

EGYPT STUDY CIRCLE

THE QUARTERLY CIRCULAR

Volume VII No. 6

Whole Series No. 78

JUNE 1971

FUTURE MEETINGS

31st July 1971 ... The Third Issue
2nd October 1971 ... 1937/44 Farouk Issue
4th December 1971 .. The Second Issue

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THE QUARTERLY CIRCULAR

Published by the Egypt Study Circle

Vol. VII No. 6

Whole Series No. 78

June 1971

Officers

President	Lt. Col. J.R. Danson, M.C., T.D., F.R.P.S.L. Dry Close, Grasmere, Westmoreland.
Chairman	J.H.E. Gilbert, F.R.P.S.L., R.D.P. Morven, West Close, Middleton-on-Sea, Bognor Regis, Sussex.
Keeper of the Philatelic Record	Charles W. Minett, Fairmead, 3, Bridgefield Road, Whitstable, Kent
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Editor of the Quarterly Circular	R.A.G. Potter, 12, Middle Row, (High Street) Maidstone, Kent.

REPORT of the 135th Meeting of the Egypt Study Circle held at the offices of the British Philatelic Association, London, on the 29th May 1971.

Our Chairman, John Gilbert, presided and was supported by some eight members, apologies being received from those unable to attend.

The meeting commenced with the study of the 5 milliemes value of the 1927-36 King Fuad Issue. Charles Minett discussed the various trials and tribulations experienced by the printers in producing what is one of the earliest examples of stamps printed by the photogravure process, (compare the 1923 issue, also photogravure by Harrison and Sons). He illustrated his points with the help of John Revell's study of this value, and the pages from that collection. (This study is fully reported in the Quarterly Circular of May 1966 - Volume VI Nos.6/7 - Whole Series 66/67 - page 64-71).

John Revell was to be congratulated on his treatment of this study, so admirably showing how a comparatively common stamp can form the basis of an extremely interesting subject - albeit many of the individual items included in the collection prove to be very scarce.

At this point the Chairman reverted to the general business of the Circle.

It was announced that at the South African International Exhibition 1971 John Gilbert had been awarded a gold medal, and John Hobbs a silver medal. Both were congratulated on their success.

Great news had been received regarding Zeheri catalogue - a new edition is to be prepared and suggestions invited for its improvement. Of those put forward at the meeting "Posta Europea", "The Government Seals", and "Postal Stationery" were three large sections that it was felt should be worthy of inclusion. Irregularities in the numbering was also noted in some instances, and the opportunity should be taken of amending same. (Since this report was written several members have written to our Chairman or the Keeper of the Record, with their suggestions - it might help if all such were collated and sent to the Editor in Egypt from the "Circle" rather than from individuals ... Editor).

It was confirmed that our Chairman was to act as the Circle's representative at Congress (Norwich - June 15th to 18th 1971).

"Jim" Benians reported that a start in the reporting of the Circle meetings in the Philatelic Press had been made.

The Honorary Secretary expressed concern regarding notices of meetings - these had not recently been sent out for each meeting, and he felt that a notice covering several forthcoming meetings was not the true answer. The current increased postal charges was a problem. It was resolved that notice of future meetings should be included in the format of the Quarterly Circular. (As with this issue, on the front "dust cover"-Editor).

Several letters and news from overseas members had been received. It was intimated that Lars Alund (Sweden) hoped to attend the July meeting and that he had more information regarding the "Hotel" postmarks.

Other matters of a business nature were dealt with, and the study of the 1927/36 issue then resumed.

The higher values of the issue were discussed and it became apparent that these could be treated in like manner to the 5 milliemes - are there any volunteers for further studies on the other denominations?

The meeting concluded with members "recent acquisitions" and queries, and items shown included covers bearing stamps of the issue that had been under discussion. A copy of the menu of a Mess Dinner held at the "Mena House" Conference World War II aroused interest, as also did a World War I A.I.F. registered cover.

The next meeting is to be held on Saturday the 31st July 1971 at the offices of the British Philatelic Association, 446 Strand, London W.C.2. at 2.30 p.m. when the main topic for discussion will be the Third Issue. Members as usual will be meeting for lunch (or sandwiches) at the Griffin in Villiers Street and all will be welcome there prior to 2.30 p.m.

F. W. Benians. ESC No.123

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Our grateful thanks are recorded to Peter Feltus, and to the President of the Philatelic Society of Egypt and member Ibrahim Chafter, for their sendings of the back numbers of the Quarterly Circular, and of L'Orient Philatelique, respectively.

The Editor's file of these publications has improved exceedingly as a result of this generosity - and not only has the Circle benefited with the additions to the Editor's reference volumes, but many individual members will receive back numbers for which they have been waiting in some cases for a considerable time. Many thanks again.

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NOTES FROM THE KEEPER OF THE PHILATELIC RECORD

Charles W. Minett, E.S.C. No. 77

The Pigeon Posts

It is perhaps well enough known that during the 12th and 13th centuries the Mameluke Sultans maintained an efficient postal service throughout Egypt and Syria by means of carrier pigeons although it is extremely doubtful whether any missives remain to-day.

However, the other evening, when in a somewhat romantic mood I picked up an old volume of the Arabian Nights' Entertainments and, opening it at random, found the tale of "Ganem, Son to Abou Ayoub".

It would seem that, even in those far off days, nothing was new for, in the 8th century, the famous caliph Haroun al Rashid wrote a letter, so Schahriar was told by the beautiful Scheherazade, to his cousin Mohammed Zinebi, King of Syria, and - here I quote: "The caliph having written this letter, sent it away by an express, ordering him to make all possible speed, and to take pigeons along with him, that he might the sooner hear what had been done by Mohammed Zinebi. The pigeons of Baghdad have this peculiar quality that, though they be carried never so far, they return to Baghdad as soon as they are turned loose, especially when they have young ones. A letter rolled up is made fast under their wing and by that means, advice is speedily received from such places as it is desired. The caliph's courier travelled night and day, as his master's impatience required; and being come to Damascus, went directly to King Zinebi's palace, who sat upon his throne to receive the caliph's letter..... (Here follows a harrowing tale.....)

In the meantime King Zinebi had let fly a pigeon to give Haroun al Raschid an account of his exact obedience."

(Of course, our Editor may blue-pencil all of this on the grounds of frivolity!).

Postal Markings

The question of the cancellation "?NETA" posed in the Quarterly Circular Vol. VII Nos.3/4 page 47 has been answered from Sweden. Our good friend Lars Alund has written to say he has a 2 piastres 1902 with a clear postmark of "SINETA" dated 2 XI 15, and he enclosed a photostatic copy.

This is a small place with a station about four miles south of Aga

on the light railway running northwards from Benha to Mansura, east of the Rosetta Branch of the Nile (map reference 30 54 N 31 16 E).

A 1:250 000 survey map of the Delta shows it as SANITA and the United States Gazetteer No. 45 gives SINEITA.

The "King of Egypt and the Soudan" Overprints.

Although Zeheri does not list any misplacements of this overprint, either with or without bars, I have discovered a vertical used pair of the 40 milliemes s.a.c. to the left - the final upstroke of the 'nun' is missing but the right hand edges of the stamps show the upstrokes from the adjoining stamps. The pair have the normal three-bar additional overprint, Z212.

Whilst it may be considered that this misplacement is too minor to warrant catalogue status, it mayhap that other collectors will find something more worthy.

Ship Mails

The following extracts have been made from the "Postal Administration Report 1934":

Page 14. "The Steamer 'El-Nil' of the Misr Navigation Company has been utilised for the transport of mails and parcels despatched from and in transit through Egypt for Europe and America. The foreign Postal Administrations have also been invited to utilise the same steamer. It is, however, regretted that the Company has since suspended the service of the said steamer."

Page 15. "Owing to the modification of the itinerary of the Turkish Mail Line steamers from Alexandria in the period of January to May, thus leaving above port every two weeks instead of weekly, this Administration had to resume the conveyance of mails for Switzerland, Germany and in transit, by the Peninsular and Oriental British steamers in the week where no departure of Turkish steamer is available. In June, the latter steamers resumed their weekly departures and the utilization of the P and O steamers ceased, as the Turkish steamers are more advantageous."

Zeheri catalogues

We are most grateful to Peter Feltus (E.S.C. No. 114) for presenting to our Record bound copies of the 6th 7th and 8th Editions of Zeheri's catalogue which, together with Nos. 1 3 and 5 which we have already, means that we only lack a bound copy of the 4th Edition.

We have been able to provide Peter with one or two early sale catalogues including the "Palace" one.

THE ROLL OF DISTINGUISHED PHILATELISTS

The election by the Philatelic Congress of Great Britain of our Chairman, John H. E. Gilbert (E.S.C. No. 50), to the Roll of Distinguished Philatelists reminds us that, although the total roll of the Egypt Study Circle is still well short of 160, he is the eleventh of our members - past and present - to receive this so very high honour.

For the record, the other names are:-

Dr. Emilio Diena (ESC No. 18)	Harrogate	1921
P. L. Pemberton (ESC No. 35)	"	"
Bertram McGowan (ESC No. 41)	Bath	1922
Dr. William Byam, O.B.E. (ESC No. 3)	Southport	1949
John K. Sidebottom, O.B.E., (ESC No. 52)	"	"
Ibrahim Chaftar (ESC No. 42)	Tunbridge Wells	1950
A. S. Mackenzie-Low (ESC No. 2)	Southampton	1952
H. R. Holmes (ESC No. 55)	Whitley Bay	1953
Dr. Gordon Ward (ESC No. 59)	"	"
Douglas B. Armstrong (ESC No. 8)	Torquay	1959

During the mid-1950's it was not unusual to have three signatories present at our meetings.

Charles W. Minett
(ESC No. 77).

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R S A 10 - CAPE TOWN - AWARDS

Congratulations to our Chairman on his success at the South Africa International Exhibition have already been expressed in this issue, but it should be added for the record that he obtained also a Special Prize with his Gold Award. Congratulations too to Mrs. Hilda Jeidel who was awarded a Gold Medal with Special Prize for Republic of South Africa.

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Some Further Notes on the Hotel Postmarks

by

Lars Alund (E.S.C. No. 105)

After the comprehensive studies by Monsieur Jean Boulad d'Humieres published in "L'Orient Philatelique" No. 114 page 370, and in the Italian Magazine "Il Collezionista", of the hotel postmarks of Egypt one would think that there is not much perhaps to add. But all the same new items are found, giving us more information especially about the period of use of the various types. Comparing the lists, compiled by Mnsr. Boulad, with items in my collection I have found the following postmarks with earlier dates than previously recorded:-

<u>Continental Hotel</u> , Cairo	Type 7 (= earlier Type 6)	20 DE 33
<u>Mena House Hotel</u> , near Cairo		7 III 92
<u>Shepherd's Hotel</u> , Cairo	Type 3	.0 II 93
	Type 5	28 XII 95 (!)
<u>San Stefano Hotel</u> , Alexandria	Type 3	6 IX 99

The following postmark is also dated later than previously recorded:-

<u>Cook's Post Office</u>	Type 8	5 I 17
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Furthermore, two new sub-types can be added - both from Shepherd's Hotel. The first is almost identical with type I but instead of having a Roman numeral as I, II, III etc. after the "T" following the date, there is an ordinary figure as 1, 2 etc.. My single copy of this new sub-type (which could be classified under the existing numbering as type 1 - 2) bears the date .. MA 92 T 2.

In this connection I may mention that I have found a second copy of the sub-type 1 - 1 with no "T" after the date - previously described in "L'Orient Philatelique" No. 117 page 604. This second copy is postmarked 3 MR 98 X, the same Roman figure by the way as on my first copy.

The second new sub-type from Shepherd's Hotel is similar to Type 3 but has no "T" after the date. My copy of this postmark (which might be called type 3-1) is dated 5 II 98 VIII.

I am sure that further studies will adjust the present list of dates and I wish everyone good hunting.

In this connection I want to thank my dear friends and members of the Egypt Study Circle - Professor Peter Smith and Mr. E.L.G. MacArthur for their kind assistance in finding material for my collection.

Note: The Keeper of the Philatelic Record informs me that Jim Benians (E.S.C. No. 123) has shown him a

Cook's Post Office Type 5 with the early date O2 III 39.

also that Jim has seen:

Savoy Hotel/Assouan Type 2 in blue with late date 31 I 14

Editor.

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1872 20 para - 1 piastre

The study undertaken by Mr. J.H.E. Gilbert, Prof. Peter A.S. Smith and Mr. E.L.G. MacArthur to plate the 1872 20 para is well advanced and all that is needed now, to connect large made up multiples, are some lucky pairs. Will members please report any multiples, no matter how humble, to Mr. E.L.G. Mac Arthur.

A study has also now been started to plate the 1872 1 piastre and in this instance we would be gratified if you would advise Mr. J.H.E. Gilbert or Professor Peter A.S. Smith whether you have any multiples so that your possession can be recorded.

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1921-22 Issue - 2 milliemes Unrecorded Varieties

by

G. T. Houston (E.S.C. No. 83)

Two major varieties occur in the 2 milliemes value of the pictorial stamps printed by Harrisons and issued during 1921-22, which are worthy of catalogue status - at least in Zeheri. These two varieties appear se-tenant on stamps Nos. 69 and 70 of the top pane (of 100 stamps in sheet consisting of two panes), of the 2 milliemes green Control A/20 (the only known control for this value), and of the 2 milliemes vermilion Control B/21. The latter for the time being as I am unable, to date, to inspect any complete or part sheets with Controls B/22 or B/23.

Description of varieties:

- No. 69 ... "Dropped Dots" of the Arabic letter "Yeh" at top left.
- No. 70 ... "Egypt" redrawn in very irregular lettering and in utter contrast to the second word "Postage".

In 1940 I discovered the "Dropped Dots" variety on the vermilion and in 1950 the "Egypt redrawn" variety on the same value. At the time their positions in the pane or the pane itself were unknown to me, even after the acquisition of a block of 40 (10 x 4) with the "O.H.E.M.S." overprint, without margins. However, this block contained the two varieties se-tenant as stamps nos. 9 and 10 of an unidentified horizontal row of 10 stamps. In 1952 I was fortunate in buying a double-pane of the 2 milliemes vermilion Control B/21 of which 30 stamps were missing (5 x 6) in the top right corner of the top pane. Luckily the seventh horizontal row was intact and contained the se-tenant varieties. This then established the positions in the sheet as Nos. 69 and 70 respectively.

Careful examination of the part top pane revealed at least 10 stamps showing damage to the printing plate. Damage must have been very extensive in stereos 69 and 70 as only these two were re-drawn - and badly at that. The other affected stereos (49, 58, 59, 60, 68, 77, 78, 79) still show the damage to the printing surface, some only with minor retouching. It remains obscure why the printers did not substitute the badly damaged stereos.

Description of the damage affecting ten stereos and of corrections carried out on the stereos:

- No. 49 ... Broken outer frame line at bottom.
- 58 ... Two lines of shading broken at top left.
White dot on second Arabic letter "M" at right middle.
- 59 ... Retouched outer frame line at top right.
White dots in panel at right middle.
- 60 ... White dots in panel at right bottom.
Irregular shading of neck and bust.
Broken corner over "E" of "Postage".
- 68 ... Dent in loop of figure "2" at bottom left.
- 69 ... Most of the top left corner of this stereo has been redrawn -

The two dots of the letter "Yeh" are much lower than normal.

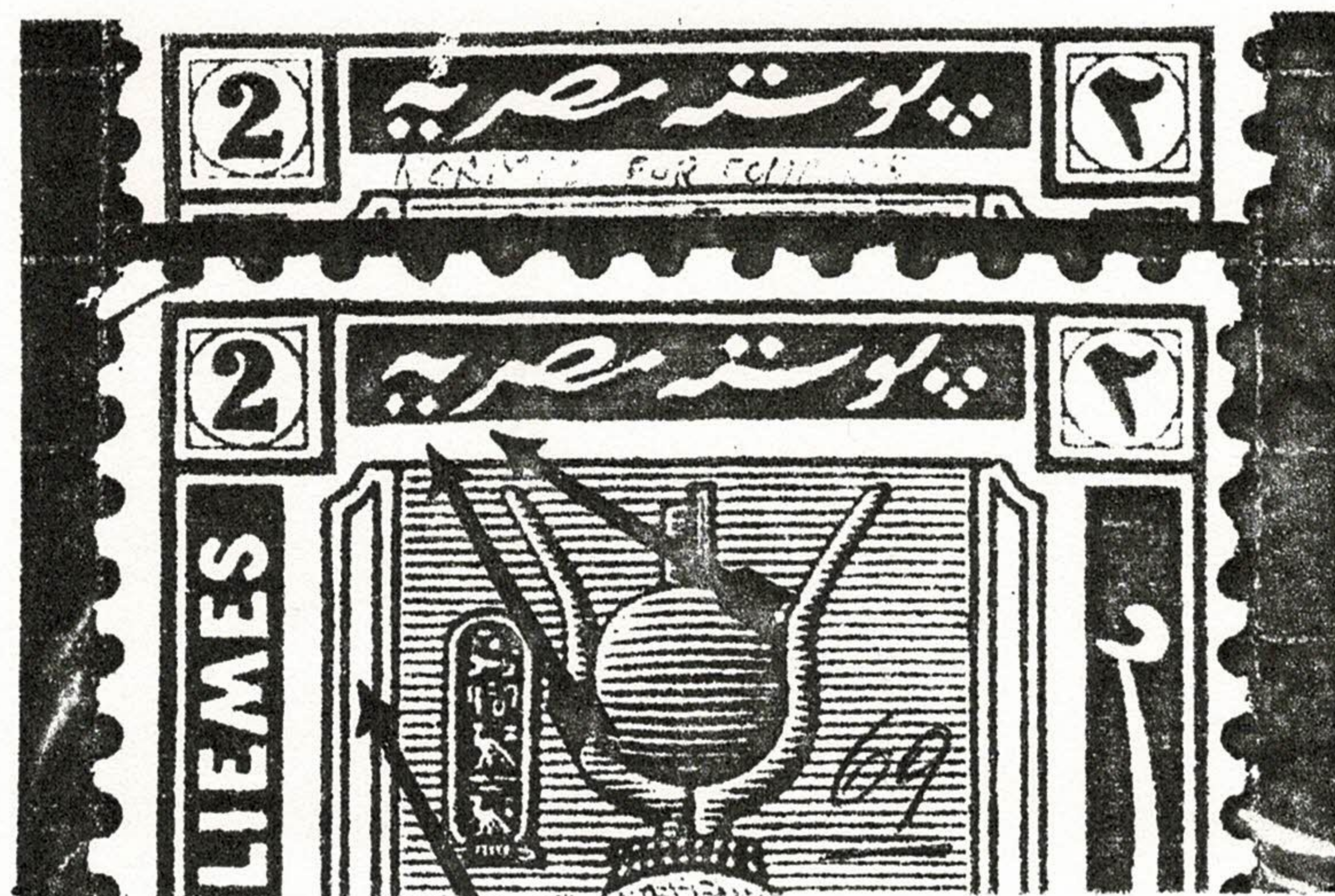
The top part of the letter "Yeh" is thinner than normal.

The letter "Reh" of "Masriyeh" is shaped in such manner as to reach the lower level of the two dropped dots (as in the normal lettering but necessarily lower than normal).

The outer frame line at top is of uneven thickness.
The vertical double frame line under "LIEMES" of "MILLIEMES" is of uneven thickness.

The figure "2" at top left is shaped other than normal.

NOT retouched - small white dot at right middle.



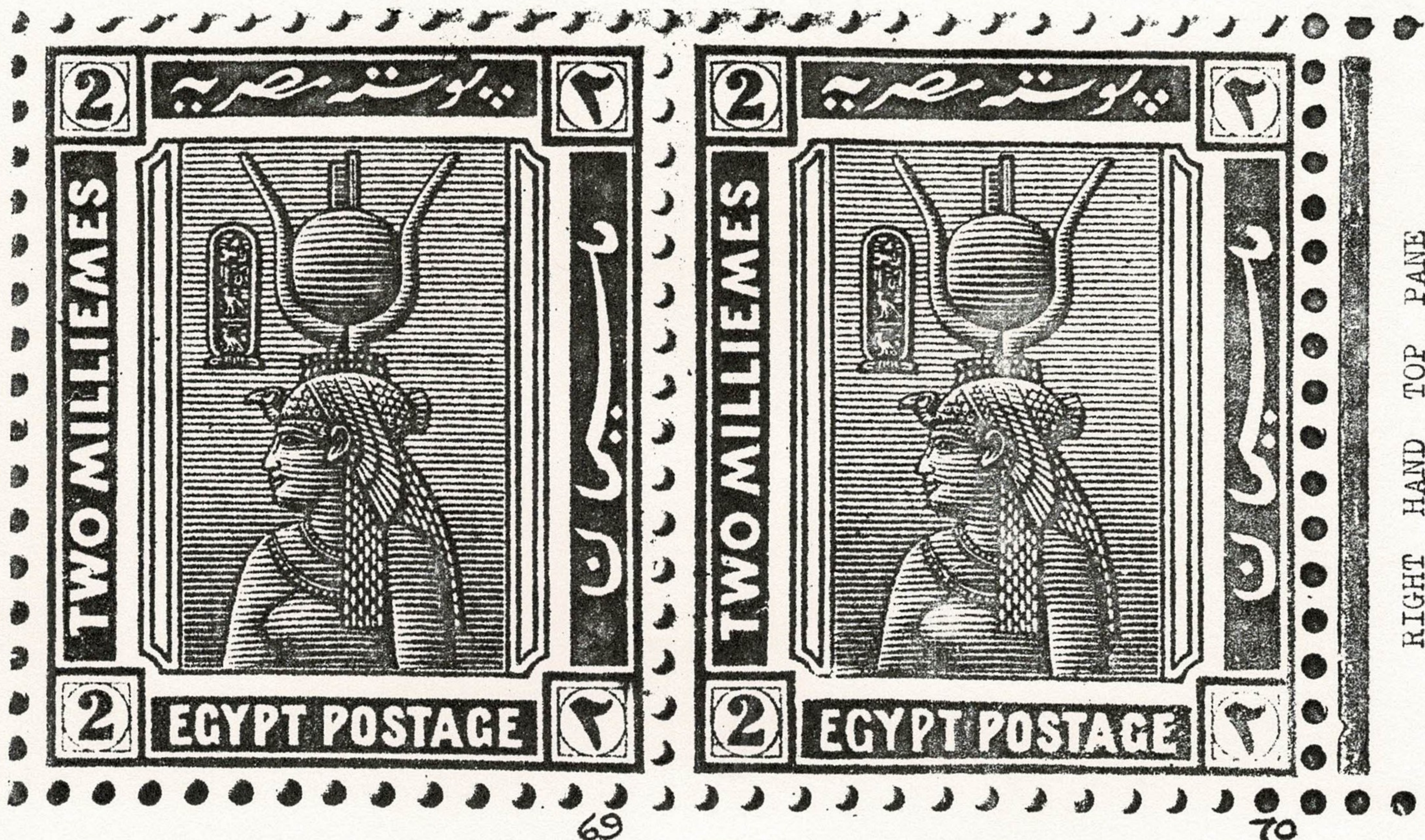
70 ... Most of the bottom left corner of this stereo has been redrawn:-

"EGYPT" redrawn in very irregular lettering.
 Coloured back-ground to "EGYPT" irregular and much larger than normal.

Bottom frame line of uneven thickness.

Damaged or broken corner at bottom left of central design.

Bottom frame line of central design curving upwards at left towards the "broken corner".



RIGHT HAND TOP PANE

THE TWO REDDRAWN STEREOS - SE-TENANT

- 77 ... Retouch to panel at top right (above the three dots).
- 78 ... Damaged corner at bottom right.
- 79 ... Scratch to left of hieroglyphics.

Incidentally, the se-tenant varieties were unwittingly illustrated in the Journal of the Philatelic Society of Egypt (L'Orient Philatelique) No. 78 of April 1952, page 355 - only to show the "broken corner" variety without giving position in the pane, and ignoring completely the important feature of the partly redrawn printing surface. Both of the varieties described above may be easily recognised in the "L'Orient Philatelique" illustration.

Until quite recently I assumed that the major plate damage causing the two principal varieties had occurred after the printing of the 2 milliemes green and that perhaps a new plate was prepared for the printing of the 2 milliemes vermilion.

Then in 1968, twenty-eight years after its first discovery on the vermilion, I finally discovered and acquired a 2 milliemes green with the dropped dots variety. It is a used copy with the c.d.s. of the "Rural Service" dated "24-SE-21" - in its correct period of currency.

It would appear that existence of this stamp proves that:-

- 1) The same printing plate was used for the green and vermilion 2 milliemes on the multiple star and crescent watermarked paper, by Harrison and Sons.
- 2) The major plate damage occurred prior to or during printing of the 1921 issue with the changed watermark (i.e. Multiple Star and Crescent).
- 3) Although the 2 milliemes green was printed from a plate with Control No. A/20, the same plate was used for the printing of the 2 milliemes vermilion but with the A/20 erased and Control B/21 substituted.

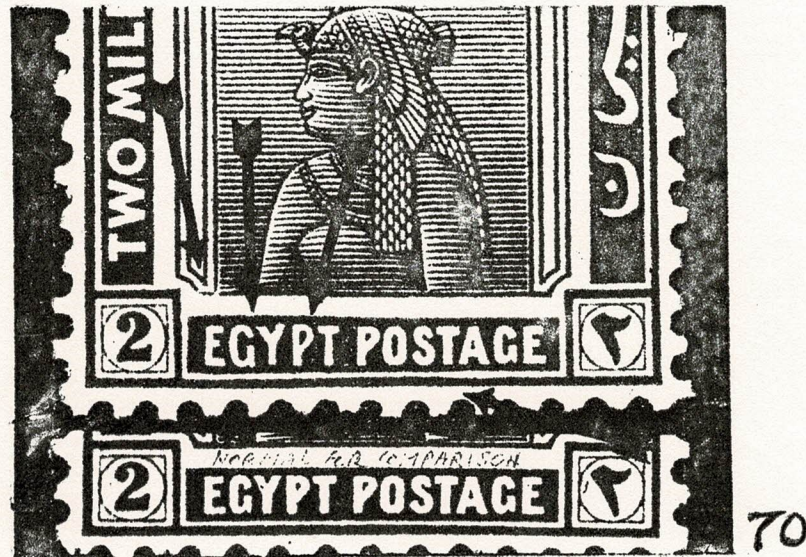
Naturally now the search is on for the "Egypt Redrawn" variety on the 2 milliemes green - with considerably more enthusiasm because it must exist.

Over the years I have either been permitted to inspect, or bought, only:-

12 copies "Egypt Redrawn" on the vermilion.
1 copy "Dropped Dots" on the green.
14 copies "Dropped Dots" on the vermilion.

While the principal varieties appear identical on the 12 and 15 copies respectively, it is interesting to note a gradual deterioration of the "broken corner" variety on stamp in the position 70. Of the 15 copies seen I could form roughly four groups (4-3-3-5) showing different stages

of the worsening of the break. The difference is quite prominent, the initial break being shown in the enlarged photograph reproduced here, whereas the final and largest stage of the break appears (somewhat too clearly? - Editor) in the illustration in "L' Orient Philatelique" Volume VII No. 78 page 355 as mentioned before, as well as on the right hand stamp of the pair illustrated on page 92.



It will be very hard to fix dates for the stages of deterioration as the 2 millimes vermilion had a currency of less than twelve months before all stocks were overprinted with the crown overprint in October 1922. Also the varieties themselves (positions 69 and 70) seem to be very scarce - how much rarer would dated copies be?

A reasonable explanation of the progressive deterioration may be as follows:-

Both principal varieties appear on the stereos as depressions surrounded by a solid wall of metal in relief (printing the solid coloured back-ground of the lettering). Pressure would hardly affect these solid metal areas. However, the initially slightly broken and weakened corner was not repaired or strengthened and, therefore, the repeated impact during printing would have affected any damaged part of the stereo which was not properly anchored.

Plating the Second Issue

The following is a very fair request received from Peter R. Feltus, E.S.C. No. 114 (4970 Desmond Street, Oakland, CAL., 94618, U.S.A.), and is reproduced as received:-

For several years I have been working upon plating the 1 piastre stamp of the second postal issue of Egypt. I have recently decided that it might also be possible to plate the 10 and 20 paras values, though of course I haven't got but a few blocks of these stamps. To plate these, then, I shall need photographs of as many blocks as I can possibly get. I therefore solicit your aid.

Below you will find a list of all the multiples (blocks of four or more) that have sold at Auctions, the catalogues of which I have - if you know of others please let me know. I would like to know who has each of these blocks now. If you own some of them, I would like clear photographs of them, or to borrow them so that I might have them photographed myself. Many thanks.

	<u>Size of block</u>	<u>Auction and Date</u>	<u>Lot No.</u>	<u>Present owner</u>
10 pa.	2x2	Mackenzie-Low/ Harmer, London/ 1929	128	
1867	2x2	Hinde/ Robson Lowe/October 1957	159	
	2x2	Cicurel/Harmer, London/21 June 1961	586	
	2x2	" " "	587	
	2x2	Byam/Robson Lowe/24 October 1961	369	
	2x3	" " "	370*	
	2x3	" " "	371	
	2x2	" " "	372	
	2x2	" " "	847*	
	2x2	Burrus/Robson Lowe/30 November 1962	1672	
	4x4	Cotta-Kehr/Robson Lowe/27 January 1965	178*	R. Jeidel
	2x2	" " "	179*	
	2x2	" " "	180*	
	2x2	Robson Lowe/21 April 1965	843*	
	2x2	Robson Lowe/23 November 1965	22	
	2x2	" " "	26	P.R. Feltus
	3x2	Abbott/Harmer, London/18 June 1968	271	
	2x2	Fox/Robson Lowe/28 January 1969	549*	
	2x2	" " "	550	
10 par.	7x1	Palace/Harmer, Cairo/12-18 Febry.1954	151	
1869	8x2	" " "	152	J. Kassab **
	5x7	" " "	153	A. Mishrick

	<u>Size of block</u>	<u>Auction and Date</u>	<u>Lot No.</u>	<u>Present Owner</u>
10 pa.	5x3	Hinde/Robson Lowe/October 1957	166	lot
1869	5x2	" " "	167	became Cicurel 602
cont.	2x2	Cicurel/Harmer, London/21 June 1961	601	
	5x2	" " "	602	
	5x7	Byam/Robson Lowe/24 October 1961	432*	T. Kuyas
	10x1	" " "	433	T. Kuyas (106/170)
	3x2	" " "	433	T. Kuyas (1/10)
	3x2	" " "	434	
	3x2	" " "	435	
	2x2	" " "	436	George Lee
	2x2 (2)	" " "	437	George Lee
	2x2 (2)	" " "	438	P.A.S. Smith
	5x1	" " "	440	George Lee
	2x2 (2)	" " "	440	George Lee
	4x1	" " "	441	
	2x2	Burrus/Robson Lowe/30 November 1962	1673*	P.R. Feltus
	2x2	Cotta-Kehr/Robson Lowe/27 Jany 1965	204*	
	2x2	Robson Lowe 21 April 1965	487*	
	2x2	Abbott/Harmer, London/18 June 1968	283	
	5x1	Fox/Robson Lowe/28 January 1969	561*	
	2x2	Robson Lowe/23 September 1969	465	P.A.S. Smith
20 par.	8x4	Mackenzie-Low/Harmer, London/1929	136	
1867	2x2	Harmer, New York/20 October 1953	497	
	4x2	Palace/Harmer Cairo/12-18 Feby 1954	102*	
	2x2	Cicurel/Harmer, London/21 June 1961	588	
	5x2	" " "	588	
	3x2	Byam/Robson Lowe, 24 October 1961	379	
	2x2	" " "	379	
	2x3	" " "	380	
	2x2	Cotta-Kehr/Robson Lowe/27 Jany 1965	182*	
	2x2	Robson Lowe/23 November 1965	26	G. Gougas
	2x2 (2)	Abbott/Harmer, London/18 June 1968	273	
20 par.	5x1	Palace/Harmer, Cairo/12-18 Feby 1954	151	
1869	5x2	" " "	157	A. Mishrick
	8x4	" " "	158	
	5x2	" " "	159	P.R. Feltus
	5x2	" " "	159	
	5x4	" " "	160	**
	3x2	Hinde/Robson Lowe/October 1957	161	
	2x2	Cicurel/Harmer, London/21 June 1961	601	

	<u>Size of block</u>	<u>Auction and Date</u>	<u>Lot No.</u>	<u>Owner</u>
20 par.	5x4	Byam/Robson Lowe/24 October 1961	444*	George Lee
1869	4x5+	" " "	445*	George Lee
cont.	2x2	" " "	446	
	5x1	" " "	447	
	2x2	" " "	449	George Lee
	2x2	Burrus/Robson Lowe/30 November 1962	1674*	
	2x2	Cotta-Kehr/Robson Lowe/27 January 1965	211*	
	3x2	Robson Lowe/29 July 1965	1698	
	2x2	Abbott/Harmer, London/18 June 1968	283	
	5x2	Fox/Robson Lowe/28 January 1969	582	
1 PT.	2x2	Harmer, New York/20 October 1953	499	
	2x2	Fox/Robson Lowe/28 January 1969	551*	
	Misc.	Harmer, London/4 March 1969	306	

* beside the lot number denotes that the block is illustrated in the Auction Catalogue.

** denotes that Peter Feltus has a photograph of the block.

You will notice that I did not list any pairs or strips of three. Such things, though too numerous to list and keep track of, may prove to be useful. Therefore, if you have any, please let me know - and if you have photographs made of larger multiples and can include the pairs and strips in the same shots, please do so.

I would prefer high contrast actual size black and white photographs to anything else and, if the negatives do not yet exist, I would prefer that they be 4" x 5" or thereabouts, for best possible quality. I shall be glad to pay any expenses incurred in having photography done, and I would in all cases like to have the negatives if possible. If you choose to send me the stamps so that I can have the photography done here, which I would like best, I shall return them promptly by registered mail and reimburse you for the postage you used to mail them to me.

I shall be most grateful for whatever assistance you can give me, and I will help you to the extent that I can with your philatelic projects.