

ISSN 0269—252X

The
Quarterly Circular
of

THE
EGYPT

STUDY CIRCLE



March Quarter 2011

Whole Series No. 236

Volume XXI No. 1

Pages 1-24

CONTENTS.

Officers 1, Meetings 2-4, Book review 5, Members 19
Annual accounts iii, Auction accounts iv

ARTICLES.

TPOs – Time for New Research	Mike Murphy	p6-7
Maritime Markings Since 1890	John Sears	p8
Postage Due on Official Correspondence	Hany Salam	p9
Official Mail service from 1866 to 1883	Hany Salam	p9
The Official Mail Service in 1884	Tony Schmidt	p10-11
Queries 86-91		p13-19
New Issues: November 7, 2007 to December 31, 2008	Cyril E. H. Defriez	p20-24



www.egyptstudycircle.org.uk



**Carmichael
& Todd**
PHILATELISTS
PTS
GREGORY C.G. TODD

EGYPT.

Stamps: Classic from 1866 to Modern until 1980, Covers from rare early stampless maritime mail, First Issue covers and Proofs of all issues, Farouk Imperfs, Colour Trials, Specimens, Booklets. All facets of Egyptian Postal History bought & sold. Essays, Multiples, Postmarks, Overseas Usages, Suez Canal Company, All Foreign Post Offices and British Forces. In fact Everything for the devoted collector of Egypt!



Territorial P.O. in Massawa. 1875 (Nov 13): Cover from Massawa to Marseille franked by 1872-75 5pa. brown and 2pi. yellow (2) tied by "Poste Khedevie Egiziane-Massawa" datestamps in black; via Egyptian P.O. in Suez and thence via French P.O. in Alexandria (Nov 24). Charged 1 franc due on receipt in Marseille: whilst Egypt's membership of the UPU was active from 1 July 1875, France only activated the new reduced rates from 1 January 1876. Extremely rare cover.

**Quality Stamps, Proofs and Rare Postal History of the World always
required for Stock or on a confidential Private Treaty basis.**

P.O. BOX 111 LYMINGTON HAMPSHIRE ENGLAND S041 6ZJ
Telephone 01 590 682 683 facsimile 01 590 681 999
Toddytripzinc@aol.com
VAT No. GB 561 9567 09

Novelties on the Meetings list

The programme for 2011 includes some novelties: the first two, an informal TPO meeting in January and a Live Auction at the AGM on February 26, proved most successful – so successful that we shall change the programme to include a full TPO study meeting in September. Please see page 6 for details. Here is the rest of the year's programme

May 7 – Services Club – “Named” PO markings – Mike Murphy

July 9 – Services Club – Hotel Post Offices – John Davies

September 17 – Stampex – TPO study meeting – All Members

November 5 – Philatex – Acquisitions and Queries NB. 10.30am informal meeting

For meetings at the Victory Services Club, Seymour Street, Marble Arch, London, members usually congregate in the ground-floor bar from 1pm and the meeting starts at 2pm.

EGYPT STUDY CIRCLE OFFICERS

- President:** John. Sears, FRPSL, 496 Uxbridge Road, Pinner, Middlesex HAS 4SL.
- Chairman:** Peter Andrews, 51 Elizabeth Road, Moseley, Birmingham B13 8QH
ancientone@btintemet.com
- Deputy Chairman:** Stanley Horesh, U.K.
- Secretary:** Mike Murphy, 109 Chadwick Road, Peckham, London SE15 4PY
egyptstudycircle@hotmail.com
- Treasurer:** Brian Sedgley, Greenpeckers, Seven Hills Road, Cobham, Surrey KT1 1ER
brian.sedgley~talktalk.net
- Editor/Webmaster:** Edmund Hall, 6 Bedford Avenue, Little Chalfont, Amersham, Bucks HP6 6PT
edmundhall@chalfont.eclipse.co.uk
- Librarian:** John Davis, Church View Cottage, Church Rd, Upton Snodsbury, Worcs WR7 4NH
davisatsnodsbury@tiscali.co.uk
- Publicity Officer:** David. Sedgwick, 9 Eastlands, High Heaton, Newcastle upon Tyne, NE7 7YD
-ann.david_@tiscali.co.uk
- North America Agent:** Richard S Wilson, 53 Middle Patent Road, Bedford Village, NY. 10506, U.S.A
dadul@verizon.net
- Egypt Agent:** Dr Ibrahim Shoukry, Apt 1, 10 Kamal El-Tawil St (Ex-Montaza), Zamalek, Cairo, Egypt
ishoukry@link.net
- Antipodean Agent:** Tony Chisholm, 13 Arden Way, Wilton, Wellington 6005, New Zealand
j_tchis@clear.net.nz
- Committee:** Dr Sami Sadek, The Oaks, 19 Sinah Lane, Hayling Island, Hants PO11 0EY
sami.sadek@ntlworld.com

All contents © copyright Egypt Study Circle, London, and the contributors.

Website: egyptstudycircle.org.uk

Report of the Meeting, January 8 2011

PRESENT: John Sears (President), Peter Andrews (Chairman), Stanley Horesh (Deputy Chairman), Mike Murphy (Secretary), Brian Sedgley (Treasurer), John Davis (Librarian), Mike Bramwell, John Clarke, Cyril Defriez, Peter Grech, Paul Green, Wolfgang Köhler, Lewis Said, Tony Schmidt.

APOLOGIES: Apologies for absence were received from: Edmund Hall (Editor/Webmaster), David Sedgwick (Publicity), Margaret Chadwick, Angela Child, Alan Jeyes, Sami Sadek, Steve Speak.

The Chairman welcomed members and wished all, present or not, a Happy New Year and success in the stamp world in 2011. He hoped that everyone had been able to add to their collections from the unprecedented succession of five auctions of former members' material in the run-up to Christmas, and reminded members that annual subscriptions for 2011 were due on January 1 and that the final date for payment, that of the Annual General Meeting, was early this year on February 26.

The Secretary spoke briefly about the formula for today's meeting, and the hope that it might resurrect the study of TPO postal markings. If successful, the idea was to be extended to post-Monarchy material at a second experimental meeting later in the year, the aim in both cases being to encourage the collection, study and research of neglected areas of Egypt material.

Two new applications were elected to membership, and we wish a warm welcome to Volker Kleiner of Essen, Germany, and Jon Aitchison of Bishop's Stortford.

The Secretary appealed once more for volunteers to fill the Committee vacancy and for help in organising the Auction, without whose income the Circle might be in financial difficulties. He mentioned his disappointment at the almost total lack of interest shown by members, and thanked the two – one from the United States, the other from Canada – who had offered their services. Decisions will be taken at the Annual Meeting: please don't hesitate to volunteer – your Circle needs YOU!

The Treasurer reported that subscriptions were coming in but appealed for members to use direct debit or standing order, and the President reported that the last Auction, No 49, had produced a smaller turnover and hence lower commission for the Circle than usual. He hoped for a good result from the live auction to go with the AGM, and that we might be able to organise a top-level Auction to mark No 50 in the autumn.

The Librarian reported his gratitude for the gift from Professor Peter Smith of a collection of correspondence from Dr William Byam from half a century ago and said that it would augment the holdings of the Circle Record. There was some discussion on the future of the holdings of the Record.

Before the meeting proper, Dr Mostafa El-Dars (ESC 556) reported on his recent lengthy visit to Cairo and the difficulties faced by the Post Office and Philatelic Bureau during a period of extensive rebuilding. He announced increases in postal rates to £E2.50 (from £E1.50) for overseas Air Mail and £E1 (from 55p) for registration. Noticing that stamps of value £E1, £E1.50, £E2 and £E2.50 were all on sale, he experimented with each value on four letters home to UK – needless to say, all arrived by air without any difficulty.

Tony Schmidt (ESC 198) then announced that, as the buyer at auction of the late Dennis Clarke's library, he had found a great many pages of Dennis's research notes included – on virtually every topic under the sun – and wished to pass them on free of charge to members who might be interested. Tony can be contacted at Stonecroft, Leafy Lane, Rudloe, Corsham, Wilts SN13 0LE (tel 01225 810553).

The meeting that followed took the form of a completely unstructured display of TPO markings and allied material, presented by no fewer than 11 of the 14 members present. The range and variety of markings, and individual methods of presentation, created an enormous amount of interest and discussion see page 6. At the end of the displays the meeting decided that, in light of the fact that the one definitive listing of TPO markings was published by Peter Smith as long ago as 1983, it was time for a fresh look.

As a result, the post-Monarchy meeting due on September 17 has been postponed to 2012 and a true TPO study meeting will take its place. Members are asked to bring along their TPO markings, in order as defined by Peter Smith's types, for recording. It is crucial that visual evidence – the marking itself, or a scan, photocopy or photograph – be produced. Evidence from listing alone cannot, with regret, be accepted.

Report of the Annual General Meeting, February 26, 2011

PRESENT: John Sears (President), Peter Andrews (Chairman), Mike Murphy (Secretary), Edmund Hall (Editor/webmaster), Brian Sedgley (Treasurer), John Davis (Librarian), Jon Aitchison, Mike Bramwell, Angela Child, John Clarke, Cyril Defriez, Mostafa El-Dars, Peter Grech, Paul Green, Anton Jansen (Netherlands), Alan Jeyes, Costas Kelemenis (Greece), Tony Schmidt, Ronny Van Pellecom (Belgium), Vahe Varjabedian (Egypt), Richard Wheatley, David Worrollo. Guest: Pauline Gittoes.

APOLOGIES: Apologies for absence were received from: Stanley Horesh (Deputy Chairman), David Sedgwick (Publicity), Tony Chisholm, Ibrahim Shoukry, Dick Wilson, Margaret Chadwick, Peter Goodwin, Sami Sadek.

The Chairman opened the meeting by welcoming all those present, particularly those from overseas; and then called for a minute's silence in memory of the five members who had passed away during the year. After apologies for absence and approval of the minutes of the 2010 AGM (proposed Edmund Hall, seconded John Sears), the Secretary mentioned one matter arising - the Circle's action in supporting the Philatelic Society of Egypt in its efforts to deter illegal photocopying and sale of copyright books and other material. The action seemed to have born fruit.

Chairman's Report: The Chairman remarked with pleasure and gratitude on the larger than usual attendance and asked members not to hesitate in expressing views on how we might attract more members to meetings. He mentioned that the TPOs meeting in January, informal though it was, was extremely successful, so much so in fact that it was decided to hold a formal TPO study meeting in September instead of the planned topic. He was happy to be able to report that no New Zealand members or families had suffered in the recent earthquake, and hoped that it might once more be able to arrange a visit to Egypt in November. Vahe Varjabedian mentioned that the Cairo society had bought 80 frames in order to limit its dependence on the Post Office for support, and said that it was hoped to arrange an exhibition at a Cairo hotel in November.

Subscriptions appeal

Please remember that subscriptions for the present year must be paid by the date of the Annual Meeting. The easy way for all members who are able to do so is to pay by bank standing order – once arranged it can safely be forgotten, with benefits all round! The Circle account is at Barclays Bank (Wood Green Group), sort code 20-98-21, account number 60334731: please use your surname and membership number as references.

He announced that for the first time the Macarthur Award for the best and most significant *QC* article from the previous year had been won by an Egyptian member, and congratulated Hany Salam, for his important research into Official Mails between 1866 and 1888. Remarkably, the win was by a single vote ahead of another Egyptian member, Vahe Varjabedian, who wrote about the Continental Hotel in Cairo.

Secretary's Report: The Secretary put before the meeting an application for membership from Pauline Gittoes of Southampton, who was present as a guest, and on her election by acclamation was able to announce that membership stood at 193, precisely the same number as a year ago, after the number falling by the wayside was precisely matched by the number of new members – 15.

He announced that for the first time the Macarthur Award for the best and most significant *QC* article from the previous year had been won by an Egyptian member, and congratulated Hany Salam, for his important research into Official Mails between 1866 and 1888. Remarkably, the win was by a single vote ahead of another Egyptian member, Vahe Varjabedian, who wrote about the Continental Hotel in Cairo.

Treasurer's Report: The Treasurer presented the accounts [see page iii] for the year to December 31, 2010, which showed an overall loss for the year of £231.07. Income remained virtually the same, at approximately £5,600, but costs increased, largely on account of the very successful Circle 75th Anniversary lunch at the Victory Services Club and extra costs associated with increased colour production of the *Quarterly Circular* (the special enlarged Anniversary edition was all in colour, prompting a Macarthur vote from one member, who said: "For me, every page was a wealth of interesting and useful information."). Postage costs for the *QC* also increased remarkably quickly, and the remaining stock of Circle ties was written off (though the Secretary still has a tiny stock, available at a bargain £3.50 each!!). Approval was proposed Alan Jeyes, seconded Mike Murphy.

The Treasurer then proposed a vote of thanks to the Accountant, Stephen Bunce (ESC 272), which was seconded by Mike Murphy and warmly applauded.

Auction Report: John Sears reported a slight disappointment with results [see page iv] this year. With a slight drop in sales, and the single auction having to bear the whole cost of insurance, the net profit was only £133 from Auction 49, resulting in a smaller than usual (£1,200 instead of £1,500) transfer to the General Account. He hoped for a good result from today's experimental Live Auction, and said that it was crucial to have volunteers in 2012 to help in running the major Auction, which has been a mainstay in subsidising the Circle's running costs for several years.

Editor/Webmaster Report: Edmund Hall's report on the *QC* was short and to the point: "You write the *QC*, not me," he said. "Unless I have articles from members, there won't be a *QC*. If you want it to continue, please submit material."

He gave a guarded welcome to the results of the website survey contained on the green sheet with the December *QC*, noting that 24 members had voted for the site to continue, 18 felt that the members-only section should be expanded, but that only seven had offered to help with its production. Given that 24 is about one eighth of our membership, and that members have an incomprehensibly poor record of support, it could be said that that was a good result ... members unfamiliar with HOW they can help in keeping the site updated and interesting, worth returning to, will find a brief article in this *QC* [see page iv] giving hints and tips as to what would be helpful and useful. As ever, the Officers are grateful for even the smallest help.

Librarian's report: John Davis reported that £87 had been spent on books during the year, and that postage costs amounted to £24.69. He made clear that the Library is not only extensive but also a useful tool available to members in the UK, and that if postage costs were deterring members from borrowing, he was always willing to bring books to a specific meeting to be collected.

To fill the vacancy left by the sad passing of Dennis Clarke, Dr Sami Sadek (ESC 559) was elected to the Committee (proposed John Sears, seconded Mike Murphy), and the Secretary noted that one further Committee position remained vacant should volunteers be forthcoming. He informed the meeting with great regret of the resignation (from February 2012) of our North American Agent, Richard Wilson; he will be sorely missed, and perhaps this is a suitable moment for a review of the Agent system

There was no further business, and the meeting decided in principle that the date of the next Annual Meeting should echo as closely as possible this one, that is, on the Saturday of Spring Stampex.

There then followed the absolute novelty of a Live Auction in the room, undoubtedly a feature that helped to attract a record number of 23 members to the AGM, and one that certainly helped to cement the idea of repeating the venture at next year's Annual Meeting.

Without a doubt, this was a great success, and Officers heaped praise on the organiser, Edmund Hall, his helpers, Mike Murphy, Brian Sedgley and John Davis, and half a dozen members for submitting material for sale. A total of 214 lots were illustrated on the website in advance, allowing email bids from those not present, and room bidding started where the email bids stopped.

There was fierce bidding on some lots, and the upshot was a remarkable 62 per cent of the lots sold (133 out of 214), split between email bidders (68 lots won for approximately £1,550), and room bidders, who were able to take away their purchases at the end of the auction (65 sold, for approximately £1,500). All in all a fascinating afternoon - and some £300 commission for the Circle. For Prices Realised, see web site.

For a change, there was no formal closure to the meeting, merely a feeling all round that it had been a happy and worthwhile afternoon, and that everyone had enjoyed themselves.

* The Secretary would like to bring to members' attention the fact that he has received an extensive further list of the Egypt books left by the late Dennis Clarke. If any member would like to view the list - no reasonable offer refused for any book - please contact the Secretary.

Book Review by Peter A. S. Smith (ESC 74)

EGYPT STAMPS, by **Magdi M. Abdel-hadi**. self-published; Cairo, 2010. Vol. I, 717 pp., Vol. II, 636 pp.; hardbound. £75.00 plus postage (£15, from the author at 71 Syria Street Mohandeseen, 12411 Cairo, Egypt. £65 plus postage to ESC members). ISBN 978-977-17-9162-1

When a new catalogue appears, one wants to know why it is justified and whether it differs significantly from existing catalogues. There have been many catalogues of Egyptian stamps, beginning with Albani and Zeitun and with Zeheri (to whom this new one is dedicated). The great advance of Mr Abdel-hadi's work is that it is all in colour, that almost every plate flaw or other variety is illustrated with enlargements, and that it is, of course, up to date.

This is a wonderful publication, and I have spent much enjoyable time reading through it. I am impressed by the completeness of the illustrations, for they cannot be made without the original items (or suitable photocopies) to work from. One must have an extraordinarily complete collection, or close contacts with many other willing collectors. Mr Abdel-hadi apparently has both, but he also has the necessary familiarity with Egyptian stamps at a sophisticated level.

Volume I begins with an extensive introduction in which basic philatelic features are clearly explained, along with the various special terms that apply to Egyptian philately (e.g., royal proofs). Watermarks are shown very nicely, as are the filigrees that occur on a few stamps and envelopes. Then come the essays and the non-commemorative stamps (650 pages of them!), including the first issues of Sudan, the Gaza Strip. The Suez Canal Co, and the French post offices. Control numbers are listed, and then three appendices: the various printings of the King Fuad and King Farouk issues, the 1933 air mail printings, and the colour trials of the "King of Egypt and Sudan" overprints.

Volume II covers unissued stamps, commemorative stamps, miniature sheets and the postal stationery of Egypt and Sudan. The large production of commemorative issues in recent years makes this volume especially lengthy. A useful feature is the inclusion of the size of the sheets and the layout of the panes. It is good to see a clear exposition of the origin of the 2004 Prestige Booklet, and illustrations of the covers and interleaves of the other booklets.

Pricing can be very difficult, especially by a collector rather than a dealer. The prices are given in US dollars. The very rare items are not priced (they so rarely come on the market). Prices for unused stamps are stated to be for stamps never hinged. Although these are available for issues from 1879 onwards, the great majority of stamps issued prior to, say, 1940, have been hinged. What about the classic issues? Nearly all singles have been hinged, but nevertheless, never-hinged examples exist for most classic issues in the form of blocks, in which only one or two stamps have been hinged. The First Issue is the scarcest. Unfortunately, no clear indication is given about the value of lightly hinged stamps. On the whole, the pricing seems fairly accurate. The values given for postal stationery are considerably higher than I expected, which probably reveals the growing popularity of this area as a specialty.

For a work of this magnitude, by a single author, there are remarkably few errors and omissions, and I mention here only those that might lead a user to confusion. The heading of the issue of 1874-5 lists a perforation of $13\frac{1}{3}$ instead of $12\frac{1}{3}$. The 5 para provisional (1879) with guide lines in all four corners is not listed. The "Canal Farouk I" is not shown or mentioned. In the Postage Due section, the Harrison die proofs, in blue, are also omitted. When one considers the enormous amount of information that the author had to contend with, a few omissions are understandable.

Lastly, it should be mentioned that the Posta Europea and interpostal seals are not listed. This is intentional, for they are not strictly stamps. Covers are not listed, except for first day covers (I would have much preferred seeing non-philatelic covers listed instead!).

Should one buy this catalogue? I would not be without it!

TPOs – Time for New Research

Mike Murphy (ESC 240)

Eleven of the 14 members at the meeting on January 8 showed TPO material – yet, remarkably, when we published a register of members' interests in 2007, not a single member volunteered TPOs as an interest. Perhaps this is because although everyone has TPO markings, the listings in Peter Smith's magisterial *Travelling Post Offices of Egypt* had led people to believe that all the work had been done.

But Peter's book was published in 1983, and the discoveries made since then

– but not recorded – must run into hundreds if not thousands. A glance at any recent ESC auction list will show several entries detailing earlier or later dates, or varieties in type, or even different routes using the same type of marking. The book, though apparently comprehensive, was no more than a first step...

Clearly there is much to be done to augment the sterling work of Professor Smith. The late Anatole Ott was interested in TPOs, but his collection has now been sold. Peter Heim in Germany has offered to co-operate by handing over his records to anyone interested in updating the listings. This is an opportunity we cannot afford to miss.

The January meeting was fascinating not only by the range of material but by the interest it aroused, some members encouraged to look at the markings for the first time, others to ask the basic question – how did the system work? How was it that some covers received postal markings on the train that carried them towards their destination? Members showed dates earlier than Peter Smith's, later than Peter's, or types that Peter had not recorded, or types similar to, but not quite the same as, those recorded in the book.



Enthusiasm for a study meeting was infectious. Agreement to defer the post-Monarchy meeting to next year and replace it with a TPO meeting in September was unanimous. This is a fascinating area where material is not difficult to find; very many covers travelled by train, a large percentage received TPO markings.

The meeting did throw up queries that could not immediately be answered, including (*left*), the date slug on this rare Ufficio Natante ("floating office", Smith pp. 19-20) marking, struck on a Third Issue 5-piastre, in which the date is clearly expressed as two figures (81) rather than the normal full four-figure year indicator. Brian Sedgley (ESC 268) asks if anyone has seen another? Another special variety was shown on a card from Edmund Hall (ESC 238), with the

"very rare" Suez Ambulant with star and crescent (Type 2A2) dated October 1891 and the "B" of Ambulant clearly reversed (*Fig. 1*). Has anyone seen one like it?

And what about the single-name markings of this type? If a postmark reads, for instance, Port Taufiq / TPO, or Suez / Ambulant – which two towns is it serving? Another lively discussion revolved around the various types reading Cairo / TPO 24 / E (5C1 and 5c1.1), and the TPO 19 / Alexandria (5E1). In the former case the "E" might indicate "Express" for Train 24 was indeed an Express – but running from Alexandria to Cairo, not the other way round. The Cairo-Alex Express was Train 25. And Train 19 was another Express, from Cairo to Alex.



Fig. 1 – Ambulant Suez with B reversed

An entirely different type of postal marking was presented by Cyril Defriez (ESC 172). Though it is clearly a TPO type, marked on train No 83 with the European wording *Ityai el Barud-Shabrakhit & V.V.*, it conforms to none of Peter Smith's types, and has only the word *saayra* (ie, "travelling") in the Arabic top segment (right). Again, has anyone seen one like it?



Although not strictly TPO, another query arose on a cover with two TPO transit marks, Dumiat-Tanta/TPO, 5A3, and Biala-Shirbin/Ambt, 3A1b, on the reverse – it seems that the cover from the unusual small town of Qostantinia to Cairo lost its stamp at some stage en route and was supplied with a large rectangular “FRANCO” handstamp indicating in effect, “postage paid”. This marking is larger and more square than normally seen ... has anyone seen one like it?

The afternoon was full of such queries and produced a good deal of discussion and enlightenment. Clearly the experiment was a success, and it seems fitting that we should strike while the iron is hot and follow up quickly with a study meeting in September rather than introduce a different new area for research and study.



So although the post-Monarchy section will have to wait its turn until next year, it is hoped that members might turn their hands to looking out their TPO markings and let us see how we can add to the impressive detailing done by Peter Smith so long ago.

Obviously those in the room will share the excitement of new discoveries. But those unable to attend on September 17 should not feel left out. Illustrations can be provided of material that goes beyond Peter's recording – whether extension of date or of route for a particular type, or indeed of new types or variants, all will be

grist to the mill. It is happily not necessary to make further recordings of dates within those recorded in 1983; and members should please help the co-ordinators by listing their offerings in order according to Peter Smith's types, and classified by his type numbers.

The results of our researches will be placed on the Circle website, where they will help to realise one of the aims of the site – to publish updates to well-known material for the benefit of all members and without the necessity of going to the trouble and expense of publishing a new book!

** As a footnote to the above, we are delighted to say that we shall shortly be putting on the website the complete text and listing of Peter Smith's wonderful – but long outdated – book *The Travelling Post Offices of Egypt*, published in 1983. We are grateful indeed to Professor Smith and to the Mobile Post Office Society of the United States, the original publishers, for allowing us to give all members the opportunity to check their collections against the listings in advance of the important TPO study meeting at Stampex on September 17.

Maritime Markings Since 1890

John Sears (ESC 188)

Since the ESC Meeting of February, 2010, and the article "Maritime Markings Since 1890" in the *QC* of June 2010, I have had a number of useful responses, in particular with reference to the Paquebot cachet Type II of Port Taufiq - see *Fig. 2*.

Fig 1 & 2



It had been assumed that this was used subsequent to the use of the Type I (see *Fig. 1*), but this has now been proved false. Alan Jeyes (ESC 293) found me a cover (*Fig. 3*) which has a very clear cds of Port Taufiq 3 III 11 with a 95 per cent strike of the Type II cachet, well within the dates of usage of Type 1. The cds is also compatible with that used at the time, although a comment has been made that the addressee is a "philatelic" name, of which I was not aware. However, I have now heard from Cyril Defriez (ESC 172), reporting the use of Type II on a cover with very clear cds of 3 VI 04 - see *Fig. 4*.

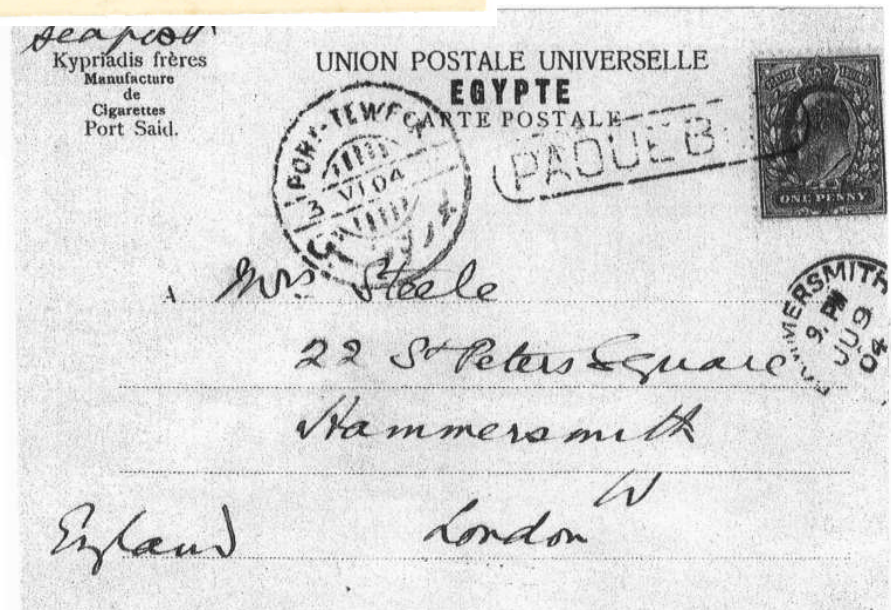
Not only would this appear to confirm the use of Type II concurrently with Type I, but that shown as *Fig. 4* is also the earliest reported use of a Paquebot cachet at Port Taufiq and indeed, apart from 1901 at Suez, of any Paquebot cachet anywhere in Egypt. One wonders if the Type II was lost in a drawer for a few years, came to light and then lost again.

The last use of the Pleine Mer cachet in Egypt is so far reported as 22 XI 98, but there must have been maritime mail between then and 1904! Thank you to those of you who have responded: please keep looking and reporting.



Fig 3

Fig. 4



Postage Due on Official Correspondence

Hany Salam (ESC 580)



As official mail was not franking-free, officials used the money from the *ohda* to pay for their correspondence. If the money was all used up and letters still had to be sent, the *moawen* would send an unfranked letter that would be taxed as postage due.

I illustrate (*left*) a letter carrying 13 information documents and a list of contents, sent from the *moawen* of Samalut through Magaga PO, on September. 6, 1877, to the Head of Sector 1 in Upper Egypt, transiting Ghirgheh on September 8 and arriving at Kena on September 10.

The *moawen* sending the letter did not pay for this postal service; the letter was taxed 6pi postage due.

This is the only example found for postage due on official letters; the 6pi taxation has never previously been recorded, yet another example was illustrated at the auction of Dr Byam.

The letter has a handwritten inscription mentioning the 6pi taxation beneath the hand-stamped numeral 6.

Official Mail service from 1866 to 1883 QC 235 p.248

Hany Salam (ESC 580)

I believe a slight case of confusion occurred on describing Fig. 6 in my article in the last *QC*. The caption states that the envelope shows both an intaglio seal and a CDS. Indeed, this envelope bears two stamps, but they are the official administration seal of the governorate and a date stamp.

I would like to give a more detailed explanation on this piece of Egyptian postal history as I am afraid I was not very clear about it in my article.

From 1879, official mail envelopes bore the official administration seals of the governorates from which they were sent, replacing the intaglio seals. From this fact, I drew a conclusion that governorate seals replaced the postal negative

seals and that the intaglio seals were no longer in use. Later, in 1880, the datestamps were replaced by official datestamps, the GS type. The envelope in Fig. 6 is an example of a combination of an administrative seal and a CDS in use on the same cover.

The translation (of the French) which follows is as literal as possible and is self-explanatory:

“Every dispatch of correspondence of the Government and of the Daires* from one office to another must be accompanied by this form, which will have an annual progressive number for each office.

When a single form is insufficient for a dispatch, two or more of these same forms may be used which in this case will all have the same order number.

After having been verified by the offices of destination, these forms with an attached receipt will be returned to the dispatching offices who will send them divided into offices of destination at the end of the month to the Chief of the 1st Division (Movement Section) at the General Administration.

The presence in the mail of a dispatch of correspondence of the Government or of Daires will be noted in the column reserved for this purpose on the advice note which accompanies the mail.”

Anatole wrote the following note below the form:

“1884, Advice of Reception slip for sending 14 envelopes with papers according to manuscript notes on reverse. This form was used by Government offices and internally by Post offices. Cancelled Sohag April 3, 1884 by sender, but not confirmed by receiver.”

I was outbid for the lot and have no further information about the reverse of this form.

*This is the phonetic equivalent of an Arabic word. The corresponding Arabic word in the form reads aldawayir, which is the plural of दौरا, hence “Daires” for the French plural. दौरا has a number of possible meanings, but in this context it almost certainly defines the Administration of the Khedivial estates, whose correspondence would seem to have been treated the same as that of the Government.

Query 90 From Anton Jansen (ESC 383) - Exposition Medicaments

Some time ago I came across this special postmark on a pair of the Medicine Congress stamps of 1928. It reads EXPOSITION MEDICAMENTS INSTRUMENTS APPAREILS CHIRURGICAUX. I don't know of any mentioning of this datestamp in the literature.



Reply 1, January 2011, from **Mike Murphy** (ESC 240):

See http://www.persee.fr/web/revues/home/prescript/article/pharm_0035-2349_1982_num_70_253_2602 for a brief mention of pharmacy and philately.



David Feldman

GENEVA • HONG KONG • NEW YORK

Spring Auction Series

May 17-21, 2011 in Geneva



Catalogues available on line at www.davidfeldman.com, where you can also order printed catalogue(s) for the cost of shipping (€10 per catalogue). The auctions include many single lots plus collections, estates & large lots, fresh to the market. Thinking of selling? Contact us today and discover how your items can be sold where they will sell best.

David Feldman - your global partner in the world of philately!

Bid on-line LIVE

featuring EGYPT Stamps & Postal History

Several important consignments including the Samir Fikry Suez Postal History plus a well-developed Foreign Offices in Egypt selection, and modern rarities from the Egyptian Royal collection with unique sheets, scarce proofs and specimens.



- INDIA featuring 1854-60 India Used in Burma Grand Prix Collection
- EGYPT & MIDDLE EAST featuring the Fikry Suez collection and important Jordan & Persia
- ALL WORLD COLLECTIONS AND INDIVIDUAL LOTS with important sections of ANGOLA postal history
- FRANCE & COLONIES featuring French Zanzibar
- NEW CALEDONIA & NEW HEBRIDES specialised - the Goron collections
- ROMANIA SPECIALIZED

David Feldman SA
 PO Box 81, 175 route de Chancy
 CH-1213 Onex, Geneva, Switzerland
 Tel: +41-22-727-0777
 Fax: +41-22-727-0778
 E-mail: admin@davidfeldman.com
 Web site: www.davidfeldman.com

David Feldman ASIA
 Nan Fung Tower, 173 Des Voeux Road Central,
 Rooms 1004-05 (10th Floor), Hong Kong
 Tel: +852-9680-2423

E-mail: asiainfo@davidfeldman.com
 Web site: www.davidfeldman.com

David Feldman USA
 108 West 39th Street, 8th Floor
 New York, NY 10018
 Tel: 1-212-997-9200
 Fax: 1-212-997-9222
 E-mail: usainfo@davidfeldman.com
 Web site: www.davidfeldman.com

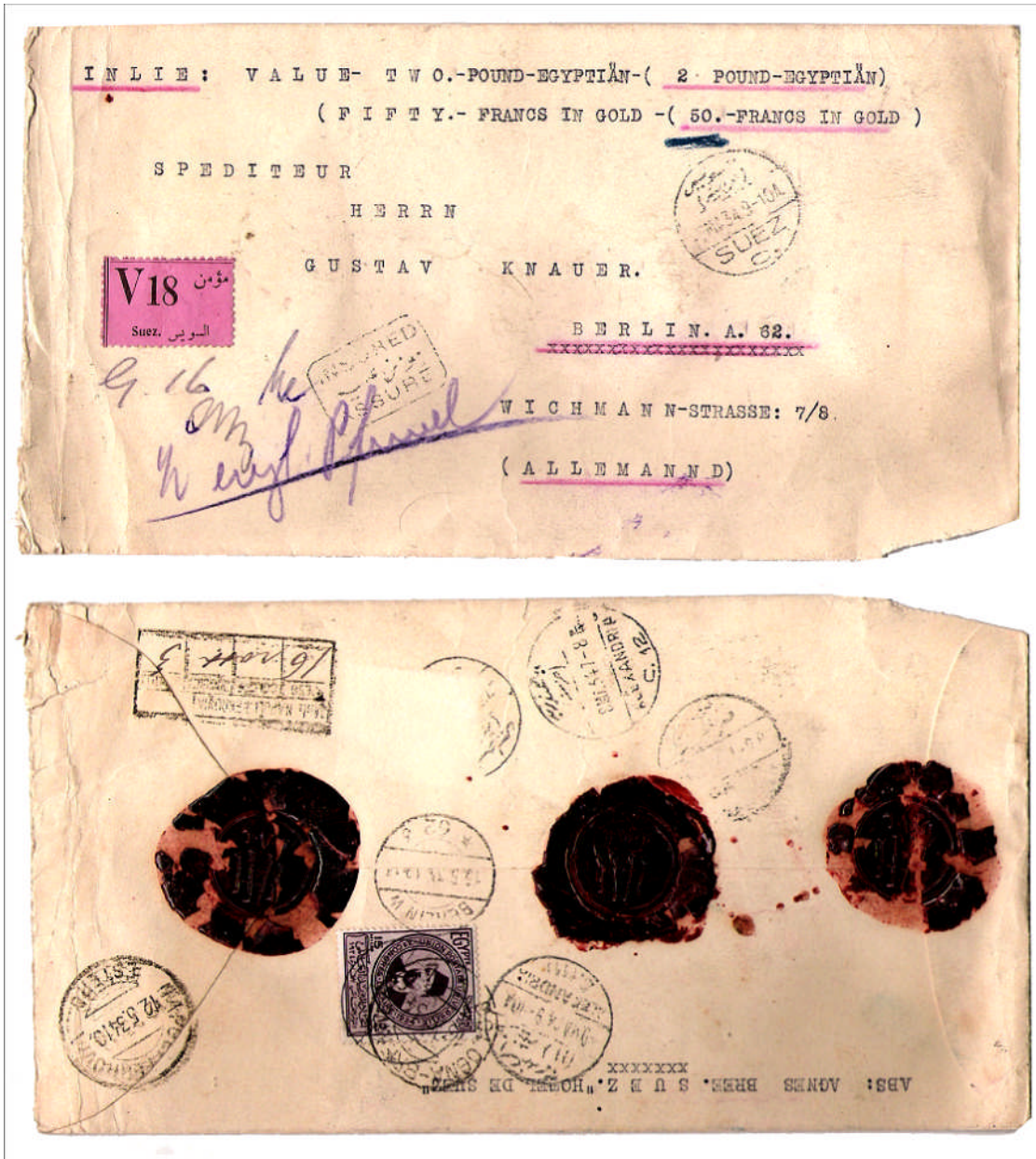
Query 87 From Lucien Toutounji (ESC 264) – Insured cover from Suez

I recently acquired the cover illustrated below. It was sent from Suez on March 7, 1934, with a return address at "Hotel de Suez" and insured for 2 Egyptian pounds (at the time equivalent to 50 gold francs). It is franked with a single 15 mills UPU (another stamp to complete postage and insurance is unfortunately lost). It bears a bilingual pink insured label inscribed "V 18 SUEZ".

Two questions:

1. What should have been the face value of the missing stamp?
2. Is it possible that the number 18 on the label identified a Suez origin and that different numbers were used to identify each post office handling insured mail?

I hope some ESC member might be able to help. One thing is for sure: this is a rare item!

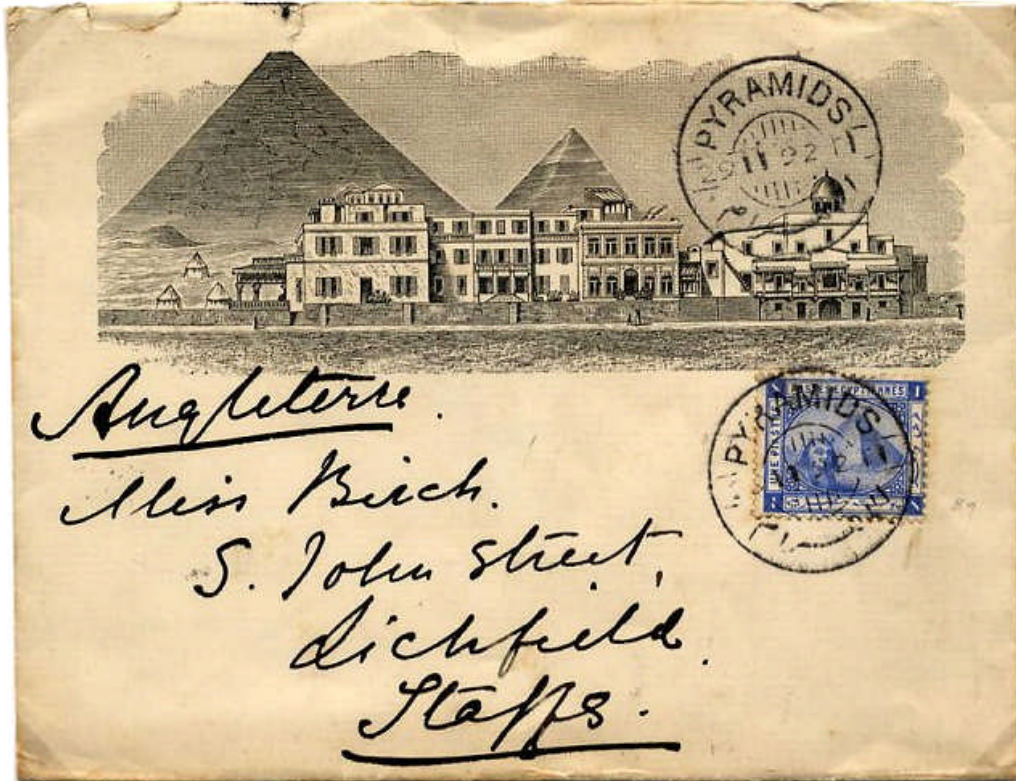


Editorial: This *QC* is a little late because the Editor has been struggling to sort out the live auction. Never again, he says. The last items are just being posted. But there again.....

Query 88 From Jack Graham (ESC 541) - Illustrated Mena House Envelopes.

Recently, an illustrated Mena House cover from the Herriot Collection sold on eBay for \$152.01. It was listed as "Egypt 1893 rare illustrated envelope of the Mena House Hotel". The description states that it has black and white engraving, and is the first "Hotel Stationery" produced for guests and is thus extremely scarce.

Pictured below is the 1893 cover and another example of an illustrated Mena House envelope, postmarked 29 February 1892. Does any member know of other examples of early illustrated covers?



Reply 1 From Richard S Wilson (ESC 230)

I was also interested in the top cover in this Query but Member 541 beat me to it. However, I offer the front and back sides of an illustrated Mena House Hotel cover postmarked 6 XI 91.

Also, below, there is an illustrated cover of 21 V 1894.



Query 89 From Richard S. Wilson (ESC 230) - A Short Note On The Winter Palace Hotel HW4 Postmark

I was recently writing up my covers from the Winter Palace Hotel and noticed something a bit different about the HW4 and HW4a postmarks; there is a break in the frame above the “U” of LUQSOR (11 o’clock position). I don’t recall reading anything about this minor flaw. Figures 1 and 2 show two blue postmarks (HW4a) from 1923 to 1924 and figures 3 and 4 show a black postmark (HW4) from 1924 and 1927. It does not seem to have been caused by applying uneven pressure on the date stamp for if that were the case then the break most likely would not be in the same position. Figure 2 also extends the latest date recorded for HW4a as shown in *The Hotel Study*, QC, September 2000, from 7 III 23 to 30 I 24.

Figure 5 shows the HW4 postmark of 29 XII 1931 and it appears that the break has been fixed sometime after 6 March 1927. Applying uneven pressure to the date stamp most likely caused the break at the 7 o’clock position as it varies among the cover’s five postmarks.

I have a couple questions. First, are there earlier and later dates with this flaw? Also, are there covers postmarked by HW4 between 1922 and 1927 without the flaw? While the use of HW4 overlapped with date stamps HW3 and HW5 there could have been more than one HW4 date stamp.



Fig. 1 - 30 III 1923



Fig. 2 - 30 I 1924



Fig. 3 - 17 XII 1924



Fig. 4 - 6 III 1927



Fig 5 - 29 XII 1931

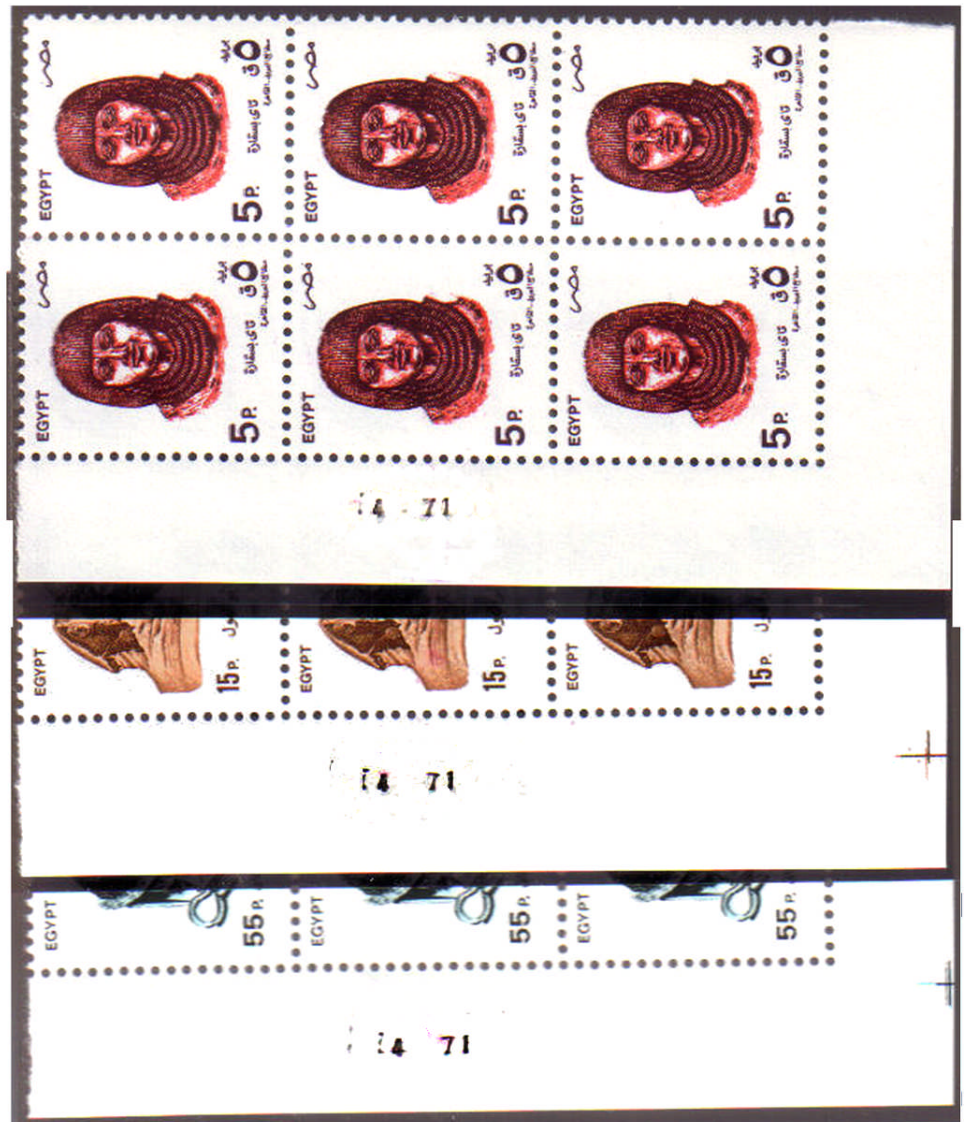
Query 91 From Peter Andrews (ESC 122) – ‘Modern’ Issues Anomaly

With the thought in mind of a future study meeting dealing with ‘modern’ issues I was browsing through my meagre collection of said material and was surprised to come across an apparent anomaly on the 1994 definitive issue.

Listed in present day catalogues as issued in 1994 I find that my blocks of the 5, 15 and 55 mill values with printing dates show 1971!

I think it beyond belief that the stamps would have been printed in 1971 and held in storage for issue in 1994, so what is the reason – an incorrect date on the printing machine? If anyone else can confirm this finding would they please place a note in the QC (simply to verify my sanity).

Whilst on this subject, just how do SG measure stamp sizes since they list this particular issue as 21x26mm and in no way can I reconcile this with the stamps before me!



Membership changes

New Members:

- ESC 660** Volker Kleiner, Oststrasse 30, 45136 Essen, Germany
(Interpostal seals, Posta Europea)
- ESC 661** Jon Aitchison, Old Tithe Hall, Start Hill, Nr Bishop's Stortford, Herts CM22 7TF
(Suez Canal; British locals, Cinderellas, Channel Islands, French islands etc)
- ESC 662** Ms Pauline Gittoes, 22 Woodthorpe Gardens, Sarisbury Green, Southampton SO31 7AR
(Egypt used stamps)

Resigned: **ESC 380** Einer Lind **ESC 572** Graham Coles **ESC 592** Alan Holverson
 ESC 613 Bob Perkins **ESC 631** Derek Budge

Resignation withdrawn: ESC 644 Patrick Moore

New Issues: November 7, 2007 to December 31, 2008

Cyril E. H. Defriez ESC 172

All stamps are printed in lithography by the Postal Printing House, A.R.Egypt, without watermark unless otherwise shown. The catalogue numbers are from the Stanley Gibbons and Balian supplements.

Date/Catalogue	Denomination	Size	Perforation	Number printed
Nov 7 2007	Arab Games 2007			
SG 2475/Bal 1860	150PT Cat (Games mascot)	30 x 50mm	13.25 x 12.8	100,000 glossy gum
SG(MS)2476/Bal 1860A	150PT Map and emblem	95 x 75mm	Imperf.	? glossy gum
Designer: Not known				
Nov 27 2007	50th Anniversary of Assiut University			
SG 2477/Bal 1859	30PT	30 x 50mm	13.25 x 12.8	100,000 glossy gum
Designer: Not known University emblem				
Dec 16 2007	Poets' 75th Death Anniversary			
SG 2478/Bal 1862	30PT Hafez Ibrahim	30 x 50mm	13.25 x 12.8	100,000 glossy gum
SG 2479/Bal 1861	30PT Ahmed Shawqi	30 x 50mm	13.25 x 12.8	100,000 glossy gum
Designer: Not known				
Dec 30 2007	50th Anniversary of National Handball Federation			
SG 2480/Bal 1864	30PT	50 x 30mm	13.25 x 12.8	100,000 glossy gum
Designer: Not known Handball emblem				
Jan 1 2008	Festivals			
SG 2481/Bal 1865	30PT	50 x 30mm	12.8 x 13.25	100,000 glossy gum
Designer: M. Abdallah Musicians				
Feb 7 2008	Post Day			
SG(MS)2482/Bal1866	150PT	90 x 70mm	Imperf.	40,000 glossy gum
Designer: Not known Early and modern post offices				
Feb 10 2008	Africa Cup 2008			
SG 2483/Bal 1867	30PT	30 x 50mm	13.25 x 12.8	100,000 glossy gum
Designer: H.A. Karim Africa Cup winners - Ghana				
Feb 10 2008	World Heritage			
SG 2484/Bal 1868	30PT Site view	50 x 30mm	12.8 x 13.25	50,000 matt gum
SG 2485/Bal 1869	30PT Whale skeleton	50 x 30mm	12.8 x 13.25	50,000 matt gum
Designer: H.A. Karim Views of Wadi El Hitan The two stamps se-tenant with label between				
Apr 14 2008	Centenary of Cairo University			
SG 2486/Bal 1870	30PT	30 x 50mm	13.25 x 12.8	100,000 matt gum
Designer: Not known University Centenary emblem				
Apr 22 2008	Removal of World War II Landmines Campaign			
SG 2487/Bal 1872	150PT	30 x 50mm	13.25 x 12.8	100,000 matt gum
Designer: I.A. El Wahab Mine and hand (vertical)				
SG 2488/Bal 1871	150PT	50 x 30mm	12.8 x 13.25	100,000 matt gum
Designer: M.M. Koth One-legged boy and minefield (horizontal) The two stamps issued se-tenant				

May 12 2008	Telecom Africa Convention, Cairo 2008			
SG 2489/Bal 1873	30PT	30 x 50mm	13.25 x 12.8	100,000 matt gum
Designer: H.M. Hussein		Convention emblem		
June 5 2008	World Environment Day			
SG 2490/Bal 1874	30PT	30 x 50mm	13.25 x 12.8	100,000 matt gum
SG 2491/Bal 1875	150PT	30 x 50mm	13.25 x 12.8	100,000 matt gum
Designer: A.A. Makhoulf		Stylized lungs, emblem and factory		
June 21 2008	Centenary of Fine Arts Faculty			
SG 2492/Bal 1876	30PT	30 x 50mm	13.25 x 12.8	100,000 matt gum
SG 2493/Bal 1877	150PT	30 x 50mm	13.25 x 12.8	100,000 matt gum
Designer: Dr Magid Kamal		Arabic script design The two stamps issued in se-tenant pairs		
June 28 2008	P.A.P.U. Conference			
SG 2494/Bal 1878	150PT	50 x 30mm	12.8 x 13.25	100,000 matt gum
Designer: A.A. Makhoulf		Conference emblem		
July 11 2008	Egyptair Airlines			
SG 2495/Bal 1879	150PT	50 x 30mm	12.8 x 13.25	100,000 matt gum
Designer: A.A. Rahman		Airliner		
July 26 2008	Alexandria - Islamic Capital of Culture			
SG 2496/Bal 1880	150PT	50 x 30mm	12.8 x 13.25	100,000 matt gum
Designer: Mohamed Abdel Moneim		Emblem		
Aug 3 2008	Arab Post Day			
SG 2497/Bal 1881	150PT Pigeon	75 x 30mm	12.9 x 13.1	100,000 matt gum
SG 2498/Bal 1882	150PT Camels	75 x 30mm	12.8 x 13.1	100,000 matt gum
Designer: Fikry Kadry		The two stamps issued in se-tenant pairs		
Aug 4 2008	U.P.U. Congress, Cairo			
SG 2498A/Bal 1883	150PT	50 x 30mm	12.8 x 13.25	100,000 matt gum
Designer: Rasha Kamal Sabri		Congress emblem		
Oct 15 2008	50th Anniversary of Sports Education Faculty			
SG 2499/Bal 1884	30PT	30 x 50mm	13.25 x 12.8	100,000 matt gum
Designers: A. Ibrahim and H. Mamdy		Emblem of Faculty		
Nov 17 2008	International Postal Technology Conference, Sharm el Sheikh			
SG 2500/Bal 1885	30PT	50 x 30mm	12.8 x 13.25	100,000 matt gum
SG 2501/Bal 1886	150PT	50 x 30mm	12.8 x 13.25	100,000 matt gum
Designer: N. Marzouk		Early Egyptian holding emblem (30PT) Statue and hand holding emblem (150PT)		
Dec 22 2008	Centenary of Egyptian Co-operative Movement			
SG 2502/Bal 1887	30PT	30 x 50mm	13.25 x 12.8	100,000 matt gum
Designer: M. Abdallah		Co-operative emblem		
Dec 31 2008	25th Anniversary of National Telecommunications Institute			
SG 2503/Bal 1888	30PT	50 x 30mm	12.8 x 13.25	100,000 matt gum
Designer: M. Abdallah		Building façade		



SG 2475/Bal 1860



SG (MS)2476/Bal 1860A



SG 2477/Bal 1859



SG 2478/Bal 1862 SG 2479/Bal 1861



SG 2480/Bal 1864



SG 2481/Bal 1865



SG(MS)2482/Bal1866





SG 2483/Bal 1867



SG 2484/Bal 1868



SG 2485/Bal 1869



SG 2486/Bal 1870



SG 2487/Bal 1872



SG2488 Bal 1871



SG 2489/Bal 1873



SG 2490/Bal 1874



SG 2491/Bal 1875



SG 2492/Bal 1876 SG 2493/Bal 1877



SG 2494/Bal 1878





SG 2495/Bal 1879



SG 2496/Bal 1880



SG 2497/Bal 1881



SG 2498/Bal 1882



SG 2498A/Bal 1883



SG 2499/Bal 1884



SG 2500/Bal 1885



SG 2501/Bal 1886



SG 2502/Bal 1887



SG 2503/Bal 1888



EGYPT STUDY CIRCLE ACCOUNTS TO DECEMBER 31, 2010

INCOME AND EXPENDITURE ACCOUNT (GENERAL ACCOUNT)

INCOME	2009		2010
Discs	63.00	-	-
Subscriptions	3,898.08	3,807.16	
Auction account	1,500.00	1,200.00	
Bank deposit interest received (net)	1.44	1.19	
Library	7.12	-	
Donations	50.85	285.92	
Advertisements	100.00	2	80.00
Sale of QCs & ties	=	<u>30.00</u>	
		5,620.49	5,604.27
EXPENDITURE			
Anniversary lunch (net)	-	381.19	
Meeting room hire	851.00	619.31	
Cost of Quarterly Circulars	3,106.79	4,290.95	
Book purchases	-	123.76	
Website costs	113.72	-	
Officers' stationery, telephone etc	98.02	100.58	
Advertisement	-	58.75	
Affiliation fee A.B.P.S.	40.00	-	
Insurance	36.60	36.60	
Stock of ties written off	=	<u>224.20</u>	
		<u>4,246.13</u>	<u>5,835.34</u>
Surplus / (deficit) for the year		1,374.36	(231.07)
Surplus at 1 January 2010		12,550.26	13,924.62
Surplus at 31 December 2010		<u>£13,924.62</u>	<u>£13,693.55</u>

BALANCE SHEET (GENERAL ACCOUNT) AS AT 31 DECEMBER 2010

ASSETS

Stamp collection at catalogue valuation	5,251.00	5,251.00	
Circle library and records	-	-	
Stock of ties (2009 50) written off	224.20	-	
2011 room hire prepaid	755.06	570.00	
Cash at bank			
Current account	5,697.28	5,487.98	
Deposit account	<u>2,939.80</u>	<u>2,940.99</u>	
		14,867.34	14,249.97

LIABILITIES

Members' subscriptions 2011	-	556.42	
Printing of Quarterly Circular	<u>942.72</u>	<u>-</u>	
		<u>942.72</u>	<u>556.42</u>
Accumulated surplus		<u>£13,924.62</u>	<u>£13,963.55</u>
Representing			
Accumulated surplus		<u>£13,924.62</u>	<u>£13,963.55</u>

I have prepared the Income and Expenditure Account and Balance Sheet on pages 1 and 2 from the records and explanations provided to me, and confirm that they are in accordance therewith.

S W Bunce, Chartered Accountant

Our Website: How to Help

The December *QC* website survey received lots of compliments and an encouraging response, with many members eager for the site to be expanded – but almost as many confused about just HOW they could help.

Well, the important thing is that the site always needs more content, more items to make it exciting and interesting, so that members visit and visit again, for research or just to see what is new. ALL members can help by sharing collections or parts of collections ... but how to do it? Here are some easy guidelines.

First, don't worry if the terminology is unfamiliar... jpeg, scan, http, html, upload, download ... these terms aren't really important. See below. But for those who do have a computer and a scanner, the ideal is to scan at 150dpi for pages, covers and larger items; at 150-300 dpi for individual stamps. These ideals apply whether submitting items for the *QC*, for the website, or for the Auction. And somewhere on your scanner – different places on different makes – you will find the facility to change dpi (dots per inch) resolution.

After you have made your scan, save it as a jpg or a png. It would help to have accompanying text in Word or in Text format, but a scan of the whole page is usually acceptable. When you have finished scanning, collect all your pictures (scans), copy or save them to a disk, and send them to the Editor. Via the postman. **Please do not send illustrations by email.** That's the techie bit over...

For all those for whom this is meaningless DO NOT WORRY. You can still help. A good colour photocopy of a cover or page from your collection (or black and white if there is no colour on the page) may well be enough to work from. As a test, photocopy a couple of pages and send them to the Editor/Webmaster. He will be happy to advise how best to progress. And remember, your website needs YOU!

EGYPT STUDY CIRCLE - ACCOUNTS FOR AUCTION 49

Profit & Loss Account

<u>Net Sales</u>	<u>£5,077.70.</u>	<u>Net Profit</u>	<u>133 . 72</u>
<u>Income</u>	£	<u>Expenditure</u>	
10 % commission (Purchasers)	507.77	Catalogues, typing, printing, postage	416.77
5% commission (Sellers)	253.85	Postage of Lots	93.45
Invoiced Postages	<u>34.79</u>	Sundry Expenses	47.47
	<u>796 . 41</u>	Insurance	<u>105.00</u>
			<u>662.69</u>

Balance sheet as at 31st December, 2010

Net Assets

Balance at Bank	2,127.00	
Less Amounts due to Members	<u>588.65</u>	
		<u>1,538 . 35</u>
<u>Auction Fund</u>		
Brought Forward from 2009	2,604.63	
Net Profit Auction 49	<u>133.72</u>	
		2,738 . 35
Less Transfer to General Account	<u>1,200 . 00</u>	
		<u>1,538 . 35</u>

A drop in Sales, coupled with just one Auction having to bear the whole cost of Insurance has resulted in a disappointing result. We have done our best, but are members concerned? The present plan is to run more in 2011, after that, who knows?

The Auctions have subsidised the finances of the Circle over the years and the loss of this revenue would be a disaster. WE MUST HAVE VOLUNTEERS TO TAKE OVER IN 2012. PLEASE HELP.

John Sears, Mike Murphy.