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I N D E X
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France & Colonies Philatelist



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Editor: Stephen G. Rich, P.O. Box B, Verona, N.J.



French Centenary Exhibit
at
The Philatelic Museum,
Philadelphia, Pa.

January 16 to February 13,
1949

At the Preview Night, Saturday, January 15.

Front row: Mrs. Arthur Nichol, Mrs. Jean Carlu,
Miss Louise Clemenceau.

Rear row: Mr. Frank Bickert, Mr. Raoul Lesgor,
Mr. William Wilson, Mr. Jean Carlu, Mrs. Helen
Stringham.

(Background is pages of exhibit of Balloon Post
of Siege of Paris, 1870, by J.B. Kremer).

(Photograph by Adrien Boutrelle)

Story of the Exhibition and a further picture,
on page 2 in this number. (So look inside.)

The Philatelic Museum, opened in December, 1948, at Philadelphia, and connected with Temple University, followed its opening general show in December with our French and Colonial Centennial Exhibition, January 16 to February 13, 1949.

The occasion was the 100th anniversary of the issuance of the first French stamps, the black 20c and orange 1f of 1849. Fitly to take note of this occasion, a representation of everything in French and Colonial philately was chosen to fill the 150 frames in the Museum. The France and Colonies Group, both the Philadelphia Chapter and the Parent Chapter in New York, supplied or secured most of the material shown. Outside collectors, known to our members, were asked to come in, when their collections would help.

From the Revolutionary Period, covers from Mr. Henry A. Meyer of Evansville, Ind. (a friend of the Group) through the Historical Showing, the 1944-48 material by our member, Mr. Alan R. Fernald; from Metropolitan France to even the least known colony, everything was on hand. Even such recondite fields as: Newspaper Stamps and usages, by Mr. Ben Reeves; Reunion shown fully in the two exhibits of Miss Clemenson and Mrs. Stringham; the detailed study of New Caledonia, by Mr. Donald Burgess; Postal History of Paris, by Mr. John B. Morton; Postal Stationery, very fully shown by Mr. Vincent Domanski, Jr. -- and so on through more than forty-five fine separate exhibits -- the field was more adequately covered than our wildest dreams could have thought possible.

Much attention went to two striking exhibits of most unusual nature. Dr. Carroll Chase's two hand-drawn maps of Egypt, made during the 1798 expedition headed by Napoleon, and used in that campaign, were universally admired. Mr. Gare Meghrig's complete sheet of 300 of France No. 1, the 20c 1849 (the first French stamp, even if not "catalog No. 1") was easily the most often noticed and most admired single frame in the entire show.

Downstairs, filling the small exhibit room, was a special exhibit. It was a special official exhibit on behalf of the French Government, that Mr. Jean Carlu brought, set up and cared for.

Starting in an entrancing exhibit to show the work of the French Underground during the German occupation, it carried onwards into the rapid and great steps in restoration in France since Liberation.

The magnificent Gobelin Tapestry, which shows American Army units passing Independence Hall, en route to France in World War I, and which is one of the treasures of the Philadelphia Museum of Art, was lent specially for this philatelic occasion, by the City of Philadelphia. Hanging high on one wall of the main hall of the Museum and illuminated so that it could be seen fully and readily, this magnificent piece gave power and character to the whole showing.

On the walls of the various halls, enlarged photographs of scenes in France were furnished by the Philatelic Museum.

Attendance during the Centennial Exhibit was steady and good, throughout its duration. The preview, on the evening before the opening to the public, was attended by those actively in the Museum's work, and by all those of us in the France & Colonies Group who could come. The invitations for this occasion were sent to all members of the Group within convenient reach, and the proportion that accepted was large.



INTERIOR VIEW OF THE MUSEUM

Efficient lighting and new display techniques make for dramatic presentations of the exhibits.

Upper Volta

Referring to the article by Mr. Weiler, which appeared in No. 42, Mr. Edmond Queyroy adds for our benefit some information.

Public Notice No. 3273, July 17, 1948, which he quotes, does not list as Upper Volta offices:

Kampti, Saria, Yako.

This notice lists one office not given in Mr. Weiler's list:

Nouna.

This notice further lists two postal agencies or "subordinate offices," one of which has not been included in Mr. Weiler's list:

Diapaga (subordinate to Ouagadougou)

Kantchari (subordinate to Ouagadougou).

Thus the information is brought up to date.

We do not know whether the offices included by Mr. Weiler and not on this list have been discontinued, or what happened to them. As they are not included in the lists of offices in the other French West African colonies, in this July 17, 1948 notice, we can give no information. The additional offices to judge from what Mr. Weiler tells of his source of information, would seem to have been established since the separation of Upper Volta anew as a postal unit, and after the list in the Bottin Volume of 1948 had been published.

THE NEW SERVICE

Want & exchange notices; members only; one or two insertions only; no charge. Those replying will please offer only what is asked for here.

Wanted to buy: used stamps of the Ceres and Napoleon Head issues of France, for my collection of postmarks; lots or single items. Herbert A. Frank, 13 South Colony St., Meriden, Conn. (Member 339).

Seeking blocks, used and unused, of the 1937 Colonies Issue of René Caillié. W.J. Connolly, R.D. 1, Harris Ave., Bound Brook, N.J. (Member 322)

If you need U.S. Telegraphs, Orange Free State or Bechuanaland stamps, I will swap for any Type Sage items of France I can use. Millesime used pairs and singles most desired. S.G. Rich, Verona, N.J. (Member 2)

I N D E X

Nos. 1 thorough 38 of the F. & C. Phil.
(Vol. 1 No. 1 through Vol. 7, No. 2)

By Catherine W. Menninger.

Locs are by volume and page:--volumes in Roman numbers

"If you don't find it, think of some other name by which it may be listed herein."

f after a page number: "and next page."

ff after a page number: "and next pages."

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SECRETARY'S REPORT Nov. 1, 1948 through Feb. 28, 1949

NEW MEMBERS: Welcome --

- 357 de Bretagne, Charles, 372 Main St., Poughkeepsie, N.Y. (France)
- 358 Champlain, Charles E., 64 Wall St., Addison, N.Y. (France)
- 359 Smeltzer, Chester A., 23 Lake St., Ramsey, N. J. (French Colonies)
- 360 Teller, Frank G., 5109 Edmondson Ave., Baltimore 29, Md. (No specialty stated)
- 361 Wolf, J. Irving, M.D., 2825 Devon Drive, Tucson, Ariz. (General collector)

REINSTATED: Welcome back --

- 26 Brooks, Arthur S., R.D. 4, Van Wert, Ohio
- 41 Girard, Daniel P., Teachers College, New York 27, N.Y.

APPLICATIONS PENDING:

- Aronson, S., Newcastle, Texas
- Johnson, Mrs. Fanchon, 1601 Royal Boulevard, Glendale 7, Calif.
- Kun, Henry P., 574 West End Ave., New York 24, N.Y.
- O'Connor, Harvey, Little Compton, R.I.
- Quint, Henry F., 789 W. Ferry St., Buffalo 9, N.Y.

CHANGES OF ADDRESS:

- 23 Arnal, Leon, to 4301 Linden Hills Blvd., Minneapolis 10, Minn.
- 147 Crapser, Charles C., to The Drake, Lake Shore Drive, Chicago 11, Ill.
- 281 Schloss, Herman, to 168-18 Crocheron Ave., Flushing, N.Y.
- 61 Stone, Robert G., to Star Route, Clinton, Md.
- 231 Williams, Mrs. Anne Stanley, to 1820 Wheeler St., Houston 4, Texas.
- 303 Willis, P.D., to P.O. Box 688, Pasadena, Texas

PHILADELPHIA CHAPTER: ---

The Chapter was organized December 10, 1948. Meetings are being held monthly. first Monday, 8 p.m. at The Philatelic Museum. You are asked to come to meetings if you are anywhere within convenient reach, whether a Chapter member or not. Attendance has grown at each meeting.

The officers elected are:

- Chairman: H. Thomas Davenport
- Vice-Pres. pro tem: Bernard Davis
- Secretary pro tem: G.A. von Gross
- Treasurer: Ralph Holtsizer.

ANNUAL MEETING

As provided in the By-Laws, the Annual Meeting for election of officers etc., will be held on Thursday, May 5, 1949 at 8 p.m., at 22 East 35th St., New York, N.Y. (Collectors Club).

Members do not have to be Parent Chapter members to vote at this meeting.