



France & Colonies



Philatelist

FRENCH OCEANIC SETTLEMENTS—THE FIRST AIR MAIL

By Bertram Mendelsohn

According to Muller's catalogue of first flights, the first air mail from French Oceanic Settlements was Papeete-Noumea on 4 April 1947 and Patrick O'Reilly in "Tahiti et l'aviation" lists an experimental flight in 1944, Mexico-Clipperton-Marquises-Auckland-Sydney by Captain Gordon Taylor. Both these are antedated by an airmail cover I have dated Papeete 25 Feb. 1942.

Many collectors as well as myself have wondered why Oceanic Settlements issued a 5 F airmail stamp in 1934 when there was neither airmail nor the immediate prospect of such a service. The plausible answer is that the post office wanted to be ready with having a rate and stamps should the occasion arise suddenly.* Why 5 F? French colonial air postal rates were made up by adding a surcharge per 5 gr to the surface rates, the surcharge varying according to the distance of the colony from France, e.g. in Reunion it was 3 F Indochina 30c (=3 F), New Caledonia 4F50, and for Oceanic settlements 5 F.

My cover postmark Papeete 25.2.42 to Auckland, N.Z., arrival mark 30.3.42, and censored both by the French and New Zealand censors, is franked with stamps to the value of 34F75 at a time when the surface letter rate was 2F50 for a letter up to 20 gr., addressed outside the French empire. Thus I reckon:

surface letter rate between 20 and 40 gr.	4F
air mail surcharge, 30 gr letter, 6	30F
overfranked	75c
	34F75—

a proper airmail rate.

The centime was of so little value it is not uncommon to find airmail covers overfranked slightly for no apparent reason.

My cover also has a "Par Avion" label.

Now as to my claim that it is a First Flight. During the Pacific war, the U. S. forces established firstly a seaplane base and then an airfield on Bora Bora. A task force of 2 cruisers, 2 destroyers, 2 troop transports, 4 cargo ships and a tanker left Charleston, S. C., on 27 January and arrived in Bora Bora on 17 Feb. 1942. An agreement permitting the Americans to use

Bora Bora while still recognizing French sovereignty was signed aboard U.S.S. Trenton on 23 Feb.

Catalinas based on Bora Bora flew out the forces mail and in addition must have taken civilian mail; the first of these could not have been earlier than the one postmarked Papeete 25 Feb. 1942. As this could only have been arranged at short notice it seems that the foresight of the PTT in 1934 was justified.

*A more likely reason was that there was a demand for prepayment to France that would cover the air mail postage from San Francisco to New York or to France—we have seen several covers from Papeete in the 1930s franked with the 5Fr airmail stamps and marked to be sent thus, with backstamps indicating seamount to SF and air onward.—R.G.S.

MRS. MOULTON'S MISPLACED MAIL

By Ernst M. Cohn

Mr. and Mrs. C. F. Moulton stuck it out in Paris during the siege of 1870-71. They, perhaps more than any other besieged, had plenty of opportunity and temptation to leave town. Not only were they citizens of the US, a country well liked by both sides, they were also the parents-in-law of Count Paul von Hatzfeldt. The Count was at Prussian headquarters and performed the functions of executive secretary to Count Otto von Bismarck. When not otherwise occupied, Paul wrote letters (in French) to his American wife¹ and to his mother-in-law. He kept urging the latter to take her husband and a Miss de Wissembourg out of Paris before things got worse. Paul's book is a unique source for studying the operation of his private diplomatic mail service across the siege lines.

On September 20, he wrote to his wife that he could send a penciled note to her mother. The next day, de Ring (who had accompanied French foreign minister Favre on an armistice mission) took a letter along to Paris. By the afternoon of the 26th, the Count had a response brought out of Paris.

When Burnside and Forbes were let into Paris on October 2, Forbes took a verbal message to Mr. Moulton. On October 8, the Russian military at-

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taché and, on the 10th, Burnside and Forbes brought along letters.

A diplomat, whose exit von Hatzfeldt was at a loss to explain, also brought him a letter on the 11th. On the 12th, he gave one to British Lt.-Col. Loyd-Lindsay to take in. On the 14th, it was Antoine Schmi(d)t, of the US Legation at Paris, who was allowed to go back in and was given a letter for the Moultons. When Lindsay came out on the 15th, guess what he brought?

And when Henry Moulton told Bismarck he wished his parents would come out, he was counseled to write them a note through Washburne, our Paris ambassador, who got mail into and out of Paris more or less weekly. On October 20, von Hatzfeldt used that route too, to get a letter to Mrs. Moulton. From then on, Hatzfeldt-Moulton letters went back and forth fairly regularly with the US diplomatic pouch.

But there were special occasions, too, such as October 27, when a whole flock of Americans left Paris. At Creteil, the Count met the group, which had been accompanied to that point by Paris legation employees Hoffman and Ward, as well as Washburne's oldest son Gratiot. They exchanged you-know-what with von H. before returning.

By November 8 he told his wife that he would have to ask her mother not to send him the mail of all her friends. And then, on November 9, he mentions an inexplicable event:

"Yesterday I received an old letter of your mother's that had gone to London and reached me only now . . . I am at a loss to explain how that letter got out of Paris and how it got to London."

Well now, I couldn't say for sure, but I have a pretty good hunch how that happened: It was unlikely to have been due to Burnside, Forbes, or Lindsay, all of whom are on record as prompt messengers. It could have happened earlier, on September 20, when newspaperman E. R. Olcott took out a pouch; or on the 27th, when the Queen's courier, Capt. Cecil Johnson, took one along.

Anyhow, that letter found its way into a sealed diplomatic pouch by error. Once sealed in, it couldn't be removed until the pouch was officially opened at London by US Despatch Agent Benjamin Franklin Stevens. He probably used a personal messenger to send it straight back to the local Prussian embassy. From there it should have been returned by Prussian courier to Versailles.

But why did it arrive only on November 8? Perhaps it slipped into one of the early flag-of-truce pouches by mistake. The first of those arrived at Stevens' office on October 25, the second on October 30 or November 1. Those dates seem to make more sense. Strange that von Hatzfeldt, who knew the pouch scheme probably better than anyone else at Versailles, should not have thought of the only possible reason for his letter detouring via London.

With that exception, the mail seems to have functioned smoothly and frequently for the Hatzfeldt-Moulton clan. Paul did ask his wife in mid-November not to accept letters, especially sealed ones, for forwarding via Versailles to Paris. That idea apparently ripened a little later in Berlin than it did in Paris.

On December 1, Bismarck prohibited sealed letters, which bothered his secretary slightly. But by December 7, "Bis" let him send a telegram to his mother-in-law. (I don't understand that one myself—did they keep a line open??) From then until the end of the siege, letters seem to have accompanied the Washburne pouches.

There was an unpleasant interlude on December 28, when the chief of the Operations Division at general headquarters snooped into the private dip-

lomatic mails.² He had the operational responsibility for getting the US pouches in and out. Moltke and Bismarck being rivals, it is not surprising that their helpers shouldn't have liked each other. Bronsart did not care for the private letters going in and out with the pouches (he didn't know what was inside, of course), but beyond expressing his displeasure he did nothing to stop them.

Are the letters still in existence? If so, they obviously bear no postal markings. Only the texts give hints of the nature of their transport, as do the published letters and von Hatzfeldt's notes to Washburne, now in the US National Archives. All are witnesses of a unique bit of private postal history.

References

- (1) Paul Graf von Hatzfeldt: "Briefe an seine Frau, geschrieben vom Hauptquartier König Wilhelms, 1870-71, mit Vorwort der Gräfin Helene von Hatzfeldt." Leipzig 1907, viii+323 pp.
- (2) (Lt.-Col.) Paul Leopold Eduard Heinrich Anton Bronsart von Schellendorf: "Geheimes Kriegstagebuch." Bonn 1954, pp. 257-259.

MILESTONES IN THE DEVELOPMENT OF THE FRENCH POSTS 1815-48

M. Rolland in his survey of the "grand dates" of world postal and telecommunications history (Bull. de la Soc. des Amis de Musée Postal, 1974-5) includes a skeleton history of the French posts. The period between the Napoleonic era and the introduction of adhesives stamps is one for which the postal history is probably not too familiar to most of our readers. We have extracted from Rolland's outline the main events of this period, which may clarify the use of the various postal markings seen on the letters.

- 1815—in December a reorganization of the posts.
- 1817—in February, the creation of a money order system to replace the cumbersome practice of transporting money.
- 1825—in Paris the foot postmen were replaced by horsemen; many new p.o.s were opened in the suburbs.
- 1826—in January started the practice of striking date postmarks of arrival on the backs of the letters.
- 1828—in January a new postage-rate system was introduced; all P.O.s henceforth were to receive and send out mail daily; letters to be postmarked both on departure and arrival.
 - in February a rectangular postmark style was given a trial for 25 days at some P.O.s; date postmarks of departure to be struck only on front of letters.
- 1829—in January registration service was established, but only for mail to Paris, at no extra charge.
- 1830—in February the style of the date postmarks was standardized.
 - in April the rural mail service was extended to all communes still without a P.O. (35,580 of them!), giving mail service every several days or so.
- 1831—in April daily mail service to all communes began.
 - in July a new manual of General Instructions for the posts was issued.
- 1835—in June the Algerian posts were organized.
- 1837—in February a central sorting office for Paris was set up.
 - in August the Mediterranean mail packet service began.
- 1840—in January a new system of computing rates according to distance was introduced.

- 1842—in October the Facteurs-Ruraux teams were established.
 1844—in May first trials of railroad ambulant P.O.s were made on the Paris-Rouen line.
 —in July registry service was extended to all of France, Algeria and the Offices Abroad.
 —in November the control of franchises was revised and franchises were limited to fewer officials and types of mail.
 1845—in January the ambulant service was formalized.
 1847—in January the “décime rurale” was abolished; LeHavre-New York packet service opened (but ended in 1848).
 1848—in February Arago became Director of Posts.
 —in March the postal administration was reorganized.
 —in August law was passed to introduce adhesive stamps and uniform flat postage rates, to become effective 1 Jan. 1849.

OID-TIME STAMP DEALERS OF PARIS 1863-1913

Once upon a time, we compiled the list below from an old British publication (title now forgotten), rearranged it, and made some modifications and annotations. It should be of considerable interest to collectors of French and Colonial stamps and covers of the period before World War I. In those times many of the covers one finds, especially from the Colonies and Offices, were addressed to stamp dealers and hence have a philatelic tinge—once you recognize the name. Also many stamps which these dealers sold, especially the rarer ones, were marked by their tiny handstamped signatures, name or initials, presumably meant to be an indication of “genuineness.” It is remarkable how many dealers there were in Paris in the 1890s and early 1900s. Philately was really flourishing in France, but also Paris was one of the four or five leading world stamp markets. Numbers of these dealers came originally from other countries, especially Greece, Italy, Levant, Germany (Alsace). We recognize some famous (or infamous) names: Victor Robert, Vervelle, Winch Frères, Dorsan Astruc, Georges Carion, Theodore Champion, A. Forbin, Gelli et Tani, Gilbert et Kohler, Th. Lemaire, L. Legrand, Ch. Lemieure, Leriche, P. Mahe, A. Maury, A. O. Marimian, E. Marquet, E. LeRoy d’Etiolles, A. Montader, V. Mozian, C. Picard, Roumet, J. Bernichon. Also a half-dozen Madames were stamp proprietors, and that was a long time before womens’ lib.—Some of those still going in 1913 survived the War and several are still with us (Champion, Roumet, Maury, Mozian).—R.G.S.

Agence Alsacienne Philatélique 1911-	Bedler 1905-07
Agence Commerciale des Timbres-Poste Coloniaux 1908-13	R. Bereny 1913
A L’Amateur 1911-12	Bélin-Bubel 1907-1913
Alexandre Fils 1874-1907 (A. Levy Fils successor 1908-)	Mme. E. Bernat 1899-1901
Ambroise 1892-1905	J. Bernichon 1891-1912
Amélin 1901-13	G. (Gaston) Bignon 1900-05
André 1886-88	A. Bion 1905-13
Ange 1899-1900	C. Blaz(e)y 1899-1913
Dorsan Astruc 1887-1911	Mme. Bonhomme 1871-76
Aux Bons Timbres 1905	Bonin 1910
Baillieu 1863-81	E. Boudeau 1897
J. Barbarin 1885-96	Le Bourse des Timbres 1912-13
Jules Barbier 1897-1906	L. Bouzonnie 1909-13
Bardon 1902-1913	Louis Basta 1897-99
	H. Bauer 1912-13
	H. Beauzement 1896

- L. Bresson 1893-1901
 L. Buffetaud 1877-8
 R. Camino 1894
 Georges Carion 1892-1913
 G. Caron 1908
 Caroujat 1911-13
 Cauvet 1899
 M. Cavalier 1910-13
 Cellier 1906-13
 Theodore Champion et Cie 1903-1913
 E. Chéviillard 1895-1913
 Marcel Ciry 1913
 Collier 1884
 Comptoir Philatélique (Philathélique)
 Milanais 1903
 A. Cosnelle 1895-1913
 Cramers 1911-12
 M. Cuzin 1895-1905
 Cuzin et Cie. 1893-96 (M. Cuzin,
 successor)
 Dascalakis 1906-13
 G. Defommervault 1898-1904
 Degré 1863-4
 Mme. Deguy 1887-92
 G. Delacourcelle 1900-13
 Deilakis 1913
 J. Delzenne 1894-1900
 Marquis D'Osmont 1897-99
 Doquet et Cie 1912-13
 A. Dreyfus 1894-1907
 Eknedjian 1903-04
 Engrand 1892-3; C. Engrand 1893-
 1903
 Engrand Fils 1895-1908
 Vve. Engrand 1908
 T. Escaravage 1910
 Estiévenard 1899-1906 (Stévenard
 1906)
 J. Feist 1874-80
 A. Ferroud 1905-13
 Fidèle 1910
 Fidide 1911-13
 Firmin 1902-13
 Fisson 1908-13
 E. Flammarion et A. Vaillant 1897-
 1902
 Fontaine 1894-1900
 A. Forbin et Cie 1894-1913
 E. Formé 1894-1902
 F. Francis 1912-13
 Frémy et Hoffmann 1891-94
 E. Gainsberg 1895-1913
 Mme. Gallais 1898
 Gay 1904
 G. Gelli et R. Tani 1883-91 (moved
 to Brussels)
 Mme. Gervais 1869-77
 Gilbert et Kohler 1904-1913
 Girard Père et Fils 1887-1902 (L.
 Girard et Fils 1889-1902)
 Felix Girardot 1899
 Godet 1907-08
 J. Goutier 1888-1900
 V. Gruant Fils 1874
 L. Guillard 1899-1913
 Guilin 1908-09
 Hagenstein 1888-91
 P. Halgatte 1903-06
 Louis Hart 1886-95
 G. E. Hellstern 1901-10
 Henry 1896
 Jules Herman 1911
 E. Hetteix 1905-09
 E. Heyman 1891-92
 Juan Hidalgo 1895-1908
 F. A. Hoffmann 1894-98 (succ. to
 Frémy et Hoffmann)
 L. Hoste 1899
 Hotz 1909-13; Hotz et Cie 1913
 Huet 1897-1905
 Mme. Huillard 1902-04
 L. Huot 1895-1908
 A. Janssens 1889-91
 E. Janvier 1907-13
 A. Jacquelin Fils 1901
 David Kohn 1903
 Kramer 1895
 G. Lagus (G. Layus) 1900-02
 H. Lamotte 1904-13
 Laplante 1863-69
 Léon Laurent 1894-97
 M. Leclerc 1907
 L. Legrand 1913
 Lemaignan 1895-1900
 Th. Lemaire 1896-1913
 Vve. Lemaire 1884-6
 Ch. Lemieure 1904-13
 Paul Lenglet 1903
 M. Lérique 1887-8
 Lérique et Vervelle
 Érard LeRoy d'Etiolles 1888-1900
 Lescure 1912-13
 Maurice Lescut 1907-13
 Desiré Lesy 1902-03
 A. Lévy Fils 1874
 L'Hoste 1899
 Louis 1911-13
 J. & M. Lynch 1899-1902
 Magnin 1897-8

- P. Mahé et Cie (Pierre Mahé) 1863-1908
 L. Mailly 1908-13
 Émile Malvault 1893-97
 A. O. Marimian 1904-13
 H. D. Marimian 1913
 E. Marquet 1907-13
 Émile Matthey 1910-13
 (Arthur) (A.) Maury Fils 1865-1913
 G. Meens 1885-91
 Mendelshon 1908-12
 L. Méric 1897-8
 A. Meyer et Cie 1902
 M. Meyer 1897
 Mettée 1894
 E. de Missolz 1891-97
 E. Mollereau 1899
 F. Monnerie 1894-99
 A. Montader 1900-13 (1920s)
 W. Moore 1911-12
 A. Moreaux 1913
 Morel 1911
 V. Mozian 1901 (moved to U.S.)
 Munnerelle 1896-99
 J. Nalés 1888-1901
 N. S. Nicolaides 1899-1913
 Nicolas 1865-67
 Camille Nogent 1898-1911
 Office Centrale Philatélique 1907
 Oyennard 1897
 Mme. Pajot 1900
 J. Paris 1891-96
 J. Paris-Lelaurin 1896
 Pavoille 1912-13
 Ch. Pelletreau 1868-75
 F. Penière 1900-01
 V. Perrou 1906-13
 La Philatélie Parisienne 1910-13
 La Philatéliste Parisien 1907-12
 C. Picard 1905-11 (C. Picard et Cie 1910-11)
 Charles Picard 1911
 L. Picard 1912-13
 J. Pini 1891-93
 Piguet 1900-13
 Planus 1897-1906
 Plantier 1899
 H. Pouget 1904-05
 J. M. Quivogne 1894
 Raccaud 1895
 Alf. Raccaud 1892-98
 C. Reuver 1881-83
 Riant Frères 1908-13
 J. Richard 1908-13
 Victor Robert 1891-1913
 E. Roussillon 1893-1907
 Charles Roussin 1866-1902
 Roumet 1910-13
 J. Ruffio 1913
 A. Saattjian 1907-13
 Sabouret 1905-06
 Sasot 1913
 G. Scandellari 1892-1900
 Émile Scharff 1902-07
 Ch. Schauptmeier 1891-1913
 A. Schoff 1900-03
 L. Senaillet 1912-13
 A. Simon 1891
 H. Simon 1904
 Simiou 1893-94
 Singer 1896-1903
 R. Steindl 1907-13
 Thirifocq 1867-68
 J. Thumin 1908-13
 Thumin Fils 1895-99
 Thumin Frères 1899-1907
 Tillot 1893-95
 Treille 1911-13
 Alphonse Tropsch 1892-1907
 Valette 1905-07
 Mme. Vallet 1911
 P. Villemont 1905-13
 Verville 1883-1913 (Lérische et Verville)
 Veyssier 1898-1909
 Wichmann 1909-10
 Winch Frères et Cie 1887-1899 (moved to England)
 Zarnikian 1898
 G. Zechmeyer 1883

FOR THE RECORD

(Continued from FCP #166, p. 106)

301). Bertram Mendelsohn reports finding a copy of St. Pierre Yv. #79 used, which is the 2c of the 1909 pictorial issue, with the odd perforation of 14x13½x11½ on one side; the stamp being 5 mm narrower than normal, he

asks if it may not have been reperforated. There would seem to be no motive for private reperforation on such a common stamp, so we suspect that it was either done by the printery to make usable a defectively perforated sheet or possibly one of the trial perfs of 11 that the printery made in that period though these are heretofore reported only on stamps of different paper that look like proofs (—see note in FCP #150, p. 85).

302). Since 1949 it has been accepted that the earliest use of a Type Sage stamp was of the 5c green Type I with postmark 27 March 1876, discovered by the late Dr. Carroll Chase; from that it has been assumed it was the first value distributed to the postoffices. Now Paris dealer-expert Jean-F. Brun has found a document published in the Bull. Mensuel des PTT for June 1876 which states that the distribution of the 15c steel gray stamp (Sage) will begin around 15 June of the current month. Dr. Joany comments on this "rediscovered" document in the Documents Phil. for 1st Qtr. 1977—: he notes that a 15c stamp on cover has been seen dated 16th June, but a copy cancelled in May and a 25c cancelled 13 May are also known. Moreover, Dr. Chase reported three 5c cancelled at LeHavre between 27 March and 5 April, which have been considered as dubious or errors in the dater ("76" instead of "77"?). It all poses a dilemma because the archives indicate that no printings by the Banque de France were officially delivered to the PTT before 1 July. Dr. Joany thinks the early 5c cancels are probably correct, and postulates that early printings of the Banque were under Hulot's control until 1 July and some of the 5c got mixed in with sheets of Ceres 5c that were sent out to p.o.'s. The early 25c is not so easy to imagine an explanation for.

303). Occasionally we see in auction catalogues (e.g. 30 lots in Boule-DelBalzo #2 sale 1974) offerings of "Procès Verbal" or other documents and covers relating to fraudulent use of the posts. Recently a collector sent us for translation a complete file of an 1855 prosecution, beginning with the "Taxe pour timbre altéré" cover illustrated. Using this complete file it is possible to trace the procedure used to prosecute.



The letter was posted in Tramayes (pc#3407, Saone et Loire) and addressed to Lyon. Note that the stamp is cancelled, but not tied to this cover. When this obvious re-use of the stamp was discovered, it was marked 30 centimes tax for fraud in accordance with 1849 Circulars Nos. 11 and 15 of

the Admn. des Postes. (See reproductions at pp. 595 and 624 of Annex Vol. I of the *Encyclopédie*.) It was taken out of the regular mail and forwarded to the postmaster at Lyon under an "Avis de Chargement" and a copy of the notice was sent to the Bureau des Contraventions in Paris. On receipt of the file, the Lyon Postmaster issued a "Procès Verbal" to the addressee, saying that the letter was held for him, and that under the law he was required to appear and identify the sender and pay the tax if he wanted to read the letter.

Page two of the Procès reports that the addressee complied with the summons and identified the sender by signature on the letter. The file was then sent to Paris where the Bureau des Contraventions informed the Imperial Procureur of the case, and by "Inventaire" presented the evidence. The Prosecutor in turn ordered the Tribunal at Macon (Saone et Loire) to summon by a "Cedule" the sender to answer the charge and pay the F4.30 administrative costs! All for a 20 centimes stamp!

A fascinating part of this file is an appeal to the Tribunal on behalf of the sender that "she is a poor woman of rough language . . . and the letter was sent for her by a travelling Savoyard (who was in the neighborhood teaching the alphabet to small children) and who must have fraudulently posted the letter without her knowledge."—J. E. Lievsay

304). Henri Tristant sends us a copy of an odd flamme of the square framed "broken off" (solo) Daguin type, inscribed: "Go To/Martinique/and see/Napoleon's/Wife's/Birth Place." It is on back of a cover from Fort de France to Brooklyn, Oct. 1945. If this is an official flamme, not a private one, then it is remarkable that it is in English, but perhaps it was part of an official promotion of tourism from US.

305). The much publicized find of a boule du Moulins in 1968 contained 50 letters. It was one of the 56 metal balls used in 1871 to attempt to carry mail down the Seine past the German blockade. 35,000 letters were sent thus. Of those in the 1968 find, 30 letters have been given to descendants of the addressees (there was a threat of litigation if they had not done so), and the rest are in the Musée Postal.

306). In Jamet's V. O. of June 1969, lot 623, there were two letters from St. Pierre, Martinique, in 1847 and 1849, with a ms endorsement on back reading: "Affranchie jusqu'à destination en vertu de l'Ordonnance Royale du 24 Avril 1835—Le Direction de la Poste." On front is a "PP" and "28" (decimes) postage charge, in blue. The Ordonnance referred to was one that specified the conditions under which mail could be prepaid in France—its application in the Colonies was very infrequent; we have seen a few from Martinique, Guadeloupe, and Reunion but not with the ms notation described above. They were usually letters with legal documents.

307). Several of the 3-color stamps are found with the coin daté and other numbers of the marginal indicia inverted and at top right of the sheet instead of the normal lower-left position. The cylinders in these cases, were, according to DeLizeray and Rouques, turned around. It happened on the 10Fr Boucher/Hilsz and the Rouault Red-Cross stamps, intentionally in order that the ink wipers would not mix the colors into unintended parts of the design.

308). Dr. Rouques notes that there are minor varieties of the phosphor bars that should be watched for and studied, such as bars vertically or horizontally displaced (due to poor guidance), bars in the margins or gutters due to imperfect turning of the cylinder, irregular shapes, uneven intensity, etc.

309). The "dry" (non-inked) impressions of the electric-eye guides in

margins of some 3-color recess sheets have been attributed to the direction of the wipers, which is different for the 3-color and 6-color presses. But some dry guidemarks are known on sheets for which all printings were on 6-color presses. In these cases it is a failure in the cutting of the ink roller.

310). As of 1 January 1948 the year date in the handstamp postmarks of France were officially changed from the last two digits to full four digits. But for several years thereafter a few small P.O.s continued to use the two-digit daters.

311). Red Cross-related stamps are a popular topical specialty—over 3400 such stamps have been issued, not to mention the numerous labels. France has issued over 240 such stamps, including the CFAs.

312). In an article by Holder and Bellack in the *Journ. of the Fr. and Cols. Phil. Soc. (G. B.)* #133/134, are listed and illustrated a series of rare essay overprints reading: "Réoccupation/Francaise/en/Alsace" on the 1, 2, and 3c Blanc, 5, 10, 15c Cameo Sowers, the 15c Lined Sower, 5c and 10c Red Cross Sowers. These were never issued. The overprint is found both framed (rarest) and unframed.

313). In W. T. Pollitz' auction of 16 Oct. 1976, lot 799, was a letter from Lille to Barcetta 1830s, bearing the "57/LILLE" postmark and another cachet in red: "PAR BALLON/L'HOLST." We have not heard of any balloon mail in that period.

314). In the Kover King sale of 6 Oct. 1976, lot 3078 was a US 5c 1946 reply postal card (USC32) postmarked in Ivory Coast (ca. 1947) for return to US. It is very unusual to find international reply cards actually commercially used for reply, and especially from a French colony!

315). A fantastic piece of sorts appeared in the 16 Feb. 1977 sale of The Clearinghouse for Stamps and Coins (NY), lot 1817: a piece of a large document of Obock, with cachet reading "Colonie d'Obock et Dependances Service des Affaires Indigenes" in a frame, on reverse side were affixed 171 copies of Obock 2Fr triangle stamp bisected and precancelled with a lozenge of large points, and bisects of Obock Sc. #39 and 44 one each. All these stamps are cancelled (tied) by a handstamped "TIMBRE." They were used as fiscals to collect a tax on an acknowledgment-of-receipt of war material including 1120 rifles and 189,700 cartridges. A certificate of Paris expert Roger Calves went with it. The use of the lozenge on Obock and Djibouti stamps for fiscal use is well-known and mentioned in some catalogs and articles. But we have a bisect of the 10c Djibouti 1896 on a whole newspaper, postmark-cancelled and tied in 1901, with a lozenge-type precancel in brown on the bisect obviously struck before the bisecting was done.

316). In *Feuilles Marcophiles Informations* #1 a little history of the Facteurs-Boitiers is given. The Décret of 27 Aug. 1823 created these agents in 35 communes of the Seine and one in Seine-et-Oise. Their function at first was similar to that of the Facteurs Ruraux, but in 1850 they were given a special role. Just as the Bureaux des Distributions were attached to a Bureau de Direction, so the Facteurs-Boitiers were also attached to a nearby Direction. Both had similar postmarks, the types 20, 21, 22, 24 and 24bis in the de Beaufond classification (the type 23 was used in only a few Distributions however). The Distributions were offices open all day, but the Facteur-Boitiers offices were closed while they were out making their routes. The Distributions were manned by Agents de Poste, the F-Bs by Sous-Agents des Poste. In Jan. 1874 the Distributions were suppressed and converted to

Recettes of the 4th Class. Then the F-Bs remained the only secondary offices. During 1874-75 many new "F-Bs municipaux" were created where the city paid part of the cost; during open hours they provided more services than ordinary F-Bs, selling stamps, mandats, registry, etc. The F-Bs were finally suppressed on 1 May 1893 and replaced by Facteurs-Receveurs (up to 1942).

317). It is well known that some of the Vichy stamps for the colonies without "RF" were used to some extent in West Africa during the War before the allies occupied all the territory, but there is conflicting and uncertain evidence as to just which stamps were used where. Recently the press cited a Circular issued by the authorities at Dakar which listed the Vichy stamps issued to P.O.s in A.O.F.: the 50F airmail was used all through West Africa, and the 100F airmail only in Senegal. Others have been reported on covers or cancelled in AOF and AEF but mostly after the War and the stamps had been officially demonetized. Of the omnibus Vichy series only those for Indochina were actually issued and used, on which later the Petain head was overprinted RF (1946).

318). The Congo-Gabon area seems to have been the scene of various dubious apparently philatelically-inspired "provisional" posts. Around 1907 a "Pigeon Post" was installed at Brazzaville to operate for a radius of 190 miles in all directions; the pigeons were specially trained for it, and it was planned to extend the service all the way to Lake Chad. (Gibbons St. Weekly 16 Nov. 1907, p. 316, repr. in Story Post #106, Apr. 1972). In 1910 there were many covers made up with bisected dues stamps for alleged out of stock values, and dues stamps overprinted "Gabon" with the straightline registry mark (see Stone, Coll. Club Phil., vol. 52, #2, pp. 100-101). During the WW II a "Pedipost" with special cachets was operated between several towns, but the covers are all philatelic that have appeared occasionally in auctions. In LeMonde for Feb. 1972, p. 33, a "Pirogue Post" on the Ogooué River is described, using a special cachet. A letter with it, reported in LeMonde March 1971, traveled up the Ogooué and then up the N'Gounia R. to arrive at Mouila, 350 km from Boué, in 6 days or about 60/km per day. It is said the piroguiers of the Ogooué are famous in Africa and the use of them for transport of mails and freight on the rivers is of long standing. In Bull. Soc. Amis du Musée P. #47, Kling shows a map of the rivers involved and a mandat of 1945 cancelled Boué and the cachet "Par Piroque Postale." A peculiar item was offered in Jamet's V.O. of June 1955, lot 948, a cover with pair of the 2.50 AEF Liotard stamp cancelled at Mayumbe/Gabon with on front a large rectangular cachet showing a messenger with wings carrying a letter, below it "Avis Poste," and to side "Mayumbe" and Cross of Lorraine. A Free French forces "project"; covers said to be rare.

319). In a study published in Feuilles Marcophiles #187, 1972, M. Parlange identifies all the French naval stations which between 1943 and 1956 used the type of postmark inscribed name of base and "Naval" with a Bureau No. at bottom (single-ring, in center "*" and two-line dater). Outside those in France there were ones at Casablanca, Bizerte, Tunis, Safi, Alger, Oran, Bone, and Agadir, in North Africa. The bureaux in the colonies were: #51 Abidjan 1943-45, #53 Dakar 1943-46, Conakry #71 1943-45, #88 Cotonou 1943-45, #89 Diego-Saurez 1945-46, Tananarive/Guichet Annexe (3 offices) 1945-46, #91 Saigon 1945-1956 with Guichets Annexes at Antenne, Natrang, Ba-Ngoi, Uruga (Japan), and "Vaguemestre Principal" (The Ba-Ngoi and Urafa marks were actually the same as Saigon's or struck there in transit), #14 Haiphong 1946-55 which was transferred to Tourane in 1955 and to Camranh 1955-56.

ANNOUNCEMENTS AND NEWS



The 0.80F Le Souvenir Francais stamp appeared on 5 March; the Journée du Timbre 1.00+0.20 on 26 March. The 3.00F original work of Vasarely was to be issued 7 April; the 3.20 Champagne-Ardennes (region) on 16 April; the two Europas—1.00F Village provençal and 1.40 Port Breton—and the 1.70 Société Nationale d'Horticulture on 23 April. For Andorre a 1.00F L'Hermine (nature series) was to appear 4 April, and additional issues planned for Andorre include the Conseil General, portrait of the Syndic G. d'Areny Plandolit, an altar of Saint Roma des Bons, and the Institut des Etudes Andorriennes. Later issue of France: 1.40 Floralties Nantes on 9 May; 0.80 Rattachement du Cambrésis 16 Aug.; 1.10 Féd. Europ. de la Construction, 1.00 Congrès FSPF Annecy 31 May; 1.90 Traverse de l'Atlantique Nord and 1.70 Ecole Polytech. Palaiseau and 1.50 Abbaye de Fontenay on 6 June; 0.80 60e Anniv. Coupe Fr. de Football 12 June; 1.10 Mem. Gen. de Gaulle and 1.10 Jeune Ch. Economique on 20 June; 1.10 5c battle of Nancy 27 June; 1.25 Rattach. de la Bourgogne 4 July; 1.40 Assoc. Intern. des Parliementaires Fr. 11 July; 1.45 Collégiale du Dorat 18 July; 1.90 Cathédral de Bayeux in July.

The 2.00F Vlaminck painting stamp issued 20 December has confused the public and stamp editors as to what the proper position of the design is. It seems the stamp has to be turned sideways to the right to see the painting as Vlaminck intended. But then the legend runs vertically down the right margin and that is unexpected in French stamps though not unknown in those

of some other countries. Or did the PT, the designer and engraver, make a mistake? Or are we all crazy?

The new precancelled issue for France to serve the new bulk postage rates was to appear about 1 April. The Gallic Money design is abandoned in favor of a new one showing signs of the Zodiac. Also they will be printed in recess, not typo.

At the Milan International Expo last year the Yvert et Tellier Specialized Catalogue of 1975 was awarded a gold medal, which is doing pretty well for literature at an International.

Some bulk mailings of catalogs, etc., are being marked in France with only a cachet reading "Distribué par les PTT"—no stamps, no precancels, no postmarks, no meters, no "Port Payé," etc. We are seeing similar treatment from some other countries lately—Netherlands, e.g.

A reminder for the topically oriented: the one-page "Notices" of the PTT illustrating and describing the background of each French and Andorre stamp, published in the month of issue, are sold on subscription basis for the calendar year; for 1977 at 35 Fr to foreigners: write Chef du Service Philatélique, 61-3 rue de Douai, F75436-Paris Cedex 15. Pay by international money order. These "Notices" are regularly reprinted in each months *Le Monde des Philatélistes*, *La Philatélie Française*, and some other magazines.

At the Salon d'Automne last November 5-7, the usual annual prizes were awarded: the 26th Grand Prix to the 0.60 Jouvarouen of Andreotti (the Journée du Timbre and Centenary of Sage Issue were runners up); the 16th Grand Prix des Territoires d'Outre-Mer went to Combet's 24 F Bicentenaire des Etats Unis of French Polynesia; the 17th Grand Prix for Pays Francophones d'Afrique to the 100F Danses of Cameroun designed by Chesnot; and the 6th Grand Prix for a Pays d'Europe to the Monaco Munich Olympics set of Forget. All but the Cameroun were produced by the French printery at Perigueux.

At a press conference in December, Mon. Segard, the Sec. d'Etat aux PTT spoke in some detail about the stamps planned for 1977 (see FCP, Jan. p. 5). He said that the Excoffon painting, originally scheduled for issue in 1976, will appear sometime in 1977. Then he promised a "good surprise": a new design for the regular-use stamps is in preparation and will be issued in 1977 (the Administration is reacting to the many complaints on the ugliness of the Bequets).

LeMonde's annual review of the French stamp issues of 1976, shows 63 stamps, a total much above any recent years, though the face value of 75.99F was but little over that for 1976. Of that only 1.85 was for surtax, also more than in any recent year. The number of stamps issued varied greatly from month to month, from 0 to 11 (July). Twenty-nine different artists were used, 13 did both designing and engraving, 13 only designed, and 3 only engraved. The artists used were Andréotti (4 stamps), Authe (1), Baillais (3), Barraie (1), Bequet (4), Bétemps (5), Carzou (1), Champdavoine (1), Y. Cheffer (1), Combet (4), Dairla (1), Décaris (4), Déssirier (2), Durrens (15), Forget (3), Frères (8), Gandon (3), Gauthier (2), Goffin (1), Guillaume (1), Haley (1), Ibach (3), Lacaque (4), Lallemand (1), Lambert (2), Lengelle (1), Monvoisin (3), Pheulpin (2), Quillivic (1). The familiar old names are thinning out and many new ones entering the ranks (especially due to the regional stamps locally designed). LeMonde sent out a questionnaire to get opinions on the popularity of the different stamps of 1976; preliminary results indicate the works of the traditional artists of the PTT are favored, the modernist innovations, the Mariannes and regions were generally least popular. The two Europa stamps seem to win most votes, and close following: the Jouvarouen, Ussell, and Ramses. The Douanes stamp was at the bottom of the list.

A new society has been formed in France devoted to the collection of perfins: the Assoc. Nationale des Collectionneurs de Timbres Perforés. Colonel Leblanc is the honorary Pres. Interested persons should address ANCO-PER, 95 rue Jean-Lefèvre, F95530-La Frette-sur-Seine. Dues are 20F per year plus 10F entry fee.

The Andorra section of the Union Philatélique Libournaise has separated and formed an independent society known as Philandorre. The Bulletin will continue to be published by it twice a year (June and Dec.). Dues are 35Fr. Address the Secr.-Gen. Guy Poire, 4 rue de Bourgogne, F94400-Vitry-sur-Seine—with a stamped self-addressed envelope.

The new society for "E.A."-overprinted stamps mentioned recently in this column, has now been formalized. G. Goudart is the Pres. A periodic Bulletin will be published. Address: "Phil E. A.", Secry.-Gen. M. J. P. Barat, 1 rue des Venets, Bat. 1, Esc. 2, F92000-Nanterre.

The PT has finally gotten around to issuing a regulation formally requiring the already long-time practice of cancelling stamps on covers with a ball-point or felt-tip pen, when they were not cancelled at point of departure—a distasteful result from the philatelists' point of view.

La Philatélie Française celebrated its 25th Anniversary with its Jan. 1977 issue. Through strenuous efforts in the last several years, the F.S.P.F. has managed to build La Ph. Fr. up to a respectable organ—the recent issues now have excellent regular departments that rival or exceed the coverage in its competitor journals (LeMonde, L'Echo, Echangiste Univ.). The "Bloc-Notes" dept. is something like our News/Announcements in FCP, and gives attention to foreign matters as well as French. In fact under Pres. Langlois (a noted anglophile) the contents of the journal are much less chauvinistic or parochial than in the past—the Dec. issue even had a long article on the U. S. postal service. The bibliography section covers many journals in various foreign languages. However, La Ph. Fr. is still short on articles and studies—a problem all the French journals except LeMonde are having. The ads are also quite limited.

The Directorship of the old magazine L'Echangiste Universelle, now in its 913th number, has been passed from Roger North to Jean Vavrosky last Nov. North remains as Pres. of the editorial committee; Jean Regnaud continues as chief editor at LeHavre, and Bernard Sinais (the military-posts specialist) as the Paris editor. EU has been improving greatly lately after a slump of some years. Vavrosky (the prop. of the A. Maury firm) promises to build it up further. EU started in 1906 under R. Leroy, a stationery specialist; in 1941 when it was under A. Schneider of Bischwiller in Alsace, the Germans would only permit its continuance there if in the German language. So Schneider betook himself to Paris and begged North to take it over as publisher for the duration.

The PT is reported to be taking a renewed interest in the use of the railroads for transporting mails. The PTs aircraft are not efficient in the shorter hauls, but the regular passenger trains don't stop at smaller towns. So they are going to use special mail trains. That means perhaps some new ambulant cancels.

It is reported that inflation of most stamp prices in the last year was not so great in most countries, but in Europe there has been a great rise. Prices obtained in recent Brussels and Amsterdam auctions are described as "absolutely fantastic" for prime quality material. French catalogs jumped prices of classic 19th by 20% from 1976 to 1977, on the average.

Regarding the question of what Mayotte was using for stamps since the Comores separated from France in July 1975 (see FCP Jan. pp. 12-13), it is

now documented by various sources that in addition to the machine-label frankings they were bisecting and quadrisecting some stamps of Comores still in stock in order to stretch the supply and make values out of stock. Five values were authorized to be bisected or quadrisected by Arrêtes of 17 Dec.



1975 and 16 Jan. 1976. Henri Tristant has shown us a cover (see Fig.) with a quadrisected 200Fr airmail stamps (Yv #60) mailed on the SS Marion Dufresne and cancelled PAQUEBOT at LePort, Reunion. He is preparing an article about these provisionals. The stamps were first surcharged in blocks of 4 with an official cachet before sectioning. A new meter machine was received 9/1/76 reading "Comores," and later in 1976 one reading "Mayotte" with denominations in French francs. CFA money was not suppressed, however, until 23/2/76.

In the January FCP we noted the hullabalou about Kerguelen FDC covers that were misdated. The Agence de TPOM and the TAAF administration have now offered to replace the misdated covers with new ones they will send out for the owners on the next supply ship. The procedure for doing this is complicated and the deadline for application was 15 Feb. However, it does not seem likely this will satisfy the disappointed ones since the replaced covers will not be true FDCs but ones posted a year later—even if they backdate the FDC cancel the transit and arrival postmarks will not jibe with it. The few FDCs that came back from Kerguelen with proper 1 Jan. 1976 date are going to be very much sought for (and expensive).

Our member J. E. Kraemer, who is the manager of the Canadian National Postal Museum, calls our attention to the recent book by Geo. C. Marler on "The Edward VII Issue of Canada" which the Museum has published in both a French and English edition; it is certainly appropriate that the many French-speaking collectors in Canada should be able to read this important detailed research study in their own language. And it may induce philatelists in France to study the Canadian stamps.

The Musée Postal, Paris, had 32,000 visitors during 1976; the best attended special exhibit was the one on Concorde with 10,000 viewers.

Our colleagues "down under" in Australia get pretty technical sometimes in a romantic way—did you know there are two kinds of double prints: A "kiss" which does not usually affect the whole stamp area and a "cuddle" which affects the whole body of the stamp.

Ode to An Unknown Member from an Unknown Author:—

Are U an active member	Or are U satisfied
the kind that would be missed?	to just belong?
Or are U just contented	Do you work with U're committee
that U're name is on the list?	and get right in the mix?
Do you attend the meetings	Or leave the work to just a few
and mingle with the flock?	and talk about the cliques?
Or do you stay at home	Think it over, member . . .
to criticize and knock?	U know right from wrong!
Do U take an active part	Are U an active member
to help the work along?	Or do U just belong?

The exposition of original art works by various designers and engravers of French stamps held at the Musée Postal 17 Dec.-9 Jan. was surprising for the wide variety of media and styles in which these artists have worked. There were 29 artists presenting their works, which included wood and metal engravings (prints), silk screen prints, crayon and ink drawings, sculpture, watercolors, oils, theater sets, ceramics, in old and avant-garde styles and techniques. Pierrette Lambert showed a colorful fantastic fantasy painting of Noah's Ark loaded with animals and flying a sort of tricolor on the mast. Some critics did not think the majority of the designs shown were very original or imaginative in concept, but the technical competence was notable.

The "regional series" of French stamps now in progress is taking a lot of flak from collectors and self-appointed critics of stamp design. They got very low marks in the questionnaire LeMonde sent out to its readers on the 1976 stamps. The average collector doesn't like symbolic designs. Critics complain of the poor judgment in composition, disposition of the legends, lettering, etc. The PT is being pressured to give more "guidance" to the regional artists, who are all amateurs at stamp designing.

The Afars and Issas Territory have been granted independence by the French Parliament to become effective around May, and by July some sort of government legislature will be set up. No doubt we will see some overprints and new designs, soon.

The devotees of Décaris designs may be interested in the recent offer by a Paris art publisher of prints of an original Décaris engraving titled "La Femme et La Mer." It is a limited edition of 250 at 390Fr each. Further information and a small replica of the print can be had by request to Eds. Martinsart, 72 Blvd. Sebastopol, F75003-Paris. Décaris is very well-established as a print maker and book illustrator as well as stamp designer-engraver; he has exhibited widely, even in U.S., and is well known and admired among print collectors.

On French TV 21 Sept. 1976 Paul-Emile Victor, the leading French polar explorer of the last 40 years, gave a 1½ hour report on Adelieland as his farewell to Antarctica—he has retired. It is reported that at the end he was weeping as he recalled his long service in polar exploration (Ice Cap News #121).

Monaco will issue 3 May another of those sets telling a story—the career of Prince Albert I of Monaco as a navigator on the various scientific oceanographic expeditions of his Oceanographic Museum at Monaco, some dramatic scenes of sailing in storms at sea.

NEW BOOKS, PAMPHLETS, AND CATALOGS

- "Les Premières Timbres Français de Jacques-Jean Barre." 26 pp. 1976. Illustr. 33Fr. p.p. Brun et Fils, 84-85 Galerie de Beaujolais, Palais Royale, F75001-Paris. (Based on family corresp.—new light on the designing of the 1849-62 French stamps—a similar project ann. in 1975 was never issued.)
- "Oblitérations Temporaires—France, Union Française—Monaco, etc.—" 1938-1957. 71 pp. Reprint 1976 of *Le Monde Étude* #19. 26.50F p.p.
- "La Côte des Coins Datés et Millésimes, 1976-77." 41st Ed. of priced cat. SOCOCODAMI. 96 pp. price? Inquire of M. Marquand, 5 rue du Cdt. Guilbaud, F75016-Paris (Covers France, CFA, Algeria, Andorre, Monaco, Lebanon, Syria, etc., the standard cat.)
- "Le Timbre de la Chambre de Commerce de Valenciennes." By A. Gauvin and R. Camarty. 1976, 24 pp. 10F+post. Club Phil. Valenciennes, c/o M. Der-ville, 77 rue Charles-Isbergues-Wauvrechain, F59220-Denain.
- "Marques Postales d'Indre et Loire." By G. Robichon, 1976, 115 pp. 45Fr+post., illustr. Union Philatélique de Tours, 42 rue Louis-Braille, F37000-Tours. (Priced cat. of the postal markings of that Dept.)
- "An Introduction to the Posts of France in the Franco-German War of 1870-71." By Victor Chanaryn. 1976. £6.00+post. From Vera Trinder, 38 Bedford St., Strand, London WC2E 9EU, England, or other dealers. (See Reviews).
- "The Forerunners Foreign Post Office in Japan:—British-U.S.—French." 1st ed. 1976. 164 pp. color illustr., limited printing. Price? (From Ryokei Ishikawa's Coll.) Publ. by Japan Philatelic Publications Co., Inc., 2-2 chome, Yoyoghi, Shibuya-ku, Tokyo.
- "Catalogue A. V. des Timbres-Poste de France. 1977-78 Ed. 1976, 108 pp. 10Fr+3Fr post. Maison A. Vancauwenberghe, 7 rue de Chateaudun, F75009 Paris. (Priced cat. of France 1849-May 1976, data on periods of use, printing, classified by usage, names of des. and eng., etc.)
- "Catalogue A. V.—Fleurs, Fruits, Légumes, Champignons, Plantes Céréalières et Industrielles, Arbres, etc., du Monde Entier." 2nd ed. 1977-78, 136 pp., illustr. 36Fr+3Fr post. A. Van Cauwenberghe, 7 rue Chateaudun, F75009-Paris. (A priced list of stamps showing subjects mentioned.)
- "Bolaffi International Catalogue of Rare Stamps—3." 1600pp. in 2 vols. 300 Fr, 1976. (Also an extract of the part of France, 100 pp., sold sep. at 50 Fr.) From Bolaffi firm in Milan, or from Philart S. A., Ruelle de Bourg 11, CH 1003 Lausanne, Switz., or from US and GB phil. lit. dealers at \$60.
- "Die Papillons von Metz, oder Beiden Ballonposten von Metz—Geschichte, Handbuch, Katalog." By Ernst M. Cohn. 1976, 77 pp. illustr. DM 15 p.p. Publ. by Arbeitsgemeinschaft Frankreich zur Deutschen Einheit 14, D-8000 M, Munich 81, West Germany. (The definitive work on the Metz balloon posts, a well-printed and illustrated pamphlet which consolidates the author's previous studies and works of other students, with extensive new information dug out of old newspapers, memoirs, and correspondence, and analysis of all the known "papillons." Revises the history on various points. A priced catalog of Metz covers is appended. Text in German, figure captions transl. in French and English.)
- "Nomenclature des Bureaux de Postes Françaises 1852-76, Petits et Gros Chiffres Cotes." By J. Pothion. 108 pp. 1977, 45Fr. p.p. La Poste aux Lettres, 17 rue des fbg. Montmartre, F75009-Paris. (Priced cat. of num-eral cancels.)

- "Catalogue des Cachets Petits Chiffres des Gros Chiffres." By J. Pothion. 1977. 24 pp. 12 Fr. p.p. (from same as above). (Cat. of the small numeral cancels that corr. with large numerals.)
- "Catalogue Thématique des Timbres Principaux sur la Musique et la Danse." By Leon Krichewsky. 1977. 48 pp. (Inquire of M. Dhotel, AFPT, 148 rue de Saussure, F75017-Paris). (Cat of topical stamps for music and dance.)
- "Development des messageries à la poste moderne." Repr. 1977, 24 Fr. illus. Amis de l'Histoire des PTT d'Alsace, BP 153, r 4, F67004-Strasbourg Cedex.
- "Documents Officiels de la Collection Historique du Timbres Poste Français." 1976, 2.50 Fr. J-R. Jacquot, 27 rue Desnouettes, F75015-Paris. (A priced cat. of the French PTs "Doc. Officiels" when sold by the publisher's firm—a market is starting to develop for "back issues" no longer available from the PTT.)

REVIEWS

"Les Timbres Faux Pour Tromper la Poste de France." By Doctor Jacques Grasset, 1976. 260 Belg. Frs. or 35Fr French. Published by Pierre de Meyere, Rue de Brabant 91, 1030 Bruxelles.

I found this work fascinating and unlike most scholarly researches, easy to read. The author deals with all of the fakes from 1849 to the present prepared to defraud the postal system and not the collector. Dr. Grasset based his work on researches previously published. However, this is not a compilation. He began where the old researchers left off. From there he goes into great details based on his own research and observations.

The various Bordeaux fakes are described well beyond anything written on this subject to date. If you have had to struggle with previously existing works on this subject, this study will come like a ray of sunshine. The descriptions of the "Third Type" of this fake is excellent. Anyone who had tried to reconcile Serrane's description of the "Italian Fake" and attempted to make it fit the peculiarities of this stamp, now realize that this is a completely different stamp. Again, the author describes all of the many fakes of the Sage issue. If you have ever attempted to match your "Chalon Fakes" to the available descriptions, you'll finally understand why they didn't quite match. The chapter on the "Sowers" is great! Besides describing all of the different fakes of this issue, the author denies the existence of the fake 10 C. Sower with ground under feet (Scott 155) found by Renault d'Outre-Seille and explains why. He also states that most collectors mix up the "Lorulot" and the "Turin" fakes with one another. Your reviewer was no exception! In my opinion, the passage on the fakes "Petain of WW II" was rather cursory and definitely not up to the level of L. N. and M. Williams' work on this subject.

I do not have the knowledge to comment on the post WW II fakes nor of the Colonial 80 C. Eagle studied by our FCP editor. The author tends to agree with Stone that this stamp was primarily issued to defraud the collector but points out that Moens claims to have seen one postally used on envelope. The author suggests that the paternity of this particular fake might belong to Taylor, the well known U. S. faker.

Unfortunately, the quality of the photographic reproductions is not up to the standards of the text. I found them of little use for serious comparison.

This book should become a standard reference for collectors specializing in French stamps.—Raymond L. Gaillaguet.

"An introduction to the Posts of France in the Franco-German War of 1870-1871 and its aftermath," By Dr. Victor Chanaryn, Ed. by C. S. Holder, publ.

by the author 1976, 7x9½ in., softbound, 120 pp., ill., £6+postage from Postal History International, 25 Meeting House Lane, Brighton, England BN1 3LF; or from phil. lit. dealers in U. S. and England.

The book was produced to accompany a display given by the author to the Royal Philatelic Society, London, in March 1976. It selectively treats some topics that apparently were covered only briefly or not at all in the display itself. Part 1 covers payment of newspaper tax and postage, military franks, and papillons de Metz; part 2, the Ceres siege issue, a brief survey of the Paris siege mails, the Swiss "Gratis" label, and the Bordeaux stamps; part 3, PW, Red Cross, Commune, and detoured mail; part 4, mail in occupied France, the "Alsace-Lorraine" stamps, and the complicated relations between free and occupied France from 28 January 1871 to 15 May 1872; part 5, the postwar rate increase and its consequences.

As an accompaniment to a show, a talk, and a discussion, the book is intended to be uneven. Considerable detail is given for the newspapers, the "Gratis" labels (incl. plating), the unissued Bordeaux essays as well as the definitives, Red-Cross and ambulance mail, the Commune, and the Alsace-Lorraine issue and its cancels. The book is highly recommended, particularly for the original research results derived from the author's large collection and for the excellent illustrations of some of his unusual holdings.—Ernst M. Cohn

"Les Timbres-poste au Type Pasteur." By J. Storch and R. Françon, 1977. Annonay. 183 p. plus priced Supplement; 85 Fr. postpaid.

This is the first major study covering all aspects of the rather neglected Pasteur stamps to appear since the far less detailed one by Col. Lebland of some 10 years ago. As such, it should have been expected to be a "must" for collectors of 20th Century France. Unfortunately, I found it to be somewhat disappointing for a book bound in stiff paper that costs over 17 dollars. Extraneous padding is much too evident, but perhaps padding was needed because there continues to be much less to be said about the Pasteurs than about the Blancs or the Sowers. Pages 11 to 19 are devoted to brief but quite unnecessary essays on the life and works of Louis Pasteur; pages 161-167 to completely irrelevant studies of three semi-postals (Scott B53, B59, and B468) depicting Pasteur. Finally, to readers familiar with the small type and cramped appearance of our Philatelist, the large type, wide open spaces, and several nearly blank pages appearing here seem an almost sinful waste of paper.

Having vented my dissatisfaction, I now must admit to my appreciation for much of this work. After adequate chapters on the origin of the design, chronology of the issues, and on essays and proofs, the authors turn to the individual values. The values are studied within the order of dates of issue, but the priced supplement covers them in the order of their face values. For each value, the following are described and dated: postal usage, die types, millésimes or coin datés, booklets (including covers), specimen overprints, coils, stationery (front and back, for illustrated cards), colonial overprints, and préos. Varieties are mercifully kept to a minimum; "flyspecks" apparently are left to Wanos and de Belleville. Acknowledgement is made that some recently identified specific die types for coil stamps—which are usually difficult to distinguish with any certainty—indeed may not exist. This is a healthy attitude to take, as philatelic research attempts to become more and more scientific. Illustrations are large, clear, and numerous. The famous "tête de nègre" printing variety, though listed (and priced) for several of the issues, is not illustrated; one who has never seen a "certified" example would continue to be unable to recognize the variety.

After the "planned" values, the later surcharged ones follow, in somewhat

lesser detail. The next section (p. 138-147) is devoted to the Caisse d'Amortissement semi-postals. Pages 148-157 contain an interesting study of the Ile de France airmails, including the story behind the overprints.

Although the book contains little new and original research, its value lies in having all the pertinent information on the Pasteurs collected between its covers. The large bibliography can lead the interested reader to the various original sources. On the whole, this book is a worthy companion to the authors' earlier works on the Blancs and on the early Sowers of 1903 and 1906.—S. J. Luft

"Les Roulettes: Timbres pour Appareils Distributeurs." By P. Broustine, R. Françon, B. Mignon, and J. Storch, 1977. 237 p.; Annonay. 180 Fr. postpaid.

The title translates to: "Coils—stamps for automatic vending machines," and the book will tell you all you ever wanted to know about French coils, plus what you didn't even think of asking.

Like the companion work on the Pasteurs (see above), this book is profusely illustrated; die types are shown in greatly enlarged detail, as are intergalvano shifts (décalages). Numerous illustrations depict presses, roll-cutting machines, date-on-left blocks, control letters on tabs, early and recent vending machines (the latest model is marked "out of order"!), etc. Even the "throw-away" bands that are wrapped around the coils are shown—and priced; many bands bring fancy prices indeed!

Following upon a detailed section on production techniques, and upon a glossary of terms, the flat-plate and rotary-plate coil stamps are then studied in great detail. Grouping is according to designs (Sowers, Paix, Muller, etc.). Each value is catalogued and priced in its several collectible formats—strips, singles (of specific types for coils), used on cover, millésimes or datés, mise-en-train, wrapping bands, and varieties. The work is completely up to date, and includes the new 0.80 and 1.00 "American style" Marianne de Bequet coils. For those who may not care to buy the book, they may be interested in knowing nonetheless that these new coils continue to be collectible in strips of 11, and(or) as singles with dorsal numbers. The issued (and unissued) coils are followed by an interesting section (p. 209-227) on "Cinderella" (or fictifs) coils, designed for training purposes and for testing vending machines, with emphasis upon the Palissys.

Let us not breeze too quickly past the prices. Postal stationery zoomed upward within the last 10 years, but appears to have largely stabilized since around 1974. Coils began their enormous appreciation only during the past few years, and this is probably the first work in which prices are fully documented. Yes, coils run high, oftentimes considerably higher than the italicised prices in Mouteaux's current (Oct. 1976) catalogue. Would you believe 4,000 Fr for a strip of 6 of the 50c Pasteur? Better believe it! In my continuing contrary view, I suspect that prices for a number of used singles are far too low—in view of my inability to find any in mixtures and dealers' stocks; a few examples: used 20F and 25F Mullers are priced at only 3F (60c) apiece, the 30c Mecure at 20F (\$4), the 90c Paix of Laurens at 10F (\$2), the 25c yellow-brown precancelled Sower at a mere 1F (20c). I'd be extremely happy to purchase sound examples at those prices!

This book is unhesitatingly recommended to all collectors of 20th Century France, even—perhaps especially—to those who only recently became interested in coil stamps.

A final note—with the upward mobility shown by stationery, and now by coils, can booklets be far behind?—S. J. Luft

FURTHER REMEMBRANCES OF RAY SMITH

Like so many others who came to know Ray Smith, my initial contact with him was by letter. I first wrote him in Oct., 1969, after having read his article in F&CP on coil stamps and having noted his interest in perfin. Until his untimely death, there followed much friendly correspondence and several visits by him and his wife Lois to our home—where, of course, our spouses were abandoned while he and I huddled in my den swapping stamps and ideas for hours on end. He stimulated my interest in several lines of collecting that I earlier had not considered seriously. In addition to coils, he also introduced me to the challenge of plating 58's. Our perfin holdings, of both regular and coil stamps, grew in direct proportion to our acquisition of duplicates, for each of us got first choice at the other's spares. Actually, our interests did not coincide in many areas of French collecting, but this did not matter to Ray. He was enthusiastic over anything having to do with French stamps.

It was because of Ray that I became acquainted with a number of French collectors throughout the country; some of these people I since have had the pleasure of meeting in person.

Like so many who meet through mutual indulgence in a hobby, Ray and I had little in common except our absorbing interest in French philately. Professionally, we were far apart on the spectrum. But I like to think that had we met under entirely different circumstances the friendship that we actually developed would have ensued—a friendship that I had expected to enjoy for many years to come.—R. K. Benjamin

HELP WANTED FROM BALLONS-MONTÉS COLLECTORS

(1) Please look at your "ballons montés" that are originally addressed to England, Belgium, Holland, Scandinavia, Germany, etc. (i.e., not to France and then forwarded) and postmarked at Paris between 7E/20 Nov. and 6E/28 Nov. Generally, those are "Ville d'Orléans" and "Jacquard" covers.

(2) Select those that carry the **large**, rectangularly boxed, vertical "P. D." in red or black.

(3) Eliminate from further consideration those covers bearing a French postmark from outside of Paris. Earliest postmark outside may be Falmouth 1-3 Dec., London 2 Dec. or 22-24 Dec., or from a p.o. in some country other than France.

(4) Note the name of the post office in Paris that put its circular date stamp on the cover: **That is also the office that used the large P.D.** Please report your find to the editor, preferably with a picture of the cover.

Comments: The Mandal mail from the "Ville d'Orléans" and all of the "Jacquard" mail, if addressed to a country that did not require routing via France from England, was handled in only one French post office, viz., its Paris office of origin. Thus, it has been shown already (FCP No. 164, pp. 47-50) that the large "P.D." was used at the main post office in conjunction with the red "Paris SC" marking. It is surmised, but not yet proven, that the Gare du Nord also used that old postmark occasionally. That may well be the only other post office inside Paris to have used it. Its outside use is proven by its appearance on "plis confiés," but to ascribe it to a specific office in that case appears much more difficult, if possible at all. Thanks for your help in unraveling that century-old mystery!—Ernst M. Cohn

The Regular Issues of France Since 1876

By Stanley J. Luft (#915)

(Cont. from FCP #167, p. 6)

XIII. Coat-of-Arms (typographed) Issues of 1946-1959

10c values

The 10c Corse (Scott 562, Yvert 755) replaced the 10c "Broken Chains" (Sc 524, Yv 670) beginning in late June of 1946.

Domestic usage (Tariffs of 1 Oct. 1945 and earlier):

*#Newspapers, to 50 gm, bulk rate within Department of origin;

#Newspapers, increments of 50 gm, between 100 and 200 gm, bulk rate;

#Printed matter for the blind, per 1000 gm.

Printed from 3 plates between 28 May 1946 and 10 Dec. 1948, issued 26 June 1946-1 March 1949; 71.94 million stamps printed.

Replaced by the 10c Bourgogne (Sc 616, Yv 834) in March 1949.

Printed from 3 plates between 12 March 1949 and 29 March 1951, issued 21 March 1949-13 Oct. 1951; about 145.0 million stamps printed.

Replaced by the 10c Artois (Sc 659, Yv 899) beginning in June 1951.

Printed from 1 plate between 2 May and 29 Sept. 1951, issued 25 June 1951-March 1952; 45.00 million stamps printed.

Left without specific usage by domestic Tariff of 8 Dec. 1951; suppressed in March 1952.

30c Value

The 30c Alsace (Sc 563, Yv 756) replaced the 30c "Broken Chains" (Sc 525, Yv 671) beginning in late June of 1946.

Domestic usage (Tariff of 1 Oct. 1945):

#Daily newspapers, to 50 gm, non-bulk rate;

#Newspapers, from 150 to 200 gm, bulk rate within Department of origin;

#Newspapers, increments of 50 gm between 100 and 200 gm—and increments of 100 gm, above 200 gm—"ordinary" (individual) rate.

Foreign usage (Tariff of 1 Feb. 1942):

Printed matter for the blind, per 1000 gm.

Printed from 2 plates between 12 June 1946 and 22 Nov. 1948, issued 26 June 1946-5 Jan. 1949; 129.95 million stamps printed.

Although value continued to fulfill specific postal needs, stamp was suppressed 6 Jan. 1949 and not replaced.

50c values

The 50c Lorraine (Sc 564, Yv 757) replaced the 50c "Broken Chains" (Sc 527, Yv 673) beginning in the Summer of 1946.

Domestic usage (Tariff of 1 Oct. 1945):

#Newspapers, from 100 to 150 gm, bulk rate;

#Newspapers, to 50 gm, non-bulk rate.

Printed from 4 plates between 21 June 1946 and 19 Oct. 1948, issued 5 July 1946-16 Jan. 1950; about 244.6 million stamps printed.

Replaced by the 50c Guyenne (Sc 617, Yv 835) beginning in May 1949.

Printed from 2 plates between 6 April 1949 and 9 Jan. 1951, issued 11 May 1949-13 Oct. 1951; about 59 million stamps printed.

Replaced by the 50c Limousin (Sc 660, Yv 900) beginning in June 1951.

Printed from 1 plate between 10 May and 21 Dec. 1951 and again on 5 May 1953, issued 25 June 1951-mid 1953; 44.59 million stamps printed.

Domestic usage (Tariff of 8 Dec. 1951):

#Newspapers, from 100 to 150 gm, bulk rate within Department of origin;

#Newspapers, to 60 gm, non-bulk rate within Department of origin.

Replaced by the 50c Picardie (Sc 694, Yv 951) in late July 1953.

Printed from 1 plate between 2 July and 16 Nov. 1953, issued 23 July 1953-19 Feb. 1955; 22.70 million stamps printed.

Replaced by the 50c Maine (Sc 733, Yv 999), beginning in Nov. 1954.

Printed from 1 plate between 1 Sept. 1954 and 18 July 1955, issued 3 Nov. 1954-17 March 1956; 16.61 million stamps printed.

Replaced by the 50c Comté de Foix (Sc 782, Yv 1044) beginning in Nov. 1955.

Printed from 1 plate between 25 Oct. 1955 and 3 Feb. 1958, issued 19-21 Nov. 1955-29 Nov. 1958; about 35.9 million stamps printed.

Replaced by the 50c Marseille (Sc 896, Yv 1180) in Nov. 1958.

Printed from 1 plate, 13-20 Oct. 1958, issued 15-17 Nov. 1958-7 March 1959; about 11.8 million stamps printed.

Domestic usage (Tariff of 6 Jan. 1959):

Newspapers, to 60 gm, bulk rate;

Newspapers, from 60 to 100 gm, bulk rate within Department of origin;

Newspapers, increments of 100 gm above first 200 gm, non-bulk rate.

Suppressed 7 March 1959.

60c value

The 60c Comté de Nice (Sc 565, Yv 758) replaced the 60c "Broken Chains" (Sc 528, Yv 674) beginning in late June of 1946.

Domestic usage (Tariff of 1 Oct. 1945):

#Newspapers, to 50 gm, individual rate;

#Newspapers, from 150 to 200 gm, bulk rate.

Printed from 2 plates between 8 June 1946 and 25 Oct. 1948, issued 26 June 1946-5 Jan. 1949; 64.63 million stamps printed.

Although value continued to fulfill specific postal needs, stamp was suppressed 6 Jan. 1949 and not replaced.

70c values

The 70c Gascogne (Sc 695, Yv 958) was issued in Fall of 1953.

Domestic usage (Tariff of 8 Dec. 1951):

#Newspapers, from 60 to 100 gm, non-bulk rate within Department of origin.

Printed from 1 plate between 22 Sept. and 27 Oct. 1953, issued 29 Sept. 1953-19 Feb. 1955; 10.59 million stamps printed.

Replaced by the 70c Navarre (Sc 734, Yv 1000) beginning in Nov. 1954.

Printed from 1 plate between 17 July 1954 and 12 July 1955, issued 3 Nov. 1954-17 March 1956; 9.94 million stamps printed.

Replaced by the 70c La Marche (Sc 783, Yv 1945) beginning in Nov. 1955.

Printed from 1 plate between 4 Oct. 1955 and 28 May 1958, issued 19-21 Nov. 1955-29 Nov. 1958; 26.24 million stamps printed.

Replaced by the 70c Lyon (Sc 897, Yv 1181) in Nov. 1958.

Printed from 1 plate, 23 Oct.-4 Nov. 1958, issued 15-17 Nov. 1958-7 March 1959; about 13.9 million stamps printed.

Left without specific usage by domestic Tariff of 6 Jan. 1959, and suppressed 7 March 1959.

80c values

The 80c Berri (Sc 696, Yv 959) was issued in Fall of 1953.

Domestic usage (Tariff of 8 Dec. 1951):

#Newspapers, from 60 to 100 gm, bulk rate;

#Newspapers, from 200 to 300 gm, bulk rate within Department of origin;

#Newspapers, from 100 to 150 gm, non-bulk rate within Department of origin.

Printed from 1 plate between 17 Sept. and 26 Oct. 1953, issued 29 Sept. 1953-19 Feb. 1955; 10.28 million stamps printed.

Replaced by the 80c Nivernais (Sc 735, Yv 1001) beginning in Nov. 1954.

Printed from 2 plates, 26-28 July 1954 and 2-3 Feb. 1955, issued 3 Nov. 1954-17 March 1956; 5.32 million stamps printed.

Replaced by the 80c Rousillon (Sc 784, Yv 1046) beginning in Nov. 1955.

Printed from 1 plate between 11 Oct. 1955 and 20 May 1958, issued 19-21 Nov. 1955-29 Nov. 1958; 8.24 million stamps printed.

Replaced by the 80c Toulouse (Sc 898, Yv 1182) in Nov. 1958.

Printed from 1 plate between 2 Oct. and 5 Dec. 1958, issued 15-17 Nov. 1958-7 March 1959; 8.16 million stamps printed.

Left without specific usage by domestic Tariff of 8 Jan. 1959, and suppressed 7 March 1959.

(To be continued)

MEMBERS APPEALS

(Members Advertising)

WANTED: Copies of New Caledonia #1 needed for study. Will purchase or trade, dealers welcome. Dennis Naumick, 769 So. Irving Ave., Tucson, Ariz. 85711 (Mb. #1428)

WANTED: Used France in quantities, of: (1) Scott #15, and (2) PUBS stamps from booklet panes with advertising on selvage. Will trade used PUBS and collections of Reunion, Haiti, and Belgium, all used. Gilbert Loisel, c/o Port Authority, Room 64E, One World Trade Center, New York, N. Y. 10048 (Mb. #877)

OFFER: Superb mint coil strip of 11 stamps, of 20F Marianne de Bequet—\$65 postpaid insured. Contact Stanley J. Luft, 3048 Village Drive, Ft. Mitchell, Ky. 41017 (Mb. #915)

WANTED: To buy, all material relating to the Blanc and Sower issues and literature on them. Extensive want list sent on request. Alvin B. Blaustein, M.D., 350 Central Park West, New York, N. Y. 10025 (Mb. #1718)

WANTED: To exchange or acquire: the Official Notices Philateliques of the PTT describing the new issues, from before 1973; French postal stationery on Higgins & Gage, Storch, or ACEP basis; regular booklets (no Red Cross). Michel Rybalka, 708 Radcliffe, St. Louis, Mo. 63130 (Mb. #1485)

WANTED: Exchange of information on the use of ultraviolet light for examination of French stamps; OFFER to sell or exchange Monaco imperfs, French colonial postal stationery and maximum cards, for coins dates, millesimes, booklets, coils, varieties, shades, and what have you? Robert Seeke, RD #1, Box 137, Nassau, N. Y. 12123 (Mb. #1344)

WANTED: Anything related to 1924 Olympic Games—covers, cancels, picture postcards, postal cards, stamps with misprint varieties—from 1896 to 1948. Sherwin Podolsky, 16035 Tupper St., Sepulveda, Cal. 91343 (Mb. #1644)

WANTED: To purchase a complete set of the France and Colonies Philatelist, will pay \$35.00. Thomas Marra, 1934 Short St., Madison, Wisc. 53715 (Mb. #1712)

CURRENT JOURNAL ARTICLES

Le Monde des Philatelistes (CC, SI)

- #293, Dec. 1976: Brun: "Vraies ou faux?—les cachets de couleurs 1849-70 (Hidalgo fakes)"; Rouques: "La rétouche du 0.50 taxe banderole"; conts. of: DeLizeray, De la Mettrie, Danan, Rykner et Gobillot (end); Savélon, Gavault, Philippon, Frybrough, Lebland, Fr. thématique.
- #294, Jan. 1977: Wirth: "Les 62 timbres Fr. de 1976 et leurs auteurs"; "Les philatélistes et nos timbres—première résultats à notre questionnaire"; Brun et Calves: "Expertises et contre-expertises (on fake expert sigs.)"; Mazabrey: "Comment reconnaître un certain nombre de reparations" (cont.); Neudin: "Le monde des cartes postales—petit histoire de la carte postal illustrée" (begin); Rouques: "Les caméléons de la Réunion"; SPAL: "Les timbres d'Alsace-Lorraine"; conts. of: DeLizeray, Wirth, De la Mettrie, Danan, Savélon, Bertoni, Philippon, Lebland, Fr. thématique, Gavault, Joffre, Ferret, Frybourg, R. W.

L'Echo de la Timbrologie (CC, SI, APRL)

- #1472, Dec. 1976: Storch et Francon: "Découvertes récentes sur le type Blanc" (begin); Dumont: "Les entiers postaux" (begin); Tristaant cont.
- #1471, Nov. 1976: Storch et Francon: "Le plus ancienne carte postale illustrée Française"; Blanc: "Visite à l'imprimerie des timbres poste à Périgueux"; Fournier: "Algérie—le deux types du 2c Kasbah et du 50/60c"; Meyer: "Concorde"; Rouques: "L'identification et le classement des coins datés" (begin); "Timbres env. 1er jour et cachets spéciaux d'Arphila dans le monde."

La Philatélie Française (CC)

- #271 Nov. 1976: Hetnen: "De quelques erreurs ou omissions (on recent Fr. stamps)"; Rouques: "Le classement des coins datés" (cont.); A. D.: "Les achèvements postaux dans la région Nord-Pas de Calais"; conts. of: Demaret, De la Ferté, Delbrel, Bergez, Storch et Francon.
- #272, Dec. 1976: H. T.: "Le 20e Anniv. de l'ouverture du service aérien régulier Française France-Madagascar Nov. 1935-1955"; Tixier: "A propos des faux"; conts. of: Rouques, Bergez.

Documents Philatéliques (CC, SI)

- #71, 1st Trim. 1977, tome XVI: Prugnon: "L'utilisation tardive du 20c noir vers l'étranger"; Bernaux et Leroy: "Guerre de 1870 courrier détourné"; Joany: "Centenaire des Sage"; Lux: "Levees exceptionnelles depuis 1914"; Noel: "Taxe, loi du avril 1910"; deLizeray: "Faux 20c Semeuse de Piel"; deFontaines: "28eme Division Parme"; Pothion: "14e Suppl à l'Encyclopédie."

L'Echangeur Universelle (CC)

- #913, Nov. 1976: Bacquer: "Aqui Andorra, les tres nuances du 6F Vue d'Andorre-la-Vielle"; Melo: "Les marques électroniques"; Bilhaut: "L'escale du Gallieni en 1970 à l'île Rodrigues"; Storch et Francon: "Le type Marianne de Gandon—première séries 1945 le 2.40F rouge préo #714" (begin); Blanc: "les timbres les plus rares de France entre 1900-1940—les Semeuses camées" (cont.); Sinais: "Retro 1900: trois nouveau timbres et un débat à la chambre."

Feuilles Marcophiles (CC)

- #206, 3rd Trim. 1976: Colas: "Correspondance parvenus trop tard en un point de leur achèminement"; Cuny: "Les districts de Paris 1789-90"; Lux: "A propos des B.M.s"; Marbey: "Les timbres humides fiscaux, essai de classification"; Peigne: "Présurisseurs et Postcurseurs des cachets Paimboeuff-Bateau à Vapeur"; Tristant: "L'emploi occasionnel des timbres-poste comme chiffres-taxe"; Rousseau: "Au Havre pendant la première Guerre mondiale—cachets de franchise du Gouv. militaire Belges"; Petit: "Marques de franchise des formations sanitaires de cinq Depts. de l'ouest" (cont.); Sambourg: "Les 'retour à l'envoyer' d'ambulants"; Veyssieres: "Un nouveau cachet a date type 23"; Annet: "Contribution à l'étude de la correspondance des prisonniers de guerre 1939-45" (cont.); Perrin et Saumer: "Annexe à cachets de franchise des SAS-SAU-CAS" (cont.); Bouquet: "La Légion des Volontaires Contre le Bolschévisme"; "Avis au public—correspondance de Metz par ballon."

Philatélie (CC)

- #103, Dec. 1976: Orval: "Les annulations fautives du Dragon d'Annam"; "Un timbre—Les Foires Expos, Un Musée à Port Louis"; "L'Afrique n'est plus Africaine"; "Bordeaux 71: en chemise de nuit, une bougie à la main, Gambetta pleure"; "Pour différencier les reports des émissions Bordeaux"; Leblanc: "Les timbres de poste aérienne du Maroc 1922-24"; Sabatier: "Petits timbres grand profits"; Podovin: "Marcel Goulette—un pionnier de la liaison Paris-Madagascar-La Réunion"; Sinais: "Les secteurs postaux."
- #104, Jan. 1977: Nahmias: "Un timbre—une 'Nature Morte' de Vlaminck"; Clerval: "Soixante voyages aériennes" (rept. on 1870-71 balloon flts.); "La poste aérienne à l'origine de l'aviation commerciale, 1: vol au dessous de l'histoire de la poste aérienne" (begin); "Les grandes dates de l'aviation postale aérienne" (table); "Drugstore à la poste" (a Paris P.O.); Sinais: "Le contrôle des correspondances militaires 1916-17"; Podovin: "les bureaux sédentaires et l'acheminement postal en France et dans les Depts de l'Outre-Mer en 1976."

Bulletin de la Société Internationale d'Histoire Postale

- #30/31, 1976: Barrual: "Billets de surêté des courriers et messagers en Haute Provence en 16e siècle"; Garcin: "Le periple d'un messager dans la viguerie d'Apt en XVIII siècle"; Carnévalé-M.: "Les chemineurs discrets de Monaco au XVIII siècle"; Nougaret: "La poste aux commissions de 1848"; Vuille: "Le traité Franco-Suisse du 22/3/65"; Bourat: "Les transmissions avant la poste en Côte d'Ivoire."

Bulletin de Liaison de la S.A.T.A. (CC)

- #26, Dec. 1976: (list of official greeting cards, thanks cards, and cards of radio amateurs of the Expéd. Pol. Fr. from Terre Adélie 1948-74); Crane: "A propos de l'ouverture du service postal à Crozet (1961 or 62?)"; Bilhaut: (list of missions and calls of the Galliéri 1959-62).

Messages des P et T

- #250, Nov. 1976: "Pablepostage."
- #251, Dec. 1976: "Rappel des divers tarifs postaux actuellement en vigueur."

Révue des PTT de France

- #4, 1976: Schittenheim: "L'histoire de la poste de Colmar à travers les cachets postaux de Louis XIV à 1870."

Le Collectionneur Philatéliste et Marcophile

- #32, Oct. 1976: Camboulivs: "Les télégrams"; Cuny: "Le blocus continental et la poste"; Maguard: "Franchises dans la 14e région de l'Ar-

mée de l'Armistice"; Laborde: "Poste automobile dans le Rhone"; Fradois: "Les timbres fiscaux" (cont.)

Egyptian Philatelic Topics (CC, APRL, SI)

#46, Jan.-Feb. 1977: Winter: "WW I French steamer torpedoed 1918—wreck mail from the 'Atlantique'"; Pierce: "France used in Egypt—the Napoleon campaign (rare doc.)"

Philao

#19, Oct. 1976: (master engraver G. Miermont 1945-73 and Laos stamps engraved by him); history on a Laos stamp; stamps of Indochina.

Bulletin du Club Philatélique Toulonnais

#60, 3/4/ Trim. 1976: "La série surchargé Andorre 1931"

Bulletin de l'Amicale Philatélique de Château-Thierry

#18, Nov. 1976: Dutripon: "La roulette de 1908 à nos jours"; Boblique: "Le 25c Semeuse camée."

Arbeitsgemeinschaft Frankreich

#134, Sept. 1976: Doll: "(the history of the boules du Moulins); Ludicke: (the postmarks of Fr. colonies 1859-92); Aygalades: (Hitler stamps surcharged 'Metz 3'); (the balloon 'Général Uhrich'); Aurand: (on the centenary of Sage); (postal automation in France).

Postal History International (CC, SI, APRL)

v. 4, #5, Nov. 1976: Heyd: "Balloons of Paris 1870-71."

Bulletin de la Assoc. des Collectionneurs des Timbres de la Libération et de la Deuxième Guerre Mondiale

#35, Oct. 1976: Boscus: "Base Atlantique—occup. Italienne à Bordeaux 1943-4"; Brives: "Evolution des prix des timbres de la Libération entre 1946 à 1976"; Boutte: "La France Libre—la France Combattante dans le monde" (end).

Union Postale

#11, 1976: Sniezko: "L'histoire des boites aux lettres" (cont.); "La formation postale au Maroc."

Ice Cap News (CC, APRL)

#119, 120, and 121: Tristant: "The 1st postal service of Kerguelen."

Schweizerische Briefmarken Zeitschrift

11, Nov. 1976: Podovin: "La flamme d'oblitération '38 Grenoble—Centre de tri'."

Filatelie (Czechoslovakia)

#19/20, 1976: Bahoc: (on the surcharges "Poste France...").

F. & C. P. S. OFFICIAL

Notices

Members who have not paid 1977 dues by 1 April will be removed from the mailing list and not receive the April FCP.

The Board at its 18 Jan. meeting: mailed out the announcements for the Rich competition, approved rental of a lounge at Interpex in March (11-13), voted not to make any contribution to the guarantee fund for CAPEX 78, voted to support the efforts of member Malmgren on behalf of the Society at the Philatelic Literature Fair to be held at the Spellman Museum March 19-20 (a supply of FCPs and application blanks was sent).

At the Feb. 15 Board meeting the jury for the Rich competition was named: Stempin, Martin and Blank; only the best one of the slide exhibits will

be shown to the assembled members. The price for a complete back file of the Philatelist was set at \$85, \$1.00 per single copy except \$1.50 for xeroxed copies. The available publications will be advertised in each issue of the Philatelist.

An analysis of the specialties cited by members as listed in the 1976 Directory compared with those in the 1972-3 Directory indicates some interesting trends. It is surprising how wide the scope of interests is among the many members. There are few aspects of French philately that do not have numbers of devotees. In the colonies there are areas that seem to be rather neglected for intensive specialization but the number of members collecting all colonies and territories, colonial cancels and postal history, has doubled since 1972. In comparing the tally of 1972 with 1976 for various specialties, we assume that any change of 10% or more is probably indicative of some real trend—by that criterion the following categories have increased significantly in popularity: topicals, France general collectors of both mint and used, postal history in general, stampless covers before 1815, military posts, railway posts, used abroads, classics mint, used and on cover, cancels on classics, Types Sage, Blanc, Mouchon and Merson, semi-postals, airmails, booklets, coils, FDCs, telephone and telegraphs, parcels post, newspaper, FM, stationery, airmails, deluxe proofs and imperfs, precancels, perfins, occupation issues, Offices, CFA, Andorra, Monaco, Saar, Europa, Colonies General Issues, all colonies and territories, colonial cancels and postal history, French Africa, St. Pierre-Miq., TAAF. Most of the other categories show very little change. There is apparently a tendency for fewer to collect the classics mint only or used only or on cover only, in favor of collecting them all three ways. The trend in modern France seems to be away from collecting all issues in favor of specialization in particular or groups of issues, types of issues, or formats. Likewise the peripheral "Community" areas such as Andorra, Saar, and Europa, show marked increases. Finally we note there are over 30 members who are "doctors" of one sort or another and 37 women members (that's only 15% of the total membership, we should have more—is collecting France such a male chauvinist enterprise?).

Meeting of 4 January

Mr. Christopher Sinclair, the Exec. Secretary of the Philatelic Foundation, exhibited 9 frames of French booklet panes from the Foundation holdings, including some of the Harry Lindquist collection. Ira Zweifach and Marc Martin discussed the material presented. Peter Blanc made notes on it and outlines what was shown according to the categories given in Lesgor's book:

- I. Booklets without advertising with number of stamps and price of the booklet printed on the cover:

- a. Shown were the first booklets issued in 1906-07, sold for 5c above face.
- b. Also these booklets handstamped with "Prix Reduit 2 Frs" on back covers; price reduced because the public would not pay the surcharge for cost of producing the booklets, only for face cost of the stamps; issued in 1910.
- c. Additional types issued in 1910, 1911, 1918-21, and 1929, including the 1917 issue printed on GC paper.

- II. Booklets with advertising on cover as well as the number of stamps contained and the price.

- a. Shown was the only issue of this type, 1922-23, consisting of four denominations.

- III. Booklets with advertising on cover and on stamp margins:

- a. Issues starting in 1924 through 1938 were shown in a multitude of subtypes and varieties.

Also shown was a scarce group of private booklets issued between 1925 and 1929. The entire issue of a booklet was sold to an advertiser who printed his own advertising on them, the *Minéraline* and *Phéna* being famous ones (not shown); one variety shown had a cloth sample affixed to a booklet for advertising materials. Examples of the panes with *Annulé* or *Spécimen overprint* for official use in the postal school were exhibited—they are scarce to rare.

Meeting of 1 February

Owing to illness of the scheduled speaker Irwin Rosen, member Murray Sherman kindly substituted with an exhibit and talk on stamps, covers, and proofs of TAAF. TAAF consists of *Terre Adélie* on the Antarctic mainland, and the islands of Kerguelen, Crozet, St. Paul, and Amsterdam. Some early (1909-20s) French stamps were used at Kerguelen by commercial enterprises, but the first specific issue was the overprint of 1948 on a Madagascar airmail. This stamp is incorrectly listed in many catalogs under Madagascar. The following definitive issues for TAAF were shown as stamps, on cover, and in a variety of proofs, imperfs, FDCs, etc. The number of residents there for the research and exploration parties is small and most of the covers are necessarily philatelic in order to meet the great demand from collectors. It is generally alleged that the income from the many stamp issues and cacheted covers goes to help defray the expenses of the administration and expeditions. Dr. Sherman showed panes of 10 or 25 of the color trial plate proofs, which elicited a lively discussion as to how or why they were made.

Meeting of March 1—The Stephen G. Rich Exhibit and Competition

Some 25 members and guests attended to view the exhibits, including one of the slide exhibits submitted. As the number of exhibits was so small, the judges did not make separate awards in the usual categories nor a "Best in Show." The Lesgor Award for Philatelic Research went to Ruth and Gardner Brown for their "Identification of Balloons" (2 frames). It was a choice selection of balloon covers, including some of the rare flights and "*plis confiés aux Aérostiers*," with careful attention to the dispatch, transit, and arrival markings which permit certain identification of the covers between flights in the same time period. The Browns, in their studies of delayed mails 1870-71, have added the dimension of geography to analysis of postal markings, and demonstrated its importance in identification between such possible flights as Denis Papin/*Armée de Bretagne*, *La Deliverance*/two others, and Gambetta/Keppler.

The Best Topical Exhibit was awarded to Irwin Rosen for his "Life of Paul Gauguin" (2 frames of Oceania and Polynesia depicting the man and his work, on stamps, artist proofs, die and plate trial colors, imperfs, and deluxe proofs—a beautiful lot.)

The Best Slide Presentation was that of Rollo Adams "Design Types of the Cameo Sowers"; slides crisp and well photographed with bellows, showing the minute identification points of the die types of the issue. He also showed in two frames, a fine representation of the stamps, including blocks of the first emergency printing, design types many in millésime pairs, booklets, coils and encased for coinage.

Also shown:—

J. G. Hilton, "Postal History" (1 frame)

Jeanne Hudak, "Boy Scout Issues of Africa" (slides)

Marc Martin, "Imperf. Empire Issue" (2 frames, not in competition).

CORRECTIONS TO "DIRECTORY, 1976"

Page 5: Stempien, Zip Code # should be "11224"

Page 10: Chaite, John J.:—address is "South St. Asaph St."

Page 37: "1870-71 Issues":—"Peyrieux" for "Peurieux," "Modern France mint and used"—"Proulx" for "Proul"

Page 38: "Types Blanc—," and Page 41 "Precancels," "Occ. of France," and "Andorra"; change "Horwitz" to "Hurwitz"

Page 42: "Colonies": "Beuzelin for "Benuzelin"

Page 44: "Exchange": "Yakakuwa"

NEW MEMBERS

- 1714 BRUNO, Alfred, 320 East 58th St., New York, N. Y. 10022
(France Mint. Monaco. Dealer part time. Exchange.)
- 1715 CHAPLEAU, Kenneth E., 631 65th St., Downers Grove, Ill. 60515
(General France all major varieties: mint.)
- 1716 SLIFER, William P., 28 Taylor Road, Conshohocken, Penn. 19428
(General France all major varieties: mint, used, on cover. Classics 1849-1876 used. Sage Type, 1876-1900. Modern France: mint, used, on cover, Blanc, Mouchon, and Merson Types, Sowers; Other types: Paix, Ceres, semi-postals, air mails, coin datés, First Day Covers, miniature sheets (blocs feuillets). Special issues and usages: deluxe proofs, imperforates, precancels; Other: surcharges. Exchange.)
- 1717 PIGLOWSKI, Robert L., 552 Birchwood Square, Apt. 5, West Seneca, N. Y. 14224 (General France all major varieties: mint. Classics 1849-1876: mint, used, Dues. Modern France: mint, Blanc, Mouchon, and Merson Types, Sowers, semi-postals, air mails, booklets, stationery. Europa and U.N.)
- 1718 BLAUSTEIN, Alvin B., M.D., 350 Central Park West, New York, N.Y. 10025 (Modern France: mint, on cover, Blanc, Sowers, semi-postals (B1-41). Special issues and usages: essays (Projects, rejected designs), deluxe proofs, imperforates, artist's proofs and color trials of Blanc & Sowers, specimen, annulé, fictifs, precancels. Colonies General Issues: mint, on cover. All colonies. Philatelic literature.)
- 1719 LAURENDEAU, Jean-Paul, 9822 D'Iberville, Montreal, Quebec, H2B 2T4 Canada (General France all major varieties: mint, used, on cover. Classics 1849-1876: mint, used, on cover, 1870-1871 issues, Commune, ballons, Sage Type. Modern France: mint, used, on cover, Blanc, Mouchon, and Merson types, Sowers, semi-postals, air mails, booklets, coils, coin datés, First Day Covers, miniature sheets (blocs feuillets). Special issues and usages: deluxe proofs, imperforates, artist's proofs and color trials. Offices Abroad, CFA. Andorre, Monaco, Saar, Europa and U.N. Colonies General Issues: mint, used, on cover. All Colonies and Territories, major varieties. All independent republics from independent Africa. Exchange.)
- 1720 EMERSON, Gerald L., 4806 West 138th Place, Midlothian, Ill. 60445
(Offices Abroad. CFA. Andorre, Saar. Colonies General Issues: mint. All colonies and territories, major varieties. Stamps of the colonies before 1955. Philatelic literature pertaining to the identification of forgeries of the colonies.)
- 1721 BERRY, William H. Sr., 120 Florence Drive, Harrisburg, Penn. 17112
(General collector all issues. Colonies General Issues mint and used. All colonies and territories, major varieties.)
- 1722 LEIBY, Dr. G. A., Jr., 7441 W. Ridgewood Dr., Parma, Ohio 44129
(General collector all issues. General France, all major varieties, mint, used, on cover. Classics 1849-1876: mint, used, on cover. Philatelic lit.)

- 1723 McOSKER, Gerald P., 131 Waterman St., Providence, R. I. 02906
(General France all major varieties: mint, used, on cover. Postal history: stampless, covers to and after 1815, Paris marques postales, maritime posts, railway posts. Classics 1849-1876: mint, used, on cover. 1870-71 issues, Commune, Ballons. Alsace-Lorraine, locals. Dues. Plating, flaws of Scott numbers. Cancellations. Sage type, 1876-1900. Modern France: mint, on cover. Special issues and usages: Dues, parcel post, newspaper, Franchise Militaire, stationery, air meetings, first flights, crash covers, Liberation issues, strike stamps, flammes (slogan cancels), expositions, special and temporary bureaus, essays (projects, rejected designs), deluxe proofs; imperforates, artist's proofs and color trials, specimen, annulé, fictifs, precancels, occupation issues of and by France. Philatelic literature. Exchange.)
- 1724 HARKINS, Don, 516 E. Elm, Apt. 3, Springfield, Mo. 65806
(General France all major varieties: used. Classics 1849-1876: used, on cover. Modern France: semi-postals, miniature sheets (bloc feuillets). Philatelic literature. Exchange. Pre-1950 semi-postals used, on cover.)
- 1725 NALAND, W. H., 30841 50th Ave., S.W., Federal Way, Wash. 98003
(General France all major varieties: mint, used. Colonies General Issues, mint, used.)

REINSTATEMENTS

- 224 GOLDWASSER, Marcy A., 3 Etzel St. (108/17), French Hill, Jerusalem, Israel (Specialized France: Paris Marques Postales, military posts, maritime posts, railway posts, used abroad. Classics 1849-1876: mint, used, on cover, 1870-1871 issues, Commune, Ballons, plating, flaws of Scott numbers, cancellations, Sage type, 1876-1900. Dealer part time. Philatelic literature.)
- 1257 NOSEL, Donald M., 136-39 41st Ave., Flushing, N. Y. 11355
(France Colonies except independent Africa and Guadeloupe.)

CHANGES OF ADDRESS AND CORRECTIONS

- 1593 KOHAGEN, Roger, 11831 Pearl Rd., Apt. 611-2, Strongsville, Ohio 44136
- 1207 DICKSON, Evelyn J., 447 Brewster St., Coventry, Conn. 06238
- 1631 McNICHOLS, Robert A., 2833 North Burling, Chicago, Ill. 60601
- 1649 AUSTIN, Jerry C., 732 Westover St., Charlotte, N. C. 28205
- 1169 DOSSIN, Thomas R., P. O. Box 36248, Grosse Pointe, Mich. 48236
- 276 WITTENBERG, G., 2995 E. Crosley Dr., W., Creethaven Villas, West Palm Beach, Fla. 33406
- 1530 SAILLARD, Pierre, 213 North 58th St., Superior, Wisc. 54880
- 156 HOEFLER, Otto, P. O. Box 67, Geyserville, Calif. 95441
- 526 HILTON, Homer, Jr., c/o Clancey, Hansen, Davidson, Chilman & Graybill, Peninsula Bank Building, Ishpeming, Mich. 49849
- 1531 WICHELMAN, Allan F., P. O. Box 341, Santa Clara, Calif. 95050
- 1629 SMITH, Charles S., 223 Commons Drive, N. W., Vienna, Va. 22180
- 512 BLINN, Christine S., P. O. Box 35, Cape May Point, N. J. 08212
- 1420 STEELE, Lt. John R., 1222 Turquoise Vista #780, Tucson, Ariz. 85710
- 1529 LANGDON, Col. Leonard C., Jr., 7020 Colonial Club Dr., Mesa, Az. 85208
- 1690 SIMONS, Richard P., 825 Valley Wood Circle S., Hixson, Tenn. 37343
- 1656 RITCHIE, A. Greig, P. O. Box 844, St. Charles, Mo. 63301
- 1242 SWEETING, Richard J., 1485 Meadowview Dr., Apt. 4, Marion, Ia. 52302
- 1606 MacGREGOR, Donald A., 3503 Poplar St., Erie, Penn. 16508
- 1642 HOLSONBACK, T. Joe, P. O. Box 953, Stone Mountain, Ga. 30083
- 1605 SPONG, Colin Walter, 70 Westlake Gardens, Rusper Road, Worthing BN13 1LF, England

- 1517 BLAIS, Victor J., 950 N. Louise #203, Glendale, Cal. 91207
 1359 DUKE, Stanley H., UW—Madison, Department of Agronomy, Madison, Wisc. 53706
 1535 SHAPIRO, Dr. Bernard L., Box 9865, College Station, Texas 77840
 966 ROBERTS, Trevor D., 737 S. Arbor Dr., Shangri La Shores, Coupeville, Wash. 98239
 1536 SCHMALBERGER, Donald C., c/o The Dudley Observatory, 1202 Troy-Schen. Road, Latham, N. Y. 12110
 1575 SHAPIRO, Ronald M., 3805 Yaqui Drive, #1-A, Flagstaff, Ariz. 86001
 1124 KILMER, Dr. Tom H., 6605 Lautrec Pl., Rancho Palos Verdes, Cal. 90274
 1692 NORTH SUBURBAN STAMP CLUB, P. O. Box 353, Libertyville, Ill. 60048
 1282 O'GRADY, Patricia, 5826 Carlton Way, Los Angeles, Calif. 90028

DECEASED

Thomas Ira Cook (#1598), El Paso, Texas
 Raymond Salles (#1452), Boulogne, France

RESIGNED

Lt. Col. Wm. Jones, Jr., Anthony Paulo, Wm. Lacy, Daniel Walters, Barry M. Kostenko, James C. Haahr, Eugene F. Borys, Solomon Studnitzer, Fred Kramer, James P. Roberts, Richard S. Clover, Harvey O'Connor, Gregory Mozian, Stillman F. Kelley II, Joseph M. Kavanaugh.

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(By 1 April)

Steven Slavik, Christene Travers, H. Yamamoto, Patricia Nicholl, Robert Coltrane, George Alexander, Ira Davidson, Harvey Siegel, Morton Witt, Bill Aten, Lorraine Bailey, Neil Baker, Michael Barie, H. Barnhart, Bill Brandon, Alan Brockway, Richard Brown, Karl Case, Kenneth Elliott, Robt. Gidley, Harold Goldfarb, P. Guardiola, John Haydon, Alan Johnson, F. Knight, Andre Laz, Walter Love, Don. MacKay, J. Musy, Wm. Parsons, Jack Pincus, M. Portnoy, Jas. Propst, E. Ray, H. Selzer, Leon Smith, J. W. Story, P. Strong, Percy Tuffin, Wm. Urko, P. Valentine, K. E. Van Every, Alice Verhotz, M. Boule, M. Gandveau, Tom Gore, M. Jamet, G. S. Kerycznski, G. Olivier, J. Schatzkes, L. Shotton, Bennie L. Cowan (address unknown).

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 "A Glossary of English Equivalents of Terms Commonly Used in French Auctions, Catalogues, and Stamp Trade. By Robert G. Stone and Marc W. Martin, 1973, 12 pp.—\$2.00
 "The Regular Issues of France 1876-1945 According to Their Normal Postal Usage." By Stanley J. Luft. 1974, 88 pp.—\$5.00
 "A Key to the Lozenge Obliterators of French Colonies General Issues 1860-92." By Robert G. Stone. 1977, 11 pp.—\$2.00

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