



# France & Colonies Philatelist

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



*What's wrong with this picture? (Give up?, see page 53)*

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## DETOURED ALSACE-LORRAINE MAIL--1870 AND BEYOND

by Stanley J. Luft (FCPS #915)

[This article is dedicated to the memory of Ruth and Gardner Brown, whose pioneering postal history exhibit of detoured mail of the Siege of Paris was cruelly criticized by an ill-prepared jury in 1980. As a result, the exhibit was never again shown in competition, to postal history's great loss].

[This article, with only minor differences in wording, was first published in "The London Philatelist," v. 110, whole number 1291, December 2001. Since then, M. Raymond Pittier has kindly shown me some other, very fine examples of the genre from the Croix-Rouge "Bourbaki" Collection, lots 1275-1286, offered by Corinphila Auctions, 22 October 2000. These covers, however attractive in their origins and destinations, do not show us any significant, additional methods of detouring the Alsace-Lorraine mails].

### Introduction

Mail communications, in and out of, and normally through Alsace-Lorraine, were badly disrupted during 1870-1871 by the German invasion and occupation of northeastern and northern France, and by the eventual German annexation of much of Alsace-Lorraine.

For this presentation, I make use of the following time frames to separate, like Gaul of Olde, the three parts of the story: (1) wartime (1870-January 1871); (2) the postwar occupation (February-March 1871); and (3) the post-occupation period (March 1871-on). Covers from my collection are shown, to illustrate a number of ways in which mail was detoured to its eventual destination. The subject, surprisingly because of its obvious interest to postal historians, apparently has received scant attention. Other than possible side references in other articles, the only one I know of is R. de Fontaines's brief presentation in *Documents Philatéliques*, N° 84, 1980, regarding mail detoured via Switzerland.

### 1. Wartime Detoured Mail (August 1870-January 1871)

Mail was detoured to avoid the conflict and the ruptured rail lines, and to stay ahead of the invading forces.

Figure 1 shows a cover from Riquewhir (Haut-Rhin, Alsace) of 5 September 1870, when that small, charming town was still in French hands.



Figure 1. (reduced to 65%)

It is addressed to Baden, then an enemy entity! The normal route to Baden would have been via Strasbourg, besieged since 23 August. It therefore was detoured via Mulhouse (6 September) and Basel (7 September), and reached its destination on the 8th. A most rapid international mailing! Sent unpaid, it was taxed 12 Kreutzer at Offenburg, Baden.

The Figure 2 cover is from Huningue (Haut-Rhin), 15 October 1870 and still in French hands in spite of a brief 7 October Prussian incursion, to be-



Figure 2.

sieged Paris. With Paris cut off, the letter was carried outside the posts to Basel, where it received the proper 30 centimes Swiss franking to France, and returned on 16 October to France, via Besançon, crossing the border the 17th. It was then held somewhere in unoccupied France until after the war. The Paris receiving backstamp is, unfortunately, incomplete as to date.

Figure 3 is a 5 November cover from now occupied Strassburg (note the Occupation stamps, German date stamp, and German town spelling) to Rouen in northern France. At this time, northern France was completely cut off from Alsace-Lorraine (and the rest of France) by a German sweep to the English Channel. The letter accordingly was routed via Belgium. It is overpaid by 5 centimes to Belgium or by 10c to France. It entered the northern France enclave from Belgium, at Lille, on 7 November and arrived at Rouen on the 8th. Again, another example of rapid and unimpeded transit.

The Figure 4 cover is from St. Petersburg, Russia, to Montpellier in southernmost France, docketed "via Switzerland" though the normal prewar routing would have been via Alsace-Lorraine. It departed on 18 November 1870 (Julian calendar, = 30 November, Gregorian calendar), and reached France, but only after transiting neutral Austria and Italy, on 6 December according to the poorly discernible Savoy entry marking. The backstamps are Wien (3 December), Lyon-Avignon night train (7th) and Montpellier arrival (7th).

## 2. Postwar Occupation Detoured Mail (February-March 1871)

This brief period embraces the beginnings of the *double affranchissement* or "double franking," whereby mail between Occupied and Unoccupied France required the postage of both régimes, or else it was to be taxed in transit or upon arrival.





Figure 3. (reduced to 97%)

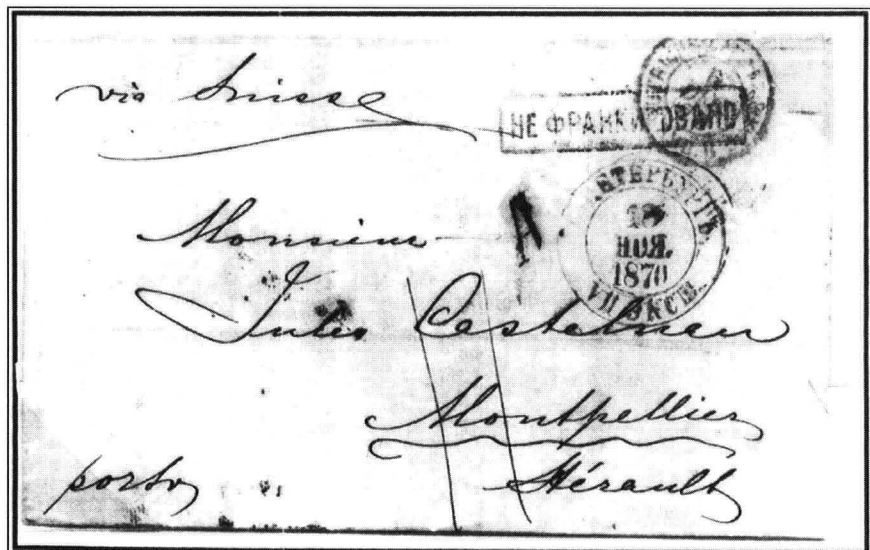


Figure 4. (reduced to 84%)

In order to avoid this extra charge, or possible German censorship of the mail, or for simple distaste of German institutions, some Alsace mail was hand-carried outside the posts to nearby Switzerland, later even to unoccupied France, to be posted from there. It should be noted that, until 15 February 1871, there was no sanctioned mail exchange between the to-be-annexed parts of Alsace-Lorraine and the Unoccupied Zone.

Figure 5 is a letter from Strasbourg to Lyon, bearing 24 February 1871 Lausanne and Berne postmarks on a 30c Swiss stamp, the correct single letter rate to France. It entered France as direct closed mail to Lyon the 25th and was received there the 26th.

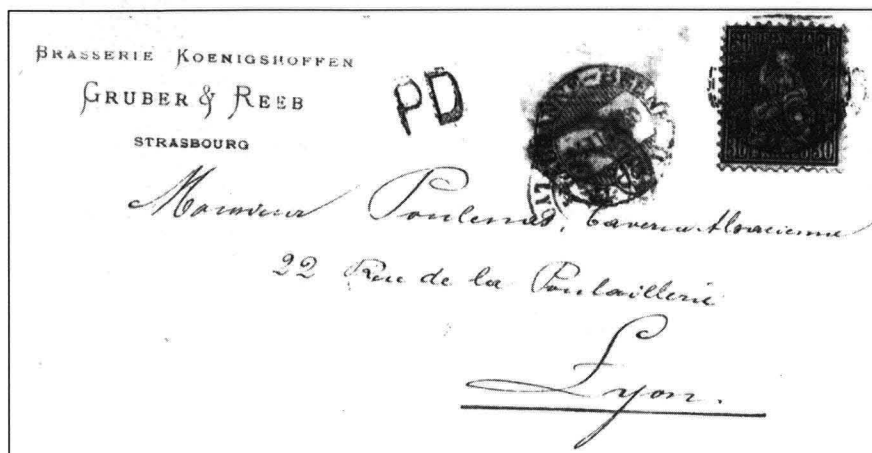


Figure 5. (reduced to 82%)

The Figure 6 cover originated with Lantz Frères of Mulhouse at some indistinct February 1871 date, and was eventually brought to nearby Basel. There a 30c Swiss stamp was affixed and cancelled on 21 March. The letter

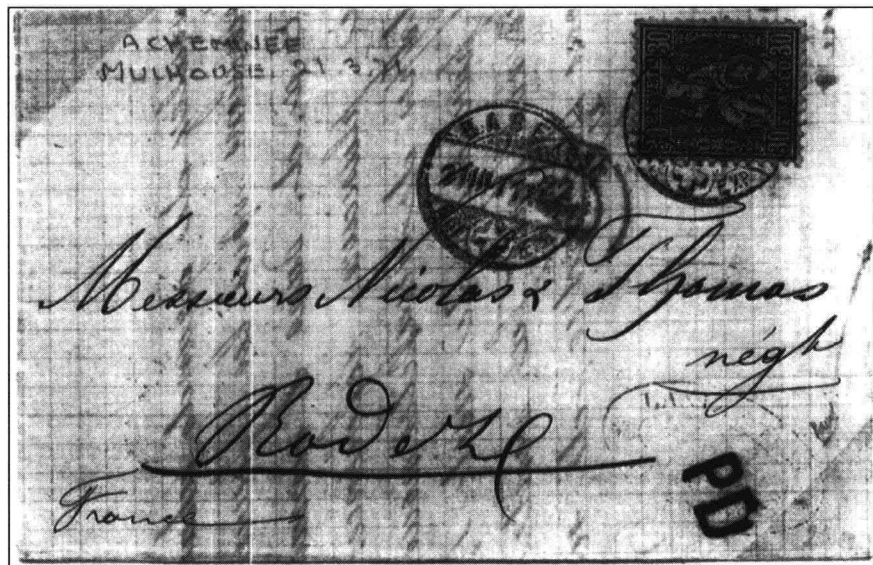


Figure 6. (reduced to 95%)

entered France the 22nd and went on by train to Toulouse (23 March) and thence to the Rodez destination (23rd) in southern France. The message states that any reply should be sent via Nicholas Legrand of Basel. I still lack a cover from France to Alsace-Lorraine for this period.

### 3. Post-Occupation Detoured Mail (March 1871-on)

For the same reasons as given in the previous, Occupation Period section, a small fraction of the mail to and from slated-for-annexation Alsace-Lorraine continued to be detoured.

On 1 January 1872, almost all of Alsace and much of Lorraine were formally incorporated into the new German Empire. Earlier, however, the mail facilities and administrations of the rest of the Occupied Zone were returned, from late March 1871 onward, to French control. Eventually, this restitution applied also to the remainder [the unannexed parts] of Alsace and Lorraine. My three covers from this period are, unfortunately, only from annexed Metz, in Lorraine.

The Figure 7 cover was written in annexed Metz on 1 March 1872. However, it traveled outside the mails to restituted Pagny-sur-Moselle, barely

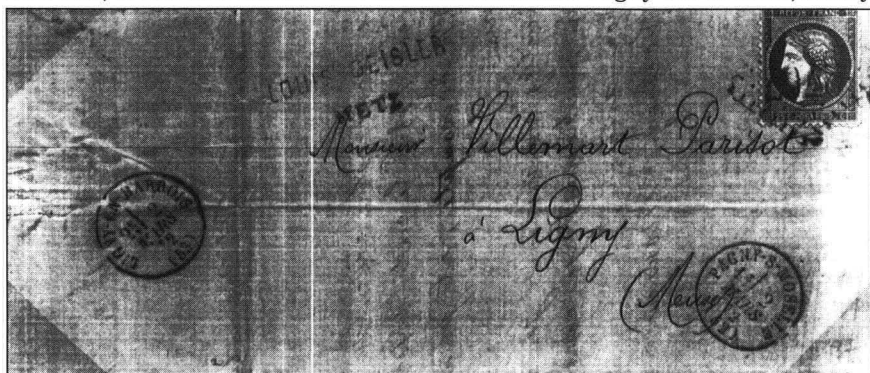


Figure 7. (reduced to 68%)

30 kilometers to the southeast, and mailed from there on 2 March, staying entirely within the French postal system and bearing a French 25c Cérès stamp, to its destination (also on the 2nd) at Ligny, in unannexed Lorraine.

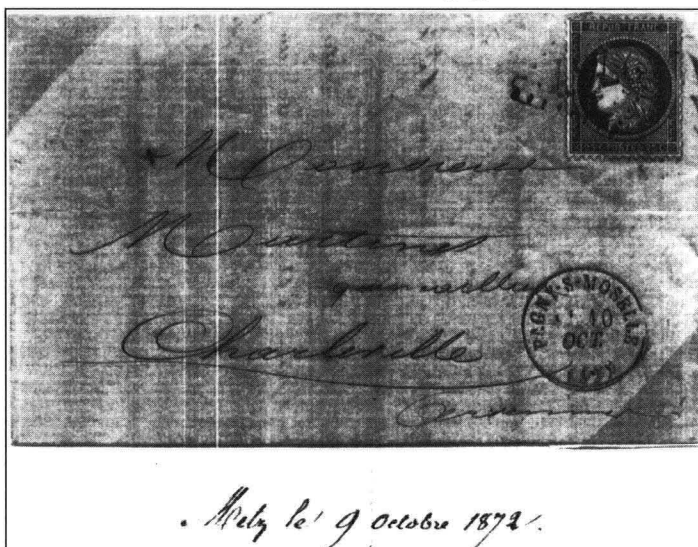


Figure 8. (reduced to 79%)

The Figure 8 cover of 9 October 1872, also from Metz, was similarly sent to Charleville via Pagny-sur-Moselle on the 10th [note the absence of a year slug], arriving the 11th. Transit via Pagny, just inside the restituted part of Lorraine, apparently was a favored means of bypassing the German posts.

Finally, we conclude with an 1875 cover (Figure 9), again from Metz, this time to Paris, and postmarked 13 March 1875 at the Pagny railway station. It

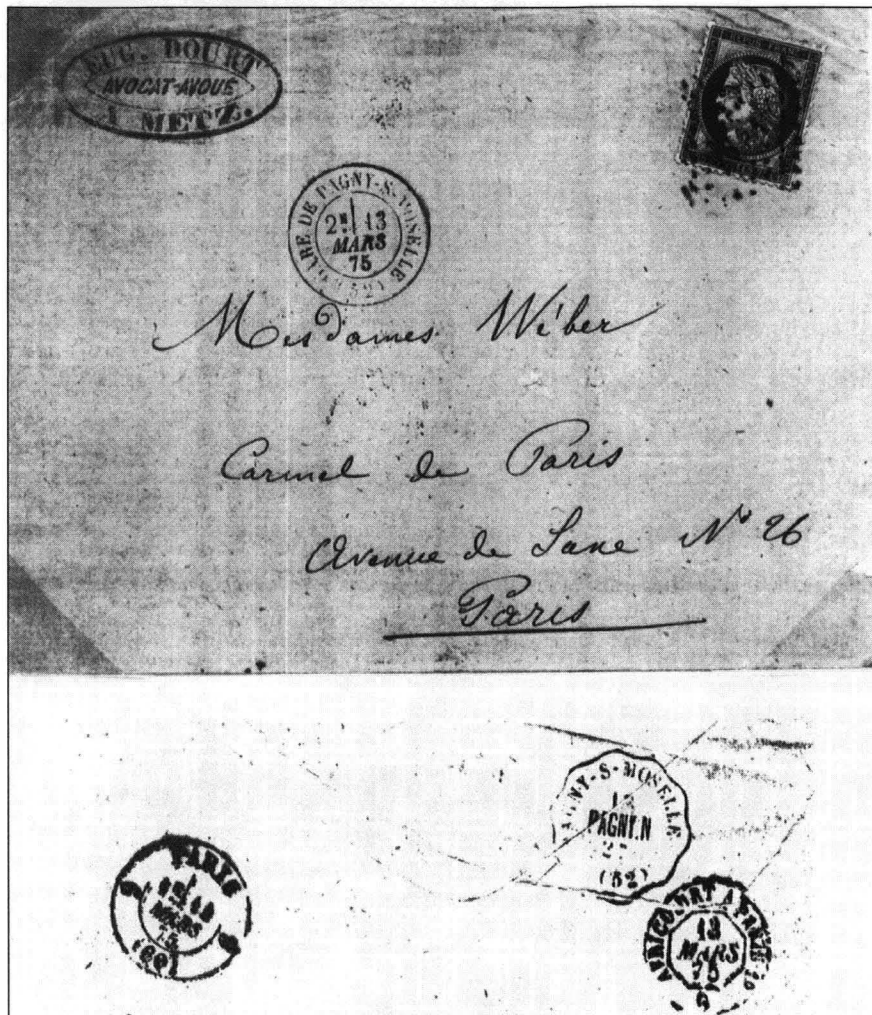


Figure 9. (reduced to 80%)

travelled from there on the Pagny to Nancy *convoyeur* (mail compartment on a train coach), the French 25c stamp not being cancelled until the letter was placed aboard the Avricourt-Paris 1° day train (AV P1° killer). Paris arrival was on 14 March.

Other ways and means of detouring mail from, to, or through Alsace-Lorraine exist, and some should prove extremely unusual. I would be pleased to be shown and to be able to publish other examples sent in by our readers.

## FRENCH MARCOPHILY - MAIL BY RAIL

by Robert T. Kinsley (FCPS #2180)

This is the second in a three-part series on railroad mail markings, the first covering the *bureaux ambulants* or railcar postoffices which appeared in the October 2002 and January 2003 issues of the *FCP* (Whole N°s 270-271), and the third covering *gares* or railroad station marks which will appear in a future issue. Allied with *gares* are *entrepôts* which our Editor has explained in his "Occasional Fundamentals" article in the October 2002 (Whole N° 262) issue.

### 2. COURRIERS - CONVOYEURS

As a result of the success of the mail cars authorized in 1844 for transporting and sorting mail on the main rail lines, a more far-reaching service originated about 1852 for the purpose of guarding (i.e. escorting, conveying) mail collected from boxes at stations on the other rail lines. The postal employees in this case worked alone in a small designated section of a baggage car or in a passenger compartment and did not sort the mail. Figure 1 shows an early handstamp on the Liseux to Honfleur line in Calvados.

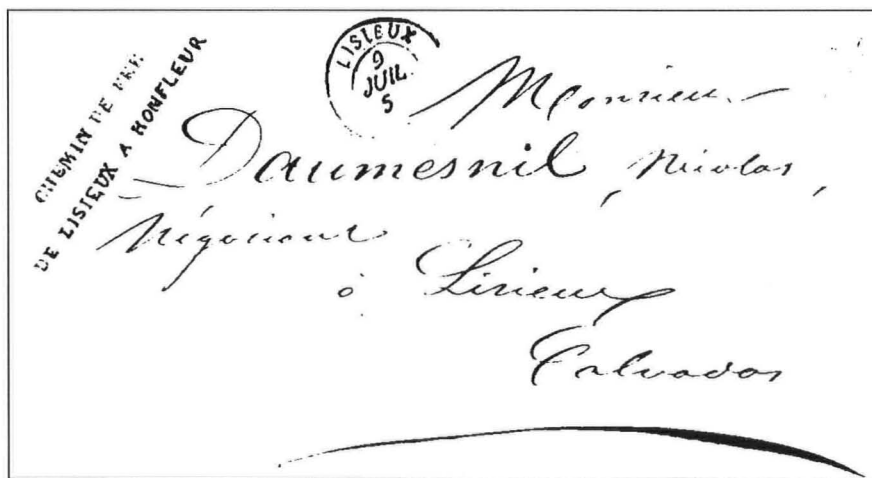


Figure 1. (reduced to 77%)

The main system for such escorted mail was established by the Postal Administration's No. 133 of September 1866<sup>1</sup> calling for new *boîtes mobiles* to be placed at all railroad stations and specifying the various supplies to be provided to the mail agents, such as (a) a postmark device, (b) a list of all the towns along the rail route, (c) postmark inserts bearing the town name, etc.

Convoyeur-service postmarks are distinguished by their wavy exterior line<sup>2</sup> first introduced on an experimental basis in 1865 on the Paris - Corbeil line, and showing only the name of originating town and the number of the trip (Figure 2). These were followed in early 1867 by a definitive type provided to all mail agents known as a *convoyeur station* postmark which

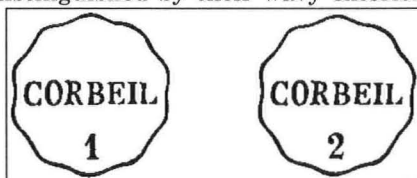


Figure 2.



Figure 3.

mail. These *station* postmarks were replaced, beginning in 1877, with similar postmarks known as *convoyeur-lignes* which identify the terminals of the agents' routes. There are four types of *lignes* postmarks: Type 1, the earliest, with serified letters typical of the period (Figure 4); Type 2, appearing in 1886,

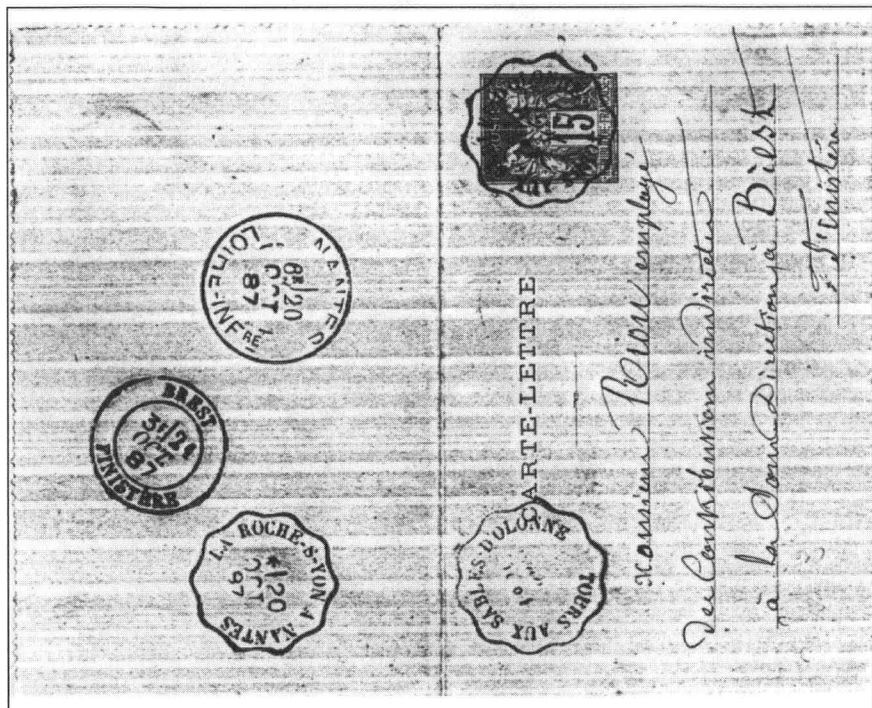


Figure 4. (reduced to 70%)

had larger diameters and *sans-sérif* (*bâton*) letters (Figure 5); Type 3, a still larger size introduced in 1904 with the year in two digits (Figure 6); and Type 4, used since 1948 with the year in four digits (Figure 7).

Pothion<sup>3</sup> lists the existence of well over 3600 different *convoyeur-lignes* handstamps in the period 1877 to 1966, and kindly identified for me in Figure 8 the upper *convoyeur* postmark as No. 2943 and the lower postmark as the error in spelling No. 2861A (Montagne instead of Mortagne). Goodbody<sup>4</sup> reported that in 1977, according to a list provided to him by the Direction Générale des Postes in Paris, there were only about 35 routes remaining with *courrier-convoyeur* operations. These have been gradually phased out as more and more mail moved by air to the distribution center in Paris.





Figure 5. (reduced to 90%)

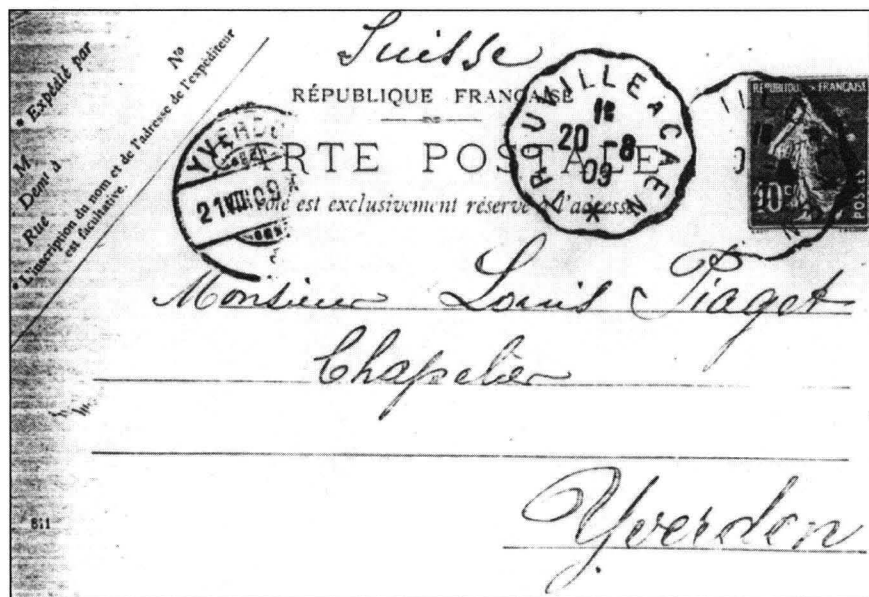


Figure 6. (reduced to 90%)

### Endnotes

(1) Your editor will be pleased to provide a copy, in French, of this decree to anyone interested in this specialty; be sure to provide a SASE with your request.

(2) These were preceded by two quite rare small circular dated postmarks which are classified as conveyeur marks; the first, used only on four rail lines between 1852 and 1854, is inscribed "service interm." at the top and the name of the rail line at the bottom,



and the second, used only on the Montpellier-Cette line from 1854 to 1858 identifies the rail line at the top and (conv) for "convoi" or train at the bottom (Figures 9).

(3) Jean Pothion, *Catalogue des Cachets Courriers-Convoyeurs-Lignes*, 1877-1966; La Poste aux Lettres, Paris (not in APRL).

(4) Anthony Goodbody, *An Introduction to the Railway Post Offices of France*; Mobile Post Office Society (GB) article, 1977.

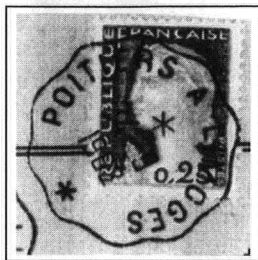


Figure 7.

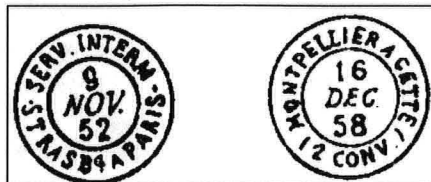


Figure 9.

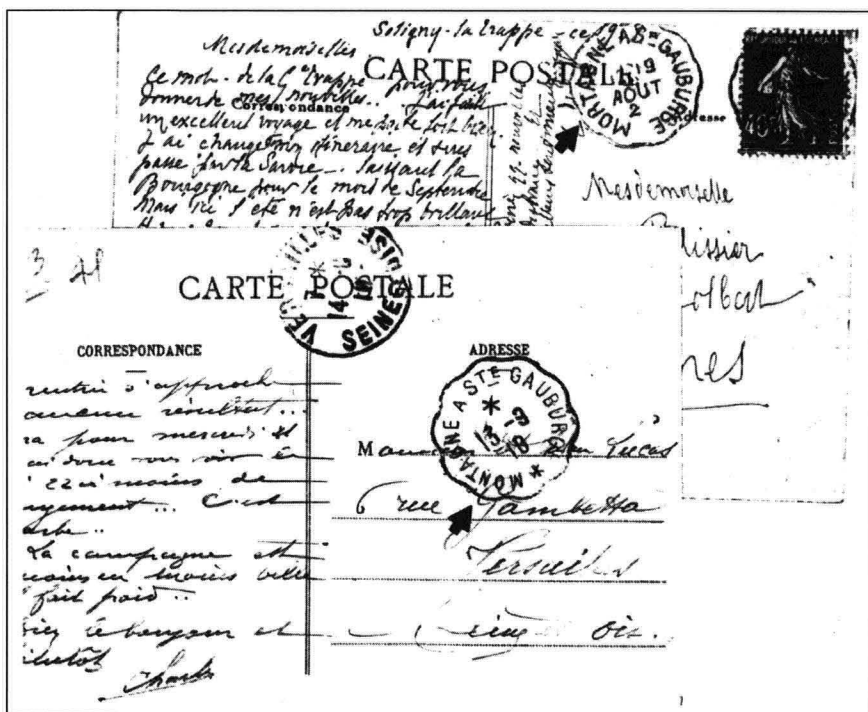


Figure 8. (reduced to 70%)

## TOGO - THE 1921 "MANDATE" ISSUE

### Earliest Recorded Dates Of Use - An Update

by Bill Mitchell (FCPS #715)

In a short article printed on pages 115 and 116 of the *Philatelist* for October 2001 (Whole No. 266) I described briefly the background to this issue, ascribed by the catalogs to various dates between "1921" and "1922 - 1925", and listed the earliest recorded dates of use. I invited readers to assist with the preparation of an updated list in connection with a forthcoming book on the stamps of the Anglo-French Occupation of Togo, 1914 - 1922, which is to be published by the West Africa Study Circle. Thanks to the co-operation of fellow-collectors of this territory I can now provide the following updated list of earliest recorded dates (revisions are marked with an asterisk).

	<u>Yvert/Cérès</u>	<u>Scott</u>	<u>Value</u>	<u>Earliest date</u>
<u>Postage</u>	101	193	1c	5 October 1922
	102	194	2c	19 August 1922
	103	195	4c	6 July 1922*
	104	196	5c	3 February 1922
	105	197	10c	27 July 1921
	106	198	15c	29 April 1922
	107	199	20c	6 September 1922*
	108	200	25c	24 January 1922
	109	201	30c	5 October 1921*
	110	202	35c	28 April 1923*
	111	203	40c	2 September 1923*
	112	204	45c	? ??? 1921*
	113	205	50c	24? July 1922*
	114	213	60c	18 July 1922*
	115	206	75c	12 January 1923*
	116	207	1 fr	? October 1921*
	117	208	2 fr	16 January 1923*
	118	209	5 fr	13 February 1923*
<u>Dues</u>	<u>Taxe</u>			
	1	J1	5c	6 August 1923
	2	J2	10c	29 August 1922
	3	J3	15c	6 August 1923
	4	J4	20c	29 December 1922*
	5	J5	30c	? ??? 1922*
	6	J6	50c	? ??? 1923
	7	J7	60c	6 August 1923
	8	J8	1 fr	13 January 1926 (CTO)

Similar requests have been made in the United Kingdom and France; I am grateful to the following collectors for responding to this enquiry: Barbara Priddy, and Messrs Paul Blanchard, Greg Cykman, Hervé Drye, Jean-Marie Dupas, Michael Ensor, Henri Guillermain, John Mayne and Michael Round.

In my previous article I commented on the fact that only one value (the 10c) of the postage set, and none of the dues, had been recorded as used in 1921, the official year of issue of all but the 60/75c. Even now, after more than 80 years, this number has only been extended to four of the postage sets; the earliest recorded use of a due stamp remains 12 April 1922, over a year after the probable date of release in Paris as recorded by Stanley Gibbons - and, as I pointed out, there was no previous issue to be replaced.

I also noted that although the stamps (apart from the 60/75c) were put on sale in Paris, probably on 15 July 1921, the earliest recorded use covered a lengthy period of some 4½ years (27 July 1921 to 13 January 1926). This led me to conclude that stocks were held in Paris until required locally because of diminishing stocks of the previous "Occupation franco-anglaise" issue. However, my good friend and mentor Michael Ensor, who has considerable personal experience of the Gold Coast/Togo border region, was of the opinion that notwithstanding the humidity all values were probably sent out to Togo shortly after printing and stored there, at Lomé. A recent development has shown that he was right.

Many of the new dates came as the result of a request for help from the members of COL.FRA, and the latest issue (No. 101, 3 ème trimestre 2002) of the COL.FRA Bulletin contains an interesting supplementary response from Constant Bouérat, a former senior official of the P.T.T. of the Ivory Coast, who has written extensively about the postal history of the former colonies which formed French West Africa. M. Bouérat says that the initial supply of stamps actually reached Lomé nearly six months before the attributed date of issue (15 July 1921, according to Stanley Gibbons). As early as 3 February of that year the local administration appointed two commissions, one to receive the first consignment of the new stamps and the other to "verifier les surcharges," which I take to mean check for errors.

As stated above, even now only four of the 25 stamps attributed to 15 July 1921 have been used in that year, so the "Mandate" issue was on sale concurrently with the previous issue (stamps of Dahomey overprinted TOGO/Occupation/Franco-Anglaise in 1916, and indeed with unoverprinted Dahomey stamps, until 28 December 1923 when remaining stocks of these earlier issues were incinerated. A year later, on 26 December 1924, the first printing of a definitive issue for Togo (Yv 124 - 143, taxe 9 - 19) were despatched from the Atelier du Timbre in Paris, and on 30 October 1925 the remaining stocks of the "Mandate" issue were in their turn destroyed. Stamps held by members of the public, of course, remained valid for postage - I have two examples used as late as 1938.

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## MEMBERS' APPEALS

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**OFFER:** Covers for sale: postal history, T.A.A.F., ships, special postmarks, pre-1980 FDCs, etc. Please send a SASE for color photocopies. Mike Troubetzkoy, 47 Bess Drive, Clayton, NC 27520. (Mb. #1843).

**OFFER:** Commercially used 1960s-1970s covers from Ethiopia. Would like to trade for covers and/or postcards from pre-independence French African colonies. Alan Morvay, P.O. Box 48195, Los Angeles, CA 90048. (Mb. #3167).

**WANTED:** 1903-1940 Sowers: mint coin daté blocks and millésime pairs. Write or e-mail Jake Williams, 170 Bay View Drive, Daphne, AL 36526; e-mail <aerophile@earthlink.net> (Mb. #3106).

**WANTED:** Your used French stamps with perforated initials or perforated designs (perfins). Will buy or trade. Gilbert Loisel, 13 rue des Sources, Grand Vau, F-89500 Villeneuve-sur-Yonne, France. E-mail <gilbert.loisel@worldonline.fr> (Mb. #877).

**WANTED TO BUY:** Scott Specialty Albums for France, French Colonies, and French Africa; also pages, binders and slip cases for above. Must be very clean new or used. Please send descriptions to Mike Johnson, 109 Rolling Green Drive, Staunton, VA 24401. (Mb. #3248).

## FAREWELL TO RAYMOND PITTIER

Raymond Pittier (26 December 1919 - 10 January 2003) phoned in 1971, saying he was at Washington, DC, and could we get together. We had both been at Fribourg, Switzerland, for the March 1970 CENTEX, the non-competitive philatelic exhibition featuring only exhibits dealing with the Franco-German War of 1870/1871. But we had not met there, and he thought we might make up for what we had missed. We did, and then corresponded and met occasionally ever since.

Raymond studied various aspects of the postal history of that war, some of its relationships to Switzerland, such as the uses and misuses of 'Gratis.' labels as well as Red Cross labels and their precursors; re-routings of international mail, some of very short duration, hence giving rise to scarce postal markings and to more use of return labels; censorship of mail by the North German Confederation, particularly the small markings on the backs of covers and the Versailles marking at the start of the Armistice period. His publications on these subjects were printed in three languages in Europe and the U.S.A. I have probably most of those, in addition to many sheets of photocopies of pieces he had bought for his collection. Several of my envelopes of collected tear sheets about 1870/1871 topics include his contributions. But that is only a fraction of the information he sent to me.

Somehow we got started on telling each other about the Vineta 'rarities' that appear regularly in auction catalogues. As a result, I ended up with well over a dozen clippings of that material in living technicolor. They helped start my interest in using postal history methods for discovering fakes, forgeries, and cinderellas of other than 1870/1871 material. Of course, we also exchanged information about such 1870 pieces whenever we spotted them — some described as being authentic by known expertizers. One that I found particularly amusing was a so-called *Neptune* cover, from a collection that received the grand award of a French national show: It carries the imprint PAR BALLON MONTÉ, even though that phrase was not published in the *Journal Officiel* until four days after that balloon had left Paris. Somewhat later, Raymond rediscovered this cover in a non-French auction catalogue and didn't waste any time in notifying the auctioneer of its nature; he sent me a carbon copy of that letter.

My Amazing 1870/1871 Wonder Story 52 owes its existence entirely to Raymond's efforts: He was responsible for my probably having the most exhaustive collection of literature on the Bourbaki Panorama, restored in its new building, opened on 29 January 2000 at Lucerne. No need to repeat here the mistakes made by 'historians' concerning where Bourbaki recovered from his attempted suicide. Pittier found a reliable account thereof as mentioned in Story 52.

Many of Raymond's clippings were ephemeral, referring to then current philatelic happenings, primarily in Switzerland, France, Germany, and Great Britain. They made interesting reading but were afterwards disposed of. Not so with others, which found their ways into our books, when they related to authors or events of interest to my wife, myself, or both of us. He passed on information that we might not have obtained otherwise, about antiquity through the Holocaust to modern history, the visual and aural arts, political differences worth considering and discussing, developments in mathematics and the natural sciences. In other words, we got carefully selected news, always worth reading and often provoking long discourses.

Raymond called me a few days after the beginning of 2003, saying he had gotten our recent letter and he called rather than writing back because his recent fall, broken hip, and trouble with breathing made writing difficult.

In August 1981, I had a similar phone call from Dr. William Reiner-Deutsch, telling me about his cough, which interrupted his call from time to time. He died a few days later from, what I found out afterwards, was lung cancer. I have a feeling that Raymond's call, like Will's, was made to say good-bye...  
-- Ernst M. Cohn

## AMAZING 1870/1871 WONDER STORIES--75

by Ernst M. Cohn (FCPS #1491)

Use of balloons, and particularly of manned balloons, in the Franco-German War of 1870/1871 caused all sorts of old jokes and drawings about balloons to be dug up again, and a few new ones to be added by newspapers, particularly those in Europe.

One of them concerns the balloon duel, incidentally repeated in the movie *The Daring Young Men in Their Flying Machines*, originally supposed to have been fought by two Frenchmen at Paris over a lady. Later on it took place between Nadar, returning from Tours by balloon, and a Prussian balloonist who pursues him but is shot down by Nadar. Needless to say that Nadar never did fly out of (or into) Paris and that no incoming pilot managed to approach Paris at all.

The dream, long before that war and for some years afterwards, was the invention of dirigible balloons, one fabulous version of which was proposed fairly early on and is said to have been tried at the Paris zoo. It consisted of a balloon to which a couple of eagles were hitched. By dangling pieces of meat, attached to the end of sticks by ropes, in front of the eagles, the birds were made to fly after the meat, thus dragging the balloon in the direction in which the pilot held the sticks. The real experiment, in which sailors turned a propeller fastened to a siege balloon, ended in complete failure.

The first balloon that managed to fly in a circle, proof of dirigibility, was propelled by a battery-powered propeller on a very calm day, years after the war.

Pursuit of a Paris balloon by a Prussian lancer mounted on a canon ball is the subject of a Munchhausen-type cartoon in a German magazine.

Herewith another cartoon involving another fancy combination - A man piggy-back on another one who is riding a horse (Figure 1). The horse is hitched to a balloon and trying desperately to gallop on the air. The lower man is holding on to a rope that holds the balloon, while the upper man is holding on to the lower one's neck instead of grasping a rope that is conveniently dangling in front of him and obviously has no purpose whatever. The assembly seems to be getting ready to land on a town square that is rapidly filling up with curious people. The sketch, captioned, 'How two are landing from the air, who rose from Paris on a live horse with a balloon,' appeared in the *Wiener allgemeine Zeitung* N° 34, no date given.

This gripping adventure comes to you courtesy of Jerry Massler, who seems to have found the picture on a trip to Belgium, thus again proving the educational value of travel.

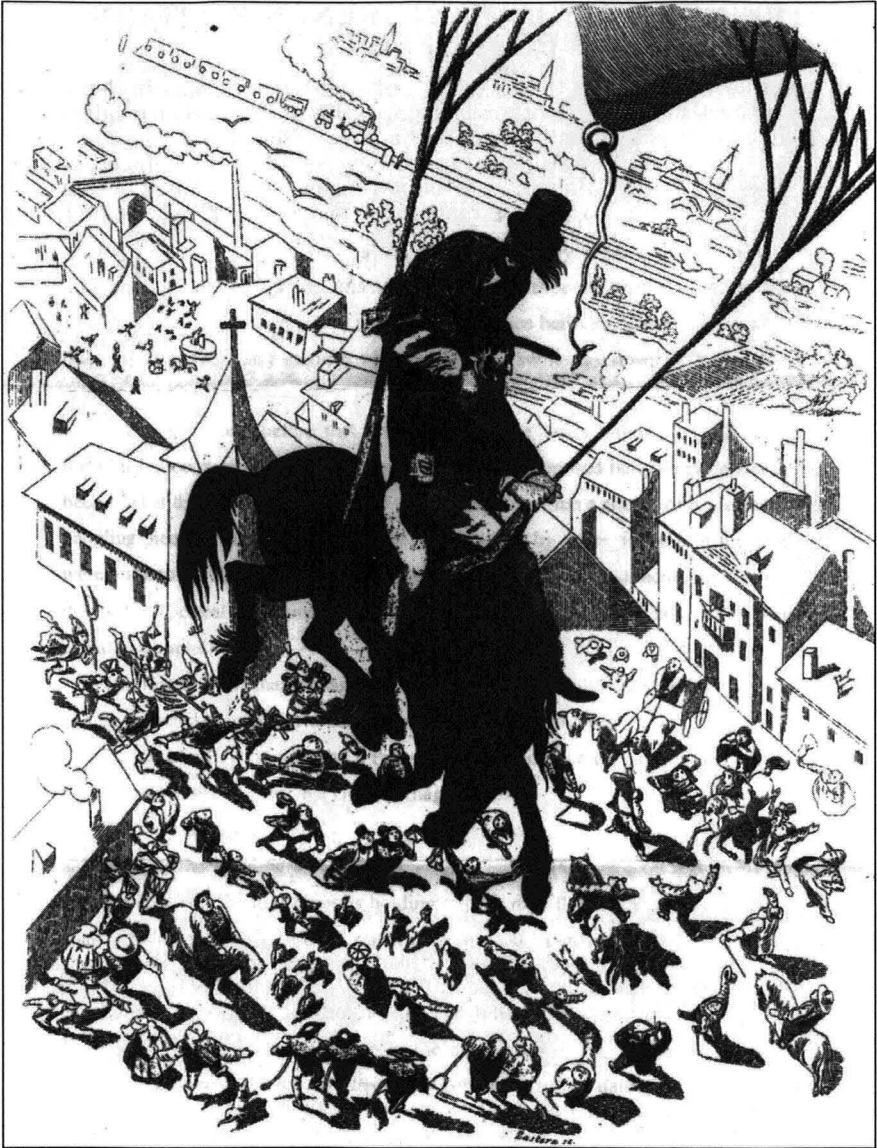


Figure 1.



## PERIODIC UPDATE ON FRENCH MILITARY POST OFFICES

A token force of French troops were sent to the Ivory Coast in September 2002 to protect French and other foreign civilians from rebel incidents. At first, their mail was handled by the Abidjan post office. **BPM (Bureau Postal Militaire) 627** (Figure 1) was opened 14 October 2002 at Port-Bouet near Abidjan. As of the beginning of this year, their ranks had increased to about 2500 officers and men, facing hostiles from both sides of the conflict.



Figure 1.

(Information herein gathered by Pierre Couesnon, in *Timbres Magazine*, February 2003).

One can expect that, now that the *Poste Interarmées* and its markings has begun to replace *Poste Navale* (Figure 2), etc., as the first of this year, that BPM date stamps will become BPIs in the near future.

**BPM 653** at Plöce, Bosnia, opened 21 April 1992 at Sarajevo and moved a number of times, closed on 30 November 2002.

**BPM 241**, installed at Manas, Kirghistan on 22 February 2002, to serve a French air force detachment, closed on 17 October 2002 when the air-men were replaced by an international contingent.



Figure 2.

-- S. J. Luft

## JOHN O. MARSH, JR. (1917-2002) An Appreciation

Dr. John Marsh, a former member of our Society and a longtime friend, passed away on 29 November 2002. He was born on 28 September 1917 in New Jersey, and obtained a doctorate in Romance Languages. He retired as department chairman from California University of Pennsylvania as a professor emeritus.

John collected earlier U.S., a legacy from his father, but his real passion lay in French stamps (though not postal history). He was a collector from "the old school": mint and used singles on top, used block in the middle, and a cover at the bottom, resulting in exactly one page per catalogued item. But his interest in French material was truly eclectic, and included: dues, parcel post, revenues, perfins, stationery, essays and proofs, specimens, Paris markings, railway markings, cancels on Sages, Offices Abroad, back-of-the-book, etc., all of which he had collected with enthusiasm, appreciation, and considerable understanding of the material.

We became friends in the late 1960s; as usual, per correspondence at first, and then in person, maintaining our friendship for decades. And we always had something to exchange and, if not, then something to brag about. Though his main source of French material was the Apfelbaum firm in Philadelphia, he also corresponded with and was a trading partner of, among others, Ray Smith, Brainerd Kremer, Harold Metzger, John Schilling, John Morton, and Dick Benjamin--all now deceased--and some others still very much with us.

John never stopped adding to his interests, even buying whole collections when he felt he could add something to them, or just to exercise his mind. He



started to do the pre-Independence colonies when well into his seventies. I last saw him, at his home, in Summer 2001 and he looked pretty good and vital then, so we hope that death took him quietly and easily. He will be missed!

-- S. J. Luft

## CORRECTIONS, AMENDMENTS, AND HOPED-FOR IMPROVEMENTS

### October 2002 (N° 270):

Figure 2 on page 103 is a map showing the main coach routes as of 1838, not the trunk rail lines. We show here a map of the more numerous ambulant lines of 1870, just prior to the War, as shown by Gardner Brown on page 12 of his article in *New Studies of the Transport of Mails in Wartime France 1870-1871* (Vaurie Memorial Fund Pub. N° 6, 1986).

Page 106, next-to-last sentence: It should be understood that trunk lines were far fewer in the decades prior to (and after) 1870, and that the system developed very gradually.



**January 2003 (N° 271):**

Page 2 (Contents): Kinsley's article was **not** concluded, just Part I of "Mail by Rail." Look for continuations in this and later issues.

Page 13 (or thereabouts): the following should be added at the end of "Postal Censorship in St. Pierre and Miquelon 1939-1945": Sources consulted were (1) the Canadian National Archives, Ottawa, and (2) the 1945 Report of the Administrator Garrouste.

Page 23 boxed note should have been entitled More Forgeries Plaguing...

Index for 2002: Have caught a couple of typos, and surely there are more, but none seem to detract, so won't bother mentioning them.

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## QUESTIONS AND ANSWERS

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- A. 02.5.** According to the Abbé Gudenkauf of Brussels, and to Jean du Four's 1962 book, *Congo Belge--Cinquante Ans d'Histoire Postale* (pp. 372-375), numerous similar circular cachets exist, all bearing one-star flags in the middle (Figure 1). Like the one shown earlier by Morvay, few have been found with departure postal date stamps, and the Abbé considers them to be administrative cachets rather than postal ones, possibly added to please collectors. Use on covers and cards seems to have run from the mid-1880s to as late as 1918 (*i.e.*, mostly during the Independent Congo State that was King Leopold II's fiefdom). Linear markings also exist. Grantville was named for a Scottish explorer who sought out the source of the Nile from 1860-onward. The district using the flag marking was turned over to France in 1885, as stated in Q. 02.5, theoretically making it a "temporary" French marking. And, hopefully, the matter may now be considered as settled for good. (AJM).

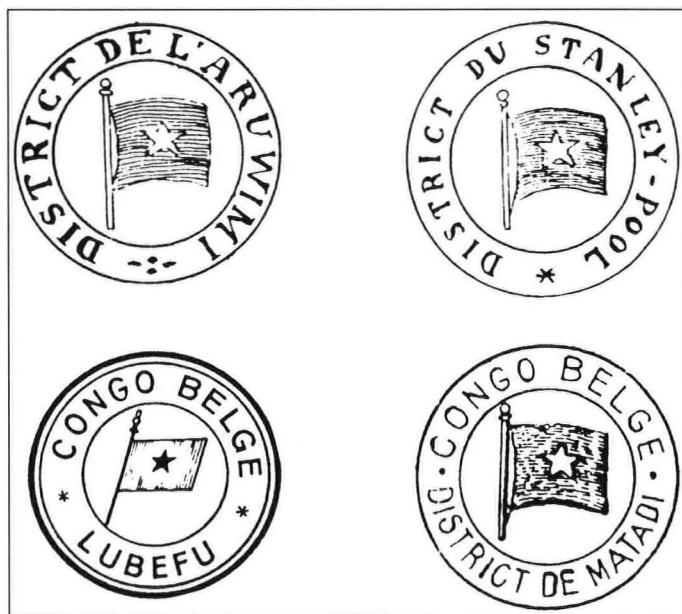


Figure 1.

## A "FABRICATED" COVER

The envelope shown on this issue's front page appears to have been sent Via German Fieldpost, from the German medical insurance office's main branch office in Paris<sup>1</sup> (Figure 1) to the local medical insurance office at Strassburg [then in Germany, being as this takes place during World War II]. This should be official (free-franchise) mail, but perhaps not, which would justify the 4F in postage--the then correct civilian 1x letter rate from Occupied France to Alsace and the rest of Germany. The stamps, from left to right are: 1F50 brown Petain, 1F50 red Petain, and 1f red Petain. The Feldpost date stamps (which probably won't print well) read 16 November 1943. Well, what's wrong?



Figure 1. Back of cover. (reduced to 70%)

First of all, the brown stamp at left is a *Faux Pétain*, the subject of numerous stories (some more fanciful than others) regarding its printing and "use"; not exactly a stamp that would be used by a functionary of the Third Reich in his right mind, as well as being a stamp that would not have been "legitimately used" prior to 1944.

Now that suspicions are aroused, those date stamps don't appear to be genuine. The Oberkommando der Wehrmacht sealing band on the back (Figure 1) appears genuine, but not the accompanying censor handstamps. And, markings of individual censors are generally, though not always, to be expected.

What we seem to have here is a genuine envelope and a genuine sealing band -- both probably "liberated" from the retreating Germans or even later on and after the war -- and two genuine but cheap Petain stamps, which were later added along with a *Faux Pétain*, and further embellished with fake date stamps and censor makings. A cute little souvenir, nothing more. And now, what might you have, for some future "show-and-tell"?

-- S. J. Luft

1. I thank Ernst Cohn for his translations from the German.

## RANDOM EDITORIAL JOTTINGS

Our new cover is a marked improvement over the paper ones we've had ever since day one, and gives our otherwise esteemed Journal added visual class. We've received a number of compliments on the change. We all should and do express our appreciation to our Officers and Directors for their willingness to expend the added cost (actually quite minor) which, for now, should not result in any increase in dues.

A very interesting book has recently appeared. It's *Philatelic History of the Arab Kingdom of Syria*, by Alexander Kaczmarczyk and Rodney Unwin. The period examined here in great detail was a very brief one: late 1918 to 1920, that is, between the fall of the Ottoman Empire and the French Mandates in Syria and Lebanon. Thus, there's nothing there relating directly to F&C philately, and the postal markings are mostly continued from Ottoman times. Nevertheless, if any members collect Syria (and/or Lebanon) **inclusive** of this 1918-1920 period and would like me to publish a review of the book, please advise me promptly so that it can get into the July issue. I'll be glad to do this; the book's publisher would be equally glad.

Here follows the occasional, sometimes very necessary, reminder to our potential authors:

### SUGGESTIONS TO FUTURE AUTHORS

**Text:** Type double-spaced (1.75 space if you have the capability of doing so) on 8½ x 11" (or A4) paper, on one side only. Leave 1" (2.54 cm) margins at sides and bottom, and 1½" margin at top of your title page.

References and citations can be flexible; use recent Journal articles as guides. Endnotes, being easier to set and read, are preferable to footnotes, but up to three footnotes should be OK.

**Illustrations:** If possible, leave some margins around your illustrations, and number them consecutively in soft pencil. Do **not** paste or tape them down on our manuscript pages; that's my job! Ordinary but clear photographs (or preferably originals) of cuts, sketches, maps, etc., are OK. For stamps and covers, halftones or very clear photocopies will normally do. However, Jim Graue, the long-time editor of the very fine *Air Post Journal*, recommends black-and-white photocopies on a Canon color laser printer for best results; these printers are available at Kinko's and other print shops. Whatever works best for you, but remember that you want your article to have the best quality illustrations possible.

All originals, and all quality copies that you might wish to keep, will be returned to you within four months of publication.

**Note:** If you are considering the possibility for joint publication with another journal, please contact me in advance; disseminating information to audiences, that don't normally subscribe to the same periodicals, is usually a good thing for our hobby. However, please don't submit your manuscript to other journals without advising me; it's very disconcerting to edit or even rewrite parts of a manuscript only to learn it has already been published elsewhere, in another editor's revision.

-- S. J. Luft

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## REVIEW

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Jaroslav J. Verner, *Mail of the Czechoslovak Legions in France*; (2002); 82 pp., 6¼ x 9", card cover, perfect bound; black and white and color illustrations; published under the auspices of the Society for Czechoslovak Philately; \$12.00 postpaid, from the author, at 8602 Ewing Drive, Bethesda, MD 20817, USA.

Jaroslav Verner is a long-time collector and expert on Czech philately and the recipient of numerous high awards for his exhibits. Among his many interests are the history and markings of the Czech soldiers who fought for the Allied cause in the First World War, in hope of obtaining from the victors a free country after the war. Finding little useful, in-depth published material on the subject, Mr. Verner decided to remedy this void by writing his own handbook, using basically his own covers.

The book is printed in parallel columns in English and in the Czech translation by Vladimír Ustohal. I'm amazed that the Czech text occupies no more space than does the English [being far more accustomed to the added verbiage of Romance languages].

The saga of Czech troops in France during that war is one of two very unequal parts. The first concerns the several hundred volunteers then living in France, who were formed by the French into two companies of C Battalion in the Foreign Legion's Moroccan Division (Trésor et Postes 109 divisional markings, from December 1914). This battalion was largely wiped out at the May 1915 Battle of Arras, and its French franchise mail is perforce very rare. The same holds true for the provisional, not-always-postal markings of Czech entities at Epinal, Soissons, Troyes, etc. Additionally, some other Czech volunteers served elsewhere in the Foreign Legion, and their mail can only be identified by the language used.

The second larger, and somewhat better known part of the story comes after the formation, early in 1916 at Paris, of a Czech government-in-exile. Czech and Slovak soldiers, lately of the Austro-Hungarian armies, who had been taken prisoner on the Russian, Italian and Balkan fronts, were bit by bit, while undergoing many hardships, shipped to French POW camps. It was not until late 1917-early 1918 that they were permitted to enroll into newly-created Czechoslovak units under overall French command. The first contingent, the Czech Brigade, was created in November 1917 at Cognac from former POWs transhipped from Siberia, Ukraine and Romania. They were later joined by Czech-American volunteers--eventually totaling over 2300 men. Most of the surviving volunteers of 1914-1915 were, however, refused permission to transfer out of the Foreign Legion.

By May 1918, the 21st and then the 22nd Czech Infantry Regiments were constituted at Cognac as the Czech Infantry Brigade under French officers. The brigade saw combat from June 1918-on. A 23rd Regiment was activated in December; it consisted mainly of Slovak volunteers from North America. Now with three regiments, the brigade was elevated to 5th Division status. After the Armistice, the division was repatriated to a now-free Czechoslovakia by way of Italian rail lines.

From the first, the Legions used the well-organized French military postal system and under the same conditions regarding the franchise, the Czech postal facility at Cognac serving as the main distribution point. Censorship was exercised by either or both the Czechs and the French. Various postal and administrative markings were used, mainly at Cognac, and the author

shows examples of all known ones -- 58 in all, in many categories. As the brigade had been assigned to the French 53rd Infantry Division, that division's Trésor et Postes 217 date stamp was also used, as well as purely Czech variations on the "217." Censorship was generally exercised at the regimental level; several different markings are known. A rare Military Franchise black on bluish etiquette (written in French) was used in mid-1918; I suspect it was purely unofficial.

The Legion's cartographic section printed, during the latter half of 1918 and into 1919 a variety of franchise postal cards, forms, labels, etc. for the *Legionnaires'* use.

All 58 known markings -- postal, administrative, censorship, civil governmental, etc. -- are shown full size in the main body of the book. Colors used are usually mentioned but this tends to be buried in the text. The markings are shown again but reduced in size at the end (pp. 79-82) of the book, in tabular format, with value indices for use on cards, on letters, and on other postal paper. Being a very small fraction of the French army, mail of the Czech troops must be very difficult to find in any condition.

Mr. Verner is the first to admit that much more information on the markings (and undiscovered ones) and their timeframe remains to be discovered. We hope that a future revision will bring more such information to light. In the meantime, this fine study is definitely the single most complete and useful source of information on this subject.

Illustrations, whether period photographs and postcards, cuts of the markings, or of actual covers (the latter in color) are uniformly excellent. There's a good bibliography, mainly in English or Czech. The book is nicely printed on glossy paper in the Czech Republic. Some typos were noted, but they seldom detract. The book will not lie flat without cracking the spine, but the attractively low price makes this almost a trifling matter. -- S. J. Luft

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## NEW BOOKS, PAMPHLETS AND CATALOGUES

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- Sorry! First author (and source for) the CD-ROM *Les Annulés de A à Z* -- noted in the January 2003 issue (N° 271, p. 26), is Bernard (not Richard) Fréchet. Rest of entry should be correct.
- *Les essais des marquages des encres fluorescentes et phosphorescentes* [essays for printing fluorescent paper and phosphor bands], by Jean Renard; 45 pp., over 100 color illustrations; specify looseleaf cover or *moulée* cover [which I assume might be comb-bound] at same price; 20€ postpaid (more beyond France?), from Jean Renard, 26 allée des Roses, F-37270 Montlouis sur Loire, France.
- *Timbres Monnaie -- pochettes, carnets, jetons -- France et Colonies*, by Dr. Pierre Broustine; 105 pp., 15 x 23 cm, black and white illustrations; 32€ + postage, from Yvert & Tellier, 37 rue des Jacobins, F-80036 Amiens Cedex 1, France; fax: +(0)3 22 71 71 89; e-mail<mail@yvert-et-tellier.fr> (Detailed study of postage currency: in glassine, in booklets, and as encased postage, from France and the ancient colonies).
- *Catalogue spécialisé des Entiers Postaux d'Algérie*, by Pierre J. Barat; 232 pp., c. 100 color illustrations; 39.20€ postpaid (more beyond France?), from the author, at 1 rue des Venêts, Bât N° 1, escalier N° 1, F-92000 Nanterre, France. (Specialized catalogue of Algerian postal stationery; under French administration, and probably up to the present?).



- > *Histoire des Postes du Rhône -- Lyon 1789-1939*, by Yvette Mience (2003); c.450 pp, 16 x 24 cm, illustrated; 28€ postpaid (more beyond France?), by check to Editions Bellier, Boite Postale 3038, F-69394 Lyon Cedex 03, France; fax + (0)4 72 36 32 48. (A very detailed study of the posts, postal history, and postal markings of Lyon, from 1789 to 1939).
- > *Cérès 2003 catalogue for France*; 19€ + 3.50€ postage and handling. Also on CD-ROM (France, Monaco, Andorra, Polynesia, Austral Terrs.) for 35€ + 3€; from Editions Philatéliques de Paris, 23 rue du Louvre, F-75001 Paris; fax: +(0)1 45 08 56 97; site: [www.ceres.fr](http://www.ceres.fr), or your usual sources. (The other standard catalogue).
- > *Les flammes postales de la Haute-Vienne* (Part One), by J.-L. Dutreix and A. Debord; 52 pp., A4 format, black and white illustrations; 10€ postpaid (more beyond France?), from Association ACFO-LIM, 4 allé Louis-de-Funès, F-87100 Limoges, France. (Detailed introduction to the illustrated machine cancels used in the Haute-Vienne Dept., with scarcity indices).
- > *Introduction à l'Histoire Postale des origines à 1849*, (2nd edition, 2002), by Michèle Chauvet; in 2 volumes, c.600 pp., 21 x 30 cm; over 350 black and white illustrations and 130 tables; 100€ (+ postage), by check or Visa, to Brun & Fils, 85 Galerie Beaujolais, Palais Royal, F-75001 Paris. (This edition includes corrections and additions to the first. Completely documented and well researched study, the most important overall work of the genre since the 1929 "*Estampilles*").
- > *Marianne de Gandon, tirages et coins datés, le 15F bleu*, by Roger Vacheron; 140 photocopied pages, illustrated; price not communicated, inquire of SO.CO.CO.DA.MI, Boite Postale 4625, F-22046 St.-Brieuc Cedex, France. (All that anyone could possibly want to know about the 15F blue Gandon of 1951, its press runs and its *coins datés*).
- > *Les cahiers philatéliques de la Libération. Tome 10 émissions de la libération de Marseille*, by Henri Brives; 94 pp., A4 format; black and white illustrations; information from Denis Duet, 19 rue Marc-Chagall, F-33880 St.-Caprais, France. (Detailed study of the Resistance and Liberation philately of Marseille during World War II).
- > *Nomenclature des timbres parafiscaux français de permis de chasse (1975-2003)*, by Danielle Jolly; 75 pp., A4 format, spiral bound, numerous illustrations; 28€, from Henri Barbero, 22, rue de Paris, F-77400 Pomponne, France. (Only study of French hunting-permit Departmental fiscals [equivalent to State hunting stamps in the US]; may require joining the Société Française de Philatélie Fiscale, of which M. Barbero is secretary-general).
- > *Catalogue des papiers timbrés d'Alsace-Lorraine (1870-1944)*, by Claude Munch; 77pp., A4 format, spiral bound, color and black and white illustrations of documents; 33€, same conditions as given above. (Preliminary catalog of the stamped paper of 1870-1944 A-L; may also require joining the Fiscals society).
- > *The "FRANCE LIBRE" Issues of St. Pierre and Miquelon*, by Jean-Jacques Tillard and David Allen; 96 pp., 25 x 17 cm; numerous color illustrations; bilingual French-English text; 28€ (plus postage?), from first author, at Boite Postale 764, 97500 St. Pierre & Miquelon. (Detailed study catalog of the stamps and their history, by two experts on St. P&M; Mr. Allen, a member of our Society, is the president of the St. P&M Philatelic Society).



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## ANNOUNCEMENTS AND NEWS

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- New earliest known date of use of the 20c laureated Empire (Scott 33, Yvert 29) [type I, of course] is now 6 April 1867, mailed at the Paris, rue St.-Honoré post office.
- Australia Post will withdraw its Sterners (for booklets) and Frama vending machines in 2003 because of low patronage and increasing maintenance costs. Might France follow suit?
- Postal employees at the main Nouméa (New Caledonia) post office had a bit of a scare back on 29 October 2001 when an envelope was discovered shedding a white powder. Some 24 hours later, technicians at Nouméa's Institut Pasteur identified the suspected anthrax as mere plain sugar. No suspects have been uncovered.
- New Caledonia never having any official "mobile boxes" for mail, any stamp or cover bearing a BM marking should be considered a fabrication. (Thanks to *Bull. du Cagou* N° 16, 2002).
- A beautifully illustrated study, by J. D. Ladiesse, on New Caledonia's Yvert 2, 3 and 5 of 1882-1883, showing overprint varieties in great detail, appeared in *Le Bulletin du Cagou* N° 16, 2002.
- A detailed study of the several **BENIN** overprints of 1892, which also serves to showcase the plentiful forgeries in existence, is the subject of an article by R. Crombez in *Col.Fra* N° 101 (2002).
- At first glance, it seems that the Dick Benjamin France (see October 2002, p. 110) sold rather well at the December 4-6, 2002 auction in San Francisco.
- Paris stamp dealer Jean Farcigny died last year at the age of 78. He was a major organizer and promoter of the annual Salon Philatélique d'Autonne and a former catalog publisher and journal editor. The firm continues under his son François.
- The 2002 Grand Prix for Philatelic Art were awarded as follows: for France, the Eliz. Vigée-Lebrun self-portrait; for the DOM-TOM, the Birds of Mayotte foursome.
- The editorial offices of *L'Echo de la Timbrologie* are now located at 10 rue de Chateaudun, F-75009 Paris; fax +(0)1 53 20 87 98. Subscriptions and other services remain in Amiens.
- France's La Poste employs 320,000 persons (of whom 100,000 are mail carriers), 22 airplanes, 3 rapid trains, 36,920 vehicles, and occupies 17,000 post offices. Its philatelic sales amount to 130 million euros.
- An "intermediate" exposition -- that is, between the last and the next PhilexFrance -- is being planned for Paris in 2004, probably 26 June-4 July. See this space for more information, as it becomes available.
- It now appears, thanks to information relayed by member Gilbert Loisel, that French postage stamps denominated solely in francs (that is, pre-July 1999 issues) will continue to be accepted for postage. But, until when?
- A new, extended series portraying the Regions of France, which will include blocks and sheetlets, will be inaugurated some time this Spring.
- A panorama of all French stamps issued since 1849 was prominently displayed at PhilexFrance 99. Now brought up through Year 2001, copies are available for 45 euros (plus postage?) from the Service Philatélique de La Poste, 28 rue de la Redoute, F-92266 Fontenay-aux-Roses Cedex [this may be a new address for some readers]; site: [www.laposte.fr/timbres](http://www.laposte.fr/timbres). Warning to those whose spouses detest extraneous wall hangings: the panorama stretches out to a length of some 12 meters!

- Victor-Angélo Thiburce, rural mail carrier for the Cirque de Mafate on the side of Réunion, retired December 2001 on a feeble pension. His daily route of 35 years covered 65 km over highly mountainous terrain, all on foot! As a rural *facteur*, he used the familiar OR in a circle (*origine rurale*) to cancel the mail. Souvenir covers (Figure 1) have been prepared to augment his pension. Checks may be made out to V-A Triburce and sent to Sylvie Matula, 2 rue des Jonquilles, F-60560 Orry-la-Ville, France.

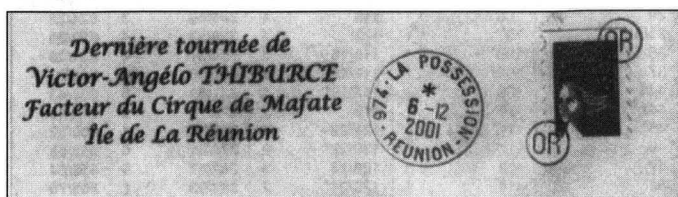


Figure 1.

- Charles Bridoux, designer of innumerable French and Colonial stamps for over a quarter of a century, died 20 February in his 72nd year. He was a specialist in the 20c black Cérès of 1849 and in French marcuphily in general, and had obtained Large Golds at the past two PhilexFrance. M. Bridoux was the vice-president of the Académie de Philatélie and a member of the Académie Européenne de Philatélie.

## NEW ISSUES AND WITHDRAWALS

(Continued from N° 271, January 2003, p. 31)

### France

- 30 November (2 December) 2002: 0,46€ Alex. Dumas (1802-1870);
- First week of December: permanent-value Marianne de Luquet sheet stamps in green (for ECOPLIs - "slow mail," to 20 gm) [sold at 0,41€];
- 20 (23) December: 0,46€ Leopold Sedar Senghor (1906-2001);
- 11 (13) January 2003: Valentine Day (designed by Torrance) 0,46 and 0,69€ heart-shaped stamps, plus sheetlet of five stamps of the 0,46€ value; 0,46€ Merci!; 0,46€ Newborn!;
- 16 January: 0,46€ 40th Anniv. of Franco-German Cooperation Treaty;
- 8 (10) February: 0,46€ 40th Anniv. of program to level the French regional economic "playing field";
- 11 (12) February: 0,46€ Geneviève de Gaulle-Anthonioz (1920-2002);
- 22 (24) February: 0,46€ 200th Anniv. of Paris Chamber of Commerce and Industry.



**Withdrawals:** 13 December 2002: 0,46 75th philatelic congress (Marseille), 0,46 Bicent. of Legion of Honor, 0,46 Louis Delgrès, 0,46 Rocamadour, Nature series foursome (of May 2002), France-Morocco joint-issue twosome (of December 2001).

**Andorra**

- 18 November 2002: 1,02€ fragment of the Santa Coloma mural;
- 20 January 2003: emblem of commune of Escaldes-Engordany: permanent-value self-adhesive, in booklet of ten.

**Withdrawals:** 13 December 2002: 1.02€ Cristo House museum.

**French Polynesia**

- 5 December 2002: Festivity in Polynesia 55F, 120F;
- 1 February 2003: 120F Chinese New Year of the Ram.

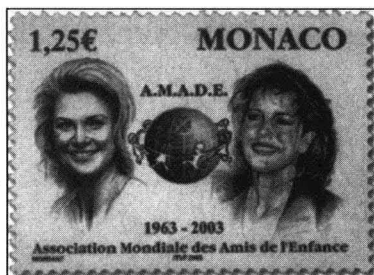
**Withdrawals:** 8 November 2002: 55F Year of the Polynesian child, 120F Chinese New Year, cent. of Central School (2 stamps), Nature of Polynesia (3 stamps).

**Mayotte**

**Withdrawals:** 8 November 2002: 0,41€ Distilling Ylang, 0,46 Zéna M'Dere, 1,52 new hospital, block of shells.

**Monaco**

- 29 November 2002: Classic cars: 0,46 0,69, 1,40€; 0,91 ASCAT Grand Prix; Monaco Phil 2002 imperf. block at 6€; frescoes of The Four Seasons on Prince's palace ceiling: 0,50, 1, 1,50 and 2€; 0,41 land snail *Helix aspersa*; 0,67 Int'l. Bouquet Festival; 1,25 World Assoc. of Friends of Childhood (AMADE);
- 1 December: 0,53 Martyrdom of St. George; 0,61 Bicent. of St.-Cyr military school;
- 2 January 2003: 0,59 Int'l. Circus Festival.



**Withdrawals:** 7 February 2003: [A whole host of stamps, sets and sheetlets were withdrawn. The list can be obtained from your Editor for a self-addressed stamped envelope].

**New Caledonia**

- 8 November 2002: 100F Central Range (Int'l. Year of Mountains); 100F Noël and New Year's festivities;
- 29 November: 100F Art of Adrien Trohmae (Painters of the Pacific series);
- 8 December: 100F St. Valentine Day; also in sheetlet of ten stamps;
- 29 January 2003: 100F Chinese Year of the Ram;
- 7 February: Cagou Bird definitives: 10F, 15F, 30F, and red non-denominat-ed stamp.



**Withdrawals:** 8 November 2002: 70F Caledonian crow, 100F Chinese New Year and 140F block, 100F "France II"; *Nautilus* triptych.

**St. Pierre & Miquelon**

- 8 (13) January 2003: 0,46€ Msgr. François Maurer (Bishop of St. P&M);
- 5 (10) February: 0,46 and 0,87 Seals;

- 12 March: o,79 the Capandéguy Farm;
- 23 April: o,75 blueberries.

### Wallis & Futuna

- 7 November 2002: 56th Autumn Philatelic Salon: four 110F stamps depicting fish (issued in a rather expensive sheet of four horizontal bands of same, separated by labels;
  - 5 December: 140F Best Wishes;
  - 27 January 2003: 135F last flight (in 1963) of "Lancaster" plane to Wallis;
  - 14 February: 85F heart-shaped St. Valentine's Day;
  - 17 February: 125F Anniv. of the Euro [coin-on-stamp].
- Withdrawals:** 8 November 2002: 75F Fight against alcoholism; 225F ship "Jacques Cartier"; children's designs of flowers (band of four stamps); tapas cloth block of four.



## PARIS DISTRICT OFFICE DATE STAMPS -- NEW EARLIER AND LATER DATES ON SAGE-PERIOD STAMPS

by Ralph G. Wilson (FCPS #1122)

[NDLR: Though I had promised Alan McKanna I would take the time to look in my collections for earlier and later dates than those he listed in **FCP** N° 246 (October 1996). I never did find the time. However, our member Ralph Wilson did, and here are his findings, which he had reported to me back in 1997. It's only fair (and way overdue) that I publish them now.

Any member lacking Alan's 1996 article or who is unfamiliar with the *Types and Dater* styles can obtain a copy from me for a stamped, self-addressed envelope. High time for more searching of dates by somebody! -- S. J. Luft].

McKanna Type	Earliest Use	Latest Use	Cancellation
IIA	13 Oct 1884 (Roman)		Paris [24] R. DE CLERY
		26 Jul 1900 (Time)	Paris [1] PL. DE LA BOURSE
IIB	18 Dec 1885 (Roman)		Paris 4 R. D'ENGHIEN
		4 Dec 1900 (Time)	Paris 22 R. DE PROVENCE
Mixed		29 Jun 1893 (type IIB)	Paris 8 R. DE CHOISEUL
Block	21 May 1888 (type IIA)		Paris [5] PL. DE LA REPUBLIQUE
		3 Dec 1900 (type IIB)	Paris 22 R. DE PROVENCE
		3 Dec 1900 (type IIB)	Paris 82 R. DES FRANCS-BOURGEOIS
Time		4 Dec 1900 (Type IIB)	Paris 22 R. DE PROVENCE

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## F.C.P.S. OFFICIAL

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### PRESIDENT'S LETTER

First, I would like to express my appreciation to Lou and Estelle Robbins, who, for several years now, have been preparing and mailing the meeting notices to members residing in the New York City area. In addition to their reliability and efficiency, they have not charged us for printing the notices, for which we thank them very much. Lou will continue distributing meeting notices, but, since the first of the year, we have been sending notices only to those who have requested them; almost all those are being sent by email.

Elsewhere in this issue you should find the financial and membership statements for 2002. The financial statement indicates that we operated last year with an approximate balance between income and expenses. In view of this, the Board has decided to leave dues unchanged for the coming year. Looking at the membership report shows that we continue to lose members. While we may comfort ourselves that most other country-specialist societies are losing members, we must recognize the seriousness of this trend: fewer members means less dues income; our major expense, the publishing of the *Philatelist*, is rising, if only slightly this past year. Obviously, this leads to my oft-repeated appeal: be alert for anyone with whom you are in contact, who might be recruited as a member of the France and Colonies Philatelic Society. An increased membership will benefit us all.

RMS

### CORRESPONDING SECRETARY'S REPORT FOR THE YEAR 2002

Total Membership as of January 1, 2002: .....	548
Total New Members for the Year of 2002: ....	32
Total Reinstatements for the Year 2002: .....	3
	35
Resignations Received in the Year 2002: .....	14
Total Members Deceased in the Year 2002: .....	3
Members Dropped for Non Payment of Dues, 2002: .....	42
	59
Net Membership Gain for the Year of 2002: .....	0
Net Membership Loss of the Year of 2002: .....	24
Total Membership as of December 31, 2002: .....	524

### TREASURER'S REPORT

FRANCE & COLONIES PHILATELIC SOCIETY, INC CASH FLOW  
1/1/02 THROUGH 12/31/02

### INFLOWS

Dues-Income:  
2002 .....7,564.50

**TOTAL Dues-Income** .....7,564.50

Int. Inc. ....498.51

#### Publications

Back Issues.....	35.00
Bordeaux .....	80.00
Commune .....	32.00
Depts Conquis .....	10.00
Gabon-Congo .....	15.00
General Issues .....	32.00
Glossary .....	10.00
Index.....	20.00
Ink Color.....	0.00

Lozenges .....	10.00
Luft III .....	10.00
Transport Marks .....	15.00
<b>TOTAL Publications</b> .....	269.00
<b>TOTAL INFLOWS</b> .....	8,332.01
<b>OUTFLOWS</b>	
Linn's Ad .....	364.00
Meetings .....	101.72
Philatelist:	
Editor .....	204.82
Labels .....	257.03
Magazine .....	6,753.63
<b>TOTAL Philatelist</b> .....	7,215.48
Secretary:	
Corresponding .....	449.82
Recording .....	57.35
<b>TOTAL Secretary</b> .....	507.17
<b>TOTAL OUTFLOWS</b> .....	8,188.37
<b>OVERALL TOTAL</b> .....	143.64
<b>ASSETS (As of 12/31/02)</b>	
Cash and Bank Accounts	
F&C Saving .....	21,452.00
F&C Cash .....	0.00
F&C Checking .....	6,229.30
<b>TOTAL Cash and Bank Accounts</b> .....	27,681.30
<b>TOTAL ASSETS</b> .....	27,681.30
<b>LIABILITIES &amp; EQUITY</b>	
<b>LIABILITIES</b>	
Other Liabilities	
Prepaid Dues .....	6,260.50
Spiegel Fund .....	1,242.29
Vaurie Fund .....	19,522.23
<b>TOTAL Other Liabilities</b> .....	27,025.02
<b>TOTAL LIABILITIES</b> .....	27,025.02
<b>EQUITY</b> .....	656.28
<b>TOTAL LIABILITIES &amp; EQUITY</b> .....	27,681.30
Respectfully submitted, William W. Wallis, Treasurer.....February 4, 2003	

### NEW MEMBERS

- 3289 BROMBERG, JOEL L., P.O. Box 102, Brooklyn, NY 11209-0102. (New Hebrides, French Polynesia).
- 3290 EDGERTON, MILLS FOX, 1433 Willowbrook, Blvd., Lewisburg, PA 17837. (General France: Used - On Cover. Modern France: Mint - Used - On Cover. Others: 1939-1945. The Marianne Series On Cover).
- 3291 PALMER, LEROY, 1345 Kenny St., Coquitlam Province, British Columbia 3VE 2R2, Canada. (General Collector: All Issues. General France. Classics 1849-1876 Mint - Used; 1870-1871 Issues; Sage Type 1876-1900; Mint Blanc, Merson & Mouchon Types, Sowers, Air Mails, Monaco. Colonies General Issues: Mint. Specific Colonies: Mayotte, TAAF, French Polynesia, New Caledonia, Wallis & Futuna. St. Pierre & Miquelon, Canada & Great Britain).



- 3292 DOYLE, ALBERT R., 224 Daniel Drive, Sanibel, FL 33957. (General Collector: All Issues; General France: Mint - Used).
- 3293 STOCKTON, PETER, "Kimal" 16 Legh Road, Adlington Macclefield, Cheshire SK10 4NE, England. (Specialized France: Postal History; Military Posts. Regular Issues: Perfins, Colonies And Territories, Algeria).
- 3294 BAEHR, George W., Box 691334, San Antonio, TX 78269-1334. (Andorra. Colonies General Issues: Mint. All Colonies & Territories. Dealer: Part Time).

### REINSTATEMENTS

- 3200 ANGLEVIEL, FREDERIC, 9 Rue Charleroi, B.P. 920, 98875 Noumea New Caledonia. (Already in *Philatelist*).
- 2643 GAETJENS, KAY, 34, Avenue Marceau, F-75008 Paris, France. (Already in *Philatelist*).
- 2787 WATKINS, PAUL S., Wardgate Cottage, Hubbard Ward, Ashbourne, Derbyshire DE6 3EE, United Kingdom.

### ADDRESS CHANGES AND CORRECTIONS

- 2012 ELLMAN, LEWIS. 183 West Lake Shore Drive, Lake Carmel, NY 10512 (Address Correction).
- 3217 HENDERSON, LAURENCE J., St. Augustine, FL 32084 (Correction to Zip Code).
- 1843 TROUBETZKOY, MIKE, 47 Bess Drive, Clayton, MO 27520.
- 1817 LAYTON, PHILIP R., 103 Parkview Lane, Lynn Haven, FL 32444-3250.
- 2979 TAYLOR, THOMAS O., 80 Crosslands Drive, Kennett Square, PA 19348-2012.
- 1332 BARKER, GEORGE R., 520 Halifax Road, Bradford, West Yorks, BD6 2LP Great Britain.
- 3263 SHORE, LYS ANN, P.O. Box 2646, Friday Harbor, WA 98250.
- 1521 BLECHER, FRANKLIN H., P.O. Box 398507, Miami Beach, FL 33239 (Address Correction).
- 2778 SCHWARTZ, DEBORAH F., Henderson, TN 38340. Name Change to Deborah F. Grantham.
- 2757 GRENIER, CHRISTOPHER, M.D., 7315 Richards Dr., Baton Rouge, LA 70809.
- 1701 KAPPEL, ROBERT G.W., 5953 Oakmont Drive, Banning, CA 92220.
- 1260 MARTOCCIA, C.T., 3 Bowsprit Lane, Salem, SC 29676-4444.

### RESIGNATIONS RECEIVED

- |                          |                          |
|--------------------------|--------------------------|
| 1779 PRUITT, JOHN D.     | 1679 METCALF, ROBERT E.  |
| 3235 BROOLLY, MICHAEL T. | 3122 FROHNE, BERNHARD W. |
| 3243 HOGARTH, DAVID J.   | 3111 FERGUSON, LELAND    |
| 3267 LENT, JERRY D.      | 3056 DUNCAN, ROBERT F.   |
| 2707 GOLDSMITH, MICHAEL  | 1922 NEWBURY, YVONNE Z.  |
| 3230 DIXON, Dr. MICHAEL  | 2737 CHALUFOUR, MICHEL   |
| 1844 CROSBY, MARTIN J.   | 872 SMITHEN, Dr. A.H.    |

### DROPPED FOR NONPAYMENT OF DUES

Richard L. Ballinger, Jean-François Baudot, Laurent Berthault, Jean-Pierre Bijon, Alfred C. Bourget, Kenneth J. David, Alain Dreyfus, James L. Emmett, H. M. Fagerquist, George Fulti, Randolph L. Jones, Jr., Rene Jorgensen, Walter Klemp, William Kubiak, J. Davis Langston, Thomas W. Leu, Jean-Claude Loruso, Drew H. Maddock, Craig Marshall, C. T. Martoccia, Hugh Matheson, Mark Olson, Charles P. Phelan, Ervin Pollak, Scott Reckmo, James R. Simon, Susan Spiegel, Yacov Tsachor, John K. Vaughn, Jr., Roger Van Hyfte, Vernon Vossler, E. Kent Walden, Donald E. Wolf, Dr. Michael X. Zelenak.