

EGYPT STUDY CIRCLE

THE QUARTERLY CIRCULAR

VOL. II. No. 7. (Whole Series No. 19.) June 1944.

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THE QUARTERLY CIRCULAR .

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June 1944.

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EDITORIAL.

On May 20th, after a very cheery luncheon at the Welbeck Palace Hotel, at which eight members sat down, what as virtually the 36th meeting of the Egypt Study Circle took place at 92 Harley Street, London. W.1. The following members attended:- The Chairman, Dr. W. Byam; Douglas Armstrong; J. C. Besly; J. H. E. Gilbert; G. Grylls; G.L.Hearn; G.A.Hoffman; R. Leslie; J.R. Leslie (guest); A. S. Mackenzie-Low; F. S. Mumford. F.S. Sillitoe; An attendance of 12.

The proceedings opened with a short ceremony of thanks to the Editor of the " Q.C. " from his philatelic friends who, as the Chairman said, wished to express their appreciation of the work he had done, believing that his efforts had kept alive the Circle during the war years, for without the Quarterly Circular nothing would have remained to link the members together. The token of this appreciation took the form of three F.G. De Luxe albums, suitably inscribed. When handing these to Mumford the Chairman said they were evidence of the affection with which the recipient was regarded by those for whom he had faithfully laboured and they carried with them the good wishes of the donors and the hope that their valued Hon. Secretary-Treasurer-Editor would watch over their Studies for many years to come

Mumford, when expressing his gratitude, said he had received in knowledge and friendship ample reward for his endeavours but he greatly appreciated the gift and the kindly thoughts which went with it.

During the remaining time before eta Besly discussed his article on the Third Issue which appeared in the last number of the " Q.C.". The outcome of this discussion will appear in these pages in due course but it may be stated that the most interesting conclusion arrived at was that the cliches use for the printings at Alexandria were not subsequently employed at Boulac. The evidence on which this finding is based was admirably displayed as the result of much painstaking study.

After tea attention was turned to a review of the Crown overprint errors and the Chairman gave an account of the remarks made at a meeting of the Royal Philatelic Society on May 11th 1944; the gist of which was that only four errors accepted by the Circle and enumerated in " Q.C. " No. 2 were undoubtedly genuine and of full Catalogue rank; all the others being described as " bogus varieties" . This opinion was not upheld but it was felt necessary to send the following statement to Zeheri for his guidance when preparing the next edition of his Catalogue :-

Crown Overprint Errors.

Members of the Circle who met at 92 Harley Street, London. W. 1. on May 20th, 1944 reconsidered the opinion recorded on page 9 of " Q.C. " No. 2 regarding the Crown Overprint errors. They confirmed their opinion regarding the FOUR errors which were then accepted as genuine but came to the conclusion that it was necessary to modify the statement regarding the

status of the remaining errors. These stamps, instead of being recorded as " Fraudulently produced " should be listed as " Varieties of Doubtful Status " as there is no evidence that the stamps concerned were ever sold for ordinary postal purposes through the post office. The overprints were in all cases produced from the genuine printing surfaces, it is proposed that they should appear in the Zeheri Catalogue as a footnote. At the same time attention should be drawn to the need for differentiation between the I Millième inverted overprint, Lithographed and the similar variety of the I Millième from the Typographed printing surface (single stereo). The former is an unused stamp, the later is from a sheet sold in the ordinary way at one of the Cairo Post offices. The inverted overprint on the 20 & 50 Millième required to be differentiated in the same fashion.

The Lithographed overprint being of doubtful status, the electrotyped overprint (London) is only known used and is undoubtedly genuine.

This statement will be brought to the notice of Messrs Stanley Gibbons, Ltd. and the leading philatelic auctioneers, in the hope that it will lead them to a realisation of the very different status of the two classes of these stamps; it is recognised however that no great progress will be made until the four type of overprint are adequately described in the standard catalogues.

NEW ISSUES.

The following Notes have been received from Mons. Jean Boulad by Airgraph letter, dated Ismailia, 19th March, 1944.

- " The current 20 mills. Farouk bleu has appeared on 1st. March 1944 in a new colour, "
" it is grey-mauve, a very ugly colour. The control number is A/38. A/40. A/42. "
" A/43.
" The Ferial 1943 is sold here from 12/6 to 15/-. The complete sheet with error "
" on stamp No. 98 varies from £60 to £70. "

Since the receipt of the above a further letter has been received from Mons. Boulad, franked with copies of the 5 mills. Air mil, red-brown, the 10 mills. Fouad commemorative and the 2 mills. Farouk. This letter states :-

- " This letter is franked with a 5 mills air mail issued 1st November, "
" 1943 and 10 mills. Issued today (28th April, 1944. Ed.) - and sold "
" today only - to commemorate the 8th anniversary of the death of the King "
" Fouad, the First Philatelist in Egypt. 500,000 copies have been printed "
" It is valid for franking until the 27th. May 1944. "
-

CURIOSITIES and NOVELTIES of EGYPT.

Some notes received from Jean Boulad.

Ismailia March 21st, 1943.

In September 1942 the Postal administration of Egypt began the sale of sheets of 60 stamps (instead of 100), with and without control numbers. These sheets of 60 stamps - 10 rows of 6 stamps - originated from sheets of 120 stamps divided in two by a vertical white gutter and were intended to form booklets.

The values sold in this form are 5 mill. 15 mills. & 20 mills. intended for booklets of 120 mills. (24 at 5 mills.) and others of 270 mills. (12 stamps at 5 mills., 6 at 15 and 6 at 20).

The Postal Administration having discontinued the issue of these booklets owing to alterations of the postal tariff and to economise the materials needed for them, decided to use sheets already printed by putting them on sale. Thus arose " Miniature Sheets " with the control figures on the left hand margin opposite the 55th stamp. The adjacent pane of 60 stamps bore no control number. As with all control numbers there are two different impressions for each value. The following are the control numbers found in this form :-

5 mills. A/40; 15 mills. A/38. A/40; 20 mills. A/40.

This is the first time sheets of stamps intended for making up booklets have been sold in this way. Sheets of 5 mills. With and without control numbers have been seen with the watermark reversed. While the sheets of the 5 mill. seem to be fairly common, those of 15 mills. have rapidly disappeared; and those of 20 mills. are more or less unfindable in the large towns, having apparently been sold in Upper Egypt.

2 MILLS. FAROUK COMPLETE IMPRESSION OF THE DESIGN ON THE GUMMED SIDE OF THE SHEETS.

A sheet of 100 stamps with the control number A/41 was sold at the Central Post Office at Part Said in January 1943, 40 unused single specimens were distributed among philatelists; the block of four with the control number was acquired by Jean Boulad; the rest of the sheet was sold to the public and can be considered lost to collectors.

REVERSED WATERMARKS.

Prints with reversed watermarks seem to be multiplying rapidly, in fact the management of the Postal Service has taken note of it and has sent a circular to all post offices asking the postmasters to send back for destruction all sheets which they find with such misprints.

The following are the values seen up to the present :-

1 Mill.	A/40
3 Mill.	A/38 A/39
5 Mill.	A/39.
	A/39 B/39
	A/40 (Sheet of 60 stamps)
Without control number	(Sheet of 60 stamps)
10 Mill.	A/39 A/40 A/41
15 Mill.	A/39
	A/39 A/40

5 Mills. NAVIGATION CONGRESS 1926.

The 49th stamp of the sheet has a deformed letter " Y " in the word EGYPT in the upper cartouche.

This variety naturally exists in the series overprinted PORT FUAD; probably 50 copies.

26 Mills EXPRESS POST.

On the 23rd February, 1943 the new stamp of the 26 mills for express letters was put on sale, it covers the complete postage charge on one letter of 30 grammes sent Express in Egypt. Similar in design and colours to the preceding one its inscription has been changed, in the cartouche on the left side the word Express is replaced by the words " EXPRESS POST " in two lines and in the opposite right hand cartouche the Arabic text is in two lines instead of one; the Control number A/42 is in the right hand side margin opposite the 50th stamp.

Ismailia, 19th August, 1943.

REVERSED WATERMARK. New Values encountered with this defect :-

6 Mil	A/42
20 Mil	A/38 A/40 A/42
40 Mil	A/39 B/39 A/41 A/42

6 Mil FAROUK, Watermark inverted.

In July 1943, 4 sheets of 100 stamps with the control number A/42 were discovered at the Central Post Office at Cairo, the arabic " FE " of the watermark reads from left to right whereas it should read from right to left, this mistake is due to the fact that the watermarked sheet was gummed on the front, whereas it should have been gummed on the back, in this way the printing was made on the back of the sheet.

26 Mil AERIAL POST.

Early in April 1943 a new value of 25 mils was put on sale for the Aerial Post similar in subject and in printing process to the 10 mil and 30 mil, colour violet brown, Control number A/40 in the right hand side margin opposite the 50th stamp. From the year of its printing it will be noted that this value was printed at the same time as the two other mentioned above.

There is a small variety constant in the 17th stamp of the sheets with a small control number, it consists of a small blot in the left hand part of the landscape appearing to form an extra cloud.

AIRGRAPHS.

This method of communication has been available to the public since the 15th May, 1942 for communications to Great Britain, it was extended on 7th March, 1943 to communications addressed to Canada and Newfoundland and the 1st August 1943 to communications addressed to Australia, New Zealand, Tonga Fiji, and the New Hebrides; the charge is uniform at 40 millièmes per communication.

POSTAL TARIFFS.

The following changes have been decided upon :-

International Service to date from 13th July, 1943.

Fixed price for Registration	32	instead of	30	millièmes
- - - Notice of reception	32	- -	30	-
- - - Forwarding or Change of address	54	- -	50	-
- - - Identity Card	56	- -	50	-
- - - Claims	32	- -	30	-

Inland Service including SUDAN to date from 12th August, 1942.

Ordinary letter for each 30 grammes	10	instead of	6	millièmes
Postcard	6	- -	4	-
Printed papers, samples etc for each 50 grams	4	- -	3	-
Fixed price for Registration	20	- -	15	-
- - - Express Delivery	30	- -	20	-
- - - Notice of Reception	20	- -	10	-
- - - Claims forwarding or Change of Address	20	- -	10	-

The new charges on " plis assures " Postal Orders, Parcels, Postal Money Orders and subsidiary charges are not given above.

Ismailia, November 28th, 1943.

5 plus 5 Mils FERAL, 1943.

The 17th November, 1943, fifth anniversary of the birth of H.R.H. The Princess Ferial, first child of His Majesty Farouk, was commemorated by the sale of the surplus stamps of this issue of 17th May, 1940 overprinted in green " 1943 " in European and Arabic by typography. The issue was almost entirely sold by subscription, all applications are divided by five, the exact number printed is not known, two different sources give it as 40,000 and 100,000 stamps.

An error of the date is found on the 96th stamp of each sheet, the Arabic date reads 1493 instead of 1943.

5 Mil AERIAL POST.

Early in November 1943 a new value of the 5 Mil for the aerial post was put on sale similar in subject and in printing process to the 10, 25, and 30 mil, colour a drab red brown, control number A/40 in the right hand side margin opposite the 50th stamp.

From the year of its control number it will be seen that this value was prepared at the same time as the three others mentioned above.

EGYPT. FIRST ISSUE: 1866. PERFORATION.

By Dr. W. Byam, O.B.E.

WHERE PERFORATED.

It has been stated by Dalwick and by Melville, apparently on the authority of Cantel Bey, that the stamps were delivered to the Egyptian Postal Authorities in unperforated sheets. Dalwick however records that one proof sheet of the I P.T., "perforated normally", was found at Genoa, in the old establishment of Fratelli Pellas, some time after the stamps were issued, suggesting that the stamps of this denomination were perforated in Italy; the perforating machine and the remainder of these stamps in imperforate condition being sent subsequently to Alexandria.

Dr. Herbert Munk, in Kohl's Briefmarken-Handbuch, gives it as his opinion that the question of where the stamps were perforated remains unsettled. He considers there is evidence that at least some of the sheets were perforated after arrival in Egypt but he states that a perforating machine as well as perforated sheets of the I P.T. were found at the establishment of the printers in Genoa. He affirms categorically that stamps gauging $12\frac{1}{2}$ X 15 were perforated only after the sheets were received in Alexandria. Of the imperforate stamps he believes there is evidence that some were undoubtedly issued to post offices in that condition and postally used. He states that these were mainly the higher values.

We have no evidence to add to the above, but perforation of the sheets was certainly carried out in careless fashion and only a small percentage of all stamps of this issue are well centred. Whole lines of perforation, both horizontal and vertical, were omitted on sheets of all values, while many examples of double lines of perforation are known. When gum was applied, subsequent to perforation, it often passed through the front of the stamps and spread outwards on to the surface of the design. Such workmanship suggests the efforts of an inexperienced firm, which may possibly have been Penasson of Alexandria, who had not hitherto produced an issue of stamps and who are not known to have submitted essays for the first issue of Egypt; but why should a firm, such as Fratelli Pellas, capable of turning out good work like the essays they submitted for the 1863 issue of Italy, have supplied stamps in an unfinished state when filling its first contract for a new and important client ?

GAUGES USED.

Two single-line machines were used from the outset. These gauged $12\frac{1}{2}$ and 13. The former was the one in general use and therefore $12\frac{1}{2}$ all round is regarded as the normal perforation for this issue, but early used stamps with compound perforations have been seen by us on entire letters.

The earliest example is the 10 para, perf $12\frac{1}{2}$ X 13 - a single copy on a local letter - obliterated with the rhombus but dated inside, Alexandria January 1st 1866. (Byam collection).

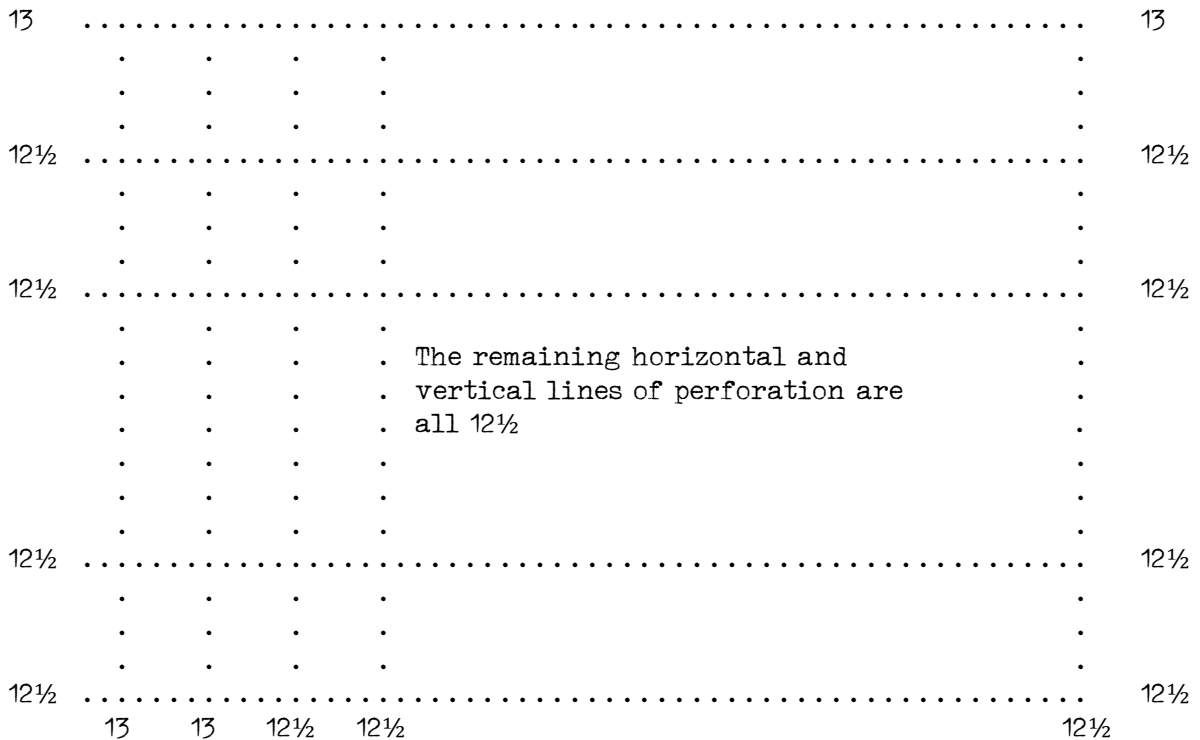
A third single-line machine, gauging 15, was used as early as 1866 to give compounds of $12\frac{1}{2}$ X 15. Stamps perforated in this way were never taken into general use and probably represent trials by Penasson for the stamps this firm was to produce as the second issue. The 10 para, the 2 and 5 P.T., and the 5 P.T. with error of superscription 1. P.T. are the only values known with this perforation. The 5 P.T., perforated thus, with error of superscriptions, undoubtedly did postal service and all the known postmarked copies are from Cairo. The copy in the Mackenzie-Low collection was dated 25.VI.66, that in the collection at Buckingham Palace 1.X.66. The 2 P.T. is in the pale yellow shade characteristic of the final printings; a used copy was found in the Hubert Lowe collection.

COMPOUND PERFORATION.

As the two machines gauging 12½ and 13 were sometimes used in conjunction, but apparently at haphazard, it is possible to find stamps in a single sheet perforated 12½ all round, 12½ X 13, 13 X 12½, 12½ X 13 X 12½ X 12½, 12½ X 12½ X 13 X 12½, and so on through all the possible combination. For this reason we consider these numerous compound perforations do not represent separate printings and therefore we group them all together as compounds of 12½ and 13.

In the same way and in the same sheet with the above compounds, stamps perforated 13 all round occur, but are undoubtedly rare; we have seen the 5, 10 and 20 para, and also to 10 P.T. but the remaining values probably exist.

In the Byam Collection is a mint block of 53 of the I P.T., which includes the following perforations :- 12½, 12½ X 13, 12½ X 12½ X 12½ X 13, 13 X 12½ X 12½ X 12½, 13 X 12½ X 12½ X 13. a diagram of part of this block which extends the whole breadth of the pane, will show how these compounds occurred.



The remaining horizontal and vertical lines of perforation are all 12½

This block includes stamps from Row 2 of the sheet but none from Row I. Had Row I been perforated 13 horizontally above, by no means an improbability a single example of perf 13 all round would have occurred as Stamp No. I on the sheet. In the same collection is included a used strip of three of the 10 para perforated 13 horizontally, both above and below, but vertically (from left to right) 12½ - 12½, 13 and 13. The three stamps are thus 13 X 12½, 13 X 13 X 13 X 12½, and 13 all round.

IMPERFORATE STAMPS.

So carelessly was perforation carried out that imperforate and partially perforate stamps of all values are not very rare. In this way arise the pairs " imperforate between " and the so called " perf. X imperf. " specimens. For the same reason the majority of stamps of this issue are extremely badly centred and

specimens showing the whole design are to be regarded as highly desirable additions to any collection.

CLASSIFICATION OF PERFORATIONS.

So that unnecessary complexity be avoided, we suggest that the following simple classification meets all philatelic requirements :-

- (a) 12½ (the normal perforation) : All normal values: (we doubt the existence of the 5 P.T. with error of superscription perforated 12½ all round).
- (b) 13 : All normal values;
- (c) Compounds of 12½ and 13 : All normal values;
- (d) Imperforate : All values, including the 5 P.T. with error of superscription:
- (e) Partially perforated : All values, including the 5 P.T. with error of superscription:
- (f) 12½ X 15 (trial perforation) : 10 para, 2 P.T., 5 P.T., and 5 P.T. with error of superscription 10 P.T.

Stamps bearing other gauges are either proofs, with trial perforations, or forgeries.

PROOFS.

Some of these were perforated, but we do not know why, when or where. We have seen perforated proofs of all denominations and among them the following gauges :-

11½, 11¾, 12, 12½, 13, 13½, 14 and compounds of the same: also 12½ X 15.

MARKINGS OF THE FRENCH OFFICES IN PORT SAID AND SUEZ.

By E. F. Hurt.

At the last meeting of the Egypt Study Circle, (These Notes were written some time ago but, unfortunately, we have no record of the date of the particular meeting referred to by Mr. Hurt. ED.) when discussing the possible expertisation of covers of the Suez Canal Company, some question was raised as to the French markings recorded on such covers and the date at which various types of markings were first known to have been brought into use or the earliest dates recorded for the usage of each of such.

At the request of the Study Circle I have made enquiries in France from Mons. Francois, the well known expert on French markings, and who, in conjunction with Mons. Langlois produced the handbook " Les Obliterations des Bureaux Francis a l'Etranger " in 1924.

Mons. Francois has very kindly given me the following information and the dates given by him are the result of enquiries by himself and Mons. Langlois from all the most noted collections in France over a number of years, so that where they

themselves do not possess in their own collections the earliest date they have gone as far as possible to obtain the necessary information in so far as it exists elsewhere.

The information which I am now giving will, therefore, be of use not only in regard to the Suez Canal Study but should also be taken as being supplementary to the study of the French postal markings in Egypt.

PORT SAID.

UNDATED MARKINGS.

(Up to date no dates have been recorded by the Study Circle for the three types of the 5129 obliterator of Part Said).

M. Francois gives as the earliest date in his own collection for Type A - 21/6/1866, but states that this marking is also recorded in 1867, as given in his handbook.

For Type B - M. Francois states that the date 1868 given in the handbook is the earliest date at which this type can be considered as having been put into use.

For Type C - M. Francois states that some time in 1870 is probably the actual date when this third type appeared, although his own earliest date in his collection is 21/5/71.

DATED MARKINGS.

The earliest date recorded for Type I is 28/3/1868 by Colonel Wilmer, which is two months earlier than M. Francois' earliest. M. Francois, however, considers that this marking was put into use in 1867, at the same time as Type A obliterator.

For Type II the earliest date recorded by the Egypt Study Circle, i.e. 10/7/77 by Mr Hinde, stands as M. Francois cannot record one as early.

For Type II-1. M. Francois states that this is a late type of marking and while he thinks it may have come into use late in 1893, his earliest recording is 1894. The Egypt Study Circle, however, has a date recoded of 23/10/81 by Member No. 3. I think it would be advisable for this particular cover to be re-examined to be sure that it really is this particular type.

For Type III, M. Francois records as the earliest date 26/5/86.

For Type III-1, M. Francois gives the earliest date as being 26/2/87.

(No dates are recorded for Types III or III-1 by the Egypt Study Circle.)

The earliest date for Type IV is 30/9/95 recorded by Mr. Hinde, and M. Francois says that he has not got an earlier date but that he has evidence that this marking came into use in 1894.

For Type IV-1 the earliest date recorded by the Egypt Study Circle is that of 4/8/96 by M. Boulad but M. Francois states that he has evidence that this marking came into use in 1894.

For Type V the earliest date recorded is that by the Egypt Study Circle of 9/6/06 (Mr. Hinde) which is 4 months earlier than the earliest date recorded by M. Francois. M. Francois adds- " The dates which I have given in my present letter are often later than those which are given in the handbook, which I prepared with

M. Langlois, but the latter were a collation of the earliest dates known in all collections to which we had access at the time when the handbook was written. "

As far as the Suez Canal covers are concerned, the most important points are undoubtedly the dates of the three obliterations - Types A, B and C.

STUDY III. THE POSTAL HISTORY OF THE SUEZ CANAL ZONE.

By Lt.-Col G.R.Worthington Wilmer & Jean Boulad.

(Continued from "Q.C." Vol. II. Page 77.)

PART IV.

STAMPS AND FORGERIES OF THE SUEZ CANAL COMPANY.

Much has been written about the Stamps of the Suez Canal Company, and at the end of this Part a Bibliography will be found for those sufficiently interested.

We will therefore confine ourselves to a few facts about these stamps.

There appears to be no record of their production from official sources.

The stamps made their first appearance about the 8th of July, 1868, before the opening of the Canal, which did not take place until November, 1869. The earliest known Suez Canal Postmark on an Egyptian stamp is 7 July 1868. (as recorded by the Egypt Study Circle).

These stamps were not only for the use of officials of the company constructing the Canal, but for the general public. They were withdrawn when the Egyptian Government took control of the Postal Service in the Isthmus, 16th August 1868.

The name of the artist responsible for the design is not recorded. All values were produced by lithography. There is no information as to what became of the printing stones.

The following were the quantities sent out from France to Egypt on the 25th June, 1868.

1 C.	1,200 stamps.	(10 sheets)
5 C.	30,600 stamps.	(253 sheets)
20 C.	104,200 stamps.	(868 sheets)
40 C.	10,800 stamps.	(90 sheets)

A further consignment of 12,000 (100 sheets) of the 1 C. was sent out later. X

X Authority for the above is a letter from the Secretary of the Suez Canal Company, Canal Maritimes de Suez, 5th October, 1935, No. 28548.

The printers were Maison Chézaud Aîné, 3 Rue des Capucins, Paris. This firm has been out of business for some years.

POSTAL RATES.

It is possible that the 20 C. Blue, for the overland route between Port Said and Suez, and vice versa, was the only known value actually issued and put into circulation. Supplies were sent to Port Said, Kantara, Ismailia, Shaluf and Suez.

Although the 20 C. was the first stamp issued, the 1 C. Black was the first to be reported in the Philatelic Journals and be illustrated in London, Berlin, Paris and Brussels.

de Lesseps himself is stated, by the above authority, to have definitely said that the 20 C. was the only value officially ordered, but that the printers on their own responsibility prepared the other values, namely 1 C., 5 C., and 40 C. As, however, apparently genuine covers bearing used specimens of the other values have since come to light, it is possible this statement by de Lesseps may not be correct, although it is difficult to account for the necessity for all four values.

MATERIAL AVAILABLE FOR STUDY.

At the time of writing we know of four complete sheets of the 20 C. value of the genuine printing, two of which are in the possession of members of the Circle. We believe that there is a complete sheet of the 5 C. in America in the possession of Eugene Klein (Philadelphia). Blocks of four are rare of any value other than the 20 C. Used copies of the 20 C. appear occasionally, a few are known on covers.

These stamps were never reprinted, but forgeries are numerous and of great variety, as will be seen later.

CHIEF CHARACTERISTICS OF THE GENUINE DESIGN.

Exhaust aft the Funnel.

Pennant on Fore and Main and Ensign on Mizzen.

Hand before the main.

Space between DE SUEZ and POSTES is shaded by oblique lines crossing vertical ones (cross hatching).

Distinct fracture below the middle of the bowsprit, possibly the remains of a bobstay.

NOTE THE ORNAMENTAL DESIGN BETWEEN THE OVALS (See below).

The word POSTES varies considerably, possibly having been touched up by hand on the majority of the units.

PRODUCTION.

The stamps were in sheets of 120 (12 X 10), lithographed on wove paper of medium thickness.

The gum is " Thickish ", and tinted, with a distinct tendency to " creasing ".

The measurements of the genuine stamps are :

25 mm X 19.5 mm / 19.75 mm.

The stamps are imperforate without watermark.

Later in the report will be found a description by Stephane Strowsky of a block of 18 of the 40 C. With a paper-maker's watermark.

PRINTING STONES.

20 Centimes.

We can find no recurrent Types on the 20 C. sheets to show that the stone was built up from a group of transfers and there is no doubt the printing surface was laid down as 120 separate transfers from the die.

1, 5 and 40 Centimes.

The printing stones for these values were produced from the die of the 20 C. as follows. Four transfers from this die were laid down for each value in groups (2 X 2) to form three original stones. From these the numerals and letters (20 C.) were wiped out, thus leaving four blank circles on each design. This erasure was imperfect in many instances and traces of the 20 C were left on various units. These marks are particularly noticeable on the 5 C. stamps and almost absent from the 40 C.

SUBSIDIARY STONES FOR THESE THREE VALUES.

For each denomination a subsidiary stone was prepared by drawing the appropriate value design, 1 C., 5 C., and 40 C., four times in such positions as would enable the new values to be inserted in the blank circles on the three original stones by a single set of lithographic transfer to each of the four units separately.

The fact that the values for the four circles on each unit were laid down together on a single subsidiary stone, and not from four separate stones or as four transfers from a single die, is deduced from a careful measurement of the distances, vertical, horizontal and diagonal, between the various numerals which are found to be identical on all stamps of the same value examined, no matter from which of the four Types they arose. (Photographic enlargements have been employed for this purpose.)

PREPARATION OF THE PRINTING STONES.

After the insertion of the new numerals by value, by transfers from the respective subsidiary stones, thirty transfers from each of the three original stones were taken and laid down to form printing stones of 120 units for each value (12 X 10). This statement regarding the size of the sheets is confirmed by existence of one known sheet of 5 C., by the number of stamps recorded as having been despatched from Paris to Egypt; and by the existence of complete sheets of forgeries (Forgery No. 1.) of the 40 C. value, these forgeries having been produced from the genuine printing surface.

TOUCHING UP.

In addition to the work on the original stones, further touching up of the printing stone from the 5 C., was apparently carried out before printings began, in order to remove further disfiguring fragments of the 20 C. In consequence different units on the sheet, though of the same Type, often exhibit such varying amounts of the 20 C. design as to suggest that they may have been printed from different stones. The smallness of the total printing of this value is virtually sufficient to exclude this possibility but the point will be settled when the complete sheet of 5 C. (Klein collection) is available for study.

THE TYPES OF THE ORIGINALS.

There are four Types to the 1 C. Black.
There are four Types to the 5 C. Green.
There are four Types to the 40 C. Red.
There are no Types to the 20 C. Blue.

The sheet of 20 C. will be found described stamp by stamp, after careful study and after comparison of three different sheets.

The correct order of Types of the 1 C. and 5 C. cannot at present be definitely stated as no corner blocks of these stamps have yet been seen. A left side marginal block of the 5 C. exists in the Worthington-Wilmer collection and in addition we are informed of a complete sheet in U.S.A. (Klein collection).

In the case of the 40 C. considerable material in blocks is available and this when compared with a sheet of Forgery No. 1 of this value, in which the Types of the genuine stamps are reproduced, gives us the correct order of the four types in groups of four (2 X 2).

1 CENTIME, BLACK.

- TYPE 1. "D" of DE has a diagonal stroke in the centre near the feet. 1st "A" of CANAL has the right hand stroke bent. "E" of MARITIME has a nick above the centre stroke, and the top right hand serif has a white flaw.
- TYPE 2. "S" of SUEZ is joined to the frame above. "C" of CANAL has a spot or dash of colour 1mm. to the left. 2nd "A" of CANAL, indent on each side of the letter in the oval above.
- TYPE 3. "C" of CANAL, top left there is a spot off. "E" of MARITIME, the top of the centre serif is joined to the downstroke of the letter by a diagonal line.
- TYPE 4. "E" of DE, Line from the oval above to the right of E. "L" of CANAL, line off lower part of upright.

Theses have been checked on several specimens, but the order of the types on the original stone is uncertain owing to lack of material.

5 CENTIMES, GREEN.

- TYPE 1. "A", 2nd A of CANAL, there is a bulge, "L" in the same word, colour spot on the lower serif. Right hand Ray 1 o'clock, colour blob adhering to the line of the oval. "D" of DE left of, there is a spot of colour.
- TYPE 2. N.W. circle an unusual amount of the original value (20c) visible. "N" of CANAL, there is a faint diagonal line which crosses through the line of the oval.
- TYPE 3. "R" of MARITIME two faint lines from the oval to the R. "E" same word, colour spot on the middle serif of the E.

5 CENTIMES, (continued).

TYPE 4. Left Ray 1 o'clock, colour spot off. S.W. Circle, curved line off 5.

These types have been confirmed, in several specimens; the order of the setting of the type is doubtful, owing to lack of material.

40 CENTIMES, RED.

TYPE 1. N.W. Circle, line off 4. N.E. Circle, projection top of 4.

TYPE 2. Colour spot between Jib and Forestays. N.E. Circle, Colour spot off 0.

TYPE 3. N.E. Circle, line off 4. S.E. Circle, line joins 4 and 0.

TYPE 4. S.E. Circle, thick line of colour joins 4 and 0.

The exact position of the four type is in the above order. This printing stone was made up from a block of four transfers, repeated 30 times.

This deduction, astonishing as it may seem, comes from a study of the "Dangerous Forgery", as the types (see later) of this No. 1. Forgery correspond with the four types of genuine 40 C. as set out above.

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Mr. Besly is especially interested in the Third Issue of Egypt and will be very pleased to hear from any member having this material. Will members kindly look through their collections to see if they possess any lithographed copies.
