



France & Colonies Philatelist



THE FRENCH RADIODIFFUSION STAMPS OF 1935-37

By John B. Morton (#79)



Under the heading "Radiodiffusion," which can be found among what one might call the also-rans of philately, four of the five French catalogs list three stamps and picture the design that was common to all three, except for the year date each bore.

These stamps are attractive in design, as are most if not all of the issues from the burin of that late great designer-engraver, Ouvré. The central feature is a Cérès-like head superimposed on a lyre and the stamps are dated respectively 1935, 1936 and 1937, the corresponding colors being blue, red and green. Those collectors who are tempted to acquire the "Radio" trio—no easy task by the way—may well wonder what was their function, how they were used. Obviously not postage stamps, they were in a sense not even revenue stamps in that they bore no figures of value. They did however have a revenue-related purpose.

A law dated May 31, 1933, imposed an annual tax on radio receivers, as follows: on home crystal sets, 15 francs, and tube sets, 50 francs; on radios where the public could listen free, 100 francs, and on those where one paid for the privilege of listening, 200 francs. (The exchange value of the French

franc in the mid-1930's was only a few U. S. cents.) This tax was paid by radio-owners at a post office, inasmuch as broadcasting came under the purview of the P.T.T.

A September 1935 decree provided that henceforth, upon paying their radio tax, set-owners would receive a label ("vignette") to be affixed to their set. This stamp, as we now call it, was hand-cancelled by the window clerk with the regular date-stamp of the post office and handed, with full gum, to the set-owner with his tax-payment receipt. For one reason or another most people "neglected" or refused to stick the stamp on their radio, fortunately for the future of philately.

The blue stamp of 1935 was withdrawn on July 1, 1936, when the red number for the latter year came into use. On the same date a year later the green 1937 stamp made its appearance, and it was announced that in view of the wide non-use of the Radiodiffusion stamps in the intended manner, the stamp would be issued only to radio tax-payers who asked for it. The end was now in sight. A forthcoming stamp for 1938 was announced in May, but the P.T.T. saved itself 40,000 francs by not bothering to print it, thus terminating the all-to-brief history of the "Radiodiff" issues. In reality these were not intended to serve as direct proof of payment of the tax—this was the function of the receipt form—while the practice of not affixing them to radio sets made them ineffective as a convenient means of control by roving inspectors.

As mentioned above, these stamps are not to be found in just any stamp store, to put it mildly, but when available they are usually offered at a cost reasonably related to the catalog figures of a few dollars apiece, mint, or cancelled and without gum. The pricing scheme as between the stamps themselves, and also mint vs. used, seems to depend on the whim of the individual catalog publisher, however my experience has been that cancelled examples are scarcer than mint. This could be due to the fact that in 1936 the Radio stamps were officially available to collectors (presumably uncanceled?) for 50 francs each.

If any France and Colonies member can spare a nicely cancelled 1937 RDF stamp, I am an eager prospect for same. Address: John B. Morton, 605 West Ferry St., Buffalo, N. Y. 14222.

Some of the used large-sized French commemorative stamps are seen with perforations partially trimmed like from a stamp dispensing machine, but these are not from booklets or coils; they come from sheets separated by some business firms with a cutter in order to speed up the mailing.

FRANCE & COLONIES PHILATELIST

Published quarterly by the

FRANCE AND COLONIES PHILATELIC SOCIETY, INC. (N.Y.)

July 1969 — Whole Number 137, Volume 25, No. 3

Second-class postage paid at Lawrence, Kansas

Office of Publication: 821 Vermont Street, Lawrence, Kansas 66044

Dues \$3.50 per year, Parent Chapter \$4.50 (plus 50c admission fee)

\$3.25 of which is for a subscription to the F&C Philatelist

Send to the Corresponding Secretary: Walter E. Parshall

103 Spruce St., Bloomfield, N. J. 07003

All matters regarding this publication to be sent to

Editor: Robert G. Stone, Route 3, Box 384, Belleville, Illinois 62221

POSTAGE-DUE MARKINGS AND STAMPS OF FRANCE 1750-1942

IV. The Duval Design 1881-1942

By Arthur P. Merrick (#753)

In 1881 a new design was adopted for the postage dues of France, and was printed continuously until 1942. This period spans 61 years and probably constitutes the longest continuous usage of any stamp design in postal history. The design was by G. Duval (sometimes called "Type banderolle"), and like the earlier dues, the result was a simple, dull, uninspired series of stamps.

However, these stamps should be of much interest to both the average collector, and the specialist of both France and the Colonies of France. It is a long series of 36 stamps, in service during an important period of French postal history. They were printed by both the flat and "rotary" plate method, thus offering much variety for the collector of Millesimes and Coins Datés. Shade varieties are numerous and, according to Dr. Joany, 14 distinctly different papers were used. Yet only 6 of the 36 stamps in this series catalog over 100 francs in used condition.

For the postal history or cover collector, there are many possibilities. Even the most common of the Duval dues are somewhat elusive on cover showing proper usage, and the scarce ones are rare on cover. Many interesting combination covers are to be found and a collection of these showing a combination of the proper postage and due rates would be of exhibition caliber.

They also have an important place in the albums of the French Colonies collector. For use as general issues for all the colonies, 26 of these Duval design stamps were issued imperforate and can be found with the cancellations of many Colonies and Offices Abroad. (See R. G. Stone, *Coll. Club Phil.*, V. 25, No. 3, 1946.) On cover, properly used in the colonies, however, these are most elusive to rare. One word of caution should be noted here. Some of these imperforate Duval design dues issued for the Colonies are occasionally offered as imperforate varieties of the dues of France at highly inflated prices. (The black franc values imperforate were proofs in non-issued color.) For many of the Colonies and Offices Abroad, various denominations of the Duval dues for France proper (perforated) or of the General Colonies (imperforate) were overprinted for allegedly provisional use or to serve as postage, parcel post, etc. Here again is a potentially absorbing field for the specialist: unused or used, but particularly when properly used on cover.

Perhaps because of their uninteresting appearance, dues of the Duval design have found little favor with collectors. Consequently, in the author's opinion, catalog prices have been misleadingly low, and selling prices even lower. Finding supplies of specialized material, as shades, millésimes, coins datés, covers, varieties, etc., is a major problem regardless of catalog value. Lately, judging from prices realized at auction in France, interest in these dues is on the increase, and prices are moving up considerably.

Before proceeding, particular recognition should be given to the excellent and comprehensive articles on the Duval dues of France by Dr. R. Joany, "Nomenclature des Timbres-Poste de France: Timbres Taxe" which appeared in "La Philatelie Française" Nos. 178, 179, 180-181, 183, 184 (April to Nov. 1968). This author used these for reference and to recheck his own notes and information. Dr. Joany's articles, as well as Yvert's specialized catalog of France (1939), are highly recommended.

Most Duval dues were printed either by flat plate or rotary plate, but some denominations by both methods. Printing was done by the Atelier de Fabrication des Timbres in Paris.

Flat Plate: These were printed in full sheets of 300 and distributed to postoffices in half sheets of 150, arranged in 6 panes of 25 (2x3) with horizontal and vertical gutters between each pane. This is identical to the production of small-size flat-plate postage stamps of France. From 1891 the millésime numeral (year of printing) appeared in the vertical gutter separating each horizontal pair of panes. Prior to 1891 millésimes were not used. Size of stamps printed by flat plate: 18x21½ mm.

"Rotary" Plate: These were distributed to post offices in sheets of 100 arranged in 2 panes of 50 (50x10) with a vertical gutter between the 2 panes. The coin datés (date of printing) appears in the lower right margin of each sheet. Size of "rotary" printed stamps: 18¼x22 mm.

(Note: For detailed information on these methods of production see: R. Lesgor, "France—20th Century Specialized" Part 2, Chapters II and III; also covered is the collecting of millésimes and coins datés.)

Scott No.	Yvert No.	Value	Color	Date of Issue	Discontinued or Withdrawn	Replaced by	Millésimes
J11	10	1c	Black	Oct. 1, 1882	Sept. 1925 discontinued	-----	without 1898, 99, 1900, 01, 02, 03, 04, 05, 07
12	11	2	Black	Oct. 1, 1882	May 5, 1892	-----	without
13	12	3	Black	Oct. 1, 1882	May 5, 1892	-----	without
14	13	4	Black	Oct. 1, 1882	May 5, 1892	-----	without
15	14	5	Black	Oct. 1, 1882	-----	5c blue 1894	w/out 1892
16	15	10	Black	Oct. 1, 1882	-----	10c brn 1893	w/out 1892
17	16	15	Black	Oct. 1, 1882	-----	15c grn 1894	w/out 1891, 92
18	17	20	Black	Oct. 1, 1882	May 5, 1892	-----	without
19	18	30	Black	July 1881	-----	30c red 1894	w/out 1891, 92
20	19	40	Black	Oct. 1, 1882	May 5, 1892	-----	without
21	20	50	Black	*April 1892	-----	50c lilac 1895	without 1891, 92
22	21	60	Black	May 1884	Sept. 1896	-----	without
23	22	1fr.	Black	Oct. 1, 1882	-----	1fr maroon 1884	w/out
24	23	2	Black	Oct. 1, 1882	-----	2fr maroon 1884	w/out
25	24	5	Black	Oct. 1, 1882	-----	5fr maroon 1884	w/out

*50c Black: It may seem unusual that this stamp should be known with 1891 millésimes since it was not issued until 1892. The printing was done in 1891 but stocks not released till 1892.

Almost all of the black dues are to be found in shades from grey-black to intense black. The 10c is known in grey and the 30c in a bright grey black but are rare. Most values were printed on 2 or 4 different papers depending on dates of printing. For paper descriptions see Joany's article above or Yvert specialized, 1939, pages 285-286.

These dues, except for the 1c, are scarce in unused blocks and for the 50c to 5fr blocks are rare to very rare. Used blocks except for the 1c, 15c, 30c, are also scarce to very rare. Properly used on cover all except the 1c are scarce to very rare. Catalog prices are misleading because the entire issue is underpriced in blocks, and on cover the pricing is almost meaningless in relation to actual supply and scarcity.

1884

Scott Yvert

No.	No.	Value	Color	Date of Issue	Withdrawn	Replaced by	Millésimes
J26	25	1fr	Maroon	March 1884	-----	1fr rose 1896	without 1891, 92
27	26	2fr	Maroon	May 1884	Oct. 1891 Discontinued	-----	without
28	27	5fr	Maroon	March 1884	May 1892	-----	without

Shades vary from pale maroon to bright maroon. Two paper varieties are known for each value. Comments above on the value of unused and used blocks, and used on cover also apply to these 3 stamps.

Dangerous counterfeits of the Franc values in both black and maroon produced by photogravure exist, and caution should be exercised. Buying them through reputable sources is the safest method.

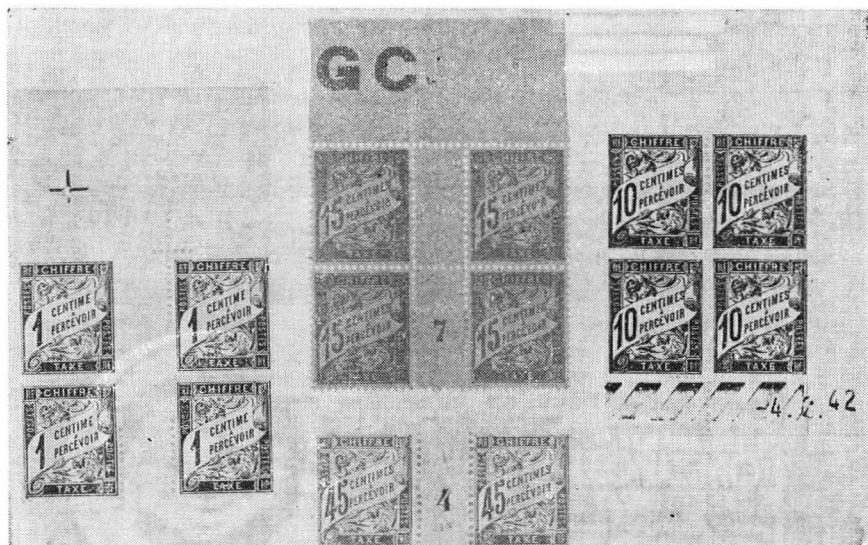


Fig. 1. Left: block of 1c black without millesime (prior to 1891); Center top: block of 15c yellow green, millesime 7 (for 1917), on GC (Grande Consommation) paper; Center bottom: millesime 4 (for 1924) pair of 45c green; Right: block of 10c brown with coin date in lower right margin ("4.2.42")—1942 was last year of printing for this.

Scott Yvert

No.	No.	Value	Color	Date of Issue	Discontinued	Replaced by	Millésimes
J29	28	5c	Blue	Jan. 22, 1894	Used until supply	1893, 94, 95, 96, depleted 97, 98, 99, 1900, 01, 02, 03, 04, 06, 07, 08, 09, 11, 13, 14, 17GC, 18GC, 20, 21, 22, 24, 26, 27, 28, 29, 30, 32, 33. Coin datés: 1934 35, 36, 37, 38	

30	29	10	Brown	Dec. 24, 1893	-----	10c	Sepia,	1893, 94, 95, 1893 96, 97, 98, 99, 1900, 01, 02, 03, 05, 06, 07, 08, 09, 11, 12, 13, 14, 15, 17GC, 18GC, 19, 20, 21, 22, 24, 23, 27, 28, 29, 30, 31, 33. Coins datés: 1934, 35, 36, 37, 38, 40, 42
			(many shades)					
31	30	15	Yel.-gr	Feb. 1894	April 28, 1923	----		1893, 96, 97, 93, 99, 1900, 01, 02, 03, 04, 05, 17GC
			(several shades)					
32	31	20	gr-olive	June 1906	May 1, 1926	----		Without, 1906, 07, 08, 09, 11, 12, 13, 15, 18GC, 20, 21, 22, 24, 26
			(many shades)					
33	32	25	Rose	Sep. 30 1923	July 27 1925	----		1923
34	33	30	Red	Feb. 1894	-----	30c	Lilac	1893, 94, 96, Rose, 97, 98, 99, 1900, 1943 01, 02, 03, 04, 05, 17GC, 19GC, 21, 22, 23, 24, 26, 27, 23, 29, 30, 31, 32, Coins datés: 1934, 35, 36, 37, 38, 39, 40, 42
			(many shades)					
35	34	30	Red- Orange (error)	July 1894	-----	----		1894
36	35	40	Rose	Dec. 12 1925	Aug. 9 1923	----		1925
37	36	45	Green	July 5 1924	July 27 1925	----		1924
38	37	50	Lilac	May 1895	-----	50c	Green,	1894, 95, 93, 1943 97, 98, 99, 1900, 01, 02, 03, 04, 03, 18GC, 20GC, 22, 23, 24, 26, 27, 28, 30, 31, 32, 33. Coins datés 1934, 35, 36, 37, 38, 39, 40, 42 1925, 28, 29, 31, 32. Coins datés: 1935, 36, 37, 38, 39
39	38	60	Green	Dec. 12 1925	July 13 1939	----		1925, 28, 29, 31, 32. Coins datés: 1935, 36, 37, 38, 39
40	39	1fr	Rose on Straw	June 1896	Sept. 1896	----		1896
41	40	1fr	Lilac- brown on straw	1921	-----	#40A, 1935		1920, 26, 27, 28, 29, 30, 31, 33, 34, Coins datés 1935, 36, 37, 38, 39, 40, 41, 42
42	40A	1fr	Lilac- brown on white (shades of both 40, 40A)	1935	-----	1fr	Violet, 1943	
43	41	2fr	Red- Orange	July 1910	Dec. 25 1912	----		Without

44	42	2fr Violet	May 31 1926	-----	2fr Blue Green, 1943	1926, 30, 32 Coins datés: 1934, 35, 37, 40, 42
45	42A	3fr Lilac- Rose	Dec. 1926	-----	3fr Red- Brown 1943	Coins datés: 1926, 36, 37, 38, 39, 40, 42
45A	66	5fr Red- Orange	March 1941	-----	5fr Rose- Lilac 1943	Coins datés: 1940, 42

This colored series of Duval dues (Scott J29-45A) (Yvert 28-42A, 66) can be a real challenge to the specialist. All but 3 are low priced (0.25 to 5.50fr) and readily obtainable as singles. In blocks, panes of 25, millésime pairs, coins datés blocks and on cover they are more elusive. Certain values were printed on 5 or 6 different papers. Some were issued in only one year while the 10c was issued in 42 different years. This fact alone shows unlimited possibilities for the specialist with imagination.



Fig. 2. Cover of 1925 from Dahomey to Colomb-Béchar, Algeria, with 10c Duval due, and cachet of an early trip of the transsaharan autobus mail.

In the interests of space no listing of the different papers or shades has been given. Nor has any mention been made of the postal and postage due tariffs in effect during this period or the specific uses for which some of these dues were issued. All of this information may be found in reference works previously mentioned, as well as others (see articles of Luft in recent issues of FCP).

Special Issues

"Reimpressions" (presentation proofs) of 1900 and 1910: Printed on white

cardboard in sheets of 25. The 1900 issue was comprised of the 1c to 5fr black, the 1fr to 5fr maroon, 5c blue, 10c brown, 15c green, 30c red, 50c lilac, 1fr rose on straw. The reimpresions of 1910 presumably comprised the listing above, plus the 20c olive green and the 2fr orange.



Fig. 3. 3, 4, and 5c values of 1900 Exposition semili-perf proofs (in black, perfs in brown).

Proofs for the Exposition of 1900: Printed on white cardboard with simulated printed perforations ("simili-perfs"). This special issue was comprised of the 1c to 5fr black and the 1fr to 5fr maroon. Presumably only 50 sets were issued.

Die and plate proofs and essays: We have seen no report on these but presumably they exist and are similar to contemporary proofs of other French stamps.

(Conclusion)

ENGRAVINGS OF THE MASTER DIES OF FRANCE*

II. The Master Dies and the Plates for Recess Printing

By Pierre de Lizeray

Académie de Philatélie, Paris

A. The Making of the Plates.—The method used for making the plates of the French recess-printed stamps has always been the same as for the penny-black of Great Britain, invented by an American who had come to London to propose it (unsuccessfully) for printing British banknotes.

The die is engraved by hand on a flat piece of soft steel (though background cross-hatchings sometimes may be done mechanically). Then, after hardening of the die, its engraved image is transferred to the periphery of a soft steel roller (molette) by rocking the roller back and forth over the die. The roller in turn is hardened and, by rocking, the image is repeatedly transferred to the surface of a large flat or cylindrical plate, in rows sufficient to comprise the area of a pane or sheet of stamps.

Only two recess stamps of France have been printed by flat plates: Le Travail (1928) perf. 14x13½, and the early printings of the 20Fr Pont du Gard comb perfed in 14x13½ to dimensions 36x20¾ mm (1929-30), and line perfed 11¼ to dimensions 35½x21 mm (1930).

B. Perforation Problems:—Here is the curious story of this absolutely unique use in France of line perforation on the Pont du Gard. In order to provide what is called the "love" (amour) of the paper for the ink, the paper for recess printing is slightly moistened, but the wetting gives it a permanent stretching in one direction and a different dilatation in the other direction, according to the paper weave. The 14x13½ comb perf was acceptable for stamps printed on paper cut (for flat-plate printing) to allow for the moisture

*Continued from FCP #124, April 1966

effect in a certain direction; but when by mistake the paper was cut in the wrong direction the comb was unable to perf the stamps in the right positions. So the only solution was to line perforate them to adjust the spacings to the stamps. The only line perforator at the printery was a 11¼ (not otherwise intended for postage stamps).

Later the Pont du Gard was printed from cylindrical plates ("rotary") made from a second die giving a size 36x21¼ mm. This time the use of an endless web of paper obviated any problem with cutting; it is comb perfed 13¼x13, the size regularly used for large-sized rotary recess stamps of France.

C. The Dies.—The dies for the two recess stamps printed by flat plates were hardened in a certain way, including also among the "rotary" stamps the first dies for the 10Fr La Rochelle (22/3/29), first die of the 5Fr Mont St. Michel (29/6/29), the master die for the first two secondary dies of the 3Fr Cathédrale de Reims (5/2/30 and 12/5/30 respectively).

Then at the end of 1930, after some experimenting, it was discovered that it would be better to harden the dies differently. To do that, new dies had to be prepared for the still current 3Fr, 5Fr, 10Fr and 20Fr mentioned above, and the unique 2Fr Arc de Triomphe master die was also treated by the new method. Thus these 5, 10, and 20Fr dies are assigned die numbers II and the 3Fr number III; and the plates made from them were all cylindrical.

D. Colors.—The first recess issues were monocolored, as the presses had only one ink pot and inking roll (toucher). Later (1949) three-color presses were introduced which had three ink rollers and ink reservoirs, each roller being cut away where it was not supposed to give ink to the plate. We call these the "old color presses" and the government stamp printery (on Boulevard Brune) calls them the "T.D.-3" (for *taille-douce 3 couleurs*) presses. They can be used for one, two or three colors but no more.

Since the War, new ultra-modern machines called "T.D.-6" which can print as many as 6 colors were installed at Bd. Brune. They print in two successive passes through two parts of the press, each part having its own plate and ink rollers and printing three colors. One part prints direct recess, the other offset recess (giving a flat surface inking rather than the raised ink lines or direct recess). The offset impression is made first.

To tell the difference between stamps from T.D.-3 and T.D.-6 (they do not always use all 3 or 6 colors) we examine the sheet margins, where the indicia T.D.-3 or T.D.-6 is found. T.D.-3 and -6 can print both sheets and booklets, but only T.D.-6 can print coils.

E. Interference Between Colors.—As with all recess printing, it is necessary to wipe the plate after inking, leaving ink only in the recesses on the plate (the offset recess plate is wiped too). There may be a tendency for neighboring colors to run together, either as a result of the wiping or because the borders of two colors are too close or the drying of the paper is too slow. To obviate this the die engraver can leave some white space between color areas. There is of course no such mixing between the offset and direct recess colors on T.D.-6.

They have managed sometimes to get 7 colors by having certain areas printed with one color on top of another.

F. Sense of Rotation of the Cylinders.—Sometimes part of the denominations of a set is printed with the plate cylinder rotating one way and the rest of the set with plate rotation the opposite sense. This is done to take into account the sequence of colors wiped, so that a dark color is not smeared onto a lighter one. The sense of rotation used is easily recognized by the sense of the dated-corner margin indicia (coins datés) with respect to the stamps—if the date is upside down it is not a mistake!

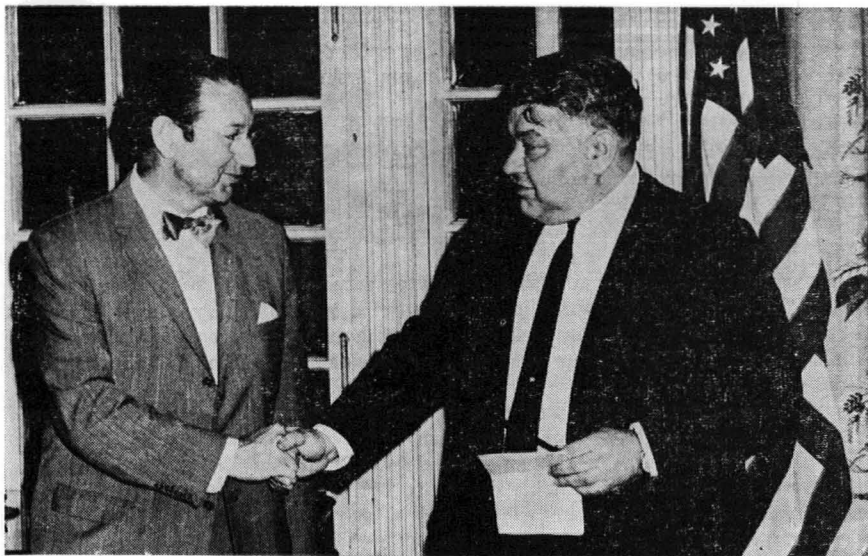
F. & C. P. S. OFFICIAL

President's Letter

Having just had the privilege of becoming the new president of this group, I feel it is important, at this point to assess last year's achievements and comment on our future activities.

We have just completed our 27th active year, during which our membership has been steadily increasing thanks to the efforts of our past and present officers, Ira Zweifach, Eric Spiegel and Walter Parshall, and those of our brilliant editor of the "France and Colonies Philatelist," Robert G. Stone. Each of our monthly meetings attracted an interested audience of members and guests and we were favored with excellent speakers and displays. Our annual competition drew a full house of exhibitors and this year's member's banquet was a most successful one in terms of food, attendance and atmosphere. We do not have to praise our "France and Colonies Philatelist"; all our members receive it and without false modesty, we consider it as one of the best if not the best in its field.

What is our program for the coming season? We have already scheduled some very attractive exhibits and good speakers for our monthly meetings; Ira Zweifach is in charge of programs. This year's "Stephen G. Rich" Competition will take place on February 3, 1970, and we would like to persuade our members to start preparing their exhibits as soon as possible without waiting for the application blanks which will be mailed in December. In the near future you will receive the Cumulative Index of articles published in the first 117 issues of this Philatelist. For over a year now, a special committee has been working to prepare a correlative listing of



Marc Martin receiving from Herbert Block an Award of Honor of Equal Merit for his exhibit of First Issue of France at the Collectors Club Annual Competition on April 16, 1969.

the Scott's catalog numbers with those of Yvert, Thiaude, Maury, Ceres, Berck, Gibbons and Michel. This work is almost completed and it is expected to be published during the coming year.

I sincerely hope that our members will find the Society's coming season a pleasant and an interesting one and with best wishes for a happy summer vacation time, I remain,

Philatelically yours,
Marc W. Martin

Meeting of April 1, 1969

The speaker was Gus Wittenberg who presented 20 frames which outlined the Postal History of the French Army Posts from their inception. This was a most comprehensive showing of covers with postal markings of various army units from Company thru Army Headquarters markings. Gus took the viewers step by step from the formation of the first postal unit and its markings through the entire organizational setup of the French army post office, concluding with a thorough look at the army units of World War I.

Meeting of May 6, 1969

The speaker was Mr. Marc Martin, who presented for the pleasure of the some 22 members present, a most complete collection of the General Issues of the French Colonies. Special attention was paid to the postal markings and printings of the various issues. The reprints of the French Colonies were also covered.

On the business side of the meeting, was the election of officers. The following were elected for the year 1969-70:

President:—Marc Martin

Vice President:—Eric Spiegel

Corresponding Secretary:—Walter E. Parshall

Treasurer:—Beatrice Berner

Recording Secretary:—John Thomas

Board of Directors:—William J. Connelly, John Lievsay, Alfred Kahn, Ira Zweifach

Also on May 24, the annual dinner of the Society was held at Le Champignon restaurant in New York City. Some forty members and guests were present for a most delightful dinner and get-together. (The menu: hors d'oeuvres, potage du jour, poisson, ou filet mignon, deux legumes, salad, dessert, café—doesn't that make you hungry!)

Meeting of June 3, 1969

This meeting was a well-attended affair. The speaker was Mr. Lou Robbins, back by popular demand. The topic, "Philatelic Literature as a Basis for Research." The entire field of literature was considered, from the most general type, namely the general newspapers and magazines, to the more specialized journals of the various specialty groups. Also discussed were the various ways in which the auction catalog could play an important part in research. One point brought out by Mr. Robbins was the lack of communication between the various specialty groups and their members, in that by confining themselves to their own journal and specialty, many common and broad problems which arise are not answered. An extensive question and answer session was held after the conclusion of the talk, which helped to enlarge everyone's knowledge of the use of philatelic literature.

NEW MEMBERS

- 1146 PALKOWSKI, D. H., 108 West Lincoln Road, Oak Ridge, Tenn. 37830 General.
- 1147 BULLARD, William E., Jr., c/o Project Souss, B. P. 21, Agadir, Morocco — Rep. of Guinea, Kingdom of Morocco, Cathedrals on France.
- 1148 TODD, Denver, 520 Pennoyer Ave., Grand Haven, Mich. 49417 — France and General Colonies before 1900.
- 1149 CORDEL, Mrs. Betty J., 5757 South Mead, Wichita, Kansas 67216 — France—Topical.
- 1150 ZUSSMAN, Dr. Herbert L., 208 Stockton St., Hightstown, N. J. 08520 Imperforates; Souvenir Sheets; World War II Resistance Leaders.
- 1151 FISCHER, Leon, Regent Stamp Company, 55 West 42nd St., New York, N. Y. 10036 — France and Monaco.
- 1152 STRICK, Dr. Ellis, 7518 Carriage Lane, Pittsburgh, Penna. 15221 — France.
- 1153 BAKER, Lawrence L., 1303 East Montgomery, Spokane, Wash. 99207 France and Cols., including the new republics, used.
- 1154 FEDER, Mrs. Lee M., 2456 Constitution Blvd., Sarasota, Fla. 33581 — France Mint; Perfins; Star postmarks.
- 1155 PURDY, Robert B., 2610 Nolen Drive, Flint, Mich. 48504 — Martinique; Guadeloupe; St. Pierre-Miquelon.
- 1156 INGRAM, G. Brinton, 1338 New Rodgers Road—L2, Levittown, Penn. 19056 — France; PRC 1940; Guadeloupe; St. Pierre & Miquelon.
- 1157 KLOSS, Kenneth, 10500 Rockville Pike, Rockville, Md. 20852 — Booklets and postal stationery containing commercial advertising and other forms of advertising on stamps.
- 1158 IVES, George, 409-26th St., Santa Monica, Calif. 90402 — All French fields. Stamp dealer.
- 1159 PIEKARSKI, Mrs. Mary M., 905 Elm Road, Baltimore, Md. 21227 — France proper.
- 1160 VAN DEN ABEELE, Daniel, 25417 Thomas Dr., Warren, Mich. 48091 France General and French Offices.
- 1161 IRVIN, Dr. E. W., D.D.S., 1510 Lynwood Ave., Winston Salem, N. C. 27104 — 19th Century France.
- 1162 BRAGDON, Capt. Clifford R., USA EHA-EI, Edgewood Arsenal, Edgewood, Md. 21010
- 1163 JOHNSON, David O., 1135 S. E. Salmon St., Portland, Ore. 97214— General France and Colonies.
- 1164 ILMA, Viola, 144 East 24th St., New York, N. Y. 10010 — Children by painters and sculptors of France.
- 1165 BERESFORD, Richard E., 144 East 24th St., New York, N. Y. 10010—Proofs.
- 1166 TEMPESTA, John B., Jr., 171 B South St., Apt. #3B, Jamaica Plain, Mass. 02130 — All material of France proper.
- 1167 BEER, Jacob, 2922 Barnes Ave., Bronx, N. Y. 10467 — France & Colonies (no French Community); Monaco.
- 1168 NADEAU, Raoul E., 238 Blauvelt Rd., Pearl River, N. Y. 10965 -- French Cathedrals and Chateaus; All France since 1849.
- 1169 DOSSIN, Thomas R., P. O. Box 5236, Grosse Pointe, Mich. 48236 — First Day Covers and Cover Cachets.
- 1170 KNAUSS, Donald A., 1757 Locust St., Des Plaines, Ill. 60018 — France and Colonies. Scott and non-Scott listed material.
- 1171 JENZEN, Earl C., 738 Clarke Ave., Eau Gallie, Fla. 32935 — France and Colonies; Covers of the French Classic Period.

- 1172 BAXTER, Richard R., 25 Brewster St., Cambridge, Mass. 02138 — France—and within France Blanc type.
- 1173 GRANT, Robert J., 11734 Wilshire Blvd., Apt. C- 1506, Los Angeles, Calif. 90025 — Mint singles, France & Cols. other than African, with particular interest in the Classics.
- 1174 KORNEY, Leonard, 1260 Westgate Ave. S., Los Angeles, Calif. 90025—Mint France from 1900.

CHANGES OF ADDRESS AND CORRECTIONS

- 785 MARTIN, Irving, 8212 Lillystone Dr., Bethesda, Md. 20034.
- 1088 STARK, Col. Melville L., 1101 Avalon Dr., Apt. "H", El Paso, Tex. 79925
- 702 BROWN, Gardner L., 16 Stamford Ave., Stamford, Conn. 06902
- 19 CLEMENCON, Louise, c/o B. Mauch, R. D. 2, Andover, N. J. 07821
- 1103 MASON, Russell, 103 Fort St., Fairhaven, Mass. 02719
- 1017 ROBBINS, Louis K., 147 West 42nd St., New York, N. Y. 10036
- 1082 MINERVA, Angela, 239-18 147th Ave., Rosedale, N. Y. 11422
- 1078 NEAL, Mrs. Richard G., Jr., 11382 Links Dr., Reston, Va. 22070
- 544 BURR, Russell, 266 St. Anne's Road, Winnipeg 8, Manitoba, Canada
- 1073 CASTOR, William N., 1005 Allengrove St., Philadelphia, Penn. 19124
- 1086 NORWOOD, Charles H., 370 Pleasant St., Birmingham, Mich. 48009

REMOVED FROM MAILING LIST

RESIGNED:—Wm. E. Reichert.

NON PAYMENT OF DUES:—A. Maseslis, H. Ashendorf, W. Henson, J. A. Lillard, B. B. Lipset, M. Litt, K. Roberts, L. A. W. Van der Laan, D. K. Ball, S. J. Bieda, N. Carabet, R. M. Coates, F. E. Czoer, R. D. Graves, S. W. Gray, W. Kaunitz, W. L. LaRue, M. Marlowe, J. W. Martin, J. W. Mayer, J. Uetzal, R. E. Rice, J. Peyrieux, R. West.

(If any readers know these persons please remind them they are not receiving their FCP's because of NPD.)

NEW BOOKS, PAMPHLETS, AND CATALOGS

- "La Poste a Paris Pendant le Siècle et Sous la Commune, 1870-71." By Leon Chamboissier. Illustr. 85pp. 1969. (Price?) Europe Editions, 12 rue de la Sorbonne, F75-Paris 5. (Reprint of an old work of 1914; much additional information now available in other publications.)
- "Prix-courant 1969 Envelopes 1er Jour." Ed. P. J. Empire Philatélique, 48 galerie Montpensier, F75-Paris 1 (palais royal). 1969. 1Fr. (Priced list of illustrated-cachet FDC and souvenirs publ. by this firm since 1951.)
- "Catalogue Générale 1969 des Envelopes 1er Jour FDC." Ed. Jean Farcigny, 1969. 132pp. 6Fr. 39 rue d'Estienne-d'Orves, F92-Courbevoie. (Incl. FDC publ. by F., and Europa stamps since 1956, priced.)
- "Oblitérations des Bureaux Temporaires et Premier Jours, France-Reunion-Andorre-Monaco-Pays d'Expression Française 1968; Cotisation des PJ et Oblitérations Temporaires Françaises 1941-68." 48pp. 1969. Le Monde Brochure #103. 6.70 Fr plus 0.80 post. Le Monde, 7 rue des Italiens, Paris 9. (Reprint of listings from Le Monde.)
- "Les Timbres Françaises de 1968—Notices Officielles de PTT—Les 40 Timbres de 1968 et Leur Auteurs." By R. Duxin. 1968. Le Monde Brochure #105. 7.82 Fr plus 0.80 post. Le Monde, 7 rue des Italiens, Paris 9. (Incl. list of stamps withdrawn and quantities printed also.)

- "Les Timbres-Poste Francaises de 1950-51-52: Notices Officielles de PTT." 36pp. 1969. Le Monde Brochure #106. 6.70 Fr +0.80 post. Le Monde, 7 rue des Italiens, Paris 9. (Reprint of notices originally issued in 1950-52.)
- "Catalogue PAC des Envelopes Illustrées First Day Cover." Ed. Phil. P. O. Cubells, Ibis, rue des Gravieres, FO2-Soissons. 3.50Fr pp. (Cat. of Cubells FDC for Fr. Andorre, Monaco, Sarre, CFA, Europe since 1949.)
- "103rd Edition Arthur Maury Catalogue Spécialisé de Timbre-Post—France—Andorre—Monaco—Dept. de Reunion—Sarre—Nations-Unis—Europa et Nouveauté des Etats et Territoires Francophones—1970." Tome I. 6.00 fr. pp; Tome II ("Pays d'Expression Francaise, Anciennes Colonies, Zone Franc.") 6.00 fr pp. 1969. Maison Arthur Maury, 6 Boulevard Montmartre, Paris 9.
- "Essai de Catalogue des Plis Aéropostaux de France Transportées par Avion a Réaction et Hélicoptères." By F. Martin, 100 rue Marceau, F37-Tours. (First flight cachets.)
- "Catalogue Générale 1969 du Service Philatélique de l'UNESCO." 1969. 88pp. UNESCO, Paris. (Gives services available only to people residing in France or French Territories.)
- "Album des Flammes Francaises Illustrées." In 3 vols. 8½x10½", plastic covered. 25 Fr each. Printed spaces for each flamme, grouped alphabetically by towns and Departments+Paris. Diphila, BP 12, F91-Draveil. (First album publ. for flammes.)
- "Catalogue des Marques Postales de la Mayenne." By G. Julienne. 1968. 31.50 Fr p.p. The author, St. Denis-d'Orgues (Sarthe). (One of the series of cats. on markings of Departments, this one being a supplement to that on Sarthe issued previously by the author.)
- "Premieres Emissions de Vignettes Artistiques pour Colis Postaux." By Ch. Gavault. Brochure No. 107, Le Monde. 1969. 4.00 Fr+0.80 p. Le Monde, 7 rue des Italiens, Paris 9.
- "Histoire Postale et Militaire de la 2eme Guerre Mondiale." By Col. Deloste. May 1969. 37 Fr. p.p. The author, 206 rue St.-Genes, Bordeaux. CCP 1071.31 Bordeaux. (Encyclopedic work, by a great authority, marks priced.)
- "Les Relations Postales de L'Ethiopie Avant 1908 et la Poste Franco-Ethiopienne." By H. Tristant. Tome VII, of Documents Philatéliques, 112 pp. 1969. 12 Fr. C.C.P. Academie de Philatelie. Paris 1436-63. (An important original work of documentation on a fascinating postal history of Ethiopia.)

CURRENT JOURNAL ARTICLES

L'Echo de la Timbrologie (37 rue des Jacobins, F80-Amiens; 18 Fr/yr):

September 1968 (#1377): Maincent: "Paris-St. Nazaire 17 Aout 1918" (begin serial); Serres: "Essai sur le classement des timbres-poste du Maroc" (begin serial); Chapier: "Les oblitérations mécaniques, temporaires et 1 jour d'Algérie" (cont. serial); Brijon: "Défricheurs du Ciel" (cont. serial); Lepez: "Marques postales des provinces septentrionales de l'ancienne France 17 et 18eme siecle" (cont. serial).

October 1968 (#1378): Leblond: "Réflexions sur 2 series de timbres d'usage courant" (Ceres 1938, Mercury 1938) (begin serial); DeLizeray: "La révolution rotative du Boul. Brune"; Fallot: "L'acheminement du courrier industriel et commercial pendant la grève de Mai 1968."

November 1968 (#1379): Fromageat: "Les 20c Napoleon lauré" (begin serial); Maincent: "Une lettre 'par ballon' Paris-Rome sous Napoleon ler" (begin ser.); Leblanc: "Réflexions — —" (end); Chapier: "Quelques précisions conc. l'histoire de la poste a Lyon."

December 1968 (#1380): Chapier: "Un nouveau mystère marcophile a Lyon"; DeLizeray: "Raisons d'être des types multiples" (begin serial); DeLizeray: "Ce qui m'étonne le plus en philatélie."

January 1969 (#1381): Goubin: "Eugène Daguin 1849-88" (begin serial); Maincent: "Le vent de l'histoire"; DeLizeray: "Raisons d'être — —" (end); Chapier: "Les oblitérations — — d'Algerie" (end serial); Lepez: "Marques postales des provinces — — de l'ancienne France" (end serial) (errata in #1382).

February 1969 (#1382): DeLizeray: "Les debuts du type Sage 1876" (begin serial); Goubin: "Eugène Daguin" (end); Fromageat: "Les 20c Nap. lauré" (end); Maincent: "Le Général Renault" (balloon post).

March 1969 (#1383): DeLizeray: "Le debuts de type Sage" (end); Collas: "Le guerre civile d'Espagne et la poste" (in France); Chapier: "Les premières cachets de date a Lyon"; DeLizeray: "E. Mouchon—littérateur"; Maincent: "Le Ferdinand Flocon" (begin serial); Lepez: "Marque au tampon utilisé seulement au 17 siècle: 'DePignerol'."

April 1969 (#1384): Boblique: "Le 'bleues' de la marianne de Muller" (begin serial); Goubin: "Les flammes Daguin et leurs secrets"; DeLizeray: "Coins datés: pas morts du tout"; Maincent: "Le Ferd. Flocon" (end).

May 1969 (#1385): "Garigliano"; DeLizeray: "La taille-douce a la T.V."; "Le courrier a 2 vitesses."

Le Monde des Philatelistes (5 rue des Italiens, Paris 9; \$4.20/yr):

December 1968 (#205): "Declarations de M. Yves Guéna, Min. de PTT"; Fromageat: "Histoire des timbres de l'Empire" (cont. serial); DeLizeray: "Timbres et Types" (cont. serial); "Le Timbres Français de 1952"; Savelon: "Les surcharges provisionnels EA d l'Etat Algerien" (cont. serial); "Le program 1969" (new issues planned); Tristant: "Histoire postale de la Cote des Somalis" (cont. serial); Savelon: "Courrier de grève 1968" (cont. serial); Desarnoud: "Grèves de Mai-Juin 1968—l'acheminement du courrier par les Chambres de Commerce" (begin serial); Argyropoulos: "Les timbres poste consulaires Français de Jerusalem" (end serial); Taszarek: "Les batiments de guerre de la Marine Française" (cont. serial).
January 1969 (#206): "Les timbres Françaises de 1952-53"; Duxin: "Les 40 timbres Fr. de 1968 at leurs auteurs."

February 1969 (#207): "Les timbres Fr. de 1953"; Brunaux: "Napoleon 1 et les timbres poste" (begin serial); Mignon: "Les carnets a 0.40 rouge carmine République de Cheffer"; Gavault: "Première émissions de vignettes artistiques pour colis postaux de France" (Annexes); Gavault: "L'emploi des vignettes-taxes des chemins de fer—Appendix"; Fontaine: "Les bureaux de distribution au type 24bis (3 circles) durant le période 1900 a 1940" (begin serial).

March 1969 (#208): "Les timbres de Fr. de 1953-4"; Audebert: "Une variété intéressante sur le 0.25 Prévention Routière"; "Le timbre valeur de placement" (value of franc with respect to gold since 1803); DeLa Ferté: "A propos des catalogues."

April 1969 (#209): "Les timbres Fr. de 1954"; Boyé: "Promenade a travers la France illustré par les timbres" (end of long serial); Duxin: "Ceux qui créent nos timbres—Jacques Derrey."

May 1969 (#210): "A propos des catalogues"; "Les timbres Fr. de 1954"; Ginestet: "Une nouvelle carte postale a 0.30"; Audibert: "Encore le 3F"

Avion 'MS 760-Paris'; "La France en thématique" (begin serial); Joany: "Les outils de fabrication des t.-p." (begin serial); Gavault: "Les timbres Réseau d'Etat—un poisson d'Avril"; Michel: "L'histoire des premières machines à franchir."

MEMBERS APPEALS

(Members Advertising)

- WANTED: Essays, die proofs, and collective deluxe sheet for 1948 Clement Ader 50th Anniv., listed in San. Cat. as EEb (30f black), EEba (30f, blue), EEbc (30f redbrown), PD34 and PDC34 (var. colors), DL34 (Ader's "Eole"). Will pay cash. Martin H. Hevin, 1216 Navajo Trail, Indianapolis, Ind. 46260 (Mb. #1132).
- WANTED: France, Radiodiffusion stamps used. Need one or more each of 1935 blue, 1937 green, with round datestamps. John B. Morton, 605 West Ferry St., Buffalo, N. Y. 14222 (Mb. 79).
- WANTED: I will purchase, trade for or be pleased just to examine: postal marking and cancellations of Gard (Dept. #29) and Lyon (68 Rhone); Need: manuscript markings, marques postales, deboursés, cursive and Revolutionary markings. Nils Agrell, 35 Broad St., Williston Park, N. Y. 11596 (Mb. 1046).
- WANTED: Used Blanc issue of France, Scott 109-115, with any cancels other than ordinary towns; also used blocks of 4 or larger, millesimes, coins dates and singles, multiples, or in combination, on cover. Send with price or will exchange. Arthur P. Merrick, 220 E. Hereford, Gladstone, Ore. 97027. (Mb. 743).
- WANTED: To buy a mint corner number or coin daté block of 4 of France #C31. Also a copy of France postage due J5. Byron E. Bolyard, 2431 North Sawyer, Chicago, Ill. 60647. (Mb. 851).
- OFFER: (Priced) List of France, on request to any member. 19th Cent. stock nearly complete also, prices on request. Melville I. Stark, 1101 Avalon Dr., Apt. H, El Paso, Tex. 79925. (Mb. 1088).
- WANTED: To trade: need almost all colonial "Revolution" (1939) and "Curie" (1938) issues. Have for exchange: France used nos. 226B, B27, C15, C17 and many others used and mint. Edward Ellwanger, American Embassy, APO San Francisco, Calif. 96346. (Mb. 1074).
- OFFER: Ambulant, Petit and Gros Chiffres griffe cancellations, also early railroad dated postmarks and Paris starts on and off cover. All are ex-Chase material. W. H. Schilling, Jr., 5712 Schaefer Rd., Edina, Minn. 55436. (Mb. 29).
- WANTED: Very fine used French colonial and related material. Current and obsolete. Will purchase at reasonable rates or will provide French stamps in exchange. T. A. Stott, 449 Higheroft Ave., Ottawa, Ont., Canada. (Mb. 1142).
- OFFER: Germain's "Le 25 Centimes Cérès de 1871 au Type I," 2 vols., bound, as new, \$25 postpaid in U.S. (A "must" work for plating this popular stamp; only a few sets published). Stanley J. Luft, 3048 Village Dr., Ft. Mitchell, Ky. 41017. (Mb. 915).
- WANTED: Will trade my duplicate France Scott 58 (Type I) plate positions for your same, or for French covers, etc. Stanley J. Luft, 3048 Village Dr., Ft. Mitchell, Ky. 41017. (Mb. 915).

ANNOUNCEMENTS AND NEWS

A former member, Arnold Broadbent of Shrewsbury, England, died last March in his 83rd year. Many of our older members will recall his frequent contributions to FCP in the 1940's and '50's on French colonies—he was always finding unusual cancels and raised intriguing questions about them.

Comte Olivier de Pomyers, well known author of works on French Colonies, died on 14 January after a lingering illness. We will miss his colorful, engaging and often iconoclastic personality in the pages of the French philatelic press. His books on Morocco, Tunis, Senegal, Reunion, Gabon-Congo, and the general issues, reflect his peculiar predilections for color shades and finding a good bargain.

Many postoffices in France are still using old straightline "Retour à l'Envoyeur" cachets with the p.o. number attached. These are the numbers used in the "gros chiffres" lozenges in the 1800's. Some of the marks have been transferred to p.o.'s which originally had other nos.

The PTT is using mobile annex postoffices in autovans which park for a few hours on certain days at various points in the suburbs (guichet annexe mobile).

The letter-card for pneumatic tube use, 1.60 denomination of 1965, has been reissued with a change in the text on back, the second part of which used to give a list of places served—now it is replaced by general information on the functions of the service.

The Hector Berlioz commemorative issue of Monaco just released and showing 10 scenes from the composer's Damnation of Faust is something of a tour de force in stamp design. The idea of relating a story or history by a sequence of scenes spread over a set of stamps is not new, but unusual. The US Columbians, and several Portuguese and Spanish sets aimed likewise but did not have the sequence strictly chronological. It is an idea, however, which might be exploited more and would make stamps perhaps more interesting and educational.

G. de la Ferté, the French maximaphilist, complains in LeMonde that the catalogs do not do well for topical collectors. They should list the subjects on stamps by FIP categories: subject on design, purpose of issue, theme. At present the French catalogs are very incomplete and inaccurate in their subject lists. The first two categories are not difficult to compile but the third would probably be difficult. Anyway, it sounds like compiling an index of French stamps by subjects and purposes, etc., would make a worthwhile and valuable project for some of our France and Colonies Philatelic Society members.

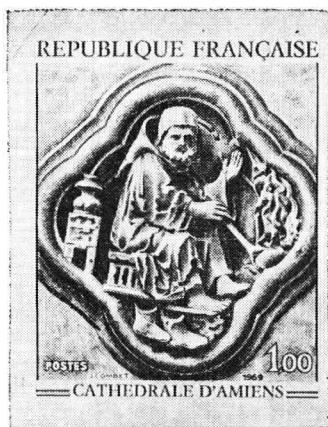
The new 0.30 green and 0.40 red Cheffer stamps are being closely followed by the specialists in types and coin datés, etc. The earliest date for the 0.40 is 8-10-68 press #7; it is out in coils but first date not known; for booklets of 10 with cover #3 and for sheets the earliest is 23-10-68 presses TD6

#2 and #5, later on #4, and from 28-11-68 it is from TD-3 with guillochis in the sheet margins and stamps sideways. Still later presses 8 and 5. The 0.30 was first printed 27-12-68 by TD3 #2 then TD6 #4, TD6 #s 2 and 5.

The various postmarks of large-city railroad stations with the wording "Transbordement" or "Transbord." are used by stations where mails are transferred from wagons to railcars or vs and are for administrative use only.

UNESCO has never had a regular postoffice in Paris with special postmarks as the Conseil de l'Europe does at Strasbourg. The UNESCO mail with or without special stamps is mailed in a French p.o. mailbox in their building. The mail with UNESCO stamps is supposed to be separately postmarked at the Paris Bureau 07. UNESCO has meter machines, which are controlled and their mail deposited at Paris Bureau 41.

The Union Africaine et Malgache des Postes et Telecommunications (hdqs at Brazzaville) organized a philatelic exhibition at Abidjan, Ivory Coast, from 14 to 23 Feb. 1969, which was the occasion for a lot of publicity and celebrations as well as special commemorative stamps issued by each of the 13 member countries. The theme of the show, called "Philexafrique", was the "letter in painting" for which each of the countries issued a set reproducing paintings of great masters. Another series of each country was devoted to the theme of the opening up of Africa to the World—each of these stamps reproduces one of the former French colonial stamps inset in a corner and a scene of the modern industrial developments in the country. The exhibits included collections of stamps of the countries, with their original essays, etc., and thematic groupings of them, arts and crafts, activities of the posts, lectures for children and prizes for stamps designs. French officials and high philatelic personages assisted in the organization of the affair. Some of the best French colonies collections in France (Tristant, Dubus, Pannetier, etc.), were shown.



A number of new stamps of France came out on schedule in the last several months: 24 May the 0.45 Vue de Chalons-sur-Marne, 31 May the 0.45 Parachutists SAS, 7 June the 0.45 Combats du Mont Mouchet, 15 May the 0.30 République of Cheffer in booklets, 21 June the 0.85 Chateau de Chantilly, 28 June the 1.00 fresco from L'Eglise de St.-Savin,

Something really new! France for the first time issued on 15 June 1969 an air-letter sheet of 1Fr denomination. It is labelled "Aerogramme." The vignette design shows a delta-wing jet airplane in flight (Concorde?). The size is 15x30 cm which folds to 10x15 cm. It is valid to all countries. Why had France taken so long to put out an airletter sheet?

The annual edition of the PTT's "Guide Officiel des P. et T" for 1969 has just been published. A book of 400 pages it contains all the rates and regulations pertaining to all services of the PT, similar to the US Postal Guide. It can be purchased for 4 Fr from the Chef du Centre des Renseignements Postaux, 23 rue Mederic, F75-Paris 17.

At the Exposition Philatélique Europa 1969 this Spring the French stamp "Portrait de Modèle" by Auguste Renoir (paintings series) won the gold medal Grand prix Europa 1969 for the most beautiful stamp issued by any of the 7 countries members of the European Conference of Posts and Telecommunications (CEPT) during the past year. It is a well-merited award. The runner-ups were (in sequence): "Arearea" of Gauguin (Fr.), "Landscape" of Constable (Gr. Br.), "Anémones" of Dufy (Fr.), Bas Relief of Amiens Cathedrale (Fr.), "Horses" of G. Stubbs (Gr. Br.), "Jeanne Grimaldi" of Mimault (Monaco), "La Flotte" of Cabral (Port.), Deuzieme Cent. de Rattach. de la Corse (Fr.), and Olympic Games Mexico—Equitation (Spain).

Yves Guéna, the Minister of PTT, in opening the meeting of the Conseil Supérieur des PTT in May, defended the new postal reforms and explained that the popular description of it as "two-speed mail" (fast and slow) was inexact; essentially what was really done was to abolish the old category of "printed matter" as a sort of second-class mail and permitting one to send any kind of matter by various grades of service as he saw fit. Over 80% of the "fast mail" is making its deadline delivery, and the PT is taking steps to clear up the complexities of distribution that are causing delays.

The "Jean Clouet" painting stamp issued in July 1967 is illustrated incorrectly in some catalogs, who used a photo of a die proof furnished to the press by the PTT before issue. The legend of the stamp was later changed from "Jean Clouet" to "Francois ler par Jean Clouet"!

Member Arthur Merrick has an article in the June 14 Western Stamp Collector on the postage-due stamps of France, an abbreviated version of his series in FCP. Editor Ken Wood of WSC is giving quite a bit of exposure to France in his magazine, which should help to promote interest in this area.

This year is the Bi-centenary of the birth of Napoleon I. Many philatelic souvenirs are being offered in France on this theme, a commemorative stamp by France, also Monaco, and perhaps other countries, will appear; special articles on Napoleon are being run in the press.

Word has just arrived that Comte Exelmans, the great Morocco specialist, died in an accident on April 26. He was a member of the Académie de Philatélie, and Royal Philatelic Society London, a Commander of the Légion d'Honneur, and Croix de Guerre 1914-18.

New issues planned for release during the rest of 1969 are the following (some additional ones may be decided later): for August: Les Championnats

du Monde de Canoe-Kayaks, Debarquements de Francais en Provence, Bicent. de Napoleon Bonaparte I, Marechal Leclerc; for September: L'Homme et l'Eau; for October: Escadrille Normande-Niemen, Ecole des Arts et Manufactures de Chatenay-Malabry, Sous-marin "le Redoutable"; for November: Le Cirque, Louis IX et Charles le Téméraire, Bayard, Henri IV et l'Edit de Nantes; for December: l'Eté and L'Hiver of Mignard (for red cross).

A letter from the President of the Assoc. Phil. de Roanne to the Federation of French philatelic societies indicates that the 1968 strike stamps of Roanne were put out by the APR not the Chambre de Commerce, and that they were not available until after regular mail service was restored and thus should be considered as "non-émis."

The Paris stamp firm of Berck came out recently with the most flamboyant piece of French philatelic press-agentry we have seen:—They announced that they had the pleasure and joy to tell us of a sensational philatelic event—for their long-planned auctions, they have developed the most beautiful and surprising sales catalog since the creation of philately; in its 232 pages they give us, at your not their, price 2,400 lots from 1 to 20,000 fr., illustrated by 2,800 photo reproductions of which 200 are in colors, and the book weighs over a kilo. It is in the format of Berck albums. An edition of 2000 copies was started, which they soon raised to 5000 as needed, but must run up to 100,000 to cover its cost at the charge of 10Fr. You have never seen such a sale catalogue; a true philatelic document that will grab you for generations. The total of this edition will weigh over 5 tons and pile up beyond the first story of the Eiffel Tower. (We haven't seen it yet, but it sounds great—by the way, what if a good wind catches that pile by the Eiffel?)

A new postcard bearing the vignette of the Marianne de Cheffer, 0.30 denom (but sold for 0.35) in green, was issued in late March to replace the 0.25 Marianne de Decaris cards. The new card is printed by flat plate type from a reengraved die. The impression is coarse and names of designer and engraver are omitted. It will be listed in ACEP cat. as #202.

Le Club Philatélique Français (98 Cours Vincennes, Paris 12) has started to publish a bulletin titled "La Documentation Philatélique," taking over that name from the Société Phil. Franco-Britannique which gave it up. The new bulletin is intended to give a quick announcement to all specialist philatelic societies of the latest important articles in French-language philatelic magazines. Pierre Langlois is the editor of this worthwhile project.

In the Nederlands Maandblatt v. Phil. for last March there was an announcement that on the Tuesday before Passover there would appear in France a stamp for regular use with the effigy of DeGaulle, 0.30Fr. To obtain this the readers were told to send a post card franked with surtax stamps to a certain address by 29 March. Several hundred did, but they woke up to the fact that Tuesday before Passover was April 1! No stamp!

We have at least one member who collects flying horses (on stamps, that is) and maybe there are some others who are crazy (over horses, that is) who would be interested to know that Syria (stamp no. Yvert 208 (Scott #22) is frequently found with a large illustrated cancel containing the Pegasus design.