★ THE LEVANT ★

Journal of the Ottoman & Near East Philatelic Society
APS Affiliate 247

January 2004 Volume 2, number 4

CONTENTS

Russian Field Post in the Caucasus 1877-8 by Alfred Kugel 63
The Shehir Overprints by Paul Secord ... 65
Perfination Varieties of the Administration of Justice Issue of 1936-55 by Martin Doring ... 76
Picture Postcards Prohibited in Turkey in 1900 ... 78
Turkish Operations in Palestine & Sinai: Officers' Military Handstamp by Norman J. Collins ... 79
Illustrated Ottoman-Turkish Postmarks ... 81

This is the first issue for 2004, and is the final issue for members who have not sent in their dues for this year by March 31. A renewal form is enclosed.
The number which appears in the upper right corner of the mailing label indicates the year through which your dues have been paid; i.e., 3 = 2003, 4=- 2004, etc.
Any person reading this journal who wishes to become a members, may print out the Membership Application from our Website or request the form when sending payment.

Articles are always needed, even half-page or one-page items are welcomed; members can offer the results of their research, observations on stamps or postal developments, auctions, etc. ONEPS is chartered with a broad scope covering not only former Ottoman territories and Turkey, but the entire Near East.

CORRECTION to previous issue.
The Editor wishes to acknowledge that the article "History of the Postal Rates of Lebanon" by J-B Parenti, which appeared in the previous issue (vol. 2:3) was previously published (in French) in *Documents Philatéliques, Revue de l'Académie de Philatélie* (2002:2); the English translation was done by the Editor

... from the President

Dear fellow members,
Our fourth annual meeting will be held in conjunction with NOJEX at the Meadowlands Crowne Plaza Hotel in Secaucus, N.J. on Saturday May 29. Meeting hours will be 4:00 - 6:00PM and the room will be on the mezzanine level. Check theshow program for the room number. This information will also be posted on our website.(www.oneps.org).
Members should seriously consider using this opportunity to exhibit, and I encourage you to do so if possible. Exhibiting is all about showing material; awards are secondary unless you are very serious about it. If you haven't exhibited before, give it a shot. An entry form is enclosed with this issue.
At the last meeting, we instituted the "Gary Paiste Memorial Award" for the best club exhibit. This is a continuing award and we will vote for the 2004 winner on May 29th.
At the conclusion of our meeting we will hold the annual OPAL Gordon Torrey memorial trophy competition, which is open to both OP AL and ONEPS members. To compete, you need only display one philatelic item acquired within the past year and explain it to the group. All those present then vote for their favorite item.
NOJEX runs from May 29-May31. It is well organized and attracts quite a few interesting dealers.

Bob Stuchell

PASSAGES -
Richard Talbot, Laval, Quebec, Member of our predecessor The Turkish and Ottoman Philatelic Society and of the Ottoman and Near East Philatelic Society, passed away last year.