



France & Colonies Philatelist

POSTAGE-DUE MARKINGS AND STAMPS OF FRANCE 1750-1942

II. The 10c and 15c Lithographed and Typographed Postage-Due Stamps of 1859-1871

By Arthur P. Merrick (#743)

The first definitive postage-due stamp of France was issued and put into use on Jan. 1, 1859. This was a 10 centime black provisional stamp produced by lithography (Scott J1, Yvert 1). It was followed shortly by a similar design 10 centime, issued on Feb. 28, 1859, but typographed (Scott J2, Yvert 2).

A change of rates became effective Jan. 1, 1863, so the 10c dues were retired, and a 15 centimes black of the same basic design issued on that date and produced by the typographic method (Scott J3, Yv. 4). In November 1870, during a shortage of stamps caused by the War of 1870-1871, the 15c black was produced by lithography at the Monnaie Bordeaux as a provisional (Scott J4, Yv 3). All of the above four 10c and 15c stamps were issued imperforate and in black. The name of the designer and engraver of these stamps is unknown.

This first type of postage-due stamps (Scott J1 to 10, Yvert 1 to 9c) is probably the least attractive and impressive of all issues of France. While a number of serious studies of these issues have been made by philatelic specialists of France, it is a series of stamps which has not been accorded the interest by most collectors of France which it so well deserves. The serious collector of France cannot afford to overlook or fail to study these early Taxe stamps with their various printing methods, plates, plate types and varieties, papers, cancellations, semi-official perforations and usage, both on and off cover. Such studies will be both absorbing and worth while. The lithographed stamps are not common but the typographed ones are still in plentiful supply and quite inexpensive.

10 Centimes Lithographed (Scott J1, Yvert 1)

Issued Jan. 1, 1859; withdrawn Dec. 31, 1862. The 10c lithographed was printed in sheets of 120 arranged horizontally in 3 panes of 30 (6x5), 60 (12x5), 30 (6x5) respectively, with a vertical gutter the width of one stamp separating the panes. A horizontal strip of 6 original lithographic impressions formed the "Bloc Report." This "Bloc Report" was then repeated to

complete the printing plate. Each of the 6 impressions of the "Bloc Report" varied slightly, thus there exist 6 types. (For descriptions and illustrations of the types, see Saint Brice, pages 8, 9, and 10). This stamp is far from common on cover and scarce to rare in pairs, strips, and blocks. First-day cancellations, Jan. 1, 1859, are known on single stamps and on cover but are rare. Crude to excellent counterfeits of this stamp exist (as also for the 15c lithographed too), and due caution should be taken to avoid them.

10 Centimes Typographed (Scott J2, Yvert 2)

The 10c typographed was issued on Feb. 28, 1859 and may be easily identified by its differences from the 10c lithographed. The principal differences are in the degree of slant of the accent mark over the "a" between "Centimes" and "Percevoir," and the differences in the word "Centimes" (see Fig. 1).

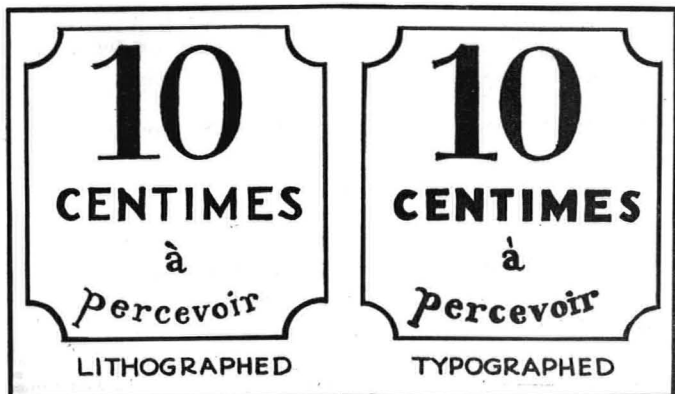


Fig. 1. Differences between 10c litho and typographed dues.

Two different plates were used, made from a die that was modified in course of use. Plate (type) I, Feb. 1859 to Oct. 1861, consisted of 500 stereotypes locked together to print a sheet of 500 (25x20).

Plate (type) II, Nov. 1861 to Dec. 1862, consisted of an electroplate ("galvano") of 240 subjects to print a sheet. The differences between plates I and II are easily recognizable. The numeral "1" of "10" shows these differences clearly. In Plate I the top of the "1" is flat, and the ends of the base slightly rounded. The entire design and printing of Plate II is less sharply defined than Plate I. (See Fig. 2).

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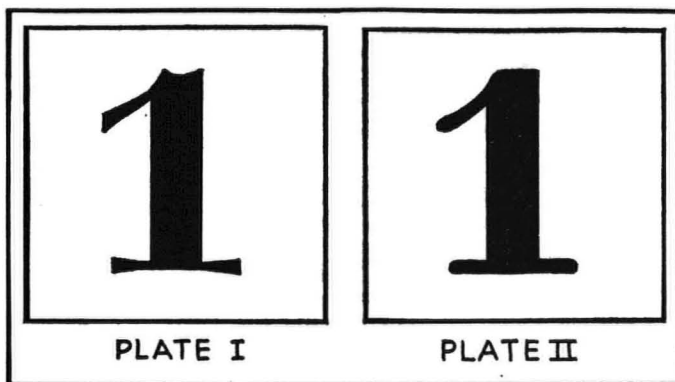


Fig. 2. Difference in numeral of Type I and Type II of the 10c 1859 typographed due stamp

Covers and both used and unused multiples (see Figs. 3 and 4) are not uncommon for both plates. A wide and interesting range of cancels are to be found. Also a great many printing shades, paper shades, and plate varieties exist on the stamps from both plates. Private perforations are known: "Clamecy" is rare and roulettes (percés en lignes) are scarce. As with all private perforations, they should be collected on full cover or large piece as fraudulent perforations were sometimes applied to both used and unused singles.



Fig. 3. Cover with pair and single of 10c typo dues, black on white shade, cancelled with "2807" small numerals lozenge for Sarlat (scarce).
Postmark of Sarlat Distribution ("22"), 3 July 1861.



Fig. 4. Mint Block of 9 of 10c typo Type II, black on yellowish shade, containing numerous plate flaws.

15 Centime Typographed (Scott J3, Yvert 4)

Issued Jan. 1, 1863, withdrawn Sept. 1871. The 15c typographed is easily distinguished from the 15c lithographed, again by the degree of slant of the accent mark over the "a" between "Centimes" and "Percevoir," the differences in the word "Centimes," and slight differences in the numeral "15" (see Fig. 5).

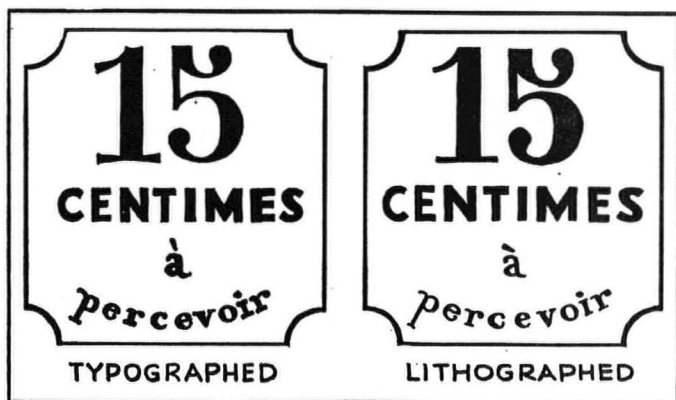


Fig. 5. Showing differences between typo and litho 15c dues.

Two different die types were used for the printing of this stamp: Type I 1863-1864, and Type II 2 May 1864-1870. At first the plates consisted of 500 cliches to print a sheet of 500; a basic block of 10 stereo cliches was repeated by electrotypy to make up the 500. From 1869 the plates (Type II) were made up in 3 panes of 50 (5x10) arranged horizontally, each pane sep-

arated by a vertical gutter of about 21mm. The sheet was printed from 2 of these plates of 150, for a total of 300 stamps. As with the 10c typographed the principal differences in the Types are in the numeral "1" of "10". (See comments on the 10c typographed above and also Fig. 2). There are also differences in the border inscriptions and the word "Centimes." However the numeral "1" will usually and readily identify Types I from II. Singles of both plates are quite plentiful, but pairs, strips, and blocks are not as readily found. The stamps of Type I are somewhat less plentiful than those of Type II, due to the much shorter length of time Type I was in use. Covers showing Type I with 1863 dates are considerably harder to find than covers with stamps of Type II with 1864-1871 cancellation dates (see Fig. 3). Here again the collector can find a most interesting variety and range of covers, cancels, shades of printing and paper, as well as numerous plate varieties. Private perforations also exist, but caution should be exercised to obtain these preferably on full cover or large piece.

In Sept. 1871 when the postage-due tax on local letters was raised to 25c,

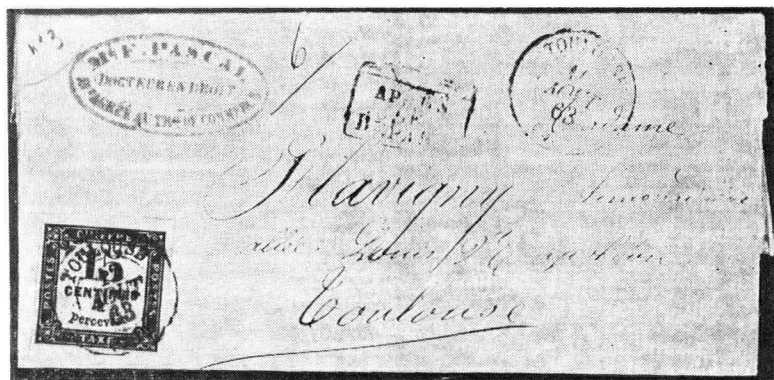


Fig. 6a. Cover with 15c typo Type I due, black on white shade, cancelled with double-ring pmk of Toulouse, 11 Aug. 1863. Also on face, "Après Le Depart" mark (too late).

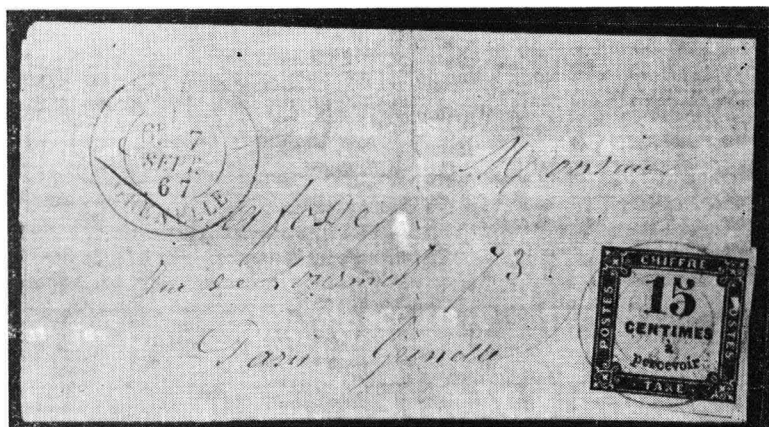


Fig. 6b. Cover with 15c typo due Type II, black on yellowish shade, cancelled with double-ring pmk of Paris-Grenelle, 7 Sept. 1867.

both the 15c typographed and lithographed were surcharged in a few cities by changing the "1" of "15" to a "2" by manuscript in ink, and in two cities by overprinting a "2" on the "1." This temporarily served to convert the 15c to 25c to meet the new rate. These are rare and must be collected on full cover with a cancel showing the proper cities and dates.

All remaining supplies of both the typographed and lithographed 15c stamps were ordered recalled and returned to Paris in Sept. 1871.

15 Centime Lithographed (Scott J4, Yvert 3)

Issued Nov. 1870; withdrawn Sept. 1871. As previously noted, the 15c lithographed was a provisional stamp printed at the Monnaie de Bordeaux. For differences between it and the 15c typographed see notes on the latter and also Fig. 5.

This stamp was produced by transferring to a lithographic stone a wood engraving 10 times (5x2) to form a "Bloc Report" of 10. Slight irregularities in each of the 10 impressions serve to identify the 10 types (for descriptions and illustrations of the types see Saint Brice, p. 19). The "Bloc Report" was then repeated to make a plate of 3 panes of 50 stamps each (5x10) arranged horizontally and with a vertical gutter between each pane. Two such plates of 150 served to print a full sheet of 300. The interval between stamps is 1 to 1½mm, as compared to 2mm intervals on the 15c typographed.

The 15c lithographed is somewhat lower priced unused than used because of its short life and limited use. It is a relatively scarce stamp, and other than the 10 types, it offers little in the way of shades, paper and plate varieties, or this may only seem to be so because it is difficult to obtain suffic-



Fig. 8. Cover with pair of 15c litho, black on white, addressed from Vienna to Marseille. Cancelled double-ring pmk Marseille, 9 Jan. 1871. Bloc report positions 4 and 9. No postmarks of origin or transit (tho part of back is cut away), perhaps transported by hand and posted in Marseille.

ient copies for thorough study and comparison. It is scarce in unused multiples, and used it is "tres rare" in pairs and "rarissime" in blocks. It is also very scarce on cover. Rouletted private perforations are listed and others possibly exist such as "Clamecy" and perforated 13 or 14. I have not seen either of the latter two on cover. Here again, crude to excellent counterfeits exist. The note above on surcharging the 15c typographed also applies to this stamp. The remainders were recalled in Sept. 1871, and ordered to be sent to Paris.

(The plate composition and sheet layout for the stamps discussed in this article, are correct to the best of the author's knowledge. However, because of the lack of exact and official records, there are contradictions in some plate and sheet information reported in various standard reference books, and the authors readily acknowledge this. See oany, La Phil. Fr., Mars. 1968, p. 71).

As previously noted these postage-due stamps were obligatory for use on unfranked letters to and from points within a local postoffice district effective Jan. 1, 1859. On June 1, 1859, the following postage-due tax schedule went into effect: For letters to and from points within the local post-office district, city area, and its immediate suburbs:

- Up to 15 grams — 10c
- From 15 to 30 grams — 20c
- Over 30 grams — 10c additional

For letters to or from points within the Local post-office city district and its immediate suburbs, and the rural areas of the same post-office district:

- Up to 7½ grams — 10c
- From 7½ to 15 grams — 20c
- From 15 to 30 grams — 30c
- Over 30 grams — 10c additional

On Jan. 1, 1863, the basic postage-due letter tax was increased to 15c and the entire rate schedule was adjusted proportionately, or 1.5 times the rates above.

Check List of Printing and Paper Shades

	10c Litho	10c Typo(I)	10c Typo(II)	15c Typo (I)	15c Typo(II)	15c Litho
Black on White	x	x	x	x	x	x
Dull Black on White		x		x	x	
Deep Black on White		x		x	x	
Intense Black on White				x	x	
Pale Black on White				x		
Grey Black on White	x	x		x		
Black on Buff		x	x	x	x	
Dull Black on Buff		x		x		
Deep Black on Buff		x		x		
Black on off-White			x		x	
Grey Black on off-White					x	
Dull Black on off-White			x			
Black on eYellowish			x	x	x	x
Dull Black on Yellowish			x	x		
Intense Black on Yellowish					x	
Black on Brownish Yellow					x	
Black (shades) on Bluish Grey					x	



Fig. 7. Pair 15c litho, black on white, with unofficial roulette;
bloc report positions 3 and 4.

Check List of Cancellations

	10c Litho	10c Typo	15c Typo	15c Litho
Dated Double Ring, No. 15*	x	x	x	x
Dated Single Ring, No. 16*		x	x	x
Dated Double Ring, No. 17*			x	x
Dotted Outer Ring, No. 22*	x	x	x	x
Petits Chiffres		x	x	
Gros Chiffres			x	
"OR" in Circle	x	x	x	x
Ambulant			x	x
Manuscript in Ink		x		

(All cancellations in black only)

*Numbers from DeBeaufond "—Obliterations—1849-76"

In both check lists "x" means that the stamp so indicated is listed in reference books or catalogs, is actually in the author's collection, or has been seen and checked by him. (I would appreciate members sending me any additions or corrections to these check lists.)

(To be Continued)

Banks and coin dealers in Europe are now selling a set of 10 reproductions (facsimiles) of celebrated classic stamps of several countries die stamped on flat pieces of pure 24-carat gold. They are stamped on the back with control marks of the Mint of Paris. Each piece weighs about 6 grammes and they are produced from dies engraved on steel. 3000 sets were made and they sell for about 118 Fr a stamp. Among them is an imitation of the 1849 Ceres of France. The likeness to the originals is hardly so close than any knowledgeable collectors would consider them "dangerous forgeries." One can order them from Comptoir Lyon-Allemand, Louyot et Cie, 13 rue de Montmorency, F75-Paris 3. We can not imagine why any stamp collector would want these hideous chips, but if you have to hoard gold they may give you a painless (and legal?) excuse.

Air France had a fancy cachet for mail carried on its first flight from Port-au-Prince (Haiti) to Pointe-a-Pitre (Guadeloupe) last Nov. 15. We read that through non-stop flights France to Guiana started recently, giving one-day airmail service.

THE REGULAR ISSUES OF FRANCE 1876-1966 ACCORDING TO THEIR NORMAL POSTAGE USAGE

By Stanley J. Luft

(continued from last issue)

B. The Sower "with Ground" Issue of 1906

Scott type A21

Design modified and engraved by Mouchon.

10c

The 10c red (Sc 155, Yv 134), the only stamp issued in this design, replaced the 10c lined Sower (Sc 138, Yv 129), 13 April 1906.

Usage (Tariff of 16 April 1906):

*Letters, to 15 gm (domestic);

*Postal cards (domestic and foreign).

Approximately 2 million stamps were printed from Plate I, during 10-25 April 1906; about 28 million more were printed from Plate II (clearer design), from 26 April 1906-on, and issued beginning 17 May 1906.

Replaced by the 10c red Sower with thin inscriptions (Sc 162b, Yv 135), 23 July 1906.

C. The Sower "with thin inscriptions" Issues of 1906-1927

Design modified and engraved by Mouchon.

10c red

The 10c red (Sc 162b, Yv 135) replaced the Sower with ground (Sc 155, Yv 134), 28 July 1906.

Usage (Tariff of 16 April 1906):

*Letters, to 15 gm (domestic);

*Letter-cards (domestic);

*Postal cards (domestic and foreign).

Type I, for flat plate sheets, printed 5-28 July 1906, and issued on final day of printing; some letter-cards (ACEP 47) of 1906 are of this type. Type IIA (plate retouched by Mouchon), for flat plate sheets, printed from Sept. 1906 to Feb.(?) 1907 and first issued 26 Oct. 1906; the other letter-cards (#47) are of this type. Type III, for flat plate booklets of 20 (without pubs), printed from Nov. 1906 to 1907(?), issued 19 Nov. 1906; letter-cards (#48) and postal cards of this type printed 1906-07.

Replaced by 10c red cameo Sower (Sc 162, Yv 138) in 1907.

10c green

The 10c green (Sc 163a, Yv 188, 188A), in Type IIB, for "private" booklets of 10 stamps (with pubs), were printed in 1906 (pubs Minéraline) and 1927 (pubs Phéna), for free distribution to physicians by the above-named firms. Those few examples that saw postal service would have been used in multiples or in combination with other stamps, as there was no extant rate other than for bulk mailings of printed matter.

35c violet

The 35c violet (Sc 175b, Yv 136) was issued 8 Nov. 1906, value having been resurrected by the Tariff of 16 April 1906:

Domestic usage:

*Registered letters, to 15 gm.

Types I and II, for flat plate sheets, printed July-Sept. 1906.

Replaced by the 35c violet cameo Sower (Sc 175, Yv 142) in 1907.

(Note: Bibliographic data will follow at end of Sower section).

D. The Cameo Sower Issue of 1907-1938

25c

The 25c blue (Sc 168, Yv 140) replaced the 25c lined Sower (Sc 141, Yv 132) 19 June 1907.

Usage (existing Tariff of 1 Jan. 1879):

#*Letters, to 15 gm (foreign) (to 20 gm after 1 May 1910);

#*Letter-cards (foreign);

#*Registry fee (domestic, colonies, and foreign).

Domestic usage (Tariff of 1 Jan. 1917):

*Letters, from 20 to 50 gm;

Printed matter, from 300 to 400 gm.

Domestic usage (Tariff of 1 April 1920):

#*Letters, to 20 gm;

#*Letter-cards.

Registry fee, for other than letters and parcels.

Foreign usage (Tariff of 1 April 1921):

*Letters, to 20 gm, to nearby areas of Belgium and Spain.

(Left without specific usage by Tariff of 17 July 1925; retained as a supplementary value).

Foreign usage (Tariff of 1 Feb. 1926):

*Printed matter, to 50 gm (until 31 July 1926).

Usage (Tariff of 1 May 1926):

#*Printed matter and échantillons (samples), from 50 to 100 gm (domestic);

#Levée exceptionnelle fee (domestic and foreign) (to 31 July 1937).

Domestic usage (Tariff of 9 Aug. 1926):

*Postal cards ("of 5 words") (until 20 April 1930).

Type	Color	Press	Format	Paper	Printing dates
IA	deep blue (shades) (Yv 140a)	flat-plate	sheets	normal	6/1907-1915
IA	"black-blue" (Yv 140b)	flat-plate	sheets	normal	1907
IA	light blue	flat-plate	sheets	normal	used 2nd half 1911 (rare)
IA	blue	flat-plate	sheets	normal	1916
IA	blue (shades)	flat-plate	sheets	GC	1917-20
IA	light blue	flat-plate	sheets	normal	1920-23
IA	light blue	flat-plate	vert. coils	normal	1920-22 (very rare)
IB	light blue	flat-plate	booklets of 20 w/o pubs	normal	1920-21? 8/1921-4?/1922 (rare)
II	blue (Yv 140c)	flat-plate	booklets of 20 w/o pubs	normal	1922-24?
II	blue (Yv 140d)	flat-plate	booklets of 10 and 20 w. pubs	normal	1924-25
IIIA	blue	flat-plate	sheets	normal	1923-24
IIIA	blue	flat-plate	stamped letter-cards		11 or 12/1924- 1/1925 (rare)
IIIB	blue (Yv 140e)	rotary	sheets	normal	24 March 1924- 5/1925, and 10/1926-2/1927
IIIB	blue	rotary	flat-plate precancels	normal	issued 6-11?/1926 on sheets of 1924 printings

IIIB blue	rotary	rotary-press normal precancels	issued 11/1926- 27, on sheets of 1924 printings
IIIC blue	rotary	vertical coils normal	1924-26 or 27
IV blue	flat-plate	booklets of 20 w/o pubs	issued 6 ?/1920 (very rare)
IV blue (Yv 140f)	flat-plate	booklets of 20 w/o pubs	1920-21
IV blue	flat-plate	stamped letter-cards	1920-25
IV blue	flat-plate	stamped envelopes	1920-21

Replaced by the 25c yellow-brown (Sc 169, Yv 235) in June 1927; no change in (domestic only) usage.

Domestic usage (Tariff of 6 April 1932):

*Printed matter, from 50 to 100 gm.

Domestic usage (Tariff of 14 Nov. 1935):

*Postal cards ("of 5 words").

Domestic usage (Tariff of 12 July 1937):

*Printed matter and échantillons, from 20 to 50 gm;

Newspapers, from 100 to 125 gm, "ordinary" (individual) rate.

Domestic usage (Tariff of 1 Sept. 1937):

Newspapers, from 125 to 150 gm, "ordinary" (individual) rate.

Rotary-plate sheets of Type IIIB printed from June 1927 to 1938; precancels (rotary-plate ovpt.) issued Sept. 1927 to 1938. Rotary-plate vertical coils of Type IIIC printed in 1927; rotary-plate precancel overprint applied only on 22 April 1931, to vertical and horizontal coils; (coils are rare; precancelled coils are very rare).

Replaced by the 25c Mercure (Sc 360, Yv 411) in 1938.

30c orange; red

The 30c orange (Sc 170, Yv 141) replaced the 30c lined Sower (Sc 142, Yv 133) 25 May 1907.

Domestic usage (Tariff of 16 April 1906):

Letters, from 30 to 45 gm;

Pneumatic letter-cards (Paris).

Foreign usage (Tariff of 4 Oct. 1907):

Letters, from 30 to 45 gm, to Luxembourg and nearby areas of Belgium and Switzerland;

Letters, from 15 to 30 gm, to nearby areas of Spain.

(changed to 50-100 gm, and 20-50 gm, respectively, by Tariff of 1 May 1910).

Domestic usage (Tariff of 1 Jan. 1917):

Letters, from 50 to 100 gm.

Domestic usage (Tariff of 1 April 1920):

*Printed matter, from 100 to 200 gm.

Foreign usage (Tariff of 1 April 1921):

*Postal cards;

Printed matter, from 100 to 150 gm.

Printed only in flat-plate sheets of Type I; on normal paper from May 1907 to 1916, and in 1920; very deep orange shade dates from July 1907; printed on GC paper in 1916-20. Precancelled (flat-plate) POSTES PARIS and POSTES FRANCE, issued 1 Jan. 1921.

Replaced by the 30c red (Sc 171, Yv 160) in Jan. 1922.

Printed only in 1921, as flat-plate sheets of Type I on normal paper; flat-

plate precancels POSTES PARIS and POSTES FRANCE issued 1? Jan. 1922; flat-plate precancels of the more common AFFRANCHITS POSTES type issued Sept. 1922 to 1925. Stamped postal cards of special Type IV (ACEP #76) printed in July 1921.

Stationery for pneumatic mail with violet stamp, printed in 1907-10 (Type I) and in 1910-16 (Type IV), for use in Paris and Marseille.

Postal savings forms (for the C.N.E.P.) with a black stamp, also for pneumatic mail, issued in 1909-10 (Type I), and in 1914 (Type IV).

Replaced by the 30c red Pasteur (Sc 188, Yv 173) in May 1923.

(to be continued)

F. & C. P. S. OFFICIAL

Meetings, April-June

April 2, 1968, meeting was Proof Night for the Parent Chapter Members and guests present. The Feature of the evening was entitled "From Design to Stamp—All About Proofs." It was jointly presented by Paulette Neumann and Ira Zweifach. The material being shown was the property of Miss Neumann, and the commentary was supplied by Mr. Zweifach for her as per information given by Miss Neumann. The showing proved to be a most educational event, in that it gave those present an insight into the various techniques and processes that are utilized by the artists, designers and engravers, in the preparation of the dies and proofs that lead to the finished product, namely the postage stamp as we know it. Miss Neumann's presentation began with the first sketches as prepared by the artist. From there it proceeded through the engraving of the dies and the various pulls made by the engraver, namely First Stage, Second Stage and Third Stage Proofs. From this beginning, one is taken through the various trial colors and essays which are run off, to the finished proof, and the various presentation sheets which are also made. All in all, it proved to be a most interesting and pleasant evening for all. No doubt it will result in many of our members taking a second look at the inclusion of proofs in their collections as a part of their presentation of the Postal Issues of their Specialty.

Postal Markings and Cancellations of Monaco were the subject of presentation by your Secretary Walter E. Parshall at the meeting of May 7, 1968. The meeting was well attended by members, and in addition, the club was honored by the presence of Mr. Henry Goodkind who brought with him a prominent French collector Mon. Henry C. Dupont from Le Coteau, France. Mr. Goodkind and Mr. Dupont rushed to the meeting from the airport, as soon as they could clear customs, having just arrived from France. Mr. Parshall's postal markings and cancellations of Monaco encompass the period from the earliest pre-stamp markings to modern times. The showing began with pre-stamp manuscript and straight line markings. Included in this section were those markings applied by the Principality, the French postal administration, when the Principality was under the protectorate of France, and straight line markings applied when the Principality was under the wing of the Kingdom of Sardinia. From this point one is shown through the various numeral and circular date stamps which made an appearance as the various periods of the History of the Principality postally progressed. These were well represented by showings of cancellations as applied by Sardinia, on cover with French

stamps used in Monaco, before the advent of the first issue of the Principality's own postage stamps. The first issue of the Principality was well-covered with cancellations on covers through the 1 Franc and with several examples of the 5 Franc off-cover used. The presentation then took the viewer through the various cancellations as they were put into use by the different post offices in the Principality as shown on cover and on some selective items of postal stationery. The exhibit concluded with several examples of the convoyeur and railroad cancellations as used by the various rail lines which ran through the Principality.

The June 4, 1968, meeting, the last meeting until the fall, was another well-attended affair. The feature of the evening was a presentation of the 25 centimes Ceres blue of 1871, as shown by member John Lievsay. This was the second showing by Mr. Lievsay in his series of collecting byways, namely "nit-pick-and tong" as he calls it. Once again it was another educational experience; the showing included as the first part, examples of the issue as they came out from the original printings. As Mr. Lievsay proceeded through the presentation, the slow deterioration of the plates used was shown by the various examples of plate flaws, broken frame lines, retouches, various shades, etc. Mr. Lievsay also exhibited some of the various cancellations used during the period of time that the 1871 blue was in use. In evidence were singles, strips and multiple pieces to illustrate his exhibit.

The business portion of the meeting was very short, with the only agenda on tap, the election of officers for the coming year. It was decided that the present officers would continue to hold office until the September meeting, with a nominating committee to be formed during the summer, to present a slate of candidates at that time—W. E. P.

NEW MEMBERS

- 1113 NEITZEL, John, 32263 Hearthstone Road, Farmington, Mich. 48024
France
- 1114 BALL, Dana K., 242 Cedar Lane, Apartment 131, Vienna, Va. 22180
Cancellations on Empire; Imperfs 1852-63
- 1115 BUCH, Pierre, 2622 Sweetbrier Ave. S. W., Roanoke, Va. 24015
France General
- 1116 SLATER, Raymond L., 10 The Spur, Locust Valley, N. Y. 11560
France; Mint, Stationery, Proofs and Essays
- 1117 MEREL, Martin, 8036 N. Kenneth Ave., Skokie, Ill. 60076
General French Material
- 1118 NINNINGER, Charles M., RFD #3, Woodbury, Conn. 06798
France prior to 1946.
- 1119 CHERNS, Larry J., 66 Stroud Road, Hamilton, Ont., Canada
Covers with Historical Contents, before 1880.

REMOVED FROM MAILING LIST

Daniel Sefton (deceased), Vincent Domanski, Jr. (deceased).

CHANGES OF ADDRESS AND CORRECTIONS

- 1094 RICE, James M., 911 West 7th St., Plainfield, N. J. 07063
- 988 OFFILL, Kenneth A., 735 East Division St., Lombard, Ill. 60148
- 528 SCOTTINO, Robert L., 2190 Boston Road, Bronx, N. Y. 10462
- 114 MEYER, Charles E., 91 Fairview Ave., Verona, N. J. 07044
- 670 GADBOIS, Charles W., 3734 Dennis Lane, White Bear Lake, Minn. 55110
- 1011 AVVAMPATO, Charles J., P. O. Box 15516, San Diego, Cal. 92115
- 1093 BOATRIGHT, Philip, P. O. Box 55045, Omaha, Nebr. 68155

THE FRENCH COLONIES BOOM

The Roumet auctions of Dec. 1967 and March 1968 are part of a very specialized collection of French Colonies varieties, the properties of a Monsieur "C", were both remarkable for the quantity of scarce minor overprint varieties and symptomatic of a trend in the status of French colonies. The current trend is toward a greatly increased interest in and catalog as well as market value of French colonies specialties. As most of us know French colonies have been for 60 years or so rather unpopular and undervalued in the market, compared to material equivalent in character and interest of British or German colonies. In the past it was often pointed out that many F. C. varieties and stamps were greatly undervalued and should be a good long-term investment. The late H. R. Harmer, famous London and New York auctioneer, in a talk at one of the very first meetings of FCPS made this point very strongly. And the Cte. O. de Pomyers has been writing for years in the French press (Bull. Phil. du Midi, L'Echangiste Universelle) about colonies stamps that were absurdly undercataloged—but nobody seemed to pay any attention. It seemed for ages that the boom in F. C. would never come. But now it has arrived, and rather quickly and quietly too, so that it is proving quite a shock to some people. The French dealers have lately been trying to push it along because with so many other issues already well inflated a big potential seemed at hand in the languishing and unappreciated stocks and collections of F. C. that include so much material originally issued in very small quantities by present-day standards.

The catalogs started showing a marked differential rise in colonies several years ago, and the market kept up although somewhat spottily. What has now really sparked the movement is the initiative of several French catalogs this last year in listing and pricing a great many more minor varieties, primarily of overprints, that heretofore were listed or mentioned only in the old Yvert specialized catalog (Vol. II) of 1936 and in a few articles or handbooks (e.g., DeVinck's "Colonies Francaises—"). This makes a lot more people want them, especially investment-minded general collectors who do not have much knowledge about the material nor an intrinsic interest in it for study purposes. There having been little active market (though some demand from a handful of specialists) for this material in the past, the catalogers are pricing it mainly on the basis of its supposed scarcity. Unfortunately, some of the varieties being listed or offered have a somewhat doubtful status as stamps, that is there are printers waste and unofficially-produced items mixed in. In general, the Yvert specialized catalog of 1936 was dependably discriminating in what to list, because its editor, the late Baron de Vinck de Winnezele, had specialized in F. C. and carefully reviewed the evidence. No doubt, revision of judgement on some varieties and issues is in order as the recent studies of Pannetier on Benin and Congo, for example, bring out.

Our member Bertram Mendelsohn, has compiled a selection of interesting lots in the above-mentioned Roumet sales, most of which are unlisted varieties. The prices realized on these run about twice the reserves ("prix minimum") set by the auctioneer. Prices realized on "standard" cataloged items, however, averaged only about $\frac{1}{2}$ to $\frac{3}{4}$ th cat. but some unusual items brought full cat. or over. This was the pattern in the Burrus sales too (perhaps it was the Burrus sales that started the trend) and other recent auctions (Robineau, Jamet, Maury) have been following along. It may not sound like a great boom, but when the recent rise in the catalog values (19th Century especially) and the number of large F. C. collections sold in the last several years are considered it is something to be noted and watched. There has also been a marked rise in catalog of the post-war colonies issues, but that is due to

something else—the demand of topical collectors.—R. G. S.

Mr. Mendelsohn's list of some realizations in Roumet's Vente 252 follows (cat. Yvert or Ceres nos., prices in francs):

COLONIES GENERAL, tete beche 3a, 10c in bloc of nine, mint	1370.75
ALEXANDRIE, taxe #5, double surcharge 30c on 1f. mint	125
ANJOUAN, #21; 05 on 4c, block of 6, with 4 stamps without surcharge and 2 surcharged on back, fold on 1 stamp, mint	345
ANNAM AND TONKIN, #1a; surcharge inverted, pair 1a+1 with one stamp surcharge inverted; 1. a pair one stamp double surcharge, all unused, no gum, 5 stamps	225
No. 5 double vertical surcharge, one reading up, one reading down, unused, no gum	225
BENIN, No. 6c; 15c in strip of 3, one stamp without overprint, used	116
No. 11; 40c, horiz. pair, one stamp without overprint, unused no gum	277
CANTON, No. 83; 4p on 10f, wide space between "4" and "piastres" horizontal pair, with normal, mint	122
CASTELLORIZO, No. 17; 5c overprint in black (instead of red)	270
CHINE, No. 8; 25c strip of 3, imperf. mint	150
No. 16, 5f block of 4, one stamp without "e" in "Chine," used	210
CILICIE, Nos. 74-76, surcharge double, one inverted, mint	80.85
CONGO, No. 11a; 10c on 1f, horizontal surcharge, used	1905
No. 41; 5f block of 4, watermark rose branch, mint	820
COTE D'IVOIRE, Parcel post 3a; 50c surcharge inverted, vertical pair, one stamp without accent on "o"	256
COTE DES SOMALIS, No. 22c 0.40 on 4c, surcharge inverted, used	331
No. 33 10c on 10f, double surcharge and "Djibouti" inverted, used	330
No. 51; 2f, sheet of 40 with one stamp without engravers name, and another with center missing, mint	616.77
DAHOMEY, No. 37; 05 on 25c, horizontal pair, one stamp without surcharge, mint	171
No. 37a 05 on 25c surcharge inverted, one stamp with wide spacing, mint	1110
GAUDELLOUPE, No. 2d; unissued 5 on 4c, one of 3 examples saved from burning (reserve 1000fr)	unsold
No. 13aC; 80c Guadeloupe, mint	9005
No. 12aD; 30c "Guadeloupe" center stamp in strip of 3, used	3605
Taxe No. 14b; 30 on 1f, surcharge inverted, and without "G" in "Guadeloupe", mint	945
GUINÉE, Nos. 54 and 55 surcharge inverted, No. 55 double surcharge inverted, 3 stamps, mint	231
GUYANE, No. 3; 05 on 2c block of 4 from corner of sheet, 2 top stamps have double surcharge, one of the lower stamps without "f", mint	595
No. 28; horizontal pair, one stamp without overprint unused, no gum	425
HOI HAO, No. 49; 1c, pane of 50, one stamp without head and value, another with head only partially printed, mint	195
INDE FRANCAIS, No. 63, double surcharge, mint and used	106
INDOCHINE, No. 14; inscribed "Indochine" in pair with normal, mint	187
No. 77a, 6c on 15c surcharge inverted 2 examples in a block of 5, the 3 lower stamps without surcharge	201
No. 117; 1c on 5c block of 6, triple surcharge, mint	221
LEVANT, No. 1b; 1p on 25c, error "T piastre 1", one of three known examples, used	4785
MADAGASCAR, No. 1; 05 on 10c, pair, one without surcharge, used	617

Nos. 48 and 50; figure "5" only, inverted, used	321
No. 113; 05 on 30c horizontal pair, one stamp without surcharge, mint	256
MAROC, No. 3+3a; 10c on 10c, vertical pair types 1 and 2 se tenant, mint	285
No. 5c imperforate, 25c on 25c horizontal pair, one stamp with double surcharge, one inverted, unused, no gum	155
No. 57; +5c on 10c block of 25, with surcharge misplaced, 7 stamps being without surcharge, mint	430

(Several other sections of this collection were sold in Roumet's Ventes 248-250, and 253.)

ANNOUNCEMENTS AND NEWS

Vincent Domanski, a member of FCPS since almost its founding, and nationally prominent collector active in many philatelic affairs, died last Spring in Philadelphia, his home city. He was 74. His outstanding collections of various countries include Poland, Russia, Switzerland, France, Germany and Scandinavia. Although it had not been shown recently his France is reputed to be very fine. The collections are to be auctioned over a 5-month period beginning this August, by Earl P. L. Apfelbaum in Philadelphia.

The March 1968 issue of the *Philatelic Literature Review* (1st Qtr. '68, v. 17, no. 1) was largely devoted to French philately with a number of articles updated from the FCP and a consolidation of all the new book and journal article listings in FCP since 1964, as well as information on the FCPS. We have already had a number of comments and inquiries in the mail as a result, and the FCPS is greatly indebted to the effort of Editor Dan Vooyo (and FCPS member) of PLR for this excellent exposure of our Society to a wider audience. Copies of the issue may be obtained from PLR, Box 187, Canajoharie, N. Y., at 50c; the subscription or membership to the *Philatelic Literature Association* is \$3.00 per year.

Our note in the April *Philatelist* (p. 40) electing Charlie Bretagne to an APS Vice-President was a little too premature—regrettably he didn't quite make it as the Eastern "team" of candidates of which he was one, lost out to the Western team by a few hundred votes.

The item in April *Philatelist* p. 32 on the reform of the French postmark system in the overseas departments, can now be extended to the overseas territories, as Mon. Tristant has published the second part of his article in *La Phil. Fr. for Mars '68*. The territories have been assigned code number 98, with subnumbers as follows: 98-1 Comores, 98-2 Afars and Issas, 98-3 New Caledonia, 98-4 New Hebrides, 98-5 Polynesia, and 98-6 St. Pierre-Miquelon. These numbers are already appearing in the postmarks of these territories.

On March 5 1968 two French naval vessels made a once in every 3 years official visit to Clipperton Island, an uninhabited French possession in the eastern Pacific off Mexico. For the occasion, mail posted on the helicopter-carriers Jeanne d'Arc and Victor Schoelcher was cancelled with a special rectangular cachet inscribed "Atoll Clipperton 5 Mars 1968" at top right, a map of the island in center, and at bottom: "Jeanne d'Arc—Victor Schoelcher". (*Le Monde*, April '68, p. 61).

Secry. Parshall is in receipt of a letter from our member A. G. McKanna, who would like to sponsor an informal get-together of FCPS members and others interested in France and Colonies, at the time of the Royal Philatelic Society of Canada annual meeting in mid-September (12-15th period probably), being held this year at the Treadway Thousand Islands Club, Alexandria Bay, N. Y. This will be the week end after the APS meeting at Rochester. Those interested should write to Mr. McKanna, 54 Silverthorne Bush Drive, Etobicoke, Ontario.

The Rhode Island Philatelic Society will hold a "RIPEX '68" exhibition at the Hotel Biltmore, Providence, on Oct. 12-13. Our member Raymond L. Gaillaguet, who is chairman of this show, invites members of FCPS in the New England area to have a meeting during the show. If you can attend, write to Ray at 121 Medway St., Providence, R. I.

Attention Andorra collectors: we are in receipt of a letter from Sr. Ernesto Fink, who is a specialist in Andorra, asking to hear from any of our members who would be interested in joining him to form an Andorra Study Circle. Write him at Apartado Postal 2554, Mexico 1, D. F. Mexico.

The French revenue stamps will soon be printed on watermarked paper, according to a decree of the Ministry of Finances dated 4 Jan. 1968.

On the occasion of the first sailboat race around the island, a special postoffice was set up at the marina at St. Paul, Reunion, on April 15, and a fancy illustrated cachet postmark used on covers posted there. Souvenir cards with this cachet can be obtained from the APOI, P. B. 390, St. Denis, at 2.70 French francs p.p.

Jean Yvert, the publisher of L'Echo, has been nominated for the title of Chevalier de l'Ordre du Mérité.

The new magazine "Philatélie" which we mentioned in the Jan. FCP, p. 11, is being sent us by the courtesy of the publisher, so we can now list the contents in our "Current Journal Articles" column. It is printed in 3 or 4 colors on coated paper and profusely illustrated. The articles are very diverse, something for specialists, thematic collectors, postal historians, et al. Bound in the center is a smaller pamphlet called "La Vie Philatélique" which lists and prices the new issues of all countries, flammes, temporary postmarks, and other news. The magazine runs 68 pages per issue (monthly), and La Vie Ph. is included in that with continuous pagination. The articles are not limited to France either. For 30Fr a year it will attract many subscribers. Daniel Bernet is the editor. (24 rue du 4-Septembre, Paris 2).

Maurice Jamet's last December auction of France and Colonies brought some remarkable prices: a superb used 29c blue no. Yv 14 went for 460 times cat. and many others for 10 times cat. Many colonies rarities brought full cat. or more, which was seldom true in the past.

Next year, 1970, will be the centenary of the War of 1870-71 and there will undoubtedly be numerous celebrations and souvenirs put out to commemorate the philatelic events of that fateful time.

The Marianne of Cheffer stamps it seems will prove to be every bit as interesting as the Coq of Decaris, for already deLizeray and others are publishing articles in Le Monde and La Phil. Fr. about new discoveries of types, presentations, and other varieties.

NEW BOOKS, PAMPHLETS, AND CATALOGS

- "Catalogue des Flammes d'Oblitérations Illustrées. 3rd Supplement." 15pp, 1968. 5.70Fr p.p. l'Office Philatélique Française, 23bis rue Étienne-Mimard, F42-St. Étienne, France. (Covers flammes issued from 1/5/66 to 30/5/67.)
- "L'Histoire des Timbres-Poste de l'Empire." Tome II. By J. Fromageat. 32pp 1967. Brochure #93, Le Monde des Philatélistes, 5 rue des Italiens, Paris 9. 6 Fr. plus 0.70 post. (Continuation of his master work on the Empire issues; Tome I is still for sale by Le Monde at 19.10 Fr p.p.)
- "Le Catalogue 'France'." 1968. 4Fr. Editions A.V., 7 rue de Chateaudon, Paris 9. (A catalog arranged to parallel the Album Chronologique and Album Thématique publ. by the same firm; uses Yvert nos. but regrouped.)
- "Nomenclature des Timbres-poste de France, Tome XIV: Timbres de l'Occupation et Semi-Officielles." By Dr. R. Joany. 64pp. illustr. 6 Fr. p.p. By the author, 33 Ave. de Suffren, Paris 7. (See review in this FCP below).
- "Catalogue des Enveloppes 1er Jour France, Algérie, Tunisie, Maroc, Monaco, Sarre, Union Africaine et Malgache, Andorre, Terr. Outre-mer et Europa." XI Ed. 1968. 180pp. 5 Fr. Chez J. Farcigny, 39 rue d'Estienne-d'Orves, F92-Courbevoie, France. (New ed. of FDC cat. of a leading publisher of such items.)
- "Edition Complémentaire du Catalogue Cérès 1968." Brochure of 32pp. 2.50Fr. Ed. Cérès, 25 rue du Louvre, F75-Paris 1, (covers new issues since Cérès 1968 Cat. was published and price changes.)
- "Catalogue des Oblitérations Mécaniques—Paris 1921-1953." 16pp. 3.70Fr p.p. Club le Meilleur, Ancervilles, F34-Blamont, France. (Covers Paris machine cancels 1921-53 from Flier machines only, classified alphabetically by publicity texts, with prices.)
- "Oblitérations des Bureaux Temporaires et Premier Jours, France—Pays d'Expression Française, Andorres, Monaco, Reunion, avec Cotation des Oblit. Temp. 1941-67." 48pp, 1968. 6.60 plus 0.70 Fr post. Brochure #25, Le Monde des Philatélistes, 5 rue des Italiens, Paris 9.
- "Les Timbres Française de 1967—Notices Officielles des PTT—Les 38 Timbres de 1967 et leur Auteurs. Les Timbres de l'Andorre 1967." By R. Duxin. 60 pp. 1968. 7.70 plus 0.70 Fr post. Brochure #96, Le Monde, 5 rue des Italiens, Paris 9.
- "Emissions de France, Vol. III. Les Timbres Français Perforés (2nd, 3rd, and 4th Lists)." By Col. Leblond. 32pp. 1963. 5.50Fr. plus 0.70 post. Brochure #97, Le Monde, 5 rue des Italiens, Paris 9.
- "Catalogue Maury 1969." 102nd Ed. 1968. 1 Vol. 5.25 Fr p.p. A. Maury, 6 Boul. Montmartre, F75-Paris 9. (Only one vol. this year as the colonies are omitted, the prices not having changed from 1968 cat.)

"The New Hebrides—Postal Stamps and their History." By Nathan Hals and Phil Collas. The Collectors Club, 22 E. 35th St., New York, 1967. 176 pp. Paperbd. \$10. (C. C. Handbook No. 20).

Nathan Hals, a former FCPS member, who as some of us know, enthusiastically studied New Hebrides for some years, has joined with his Australian correspondent, a thorough-going long-time student of the subject, to give us a definitive work that covers almost all aspects. Australian collectors have shown the deepest interest in New Hebrides and much more of the important literature and material come from that area than elsewhere. Mr. Collas has

fully mined this source while Mr. Hals has exercised his flair for historical background and a sprightly style of presentation. The result is a very happy combination of talents and a more charming and readable work than most attempts at encyclopedic philatelic treatment. As we indicated, the essay is comprehensive; but it is not exhaustive nor exhausting and shows a welcome restraint from trying to speculate where information was not at hand or to fill out a systematic outline just for the sake of appearing complete.

The numerous well-chosen and always interesting illustrations of unusual material will not only make the specialists drool but will likely win a lot of converts to NH postal history. In fact the whole approach of the authors to their subject is merely to record, describe, and illustrate the material which has been found. The philatelic literature is rather thoroughly exploited, though French language publications were not so completely available to the authors as the English. (The French philatelic literature on N. H. is not very important anyway.)

What we do not find that is often played up in other postal histories is an effort to quote all the official decrees and notices of new issues and postal rates—evidently these documents were not available in American and Australian libraries. Consequently, little is said about the official reasons and needs for the issues and the various denominations, and the quantities printed, exact dates of first sale or use are seldom quoted. Also the authors do not attempt to set up a catalog nor to indicate relative scarcities, etc. We do not feel these are serious deficiencies in such a pioneer work on a difficult country, and they leave areas open to beckon others to take up the study. (Nothing so discourages students as the feeling that a subject has been exhausted of possibilities for discoveries of significant new information.)

Finally, the authors make it clear that N. H. is not a French nor British colony in the usual sense. The readers interest is not appealed to by contexts or analogies in the postal history of French and British colonies in general. However, there is a marked British flavor because the stamps were mainly printed by firms that also manufactured other British issues.

We congratulate the authors and the Collectors Club on this valuable and fascinating book. It is attractively printed on calendared paper, in a handy 5½x8½ inches size.—R. G. S.

"Nomenclature des Timbres-Poste de France—Tome XIV. Timbres D'Occupation et Semi-Officielles." By Dr. R. Joany. 64pp. 1968. The author, 33 Ave. de Suffren, Paris 7. 6Fr. p.p.

This is the 8th booklet in Dr. Joany's series of 15 volumes on what he calls the nomenclature of French stamps (they are not appearing in numerical order). The series started as articles in the Bulletin Phil. du Midi, and since that illustrious journal closed, they have continued in La Philatelie Francaise. As many FCP readers know, Dr. Joany is one of the leading students of French stamps, having published very profound studies of the Sage, the French engraved issues and the Coq and Marianne of Algiers, which primarily appeal to advanced specialists. The Nomenclature serial is different, and intended for a more general audience. It is a sort of specialized catalog without prices but with a concise narrative background on each issue giving the gist of the facts about the reason and authorization, dates, quantities printed, method of manufacture, rates, etc., based on the latest and best researches. The grouping of the issues and their composition is made on very logical grounds in view of the facts and therefore doesn't correspond exactly to the usual catalogs. The listings include varieties of types and shades. Thus the "Nomenclature" series serves as a valuable adjunct to the standard catalog, providing the collector in capsule form all the information he would need to arrange a mod-

erately specialized collection of France in the most logical fashion. Only the postmarks are not covered.

Tome XIV covers two separate sections, which have in common the fact that they were not issued by the PTT but served officially for postal service to French population on its territory. The occupation stamps include the Alsace-Lorraine of 1870-71, the German stamps overprinted for Belgium but also used in France 1914-18, and the 1939-45 War issues such as Dunquerque-Coudequerque, the Alsace-Lorraine overprints, the Festung-Lorient, Italian Atlantic Base stamps, and the Colombian consular stamps for SCADTA sold in France. The Semi-Official issues include the Ile de France, Liberations, Chambers of Commerce, Expositions, Aid to Combattants and Patriots, and the Aviation Meetings. These issues being less popular than the regular ones are therefore not treated by Dr Joany in as much detail as the others.

Dr. Joany's series is highly recommended for one who needs handy authoritative, concise information beyond what the standard catalogs offer but does not wish to go into the various specialized treatises. All of the series published so far are still available from the author except for Tome I on the postage rates.—R. G. S.

MEMBERS APPEALS

(Members Advertising)

WANTED: In addition to items listed as wanted by me in last three Philatelists, I am looking for: Railway cancels of France, 1855-1876, on cover. Buy or trade. Arthur P. Merrick, 15543 S. E. Green Hills Court, Portland, Ore. 97236. (Member 743).

WANTED: To trade France, mainly 19th century, cancellations, covers (of cancel interest only), and varieties, for anything of similar nature that fellow members may have to offer. Byron E. Bolyard, 2431 North Sawyer, Chicago, Illinois 60647. (Member 851).

WANTED: Used stamps of France which carry advertising on the selvage (from booklet panes). Also Sowers, Peace types, Mariannes, etc. Gilbert R. Loisel, 88-11 34th Ave., Apt. 4G, Jackson Heights, N. Y. 11372 (Member 877).

WANTED: Direct exchange against want-list. Have mint France, Scott Nos. 64, 348, 624, 726, C27 (also used), most issues 1960 to date, various others. Need 751, 247A-254A, sowers, B285-90, C32, and non-Scott items. Basis Scott, Yvert, or Thiaude. Also need French Africa 1960 to date. Robert D. Graves, 4015 Alameda, El Paso, Texas 79905 (Member 1085).

OFFER: I am breaking up a large collection of French colonies mint and used up to 1926, from an estate of one of my friends. Any members interested can send me want lists. The material is very high class on the whole. Helge Ploughmann, P. O. Box 3174, Cape Town, South Africa (Member 714).

WANTED: Germain's "Le 25c Ceres de 1871 au type I," vol. 1 only. Fromageat's constants of 20c Laureated, plates A2 and A3 (preferably as Le Monde etudes 3 and 11). Fine genuine France J25 used. French postal stationery. Stanley J. Luft, 3048 Village Dr., Ft. Mitchell, Ky. 41017. (Member 915).

OFFER: To swap about 3000 copies of 25c Ceres (Scott #53), mixture all three Types, to a plating specialist in exchange for Sage used abroad, 19th Cent. cancels, out of print handbooks, what have you? John E. Lievsay, 131 Longfellow St., Hartsdale, N. Y. 10530 (Member 1008).