

France & Colonies Philatelist



Published bi-monthly by the France and Colonies Group

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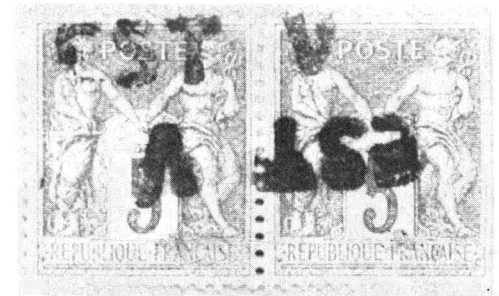
Interesting, Unknown, or Puzzling.



Colonies Metropolitan
The "Cigarette" variety of the 1 centime Napoleon Laureate.

This variety is now pictured photographically for us by member A. Boutrelle, from copies owned by Founder Member Raoul Lesgor.

This well known variety has hitherto been shown only crudely by means of drawings.



EST V -- Straight Line Cancellation on 5c green Sage Pair. (Not the yellow green of 1898 on).

This pair, owned by N. Hals, our member, shows a most unusual cancellation from Gare de l'Est of the rail lines in Paris.

(Identified by Lesgor)



Error F for First E or Break in First E. Not hitherto reported. 50c Offices in Egypt, 1889. used 1891. Owned by our member R.P. Giebert; photo by A. Boutrelle, also a member.



PP in Circle Cancellation, on 1881 Dubois Type of Colonies. Owned by member Leo Goerth; member Robt. G. Stone has it on the 15c of the same issue. This cancellation at this period is not recorded anywhere--- can anyone discover a cover so as to show us where it was used? (It is not the Guadeloupe PP of these days, as that is in a square box). Mr. Stone asks the information.

New Services to Members:Group Takes Important Step Forward.

It has long been my opinion that a philatelic society should give service to its members, as well as ask cooperation from them. Besides offering social pleasures, and giving those in the group a chance to meet others engaged in like pursuits, a stamp club should foster exchange of ideas, promote the hobby, help the members to understand their specialties better---and in so doing, further their interest in each specialty and add to their knowledge thereof.

The precise knowledge and information often hard to get, possessed by the many students and experts attracted to such a group, should not be hoarded. It should be disseminated as widely as possible, for the edification and enjoyment, particularly of those who would like to delve deeper into specialized fields, but have neither the facilities nor the contacts needed to obtain such information.

The exchange of specialized information, plus expert help with difficult problems, does more to spur the serious philatelist to further research and study, than any other means. Too, it fosters a closer alliance among the members of a group, and brings about an awakening desire to explore further, dig deeper and enjoy more the hobby one has taken to one's heart.

Through the kindness and generosity of the students and experts listed below, I am establishing the following services, to bring into an active being these principles. I urge each and every one of you to make use of them.

Ira Zweifach, President.

Identification Service

Conducted by:

Brainerd Kremer (for France)	Edmond Queyroy (for Colonies)
8 Lee Place	55 West 42 St.
Upper Montclair, N.J.	New York 36, N.Y.

This committee will offer an opinion on the identity, genuineness, and freedom from fraudulent alteration, of any French or French Colonial stamp. This service is limited to stamps cataloging \$30.00 or less. There is a service charge of 50 cents for each item submitted, to cover the costs of handling. (Certified or registered mail return additional). Contact either of the gentlemen mentioned, for further information.

Problem Service

Conducted by:

Stephen G. Rich, P.O. Box B, Verona, New Jersey
Editor Rich will endeavor to answer any questions you may have regarding the stamps of France and her Colonies. Those questions which Mr. Rich cannot answer, will be referred to the many experts available to him. This service is free; but a stamped, self-addressed envelope, in every case, must accompany each query. To avoid confusion and congestion, only one query may be sent at a time (No objection to six queries on six successive days!)

Postal History Service

Conducted by:

Robert G. Stone, P.O. Box 21, Accokeek, Md.
Mr. Stone, a name familiar to readers of the F. & C. Philatelist, will aid those having problems in the Postal History field. Besides himself, Mr. Stone has many qualified experts he can call upon, to assist him in answering your questions. This service is also free, but the stamped self-addressed envelope must accompany each query, to receive a reply; and queries are to be sent in one at a time.

Translation Service

Conducted by:

Jan Kindler, 65 Bedford St., New York 14, N.Y.

Mr. Kindler will translate, free of charge, any kind of French philatelic material, postal marking or inscription, including short paragraphs not exceeding twenty five lines. With each item submitted for translation, a stamped, self-addressed envelope must be included; items are to be sent in one at a time.

Photo Service

Conducted by:

Adrien Boutrelle, 107 Broadway, Ocean Grove, N.J.

Mr. Boutrelle, whose pictures are familiar to all who read the philatelic press, will supply photographs of a single stamp or of an entire exhibit, at special rates to members. Contact him at this address for particulars.

Membership List

In addition to these services, each member is to be supplied with a complete, up to date list of the membership. This will give the members' specialties wherever possible. Each list will contain full information on the services listed here.

Some Recent Military Postal Uses, from West Africa

By Robert G. Stone.

In a large lot of recent (1957) covers from French African countries, we found a number of covers from military personnel, which illustrate various usages for this type of mail. The military personnel of France have enjoyed, since 1792, certain privileges of reduced postage in peacetime; and since 1901 special stamps have been made available for this purpose. (France, Scott Nos. M1 to M11). The following illustrate types of military mail in the lot mentioned:

FM stamp M11 on airmail cover to U.S., cancelled with a smudgy black bar, perhaps an illegible straight line postmark. On back an offset impression of the regular Dakar machine postmark, indicating that the letter probably originated there or in that region. No writing on back to indicate sender's name and military unit.

FM stamp M11 on cover airmail to U.S. cancelled with circular dated postmark of St. Louis, Senegal; on face of cover a blue cachet, double circle of 43 mm. inscribed "1er Régiment de Tirailleurs Senegalais" and across center "Le Vaguemestre" ---no sender's endorsement on back.

FM stamp M11 on airmail cover to U.S. cancelled first with 40 mm. double circle inscribed "1er Rgt D'Artillerie Coloniale"(rest illegible) and in center "Le Vaguemestre"; on top of this, the regular "Dakar Principal" machine postmark with slogan box; on back sender's name, serial number, of the Compagnie de Transport, section MC BP 5080 Dakar.

FM stamp M11 on airmail cover to U.S. cancelled with machine postmark "Poste Aux Armees / A.F.N."; face of cover also bears copy of France 30f Basketball stamp of recent issue cancelled with "Poste Aux Armees" dated circular pmk; no sender's endorsement on back.

France 30f Basketball stamp on cover airmail to U.S.; stamp stuck on over a large double circle "Vaguemestre" cachet and manuscript "F.M." on cover face nearby.

The stamp is cancelled with "Poste Aux Armees" dated postmark. Also on cover face is regular postmark of Palestro, Algeria, dated three days earlier than the other postmark; on back name of sender, outfit, and A.F.N. post sector number.

France 25f Prouge stamp and 50f Rugby stamp cancelled "Poste Aux Armees A.F.N." on registered cover to U.S.; sender's name and postal sector number A.F.N. on back; the postal sector numbers of the registry label and the sender do not agree.

French West Africa 15f "Le Café" stamp on airmail cover to U.S. with printed corner card "Troupes Françaises d'Outre-Mer", stamp cancelled with octagonal dated postmark of small post office in Niger; cover marked "T" in manuscript & amount in pencil postage due; no sender's endorsement.

Pair of France 15f red Marianne of Muller. Cancelled with black two-straight-line marking "PARIS GARE DE LAZARE/ETRANGER"; sender's endorsement on back gives name and outfit and SP number in A. F. N. (North Africa). On front of cover, a postmaster's notation in pen: "6 gr Voie Maritime."

These examples seem to show quite a bit of variation in the procedure with military mail. In some cases the FM stamp seems to carry the letter air mail to the U.S. without extra postage; in others additional postage (either with or without the FM stamp) seems to have been needed. In some cases the mail was posted with the vaguemestre of the military unit, and in others in the regular post offices. The cover with the Paris railway station arrival mark is interesting, as it indicates a loose ship letter from some North African port, or that the stamps were not postmarked at origin for some reason--- but struck at Paris in transit.

(Readers interested in these covers may of course write to the author).

Keeping Up With the Colonies

In F. & C.P. No. 89 (Sept.-Oct. 1956) page 18, we mentioned the series of articles in L'Echo, by H. Tristant, on the postmarks of the colonies. The series has since been continued in Echos--- Nos. 1228 and 1229. In these the articles list the marks of the auto posts (La Poste Automobile Rurale, or P.A.R.). This is a new class which has appeared in the West African colonies and in Madagascar only since 1949; they promise to become more numerous. In Echos Nos. 1231 and 1232 Tristant turns to airmail postmarks. Although these go back to 1919 (Tunis), most of them begin around the mid-1930's and are now quite numerous. They generally contain the word "Avion" or "Aéroport" or "Aerogare."

Have our colonies collectors noticed lately how many new slogan cancellations are appearing, in both machine and handstamp dies? How about keeping us informed of any you see, so that we can record them in F. & C.P.? Many of them have only a short life.

Another aspect of the colonial cancellations is the trend towards standardizing on the same styles of postmarks as used in France. At the same time one sees quite a few of the new large double circle type postmarks from West Africa, from small offices. This type is not used in France or other colonies to any extent. Do these have any special significance?

---Robert G. Stone

Report
of
the



7th LESGOR CONTEST

Tuesday evening, FEBRUARY 4, 1958.

The 1958 Lesgor Contest brought the largest number of entries ever--twelve in all. Strangely enough, but not unreasonably, all were in the "General" or non-research division: not even one claimed to be "Research." Exhibits by the members fairly distant and far afield accounted for seven of the twelve entries. Some came from as far distant as Ohio, California, Minnesota.

The mounting crew, captained by Mr. Kindler, started at 5.30 p.m. and had all save two of the entries, whose owners brought them in person, in the Collectors Club wall frames ere going out to dinner.

Material sent by many of the contestants was more than frame-space allowed showing in full. But the judges examined it all, save perhaps one portion of the first award winner's material. He had the grand prize clinched without that.

As they appeared around the room, in the order of frames, the competition included:

J. Kindler, New York, N.Y.: Unusual and Special Cancellations on the France 10c Red Sower.

Dr. H.M. Barnhart, San Marino, Calif: French Oceania, specialized.

Ernest F. Rothschild, Cincinnati, Ohio: Stampless Covers of Toulon, 1707 to 1807.

Mr. J. Dayton, Amherst, Mass.: Paris Star Cancellations.

W.H. Schilling Jr., Minneapolis, Minn.: Numeral Cancellations of France.

G.L. Brown, Akron, Ohio: Heraldry of France, on the Arms Stamps.

Col. R.C. Williams, Falls Church, Va.: Monaco.

S.G. Rich, Verona, N.J. Cancellations on Type Sage (France adhesives only)

Charles E. Meyer, Caldwell, N.J.: Selected portions of Marianne de Gandon Issue.

Leo F. Goerth, Akron, Ohio: Cancellations of St. Pierre-Miquelon and French Oceania.

Adrien Boutrelle, Asbury Park, N.J.: French Oceania Varieties and Cancellations.

Raoul Lesgor, Holmes, N.Y.: Stamps Map of France by Arms of Provinces Issues (Non-competitive: in compliment to the Contest).

The Board of Judges, consisting of Messrs. Baudry, Lesgor and Queyroy, made the following awards:

First: W.H. Schilling Jr., France Numeral Cancellations.

Second: E.F. Rothschild: Stampless 1707 to 1807 Covers of Toulon, including the Sage.

Third: A. Boutrelle, French Oceania.

Fourth: J. Kindler, Cancellations on France 10c Red Sower.

Fifth: C.E. Mayer, Marianne de Gandon.

Honorable Mention: Col. R. C. Williams Monaco.

Mr. Lesgor will send the winner a special prize. The award winners will receive both our certificates, and prizes by the Group. These last will be selected with a view to their usefulness to the winners.

At the request of the 26 persons who were present, several of the contestants spoke about what they showed, ere the meeting ended.

Notify us without delay when you change your address, so we can get the Philatelist to you without delay. Secretary Bretagne is the one to notify; not your Editor.



Coming: A Spring Three-Day Conference or Symposium.
Planned for Friday, Saturday and Sunday,
May 16th, 17th, and 18th, 1958.
In New York.

An exhibition (competitive) will be part of the affair. We mean to get a site where we can have a Bourse for the dealer members. There are to be talks on various French and Colonial stamp matters of interest-- possibly demonstrations.

Save this time for a trip to New York.

All the information will be in our next, but amply early, number. Meanwhile, the President (Ira Zweifach, 306 West 93 St., New York 24, N.Y.) will receive any letters on this and handle them.

Our Booklet Listing

The response to our appeal for information, about the booklets of France and Colonies, has been gratifying so far. We still need to know about many more booklets. Every bit of information will be helpful. We need one form for each report on a booklet or a booklet name. As many forms as necessary will be sent on request.
L. Clemencon, 30 Monroe St., AI-2
New York 2, N.Y.

Two Types of the 1957 20f Marianne de Muller.

By Frederic Mulhenheim

This stamp was issued in midsummer of 1957. Right at the start two types or varieties were seen. On material in my custody I checked with statements in an article in one of the philatelic journals from France: they are correct and two sharply separated types occur, without any intermediate forms. It would seem as if there surely were two dies.

This stamp, Scott No. 755, ultramarine, shows the differences thus:

Type 1: printed in sheets of 100
in coils

and in booklets with known
dates 7-17-57 to 7-19-57

The easy identification is on the
F and 2 of 20f.

F: Bars short and NOT parallel.

2: Loop open; base thin; base
thin and blunt at right end.

Edges of lips are sharp; shading
of robe uneven.

Type 2: printed only in booklets: earliest
dates 6-14-57 to 7-19-57

The identification:

F: Bars longer and parallel.

2: Loop more closed; base thick
and ends by upturned point.
Fully 3 mm. high (Type 1 is
slightly under 3 mm.)

Edges of lips rounded; shading of
robe quite even.

The pictures are from the French article. The
diagrams of the F are my own.

The neck also differs in shading, with more
of a definite unshaded area with a noticeable,
sharp boundary, in Type 2.

The shades differ in the various printings.
The booklet panes have margin advertising.



* SECRETARY'S REPORT * December 15 to February 15 1958

NEW MEMBERS: Welcome.

- 710 McGarry, John M. 189 Ashuelot Street,....
Delton, Mass (French Guiana).....
- 711 Brassler, Norman 258 Ridgewood Avenue,....
Glen Ridge, (France, French Col. Gen. Issue
- 712 Spiegel, Eric E. 300 West 109th. Street,..
New York 25 N.Y. (19th. Century France).
- 713 Butler, D.H. 3558 Brookdale Avenue,.....
Oakland 19 California. France, Morocco, ..
- 714 Plougmann, Helge P.O. Box 3174 Cape Town,..
South Africa. French Colonies in Africa,
(Not Algeria, Tunisia or Morocco).....
- 715 Mitchell, W.G. 32 Albury Drive, Pinner,..
MIDDX, England. France general, and the
French West and Equatorial Africa Group.
- 716 Denny, Frank W. Box 341 Ajo, Arizona.....
French Colonies Used.....

CHANGE OF ADDRESS:

- 697 Numainville, J Leon MD, to U.S. Army Hosp.
Fort Chaffee, Arkansas.....
- 14 Kagan, Alexander, to 9171 N. Corona,
Denver 16, Colorado.....
- 557 Fairchild, Edmund to 111 Hacienda Drive,..
Arcadia, California.....
- 572 Rantz, Lowell A. Mrs. to 574 Foothill Rd..
Stanford, California.....
- 609 Hals Nathan to 1425 Thieriot Avenue,.....
New York 60, New York.....
- 685 Seguin, Ed. A. to 7813 Cleon Avenue,.....
Sun Valley, California.
- 12 Boutrelle, Adrien, to 107 Broadway,.....
Ocean Grove, New Jersey (home instead.....
of New York Office address).....

Communication from Mr. Raoul Lesgor:

"I made an error in pricing the three new
books by our new member Pierre de Lizeray when
I sold some at meetings. I shall be glad to re-
fund any differences if you who bought will be
kind enough to write me. Prices are:

Les Poincons Semeuses du M.P. Part 1....\$1.00
Part 2....\$1.00
Timbres de France.....\$1.00
All three post free.....\$2.75

MEMBERS' APPEALS

Want and exchange notices only; members only;
on or two insertions only; no charge. Those who
reply will please offer only what is asked.

French Numeral cancellations wanted-- large
and small numbers, Algeria and Foreign Offices..
Will swap or buy; on or off cover. Thousands
of copies to trade. W.H. Schilling Jr., 5501 Wood-
crest Drive, Minneapolis 34, Minn. (Member 29)

Wanted for study: any quantity France Scott
nos. 14, 15, 18, 23, 25, 26, 27, 32 to 36, 50, 51, 55 to
59, and Type Sage. Please make offers with last
price wanted. Frederic Mulhenheim, 101 West
83 St., New York 24, N.Y. (Member 589).

Wanted: French Occupation of Hungary-- Arad
Issues Nos. 1N4, 1N8, 1N10, 1N16-18, 1N34, 1N38,
1N41-5. Richard C. Kanak, 3833 South 61st Court,
Cicero 50, Illinois. (Member No. 704).

Current and recent French Precancels wanted
but only on entire original cover, usually news-
paper wrapper. Price each item separately, as I
rarely can use an entire lot. S.G. Rich, Verona,
New Jersey. (Member 2)