



France & Colonies



Philatelist

A Note On the Imperforate Varieties Of Normally Perforated Stamps Of French Colonies, 1892-1940

By R. G. Stone

The regular release in limited quantities (ca. 300) of French colonial stamps in imperforate state ("non-dentelés") began during the early 1940's in the Vichy regime and has created a sort of fad for collecting these special "specimen" prints or presentation plate proofs. They are, as well known, not valid for postage and are thus not really stamps.

From the period prior to 1940, imperforate varieties of a few of the normally perforate issues of France and colonies are also known, but these have a quite different origin and status. Some of them are listed in certain catalogs, often, however without indication of their true character. It is usually presumed that most standard catalogs should not and do not list imperforate varieties which are known to be merely proofs or waste, although this may be subject to controversy in some cases. Unfortunately the French catalogs as well as those of other countries, are not at all consistent about such varieties. The fact that one or a few of the imperf's of a certain stamp have been seen on covers passed thru the mails is apt to be used as an excuse for listing them as a stamp variety. Every one knows that such uses of proofs or waste can be obtained by collusion or oversight. A more valid criterion for catalog status is offered in the cases where the imperf was actually sold over the postoffice counter—presumably then a true error.

In the case of the French colonies, the Yvert specialized catalog of 1936



Fig. 1. 10c 1900 of Guadeloupe imperforate, copy from bottom row inner gutter margin of sheet (ex-Clapp coll.).



Fig. 2. Corner margin copies of imperf 2c and 20c Guinea 1906 issue; these are gummed and the 20c show part of the dated sheet-margin press imprint, indicating it is definitely not a proof.

(Vol. II) was apparently very carefully edited (by the late Baron de Vinck) and as far as we can verify the only imperfs listed there are ones that came from sheets actually sold by a postoffice or the Agence Comptable in Paris. There are not many listed; in some cases the place and date of sale are mentioned. For most of these we have not been able to find a report in the journal literature, and we think that the original information on their existence was passed on directly to the cataloger by dealers and collectors.

Having collected quite a few of the Yvert-listed imperfs, we note that in most cases they are gummed, come from sheets (with coin datés), and are in correct colors and paper—in short, they are not die or plate proofs. Furthermore, their scarcity and the catalog and auction prices indicate most of them exist in about the quantity of one sheet of 300 or less. Here we can call attention to the fact that some of these imperfs are from part perf sheets—of the Guadeloupe 10c of 1900, for example, we have a block which shows that the imperfs came only from the bottom row of the sheet, the next row being part perf and the rest of the sheet fully perfed. We believe the 10c St. Pierre of 1900 originated likewise. Also some of the imperfs are known used on cover from the place and time where discovered—the 15c Oceania

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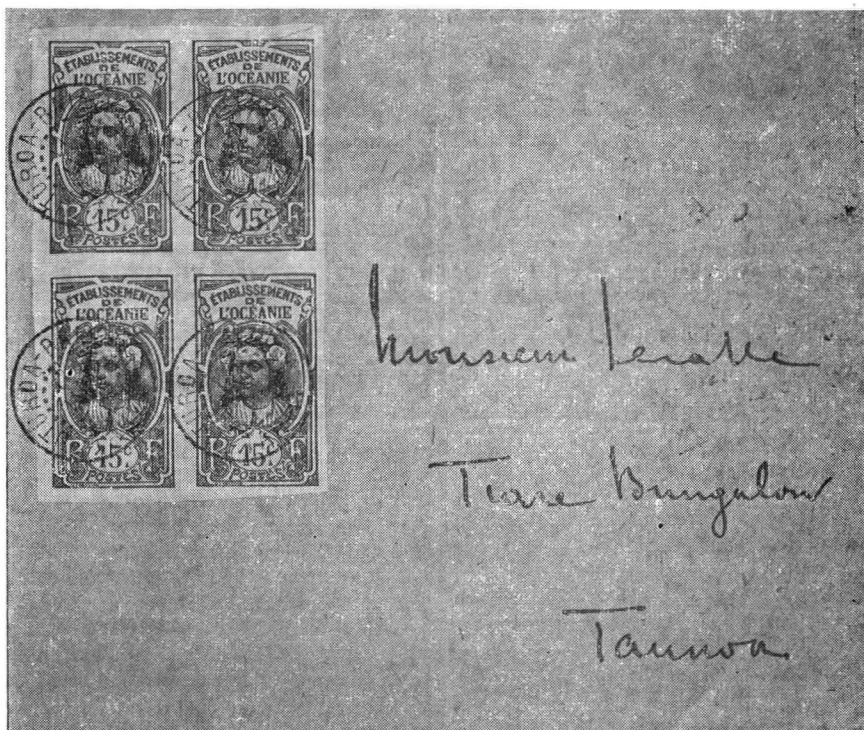


Fig. 3. Cover with imperf block of four of 15c 1913 issue of French Oceania, cancelled "Uturoa-Raiatea/Tahiti/17/Janv./19", addressed to the late A. Leralle of Paris, living in Tahiti at the time, and to whom we owe thousands of unusual French colonies covers which he had sent to him.

from Uturoa, 1919, for example. But most cancelled copies are philatelic favors from a later time and even different place.

Some non-Yvert listed imperf blocks listed in other catalogs, especially from the post-Yvert period, that we have seen, are also genuine errors. But others are evidently proofs or waste, as they are ungummed, on thin paper, or in odd colors. The cases of this sort among French colonies are so few outside the 1900-03 Congo, Somali Coast and Madagascar recess-printed issues (made by private printers under contract) that the colonies record on the whole must be judged pretty "clean." (Of course with overprints the story is something else.) Gummed imperf blocks of the recess and heliogravured issues are suspect as these were printed in commercial presses whose waste control was more lax than in the government plant.

The earlier French colonial imperf blocks are not as such particularly well-known nor in demand or popular with collectors; dealers and auctions often offer them as "essais" perhaps out of ignorance but more likely with the thought they will go better thus.

The following is a list of the pre-1941 imperf blocks, by year of issue and catalog number, that we have found listed or seen. The ones asterisked we believe to be genuine errors; some of the rest may be likewise but most of them are plate proofs or waste in issued colors—where an entire issue is available imperf it is naturally quite suspect. The catalog numbers are

Yvert's (=Maury and Cérés).

French Colonies General Issues: 1881—46-59; *50

Cameroons: 1921—85

1925—119, 122

Congo: 1900—*28, 30, 32, *36, 38, *39, *40, *41

Dahomey: 1901—17

1906—19, 23, 31

1927—87, 51, 54

French Equatorial Africa: Dues 1937—3

Gabon: 1904—31, 32

1911—49, *53, 55

Guadeloupe: 1900—*41

1905—56, 71

1928—99, 100

Guiana: 1904—50, 65

1939—160

Airmails 1933—11-18

Dues 1929—21

Guinea: 1904—29, 32

1906—34, 37, 38, *39, 46

1913—63

1938—126

India: 1937—109

Inini: 1923—3, *36

Indochina: 1904—*27, *29, 39, 40

1922—97

1931—158B, 159, 162A, 164A, 167

Airmails 1933—1-14

Dues 1931—58, 59, 60, 61, 63, 66, 67, 68, 70, 71, 72, 73

Ivory Coast: 1892—13

1906—22, *24, 25, 26, *29, 34

1913—41

1936—111

Kouang-Tcheou: 1937—30, 103, 145, 148

Madagascar: 1903—*63, *68, *72, *75, *76, *77

1908—94, 101, 103

1938—175B, 176B

1931—183, 184, 185, 186, 187

1936—190, 191

1939—221

Airmails 1935—1-13

Martinique: 1899—50, 51

1908—62, *64

1922—88

1933—133-154

Mauretania: 1906—14, 15, 16

1913—17, 18

Moheli: 1892—16

Middle Congo: 1924—87

1933—113, 115, 121, 122, 124

Dues 1922—3

Dues 1930—12-22

- Morocco (Protectorate): 1914—40, *41, 45, 54
1917—*59, *65, *68, 75, 76
1923—98, 99, *100, 101-105, *106, 107-113, *114, 115-23
1933—138, 39, 140, 141, 144A
Airmails 1922—1, *2, 3, *4, 5, *6, 7, 10
Airmails 1928—12-21
Airmails 1935—40
Airmails 1939—46
- New Caledonia: 1905—*89, 104
1928—142, 143
Dues 1927—9
- Niger: 1921—*3
1926—29, 30, 39
Dues 1927—9
- Oceania: 1913—*26, *27, *29
1939—115
Dues 1926—6
- Oubangui-Chari: 1922—*25, *32
1924—*51, 52
1931—86
- Reunion: 1892—44
- St. Pierre-Miquelon: 1900—*73
1909—79
1932—*136, 142, 149, 150, *152, 154
1938—184, 186, 187, 188
- Senegal: 1906—42, 45, 46
1927—102
1938—148
1939—152
- Somali Coast: 1915—135A, 83?
Dues 1915—1
- Soudan: 1931—62, 72, 78
1939—110
- Tchad: 1924—20
- Togo: 1925—127, 128, 134, 135
1928—154
1941—205
- Tunis: 1889—1-9
1899—*23, 17, 25
1906-17—*29, *30, *31, *32, *34, *35, 37, 38, 39, 39A, 40, 41,
*46, 49
1921—70, 71
1926—132, 139, 140
1928—147-153
1939—208, 212
Parcels Post 1906—*1, *2, 3, 4, *5, 6, 7, *8, 9
Dues 1901—34, 35
- Upper Senegal and Niger: 1906—2, 7, 16
- Upper Volta: 1920—1, *9
1927—*41
1928—43

KINDS OF PRINTING USED FOR STAMPS OF FRANCE (METROPOLE)

By Pierre de Lizeray
Académie de Philatélie, Paris

Here is a short resumé on the subject:

For the typographed stamps, there were two kinds of printing:

1) Flat Plate, at first (1848—) by hand operated presses, later (1870's) by steam presses, and finally (1900's) by electric-motor driven presses.

2) Cylindrical Plates ("rotary"—rotatives), curved plates (cliches) fitted around cylinders, which when first introduced required all new dies and plates to be made for the stamps still in current use. First day of this new kind of printing was 4 March 1922.

The first press, in use during 1922, was only able to print in one color, so the stamps and the date of printing (coin daté) in the margin are of the same color. After 1923, all typo presses could print in two colors, one for the stamp and one for the date. Little by little these presses were improved to print up to five colors in one operation, including the color of the date and of any overprinting.* So the presses could produce stamps and directly overprint them in one operation ("rotary overprints").

For the recess-printed stamps, there have been two kinds:

1) Flat Plates on hand presses, used only for the Le Travail stamp of 1928 and the first prints (1929-30) of the Pont-du-Gard stamp.

2) Cylindrical Plates ("rotary"), beginning with the 10Fr La Rochelle stamp. First day of this new kind of printing was 22/3/29.

At the beginning, the stamps were unicolor (and the date of printing was printed, and still is, in black ink by a typographical adjunct to the press).

After the invention by Serge Beaume in 1939 and the construction by Edouard Lambert in 1947 of a special extension of the presses, it became possible to print 3-color stamps with only one printing cylinder (plate). These presses are called "T.D.3" (for Taille-Douce 3 couleurs).

Since 1960 most of the new presses acquired can produce 6-color stamps, using 2 printing cylinders (plates). The first cylinder makes an offset-recess impression and the second one makes a direct-recess print. These presses are called the "T.D.-6" (for Taille-Douce 6 couleurs). The way the colors are obtained with the one or two plates is by having 3 or 6 inking rollers on which are cut out the parts that are not to be printed with the given color.

For the heliogravure stamps, there have been two kinds:

1) The Helio-Vaugirard Company process. Only one stamp, the 1.50 Fr large-sized Colonial Exposition stamp of 1931.

2) The Imprimerie des Timbres-Poste (new name of the Atelier de Fabrication de Timbres on Boulevard Brune) using its own presses, starting with the 0.20 Fr St.-Lo stamp of 1966, the second stamp of France by heliogravure. These use cylindrical plates.

For the Lithographed stamps, the postage dues of 1859 were printed by the Imprimerie Impériale (where only revenue stamps were usually printed), and the Bordeaux issue of 1870 printed at the Mint in Bordeaux, both using the classical lithographic stone for plates.

All the cylindrical-plate presses (typo, recess, and helio) work on gummed endless roll paper, perforate the stamps by comb, and cut the sheets off as the paper exits the machine.

*Before this, 2-color typo stamps could be obtained by having two plates and making two passes thru the press of each sheet, as done for colonies stamps since 1892.

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

By Stanley J. Luft

(continued from the January 1969 issue)

40c

The 40c olive-brown (Sc 177, Yv 193) replaced the 40c Merson (Sc 121, Yv 119) in 1925.

Foreign usage (Decree of 20 April 1924):

Printed matter, from 150 to 200 gm, special publishers rate.

Foreign usage (Tariff of 17 July 1925):

Printed matter, from 50 to 100 gm;

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

Left without specific use from 1 Feb. to 30 April 1926.

Domestic usage (Tariff of 1 May 1926):

Letters, to 20 gm;

Printed matter and échantillons (samples), from 100 to 200 gm.

Printed in flat-plate sheets of Type I from Aug. 1925 to 1926; flat-plate booklets of 20 stamps with pubs (Yv 193a) printed in 1926. Rotary-plate sheets of Type II printed in 1926.

Replaced, at beginning of domestic single-weight letter rate, by the 40c vermillion (Sc 178, Yv 194).

Domestic usage (Tariff of 9 Aug. 1926):

*Postal cards.

Printed in flat-plate booklets of 20 stamps with pubs (Type I) (Yv 194a) from May to 17 July 1926, and in rotary-plate sheets of Type II from May to 5 Aug. 1926; rotary-plate vertical coils (Type II) printed in 1926; flat-plate precancel overprints applied to sheets of Type II and issued May-Aug. 1926. Stamped letter-cards of Type II and special Type III printed in spring of 1926.

Replaced by the 40c violet (Sc 179, Yv 236) in summer of 1927.

Printed in rotary-plate sheets of Type II, from 26 Aug. 1927 to 1928; vertical coils issued in 1928. Stamped postal cards (ACEP Nos. 87, 88, and 91) printed from fall of 1926 to spring of 1928; with prepaid reply (ACEP No. 89) in 1927; all postal stationery is in Type II of the adhesive stamps.

Replaced by the 40c ultramarine (Sc 180, Yv 237) late in 1928.

Printed in rotary-plate sheets of Type II, from Dec. 1928 to 1932; vertical coils issued in 1929. Stamped postal cards (ACEP Nos. 93 & 95) printed from late 1928 to 1932; with prepaid reply (ACEP Nos. 94 & 96) in 1929 and 1930; all official postal stationery is in Type II of the adhesive stamps.

Printings interrupted between 21 Oct. 1930 and 29 June 1931, for printing and issue of the 40c Expo. Coloniale ('Fachi') (Sc 259, Yv 271).

Replaced by the 40c Peace of Laurens (Sc 265, Yv 281) in 1933.

90c

The 90c Sower exists only (Andorra excepted) on stamped postal cards, with (ACEP 99) and without (ACEP 97 & 98) prepaid reply printed in 1930-31.

Foreign usage (Tariff of 1 Aug. 1926):

*Postal cards.

1F05

The 1F05 vermillion (Sc 181, Yv 195) was printed in rotary-plate sheets in Nov. and Dec.? 1925; newly-created value following domestic Tariff of 17 July 1925:

Registered letters, to 20 gm.

Rendered obsolete by Tariff of 1 May 1926 and suppressed.

50c/1F05

Overprinted (Sc 234, Yv 225) on remainders of above 1F05 stamp, following domestic Tariff of 9 Aug. 1926, to meet the large need for the single-weight letter rate; about 34 million stamps issued in April 1927.

90c/1F05

Overprinted (Sc 238, Yv 227) on remainders of above 1F05 stamp, following international Tariff of 1 Aug. 1926, to meet the need for franking postal cards to foreign destinations; about 6 million issued in Sept. 1926.

1F10

The 1F10 rose (Sc 182, Yv 238) was printed in rotary-plate sheets from March 1927 to 1930; newly-created value following domestic Tariff of 9 Aug. 1926:

Letters, to 20 gm, incl. COD fee (Valeur à recouvrer).

Suppressed 18 July 1932.

1F40

The 1F40 rose (Sc 183, Yv 196) was printed in rotary-plate sheets in August 1926; newly-created value following domestic Tariff of 1 May 1926:

Registered letters, to 20 gm.

This stamp was obsolete even before issuance, and most of the issue was subsequently overprinted.

1F10/1F40

Overprinted (rotary-plate) (Sc 240, Yv 228) on the obsolete stock of above stamp, following domestic Tariff of 9 Aug. 1926:

Letters, to 20 gm, incl. COD fee.

About 8 million stamps issued in 1926.

2F

The 2F blue-green (Sc 184, Yv 239) replaced the 2F orange and blue-green Merson (Sc 127, Yv 145) as a supplementary high value early in 1931.

Printed in rotary-plate sheets from late 1930 to 1931.

Replaced by the 2F Arc de Triomphe (Sc 263, Yv 258) 29 Aug. 1931.

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v. V, "Timbres-poste d'usage courant: IVE Période (1929-41)" (1963)

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v. II, *Étude* No. 34 (1960).

v. III, "Carnets de France," *Étude* No. 38 (1961).

v. IV, "Coins datés curieux," *Étude* No. 57 (1963).

v. VI, *Étude* No. 85 (1966).

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Mignon, B. (1955), "Les timbres français à travers les décrets," *Étude* No. 5, *Le Monde des Philatélistes*.

Monteaux, G. (1967), "Catalogue George Monteaux, France spécialisée," 11e ed., Paris, p. 17-52.

IV. The Pasteur Issues of 1923-1932

Scott type A23

Engraved by G. Prud'homme

10c

The 10c green (Scott 185, Yvert 170) replaced the 10c green cameo sower (Types IA, IB, IC, and III) (Sc 163, Yv 159), 25 May 1923.¹

Foreign usage (Tariff of 1 April 1921):

*Printed matter, to 20 gm.

Domestic usage (Tariff of 24 March 1924):

Printed matter, from 50 to 100 gm;

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

Postal cards "of 5 words".

Printed in rotary-plate sheets from 30 April 1923 to 20 March 1924; vertical rotary-plate coils printed in 1923; flat-plate booklets of 20 stamps (w/o pubs) printed in 1923-24.

Replaced by the rotary-plate 10c green cameo sower (Ty. III) in spring of 1924.

15c

The 15c green (Sc 186, Yv 171) replaced the 15c lined sower (Types IV and V) (Sc 139, Yv 130), 19 Sept. 1924.

Usage (Tariffs of 24 March and 1 April 1924):

*Printed matter, to 50 gm (foreign);

*Postal cards (domestic).

Domestic usage (Tariff of 17 July 1925):

*Printed matter, from 50 to 100 gm.

Printed in rotary-plate sheets from 30 August 1924 to 15 June 1925; rotary-plate precancels printed Nov. 1924-Jan. 1925, first issued Dec. 1924; vertical rotary-plate coils printed in 1924.

Replaced by the 15c cameo sower (Sc 165, Yv 189) in Jan. 1926.

20c

The 20c green (Sc 187, Yv 172) replaced the 20c red-brown (Type III) cameo sower (Sc 166, Yv 139), 22 Jan. 1926.

Usage (Tariff of 17 July 1925, and earlier ones):

*Printed matter, to 50 gm (foreign);

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

*Postal cards (domestic, and to nearby areas of Belgium and Spain).

Domestic usage (Tariff of 1 May 1926):

Postal cards "of 5 words".

Printed in rotary-plate sheets 12 Jan.-20 Feb. 1926; stamped postal cards (ACEP No. 82 and 82a) printed Oct. 1925.

Replaced by the 20c rose-lilac (Type III) cameo sower (Sc 167, Yv 190), 20 July 1926.

30c red

The 30c red (Sc 188, Yv 173) replaced the 30c red cameo sower (Sc 171, Yv 160), 25 May 1923.

Foreign usage (Tariff of 1 April 1921):

*Postal cards;

Printed matter, from 100 to 150 gm.

Usage (Tariffs of 24 March and 15 April 1924):

Printed matter, from 100 to 200 gm (domestic);

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

Printed in flat-plate sheets in 1923; stamped postal cards without (ACEP No. 79) and with (No. 80) prepaid replies printed late in spring of 1923.

Replaced by the 30c rose cameo sower (Sc 172, Yv 191), 6 Jan. 1925.

(to be continued)

F. & C. P. S. OFFICIAL

December Meeting

On December 3, 1968, the featured guest was Mr. A. M. Slotnick of the Fine Arts Philatelists, Inc. His subject was the art of taking photographs of stamps, covers and album pages for the purpose of making slides for viewing. Mr. Slotnick brought with him some of the necessary equipment needed for the successful taking of photos. Many of those present, expected to find that a lot of complex equipment would be needed but Mr. Slotnick proceeded to show what could be done with the barest of equipment. Rather than set up a battery of lights and bellows, etc., he found that the most success was with the use of natural light. As he explained, he used to take the subject to be photographed outside and would anchor it in such a manner so as not to let it be moved, and then would take his close up using the natural sunlight as his lighting. This eliminated a lot of adjusting of lighting and of equipment as would have to be done with taking photos inside. Mr. Slotnick then answered questions from the floor, and many of the members secured the answers to things that had puzzled them in the past. Conceivably we might be seeing more slide programs presented by our members on various subjects.

January Meeting

On January 7, 1969, the speaker was our past President, Mr. Charles Bretagne, who exhibited and discussed forgeries of French stamps by means of photographs and other accessories. As it would be very difficult to try and point out everything that was characteristic about the forgeries, Mr. Bretagne tried to bring out the major things to look for when trying to determine what was genuine and what was not genuine. After discussing the various examples on display, the members posed many questions from the floor. At the close of the meeting, the members had a chance to view the photographs more closely.

February Meeting — Stephen G. Rich Memorial Exhibit

The February 4 meeting of the society was called to order at 8 p.m. with 23 members present. The feature was the Annual Stephen G. Rich Memorial Exhibition. The three categories of competition were to be 19th century, 20th century, and Topical. However, due to the lack of topical exhibits, the judges substituted the category of Postal History for Topical. This was without a doubt one of the best showings for the annual competition. The number of frames which were available at the Collectors Club was twenty, and not only were these completely filled, but there were several others which were judged on the side of the jury. The results for the various categories are:

Best In Show:—Walter Brooks, Springfield, Pa., "The Sower Issue Specialized" Nineteenth Century:—

First Award:—W. H. Schilling, Jr., Minneapolis, Minnesota, "French Ambulants."

Second Award:—John Lievsay, Hartsdale, New York, "Varieties of French Classics."

Certificate of Participation:—Irving L. Kopf., Brooklyn, New York, "Stamps and Cancellations of the Indochina-Korea Area."

Twentieth Century:—

First Award:—Xavier Maurer, Pine Bush, New York, "French Air Mails."

Second Award:—John Thomas, New York City, New York, "Saar Air Mails."

Certificate of Participation:—W. F. McManus, Painesville, Ohio, "Coats of Arms of French Cities."

Paulette Neumann, New York, New York, "Europa—From Original Drawing to Stamp," and "French Paintings—Maximum Cards."

John Orzano, Bay Shore, New York, "French Imperfs—Die Proofs—Color Proofs."

Postal History:—

First Award:—Nils Agrell, Williston Park, New York, "19th Century Stampless Covers."

Second Award:—John R. Waterfield, Batavia, Illinois, "French Indochina Military Postmarks."

Certificate of Participation:—Gus Wittenberg, New York, New York, "19th Century Stampless Covers."

Although the Best-in-Show Award to Walter Brooks was classified in the twentieth-century section, the judges felt that on the basis of the research and presentation of the subject, in addition to the material shown, it warranted the award of Best-In-Show.

In the 19th Century category the first award to W. H. Schilling, Jr., was for a comprehensive showing of French Railroad Markings covering rail lines emanating to and from Paris, and also lines which did not touch Paris. It is from a nearly complete collection of these marks.

The 2nd award to John Lievsay was for his presentation of classics showing major and minor varieties in the way of retouches, plate faults, and shades of various stamps.

The first award in the Twentieth Century section was given to Xavier Maurer for his showings of the French Air Mails. His exhibit was highlighted by the presence of a copy of the Ile De France.

The 2nd award to John Thomas was for a complete showing of Air Mails of the Saar.

Postal History was well represented with some fine collections of stampless covers and postmarks. The First Award for this category went to Nils Agrell, one of our newer members, and showing for the first time. Mr. Agrell presented early French stampless and documents pertaining to French postal history, some very fine legible markings.

The 2nd award was to one of our older members who has shown many times before, and always has fine material. John R. Waterfield's exhibit of French Indochina Military Postmarks encompassed a rather complete coverage of the many various types of marks of military units stationed there.

Mention should be made of those others who took the time to put together and show at this exhibit. Certificates were awarded to Irving L. Kopf for his showing of covers, stamps and cancellations of the same general area as that of Mr. Waterfield. To W. F. McManus for his exhibit of Coats of Arms of French cities. Mr. McManus has shown before in several categories. To Miss Paulette Neumann who also is one of our older members, and has always had an entry. She had two frames of Proofs, Maximum Cards and original drawings depicting the birth so to speak of the finished product. Last but not least, a certificate was awarded to John Orzano, one of our newest members, also for Proofs, Imperfs and Color Proofs. Even though he did not win one of the major prizes, it was gratifying to see a new member have the spirit to show.

There was a short business meeting relative to current matters. A letter was received from the Committee handling the San Diego Centennial Exhibition and based on their inquiry, it was decided to join with other societies in giving an award for the Best French Exhibit at the show. It is to be hoped that any of our members in the vicinity of San Diego will give some thought to showing. Our Treasurer, Miss Berner, will be in attendance at this show along with her Fine Arts Society members, and she will be glad to see any of our members who can get there.

March Meeting

The speaker on March 4 was our President Ira Zweifach who showed the Morocco Locals of Mr. H. S. Haverbeck of the Collector's Club of New York. This collection has many scarce, desirable items which are seldom seen or obtainable. Mr. Zweifach discussed the various Local Posts which had flourished in Morocco from the first to the last. This also covered the various governments which had established postal systems in Morocco. Seventeen members were present. On the business side, it was announced that the annual dinner would be held on May 24, 1969 with the site to be announced later. The catalog project is coming along very nicely and it is hoped that it won't be too long before it can go to press. The meeting was adjourned at 9:45 p.m.

—W. E. P.

A number of members have sent us reminiscences on Raoul Lesgor as we asked for in the January FCP, p. 18; we need more, so please write.—Ed.

NEW MEMBERS

- 1137 RICHMOND, Robert J., 203 Clinton St., Brooklyn, N. Y. 11201—France
- 1138 SCHLESINGER, Gerhard, 7 West Madison St., Chicago, Ill. 60602 — Postal History; First Day Covers (classical and modern), better only
- 1139 DICKINSON, James P., College Hill, Hamilton, N. Y. 13346 — France and Colonies mint.
- 1140 KAMHOLZ, Kenneth, 154-19 22nd Ave., Flushing, N. Y. 11357 — France including booklets.
- 1141 HUDSON, Robert E., Chayeh Building, Apartment 19, Rue Ardati, Ras Beirut, Beirut, Lebanon — Grand Liban and Lebanon.
- 1142 STOTT, Thomas A., 499 Highcroft Ave., Ottawa 3, Ont., Canada — France mint and used, French Colonial stamps, very fine used only.
- 1143 FORTIER, Robert R., 148 First Parish Road, Scituate, Mass. 02066 — Early French stamps.
- 1144 McPHAIL, Hugh D., 6344 Mettetal, Detroit, Mich. 48228 — Andorra. Fantasies. France and Colonies.
- 1145 DOBIES, Edwin F., 5030 Angeles Crest Highway, La Canada, Cal. 91011 French Colonies Postal Stationery. Particular interest in Commerce and Navigation issues both stamps and stationery.

CHANGES OF ADDRESS

- 116 HARMER, ROOKE & CO., Inc., 604 Fifth Ave., New York, N. Y. 10020
- 41 GIRARD, Daniel P., 67 Putnam Ave., Tarrytown, N. Y. 10591
- 533 JONES, Lt. Col. William, Jr., 933 Cambridge Oval, San Antonio, Texas 78209
- 1079 DODGE, Norman M., 405 Hague Road, El Paso, Texas 79902
- 907 NOVITSKI, R. K., 57th F. I. S., APO New York, N. Y. 09571
- 933 MUELLER, Barbara R., 225 S. Fischer Ave., Jefferson, Wis. 53549
- 978 PETERS, Donald J., 94 Lowell St., Andover, Mass. 01810

1029 SQDN. LDR. AINSWORTH, Joseph C., Wing Commander, RAF, RAF Halton, Aylesbury, Bucks., England

1066 VAN DER LAAN, Laurens A. W., 607 Bloomfield St., Hoboken, N. J. 07030

REMOVED FROM MAILING LIST—RESIGNED

Michel Chirot, Pierre Balan, Jean C. Weil, Jesse Fine, W. F. Edinger, John Knollmueller, Gerald S. Riley (moved, left no forwarding address).



— Qu'est-ce que t'as à geindre?

— Ah! les canailles! Ils m'ont volé mon homme!

Caricature originally published in "Journal Amusant," the first of the French satirical magazines, and reproduced in L'Echo, 1901, p. 31. Drawn by Bac. "What have you to cry about?"—"Oh the crooks they stole my man!"

ANNOUNCEMENTS AND NEWS

Our member George Montrose gave a talk on French Antarctica to the Philatelic Club, Inc., of Los Angeles on Dec. 9.

Andre Rochette, well-known specialist in French philately, author of standard works on Paris star cancels, died last October at 72. He was a member of the Académie de Philatélie and one of the principal contributors to the new "Encyclopédie de Timbres de France."

As hinted last fall, the PT has had to raise French domestic postage rates, but it came sooner than many expected. The new tariff went in on Jan. 13 (unlucky day!). The changes are extensive since the mail types were reclassified and various services reorganized at the same time; the essential ones affected were: ordinary domestic letters went up from 0.30 to 0.40F and post cards from 0.25 to 0.30F; printed matter (now included in the "plis non-urgent" class) and packets; fees for registry (now up to 2.60F), insured, special delivery, general delivery, forwarding, etc.; ordinary letters to foreign countries (except spec. rates to francophone countries) went from 0.60 to 0.70F; airmail surtax. The new mail classification, announced last year, actually creates three classes:—

1st category: (urgent) may include letters, postcards, visiting cards, C.O.D., periodicals and printed matter (sealed), money orders, notices of receipt, airmail, but includes all foreign mail, urgent packages (paquets-poste) and samples.

2nd category: (non-urgent) (not over three days delay in delivery):—includes mailings of identical messages of a business nature, and may include letters, parcels, visiting cards and samples.

3rd category: Non-urgent printed material mailed in large number of copies at special rates. Full details on the new rates and classifications are contained in Postes et Télécommunications de PT, no. 157 Jan. 1969 (spec. ed.) and no. 158 Feb. 1969. (20 Ave. Segur, F75, Paris 7).

The new "urgent" vs "non-urgent" system is coming in for quite a few complaints, apart from the raise in rates, because the clerks are not yet familiar with it and make some mistakes, some "slow" mail is taking longer than 4 days, and senders have to stop and think about whether they want to go "fast" or "slow." The PT intends to have red colored regular stamps for the fast rate (0.40) and green for the slow rate (0.30). However, the many commemorative multicolored stamps with these face values cannot conform to this scheme and with color-blind clerks confusions are bound to occur. Some wag has suggested that they ought to stamp a rabbit design on the fast letters and a tortoise on the slow ones, but as we remember the fable this would not work out too well. Already the proportion of slow mail has risen from 15% to 35% which was just what the PT wanted.

The PT has reorganized its philatelic service as of Feb. 1, under a new rubric: "Service Philatélique des Postes et Télécommunications" and a new address: CEDEX 40 F75 Paris Brune. Services offered are similar to those before (see FCP #129, p. 67) but payments are now to be made to the above agency. The requests for servicing covers with first-day cancels should be addressed to the Receveur des Bureaux Temporaires, 23 rue Mederic, F75

Paris 17. Foreigners can order stamps of France, Reunion, Andorre, Europa and UNESCO, from CEDEX.

Our member Georges Monteaux, well-known Paris dealer specialist in 20th Century French varieties, sent his clients a very novel New Year's card made up in the form of a stamp booklet containing a page of gummed perforated labels with his publicity around the margins and in the center of each pasted a 30c Blason of Paris stamp!

Member Walter Brooks writes us that our note in FCP #135, about PRAGA, incorrectly awarded him a medal for his France exhibit. Our apology and regrets.

An international stamp exhibition will be held in London Sept. 18-26, 1970, at the Empire Hall, Olympia (and so the show is called "PHILYMPIA 1970"). Undoubtedly many of our colleagues in England and Europe will be exhibiting French and we hope some of our members will make it. For info write: Walter House, 418-422 Strand, London, W. C. 2.

Last summer a philatelic cruise was held on board the S. S. "Renaissance" leaving Marseille July 2 and carrying many philatelists around the Mediterranean, holding competitive exhibits and visiting ports of philatelic interest in the Aegean. French and Greek postal history was well represented.

At the CINPEX show in Cincinnati last September, member Stan Luft took a trophy in the Foreign Class for his 20 Centimes 1854-62. The Grand Award went to a former member, Dave Churchman, for his Chile first issue.

A French collector name of Roland Franc has managed to write the entire Marseillaise on the back of a 25c Marianne de Decaris stamp! No comment.

The magazine "Philatelie" has started a serial on the "True History of the French Stamps" which is so engagingly written, so handsomely illustrated, and so informative, that no collector of the classic French stamps should miss it. The first, on the background of the introduction of the stamps of 1849, appeared in the Nov. 1968 issue (No. 14), and the second on the 20c black Ceres comes in the Dec. 1968 issue.

The Rhode Island Philatelic Society of which our member Raymond Gailaguet is President, will hold its next RIPEX show in October 1969, and Ray hopes that enough members of FCPS can attend to hold a little "regional meeting." He notes that at past shows of RIPEX, French exhibits have won a gold and a second award. Incidentally Ray has won a few major medals lately with his own collection.

New precancel stamps in the current design (Gallic coin) were issued on March 10th in denominations of 0.22 Fr (violet and light green), 0.35 Fr (blue and brick red), and 0.70 (bistre and blue). These can be purchased at the philatelic windows in France and from the PT philatelic service (see note above).

On June 24, 1967, a tornado (yes they have them in France too) devastated several villages in the Dept. du Nord (Fontaine au Bois, St. Bénin, Bozerel, Pommereuil) and relief organizations were set up at Cateau nearby.

The Radio-Télévision Française established an "Operation Cyclone" by asking people to send donations of mint stamps of France to the mayor of Cateau, which were authorized to be mailed unfranked in franchise by endorsing the letter to "Operation Cyclone." 60,000 letters were received thus. The stamps collected from donors were cancelled by the PT with a special grill, then destroyed and 80% of the face value turned over to the relief agencies (l'Echo, Jan. 1969).

The PT provides gratis special envelopes for forwarding letters or post-cards to a new address the forwarding goes now by the "fast" service.



The Chateau de Hautefort stamp will appear on 8 April and the Floralties International stamp on 14 April, two Europa on 6 April, Ph. Le Bon on 5 May, Battle of Garigliano, Intern. Labor Org. and Marshall Lannes on 12 May, A. Gide and G. Cuvier on 19 May. The three Droits de L'Homme stamps went on sale 10 March, the Transport des Facteurs on 17 March, the three celebrated personages (Roussel, Gen. Marceau, and Ste. Beuve) on 24 March and the two Conseils d l'Europe on 24 March also. The 0.30 green and 0.40 red Cheffer came out 13 Jan., the 0.30 lilac being retired on 22 Feb.

In 1968 the PT sold 1,302,000,000 francs worth of stamps but collected 1,404,000,000 fr from franking machines, meters, etc. The latter is increasing faster than sales of stamps (5% vs 0.1% per last). 4.6 milliards of stamps were printed (a decrease of 6% from 1967). The strikes of 1968 probably cut the sales of stamps quite a bit.

The reason why there are so many fancy "flammes" (slogan cancels) and special postmarks used in France is that for many years the PT has made it easy for sponsoring organizations to have such marks put in service. The rules for this in force since 1959 provide that sponsors apply for a mark and pay a fee (rather modest); the special circular dated cachets can be issued for events such as congresses, conventions, fairs, expositions, salons, kermesses, etc. Flammes can be issued for important events of economic, cultural, or sportive nature or for propaganda in favor of tourism and art. "Permanent flammes" can be used continuously or intermittently up to two years, "temporary flammes" are for a single event and not to be used over three months.

There are reports that some of the strike stamps of May-June 1968 were not issued by the chamber of commerce after all, as in the case of Roanne where they were put out by private individuals. Also in most cases the

larger part of the printings of these stamps was parceled out to the members of the chambers who never used them up and have sold them to philatelic interests. It seems to us from looking at the various photos of strike covers in the magazines that the private cancellations used on these covers (with or without stamps) are going to be equally if not more interesting to study than the stamps.

Another set of stamp reproductions on plaques of pure gold have been offered by an international bank chain; included are the Napoleon, Sage and Sower designs. Price 131 Fr each, Louyot et Cie, 13 rue de Montmorency, Paris 3.

Most of those who ordered copies of the new "Encyclopedie des Timbres-Poste de France" Tome I (in 2 vols.) have by now received the ponderous books. The thoroughness and sumptuousness of this work is certainly impressive; when it is finished it will without doubt be the most comprehensive and elegant modern treatise on the stamps and postal history of any one large country. We will review it in more detail in a future FCP.

NEW BOOKS, PAMPHLETS, AND CATALOGS

"Bibliographie Critique de l'Histoire Postale Francaise." By Prof. P. Nougaret. To appear during 1969. Illustr. 35 Fr plus postage. The author, Faculté des Sciences, F34-Montpellier, France. (This will be a critically annotated bibliography of over 2000 titles on French postal history from Middle Ages to 1945—not stamps—publ. in France. Items are grouped under 16 topics, indexed. The author would appreciate those who may be interested writing him, without committment.)

"Entiers Postaux—Classement par Types." By R. Ginestet. Brochure #102, Le Monde. 1968. 48 pp. illustr. 8.52 Fr p.p. 7 rue des Italiens, Paris 9. (Reprint of articles in Le Monde.)

"Catalogue des Oblitérations, Griffes des Bureau Ambulants sur Timbres de France 1849/76." By A. Mathieu. 1969. 8.50 Fr. p.p. The author, 5 rue Blacas, FO6-Nice, France. (Priced list of railway postmarks on Fr. stamps off cover 1849-76.)

"Catalogue des Marques Postales, Cachets a Date, Oblitérations et Boites Rurales de la Mayenne (51) 1700-1876." By G. Julienne. 1969.

"Les Coq et Marianne d' Alger 1944." By Dr. Joany. Brochure #99 Le Monde, 1968. 9.04 Fr p.p. Le Monde, 7 rue des Italiens, Paris 9. (Reprint of serial article on plating these stamps.)

"Balloonposts World Catalogue 1783-1968." By Dr. J. Boesman. 1968. 260 pp. Illustr. \$10.00. U. S. Netherlands Aero Museum, Staatenlaan 2A, The Hague, Holland. (Listings priced in U. S. dollars; includes French balloon posts.)

"Timbres et Types, Vol. VII." By Pierre de Lizeray. 48 pp. 1968. Brochure #101 of Le Monde. 6.72 Fr.+.80 post. Le Monde, 5 rue des Italiens, Paris 9. (Reprint of 23 articles from Le Monde on a variety of subjects,

- in cont. of a series going back some years, mostly on the production and varieties of 20th Cent. French stamps.)
- "La Cote des Coins Datés et des Millésimes." 33rd Ed., 1968-69. 88 pp. 10Fr. SOCODAMI, 40 rue Marcheron, F92-Vanves. (The Standard annual)
- "La Poste Maritime. Tome I. Les Entrées Maritimes et les Bateaux a Vapeur." By Raymond Salles. Reprint with addenda, to appear shortly of 1962 edition. The author, 74 rue de la Tour, Paris 16. Price 54 Fr. p.p. (Limited edition of the first volume of this classic work, which has been out of print for some time. See review in FCP #134, p. 80.)
- "Timbres de Fantaisie et Non-Officiels," Vol. I. By G. Chapier and a group of students of these stamps. 1969. 180 pp., 300 illustr. 23 Fr. p.p. The Philatelite Erinophile, c/o A. Bourdi, 18 Ave. St-Apollinaire, Lyon 9. (This new work has much greater scope than Chapier's former book of this title, this volume alone covering "A" countries and 3000 stamps; for the cinderella collectors.)
- "Les Cahiers d'Etudes Postales et Numismatiques," No. 10, 1967. Illustr. 5.70 Fr. p.p. C.E.P., 6 rue Auguste Comte, F19-Brive. (Over 15 articles on variety of subjects: Paris p.o.'s, timbres de guerre, German occupation, 1 fr Ceres, postal history of the Correze region, etc.)
- "Nomenclature des Timbres-Poste de France, Tome XII, Les Timbres-Taxe." By Dr. R. Joany. 1969. 7.00 Fr p.p. The author, 33 Ave. de Suffren, F75-Paris 7. (Reprint of articles in La Phil. Fr., in continuation of his series; see rev. in FCP #133, p. 59.)
- "Catalogue des Oblitérations Grilles des Bureaux de Province 1849-52, et des Cursives avec Timbres 1849-55." By J. Pothion. 1969. 120 pp. 37 Fr p.p. "La Poste aux Lettres," 17 rue faubourg Montmortre, F75-Paris 9. (Serves as a complement to the "Encyclopédie de T.-P. de Fr.", Tome I—a priced cat. of cancels for all listed p.o.s. of "distribution.")
- "Catalogue des Deguins avec Flamme 1923-1968 par Departements." 1969. 25 Fr. Club "le Meilleur," Ancerville, F54-Blamont. (List with introd. explanation.)

CURRENT JOURNAL ARTICLES

Philatélie (24 rue du 4 Sept., Paris 2; \$10/yr.)

- No. 8, April 1968: Braye: "Il y a deux cents ans, Bougainville découvrait Tahiti—trois timbres"; Altarovici: "Les marques postales des ambulances et des hopitaux de la G. Guerre"; "Perigueux, nouvelle capitale du timbre"; "Les timbres de l'Europe gothique"; "Commentaires sur les nouveautés" (serial dept.); "La vie philatélique" (new issues, reg. serial).
- No. 9, May '68: "Une timbre consacré a la grotte Lascaux"; Galeazzo: "Il y a 200 ans la Corse devenant Francaise"; Altarovici: "Les marques postales du service de santé militaire 1914-18."
- No. 10-11, June-July 1968: "Le crise de Mai et ses conséquences philatéliques"; "Les postes de remplacement a Paris"; "Le Marché Commun sera bénéfique au timbre poste"; Construit au 17e siècle le

Canal des Deux Mers, oeuvre magnifique et inutile, n'a pas concurrencé le poste aux chevaux"; Altarovici: "Les marques postales du service de santé militaire 1914-18."

No. 12, Sept. '68: "Les postes a deux vitesses"; Caurat: "La croisière philatélique du 'Renaissance'"; Laloup: "Collection monographique, les variétés du France" (begin serial); "La variété du 'G' du 20c noir Cérès 1849"; "Les vignettes de propagande de la Gd. Guerre témoignent sur un des plus terribles drames de l'Histoire."

No. 13, Oct. '68: "Les timbres des chambres de commerce"; "Les précurseurs—les timbres de la Chambre du Commerce d'Orléans 1953"; Laloup: "Le type Blanc" (vars.); Scherrer: "Quand l'aviation était un sport: les premiers cachets postaux des aéroports de Paris"; Chadronnet: "19 Oct. '68 le premier train de la chance arrivé en gare de Monte Carlo"; "Un timbre Français commémore l'armistice de 1918 après la victoire de Dobropolje sur le front d'orient"; Marceau: "Un grand philatéliste—Fernand Serrane."

No. 14, Nov. '68: Bernet: "L'histoire vraie des timbres Français" (begin serial; Laloup: "2c type Blanc"; Barat: "Il y a 25 ans la Corse se libérait"; "Premier Jour—Cochinchine, Soudan."

No. 15, Dec. '68: Bernet: "1er Jan. 1849, naissance du timbre"; Caurat: "Une collection a faire des timbres de la croix rouge"; Laloup; "Marianne de Gandon (vars.)"; Domenech: "La Savoie au temps des postes Sardes"; "Les expéditions polaires ont 20 ans"; Cotty: "Les postes françaises au Liban et en Syrie"; Marais: "Technique—une rotative taille douce six couleurs."

No. 16, Jan. 1969: Bernet: "Y a-t-il un mystère du vermillon 1 fr Cérès"; "Il vous souhaite la bonne année depuis 1855"; "Le petit facteur de Chamousset"; "Noël avec les Missions"; Midon: "Vosges—les chambres de commerce d'Épinol et de St.-Dié"; "Un siècle d'histoire raconté par les timbres de l'Indochine"; Salles: "Le port des lettres pour l'Amérique au siècle dernier."

La Philatelie Française (G. Casin, 18 rue des Moines, F75 Paris 17; 13 Fr/yr)

#176, Feb. 1968: DeLizeray: "Le 30 Marianne de Cheffer"; "Le monde change—Madagascar"; Ginestet: "Le type Blanc sur entiers postaux—source d'études passionnantes"; Joany: "Timbres Taxes" (begin serial).

#177, March '68: Tristant: "La réforme postale dans les Départements et Territoires françaises d'Outre-Mer"; DeLizeray: "Marianne de Cheffer"; Febre: "Les cartes maximum Decartes"; Houlteau: "La ligne aéro postale France-Madagascar" (begin serial).

#178, April '68: "Apropos de la griffe ½ centimes en plus"; "Carte maximum le Château de Sully-sur-Loire"; Houlteau: "Ligne France-Madagascar" (end).

#179, May '68: DeLizeray: "La griffe ½ centimes en plus"; "Les cartes maximum Beynac"; Stibbe: "Les affranchissements insuffisants dans l'UPU 1875-1920."

#180-181 June-July '68: Erhart: "Xe anniversaire du Parlement Europa."

#181-182 Aug.-Sept. '68: Lavarack: "Les variétés des divers types de cachets oblitérants de France 1852-1900" (begin serial); "Une exposition philatélique flottante"; Blancher: "Les bureaux français au Levant"; Danan: "Histoire postale et militaire de l'Armée de l'Orient 1915-20."

#183, Oct. '68: Tristant: "La réforme postale dans les Départements et Territoires Fr. d'Outremer—Dept. Réunion"; Houlteau: "Commémor-

ative de la premier ligne postale aerienne reguliere francaise Paris-St. Nazaire-Le Mans 1918-19."

#184, Nov. '68: Houlteau: "La postale de nuit modifications intervenues 21 Oct. '68"; Danan: "Nomenclature des estampilles du courrier de la France envahie en 1914-18" (begin serial); Joany: "Les timbres taxes" (end).

#185, Dec. '68: Joany: "Le monde change—les colonies francaises generales"; Camara: "Un remarquable cachet de garantie"; Joany: "Timbres sans surtaxe" (begin serial); Harnould: "Sites et monuments de France (timbres)"; Houlteau: "La postale de nuit—historique."

L'Echangiste Universelle (B.P. 34, F67-Bischwiller; 15 fr/yr.)

#812, Jan. '68: Lacroix de Lavalette: "Pigeons-voyagers et ballons montés en 1870."

#813, Feb. '68: Chapier: "Les vignettes publicitaires de l'Ile Roy"; "En écoutant M. Pheulpin."

#814, March '68: Lavalette: "Lettres par ballon d'un assiege" (begin serial).

#815, April '68: Lavalette: "Lettres par ballon" (end).

#816, May '68:

#817, June '68: Chapier: "Un timbre francais fluorescent, le 25c coq."

#818-819, July-August '68: "Les Grands Prix de l'Art Philatélique"; Hartmann: "Les cachets provisoires Allemandes du Haut Rhin 1940-41, Doc. S.P.A.I."; Darrieux: "Corps Expéditionnaire de Chine 1861"; "Timbres de greve."

#820, Sept. '68: Dupont: "Impressions d'Amérique"; "Il y a 46 ans—aviation meeting Rouen 1922"; "Timbres de greve"; "Gachot: 'Les premières annexes mobile' en Alsace et leur cachets."

#821, Oct. '68:

#822, Nov. '68: Chapier: "Des coin datés simplifiés"; "Les timbres des chambres de commerce"; "Timbres de greve"; Panet: "Les essais E. Palissy."

#823, Dec. '68:

#824, Jan. 1969: "Les émissions des timbres de greve."

Documents Philatéliques (98 Cours de Vincennes, Paris 12; 25 fr/yr.)

No. 27-28, 1966: Germain: "L'influence des graveurs, des artistes et des artisans francais sur la production mondiale de timbres poste"; Leblond: "Les timbres aux types Muller-Piel"; Goubin: "Eugène Daguin"; DeFontaines: "Haute-Saone: Bureau de direction datés de marques linéaires"; Joany: "Les cachets a date oblitérants des Nouvelles-Hébrides"; Pichon: "Les liaisons postales maritimes avec les échelles du Levant avant l'emploi des paquebots a vapeur"; Lutz: "Prisonniers de guerre 1870-71"; Chapier: "Enghien-Emile-Montmorancy, ou trois noms pour une seule commune"; Delwaulle: "Ordre chronologique des cachets de la première expédition de Rome."

No. 29-30, July-Oct. 1966: Michon: "Colonies francaises: les surcharges de 1912"; Stibbe: "Les incidences de la guerre franco-prussienne sur le service postal Belge"; Leblond: "Les 'Gandons' typographiques"; DeLizeray: "Raisons d'être des types multiples; Germain: "Le 25c Cérés de 1871 au Type I et au Type II."