek Post Office in Egypt.

It was then decided that, as the Foreign P.O.s would come in the early part of the Circle's proposed book, Captain G. L. Hearn should, in collaboration with Mr. A. L. Pemberton, undertake the work on the British Post Office and that Messrs D. B. Armstrong and C. G. Alterskye should collaborate with Mr. P. L. Pemberton in working on the Greek Post Offices.

It was also agreed that Brigadier G. Grylls should undertake a new Study entitled " The Military Posts in Egypt ". This will be Study XII.

The Scheme for the Circle's proposed book, - "Egypt: its stamps and postal history ", was then discussed and it was decided to approach the American Philatelic Society with a view to its publication, first in serial form in the journal of that Society and later, when the work is complete, in book form. The Secretary was instructed to write to the American Philatelic Society on the subject and to report to the first meeting of the Circle when a reply has been received.

Mr. F. S. Mumford showed some photographs and photo-micrographs illustrating some of the uses to which photography can be put to aid philately. It was decided to open a new Study on the 1927 Fouad portrait issue of Egypt and this was entrusted to Mr. Mumford.

After tea Brigadier G. Grylls gave a display of the Military Post in Egypt and showed many war covers.