

France & Colonies Philatelist



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Secretary: Charles Bretagne - P.O. Box 30, Poughkeepsie, N.Y.

Editor: Ira Zweifach - 336 Central Park West, N.Y. 25, N.Y.

FRENCH POSTAL MARKINGS

Notes on the Postal Markings of the Conquered French Departments of the Revolutionary and Napoleonic Epochs 1792-1815.

Carroll Chase

This article by the late Carroll Chase was originally prepared for "Stamps." Covering an unusual area, and condensing an exceptional amount of useful information in concise and accurate form, it assuredly deserves to be brought to the attention of the specialist.

By French Conquered Departments are meant those in territory outside of what was France when the French Revolution commenced; this region having been cut up into departments exactly similar to those already existing in France proper. These were really annexed to France and the inhabitants of them thereby became French citizens. They included, sooner or later, all of Belgium and Luxembourg, all of Holland, all of Germany west of the Rhine, as well as the northwest corner beyond the Rhine, part of Switzerland, a large part of Italy and Catalonia in Spain.

They were created little by little as the French armies conquered the territories mentioned. It is possible that the French Revolution would not have spread beyond the frontiers of France had not the "emigres" (a name given to French royalists who fled from France) persuaded certain foreign kingdoms to attack the new Republic, hoping to reinstall the monarchy. Austria, at that time a very great power in Europe, aided by certain German and Italian royalists, invaded France, was defeated and driven out; but instead of stopping at the frontier, the revolutionary forces crossed the borders and conquered certain regions. The French invaders were thrown back more than once but finally succeeded, after Napoleon gained power, in conquering much of continental Europe.

Altogether there were fifty conquered Departments. Each one was given a number exactly as had the eighty-three departments in France proper after the beginning of the Revolution. They were numbered from 84 to 134 inclusive except for three numbers—88, 89 and 115 — which were given to newly formed departments within France. Three numbers however served for two departments at different times due to boundary changes. These were 87, 90 and 108 — which will be found in the

DÉB. 92
FLESSINGUE
Typical Déboursé postmark

list given further on.

The first Conquered Department, created November 27, 1792, was called Mont Blanc, and took in most of what is today French Savoy. By a strange coincidence this was the last Conquered Department to be taken from France. Almost all the conquered regions had been restored to their original nationality after Napoleon had been banished to Elba but part of the French-speaking Savoy was left to France until after Waterloo. The last created were the four departments in Catalonia, numbered 90, 132, 133 and 134; all were established in January, 1812.

The following is a list of the departments with the number assigned to each, the capital, its date of creation and the country in which the department is today found:

It should be stated that these markings of the French Conquered Departments are not military but those of civilian post offices quite apart from the military and army posts which are so well known.

These postmarks may be divided into several types as follows:

First — Town postmarks indicating that the postage was not prepaid. Ordinarily these consist of the name of the town in one, or sometimes two, straight lines with the number of the department above it in the center. At this time, all over Europe, the very great majority of letters were sent collect; the reason being that it was considered impolite to send a letter prepaid, thus intimating that the person to whom it was addressed could

Number	Name	Year Estbl.	Capital	Present Location
84	Le Mont Blanc	1792	Chambéry	France
85	Les Alpes Maritimes	1793	Nice	France
86	Jemmapes	1793	Mons	Belgium
87	Le Mont Terrible	1793	Porentruy	Switzerland (a)
87	Gènes	1805	Gènes	Italy
90	Le Montserrat	1812	Barcelone	Spain (b)
91	La Lys	1795	Bruges	Belgium
92	L'Escaut	1795	Gand	Belgium
93	Les Deux Nèthes	1795	Anvers	Belgium
94	La Dyle	1795	Bruxelles	Belgium
95	La Meuse Inférieure	1795	Maestricht	Belgium and Holland
96	L'Ourthe	1795	Liège	Belgium
97	Sambre et Meuse	1795	Namur	Belgium
98	Les Forêts	1795	Luxembourg	Luxembourg
99	Le Léman	1798	Genève	Switzerland and France
100	Le Mont Tonnerre	1798	Mayence	Germany
101	La Sarre	1798	Trèves	Germany
102	Le Rhin et Moselle	1798	Coblentz	Germany
103	La Roër	1798	Aix-la-Chapelle	Germany
104	Le Pô	1802	Turin	Italy
105	La Stura	1802	Coni	Italy
106	Marengo	1802	Alexandrie	Italy
107	La Sésia	1802	Vercell	Italy
108	Le Tanaro	1802	Asti	Italy (c)
108	Le Montenotte	1805	Savone	Italy
109	La Doire	1802	Ivrée	Italy
110	Le Apennins	1805	Chiavari	Italy
111	Le Taro	1808	Parma	Italy
112	L'Arno	1808	Florence	Italy
113	La Méditerranée	1808	Livourne	Italy
114	L'Ombrone	1808	Sienne	Italy
116	Le Tibre	1810	Rome	Italy
117	Le Trasimène	1810	Spoletto	Italy
118	Zuyderzée	1810	Amsterdam	Holland
119	Les Bouches de la Meuse	1810	La Haye	Holland
120	Les Bouches de l'Yssel	1810	Zwolle	Holland
121	L'Yssel Supérieur	1810	Arnhem	Holland
122	La Frise	1810	Leuwarden	Holland
123	L'Ems Occidental	1810	Gröningue	Holland
124	L'Ems Oriental	1810	Aurich	Holland
125	Les Bouches de l'Escaut	1810	Middlebourg	Holland
126	Les Bouches du Rhin	1810	Bois-le-Duc	Holland
127	Le Simplon	1810	Sion	Switzerland
128	Les Bouches de L'Elbe	1810	Hambourg	Germany
129	Les Bouches du Weser	1810	Bremen	Germany
130	L'Ems Supérieur	1810	Osnabruck	Germany
131	La Lippe	1810	Munster	Germany
132	Le Ter	1812	Gironne	Spain
133	La Sègre	1812	Figüeres	Spain
134	Les Bouches de l'Ebre	1812	Lérída	Spain (d)

- (a) Attached to the Department of the Haut Rhin in 1800.
(b) This number has previously been used by the Department of the Liamone in Corsica.
(c) Cut up and attached to three other departments in 1805.
(d) No post office was opened in this department.

not pay the postage! The postmarks of this class are by far the commonest.

Second — Town postmarks indicating that the postage was prepaid. These are probably at least ten times as rare as those first mentioned. They are exactly the same as the markings indicating that the postage was to be collected except that on either side of the number was a capital P, the two P's standing for the words "Port Paye" (Postage Prepaid). A large proportion of prepaid letters are found addressed to government officials.

Third — Postmarks indicating that the letter had been "Debourse." The word is hard to translate though the word "Uncharged" might be considered an equivalent. According to the system then in use each postmaster was charged with the amount of postage on all unprepaid letters sent to his office. In case he had to forward them to another post office for any reason, he had the right to mark such letters as "Debourse" indicating that he had removed the charge from his account. These

markings are almost invariably found on the back of the letters. Typical Examples show, as do the other two just mentioned, the name of the town in one or sometimes two straight lines, but above it is found the abbreviation "Deb." and the number of the department.

Fourth — What the French called "Marques de Franchise," which may be translated in English as postmarks indicating that the letter is to be sent free. Such markings were used only by certain government officials who had the franking privilege.

Fifth — As the French frontiers pushed further and further forward, new exchange offices, where foreign mail was received, were created. Thus the "Marques d'Entree en France" (Postmarks showing entry into France) were manufactured for many towns on these new frontiers. For this reason one may find these entry postmarks from many border towns in the Conquered Departments.

Sixth — Miscellaneous postmarks, including those

87
BIENNE
96 105
SPA MONDOVI
Three typical postmarks found on unpaid letters

P.102.P
CREUTZNACH
P86P P.II6.P
MONS ROME
Three typical postmarks found on prepaid letters

COLONIES PAR
ANVERS
HOLLANDE
PAR
CLÈVES
Two markings of Entry into France

COURTRAY

P.P.
AIX-LA-CHAPELLE

Two Provisional postmarks. The Courtray was for an unpaid letter; the Aix La Chapelle for one prepaid. Both were used before the arrival of the postmarks with departmental numbers.

indicating the time of departure or arrival. A few words regarding each. The French word ordinarily used at this epoch to indicate a registered letter was "Charge" though more rarely "Recommende" is found. These marks were struck on the front of the letter in addition to those already mentioned. Only two or three towns used a postmark indicating that the letter had been disinfected, or as the French usually say "Purifie." The postmarks indicating the date of departure were very rarely used, though a certain few towns, mostly in Italy used them, A date indicating arrival is much more often found; this usually being struck on the back of the letter.

Mention should be made of what are called the provisional postmarks which were used by the French while they were waiting for the regular postmarks with the department number to be manufactured. These were very often the postmarks which had been in use in the town before its capture though sometimes a provisional postmark was made by the French authorities after arrival.

*Dir. G^l des Postes
de la Belgique*

*Préfet
Dép. de Tanaro*

Two official government franks. Directeur General des Postes de la Belgique (General Director of Belgian Posts), and Prefet Département de Tanaro (Governor of the Department of Tanaro)

Most of the postmarks of the first three categories mentioned above were made expressly for the French Post Office Department and thus are standardized as far as type is concerned. There are certain exceptions where postmarks were made locally varying from the official type; these generally speaking being much rarer. Both the official and unofficial postmarks vary decidedly in size. As for the color of ink used, black is the commonest though red is not much rarer. Other colors are seldom found though several towns used blue, brown, or still more rarely, claret or green.

Post offices in the French Departments were comparatively few in number, altogether existing in but about 450 towns. There had been many more post offices before the French took over the service in these regions, but Napoleon decreed that all post offices which were not self-supporting should be discontinued unless the citizens of the town cared to pay any deficit. Some departments had but a single office, while the average number was only about nine.

These postmarks are extremely popular in France, and with reason. They fairly reek with history and this

8. MARS.

1812

Germinal

VENTOS

Dated arrival postmark from Verviers, Belgium, 1812. Two arrival postmarks showing the revolutionary months: Germinal from Turin and Ventos (Ventose) from Chivasso.

accounts for much of their great popularity. They vary tremendously in rarity. Postmarks from some of the larger offices which existed for a comparatively long period of time are very common, examples being - Bruxelles, Genes (Genoa), Anvers (Antwerp) and Aix-la-Chapelle (Aachen). On the other hand, postmarks from many offices are extremely rare; in fact there are a considerable number of towns from which no postmark has yet been found. Many collectors are satisfied with one postmark from each department, some preferring those of the capital of the department in question; but even such a set is not easily made up. A collection of these postmarks really forms a picture of the glorious epoch of French ascendancy in Europe in the late 18th and 19th Centuries.

Such a collection may be very considerably extended should a collector wish to include what may be called the Occupied and Allied countries as distinguished from those cut up into French departments. An example is the Kingdom of Italy, created by Napoleon, which included almost all of that country outside of that actually annexed to France, and the Kingdom of Naples. The Kingdom of Italy too was cut up into departments copied after those in France, but this subject may better be considered in another article.

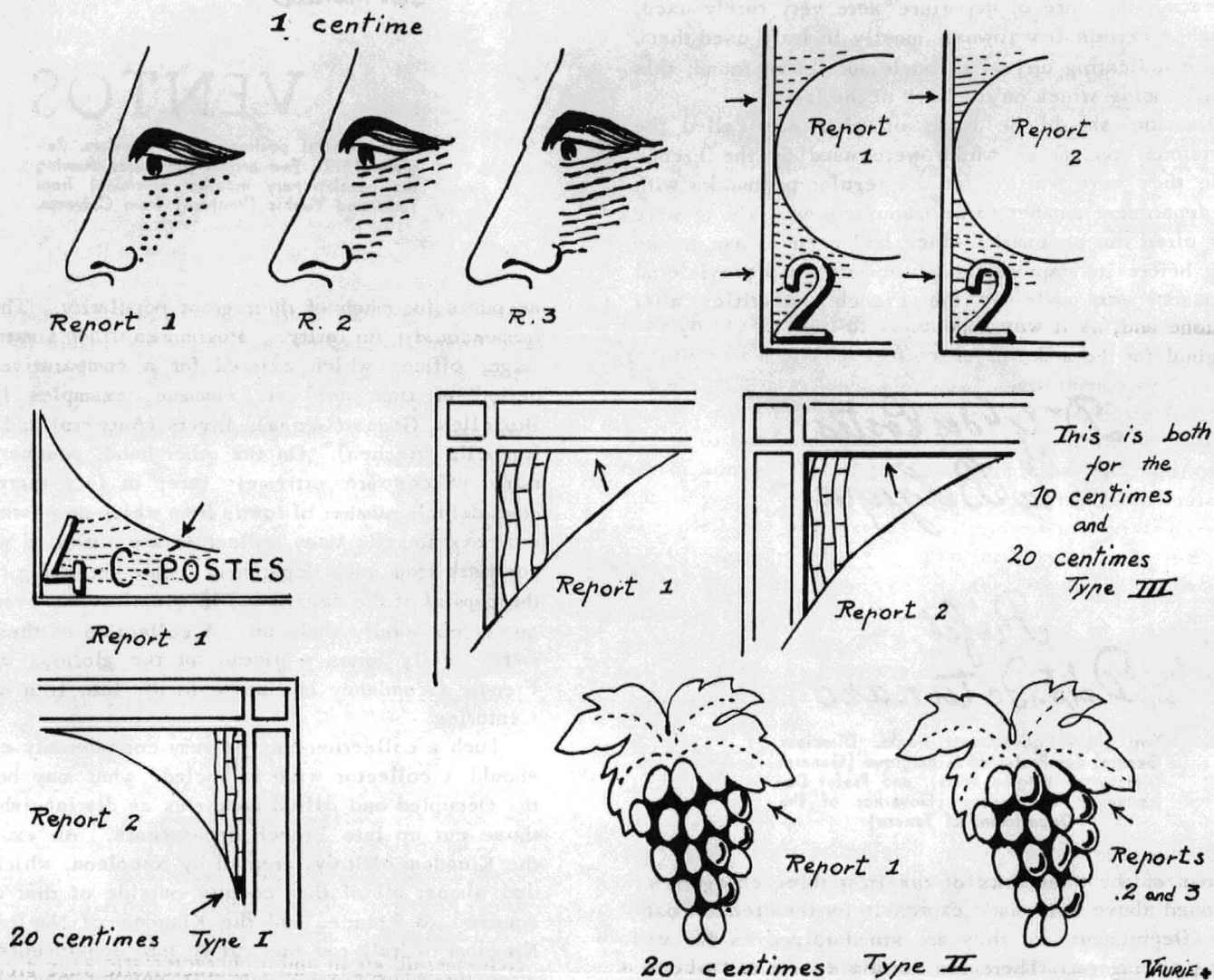
Philatelic Terms Illustrated



THE BORDEAUX ISSUE OF FRANCE

Dr. A. J. C. Vaurie

The Bordeaux Issue, listed by Scott under the heading – Lithographed, 1870–71, Imperf. – includes numbers 38–48 inclusive. It is the only one of the French issues that was not printed in Paris.



The Bordeaux is without a doubt the most interesting issue in any French collection and is not approached in its range of varieties and scale of shades. Scott gives them 27 listings, and Yvert's catalog for France 80 – and this for only a set of 9 values. This compares with 67 varieties for its nearest rival, the set of 8 values of the Napoleon III issue – an issue that was printed in huge quantities for 9 years while the Bordeaux were under the press for only 4½ months.

To this issue belongs the distinction of having two of the rarest stamps in French collecting. Despite its being a classic XIX century French issue, it still enjoys a vigorous youth, for new discoveries are being made right along.

In an article of this scope it is unfortunately impossible to enter into more than very general remarks, but the interested student will find a wonderful guide in

Dillemann "Description Generale des Timbres-poste de l'Emission de Bordeaux" Amiens, Yvert & Cie, 1929.

France was at war with Prussia and on the 4th of September, 1870, the Third Republic was proclaimed, and this event obviously was due to change the stamps then current. On the 11th of October a new set with the head of the Republic "Ceres" appeared in Paris, but Paris had already been besieged for a month and none of these stamps could reach the provinces. The Napoleon issue was still valid for postage, but stocks had been allowed to run low on account of the war. One of the new Ceres had reached the provinces on a Balloon letter and it was decided to copy it as closely as possible, but technical means were lacking. It was decided to print the stamps by lithography as being the quickest and cheapest way, and as no perforating machine was available, the stamps were to be sold imperforated. Printing began at the Bordeaux Mint on November 6, 1870, contin-

Over.

ued until March 17, 1871, and on the 12th of August of the same year, the stones were officially destroyed.

A record of the printing was kept, giving us the following amounts:

1 centime	— 24,471,375
2 centimes	— 8,882,475
4 centimes	— 4,233,975
10 centimes	— 17,801,075
20 centimes	— 52,445,175
30 centimes	— 2,935,875
40 centimes	— 3,296,025
80 centimes	— 2,388,575

These figures are official; as far as the size of the printings of the different types is concerned, only estimates exist. To the Mint, one type of the same value was as good as another. Happy times when stamps were not primarily printed for collectors!

The stamps were printed in the following manner. First, one original stamp was carefully drawn by pen on a stone and, as it was impossible to transfer evenly this original for the make up of a sheet of 300, a block of 15 (5 x 3) was made up. Then this block was "reported" or transferred 20 times to make up the stone from which printing was made. But before doing this, and to insure clearness and uniformity, each of the 15 stamps in the master block or "Bloc-Report" was gone over and retouched here and there by the engraver. The result is 15 constant varieties for each, repeating themselves, of course, 20 times to a sheet. After a while the "Bloc-Reports" themselves became worn and new ones had to be made up, this involving the drawing of an entirely new original (What we would call a "die" if we were dealing with engraved stamps). Thus are created new types or what is known and collected as the various "reports" of this issue. Some values of small use have but one, others as many as three. Sometimes the differences are slight, while sometimes, purposely to enhance the clearness of the stamps the differences are very marked. A collection of the Bordeaux issue should involve therefore the collection of the 15 varieties of each report. So far 21 reports are known, hence $21 \times 15 = 315$ varieties, not counting varieties which occur but once or twice to a sheet, and major flaws or shades. And to this the specialist adds, of course, multiple pieces, covers, combinations and cancellations.

The first stamp was drawn by M. Dambourgez. It was the 20 centimes, the most commonly used and therefore most urgently needed value. This stamp tried to be a faithful copy of the Paris issue, but the fine lines and details that are possible on a metal plate are not successful by the coarser medium of stone printing, and it was a failure. It was soon replaced by another 20 centimes of simpler design by Leopold Yon. This came out very satisfactorily and the two stamps are known as Types I and II of the 20 centimes respectively. From then on L. Yon designed all remaining values. I have been asked how one can distinguish the Bordeaux from other issues. Outside of the fact that a lithographed stamp looks entirely different from an engraved stamp, the simplest way is to note the ends of the wreath at the top of the

head. On the Bordeaux the ears of wheat hardly project beyond the line of the hair; on the others, they do so markedly and are much more sharply drawn. This does not apply to Type I of the 20 centimes. But this latter is not a commonly found stamp — its lines of shading of the neck and under the eye are almost entirely missing, giving it a characteristic "white" face appearance. Furthermore, the vertical lines of the background are 54 in number instead of 66 as in the stamps of all other issues. On the other Bordeaux this number is further reduced to 51. These lines are joined by horizontal lines instead of dots, giving the Bordeaux background a typical "brick-wall" appearance. I think that the differentiation as given by Scott is most misleading, the lines of shading under the eye are anything but clear, and the great majority of copies show a wearing away of these lines.

The differences between the various reports and also the characteristic shades are as follows:

1 centime — olive green, 3 reports — Report 1: lines under the eye formed by dots. Report 2: lines under the eye formed by dashes, a distinct white line follows the contour of the hair. Report 3: 1st state — lines under the eye are formed by dashes. No white line of contour behind the hair. 2nd state — lines under the eye tend to run together.

Only two shades are found — an olive green and a bronze green.

2 centimes — red brown, 2 reports — Report 1: dots to the left of the frame and the head of the figure "2" at the left. Report 2: lines instead of dots in corresponding places.

A very rare chocolate shade (RR) is characteristic of report 1. This is not found in report 2, but this latter shows a good brick red shade (R).

4 centimes — gray, 2 reports.

The differentiation between the two reports is difficult (see diagram). This value is poor in shades.

5 centimes — green, 2 reports — Report 1: impression always very fine, total lack of white line behind the hair. Report 2: white line behind the hair.

The usual shade is yellow green, but there exists a rich emerald green and a characteristic sage green (R).

10 centimes — bistre, 2 reports —

Report 1: inner frame lines thin.

Report 2: inner frame lines re-inforced.

No outstanding shades.

20 centimes — Type I, blue, 2 reports.

This is the stamp of Dambourgez (described above) and the first one issued. The differentiation is difficult (see diagram). No outstanding shades.

20 centimes — Type II, blue, 3 reports.

This is the stamp of L. Yon (described above) and second one issued.

Report 1: the right lobe of the vine leaf has no indentation, some grapes not shaded. Report 2: indented vine leaf, shaded grapes. Report 3: same as 2 but with additional white line of contour behind the hair.

This stamp is rich in shades — the outstanding are a blue-black in report 1, and in report 3, the famous ultramarine (RRR), the rarest of all the French stamps by

continued on page 16

FRENCH AND RELATED PHILATELIC DUBIETIES

JAN KINDLER

Although tolerated, many collectors flatly call the products described below fantasies. Sold in stationery stores, a few are said to have been actually carried through the air.

BALLOON FANTASIES

PAR BALLON

MONTE

Décret du 26 septembre 1870



M

ART. 2. Le poids des lettres expédiées par les aérostats ne devra pas dépasser 4 grammes.

The Siege of Paris during the Franco-Prussian War (1870/71) brought about the first avial mail. The beleaguered city established postal connection with the exterior through the use of free balloons. The first of these, the "Neptune," left on the 23rd of September 1870 and was followed by another every two or three days. The last, the "General Cambronne," got away on Jan. 28, 1871, just before the city capitulated.

Shortly after the institution of service, a special form was printed up for correspondents who wished to use it. It consisted of a double page, four sides, of which one was blank for the sender's personal message. Two pages contained a miniature newspaper called the "Lettre-Journal de Paris," which gave a running account of events and conditions in the besieged city. A new edition of this paper was printed every day and made available to the public.

When the form was folded for mailing, the fourth side of the sheet became the surface which carried the postage and the address. On it was printed a guiding frame, a smaller frame, indicating the location for the stamp, and, at the upper left of the guide-frame, the inscriptions "PAR BALLON MONTE."

Officially authorized, these forms are known to every serious collector of French philatelic material. Two quite different forms exist, however, and they are handsome and interesting, but neither saw the service for which they were intended – if, indeed, they ever were so intended.

One is a letter sheet, the other a card. The letter sheet (shown above) was of roughly the same dimensions as the "Lettre-Journal" just described, but was of blue and much thinner paper. It was printed only on the side. The printing, however, was elaborate. In addition to the

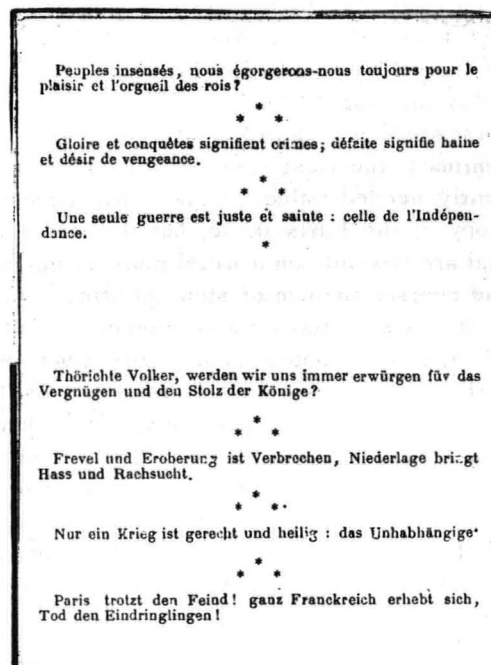
inscriptions mentioned above, it carried four propagandistic exhortations in both French and German – "Une seule guerre est juste et sainte: celle de l'Indépendance." or "Nur ein krieg ist geracht und heilig: das unhabhagige"

That is: "One war only is just and holy: that of independence.") The thought behind these slogans was that winds and gunfire are unpredictable and the mail might very well fall into the hands of the Prussians. In such a case, though the letters would be lost, the aphorisms might at least serve a purpose.

Indeed, the form of the card, which was otherwise much like that of the letter sheet, included a quotation from the original decree authorising the balloon post, specifically the fourth article. This warned that "the government reserved the right to hold any post-card which contains information of a nature that might be useful to the enemy." The cards, by the way, were postcard size and of a bluish-green shade. They were marked "Par Ballon Non-Monte" – meaning that they were intended to be flown out in balloons without accompanying aeronauts.

Interesting as these items are, they have no valid standing for the reason that they were made up too late for use. At least that is the given reason. Chances are, however, that the men who produced them – M. Maury and an associate M. Durrier – knew that they would never be used. Knew, in fact, that the items were not printed until after the city had surrendered. None ever got into a balloon – at least in wartime.

Still, they are of the period and, in consequence, have their small niche in history. So do the other types which are said to exist, but which I have never seen.



PRESIDENT'S COLUMN

WASH LINE EXHIBIT

Our program at the February Meeting at the Collectors Club was quite different. We had a, "Washline Exhibit," of fifteen different members' favorite Album page...and then the members each gave a short two minute talk on WHY his page was his choice page. It was both interesting and informative...and we got several members on their feet and talking before the meeting for the first time.

FOUNDERS MEETING

Despite the winter's worst storm on the East Coast, our March meeting, honoring the Founding members of the organization, turned out quite well. At about 10 A.M. of the meeting day it looked hopeless, with gale winds and blinding sheets of snow and rain coming at you from the horizontal. By six o'clock the snow and rain had stopped and many of the faithful made it. We had many letters and telegrams from those invited from out of town who could not make it and they were very thoughtful to let us know that they couldn't be with us.

Our regular business meeting was dispensed with and three of the original members who founded the organization over 20 years ago, gave interesting talks for the small but enthusiastic audience. Speakers were: Edmund Queyroy, Member #3, Adrian Boutrelle, Member #12 and Dr. A. J. C Vaurie, Member #17, the first Editor of the Philatelist. All three did a very good job, each from a different angle. We were very sorry that the other members who planned to attend could not. As part of the program, six frames of historical material was prepared and was on display at the meeting. This ranged from early photos of the group and issue #1 of the Philatelist to distinguished awards won through the years by the organization.

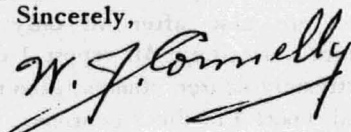
AUCTION

According to our Corresponding Secretary, Charles Bretagne, who is Chairman of the Auction Committee, the material donated by the members for the Auction is of excellent quality. This means an even better project than last year's Auction. Plan now to find some excellent material for your collections... or just to put away for a rainy day, in the coming Auction.

HISTORICAL COMMITTEE

In collecting the material for the six frames of historical material, we became aware that the material was not just in one place, it was in a lot of places. As a result, our recording Secretary, Miss Beatrice Berner, 200 East 35th Street, N.Y. 16, N.Y. has been appointed Chairman of the Historical Comm., so, if you have anything of historical value to the organizations background, please pass it along.

Sincerely,



President

INTERPEX WINNERS

Interpex '62 proved a highly successful venture for the "Society." In addition to attracting several new members, bringing together old friends and giving us of the Parent Chapter a chance to meet many of the members from out-of-town, the show was extremely rewarding from the stand-point of the exhibitor.

It is a pleasure, indeed, to announce that besides the "Society's" own awards the France and Colonies section took two of the three Grand Awards given by Interpex for the best exhibits in the entire show, whether entered in competition or not.

These awards were won by President Connelly and Benjamin Lipset. Mr. Connelly took the 20th Century prize for his French Congo Definitives and Mr. Lipset took the Topical award for his Red Cross Issues - Metropolitan, Colonial and French Union Countries.

The judges for Interpex were Harry Lindquist, Edwin Mueller and Jame DeVoss.

The "Society's" own awards were as follows:

GRAND AWARD: Wm. J. Connelly, New York - French Congo Definitives

GLASSICAL:

- 1st Prize: Sigmund Horowicz, New York - Algerian Cancels on Metropolitan France
- 2nd Prize: John B. Morton, Buffalo, N.Y. - Selected Cancellations on the Sage Issue
- 3rd Prize: Eric Spiegel, New York - General Colonies Comp.

20TH CENTURY:

- 1st Prize: A. G. McKanna, Toronto, Canada - 25c Sower Blue, Specialized
- 2nd Prize: Louise Clemencon, New York - 15c Sower Green, Lined, Specialized
- 3rd Prize: Robert W. Carr, Westminster, Texas - 20th Century Dies and Varieties

TOPICAL:

- 1st Prize: Gustave Wittenberg, New York - Grande Armee Routes - Napoleon Covers
- 2nd Prize: Benjamin Lipsett, New York - Red Cross Issues
- 3rd Prize: Beatrice Berner, New York - Camels on French Stamps

The judges were Edmond Queyroy, Raoul Lesgor and Ira Seebacher.

Mr. Theodore Van Dam, a member of the Parent Chapter, also took a bronze medal in the A.P.S. Section for his exhibit of Spanish War Covers.

INDEX BEING READIED

The twenty year index to the "Philatelist" is now in the process of being set up in type for printing. It is hoped that finished copies will be in the hands of all members in the next eight to ten weeks.

SECRETARY'S REPORT

To April 1, 1962

NEW MEMBERS WELCOME:

- 844 Thode, Henrick A., Box 229, RR #2, Medford Station, L.I., New York (France)
- 845 Jackson, Elinor H. Mrs., 4800 Old Dominion Drive, Arlington 7, Va. (France — mint & used)
- 846 Merkin, Sandford, Hillside, New Jersey (France)
- 847 Holland, Charles W., 150 Stewart Homes, Fort Stewart, Ga. (France & Col.)
- 848 Bucton, Kenneth, 295 Exmouth St., Sarnia, Ontario, Canada (France)
- 849 Vidrick, Robt. L. Capt., 594th T.G. (Mov. Con), APO 681 New York, N.Y. (France)
- 850 Woodbridge, John E., 561 Lawn Terrace, Mamaroneck, N.Y. (France & Col.)
- 851 Bolyard, Byron E., Ellison Bay, Rt 1, Wisconsin (France & Col.)
- 852 Cummings, John A., 17355 Braile St., Detroit 19, Michigan (Bordeaux Issue — Paris RR)
- 853 Russell, James, 2209 Brighton St., Philadelphia 49, Penna. (French Colonies)
- 854 Waterfield, John R., 428 So. Batavia Ave., Batavia, N.Y.-
- 855 Carr, Robert W., 3436 Westminster, Dallas 5, Texas (France)
- 856 Burtnett, Robert C., 237 Westchester Ave., Mount Vernon, N.Y. (French Colonies)
- 857 Titus, Roy V., 655 5th Ave., New York 22, N.Y.
- 858 Chirot, Michel Dr., 350 Marshland Ct., Troy, N.Y. (France)
- 859 Hoffman, Norman A., 105 Heberle Road, Rochester 9, N.Y.
- 860 Liebsohn, Ludwig, 255 Cabrini Blvd., New York 40, N.Y. (France)

CHANGE OF ADDRESS

- 146 Peterson, E. N. to Rt. 2, Box 403, Montgomery, Ala.
- 279 Anthony, Pierce W. to 70 Merbrook Lane, Merion Station, Penna.
- 321 Boughman, Robert W. to Box 1344, Liberal, Kansas
- 602 Seibert, Henri C. to Earich Rd. #10, Athens, Ohio
- 612 Garfield Perry Stamp Club to Order Division, Cleveland Public Library, 325 Superior Ave., Cleveland 14, Ohio
- 644 Sharp, Harry to 8623 Concord St., Detroit 11, Mich.
- 700 Higby, C. R. to R.R. No. 2, Pt. Lambton, Ont., Canada
- 739 Stehney, Mike to 2954 Goodson, Hamtramck 12, Mich.
- 784 Bern, Arthur to 1629 Arkansas Dr., Valley Stream, L.I., N.Y.
- 787 Neuville, H.R. LTJG to MSTSMEDSUBAREA, APO 19, New York, N.Y.
- 801 Duman, Jacob A. to 1028 Hendrix St., Brooklyn 7, N.Y.
- 805 Heath, C.A. to 201 S. Edison St., Tampa, Florida
- 826 MacKay, F.W. to 3900 Watson Place N.W., Apt. 4G, Bldg A, Washington 16, D.C.

MEMBERS APPEALS

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

WANTED: Unusual cancellations on early France, Will buy or give 20th Century or some 19th Century in exchange. Glenn Karseboom, 119 Cutler St., Grand Rapids 7, Mich. (Member 397)

AM INTERESTED in obtaining material of the Merson type, its use in the colonies, shade varieties, overprints, etc. A.L. Lindgren, 194 Eggleston Ave., Elmhurst, Ill. (Member 779)

REINSTATEMENT

705 de Lizeray, Pierre, 14 Rue de Poitier, Paris 8, France

604 Ketover, Richard, 2107 Chapel St., New Haven, Conn.

Bordeaux Contd.

far.

20 centimes — Type III, blue, 2 reports.

This type resembles Type II but the letters and numerals are considerably larger.

Report 1: white line behind the hair, thickness of inner frame lines even. Report 2: no white line, reinforced lines.

This stamp is very rich in shades, in report 1 exists also an ultramarine but not quite as intense as in Type II, and not as rare, but nevertheless a rare stamp (RR). In report 2, many lovely shades, pale and very dark blues, royal and velvet blues, etc....

30 centimes — brown, 1 report only

Very poor in shades — only a light and a dark shade.

40 centimes — orange, 1 report only.

The richest in shades of all the French stamps. The scale goes from a frankly pale yellow, the "citron" (RR), a very rare stamp, to an intense dark red, blood like in color, called the "Blood-red" (RRR), which is only second in rarity to the ultramarine. The shades are too numerous and their gradation too subtle to allow of any separation.

80 centimes — rose, 1 report only.

Not very many shades, but all very pleasing. Presents a dull and a bright rose a carmine-rose and a dull wine color (R).

The Bordeaux issue thus contains two of France's rarest stamps the Ultra-marine, and the Blood-red. These two stamps are far scarcer than even a 1 fr. vermillion, but they have not received the benefit of publicity and are also after all only shade varieties and not major varieties. All report 1 of the 4 centimes are also extremely scarce stamps, also report 1 of the 5 centimes, and report 1 of the 2 centimes. Those three stamps in the order given also hold a place among the rarest stamps in French philately.