

FRANCE and COLONIES PHILATELIST

April 2015 Whole No. 320 (Vol.
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Marianne Definitives, the Current Series

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Taiohae in the Marquesas Islands to Thio, New Caledonia

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All communication about membership, subscriptions, publica-
tions, back issues, activities and services of the Society should
be sent to the Corresponding Secretary:

Joel L. Bromberg
P.O. Box 102
Brooklyn, NY 11209-0102, USA

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

Norval Rasmussen
224 Wilson Ave
Morgantown, WV 26501

Phone: 304-292-7652, e-mail: nrasmu@gmail.com

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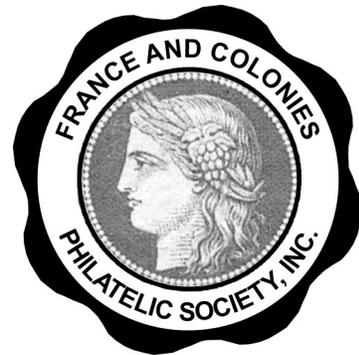
Norval Rasmussen

A combination of events, tax day, asparagus harvest, the first NAPEX board meeting I could make in several months, and spotty internet connectivity while the third floor of my house is transformed, have vied for my attention this month. As a result I am behind again.

This issue of *France and Colonies Philatelist* sees the return of our veteran authors. Two informative pieces each from Edward Grabowski and Martin Bratzel. Jean-Jacques Tillard has given us an article on St Pierre & Miquelon overprints on the French general colonies issue of 1881. Although I am sure all of us collectors of France and colonies can manage reading an article on stamps in French, having the text electronically made it easy for me to use an internet based translation service to produce an English version. It is located at the end of the article. I did a short piece on what I consider a basic topic of French philately. I began it as an essay on the green letter postage rate in France and it became a look at the current Marianne definitive sheet stamps.

OKPEX is coming up soon. Edward Grabowski has offered a program. Anyone else desiring a presentation slot should let me know as early as possible.

Please keep content coming. At this time I have little for the July issue of the FCP. Dig through those covers and how about a brief treatise on another French series. Look at Sid Morginstin's outline in President Nilsestuen's letter. Tackle a topic.



The Era of the French Colonial Group Type: French Oceania - Waiting for Paraita¹

Edward Grabowski

In exhibiting the Group Type, I have always stressed material from the smaller villages of each of the colonies. Generally, material from the smaller villages is more difficult to obtain than that from the principal colonial towns and cities, and on many occasions it represents significant rarities for the collection. Occasionally an additional element is found that enhances the interests in these covers even further. Such is the case for two 1910 Group Type covers addressed to Monsieur Paraita of Papeete, French Oceania shown herein.

The first was purchased more than thirty years ago from the Gold Medal Mail Sales, a branch of J. & H. Stolow (Figure 1). It is franked with the 10c red Group Type of the colony and posted from the small village of Makatéa which is part of the Iles Taumotu complex of islands in French Oceania. The island of Makatéa was known for its phosphate deposits. The letter was posted on July 21, 1910 to Monsieur Paraita, a writer in Papeete. At this time the post office in Makatéa used a provisional Makatéa handstamp as an obliterator in

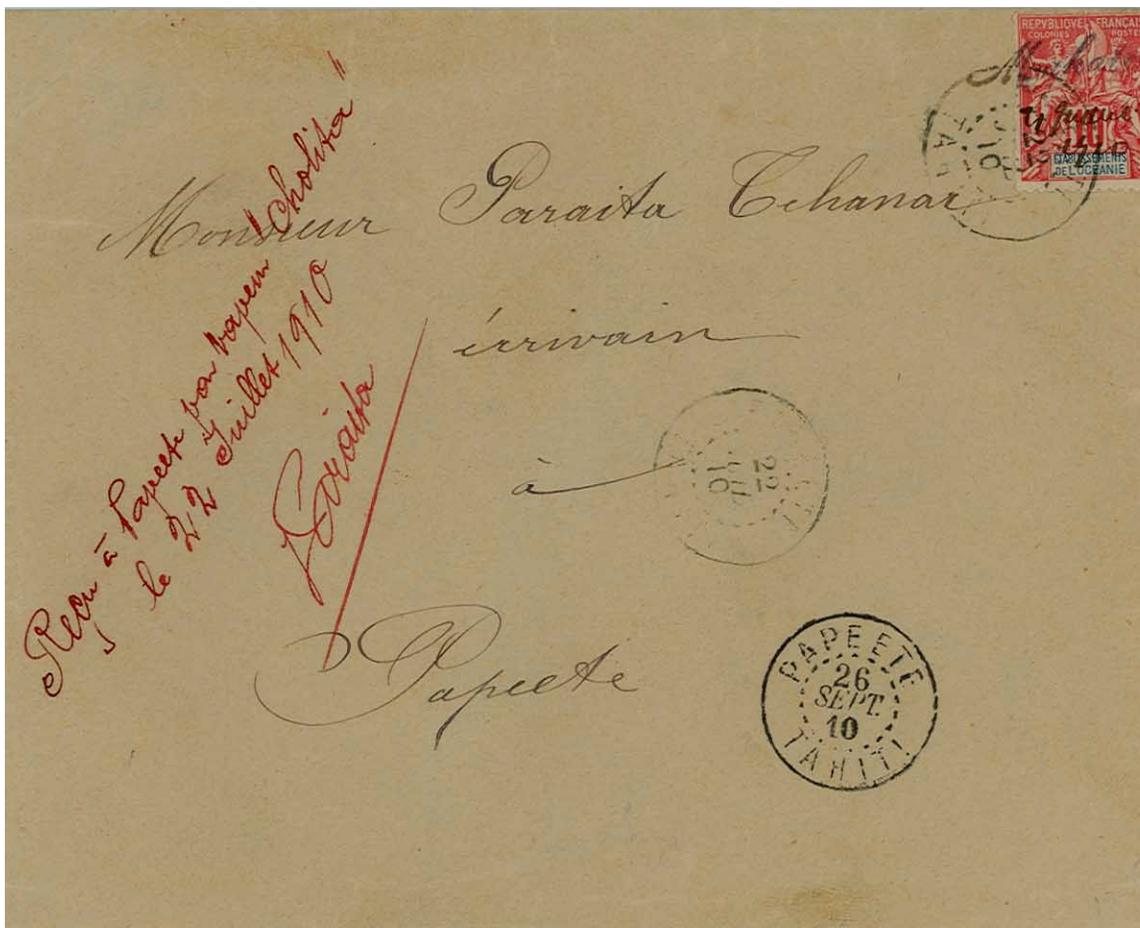


Figure 1. Makatéa to Papeete cover held by the post office.



Figure 1a. Makatéa handstamp

lieu of a standard circular datestamp, and the date of posting was added by manuscript (Figure 1a). In 1910 the French community rate and local rate were uniformly 10c. Apparently the addressee, one Monsieur Paraita, knew that he was going to be traveling during the late spring - summer of 1910, and made arrangements with the local post office at Papeete to hold his mail until his return in September. The letter arrived at Papeete on July 22, 1910, and a Papeete arrival datestamp was struck on the front of the envelope and on the 10c stamp. In addition, the postmaster added a manuscript endorsement in red: *Recu a Papeete par vapeur 'Cholita', le 22 Juillet 1910* and signed the letter. Apparently Monsieur Paraita returned to the post office on September 26, 1910 to pick up his stored mail, and the envelope was struck with the Papeete datestamp of that date. According to Sinais, the Makatéa provisional datestamp is among the rarer of the Oceania cancellations, and this letter with its added markings has always been a prized possession in my Oceania Group Type collection.² It clearly shows the care with which mail was held

for an absent customer.

In the most recent Gaertner auction the sister cover shown in Figure 2 was up for sale. It is also addressed to Monsieur Paraita at Papeete, and was posted from the small village of Uturoa-Raiatea on May 30, 1910. Uturoa-Raiatea was part of the Iles de la Société/Iles sous le Vent complex. The violet datestamp is poorly struck, but just readable. The reverse bears a clear Papeete arrival of June 6th, and the front the postmaster's endorsement in red: *Recu a Papeete, le 6 Juin 1910* with his signature. Again, Sinais considers Uturoa-Raiatea among the rarer of the Oceania post offices.² This letter also bears a Papeete September 26th datestamp indicating that it too was among the items picked up by Paraita on that date.

At this point I am getting ready to show my French Pacific Group Type collection at the Boxborough, MA show, and I am wondering how to handle these two covers. I could simply add them to the small office section of the exhibit

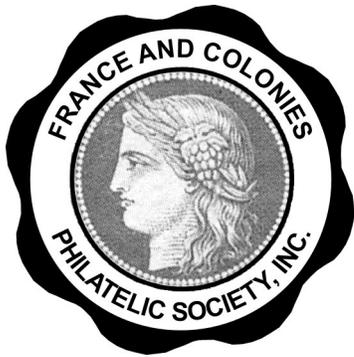


Figure 2. Uturoa-Raiatea to Papeete cover held by the post office

under their village names. But that would lose the connection between the two covers, and the special circumstances under which they were treated. Possibly I will include them in the Papeete section of the exhibit, under a new section entitled Special Treatment of the Mails.

Notes and references:

1. With apologies to Samuel Beckett.
2. Bertrand Sinais, Catalogue des Oblitérations des Colonies Françaises, Tome I, Les Possessions du Pacifique, 1989.



It Only Takes
One Picture
and a
Few Words to Fill This
Space. Please Supply
Them!

ST-PIERRE ET MIQUELON : UNE VARIÉTÉ MECONNUE DE 1891

J. J. Tillard

Le 27 Avril 1891 a été confectionnée pour la première fois dans les îles sur des timbres-poste, une surcharge typographique par composition de 50 empreintes (2 x 25). Cette surcharge remplaçait la traditionnelle frappe manuelle utilisée en 1885. Elle frappait les types « Alphée Dubois » des colonies générales à 30c, 35c, et 40c, faciales peu utilisées. Les timbres furent imprimés en noir.



USAGE : Cette transformation permet de combler la pénurie de timbres à 15c des colonies générales. Employé par multiples, son usage effectua divers- es combinaisons d'affranchissements.



- * 15/30c. brun, tirage 7 575 exemplaires.
- * 15/35c. jaune-orange, tirage 800 exemplaires
- * 15/40c. rouge-orange, tirage 5 025 exemplaires.

La principale variété répertoriée par les catalogues est la surcharge renversée.



D'autres variétés, plus rares, ont fait leurs apparitions dans quelques collections comme la double frappe.



En revanche, une superbe variété totalement méconnue a été découverte en 2013.



Un pli s'est formé dans la feuille avant l'impression. Lorsque la feuille fut dépliée la surcharge se retrouve séparée en deux parties, laissant un espace de 4mm. Ce qui est encore plus frappant, c'est que ce timbre a été oblitéré (probablement pour la collection car il possède encore sa gomme) et que le cachet présente également cette séparation, ayant été oblitéré avant le dépliage du timbre.

L'exemplaire présenté est unique à ce jour.

Cette pièce est à ce jour unique, même si quelques autres exemplaires ont dû exister.

The following is an edited translation using the Google © translation program-ED.

On April 27, 1891 typographic overprints were used on the French general colonies issue of 1881. The overprints were applied in 2 panels of 25. This overprint replaced the traditional manual typing used in 1885. It was applied to the "Alpheus Dubois' general colonies issue

on the 30c, 35c and 40c stamps. The stamps were overprinted in black.

PURPOSE: This transformation helped to fill the shortage of 15c general colonies stamps. Employed by many, its use conducted various combinations of postage.

- * 15 / 30c. brown 7575 copies overprinted.
- * 15 / 35c. yellow-orange, 800 copies overprinted
- * 15 / 40c. red-orange, 5025 copies overprinted.

The main variety listed in the catalogs is reversed overprint.

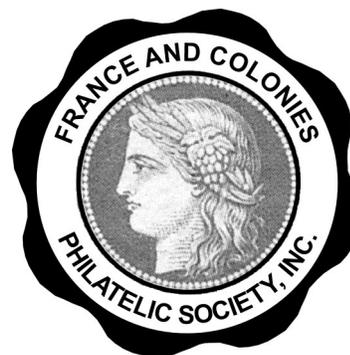
Other varieties rarer made their appearances in some collections such as double overprint.

However, a great variety totally unknown was discovered in 2013.

A bend formed in the sheet before printing. When the sheet was unfolded overcharging is found separated into two parts, leaving a space 4mm. What is even more striking is that this stamp was canceled (probably for the collection because it still has its gum) and the stamp also shows that separation, having been obliterated before unfolding of the stamp

The example is unique to date.

It is unique to this day, even if some other copies have existed.



Wanted:

Your articles on your topics. Your input on journal content. Your ideas of where we are as a society and where we should go.

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200 + Frames of Exhibits

80 + Dealers

Tons of Fun

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EBAY, DELECAMPE-AND ABASSI, CAMEROUN

Marty Bratzel

Revised: March 8, 2015

eBay and Delcampe – Halellujah!
 In years past, to build our collection of stamps and to expand our knowledge of postal history, we acquired material from auction houses, dealers, and friends who kept an eye open for material they knew we might be interested in. And we continue to do so. But most auction houses generally handle material with some significant value. The stock of dealers at bourses can be limited, as can dealers' material received through the mail for our consideration. And word of mouth can only go so far.

I collect Cameroun – all eras – including postmarks. Over the years, I have obtained some very nice material from all the sources noted above, but a considerable amount of information was being missed. Some postmarks are highly unlikely today to be found on covers but, rather, on loose stamps – stamps of minimal catalogue value or stamps that are damaged. What auction house would handle such material, and how many dealers would haul such stock to shows or send approvals through the mail – assuming that they even bothered to include such material in their inventory?

But then along came Internet-based auction sites such as eBay and Delcampe. It seems as if everybody has material to list. The number of listings for Cameroun runs into the thousands, and the vendors are worldwide, reaching audiences undreamed of a few years back. Many of the stamps have minimal catalogue value, and most will not sell. But some do – especially gems in disguise, if one knows what to look for. Consider French Cameroun.

We published *Les oblitérations du Cameroun 1914-1960* in 1990 (Ref. 1). We knew then that a lot of information – including postmarks and dates of use – was being missed, because our ability to search was limited. But, over the past few years, with eBay, Delcampe, and other Internet-based auction sites, the amount of new information has simply exploded! In the past year alone, I have found quite a number of previously unrecorded French Cameroun postmarks. The latest is described here.

A post office under French administration was opened at Yabassi, Cameroun on September 10, 1917 (Ref. 2), but the earliest recorded postmark is dated October 8, 1920 (example in Figure 1). We knew that this canceller was introduced early on, and earlier dates awaited discovery. Earlier dates probably do exist but, thanks to eBay, we now know that there was an even earlier dates-tamp. Pictured in Figure 2 is a postmark dated 27 Mai 19, but the town name reads ABASSI, not YABASSI! Wow! A significant find, on a stamp of minimal catalogue value, offered in a lot of nine nondescript stamps.

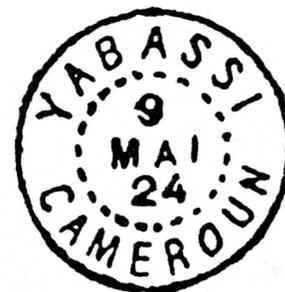


Figure 1. Yabassi Cameroun postmark, enlarged to 150%. This cancel is recorded used between October 8, 1920 and January 11, 1929.



Figure 2. Abassi Cameroun postmark, enlarged to 150%.
The discovery copy, dated May 27, 1919.

Spelling variations on some early French Cameroun postmarks exist. In two cases, the earlier German spelling was initially carried over – Duala rather than Douala and Jaunde rather than Yaounde. But Ebolona rather than Ebolowa was a mistake that persisted from its introduction in 1917 but not corrected until late 1924 or early 1925. (The earlier German administration also had trouble, their first canceller reading Ebolwoa.) The Abassi mistake apparently was corrected more quickly, later in 1919 or in 1920.

In Cameroun, a number of post offices and postal agencies were opened before permanent postal datestamps were available. Thanks to eBay and Delcampe, several provisional postal markings have been discovered, and we have recorded the use of non-postal datestamps – wielded by representatives of the *Trésorier-Payeur des Territoires du Cameroun* stationed throughout the territory – on stamps and mail in a variety of circumstances. Also, we have found one canceller – N’Gila – provisionally used at Ntui. And, some Cameroun postmarks remain a mystery.

I have published a number of articles on these finds and will continue to do so. All this information is being compiled for a greatly expanded second edition of *Les oblitérations*, now in preparation, with the scope encompassing not only postmarks but also the postal history of French Cameroun. Collaborators welcome!

To conclude, eBay, Delcampe, and other Internet-based auction sites have expanded and transformed our vision, our knowledge, our understanding, and our collections, and we are all the better for it. Happy hunting!

Acknowledgements are extended to eBay vendor Andrew C. King, d.b.a. castlehold, for providing a high-quality scan of the stamp in Figure 2.

References

1. Bratzel, M.P. Jr., H. Kraja, and R.J. Maddocks. *Les oblitérations du Cameroun 1914-1960*. MPB Canada, Windsor, Ontario, Canada 1990. 83 pages. ISBN 0-9694026-0-0.
2. Bouvet, P. Les bureaux de poste du Cameroun sous mandat français. *L’Echo de la Timbrologie*, janvier 1935, pages 68-69.

Cameroun Postmark Identification – Help Please

Marty Bratzel

The postmark on the 40-centimes Cameroun postage stamp depicted here is dated * / 8 - 4 / 27. Single-circle cancels, ~26½ mm in diameter, were not otherwise introduced into Cameroun until some 25 years later, in the mid-1950s. The wording at the top reads ... OUN-DE CAMEROUN followed by an asterisk. This format, with the country name immediately following the town name, which we can reasonably conclude is Yaounde, has only been recorded on two 30-mm diameter cancellers, introduced in the late 1940s, that read Douala Cameroun / Charge-ments or Douala Cameroun / Telegraphe. On those cancellers, the date is a single line, set with wheels, not with slugs as for the illustrated post-mark.

The word at the bottom of the postmark is an abbreviation. Only the portion immediately preceding the asterisk is visible – ... P^R. I presume that there is an asterisk preceding YAOUNDE, which would leave space for a five or six (plus or minus) lettered word at the bottom.

I have no reason to think that the cancel is not genuine. I have seen stranger for Cameroun.

Your help, please to determine that wording. Has any reader encountered a similarly worded / abbreviated cancel for another colony or overseas territory during the 1920s? I considered an abbreviation for Charge-ments or Telegraphe, but the usual abbreviations for those words do not compute with what we can read. I also considered the service cancels used in Cameroun during the 1920s – devices with a dashed inner circle that

read Postes et Telegraphes du Cameroun with a single asterisk – but, again, nothing connects. Could the handstamp have been for internal PTT use, or could it have been non-postal, intended for use by another branch of the government?

The stamp was offered on eBay in a lot of 129 mint and used French Cameroun postage stamps accompanied by 7 German Kamerun stamps. Other than the stamp and postmark depicted here, all appeared “routine” to me, but the lot attracted 13 bids from 8 different bidders and sold for \$40.00 USD. Knowing that I could not bid that much for just one interesting stamp, I contacted the vendor, Dan Cohen, aka dan-the-stamp-man, prior to the close of the auction. Dan kindly and promptly sent me a 1200 dpi scan of the stamp, thereby allowing all of us to share in this discovery. Again, your assistance would be appreciated to resolve the mystery about the wording on the cancel.

My sincere thanks to Dan for providing the scan and helping make philately even more fun.



FCPS – The New York Chapter

Edward Grabowski

When I first joined the France & Colonies Philatelic Society in the early 1970's, the New York Chapter was the Society's Home Chapter. With well over one hundred and twenty-five members living within fifty miles of New York City, monthly meetings of the Chapter were held on the first Tuesday of every month, save for July and August. For more than twenty years Ira Zweifach served as Program Chairman and was able to provide a different program for every meeting. During these times we had members specializing in just about every significant area of French philately and the New York area was home to a number of philatelists who were not members of the Society, but collected areas that bore a strong relationship with France. Thus, Ira was able to provide a continuum of excellent programs for our enjoyment. Lou Robbins would present an annual lecture on some aspect of philately and the philatelic trade, and friends like Harlan Stone would frequently update us on some aspect of Swiss-French philately. I helped provide a record of many of these meetings as recorded in the FCP's of those days.

Although the New York Chapter is no longer the Home Chapter of the Society, we do hold at least six informal meetings each year on the first or second Tuesday of the month. Former President Dick Stevens is the unofficial Chair of the group, and takes care of email notifications and leading the actual meetings. Typically we have a Show-and-Tell meeting, with each participant free to bring in any items from their collection worthy of comment, or free to bring up any issue of relevance to French area philately.

Last evening (April 7, 2015) we held one of our informal chapter meetings, and members Joel Bromberg, Martin Stempien, Peter Lampen, Jack Theurer and yours truly showed up along with Chair Dick Stevens for a 6:00 p.m. meeting in the library of the Collectors Club in New York City. Jack presented mostly material from the French Zone of the occupation of Germany after World War II, which he recently mounted for a special Collectors Club annual meeting showing. Dick Stevens presented an amazing grouping of Martinique air mail covers from two periods, just before World War II the other just after. All of these had been purchased from one eBay seller at most modest prices, and they covered the gamut of air mail rates for each of the periods.

As is often the case, I presented an update on some new Group Type covers that I recently added to my collection. Each has an unusual element, and I thought such might be of interest to the general membership. Shown in Figure 1 is a large piece of reinforced paper that was franked with eighteen Group Type stamps totaling 5f25c in postage posted from Saint Louis, Senegal on January 17, 1896. I purchased this via eBay, and immediately wondered if it represented a legitimate franking or if it was a philatelic creation given careful arrangement and selection of the stamps. I concluded that it was a legitimate franking for a number of reasons. The total franking of 5f25c represents the twenty-first weight level (25c per 15 grams), or the twentieth weight level with registration (a 25c charge) with the chamfered **R** outside the scope of the piece. A google search of the addressee (Messieurs MAUREL & H. PROM)



Figure 1. St. Louis, Senegal to Bordeaux twenty-first weight level cover fragment.

showed it to have been a legitimate commercial firm of the period with offices in Bordeaux. The 25c Group Type stamp at the lower left of the piece is nicely tied by the cachet of the Saint Louis branch of the very same firm! Finally, the reinforced paper on which the piece is based strongly suggests that it was part of an envelope/package of considerable weight. All-in-all, it is a most unusual and legitimate Senegal high value franking posted from Saint Louis. Why this choice of stamps in lieu of a more conservative grouping? Possibly it was a reflection of the current status of the supplies at Saint Louis. The 5f Group Type stamp was not issued for this colony, and the 1f stamps may have been in short supply.

From the same colony I also showed the *Avis de Réception* shown in Figure 2. I consider these items quite desirable and rare as used from the colonies. Beginning in 1898 the franked return receipt forms accompanied registered or declared value letters, when the service was requested, on the outward journeys to their destinations, where the forms were completed at the receiving post

offices and returned to the originating offices. This example is franked with the 10c/75c overprint from Senegal's October 1903 issue, wherein the higher value Group Type stamps were revalued at 5c and 10c because these values were in short supply. Proper use of these stamps is much more infrequent than use of regular 5c and 10c Group Types, and I thought that this would be a nice addition to the collection. It originated in Saint Louis on November 9, 1903 during the second month of the use of these stamps. The letter

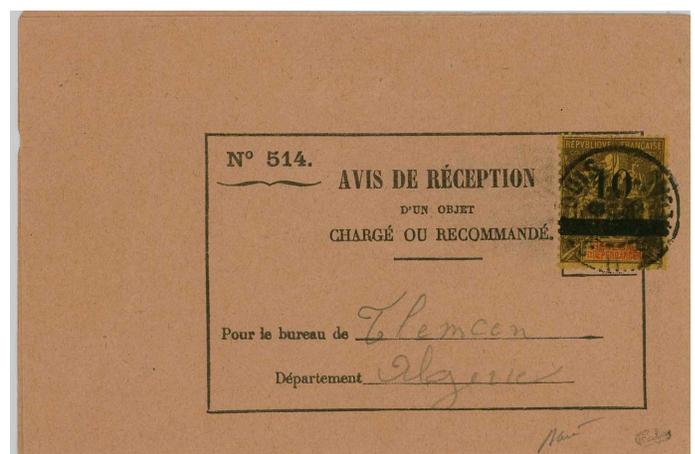


Figure 2. PTT Form 514, Avis de Réception

N° 514.
(N° 101 rose 1905.)
(Mon. D de l'Union.)
SOUS-SECRETARIAT D'ÉTAT
DES POSTES
ET DES TÉLÉGRAPHES.

RÉPUBLIQUE FRANÇAISE.

AVIS DE RÉCEPTION

d'un (1) *LR* { valeur déclarée } enregistré au bureau
recommandé.....

de (2) *Havis* le *9 novembre 1905* sous le n° *424* (3)
et adressé à (souscription complète) M. *Camille Fournier*

à *Concen*
(rue et n° s'il y a lieu)

Nom et adresse de l'expéditeur (4) M. _____ à _____
(rue et n° s'il y a lieu.)

Le soussigné déclare que l' (1) { valeur déclarée } à l'adresse
susmentionnée a été dûment livré le *2/12/1905* { recommandé..... }

Signature (4) _____
du destinataire: _____ du chef du bureau distributeur.

(1) Nature de l'objet (lettre, boîte, échantillon, etc.). — (2) Griffes du bureau d'origine. — (3) Date du dépôt et n° d'inscription au registre de dépôt. — (4) Dans les offices où les règlements le comportent, la signature du chef du bureau distributeur est remplacée par celle du destinataire. L'avis est ensuite renvoyé par le premier courrier.
Dans le régime intérieur: Sous enveloppe n° 810 comme correspondance ordinaire. à l'expéditeur. de l'objet qu'il concerne.
Dans le régime international: Sous enveloppe n° 280 recommandée d'office. au bureau d'origine ...

(4) Dans le régime international le nom et l'adresse de l'expéditeur ne sont consignés qu'à la rentrée de la formule n° 514 au bureau d'origine.

Figure 3. PTT Form 514 completed in Tlemcen, Algeria

and return receipt were posted to Tlemcen, Algeria where the latter was processed on December 2nd (Figure 3). Despite the heavy cancellation on the overprinted Group Type stamp, I still considered this a worthy item and was pleased to add it to my collection. For the record, it bears signatures of Badot and Calves, so others also considered it a piece of possible note.

From French Oceania I showed the registered post card from Taiohae in the Marquises Islands to Thio, New Caledonia (Figure 4) which came from the latest Lugdunum sale. I think this item fits nicely into Dave Herendeen's category of Nowhere to Nowhere covers. The card is nicely franked with the original 10c Group Type in black for postage and the 25c Group Type of the 1900 printing in blue for registration, and the markings

from Taiohae are clearly done in blue. It was posted on November 16, 1905 and the reverse contains a New Year's holiday message. It bears a clear registry office cancel of Nouméa on January 3, 1905 confirming its safe arrival. It does not bear a Thio arrival datestamp, but it undoubtedly completed the journey.



Figure 4. Taiohae in the Marquises Islands to Thio, New Caledonia registered postcard.

One of the areas of the Group Type Era that I have been focusing on lately is the use of the French **F.M.** *franchise militaire* stamps from the Colonies. These stamps were issued beginning in 1901, and members of the French military were allowed two stamps a month to send free letters. In fact, I am just completing a chapter on the use of these stamps from the colonies for the AEP's TOME XV which should appear at the end of 2015. From Diego Suarez, Madagascar on September 3, 1908 I showed proper use of the **F.M.** overprint created on the 10c Sower stamp of France on a letter raised to the registered rate with a 25c Group Type stamp of Madagascar (Figure 5). According to the regulations under which they were used, the *franchise militaire* stamps could only be used on single weight letters and any additional postal services (i.e. second weight level, registration, return receipts, etc.) required prepayment with regular postage stamps. This regulation is nicely illustrated by this cover which was purchased from Till Neuman in Germany.



Figure 5. Registered F.M. cover from Diego-Suarez to Paris

Sometimes one purchases a cover simply because it looks good. An example of such is shown in Figure 6. It is simply a 10c red Group Type postal card which was sent from Helville, Nossi-Bé on February 22, 1907 to an addressee in Wartburg, Natal, not a common destination for mail from the Madagascar area. It was posted on eBay at a very fair starting price. The attraction, of course, is the beautiful routing which is present on the front of the card. The card reached the Zanzibar British Office on February 26th, and then the inland town of Pietermaritzburg, Natal on March 11th. Undoubtedly, it arrived at the port of Durban where mail was transported to the rail center at Pietermaritzburg for sorting and delivery. From Pietermaritzburg it transited by rail to Schroeders, and then its destination at Wartburg

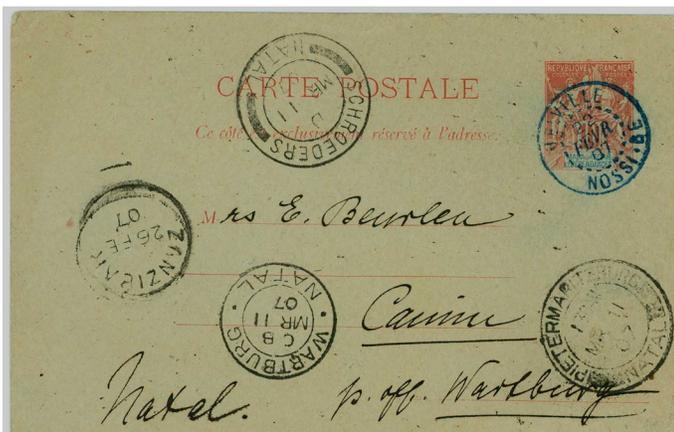


Figure 6. Helville, Nossi-Bé to Wartburg, Natal postal card

on the same day. The reverse bears a full message in German which suggests simple correspondence amongst friends. Special thanks to Roger Porter, a Natal expert, who helped me sort out this one.

I finally ended my part of the meeting by showing the cover in Figure 7 which was posted at the proper 40c registered French Community rate from the small village of Etang Salé, Reunion on November 16, 1906, and franked with the 40c orange Group Type stamp. I have been collecting the Group Type since 1976 and this is the first time that I have been able to add a Group Type cover from the village of Etang Salé to the collection. It too came from the Lugdunum sale, and there was a bit of interest in suggesting that others may have found it interesting too.

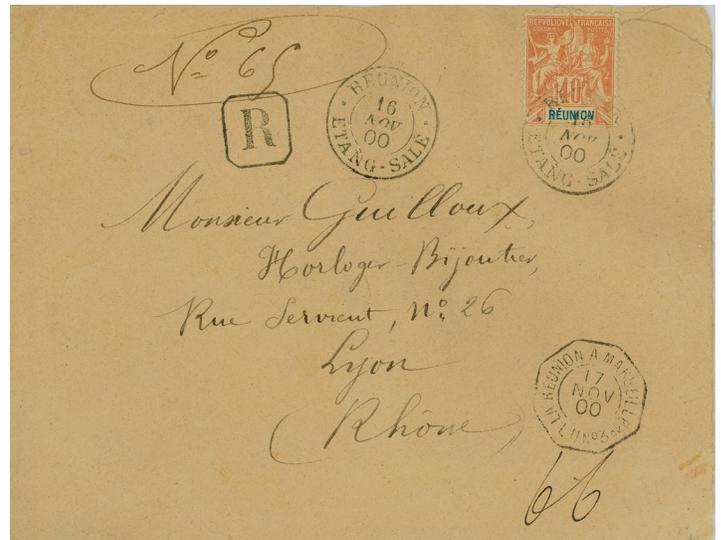


Figure 7. Etang Salé, Reunion to France registered cover.

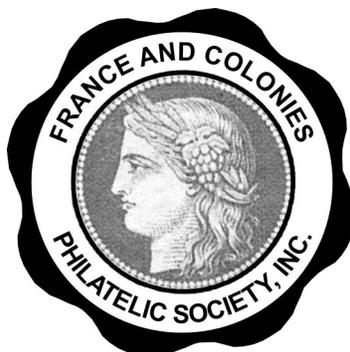
Possibly this update will encourage Dick and Jack to publish something on their interests too. Should any of the members of the FCPS be traveling in the New York area on the first or second Tuesday of the month, be sure to send an email to Dick Stevens (rmsgreendell@gmail.com) to see if we are having a local meeting which you could join. We would be pleased to welcome you.

Limoges to Oran Postage Due

Norval Rasmussen



Postage due covers hold an interest for me. Here is a recent acquisition from Ebay. Sent from Limoges, France on January 23, 1945, postage paid was three francs. The domestic rate applied; from January 5, 1942 until March 1, 1945 that was one franc fifty centimes for a single rate (up to twenty grams). The airmail surcharge was one franc fifty centimes per ten grams. If the letter was over ten grams then postage would have been four francs fifty centimes. Being short one franc fifty centimes it was assessed three francs postage due in Oran, Algeria.



Marianne, the Current Series

Going through the various web sites looking for new issues to include in that section of this journal, I have noted stamps issued for the domestic priority letter rate and the domestic green letter rate. This finally made me curious enough to research these and I will share my findings with you.

There are actually three domestic letter rates. Priority mail is the fastest and most expensive way to send your letter. Next day delivery is the promise and the cost is €0.76 up to 20 grams. The green letter rate promises delivery in two days for a cost of €0.68. This method utilizes ecological sounder transportation, that is, no airplanes. There is a third tier called *ecopli* which takes four to six days to arrive at the destination. The cost is €0.66. For the priority and green rates the maximum weight is 3 kilograms; the *ecopli* service accepts letters up to 250 grams. The definitive Marianne series has issues for all three rates.

These definitive stamps are issued without a specific value and are valid to pay the prevailing postage no matter when purchased, similar to the United States forever stamps.

There is a non-denominated Marianne stamp for the foreign twenty gram rate as well. For Europe it is printed in blue and pays the €0.95 rate. For the rest of the world it is violet and pays €1.20.



Figure 1. Gray Ecopli rate twenty gram stamp.

Above is the non-denominated twenty gram *ecopli* rate stamp. *Ecopli* is printed above Marianne's head and the weight rate indicated in the lower left of the stamp. The stamp is printed in the color gray. The twenty gram green letter non-denominated stamp and the twenty gram priority letter stamps are pictured at the top of page 43. The green letter stamp is printed in green and the priority letter stamp in red.



Figure 2. Twenty gram green letter rate and priority letter rates.

The twenty gram international rate stamps are illustrated below. For Europe, the stamp is blue and for the rest of the world it is violet. Non-denominated stamps for heavier mail are available in the green letter and priority letter rates as well.



Figure 3. International twenty gram rate stamps in blue for Europe and violet for the rest of the world.

Figure 4. Non-denominated priority letter stamps for the fifty gram, one hundred gram and two hundred fifty gram rates.

The fifty, one hundred and two hundred fifty gram non-denominated priority letter stamps are valued at €1.25, 1.90, and 3.05 respectfully. The colors are rose for fifty grams, fuchsia for one hundred, and red brown for two hundred fifty grams.

A khaki non-denominated fifty gram green letter rate stamp is valid for the €1.15 postage for this weight. An olive green non-denominated one hundred gram green letter rate stamp pays €1.75 postage, and a non-denominated slate gray stamp for the two hundred fifty gram rate is valid for €2.75.

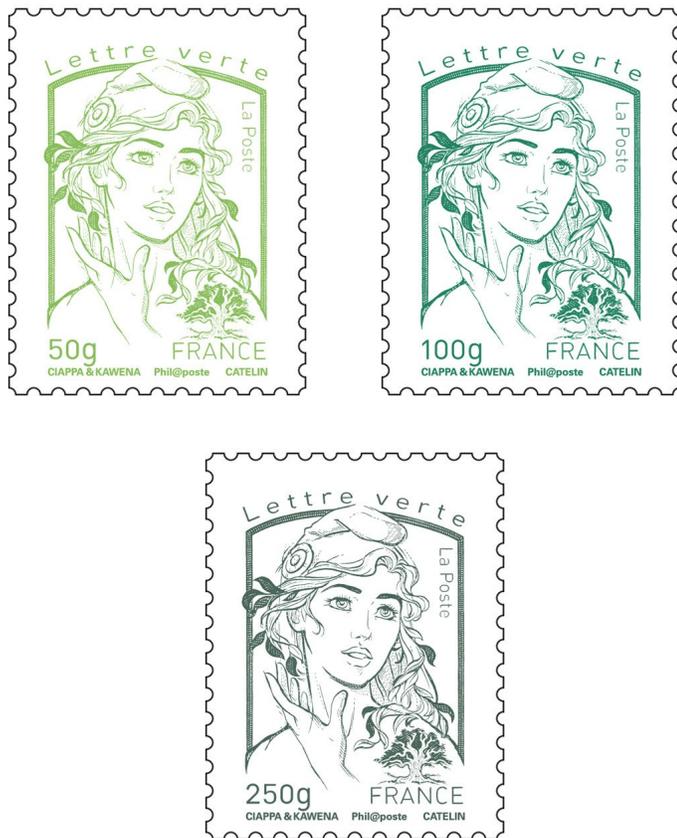
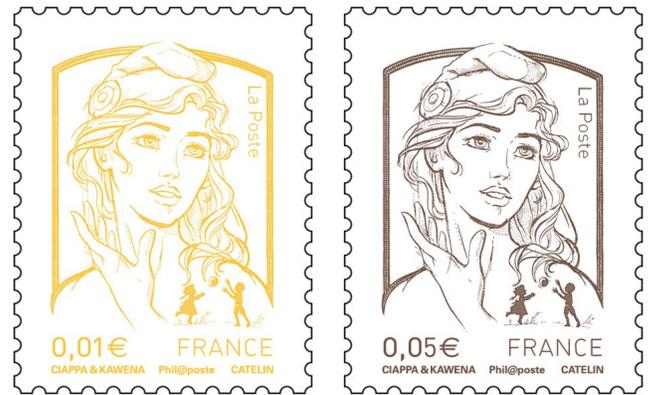
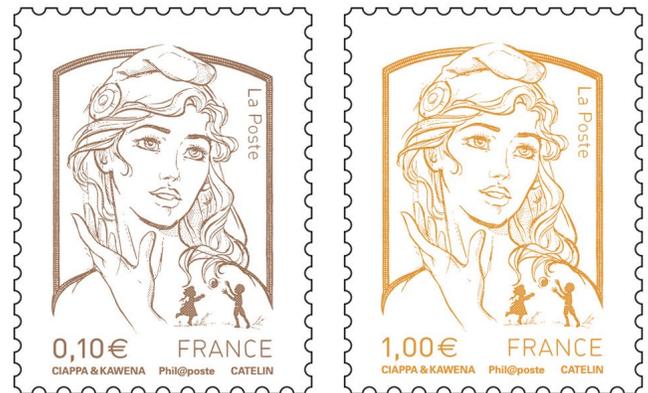


Figure 5. Nondenominated green letter rate stamps for the fifty gram, one hundred gram, and two hundred fifty gram rates.



Yellow

Bister

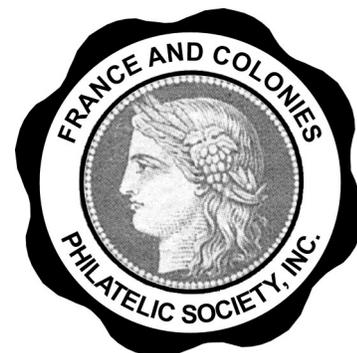


Brown

Orange

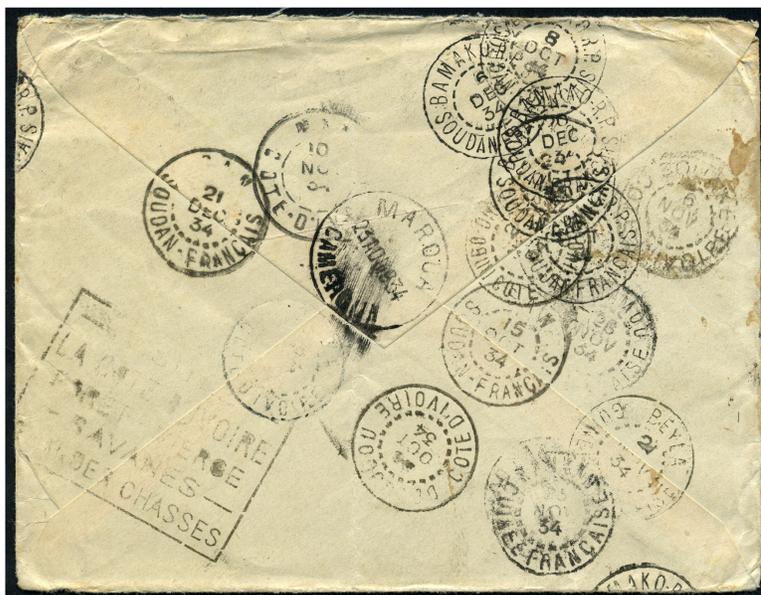
The current Marianne series in sheet format also has four stamps with values of €0.01, 0.05, 0.10, and 1.00. These are issued as make up rate stamps. They are illustrated above with the color below the image.

The Marianne series of sheet stamps are gummed with water activated glue. The series also contains coil and booklet formats.



YAGOUA, CAMEROUN TO FRENCH WEST AFRICA – TRACKING THE JOURNEY OF A WELL TRAVELLED COVER

Marty Bratzel



Cover postmarked Yagoua Caisse d'Avances August 21, 1934 that, during the next four months, travelled through French West Africa, finally reaching the addressee on December 21.

Revised: March 9, 2015

The cover depicted here initially caught my eye because of the fine strike of the non-postal Yagoua caisse d'avances datestamp. Yagoua was a remote postal agency in the far north of Cameroun opened on September 22, 1933 (Ref. 1). This canceller was provisionally used pending arrival of a permanent postal datestamp. The postal agency was converted to a post office circa 1953 (Ref. 2). Yagoua remains remote even today.

The real fun began when I turned the cover over and beheld the plethora of transit postmarks on the back. The cover was originally addressed to Miss Lucy Hillman at San, Soudan Français, to be routed via Dakar, Senegal. It was readdressed four times during its journey, which only cost a modest 50 centimes.

The cover began its journey at Yagoua on August 21, 1934 and was backstamped Maroua, Cameroun two days later, on August 23. So far, so good. The next backstamp is about six weeks later, at Bamako on October 8. This may or may not be unreasonable, assuming the letter was routed from the far north of Cameroun to Douala, the seaport through which virtually all mail entered and left Cameroun. The letter would have travelled by steamship from Douala to Dakar, then inland to Bamako. A week later, the cover arrived at San. To summarize thus far from the postmarks:

August 21 Yagoua,, Cameroun
 August 23 Maroua, Cameroun
 October 8 Bamako R.P., Soudan Francais
 October 15 San, Soudan Francais

Miss Hillman was not at San, so the letter was read-dressed to Dedaugou, Côte d'Ivoire, accumulating one more postmark en route:

October 20 ? Dedaugou, Cote d'Ivoire

Miss Hillman was not there, either, and the letter was again redirected, this time to Bouake, arriving on November 6 and accumulating three more postmarks on the way, one of which is only partially legible:

October 24 Bamako R.P., Soudan Francais
 November 2 Dobo-Di...asso, Cote d'Ivoire
 November 6 Bouake, Cote d'Ivoire

Once again, the letter was readdressed, this time to Labé, Guinée Française. The cover does not have a Labé postmark, and three of the next five postmarks in the sequence are only partially legible. My best guesses are in italics:

November 10 *Man ?*, Cote d'Ivoire
 November 21 Beyla, Guinee Francaise
 November 23 ? *Touba ?*, Cote d'Ivoire
 November 25 Kankan, Guinee Francaise
 November 26 *Fort ?* -Mamou, ... Francaise

I presume that, at that point, the letter was once again redirected, this time back to San. Three more postmarks were acquired:

December 6 Bamako R.P., Soudan Francais
 December 20 Bamako R.P., Soudan Francais
 December 21 San, Soudan Francais

Lastly, there is an undated boxed cachet that reads: Visitez / la Cote d'Ivoire / Foret - Vierge / Savanes / ... des Chasses.

There are no further postmarks, so apparently the letter ended its epic journey at San, finally catching up with Miss Hillman, who must have returned there.

The postmarks of French West Africa and the postal routes through that territory are interesting but well beyond my focus on Cameroun. However, if anyone is interested in further exploring the cover's journey and more precisely deciphering the postmarks, I can provide a high-quality scan of the cover for study. Please contact me through our editor.

References

1. Arrêté créant une agence postale à Yagoua. Order dated September 22, 1933. *Journal officiel du Cameroun*, No 321, October 1, 1933, page 583. Imprimerie du Gouvernement, Yaoundé.
2. *Rapport annuel du gouvernement français à l'Assemblée générale des Nations Unies sur l'administration du Cameroun placé sous la tutelle de la France*. Reports for the years 1947-1957. Note: the title can vary slightly from one year to another.

FRANCE AND COLONIES PHILATELIC SOCIETY, INC.

http://www.franceandcolps.org/

MEMBERSHIP APPLICATION

I hereby apply for membership in the France and Colonies Philatelic Society, Inc., and enclose dues for the first year, as indicated below.

	Cash	PayPal
_____ <i>Resident of the United States</i>	\$20.00	\$22.00
_____ <i>Resident of any other country</i>	\$25.00	\$27.00

Signature

Please supply the following information for the Membership Committee and complete the Speciality Questionnaire for listing in *France and Colonies Philatelist*.

NAME _____ AGE _____

ADDRESS _____

CITY _____ STATE _____

POSTAL CODE _____ COUNTRY _____

TELEPHONE _____ e-mail _____

Membership in other philatelic groups:

Organization _____ Membership No. _____

Organization _____ Membership No. _____

Reference (stamp dealer, other FCPS member, etc.)

NAME _____

ADDRESS _____

How did you learn about the FCPS? _____

Residents of the United States may make payment in U.S. dollars via a check drawn on a U.S. bank, a U.S. Postal Money Order, or PayPal (PayPal account: ward-jeff@san.rr.com). Residents of all other countries may make payment via an International Money Order or PayPal. Payment in foreign currency must include the equivalent of U.S. \$10.00 extra per transaction to cover the conversion to U.S. funds.

Pay To: FRANCE AND COLONIES PHILATELIC SOCIETY, INC.

Mail To: Joel L. Bromberg, PO Box 102, Brooklyn, New York 11209-0102, USA

New Issues

France

- ◇ 5 Jan 2015: The art and the material. Booklet of twelve different designs. Nondenominated. Valid for the priority letter rate in France. €9.12.
- ◇ 15 Jan 2015: Marianne. Booklet of 12 nondenominated stamps good for the priority letter rate in France. €9.12.
- ◇ 19 Jan 2015: Katsushika Hokusai commemorative stamp. €1.90.
- ◇ 26 Jan 2015: Heart stamp. Jean-Charles Casteljacob €1.15.
- ◇ 26 Jan 2015: Heart stamp. Jean-Charles Casteljacob. €0.68.
- ◇ 2 Feb 2015: Lucky star stamps. Sheetlet of 6 nondenominated stamps for the green letter rate in France. €6.80.
- ◇ 2 Feb 2015: Good luck stamps. Sheetlet of 6 nondenominated stamps for the green letter rate in France. €6.80.
- ◇ 2 Feb 2015: Touch-hand gestures. Sheetlet of twelve different designs. Nondenominated valid for the green letter rate in France. €8.16.
- ◇ 2 Feb 2015: Chinese new year; Year of the Goat. Sheetlet of five €0.76 stamps. €3.80.
- ◇ 15 Feb 2015: Marianne. Booklet of 12 nondenominated stamps for the green letter rate in France. € 8.16.
- ◇ 21 Feb 2015: Mules. Sheetlet of four different designs. Nondenominated good for the priority letter rate in France. €5.30.
- ◇ 21 Feb 2015: Donkeys. Sheetlet of four different designs. Nondenominated good for the priority letter rate in France.
- ◇ 23 Feb 2015: Service du Deminage, 1945-2015 commemorative. €1.20.
- ◇ 2 Mar 2015: French goats. Booklet of 12 nondenominated stamps good for the green letter rate in France. €8.16.
- ◇ 2 Mar 2015: Leonard Limosin commemora-



tive stamps. Sheetlet of two different designs €1.90 each. €3.80.



Andorra

- ◇ 3 Jan 2015: Welcome to your home. Andorran objects of art. €1.90.
- ◇ 7 Feb 2015: Legend of the first snow. €3.67.



New Caledonia

- ◇ 19 Feb 2015: Senator Dick Ukiwe. 500F. €4.19.
- ◇ 20 Feb 2015: Chinese New Year. Year of the goat. 110F. €0.92.

French Polynesia

- ◇ 29 Jan 2015: Traditional Crafts; masseuse. 75 F. €0.63.
- ◇ 29 Jan 2015: Traditional Crafts; seamstress. 100F. €0.84.
- ◇ 29 Jan 2015: Traditional Crafts; wood carver. 20F. €0.17
- ◇ 29 Jan 2015: Traditional Crafts; Hunter. 10F. €0.08



- ◇ 19 Feb 2015: Chinese New Year; year of the goat. 140F. €1.17.

French Austral & Antarctic Terrs. (TAAF)

- ◇ 1 Jan 2015: Insects. Crozet. €0.66.
- ◇ 1 Jan 2015: Insects. Possession insect. €2.00.
- ◇ 1 Jan 2015: Krill. €0.66.
- ◇ 1 Jan 2015: Minerals: beryl. €0.66 and €0.34 se-tenant stamps. €1.00.
- ◇ 1 Jan 2015: Antarctic fish. Sheetlet of four different designs. €3.92.
- ◇ 1 Jan 2015: Emperor penguin. €1.00.
- ◇ 1 Jan 2015: Radioline ship. €2.40.
- ◇ 1 Jan 2015: Robert Guillard commemorative stamp. Two se-tenant designs. €0.66 and €1.05. €1.71.
- ◇ 1 Jan 2015: Antarctic terns. €4.30.
- ◇ 1 Jan 2015: Decauville wagons. €0.66.
- ◇ 2 Jan 2015: Diptych of snowmobiles. Se-tenant €0.66 and €1.05 stamps. €1.71.
- ◇ 2 Jan 2015: Leopard seal. €1.05.
- ◇



St. Pierre & Miquelon

- ◇ 14 Jan 2015: Birds: American Redstart. €0.38.
- ◇ 4 Feb 2015: Flora: blueberries. €0.76.



Monaco

- ◇ 7 Jan 2015: 2015 Russian year in Monaco. Two designs se-tenant. €2.40.
- ◇ 7 Jan 2015: Monte Carlo international circus festival. €0.95.
- ◇ 14 Jan 2015: Grace Kelley movies commemorative. To Catch a Thief. €2.00.
- ◇ 14 Jan 2015: Grace Kelley movies commemorative. The Swan. €1.50.
- ◇ 21 Jan 2015: Kiwanis International. €0.95.
- ◇ 5 Feb 2015: Monte Carlo Rolex Masters. €1.25.
- ◇ 21 Jan 2015: Princess Antoinette Park commemorative. €1.45.
- ◇ 21 Jan 2015: National species: Posidonia meadow. €0.68.
- ◇ 5 Feb 2015: International Bouquet competition. €1.45.
- ◇ 5 Feb 2015: International dog show. €1.05.
- ◇ 25 Feb 2015: Jellyfish. Sheetlet of two designs. €2.00.
- ◇ 5 Mar 2015: Formula I racecar drivers. Michele Alboreto. Two designs se-tenant. €1.71.
- ◇ 5 Mar 2015: Formula I racecar drivers. Graham Hill. Two designs se-tenant. €2.45.
- ◇ 5 Mar 2015: Universal exhibition Milan 2015. €1.00.



Wallis & Futuna

My sources had no 2015 issues yet.

Membership Notices

NEW MEMBERS

3464 Durand, Christophe
9 Boulevard de Rochechouart,
Paris 75000, France

REINSTATEMENTS:

3141 McMahon, Ian
3167 Morvay, Alan D.
2995 Wulff, John L.

ADDRESS CHANGES

MAIL RETURNED

RESIGNATIONS RECEIVED:

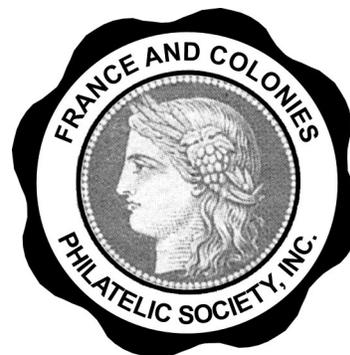
2993 Camak, James N., Jr., MD
2963 Coffey, James E.
3331 Gray, Lewis R.
1140 Kamholz, Kenneth

DECEASED:

3248 Johnson, Michael H. (Feb. 2014)

Members Appeals

WANTED: Tunisian high value airmail stamps, Scott numbers C17-C20 on cover. Scans with asking price to Norval Rasmussen at nrasmu@gmail.com or 224 Wilson Ave, Morgantown, WV 26501.



Show Reports

Garfield-Perry March Party

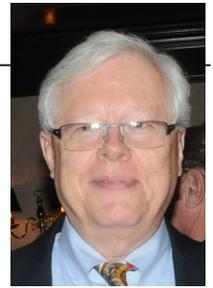
Cleveland, OH March 19-21, 2015

Gold to **Michael Bass** for "Foreign Postal Operations in the Holy Land 1852-1914," also the Dale Pulver Award for the Best Foreign Exhibit. Gold to **Paul Larsen** for "French Sudan and Niger." Vermeil to **Larry Gardner** for "Spanish Post in Morocco Pre-Adhesive to 1930."

Saint Louis Stamp Expo 2015

St. Louis, MO March 27-29, 2015

Silver to **Alfred F. Kugel** for "Commemorative & Semi-Postal Issues of the Third Reich 1933-1945." Single frame vermeil to **Alfred F. Kugel** for "Mail of the Congress of Versailles 1919."



President's Letter

Time flies when having fun. I thought I might find the author of that thought, but I have had no luck. Nonetheless, it sure seems true. I sat down to draft this in mid-March, and here it is a month later and I am finally punching letters on my keyboard.

Let's do a short outline for this quarter. First, OKPEX! That will be here before you know it (especially if you are having fun). Second, a plea for judges. Third, comments on our journal content. Last but not least, a special recognition for one of our members. I think that will be enough.

I haven't heard from OKPEX yet about exhibits, but that doesn't surprise me. One of those "time flies" things for me is judging stamp shows, and I am actually judging three more BEFORE I get to OKPEX. The first two have provided advance information already, but the last one before OKPEX has also been silent so far.

I urge you to get your exhibits entered. Our society has developed a great reputation for supporting the shows that we attend. We provide lots of exhibits, we put on a good program, we reserve rooms at the show hotel, and we are a friendly group. That gets us invitations to good places and good shows. So I am expecting we will carry on that reputation in June.

Our vice-president and editor, Norval Rasmussen, can use help with the program, too. You've read all the great reasons to show some of your collection to us, so I won't repeat them here. The benefits are myriad, the time commitment is small in return for the reward.

This all segues into my second topic, that of APS judging. Our ranks of judges with knowledge of

France and its colonies are thinning. Just a few years ago that list included Dave Herendeen, Eliot Landau, Jamie Gough and me. Today only Jamie and I are available, and Jamie spends much of his time involved at the international level.

As a result, right now I am our only readily available APS accredited judge with specialized knowledge of France and colonies. While I am happy to be that person, it has consequences. First, for those of you who exhibit at our meetings, you get only my expertise on France and colonies. While I do my best, exhibitors greatly benefit when there is more than one expert to offer opinions on improving exhibits. Other jury members do that well, generally, but they still turn to me if there is a "technical" matter.

Second, I am unable to participate in our meetings. It is unfortunate that judging duties, especially at a two day show like OKPEX, are a full time job. If we have a dinner meeting, a judge can take time out for that, but otherwise the tasks are all consuming. Those of you who attended the Cleveland meeting a few years ago were treated to the first half of my Algeria presentation. I hope to present the second half, too, but we need that second APS judge to step up so I can volunteer for a presentation.

The third consequence affects mostly me. I can't exhibit when I am a judge. As a result, my Algerian postal history has been sitting on the shelf for several years. Exhibitors need deadlines as a motivator to whip an exhibit into shape. Being a pretty normal person (at least in that regard), I also need that motivation. So I really would like more APS judges with knowledge of France and colonies so that when we meet there will be other

judges with experience to give all of us a new opinion.

The best place to find qualified judge candidates is in our society. The requirements are pretty basic, although it takes time. You must earn a vermeil or gold medal with an exhibit at a WSP show. Then you apply to serve as an apprentice judge at four WSP shows. You do this at your own expense, so often one serves an apprenticeship as close to home as you can. After satisfactorily completing your apprenticeships you become an APS accredited judge. Nothing to it, right? Please consider joining the ranks. I have had a lot of fun in the ten-plus years I have been judging, and I sure have learned a lot. The experience is definitely rewarding.

Let's move on to topic three, a complete change of gears. A new member kindly took the time to write a few emails to me in February about the need to have some articles about more basic aspects of French philately. He is new to the area, although a long time philatelist. You may know him from his other philatelic activities – Sid Morginstin.

Sid read all the 2014 journals and commented that the articles were generally pretty advanced. Hence his suggestion (that we have heard expressed several times) that we devote space to more basic knowledge.

Sid took the time to prepare a good outline of basic French philately. While not every topic might merit a full article, most of them do, and the rest can be combined to make an article (or several). See the outline at the end of this letter, which I have slightly edited, for Sid's ideas. There may even be topics to add to the list.

It looks easy, doesn't it? So we need volunteers like you to pick a subject that you either know well or want to know and prepare an article.

There are many benefits. First, you know that you will enhance your own knowledge by writing. Second, you will provide content for our journal. Third, you will help attract newer or less experienced collectors to our society. Fourth, you will earn a permanent place in history as an author. Last, and not least, your article will likely be used on our web site as readily available content to researchers and other web users. Isn't that enough motivation to get started?

We could end up with articles in our journal for the next ten years on these basic subjects. So here's a chance to get in at the beginning, to contribute in a meaningful but not too demanding way to our society and to the hobby. Please.

Now the fourth topic. Many of you have met Jean-Jacques Tillard, a philatelist who lives in St. Pierre et Miquelon and collects that very subject. He has several exhibits of classic SPM material that simply cannot be duplicated.

J-J, as most of us call him, had won a large gold medal in Thailand at the 2013 international show with his exhibit of "The Surcharges of St Pierre et Miquelon of the 19th Century." (Of course his title and exhibit were written in French, not English.) SPM takes a serious view of its cultural heritage, so the country issued a commemorative stamp for the event, the first time a SPM exhibit had won an international large gold. His exhibit also won a large gold at Brazil 2013. J-J also published his exhibit as a book that memorializes his exhibit. It is beautiful, to say the least.

But that is no longer the end of the story. At the Rio Grande (Argentina) international in 2015 J-J earned the Grand Prix with 96 points. We now have at least two (maybe three) Grand Prix winners in our society.

For those of you who do not exhibit, and I know you are the majority, this is the equivalent of win-

ning an Oscar for Best Picture, not just any old Oscar. The time, effort, study (and treasure) that it takes to win a Grand Prix is substantial. To achieve this level of recognition is a wonderful accomplishment. Of course it is wonderful for J-J, but also for SPM and for French area philately. We are a serious collecting interest deserving, at least in some cases, of the highest recognition.

THREE CHEERS FOR J-J TILLARD and his fantastic SPM exhibit.

That's it. Let's convene for some fun and learning in Oklahoma City. See you there!

A PRIMER ON FRANCE AND COLONIES

I. INTRODUCTION – A definition of French area philately

II. THE COLONIES

- a. Names
- b. Location
- c. Start and end dates

III. OFFICES ABROAD

- a. Names
- b. Location
- c. Start and end dates

IV. FRANCE

- a. Pre-stamp period
- b. Major historical periods
 - i. Dates
 - ii. Historical context
 - iii. Related philately
- c. General description of types of stamps
 - i. Definitives
 - ii. Commemoratives
 - iii. Air mail
 - iv. Semi-postal
 - v. Postal stationery
- d. General description of postmarks
 - i. Regular
 - ii. Special usages
- e. Occupation of France
- f. French occupation of other countries

V. GENERAL ISSUES FOR COLONIES

- a. Describe
- b. List colonies where used and when

VI. FOR EACH COLONY

- a. General history and description
- b. Pre-stamp period
- c. Each historical period and context
- d. General description of stamps (as above)
- e. General description of postmarks (as above)

VII. OFFICES ABROAD

- a. General history and description
- b. Pre-stamp period
- c. Each historical period and context
- d. General description of stamps (as above)
- e. General description of postmarks (as above)

**Have YOU
Considered
Sharing Your
Knowledge?
Why not write an ar-
ticle for the *FCP*?
Contact the
Editor**

We Get Letters

Dear Norval,

I have reproduced below a brief news item from F&C Philatelist from 1950. A reference is made to Rev. Ben Hamilton Jr.'s article in the Scott Monthly of January, 1950 regarding his graph of the various types of "Franc" currency values of the period. I had a librarian from the APRL try and find this original article and scan it for me. The librarian reports that it could not be found in January 1950 Scott Monthly. Does a reader have a copy of the article or a correct reference to where it may be found. I also note that Ben Hamilton Jr. also contributed to several other publications besides Scott Monthly in the 1940s and 1950s.

Best Regards,

Jim Taylor
miquelon@shaw.ca

No. 49 (Vol. 19, No. 1)

France ~ Colonies Philatelist
January-February 1950

Page 4

How Much is a Franc? In the present monetary confusion, we are often impelled to ask, "What: IS a Franc?"

Scott's Monthly Journal for January 1950 has an article by Rev. Ben Hamilton Jr., formerly a member of the Group, now a missionary in French Equatorial Africa, which sums up this situation very neatly, showing **graphically the ratios of franc values**, using the Metropolitan Franc, now 28/100 of 1 cent, as base. From this article, summary is taken: C.F.A. (French Colonies in Africa) used also in Reunion and St. Pierre

-Miquelon, but not in Djibouti: 1 franc equals 2 Metropolitan francs. Djibouti franc equals 1.15 Metropolitan francs---used only in French Somaliland. O.P.F. (French Colonies in the Pacific)---- 1 franc equals 5.48 Metropolitan francs. New Hebrides "franc d'or", most valuable of all, 1 franc equals 38.40 Metropolitan francs. Good figures to: remember when you are trying to figure face values. ---A.R. Fernald.

Dear Editor,

In the January 2015, President Nilsestuen rightly appeals to the membership to "share the knowledge." Some years ago, I read in these pages about a project to digitize the complete run of FCP so that it becomes fully searchable since the first issue. In terms of sharing knowledge, I can think of no single project that could have a bigger impact. As Executive Secretary of The Society of Indo-China Philatelists, I have sent out many copies of the CD-ROM that has a complete run of our journal and it is fully word-searchable. Feedback has been uniformly positive. This product was created and is maintained by one single person, the SICP President, demonstrating that the required effort is surely within the resources of this society.

I do not know what happened to the digitization project, but I urge that it be completed as one very significant contribution toward "keeping the candles burning."

Ron Bentley

Norval:

I am hoping that you may be able to use some or all of this in the magazine. The seminar is in May.

Many thanks
Colin Fraser

Almost fifteen years ago, in 2002, the Philatelic Society of Greater Southern Africa (PSGSA), held an anniversary exhibition and meeting in association with the Rocky Mountain Stamp Show in Denver. In 2015, the PSGSA will again convene at the Rocky Mountain Stamp Show in Denver and as part of the 2015 events, Tim Bartshe and Colin Fraser are organizing a full day seminar covering a number of themes relating to African Philately. This seminar will be held on 14 May, 2015, the day prior to the opening of the show. We will have 12 presentations covering different aspects of African Philately. Each will last about half an hour. In the evening, there will be a no-host dinner with a noted philatelist as the guest speaker.

We both would like to send an invitation to participate in this event either as an attendee or as an exhibitor. In 2002 we presented over 100 frames of British African material and displayed some of the greatest material in North America. The 2015 Jury comprises Rich Drews (Chair), Colin Fraser, Kathy Johnson, Peter McCann and Chris Dahle.

The exhibition will have a full complement of dealers and will be held from 15 to 17 May, 2015. It is a fully accredited American Philatelic Society World Series of Philately national exhibition.

Full details of the exhibition, including application forms, can be found on their web site:
www.rockymountainstampshow.com

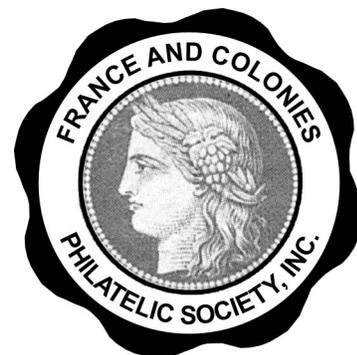
Instructions for authors

Electronic submission using Microsoft Word © is preferred. Pictures scanned at 300 dpi reproduce well and can be shown larger without losing clarity. The preferred format for the pictures is TIF, but JPEG is acceptable.

In all cases if you need assistance in producing your article, cover write up, column closer, or other submission contact me: nrasmu@gmail.com or 224 Wilson Ave., Morgantown, WV 26501, or 304-292-7652, or 304-290-6117.

Deadlines are the 15th of the month preceding publication (December 15, March 15, June 15, September 15) but I can be reasonable.

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