



The **B A P I P** **Bulletin**



The British Association of Palestine-Israel Philatelists

No. 10

Hon. Editor: A. S. Templeman

October 1954

AFTERMATH

Our special issue of "Palestine", No. 8 of the BAPIP BULLETIN, has attracted many comments, several further contributions, and the promise of articles for later issues. This would appear to confirm our belief that collectors are keener to-day to study and expound the earlier postal history and philately of Palestine, and that there is an unprecedented desire for information on this subject. To us, as an Association, this is a development demanding efforts that exceed those entailed in the acquisition and study of modern material. After all, present-day issues and mail can be investigated and commented upon immediately they appear -- and very little escapes the columns of the BULLETIN. To establish the facts and details of a bygone and neglected century calls for a more subtle approach and most serious research. One member even suggested that most of our space should be devoted to the Forerunner Period.

Whilst we are fully aware of the position, most of our executive members' interests concentrating in fact on the earlier periods and the Mandate, we are equally mindful of the larger proportion of our membership pursuing exclusively the philately of Israel, either specialised or general. We shall endeavour, as has been our policy from the beginning, to strike a reasonable balance in our issues, although it seems unavoidable that our pages will, at least to some extent, reflect the call of the keen minority.

RETURN TO THE WATERMARK

The first stamp issue of Israel printed by photo-lithography on watermarked paper is the Herzl stamp of 21st July, 1954. The watermark, unlike that of previous issues produced by photogravure, shows in the shape of the running stag in an oval frame in a continuous horizontal arrangement $4\frac{1}{2}$ mm. apart over the whole sheet. The specimens so far seen by us and, we are advised, also by Messrs. Mosden Stamp Co., have this watermark inverted. The latest New Year stamp returns to the previous watermark of the photogravure issues, but it now reads upwards in diagonal rows.

THE BRITISH ASSOCIATION OF PALESTINE-ISRAEL PHILATELISTS

Hon. Vice-Presidents: Major S. Denfield; Mr. S.N. Shure; Mr. E.J. Sooley

President: Dr. H. H. Hirst

Vice-Presidents: Mr. H.J. Posner; Reverend Michael Wilkinson

Joint Hon. Secretaries: Mr. S.Y. Harwich, 32, Crespigny Road,
Hendon, London, N.W.4.
Mr. B.A. Romington, 36 Sinclair Grove, London, N.W.11.

Hon. Treasurer: Mr. G.B. Seshold, Flat 22, 55, Portland Place, London, W.1.

Hon. Editor: Mr. A.S. Templeman. Hon. Assistant Editor: Mr. A. C. Crew

Hon. Librarian: Mr. A. Jacobs

Hon. Exchange Secretary: Mr. A. Bromberg

Hon. Research Secretary: Dr. H.H. Hirst, 8, Ruskin Terrace, Glasgow, W.2.

Editorial Board BAPIP Bulletin: Mr. A. S. Templeman, Editor;
Mr. A. C. Crew, Assist. Editor;
Rev. M. Wilkinson, Dr. H.H. Hirst

Chairman of BAPIP London Study Circle: Rev. Michael Wilkinson,
Seer Green Vicarage, Beaconsfield, Bucks.

- Members of Committee -

Mr. A.C. Crew; Lt. Col. S.E. Hands, FRPSL; Mr. J.M. Lees; Mr. E.H. Mosh; Mr. H.M.N. O'Leary; Dr. E. Rachwalsky; Mr. M. Seshold; Mr. E.J. Sooley; Mr. W.L. Strauss

MEMBERSHIP APPLICATION FORMS obtainable from and all
PAYMENTS to be forwarded to:

Mr. G.B. Seshold,
Flat 22, 55 Portland Place,
LONDON, W.1.
England.

Annual Subscription: 15/-d., U.S. \$2.50 (or equivalent).

Set of reprinted 1 year's back numbers of the BAPIP Bulletin for new members:
15/-d., U.S. \$2.50

Applicants in the United States and Canada are requested to remit
if possible by International Money Order.



- THE PAST YEAR 5714 -
A Survey of Events in Israel
with Special Reference to Thematic Philately

1953

- Aug. 16 50th anniversary convention of the Teachers' Association at ZIKRON YAAQOV. (Special cancellation.) *L
24 Resumption of regular flights to Vienna by EL AL Air Company. *A
Sep. 10 First day of New Year Festival. (Festival stamp issue in photogravure featuring Holy Arks.) *R
20 Opening of the 4th Maccabiade at RAMAT GAN held till 29th September. (Special cancellation, also on 14.9.53 for Maccabiade Village, and stamp issue.) *S
22 Opening of "Conquest of the Desert" Exhibition closed on 15th October. (Special cancellation, preceded by slogan cancellation on 6.9.53, and stamp issue with Exhibition emblem designed by A. Games, London.) *F
Oct. 7 75th anniversary of founding of Petah Tiqva. Celebrations ended on 12th October. (Special cancellation.) *H
25 United Nations Day. (Special cancellation.) *U
29 Dedication of Weizmann Monument on 1st anniversary of his death at RHOVOT. (Special cancellation.) *P
Nov. 1 Opening of first Post Office Bank department ("Current Clearing Dept.") in Jerusalem, three years after passage of Post Office Bank Act in Knesset. (Slogan cancellation 1.12.53.) *I
4. 50th year jubilee of Bank Leumi. (Special cancellation.) *I
19 Election of first 15 members to VA'AD HALASHON, later constituted (17.12.54.) as the Hebrew Language Academy (AKADEMYA HALASHON HA-IVRIT.)
Dec. 7 Resignation of Mr. Ben Gurion as Prime Minister.
25 Re-interment of Professor Zvi Shapira. (Special Jerusalem cancellation.) *P
28 Proclamation of "Maimonides Year" (5715) at the tomb of the renowned physician and philosopher in Tiberias.

1954

- Mar. 10 Opening of a world-wide campaign for the Anti-Tuberculosis League of Israel. (Special cancellation.) *M
Apr. 6 Re-interment of Baron Edmonde and Baroness Adelaide de Rothschild at ZIKRON YAAQOV. (Stamp issue announced.) *P
7. 11th anniversary of Warsaw Ghetto rising. (Special cancellation.) *H
May 6 6th Independence Day. (Stamp issue of floral designs.) *F
14. Dedication of Civic and Commercial Centre in ASHKELON. (Special ornamental cancellation.) *I
21 Jamboree Day of the Boy Scouts Movement. (Special RAMAT GAN cancellation.) *BS
25 Completion of the new Road to EILAT.
Jun. 29 Opening of 4th World Congress of the Agudath Israel (ended on 9th July) in Jerusalem. (Special cancellation.) *R
Jul. 20 Inauguration of "Herzl Year", commemorating the 50th anniversary of Th. Herzl's death, on Mount Herzl, Jerusalem. (Special cancellation.) *P
26 100th anniversary of the Hadassa organisation. (Special cancellation.) *M
Aug. 3 Inauguration of "Hebrew Year" in Israel.

* A = Air Post History; BS = Boy Scouts; F = Flowers; H = History;
I = Public Institutions; L = Languages and Education; M = Medicine and Welfare;
P = Personages; R = Religions and/or Holy Places; S = Sports; U = United Nations.

THE MOBILE POST OFFICES IN ISRAEL

The list of Mobile (or Travelling) Post Offices presented here-under is a complete and official record of the ramifications of the mobile postal service and other relevant details as on 20th July, 1954. It has been specially compiled at our request by the Office of the Director-General, Ministry of Posts, Jerusalem, and is exclusively published.

Mobile units execute all kinds of postal transactions but undertake no individual delivery of mail. Each of the twelve routes is served by one car.

An official photograph of the HARE YEHUDA Mobile Post Office is reproduced on page xa.

It should be noted that in view of the diverse transliteration of Hebrew placenames by the authorities we quote the names of the offices (or routes) in the first column as they appear in the postmarks and in the list on page 115 of Simon's Catalogue. The spellings of the many names under the other headings are as given in the official list received, a few adjustments having, however, been necessary to maintain at least some degree of uniformity and to avoid confusion.

Name of route	Area served	Base	Kiloms.	Hours per run
HOF ASQION	Area South W. of Migdal Ashkelon	Migdal Ashkelon	152	6.55
<u>Localities served:</u> Mavkiim, Yad Mordekhai, Erez, Karmiya, Zikim, Gevar'am, Talmei Yaffe, Geia, Shikma, Nir Yisrael, Hodiya, Berekhya, Karman, Negba, Kedma, Menuha, Zavdiel, Gevat, Galon, Komemiyut, Zavdiel "B", Yad Netan, Mash'en.				
NEGEV No. 1.	Northern Negev	Beer-Sheva	171	5.50
<u>Localities served:</u> Ruhama, Dorot, Beror, Hayil, Telamin, Helets, Kokhav, Sde Akiva, Gevim, Mekorot, Nir Am, Mefalsim, Kfar Aza, Saad, Nahal Oz, Shuva, Tokuma.				
NEGEV No. 2.	Western Negev North	Beer-Sheva	156	6.50
<u>Localities served:</u> Beeri, Beit, Re'im, Kissufim, Ein Hashelosh, Nirim, Tsur Ma'on, Magen, Mivtahim, Nir Yits-hak, Gevulot, Tseelim, Urim, Mishtered Merhavim.				
NEGEV No. 3.	Western Negev South	Beer-Sheva	127	5.20
<u>Localities served:</u> Weizmann Agricultural School, Mishmar Hanegev, Sheval, Beit Kama, Shoval 5, Shoval 6, Shoval 8, Shoval 11, Shoval 2, Shoval 1, Beit Hagaddi, Yosiyya, Sharsharet, Tashur Moshav, Gilat, Bit-ha, Peduyim, Rannen, Maslul, Pattish, Tifrah.				

(Continued on page 5)

THE MOBILE POST OFFICES (Ctd. from page 4)

Name of route	Area served	Base	Kiloms.	Hours per run
HOF ASDOD	Area between Gedera and Migdal Ashkelon	Migdal Ashkelon	111	6.30
<u>Localities served:</u> Masuet Yits-hak, Deganim, Shafir, Ein Tsurim, Avigdor, Kfar Warburg, Kiryat Malakhi, Arugot, Kfar Ahim, Talmei Yehiel, Mashmiah Shalom, Bnei Reem, Nve Mitvah, Kerem Yavne, Giv'at Washington, Moatsa Eserit G'darot, Maberet Yohanan, Nir Gallim, Shetulim, Bnei Darom, Sde Uziya, Emunim, Giv'ati, Beit Ezra, Nitsanim Kfar Noar, Nitsanim.				
HARE YEHUDA	Mountains of Judea	Jerusalem	---	6.45
<u>Localities served:</u> Motza Illit, Arza, Moaz Zion, Tsova, Giv'at Ye'arim, Beit Holim Etanim, Ramat Razi'el, Eshta'ol, Hartuv Police Station, Beit Shemesh, Tsora, Ta'oz, Kfar Uriya, Harel, Tselafon, Bekoa, Nahshon, Tal Shazar, Yesodot, Netiva, Beit Hilkia, Revadim, Mishmar David, Mesillat Zion, Sho'eva, Beit Meir, Nve Ilan, Maale Hahamisha, Matae Haarsim, Motza, Motza Tachtid.				
EMEQ HAYARDEN	Jordan Valley	Tiberias	86	6.10
<u>Localities served:</u> Kineret Moshava, Beit Yerah, Kineret Kvutseh, Deganya Alef, Deganya Beit, Corporatif Emek Hayarden, Tsemah Police Station, Beit Zera, Massada, Shaar Hagolan, Tsemah Maberet, Afikim, Ashdot Yaakov, Menahemya, Maagan, Tel Kazir, Ha'on, Ein Gev.				
HAGALIL HAMAARAVI	Western Galilee	Nahariya	120	6.30
<u>Localities served:</u> Nahariya, Sa'ar, Geshet Hazziv, Rosh Hanikra, Betset, Hanita, Matsuva, Ya'ara, Eilon, Goren, Ben Ammi, Kabri, Asherat, Ga'aton, Yehi'am, Dove, Amka, Beit Ha'emek.				
HAGALIL HAEYLON	Upper Galilee	Rosh-Pinna	160	7.05
No. 1 South				
<u>Localities served:</u> Elifelet, Hachoshlim, Hatsor "B", Kfar Mamasi, Mahanayim, Mishmar Hayarden Bnei Safad, Police Station Mishmar Hayarden, Hagoverim, Ayelet, Hashahar, Sde Eliezer, Y'sud Hama'ala, Hulata, Nve YOSHUA, Ramot Naftali, Yiftah, Malkiya, Yiron, Bir'am, Sasa, Gush Halav, Safsaf, Miron.				
HAGALIL HAEYLON	Upper Galilee	Rosh-Pinna	167	5.50
No. 2 North				
<u>Localities served:</u> Rosh-Pinna Customs House, Kiryat Shemona, Amir, Sde Nehemya, Kfar Blum, Neot Mordekhai, Lahavot Habashan, Gonen, Kfar Giladi, Kfar Hayovel, Beit Hillel, Ma'ayan Barukh, Hagosherim, Dafna, Sh'ar Yashuv, Dan, Kfar Szold, Shamir.				
HAGALIL HATAHTON	Lower Galilee	Tiberias	122	6.20
<u>Localities served:</u> Poriya Alit, Poriya, Alumot, Yavneel, Kfar Kamah, Shamot Devora, Kfar Tavor, Ein Dor, Gazit, Kfar Kish, Maberet Kaduri, Beit Keshet, Ilaniya, Sde Ilan, Lavi, He'ila, Hazoreim, Mitspa.				
EMEQ BET SAN	Beit Shaan Valley	Affula	148	7.15
<u>Localities served:</u> Maberet, Beit Hashita, Heftsi Bah, Beit Alfa, Nir David, Mesilot, Beit Shean Post Office, Reshafim, Sheluhot, Ein Hanatsiv, Maberet Beit Hanatsiv, Sde Eliyahu, Tirat Tsevi, Beit Shean, Nve Eitan, Moaz Hayim, Kfar Ruppim, Avuka, Beit Yosef, Nve Ur, Nesher, Sde Nahum.				

THE FIRST RUSSIAN POST OFFICE IN PALESTINE

The following notes, first published in the BRITISH JOURNAL OF RUSSIAN PHILATELY, No.1 - December, 1946, are extracts from correspondence between the late Major Darlow and Dr. Webster of the American University of Beirut.

Thanks to the kind co-operation and permission of Mr. W.H.H. Huddy, Hon. Editor of the British Society of Russian Philately, we are able to republish these notes with additional information added as a result of correspondence with him. --

EDITOR

As early as 1857 a mail service was running between Jerusalem, Jaffa and Odessa, conducted by the R.O.P.I.T, the Russian Company for Navigation and Trade, who received a subsidy from the Russian government for this purpose. The Russian initials appearing in the upper half of the circular postmarks stand for "Russkoe Obshchestvo Parochodstva o Torgovli" (Russian Company Steam Navigation and Trading).

Jerusalem.

In 1857 the first Russian Consulate was established in Jerusalem having premises inside the city walls. By the end of the 18th century some five thousand Russians, whose numbers exceeded those of any other nationality, came annually to Jerusalem on a Holy pilgrimage and an immense terrain on the north side of the city was purchased by the Russian government upon which was erected a large hospice for their accommodation. On this compound the Russian Post Office was formally opened with much ceremony on 23rd August, 1901 (old style calendar). The Russian Consul-General, the Turkish Governor of Jerusalem, the Patriarch of the Greek Orthodox Church and other notables were present.

Transportation.

The Russian office dealt only with mail to and from Russia and the Russian post offices in the Black Sea and the Mediterranean. Mail was brought to and from Jaffa by horse and carriage in charge of an armed "cavass" of the Russian Consulate.

Direction.

Mr. Abraham Solomiac, still residing in Jerusalem in 1936, was the only Director of the Jerusalem Post Office throughout its existence.

Some years after the opening of the office Mr. Solomiac met Enver Bey, afterwards Enver Pasha, at Salonica, Enver was Governor of Salonica at the time. He persuaded Enver to accept mail from Jerusalem at Salonica for forwarding by the Orient Express to Moscow and St. Petersburg instead of sending it by Russian steamboats or by way of Constantinople and the Black Sea, thus saving much time.

Closing.

The Russian office was closed on 1st October, 1914 when the Turkish government abolished all foreign post offices in Turkey.

Interpretation of Dates.

The dates in the first circular postmark are arranged in three lines, thus: 16 / 19 - 2 / 1. The last (Roman) numeral stands for the month so that this date reads 16th January, 1902. Adding the 13 days to the Julian Calendar then in use would convert it into the corresponding date of the Gregorian Calendar reading 29th January, 1902.

THE MOBILE POST OFFICES IN ISRAEL

(subject of the notes in this issue)



PHOTO: W. BRAUN

Mobile Post Office serving the public. The building in view is the Arza Convalescent Home, near Jerusalem. The area of this unit (HARE YEHUDA) is inscribed below the postal emblem beside the service window.

ADVANCE ITEMS FROM THE RESEARCH SECTION

(referred to in note)



A handstruck registration mark in black is recorded as seen on letter postmarked TEL AVIV-YAFO 1 on 25.7.54. It is inscribed TEL AVIV JAFFA (not YAFO).

THE OTHER HOLY TONGUE

By the Revd. Michael Wilkinson

And here is another instalment! Fortunately we philatelists have no need to speak Arabic; we only want to be able to decipher and identify Arabic place-names on postmarks. In the Arabic alphabet there are at least three sounds almost impossible for the European throat. Gertrude Bell, that famous figure in the modern history of Iraq, says in one of her letters: "The worst, I think, is a very much aspirated H. I can only say it by holding down my tongue with one finger, but then you can't carry on a conversation with your finger down your throat, can you?" In addition to this difficulty there are the many varieties of pronunciation; readers will remember that when Jephtah killed the Ephraimites (Judges 12:6) the test was that they should say the word "Shibboleth"; they didn't, they said "Sibboleth" and were slain. It is curious that to this very day the people of Nablus, approximating roughly to Ephraim, have this same peculiarity of pronunciation, using the letter SIN where other Arabic-speaking peoples would use SHIN.

I am only a student - and very amateur at that - and not a University Professor of Arabic. I was prepared for much more criticism that I have had. In BULLETIN No. 9, Mr. Emanuel of Salford takes me to task and writes that the last letter of HAIFA in Arabic is ALIF. So it is; I made a careless mistake in my article. He also suggests that the *ج* in *جَزَا* (GAZA) is better transliterated as TH, and not as Z. To this I must reply that we are both of us right. The sound lies somewhere between TH and Z, but as Thatcher's "Arabic Grammar", a standard work on the language, transcribes this letter as Z, and as GAZA is more recognizable than GATHA, I shall be stubborn and stick to Z!

Another correspondent suggests that Hebrew ALIF and AYIN are mute. I am afraid that they are in much modern Hebrew! But they should be regarded as guttural consonants. They are still clearly audible, I am told, in the speech of Yemenite Jews, but European Jews when they travelled West seem to have "assimilated" their throats to Western pronunciation and lost the throat-sounds that are so typical of most Semitic languages.

Now for our quarterly dose!

1. To the north of Haifa, on the coast, we shall find:-

ك
A K(K)'

(A K K A = Acre)

I think that if the name were written in full with "pointing" we should find a sign called TASHDID over the K to show that it was doubled; this sign is written *و* above the letter, and you will find it elsewhere in Arabic philately. Please do not write and say that you have a "box" postmark of Acre, and that it is rather different, and have I made a mistake? There are a number of varieties; Arabic letters have no universal pattern.

2. Inland in Galilee is the Israeli town that still has a large Arab population:-

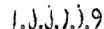
ن
H R S A N

(N A S R E H = Nazareth)

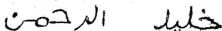
Here, as all students of "forerunners" know, the bewildering number of varieties occurs in the French transliteration of the name. Remember that

(Continued on page 8)

THE OTHER HOLY TONGUE (Ctd. from page 7)

six Arabic letters  cannot be joined to the following letter (a, d, dh, r, z, w or long , in that order). The S here is more emphatic than the usual SIN , but ordinarily one can notice little difference.

3. Down in the south and well inland is the town that has always been a storm-centre, a nest of fanatics - and brigands:-



N M H R L A L I L KH (KH A L I L A L R A H M A N = Hebron)

Well, well, this is becoming very difficult. Hebron, like Jerusalem, has another name in Arabic; it is called after Abraham as Hebron is the traditional site of the Cave of Machpelah. So Hebron is "The Friend (of God), the Merciful". So now if some rascal offers you an early Hebron postmark with "Hebron" on it, you have been warned! I am told that they can even counterfeit the old ink by using a shrewd mixture of ink and lamp-black!

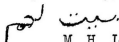
4. Down we go to the city of palm-trees, but most of us remember it for intolerable heat:-



A H I R E (E R I H A = Jericho)

How inconsistent! I have transcribed one ALIF as A and the other as E. The truth is that ALIF is rather an indeterminate sound like the "a" in the English word "beggar" and may be a, e, or i. A good motto in learning Arabic is "Take care of the consonants and the vowels will take care of themselves".

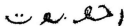
5. Not so very far away, and now in Jordan territory is:-



M H L T E B (B E T L H M = Bethlehem)

This is two words, and comparatively plain sailing. On modern Israeli postmarks you will see that the two dots, occurring twice here, are written as a dash, and so it often is in Arabic.

6. Finally here is the place associated more than any other with the name of Chaim Weizmann, first President of the State of Israel. Did not some humorist in the Knesset protest against the first President being a foreigner, and especially one with a British passport?:-



T O B O H R (R E H O B O T = Rehovot)

The Arabic alphabet lacks two letters that ordinarily appear in Western alphabets: P and V. So an Arab says "Bulis" when he really means "Police". But in modern Arabic two new letters have been introduced:-  or  for P,  for V. These two letters both occur in the Arabic for Petach Tiqvah on the Israeli postmark, but I believe (correct me if I am wrong) that the Turkish postmark took the name of a village near Petach Tiqvah. And that is enough for this Bulletin!

VARIETIES OF PLATE 1 OF THE SECOND LOCAL OVERPRINT

Further notes on the "10mm. Arabic" of September 1920

by Ernest S. Nixon

The sheets of stamps of the 1918 Typographed Issue consisted of 2 panes each of 120 stamps. Plate 1 of the overprint was intended for and used most frequently, on the upper pane, and Plate 2 on the lower pane, although because the two Plates were never secured into one whole Plate, their positions were interchanged.

The original upper pane overprinted from Plate 1 shows remarkable individuality, each of the 120 impressions being different, to a greater or lesser degree, and the illustrations show the minor constant varieties which occur, as opposed to the major varieties as listed in the first article in BAPIP Bulletin No. 8.

There are several varieties shown from each horizontal row, there being 10 rows each of 12 stamps, the numbering running from left to right commencing with the top row.

The most prominent group of varieties exist amongst the "p"s and final "E"s of the English overprint. There appears to be a sequence in the "p"s which might have a bearing on the original "set up" of Plate 1:

1st vertical row	Type I	Illustrations 25, 37, 73
2nd vertical row	Type II	Illustrations 14, 26, 50, 74
3rd vertical row	Type III	Illustration 39

Thereafter the "p"s are mostly a mixture of Types II and III, Type I not reappearing.

It should be borne in mind that the clarity of a variety will vary according to the quantity of ink used and whether the plate was clean or dirty. All illustrations show examples from normally inked and "clean plate" copies.

MOSDEN STAMP COMPANY, 161, STRAND, LONDON, W.C.2. PHONE: TEM 1440

HOLY LAND PHILATELIST We are the sole agents for this new publication in the U.K. If interested, write for free Literature.

MOSDEN MAIL AUCTION A list of prices realised in our first Mail Auction of the Holy Land is ready and will be sent on request.

MOSDEN ISRAEL CATALOGUE Our "All English" Israel Catalogue plus free first bulletin at 12/6d. each (to B.A.P.I.P. members 11/- each).

TABIM EXHIBITION We have booked a Stand (No.1) in the Tabim Exhibition in Jerusalem and our Mr. Moshi will be there and will be pleased to meet any collectors interested in the Stamps of the Holy Land and all other Middle Eastern countries.

NEW PRICE LISTS Prices of most of the Israeli stamps have risen considerably. Write for our now free price list.

THE NETWORK OF THE GERMAN FIELD POST OFFICES IN TURKEY
(INCLUDING PALESTINE) 1913 - 1918

By Dr. E. Rachwalsky

(This comprehensive article with many illustrations is published to continue over several issues of the BULLETIN. --- Editor)

The German Field Post Offices which were established before and during World War I represent one of the most unusual postal systems. This postal network covered large areas and had to serve various purposes. The Turks tolerated this intrusion into their rights all the more as even high Turkish officials were unable to handle letters in European script.

Owing to the intermingling of economic and military factors, this postal system became very complicated. I shall attempt to explain the political, military, and economic conditions prevailing in this period, with special reference to the philatelic aspects.

The preparations of the Germans for the first World War in the Middle East date back some years before the actual outbreak of the war in August, 1914. The alliance of Germany, Austria, Turkey, and Bulgaria, known as "Der Zusammenschluss der Mittelmächte", was utilised to obtain an economic, political, and military foothold in the Turkish Empire. It was one of the steps taken by the Germans to realise their dream of World conquest.

From 1913, and even earlier, the Germans maintained special commissions in Turkey under the German Commander General Liman von Sanders, for the re-organisation of the Turkish Army. A great number of German officers under the disguise of "re-organisers of the Army" established economic organisations which extended their tentacles deep into Asia Minor, Mesopotamia and also Palestine.

The Turkish postal system at that time was very badly organised. It provided neither the speed nor the security necessary. Tolerated by the Turks, the Germans developed their own postal networks, which developed into a gigantic machinery, judged by contemporary standards in Turkey. The Turkish post offices would never have been able to cope with a task of such magnitude.

In order to elucidate the rather complicated intersecting ramifications of the German postal services during that period, which in view of their nature and military character may be collectively regarded as a Field Postal Service, I have arranged these under various sections. My classification deviates to a certain extent from the already existing one, but should convey a clearer picture of how the different branches of this organisation worked. The following four subdivisions are considered the most suitable:-

- I. COURIER OR DIPLOMATIC MAIL.
- II. THE POST OFFICES ON BOARD SHIPS. ("Marineschiffspostamt")
 - a. on cruising
 - b. on stationary vessels.
- III. THE POSTAL SERVICES OPERATED BY THE MILITARY MISSION.
- IV. THE FIELD POST OFFICES PROPER (serving the fighting forces at the time of the Palestine campaign.)

(Continued on page 11)

VARIETIES OF THE SECOND LOCAL OVERPRINT (10mm.ARABIC)

REFERRED TO IN THE NOTES BY E. S. NIXON

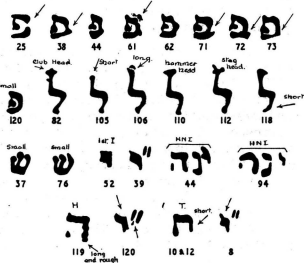
ARABIC PLATE I



ENGLISH PLATE I



HEBREW PLATE I



THE GERMAN F. P. O.s IN TURKEY 1913-18

SUBJECT OF THE ARTICLE BY DR. E. RACHWALSKY

Armee-Zeitung JILDIRIM

پیلدیز مر از دغور سی

Nr. 20

Damaskus, den 25. Juli 1918

1. Jahrgang

Die Antwort.

Vom k. o. Major Papadoni.

fröhlichen Sieg nach vorne brachten diese Jullage, eine vernichtende Feuersense schüttet aus Gewehr und Geschützrohr ihren Ansturm ab, die Menschenscharen fallen unter dem Schütten Tod

jedenfalls mussten die ersten drei Tage einen Raumgewinn von 15 Kilometern bringen. Das sind Zahlen, die die Erfahrung der deutschen Offiziere, welche gehabt hatte, Gann

Head of front-page of the German Army Newspaper "JILDIRIM" (actual size approx. 12x17 in.) published during the German Palestine campaign in the 1st World War. Some of its office mail with interesting postal markings and annotations survived.

GERMAN FIELD POST OFFICES (Ctd, from page 10)

Due to the nature of the military organisations and the changing of conditions in wartime, it was only natural that some of the services overlapped in their radius of action and that frequently one or the other had to be taken over or incorporated by another service. Such conditions prevailed and such changes were necessary especially during the time of the war in Palestine.

I. Courier or Diplomatic Mail.

This is an unusual and not yet completely understood form of Field Post service. It dealt with mail which was carried by couriers in diplomatic bags from any place in the Turkish Empire, via the Embassy in Constantinople, to the Berlin Foreign Office ("Auswaertiges Amt"), and from there it was forwarded to the addressee. It is easy to understand that in comparison with the total volume of the Field Post mail, these letters were few in number and that very few have survived.

Normally these covers are larger than the usual Field Post Letter envelope (5 by 7½ inches). On their arrival in Berlin they were handstamped with a large seal (diameter 40 mm.) depicting the German Eagle and the inscription "Deutsches Reich, Auswaertiges Amt" (German Reich, Foreign Office) and received the dated arrival postmark of the "Postamt/Berlin, C.2." (Post Office/Berlin, C.2.) which was the post office handling the mail to and from the German "Whitehall". On most of the covers that I have seen, the name of the sender and his military formation were handwritten. The place from which they were dispatched could not be recognised. They may have come from any place or theatre of war in Turkey. In some cases, however, they show the imprint of the then Hotel Fast, Jerusalem, known to have been used at the time as the German Officers Club. It is obvious that the origin of covers thus imprinted is Palestine.

(To be continued)

NEW OFFICE-BEARERS OF THE ASSOCIATION

Founder and Committee Member Mr. Albert Jacobs has been elected Hon. Librarian. Address:- 5, Fawley Road, London, N.W.6.

Founder Member Mr. Anthony C. Crew has been co-opted by the Committee and elected a Member of the Editorial Board with the designation as Hon. Assistant Editor. Address:- 60a, Marguerite Drive, Leigh-on-Sea, Essex.

HULEIKAT

This name has been repeatedly mentioned lately in connection with covers bearing it in manuscript annotations from the first phases of the German retreat in Palestine in World War I. No general maps nor the published sectional war maps of Palestine nor any of the several specialised books on the campaign give any indication as to the position or existence of this place. We now find that the "Tour Guide to Israel" refers to it as "HULEIQAT", an abandoned Arab village situated south of Faluja near Kaukaba and Bureir.

TRANSLITERATION AND TRANSLATION OF INSCRIPTIONS

By W. Lippmann, A. S. Baum, H. H. Hirst

--- SPECIAL POSTMARKS ---

"Conquest of the Desert" Exhibition. Small circular Jerusalem, Tel Aviv II, and Haifa II postmarks, dated 6.9.53, in horizontal alignment with slogan cancellation. "BAK'RU BATA'ARUCHAH / KIBUSH HASH'MAMAH" (Visit the "Conquest of the Desert" Exhibition).

GIVAT BRENNER. Large ornamental cancellation of this office, dated 28.9.53. On the occasion of the 25th anniversary as a settlement. "GIV'AT BRENER / BAT 25" (GIVAT BRENNER / 25 years of age). The Hebrew for "twentyfive" is "ESRIM V'CHAMEISH".

PETAH TIQWA. Large circular ornamental postmark of this office, dated 7.10.53. On the occasion of the 75th anniversary of the founding of the town. The Hebrew letters for the years at the top: "T(AV) R(EISH) L(AMED) CH(EIT) - T(AV) SH(IN) Y(OD) G(IMEL)" ((5)638 - (5)713).

Order of Free-Masons. Postmark of Jerusalem, dated 20.10.53, together with ornamental cancellation. On the occasion of the founding of the Grand Order of Free-Masons in Israel. "YISUD HALISHKAH HAG'DOLAH SHEL BONIM CHOFSHIM LIM'DINAT YISRA'EL" (Founding of the Grand Order of Free-Masons in the State of Israel).

United Nations Day. Ornamental cancellation for Jerusalem, Tel Aviv, and Haifa, dated 25.10.53. On the occasion of the United Nations Day in Israel. In the inscription above the U.N. emblem the name is abbreviated in Hebrew, the whole inscription reading in full: "YOM HA'UMOT HAM'UCHADOT" (Day of the United Nations).

RHOVOT. Double-square cancellation for this office, dated 29.10.53. In memory of Dr. Ch. Weizmann. "R'CHOVOT YAD CHAYIM WEIZMANN" (RHOVOT - Place of Chaim Weizmann).

Bank Leumi. Large ornamental cancellation for special post office at the Bank in Tel Aviv, dated 4.11.53. On the occasion of the 50th anniversary of the Bank. "BANK L'UMI L'YISRA'EL B'M / 50 SHANAH" (Bank Leumi of Israel, Ltd. / 50 years). The Hebrew letters BEIT AYIN MEIM stand for "B'EIRAVON MUGBAL" (Limited Company) and the Hebrew for 50 is "CHAMISHIM".

Postal Bank. Small circular postmarks of Jerusalem, Tel Aviv II, and Haifa II, dated 1.12.53, in horizontal alignment with slogan cancellation. "L'TO'ALT'CHA UL'NOCHIYUT'CHA P'TACH CHESHON B'BANK HADO'AR" (For your advantage and for your convenience open an account in the Bank of the Post).

Re-burial of Z. Schapiro. Postmark of Jerusalem, dated 25.12.53, in horizontal alignment with framed, rectangular cancellation. On the occasion of the re-interment of Zevi Schapiro in Israel. "HA'ALA'AT ATSMOTAV SHEL PROF TS'VI SHAPIRO" (The bringing (up) of the remains of Professor Zevi Schapiro). "PROF" is the abbreviation of "PROFESOR" (Professor). The Hebrew letters on the left K(OF) K(OF) L(AMED) stand for "KEREN KAYEMET L'YISRA'EL" (K.K.L.).

(Continued on page 13)

TRANSLITERATION AND TRANSLATION (Ctd. from page 12)

Anti-Tb-League. Large cancellation with the Israel Anti-Tb emblem for Tel Aviv, dated 10.3.54. "LIGAH L'MILCHAMAH BASHACHFET B'YISRA'EL" (League for the Fight against Tuberculosis in Israel). Around the emblem: "HITSTAR'FU L'SHUROT HALIGAH" (Join the ranks of the League).

Warsaw Ghetto. Rectangular cancellation for Tel Aviv, dated 7.4.54. In memory of the Warsaw Ghetto rising during the 2nd World War. "L'ZEICHER MERED GETO VARSHAH" (In memory of the revolt of the Warsaw Ghetto).

Student's Week. Special postmark of the usual size for Haifa, dated 11.4.54. "SHAVU'A HASTUDENT" (The Week of the Student).

ASHKELON. Special illustrative cancellation for this office, dated 14.5.54. "ASHK'LOH" (transliterated in this cancellation as ASHKELON while the definitive postmark gives the name as ASQLOH with the little "v" above the S).

Day of the Scout. Ornamental cancellation for RAMAT GAN, dated 21.5.54. "YOM HATSOFE T(AV) SH(IN) Y(OD) D(ALET)" (Day of the Boy Scout (5)714).

Agudath Israel. Postmark of Jerusalem, dated 29.6.54, in horizontal alignment with ornamental cancellation. On the occasion of the Congress held in Israel by Agudath Israel, the Association of Orthodox Jews. "HAK'NEISIIYAH HAG'DOLAH HAR'VIT / HISTADRUT AGUDAT YISRA'EL HA'OLAMIT" (The fourth Great Assembly / The World Association Agudath Israel).

Mount Herzl. Ornamental cancellation for Jerusalem, dated 21.7.54. On the occasion of the inauguration of the "Herzl Year" on the 50th anniversary of Th. Herzl's death. "Y'RUSHALAYIM HAR HERZL" (Jerusalem Mount Herzl).

The three postmarks issued for post offices on board ships, namely S.S. ARTSA (23.5.54), S.S. JERUSALEM (27.6.54), S.S. NEGBAH (1.7.54), show the Hebrew letters ALEF and KOF preceding the names. These are the initials of the words "ONIYAT KITOR" (Steamship).

NATIONAL PHILATELIC EXHIBITION IN LONDON

The National Stamp Exhibition, open to all branches of philately in Great Britain, will again be held at the Central Hall, Westminster, London, from 8th to 15th January, 1955.

A PHILATELIC MAGAZINE IN ISRAEL

We have been very glad to hear that a well-produced monthly philatelic magazine in English, "The Holy Land Philatelist", will commence publication on the occasion of TABIM National Philatelic Exhibition in October. The Editor is one of our earliest members, Mr. F.W. Pollack, FRPSL.

A philatelic magazine, published in and reporting from Israel, a mirror of serious study and the philatelic activities among the many collectors and experts in Israel, and representing the philatelic community of the country, has been a necessity for some considerable time. We shall look forward very much to seeing the first issues and wish the new magazine continued success.

The Editor wishes us to mention that the first number will be despatched in a specially designed envelope on the first day of the TABIM Exhibition.

NEWS COMMENTS AND MEMORIES

By Piphilaticus

Philatelic Magazine in Israel. Although sadly conscious of the scarcity of reliable news from Israel and the lack there of literary activities in the field of philately, I did not on previous occasions dare to express in this column, for fear of being hasty, the hope that a regular magazine would soon come out. This was one of those dreams, too remote from reality, it seemed. What better agency than a magazine could we think of for the spreading of news, historical information, and that peculiar, always renewed stimulus, emanating from good writings that are the product of the "country of origin"! A philatelic magazine in the Holy Land will be the proper medium for the release of latent energies in the country. Israel, creative as she is, must provide for philately the place it deserves. An unending chain of most absorbing subjects awaits to be analysed on the spot by historians and journalists alike and, indeed, the PIPEX Exhibition in London last year gave us a taste of scholarly collecting in Israel. To bring down to paper the many more studies and the material to be lavishly displayed at the forthcoming TABIM Exhibition in Jerusalem must alone present any regular philatelic publication in Israel with a formidable and most rewarding task, possibly extending over years. A further valuable contribution of the magazine in our field would be the detecting and interviewing of people who resided in the country about the turn of the century and can supply first-hand information on matters philatelic.

Was it really so odd to visualize at an earlier stage the beginning of a press whose noble task it is to present to the country and the whole world in black and white, original information and the results of philatelic studies? The new magazine will be at once a boon and a challenge to philatelists in Israel.

New Roads. The postal system of a country no longer depends on railways for the conveyance of surface mail. Nowadays, the efficiency of the system, which includes the mobile post-office service, is proportional to the quality and extent of the highway network whose development is of some interest to the postal historian. The Road to Sdom was previously referred to in this column, but other major road projects were simultaneously in progress.

Last July the first car traversed the distance between Jerusalem and Mvo-Betar along a new route connecting Jerusalem to the new settlements in the southern part of the Corridor. The road, when finished, will be 25 km. long, 40 km. shorter than the old one. It represents the most ambitious project in Israel road history, since the necessary excavations that started 9 km. after Ein-Hakerem greatly exceed those for the Sdom road and the new central road to Elat.

This new highway to Elat, cutting through the centre of the Negev west of the old road, is a few kilometres longer than the old, which traverses Maale Ha'akrabim. The bypassing of Maale Ha'akrabim via Sde Boker and the Nabatean ruins of Abde (the road then serpentine into the Wadi Ramon) is an essential improvement. The distance between Tel Aviv and Elat along the new road is 262 km.

Austrian "Boxes". Memories of times long gone by are revived, when one now sees those "boxed" cachets on old mail served by the Austrian offices in

NEWS COMMENTS AND MEMORIES (Ctd. from page 14)

Palestine. Puzzling and odd as they seemed then, these rather rare marks are now pointed at with pride by collectors who have them in their albums. As if anyone knows what they really stand for! A veil of mystery, though not so dense, still hangs over them, which may never be completely lifted. Are there still individuals in Israel or anywhere else, who, familiar with the localities and conditions, remember that roadside mailboxes were used by the Austrians at the beginning of this century? We know that the Germans offered this convenience to the population, but did the Austrians follow suit? Books and other writings have so far failed to provide the answers.

Inscribed "JAFFA" or "JERUSALEM" / "OESTERR. POST", at least four types have been established. The specialist Herr Franz See of Vienna tells me that many years ago an old Bulgarian collector in Sofia, M. Jasper, domiciled at the time in Palestine, assured him that road boxes were erected by the Austrians.

Those oblong rectangular marks should not be confused with the so-called "Rosineinstempel", another rectangular handstamp which, unlike the above cachets, was used to cancel postage stamps on samples and some printed matter. This mark invariably shows a large "Z" on the left standing for "Zoll" (Customs duty) and was employed by the Customs official of the post office.

"Recent Special Flights". The notes that appeared in the previous number of the BULLETIN have undoubtedly aroused some attention. These covers do not appear to have any significance as "special" air mail in the nature of "special flights" as we understand the terms of such description. Our philately is being greatly helped by the philatelic trade in Israel and, within its limitations, it is indispensable; but unless philatelic businessmen there are steady and observe a sense of responsibility, their activities must in the end, against their own interests, inhibit the selfless efforts of collectors whose love of philately sprouts on genuine and official emissions and historical facts.

These covers appear to be nothing but first-day covers for the new stamps affixed, but they are not offered under this description in the price lists of some dealers in Israel. It has been noted, too, that they have found their way into the auction room. At a Tel Aviv auction in mid summer they were sold in pairs described as specially cacheted and also "Special Flight".

J E R U S A L E M, J A F F A, C A I F A, E T C.

POSTMARKS : SINGLE STAMPS OR ENTIERES

Ask to see on approval or send
a list of your requirements.

References appreciated if not known to us.

P. T. S.

J I M D A V I S L T D.

ARNOLD

B. P. A.

40, West Hill, Wembley Park, Middlesex.

2283

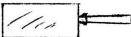
Advt.

THE TYPES OF THE FIRST 'PALESTINE' OVERPRINTS CONTINUED

BY H. H. HIRST



(To be continued)

 ADVANCE ITEMS FROM THE RESEARCH SECTION(see illustrations on page xa) 

1. Following up the subject of earliest French postal markings in Palestine (BULLETIN No.9, page xb) we reproduce a strike of the same Jaffa mark together with a circular postmark, also in black, of Jerusalem, dated 23rd. January, 1853, taken from the photostat of an entire letter, kindly contributed by Dr. A. Kohane (Munich, Germany). When first seen, this postmark of two eccentric circles was reported by M. Beaufond in the French "Le Marcophile" No.26. No other example has hitherto been reported and it must at present be regarded as the first French postmark of Jerusalem. Written in French by a priest on behalf of his patriarch in Jerusalem on 22nd January, 1853, to a French nobleman in Paris, the letter has a French transit mark of Beyrouth as illustrated and a Paris arrival mark dated 21st February, 1855.

2. With reference to the Italian "COMANDO" postmark, recorded in BULLETIN No.8, page xb, we are grateful to Dr. Kohane for a number of photographic reproductions of other items from his collection. The illustration shows a similar Italian mark, but inscribed "GUARDIA ITALIANA / GERUSALEMME", which occurs on a postcard sent by an Italian military to a friend in Rome. The Italian censor mark on this card is somewhat different from those shown on cover in BULLETIN No. 8. No adhesive was used nor does the card bear a dated British A.P.O. postmark.

3. A Petah Tiqva postmark as authorized by the Austrian Post in Palestine was published in BULLETIN No.4, page 8 and illustration page. A special photograph of another type inscribed "PER OESTERR.POST" has now been kindly forwarded by Dr. W. Hoexter (Haifa). It was used as an arrival mark on a Russian parcel-post card showing also a Russian postmark of Jaffa.

"TABIM" NATIONAL STAMP EXHIBITION IN JERUSALEM.

Information has been received - through the good offices of Mr. E.H. Moshi - that the third National Stamp Exhibition in Israel will take place from the 13th to 18th October, 1954. The Exhibition is organised by the Jerusalem Philatelic Society, and the Minister of Posts, Dr. Joseph Burgh, has accepted the patronage. The recent printed information sheet gives also some details of the awards at the disposal of the Jury, who have adopted the regulations of the F.I.P.

Two attractive commemorative stamps of 60 and 200pr. will be issued on the occasion of TABIM and a special first-day cover with a special Exhibition Post-Office postmark will be sold at 150pr.

THIS NUMBER TEN of the BAPIP BULLETIN is to close the first series of issues for which our committee member Mr. J. M. Lees is compiling a full INDEX intended to enable collectors to locate items not only by their titles but also their writers and matter of contents. It has been suggested by members that such a series of our Bulletin represents the value of a handbook. It is hoped that the INDEX will be welcome as one living up to the general standard of our publication.

THE LONDON STUDY CIRCLE

By the Revd. M. Wilkinson (Chairman)

The Study Circle will resume its monthly Meetings on Tuesday, 12th October, 1954. With one exception the Meetings will be held on the second Tuesday of each month at Peach & Dow's Auction Room, Lambs Conduit Street, off Theobalds Road - the first turning to the left after the Lacon Buildings. The clans begin to gather about 6 p.m., and refreshments are served for a moderate charge. Last year we surveyed the whole field of Palestine-Israel philately, and I think that some of us suffered in consequence from a malady which can only be called philatelic indigestion! For this season's programme subjects of more limited scope have been chosen for discussion, and by arranging what the cinemas call a "double feature programme" on most evenings we hope to have found something to interest everybody. Beginners, medium collectors and specialists - all are welcome and all will derive benefit from the Meetings and learn something!

1954.

- Tuesday, October 12th:- "German Posts in Palestine: Jerusalem-Jaffa, and the Templar Colonies" - Dr. E. Rachwalsky.
 "The New Year Issues of Israel" - B.A. Remington.
 Tuesday, November 9th:- Some Outspoken Comments by Edmond Tolkowsky, and Items of Interest - The Chairman.
 Monday, December 13th:- "Postmarks of Jerusalem and the First World War" - Dr. Gordon Ward. (Please note that this Meeting is on a Monday.)

1955.

- Tuesday, January 11th:- "The DO'AR IVRI Issue: The Coins and the Stamps" - G.B. Seshold; followed by "Exchange and Auction".
 Tuesday, February 8th:- "The Pictorial Issue of the Mandate Period" by Dr. E.H. Hirst. - A. Bromberg.
 "The Air Mail Issues of Israel" - S.Y. Harwich.
 Tuesday, March 8th:- "Thematics of Israel" - H.M.N. O'Leary.
 "Some Notes on the Interim Period and Other Items" - E.H. Moshi.
 Tuesday, April 19th:- "Postmarks of the Turkish Period" - A. Jacobs.
 Notes on Recent Issues and Clearing House of Members' Queries.
 Tuesday, May 10th:- Members' Night - Each Member of the Study Circle to bring two or three sheets of interest.

THE ISRAEL 1000pr. AIR STAMP USED

The question was recently raised in "Stamp Collecting" why it is that the 1000pr. Air Mail stamp is still seen with 1954 cancellations, while it was officially withdrawn on 31st July, 1953. Mr. E.H. Moshi, in a letter published in the same magazine, explains that, although the stamp was withdrawn and is not available to the public, the officials at the post offices can still use it. In order that large stocks of the stamp may be used up, the authorities have introduced the practice that postal clerks cash the postage rates for mail handed in at the offices and then affix the stamps themselves. They must not, however, sell such mint stamps. The mint stamp had indeed a very short life.

POSTMARKS AND SPECIAL CANCELLATIONS.

<u>New Post Offices</u>	MABERET NAHLAT YEHUDA	...	...	...	9 May 1954
	TSIPPORI	...	...	...	16 May 1954
	BEN DOR	...	...	...	20 May 1954
	AFEK	...	...	...	10 Jun. 1954
	Maritime Post Offices:				
	S.S. ARTSA	...	...	...	23 May 1954
	S.S. JERUSALEM	...	...	...	27 Jun. 1954
	S.S. NEGBAH	...	...	...	1 Jul. 1954
<u>Special Cancellations</u>	Student's Week (Haifa)	...	...	...	11 Apr. 1954
	ASHKELON	...	...	...	14 May 1954
	Day of the Boy Scout (RAMAT GAN)	...	...	...	21 May 1954
	World Association Agudath Israel (Jrslm.)	...	...	...	29 Jun. 1954
	Mount Herzl (Jerusalem)	...	...	...	21 Jul. 1954

A new definitive postmark was issued to the ELAT office on 13.6.54. This is one of the new type with the stag in the place of the time index adopted for all offices, but in this case the transliteration of the name has been changed to EILAT.

ERRATUM: Bulletin No. 9, page 22, "New Post Offices" and "Special Cancellations":- The year of the first date under both headings was misprinted and should read "1953".

JEWISH NATIONAL FUND SOUVENIR COVERS.

Special commemorative Covers issued by the J.N.F., Jerusalem, with special Government authorised post mark cancellations.

1. 16.8.53. "Jubilee of Foundation of Hebrew Teachers' Organisation". Cancellation Zikron Yaacov.
2. 22.9.53. "J.N.F. Reclaims the Desert". Special "Conquest of the Desert" Exhibition Stamp and First Day Cover. Cancellation Jerusalem.
3. 25.12.53. Reinterment in Jerusalem of remains of Prof. Zvi Hermann Schapira, founder of the Jewish National Fund. Cancellation Jerusalem.

- VERY LIMITED SUPPLY AVAILABLE -

Price £2.10.0d (or \$7.50) per Cover or £7 (or \$21) per set of 3 covers.

Special 10% Rebate Concession ... to members of BAPIP only:-

Price £2.5.0d. (or \$6.75) per Cover or £6.4.0d (or \$18.90) per set of 3.

- ORDERS EXECUTED IN STRICT ROTATION -

Send cash with order to:-

Jewish National Fund Education Dept.,
65, Southampton Row, London, W.C.1.

Advt.

THE NEW ISRAEL POSTAGE RATES

With reference to the note published under the above heading on page 3 of the BAPIP BULLETIN No. 7 we are now listing this year's changes of postage rates as recently received from the Office of the Director-General, Ministry of Posts. These rates came into operation on 1st February, 1954.

<u>Nature of Service</u>	<u>New Rates</u>
(1) Inland Letters	60pr.
(2) Inland Postcards	30pr.
(3) Inland Printed Matter	25pr.
(4) Foreign Letters (Surface Mail)	120pr.
(5) Foreign Printed Matter (Surface M.)	
up to 50 grams	50pr.
each additional 50 grams	25pr.
(6) Air Mail to Europe	150pr.
(7) Air Mail to the U.S.A.	350pr.
(8) Air Mail to South Africa	300pr.
(9) Air Mail to South America	500pr.
(10) Express Fee (Inland)	200pr.
(11) Express Fee (Foreign Letters)	200pr.
(12) Registration Fee (Inland)	100pr.
(13) Registration Fee (Foreign)	100pr.

MEMBERS' ACTIVITIES

Our founder member Mr. E. Tolkowsky (Antwerp), participating in three sections of the competitive exhibition held in June by the Belgian National Philatelic Federation, was awarded the "Grand Prix d'Honneur de l'Exposition" and a "Medaille d'Or". His exhibits included almost all phases of the postal history of Palestine and Israel.

Our Hon. Vice-President Mr. S. N. Shure (Chicago) won both a Gold Medal and the Educational Award of the Show at the recent National Exhibition of the Society for Philatelic Americans, for which the Chicago Philatelic Society acted as host. Mr. Shure's exhibit was a chronological study of the postmarks of the French Post Office at Jaffa, all on both stamps and covers.

The BAPIP Executive and Committee on behalf of all members extend to their successful friends with pride their cordial congratulations on these honorable awards.

Founder member Mr. F. W. Pollack, FRPSL has undertaken the editorship of "The Holy Land Philatelist", the new philatelic magazine in Israel.

Our Chicago member Mr. A. Samson has been elected President of the Chicago Group, Israel-Palestine Philatelic Society of America.

As Hon. Directors (Ex-Presidents) of the same society have been appointed our members Messrs. S.N. Shure, E.E. Necheles, H. Stral, B. Bell, and H. De Leeuw.

Your Editor, opened the season of the East Cheshire P.S. on "President's Night" with his display, and a Society Exhibition held from 18th to 27th September.



OUR BOOKSHELF



"The DOAR IVRI Plates" - Compiled and edited by Leslie L. Blake.
Published by the "Israel Palestine Philatelist", Society of
Israel Philatelists, New York, U.S.A. 1954.

These seven charts were published by the Society for the purpose of providing a check list of the Plate Blocks as listed in the Heymann & Pertzalan and Simon's Catalogues. All information was obtained from these catalogues. The blocks are listed for comparison of plate numbers as well as of actual market prices with those quoted in these catalogues. It is stated in the introduction that market prices are substantially higher than the catalogue quotations. It seems to us that the pricing in the new Mosden Catalogue is more realistic.

It was mentioned in our review of this year's Simon's Catalogue that the three catalogues now existing are unanimous on only a few groups of serial numbers. This is also noted in the introduction to the charts and the compiler appeals to collectors to establish the correct numbers from their collections.

H. H. H.

----oOo----

No. 4 of "THE ISRAEL PHILATELIST"

(Israel Philatelic Exchange Club, Tel Aviv) contains a short but informative article entitled "In the Days of the Ottoman Empire" by Mr. I. Simon, who conducts this Journal. An illustration shows the first Turkish Post Office in the Mea Shearim district of Jerusalem.

Undoubtedly, much more of such information on the early periods can be assembled and published in Israel, if only the search for it is concentrated and continual.

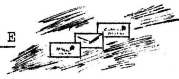
----oOo----

ADVANCE NOTICE OF NEW BOOK PUBLICATION

A handbook of 160 pages and 350 illustrations, which should be of considerable interest to specialists, has just been announced as being published near the end of 1954. The author, whose name is known to our readers, is Mr. Alfred Clement, Schwimmschulka 6/11, GRAZ, Austria. The book, entitled "Handbook of Military Air Mail 1793-1954", will include the history of military Air Posts and Air Force operations in all countries, the various markings being recorded in the language of their origin. The concise text will be in German. - The price is £1 or U.S. \$3 and orders reaching Mr. Clement until October 30th will receive 10% discount.

RECENT ARTICLES AND NOTES ON PALESTINE-ISRAEL PHILATELY

- "Austrian Offices in Palestine" - by E. Tolkowsky.
STAMPS, (U.S.A.), 8th May, 1954, No. 1130, page 198.
"Israel" - Note by "W.E. Fynden".
STAMP COLLECTING, 30th July, 1954, No. 2126, page 639.
"The 1000 Pruta Israel Air" - Letter by E.H. Moshi for Mosden Stamp Co.
STAMP COLLECTING, 13th August, 1954, No. 2128, page 713.
"German Post in Palestine" - Letter by G. Harcourt.
PHILATELIC MAGAZINE, 27th August, 1954, No. 1021, page 657.

C O R R E S P O N D E N C E"Recent Special Flights".

With reference to the notes under the above heading in BULLETIN No. 9, pages 17 and 18.

Air post historians would describe these covers as "Day of Issue flown covers", if they are genuinely used on that day and genuinely flown.

By no stretch of the imagination can it be said that the covers were carried by a special or first flight: they would have been carried by the usual and regular mail-carrying aircraft services, and therefore their value and merit is as "first day of issue" covers.

The BOAC arrival marking is probably quite genuine and would have been applied at the request of someone on the staff. This mark should not be described as a "cachet", but as "the operating company's receiving mark".

Several groups of interested parties in Europe are fostering the market of covers on these lines, and endeavour to give them special value by means of optimistic descriptions; but I have never before heard of any air covers of these groups from Israel.

I think it most improbable that the BOAC front cachet is an official one, as its design etc. suggests that it was made and applied privately by the interested parties. Of course, alternatively, it could have been prepared and then sent over to the BOAC with the request that they use it, but this seems unlikely to me.

John C. W. Field, Sutton Coldfield, England.

(We are pleased to publish these comments received from the well-known British specialist and author of "Palestine/Israel Air Post History". It appears that his remarks on the covers bearing the BOAC markings apply also to the covers flown by the other companies to the countries concerned. -- EDITOR)

(Continued on page 22)

WITHDRAWAL OF STAMP ISSUE

We learn that the New Year and High Festivals stamps of 1953 were withdrawn from sale on the 20th May, 1954.

These stamps were issued on 11th August, 1953 and it is noteworthy in this connection that the two later issues, the Fourth Maccabiah and the Conquest of the Desert stamps, were withdrawn as early as 31st January, 1954.

THE BAPIP LIBRARY

Our Library has now been taken over by our new Hon. Librarian, Mr. A. Jacobs. We hear that he has definite plans to build it up to a valuable reference library for the benefit of members and Association research.

Mr. Jacobs is now carefully recording the large amount of material assembled by his predecessor, the late Dr. Ekstein, and requests all members, whose names appear on the lending list, to return the magazines or books lent, at their earliest convenience. Such co-operation would assist him in his present work and would be greatly appreciated.

Address:- 5, Fawley Road, London, N.W.6.

CORRESPONDENCE (Ctd. from page 21)Local Stamp from West Refaim?

In an auction held on 17th June, 1954, by Messrs. J. & H. Stolow, Inc., of New York, was a stamp which we think will be strange to most readers, as it is to us; but in giving the details of it by courtesy of the auctioneers we hope that someone will come forward with information about the stamp and the postal service on which it was used.

The stamp is one inch wide by one and three-sixteenths inch high ($26\frac{1}{2}$ mm. x 30mm.), measured from perforation to perforation, and the design shows a mosque or temple flanked by two minarets. At the top, in English, is the inscription "West Refaim", while at the left is "Postage" and at the right "Revenue". The colour of the stamp is chocolate brown. At the foot, enclosed in a circle, is the figure "3", but no indication of currency.

The stamp is affixed to the back of a post-card addressed to the Rt. Hon. P. Byrgeel, Baghdad, and is tied with a cancellation inscribed at the top "Virkoso", and at the foot "South Olantsila". The date is illegible. Alongside the stamp is another cancellation inscribed at the top "Ir Hadash", and at the foot "Nineweh", with the date "Nov. 3 -924".

The design sounds reminiscent of that of some Arab propaganda labels, but those were not inscribed "Postage" or "Revenue".

L. N. & M. Williams, 30 Dunstan Rd., London, N.W.11.

J.N.F. Commemorative Covers.

A little while ago I was shown some J.N.F. "First Day" Covers of the DO'AR IVRI coins Nos. 1 - 6 and having the red "SHAI" seal. The curious thing about these covers was that, although the date was the 16. 5. 48, the 50m. stamp was perf. 10 x 11. Previous researches of Dr. Hoexter and Mr. Tolkowsky both give the date of printing of the sheets of 50m. 10 x 11 as July, 1948. I tried to check this point up with the Philatelic Services in Israel and all they could confirm was that all the covers that they had seen bearing the red "SHAI" marking had the 50m. stamp perf. 10 x 11. Further similar covers were then examined and it was found that the postmark in every case appeared to have been printed on the envelope in identical positions.

The ink used in this mark itself was not at all similar to that actually used in the post offices at Tel Aviv.

I should be pleased if you could publish the above in the BAPIP BULLETIN and to hear from readers whether they too can confirm the above finding. I feel that if what I suspect were true, it would be a pity that those covers should be given special philatelic value, if misuses were made of postal markings.

Major S. Denfield, 161 Strand, London, W.C.2.

Forged Palestine Postmarks.

Forgeries of German Palestine postmarks crop up now and again. I have tried to establish the dates of some of them and find

Jerusalem 31.10.04, 31.12.05 (with stars), 31.12.05 (with "a") are the most often sent to me. In checking up I have noticed Friedemann was already reporting these dates as dangerous forgeries.

It would appear that these were produced in numbers after the 1st World War, the Fournier forgeries being concerned with Constantinople.

G. Harcourt, London, W.C.1.

RECENT AUCTION REALIZATIONS

Robson Lowe Ltd., London. (Postal History Auction, May, 1954)

Palestine, 1917, telegram receipt form with block of ten and a horizontal strip of four of Turkey 1 pi. (SG 646), all cancelled with faint impressions of the Beersheba circular date stamp. £10. 0. 0.

(July, 1954)

Palestine, 1917, telegram receipt form with Turkey 1 pi. (SG 646), 14 stamps all cancelled with faint Beersheba p.m. £11. 0. 0.

H. R. Hermer Ltd., London. (July, 1954)

Palestine, Collection of Egypt and Jordan overpr. "Palestine", values to £1, including overpr. varieties also those on U.P.U., 149 stamps £8. 10. 0.

"Stamps" (J. Gotlib), Tel Aviv. (April, 1954)

Palestine, Jaffa, double "box" postmark, superb IE11. ---
ditto SG 2, superb used, with B.P.A. certificate IE17. ---
Israel 1948, DO'AR IVRI, Lion Essays, 20m., 6 diff cols. IE12. ---
ditto ditto , 1000m., plate block, mint IE120. ---
ditto ditto , IMABA booklet, 3-50m. in blocks IE11. ---
ditto 1949, Flag stamp, 2 mint plate blocks of four IE7. ---

Erwin Caro, Tel Aviv. (June, 1954)

Palestine, 1898, Kaiser visit, postcard IE3. 250
ditto 1908, Cachet "Tempelkolonie Wilhelma" on postcard IE31. ---
ditto 1907, Cachet "Aus Jerusalem, Oesterr. Post" on p.c. IE10. ---
ditto Acre, negative postmark on postal receipt IE9. 500
ditto Bireh, in Arabic on postal receipt IE7. ---
ditto "Camp Imperial" Jerusalem, business card to Germany IE12. ---
ditto SG 1 on cover to Colombo, date of p.m. 2.3.1918 IE40. ---
ditto U.S.A. Army Post, Tel-Litwinsky on cover IE8. ---
Israel, 1948, 6th May, Safed stamp, marginal copy on cover, with oblong postmark IE29. ---
ditto 1949, Flag stamp, plate block of four IE5. 500
ditto ditto , complete sheet with "Torn Flag" variety No. 22726 IE125. ---

OUR NEW TREASURER'S ADDRESS

Mr. G. B. Seshold, Flat 22, 55, Portland Place,
London, W.1., England.

EDITORIAL ADDRESS:

A. S. Templeman,
7, Brentwood Drive,
Gatley, Cheshire.
Tel: GAT. 5571.

DUPLICATED and LITHOGRAPHED

by
CHARLES SEFTEL SECRETARIAL SERVICES
30, Fleet Street,
London, E.C.4.
Tel: CENTral 6280

The BAPIP BULLETIN
is
COPYRIGHT