



# France & Colonies



# Philatelist

## The Strike Stamps of 1968

The hottest thing in French philately lately—THE event of 1968—is the stamps issued by various chambers of commerce to forward mail privately during the strikes of May-June. Dealers and collectors are screaming to buy them and the prices are skyrocketing. It took awhile for the existence of all of these to filter in, and only in the latter part of the year did it become clear how many places had them and how scarce they are. It seems now that stamps were issued and used at Epinal, Roanne, Saint-Dié, Saint-Dizier, Tarbes, Libourne, and Ajaccio ("Corse-Continent"). At other places the chambers facilitated mail forwarding in various ways without use of stamps, in many cases by using special cachets. The stamps are mostly mere labels with printed text, only Roanne and Tarbes having designs. The perforations or roulettes are crude and the paper is poor, the stamps having been produced locally under emergency conditions. The stamps are illustrated herewith. Photos of some covers have been reproduced in the French magazines. *Le Monde* started a serial article in September (p. 60) which details how the mail was handled during the strike at various towns—this is going to be an interesting chapter for the students of French postal history, like the liberation and 1870-71. Some commenters are saying that the strike stamps are just curiosities, private labels tolerated by the PTT in an emergency, and off cover (mint) at least should have no philatelic interest—but we know from experience with the previous Amiens, Orleans and Saumur issues that they are likely to become standard items in the catalogs. Cérès and Thiaude already list the new issues; last summer Thiaude was selling the set of 9 values for 1650 Fr (mint), while Cérès was offering to pay 600 Fr or more per cover. The quantities issued are said to range between 1,000 and 10,000 per stamp. However, it is pointed out that most of the 1968 strike mail was handled without the special private labels (even in the towns that had them) but with the special handstamped cachets instead, and thus the excitement over the adhesive strike stamps is perhaps somewhat misplaced. The PTT has definitely stated that use of the private stamps and cachets was approved by them, but that the stamps are labels without official value or status. The publisher S.P.E.R.A.R., 24 rue de St-Quentin, Paris 10, has announced it was to issue a new book on the postal strike stamps and cachets of 1909-1968, to appear in December 1968 at 20 Fr.



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## Fake and Phantom Cancels on French Colonies Stamps

By Robert G. Stone

It should be no news to any assiduous collector of used French Colonies stamps, especially of 20th Century, that there are quite a few patently bogus cancels seen on genuine stamps. Of course, counterfeited stamps, if cancelled, generally bear fake cancels too, and this fact has a utility because it often tips one off to the illegitimacy of the stamps (on the Fourniers, for example). However, the cancels on the counterfeit stamps are likely to be fair imitations of genuine cancels since the object is to deceive serious collectors. For this reason, careful comparison with the genuine and proper cancels for the imitated stamps is an important aid in detection if not crucial in some cases.

We are not going to discuss the latter class of fake cancels, but rather the type that were made primarily on the pictorial issues, to supply unsophisticated collectors with "used" copies, in the period when used stamps tended to be more in demand than mint ones, for packets, etc. One may wonder why this was done when it was relatively easy to obtain cancelled-to-order or even commercially-used copies in quantity from the colonies. Indeed, many philatelic and CTO French colonies stamps are seen, but they tend to be more characteristic if the 19th Century (1880-) issues because the sale of mint colonies stamps in Paris did not begin until 1894, and the long delays and inconveniences of importing from the colonies did not appeal to dealers who were handling cheap stamps in large quantities. (Of course, the local surcharges of 1900-06 and 1915-18 had to be imported anyway.) Even in the 1880's and 90's there were some fake cancels used in quantity on certain common F. C. General Issues and surcharges of the 1880's ("Dzaoudzi, Mayotte," e.g.) but this sort of thing did not really become extensive until after 1905 or so, declining during the 1920's and '30's. It is well-known that certain European wholesale dealers were the source of most of these fakes. Although the resemblance of such fake cancels to genuine ones is generally not close and the inscriptions are often nonsensical or geographically irrelevant, yet I note a few collectors are still taken in by them until they start studying the genuine cancels. Moreover, some of the fakes are, probably intentionally, made so smudgy and unclear or with so little of them showing on the stamp, that one may easily overlook their true nature. We describe below some of the fakes that have come to our attention on the pictorial issues, without pretense that this is anything more than a representative sample. Note that most are apparently peculiar to stamps of only one or several colonies though some are found on stamps of all or many colonies. Dates inscribed in a given mark are always the same, the fakers not taking the trouble to make movable date slugs.

"POSTES/COLONIES" in solid single-ring circular postmark of 26½ mm diam; 2 lines of dates in center: "2-1-14/2-4-5". Common, seen on most colonies.

"REPUBLIQUE FRANCAISE - POSTES" in solid double-ring circular postmark, 30 mm outer ring diam. Date in 3 lines in center. Seen on several colonies, 1930's.

"• NIGER • FRANCAISE" in solid double-ring circular postmark of 23 mm outer diam; date in 3 lines in center. Seen on various African colonies.

"\* DJIBOUTI \* SOMALI" in double-ring circular postmark, outer ring dashed and about 25 mm diam., inner ring solid. Date in 3 lines in center.

"— — ONIES — — —" in solid double-ring circular postmark, letters 4¼ mm high. Purple ink. Seen on Somali Coast.

"ZA — — —", non-serifed capitals, in solid single-ring circular postmark of

- ca 27 mm diam. Date in 3 lines in center. Seen on Guadeloupe.
- " — — — ADE COTE IVOIRE" in circular double-ring postmark of 22 mm outer diam., outer ring solid, inner ring dashed. Date in 3 lines in center. Seen on Guadeloupe.
- Double ring solid circular postmark of about 25 mm outer diam., with five-pointed star fleurons at each side and a motif of four short vertical bars at bottom—inscription at top not seen. Seen on Guadeloupe.
- Double-ring circular postmark ca 24 mm diam., outer ring solid, inner ring of dots. Inscriptions always very greasy and smudgy so they are unreadable. With or without date in center. Purple or black. Frequent on Guadeloupe 1908 issue.
- "GUADELOUPE POINTE A PITRE" in double-ring circular postmark of 24 mm outer diam., outer ring solid, inner ring dashed. Date in 3 lines: "7/JANV/13". On Guadeloupe.
- "SAINT-PIERRE NFLD — —" in solid single-ring circular postmark of 24½ mm diam. Date: "2-1/26". Smudgy and crude, seen on St. Pierre-Miquelon 1908 issue.
- "ST PIERRE-MIQUELON \*" in solid single-ring circular postmark of 11.5 mm diam. Date in 3 lines in center: "12/MAI/09". Common on St. Pierre 1908 issue.

## France New Issues of 1968

(Continued from FCP #131, p. 6)



- #1. 6 Jan. (Paris; general sale 8 Jan.) 0.40 Fr. Cinquantenaire des Chèques Postaux. Recess: bistre and green. Designer Cottet (after Tulaup), engraver Forget. Horizontal, 50 per sheet.
- #2. 27 Jan. (Grenoble; gen. 29 Jan.) Series of five stamps: (all in recess)
  - 0.30+0.10 F. Saut et fond. Bistre, gray and red. Des. Combet, engr. Frères. Vert. 50/sh.
  - 0.40+0.10 F. Hockey sur glace. Lilac, bistre and violet. Des. Combet, engr. Combet Vert. 50/sh.
  - 0.75+0.25 F. Patinage artistique. Black, green and red. Des. Combet, engr. Fenneteaux. Vert. 50/sh.
  - 0.95+0.35 F. Slalom. Bistre, red and blue. Des. Combet, engr. Combet. Vert. 50/sh.
- #3. 24 Feb. (Paris; gen. 26 Feb.) 0.25 Fr. Prévention Routière. Recess.

- Blue, red and violet. Des. and engr. by Combet. Vert. 50/sh.
4. 16 March (special p.o.'s in various towns celebrating the Journée du Timbre; gen. 18 March) 0.25+0.10 F. (benefit of red cross). Journée du Timbre 1968: "Facteur Rural de 1830." Recess. Marine blue, blue-black, and red. Des. and engr. Bequet. Vert. 50/sh.
  5. 23 March (Paris; gen. 25 March) 0.30+0.10 Fr. (benefit red cross). François Couperin (celebrated personages series). Recess. Deep violet, light violet. Des. Serveau, engr. Pheulpin. Horiz. 50/sh.
  - #6. 23 March (Ayat-sur-Sioule, Puy-de-Dôme; gen. 25 March). 0.30+0.10 F. (benefit red cross). Général Désaix (celebr. pers.) Recess, green and bistre. Des. Serveau, engr. Cottet. Horiz. 50/sh.
  - #7. 13 April (Montignac, Dordogne; gen. 16 Apr.) 1 Fr. Grotte Pré-historique de Lascaux (paintings series). Recess. Red, black, red-bistre, light bistre, yellow bistre, deep bistre. Des. and engr. Durrens. Horiz. 25/sh.
  - #8. 13 April (Royan; gen. 16 Apr.) 0.40 Fr. Ve Conférence de Coopération Mondiale—Enseignement Audio-visuel des Langues Vivantes, Royan 1968. Recess. Blue, deep green, sepia. Des. engr. Haley. Horiz. 50/sh.
  - #9. 27 April (Paris; gen. 29 Apr.) Two stamps: 0.30 and 0.60 Fr. same des. Europa 1968. Recess: light bistre and lilac, purple and deep bistre. Des. Schwarzenbach, engr. Bequet. Horiz. 50/sh.
  - #10. 4 May (Sarzeau, Morbihan; gen. 6 May) 0.40 Fr. Alain René le Sage. Recess. Violet and blue. Des. and engr. Pheulpin. Vert. 50/sh.
  - #11. 4 May (Langéais, Indre et Loire; gen. 6 May) 0.60 Fr. Château de Langéais (sites and mon. series). Recess. Bistre, deep blue, green. Des. engr. Pheulpin. Horiz. 50/sh.
  - #12. 11 May (Toucy, Yonne; gen. 13 May). 0.40 Fr. Pierre Larousse. Recess. Bistre, violet. Des. engr. Gandon. Horiz. 50/sh.
  - #13. 18 May (Rambouillet, Yvelines; gen. 20 May) 0.25 Fr. Jumelage de la Forêt de Rambouillet et de la Forêt-Noire. Recess. Green, bistre, blue. Des. Monvoisin after Wrede, engr. Monvoisin. Vert. 50/sh.
  - #14. 25 May (Valréas, Vaucluse; gen. 27 May). 0.60 Fr. 650th Anniv. de l'Enclave des Papes Valréas. Recess. Violet, sepia, brown. Des. Spitz, engr. Cottet. Horiz. 50/sh.
  - #15. 29 June (Paris; gen. 1 July). 0.40 Fr. Traité d'Aix-la-Chapelle—Tricentenaire du Rattachement de la Flandre à la France. Recess. Purple, bistre, gray. Des. engr. Cami. Horiz. 50/sh.
  - #16. 6 July (Villeneuve-sur-Ferc, Aisne, and Paris; gen. 8 July). 0.30+0.10 F. (benefit red cross). Paul Claudel (celebr. pers. series). Recess. Brown and violet. Des. Serveau, engr. Durrens. Horiz. 50/sh.
  - #17. 6 July (Marseille and Camaret-sur-Mer, Finistère; gen. 8 July). 0.30+0.10 Fr. (benefit red cross). Saint-Pol-Roux (celebr. pers. series). Recess. Bistre red and sepia. Des. Serveau, engr. Betemps. Horiz. 50/sh.
  - #18. 20 July (Rochefort; gen. 22 July). 0.25 Fr. Rochefort—Pont de Martrou (sites and mon. series). Recess. Black, blue, deep bistre. Des. engr. Haley. Horiz. 50/sh.
  - #19. 17 Aug. (Paris and St. Nazaire; gen. 19 Aug.) 0.25 Fr. Première Liaison Postale Régulière par Avion 17 Aout 1918. Recess. Deep blue, azure blue, red. Des. engr. Gandon. Horiz. 50/sh.
  - #20. 31 Aug. (Aigues-Mortes, Gard; gen. 2 Sept.) 0.25 Fr. Deuxième Centenaire de la Libération des Prisonnières Huguenotes de la Tour de Constance, Aigues-Mortes. Recess. Red brown, bistre, light blue. Des. engr. Decaris. Vert. 50/sh.
  - #21. 7 Sept. (Bezières; gen. 9 Sept.) 0.40 Fr. La Cathédrale et la Pont Vieux



- de Bezières (for the French Phil. Fed. meeting). Recess. Bistre, green, blue. Des. engr. Betemps. Horiz. 50/sh.
- #22. 21 Sept. (Paris; gen. 23 Sept.) 1.00 Fr. Gauguin's "Arearea" (paintings series). Recess. Royal blue, deep blue, red, bistre, light green, deep green. Des. and engr. Durrens. Horiz. 25/sh.
- #23. 28 Sept. (Paris; gen. 30 Sept.) 0.40 Fr. 50th Anniv. de l'Armistice, Front d'Orient—Salonique 29 Sept. 1918. Recess. Lilac, deep violet. Des. engr. Gandon. Vert. 50/sh.
- #24. 5 Oct. (Ajaccio; gen. 7 Oct.) 0.25 Fr. Deuxième Centenaire du Rattachement de la Corse à la France. Recess. Blue, black, green. Des. engr. Cami. Horiz. 50/sh.
- #25. 12 Oct. (Paris; gen. 14 Oct.) 0.40 Fr. Jeux Olympiques de Mexico 1968 "Relais 4x100 m." Recess. Blue, green, bistre. Des. engr. Betemps. Horiz. 50/sh.
- #26. 19 Oct. (Paris; gen. 21 Oct.) 0.40 Fr. Expéditions Polaires Françaises 1968—Vingt Ans d'Activités. Recess. Turquoise, blue-green, bistre red. Des. engr. Durrens. Horiz. 25/sh.
- #27. 26 Oct. (Paris; gen. 28 Oct.) 1.00 Fr. "La Danse" de Bourdelle (paintings series). Recess. Light gray, deep gray, red. Des. engr. Combet. Vert. 25/sh.
- #28. 26 Oct. (Paris; gen. 28 Oct.) 0.40 Fr. 1968—Cinquantiennaire des Bals des Petits Lits Blancs. Recess. Brown red, light bistre, deep bistre. Des. engr. Decaris. Vert. 50/sh.
- #29. 9 Nov. (Paris; gen. 12 Nov.) 0.25 Fr. 50th Anniv. de l'Armistice, 11 Nov. 1918. Recess. Blue and red. Des. engr. Gandon. Vert. 50/sh.
- #30. 9 Nov. (Paris and Courbevoie; gen. 12 Nov.) 1.00 Fr. Auguste Renoir's "Portrait de Modèle" (paintings series). Recess. Blue violet, light blue, rose, yellow, gray, bistre. Des. engr. Cottet. Vert. 25/sh.
- #31. 16 Nov. (Paris; gen. 18 Nov.) 0.40 Fr. Philippe le Bel (great names in French history series). Recess. Green, gray, bistre red. Des. engr. Decaris. Horiz. 25/sh.
- #32. 16 Nov. (Chateaufort-de-Randon, Lozère; gen. 18 Nov.) 0.40 Fr. Du Guesclin (great names in Fr. hist.). Recess. Green, blue, bistre. Des. engr. Decaris. Vert. 25/sh.
- #33. 16 Nov. (Vaucouleurs, Meuse; gen. 18 Nov.) 0.60 Fr. Jeanne d'Arc (great names Fr. hist.). Recess. Bistre, blue-black, marine blue. Des. engr. Decaris. Vert. 25/sh.
- #34. 14 Dec. (Troyes, Aube; gen. 16 Dec.) Two stamps: 0.25+0.10 Fr. "Le Printemps" of Nicolas Mignard; 0.30+0.10 Fr. "L'Automne" of N. Mignard. (Red Cross series). Recess. Deep blue, violet, red; purple, bistre, red. Des. engr. Gandon. Vert. 50/sh. and in booklets of 8 stamps (4 of each value). (Also surcharged CFA for use in Reunion).

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

By Stanley J. Luft

### III. D. The Cameo Sower Issue

(continued from July 1968 issue)

#### 30c rose; blue

The 30c rose (Sc 172, Yv 191) replaced the above Pasteur, 6 Jan. 1925.

Domestic usage (Tariff of 24 March 1924):

#Printed matter, from 190 to 200 gm.

Foreign usage (Tariff of 15 April 1924):

Letters, to 20 gm, to nearby areas of Switzerland.

Usage (Tariff of 17 July 1925):

Letters, to 20 gm (domestic);

Letters, to 20 gm, to nearby areas of Belgium and Spain;

Postal cards, to nearby areas of Switzerland.

Printed in flat-plate sheets of Type I in Dec. 1924 to 1925; flat-plate precancels applied to 1924-25 printings and issued from Jan. 1925 to 1926. Rotary-plate sheets of Type IIA (Yv 191a) printed from 25 June to 16 July 1925. Flat-plate booklets of 20 with pubs (Type IIB) (Yv 191b) printed in May, June, and July 1925.

Replaced by the 30c blue (Sc 173, Yv 192) in August 1925; no change in usage, which was primarily for the single-weight domestic letter.

Domestic usage (Tariff of 1 May 1926):

\*Postal cards;

#Échantillons (samples), from 50 to 100 gm;

Printed matter, rapid service ("urgent"), to 50 gm.

Foreign usage (Tariff of 1 Aug. 1926):

Printed matter, to 50 gm.

Printed in rotary-plate sheets of Type IIA from 17 July 1925 to 21 April 1926; rotary-plate precancels, on 1925 printings, issued October 1925 to 1926.

Stamped envelopes (Type IIA) issued in 1926 (ACEP #72). Flat-plate booklets of 20 with pubs (Type IIB) (Yv 192b) printed July 1925-Jan.

1926. Vertical rotary-plate coils of Type IIC printed in 1925? to June 1926 (rare). Stamped postal cards (Type IID) without (ACEP #84a) and with (ACEP #86a) prepaid reply printed July-Sept. 1926.

Replaced by the 30c green Pasteur (Sc 189, Yv 174) in Oct. 1926.

#### 30c brown-red

The 30c brown-red, or "copper-red" (Sc 174, Yv 360) replaced the 30c Peace of Laurens (Sc 264, Yv 280) in Nov. 1937.

Domestic usage (Tariff of 12 July 1937):

\*Postal cards ("of 5 words") (and foreign?);

Visiting cards;

#Newspapers, from 150 to 200 gm, "ordinary" (individual) rate.

Domestic usage (Tariff of 17 Nov. 1938):

#\*Printed matter (in wrappers), to 20 gm;

Samples (échantillons) (in wrappers), to 20 gm.

Printed in rotary-plate sheets of Type IIA from 14 Oct. 1937 to 24 Nov. 1938; precancel overprints applied to sheets of 1938 printings, issued from Feb. 1939 to 1941. Stamped wrappers (Type IIA) printed in May 1939. Rotary-plate booklets of 20 stamps with pubs (Type III) (Yv 360a,b) printed in 1938.

Replaced by the 30c Mercure (Sc 361, Yv 412) in 1939; the precancels were not replaced by this stamp until Oct. 1941.

### 25c/30c

Overprinted (Sc 227, Yv 217) on remainders of the 30c blue (Sc 173, Yv 192); rotary-plate overprints on sheets of Type IIA, flat-plate overprints on sheets for booklets of Type IIB.

Domestic usage (Tariff of 9 Aug. 1926):

\*Letters, to 20 gm (used as pairs).

About 26 million stamps issued in Oct. 1926.

### 35c violet

The 35c violet (Sc 175, Yv 142) replaced the 35c Sower with thin inscriptions (Sc 175b, Yv 136) in late 1907.

Domestic usage (Tariff of 16 April 1906):

\*Registered letters, to 15 gm (to 20 gm from 1 May 1910).

Domestic usage (Tariff of 1 Jan. 1917):

Letters, from 100 to 150 gm.

Domestic usage (Tariff of 1 April 1920):

#\*Échantillons (samples), from 100 to 200 gm;

Registry fee for letters and parcels.

Printed in flat-plate sheets of Type I in deep to medium shades on normal paper, Nov. 1907 to 1911; in pale violet on normal paper, 1911-16; in pale to deep violet on GC paper in 1918 and 1919; and in violet on normal paper, 1920-24. Flat-plate precancel overprints applied to sheets of 1922-24 printings, issued Sept. 1922 to 1926. Rotary-plate sheets of Type II printed in 1926.

Rendered obsolete by Tariff of 1 May 1926.

### 25c/35c violet

Overprinted by rotary-plate (Sc 228, Yv 218) on remainders of above Type II 35c violet (see 25c/30c, above); about 29 million stamps issued in Nov. '26.

### 35c green

The 35c green (Sc 176, Yv 361) was issued in Sept. 1937, the value having been reestablished by the domestic Tariff of 12 July 1937:

#Printed matter, from 50 to 100 gm;

Printed matter, rapid service ("urgent"), to 20 gm;

Newspapers, from 150 to 175 gm, ordinary (individual) rate.

Foreign usage (Tariff of 1 Aug. 1937):

Printed matter, to 50 gm.

Domestic usage (Tariff of 1 Sept. 1937):

Newspapers, from 200 to 250 gm, ordinary (individual) rate.

Printed in rotary-plate sheets of Type II in 1937-38; rotary-plate precancels applied and issued at same time.

Rendered obsolete by Tariff of 17 Nov. 1938 and suppressed.

### 30c/35c green

Overprinted (rotary-plate) (Sc 400, Yv 476) on remainders of above 35c green and issued 21 Jan. 1941.

Domestic usage (Tariff of 17 Nov. 1938):

Printed matter, to 20 gm.

(To be Continued)

## SUBJECTS IN PROGRAM OF STAMPS FOR 1969

(As announced on Nov. 8)

1. Stamps with surtax: (9)  
 Journée du Timbre—"Omnibus a Impériale 1890"  
 Celebrated personages (6): Maréchal Lannes, Georges Cuvier, Général Marceau, Sainte-Beuve, André Gide, Albert Roussel.  
 Red Cross (2): "L'Eté" and "L'Hiver" of N. Mignard.
2. Stamps without surtax: (27)
  - a) Art series (4): Portrait of Philippe le Bon by Van der Weyden, painting of a circus scene, Fresco of Abbey de Saint-Savin, and bas relief of the Amiens Cathedral.
  - b) Great Names of French History (3): Louis XI and Charles le Téméraire, Bayard, Henri IV and the Edict of Nantes.
  - c) Touristic series (4): Chateau de Chantilly, La Trinité-sur-Mer, Eglise de Brou a Bourg-en-Bresse, Barrage de Vouglans.
  - d) Commemorative and Various: (16)  
 2nd Cent. of birth of Napoleon  
 25th Anniv. of the Liberation (5)  
 Florales internationales de Paris  
 World champions of kayak-canoes at Bourg-Saint-Maurice  
 New school of arts and manufactures at Chatenay-Malabry  
 Congress of Phil. Societies at Chalons-sur-Marne  
 "L'Homme et l'Eau" in connection with the Europrotection meeting  
 World fund for the protection of Nature—le mouflon  
 Nuclear submarine "Le Redoutable"  
 Chateau de Hautefort  
 Europa (2)
3. Andorre: (7)

## THE FRENCH COLONIES 1937 INTERNATIONAL EXPOSITION SERIES

There were five omnibus commemorative series of stamps in uniform design issued for all the colonies in the period before the War, as well as several sets for restricted groups of colonies. Then several Vichy series, and 10 more series after the War. Although some of these sets were agreeably designed and printed, they tended to the banal and with so many colonies the repetition makes them rather tiresome to collect and contemplate. The dissolution of the colonial empire has largely delivered us from much of this tripe, though the new republics (derived from the colonies) acting in concert have taken up the racket.

The marketing of some of these series by the administration through the Agence Comptable de Timbres-Poste posed some logistic-sales problems which were often handled ineptly and in some cases with even scandalous results. The British had similar experiences with some of their colonial omnibus series. Obviously, when for political or economic reasons the administration decided to have a commemorative applying to all the colonies, the expense and time required to make different designs for each colony was out of the question. Nevertheless, we do not think that collectors were well served by these ventures, because they tie up a lot of money in monotonous space fillers of mediocre artistic attraction and have not proved especially good from the purely investment angle (in spite of small quantities printed).

The 1937 International Exposition set was probably as mishandled as any and the story is a good object lesson, a story now dimmed by the passage of

time and the thinning ranks of those who could remember the furore it caused at the time. After the stamps were issued in early March 1937 in rather small quantities (30,000-40,000 sets in most cases), and because of promotion and cornering, the prices had gotten out of line, so there was quite a clamor for reprinting them. As a result in early Nov. 1937 an official announcement of the Agence Comptable appeared as follows:

"The Ministry of Colonies informs us that because of the success of the stamps issued for the Exposition (which the Ministry does not intend to continue printing), there will be placed on sale at the Agence Comptable du Timbres-Poste Coloniaux, 80 rue du Faubourg St. Denis, Paris, 30,000 sets of 24 blocks (one per colony) each representing in the middle of a gummed sheet of 12x12 cm dimensions, a stamp of 3fr engraved in recess, imperforate, and accompanied by the inscription in typo: EXPOSITION INTERNATIONALE — ARTS ET TECHNIQUES — 1937.

"These postal blocks, which are valid for franking mail at their face value, will be put on sale by indivisible sets of 24 at the price of 76.50 Fr a set, a price corresponding to their face value at 3 fr per block ( $3 \times 24 = 72$  fr) augmented by present exchange benefit of the rupie.

"The sale of these blocks will continue until the 30,000 are gone and will commence on 29 Nov. 1937. No orders will be accepted after 18 December. A special window for small orders (1 to 25 sets) will be opened at the Agence. Each order will be executed as far as possible up to a maximum of 100 sets per day and per person. The orders for over 100 sets will as far as possible be serviced immediately for the first 100, the rest will be serviced pro rata from the stocks remaining unsold on 18 Dec. 1937. After execution of these operations, the stock not sold or ordered by that date will be destroyed, as well as the dies used for printing the blocks. Very Important Note:—The Ministry of Colonies reminds that the conditions of sale by the Agence Comptable applying to this emission, as with all other issues, will not cover the acceptance of orders for any shipment by mail to the suburbs, the provinces, or abroad, and all orders must be made in the name and picked up by the correspondent in Paris coming himself to take delivery at the Agence and paying the total amount owed for the quantities received. Checks and money orders are refused and returned."

The editor of *L'Echo* in commenting on this, noted that the quantity to be printed will be insufficient to satisfy the demand. In its 15 April 1938 issue *L'Echo* reported on the sale as follows:

"We recall the emotion raised last December by the issue of the 24 colonial souvenir sheets for the Exposition. Limited to 30,000 sets, the issue was to have been raffled in a tournamental and irregular fashion. In spite of the precautions taken by Faubourg St. Denis the large orders were filled so as to deliver the great part of the printing to a few privileged parties desirous of realizing a profitable deal at the expense of the collectors. But the latter revolted and in face of the energetic protestations of their representatives, the Ministry ordered a second printing which must be made as soon as the presses of Boulevard Brune can find the time, around April it is said. The ill-advised speculators were grieved by this decision, which negated their little plot, and their stocks were like magic offered on the wholesale market at a price close to face value.

"We remain, as we said at the time, very skeptical about this second printing, to which there are many objections: difficulty of imitating exactly the nuances of the two printings, the paradox of reprinting in 1938 a block bearing the millésime 1937, and commemorating an event already dimmed in passage of time, as well as other factors, cause us to believe it only when we

will see it. If this train of thought is justified, then it is now almost certain that things will remain as they are, but the reason alleged is certainly the last one we would have thought of: the workmen of the At lier du Timbre have, it appears, refused purely and simply to proceed with the reprinting of the blocks, the postal need for which they contest, as long as they will not benefit by the 40-hour law!

"And this is how, if the rumors are confirmed, an essentially political decision will contribute to revaluing the set of 24 blocks. Since the blocks will be going up fast, all forward-looking collectors will be able to procure them at a very reasonable price during the month of uncertainty between the order to reprint and the counter-order to do nothing." (It is said 5,000 more sets were printed on Dec. 13.)

All of which sounds like a familiar refrain in philately.

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## FRENCH CUSTOMS DUTIES

The French customs regulations for importing and exporting have been a source of great annoyance and hindrance to the French stamp trade. The dealers associations have tried for years to get the rules ameliorated but with only limited success. All shipments going in or coming out must be ticketed with a green form of the customs on which is indicated the value and nature of the contents, otherwise the customs will impound it. The duties schedule on stamps is as follows: ON IMPORTS: stamps of the free countries of the OECE and Common Market, and used stamps or obsolete one of other countries:

Up to 1000 Fr, no formality, payment of 14% duty upon receipt, to the clerk of the PTT;

Above 1000 Fr, present a declaration on Form D. 3;

Above 10,000 Fr, present an import license.

For the stamps from non-free OECE and Common Market countries a supplementary formality: present an import license regardless of the value.

ON EXPORTS: Up to 1000 Fr, no formality; shipment free through all postoffices. Above 1000 Fr, present a declaration on Form D. 6; above 5,000 Fr, present a pledge of payment Form D. E.

ON EXCHANGES: On pieces of unit value above 25 fr, present a license for compensatory exchanges. However, the customs office tolerates in franchise and without license for exchange all shipments below 25 Fr if infrequently repeated.

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## ANNOUNCEMENTS AND NEWS

Our member Martin Merel operates a stamp exchange club ("The Stamping Ground"), not as a business, but to facilitate exchanging duplicates with fellow collectors and develop correspondence with collectors of similar interests. He has started to collect France and colonies and would welcome collectors having duplicates or material in these countries to exchange writing to him for particulars. He supplies mounting sheets, and follows rules similar to those of exchanges run by some stamp societies in the U. S. We have had numbers of members inquire if such a service existed and are pleased to learn that someone is doing it. Address: 8036 Kenneth Ave., Skokie, Ill. 60076.

Visitors to the Exposition Philatélique Europa held in Paris last April voted as the most beautiful painting stamp the Lascaux Grottoes of France, and the Bather of Ingres won second place.

Any collectors of ballon montées covers (1870-71) should not miss the special issue of Bulletin de la Société des Amis du Musée Postal, No. 22 (June 1968), devoted to a detailed illustrated 72-page history of the papillons de Metz and other balloon mail from Metz. It is by Louis Lutz. There appears to be new information, with quotes from many original documents and letters, many illustrations of rare pieces, early photos, etc. Obtain from the Société, 4 rue St. Romain, Paris 6. Price 4 Fr.?

Albert Decaris, the noted French stamp designer-engraver, has illustrated the 3 volume deluxe edition of Plutarch's Lives just published by Editions Club de Louvre, rue Fortuny, Paris. His illustrations, like many of his stamps, tend to give a symbolic representation rather than a strictly realistic one. A reviewer in Figaro notes that this neo-classic taste of Decaris to avoid an antiquarian exactitude, suits the timeless spirit of Plutarch.

In May with the changes in the Cabinet, Yves Guena was relieved of his post as Minister of PTT and appointed Minister of Information; André Betten-court, a long-time political careerist and journalist was made PTT Minister. Then in July things were reversed and Yves Guena was put back as Minister of PTT.

At the PRAGA 1968 International Exposition, U. S. exhibitors did not do outstandingly on medals, but among the winners was our member Walter Brooks of Springfield, Pa., who won a Bronze for his France, and Stanley C. Jersey whose New Caledonia obtained a Bronze.

The hexagonal postmarks of French navy ("marine") bases are now being converted to the standard single-ring style.

Member Arthur P. Merrick, in the Sept. 3 Western Stamp Collector has published an article titled "The Versatility of France" which briefly mentions all the aspects of the French collection with his usual enthusiasm and gives FCPS a prominent notice, for which we all thank him and the WSC editor Ken Wood. Mr. Wood has greatly improved WSC and intends to run items on French philately regularly.

On Nov. 9 the PTT announced decision to introduce a postal reform on Jan. 1, something like the British "slow" and "fast" scheme but with a difference. The classification of mail is changed and the rate schedules re-grouped accordingly. The first class mail is divided into "paquets urgents" (lettres) and "plis non-urgent (which absorbs the former category of imprimés). The PT denies this is a disguised scheme to raise rates—the rates will have to be raised soon anyway. The changeover will be gradual, not sudden like the British; it differs from the British also in that the change is not identified with a raise in rates nor with a slowdown in deliveries of any type of mail—the British made a psychological error here.

The French domestic airmail service "postal de nuit" in 1968 had 28 aircraft (12 DC3's, 8 DC4's, and 8 new Fokkers which are gradually replacing the DC3's), 96 pilots and engineers, 206 ground crew; they flew 17,800 hours, over 4 million km, carried 28,000 tons of mail, were 99.70% on time. The costs were 38 million Fr or 14% of the cost of all postal transport and 1.15% of the total postal budget.

The covers of the Jan. 1969 issue of Postes et Telecommunications mag-

azine (of the PTT) has colored reproductions of many Christmas stamps of various countries, mostly on a religious theme.

The editor of Philatélie magazine in the Nov. 1968 issue gravely writes a strong criticism of the artistic quality of many recent French issues. He particularly cites the mediocrity of inspiration in the Anniv. of 1918 Victory, Jumelage Forêt-Noire, Rambouillet, Cheques Postaux, Congrès de Comptabilité, Prévention Routière, Salonique, and Prisonniers Huguenotes issues. (As we have suggested in an earlier article in FCP, these are the type of subjects the PTT puts out for political reasons and whose banality is not likely to inspire the artists to great work—they are just bread and butter jobs to them.) Why, the editor of Philatélie asks, are our stamps so poor now, why not the originality, plastic quality, rich coloring, variety and humor one sees in the emissions of Austria, Switzerland, Great Britain, and Spain? We are inclined to agree with him, but we must also point out that every country has some duds among their stamps and stamps which are criticized in the home country are often praised abroad—and vice versa.

The collection of France which our member Fred Kramer has won some prizes with, was sold at auction by Harmer Rooke Nov. 19-21. It was big collection—1055 lots—and many of our members were bidding though their success was spotty as the competition was stiff. The 19th especially went strongly tho we did not note any record prices. As expected, quite a lot of the material went to overseas buyers.

The PTT last September unveiled to the public a scale model of its planned new building for the printing of postage stamps, to be built shortly in the industrial park at Perigueux-Boulazac. It is to be ready at the end of 1969 and in full operation by 1971. So farewell to the "Boulevard Brune."

A very moving account by Henri C. Dupont (Paris) gives his impressions of his visit to the U. S. last spring, during which he attended one of our FCPS meetings, is published in L'Echangiste Universelle for Sept. 1968. He has some very complimentary remarks about the activity of our Society and the quality of the exhibit and discussion which he witnessed at our meeting (Walter Parshall's Monaco). We are pleased that Mon. Dupont enjoyed his visit so much and thank him for his kind notice of our hospitality.

The awards at the 1968 Salon Philatelique d'Automne in November were: Grand Prix de "Art Philatélique Française to Robert Cami for his design and engraving of the Deuxieme Centenaire du Rattachement de la Corse a la France stamp; Grand Prix des Territoires d'Outre-Mer to Claude Haley for his 30Fr Terre Adélie stamp; Grand Prix des Treize Nations Africains et Malgaches d'Expression Française to Georges Betemps for his 500 Fr Village Lacustre stamp for Cote d'Ivoire; to Claude Durrens the Prix "Jean Goulon" for the whole of his works.

The celebrated designer and engraver of many French and colonial stamps, Charles Mazelin, died last summer in his 86th year.

Our congratulations to member Walter Brooks who won a Bronze Medal at the Exposicion Filatelica Internacional EFIMEX '68 held Nov. 1-9 in Mexico City for his exhibits of Sowers, Pasteurs and Blanc issues of France and U. S. 20th. It was a large show with almost 2000 frames from collectors all over the World.

We are advised by our member Maurice Jamet of Paris that the long awaited "L'Encyclopedie des Timbres-Poste de France 1849-53" was due off the press in October finally after many delays due to strikes and "leaves" of

the workers. The mailings have begun but it may be a slow process as it is a big 2 volumes of 6 kilos and caught in the Christmas rush.

Mon. A. Bourdi of Lyons has kindly sent us several numbers of the little magazine "Le Philatélie Errinophile" which he edits for the Académie de Errinophilie. It deals with locals, oddities, fiscals, non-officials and other "cinderella" items, covering all countries. G. Chapier contributes addenda to his catalog of "timbres de fantaisie et non-officielles." The subscription is 15 Fr/yr.—address A. Bourdi, 18 Ave. Sidoine Apollinaire, Lyon 9<sup>e</sup>.

### Robert S. Gordon †

Our long-time member, Robert S. Gordon, passed away suddenly of a heart attack at his Northfield, Vt., summer home on August 21 last. He will be greatly missed by a host of collectors of all sorts of sidelines, in which he was a phenomenally knowledgeable and thorough student and author of many articles and catalogs—especially on seaposts, paquebots, U. S. used broad, early postmarks, Mauretania, etc. He collaborated with R. Salles on French maritime marks and was always most helpful in sharing his knowledge with his numerous correspondents. We had known Bob for nearly 30 years and he had been friendly with our late editor Steve Rich; we could always count on Bob to give us an article when we got in a bind for copy. He contributed a number of articles and notes to FCP on colonial and maritime postmarks. His last was the note of appreciation of R. Salles' books in the FCP for October last, p. 80—his name being left off by our oversight as in his usual modesty he had not appended it himself—R.G.S.

### Note on Smith and Luft Articles

Dr. R. Joany of Paris, author of numerous learned articles on French philately, has very kindly communicated the following comments on Smith's recent article (Whole No. 132) on the French coil stamps:

The postal authorities sold only the vertical coil stamps in continuous rolls. Therefore, horizontal coils come directly and only from sheets especially prepared for coils. This would come about when the sheets became surplus stock following a change in a tariff, and were to be used up as rapidly as possible.

Coil stamps of the 50c green lined Sower and of the 15 Fr. red Marianne de Gandon, shown by Smith as being of doubtful existence, were probably never issued nor, indeed, never made. The PTT announcements (regarding coils of the above values) were made just prior to the changeover of the 50c from green to red and of the 15 Fr. from red to blue. Accordingly, these coils were most likely printed only in the new colors. Joany explains that it isn't unusual for a coil stamp being prepared before one for sheets or booklets, citing the examples of the 5c (Type II) Blanc and the 50c blue lined Sower, both of which were first released in coil form.

In conclusion, Dr. Joany congratulates Ray Smith on a useful job well done.

Pierre de Lizeray has also written to express his appreciation of Luft's and Smith's contributions. He notes that he himself contemplates doing an article on the coils grouping them according to flat and rotary plates. He points out that in Smith's article an "x" should be added to the "Horiz." column for the 25c blue cameo sower, flat plate Type IA (Sc 168) and that the 30c blue cameo sower of Type IIA does not exist in coil form and should be deleted from the list, leaving only the Type IIC of Scott No. 173.

## NEW BOOKS, PAMPHLETS, AND CATALOGS

- "Histoire Postale et Militaire de l'Armée d'Orient 1915-1920—Étude-Catalogue des Marques Postales et Oblitérations (Secteurs Postaux, Contrôle Postal, Camps de Prisonniers)". By Col. Deloste. 1968. 250 Illustrs. 30 Fr. p.p. The Author, 206 rue de St. Givès, F33-Bordeaux. (An important documentary and priced cat. of the 5000 Fr. military mail markings, Fr. stamps, censor and franchise marks, etc., in the Near East during World War I.)
- "Catalogue Yvert et Tellier 1969. Tome I: Timbres de France, Pays d'Expression Française, Andorre, Monaco, Sarre, Afrique du Nord." 1968. 655 pp. 6 Fr. p.p. For sale in U.S. by Jacob Habib, 150 Nassau St., New York, N. Y. 10038, at \$2.25.
- "Catalogue CÉRÈS, Timbres-Poste France, Communauté, Andorre, Monaco, Sarre, Nations Unies, Z.O.F., Europa, etc., 1969, 27th Ed." With collaboration of Mm. Miro, Robineau, and Roumet. 1968. 556 pp. For sale in U.S. by France-Canada Stamps, Saint-Michel des Saints, Co. Berthier, P. Q., Canada, at \$2.00 p.p. (See review below.)
- "Catalogue Thiaude France et Pays d'Expression Française 1969." 54th Ed. 1968. 552 pp. 5 Fr. p.p. H. Thiaude, 24 rue du Quatre-Septembre, F75-Paris 2, France. (Prices as of May-June 1968, show general rise of 10% but some speculated items lowered such as Philatelic sheet and Postal Museum sheet.)
- "Nomenclature des Bureaux de Poste Française 1852-1876 Petits et Gros Chiffres." By J. Pothion. New Edition 1968. 110 pp. 28 Fr. La Poste aux Lettres, 17 Faubourg Montmartre, F75-Paris 9. (Lists town names and numbers and prices each on cover with commonest cancel of that town.)
- "Catalogue France Spécialisé Georges Monteaux, avec Illustrations des Types Multiples." 12th Ed. 1968. 120 pp. 3.50 Fr. plus 0.70 post. G. Monteaux, 6 Square de l'Opéra Louis-Jouvet, F75-Paris 9. (20th cent. issues classed by types, spec. for sheets, booklets, shades, papers, varieties, millesimes, coin dates, etc.—see review in FCP Oct. 1967, p. 100.)
- "Catalogue Mondial des Entiers Postaux." By François Godinas. 4th Ed. Revd. 1968. The author, 12 rue J.-F. Kennedy, Esneux, Belgium. Price 5 50 Fr. P. p.p. Looseleaf. 600 pp. (World-wide, includes aerograms, civil and military entires and cards; in French and English, priced in dollars and francs Belges.)
- "Catalogue des Oblitérations Mécaniques avec Textes de Paris—Machines RB ou RBV—de 1934 à 1962." May 1968, 17 pp. Fr. 5.70 p.p. Le Club "Le Meilleur," Ancervilles, F54-Blamont.
- "Classification des Oblitérations Manuelleres avec Blocs Dateurs 1884-1968." By E. Barthélémy. July 1968, 22 pp. 6.70 Fr p.p. Le Club "Le Meilleur," Ancerviller, F54-Blamont.
- "List et Description de 163 Fausses Cartes Maximum de France." Sept. 1968, 3.70 Fr. p.p. 13 pp. Le Club "Le Meilleur," Ancerviller, F54-Blamont.
- "Catalogue des Cartes Maximum Maréchal Pétain." 1968. 26 pp. 6.70 Fr. p.p. Le Club "Le Meilleur," Ancerviller, 54-Blamont.
- "La Cote des Coins Datés et des Millésimes." 33rd Ed. 1968. By Sococodami. 10 Fr. M. A. Madelaine, 40 rue Marcheron, F92-Vanves.
- "Les Marques Postales de la Province Namur 1648-1849—Ex-Département de Sambre et Meuse no. 97." By L. P. Herlant. 150 Belgian francs. The author C. C. P. Bruxelles 19-31-43.

- "Catalogue France Spécialisé Berck 1969." 27th Ed. 1968. 320 pp. 5.00 Fr. Ed. Berck, 3 place de la Madeleine, F75-Paris; for sale in U. S. by HJMR Co., Box 308, North Miami, Fla. (See review in FCP #131, Jan. '68, p. 8. Prices this year are for the market when it was highest in early 1968.)
- "Marques Postales et Oblitérations des Cotes du Nord (21) des Origines à 1876." By Jean Chevalier, with pref. by M. Carnevalé-Mauzan. 1968. The author, Saint-Briéuc.

#### CATALOGUE "CERES" TIMBRES POSTE 1969, 27e EDITION

This well-known and long-established catalog of France and French community, Colonies, Andorre, Monaco, Sarre, United Nations, Europa and French Occupations, has become much enlarged and improved in the last several years though the price remains very moderate (\$2.). The Ceres firm sells stamps and philatelic supplies (which are advertised in a few pages of the cat.) but the catalog listings and prices are not apparently restricted or influenced by this fact—it is not just a dealers price list. The publisher aims to produce a "standard" catalog and outside experts Miro, Robineau, and Roumet collaborate on the pricings to reflect the market. Yvert numbers are used and the arrangement is conventionally chronological. The book of 556 pages is a handy 5¼x8¼" size, substantially paper bound, printed on a good paper stock with generally clear illustrations and an easily readable type. The Ceres, in common with several other French catalogs has lately tended to add quite a bit of specialized listings, mainly under France, without going overboard in some areas (like Thiaude). The 19th Cent. France is well specialized for shades, pairs, strips, blocks, on cover, with various types of cancels, some minor printing varieties, etc.—all being priced. There are special listings for reprints, balloon posts, Alsace-Lorraine, private perms, postal forgeries, bisects, etc. The types of cancels are illustrated. In all, the 19th France is very informative for a specialist interested in prices. The 20th France is only moderately specialized—there are many shades, the main "types," dates of emission, and some printing defects on post-1945 issues. However, for some 20th stamps, prices for mint are quoted both "hinged" and "never hinged"—the latter having become a fever in France as in U. S. For benefit of topicalists there are tables by subject groups. Various standard sidelines of France are cataloged: Caisse, Annulés, Spécimens, CFA, Colis-postaux, red cross, proofs, fictifs, FM, occupations, strike stamps, liberation, non-dentelées, precancels, service, dues, telephone, telegraph, newspapers; also the first-day covers and souvenirs (encarts) put out by the Ceres firm. Booklets, coils, pubs, entires, and deluxe proofs are not listed. In the colonies the specialization is minimal, though most of the standard minor varieties listed for years in all the catalogs are included. The prices (as of July 1968) show general rises for 19th, but more stable in the 20th and the flattening of the market on speculative modern issues during 1968 is well reflected. Ceres is an excellent catalog of its type and is used as a trading basis by many French dealers and auctions. It is stocked and sold by our dealer-member Louis Archambault for \$2 postpaid (France-Canada Stamps, St.-Michel des Saintes, Co. Berthier, P. Q., Canada).—R.G.S.

#### MARCOPHILES A VOS FLAMMES!

The firm DIPHILA in a Paris suburb and which specializes in sale of flammes and machine cancels of France, publishes a little booklet by the above title to give to its customers. It tells clearly, briefly and simply how to collect flammes, how they are classified and cataloged, and gives explanations and examples of the cancels from each type of machine used by the PTT. The firm has just published a new illustrated catalog by Paul Brémard (the

expert on machine cancels who writes regularly in *Le Monde*) "*Le Catalogue des Oblitérations Mécaniques Françaises*," in 2 vols, 50 Fr plus 1 Fr postage. The contents are arranged by 11 regions of France. A rebate on the catalog cost is given against purchases from Diphila. Diphila has now started a small house organ "*La Documentation Philatelique*" to promote its philatelic book club. Collecting flammes is becoming popular because it is relatively inexpensive and France issues so many attractive ones. A club is devoted to them (Club le Meilleur, Ancerville, F-54 Blamont) which issues various publications. Address Diphila, B P. 12, F-91-Draveil.—R.G.S.

## CURRENT JOURNAL ARTICLES

### Le Monde Des Philatélistes:

- #192, Oct. 1967: Goin: "Histoire militaire et postale des unités de la L.V.F. de la Brigade S. S. d'attaque des volontaires, de la brigade S.S. Française no. 1, de la 33 Div. SS Charlemagne et du Regiment d'Attaque de S.S. française Charlemagne 1941-45" (begin serial); R.M.X.: "Les commémoratifs datés".
- #195, Jan. 1968: Duxin: "Les 38 timbres fr. de 1967 et leurs auteurs"; DeLizeray: "Deux types du 20c Cacteau"; Gavault: "L'Emploi des vignettes-taxes du chemin de fer à l'occasion de diverses perceptions" (begin serial); Bath: "Le 0.20 Cocteau Types I et II."
- #197, March 1968: Mignon: "Les carnets de 10 et 20 timbres de 0.30 République de Cheffer"; Joany: "Que disent des coins datés—les 50c de la lettre simple 1926-37"; DeLizeray: "Les 0.30 République de Cheffer des T.D. 3"; "Les timbres fr. de 1950" (begin serial); R.M.X.: "A propos des repères"; DeLizeray: "Roulettes et distributeurs."
- #198, April 1968: Roqués: "La fin des tirages des timbres en ancien francs"; R.M.X.: "Encore un commémoratif daté"; DeLizeray: "Les 30c Cheffer des TD 3 et des TD 6" (begin serial); St. Helena and Clipperton Id. cachets (p. 61).
- #199, May 1968: Joany: "Les timbres de France gravés en trois couleurs" (begin serial); DeLizeray: "Les 30c Cheffer des TD 3 et des TD 6" (end); "La modernisation de la Postale de Nuit"; R.M.X.: "Un tirage fleuve" (0.70 St.-Germain, coin daté).
- #200, June 1968: Bourgeois: "Remarques sur les bureaux temporaires"; Taszarek: "Les bâtiments de guerre de la marine française" (list) (begin serial).
- #202, September 1968: Duxin: "Pour le programme 1969"; Bourgeois: "La poste pendant la Grève"; Savelon: "Courriers de Grève 1968" (begin serial).
- #203, October 1968: Duxin: "In memoriam Charles Mazelin"; "Les timbres Français de 1951", "Les timbres Français de 1952"; "Remous au Carré Marigny"; Argyropoulos: "Les timbres-poste consulaires Français de Jérusalem"; Joany: "Ce que disent les coins datés—La fabrication des timbres poste par rotatives vue à vol d'oiseau"; Abecher: "Variétés sur le Vif" (begin serial).
- #204, November 1968: "Les timbres Française de 1953"; "Remous au Carré Marigny"; Bourgeois: "Encore les vignettes de Grève!"; R. M. X.: "Encore le 2.00 'Noratlas'"; "La France en thématique: La Montagne"; Dufour: "Les flammes multiples" (serial); Joany: "Les avatars de la lettre simple pour l'intérieur".

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## F. & C. P. S. OFFICIAL

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### Meeting of October 8, 1968

The feature speaker was member Louis K. Robbins whose topic was Auction Buying, Selling and Philatelic Literature. That this is a subject of considerable interest to all, was well in evidence by the large turn out. He discussed and related the various methods of placing bids by mail, and bidding on the auction room floor. This was interspersed by stories of oddities and interesting happenings which occurred at various auctions attended by Mr. Robbins. The methods and styles used by different auctioneers were also covered. In regard to selling a collection at auction, Mr. Robbins explained the best way to present one's collection to the auction house to enable the auctioneer to appraise and describe the collection with a minimum of effort. A more complete and detailed description enhances the chances of realizing more for it.

Philatelic literature is probably one of the most important aspects of philately. In order for one to realize the utmost out of the hobby, it is necessary for one to secure as much knowledge concerning one's specialty as possible. This is only feasible if one has a philatelic library covering their favorite. Mr. Robbins being a well known dealer in this field, was well qualified to discuss all phases of the philatelic literature field.

### Meeting of November 5, 1968

It was also a well attended meeting. The guest was Mr. Paul Lindenberg, member of the Collectors Club of New York and the British Empire Group. Mr. Lindenberg's topic was French Post Offices In Turkey. This was a very interesting evening for all, as very rarely has there been a presentation on French post offices in foreign countries. Mr. Lindenberg covered the founding of the post offices in Turkey, their operation, and cancellations used on cover. Also covered were the various routes taken by mail originating from these post offices to their various destinations in the Mediterranean area and other European countries. Mr. Lindenberg also related his experiences in trying to secure material from various sources for his collection. From all indications it is very difficult to secure material in any quantity for this area but the amount of material in Mr. Lindenberg's showing was very comprehensive.

Short business sessions were held after each of the meetings. It was decided to hold the Stephen G. Rich Memorial Exhibition during the month of February of each year. This is to enable those wishing to show at Interpex without having to ship collections twice. All interested should get their exhibits in early. Interpex will be March 14-16 at the Americana in New York.

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Will members who knew the late Raoul Lesgor personally or thru correspondence please send to the Editor any reminiscences they may have about him, anecdotes, pictures or other memorabilia so that a memoir on him can be compiled for the FCP.—R.G.S.

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The annual dues statements have been mailed—please reply promptly

before you forget it, save us the cost of a second reminder statement and insure continued receipt of your philatelist.

The annual Stephen G. Rich Memorial Exhibit will be held Feb. 4 at the Collectors Club in NY at 8 p.m. Members have been sent an announcement with application blank and rules. Applications must reach Secretary Parrshall by Jan. 20 and the exhibits by Feb. 3. Two frames or 32 pages is the limit. We hope many out of town members will show.

### NEWLY ELECTED FCPS OFFICERS

President—Ira Zweifach                      Vice President—Eric Spiegel  
Corresponding Secretary—Walter E. Parrshall      Treasurer—Beatrice Berner  
Recording Secretary—Loretta Garabrant

### Board of Directors:

William J. Connelly, Marc Martin, John Lievsay, Albert Kahn

### NEW MEMBERS

- 1123 MARQUES, Lawrance, 6276 S. W. 15th St., Miami, Fla. 33144 — 20th Century France Mint.
- 1124 KILMER, Dr. Tom H., 227 East Northwood Ave., Columbus, Ohio 43201 France all issues.
- 1125 SPADY, Herbert A., Route 5, 9460 Sunnyview Road, N. E., Salem, Ore. 97301 — Modern Varieties of France.
- 1126 GILBERT, Raymond Henry, 1566 Truscott Drive, Clarkson, Ont., Canada Cancellations on Classic Issues of France and of France in general.
- 1127 LANNERET, Pierre, 426 Joost Ave., San Francisco, Calif. 94127 — General France and Colonies.
- 1128 ROBICHAUD, Pierre, 650 Deguire, Montreal 9, Que., Canada — Gen. col. France, Monaco and ex-cols still issuing stamps except new African.
- 1129 QUINTIN, Robert J., 32 Fenwood Ave., Pawtucket, R. I. 02860 — Fr. & Cols., Cambodia, Laos, Viet Nam, mint, used; Lebanon, Andorra, mint.
- 1130 BOUCEK, Richard J., M.D., 1 Wilson Dr., Ben Avon Heights, Pittsburgh, Penn. 15202 — France, regular, semi-postals, airs and imperfs of same.
- 1131 MICHAELS, Stella, 201 Eye St., S. W., No. 625, Washington, D. C. 20024 France—Fifth Republic.
- 1132 LEVIN, Martin H., 1216 Navajo Trail, Indianapolis, Ind. 46260 — Complete France, singles before 1900 used, after 1900 mint.
- 1133 ORZANO, John, 142 Awixa Ave., Bay Shore, N. Y. 11706 — Essays, Proofs, Imperfs—presentation sheets.
- 1134 MATHIEU, Auguste, 4406 West Augusta Boulevard, Chicago, Ill. 60651 France—all issues.
- 1135 BAHNSEN, Axel, 212 Pleasant St., Yellow Springs, Ohio 45387 — France—all issues, including Colonies.
- 1136 BALCH, Steven A., 7566 Lake Ree Ave., San Diego, Calif. 92119 — France post World War II—French Colonies to 1946.

### CHANGES OF ADDRESS

- 1011 AVVAMPATO, Charles J., 6711 Wandermere Dr., San Diego, Calif. 92120

- 1088 STARK, Melville I., 265 Lugo Road, Palm Springs, Calif. 92262  
 1062 FINE, Jesse, 20 East 9th St., New York, N. Y. 10003  
 1080 O'HARA, John B., 209 Glenn Road, Ardmore, Penn. 19003  
 1102 STARKEY, Donald A. J., 5283 Bayside Dr., Dayton, Ohio 45431  
 1076 MASSELIS, Albert, 637 21st Ave., Paterson, N. J. 07513  
 114 MEYER, Charles E., 14 Montrose Ave., Verona, N. J. 07044  
 1104 McAVOY, Arthur J., 15 Foxmeadow Lane, Arlington, Mass. 02174  
 1002 CHATTE, John J., 412½ S. Fairfax St., Alexandria, Va. 22314  
 901 CARABET, Dr. Norman, M.D., 10324 Mason Ave., Chatsworth, Calif. 91311

### DECEASED

- 197 GORDON, Robert S.

## MEMBERS APPEALS

(Members Advertising)

**WANTED:** Blanc issues (Sc. 109 115), espec. used incl. unusual cancels, multiples, covers, coils, booklet stamps, millesimes, coins datés, stationery, annulé, specimen, overprints, etc. Send with price or will exchange. Arthur P. Merrick, 15546 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).

**OFFER:** To swap about 1500 copies of 25c Ceres (Scott #58), mixture all three Types, to a plating specialist in exchange for Sage used abroad, 19th Cent. cancels, Billigs Handb. #11 or Kremer's original on French revenues, etc. John E. Lievsay, 131 Longfellow St., Hartsdale, N. Y. 10530 (Member #1008).

**OFFER:** Ambulant, Petit and Gros Chiffres griffe cancellations, also early railroad dated postmarks and Paris stars on and off cover. All are ex-Chase material. W. H. Schilling, Jr., 5712 Schaefer Rd., Edina, Minn. 55436. (Member 29)

**WANTED:** To trade — need almost all colonial "Revolution" (1939) and "Curie" (1938) issues. Have for exchange: France used nos. 226-B, B27, C15, C17 and many other used and mint. Edward Ellwanger, American Embassy, APO San Francisco, Calif. 96346 (Member 1974).

**OFFER:** Germain's "Le 25 Centimes Cérés de 1871 au Type I", 2 volumes, bound, as new, \$25 postpaid in U. S. (A "must" work for plating this popular stamp; only a few sets available). Stanley J. Luft, 3048 Village Drive, Ft. Mitchel, Ky. 41017 (Member 915).