

# FRANCE



# COLONIES

VOL. I NO. 1

## PHILATELIST

NOV-DEC 1941

Published bi-monthly by the France and Colonies Group  
Address communications and contributions to Dr. A. J. C. Vaurie, 5 E. 53 St. NYC

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Hereafter "FRANCE AND COLONIES PHILATELIST" will appear every 2 months, - July and August excepted. Lack of space in this issue forces us to postpone the account of how the whole idea came about, but we do want to thank the many friends who have helped to make "FRANCE AND COLONIES GROUP" possible - among them Mr. Raoul Lesgor, Donald D. Burgess, Thomas E. Gootee, J. B. Kremer. And to Mr. H. L. Lindquist goes our gratitude for the generous publicity he gave us in "STAMPS" and for his other helpful suggestions.

For the benefit of any newcomer we repeat: "FRANCE AND COLONIES GROUP" is open to all collectors of the stamps of France and/or Colonies. Meetings are held the first Thursday of the month at 44 W. 55 St., N.Y.C. The dues run from October to October and are \$2.00 a year for members resident in the N. Y. Metropolitan Area and for all others non-resident \$1.00. The PHILATELIST goes to all members.

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At the first regular meeting of Nov. 6, Mr. J. B. Kremer's showing of his magnificent collection of France was received enthusiastically. In spite of a steady downpour, 25 members attended, including Mr. Randolph, who made the trip especially from Philadelphia. It was announced that membership had increased from 17 on organization night to 47. To date it is 53.

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FREE FRANCE ISSUES - From the Cameroons, French Equatorial Africa, India, Oceania, New Caledonia, Wallis and Futuna, and New Hebrides have come long sets of contemporary stamps impressed with "France Libre" or other legends. Some are destined for straight postal uses, others for semi-postal. Many have been regularly used and sold, others, like the New Hebrides, are shadowed by somewhat of a cloud.

We would like to publish an authoritative check list and Mr. Edmond Queyroy, 171 E. 77 St., N.Y.C., has kindly offered his services. Will you please cooperate by showing him or sending him any such stamps legitimately used on covers. Please describe the items before sending them, and if they are not duplications of material already seen, Mr. Queyroy will notify you. The items will be returned in good condition by registered mail.

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**IMPORTANT:** It will be noticed in the Directory that some are specifically interested in Exchange. We feel that this should be an individual rather than a Club activity, with each one satisfying himself personally as to the integrity of the other. We want to keep the Group free from commercialism and cannot undertake the headaches and risks of circuits. While we hope any contacts made will be satisfactory, the GROUP AND THIS BULLETIN ASSUME ABSOLUTELY NO RESPONSIBILITY OF ANY KIND.

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If anyone with duplicates of Yvert Specialized Catalogue or any other publications relating to France and Colonies wishes to share these by selling them, kindly advise the Editor, who will notify members who have made inquiries.

NEW CALEDONIA AND DEPENDENCIES  
By Donald D. Burgess (32)

The history and geography of New Caledonia are so easily obtainable from any standard encyclopedia that it would be wasteful of space to dwell on it here. Suffice it to say that New Caledonia is an island in the Pacific, some 800 miles due east of Australia; the dependencies are the Loyalty Islands, Futuna and Wallis; it is of the approximate area of the state of New Jersey and it has been a French colony since 1853.

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Until November, 1892, New Caledonia used the stamps of the general colonial issue (except for the 10c of 1859). Numbers credited to the colony prior to that date are overprints or provisional surcharges created to supply needed values when stocks were low.

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The 10c lithographed stamp of 1859 has long been the subject of controversy: Was it legally issued, was it ever used? After eighty-one years no one seems to know the answers and probably they never will be known for certain.

Nevertheless, the stamp and its history are interesting. On Aug. 4, 1859, an inland postal service between Port de France (now Nouméa) and Canala was established and Governor Durante, commander of the

Nos. 29, 30, 39, 40  
49, 50 of plate.

military forces on the island, decreed on that date that a special stamp should be issued. A marine sergeant, Triquerat, undertook to create this stamp by the only means available on the island - lithography. On the lithographing stone he drew a sheet of 50 subjects, each different from the other, naturally, because free-hand work would make true duplication impossible. The stamps were available late in 1859 or early in 1860 and, according to Yvert, were good only on inland mail. On European mail they were used to pay postage to Sydney, from whence stamps of New South Wales carried the letter to its destination. On inland mail they were supposedly pen-cancelled, on outland mail they were not cancelled.

I have seen but two covers bearing this stamp, both so obviously faked as to be ridiculous. Inquiries abroad have brought me polite (and sometimes not-too-polite) laughter. So be your own expert!

Numerous forgeries of this stamp exist, none of which I have found to be dangerous. The forgers, in their eagerness to provide copies with nice even margins, have completely overlooked the fact that the genuine stamps (excepting the outside positions on the sheet) have no margins at all. The accompanying illustration shows why.

The Yvert specialized gives 1500 as the quantity issued, but there probably have been reprints from the original stone that defy detection. They are far too common for that figure to be definite.

(To be continued)

- Above illustration is reduced -

THE CANCELLATIONS OF FRANCE UP TO 1876  
By Dr. A. J. C. Vaurie (17)

Prior to the appearance of stamps on January 1, 1849, there were in use throughout France a number of dated postmarks; their use had become obligatory on Jan. 1, 1828 - various types but always circular, diameter varying from 32 to 20 mm - town name at top - a number in parentheses at bottom denoting the Department (Figs 1-4 & 6). Prior to these postmarks there was in wide use in the provinces since 1820 a circular dated mark (Fig. 7), and along with it the Department number and town name italicized and set in a straight line.

In Paris the Central Bureau used different types such as Fig. 5 for the Central Office and Fig. 8 for Branch offices. Other types were a Postage Paid (Fig. 10) and a mark indicating the hour of the Distribution Round from a particular office (Fig. 9).

With the exception of Fig. 9 these marks were all in existence before the advent of stamps - and they were used to cancel the stamps until the killer "grille" was distributed. The postmaster, not taking any chances, very often additionally and liberally "pen cancelled" the stamp.

The normal cancellation is then the "grille" (Fig. 11). This grid design is generally in black and very rarely in red or blue. Most of the offices seem to have received their "grille" by the end of January and it continued in use until 1862 or so. The largest offices such as Paris, Lyon, Rouen, etc... "seem" to have used a grille with rounded corners (Fig. 12) - maybe so or maybe the rounded corners are just caused by worn grilles. Other cities used in addition killers of their own such as the St. Andrew's Cross of La Rochelle (Fig. 13), and the Bars reminiscent of the British cancels of Lille (Fig. 14) and even in Paris the office J used a little 5-pointed rosette (Fig. 15).

(To be continued)

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(In the above and in the accompanying illustrations, as well as in this entire series, no attempt has been made to discuss or show all existing cancellations - only the more significant. For a complete listing see "Catalogue des Estampilles et Oblitérations Postales de France," Yvert & Cie., Amiens, 1929).

POSTMARKS AND CANCELLATIONS OF MARTINIQUE  
By Ralph Holtzizer (18)

The oldest known postmark appears in 1780 (Fig. 1), the next was in 1816 (Fig. 2) and another (Fig. 3) some years later. In 1832 appears the first dated town postmark (Fig. 4), followed in 1841 by the smaller types (Fig. 5-6); in 1859 the "fleuron" of St. Pierre is reduced in size (Fig. 7). From 1859 to 1876 the dotted lozenge (Fig. 8) is used to cancel the stamp, while the postmark is used elsewhere on the envelope.

In 1870 appear the postmark (Fig. A) that gradually replaces the lozenge as a canceller, then follow the types as shown in Figs. B, C, D, E, F.

The registry offices in St. Pierre and Fort de France have special cancels as given - the Military post offices have used the three types shown. (To be continued)



Fig. 1

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3

4

5



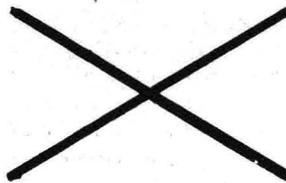
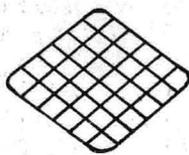
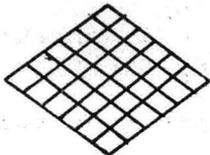
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POSTMARKS AND CANCELLATIONS OF MARTINIQUE by Ralph Holtsizer (18)

1 St. PIERRE. ✻

2 MARTINIQUE

3 MARTINIQUE.



4

5

6

7

8



A

B

C

D

E

F



Registration Cancellations

Cancellations for Army Correspondence.

- ANDRIEUX, Raymond (4) 205 E. 69 St., NYC (F. 19th & early 20th Cent.)
- ANTHONY, Miss Helen V. Z. (46) 24 Franklin Pl., Montclair, N.J. (F. & Col.)
- ARNAL, Leon (23) 15 Seymour Ave. S.E., Minneapolis, Minn. (F. not specialized, pet Bordeaux Issue. Col. not specialized, pet Indo China)
- BALME, Joseph P. (39) 7223 Sommers Rd., Phila., Pa. (F. 19th Cent. U. & 20th Cent. Un.)
- BLUMENFELD, H. (47) 68-64 Yellowstone Blvd., Forest Hills, N.Y. (F. Un. & Col. Un.)
- BORIE, Renshaw (38) 1301 Spruce St., Phila., Pa. (F. highly specialized)
- BOUTRELLE, Adrien (12) 205 W. 57 St., NYC (F. millesimes, dated corners, margin markings)
- BROOKS, Arthur S. (26) 413 South Ave., Van Wert, Ohio (F.)
- BURGESS, Donald D. (32) 116 Rosedale Dr., Sunrise Terrace, Binghamton, N.Y. (New Caledonia, Wallis & Futuna highly specialized)
- CHASE, Dr. Carroll (21) R.F.D. 11, Penacook, N.H. Famous philatelist, (Unusual F. stamps & postal markings for sale or exchange)
- CLEMENCON, Miss Louise (19) Apt. BH5, 40 Monroe St., NYC (F. & Col. esp. "Free French" issues)
- COLOMBAIN, Francis M. (40) 43-01 46 St., Sunnyside, N.Y. (F. & Col.)
- DEAN, Arthur J. (15) Apt. 5C, 670 Riverside Dr., NYC (F.)
- FATOULLAH, K. (5) 113 W. 42 St., NYC (F. & Col. Dealer - new issues)
- GAUTHIER, H. (42) Com. Nat'l. des Francais Libres, 104 Electric St., Ottawa, Canada (F.)
- GILBERT, Gerard (50) Great Northern Hotel, 118 W. 57 St., NYC World famous Expert
- GILBERT, Lewis D. (30) 1165 Park Ave., NYC (specialty - Entire World)
- GIRARD, Daniel P. (41) Teachers Col., Columbia Univ., NYC (F. up to 1876 & commemoratives)
- GOOTEE, Thomas E. (44) 839 Diversey Pkwy., Chicago, Ill. (F. highly specialized)
- HAM, Philip M. (22) 80 Court St., Exeter, N.H. (F. & Col. 20th Cent.)
- HOLTSIZER, Ralph (18) 5428 Walnut St., Phila., Pa. (Martinique highly spec. & Guadeloupe)
- KAGAN, Alexander (14) 23-69 33 St., Astoria, N.Y. (F. 19th Cent.)
- KIRCHOFER, Arnold (43) 527 Warren St., Hudson, N.Y. (F. also blocks & covers)
- KREMER, J.B. III (8) 18 Plymouth St., Montclair, N.J. (F. highly specialized)
- KUTNER, Charles (6) 174 W. 76 St., NYC (Col. - U. only, postmarks - pets Oceania & India)
- LABINE, R. P. (51) Spalding & Bros., Inc., Chicopee, Mass. (F.)
- LARSON, R. L. (33) Plymouth, Wisc. (not specified)
- LAUPER, F.A. (31) 1513 S. 77 St., Milwaukee, Wisc. (F. U. only, varieties, shades, cancellations)
- LESGOR, R. (1) Nassau Stamp Co. 68 Nassau St. NYC (F. collector - well known dealer F. & Col.)
- LITWITZ, W. C. (9) 1120 Park Ave., NYC (Modern F. 1923 to date)
- MARY, George (13) 7215-41st Ave. Jackson Hts., N.Y. (Col. outside Africa U. only - F. U. - Exch)
- MENNINGER, Mrs. W.C. (34) 1724 Collins Ave. Topeka, Kan. (F. U. & Un. cancellations, covers & blocks, interested in all possible data)
- MORRISON, John A. (7) 753 Jackson Ave., Elizabeth, N.J. (F.)
- MUSY, J.A. (16) 9 W. 84 St., NYC (F. up to 1876, varieties, cancellations, etc. Exch.)
- MC GEE, John R. (20) 506 Third St. S.E., Wash. D.C. (F. cancellations & p. marks only, Exch.)
- NOVY, Joseph (48) 51 W. 52 St., NYC (F. imperforates & their cancellations)
- QUEYROY, Edmond (3) 171 E. 77 St., NYC (F. & Col. Exch.)
- RANDOLPH, John H. (27) 1601 N. Lawrence St., Phila., Pa. (F.)
- REEVES, Ben (35) 4429 N. Keystone Ave., Chicago, Ill. (Early French Covers)
- REYNOLDS, Mrs. M. (49) "The Very Idea," 150 W. 3 St. Pomona, Cal. (F. num. canc. on imperf.)
- ROGERS, Miss Beryl (25) 34 Mendon St., Hopedale, Mass. (F. inform. on background of stamps)
- RICH, Stephen G. (2) 118 Sunset Ave., Verona, N.J. (Precancels of F. Algeria & Tunis & F. postmarks, cancellations, & postal history)
- SCHILLING, W.H. Jr. (29) 728 Second Ave. S., Minneapolis, Minn. (F. & name cancellations)
- STEPHENSON, Prof. Carl (45) Dep't. of History, Boardman Hall, Cornell U., Ithaca, N.Y. (F. 19 U. & 20th Un. - also varieties, shades, canc. - stamps for sale or Exch.)
- THOMAS, Bernard (36) Box 5015, Cristobal, Canal Zone (Col. espec. Martinique & Guadeloupe)
- TUNICK, Irve (28) 99-45 67th Rd., Forest Hills, N.Y. (not specified)
- VAURIE, Dr. A.J.C. (17) 5 E. 53 St., NYC (F. pet Bordeaux Issue highly specialized - Col. outside of Africa, pet Guadeloupe highly specialized)
- VOGEL, Mrs. Eliz. F. (37) 450 E. 141 St., NYC (not specified)
- WALKER, Philip B. (24) 18 Summit Ave., Whitinsville, Mass. (F. & Col. - prefers Un.)
- WEILER, George (11) 180 E. 79 St., NYC (Col. U. only, pet Oceania - Canc. of Alsace-Lorraine)
- WOOD, Dr. R.L. (10) 129 Hancock St., Bklyn., N.Y. (F. & Oceania & Somali Coast)
- ZILM, Henry H. (52) 2024 Medary Ave., Phila., Pa. (F.)
- THIEFELS, Rev. Henry P. (53) Sacred Heart Church, 1000 Eliot St. Detroit, Mich. (F. Bordeaux)

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F means France only - U - Used, Un - Unused, Exch. (see note bottom of page 1)