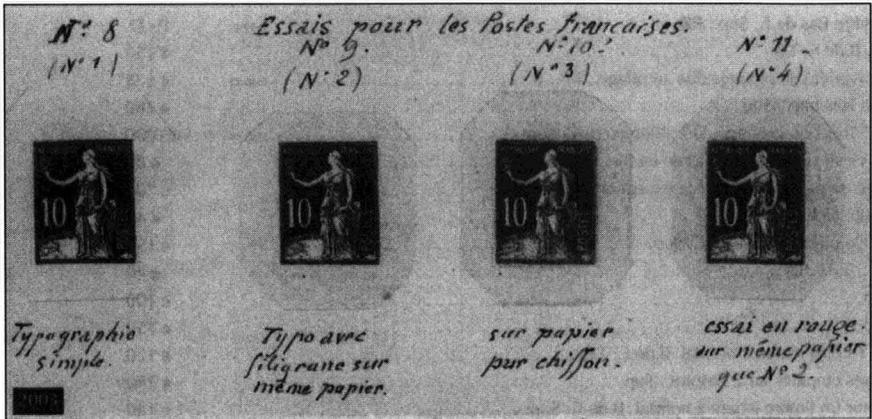




France & Colonies Philatelist



Vermeil Medals at SESCAL 2000 and COLOPEX 2002
Silver Medal at 6th Canadian National Philatelic Exhibition (2002)



A sheetlet of unaccepted projects or essays, presumably for the eventual 1906 Sower with Ground. First three are in dark blue, last in the approved red color for this 10c value. Apparently, this recent offering by the Behr firm has surfaced from out of nowhere; your editor's files hold nothing remotely similar to these vignettes. (reduced to 86%)

CONTENTS

ARTICLES

Airmail Letter Rates From French West Africa To The United States Before World War II (Bob Picirilli)67

Index to Subjects in Amazing 1870-1871 Wonder Stories (Ernst M. Cohn) 82

SHORTER CONTRIBUTIONS

Testimonials To Robert G. Stone75

Amazing 1870-1871 Wonder Stories--69 (Ernst M. Cohn)78

Richard K. Benjamin (1922-2002)80

The Enigmatic MIRECOURT Handstamp of 187080

REGULAR AND SPECIAL FEATURES

Random Editorial Jottings79

Members' Appeals.....85

Questions And Answers86

Some Show Reports87

For The Record.....87

Announcements And News89

New Issues And Withdrawals92

SOCIETY NEWS

President's Letter92

Membership Changes95

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AIRMAIL LETTER RATES FROM FRENCH WEST AFRICA TO THE UNITED STATES BEFORE WORLD WAR II

by Bob Picirilli (FCPS #2381)

The July 1999 issue of *France & Colonies Philatelist* (Whole No. 257) carried my article entitled "Airmail Letter Rates from French West Africa to France to 1945." The current article serves as a follow-up to that and will also provide (at the end) one correction to the information reported earlier. As before, I write not only for myself but for a small, international group devoted to researching airmail rates in use in any French areas (not France itself) until the end of 1945. I also refer the reader to a companion article being submitted to *The Journal of the France & Colonies Philatelic Society* of Great Britain, entitled "Airmail Letter Rates from French West Africa to the United Kingdom and Other European Countries (Not France) before World War II."

The reader may note that these two articles are somewhat less ambitious than the one already published. Where that article proposed rates from French West Africa (hereafter AOF) to France to 1945, these must be content to stop at about 1940. The reasons are quite obvious. The wartime situation interrupted normal international relationships. By the end of 1942, AOF was no longer aligned with mainland France and had thrown in its lot with the Allies. Furthermore, the old airline connections with England and many other European countries, and the United States—not to mention the rest of the world—had changed. No longer would airmail be routed via France and from there to such destinations. Additionally, official information about routes and rates during the war is proving very difficult to find. For such reasons, then, the scope of this article will extend from the beginning of airmail in AOF until the early stages of World War II.

For brief information about the early airmail connects between AOF and France, see the earlier article. As reported there, airmail could be sent between France and Dakar, Senegal (itself part of AOF) as early as 1925. By 1937, the airmail connections were extended into most of AOF. That article also indicated the nature of franking on airmail letters to France. Total postage typically included: (1) the "basic" letter rate from AOF to France, (2) the airmail surtax from AOF to France, and (3) any additional fees, such as for registration.

When we begin to deal with airmail rates from AOF to the U.S., we meet a similar situation, though with one important addition and one basic difference. In other words, the total franking on an airmail letter from AOF to the U.S. will typically involve the following elements.

(1) The *foreign* (international) basic letter rate, which is different from the domestic (internal and intercolonial) rate for letters going to destinations *within* the French Community. Consequently, the table of basic letter rates provided in the earlier article will *not* work for this one.

(2) The airmail surtax from AOF to France, which *is* the same as indicated in the table of airmail surtaxes provided in the previous article.

(3) Airmail surtaxes, if any, paid for airmail *within* the U.S., or—beginning about May of 1939—*between* France and the U.S. This last leads to a fairly wide range of possibilities and therefore requires the lengthier explanation.

(4) Any additional fees, most common among them the cost of registry, which for foreign letters was *not* the same as for domestic letters.

The tables to follow provide the detailed information needed to analyze the franking of most letters involved. Table 1 shows the foreign basic letter rates,

from 1925-1942, between AOF and the U.S.—for that matter, between AOF and any non-French community countries regardless of distance. (See also my article “Postal Rates in the French Colonies, 1892-1944” in *FCP* for July 1997—Whole No. 249.)

Table 1. Foreign basic letter and registry rates, AOF to U.S.

Rate begins ¹	1 st 20 grams	each added 20 grams	registry
16 Jul 1925	1f	50c	1f
1 Oct 1925	1f	60c	1f
1 Feb 1926	1f25	75c	1f25
1 Aug 1926	1f50	90c	1f50
20 Jul 1932	1f50	90c	2f
1 Aug 1937	1f75	1f	2f
1 Dec 1938	2f25	1f25	2f50
1 Jan 1940	2f50	1f50	2f50
1 Feb 1942 ²	4f	2f40	4f

¹**Important:** the dates given are for the beginning of these rates in *France*. The rates *did not always* begin in the colonies as early as in France itself. At times, therefore, one will find a letter using the former basic or registry rate after the change to a new rate had taken effect in France.

²Airmail beyond this date falls outside the scope of this article; this change is given only to mark the end of the previous rate.

Table 2 shows the airmail rates between AOF and France. (Here I am repeating what is present in the earlier article.)

Table 2. Airmail surtaxes from AOF to France

Rate begins	to 10 grams	10-20 grams	20-50 grams	50-100 grams
28 May 1925	2f	3f	4f	6f
16 May 1926	2f60	3f80	5f	7f50
11 Jan 1928	3f	6f	10f	15f
From this point on, the airmail surtax was uniform by weight steps, as follows				
1 Aug 1929	3f per 10 grams			
1 Sep 1935 ¹	2f per 5 grams (eastern route only; see Note 1 below)			
1 May 1937	2f per 5 grams (all routes; see Note 1 below)			
1 Sep 1938 ²	2f50 per 5 grams (all AOF except Mauritania and Senegal; see Note 2 below)			
2 May 1941 ³	3f50 per 5 grams (all AOF; see Note 2 below)			

¹From 1 Sep 1935 to 30 Apr 1937, there were two competing airmail routes from AOF to France, charging different airmail surtaxes. Letters going the western route (via Dakar, Senegal, by Air France) paid 3f per 10g; letters going the eastern route (via Niger and Algeria, by Air Afrique and Sabena) paid 2f per 5g. (See the previous article for additional information.)

²Mauritania and Senegal were exempted from the increase from 2f to 2f50 that took effect about 1 Sep 1938. Apparently this exemption lasted until the new rate of 3f50 that began about 2 May 1941.

³Airmail beyond this date falls outside the scope of this article. The date is given only to mark the end of the previous rate period.

Prior to 1939, airmail from AOF to the U.S. went airmail only as far as France, then surface the rest of the way. But the sender could, if desired, pay

for airmail *within* the U.S. (from New York); in that case that cost would simply be added to the total already required from the two previous tables. (I can not say whether the sender could choose to pay *only* for airmail within the U.S., without paying airmail to France. I have not seen any letters with notations or franking to indicate such a possibility.) Table 3a shows the airmail surtaxes charged for transport by air within the U.S. prior to 1939.

Table 3a. Surtaxes for airmail within the U.S., from New York

Rate begins	to Chicago	to Cheyenne	To San Francisco
16 Feb 1925	2f per 20g	4f per 20g	6f per 20g
16 Feb 1926	3f per 20g	5f per 20g	7f per 20g
9 Nov 1926 ¹	3f50 per 20g	6f per 20g	9f per 20g
	5f50 with <i>bretelles</i>	7f50 with <i>bretelles</i>	9f50 with <i>bretelles</i>
From this point, the surtax was the same from NY to any U.S. destination			
17 Mar 1927	5f per 20g		
1 Jul 1928	2f per 10g		
21 Apr 1931	2f50 per 10g		
21 Aug 1937	1f50 per 5g		
25 Sep 1939	4f per 10g		

¹The increased surtaxes “with *bretelles*” apparently covers connecting flights to other cities beyond these destinations.

Beginning in May of 1939, there were flights between France and New York. From this time on, then, the patron could pay for airmail “all the way” from AOF to its destination in the U.S. Because of the outbreak of World War II, this provision was not long-lived; but in the summer of 1939, at least, there were three transatlantic routes: PanAm from Marseille and Southampton (England) and Imperial Airways from Southampton. Table 3B shows the airmail surtaxes required.

Table 3b. Airmail surtaxes from France to the U.S., all destinations¹

Rate begins	per 10 grams
13 May 1939	10f
11 Dec 1940	12f

¹Tables 3a and 3b report information from *Les Tarifs Postaux Français 1627-1969*, by J. P. Alexandre, C. Barbey, J.-F. Brun, and G. Desarnaud, 2nd edition edited by Dr. R. Joany (Brun & Fils, 1989), page 198. I have not attempted to confirm this information from other sources.

As the reader can see, all this makes for a wide range of possible frankings. The following examples serve to illustrate a few of these.

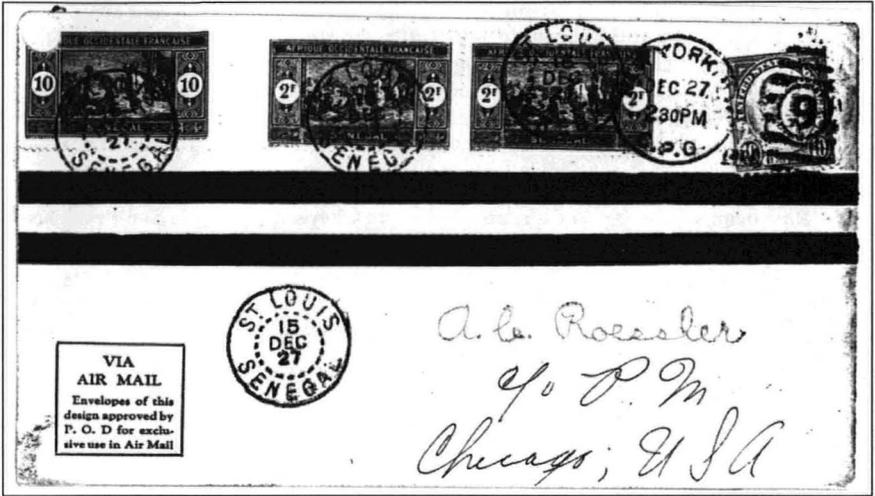


Figure 1. 15 Dec 1927, St. Louis, Senegal to Chicago. The Senegal franking of 4f10 represents 1f50 basic + 2f60 airmail AOF to France. The letter went surface from France to New York. *Note the 10 cent U.S. stamp, apparently applied by the sender, an American using an American airmail envelope, to cover airmail from N.Y. to Chicago. A. C. Roessler, the addressee, was a notable philatelic fi-nagler.* (Courtesy Barry Newton) (reduced to 66%)



Figure 2. 14 Sep 1933, Abidjan, Ivory Coast, to Chicago, registered. The 6f50 franking represents 1f50 basic + 2f registry + 3f airmail AOF to France. The letter went surface the rest of the way. (reduced to 71%)



Figure 3. 9 Jun 1936, Bobo-Dioulasso, Ivory Coast, to Chicago, registered. The 8¢50 franking (3¢ on reverse) represents 1¢50 basic + 2¢ registry + 3¢ airmail AOF to France + 2¢ airmail within the U.S. The 2 July N.Y. transit marking and 3 July Chicago arrival marks (on reverse) confirm that the letter went by air from N.Y. to Chicago. (reduced to 75%)



Figure 4. 10 Sep 1937, Abengourou, Ivory Coast, to Chicago. The 5¢75 franking represents 1¢75 basic + double the 2¢ per 5 grams airmail AOF to France. *Note the manu-*

script "Jusqu'a France" (= as far as France), confirming that it was paid to go by air only to France, then surface the rest of the way. Such an inscription was not always used. (reduced to 73%)

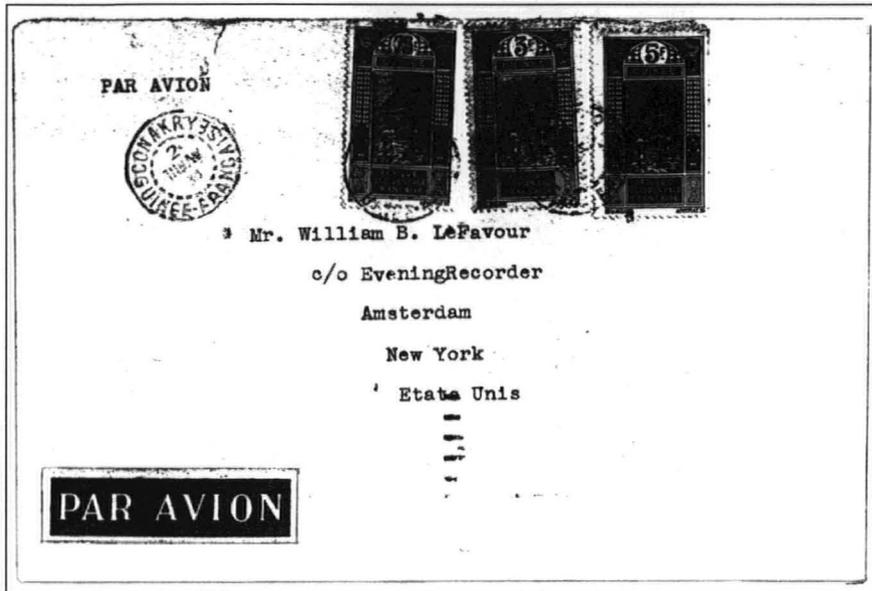


Figure 5. 2 Apr 1938, Conakry, French Guinea, to Amsterdam, N.Y. The 8f75 franking represents 1f75 basic + 4f (double 2f/5g) airmail to France + 3f (double 1f50/5g) airmail within the U.S. (Courtesy Greg Cykman). (reduced to 62%)

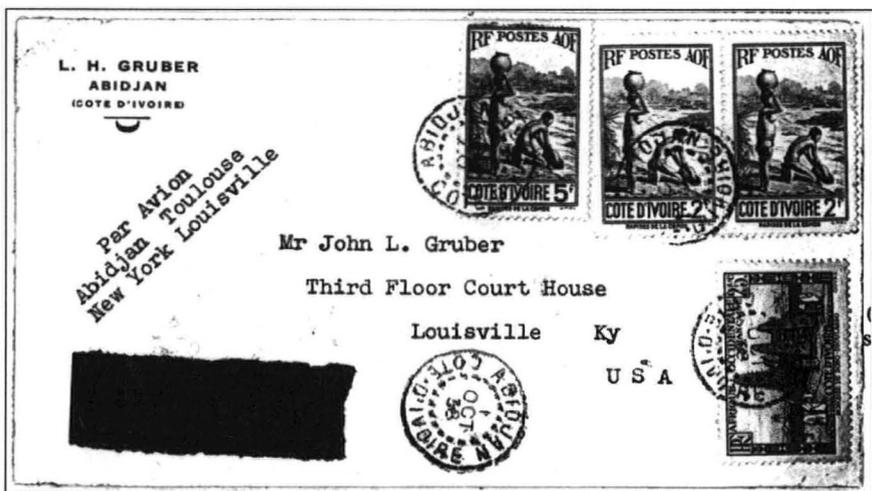


Figure 6. 1 Oct 1938, Abidjan, Ivory Coast, to Louisville, Kentucky. The 9f25 franking represents 1f75 basic + 5f (double 2f50/5g) air to France + 3f (double 1f50/5g) air within the U.S. Note the clear route markings which confirm the intention for this franking. (reduced to 67%)

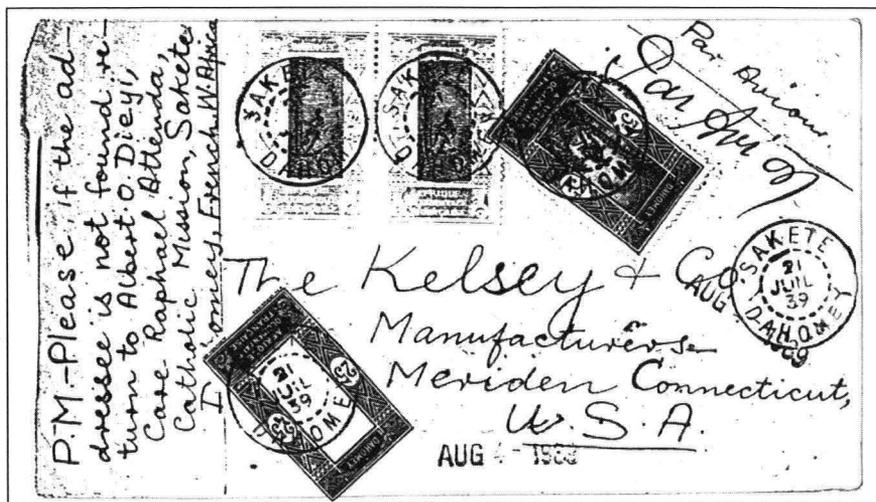


Figure 7. 21 Jul 1939, Sakete, Dahomey, to Meriden, Connecticut. The 7f25 franking represents the 2f25 basic + 5f (double 2f50/5g) airmail AOF to France. (Courtesy Barry Newton) (reduced to 69%)

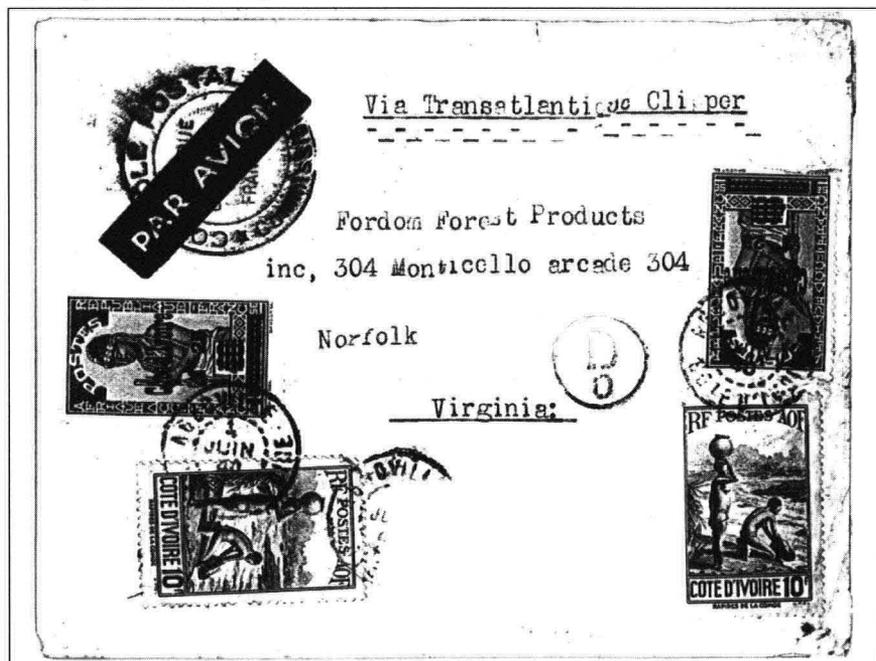


Figure 8. 1 Jun 1940, Agboville, Ivory Coast, to Norfolk, Virginia. The 32f50 franking represents 2f50 basic + 10f (quadruple 2f50/5g) air AOF to France + 20f (double 10f/10g) air France to the U.S. Note that this assumes the stamp missing at bottom center was another 10f stamp. Note also the typewritten notation, "Via Transatlantic Clipper." (reduced to 74%)

The reader should understand that the information in this article applies *only* to airmail from AOF routed through France to the U.S.—which was the normal routing during the prewar period. It is not entirely clear to me exactly how long this routing remained open: certainly not after the United States entered the war in December 1941 and probably not after mid-1940. According to Thomas H. Boyle, Jr. (*Airmail Operations During World War II*; AAMS, 1998) Pan American Airways dropped its flights to Marseille soon after the war began on 3 September 1939 (page 7), making Lisbon, Portugal the main eastern terminus of its transatlantic flights. But French airlines maintained connections to Lisbon for a good while longer, keeping open the possibility of this routing as long as postal relations continued. Air France also kept open its route to London most of the time until Germany invaded France in May of 1940 (Boyle, pages 413,414). It is therefore not possible to be absolutely sure that the cover shown in Figure 8 went via France—the likelier possibility; if it did not, the analysis of the franking may not be correct.

Conclusion. As indicated at the beginning of this article, a small number of collectors of France and Colonies has formed an informal study group to research the airmail rates in use in any and all French colonies (not France itself), on mail addressed to any destinations, prior to 1946. The group includes collectors in the U.S., Canada, the United Kingdom, and France.

Included within the projects of this group is the building of a database of information about specific airmail covers that fit these parameters. Though there are approximately 3,000 covers listed in the database at the time of this writing, many colonies and periods are poorly represented and the need for additional information remains strong. All readers who have airmail covers from any French possessions, to anywhere, prior to 1946 are urged to send photocopies (front and back, please) to Bob Picirilli, 301 Greenway Avenue, Nashville, TN 37205. They will be rewarded with an analysis of the frankings on the covers as we are able to at the present time.

We also welcome into our study group any serious collectors who can provide information or research.

A special thanks to Marty Bratzel for reviewing this manuscript and for helpful suggestions.

Correction

In the previous article referred to at the beginning of this article, the basic (domestic) letter rate for the period between 16 July 1925 and 1 May 1926 was listed as 30c (to 20 grams), 50c (20-50 grams), 75c (50-100 grams), and 20c for each additional 100 grams or fractions thereof. While those figures are correct for *non-airmail* letters, further research has shown that during that very period (and that period only), the domestic basic letter rate was different for a letter being sent via airmail. The correct figures for the purposes of these articles, therefore, should have been 40c, 70c, and 1f, respectively, with the 20c for each additional 100 grams correct as indicated.

TESTIMONIALS TO ROBERT G. STONE

Robert G. Stone - A Personal Remembrance

[NDLR: These remembrances were published in the order received]

It is difficult to think about the philately of the French Colonies and not think about Bob Stone. We have lost one of the most distinguished philatelic scholars of the 20th century. Over more than the last half of the past century, Bob compiled one of the most remarkable records in philatelic publication, with articles, handbooks and books on virtually every aspect of French Colonial philately, and beyond. His writings are a 'must' for any serious collector of the French Colonies. His 1961 Collectors Club book on *The French Colonies General Issues* remains the seminal work in the field despite its age. His numerous handbooks for the France & Colonies Philatelic Society have been reprinted for use by all of the new collectors joining the fold. As Editor of the *France & Colonies Philatelist* for almost thirty years, the journal erupted with an endless array of articles on just about everything in the French Colonial area - from the use of the classics of France from the Colonies or the Royal Steamship Navigation Company to modern Colonial slogan cancels. Nothing escaped his broad interests, and he had a wonderful and effective writing style. His series of articles on the French Colonies Provisional Issues published in the *Collectors Club Philatelist* remains the definitive work in the field, as is his series of articles in the *Essay Proof Journal* on the French Colonies Pictorial Issues. His last major publication, *The Caribbean Neptune*, is one of the major reference standards for the area. He truly earned the title of Dean of the French Colonies.

As a collector with a modest purse, he was never able to amass one of the great collections of his day. But his Saint Pierre & Miquelon collection was one of the best ever assembled, and received international Gold Medals. He gathered his General Issues collection at a time when most were not aware of the breadth and wonder of the area, and then he began telling us all about it in a wonderful series of articles culminating in the 1961 book. He had beautiful collections of French Oceania and the Somali Coast, and assembled numerous smaller collections on 20th century Colonial postal history, before most were aware of its existence.

Most of all, Bob was a friend and mentor to all of the developing Colonialists. He could speak definitively on virtually any Colonial topic, and always had time for a letter or phone call to unravel the latest conundrum. Through him I learned all about the General Issues and then the Colonial Group Type and finally Guadeloupe. I was pleased to join with him in writing about the Group Type in an extensive article published in the *American Philatelist* in 1984. I am not sure that I contributed much to that article, but it was a great learning experience on how such is done. Many times I would show him a thought-to-be rare Colonial cover, only to get the response, "Yes, I had a few of these in the 40's". But on those rare occasions when he responded, "Hmmm....., that's a pretty good cover." I knew that I had something. It was my good fortune to purchase his Saint Pierre & Miquelon Group Type collection from him in the early '90's. It was more than an exhibit; it was a major study on the development and use of that issue from the Colony. There was so much new information in this exhibit that I combined it with the new material and information I gathered during the 90's and published an article in 2001 in the *Collectors Club Philatelist*. Bob was, of course, the first author, and this his last publication. Unfortunately, his health had reached such a stage that I fear he was not aware of all of this. But no matter - his friendship, his scholarship, his mentorship all remain. We will miss him dearly, but as I learned the other night while reading his three articles on Mauritania in the *FCP*, he is still very much with us.

-- Ed Grabowski

Bob Stone -- An Appreciation

I was going to say that Bob Stone will be sorely missed. I'm sure that he will be by his surviving family and friends, although at the age of 94 he may well have out-lived many of them. But for those of us who never had the privilege of meeting him his legacy in the form of his prolific output of books and magazine articles will ensure that in many ways he is still around. I have shared his enthusiasm for the philately of the French colonies for the best part of half a century now and consider myself greatly indebted to him for the knowledge that he has so generously shared through his writings. As for the Society, its indebtedness is incalculable - his record of 30 years as editor of the *Philatelist* is unlikely ever to be beaten. R.I.P? I think not. Isn't it more likely that wherever he now is he will find something new to enquire into?

-- Bill Mitchell

A Personal Remembrance Of Robert G. Stone, RDP FSPH

It is with sadness that I heard of the passing of my good friend Bob Stone. Firstly it is sad because for the past ten years he hasn't been able to use that talent he had for unlocking the intricacies of French Colonial matters, but he has left behind him a vast storehouse of published papers, and I have a A4 binder of some of them. Secondly, he is now at peace from the indignities of the last few months, when his physical abilities were getting less and less.

I first correspond with Bob in September 1976 and this lasted until I telephoned him in 1995 in his Nursing Home and it was obvious that he was finding this a great effort, so for the years since then it has been a yearly Christmas card with kind remembrances. In 1980 at the FCPS [GB] party after the London International Exhibition, Bill Waugh and John Livesay brought greetings to me from Bob and we eventually met at CAPEX 87. Soon after our arrival Bill arranged a meeting with Pat and myself and Bob and Stan Luft at their Hotel, and during that week we went to the Exhibition, enjoyed Brunch at the Royal York and the FCPS Dinner, meeting many folk and making new friends.

Bob invited us over in 1989 to stay with him, and Walter Parshall joined us to drive around the beautiful states of West Virginia, Pennsylvania and Maryland, visiting many historic sites and excellent restaurants to finish up the evening. We visited the APRL, Balpex and FCPS Brunch party, followed by a PHS meeting! Dinner with his friend Dan Lufkins and family in Maryland, then when we left to go to Washington en route to Canada to see relations, he arranged a day with Joe Geraci at the Smithsonian.

Bob knowing of my interest in Dance Bands of the 1920-1930's introduced me to American Classic Jazz and that was another subject we corresponded on and exchanged records and journals. Bob had a wide taste in music from the Classical period which he shared with his late wife Edna, who taught music, then to early jazz. He had a wonderful collection of Railway memorabilia, an interest he shared with Bill Waugh. The two philatelic collections that he showed me, especially the French Colonial Proofs and St. Pierre & Miquelon, were magnificent and well researched. Bob won many high awards with his material, knowledge and service to philately, of which others will write, but it was his personal friendship and kindness that will remain always with me.

-- Colin W. Spong

My first contact with Bob Stone came in 1972 when I joined FCPS. Mr. Stone at that time was, not only the *Philatelist's* Editor, but also did considerable writing in our Journal and elsewhere on French West and Equatorial Africa, my primary interest at the time. I studied avidly everything he wrote and, as time passed, he became the epitome of philatelic writers to me. We eventually became occasional correspondents, and he encouraged and guided me in my own studies. He even gave me credit for a bit of help, on page 39 of his fine work on Cabon / Congo / A.E.F.



Bob, in his prime years

Mr. Stone's carefully researched work and non-sense style of writing directly influenced me. When I first began my own writings on Algeria in 1989, I consciously tried to use his own crisp style. On sending my first manuscript to Mr. Stone, I anxiously awaited his approval. It soon came, full of encouragement and compliments. To me, never privileged to meet Bob Stone, he was a man worthy of his many hours. He was warm, kind, generous, helpful, encouraging, professional. I think of him as the dean of philatelic writers and Mr. France-and-Colonies, as well as my first mentor.

-- Larry Lambert

I began corresponding with Bob when he was still stationed in Illinois, and he was my mentor in the effort to collect 19th Century France. When he retired to Pennsylvania I visited with him, Edna, and the cats, and on one occasion did some fishing in local streams and managed to bring them some trout.

When I became a New York City resident in 1969 it occurred to me that visiting firemen might find it useful to have a place to bunk in the city when they came in for things like the semi-annual stamp shows. Bob was one of several FCPS members who accepted the offer, and on one occasion we had a full house with Bob, Ray Gaillaguet, Stan Luft, and Ray Smith. The first time Bob was in, I attempted cooking our dinner. It was a disaster as the thermostat on my oven was not accurate. Everything on stove top was ready when I opened the oven to take out the frozen French fries—they still had frost on them. Thereafter it was house rule that juice and coffee or tea could be served for breakfast, but real chow was to be had at the corner diner.

After we moved into the country, Bob and Ray Gaillaguet were here for a show. We have a king-size bed upstairs in the guest room, equipped then with an electric mattress warmer with dual controls. The next morning when we asked how they had rested, Ray said he burned up and Bob said he damn near froze. Turned out that the controls had been switched, so when one turned on more heat the other turned it down!

When Bob moved into his retirement home in Quincy, PA, we made a point of visiting with him on our way to or from Washington, at least once a year. As time passed he shifted from quarters that had book space and a writing table to a smaller space that had room only for his CDs. His frequent complaint was that roommates kept dying on him, but never gave a thought that his jazz collection could have been a distraction. Our editor had warned us that Bob's phone had been disconnected, so when we were on our way to DC earlier this year we called ahead to see if he was receiving visitors, and that is when we learned he had passed away the previous week.

--JE and JB Lievsay

AMAZING 1870-1871 WONDER STORIES--69

by Ernst M. Cohn (FCPS #1491)

A couple of years after I published my first account of Paris siege mail by US diplomatic pouch, I was offered a 'diplomatic pouch letter from Paris.' One glance sufficed to prove the optimistic description of the seller to be wrong: The earliest postmark is French, and no cover from the diplomatic pouch carries any French postmark unless addressed to that point. No matter, I bought it anyhow, the price was right and it seemed strange enough to be worth closer study.

The cover (Figure 1) was mailed at Vierzon on 3 Janv. 1871. The framed French 'P.P.' is crossed out. Next came a Paris à Calais 2^o/F/10 Jan., struck on a night train. Then there is a London SW R7, Jan. 11; a red London PC Jan. 11; a +

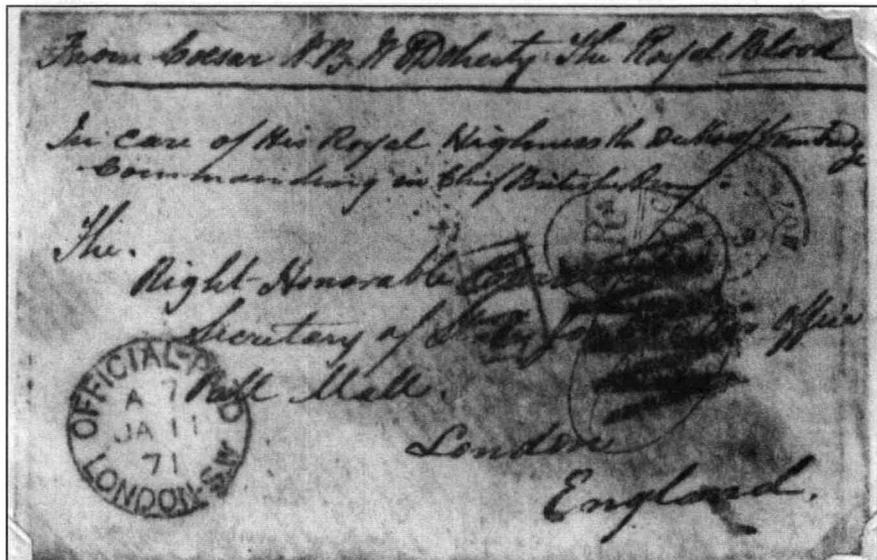


Figure 1.

FR+/1F50c oval accountancy mark, crossed out; a "6"[d, postage due mark, crossed out]; and finally a red OFFICIAL-PAID London SW A7 Jan. 11. There were evidently some questions as to whether that letter was really free of postage, and this last postal marking looks like the equivalent of the French 'CONTRE-SEING'.

Now to the geography. Vierzon is due south of Paris and about midway on the rail line between Tours and Nevers. Considering the military activity at that time and around that region, it is not surprising that this letter should have taken a week to get on the Paris-Calais railway. On 13 December 1870, the Germans had occupied the rails of Blois and Vierzon. The Germans had wrought a lot of destruction, and, when the French re-occupied the area, a general first opposed repairs, for fear the Germans would attack again. But on 3 January (the date of this cover), French troop movement along the rail started again and continued until the 6th, when 30,000 men, 7600 horses, 20 batteries of artillery, hundred carriages and miscellaneous other equipment had been moved. That had required 3600 wagons, moved in 95 trains.¹ It is unlikely that anything else moved along the rails during that time and perhaps even for some days afterwards.

As for the handwriting, there is none on the back. On the front, the top line reads

From Caesar NBWDoherty (or ODoherty?) The Royal Blood

In care of His Royal Highness the Duke of Cambridge

Commanding (*sic*)-in-Chief British Army.

The Right Honorable Edward Caldwell

Secretary of State for the War Office

Pall Mall,

London

England.

The Registrar of the Royal Archives had no record of Caesar Doherty in 1979, nor had the form of the inscription on the envelope been seen there before. In any case, the "Official" cds would indicate that the letter, after some hesitation, was recognized by the post office as being an official communication.

Perhaps Doherty wanted to inform the Secretary of State for War about the large-scale French troop movement that was imminent? Any information readers might be able to furnish about Doherty, The Royal Blood, would be greatly appreciated. I have asked two English friends, one of whom even wrote to the Royal Archives, but, while the Registrar gave some details about Cardwell and Cambridge, she could not enlighten me about Doherty.

¹These details are taken from Baron Ernouf, *Histoire des Chemins de Fer Français pendant la Guerre Franco-Prussienne 1870-71* [History of the French Railways During the Franco-Prussian War 1870-71], pp. 293 and 297.

RANDOM EDITORIAL JOTTINGS

Remembrances and Appreciations of our recently departed Editor Emeritus, Bob Stone, have been arriving almost *en masse*. In this issue, we are publishing a sampling of those received from his friends in the U.S. and abroad. Many more are being published in other society journals in various countries, in addition to the meteorological press. I found the obituary in the April 1 *Linn's* to be particularly informative as well as being the most timely of all. Though he may have been largely absent from the everyday thoughts of most of us these past dozen years--except when referenced to in some article's bibliography--the departure of this 20th Century philatelic giant will always be our great loss. We hope that those of you who didn't know Bob personally or from his works will pardon the space allotted to him in this issue, at the expense of a hoped-for article or two.

Thanks to a lot of cooperative people, the April issue went to bed early, enabling my wife and I to get away for a month in France, etc., mainly the Midi and Paris. Possibly a last hurrah for us, at least regarding long-distance, long-term driving in a rental vehicle. While in Paris, I was privileged to attend a meeting of the Académie de Philatélie and be warmly greeted there. I was genuinely surprised and pleased by the high esteem held by members of the Académie for our Journal. Continuing to southwestern and southeastern France, we were houseguests of our fellow members, respectively, Jean-Luc Trassaert and Ralph Barracano (and gracious spouses). In Switzerland, we stayed with Dr. Thomas Berger and family; though not a member of our Society, he is an avid collector and exhibitor of Sage-period rates and of 1870s registered and CHARGÉ mail. Finally, we hosted Lenora and Dave Herendeen at ROMPEX time, where Dave was a judge. At the show, we managed to spend a bit of time with fellow members Peter Smith, Lew Bussey and Charlie Sandberg. In all, more of a philatelic spring than we had originally anticipated. One of the great joys of active philately is the opportunity to correspond with, meet with, and spend quality time with great people!

Richard K. Benjamin (1922-2002)

Dick Benjamin (FCPS N° 1120), born April 9, 1922 in Argenta, Illinois, died in California on April 30 of this year after enduring years of medical complications, specifically including cancer. He served in the U.S. Army in World War II, rising to the rank of captain. He then obtained a PhD in mycology in 1951 from the Univ. of Illinois, followed by post-doctoral research at Harvard. In 1952 he settled, permanently as it turned out, at the Rancho Santa Ana Botanic Garden in Claremont, California. There he researched and taught, and edited the Garden's journal *Aliso*. Dick was a renowned and highly respected mycologist (fungi-specialist botanist), and a recipient of the Mycological Society of America's Distinguished Mycologist award.

His is not a well-known name within the philatelic brotherhood for he was a very private collector who never exhibited and, in spite of my urgings, never wrote a philatelic article; he always claimed he was far too busy with his mycological studies, publications and meetings. I had to respect that, though I feel he could also have enriched our hobby (and Journal), even if only on rare occasions. Though we met perhaps not more than three times, we were good correspondents for nearly 30 years, beginning in 1973, when the late Ray Smith brought us together as we three shared common philatelic interests.

These interests included (Dick's anyway) French prestamp postal history [he took great interest in the watermarks on handmade paper], Sage through Sower issues, Paris postmen's markings (*cachets de facteurs*), the Conquered Depts., plating the Classic blues, perfins, Gros Chiffres, ambulants, and booklets, coils and stationery. For all of these, and more, he had amassed a vast library. Unfortunately, he didn't inventory his holdings, which will leave his son with a formidable task. (A lesson to many or most of us?).

Dick was my friend. We had a lively correspondence and exchange of philatelic material, at least until the mid-1980s when his health began to fail, and when gold-panning overtook philately as his preferred pastime. We also got to know his lovely wife Ethel, who died prematurely in 1989. Dick has now joined that ever enlarging circle of good philatelic friends who have since passed on.

-- S. J. Luft

The Enigmatic MIRECOURT Handstamp of 1870

The two-line partial lower segment of an oval, with MIRECOURT between fleurons on the inside, is a rarity in itself on covers from Mirecourt (Vosges Dept.) of the War of 1870-1871. There are specialists who believe it to be nothing more than a fragment of some local merchant's return address. Edmond Gutekunst, on the other hand, considered it to be a legitimate **departure** postal marking, assigning "N° 103" to it in his SPAL Étude N° XVI/III. Too few covers bearing this marking are known and its postal validity has remained in question.

Recently, the cover shown here (Figure 1) went on the market (Jamet-Baudot auction N° 182 of December 2001, Lot 1876). All markings, including the return address handstamp, are in blue, though not necessarily of the same shades. In addition to the enigmatic MIRECOURT marking (vertically, at left), we see three strikes of the boxed K:PR / FELDPOST-RELAIS N°65 / 22/12 [22 December (1870)] of the Prussian sedentary postal installation at Mirecourt. All may seem well thus far, but why the 30-centimes in Occupation postage on a 1x letter [note the 2 (décimes) French tax at center, denoting a first weight band letter]? The 1x letter rate to France was only



Figure 1. (reduced to 78%)

20c. Even if the letter was sent via Switzerland (as per another hand's endorsement), that rate would still only be 25c. Additionally, with three strikes of the Feldpost-Relais N°65 **departure marking**--from the only functioning

post office in the Mirecourt area, would there have been any valid reason to have the MIRECOURT marking as an additional departure marking? Though the lot is described as confirming that the MIRECOURT marking was postally applied as a departure marking, and as the only cover known in combination with a Feldpost-Relais marking, the questionable aspects of the cover, as noted above, do require explanation.

Even more recently, Pascal Behr offered, and I purchased (69th net priced sale of May 2002) Lot 1560, a front only showing the MIRECOURT marking in combination with that same Feldpost-Relais N° 65, both in the same shade of blue and with a 28 December date (Figure 2). The 10c Occupation stamp meets the requirements for postage of a 1x letter to occupied Alsace.



Figure 2. (reduced to 82%)

This means that there are at least two existing covers bearing the MIRECOURT--Feldpost-Relais N° 65 combination. The MIRECOURT marking also exists in combination with Feldpost-Relais N° 66 which was based at Epinal to the southeast of Mirecourt; and also with the well-known POSTES / 1871 / EPINAL

circular cachet; and probably others as well. I haven't researched the matter further. I do, however, suspect the combination of MIRECOURT plus

Feldpost-Relais N° 65 would be the normal one, the Feldpost-Relais marking indicating the office and date of departure and the MIRECOURT marking being merely one of origination. Would anyone offer any comments?

-- S. J. Luft

Index to Subjects in **AMAZING 1870-1871 WONDER STORIES** by Ernst M. Cohn (FCPS #1491)

At the time this index is being compiled, 83 such stories have been written and over ¾ published thus far, the first in the FCPS *Philatelist*, Whole #236, April 1994; the second in the *Journal*, Whole #191, March 1994. Thereafter, all odd ones appeared in the *Philatelist* and even ones in the *Journal*, usually one per issue, except that none appeared in #264 and #265 of the *Philatelist* but three in #266. Because of the wide range of factual and fictitious subjects covered, I have been asked to provide an index; here it is:

1. The PARIS SC postmark's use; an SC of 5 December went via the balloon *Denis-Papin*.

2. Card pmkd. 28 Sept., franked 30 centimes to England, forwarded by wife or mother of a German lieutenant. He claimed the balloon carrying the card had been shot down. Cards bearing full postage were not to be sent on unmanned balloons — but perhaps this one was, by mistake? Postscript 2A (in *Journal* 198) mentions that card belongs to Prof. Robert Jacquot.

3. Faked balloon covers to Russia; French translation in *Feuilles Marcophiles* #287 (1996).

4. Cover addressed within greater Paris, described as having been taken by a smuggler. Also, the bogus cachet *Trouvée à La Courneuve*; a post-war printing of Maury's massed-flags form; letters ascribed to wrong balloons.

5. Letter personally entrusted to Glachant of balloon *Rouget de l'Isle*, together with one written by Glachant just after landing near La Ferté Macé on 24 December.

6. Heydl, rue Basse du Rampart 56, is reported (via London and pigeogram of January) to be paying spies at Paris. Also, the US diplomats traveling to and from Paris are reported to be active in the black market and to furnish information to Bismarck; however, their trips had been made on 2-3 and 8-10 October, about a quarter year earlier.

7. A Maury card for the war, but printed afterwards, unused, offered for \$200.

8. Scarcity of mail really flown on the *Armand Barbès* and how to determine that, also for *Général Uhrich*.

9. The 'standard' formats of *papillons de Metz* by the first and second unmanned balloon mails.

10. Complaint about plagiarism concerning 1870 in French philatelic literature.

11. Pigeons on roof of National Library don't prove authenticity of *Trouvée à La Courneuve*.

12. Balloon battle of besieged Paris - and what is wrong with it.

13. Photo of Government of National Defense of 4 Sept. 1870, how not to write history, and some details on US pouch mail in siege.

14. The Brinquaut correspondence, partly by diplomatic pouch, by balloon, and by smuggler; and the *Times* agony column.

15. Proof that *L'Ami de la France* was flown out of Paris during siege.

16. Did *La Bretagne* carry Paris mail and, if so, what kind?

17. Newspaper reporters at Metz in 1870.

18. Seven characteristics of Paris letters for assigning them to specific balloons. (partly reprinted in *Philatelist* #248).

19. Dr. Van Hecke's imaginative recollections of the Siege of Paris.

20. Newspaper reporters at Paris in 1870.

21. More evidence of German political censorship of balloon mail in 1870.

22. *Jacquard* mail with Rev. Jackson's slip, and 'cheese labels' on Commune mail.

23. Some positive and negative highlights of CAPEX 96.
24. Expertizing postal history over the phone - when it is possible and when not.
25. Paris mail posted by Colonel Claremont from London.
26. Immediate postwar mail to and from Beaugency concerning help given by Americans.
27. Domestic cards flown promptly from Paris on manned balloons starting with *Jean Bart 2*.
28. The unsuccessful subfluvial mail, unrealized hot-air balloon project, and the only successful Belfort balloon.
29. Two-way bottle mail on the Moselle, a Metz balloon joke in the Brussels park, and some imitation pigeon mail.
30. The 1870 rocket mail patent.
31. Historical mistakes about 1870 in Grolier's encyclopedia.
32. Colonel Foy's note by *Neptune* to Château-la-Vallière arrived on 26 Sept.
33. Letter from French POW at Mainz, properly censored and marked free, faked by addition of occupation stamps (not valid in Germany proper) postmarked at Mainz.
34. German confusion of *réveillon* with *rebellion*; internment of 57 German soldiers at Bad Gonten, Switzerland, upon crossing the border of Switzerland in pursuit of French soldiers.
35. Austrian censor's mark on 1870 Paris balloon letter, NOT from WWI but from WWII, as corrected by J. T. Carrigan in *Philatelist* #254, p. 114.
36. The *ballon monté* of 20 Oct to Jerusalem — two photos showing different stamps attached to it. I thought it was addressed to Dr. London but D. Jennings-Bramley pointed out that the name is Landau (*Journal* #209, pp. 150-151). Though the pair of stamps had been recognized as forgeries before, this cover had a place of honor at the Jerusalem 3000 exhibition in December '95.
37. More details about how cards *bearing reduced postage* were handled in the Siege of Paris, available since October 1870 but overlooked by philatelists.
38. The printed slip purporting to be used for packages of *papillons de Metz* and proof that it is bogus.
39. Bogus Baden censorship marking on a Paris balloon cover and genuine misprint 'In Slchettstad vorgfunden' (addendum in *Philatelist* #255, p. 21).
40. Further details about scarcity of mail from *Armand-Barbès*.
41. A genuinely used Maury card with massed flags and slogans — postmarked at Tours in 1876!
42. Dangers of scissors-and-paste job, in this case about pigeon mail.
43. Why the 1870 war was *not* a Franco-Prussian War, as proven, e.g., by a Baden postal card sent postage-free by a French POW; conclusive historical truth, and how it can be changed, as shown by gratis labels with faked cancels.
44. The *Yvert Aérienne* fable about an unchronicled balloon of 4 October and the empty promise of an advertisement for a private balloon on that date, which was to carry passengers and private packages; also the 'secret' balloon of Metz that never existed; and the untruths told by the balloonists on the *Piper 1* that gave rise, much later, to the bogus marking *Trouvée à La Courneuve*.
45. The Carter-to-Cram correspondence and instructions on how to send mail by US pouch.
46. A quiz on 1870 postal history (see also 50).
47. Facts and (mostly) fancies seen at Philexfrance 99.
48. The siege of Neuf Brisach and how to settle some 1870 questions by using a modern postal code directory (zip code directory).
49. A dice game on the Franco-German War.
50. Augustine Fitzgerald's collection containing 1870 airmail material ranging from rarities to fakes, described in *The notebook of an Amateur Collector of Early Souvenirs of the Airpost Together with a few rarities from the Siege of Metz and the Siege of Paris*. Also result of the quiz (see 46).
51. Inventor and promoters of the *dépêche-réponse* card, their types and use.
52. Bourbaki's suicide and other mistakes of history.
53. Arrest of de Raynal at Versailles.

54. From the *Deutsche Briefmarken-Zeitung* of 1870/1871.
55. Letter dated 3 October to *Figaro's* editor misjudging accumulated mail at Paris.
56. Secret French telegraph and fables of its betrayal to Germans.
57. Smugglers, honest and otherwise, in the siege of Paris.
58. More details about political censorship of balloon mail in 1870.
59. Only letter known to have been destined for the *Union*, which could not be inflated. Hence the letter was entrusted to Duruof and flew on the *Neptune*.
60. Paris travel permit from just before Siege, and Victor Silberer's trip to and from Paris just around the start of the Siege.
61. Some 1870 absurdities in a 1997 German TV magazine.
62. Mail from the *Garibaldi*; Krupp's anti-aircraft canon, first of its kind.
63. The probable postal history of a misrouted letter that first went north from Alsace-Lorraine and was then sent south to Lyon.
64. Certificate of authenticity for a so-called *Neptune* which, in fact, was a cover smuggled out of Paris, i.e., case of an authentic letter but wrongly expertized. Also table showing details of official letter smuggling between 20 September and early October.
65. Fabled balloons to Iceland and to Natal, the latter reported in 1873. The balloonist de Fonvielle, of modest aeronautical talents but a big talker, fell for the Natal story but was told later that it was a joke.
66. Siege of Paris card dated by writer 3 October but carrying a Paris mailing date of 3 May, no year visible. Was the card temporarily lost? Was it a joke?
67. (US) Thanksgiving in besieged Paris, accounts by Bowles and Sheppard.
68. German auction offer of a forged so-called *Neptune* cover estimated at DM 120,000 + 21½%. One doesn't have to see the original to recognize it as a forgery, because the address side is imprinted PAR BALLON MONTE. That phrase was not published in the *Journal Officiel* until four (4) days after that balloon had left Paris. It supposedly came with certificates by both von der Weid (Swiss) and Djismardahoss (French); both may be faked, of course.
69. Some years ago I was offered a letter "from Paris, by diplomatic pouch" that was neither; I bought it anyhow, because it looked quite interesting. It originated in Vierzon on 3 Jan. 1871, went by night train Paris-Calais on 10 Jan., and arrived at London on 11 January, where it received a red OFFICIAL — PAID marking. The letter originated from Doherty, 'The Royal Blood' and is addressed to the Secretary of State for the War Office.
70. Report on a Roumet auction containing a cover with the political censorship marking of balloon mail (French inscription); a letter via the *Bretagne* and postmarked at Fresnes-en-Woëvre; a cover probably carried by the *Général Uhrich*; and the strange mix-up of mail between the *Ville d'Orléans* and the *Jacquard*.
71. Brian Birch supplied photocopies of the following amazing and amusing ancient stories: - Ralph Wedmore translated a 1909 talk to the Paris Historical Society by Count Paul Durrieu about his father, born at Strasbourg, who mistakenly felt familiar with German and offered to translate Maury's noble phrases that were printed bilingually on stationery (cards and folded letters), most of which was produced well after the war. Finally, we learn who wrote the 'German' version that undoubtedly made many German soldiers laugh — if they read it. — Another revelation is provided by a commentator about the 1870 war in general and about the 'balons montes' in particular, all quite entertaining even if there is not a bit of truth to it.
72. The naming of the balloon *Le Général Renault*, its landing time, extended duration of delivery of its mail, and travels of aeronauts after landing.
73. Mail of German prisoners of war at Paris.
74. Texts of actual balloon letters referring to the mails.
75. Balloon mail on horseback - a cartoon.
76. Bigsby's amazing (false) information in an old sales list.
77. Another collection of Brian Birch's photocopies of amazing non-facts, some in amazing non-English as well.

78. Description of the first (and thus far only) empty cover that contained a letter via *Jacquard*, postpaid with a penny stamp and forwarded from Helston (3 Dec.) to Dover (5 Dec.).

79. Proof that NO mail from the *Piper 1*, which probably contained not a single card, was ever returned to Paris. Also, the two entirely different fates of two letters known to have been given to Monsignor Chigi for forwarding out of Paris.

80. German rules for free soldiers' and prisoners' mail in 1870/1871.

81. Details of a *Neptune* cover, written by the same man who intended to send an earlier letter by the *Union*, though that also went via the *Neptune*.

82. Open censorship of civilian mail — first practiced in the 1870 war?

83. 93rd SOLUPHIL sale lots 553 (Belfort 'balloon' withdrawn), 479 (balloon letter of 5 Nov. to Baroness Rothschild, similar to US pouch letter for her), 478 (Roseleur letter via *Fulton* and brief notes on Roscleur mail generally).

MEMBERS' APPEALS

FOR SALE: French Africa stamps and covers collection, over 90% complete, in 11 Scott Specialty binders. Stops at independence. 99%+ OG, most hinged. Hundreds of covers and postcards too. Many rarities, often signed or with certificates. Scott 2000 cat. value of listed stamps exceeds \$40,000. Prefer single sale, inquire for details. Kenneth R. Nilsestuen, 1000 Kingswood Drive, Akron, OH 44313; e-mail: krn1000@aol.com (Mb. #1990).

OFFER: The *Study Group for Airmail Rates in French Colonies to 1945* is offering its 16-page Newsletter 13 for \$2.00 (US) in mint stamps or cash to cover copying and postage. The information consists of numerous tables showing pre-1946 airmail rates from France to most other parts of the world, derived from earlier published sources. Also useful for determining rates from the Colonies. (British members should contact Bill Mitchell). From Robert Picirilli, 301 Greenway Ave., Nashville, TN 37205. (Mb. #2381).

WANTED: To trade, buy or sell quantities of (1) used France Scott 15 (Yvert 14) and Scott 58 (Yvert 60); and (2) perfins of France and colonies. Gilbert Loisel, 13 rue des Sources, F-89500 Villeneuve-sur-Yonne, France, e-mail: gilbert.loisel@worldonline.fr (Mb. #877).

OFFERS: Philatelic periodicals from the Richard Benjamin estate (Mb. #1120). *Le Monde des Philatelistes* (May '72-July '85) and *L'Echo de la Timbrologie* (1972-1984), believed complete, for the price of packing and shipping. *France & Colonies Philatelist* (1969-2001) for \$120(US) plus shipping to US or Canada. *Documents Philateliqes* (#1, 1959-#170, 2001) believed complete: \$850(US) postpaid in US or Canada. Only requests for full runs, as described, will be considered; please don't ask for individual numbers. Contact Paul A. Nelson, APS, P.O. Box 310, Claremont, CA 91711; e-mail: pnels@worldnet.att.net E-mail contact preferred first.

OFFERS: A number of specialized France collections from the Richard Benjamin estate (Mb. # 1120). (1) Classic "Blues": many separate albums of plating studies, of covers, of cancels, and etc.; (2) Coil stamps, off and on cover, to near recent times; (3) complete Booklets incl. Some better earlyies; (4) big written-up collection of France prestamp covers, with study of markings and with emphasis on the watermarks present on the paper (one of Dick's passions, worthy of being continued and perhaps published) with reference material; (5) Sage to Sowers collections; (6) much other mainly later material, in process of being inventoried. A wonderful opportunity to obtain some of Dick's meticulously collected and described material, for augmenting your own collections or to start a new specialty for yourself. For details, contact Paul A. Nelson [see previous offer, above; e-mail preferred].

QUESTIONS AND ANSWERS

- Q. 02.3.** The precursor postal card (Figure 1) shown here does not appear to have been listed in ACEP, Storch & Françon, nor Higgins & Gage. It differs from similar catalogued ones in lacking parentheses around *Loi du...*, the 6th line of *Lorsque...* is *son*, and there are minuscule differences in the ornate borders and corners. If not an uncatalogued variety, it might be a privately-printed card, though these last generally bear the name, etc. of printer along bottom margin. Any suggestions are welcome. (JPG).
- Q. 02.4.** I have encased postage, with a French 5c green Sower; the casing reads Musée Océanographique [of Monaco] around the outer circumference, with a large red 5 [the denomination] in center, and the words Aquarium de Monaco with, at bottom a small B^{te} S.G.D.G. at bottom. Can anyone advise what the "B^{te} S.G.D.G." stands for? Possibly the manufacturer of the "coin"? (JMM).
- A. 02.2.** These, from our British brethren (courtesy of Bill Mitchell), are probably more correct than the one given by your Editor in the April 2002 issue. Michael Ensor feels that, rather being censored, the envelope was opened for Exchange Control purposes. Bob Maddocks, expanding upon this, referred to a British Customs practice of making random checks of incoming mail for illegal or dutiable goods, suggesting that the French may have done the same to check on whether sender was mailing bank notes or stamps, contrary to regulations. Maddocks does also consider that censorship might also have been involved, the French having kept a close watch on possible subversives, including students.

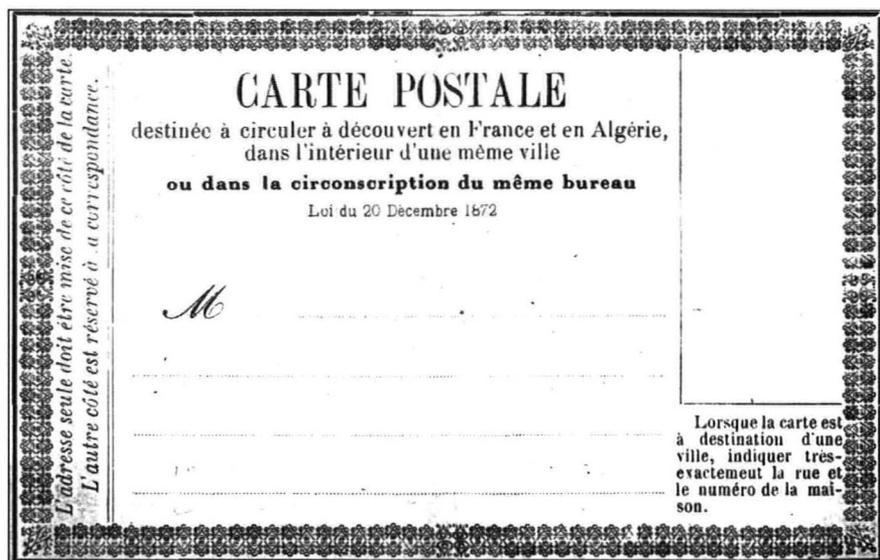


Figure 1.

SOME SHOW REPORTS

(Continued from N° 268, April 2002, p. 57)

- COLOPEX 2002 (Columbus, OH, February 2002): Reserve Grand Award and Gold medal to Paul Larsen for "German Togo 1885-1914"; our *Philatelist* for Year 2001 (vol. 67) received a Vermeil medal.
- St. Louis Stamp Expo 2002 (St. Louis, March): Grand Award, Gold medal, and Display Champion Award to Cheryl Ganz for "Come take a ride in the 'Hindenburg'". Surely the first time a Display Class exhibit has won the Grand at a WSP show. Congratulations to our zeppelin-specialist member!
- ROPEX 2002 (Rochester, NY, March): Gold medal to Paul Larsen for "German Togo 1885-1914"
- TEXPEX 2002 (Dallas, April): Vermeil medal to Eliot Landau for a U.S. Lincoln exhibit; Silver medal to Bob Kinsley for "France - Stampless, 1560s-1860s."
- WESTPEX 2002 (San Francisco, April): Gold medal to Klerman Wanderley Lopes for "France, emissions de 1849 à 1869"; Vermeil medals to Lewis Bussey for his exhibit of the 1898 U.S. Jefferson card, and to Ross Wood (apparently not a member) for "French New Hebrides Definitives."
- The Plymouth Show 2002 (Plymouth, Mich., April): Gold medal to Peter Smith for "The Hotels of Egypt and their Post Offices"; Vermeil medal to Steve Washburne for "Portuguese Christmas Postal Cards." Paul Larsen served on the jury.
- OKPEX 2002 (Oklahoma City, May): Gold medal to Paul Larsen for "German Togo 1885-1914."
- Rocky Mountain Stamp Show (formerly ROMPEX) 2002 (Denver, May): Gold medals to Peter Thy [I've only just learned he's a member, and I'm sorry for not mentioning any previously earned awards] for "Bechuanaland Postal Stationery" and to your editor for "Paris Postal Markings 1863-1876" and single-frame "France: The Railway Transfer Offices"; Vermeil medal to Peter Smith for "French Post Offices in Egypt, 1798-1899"; Silver medals to Bob Kinsley for "Spanish Civil War Refugees in France," and to Peter Smith for "Postage Due in Southern Africa." Dave Herendeen served on the jury. And I must point with some pride that the jury handed out a total of 27 Golds and 19 Vermeils--possibly all-time highs at a WSP show (other than APS Stampshow, of course).

FOR THE RECORD

(Continued from #268, April 2002, p. 58)

- > **819.)** Rarity or forgery? The olive green imperforate (i.e., Colonies General Issues) Sage diagonally overprinted **ST. PIERRE M** - on once had its place in the catalogues. The 1904 Yvert catalogue stated that 50 stamps were so overprinted late in 1891. As time passed, it was denounced as a trickery or, at best, an unissued essay. But now J.-J. Tillard, expert on SPM philately, states that this stamp (Figure 1) is absolutely authentic and that it should rightfully be returned to catalogue status. Any comments?
- > **820.)** Franco-Egyptian maritime mail via British packets of the pre-UPU 1872-1875 period, if so annotated on fronts of letters, went by way of Brindisi, Italy rather than via Marseille, this routing saving a full day's journey. However, the 80-centimes per 10 gm British packet rate, in effect 1

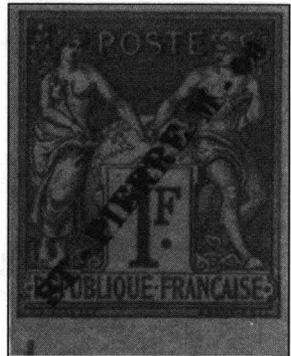


Figure 1.

January 1871, and French packet rate, in effect 1 July 1871, was not applicable to mail via Brindisi. Such mail, transiting via Modane and the Mont Cenis, to Brindisi and thence by ship to Alexandria, Egypt, was charged 1F20 per 10 gm. This apparently little-known fact has been documented by Arnaud de La Mettrie (*Timbres Magazine*, March 2001), and others before him. The type 15 date stamp used for this service reads **PAQ.ANGL/ ALEXANDRIE**.

- **821.)** Perforated initials (perfin) **WP**, for Wojsko Polskie, (Figure 2) on French postage stamps in current use in Spring 1940, served on official mail from Polish forces in France. Period of use was very brief, from 3 May to 5 (or 10) June 1940. Except for the 50c rose-red Paix of Laurens (2800 copies) only 40 to 750 of each design and value were so perforated. All known cancelled copies show the date stamp PARIS R.P. / AFFRANCHISSEMENTS, mostly of the horoplan type [with time and date on one line, and year 1940 at bottom]. Upon retreat and embarkation for England, the perforating machine and leftover stamps and documents were dumped into the Gulf of Gascony [Bay of Biscay]. (From article by Jacques Riboulet, in *L'Echo de la Timbrologie*, March 2001).



Figure 2.

- **822.)** On 17 August 1951, rotative Press 7 was used in the morning to print a red 12F Tunisian stamp. Once that press run was completed, the Tunisian plate was cleaned and removed, the press was in turn cleaned, and prior to the end of the day, a small run was made of the green 6F Marianne de Gandon. Figure 3 shows *coins datés* from Press 7 for that day.



Figure 3.

- **823.)** Thanks to Guy Duteau, writing in *L'Echo de la Timbrologie* (N° 1750, March 2002), we learn the significance of manuscript "**RN**"s followed by a number (Figure 4) on prestamp 19th Century mail from Eastern Europe (specifically Moldavia in the article). These are cholera-disinfection notations, the "**RN**" standing for "Raücher Nummer," The number being the one placed in the registry at the town where Moldavian mail entered the Austro-Hungarian Empire. These notations, discussed long ago by Karl Mayer in his *Disinfected Mail*, are generally found on the back of letters, and appear to have been consecutively numbered from January to December of each year.

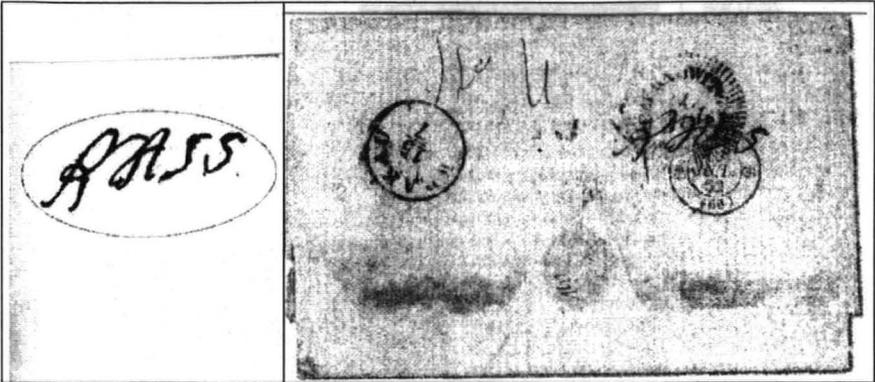


Figure 4 (RN55) cover. (reduced to 84%)

ANNOUNCEMENTS AND NEWS

- Some French stamps, other than the Marianne definitives, were also issued in 2001 with phosphor bands. These larger format stamps (and the list may not be exhaustive) include the 3,00F Vacations (sheets and booklets), 4,50F J.P. Bloch, 3,00F + 0,60F Red Cross (sheets only), 3,00F Happy New Year and 3,00F Best Wishes (sheets and booklets), and the Council of Europe and UNESCO twosomes. The official reason given for this addition to larger-format stamps is protection of revenue.
- Ron Bentley has an interesting, well illustrated article on the little-known and now assuredly very rare formules for relaying radio transmissions from families in France to its interned (or worse) French troops in Japanese-occupied Indo-China (*The Indo-China Philatelist*, N° 150, November 2001). According to Ron, up to four brief messages could be received annually from



Figure 1. (reduced to 90%)

France, by the troops. The front of such a letter-card formule, printed in Hanoi, is shown in Figure 1.

- Ed Grabowski has been elected Vice-President of the Collectors Club of New York.
- Jean-François Brun poses an interesting little challenge in *Documents Philatéliques*, N° 170 (2001). In effect, he demonstrates that contemporary sources, even documents, can be erroneous when it comes to details and dates. One should consider the source of this (mis)information before accepting it as gospel truth. Of course, our own *Amazing 1870-1871 Wonder Stories'* Ernst Cohn has been saying this all along, regarding newspaper accounts, memoirs, etc. of the War of 1870-1871.
- G.-P. Cuny, specialist in and author of many important articles, mainly on the post-1876 postal and administrative markings of Paris, passed away Summer 2001 at the age of 87.
- During the 1870-1871 Siege of Paris, postal money orders (*mandats de poste*) could be and were sent between besieged Paris and the provinces. The formulæ were photo-reduced and taken out by carrier pigeons or other available means. This service was authorized 10 November 1870 by the Government of National Defense at Bordeaux. The maximum amount allowed was 300 francs. (From article by Raymond Sené in *Feuilles Marcophiles*, N° 307, 2001). The number of *mandats* thus transmitted must have been minimal, and very few formulæ or other evidence are known to exist.
- As an addendum to Colin Spong's review of mail from French POWs in British Africa (N° 260, April 2000, pp. 41-44) we show an Italian formule card that had been salvaged by the British, and written at Camp 365 in Kenya by a French officer to his family in southern France (Figure 2). The item was described by Claude Ablard in *Feuilles Marcophiles*, N° 307 (2001). Written 25 Sept. 1943, it reached France 21 Jan. 1944, bearing two British POW Camp markings and two German censor and transmittal ones. M. Ablard believes transit was as follows: Camp 365 to Nairobi, to Madagascar (under British military control) to neutral Portugal to Bordeaux (German censored there) to Avignon destination.

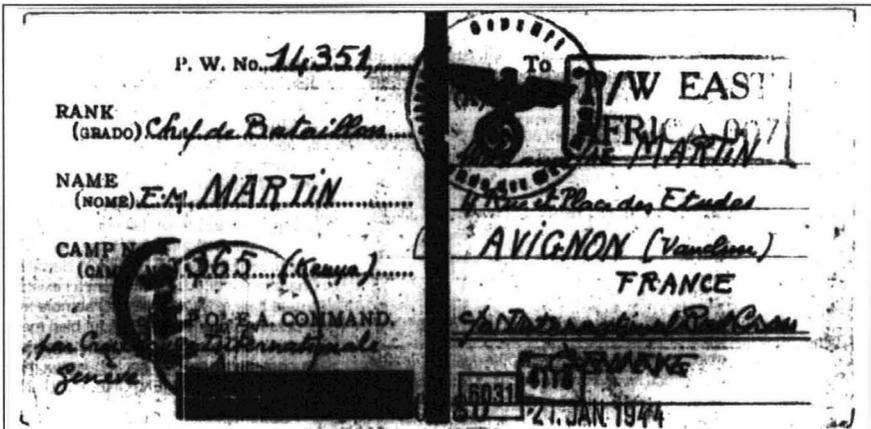


Figure 2. (reduced to 74%)

- Thus far, little has appeared in the philatelic press regarding the somewhat minimal French contribution to the military action in Afghanistan ("Operation Enduring Freedom"). Several small combat and support vessels were ordered to the region on 21 November 2001. Shortly thereafter, using code names *Héraklès*, they were followed by a battle group led by the brand-new carrier *Charles de Gaulle* (possibly not as yet fully equipped) and its escort of three frigates, an oiler and a nuclear-powered submarine. Bureau

Postal Militaire (BPM) 240 was opened 8 January 2002 in Kabul to serve the postal needs of the small French military and humanitarian presence in that sector.

- The "*Festung Lorient*" overprints continue to plague the unwary. Robert Charbonnier (in *Coll. Phil. et Marco.*, N° 132, October 2001) clearly indicates they were made for collectors, most likely after the German 1945 pockets had collapsed, and that covers are fabrications with back-dated cancels. The overprint has even shown up on a U.S.-produced Arch of Triumph stamp! No French catalog will list this "issue". Why waste your cash on these, at best, souvenirs?
- Of course, this information is way too late for now, but what about next year? For a very thrifty albeit thoughtful Valentine's Day gift to your sweetie, why not obtain an envelope from the Directeur de La Poste of F-36100 Saint-Valentin with the town's date stamp.
- The Djibouti post office in the French Somali Coast faced a shortage of certain stamp values in 1901-1902. This was resolved by various means: overprinting existing stocks, bisecting stamps to halve their face value, and making use of the Obock stamps that had been brought to Djibouti when the Obock post office was closed. Whether philatelically inspired or commercially used, few covers bearing combinations of these provisionals still exist.
- The library of the Musée de la Poste (Paris) is open only on Tuesdays, Wednesdays and Thursdays, and from 10 a.m. until 6 p.m. For more information, check their internet site at <http://www.laposte.fr/musee>
- Jacques Merot, listed as a consultant in the 2002 Yvert tome 2, Pt. 1 [pre-Independence colonies, etc.], takes the catalog and its publishers to task. He states there are too many errors of omission and commission, in spite of numerous available published articles on certain issues. M. Merot considers this work to be a price list rather than a true catalog, and a not very good one at that.
- The Académie de Philatélie has elected Robert Abensur (a member of our Society) as its new president; Jean-François Brun becomes honorary (= past-) president.
- Several panes of the new (issued 8-11 February 2002), 5,00€ The Colors of Marianne in Euros sheetlet, printed in nine colors, have been found with only eight colors, the upper left stamp being completely blank (Figure 3). Apparently, the green ink for this 0,41€ value had run out before this was discovered and rectified.
- André Sinais died in February at the age of 80. He was a long-time Paris stamp dealer, associated for a time with the Calves firm. He



Figure 3.

- was an early advocate of the then unfashionable specialty of postal history. His well-known son, Bernard, has most successfully continued on this course.
- More junk for sale. Jim Taylor, editor of the *St. Pierre & Miquelon Philatelic Journal*, complains in its April 2002 issue about the abundance of forgeries, improbable fantasies (i.e., unknown inverted centers of bicolored stamps), and bogus overprints on SP&M stamps, as well as those of some other French colonies. These are showing up on eBay and, by inference, other sites. Sellers include "atdinvest," "futete," "unlimitedstamps" and "cclan." They're usually offered as valuable "classic forgeries," unrecorded varieties, or just plain "as is." Most are crudely made and readily detectable on one's screen, but others may be more challenging. Anyway and as usual, buyer beware!

NEW ISSUES AND WITHDRAWALS

(Continued from N° 268, April 2002, p. 62)

France (all values expressed in € = euros)

- 2 January 2002: Precancels (orchids) 0,29 0,33;
- 8 (11) February: The Colors of Marianne in Euros, sheetlets at 3,88 [values of coins] and 5,00 [values of postage]; 1,02 Art of Gustav Klimt;
- 16 (18) February: 0,58 Alain Bosquet (1919-1998);
- 23 (25) February: 0,46 "It's a Girl," 0,46 "It's a Boy," 0,69 "Yes";
- 2 (4) March: 0,46 The Circus [EUROPA];
- 16 (18) March: Stamp Day semi-postal "Boule et Bill" [cartoon characters]: sheet stamps at 0,46, sheetlet with one stamp at 0,46 + 0,09, and 3,95 booklet of five stamps at 0,46 and three stamps at 0,46 + 0,09;
- 22 (25) March: 0,46 Roman Arena at Nîmes;
- 23 (25) March: 20th Century Transportation sheet of ten stamps (five different designs) at 0,46 each;
- 4 (5) April: 0,46 and 0,79 Baudin-Flinders 1802 expeditions to Australia [joint issue with Australia];
- 6 (8) April: 0,46 Anniversary and 0,46 Invitation "semi-permanent" stamps; 0,46 La Charité-sur-Loire (Nievre Dept.);
- 13 (15) April: 100th Paris-Roubaix bicycle road race;
- 27 (29) April: 1,02 Art of Fernando Botero; World Football (soccer) Championships: two at 0,46 se-tenant;
- 4 (6) May: Nature of France [Marine animals]: 0,41 turtle, 0,46 dolphin, 0,46 orca, 0,69 seal, and 2,02 sheetlet of the four stamps;
- 17 (21) May: 0,46 75th Congress of French Federation of philatelic associations (Marseille);
- 18 (21) May: 4,60 sheetlet of five diptychs of the 27 (29) April World Football Championships; 0,46 Bicent. of Legion of Honor;
- 25 (27) May: 0,46 Louis Delgrès (1766-1802); 0,46 Rocamadour (Lot Dept.).

Withdrawals: 8 March 2002: St. Valentine stamp of Ch. Lacroix, It's a Boy, It's a Girl, Nogent-le-Rotrou, Besançon (Doubs), Europa (water conservation), the old town of Lyon, 74th Congress of Philatelic Associations, Jean Vilar, Calais, Cent. of Law of 1 July 1901, Chateau de Grignan, Best wishes for 2000, Good Year 2000, good vacations [all at 3,00F]; 4,50F Metallurgy, 4,50F Albert Caquot, 4,50F Yes. 12 April: 3,00F deer and 3,00F hedgehog [Forest Animals of 2001], Popular Singer set of six at 3,00F, the 3,00F Euro stamp and booklet of ten, 4,50F Geneva Convention for Refugees, 4,50F Pierre de Fermat, 6,70F Hôtel of Knights of St. John.

Andorra (all values expressed in euros)

- 25 January 2002: 0,69 Traffic-safety education in schools;
- 4 February: 0,58 Salt Lake City Winter Olympics;
- 18 March: 0,46 Rosaleda Hotel;

- 22 March: 0,67 World Day of Water;
- 10 May: 0,46 the Circus [EUROPA].
- Withdrawals:** 8 March 2002: 2,70F *Campanula cochlearifolia*; 12 April: 3,00F EUROPA 2001, 3,00F raspberry, 3,80F World Book Day, 4,40F geai.
- French Austral and Antarctic Terrs. (TAAF)**
- 17 February 2002: 0,46€ transition to the Euro (penguins).
- Withdrawals:** all January 2001 issues.
- French Polynesia**
- 12 February 2002: 130F Chinese Year of the Horse; 55F and 85F Felicitations; 55F and 85F Happy Holidays;
- 9 March: 100F and 180F 10th World Va'a (outrigger canoes) Championships;
- 18 April: Underwater Fauna: 35F, 50F, 90F, 120F (sea urchins).
- Withdrawals:** 1 April 2002: 85F New Millennium, 120F Hitimano, Traditional artisanship (two at 85F), 90F and 180F Peaks above 2000 meters, 120F and 250F Traditional sports.
- Mayotte** (all values expressed in euros)
- 1 January 2002: Marianne de Luquet euros definitives overprinted MAY-OTTE: 15 values, from 0,01 to 2,00; 0,46 departmental collectivity;
- 25 March: 0,41 athleticism; 1,52 Kaweni Mangrove.
- Withdrawals:** 1 April 2002: 3,00F sailboat ("boutre"), 3,00F Lagoon island, 3,00F children racing tires, 5,20F whales, 5,20F Rotary Club's "Inner Wheel," 5,40F Tomb of Sultan Andriantsouli, 8,20F sheetlet of Women of Mayotte.
- Monaco** (all values expressed in euros)
- 16 January 2002: Automobile Club of Monaco, 1,07 and 1,22, in sheetlet at 2,29;
- 8 February: Salt Lake City Winter Olympics se-tenant pair at 0,23 each; 0,64 Cent. of Museum of Prehistoric Anthropology; 100th Anniv. of publication of "La Carriere d'un Navigateur";
- 18 February: 0,70 Bicent. Of the Legion of Honor; 0,69 400th Birth Anniv. of Cardinal Mazarin; 0,75 ACCOBAMS (stylized whale);
- 21 March: 0,76 Leonardo da Vinci; 0,99 Inter. Dog show.
- Withdrawals:** 4 February 2002: 3,80F Inter. Bouquet Competition.
- New Caledonia**
- 7 February 2002: 100F Year of the Horse, and 140F sheetlet showing 70F horse's head and 70F seahorse;
- 13 February: 100F Valentine's Day [pair of amorous bats];
- 21 March: 100F sport of cricket;
- 2 April: 70F World championships of "Hobie Cat 16" [catamaran sailing?];
- 11 April: Noumea Aquarium: tortoises block of two at 30F and two at 70F on tortoise-shaped sheetlet.
- Withdrawals:** 1 April 2002: 100F Voh mangrove swamp, 100F French Red Cross, 100F Year 2000 Jubilee, 110F Queen Hortense, 130F Antoine de Saint-Exupéry airmail, 90F and 105F Territorial museum, Nouméa Aquarium (three at 70F), philately at school (three at 70F), 10F 30F 80F and 100F Sydney Olympics, 280F block of four for Pacific Arts Festival, Regional landscapes (three at 100F), good wishes stamps (three at 100F), 500F Barnheim Library.
- St. Pierre & Miquelon** (all values expressed in euros)
- 27 February 2002: 0,58 apples of the meadow;
- 7 March: 0,46 common seal and 0,87 gray seal;
- 25 March: 0,79 Laranaga Farm;
- 24 April: 0,26 and 0,30 mending fishing nets;
- 22 May: 2,50 monk puffin;
- 19 June: 0,75 The Western Point;
- 10 July: 0,46 traditional codfish dish.
- Withdrawals:** 31 December 2001: 3,00F Hurrah for the 21st Century.
- Wallis & Futuna**
- 28 December 2001: 325F Burial site of first Futuna king;

- > 29 January 2002: 115F Finemui-Teesi College;
- > 5 March: 800F World Women's Day;
- > 19 April: 500F emblem of Monsignor Pompallier [1st bishop of western Oceania].

Withdrawals: 1 April 2002: 200F I.E.O.M., 205F Talietuma site, 225F Noël, 275F reforestation or flood control ("tarodières"), 330F Pacific Arts Festival; 340F Sydney Olympics block of four, fish (three at 115F), 350F airmail for first aerial transport, 380F Canonization of St. Champagnat.

F.C.P.S. OFFICIAL

PRESIDENT'S LETTER

This is probably the only time I will be able to announce that the Board has voted to reduce dues, at least for some members. Beginning for the year 2003, we are eliminating the category of "resident" membership. Currently resident members receive mail notices of the Society's monthly meetings at the Collectors Club of New York. They have been paying higher dues to cover the cost of sending those notices. Currently, we plan to continue holding the monthly meetings, but, after the end of 2002, meeting notices will no longer be sent automatically. Any member may receive notices of the meetings, by contacting the President or the Corresponding Secretary; if sent by e-mail, there will be no charge; if sent through the post office, the notices will cost \$5.00 per year.

Elsewhere in this issue, you will find the Society's Financial Statement for 2001. As would be hoped, in the first year after a dues increase the Society had a surplus in its General Fund. This surplus was large enough to offset the small deficit left from 2000, and provide a small reserve. The best way to maintain this positive financial picture will be to recruit new members.

I invite all of you who attend APS Stampshow 2002 to stop at the Society table, and say hello. If you see me "busy" with my laptop computer, please do not be concerned about interrupting. Inventorying and writing up covers is intended only for the time when I am alone at the table. RMS

APS STAMPSHOW 2002

The France & Colonies Philatelic Society will have a table at APS Stampshow 2002, which is being held August 15-18 at the Atlantic City Convention Center, Atlantic City, N.J. The President, Dick Stevens, will be there throughout the show, and other officers, including Walter Parshall and Ed Grabowski, at least part of the time. The Society will not hold any formal meeting, or present any talks. Thursday evening we will go together to a nearby restaurant. Anyone who wishes to join us for this informal dinner is urged to contact Dick Stevens or Ed Grabowski in advance; however, a final sign-up sheet will be at the Society table on Thursday.

GERARD GILBERT MEMORIAL AWARD FOR 2001

The Gerard Gilbert Memorial Award is presented annually for the best contribution to the philatelic literature of France and Colonies in English. We are pleased to make the award for 2001 to David L. Herendeen for his book *The Parcel Post Stamps of the Ivory Coast*. A review of this book may be found on page 122 of the October 2001 issue of this magazine.

TREASURER'S REPORT

FRANCE & COLONIES PHILATELIC SOCIETY, INC CASH FLOW. 1/1/01 THROUGH 12/31/01

INFLOWS

Dues-Income:	
2001.....	8,620.55
TOTAL Dues-Income	8,620.55
Int. Inc.613.63
Publications	
Back Issues	125.50

Bordeaux	31.50
Commune	96.00
Depts Conquis	5.00
Gabon-Congo	10.00
General Issues	14.00
Glossary	22.00
Index	35.00
Ink Color	6.00
Lozenges.....	19.00
Luft III	10.00
Transport Marks	5.00
TOTAL Publications.....	379.00
TOTAL INFLOWS.....	9,613.18
OUTFLOWS	
Bad Check	22.00
Exhibitions	100.00
Gifts.....	37.89
Linn's Ad	292.00
Meetings	108.51
Philatelist:	
Editor	211.22
Labels.....	239.43
Magazine.....	6,567.97
TOTAL Philatelist	7,018.62
Secretary:	
Corresponding	600.00
Recording	0.00
TOTAL Secretary	600.00
Treasurer	68.00
TOTAL OUTFLOWS.....	8,247.02
OVERALL TOTAL	1,366.16
ASSETS (As of 12/31/01)	
Cash and Bank Accounts	
F&C Saving	20,953.49
F&C Cash	0.00
F&C Checking	6,067.67
TOTAL Cash and Bank Accounts	27,021.16
TOTAL ASSETS	27,021.16
LIABILITIES & EQUITY	
LIABILITIES	
Other Liabilities	
Prepaid Dues	5,944.00
Spiegel Fund	1,242.29
Vaurie Fund	19,189.23
TOTAL Other Liabilities	26,375.52
TOTAL LIABILITIES.....	26,375.52
EQUITY	645.64
TOTAL LIABILITIES & EQUITY	27,021.16

Respectfully submitted, William W. Wallis, Treasurer

February 24, 2002

NEW MEMBERS

- 3264 MARSHALL, CRAIG, 17022 "M" Street, Omaha, NE 68135. (General Collector: All Issues. General France: Mint - Used - On Cover.)
- 3265 SELLWOOD, JACKSON S., 311 42nd St., South - 1st Floor, Brigantine, NJ 08203. (General France: Mint - Used. Modern France: Mint - Used - Blanc, Mouchon & Merson - Pre-Cancels. Varieties of Modern France.)
- 3266 JORGENSEN, RENE, HVIDOVEJ 318 2TH, 2650 HVIDOVRE - DK, Denmark. (General Collector: All Issues. General France: Mint - Used - On Cover. Specialized France: Stampless Covers - Marques Postales. - Regular Issues:

- Classics 1849-1876: Used - On Cover - Cancellations - Sage Type 1876-1900. Modern France: Sowers - Blanc, Mouchon & Merson. Colonies General Issues: Used, Colonial Provisionals, Group Type, Cancels & Postal History. Reunion.
- 3267 LENT, JERRY D., 468 Crest Loop, Gassville, AR 72635-8018. (General France: Mint - Used - Regulars, Semi-Postals, Air Mails - thru 1970. Classics 1849-1876 - Used. Sage Type 1976-1900. Modern France: Mint - Used. Blanc, Merson & Mouchon Sowers.)
- 3268 McQUARRIE, HERB, 4020 147th Street CT, N.W., Gig Harbor, WA 98332-9045. (General France: Mint. Classics 1849-1876: Mint - Used. 1870-1871 Issues. Dues. Sage Type 1876-1900. Modern France: Mint. Blanc, Mouchon & Merson. Sowers. Air Mails. Dealer: Part Time. Auctions.)
- 3269 TULET, ANDRE, 248 Prospect Place, Brooklyn, NY 11238. (General Collector: All Issues. General France: Mint - Used - On Cover.)
- 3270 POWERS, STEPHEN J., 66 Wolf Den Road, Brooklyn, CT 06234. (General Collector: All Issues. Regular Issues: Classics 1849-1876 - 1870-1871 Issues - Alsace-Lorraine - Dues - Sage Type 1876-1900. Modern France: Mint - Used - Blanc, Mouchon & Merson. Sowers. Air Mails. Coils. Semi-Postals. Colonies General Issues: Mint - Used. Specific Colonies: North Africa. Sub-Sahara. Coastal Islands Auctions. Philatelic Literature.)
- 3271 PALMER, PETER H., 704 Citrus Court, Largo, FL 33370-2756. (Obock. Afars & Issar. Djibouti. French Somaliland. Somali Coast. Somali as a Whole.)
- 3272 FILES, DOUGLAS S., M.D., 394-C Jack Miller Blvd., Clarksville, TN 37042. (General Collector: 19th Century Worldwide Until 1940. Topicals: Medecine, Medical Covers. General France: Mint - Used. Classics in 1849-1876: Mint - Used. Modern France: Mint. Colonies General Issues: Mint - Used. All Colonies and Territories.)
- 3273 SPIEGEL, SUSAN, 17307 Apache Hills Dr., Tomball, TX 77375. (General Collector: All Issues. General France: Mint - On Cover. Colonies General Issues: Mint. Martinique.)
- 3274 LORUSSO, JEAN-CLAUDE, 10024 Stedwick Road #304, Montgomery Village, MD 20886. (General Collector: 19th & 20th General France: Mint - Used. Specialized France: Used Abroad. Regular Issues: Classics 1849-1876: Mint - Used - 1870-1871 Issues. Alsace-Lorraine. Dues. Sage Type: 1876-1900. Modern France: Blanc, Mouchon & Merson Sowers. Offices Abroad. CFA Issues. Andorre. Saar. Colonies General Issues: Mint - Used. Colonial Provisionals. Group Type. All Colonies and Territories. Dealer: Part-Time. Auctions. Philatelic Literature. Exchange.)
- 3275 DELBEKE, JOHAN, 1675 West 9th St. - Apt. 4-F, Brooklyn NY 11223. (Tunisia. Guinée.)
- 3276 CLAUS, ENNO T., 5893-D Hunt Club Run, Norcross, GA 30093. (French Community: Offices Abroad. Colonies General Issues: Mint. All Colonies and Territories: French Colonies Before 1940.)
- 3277 LANOUE, GEORGE R., 2433 Pickwick Rd., Baltimore, MD 21207. (Specialized France: Military Posts Railway Posts. Classics 1849-1876: Mint - Used - On Cover. 1870-1871 Issues. Cancellations. Proofs And Color Trials. Colonies General Issues: Mint - Used on Cover.)

CHANGES OF ADDRESS AND CORRECTIONS

- 1435 NORTON, JACK HARRIS, Colonial Lodge, 2301 North Brook Dr. #50, McKinney, TX 75070.
- 406 VENGROVE, CHARLES F., P.O. Box 673, Wells, VT 05774.
- 3240 DAVID, KEN, P.O. Box 51405, Boston, MA 02205-1405.
- 3149 BREWER, WILLIAM E., 7035 Pentz Road SPC 5, Paradise, CA 95969-2343.
- 1504 ALEVIZOS, GEORGE, P.O. Box 1408, Topanga, CA 90290-1408.
- 2778 SCHWARTZ, DEBORAH F., United Country-Action Realty, 865A U.S. Highway 45 North, Henderson, TN 38340.

REINSTATEMENTS

- 2104 SISMONDO, SERGIO, P.O. Box 23077, Ottawa, Ontario K2A 4E2 Canada.
- 1829 MASSLER, JEROLD, P.O. Box 11433, Fort Lauderdale, FL 33339.

DECEASED

- 1120 BENJAMIN, RICHARD K. (see Memorial, in this issue)