



France & Colonies



Philatelist

SELDOM-SEEN WORLD WAR II COVERS FROM OR VIA FRENCH INDOCHINA (II)

Jacques Desrousseaux has very kindly sent us, via Bert Mendelsohn, the following amplifications regarding Mendelsohn's extremely scarce items of postal stationery, shown and described on p. 104-06 of *FCP*, N° 230, October 1992.

The 12c postal card with EF (Etat Français) in upper right of indicia (Figure 5) was printed in France in 1942, at about the same time as the 1F20 Pétain card for internal use in France. It was intended for use on admissible unsealed mail from Indochina to Occupied France. However, with the Japanese entry into the war, following the attack upon Pearl Harbor, all normal mail routes were severed. At the request of the International Red Cross, a new route was opened from France on 6 April 1943, via Ankara, Tiflis, Siberia, and Japan. A small shipment of the 12c card was sent to Indochina,

* * * * *

ENTER YOUR EXHIBIT IN THE 1993 STEPHEN G. RICH COMPETITION

See page 85 and supplement inside

* * * * *

TABLE OF CONTENTS

Seldom-Seen World War II Covers From Or Via French Indochina (II).....	65
Bureau Français de Yokohama Revisited.....	67
Anomalies of the French 1993 Stamp Day Issue	68
Postal Training School Provisional "Stamps".....	69
Martiques 1994	69
French U.N. Peacekeeping Forces	70
Editorial	72
A Cover Story	73
States of the 6F Marianne De Gandon	75
Madagascar - An Exceptional Declared-Value Cover	76
More Words of Wisdom from the Pen of John M. Hotchner	78
French Marcophily III. Departure Markings	79
Stephen G. Rich Memorial Exhibit.....	85
For The Record.....	85
Announcements and News	88
New Books, Pamphlets, & Catalogs	92
F.C.P.S. Official	93
Members' Appeals.....	96

arriving probably early in 1944. Very few of these 12c cards from Indochina and of the IF20 Pétain cards from France ever arrived at their respective destinations. Desrousseaux (who had been interned in Indochina during the war) received only two of the Pétain cards from his family, and none that he sent ever arrived in France.

After 9 March 1945, Japanese forces took over French Indochina and interned the French troops and civilians within the larger cities. They could correspond via postal cards among themselves. As the small stock of 12c cards was soon exhausted, the previous 8c card with RF (République Française) in upper right of indicia (Figures 2-4) were resurrected, with use of additional 4c in postage stamps. Desrousseaux has five such family cards used from Hanoi, Saigon, and Phnom-Penh internment areas. Some bear censor markings, of Japanese and of seized French origin. He also states that the Figure 6 card is *not* philatelic, but rather shows correct and very rare usage between known persons.

Desrousseaux then explains the Indochina 37c airmail envelope (For The Record item #643, October 1992, p. 122). It was printed in Paris for the 1938 postal rate of 7c + 30c airmail surtax. Because Indochina post offices had large stocks of the old 36c imprinted envelope, these were mainly used first, with an added 1c stamp. The new 37c envelope was sold mostly at the Hanoi and Saigon philatelic counters, from 8 June 1938-onward. On 12 June 1939, the rate became 39c (9c + 30c) and again, the 36c envelopes (plus 3c postage)

* * * * *

FRANCE & COLONIES PHILATELIST

USPS #207700

**Published quarterly by the
FRANCE & COLONIES PHILATELIC SOCIETY, INC. (N.Y.)
Affiliate No. 45, American Philatelic Society**

July 1993 – Vol. 49, No. 3, Whole No. 233

Second-class postage paid at Bloomfield, NJ

Office of Publication: 103 Spruce St., Bloomfield, NJ 07003

An additional entry office at Platteville, WI 53818

Printing arranged by: Jay Smith, P.O. Box 650, Snow Camp, NC 27349

Dues \$11.00 per year. Parent Chapter and Foreign \$15.00 (plus \$5.00 admission fee), \$4.50 of which is for a subscription to the F. & C. Philatelist.

All communications about membership, subscriptions, activities, and services of the Society should be sent to the Corresponding Secretary,
Walter E. Parshall, 103 Spruce St., N.J. 07003

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

Stanley J. Luft, 16291 W. 56th Place, Golden, CO 80403 USA

Editor: Robert J. Stone

President: Richard M. Stevens

Vice President: Williams Wallis

Treasurer: William Wallis

Recording Secretary: Ed J. Grabowsky

Corresponding Secretary: Walter E. Parshall

Directors:

Class of 1994

Marc Martin, John Lievsay

Class of 1995

Ira Zweifach, Beatrice M. Berner

Class of 1996

Editor: Robert G. Stone

Stanley Luft, Martin Stempien, Jr.

Postmaster: Send form 3579 to 103 Spruce St., Bloomfield, NJ 07003

were mainly used. On 1 December 1940, the rate became 40c (10c + 30c), around which time the supply of 36c envelopes ran dry at some post offices. The 37c envelopes thus first saw commercial use, but with the addition of 3c in postage stamps. Desrousseaux has never seen a used-in-1940 example (period prior to termination of Air France mail service to and from France). After the war, remainders of the 36c and 37c envelopes were again used, and with appropriate additional postage (as per the item shown in For The Record #643).

* * * * *

BUREAU FRANÇAIS DE YOKOHAMA REVISITED

Jun Ichi Matsumoto has written a well-documented restudy of the French Office at Yokohama markings in *The London Philatelist*, N° 1201 (1993). The three forms of date stamps, all type 15, are shown below.



Figure 1



Figure 2



Figure 3



Figure 4

Contrary to previous studies and conclusions, including his own, Matsumoto now believes that only the Bau FRANÇAIS date stamp (his Figure 1) was available at Yokohama from the start (September 1865), and where it served both as a departure marking and a receiving marking (on covers dated 11 September 1865 and 4 October 1865, respectively). This date stamp was used continuously at Yokohama, surviving the great fire there of 26 November 1866 (used on 16 December 1866 cover), until the bureau was closed 31 March 1880 (transit backstamp of 28 March 1880).

The JAPON date stamp (Figure 2) was probably received in Yokohama in May 1869 (28 May cover, according to Salles). Supposedly meant to be used only as a backstamp and struck in blue, it is “commonly” found also as a black departure marking—albeit far less frequently than the Bau FRANÇAIS dater. The LKD seems to be 8 February 1880 (from Salles).

The Figure 3 date stamp was to be used only on military mail, which — for active-duty personnel — was at the far-lower French domestic rate. Matsumoto believes the device was received after mid-January 1867 (16 April 1867 cover), thereby postdating the great fire. The LKD is 7 March 1879, but other covers may exist on up in time to the March 1880 closing of the bureau.

It should be mentioned that both Gros Chiffres 5118 killers (Figure 4) were lost in the great fire, and were replaced at first by the anchor-in lozenge of dots killer, then by new 5118s received from France.—S.J.Luft

ANOMALIES OF THE FRENCH 1993 STAMP DAY ISSUE

by J. H. Braun

The current Stamp Day design in the annual series was issued 8 March 1993. It was designed by Charles Bridoux after a poster for Jacques Tati's 1949 film "Jour de Fête" ("The Big Day"). The semi-postal stamp at 2,50 + 0,60 (Figure 1) was prepared, as customary, in sheet format. A booklet (face value 19,30F) was also issued. It is unusual in that its single pane consists of a label plus a horizontal strip of seven stamps wherein four stamps at 2,50 alternate with three at 2,50 + 0,60 (Figure 2). Therefore, this is the first time that France has issued an unsurtaxed Stamp Day stamp — and which exists only within the booklet.

The Philatelic Agency at Paris claims there is absolutely no difference between the surtaxed sheet and booklet stamps. This is not the case. Under UV light, the white trousers of the subject cyclist have a warm yellow fluorescence in the case of the sheet stamp, whereas they glow a pale bluish white on the booklet stamps.

The two varieties can, however, be distinguished without the aid of an UV lamp: (1) by their selvage, which is white on the sheets and red on the booklet panes, and (2) pairs of the semi-postal can exist only in sheets, whereas the semi-postal is always se-tenant with an unsurtaxed stamp in booklet panes.

The sheet stamp single shown in Figure 1 has an ITVF logo in the margin. Only one such combination exists per sheet of 50 stamps. ITVF stands for *Imprimerie des Timbres-poste et des Valeurs Fiduciaires*—the service at Périgeux that prints postage stamps and presumably other forms of revenue paper. The ITVF logo first appeared on sheet margins in 1991. Beginning with December 1992 issues, all stamps prepared by the ITVF have these letters inscribed in very small print near their bottom right corner. In addition, the 2,50F European Marketing Union stamp issued 6 (9) November 1992 is so inscribed.



Figure 1

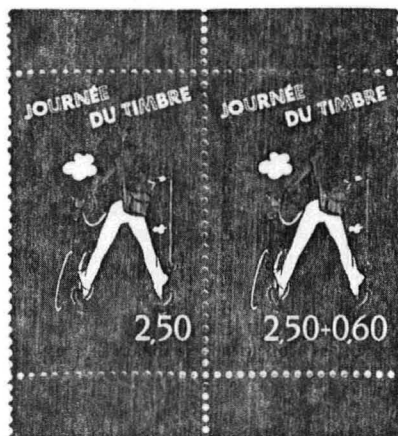


Figure 2

POSTAL TRAINING SCHOOL PROVISIONAL "STAMPS"

Training schools for postal employees used French definitive stamps, to which ANNULÉ overprints were added from 1911-on, for practice sessions (*cours pratiques*) on make-believe (commonly insured and/or registered) mail. The overprint was changed to SPÉCIMEN in 1925 and 1926. These stamps are listed in Yvert as *Timbres des cours d'instructions* 1 to 49 (ANNULÉ) and 50-91 (SPÉCIMEN). In 1931, they were replaced by perforated vignettes or *simili-timbres* in the size of then current French postage stamps and consisting of an outer frame and of the face "value" plus SANS VALEUR -- all in the color of the equivalent postage stamp.

J.-L. Trassaert (*Le Monde des Philatélistes* for February 1993) has discovered an archive of pre-1931 *cours pratiques* covers used at Bordeaux. Prior to the issue of the *sans valeur* vignettes, and whenever there was a shortage of overprinted postage stamps, almost anything went at the training schools, including sheet selvage, sketched-in rectangles of stamp size, hand-drawn "stamp" designs, and locally-printed labels. Some of the latter are shown below.—S.J.Luft



* * * * *

MARTIGUES 1994

Our man in Sunny Spain, Jerry Massler, informs us that U.S. (and others?)—owned exhibits of French (and Colonies?) material will be considered for acceptance at the May 1994 French National exhibition. This show, held during the annual Congress of French Philatelic Societies, is equivalent to the APS's "Champion of Champions" national competition. The May 1994 event will take place at Martigues, France, near Marseille. Those of you who may be interested in exhibiting at this major competition should send exhibit title and number of pages in exhibit (probably best to also advise of the minimum number of pages you'd care to exhibit), along with a brief summary of

the national and international awards received by the exhibit. Mail this information to Jerry, who has the ear of the show's local committee and who is making this possible for U.S. exhibitors. As this is perhaps a unique opportunity which may not recur after 1994, please write promptly to Sr. José Martín Massler, Apartado 545, 41080 Sevilla, Spain.

* * * * *

FRENCH U.N. PEACEKEEPING FORCES

(continued from FCP #232, p. 45)

Here follows an expansion and update of notes on p. 45 of the April 1993 issue, as abstracted from an article by Gérard Schmitt in *L'Echo de la Timbrologie* for March 1993 and other sources.

Mission APRONUC (Cambodia): ca.1430 men, mainly Foreign Legionnaires, who replaced paratroops in December 1992. Utilization of BPM (Bureau Postal Militaire) 211 and 212 circular date stamps, as well as those of UNITED NATIONS NATIONS UNIES, UNTAC/APRONUC within double circle (formerly single circle) (Figure 1).

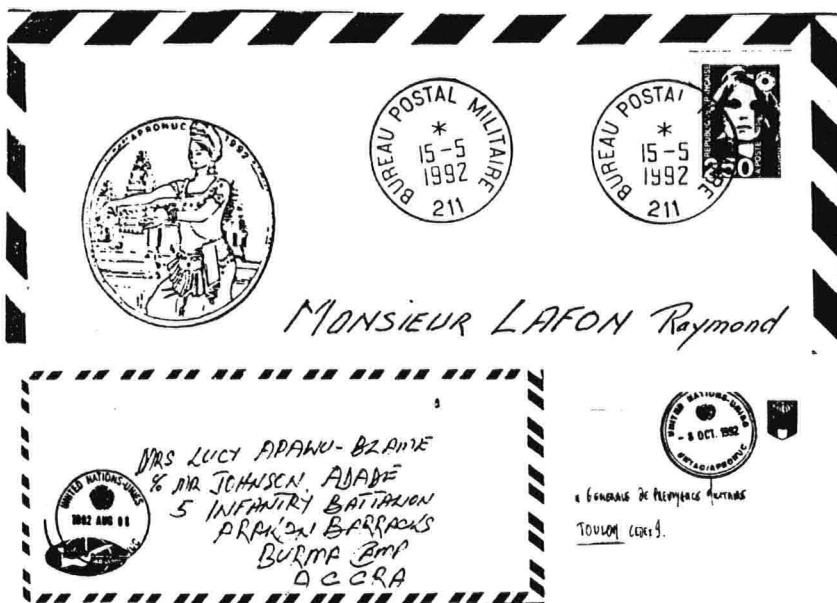


Figure 1

Mission FORPRONU (ex-Yugoslavia): ca.4850 men from various units formerly stationed in France and Germany. Will include contingents of the 2nd Armored Division in April 1993. BPMs are 651 through 657 (Figure 2) (also see For The Record #674 in this issue). The free franchise was accorded, 24 June 1992, to mail weighing less than 10 gm; such mail receives the date

stamp UNITED NATIONS / PROTECTION FORCES shown in Figure 3. Naval vessels in the Adriatic since 31 January 1993 include the carrier "Clemenceau," the frigates "Suffren," "Jean-Bart," "Georges-Lévy," and "LaMotte-Piquet," and auxiliary vessels "Marne" and "Meuse."



Figure 2



Figure 3

Mission ORYX (Somalia): ca. 2100 men in two motorized battalions plus helicopters, logistical support, airstrip maintenance, and headquarters forces. BPM 613 opened 4 January 1993 at Mogadishu. Mail transits via Djibouti and Paris. Troops had not received the free franchise and have not been using U.N. markings. Naval vessels that participated in ORYX included the frigates "Duplex" and "Floréal," and the auxiliary vessels "Foudre" and "La Grandière."

Other forces: 34 men with ONUST in Jerusalem(?) and the Sinai; and a small presence in the Western Sahara with MINURSO, to organize a referendum in the region. No mail facilities provided; outgoing mail would show local markings, unless posted in France. (S.J. Luft)

* * * * *

EDITORIAL

We live in difficult times. While the crisis of getting our journal out on schedule may have been resolved—for now, there is a more important and long-lasting crisis at hand.

In a nutshell, it is a question of what sort of journal you would like to see and read, and also a question of what keeps you on our membership rolls. *The France & Colonies Philatelist* is of, by, and for the membership. Your officers prepare the official notices for the back pages; your editors scrounge the philatelic literature for items to be incorporated into For The Record and Announcements And News, write short summaries of hopefully interesting articles that were published elsewhere, and occasionally find time and inspiration to write articles themselves. But the bulk of what we have to publish is what we are able to obtain from you, our members.

In other words, if you find that some of our articles have been too esoteric or too "elitist," or on subjects that fail to interest you, it is only because we received these articles from contributors other than yourself.

Starting right now, we are encouraging all members to involve themselves with this, our journal. We envision the following new (or not quite so new) features.

1. Letters to the Editor. Tell us what you'd like to read, or what you'd like to know, or what seems to work well for other journals, or just simply list some pet peeves of yours. We'll print what we can and act upon the others. One of our occasional features is called Some Show Results. We get most of the information therein from the pages of Linn's—which doesn't tell us who among you attended or what was especially interesting from a F&C viewpoint. Besides, we unfortunately don't know all our members/exhibitors by name. If you attended or exhibited at a show, tell us about it.

2. Questions and Answers. If you have problems identifying or explaining a stamp, cinderella, postmark, rate, etc., send us your query and a clear illustration. This feature seems to work to some extent for other philatelic quarterlies. You may not get an answer for another half a year because of our publication time frame, but that should be better than never getting one.

3. My Favorite Cover (or Stamp). And it doesn't really have to be your favorite item, just something of interest that you can write about for the edification of the membership. (And see the introductory note to the first such offering, on p. 73). Or, it could be a "Problem Cover," with a request for answers.

4. Members' Appeals. You may not always obtain a reply, but then, this service is gratis to all members.

5. Reviews. Say you just purchased or borrowed an interesting tome on some France or Colonies philatelic topic. Why not offer to write a review.

6. Articles. Hardly last, but the most difficult contribution to prepare.

(And we'd better explain here that we do not and cannot pay for articles, etc.—hence our use of the term “contributions.” Authors receive five copies of the journal issue.) Short, long, or serialized. Very preferably original (in part or in whole) enough to advance the hobby. Perhaps a translation of some important article that was published in some language other than French. Perhaps an elementary or introductory account of a single stamp or series, or of a modern postmark type, or something else you believe you can handle. If you feel you lack background resources, let us know first, and we'll help you to the extent possible; i.e., suggesting literature you should read; putting you in contact with a likely source of information; even trying to match you with a potential co-author. It can be hard getting started, especially if you're untried or rusty. But it's a great feeling of accomplishment and pride to complete an article, and to see it published.

7. Consider forming a study circle on some F&C-related subject. But be prepared to organize it and head it! This could be of interest also to Topical and Thematic collectors, of which we have quite a few within the Society.

During the convalescence of Editor Bob Stone, please send all pertinent material, communications, queries, writings, etc. (but not membership correspondence!) to the associate editor, Stanley J. Luft, at 16291 West 56th Place, Golden, CO 80403, USA. Material to be submitted for publication should be double-space typed or printed, using a clean black ribbon. Illustrations should be clear and printable.

That's the challenge to all of you, for the continued success of our journal. Get in the swim! We want the *France & Colonies Philatelist* to be a journal you'd want to read as soon as you retrieve it from your mailbox. Many thanks in advance from your fellow members!

* * * * *

A COVER STORY

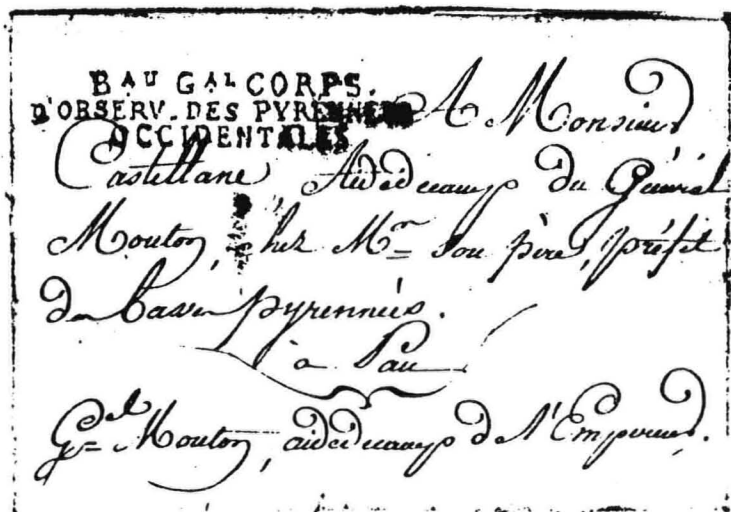
Associate Editor's Note: I plan to prepare an occasional series of brief, illustrated accounts of covers I consider to be of interest for postal, philatelic, historical, or humorous reasons. We hope that this start will encourage our members to do the same, particularly those members who have hitherto hesitated to contribute to our journal. Please remember that this is OUR journal. Your efforts will be most appreciated by the readership. Editor Stone and I will be glad to rewrite your offerings if you so desire, or simply give them the editing touch.

The Corps d'Observation des Pyrénées Occidentales was organized as a simple division under Gen. Mouton, December 1807-January 1808, in south-western France. In February 1808, it entered Spain as part of Marshal Murat's invading Armée d'Espagne. In September 1808 it became, still under Mouton, the 1st Division of Bessières' II Corps of the Armée d'Espagne.

This frenchise letter, written, signed, and endorsed by Gen. Mouton himself, as (occasionally) aide-de-camp to the Emperor Napoleon, was written 7 September 1808 at Cubo (de Burela), between Miranda and Burgos, Spain.

The very scarce military-postal departure marking shown has been retouched and strengthened for presentation here. The letter is addressed to Mouton's own aide-de-camp, Lt. de Castellane, who was on leave, visiting his father at Pau, France. Gen. of Division Mouton became a Marshal of France in 1831; as did Lt. de Castellane, in 1852.

Obviously a letter of major importance, concerning strategies, victories over the Spaniards, military secrets, and what not. Right? Wrong! In this rather short and personal letter, Mouton has managed to three times implore Castellane to bring back with him a good chef... Alright, that can be of supreme importance to a commanding general.



Bau Gal CORPS/D'OBSERV. DES PYRÉNÉES/OCCIDENTALS (61mm, black)

A REMINDER

FCPS members can request, for themselves or for group showing, the loan of any of the following 35mm slide/cassette tape programs prepared by our Society:

The Birth of the Third Republic
The Sower Issues of France

The Paris Commune

The First Issues of France

The only charges made are for postage and insurance. Please contact:

Mr. Walter E. Parshall, Secretary
103 Spruce Street
Bloomfield, NJ 07003, USA

STATES OF THE 6F MARIANNE DE GANDON

All the 6F violet-blue and carmine rose values show distinct states (not to be confused with “types”) in positions 44 and 94 of the pane of 100 stamps. In the normal state (state 1), the first strands of hair at left, immediately below the bonnet, do not touch, and thus look like all other 6F Gandons. For some unspecified reason, type metal was introduced into position 44 of the 50-subject plate, and the hairlines re-engraved so as to be touching (state 2) (Yvert 720a and 721Aa). The type metal eventually degraded to seldom seen state 3, and was re-engraved in 1948 to an approximation of state 1 (state 4). This is noted and illustrated (Figure 1) on p. II-277 of the *Marianne 1984-1985 Catalogue Fédéral*.

A slightly divergent nomenclature was recently offered by A. Deshouillers in *L'Echo de la Timbrologie* for March 1993, and is shown here as Figure 2. (S.J. Luft)

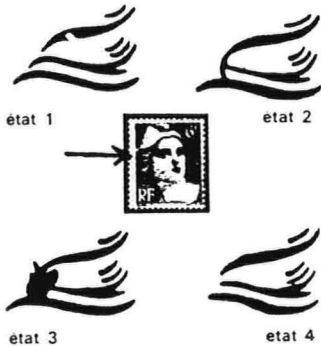


Figure 1

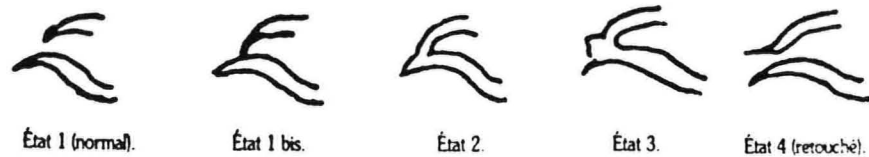


Figure 2

MADAGASCAR - AN EXCEPTIONAL DECLARED-VALUE COVER

by Ed Grabowski

Madagascar appears to be the colony that produced the most unusual items of postal history during the period of use of the Colonial Allegorical Group Type. Some unusual pieces were documented in the minutes of my presentation at a FCPS meeting,¹ and more recently I noted an unusual use of Group Type stamps as provisional dues from this colony.² Recently, another unusual item has come to my attention, and it is the subject of this note.

Shown in Figure 1 is the front of a declared value envelope posted from the small village of Ambatolampy on December 26, 1902. It appears to be a normal declared value letter franked on the front and reverse with 85 centimes of Group Type stamps, employing the 1902 revaluations (0,05/30 and 0,15/75) save for a 15 centimes stamp in blue on the back. In addition to the bold blue **CHARGÉ** handstamp indicating an insured letter, the manuscript notation: **Registered Werth zweihundert Franken - Valeur deux cents - 200 fr - Francs** has been added. The letter was posted to Stuttgart, Germany which clearly explains the manuscript notation in two languages, though the German seems to have English overtones. In addition, the envelope bears the manuscript notation N°=597, suggesting that this was the 597th registered letter handled by this post office in 1902.



Figure 1

On viewing the back of the envelope (Figure 2), this becomes anything but a simple declared-value letter. The typical French Community cachet, normally struck in red on registered-insured mail, has been carefully drawn

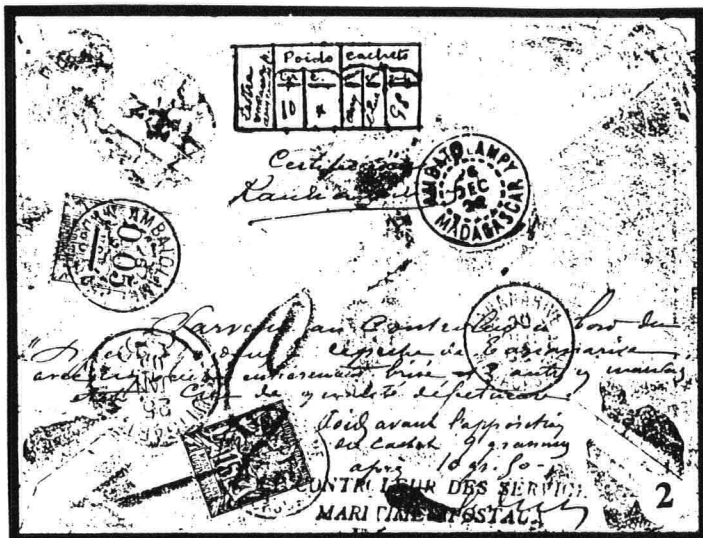


Figure 2

in by hand, and adheres closely to the standard format. The weight of the letter is noted as 10 grams, so the breakdown of the 85 centimes rate is probably as follows: 25c postage; 25c registry; and 35c insurance. To my knowledge no clear listing of Colonial insurance rates is available for use, and the limited number of declared-value letters in my collection suggests differences in rates amongst the Colonies. Beneath the drawn cachet is a manuscript endorsement verifying its use and a signature, presumably that of the local postmaster. Undoubtedly the regular cachet used on insured mail was not available in Ambatolampy on this date.

From Ambatolampy, the letter passed through the main office of Tananarive on December 29th, and the front bears a poor strike of Line V of the Reunion-Marseille packet (the ship "Djemnah" which left Reunion on December 30th) in which the date is not readable. Registered-insured mail was serious business during these times, given the value of money and goods that were entrusted to the Colonial post offices. Apparently on board the "Djemnah," this letter and its irregularities came to the attention of the ship's postmaster. After reviewing the letter, he added a long manuscript text noting that he, the controller on board the "Djemnah," had verified the validity of the letter and the fact that the regular cachet was broken, and he signed his addition. At the very bottom of the envelope he added the handstamp **LE CONTROLEUR DES SERVICE MARITIMES POSTEAUX** to make everything official. To my knowledge, this is an unreported maritime handstamp.

The envelope bears no French arrival or transit markings. However, Salles notes that the "Djemnah" arrived at Marseille on January 23, 1903. The letter was backstamped at its destination in Stuttgart on January 25th, consistent with this view. Two markings on the envelope remain a mystery for

now. On the front of the envelope is a crayon **160....** in blue; and on the reverse a crayon **5** in red ties the 15c stamp. The purpose of either of these markings is uncertain. They may or may not have any postal meaning.

Insured money letters are not common during the period of the Group Type's use. I have about eighteen, and have seen probably another dozen. All conform to expectations as far as manuscript endorsements and cachets. This from Madagascar certainly has to be one of the most unusual, postally proper and non-philatelic examples in existence. As always, I would be interested in hearing from anyone who has seen something of a similar nature.

REFERENCES:

¹E.J. Grabowski, **Madagascar and the French Colonial Group Type**, *France & Colonies Philatelist*, No. 226, pp. 97-108 (1991).

²E.J. Grabowski, **Provisional Use of Group-Type Stamps as Postage Due Stamps from Madagascar: Fact or Fantasy?**, *France & Colonies Philatelist*, No. 230, pp. 106-109 (1992).

* * * * *

MORE WORDS OF WISDOM FROM THE PEN OF JOHN M. HOTCHNER

GROWTH

"Is philately still what it was for you when you began? Is the sense of adventure still there?"

I remember getting lost in the scene of San Martin crossing the Andes depicted on Chile's 1951 air mail (Scott #C165).

Another of my favorites was the regal Gyrfalcon on Iceland's 1930 royal blue airmail triangle (Scott #C3). I could look at those and other favorites for hours on end and dream.

The scene changes. It is 35 years later. I remember the early days with a tinge of sadness for their loss. Life was simple then. Dreams were limitless.

Now I know too much and have too many responsibilities. There is temptation to see daydreaming as a waste of time. It contributes to neither the quantity nor the quality of the collection I am building.

But wait, isn't this a false goal; a danger of aging? As a goal it simply traces artificial limits on the mind.

Free yourself! Go back to your old favorites and let your mind wander. Watch for new favorites and allow yourself 15 minutes to follow their color, shape, event, image. It can be the most satisfying and relaxing thing you can do with your hobby."

(J. M. Hotchner, "Facts and Fantasy about Philately," Melbourne, FL, 1992, p. 65-66).

FRENCH MARCOPHILY - III. DEPARTURE MARKINGS

by Robert T. Kinsley
(cont. from *FCP*, April 1993, p. 55)

Although examples of straight-line departure markings identifying the city of origin continued to be found as late as 1842 (and probably there are even later examples), such markings were replaced beginning in 1830 by circular postmarks identifying the city and department number, with the collection date for mailing placed in the center. As usual, there are a couple of atypical earlier circular town and date marks, those used at Angers between 1810 and 1828 (see *FCP* N° 22, July/August 1945), and actually a receiving rather than a departure marking, and those of Lyon and Lille of 1828 (Figure 28), the first such to include departure numerals.

The first typical *cachet-à-date* was a large date stamp (*grand cachet*), 29mm in diameter, and authorized to be put into service 1 January 1830. Creation of this postmark closely coincided with the implementation of the law passed in June 1829 requiring delivery of mail directly to the home, something heretofore only done in Paris. Since these postmarks were distributed in December, there are, of course, examples of premature use that month, the earliest that I have seen recorded being Troyes, 17 December 1829. This first type is found with double fleurons (Type 11 of the “standard” nomenclature), with single (*demi*) fleurons (Type 12), and without fleurons (Type 13). A useful supplement to *FCP* N° 184 of April 1981 provided illustrations, shown here as Figure 29, of these and a few later postmarks, identifying their classification number as devised by Langlois and Gilbert in the 1920s. Only about 110 out of the 1,215 post offices existing at the time used

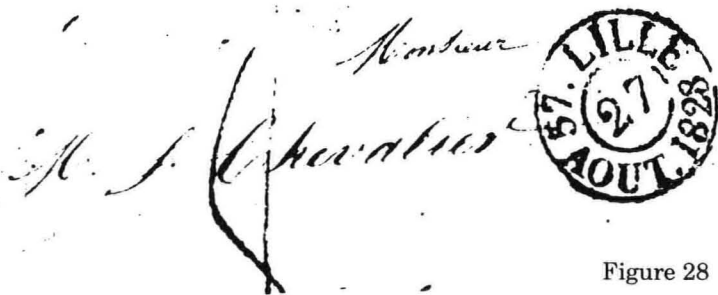


Figure 28

the Type 11 double-fleurons postmark¹⁵. Kremer¹⁶ reports that the double fleurons “were used to take up extra space when the town had a very short name,” and single fleurons “were used in the case of towns having medium length names,” but when the original postmark needed to be replaced, the new one came without fleurons. In Figure 30 , the Beaupreau cachet is an

¹⁵Yvert et Tellier, *Catalogue Spécialisé des Timbres de France*, Vol. I, 1975, p. 5.

¹⁶Brainerd Kremer, *French Philatelic Facts*, October 1949; and in *Billig's Philatelic Handbook*, Vol. 29, p. 39.

example of a no-fleuron replacement (1847 usage) of a demi-fleuron cachet (1833 usage).¹⁷

Naturally there were a number of *grand cachets* unique to Paris, first seen in 1831 identifying offices in the Palace, at the Chamber of Deputies, the main post office, and other post offices in the city that were designated by letters, and the one serving the suburbs (Banlieue) (Figures 31-33). A *grand cachet* of Bureau F, dated 23 December 1834 is reported¹⁸ with Paris spelled PRAIS.

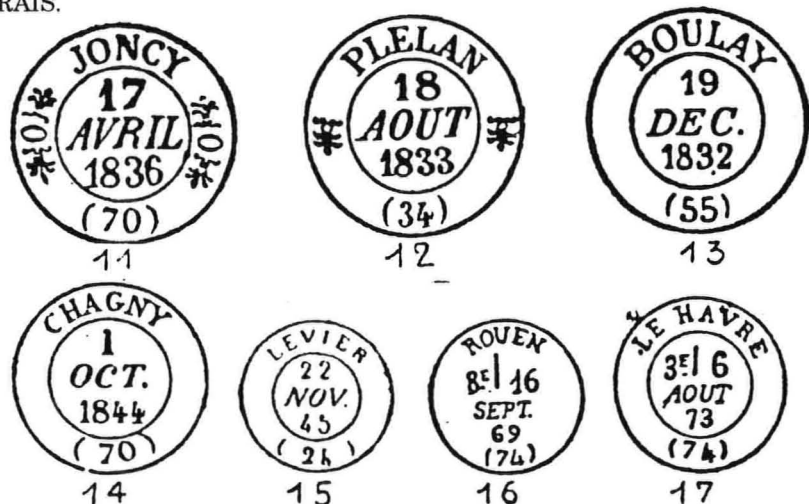


Figure 29

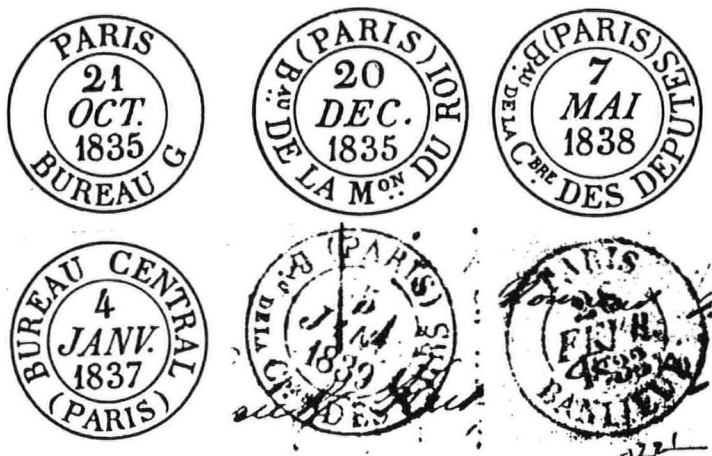
The second standard circular town and date postmark is called the *moyen* (medium-size) (Type 14) cachet, 25mm in diameter, first seen 15 August 1833 at Egreville (Seine-et-Marne) but typically used only after 1836. Apparently it was intended to replace the *grand cachet*, but the latter continued to be



Figure 30

¹⁷I wish to remind readers that, while it is nice to see perfect renditions of postmarks from handbooks and catalogues, and which I do show, it is also good to be given examples from less-than-perfect actual markings on cover, which is of course, the norm for postmarks.

¹⁸André Rochette and Jean Pothion, *Catalogue des Marques Postales et Oblitérations de Paris 1700-1876*; Paris, 1958, p. 82.



Figures 31-33

seen in use as late as 1849 and on covers bearing postage stamps (Figure 34). Two cities, Les Vans and Lyon, are known to have changed in the 1840s from the circular to an octagon postmark (Figure 35).

The third standard type and by far the most prevalent, is called the *petit cachet* (Type 15), 20mm in diameter, introduced in 1838 and called by Yvert the ancestor of all French round postmarks to come. This postmark was ap-



Figure 34



Figure 35



Figure 36

plied not only as a departure marking but also to mail in transit via other post offices and as a receiving mark (Figure 36). From the 1840s are found the postmarks of a few towns without an inner circle (Type 16), and even fewer with an added outer circle of dots (Type 22) (Figure 37), for use in secondary post offices (*bureaux de distributions*). And, in the 1860s larger postmarks of 23 to 24mm diameter appeared, identifying the many specific kinds of post offices (city branches, railway station, etc.) of departure (Figure 38).

Let's illustrate a limited progression of typical circular departure postmarks, certainly not all the possibilities by any means, by using a single city, Caen, capital of Calvados and favorite city of William the Conqueror. Calvados was then Department N° 13 (changed to N° 14 in 1964), in "post-



Fig. 37



Fig. 38



Fig. 38

card-pretty Normandy [where] the region's old timbered farmhouses have been turned into retreats for rich Parisiens."¹⁹ Included at the end of the progression is the use of P.P. (*port payé* = postage prepaid) which, based on a postal regulation of 1868, was to be used for the mailing of printed matter, newspapers, samples, and *papiers d'affaires* (legal papers, invoices, etc.) (Figures 39 to 48).

In addition to its regular normal departure postmarks, Caen was one of only 23 railway mail-transfer offices, known as *bureau de passe*, which were provided special postmarks when mail was transferred from one rail system to another. These postmarks (Figure 49) consist of non-concentric (eccentric) circles, with the assigned post office number (691 for Caen) at the top, and were in use only between 1864 and 1882²⁰.

Even such a cursory treatment as this of circular postmarks should not exclude examples of the many date stamps first seen in 1848 (Figure 50), identifying the rail line carrying the mail from town to town. There were, on *ambulant* date stamps, 52 towns identified on lines touching Paris (e.g., Paris-Lyon) (Figure 51), and 30 lines which did not touch Paris (e.g. Marseille-Lyon) (Figure 52). Round inner circles indicated the normal, night-train mail service; octagonal ones the less frequent day-train services; scalloped ones the far less common express services.

The definitive type of *courrier convoyeur* postmarks, undulating cancellations (Figure 53) used by postal clerks working in compartments of railway baggage cars, was first seen early 1867. The town of mail collection is at top and its department number at bottom; in the middle are, from top down: day of month, the two terminal towns of the line (e.g., Tournai is between Orléans and Paris), and finally the number of the daily trip.

These *convoyeur-station* date stamps were replaced, from 1877, by those of *convoyeur-lignes*, which bear only the termini of the postal agent's route, plus the date information as per town cancels of the time (Figure 54).

¹⁹The Price of Paté, World Monitor, March 1992.

²⁰J.P. Mayeur, "Les bureaux de passe"; *Documents Philatéliques*, No. 127, 1991, pp. 27-34.



Figures 39 to 48

Figure 39. Type 15 postmark, in use 1838-1860s.

Figure 40. Type 17, larger and with number of mail collection added; in use 1860-late 1870s.

Figure 41. Type 17 bis; like Type 17, but with name of department at bottom, instead of its number; in use from 1875.

Figure 42. As Figure 41, but showing use from 1880s of mixed Roman and stick letters and numbers.

Figure 43. Type of 1884, with inner circle of dashes and all stick letters and numerals; used 1884-1906 (and later).

Figure 44. Post office names added to postmarks, 1887-on.

Figure 45. R.P. (Recette Principale, main P.O.); from 1850s. (Machine cancel at left)

Figure 46. Department numbers added, preceding town names; from 1870s.

Figure 47. Some markings of the Caen railway-station P.O., through the years.

Figure 48. P.P. Caen markings (machine cancel on right).



Figure 49



Figure 50



Figure 51



Figure 52



BRIEFKAART uit Nederlandsch-Indië.

(Carte postale des Indes orientales néerlandaises.)

ALGEMEENE POSTVERENIGING. (UNION POSTALE UNIVERSELLE.)

Adreszijde. (Côté réservé à l'adresse.)



*Heeren Paul
Briefen Handlung*



*Hamburg
Deutschland*



Figure 52



Figure 53



Figure 54



Figure 54

STEPHEN G. RICH MEMORIAL EXHIBIT

The annual Stephen G. Rich Memorial Exhibit will be held this year on Tuesday, October 5, 1993, as the program part of the regular monthly meeting of the Society at the Collectors Club in New York. The full regulations and the entry form may be found on the supplement enclosed with this issue of the *Philatelist*.

In past years we have held the Rich Exhibit in the spring. This year we have moved it to October; this should provide ample time for members to prepare their exhibits. We particularly encourage new exhibitors to participate, and offer a year's free membership in the Society to anyone the first time they enter. Frankly, those of us who regularly attend the New York meetings have all seen each other's exhibits many times already; we would like to see as many exhibits as possible from our non-resident members.

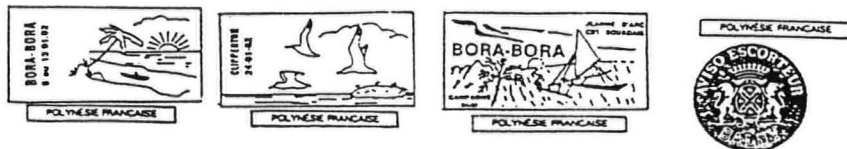
* * * * *

FOR THE RECORD

* * * * *

(continued from *FCP* #232, April 1993, p. 56)

◆ 670.) Member Christian Beslu states in *COLFRA* that the four French Polynesia slogan cancels reproduced here (reduced in size) are all fakes made to separate collectors from their cash.



◆ 671.) Readers interested in further, in-depth information on mail of the blockade of Djibouti during World War II, than was given in *FCP* N° 232, April 1993, p. 40-41, are advised to read Bertrand Sinais' "Le Blocus de Djibouti," which begins in *Feuilles Marcophiles*, N° 272 (1993).

◆ 672.) Charles Bridoux (*Feuilles Marcophiles*, N° 272, 1993) demonstrates convincingly that the very rare Paris Depart essay(?) date stamps shown here (N° 57 and N° 58 of de Beaufond's 1960 "Catalogue des Oblitérations des Timbres de France 1876-1900") are ancestral Daguins. They were drawn up by Daguin in a January 1883 proposal for a mechanical obliterator, wherein the distance between centers of twinned date stamps was shown as 46mm. The later (1884-85) Daguin machine, in use for many decades, used a smaller, 28mm spacing. The 1883-proposal date stamp designs were evidently used to prepare experimental date stamp slugs. Bridoux illustrates portions of the only four covers he has recorded with these twin date stamps, all at 46mm spacing and with Beaufond's N° 58 always on the left. This N° 58 is also known used alone, and fakes exist of this particular cancellation.



57



58

◆ 673.) Jacques Desrousseaux advises that the French contingent with the U.N. in Cambodia is using the same military-postal number, B.P.M. 221 (see *FCP*, N° 232, April 1993, p. 45) as back in the 1960s and early 1970s. As was the case for the earlier bureau, the current one is also located in Phnom-Penh. Postal markings, however, differ in style as well as in date. Desrousseaux states that most of the genuine military mail from Cambodia is sent to France in sealed sacks and therefore bears no B.P.M. markings. Therefore, much B.P.M. 221 mail must, perforce, be philatelic in nature. Presumably, this applies also to B.P.M. 222 mail from Cambodia.

◆ 674.) The list of French B.P.M.s in former Yugoslavia keeps expanding (see same p. 45 notes as above). A B.P.M. 657 (at Split) cover was offered recently by French dealer J.M. Sitarek. He also offered a B.P.M. 654 cover from Gravecal; Schmidt (p. 45 notes) stated "Cacak region." And also a B.P.M. 656 cover from Velika-Kludussa (Veliaka, as per Schmidt)—probably in part variant gallicised versions of the place names.

◆ 675.) The presence of a point between the F and the R of AFFRANCHTs in French precancels of the 1920s and 1930s is reasonably well known, and is stated to occur in positions 17 and 67 of rotary-press panes of 100 stamps. What is less well known, according to André Lacam (in *L'Echo de la Timbrologie*, February 1993) is that this point is a migratory one. Usually present equi-distant from the F and R and above their mid-branches (Figure 1), it is also found closer to the R and below its midpoint. Also less well known is the apparently constant variety of a triangle just beneath that same second F (Figure 2). Lacam observes that it is known on the 25c yellowish brown Sower as well as on the 10c Blanc.



Figure 1



Figure 2

◆ 676.) The first French postage stamp, the imperforate 20c black Cérès, was printed between 4 December 1848 and 22 February 1849, when it was decided to change its color (eventually to blue, in 1850). According to Arthur Maury, the single press run was interrupted 23-30 January due to the necessity for a better grade of paper. As of 31 December 1848 (day before the first day of issue), only 17,812,800 stamps (59,376 sheets) had been printed, and only 18,000 sheets had been delivered to the postal authorities. The presses apparently ran continuously, night and day and on Sundays and holidays as well. Because of this unprecedented effort, and particularly because of poor illumination at night, many defective printings and off-color (usually grayish) stamps were produced. These can be considered as having being printed at night. Nighttime printing ceased accordingly on 15 (or 17) January 1849. (From *L'Echo de la Timbrologie*, March 1993).

◆ 677.) Lots 1944 and 2056 in Bertrand Sinais' 24th auction sale (28 May 1993) show very clear and black double-circle blank-center cancellations with ABCDEFGHIJ at top and TUVXYZ on bottom, used 1891 at Paris and Bordeaux, respectively—together with the normal town date stamps. According to Sinais, these are essays for testing inks manufactured by the Société Lorilleux of Puteaux. Minimum bids 2500Fr and 2000Fr, respectively; sold for 343Fr and 2029Fr, respectively.

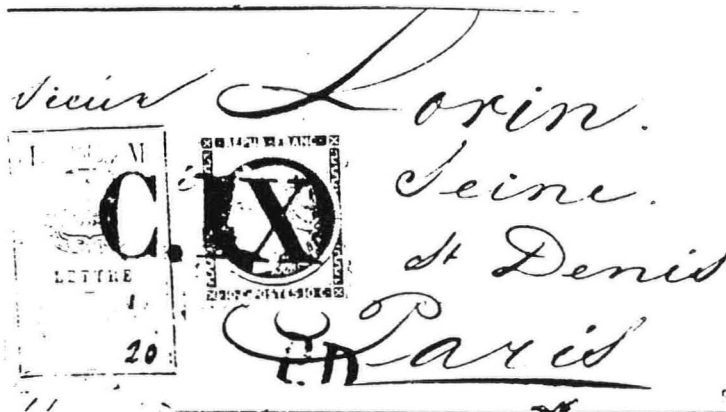
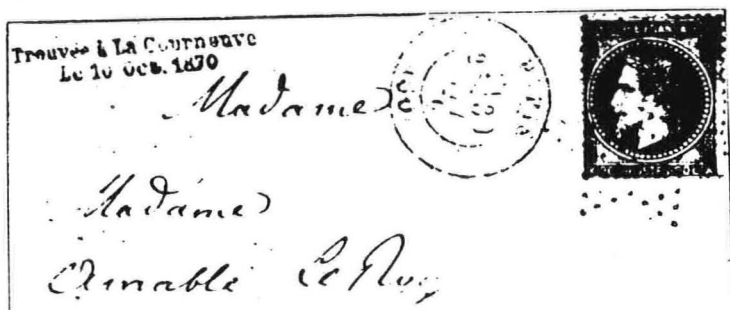
LOUIS MAIGNAN
BORDEAUX



◆ 678.) Member Ernst Cohn recently published two articles that should lay to rest (at least for now) questions regarding the authenticity of well-known and very expensive French 1870 and 1871 markings. In the "Collectors Club Philatelist" for May-June 1993, Ernst proves very convincingly that the *Trouvée à La Courneuve/Le 10 Oct. 1870* handstamp, known only on cards postmarked end of September-early October 1870 at Paris and

attributed to the short, abortive flight of the balloon "Piper N° 1", is completely bogus and was applied to balloon mail long after the fact, most likely in this century.

In the "Journal Philatélique Suisse" for March 1993, Ernst demonstrates that the C.IX marking on Commune-period letters to Paris that were forwarded by Lorin and Maury is a post-Commune fabrication. This marking, and very likely also the mail it was applied upon, were most likely made by Lorin and/or Maury themselves, as post-Commune souvenirs. Owners of (and dealers in) these doctored or faked covers will probably disagree vehemently with Ernst's conclusions.



ANNOUNCEMENTS & NEWS

New Issues and Withdrawals

(continued from FCP #232, April 1993, p. 57)

France:

- ◆ 22 February 1993: 25F Marianne de Briat booklet of ten 2,50F self-adhesive stamps, with "MEDIAMETRIE" publicity cover;

- ◆ 3 (5) April: 3,40F Human Rights (Masonic theme);
- ◆ 17 (19) April: 2,50F and 3,40F EUROPA 93 (Contemporary Art);
- ◆ 19 April: red Marianne de Briat w/o face value (permanent first class stamp);
- ◆ 24 (26) April: 4,20F Chinon, Indre-et-Loire; French Writers, six times 2,50F + 0,50F (de Maupassant, Alain, Cocteau, Pagnol, Chamson, Yourcenar), and booklet of same at 18F;
- ◆ 8 (10) May: 2,50F IXth Conf. of European Constitutional Studies;
- ◆ 14 (17) May: 4,20F Django Reinhardt (1910-53);
- ◆ 15 (17) May: 2,50F Louise Weiss (1893-1983);
- ◆ 29 May (1 June): 2,50F Congress of French Philatelic Societies, Lille;
- ◆ 5 (7) June: 2,50F Bicent. of National Museum of Natural History.

Andorra

- ◆ 13 (15) March: two triptychs for Andorran ski resorts: 2,50F + label + 3,40F, and 2,50F + 3,40F + 2,50F;
 - ◆ 15 (17) May: 2,50F and 3,40F EUROPA 93 (Contemporary Art);
 - ◆ 28 June: 2,50F butterfly.
- Withdrawal: 11 June: 4,00F Sant Eulalia d'Encamp retable.

French Polynesia

- ◆ 13 January 1993: Official Stamps @ 1, 2, 3, 5, 10, 20, 46, 70, 100, and 200F, showing cancellations on stamps of the 1859-1953 period;
- ◆ 10 February: 46F net fisherman; and booklet of ten at 460F;
- ◆ 10 March: Deep-sea (bonito) fishing: 68, 84, 86F;
- ◆ 5 April: 120F 50th Anniv. of Bora-Bora Airport;
- ◆ 6 May: 100th Anniv. of birth of Jacques Boullaire (engravings): 32, 36, 39, 51F.

Monaco

- ◆ 15 February: miniature sheet of four Mediterranean whales (Cetaceans): 4F, 5F, 6F, 7F = 22F the sheetlet; raptors of Mercantour Natl. Park 2F, 3F, 4F, 5F, 6F; the four seasons of the almond tree block of four x 5F;
- ◆ 24 March: 5,00F Princess Grace (joint issue with U.S.); 2,20F Monte Carlo Dog Show (Newfoundland and St. Bernard); 2,20F Tenth Monte Carlo Golf Open; 7F Tenth Biennial of antique, jewelry, and art gallery dealers of Monte Carlo.

New Caledonia

- ◆ 24 February: 120F Protection of the Lagoon;
- ◆ 25 March: 150F painting by Gaston Roulet (Painters of the Pacific series);
- ◆ 7 April: 25F Child's design (Philately at School series); Cagou bird definitives: 55F sheet stamp, 55F self-adhesive stamp, 880F booklet of 16 self-adhesive stamps;
- ◆ 28 April: 85F Centenary of gasohol(?) production, Niaouli;
- ◆ 5 May: 110F POLSKA 93 and 450th Death Anniv. of Copernicus.

St. Pierre & Miquelon

- ◆ 13 (18) January 1993: 2,50F Commandant Birot;
 - ◆ 10 (15) February: 5F underwater diving (postponed from 18 January);
 - ◆ 10 (15) March: 3,60F insect and flower;
 - ◆ 7 (13) April: 1,50F and 1,80F cod-cleaning knives;
 - ◆ 12 (17) May: 5F Greater Puffin and 10F Golden Plover.
- Withdrawal: 9 April: 1,50F shipboard tool.

Wallis & Futuna

- ◆ 22 February: 56F School Art;
- ◆ 20 March: Island birds 50, 60, 110F;
- ◆ 12 April: 315F Bicent. of the Louvre Museum;
- ◆ 7 May: 600F POLSKA 93 and 450th Death Anniv. of Copernicus.

◆ The Alphée Dubois design "Navigation and Commerce" recently celebrated its centennial. Stamps in that design were issued more or less simultaneously by thirteen now former French Colonies in November 1892.

Two stamps for the Martyrs and Heroes of the Resistance are scheduled to be issued in June 1993. However, the *maquette* (designs or essays) (see illustration) for these stamps were first reproduced on an illustrated postcard by La Poste, which received a commemorative cancel 13 February 1993 at Arras.

◆ Monaco issued a stamps-on-stamp setlet 18 September 1992 for its Philatelic Museum. It shows (see illustration) an 1859 Sardinian date stamp of Monaco on a

Sardinian stamp and an 1862 French date stamp of Monaco on a French stamp. The reasons for the changeover are pretty well known: Nice and Savoy became French as a result of French support of Sardinia in its unification struggle against Austria. The change in nationality took place in early Spring 1860, and French postage stamps (and postal personnel) arrived that June. However, French date stamps, *petits chiffres*, and other postal artifacts did not arrive in

PRINCIPAUTE DE MONACO



MUSEE DU TIMBRE

Monaco until September (and October in some other localities). Therefore, French stamps were being cancelled at Monaco with Sardinian markings from June to September 1860, and such mail and its markings are much sought after.

◆ Bob Kinsley writes to remind that there is still time to schedule a visit to "the largest exhibition on Napoleon Bonaparte ever in North America" at the Memphis, TN Cook Convention Center until September 22. The exhibition, at a production cost of



\$9.1 million, includes the first public showing in the U.S. of Jacques Louis David's famous painting of Bonaparte Crossing the St. Bernard Pass (see illustration) (no matter that he actually rode a mule), a complete recreation with original furnishings of the Council Chamber of Malmaison (where, for example, Napoleon and James Monroe negotiated the Louisiana Purchase), the jewels of second wife Marie-Louise and so much more. It's not free: adults \$11 seniors \$10, children \$6 (ages 5 - 16) and advance reservations are recommended (call TicketMaster 901-274-7400).

Some Show Reports:

ARIPEX '93 (Tucson, AZ, January 1993): Gold Medals to Lewis Bussey for "French Naval Mail to America, 1943-1946" and to Paul Blake for "Russia Charity Issues, 1914-1915."

SANDICAL EXPO '93 (San Diego, CA, February): Silver Medal to Bob Kinsley for "Coiffurately."

York County Stamp Show (York, PA, January): Gold Medal and Reserve Grand to Bob Kinsley for "French Somaliland."

Nashville Stamp Show (Nashville, TN, January): Gold Medal and Grand Award to Thomas Broadhead, for "France: Postcard Usages and Rates, 1870-1900."

- MILCOPEX '93 (Milwaukee, WI, March): Gold Medal to Paul Blake (see ARIPEX '93, above).
- Garfield-Perry March Party (Cleveland, OH, March): Vermeil Medal to Kenneth Nilestuen, for "19th Century Algerian Mail."
- WESTPEX '93 (San Francisco, CA, April): Gold Medals to Shirley Gallagher for "Tahiti and Surrounding French Polynesia" and to Scott Gallagher for "Kentucky in the Civil War."
- ROMPEX '93 (Denver, CO, May): Vermeil Medals to Bob Kinsley for "Early Military Mail of France in Indochina and China" and to Stan Luft for "France: the 30c Cameo Sower." Other members also present included Cheryl Ganz (in her capacity as President of the American Air Mail Society), Charles LaBlonde (member of the jury), Lewis Bussey, and Charlie Sandberg. An outstanding presentation of "French Essays, Proofs and Proposed Issues 1848-1904" by nonmember, China expert Carl Kilgas received a Gold Medal.
- Novapex '93 (Redding, CA, March): Gold Medal to Paul Blake for "India Cancellations 1854-1873."
- LINPEX '93 (Lincoln, NE, February): Vermeil Medal to Bob Kinsley for "Classic France—A Primer."
- Filatelie Fiesta '93 (San Jose, CA, March): Gold Medal and Grand Award to Paul Blake (see ARIPEX '93, above). Vermeil Medals to Paul for "Handstuck Postage Stamps of India 1807-1864," to Bob Kinsley (see ROMPEX '93, above), and to Gerald Herman (member?) for "The Patriotic Issues of the French Liberation."
- Parforex XXXIII (Park Forest, IL, April): Gold Medal to Paul Larsen for his Leeward Islands stationery exhibit.
- Plymouth Show '93 (Plymouth, MI, April): Silver-Bronze Medal to Chuck LaBlonde for "Swiss Machine Cancells."
- ASDA MEGA-EVENT (New York City, NY, May): Gold Medals to Jerry Massler for "Monaco 1707-1924," Andrew Holtz (member?) for "China—France and French Indochina Foreign Offices," and Stephen Washburne for his Portugal exhibit. Vermeil Medal to Gordon Torrey for "Constantinople City Post."
- Congratulations to all participants!

* * * * *

NEW BOOKS, PAMPHLETS, & CATALOGS

* * * * *

"1790-1792 - La Réforme de l'Administration des Postes - l'Oeuvre du 1er. Directoire: 19/1790 - 5/1792," by M. Thouvenin; published by the Société des Amis du Musée Postal, 34 Bd. de Vaugirard, F 76737 Paris Cedex 15; price not communicated.

"Les Sources de l'Histoire Postale (Poste aux Chevaux, Poste aux Lettres, Messageries et Diligences)," by Pierre Nougaret; 2 vols., 21 x 29.7 cm, 800 pp.; Edition Musée de la Poste (see address above); 890 Fr. (A guide to source material on the subjects, from origins to 1940, to be found in French archives, libraries, and museums.)

"Poste aux Armées et Courrier dans la Guerre du Golfe 1990-1991," by Gérard Schmidt; 192 pp.; available from the author at Villa Marguerite, 17 ave. de Brunet, F 83100 Toulouse, France; 185 Fr postpaid. (Abundantly illustrated study on the mails of the French participation— naval, land forces, and air units, plus aid to the Kurds—in the recent Persian Gulf War.)

"Marques Postales et Oblitérations du Vaucluse", by the Association Marcophile du Val de Durance; first three brochures of this monography; information from M. Lucien Bremond, 10 Le Cours, F 13610 Le Puy Ste. Reparade, France.

"La Grande Pêche / Le Courrier de la Grande Pêche / Terre-Neuve - Groenland - Islande," by Joseph Bergier; 250 pp., 21 x 29.7 cm., and numerous illustrations; 375 Fr + 20 F P&H, payable to "l'Union Marcophile"; order from Lucien Bridelance, 19 ave. du Chatelet, F 77150 Lesigny, France. (The definitive study on the mails of the French fishing enterprises in the North Atlantic, since the 18th Century.)

"La Poste 1900-1925"; 224 pp. 21 x 29.7 cm., consisting of illustrated post-cards of the period, collected by P.-S. Proust, that serve as an annotated souvenir of the functions of the PTT; 220 F + 15 Fr P&H, payable to "l'Union Marcophile" (order as above).

"Catalog of Precancels of France, Algeria, Tunisia and Monaco," 1st edition, 1983; The Precancel Stamp Society. \$2.50 postpaid worldwide, from PSS Catalogs, P.O. Box 926, Framingham, MA 01701, USA. (Ten years old now, but still worth noting for readers who may have missed it.)

"The British Letter Mail to Overseas Destinations 1840-1875," by Jane and Michael Moubray; The Royal Philatelic Society, London; A4, 512 pp., hard-bound; 80 Pounds. (Includes rates to and through France, via Calais. Has been highly praised and recommended by reviewers.)

* * * * *

F.C.P.S. OFFICIAL

* * * * *

President's Letter

The second Philatelic Mega Event in New York City is now history. I apologize to any members who came to our booth when no one else was there. I believe we had someone there a majority of the time, but perhaps not much more than that. Still, I believe we did considerably better than some of the other Societies. I will reiterate my opinion that a five-day show is too long. Practically the same amount of business would be done in a three- or four-day show, without requiring so much time from the participants. I certainly continue to support the A.S.D.A. shows in New York, and I find the Javits Center a very pleasant venue; however, I hope the Mega Events are not pricing themselves into oblivion. When the dealers have to pay such high prices for their booths, they must either have a very high volume of sales, or else increase their prices in turn.

I assume most of you have read of the recent temporary closing of the Philatelic Foundation. The France & Colonies Philatelic Society has long had

a close relationship, including an overlapping directorate, with both the Philatelic Foundation and the Collectors Club. I am happy to report that, so far, the Society has not been affected by the problems at the Foundation. In the long run, there will be some adverse effect on all of philately: from the reduction in the educational operations of the Foundation. Unfortunately, it is clear that for some years the Foundation had not been operating within its income, and has now been forced to face reality. Fortunately, as can be seen by referring to the April *Philatelist*, our Society is currently in excellent financial shape.

At the recent annual meeting all the present officers of the Society were reelected. As I have written in the past: if anyone is interested in becoming a director of the Society, he should contact any of the present board. The principal requirement, in addition to an interest in the affairs of the Society, is the ability to attend our directors' meetings, which are held in New York City.

Dick Stevens

MEETING OF 4 MAY

We were pleased to have Jerry Massler join us for this evening. Jerry is a member from Seville, Spain and was in town for the **MEGA Event**. He exhibited his Monaco in that show and was justly rewarded with a Gold Medal. As to this evening and what other mayhem might be on tap, Jerry brought along a mixture of various items from Monaco, his favorite country. Included was a showing of mail incoming to Monaco, highlighted by a number of pieces from the French Community, a letter from the Gilbert and Ellice Islands, one from Greece held four years by the censors, and a letter franked with a US Columbian issue.

Jerry also spoke a bit on expertization of the stamps and covers from Monaco. With regard to stamps, the paper thickness has been found to be of importance, the printing itself, the frame dimensions and the perfs. He had a good selection of Fourniers, where cancellation dates are helpful for identification. Speratis were also shown. Among the fake covers was a postal stationery item with a fake 5F nicely tied. Any Monaco 5F cover is extremely rare and good grist for the faker's mill. Examples of **OL's** and **BM's** were also shown. These are French markings, and their presence on the stamps of Monaco is bogus.

He continued with a section on Monaco perfins, where the most expensive item was a \$15 cover. Included was the discovery copy of the **CFM** (Credit Ferro Monaco) perfin. His closing item was a truly curious one. To bypass the 5c post card rate around 1900, he showed an example of a post card with a wrapper to qualify for the lc printed matter rate!

Ed Grabowski

NEW MEMBERS

- 2964 HANCOCK, MICHAEL, 5 Heath Road, Kennebunk, ME 04043.
(General Collector: all issues.)
- 2965 WHITE, MICHAEL A., P.O. Box 5222, Saipan, MP 96950. (Stamps and Covers of: New Caledonia, New Hebrides, French Polynesia, Tahiti, Wallis & Futuna.)

- 2966 WEDEKIND, WAYNE D., 3342 Nile St., San Diego, CA 92104. (General Collector: all issues. Topical: Trains. General France: Used. Classics 1849-1876: Used Sage Type, 1876-1900. Modern France: essays (projets, rejected designs), DeLuxe Proofs, Imperforates, Artist's Proofs and Color Trials. Colonies General Issues.)
- 2967 MAUGHMER, FREDERIC H., 4300 N. Miller Road-Suite 110, Scottsdale, AZ 85251-3620. (Occupation Issues by France. Andorre. Monaco. Saar. Colonies General Issues: Mint - Used. All Colonies & Territories. Philatelic Literature.)
2968. PIFFRE, JEAN P., BP 46 A We-Lifou, Iles Loyaute, New Caledonia (South Pacific). (Early Stamps and Covers from French Post Offices in: the Indian Ocean, the Far East, The South Pacific with Emphasis on the last.)
- 2969 BALNER, PETER, 1767 Morris Ave., Union, NJ, 07083. (General Collector: all issues. General France: Mint.)
- 2970 PETROVITCH, PIERRE, 141 Garnet Dr., Livermore, CA 94550. (General Collector: all issues.)
2971. GRECCO, ANTHONY J., 1 Ledge Way, Poughkeepsie, NY, 12603. (General Collector: all issues.)

CHANGE OF ADDRESS & CORRECTIONS

- 1554 ABRAM, SAM L., 30 Lincoln Plaza - Apt. 22-T, New York, NY 10023-6922.
- 2138 BEAN, ROBERT W., 2500 Pullins Dr., Urbana, OH 43078.
- 1458 VAN EVERY, K.E., P.O. Box 3096, San Diego, CA 92163-1096.
- 2733 BELL, SCOTT H., 1600 S. Joyce St. #A1204, Arlington, VA 22202-1714.
- 2578 WAITE, DONNA J., 642 Foundry St., South Easton, MA 02375-1315.
- 1471 BUCKLES, JAMES S., P.O. Box 158, Joseph, OR 97846-0158.
- 2540 NYBERG, EDWARD J., JR., C/O Crowe, 8419 Brownstone Lane, Cordova, TN 38018.
- 61 STONE, ROBERT G., C/O The United Methodist Home, Box 128, Quincy, PA 17247.

DECEASED

- 1365 ENGSTROM, GERALD R.

REINSTATEMENTS

- 2864 GEORGE, WILLIAM K., P.O. Box 8624, Spokane, WA 99203-0624. (Already in Philatelist.)
- 2468 DeMERITTE, GEORGE E., 1712-A Belleair Forest Dr., Belleair, FL 34616-1581. (Colonies General Issues: Mint, Used, On Cover. Stamps & Covers of French Indochina. Dealer.)
- 602 SEIBERT, HENRI C., 6 Meadow Lane, Athens, OH 45701-2045. (General France: Mint, Used up to 1980. Andorre. Saar. Colonies General Issues: Mint, Used, On Cover.)

RESIGNATIONS

- 2783 BRADLEY, STUART V., JR.

DROPPED FOR NON-PAYMENT OF DUES

CARLIN, PAUL H.	LEE, ARTHUR R.
MARTIN, WILLIAM C.	MURPHY, PIERRE E.
MATILSKY, TERRY	PASCOE, JEFFREY P.
MOURAD, ELIE	REINHARDT, JAMES N.
TERINS, A.	REVARE, JACK L.
AZEM, ABBY	de SANCHEZ, CHERYL D. DOXSEE
BOOTHE, GLENDON B.	SCHNELL, DR. ROGER G.
BRUDON, WILLIAM L.	SWAN, LAWRENCE LINN
CARROLL, JAMES M.	TRAVER, THOMAS G.
CIMINO, AMERIGO	VAN VYNCKT, RANDALL J.
COATES, DAVID B.	VIDAL, HECTOR O.
CRISSEY, HARRY	VIOL, RUDOLPH
De LISLE, ALBERT B.	WIRTA, ALLEN J.
DODDER, SUE	CLARK, LARRY
EISENBERG, MARTIN A.	JAMET, MADELEINE
ELRICK, STEPHEN H.	NOLET, JACQUES
EVANS, TERRY S.	SPROTT, DOUGLAS H.
HOKE, MR. KAY H.	WESEMAEL, FRANCOIS
KUHN, W.E.	

* * * * *

MEMBERS' APPEALS

* * * * *

OFFER: Complete MHN Cérès booklet #3, \$225.00. Also Cérès #841 VF used on First Day Official Card (scarce) \$75.00 postpaid. Arthur Richards, P.O. Box 1101, Mattoon, IL 61938. (Mb. # 2897).

URGENTLY NEEDED: Copies of *France & Colonies Philatelist* numbers 175, 179, 180, 181. Will buy if someone has them for sale. Needed for binding. Paul Watkins, 77 Cubbington Road, Leamington Spa, Warwickshire CV32 74Q, England. (Mb. # 2787).

WANTED: Covers from French India between 1892 and 1954. Postcards and registered items especially needed. Please send photocopies and asking prices to Ron Knight, P.O. Box 34314, San Diego, CA 92163. (Mb #2495).