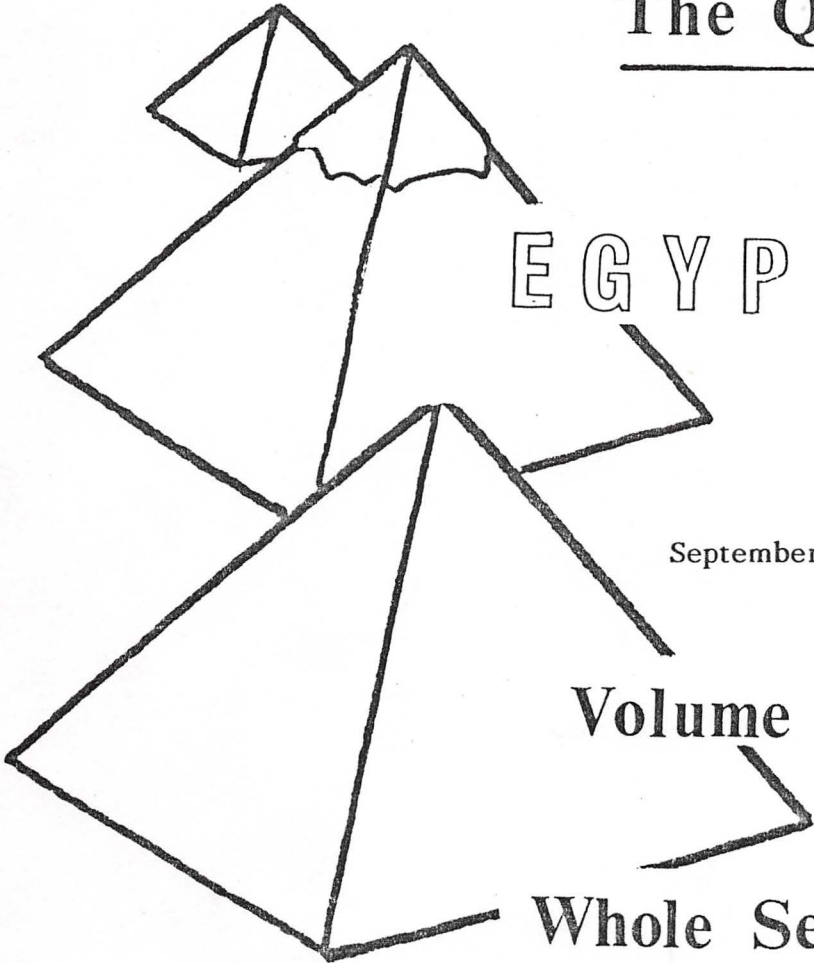


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# The Quarterly Circular

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## EGYPT STUDY CIRCLE

September & December Quarters 1987

Volume xiii No. 3 & 4

Whole Series No. 143 & 144

VENUE FOR MEETINGS: THE VICTORY CLUB, SEYMOUR STREET  
MARBLE ARCH, LONDON

### MEETINGS DETAILS

1988

- |                  |  |
|------------------|--|
| March 6 (Sunday) | ( Venue: Union Jack Club, Waterloo )<br>- 10 Sheets per Member         |
| May 7            | Committee Room, Victory Club<br>- Postal Stationery Cards (final part) |
| July 9           | Allenby Room, Victory Club<br>- Rural Post                             |
| Sept 3           | Committee Room, Victory Club<br>- Express Mail                         |
| Nov 12           | Allenby Room, Victory Club<br>- Boy King                               |

Next Auction in by 15th April

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EGYPT STUDY CIRCLE  
O F F I C E R S

as at 31 December 1987

=====

PRESIDENT	Professor Peter A S Smith Department of Chemistry, University of Michigan, Ann Arbor, Mich 48109, USA
CHAIRMAN	Mr John Sears 496 Uxbridge Road, Pinner, Middlesex HA5 4SL
DEPUTY CHAIRMAN	Mr J S Horesh London
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CHAIRMAN of the EXPERT COMMITTEE	Mr Peter Andrews Birmingham
LIBRARIAN	Mr D John Davis 3 Prospect Place, Beechen Cliff, Bath, Avon
KEEPER of the PHILATELIC RECORD	Mr Dennis H Clarke 49 Tregelles Road, Hoddesdon, Herts

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## EGYPT STUDY CIRCLE - THE QUARTERLY CIRCULAR

Volume XIII Numbers 3 & 4 - September and December Quarters 1987  
- Whole Series 143 and 144

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E d i t o r . . .

This issue of The QC closes 1987 and brings us near to being up to date. It is hoped and intended to get back our journal back to appearing on a three-monthly basis : that, as I pointed out when I undertook this position, is the reason for its title. We believe that members, old and new, will prefer a more frequently-appearing journal to a heavier one, punctuated with six-month intervals.

The quality of content of this journal is well maintained, as a glance at the contents above will show, and our grateful thanks are due to the subscribers whose stalwart efforts make this journal possible.

Apologies, as always, to those whose contributions have had to be held over until out next edition.

- 9th February 1988

## CHAIRMAN'S REVIEW

1987 has proved to have been a successful year for the Circle, the meetings at the Victory Club have been well attended and members from overseas have been welcomed, especially at the meetings coinciding with the London Stamp Shows. The subjects for discussion and study were deliberately chosen to encourage the active participation of those attending, for example 2 meetings were devoted to Postal Stationery and 2 others to Civil Censorship 1939/45 and the individual input was most gratifying. It is hoped to publish the findings in the QC, or as separate monographs, and members not able to attend meetings will be able to examine draft copies before publication if they feel they can make a contribution. The programme for 1988 has been arranged along similar lines.

I mentioned above that meetings were 'well attended', the average gathering is 12 and although this compares well with the past we should naturally welcome more. Any member in London on a meeting day should come along, we make every effort to put newcomers at their ease.

This issue of the QC will almost bring us up to date and I know you will all want me to congratulate the Editor on its continuing high standard. The Circle owes a great debt to John Grimmer who has borne the double burden of a heavy work load and indifferent health during 1987, thankfully he is quietly confident that this year will be an easier one.

I should now comment on the Accounts produced by our Hon Sec/Treasurer for 1987. At first glance they appear to tell rather a sorry story, but when one takes into consideration the monies which are due from the recent Auction the excess of Expenditure is much reduced. The situation has been aggravated by the non-payment of Subscriptions and obviously QC's have been sent out to people who no longer wish to be considered members. You will recall that the Auction Catalogue was marked according to payment or non-payment of dues, and apart from this members who were in arrears were separately advised. A number of names will have to be deleted and this should reflect in our finances this year.

However the situation will have to be carefully monitored and it may be that we shall have to consider an increase in the Subscription for 1989. Members will of course be kept informed.

Finally I should like to record our thanks and appreciation for the manner in which Ted Grey carries out his duties, and also to Ken Davis for his very valuable assistance in the printing of the QC text pages.

John Sears  
Chairman

THE SECRETARY'S PAGE

NEW MEMBERS

Welcome to the following New Members :-

- ESC 349 Mr Norman Clowes, Cardiff  
 ESC 350 Mr Daniel Pelak, P.O. Box 9337, Wyoming 49509, USA  
 ESC 351 Mr U Baratz, Engineers, P.O. Box 2191, Haifa 31021, Israel  
 ESC 352 Mr Stephen P Kaplan, P.O. Box 14001, Public Square Station, Cleveland,  
 OH 44114, USA  
 ESC 353 Mr John Slingsby, 3 Alexandra Road, Bristol BS8 2DD  
 ESC 354 Mr Eric Mason, 8 Polworth Crescent, Brunton Park, Gosforth, Newcastle-  
 upon-Tyne NE3 2EE

CLARIFICATION of ADDRESS

- ESC 338 Mr Sayid Fattouh, 16 Mahmoud Bassiouny Street, Galerie Rabab, Cairo,  
 Egypt

DEATHS OF MEMBERS

The Secretary records with great regret the deaths of the following members :-

- ESC 42 Ibrahim Chaftar Bey of Alexandria, Egypt: on 28th September 1987  
 ESC 169 Mr Isaac Holly, of Paris, France:

SECRETARY'S REPORT

Many thanks to all members who have paid in full the 1987 subs and also a big "thank-you" for the very prompt 1988 subs.

My arrangement this year will be to include with the Q.C.'s your membership cards and eliminate separate posting expense. We may have to increase the 1989 subs to £10. We lose money on bank charges in cheques drawn abroad: one solution would be for a central point in U.S.A. to collect dues from the U.S. and Canada, and make a single payment to me each quarter. A letter to U.S.A. cost an average of £0.45p so you can see the major problem I am facing with subs of an equivalent of only about £4.06, due to the falling dollar. So, alas, your subscription as from this issue will need to be \$ 18.00.

The Q.C. will aim to be published in regular smaller size of about 22 pages and we will try our utmost to avoid the jumbo-sized, long-awaited Q.C.'s for 1988. As always, the Q.C. issues will be filled with vital information for your studies.

May I wish, to all members, every best wish for 1988

- Ted Grey, Secretary / Treasurer, Egypt Study Circle.

the Secretary . . .

EGYPT STUDY CIRCLE - ACCOUNTS, YEAR TO 31 DECEMBER 1987		RESULTS
EXPENDITURE	REVENUE ACCOUNT =====	for the YEAR
Hire of Rooms		106.50
Printing the QC		650.86
Postage (partly included in printing costs)		237.54
Subscription to British Philatelic Federation		15.00
		-----
TOTAL COSTS FOR THE 12 MONTHS		1,009.90
		=====
- - - - -		
INCOME		
Subscriptions received for 1987		852.00
Expert Committee fees		Nil
Auction commission, less expenses		Nil
		-----
TOTAL INCOME FOR THE 12 MONTHS		852.00
		=====
DEFICIT OF INCOME FOR THE YEAR 1987 :		( 157.90)
		=====
- - - - -		
BALANCE SHEET AS AT 31 DECEMBER 1987		
=====		
ASSETS		
Circle Library	(valued at	£ nil)
Circle Records	(valued at	£ nil)
Cash at bank		361.49
		-----
TOTAL ASSETS		361.49
		=====
LIABILITIES		
Members, for 1988 subscriptions received in advance		78.44
Cost of The QC, Sept/Dec 1987 quarters, not yet incurred	Estimated:	362.00
		-----
TOTAL LIABILITIES		440.44
		=====
DEFICIT OF ASSETS		( 78.95)
		=====
C E Grey (ESC 245) Secretary/Treasurer		

MEDALS GALORE ! !  
 OUTSTANDING ACHIEVEMENT  
 AT INTERNATIONALS  
 by EGYPTIAN COLLECTORS OF EGYPT

Congratulations to the following collectors (many being members of Egypt Study Circle) on their achievements as noted below.

At CAPEX, Toronto

Mr Rudi JEIDEL* (ESC 127), (South Africa) (Napoleonic and Overland)	LARGE GOLD
Mr Samir FIKRY (ESC 305): the "Sphinx" collection (his second collection), covering from 1879 to 1914 :	LARGE VERMEIL
Dr Ismail T. REDA (ESC ): the Kingdom of Egypt collection, (King Fouad period, 1922-1937) :	SILVER
Dr Farid MEHIAR: the "Pyramids" collection, (1922 issue with Crown or Official overprints) :	BRONZE

AT HAFNIA, Copenhagen

Mr Khetcho HAGOPIAN (ESC 304), (1866 to 1879)	VERMEIL
M. Michel VARIN, France (ESC 280), (1865 to 1914)	VERMEIL
Dr Ismail T. REDA (ESC ): the Kingdom of Egypt collection, (King Fouad period, 1922-1937) :	SILVER
Mrs Jeanne S. FIKRY (wife of Samir), the "Nefertiti" collection, (Egyptian Aerophilately, 1926 to 1952) :	SILVER
Mr Cornelius HOOGHUIS, Spain (ESC 126) (1866m plus Suez Canal)	SILVER
Lars ALUND, Sweden (ESC 105) (Egyptian Post Offices abroad)	SILVER
Mr Mohammed Shams ED-DIN (ESC 337) (Postal stationery, 1879-1913)	SILVER-BRONZE

\* We have learned with great regret of the death on 2nd January 1988 of Mr Rudi Jeidel, since this page was compiled - Editor

## EGYPT-SUDAN 1896-1899

THE BOWKER CORRESPONDENCE: Robson Lowe

On 14th March 1896, Major-General Sir Herbert Kitchener, who had been Sirdar of the Egyptian army from 1902, received orders to occupy Akasha which was achieved on the 20th. Troops were concentrated at Wadi Halfa. The purpose to relieve the pressure on the Italians at Kassala. The dervish leader, Osman Dinga, moved his main force towards Suakin where the commandant, Lt-Col. G.E.Lloyd, advanced and defeated the dervishes. At the end of May, an Indian Brigade arrived at Suakin for garrison duty.

The dervishes at Firket were attacked by two columns led by Col. A. Hunter and Major Burn-Murdoch on 7th June with complete success. The railway advanced to Akasha, Kosha, (early August), Kerma, Abu Hamed (4th November), and Atbara.

Dongola was captured on 23rd September, Debba on 23rd October, Korti and Merawi soon after and the Dongola campaign was over.

On 20th July, Major-General Hunter captured Abu Hamed and occupied Berber on 5th September. He burned Adarama on 2nd November. Kitchener advanced to Shendi on 27th March 1897, and a week later to Abadan, and on the 7th April attacked Mahmud's Zeriba where, after a sharp action, he captured Mahmud and several hundred dervishes of whom 3,000 were killed. The battle of Omdurman started on 2nd September resulting in complete defeat of the dervish army, Khartoum being occupied on the 4th.

Further successful advances continued through 1899 and on 19th January 1900 Osman Dinga was captured and the Sudan was entirely under Anglo-Egyptian control.

The first eight letters in this correspondence were written between 23rd July and 21st November 1896 to "F.J.Bowker A.D.C., Headquarters Cairo" by his fiancée, Esme Elliott in England. A telegram via the Eastern Telegraph Co. on 18th November read "All right mind unchanged Esme". The correspondence is typical of an 18 year old girl to her 28 year old husband-to-be. The only military news makes it clear that Bowker went on an expedition in August. Esme arrived in Cairo in December. She wrote two letters while on a trip on the Nile Steamboat "Rameses the Great", the first on 6th February 1898, the second between the 8th and 12th and posted at Assouan (\*A). A few weeks later the young couple married, for the next letter was written on 27th April 1897 by that famous Anglo-Austrian soldier and administrator in the Sudan, Sir Rudolf von Slatin, from his home in Vienna. It is addressed "Mrs F. Bowker, c/o Lieut. Frank Bowker, Hampshire Regt., Army & Navy Club, Pall Mall, London" (\*B).

Fred Emslie wrote on 5th August 1897 to his brother in London. The letter is headed "Stern Wheeler Amkeh. Between Korosko and Wadi Halfa". He wrote "It is now eight days since we left Cairo.

/ continued . . .



(\*A) From his fiancee  
Assouan 13 Feb 1889



F. J. Bowker Esq  
Head Quarters -  
A. S. C.  
Cairo

(\*B) From Sir Rudolf Slatin  
Vienna 27 Apl 1897

Mrs F. Bowker  
c/o Lieut. Frank Bowker  
Hampshire Regt.  
Army & Navy Club  
Pall-Mall  
London England

shine over  
and may always be splendid  
and radiant on the road of  
your life.

Yours very sincerely  
R. Slatin

(\*E) from Princess Chiné Kuar  
(King Fouad's sister)



Mrs Knowles  
Army & Navy Club  
Tangle Hill  
Cilworth  
Surrey

Gafaran Palace  
The 25<sup>th</sup> October 1897



(\*C) written from "between  
Korosko & Wadi Halfa"



J. B. Anstie Esq.  
25. Norfolk Square.  
Hyde Park -  
London.

(\*D) From Lord Cromer,  
13 Jan 1899  
by Diplomatic Bag to London

Dear Mrs Knowles,  
It is a long time  
that I have received your  
kind letter & thank you im-  
mensely for having remembered  
of one of your Egyptian friends.  
Be sure my dear Mrs Knowles  
that we shall never forget  
you & shall be very happy  
to have you again in our  
beloved Egypt. You tell  
me about your mother's death  
poor thing, really I was very

Mrs Knowles  
4 Cleveland Row  
Cromer

The Battery together with a maxim gun detachment is in two stern wheelers, each of which was 3 lighters lashed alongside, gunnals deep with guns, mules, men and stores. The incidents of the journey, the river and countryside are described. "They will probably bear Soudan stamps which Rudolf will be glad of". The envelope bears a pair of Sudan 5 milliemes cancelled at Wadi Halfa on 7th August (\*C).

The last eight letters are written to Esme Elliot's mother, Mrs Charles Knowles (wife of General Knowles). Two are personal notes from Princess Said Halim on the 18th January, and the second congratulates Mrs Knowles on her marriage of her daughter.

The other letters are addressed to Mrs Knowles in England. Two are from Evelyn Baring, Earl of Cromer, who had done so many years as advisor to the Khedive of Egypt from 1883 and acted as minister of war for Kitchener. The letter of the 15th October 1879 on note-paper headed "British Agency, Cairo" is in very friendly terms. Sir Francis Grenfell (later Baron), commander of the British garrison in Egypt, was staying with him. The Gaekwar of Baroda had been to dinner. "The Fleet and Admiral Harris arrive at Alexandria Sunday . . . the Cameron Highlanders have arrived".

The letter travelled by the diplomatic bag and arrived on 23rd October. The second letter from Cromer was dated 13 January 1899 and written from Cairo "My trip to Khartoum interested me immensely"; again the letter travelled by diplomatic bag and was posted in London on the 22nd (\*D).

There is a letter from Princess Chiné Kuar Fouad written at the Zafaran Palace on 25th October 1897 which arrived on 9th November (\*E). In affectionate family terms she promised to send a photograph of herself with her husband (later King Fouad of Egypt).

There are two letters from General J.K. Watson, who was A.D.C. to Kitchener. The first was written from Wadi Halfa on 12 January 1898 with interesting news about the reinforcing of Berber and Korti in anticipation of a great attack by the Khalifa, "it is known that Osman Dinga . . . has marched down the E. bank and is now at Shendy . . . The news of the success of our levies from Kassala (they have lately captured Fasher and Asobri) may perhaps have persuaded him (the Khalifa) to change his mind". Details of Nile transport and the extension of the railway. Asks the letter to be kept for the eyes of Mrs Knowles and the General " . . . I never say much of what's going on - my chief (K) don't like it. He joins me in all good wishes". The envelope is franked with the Egyptian 1 piastre overprinted SOUDAN on 13th January and arrived on the 27th.

A letter written by General Watson at "The Palace, Khartoum" on 12th October 1901 describes his life, the Khedive's anticipated visit "The rumour of Lord K's engagement to Lady Edwina is . . . the wildest piece of invention."

(\*A), (\*B), etc. - please refer to the illustrations on previous page.

## NEW ISSUES by C. E. H. Defriez

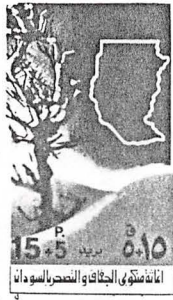
(all stamps are printed Rotogravure by Postal Printing House, A.R. Egypt, and with Upright Watermark Multiple Eagle unless noted otherwise)

Commemorative Stamps

	<u>SG 1628</u>	<u>SG 1629</u>	
Occasion	Relief of Drought Victims in the Sudan	18th Annual General Assembly of African Airlines Association	
Date of Issue	25th March 1986	7th April 1986	
Designer	M M Roushdy	Ibrahim el Torky	
Design	Map of Sudan and dead tree	Map of Africa, Airplane and 'AFRAA' Emblem	
Denomination	15 piastres + 5 piastres	15 piastres	
Sheet	50 (10 x 5) Wmk Sideways	50 (5 x 10)	
Stamp dimensions	26 x 43 mm	43 x 26 mm	
Perforation	12.5 x 13	11.5 x 11	
Quantity printed	500,000 lithographed	500,000	
Supplementary	The 5-piastres premium was allocated to the relief of drought victims	The association was formed in 1968 with 'EGYPTAIR' as one of the 15 founder members	
	<u>SG 1630</u>	<u>SG 1631</u>	
Occasion	50th Anniversary of Ministry of Health	4th Anniversary of the restoration of Sinai	
Date of Issue	10th April 1986	25th April 1986	
Designer	Lotfy el Sawaf	M. Y. A. Hamid	
Design	Egyptian "Key of Life", Red Crescent and Pharaonic Sun	Queen Nefertari offering Peace and Prosperity to liberated Sinai	
Denomination	5 piastres	5 piastres	
Sheet	50 (10 x 5) Wmk Sideways	50 (5 x 10)	
Stamp dimensions	30 x 50 mm	50 x 30 mm	
Perforation	13	13	
Quantity printed	500,000 lithographed	500,000 lithographed	
Supplementary	Prior to 1936, health was the responsibility of the Ministry of the Interior	-	
	<u>SG 1632</u>	<u>SG 1633</u>	<u>SG 1634</u>
Occasion	Population, housing and Establishment Census of Egypt	African Nations Football Cup, 'Egypt Winners'	
Date of Issue	25th May 1986	. . . 31st May 1986 . . .	
Designer	I. el Torky	W Farag and M Abdallah	
Design	Profile of a man and a woman	. . . Map, Cup and Emblem . . . Emblem                      Emblem	
Denomination	15 piastres	inscribed                      inscribed	
Sheet	50 (5 x 10)	in English                      in Arabic	
Stamp dimensions	50 x 30 mm	5 piastres                      5 piastres	
Perforation	11	50 (10 x 5) each Wmk S'ways	
Quantity printed	500,000	. . . each 30 x 50 mm . . .	
Supplementary	The 1986 Census is the 11th census held since 1882	. . . . . each 13 . . . . . 500,000 each lithographed	
		The 2 stamps were printed together in se-tenant pairs within the sheet	

NEW ISSUES AND THEIR SPECIAL CANCELS

Please refer to the DATA SHEETS for dimensions, as not all illustrations are actual size



SG 1628



SG 1629



SG 1630



SG 1628



SG 1629



SG 1630



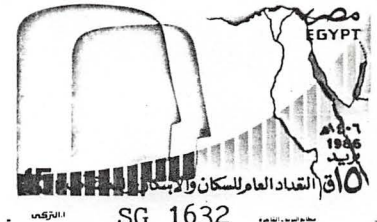
SG 1631



SG 1632



SG 1631



SG 1632



SG 1633

SG 1634



SG 1633/34

## IBRAHIM KHALIL CHAFTAR Bey: a Philatelic Biography

by Peter R Feltus (ESC 114)

Ibrahim Chaftar (ESC 42 & PSE 552) died at home on September 28th last, at the age of eighty-six. We will miss him very much; he was for decades the most active and capable philatelist in Egypt, and he was a delightful gentleman. I visited him for several days each year since 1977, at his home in Smouha, a few miles east of downtown Alexandria. His mind and memory remained acute to the end, and he enchanted me for countless hours with stories of philatelists and philately in Egypt. He was wise, charming, funny, generous and utterly straightforward, and one of my favorite people. In November 1985 I interviewed him for details of his life, and since then I've searched out his articles and notes in L'Orient Philatélique and in our Quarterly Circular (these are listed as an Appendix and referred to below as "see #1" &c.). I regret that I didn't finish in time for Ibrahim to read these pages.

---

Ibrahim Chaftar was born on 9 July 1902 in Cairo, though the family lived in Alexandria (actually, Ras-el-Tin). His father was descended from a Turkish ship captain who sailed to Egypt for Mohammed Ali; his mother's people were Alexandrians. Ibrahim attended French schools in Alexandria and Cairo. When he was ready to enter university, his father forbade it. So, in 1920, he went to Armante in Upper Egypt to begin his 40 year career with the "Société Générale des Sucreries et des Raffineries d'Egypte" (hereafter referred to as the Sugar Company). He began by studying technical aspects of sugar refining, and he became an engineer; by mid-career he was surely the Sugar Company's best trouble-shooting manager.

Ibrahim's father had given the boy a stamp collection, but as he was not yet interested in stamps, he sold them to a friend for £20. This made his father very angry, so six months later Ibrahim bought replacement stamps and gave those to his father. Soon thereafter, when he was perhaps 20, he began to collect Egyptian stamps for himself.

From 1920 to 1938 Ibrahim worked for the Sugar Company in Armante, visiting Cairo when he could. In 1927 he married his first wife, Bahiya Shukri of the Sidki Pasha family. They had a daughter born in 1928 and a son in 1934.

In the late 1930's Ibrahim learned of and joined the P.S.E. (announced in L'OP # 38, October 1938) and the E.S.C. (see QC # 3, November 1938). A. S. Mackenzie Low promptly wrote asking Ibrahim to search for documents related to Egyptian philately in Government archives. As the Sugar Company moved Ibrahim and his family to Cairo for 1939, he then began his long and fruitful researches; his first find relates to Egypt's P.O. in Constantinople (see #1).

/ continued . . .

## Ibrahim Khalil Chaftar Bey - continued

Ahmad Aboud Pasha, the Sugar Company owner, wanted Ibrahim at his side in Cairo. Albert Ceysens, the general manager (and a philatelist too, with a big budget, and winner of the Grand Prize at the Cairo Philatelic Exhibition of 1946 with his classic Egypt) wanted Ibrahim solving problems in the provinces. When Ibrahim was in Upper Egypt, it was Ceysens' doing.

In late 1939 the Sugar Company sent Ibrahim to Nag Hamadi, and in 1940 back to Armante where he was chief of personnel. But by late 1941 he was returned to Cairo where he lived until 1950. These were to be busy years. In 1942 he was elected president of the P.S.E., taking over from Jean Boulad d'Humières who had to move to Ismailia and Suez. As president, Ibrahim felt obliged to build an important Egypt collection, and he bought as much as his small income permitted. He liked the classics best, including covers and postmarks, but he collected all the later material too. And he reported his discoveries and his studies of the classics (see #s 3, 4 & 7), overprinted postage dues and officials (see #s 6 & 12), booklets & panes (see # 10), the 1943 Ferial overprint remainders (see # 9) and the P.S.E. (see #8).

By the mid 1940s Mackenzie Low, Besley, Byam and Mumford were all urging their Man in Cairo to find more archives. There was continuous correspondence on several topics, and it was about then realized that Egypt's 1872 stamps were printed by lithography as well as typography; the Circle wanted documents! Ibrahim got permission to examine Post Office archives, though he learned that most had been destroyed in the 1920's when the G.P.O. was moved from Alexandria. Selected files were saved at Azhar, in Cairo; Ibrahim spent many Sundays reading and hand-copying and translating them. Very happily, he found the Muzzi-Pellas correspondence about the first issue (see # 13), many P.O. directives (see # 5), part of the 1872 file of Boulac-Penasson correspondence (see # 15), and documents about the 1884-1888 postage dues (see # 27). And in 1944 Ibrahim became the editor of L'Orient Philatélique (see # 2).

In 1945 Ibrahim organised a small philatelic exhibition in Alexandria, where he was an exhibitor and a judge (see # 11). King Farouk attended and was very pleased, so he offered the PSE his support. Thus, with the King's blessing, Ibrahim organised the very successful 1946 Cairo Philatelic Exhibition (for which the semi-postal stamps and souvenir sheets were issued). Ibrahim was a judge again, and so showed his stamps in the Court of Honour (see the good reviews of the show in QC # 25, March 1946, and in LOP #s 54, 57 & 58, April-October 1946). King Farouk, being very pleased again, rewarded Ibrahim with the title "Bey". Later that year Ibrahim married again, to Alma Lauricella; decades later he frequently and fondly recalled that while many were drinking, smoking and partying, he spent years studying stamps and postal history while Alma played the piano, ever so well, at his elbow.

/ continued . . .

## Ibrahim Khalil Chaftar Bey - continued

1947 was also very important to Ibrahim. He was Egypt's commissioner and a judge at CIPEX, the international show in New York City. Ibrahim sailed to New York with his new wife and the exhibits of philatelists in Egypt (he, Gabriel Boulad, Jean Boulad d'Humières, Albert Ceysens, Capt. Douglas MacNeille and Gracie Wissa all showed Egypt). He met many American and European philatelists including William Byam and Ernie Kehr, and thoroughly enjoyed it all. And he bought a wristwatch which worked continuously for him into the 1980s. He treasured his memories of his voyage to America (see several reports in LOP # 60, October 1947). Soon after the trip Ibrahim's daughter Minouche was born in Cairo.

For the next several years Ibrahim was busy with family, editing LOP, and more; he wrote about classics (see #s 15-17), and was editor of the 1950 Zeheri Catalogue (see # 18). And he went to Europe twice; in 1948 to IMABA in Basle (see E A Kehr's report in LOP # 64, October 1948) and in 1950 to London where he signed The Roll of Distinguished Philatelists of the Philatelic Congress of Great Britain (see Byam's letter of sponsorship in LOP # 71, July 1950).

In 1950 Ibrahim was obliged to return to Upper Egypt. He left the P.S.E. in the hands of Ahmed Mazloum Pasha as president and Mehanny Eid as editor of LOP (see Mazloum's tribute to Ibrahim in "Vie de la Société" in LOP # 72, October 1950). Mr Ceysens sent Ibrahim to save the refinery at Nag Hamadi from ruinous mismanagement. Life was spare; Ibrahim recalled that for the first of these years there he and his family had only one room to live in, with piano (?) and stamps. At the Company, among his reforms, Ibrahim instituted same-day harvesting and processing, improving the quality and quantity of the yield; sugar production rose from 6,000 to 8,000 tons daily.

After six years at Nag Hamadi, Ibrahim went to Abou Korkas for some months and then, in late 1956, to Kom Ombo for four years. Though he went occasionally to Cairo in the 1950s, Ibrahim missed the issuing of the bar overprints on Farouk stamps and the auction sale of the Palace Collections. He continued to research and write; he published more about classic postmarks (see #s 20, 22, 24 & 25), foreign post offices in Egypt (see #s 21 & 23), the third issue (see # 19), and the De La Rue issues (see # 26). In 1955 Ibrahim exhibited his Egypt in Stockholm and in Oslo, again in the courts of honour (see reports by Jean Boulad d'Humières in LOP # 92, October 1955 and W. Byam in LOP # 99, April 1958).

Over the years, visiting E.L. Angeloglou, B. Hagopian and the other Cairo stamp dealers and always in touch with events, Ibrahim built a lovely and important Egypt collection. This is remarkable in that he was always underfunded. As he recalled it in 1985, his monthly salaries from the Sugar Company were: £E18 when he began in 1920, £E40 in 1940, £E75 in 1945, £E100 in 1950, £E160 in 1954 and £E200 in 1958. These were augmented at each year's end by a production bonus, usually equal to three to four months' wages.

/ continued . . .

## Ibrahim Khalil Chaftar Bey - continued

In 1958, expecting imminent mandatory retirement and consequent homelessness, Ibrahim resolved to sell stamps to buy a house in Alexandria for his family. He offered his collections to the Cairo dealers and well-off collectors, but it was a poor time to sell and only Jacques Kassab was willing to buy. Ibrahim sold his best stamps to Kassab for £E8,500 (along with much from the Palace Collections and others, they were resold to many collectors and dealers in the 1960s and 1970s). Several months later Ibrahim was surprised with a promotion and a rise in salary; with the financial worry gone he regretted having sold his stamps, but in 1960 he bought his house in Smouha and the following year he retired on a small pension and moved in with his wife and daughter.

Upon resettling in Alexandria Ibrahim resumed collecting. He hadn't sold his interpostal seals, postal stationery and booklets, so he continued those and began anew with cancellations generally and detailed studies of definitives. His dealer friends were happy to let him search through thousands of their stamps for postmarks, flaws and retouches. By the mid 1960s he was again writing for the QC and LOP; between 1965 and '78 he published more about early postal history (see #s 28, 29, 33, 37 & 38), first issue forgeries (see # 31), the 5 para De La Rue (see # 36), Harrison Issue retouches (see # 32), and Fuad issues retouches (see #s 30, 31, 34 & 35).

In 1973 Ibrahim's wife Alma died. He missed her terribly ever since, but he was not left alone; his daughter Minouche - with her husband Nabil Abbassi and their daughter - lived upstairs (as they still do now with two daughters). In 1974 the ESC made Ibrahim an honorary life member (see QC # 92, December 1974). And in 1975 E.L.G. MacArthur (ESC 125) visited Ibrahim (see Chairman's page in QC # 96, December 1975).

After 1978, with his research energy spent, Ibrahim wrote few letters and nothing for publication. But he still received many visitors; friends, collectors and dealers who appreciated his charms and expertise (he continued to sign genuine first issue stamps), and some who wanted to buy his stamps. One of his frequent visitors was Samir Fikri (ESC 305), who has reinvigorated the P.S.E. in Cairo and won several golds at recent international stampshows with his 19th century Egypt. By 1985 Ibrahim sold his collections, in part to settle medical bills; among them were the interpostal seals (sold to Tony Schmidt), postal stationery (to me), booklets & panes (to Charlie Hass), cancellations, domestic and offices abroad (to me), flaws and retouches on Harrisons (to an Alexandria collector) and on Fuads (to another Cairene).

In his last years Ibrahim seemed to live a comfortable if Spartan life (e.g. arising at around six, eating no meat) centered around reading; he always read newspapers and newsmagazines, and he had a fine library of history, archaeology and literature, in French, English and Arabic. He usually supped upstairs with Minouche and her family; she wrote that "Death took him by surprise on the morning of the 28th although, for the whole week before, he felt great!". Damned, damned shame, that surprise.



## APPENDIX: IBRAHIM CHAFTAR'S WRITINGS

(Listed in chronological order of publication)

1. "Un Point d'Histoire Philatélique". Notes on the opening of the Egyptian P.O. in Constantinople. (LOP # 43, September 1939, 1 page).
2. "1941 - 1944". After a war time interruption of more than three years, LOP resumes publication with this explanation by Ibrahim, the new editor in chief (LOP # 48, October 1944, four and a half pages in English, French and Arabic).
3. "Nouvelles Variétés de la Troisième Emission d'Egypte (1872-1879)". Notes on major plate flaws on third issue stamps (LOP #48, October 1944, 1 page).
4. "Musée Philatélique". A serialized, illustrated record of important (rare and unique) Egyptian stamps and covers (commenced and explained by the previous editor, in LOP #43). (LOP #s 48 & 50, October 1944-April 1945, 8 pages).
5. "Musée Fouad 1er des Postes Egyptiennes: Un Point d'Histoire Philatélique". A serialized presentation of 19th century P.O. documents about stamps and postal history, with English & French translations. (LOP #s 49, 52-55, 83 & 119, January 1945-January 1968; 33 pages).
6. "La Première Tirage du Deux Piastres Taxe de 1889 Surcharge '3 Millièmes'". (LOP #49, January 1945, 3 pages).
7. "Rare Essays of the 1866 Issue". An illustrated report of the discovery of several first issue essays. (LOP #49, April 1945, 4 pages, English & French). Wm. Byam's letter about similar essays in the Buckingham Palace Collection is in LOP #51.
8. "Vie du Club: Assemblée Générale du 18 Décembre 1944". Ibrahim's address to the P.S.E.'s 15th anniversary meeting, with data on the Society's history. (LOP #49, April 1945).
9. "La Sagesse a Enfin Prévalu". The story of the Government's plan to sell its remainders of the 1943 overprinted semi-postals, and of the P.S.E. - really the Ibrahim Chافتar - opposition. (LOP #50, April 1945, 2 pages). And another account, by L. Guindi, is in LOP #76.
10. "King Fuad & King Farouk Stamp Booklets". A long open letter to Mackenzie Low, about these booklets; details include quantities produced. (LOP #52, October 1945, 3 pages).
11. "Le Salon du Timbre, Alexandrie, 25-26 Août 1945". A report on the second stamp exhibition in Alexandria, with lists of exhibitors, awards, etc., and a group photo including Ibrahim. (LOP #s 52 & 53, October 1945-Jan 1946, 4 pp).

/ continued

## APPENDIX: IBRAHIM CHAFTAR'S WRITINGS - continued

12. "The 1922 Issue: O.H.E.M.S.". A good explanation of these overprints, with a chart of the quantities printed. (LOP #53, January 1946, 3 pages).
13. "The First Issue of Egypt". Presentation and commentary on Ibrahim's very important discovery of the P.O. archival documents on these stamps. (LOP #55, July 1946, 19 pages, and in French in LOP #59). Wm. Byam's comments are in QC #s 25 & 26, March-September 1946, and in LOP # 123.
14. "A Propos de nos Emissions Commémoratives". (LOP #56, Oct. 1946, 1 page).
15. "Documents Postaux Relatifs à la 3me Emission d'Egypte 1872 & 1874-75". Six important P.O. documents about the third issue, with translations. (LOP #s 63 & 65, July 1948-January 1949, 12 pages).
16. "L'Emission Fantôme". All about the unissued 1875 U.P.U. stamps produced for Egypt by V. Penasson in Alexandria. (LOP #67, July 1949, 13 pages).
17. "La Chainon Manquant". A note about Penasson essays of 1867. (LOP #68, October 1949, 1 page).
18. "Catalogue Zeheri des Timbres d'Egypte", 5th edition, 1950, 206 pages, edited by Ibrahim.
19. "Some Notes on the Third Issue: Number Printed and Used". A report of a P.O. document of 17 August 1876. (QC #39, November 1952, 4 pages).
20. "Les Marques Postales Egyptiennes en Langue Française de 1866 à 1880". A study of French language postmarks on Egypt's classic stamps. (LOP #81, January 1953, 8 pages).
21. "Austrian Post Offices of Alexandria and Port Said". An Austrian P.O. letter of February 1875 about offices in Egypt, with translation and commentary. (LOP #84, October 1953, 8 pages in English & French).
22. "Souakin et Massawah". All about the history and postmarks of the Egyptian P.O.s in these ports. (LOP #84, October 1953, 17 pages).
23. "Russian Post Offices at Alexandria and Port Said". Four P.O. documents of 1875 with translations and commentary. (LOP #85, January 1954, 6 pages and in French in LOP #86).
24. "Les Marques Postales Egyptiennes de 1866 à 1880; Les Oblitérations Bi-lingues: Italo-Arabes". A thorough illustrated study of the classic postmarks with Arabic dates or text accompanying the Italian. (LOP #86, April 1954, 11 pages). Follow-up notes appear in LOP #123.

/ continued . . .

## APPENDIX: IBRAHIM CHAFTAR'S WRITINGS - continued

25. "Histoire Postale du Soudan Egyptien". An important study of Egypt's P.O.s in Sudan, with documents & letters of 1874-78 from libraries in Cairo and Alexandria. (LOP #88, October 1954, 15 pages).
26. "Les Emissions De la Rue de 1879-1906". An important study including P.O. documents. (LOP #89, January 1955, 21 pages).
27. "Les Emissions des Timbres Taxe d'Egypte du 1884, du 1886 et du 1888". A group of important P.O. documents about the early postage dues, with translations into French. (LOP #s 93-95, January-July 1956, 46 pages).
28. "Liste des Bureaux Postaux Egyptiens de 1865 à 1889". A study of important P.O. documents, with a chronological list of the earliest post offices. (LOP #113, April 1964, 12 pages).
29. "The Interpostal Seals and the Early Postal Services of Egypt". A very important and thorough analysis of interpostal seals and P.O. documents, generously illustrated; this is a must. (LOP #s 115, 117-118 & 120-126, April 1965-January 1973, 182 pages (!) of English & French).
30. "Notes on the 1927 King Fuad Issue". A short essay about varieties on the 200m., 500m., and £E1 Second Fuads, with details of plates, cylinders and quantities. (LOP #119, January 1968, 3 pages, and QC #70, March 1968, 3 pages).
31. "The Forgeries 'Salama' of the 1866 Issue". A fine illustrated guide to recognizing the most deceptive first issue forgeries. (LOP #s 125-126, April 1972-January 1973, 33 pages in English & French).
32. "Harrison Issues - 1920-21: Retouches and Flaws". An illustrated study of the 10m. blue and 10m. red Colossus of Memnon stamps, prompted by George Houston's published discoveries. (QC #82, June 1972, 7 pages, and LOP #126, January 1973, 14 pages in English & French).
33. "Finds in Early Egyptian Postmarks". Details of an 1864 Posta Europea cover and an 1865 Government cover, and new lists of the early P.O.s (QC #86, June 1973, 6 pages, and LOP #127, October 1973, 7 pages).
34. "Egypt's First Portrait Issue, 1923-26: Retouches and Flaws". A well-illustrated study of these early photogravure stamps. (LOP # 124, October 1973, 29 pages, and QC #s 88-91, December 1973-March 1980, 27 pages).
35. "King Fuad's 58th Birthday Anniversary". An illustrated study of the 1926 50pt. Fuad stamp and related essays and P.O. documents. (LOP #128, October 1974, 13 pages).

/ continued . . .

## APPENDIX: IBRAHIM CHAFTAR'S WRITINGS - continued

36. "5 Paras 1879: The Joined Characters Flaw". A very detailed and well-illustrated study of the most interesting flaw of the de la Rue era. (LOP #129, February 1978, 15 pages, and QC # 105, March 1978, 11 pages).
37. "Comments on the two Senhit Covers Newly Discovered". A short commentary on these two wonderful, unique covers from Sudan. (LOP #129, Feb. 1978, 3 pages).
38. "V.R. Poste Egiziane: A Propos de l'Annonce Officielle de la Première Emission de 1866". Notes on a P.O. document of 1865 about the locations of letter boxes. (LOP #130, November 1978, 8 pages in English & French).

\* \* \* \* \*

## VARIETIES IN EGYPT PHILATELY

CLASSIFIED BY TYPE RATHER THAN CHRONOLOGICALLY - Part 1

derived from Album Pages exhibited by Arch. Samir A Fikry (ESC 305)

- - - - -

Many varieties in Egypt stamp issues have been recorded through the classical period of the Khedives from 1866, date of the first Egypt issue, up to 1920. These varieties on the earliest issues were mainly due to the primitive ways of printing; most of them have been recorded in the Zeheri catalogue. Other new varieties in this same period have recently been discovered and will be recorded in the near future.

Varieties found in the monarchy period, and later, differ substantially from those of the previous period. Printing was done during the monarchy period by the Survey Department, Cairo.

[Not all the illustrations are suitable for reproduction - Editor]

- - - - -

VARIETY TYPE 1 - Varieties made by order of King Fuad and King Farouk, for their own collections (referred to in the Zeheri Catalogue as 'The Royal Printing').

Type 1a - Imperforate, printed "Cancelled" diagonally on reverse, in English or in Arabic, on ungummed cartridge paper (fig. 1). One sheet of each different Control Number of all issues has been recorded in the monarchy period, except for the very first commemorative issue, that for the 1925 International Geographical Congress. (As researched by George Lee).

The examples exhibited are:-

fig. 2	1934 U.P.U. Congress, 50 mills to £E 1
	1938 King Farouk, £E 1, 18th birthday
	1950 Inauguration of the King Fuad Desert Institute (unique Control Block of 4)

Type 1b - Slanting perforations. These deliberately misplaced perforations have also been found applied to one sheet each of every different Control Number, for all issues in this period.

The examples exhibited are :-

fig. 5	1937 definitive, Fuad portrait, 500 mills block of 4
	1934 U.P.U. Congress commemorative issue, £E 1
	1938 King Farouk, £E 1, 18th birthday

VARIETY TYPE 2 - Plating varieties which have been discovered and retouched before printing and issuing. These take into consideration the limited quantities of this type of variety as found in the definitive issues of 1921 and 1923.

The examples exhibited are :-

	1923 definitive issue, 20 mills
"	" 50 mills
"	" 100 mills
"	" 200 mills
"	" £ 1

/ continued . . .

VARIETIES IN EGYPT PHILATELY

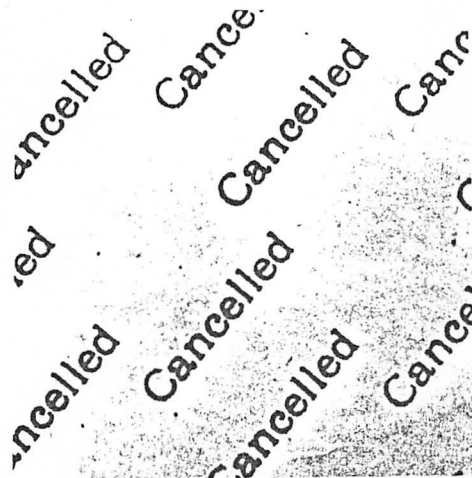


Fig. 1

"Cancelled" on back in English or Arabic

Fig. 2

1934 U.P.U. printed on cartridge paper, ungummed, imperforate



Fig. 3

1937 definitive Fuad portrait 500 mills - slanting perforations



## VARIETIES IN EGYPT PHILATELY - continued

VARIETY TYPE 3 - Constant ("plating") varieties, which have been discovered after printing and issuing, due to printing errors made by the British or Egyptian printers (as recorded in the Zeheri catalogue).

Type 3a examples exhibited are of the 1926 International Navigation Congress, also the same stamps overprinted for the inauguration of Port Fuad :-

fig. 13a 5 mills value - blotted "Y" in "EGYPTE" on 49th stamp of every other sheet

fig. 13b 10 mills value - single dot (instead of 2) at right on 15th stamp of every other sheet

10 mills value - broken Arabic character at right on 30th stamp of every other sheet

Type 3b example exhibited is from the 1927 Statistical Congress :-

fig. 14 10 mills value - coloured spot in the lower panel, between "CAIRE" and "1927", on 32nd stamp of every other sheet

Type 3c example exhibited is from the 1927 £E 1 definitive issue :-

fig. 15 £E 1 - closed "U" of "UNE" (as "ONE" in English), on 17th stamp of sheet with Control No. A/27.

Type 3d example exhibited is from the 1931 Agricultural and Industrial Exhibition :-

fig. 16 5 mills value, broken frame of upper right corner, on 43rd stamp of every other sheet

Type 3e examples exhibited from the 1937 definitive issue, 30-mills value :-

fig. 17 type 3e-1: 30 mills value, stroke on Arabic figure '3' of '30', 21st stamp of every other sheet

type 3e-2: 30 mills value, broken '3' of '30', 32nd stamp of every other sheet

Type 3f example exhibited from the 1944 definitive issue :-

fig. 18 4 mills value, deformed Arabic inscription at right, on 3rd stamp of sheet with Control No. A/44.

- - - - -

Further varieties from Mr Fikry's collection will be shown in a next issue - Editor.

VARIETIES IN EGYPT PHILATELY

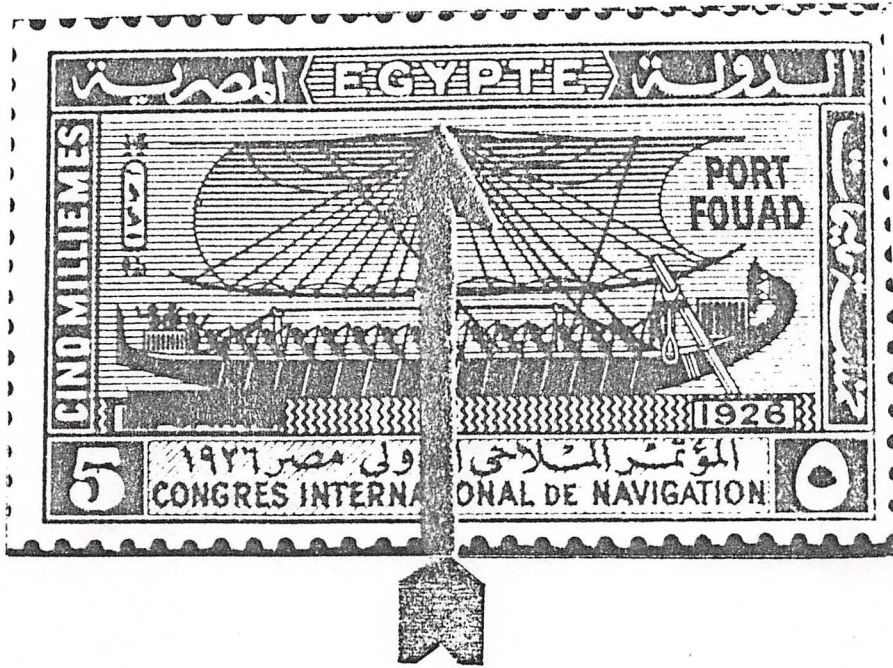


Fig. 13a

1926 Port Fouad on 5-mills Navigation "blotted Y"

Fig. 13b Navigation 10 mills single dot at right

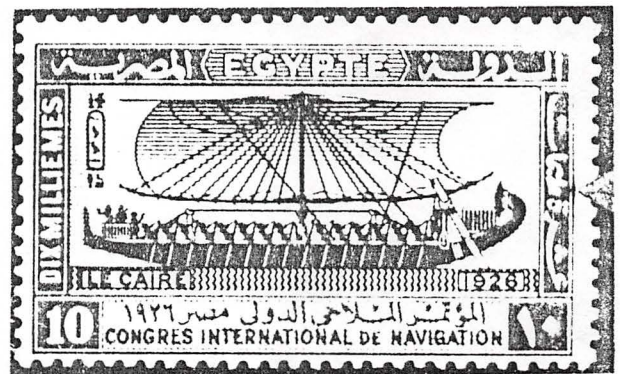


Fig. 14 1927 Statistical coloured spot in lower panel



Fig. 15

1927 High Value, £E 1 - closed "U" of "UNE"





VARIETIES IN EGYPT PHILATELY



Fig. 16  
1931 Agricultural  
5 mills: broken  
corner, top right



Fig. 17  
1937 definitive, 30 mills  
stroke on Arabic '30'



Fig. 18  
1944 definitive, 4 mills  
deformed Arabic  
inscription

## CLEANING & RESTORATION

Mr Peter Goodwin (ESC 297) recently acquired a Postal Stationery item, badly stained and foxed, and with back flap torn. Reproduced are his notes of the stages of the CLEANING AND RESTORATION work done, also photocopies of the cover at various stages.

The item: Sudan postal stationery envelope, with SOUDAN overprint on Egypt embossed Sphinx & Pyramid; plus pair DLR 1 piastre (not having Soudan overprint), plus two separate large "camels" of 5 milliemes. Postmark: CAIRE / 15 IX 98 six strikes on front (one on each stamp, plus one away). Addressed in ink to Sir Evelyn Wood, War Office, Pall Mall, London. Back-stamped: LONDON S W / 5.45 PM / SP 22 / 98.

### THE CLEANING AND RESTORATION PROCESS

#### STAGE ONE

- 1) Photocopy item to note position of adhesives.
- ii) Test that handwriting is 'fast', most inks of this period RUN ! - so address has to be sealed either by coating the writing with a soluble nylon solution, or going over with a pen and waterproof Indian ink.

I used the Indian ink method, as the chemicals needed for the soluble nylon were not to hand.

#### STAGE TWO

- 1) Steam off stamps and carefully clean with weak solution of Chloramine-T; when the staining lifts, wash in cold water and dry between clean blotting paper.
- ii) Next bathe the cover also in a weak solution of the cleaning agent, check frequently that no change is affecting the original markings or the embossed stamp.

#### STAGE THREE

- 1) After five minutes the stains are lifting.

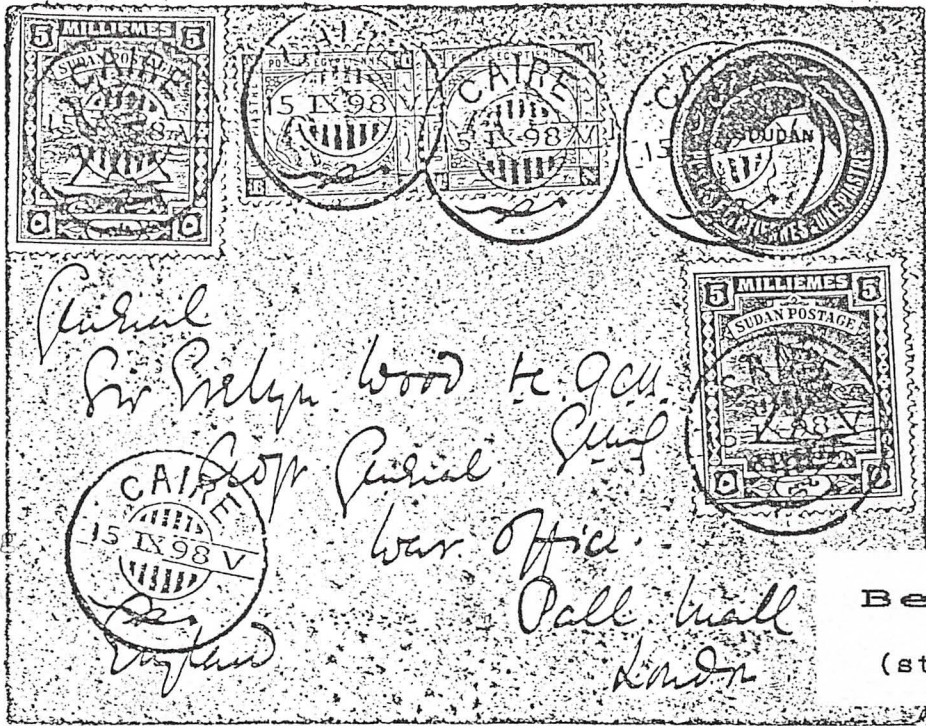
#### STAGE FOUR

- 1) After seven minutes all foxing gone, so cover is sluiced in clean cold water for the same amount of time to remove all trace of the cleaning agent.
- ii) Allow to dry between dry blotting paper.

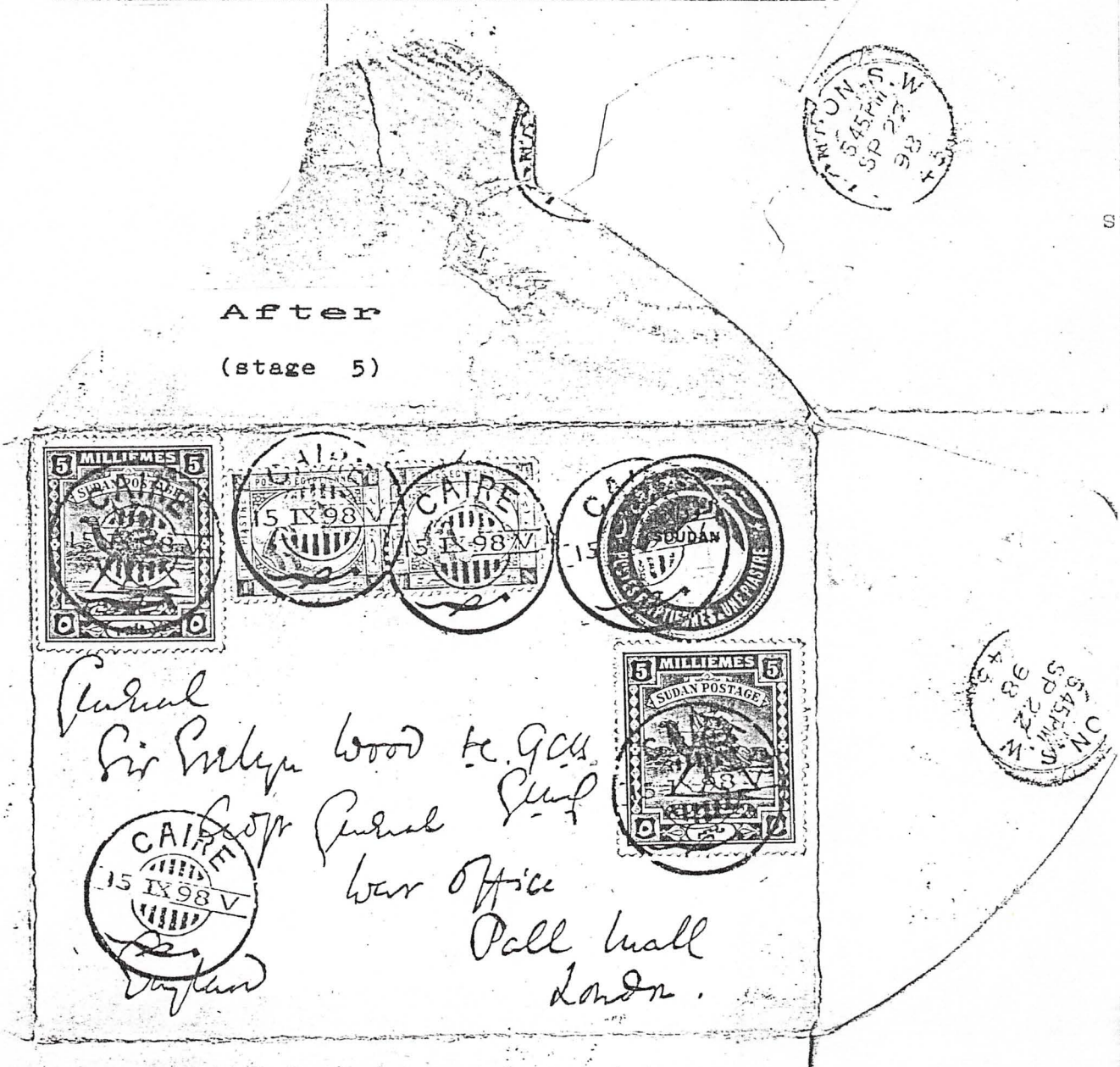
#### STAGE FIVE - FINISHING

- 1) Using a non-acid paste remount the stamps into their original positions.
- ii) Repair any closed tears in cover with paste. When dry, re-fold and the cover is ready for the album.

/ continued . . .



Before  
(stage 1)



After  
(stage 5)

## CLEANING & RESTORATION

### EDITOR'S COMMENTS

Before publishing this article, your Editor sought opinions as to certain aspects. Mr Peter Andrews (ESC 122), chairman of the Egypt Study Circle Expert Committee, considered that covers showing evidence of cleaning and restoration might not justify a good certificate. A Circle member who is involved in the fine art trade considers that the techniques used in restoration are already well known to many people all over the world, so that no secrets were being divulged. Mr John Sears, Chairman of Egypt Study Circle, suggested that the published article should bear a "Government Health Warning" ! Hence the next paragraph.

Be warned ! Apart from the danger of damage to stamps and to manuscript and other markings, there is the risk that an Expert Committee would give a "bad" certificate to an otherwise good item, where this shows signs of cleaning or restoration.

The removal of stamps from a cover, for the purpose of cleaning the cover, might plant ideas in the minds of unscrupulous persons. Why replace the actual stamps (which might be damaged or have smudged or otherwise illegible postmarks ? Why not take the opportunity of improving the cover by the use of better stamps with better postmarks having more significant dates ?

Where philatelic property undergoes treatment including removal of stamps and re-affixing your editor would consider that restoration work to this extent should be noted, unobtrusively but indelibly, showing: "Cleaned and restored / Name / Year" on the article.

Where, after cleaning, different stamps are affixed, or marks or writing altered or added, the product is a faked cover. Only dishonest persons, or their dupes, are likely to be interested.

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### Correction - -

#### THE EGYPTIAN POST OFFICE AT JAFFA (1870-1872)

Dr Jerome L Byers, of U.S.A., has issued the following correction to his article on the Jaffa post marks (see the Q.C. Volume xiii Nos 1/2 pages 12, 13) :-

I have an erratum to print on the Jaffa Egyptian Post Office article . . . Since CAPEX I have discovered a change in the cancel listings. It seems the 26 GIU (1871) date should have been ?GEN (1871). The mark, 22 Nov (1871), has to be deleted because it was the wrong postmark. So we are back to 17 total known post marks. (P R) Feltus (ESC 114) printed this also in the Egypt Study Circle journal but hasn't had any replies as yet.

Jerome L Byers M.D.

[ This erratum, and Dr Byers' original article, were first printed in "The Israel Philatelist" - Editor ]

Stages 2,3 & 4

in the process of removing stains

Ala.  
تذكرة منظوفة  
ENVELOPPE-LETTR



General  
Sir Evelyn Wood K.C. G.C.B.  
Staff  
War Office  
Pall Mall  
London.



Ala.  
تذكرة منظوفة  
ENVELOPPE-LETTR



General  
Sir Evelyn Wood K.C. G.C.B.  
Staff  
War Office  
Pall Mall  
London.



## INTERPOSTAL SEALS

### - what price fake covers ? - A Schmidt (ESC 198)

Sadly the answer is: "a very high price indeed". The late Ernest Kehr's collection of interpostal seals was auctioned by Harmer's of New York on 21st May 1987, and it included two covers with tied seals. These were lots 942 and 947, both were illustrated in the catalogue, and they realised \$ 1,450 and \$ 2,000 respectively. [The catalogue descriptions were as below :- ]

942 [cover] Cairo; 1868 black on red brown (Cairo 16mm), very fine, tied on reverse by Cairo c.d.s. on folded letter sheet to Cairo, used with 1pi red, very fine, tied by Alessandria 6 May 1868 c.d.s. (Photo) (Kehr 114a)

947 [cover] Samanud; 1867 black on greenish, small piece torn away, tied by c.d.s. on reverse of folded letter sheet to Cairo, bearing 1 pi rose lilac, fine, tied by indistinct c.d.s. and bearing Alessandria 6 Feb. 67 c.d.s. (Photo) (Kehr 32)

Lot 942 (note that the date should read 6 March 1868 and not 6 May 1868) is in fact the cover addressed to Zoulfikar Pacha which is illustrated in the introduction to the 1962 edition of Kehr's catalogue. I am informed by a collector who has seen this cover that the seal covers part of the backstamp, but in any case the cover stands accused as a fake from the word go by the seal itself, which is a Type IVa. Kehr thought that this Type was issued in January 1868, just like Type IV, but this was an error which also misled whoever faked the cover. The earliest known date on a Type IVa is in January 1869, and it is quite impossible that a seal of this Type should have been used on a cover dated 6 March 1868.

I do not think that the lot 947 cover had been illustrated previously, which is not too surprising since a close scrutiny of even this fairly small illustration shows it to be a fake. The two parts of the backstamp on the seal and on the letter simply do not fit together.

### Two markings of an uncertain nature - A Schmidt (ESC 198)

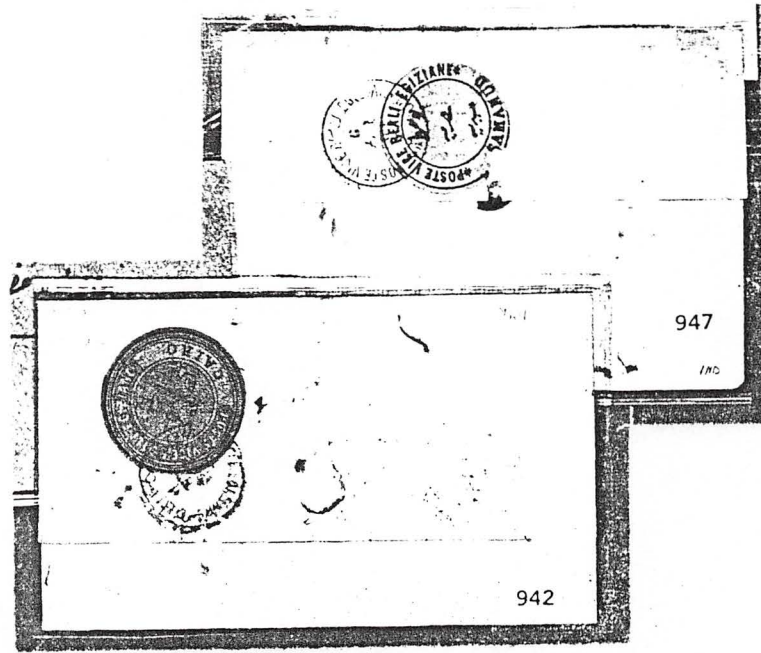
The "VP" intaglio seal marking is struck in purple and has been seen on a number of interpostal seals from type III to type Vb. The feeling is that this is a personal seal and not an official postal seal marking.

The "CAIRO" straight-line marking is struck in black and is a very intriguing one. So far it is known only from the two seals illustrated. The multiplicity of strikes could lead one to think that these are philatelic contrivances, but then the TANTAH seal also bears a genuine part-strike of a Cairo postmark dated 1879. Peter Smith (ESC 74) has suggested the possibility that we are dealing here with a directional marking.

Does any reader have more data to help in determining the status of these markings ?

INTERPOSTAL SEALS

What price fake covers ? (see text)

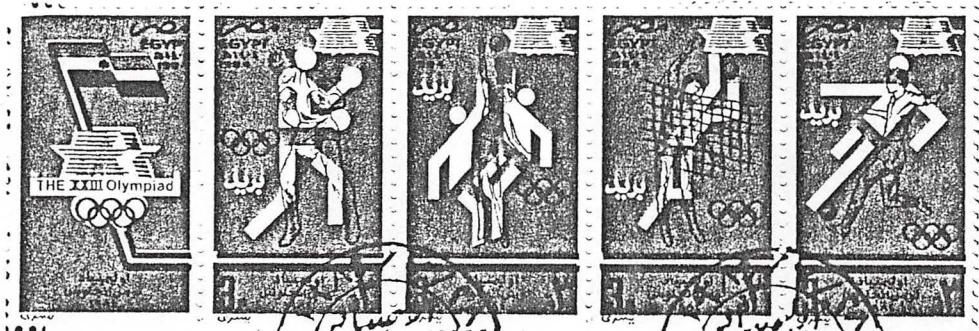


Two markings of an uncertain nature (see text)



1983 WORLD HERITAGE

Mike Murphy provides a comparison of the 1983 World Heritage set in the 1984 Olympics set. This consists of four stamps set-tenant with a stamp-like label, distinguished by having no figures of value.



Label resembling the stamps, but having no figures of value.

## NOTES FROM A VISIT TO EGYPT

- Mike Murphy (ESC 240)

Strictly speaking, not "a visit" but two all-too-brief visits to Cairo and points beyond, as a result of which I am delighted to be able to report the discovery of what can only be described as a minor revolution in the fortunes of the Philatelic Society of Egypt, our brother society which has been going through difficult times for a variety of reasons.

Under a reconstituted committee headed by Mr Hassan al-Morsi Abdo as President and Mr Ahmed Hamed Mahmoud as Secretary, and with the active encouragement of Mr Samir Fikry (ESC 305), the PSE has recently made great strides on two important fronts, and has had mixed fortunes with another. To take the latter first, I regret to have to report that progress on a new Zeheri Catalogue - the first for 15 years - has regrettably slowed after a flourish of optimism which had led to hopes of publication early in 1988. The writing, entrusted largely to Mr Khetcho Hagopian (ESC 304), has made good headway, but the financial, procedural and technical details facing such a specialised publication in today's Cairo are close to overwhelming, and though the spirit is still there, the Society has had to face reality and postpone any advertising of a publication date. I am sure all ESC members will wish the venture well and offer any assistance the Cairo society might require.

But while publication languishes, exhibition flourishes. It is with the greatest of pleasure that I report that Samir Fikry, the Egyptian Commissioner, took with him no fewer than three Egyptian collections for exhibition at Canpex in Toronto - and that there will be four at Copenhagen in the autumn under the care of Mr Mohamed Shams ed-Din (ESC 337). In Toronto Mr Fikry exhibited his "Sphinx Collection", a follow-up to the Nile Collection which has won him three Large Gold medals, and which covers 1879-1914 in a remarkable array of blocks, varieties and covers, and the first three issues of Postage Dues. Dr Farid Mehjar of Alexandria showed the 1914 and 1922 pictorials, Crown overprints and OHEMS overprints, a continuing study including many new varieties; and Dr Ismail Redda of Cairo showed the Fuad issues of 1922 and 1927, a detailed study of plating, retouches and covers, and of the control numbers. Both of the latter are based on the fine former collection of Ibrahim Chaftar Bey (ESC 42), who has been most generous in his time and expertise in helping the development far beyond his original collection. \*

In Copenhagen in October Dr Redda will exhibit the same collection, and he will be joined by Mr Shams ed-Din, showing Egypt postal stationery up to the time of Fuad; Mr Hagopian with the first four issues; and Mrs Jeanne Fikry, with her exhibit of Egyptian aero-philately 1926-1950. When it is considered that only Samir Fikry himself of all those mentioned has exhibited before, it really does seem that our Egyptian colleagues are showing the way in international exhibition. Who will be the first ESC member to volunteer ?

\* Mr Murphy's article was written in July 1987, before the death of Ibrahim Chaftar Bey - Editor.

/ continued . . .



## NOTES FROM A VISIT TO EGYPT - Mike Murphy - continued

The other most encouraging step forward by the PSE is that individual members have dug deep into their pockets to provide the splendid club rooms at 16 Abdel Khalek Sarwat Street with some 20 glass and aluminium display frames, some attached to the walls and others free-standing. Their purchase has enabled the Society to add monthly exhibitions (on the last Saturday of the month) to their regular weekly meetings, which have recently unfortunately been showing little evidence of study or research.

The meeting I attended was not, I was told, of as high quality as its predecessors. As an indication of the standard of material on show, I append brief notes (in approximately chronological order):

Khetcho Hagopian: First Issue, detailing types as distinguished by Dr Byam with enlarged photographs for clarity; 1879 2pi orange-yellow lower left pane showing dark spot on pyramid; 1888 5mill rose-carmine in panes, control 2 top right, 4 and 6 low left; 1888 1mill brown, full sheet of four panes, control 2; ditto, pane with control 3; 1902 2mill brown, tow panes with control 1.

Hassan al-Morsi Abdo: Commercial FDCs including 1934 UPU set to £E1 on beautiful clean cover; 1925 Geographical; 1926 Agriculture full set to 200mills with Reg cachet, postally used; 1933 Railway on Congress envelope; 1933 Aviation with handstamps in black and blue; 1943 Ferial birthday overprint.

Lucien Toutounji (ESC 264): British military Postal and Letter seals, showing plate flaws on both, plating of booklet sheets of 20 and recorded and unrecorded varieties. 1932 Postal Seals shown in complete frames - A and C mint, B & D used, with block of 18 used. 1933 Letter Seals showing three major varieties, with frame D mint and used and C used.

Samir Fikry (ESC 305): Controls on Farouk 1937-44 and 1944-50 definitives, including only known block of four of Boy King 2mills control A/41 printed on gummed side; marginal Royal perf block of 6 of 5mills and interpanneau block of four; 6mills Royal perfs sheet of 6 x 10 for booklets; vertical pair of 100mills, gummed side; lower right corner block of 20 of 15mills with wmk inverted; upper marginal blocks of four of Royal 50pi and £E1, cancelled on back. Among imperf blocks of four of the later series in all values to 200mills was a £E1 marginal block of four with centre misplaced a good 1cm high.

The meeting was remarkably well attended, by about 45 members of all ages from Cairo, Alexandria and provincial towns, and younger members were encouraged to examine the exhibits closely to foster a feeling for better material which can only stand our Cairo colleagues in good stead for the future.

\* \* \* \* \*

I was fortunate on a weekend visit to Alexandria to be able to realise the wish of a lifetime and chat with Ibrahim Chaftar Bey at his elegant villa in the eastern beach suburb of Smouha. Although well into his 80s, the Grand Old Man of Egypt's philately remains remarkably sound in recall of events long past, and as generous as ever with his time in answering the questions of a comparative total novice.

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## NOTES FROM A VISIT TO EGYPT - Mike Murphy - continued

He wished to be remembered to the officials and members of the Egypt Study Circle, and although no longer an active collector he is full of fact and anecdote about many of the most puzzling facets of our hobby. He is delighted with friends, Egyptian and foreign, calling on him to discuss philately, and it was a true honour and delight to meet him.

Whilst in Alexandria I attended a meeting of the Alexandria branch of the Philatelic Society of Egypt, which is virtually autonomous from the Cairo parent body. Again, to my astonishment, the branch has its own club-rooms not far from the sea front; and the meeting was attended by more than 25 members, including a handful of Cairo visitors taking the sea air !

Bad news for those specialists who collect De La Rue 1914 die proofs on card: the following will never grace their collections: BEFORE HARDENING - 1mill, 5 MAY (19)13; 2mill, 25 APR 13; 3mill, 28 JUN 13; 4mill 25 APR 13; 5mill, 27 APR 13; 10mill, 13 JUN 13; 20mill 11 JUN 13; 100mill, 9 SEP 13. BEFORE STRIKING - 200mills, 21 AUG 13. AFTER STRIKING - 50 mills, 25 AUG 13. Reason ? All are displayed elegantly on the wall of the Stamp Room in the recently-refurbished Postal Museum in Cairo, now glistening in cream and gold, with the crescent and triple stars of the Kingdom picked out in green.

Among the proof sheets on the wall of the Stamp Room is that of the 10mills 1927 Statistical Congress (control A/27), annotated in one hand: "OK after corrections 13.11.27". A second hand has added the further note: "Corrections done". The references are to stamps on the right-hand pane of 50, where flaws are indicated in black ink as follows: stamp 9, broken N in Congress; stamp 20, broken frame at upper right; stamp 28, white dot on scribe's knee; stamp 47, red dot before scribe's chest. Remarkably, the large blob over the dash on the inscription on stamp 32 - the well-known Zeheri variety - is clear as daylight on the proof sheet. But apparently it was not noticed and survived to tantalise collectors. Question - has anyone a right-hand full pane to check whether the other corrections were completed satisfactorily ?

\* \* \* \* \*

Another query from the same Stamp Room: one showcase contains a steel printing plate for the 5mills lake (1914 and 1921, SG 77 and 89) set up - presumably to print booklet panes - in a way which surprised me. The whole plate is six stamps wide, in two blocks of three divided by twin bars, and 14 stamps tall; in other words, intended for production of 14 booklet panes. The plate has the date 5/1/13 engraved in its margin, which, by analogy with similar plates on view, does not mean that it was used on the 5th of January, but that it was for 5mills and used in January. The full plate for the 50mills pictorial definitive of this set, for instance, is "dated" 50/1/10 (and has no control number); and the 100mills plate is dated 9/9/21 (perhaps a genuine date?) and 100/1/27 (this plate has had its control number cut out).

/ continued . . .

On sale in Cairo at the moment is a new work from the pen of General Habib Abdel-Raouf, co-author with the late Abdel Hamid Lotfy of the 1981 Simplified Catalogue of the Postage Stamps of Egypt. His publication, dated October 1986, contains a priced checklist of all Egypt issues (no Gaza, but including British Forces and Suez Canal) in simplified form. It follows the Zeheri pattern of listing definitives, commemoratives, officials and so on in groups, and improves on its forerunner by being typed and running from left to right: the language is English, and the title, First Edition of the Postage Stamps of Egypt Catalogue.

It is interesting to compare the prices considered reasonable in Cairo with those of the 1986 Gibbons Part 19 Middle East, especially against the new exchange rates, in which £1 Stg = £E 3.60 or so. The Port Fouad 50pi mint, for instance, Abdel-Raouf values at £E1,000 (or rather less than £300) against Gibbons' £850, and the Second Issue 5pi (Abdel-Raouf £E320, Gibbons £250) and the 1956 Boy Scout miniature sheets (Abdel-Raouf £E700 each, Gibbons £300 each) also vary widely.

The book suffers badly from having merely been photocopied: even though I tried hard in the shop to find a copy without faults I got it home to discover that page 208 is blank! But a useful extension from Gibbons is the division of some recent definitives into what Abdel-Raouf clearly considers, with good reason, to be more suitable listings. It has always seemed to me illogical that the single-colour 20mills (SG777) and 55mills (SG781) of the "1964-1967" set should be lumped together with the multicolours, especially since they were issued some three years later; Abdel-Raouf splits them away. Similarly, the enormously confusing "1971-76" set (Gibbons 1131-1141), with its differing colours for the same values and its "a"-numbers and different methods of printing, is now divided by Abdel-Raouf into six logical groups, based on date of issue alone (but even he has an "a"-number, for the 100mills without wmk; he seems to take for granted that all others in the extended "set" have the large-eagle wmk). Gibbons says only that 1132b and 1138 - the 100mills - and the high values are watermarked. My own collection suggests that they are right. But Abdel-Raouf does us all a service by revealing that the most recently obsolete definitives (SG1340-51, of 1978-82) should also be split on the basis of wmk/no wmk, with a strong suggestion of an otherwise unknown re-issue of the 1, 5, 10, 20 and 50mills all without watermarks. Among recent Officials, Abdel-Raouf agrees with Gibbons precisely in listing the problem-filled 1972-82 set (SG 01161-71 ); but I think that Cyril Defriez' researches will reveal many more shades and other printing subtleties that at present remarked!

It is a shame that the word "Simplified" has been dropped, for the new catalogue, while giving a more up-to-date Cairo price list than we have had, is little more than a checklist. It is fervently to be hoped that when it finally appears the new Zeheri will be closer akin to the old Zeheri than to the new Abdel-Raouf.

## NOTES FROM A VISIT TO EGYPT - Mike Murphy - continued

My most recent visit allowed me to discover the answer to a problem which had been at the back of my mind ever since I received my copies of the World Heritage Convention tenth anniversary set (SG1528-1530, issued Christmas Eve 1983). My FDC showed the three stamps se-tenant as advertised - Rameses head, Coptic textile and Islamic panel (in fact arranged from right to left, in Arabic manner) - but the accompanying block of three showed that a fourth stamp, to the right of Rameses, had been trimmed away, leaving about a quarter of the stamp, including a 3pi value tablet and the start of a date 197...

A moment's thought made me realise that sets of three simply do not fit into a pane layout of 10 x 5, try as one might! So I wrote to Cairo seeking a full sheet. What turned up was a block of 6 x 5, with margins top, bottom and left, and at right the trimmed-off strip which once formed the "ghost" seventh stamp of the strip of ten. With it came the explanation that this seventh stamp had "not been considered suitable". Intriguing.

But now I have the answer. It seems that the original intention had been to print a pane consisting of strips of six stamps (two sets of three), followed from left to right by a no-value label illustrating the 1973 Heritage Convention and the dates 1973-1983 (much as in the 1984 Olympics set, SG1547-50), and then the final three stamps, se-tenant. But a value was inadvertently added to the label! When the error was discovered, the immediate reaction was simply to sell the label as a fourth stamp. But at once the Philatelic Bureau raised an important difficulty: what, in that case, would constitute a set - three stamps (15 sets per sheet) or four (a maximum of five sets per sheet, with all those collectors receiving only three stamps complaining of short measure)? Damocles had the answer - and the seventh "stamp" in the strip was neatly sliced out of every sheet. I imagine that a truly "complete" pane of 10 x 5, with 3pi label intact, would command quite a premium!

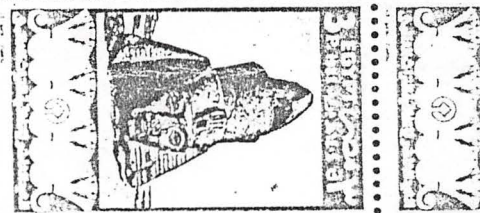
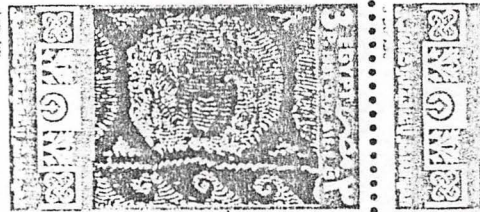
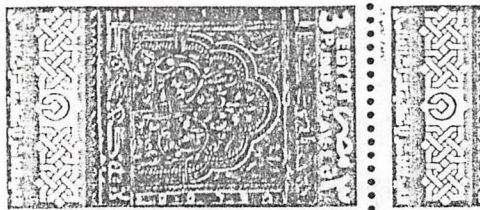
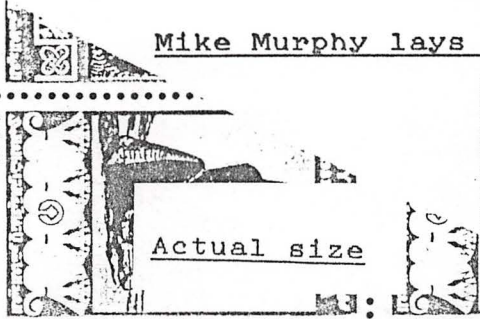
\* \* \* \* \*

[ Mr Cyril Defriez (ESC 172), who heads the ESC study New Issues, and post-monarchy issues generally, writes to confirm that he is engaged in research into the 1972-82 Officials set, SG O.1161-71. He confirms that there are many differences in shades, inscriptions and papers used in this complex set. A report on this by Mr Defriez will appear in a future issue of this journal but this is unlikely to be in our following issue - Editor. ]

\* \* \* \* \*

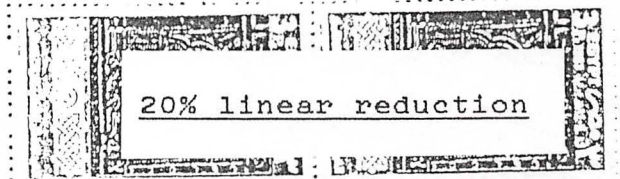
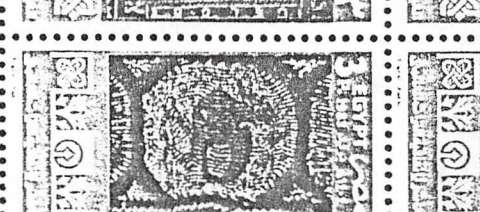
Mike Murphy lays the ghost image! - see text

1214

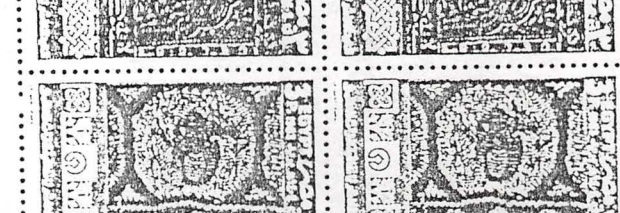
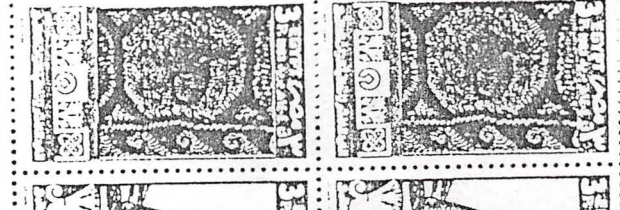


1 2 3

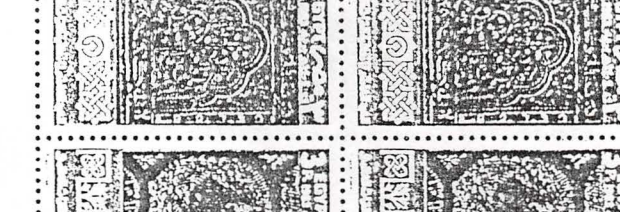
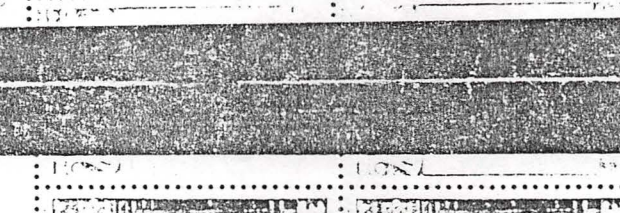
"Ghost image"



1214



1 2 3



1924 comment by JMM

End of Nairn contract for Haifa-Beirout; Baghdad air mails switch to Wednesday from Thursday; introduction (announced Mar 27) of blue Air Mail and red Motor Mail labels; changes to Cairo-Alex rail expresses; changes to Khedivial Mail services to Palestine/Syria.

Jan 3 (1,10): From Jan 1, Egyptian and Palestine Postal Orders may be cashed in the other country, with Egyptian Orders issued for payment in Palestine without extra charge and on the same basis as interior Orders. From the same date, Money Orders for L.E. 1 and below will be suspended by both countries. Stamps on the face of Palestine Postal Orders should not exceed three totalling 40 mills; those on Egyptian Postal Orders must not exceed 49 mills (as inland).

Jan 7 (2,6): The Postmaster-General notifies the public that the despatch of cigarette ends and unsalubrious substances by Letter Post or Parcel Post is prohibited. If such articles are detected in transit through the post, they will be destroyed in the interest of public health.

Jan 17 (5,10): Money Orders exchanged with Spain from Jan 20, maximum stg £40.

Jan 29 (10,2): Following resignation of the Yehia Ibrahim government and elevation of Saad Zaghloul Pasha as President of the Council of Ministers, Ahmed Mazloum made Minister of Waqfs (Religious Endowments) and Moustapha el Nahas Bey becomes Minister of Communications from Jan 28.

Feb 4 (12,6): The Postmaster-General announces that as the contract with the Nairn Transport Company, whose motor cars were utilized for the transport of mails between Haifa and Beyrouth, expired on January 31 1924, the special fee hitherto collected from the public on correspondence for Syria and the Lebanon will not be levied with effect from that date.

All correspondence for Syria and the Lebanon will be despatched daily (except Sundays) by way of Qantara-Haifa and thence by motor cars of the Syrian Postal Authorities, without any surcharge, as from the above date, in accordance with the arrangements made to that effect with Syria and Palestine Post Offices.

Feb 7 (14,5): The Postmaster-General begs to bring the following to the notice of the public:-

Some holders of Post Office Boxes seem to be under the impression that the subscription to these boxes entitles them to a special treatment with regard to delivery of their correspondence which does not bear the number of the box or of correspondence which is addressed to their residence.

Such is not the case, however, as, according to general postal principles, correspondence is delivered to the address it bears, as is practised in foreign postal services.

The system of Post Office Boxes only entails a particular method of distribution being effected, enabling the subscriber to withdraw correspondence by his own means, as soon as the sorting operations are terminated, thus obviating the inconvenience of awaiting the postmen's call.

Under these conditions, it would be in the interest of box holders to inform their correspondents of the number of their boxes, which should moreover be printed on office letter paper and advertisements in local directories.

Furthermore, it is suggested to those members of the public who have not rented Post Office Boxes that they adopt the same measures in order that their correspondence should bear the address of residence or office (name and number of street and quarter) whereat delivery is desired, and this with a view to avoiding delay and resultant inconvenience.

Dead Letter Office parcels sale Feb 20, Central Postal Stores, Alexandria.

1924 - ii

Feb 18 (18,8): German Post Office says that Money Orders in sterling for the Occupied Ruhr and on the Rhine can be issued in Egypt for payment at destination, to a maximum of stg £20.

Feb 25 (20,4): The Postmaster-General announces that the departure of the air mails for Baghdad will take place every alternate Wednesday instead of every alternate Thursday, with effect from the 27th instant.

Latest hours of posting become: Alexandria Central 11am, Cairo Central 3pm, Port Said Central noon.

Feb 28 (21,4): Insured letters and boxes service with Palestine established as from March 1: maximum insured 3,000 gold francs. Palestine offices admitted are as Jan 18 of 1923 except for the following: Gadera deleted, Ludd (Lydda) and Beisan added, Zieron Jacob for Ber Yacob, Majdal for Mejdal, Samakh for Semakh, Sarafand for Sarafend, and Petah Tikva split into Petah, Tikva (Mulebbis).

Mar 3 (22,5): Italians say parcels containing precious stones or precious metals must be accompanied by an invoice or other documents to allow value to be determined.

Mar 10 (24,6): Money Order service between Egypt and Syria and Greater Lebanon suspended as from today because of fluctuations in exchange rates.

Mar 24 (28,5): Insured letter and box and Insured Parcel services between Egypt and Syria and Greater Lebanon will be inaugurated from Apr 1. Maximum amount for letters 3000 gold francs, for parcels 2000 gold francs.

Registered correspondence for Arabia accepted only at sender's risk and with no Egyptian PO responsibility in case of loss.

Resumed from Mar 24: Money Orders by Germany on Egypt; acceptance of COD Insured Letters and Boxes, COD Parcels and collection orders by Egypt for Germany.

Mar 27 (29,4): According to postal regulations, letters for Mesopotamia intended for despatch either by the Service Air Mail or by the Overland Motor Mail route should bear annotations to that effect in red ink on the top left-hand corner of the envelope in addition to the regular postage and special fee.

As such endorsements often escape the notice of the postal staff owing to their illegibility or inconspicuousness, the Postmaster-General announces that special gummed labels have been printed, for affixing to letters destined for conveyance by the Service Air Mail or the Overland Motor Mail route, as the case may be.

The labels for the Air Mail are blue, while those for the Overland Mail Service are red. Each category is printed in Arabic and English in white bold characters and will be supplied gratis on application to the Sale of Stamps windows.

Senders of letters for transmission to Mesopotamia by either of the above services are therefore requested in their own interest to apply for these labels and affix them to the envelopes in lieu of the annotation hitherto made by them.

Correspondence which is not regularly prepaid (ordinary postage and the special fee) will be despatched by the ordinary route even though bearing one of the above-described labels.

Mar 31 (30,12): Maximum insurance for Value Declared Letters and Boxes exchanged with Turkey fixed at 1000 gold francs.

(30,16): Tender for engraving (Dec 31 1923) awarded to H.Margosches, Alexandria.

Apr 3 (32,6): Parcels service with Belgian Congo suspended for two months; but parcels for Banana, Boma and the Magumbe Zone will be accepted.

## EXTRACTS FROM THE JOURNAL OFFICIEL - continued

1924 - i i i

Apr 12 (37,9): Next air mail departure for Baghdad Wednesday Apr 23. Note: registered articles must be posted at least one hour before.

Parcel post service with Belgian Congo has been restored.

Apr 29 (39,7): France has increased postage rate on letters from France for abroad from 50c to 75c per unit of 20g or fraction.

Jun 9 (50,6): Parcel post service with localities in the Belgian Congo beyond Matadi by way of the West Coast of Africa suspended to September 30.

Jul 7 (59,13): Dead Letter Office parcels sale July 23.

Jul 21 (63,5): The Postmaster-General announces that, owing to the strike of the staff of the Egyptian Delta Light Railways Company in the Mudiriyah of Behera, only ordinary correspondence will, until further notice, be accepted for transmission to localities situated on the Company's lines in the affected area.

Jul 28 (65,4): From Aug 1, ordinary Money Orders, telegraphic Money Orders, COD Parcels and collection order services will be established between Egypt and the Free City of Dantzig, to a maximum of stg £40.

Jul 31 (66,9): Tender for supply of watermarked paper to the Government Press, Bulaq (Sept 20).

Sept 1 (77,3): From Aug 27 parcels for the United States will go by a direct new route. Charges 115 milliemmes to 1kg; 130mills 1-3kg; 150mills 3-5kg.

Sept 8 (79,13): Netherlands announces that from Sept 15 Money Orders issued by Dutch offices on Egypt as well as trade changes of COD parcels for Holland must have their value expressed in sterling instead of gold francs: maximum for each parcel stg £10.

Sept 11 (80,11): Madrid Postal Congress instructs all postal administrations to count the weight of overseas correspondence between October 15 and November 11 inclusive.

As this operation can only be effected immediately before the formation of the mails, the Post Office will be compelled to close mails an hour earlier than the usual advertized time during the above 28 days.

The precise hour at which such mails will be closed will be indicated on the Public Notice Board installed at the GPO Alexandria and at the Cairo, Port Said, and Suez Post Offices, and it will also be indicated in the mail departure notices which are issued to subscribers and which are invariably published in the Press. Correspondence posted in the letterboxes after the advertised time will necessarily be delayed until the departure of the following mail; moreover, during the above 28 days, no correspondence may be posted on board mail steamers nor in the trains at Cairo and other stations.

Sept 15 (81,6): Bir Shams, Shiblanga and Nikla admitted to specie and insured letters services from October 1, as usual during the cotton season.

Oct 2 (86,4): Samples containing dutiable articles addressed to localities in Tripolitania will not be admitted.

The Postmaster-General has the honour to inform the public that Value Declared Letters and Boxes from Cairo destined for Italy or despatched in transit through Italy must be consigned to the Central Post Office, Cairo, on Thursdays before noon, in order that they may be despatched by the steamers of the Lloyd Triestino Company via Brindisi.



## EXTRACTS FROM THE JOURNAL OFFICIEL - continued

1924 - iv

Oct 8 (87,4): Auction of obsolete articles, October 18, Central Postal Stores, Alexandria.

Oct 20 (91,5): Insured COD letters and boxes may now be despatched to Holland. Trade charges must be expressed in sterling, to maximum £40 per item.

According to the new winter itinerary of the Egyptian State Railways, the arrival of the Express Train No 19 at Alexandria has been fixed at 7.05pm instead of 7.40pm. In consequence, the Delivery Office windows at Alexandria Central PO will be open from 8-8.30pm from Nov 1.

Oct 23 (92): The 26th public session (11 May) of the Chamber of Deputies gives a complete listing (in French) of Egyptian military strength, including dispositions and British and Egyptian officers.

Oct 27 (93,5): New railway stations opened on Menuf-Kafr el-Zayat line from Nov 1: Denshawi, Danasur, Bishtami, Tanub. Kasr Naser el-Din not yet ready, so Dalgamun Halt stays open. Kafr Deima Halt, between Shubra el-Nemla and Kafr el-Zayat, also open Nov 1.

(93,6): As a result of a new timetable, the Express train No 24 will leave Alexandria at 3pm instead of 4pm from Nov 1. Insured letters for localities in Egypt will be accepted daily by the Cash Office of the Alexandria PO from 9am to noon and from 3pm to 6pm, Sundays and holidays excepted.

Nov 6 (96,3): The Postmaster-General has the honour to inform the public that, effective November 7, the steamers of the Khedivial Mail Steamship and Graving Dock Coy., Ltd., will leave Alexandria every Friday and Port Said every Saturday for Palestine and Syria, instead of every Saturday and Sunday respectively.

In consequence of the alteration effected in the departure of the Express Train No 24 from Alexandria, which has been timed at 3pm instead of 4pm effective Nov 1, the Postmaster-General has the honour to inform the public that clearance of letter boxes installed at the Branch Post Offices within the town will not be effected between noon and 2.30pm. In the circumstances, correspondence should preferably be posted in the street letter boxes, the clearance of which is effected at convenient hours prior to the departure of the abovementioned Express Train.

Nov 17 (99,3): Closed packets and sealed letters containing dutiable goods may now be sent to Martinique. Wrappers must bear "To be submitted to the Customs" in red, with the nature, origins, value and weight of the goods. They must also have Customs import authorisation.

Nov 20 (100,3):

MINISTRY OF FINANCE

Survey of Egypt. - Competitive Design for new adhesive Postage Stamps required by the Egyptian Government: -

- 1) The sum of L.E. 200 (two hundred Egyptian pounds) is offered as a prize for the most suitable design for the new series of adhesive postage stamps to be used by the Egyptian General Post Office.
- 2) The method of printing to be employed will be the photogravure process, therefore designs must be prepared in sepia wash, line drawings being unsuitable for the printing process.

(Continued....)

## EXTRACTS FROM THE JOURNAL OFFICIEL - continued

1924 - v

Nov 20 (100,3) (continued)

3) The principal feature of the stamp is to be a portrait bust of His Majesty King Fouad I, and competitors must arrange to allow the maximum space in the design for this portrait. No attempt need be made to paint a portrait of His Majesty as this will be reproduced at a later stage from an actual photograph.

4) Artists are given the alternative of designing a surround to the portrait in either arabesque or ancient Egyptian decoration, but care must be taken to preserve purity of style in either case.

5) Suitable panels must be arranged for in the design to give adequate display to the words "Egypt Postage" (in Arabic), the value of the stamp in Arabic words and also in Arabic and Latin figures.

6) The dimensions of the design must be exactly four times larger than those of the low value stamps now in circulation which measure 22.75 X 18.75 millimetres, that is to say the measurements of the design will be 91 X 75 millimetres.

One design will be used for the entire series.

7) Competitors must prepare their drawings in such a manner that they can be used for final reproduction without any subsequent retouching and particular care must be taken to ensure that designs are absolutely rectangular.

8) Drawings must be made on suitable thick white Bristol board or hot-pressed white drawing paper mounted on strawboard, in order to ensure perfect flatness and to obviate cockling.

9) Competitors must forward their drawings carefully packed, under registered cover, addressed to:-

The Surveyor General,  
Survey of Egypt,

(Competition) Giza (Mudiriya) - Egypt.

and drawings must be received not later than February 1, 1925.

10) Each drawing is to have written in ink on the back the artist's pseudonym. A covering letter giving particulars of the artist's name and address, and also his pseudonym, must be forwarded under separate registered cover to:-

The Surveyor General,  
Survey of Egypt,

(Competition) Giza (Mudiriya) - Egypt.

11) The Government reserves the right to reject any or all of the designs submitted and its decision is absolutely final. The submission of designs will be considered ipso facto as compliance with these terms on the part of the artist.

12) The result of the competition will be advertized in the Journal Officiel and in the daily press.

[In the event of course, none of the designs submitted was found suitable, and no result can be traced through the JO].

Nov 24 (102,2): Christmas posting dates: Britain letters Dec 18 (French steamer), parcels Dec 8 (P&O); France, Sweden, Belgium, Holland, Spain Dec 18 (French steamer) and Dec 14 (P&O); Austria, Germany, Czechoslovakia etc Dec 19, Dec 12 (both Lloyd Triestino); Italy letters and parcels Dec 19

(Continued.....)

## EXTRACTS FROM THE JOURNAL OFFICIEL - continued

1924 - vi

Nov 24 (102,2) (continued)

(Lloyd Triestino); United States Dec 5 (Lloyd Triestino), Dec 1 (P&O); India letters and parcels Dec 10 (P&O); Australia letters and parcels Dec 3 (P&O).

The Registration window at the Attarin PO will open in future from 7.30 to 8.30 instead of 8-9pm.

Nov 27 (105,12): Contract for watermarked paper for the Government Press, Bulaq, awarded to Messrs McKenzie Scott and Henderson Ltd for L.E.232.971.

Dec 2 (107 Special): Exchange of Notes between Allenby, Saad Zaghloul and later Ahmed Ziwer (took over from Zaghloul as Prime Minister Nov 25) after the assassination of Sir Lee Stack Pacha, Sirdar of the Egyptian Army and Governor-General of Sudan, outside his home in Kasr el-Aini at 2pm on November 19. He died at midnight on Nov 20 and was buried Saturday morning Nov 22.

Dec 8 (109,1): Royal decree naming Sir G. Archer Governor-General of Sudan (dated December 4).

Dec 15 (111,2): Owing to the new arrival time at Cairo of Express Train No 24, now at 6.25 instead of 7.25pm from November 1, the Delivery section of the Cairo PO will henceforth be 7.30am to 8.30pm uninterruptedly.

Dec 22 (113,10): Tender for the Surveyor-General of Egypt, Giza - for aluminium printing plates required for 1925 (closing March 18).

Dec 29 (116,2): Specie service at Bir Shams suppressed from Dec 25 and at Nikla and Shiblanga from Dec 30, owing to the termination of the cotton season.

From January 1, Ordinary Money Orders, Cash on Delivery parcels, Insured Letters and Boxes - specified in sterling to a limit of £40 - will be allowed between Egypt and Finland.

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