



France & Colonies Philatelist

Vermeil Medals at CHICAGOPEX '98 & STAMPSHOW '99



The precursor postal cards of France and Colonies, and those printed by or for private enterprises after the 1873 first appearance of official (unstamped) precursor cards, can make a colorful and appealing collecting sideline or specialty. This 1889-use bistre on cream stock oversize (14 x 9 cm) card addressed to Cataluña comes from the Dr. Jean Storch collection, dispersed by Bertrand Sinais in March 2000. (Also see page 88.)

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IF ALGERIA WAS A PART OF FRANCE, WHY WERE THE POSTAL CACHETS DIFFERENT?

by Laurence H. Lambert (FCPS #1394)

Introduction

Soon after the conquest, the French began to look upon Algeria as a part of France. It was divided into three departments, each of which had deputies and senators in the French legislature. Provisions were eventually made whereby the natives, though with some difficulty, could become citizens of France. In 1849, when France began issuing postage stamps, these same stamps were used in Algeria. In the late 1950s, when independence was given to most of the French colonies, the French were determined to keep Algeria, insisting that it was a part of France.

Whether or not we are in agreement with the French claim that Algeria was a part of France, we may be certain that it was not considered to be a colony. This is particularly true postally, because the Colonies had their own stamps, whereas Algeria used French stamps. For the first 75 years, Algerian cancels were struck only on stamps of France. Where, then, does this place Algeria, in the minds of French collectors? Do collectors of French postal markings consider Algeria as a part of France, at least postally? Is it to be collected as a part of France, or totally neglected?

If Algeria is being neglected, some distinctive cachets are being missed, because the basic cachets were mostly different, until 1878. One of the major works covering the classical period has treated the cachets of Algeria as though they were exactly like those of France. This is not true, except for the *grille*, the *Petits Chiffres* (PC), and the *Gros Chiffres* (GC). It is the intent of this article to promote a clear awareness of the differences between the cachets of Algeria and those of France, for the period 1835 - 1878. Collectors of France may use these differences to extend their interests to include collateral items of Algeria, if they so desire.

Only the markings which serve as the primary identifiers of standard post offices are considered here. These are the *cachet à date*, the numeral cancel, the *cursive*, and the *griffe linéaire*. Omitted from consideration are the *ambulants*, the *courriers-convoyeurs*, the *maritimes*, the *levées exceptionnelles*, and other specialized types of markings, many of which Algeria did not have.

A Comparison of Standard Cancels

Until the beginning of 1836, Algeria had used the military posts. In late 1835, the first civil post office *cachets à date* were placed in use. The cachets for this period for France and Algeria are visually compared in Figure 1. While these cachets are of the same general dimension and aspect, note that

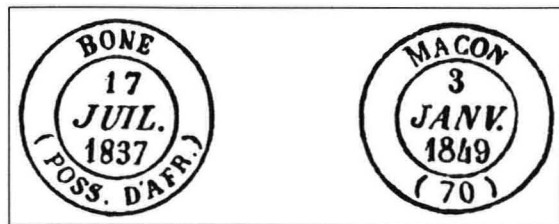


Figure 1.

The first civil post office cachet of Algeria is at left, and its French counterpart of the time is at right. They are similar, but the one has POSS. D'AFR. at the bottom, while the other has a department number.

the one for Algeria, for which only five or six town cachets were produced, has POSS. D'AFR. at the bottom. The one of France has its department number at the bottom.

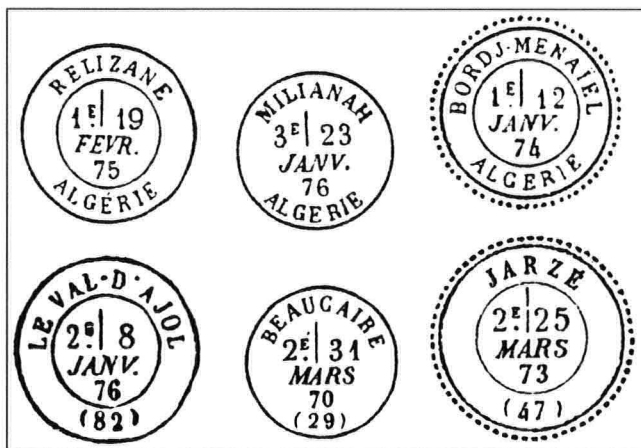
In 1838 for France, and in 1839 for Algeria, the small double-circle *cachet à date* came into usage. These are compared in Figure 2, for both the *bureau*



Figure 2.

The *cachet à date* of France for the *bureau de direction*, 1838-1868, is at the upper left, while that of the *bureau de distribution*, 1853-1868, is at lower left. At right are the contemporaneous cachets of Algeria. Note that the cachets of France carry a department number, while those of Algeria have ALGERIE.

de direction and the *bureau de distribution*, though the cachets for the latter were not placed in service until 1853. Again, the difference is at the bottom of the cachet, the department number for the one, and a new name of ALGERIE for the other. These same differences continued for the new cachets which



came into usage in 1868 (Figure 3). Pictured are both *direction* types and the *distribution* type for France and Algeria.

A comparison of the earlier *distribution* type, the *cursive*, also shows clear differences (Figure 4). Those of France have their department number above;

Figure 3.

At the top are the two *direction* cachet types and the *distribution* type for Algeria, 1868-1878. At the bottom are the similar types for France, 1868-1875. These marks differ, as those in Figure 2, in having the department number on the French ones, and ALGERIE on the other. All these cachets survived for several years beyond their primary period, two of the Algerian cachets well into the 20th Century. Ab der Halden and de Beaufond consider these and other cachets of Algeria as the same types as France. Langlois and Bourselet (1930), Lavarack (1967), Del Matto (1982), and Lambert and Nilsestuen (L & N) (1999), are in disagreement, and use different designations.

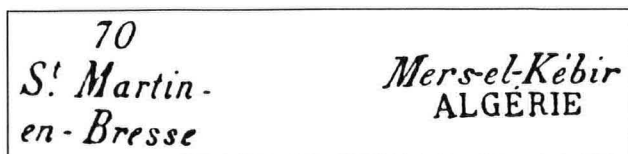


Figure 4.

The cursives were also different (France at left, Algeria at right). Note the department number above for the one, and ALGÉRIE below for the other.

the bottom of the cachet (Figure 5), instead of the number, while Algeria continued to use ALGÉRIE, as in Figure 3. This continued for three years, until 1878, when Algeria also began to use the department name (Figure 5). Thus, from 1835 to 1878 there were distinct differences in the primary cachets. From 1878 onward the cancels were truly alike.

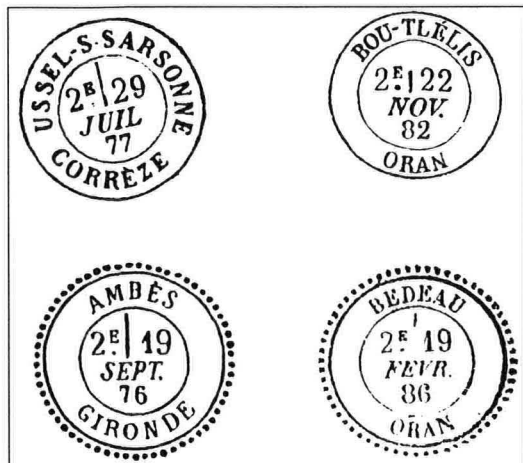


Figure 5.

In 1875, France began to use the department name on the postal cachets (left). Algeria did not follow suit until 1878 (left). Algeria did not follow suit until 1878 (right). Thus, beginning in 1878, the standard types were truly the same. Pictured are the recette types (top), and the distribution types (bottom). (Recette is the later name for the bureau de direction.)

The PC, the GC, and the grille cancels were alike for France and Algeria. Until 1878, these are the only ones that were alike.

It should be pointed out that two of the types of Algeria cancels initiated in 1868 were in usage well into the 20th Century. When the dater blocks were changed to all numerals beginning about 1902, these cachets received the new dater blocks and thus became new sub-types (Figure 6).

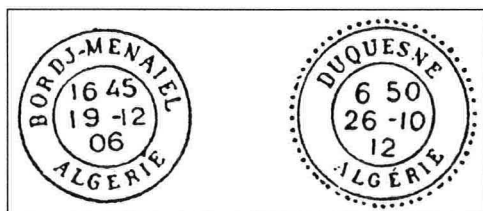


Figure 6.

Pictured are late usages of the types of 1868 for Algeria. Though the department name began to be used in Algeria in 1878, the above two cancels still carry ALGÉRIE. They have an all-numeral dater block, and are subtypes which may be unique. Their new designations under the Lambert-Nilsestuen system are R3a (left) and D3a.

Some Cancels of France Unknown in Algeria

None of the specialized Paris markings were used in Algeria, nor anywhere else in France.



Figure 7.

The above cachet of France (Type 23) is not known for Algeria.

The French *distribution* cachet known generally as Type 23 (Figure 7) is not known for Algeria.

It would appear that French post offices kept the old *cachets à date* that were issued in 1838 in service for a longer period of time than Algeria did. Lavarack reports some late subtypes still in use near the end of the century, one with baton lettering in the dater block (Figure 8). This did not occur in Algeria.

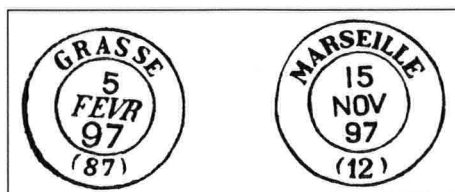


Figure 8.

Very late variations of the type of 1838, for France. The one at right has baton lettering in the dater block. In Algeria, the type of 1839 is extremely rare after 1876, and neither of these variations occurred.

Some Cachet Types Unique to Algeria, not known for France

There was a class of post office for Algeria which was not used in France. This was the *distribution entrepôt*, an auxiliary post office, which made postal services avail-

able to some of the smaller or remote villages. The *distribution entrepôt* class was initiated in 1860, with 23 post offices. The class continued to exist almost to the end of the century. However, after 1880 the number of post offices in the class dwindled. These small post offices had their own special cachet, the *griffe linéaire* (Figure 9), which at first had lettering of a standard size, weight and type. (Later the lettering became more variable.) This cachet was most often struck across the stamp, but sometimes not.

PONT-DE-L'ISSER

Figure 9.

The *distribution entrepôt* class of post office used in Algeria had no counterpart in France. This class of post office used only the *griffe linéaire* cachet pictured above, without any date stamp, and without any numeral killer cancel.

The *bureau de direction* which was served by the *distribution entrepôt* usually struck its numeral cancel across the stamp, since the *distribution entrepôt* had no numeral cancel of its own. The *griffe linéaire*, which was the only cachet of the *distribution entrepôt*, is not to be confused with the later *griffe* which was used on registry labels and for some other postal and administrative purposes. Covers of the *distribution entrepôt* are difficult to obtain.

Besides the cachets of the *distribution entrepôt* class, of which there were altogether about 50 post offices, there were a few other cancels of Algeria that were unique. These are shown in Figure 10. The small 1840 cachet of BONE is a standard type except for the four-digit year. I have seen this for the one office, 1840 only. The cachet of TLEMCEN reverses the position of town and ALGERIE. It was used until the early 1850s. The cachet of BATNA is a provisional one, of 1848 and 1849. The cachet of PONT



Figure 10.
Some cachets of Algeria that are unique. Under the Lambert-Nilsestuen (L & N) classification, these cachets are designated, from top left clockwise, R2u, U1, U3, U2, and R2v. These are all designations for unique types and subtypes.

DE L'ISSER was used in addition to its *griffe linéaire*, until 1877. The cachet of PHILIPPEVILLE, used 1839-1844, is a well-known unique type. When other Algerian post offices received the small double-circle *cachet à date* in 1839, Philippeville received this one without the interior circle. It should not be confused with the much later single-circle type of 1868 (Type 16 of France), which has the *levée* number in the dater block.

Conclusion

The question posed in the title of this article may be at least partially answered by saying that Algeria was a part of France---almost. There were differences.

Algeria used French stamps, and was considered by the French to be a part of France. Thus, to include Algerian items in a collection of French postal markings is certainly appropriate. One might even go so far as to suggest that a collection of French marks would be incomplete without examples of those Algeria cachets which have evident differences.

A review of the cachet types of Algeria which have clear differences are those shown in Figures 1, 2, 3, 4, 9 and 10. Many of these cachets on cover are extremely difficult to obtain, and would be a prize in any collection.

The author would make it clear that his knowledge of French *marcophilie* is superficial. Though the basic differences outlined in this article should be pretty complete, experts in French *marcophilie* may be able to point out additional differences.

For anyone having an interest in the *cachets à date* of Algeria for the period 1835-1962, the author recommends the booklet "The Lambert-Nilsestuen Classification of the Date Stamps of Algeria 1835-1962," by this author and Kenneth R. Nilsestuen in 1999. This work of 40 pages defines and classifies 73 types and subtypes of Algeria postal marks. It may be obtained from Summit Auctions, P.O. Box 640, Cuyahoga Falls, OH 44221, at \$12.50 postpaid (\$15 foreign).

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LANGLADE, SAINT PIERRE & MIQUELON: A THREE-PART STORY by Ed Grabowski (FCPS N° #1469)

Collecting the classic postal history of Saint Pierre & Miquelon is a task reserved only for the hearty. As a very small French colony, little mail was posted and even less of it survived. The collections of Messers Stone and Pratt are notable for having achieved distinction in this area in recent times. Among the delights of collecting material from specific French colonies is the search for material posted from smaller post offices. With regard to Saint Pierre & Miquelon, I would guess that ~98% of the little material available is from the principal post office at Saint Pierre. There were three small post offices of note during the late 1800s through the early 1900s: Ile aux Chiens, Miquelon and Langlade. In my Group Type collection (1892-1920) I have ten covers from these offices: six from Ile aux Chiens, three from Miquelon and one from Langlade. This is all I have been able to accumulate in 25 years of collecting. In his 1985 article (*FCP*, #200, pp. 43-44, 1985), Bob Stone notes a population of 86 persons at Langlade in 1887!

Recently, a cover from Langlade was offered to me because my address is available in a number of locations as a representative of the France & Colonies Philatelic Society. It has proven to be a delightful item on three counts: its postal history, the enclosure within it, and the story of its discovery. The cover is illustrated on the next page (Figure 1). It was posted from Langlade to Provincetown, Mass., and properly franked at the 30 centimes rate with a 30c brown Cérès General Issue. In his article entitled **The Postal Markings of Saint Pierre-Miquelon** (*FCP*, #173, p. 69, 1978), Bob Stone notes that the datestamp ***ST PIERRE ET MIQON *LANGLADE** was used from this office from mid-1876 or early 1877 until 1924, but the earliest recorded use is from 1879. This cover, posted on June 24, 1879, is amongst the earliest recorded from this office. The 30c stamp is not cancelled by the Langlade datestamp, but is cancelled by one from Saint Pierre (the principal office) on June 28th, four days later. A logical conclusion is that 30c stamps or stamps totaling 30c or stamps in general were in short supply in Langlade at this time, and the letter was prepaid in cash with the stamp applied and cancelled at Saint Pierre. The letter has a "Via Halifax" manuscript endorsement and a red **BOSTON PAID JUL 4** arrival in the United States. All-in-all, this is a remarkable item from a difficult post office.

What is even more remarkable is that this envelope has survived with its original enclosure intact. In this case I have decided to reproduce the entire enclosure as a reflection of the times and life at Langlade, and to confirm the description of life at Langlade in Stone's 1985 article.

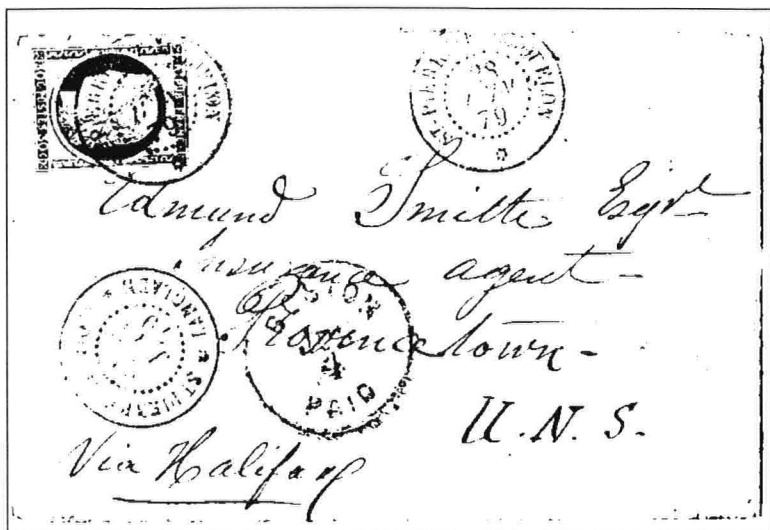


Figure 1. Langlade, June 24, 1879, via St. Pierre and Halifax, to Massachusetts.

Langlade June 20th 1879

Dear Sir

Do I should have wished to answer your kinde letter of Dec. 8th last, I could not do it by want of an opportunity I beg you to excuse me and understand that we are living in a place I may say far away from all the rest of the world.

Alelaide of whom you have always been so fond is now growing a big strong girl, she begins to know how to sew, as far as educate we can here give her none at all in this lonely place.

We are planning this fall to leave Langlade and settle at the farm of Savoyard in St. Pierre. We have rented this farm from Mme Duval of St. Pierre. Little Pierre the baby that you mention and have not known is now grown a little man he wears briches like is father and takes as place as a lawyer.

We all wish, dear sir, as a remember of your kindness while under our humble roof that you would be good enough to send your photography of all your family. If you are kinde enough to do so you will please us very much and specially little Adelaide who still remembers you.

For the month of September we shall go and settle to the farm of Savoyard in St. Pierre. If not at home and do not write before that time you can there address your letters. Many thanks for the parcel that you have sent to the children they were quite delighted with it.

In hope of receiving soon some news from you and family we all remain, Dear sir, your very respectful Pierrez Olaisola

My address is:

Pierrez Olaisola

Ferme du gouvernement a Langlade

Iles St. Pierre & Miquelon via Halifax

Maneglisso is still our neighbor at Langlade, Mme Jean Marie's daughter's are all married except Marie Rose who shall I believe remain an old maid. They all send their best regards to you.

Boulanger the gendarme is since 3 months gone away to France, he married 3 years ago one of the daughters of Mme Jean Marie-

Clearly this letter originated in Langlade, from a minor government official, and a forlorn and lonely place it sounds. And what of the discovery of this cover? The correspondent who contacted me wrote on behalf of a friend named Charlie: "Charlie worked for the phone company in Provincetown, MA. He was installing phone lines in the crawl space under a bank building, and banged his knee on what he thought was a brick. He tossed it out from under the building, but upon examining it, found it was a tightly wrapped bundle of covers. The outer wrapper was black with grime, but most of the covers were perfectly preserved. All but three covers are US, with Black Jacks and other nice stamps of the period. Charlie showed his 'find' to the bank president, telling him it might be worth some money. The president said he wasn't interested, just wanted his phone lines installed, and in a hurry. So Charlie kept the 'brick,' which I estimate is worth something in the range of \$30-50,000. Charlie has now retired to Florida — his find happened about 10-15 years ago - and he has presented his find as a program for our local club meeting several times."

I decided to purchase this cover at what I and the correspondent thought a fair price - an interesting addition to my Colonial collection, and quite an overall story. For those wishing additional information on collecting Saint Pierre & Miquelon, I suggest you consult the article by Michel Melot and Alain Millet in *Timbroscopie*, N° 84, October 1984, pp. 34-40. A copy can be obtained from the APRL.

RANDOM EDITORIAL JOTTINGS

Due to the pressures of preparing to judge, and then doing so, at WEST-PEX (end of April) and ROMPEX (mid-May) and of other tasks too numerous to mention, this issue has not received the tender loving care it so richly deserves. Some regular features (i.e., Reviews, New Books, etc.) have been omitted and others (Announcements and News) are scaled back.

At the end of the January 2000 editorial, I gently (honestly!) chided our France-collecting members for the fact that most of the articles at hand and slated for 2000-2001 publication were on Colonies subjects. Now I wish to mention that most of the articles in the previous (April 2000) issue were written by some of our European members. That, in part, just happened to be the luck of the draw for our backlog is far better balanced than that. Still, it's great to be a truly international society. Nevertheless, where are the U.S. and Canadian-based writers, when our two countries contain more than 90 per cent of our membership? Please do sharpen your pencils, or at least pick up *la plume de ma tante* which [*est sur la table*]-as some of us learned our earliest French--and make articles happen.

Several members's eyes have cried out and your editor has listened. Many of our members are in their middle and golden years, with vision to match. Consequently and starting with this issue, **all** text will be in 9-point-type--the size hitherto reserved for articles, etc. We very likely shall lose some information by going to larger type in some formerly 8-point features, but hopefully not very much. I would appreciate your feedback on larger type versus fewer words. Thank you!

THE FIRST AIRMAIL DISPATCH BETWEEN ADDIS ABABA AND DJIBOUTI

by Alan Jacques Morvay (FCPS #3167)

Ethiopia is a landlocked country in northeastern Africa. Originally it had to make use of Obock, in French Somali Coast, as the major shipping port for goods and materials. Later, Djibouti replaced Obock as the major seaport in the Somali Coast and, until World War II, much of Ethiopian mail going abroad went via Djibouti.

The first Ethiopian commemorative air post stamps (Scott C1-C10) were issued in August 1929. The first airmailed letters to make use of these stamps were collected in Addis Ababa on December 26, 1929 and postmarked there that day (Figure 1) to be flown later in the day to Djibouti via Dire-

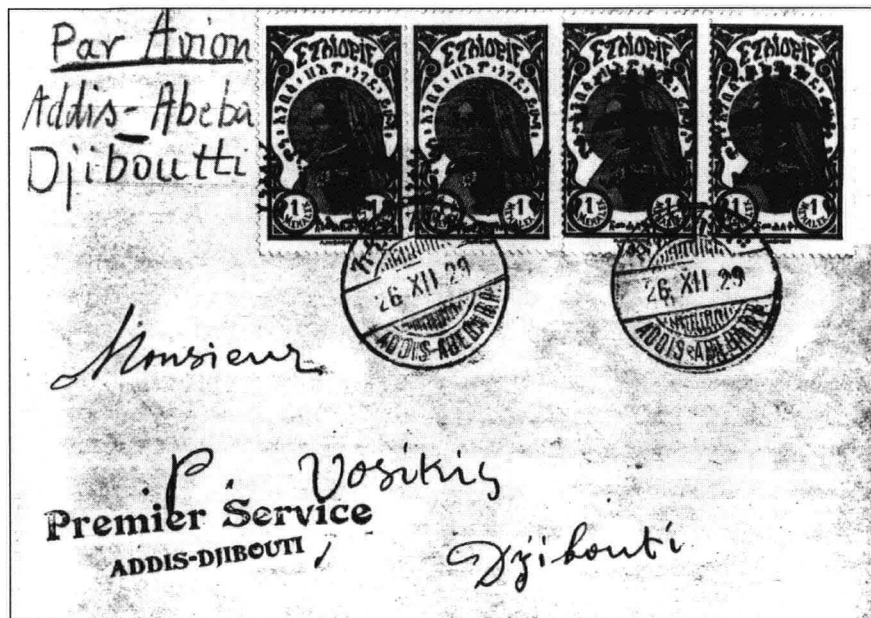


Figure 1. Cover from the inaugural 26 December 1929 flight. (reduced to 80%)

Dawa. "The chief pilot (André-Maillet, the Ras Tufani's own pilot) took with him this mail, which had to be inscribed 'Par Avion Addis Ababa - Djibouti.' This mail was mostly franked with these first overprinted airmail issues, though no special postmark was used."¹

There seems to have been a second flight,² for there are covers that bear a December 27 postmark (Figure 2). "The plane that flew to Djibouti on the second day brought on the return trip to Addis Ababa the first airmail, Djibouti-Addis."² The hotel corner card on this second illustration is not commonly found on Ethiopian covers.

The return flight took place on December 29. Only mail originating in French Somali Coast (and not from abroad) was carried. "The stamps on the covers were postmarked with a cachet (1 SERVICE AVION) and again postmarked with a datestamp of December 29, 1929 to which the word 'AVION'

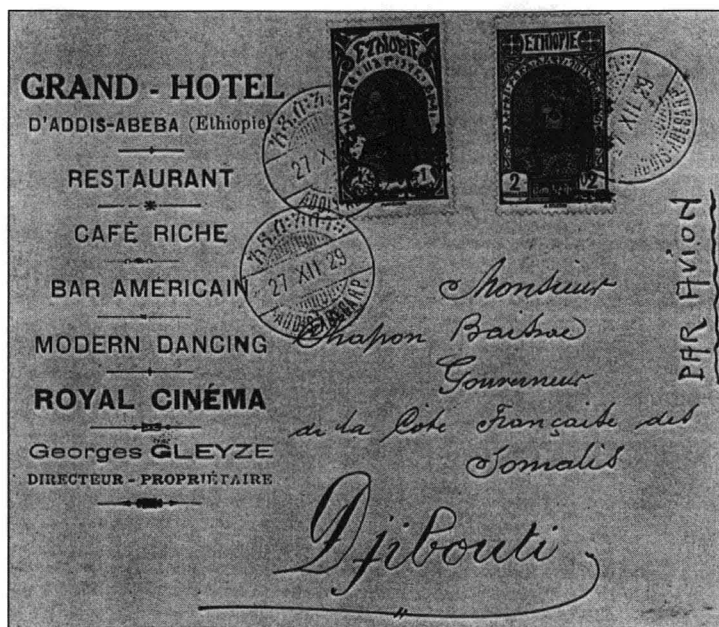


Figure 2.
27 December
"second"
flight cover.
(reduced to
65%).

had been added (within the CDS)."¹ (Figure 3). The French Somali Coast stamps actually were handstamped, and not "postmarked" as had been stated by Vogel (1931), lengthwise, after having been affixed, and therefore are not available in mint condition. The literature indicated that about 800 covers were carried on this return flight.



Figure
4. Postcard
from same
flight as
Figure 3
cover (re-
duced to
75%).

The Figure 4 postcard bears this handstamp, the special December 29 Djibouti cancel (plus an ordinary one of the same date), and a December 29 Addis Ababa arrival date stamp on the address side, all on a view card of the



port area of Djibouti, from where the mails normally departed for overseas destinations.

I thank Bob Kinsley for his constructive criticism, which greatly improved an earlier version of this short contribution.

Endnotes

1. Ing. E. Vogel, :Die Flugpost in Abessinien," *Flugpost [Sieger-Post]*, N° 7, 1931, pp. 13-15; translated by Eric Wahleen.
2. Nachum Kaplan, in *Menelik's Journal (EPS)*, v. 6, N°2, June 1990; reprinted from *Collectors Club Philatelist*, May-June 1985.

Figure 3. The overprinted stamps on 29 December cover from Djibouti to Addis-Ababi; same day arrival cachet. Bottom part of cover cropped to conserve space. (reduced to 75%)

THE CROSS OF LORRAINE ON A FRENCH AFRICA STAMP

by Robert T. Kinsley (FCPS #2180)

A number of colonies issued sets of stamps showing the Cross of Lorraine, and inscribed Free France (France Libre), during World War II. However, the first stamp to be so inscribed was prepared by Harrison & Sons and issued and sold in London in November 1941. That stamp was a semi-postal of "Afrique Française," not Cameroon, not Dahomey, not Guinea but simply French Africa (Figure 1).



Figure 1.

The stamp cataloguers initially chose to ignore this stamp citing as reasons: (1) the disproportionately high amount (2fr. versus 1fr.) for non-postal purposes; (2) the cost of the stamp in London (one shilling) exceeded the face value of the stamp; and (3) the stamp was not sold in a French colony. At the time

of issue in London the only part of Africa which was not allied with the Vichy government was Equatorial Africa. A short article in *Scott's Monthly Journal* of January 1952 by a Ben Hamilton states that his wife was in Brazzaville when these stamps first went on sale there on January 11, 1942 and she mailed him a letter using such stamp; the stamp was subsequently listed by Scott under French Equatorial Africa as B9.

And what was the surtax for? The Free French Committee in London stated the entire proceeds were to help Free French soldiers in different parts of the world. My old Yvert catalogue says the surtax was for the benefit of the Red Cross, and Scott states that the added value was to pay for a monument to explorer Pierre Savorgnan de Brazza who appears on the stamp. The first reason is correct for sales in London, and the third reason is correct for sales in French Equatorial Africa, as such a monument was erected after World War II near de Gaulle's residence on the bank of the Congo River.

This is probably a good opportunity to refresh your memory on the origin of the ubiquitous Cross of Lorraine seen on this and so many other stamps, cancels, censor marks and overprints of World War II, extracted from a narration of Charles de Bretagne in our *FCP* of November-December 1952. The Duke of Lorraine, deathly sick in 1429, heard of a young girl who claimed to have been chosen by Heaven to save France from the English and sent for her in hopes that she could cure him. This young peasant girl, known as the Maid of Orléans, was Joan of Arc. She told the Duke if he would provide men and gold to fight for France she would pray for his recovery, and so he did along with the family banner bearing the Cross of Lorraine. With such help Joan of Arc liberated France, and carried the banner into the Cathedral of Reims to crown King Charles VII. General de Gaulle, seeking a strong symbol to ignite the spirit of the French, chose the Cross of Lorraine. This symbol of a Free France was displayed throughout France during its occupation in World War II, and saw extensive use as a philatelic device.

THE ANGLO-FRENCH STAMPS

by James A. Mackay

[This is the first section (pp. 481-485) of Chapter 48 ("Wartime Measures") of Mackay's "Under the Gum—Background to British Stamps 1840-1940" (1997), reprinted here and with the kind permission of the publisher. This awards winning hardbound book may be obtained from the publisher, James Bendon Ltd., P.O. Box 6484, 3307-Limassol, Cyprus, for \$90 US (+ \$2 postage) or £52.50 (+ £1 postage), by check or credit card.]

The two illustrations appended at the end and shown here for greater clarity of detail, are of an original design (the 2F50 value) and of a four-color definitive essay (the 2½d value) in the Musée de La Poste at Paris, and were taken from an article by "P.J." in Le Monde des Philatélistes for June 1984—Editor].

The Phoney War was at its height when Winston Churchill, at a speech in the Guildhall on 17 January 1940, proposed a federal union of Britain and France as a bulwark of democracy against the menace of fascism. This gave a signal to Geoffrey le M. Mander, MP for Wolverhampton, who asked in the House of Commons (23 January 1940) whether the Postmaster General would 'consider consulting the French Government with a view to issuing, in conjunction with the government, a Franco-British postage stamp, as a sign of unity of the two countries'. Major George Tryon replied that 'as arrangements have been made to issue a special series of postage stamps in May next to commemorate the centenary of the first postage stamp I am unable to consider the issue of another special stamp at the present time'.

Mander was not going to be fobbed off so easily. A week later he raised a similar question and on getting more or less the same negative response as before, pointedly asked the Postmaster General if he would bear in mind the suitability of a stamp similar to that issued by France on the occasion of the Royal Visit to Paris in July 1938. This 1.75 franc stamp had been designed as a propaganda exercise to demonstrate the ties between France and Britain, in the face of the growing threat from the Fascist dictatorships. The stamp, designed and engraved by Henri Cheffer, had depicted a symbolic seal with hands clasped in friendship, flanked by views of the Houses of Parliament at Westminster and the Arc de Triomphe in Paris. Mander further enquired whether the Postmaster General was prepared to listen to 'representative bodies, both French and British, in the matter'. George Tryon had no alternative but express willingness to take such an approach into consideration.

At the same time pressure was being brought to bear on Jules Julien, the Minister of Posts in the French government, and it was he who wrote to Tryon on 26 January setting out the case for a Franco-British stamp, adding that he would be 'strongly disposed to carry out this proposal, the adoption of which would constitute a fresh confirmation of the close union of our two countries'. Thus galvanised into action, Tryon sent a memo to the Director-General's office pointing out that Julien's letter 'puts a different complexion on the matter' and adding that he was 'disposed to agree with the suggestion for an Anglo-French stamp'. Simultaneously Edmund Dulac, born a Frenchman but naturalised in 1912, and regarded as one of Britain's leading graphic designers, wrote to the Post Office in the aftermath of the correspondence on the subject in *The Times* and offered a



Essay by H. Fleury

design for the proposed stamp. This was in the horizontal format of the Postal Centenary series then in course of preparation and showed conjoined busts of Britannia and Marianne, the female allegory of France. The design was inscribed POSTAGE and REVENUE vertically at the sides and bore the value twopence halfpenny which then represented the foreign letter rate. At this stage Dulac had in mind a stamp which could only be used in Britain, although doubtless it was intended that the same design, with modifications, could be used for a French stamp, thus creating a twin issue of a type that has become very popular in more recent years, but which, by 1940, had been confined to the Little Entente and the Balkan Entente.

Major Tryon consulted Sir Alec Hardinge, the King's Private Secretary, to ascertain whether 'His Majesty sees any objection, in principle, to this issue of a special Anglo-French stamp'. The Postmaster General took the opportunity at this juncture to summarise the possible designs, incorporating the portraits of King George and President Albert Lebrun, and showing heraldic motifs or some allegorical treatment. Hardinge replied favourably, 'The idea of a stamp of a common design for sale in each country is one that commends itself to His Majesty.' The King, he added, wished to see any design which was likely to meet with the approval of the French.

The Postmaster General, now embracing the idea with enthusiasm, replied to his French counterpart on 21 February. He tactfully explained that any stamp used in Britain would have to bear the King's portrait and he hoped that it would be possible to produce a design in which the portraits of both heads of state formed a major part. A projected date of issue was set for September 1940.

On 18 March representatives from both postal administrations met in London. By that time the Post Office was immersed in the minutiae of the Stamp Centenary series and there was a degree of pessimism about the possibility of any agreement with the French who were not accustomed to the elaborate (and sometimes tortuous) procedure rigorously pursued by the British Post Office in evolving its stamp designs. One of the biggest problems centred on the vexed question of the King's head. If it were not depicted, the stamps would require a country name – something for which there was no precedent. It was at this time that the argument over what inscription could be used was mooted again – not the first time, by any means, as some consideration had been given in the early 1900s to Edwardian stamps inscribed BRITISH KINGDOM or BRITISH POSTAGE. This time, however, it was discovered that 'Great Britain' would exclude Northern Ireland, but even 'United Kingdom' would not adequately describe the area in which the stamps would be current, which then included the Isle of Man and the Channel Islands – not part of the United Kingdom although dependencies of the Crown. The British officials also agonized over the inclusion of the normal formula 'Postage and Revenue'.

In the event, however, it was the French, eminently practical as usual, who solved the problem. Their delegates mounted a *fait accompli* by turning up at the meeting with a design already prepared. This was the work of Henri Cheffer and showed a female figure symbolising Harmony, her arms extended across the top of upright ovals bearing full-face portraits of King George and Albert Lebrun. Behind her could be seen the Red Ensign and the Tricolor while the imperial crown and the French state emblem (the letters R and F flanking the fasces) occupied the upper corners. A fouled anchor, symbolising British naval might, and ears of wheat, symbolising French agriculture, were depicted in the lower corners. Behind the King's portrait, in the ceremonial uniform of an Admiral of the Fleet, were two battleships; by contrast, Lebrun's portrait, in evening dress, was placed against a tranquil pastoral scene. At the foot of the female was the word POSTES and the value 2.50f. The design was immediately accepted by the British delegation, with the rider that it would have to be redrawn by a British artist for the photogravure process.

The design was handed over to Harrison and Sons who produced a full-sized bromide, stamp-sized bromides and three essays in the colours of the threehalfpenny, twopenny and twopence halfpenny definitives. On 21 March D.P. Dell of the Post Office Stores Department went down to Edmund Dulac's country house at Morcombelake, Dorset, taking the full-sized bromide and one of the stamp-sized bromides of the French design, together with a print of Dorothy Wilding's portrait of the King in full-dress naval uniform.

Dulac, however, felt 'morally injured' at being asked to redraw such a design which he considered a very bad one. It is possible that he was piqued at the fact that Cheffer had stolen a march on him, but he confined his remarks to detailed objections to the design. The ovals were much too large and occupied so much space that they crowded and obscured the corner details, the King was looking away from the President and the central figure was poor. Consequently he felt that he would have 'to make drastic alterations to make it relatively satisfactory'. This placed Dell in an awkward situation, as the design had already been accepted as it stood. In the end Dulac compromised, and said that he would have his version ready no later than 1 April. He requested a portrait of President Lebrun and this was sent to him on 27 March.

Dulac's drawing arrived at Post Office Stores on the due date accompanied by a lengthy letter containing 'very strong criticism of the design'. He had reduced the ovals, replaced the Red Ensign by the Union Jack, turned the King towards the President, and replaced the warships by freighters and passenger liners. The crown had been altered and the anchor and wheat ears made much more prominent. POSTAGE was placed in a curved, scrolled ribbon over the value 2½d. R. Fanshawe of the Stores Department took the emended design to Harrison's and High Wycombe and their staff artists carried out further minor modifications before the design was ready for the camera. Bromides in brown, orange or blue were produced from Dulac's artwork on 2 April, and essays in the same colours the following day. Unfortunately Dulac's design was too intricate and some of the finer detail was lost when reduced to stamp size. This entailed about a month's work at High Wycombe to get it right. Harrison's also deepened the tones by retouching the positive plates and submitted fresh essays on 8 April.

Fanshawe took the precaution of consulting H.C. Bradshaw, Secretary of the Royal Fine Art Commission, before sending Dulac's artwork to Paris. Bradshaw conceded that 'extensive modification of the French design could be politically indelicate' but he did make a number of suggestions for the improvement of Dulac's handiwork. As a result, Harrison's produced further essays on 15 April, consisting of hand-painted retouches on the essays of 8 April. The principal improvement was to darken the oval surrounds. A second version enhanced the RF emblem and modified details in the flags.

Cheffer's original artwork was returned to Paris on 19 April, together with bromides of Dulac's version. In the meantime the printers were coming up with further suggestions for improvements, notably in the arrangement of the French flag over the ears of wheat. Essays in blue and orange, incorporating these modifications, were submitted to the Post Office on 24 April. Even then it was felt that the portraits required further treatment, especially the



Two versions of the Anglo-French design by Henri Cheffer, reworked by Edmund Dulac

white spot on the end of the King's nose. Minor changes to the ships were also suggested and the 'hang of the bust' of the female figure was altered.

Even then further modifications and minor improvements were made by Harrison staff artists. The following day Sir Alec Hardinge wrote to the new Postmaster General, W.S. Morrison who had succeeded Tryon on 5 April, enquiring as to progress on the stamp. Morrison replied the same day saying that he had been waiting for a response from Julien before showing the design to the King. However, he now enclosed a preliminary colour trial to ascertain 'whether the King is favourably disposed to the general conception of the design'.

Julien wrote from Paris on 2 May stating that 'the modifications made to the original called for no objection and seemed altogether appropriate'. Hardinge wrote to Morrison the following day drawing attention to the fact that the crown in the upper left-hand corner was the old-fashioned Victorian one and saying that it was desirable to substitute the crown in current use. The printers substituted the version of the Tudor crown designed by Eric Gill, toned down the female figure, and furnished further essays on 9 May, in blue, orange, red and violet shades. The crown was of the right size to balance the French emblem, but was felt to be too large and too close to the King's head, so it was subsequently reduced. Further improvements in the female figure and 'the lay of the rope' in the lower left-hand corner were effected. The ears of wheat were thinned and the tip put back in front of the flag. Essays incorporating these modifications were submitted on 17 May in the same four colours.

Fanshawe was apparently well pleased with the latest essays and felt that they were just about ready to submit to the King – but he insisted that minor alterations be made to the King's hair, the jewels and the rope. The Post Office were hoping for final essays by the first week in June, with the aim of issuing the stamps on 2 September, as near as possible to the first anniversary of the outbreak of the war.

So far essays had been confined to the twopence halfpenny denomination, but it was proposed to issue stamps in all the low values from halfpenny to threepence and include a 1s3d denomination (not hitherto issued) to cover the airmail rate. Further improvements in the essays took place on 24 May and two days later the Postmaster General was notified by Sir Alec Hardinge that 'His Majesty entirely approves of the essay marked B subject to the minor alterations you mention'.

Large and small bromides, with an approved colour trial, were sent to Julien on 4 June with the recommendation that any further minor improvements should be left to the technical experts. By now time was marching on and G.T. Cairncross of the Postal Services Department suggested that the issue be confined to one or two values initially in order to meet the 2 September deadline. Unlike the Postal Centenary set, the Anglo-French stamps were intended as a semi-permanent series 'for the duration of the war'.

Final essays with the highlights in the King's hair toned down, the white on the flag showing through the frame of the crown and the jewels improved, were submitted on 13 June 1940. Fanshawe proposed instructing Harrison to prepare two cylinders for the twopence halfpenny value in anticipation of approval coming from the French. As this entailed the expenditure of only £100 the Deputy Director-General approved this proposal. On 17 June Cairncross authorised Fanshawe to proceed with production, but on learning by telephone later that day of the collapse of the French government, he told Fanshawe that 'in view of the French Government's position, all work on the Franco-British stamp should be suspended *sine die*'.

With the fall of France and the evacuation of Allied forces from Dunkirk, all prospect of going ahead with the issue was lost. The only matter remaining to be settled was the printer's bill for work done. This amounted to £455, including £200 for the normal process

work. The remaining £255, however, had been incurred through the procurement of double-width design rollers, purchased with Fanshawe's approval in February. There was a great deal of internal discussion at the Post Office before it was agreed to meet the printer's bill in full. Apparently some officials were concerned lest Harrison's subsequently used the cylinders for other work without refunding the Post Office! In the end the cylinders were taken into the Post Office store at the printing works, on the understanding that if Harrison's needed them subsequently they could purchase them at the same price. At the end of 1944 Harrison's did, indeed, pay back the £255 and took over the cylinders, which are believed to have been used to print the Victory stamps in 1946.



Figure 1 (reduced to 95%).

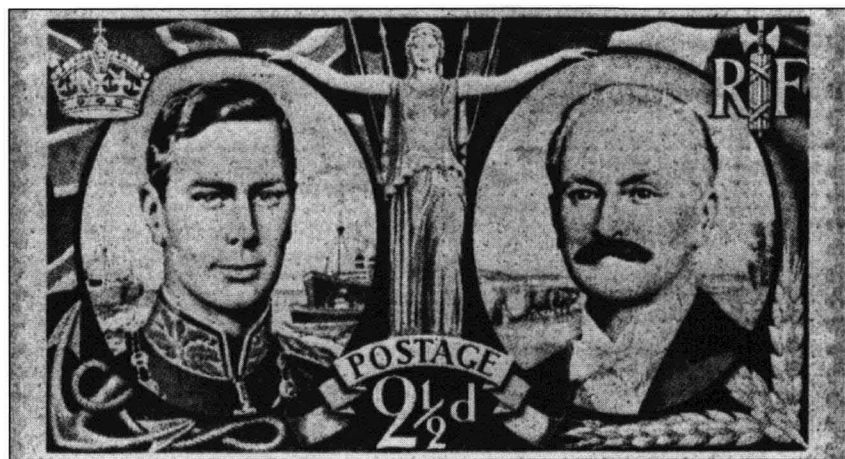


Figure 2 (reduced to 95%).

AMAZING 1870-1871 WONDER STORIES--53

by Ernst M. Cohn (FCPS #1491)

Through the courtesy of Mr. Ashley Lawrence, I acquired a copy of a letter flown out of Paris on the *Ville d'Orléans* (Figure 1). The 20-centimes stamp is

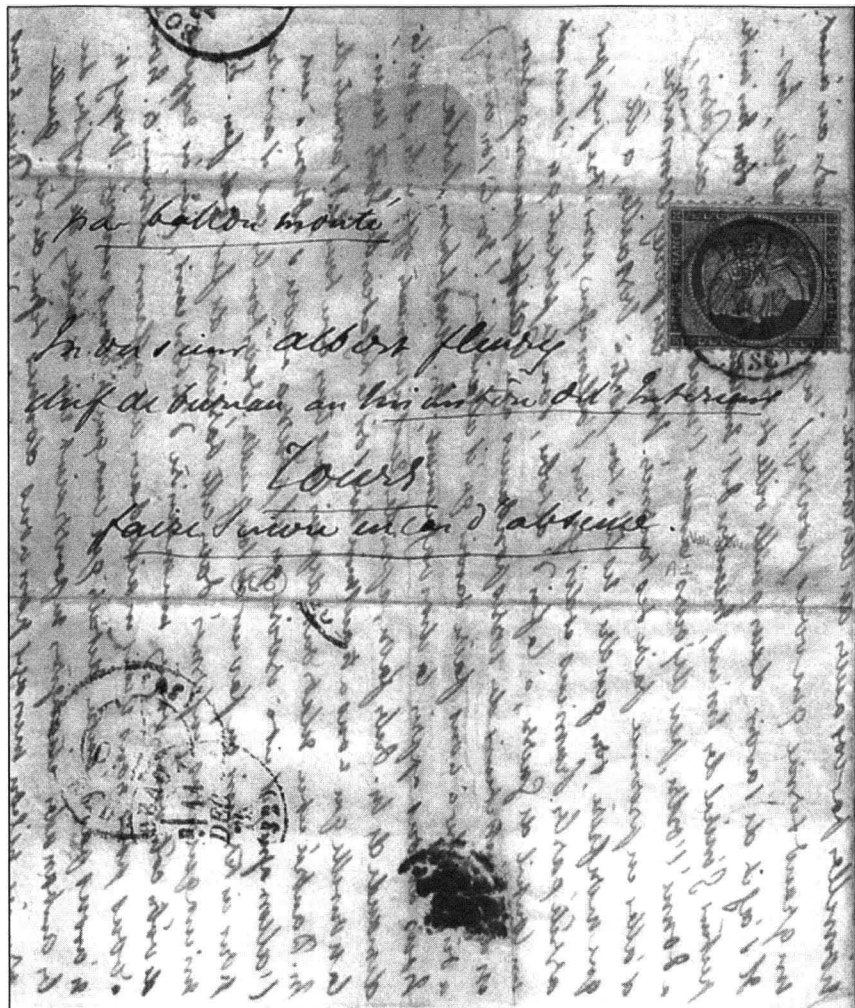


Figure 1.

postmarked with the red PARIS SC of 23 November. Backstamps are Tours (barely legible), 10 December, and Bordeaux, 11 December, proving that it was part of the Tunes mail. The letter is addressed to Mr. Albert Fleury, Bureau Chief of the Interior Ministry. Fleury had apparently been with a part of the Government Delegation that had moved just then from one of these two towns to the other. Though both Mr. Lawrence and I appreciate the postal historical background of the cover, we are at least equally interested in its contents.

The text, written by E. Raynal, asks Fleury to let Raynal know where a certain Daubrie is staying. Daubrie was the Inspector General of Mines and Member of the Institute, and had been ordered by Interior Minister Gambetta to travel in the provinces, just before Paris was besieged. Daubrie's son-in-law, "*substitut du procureur de la république*" at Versailles and also brother of the writer, was arrested by the Germans and deported to face a court-martial in Germany because he had communicated (or tried to communicate) with Paris. Somehow, Jules Favre, French foreign minister, had heard about the arrest and had asked U.S. Minister Plenipotentiary Elihu Benjamin Washburne to contact Bismarck for news about the arrested man. The writer asked Albert Fleury to do what he could for his brother.

So much for the letter. It is unfortunate that we do not know more about what the Germans had really found out nor how Favre got the information about the arrest. I was, however, able to furnish Mr. Lawrence with some further information that I had picked up years ago in Washburne's *Franco-German War and Insurrection of the Commune — Correspondence*, Washington, Government Printing Office, 1878.

Washburne had written to Bismarck on 10 November 1870:

SIR: Mr. Jules Favre has addressed me an unofficial note, stating that a report has reached Paris that M. de Raynal, "*substitut du procureur de la république*" at Versailles, has been arrested by the Prussian authorities. As the family of M. de Raynal feel much anxiety in regard to the matter, Mr. Favre has sought my good offices for the purpose of obtaining some information in regard to him, in order to relieve their anxiety.

Commending the matter to your consideration, I have, etc. /s/EBW. Bismarck's reply is dated at Versailles, November 19, and reached Washburne on the 21st:

[Translation] SIR: I had the honor to receive the letter you kindly addressed me November 10, to inform me that Mr. Jules Favre had expressed to you unofficially the desire to obtain intelligence of the fate of Mr. de Raynal. According to the information which has reached me on this subject, his arrest was decided upon by the military authorities, because it was demonstrated by the papers seized at his house, and notes written by his hand, that he had kept up correspondence for the purpose of sending information to the enemy. He has been sent to Germany, where he will be tried by a council of war. [The remainder of the letter is irrelevant here.]

That is obviously the news that was passed on by Washburne to the family of the arrested de Raynal, and which triggered the letter by his brother to Fleury.

There appears to have been another note from Washburne to Bismarck, dated 3 December, about the same subject, but I do not have that. Bismarck's response to it is dated 15 December:

SIR: I have had the honor to receive your letter of the 3rd of December with its enclosures in relation to the arrest of M. de Raynal.

After making new inquiries on this subject of the military authorities, I can only confirm what I had the honor to say to you in my letter of the 19th of December, that M. de Raynal brought this measure upon himself by clandestine correspondence which he kept up, not only with Paris, but also with Tours.

It appears, besides, from information which comes to me in regard to this affair, that M. de Raynal is confined at Minden, and that orders have been given to allow him all the facilities compatible with his position. Nothing prevents his father, therefore, from sending him assistance in money.

Please to accept, sir, the assurance of my high consideration. /s/v.B.

That, to my knowledge, exhausts what remains of the official files on the case. Reasoning by analogy, i.e., what happened to other French civilian prisoners in Germany, de Raynal may have been released on his own cognizance. If he ever did come before a court, he was probably not found guilty. He was most likely released some time in February 1871.

THE CARNET CORNER

by Bob Seeke (FCPS #1334)

Let's take a look at one of the newer French booklets, the booklet of 10 self-stick (*autocollant*) stamps with the "Euro" symbol as the central design (Cérès 524, Yvert not available to me yet). Please see the nearby illustration, Figure 1 (reduced).

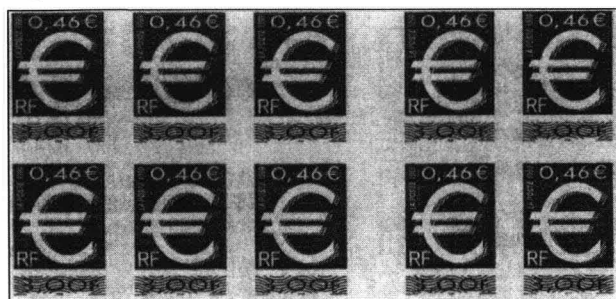


Figure 1. (reduced to 79%)

This booklet breaks with tradition for self-stick booklets in that the marginal markings--*coin daté*, etc.--are printed in the right selvaie instead of the left. The

"perforations" are serpentine die-cuts, similar to the later booklets of the Marianne de Briat, and all of the Luquet booklets.

There are two varieties of the Euro booklet worth noting. As has long been customary with French stamps, the names of the designer and engraver are printed at the bottom of the design. A variety is known with these names missing on all 10 stamps. If you can find a copy of this variety, it is well-worth adding to your collection.

The other noteworthy variety is something new and different! Close examination of this one shows nothing unusual, until an attempt is made to stick the stamp on an envelope (I hope you don't!). Then you would notice that the stamps doesn't stick to the envelope! This is because the adhesive was applied to the booklet backing paper, or cover. A most curious anomaly, but definitely a conversation piece!

That's all for now. As usual, correspondence may be addressed to me at 866 La Costa Ln., N. Fort Myers, FL 33917.

Good luck, and *bonne philatélie*.

THE PUBLISHED PHILATELIC WRITINGS OF JACQUES DESROUSSEAU

Addendum

Thanks to a careful perusal by E. E. (Gene) Fricks of the Bibliography (in N° 259, January 2000, pp. 13-14), we are able to add three potentially "forgotten" citations. They are, as cued to the numerical listing:

9A. *Sammlierdienst*, v. 25, p. 1066, 1974, "Monaco: 1962-1963 Dispute with France."

14A. *ICP*, N° 21, 1976, "Viet Cong MIDIGP Issues" (with Th. Klewartz).

29A. *FCP*, N° 188, April 1982, "On the Distribution and Use of the Vichy ("Sans RF") Issues in the Colonies, 1941-1944" (with Hervé Drye and R. G. Stone).

MORE ON THE SHORTAGE OF STAMPS IN TAHITI IN 1884

There's been quite a run of information in our Journal regarding the 1884 Tahiti provisional handstamps (in N° 259 and 260, January and April 2000), as a result of Q. 99.1, posed back in N° 258 of October 1999. We now have more material to show, thanks to two pricey auction lots in the Roumet 464th auction sale of May 2000. Figure 1 shows (above) a not very clear 10c overprint on a 20c stamp-bearing card, and (below) a TAHITI/10c handstamp on card. Both show clear Papeete, 21 August 1884 date stamps and are addressed within Tahiti. Starting prices were 4000F and 5000F, respectively.

-- S. J. Luft

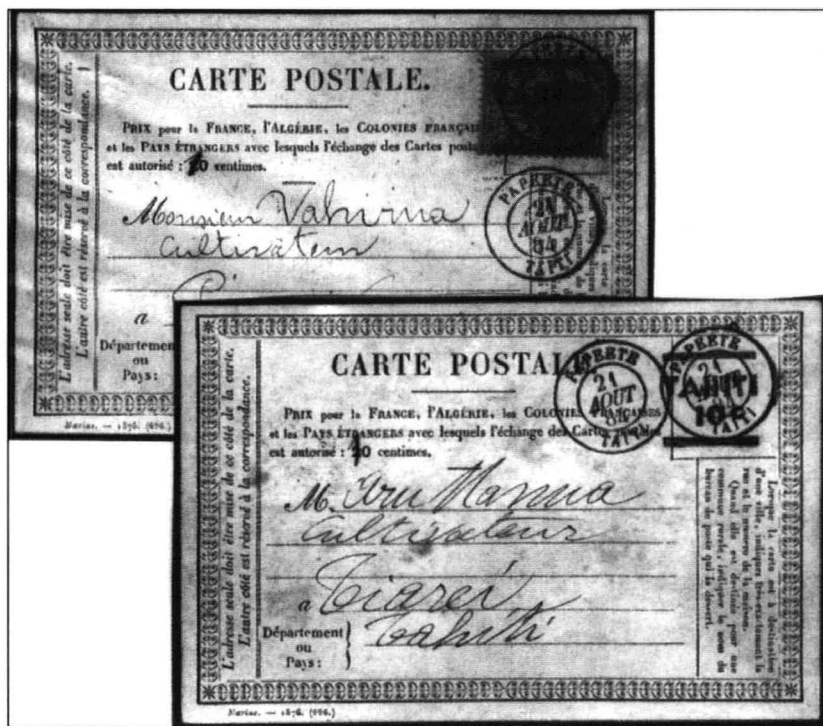


Figure 1.

MEMBERS' APPEALS

OFFER: France Red Cross Semi-Postal issues of 1965-1986, complete on 24-First-day covers, and 36 gorgeous maximum cards plus 12 additional related covers, all for \$75 postpaid. Robert Kinsley, 5410 Fern Loop, W. Richland, WA 99353, or <kinsley@owt.com>

MORE PRIVATE INDUSTRY POSTAL CARDS

Two additional colorful cards from the Dr. Storch collection, both bearing 15c gray Sage stamps. The one at the top is on orange stock and was used 6 December 1876. The lower one is red on gray stock and was used 12 February 1878. Also see our front page. -- S. J. Luft



FCPS at ROMPEX 2000

This report has been written in haste in order to beat the deadline for this issue. The Friday evening social dinner, in a downtown Denver French restaurant, was attended by 14 members, spouses and guest. We barely made it in time for our 8 p.m. reservation [OK, still very early by Continental standards] as show judges Mark Isaacs and Stan Luft didn't finish judging the 300 competitive frames before 7:15 p.m. or so, and needed to freshen up before joining the convoy to the restaurant.

We were very pleased to welcome President Stevens and Secretary Parshall to the show. Dick's Saturday illustrated talk on Franco-Serbian mail during World War I was severely shortened through a late start, brought on by your editor's unwillingness to haul over a proffered, heavy slide projector. He instead offered his own projector, which blew its bulb on the first slide. Whereupon Dick and Walter hurried back to the show area to fetch the "official" projector--which turned out to be a snap to use. Anyway, what little we were able to be regaled with consisted of some very interesting covers, both genuine and faked (or at least doctored a bit), including copies of items on which Dick had been the unfortunate underbidder, all accompanied by Dick's enthusiastic and animated commentaries.

What of the show itself? Mighty powerful, with 20 Gold medals and 11 Vermeil ones, plus 3 Golds and 9 Vermeils in the one-frame class. Our Society did extremely well, more than holding its own against its "competitor" the American Air Mail Society. The Grand Award and a Gold medal went to our Steve Washburne for the "Portugal Classics." Though no France or Colonies exhibit won the Grand or the Reserve Grand, I can attest to the fact that Ed Grabowski's "The French Colonial Allegorical Group Type: Use, Misuse and Nonuse in Madagascar & Dependencies" [besides winning the longest title non-award!], and Dick Stevens' "France and Serbia--Allies in the Great War" (both with Gold medals, and Dick's with the Postal History Society medal and the APS Research medal) came very close. Not very far behind either were Paul Larsen's "Ubangi-Shari-Chad 1900-1938" and Lewis Bussey's "French Naval Mail to America, 1943-1946" (both with Gold medals, and Lew's with the APS 1940-1980 medal).

Other members' exhibits were: Bob Kinsley's "The Conquest of Indochina 1861-1904" (Vermeil medal); Frederick Mayer's "New Caledonia: 1849-1905" (Vermeil medal and APS pre-1900 medal), and his one-frame "Colorado Territorial Stamped Revenue Paper" (Vermeil medal); Chuck LaBlonde's "Geneva Postal History 1750 to 1870" (Vermeil medal and TMPs Award); Tom Broadhead's "France: Post Card Usages and Rates 1870-1900" (Vermeil medal and UPSS Award) and his one-frame "France: The 1925 Decorative Arts Exposition" (Vermeil medal); and Steve Washburne (again) for a one-frame "Franco-Portuguese Mail Before the UPU" (Gold medal). Mark Isaacs, being a member of the jury, showed his "Indochina Foreunners" in the Court of Honor.

Anticipation just about over. The FCPS Grand Award, a spectacular and unique French-made postal shadow box, handpicked by Ed Grabowski, went right back to him for his very long-titled exhibit. And our congratulations to all our exhibitors!

Two non-member exhibits, both of which receiving Gold medals, are also worthy of note. Sanford Solarz showed his "The Blériot XI Monoplane and its Impact on Early Aviation," heavy on good French material and which I've had the pleasure of seeing rise to its present Gold medal level; and Robert Spooner's "Latin America Air Mail Service--French Initiatives 1920-1935." This is a beautifully told narrative of the exploits of pioneer French (mainly) aviators, as shown by the mail they carried across the South Atlantic and over the Andes; it also received the show's award for the best historical exhibit.

Other members present, but not mentioned above, including John Bloor, Michael Kluherz and Charlie Sandberg. John is to be commended for having written an interesting article for the Show Program on "The First French Airmail Stamp" (which is **not** C1-2!); we plan to modify it slightly and publish it in a near-future issue of our Journal. Finally, we thank everybody who came or exhibited or both, and helped make ROMPEX 2000 a great success!

-- S. J. Luft

ANNOUNCEMENTS AND NEWS

- *Timbres Magazine* made its debut this April. It consists of the combined *Le Monde des Philatélistes*, *TimbrOloisirs*, and *Timbroscopie*, but this product is far from being the sum of its parts. The March 2000 *Le Monde* ran 82 pages and the March *Timbroscopie* 96 pages. (I don't know *TimbrOloisirs*, but assume it was closer to 32 pages than anything.) The new offspring runs 130 pages, but fewer may be expected after this premiere. Of course, many duplicated features have thankfully been eliminated. The flavor favors the breezy, popularized (=“vulgarized”) *Timbroscopie* style, and it'll be hard to expect from now on many or any profound, serialized articles. The publisher is Timbropresse, which means that *Le Monde* has gone out of the stamp magazine picture. What else? Oh yes, “Ally McBeal,” on a “stamp” from a non-country, adorns the magazine's cover. And what might be the fate of now weak-sister *L'Echo de la Timbrologie*? At this time, I have no inkling as to what the subscription prices might be for France and other parts of the world, but we are being assured that our subscriptions to the defunct periodicals will be pro-rated.
- The venerable firm Yvert & Tellier suffered a devastating fire the night of 11-12 April. Most of the archives and library are gone, though much of the hard and floppy disks may be salvageable. At least one author (a member of our Society) lost irreplaceable originals of his illustrative material for an article in process of publication. Fortunately, book stocks were warehoused elsewhere. The client lists are probably intact.
- A tongue-in-cheek lot description? We note an unused 19th Century stamp bearing “*gomme tardive*” (or late-applied gum); perhaps a less direct and more elegant way of saying “regummed.”
- *PhilFlash* is reportedly “the first philatelic journal on the Internet.” Assembled by indefatigable Jean-François Brun and others, it brings up-to-date news regarding the philatelic press, societies, expositions, personalities, publications, and occasional short philatelic items. We will be making use of some of these news flashes. For those who would rather not wait for the next quarterly issue of our Journal to arrive, try <Philflash@libertysurf.fr>
- Andorra's 3,00F Sorteny Valley stamp, issued 10-12 April 1999, was selected as the best designed EUROPA 99 stamp, by the Europa Study Group.
- Adrien Boutrelle, for decades the official photographer for FCPS and the Collectors Club at numerous New York City events, departed from this world some years(?) ago. A professional photographer, he prepared slides and philatelic photos for a number of collectors. A charter member of our Society, his membership number was 12. According to our last (1972-1973) Directory and my notes therein, he collected French millésimes and coins datés, Algeria and Andorra. He received a First Award at the first Stephen Rich Memorial competition for his cancellations of Algeria.
- Bob Kinsley, FCPs Director and frequent contributor to our Journal, has taken the additional chore of Secretary of the Military Postal History Society. The job description includes being that society's APS

Representative and the custodian of its back issues. Enjoy your "retirement" Bob, and may your garage never get flooded!

- The *Tintin* cartoon stamp, issued 11(13) March for Stamp Day 2000, comes with two slightly different perforations: sheet stamps are perforated 13¼, whereas booklet stamps are 13¼ x 13.
- La Poste set more records during 1999: Most sales (100.5 billion francs), largest profit (283.56 million francs), parcel post netted 12.9 billion, and financial services 22.9 billion francs. For mail delivery ("rapid" service), 81% of letters were delivered the next day.
- ATTENTION! Making an appearance on the stamp market are 20th Century stamps that are part perforate, or multiples of perforated stamps se-tenant with imperforates. Some of these goodies are simply poorly-selling imperforate stamps that have been doctored through the use of genuine perforation devices. Thus, it should be impossible to distinguish genuine examples from the new concoctions. One's best defense is to purchase only known catalogued part-perforate stamps--and to obtain certificates from unimpeachable sources.
- Faked copies of the 1937 PEXIP sheetlet (Scott 329, Yvert Bloc 3), presumably of Italian origin, appeared on the market a few years ago. A Bordeaux stamp dealer and two other men were sentenced in June 1999 to 6-8 months in prison plus other penalties. At least some of the sheetlets bear forged signatures of the CNEP's then president.

SOME SHOW REPORTS

- SACAPEX 99 (Sacramento, CA, November 1999): Silver medal to Bruce Brunell for "Precancelled Issues of France." Mr. Brunell apparently is not a member; anyone who knows him should attempt to recruit him into our Society.
- Ameristamp Expo 2000 (Portland, OR, February 2000): One-frame exhibits awards: Gold to Frederick Mayer; Vermeil and Silver to Steve Washburne. Sorry, no F & C exhibits.
- St. Louis Stamp Expo (St. Louis, March): Gold medal to Eliot Landau for his U.S. 6 cents Banknote exhibit.
- ROPEX 2000 (Rochester, NY, March): Gold medal to Steve Washburne for "Portugal Classics."
- Garfield-Perry 2000 March Party (Cleveland, March): Gold medals to Paul Larsen for "German Caroline Islands 1899-1914" and for his one-frame "Leeward Islands Judicial Fees Revenue Stamps."
- Nashville Stamp Show 2000 (Nashville, TN, March): Grand Award and Gold medal to your editor for "France: the 30c Cameo Sowers"; Silver medal to Edward Nyberg for "Modern Postal History of France: Marianne du Bicentennial." Bob Picirilli, treasurer of the host Nashville Philatelic Society, was the exhibits chairman.
- FRESPEX 2000 (Fresno, CA, April): Gold medal to Bob Kinsley for "Interned in Switzerland."
- TEXPEX 2000 (Dallas, April): Reserve Grand Award and Gold medal to Earle Plyler for his U.S. 2 cents rates exhibit.
- Postage Stamp Mega Event 2000 (New York City, April): Vermeil medal to Thomas Taylor for "Washington, DC Machine Cancels 1876-1900."
- OKPEX 2000 (Oklahoma City, May): Grand Award and Gold medal to Earle Plyler for his TEXPEX 2000 exhibit (see above); Gold medal to your editor for "Alsace-Lorraine / Elsass-Lothringen, 1870 to UPU"; Chuck LaBlonde chaired the jury.
- ROMPEX 2000 (Denver, May): see "FCPS at ROMPEX 2000," on page 89.

FOR THE RECORD

(Continued from #260, April 2000, p. 59)

- **793.)** Interzone commercial correspondence between occupied and unoccupied France during World War II was conducted, at least in part, through the intermediary of Chambers of Commerce of the unoccupied zone, according to a short article by Paul Kiener in *Le Collectionneur Philatéliste et Marcophile*, N° 125 (2000). Requirements for this transmission included (1) complete name and address of sender and of recipient; (2) a very short, telegraphic text, preferably by typewriter; (3) a manuscript signature. One franc (or two) in postage stamps was to accompany the missive (more if other documents were to be included), according to the whims of the particular Chamber of Commerce. There was no guarantee as to delivery or delay, and the Chambers accepted no responsibility for delay or non-arrival. A typical form letter, from the Lyon Chamber, is shown, much reduced, in Figure 1.

- **794.)** In *Le Rekkas* N° 26 (2000), Solly Laredo seeks updated information on the opening and closing of French post offices in Marrakech, and of earliest and latest dates of use of French cancellations there. According to Langlois and Bourselet, the first French P.O. was opened in August 1901, after taking over the Brudo Marrakech-Mazagan postal service on 16 July 1900. They also stated that Marrakech-Medina opened 1 July 1903 and Marrakech Mella on 1 May 1915. However, Mr. Laredo knows of no earlier French date stamps than: Marrakech of 16 February 1903; M. Medina of June 1915; and M. Mellah of 16 June 1915. Can any readers help out with other information? Please send photocopies of covers or used stamps to your editor for transmittal to *Le Rekkas*.

- **795.)** One of our new members, Florent Tricot, has examined in detail (in *Col. Fra* N° 90, 2000) the problems relating to the CCN8 killer of French Indo-China. One of its two killers is known used at Trang-Bang (June 1865-October 1867); the other at Tanan (August 1866 and February 1868--only two letters known from there). The latter killer was sent to Pnum-Penh (known used there April 1868 and later that year). Later mail from Tanan and Pnum-Penh used CCH killers. However, the CCN8 killer exists on **off-cover** Cérés stamps of 1871-on vintage. Would it perchance have been used in the early 1870s at Trang-Bang?, prior to that bureau's closing before June 1872? M. Tricot would appreciate any information from our readers regarding the use on-cover of the CCN8 at Trang-Bang, Tanan, Pnum-Penh, and even perhaps other towns. Please send your photocopies and/or other documentation to your editor, for transmittal to M. Tricot.

- **796.)** Figure 2 shows a gutter strip of five 15c Sages on quadrilled paper (Scott 103, Yvert 101) on a complete front, cancelled 1 TOR ET POSTES 1 MADAGASCAR, 15 November 1895. According to Varin's article in N° 259 (January 2000), this item, now residing in your editor's collection, must be the earliest recorded example of use for this date stamp as a provisional cancellation on civilian mail from Tananarive, Madagascar.

CHAMBRE DE COMMERCE DE LYON

Correspondance Commerciale avec la Zone Occupée

M.

J'ai l'honneur de vous transmettre ci-dessous, un message à votre adresse qui vient de me parvenir de la zone occupée.

Dans le cas où le présent message motiverait de votre part une réponse, vous voudrez bien la rédiger en tenant compte des indications suivantes :

Le rôle de la Chambre de Commerce se limite à la transmission pure et simple des communications lui sont confiées :

La correspondance doit être rédigée sous forme de message **aussi abrégé que possible**, et en **prin-**
sur papier pelure.

Les indications utiles seront écrites à la **machine à écrire** dans l'ordre suivant :

Nom et adresse de l'expéditeur.

Nom et adresse du destinataire,

Texte,

Signature **manuscrite.**

Ce message, ainsi établi, sera accompagné de **1 franc en timbre-poste**. Il sera remis à la Chambre
commerce (Service Correspondance avec la zone occupée), ou lui sera adressé sous enveloppe affranchie.

En principe, les documents ne peuvent pas accompagner la correspondance.

LE PRÉSIDENT.

RECOMMANDATIONS IMPORTANTES

Le message doit toujours comporter l'adresse complète de l'Expéditeur et du Destinataire
(Rue, numéro, Ville et Département).

RESERVES GENERALES

En aucune circonstance, l'acheminement de la correspondance ne peut être garanti,
pas plus que les délais de transmission. Il est effectué aux risques solidaires de l'expé-
diteur et du destinataire. Pour quelque raison que ce soit, la responsabilité de la
Chambre de Commerce ne saurait être mise en cause.



Figure 1.



Figure 2. (reduced 77%)

NEW ISSUES AND WITHDRAWALS

(Continued from N° 260, January 2000, p. 61)

France

- 15 January 2000: 15F sheetlet containing five heart-shaped Yves-St.-Laurent stamps;
- 7 (10) April: 3,00F / 0,46€ Felicitations; 6,70F / 1.02€ Art of Camille Claudel (sculpture); 3,00F / 0,46€ St.-Guilhem-le-Désert (Hérault Dept.);
- 15 (17) April: 3,00F / 0,46€ Gérardmer-Vallée des Lacs (Vosges Dept.); 30F sheetlet of ten 3,00F / 0,46€ "Sports" stamps in five designs: Charles Lindberg, Marcel Cerdan, Jean-Claude Killy, Carl Lewis, France winner of 1998 World Cup;



- 5(9) May: 15F sheetlet of ten old automobiles [five at 1,00F / 0,15€ and five at 2,00F / 0,30€] issued for PhilexJeunes 2000;
- 9 May: 3,00F / 0, 46€ EUROPA 2000 [for design, see N° 257, July 1999, p. 99];
- 13(15) May: 4,50F / 0,69€ Duhamel du Monceau (1700-1782, botanist);
- 19 (22) May: 3,00F / 0,46€ 73rd Congress of French Federation of Philatelic Associations (Nevers);
- 1 (5) June: 3,00F / 0,46€ Good Vacations;
- 3 (5) June: 3,00F / 0,46€ Conquest of Annapurna;
- 17 (19) June: Nature Series: 2,70F / 0,41€ butterfly, 3,00F / 0,46€ *Allosaurus*, 3,00F / 0,46€ giraffe, 4,50F / 0,69€ tulip; plus 13,20F sheetlet showing of the four values, 3,00F / 0,46€ Ottmarsheim Abbey (Haut-Rhin Dept.);
- 24 (26) June: 3,00F / 0,46€ A. de Saint-Exupéry (1900-1944).

Withdrawals: 14 April: 3,00F + 0,60F six stamps of great French photographic works, + booklet of same; 3,00F Arnac-Pompadour; 3,00F World Cup of Rugby; 3,00F Emmaus movement; 4,50F Frédéric Ozanam; 10F sheetlet of ten sailing ships (Armada of the Century, at Rouen).

Andorra

- 1 (3) April: 3,80F / 0,58€ The Montserrat Caballé international singing competition;
- 17 April: 2,70F / 0,41€ flower (bluebell?);
- 9 May: 3,00F / 0,46€ EUROPA 2000.

Withdrawals: 14 April: 3,00F Sorteny Valley, 3,00F PHILEXFRANCE 99, 4,50 F European Championship of nations.

French Polynesia

- 15 March: 90F philately in Polynesia;
- 28 April: First International Festival of Polynesian Tattoos 85F, 120F, 130F, 160F.

Mayotte

- 7 February: 5,20F / 0,79€ Whales;
- 25 March: 5,20F / 0,79€ Rotary Clubs' "Inner Wheel";
- 2 May: Women of Mayotte sheetlet: one each 3,00F / 0,46€ and 5,20F / 0, 79€ stamps; 3,00F / 0,46€ Lagoon island.

Monaco

- 3 April: 6,50F / 0, 99€ International dog show; The 12



Apostles on six stamps: 4,00F / 0,61€, 5,00F / 0,76€, 6,00F / 0,91€, 7,00F / 1,07€, 8,00F / 1,22€, and 9,00F / 1,37€.

New Caledonia

- 8 March: 100F Lighthouse on Amédée Island.

St. Pierre & Miquelon

- 9 February: 5,20F / 0,79€ painting "Les Graves," by F. Langlois;
- 8 March: 3,80F red berries;
- 5 April: 1,70F / 0,26€ and 2,00F / 0,30€ gathering wood;

- 10 May: 5,00F Great Cormorant;
- 21 June: Events of the Century sheetlets, one of ten stamps at 2,00F and other of ten stamps at 3,00F;
- 9 August: Patrimony triptych: 3,00F + label + 15F.

Wallis & Futuna

- 28 April: 300F Cathedral of Mata'Utu.



F.C.P.S. OFFICIAL

PRESIDENT'S LETTER

As I warned in the last issue, the Society's dues have been raised. At a Directors Meeting following the Annual Meeting, the Treasurer reported that expenditures were exceeding income by a greater amount than last year. As a result, we felt we had no choice but to increase the membership dues. For most members, the annual charge will become fifteen dollars, and, for resident or foreign members, twenty dollars. Any applications received at Stampshow or thereafter will have to be paid at the new rate, but will cover the remainder of this year as well as 2001.

The Society will have a table at Stampshow 2000 in Providence, RI, from 24 to 27 August 2000. Walter Parshall and I will be there for the entire show (although I hope to take some time to go north and visit old friends in the Boston area, where I lived for much of twenty years). I expect some of our other Directors will be there part of the time. Please stop at the table and at least say hello. I am preparing no formal schedule, but we will be happy to have assistance behind the table at any time. It is worth \$100 to the Society budget if we can keep the table manned continuously. No plans have yet been made for any other activities. If you want to join one or more other Society members for dinner, please contact Walter or myself, and we will see what we can arrange.

DUES INCREASED

Resident Members: \$20
Foreign Members: \$20
Other Members: \$15

NEW MEMBERS

- 3226 BARRETT, JAMES L., 22175 Detroit Rd., Rocky River, OH 44116-2224. (Full Data Cancels: 1944 Gallic Cock And Marianne Issue. Air Covers Of Corsica, Nov. 1943-1946. Advertising Covers And Slogans of the 1930s.)
- 3227 FAGERQUIST, H. M., 18465 Gilman Pl., Anderson, CA 96007. (General Collector: 19th Century. 1849-1876: Used - 1870-1871 Issues - Alsace-Lorraine - Dues - Cancellations - Sage Type 1876-1900. Special Issues: Telegraph - Dues - Newspaper - Revenues - Other: 19th Century Cut Squares. 19th Century Albums. Monaco. Colonies General Issues: Used. Cancels And Postal History. Philatelic Literature.)
- 3228 STODDARD, CHARLES L., 4746 50th Avenue, S.W., Seattle, WA 98116-4325. (General Collector: All Issues.)
- 3229 FRAJOLA, RICHARD C., P.O. Box 2679, Rancho de Taos, NM 87557. (Dealer, Full-time.)

REINSTATEMENTS

- | | |
|--|--|
| 2119 EDISON, ROBERT B.
2618 BERKINSHAW-SMITH, BERNARD CYRIL
2643 GAETJENS, KAY
1960 MARINESCU, CONSTANTIN,
64-34 Dieterle Crescent, Rego Park, NY 11374. | 2912 ROTTMAN, MILTON

1865 GEYER, MEL, JR. |
|--|--|

CHANGES OF ADDRESS AND CORRECTIONS

- 1612 HELLEBREKERS, BOUDEWYN, In de Wolken 282, 1186 BS Amstelveen, Netherlands.
- 406 VENGROVE, CHARLES F., P.O. Box 673, Wells, VT 05774.
- 703 BERNER, BEATRICE, 19 Pocono Road - Apt. 302, Denville, NJ 17834.
- 3214 LURATI, MARCO, P.O. Box 321, CH-4410 Liestal, Switzerland.
- 1790 ROYE, MARILYN, 300 East 75th St., Apt. 12-0, New York, NY 10021.
- 2826 AKERSTROM, DONALD B., 424 Stratford CT., #2-34, Delmar, CA 92014-2758.
- 1624 DYKHOUSE, JACK R., P.O. Box 211027, Bedford, TX 76095.