



France & Colonies Philatelist

USPS #207700

THE "LIBREVILLE/GABON" POSTMARKS OF 1886-1906— A STUDY OF ITS BREAKS AND DATE NUMERALS

By Pierre Raynaud
 LeVaufermé, F28240—La Loupe, France

Introduction

At the beginning of 1886 the name "Libreville," the modest capital of one of the most modest of French Colonies—Gabon—(whose administrative existence even disappeared from 1888 to 1904), appeared in a date postmark for the first time. That was 46 years after the first postmark was used there, which read "Établissements du Gabon/Gabon," and 24 years after the second postmark used there—the one with the combined inscription of "Cote d'Or et Gabon/Gabon" (last date seen 17 Jan. 1886).

The "Libreville/Gabon" postmark replaced the latter type (or more exactly a second die of it), the first date known being 18 Feb. 1886 (with the "86" date numerals broken at top). This type had the inner ring continuous, 13¼ mm diameter, the slightly thicker outer ring being 21½ mm diam. The letters are 2¾ high, the numerals 2¾ to 3 mm for day of month, and 3.2 mm for year numerals. The letters of "Libreville" are 2.2 mm. Whereas of the two earlier postmarks, 2 or 3 dies are known and 2 varieties of the "GAB" lozenge, only one die of the "Libreville/Gabon" mark is found.

This Libreville postmark is remarkable for its breaks. It was used to cancel nearly all the first 15 stamps of Gabon of 1886-89 and a good part of those of 1889 (Yv. and Sc. #s 14-15). So these breaks are important clues and signs of authenticity.

It is confirmed that initially the postmark device showed no breaks and gave perfect impressions. Thus the late Cte. de Pomyers wrote me on 28 Nov. 1961: "I have found a rarity of the first rank: a 25c yellow Dubois ('Commerce') of the Colonies cancelled Libreville/Gabon with the outer ring entirely printed (inked) in its original form (date 18 April 1886). (Fig. 1) [One day after the latest strike of the "Cote d'Or et Gabon/Gabon" mark; before De Pomyers' copy and mine with date 18 Feb. 1886 on a cover were reported, the

Libreville mark was unknown to me in completely mint state as I had not yet seen Montader's article of 1909 (Fig. 9.) On the 20th July 1886 the ring above 'Libreville' already had weaknesses of a break sort. It must have very quickly developed damage or breakage."

The break and date-numeral varieties of this mark are described and discussed in the following paragraphs.

1. The Break in the First "L" of "LL" of Libreville.—

In my opinion that is the most remarkable of the breaks, but it was not noted by de Pomyers. It is a deep break that appears from the beginning of the wear of the mark and is found on all the impressions of the Libreville/Gabon mark from about May 1886 up to 1906. The top of the break is at 1 mm and the base at 7/10th mm from the bottom of the first "L" of the "LL." (Figs. 2 and 9). It is the most certain sign of authenticity. However, one should note that it practically doesn't appear to exist on those impressions so heavily inked that the break is closed over.

2. The Wearing Away of the Tops of the Numerals of the Year Date.—

This is noticeable during July-Aug.-Sept. 1886. (Fig. 3). One observes it especially on the first surcharged stamps of 1886 and above all on the Yv. #3A (Sc. 3e) of "56 Points."

3. The Break Above the "V".—

This break, which occasionally takes on the appearance of only a weakness along half of its length, is as important as that of the break in the "L," because it is found (more or less marked depending on the force of the strike) on all authentic impressions from May 1886 up to 1906! (Fig. 9). Its effect is notable for being situated exactly between the prolongations of the two sides of the "V," amounting to a 2mm-long break. (Fig. 4). In my opinion it is a

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All contributions to and questions concerning the contents and policy of this magazine should be sent to the Editor:

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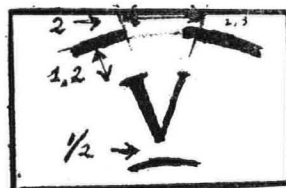


1

LLE 86

2

3



4



5



6



7

146



Messieurs ARCHAMBEAUD FRERES.

88

Quai des Chartrons, 72

8

BORDEAUX



most remarkably constant break, but again it was not mentioned by de Pom-yers.

4. The Spacings Between the Two Rings and the Letters.—

It is 1.2 mm at the top and $\frac{1}{2}$ mm at the bottom of the letters. (Fig. 4).

5. The Great Break (Grande Cassure) in the Ring at the Left.—

This is also remarkable, for its long duration (over 20 years), though it disappears more or less completely according to the strength of the stamping in stronger strikes; but even then one can still distinguish a disturbance in the edge of the outer ring, as if weakened on a bevelled edge. It began in Sept. 1886 opposite the position of the first "L" of Libreville with little more than 2 mm in length. From 1887 on there usually remains a small "point" in the opening (as in Fig. 5). The break spread rapidly (before 2 Oct. 1886) to 5.5 mm at left, extending 0.7 mm to left of the first "L" of Libreville. By 1888 it reached upwards to a position above the "R" in Libreville (Fig. 9), where it remained well marked until the end of 1906. In Jan. 1889 this grande cassure at the left had reached a line passing by the middle of the upper loop of the small "8" and the base of the head of the "9" (the small "9" at that time is broken and shifted upward). In April 1889 it extended downward to a position opposite the large year-numerals "89," to a line passing by the middle, later to a line by the base, of the numerals (i.e., becoming 13 and 13.5 mm long, resp.). (Figs. 5, 6, 9).

6. The Grande Cassure of the Right.—

There is also a weakness in the ring metal on the right side and its dimensions and clarity vary from one strike to another. (Fig. 9). The extreme dimensions run from a line parallel to that of the alignment of the letters of the month passing by the foot of the day numeral and passing by the 2/3rds of the

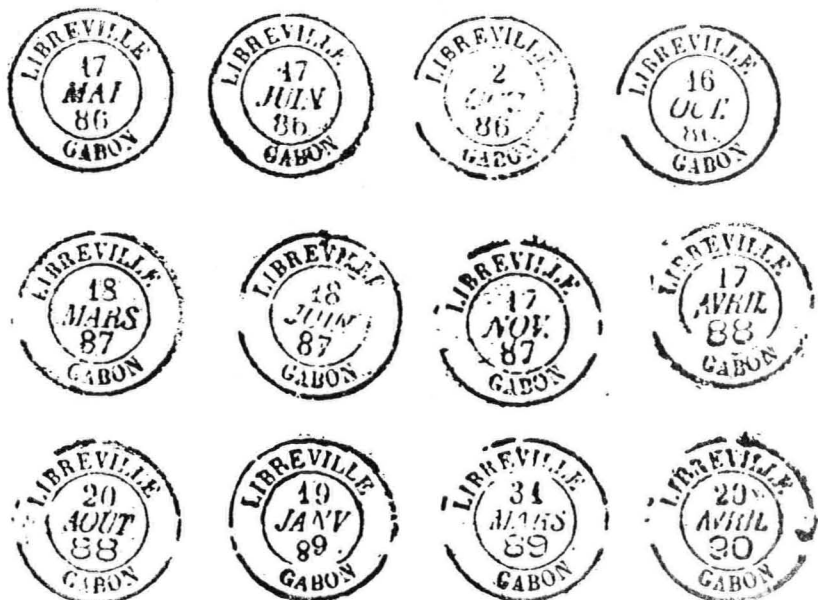


Fig. 9

height of the large year-numeral. A striking example was seen by us in three successive impressions of 7 May 1889 in the lower margins of two set-tenant panes of Yv. and Sc. #13. (Fig. 5).

7. Slight Thickening of the Inner Ring at the Right.—

On the right hand side between the last "L" of Libreville and the "N" of Gabon or further up (not always very noticeable), a thickening exists from Feb. 1887 to 1906. (Figs.1, 5 and 9).

8. The Metamorphoses of the Small Dater-Numerals "89".—

In the first days of 1889, if not at the end of 1888, and in any case before 6 Jan. 1889, the "8" of "89" (small numerals) shows itself inverted and the lower part of the "8" then appears narrower than the upper. (Fig. 9). And the "9" is raised up and has sometimes a break or reentrant in the upper loop at right. (Fig. 7). On the 5th Jan., the "9" is still normal, but on the 6th it is broken.

On 21 Feb. 1889 the alignment of the day numerals presents an anomaly in the shifting of the "2" downwards. On 1 March the right side of the upper loop of the "8" (of "89") has a break (Fig. 9) and the usual upward shift of the "8" by 1 mm now sometimes reaches 1.5 mm and the reentrant of the "9," perhaps filled-back some, may appear weakened. The "8" has moved to the right between 8th and 15th (?) of March. On 18 March the "9," perhaps now fully "repaired," has the form of an inverted "C." On the 19th it becomes normal again and has much less upward shift (Fig. 9).

De Pomyers indicated to me: "During March—between 5th and 22nd—the '9' disappeared entirely." Nothing of this is seen in the reference material I have checked. Perhaps type for a "9" was lacking on just one day, taken out to be repaired? In any case the reference material at least shows that it was replaced (if ever missing) before 5 March, perhaps by 21 Feb. and by 18-19 March the "9" had definitely been restored. It seems most surprising that they would only have had one "9" type available—but it would confirm our other evidence that they had available for use only one die of the Libreville/Gabon mark (i.e., none in reserve). Moreover at that very time, the die of the "Libreville/Corr. D'Armées" octagonal mark always lacked a "9." We noticed this lack of "9" (in the "89") on 19 reference cancels on Yv. and Sc. #7 (15/1Fr olive), which was exclusively used at the beginning of 1889 (8-9 Feb. to 22 March) as well as on the Yv. and Sc. #6 and #10. Hence it seems they had no spare "9" either!

9. The Affair of the Large Numeral "89" and the "88"s.—

Authorities are sometimes too positive!. It is better to study some more.

Rather "squatty" large "89" year-numerals (3 mm high, the "8" 2.4 mm wide, the "9" 2.6 mm wide), replaced the smaller "89" with the shifted and distorted "9" and small-topped "8," precisely on the 27th March 1889. But this date of change of the numerals was unknown to de Pomyers. Having at hand in my own collection an example of the large "89" dated before 27 March and unquestionably authentic, and since some collectors had said it did not exist before that date (as it was a new die), I was impelled to make a search—even if not exhaustive—which led me to find no less than 34 reference pieces of the large "89" in major auction sales of 1956-78, with dates ranging from 14 Jan. to 26 March 1889 on Yv. and Sc. #6 to #10 stamps that were indubitably genuine. Thus I was forced to admit that the large "89" had been put in service before 27th March 1889 and had been frequently interchanged (in the lone die) with the small "89" at the whim of the postal clerk; since the

breaks and anomalies on all these authentic cancels having both types of "89s" (—507 reference examples examined!—) were constant, it proved that there was only one die of the "Libreville/Gabon."

That disposes also of any hypothesis that some of the "89" large numerals were "backdated" at the request of collectors, as claimed by Fregnac and the famous financier/dealer Baron Erard Leroy d'Etiolles (died 1905), at a time when used stamps were much preferred.

Moreover, the use of the large numerals in the year dater began as early as 17 June 1888! I found 5 cancels with large "88" and 8 are in the Daniel collection, on Dubois 5, 10, 15 and 75c stamps.

I could doubt all these facts and think of them as "backdated" cancels, but why? Since these stamps were used up to the year 1890/91 and if the large numerals had first been put in service in the year 1889, it would probably have been impossible later to find two "8"s to make the "88." Meanwhile, I obtained from the great Schatzkes collection, two "unique" genuine covers of 1888 with large "88"s—and that settles the matter! One of the covers is the only recorded one with the postmark of "Lambarene(Ogowe)/ Gabon" in the "Libreville/Gabon" style, dated 12 Nov. 1888 with arrival mark of Bordeaux on the cover and on a French dues stamp dated 10 Dec. 1888. The other cover, addressed to MM. Archambaud Frères, Quai de Chartres 72, is postmarked 20 Nov. 1888 at Libreville with the same Bordeaux arrival mark. (Fig. 8).

Finally, the cover reproduced by Melville in *Stamp Lover* of Jan. 1935, has an unquestionably genuine Libreville/Gabon postmark of 19 June 1888 on a 25c Dubois stamp and repeated on the cover front; the latter has all the typical breaks in the outer ring, but the strike on the stamp has been filled in by some collector (and the Haut-Oubanghi Mission local label on the cover has been fraudulently added later).^{*} The pattern of the ring breaks on the untampered postmark on this cover is very similar to that on a cover of 20 April 1888.

10. To sum up, it is a remarkable fact, that while the weakness of the metal of the outer ring was being accentuated and broken into, and the slight indent above the "V" which first existed in September 1886 opened up and continues more or less accompanied by other breaks at right and left sides of the ring, the formerly very heavy edges (thickening) over the "R" are now in 1888-89 normal (even-edged) while the breaks below the "R" have been variable.

11. Withdrawal of The Small Numerals of the Dater.—

All that it's possible to say is that the small numerals were withdrawn on the 27th of March 1889, but not at the very opening of the postoffice on that day since a cancel of 27 March 1889 with the small numerals is recorded that is absolutely genuine (in a Thiaude auction of 1969). Anyway, that is the last date seen of use of the small numerals, and from then on normally all cancels including those of 27 March are with the large numerals.

This seems to me to put an end to all the questions and long disquisitions of de Pomyers about the alleged abusive use of the "Libreville/Gabon" cancels on the 30, 35, and 75c Sage colonies stamps (Yv. #s 26, 45, 28) that he called "authentic marks with fake year numerals dated 21, 22, and 23 April 1889." In fact, the forgeries of the Libreville/Gabon are generally without any characteristic breaks (very rare with breaks moreover, only 2 or 3 examples known and nothing indicates that these were stolen or lost dies at some (unknown time and "abusively used").

12. Late Uses of the Libreville/Gabon Mark.—

Sometime after the promulgation on 28 Feb. 1889 of the new name for the colony: "Gabon-Congo," a new die reading "Libreville/Gabon-Congo" was put into service, known used 7 June 1890 to 31 Aug. 1891, and the Libreville/Gabon mark was withdrawn from normal use—latest dates seen 31 Dec. 1889 on an Yv. and Sc. #14, and 20 April 1890 (Fig. 9).

However, the Libreville/Gabon mark with all its breaks was kept in the post office and put to use again occasionally during 1904-06; these late uses were probably made by clerks at windows for special types of mail, or *levées exceptionnelles*, etc. Thus it is recorded (rare) on the recess stamps of 1900 in the Panther and Bagaloea Woman types, first printings in perf 11, the dater in non-serif characters with large numerals ("04"); and also on the Group ("Navigation and Commerce") Type of Gabon (Yv. and Sc. #s 16-32), cancelled in 1905 ("5" in non-serif numerals, the "0" missing)—known on a 10c on cover, on 15c, 30c, 50c, and 1Fr—and in 1906 (large numeral "06" (—all very rare). The 1905 strikes have a new small break ($\frac{1}{2}$ mm) in the outer ring below the "G" of Gabon.

13. The Fake Libreville/Gabon Marks.—

There are numerous counterfeits of the mark, including the Fourniers which look like genuines but are with fixed daters, either "8 Aout 88" or "20 Mai 89" (and of course only on Fournier imitated stamps). Most of the fakes other than Fourniers are easily detected by such wrong features as: incorrect dimensions, the two circles too close together, fleurons at sides, date numerals (espec. "89"s) in wrong style and or size, without any breaks or breaks in wrong places and form—fakes with imitation breaks are extremely rare, however. It is surprising to see so many of the fake cancels on rare genuine stamps with signatures or guarantees of prominent dealers, experts, and auction houses.

*See my article on the Haut-Oubanghi labels in *Scotts Monthly Journal* for September.

- Fig. 1. De Pomyers 25c Dubois stamp with pristine strike of the Libreville/Gabon postmark, dated 19/Avril/86.
- Fig. 2. Enlarged sketch of the break in the first "L" of the "LL" in Libreville.
- Fig. 3. Enlarged sketch of the "86" year numerals with tops eroded away.
- Fig. 4. Enlarged sketch of the break above the "V" of Libreville, which may be faintly closed in strongly-inked strikes.
- Fig. 5. The strong strike of 7 Mai 89 on the margins of a mint pane of Gabon Yv. #13 (Sc. #13), showing breaks in the outer ring at left and at right, with the point remaining in midst of the break opposite the first "L" of Libreville, a faint closure of the break the "V," and the thickening of the inner ring at right between the final E of Libreville and final N of Gabon.
- Fig. 6. Strong strike of 14 June 1889 on a Gabon Yv. #15 (Sc. #15), similar to Fig. 5 but the break at right is more marked.
- Fig. 7. Enlarged sketch showing the deformed "89" year numerals, with inverted "8" and the "9" raised and broken, as of Jan. 6 to sometime in Feb. 1889. ("9" is 1 mm higher than "8.")
- Fig. 8. The cover with Libreville/Gabon mark dated 02 Nov. 1888, proving large size year numerals were put in service in that year and not in March 1889 as formerly alleged by various specialists.

Fig. 9. A series of examples of the Libreville/Gabon mark between 17 May 1886 and 29 April 1890, showing successive stages of the breaks and the varying sizes of the year numerals. From an article by A. Montader in *Le Postillon*, 1909, pp. 465-470; the author may have retouched them slightly but it does not seem so except on the 19 Jan. 1889 example, which is not like any I have seen, with breaks in unrecorded places and some usual ones filled in, but the "89" looks good—it was a perhaps defective inking, which caused Montader to think it was a new die (for which there is no other evidence).

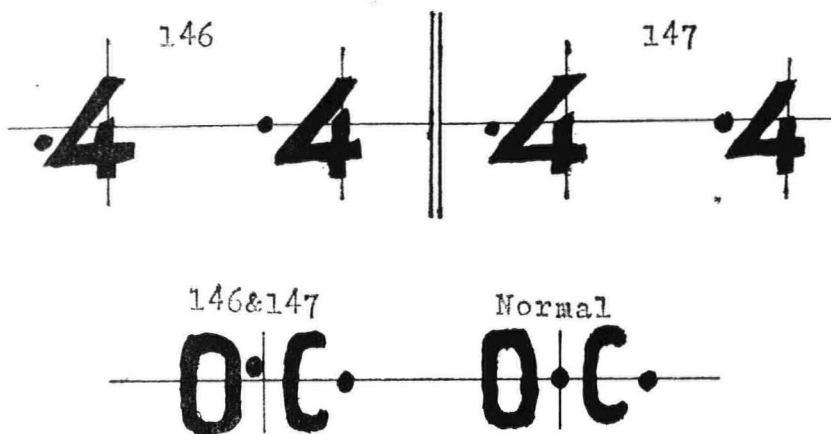
PLATERS CORNER

Varieties of the First Issue, 1849-50.—Some mysteries remain, even though most have been resolved by study of these printings and further of the use of some of the same plates to print perforated stamps of the same values 1871-76.

15c tête-bêche.—The only known issued copy, one stamp cut in at bottom, is on the cover Paris-New Orleans bearing three pairs of the 15c which is illustrated at p. 26 of the Yvert 1975 Specialized catalogue (ex Ferrari). Only two panes of 150 subjects were used to print the 3.3 million copies of this first issue, and the tête-bêche position is established as position 80. In his London show special catalogue, our member Bernard Behr offers an essay printing on thick paper, strip of three and has kindly given us the photograph to reproduce here. There is not sufficient margin at right to establish whether it is from the right or left pane of a sheet of 300; and the truth may be that there is no answer as some of these early printings were done in half sheets of 150. If for example, the 1862 Hill special printings were done from only one half plate that would explain why nobody (so far) has come up with a tête-bêche of that printing.



40c retouched fours.—The story of the re-engraving of the figure of value at positions 146 and 147 of the sheet is well-known. Those working only with a Scott catalogue, however, don't have enough information from the line drawing of a single numeral labelled "type II" for this and the 1870-76 perforated and Colonies General issue printings. So let's tackle this one—on the two stamps all fours were re-engraved by hand and all are different, only three being readily distinguishable from a normal figure. These three are the two numerals on stamp position 146 and the left numeral on stamp 147, as shown in the drawing. There are three tests to confirm a stamp as having the re-engraved, "wide" 4: 1.) in the 1850 printings, not always visible in the later printings from worn plate, the right end of the mouth has a line characteristic of the cliché for the 20c; 2.) as illustrated at p. 31 of the Yvert 1975 specialized, the dot between the left fleuron and the 4 is not in normal position; and finally and most reliably, 3.) as reported by that indefatigable plater, the late Pierre Germain in *Documents Phil.* #63, the dot between the left zero and the "C" is higher than a horizontal line drawn through all the other dots in the tablet of value.—J.E.L.



PRELIMINARY PROGRAM OF FRENCH STAMPS FOR 1981

On 8 May the PTT announced the new issues so far planned for 1981—the final program will be announced in November.

Stamps with Surtax:— Journée du Timbre—Goya's "Femme lisant une lettre," or his "La Lettre d'Amour"; Red Cross: two stained glass windows of F. Leger; Celebrated personages: Teilhard du Chardin, J. Offenbach, Soeur Anne M. Javouhey.

Stamps Without Surtax:—

Art series: Pissarro's "La sente du chou"; and work of Albert Gleizes.

Philatelic-creation series: works commissioned from Ed. Pignon, and A. Manessier.

Europa series: Folklore theme—Sardane (Catalan), and Bourrée croisée (Berry).

Touristic series: Nîmes, St. Emilion, Basilica of Ste. Anne d'Auray, Abbaye de Vaucelles.

Great accomplishments series:— 4 stamps on different scientific or technologic developments (biology, new energy sources, marine depths, microelectronics, telematics).

Commemorative and Miscellaneous:—

Two stamps for the Philexfrance '82 (old means of postal transport);

"L'Eau"—childrens paintings, for CSPF at Vichy

Métiers d'art—binding

"Armée"

Salon de l'Aéronautique et de l'Espace

Centenaire de la Caisse Nat. d'Epargne

"Presse"—350 anniv. of "Gazette de France," cent. of "La Presse," and Law on the freedom of press.

Airmail: 5F "Costes et le Brix."

ANNOUNCEMENTS AND NEWS



◆ On 31 May the 1.10 Papillon "Graellsia Isabellae" was issued; on 2 June 1.10, 1.30, and 1.80 stamps in the "Nouveau Batiment du Conseil de l'Europe" design for use of the Conseil; on 7 June 2.00 Chateau de Maintenon and 2.00 Albrecht Dürer (to promote the PhilexFrance 1982), on 10 June 1.30 for Assoc. Intern. des Relations Publiques, 21 June 1.50 Année du Patrimoine, 5 July a 1.60 Sciences de la Terre, and 12 July the 2.50 Rochambeau Arrivée à Newport. Sometime around 1st of Sept. a stamp (outside the regular program) will be issued to commemorate the 1st non-stop airplane crossing Paris to New York, 1930. On 22 Sept. a 3.00 Jean Picart le Doux-Hommage à J. S. Bach.

◆ For Andorre, a 1.10 Dent de Chiens appeared on 21 June; on 1 Sept. a stamp for the Championnats du Monde de Cyclisme, and 8 Sept. one for the

4th Centenaire de la Maison des Vallées, will be issued.

◆ On 21 March Jean Davezac the Commissaire Général of the Expo Philex-France '82 called a meeting of representatives of French philatelic activities. It was announced that the Expo will be held from 10 to 24 June 1982 at the Centre National des Industries (CNIT), Paris La Defense, which is a new satellite-town development in the vicinity of Paris. The hall of 30,000 sq. m. will hold the 6,500 frames planned and the various displays and booths. Davezac will be assisted by M. Gourin, the President of the French Federation of Philatelic Societies. But a shadow was drawn on the planning because our member Roger Loeuillet, the Pres. of the CNEP dealers/experts syndicate, and who heads the philatelic commerce section for the Expo, indicated the CNEP would put some conditions on its participation. This was mostly a protest over the dénouement of a CNEP project to issue some labels for its Salon "Alsatec," which was shot down by the disapproval of the PTT and the Académie de Philatélie. The CNEP advertised that for its Expo Alsatec on 15 March it would issue a "bloc" (sheet) of gummed perfed labels imitating the two 1870 Alsace-Lorraine stamps but with colors inversed, and that these would be cancelled by an official FD postmark of a Bureau Temporaire. 75,000 sets were to be issued at 10Fr a copy, "limited" to 5 copies per customer! The PTT then denied it would cancel these labels with its official postmark and warned that they had no franking power. The Académie sent out a statement that it was opposed to this project. A lot of polemics have been going on in Paris over this, and the CNEP is using the affair as a basis of possibly withholding its participation in EXPO '82.

◆ The subjects for the Europa stamps of 1982, 1983, and 1984 were decided at the CEPT meeting at Brussels 10-21 March. For 1982 it will be "historic events," for 1983 great works of human engineering, and for 1984 a competition for a design will be held in 1982 to commemorate the 25th Anniv. of CEPT. The logo emblem of CEPT is a protected property and may not be used by any non-CEPT countries.

◆ The Secrétariat d'Etat de Postes et Télécommunications has changed its name on 16 January to Secrétariat aux Postes, Télécommunications, et Télédiffusion—abbreviated P.T.T. (as it used to be some years ago but for a different wording).

◆ Many have asked us whether the Thiaude firm is still in business as its 1980 Catalogue never appeared, but Thiaude ran ads in the stamp journals as late as last Feb. saying it had bought 5 million francs worth of stock in the last 6 months, so it is implied they are still selling retail.

◆ In our note on the awards at INDIA-80 in April FCP we regret that we omitted mention that member Marc Isaacs obtained a vermeil for his Indo-China 1862-1908 exhibit. Apologies.

◆ At FRESPEX (Fresno, Cal.) in March Stan Luft's French Military Campaign exhibit won a Vermeil, and Ruth and Gardner Brown's Detoured Mail of 1870-71 a Silver-bronze. Member Early Plyler was an apprentice judge. Our FCPers are said to have had themselves a great time wining and dining. Anita Luft and Ernie Cohn were also there.

◆ Congratulations to member Arnaud de la Mettrie on his promotion from Lt. de Vaisseau to Capitaine de Corvette.

◆ Our former member Georges Behr, long-time Paris dealer/expert died on 25 March at 87 years. He was one of the last prominent Paris dealers of the pre-War period. His son, member Bernard Behr, took over the business a few years ago. Georges had the Croix de Guerre 1914-18 and Médaille Militaire, and was an Officer de l'Ordre National du Mérite. Some of our mem-

bers may recall his visit to U.S. at the time of the famous Caspary Sale in NY, when he was our guest at our annual banquet along with several other Paris dealers (see photo in FCP #124, p. 140). We extend our condolences to his family and son.

◆ At NAPEX over the July 4 holidays, FCPS was not without some presence. Our Theo Van Dam was a judge. Clarence Stillions, a NAPEX Trustee, was helping out. Dave Zimmerman won a Large Silver for his Free French Levant Censorship covers, Wm. Simon a Small Silver for his classic France, and your Editor a Gold for his Colonies Navigation and Commerce Issues. Walter Parrshall came down from New Joisey, and Gary Hendershott up from Arkansas. Martin Stempien, Jr., manned the Metro Stamp Co. booth. Bill Waugh gave the exhibits his usual careful evaluation, and helped us celebrate with a Champagne Brunch. A high-quality show, mostly foreign countries, and well-judged.

◆ The Philatelic Group of Boston at its March meeting presented our member Ralph Malmgren and its member the 5th annual Lester Downing Award for his long and continued valuable promotion of philately and his expertise in French philately.

◆ Member Jacques Duffy, a Professor at Brown Univ., has been granted \$255,253 for 3 years of fundamental research on how metals are affected by stresses over a range of temperatures, a matter of practical interest to the machine-tool industries of Providence.

◆ In perusing the masthead of BNA Topics, sent us by member Maggie Toms, we were agreeably surprised to note that the slate of officers of the BNA Phil. Soc. is well studded with FCPS members: Pres.—Guy de Rivières; Past-Pres.—Leo La France; Chairman of the Board—Robert H. Pratt; Board Member and Membership Chmn.—Clarence A. Stillions. What is it that cross fertilizes BNA with France and Colonies?

◆ Lest we forget—RIPEX XV will be held in Providence 3-5 Oct., good show for France and Cols. awards; write Ray Gaillaguet, 221 Waterman, Prov. 02906 for application for frames. The RIPEX will hold genuine New England Clam Bake on Aug. 16th—any NE members wishing to attend call or write Ray G. for directions and price.

◆ The Northeast Federation of Stamp Clubs will hold a regional show in Boston Hynes Audit. Aug. 21-24, which is expected to be eligible for APS Champions of Champions. On Sunday the 24th Ray Gaillaguet will hold an informal meeting of FCPSers and give a slide show—write him if interested.

◆ According to Mel Feiner's April Postal Stationery report the France 1.00Fr Marianne postal card of 7/27/78 has been printed to private order in honor of a Trampoline Contest held Nov. 30-Dec. 1, 1979 at Bois Colombes (—or is it just a repiquage?). The 8.40F pneumatic letter-card of 1/18/77 is still in use and sells for 8.50 (Champlain design).

◆ Member Mark Schumacher of the UNC-Greenboro library gave a talk on April 7 to the Greensboro chapter of the Alliance Francaise on "Images de Paris à travers la philatélie française" illustrated with 54 slides he made showing close-ups of French stamps.

LONDON 1980—SHOW REPORT

Your footsore correspondents reporting. This, over 4000 frames, was the biggest show we have ever seen, and we spent five days doing nothing but looking at exhibits. If you can believe twelve days in London in early May without opening our umbrellas, you will forgive us if we complain of the lack

of adequate lounge space (particularly in the food-serving areas) to sit and rest our weary bones. The Queen's patronage was all the publicity the show needed; and the public responded with long lines to see the Royal exhibit. (Great rarities, and believers in never-hinged will be demoralized to hear that her mint copy of the 2 pence POST OFFICE Mauritius is mounted with a hinge!)

General impressions.—The hall was spacious, rug on the floor a comfort, and the frames well lit and without glare. The fan shape of the exhibit hall did present some difficulties in the arrangement of the exhibit sections, but the committee rose to the challenge by subcontracting to a local cabdriver who managed to squeeze everything in, around, and over. We examined 616 exhibits, nearly 3500 frames, to score on our own. We didn't do the juniors, nor the literature which was locked up on the balcony, and just skimmed the airmails and topicals. Quality was high (Jury awarded an incredible 51 large golds, 142 small golds, and 185 vermeils) but there were some disappointments. The National Class, only 55 exhibits including postal history, was the smallest we've seen. Counting Commonwealth, the total of 216 exhibits in 1044 frames made the British Empire total 25% of the show. Postal History with 147 exhibits was again a significant part of the show, although we will let Cohn expound on our suspicion that at least a dozen of them belonged in either the country or topical sections.

France was thin; and only by counting the entries in the Class of Honor, from the Musée Postal, airmails, postal history, and the scatterings of used abroad in China, Egypt, Palestine, and Turkey, and both Caribbean and South America, could we conclude that the representation was adequate. Levett's Bordeaux with mint bloc-reports of most values and reconstructions got the only large gold. Three exhibits of Classics got small gold, and two exhibits of 1870-71 postal history did as well.

Community specialists take heart, this was your show! Colonies General Issues exhibits took a large and a small gold; there were two exhibits of New Hebrides, with the 1903 Syndicate issue on cover; a fine showing of the campaign in Egypt with Napoleon and Kleber documents; IndoChina with CECA cancel in Saigon 1862 and 3½ frames of CCH cancels; two exhibits of Saar, including the stampless forerunner markings; an exhibit of Algeria with the 1849 20c black c.a.d. 10 Jan. Oran/Poss. d'Afr.; a fine exhibit of Monaco with 1694 letter from Louis XIV to the Prince, and 1870-71 covers via boules from and balloons to; display of Alsace with two strikes of the rare Bergzabern, a Strasbourg optical telegram of 1815, and plenty of 1870-71 material including the Strasbourg and Mulhouse red-cross stationery; five frames of St. Pierre postal history, and finally the small gold exhibit of Madagascar including the consular mails and all the French usages for Diego-Suarez, Mayotte, and Nossi-Be.

France & Colonies **Philatelist** got a silver-bronze in the literature class; members Ernst Cohn a diploma for his monograph on U.S. Diplomatic Pouch mail 1870-71, and editor Ira Zweifach a vermeil for the Collectors Club **Philatelist**. Twelve other members exhibiting, and their awards were:—

Issac Backal, 1825-85 Maritime posts in Mexico—vermeil

Mrs. Christine Blinn, Danish West Indies—vermeil

Paul Dinger, Dornier DO-X airmails—silver

Mark Isaacs, IndoChina 1862-1906—silver

Stanley Jersey, New Hebrides 1842-1922—silver bronze

Marc Martin, Maritime Mails 1785-1900—vermeil

Joseph Nahra, Lebanon/Syria—silver

H. M. Nathanson, Barbados—small gold
Mrs. Yvonne Newbury, Siege of Paris—small gold
Robert Pratt, St. Pierre Postal History—vermeil
Dr. Martin Stempien, Jr., Franco-British Accountancy Marks—silver with
 felicitations of the jury
Dr. B. Vermeer, Colonies General Issues—small gold.
Congratulations! And again our thanks to the members of FCPS(UK)
whose courtesies added so much. (—Lievsey, Waugh)

SPRING BANK HOLIDAY IN KENSINGTON GARDENS

It's bad enough to begin a spring vacation in London on a Sunday, when everything is closed tighter than a virgin's knees. Follow that with Monday Bank Holiday, and we're ready for a revival of the old cartoon series "There Oughta Be a Law."

Fortified overnight with Jamesons, we (Bill Waugh and I) set out to walk off the spare day. Our hotel (Winston Close, 14 Hyde Park Gate) serves a solid breakfast, and host Joe Comanca wishes us a pleasant day. It was 40° overnight, sweater and topcoat weather against a gusting northeast wind, so his sunny, Madeira smile is as good as we can expect according to the forecast.

Immediately across Kensington Road are the flowers and greenpark of Kensington Gardens. The "Flower Walk" is bright with many shades of azalea, from blue to orange, and tulips high and low. Daffodils have come and gone, but wisteria is just coming into bloom. The chestnuts are spiked with blossoms, high majestic trees not clipped in the French fashion. A pair of bunnies, black and brown, hop in the bushes in the corner just down from Broadwalk; and two ambitious squirrels and several hovering goldfinches let us know that they wouldn't refuse a handout. (Another day.) The flock of pigeons at the puppy fountain at the corner give the same message.

Up through the greenpark we see kite-flyers and the traditional junior yachtsmen on the Round Pond. Kensington Palace is shut tight, which seems to suit well the couples smooching under the grape arbors. The ducks in the tulip-lined garden pond don't seem to mind either. Kids in the playground appear nonplussed by the fanciful carvings of the Elfin Oak; we are the only inspectors.

So out the top of the park into Bayswater Road, and then back down Kensington Church Street past the equivalent of Second Avenue's (NYC) row of antique shops. Only one pub open, and too late for lunch. The Italian restaurant serving up rope and canned dogfood under the title spaghetti Bolognese deserves anonymity; at £1.80, oblivion would be just.

Coming back to the elbow of Kensington High Street we are passed by two units of the fire brigade, blue lights flashing and the crews buttoning up their togs. At Palace Gate we can see smoke down the road, and by the time we get to Queen's Gate we see flames at street level but the fire engines stopped at the police barricade. Overhead a helicopter is holding steady station to the north of the fire. When we reach the Albert Memorial (as far as bystanders are allowed) the Iranian Embassy at Prince's Gate is well involved—flame and smoke are visible at the roof as well. It has taken ten minutes to walk here, and only now that the shooting has stopped is the barricade shifted so the firecrews can move in to fight the blaze. The siege is over in the early evening of Bank Holiday in Kensington Gardens.

—John E. Lievsey

MEETING OF FCPS (UK) 9 MAY AT LONDON SHOW

Friday 9 May had a full day of events put on by the UK France & Colonies Philatelic Society. In the morning there was a meeting with lecture and display much like our regular monthly meetings. Three speakers were scheduled, but Steve Holder ("Cancellations") had to cancel as his duties as observer judge for the Show required him to be with the jury. The first speaker was G. R. Berlemont on "Classics." A choice three frames displayed gave just a glimpse into this popular yet difficult field. We noted a block of 15 mint 1c Empire, another piece of 24 10c cancelled with the annulation roller of large dots, the 4c Lauré tete-beche in strip of four, and an assortment of cancels including a 20c perf Empire Palace cover. Two very interesting pieces of several 5F Lauré, one with stitch watermark, and the imperf which the speaker said was one from a half-pane of 75 formerly in the Musée Postal.

The second speaker, with six frames of mouth-watering material, was Victor Chanaryn on his favorite and published topic "Franco-German War." I saw our Ernst Cohn furiously making notes, so perhaps we will get another report later, as this is the largest known collection of this material. For you ballon-monté collectors, how about 4 Neptunes? I was particularly interested to see that the Metz ballons not only carried the famous papillons, but had messages written on the sides of the ballons themselves; four of the five known fragments shown here. Disappointed bidders in Baudot's (Dec. 1979) sale might have guessed where lot No. 852 went—the unique Chronique Illustrée was here.

Mid-day was reserved for an auction, which we did not attend. The day was brought to a successful conclusion with wine and canapé reception beginning at 6 and running until they chased us out of the exhibition hall. Overseas guests were given free admission (locals paid £1), and many availed themselves of this courtesy. "OUR DAY at the INTERNATIONAL" was the caption on the flyer to their members; it was the social highlight of the show for us. Our particular thanks to John Levett and George Barker for the invitation, and making sure that we met everybody for whom we had messages from stateside.—J.E.L.

EDWARD S. HANSON—A REMEMBRANCE

Ed Hanson (Member No. 1342) passed away April 9, 1980 in his 79th year. A relative latecomer to French philately and to our society, he nevertheless had a keen interest in French coils and wrote us an article on the subject some years ago. (FCP #156, April 1974). His many interests included philately, golf, travel, friendships, and his lovely wife Jane. A vibrant little gamecock of a man, his bouts with cataracts and cancer, from 1974-on, severely curtailed and eventually terminated his philatelic and golfing activities, though he falteringly continued his correspondence almost until the end.

From his younger days as a chemical engineer in Chile, he developed a long-standing interest in the stamps and stationery of South America, particularly Chile and Bolivia. He became the APS examiner and expert for these two countries. His crowning philatelic achievement was the authorship of the Bolivia and Chile sections of "The Yucatan Affair," the invaluable work on de Thuin's forgeries that was published by APS in 1975.

As has been too often the case, I got to know Ed only during his final years, and through our mutual interest in French coils. We were fortunate, however, to have been each others' houseguests on occasional philatelic weekends. Ed was simply a grand guy and one that many of us shall sorely miss.

—S.J.L.

NEW BOOKS, PAMPHLETS, AND CATALOGS

- "Histoire des Timbres-Poste au Type Sage 1875-1976." By R. Joany, J. Storch, J.-F. Brun, and R. Francon. 1980. 223 pp. plus Suppl. 30 pp. Illustr. 120 Fr post pad. (Suppl.; Côtes des Pièces Décrites.) Yvert et Tellier, 37 rue des Jacobins, F80036-Amiens Cedex. (A monumental work, will be the definitive reference and catalog on all aspects of the Sage type, the "bible" for years to come.)
- "Faux et Truqués." By Jean-Francois Brun. 136 pp. 260 illustr. 4 pp. color. 1980. 200Fr post pd., Loisirs et Culture, 9 rue Malherbe, F76600-Le Havre. (Valuable guide to forgeries of France and colonies by a leading expert, specially emphasizes how the fakes were made.)
- "Les Timbres-Poste au Type Marianne de Bequet." By J. Storch and R. Francon, and J. L. Trassaert. Illustr. 1980 196 pp. 120Fr post pd. From J. Storch, 6 Place de Verdun, F42300-Roanne, payment to L'Imprimerie du Vivarais. (Covers all aspects, including rates, printing, entires, surcharges, fakes, covers, essays, proofs, prices. Many photos.)
- "Free French Censorship in the Levant—Handstamps, Other Marks and Tapes." By David M. Zimmerman, Jr. 1980. 50 pp. + XXV. Illustr. \$6.00 post pd. The Civil Censorship Study Group, c/o Dann Mayo, 5443 Paseo, Kansas City, Mo. 64110. (The final edition of a preliminary work listed in Feb. 1980; very thorough treatment.)
- "France 1980—Specialized Catalogue of Artists Proofs, De Luxe Sheets, Imperforates, Color Essays, FDCs, Collective Proofs, Printers Inspection Proofs." By John Orzano, 1980, 53 pp. Illustr. \$12.00. Orzano Publ. Co., Bo x394, Islip, N. Y. 11751. (Priced listing, from France Sc. #1 on; brief text of definitions, a few typical illustr.)
- "Die deutsche Feldpost Organisation und Lokalisation 1939-1945." By N. Kaanopin. DM65. Biblio Verlag Postfach 1949, Jahnstr. 15, D-4500 Osnabruck, Fed. Rep. Germ. (Lists all the German fieldpost stations by numbers in WW II, including those in occupied France.)
- "Oblitérations Mécaniques du Var, Pt. I Mécaniques Anciennes." By M. Gregnac-Daudemard. Colline, Blvd. des Arboussiers, F83120-Ste. Maxime. (Author previously issued pamphlets also on "Boîtes Rurales de Var" and "Oblitérations Manuelles du Var.")
- "Le Tarn et Garonne Postal." By J. Lobel. 150 pp. illustr. March 1980. 85Fr postpaid. The author, 65 Blvd. Gal. Koenig, F92200-Neuilly-sur-Seine. (A monograph on the history and markings of all the P.O.s of this Dept. up to 1900.)
- "150 Ans d'Histoire Postale des Anciennes Colonies Françaises des Origines à 1860." By Maurice Jamet, with collab. of Madame M. Jamet. 250 pp. 500 illustr., 12 maps. May 1980. 180Fr. post pd. subscription price for people overseas, till 31 May, thereafter price is 230Fr. (A highly documented study with much original data on the posts and markings of the colonies, their maritime relations, foreign occupations, rates, etc.) Order with payment to Madame M. Jamet, 10 rue D'Alger, F75001-Paris.
- "Fausse Oblitérations sur Cartes Maximum"; "Les Oblitérations Manuels." "Catalogue des Daguis Jumeles" (8th ed.). Each of these 3 pubs. are 18.80Fr post pd. "Les Oblitérations Mécaniques de 1939-1944" (2nd ed.) 12 Fr post pd. From Le Club le Meilleur, B. P. 21, F77350-Le Mee sur Seine.

- "Catalogue des Cartes Postales de Franchise Militaire." By B. Sinais and A. Weingarten. 1980. 100 illustr. 74 pp. 80Fr. plus postage. From Bertrand Sinais, 9 rue de la Montagne Sainte-Généviève, F75005-Paris. (Covers the official FM cards of 1914-18, 1939-45, for the Navy, semi-official cards, and for the hospitals and sanitary services, and Corps Exp. Madagascar cards.)
- "Catalogue des Oblitérations Navales," Tome II, 1945-1979." By B. Sinais and D. Delhommez. 1980. Illustr. priced. 65Fr post pd. The author, see above.
- "Etude des Campagnes Oceanographiques à Bord du m/s Marion Dufresne par la Philatélie des TAAF depuis 1973." By R. Chassaingt. 1980. 18Fr plus 5.50 Fr post. Austhor, Centre TRN, Allée de la Vigne du Prince, F18200-St. Amand Montrond.
- "Berck 1981 35 eme Ed. Cours Réelle de Timbres-Poste." Pub. 1980. 12Fr ppd. Eds. Berck, 6 Place de la Madeleine, F75008-Paris.
- "Catalogue des Cartes Maximum de France des Origines à 1977." 1980 Ed. Illustr. 170Fr post pd. Les Maximaphiles Françaises, B.P. 103, 75422-Paris Cedex 09. (An indispensable reference for French maximum-card collectors) 24X. (Rn indispensable reference for French maximum-card collectors.)
- "Cérès First-Day-Cover Catalogue". XXII ed. 1980 20 Fr. post pd. Eds. Cérès, 23-25 rue du Louvre, F75001-Paris.
- "Le Catalogue Fareigny '80 des Enveloppes Ler Jour." 23rd Ed. 1980. 248 pp. 36Fr + 6.40 post. J. Fareigny, 39 rue Estienne-D'Orves, F92400-Courbevoie (FDCs publ. by this firm, for Tunisia, France, Algeria, Monaco, Saare, Andorre, overseas Terrs., francophone Africa.)
- "Catalogo Unificato Internazionale—Francia 1980." 136pp., 1980, illustr. all in color. Unif. Intern. SRL, Via Privata M. Teresa, Imp. 11, 20123 Milano, Italy. (Price? A new cat. of all French stamps, in Italian, priced in lire for mint and used.)
- "J'ai Vécu l'Apogée de l'Aéropostale." By Marcel More and Wm. Desmond. 1980. 256 pp. + 16 pp. of photoos. Price? Belfond Eds., Paris. (A history of the early pioneer airmails by Mermoz, et al—not just philatelic but deals with the history of the airlines.)
- "Les Cartes Postales." By S. Zeyoue. 1980. 218 pp. 45Fr. Eds. Hachette, Paris. (History, methods of production, collecting, art cards, illustration, classification, fakes—all about post cards.)
- "Errors in Postage Stamp Design." National Phil. Soc., London, 1979. 188 pp. £9 + 60p post. (World-wide coverage.)
- "New World Postal Stationery Prices." Sect. 11L, Labuan to Luxembourg, priced. Suppl. to the Higgins and Gage World Postal Stat. Cat., Sect. 13, Natal to Orange River Colony. March 1980, \$2.50 and \$4.00 resp. post pd. Classic Philatelics, P. O. Box 5637, Huntington Beach, Calif. 92646.
- "Die Olympische Spiele im Blickpunkt der Philatelie und Ihre Randgebiete." By H. Volk, Jr., 195 pp. 37.50 DM + 2.50 DM post. The author, Albert-Schweizer Str. 34, 6120 Erbach/Odenwald, Fed. Rep. Germany.
- "The Gee Ma Forgeries." By Robson Lowe. 1980, 12 pp. R. Lowe, London, 50 Pall Mall. 1 pd. + 30p post. or from HJMR Co. (Illustr. fake surcharges made by Daniel Allen Gee under various names, incl. some of Hoi Hao, Cameroun, SPM, and Indochina offices.)

REVIEWS

Histoire Des Timbres-Poste au Type Sage 1875-1976. By Dr. R. Joany, Dr. J. Storch, Jean-F. Brun, and R. Francon. Yvert et Tellier, 1980. (See "New Books.")

It is always a pleasure to give notice to an important new work that one can recommend without qualifications, nit-picking, or apologies for a high price, etc. It may have seemed that Dr. Joany's previous writings on Type Sage left little room for much more to be said. But Joany has continued to study the issue—there were numbers of unsolved problems or incompletely understood aspects—and has long felt the need for a more up-to-date treatment. To some extent the Yvert et Tellier specialized catalogue of 1975 had an updated treatment with prices but it only devoted 22 pages to Sage. There were some aspects which Dr. Joany had not gone into so deeply before, and in the present work he has the collaboration of Storch and Francon to amplify greatly the coverage of Sage entières.

The outstanding feature of Joany's new effort is in the clear organization and arrangement of an enormous amount of detail in a format that is partly an encyclopedic monograph along historic/topical lines (69 pages) and partly a concise catalog in strictly chronological sequence by issues (pp. 70-164) and within each issue by denominations, with all colors, shades, papers, printings, types, formats and presentations of a given denomination together, including colonial Sage and the Offices. This makes it much easier to find your way to the answer, provided only you first know the denomination and identify the Type and sub-Type from consulting the introductory section. We have tested it on several "problem" items and found it works beautifully. The final sections of the book (pp. 165-219) deal with the "special printings," commercial and private printings, and the various post-1900 "reappearitions" of the Type Sage.

The initial sections of topical treatment cover: historic prologue, contest of 1875, the methods of fabrication, and the postal tariffs.

And that is not all! A separate 30-page "Supplement" of "Côtes des Pièces Décrites," in larger format, gives prices for most of the items listed in the catalogue section and in the same sequence, in 12 columns across the page. As the authors state, this Supplement posed some great problems of classification and presentation, but we think the results are most remarkable—it has to be seen to be believed! For stamps, Yvert Nos. are used and for entières Storch and Francon numbers. The prices are in two columns: mint and used. A few pieces have no price as the authors had no idea of their value. There is no listing and pricing for covers and cancels—the cancels on Sage are well catalogued in other works, e.g. the DeBeaufond catalog, the recent Thiaude catalogs, some of Pothion's works, Salles "La Poste Maritime," etc.

The main volume is a handy 6x9", the Supplement 12x9½". Printing is on a suitably coated paper and the numerous half-tones are generally clear. There is a good index and a detailed Table of Contents. For 120Fr postpaid a great bargain and every more or less advanced collector of 19th France cannot afford to be without a copy. You will find out you probably have some rare varieties you didn't realize. It will be a standard reference for many years, though the price Supplement will probably be revised from time to time.—R. G. Stone

(On Forgeries. It's the wrong season for Halloween, but if you want to be prepared for spooks, goblins, and gremlins there are two new books which can arm you with the cross of knowledge. With prices in today's philatelic market, it is a year-round season for mischief. The classic rule is know the genuine, or at least compare to it; these two books give you a clue what to look for and guard against.)

Faux et Truqués. By Jean-François Brun. Eds. Loisirs et Culture, 9 rue

Molherbe, 76600 Le Havre, 1980. 131 pp. hardbound and profusely illustrated. F200 postpaid. The first section of the book deals with the methods of printing of genuine stamps and the techniques of examination to discern the total fake, whether made to defraud the posts or just unwary collectors. The patient explanation of each process is accompanied by examples of forgers' work and clear distinction of how the forgery falls short. The second section tackles improvements of material to deceive collectors—false surcharges, added cancels, upgraded covers, altered values, and such. The wrap-up is a brief summary of the work of Sperati, Paul, and Fournier.

Our members will appreciate that most of the material (but not all) illustrated is from issues of the French community, 19th and 20th century; and the quality is superb. The range of hanky-panky exposed in section two is awesome! It was no surprise to me that Brun cited the Ile-de-France and 1929 LeHavre exposition surcharges as the most frequently-encountered fakes, but what I uttered on seeing some of the games played with classic France the genteel nature of our editor will not allow in print.—J.E.L.

The explanations of various methods of stamp production are in themselves especially concise and clear with excellent illustrations, including actual stamps pasted in. This is a unique and most important work on forgeries and other falsifications, the only work we know of that provides the principles for expertizing in general. It is not a catalogue or systematic description of all known forgeries, of France or any country. The forgeries described are only to illustrate the principles.—R.G.S.

How to Detect Damaged, Altered, and Repaired Stamps. By Paul W. Schmid, New York, 1979. 105 pp. hardbound. (\$15.95 postpaid, Palm Press, Box 373, Huntington, NY 11743). Even if it is genuine, has it been doctored? This discussion (on U.S. stamps) has universal application to the questions of repairs and alterations. Poff and piddle? Yeah, just keep thinking that and I will offer you the 1852 mint 10c Republic just handled, with forged guarantee signature underneath the regumming.—J.E.L.

150 Ans d'Histoire Postale des Anciennes Colonies Francaises 1700-1860.—By Maurice Jamet, with collaboration of Madame Madeleine Jamet. Paris, 1980. 294 pp. illustr. Paper bound. 230Fr post pd. From Madame M. Jamet, 12 rue d'Alger, F75001-Paris.

Here we have another remarkable work—1980 already seems to be a great year for new French philatelic books. Our late member Maurice Jamet, a genuine collector and a long-time Paris auction dealer with whom many of us happily traded, had told us years ago of his plans for this work, which we have eagerly awaited. His passing in February 1979 left its completion to his wife and close collaborator.

It is a postal history of the colonies in pre-adhesive times, with a comprehensive treatment of the postal markings. On both aspects it is generally much more thorough than any previous literature, though several topics have been covered in more detail elsewhere (—chiefly the maritime services and general colonial history).

The larger part of the book is of chapters colony by colony, grouped by geographical areas. About 38 pages of Introduction are devoted to topics relating to all the colonies: formation and organization of the colonies, the laws on blacks and slavery, the maritime and postal relations between France and colonies in the 18th and the 19th Centuries, and the letters from military and naval personnel. These chapters provide a concise historical background conveniently summarizing information mostly readily available in more detail

in history books, Salles "La Poste Maritime," Tristant's current serial in *Le Monde*, etc.—but it is very relevant to the rest of the book. The part on the military-personnel letters is especially useful for documentation we have not seen compiled before in one place.

As for the individual chapters by colony, there we find the fruits of the authors' deep delving into the archives in Paris and London, in government records and published acts, newspapers, almanacs, local histories, and of course in philatelic literature. The authors had assiduously collected the postal markings over the years but found many more "unique" ones in the archives. The manner of presentation of all this is more or less chronological, briefly citing and quoting the pertinent documents and listing and illustrating the markings interspersing them in the text as they occurred in historical sequence. For larger colonies the treatment of markings is separated by towns or post-offices. It is an easy arrangement to follow and for finding things. The markings shown include many official and administrative cachets used on mail, and manuscript marks.

There are chapters for all the old pre-1815 colonies which were later lost by France:— Canada, Louisiana, Mauritius, Batavia, St. Domingue, Rodriguez, St. Croix, St. Kitts, Montserrat, Dominica, St. Lucia, St. Vincent, and Tobago—which will interest specialists in those areas.

Naturally there is much more information on some colonies than others, but in every case it is much more than published heretofore. The number of postal markings must be 2 or 3 times greater than we had heard of before; the list for St. Domingue is staggering. British occupations of several colonies are covered, and the relations of French India to British services. Markings are generally reproduced from originals, not redrawn or idealized. The periods of use, colors, and an index of rarity are given.

Printing is clear on a well-calendered paper. Many old and modern prints, a few covers, and some useful maps, give an attractive ambience—the front and back covers with historic prints in two colors. A bibliography of sources used for each chapter and a table of contents conclude the work. Lack of an index is probably not serious in such a concise and well-organized format with its many bold-type headings and sub-heads.

A book no colonies specialist can afford to pass by and one that postal historians and philatelic-literature collectors will find both interesting to browse in and a good investment to boot—it won't be superseded in decades.—R. G. Stone

Les Timbres-poste au Type Marianne de Bequet. By Jean Storch, Robert Françon, and Jean-Luc Trassaert (1980); Imprimerie du Vivarais, 07103 Annonay; 192 pp.; price 120 Fr., postpaid. (Also available from Dr. Jean Storch, 6 Place de Verdun, 42300 Roanne, France).

The last values of the inartistic Marianne de Bequet design were retired from sale 7 July 1978 and continue to retain their postal validity. Accordingly, a detailed handbook such as this one on the Bequet issues, at this time, can be considered a premature event. The authors attack this very problem in their preface. Their case for present publication is admittedly valid, but ongoing studies and future discoveries will undoubtedly require a revised and more detailed edition a few years hence.

As has been my previous complaint about other works in this "Specialisé France" series by Storch, Françon, and occasional collaborators, the important material could have been covered completely on only half the pages (and for a lower price). But, and as usual, the book is beautifully produced, bears abundant illustrations, and contains in great detail everything one would pos-

sibly want to know about these important stamps and their production. However, the authors' research stops late in 1979. Errors and varieties of phosphor bars are not discussed; these are the subject of an ongoing (as I write this in June 1980) serialization by Le Tensorer, et al., in *Le Monde des Philatélistes*. Well, perhaps goofy phosphor bars are not to everyone's taste, but they are as important in a philatelic sense, and as collectible as paper and gum varieties—even coins datés—which are well-covered topics in this work.

—S.J.L.

Free French Censorship in the Levant. By David M. Zimmerman, Jr. 1980. (See listing in "New Books.")

Our member Dave Zimmerman has made a very thorough survey and analysis of the handstamps, other marks and tapes used by the Free French censorship in French Levant during WW II, using the literature, archives, and about 1000 covers. The results are catalogued in detail and a very clear classification and arrangement, including types of mail on which found, periods, and places of use, numbers of examples recorded, etc. A brief historical overview of the censorship system (not too well understood) introduces the work. All marks are illustrated by types. Censor identification numbers on the tapes are listed though no system in them could be deduced. While no study can ever be complete, it would appear that this will remain the definitive work on the subject for many years to come, as well as being a model study of this type.—R.G.S.

France 1980—Specialized Catalogue of Artists Proofs, De Luxe Sheets, Imperforates, Color Essays, FDCs, Collective Proofs, Printers Inspection Proofs. By John Orzano, 1980, 52 pp. (See "New Books" listing.)

This book is intended primarily as a priced catalog of the types of items listed in the title, for France, by Scott numbers. The list starts with France Scott #1, but as we all know, most of the types of items listed do not exist for the 19th Cent. issues and not all until after WW II. So the prices for #1 thru #185 are only for "imperfes" and though not stated should be obvious that up to #21 these are just the regular mint stamps issued only imperf, and for #s 29 to #353 are apparently (but not stated) for various imperf varieties such as color proofs, and miscellaneous imperfes listed in the French catalogs and some in Scott. Only from then on are the modern "non-dentelées" for presentation purposes what the list means. So the "imperfes" lump together various unrelated and different things. Artists' (=engravers') proofs are priced from #223 on but not for all issues. DeLuxe Proofs are priced from #185 on, a few FDCs from #308 on but mostly only from #604 on, color trials (i.e. from the recess printings off the multicolor presses) from #633 on. The basis of the prices is not separately indicated for each category, but it is implied that they are a mixture of Scott, Yvert, Maury, etc., auctions, dealers' offers, and what the author paid. The general scheme of this work recalls the catalog of Stamps Information Associates of several years ago, but is more extensive. A brief text attempts to define the categories catalogued; here a few ambiguities and misleading impressions are found but probably not serious or confusing except to unsophisticated beginners. The illustrations of examples of some types of the proofs cannot show such features as embossed seals and pencilled ink numbers.

Regrettably the author reproduces in the back of the book some of the spurious alleged Barre, Roty, and Mouchon "essay" drawings which were supposed to have been in the Burrus collection handled by the notorious Shanahan firm. These are obviously fakes, not at all in the style of these

artists, made by a British "artist" years ago and probably bought by Burrus as curiosities as he certainly knew better. They are exposed in articles by Barbara Mueller and Michael Barie in *Essay-Proof Jn.* and by several French experts. Also a bill of lading for a shipment to Japan is illustrated to which French revenue and postage stamps have been later fraudulently added and cancelled, according to experts who have examined this and several similar documents.

For one who only wants to know something about French proofs, etc., it is not a very useful work. But those who have extensive need for the convenience of such a compilation and prices, would probably feel the high cost of the book justified.—R.G.S.

CURRENT JOURNAL ARTICLES

Le Monde des Philatélistes (CC)

- #327, Jan. 1980: Brun: "Dossier sur faux et truqués de Monaco"; Leblond: "Perforateurs des timbres"; DeLizeray: "Le type Sabine"; Mélot: "1979 Anniv. Int. de l'Enfant"; conts. of Perrin, Tristant, Joffre, Tensorer et al, De la Mettrie, Fromageat, Frybourg, Thematique.
- #330, April, 1980: "Alsatec"; Dumont: "Les émissions officielles de la libération"; Joffre: "Histoire des oblitérations et des timbres des TAAF" (begin); Fromageat: "Normalisation de l'expertise"; Levern: "10c Semeuse camée grasse verte au type IB"; Leblond: "Timbres de roulettes et perforateurs"; Tensorier, Sohler et Madron: "La méthode du Noir (UV) absolu" (begin); DeLizeray: "Comment regarder un timbre-poste"; Joffre: "Conseils pratiques pour la collection des TAAF"; conts. of Frybourg, Leblond, Tristant, Perrin, Rouques, DeLizeray, de la Mettrie.
- #331, May, 1980: "Avant Alsatec, en France (Sage 1939)"; DeLizeray: "Les carnets-feuilles du 12F Muller, 6F Muller dents arrachées"; Guichenduc: "La poste française à Djibouti de 1893 à 1903" (begin); Conts. of de la Mettrie, Rouques, Tristant, Perrin, Joffre, Frybourg.

L'Echo de la Timbrologie (CC, APRL)

- #1507, Feb. 1980: Brun: "Falsifications colorés"; Goubin: "Anomalies" (pmks.); Camboulives: "Les ballons de Belfort"; Podenzana: "Timbres de la Rep. Italienne dont le sujet est français"; conts. of Trassaert, Storch et Francon, Leblond, Tristant, Leipert, Munier.
- #1508, March, 1980: Goubin: "Oblitérations genre Daguin"; Neudin: "Quels sont les rapports entre les philatélistes et les cartophiles?"; Sinais: "Les cartes postales de F.M. officielles les plus rares de la 1^{re} G.M."; Phillippon: "Nouvelles maritimes"; conts. of Storch et Francon, Leblond, Trassaert, Munier, Leipert.
- #1509, April, 1980: Millaud: "Le timbre unique au Monde" (on Br. G. #1 and Ferrari); Roumet: "Guadeloupe non-emis 5/4 Yv. #2d, histoire d'un des timbres les plus rares du monde"; conts. of Leblond, Storch et Francon, Leipert, Munier.
- #1510, May 1980: De la Ferte: "Quels sont les rapports entre les philatélistes et les cartophiles?" (begin); Bastein: "Vignettes propagande pour le Code Postal"; Dumont: "Cartes de franchise de la Guerre 1939-45"; Julliot: "Petite histoire de la poste—la Pache de

Ste. Nazaire" (begin); DeLizeray: "Taille douce rotative"; conts. of Storch et Francon, Lebland.

Les Feuilles Marcophiles (CC)

#219, 4th Trim 1979: Brun: "Des falsifications en marcophilie? oui, il en existe! (20c noir)"; Bridoux: "Groupe d'étude du 20c noir 1849"; Rovere: "Premiers cachets utilisées à Batna"; Brabant: "Etude sur les marques postales et cachets d'entrée par le Nord (Dep. 57)"; Delhoume: "Groupe d'étude boites rurales"; Petit: "Premier Guerre Mondiale—marques de franchise des formation sanitaires de cinq Depts. de l'Ouest" (cont.); Delvaux: "Les nouveautés en matière de Guichets-annexes"; Diard: "La Daguin—toujours!"; Aymard: "Supplique pour Daguin"; Desarnaud: "Les pneumatiques pour la province"; DeFontaines: "Les cartes d'abonnement aux émissions des timbres-poste"; Albiousse: "Siège de Paris ballon monté"; DeVries: "Le service des colis postaux en Alsace-Lorraine 1918-1940"; Grapinet: "La guerre du Viet Nam 1957-75"; Carnévalé-Mauzan: "La correspondance des prisonniers de Guerre Mondiale Allemagne et pays occupés pendant 2nd GB"; Cuny: cont. of "Les mutations des Bur. de Paris."

#220, 1st Trim 1980: Bridoux: "Groupe d'étude du 20c Noir 1849"; Tristant: "Les marques postales de Bureau de la Poste Maritime de Loliot 1778-1791 (Colonies par . . .)"; Delwaule: "Les cachets d'essais Daguin"; Lamar: "Introduction à l'inventaire d'un timbre a date de Paris Depart 1899-1912"; "Lettre à Mon. LeGeneral Trochu—ancien Gouverneur de Paris (de Gov.Defense Nationale au Service de Dépêches 1870-71)"; Meriaux: "La Poste Navale de 1963 à 1973"; Annet: "Les marques de retour à l'envoyeur du Dept. Seine-Maritime"; Cuny: "Mutations des Bureaux de Paris" (end); Petit: "Les G.M. marques de prisonniers de guerre et internées civiles dans quatre Depts. de l'Ouest" (cont.); Lobel: "Le Tarn et Garonne et ses cursives"; Petit: "Les lettres Transportées Exceptionnelles Par Avion."

Let Feuilles Marcophiles Information (CC)

#25, Feb. 1980: Lux: "Les recettes auxiliaires"; Lejeune: "Les marques lineares doubles postédières au Type 18 (1918-31)"; Lejeune: "Les boules de Moulins"; Combes: "A propos de la cursive simple, 65 Elne"; Lejeune: "Les cachets Alsaciens de 1915-16"; "Extrait d'une lettre d'un soldat de l'Armée d'Italie 29 Nov. 1796"; Lejeune: "Dept. Conquis La Lippe no. 131"; Blondelle: "Cachets postaux militaires avec code postal."

Pacifica (CC)

July 1978: (On the Service Postal Interinsulaire of French Oceania).

American Philatelist (CC, APRL)

Jan. 1980: Cohn: "Durable French air mail fakes" (Maury's).

ADDENDA ON THE USE OF "T"-IN-TRIANGLE ON POSTAGE STAMPS

Reference my article on this subject in the April FCP, Henri Tristant has kindly given me a few amplifications. I had recalled that he once published an article on the same subject but as I could not find it or the reference in my files I failed to mention it; it appeared in Les Feuilles Marcophiles No. 206, 1976, pp. 13-14.

The Yvert Specialized catalogue of Colonies (1936) gives a bit more information:

Somali Coast, 1903:—An Arrêté of the Governor 30 June 1903 authorized postage stamps of 5c (Yv. #40) and 30c (Yv. #13) to be used as dues stamps, but nothing specified as to how cancelled.

Morocco, 1917:—The 5c and 10c postage stamps (Yv. #s 41-42) are reported with the T for use as dues.

Tunisia, 1917:—In Jan. 1917 some POs used 5c postage stamps cancelled with T as provisional dues.

Monaco, 1917:—In Jan. 1917 some postage stamps were cancelled with T as provisional dues.

Guadeloupe, 1928:—In March 1928, the PO at Capesterre (GP) being out of stock of 20c dues stamps, for several days used 10c stamps (Yv. #79) cancelled with T-in-triangle in black on insufficiently franked mail.

THE REGULAR ISSUES OF FRANCE SINCE 1960, ACCORDING TO THEIR NORMAL POSTAL USAGE

By Stanley J. Luft (#915)
(of the Académie d'Etudes Postales)

Corrections to FCP #180

p. 57, 3rd line from bottom: quantity printed for the Bagnoles-de-l'Orne stamp (Sc 994, Cs 1293) should be 5.135 (million), not 4.135.

p. 58, 59, 60: 0,25, 0,30, and 1,00 values: read PHILATEC (not PHILATELIC).

IV. Typographed Coat-of-Arms issues of 1962-78

0,01 Niort

The 0,01 Niort (Scott 1091, Cérès 1351A) was issued 25-27 Jan. 1964-4 Aug. 1978.

Printed in sheets from 2 plates; first between 25-Sept. 1963 and 27 Oct. 1964; second between 21 Nov. 1974 and 21 June 1977.

Domestic usage (Tariff of 6 Jan. 1959) (until 1966):

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

Newspapers, from 200 to 300 gm, bulk rate within Department of origin (until 17 Jan. 1965);

#Complementary value.

Retained, from 1966-on, as a complementary value, chiefly for newspapers and magazines.

Replaced by the 0,01 Sabine (Sc 1560, Cs 1990) beginning in April 1978.

0,02 Guéret

The 0,02 Guéret (Sc 1092, Cs 1451B) was issued 25-27 Jan. 1964-4 Aug. 1978.

Printed in sheets from 2 plates; first between 27 June 1963 and 31 Dec. 1964; second on 2-8 July 1976.

Domestic usage (Tariff of 6 Jan. 1959 and later modifications):

#Newspapers, from 200 to 300 gm, bulk rate;

Newspapers and magazines, from 60 to 100 gm, non-bulk rate within Department of origin (until 17 Jan. 1965);

#Complementary value.

Domestic usage (Tariff of 3 Feb. 1969):

#Newspapers, from 150 to 200 gm, sorted bulk rate;

#Complementary value.

Replaced by the o,02 Sabine (Sc 1561, Cs 1991) beginning in April 1978.

o,10 Troyes

The o,10 Troyes (Sc 1041, Cs 1353) replaced the o,10 Paysanne (Sc 939, Cs 1231) beginning in January 1963.

Printed in sheets from 18 plates between 2 Nov. 1962 and 14 Jan. 1977; issued 12-14 Jan. 1963-4 Aug. 1978. Printed in sheets, with phosphor bands (Cs 1644A) from 4 of the same plates plus 1 new plate, between 19 Feb. 1970 and 12 Dec. 1974; issued from 14 March 1970.

Domestic usage (Tariff of 6 Jan. 1959):

(see 10F Paysanne, in IA, for usage to 17 Jan. 1965);

Newspapers and magazines, from 100 to 200 gm, individual rate, until 2 Feb. 1969.

Foreign usage (Tariff of 6 Jan. 1959) (until 17 Jan. 1965):

Newspapers, magazines, and brochures, to 50 gm.

Domestic usage (Special Tariff of 3 Feb. 1969):

Newspapers, from 150 to 200 gm, unsorted bulk rate;

#Complementary value.

Commonly reprinted for use as a complementary add-on value, whenever the domestic 1x letter rate went up 10c (i.e., Tariffs of 13 Jan. 1969, 4 Jan. 1970, and 1 July 1971).

Replaced by the o,10 Sabine (Sc 1563, Cs 1993) beginning in April 1978.

o,12 Agen

The o,12 Agen (Sc 1093, Cs 1353A) was issued 16-19 May 1964-20 March 1970. Printed in sheets from 4 plates between 9 July 1963 and 1 June 1966.

Domestic usage (special rate in effect in 1964):

Newspapers, from 200 to 300 gm, non-bulk rate.

Domestic usage (Tariff of 18 Jan. 1965) (until 31 Aug. 1966):

*Printed matter and samples, to 50 gm;

Visiting and greeting cards, w/o added written message.

Foreign usage (Tariff of 18 Jan. 1965) (until Fall? 1966):

*Newspapers, magazines, and brochures, to 50 gm;

Invoices and commercial paper, unsealed, per 50 gm above first 200 gm.

Domestic usage (effective 1 Aug. 1966):

Newspapers, from 200 to 300 gm, unsorted bulk rate.

Left without specific franking value by Tariffs of 13 Jan. and 3 Feb. 1969; remainders used as a complementary value, chiefly for newspapers and magazines.

o,15 Nevers

The o,15 Nevers (Sc 1042, Cs 1354) replaced the o,15 Alger (Sc 940, Cs 1232) beginning in July 1962.

Printed in sheets from 6 plates between 12 July 1962 and 28 March 1977; issued 23 July 1962-4 Aug. 1978.

Domestic usage (Tariff of 6 Jan. 1959):

Postcards and greeting cards "of 5 words" (until 31 July 1966);

#Newspapers and magazines, from 200 to 300 gm, individual rate (through Jan. 1969).

Foreign usage (Tariff of 6 Jan. 1959) (until 17 Jan. 1965):

Newspapers, magazines, brochures, and books, from 50 to 100 gm.

Foreign usage (Tariff of 13 Jan. 1969) (until 11 Jan. 1970):

Newspapers, magazines, and brochures, to 50 gm.

Printed matter, per 50 gm above first 50 gm;

Samples, per 150 gm above first 150 gm.

Domestic usage (Special Tariff of 3 Feb. 1969):

#Newspapers, from 200 to 300 gm, unsorted bulk rate.

#Complementary value.

Replaced by the o,15 Sabine (Sc 1564, Cs 1994) beginning in April 1978.

o,18 St.-Denis-de-la-Réunion

The o,18 St.-Denis-de-la-Réunion (Sc 1094, Cs 1354A) was issued 16-19 May 1964-20 March 1970.

Printed in sheets from 3 plates between 1 Oct. 1963 and 9 Aug. 1965.

Domestic usage (a special rate in effect only in 1964):

Newspapers, from 200 to 300 gm, non-bulk rate (until 1966?).

Domestic usage (Tariff of 18 Jan. 1965):

Newspapers, from 300 to 400 gm, unsorted bulk rate (until 31 July 1966).

Foreign usage (Tariff of 18 Jan. 1965) (until 12 Jan. 1969):

Newspapers, magazines, brochures, and books, from 50 to 100 gm.

Domestic usage (Tariff of 13 Jan. 1969):

Printed matter, to 50 gm, special commercial bulk rate.

Inasmuch as this last rate given above did not require the use of postage stamps, the stamp was retired from sale when stocks became depleted.

o,30 Paris

The o,30 Paris (Sc 1095, Cs 1354B) was issued 15-18 Jan. 1965 (concurrently with the o,30 Coq de Décaris, Sc 1024B, Cs 1331C) to 12 April 1969.

Printed in sheets from 56 plates, 2 Sept. 1963-2 July 1968. Booklets of 20 stamps with pubs (Sc 1095a, Braun No. 399) were issued from 22 Feb. 1965.

Domestic usage (Tariff of 18 Jan. 1965):

(see o,30 Coq de Décaris, in ID).

Foreign usage (id.):

(id.).

Domestic usage (Tariff of 13 Jan. 1969):

"Slow mail"¹, to 50 gm;

Postcards;

Printed matter, to 50 gm;

Printed matter, from 50 to 100 gm, special commercial bulk rate;

Newspapers, from 500 to 600 gm, unsorted bulk rate (from 3 Feb. 1969).

Foreign usage (Tariff of 13 Jan. 1969):

Postcards and visiting cards "of 5 words";

Postcards, to Canada, "rayons limitrophes," and Common Market countries;

Printed matter, to 50 gm.

Replaced by the o,30 lilac République de Cheffer (Sc 1198, Cs 1536) beginning in Nov. 1967.

(1) Category includes non-urgent letters, printed matter, samples, invoices, small parcels, and visiting cards.

F. & C. P. S. OFFICIAL

Notices

- ◆ At the 6th May Meeting the officers for 1980-81 were elected:
 Pres.—Dr. Edward Grabowski
 Vice Pres.—Peter Blank (reelected)
 Treasurer—Beatrice M. Berner (reelected)
 Recording Secretary—Don Shannon (reelected)
 Corresponding Secretary—Walter Parshall (reelected)
 Directors: Stanley J. Luft—reelected to 3 year term, class of 1983; Dr.
 Martin J. Stempien, Jr.—3 year term, class of 1983
 Retiring Pres. Ira Seebacher will serve one year term on the Board
 Editor—Robert G. Stone, reappointed.
- ◆ The banquet on 21 May was attended by over 30 members and guests. The food, drinks and sociability were rated excellent and the Society garnered some cash from the usual "auction" (Ira Zweifach auctioneer, coached by Lou Robbins).
- ◆ The list of philatelic works on France and colonies requested from us by Linn's for their 1980 edition of their Almanac was compiled by R. G. Stone and John E. Lievsay and sent to Linn's in April. Linn's has gratefully acknowledged it.
- ◆ The following books were purchased for deposit in the Collectors Club library:
 - B. Sinais: "Catalogue des Oblitérations Navales, Tome I 1771-1945, Tome II 1945-1979."
 - B. Sinais and A. Weingarten: "Catalogue des Cartes Postales de Franchise Militaire, Tome I 1914-18, 1939-45."
 - C. Chase: "Marques Postales des Depts. Francaises Conquis sous la Revolution et la 1er Empire, Fasc. 5, La Hollande." 1946.

Meeting of 1 April 1980

Transit strike, census day, and Passover. Never, so far as I can recall, has there been a get together like tonight. Even the meeting notices were exceptional, being 5½x4¼ inch instead of the usual postcard size.

The festivities began, as customary, with dinner at the local restaurant; only this time our chairman paid for an extra round of drinks. Thankee.

The previously scheduled speaker was unable to attend because of the holiday; and the announced substitute speaker was unable to attend because of the transit strike. So the talks on how to work with tax and estate laws, and broadcast demonstration of a stereo microscope will be given at another time.

Our program chairman outdid himself, and by great fortune was able to obtain loan of the Hunt collection, in town to be liquidated as part of the collateral held by Boche & Co. This unpublicized and unheralded collection shows all the great rarities of the first issues of France. Some of these items, like the 20c on cover 31 Dec. 1848, had been seen in the Antonini, Gill-Burrus, and Schatzkes collections. Among the unheard of pieces on display were a horizontal tete-beche pair of the 1850 15c and a sheet margin mint block of ten; the complete sheet of 400 of the 20c black; and a piece of eight decoupage of the 1F Vervelle. A mint strip of four was the gem of the 1852 Republic is-

sue. In addition to the mint multiples of the imperf Empire (unbelievable!), were some very rare cancels on cover—a previously unreported CESC from the Syria expedition, and a 1F on registered letter from Bureau 5081, Bale. A truly remarkable display, the likes of which we may never see again.—Josh.

Meeting of 6 May 1980

Our Corresponding Secretary reported 21 new members with the latest awarded #2033. The unusually large number included those that normally would have been reported at the April meeting.

The treasurer's report showed a cash balance on hand of \$3693.80. The officers for 1980-81 were elected as previously nominated.

Yogi Berra, once, in a lucid moment, said "you can observe a lot just by watching." Ed Fraser, the club's guest of the evening, thinks you can observe a lot more with the right equipment, and to support his point he brought along an impressive looking 30-power dissecting microscope. Quite an eye-opener.

Ed doesn't collect France—the study of classic Finland is his main pursuit—but he encounters many of the same problems that bedevil all collectors of scarce stamps; forgeries, regumming, and repairs, from filled thins to built-up perforations. He proved, to all who accepted his offer of observing for themselves, how glaring some of these repairs—which often defy detection by more orthodox means—become under the lens of the microscope. Mr. Fraser is an engaging speaker and his enthusiasm for the hobby turned what might have been a dry-as-dust subject into a highly interesting, lively and informative evening.

It was unfortunate that the London extravaganza coincided with his appearance before the club, for some of the members who might have appreciated this program the most found it impossible to be in both places at the same time. Perhaps he can be prevailed upon for an encore.—D. Shannon, Recording Sec.

Meeting of 3 June 1980

When a C.P.A. talks about taxes (income, sales, gift, and estate) it isn't as traumatic as an assessment notice from the eternal revenue service. Our speaker, Charles Vengrove, was quick to point out first thing that the subject, even as it affects the lowly stamp collector, is complex.

Congress did repeal the "carry-forward basis" law, for which let us all be truly thankful. Many people, however, think of their stamps as a hobby and not in the context of taxable property. This can be a big mistake, as tax considerations may apply even at the moment of acquisition. Charlie's point, as made in examples citing the applicable tax law and regulations, was that some simple advance planning may lawfully reduce the taxes taken out of your property.

Now if you are selfish and indifferent to these inevitable matters, then fate will dispose of your property for you. If you are truly stubborn about it, you can move to another country where the government will relieve you totally of all concern about the disposition of your property—their laws don't give you or your heirs any choice. But if you care, even if it means getting professional advice and understanding, consider:

- 1) stamps as gifts while you are still living,
 - 2) stamps as a possible vehicle for retirement if you qualify for self-employed (Keogh) or not-funded-employee (IRA) status.
 - 3) both a plan and adequate instructions for the remainder in your estate.
- The present law ties together gift and estate taxes, so the drawing of a

will is only the final stage of lifetime planning for your property. Tax law (whatever you may think of the rates) provides opportunity and rewards for the prudent person who uses the provisions for lifetime planning; it can be cruel to the point of confiscation to those who ignore it.—J.E.L.

NEW MEMBERS

- 2010 QUINOT, Georges, Box 2811, 37028 Tours Grammont, France
(General France all major varieties: used, 19th Cent. on cover. Stampless covers after 1815, Paris "Marques Postales." Classics 1849-1876: used, on cover, cancellations, Sage type, Blanc, Mouchon, Merson types, Sowers, all other types. Dealer: part time. New Issues, Approvals. Exch.)
- 2011 RAPHAEL, Stephen M., 551 Fifth Ave., New York, N. Y. 10017
(Alsace-Lorraine locals. Modern France mint. Occupation of and by France issues. Andorre, Monaco, Saar, Colonies General Issues: mint. All colonies and territories, major varieties. Philatelic literature.)
- 2012 ELLMAN, Lewis, P. O. Box 189, Carmel, N. Y. 10512
(General France all major varieties: used. Classics 1849-1876: used. Sage types. Modern France: used.)
- 2013 BRUCE, A. Gordon, 182 Crocus Ave., Ottawa, Ont., Canada K1H 6E6
(Colonies General Issues: African pre-independence, mint, used, on cover: Cameroons, Chad, Dahomey, Alexandria, Fr. Equatorial Africa, French Guinea, Port Said, Fr. Sudan, Fr. West Africa, Gabon, Ivory Coast, Mali, Mauritania, Niger, Upper Volta, Upper Senegal and Niger. Exch.)
- 2014 DONEY, Mrs. Marguerite J., 65 New St., Allendale, N. J. 07401
(General France all major varieties: mint, used. Paris "Marques Postales." Departmental "Marques Postales." Postal history in general. Regular issues: Classics 1849-1876: used, cancellations. Modern France: mint, used, Blanc, Mouchon, Merson, Sowers, Air mails, booklets, miniature sheets. Andorre. Colonies General Issues: used. Phil. lit. Exch.)
- 2015 WERTHEIMER, Pene, France-U.S. Philately, P. O. Box 389, New Brunswick, N. J. 08903 (General collector, France all issues. Dealer: full time. Philatelic literature.)
- 2016 DISLER, Duilio M. F., 8 Beuchemaitin, Sonceboz BE 2605, Switzerland
(Offices abroad, used or mint. CFA, used or mint. Colonies General Issues: mint. All colonies and territories until independence, major var. used. Dealer: part time. New Issues service. Philatelic literature. Classic and modern France if used in the colonies)
- 2017 IMEL, Robert, 710 Walnut, Logan, Ohio 43138
(General France all major var.: used. Modern France, used)
- 2018 COE, Joffre L., II, Rt. 3, Box 104-C, Hillsborough, N. Car. 27278
(General France all major varieties. Colonies General Issues: mint. All colonies and territories, major varieties. Independent republics. Philatelic literature. Exchange)
- 2019 ROBERTS, Harold H., 223 Berkley Ave., Battle Creek, Mich. 49017
(Modern France, mint. Air mails. Imperfs., Saar, Europa, U.N.)
- 2020 MERILAINEN, George, 7723 17th, N. W., Seattle, Wash. 98117
(General France all major varieties: mint. Modern France: mint. Semi-postals, Andorre, Monaco, Saar. Colonies General Issues used. Exch.)
- 2021 BRADEN, Eric, 9134 E. Nassau Ave., Denver, Colo. 80237
(Topical collector: Captain Cook. Stamps and covers of Fr. Polynesia)
- 2022 CRANE, I. D., 15 Springbank, Eversley Park Road, Winchmore Hill, London N21 1JH, England (Colonies and territories: cancels and postal history. Stamps, covers of Djibouti, Obock, Fr. Somali Coast, Afars and Isaas. Philatelic literature. Exchange)

- 2023 DAVIDOFF, Robert A., 7800 Altamira St., Coral Gables, Fla. 33143
(General France all major varieties: mint, used. Colonies General Issues mint, used)
- 2024 MAZUR, Alfred, P. O. Box 9362, Fort Lauderdale, Fla. 33310
(General France all major varieties: mint. Sage type. Modern France: all. Saar, Europa, U.N. Colonies General Issues: mint. All colonies and territories, major varieties. Dealer: part time. New Issues service. Approvals. Exchange)
- 2025 GHEDINI, Gloria, 314 West 77th St., Apt. 8-A, New York, N. Y. 10024
(General France all major varieties: mint, used. Modern France: mint, used. Semi-postals. Andorre, Europa, U.N. Exchange)
- 2026 JACQUES, Phillip A., 8123 28th, S.W., Seattle, Wash. 98126
(General France all major varieties: mint. Classics 1849-1876: used. Cancellations. Sage type. Modern France: mint, semi-postals (singles and blocks). Air mails, booklets, coin datés, precancels, occupations, Offices abroad. All colonies and territories used, pre-independ. Exch.)
- 2027 JOHNSON, Robert Ian, 65 Manor Park, Redland, Bristol, England B56 7HW (Service-suspended covers. Trans-Pacific Air Mails 1940-1942. Underpaid mail to France from other countries through Great Britain. Philatelic literature)
- 2028 KEEFE, Eugene L., 211 Wilde Ave., Drexel Hill, Penna. 19026
(Major varieties, cancels and postal history, stamps, covers of French Polynesia, St. Pierre and Miquelon, T.A.A.F., British Oceania. Phil. lit)
- 2029 SCHARLACH, Richard T., P. O. Box 2221, Cherry Hill, N. J. 08034
(General Collector France all issues. Andorre, Monaco, Saar, Europa, U.N. Colonies General Issues: mint, used. All colonies and territories major varieties. Philatelic literature. Exchange)
- 2030 EGGEN, Donald T., MNE-TECH, Northwestern University, Evanston, Ill. 60201 (General collector France all issues. Classics 1849-1876: used. 1870-71 issues, Commune, Ballons. Cancellations. Modern France: used, Blanc, Mouchon, Merson, Sowers. Exchange)
- 2031 GLASSER, Aaron, P. O. Box 18, Revere, Mass. 02151
(Topical collector. France special series art stamps. Europa, U.N.)
- 2032 MURPHY, Patrick, 5634 Westview, Lisle, Ill. 60532
(Topical collector: Impressionist Art. Regular issues modern France: mint, used, on cover. Semi-postals, booklets, FDCs, miniature sheets, essays, deluxe proofs, imperforates, artists' proofs and trial colors. Colonies General Issues: mint, used, on cover. Independent republics)
- 2033 JORGENSEN, Agnete, 921 69th St., Kenosha, Wisc. 53140
(General collector France all issues—19th and 20th Cent. Exchange)
- 2034 OWENS, Julia M., Box 4207, Caspar, Wyo. 82604
(General France all major varieties: mint after 1925, used before 1925. Postal history in general. Classics 1849-1876: used, Sage. Modern Fr.: mint, Blanc, Mouchon, Merson, Sowers, other types all major varieties, semi-postals, air mails, miniature sheets)
- 2035 RAPHAEL, David, 2413 Brentwood Place, Alexandria, Va. 22306
(Colonies General Issues: mint, used. All colonies and terr., major var.)
- 2036 EZIO, Donato S., Apartado 62, Curridabat, Costa Rica, C. A.
(General collector France all issues. Exchange)
- 2037 GREENE, Inslee B., 2113 South 69th Ave., Yakima, Wash. 98903
(French Oceania/Polynesia only. Cancellations on French colonies issues. Cancellations on stamps and covers to 1960; inter-island covers; outward covers; Plonge covers; official covers; military covers)

REINSTATEMENTS

- 607 MARTIN, William C., P. O. Box 356, White House Station, N. J. 08889
(See Directory)
- 772 BARIE, Michael J., Box 1445, Detroit, Mich. 48231
(See Directory)
- 1496 KRAEMER, James E., c/o National Postal Museum, 180 Wellington St., Ottawa, Ont., Canada K1A 1C6 (See Directory)
- 1257 NOSEL, Ronald M, 136-39 41st Ave., Flushing, N. Y. 11355
(France and Colonies except independent Africa and Guadeloupe)
- 1736 ARELLANO, Refugia, Jr., El Camino Plaaz, 2525 El Camino Real, Space 156—Lower Level, Carlsbad, Calif. 92008 (General France all major varieties: mint, used, on cover. Modern France: mint, used, on cover. Semi-postals, maximum cards, FDCs, miniature sheets, deluxe proofs, imperforates, artists' proofs and color trials, specimen, annulé, fictifs. Philatelic literature. Exchange. Special interest in air mails of 1930 to present)
- 1458 VAN EVERY, K. E. (Viking Stamps), P. O. Box 3096, San Diego, Calif. 92103 (See Directory)
- 1046 AGRELL, Nils, 377 Chestnut Place, Mineola, N. Y. 11501
(See Directory)
- 1719 LAURENDEAU, Jean-Paul, 9822 D'Iberville, Montreal, Que., Canada H2B 2T4 (See Directory)
- 1762 TEBBE, Robert F., 1109 Hempstead Drive, Cincinnati, Ohio 45231
(See Directory)
- 1072 ZABELINSKY, Bauricio, Poste Restante, 1638 Vicente Lopez, Prov. BS, AS, Argentina (See Directory)
- 1658 DEMERS, Yves J., 787 Ste-Elizabeth, La Prairie, Que., Canada J5R 1W1
(See Directory)
- 1641 BAILEY, Lorraine, 2303 N. 10th St., Apt. #304, Arlington, Va. 22201
(Specialized France: used abroad. Classics 1849-1876; mint, used, on cover. Modern France: Semi-postals, air mails, booklets, telephone and telegraph, newspaper, stationery, revenues, CFA, Andorre. Colonies General Issues on cover. All colonies and territories, major varieties. Cancels and postal history, stamps, covers Andorre, Algeria. Philatelic literature. Exchange)
- 759 DRELLICH, Marvin G., M.D., 108 East 37th St., New York, N. Y. 10016
(See Directory)

CORRECTION TO DIRECTORY

- 561 HOROWICZ, Sigmund, P. O. Box 1142, Antonia Sta., New York, N. Y. 10023 (France maritime posts, used abroad, postal history. Classics: mint, used, on cover, 1870-1871 issues, Alsace-Lorraine, cancellations, Sage. Colonies General Issues: Nossi-Bé. Somali Coast)

CHANGES OF ADDRESS AND CORRECTIONS

- 181 HORWITZ, William H., 264 Main St., Huntington, N. Y. 11743
(Correction of member number, correct number is #181)
- 612 GARFIELD PERRY STAMP CLUB, P. O. Box 91525, Cleveland, Ohio 44101
- 1559 ADAMS, Rollo L., 2421 Partridge Lane, Northbrook, Ill. 60062
- 1991 PETRO, John W., 2521 Parkwyn Drive, Kalamazoo, Mich. 49008
- 1309 BERON, James F., 831 E. 4th St., Apt. 105, Duluth, Minn. 55805
- 406 VENGROVE, Charles F., 71 Roosevelt Drive, East Norwich, N. Y. 11732
(Restores old membership number)

- 1962 CASTELLANO, Joseph S., 2231 Sublette, St. Louis, Mo. 63110
 1818 SALMON, Frank E., 6321 E. Avalon, Scottsdale, Ariz. 85251
 416 APFELBAUM, Earl P. L., 2006 Walnut St., Philadelphia, Penna. 19103
 1959 MONTELLO, Lawrence J., 84 Mockingbird Dr., Ridge Manon, Fla. 33525
 1349 TAYLOR, David L., RR #1, Box 9A, Defiance, Mo. 63341
 1951 JULIS, Marcus, 144-04 Gravett Road, Flushing, N. Y. 11367
 1958 MARTIN, Joseph, P. O. Box 56, Station B, Frederickton, N. B. Canada E3B 4Y2
 1311 LOWRIE, Walter E., Dept. of History, Univ. of Puget Sound, Tacoma, Wash. 98416
 1008 LIEVSAY, John E., 245 Park Ave., 36th Fl., New York, N.Y. 10167 (New Zip No.)
 1850 MOGGE, Capt. M. H., USN Ret., 7452 Adams Park Ct., Annandale, Va. 22003
 1829 MASSLER, Jerold M., c/o EL-JAY Stamp Co., Box 298, North Salem, N. Y. 10560
 1974 HENRY, Raymond, 124 rue LaLarde, 59100 Roubaix, France (France regular issues; plating, Yvert #29/II to 60/I)
 1546 MURRAY, Raymond C., 11803 Nene Dr., Austin, TX 78750
 1629 SMITH, Charles S., American Embassy—Athens, APO New York, N.Y.
 1360 DUBANE, Jean Jacques, 130 W. 17th St., #5S, New York, N. Y. 10011

MEMBERS APPEALS

(Members Advertising)

- WANTED:—St. Pierre & Miquelon 1926 provisional cachets on cover, Type "a" (6-7 May 1926) and Type "b" (29 March-3 May 1926). J. R. Taylor, 5328 LaSalle Crescent, Calgary, Alberta, Canada T3E 5Y5 (Mb. #1888)
- WANTED:—Copies of Merson issue of France on cover, or with interesting cancels. Common covers will be fine, as am just beginning to organize and investigate this area. Suggest to write me first. Mark Schumacher, Jackson Library, UNC—Greensboro, No. Car. 27412 (Mb. #1781)
- WANTED:—Legible Guyane Francaise dated postmark on 0,25 Marianne de Decaris stamp (Sc. #968) on a single, piece or cover. Offering neat Guyane datestamp on Sc. #1036 or other similar inducement. S. J. Luft, 870 So. Miller Court, Lakewood, Colo. 80226 (Mb. #915)
- WANTED:—Copies of Annam Sc. #8, Dahomey #40, Soudan #s 1 and 2, Indochina #s 212, J15, Q3, and Tahiti #23; also names of dealers who specialize in Syria, Lebanon, Cilicia, Alaoites, etc., or have considerable stock in them. Milton Rosen, 17200 Sunburst St., Northridge, Calif. 91324.
- OFFER:—I have a nearly complete collection of 20th Century France, with more or less specialization in coils, Europa, Conseil, Sowers, and booklets, much of which I am considering disposing of. Also many duplicates and some literature. Members with particular interests should write me of their needs. Frederik S. Eaton, 40 Jones Road, Wallingford, Conn. 06492 (Mb. #707)
- WANTED:—Stamps, mint and used, postal stationery used (or mint first issue Diego Suarez only), covers, post cards from Anjouan, Diego Suarez, Grande Comore, Mayotte, Moheli, Nossi-Be, and Ste. Marie, including Madagascar cancels on these items and their cancels on Madagascar stamps. Also information on history and postal history of the area. Sherman Lee Pompey, Box 509, Florence, Ore. 97439 (Mb. #2046)