



France & Colonies Philatelist

THE FABRICATION OF A FRENCH STAMP—FROM DIE TO SHEET

In *Postes et Telecommunications* for Jan. 1972, an article prepared by the PTT from interviews with the staff at its new Perigueux printing plant describes how the printing of the stamps is now being done. As it is clearly expressed and not so technical or detailed as some of the articles on this in the French philatelic press we think it should interest many of our readers. Our translation follows: (words in parentheses were added by us.—R.G.S.)

Die and Transfer Roller.—It is to Perigueux that the die is sent (after acceptance from the engraver), to undergo there first a hardening treatment. For this, it is heated in a furnace to 900 deg. C in the presence of sodium cyanate for about 2 hours, which results in a cementation of the metal (crystals), and then a quick cold quenching in a whale-oil bath to separate the carbon in the steel and free it—this is the tempering. After a thorough cleaning the die is ready for the next step: the transfer of the engraving in recess on to a soft steel roller ("molette"). This operation is effected by pressure in a special machine: the die is laid horizontal and the roller passed successively back and forth over the engraving, so that the metal in the roller is forced into the recesses of the die engraving. When this is finished one has on the roller a transfer of the engraving but in relief, the reverse of the original engraving. The roller in turn is hardened, by the same process used for tempering the die, then carefully cleaned and degreased. Then one can pass to the following phase: the engraving of the cylindrical (curved) plate (called a "cylindrer") which will be mounted on the rotary drum (of the press) and used to print the stamps. This cylinder is composed of three brass shells ("coquilles") which when put together around the drum form the complete cylindrical plate. The operation of transferring the engravings to these shells from the roller is called "the transfer"; it is done with the aid of a machine that reproduces the engraving onto a shell by pressure of the roller against it, repeated in as many copies as there are to be stamp clichés on the plate (25, 50, or 100 as the case may be). Various controls permit an extreme precision in the spacings between clichés, of the order of 100th of a millimeter. After this transfer, the stamp images are now found engraved inverted and in recess on the cylinder to the number of copies which are desired on the printed sheet. All the engravings

on the cylinder are carefully checked with a magnifying lens, to avoid any eventual imperfections. This control is very important because the least defect will be reproduced on all the sheets of stamps which are printed, causing their removal and destruction when the sheets are checked.

Once engraved and checked the cylinder undergoes a further preparation: it is necessary in effect, to remove the little rims of metal which appear between each engraving as a result of the transfer process (squeezing up of metal), for that is where the perforations of the stamps will go. It is an extremely delicate task, because the engraving itself must not be touched. The task is done in several steps: first they use a scraper, then they rub with abrasive paper, and next polish the spaces between engravings with a burnisher, and finish with a high-speed cotton buffer disc. When this operation is completed, the cylinder is very carefully degreased and cleaned in preparation for the chroming.

Our cylinder is now bright as a new penny, but it still isn't ready to be put on the rotary drum ("rotative"); brass is a rather soft metal and wears fairly rapidly so it is necessary to harden it. For this hardening they put the cylinder (shells) into an electrolytic chroming bath which deposits a fine layer of chrome over all its surface. Only after this is done is the cylinder ready to be mounted on the rotary.

Now we enter into the domain of printing, strictly speaking. Before going any further it is necessary to explain the different techniques of printing. Our best qualified man in this area is Jean Henry, who is a "prote", a special administrative grade for the printing of postage stamps, and whose job consists in overseeing the ensemble of the production operations. Henry explains:

"The printing procedure most used here now, is the one called 'Tailledouce' (recess). The principle of it is as follows: the color (ink) is first deposited on the cylinder (plate), then the cylinder surface is wiped so that the ink remains only in the recesses of the engravings. Next one applies the paper to the cylinder under pressure; the paper then absorbs the ink contained in the recesses."

In recess printing therefore, it is the recesses that print. Exactly how is this done? Here again a machine is used, the rotary press ("la rotative"). The clean gummed paper enters at one end and comes out at the other end in sheets of stamps ready for use—a sort of miracle that Jean Henry explains rather easily:

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"In fact, the big problem is in the correct inking of the cylinder. When it involves a stamp in only one color, as the 50c Marianne (of Bequet), for example, it is a rather simple matter: we use a roller ("toucheur") of plastic material which rests part way into an ink well and which on the other side is in contact with the cylinder, thereby permitting deposit of ink over the totality of its engravings as the ink roller turns. But in order for the inking to be correct, it is necessary to eliminate any excess of ink, so that it remains only in the recesses of the engravings. To effect this, the printing cylinder is wiped by another roller which takes up the excess ink and in turn is cleaned in a bath of trichloroethylene."

From that one can understand a little better what happens. The gummed paper, which comes in bobins each containing a strip 2500 meters in length, is introduced into the rotary press where it is first humidified so that it more readily can penetrate the recesses of the engravings. Next it is printed by the cylinder which is already inked and wiped. The printed impression is protected by the superposition of a band of silk paper. The whole ensemble is next perforated and thus finishes its course by being cut into sheets of 100 or 50 stamps, as the case may be.

The stamp in one color is the simplest case. But in general the stamps have several colors. The rotary presses permit printing also in as many as three colors. In that case things get a bit more complicated. In effect, it becomes necessary to ink on each engraving of the cylinder the part which is to correspond to a predetermined color, so that there must be as many ink rollers as there are different colors to be printed, and each of these rollers must ink only the part of the engravings corresponding to its color. In order to do this, on each inking roller parts must be cut out leaving intact only the parts which are to print the designated color. In practice, we first pass each ink roller over the cylinder to obtain a reproduction on them of the engravings, then a workman cuts out by hand for each engraving the parts not corresponding to the chosen color. To sum up then, with 3-color rotaries one must have three inking rollers each cut out in a different pattern, so that each one only touches the part of the engravings intended to receive its color.

Things get still more complicated when it comes to printing the stamps in the art (painting) series. In that case there are not 3 but 6 colors necessary so that the stamps will approximate as closely as possible the coloring of the originals. Now we use a 6-color rotary press which is composed of two groups of rotaries each able to print in 3 colors. The first set of three colors is printed not directly as for the 3-color printing but by offset. For this effect, in addition to the classical die, the engraver has to make a second die, less deeply engraved, and in reverse (relief). This die is also transferred to a cylinder by intermediary of a roller, the transfers being now in relief on the cylinder. The second group of rotaries is nothing more than the classical 3-color press. The 6-color press functions then with two printing cylinders, and it is the superposition of the impressions from these two which gives the final stamp.

The paper is passed first through the first rotary group where it is printed by offset, by means of a relief-engraved plate. This cylinder is inked and wiped, but the ink does not print directly on the paper. It is in effect printed on an intermediary roller of plastic material, and it is this roller which in turn prints on the paper. The paper thus printed now arrives at the second rotary group, the classic 3-color rotary, where it receives a second impression, this one direct by recess. Of course the two impressions must coincide exactly, which is assured by electronic means ("electric eye").

It is in this manner that the stamp reproducing "L'Etude" of Fragonard will be printed in January (1972) and which will be the first painting stamp

entirely produced at Perigueux.

Typo and Helio. Aside from the classic taille-douce, we use at Perigueux other methods of printing. And primarily it is the old typographic method, which differs from the taille-douce in that the engraving on the cylinder is not in recess but in relief. Thus it is the reliefs that print. The possible results are the same, that is to say that one can go to 3, even to 4 colors, depending on the type of machine, but the procedure is less costly than taille-douce. At present the stamps in the blasons series and the 30c Marianne are being printed in typo.

Another technique of printing is heliogravure. In this procedure, the manual engraving of a die is eliminated and replaced by a series of engravings (one of each cliché in the sheet) obtained by photo-chemical means.

We might mention that in early 1972 it is expected to place in service a new taille-douce rotary press of European make; this high-production machine will permit us to manufacture practically all the regular French stamp issues (timbres courants) by recess (heretofore mostly in typo).

Whichever method of fabrication is used, in any case the sheets of stamps coming off the rotaries are passed to the checking room. This operation is very important because it permits elimination of sheets with anomalies: defects of color, bad perforations, etc. These faulted sheets are withdrawn and destroyed. The sheets satisfactory for use are separated into packages of 100, then forwarded to the shipping service: 150 sacks of sheets, totalling 3 to 4 tons, leave the Perigueux printing plant every day.

In conclusion, what is the present scope of activities of the postage-stamp printery? Let its Director, Mon. Roger Prolongeau, have the task of describing it: "The complete transfer of all the installations from Paris to Perigueux will soon be accomplished. At this time there are about 300 persons working here. In 1970 the shops in Paris and Perigueux manufactured about 6 milliards of stamps, which required a paper consumption of some 30,000 km in length. It should be noted that we put out every year about 400 different stamps of which only about 40 some are for France. We work for some 20 foreign countries, especially the African countries, as well as Laos and Cambodia. This appreciation of our work is explained by the fact that the French printery for postage stamps is one of the greatest specialists in the World particularly in the domain of taille-douce."

STAMP PROGRAM FOR 1973 ANNOUNCED

As usual, the PTT Minister released the planned stamp subjects for the next year at the XXVI Salon Philatélique d'Automne. Again there are 41 stamps, though as before several additional ones will probably be issued for unforeseen events.

I. Stamps with Surtax (9):

- a) Journée du Timbre—"Relais de Poste" (about March)
- b) Celebrated Personnages (6): Colette, Santos-Dumont, Ernest Renan, Admiral de Coligny (about 15 Jan.), Tony Garnier, Duguay-Trouin.
- c) Red Cross (2): Sepulcher of the Hospital de Tonnerre (December)

II. Stamps without Surtax (32):

- a) Art Series (4): LeBrun "Étude de Femme à Genoux," Watteau "La Finette," Boiserie du Moutier-d'Aun (Creuse), communion cornice from the church of St. Austremoine d'Issoire in Puy de Dome (about 10 Feb.).
- b) History of France series: (3): Preparation of the Code Civil 1800-04,

- Coronation of Napoleon 1904, "Encouragement of Industry" (Univ. Expo. of 1806).
- c) EUROPA series: (2) CEPT symbol, Grand'Place de Bruxelles.
 - d) Touristic Series for Regular Use (4): Chateau de Gien (Loiret), Doubs waterfall, Le Clôs-Luce at Amboise (Indre-et-Loire), Palace of the Dukes of Burgundy at Dijon.
 - e) Commemorative and Miscellaneous (15):
 Commemorations: 50th Anniv. of the 24 Hours of Mans, Tricentenary of the death of Molière, Centenary of the birth of Thérèse de Lisieux (about 6 Jan.), Centenary of the discovery of Hanson's bacteria (leprosy), 75th Anniv. of the first radio link Eiffel Tower to the Pantheon by Ducretet, 10th Anniv. of the Franco-German Treaty of 23 Jan. 1963 (about 22 Jan.), Arrival of the Polish emigrés in France, 50th Anniv. of the founding of the Chambers of Agriculture, 2nd Centenary of the Grand Orient de France.
 Protection of Nature: (2) Stork, and Guadeloupe Raccoon.
 Sailing Ships: The 5-master "France II".
 Miscellaneous: National Congress of the French Federation of Philatelic Societies at Toulouse, Anthurium of Martinique (about 20 Jan.), Philippe Kieffer and Pierre Bourgoïn heroes of the Free French.
 - f) Air Mails: Paul Codos and Henri Guillaumet (about 24 Feb.)
 - g) Great Accomplishments Series: (3): The Airbus, The great Marine lock at Havre, the telephone central at Tuileries.

ANNOUNCEMENTS AND NEWS

In view of the progress on the program for automatization of the postal operations, the PTT will soon issue booklets of 0.50F stamps with luminescent (phosphor) bands. There will be booklets of 10 and of 20 stamps. The post-offices will be supplied them gradually, plans being to furnish them first to the offices in the Departements of Alpes-Maritimes and Rhone.

The PTT in response to protestations from Collectors has decided to sell coil stamps of France at retail at the Service Philatélique in Paris, by mail order. The stamps will be sold at face value. At present the following stamps are available in coils: 0.50 Blason d'Auch, 0.30 République de Cheffer, 0.50 Marianne de Bequet, 0.40 Chapelle de Ronchamp. But the Ronchamp coils were to be withdrawn from sale on 29 Dec. 1972.

At RIPEX VII Sept. 30-Oct. 1 our FCPSers triumphed again, walking away with everything but the frames: Walter Brooks Best in Show for his "French Sower Issues," Marc Martin a Gold with Felicitations of the Jury for his "French Maritime Posts 1783-1900," John Orzano a Gold for his "The Making of French Stamps" and a Bronze for his "Goldbeater Skin Essays of U. S.," Gus Wittenberg a Bronze for his "Evolution, Trends and Problems of Stamp Designing."

Gus Wittenberg won a medal at NOJEX in Oct. for his "Paris Postal History." A collection shown at NOJEX on Dutch East Indies had a cover from Samarang dated 1811 during the brief period of French rule (1808-11) owing to the Napoleonic occupation of Holland. The postmarks however were still of the earlier Dutch type.

A Philatelic Information Bureau has been established by M. Williams, the well-known British philatelic author, which will furnish answers to queries at a minimum fee of \$3 per, more for questions involving long research. (Queries regarding US and USSR will not be handled.) Address: M. Williams, 30 Dunstan Rd., London NW 11 8AB, England.

Paul Maincent was awarded a silver medal at BELGICA 72 for his book "Merveilleuse Histoire des Ballons Montés du Siege."

It is announced that St. Pierre-Miquelon in late 1972 or early 1973 will change from use of the CFA currency to French francs, and the face values of the bird set of stamps will become 0.06, 0.10, 0.20, 0.40, 0.70 and 0.90 and of the celebrated persons set 1.60, 2.00, and 4.00. It is not clear whether this means a reprinting with different numerals or surcharges.

At the 7th Session of CEPT at the Hague in September last, it was voted to give up the use of the symbolic designs on the annual Europa stamps and starting in 1974 to substitute some concrete subject inspired by a common theme or concern of EUROPA—it will be sculpture in 1974, a painting in 1975, and a handcraft article in 1976. The CEPT and its emblem will be shown reduced in the margins only.

The PTT presented at the Salon de l'Enfance held near Paris 29 Oct.-12 Nov. some puzzles, blocks, decals, etc. for children; they carried the Code Postal symbols as a means of educating the younger generation about the Code.

John H. Levett, F.R.P.S.L. and editor of the British France and Colonies Bulletin, gave a presentation on France to the National Philatelic Society meeting on 4 Nov. in London.

Raymond Salles writes us that he expected to publish Tome VIII of the series "La Poste Maritime" by December 1972 or January 1973. This is one of the projected volumes which we mentioned in this column some time ago. Tome VIII will deal with the Franco-British "Marques d'Echange" or accountancy marks as the British call them, for the period 1840-76. It will be more detailed and complete than previous writings on this subject. Mon. Salles is taking subscriptions for it at 50Fr p.p. His new address is 7 rue Saint-Denis, Escalier D, Appt. 211, F92100-Boulogne, France. His postal account, however, is still Paris CCP 5.134.42.

Earle Plyler (FCPS #1364) was recently elected President of the Oklahoma City Stamp Club for '72-'73. In his opening remarks as president he pointed out the need for FCPS and other specialty-group members to support local clubs. Their knowledge of specialized areas fills a great need when offered to other collectors.

An artist of freakish imagination, known in U.S. for his travelling exhibit several years ago of wild paintings, has published a book of 96 pp titled "Catalogue des Timbres-poste Introuvables" (39.50Fr p.p., Eds. André Ballaud, 33 rue Saint André des Arts, F75006-Paris) which will amuse philatelists. He paints a variety of imaginary stamps with facetious take-offs on real ones, such as a Sower with a tennis racket in her hand!

The PTT has announced that a new model of the post cards will appear in the first months of 1973 as soon as the present-model stocks are exhausted; the new model is required to adapt to the new regulations on formats that can be handled by the mechanized sorting process.

The Philatelic Congress of Great Britain will hold its annual meeting for 1974 in the Paris region, sometime around the end of April or early May. It will be organized by the France and Colonies Philatelic Society of G. B.

Subscriptions to the notices on new issues published by the PTT will cost 25Fr/year for 1973 for foreign subscribers. Subscriptions run Jan.-Dec. only. Payment may be made by international postal money order or bank cheque to the Service Philatélique de PTT, 4 rue Hippolyte-Lebas, F75436 Paris Cedex 09. The CCP# is Paris 9041-85. Later on it is intended to offer a special air-mail shipment at extra cost.

FOR THE RECORD

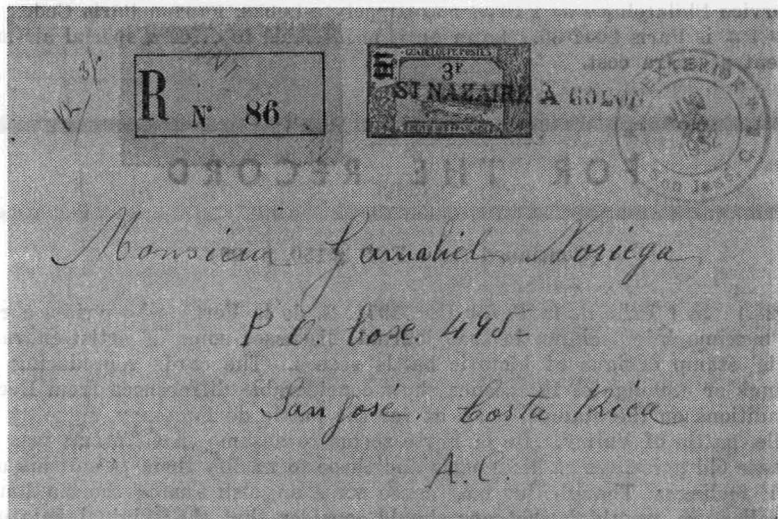
(Continued from FCP #150, p. 90)

223.) In L'Echo de la T. for Dec. 1971, G. de la Ferté, who writes a regular "maximaphile" column in that journal, discusses some of artist-engraver Decaris' stamp designs of historic battle scenes. The cards reproducing old paintings or etchings of the scenes show considerable differences from Decaris' renditions on the stamps—such as for the battle de Fonteney, siege of the Bastille, battle of Valmy. De la Ferté seems to assume that Decaris was using these old paintings as his models and chose to modify them to suit his own artistic feelings. Though this may cause some anguish among the maximum-card collectors, we think that one should consider that the original paintings supposedly copied by Decaris were probably not historically accurate and that Decaris maybe researched the circumstances and departed from the paintings accordingly. Also it should be noted that Decaris has always made it a practice to distort and abstract from real scenes in order to achieve what he felt was better and more artistic effect for the purpose. The famous cases of the Seine bridges (1000Fr airmail of 1940 and 500Fr of 1949) and the view of Lille (100Fr airmail of 1949) come to mind—and Decaris has stated good reasons why he did it. Indeed, this is one of the attributes that gives him the great artistic stature and distinction which he enjoys as a genuine creative artist, rather than a competent hack. He is his own man and does not just copy others' work nor Nature, though he can do that too very well if he has to.

224.) A philatelic souvenir of the famous Dreyfuss case that rocked France in the 1890s, was issued in French Guiana in 1899 on the occasion of Dreyfuss' being freed from banishment there and returned to France. It was in the form of a statement printed on the back of the Fr. Guiana 10c postcard with Group Type vignette of 1892 (ACEP #5). These were published in quantity and mailed all over the world to individuals, and to stationers for resale. The statement read: "Vive Zola—Vive G. Clemenceau/Vive Picquard—Vive Séverine—Souvenir Authentique de l'Affaire—Le Justice triomphe. C'est aujourd'hui (June 10) meme que part pour France le pauvre Capitaine Alfred

Dreyfuss, sur le croiseur Sfax. La Population est joyeuse et la satisfaction se lit sur tous les visages. — (etc., etc.) — Gloire a Justice—Ainsi soit-il."

225.) Mail from the eastern and northern Chad postoffices addressed to Europe was during the 1930s sometimes forwarded by way of Anglo-Egyptian Sudan instead of to the Atlantic Coast or across the Sahara to Algeria. This was facilitated by occasional autobus runs of the company that ran the regular Transahara mail bus service. We have a cover from Abecher (NE Chad) to Paris that went this way in 1934. The sender marked it "Via Sudan/Anglo-Egyptien". Backstamps show transit at Fasher, Wadi-Halfa and Cairo. It took from 30 Oct. to 8 Dec. to get to Cairo—most of the delay being between Fasher and Wadi. We think they might have done better or as well the other way.



For The Record Item No. 226

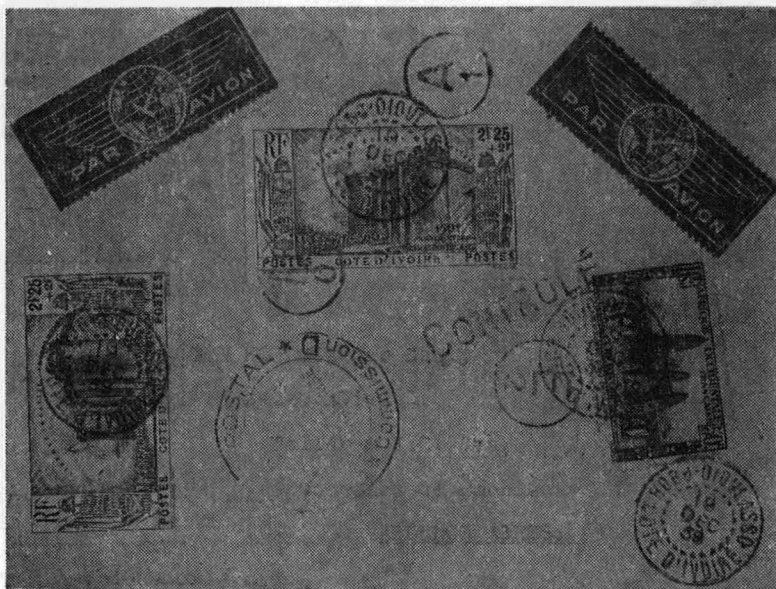
226.) One occasionally finds French colonial stamps cancelled with a straightline handstamp of a French mail-packet line, the type of mark that was normally used for stamping in on registry labels applied to registered letters mailed on board. Salles illustrates several of these in his "La Poste Maritime," such as "Marseille a Reunion," "Reunion a Marseille" etc. We have seen the ones for "St. Nazaire a Colon" and "Colon a St. Nazaire" on 20 Cent. Guadeloupe and Martinique stamps. It must be presumed that such strikes are quite accidental when on stamps. A cover that we have shows how it might happen. This cover was mailed at Saint Martin (a dependency of Guadeloupe) in June 1932 addressed to Costa Rica, registered with registry label handstamped "SAINT-MARTIN" in the proper fashion. However, the 3Fr Guadeloupe stamp was, out of oversight no doubt, not cancelled there on departure. The cover went in closed sack by local French packet to Martinique where it was sorted in the Fort de France postoffice (b.s. 13 June 32) and sacked for the boat going to Colon (St. Nazaire à Colon ligne, which called at Martinique). The mail sorter on board that boat who had to handle and sign for the registered mail noticed that the stamp had not been cancelled at origin and thereupon struck it with his registry-label handstamper which he happened to have in his hand or handy at the moment.



For The Record Item No. 227

227.) A printed souvenir card was issued at Abidjan, Ivory Coast, to celebrate the French national day of the railroad men, in 1945. At top of the card face is printed: "Journée Nationale des Cheminots/20-21 Mai 1945," below it a picture of a locomotive, at left "Comité Local de la Cote D'Ivoire," at right "Le Président" and his signature. At bottom: three spaces outlined for stamps to be affixed and cancelled. The cards were sold at 75 francs (over 1000 printed), while the face value of the stamps wts usually much less, so they made some money on it. The reverse side has spaces for address and "message". Our copy has in the message space a handstamp cachet of the Société Philatélique de la Cote d'Ivoire, Abidjan, A.O.F., and a map of the world. It might be mentioned that the railroad employees of Ivory Coast were well organized socially—we have seen numbers of covers of the Assoc. Amical et Professionnelle des Agents des Chemins de Fer de la Cote d'Ivoire. Also the philatelists there have long been actively organized, putting on a number of exhibitions and issuing various souvenirs from time to time. Another souvenir put out by the Soc. Phil. de la Cote d'Ivoire was for the "Journée du Prisonnier" (France) on 21 May 1944. This was a large envelope with spaces for 7 Ivory Coast stamps, cancelled "Abidjan" on that date. They were sold for 150fr and 1,675 were issued.

228.) We noted in our recent article (FCP #147, p. 3) on the omnibus commemorative sets of French Colonies that the Revolution issue of 1939 was hardly used commercially owing to the high surtaxe. Our dealer member, Ed Queyroy, who is very knowledgeable on these things, claims he has never seen a commercial cover with Revolution stamps. After years of looking, we finally found a cover which appears to be commercial and used in the proper period. It is from Bobo-Dioulasso, Ivory Coast (a former and again later town of Haute Volta), of all places, to Buenos Aires, with 2 copies of the 2.25+2 Fr Rev. postage stamps of Ivory Coast plus a 50c Ivory Coast stamp of 1938, cancelled



For The Record Item No. 228

Dec. 19, 1939. It was marked for "Par Avion" but we are not sure there was enough postage for airmail to Argentina (no B.A. backstamp to check arrival date) but it could have gone and probably did as far as Dakar by air (bs. Dec. 21). The cover is rather beaten up and doesn't look like a "philatelic" item, torn upon opening, etc.

229.) A sideline which has become popular is collecting the set of picture postcards published in Munich, Germany, before WW I, which illustrate in full color the then current stamps of various countries (over 100 cards covering nearly the whole World). They are beautifully produced, the colors being remarkably close to the originals. We recently acquired a number of these, for some of the French colonies, and the likeness really startled us—nice pieces to dress up a collection.

230.) A rather winsome maximum card that should make animal topical collectors happy, was issued by the chamber of commerce of Pointe Noire, Middle Congo, in 1958 specially for the occasion of the call there by the M/S Statendam during a winter cruise. The face has printed in green a reproduction of the original maquette by H. Cheffer for the 3Fr elephant stamp of Afrique Equatoriale Francaise 1957 issue (Yv. #240). The cards were sold with a copy of the elephant stamp affixed in the lower left corner of the face of the card and cancelled by a special large fancy postmark—a double ring inscribed "Croisiere du Statendam Escale de Pointe Noire" and in center a symbolic shield with buoys and "21-1-58", "Moyen Congo". Some copies had the 3 other stamps of the AEF animal set of 1957 on the back, and copies actually mailed might be franked with any AEF stamps or, if mailed at sea by cruise passengers, with Dutch stamps. This card was included in a very remarkable thematic collection on Elephants which we were privileged to see exhibited at the ASDA show last November in New York.



For The Record Item No. 230

231.) We wonder if the U. S. specialists who go in for exposition items have seen the St. Louis Expo 1902 cover, from all places, yes—Guadeloupe! Guadeloupe had an exhibit there and used stationery printed at top: "Guadeloupe et Dépendances / — / Exposition Universelle de Saint-Louis, U.S.A." We have one mailed from Pointe-a-Pitre in Aug. 1902 to Philadelphia.

232.) In 1939, most of the French Colonies issued a 2.25Fr value either in their current regular design or in the omnibus commemorative set for the N. Y. International Exposition, or both; this was a denomination not issued previously. With the inflation just before WW II the basic rate for a letter to a foreign destination was raised from 1.75 to 2.25 in 1939, and the stamps for this type of rate were all printed in the blue color reserved for such in the UPU color scheme. However, the 2.25 rate was quite short-lived as by 1940 the foreign letter rate went up again to 2.50Fr. As a result it is not easy to find covers with the single 2.25 stamp prepaying the foreign letter rate in the 1939-40 period. Such covers are very desirable to the knowing specialist. The greater part of the stocks of the 2.25 stamps were used up later in multiples and combinations to make up higher rates. There are other replacement denominations that came out in 1939 which are also rather difficult to get on covers as singles: the 45c for printed matter, 70c, 90c, 1.25Fr (for post cards), 1.40, 1.60 (letters domestic and to France).

233.) In 1942 special envelopes were used in Guadeloupe to advertise and serve the government's "Exposition de l'Effort Guadeloupéen" held at Pointe-a-Pitre 2-6 Aug. 1942. They had the name of the exposition printed in shaded capitals at the top and repeated in a small box at left. About 1000 were issued, and many had stamps affixed and cancelled at Pointe-a-Pitre on the first day of the expo as philatelic souvenirs.

234.) French collectors love oddities—the “cachet de fortune” sort especially. And here is an odd one: on a strictly commercial registered cover from Trois-Rivières, Guadeloupe, 23 Jan. 1923, the postal clerk, probably out of stock of regular registry labels, improvised one from a section of the horizontal colored gutter of a stamp sheet, which (being gummed) he stuck on the cover, and handstamped over it with the boxed “R” and his regular dated postmark. The gutter label is green with a red stripe through the center—probably from the 20c red on green stamp of 1905.

235.) Mistakes or variances in spelling in colonial postmarks are not so numerous as one might expect in view of the many place names in strange and complicated languages peculiar to many of the colonies. One can spot some of the variations because they were corrected or changed in later editions of the postmark. However, some of the changes seem to be merely questions of what was the best way to transcribe a native term or pronunciation into French orthography and the decisions presumably had to be somewhat arbitrary. Thus in New Caledonia we find Houailou vs Ouailou, Hyenghene vs Hienghene, Poagoumene vs Paagoumene, and Ponerihouen vs Pounerihouen. In Oceania we find Papeiti vs Papeete and Taiti vs Tahiti; and many likewise in other colonies. That was mostly mickey-mouse stuff. In Indochina they seem to have had a lot of trouble deciding whether to hyphenate or not (or where to put the hyphen), so we have Chau-Doc vs Chaudoc, and dozens of others. This sort of variation also occasionally appeared in other colonies, especially in Africa. Then we come to cases of downright misspelling, errors due to illiteracy or carelessness somewhere along the line, especially where only good French words were involved. In Guadeloupe, for example, Les Mangles postmark for a time read Mangies and then Maugles, Sainte-Rose was Saint-Rose, Vieux Habitants was Vieux Habitans, Vieux Fort was Vieux Port. And a great mystery surrounds the spelling “Gouadeloupe” in a series of postmarks used for some years—is it an illiterate error or just an archaic variant resurrected. The latter view seems possible because we find that spelling in some 18th Century marks and in early letters. Finally, one cannot overlook the many confusing inconsistencies in use of the accents—it seems in some sets they were omitted in all marks in non-serif capitals, in others they wore off during use of the marks, and in still others it was a question of how to pronounce a native name in French. It must not be thought that they didn't make mistakes in postmarks in France, too—but that is another story.

236.) On the occasion of the meeting of the Caribbean Commission at Basse-Terre, Guadeloupe, Dec. 3, 1948, with the Guadeloupe government acting as the host, a special postmark was used there, presumably only on mail from those directly concerned with the meeting. It is a single-ring circular dated postmark of the standard design of that period, inscribed: CONF^{ee} DES INDES OCC^{les}/BASSE-TERRE/3-12/1948”. It is a rare mark in our experience.

237.) When French Equatorial Africa was cut off from Europe and North Africa during World War II, mail sent to U. S. and Europe had to take sometimes rather roundabout routes instead of through France. Air mail to U. S. could go much of the time via Leopoldville, Accra, Monrovia or Bolama, and Brazil, or via Lisbon and Azores. However, we note in 1940-41 that many covers were routed eastward either via Cairo and Hong-Kong (before it was closed) or via Cairo, Sydney and Auckland.

NEW BOOKS, PAMPHLETS, AND CATALOGS

"Catalogue des Oblitérations Avec Levées Centrales." By E. Barthélemy. 1972. The author, B. P. 21, F77350-Le Mée-sur-Seine. (Covers the central-collection postmarks of 1905-1910, by Départements.)

"Poste Automobile Rurale." By M. Doussot. 1972. 74 pp. illustr. Le Club "Le Meilleur," B. P. 21, F77350-Le Mée-sur-Seine. (Lists by Depts. all marks of PARs with dates of opening and closing of each route, etc.)

"La Poste dans la Drôme et l'Ardèche des Origines a 1920." By L. Lenain. To appear in 1973? The author, 13 Chemin des Semestre, F13-Arles (B. de Rhone). (Heralded as a model work of this type.)

"Histoire Postale du Departement du Doubs—Marques et Oblitérations de la Fin du 17e Siècle au 1 Oct. 1972." By Pierre Fallot. 300 pp. 900 illustr. 60Fr+post, subscription price. To appear 1973. The author, 2 rue Clésinger, F25000-Besancon, France.

"Les Bureaux de Poste du Departement l'Ille-et-Vilaine de 1695 a 1876." By Marcel Defayssse. 100 pp. illustr. Reissued 1972. 30Fr p.p. Mme. Defayssse, 9 rue Renard, F94700—Maisons-Alfort.

"Catalogue des Oblitérations d'Alsace-Lorraine sur Timbres de France 1849-70; sur Timbres d'Alsace-Lorraine 1870-71." By Ch. Schott. To appear 1972 or 1973. 30Fr. Ch. Schott, Place Broglie, Strasbourg. CCP St. 143.00D. (Listings with prices on and off cover.)

"Thurn und Taxis Rayon Post Stempel." By W. Muenzberg. 1971. 263 pp. DM 27. The author, Postcheckkonto Frankfurt-a-Main 28.35.86. (Six of the groups of T and T postmarks discussed were of French origin, introduced 1801 by treaty with France and continued later by an 1818 agreement—contains much relating to French postal history of the Napoleonic and later period.)

"Catalogue Yvert et Tellier 1973—77e Année. Tome I. Timbres de France et Pays d'Expression Francaise, Anciennes Colonies, Protectorats, Afrique du Nord, Pays ex-Colonies, Andorre, Monaco, Bureaux a l'Etranger, Mandats, Territoires Occupées par la France, Sarre, Europa." 528pp. 1972, illustr. 170x235 mm. 10fr. p.p. Yvert et Tellier, 37 rue des Jacobins, Amiens, or Theo. Champion, 13 rue Drouot, F75-Paris 9 (CCP Paris 382-78); (also prob. from Paris stamp dealers, and some US dealers such as HJMR, Habib, Queyroy). (This year a new style binding and trim. Printed in 3 cols. Y&T continue to include the former colonies which some other cats. are starting to omit. Prices of early Fr. and cols. raised slightly; 20th mint generally no change, but used raised for many stamps; varieties and shades raised.)

"Catalogue Thiaude—Timbres-Poste 1973." 58e Ed. 672 pp. 1972. 135x190 mm size. Illustr. 10 fr. p.p. H. Thiaude, 24 rue du 4 Septembre, F75080-Paris-Cedex 02. (Selective considerable raises in 19th cent. Fr., espec. in used including some 20th. Special pricing of non-dentelées and essais of Fr. The "encyclopédie" section and info on quantities issued, etc. much expanded. Includes colonies, territories, ex-colonies, Europa and UN.)

- "Catalogue des Oblitérations Temporaires de France Non-Illustrées de 1855 à 1961." By V. Pothion. 624 pp. 1972. Illustr. 32 Fr. p.p. La Poste aux Lettres, 17 fbg. Montmartre, F75009-Paris. (Special cancels of ordinary circular-dated style for temporary events. Priced. No other priced cat. of these up to date available.)
- "Postal History of Spain." By Theo Van Dam. Handbook #24, Collectors Club, 22 E. 35th St., New York 10016. 150pp. 1972. \$12. (Contains info on the postal treaties with France and postal relations with France.)
- "Les Postes Francaises en Extrême-Orient. 1er Partie: Le Corps Expéditionnaire de Chine et les Premières Bureaux de l'Indo Chine 1860-1881." By J. Desrousseaux. 1972, 38pp, mimeogr. The author. \$6.00. 6, ave. Daniel Lesueur, F75007-Paris. (Very comprehensive and detailed, much new documentation on postmarks, offices, uses, etc.; Part II will appear in 1973.)

CURRENT JOURNAL ARTICLES

La Philatélie Francaise (CC)

- #226, Sept. 1972: Joany: "Les timbres poste à surtaxe" (cont. of serial); "Bicentenaire de la réunion de la Lorraine et du Barrois à la France"; Harnould: "Les sites et monuments de France" (cont.); Storch et al: "Etudes des entiers — —" (cont.); Houlteau: "a ligne aeropostale France-Indochine" (cont.); Bath: "L'impression de timbre fr. par les rotatives" (cont.).

Le Monde Des Philatélistes (CC, SI)

- #247, Oct. 1972: Meppiel: "Les roulettes ou rien ne va plus"; Muller: "Les vignettes d'aviation en 1914-1918"; Joffre: "A propos de la première enveloppe de Terre-Adelie"; Rose-Rosette: "Ou est née l'Impératrice Josephine?"; "Philatélie ou inconscience—les dernières émissions d'Anderre bureaux espagnoles." (Conts. of various serials).
- #248, Nov. 1972: "Le 0.25F coq fluorescent"; "Visite au centre de tri d'Arcueil"; (conts. of serials by DeLizeray, Bruneaux, Bourgeois, Melot, Savelon, Dumont, Muller, Ginestet).

Feuilles Marcophiles (CC)

- #190, 4th Trim. 1972: "La Croissière d'Espagne 1936-39"; Charbonnier: "Les annexes sédentaires" (1st part); Gutekunst: "Les marques d'origine rurales et urbaines 1830-1870"; Deloste: "La poste militaire américaine à Bordeaux en 1918"; Joany: "Les tarifs réduits francaise"; Noel: "Fevrier 1871—taxes allemandes perçues hors de France" (cont.); Cazeneuve: "Propos d'un nonagénaire mécanotéliste et flammiste"; Meriaux: "Les cachets à date des agences postales militaires de la Marine de 1965 à 1971"; Chapier/Lejeune: "La poste aux Armées (2nd part)"; Petit: "Les oblitérations des bureaux télégraphiques Parisien"; Dumont: "Le service de colis-postaux en Alsace-Lorraine 1918-40—addendum"; Sarma: "Le courrier du Père Noel."

Documents Philateliques (CC)

- #49, 3rd Trim. 1971: Joany: "Les poinçons de Hulot"; Deloste: "Le détachement française en Palestine"; Chapier: "Une émission de haute fantaisie—la série des timbres-taxe de Cochinchine"; Brun: "Le brevet

Susse"; Germain: "Le 25c Cérès de 1871 Type I"; DeFontaines: "Le pays de Porrentruy (Chapt. IV)" Pannetier: "Le formule No. 906"; Lebland: "Les deux types du 30c Cheffer typographique."

Postes et Telecommunications (CC)

#202, Oct. '72: Germain: "Modernisation de la Poste"; "CEPT"—(meeting at La Haye of the administrators of PTT)

Andorra Philatelist (CC)

#4, May 1972: Jacques: "Forgeries of the 1931 issue (French)"; "25c 1963 perfed on 3 sides"; Hughes: "The scarce 13x12½ perf of the 1929 set (Spanish)"; Tanner: "The postal history of Andorra, Pt. 3"; Gebert: "The scandalous Europa-72 issue"; "Will Spain take over?"; Notes; "Error in cancellation (Spanish)".

Indo China Philatelist (CC, APRL)

V. 2, no. 2 (wh. #7) June-Aug. '72: Desrousseaux: "Postal history of French Indochina" (cont.); Stone: "Unusual covers"; Isaacs: "Saigon machine markings"; Stone: "A bibliography on French Indochina for philatelists" (begin serial); Kerr: "1st Day covers of Laos" (cont.); Wade: "First issue of Viet Nam"; "More on Stung Treng and Mengtze."

V. 2, no. 3 (wh. #8), Oct. '72: Cartafalsa: "Additional British FPOs in Viet Nam"; Stone: "Bibliography — —" (cont.)

Thirty-Eighth American Philatelic Congress Book 1972 (CC, SI, APRL)

Hargest: "The effect of the 1868 and 1869 US-British Conventions on the continuation of French mail"; Stone: "(French) African Post Offices that switched countries"; Denison: "Foreign postoffices in China"; Owens: "Why an elephant?"

Diligence d'Alsace

(7.50F, Amis de Hist. Post. des PTT, BP153 R4, F68 Strasbourg)

#7, 1972: Perardel: "Le télégraphe aérien Paris-Strasbourg"; Ubrich: "Le Haut-Barr"; Charbon: "Monte-Cristo et le télégraphe aérien"; Christ: "Cinq-cent ans de poste à Saverne"; Fouché: "Les malheurs d'un diligence au XVIIIe siècle."

Stamps

17 June 1972: Cohn: "Pipers balloons in the siege of Paris."

Philatelic Magazine (London)

#1, Oct. 1972: Harris: "The Serbian posts in Corfu."

#80, 1971: Coles: British Mail Service in Madagascar 1895.

Journal Philatélique de Berne

#4, 1972: cont. of serial by Savoie on "Histoire Postale" (Fr.)

Australian Informer (CC)

#36, 1972: Lee: "Postmarks of Moorea"

French Polynesia Newsletter (CC) (3 Parklaan, Zeist, Holland)

#69, Sept. 1971: Houwink: "The temporary commemorative cancellations of Fr. Oceania/Polynesia"; news, notes, new issues.

#70, Dec. 1971: Greene: "A philatelists visit to Moorea"; "Discovery of overprint proofs of 1903"; "More on modern Fr. Polynesia postmarks"; notes, etc.

#71, March 1972: "New Papeete cancels"; Greene: "The modern postmarks of Fr. P."; "Papeete military frank of 1915," notes, new issues.

- #72, Aug. 1972: "The new administrative subdivisions of French Polynesia"; "Victory stamps of Fr. Oceania 1944-5"; "Laur covers"; Wallis S.O. overprints"; news, notes.

Bulletin de la Société des Amis du Musée Postal

- #39, 3rd Trim. 1972: "Un nouveau système d'indexation mis à l'essai dans les services de postes françaises"; Fromageat: "Les coussins d'impression"; Joany: "Les timbres des permissionnaires"; DeFontaines: "L'uniforme des facteurs à Paris au début du XIX siècle"; Fromageat: "Correspondances par ballons montes dites Jules Leveille"; Cappart: "Jetons et médailles commémorant le service postal par pigeons" (cont.); Maincent: "Une lettre pour le ballon 'Stee nackers'"; "Une 'codeuse' au Musée Postal."

Revue des PTT de France (PTT, 15fr/yr)

- #3, 1972: Anizon: "Les aspects nouveaux de la distribution postale"; Doucet: "Le service philatélique des PTT"; Charbon: "Le carte postale à cent ans"; "Code Postal."

Andorra Magazine (Ave. Carlemany 105, Les Escaldes, Andorre, 24 fr/yr)

Each issue of this contains a column by G. Goudard on "La Philatélie dans nos Valles."

Canadian Philatelist (Roy. Phil. Soc. of Canada)

- v. 23, #6, Nov. 1972: Alusio: "French postal history from the Romans to present" (illustr.)

Postal History International

- #12, Dec. 1972: Glasgow: "Rumania's links with France during WW I"; Carnevale-Mauzan: "Personal messages thru the Red Cross 1939-45."

A PHILADELPHIA YANKEE HAS TROUBLES IN MARTINIQUE, 1805

One of the bonuses of postal history collecting comes with the contents of some of the early letters, which may be of unusual historical or titillating human interest. We have already quoted some examples of such from among early French colonial correspondence in an article in *Postal History Journal* (May 1972, pp. 30-33). Our member Jeff Bohn recently sent us an old letter from Martinique during the Napoleonic 1802-03 interim between two periods of British occupation, not otherwise very interesting philatelically as it has no markings of departure nor arrival, but pathetically amusing inside. From 1783 to 1812 American merchants sent many ships to the West Indies trying to sell provisions and lumber there and bring back sugar, molasses, rum, etc. The risk of pirates and running afoul of British and French privateers or warships was at times very great, but the yankees were undaunted. We have transcribed the contents of this letter below for your entertainment, with all its non-grammar, just as written: (addressed to Messrs. James Middlefield & Co, Merchants, Philadelphia)

Martinico Poart of St Pears January 20th 1805
 Refpicted freind
 Jas Middlefield & Co

We arrived hear the 15 of Jany.

With a pafsage of 34 Days from the Capes of Dalawar And we have had a most Sevear weather agrate wase of the Capes some time we had to scull and others Times too lay too and Befoar we Reached the trade Winds we had it

calm for 14 Days and fore the Want of more men I have to go befoar the mast to help Work the vefsel for our Captain has been little or no Service to us for all he has don Except getting Drunk I would not give one Dollar for and he was always A quarrellen with Som or other of them and specily Me he spit his spite to I can put up with as much As any man but I thought that unsufferable he Threatening my life 10 thousand times I have had a Life worse than a man in abattle & it was a very Seldom I dare sleep in the Cabon without one Man to watch me I would lay sometimes on deck And some times in the foar Castle with the men I hardly had my thoughts about me but once I Thought I must Confine him Down for he Swore By all that was good and Bad that he would Run of with the Vefsel and he did not Care if she Went to hell and if he dont Keep himself very quiet Hear I shall Certainly put him in Confinement And leave him in this Pcart for I don't think I Can Stand it Back and for the want of a good Captain and More men the main Boom got Loos from us at firs the Iron in the sturn give way and a way went the Boom I Expected that we should of Lost it We never got it secure till it had Broak abought one Third of our Chairs and in a few days after that With the wind fresh we Carried away one of our main srouds Chains that is down by the water which I shall Get mended. and a mongst all the Rest we was on an Allowance of water for about 10 Days and Expecting Every day to have non and She Keeps one hand study at the Pump we had like not got any farther than the Capes of Dalaware for after we had got out the Captain he would take the helm and was agoing to Run us on ginitigue shoals he got us on to 10 fathom Water and then we thought it was time for some Boddy Else to takel for he was as drunk as he Could Stand and the wind setting Right on there is a grate Many vefsels in St. Pears and markets verry dull

Beef wount Bring more than $9\frac{1}{2}$ D and Poark 10 Dollars and flour 12D and Lumber likewise and Every thing else I would go further but on Information I find there its as bad market every wares in the west Indieas There is verry good Pork to be bought hear for 10 Dollars and I Could not by a Cargo of Coffee hear not for 22 Cents and $7\frac{1}{2}$ per cent Duty hear and Sugars Is as high and 14 per Cent Duty and every thing Else In short there is not any to be got for that Price and Barrell is not Certain he Can give Us freight for he Cant Procure the articles in the Island nor town and if that bee the Case I shall Put in Stone for Ballance if I Can get it. I shant Get first Cost take the Cargo all together and if I was to go to any other Poart and noing markets to bee as dull and Poart Charges is so high it would take all to Pay Charges and Expences. our apples is all Rotten and I lost half of my Poltry and I humbly thank God that we was not all lost. I Expect to have our Captain in Confinement hear in 10 Days from this that has been amost all my Bufsinefs on shoar as yet and if it should happen so that I Should not and he Comes in Schooner I shant and as soon as I Can get her Dispatch Under a Sett of Balance I shall take Shipping to Philadelphia or the nearest poart. god knows What I shall do with the Vefsel for they are all Drunk from morning till Knight and I Cant always be on Board and on shoar too and I hant Got them any liquers since we have been in I hope she is Ensueard for god knows weather she will get Back or not. if I am spaired of my health I shall do Every thing to the Best of advantage I shall store some of my Cargo and do the Best I Can and as soon as I can get Every thing Completed I shall amediety proceed on and so I am well

and remain your sincere Freind

Isaac Lippincott

There is nothing will answer
to send hear at Preasant

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

By Stanley J. Luft

(Continued from FCP #150, p. 82)

1F

The 1F (blue) Mercure exists only on stamped letter-cards (ACEP No. 61), printed in 1940.

Usage (domestic Tariff of 1 Dec. 1939):

Letter-cards, to 20 gm.

VII. C. The Iris Issues of 1939-1945

Scott Type A99

Designed by Hourriez

80c red-brown

The 80c red-brown (Scott 375, Yvert 431) replaced the 80c orange Paix of Laurens (Sc 273, Yv 366) 25 January 1941.

Domestic usage (Tariff of 1 Dec. 1939):

*Postal cards.

Printed in sheets at Limoges 24 Jan. 1940 and 16 April-30 May 1940, and at Paris 21-26 Sept. 1940. Stamped postal cards, without (ACEP No. 157, 157A, and 159) and with prepaid reply (No. 158) issued in 1940 and 1941. To these may be added the 4 stamped postal cards, stamp in brown and without value tablet, sold at 90c (ACEP No. 160-163), and issued in 1941. Replaced by the 80c brown Petain (Sc 435, Yv 512) in Sept. 1941.

80c yellow-green

The 80c yellow-green (Sc 376, Yv 649) replaced the 80c green Petain (Sc 436, Yv 513) in September 1944.

Foreign usage (Tariff of 1 Feb. 1942):

*Printed matter, per 50 gm;

Visiting cards.

Domestic usage (Tariff of 5 Jan. 1942):

Newspapers, from 200 to 300 gm, "ordinary" (individual) rate.

Printed in UPU color in sheets 20 Sept.-5 Dec. 1944, and issued 22 Sept. 1944. Replaced by the 80c bright green Cérés de Mazelin (Sc 530, Yv 675) early in 1945.

1F green; red

The 1F green (Sc 377, Yv 432) replaced the 1F rose Laurens (Sc 278, Yv 369) 24 May 1939.

Domestic usage (Tariff of 17 Nov. 1938):

*Printed matter, from 100 to 200 gm.

Foreign usage (Tariff of 1 Aug. 1937):

*Postal cards (incl. airmail service to certain European countries) (until 31 Dec. 1939);

Letters, to 20 gm (to Canada and Luxembourg).

Domestic usage (Tariff of 1 Dec. 1939):

Letters, to 20 gm;

Registry fee, for other than letters and parcels;

Printed matter, from 100 to 200 gm.

Foreign usage (Tariff of 1 Jan. 1940):

Postal cards (to Canada and Luxembourg, and to nearby areas of Belgium, Spain, and Switzerland);

Printed matter, from 50 to 100 gm.

Printed in sheets at Paris 8 May-28 July 1939; at Limoges 7 Oct.-16 Dec. 1939 and 16 April-6 August 1940.

Used concurrently with and eventually replaced by the 1F red Iris (Sc 378, Yv 433) issued in July 1940, in the UPU color for postal cards.

Printed in sheets at Limoges from 15 Dec. 1939 to 16 April 1940 and 3-24 Aug. 1940, and at Paris from 17 Sept. 1940 to 21 July 1941; sheets for unissued booklets printed at Limoges, 1-15 Feb. 1940; stamped letter-cards (ACEP No. 62) issued in 1940; stamped envelopes (ACEP No. 78) issued in 1941.

The concurrent printing and usage of the 1F value in green and in red is probably best explained by R. Bath (quoted in Lebland, 1967): "After the armistice of 1940, the Germans insisted that the 'green' be used only in the unoccupied zone, and the 'red' in the North zone. This was effective so long as the stocks of green stamps printed at Limoges were not exhausted. This measure permitted the Germans to observe more readily any clandestine transfer of correspondence from one zone to the other . . . (by not prepaying postage, one could easily surmount this difficulty). The interzone postal cards without adhesive stamps served as another measure against espionage."

Replaced by the 1F red Petain (Sc 437, Yv 514) in August 1941.

1F turquoise

The 1F turquoise (Sc 379, Yv 650) replaced the 1F Petain (Sc 437, Yv 514) in Sept. 1944; served only as a complementary value.

Printed in sheets from 10 Sept. 1944 to 6 Feb. 1945; issued 21 Sept. 1944.

Replaced by the 1F rose-red Cérés de Mazelin (Sc 532, Yv 676) early in 1945.

1F20

The 1F20 violet (Sc 380, Yv 651) replaced the 1F20 red-brown Petain (Sc 433, Yv 515) in September 1944.

Domestic usage (Tariff of 5 Jan. 1942):

*Postal cards;

*Invoices (factures), unsealed, to 20 gm;

Printed matter, from 50 to 100 gm.

Printed in sheets from 24 Sept. 1944 to 23 Jan. 1945, issued 28 Sept. 1944; stamped postal card (ACEP No. 178) issued in 1944.

Replaced by the 1F20 black-brown Cérés de Mazelin (Sc 533, Yv 677) early in 1945.

1F25

Printed in UPU color only on stamped postal cards (ACEP No. 150) in June 1939.

Foreign usage (Tariff of 1 Dec. 1938):

Postal cards.

1F30

The 1F30 ultramarine (Sc 381, Yv 434) was issued in January 1940; newly-created value following promulgation of domestic Tariff of 1 Dec. 1939:

Domestic usage:

*Letters, from 20 to 50 gm.

Printed in sheets at Limoges 15-22 Dec. 1939 and 13 April-8 May 1940.
Rendered obsolete by domestic Tariff of 5 Jan. 1942 and suppressed.

1F50 red-orange

The 1F50 red-orange (Sc 382, Yv 435) was issued in March 1941, value having been reestablished by the foreign Tariff of 1 Jan. 1940:

*Postal cards;

Letters, to 20 gm (to Canada and Luxembourg and to nearby areas of Belgium, Spain, and Switzerland);

Printed matter, from 100 to 150 gm.

Printed in sheets at Limoges 22-29 April 1940, and at Paris 17-24 March 1941; stamped postal cards (ACEP No. 156) issued in 1940.

Replaced by the 1F50 rose Petain (Sc 439, Yv 516) in December 1941.

1F50 red-brown

The 1F50 red-brown (Sc 383, Yv 652) replaced the 1F50 red-brown Petain (Sc 440, Yv 517) beginning in Sept. 1944.

Domestic usage (Tariff of 5 Jan. 1942):

*Letters, to 20 gm.

Printed in sheets from 28 Aug. 1944 to 5 Feb. 1945 and issued 5 Sept. 1944.

Printed and used concurrently with the 1F50 carmine-rose Marianne de Gandon (Sc 535, Yv 712).

Domestic usage (Tariff of 1 March 1945):

Postal cards.

Both values replaced by the 1F50 rose-lilac Cérés de Mazelin (Sc 534, Yv 679) in mid-1945.

2F

The 2F violet-brown (Sc 384, Yv 653) replaced the 2F green Petain (Sc 441, Yv 518) in November 1944.

Domestic usage (Tariff of 5 Jan. 1942):

*Letters, from 20 to 50 gm;

Registry fee, for other than letters and parcels;

Printed matter, from 100 to 200 gm.

Printed in sheets from 23 Oct. 1944 to 1 March 1945, issued 6 Nov. 1944.

Domestic usage (Tariff of 1 March 1945):

Letters, to 20 gm;

Printed matter, from 50 to 100 gm.

Replaced by the 2F dark green Marianne de Gandon (Sc 536, Yv 713) early in 1945.

2F40

The 2F40 carmine-rose (Sc 385, Yv 654) replaced the 2F40 red Petain (Sc 443, Yv 519) beginning in October 1944.

Foreign usage (Tariff of 1 Feb. 1942):

*Postal cards;

Letters, to 20 gm (to Canada and Luxembourg, and to nearby areas of Belgium, Spain, and Switzerland);

Letters, additional postage per 20 gm.

Printed in UPU color in sheets 2 Oct.-6 Dec. 1944, issued 4 Oct. 1944; stamped postal cards (ACEP No. 179) issued in 1944.

Replaced by the 2F40 scarlet Marianne de Gandon (Sc 537, Yv 714) in mid-1945.

3F

The 3F red-orange (Sc 386, Yv 655) replaced the 3F red-orange Petain (Sc 445, Yv 521) in November 1944.

Domestic usage (Tariff of 5 Jan. 1942):

Registry fee, for letters and parcels;

Letters, from 50 to 100 gm.

Printed in sheets from 26 Oct. 1944 to 16 Feb. 1945, issued 10 Nov. 1944.

Domestic usage (Tariff of 1 March 1945):

Letters, from 20 to 50 gm;

Registry fee, for other than letters and parcels;

Printed matter, from 1000 to 1500 gm.

Replaced by the 3F sepia Marianne de Gandon (Sc 539, Yv 715) in late March 1945.

4F

The 4F ultramarine (Sc 387, Yv 656) replaced the typographed 4F ultramarine Petain (Sc 446, Yv 521A) beginning in October 1944.

Foreign usage (Tariff of 1 Feb. 1942):

*Letters, to 20 gm;

Letters, from 20 to 40 gm (to Canada and Luxembourg, and to nearby areas of Belgium, Spain, and Switzerland);

Registry fee, for letters and parcels;

Invoices, unsealed, to 250 gm.

Domestic usage (Tariff of 5 Jan. 1942):

Letters, from 100 to 200 gm.

Printed in UPU color for letters in sheets from 10 Oct. 1944 to 2 Jan. 1945, issued 11 Oct. 1944.

Domestic usage (Tariff of 1 March 1945):

Letters, from 50 to 100 gm.

Registry fee, for letters and parcels.

Replaced by the 4F ultramarine Marianne de Gandon (Sc 541, Yv 717) in Spring of 1945.

References

Berck: "Catalogue Berck-64."

Bottin: "Annuaire du Commerce Didot-Bottin," Paris; (title changes every few years), for years 1938, 1939, and 1940.

Elderkin, N. G.: "The 'RF' overprints by the De Gaulle Government . . .", *Philatelic Mag.*, March 9, 1945.

Ginestet, R.: "Les types des entiers postaux", *Le Monde des Philatélistes*, Nov. and Dec. 1966.

Joany, R.: "Nomenclature des timbres-poste de France": v. I; v. VI (1970); v. XI (1962)

Leblond, Col.: "Réflexions sur les timbres au type 'Iris'", *l'Echo de la Timbrologie*, No 1361, May 1967.

Leblond, Col.: "Réflexions sur 2 séries de timbres d'usage courant", *l'Echo de la Timbrologie*, Nos. 1378-79.

deVinck de Winnezele, Baron (brought to date by Marcel Charvet): "L'impression des Timbres Français par les Rotatives," 3rd ed., 1st Pt.: Eds. Yvert & Tellier, Amiens, 1946.

F. & C. P. S. OFFICIAL

Notices

1. The Stephen G. Rich Exhibition and Competition will be held on February 6, 1973 at the Collectors Club, N.Y.C. Details are given in a special notice which was mailed to each member under separate cover.

2. Please return your specialty questionnaires sent out with the dues statements at your earliest convenience so that the data for the new edition of the Member List can be completed in time for the April FCP.

3. FCPS participation in INTERPEX, March 9-11, is being reconsidered due to change in the sponsorship of the show. Details of our participation, if any, will be sent to you direct by mail. We plan to meet at Interpex in lieu of regular meeting on 6th; Herbert Block will be the speaker. R. G. Stone will speak at the Collectors Club March 7 on Fr. Cols. proofs.

4. "The First Issue of France," our cassette tape/35mm slide show is now available from Corresponding Secretary. (See report on Nov. Meeting below.) This show is suitable for presentation to your local stamp club as well as home study. Running time is approximately 30 minutes.

1973 Dues

Dues for 1973 are payable now. Memberships not renewed by April 1st will be removed from the mailing list and not receive the April issue and Membership List.

Errata to the Index

Please mark in your copy of the Index the following corrections:

Page 8, under Colonies in General: *Sage type — add "98n".

Page 21, under "R.F." Overprints: *On US airmails— for "38" read "29".

Please inform the Corresponding Secretary of any other mistakes you may find in the Index.

Meeting of October 3

Dr. Martin Stempien, Jr., showed and spoke about French entry marks on mail from other European countries, ca. 1775-1881. He noted first of all that there is a considerable illustrated listing of these marks, but damn little music to translate the lyrics to practical matters such as rates and methods of handling. He pointed out further that many of the marks reported in early works (the "Catalogue des Estampilles — ", e.g.) are not French but marks of other postal systems using the international language which happens to be French. For example, he showed a cover with "Du Autriche" and "D'Allemagne," both listed, but where only the latter was applied by the French, as the letter went from Wien to Bordeaux. He has done some work on the zones (rayons) established in the French treaty with Thurn and Taxis and some separation of markings into time periods by their style or content. A good showing of material, and with some pointers in the right direction, we think he has the makings of a good article (for FCP?). Martin is one of the few younger members of our local NY group and we hope he gets lots of encouragement —JEL

Meeting of November 7

The election having perhaps turned them off to stamps, we had a surprising turnout of members (19) to view the virgin slide/cassette show on the "First Issue of France" put together by Marc Martin with Presidential vocalizing. Little regular business except for a resolution sponsored by Ira Seebacher to have all meetings start promptly at 8! The Treasurer reported that balance on hand is \$776 after payment for Oct. FCP and Index and transfer of \$500 to the savings account. The cassette/slide show was appreciatively received; conditions of its availability to members and the public will be announced later. It is expected to have an article in FCP based on some of the material in the show.

Meeting of December 5

A short business meeting was held at which our possible participation at Interpex was discussed. Due to the sale of the show to the ASDA, it was decided to forego to later any decision as to participation. Also discussed was a question of possibly affiliating with the American Philatelic Society, as per a letter from that organization. This was also deferred for further consideration in the near future. Ira Zweifach then introduced the speaker for the evening, Mr. W. H. Schilling, Jr., of Minneapolis. Mr. Schilling presented a slide and talk session featuring his great collection of the Ambulants griffes of France, Convoyeurs, etc. This was a most impressive as well as entertaining program, as he showed not only examples of just about every cancel and marking available, but he also discussed the lines and the routes of travel in addition. Many things hitherto puzzles to us were explained by this presentation. As an extra, Mr. Schilling had several pieces of literature on hand for perusal by those present. Sources of these were also given in case anyone wished to purchase same. The program closed with the usual question and answer session.—WEP

NEW MEMBERS

- 1393 PANKNIN, Gary W., Box 401, Alpena, Mich. 49707
- 1394 LAMBERT, Laurence H., 52 Rolla Gardens, Rolla, Mo. 65401
(France and French Africa prior to 1940)
- 1395 GROVE, Robert G., 2210 Indiana Ave., Connersville, Ind. 47331
(France Used)
- 1396 STALEY, Mrs. E. V., Apt. 51-W, 2170 Gulf Shore Blvd., North, Naples, Fla. 33940 (France, and Colonies until independence)
- 1397 JAKABOVICS, Sylvain Rene, 3636 Fieldston Rd., Riverdale, N. Y. 10463
(Classics of France and Colonies)
- 1398 WILSON, Ronald P., 106-D DuRhu Drive, Mobile, Ala. 36608
(General French Collector)
- 1399 ADAMS, Gary L., 205 St. Helens Place, Apt. 5, Bend, Ore. 97701
(France and Offices)
- 1400 HAGOPIAN, Mihran B., 157 West 47th St., New York, N. Y. 10036
(Dealer)

CHANGES OF ADDRESS AND CORRECTIONS

- 1249 MORGAN, John C., II, 217 Dexter Ave., Liverpool, N. Y. 13088
- 1320 GROTEN, Arthur H., M.D., 313 W. Seymour St., Philadelphia, Pa. 19144
- 1263 VAN GILDER, Edmund, American Consulate General, Casablanca, Dept. of State, Washington, D. C. 20521
- 1102 STARKEY, Wing Cdr. Donald A. J., 4 Ramslade Road, Bracknell, Berks., England

- 1354 ETTEMBERG, Eugene M., 284A Heritage Village, Southbury, Conn. 06488
 1289 PIASECKI, Rev. Eugene, 2333 South 6th St., Milwaukee, Wisc. 53215
 93 BAUDRY, Paul, 7, rue Villaret de Joyeuse, F75-Paris 17, France
 1359 DUKE, Stanley H., 56 Clarence, Minneapolis, Minn. 55414
 986 WHITE, Kenneth L., P. O. Box 91481, Worldway Postal Center, Los Angeles, Cal. 90009
 1137 RICHMOND, Robert J., 150 East 37th St., New York, N. Y. 10016
 1364 PLYLER, Earle F., 3600 Oak Hollow Drive, Edmund, Okla. 73034
 17 VAURIE, Dr. Chas., 3bis, rue des Lyonnais, F75005-Paris, France.

RESIGNED

Capt. Chas. J. LaBlonde (#1314); Edgar Levy (#874).

MEMBERS APPEALS

(Members Advertising)

- OFFER: I have a few copies of Tomes II and III of the Yvert et Tellier 1973 Catalogue (these parts for the rest of world outside French community), available for \$8.00 post paid for the two. Marc Martin, 290 West End Avenue, New York, N. Y. 10023.
- OFFER: I am having a covers auction (mail sale) on February 9. Write for catalogue. Material solicited for future sales. I also send out covers on approval. Theo Van Dam (trading as "Postal Covers"), P. O. Box 26, Brewster, N. Y. 10509 (Member 765)
- WANTED: To trade for or buy, Paris (only) cancels on stamps or covers up to 1876. Correspondence urgently needed to prepare collection for a slide presentation. Earle Plyler, 3600 Oak Hollow Dr., Edmond, Okla. 73034 (Member 1364).
- WANTED: Circular dated part of Paris branch office machine (not hand-struck) cancellations on regular commemorative-size stamps. Entire circle, or nearly, should show on the stamp. Send with prices to John B. Morton, 704 Linwood Ave., Buffalo, N. Y. 14209 (Member #79)
- WANTED: Early Monaco covers, stampless or first two issues; France used in Monaco; literature pertaining to Monaco. Arthur H. Groten, M.D., 313 W. Seymour St., Philadelphia, Pa. 19144 (Member #1320)
- OFFER: To sell or exchange against French stamps, a complete collection of Monaco Artists Proofs with the theme of Jules Verne Scott nos. 340-349 and C45 plus France Sc#770 in artist proof. Marcel Lotwin J., Apartado Postal 11-456, Mexico 11, D. F., Mexico. (Member #1182)

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