

# France & Colonies Philatelist



Published bi-monthly by the France and Colonies Group

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Old and New Pieces --But Seldom Seen.  
Assembled from various sources, with  
many collecting interests covered.



The 5f Empire, without  
5 and without 5. Only  
five copies are known.  
(M. Jamet)



Two of the 40c  
Eagle Colonies  
cancelled with  
MAYOTTE ET DEP.  
1877.....very  
early Mayotte.  
(M. Jamet)



Tahiti's 1915 Semi-  
Postal, 15c gray in  
block of four with  
inverted overprint.  
(Harmer Rooke)



St. Pierre & Miquelon 1942: Free  
French 20c, margin  
showing overprint  
as well as on the  
stamps, which are  
themselves seldom  
seen.

(Irwin Helman)

Members please turn  
to Page 4, and read  
the Lesgor Contest  
announcement. Then  
take part in that  
contest. You who do  
not live near New  
York are specially,  
actively invited.

Let not short time  
forestall your tak-  
ing part.

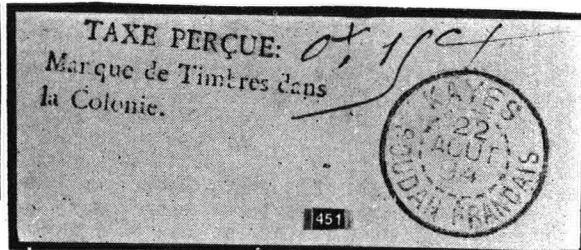


The very scarce  
France "Orphan"  
semi-postal of  
1917.

(Mercury Stamp  
Co.)



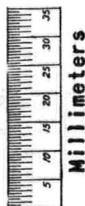
The 10 francs Free  
French stamp of  
Somali Coast, 1943.  
(H.R. Harmer)



The "Kayes Provisional"  
substitute for stamps,  
French Sudan, 1894  
(Harmer Rooke)

Minor Varieties  
in the  
Comoe Rapids Design  
of  
Ivory Coast

By George A. Weiler



2

Varieties in design are easily apparent on the high values of the Ivory Coast 1936 issue. Breaks are clearly visible in both the outer side frame lines and the outer design lines.

Ten stamps of the type illustrated, show the breaks neatly. Referring to the millimeter rule alongside the picture, the numerals cited give the distance from bottom of stamp to the break. R or L indicates on which side of the stamp.

1.75f rose, R9 and spur of line between the two border lines.

2.25f, L 32

3f, , L22 and 23 on same stamp; R 14; R 20 to 25, 4 breaks together; R28; R 32(2 copies); L 25

5f, L31, R 25, R26.

To locate these, project a line from scale to stamp, horizontally.

This is a minor variety sideline which can be collected without regard to value.

The Comoe Rapids design was first placed on sale at Paris at the Agence Comptable des Timbres-Poste Coloniaux, on Oct. 20 1936. Nine values have appeared, some with changes in color; and one without F R in the top left corner.

Additional varieties can be verified, their plate location determined by multiple pieces--- and followed through the life of the issue.

Book Review

Les Documents Postaux de la Guerre 1939-45. By Georges Chapier et Dralm, and pierre Girard. Bischoffler, 1953, L'Echangeiste Universel, 56 pp. paper, 300 francs (or from the author, G. Chapier, 117 Pierre Corneille, Lyon.

This is a list of all sorts of postal stationery originating in World War 2 in France. It is not priced, but is well illustrated, very well annotated as to use etc. of each. Interzone card material after the armistice is included. This whole collecting field seems never to have been adequately charted hitherto. The Chapier book appears to do this task, adequately and, we are reasonably sure, without any significant errors. Doubtless its appearance will call forth report of many an item not hitherto listed, but which the owners had never bothered to show to those compiling this book.

S.G.R.

What Is it? on the A O F Airmail Type,

The Rising Airplane type of 1942, issued for a number of colonies in West Africa, and illustrated under Dahomey as type APS in Scott, shows a structure of some sort, at the extreme left of the field.

Examination under the hand lens or even the microscope, however, does not bring out enough detail to identify the structure. Is it a shed or a parked truck, or what? Can anyone tell us with certainty? Your editor is puzzled by the inquiry of a member on this. He also will be glad to know, for if it is a truck, the stamps will qualify for his "Automotive" collection.

C. C. P. AWARD  
for 1953

is won by

CHARLES NEIDORF

of the France & Colonies Group

for his serial on the Tour Hassan Issue, of French Morocco.



This lovely medal, in bronze, with suitable inscription, was awarded to Charles Neidorf for the best article in the Collectors Club Philatelist in 1953. His Tour Hassan serial, which is also the most coherent treatment yet given of making stamps by lithography and how varieties arise in that process, was judged against every article in the 1953 volume of that heavy journal, and unanimously considered best. The judges were men of high philatelic attainments, not one of them a member of the Group.

Presentation of the medal at the January 13, 1954 Annual Meeting of the Collectors Club, was a real feature of the evening. A goodly number of our members were present.

Mr. Neidorf's Tour Hassan articles have been assembled and published as a handbook. Orders for it will be filled via the Editor of the F. & C. Phil., at \$1.50 each post free; or it may be had direct from the Collectors Club. We get a commission if we can take 10 or more copies.

Yet Another Encased French Stamp Turns Up.

Our member, Dr. Douglas H. Wells, reports in mid-1953 that he has:

Sower Type 10c red (Scott 162, Yvert 135), cased in embossed aluminum, similar in design to the 5c Credit Lyonnais which we have pictured.

Wording: In center, two lines:

LISEZ L'INTRAN

and below in small letters

fyp bts sgdo paris (even as on the Credit Lyonnais piece)

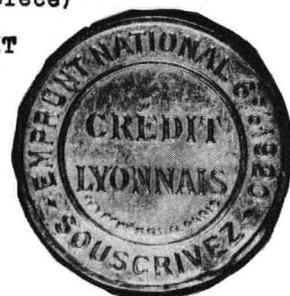
In margin at top:

TOUTE LE MONDE LIT

In margin at bottom:

L'INTRANSIGEANT

Maker's imprint ----->  
"FYP BTS SGDO PARIS"



# A Check List of French Stamps used in Guadeloupe, 1949 to 1953

By Robert G. Stone

As is probably now well known, French stamps rather than colonial ones have been in regular use in Guadeloupe since Jan. 1, 1949. It is an interesting question whether all French stamps current or issued during the time since that date have been sold in the post offices there.

One could probably obtain information on this by inquiry to the Postmaster at Basse-Terre. We have not yet taken this trouble. But, having examined a large amount of commercial mail from Point-a-Pitre, well spread over the years 1949-53, the following tally of the stamps found may give some idea of the general usage:---

## Liberty, or Marianne with Phrygian Bonnet (Scott Type A147), "Marianne de Gandon."



- 3 fr light to dark purple
- 5 fr blue
- 5 fr light grayish violet
- 6 fr dark green (scarce)
- 8 fr turquoise blue
- 10 fr violet
- 15 fr blue
- 15 fr red

## Ceres-Laureated Type (Scott Type A146)

- 2 fr green (scarce)

## Arms of French Provinces (Series 1947 on)



- 50c Guyenne (scarce)
- 1 fr Savoie
- 1 fr Bearn
- 2 fr Auvergne
- 2 fr Touraine
- 3 fr Franche Comté (scarce)
- 4 fr Anjou

## Monuments and Scenes of France (Series 1946 and on)

- 20 fr Chateau de de Chambord
- 20 fr St. Bernard de Comminges
- 20 fr Point du Raz, Finisterre
- 25 fr Nancy, Place Stanislas
- 25 fr Abbaye St. Wandrille
- 30 fr Abbaye St. Wandrille
- 30 fr Chateau Beauteemps, Arbois (Jura)
- 40 fr Meuse Valley, Ardennes
- 50 fr Mt. Gerbier de Junc, Vivarais

Most of the mail was sent by air. Hence the low denominations were barely sampled. Many of the regular issues of 1948-53 apparently were little used, if at all.

## Among the Air Mails the following were noted:

- 100 fr Lille
- 100 fr Daedalus (scarce)
- 200 fr Chariot of the Sun (scarce)
- 200 fr Bordeaux

Semi-postals one does not expect to see on commercial mail; however they probably have been available at at least Nasse-Terre and Pointe-a-Pitre.

A number of stamps were noted from Martinique which haven't been seen from Guadeloupe. Further information is solicited from readers.

(Will some other members give us lists like this for Reunion, Martinique, etc?---Editor?)



Whether put ashore from a ship that had brought it outside the mails, or cancelled there because the French mailing office missed it, this one of Naples on Empire 40c pair is very lovely.

## Quiz Program for April 6, 1954 Meeting.

The April meeting will be given over to our Quiz Program. A panel of very well informed members of the Group will endeavor to answer all sorts of questions on anything on philately of all the French countries.

Members who live too far afield to come, are invited to send in their questions in writing. We plan to have the answers relayed to those inquiring, after the meeting.

Send all questions to Gustave Wittenberg, 106 Cabrini Boulevard, New York, 33, N.Y. Please be sure to get the questions to him by March 15th at latest. Better still, "Do it now."

One question to a letter, please; but if any member wishes to send in several letters, even if all enclosed in one envelope, that is quite all right.



## The "Universal Thin Spot" of the 5f Empire 1867

The normal presence of a thin spot, not at the edge of the stamp, nor yet where it would be derived from carelessly pulling off a hinge, on copies of the 5f Empire, has been explained.

Our Group president, Mr. Brainerd Kremer, who does not recall the locus where he found the information, states that this stamp was kept in stock only in small quantities, especially in smaller post offices. The clerks would attach each copy of the few on hand, by a spot of its own gum, to a sheet of paper, and put this into the book whence stamps were sold.

When the stamp was pulled off and sold, the very soft paper of the stamp, rather than that of the sheet which had carried it, tore away. The result was the thin spot.

## MEMBERS' APPEALS

Want and exchange notices only; members only; one or two insertions only but we will rerun a notice if asked to; no charge. Those who reply will please offer only what is asked.

Wanted: Books, periodicals or catalogs, with information on postal markings and cancellations on early French stampless covers; listings and values. Kenneth C. Bush, 60 Grace St., Buffalo 7, N.Y. (Member 534).

Numbers of Le Marché Philatélique wanted: Nos. 3, 4, 5, 6, 7, 14, 22, 23. Will take any or all; price each one you send. Ernest L. Rothschild, 3585 Van Antwerp Place, Cincinnati 29, Ohio (Member 402)

Wanted to buy: Early France and Colonies, (general issues) on and off cover, only very fine. A.S. Juliard, "Green Acres," Narberth, Penna. (Member 438)

Our member who is honored. Louis Lamoureux, of Toronto is now President of the Canadian Philatelic Society.

A well-deserved honor to a fine collector and a fine man.



### The Third Lesgor Contest

To be held at the Group's Meeting, March 2, 1954

Every member is eligible to compete,  
whether resident or non-resident.

This contest is for 20th Century France or  
French Colonial Stamps

Two divisions:---

Class A: original research on a single  
stamp or issue, 20th Century, of any  
French Colony, Offices Abroad, Man-  
date or Protectorate, or of France.

Class B: studies of a single stamp or  
issue, 20th Century, of these same  
countries, but NOT primarily a job  
of research.

There will be awards in each section and a main  
prize for the best entry of any sort.

Collections previously exhibited at a meeting  
of the Group may be entered only when they have  
been materially altered by rearrangement, or by  
addition of new material, or in both ways.

There is no entry fee, but members who send in  
an exhibit have to pay return carriage also.

Judging of the exhibits will be restricted to  
material shown in the wall frames of the Col-  
lectors Club on the evening of March 2, 1954. The  
Group will provide services of members competent  
to handle the material on that evening.

The judges will be qualified philatelic persons  
not members of the Group, chosen from such as  
are recommended by the Essay-Proof Society, the  
Philatelic Foundation, and similar bodies.

As the wall frames hold 12 album pages of the  
usual sizes, exhibits should be restricted ----  
there are 20 frames available, and an exhibit to  
fill one or two such frames is preferable. When  
an exhibit extends beyond this, it extends be-  
yond the intended scope of the Contest.

Instructions for Competitors:--

First: As soon as you can, and before Feb.  
25, 1954, notify Mr. Gustave Wittenberg, 106  
Cabrin Boulevard, New York 33, N.Y. that you  
will compete and in which class, with the full  
name or title of your showing, and how much in  
frame space (21 usual size album pages to each  
frame) you need. Also, will you bring or send?

Second: Prepare your exhibit and, if it is  
to be sent in, start it in time. Send care of  
The Collectors Club, 22 East 35 St., New York 16,  
N.Y., addressed to the France & Colonies Group.

We hope to have at least 14 competing exhibits.

Have no inhibitions that your material is too  
little or too weak.

Likewise, the short time you have need not make  
you stay out. Anything worthy of entering can  
be gotten ready best, when working under need to  
meet a time limit.

Previous competitors are not excluded.



4

\* SECRETARY'S REPORT \*  
November 15 1953 to January 15 1954.

#### NEW MEMBERS, WELCOME:

- 556 Dowling, Clare O. 10132 Wentworth Avenue,  
Chicago 28, Ill. (France & Fr. Africa).  
557 Fairchild, Edmund. 1320 N. State Street,..  
Chicago 3, Ill. (France).....  
558 Brody, Stanley J. Randall Rd. Wyncotte,..  
Penn. (France & Colonies).....  
559 Corlier, Zelig, Miss. 6973 Ave. C. Colomb,..  
Montreal 10, Canada. (France).....  
560 Lauer, Helen L. Mrs. 1420 Lake Road,.....  
Webster, N.Y. (Used French Colonies)..  
561 Horowicz, Sigismund. 215 West 98th. Street  
New York 25, N.Y. (France & Colonies)..  
562 Falken, Stephen R. Dr. 20 N. Monroe St...  
Boyertown, Penn. (Covers).....  
563 Martin, Marc W. 172 West 79th. Street,..  
New York 24, N.Y. (France & Colonies)..  
564 Kleideman, Nathan. 227-16 139th. Avenue.  
Laurelton 13, N.Y.....  
565 Grill, Herman. 367 South 2nd. Street,....  
Brooklyn 11, N.Y. (France & Colonies)..  
566 Wright, Emily C. Mrs. 43 Glenwood Road,..  
Upper Montclair, N.J. (Dealer).....  
567 La Farge, Simon O. 25 Central Park West,..  
New York 23, N.Y. (France & Colonies)..  
568 Delaize, Paul C. 300 East 57th. Street,..  
New York 22, N.Y. Fr. Fr. West Indies, Gui.  
569 Liengme, George, 345 West 49th. Street,..  
New York 19, N.Y. (French Colonies, Genl.

#### CHANGE OF ADDRESS:

- 79 Morton, John B. to 366 Richmond Avenue,..  
Buffalo 22, New York.....  
364 Neidorf, Charles to 910 Sheridan Avenue,..  
New York 56, New York.....  
402 Ronschild, Ernest L., to 3985 Glencross..  
Avenue, Cincinnati 17, Ohio.....  
512 Hushebeck H. Mrs. to 1421 N. Harrison, St..  
Wilmington, Del.....

#### DECEASED:

- 256 Bureau, Benoni, of Elmhurst, New York....

#### NOTICE:

You do not have to wait to receive a due.  
notice to pay your 1954 dues. Help your..  
Secretary to keep the Society's expenses.  
low by mailing your dues now. Thank you...

Respectfully submitted  
Charles Bretagne, Secretary.

#### A Special Notice by your Secretary.

For the entire month of February, I shall be  
away in Europe on a business trip... London and  
Paris. Please bear with me while your letters  
await me at Poughkeepsie on my return, March 1,  
and let me have a few days to catch up on all  
matters.

I hope many of you will surprise me with the  
dues, while I am in France (\$1 non-resident, \$2  
resident), as a gesture of friendship to your  
officers who try to do what you desire.

Charles Bretagne, Sec'y.

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On French stamps perhaps more than on those  
of other countries, color "shades" have a time  
order that is quite definite. Cancellation date  
will often enable one, using many copies of some  
particular stamp, to locate within a few weeks  
the first appearance of a particular color. The  
period of general use of such a color quite of-  
ten ends rather abruptly, with only a very few  
scattering later uses. "Dated shade" collecting  
may well add materially to your enjoyment.

Sometimes a shade has two periods of use in  
the life of a stamp that served many years.

S.G.R.